

Lecture Series on  
**Intelligent Control**

Lecture 8  
**Artificial Neural Networks**  
**Hebbian Learning**

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**Hebbian Learning**

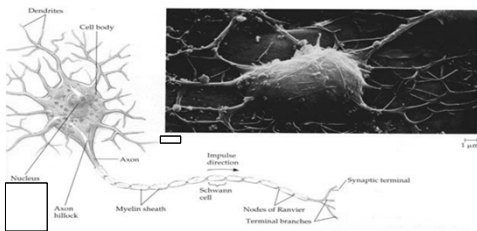


Figure 2.3: The neuron (nerve cell). In (a), a vertebrate motor neuron is shown, and in (b), a scanning electron micrograph of a neuron is shown

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**Hebbian Learning**

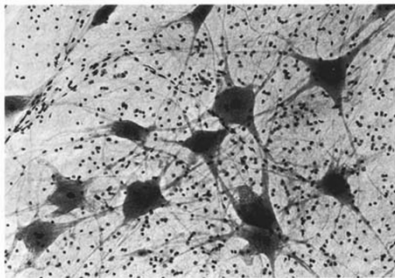


Figure 4.1: Network of motor neurons in the spinal cord, photograph taken through a microscope.

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## Hebbian Learning

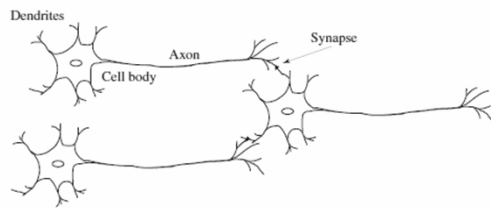


Figure 4.2: Three connected neurons, a simple biological neural network.

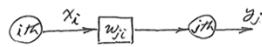
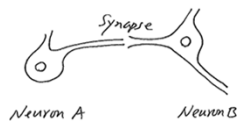
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## Hebbian Learning

Donald O. Hebb, *The Organization of Behavior*, 1949

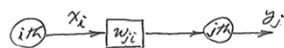
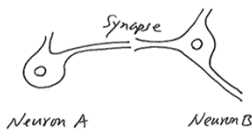
Hebb's Postulate:

"When an axon of cell A is near enough to excite a cell B and repeatedly or persistently takes part in firing it, some growth process or metabolic changes takes place in one or both cells such that A's efficiency, as one of the cells firing B, is increased."



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## Hebbian Learning



Hence Hebb's principle will increase the common weight  $w_{ji}$  when there is activity flowing from the  $i$ th neuron to the  $j$ th neuron:

$$\Delta w_{ji} = \eta x_i y_j \quad : \text{Hebb's rule}$$

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## Hebbian Learning

Note that, unlike the BPA, there is no desired output required in Hebbian learning. To apply Hebb's rule, only the input signal needs to flow through the NN: — unsupervised learning.

Thus Hebbian learning updates the weights according to

$$w(n+1) = w(n) + \eta x(n) y(n)$$

where  $n$  is the iteration number and  $\eta$  is a step size. For a linear processing element,  $y = wx$ , so

$$w(n+1) = w(n) [1 + \eta x^2(n)]$$

Weight will increase with the number of iterations without bounds. Hence Hebbian learning is intrinsically unstable. In biology this is not a problem since there are natural nonlinearities that limit the synaptic efficacy (chemical depletion, dynamic range, etc.).

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## Hebbian Learning

Multiple-input PE:

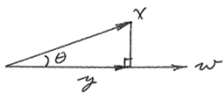
$$y = \sum_{i=1}^n w_i x_i$$

Hebb's rule, implies

$$\Delta w = \eta \begin{bmatrix} x_1 y \\ \vdots \\ x_n y \end{bmatrix}$$

Note the output is, in vector notation,

$$y = w^T x = x^T w = \langle x, w \rangle : \text{inner product}$$



For normalized inputs and weights, a large  $y$  means input  $x$  is close to the direction of the weight vector, i.e.,  $x$  is in the neighborhood of  $w$ .

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Associative Memory: Linear associator is

$$y_j = \sum_{i=1}^n w_{ji} x_i$$

or in the vector notation,

$$y = W x.$$

The task of an associative memory is to learn  $P$  pairs of prototype input/output vectors:

$$\{x_1, t_1\}, \{x_2, t_2\}, \dots, \{x_P, t_P\}.$$

Hebb's rule is

$$w_{ji}^{\text{new}} = w_{ji}^{\text{old}} + \eta y_j x_i$$

for the  $p$ th pattern. This is an unsupervised learning rule.

For the supervised Hebb's rule, we substitute the target with the actual output:

$$w_{ji}^{\text{new}} = w_{ji}^{\text{old}} + \eta t_j x_i$$

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### Hebbian Learning

In vector form, with  $\eta = 1$  for simplicity,

$$W_{\text{new}} = W_{\text{old}} + t_p x_p^T$$

Assume  $W(0) = 0$ , initial weight, apply each pattern once, then

$$W = t_1 x_1^T + t_2 x_2^T + \dots + t_p x_p^T = \sum_{p=1}^P t_p x_p^T$$

In matrix form,

$$W = \begin{bmatrix} t_1 & t_2 & \dots & t_p \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1^T \\ x_2^T \\ \vdots \\ x_p^T \end{bmatrix} = T X^T$$

where

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} t_1 & t_2 & \dots & t_p \end{bmatrix} \quad X = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 & \dots & x_p \end{bmatrix}$$

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### Hebbian Learning

Performance: Assume  $x_p$  vectors are orthonormal.

Then

$$y = W x_k = \left( \sum_{p=1}^P t_p x_p^T \right) x_k = \sum_{p=1}^P t_p (x_p^T x_k)$$

Since  $x_p$  are orthonormal,

$$\begin{aligned} (x_p^T x_k) &= 1 & p=k \\ &= 0 & p \neq k \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$y = W x_k = t_k$$

$\Rightarrow$  The output of NN is equal to the target.

If not orthonormal input vectors, then we have error.  
Assume  $x_p$  vector is unit length, but not orthonormal.

Then

$$y = W x_k = t_k + \sum_{p \neq k} t_p (x_p^T x_k)$$

error: depends on correlation between input patterns

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### Hebbian Learning

Example: Input patterns are

$$x_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 \\ -0.5 \\ 0.5 \\ -0.5 \end{bmatrix}, t_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}; \quad x_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 \\ 0.5 \\ -0.5 \\ -0.5 \end{bmatrix}, t_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Check that the two input patterns are orthonormal.

The weight matrix would be

$$W = T X^T = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 & -0.5 & 0.5 & -0.5 \\ 0.5 & 0.5 & -0.5 & -0.5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Test:

$$W x_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 \\ -0.5 \\ 0.5 \\ -0.5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} = t_1$$

$$W x_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & -1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 \\ 0.5 \\ -0.5 \\ -0.5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} = t_2$$

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### Hebbian Learning

Example: Apple & orange recognition.

$$x_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ (orange)}, \quad x_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \text{ (apple)}$$

Note these are not orthogonal.

Normalize these inputs and choose desired outputs -1 and 1,

$$x_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.5774 \\ -0.5774 \\ -0.5774 \end{bmatrix}, t_1 = -1; \quad x_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.5774 \\ 0.5774 \\ -0.5774 \end{bmatrix}, t_2 = 1$$

The weight matrix becomes

$$W = T X^T = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0.5774 & -0.5774 & -0.5774 \\ 0.5774 & 0.5774 & -0.5774 \end{bmatrix} \\ = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1.547 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

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### Hebbian Learning

The weight matrix becomes

$$W = T X^T = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0.5774 & -0.5774 & -0.5774 \\ 0.5774 & 0.5774 & -0.5774 \end{bmatrix} \\ = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1.547 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Test:

$$W x_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1.547 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0.5774 \\ -0.5774 \\ -0.5774 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -0.8932 \end{bmatrix} \sim t_1$$

$$W x_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1.547 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0.5774 \\ 0.5774 \\ -0.5774 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.8932 \end{bmatrix} \sim t_2$$

The outputs are close, but do not quite match the targets

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### Hebbian Learning

Application (Pattern Recognition):

Autoassociative Memory: Desired output vector is equal to the input vector (i.e.,  $t_p = x_p$ ).



white : -1  
dark : 1

Scan each 6x5 grid one column at a time.

$$x_1, t_1 \quad x_2, t_2 \quad x_3, t_3 \quad \dots$$

$$x_1 = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & -1 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}^T, \text{ digit "0"}$$

$$x_2 = \begin{bmatrix} \dots \end{bmatrix}^T, \text{ digit "1"}$$

$$x_3 = \begin{bmatrix} \dots \end{bmatrix}^T, \text{ digit "2"}$$

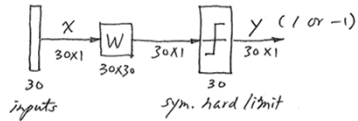
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### Hebbian Learning

$$\begin{aligned}
 & x_1, t_1 \quad x_2, t_2 \quad x_3, t_3 \\
 & x_1 = [-1 \ 1 \ 1 \ 1 \ 1 \ -1 \ 1 \ -1 \ -1 \ -1 \ 1 \ -1 \ \dots \ 1 \ -1]^T, \text{ digit "0"} \\
 & x_2 = [ \quad ]^T, \text{ digit "1"} \\
 & x_3 = [ \quad ]^T, \text{ digit "2"}
 \end{aligned}$$

Hebbian rule  $\Rightarrow$

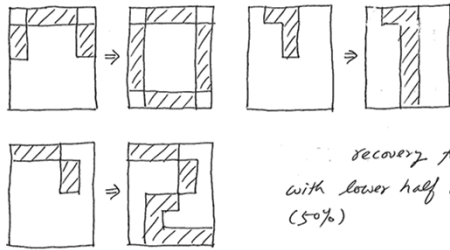
$$W = x_1 x_1^T + x_2 x_2^T + x_3 x_3^T \quad (x_p \text{ replaces } t_p)$$



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### Hebbian Learning

Recall patterns, even when corrupted patterns are provided as inputs.

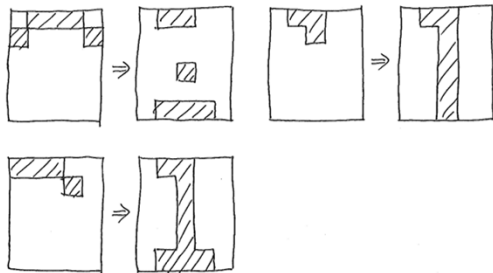


recovery for inputs  
with lower half occluded.  
(50%)

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### Hebbian Learning

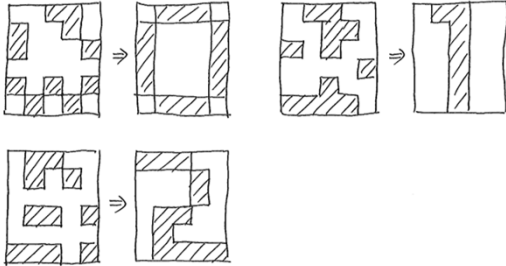
For lower 2/3 occluded (67%), error occurs!



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## Hebbian Learning

For randomly changed (7 elements) pattern:



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### Variation of Hebbian Learning:

Basic rule:

$$W^{new} = W^{old} + t_p x_p^T$$

If there are too many patterns in the training set, the weight matrices will have large elements.

Use the learning rate to limit the amount of increase:

$$W^{new} = W^{old} + \gamma t_p x_p^T$$

Add a decay term, so that the learning rule behaves like a smoothing filter, remembering the most recent inputs more clearly:

$$W^{new} = W^{old} + \gamma t_p x_p^T - \delta W^{old} = (1 - \delta) W^{old} + \gamma t_p x_p^T$$

as  $\delta \rightarrow 0$ , it becomes the standard rule,  
as  $\delta \rightarrow 1$ , the learning law quickly forgets old inputs, remembering the most recent inputs. This keeps the weight matrix from growing without bound.

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## Hebbian Learning

If the desired output is replaced by the difference between desired and actual output,

$$W^{new} = W^{old} + \gamma (t_p - y_p) x_p^T$$

: Delta rule (Widrow-Hoff algorithm)

Replace the desired output with the actual output:

$$W^{new} = W^{old} + \gamma y_p x_p^T$$

: unsupervised learning.

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