

# Critical Points of Deep Linear Networks in $\mathbb{C}^N$

## Thesis Defense Presentation

by

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## Outline

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- Neural networks (particularly, *linear networks*)
- Neural network training as a minimization problem in real analysis
- Neural network training as solving polynomial systems in algebraic geometry
- Results and contributions

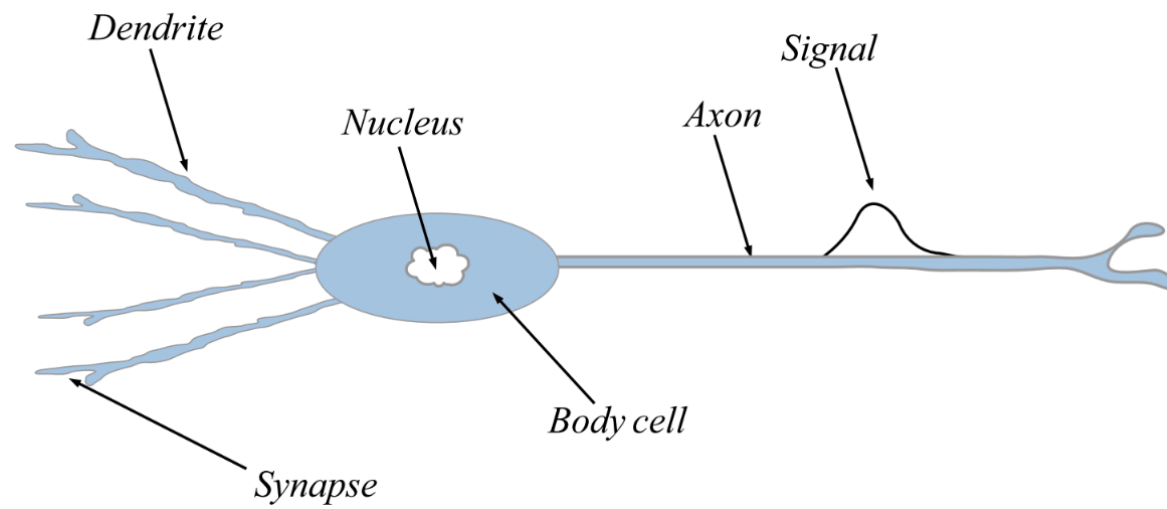
# Neural Networks

Neuron



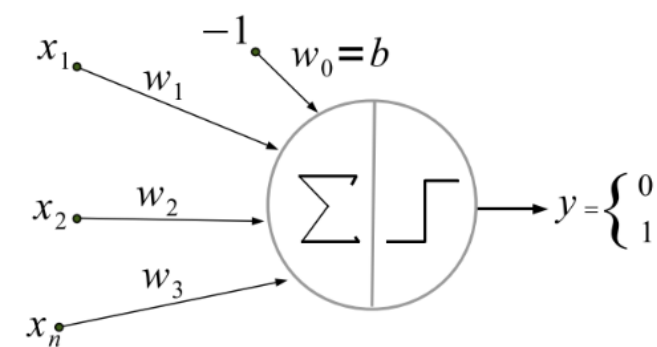
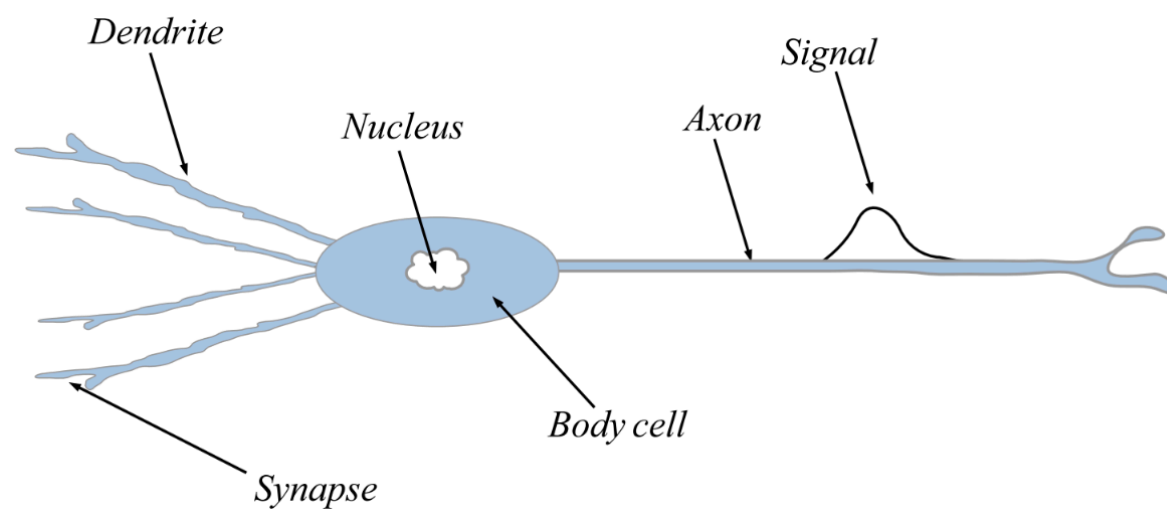
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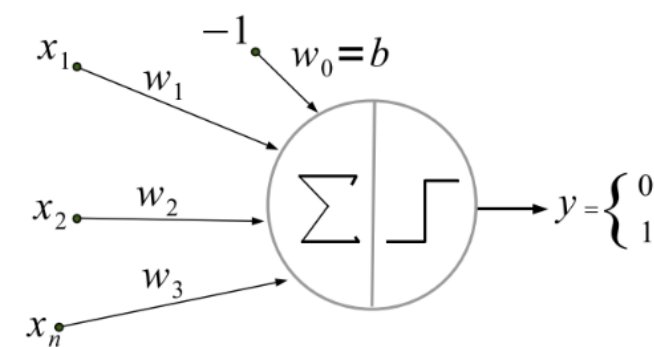
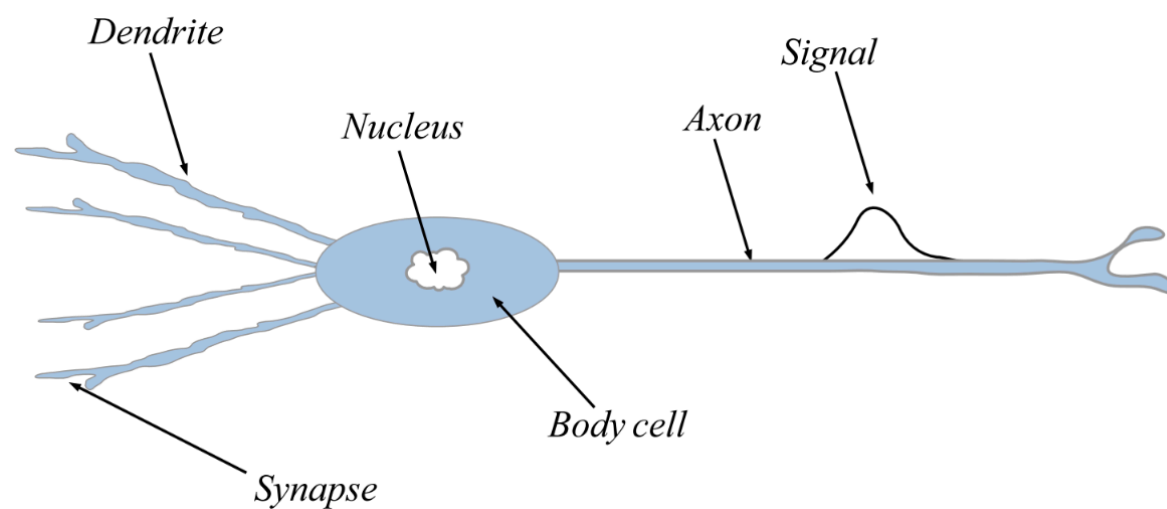
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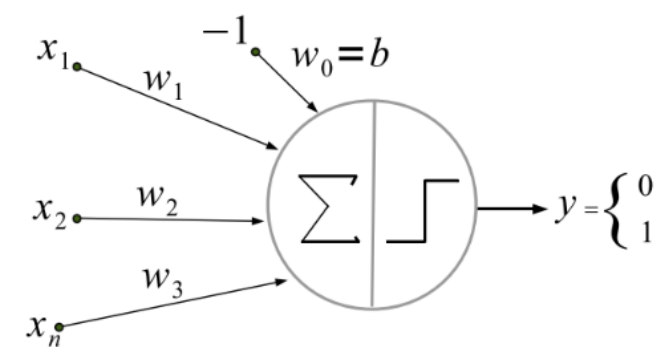
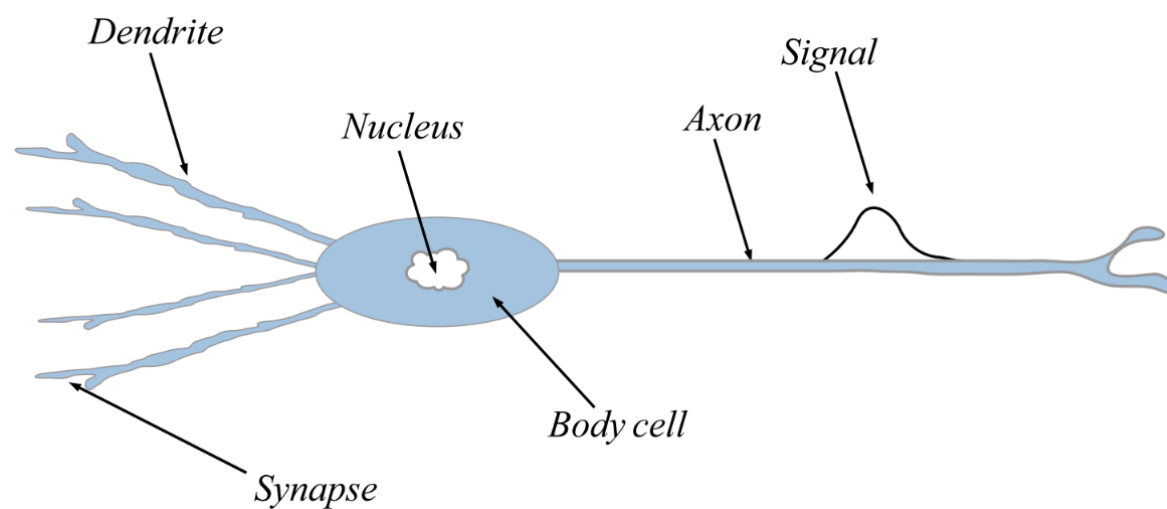
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- $f_w(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \phi\left(\sum_{j=1}^n w_j x_j - b\right)$

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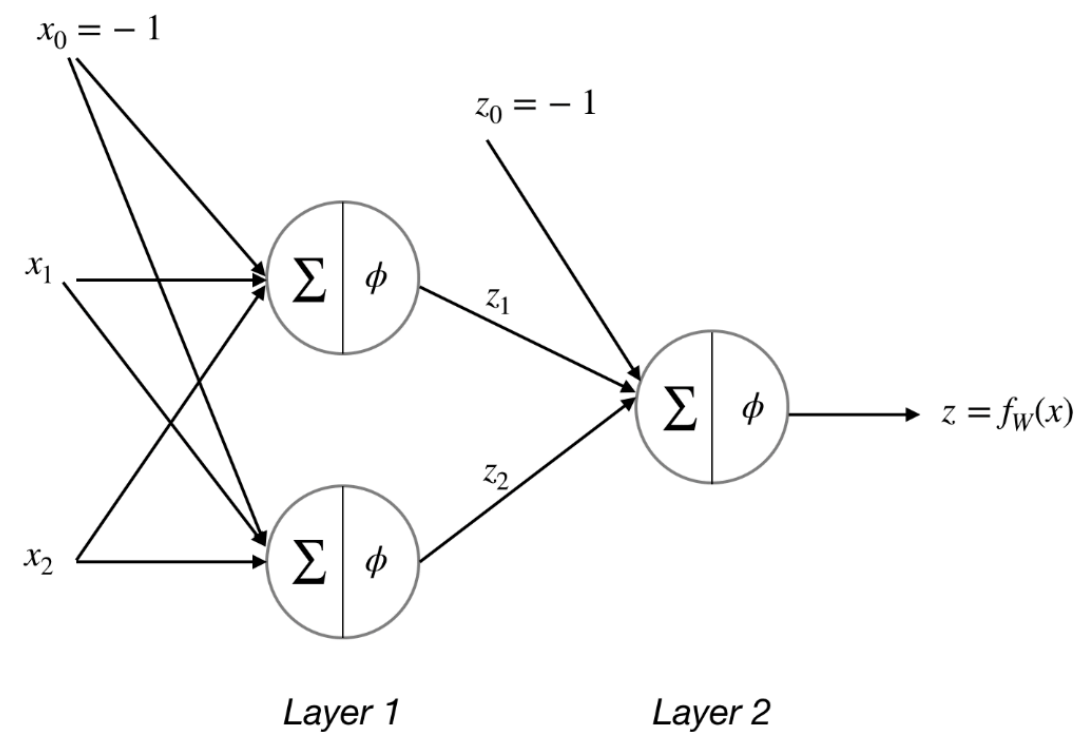
- $f_w(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \phi\left(\sum_{j=1}^n w_j x_j - b\right)$  **(output function)**

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Neural network

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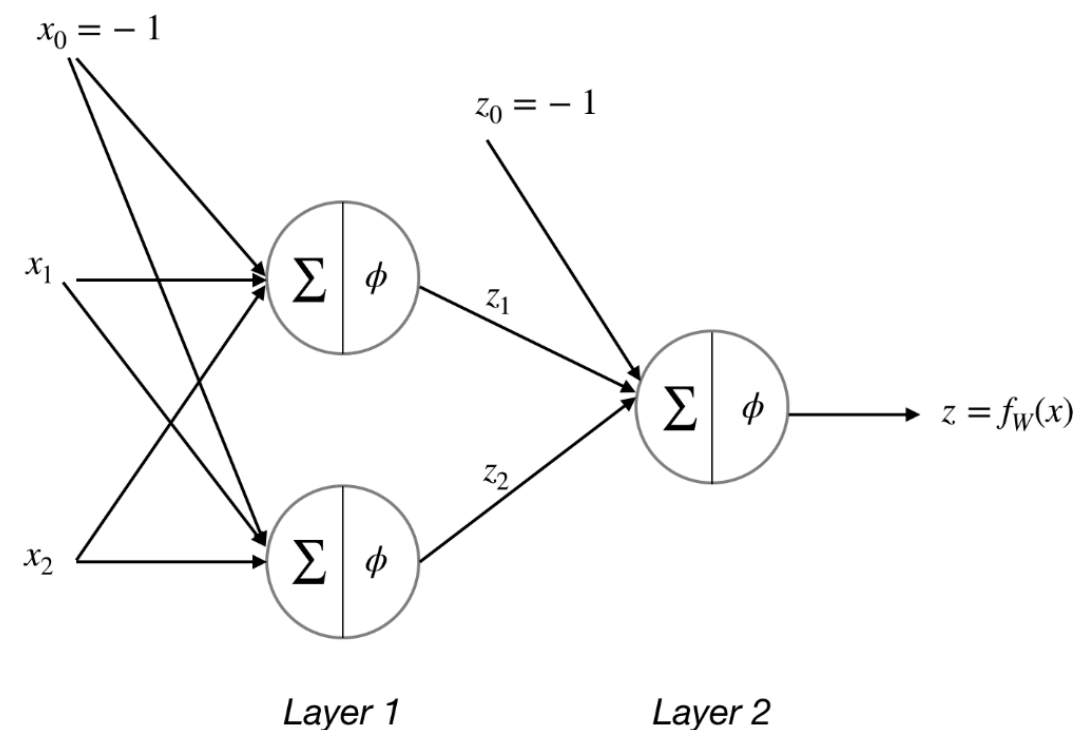


# Neural Networks

## Neural network

- The weight matrix of the  $i$ th layer

$$W_i = \begin{pmatrix} w_{i11} & \cdots & w_{i1n} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ w_{irn1} & \cdots & w_{irn} \end{pmatrix}$$

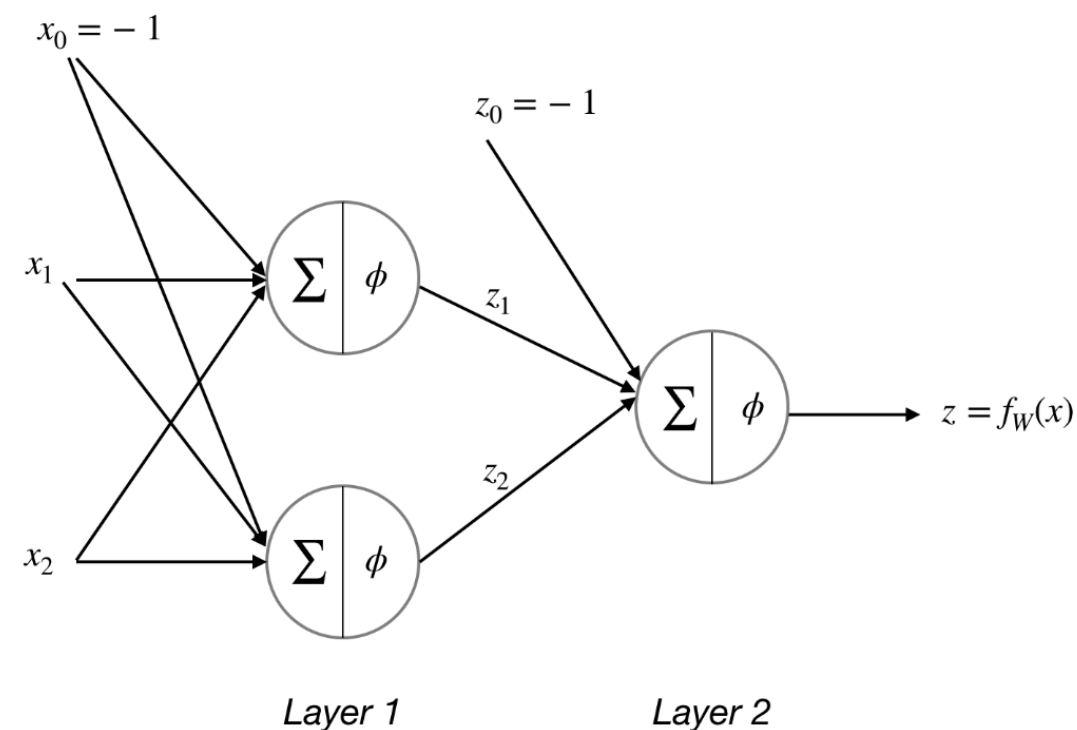


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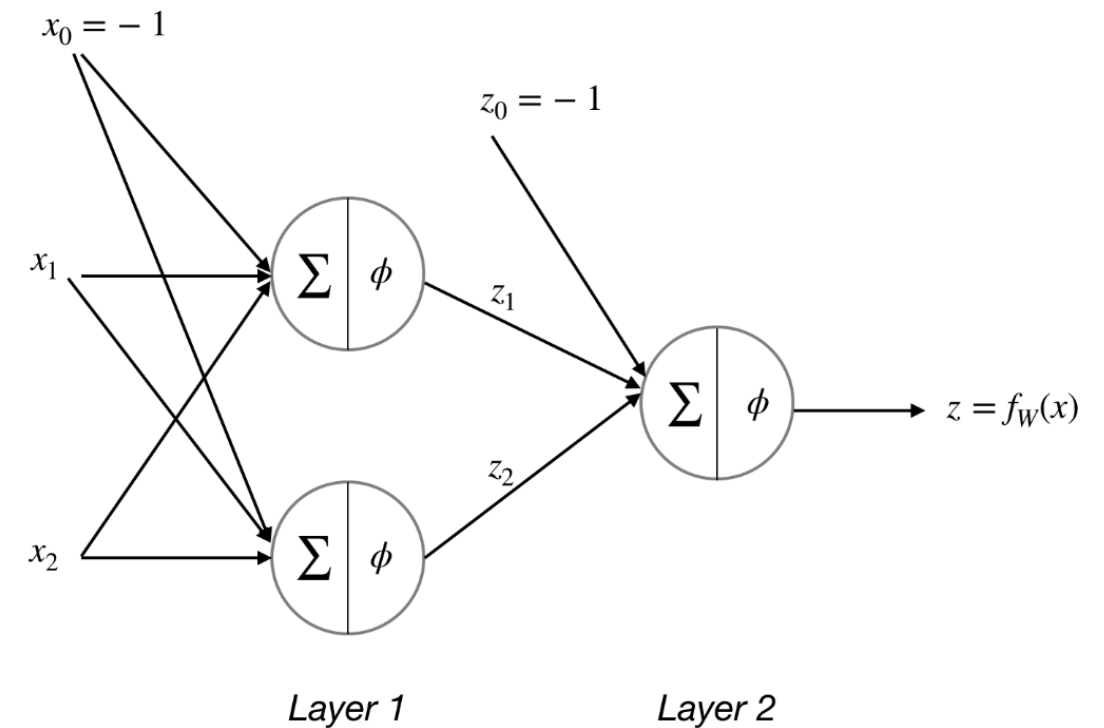
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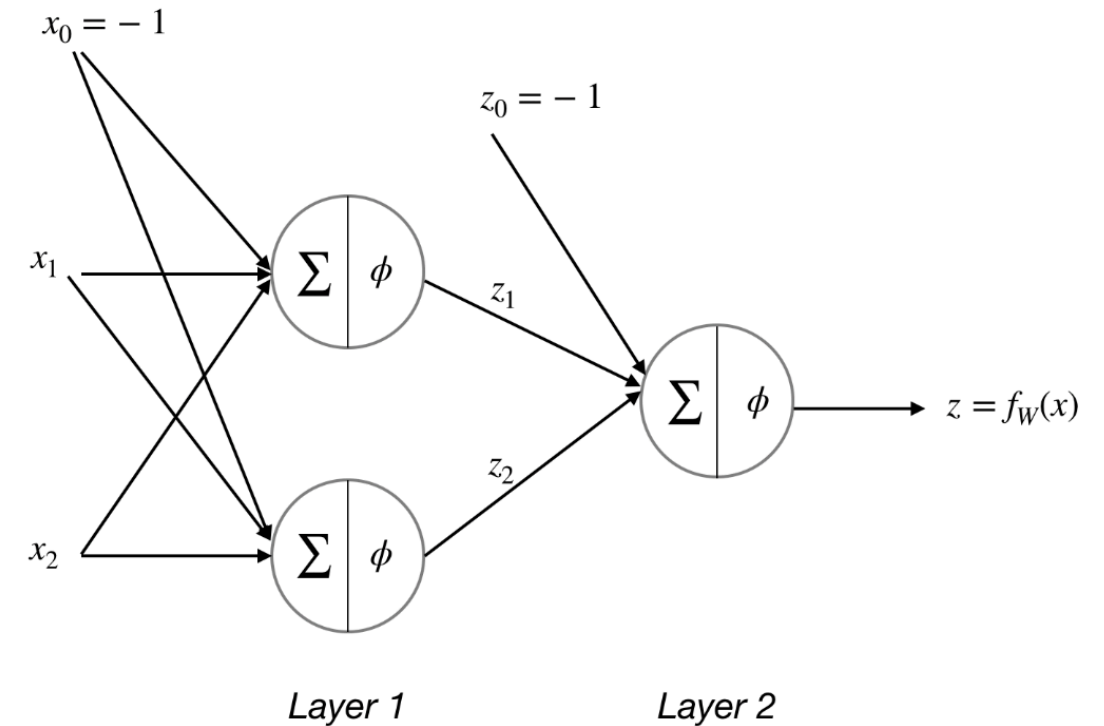


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- Output of the network

$$f_W(x) = z^{(H+1)} = \phi\left(W_{H+1} \begin{bmatrix} -1 \\ z^{(H)} \end{bmatrix}\right) \quad (2)$$

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- Drop the bias term  $b$
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We want to use  $f_W$  to approximate some function  $y : \mathbb{R}^n \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}^p$



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**Not convex**



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**Motivation for an  
algebraic geometry view**

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From a problem in Real Analysis to a problem in Algebraic Geometry

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**Polynomial system**

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**Solutions are  
precisely  
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*Example 1.2* (A 4-weight network). Let us consider a 2-layer network with

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$$W_1 = [\alpha_1, \alpha_2]$$

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$$5\alpha_1\beta_1^2 + 5\alpha_1\beta_2^2 + 11\alpha_2\beta_1^2 + 11\alpha_2\beta_2^2 - 7\beta_1 - 10\beta_2 = 0$$

$$11\alpha_1\beta_1^2 + 11\alpha_1\beta_2^2 + 25\alpha_2\beta_1^2 + 25\alpha_2\beta_2^2 - 15\beta_1 - 22\beta_2 = 0$$

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**Nice polynomial system**

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(1.13)

- **Square**
- **Sparse**
- **Deg  $2H + 1$**

# Algebraic Geometry

## Main Ideas

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**Homotopy continuation**

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- We generate another polynomial system  $G(x) = [g_1(x), \dots, g_N(x)] = 0$

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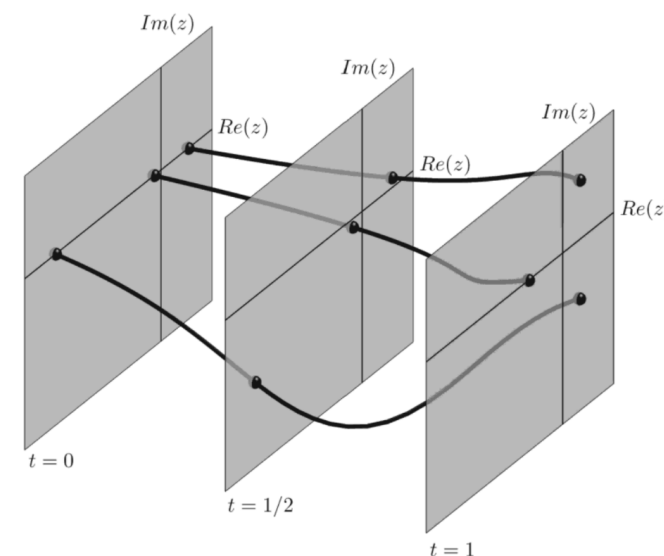
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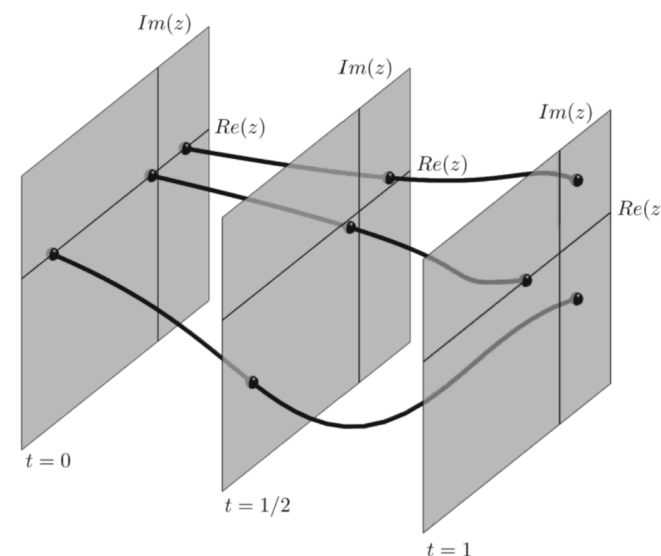
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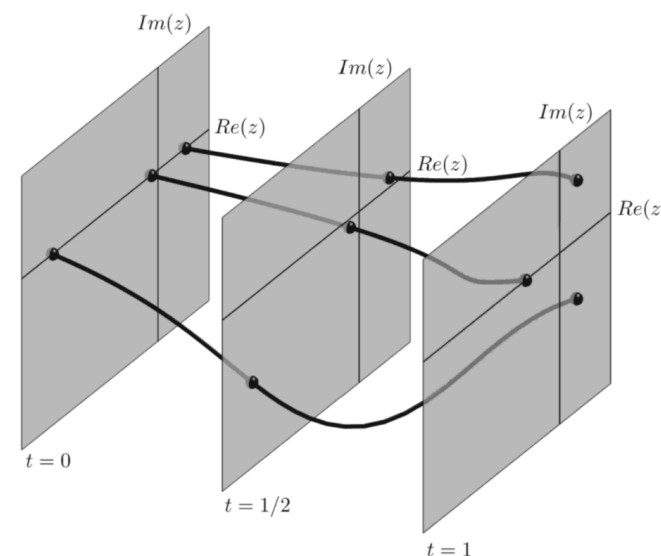
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**Theorem 2.13 (Classical Bezout Bound).** *Let  $f_1, \dots, f_N$  be polynomials in  $\mathbb{C}[x_1, \dots, x_N]$ .*

*Then the number of isolated solutions of the system  $f_1(x) = \dots = f_N(x) = 0$  is bounded above*

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# Results

Number of complex critical points

Critical points with all non-zero weights

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## Number of complex critical points

Critical points with all non-zero weights

**Proposition 3.6** (upper bound on solutions in  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^N, \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{C}^*}$ ). *Consider a linear network with*

*$H = 1, m = 1, d_x = n, d_y = p$  and  $d_1 = d$ . Let  $(W_1, W_2) = \left( \begin{pmatrix} a_{1,1} & \cdots & a_{1,n} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{d,1} & \cdots & a_{d,n} \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} b_{1,1} & \cdots & b_{1,d} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ b_{p,1} & \cdots & b_{p,d} \end{pmatrix} \right)$*

*denote a solution to the gradient polynomial system (3.1). Then, there are at most*

$$\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{C}^*} = (4p)^d$$

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**Theorem 3.9** (upper bound on complex critical points,  $\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{C}}$ ). *Consider a linear network with*

*$H = 1$ ,  $m = 1$ ,  $d_x = n$ ,  $d_y = p$  and  $d_1 = d$ . This network has at most*

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No	$d$	$d_x$	$d_y$	$N$	CBB	BKK	$\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{C}}$	$\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{C}^*}$	$N_{\mathbb{C}}$	$N_{\mathbb{C}^*}$	$\max\{N_{\mathbb{R}}\}$
1	1	1	1	2	9	5	5	4	5	4	3
2	1	2	1	3	27	9	5	4	5	4	3
3	1	3	1	4	81	13	5	4	5	4	3
4	1	1	2	3	27	9	9	8	9	8	3
5	1	2	2	4	81	33	9	8	9	8	3
6	1	3	2	5	243	73	9	8	9	8	3
7	1	1	3	4	81	13	13	12	13	12	3
8	1	2	3	5	243	73	13	12	13	12	3
9	1	3	3	6	729	245	13	12	13	12	3
10	2	1	1	4	81	25	25	16	9	0	4
11	2	2	1	6	729	81	25	16	9	0	5
12	2	3	1	8	6561	169	25	16	9	0	5
13	2	1	2	6	729	81	81	64	33	16	9
14	2	2	2	8	6561	1089	81	64	33	16	9
15	2	3	2	10	59049	5329	81	64	33	16	9
16	2	1	3	8	6561	169	169	144	73	48	9
17	2	2	3	10	59049	5329	169	144	73	48	9
18	2	3	3	12	531441	60025	169	144	73	48	9
19	3	1	1	6	729	125	125	64	13	0	7
20	3	2	1	9	19683	729	125	64	13	0	7
21	3	3	1	12	531441	2197	125	64	13	0	7
22	3	1	2	9	19683	729	729	512	73	0	19
23	3	2	2	12	531441	35937	729	512	73	0	19
24	3	3	2	15	14348907	389017	729	512	73	0	19
25	3	1	3	12	531441	2197	2197	1728	245	64	27
26	3	2	3	15	14348907	389017	2197	1728	245	64	27

Table 3.1: Case:  $H = 1, m = 1$ . Comparison of upper bounds on the number of complex critical points of a linear network.  $d$  = number of neurons in each layer,  $d_x$  = input dimension and  $d_y$  = output dimension.  $N$  = total number of weights in the network. CBB and BKK refer to the classical Bezout bound and the BKK bound respectively.  $\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{C}}$  and  $\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{C}^*}$  refer to the new bounds on the number of critical points in  $(\mathbb{C})^N$  and  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^N$  respectively.  $N_{\mathbb{C}}$  and  $N_{\mathbb{C}^*}$  refer to the actual number of critical points in  $(\mathbb{C})^N$  and  $(\mathbb{C}^*)^N$  respectively.  $\max\{N_{\mathbb{R}}\}$  = maximum number of real solutions observed<sup>15</sup> within each sample.

# Results

## Location of complex critical points

Critical points with some zero weights lie on particular coordinate subspaces

**Proposition 3.1** (no stray zeros in  $W_1$ ). *Consider a linear network with  $H = 1, m = 1, d_x = n, d_y = p$  and  $d_1 = d$ . Let  $(W_1, W_2) = (\begin{pmatrix} a_{1,1} & \cdots & a_{1,n} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{d,1} & \cdots & a_{d,n} \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} b_{1,1} & \cdots & b_{1,d} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ b_{p,1} & \cdots & b_{p,d} \end{pmatrix})$  denote a solution to the regularized gradient polynomial system (3.1). If  $a_{i,j} = 0$ , then  $a_{i,s} = 0$  for all  $s = 1, \dots, n$ .*

**Proposition 3.3** (no stray zeros in  $W_2$ ). *Consider a linear network with  $H = 1, m = 1, d_x = n, d_y = p$  and  $d_1 = d$ . Let  $(W_1, W_2) = (\begin{pmatrix} a_{1,1} & \cdots & a_{1,n} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{d,1} & \cdots & a_{d,n} \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} b_{1,1} & \cdots & b_{1,d} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ b_{p,1} & \cdots & b_{p,d} \end{pmatrix})$  denote a solution to the regularized gradient polynomial system (3.1). Then,*

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**Proposition 3.2** (null rows of  $W_1$  match null columns of  $W_2$ ). *Consider a linear network with*

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```
##### di=2, H=1, m=1, dx=2, dy=2 #####
```

```
W2 W1
0 1 0 0
0 1 1 1
subspace dim: 4
solution count: 8
```

```
W2 W1
1 1 1 1
1 1 1 1
subspace dim: 8
solution count: 16
```

```
W2 W1
1 0 1 1
1 0 0 0
subspace dim: 4
solution count: 8
```

```
W2 W1
0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0
subspace dim: 0
solution count: 1
```

# Further research

3. run experiments to check if increasing  $m$  causes BBK bound to be attained? for what value of  $m$  for a given architecture?
4. Conversely, can we show that the BKK bound is never reached? Even though our systems are non-generic, we might be able to solve the corresponding facial system may have no solutions, in which case, the BKK bound is a strict bound.
5. prove zero patterns for  $H > 1$
6. extend table for  $H = 1$ ,  $m=1$  but higher values if  $d_x, d_y, d_i$  by solving reduced systems.

# Recap

$$\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{C}} \quad \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{C}^*}$$



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- Neural networks (particularly, *linear networks*)

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$$\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{C}} \quad \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{C}^*}$$

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