

CS4442/9542b  
Artificial Intelligence II  
prof. Olga Veksler

*Lecture 7*

*Machine Learning*

*Neural Networks*

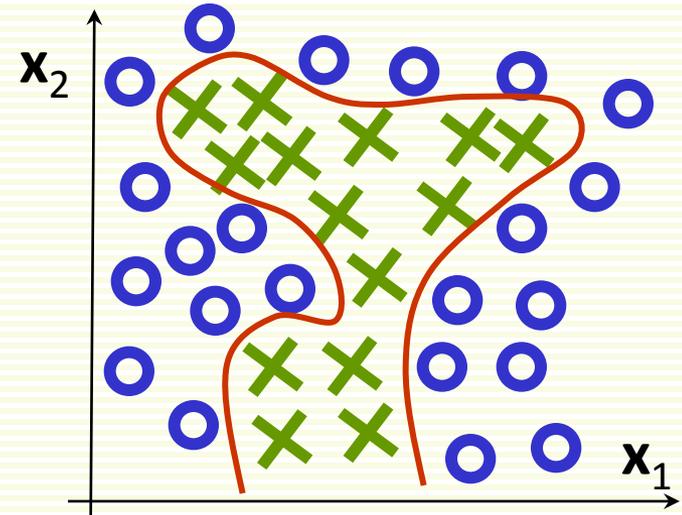
# Outline

- Motivation
  - Non linear discriminant functions
- Introduction to Neural Networks
  - Inspiration from Biology
  - History
- Perceptron: 1 layer Neural Network
- Multilayer Neural Networks
  - also called Artificial Neural Network (ANN), ,perceptron (MLP), Feedforward Neural Network
- Training Neural Networks
  - backpropagation algorithm
  - practical tips for training

# Need for Non-Linear Discriminant

- May need highly non-linear decision boundaries
- This would require too many high order polynomial terms to fit

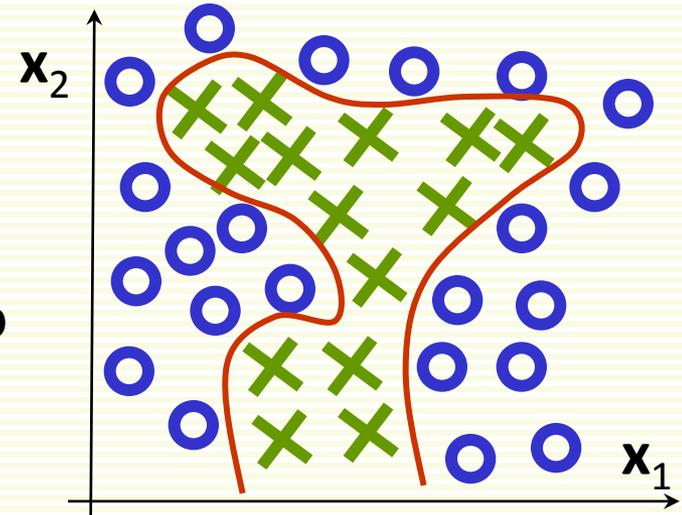
$$\begin{aligned}g(\mathbf{x}) = & \mathbf{w}_0 + \mathbf{w}_1 \mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{w}_2 \mathbf{x}_2 + \\ & + \mathbf{w}_{12} \mathbf{x}_1 \mathbf{x}_2 + \mathbf{w}_{11} \mathbf{x}_1^2 + \mathbf{w}_{22} \mathbf{x}_2^2 + \\ & + \mathbf{w}_{111} \mathbf{x}_1^3 + \mathbf{w}_{112} \mathbf{x}_1^2 \mathbf{x}_2 + \mathbf{w}_{122} \mathbf{x}_1 \mathbf{x}_2^2 + \mathbf{w}_{222} \mathbf{x}_2^3 + \\ & + \text{even more terms of degree } 4 \\ & + \text{super many terms of degree } k\end{aligned}$$



- For  $n$  features, there  $O(n^k)$  polynomial terms of degree  $k$
- Many real world problems are modeled with hundreds and even thousands features
  - $100^{10}$  is too large of function to deal with

# Neural Networks

- Neural Networks correspond to some discriminant function  $g_{NN}(\mathbf{x})$
- Can carve out arbitrarily complex decision boundaries without requiring so many terms as polynomial functions
- Neural Nets were inspired by research in how human brain works
- But also proved to be quite successful in practice
- Are used nowadays successfully for a wide variety of applications
  - took some time to get them to work



# Brain vs. Computer



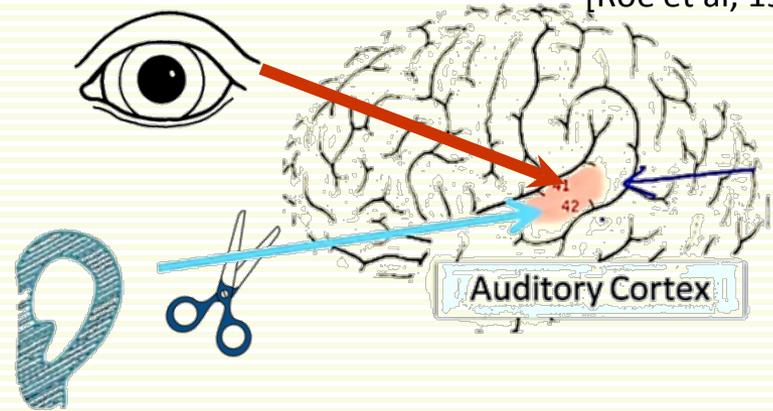
- usually one very fast processor
  - high reliability
  - designed to solve logic and arithmetic problems
  - absolute precision
  - can solve a gazillion arithmetic and logic problems in an hour
- huge number of parallel but relatively slow and unreliable processors
  - not perfectly precise, not perfectly reliable
  - evolved (in a large part) for pattern recognition
  - learns to solve various PR problems

seek inspiration for classification from human brain

# One Learning Algorithm Hypothesis

[Roe et al, 1992]

- Brain does many different things
- Seems like it runs many different “programs”
- Seems we have to write tons of different programs to mimic brain
- Hypothesis: there is a single underlying learning algorithm shared by different parts of the brain
- Evidence from neuro-rewiring experiments
  - Cut the wire from ear to auditory cortex
  - Route signal from eyes to the auditory cortex
  - Auditory cortex learns to see
    - animals will eventually learn to perform a variety of object recognition tasks
- There are other similar rewiring experiments



# Seeing with Tongue

- Scientists use the amazing ability of the brain to learn to retrain brain tissue
- Seeing with tongue
  - BrainPort Technology
  - Camera connected to a tongue array sensor
  - Pictures are “painted” on the tongue
    - Bright pixels correspond to high voltage
    - Gray pixels correspond to medium voltage
    - Black pixels correspond to no voltage
  - Learning takes from 2-10 hours
  - Some users describe experience resembling a low resolution version of vision they once had
    - able to recognize high contrast object, their location, movement



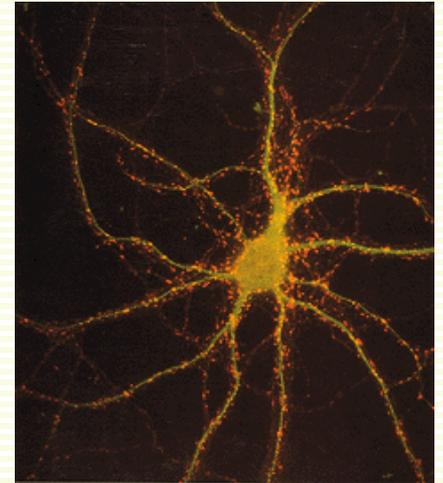
tongue array  
sensor

# One Learning Algorithm Hypothesis

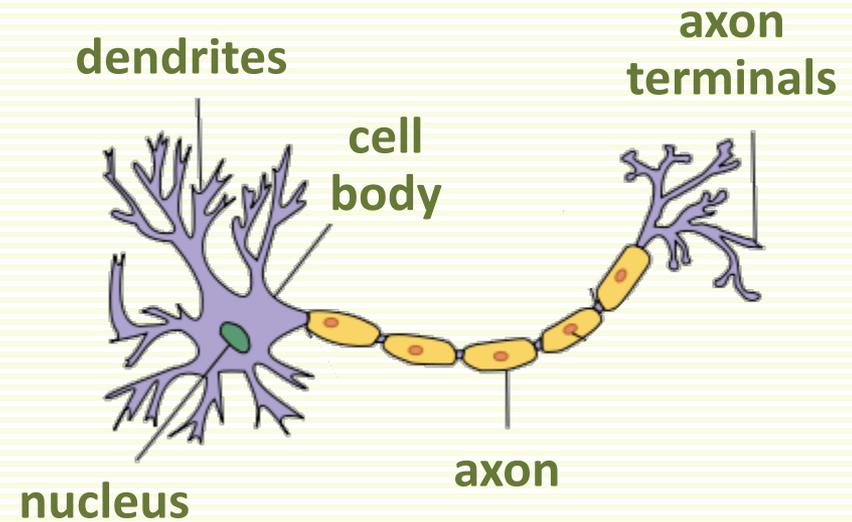
- Experimental evidence that we can plug any sensor to any part of the brain, and brain can learn how to deal with it
- Since the same physical piece of brain tissue can process sight, sound, etc.
- Maybe there is one learning algorithm can process sight, sound, etc.
- Maybe we need to figure out and implement an algorithm that approximates what the brain does
- Neural Networks were developed as a simulation of networks of neurons in human brain

# Neuron: Basic Brain Processor

- Neurons (or nerve cells) are special cells that process and transmit information by electrical signaling
  - in brain and also spinal cord
- Human brain has around  $10^{11}$  neurons
- A neuron connects to other neurons to form a network
- Each neuron cell communicates to anywhere from 1000 to 10,000 other neurons



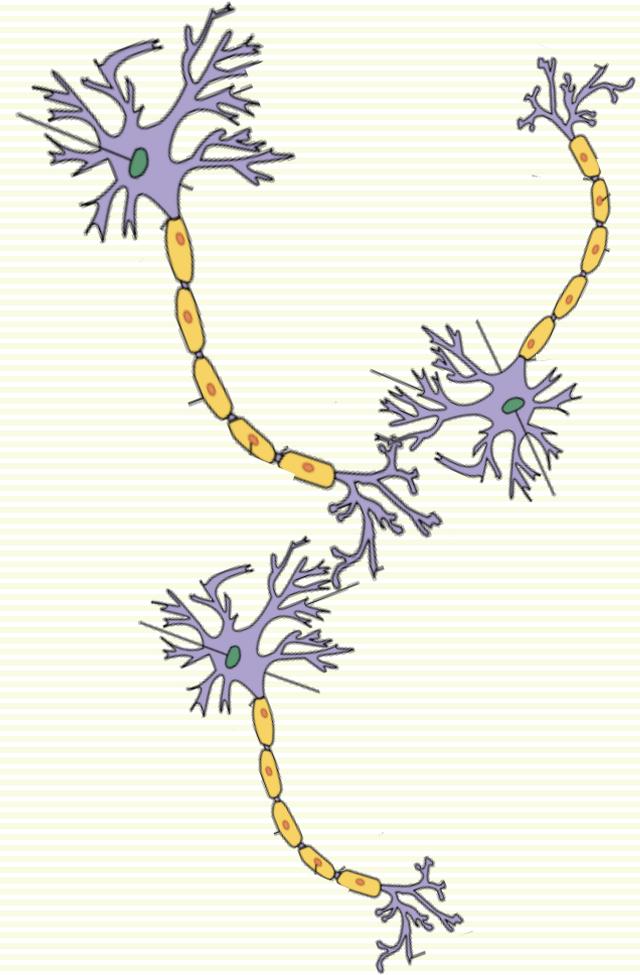
# Neuron: Main Components



- **cell body**
  - computational unit
- **dendrites**
  - “input wires”, receive inputs from other neurons
  - a neuron may have thousands of dendrites, usually short
- **axon**
  - “output wire”, sends signal to other neurons
  - single long structure (up to 1 meter)
  - splits in possibly thousands branches at the end, “axon terminals”

# Neurons in Action (Simplified Picture)

- Cell body collects and processes signals from other neurons through dendrites
- If the strength of incoming signals is large enough, the cell body sends an electricity pulse (a spike) to its axon
- Its axon, in turn, connects to dendrites of other neurons, transmitting spikes to other neurons
- This is the process by which all human thought, sensing, action, etc. happens



# ANN History: First Successes

- 1958, F. Rosenblatt, Cornell University
  - Perceptron, oldest neural network
    - studied in lecture on linear classifiers
  - Algorithm to train the Perceptron
  - Built in hardware to recognize digits images
  - Proved convergence in linearly separable case
  - Early success lead to a lot of claims which were not fulfilled
  - New York Times reports that perceptron is "*the embryo of an electronic computer that [the Navy] expects will be able to walk, talk, see, write, reproduce itself and be conscious of its existence.*"



# ANN History: Stagnation

- Early success lead to a lot of claims which were not fulfilled
- 1969, M. Minsky and S. Pappert
  - Book “Perceptrons”
  - Proved that perceptrons can learn only linearly separable classes
  - In particular cannot learn very simple XOR function
  - Conjectured that multilayer neural networks also limited by linearly separable functions
- No funding and almost no research (at least in North America) in 1970’s as the result of 2 things above

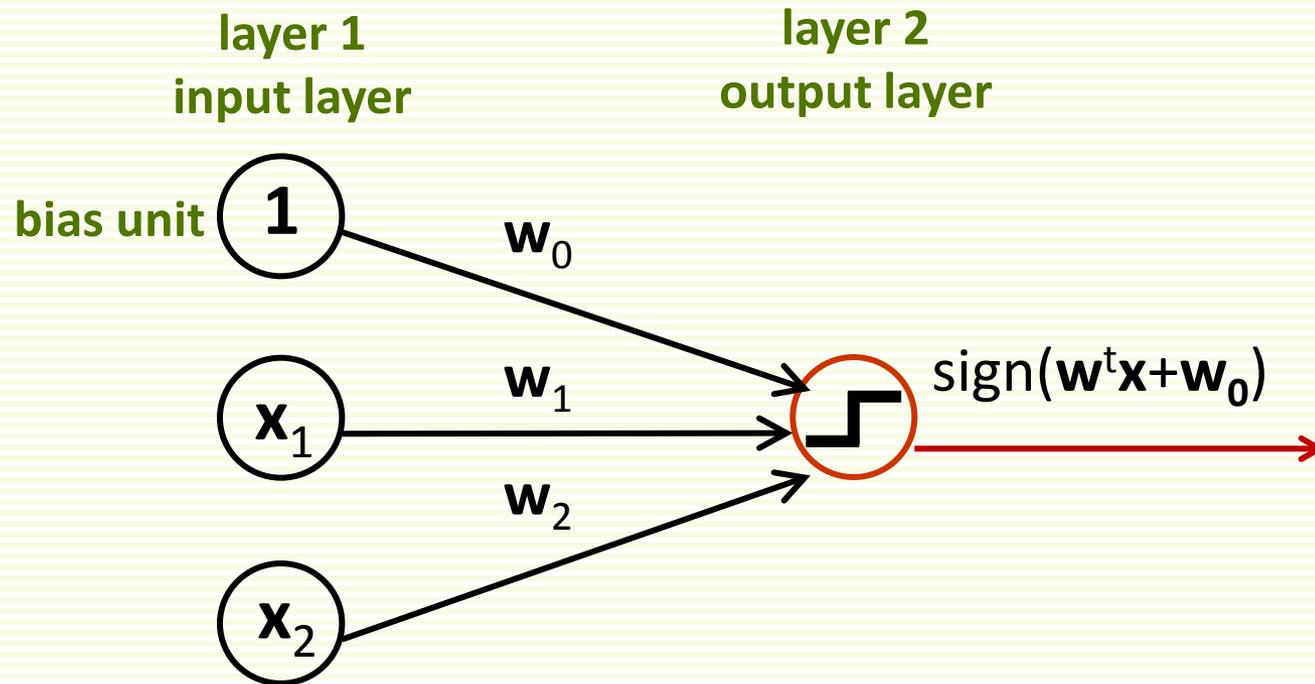
# ANN History: Revival & Stagnation (Again)

- Revival of ANN in early 1980
- 1986, (re)discovery of backpropagation algorithm by Werbos, Rumelhart, Hinton and Ronald Williams
  - Allows training a MLP
- Many examples of multilayer Neural Networks appear
- 1998, Convolutional network (convnet) by Y. Lecun for digit recognition, very successful
- 1990's: research in NN move slowly again
  - Networks with multiple layers are hard to train well (except convnet for digit recognition)
  - SVM becomes popular, works better

# ANN History: Deep Learning Age

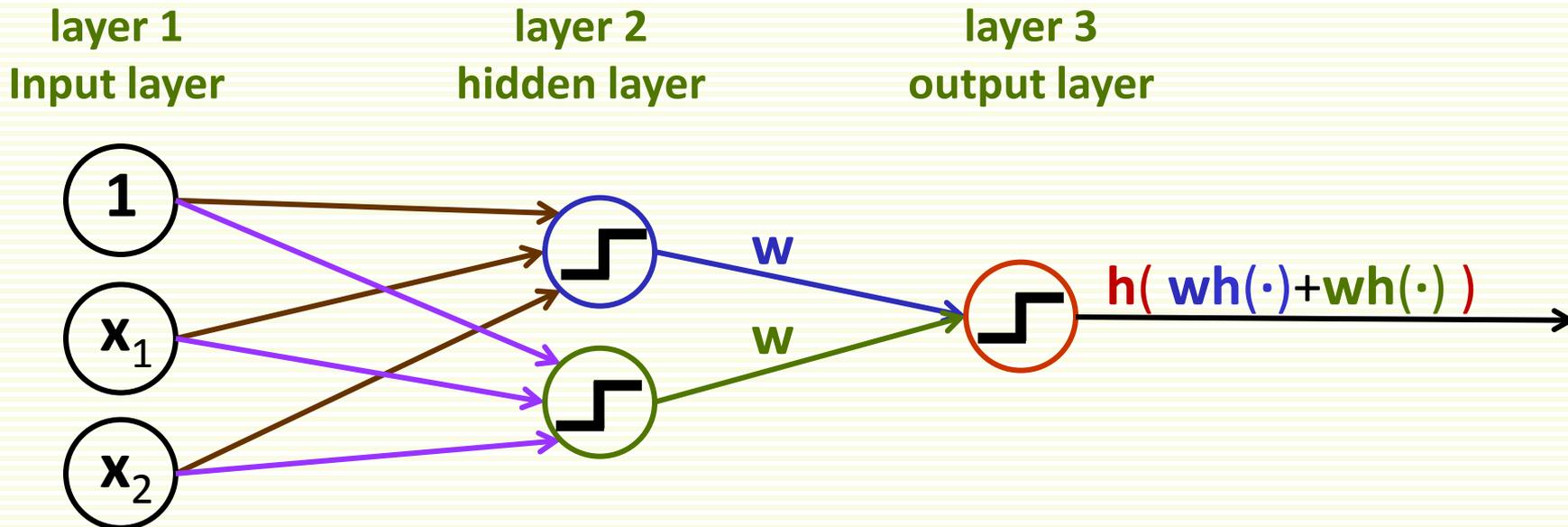
- Deep networks are inspired by brain architecture
- Until now, no success at training them, except convnet
- 2006-now: deep networks are trained successfully
  - massive training data becomes available
  - better hardware: fast training on GPU
  - better training algorithms for network training when there are many hidden layers
    - unsupervised learning of features, helps when training data is limited
- Break through papers
  - Hinton, G. E, Osindero, S., and Teh, Y. W. (2006). A fast learning algorithm for deep belief nets. *Neural Computation*, 18:1527-1554.
  - Bengio, Y., Lamblin, P., Popovici, P., Larochelle, H. (2007). Greedy Layer-Wise Training of Deep Networks, *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems* 19
- Industry: Facebook, Google, Microsoft, etc.

# Perceptron: 1 Layer Neural Network



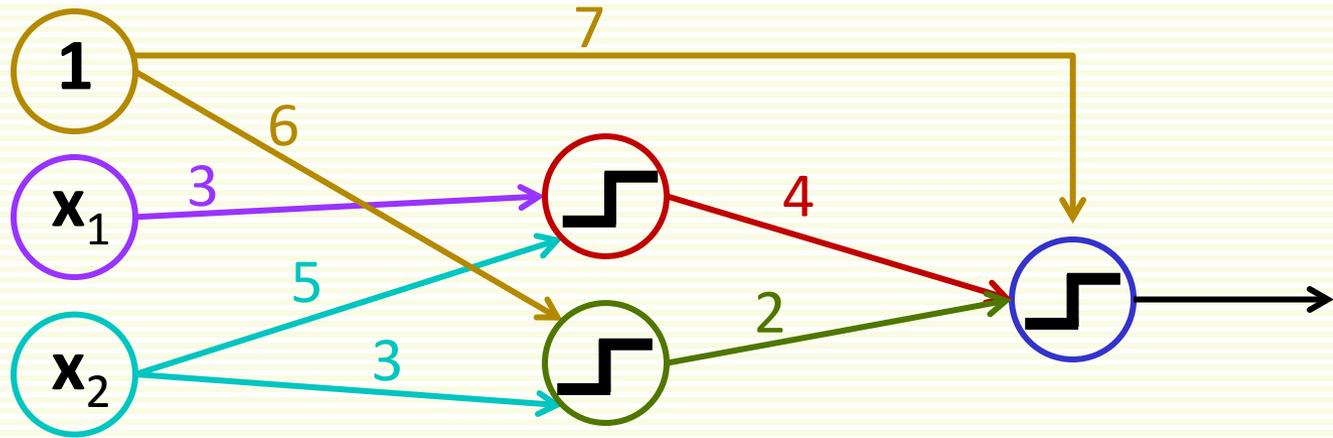
- Linear classifier  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = \text{sign}(\mathbf{w}^t \mathbf{x} + w_0)$  is a single neuron “net”
- Input layer units emits features, except bias emits “1”
- Output layer unit applies  $\mathbf{h}(t) = \text{sign}(t)$
- $\mathbf{h}(t)$  is also called an *activation function*

# Multilayer Neural Network



- First hidden unit outputs  $h(w_0 + w_1 x_1 + w_2 x_2)$
- Second hidden unit outputs  $h(w_0 + w_1 x_1 + w_2 x_2)$
- Network implements classifier  $f(x) = h(wh(\cdot) + wh(\cdot))$
- More complex boundaries than Perceptron

# Multilayer Neural Network: Small Example

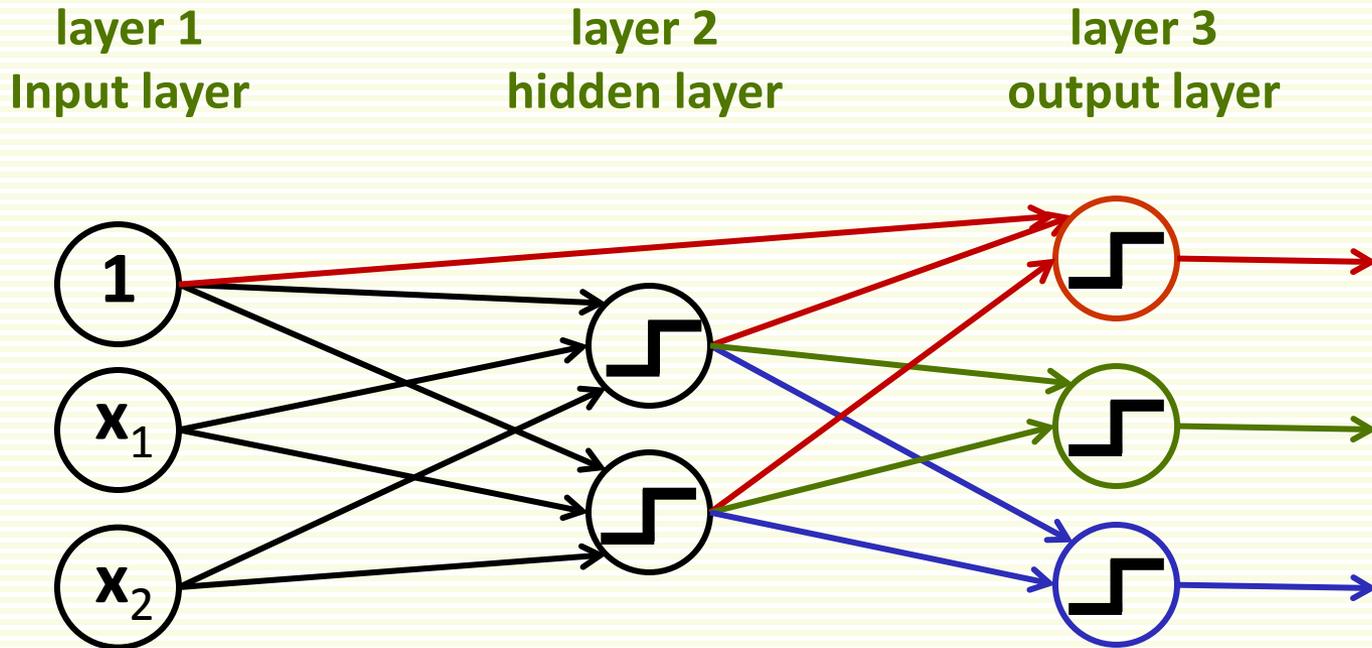


- Implements classifier

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) &= \text{sign}(4\mathbf{h}(\cdot) + 2\mathbf{h}(\cdot) + 7) \\ &= \text{sign}(4 \text{sign}(3x_1 + 5x_2) + 2 \text{sign}(6 + 3x_2) + 7) \end{aligned}$$

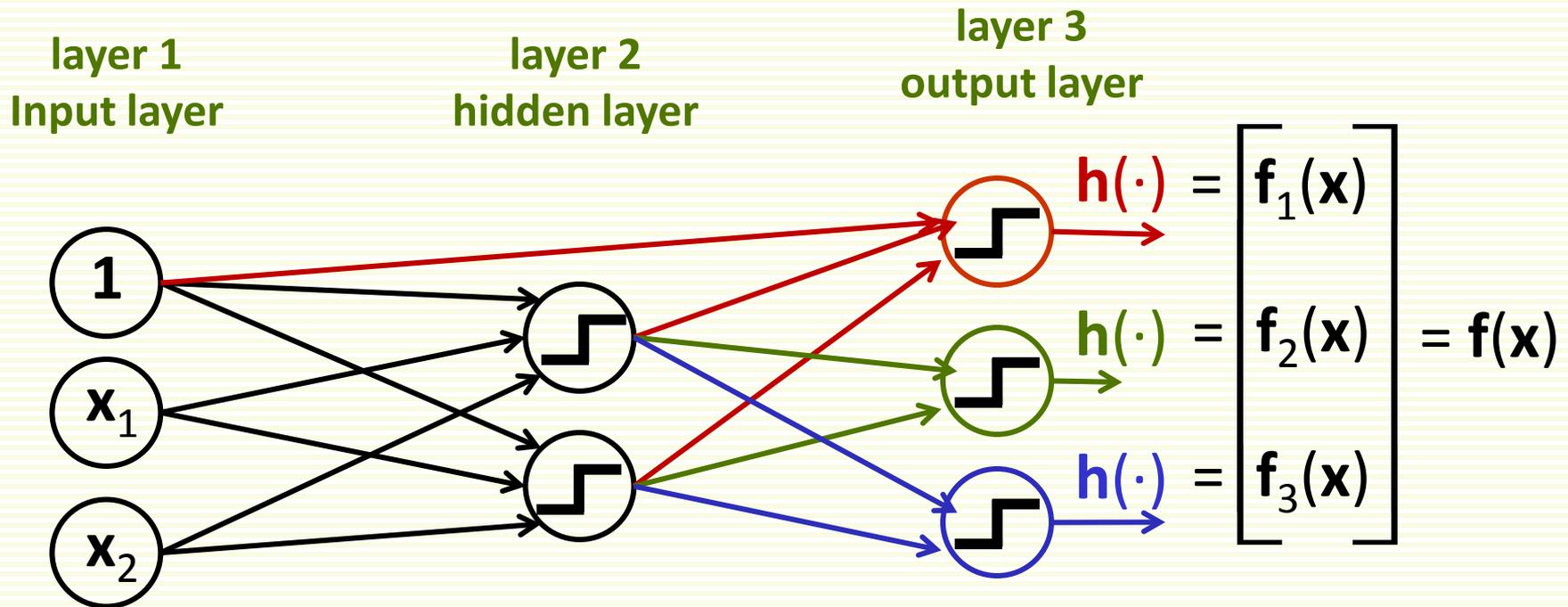
- Computing  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$  is called *feed forward operation*
  - graphically, function is computed from left to right
- Edge weights are learned through training

# Multilayer NN : Multiple Classes



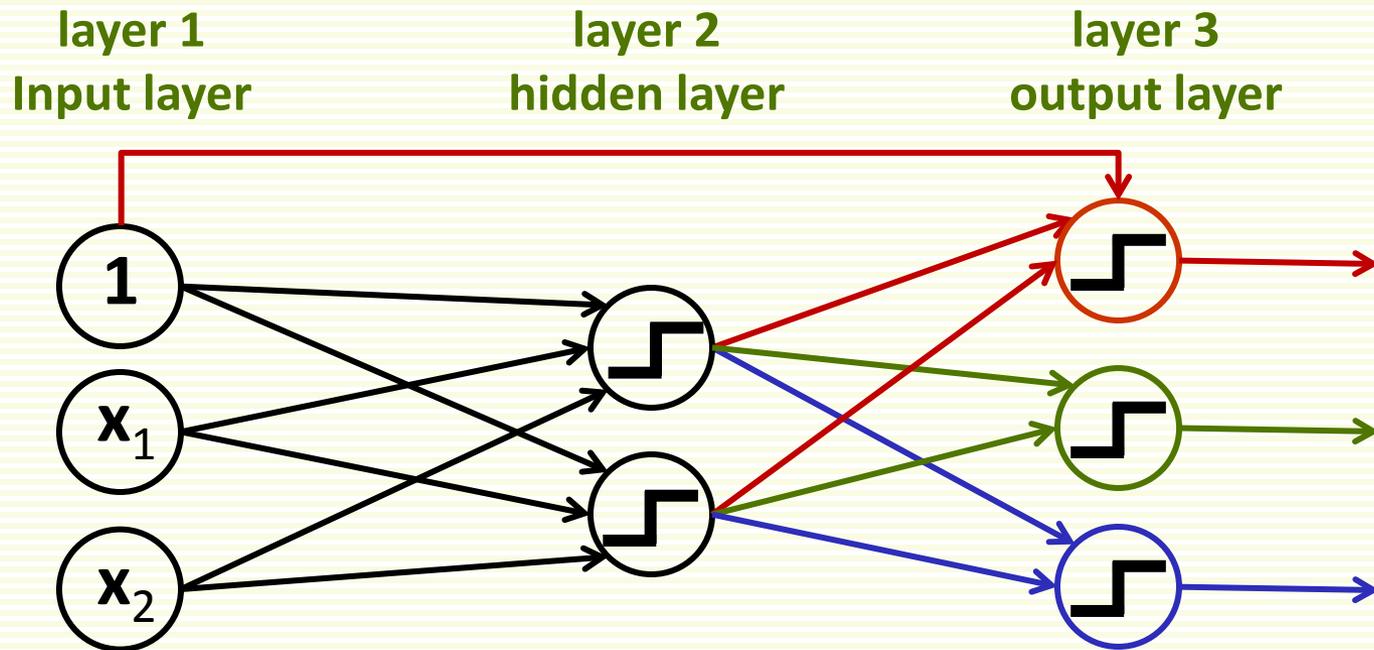
- 3 classes, 2 features, 1 hidden layer
  - 3 input units, one for each feature
  - 3 output units, one for each class
  - 2 hidden units
  - 1 bias unit, can draw in layer 1, or each layer has one

# Multilayer NN: General Structure



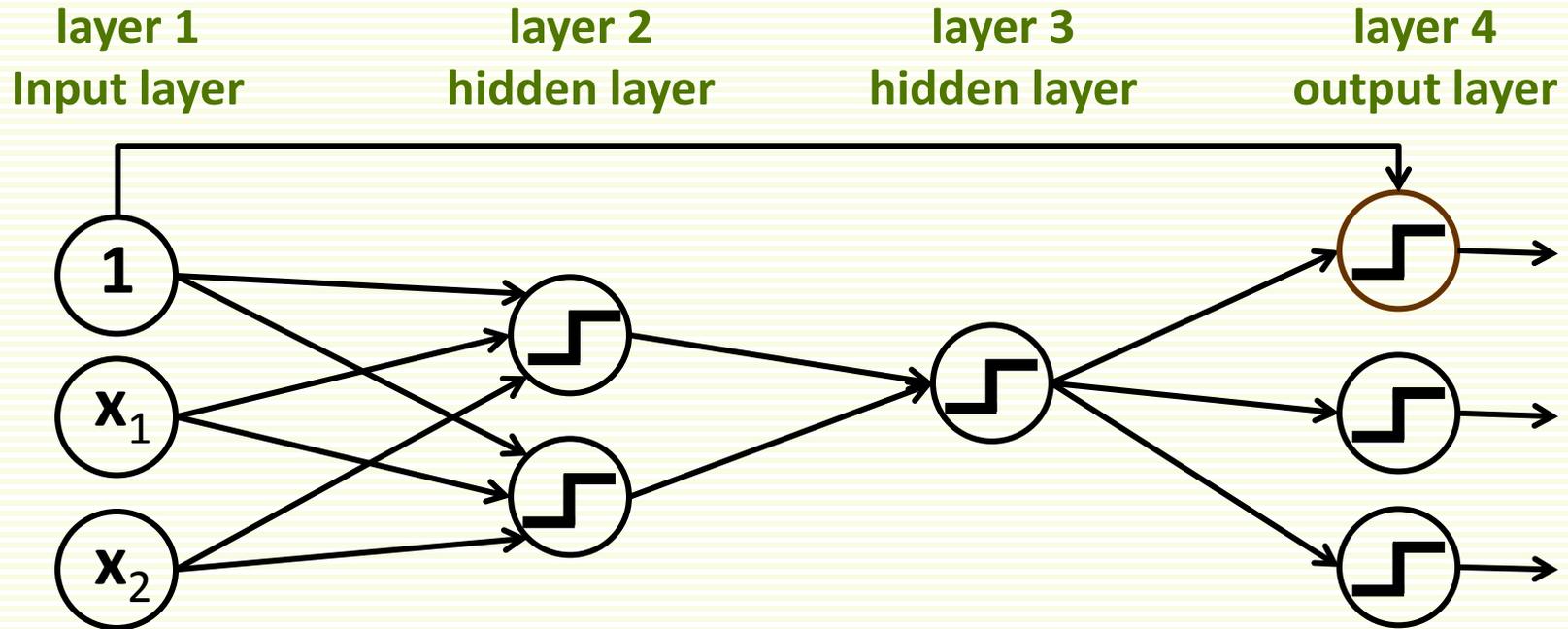
- $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$  is multi-dimensional
- Classification
  - If  $\mathbf{f}_1(\mathbf{x})$  is largest, decide class 1
  - If  $\mathbf{f}_2(\mathbf{x})$  is largest, decide class 2
  - If  $\mathbf{f}_3(\mathbf{x})$  is largest, decide class 3

# Multilayer NN : General Structure



- Input layer:  $d$  features,  $d$  input units
- Output layer:  $m$  classes,  $m$  output units
- Hidden layer: how many units?
  - more units correspond to more complex classifiers

# Multilayer NN : General Structure



- Can have many hidden layers
- *Feed forward* structure
  - $i$ th layer connects to  $(i+1)$ th layer
  - except bias unit can connect to any layer
  - or, alternatively each layer can have its own bias unit

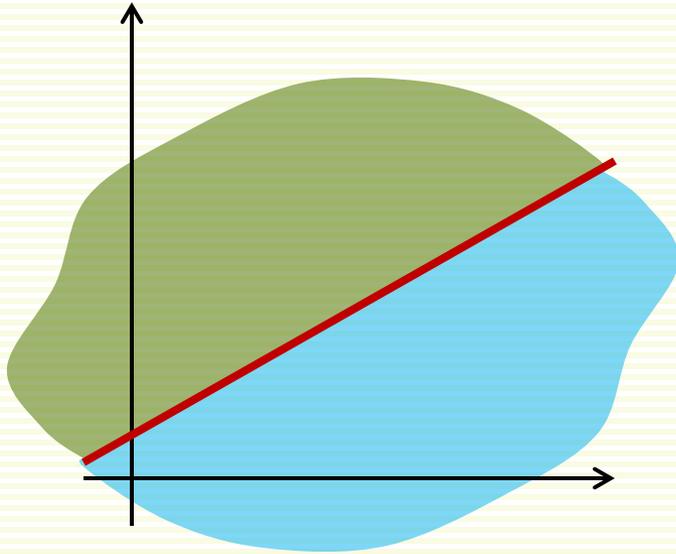
# Multilayer NN : Overview

- NN corresponds to rather complex classifier  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{w})$ 
  - complexity depends on the number of hidden layers/units
  - $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{w})$  is a composition of many functions
    - easier to visualize as a network rather than write out the functions
- To train NN, just as before
  - formulate per-sample loss function  $\mathbf{L}(\mathbf{w})$
  - optimize it with gradient descent
    - lots of heuristics to get gradient descent work well enough

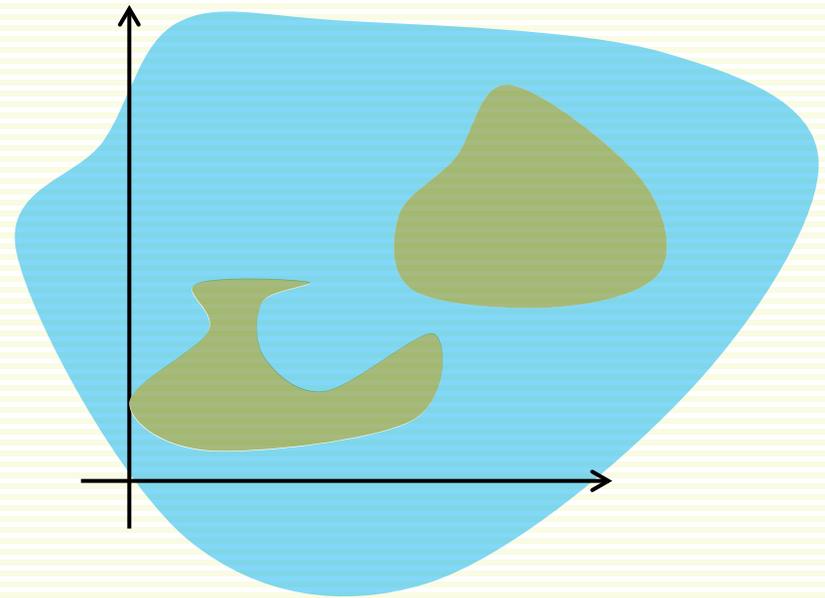
# Multilayer NN : Expressive Power

- Every continuous function from input to output can be implemented with enough hidden units, 1 hidden layer, and proper *nonlinear* activation functions
  - easy to show that with linear activation function, multilayer neural network is equivalent to perceptron
- More of theoretical than practical interest
  - do not know the desired function in the first place, our goal is to learn it through the samples
  - but this result gives confidence that we are on the right track
    - multilayer NN is general (expressive) enough to construct any required decision boundaries, unlike the Perceptron

# Multilayer NN: Decision Boundaries



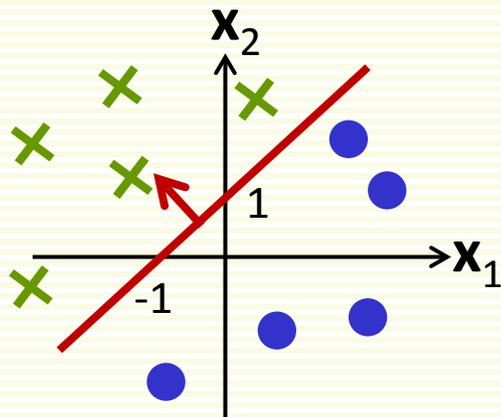
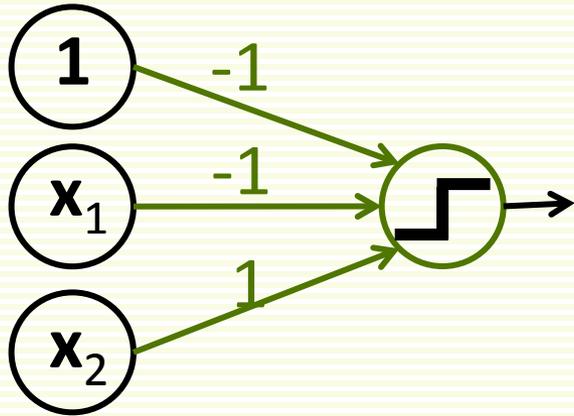
- Perceptron (single layer neural net)



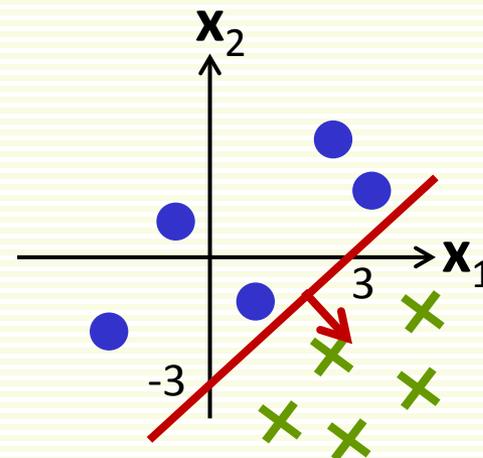
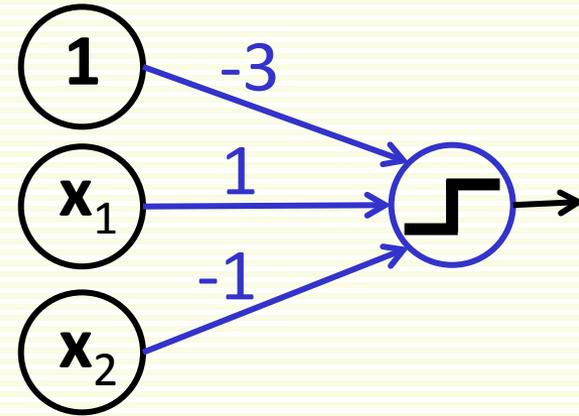
- Multilayer NN
- Arbitrarily complex decision regions
- Even not contiguous

# Multilayer NN : Nonlinear Boundary Example

$$-x_1 + x_2 - 1 > 0 \Rightarrow \text{class 1}$$

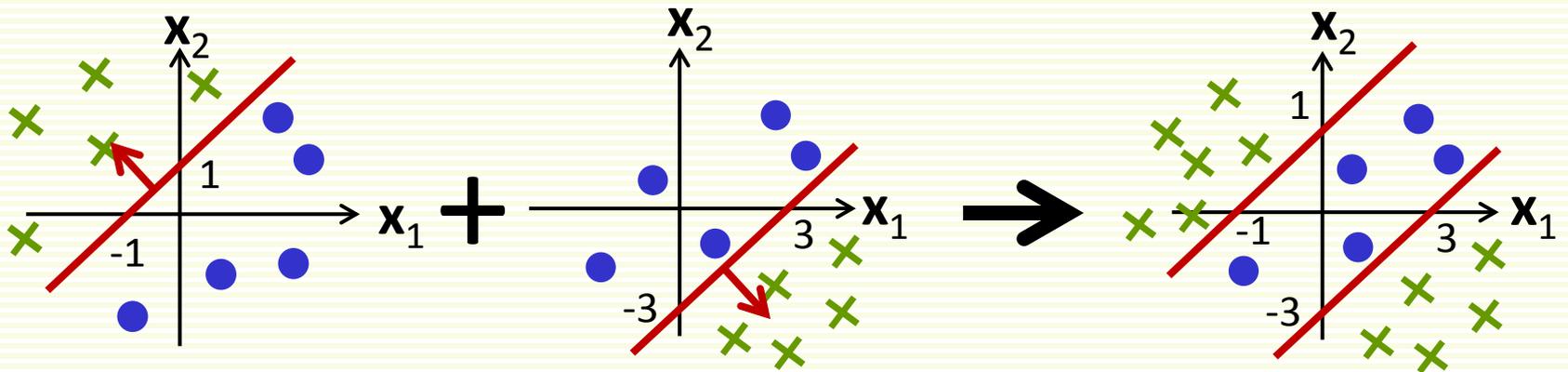
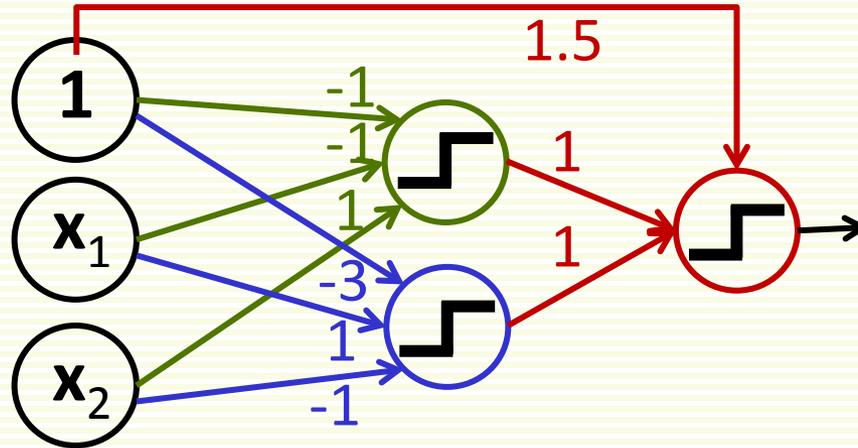


$$x_1 - x_2 - 3 > 0 \Rightarrow \text{class 1}$$

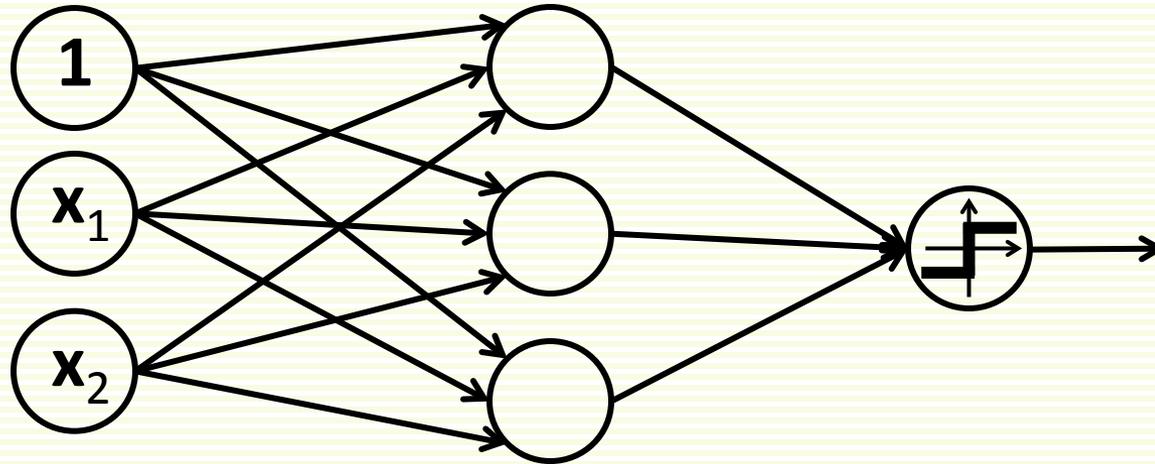


# Multilayer NN : Nonlinear Boundary Example

- Combine two Perceptrons into a 3 layer NN

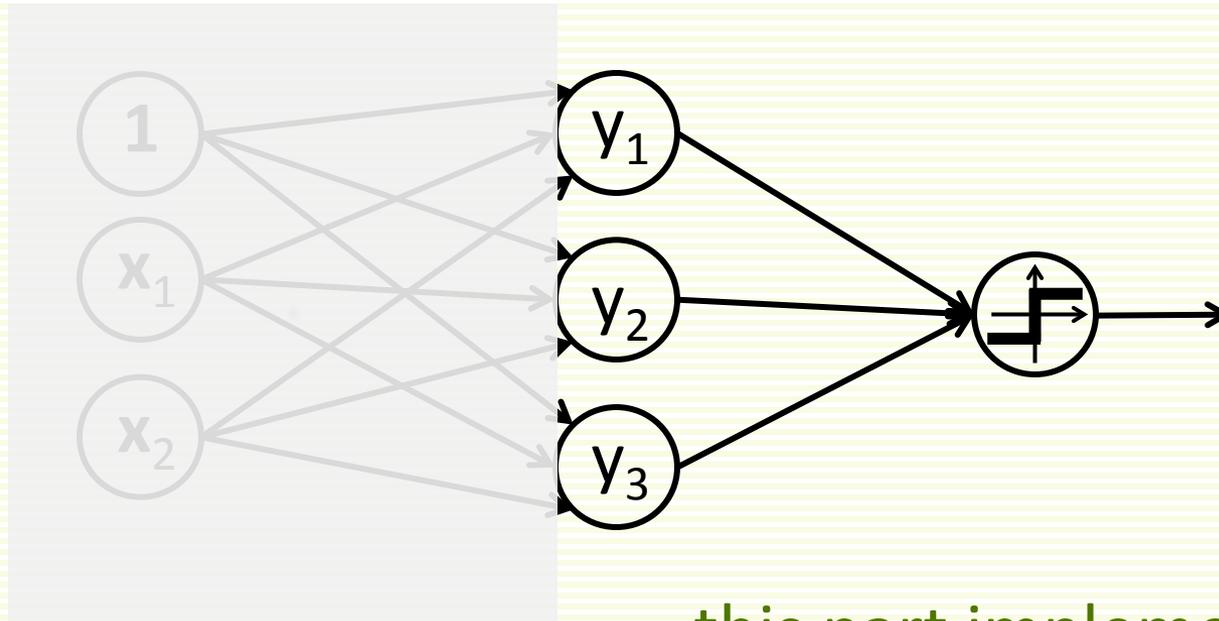


# Multilayer NN as Non-Linear Feature Mapping



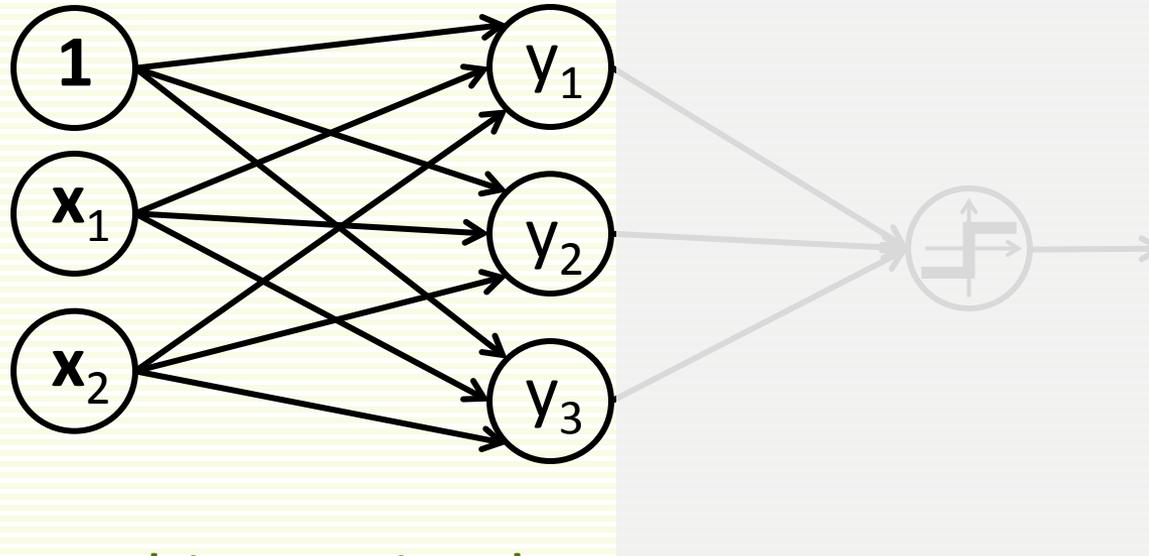
- Interpretation
  - 1 hidden layer maps input features to new features
  - next layer then applies linear classifier to the new features

# Multilayer NN as Non-Linear Feature Mapping



this part implements  
Perceptron (linear classifier)

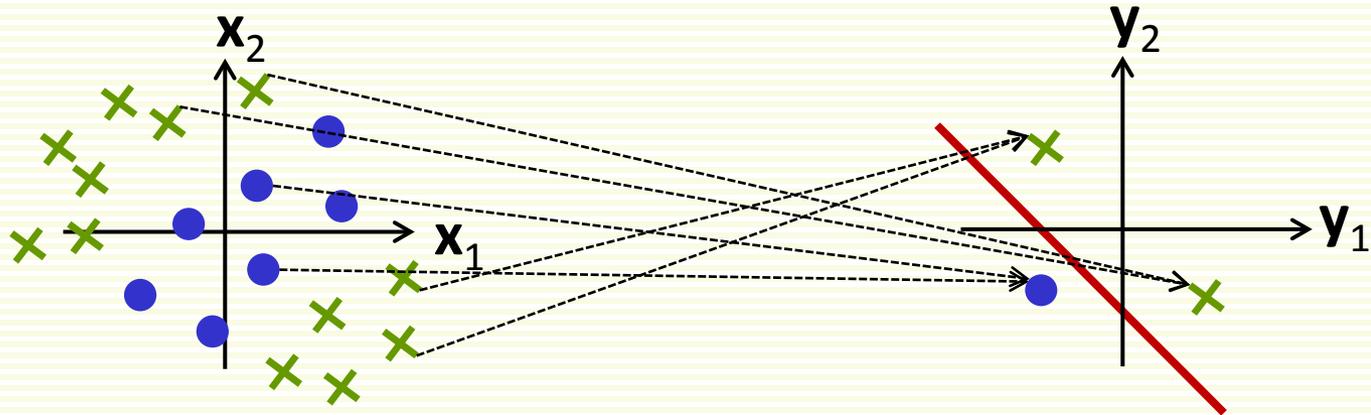
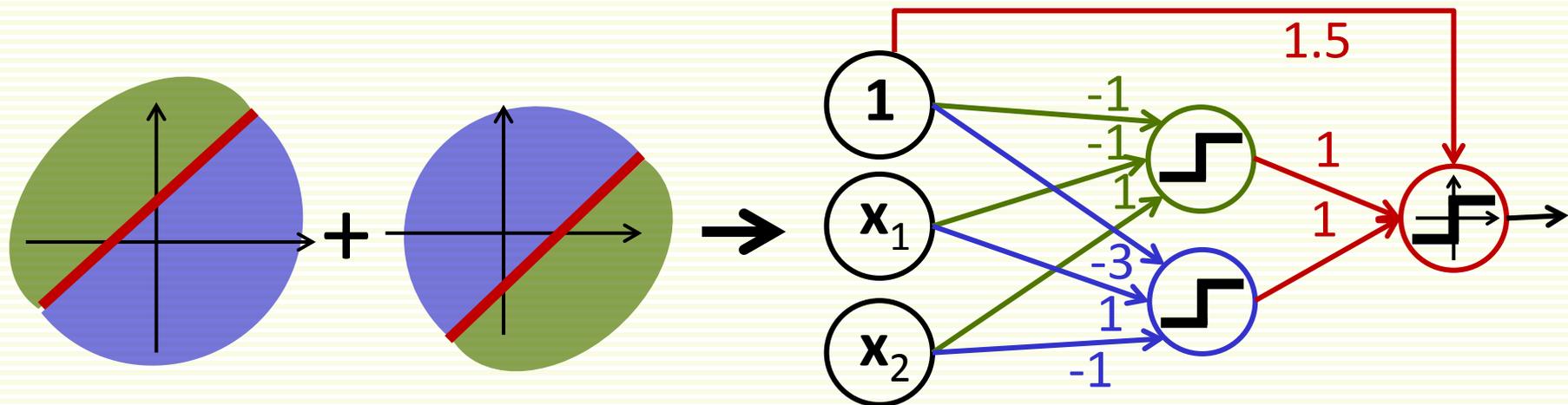
# Multilayer NN as Non-Linear Feature Mapping



this part implements  
mapping to new features  $\mathbf{y}$

# Multilayer NN as Non-Linear Feature Mapping

- Consider 3 layer NN example we saw previously:

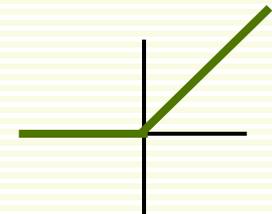
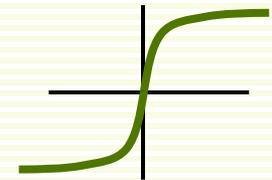
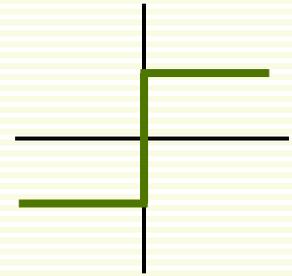


non linearly separable in the original feature space

linearly separable in the new feature space

# Multi Layer NN: Activation Function

- $h() = \text{sign}()$  does not work for gradient descent
- Can use **tanh** or **sigmoid** function
- Rectified Linear (ReLU) popular recently
  - gradients do not saturate for positive half-interval
  - but have to be careful with learning rate, otherwise many units can become “dead”, i.e. always output 0

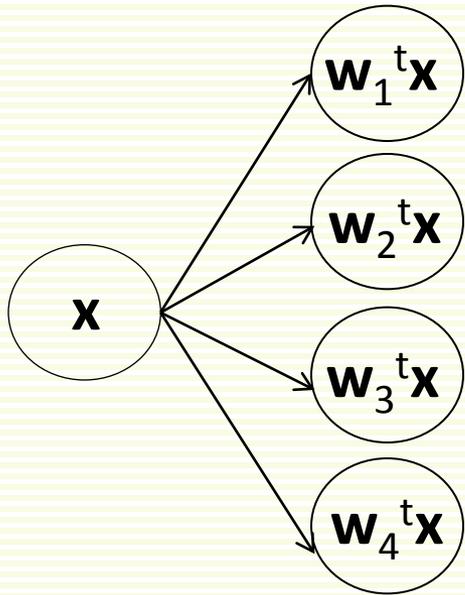


# Multilayer NN: Modes of Operation

- Due to historical reasons, training and testing stages have special names
  - **Backpropagation (or training)**  
Minimize objective function with gradient descent
  - **Feedforward (or testing)**

# Multilayer NN: Matrix Notation

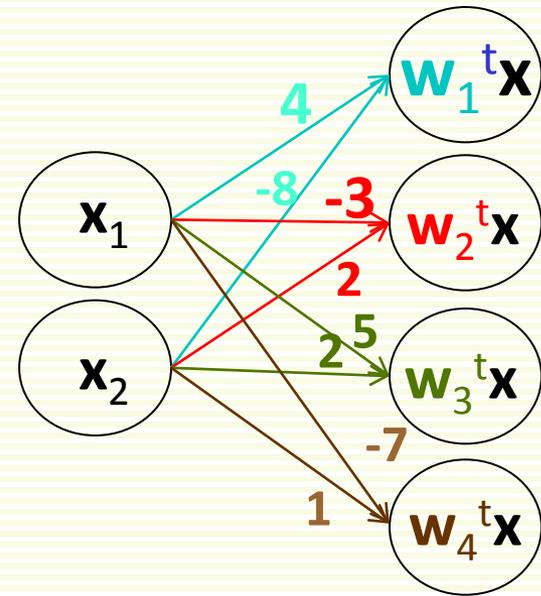
- Recall matrix notation for linear classifier



$$\begin{matrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \\ w_3 \\ w_4 \end{matrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 4 & -7 \\ 9 & -3 & 2 \\ 4 & 5 & 2 \\ 2 & -7 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 7 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ -4 \\ 47 \\ -43 \end{bmatrix}$$

$W \quad x \quad Wx$

- Full picture, ignoring bias weights

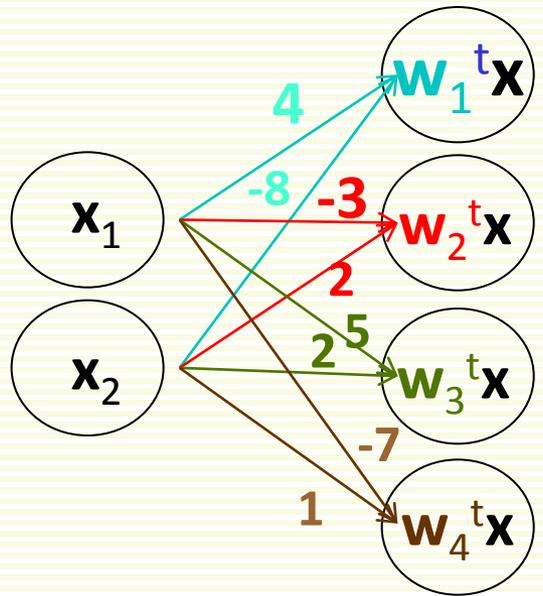


$Wx$

- This is subpart of neural network
- Need to add activation function

# Multilayer NN: Matrix Notation

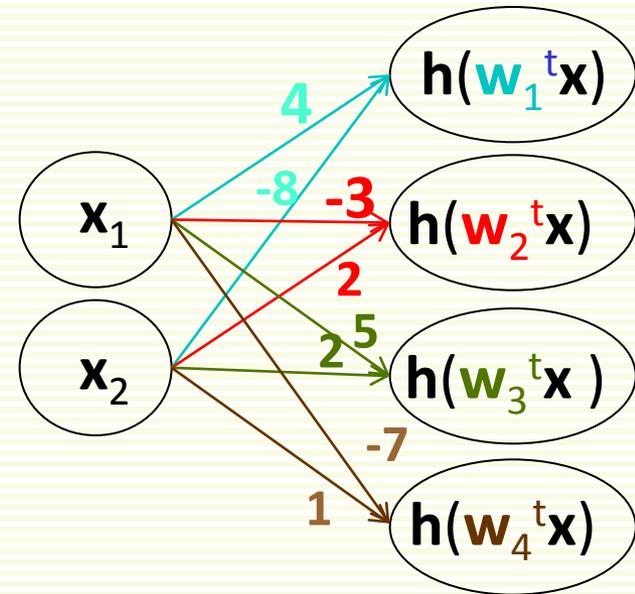
- Full picture



$Wx$

- This is subpart of neural network

- Need activation function  $h$  in Neural Network

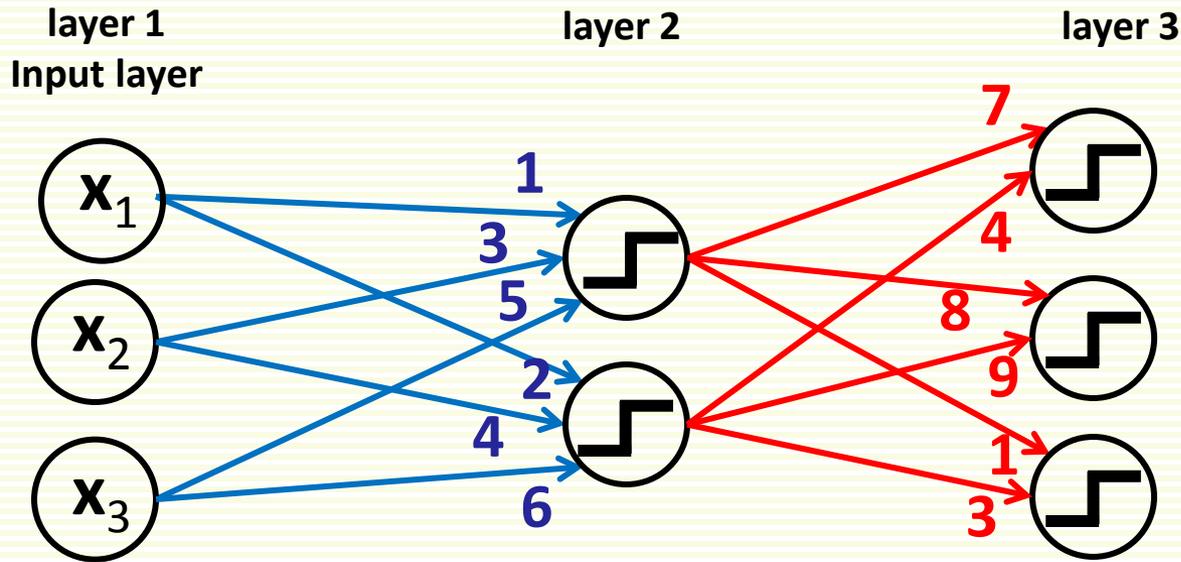


$h(Wx)$

$$h = \begin{bmatrix} * \\ * \\ * \\ * \end{bmatrix}$$

# Multilayer NN: Matrix Notation

- Use similar notation for NN



$$h = h(Wx)$$

$$h = \begin{bmatrix} * \\ * \end{bmatrix}$$

$$W = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 5 \\ 2 & 4 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

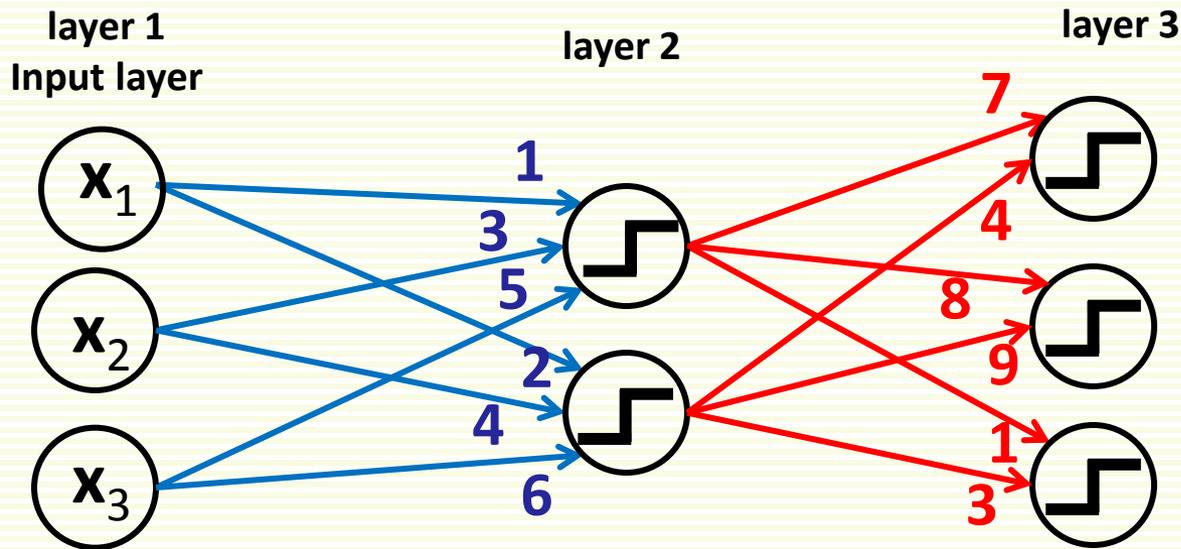
$$h = h(W'h)$$

$$h = \begin{bmatrix} * \\ * \\ * \end{bmatrix}$$

$$W = \begin{bmatrix} 7 & 4 \\ 8 & 9 \\ 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Multilayer NN: Matrix Notation

- Instead of color, use superscripts



$$h^1 = h(W^1x)$$

$$h^1 = \begin{bmatrix} * \\ * \end{bmatrix}$$

$$W^1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 5 \\ 2 & 4 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

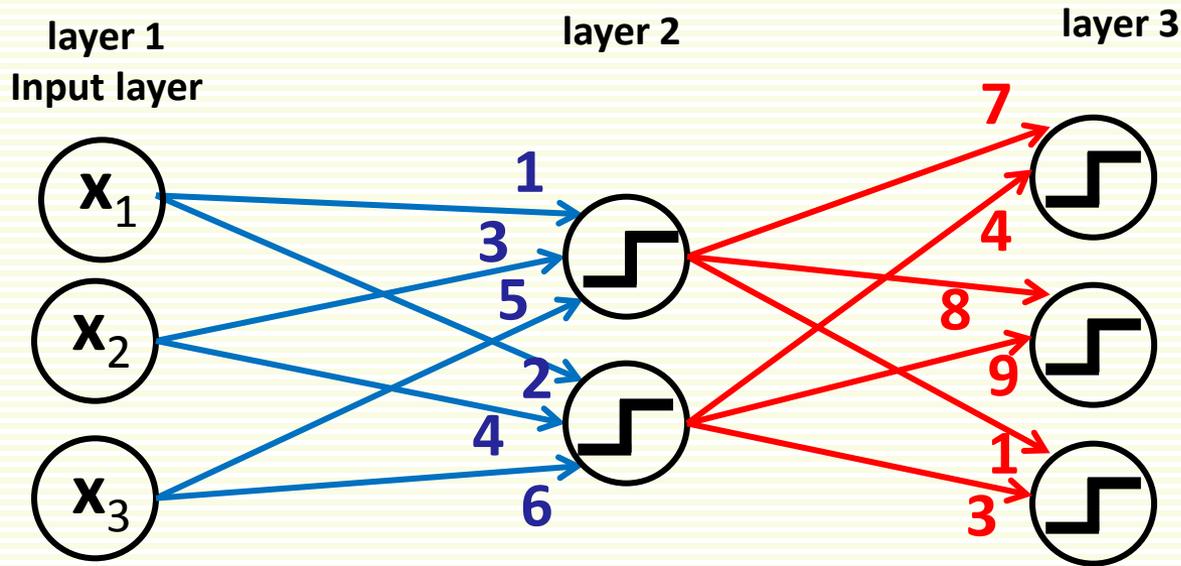
$$h^2 = h(W^2h^1)$$

$$h^2 = \begin{bmatrix} * \\ * \\ * \end{bmatrix}$$

$$W^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 7 & 4 \\ 8 & 9 \\ 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Multilayer NN: Matrix Notation

- Add bias weights, also as vectors

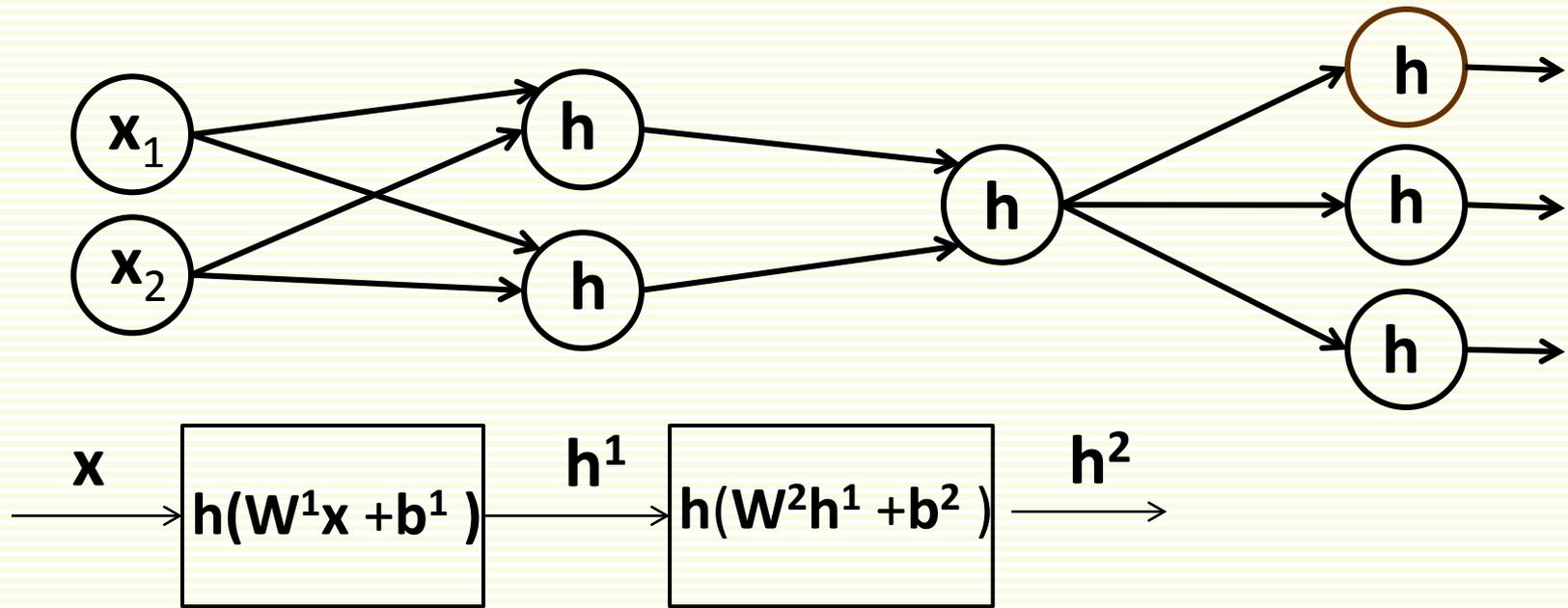


$$h^1 = h(W^1x + b^1) \quad h^2 = h(W^2h^1 + b^2)$$

$$h^1 = \begin{bmatrix} * \\ * \end{bmatrix} \quad b^1 = \begin{bmatrix} * \\ * \end{bmatrix} \quad h^2 = \begin{bmatrix} * \\ * \\ * \end{bmatrix} \quad b^2 = \begin{bmatrix} * \\ * \\ * \end{bmatrix}$$

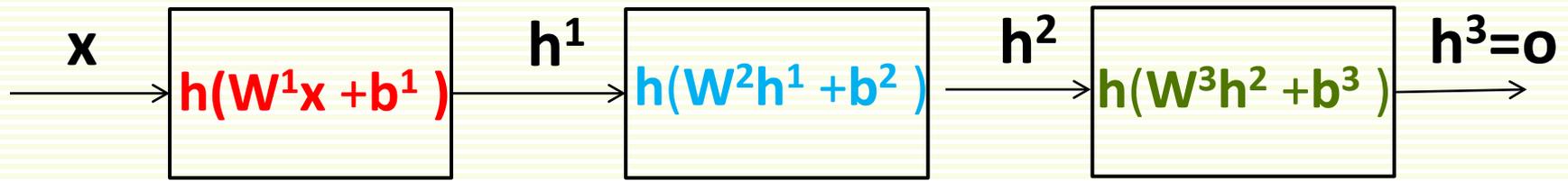
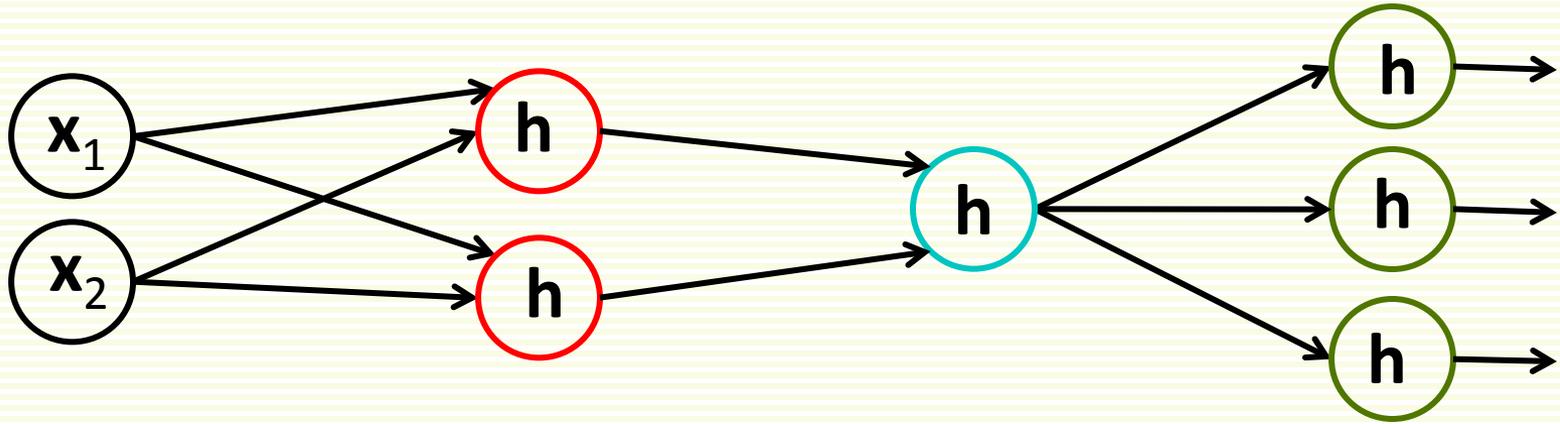
$$W^1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 & 5 \\ 2 & 4 & 6 \end{bmatrix} \quad W^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 7 & 4 \\ 8 & 9 \\ 1 & 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Multilayer NN: Vector Notation for Next Layer



- $W^2$  is a matrix of weights between hidden layer 1 and 2
  - $W^2(r,c)$  is weight from unit  $c$  to unit  $r$
- $b^2$  is a vector of bias weights for second hidden layer
  - $b^2_r$  is bias weight of unit  $r$  in second layer
- $h^2$  is a vector of second layer outputs
  - $h^2_r$  is output of unit  $r$  in second layer

# Multilayer NN: Vector Notation, all Layers



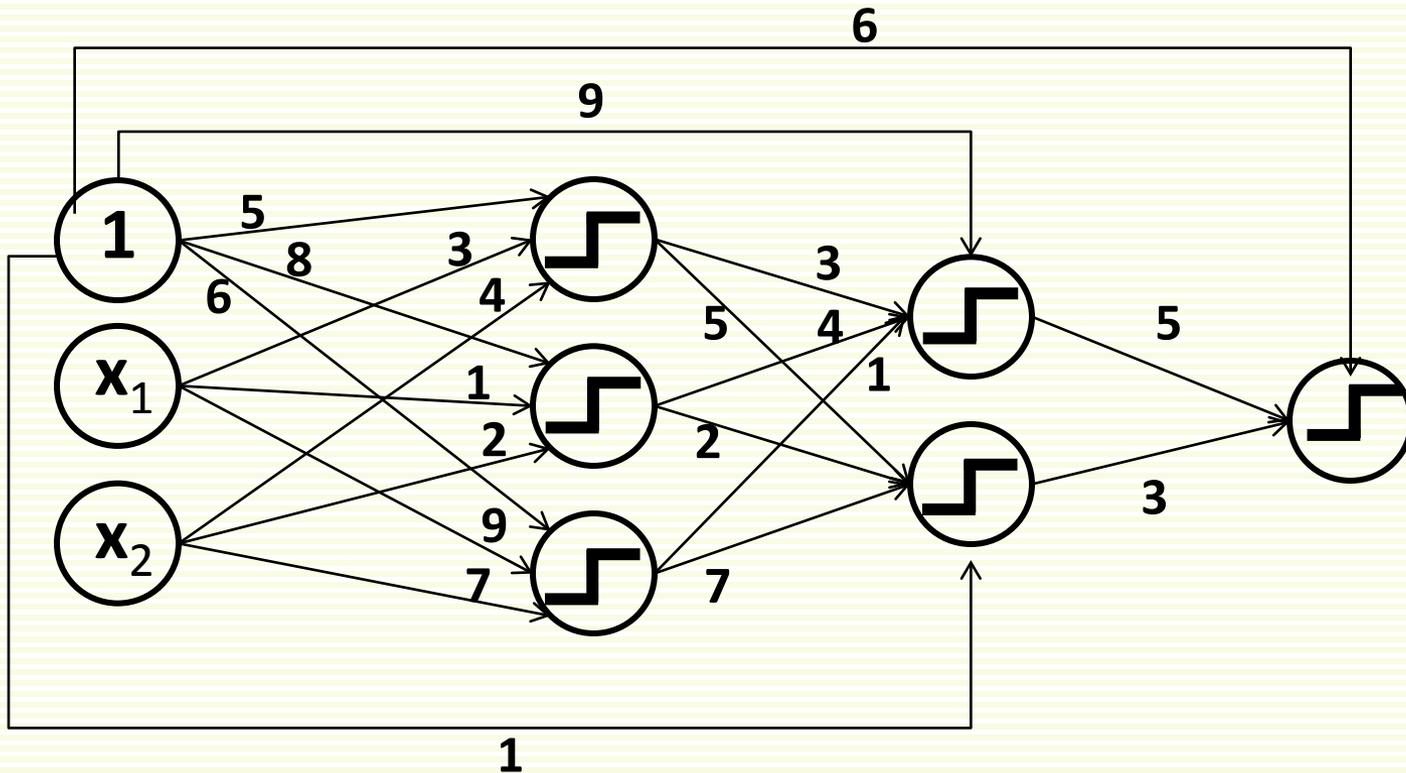
- $h^3$  is vector from the output layer and it is also called  $f(x, W)$

- $h^3 = h(W^3h^2 + b^3)$   
 $= h(W^3h(W^2h^1 + b^2) + b^3)$   
 $= h(W^3h(W^2h(W^1x + b^1) + b^2) + b^3)$

# Vector Notation, Example

- Assuming sign activation function, draw a NN given by

$$\mathbf{W}^1 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 \\ 1 & 2 \\ 9 & 7 \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{b}^1 = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 8 \\ 6 \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{W}^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 4 & 1 \\ 5 & 2 & 7 \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{b}^2 = \begin{bmatrix} 9 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{W}^3 = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{b}^3 = \begin{bmatrix} 6 \end{bmatrix}$$



# Multilayer NN: Output Representation

- Output of NN is a vector
- As before, if  $\mathbf{x}^i$  be sample of class  $\mathbf{k}$ , its label is

$$\mathbf{y}^i = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow \text{row } \mathbf{k}$$

$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}^i, \mathbf{W}) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow \text{row } \mathbf{k}$$

wish to get this output

# Training NN: Squared Difference Loss

- Wish to minimize difference between  $\mathbf{y}^i$  and  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}^i)$
- Let  $\mathbf{W}$  be all weights (all matrices  $\mathbf{W}^t$  and bias vectors  $\mathbf{b}^t$ )
- With squared difference **loss**
- Squared loss on one example  $\mathbf{x}^i$ :

$$L(\mathbf{x}^i, \mathbf{y}^i; \mathbf{W}) = \|\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}^i, \mathbf{W}) - \mathbf{y}^i\|^2 = \sum_{j=1}^m (\mathbf{f}_j(\mathbf{x}^i, \mathbf{W}) - \mathbf{y}_j^i)^2$$

- For this example, squared loss is  $3^2 + 2^2 = 13$

$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}^i, \mathbf{W}) = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{y}^i = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Training NN: Squared Difference Loss

- Let  $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x}^1, \dots, \mathbf{x}^n$   
 $\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{y}^1, \dots, \mathbf{y}^n$

- Loss on all examples:  $L(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}; \mathbf{W}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \left\| \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}^i, \mathbf{W}) - \mathbf{y}^i \right\|^2$
- Gradient descent

```
Initialize  $\mathbf{W}$  to random  
choose  $\epsilon, \alpha$   
while  $\alpha \|\nabla L(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}; \mathbf{W})\| > \epsilon$   
     $\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{W} - \alpha \nabla L(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}; \mathbf{W})$ 
```

# Training NN: Softmax Loss

- Squared error loss is not recommended for classification
- Softmax is a better loss function, seen before in linear classifier
- First put the output of the network through soft-max

$$\mathbf{f}_k(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{\exp(\mathbf{o}_k)}{\sum_{j=1}^m \exp(\mathbf{o}_j)}$$

$$\mathbf{o} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.6 \\ -1 \\ 5 \\ 8 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 0.006 \\ 0.0001 \\ 0.047 \\ 0.94 \\ 0.17 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = \text{softmax}(\mathbf{o})$$

- Interpret  $\mathbf{f}_k(\mathbf{x})$  as probability of class  $\mathbf{k}$

# Training NN: Softmax Loss

- If sample  $\mathbf{x}$  is of class  $\mathbf{k}$ , the loss is

$$\mathbf{L}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}; \mathbf{W}) = -\log \mathbf{f}_{\mathbf{k}}(\mathbf{x})$$

- this loss function is also called  $-\log$  loss, cross entropy loss
  - minimizing  $-\log$  is equivalent to maximizing probability
- Loss on all samples

$$\mathbf{L}(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}; \mathbf{W}) = \sum \mathbf{L}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}; \mathbf{W})$$

# Training NN: -Log Loss Function

- Need to find derivative of  $L$  wrt every network weight  $\mathbf{w}_i$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \mathbf{w}_i}$$

- After derivative found, according to gradient descent, weight update is

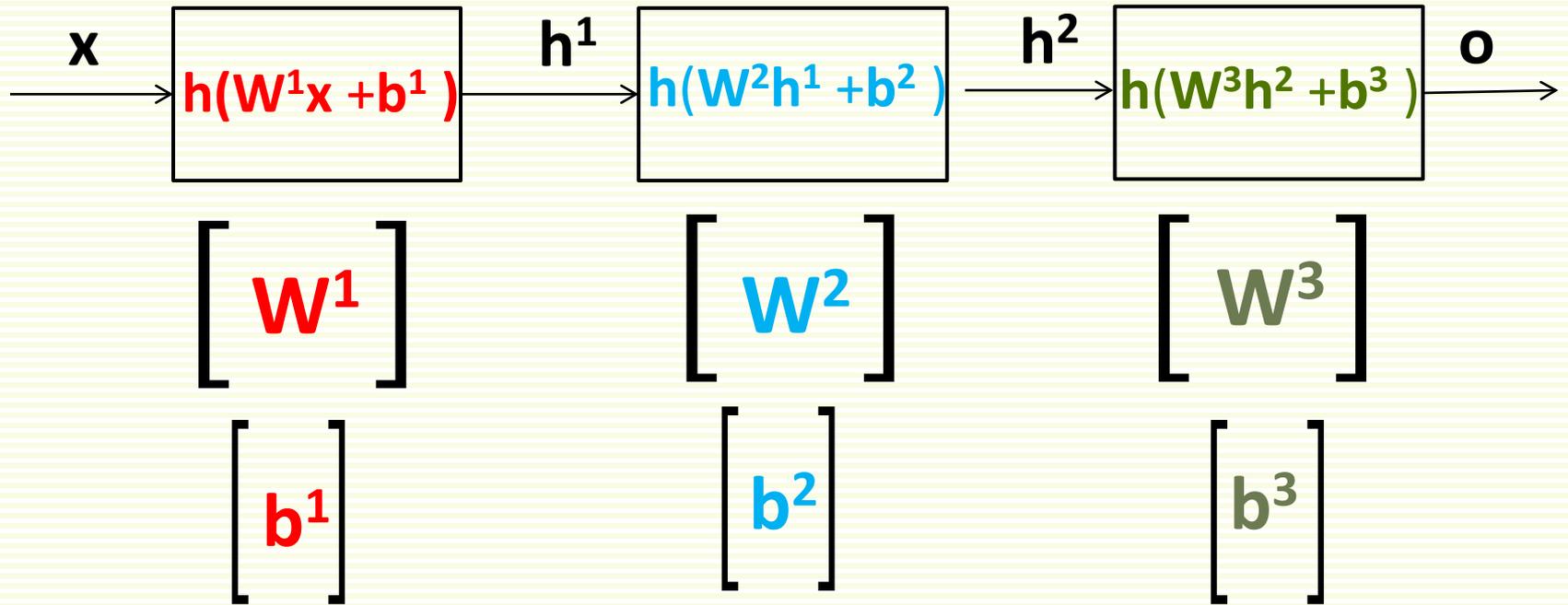
$$\Delta \mathbf{w}_i = -\alpha \frac{\partial L}{\partial \mathbf{w}_i}$$

- where  $\alpha$  is the learning rate
- Update weight

$$\mathbf{w}_i = \mathbf{w}_i + \Delta \mathbf{w}_i$$

# Training NN: -Log Loss Function

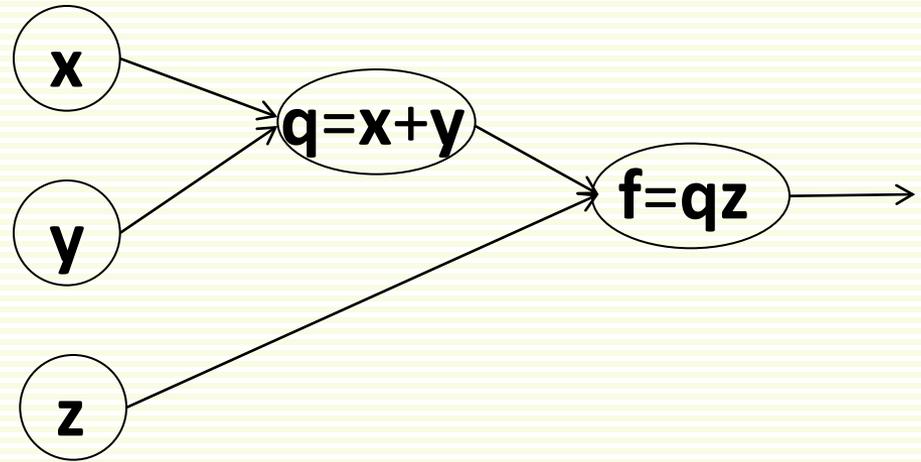
- How many weights do we have in our network?



- Weights are in matrices  $W^1, W^2, \dots, W^L$
- And in matrices  $b^1, b^2, \dots, b^L$

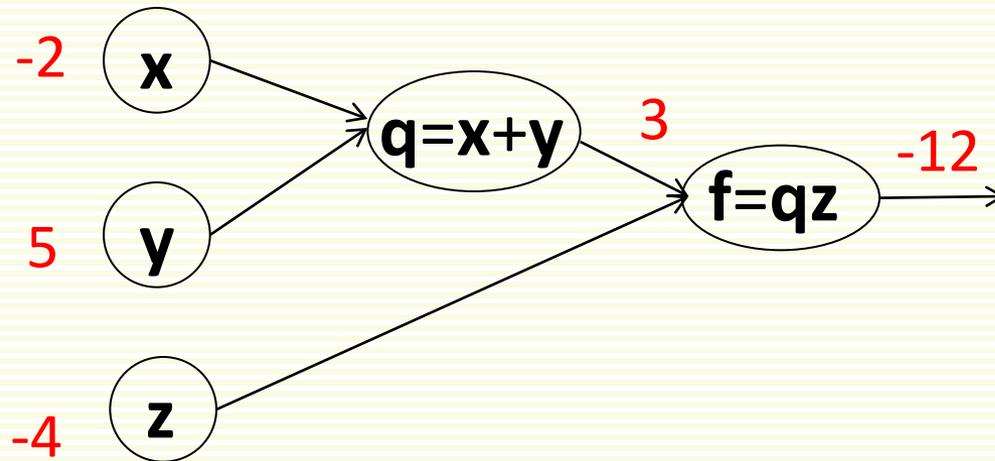
# Computing Derivatives: Small Example

- Small network  $f(x,y,z) = (x+y)z$
- Rewrite using
  - $q = x + y$
- $f(x,y,z) = qz$
- each node does one operation



# Computing Derivatives: Small Example

- Small network  $f(x,y,z) = (x+y)z$
- Rewrite using
  - $q = x + y$
  - $f(x,y,z) = qz$
- Example of computing  $f(-2,5,-4)$

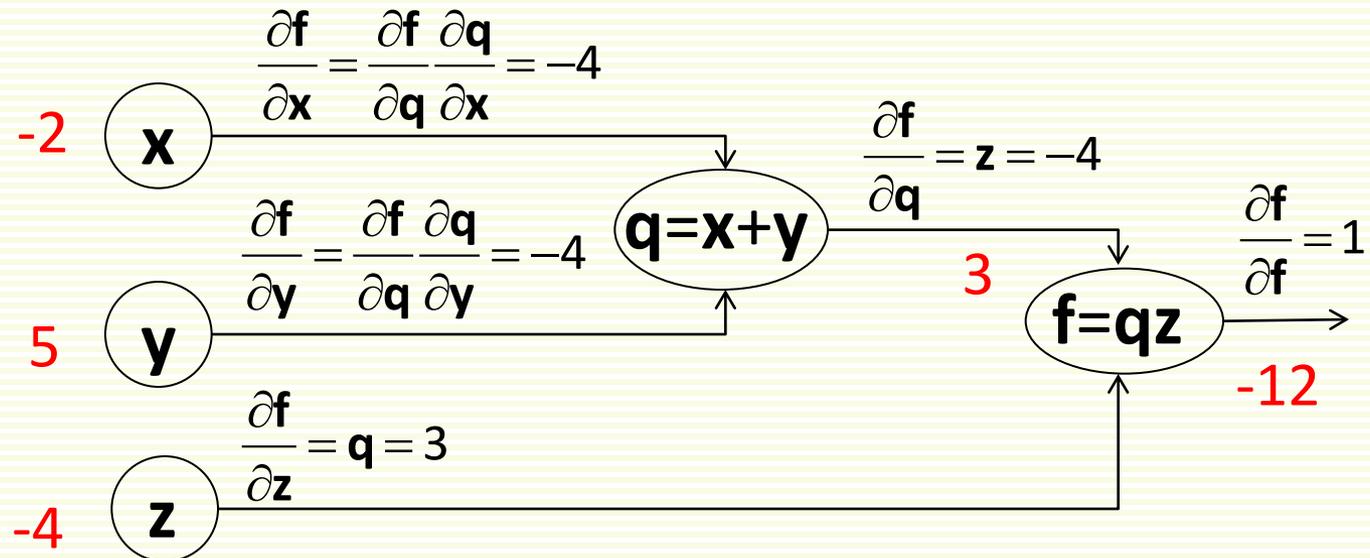


# Computing Derivatives: Small Example

- Small network  $f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}) = (\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y})\mathbf{z}$
- Rewrite using  $\mathbf{q} = \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{y} \Rightarrow f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}) = \mathbf{q}\mathbf{z}$
- Want  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{x}}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{y}}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{z}}$
- Compute  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial}$  from the end backwards
  - for each edge, with respect to the main variable at edge origin
  - using chain rule with respect to the variable at edge end, if needed

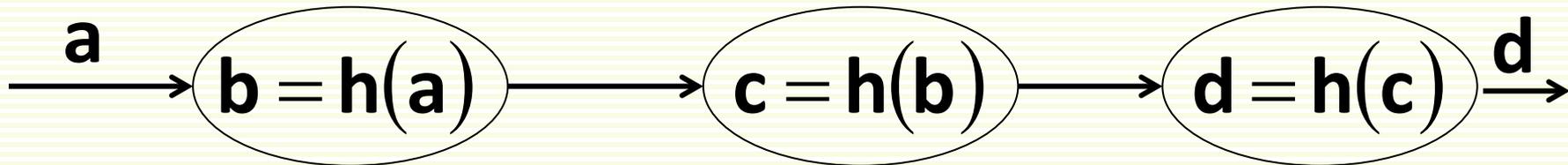
chain rule for  $f(\mathbf{y}(\mathbf{x}))$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{y}} \frac{\partial \mathbf{y}}{\partial \mathbf{x}}$$



# Computing Derivatives: Chain of Chain Rule

- Compute  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{d}}{\partial \mathbf{a}}$  from the end backwards
  - for each edge, with respect to the main variable at edge origin
  - using chain rule with respect to the variable at edge end, if needed



$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{d}}{\partial \mathbf{a}} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{d}}{\partial \mathbf{b}} \frac{\partial \mathbf{b}}{\partial \mathbf{a}}$$

prev local

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{d}}{\partial \mathbf{b}} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{d}}{\partial \mathbf{c}} \frac{\partial \mathbf{c}}{\partial \mathbf{b}}$$

prev local

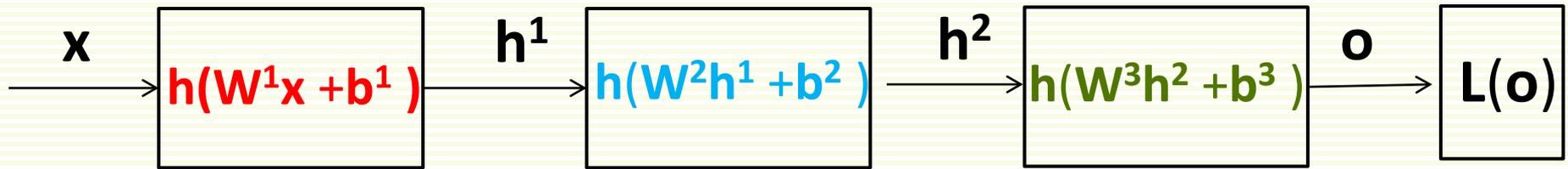
$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{d}}{\partial \mathbf{c}}$$

local

↓

example: if  $h(c) = c^2$ , then  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{d}}{\partial \mathbf{c}} = \frac{\partial h}{\partial c} = 2c$

# Computing Derivatives Backwards

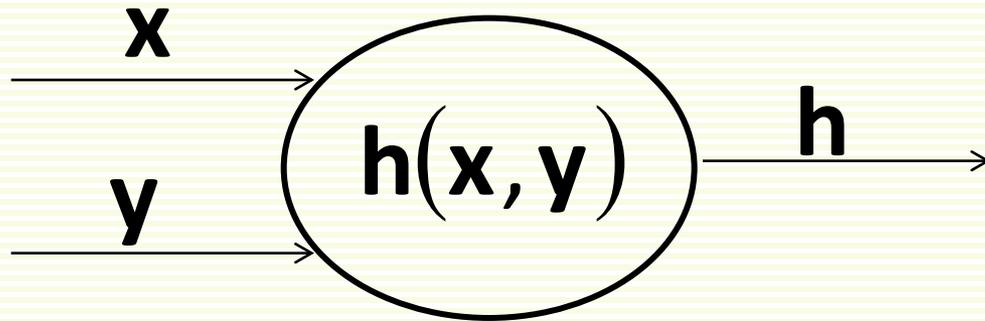


direction of computation

- Have loss function  $L(o)$
- Need derivatives for all  $\frac{\partial L}{\partial \mathbf{w}}, \frac{\partial L}{\partial \mathbf{b}}$
- Will compute derivatives from end to front, backwards
- On the way will also compute intermediate derivatives  $\frac{\partial L}{\partial \mathbf{h}}$

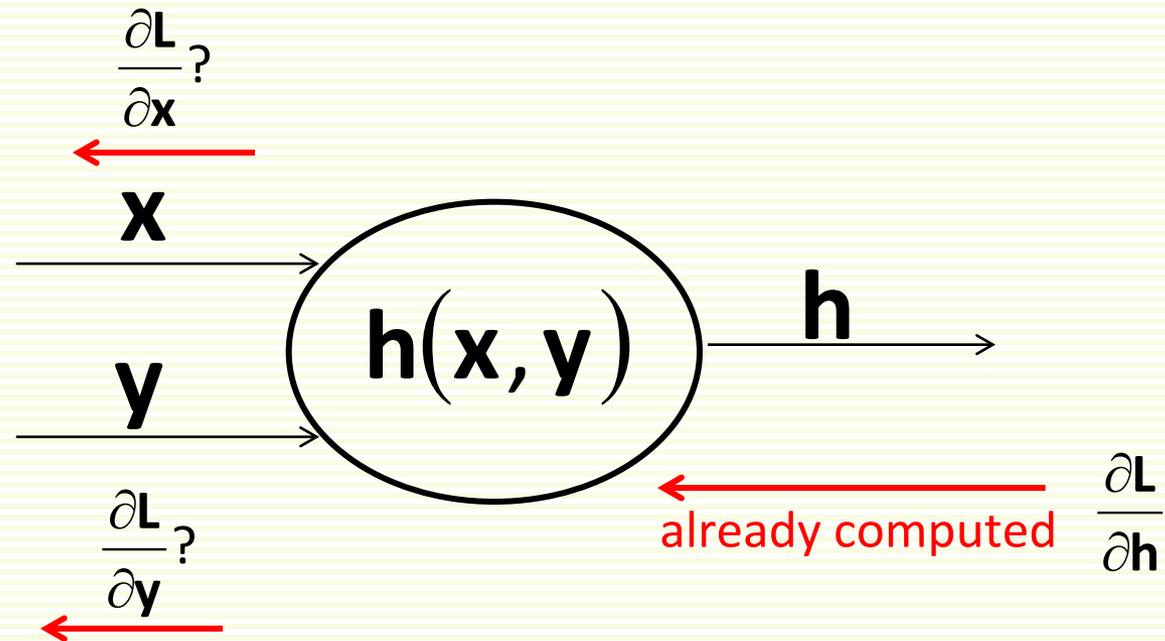
# Computing Derivatives: Look at One Node

- Simplified view at a network node
  - inputs  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}$  come in
  - node computes some function  $\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$



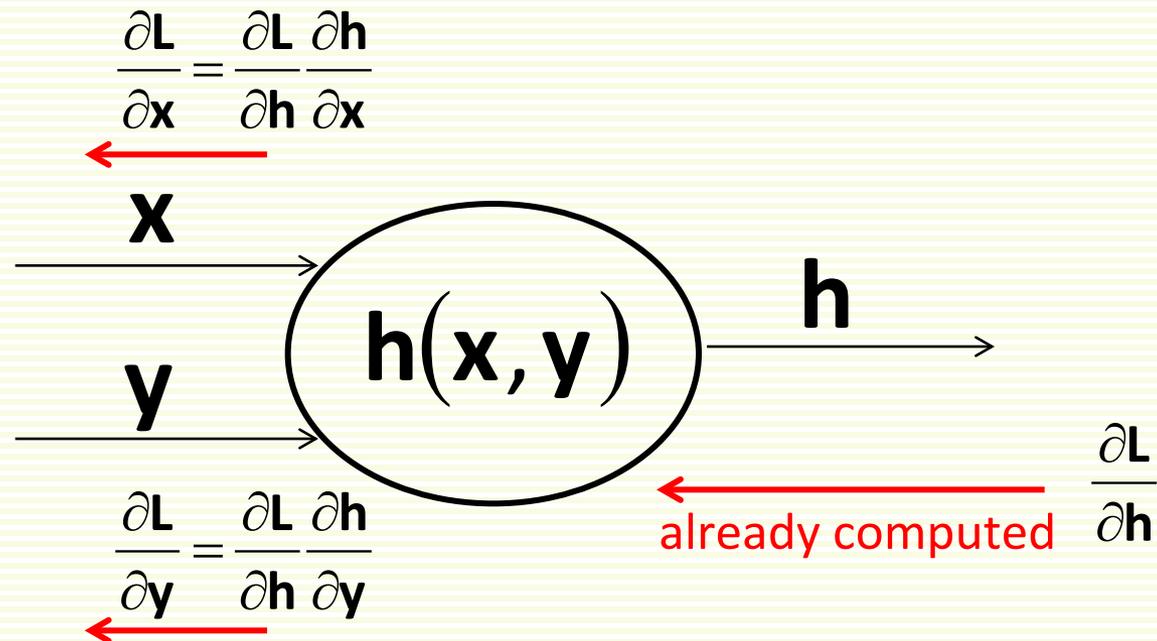
# Computing Derivatives: Look at One Node

- At each network node
  - inputs  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}$  come in
  - nodes computes activation function  $\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$
- Have loss function  $\mathbf{L}(\cdot)$



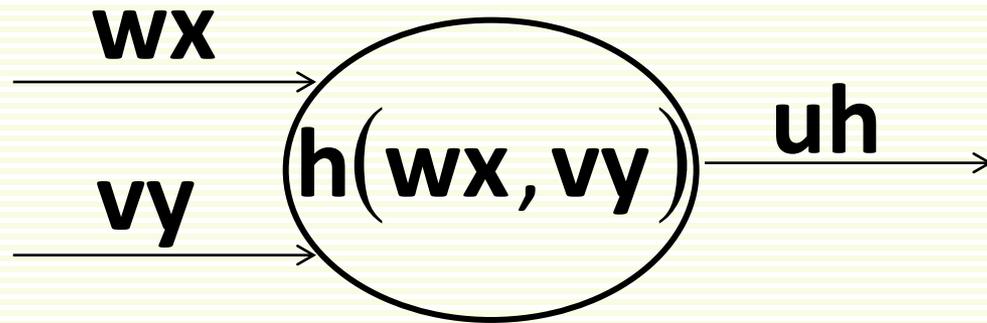
# Computing Derivatives: Look at One Node

- Need  $\frac{\partial L}{\partial \mathbf{x}}, \frac{\partial L}{\partial \mathbf{y}}$
- Easy to compute local node derivatives  $\frac{\partial h}{\partial \mathbf{x}}, \frac{\partial h}{\partial \mathbf{y}}$

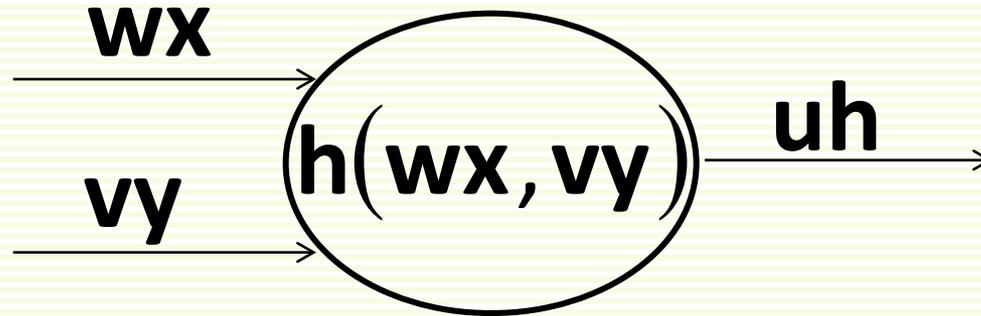


# Computing Derivatives: Look at One Node

- More complete view at a network node
  - inputs  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}$  come in, get multiplied by weight  $\mathbf{w}$  and  $\mathbf{v}$
  - node computes function  $\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{w}\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}\mathbf{y})$
  - node output  $\mathbf{h}$  gets multiplied by  $\mathbf{u}$

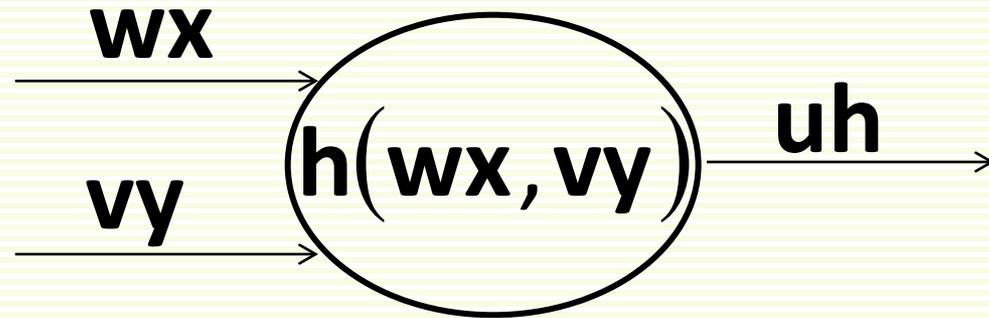


# Computing Derivatives: Look at One Node

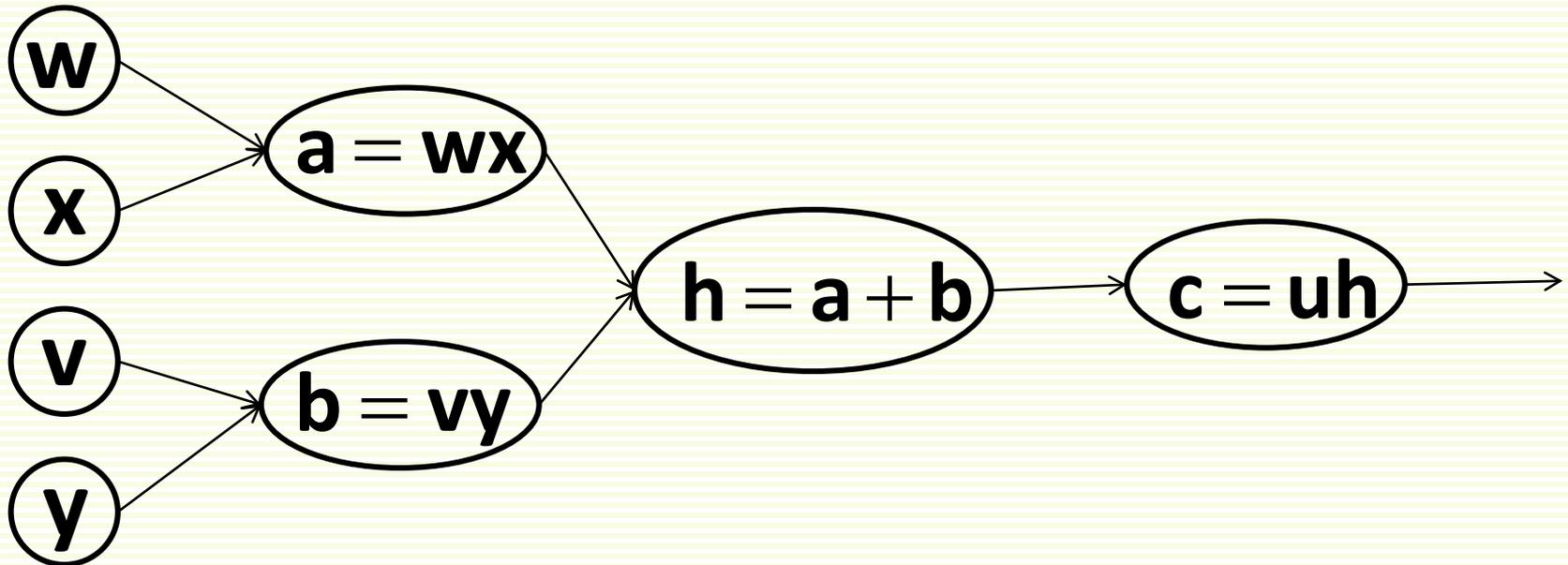


- To be concrete, let  $h(i,j) = i + j$

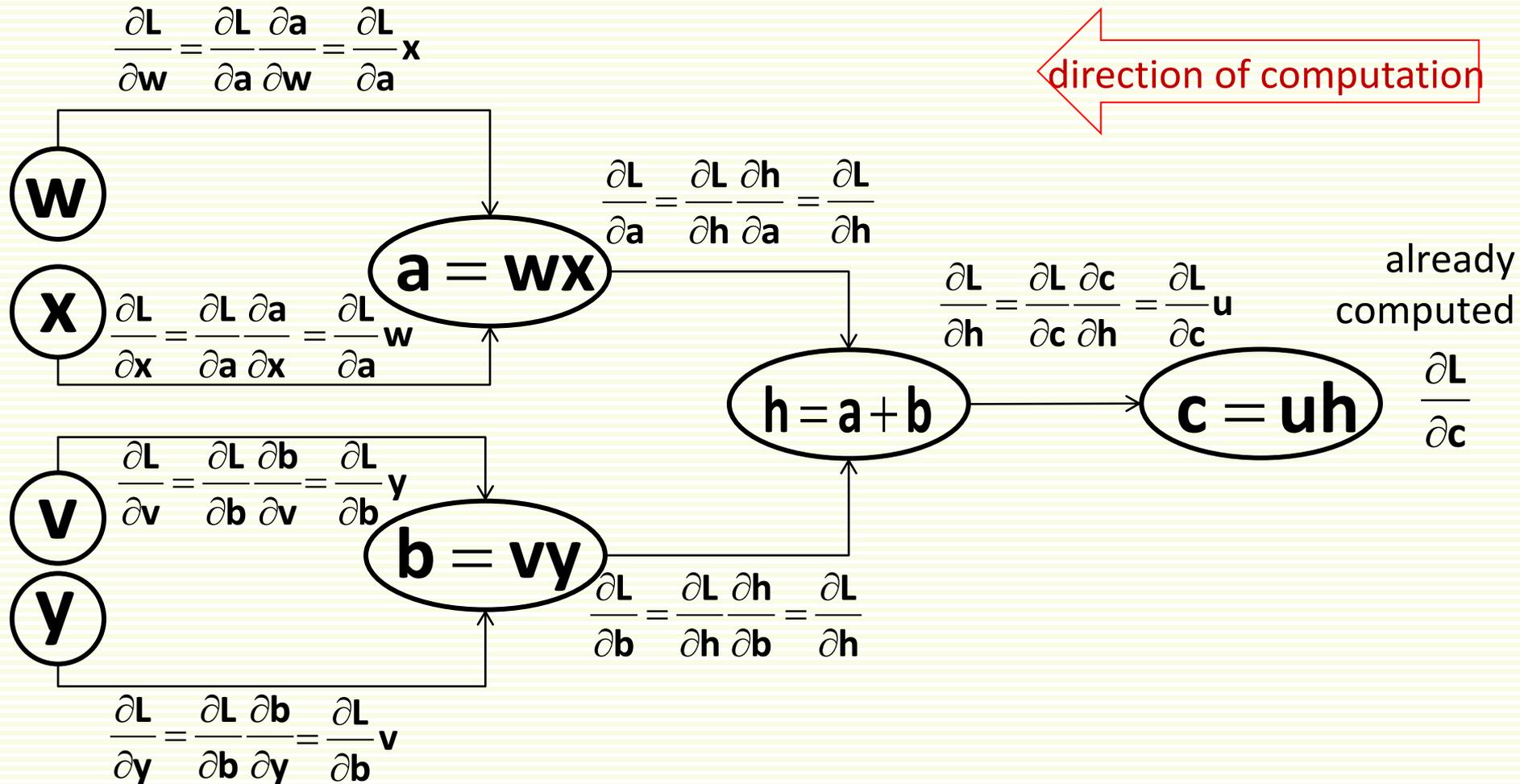
# Computing Derivatives: Look at One Node



- $h(i,j) = i + j$
- Break into more computational nodes
  - all computation happens inside nodes, not on edges

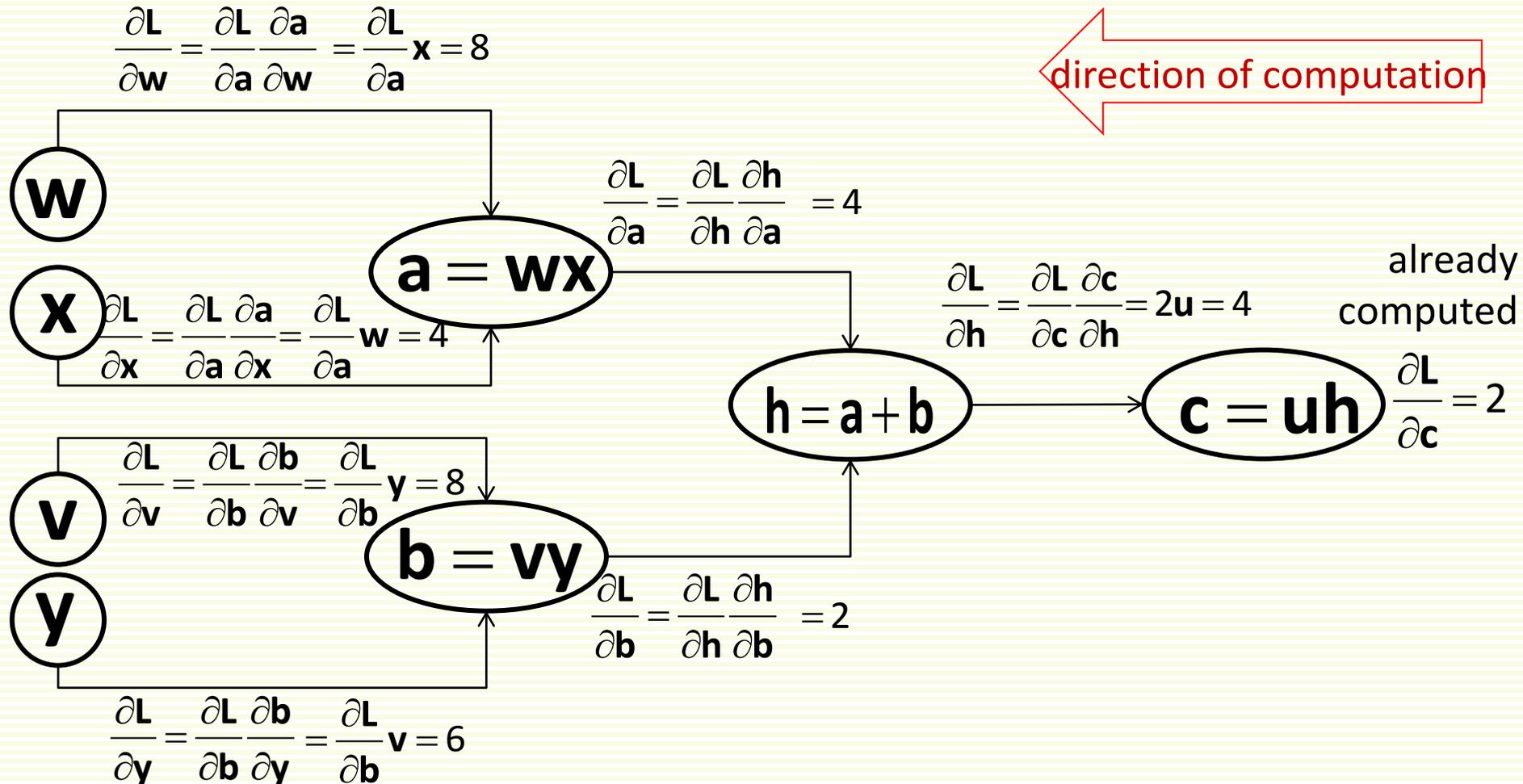


# Computing Derivatives: Look at One Node



- Some of these partial derivatives are intermediate
  - their values will not be used for gradient descent

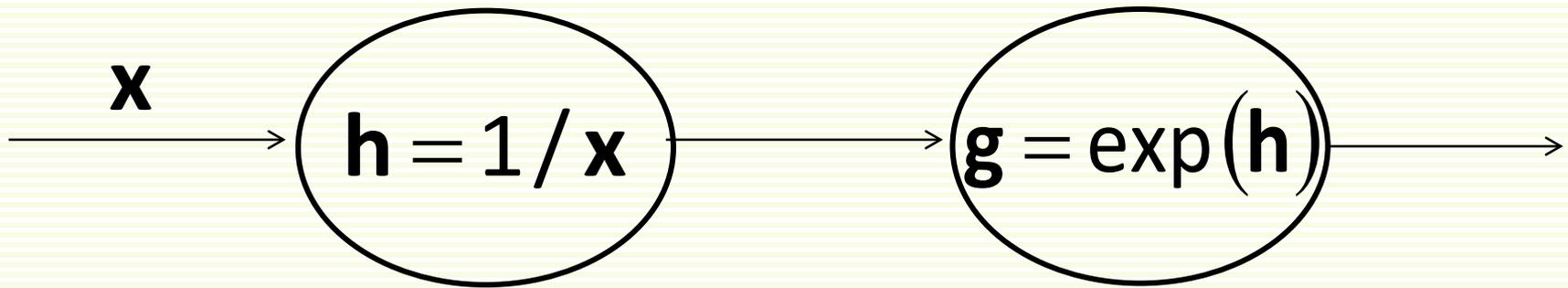
# Computing Derivatives: Look at One Node



- Example when  $w = 1$ ,  $x = 2$ ,  $v = 3$ ,  $y = 4$ ,  $u = 2$ ,  $\frac{\partial L}{\partial c} = 2$

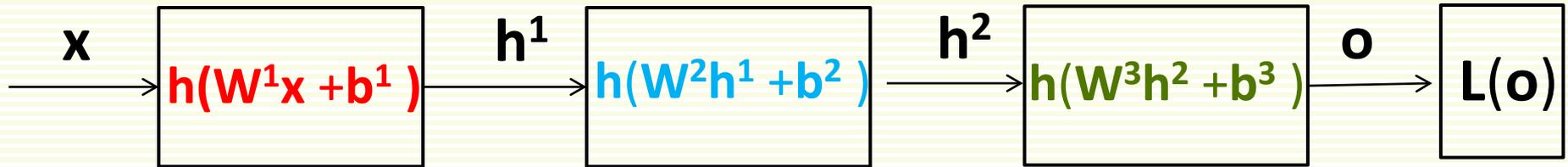
# Computing Derivatives: Staging Computation

- Each node is responsible for one function
- To compute  $\exp(1/x)$



# Computing Derivatives: Vector Notation

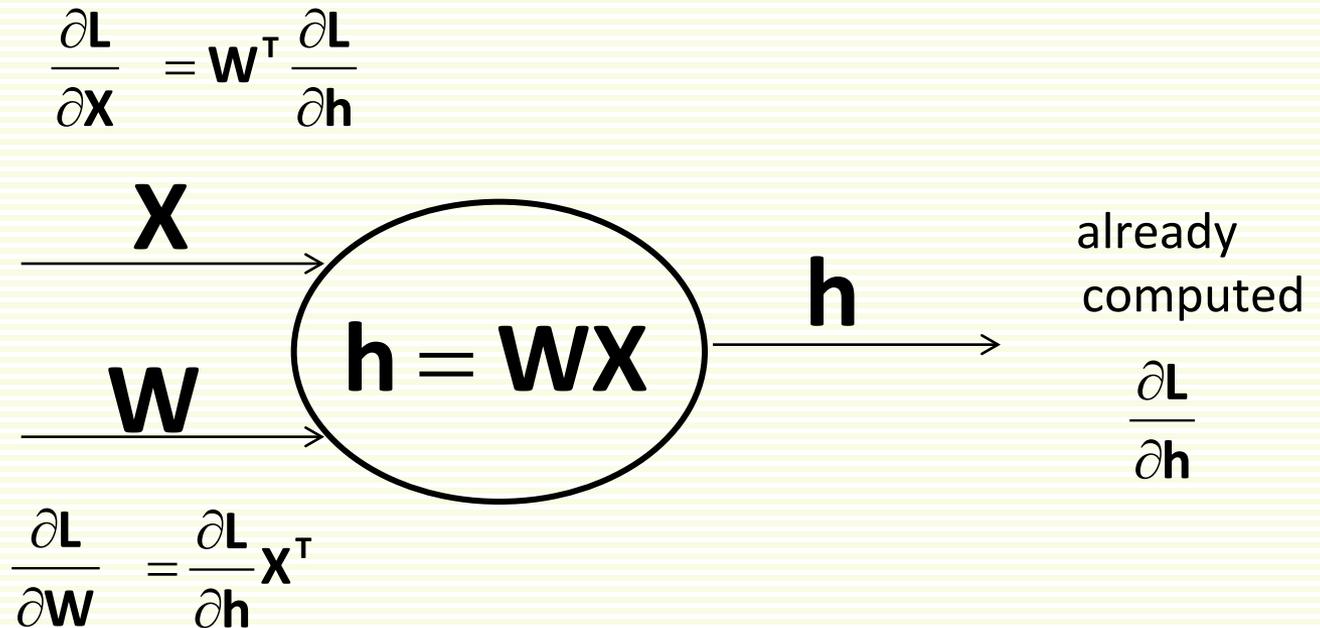
- Inputs and outputs are often vectors and/or matrices



- $h(a)$  is a function from  $\mathbf{R}^n$  to  $\mathbf{R}^m$
- Chain rule generalizes to vector and matrix functions
- Will not derive it, but will give you the end result

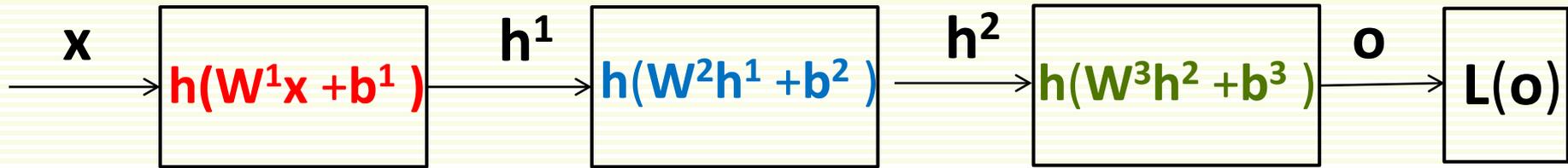
# Computing Derivatives: Vector Notation

- Assume loss  $L$  is a scalar
  - if not, can do derivation for each component independently
- Assume  $W$ ,  $X$ , and  $h$  are matrices
  - subsumes the case when they are vectors as well



- $\frac{\partial L}{\partial W}$  is a matrix of partial derivatives of the same shape as  $W$

# Computing Derivatives: Vector Notation



- First compute  $\frac{\partial L}{\partial \mathbf{o}}$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \mathbf{o}}$$

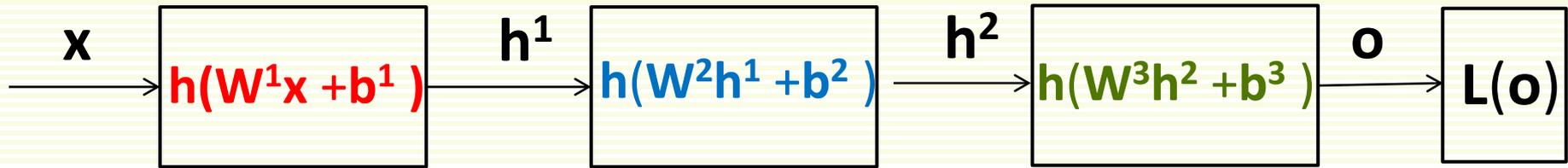
- Under quadratic loss

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \mathbf{o}} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{y}$$

- Under softmax loss

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \mathbf{o}} = \mathbf{softmax}(\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})) - \mathbf{y}$$

# Computing Derivatives: Vector Notation



- Let vector  $a^3 = W^3h^2 + b^3$

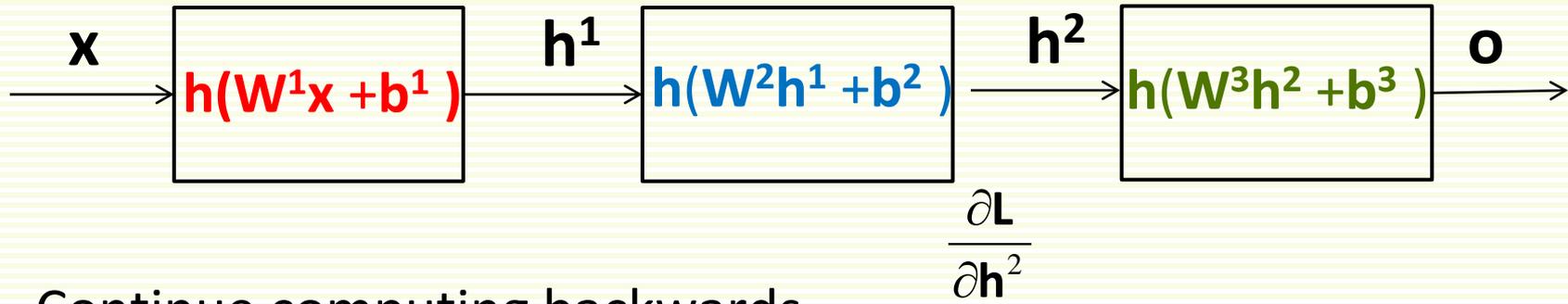
$$a^3 = \begin{bmatrix} a^3_1 \\ a^3_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \leftarrow \frac{\partial L}{\partial o}$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial W^3} = \text{diag}(h'(a^3)) \frac{\partial L}{\partial o} (h^2)^T$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial h^2} = \text{diag}(h'(a^3)) (W^3)^T \frac{\partial L}{\partial o}$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial b^3} = \text{diag}(h'(a^3)) \frac{\partial L}{\partial o}$$

# Computing Derivatives: Vector Notation



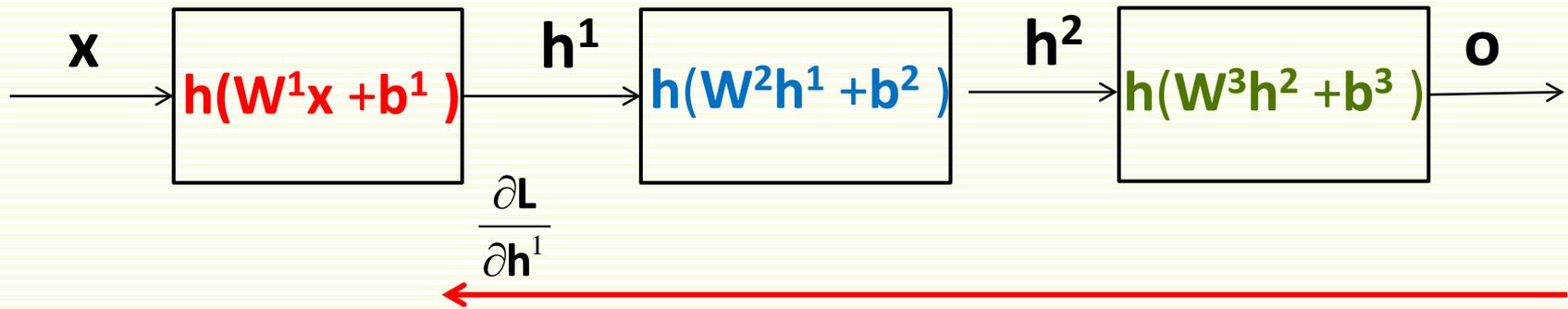
- Continue computing backwards
- Let vector  $\mathbf{a}^2 = \mathbf{W}^2 \mathbf{h}^1 + \mathbf{b}^2$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{L}}{\partial \mathbf{W}^2} = \text{diag}(\mathbf{h}'(\mathbf{a}^2)) \frac{\partial \mathbf{L}}{\partial \mathbf{h}^2} (\mathbf{h}^1)^\top$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{L}}{\partial \mathbf{h}^1} = \text{diag}(\mathbf{h}'(\mathbf{a}^2)) (\mathbf{W}^2)^\top \frac{\partial \mathbf{L}}{\partial \mathbf{h}^2}$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{L}}{\partial \mathbf{b}^2} = \text{diag}(\mathbf{h}'(\mathbf{a}^2)) \frac{\partial \mathbf{L}}{\partial \mathbf{h}^2}$$

# Computing Derivatives: Vector Notation



- Continue computing backwards
- Let vector  $\mathbf{a}^1 = \mathbf{W}^1 \mathbf{x}^1 + \mathbf{b}^1$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \mathbf{W}^1} = \text{diag}(\mathbf{h}'(\mathbf{a}^1)) \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \mathbf{h}^1} \mathbf{x}^\top$$

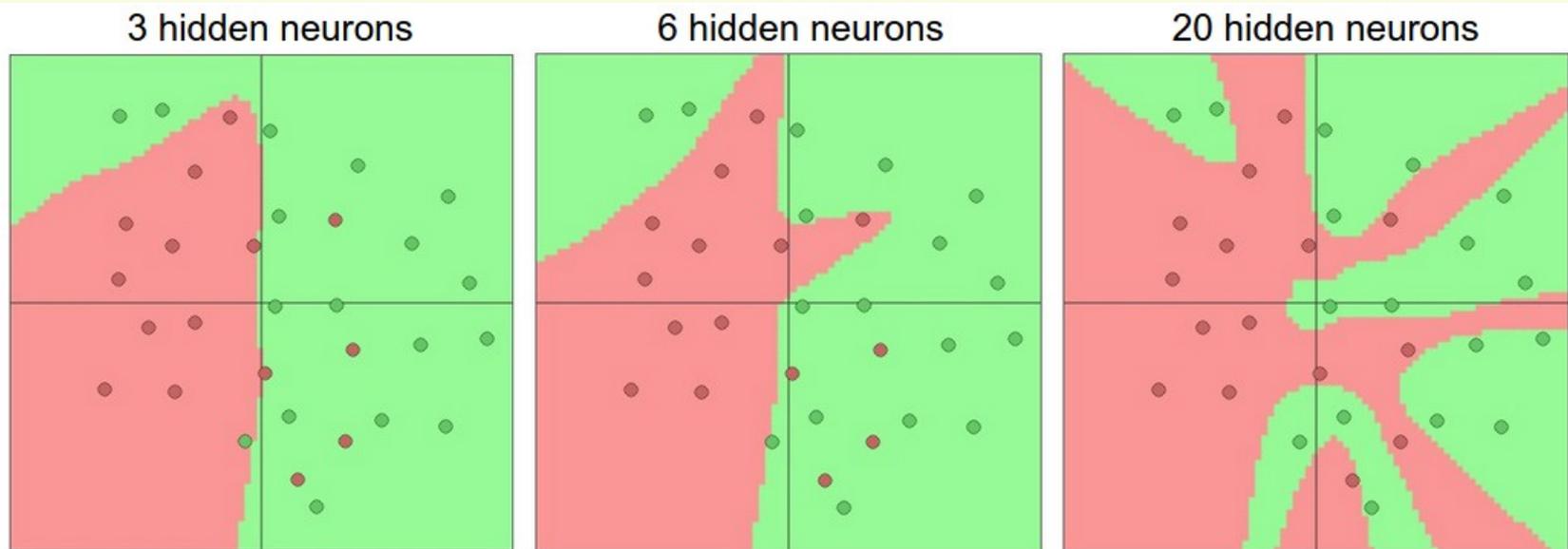
$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \mathbf{b}^1} = \text{diag}(\mathbf{h}'(\mathbf{a}^1)) \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \mathbf{h}^1}$$

# Training Protocols

- Batch Protocol
  - full gradient descent
  - weights are updated only after all examples are processed
  - might be very slow to train
- Single Sample Protocol
  - examples are chosen randomly from the training set
  - weights are updated after every example
  - weights get changed faster than batch, less stable
  - One iteration over all samples (in random order) is called an **epoch**
- Mini Batch
  - Divide data in batches, and update weights after processing each batch
  - Middle ground between single sample and batch protocols
  - Helps to prevent over-fitting in practice, think of it as “noisy” gradient
  - allows CPU/GPU memory hierarchy to be exploited so that it trains much faster than single-sample in terms of wall-clock time
  - One iteration over all mini-batches is called an **epoch**

# Regularization

- Larger networks are more prone to overfitting



# Regularization

- Can control overfitting by using network with less units
- Better if control overfitting by adding weight regularization  $\frac{\lambda}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2$  to the loss function

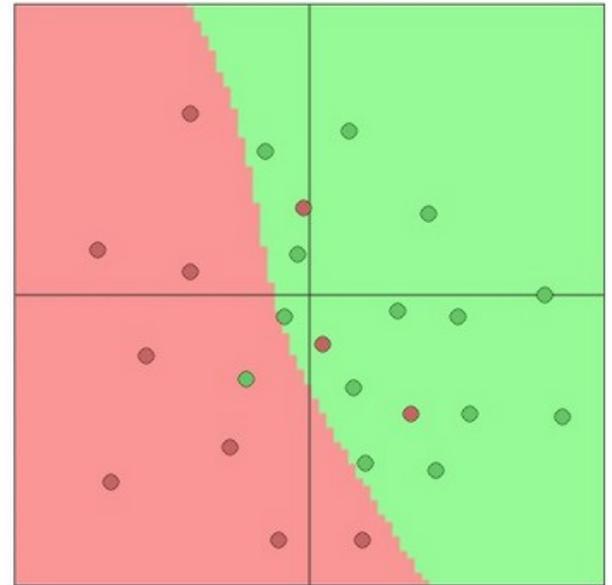
$\lambda = 0.001$



$\lambda = 0.01$

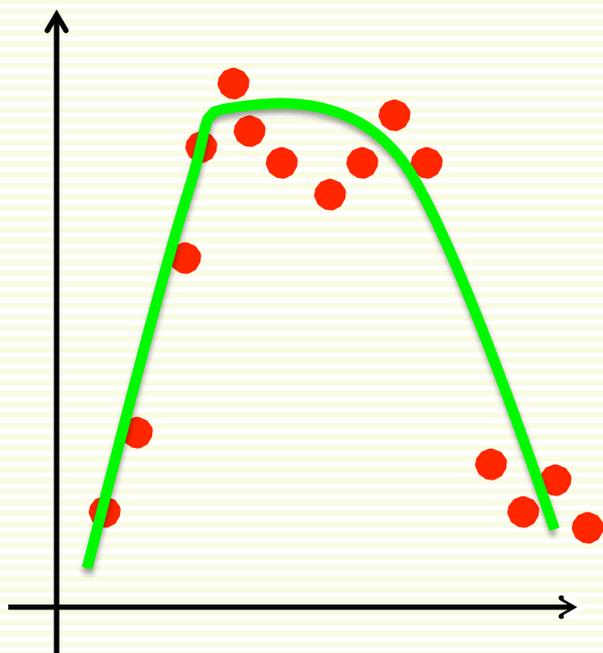


$\lambda = 0.1$

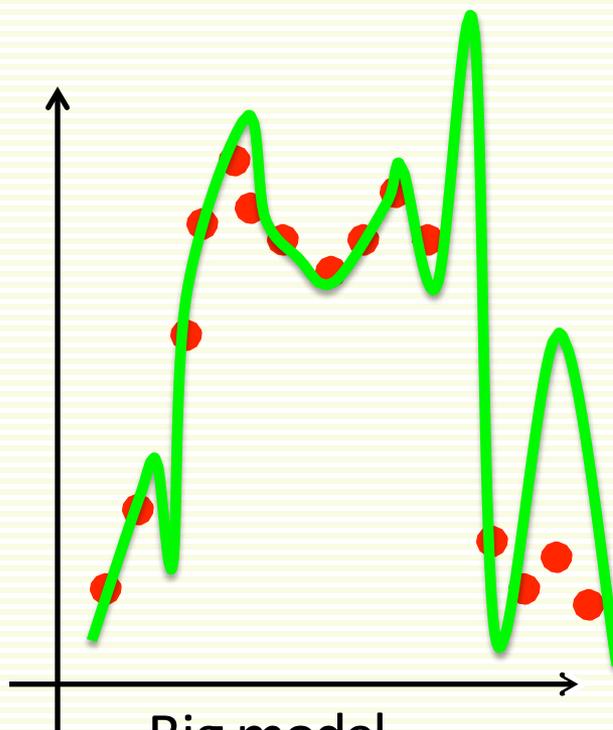


- During gradient descent, subtract  $\lambda \mathbf{w}$  from each weight  $\mathbf{w}$ 
  - intuitively, implements weight decay

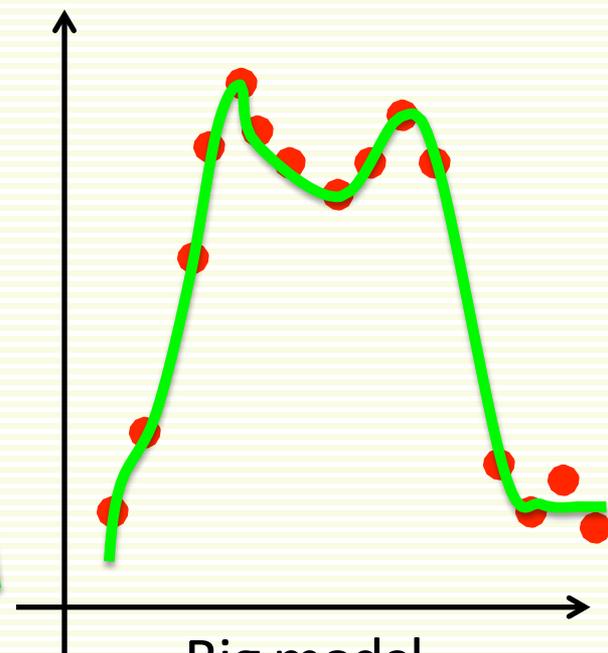
# Small model vs. Big Model+Regularize



Small model



Big model



Big model  
+ Regularize

# Ensembles of Neural Networks

- Train multiple independent models, average their predictions
- Improvements are more dramatic with higher model variety
- Few approaches to forming an ensemble
  - **Same model, different initializations**
    - train multiple models with the best set of hyperparameters (found through cross validation) but with different random initialization.
    - drawback is that the variety is only due to initialization
  - **Top models discovered during cross-validation**
    - Use cross-validation to determine the best hyperparameters, then pick the top few
    - Improves ensemble variety but has the danger of including suboptimal models
    - practical, does not require additional retraining of models after cross-validation
  - **Different checkpoints of a single model**
    - Take different “checkpoints” of a single network over time
    - Lacks variety, but very cheap
  - **Running average of parameters during training**
    - Maintain a second copy of the network’s weights in memory that maintains an exponentially decaying sum of previous weights during training
    - This way you’re averaging the state of the network over last several iterations

# Practical Training Tips: Initialization

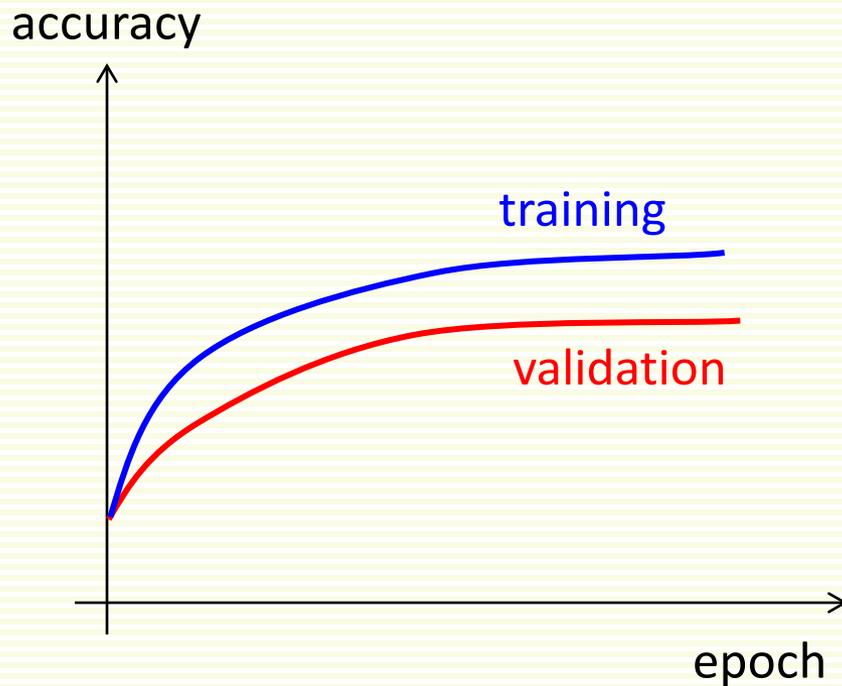
- Initialization parameters for **W**
  - do not set all the parameters **W** equal
    - all units compute the same output, gradient descent updates are the same
  - can initialize **W** to small random numbers
  - if using RELU, better initialize with  $\text{randn}(n) \frac{2}{\sqrt{n}}$ , where **n** is number of inputs to the unit
- Biases **b** usually initialized to 0
  - with ReLU often initialize to small positive number, like 0.1

# Practical Training Tips: Learning Rate

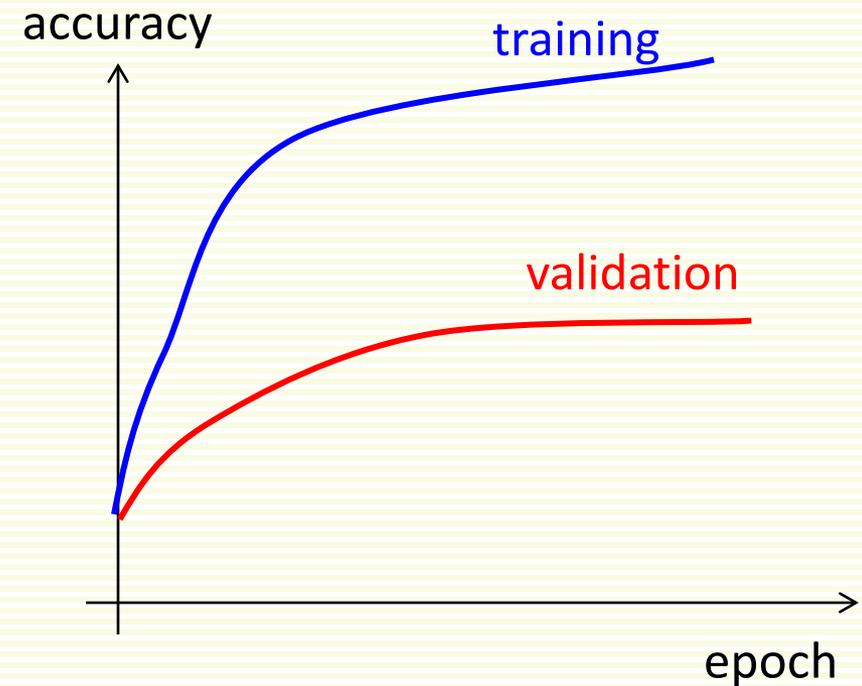
- Loss  $L(\mathbf{w})$  should decrease during gradient descent
  - If  $L(\mathbf{w})$  oscillates,  $\alpha$  is too large, decrease it
  - If  $L(\mathbf{w})$  goes down but very slowly,  $\alpha$  is too small, increase it
- Typically cross-validate learning rates from  $10^{-2}$  to  $10^{-5}$
- Helps to adjust  $\alpha$  at the training time, especially for many layered (deep) networks
  - **Step decay**
    - reduce learning rate by some factor every few epochs
    - i.e. by a factor 0.5 every 5 epochs, or by 0.1 every 20 epochs
  - **Exponential decay**
    - $\alpha = \alpha_0 e^{-kt}$ , where  $\alpha_0, k$  are hyperparameters and  $t$  is epoch number
  - **1/t decay**
    - $\alpha = \alpha_0 / (1+kt)$  where  $\alpha_0, k$  are hyperparameters and  $t$  is epoch number
  - Err on the side of slower decay, if time budget allows

# Practical Training Tips: Validation/Training Accuracy

- Track number of epoch vs. validation/training accuracy



- Not much overfitting, increase network capacity?



- Strong overfitting, increase regularization?

# Practical Training Tips: Momentum

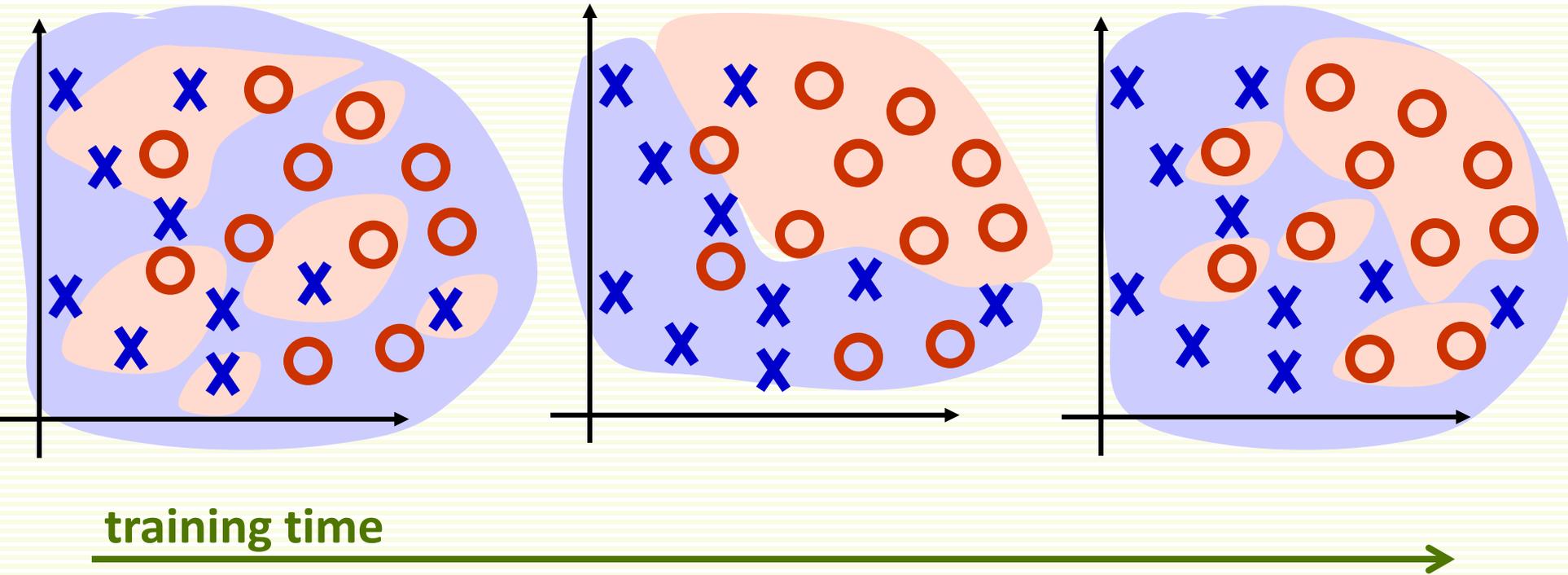
- Add temporal average direction in which weights have been moving recently
- Parameter vector will build up velocity in direction that has consistent gradient
- Helps avoid local minima and speed up descent in flat (plateau) regions
- Previous direction:  $\Delta \mathbf{w}^t = \mathbf{w}^t - \mathbf{w}^{t-1}$
- Weight update rule with momentum
  - common to set  $\beta \in (0.6, 0.9)$ , also can cross-validate

$$\mathbf{w}^{t+1} = \mathbf{w}^t + \underbrace{(1 - \beta) \nabla \mathbf{L}(\mathbf{w}^t)}_{\text{steepest descent direction}} + \underbrace{\beta \Delta \mathbf{w}^{t-1}}_{\text{previous direction}}$$

# Practical Training Tips: Normalization

- Features should be normalized for faster convergence
- Suppose fish length is in meters and weight in grams
  - typical sample [length = 0.5, weight = 3000]
  - feature length will be almost ignored
  - If length is in fact important, learning will be very slow
- Any normalization we looked at before will do
  - test samples should be normalized exactly as training samples
- Images are already roughly normalized
  - intensity/color are in the range [0,255]
  - usually subtract mean image from training data, zero-centers data
    - mean computed on training data only
    - subtracted from test data as well

# Training NN: How Many Epochs?



**Large training error:**  
random decision  
regions in the  
beginning - underfit

**Small training error:**  
decision regions  
improve with time

**Zero training error:**  
decision regions fit  
training data  
perfectly - overfit

- Learn when to stop training through validation

# Other Practical Training Tips

- Before training on full dataset, make sure can overfit on a small portion of the data
  - turn regularization off
- Search hyperparameters on coarse scale for a few epoch, and then on finer scale for more epochs
  - random search might be better than grid search

