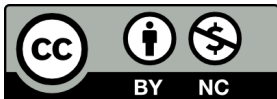


# Business 4720 - Class 15

## Neural Networks using Python

Joerg Evermann

Faculty of Business Administration  
Memorial University of Newfoundland  
`jevermann@mun.ca`



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## What You Will Learn:

- ▶ Deep Learning Concepts
  - ▶ Neural Network
  - ▶ Activation Functions
  - ▶ Gradients
  - ▶ Backpropagation
  - ▶ Regularization with Dropouts
- ▶ Deep Learning in Python using Tensorflow
  - ▶ Tensors
  - ▶ Models
  - ▶ Training

# Based On

Gareth James, Daniel Witten, Trevor Hastie and Robert Tibshirani:  
*An Introduction to Statistical Learning with Applications in R*. 2nd  
edition, corrected printing, June 2023. (ISLR2)

<https://www.statlearning.com>

Chapter 10

Kevin P. Murphy: *Probabilistic Machine Learning – An Introduction*.  
MIT Press 2022.

<https://probml.github.io/pml-book/book1.html>

Chapter 13, 14, 15

## Tensorflow Guides

<https://www.tensorflow.org/guide>

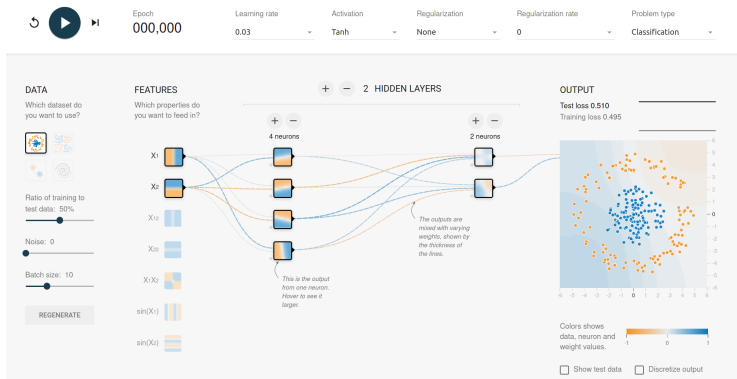
Implementations are available on the following GitHub repo:

`https://github.com/jevermann/busi4720-ml`

The project can be cloned from this URL:

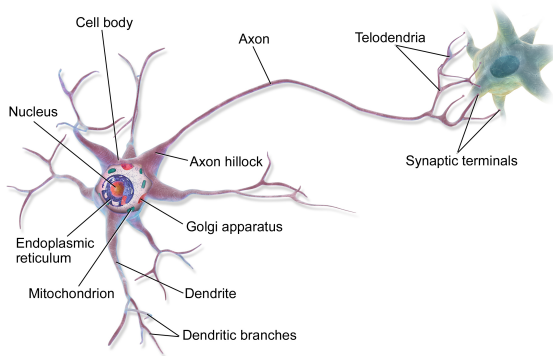
`https://github.com/jevermann/busi4720-ml.git`

Tensorflow Playground: <https://playground.tensorflow.org>



# Biological Neuron

- ▶ Brain cell
- ▶ Connected to other brain cells
- ▶ Receives, modulates and emits electro-chemical stimulus ("activation")



[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Blausen\\_0657\\_MultipolarNeuron.png](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Blausen_0657_MultipolarNeuron.png)

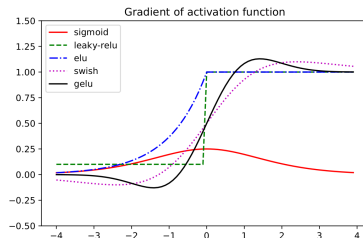
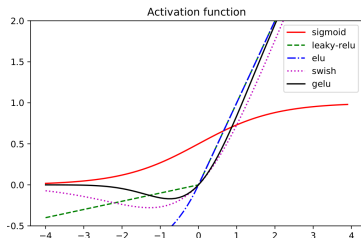
# Artificial Neuron

$$y = \psi(b + \sum_i w_i x_i)$$

- ▶ Multiple **input** connections  $x_i$
- ▶ Weighted using **weights**  $w_i$
- ▶ Add a **bias** term  $b$
- ▶ Apply *nonlinear* **activation function**  $\psi$

# Popular Activation Functions

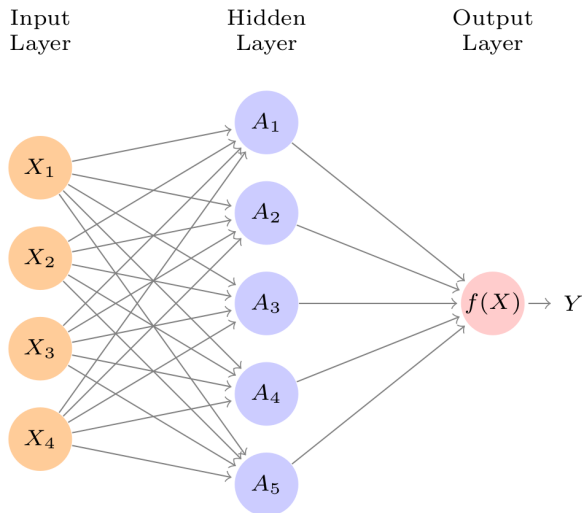
Sigmoid	$\sigma(z) = \frac{e^z}{1+e^z}$
Hyperbolic tangent	$\tanh(z) = \frac{\sinh(z)}{\cosh(z)} = \frac{e^z - e^{-z}}{e^z + e^{-z}} = 2\sigma(2z) - 1$
Softplus	$\sigma_+(z) = \log(1 + e^z)$
Rectified linear unit	$\text{ReLU}(z) = \max(z, 0)$
Leaky ReLU	$\text{LReLU}(z) = \max(z, 0) + \alpha \min(z, 0)$
Exponential linear unit	$\text{ELU}(z) = \max(z, 0) + \min(\alpha(e^z - 1), 0)$
Swish, Sigmoid linear unit	$\text{SiLU}(z) = z\sigma(z)$
Gaussian error linear unit	$\text{GeLU}(z) = z\Phi(z)$



Source:  
Murphy,  
Fig.  
13.14



# Fully Connected Hidden Layer



Source: ISLR2 Figure 10.1

# Counting Parameters

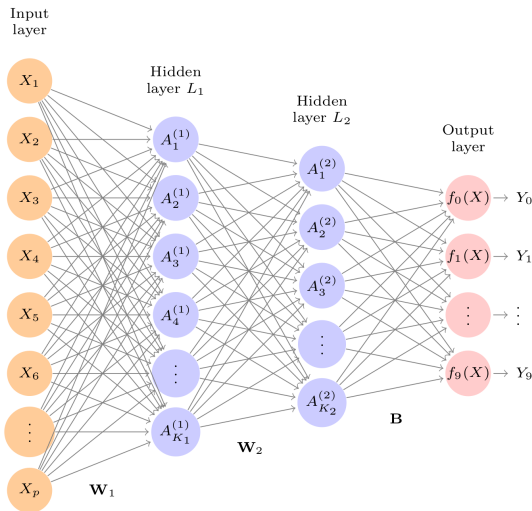
In a fully-connected network, for a hidden or output layer of size  $n$ , that is, with  $n$  cells/neurons and  $k$  inputs, that is  $k$  cells on the previous layer:

- ▶ Each of the  $n$  cells has as many weights as inputs  $k$
- ▶ Each of the  $n$  cells has 1 bias

**Example:** Input size 4, hidden layer size 5, output layer size 1:

- ▶ Hidden layer parameters:  $4 \times 5 + 5 = 25$
- ▶ Output layer parameters:  $5 \times 1 + 1 = 6$
- ▶ Total number of parameters:  $25 + 6 = 31$

# Fully Connected Multilayer Network



Source: ISLR2 Figure 10.4

Multiple Outputs  
either

- Multi-objective learning
- Multi-class classification

**"Softmax"** activation

$$\Pr(Y = m|X) = \frac{e^{z_m}}{\sum_{l=0}^n e^{z_l}}$$

# Hands-On Exercise

Consider the following network architecture for classification into 5 classes.

- ▶ Input layer with 10 inputs
- ▶ Fully-connected (dense) hidden layer with 20 units
- ▶ Fully-connected (dense) hidden layer with 10 units
- ▶ Fully-connected (dense) hidden layer with 5 units
- ▶ Fully-connected (dense) output layer

Calculate the total number of learnable parameters for this network.

# Estimating Parameters

## Typical Loss Functions

- ▶ **Regression:** MSE, MAE, Huber
- ▶ **Classification:** Cross-Entropy or KL-Divergence after softmax on multiple output nodes

## Parameters

- ▶ Parameter vector  $\theta = (w, b)$  with weights  $w$  and biases  $b$ .

## Optimization

- ▶ (Stochastic) gradient descent (SGD)

## Regularization

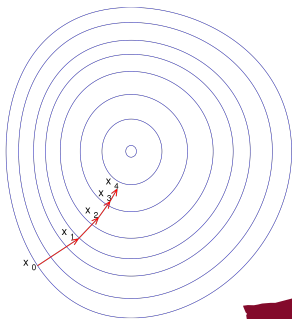
- ▶ "Dropout"
- ▶ L1 and/or L2 penalization (as in lasso, ridge)
- ▶ Early stopping

# Gradient Descent

- 1 Begin with initial parameter values
- 2 Repeat until convergence
  - 2.1 Find direction of descent (decrease in loss function value, given by the gradient vector  $\nabla L$  of partial derivatives)
  - 2.2 Move a step in that direction (adjust parameters, step size determined by **learning rate**)

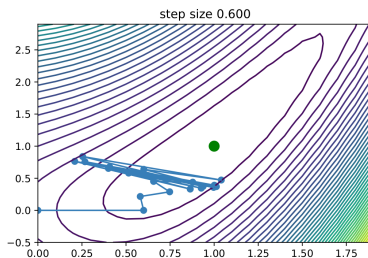
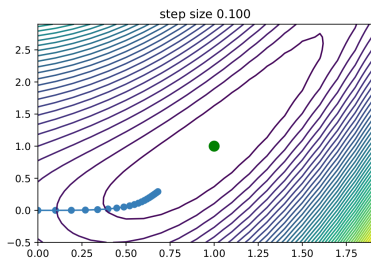
Consider the loss  $L$  at a certain input  $X$  as a function of parameter values  $\theta$ . Then, at each step  $t$ , update parameters  $\theta$  using learning rate  $\gamma$ :

$$\theta_{t+1} = \theta_t - \gamma \nabla L(\theta)|_{\theta_t, X}$$



# Optimization Problems

- ▶ Slow convergence
- ▶ No convergence (oscillations)
- ▶ Premature convergence (local optimum)



Murphy, Figure 8.11

## Learning Rate

- ▶ Fixed step size
- ▶ Adaptive learning rate  $\lambda_t$
- ▶ Momentum methods
- ▶ Optimal learning rate ("line search")



# Training Neural Networks – Epochs and Minibatches

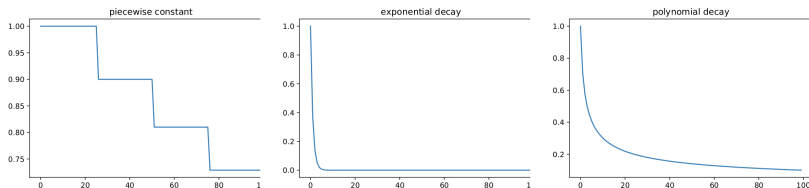
- ▶ Using the full training set for every update step is expensive (or impossible)
- ▶ Approximate true gradient by using a small sample of the training set for each step, the **minibatch**
  - ▶ Average gradients over minibatch
  - ▶ Minibatch should be independent and random
  - ▶ Minibatch size should not be "too small"
- ▶ Multiple passes over the training set until convergence (a local or global optimum is found), the **epochs**
  - ▶ Avoid repetition by shuffling the training set before each epoch
  - ▶ Early stopping for regularization

# Optimization Options – Stochastic Gradient Descent

- ▶ Random inputs  $X$  to gradients by random draws from training set

$$\theta_{t+1} = \theta_t - \lambda_t \nabla L(\theta)|_{\theta_t, X}$$

- ▶ Requires adaptive learning rate
- ▶ Typical learning rate schedules: Piecewise constant, exponential decay, polynomial decay



Source: Murphy Figure 8.18

# Optimization Options – AdaGrad

## Adaptive Gradient

- ▶ Originally developed for sparse gradient vectors
- ▶ Adapt by previous squared gradients
- ▶ Overall learning rate  $\lambda_t$  is adapted
- ▶ Typically:  $\lambda_t = \lambda_0$

$$\theta_{t+1} = \theta_t - \lambda_t \frac{1}{\sqrt{s_t + \epsilon}} \nabla L(\theta)|_{\theta_t, X}$$

$$s_t = \sum_{\tau=1}^t (\nabla L(\theta)|_{\theta_\tau, X})^2 \quad \text{Sum of squared gradients}$$

- ▶ Exponentially weighted moving average of the past (instead of the sum as in AdaGrad)
- ▶ Prevents too early learning rate reduction

$$\mathbf{s}_{t+1} = \beta \mathbf{s}_t + (1 - \beta) (\nabla L(\theta)|_{\theta_t, X})^2$$

- Maintains exponentially weighted average of previous updates  $\delta$

$$\theta_{t+1} = \theta_t + \Delta\theta_t$$

$$\Delta\theta_t = -\lambda_t \frac{\sqrt{\delta_{t-1} + \epsilon}}{\sqrt{\mathbf{s}_t + \epsilon}} \nabla L(\theta)|_{\theta_t, X}$$

$$\delta_t = \beta\delta_{t-1} + (1 - \beta)(\Delta\theta_t)^2$$

# Optimization Options – Momentum Methods

- ▶ *Intuition*: Keep going in the direction that was previously good, avoid "sharp turns"
- ▶ Standard momentum:

$$m_{t+1} = \beta m_t - \nabla L(\theta)|_{\theta_t, X}$$

$$\theta_{t+1} = \theta_t - \lambda m_{t+1}$$

Momentum

Parameter update

Typical  $\beta$  is  $\approx 0.9$

- ▶ Nesterov Momentum: Looks ahead and evaluates gradient at approximate next parameter values

$$m_{t+1} = \beta m_t - \lambda_t \nabla L(\theta)|_{\theta_t + \beta m_t, X}$$

$$\theta_{t+1} = \theta_t + m_{t+1}$$

Nesterov Momentum

Parameter update

# Optimization Options – AdaM

## Adaptive Moment Estimation

- Combine adaptive learning rate with momentum

$$m_t = \beta_1 m_{t-1} + (1 - \beta_1) \nabla L(\theta)|_{\theta_t, X}$$

$$s_t = \beta_2 s_{t-1} + (1 - \beta_2) (\nabla L(\theta)|_{\theta_t, X})^2$$

$$\theta_{t+1} = \theta_t - \lambda_t \frac{1}{\sqrt{s_t} + \epsilon} m_t$$

# Training Neural Networks – Vanishing Gradients

## Problem

- ▶ Sigmoid and tanh functions are bounded for large positive or negative pre-activation values ("saturating activation functions")
- ▶ Long chains of neurons (e.g. in stacked fully-connected layers) can diminish the "error signal", i.e. the gradient

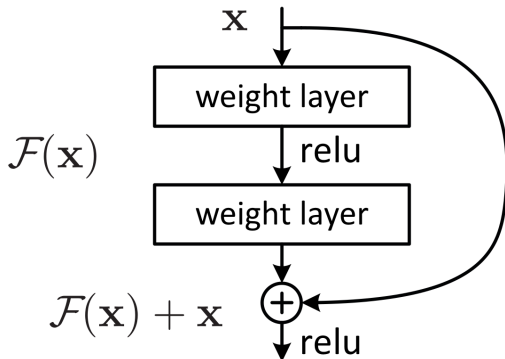
## Possible Solutions

- ▶ Use non-saturating activation functions, e.g. ReLU, leaky ReLU, ELU, etc.
- ▶ Use additive rather multiplicative architectures, e.g. "ResNet" (residual networks)
- ▶ Standardize activations at every layer
- ▶ Carefully choose initial parameter values



# Training Neural Networks – ResNet Architecture

- Allows gradients to bypass a layer that suffers from lack of learning (vanishing gradient, saturated activation)



Source: Murphy, Figure 13.15

# Training Neural Networks – Exploding Gradients

## Problem

- ▶ Long chains of neurons can vastly increase the error

## Possible Solution

- ▶ Gradient clipping

$$g' = \min(1, \frac{1}{\|c\|_2})g$$

# Training Neural Networks – Parameter Initialization Heuristics

- ▶ Random values from normal distribution:  $\theta \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$
- ▶ "Xavier Initialization"/"Glorot Initialization"

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{2}{n_{\text{in}} + n_{\text{out}}}$$

where  $n_{\text{in}}$  is the number of incoming connections and  $n_{\text{out}}$  is the number of outgoing connections from each neuron

- ▶ "LeCun Initialization"

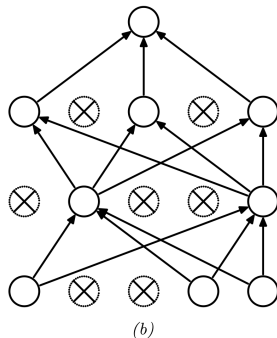
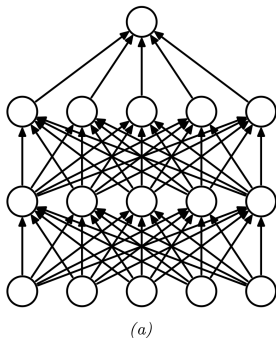
$$\sigma^2 = \frac{1}{n_{\text{in}}}$$

- ▶ "He Initialization"

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{2}{n_{\text{in}}}$$

# Regularization – Dropout

- ▶ Randomly (per observation) remove a fraction of units in a layer, or equivalently,
- ▶ Randomly set the output of a fraction of units to 0
- ▶ Typically only done at train time, not test time



Source: Murphy, Figure 1.318



- ▶ Originally developed by Google, Version 1.0 in 2017
- ▶ Automatic differentiation/gradients
- ▶ Distributed computing
- ▶ Parallel computing on multiple GPU
- ▶ Wide range of loss functions
- ▶ Wide range of optimizers
- ▶ Wide range of neural network types and activation functions



- ▶ Originally developed as a user-friendly, high-level abstraction layer for different ML frameworks, including Tensorflow, Theano, PyTorch
- ▶ Wide range of standard neural network layers
- ▶ Simplified training loops

# Regression using Keras

Import required packages:

Python

```
import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
import tensorflow as tf
from tensorflow.keras import layers
```

Read a CSV file:

Python

```
# Use the Boston housing data set
boston_data = \
    pd.read_csv("https://evermann.ca/busi4720/boston.csv")
```

Separate features and target:

Python

```
boston_features = boston_data.copy()
boston_labels = boston_features.pop('medv')
```

## Regression using Keras [cont'd]

Define the NN model with one hidden fully-connected layer (64 neurons) and one fully-connected output layer (1 neuron) in sequence. No activation function is given, so this is a linear regression model:

```
Python  
boston_model = tf.keras.Sequential([  
    layers.Dense(64, activation=None),  
    layers.Dense(1, activation=None)  
])
```

Set the loss function and the optimizer:

```
Python  
boston_model.compile(  
    loss = tf.keras.losses.MeanSquaredError(),  
    optimizer = tf.keras.optimizers.Adam())
```

Fit/train the model for 25 epochs:

```
Python  
boston_model.fit(boston_features,  
                 boston_labels, epochs=25)  
boston_model.summary()
```



# Regression in Keras [cont'd]

The `Normalization` layer normalizes numeric features:

```
_____ Python _____  
norm_layer = layers.Normalization()
```

The `adapt()` function computes means and variances of the data so the layer can normalize the data when the model is fit. Requires numpy array.

```
_____ Python _____  
norm_layer.adapt(boston_features.to_numpy())
```

Add the normalization layer to the model. A ReLU activation is used that makes this a non-linear regression model:

```
_____ Python _____  
norm_boston_model = tf.keras.Sequential([  
    norm_layer,  
    layers.Dense(64, activation='relu'),  
    layers.Dense(1, activation=None)  
])
```

# Regression in Keras [cont'd]

Set loss and optimizer and ask Keras to keep track of the MSE and MAE metrics.

Python

```
norm_boston_model.compile(  
    loss = tf.keras.losses.MeanSquaredError(),  
    optimizer = tf.keras.optimizers.Adam(),  
    metrics = ['mse', 'mae'])
```

The `fit` function returns a history of the metrics we asked for:

Python

```
train_hist = \  
    norm_boston_model.fit(  
        boston_features,  
        boston_labels,  
        batch_size=20,  
        epochs=50,  
        validation_split=0.33)
```

## Plot the training history using Plotly Express

Python

```
import plotly.express as px

hist = pd.DataFrame({
    'training': train_hist.history['mse'],
    'validation': train_hist.history['val_mse']})
hist['epoch'] = np.arange(hist.shape[0])
hist = pd.melt(hist,
               id_vars='epoch',
               value_vars=['training', 'validation'])

fig = px.line(hist, x='epoch', y='value',
               color='variable')
fig.show()
```

- ▶ Modify the above code to include different activation functions, e.g. `"tanh"`, `"sigmoid"`, or `"elu"`. Comment on the learning progress and loss function values.
- ▶ Modify the above code to change the number of neurons in the `"Dense"` layer. Comment on the learning progress and loss function values.
- ▶ Modify the architecture to add one or more `"Dense"` layers with different numbers of units. Comment on the learning progress and loss function values.

The `Wage` dataset from the `ISLR2` library for R has been adapted to include a column `wagequart`, the quartile of the wage. Many features are categorical.

```
_____ Python _____  
# Read data and separate features from target labels  
wage_data = \  
    pd.read_csv("https://evermann.ca/wage.csv")  
  
wage_features = wage_data.copy()  
wage_labels = wage_features.pop('wagequart') - 1
```

Treat each categorical string feature and convert to **one-hot encoding**.

One-hot encoding is similar to binary dummy variables (contrasts) in linear models, but have no default level; a feature with  $n$  different categories requires  $n$  binary variables (not  $n - 1$  as in linear model contrasts).

Keep track of the inputs and the pre-processed inputs:

Python

```
inputs = {}  
preproc_inputs = []
```

# Classification in Keras [cont'd]

```
_____ Python _____  
for cat_feature in ['maritl', 'race', 'education', \  
                    'jobclass', 'health', 'health_ins']:  
    # An Input variable is a placeholder that  
    # accepts data input when training or predicting  
    input = tf.keras.Input(shape=(1,),  
                             name=cat_feature,  
                             dtype=tf.string)  
    # This StringLookup layer accepts a string and  
    # outputs its category as a one-hot vector  
    lookup = layers.StringLookup(  
        name=cat_feature+"_lookup",  
        output_mode="one_hot")  
    # Adapt it to the different strings in the data  
    lookup.adapt(wage_features[cat_feature])  
    # And tie the input to this layer  
    onehot = lookup(input)  
  
    inputs[cat_feature] = input  
    preproc_inputs.append(onehot)
```

Define and input and a Normalization layer for the numerical variable `age`:

```
Python
age_input = tf.keras.Input(shape=(1,),
                             name="age",
                             dtype="float32")
norm_layer = layers.Normalization(name="age_norm")
norm_layer.adapt(wage_features["age"])
age_norm = norm_layer(age_input)

inputs["age"] = age_input
preproc_inputs.append(age_norm)
```



Define and input and a one-hot encoding `IntegerLookup` layer for the numeric variable `year`:

```
_____ Python _____
year_input = tf.keras.Input(shape=(1,),
                             name="year",
                             dtype="int32")
lookup = layers.IntegerLookup(name="year_lookup",
                              output_mode="one_hot")
lookup.adapt(wage_features["year"])
year_onehot = lookup(year_input)

inputs["year"] = year_input
preproc_inputs.append(year_onehot)
```

Concatenate the pre-processing outputs to one long vector with a `Concatenate` layer. Call this layer with the list of pre-processed inputs:

```
Python
preprocessed_inputs = \
    layers.Concatenate(name="concat")(preproc_inputs)
```

Build a pre-processing model whose inputs is the dict of Input variables, and whose output are the results of calling the layers:

```
Python
preproc_model = tf.keras.Model(inputs,
                                preprocessed_inputs,
                                name="preproc")
preproc_model.summary()
```

Build the classification model as a Sequential model:

```
Python
class_model = tf.keras.Sequential(name="classification")
class_model.add(layers.Dense(64, activation="relu"))
class_model.add(layers.Dropout(0.25))
class_model.add(layers.Dense(32, activation="relu"))
class_model.add(layers.Dropout(0.25))
class_model.add(layers.Dense(4, activation="softmax"))

# Alternatively:
# class_model.add(layers.Dense(4, activation=None))
# class_model.add(layers.Softmax())
```

The output of the pre-processing model is the input to the classification model:

```
_____ Python _____  
class_results = class_model(preproc_model(inputs))  
class_model.summary()
```

The final model takes the inputs, and has the classification model results as outputs:

```
_____ Python _____  
wage_model = tf.keras.Model(inputs, class_results,  
                             name="wage_model")  
wage_model.summary()
```

Compile the model with loss function, optimizer and request training metrics:

```
Python
wage_model.compile(
    loss=tf.keras.losses.SparseCategoricalCrossentropy(
        from_logits=False),
    optimizer=tf.keras.optimizers.Adam(
        learning_rate=0.001,
        beta_1 = 0.9,
        beta_2 = 0.999,
        epsilon = 1e-07),
    metrics=[
        tf.keras.metrics.SparseCategoricalAccuracy(),
        tf.keras.metrics.KLDivergence()])
```

**Note:** Specifying `from_logits=True` for the loss can save the softmax activation or layer at the bottom of the sequential classification model.

# Classification in Keras [cont'd]

Create the input data as a dict of numpy arrays to match the Input variables:

Python

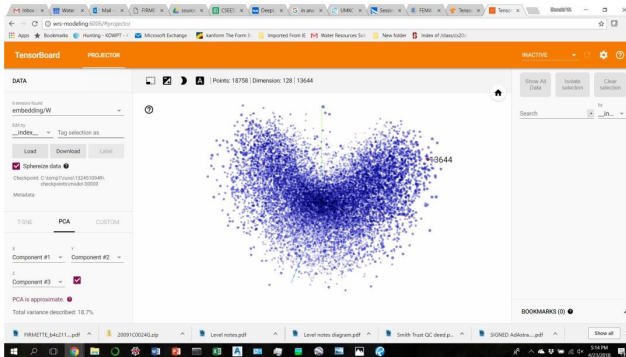
```
import numpy as np
wage_feature_dict = \
    {name: np.array(value) for \
     name, value in wage_features.items() }
```

Write log information to a directory for loading into Tensorboard:

Python

```
import datetime
log_dir = "./tensorboard_logs/" + \
    datetime.datetime.now().strftime("%Y%m%d-%H%M%S")
tensorboard_callback = \
    tf.keras.callbacks.TensorBoard(log_dir=log_dir,
                                   histogram_freq=0)
```

TensorBoard is a tool to visualize neural network models and their training and validation data/performance.



[https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Tensorboard\\_1.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Tensorboard_1.jpg)

Train the model for 25 epochs:

```
Python
wage_hist = wage_model.fit(
    x = wage_feature_dict,
    y = wage_labels,
    validation_split=0.333,
    batch_size=20,
    epochs = 25,
    callbacks=[tensorboard_callback])
```



## Plot the training history using Plotly Express

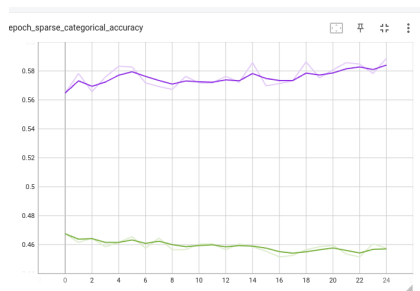
```
Python  
import plotly.express as px  
  
hist = pd.DataFrame({  
    'training': \  
wage_hist.history['sparse_categorical_accuracy'],  
    'validation': \  
wage_hist.history['val_sparse_categorical_accuracy']})  
hist['epoch'] = np.arange(hist.shape[0])  
hist = pd.melt(hist,  
               id_vars='epoch',  
               value_vars=['training', 'validation'])  
  
fig = px.line(hist, x='epoch', y='value',  
              color='variable')  
fig.show()
```

# Classification in Keras [cont'd]

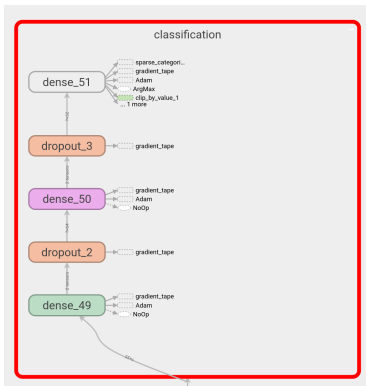
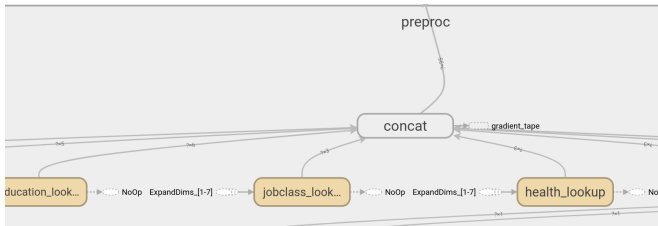
Call TensorBoard from the terminal, providing the log directory

```
Bash  
tensorboard --logdir tensorboard_logs
```

Then go to `http://localhost:6006` in your web browser.



# TensorBoard



Another useful callback function:

```
_____ Python _____  
earlystop_callback = tf.keras.callbacks.EarlyStopping(  
    monitor = 'val_loss',  
    patience = 3,  
    mode = 'min',  
    # or 'max' or 'auto' depending on monitor metric  
    restore_best_weights = True)
```

# Hands-On Exercises

- ▶ Examine the model summaries for the pre-processing, the classification, and the complete wage model. Explain the number of trainable and total parameters, and also explain the output shapes of each layer.
- ▶ Make the "wage" prediction a binary classification problem:
  - 1 Modify the `wage_labels` and combine classes 0, 1 and classes 2, 3 (class numbers should be 0 or 1)
  - 2 Modify the classification network to have a single output node
  - 3 Use the `BinaryCrossentropy` loss
  - 4 Return the following metrics as part of the training history:
    - ▶ Precision
    - ▶ Recall
    - ▶ AUC
  - 5 Plot the metrics after training