

Deep Learning & Applied AI

Regularization, batchnorm and dropout

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SAPIENZA
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Regularization

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parameters \gg # training examples

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tuttavia questo succede quasi sempre

Regularization is a general mechanism to reduce overfitting and thus improve generalization.

General idea: reduce the number of free parameters. i free parameters sono tutti quei parametri che possono essere allenati

- Eliminate network weights.

e.g. estimate network sensitivity w.r.t. each weight.

- Weight sharing (i.e. $\# \text{ weights} < \# \text{ connections}$).

- Explicit penalties.

→ lo abbiamo già visto

- Implicit regularization.



Regularization

Any modification that is intended to reduce the generalization error but not the training error.

Weight penalties

$$\underbrace{\ell(\Theta)}_{\text{loss}} + \lambda \underbrace{\rho(\Theta)}_{\text{regularizer}}$$

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data **fidelity** vs. model **complexity**

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quindi il regolarizzatore è una funzione dipendente dai parametri della loss

The regularizer induces a trade-off:

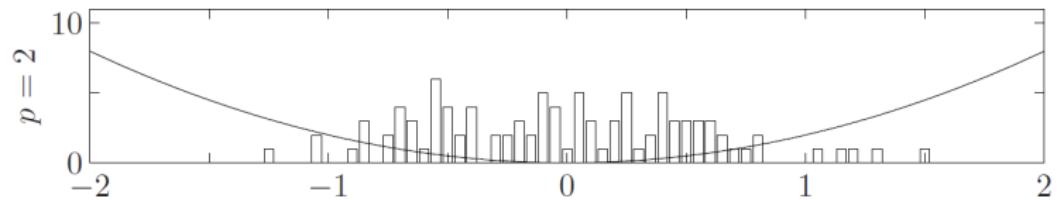
data **fidelity** vs. model **complexity**

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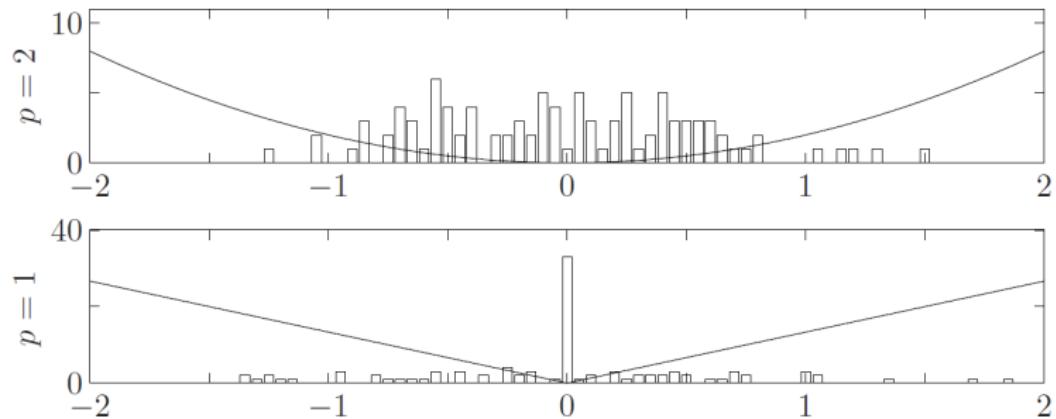
- Tikhonov (L_2) regularization \Rightarrow promotes **shrinkage** riduce la grandezza dei pesi
- Lasso (L_1) regularization \Rightarrow promotes **sparsity**  **weight selection**
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After training, the L_p magnitude of each weight reflects its importance.

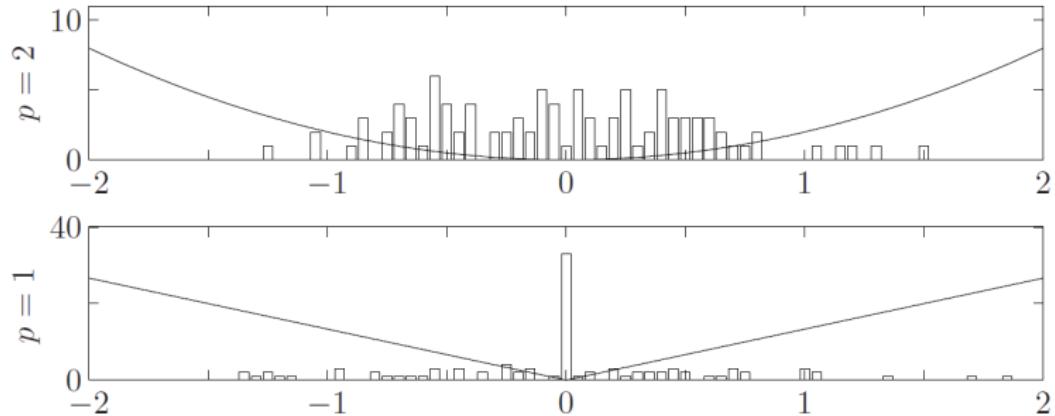
L_2 vs L_1 penalties



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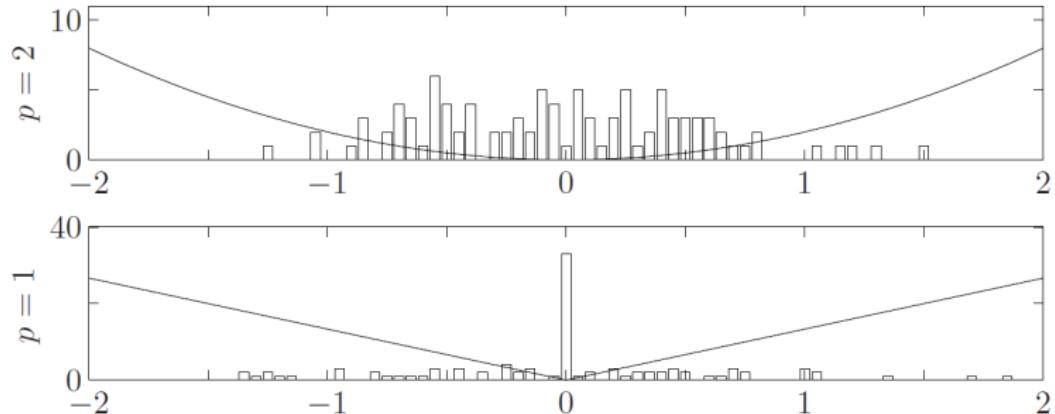


L_2 vs L_1 penalties



- Big reduction in $\|\Theta\|_2$ if you scale down the values > 1

L_2 vs L_1 penalties

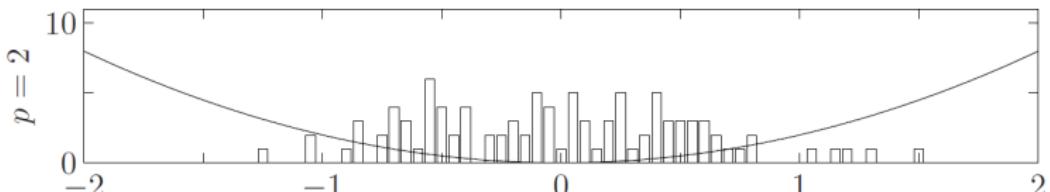


- Big reduction in $\|\Theta\|_2$ if you scale down the values > 1
- Almost no reduction in $\|\Theta\|_2$ for values < 1 . Sparsity is discouraged!

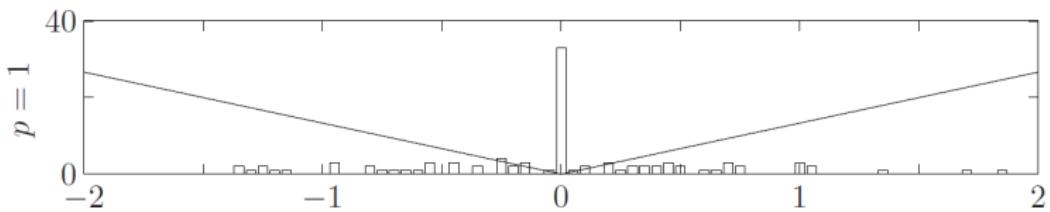
L_2 vs L_1 penalties

istogrammi che indicano il numero di parametri che hanno uno specifico valore

Tikhonov



Lasso



le linee indicano l'impatto della penalità

- Big reduction in $\|\Theta\|_2$ if you scale down the values > 1
- Almost no reduction in $\|\Theta\|_2$ for values < 1 . Sparsity is discouraged!
- All the values are treated the same in $\|\Theta\|_1$, no matter if they are > 1 or < 1 . Any value can be set to zero, leading to **sparse solutions**.

perché la L_1 riduzione ha così tanti valori pari a 0? Vedi prossima slide...

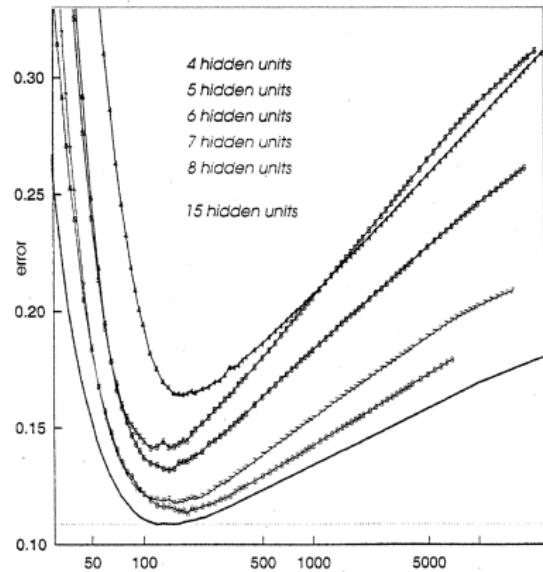
l'ellissi che gira è la energy function
che dobbiamo minimizzare

nel caso della L_1 , la soluzione (il valore ottimo per i parametri) è un punto che si trova molto frequentemente sulle assi delle coordinate, mentre nel caso di L_2 la soluzione si muove spesso. In pratica la capacità di regolarizzazione con L_1 è meno precisa rispetto ad L_2 , risultando nell'azzeramento di molti parametri con un valore basso

Source code: <https://github.com/ievron/RegularizationAnimation/>

Detecting overfitting

Overfitting can be recognized by looking at the **validation error**:

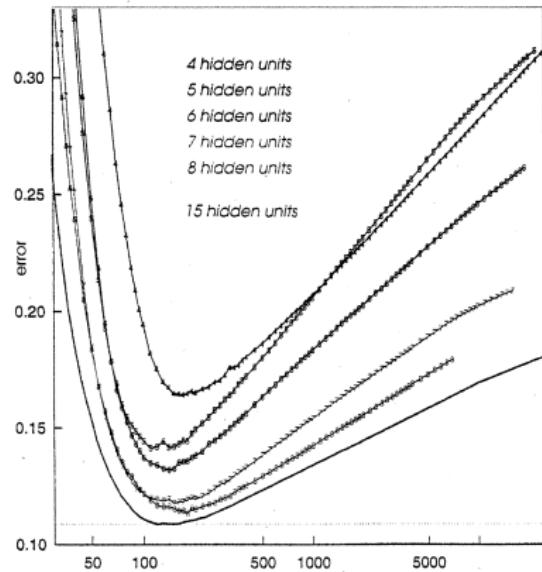


Weigend, "On overfitting and the effective number of hidden units", 1993

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Overfitting can be recognized by looking at the **validation error**:

- Small networks can also overfit.

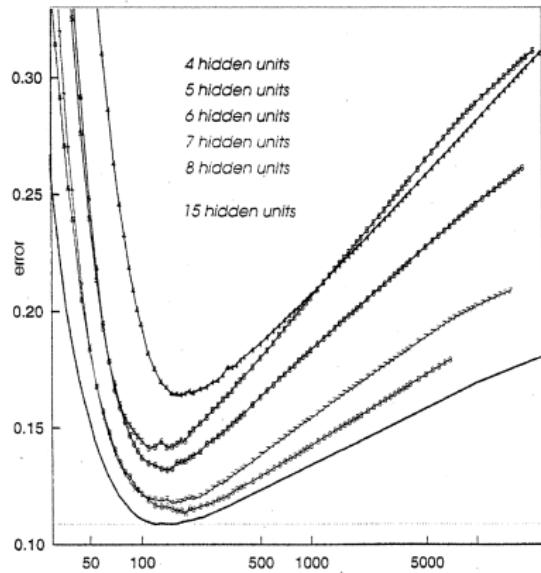


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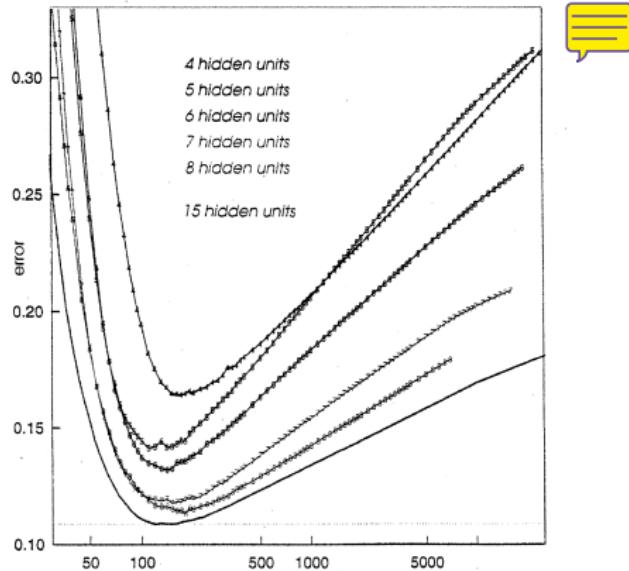


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Detecting overfitting: Early stopping

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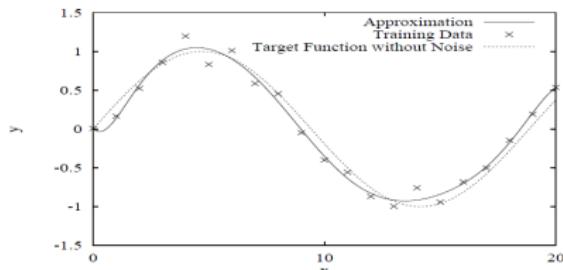
- Small networks can also overfit.
- Large networks have best performance **if they stop early**.
- **Early stopping:** Stop training as soon as performance on a validation set decreases.



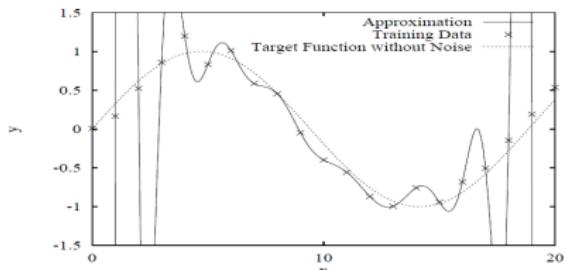
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Many parameters \neq overfitting

Typical overfitting with polynomial regression:



Order 10

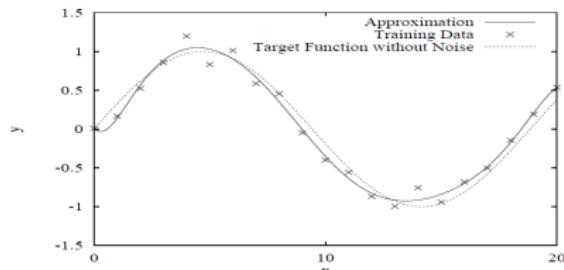


Order 20

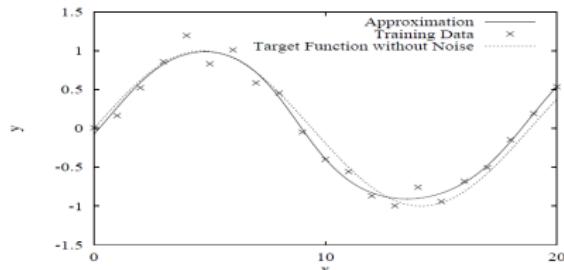
Caruana et al, "Overfitting in Neural Nets: Backpropagation, Conjugate Gradient, and Early Stopping", NIPS 2001

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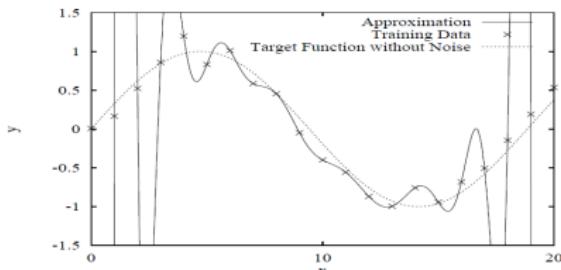
...but more MLP parameters not always lead to overfitting:



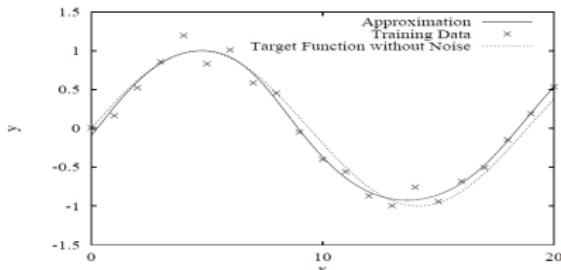
Order 10



10 Hidden Nodes



Order 20

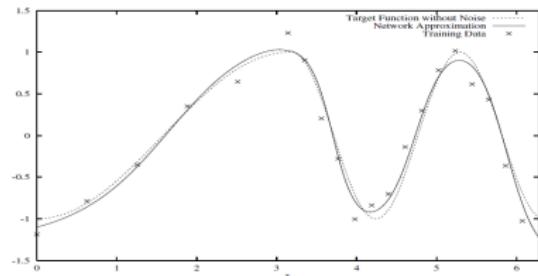
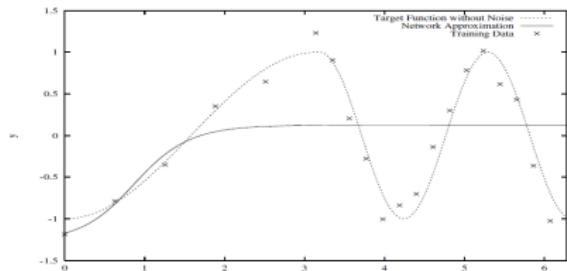


50 Hidden Nodes

Caruana et al, "Overfitting in Neural Nets: Backpropagation, Conjugate Gradient, and Early Stopping", NIPS 2001

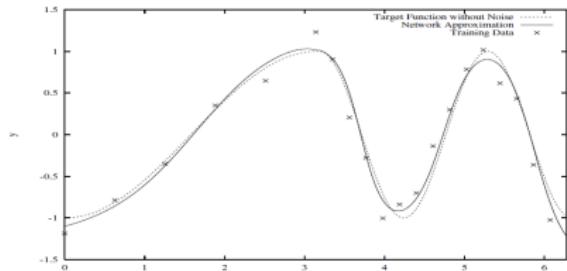
Many parameters \neq overfitting

Good fit over all the different data regions:

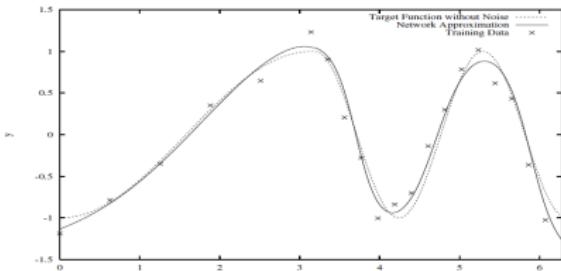


1 Hidden Unit

4 Hidden Units



10 Hidden Units

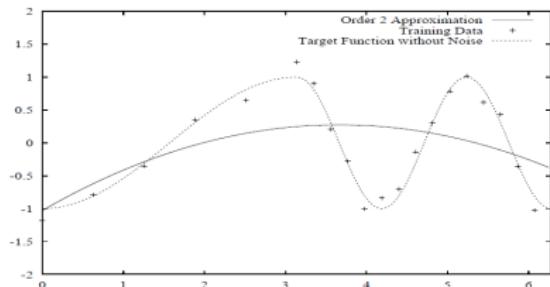


100 Hidden Units

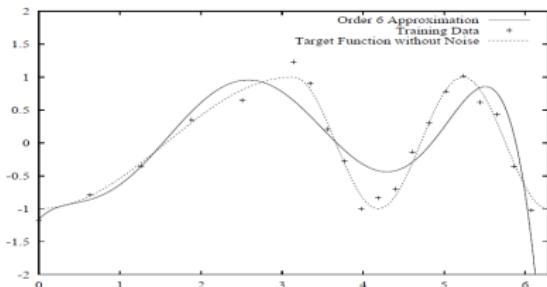
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Overfitting as a local phenomenon

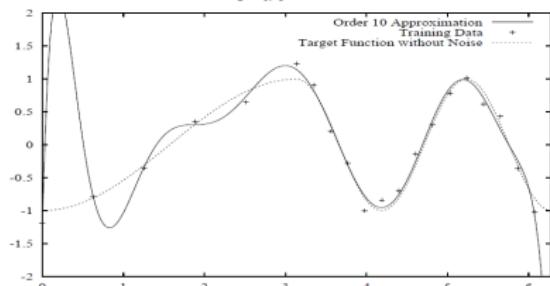
Overfitting is **local** and can vary significantly in different regions:



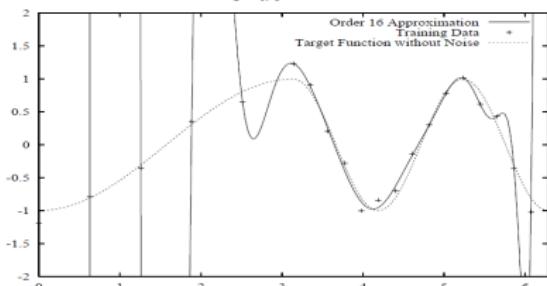
Order 2



Order 6



Order 10

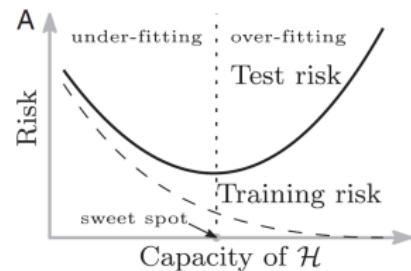


Order 16

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Double descent

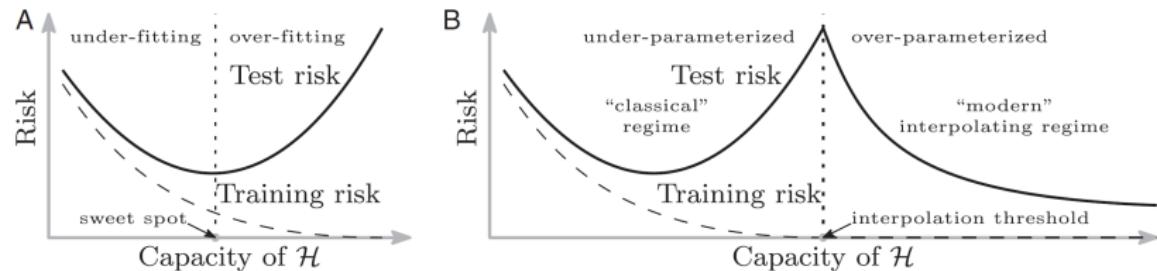
U-shaped curve as a function of # network parameters:



Belkin et al, "Reconciling modern machine-learning practice and the classical bias-variance trade-off", PNAS 2019

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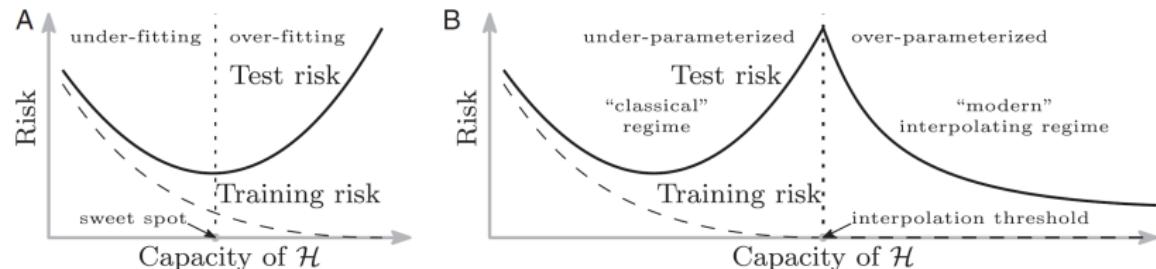


Interpolation: perfect fit on the training data.

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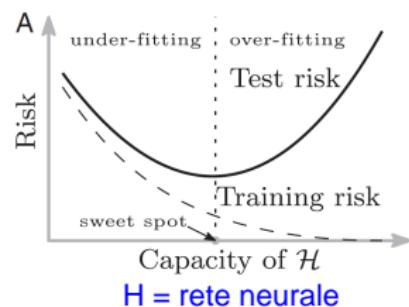
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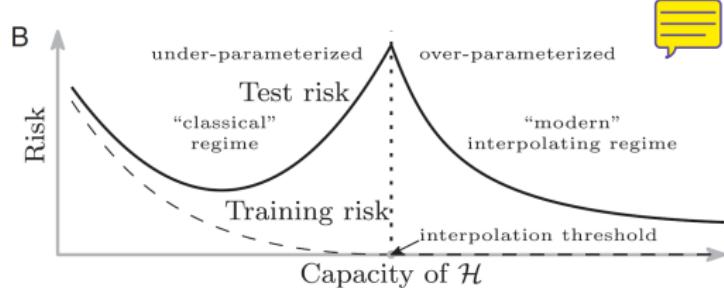
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H = rete neurale



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The surprising fact is that SGD is able to find such good models.

Belkin et al, “Reconciling modern machine-learning practice and the classical bias-variance trade-off”, PNAS 2019

Early stopping

Early stopping is based on the “smoothness” heuristic:

Representational power **grows** with training time

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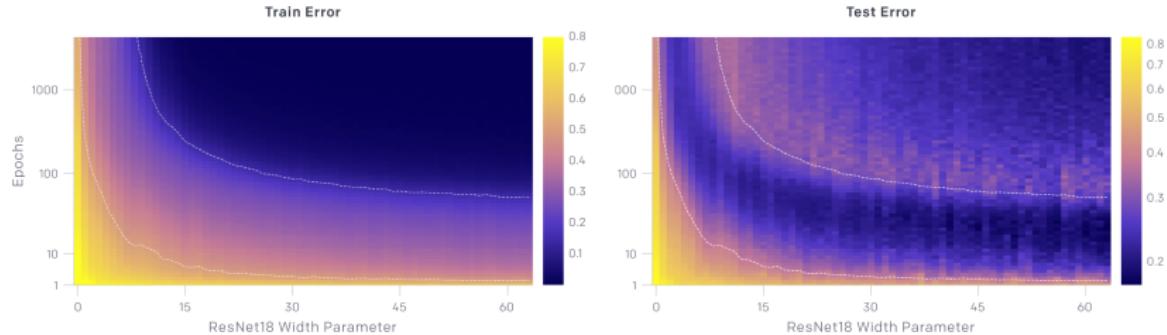
Representational power **grows** with training time

- Initialize with small weights.
- Simple hypotheses are considered before complex hypotheses.
- Training first explores models similar to what a **smaller net of optimal size** would have learned.

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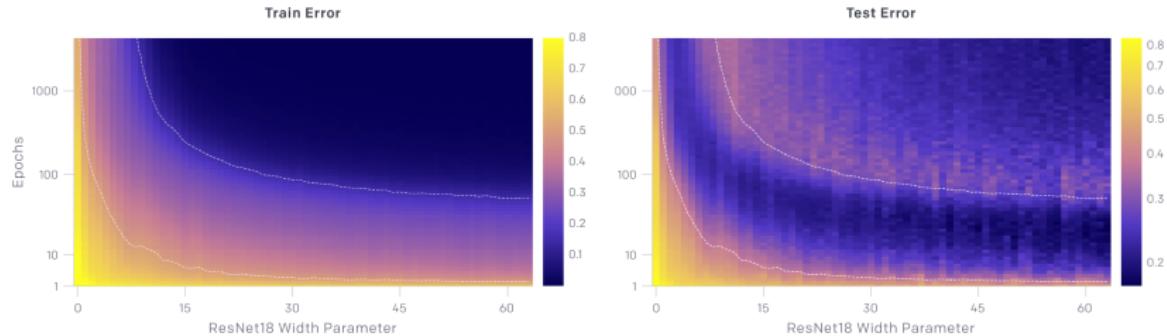
Epoch-wise double descent

There is a regime where **training longer reverses overfitting**.



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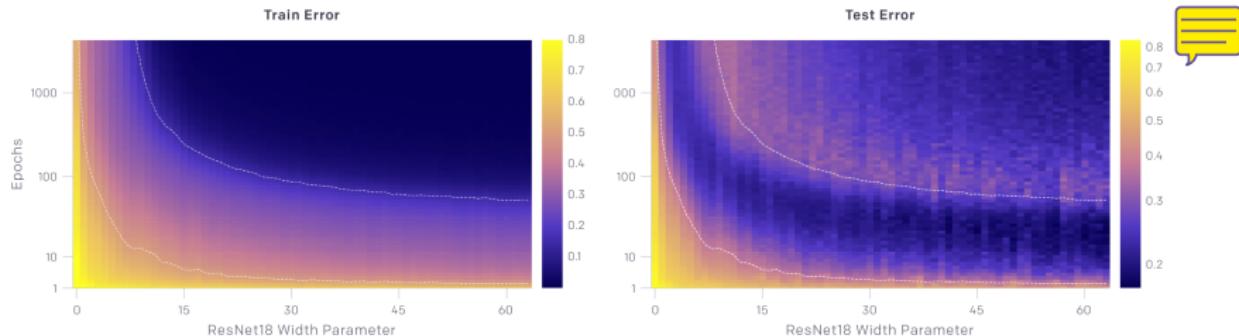
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Epoch-wise double descent

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For a fixed number of parameters, we observe double descent **as a function of training time**.

Batch normalization

$$\mathbf{x}^{(k)} = \sigma \left(\mathbf{W}^{(k)} \mathbf{x}^{(k-1)} \right)$$

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Internal covariate shift: The input distribution changes at each layer, and the layers need to continuously adapt to the new distribution.

Shimodaira, "Improving predictive inference under covariate shift by weighting the log-likelihood function", 2000

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Normalize the features by the statistics computed within the training set:

$$\hat{\mathbf{x}}^{(k)} = \text{normalize}(\mathbf{x}^{(k)}, \mathcal{X})$$

where both \mathbf{x} and \mathcal{X} depend on \mathbf{W} .

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sigma è sempre l'activation function

k indica il livello della rete

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training set

In particular, backprop will need the partial derivatives:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \text{normalize}(\mathbf{x}, \mathcal{X}), \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathcal{X}} \text{normalize}(\mathbf{x}, \mathcal{X})$$

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Batch normalization: Transformation

For each dimension of \mathbf{x} , transform:

$$x_i \mapsto \frac{x_i - \mathbb{E}[x_i]}{\sqrt{\text{var}(x_i)}}$$

where mean and variance are computed over the training set.

After the transformation, we get $\text{mean} = 0$ and $\text{var} = 1$.

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Furthermore, introduce **trainable** weights: 

$$x_i \mapsto \gamma_i \frac{x_i - \mathbb{E}[x_i]}{\sqrt{\text{var}(x_i)}} + \beta_i$$

These allow to represent the identity $x_i \mapsto x_i$, if that was the optimal thing to do in the original network.

Ioffe and Szegedy, "Batch normalization: Accelerating deep network training by reducing internal covariate shift", ICML 2015

Batch normalization: Using mini-batches

Avoid analyzing the entire training set at each parameter update.

Input: Values of x over a mini-batch: $\mathcal{B} = \{x_{1\dots m}\}$;

Parameters to be learned: γ, β

Output: $\{y_i = \text{BN}_{\gamma, \beta}(x_i)\}$

$$\mu_{\mathcal{B}} \leftarrow \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m x_i \quad // \text{mini-batch mean}$$

$$\sigma_{\mathcal{B}}^2 \leftarrow \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m (x_i - \mu_{\mathcal{B}})^2 \quad // \text{mini-batch variance}$$

$$\hat{x}_i \leftarrow \frac{x_i - \mu_{\mathcal{B}}}{\sqrt{\sigma_{\mathcal{B}}^2 + \epsilon}} \quad // \text{normalize}$$

$$y_i \leftarrow \gamma \hat{x}_i + \beta \equiv \text{BN}_{\gamma, \beta}(x_i) \quad // \text{scale and shift}$$

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The batchnorm transformation makes each training example interact with the **other examples** in each mini-batch.

questa proprietà aggiunge potere di generalizzazione

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Batch normalization: Properties

Typically, batchnorm is applied right before the nonlinearity:

$$\sigma(\mathbf{W}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b}) \text{ becomes } \sigma \circ \text{BN}_{\gamma, \beta}(\mathbf{W}\mathbf{x})$$

The **bias** can be removed, since it is ruled out by the mean subtraction.

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- The stochastic uncertainty of the batch statistics acts as a **regularizer** that can benefit generalization.

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Benefits:

- The stochastic uncertainty of the batch statistics acts as a **regularizer** that can benefit generalization.
- Batchnorm leads to more **stable gradients**, thus **faster training** can be achieved with higher learning rates.

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Normalization variants

Normalizing along the **batch dimension** can lead to inconsistency:

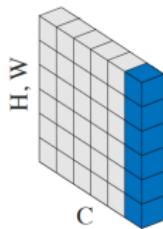
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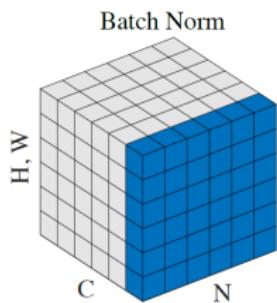


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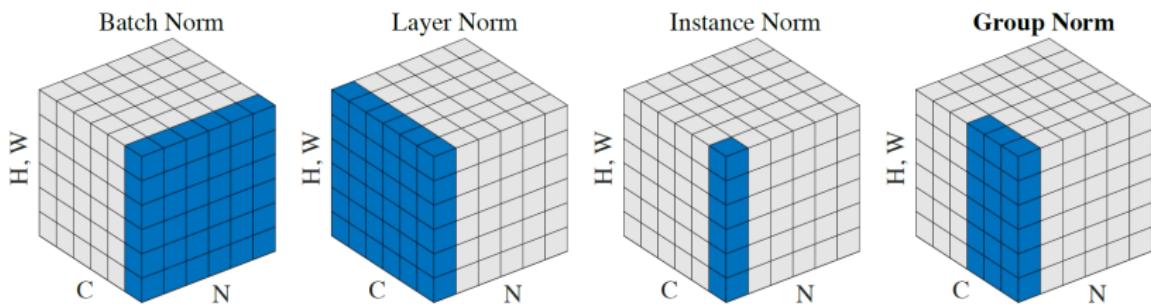


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In questi esempi, una colonna corrisponde ad un sample del dataset

Ensemble deep learning?

Assume you have unlimited computational power.

Train an **ensemble** of deep nets and average their predictions.

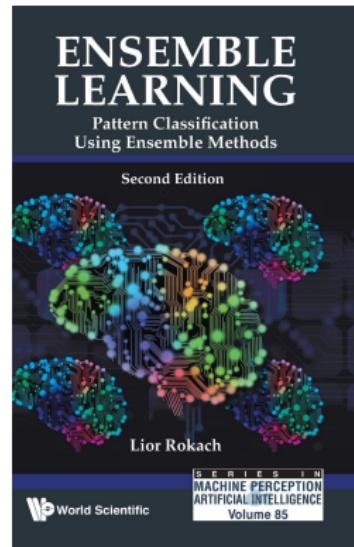
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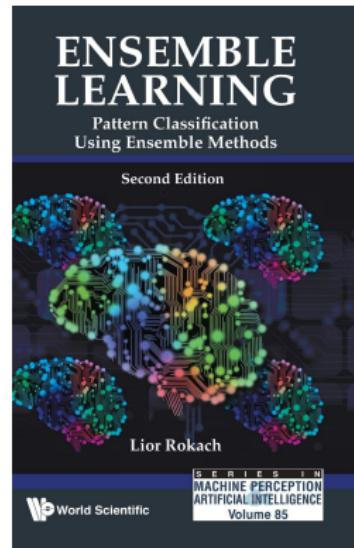
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However, for deep nets this would come at a high computational cost.

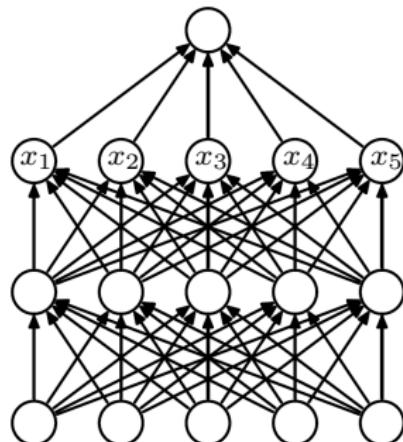


c'è una tecnica che permette di fare ensemble learning.
Vedi prossima slide...

Neal, "Bayesian Learning for Neural Networks", 1996

Dropout

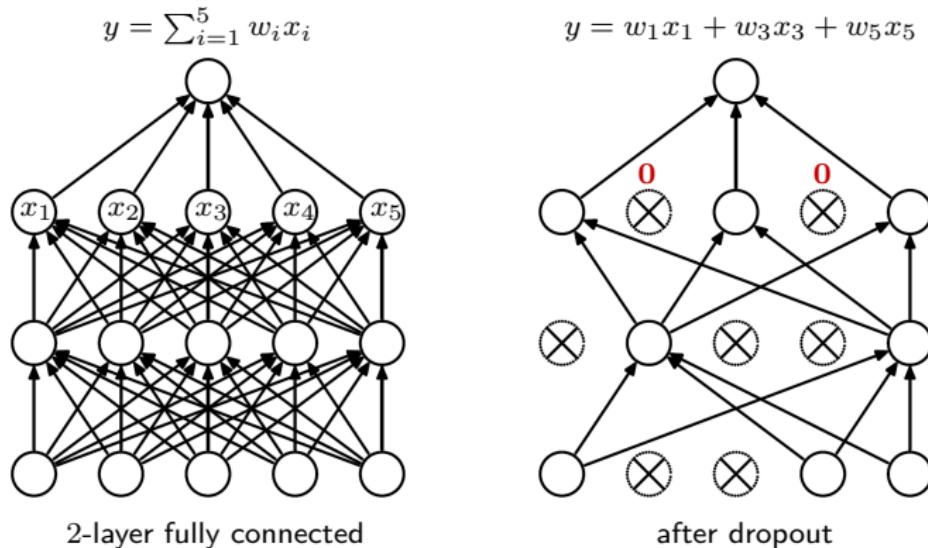
$$y = \sum_{i=1}^5 w_i x_i$$



2-layer fully connected

Dropout

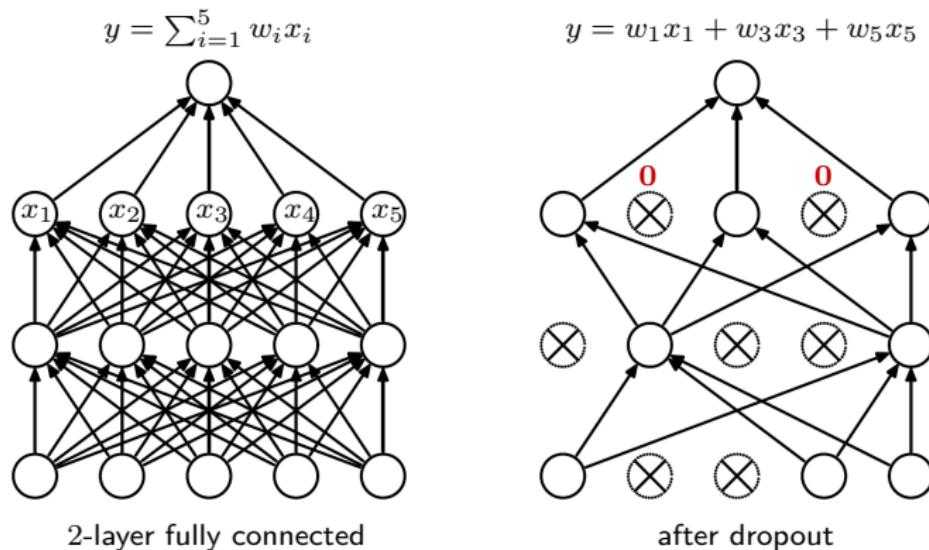
Main idea: Parametrize each model in the ensemble by **dropping** random units (i.e. nodes with their input/output connections):



Srivastava et al, "Dropout: A Simple Way to Prevent Neural Networks from Overfitting", JMLR 2014

Dropout

Main idea: Parametrize each model in the ensemble by **dropping** random units (i.e. nodes with their input/output connections):



Crucially, all networks **share** the same parameters.

quindi in teoria si fanno tante prove con configurazioni diverse e si confrontano i risultati...

Srivastava et al, "Dropout: A Simple Way to Prevent Neural Networks from Overfitting", JMLR 2014

Dropout

Can be seen as **sampling** a network w.r.t. a probability distribution.

n nodes $\Rightarrow 2^n$ possible ways to sample them

Dropout

... ma c'è un problema

Can be seen as **sampling** a network w.r.t. a probability distribution.

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This is way too costly.

- **Training:** All the networks must be trained.
- **Test:** All the predictions must be averaged.

Dropout

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Make it feasible by **keeping one single network**:

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The **ensemble** is trained to convergence (e.g. with early stopping).

The individual models are **not** trained to convergence. **perché la configurazione cambia ad ogni iterazione**

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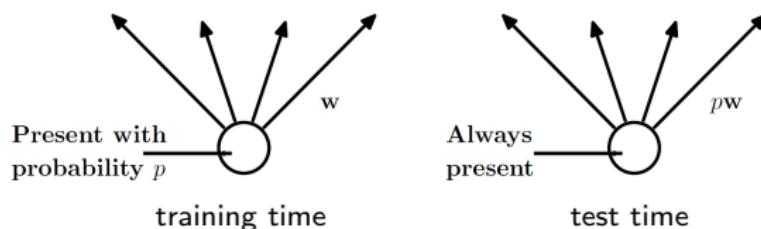
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If a unit is retained with probability p during training (chosen by hand, even **per layer**), its outgoing weights are multiplied by p . 

Srivastava et al, "Dropout: A Simple Way to Prevent Neural Networks from Overfitting", JMLR 2014

Dropout as an ensemble method

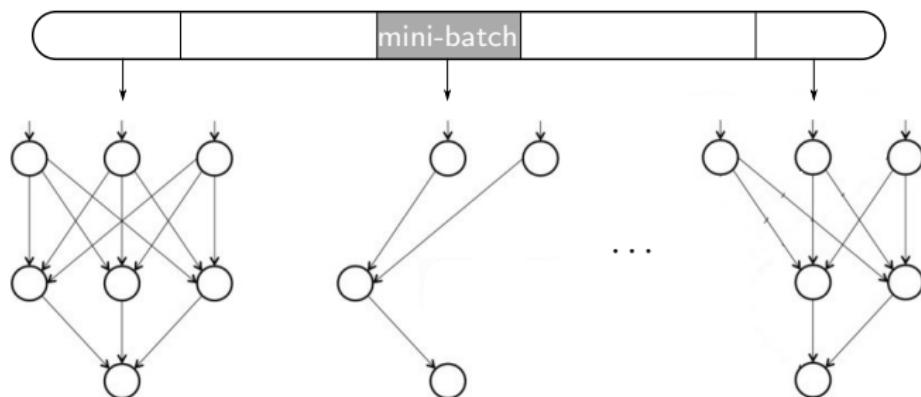
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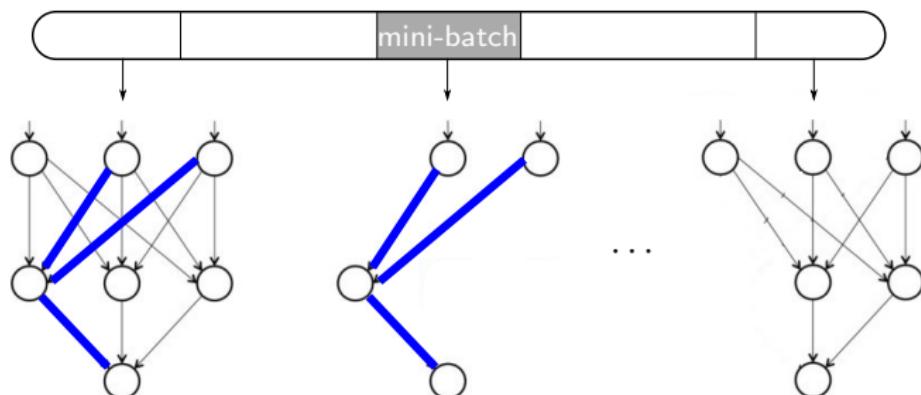
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- It does **weight sharing**, which is atypical in ensemble methods.



At each training step, the weight update is applied to all members of the ensemble simultaneously.

solo i pesi dei nodi attivi durante l'iterazione
vengono aggiornati

Dropout: Properties

In a standard neural network, weights are optimized **jointly**.

Co-adaptation: Small errors in a unit are absorbed by another unit.

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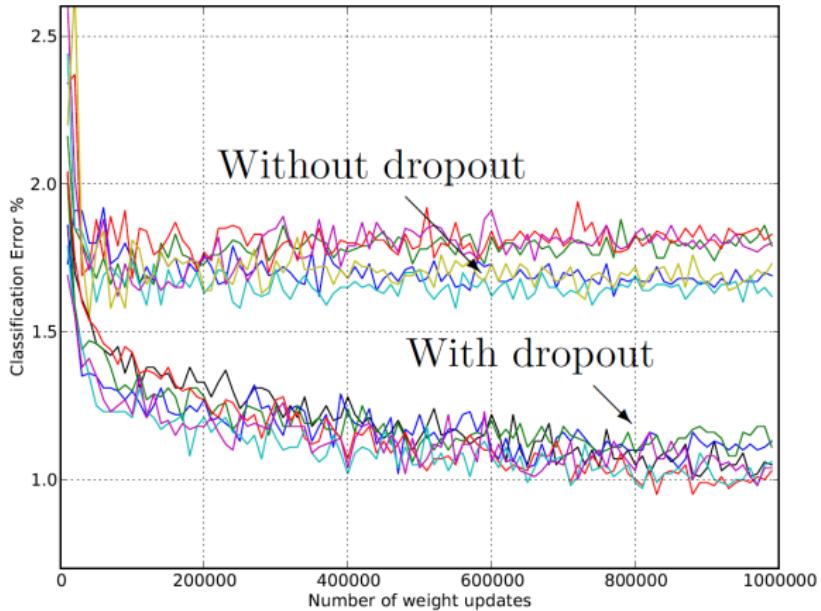
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Suggested reading

- All the references given throughout the slides.
- Interesting thread on the history of double descent:
<https://twitter.com/hippopedoid/status/1243229021921579010>
- *Section 4.2.1* is a practical guide for batchnorm by the original authors:
<https://arxiv.org/pdf/1502.03167>
- *Appendix A* is a practical guide for dropout by the original authors:
<http://jmlr.org/papers/volume15/srivastava14a/srivastava14a.pdf>