



10-601 Introduction to Machine Learning

Machine Learning Department
School of Computer Science
Carnegie Mellon University

Neural Networks

+

Backpropagation

Matt Gormley
Lecture 13
Oct. 7, 2019

Reminders

- **Homework 4: Logistic Regression**
 - Out: Wed, Sep. 25
 - Due: Fri, Oct. 11 at 11:59pm
- **Homework 5: Neural Networks**
 - Out: Fri, Oct. 11
 - Due: Fri, Oct. 25 at 11:59pm
- **Today's In-Class Poll**
 - <http://p13.mlcourse.org>

Q&A

Q: What is mini-batch SGD?

A: A variant of SGD...

Mini-Batch SGD

- **Gradient Descent:**

Compute true gradient exactly from all N examples

- **Mini-Batch SGD:**

Approximate true gradient by the average gradient of K randomly chosen examples

- **Stochastic Gradient Descent (SGD):**

Approximate true gradient by the gradient of one randomly chosen example

Mini-Batch SGD

while not converged: $\theta \leftarrow \theta - \lambda \mathbf{g}$

Three variants of first-order optimization:

Gradient Descent: $\mathbf{g} = \nabla J(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \nabla J^{(i)}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$

SGD: $\mathbf{g} = \nabla J^{(i)}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ where i sampled uniformly

Mini-batch SGD: $\mathbf{g} = \frac{1}{S} \sum_{s=1}^S \nabla J^{(i_s)}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ where i_s sampled uniformly $\forall s$

NEURAL NETWORKS

Neural Networks

Chalkboard

- Example: Neural Network w/1 Hidden Layer
- Example: Neural Network w/2 Hidden Layers
- Example: Feed Forward Neural Network

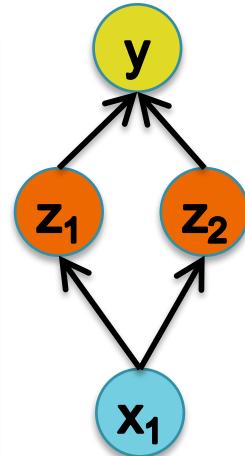
Neural Network Parameters

Question:

Suppose you are training a one-hidden layer neural network with sigmoid activations for binary classification.



True or False: There is a unique set of parameters that maximize the likelihood of the dataset above.



Answer:

ARCHITECTURES

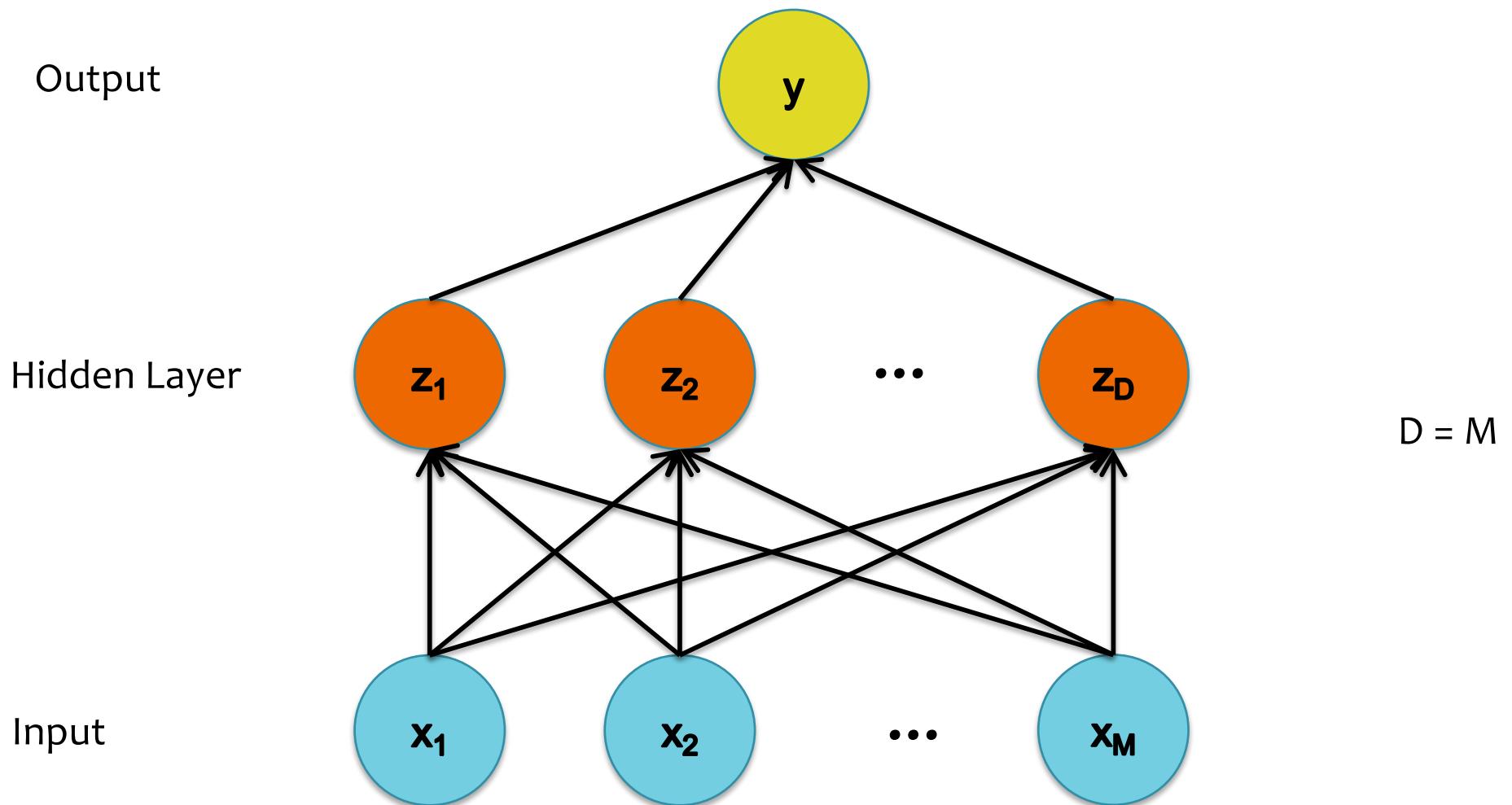
Neural Network Architectures

Even for a basic Neural Network, there are many design decisions to make:

1. # of hidden layers (depth)
2. # of units per hidden layer (width)
3. Type of activation function (nonlinearity)
4. Form of objective function

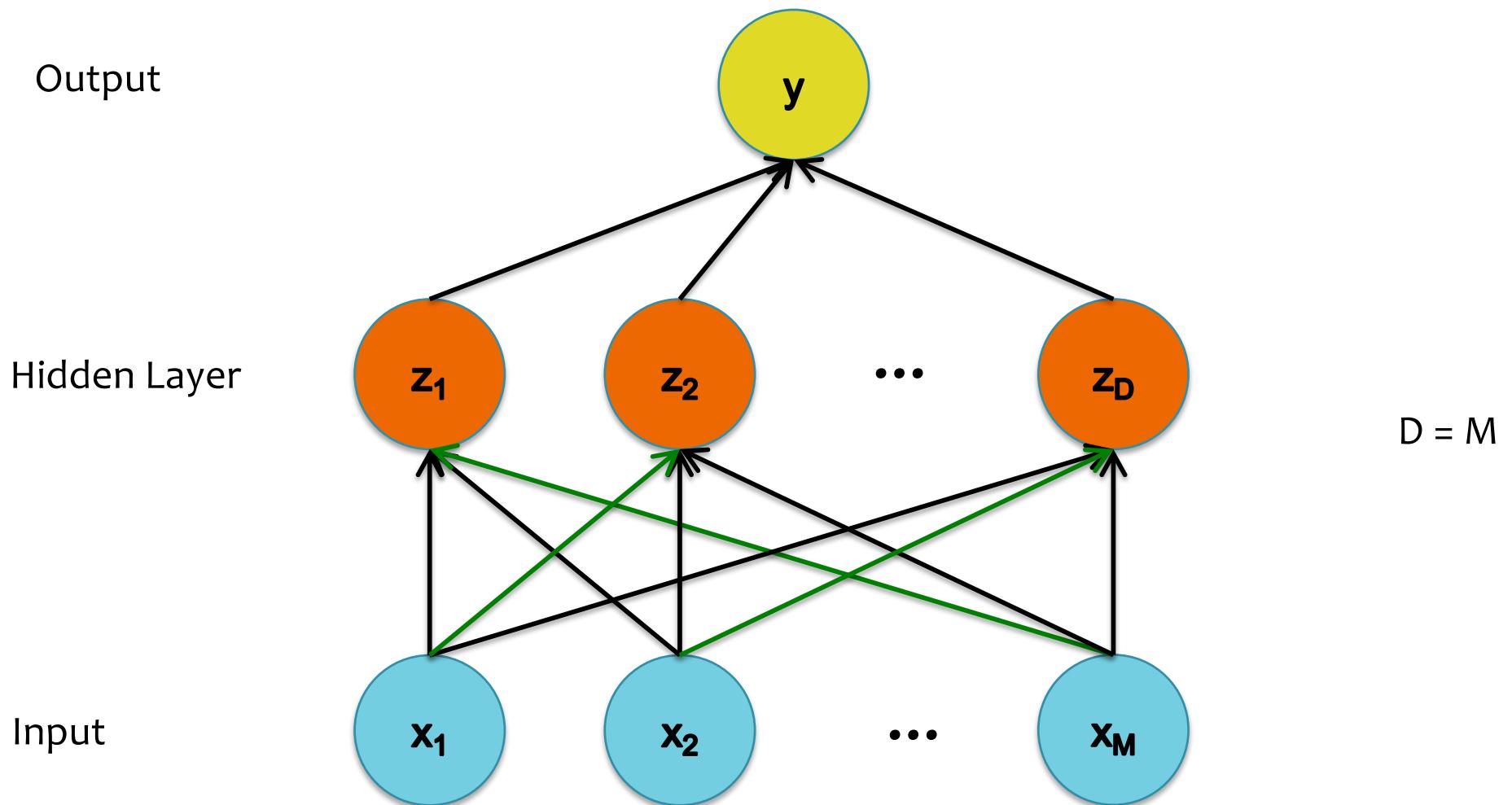
Building a Neural Net

Q: How many hidden units, D , should we use?



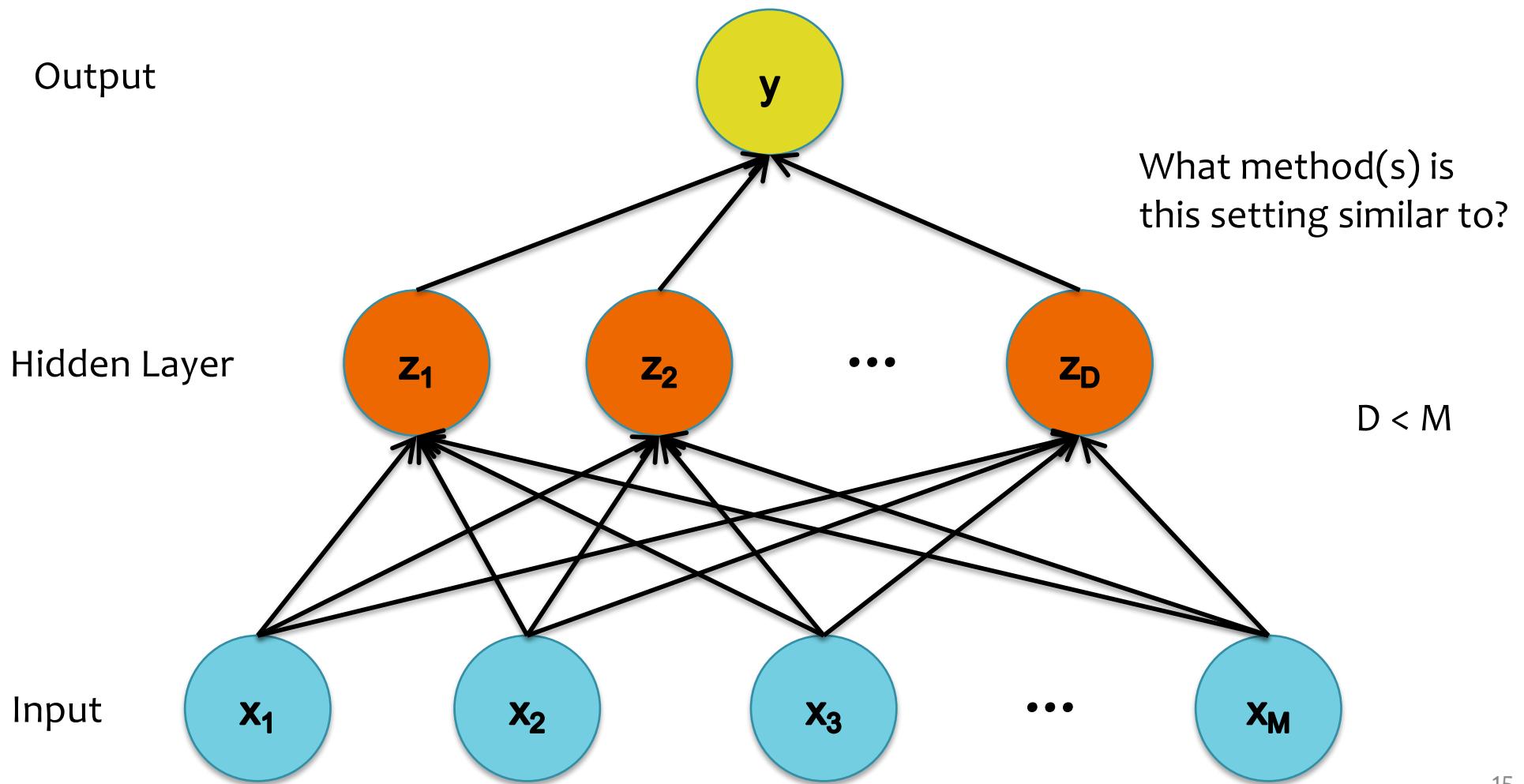
Building a Neural Net

Q: How many hidden units, D , should we use?



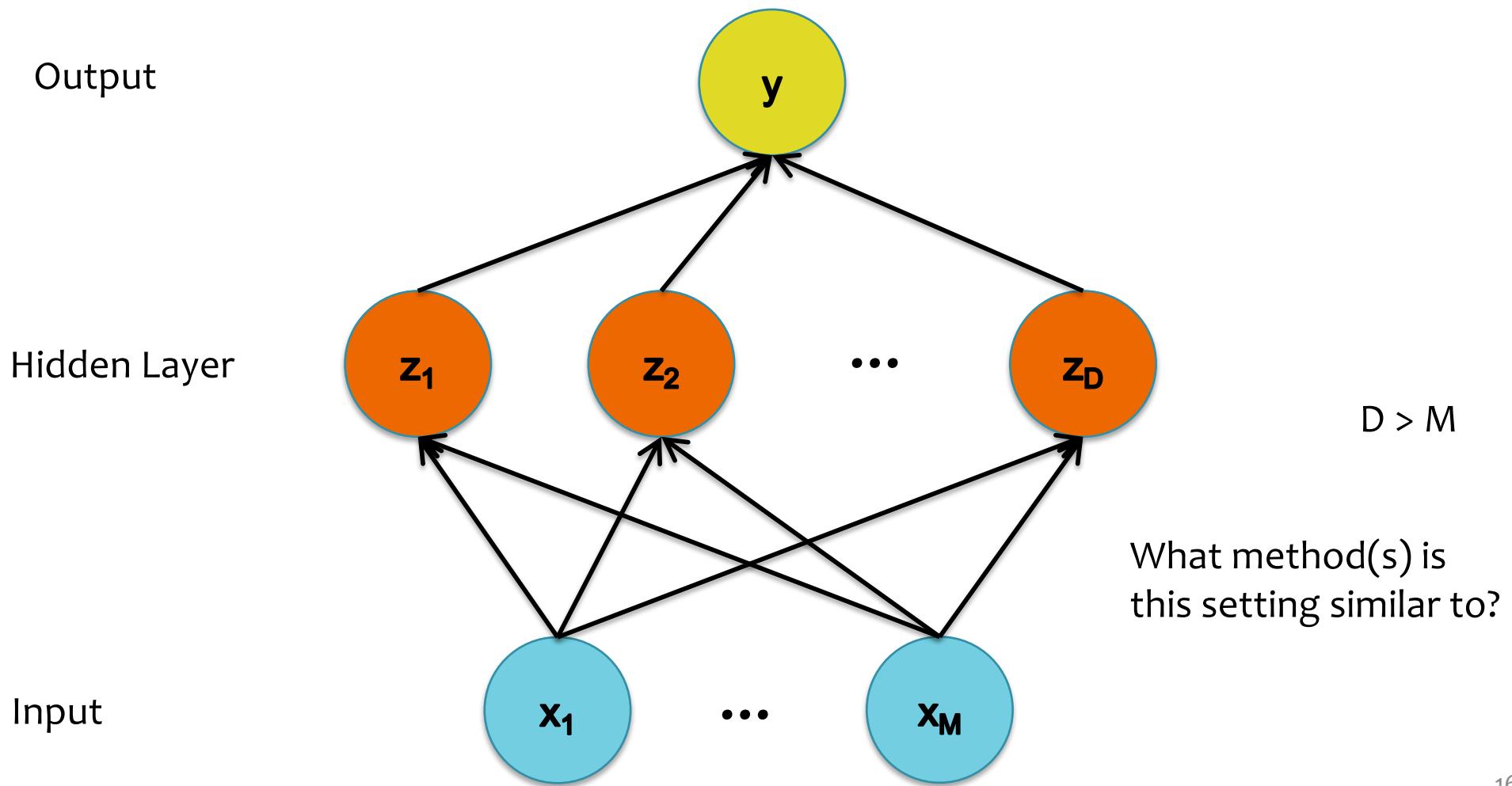
Building a Neural Net

Q: How many hidden units, D , should we use?



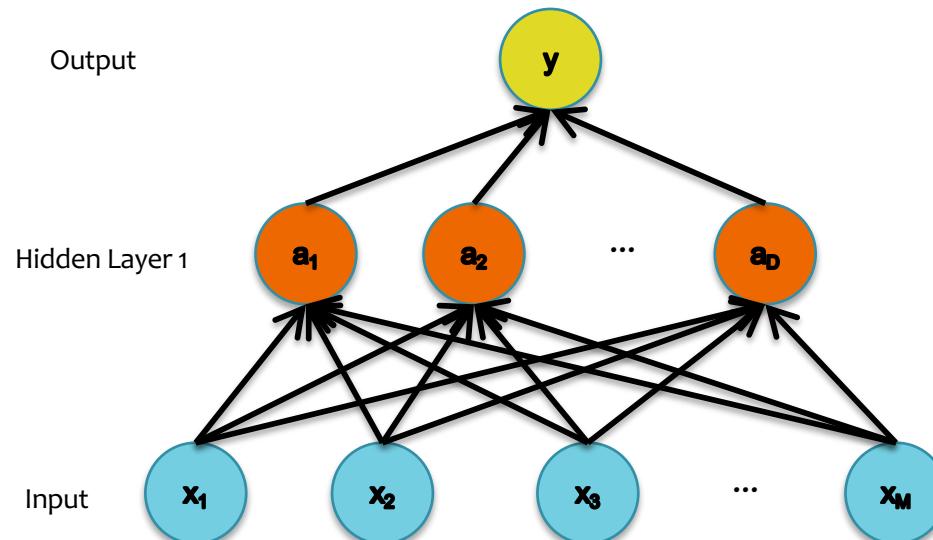
Building a Neural Net

Q: How many hidden units, D , should we use?



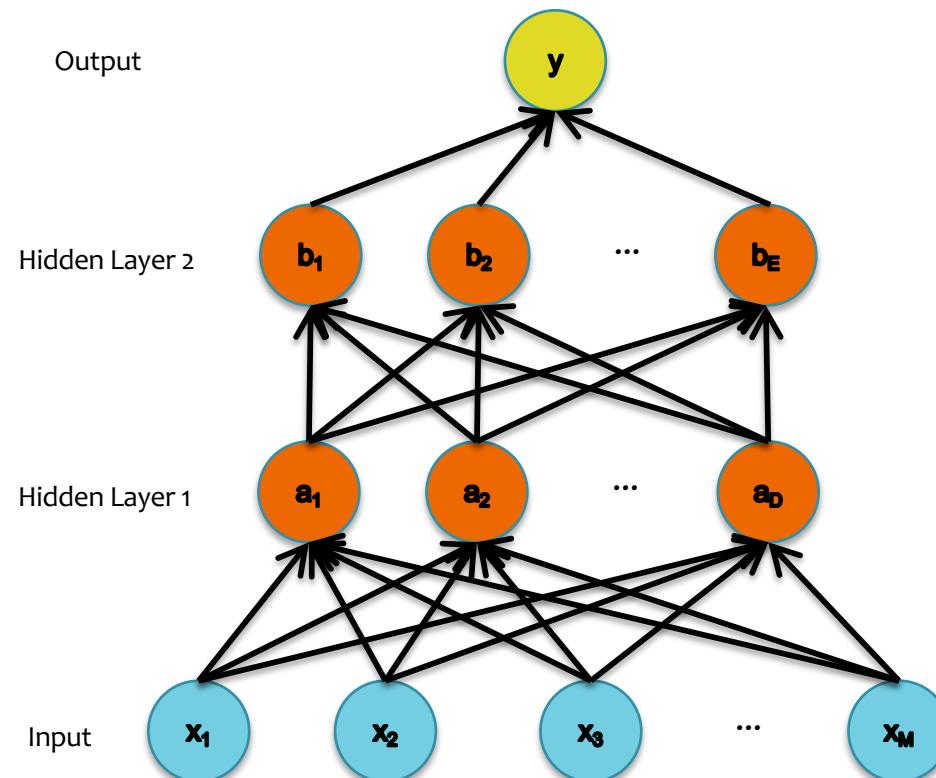
Deeper Networks

Q: How many layers should we use?



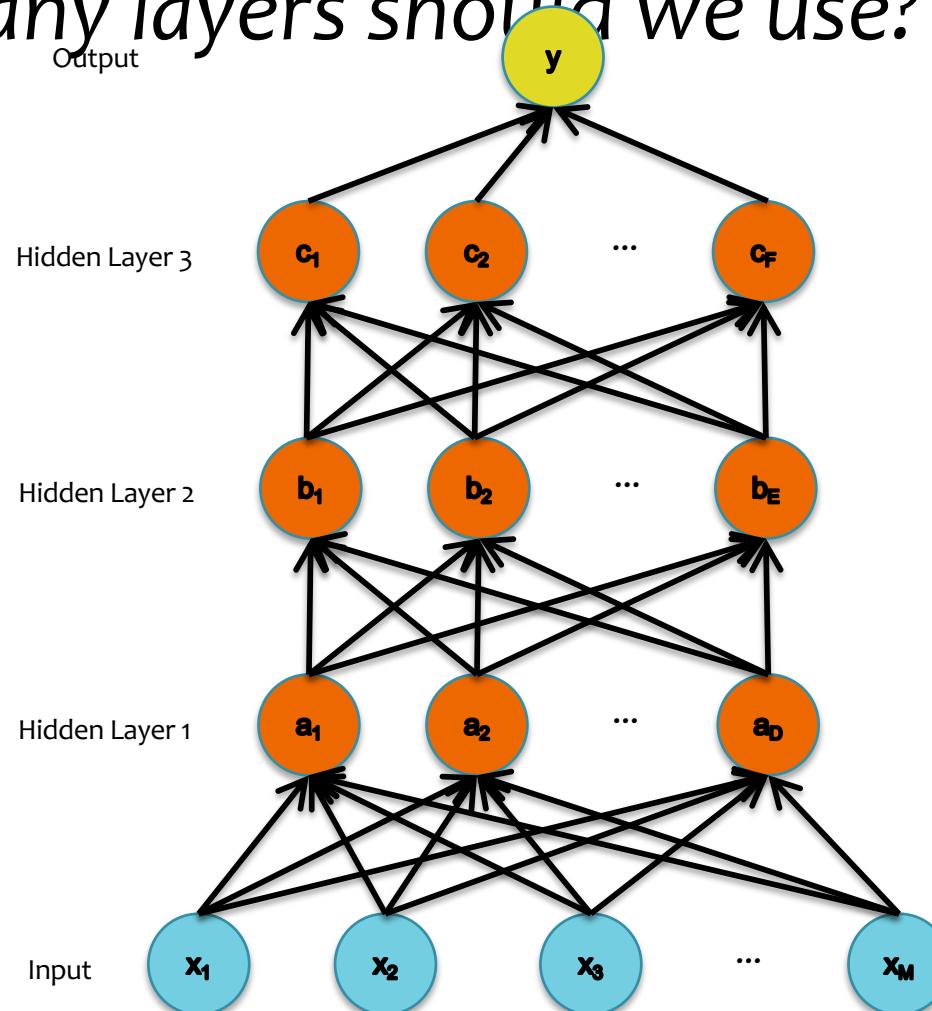
Deeper Networks

Q: How many layers should we use?



Deeper Networks

Q: How many layers should we use?



Deeper Networks

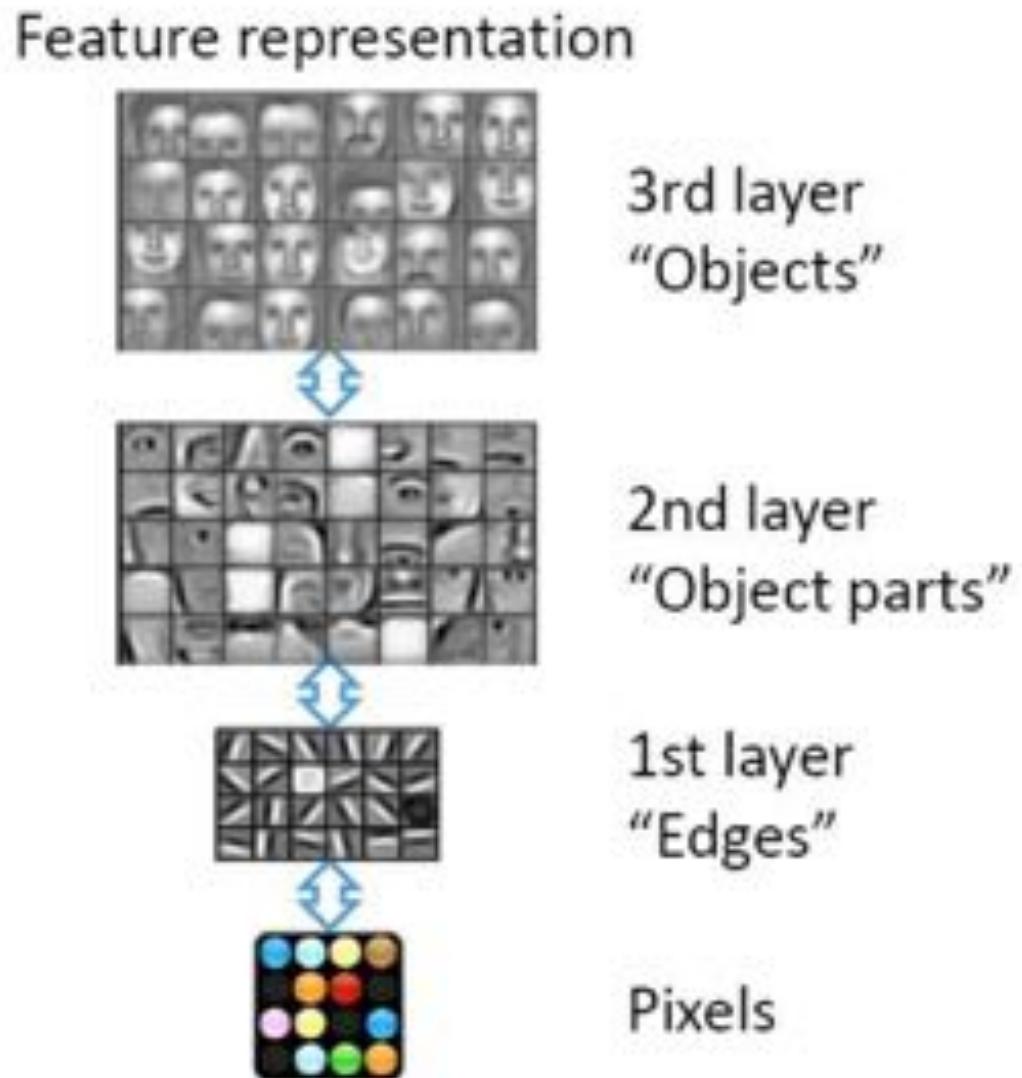
Q: How many layers should we use?

- **Theoretical answer:**
 - A neural network with 1 hidden layer is a **universal function approximator**
 - Cybenko (1989): For any continuous function $g(\mathbf{x})$, there exists a 1-hidden-layer neural net $h_\theta(\mathbf{x})$ s.t. $|h_\theta(\mathbf{x}) - g(\mathbf{x})| < \epsilon$ for all \mathbf{x} , assuming sigmoid activation functions
- **Empirical answer:**
 - Before 2006: “Deep networks (e.g. 3 or more hidden layers) are too hard to train”
 - After 2006: “Deep networks are easier to train than shallow networks (e.g. 2 or fewer layers) for many problems”

Big caveat: You need to know and use the right tricks.

Different Levels of Abstraction

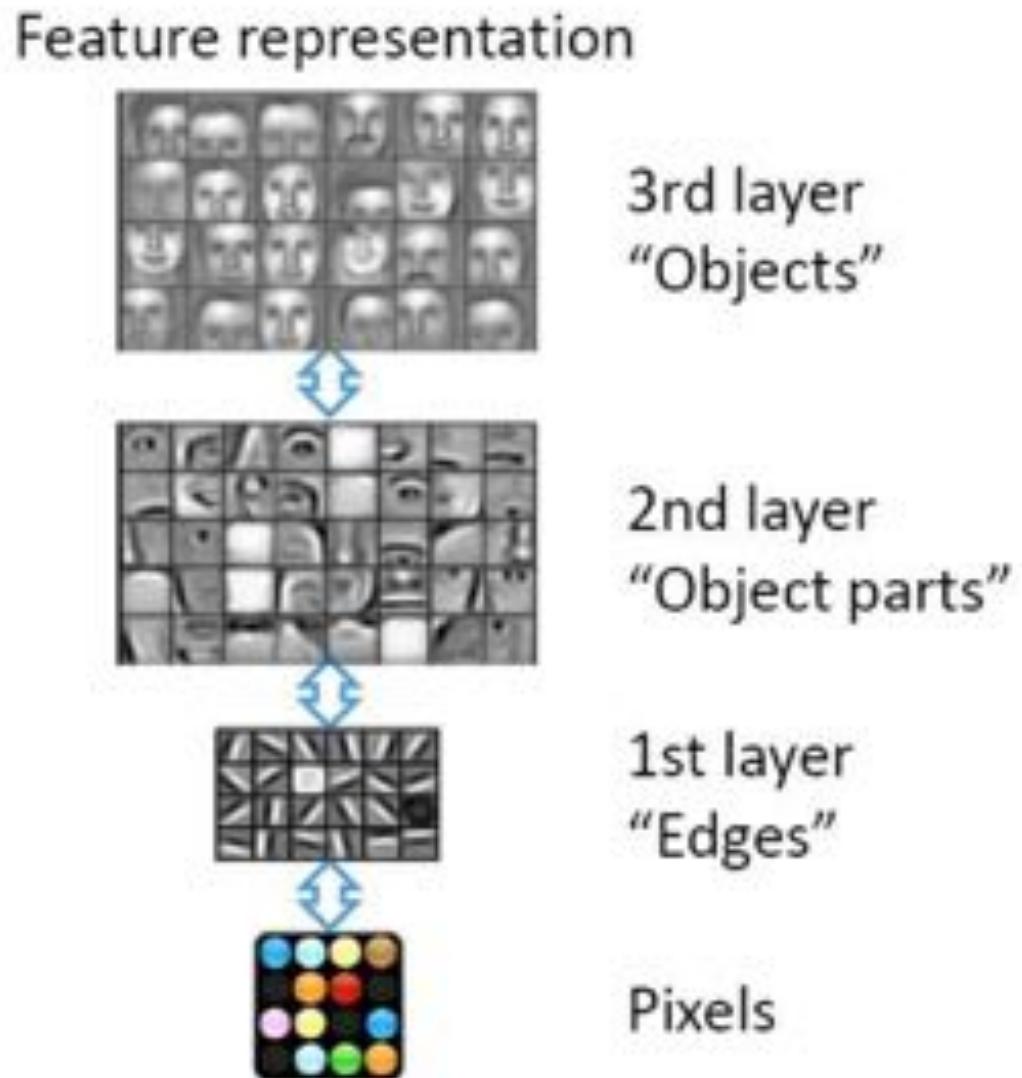
- We don't know the “right” levels of abstraction
- So let the model figure it out!



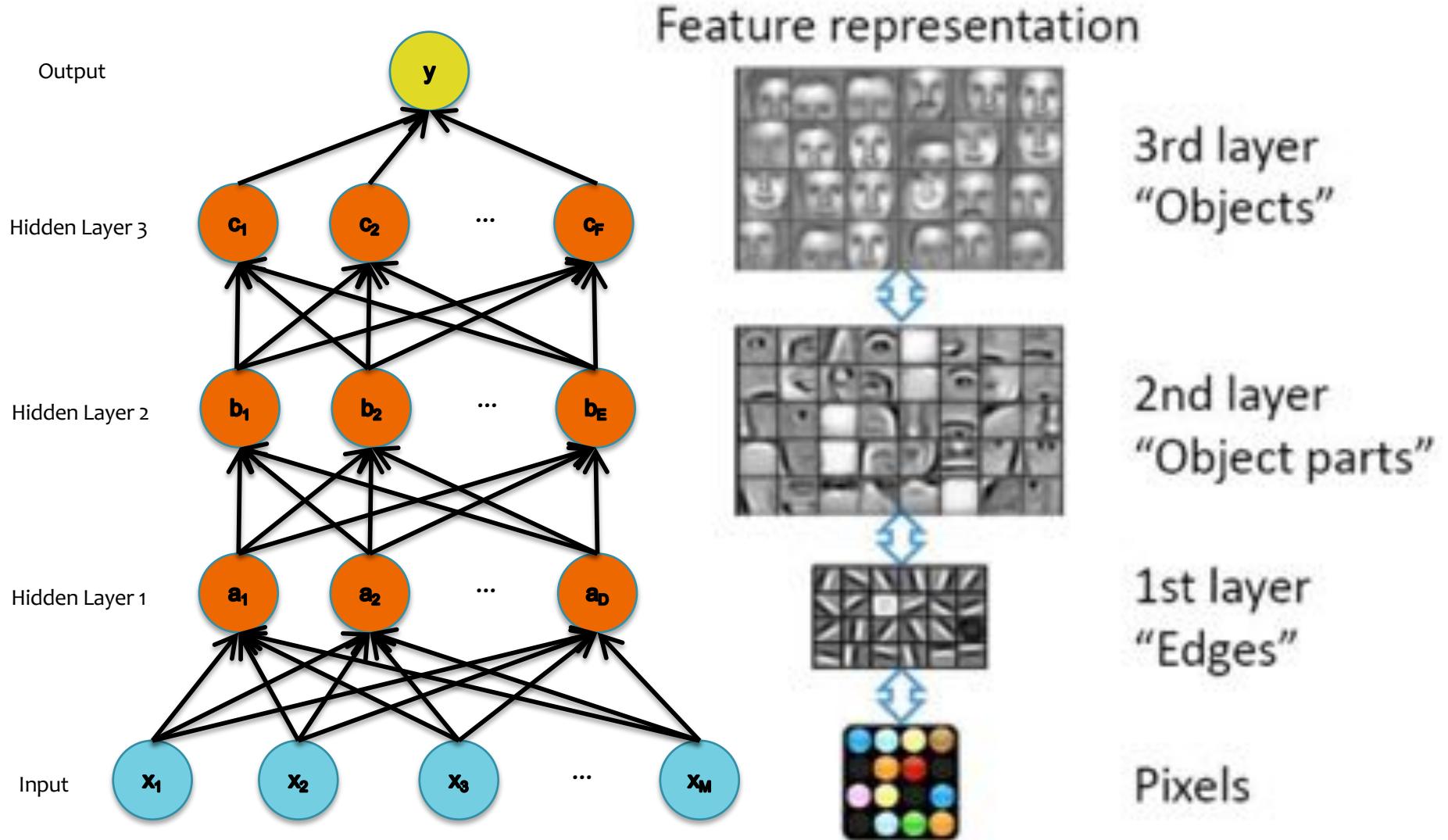
Different Levels of Abstraction

Face Recognition:

- Deep Network can build up increasingly higher levels of abstraction
- Lines, parts, regions



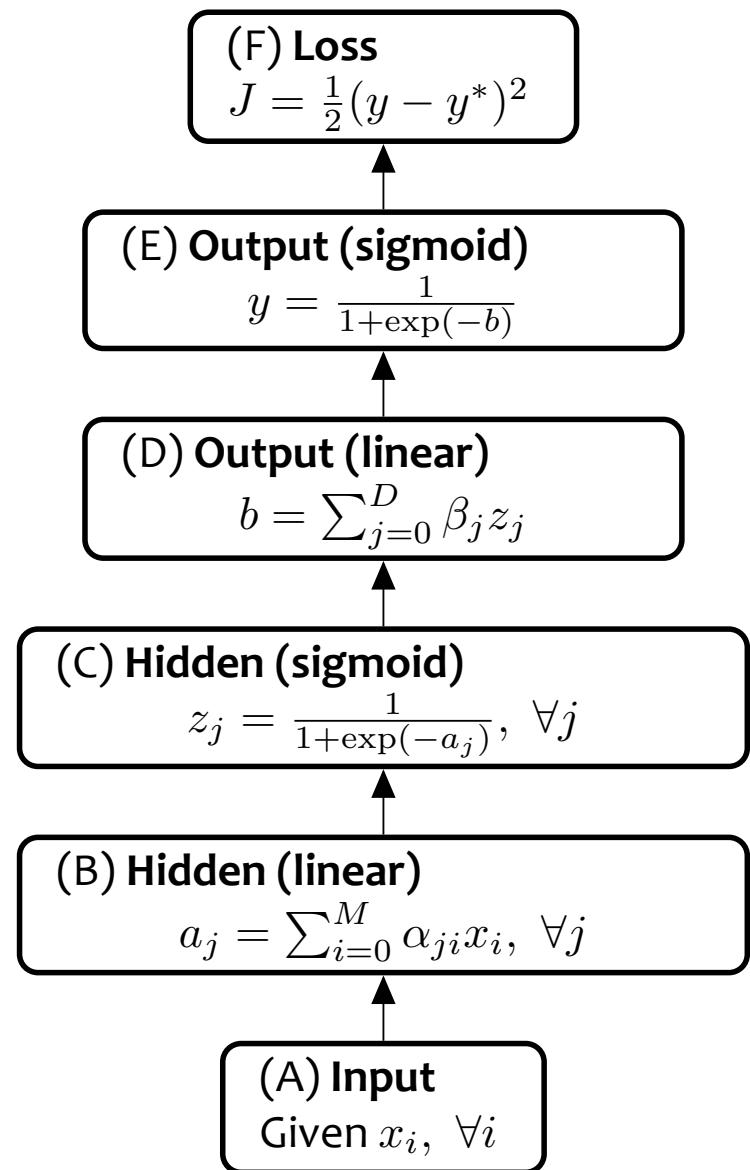
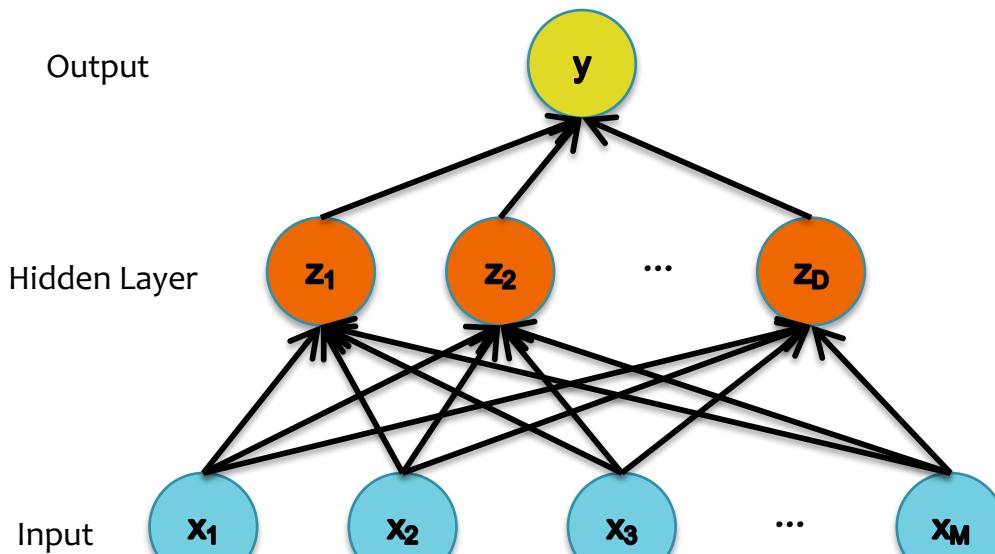
Different Levels of Abstraction



Example from Honglak Lee (NIPS 2010)

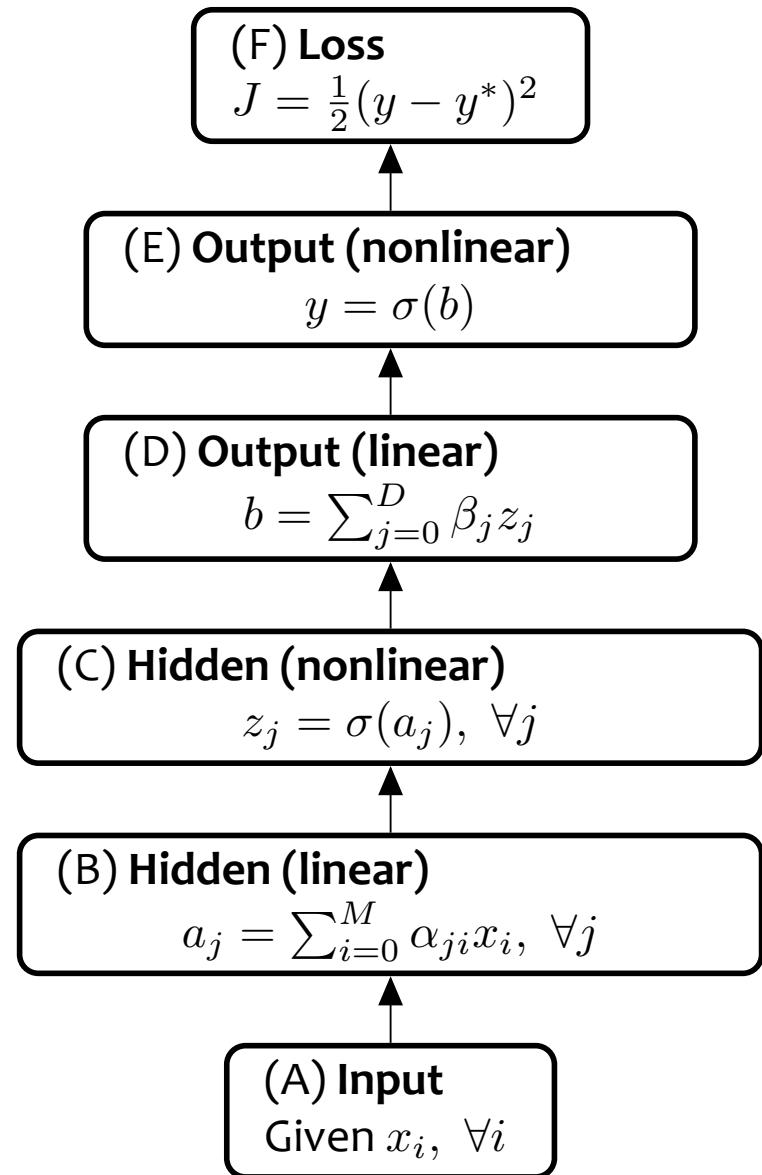
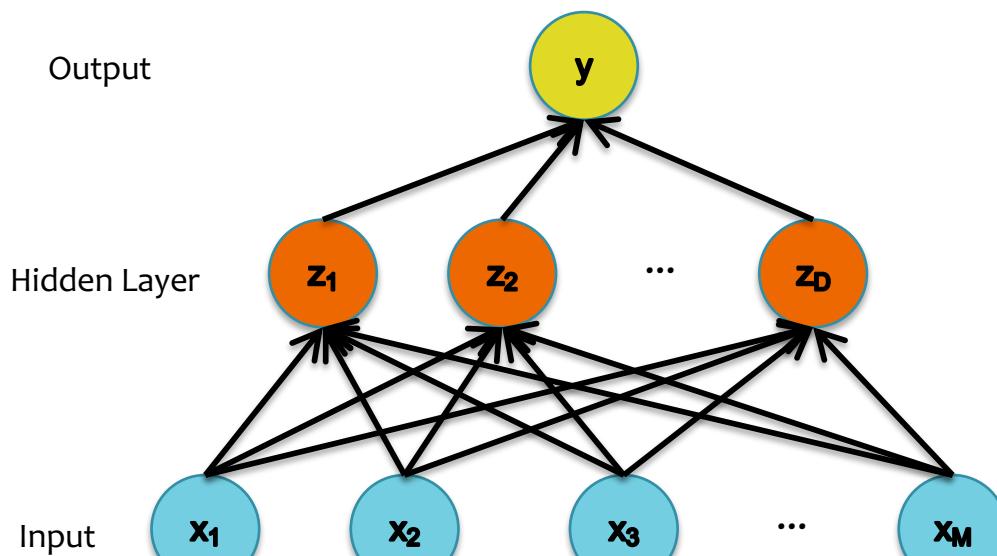
Activation Functions

Neural Network with sigmoid activation functions



Activation Functions

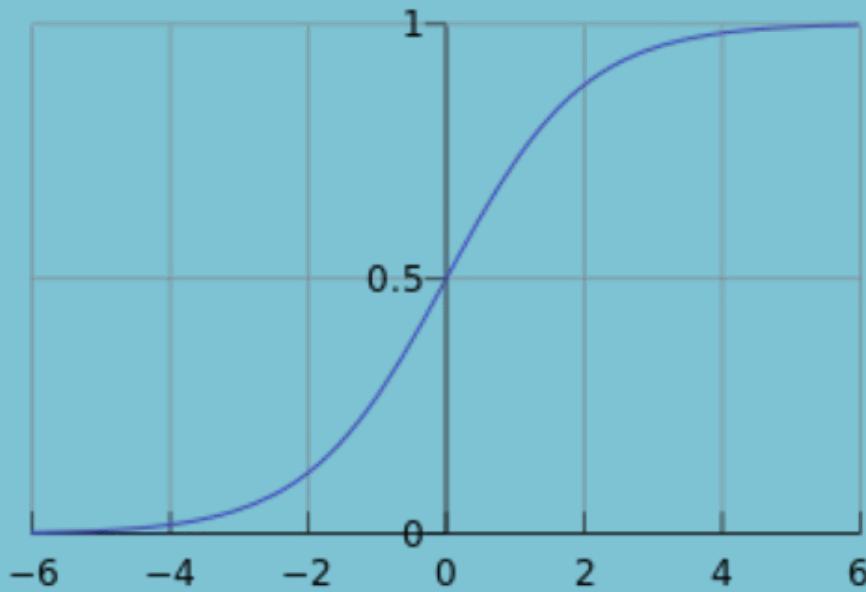
Neural Network with arbitrary nonlinear activation functions



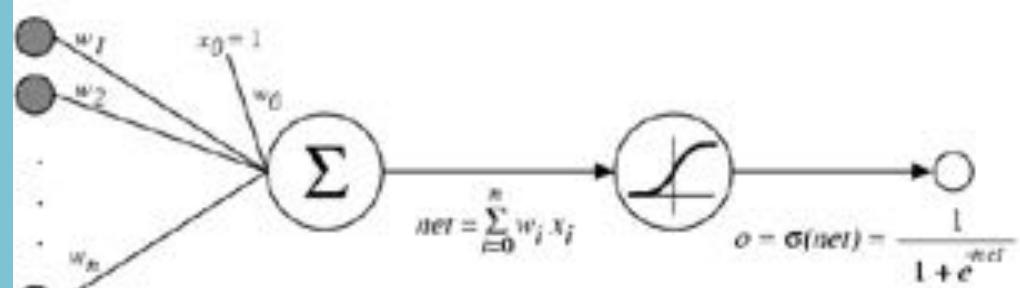
Activation Functions

Sigmoid / Logistic Function

$$\text{logistic}(u) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-u}}$$

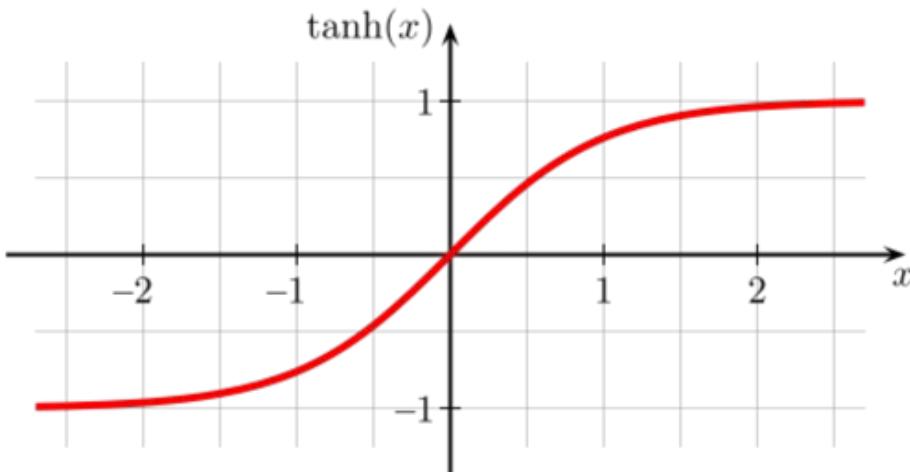


So far, we've assumed that the activation function (nonlinearity) is always the sigmoid function...



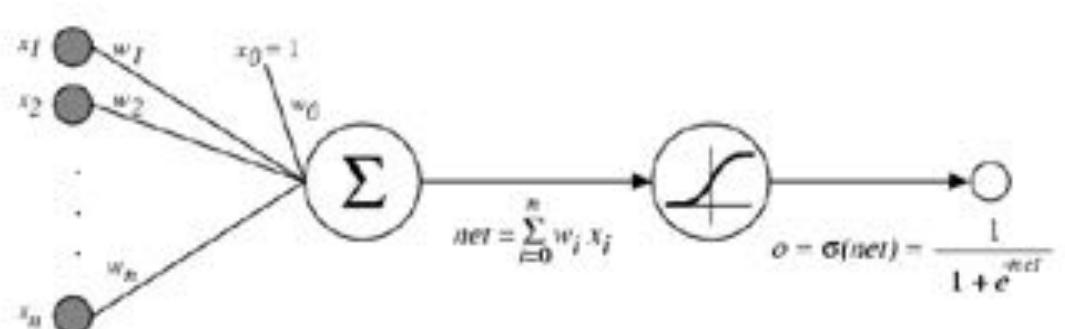
Activation Functions

- A new change: modifying the nonlinearity
 - The logistic is not widely used in modern ANNs



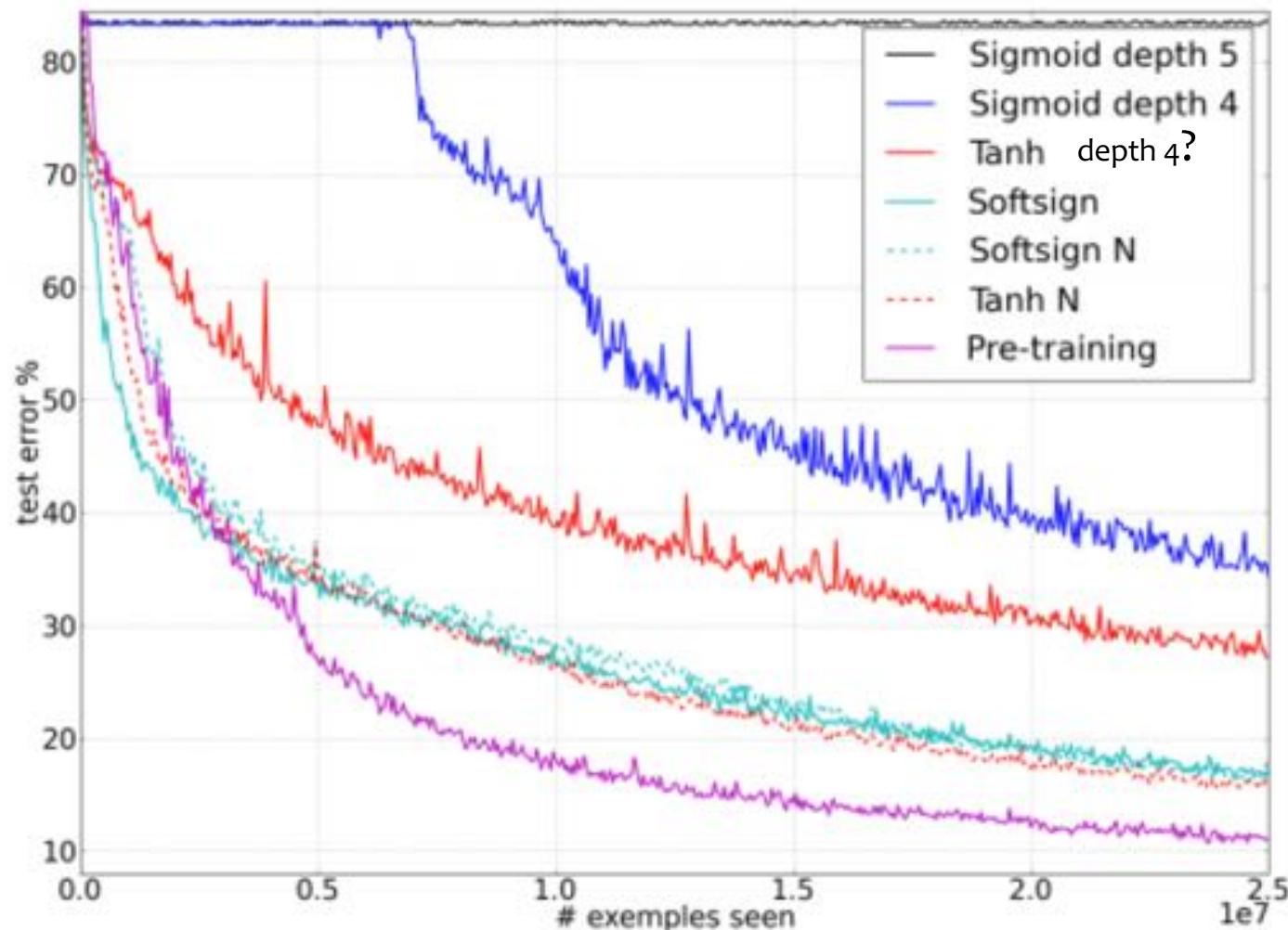
Alternate 1:
 \tanh

Like logistic function but
shifted to range [-1, +1]



Understanding the difficulty of training deep feedforward neural networks

AI Stats 2010

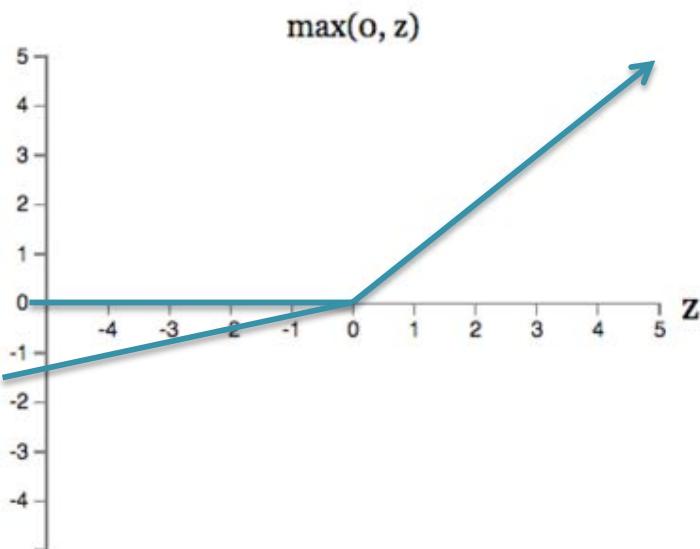


sigmoid
vs.
tanh

Figure from Glorot & Bentio (2010)

Activation Functions

- A new change: modifying the nonlinearity
 - reLU often used in vision tasks

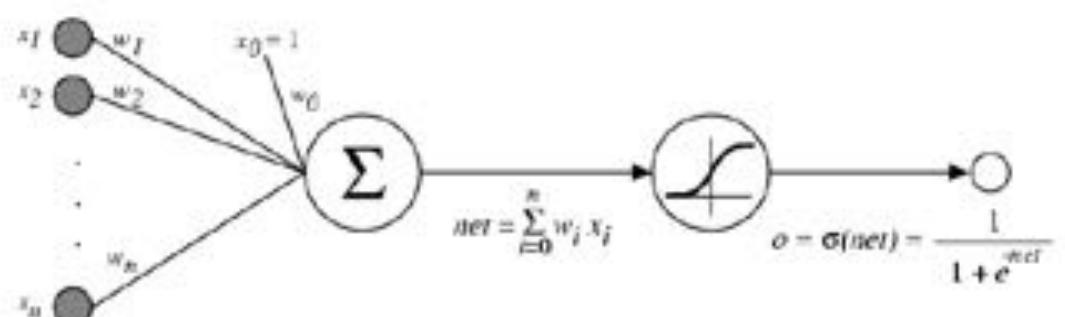


$$\max(0, w \cdot x + b).$$

Alternate 2: rectified linear unit

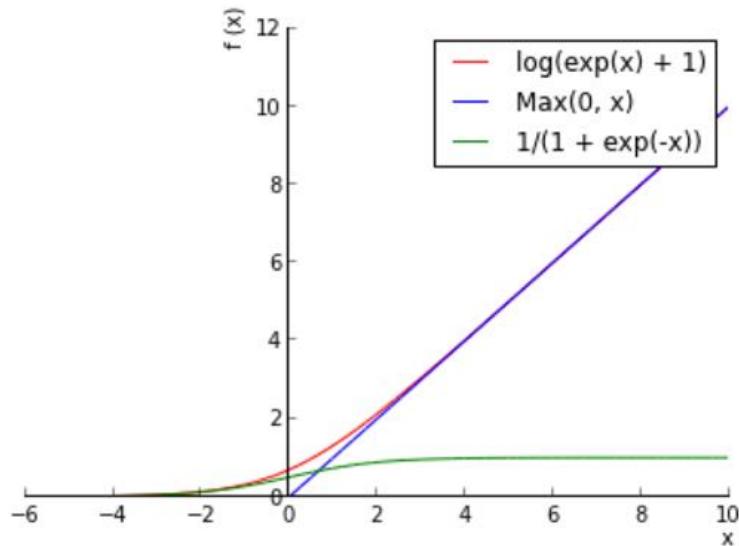
Linear with a cutoff at zero

(Implementation: clip the gradient when you pass zero)



Activation Functions

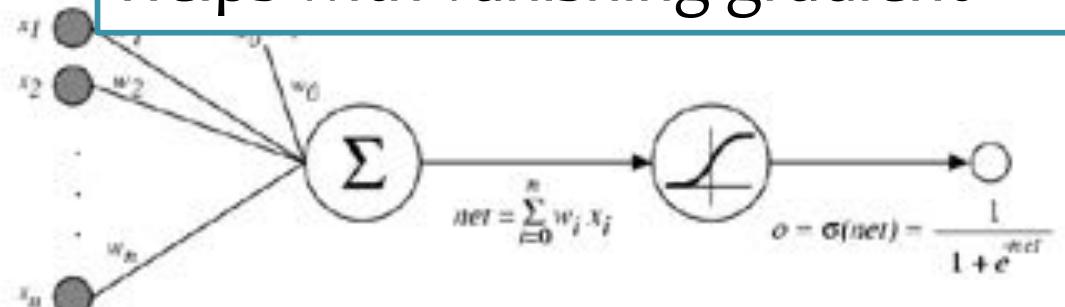
- A new change: modifying the nonlinearity
 - reLU often used in vision tasks



Alternate 2: rectified linear unit

Soft version: $\log(\exp(x)+1)$

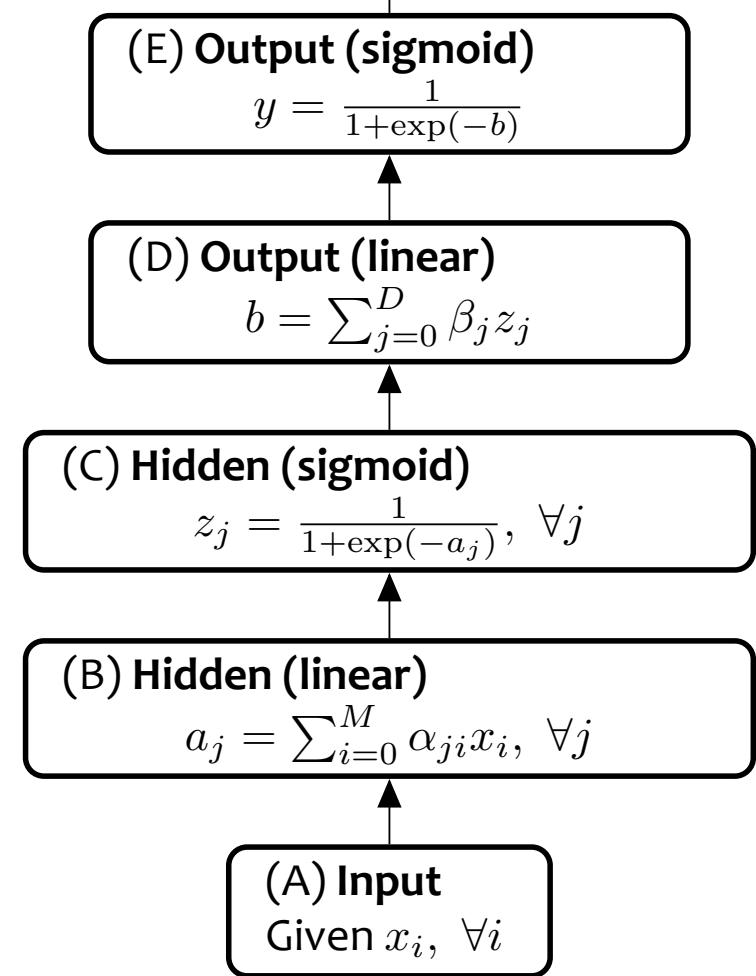
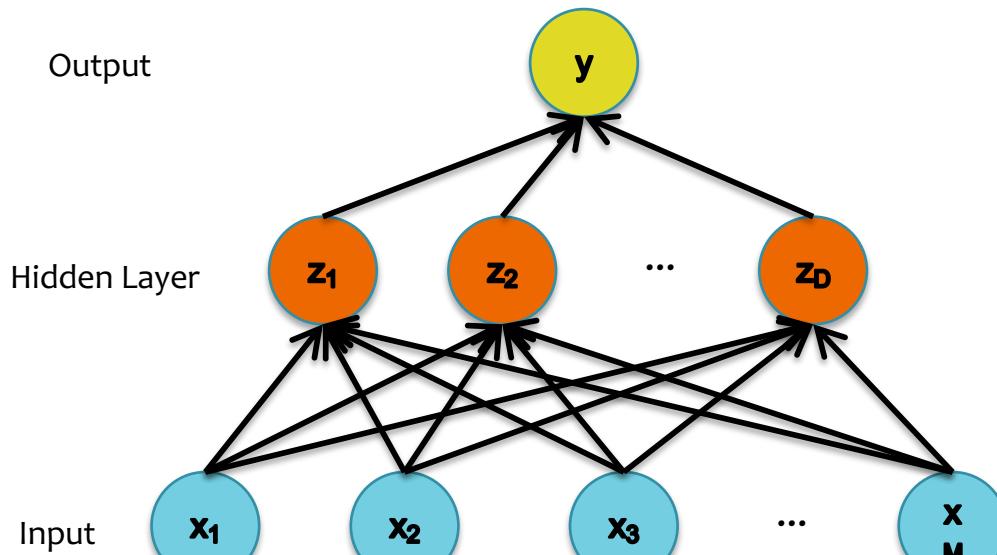
Doesn't saturate (at one end)
Sparsifies outputs
Helps with vanishing gradient



Decision Functions

Neural Network

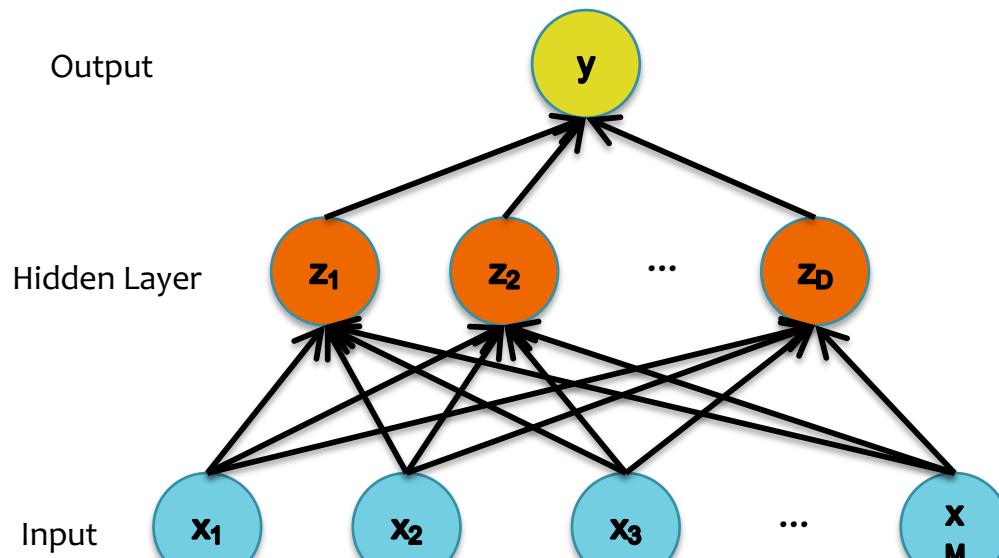
Neural Network for Classification



Decision Functions

Neural Network

Neural Network for Regression



(D) Output (linear)

$$y = \sum_{j=0}^D \beta_j z_j$$

(C) Hidden (sigmoid)

$$z_j = \frac{1}{1+\exp(-a_j)}, \forall j$$

(B) Hidden (linear)

$$a_j = \sum_{i=0}^M \alpha_{ji} x_i, \forall j$$

(A) Input

Given $x_i, \forall i$

Objective Functions for NNs

1. Quadratic Loss:

- the same objective as Linear Regression
- i.e. mean squared error

2. Cross-Entropy:

- the same objective as Logistic Regression
- i.e. negative log likelihood
- This requires probabilities, so we add an additional “softmax” layer at the end of our network

Forward

Quadratic $J = \frac{1}{2}(y - y^*)^2$

Cross Entropy $J = y^* \log(y) + (1 - y^*) \log(1 - y)$

Backward

$$\frac{dJ}{dy} = y - y^*$$

$$\frac{dJ}{dy} = y^* \frac{1}{y} + (1 - y^*) \frac{1}{1 - y}$$

Objective Functions for NNs

Cross-entropy vs. Quadratic loss

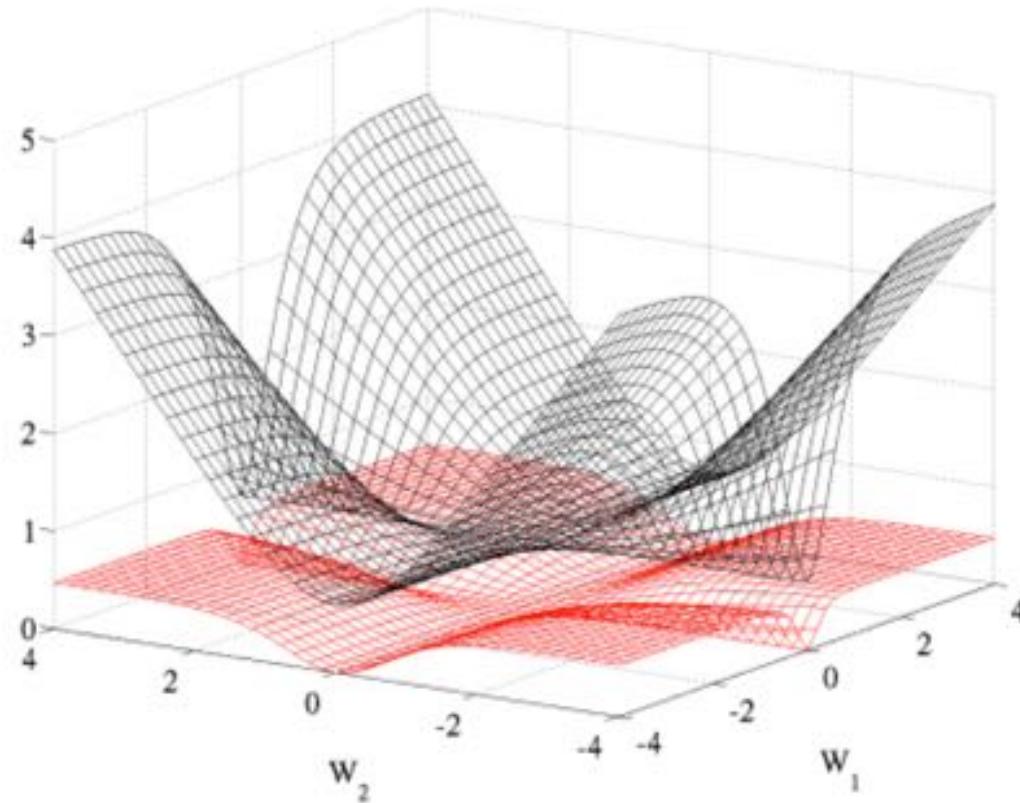
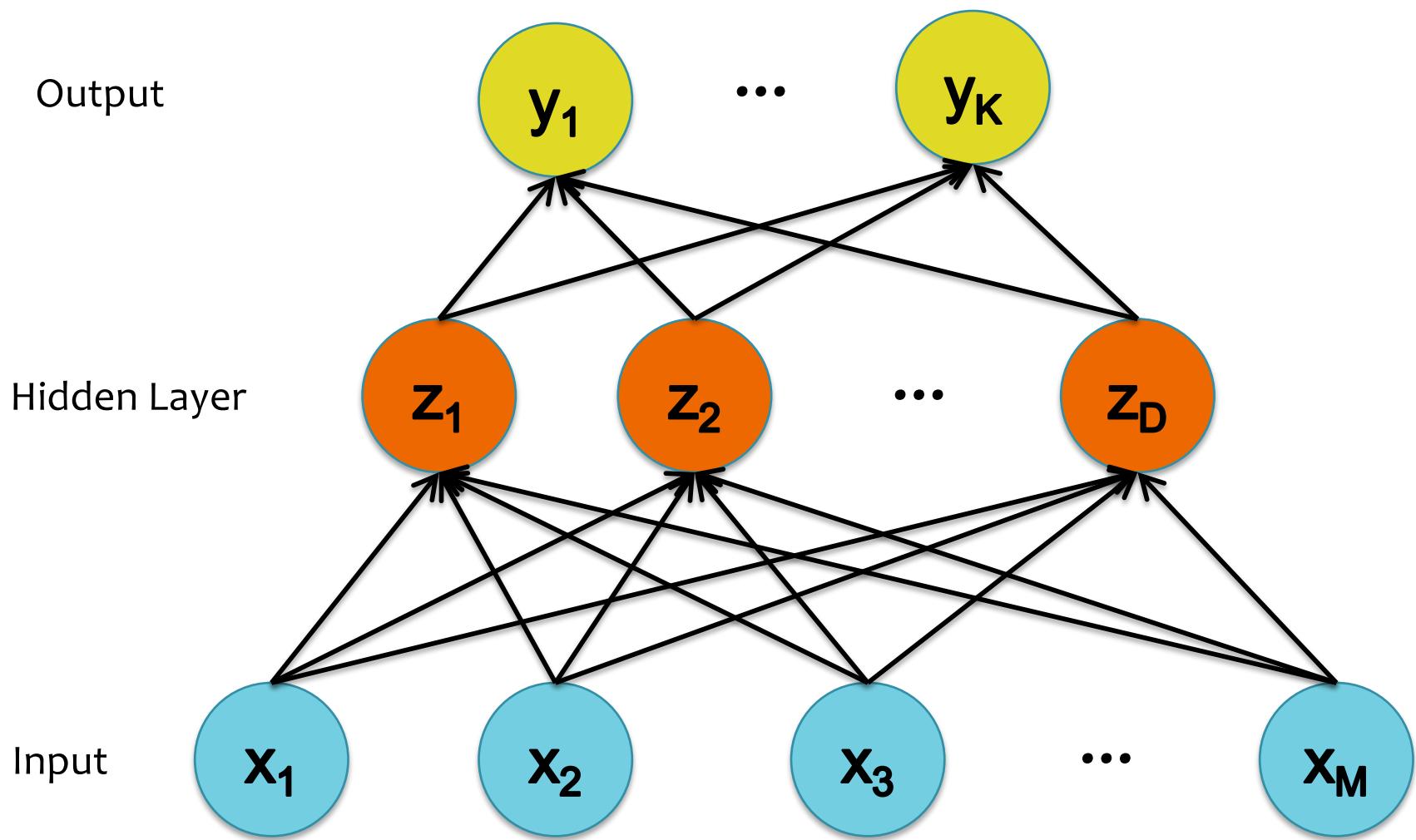


Figure 5: Cross entropy (black, surface on top) and quadratic (red, bottom surface) cost as a function of two weights (one at each layer) of a network with two layers, W_1 respectively on the first layer and W_2 on the second, output layer.

Figure from Glorot & Bentio (2010)

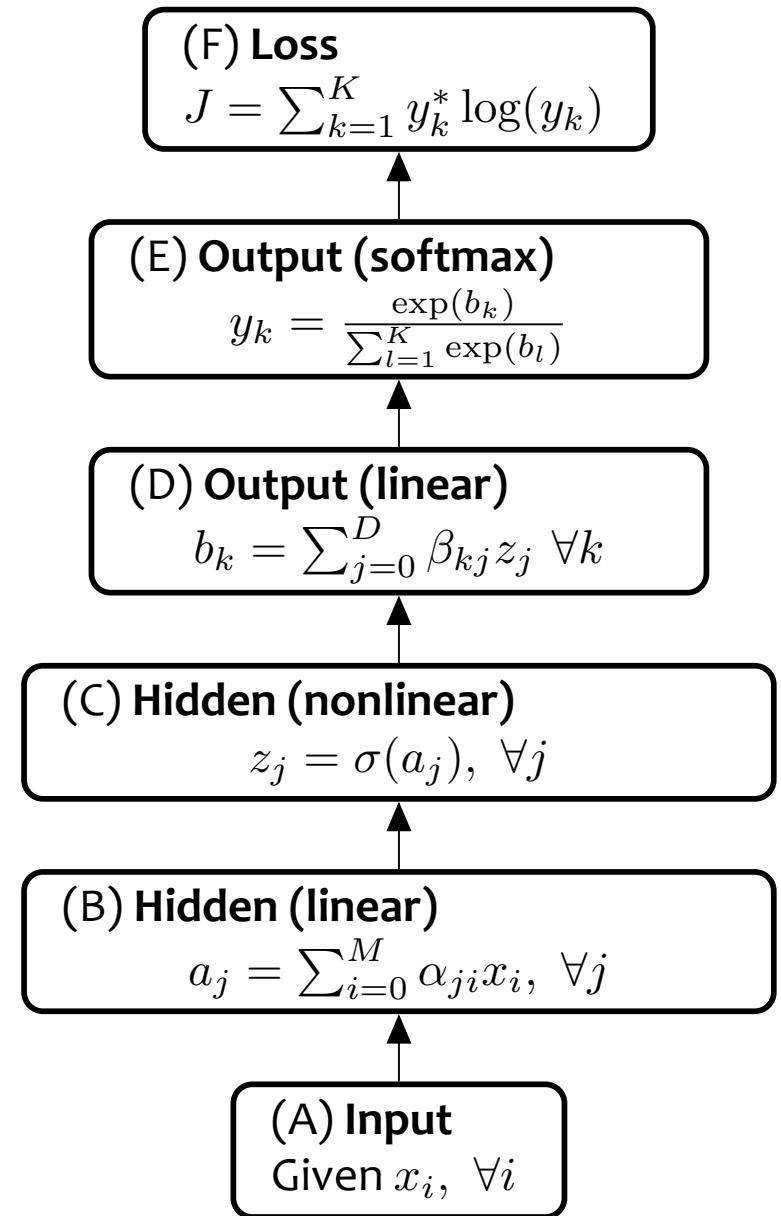
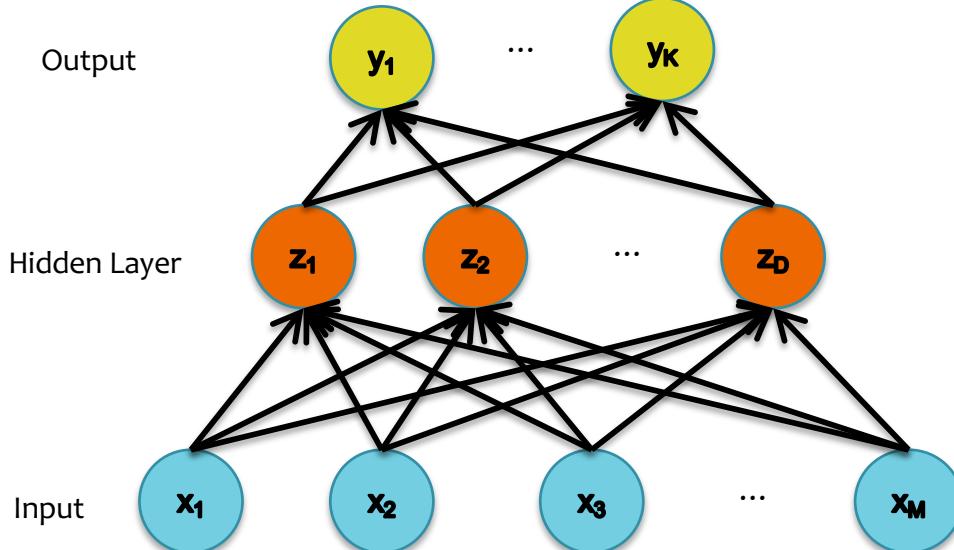
Multi-Class Output



Multi-Class Output

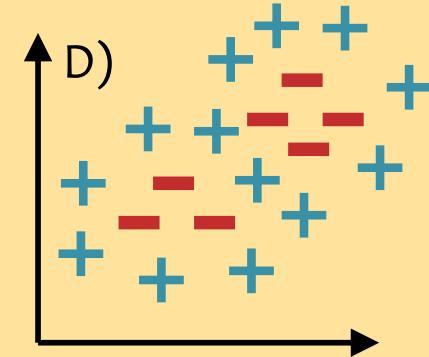
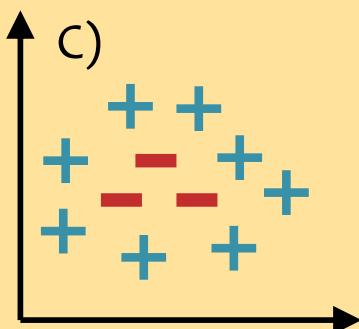
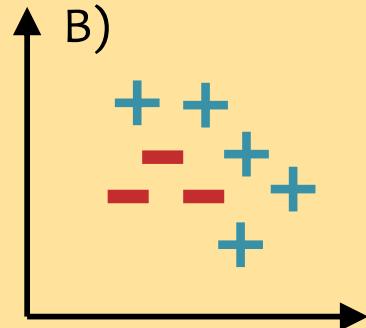
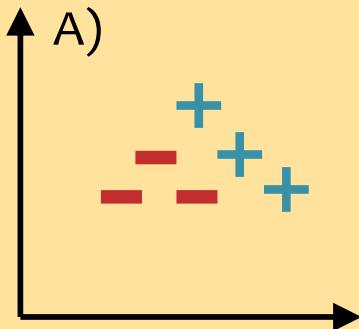
Softmax:

$$y_k = \frac{\exp(b_k)}{\sum_{l=1}^K \exp(b_l)}$$

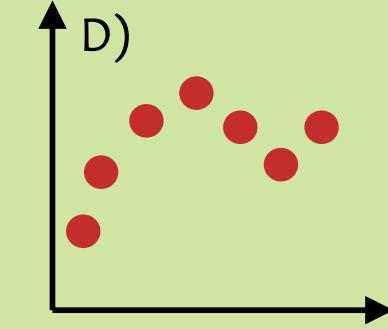
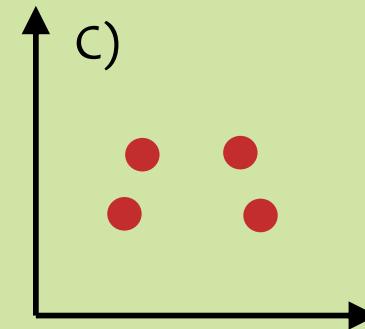
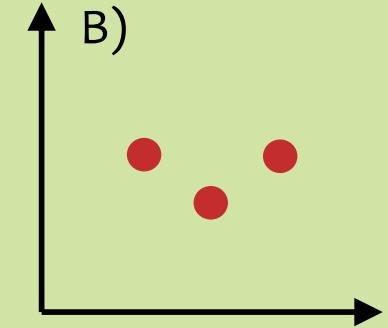
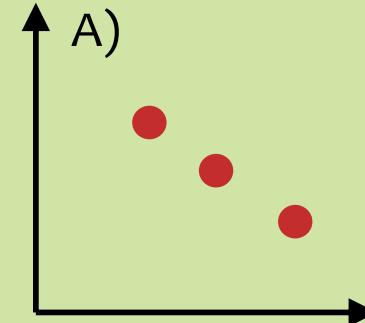


Neural Network Errors

Question A: On which of the datasets below could a one-hidden layer neural network achieve zero *classification* error? **Select all that apply.**

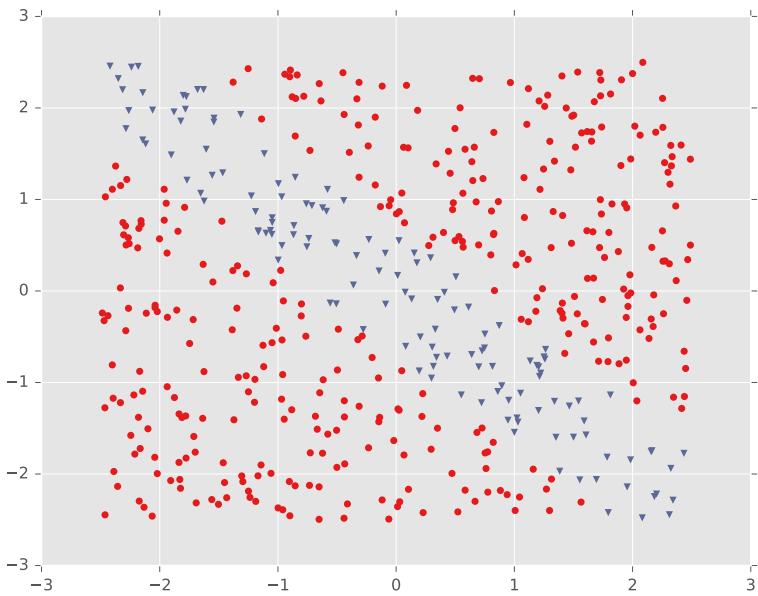


Question B: On which of the datasets below could a one-hidden layer neural network for regression achieve nearly zero MSE? **Select all that apply.**

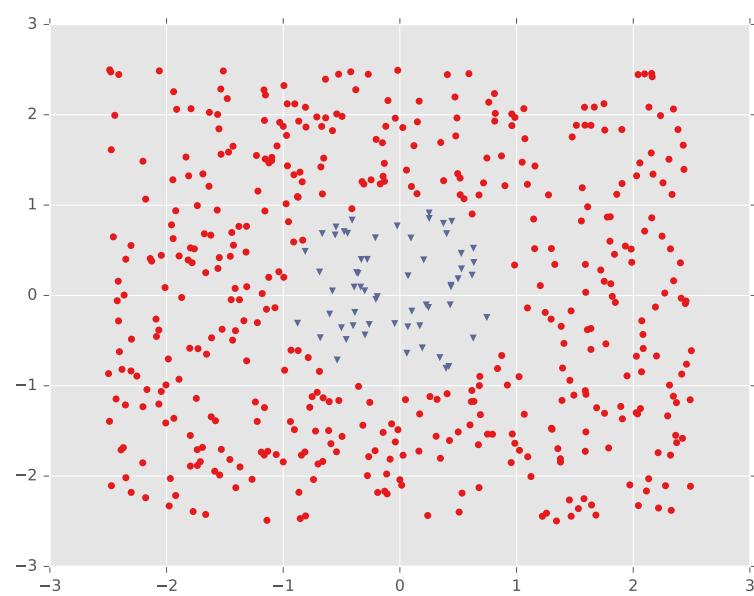


DECISION BOUNDARY EXAMPLES

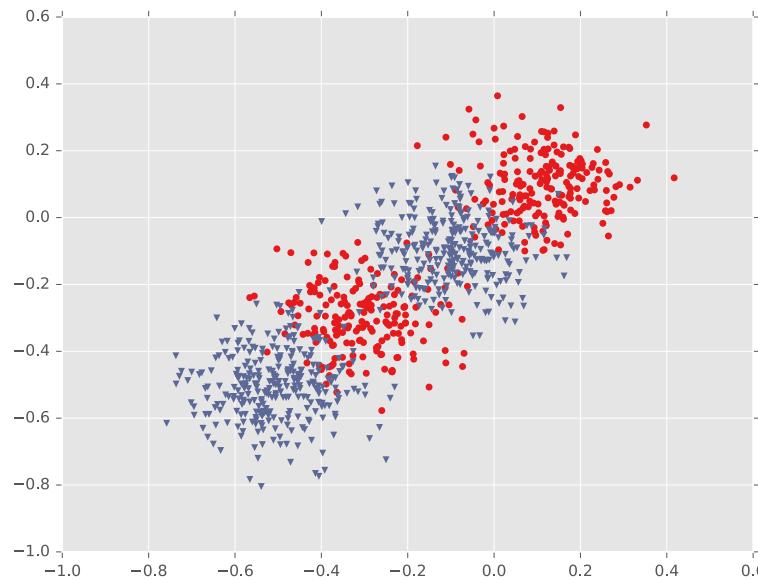
Example #1: Diagonal Band



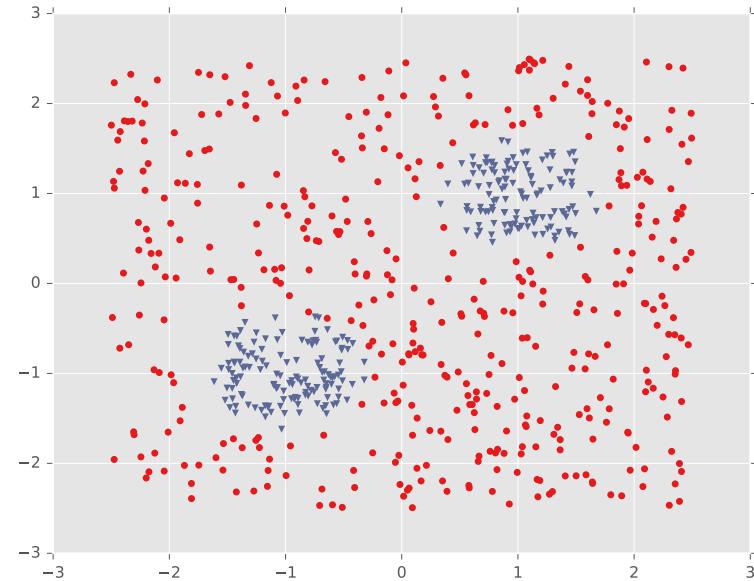
Example #2: One Pocket



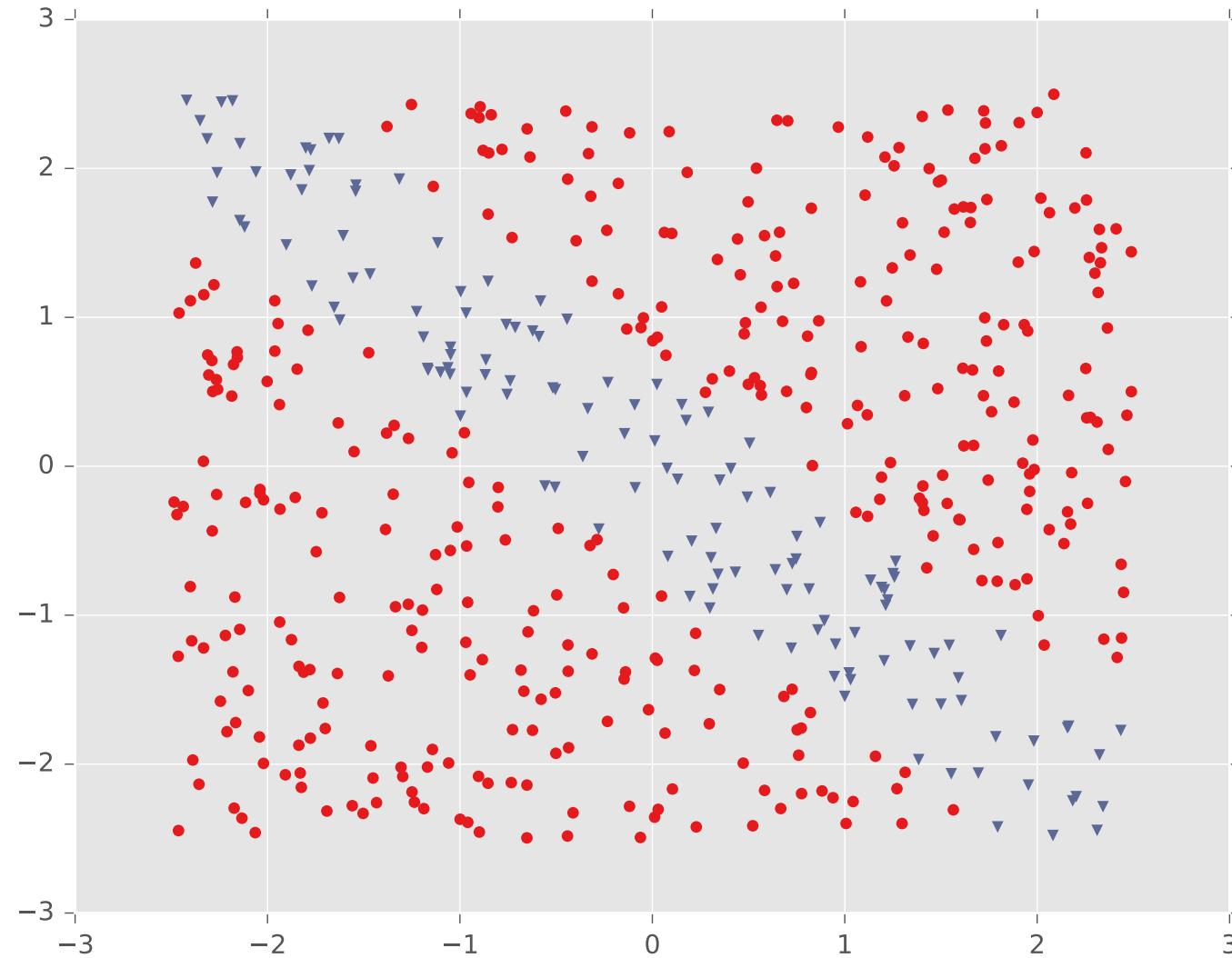
Example #3: Four Gaussians



Example #4: Two Pockets



Example #1: Diagonal Band

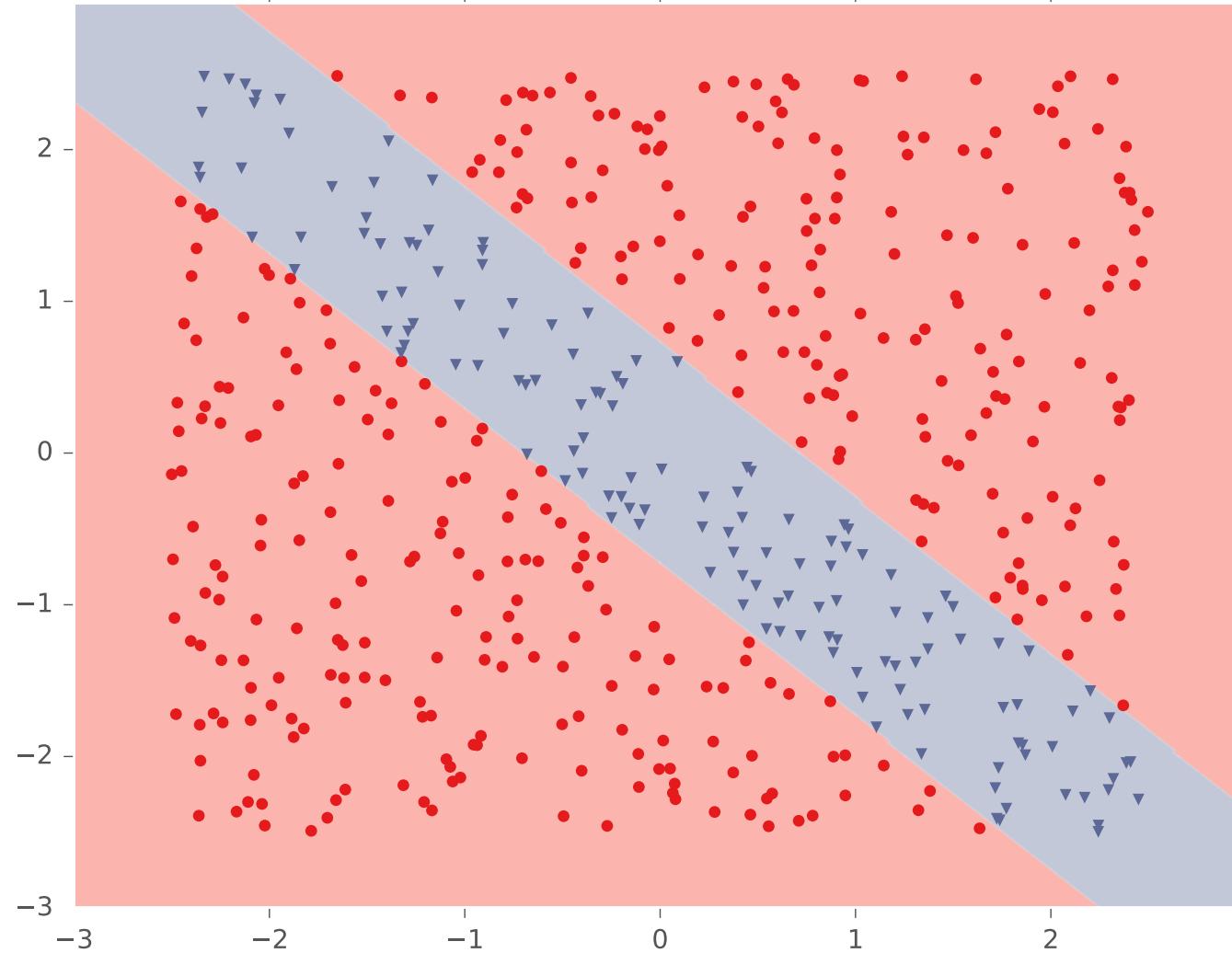


Example #1: Diagonal Band



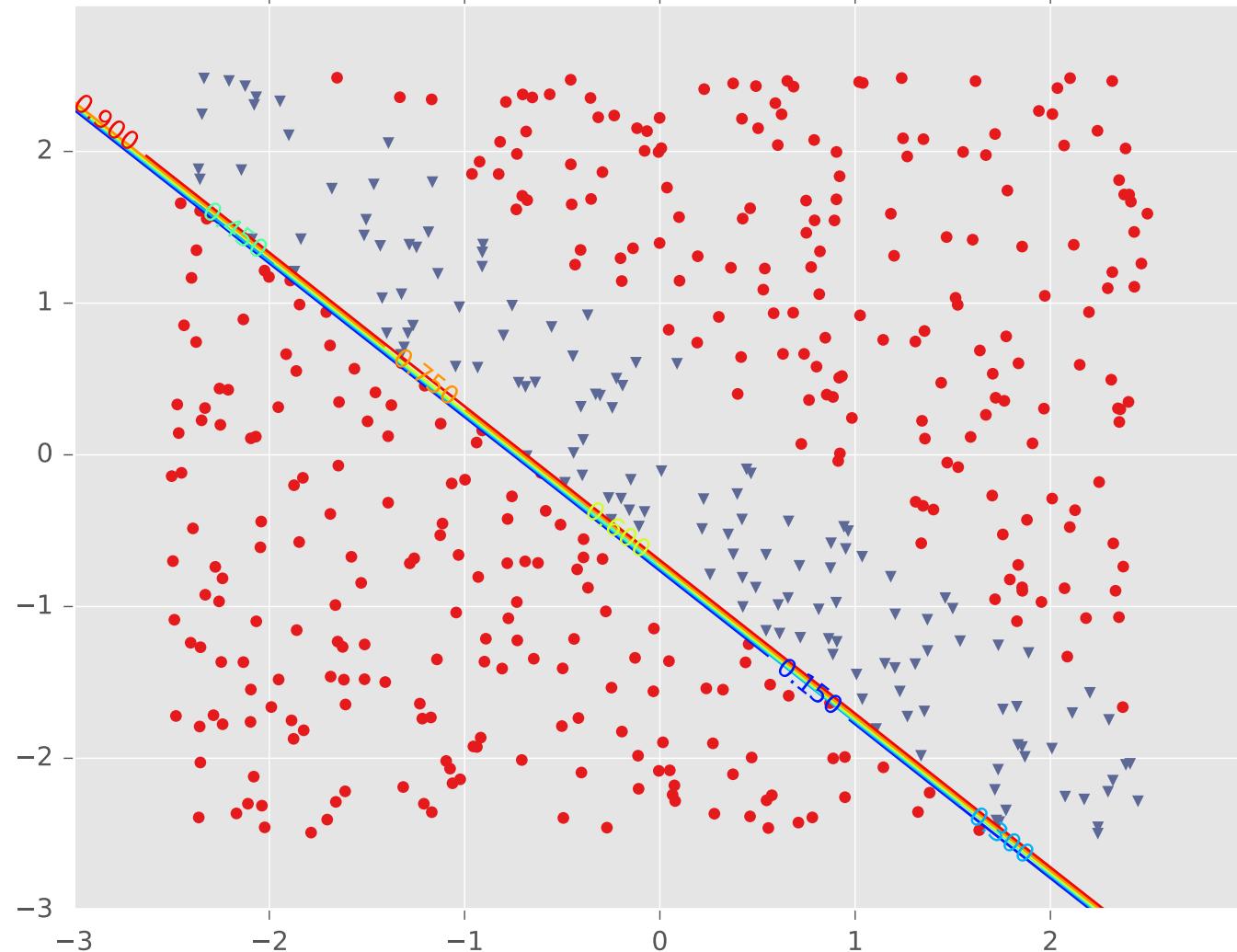
Example #1: Diagonal Band

Tuned Neural Network (hidden=2, activation=logistic)



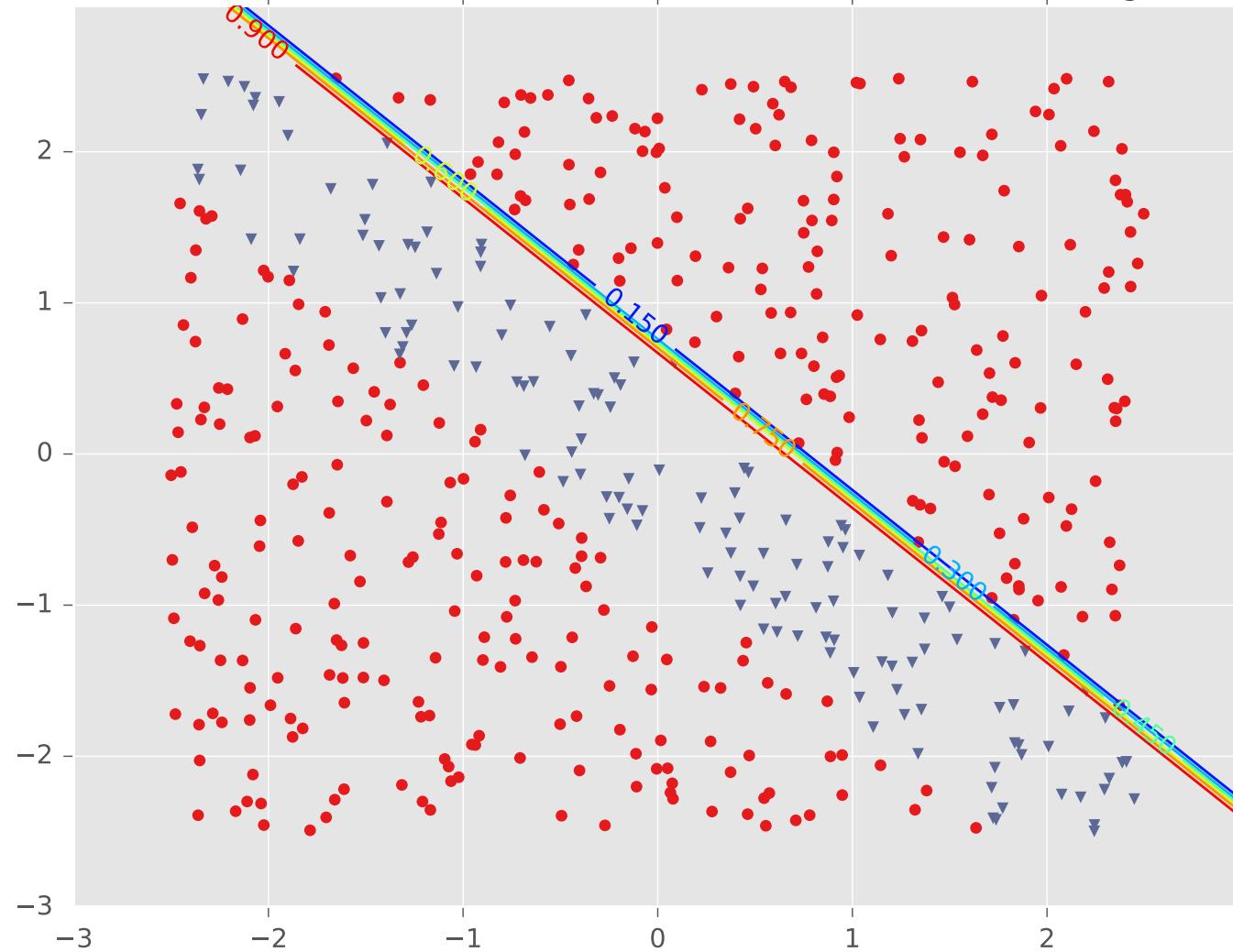
Example #1: Diagonal Band

LR1 for Tuned Neural Network (hidden=2, activation=logistic)



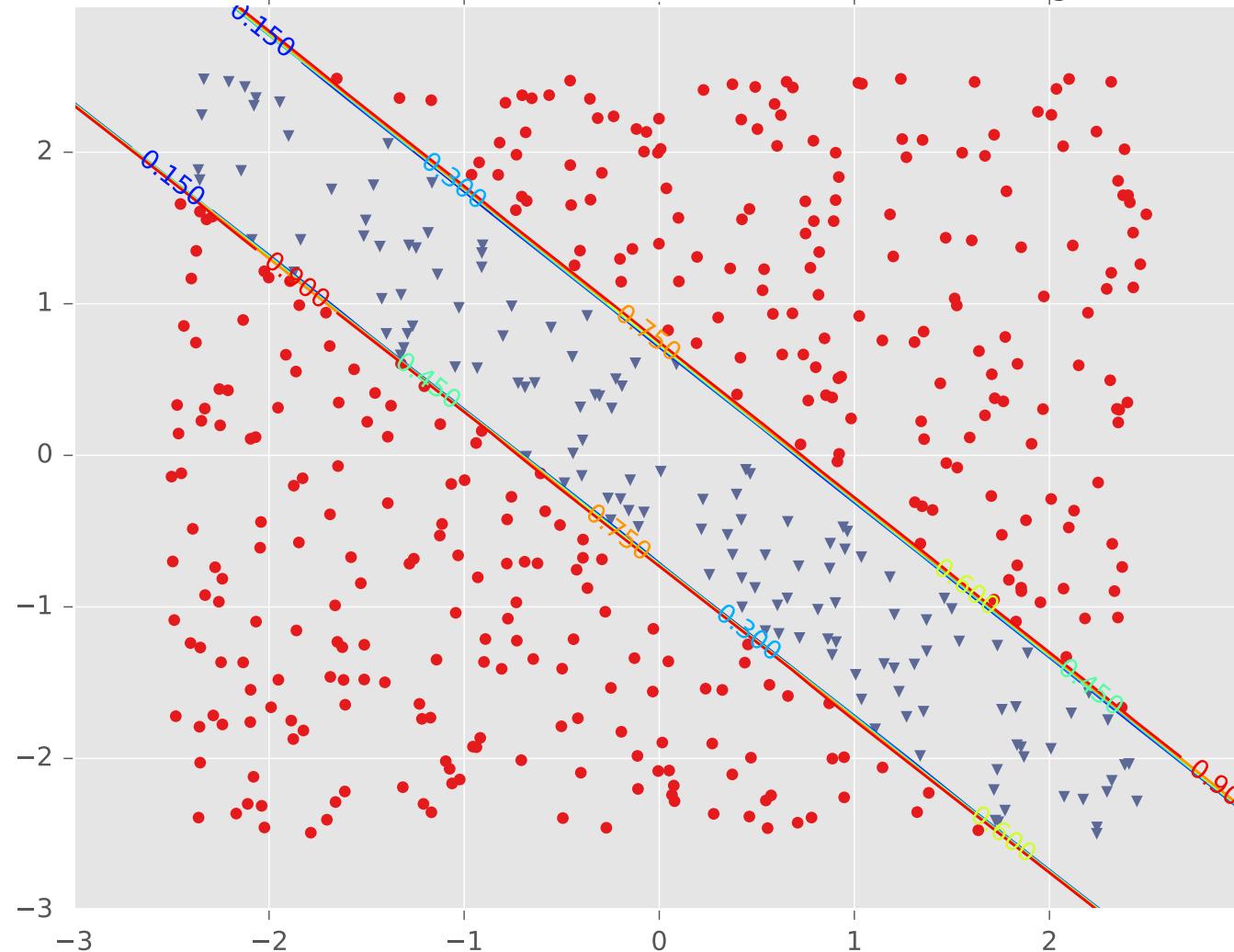
Example #1: Diagonal Band

LR2 for Tuned Neural Network (hidden=2, activation=logistic)

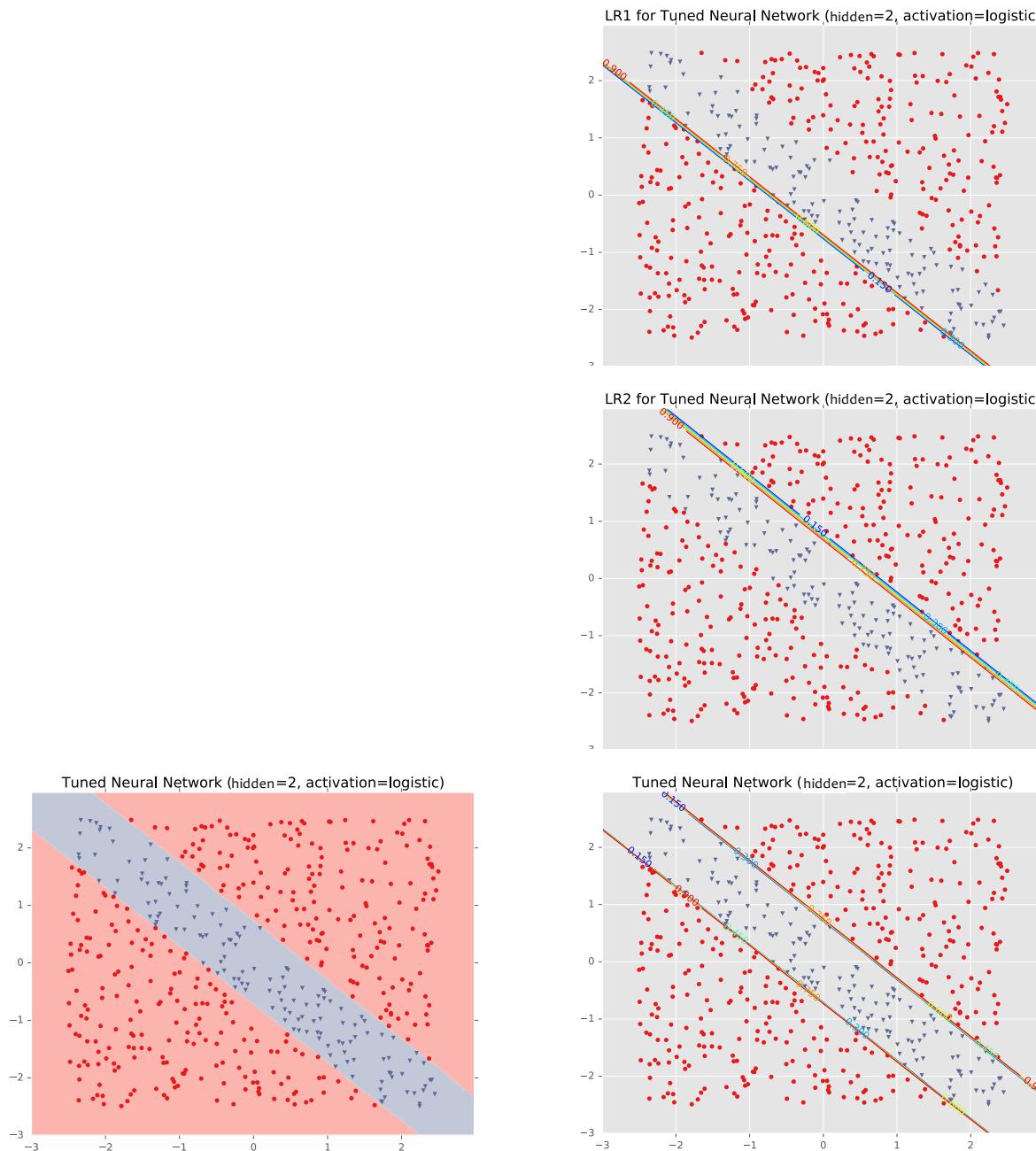


Example #1: Diagonal Band

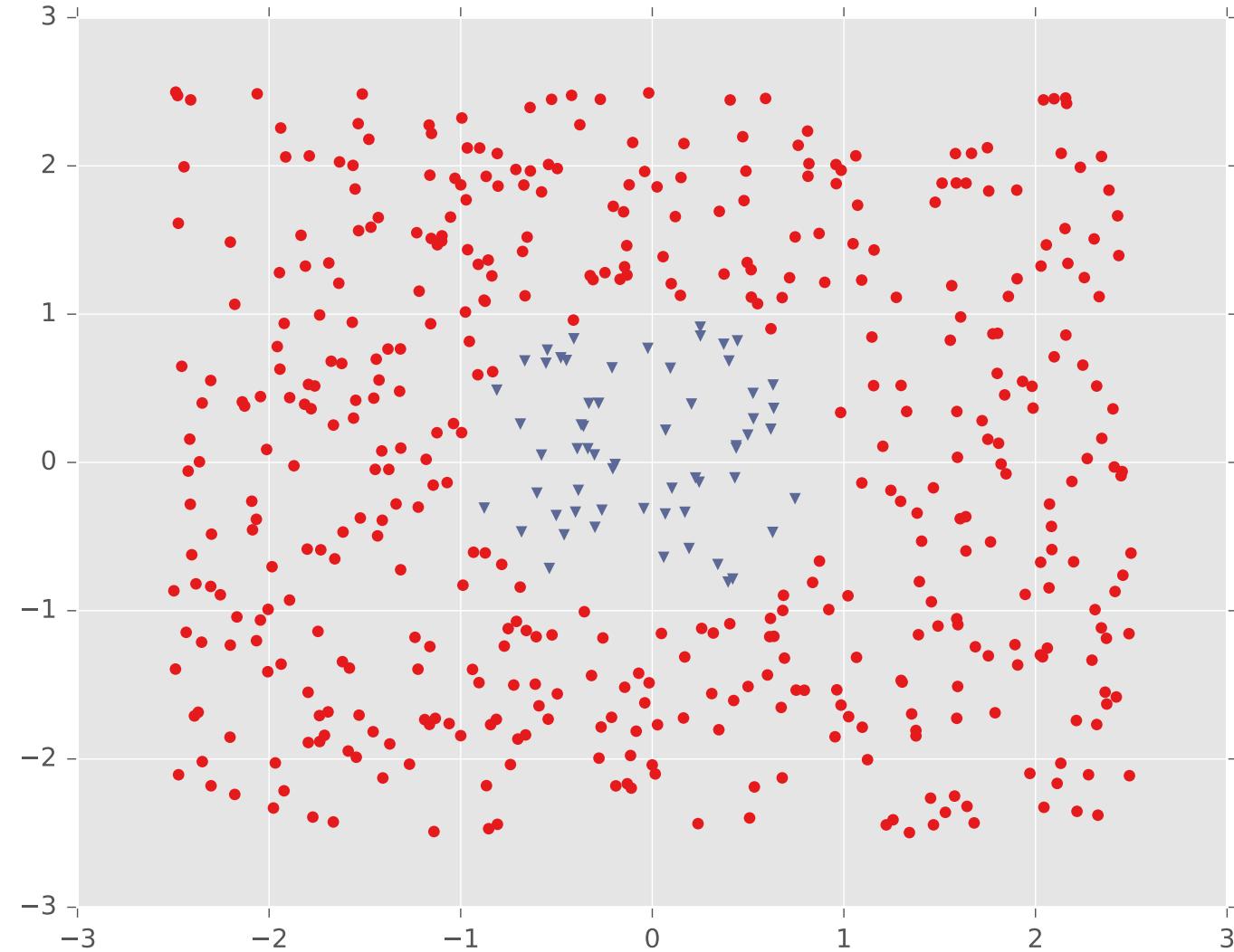
Tuned Neural Network (hidden=2, activation=logistic)



Example #1: Diagonal Band



Example #2: One Pocket

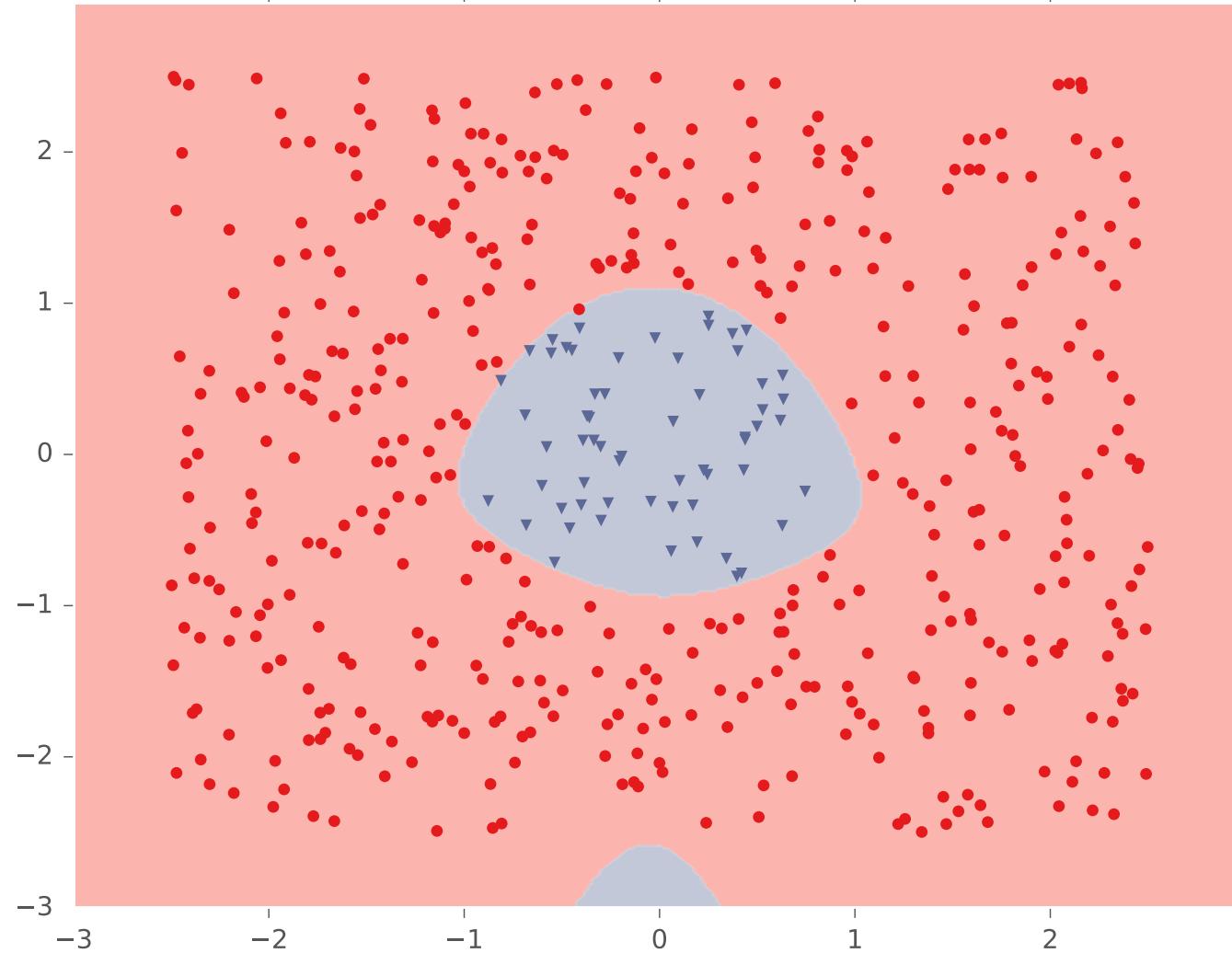


Example #2: One Pocket



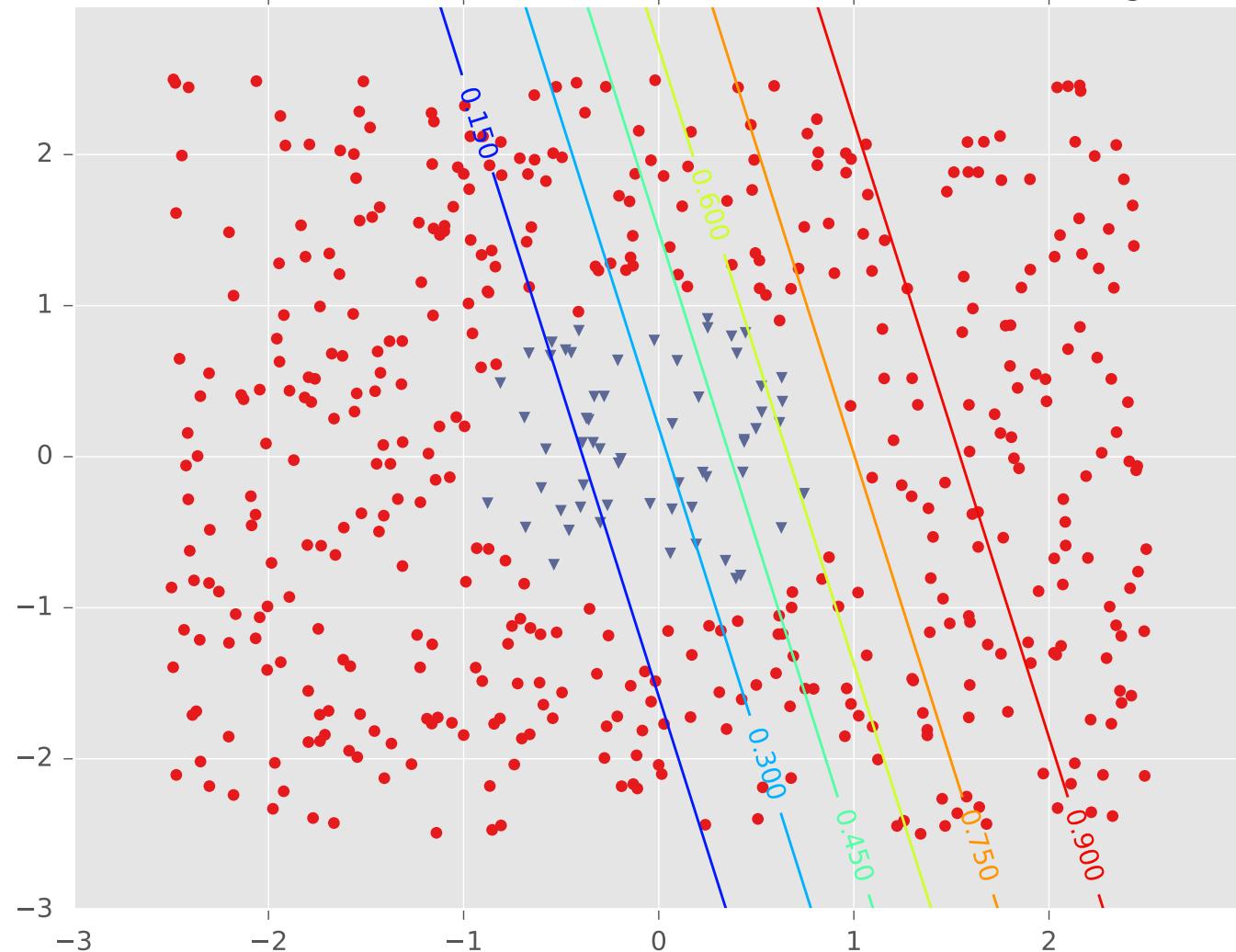
Example #2: One Pocket

Tuned Neural Network (hidden=3, activation=logistic)



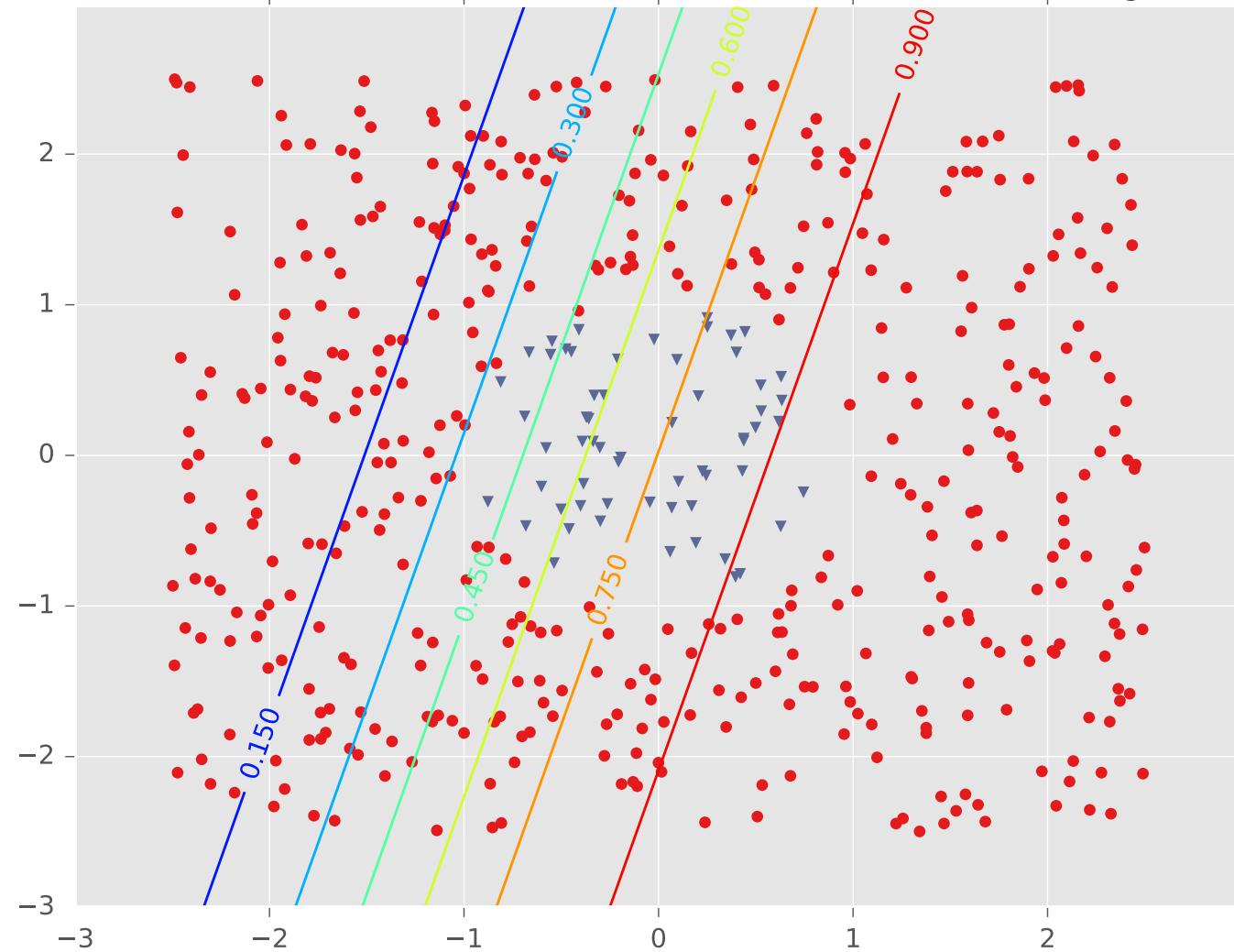
Example #2: One Pocket

LR1 for Tuned Neural Network (hidden=3, activation=logistic)



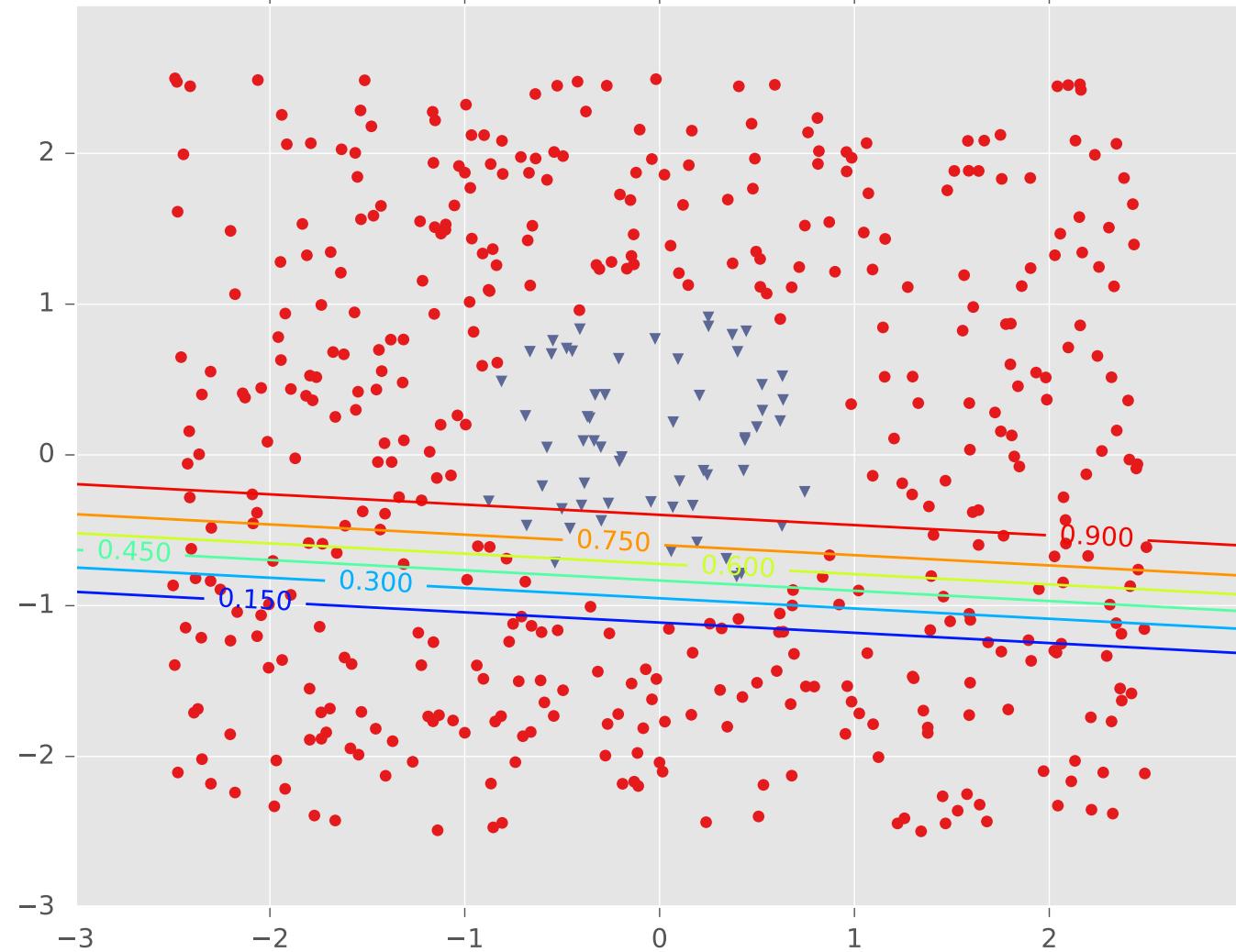
Example #2: One Pocket

LR2 for Tuned Neural Network (hidden=3, activation=logistic)



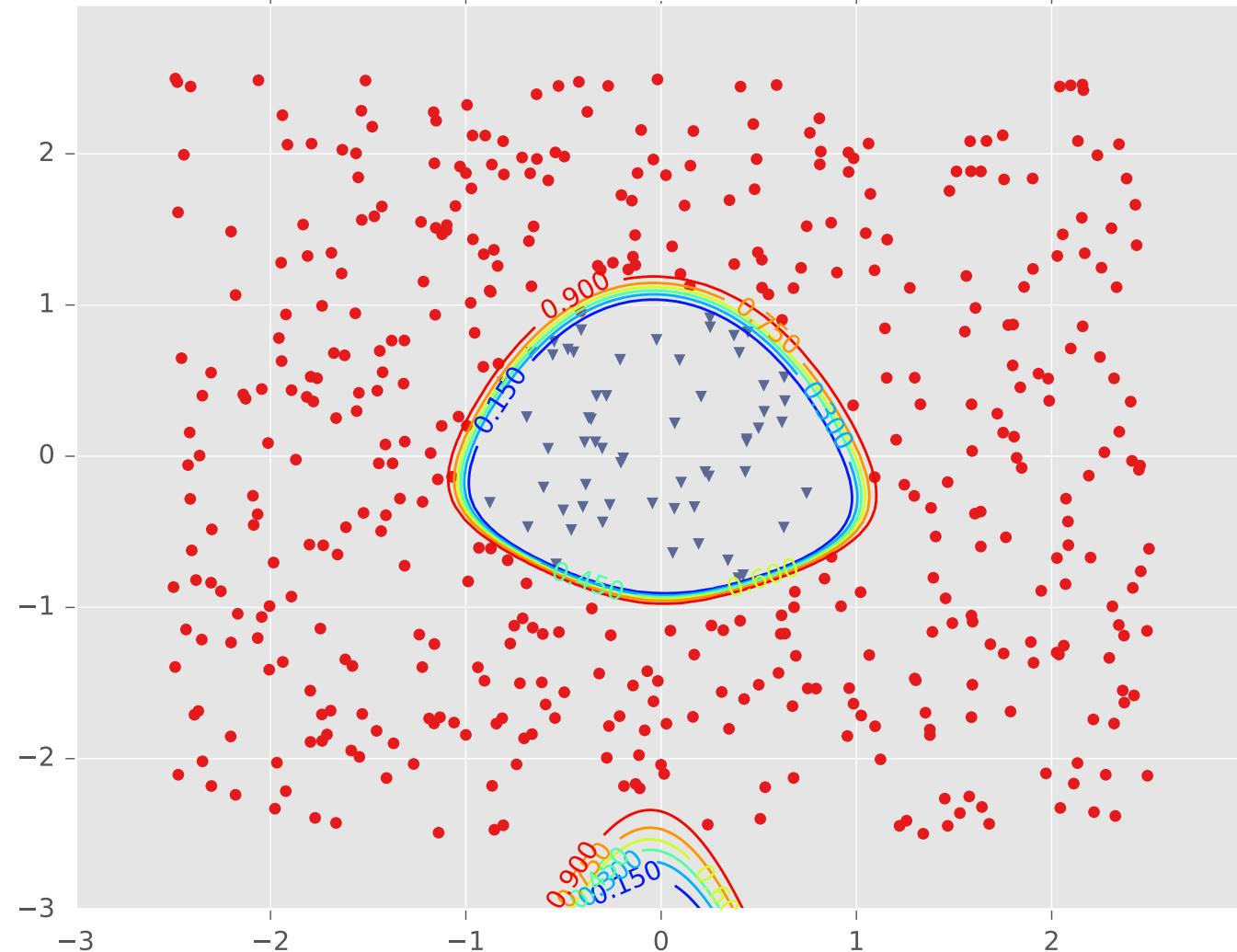
Example #2: One Pocket

LR3 for Tuned Neural Network (hidden=3, activation=logistic)

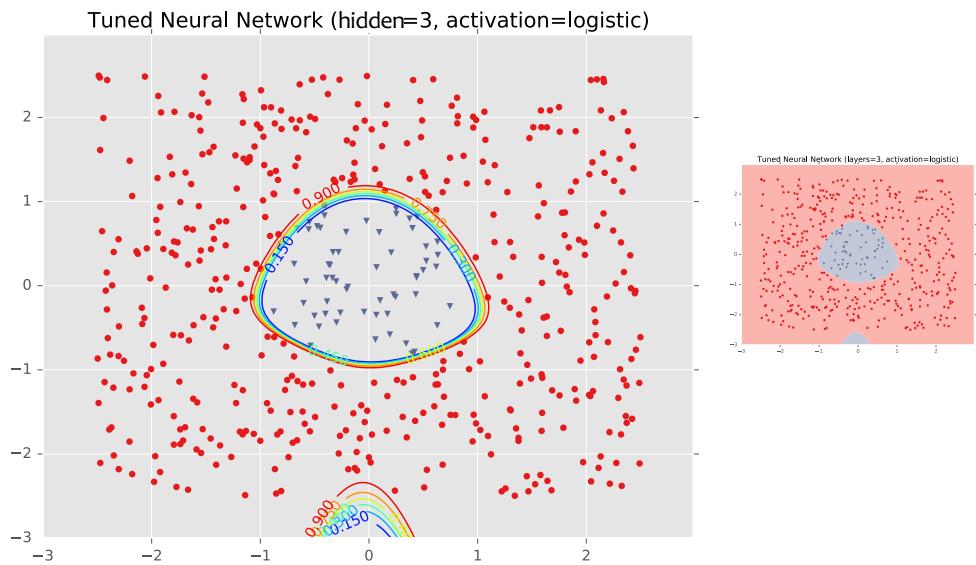
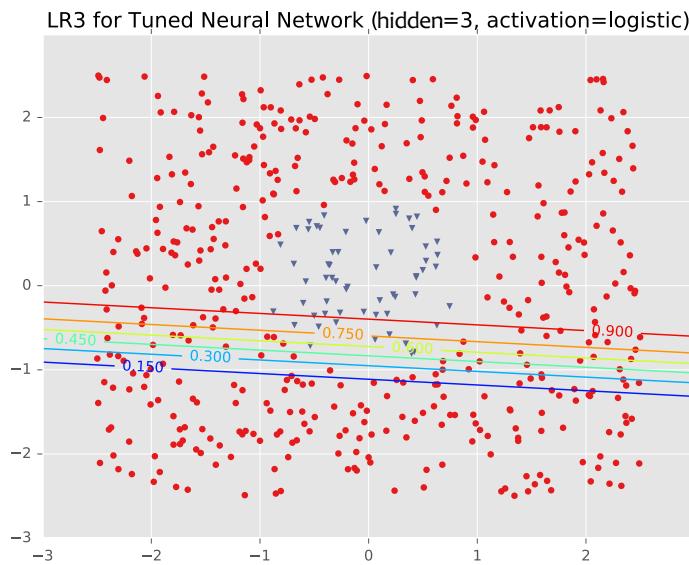
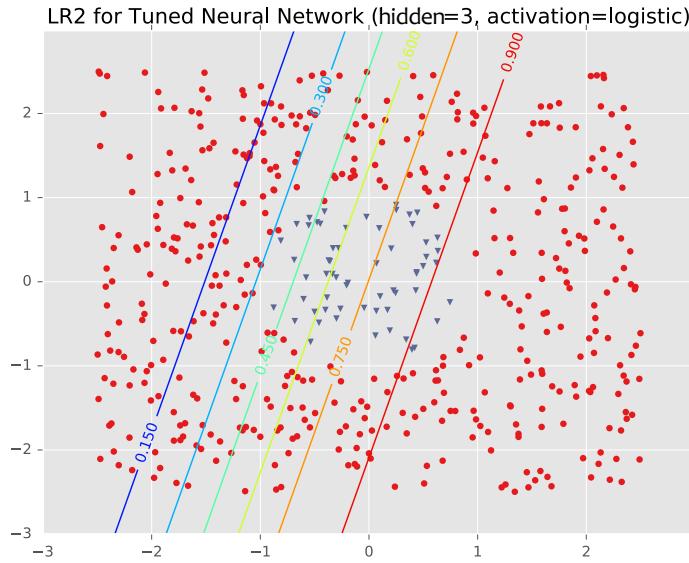
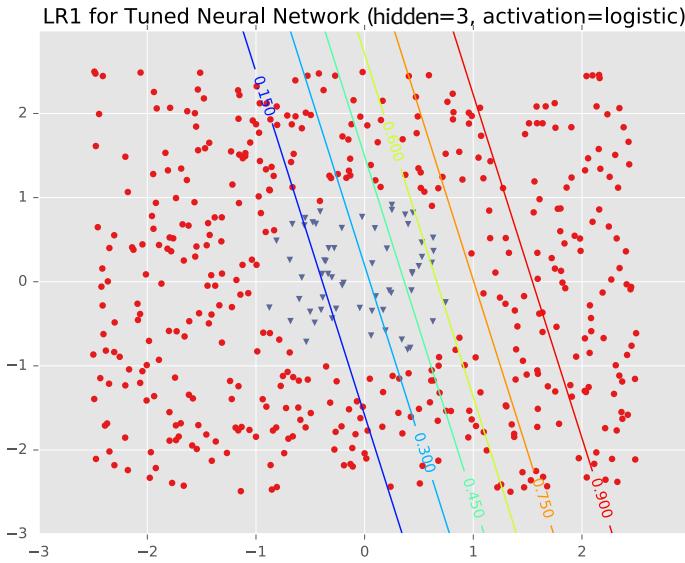


Example #2: One Pocket

Tuned Neural Network (hidden=3, activation=logistic)



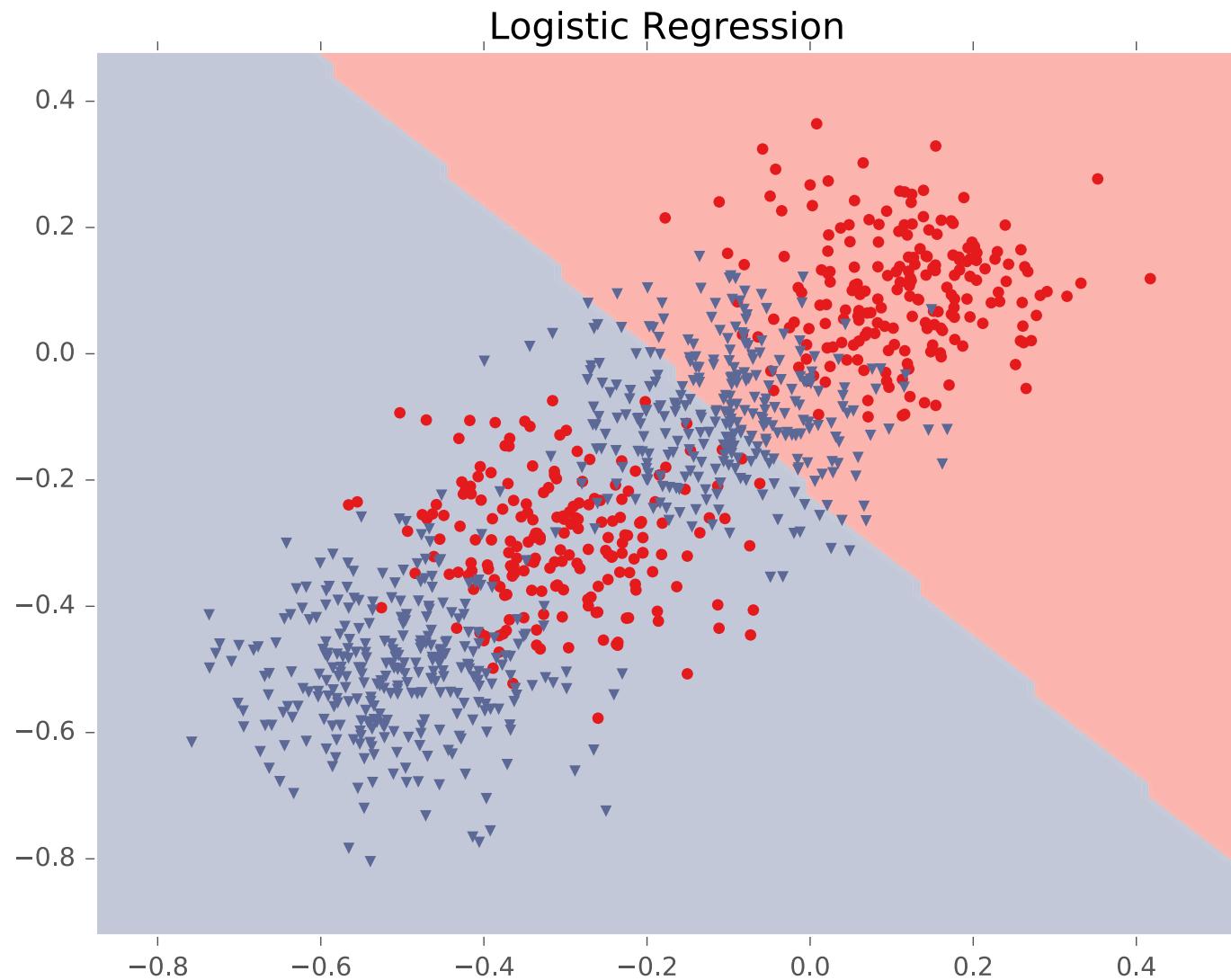
Example #2: One Pocket



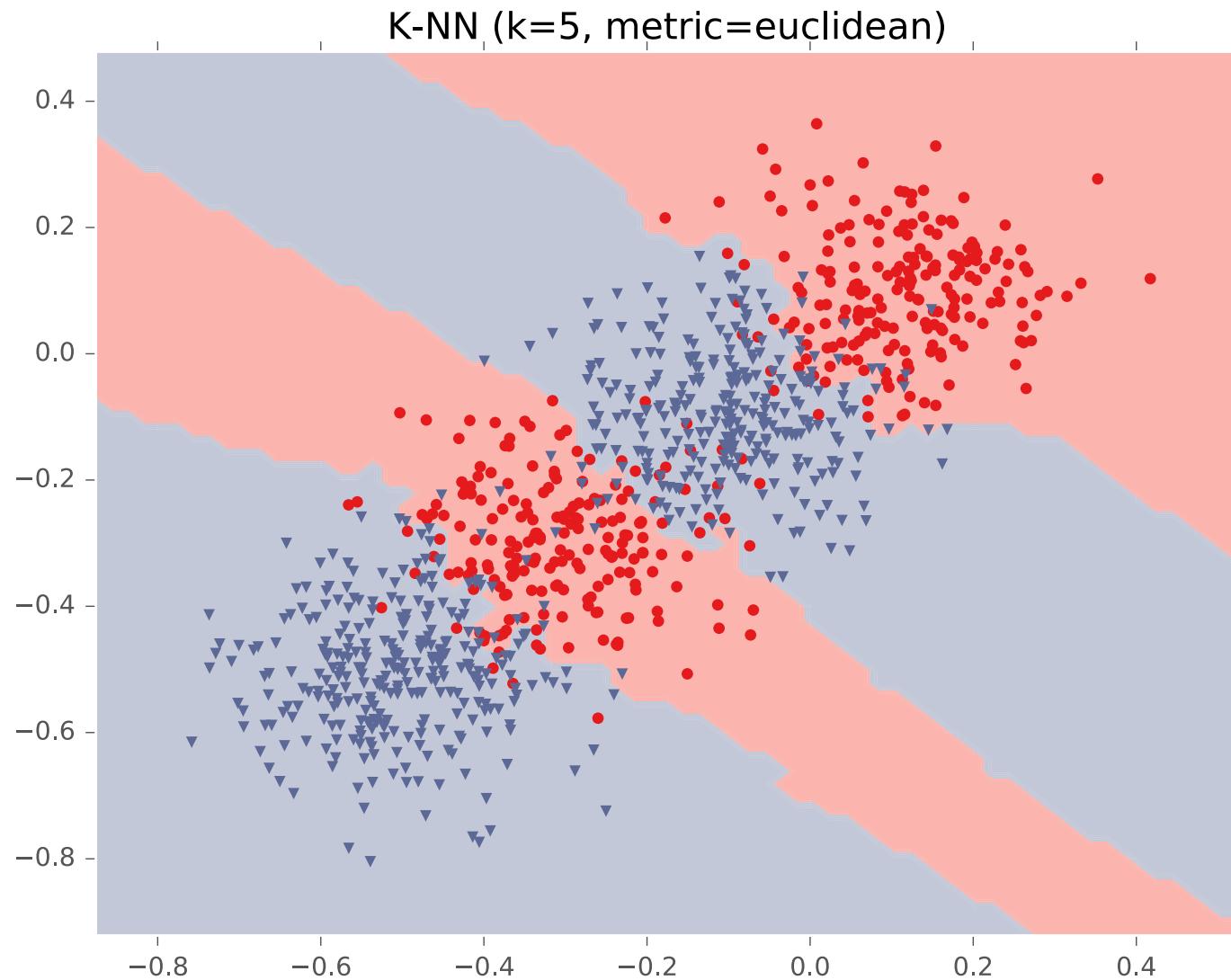
Example #3: Four Gaussians



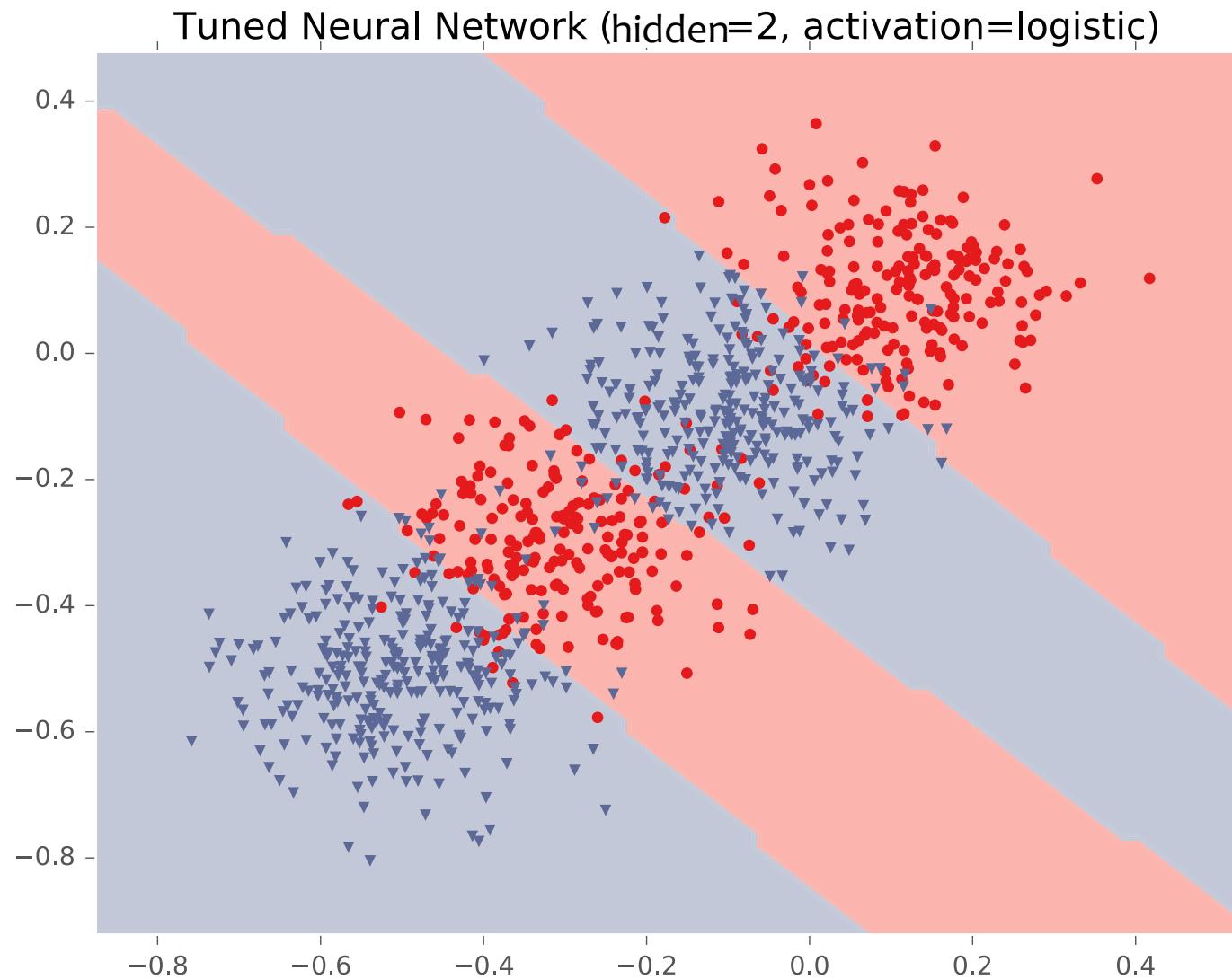
Example #3: Four Gaussians



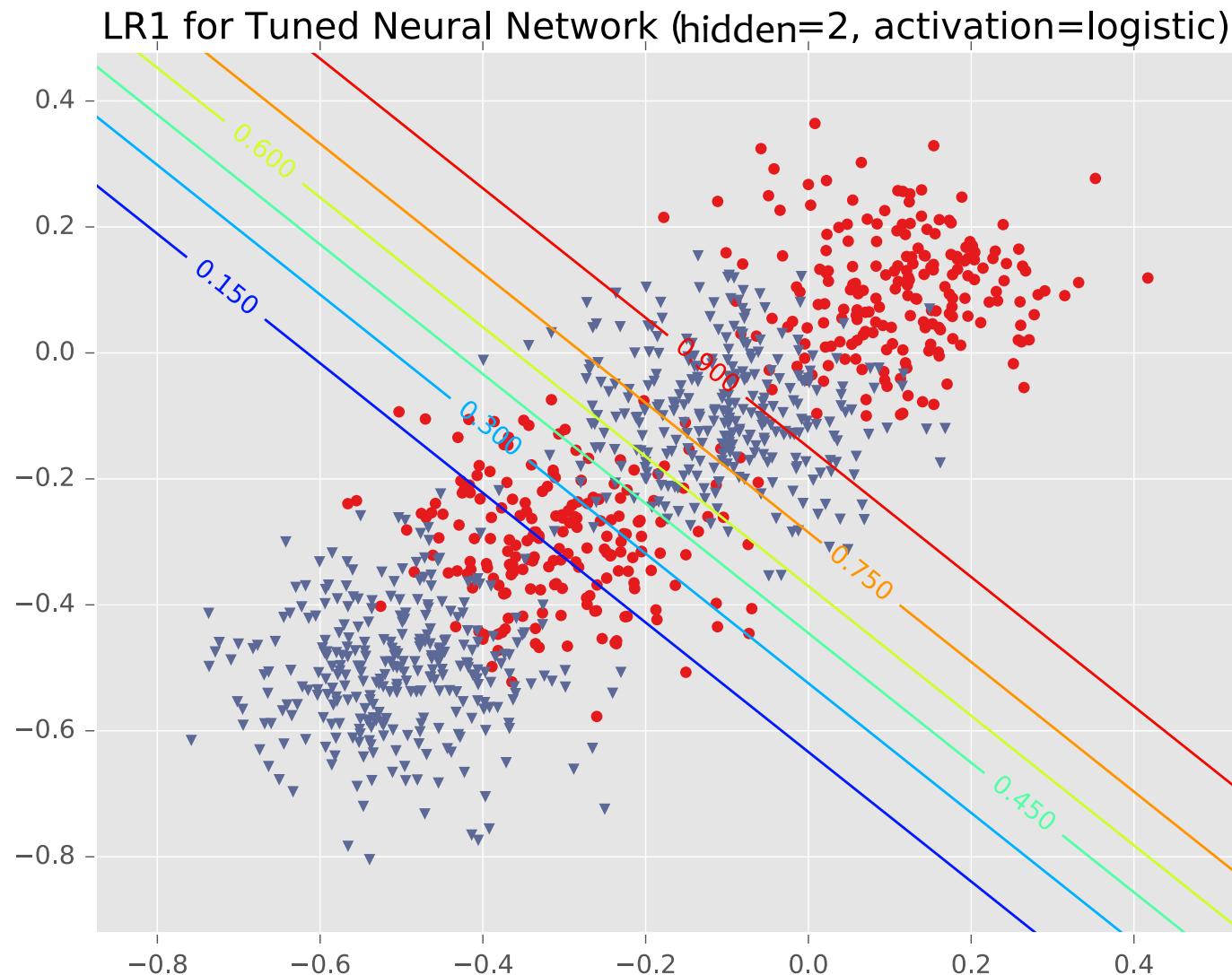
Example #3: Four Gaussians



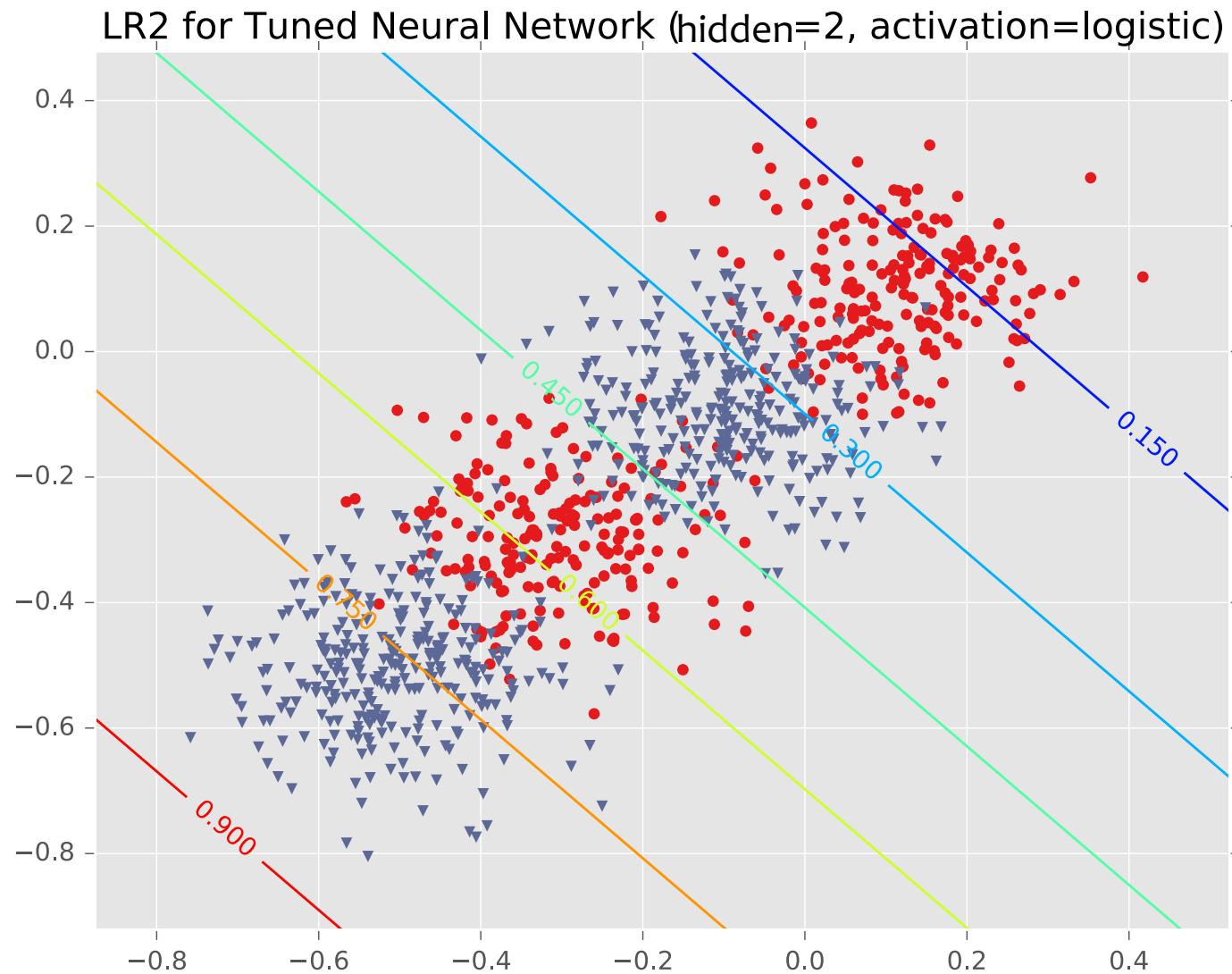
Example #3: Four Gaussians



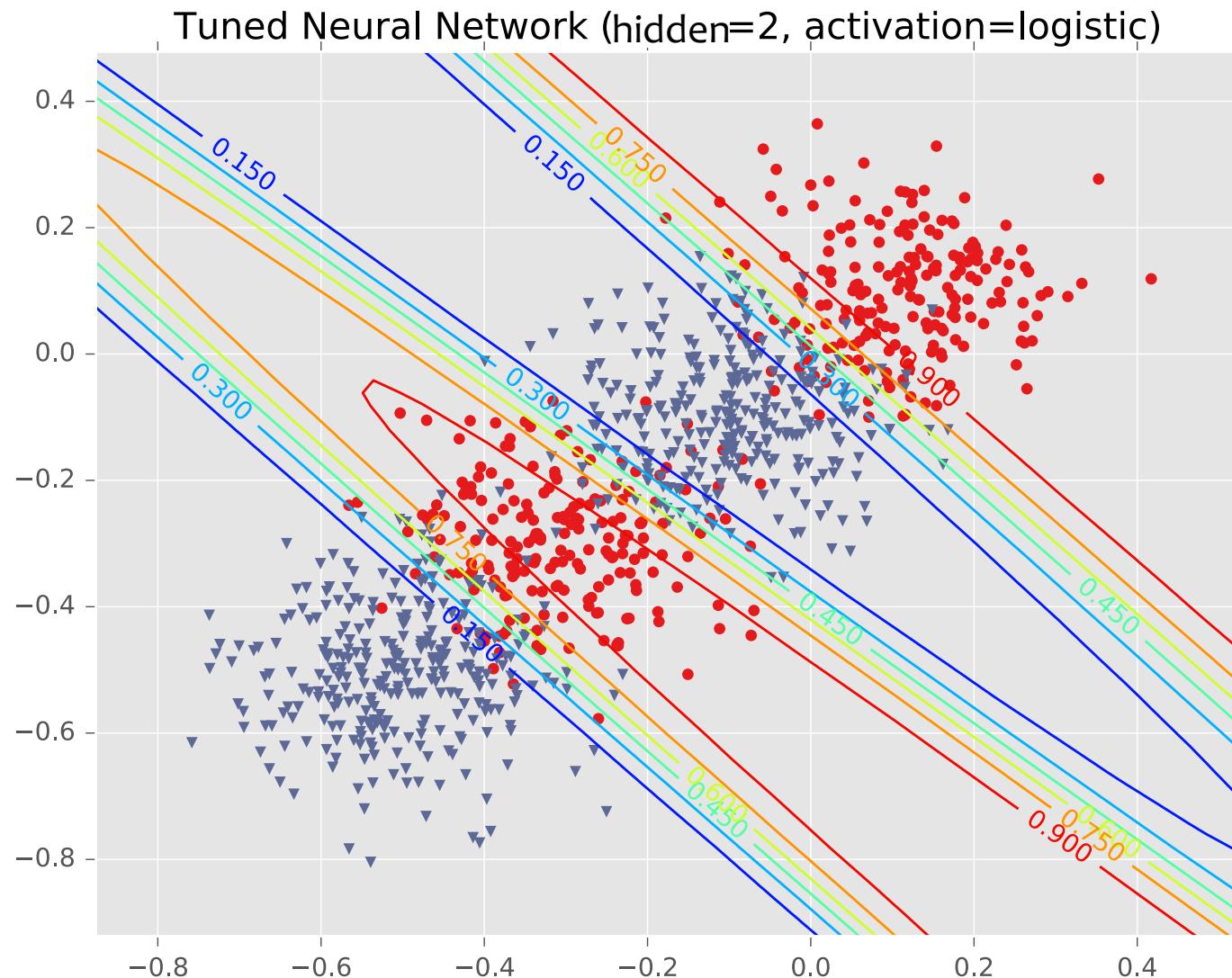
Example #3: Four Gaussians



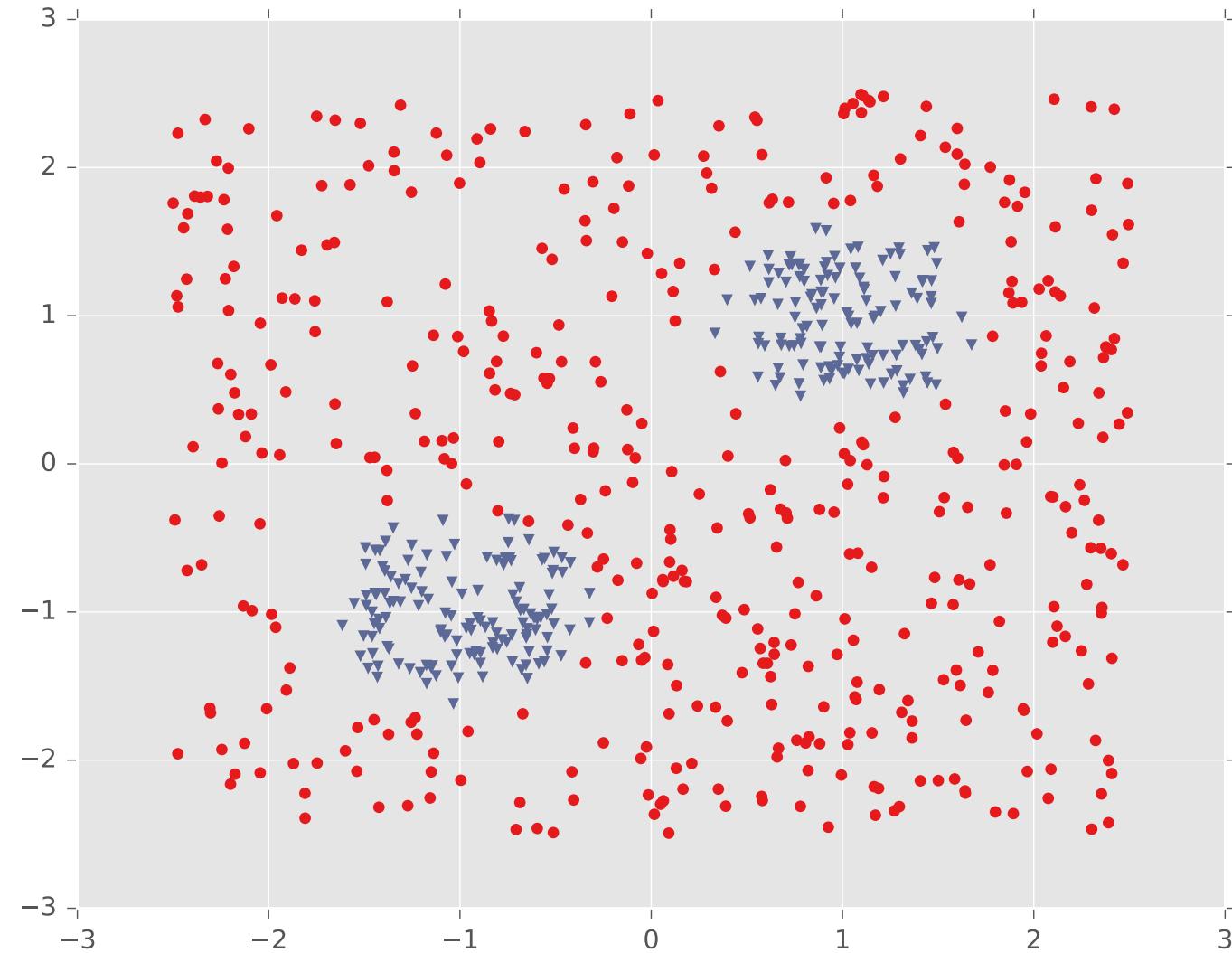
Example #3: Four Gaussians



Example #3: Four Gaussians



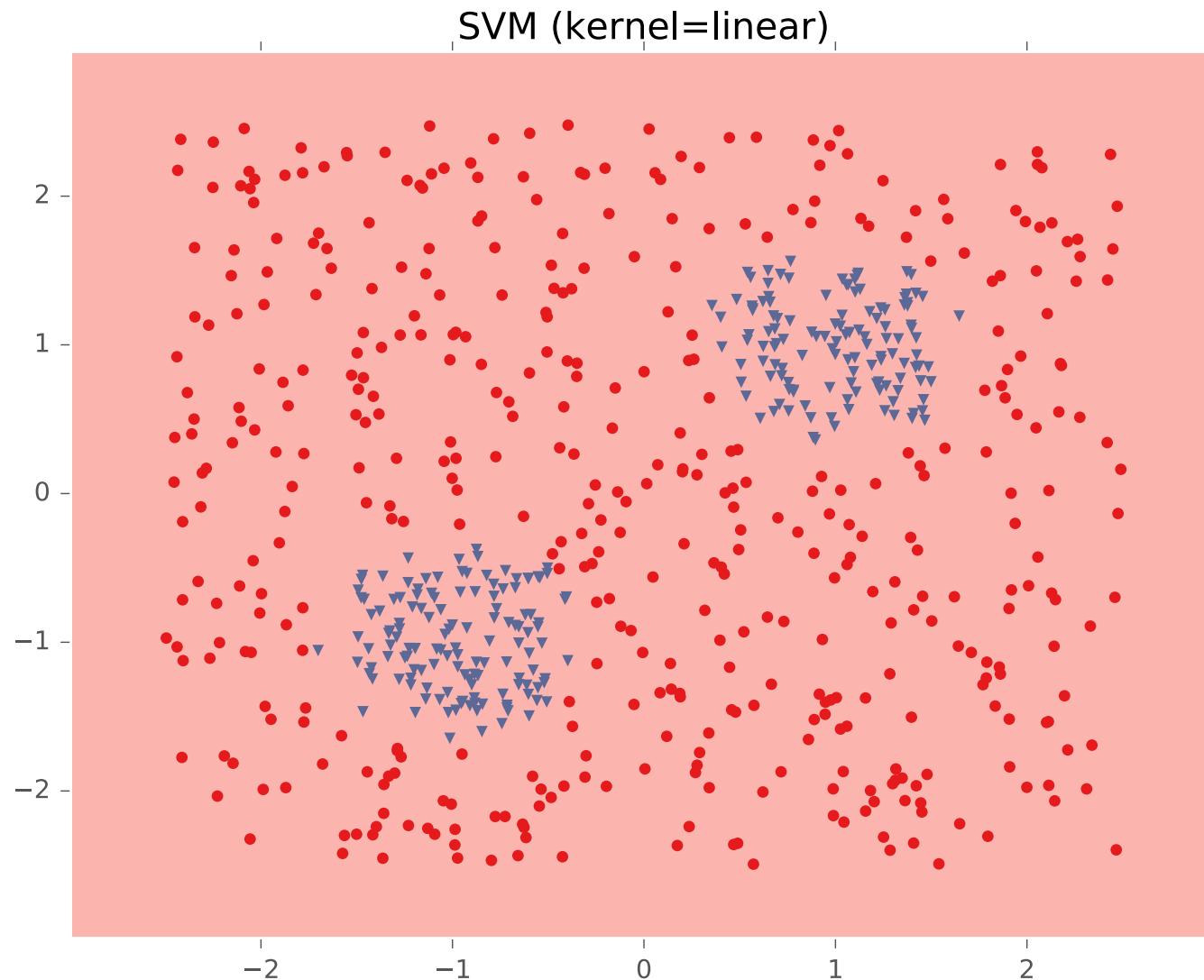
Example #4: Two Pockets



Example #4: Two Pockets

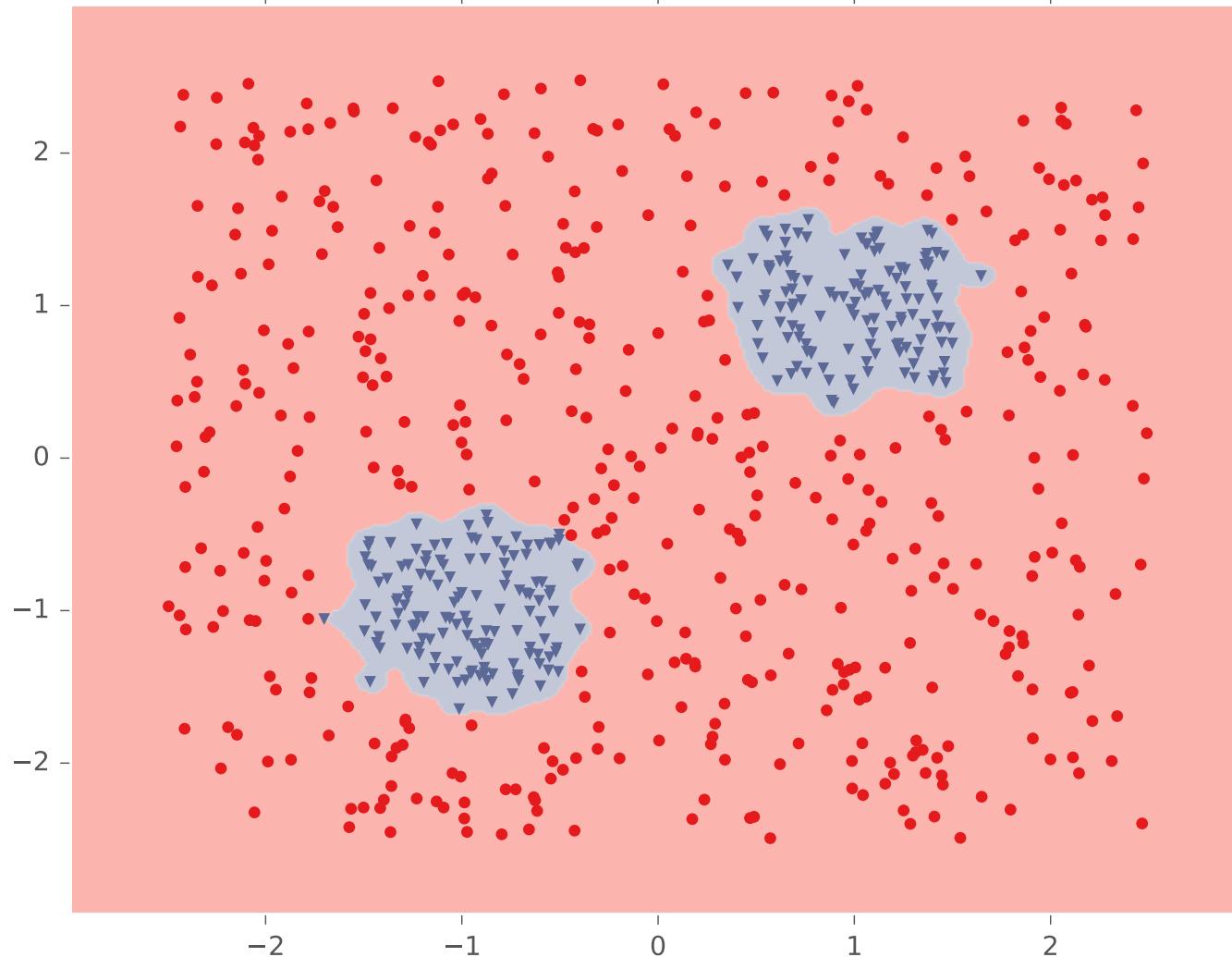


Example #4: Two Pockets

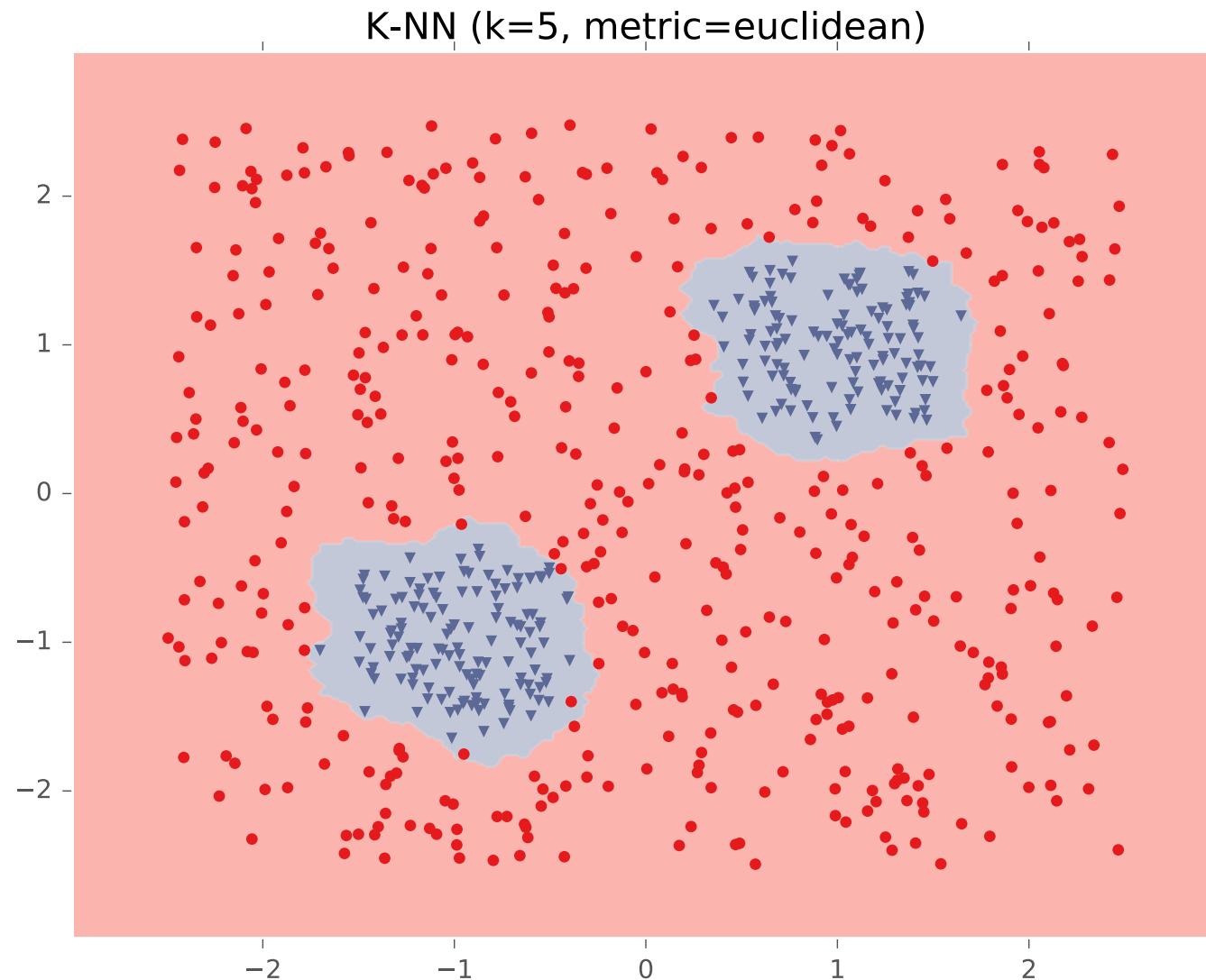


Example #4: Two Pockets

SVM (kernel=rbf, gamma=80.000000)

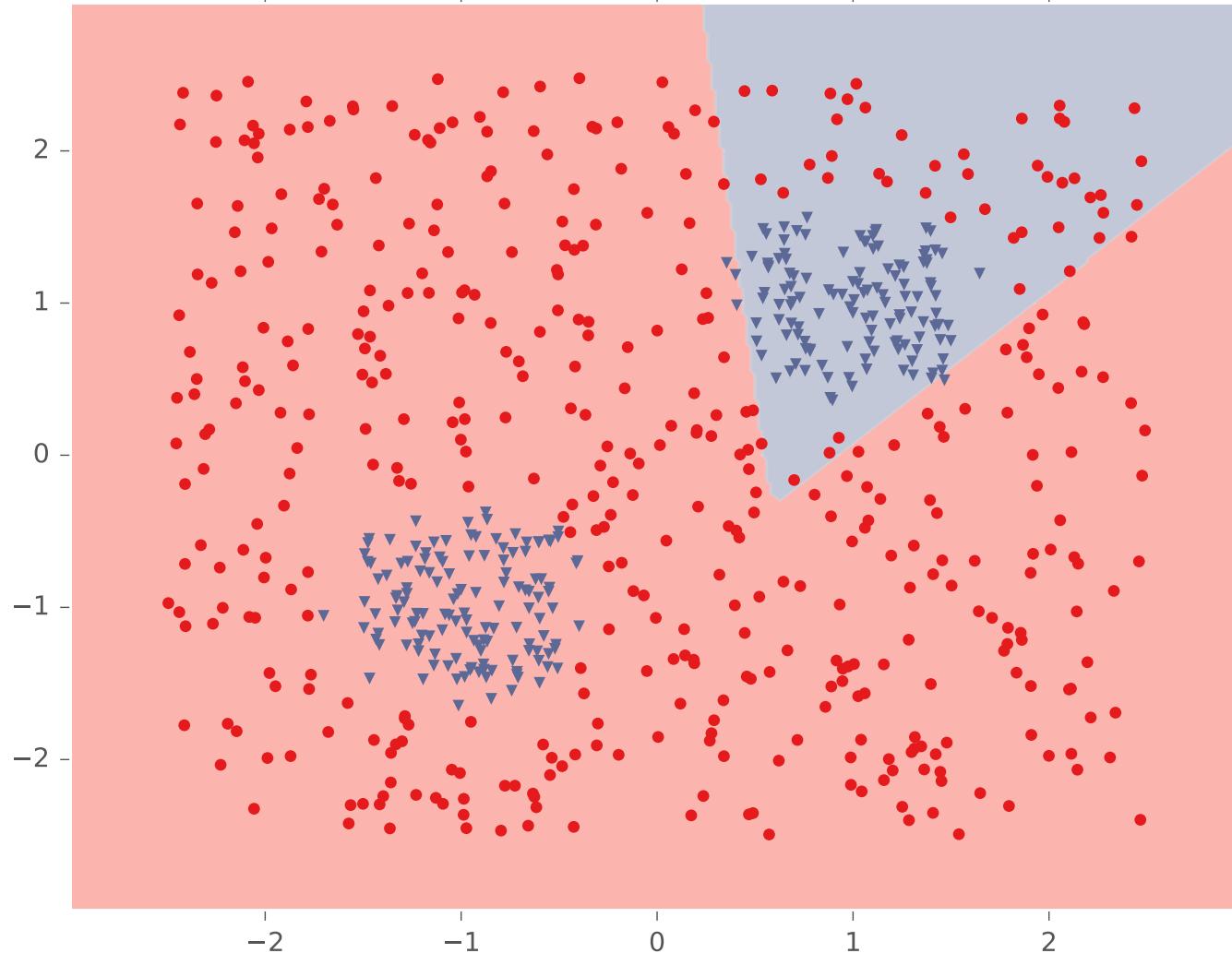


Example #4: Two Pockets



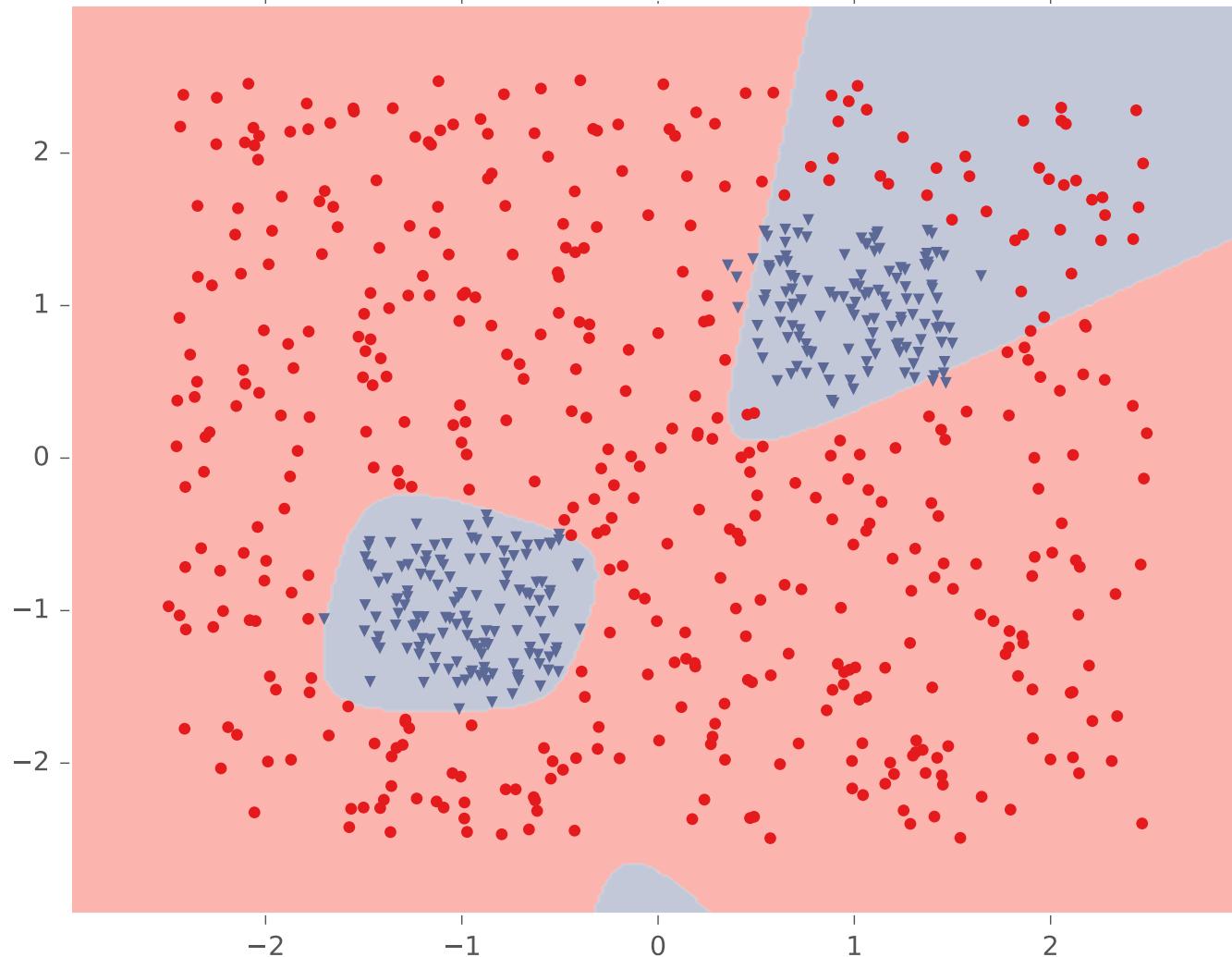
Example #4: Two Pockets

Tuned Neural Network (hidden=2, activation=logistic)



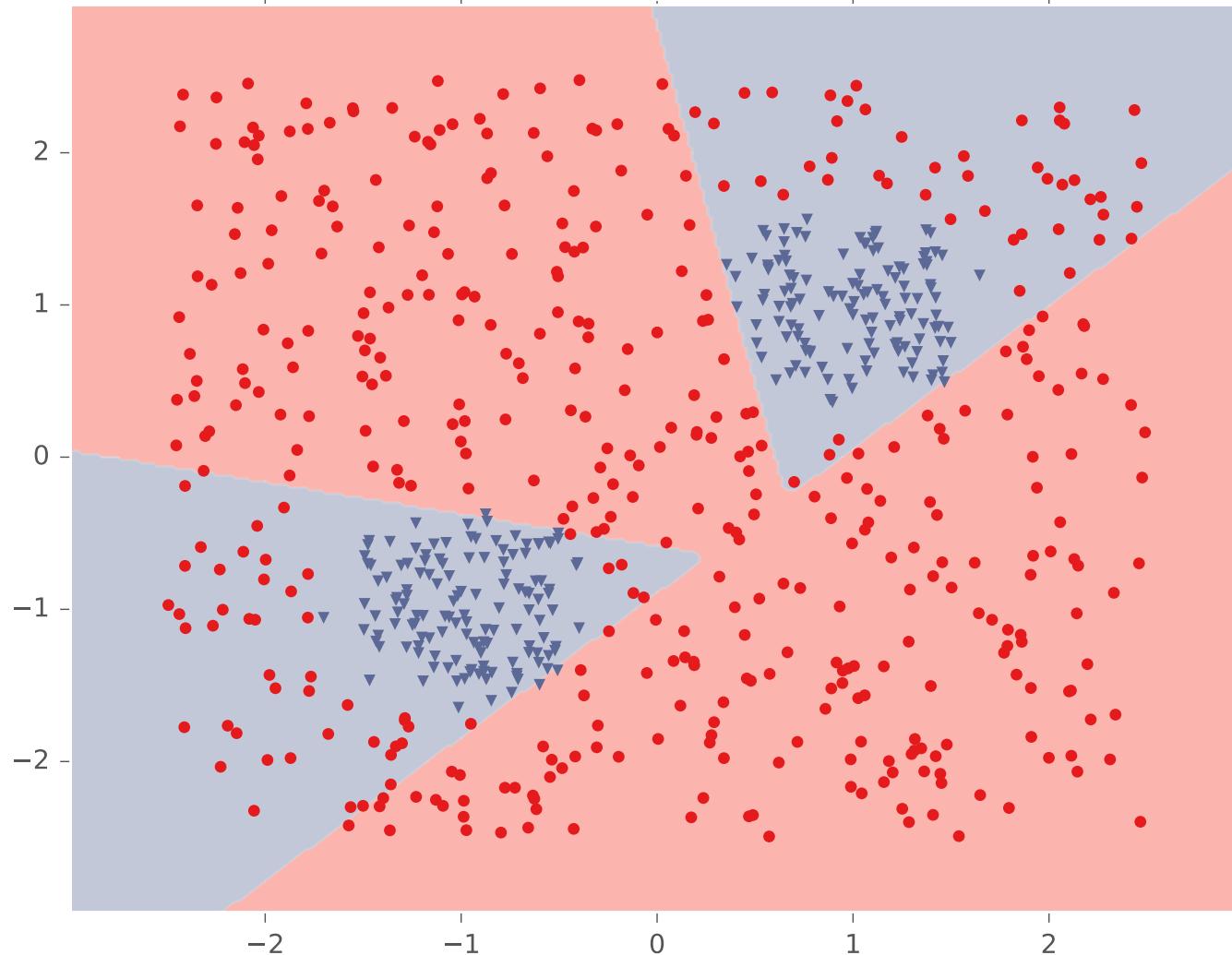
Example #4: Two Pockets

Tuned Neural Network (hidden=3, activation=logistic)



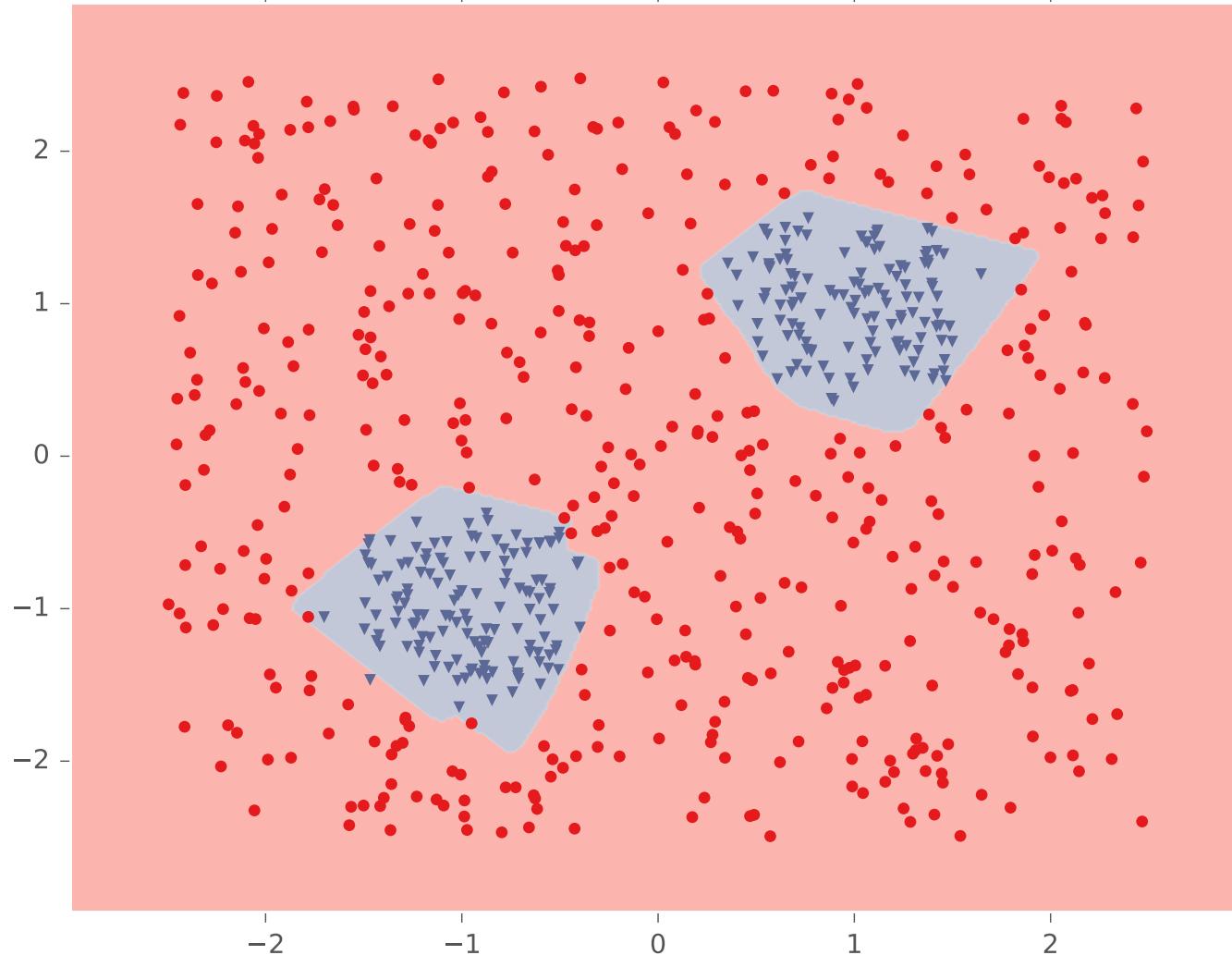
Example #4: Two Pockets

Tuned Neural Network (hidden=4, activation=logistic)



Example #4: Two Pockets

Tuned Neural Network (hidden=10, activation=logistic)



Neural Networks Objectives

You should be able to...

- Explain the biological motivations for a neural network
- Combine simpler models (e.g. linear regression, binary logistic regression, multinomial logistic regression) as components to build up feed-forward neural network architectures
- Explain the reasons why a neural network can model nonlinear decision boundaries for classification
- Compare and contrast feature engineering with learning features
- Identify (some of) the options available when designing the architecture of a neural network
- Implement a feed-forward neural network

Computing Gradients

DIFFERENTIATION

Background

A Recipe for Machine Learning

1. Given training data:

$$\{\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{y}_i\}_{i=1}^N$$

2. Choose each of these:

- Decision function

$$\hat{\mathbf{y}} = f_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(\mathbf{x}_i)$$

- Loss function

$$\ell(\hat{\mathbf{y}}, \mathbf{y}_i) \in \mathbb{R}$$

3. Define goal:

$$\boldsymbol{\theta}^* = \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \sum_{i=1}^N \ell(f_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(\mathbf{x}_i), \mathbf{y}_i)$$

4. Train with SGD:

(take small steps
opposite the gradient)

$$\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t+1)} = \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)} - \eta_t \nabla \ell(f_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(\mathbf{x}_i), \mathbf{y}_i)$$

- **Question 1:**
When can we compute the gradients for an arbitrary neural network?
- **Question 2:**
When can we make the gradient computation efficient?

Approaches to Differentiation

1. Finite Difference Method
 - Pro: Great for testing implementations of backpropagation
 - Con: Slow for high dimensional inputs / outputs
 - Required: Ability to call the function $f(\mathbf{x})$ on any input \mathbf{x}
2. Symbolic Differentiation
 - Note: The method you learned in high-school
 - Note: Used by Mathematica / Wolfram Alpha / Maple
 - Pro: Yields easily interpretable derivatives
 - Con: Leads to exponential computation time if not carefully implemented
 - Required: Mathematical expression that defines $f(\mathbf{x})$
3. Automatic Differentiation - Reverse Mode
 - Note: Called Backpropagation when applied to Neural Nets
 - Pro: Computes partial derivatives of one output $f(\mathbf{x})_i$ with respect to all inputs x_j in time proportional to computation of $f(\mathbf{x})$
 - Con: Slow for high dimensional outputs (e.g. vector-valued functions)
 - Required: Algorithm for computing $f(\mathbf{x})$
4. Automatic Differentiation - Forward Mode
 - Note: Easy to implement. Uses dual numbers.
 - Pro: Computes partial derivatives of all outputs $f(\mathbf{x})_i$ with respect to one input x_j in time proportional to computation of $f(\mathbf{x})$
 - Con: Slow for high dimensional inputs (e.g. vector-valued \mathbf{x})
 - Required: Algorithm for computing $f(\mathbf{x})$

Given $f : \mathbb{R}^A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^B, f(\mathbf{x})$
Compute $\frac{\partial f(\mathbf{x})_i}{\partial x_j} \forall i, j$

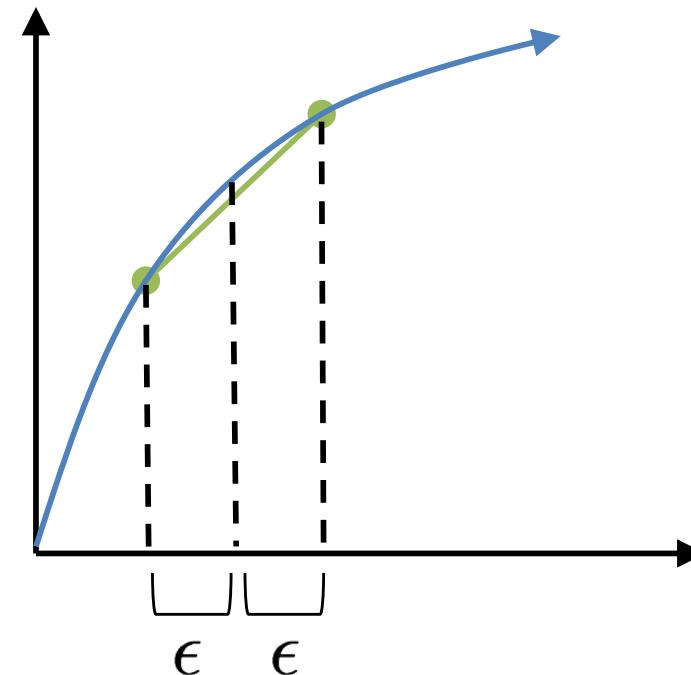
The centered finite difference approximation is:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_i} J(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \approx \frac{(J(\boldsymbol{\theta} + \epsilon \cdot \mathbf{d}_i) - J(\boldsymbol{\theta} - \epsilon \cdot \mathbf{d}_i))}{2\epsilon} \quad (1)$$

where \mathbf{d}_i is a 1-hot vector consisting of all zeros except for the i th entry of \mathbf{d}_i , which has value 1.

Notes:

- Suffers from issues of floating point precision, in practice
- Typically only appropriate to use on small examples with an appropriately chosen epsilon



Speed Quiz:
2 minute time limit.

Differentiation Quiz #1:

Suppose $x = 2$ and $z = 3$, what are dy/dx and dy/dz for the function below? **Round your answer to the nearest integer.**

$$y = \exp(xz) + \frac{xz}{\log(x)} + \frac{\sin(\log(x))}{xz}$$

Answer: Answers below are in the form $[dy/dx, dy/dz]$

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| A. [42, -72] | E. [1208, 810] |
| B. [72, -42] | F. [810, 1208] |
| C. [100, 127] | G. [1505, 94] |
| D. [127, 100] | H. [94, 1505] |

Differentiation Quiz #2:

A neural network with 2 hidden layers can be written as:

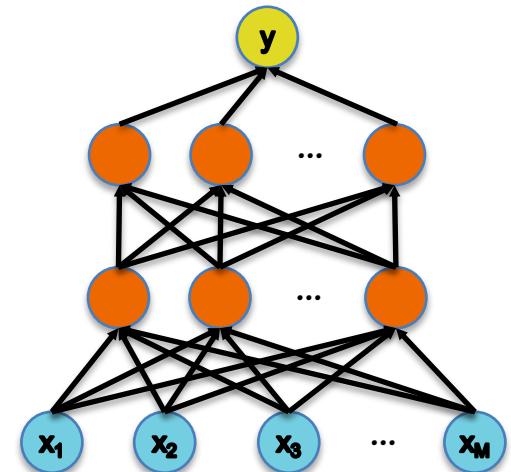
$$y = \sigma(\beta^T \sigma((\alpha^{(2)})^T \sigma((\alpha^{(1)})^T \mathbf{x})))$$

where $y \in \mathbb{R}$, $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{D^{(0)}}$, $\beta \in \mathbb{R}^{D^{(2)}}$ and $\alpha^{(i)}$ is a $D^{(i)} \times D^{(i-1)}$ matrix. Nonlinear functions are applied elementwise:

$$\sigma(\mathbf{a}) = [\sigma(a_1), \dots, \sigma(a_K)]^T$$

Let σ be sigmoid: $\sigma(a) = \frac{1}{1+exp-a}$

What is $\frac{\partial y}{\partial \beta_j}$ and $\frac{\partial y}{\partial \alpha_j^{(i)}}$ for all i, j .



CHAIN RULE

Chalkboard

- Chain Rule of Calculus

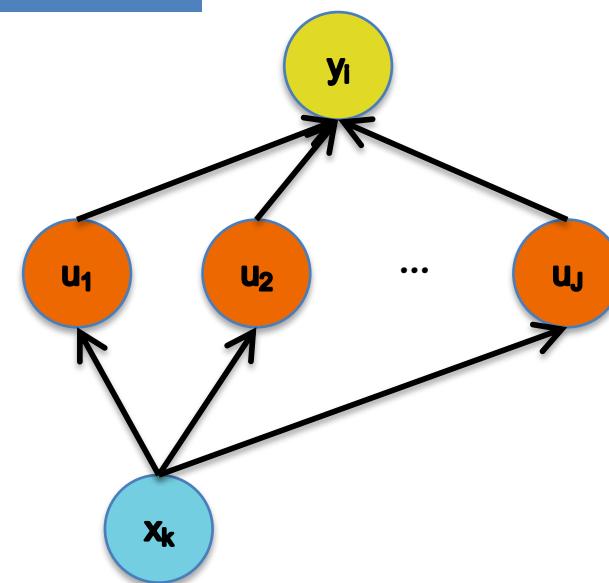
Training

Chain Rule

Given: $y = g(u)$ and $u = h(x)$.

Chain Rule:

$$\frac{dy_i}{dx_k} = \sum_{j=1}^J \frac{dy_i}{du_j} \frac{du_j}{dx_k}, \quad \forall i, k$$



Training

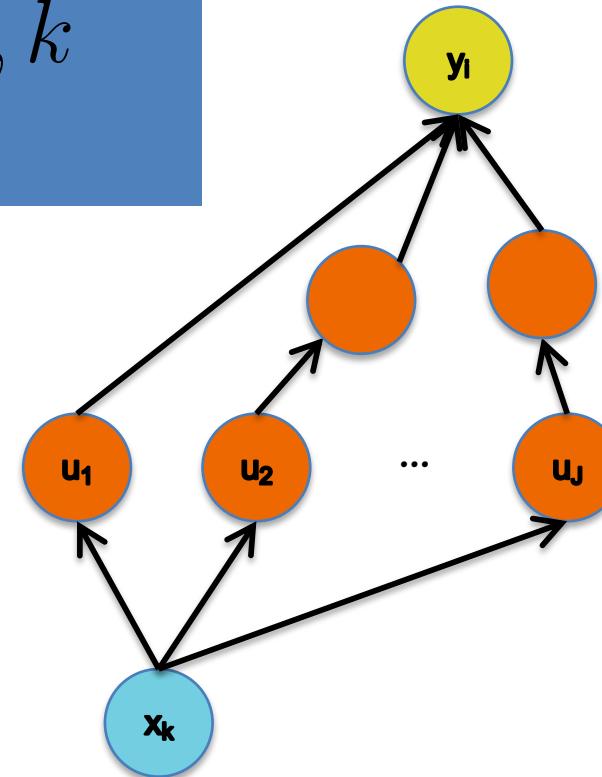
Chain Rule

Given: $y = g(u)$ and $u = h(x)$.

Chain Rule:

$$\frac{dy_i}{dx_k} = \sum_{j=1}^J \frac{dy_i}{du_j} \frac{du_j}{dx_k}, \quad \forall i, k$$

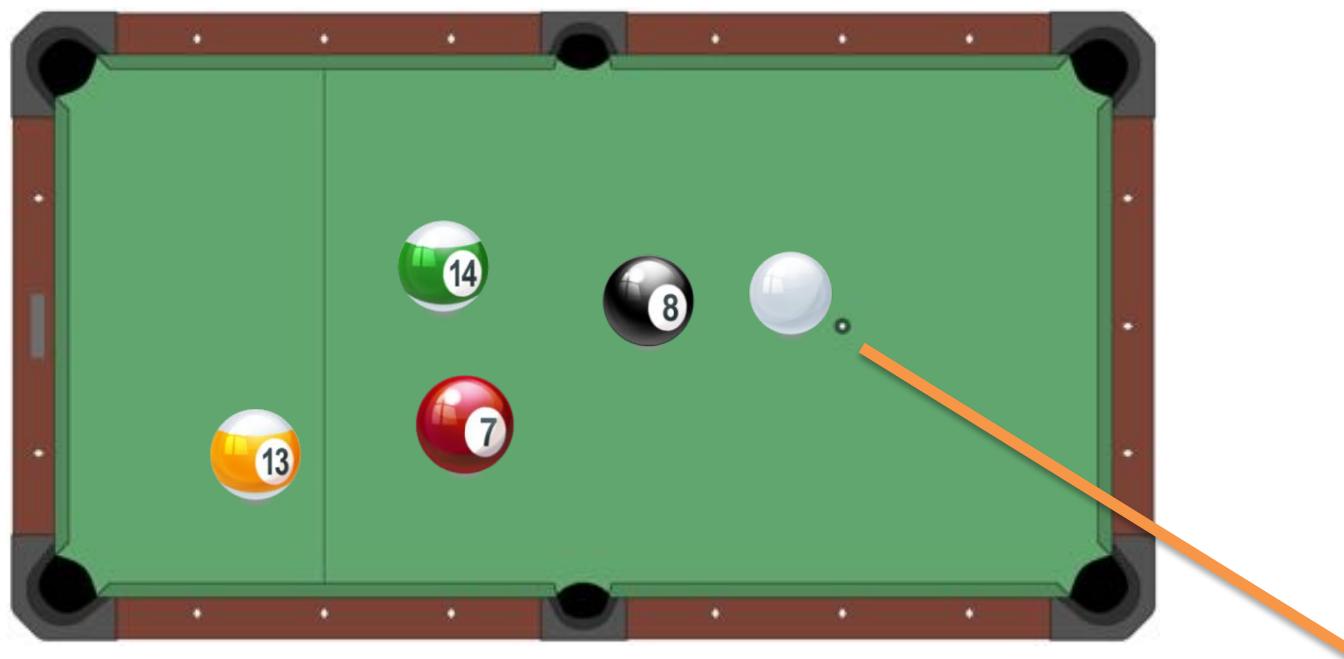
Backpropagation
is just repeated
application of the
chain rule from
Calculus 101.



Intuitions

BACKPROPAGATION

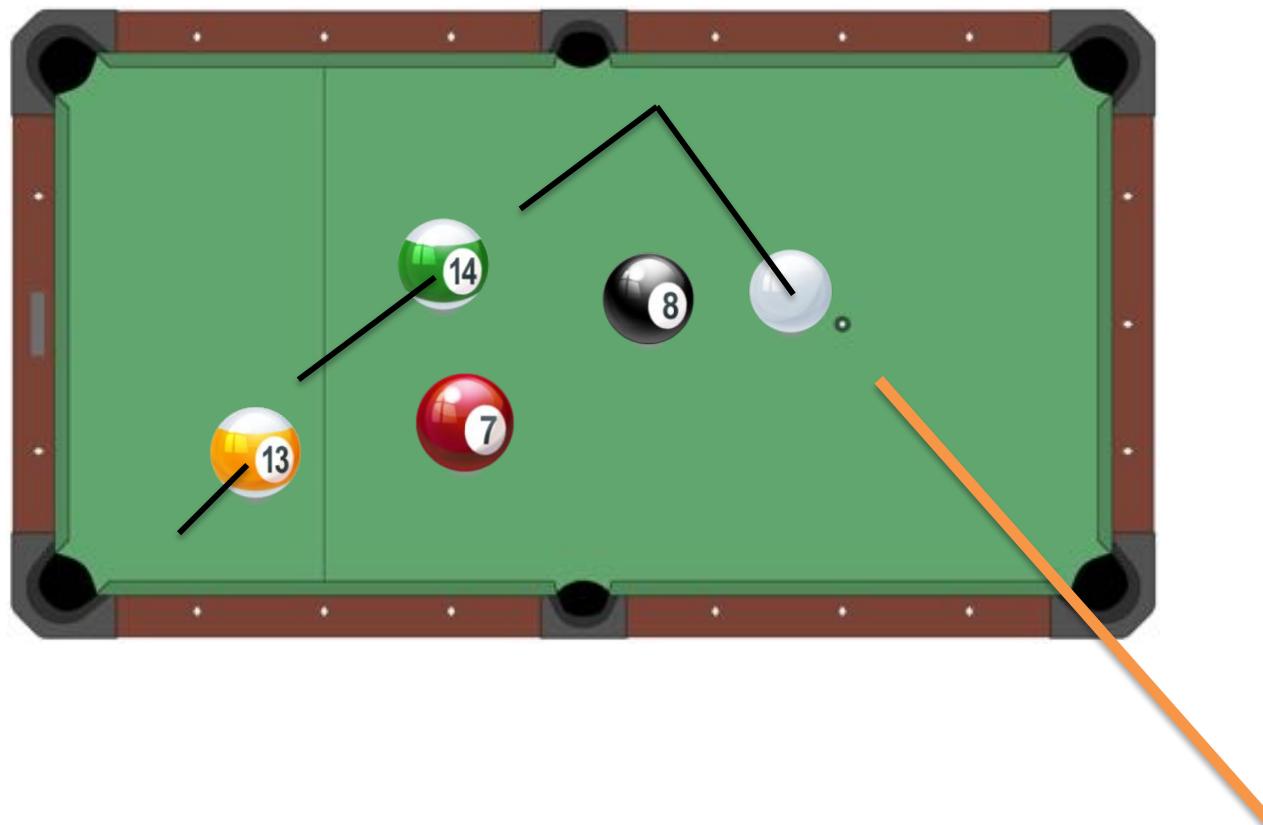
Error Back-Propagation



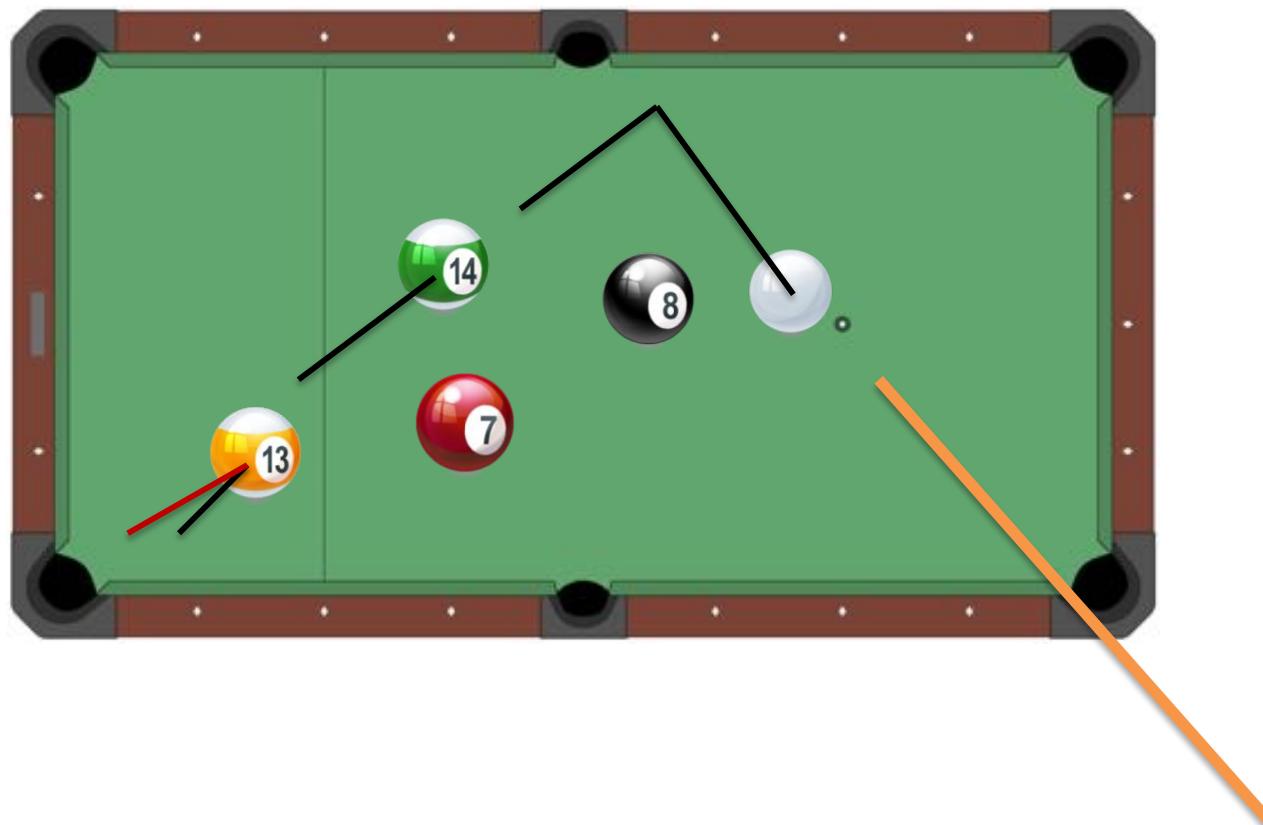
Error Back-Propagation



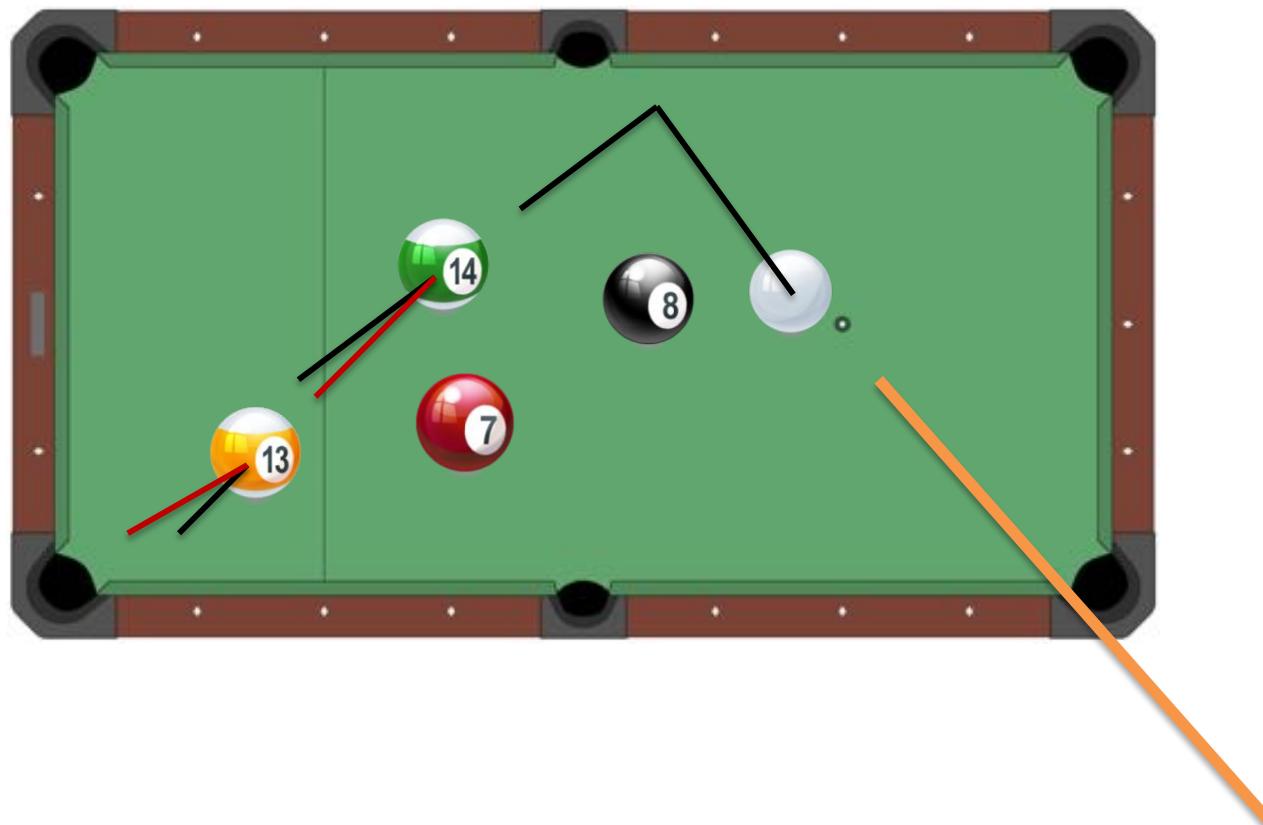
Error Back-Propagation



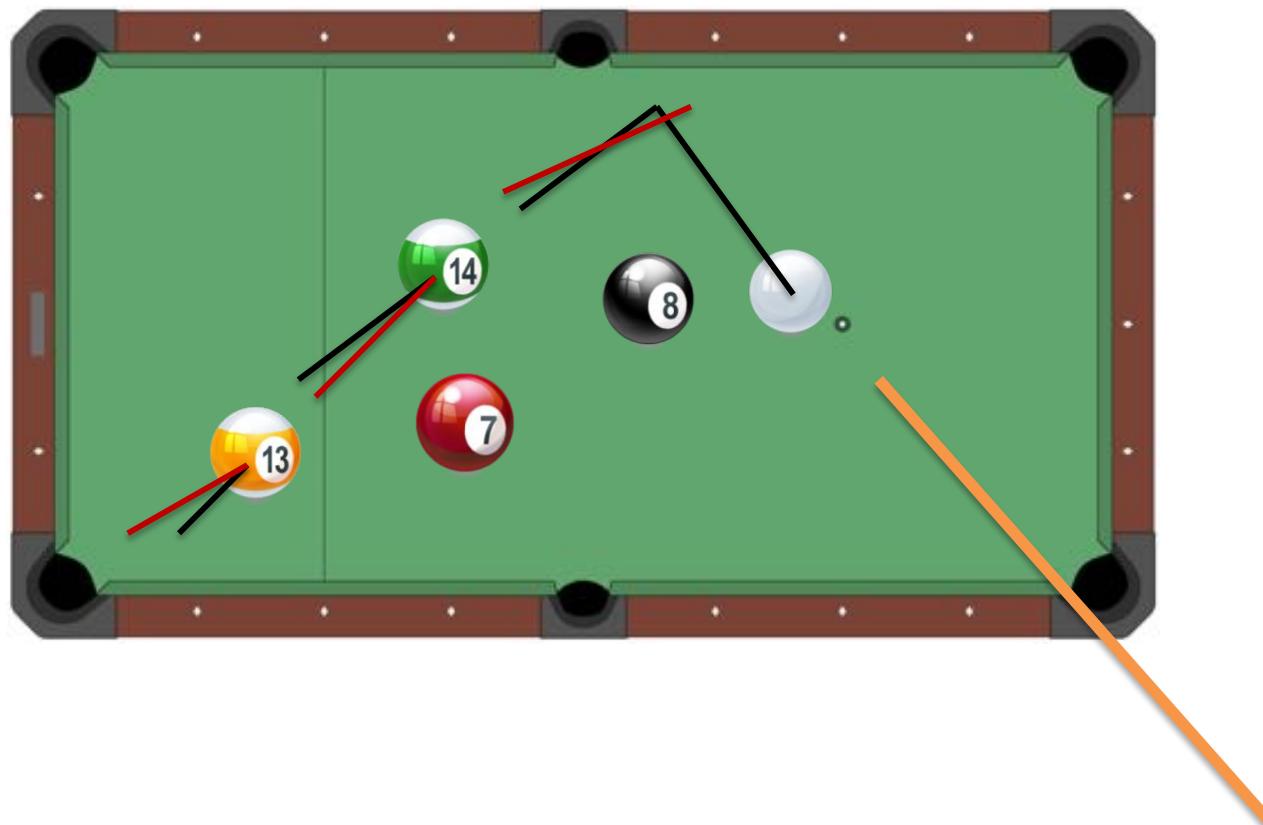
Error Back-Propagation



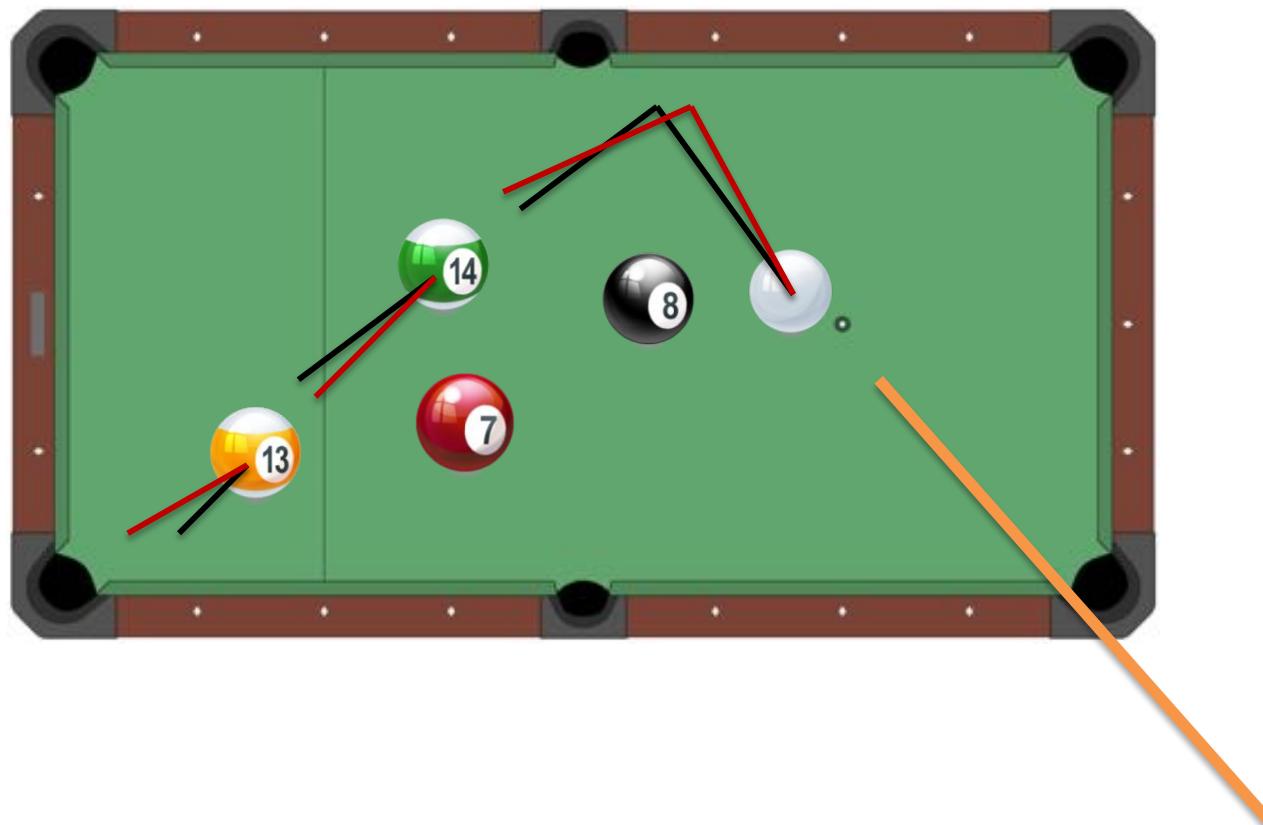
Error Back-Propagation



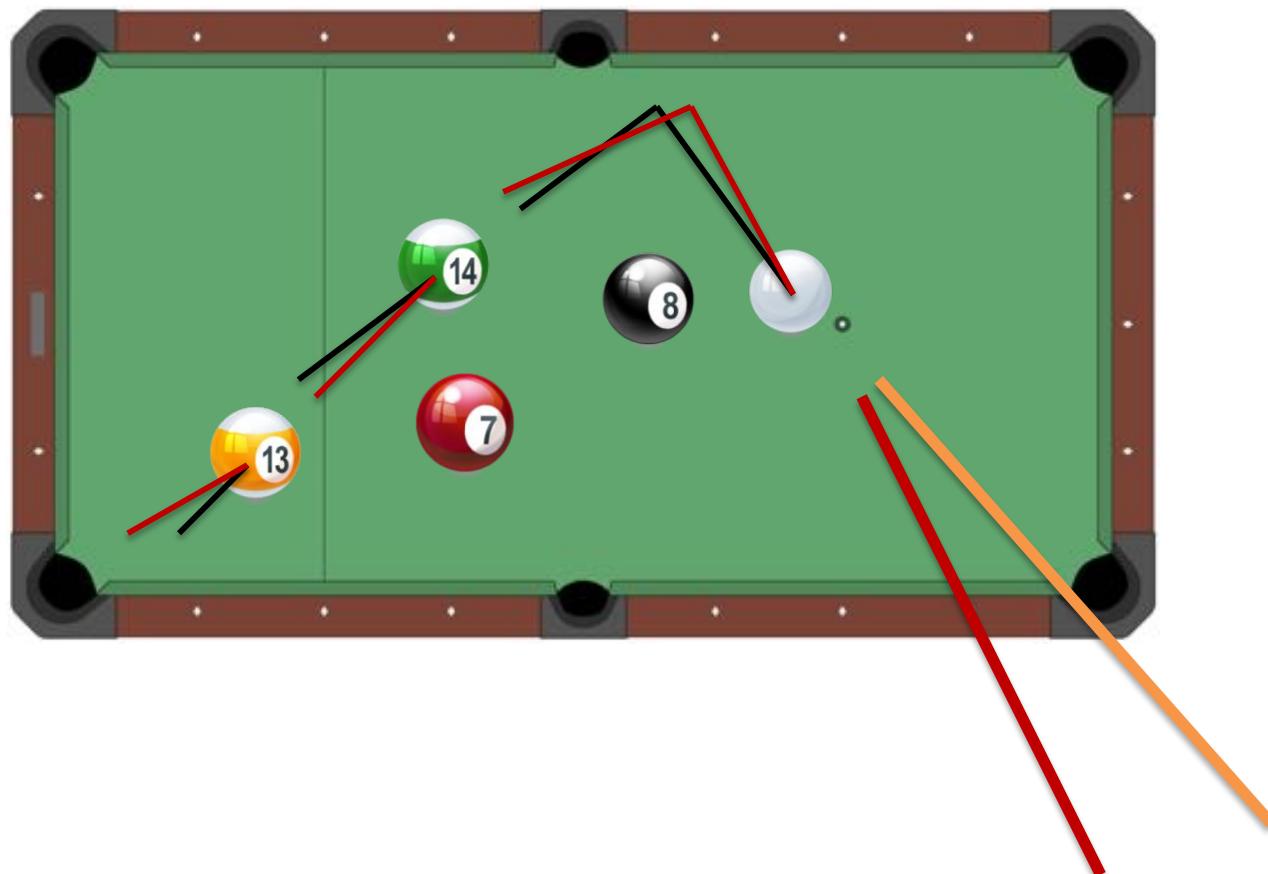
Error Back-Propagation



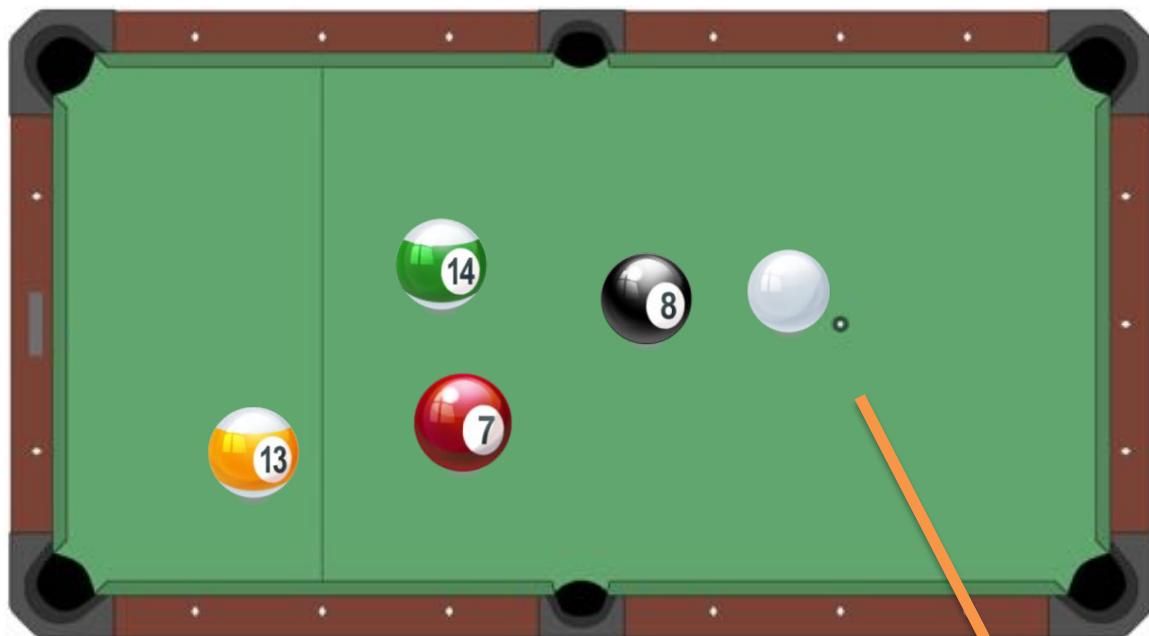
Error Back-Propagation



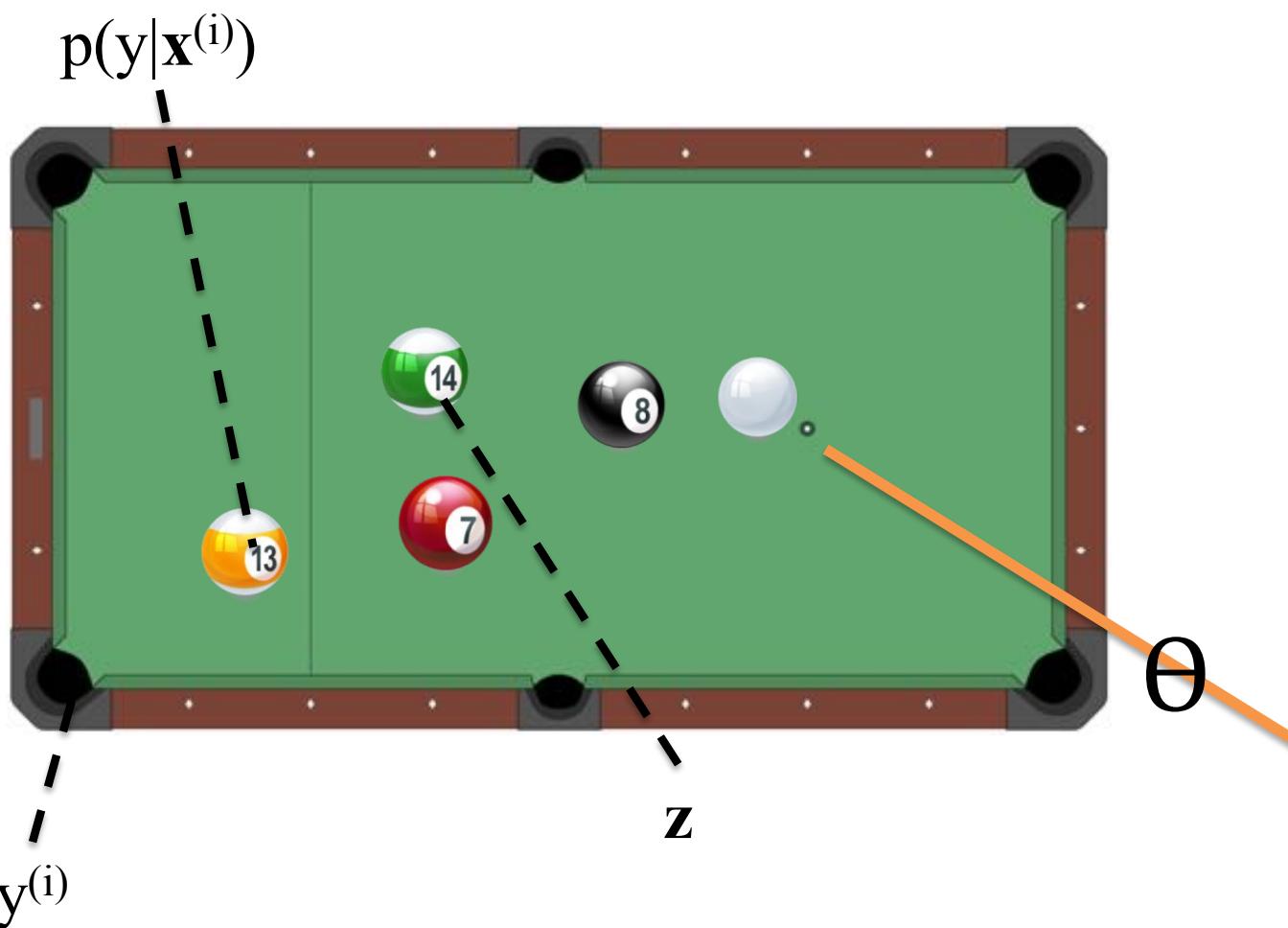
Error Back-Propagation



Error Back-Propagation



Error Back-Propagation



Algorithm

BACKPROPAGATION

Chalkboard

- Example: Backpropagation for Chain Rule #1

Differentiation Quiz #1:

Suppose $x = 2$ and $z = 3$, what are dy/dx and dy/dz for the function below? **Round your answer to the nearest integer.**

$$y = \exp(xz) + \frac{xz}{\log(x)} + \frac{\sin(\log(x))}{xz}$$

Chalkboard

- SGD for Neural Network
- Example: Backpropagation for Neural Network

Automatic Differentiation – Reverse Mode (aka. Backpropagation)

Forward Computation

1. Write an **algorithm** for evaluating the function $y = f(x)$. The algorithm defines a **directed acyclic graph**, where each variable is a node (i.e. the “**computation graph**”)
2. Visit each node in **topological order**.
For variable u_i with inputs v_1, \dots, v_N
 - a. Compute $u_i = g_i(v_1, \dots, v_N)$
 - b. Store the result at the node

Backward Computation

1. **Initialize** all partial derivatives dy/du_j to 0 and $dy/dy = 1$.
2. Visit each node in **reverse topological order**.
For variable $u_i = g_i(v_1, \dots, v_N)$
 - a. We already know dy/du_i
 - b. Increment dy/dv_j by $(dy/du_i)(du_i/dv_j)$
(Choice of algorithm ensures computing (du_i/dv_j) is easy)

Return partial derivatives dy/du_i for all variables