

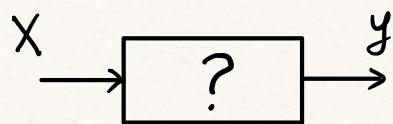
# GENERALIZED OPEN LEARNERS (AGENTS)

WHAT: UNDERSTAND THE INFORMATION FLOW  
IN ARTIFICIAL NEURAL NETWORKS

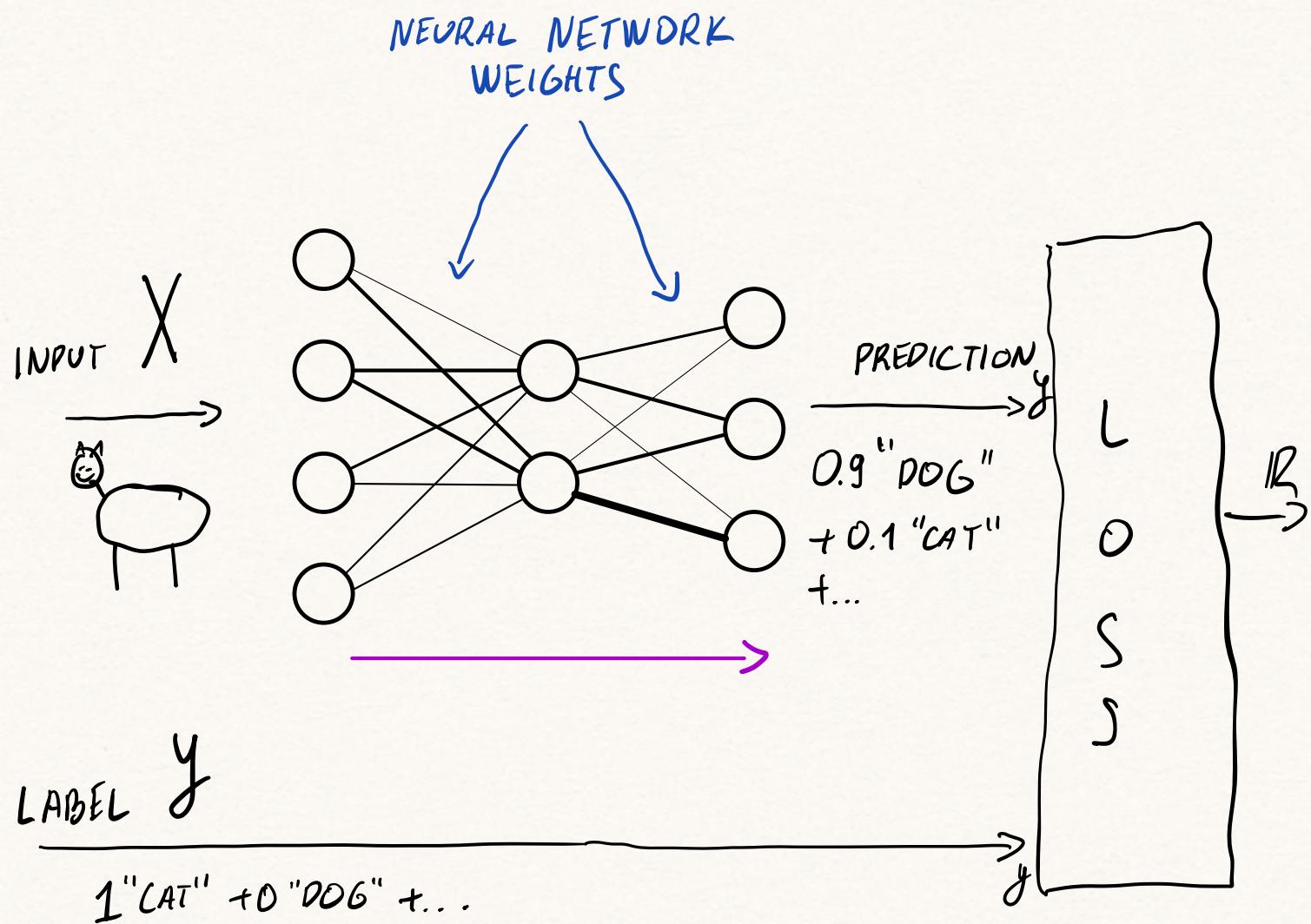
WHY: CONCRETE PROXY FOR UNDERSTANDING  
GENERAL CYBERNETICS SYSTEMS

HOW: TAKE PARAMETERIZATION AND BIDIRECTIONALITY  
SERIOUSLY

# SUPERVISED LEARNING WITH NEURAL NETWORKS IN ONE SLIDE



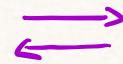
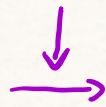
DATASET: List  $X \times Y$



- WEIGHTS CONTROL THE NN PERFORMANCE
- PROPAGATING CHANGES - „BACKPROPAGATION“

ONE STEP, THIS IS ITERATED

RESULTS:



„PARAMETERIZATION“ and „BIDIRECTIONALITY“

can be defined separately and then composed

- GENERALIZED OPEN LEARNERS (Agents)

- Abstract treatment of gradient-based learning

- Backpropagation - RDCs

- Loss function

- Update rule

SIMPLER, PEDAGOGICAL

- Works on Euclidean spaces and Boolean circuits

- Defined optimizers (GRADIENT DESCENT, MOMENTUM, ADAM...) as lenses

- Optimizers are 2-cells in GEN. OPEN LEARNERS

## GAME PLAN:

- PARAMETERIZATION
- BIDIRECTIONALITY
- PARAMETERIZATION + BIDIRECTIONALITY
- DIFFERENTIATION (HOW DO WE CONSTRUCT LEARNERS?)
- HOW DOES LEARNING WORK?
- EXAMPLES

# PARAMETERIZATION

Fix a SMC  $(\mathcal{C}, \otimes, I)$ .

**DEF.**  $\text{Para}(\mathcal{C})$

Objects - objects of  $\mathcal{C}$

$$\text{Para}(\mathcal{C})(A, B) = \int_{P \in \mathcal{C}}^{\text{op}} \mathcal{C}(P \otimes A, B)$$

CATEGORY  
OF ELEMENTS

$$A \xrightarrow{(P: \mathcal{C}, f: P \otimes A \rightarrow B)} B$$

2-cells are reparameterizations: a 2-cell

$$A \begin{array}{c} \nearrow (P, f) \\ \Downarrow \tau \\ \searrow (Q, g) \end{array} B$$

is a map  $Q \xrightarrow{\tau} P$  such that

$$Q \otimes A \xrightarrow{\tau \otimes A} P \otimes A$$

$$g \swarrow \quad \searrow f$$

**EXAMPLE.**

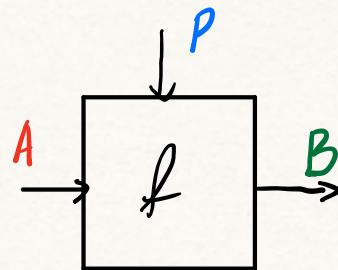
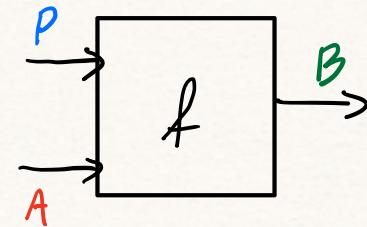
$\text{Para}(\text{Set}), \text{Para}(\text{Smooth}), \text{Para}(\text{Optic}(\mathcal{C})), \dots$

$$\cong$$

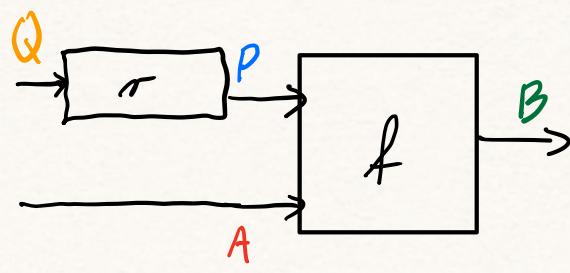
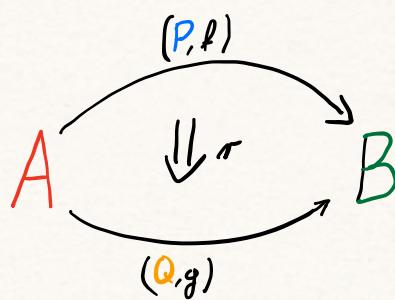
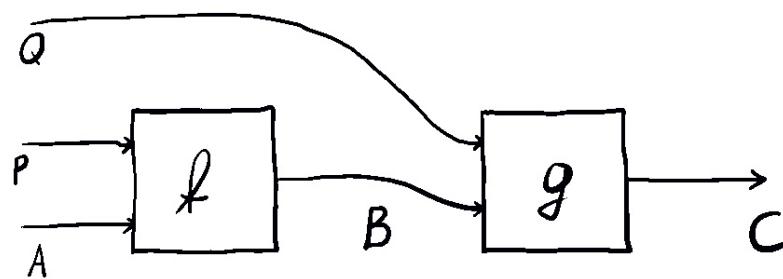
$\text{Ponc}$

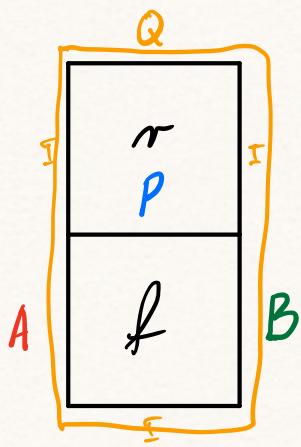
# GRAPHICAL LANGUAGE

$$f: P \otimes A \longrightarrow B$$

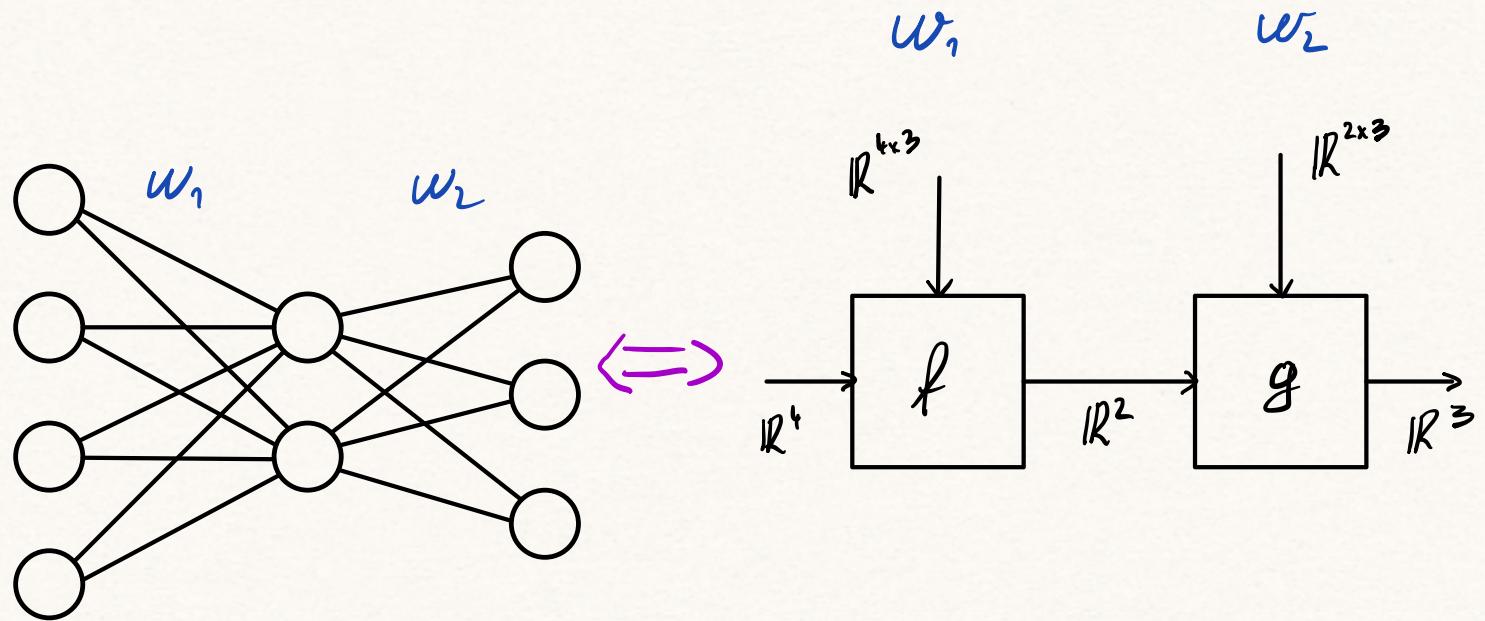


I DIDN'T TELL YOU HOW  
COMPOSITION WORKS'

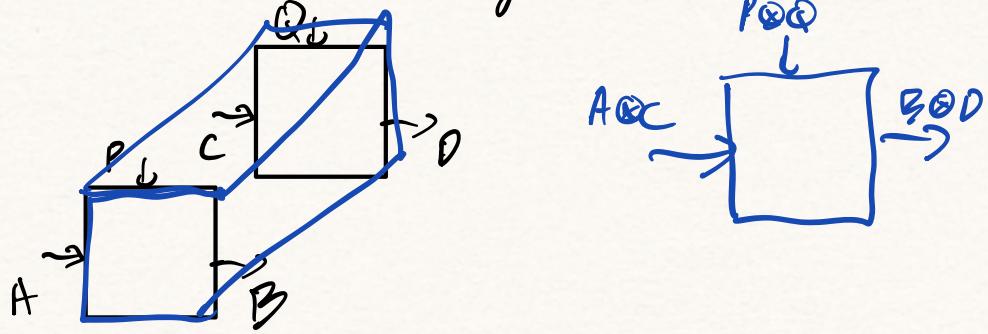




- TILING LANGUAGE OF DOUBLE CATEGORIES (MYERS)



PROP.  $\text{Para}(\mathcal{C})$  is symmetric monoidal.



$\text{Para}$  is natural w.r.t. base change.

DEF.

Let  $G: \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  be a sym. monoidal functor. We

define

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Para}(G): \text{Para}(\mathcal{C}) & \longrightarrow & \text{Para}(\mathcal{D}) \\ A \longmapsto G(A) & & \\ \downarrow (P, f) & & \downarrow (G(P), f') \\ B \longmapsto G(B) & & \end{array} \quad \text{RELEVANT TO BACKPROPAGATION}$$

where  $f'$  is the composite

$$G(P) \otimes G(A) \xrightarrow{\mu_{P,A}} G(P \otimes A) \xrightarrow{G(f)} G(B)$$

ALSO:  $\text{Para}$  is an endofunctor on SMC (also a monad)  
+ a lot more structure

# BIDIRECTIONALITY

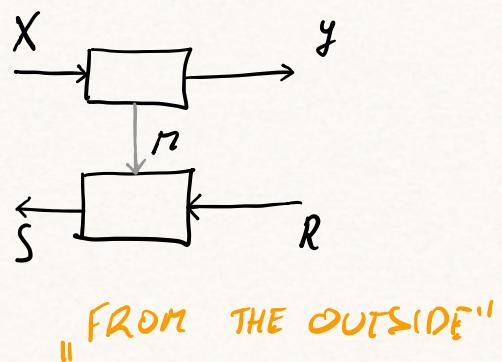
(lenses, optics, dependent lenses, Cont, Poly, ...)

- CURRENTLY FOCUSING ON OPTICS AS THE CANONICAL "BIDIRECTIONAL" STRUCTURE, OPEN TO AMENDMENTS

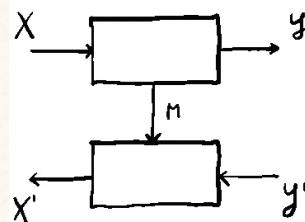
**DEF.** Category Optic ( $\mathcal{C}$ )

Objects - pairs of objects in  $\mathcal{C}$  ( $\begin{smallmatrix} x \\ s \end{smallmatrix}$ )  
 $m : e \leftarrow \text{COEND}$

Optic ( $\mathcal{C}$ ) ( $\begin{smallmatrix} x \\ s \end{smallmatrix}, \begin{smallmatrix} y \\ R \end{smallmatrix}$ ) =  $\int \mathcal{C}(X, M \otimes Y) \times \mathcal{C}(M \otimes R, S)$

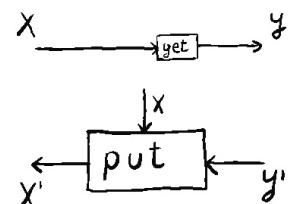


Optic



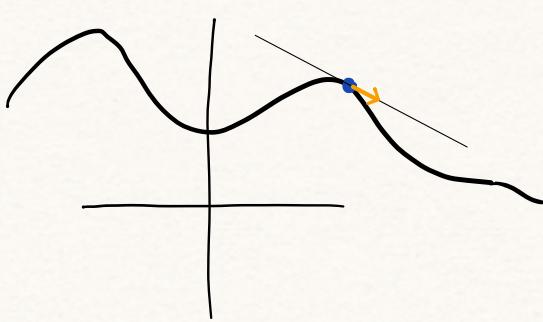
**PROP.** If  $\mathcal{C}$  is Cartesian, then  $\text{Lens}(\mathcal{C}) \cong \text{Optic}(\mathcal{C})$

$\text{Lens}(\mathcal{C})$



PROP.  $\text{Optic}(\mathcal{C})$  is symmetric monoidal.

## EXAMPLE. GRADIENT DESCENT



$$\begin{aligned} P \times P &\xrightarrow{\mu} P \\ (p, \nabla p) &\mapsto p - d\nabla p \end{aligned}$$

is a lens, for  $\mathcal{C} := \text{Smooth}$

$$\begin{pmatrix} P \\ P \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{(\text{id}_P, \mu)} \begin{pmatrix} P \\ P \end{pmatrix}$$

## EXAMPLE. OTHER OPTIMIZERS:

- MOMENTUM,

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{get: } P \times P \longrightarrow P \\ (\nu, p) \longmapsto p \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{put: } P \times P \times P \longrightarrow P \times P \\ (\nu, p, \nabla p) \longmapsto (\nu', p - \nu') \\ \text{where } \nu' = \gamma \nu + \epsilon p \end{array}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} S \times P \\ S \times P \end{pmatrix} \longrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} P \\ P \end{pmatrix}$$

- NESTEROV MOMENTUM

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{get: } P \times P \longrightarrow P \\ (\nu, p) \longmapsto p - \gamma \nu \end{array}$$

put - same as above

- ADAGRAD

- ADAM

...

# PARAMETERIZATION + BIDIRECTIONALITY

$$\mathcal{C} \longrightarrow \text{Optic}(\mathcal{C}) \longleftarrow \text{Para}(\text{Optic}(\mathcal{C}))$$

- Objects - objects of  $\text{Optic}(\mathcal{C})$  - pairs  $\binom{X}{S}$  in  $\mathcal{C}$

- Morphisms

$$\binom{X}{S} \xrightarrow{((P), f)} \binom{Y}{R} \quad \text{where } f: \binom{P \otimes X}{Q \otimes S} \longrightarrow \binom{Y}{R}$$

$(M, l, r)$

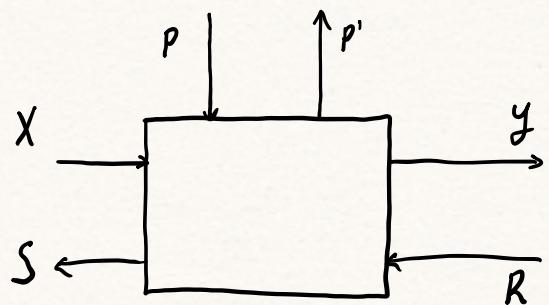
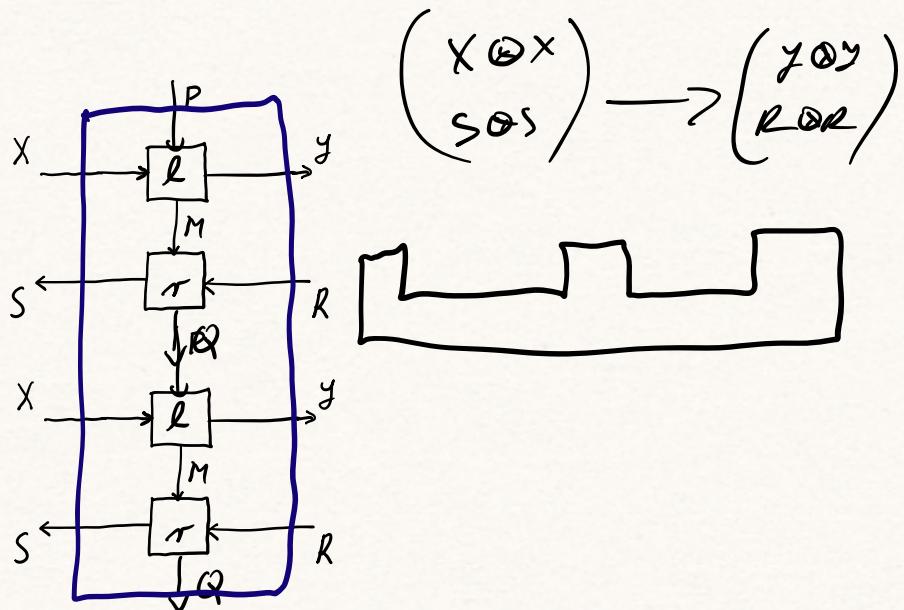
$M: \mathcal{C}$

$l: P \otimes X \longrightarrow M \otimes Y$

$r: M \otimes R \longrightarrow Q \otimes S$

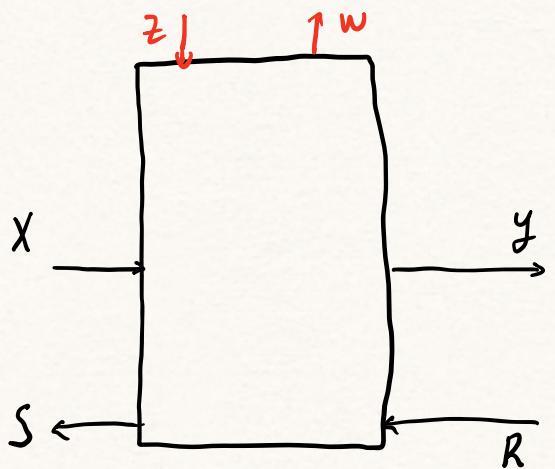
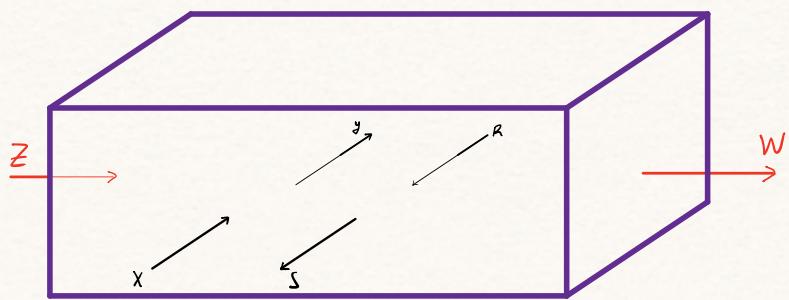
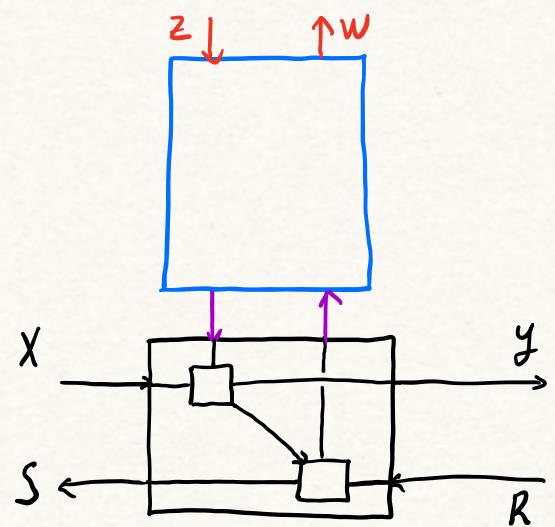
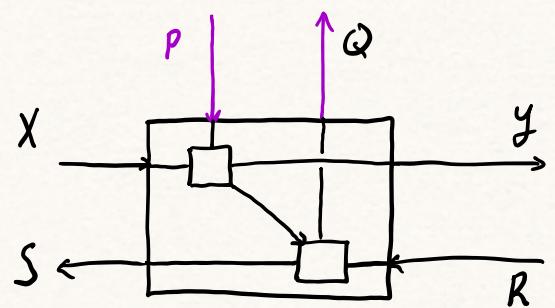
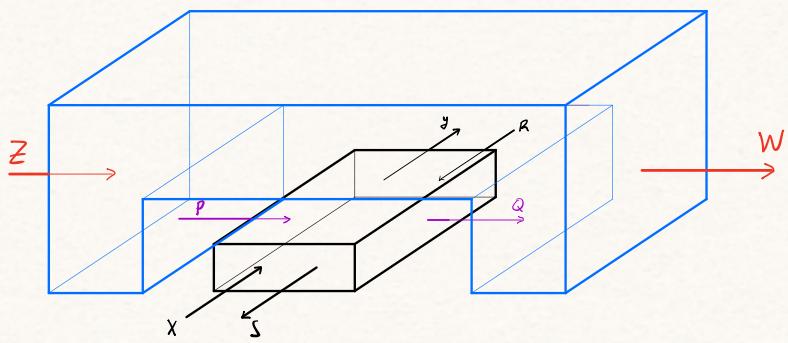
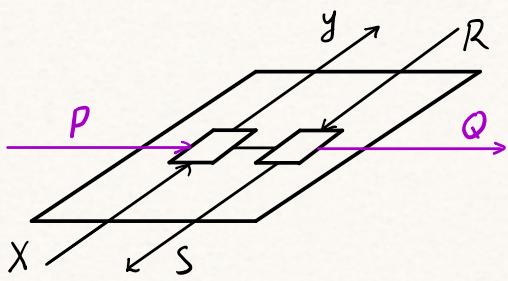
$\binom{x:X}{S_x}$

$S: X \rightarrow \text{Set}$



- We automatically get two parameter ports

- A 2-cell  $\begin{pmatrix} X \\ S \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{\Downarrow r} \begin{pmatrix} Y \\ R \end{pmatrix}$  is an optic
- $$\begin{pmatrix} Z \\ W \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{r} \begin{pmatrix} P \\ Q \end{pmatrix}$$
- $$(P, f) \quad (Q, g)$$



## A SIDE: category „Learn“ from Backprop as functor

**Definition II.1.** Let  $A$  and  $B$  be sets. A supervised learning algorithm, or simply learner,  $A \rightarrow B$  is a tuple  $(P, I, U, r)$  where  $P$  is a set, and  $I$ ,  $U$ , and  $r$  are functions of types:

$$\begin{aligned}I &: P \times A \rightarrow B, \\U &: P \times A \times B \rightarrow P, \\r &: P \times A \times B \rightarrow A.\end{aligned}$$

**THEOREM.**  $\text{Learn} \cong \text{Para}(\text{Optic}(\text{Set}))$

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HOW DO WE ACTUALLY CONSTRUCT SOME USEFUL  
LEARNERS (NEURAL NETWORKS)?



(THIS IS WHAT TENSORFLOW/PYTORCH/JAX  
ARE DOING)

# DIFFERENTIATION

- Reverse derivative categories (RDC).

**DEF.** A RDC  $\mathcal{C}$  is a category which for every

$$A \xrightarrow{f} B \quad \text{the "get" map}$$

has a map

$$R[f]: A \times B \longrightarrow A \quad \text{the "put" map of a lens}$$

subject to some conditions.

**EXAMPLE.** Smooth IS A RDC. BoolCirc IS A RDC

**EXAMPLE.** Let  $\mathcal{C} := \text{Smooth}$

$$\text{Let } \begin{array}{c} \mathbb{R} \xrightarrow{f} \mathbb{R} \\ x \mapsto x^2 \end{array}. \text{ Then } \begin{array}{c} \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \xrightarrow{R[\cdot]} \mathbb{R} \\ (x, w) \mapsto 2xw \end{array} \quad f'(x) \cdot w$$

**PROP.** For each RDC  $\mathcal{C}$  there is a sym. mon. functor

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{C} & & A \xrightarrow{f} B \\ F \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \text{Lens}(\mathcal{C}) & \xrightarrow{\cong} & \left( \begin{matrix} A & \\ A & \end{matrix} \right) \xrightarrow{(f, R[f])} \left( \begin{matrix} B & \\ B & \end{matrix} \right) \end{array}$$

Optic( $\mathcal{C}$ )

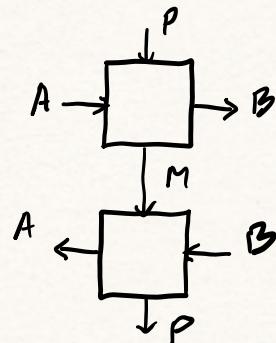
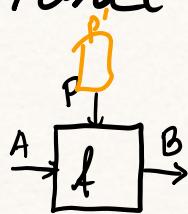
FUNCTORIALITY OF  $F$  IS THE CHAIN RULE.

**THEOREM.** THE ACTION OF  $\text{Para}$  ON THE FUNCTOR

$$\mathcal{C} \xrightarrow{F} \text{Optic}(\mathcal{C})$$

RESULTS IN A FUNCTOR

$$\text{Para}(\mathcal{C}) \xrightarrow{\text{Para}(F)} \text{Para}(\text{Optic}(\mathcal{C}))$$



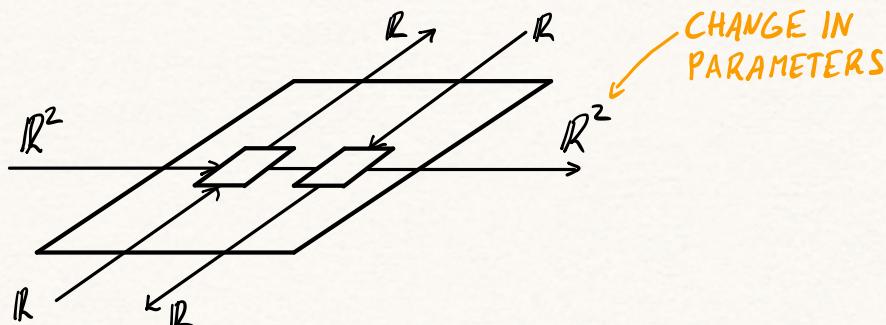
**EXAMPLE.** Consider a linear layer  $(\mathbb{R}^2, f)$ :  $\text{Para}(\text{Smooth})(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R})$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{R} &\xrightarrow{f} \mathbb{R} \\ ((w_0, w_1), x) &\longmapsto w_0 + w_1 x \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Then } \mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \xrightarrow{R[f]} \mathbb{R}^2 \times \mathbb{R}$$

$$((w_0, w_1), x, dy) \longmapsto ((dy, xdy), w_0 dy)$$



# HOW DOES (DERIVATIVE BASED) (SUPERVISED) LEARNING HAPPEN?

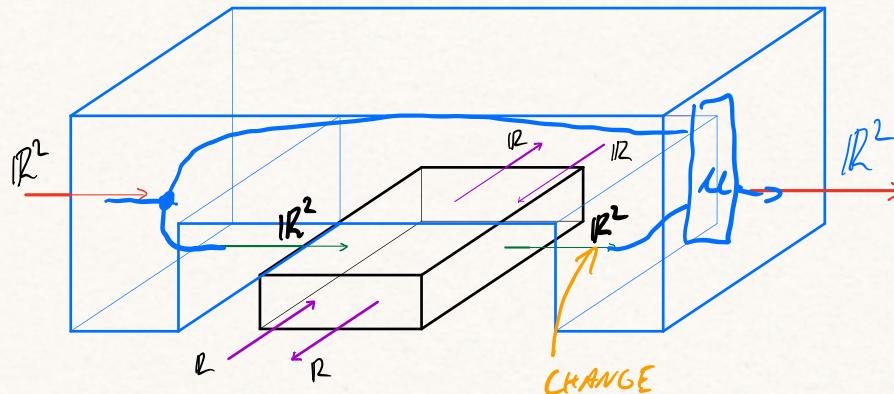
## 1) UPDATE MAP

**THM.** Gradient descent is a reparameterization.

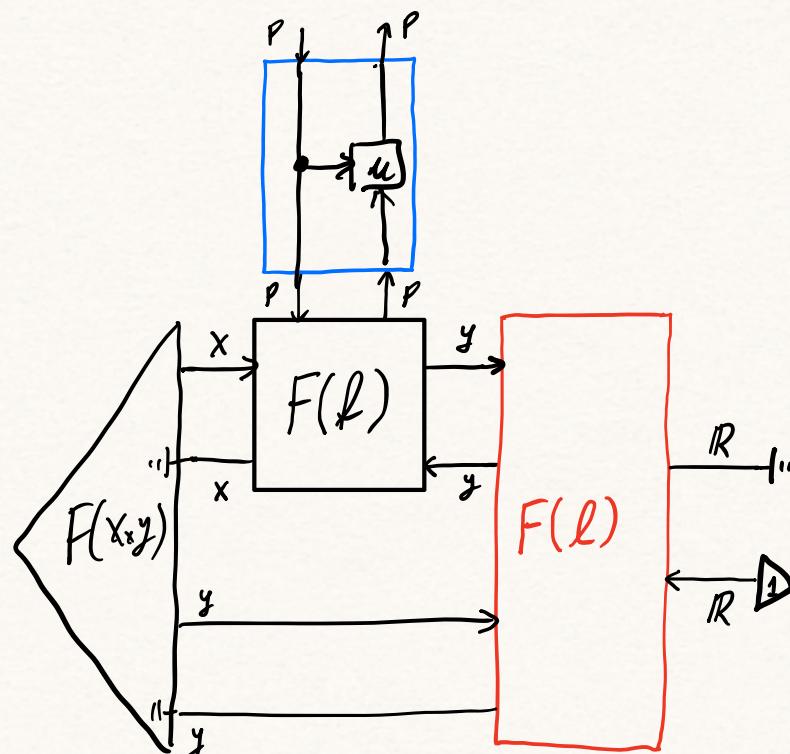
$$P \times P \xrightarrow{u} P$$

$$(p, \nabla p) \longmapsto p - \alpha \nabla p$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} P \\ p \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{(id_p, u)} \begin{pmatrix} P \\ p \end{pmatrix}$$



## 2) LOSS FUNCTION



$$f: \mathcal{C}(P_x X, y)$$

$$l: \mathcal{C}(y \times y, R)$$

$$u: \text{Lens}(E)(P_p, P_p)$$

THEOREM:

- FIX A RDC  $\mathcal{C}$
- FIX LOSS FUNCTION DATA (MSE, SOFTMAX CROSS ENTROPY...)
- FIX PARAMETER UPDATE DATA (G.D., MOMENTUM, ADAGRAD, ADAM,...)

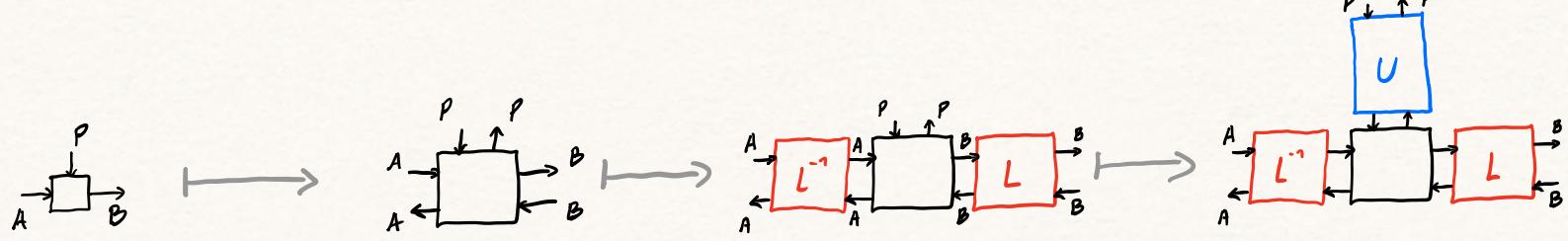
Then we can define a functor  $\text{Param}(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \text{Param}(\text{Loss}(\mathcal{C}))$   
which creates a learner.

**BACKWARD  
PASS**

**LOSS  
FUNCTION**

**UPDATE  
MAP**

$$\text{Para}(\mathcal{C}) \xrightarrow[\text{Para}(F)]{} \text{Para}(\text{Lens}(\mathcal{C})) \xrightarrow{\text{LOSS}} \text{Para}(\text{Lens}(\mathcal{C})) \xrightarrow{\text{UPDATE MAP}} \text{Para}(\text{Lens}(\mathcal{C}))$$



**Theorem III.2.** Fix a real number  $\varepsilon > 0$  and  $e(x, y): \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  differentiable such that  $\frac{\partial e}{\partial x}(x_0, -): \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is invertible for each  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then we can define a faithful, injective-on-objects, strong symmetric monoidal functor

$L_{\varepsilon, e}: \text{Para} \xrightarrow{\cong} \text{Learn} \cong \text{Para}(\text{Optic}(\text{Set}))$   
 $\text{Para}(\text{Smooth})$

that sends each parametrised function  $I: P \times A \rightarrow B$  to the learner  $(P, I, U_I, r_I)$  defined by

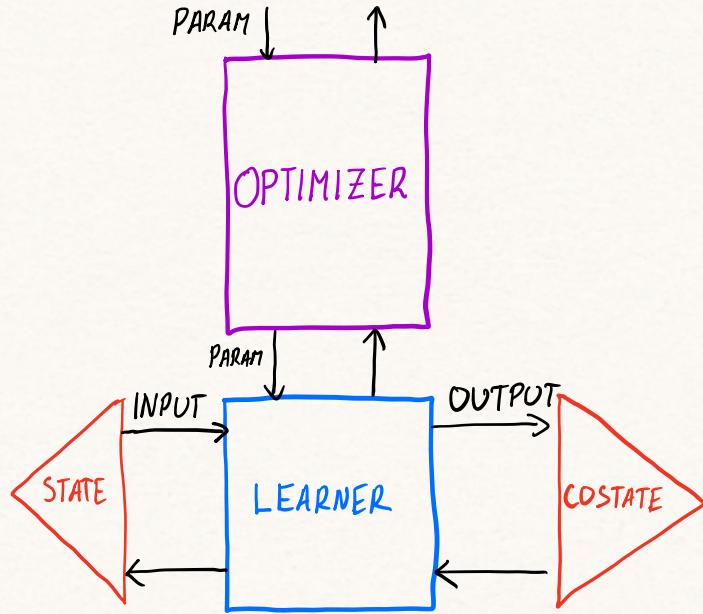
$$U_I(p, a, b) := p - \varepsilon \nabla_p E_I(p, a, b)$$

and

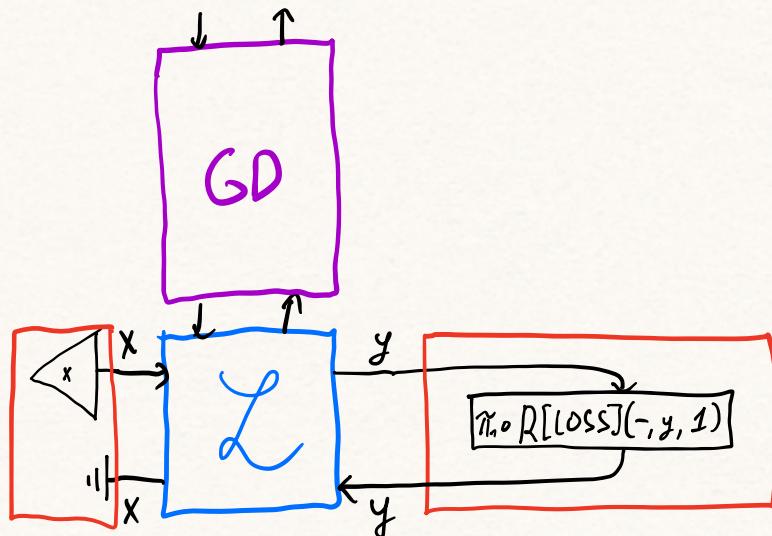
$$r_I(p, a, b) := f_a \left( \nabla_a E_I(p, a, b) \right),$$

where  $E_I(p, a, b) := \sum_j e(I_j(p, a), b_j)$ , and  $f_a$  is component-wise application of the inverse to  $\frac{\partial e}{\partial x}(a_i, -)$  for each  $i$ .

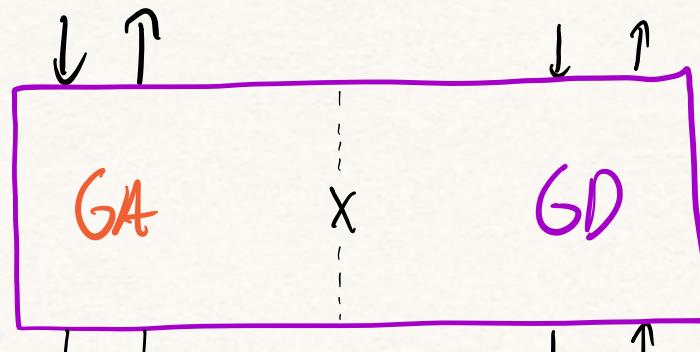
# EXAMPLES

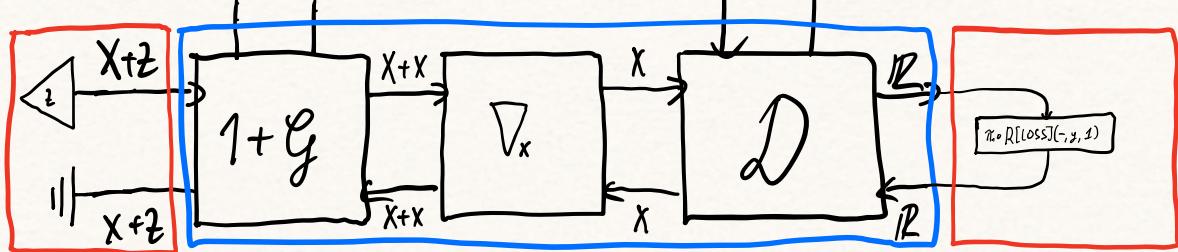


Learning on Smooth

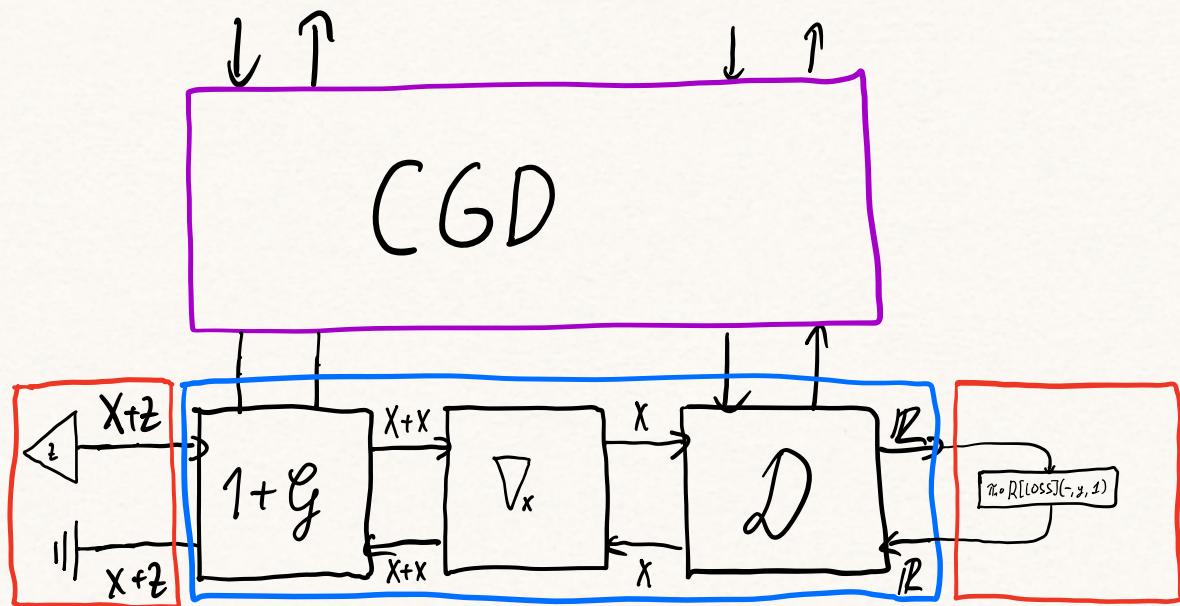


GENERATIVE ADVERSARIAL NETWORKS

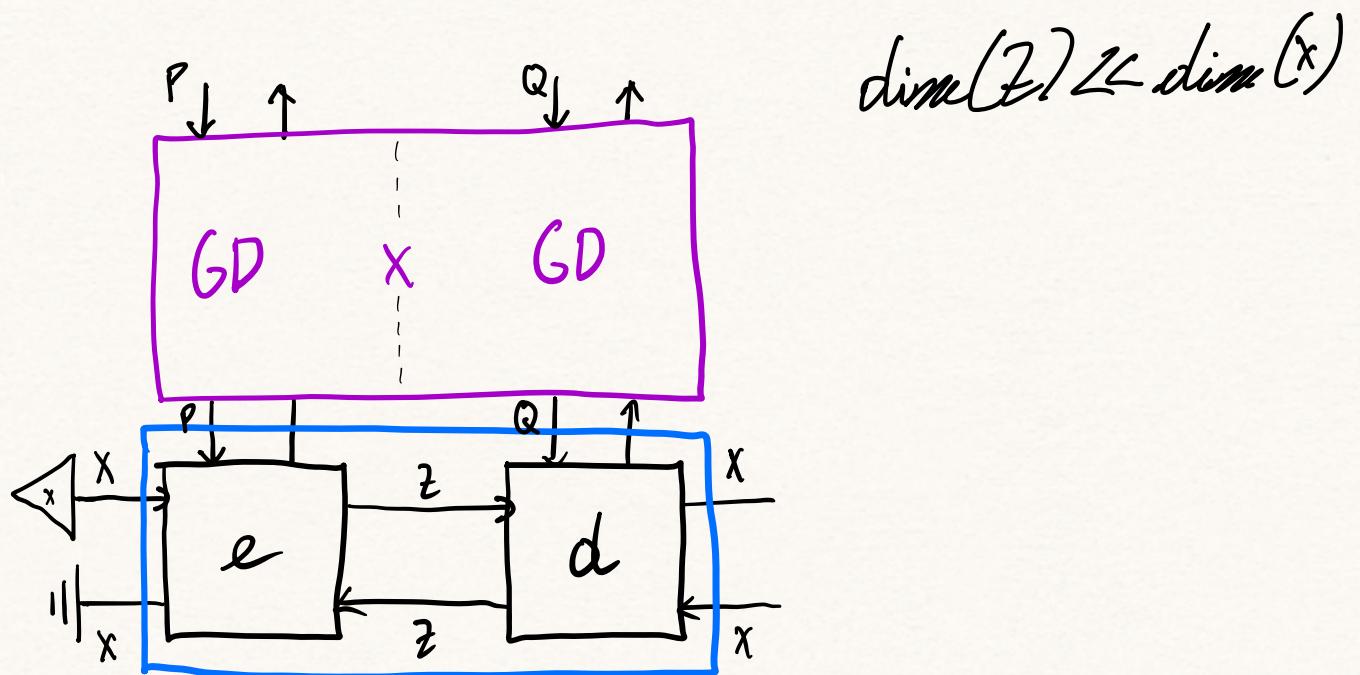




CGD



## AUTOENCODERS



# Learning on BoolCirc

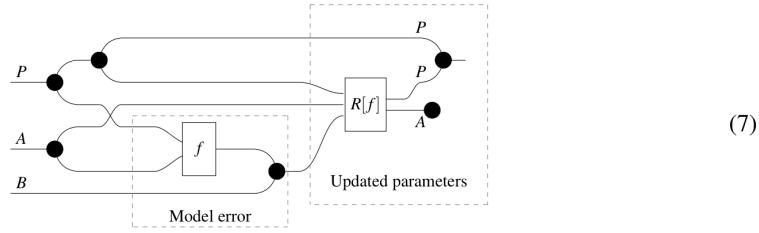
## 4 Reverse Derivative Ascent

### 4.1 Reverse Derivative Ascent Algorithm

We now introduce our machine learning algorithm, *reverse derivative ascent*. The definition refers to the category **BoolCirc**, as boolean circuits are our motivating example. However, our formulation makes sense in any reverse differential category.

We proceed in two parts: the inner ‘step’ of the algorithm, which we call `rdaStep`, and the outer ‘iteration’ of `rdaStep`, which is `rda`.

**Definition 20.** Let  $f : p + a \rightarrow b$  be a boolean circuit in **BoolCirc**, thus computing a parametrised boolean function with  $p$  parameters. We define `rdaStepf` as



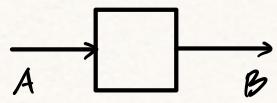
# TODO/FUTURE WORK

- DEPENDENT TYPES
- META-LEARNING
- AUTOMATA LEARNING
- OPEN GAMES
- LEARNING ITERATION / REPEATED GAMES
- OPEN DYNAMICAL SYSTEMS?
- PROBABILITY DISTRIBUTIONS?
- Para AND Optic ARE PRETTY GENERAL, WHAT ELSE CAN WE MODEL?

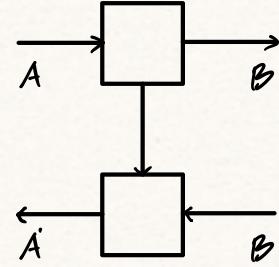
## References:

- BACKPROP AS FUNCTOR (FONG, SPIVAK, TUYERAS)
- OPEN GAMES (GHANI, HEDGES, ...)
- REVERSE DERIVATIVE CATEGORIES (COCKETT, CRUTTWELL, GALLAGHER, ...)
- REVERSE DERIVATIVE ASCENT (ZANASI, WILSON)
- DIOPTICS (DARLYMPLE)

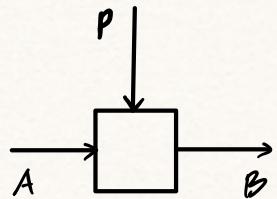
$\mathcal{C}$



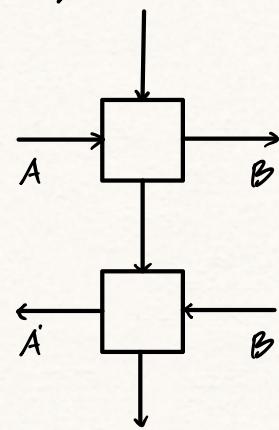
$\text{Optic}(\mathcal{C})$



$\text{Ponc}(\mathcal{C})$



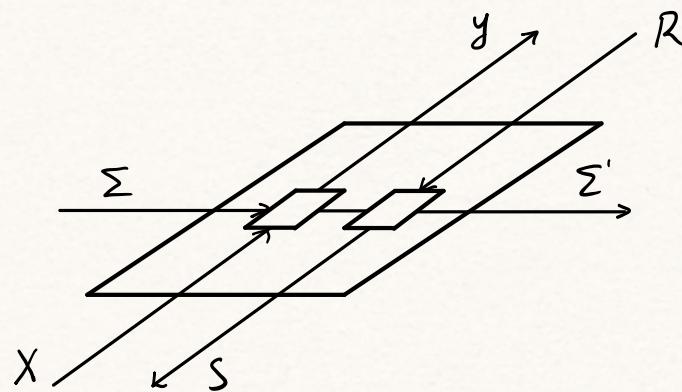
$\text{Ponc}(\text{Optic}(\mathcal{C}))$



# EXTRA: OPEN GAMES, COSTATEGIES

DEF. (CONTEXT)

$$\bar{\mathcal{C}}(A, B) = \int^n \mathcal{C}(I, A \otimes M) \times \mathcal{C}(B \otimes M, I)$$



$$s: (\Sigma \rightarrow \Sigma') \rightarrow P(\Sigma)$$