



**NN Practical Tips**  
Nov 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016

# Applied Deep Learning

YUN-NUNG (VIVIAN) CHEN [WWW.CSIE.NTU.EDU.TW/~YVCHEN/F105-ADL](http://WWW.CSIE.NTU.EDU.TW/~YVCHEN/F105-ADL)



National Taiwan University

Slide credit from Hung-Yi Lee & Richard Socher

# Outline

---

Data Preprocessing

Activation Function

Loss Function

Optimization

- Adagrad
- Momentum

Generalization

- Early Stopping
- Regularization
- Dropout

# Outline

---

## **Data Preprocessing**

Activation Function

Loss Function

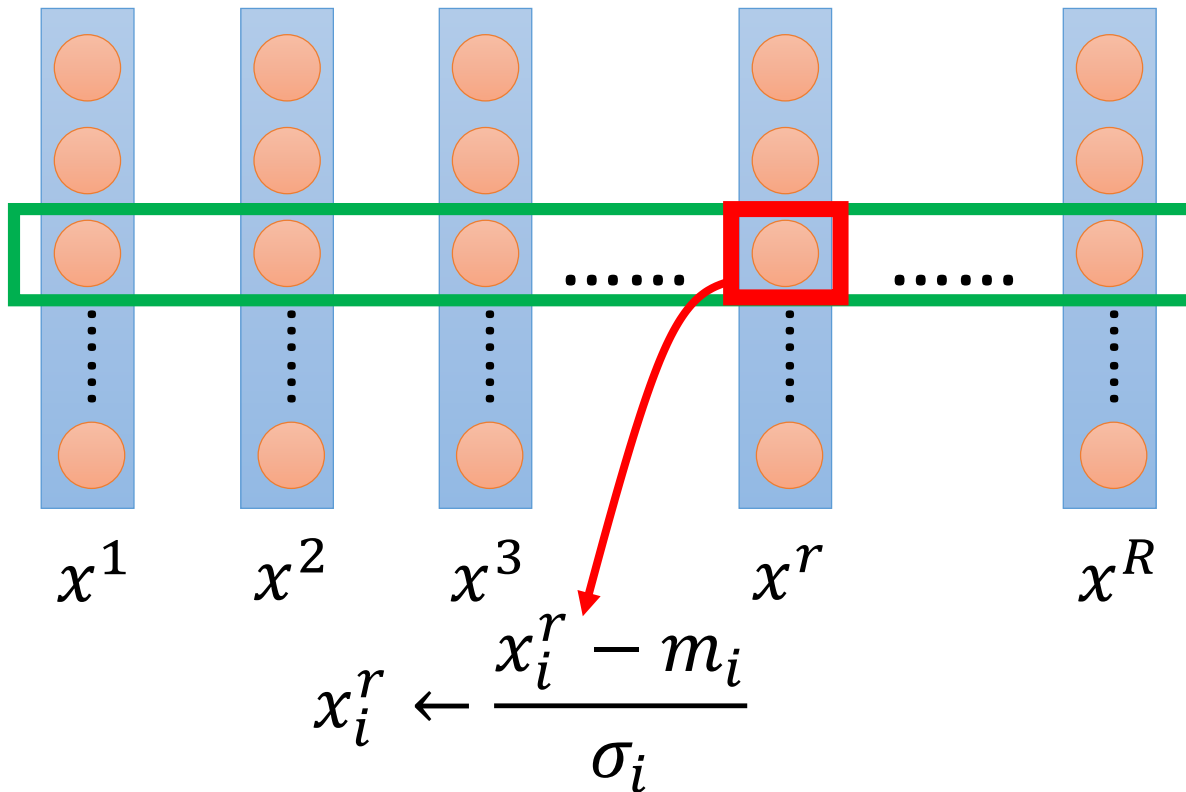
Optimization

- Adagrad
- Momentum

Generalization

- Early Stopping
- Regularization
- Dropout

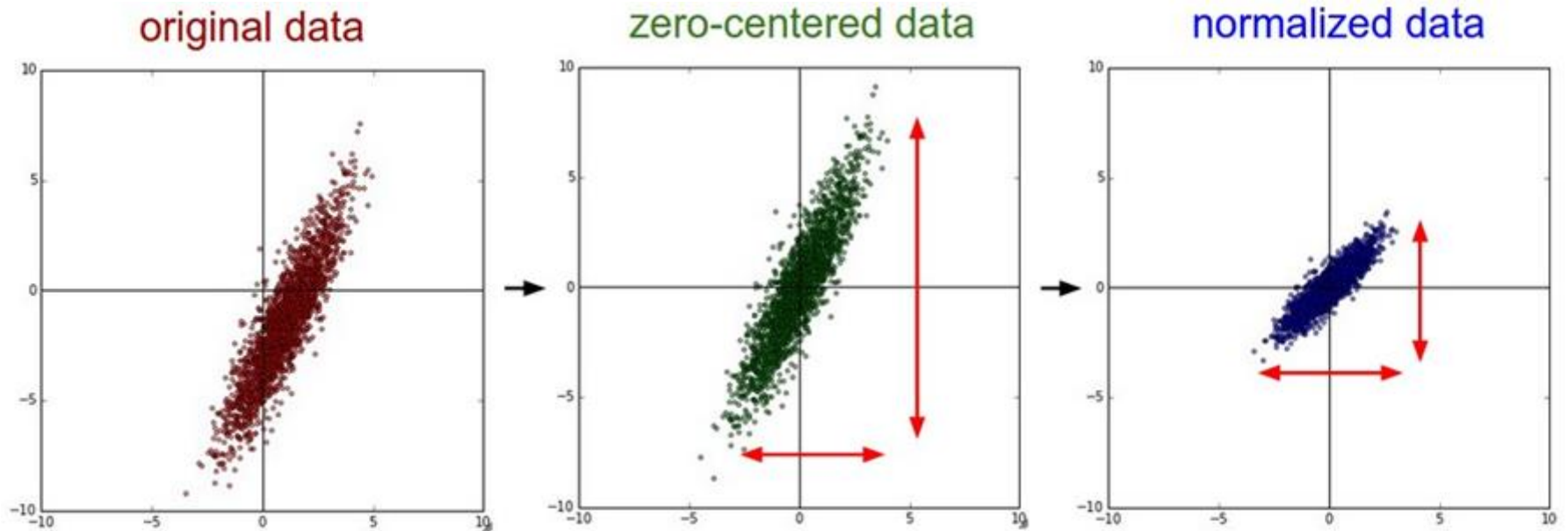
# Input Normalization



For each dimension  $i$ :  
mean:  $m_i$   
standard deviation:  $\sigma_i$

The means of all dimensions are 0, and the variances are all 1

# Input Normalization



Normalizing training and testing data in the same way

# Outline

---

Data Preprocessing

**Activation Function**

Loss Function

Optimization

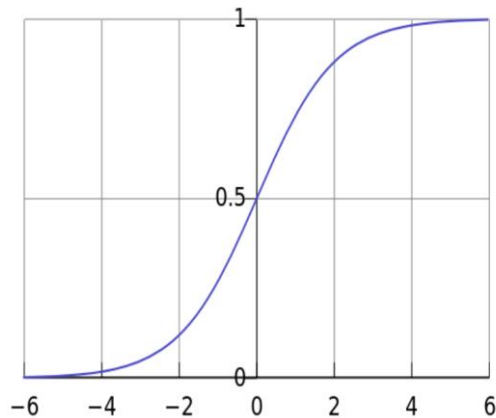
- Adagrad
- Momentum

Generalization

- Early Stopping
- Regularization
- Dropout

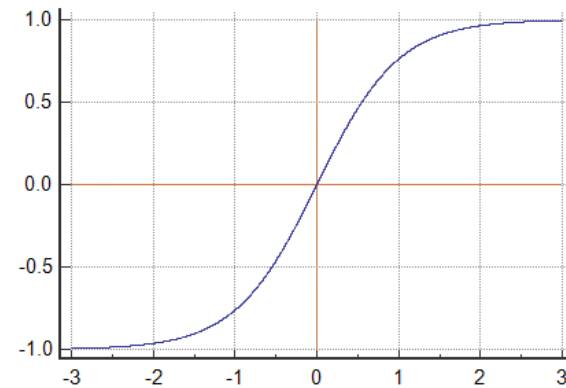
# Activation Function

Sigmoid  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-x}}$



$$f'(x) = f(x)(1 - f(x))$$

Tanh  $f(x) = \frac{e^x - e^{-x}}{e^x + e^{-x}}$



$$f'(x) = 1 - f(x)^2$$

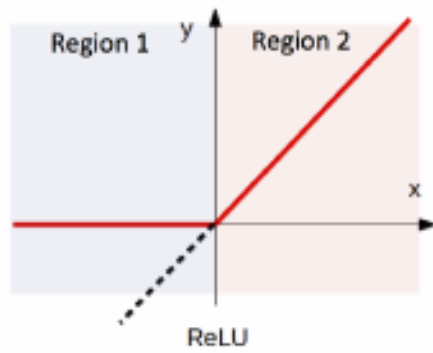
**tanh is just a rescaled and shifted sigmoid, but better for many models**

- Initialization: values close to 0
- Convergence: faster in practice
- Nice derivative (similar to sigmoid)

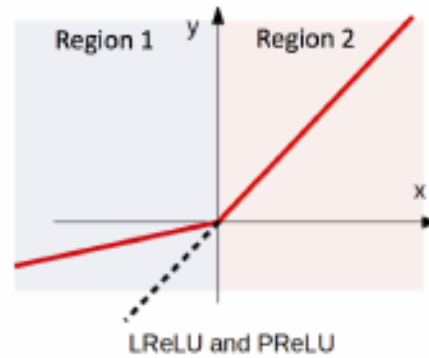
# Variants

---

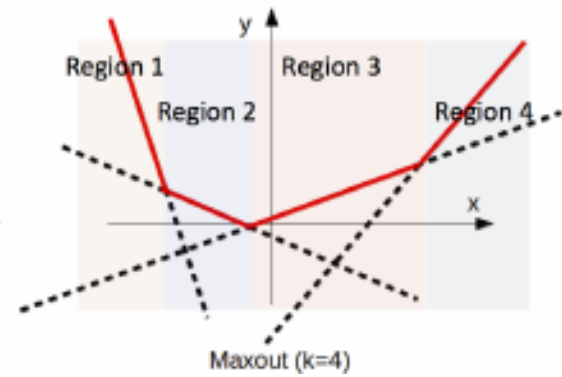
## ReLU



## LReLU & PReLU



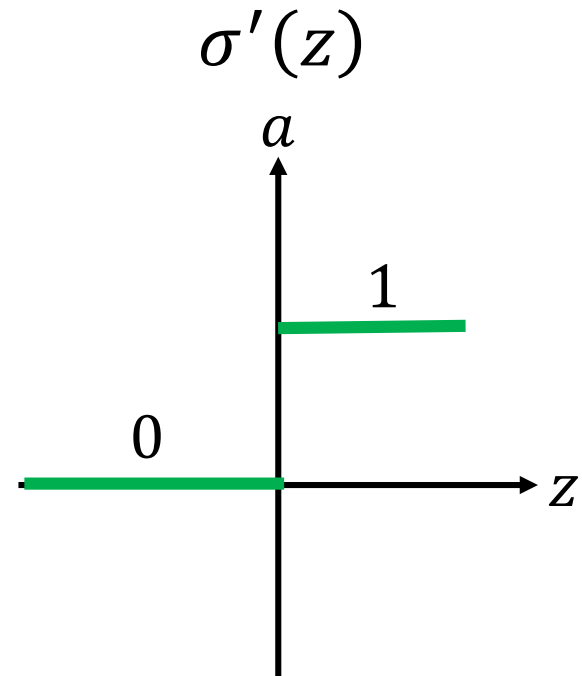
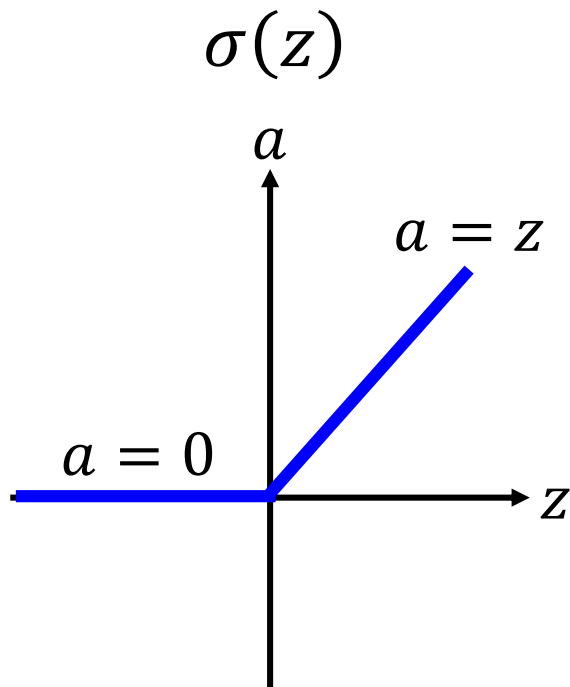
## Maxout





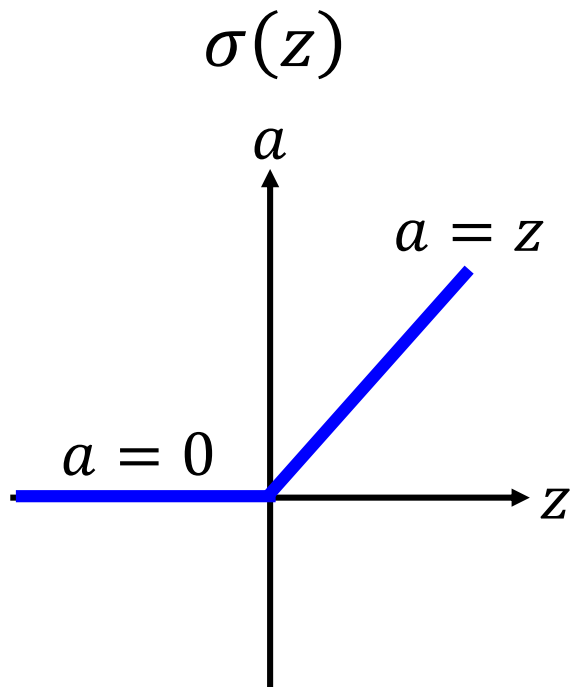
# Rectified Linear Unit (ReLU)

---



# Rectified Linear Unit (ReLU)

---

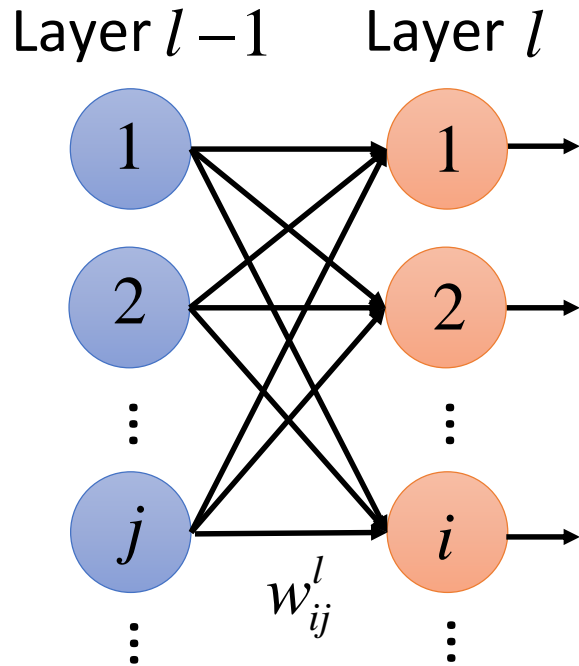


## Reason

1. Fast to compute
2. Biological reason
3. Infinite sigmoid with different biases
4. Solution for vanishing gradient

# Backpropagation

$$\frac{\partial C(\theta)}{\partial w_{ij}^l} = \frac{\partial C(\theta)}{\partial z_i^l} \frac{\partial z_i^l}{\partial w_{ij}^l}$$



$\delta_i^l$  Error signal

$$\begin{cases} a_j^{l-1} & l > 1 \\ x_j & l = 1 \end{cases}$$

**Backward Pass**

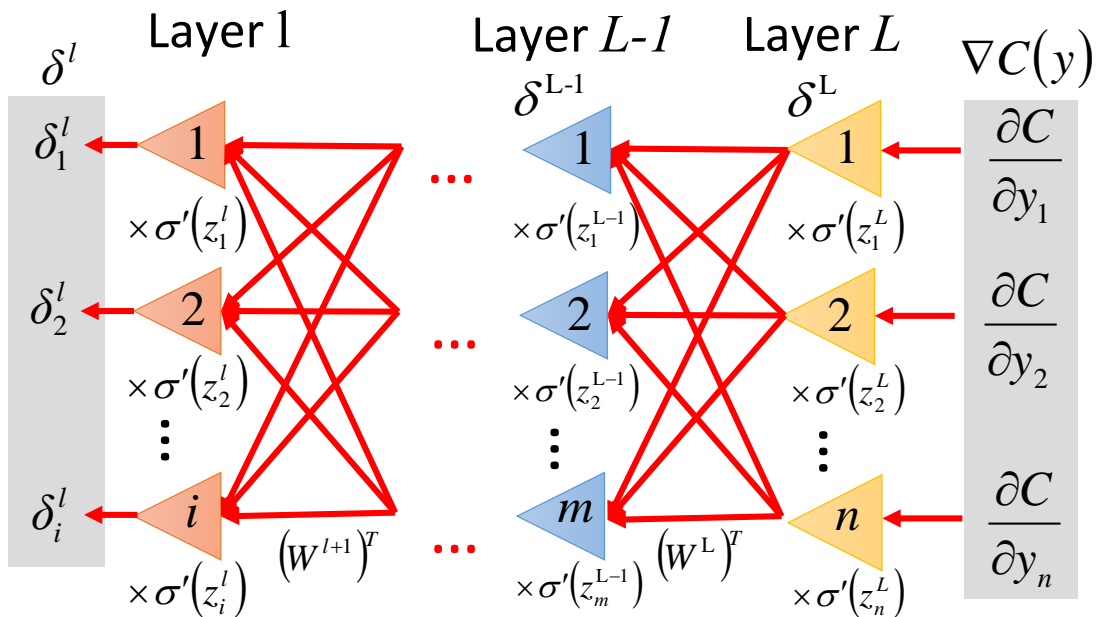
$$\begin{aligned} \delta^L &= \sigma'(z^L) \odot \nabla C(y) \\ \delta^{L-1} &= \sigma'(z^{L-1}) \odot (W^L)^T \delta^L \\ &\vdots \\ \delta^l &= \sigma'(z^l) \odot (W^{l+1})^T \delta^{l+1} \\ &\vdots \end{aligned}$$

**Forward Pass**

$$\begin{aligned} z^1 &= W^1 x + b^1 \\ a^1 &= \sigma(z^1) \\ &\vdots \\ z^l &= W^l a^{l-1} + b^l \\ a^l &= \sigma(z^l) \\ &\vdots \end{aligned}$$

# Backpropagation

$$\frac{\partial C(\theta)}{\partial w_{ij}^l} = \frac{\partial C(\theta)}{\partial z_i^l} \frac{\partial z_i^l}{\partial w_{ij}^l}$$



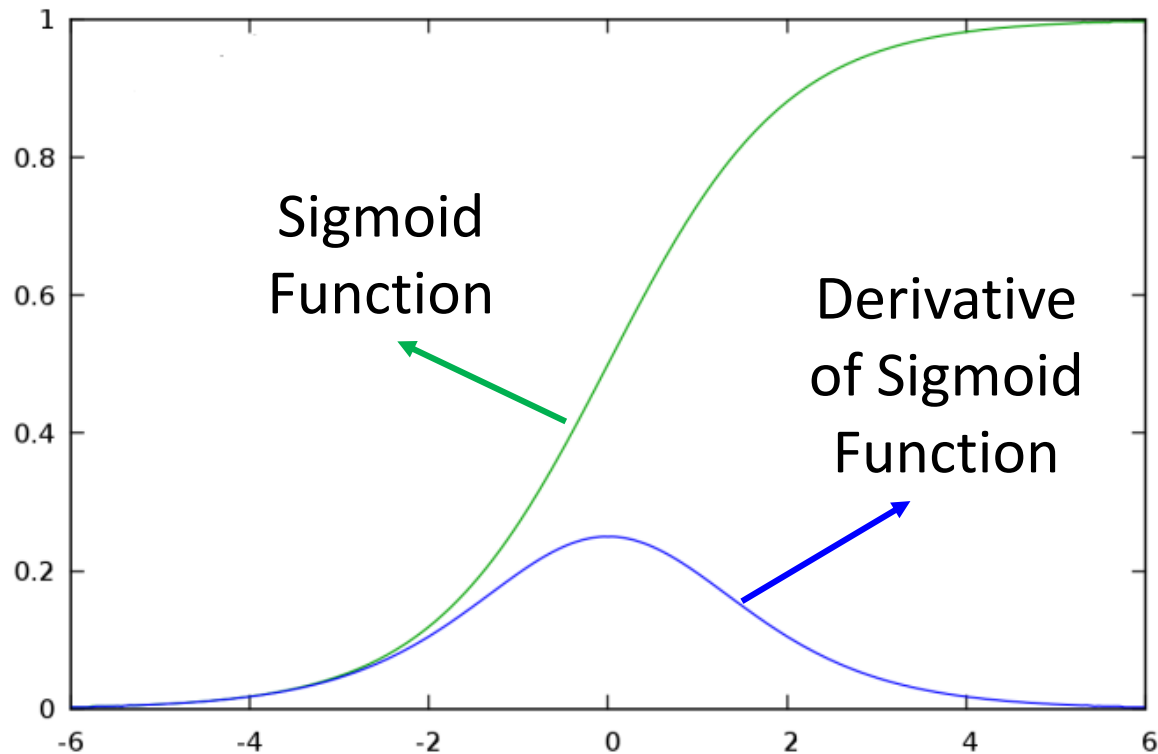
$\delta_i^l$  Error signal

**Backward Pass**

$$\begin{aligned} \delta^L &= \sigma'(z^L) \odot \nabla C(y) \\ \delta^{L-1} &= \sigma'(z^{L-1}) \odot (W^L)^T \delta^L \\ &\vdots \\ \delta^l &= \sigma'(z^l) \odot (W^{l+1})^T \delta^{l+1} \\ &\vdots \end{aligned}$$

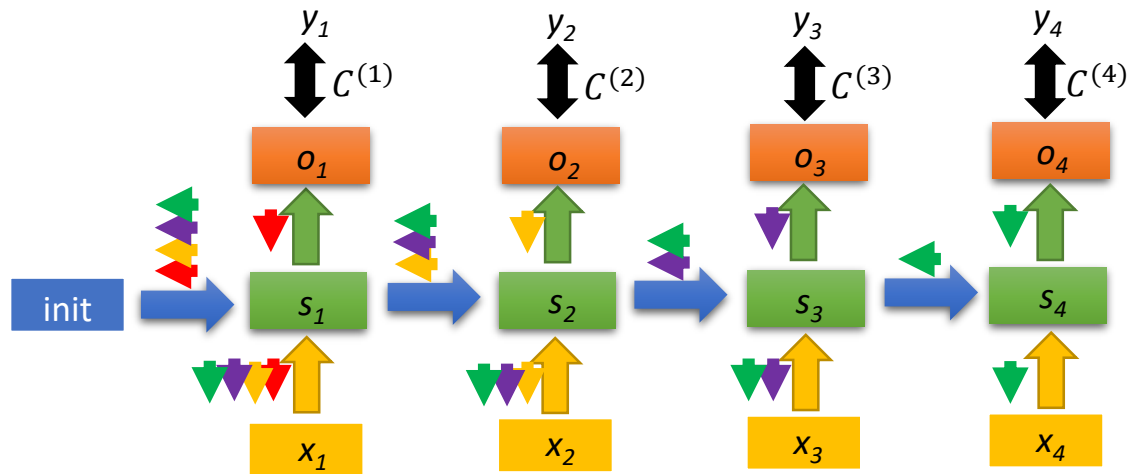
# Sigmoid Issue

---



Derivative of the sigmoid function is always smaller than 1

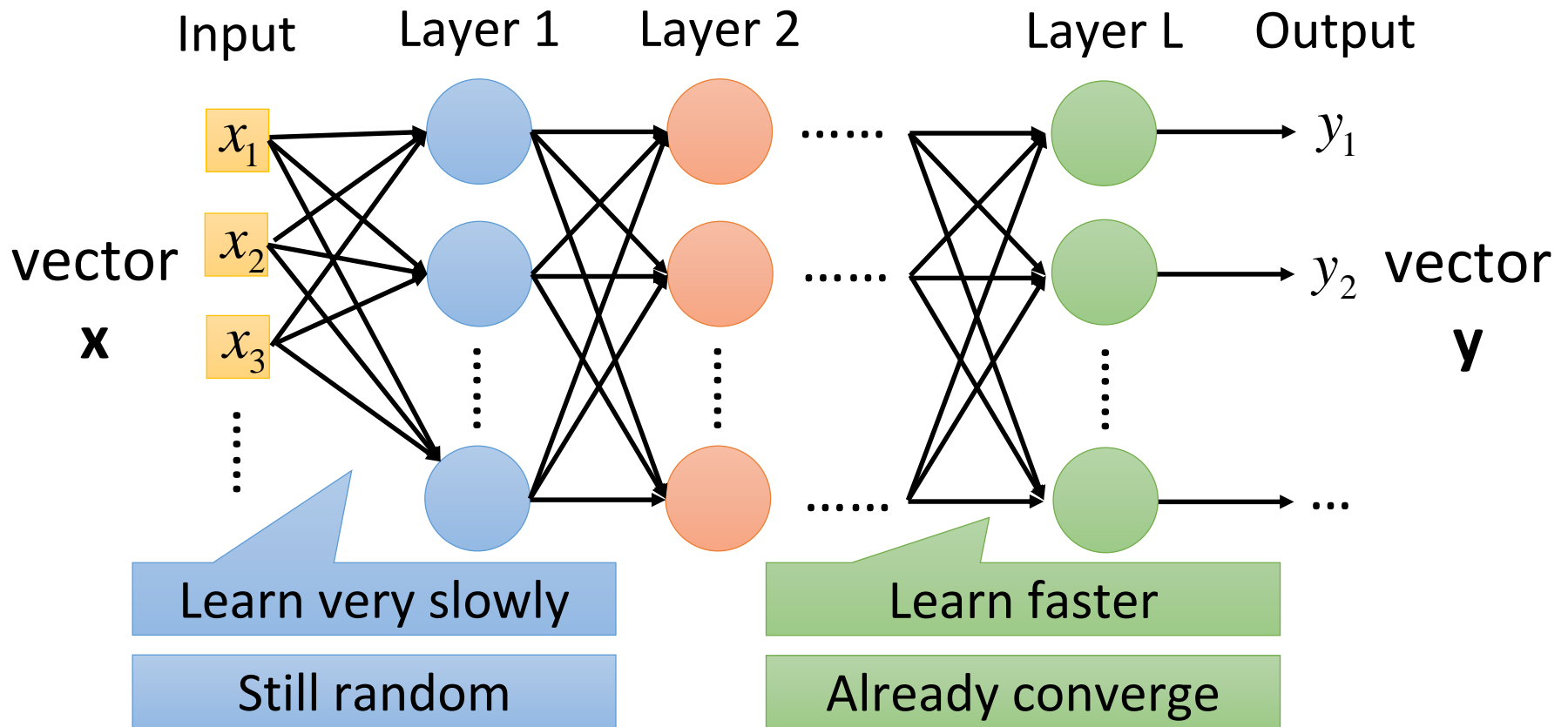
# Vanishing Gradient Problem



$$\delta^l = \sigma'(z^l) \odot (W^{l+1})^T \delta^{l+1}$$

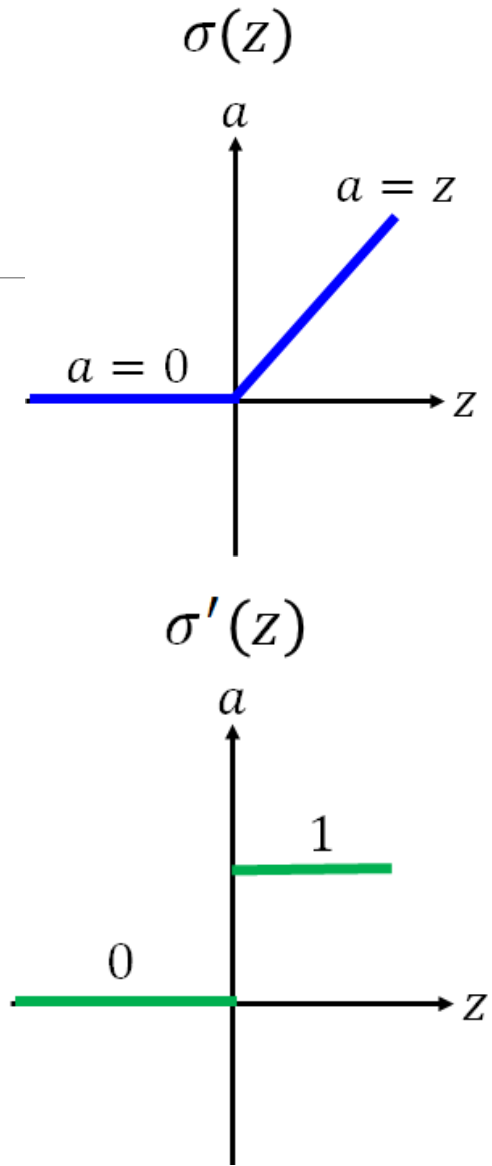
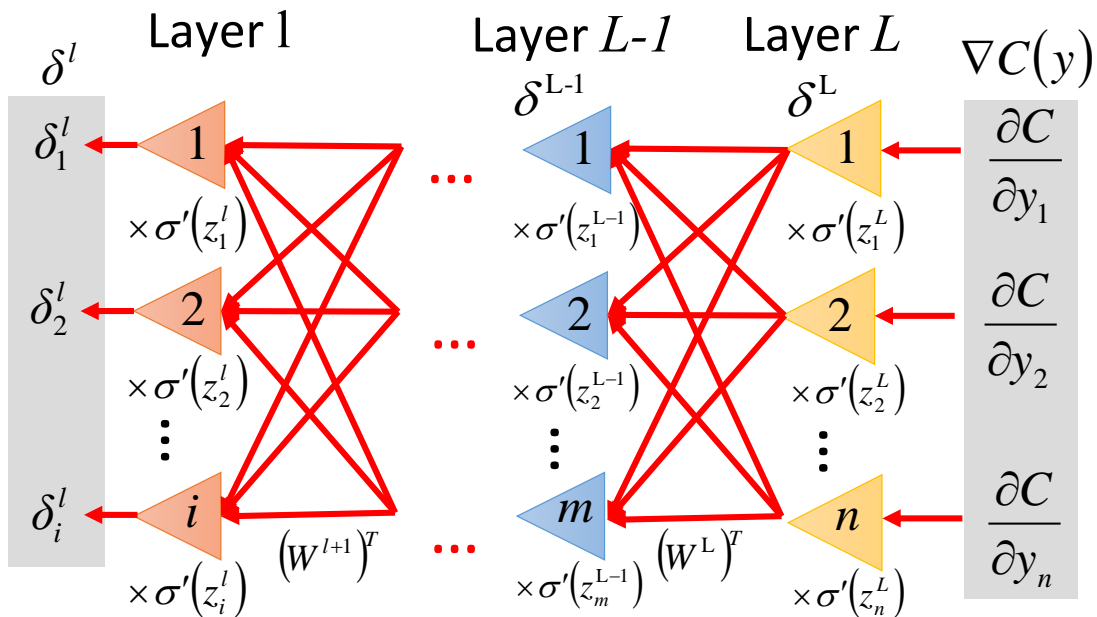
The error signal is getting smaller and smaller due to  $\sigma'(z) < 1$   
→ vanishing gradient

# Vanishing Gradient Problem



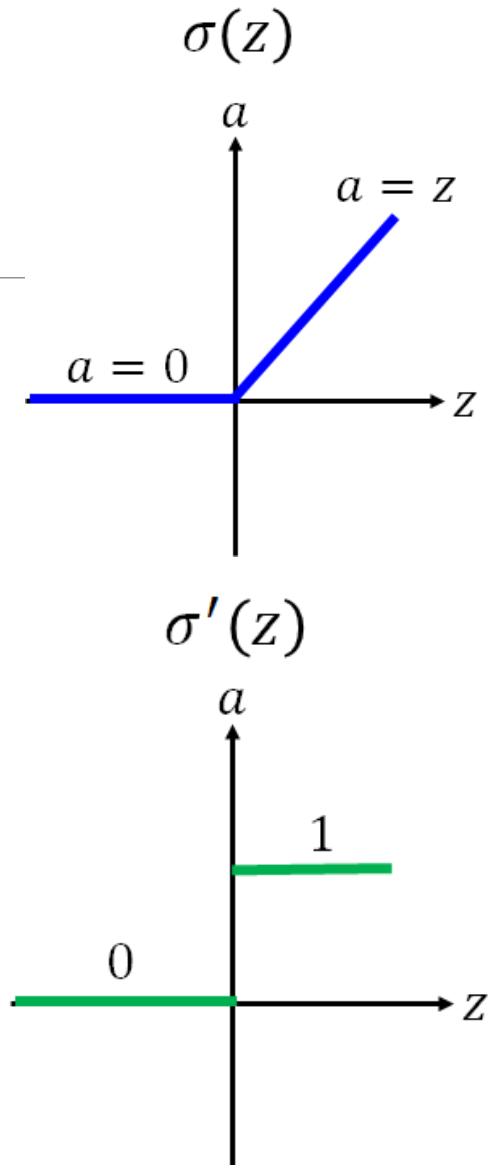
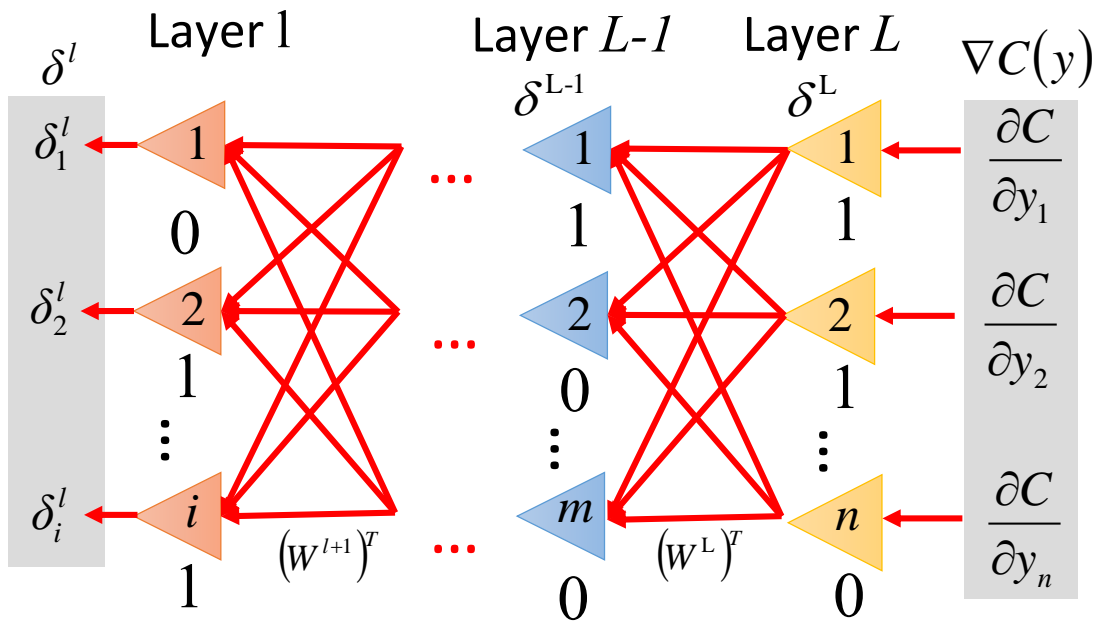
The weights are converged based on random!?

# ReLU

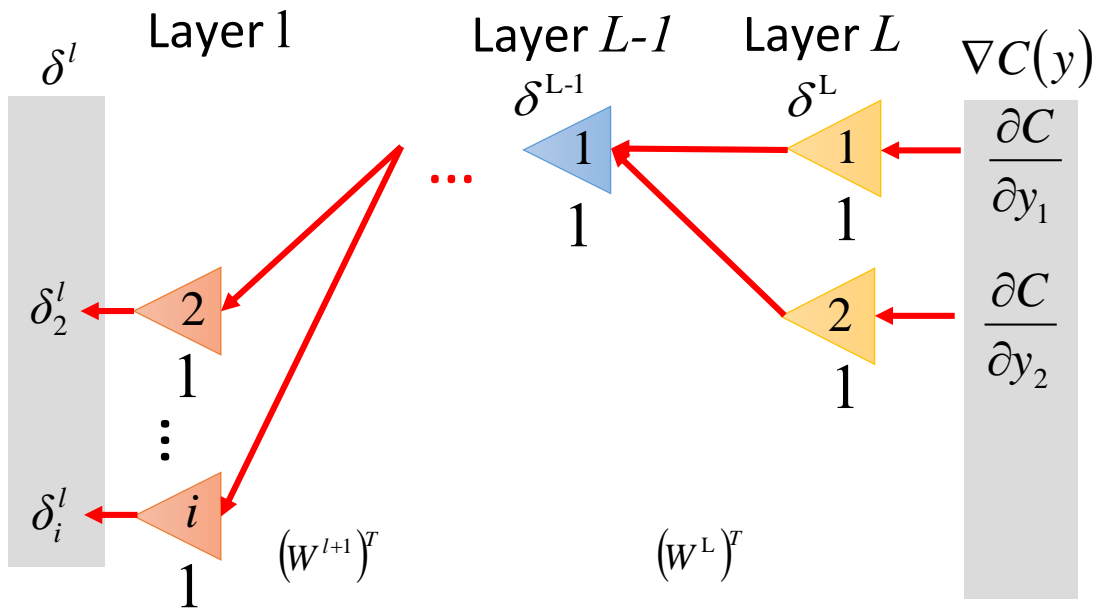




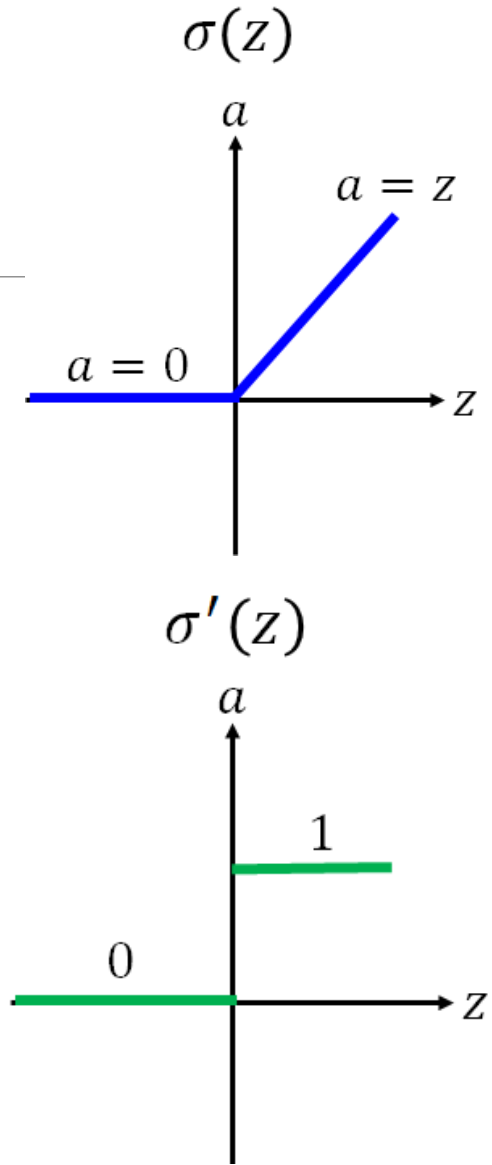
# ReLU



# ReLU

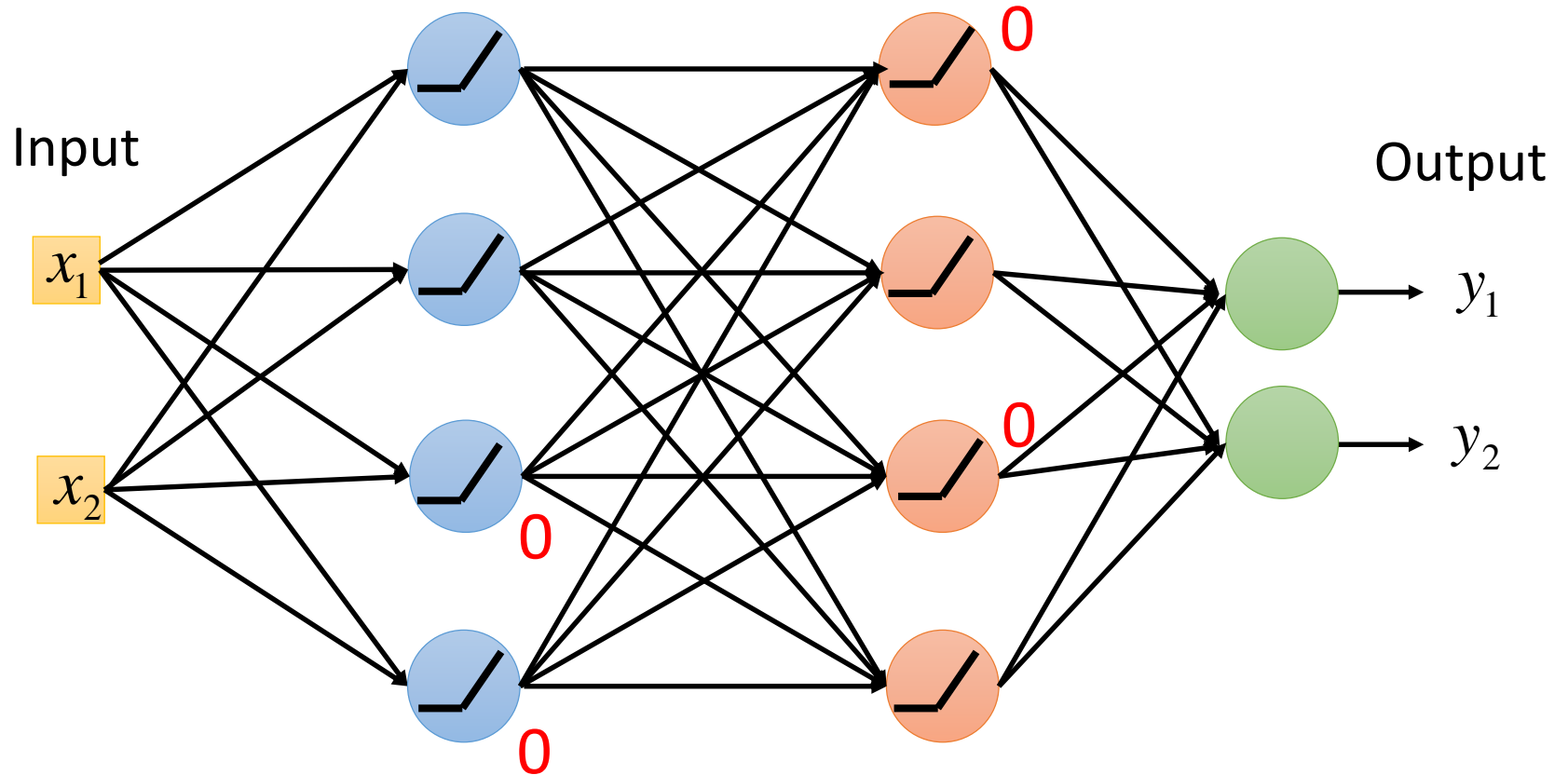


A thinner network without any attenuation



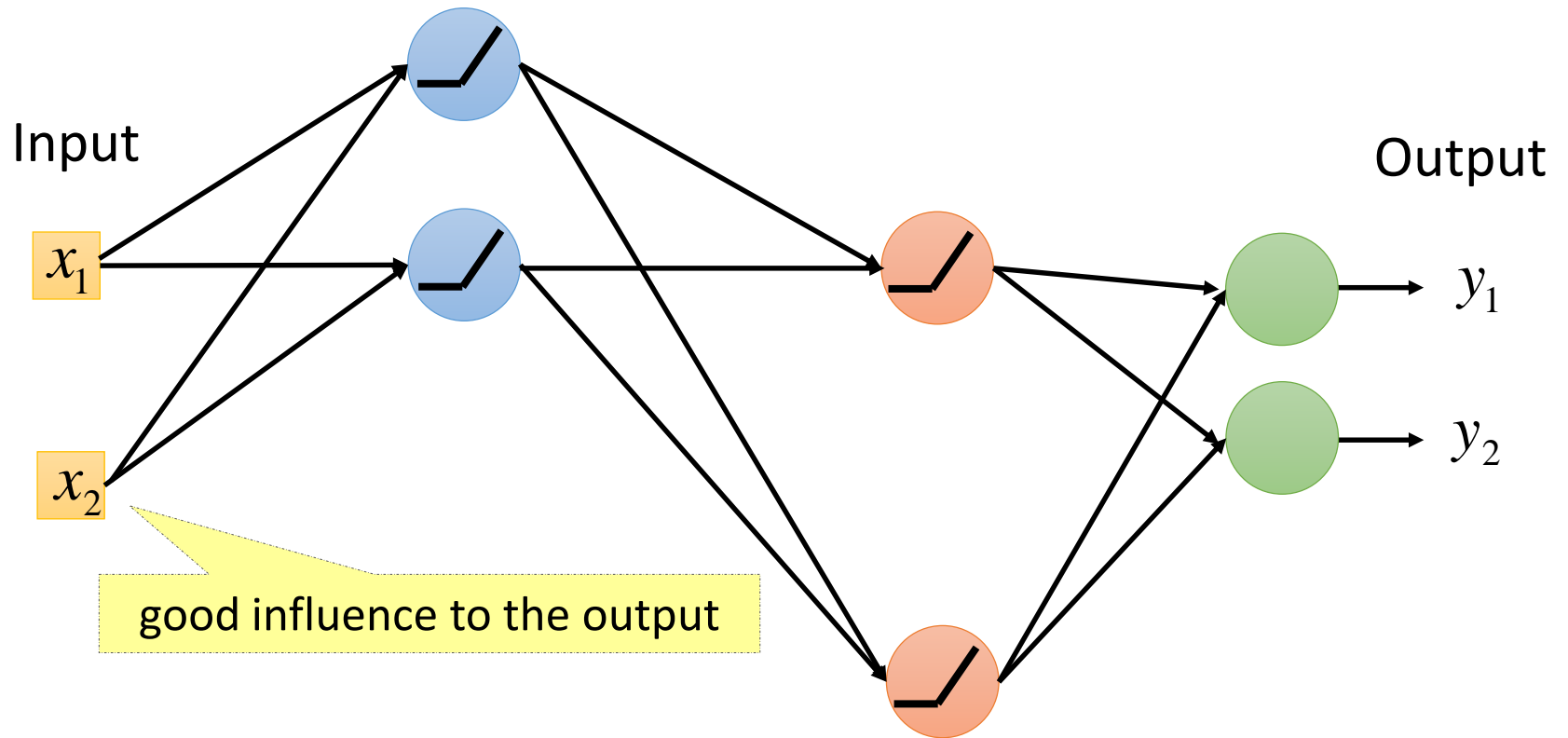
# ReLU – Forward Pass

---



# ReLU – Backward Pass

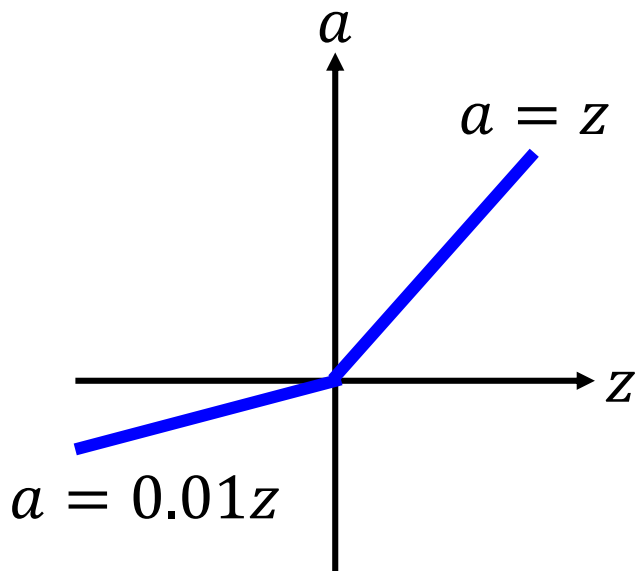
---



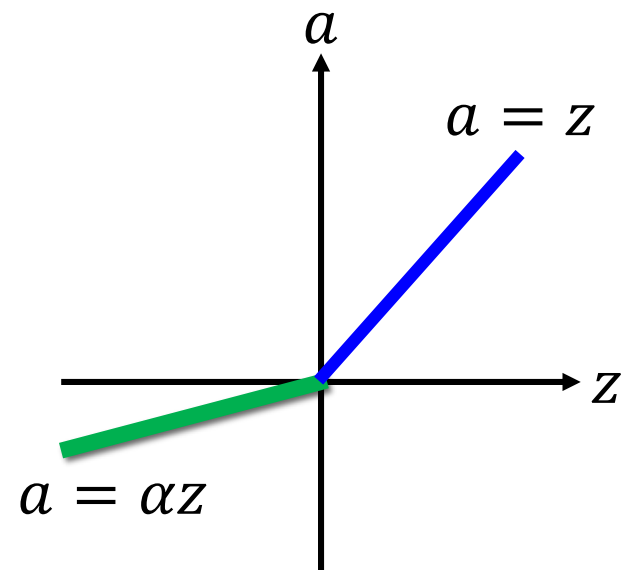
# Variant ReLU

---

*Leaky ReLU*

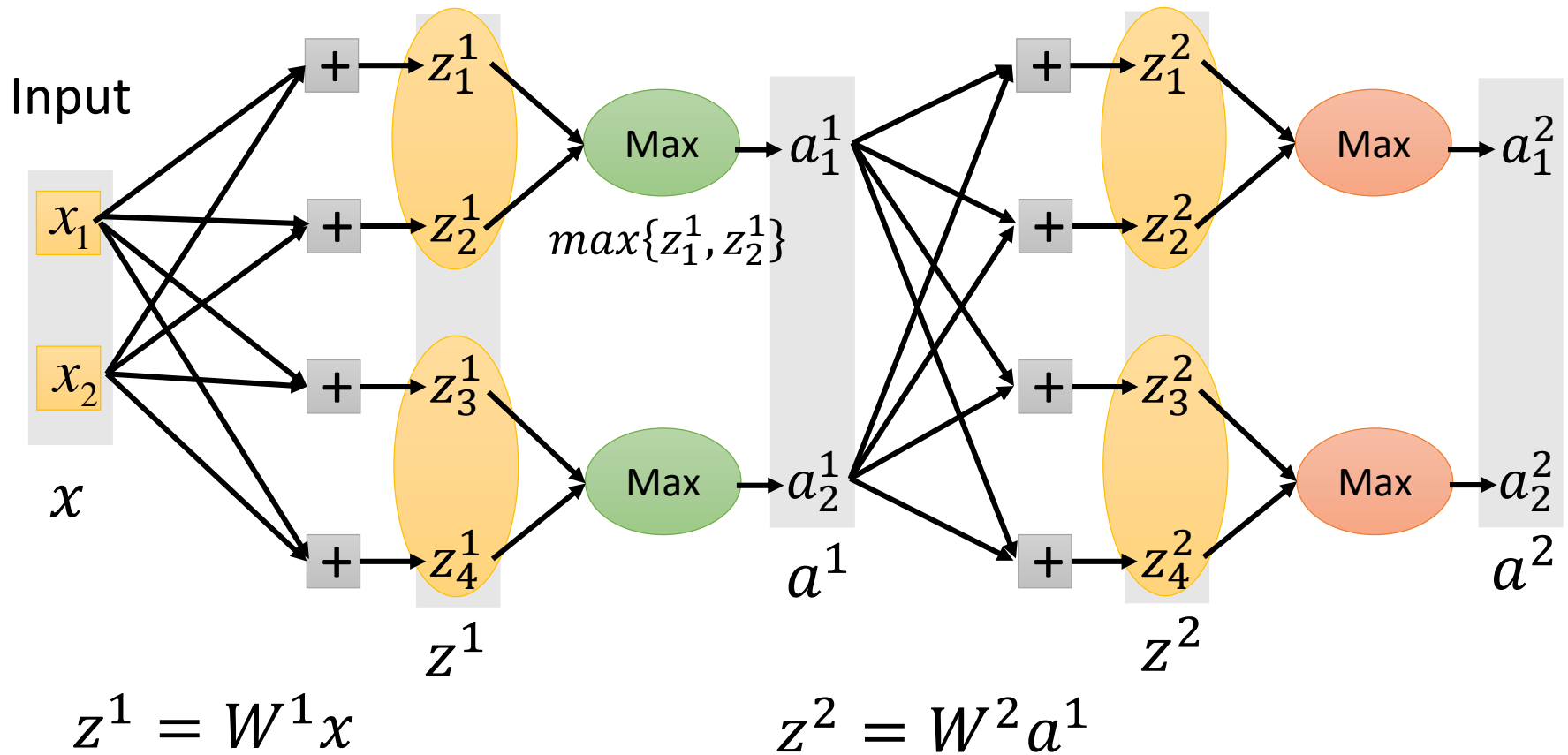


*Parametric ReLU*

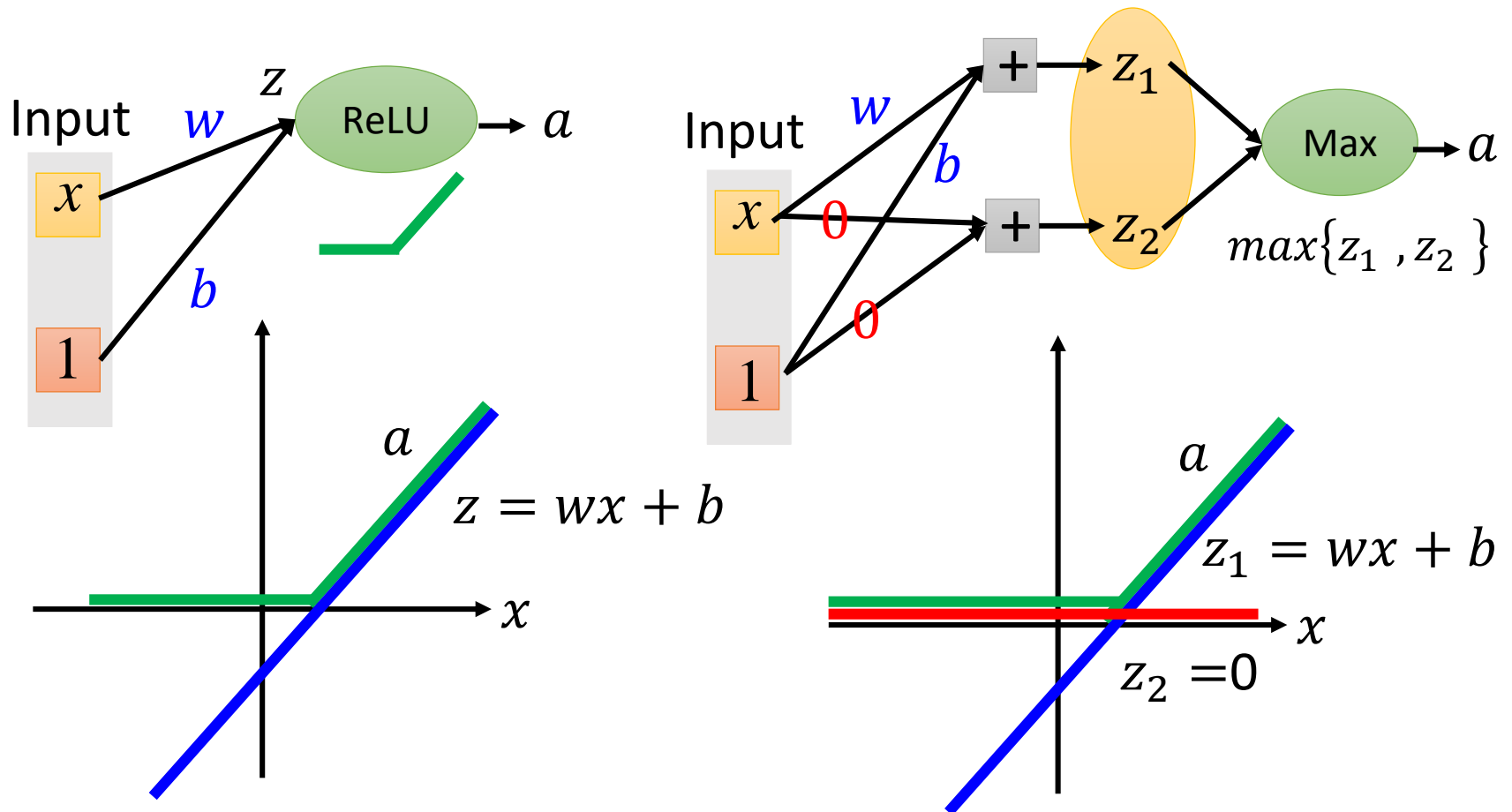


$\alpha$  is also learned by gradient descent

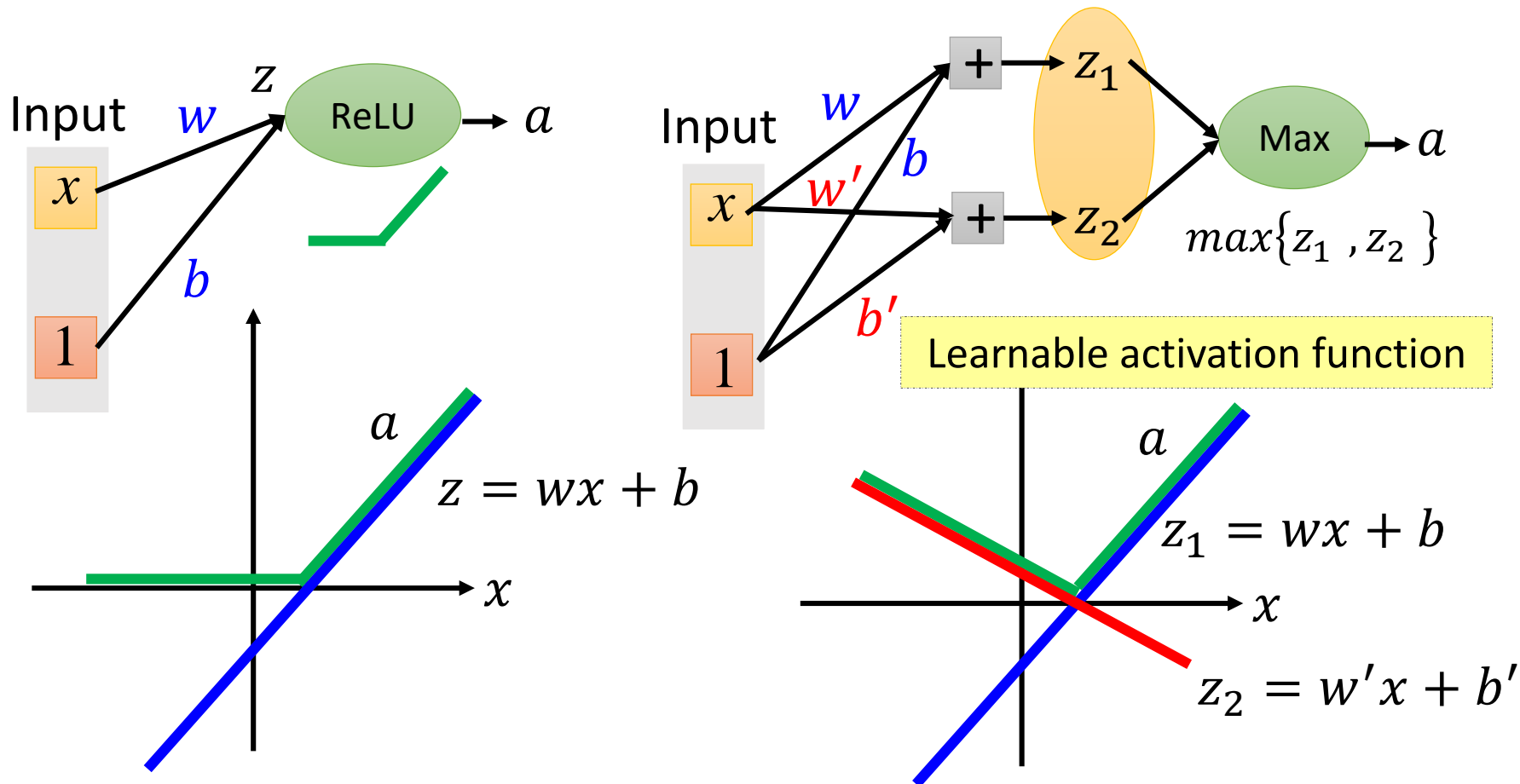
# Maxout



# Maxout – ReLU is a special case



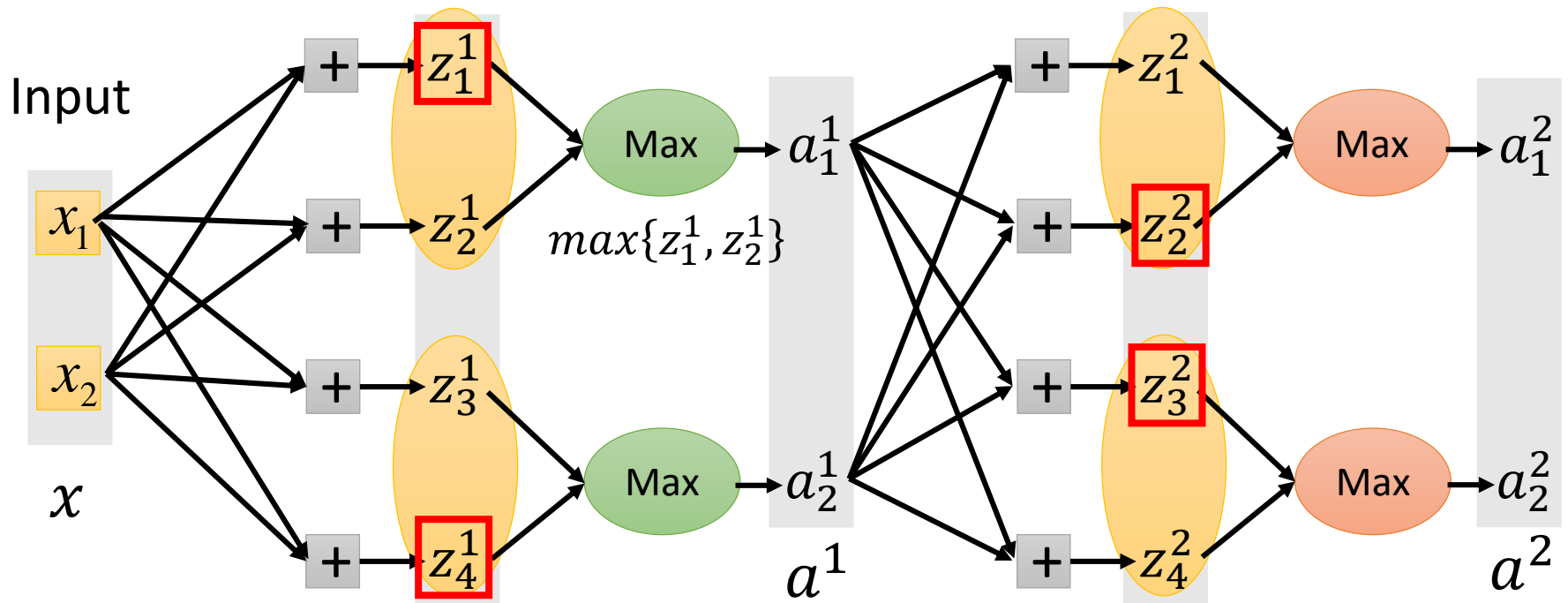
# Maxout – ReLU is a special case





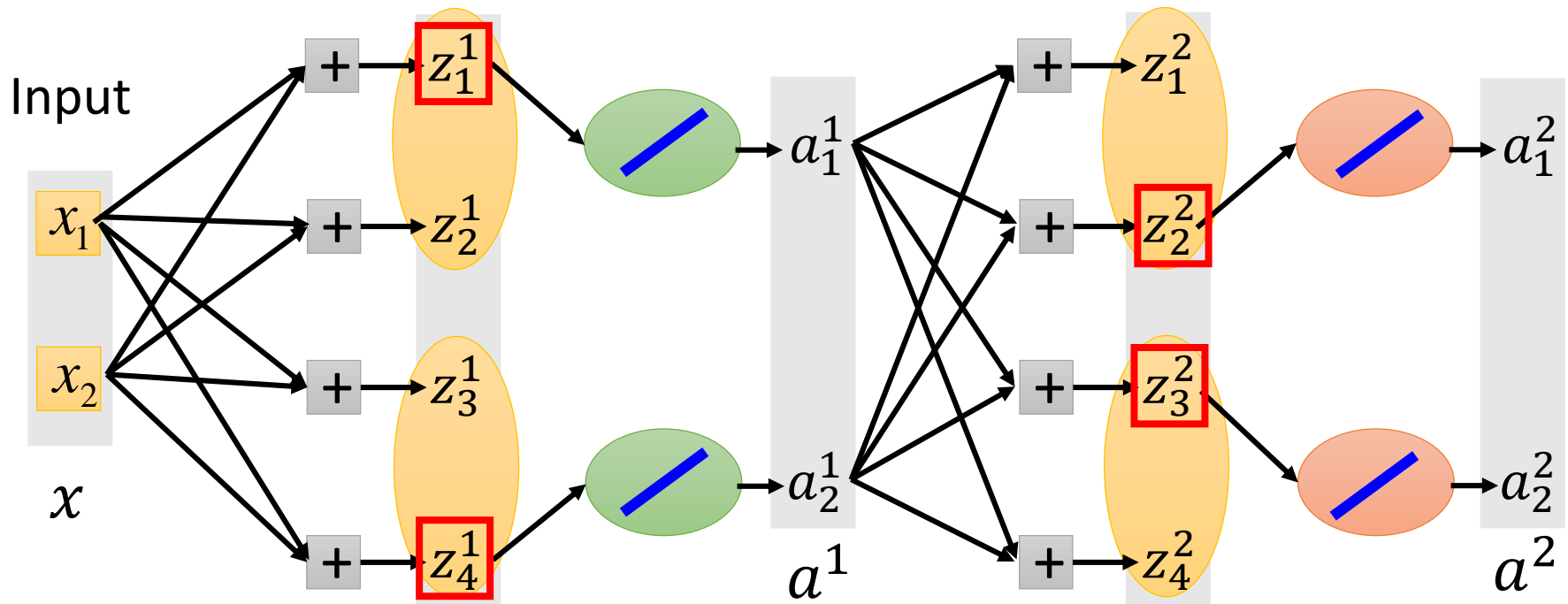
# Maxout - Training

Given training data  $x$ , we decide  $z$  for maxout



# Maxout - Training

Given training data  $x$ , we decide  $z$  for maxout



Training this thin and linear network

# Outline

---

Data Preprocessing

Activation Function

## **Loss Function**

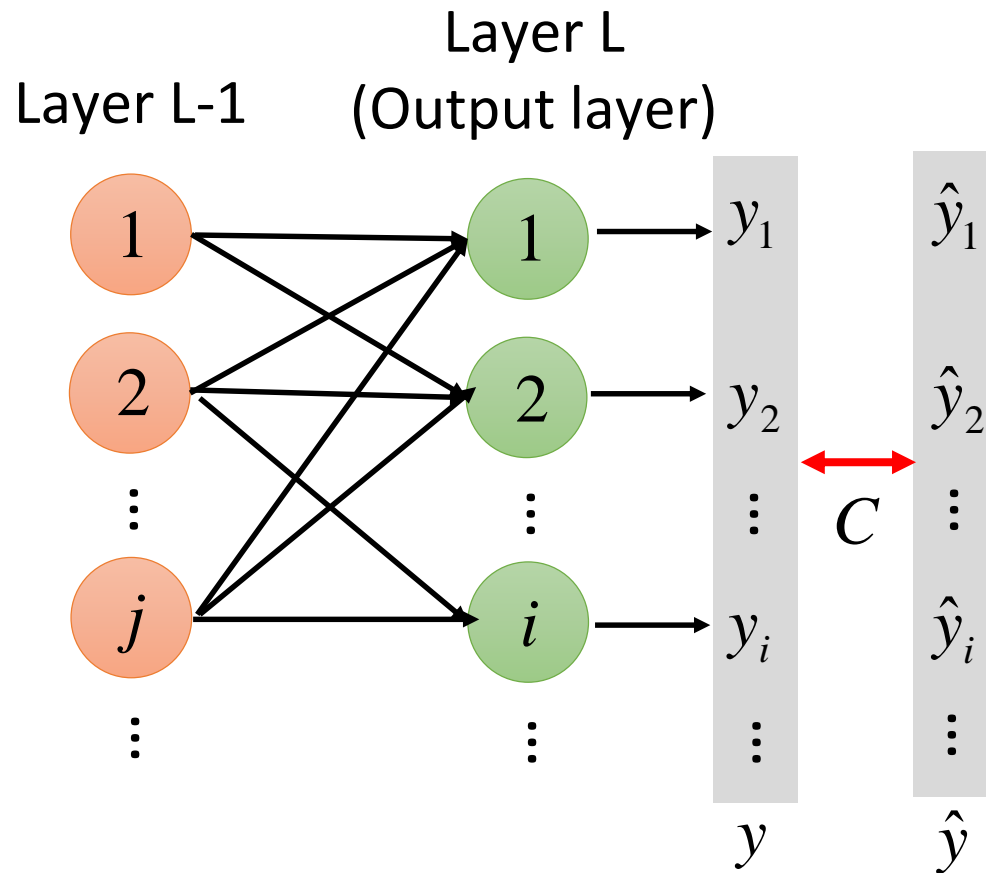
Optimization

- Adagrad
- Momentum

Generalization

- Early Stopping
- Regularization
- Dropout

# Loss Function – Square Error



$$C = \frac{1}{2} \|y - \hat{y}\|^2$$
$$= \frac{1}{2} \sum_n (y_n - \hat{y}_n)^2$$

# Softmax

---

Softmax layer as the output layer

**Ordinary Output layer**

$$z_1^L \longrightarrow \sigma \longrightarrow y_1 = \sigma(z_1^L)$$

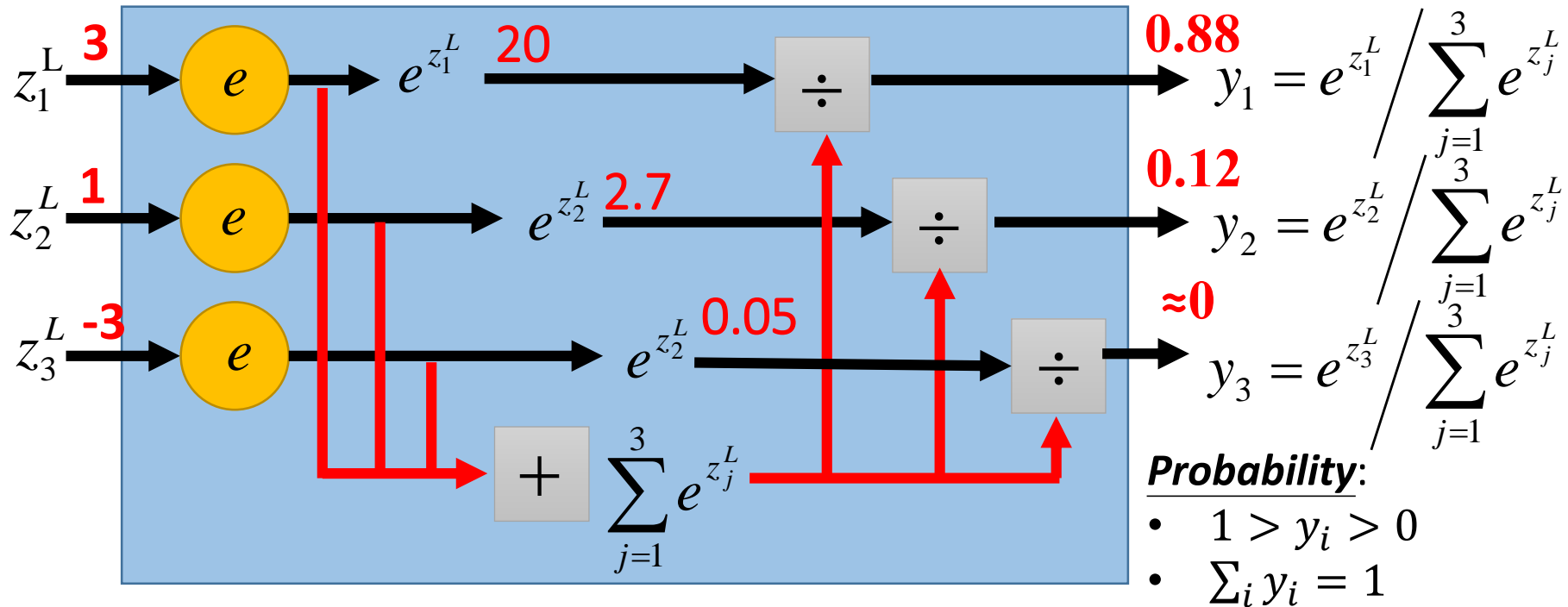
$$z_2^L \longrightarrow \sigma \longrightarrow y_2 = \sigma(z_2^L)$$

$$z_3^L \longrightarrow \sigma \longrightarrow y_3 = \sigma(z_3^L)$$

# Softmax

Softmax layer as the output layer

## Softmax Layer



Training labels indicate positive and negative samples in stead of the actual values

# Outline

---

Data Preprocessing

Activation Function

Loss Function

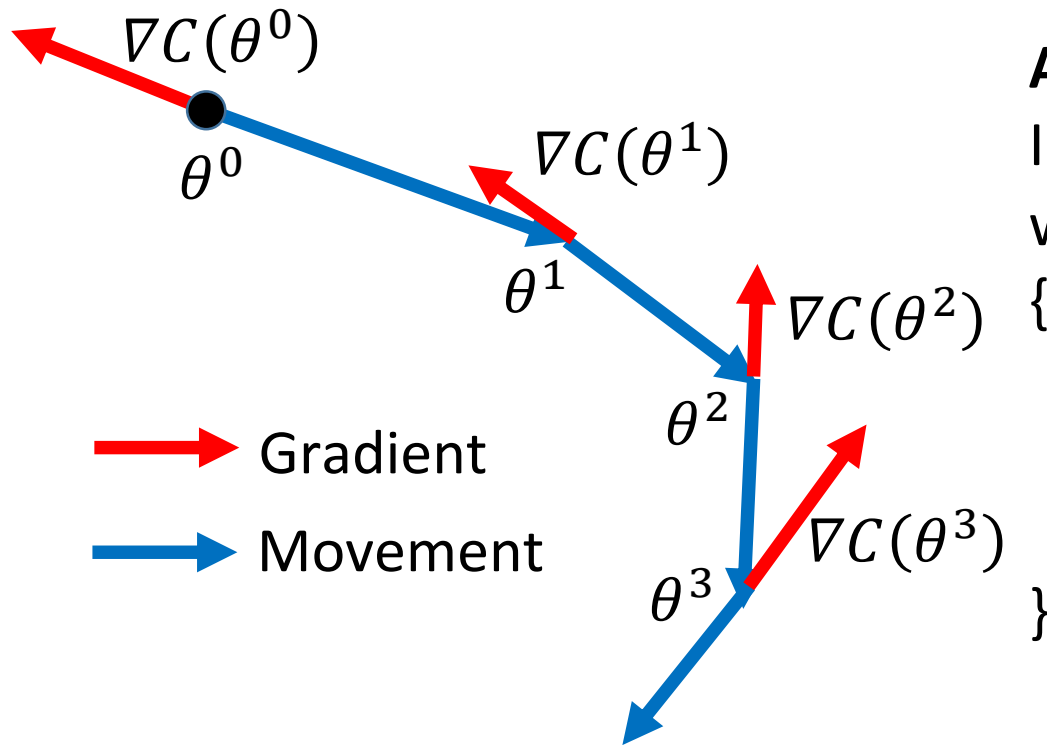
## **Optimization**

- Adagrad
- Momentum

Generalization

- Early Stopping
- Regularization
- Dropout

# Gradient Descent for Optimization



## Algorithm

Initialization: start at  $\theta^0$   
while( $\theta^{(i+1)} \neq \theta^i$ )

{  
  compute gradient at  $\theta^i$   
  update parameters  
   $\theta^{i+1} \leftarrow \theta^i - \eta \nabla_{\theta} C(\theta^i)$   
}

- 1) How to determine the learning rates  $\rightarrow$  learning rate
- 2) How to avoid sticking at local minima or saddle points  $\rightarrow$  learning direction



# Outline

---

Data Preprocessing

Activation Function

Loss Function

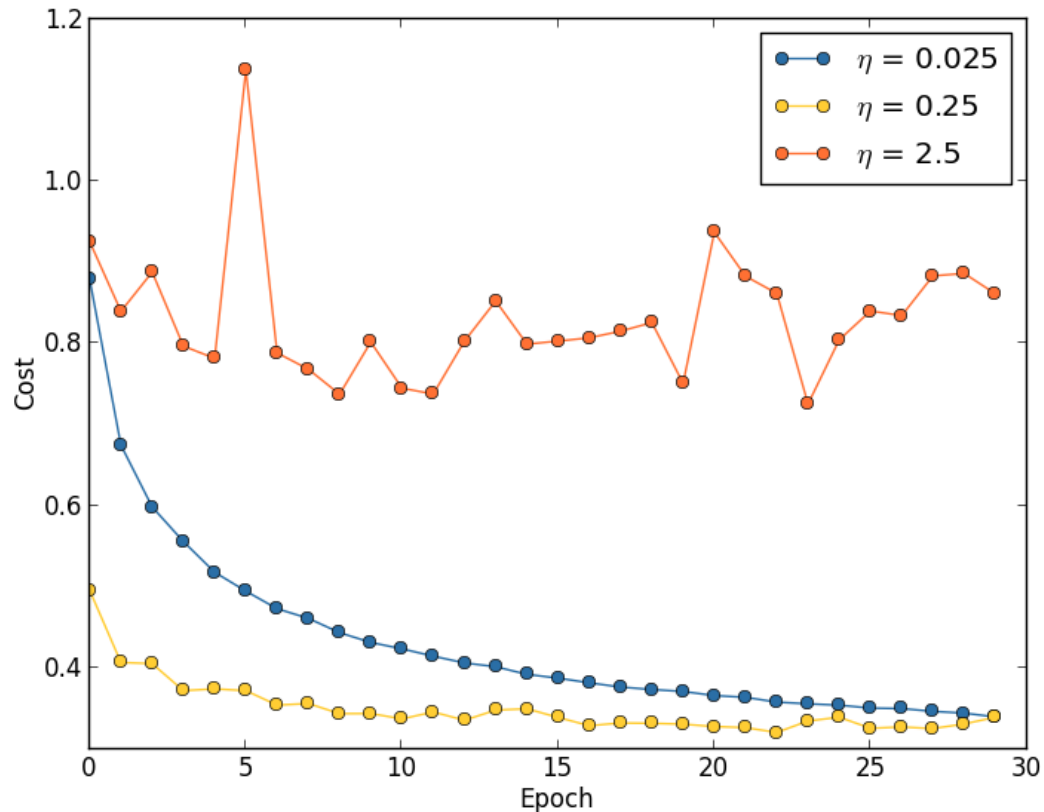
Optimization

- **Adagrad**
- Momentum

Generalization

- Early Stopping
- Regularization
- Dropout

# Learning Rate



The proper learning rate is important to find the optimal point

# Learning Rate

---

Idea: reduce the learning rate every few epochs

- At the beginning, we are far from the destination, so we use a larger learning rate
- After several epochs, we are close to the destination, so we reduce the learning rate

Manually set learning rate

- 1) Reduce by 0.5 when validation error stops improving
- 2) 1/t decay:  $\eta^t = \eta / \sqrt{t + 1}$  due to theoretical convergence guarantees

Learning rate cannot be one-size-fits-all  
→ different parameters have different learning rates

# Adagrad

---

Idea: adaptive learning rates for each parameter

Approach: divide the learning rate of each parameter by the *root mean square of its previous derivatives*

## Vanilla Gradient Descent

$w$  is a parameter

$$w^{t+1} \leftarrow w^t - \eta^t g^t \quad g^t = \frac{\partial C(\theta^t)}{\partial w} \quad \eta^t = \frac{\eta}{\sqrt{t+1}}$$

1/t decay

## Adagrad

$$w^{t+1} \leftarrow w^t - \frac{\eta^t}{\sigma^t} g^t$$

$\sigma^t$ : root mean square of the previous derivatives of parameter  $w$   
→ Parameter dependent

$\sigma^t$ : root mean square of the previous derivatives of parameter  $w$   
→ Parameter dependent

# Adagrad

$$w^1 \leftarrow w^0 - \frac{\eta^0}{\sigma^0} g^0$$

$$\sigma^0 = g^0$$

$$w^2 \leftarrow w^1 - \frac{\eta^1}{\sigma^1} g^1$$

$$\sigma^1 = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2} [(g^0)^2 + (g^1)^2]}$$

$$w^3 \leftarrow w^2 - \frac{\eta^2}{\sigma^2} g^2$$

$$\sigma^2 = \sqrt{\frac{1}{3} [(g^0)^2 + (g^1)^2 + (g^2)^2]}$$

⋮

$$w^{t+1} \leftarrow w^t - \frac{\eta^t}{\sigma^t} g^t$$

$$\sigma^t = \sqrt{\frac{1}{t+1} \sum_{i=0}^t (g^i)^2}$$

# Adagrad

Divide the learning rate of each parameter by the **root mean square of its previous derivatives**

$$w^{t+1} \leftarrow w^t - \frac{\eta^t}{\sigma^t} g^t$$
$$\eta^t = \frac{\eta}{\sqrt{t+1}} \quad \text{1/t decay}$$
$$\sigma^t = \sqrt{\frac{1}{t+1} \sum_{i=0}^t (g^i)^2}$$
$$w^{t+1} \leftarrow w^t - \frac{\eta}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=0}^t (g^i)^2}} g^t$$

Learning rate is adapting differently for each parameter and rare parameters get larger updates than frequently occurring parameters

# Outline

---

Data Preprocessing

Activation Function

Loss Function

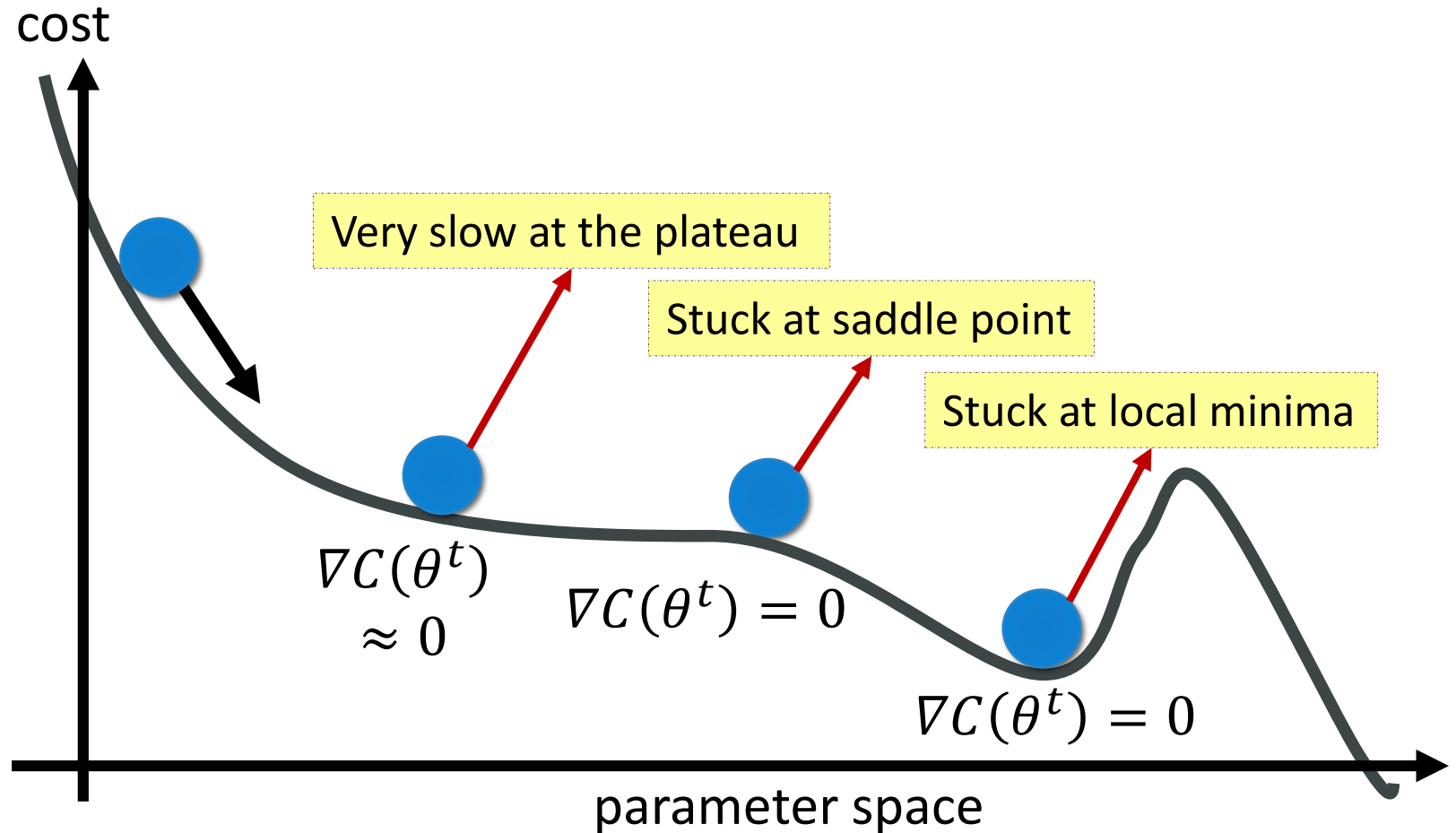
Optimization

- Adagrad
- **Momentum**

Generalization

- Early Stopping
- Regularization
- Dropout

# Gradient Descent Stuck Issue

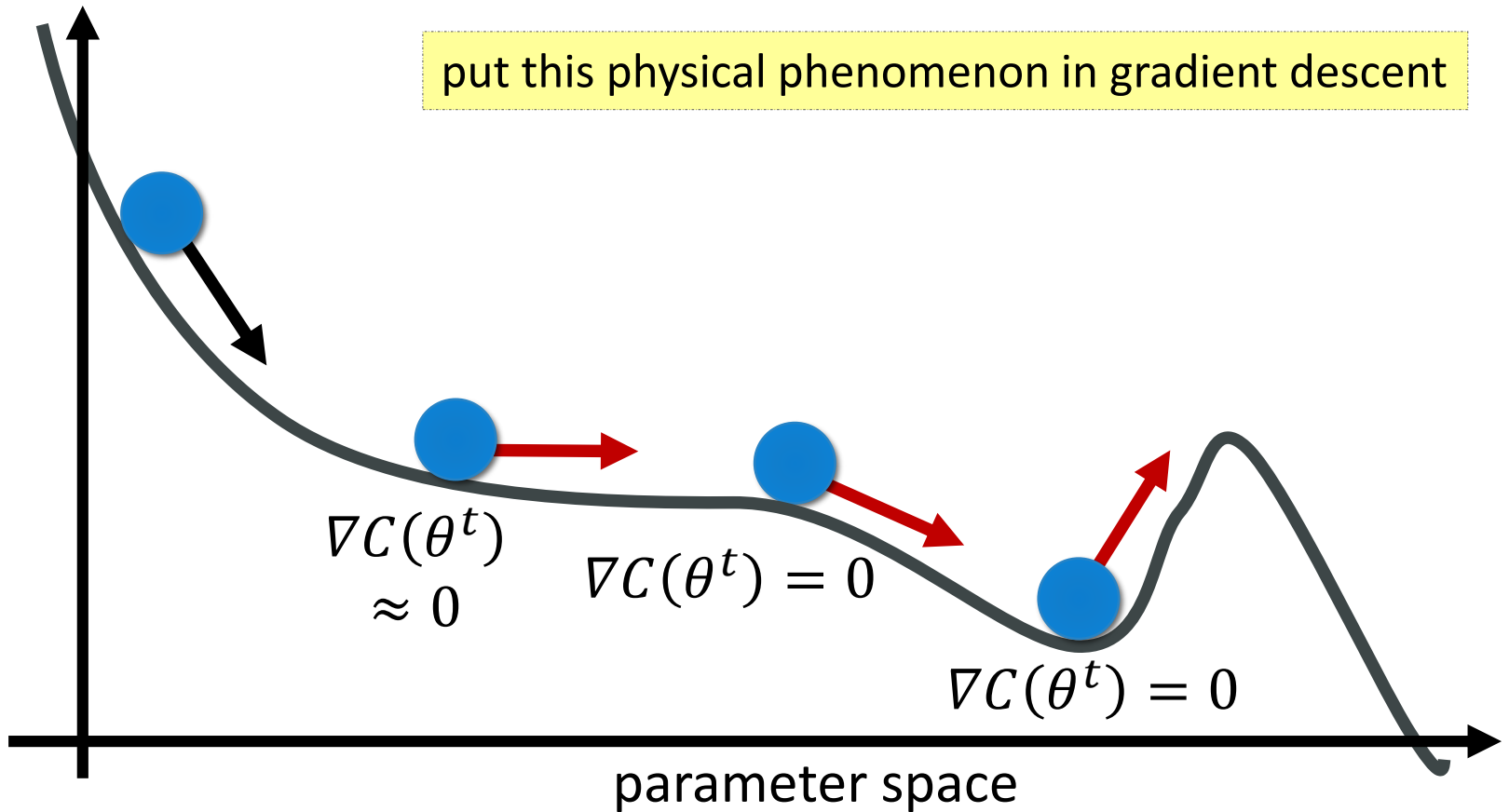




# Momentum

cost

put this physical phenomenon in gradient descent

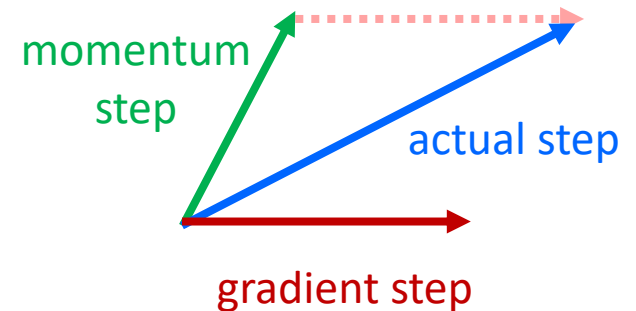


# Momentum

---

Parameters build up velocity in direction of consistent gradient

$$v^{i+1} = \lambda v^i - \eta \nabla C_{\theta}(\theta^i)$$
$$\theta^{i+1} = \theta^i + v^{i+1}$$

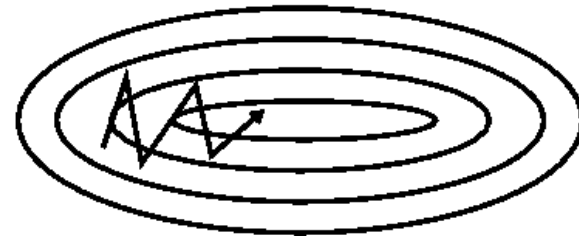


E.g. convex function optimization dynamics

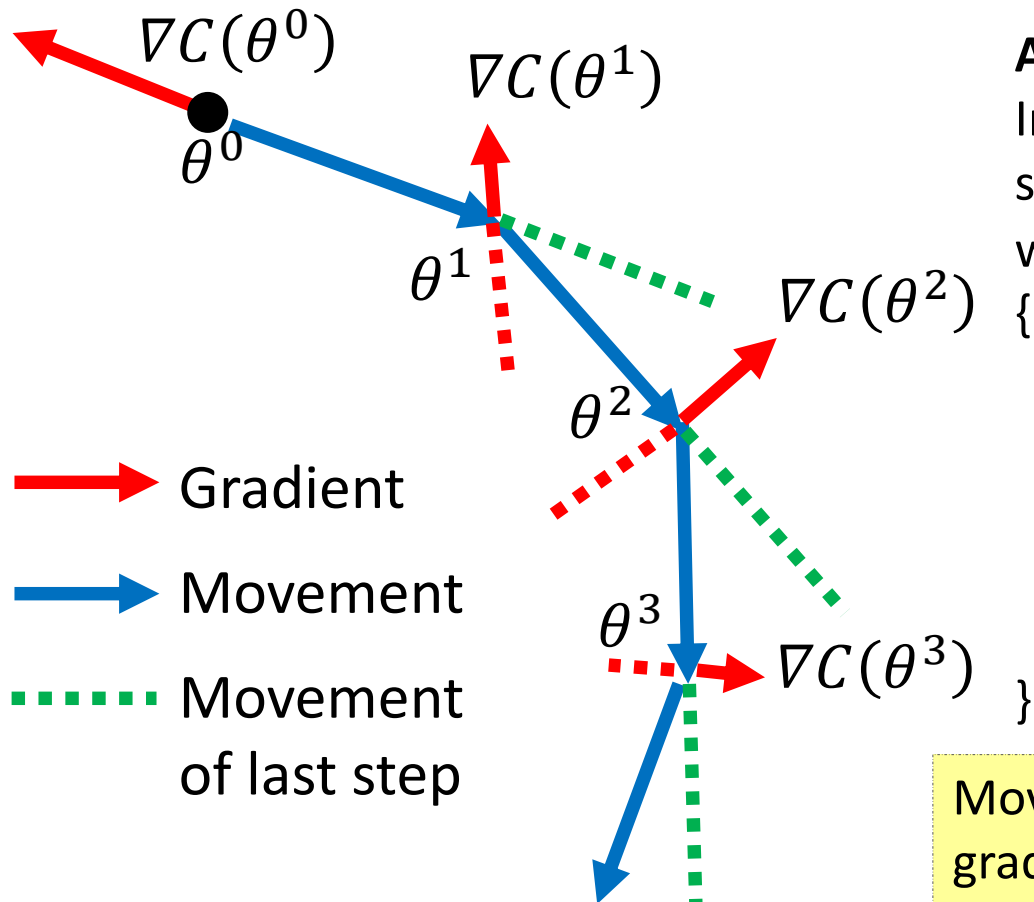
without momentum



with momentum



# Momentum



## Algorithm

Initialization: model parameters start at  $\theta^0$ , movement  $v^0 = 0$   
while( $\theta^{(i+1)} \neq \theta^i$ )

{

compute gradient at  $\theta^i$

update parameters

$$v^{i+1} = \lambda v^i - \eta \nabla C_{\theta}(\theta^i)$$

$$\theta^{i+1} = \theta^i + v^{i+1}$$

}

Movement is not only based on gradient, but also previous movement

# Momentum

---

$v^i$  is actually the weighted sum of all the previous gradient:

$$\nabla C(\theta^0), \nabla C(\theta^1), \dots \nabla C(\theta^{i-1})$$

$$v^0 = 0$$

$$v^1 = -\eta \nabla C_{\theta}(\theta^0)$$

$$v^2 = -\lambda \eta \nabla C_{\theta}(\theta^0) - \eta \nabla C_{\theta}(\theta^1)$$

## Algorithm

Initialization: model parameters start at  $\theta^0$ , movement  $v^0 = 0$

while( $\theta^{(i+1)} \neq \theta^i$ )

{

    compute gradient at  $\theta^i$

    update parameters

$$v^{i+1} = \lambda v^i - \eta \nabla C_{\theta}(\theta^i)$$

$$\theta^{i+1} = \theta^i + v^{i+1}$$

}

Movement is not only based on gradient, but also previous movement

# Outline

---

Data Preprocessing

Activation Function

Loss Function

Optimization

- Adagrad
- Momentum

**Generalization**

- Early Stopping
- Regularization
- Dropout

# Generalization

---

## Practical tricks

- 1) find the right network structure and implement and optimize it properly
- 2) make the model overfit on training data
- 3) prevent overfitting
  - Reduce the model size by lowering the number of units and layers/hyperparameters
  - Early stopping
  - Standard L1 or L2 regularization
  - Sparsity constraint

# Outline

---

Data Preprocessing

Activation Function

Loss Function

Optimization

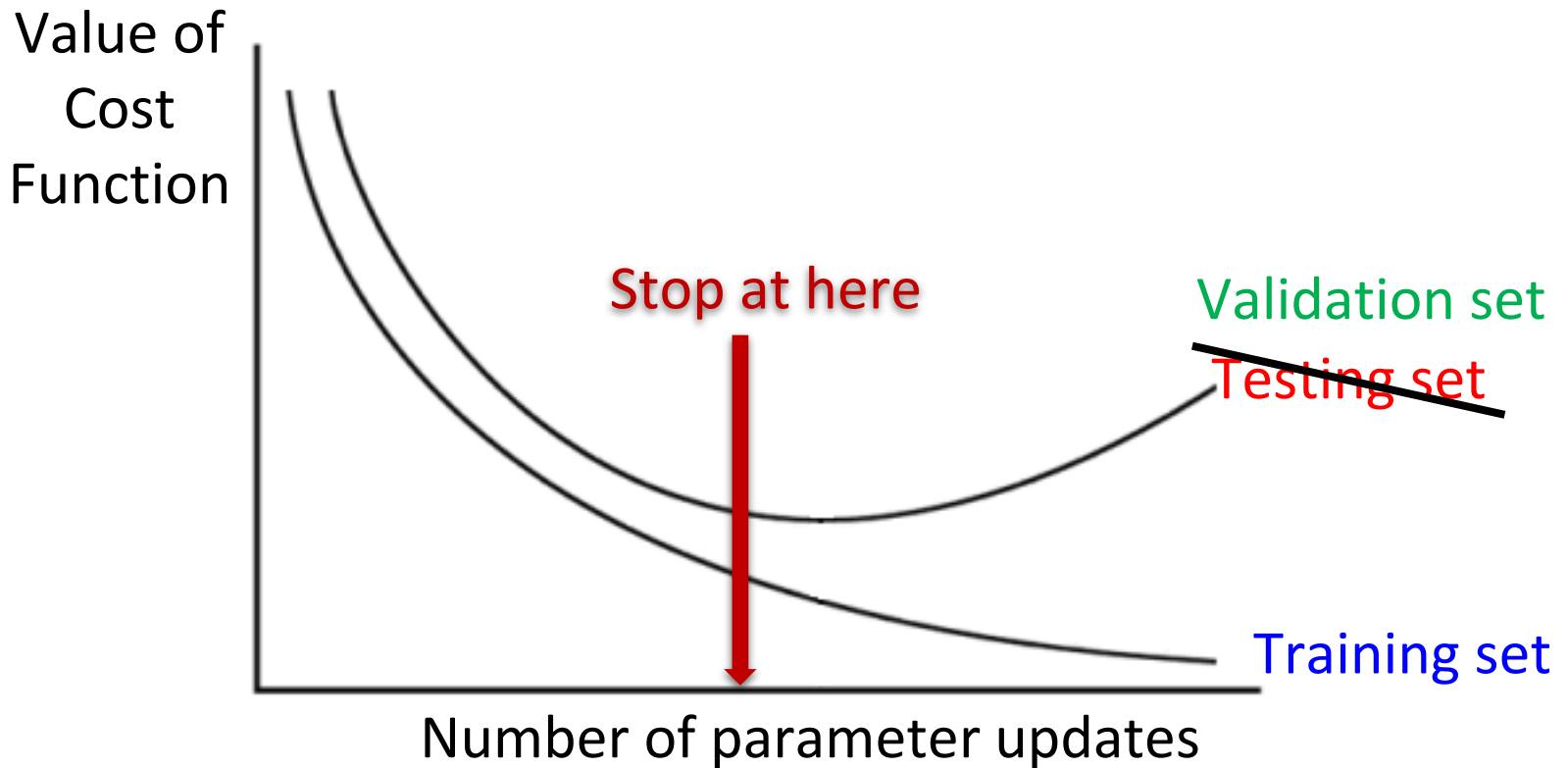
- Adagrad
- Momentum

Generalization

- **Early Stopping**
- Regularization
- Dropout

# Early Stopping

---



Check performance on validation set to prevent training too many iterations



# Outline

---

Data Preprocessing

Activation Function

Loss Function

Optimization

- Adagrad
- Momentum

Generalization

- Early Stopping
- **Regularization**
- Dropout

# Regularization

---

Idea: the parameters closer to zero are preferred

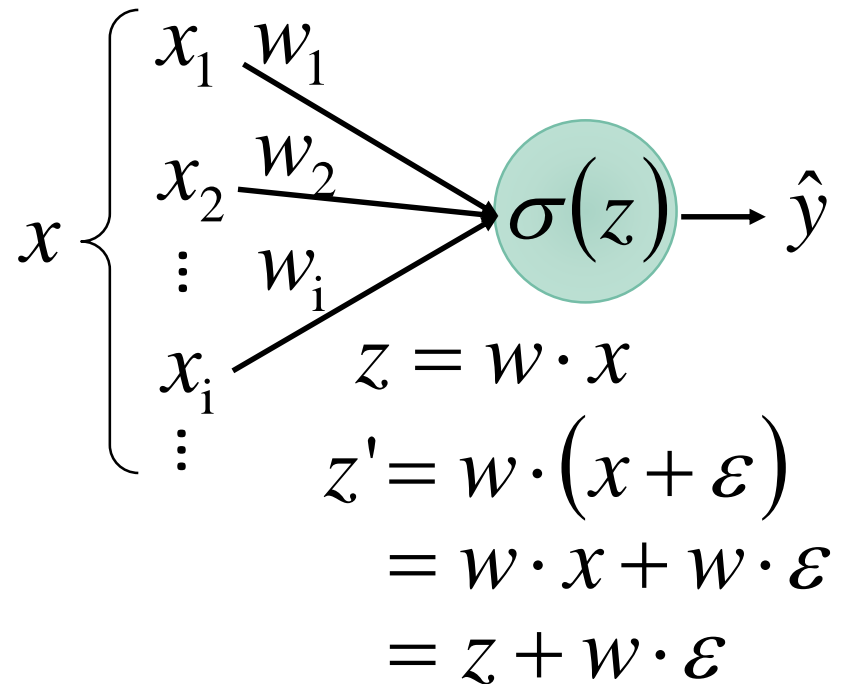
Training data:

$$\{(x, \hat{y}), \dots\}$$

Testing data:

$$\{(x', \hat{y}), \dots\}$$

$$x' = x + \varepsilon$$



To minimize the effect of noise, we want  $w$  close to zero.

# Regularization

---

Idea: optimize a new cost function to find a set of weight that 1) minimizes original cost and 2) is close to zero

$$C'(\theta) = \underbrace{C(\theta)} + \lambda \frac{1}{2} \underbrace{\|\theta\|^2} \rightarrow \text{regularization term}$$

$$\theta = \{w^1, w^2, \dots\}$$

**original cost**

(e.g. minimize square error,  
cross entropy ...)

$$\begin{aligned} \|\theta\|^2 &= (w_{11}^1)^2 + (w_{12}^1)^2 + \dots \\ &+ (w_{11}^2)^2 + (w_{12}^2)^2 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

→ not consider biases

# Regularization $\|\theta\|^2 = (w_{11}^1)^2 + (w_{12}^1)^2 + \dots + (w_{11}^2)^2 + (w_{12}^2)^2 + \dots$

Idea: optimize a new cost function to find a set of weight that 1) minimizes original cost and 2) is close to zero

$$C'(\theta) = C(\theta) + \lambda \frac{1}{2} \|\theta\|^2$$

$$\text{Gradient: } \frac{\partial C'}{\partial w} = \frac{\partial C}{\partial w} + \lambda w$$

$$\text{Update: } w^{t+1} \rightarrow w^t - \eta \frac{\partial C'}{\partial w^t} = w^t - \eta \left( \frac{\partial C}{\partial w^t} + \lambda w^t \right)$$

$$= \underbrace{(1 - \eta\lambda)}_{\downarrow} w^t - \eta \frac{\partial C}{\partial w^t}$$

Smaller and smaller

# Outline

---

Data Preprocessing

Activation Function

Loss Function

Optimization

- Adagrad
- Momentum

Generalization

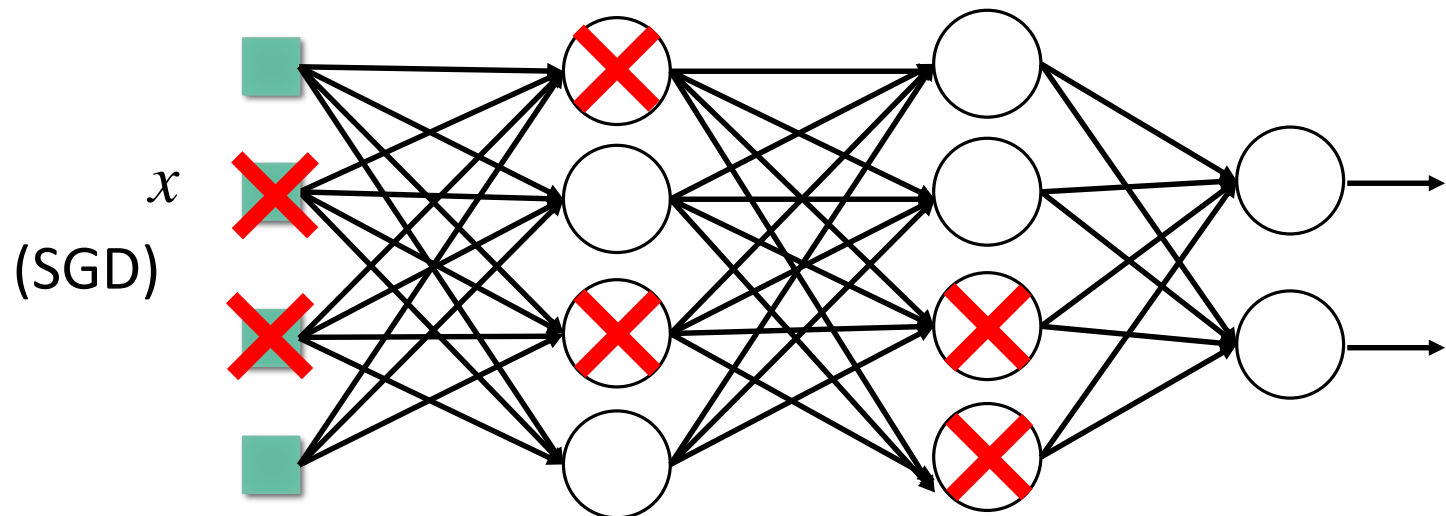
- Early Stopping
- Regularization
- **Dropout**

# Dropout

---

For each iteration of training,

- each neuron has  $p\%$  to dropout



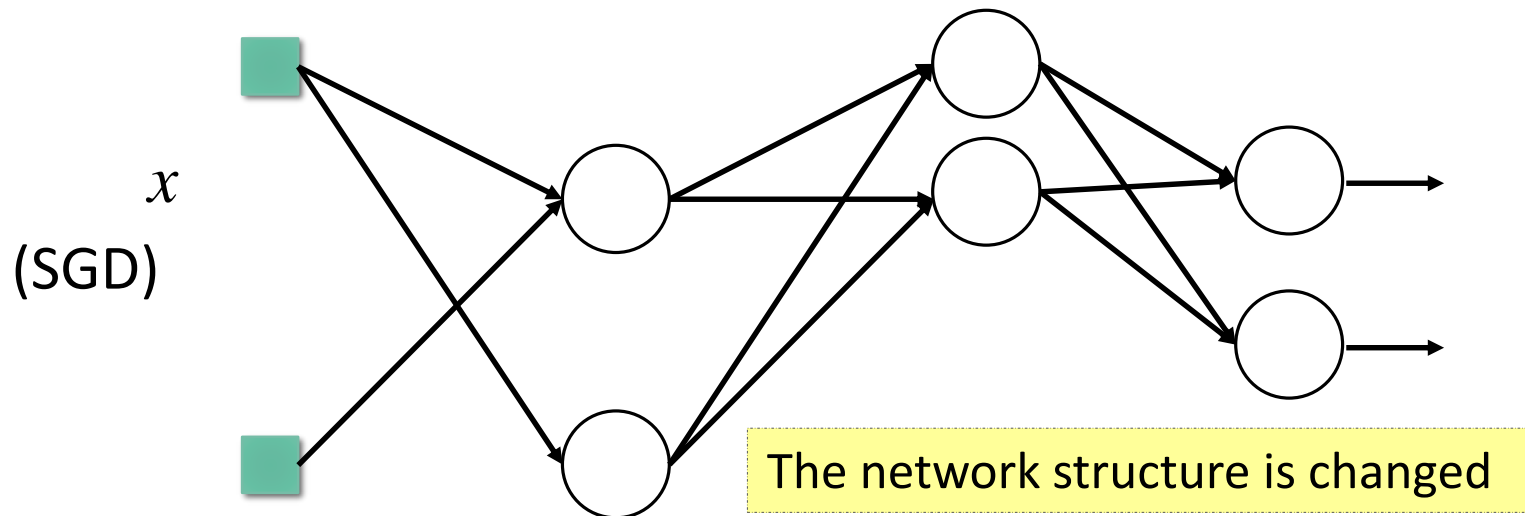
# Dropout

---

For each iteration of training,

- each neuron has  $p\%$  to dropout
- training using the new network

**Training:**  $\theta^{i+1} \leftarrow \theta^i - \eta \nabla_{\theta} C(\theta^i)$



# Dropout

---

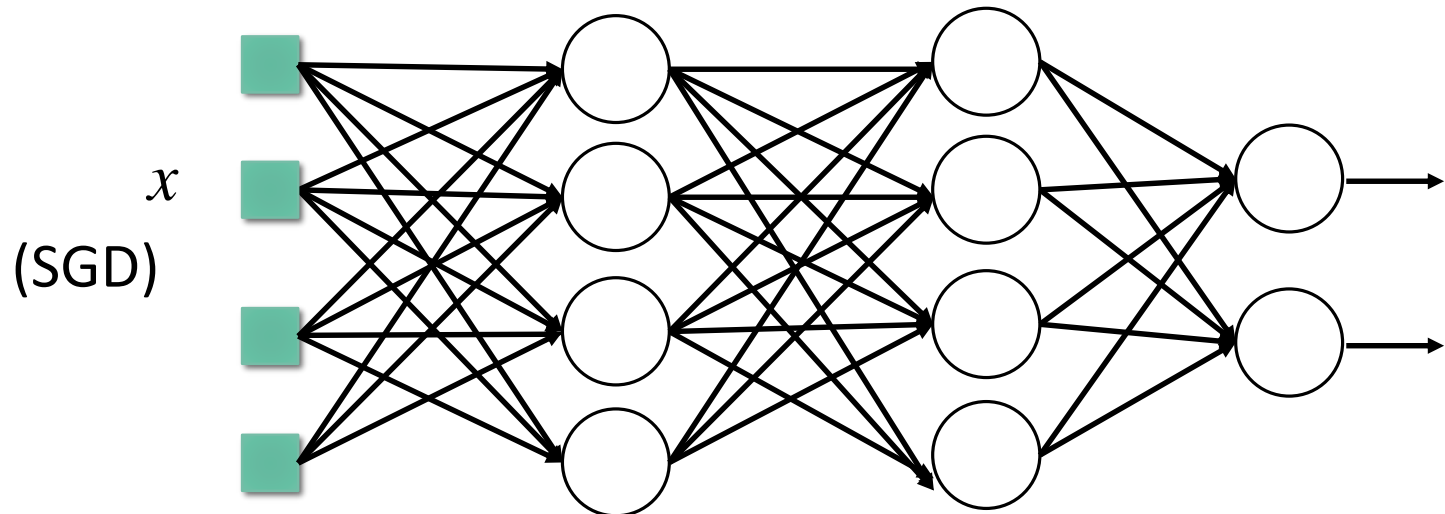
For each iteration of training,

- each neuron has  $p\%$  to dropout
- training using the new network

**Training:**  $\theta^{i+1} \leftarrow \theta^i - \eta \nabla_{\theta} C(\theta^i)$

For testing,

- no dropout
- if the dropout rate at training is  $p\%$ , all the weights times  $(1-p)\%$
- e.g. the dropout rate is 50%,  $w_{ij}^l = 1$  from training  $\rightarrow w_{ij}^l = 0.5$  for testing





# Dropout – Intuitive Reason

---

Training: dropout

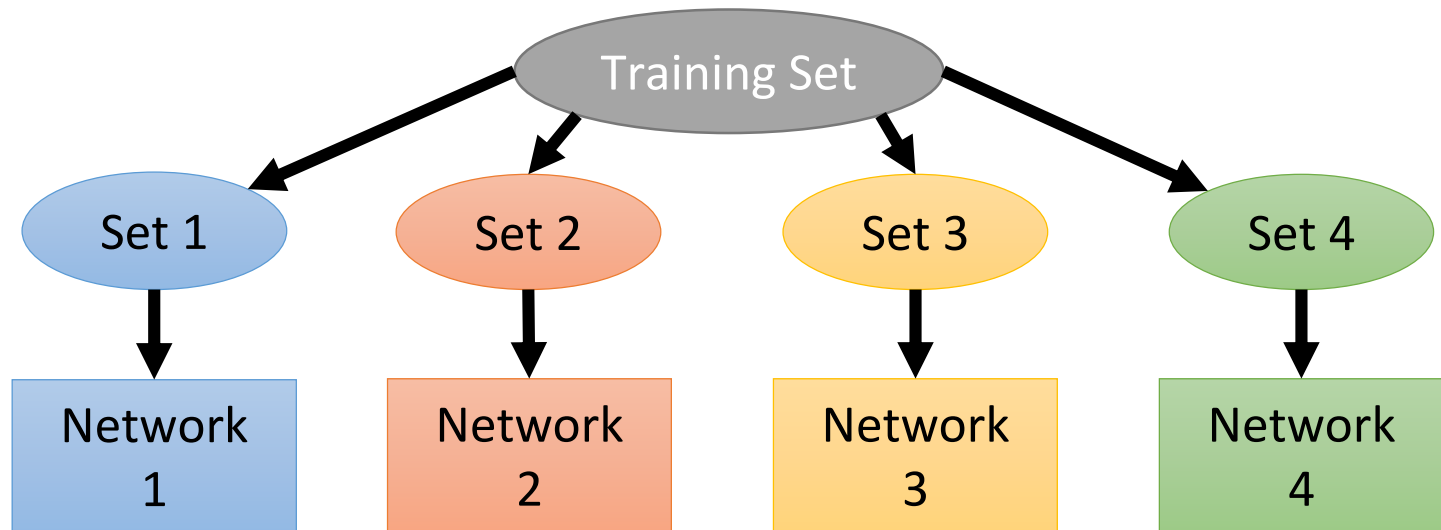
Testing: no dropout



# Dropout

---

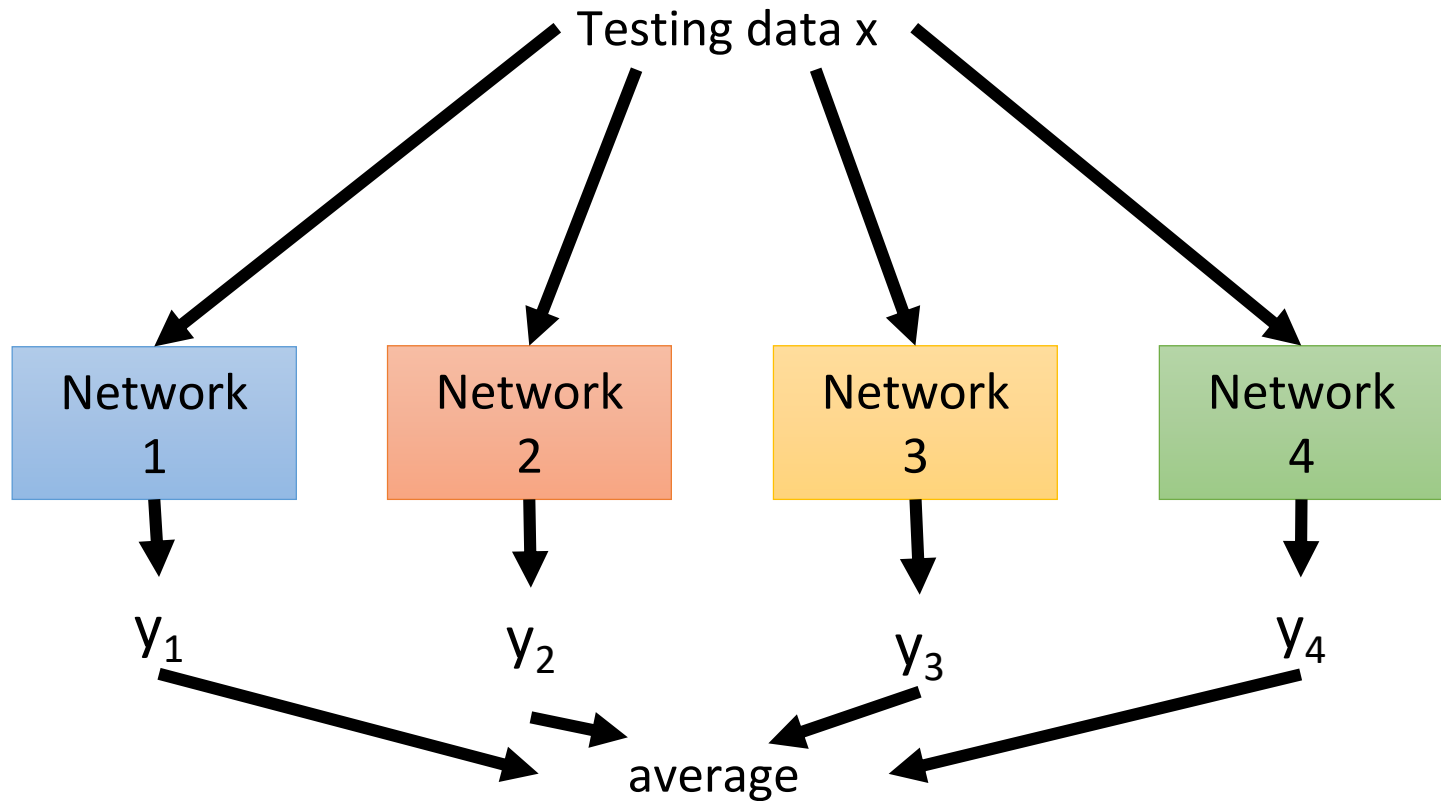
Train a bunch of networks with different structures



# Dropout – Ensemble

---

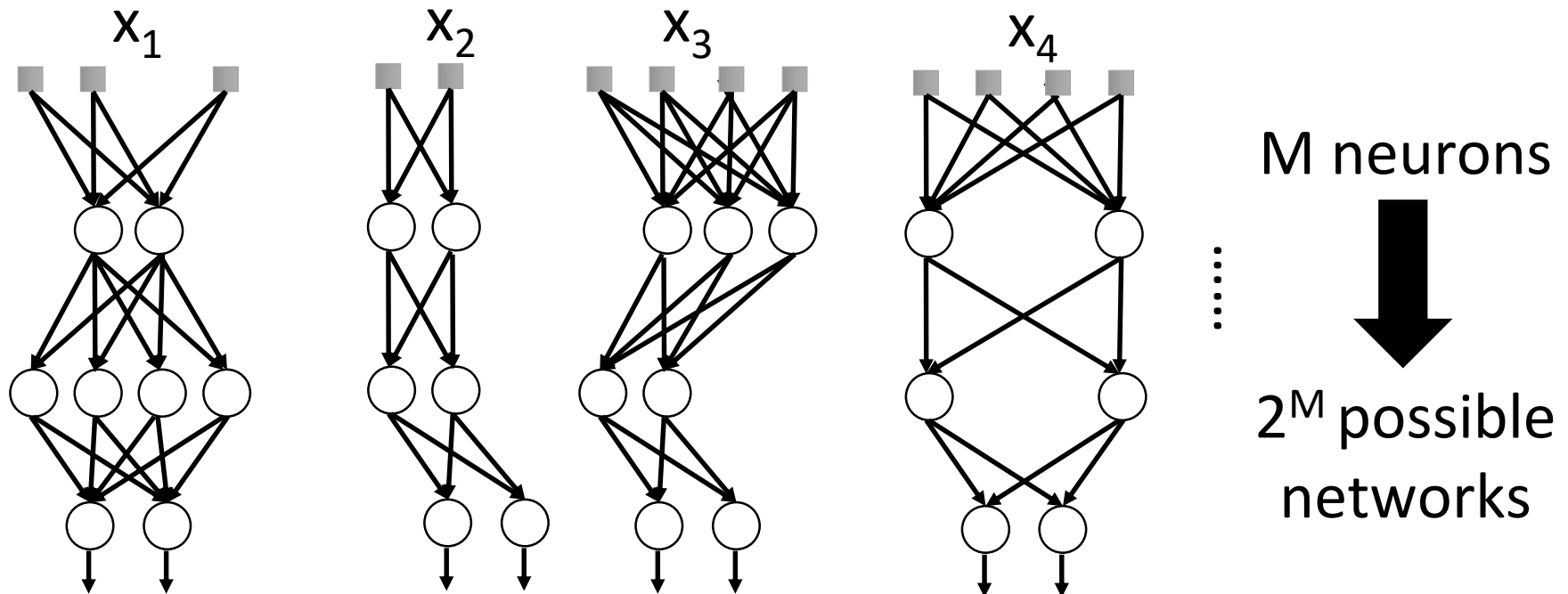
## Ensemble



# Dropout – Ensemble

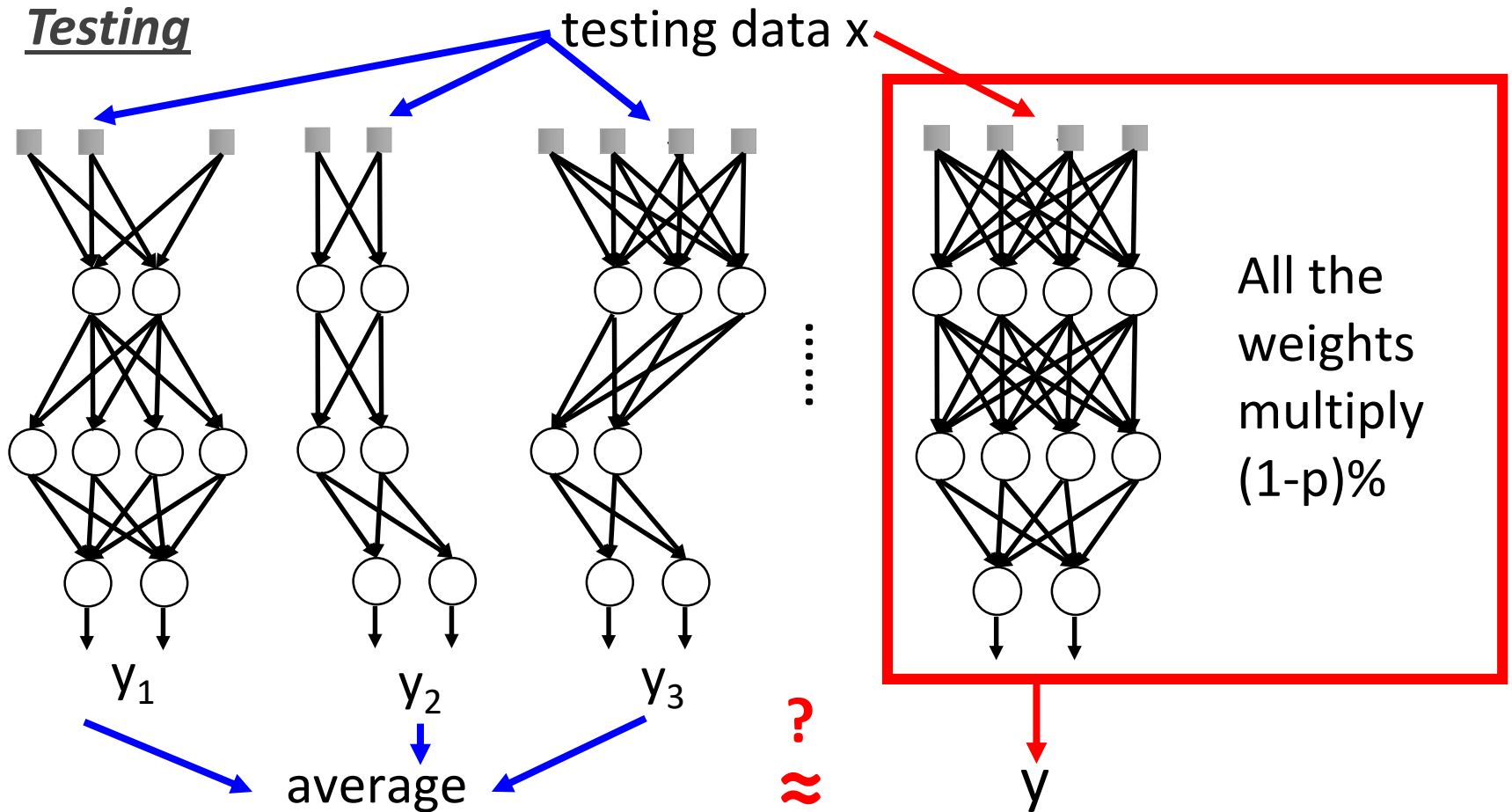
## Training

- Using one data to train one network
- Some parameters in the network are shared



# Dropout – Ensemble

## Testing



# Dropout Tips

---

## Larger network

- If you know that your task needs  $n$  neurons, for dropout rate  $p$ , your network need  $n/(1-p)$  neurons.

## Longer training time

## Higher learning rate

## Larger momentum

# Concluding Remarks

---

Data Preprocessing: **Input Normalization**

Activation Function: **ReLU, Maxout**

Loss Function: **Softmax**

Optimization

- Adagrad: **Learning Rate Adaptation**
- Momentum: **Learning Direction Adaptation**

Generalization

- Early Stopping: **avoid too many iterations from overfitting**
- Regularization: **minimize the effect of noise**
- Dropout: **leverage the benefit of ensemble**