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# Approximate Computing with Emerging Devices

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# Approximate Computation

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WITH EMERGING DEVICES

BY RICHARD ATHERTON

# Overview of Project

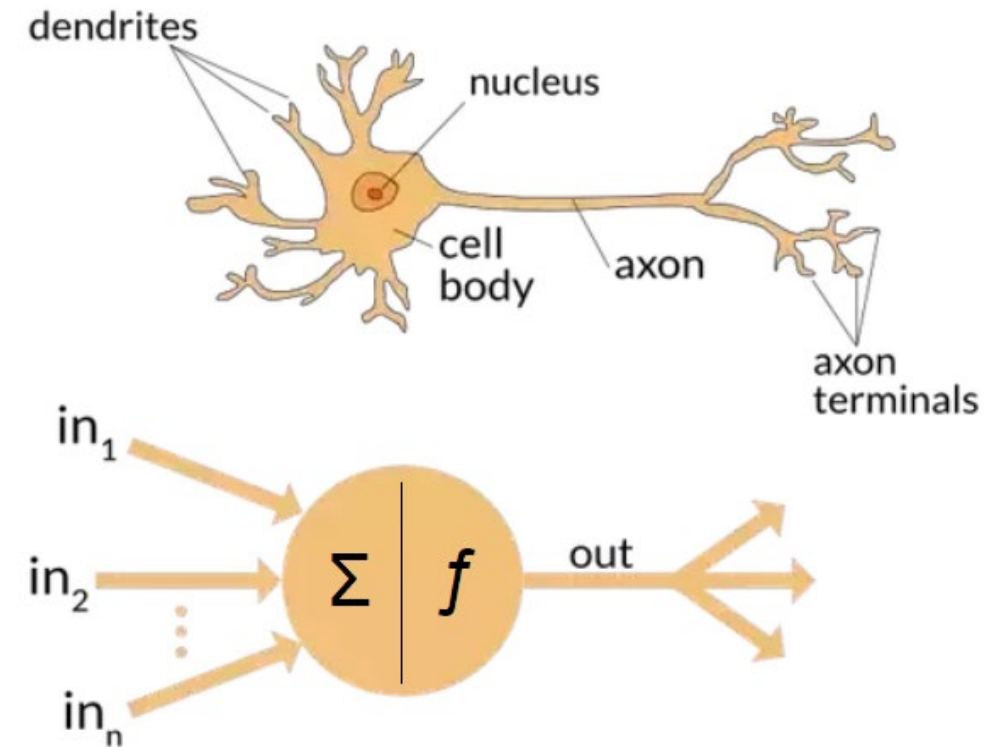
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“Approximate computation is a new trend that explores and harnesses trade-offs between the precision and energy/power consumption of computing systems. The goal of this project is to design and implement approximate computing systems based on emerging devices, such as memristors. The student will first review the literature. In a second step, we will use reservoir computing systems as a platform for exploring approximate computing.”

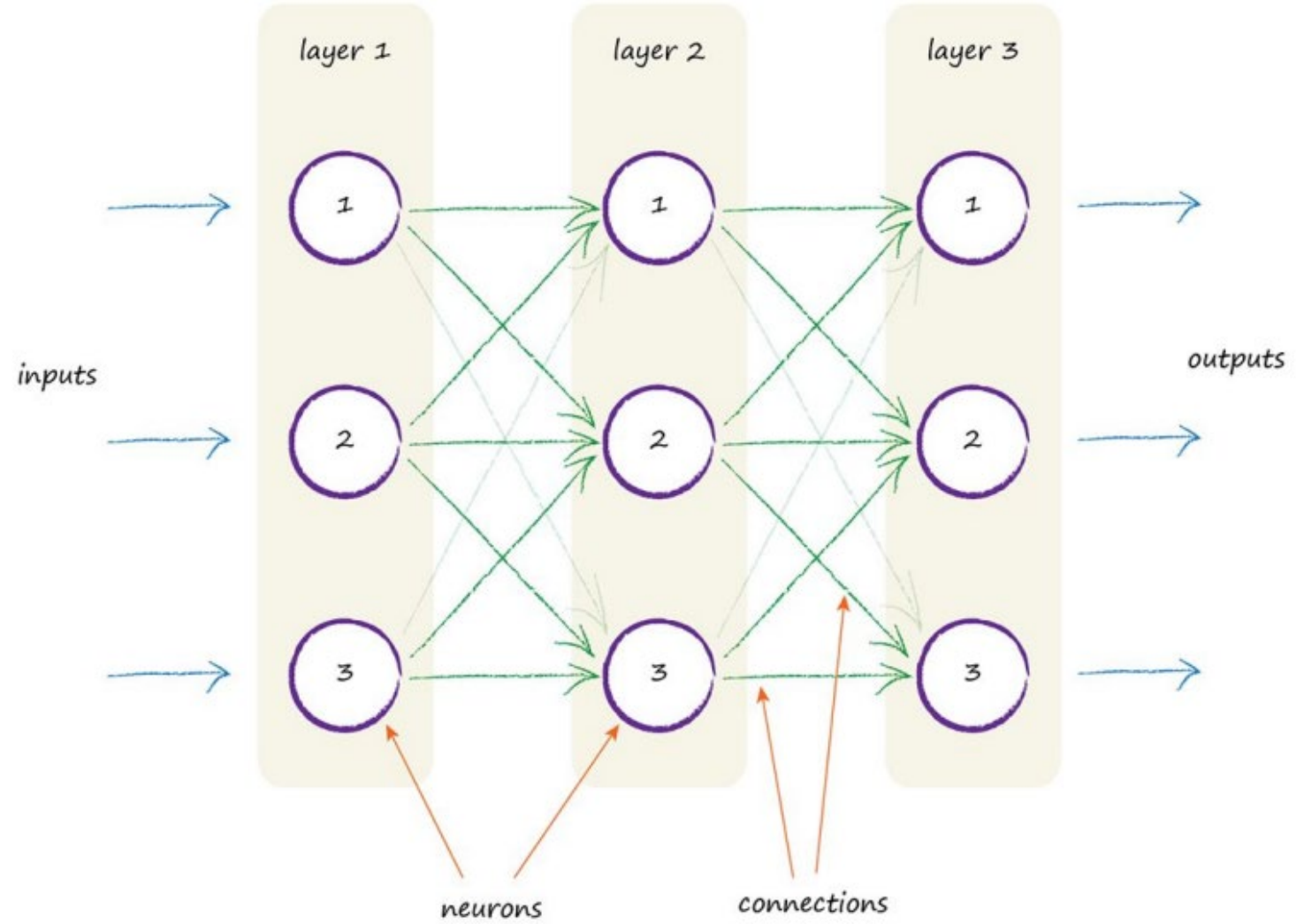
# What is a Neural Network?

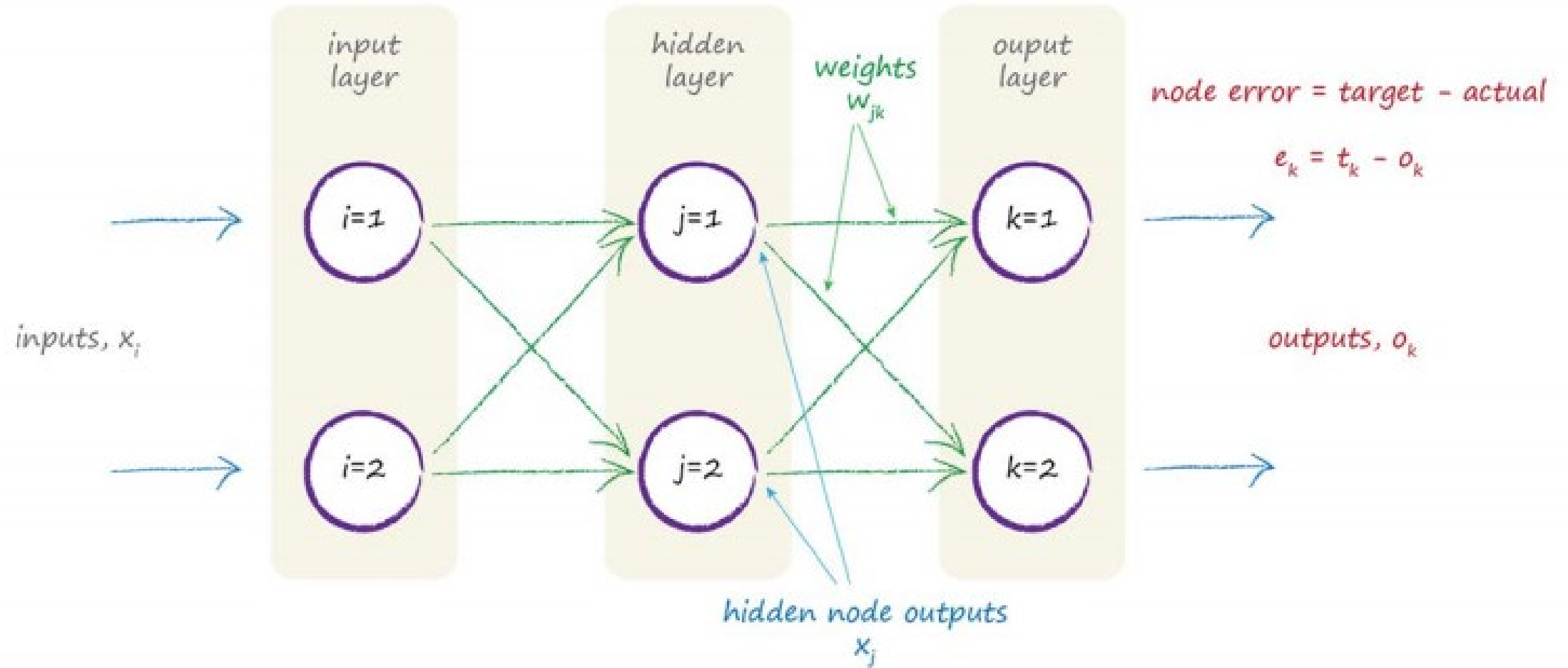
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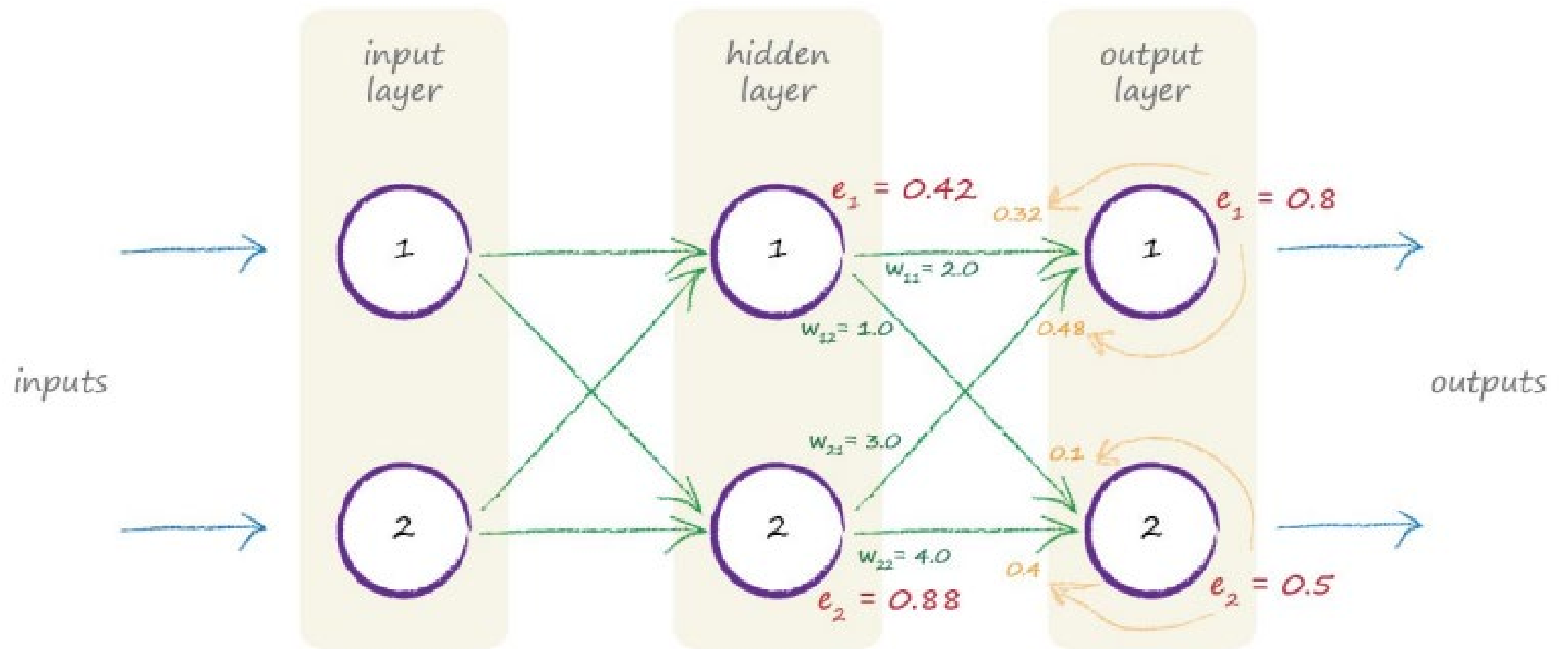
- Machine learning algorithm
- Attempts to model how the human brain works
- Creates a relationship between an input and output



Source: [towardsdatascience.com](https://towardsdatascience.com)



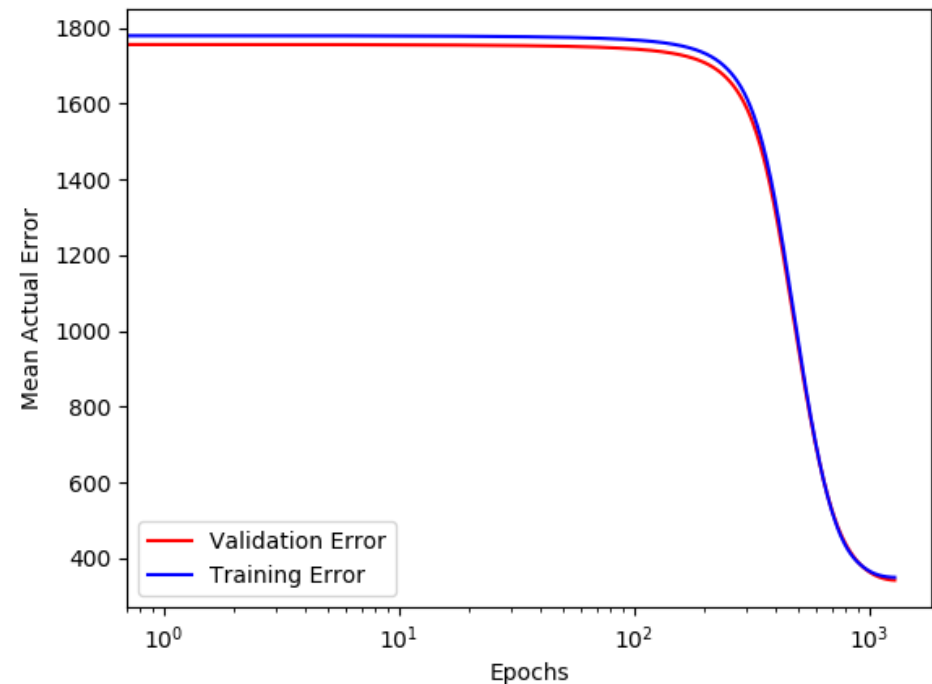




# Multiplication Network

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- Takes two numbers between 0 and 1000 as inputs
- Uses the product of the inputs as training for the output
- 80% of data used for training, 20% for validation
- Validation data does not result in backpropagation

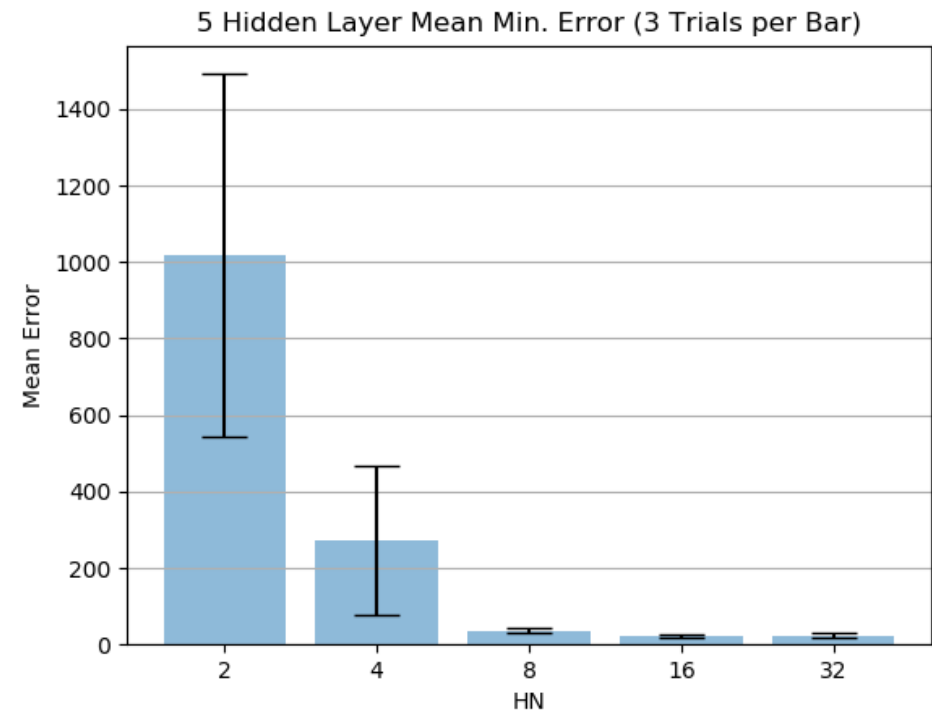




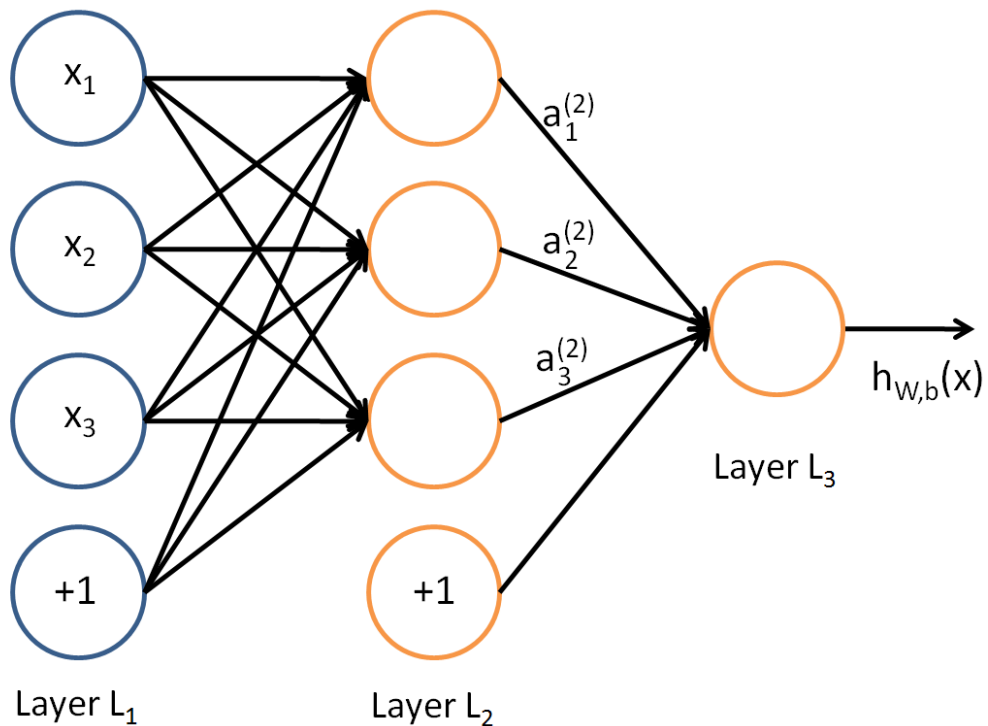
# Optimizing the Network

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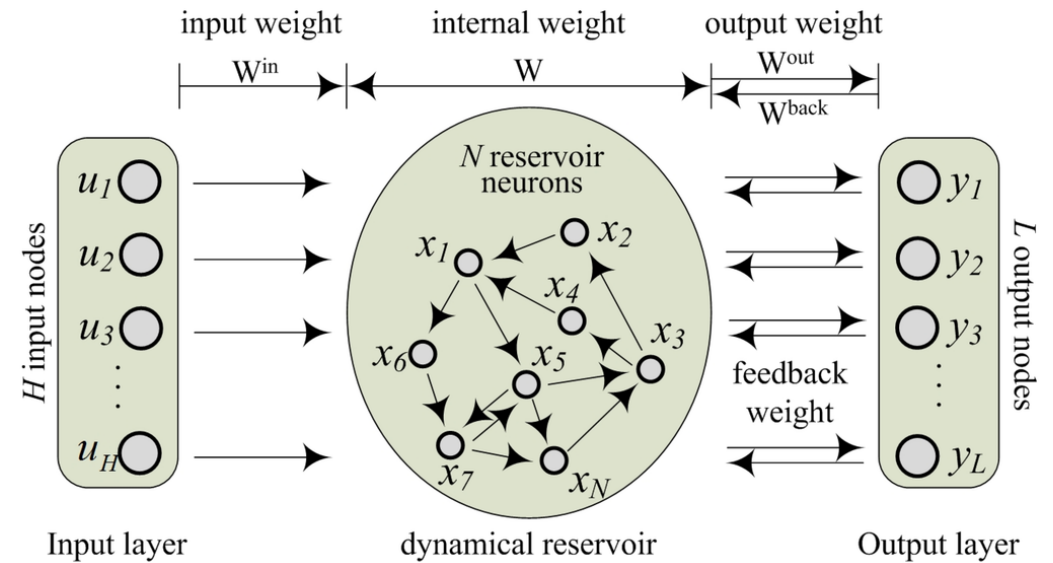
- Adding hidden layers
- Adding hidden nodes to each layer
- Adjusting learning rate



# Echo State Networks



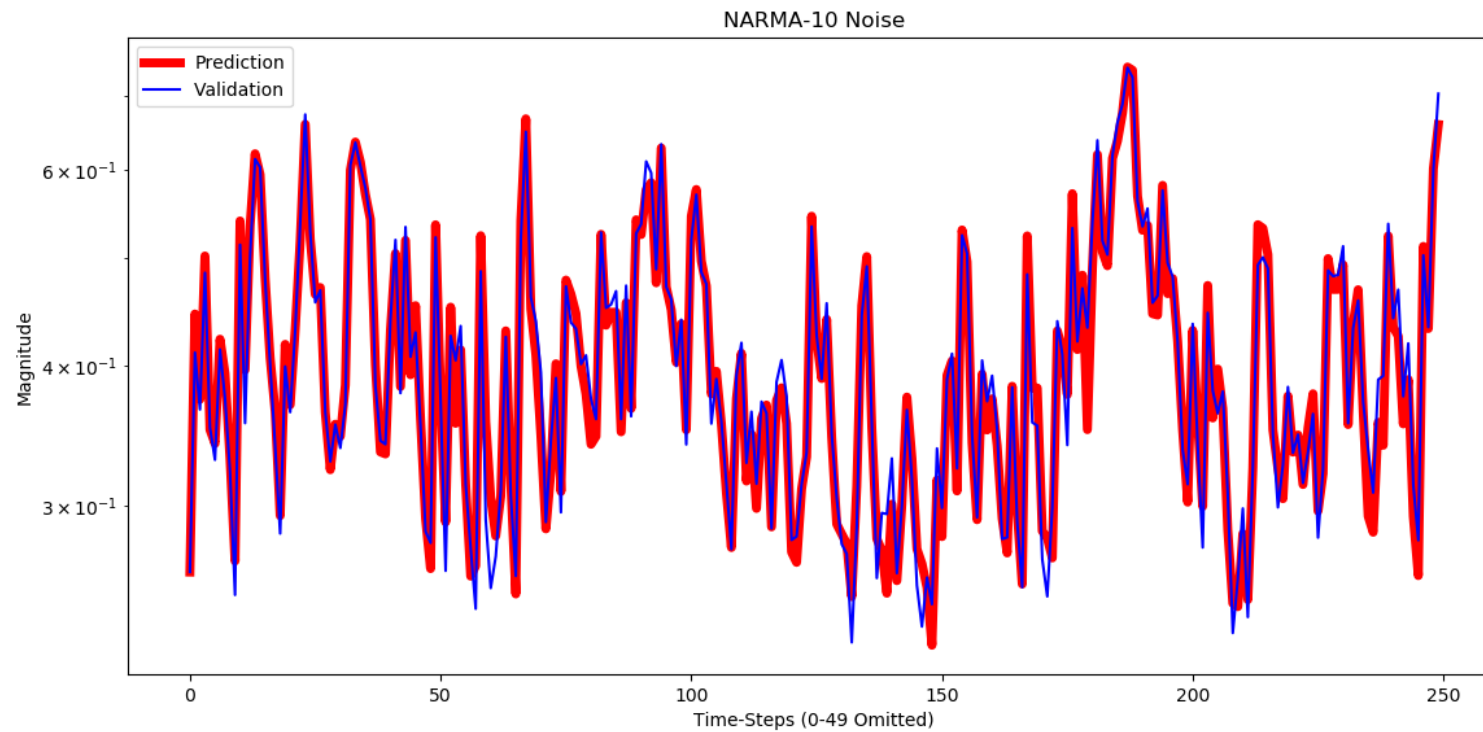
Source: towardsdatascience.com



Source: Echo State Network with Bayesian  
Regularization for Forecasting Short-Term Power  
Production of Small Hydropower Plants

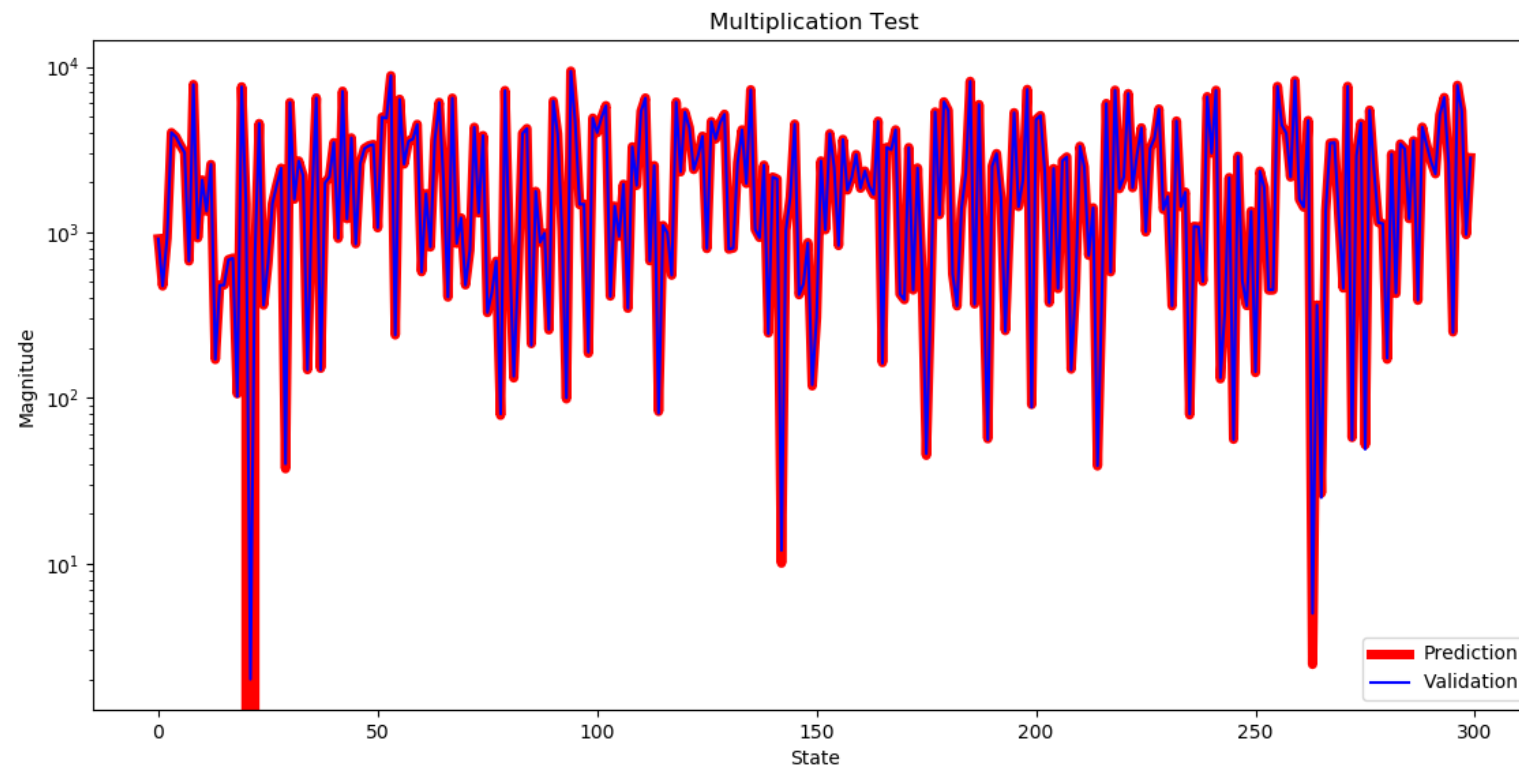
# Echo State Networks

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# Echo State Networks

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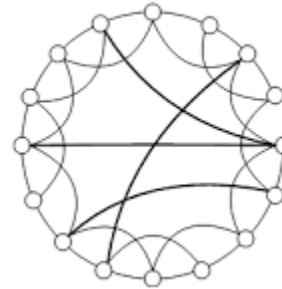


# Optimizing the Reservoir

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- Small-World Networks generate a regular lattice, and then rewire with probability  $p$
- This shortens the mean path distance between any two nodes, while maintaining the clustering of regular lattices.
- Scale-Free Networks feature hubs which are highly connected to other nodes

(a) Small-World Network (SWN)



(b) Scale-Free Network (SFN)



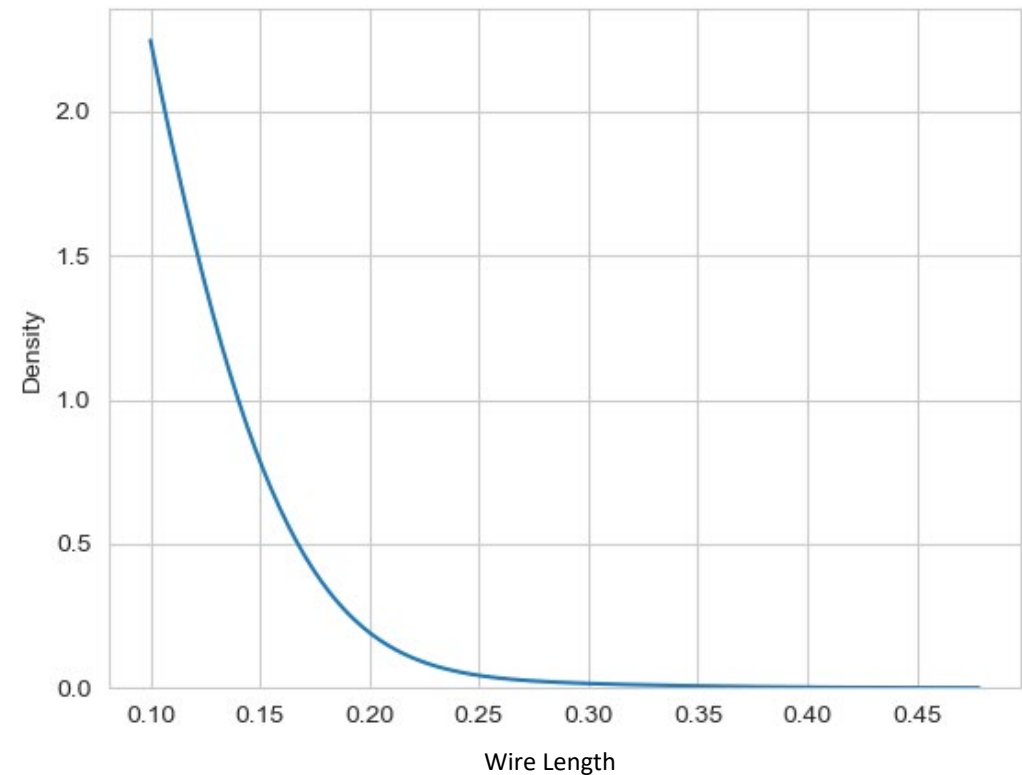
(c) Random Network (RN)



# Petermann Network

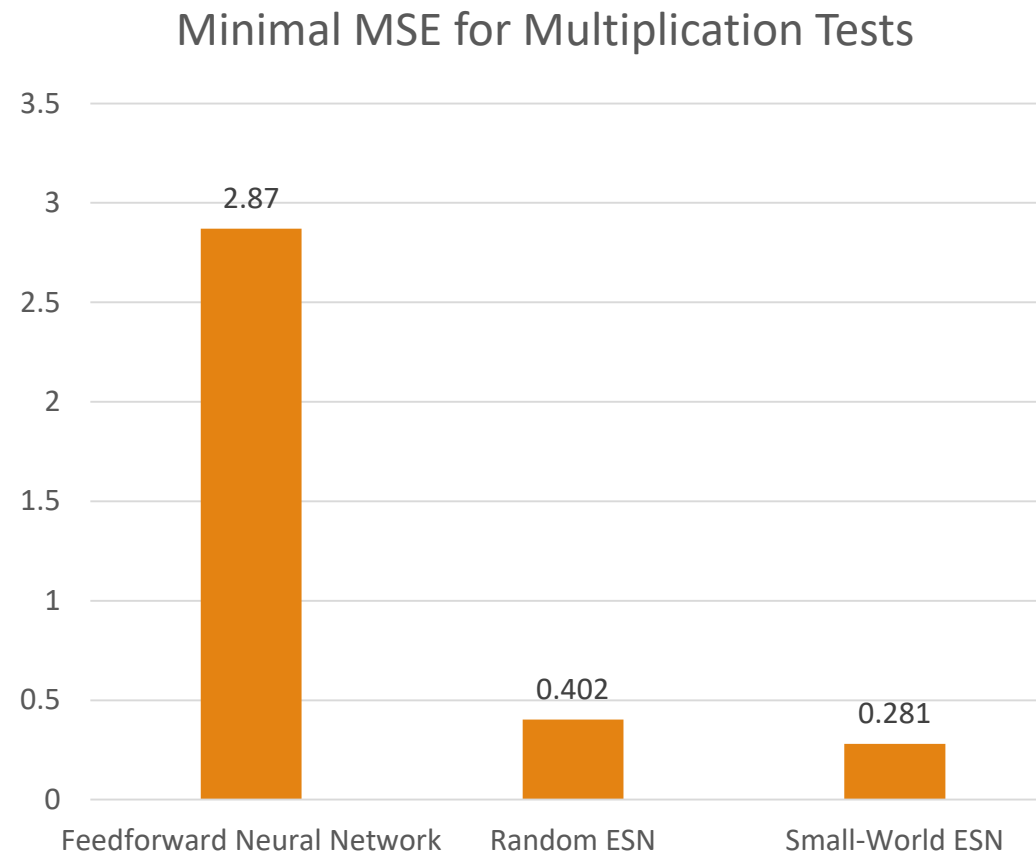
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- Similar to small-world networks
- Prioritizes short “wire lengths” between nodes, following inverse power-law
- Maintains interconnectedness of small-world networks
- Lowers the wiring cost of a network when physically realized



# Preliminary Results

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# Next Steps

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- Compare traditional neural network, random ESN, small-world ESN, scale-free ESN, and Petermann ESN
- Compare the robustness of different models to damage



# Thanks for listening!

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## Questions?