

Neural  
Networks  
Solvers for the  
Yang-Baxter  
Equation

Shailesh Lal

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# Neural Networks Solvers for the Yang-Baxter Equation

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SL, Suvajit Majumder, Evgeny Sobko [2304.07247](#),...

# Introduction & Motivation

- Symmetry: a deep and profound role in physical systems.
- Constrains possible dynamics, physical parameters.
- e.g. momentum conservation iff translational invariance.
- An extreme example: infinitely many conserved quantities.
- Morally the ‘simplest’ theories, everything constrained.
- **Question:** completely determine the theory by symmetry?
- **Example:** The Conformal Bootstrap

# Introduction & Motivation

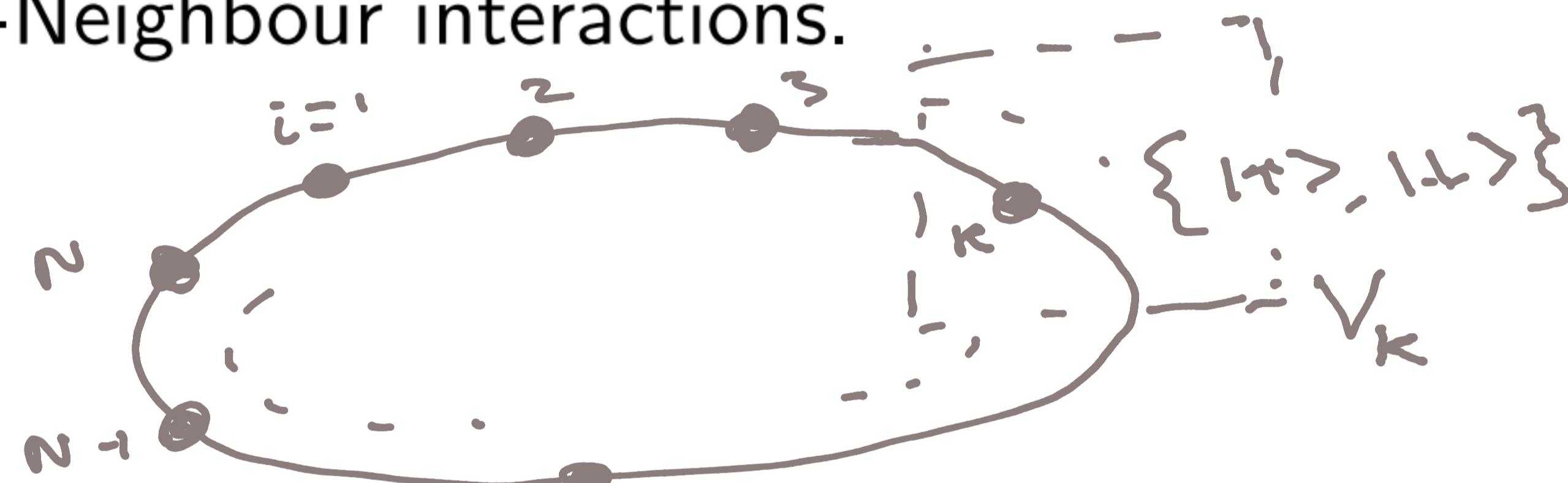
## Example: The Conformal Bootstrap

- Consider a theory with rotational invariance.
- Two observers must agree on the length of given vectors.
- Let us consider **additional symmetries**, e.g. scaling.
- Two observers need not agree on the length of a vector.
- must agree on the **angle between two vectors**.
- A non-trivial extension of this idea is **conformal invariance**.
- This symmetry is very restrictive,  $\infty$  dimensional in 2d.
- unitarity + crossing symmetry + some minimal information: is the theory uniquely specified?

# Quantum Integrability

Consider an **N site spin chain** indexed by  $k = 1, 2, \dots, N$

- ① periodic boundary conditions  $N + k \equiv k$ .
- ② Nearest-Neighbour interactions.



The Hilbert space:  $V_1 \otimes V_2 \otimes \dots \otimes V_N$ ,  $V_k \simeq \mathbb{C}^2$

Each  $V_k$  is spanned by  $\{|\uparrow\rangle, |\downarrow\rangle\}$ .

The local spin operators at site  $k$ :  $S_k^{x,y,z} = \frac{1}{2}\sigma_k^{x,y,z}$ .

# Quantum Integrability

The Hamiltonian is a sum of nearest-neighbour interactions

$$H = \sum_{k=1}^N \left( \sum_{\alpha=\{x,y,z\}} J^\alpha S_i^\alpha \otimes S_{i+1}^\alpha \right).$$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{pmatrix}, \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} b_{11} & b_{12} \\ b_{21} & b_{22} \end{pmatrix}, \quad A \otimes B = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11}b_{11} & a_{11}b_{12} & a_{12}b_{11} & a_{12}b_{12} \\ a_{11}b_{21} & a_{11}b_{22} & a_{12}b_{21} & a_{12}b_{22} \\ a_{21}b_{11} & a_{21}b_{12} & a_{22}b_{11} & a_{22}b_{12} \\ a_{21}b_{21} & a_{21}b_{22} & a_{22}b_{21} & a_{22}b_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

Then the nearest-neighbour Hamiltonian is

$$H = \begin{pmatrix} J_z & 0 & 0 & J_x - J_y \\ 0 & -J_z & J_x + J_y & 0 \\ 0 & J_x + J_y & -J_z & 0 \\ J_x - J_y & 0 & 0 & J_z \end{pmatrix} : \text{XYZ model}.$$

Also limits  $J_x = J_y \neq J_z$ : **XXZ model** and  $J_x = J_y = J_z$  **Heisenberg spin-chain**

# Quantum Integrability

These systems are **quantum integrable**: infinite number of conserved charges.

**Construction:** define an **R-matrix**  $R_{ij}(u_i, u_j)$  over  $V_i \otimes V_j$

Further, take **difference form**:  $R_{ij}(u_i, u_j) = R_{ij}(u_i - u_j)$ .

If  $V \simeq \mathbb{C}^2$  then **16 undetermined functions**. Conditions:

$$\bullet \quad R(0) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad H = R^{-1} \frac{d}{du} R|_{u=0}$$

- higher derivatives encode higher charges.

R-matrix also obeys an important consistency condition.

# Quantum Integrability

## Yang-Baxter Equation

$$R_{12}(u_1, u_2) R_{13}(u_1, u_3) R_{23}(u_2, u_3) = R_{23}(u_2, u_3) R_{13}(u_1, u_3) R_{12}(u_1, u_2)$$

This equation is over  $V_1 \otimes V_2 \otimes V_3$ .

Implicit shorthand:  $R_{12}(u_1, u_2) \equiv R_{12}(u_1, u_2) \otimes \mathbb{I}$

If  $V_k \simeq \mathbb{C}^2$  then 64 cubic functional equations

Therefore: an abstract definition of quantum integrability:

- ① solve YBE + other consistency criterion
- ② determines a qtm integrable spin chain with n.n. intxns.

# Constructing Integrable Systems

How can we construct integrable systems from scratch?

- Assume the  $R$  matrix is holomorphic, local.
- The target Hamiltonian is known.
- Construct the  $R$  matrix from the Yang-Baxter Equation?

**Q:** what if only constraints on Hamiltonian are given?

**Q:** find integrable systems nearby a given starting system?

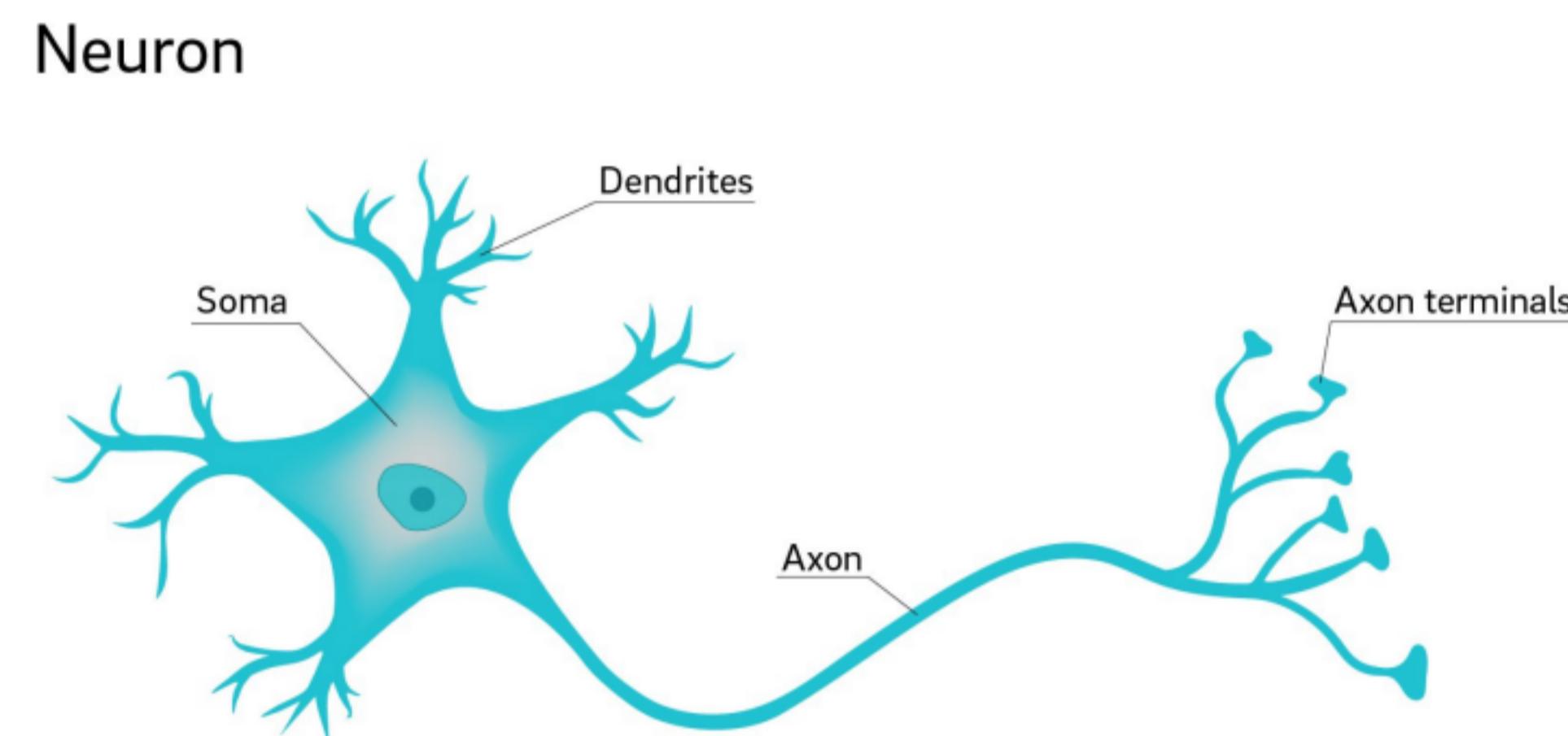
**Q:** finding classes of integrable systems?

Neural Networks are promising tools for these questions.

- span a large function space
- constraints can be supplied using loss functions.

# Neural Networks

## Inspiration from biological neurons



- dendrites receive inputs to neuron
- soma, or cell body, takes a weighted sum of inputs
- axon processes this into the output.

responsible for all our perceptions, decisions, . . .

# Neural Networks

## An Artificial Neuron

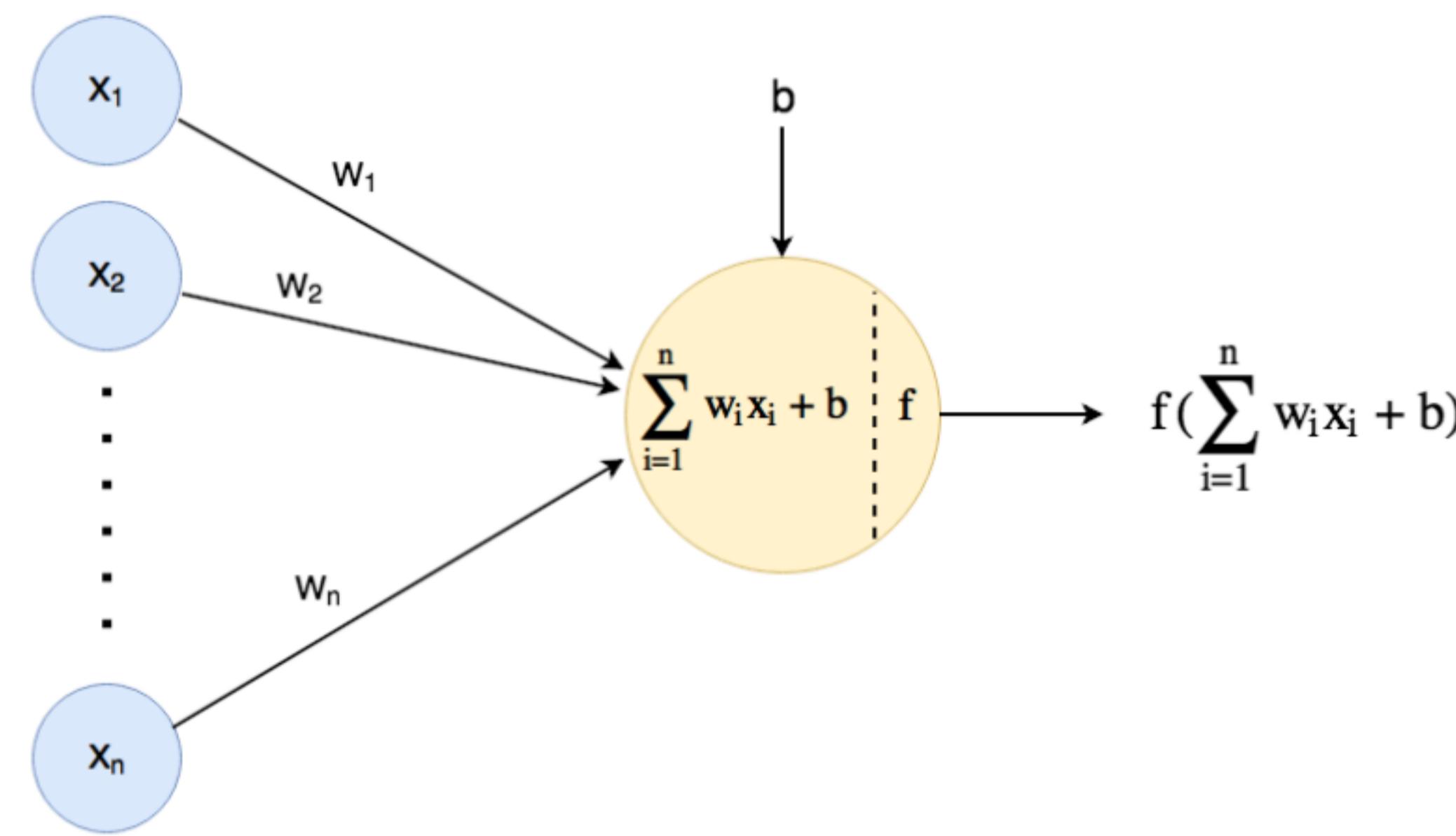


Figure: A single neuron:  $\mathcal{O} = f(\vec{w} \cdot \vec{x} + b)$

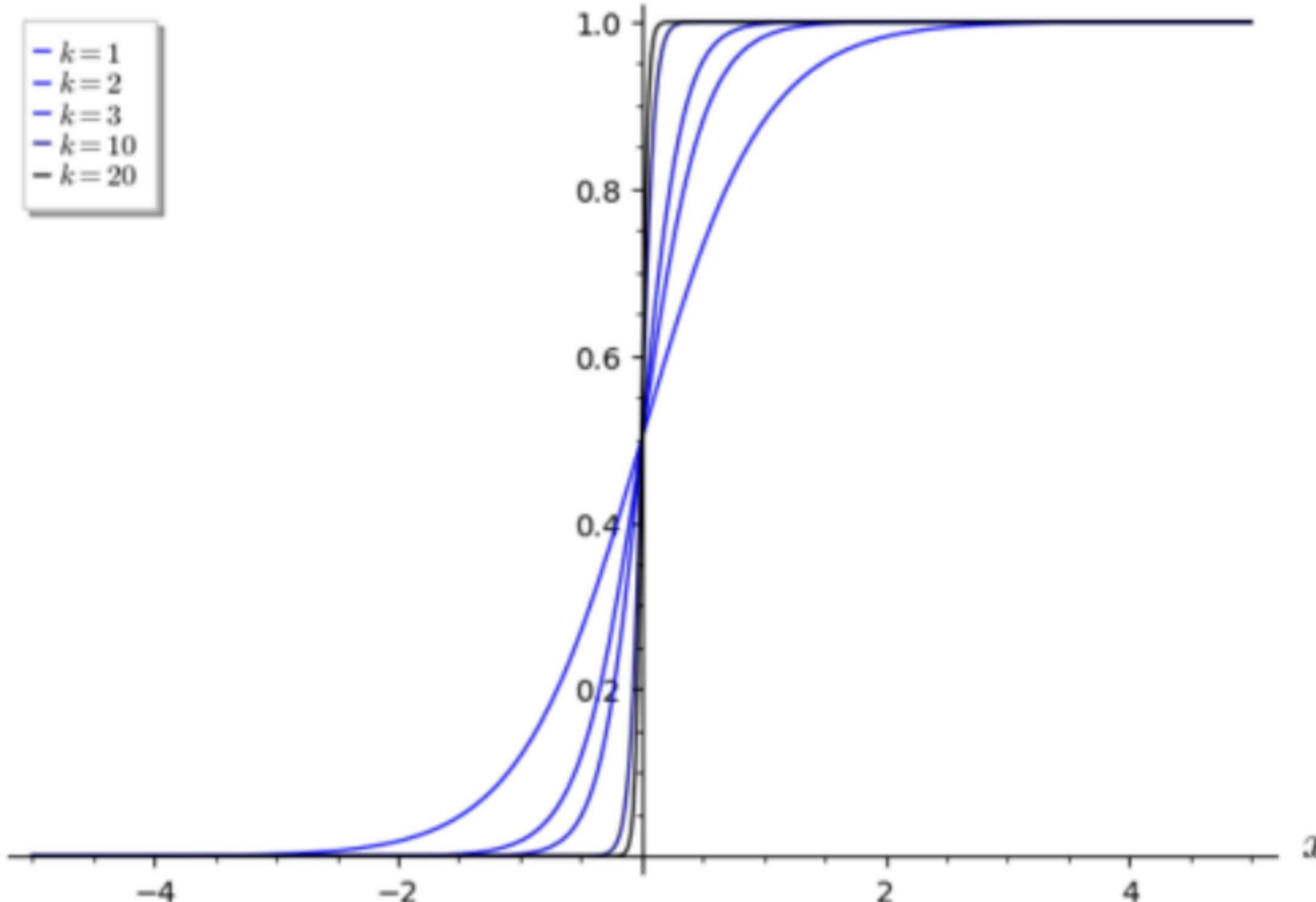
$w$  and  $b$  are tunable parameters: **weights & biases**

$f$  is a typically non-linear function: **activation function**

# The Perceptron

Extreme example:  $f$  is a step function.

$$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\tanh(kx) = (1 + e^{-2kx})^{-1}$$



Notes:

- ① limit of the **tanh** function.
- ② **fires** when inputs cross a threshold: property of neurons.

# Neural Networks

Consider  $k$  such neurons acting on the inputs  $x$ :

$$z_k = w_{kj}x_j + b_k, \quad a_k = \mathbf{f}(a_k).$$

Also, since hindsight is 20/20, redefine

$$x_k \rightarrow a_k^{(0)}, \quad z_k \rightarrow z_k^{(1)}, \quad a_k \rightarrow a_k^{(1)}.$$

Therefore we rewrite

$$z_k^{(\ell)} = w_{kj}^{(\ell)} a_j^{(\ell-1)} + b_k^{(\ell)}, \quad a_k^{(\ell)} = \mathbf{f}\left(z_k^{(\ell)}\right),$$

where  $\ell = 1$ . With hindsight, call this the **first layer** of neurons.

# Neural Networks

Higher layers: iterate this transformation.

$$z_k^{(\ell)} = w_{kj}^{(\ell)} a_j^{(\ell-1)} + b_k^{(\ell)}, \quad a_k^{(\ell)} = \mathbf{f} \left( z_k^{(\ell)} \right),$$

for  $\ell = 1, \dots, L$ .

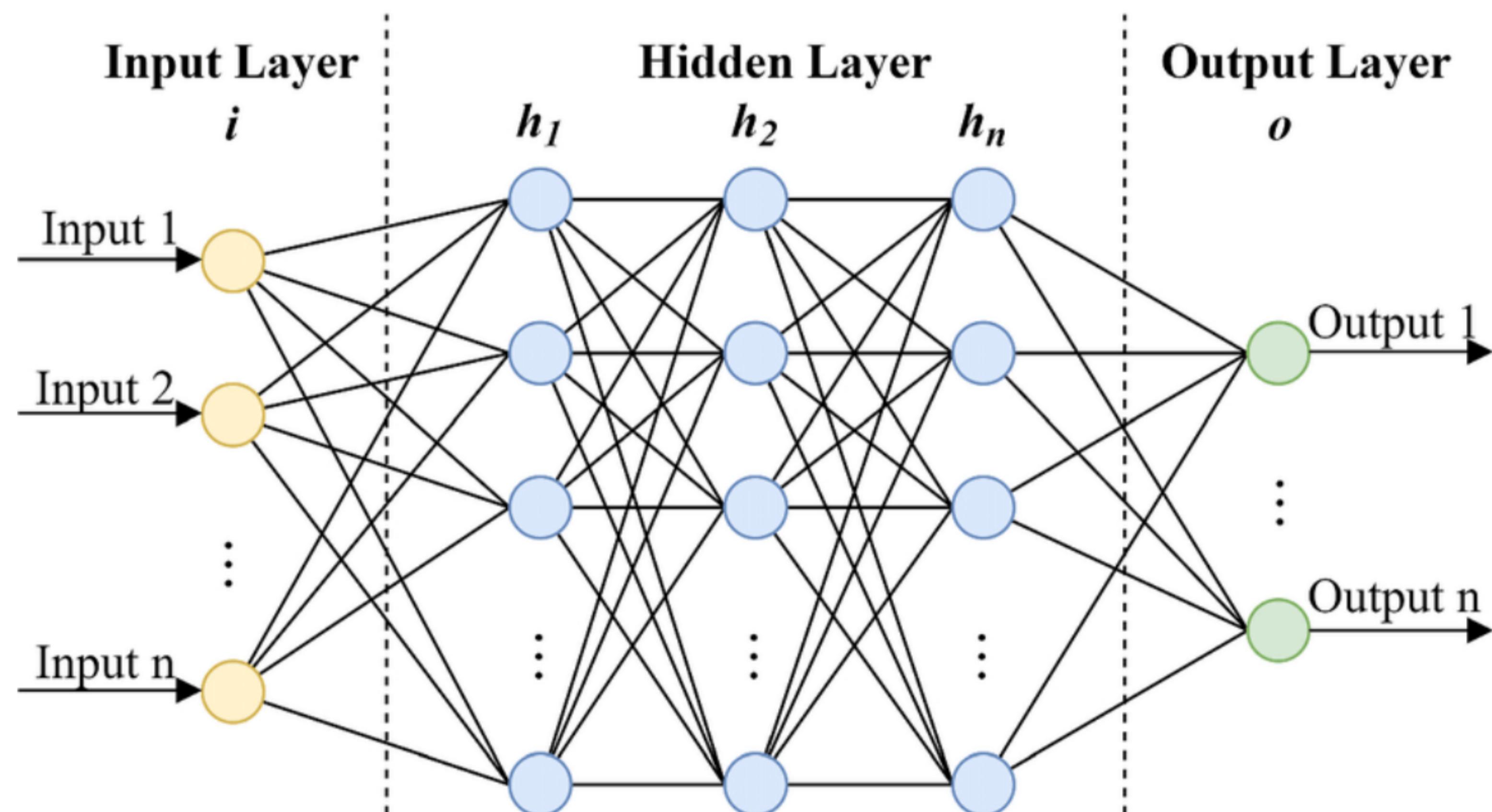
- The simplest modern neural network.
- Multi-layer Perceptron.
- Other topologies are also possible, e.g. residual learning.

hierarchical structure:

- Output of previous layer is the input of the current layer.
- Output of current layer is the input of the next layer.

# Neural Networks

This graph represents the above sequence of transformations.



The output  $a^{(L)}$  is

$$y_k = f_{\{w,b\}}(x),$$

and can be changed for given  $x$  by tuning  $w$  and  $b$ .

# Universal Approximation

Why are Neural Networks so appealing?

A classic problem: Supervised Learning

- start with a set of known input/output pairs  $\{(x_i, y_i)\}$
- determine  $\{w, b\}$  of the neural network so that

$$y_{NN}(x_i) \approx y_i \quad \forall x_i.$$

Claim: neural networks are universal approximators

i.e. this data can always be modeled by *some* neural network.

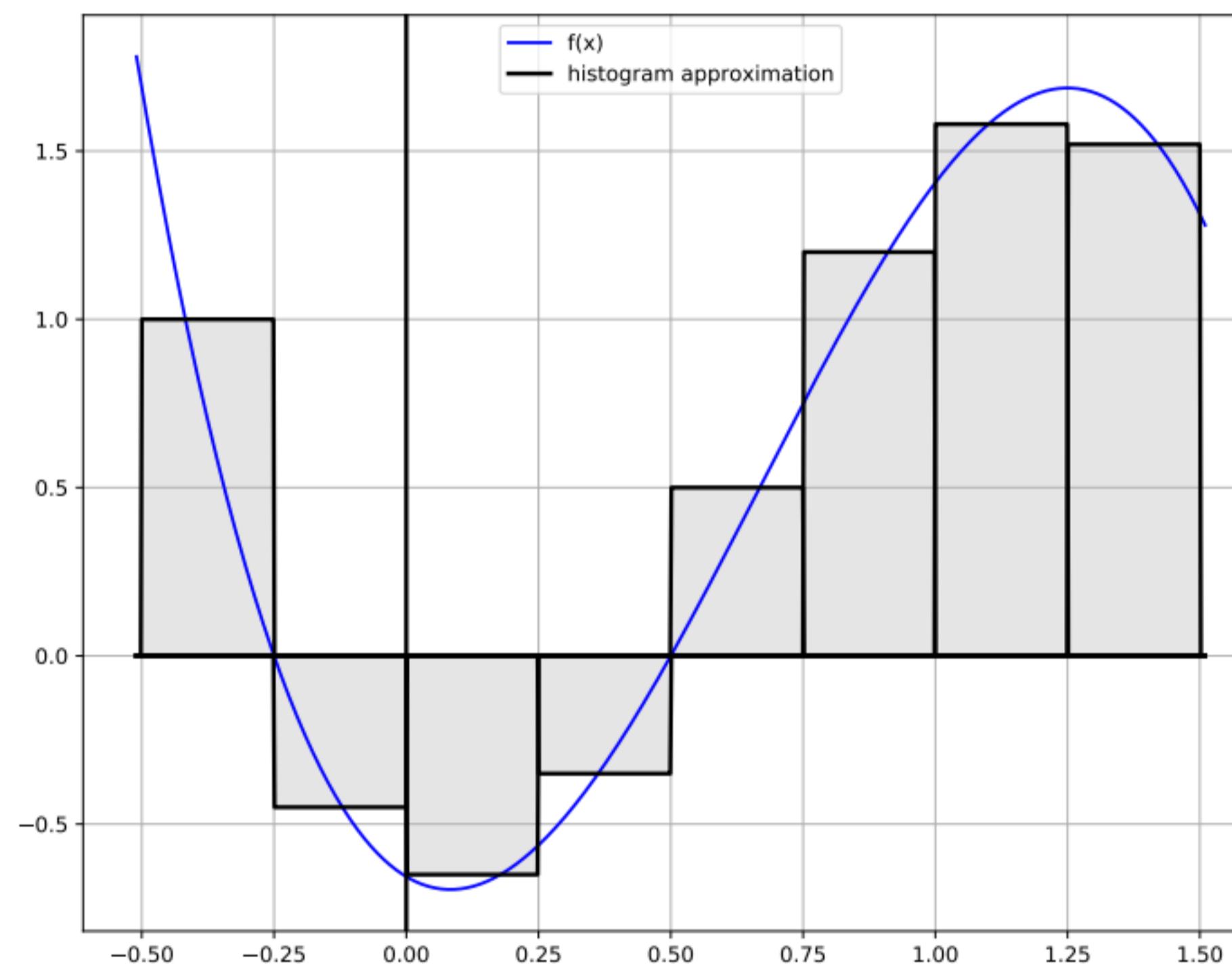
This is for two reasons: width and depth.

- $\infty$ -width neural nets are universal approxtrs.
- depth is needed to learn not memorize.

We start with the first statement.

# Universal Approximation

Idea: approximate target function by a histogram of  $N$  bins.



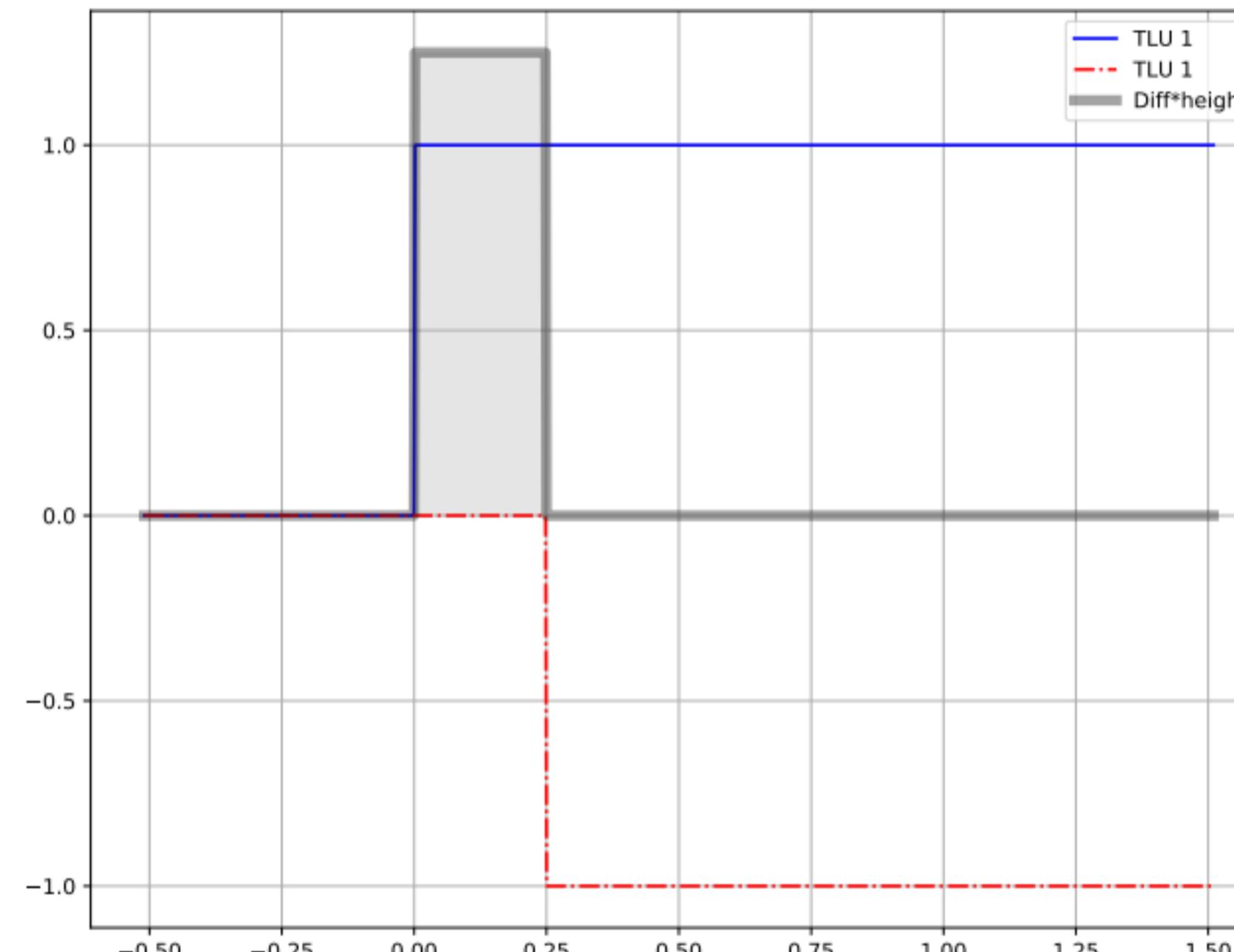
$$f(x) \approx f_0(x) = \bar{f}_j, \quad x \in [x_{j-1}, x_j], \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, N$$

Larger  $N \Rightarrow$  better approximation.

# Universal approximation

This can be realized through the step function

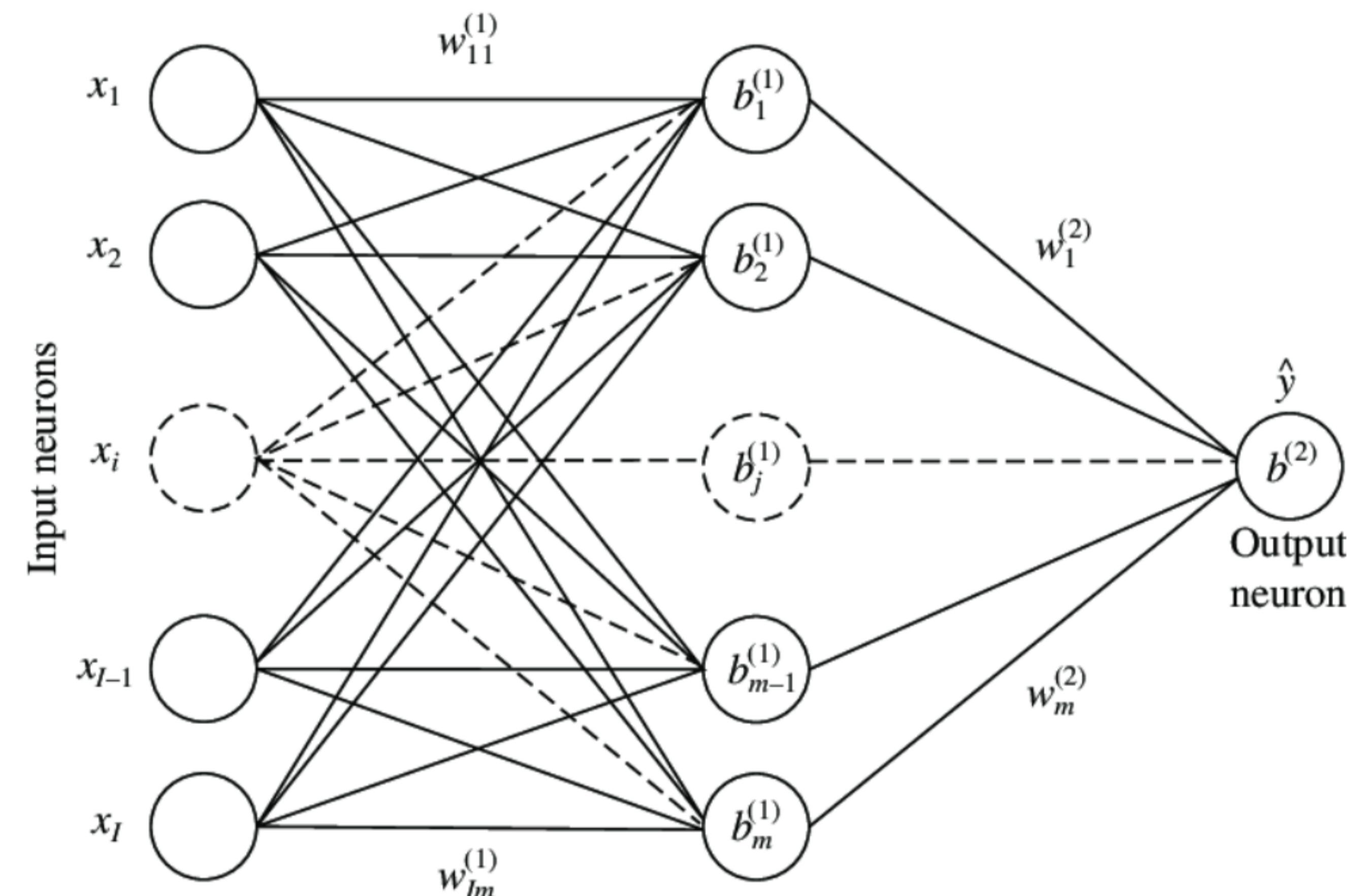
$$f_s(x) = \Theta(wx + b), \quad s = -\frac{b}{w}.$$



define:  $f_{s_1, s_2, h} = h(f_{s_1} - f_{s_2}) = \begin{cases} h & : x \in (s_1, s_2) \\ 0 & : \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

# Universal Approximation

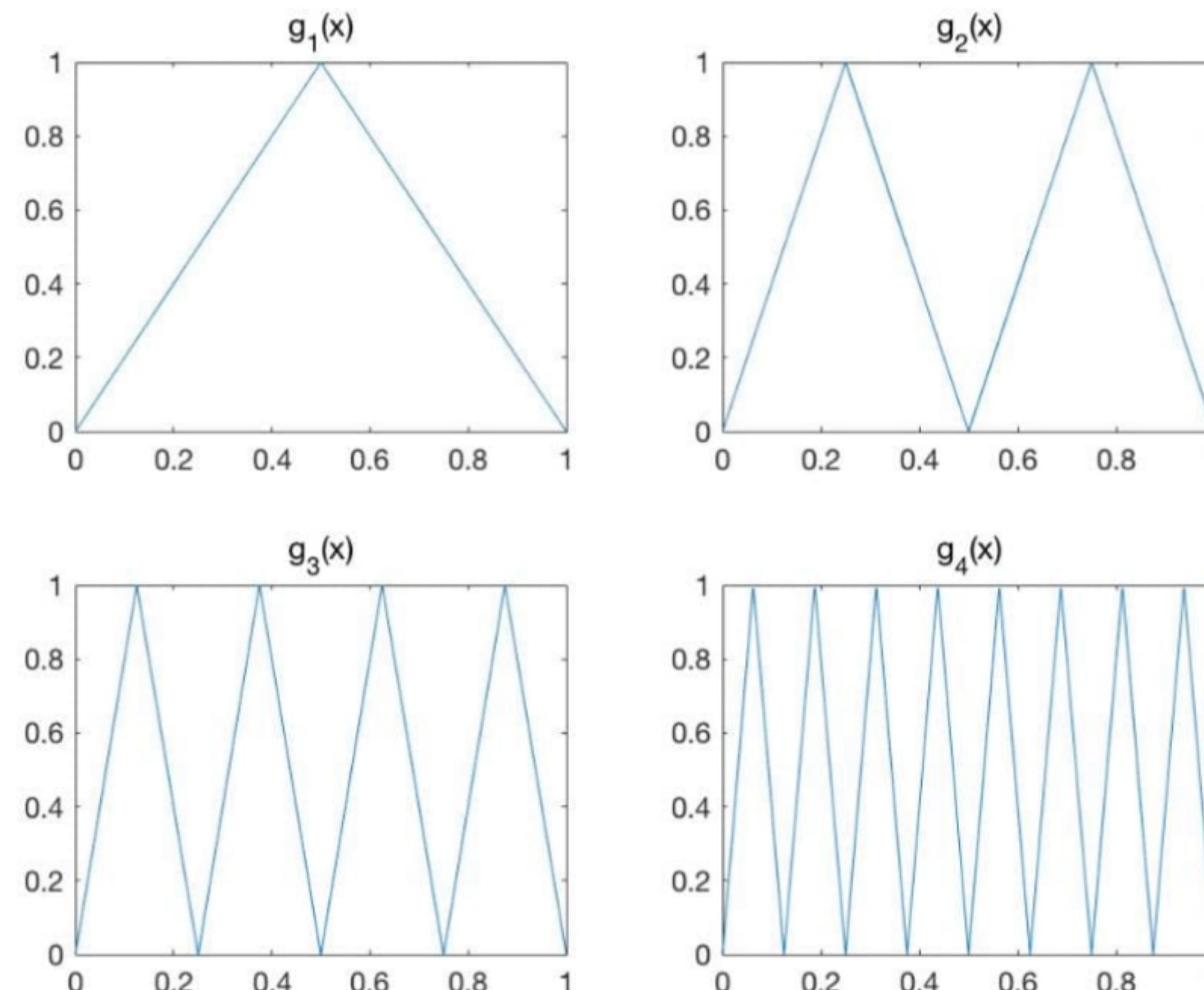
A single **hidden** layer of neurons yields a universal approximator.



why then do we need depth?

# Universal Approximation

Depth is crucial to learning hierarchical structures efficiently.



wide-net : 1,2,**4,16** neurons.    deep-net : 1,2,**3,4** neurons.

Also: learning not memorization.

# Today

- Use neural networks to tackle quantum integrability.
- What is the data? Generalize supervised learning.
- Provide the constraints that the solution must satisfy.

$$\text{e.g. } R(u) : f(R * R * R) = 0 .$$

- Neural nets scan across function space without fixing an explicit ansatz class, such as exponential or trig functions.
- Ansatz implicitly defined by activation, width and depth.
- **Loss functions** encode constraints on target function.

# Loss Functions

**Original Idea:** evaluate how good or bad is the predictor.

e.g. the mean square error loss function:

$$\mathcal{L}(w) = \sum_n (y_n - y_{NN}(x_n, w))^2$$

If  $\mathcal{L}(w)$  is small the corresponding predictions are good.

∴ minimize  $\mathcal{L}(w)$  in  $w \Rightarrow$  canonical supervised learning

conceptually not very different from ordinary least squares

**Now:** generalize how we think about loss functions.

# Rethinking Loss Functions

When are loss functions zero? consider mean square error

$$\mathcal{L}(w) = \sum_n (y_n - y_{NN}(x_n, w))^2$$

Minimized at:

$$\mathcal{L}(w) = 0 \iff y_{NN}(x_n, w) = y_n \quad \forall n$$

Minimizing  $\mathcal{L} \Rightarrow$  searching for functions  $y_{NN}$  such that

$$y_{NN}(x_n, w) = y_n \quad \forall n.$$

Loss functions  $\equiv$  constraints on the target function.

Loss functions are zero when constraints are satisfied.

# Machine Learning Similarity

Idea: Draw inspiration and analogy from how humans learn.

- a toddler learning animals needs only 1-2 example images



(a) Cats

(b) Dogs

- New images will be identified as dogs and cats depending on which image they are the most similar too.

Siamese Neural Networks

# Machine Learning Similarity

Hence identify dogs and cats by extrapolating from a tiny set of examples



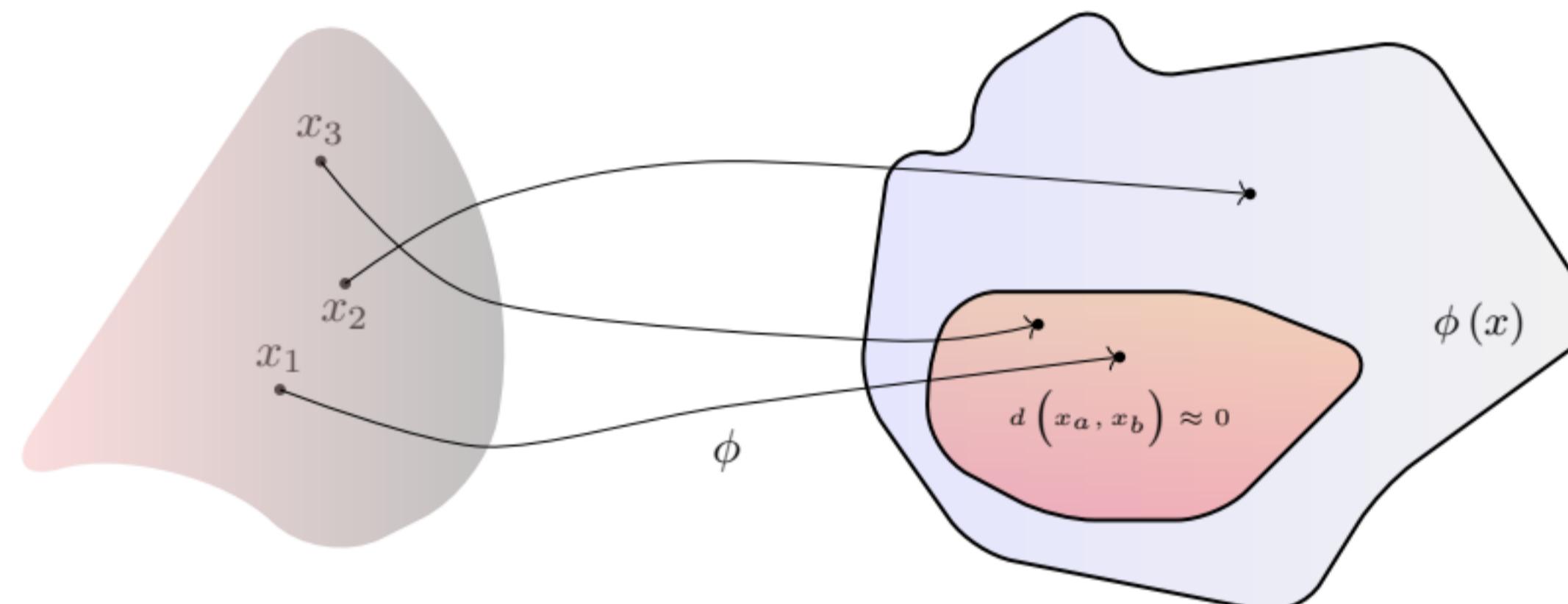
In essence the toddler learns the equivalence relations

$$I \sim III, \quad II \sim IV, \quad \text{but} \quad I, III \not\sim II, IV.$$

This is now known to be an exceptionally robust framework.

# Machine Learning Similarity

Using machine learning to quantify similarity.



- Learn a map from input data  $x$  to  $\mathbb{R}^d$
- Points  $x_a, x_p$  are similar  $\Rightarrow$  close together in  $\mathbb{R}^d$
- Points  $x_a, x_n$  are dissimilar  $\Rightarrow$  far apart in  $\mathbb{R}^d$

$\therefore$  similarity encoded into geometry.

# Machine Learning Similarity

Prepare the data:

Input: pairs $(x_1, x_2)$	Output: $y$
$x_1 \sim x_2 : x_1$ similar to $x_2$	1
$x_1 \not\sim x_2 : x_1$ not similar to $x_2$	0

The neural network  $\phi$  is trained to minimize

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{(x_1, x_2)} y d(x_1, x_2) + (1 - y) \max(1 - d(x_1, x_2), 0)$$

**Intuition:**  $\mathcal{L}$  is zero when

- $y = 1 \Rightarrow d(x_1, x_2) = 0$ , i.e. close together
- $y = 0 \Rightarrow d(x_1, x_2) > 1$ , i.e. far apart

i.e. a map to  $\mathbb{R}^d$  such that distance encodes similarity.

# Summary

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- neural networks  $\Rightarrow$  exhaustive scan across functions.
- Loss functions encode properties of the target function.
- This can involve enumerating input output pairs.
- Equally well, more abstract properties can be encoded.
- **not discussed:** how to tune weights in practice.

# A Neural Network Solver

An  $R$  matrix comprises of functions  $R_{ij}(u)$

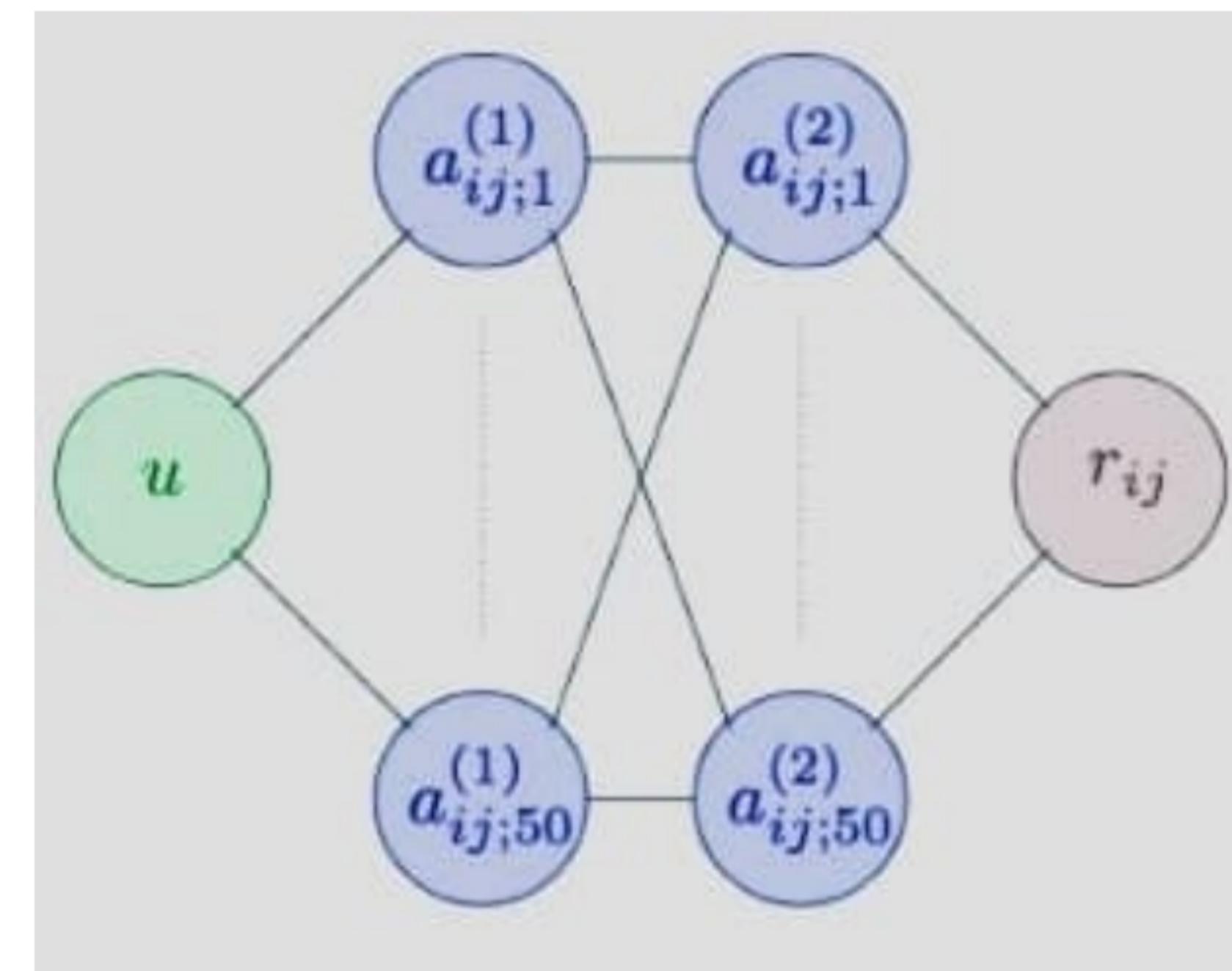
- **holomorphic** over the complex plane
- $[R_{ij}(0)] = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \equiv P$  : locality.
- $P \frac{d}{du} R(u)|_{u=0} = H$  : Hamiltonian.
- **solves the Yang-Baxter equation.**

We determine the functions  $R_{ij}$  from these constraints.

- partly built into neural network architecture
- partly implemented by loss functions

# A Neural Network R-Matrix

Consider each scalar function  $r_{ij}(u)$  in the  $R$ -matrix.



e.g. 16 non-zero entries in  $\mathcal{R} \Rightarrow 32$  neural network functions.  
functions entering  $\mathcal{R}$  constrained through loss functions.

# Incorporating Holomorphy

Strategy: train on  $u \in \Omega = (-1, 1)$

Choose a **holomorphic activation function  $h$**  e.g.

$$\tanh(z) , \quad \text{swish}(z) = \frac{z}{1 + e^{-z}} .$$

Then a function of the structure

$$a(u) = h(w_{jk}z_k + b_j) , \quad w, b \in \mathbb{R}$$

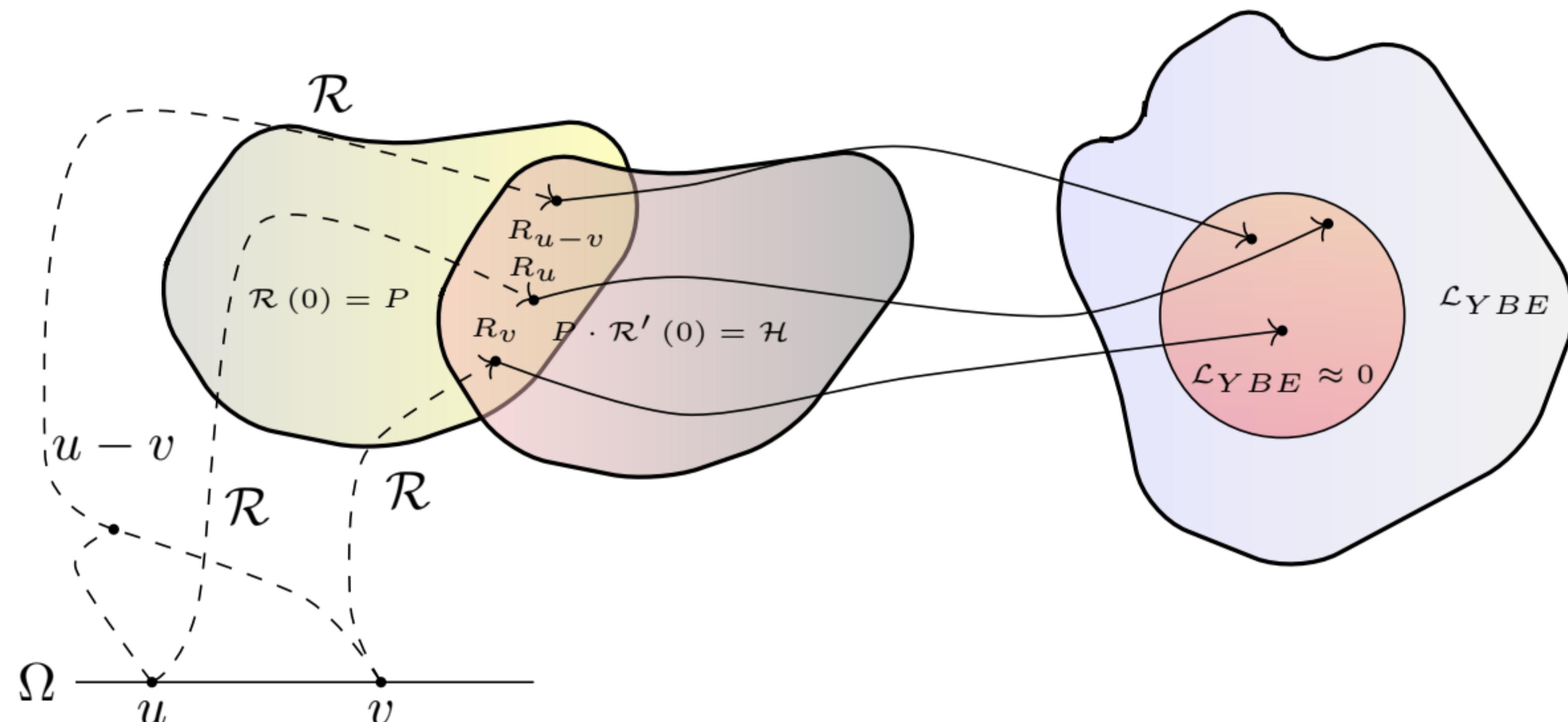
is **holomorphic in  $u$**  but real-valued for real inputs.

$$r(u) = a(u) + i b(u)$$

is **holomorphic in  $u$** , without the reality constraint.

# A Neural Network R-Matrix

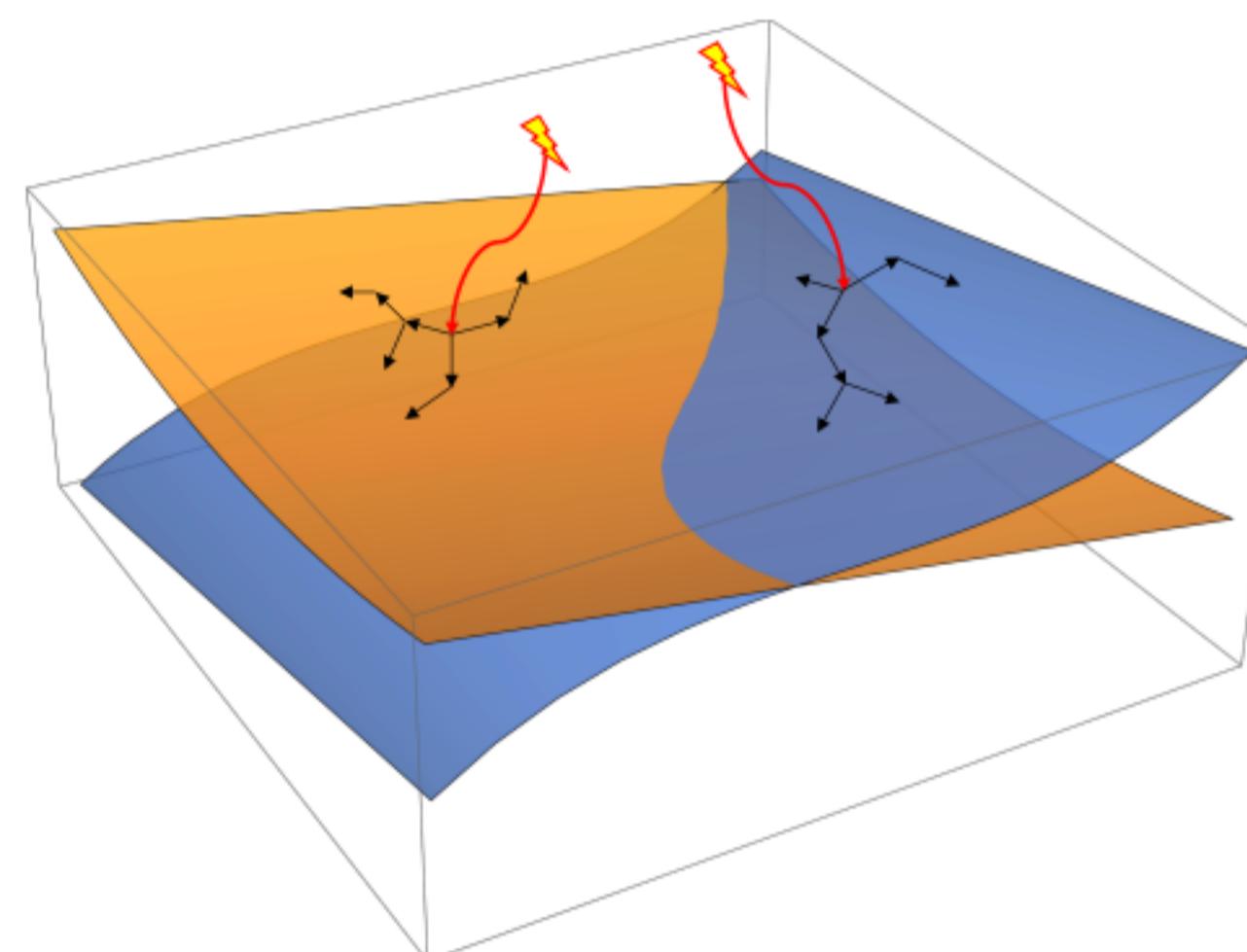
Overall, the structure looks like:



This is strongly reminiscent of the Siamese Network.

# The Loss Landscape

Another point of view: exploring function space.



- The box: R-matrices representable by the neural network.
- **orange submanifold:** YBE is obeyed
- **blue submanifold:** locality, form of Hamiltonian, . . . .
- **idea:** tune the network to scan intersections etc.

# A Quantum Integrable Playground

- physically distinct solutions completely known when  $d = 2$ .
- ‘Typically’ solutions are of the form

$$H = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & 0 & 0 & d_1 \\ 0 & b_1 & c_1 & 0 \\ 0 & c_2 & b_2 & 0 \\ d_2 & 0 & 0 & a_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

- 6 additional ‘outlier’ classes also.
- **R-matrix entries:** can be exp, trig, Jacobi elliptic . . . .
- A good challenge for our proposed framework.

# The XYZ Model

Consider the **XYZ Hamiltonian**

$$H = \sum_{i \in \text{sites}} J_x \sigma_i^x \sigma_{i+1}^x + J_y \sigma_i^z \sigma_{i+1}^z + J_z \sigma_i^z \sigma_{i+1}^z,$$

$\vec{\sigma}_i$  : Pauli matrices at site i .

The XYZ Hamiltonian admits the **symmetric limits**:

- ① XXZ model:  $J_x = J_y$
- ② Heisenberg model:  $J_x = J_y = J_z$  .

These are all integrable systems.

# The XYZ Model

The XYZ models are parametrized by real numbers  $\eta$  and  $m$ :

$$J_x = 1 + \frac{\sqrt{m}}{2} \operatorname{sn}(2\eta|m), \quad J_y = 1 - \frac{\sqrt{m}}{2} \operatorname{sn}(2\eta|m), \quad J_z = \operatorname{cn}(2\eta|m) \operatorname{dn}(2\eta|m)$$

$$R(u) = \begin{pmatrix} a & 0 & 0 & d \\ 0 & b & c & 0 \\ 0 & c & b & 0 \\ d & 0 & 0 & a \end{pmatrix}$$

$$a(u) = \frac{\operatorname{sn}(2\eta + \omega u | m)}{\operatorname{sn}(2\eta | m)} \exp\left(-\frac{\operatorname{cn}(2\eta | m) \operatorname{dn}(2\eta | m)}{2 \operatorname{sn}(2\eta | m)} \omega u\right),$$

$$b(u) = \frac{\operatorname{sn}(\omega u | m)}{\operatorname{sn}(2\eta | m)} \exp\left(-\frac{\operatorname{cn}(2\eta | m) \operatorname{dn}(2\eta | m)}{2 \operatorname{sn}(2\eta | m)} \omega u\right),$$

$$c(u) = \exp\left(-\frac{\operatorname{cn}(2\eta | m) \operatorname{dn}(2\eta | m)}{2 \operatorname{sn}(2\eta | m)} \omega u\right),$$

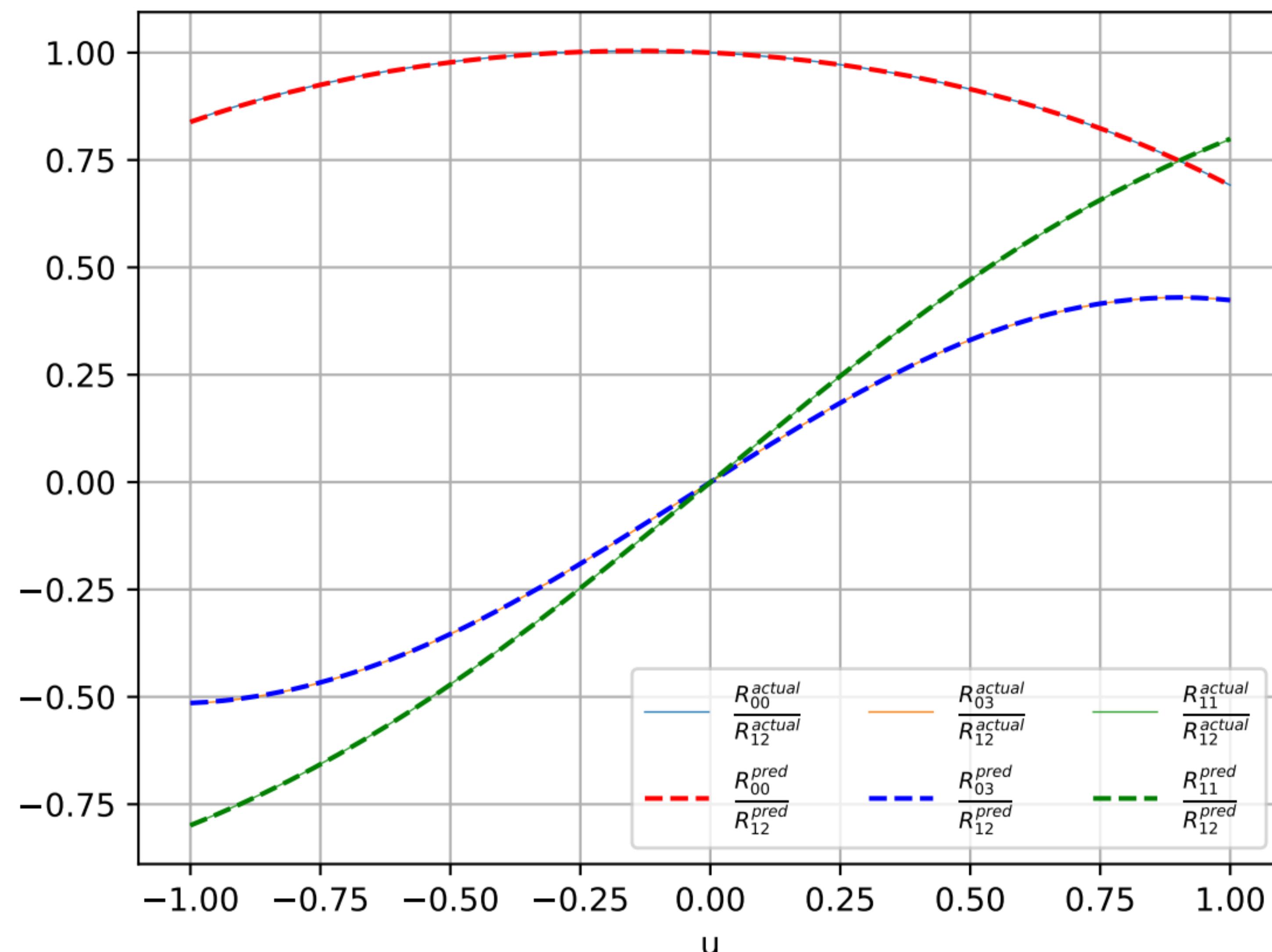
$$d(u) = \sqrt{m} \operatorname{sn}(\omega u | m) \operatorname{sn}(2\eta + \omega u | m) \exp\left(-\frac{\operatorname{cn}(2\eta | m) \operatorname{dn}(2\eta | m)}{2 \operatorname{sn}(2\eta | m)} \omega u\right)$$

We observe:

- Rich functional dependence in  $u$ .
- $m = 0 \Rightarrow J_x = J_y$  i.e. XXZ model.

# Training with an XYZ Target

Comparing with the analytic results



There is a precise match.

# Exploring the Landscape

## Experiment 1: XYZ from XXZ.

The XXZ model is the  $m = 0$  limit of the XYZ model.

Q: can we discover XYZ starting from XXZ.

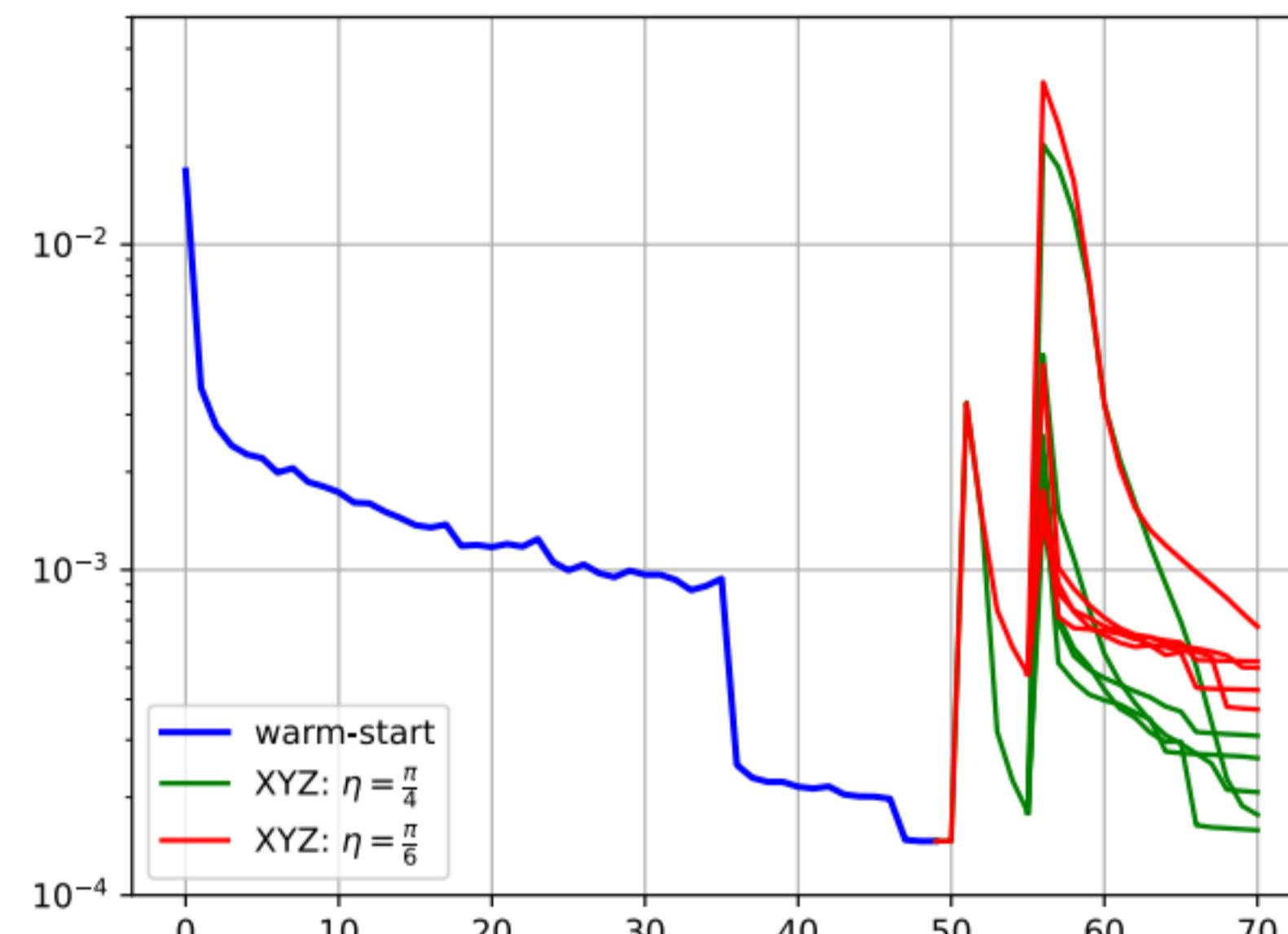
### Framework:

- ① Train the neural network with  $\frac{\pi}{3}$  and  $m = 0$  for 50 epochs.
- ② Fine-tune to  $\frac{\pi}{4}, \frac{\pi}{6}$  and  $m = 0$  in 5 epochs.
- ③ This yields 3 XXZ models which are our starting points.
- ④ Randomly sample 5 non-zero values of  $m$ .
- ⑤ Train for 15 epochs with those target values.

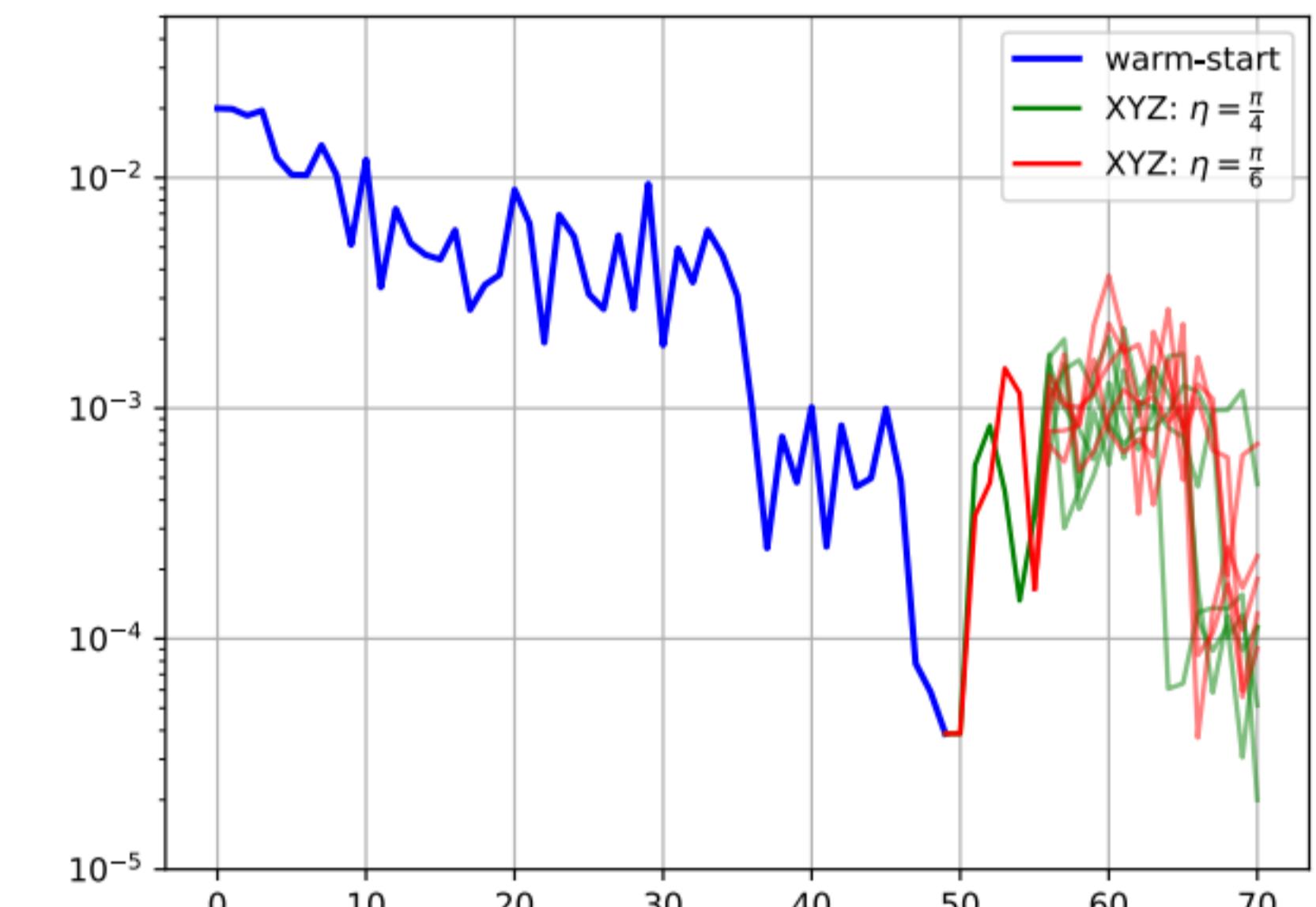
We find that we do converge to the correct XYZ models.

# Exploring the Landscape

## Evolution of the Loss functions.



(a) Evolution of Yang-Baxter Loss



(b) Evolution of Hamiltonian Loss

The spikes correspond to resetting the target Hamiltonian.

# Exploring Model Families

**Experiment 2:** There exist integrable models

$$H = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & b_1 & c_1 & 0 \\ 0 & c_2 & b_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & a_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

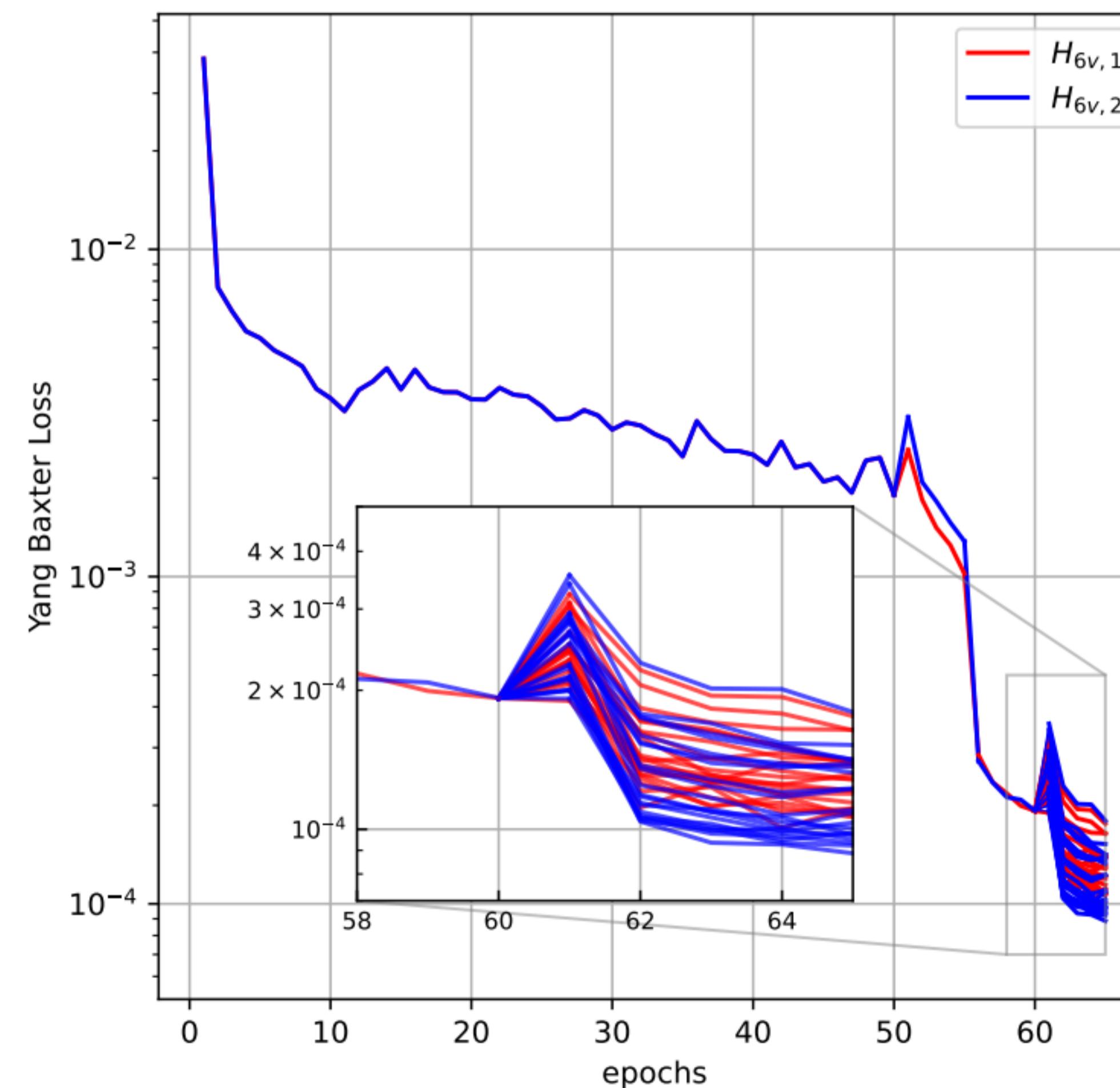
Two classes:  $a_1 = a_2$ ,  $a_1 + a_2 = b_1 + b_2$ .

Aim: discover these two classes.

- ① train to an integrable Hamiltonian.
- ② repel away from this Hamiltonian slightly.
- ③ train again, optimizing the Yang-Baxter loss and locality.
- ④ no target Hamiltonian is given.
- ⑤ idea: let network converge to any nearby Hamiltonian.

# Exploring the Landscape

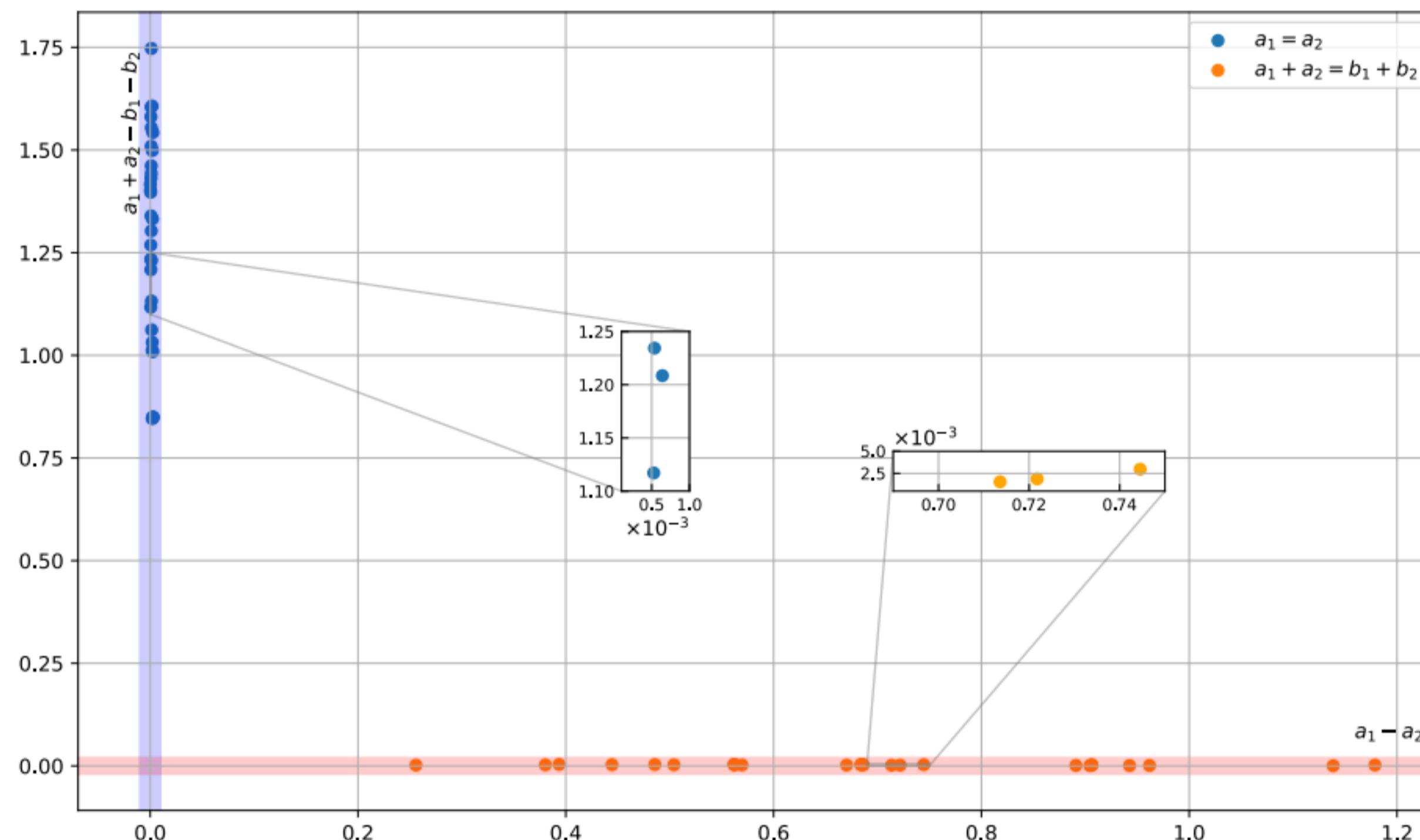
We repeat this exercise several times.



The rise in Yang-Baxter loss occurs when repulsion is turned on.

# Exploring the Landscape

## Visualizing the Learnt Hamiltonians



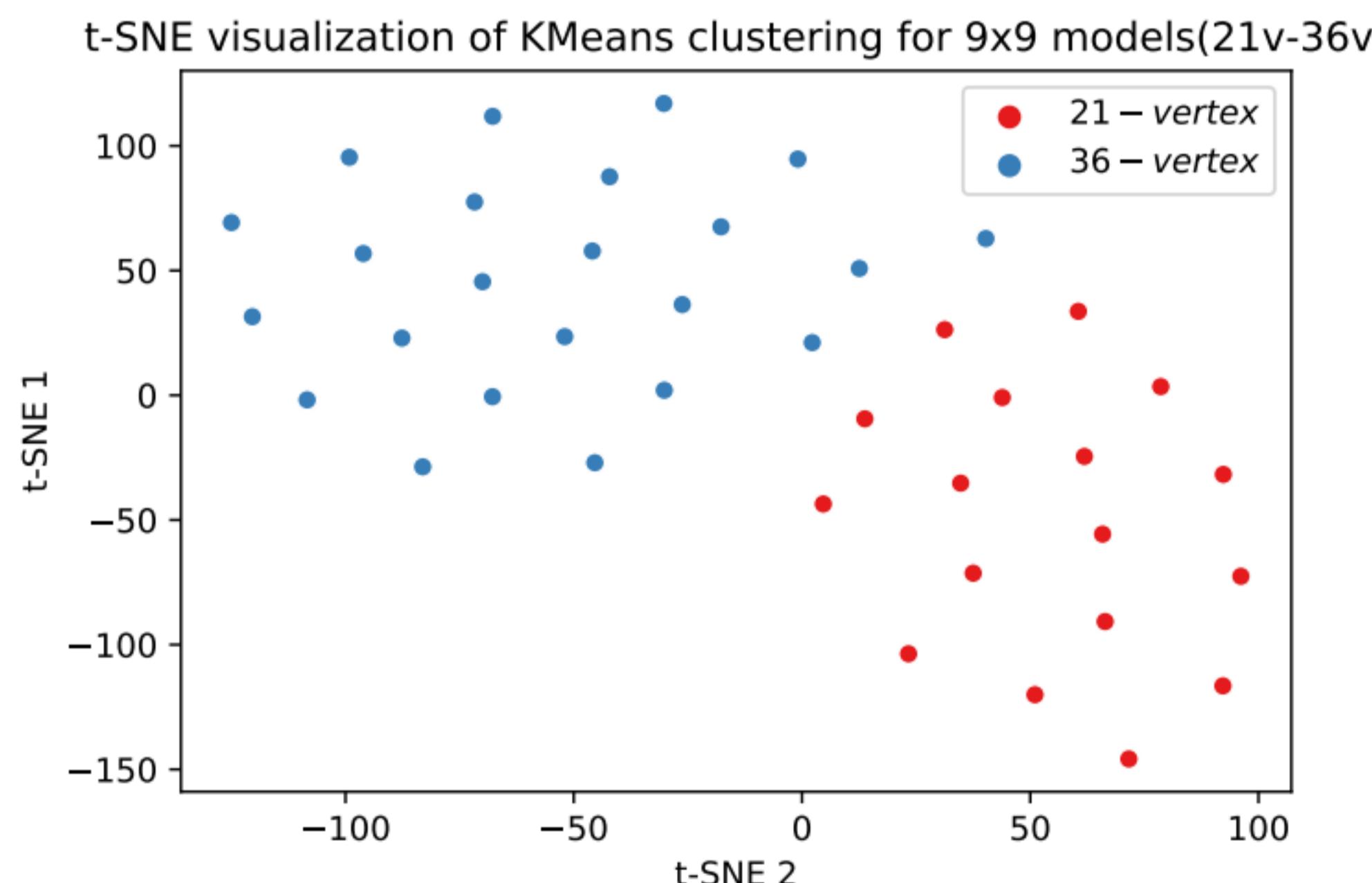
We find separation into two classes.

# Summary

- Neural Networks are universal approximators.
- Intuitive for finding functions that obey constraints.
- We can use them to solve the Yang Baxter equation.
- We can recover all 2d difference form solutions.
- Strategies for exploring the space of integrable theories.
- **TODO:** finding analytic solutions.
- **TODO:** finding new solutions (3d).
- **TODO:** non-difference form.
- and much more ...

# A 3d Out-Tro

- Now let the local Hilbert space at each site be  $V \sim \mathbb{C}^3$ .
- The  $R-$  matrix is  $9 \times 9$ , but the same framework as above.
- Some preliminary results for 21 and 36 vertex models.



- In progress . . .