

Lecture 5:  
Self-Organising Maps

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BIS4435

Euclidean Space and Euclidean Distance (Examples)

The Clustering Problem

SOM Architecture and Principles

Training Procedure

Contextual Maps

Applications of SOM

# HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- 1960s Vector quantisation problems studied by mathematicians (Glienn, 1964; Stratonowitch, 1966).
- 1973 von der Malsburg did the first computer simulation demonstrating self-organisation.
- 1976 Willshaw and von der Malsburg suggested the idea of SOM.
- 1980s Works by Kohonen further developed and studied computational algorithms for SOM.

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- Points in Euclidean space have coordinates, represented by real numbers  $\mathbf{R}$  (e.g.  $x$ ,  $y$  and  $z$  or  $x_1$ ,  $x_2$  and  $x_3$ ).

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- .
- How can we compute the distance between different points in such a space?

# EXAMPLES

## Example

In  $\mathbf{R}^1$  (one-dimensional space or a line) points are represented by just one number, such as  $\mathbf{a} = (2)$  or  $\mathbf{b} = (-1)$ .



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## Example

In  $\mathbf{R}^3$  (three-dimensional space) points are represented by three coordinates  $x$ ,  $y$  and  $z$  (or  $x_1$ ,  $x_2$  and  $x_3$ ), such as  $\mathbf{a} = (2, -1, 3)$ .

# EUCLIDEAN DISTANCE

The distance  $\rho(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b})$  between two points

$$\mathbf{a} = (a_1, \dots, a_m) \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{b} = (b_1, \dots, b_m)$$

in Euclidean space  $\mathbf{R}^m$  is calculated as:

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b}\| &= \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^m (a_i - b_i)^2} \\ &= \sqrt{(a_1 - b_1)^2 + \dots + (a_m - b_m)^2} \end{aligned}$$

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## Remark

*Note that Euclidean distance is*

- 1 Positive:  $\rho(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}) \geq 0$ , and  $\rho(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}) = 0$  iff  $\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{b}$
- 2 Symmetric:  $\rho(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}) = \rho(\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{a})$ .
- 3 Triangle inequality:  $\rho(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{c}) \leq \rho(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}) + \rho(\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c})$

Such functions are called *metrics*, and sets with metrics are called *metric spaces*.

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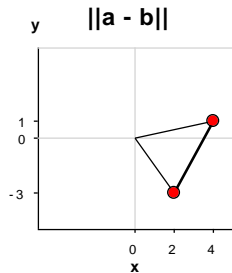
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## Example

Let  $\mathbf{a} = (2, -3)$  and  $\mathbf{b} = (4, 1)$  in  $\mathbf{R}^2$ .  
Then

$$\begin{aligned}\|\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b}\| &= \sqrt{(2 - 4)^2 + (-3 - 1)^2} \\ &= \sqrt{20} \approx 4.47\end{aligned}$$



# MULTIDIMENSIONAL DATA IN BUSINESS

- A bank gathered information about its customers:

Case:	Age	Gender	Income (\$K p.m.)	Expenses (\$K p.m.)	Home owner	Credit score
1	21	0	2	1	0	3
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- We may consider each variable (age, gender, income, etc) as a coordinate  $x_i$  and each case as a point in an  $m$ -dimensional space.

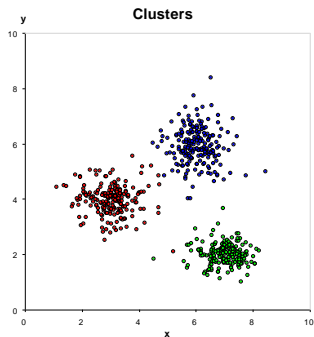
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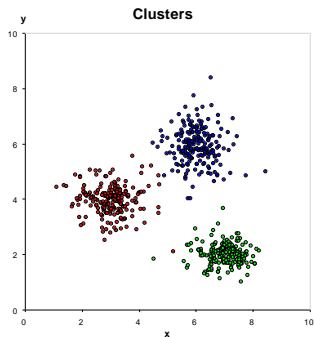
- We may consider each variable (age, gender, income, etc) as a coordinate  $x_i$  and each case as a point in an  $m$ -dimensional space.
- How far should be similar cases from each other?

# CLUSTERS



- **Clusters** are groups of points close to each other.
- One of the main goals of **multivariate analysis** is to find clusters of points.

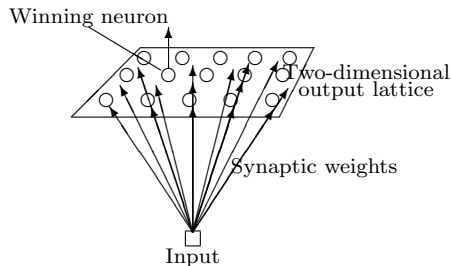
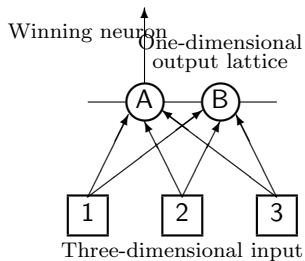
# CLUSTERS



- **Clusters** are groups of points close to each other.
- One of the main goals of **multivariate analysis** is to find clusters of points.
- 'Similar' customers would have small Euclidean distance between them and would belong to the same group (cluster).

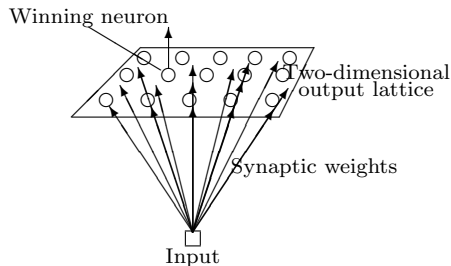
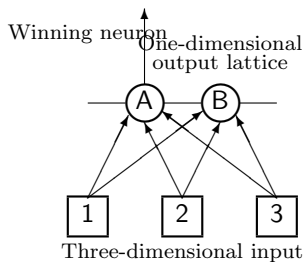
# SOM ARCHITECTURE

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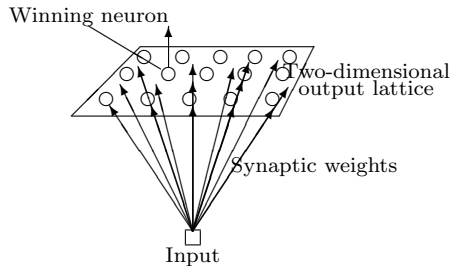
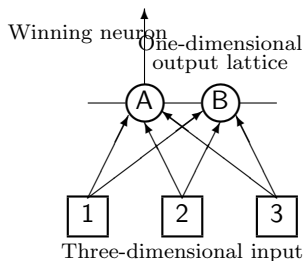
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- The algorithm consists of three phases: **competition**, **cooperation** and **adaptation**.



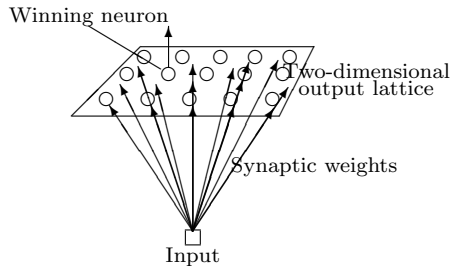
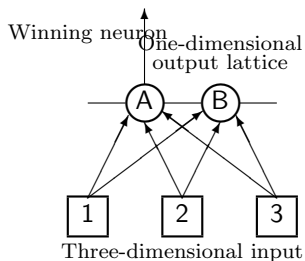
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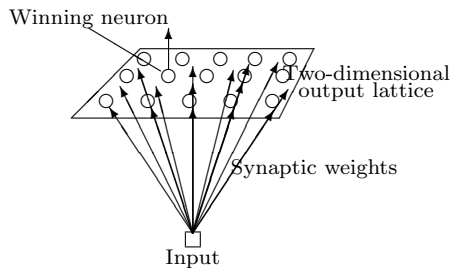
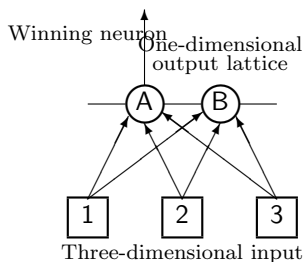
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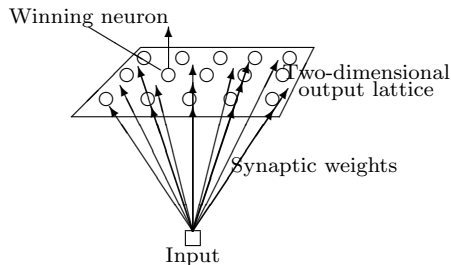
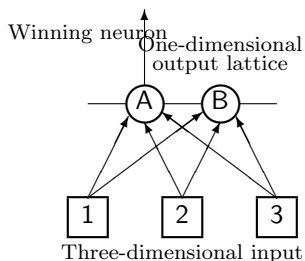
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- 'Closeness' (neighbourhood) in the  $m$ -dimensional input space  $\mathbf{R}^m$  is computed by the Euclidean distance  $\rho(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{w})$ .



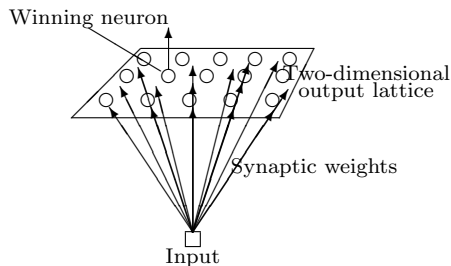
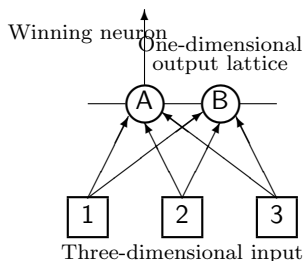
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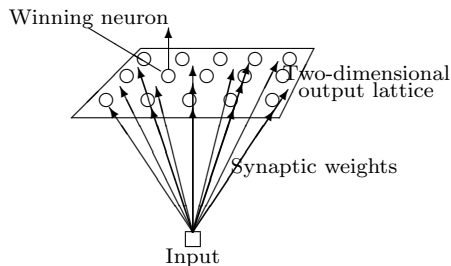
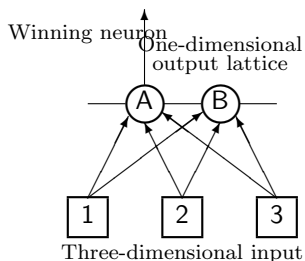
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- 'Closeness' (neighbourhood) in this 1 or 2-dimensional output space is computed by another distance function  $d(ij)$ .



# TOPOLOGICAL MAPPING

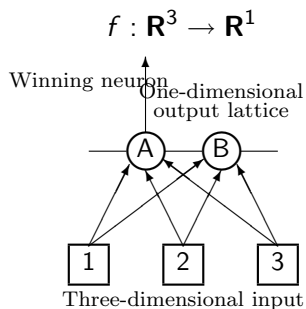
- SOM  $f : \mathbf{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbf{R}^n$  maps  $m$ -dimensional input space  $\mathbf{R}^m$  onto the  $n$ -dimensional output space  $\mathbf{R}^n$  (usually  $m \gg n$ ).

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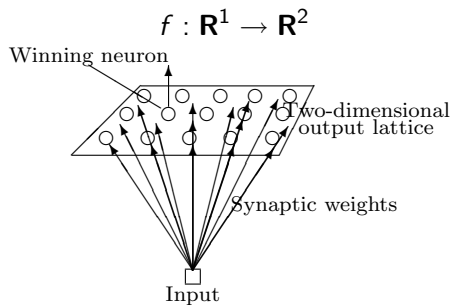
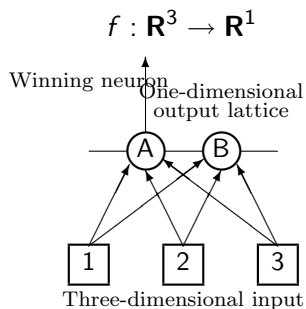
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- The **winner** is the node whose weight  $\mathbf{w}_j$  is the closest to the input  $\mathbf{x}$  in terms of Euclidean distance:

$$\begin{aligned} \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{w}_1\| &= \sqrt{(x_1 - w_{11})^2 + \dots + (x_m - w_{m1})^2} \\ &\vdots \\ \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{w}_n\| &= \sqrt{(x_1 - w_{1n})^2 + \dots + (x_m - w_{mn})^2} \end{aligned}$$

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- Thus, nodes 'compete' in the sense which of the nodes  $\mathbf{w}_j$  is more 'similar' to a give input pattern  $\mathbf{x}$ .

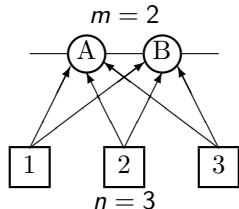
## Example

Consider SOM with three inputs and two output nodes ( $A$  and  $B$ ). Let

$$\mathbf{w}_A = (2, -1, 3), \quad \mathbf{w}_B = (-2, 0, 1)$$

Find which node is the winner for the input

$$\mathbf{x} = (1, -2, 2)$$



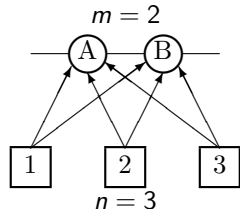
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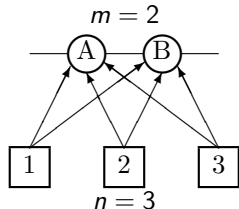
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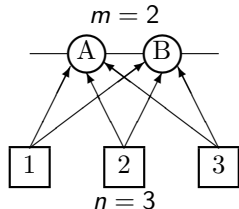
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- Node A is the winner because it is 'closer' ( $\sqrt{3} < \sqrt{14}$ )
- What if  $\mathbf{x} = (-1, -2, 0)$ ?

# ADAPTATION

- After the input  $x$  has been presented to SOM, the weights of *all* nodes are **adapted** (adjusted) so that they become more 'similar' to the input  $x$ .



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- After the input  $\mathbf{x}$  has been presented to SOM, the weights of *all* nodes are **adapted** (adjusted) so that they become more 'similar' to the input  $\mathbf{x}$ .
- The adaptation formula for node  $j$  is:

$$\mathbf{w}_j^{\text{new}} = \mathbf{w}_j^{\text{old}} + \alpha h_{ij} [\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{w}_j^{\text{old}}] ,$$

where

- $\mathbf{w}_j$  is the weight vector of node  $j$ ;
- $\alpha$  is the **learning rate** coefficient;
- $h_{ij}$  is the **neighbourhood** of node  $j$  with respect to the winner  $i$ .

## ADAPTATION (cont.)

To understand better the adaptation formula, let us check how the weights change for different values of  $\alpha$  and  $h_{ij}$ .

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- Suppose  $\alpha = 0$  or  $h_{ij} = 0$ . Then

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- Suppose  $h_{ij} = 1$  and  $\alpha = 1$ . Then

$$\mathbf{w}_j^{\text{new}} = \mathbf{w}_j^{\text{old}} + \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{w}_j^{\text{old}} = \mathbf{x}$$

The new weight is equal to the input ( $\mathbf{w}_j^{\text{new}} = \mathbf{x}$ ).

## COOPERATION

Although weights of *all* nodes are adapted, they do not adapt equally. Adaptation depends on how close the nodes are from the winner in the output lattice.

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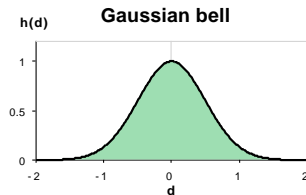
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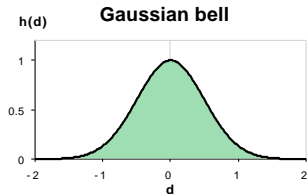


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- The winner 'helps' mostly its neighbours to adapt. Note also that the winner is adapted more than any other node (i.e. because  $d(i, i) = 0$ ).



## Example

Let  $\alpha = 0.5$  and  $h = 1$ , and let us adapt the winning node  $A$  from previous example:

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$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{w}_A &= \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} + 0.5 \cdot 1 \cdot \left[ \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 2 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} \right] \\ &= \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ -1 \\ 3 \end{pmatrix} + 0.5 \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1.5 \\ -1.5 \\ 2.5 \end{pmatrix}\end{aligned}$$

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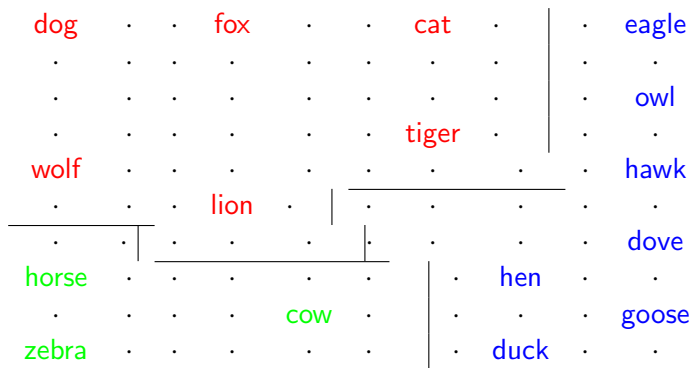
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- The output lattice is usually one or two dimensional, so we can visualise and 'see' the clusters.



# FEATURE MAP



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- Can be used for pattern recognition (e.g. to identify credit-card fraud, errors in data, etc).