

# Artificial Neural Networks

Optimizing Functions with Gradient Descent

# Popularized: Deep Learning

**Artificial Neural Networks (ANNs)** are statistical learning algorithms inspired by biological neural networks.

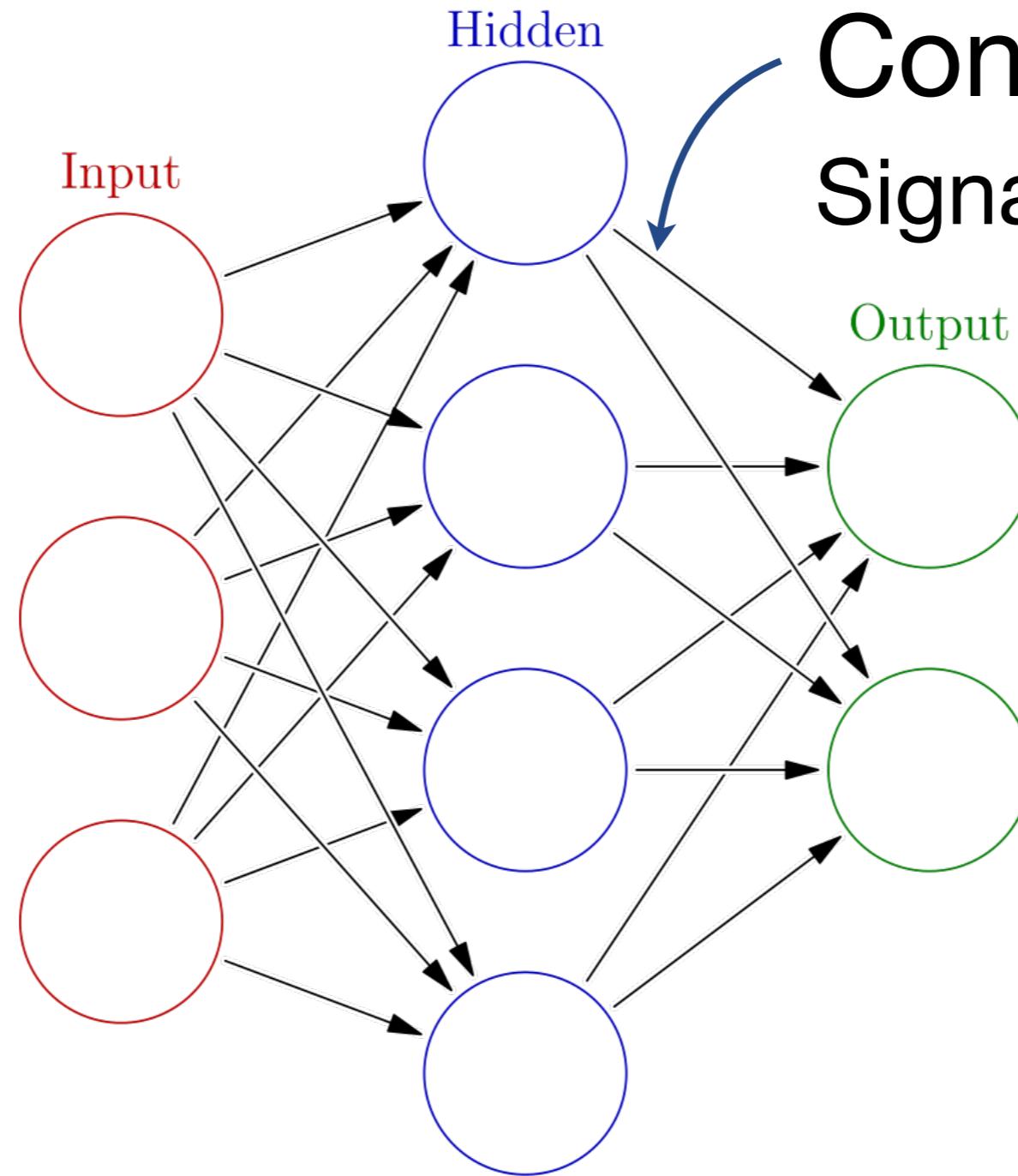
ANNs are often used to approximate unknown functions that can depend on a large number of inputs and are hard to solve with handmade rules.

# Types of Artificial Neural Nets

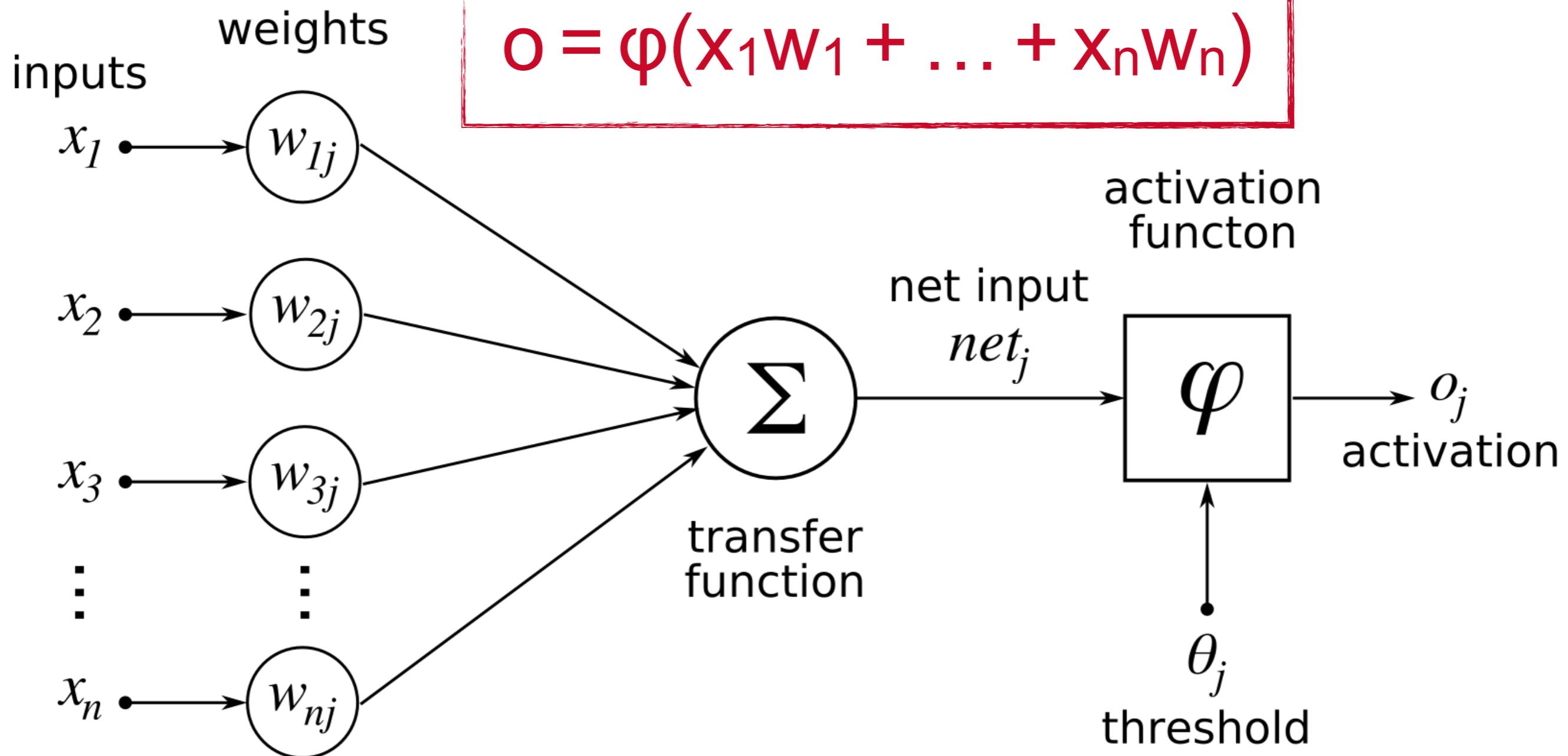
- Feedforward Neural Networks:  
Connections do not form any cycles
- Convolutional Neural Networks:  
Also acyclic but with shared weights
- Recurrent Neural Networks:  
With cycles to learn temporal pattern

# Basic Setup of Neurons

Neuron:

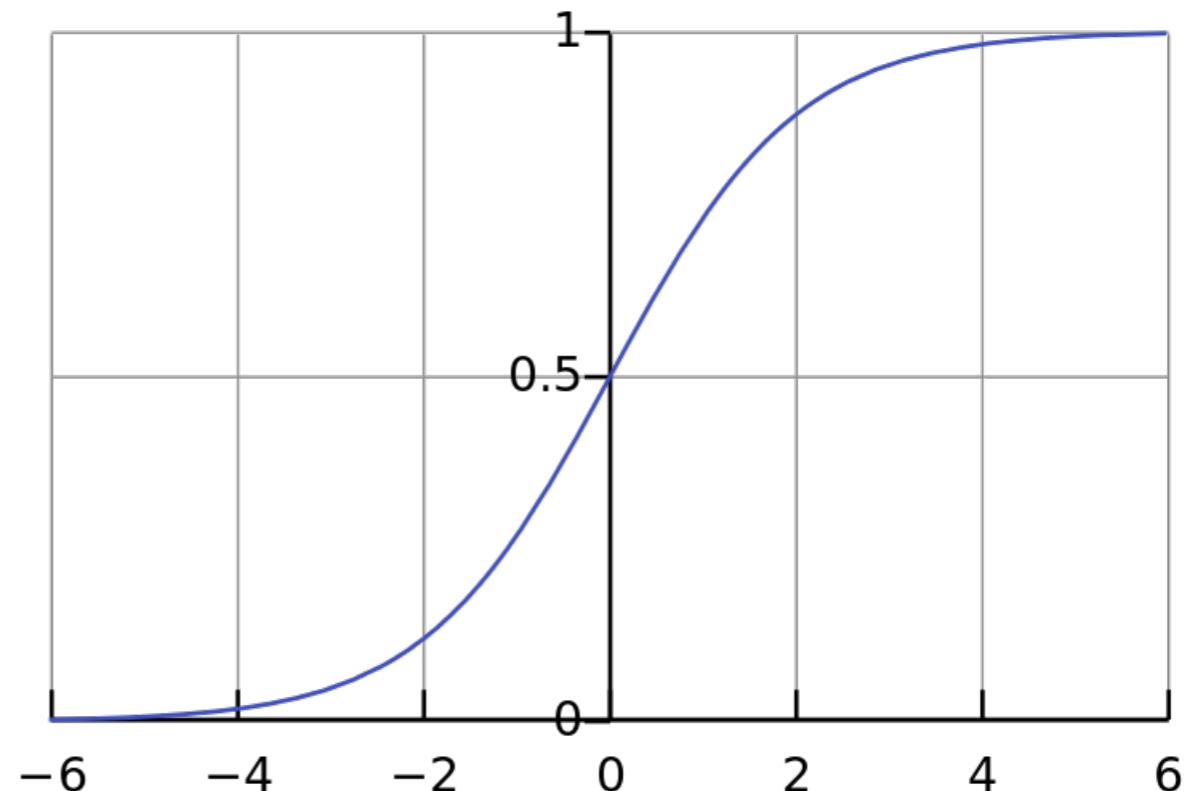


# Activation Function



# Activation Functions

- May not be linear or layers collapse
- Sigmoid functions like  $f(x) = (1 + e^{-x})^{-1}$
- Also popular:  
**rectified linear**  
 $f(x) = \max(0, x)$   
with threshold



# Optimization Problem

**Goal:** Find weights that minimize the mean squared error  $E = \frac{1}{2} (f(x) - y)^2$

Given search space and cost function, apply ordinary optimization algorithms:

- Evolutionary Algorithm
- Gradient Descent

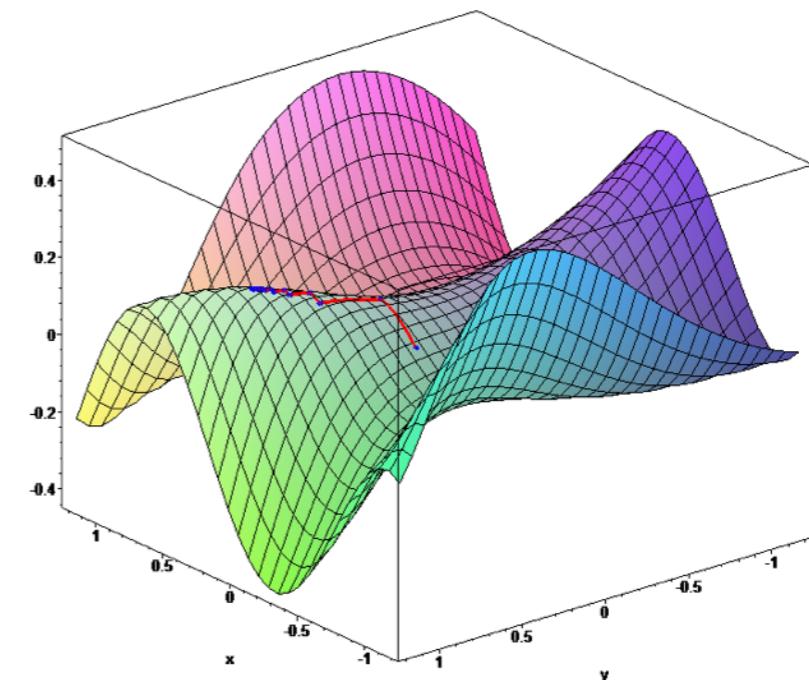
# Evolutionary Algorithm

Inspired by biological evolution, apply reproduction, mutation, recombination and selection with the mean squared error as fitness function on parameters.

- No assumptions made about space
- Difficulty in finding a good crossover

# Gradient Descent

- Goal: Find minimum of function  $F(x)$
- Take steps proportional to negative of the gradient:  $x_2 = x_1 - \gamma \nabla F(x_1)$
- Only local minimum
- Function needs to be differentiable



# Partial Derivative

Derivative with respect to one variable

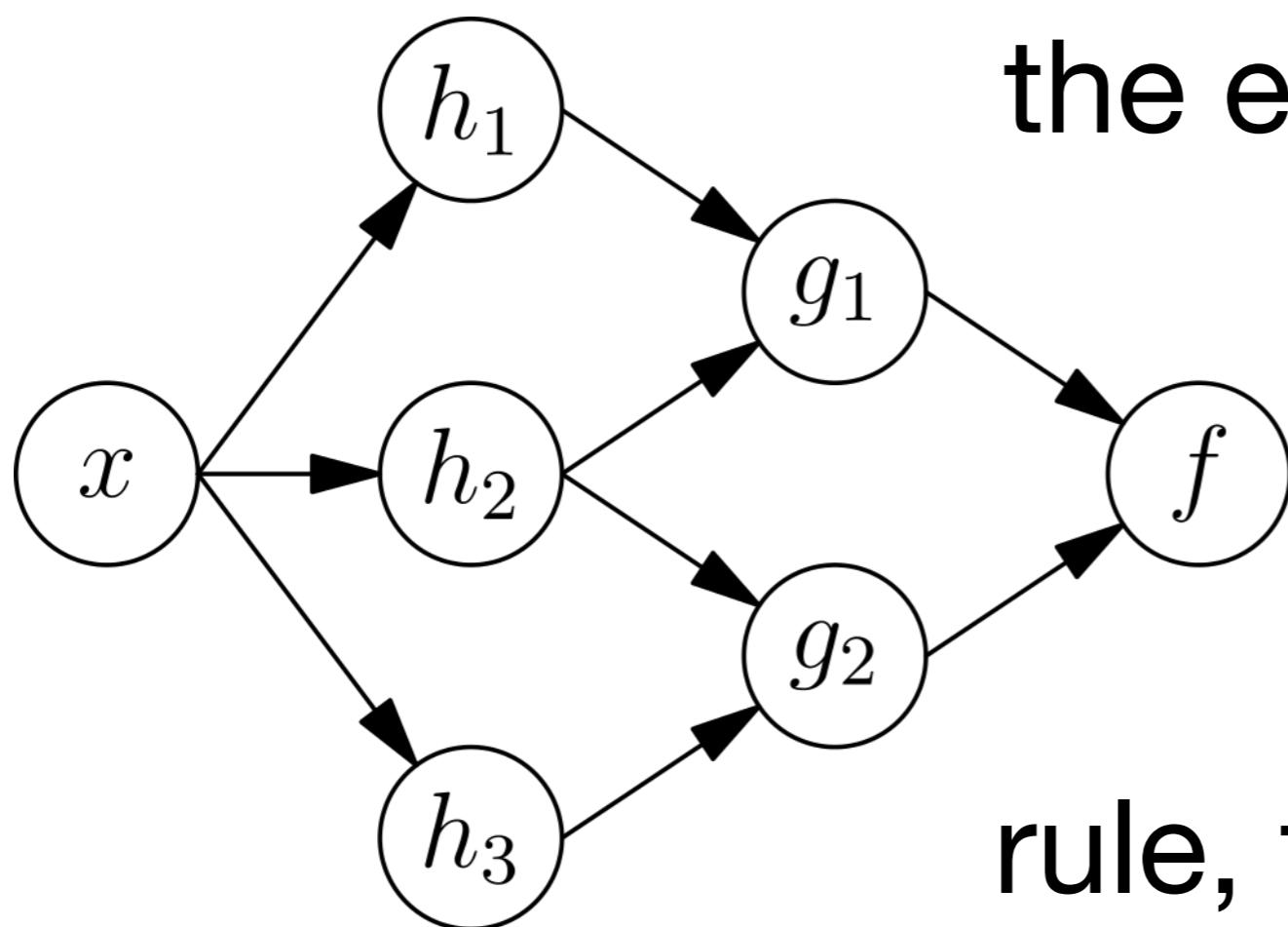
**Example:**  $f(x, y) = x^2 + xy + y^2$ , then the partial derivative wrt.  $x$  is  $\partial f / \partial x = 2x + y$

Nabla symbol  $\nabla$  denotes the gradient:

$\nabla f(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \text{vector} (\partial f / \partial x_1, \dots, \partial f / \partial x_n)$

**Chain rule:**  $(f(g(x)))' = f'(g(x)) \cdot g'(x)$

# Backpropagation



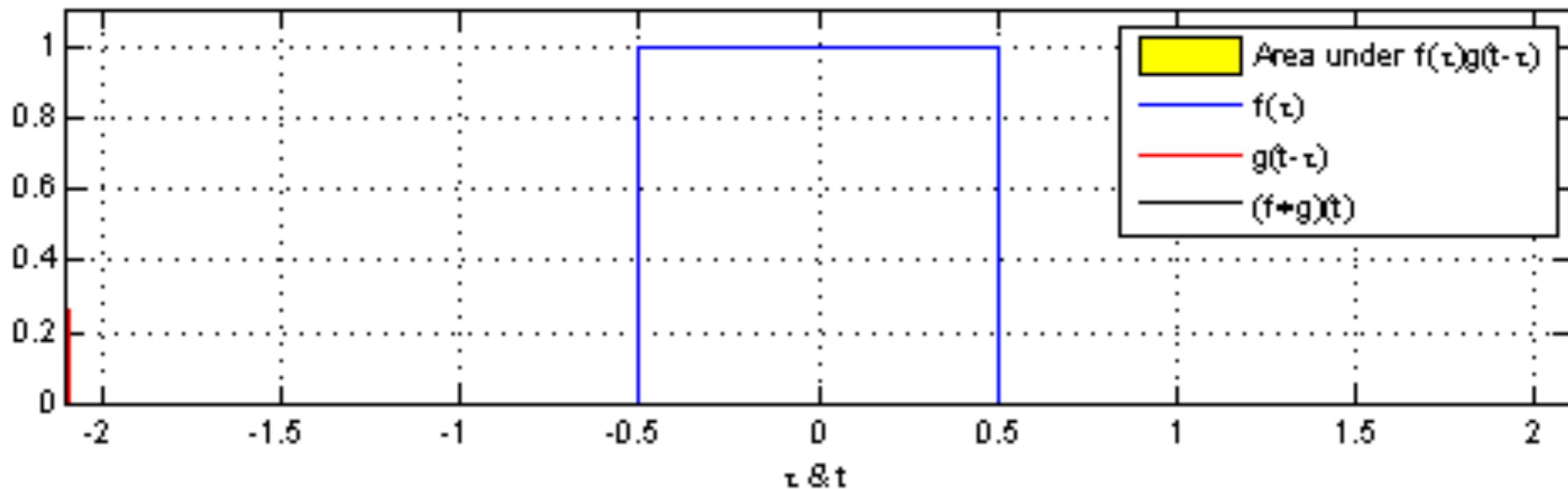
Calculate the gradient of  
the error with respect  
to each weight.

Due to the chain  
rule, the values of the  
right layers can be reused.

# Convolution

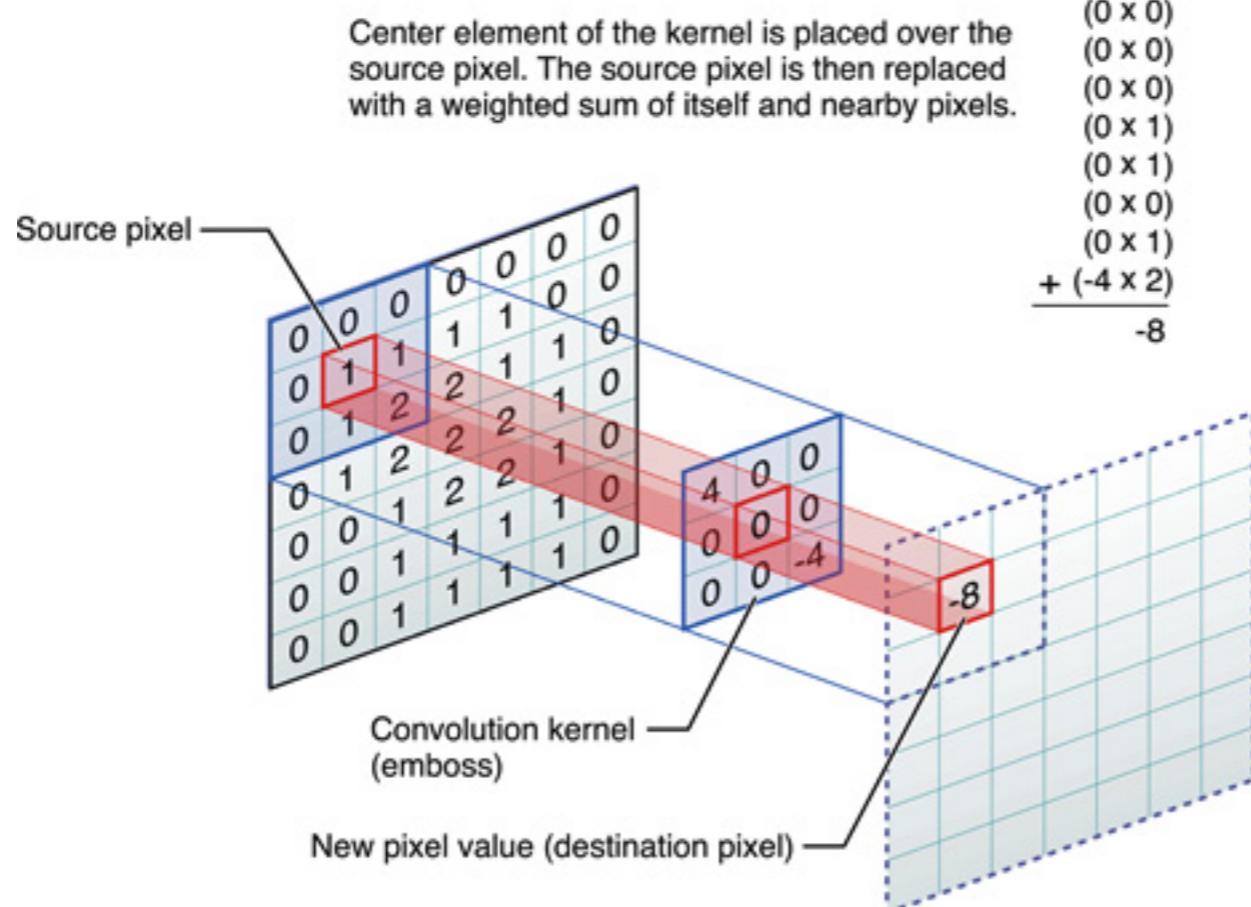
The integral of the product of two functions after one is reversed and shifted:

$$(f * g)(t) = \int f(\tau) g(t - \tau) d\tau \text{ (as a definition)}$$



# Feature Detection

Shift kernel across function or image



Identity	$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$	
	$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$	
Edge detection	$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -4 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$	
	$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 & -1 \\ -1 & 8 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$	
Sharpen	$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 5 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$	
Box blur (normalized)	$\frac{1}{9} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$	

# Convolutional Neural Networks

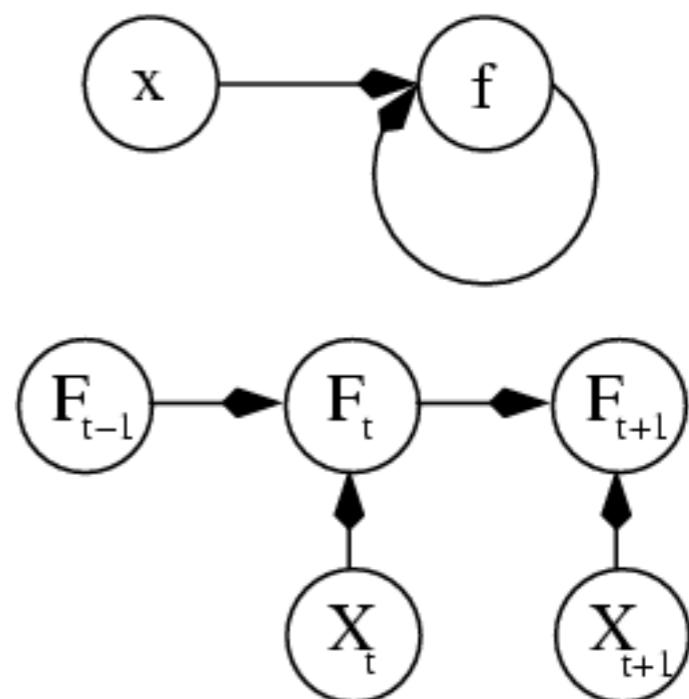
- Feedforward network with input tiled such that there are overlapping areas
- Convolution where kernels also learnt
- Weight sharing reduces free variables
- Often with rectified linear units (ReLU)
- Prevent overfitting w. cross-validation

# Recurrent Neural Networks

Connections between neurons form a directed cycle, creating internal states

Useful for processing sequences of inputs (like speech)

Most RNNs can compute anything a conventional computer can compute!

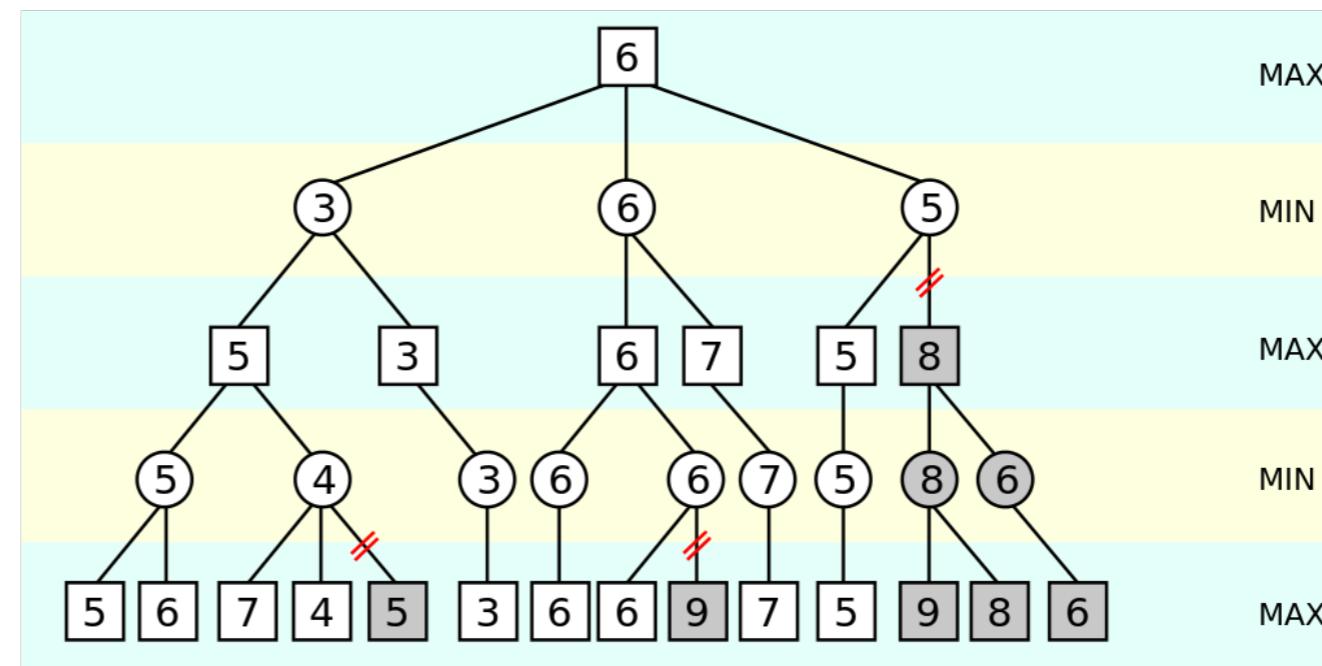


# Combinatorial Explosion

Games consist of states & transitions.

Search trees grow very fast but ANNs can be used to learn useful heuristics!

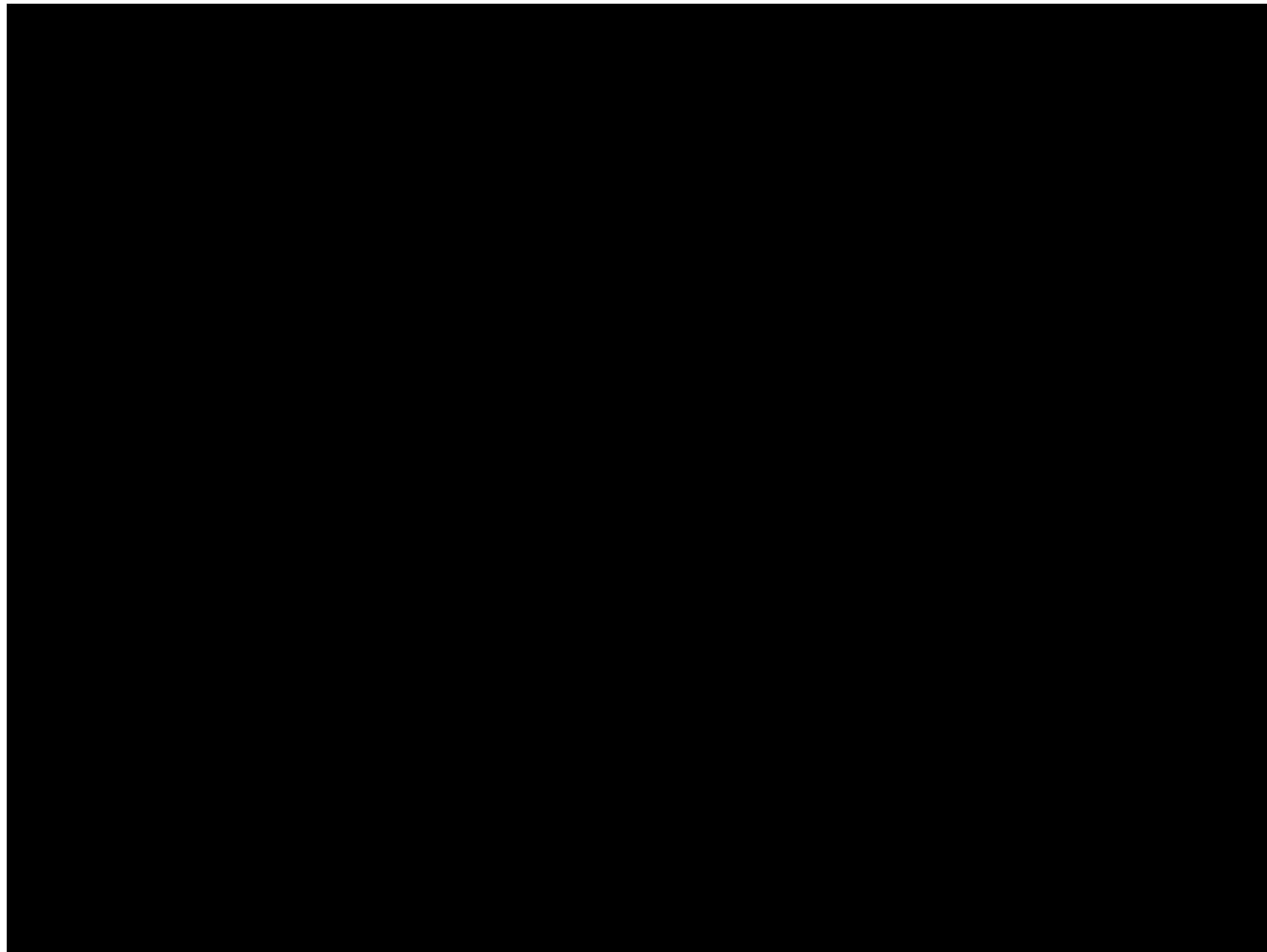
Alpha-beta pruning for minimax algorithm:



# Reinforcement Learning

- Idea: Train a CNN to learn the goodness of actions given recent frames
- If environment cannot be controlled, adjust current estimate after next estimate (temporal difference learning)
- Favor sooner rewards w. greediness factor because no progress otherw.

# Reinforcement Learning (CNN)



Google develops self-learning computer program  
[www.theguardian.com/technology/2015/feb/25/\[...\]](http://www.theguardian.com/technology/2015/feb/25/[...])

Machine Learning  
Artificial Neural Networks

# Outlook: Huge Responsibility

... in the near-term. For the long-term, see [www.superintelligence.ch](http://www.superintelligence.ch).

Train CNN



Deploy CNN



# Train your own Neural Network:

