

# Learning in Convolutional Neural Nets

Cusuh Ham and Frank Dellaert  
CS 4476 Computer Vision

Many slides from Stanford's CS231N by Fei-Fei Li, Justin Johnson, Serena Yeung, as well as some slides on filtering from Devi Parikh and Kristen Grauman, who may in turn have borrowed some from others

Image Classification  
Supervised Learning  
CNN Review  
Loss Functions  
Stochastic Gradient Descent  
Computing Gradients  
Training CNNs

# Image Classification: A core task in Computer Vision



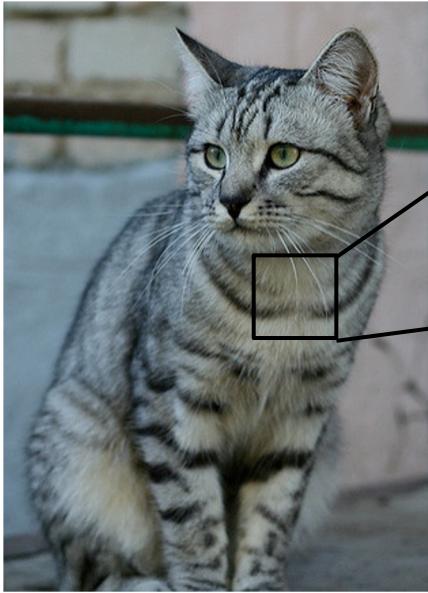
This image by Nikita is  
licensed under CC-BY 2.0

(assume given set of discrete labels)  
{dog, cat, truck, plane, ...}



cat

# The Problem: Semantic Gap



```
[ [105 112 108 111 104 99 106 99 96 103 112 119 104 97 93 87]
[ 91 98 102 106 104 79 98 103 99 105 123 136 110 105 94 85]
[ 76 85 98 105 128 105 87 96 95 99 115 112 106 103 99 85]
[ 99 81 81 93 120 131 127 100 95 98 102 99 96 93 101 94]
[106 91 61 64 69 91 88 85 101 107 109 98 75 84 96 95]
[114 108 85 55 55 69 64 54 64 87 112 129 98 74 84 91]
[133 137 147 103 65 81 88 65 52 54 74 84 102 93 85 82]
[128 137 144 140 109 95 86 79 62 65 63 63 60 73 86 101]
[125 133 148 137 119 121 117 94 65 79 80 65 54 64 72 98]
[127 125 131 147 133 127 126 131 111 96 89 75 61 64 72 84]
[115 114 109 123 150 148 131 118 113 109 100 92 74 65 72 78]
[ 89 93 98 97 108 147 131 118 113 114 113 109 106 95 77 80]
[ 63 77 86 81 77 79 102 123 117 115 117 125 125 130 115 87]
[ 62 65 82 89 78 71 80 101 124 126 119 101 107 114 131 119]
[ 63 65 75 88 89 71 62 81 120 138 135 105 81 98 110 118]
[ 87 65 71 87 106 95 69 45 76 130 126 107 92 94 105 112]
[118 97 82 86 117 123 116 66 41 51 95 93 89 95 102 107]
[164 146 112 88 82 120 124 104 76 48 45 66 88 101 102 109]
[157 170 157 120 93 86 114 132 112 97 69 55 70 82 99 94]
[130 128 134 161 139 100 109 118 121 134 114 87 65 53 69 86]
[128 112 96 117 150 144 120 115 104 107 102 93 87 81 72 79]
[123 107 96 86 83 112 153 149 122 109 104 75 80 107 112 99]
[122 121 102 80 82 86 94 117 145 148 153 102 58 78 92 107]
[122 164 148 103 71 56 78 83 93 103 119 139 102 61 69 84]]
```

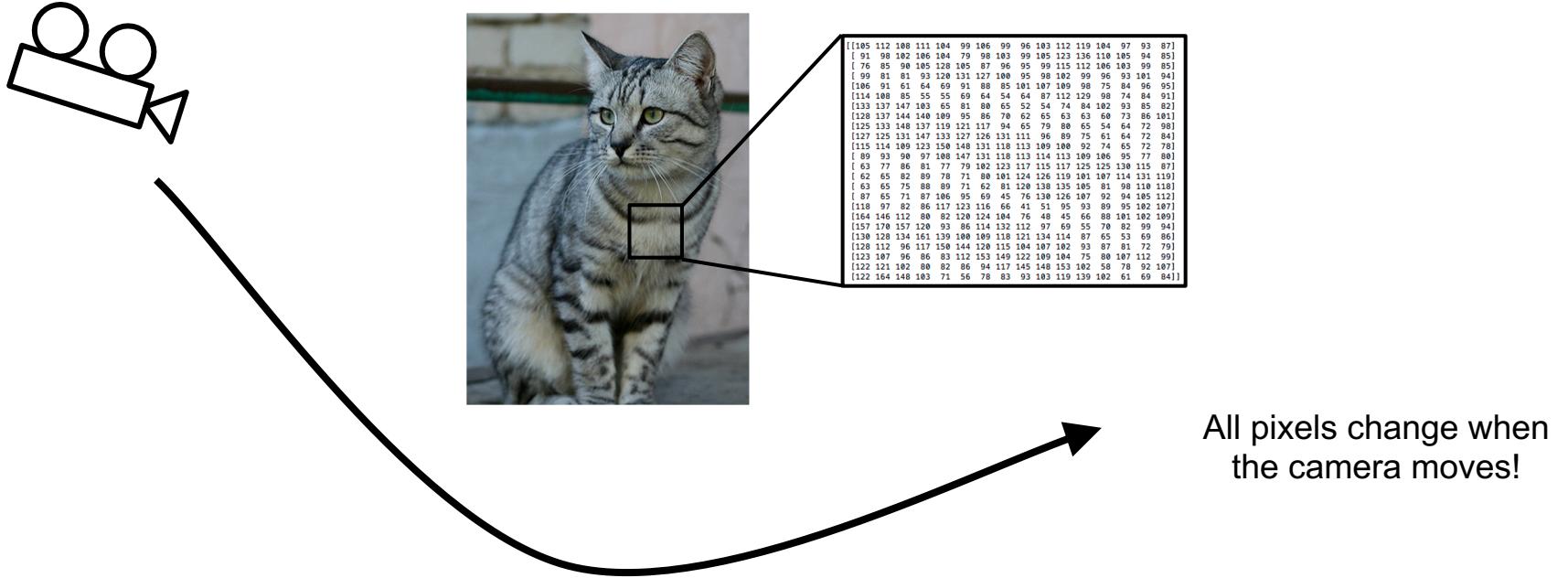
What the computer sees

An image is just a big grid of numbers between [0, 255]:

e.g. 800 x 600 x 3  
(3 channels RGB)

This image by Nikita is  
licensed under CC-BY 2.0

# Challenges: Viewpoint variation



All pixels change when  
the camera moves!

This image by [Nikita](#) is  
licensed under [CC-BY 2.0](#).

# Challenges: Illumination



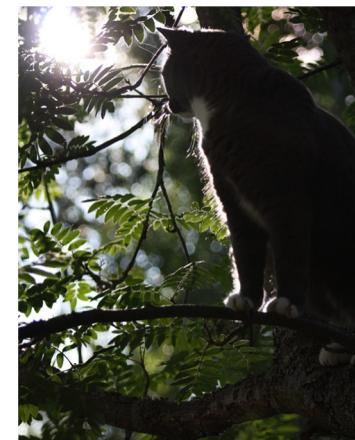
[This image](#) is [CC0 1.0](#) public domain



[This image](#) is [CC0 1.0](#) public domain

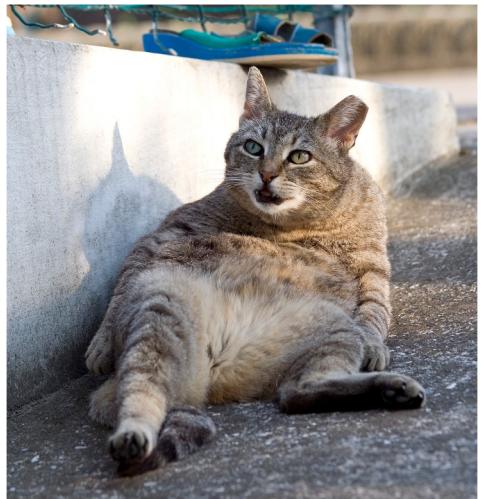


[This image](#) is [CC0 1.0](#) public domain



[This image](#) is [CC0 1.0](#) public domain

# Challenges: Deformation



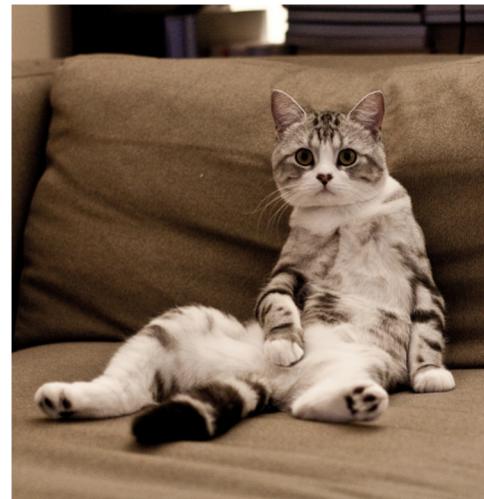
[This image](#) by [Umberto Salvagnin](#)  
is licensed under [CC-BY 2.0](#)



[This image](#) by [Umberto Salvagnin](#)  
is licensed under [CC-BY 2.0](#)



[This image](#) by [sare bear](#) is  
licensed under [CC-BY 2.0](#)



[This image](#) by [Tom Thai](#) is  
licensed under [CC-BY 2.0](#)

# Challenges: Occlusion



[This image](#) is CC0 1.0 public domain



[This image](#) is CC0 1.0 public domain



[This image](#) by [jonsson](#) is licensed under CC-BY 2.0

# Challenges: Background Clutter



[This image](#) is [CC0 1.0](#) public domain



[This image](#) is [CC0 1.0](#) public domain

# **Challenges:** Intraclass variation



[This image](#) is [CC0 1.0](#) public domain

# Image Classification Supervised Learning

CNN Review  
Loss Functions  
Stochastic Gradient Descent  
Computing Gradients  
Training CNNs

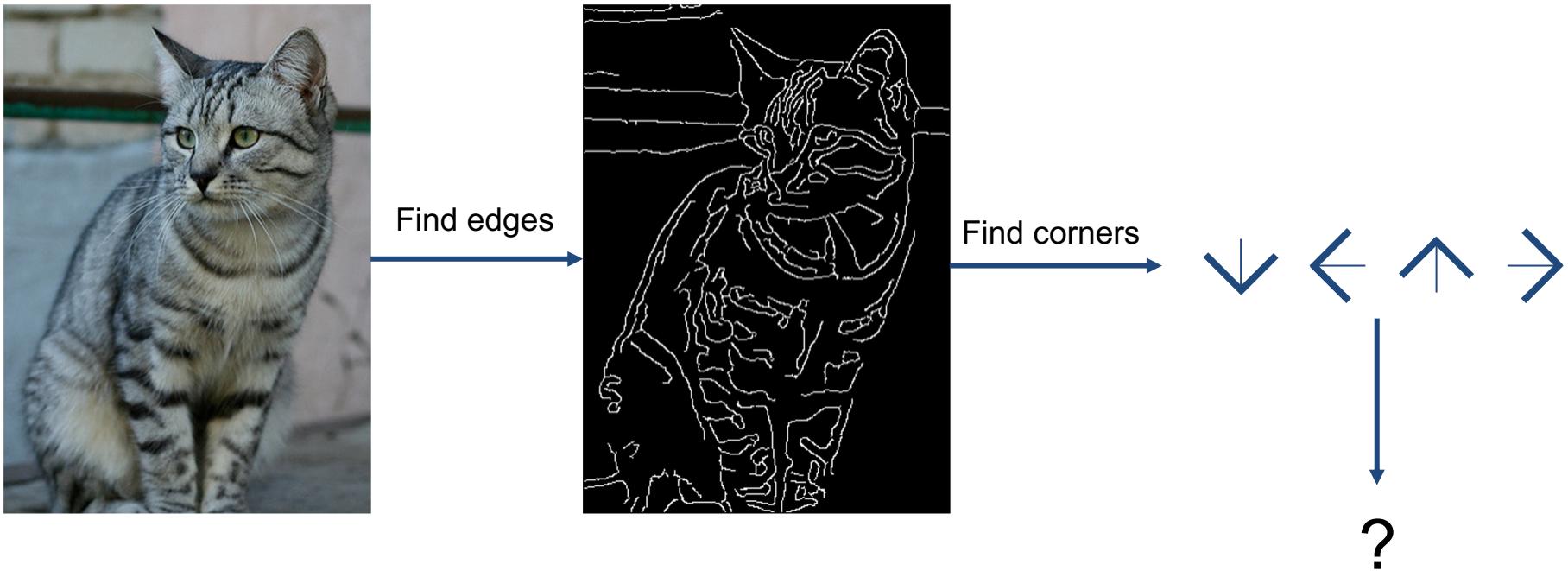
# An image classifier

```
def classify_image(image):  
    # Some magic here?  
    return class_label
```

Unlike e.g. sorting a list of numbers,

**no obvious way** to hard-code the algorithm for  
recognizing a cat, or other classes.

# Attempts have been made



John Canny, "A Computational Approach to Edge Detection", IEEE TPAMI 1986

# ML: A Data-Driven Approach

1. Collect a dataset of images and labels
2. Use Machine Learning to train a classifier
3. Evaluate the classifier on new images

```
def train(images, labels):  
    # Machine learning!  
    return model
```

```
def predict(model, test_images):  
    # Use model to predict labels  
    return test_labels
```

Example training set

**airplane**



**automobile**



**bird**



**cat**



**deer**



# Supervised Learning

- Input:  $x$  (images, text, emails...)
- Output:  $y$  (spam or non-spam...)
- (Unknown) Target Function
  - $f: X \rightarrow Y$  (the “true” mapping / reality)
- Data
  - $\{ (x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2), \dots, (x_N, y_N) \}$

# Procedural View

- Training Stage:
  - Training Data  $\{ (x_i, y_i) \} \rightarrow h$  (Learning)
- Testing Stage
  - Test Data  $x \rightarrow h(x)$  (Apply function, Evaluate error)

Image Classification  
Supervised Learning

CNN Review

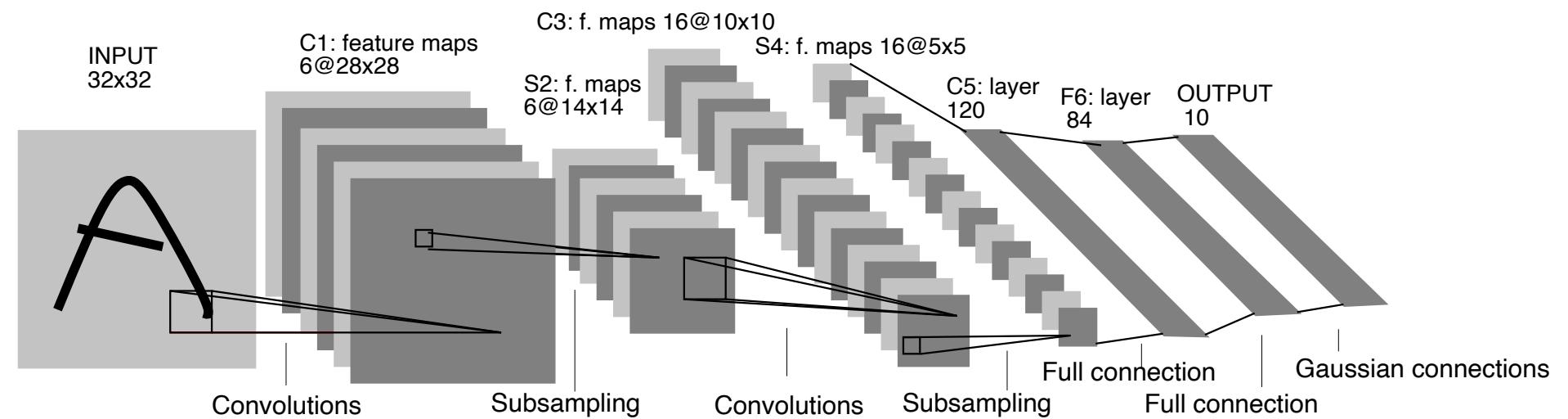
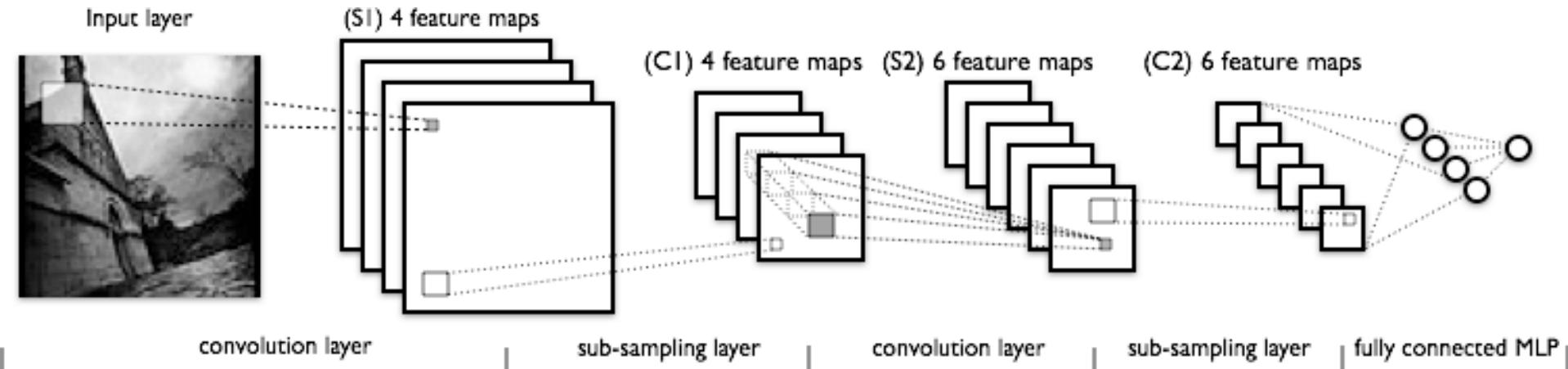
Loss Functions

Stochastic Gradient Descent

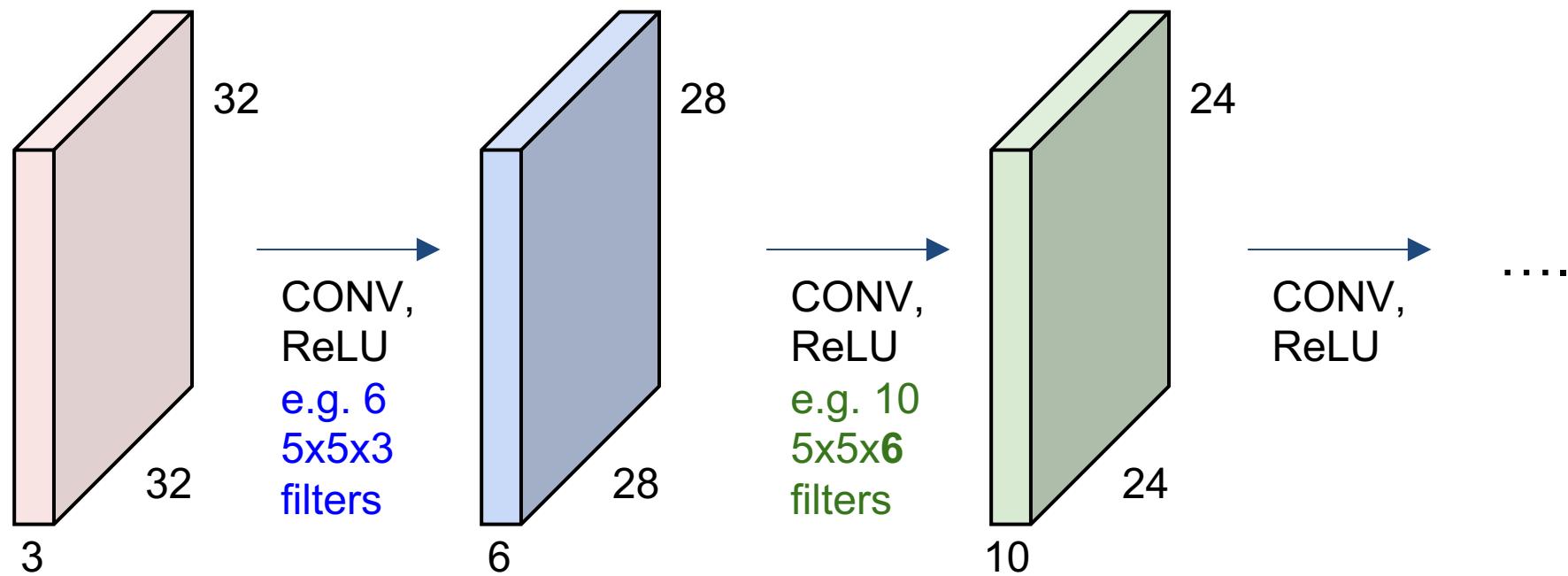
Computing Gradients

Training CNNs

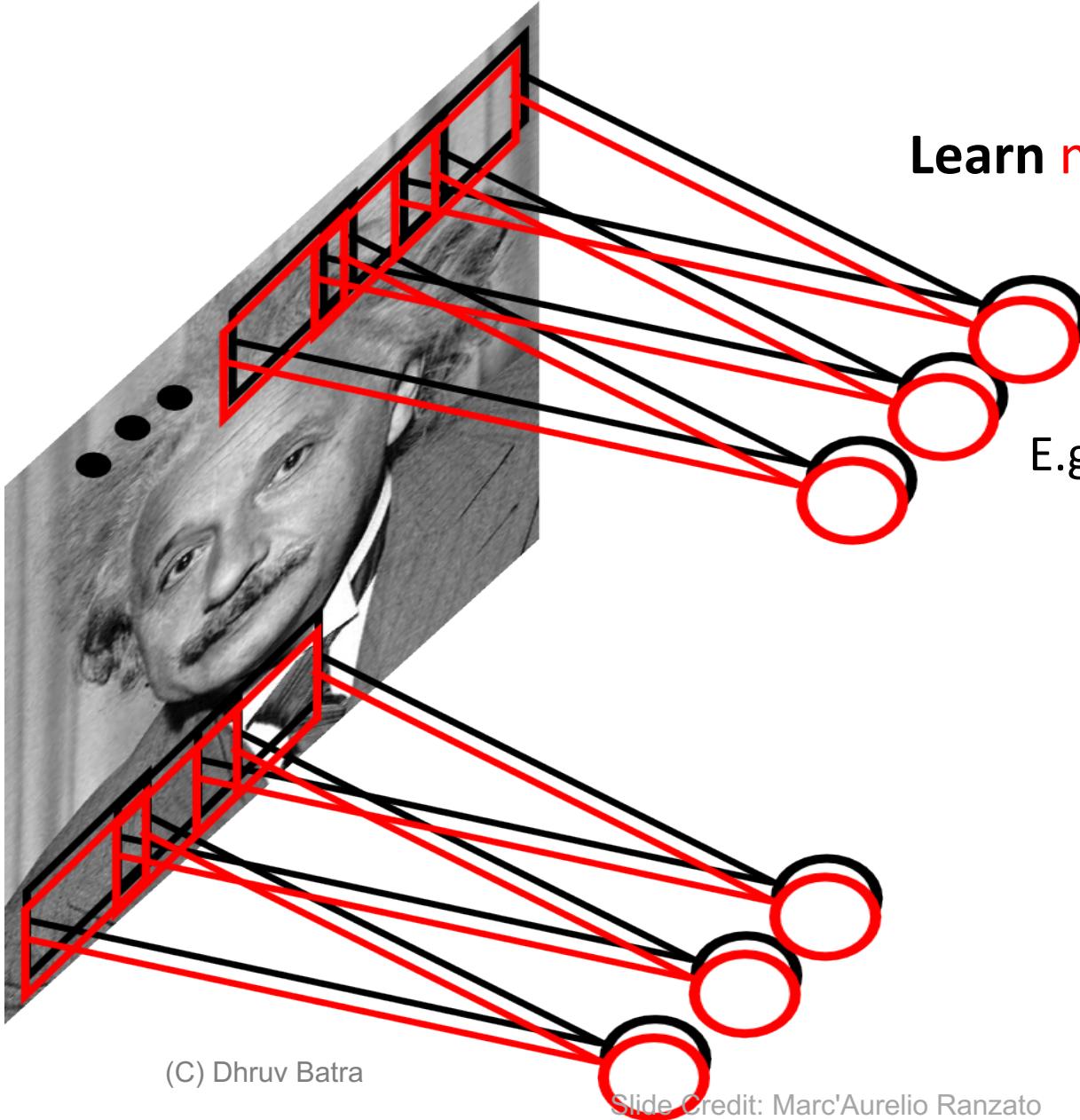
# Review: CNNs



CNN or ConvNet is a sequence of Convolutional Layers, interspersed with activation functions



# Convolutional Layer

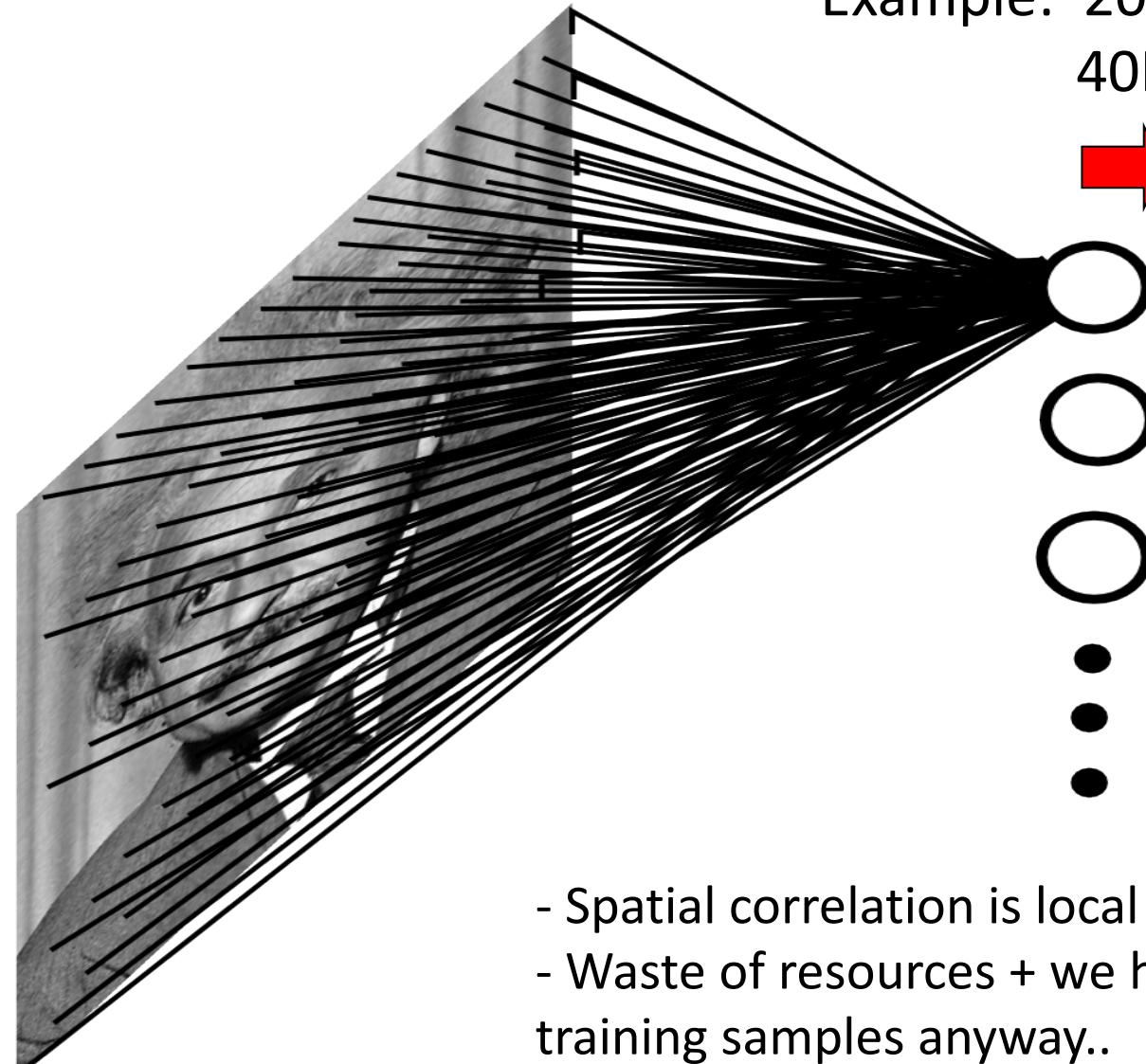


# Fully Connected Layer

Example: 200x200 image

40K hidden units

**~2B parameters!!!**

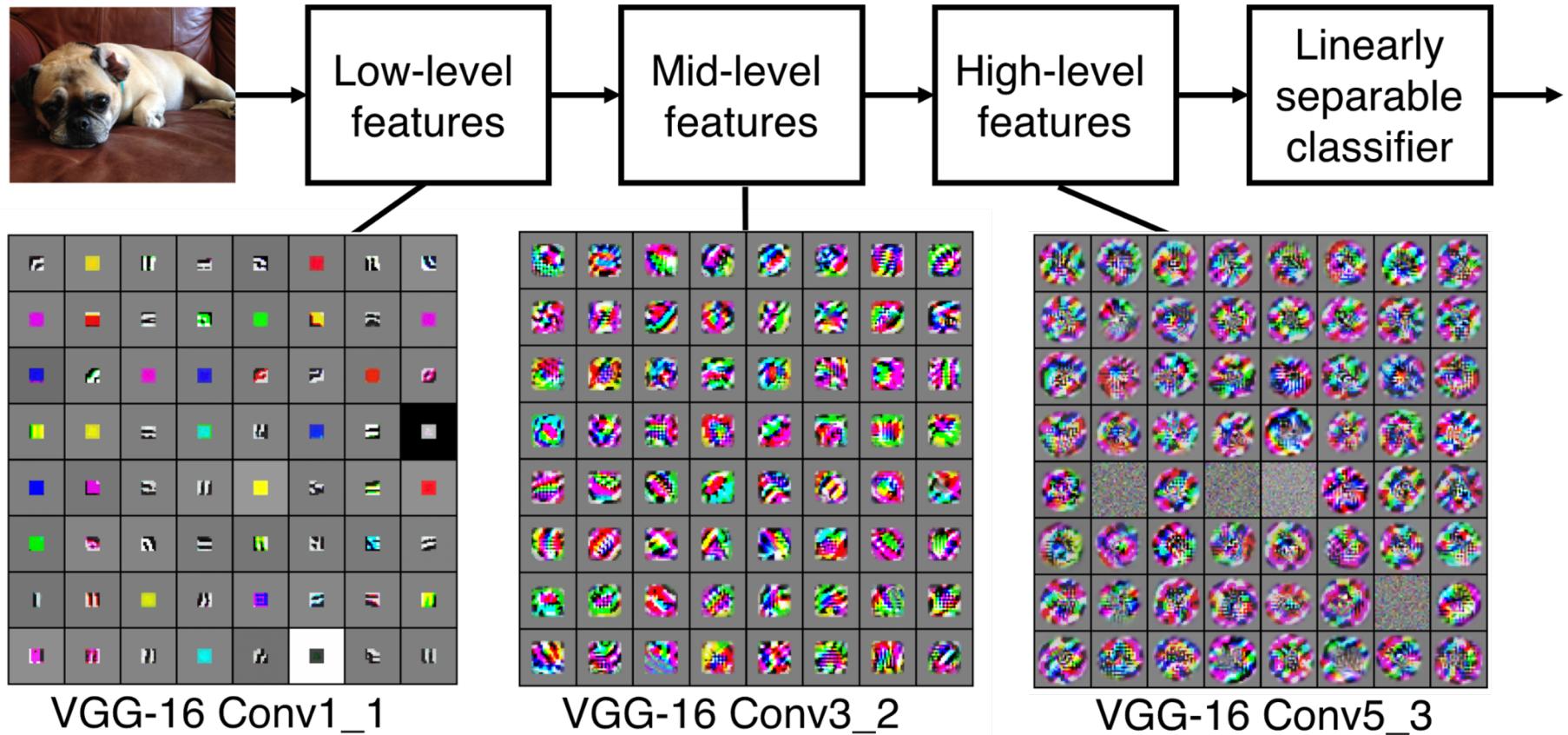


- Spatial correlation is local
- Waste of resources + we have not enough training samples anyway..

## Preview

[Zeiler and Fergus 2013]

Visualization of VGG-16 by Lane McIntosh. VGG-16 architecture from [Simonyan and Zisserman 2014].



# Demo Time: a very simple NN

- <https://playground.tensorflow.org>

Image Classification  
Supervised Learning  
CNN Review

Loss Functions

Stochastic Gradient Descent  
Computing Gradients  
Training CNNs

Suppose: 3 training examples, 3 classes.

With some  $W$  the scores  $f(x, W) = Wx$  are:



cat	<b>3.2</b>	1.3	2.2
car	<b>5.1</b>	<b>4.9</b>	2.5
frog	-1.7	2.0	<b>-3.1</b>

Suppose: 3 training examples, 3 classes.  
With some  $W$  the scores  $f(x, W) = Wx$  are:



cat	<b>3.2</b>	1.3	2.2
car	<b>5.1</b>	<b>4.9</b>	2.5
frog	-1.7	2.0	<b>-3.1</b>

A **loss function** tells how good our current classifier is

Given a dataset of examples

$$\{(x_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^N$$

Where  $x_i$  is image and  
 $y_i$  is (integer) label

Loss over the dataset is a sum of loss over examples:

$$L = \frac{1}{N} \sum_i L_i(f(x_i, W), y_i)$$

Suppose: 3 training examples, 3 classes.  
With some  $W$  the scores  $f(x, W) = Wx$  are:



cat	<b>3.2</b>
car	5.1
frog	-1.7

$$L_i = \sum_{j \neq y_i} \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } s_{y_i} \geq s_j + 1 \\ s_j - s_{y_i} + 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$= \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, s_j - s_{y_i} + 1)$$

### Multiclass SVM loss:

Given an example  $(x_i, y_i)$  where  $x_i$  is the image and where  $y_i$  is the (integer) label,

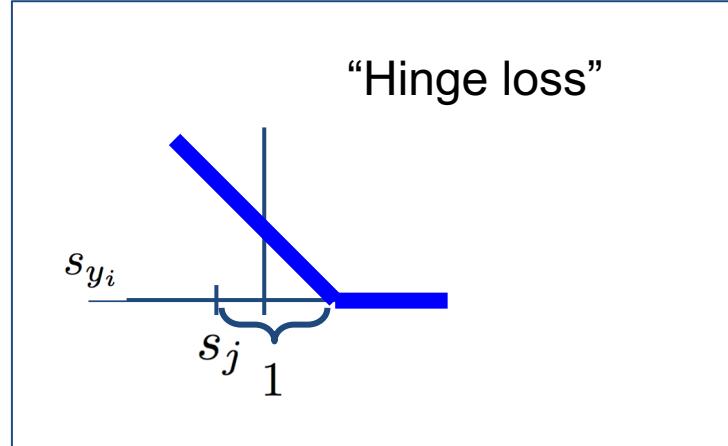
and using the shorthand for the scores vector:  $s = f(x_i, W)$

Suppose: 3 training examples, 3 classes.  
With some  $W$  the scores  $f(x, W) = Wx$  are:



cat	<b>3.2</b>	1.3	2.2
car	5.1	<b>4.9</b>	2.5
frog	-1.7	2.0	<b>-3.1</b>

### Multiclass SVM loss:



$$\begin{aligned}
 L_i &= \sum_{j \neq y_i} \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } s_{y_i} \geq s_j + 1 \\ s_j - s_{y_i} + 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \\
 &= \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, s_j - s_{y_i} + 1)
 \end{aligned}$$



Suppose: 3 training examples, 3 classes.  
With some  $W$  the scores  $f(x, W) = Wx$  are:



cat	<b>3.2</b>	1.3	2.2
car	<b>5.1</b>	<b>4.9</b>	2.5
frog	-1.7	2.0	<b>-3.1</b>
Losses:	<b>2.9</b>		

### Multiclass SVM loss:

Given an example  $(x_i, y_i)$  where  $x_i$  is the image and where  $y_i$  is the (integer) label,

and using the shorthand for the scores vector:  $s = f(x_i, W)$

the SVM loss has the form:

$$\begin{aligned}
 L_i &= \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, s_j - s_{y_i} + 1) \\
 &= \max(0, 5.1 - 3.2 + 1) \\
 &\quad + \max(0, -1.7 - 3.2 + 1) \\
 &= \max(0, 2.9) + \max(0, -3.9) \\
 &= 2.9 + 0 \\
 &= 2.9
 \end{aligned}$$

Suppose: 3 training examples, 3 classes.  
With some  $W$  the scores  $f(x, W) = Wx$  are:



cat	3.2	1.3	2.2
car	5.1	4.9	2.5
frog	-1.7	2.0	-3.1
Losses:	2.9	0	

### Multiclass SVM loss:

Given an example  $(x_i, y_i)$  where  $x_i$  is the image and where  $y_i$  is the (integer) label,

and using the shorthand for the scores vector:  $s = f(x_i, W)$

the SVM loss has the form:

$$\begin{aligned}
 L_i &= \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, s_j - s_{y_i} + 1) \\
 &= \max(0, 1.3 - 4.9 + 1) \\
 &\quad + \max(0, 2.0 - 4.9 + 1) \\
 &= \max(0, -2.6) + \max(0, -1.9) \\
 &= 0 + 0 \\
 &= 0
 \end{aligned}$$

Suppose: 3 training examples, 3 classes.  
With some  $W$  the scores  $f(x, W) = Wx$  are:



cat	<b>3.2</b>	1.3	<b>2.2</b>
car	<b>5.1</b>	<b>4.9</b>	2.5
frog	-1.7	2.0	<b>-3.1</b>
Losses:	2.9	0	<b>12.9</b>

### Multiclass SVM loss:

Given an example  $(x_i, y_i)$  where  $x_i$  is the image and where  $y_i$  is the (integer) label,

and using the shorthand for the scores vector:  $s = f(x_i, W)$

the SVM loss has the form:

$$\begin{aligned}
 L_i &= \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, s_j - s_{y_i} + 1) \\
 &= \max(0, 2.2 - (-3.1) + 1) \\
 &\quad + \max(0, 2.5 - (-3.1) + 1) \\
 &= \max(0, 6.3) + \max(0, 6.6) \\
 &= 6.3 + 6.6 \\
 &= 12.9
 \end{aligned}$$

Suppose: 3 training examples, 3 classes.  
With some  $W$  the scores  $f(x, W) = Wx$  are:



cat	<b>3.2</b>	1.3	2.2
car	5.1	<b>4.9</b>	2.5
frog	-1.7	2.0	<b>-3.1</b>
Losses:	<b>2.9</b>	0	<b>12.9</b>

### Multiclass SVM loss:

Given an example  $(x_i, y_i)$  where  $x_i$  is the image and where  $y_i$  is the (integer) label,

and using the shorthand for the scores vector:  $s = f(x_i, W)$

the SVM loss has the form:

$$L_i = \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, s_j - s_{y_i} + 1)$$

Loss over full dataset is average:

$$L = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N L_i$$

$$\begin{aligned} L &= (2.9 + 0 + 12.9)/3 \\ &= 5.27 \end{aligned}$$

Image Classification  
Supervised Learning  
CNN Review  
Loss Functions

Stochastic Gradient Descent  
Computing Gradients  
Training CNNs

How to minimize the loss by changing the weights?  
Strategy: **Follow the slope of the loss function**



## Strategy: Follow the slope

In 1-dimension, the derivative of a function:

$$\frac{df(x)}{dx} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x + h) - f(x)}{h}$$

## Strategy: Follow the slope

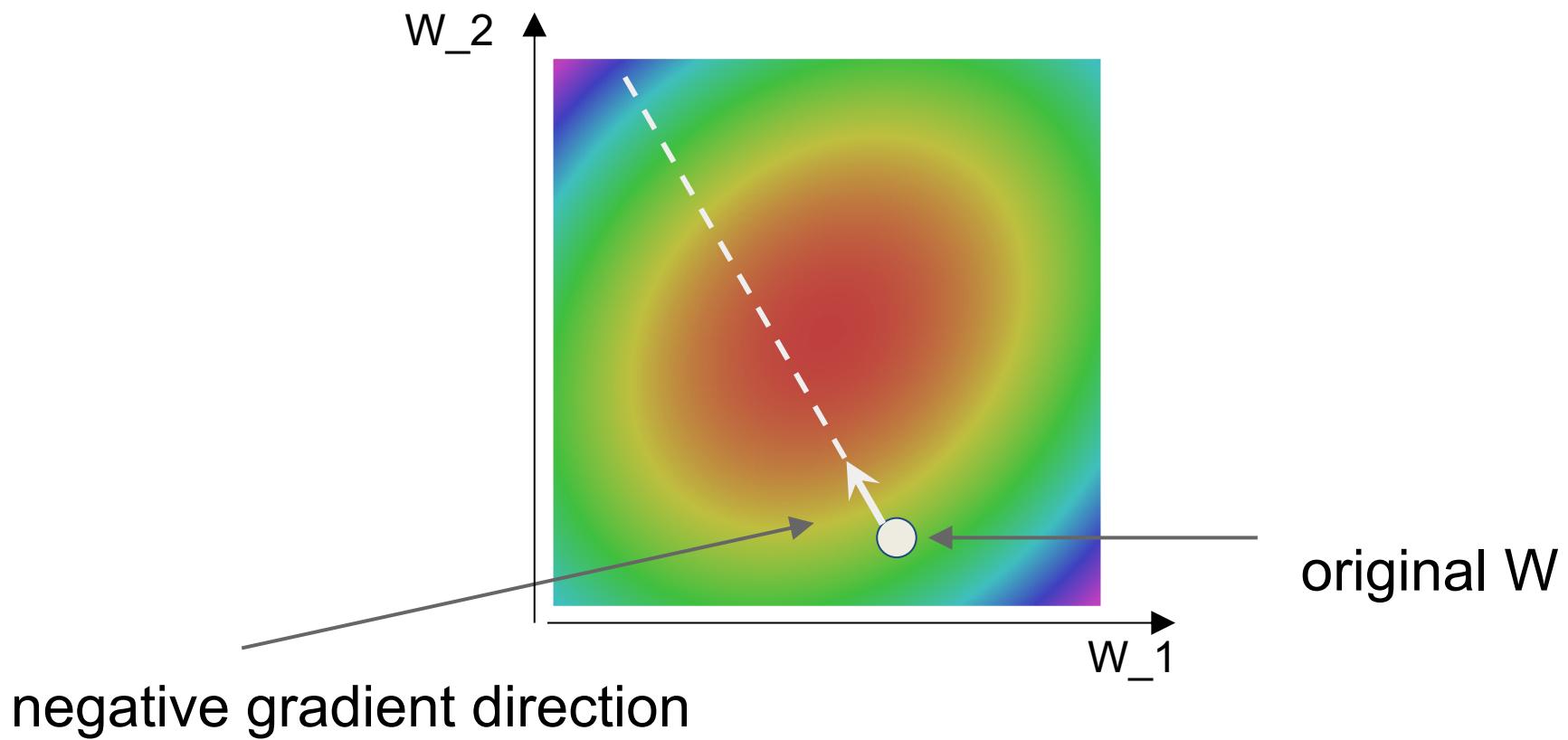
In 1-dimension, the derivative of a function:

$$\frac{df(x)}{dx} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x + h) - f(x)}{h}$$

In multiple dimensions, the **gradient** is the vector of (partial derivatives) along each dimension

The slope in any direction is the **dot product** of the direction with the gradient  
The direction of steepest descent is the **negative gradient**

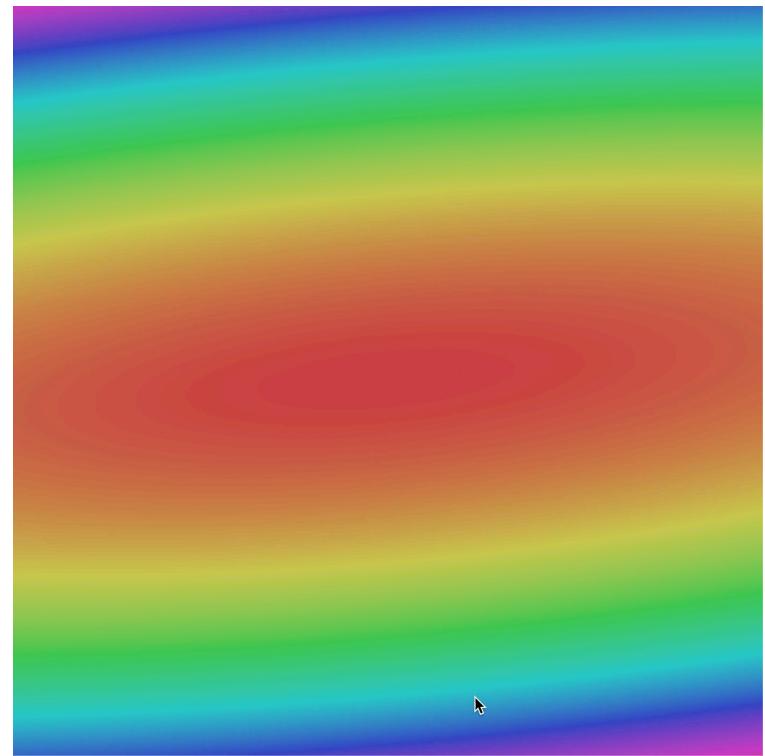
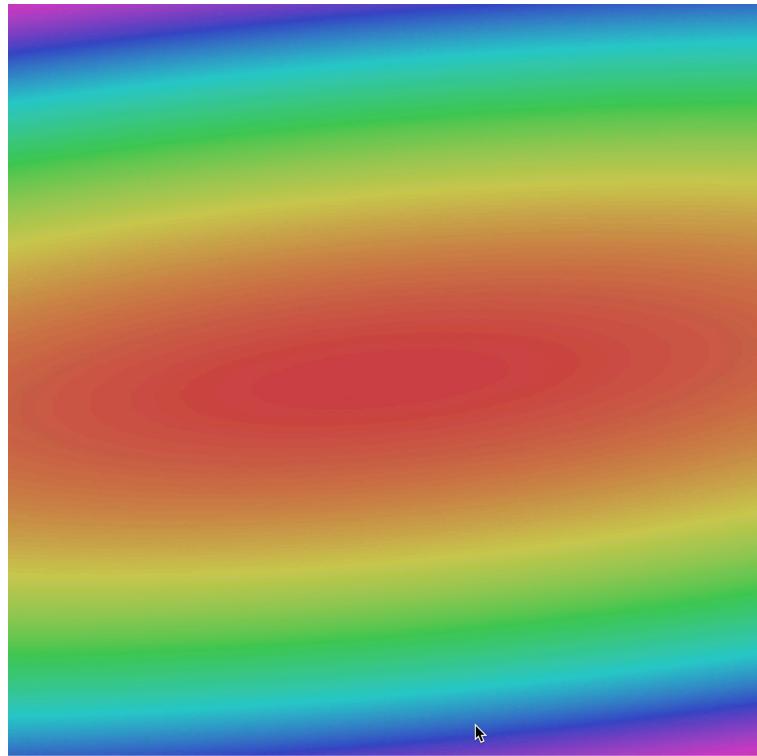
<http://demonstrations.wolfram.com/VisualizingTheGradientVector/>



# Gradient Descent

```
# Vanilla Gradient Descent

while True:
    weights_grad = evaluate_gradient(loss_fun, data, weights)
    weights += - step_size * weights_grad # perform parameter update
```



# Gradient Descent has a problem

$$L(W) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N L_i(x_i, y_i, W) + \lambda R(W)$$

Full sum expensive  
when N is large!

$$\nabla_W L(W) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \nabla_W L_i(x_i, y_i, W) + \lambda \nabla_W R(W)$$

# Stochastic Gradient Descent (SGD)

$$L(W) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N L_i(x_i, y_i, W) + \lambda R(W)$$

Full sum expensive  
when N is large!

$$\nabla_W L(W) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \nabla_W L_i(x_i, y_i, W) + \lambda \nabla_W R(W)$$

Approximate sum  
using a **minibatch** of  
examples  
32 / 64 / 128 common

```
# Vanilla Minibatch Gradient Descent
```

```
while True:  
    data_batch = sample_training_data(data, 256) # sample 256 examples  
    weights_grad = evaluate_gradient(loss_fun, data_batch, weights)  
    weights += - step_size * weights_grad # perform parameter update
```

Image Classification  
Supervised Learning  
CNN Review  
Loss Functions  
Stochastic Gradient Descent

Computing Gradients

Training CNNs

# How do we compute gradients?

- Analytic or “Manual” Differentiation
- Symbolic Differentiation
- Numerical Differentiation
- Automatic Differentiation
  - Forward mode AD
  - Reverse mode AD
    - aka “backprop”

# Numerical vs Analytic Gradients

$$\frac{df(x)}{dx} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x + h) - f(x)}{h}$$

**Numerical gradient:** slow :, approximate :, easy to write :)

**Analytic gradient:** fast :, exact :, error-prone :(

In practice: Derive analytic gradient, check your implementation with numerical gradient.  
This is called a **gradient check**.

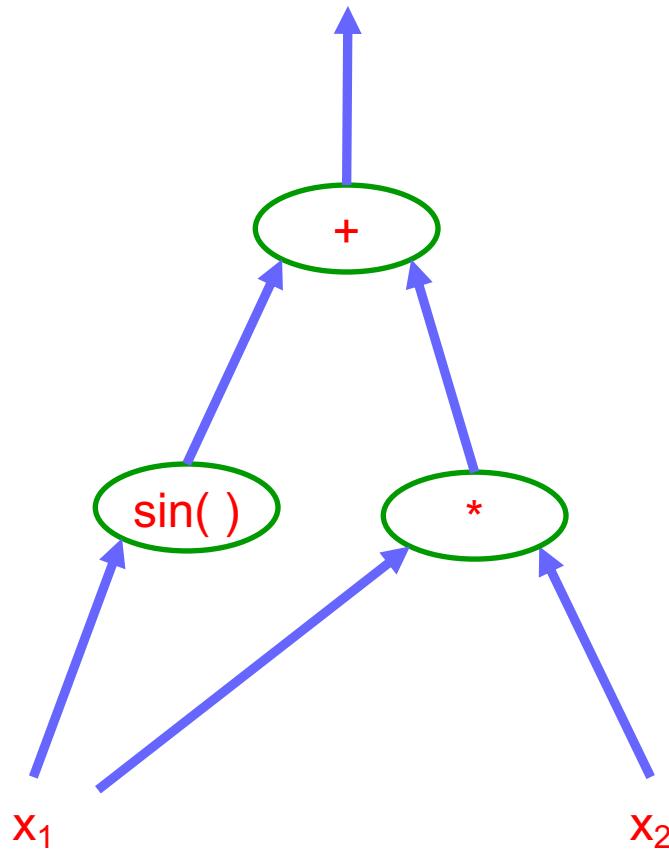
# Automatic Differentiation

- Notation

$$f(x_1, x_2) = x_1 x_2 + \sin(x_1)$$

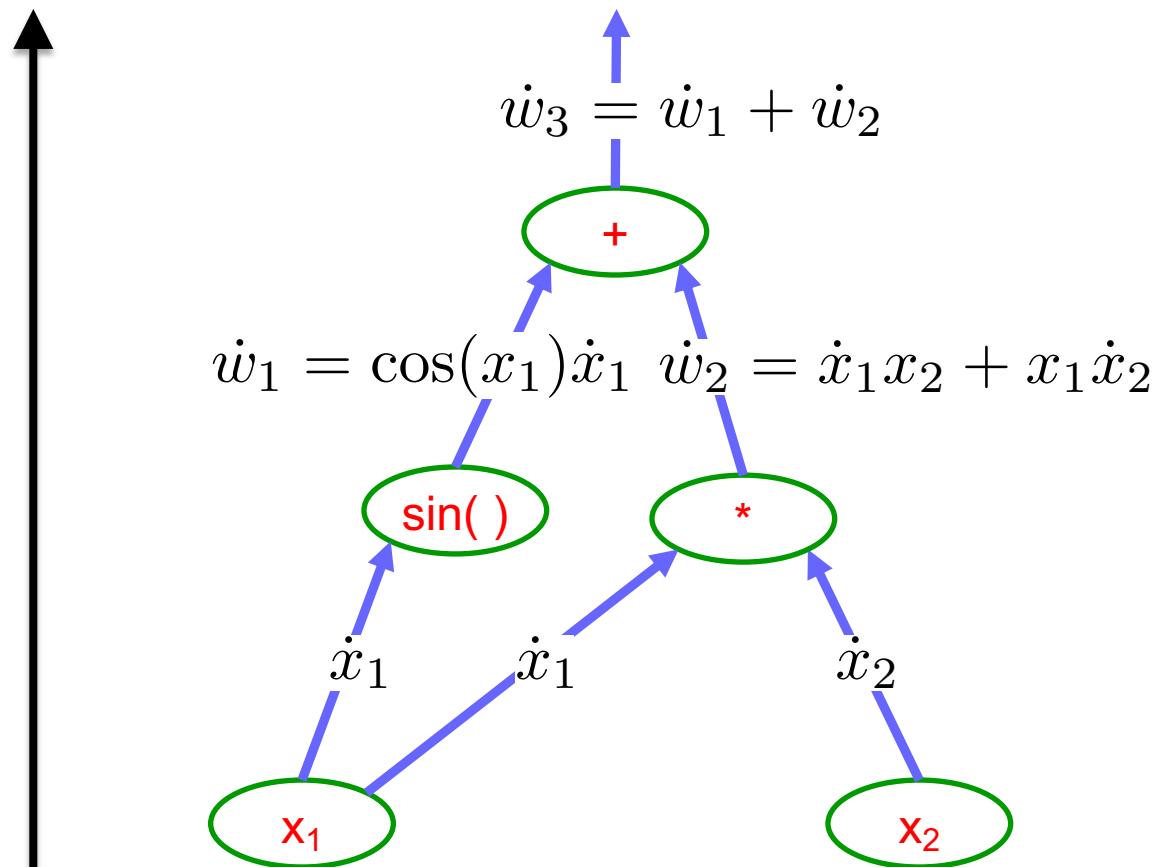
# Computational Graphs

$$f(x_1, x_2) = x_1 x_2 + \sin(x_1)$$



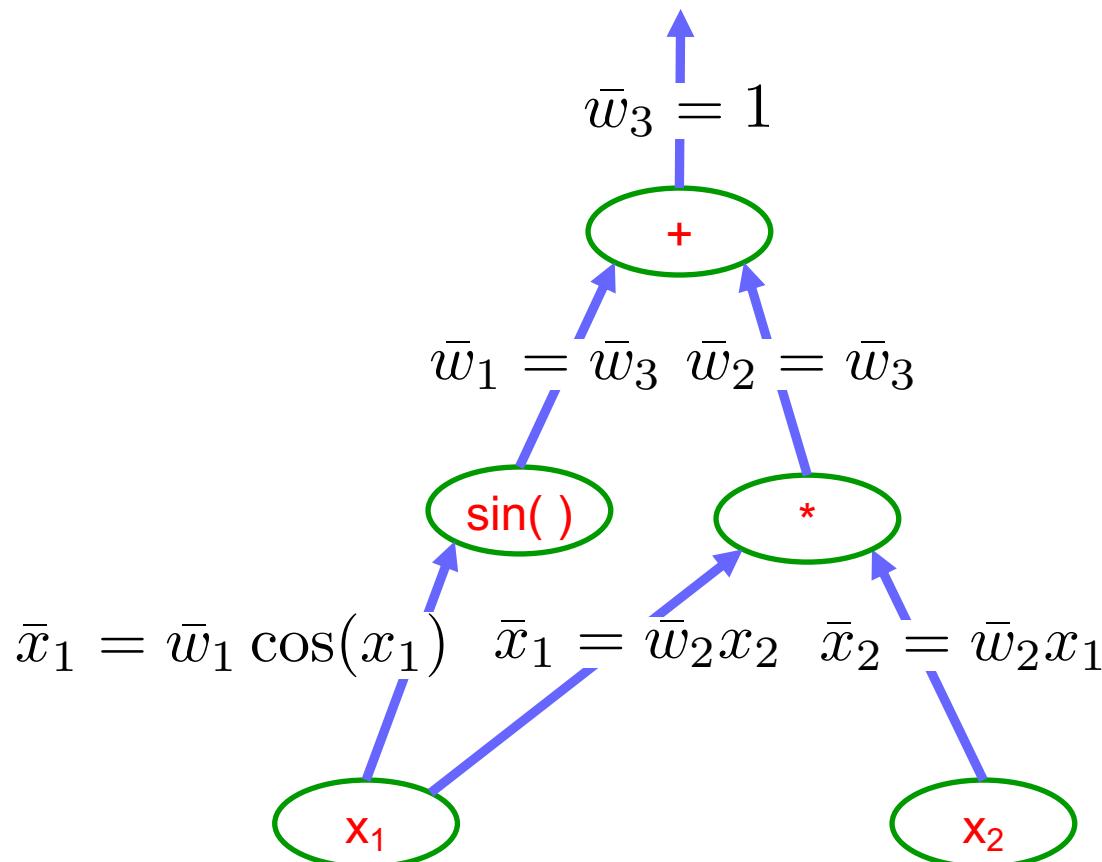
# Example: Forward mode AD

$$f(x_1, x_2) = x_1 x_2 + \sin(x_1)$$



# Example: Reverse mode AD

$$f(x_1, x_2) = x_1 x_2 + \sin(x_1)$$



# Forward Pass vs Forward mode AD vs Reverse Mode AD

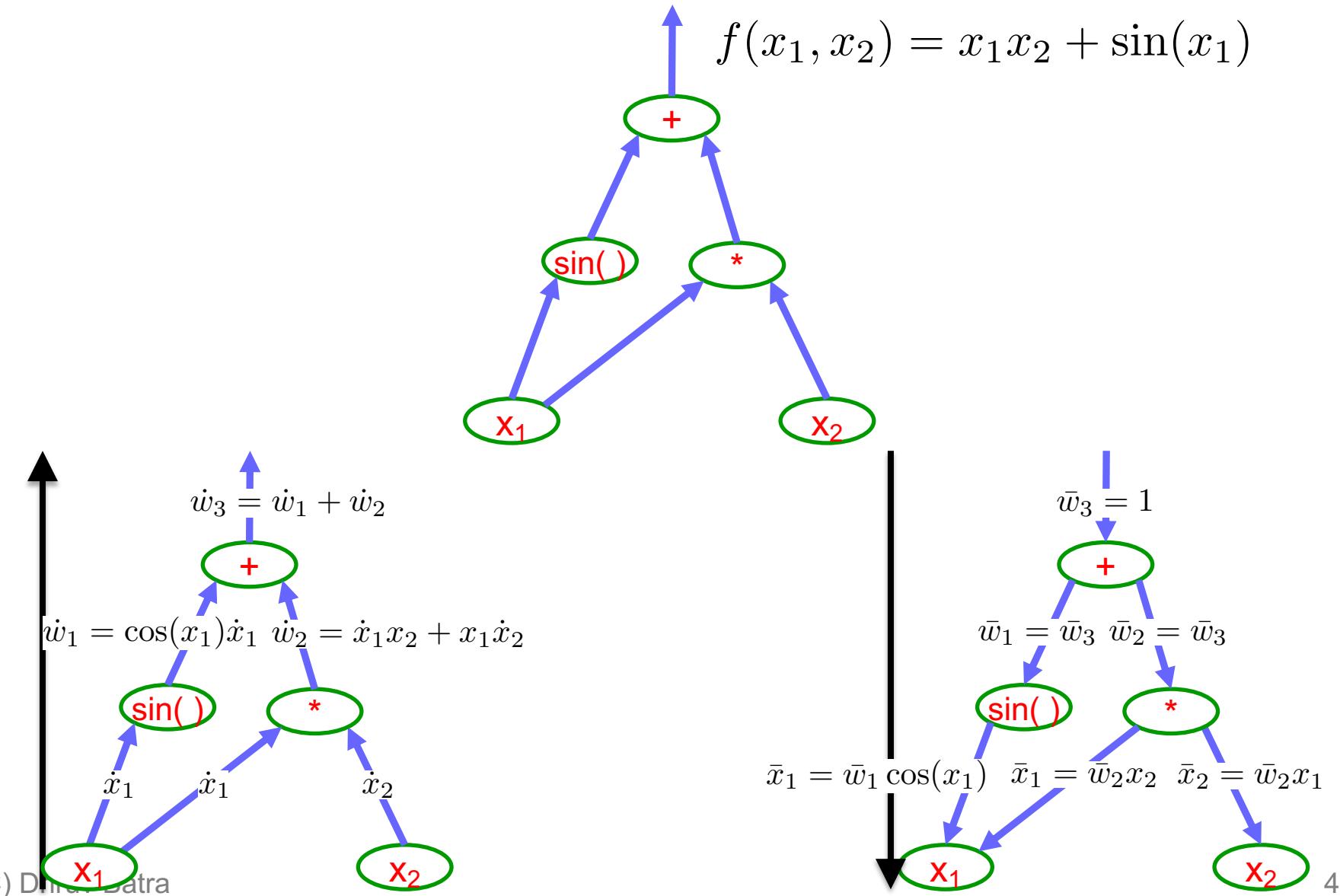
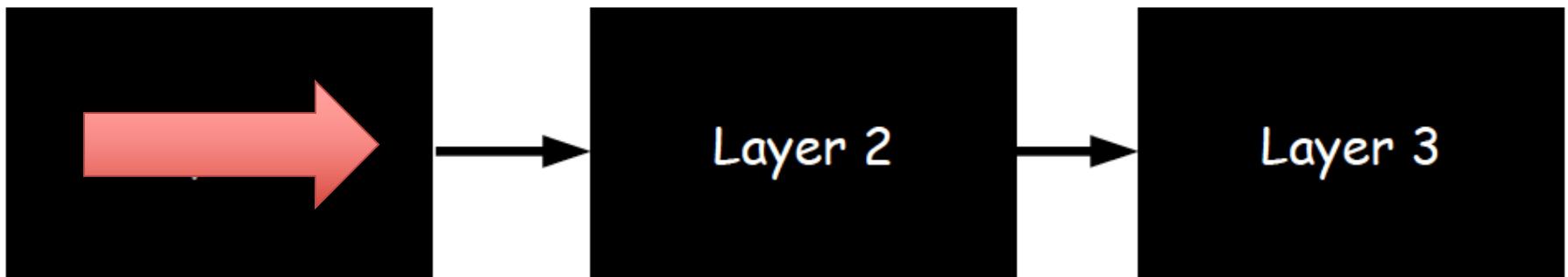


Image Classification  
Supervised Learning  
CNN Review  
Loss Functions  
Stochastic Gradient Descent  
Computing Gradients

Training CNNs

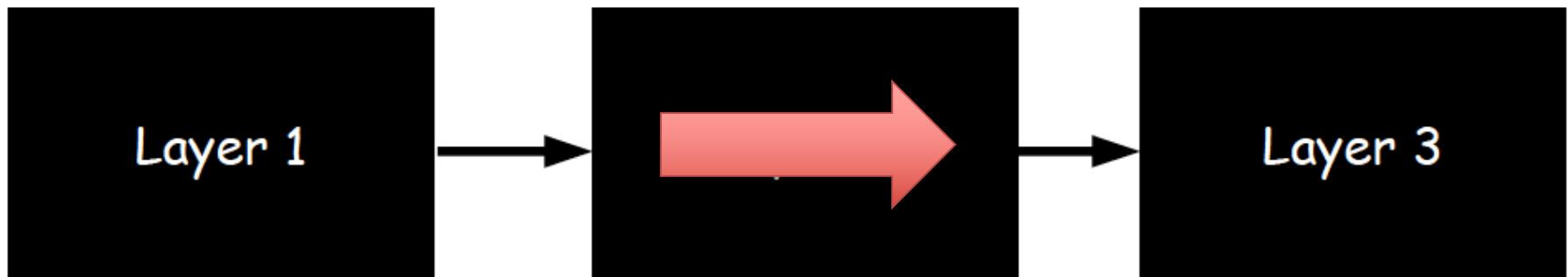
# Neural Network Training

- Step 1: Compute Loss on mini-batch [F-Pass]



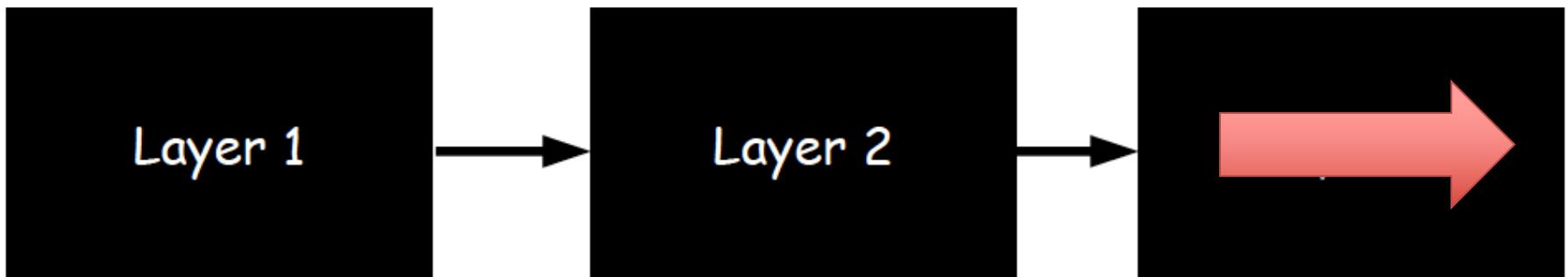
# Neural Network Training

- Step 1: Compute Loss on mini-batch [F-Pass]



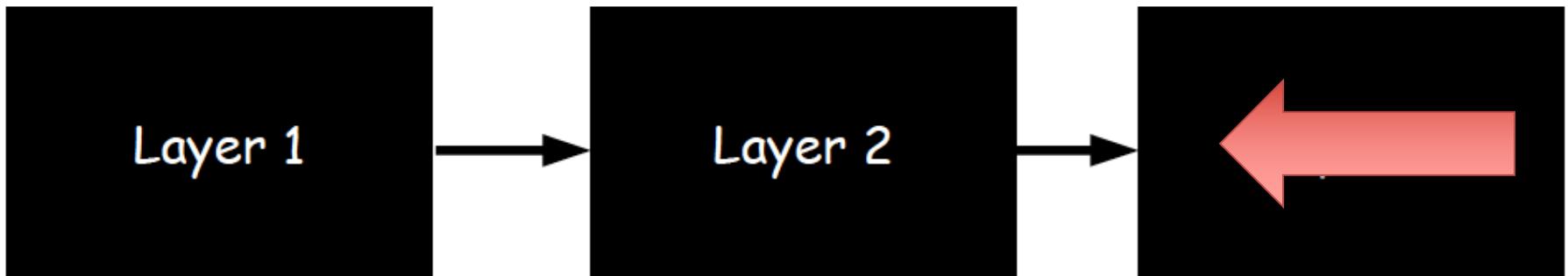
# Neural Network Training

- Step 1: Compute Loss on mini-batch [F-Pass]



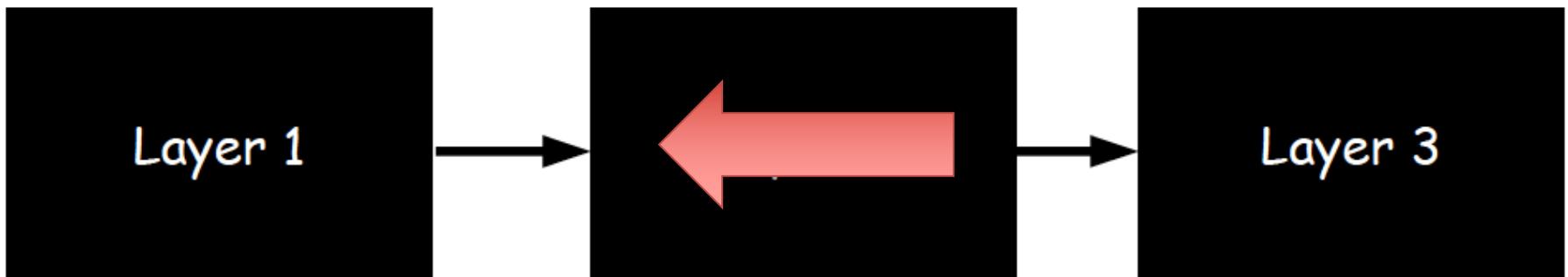
# Neural Network Training

- Step 1: Compute Loss on mini-batch [F-Pass]
- Step 2: Compute gradients wrt parameters [B-Pass]



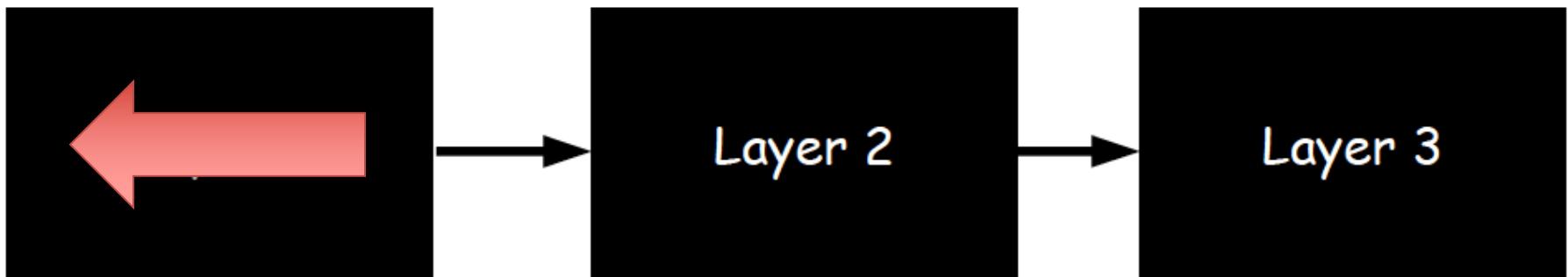
# Neural Network Training

- Step 1: Compute Loss on mini-batch [F-Pass]
- Step 2: Compute gradients wrt parameters [B-Pass]



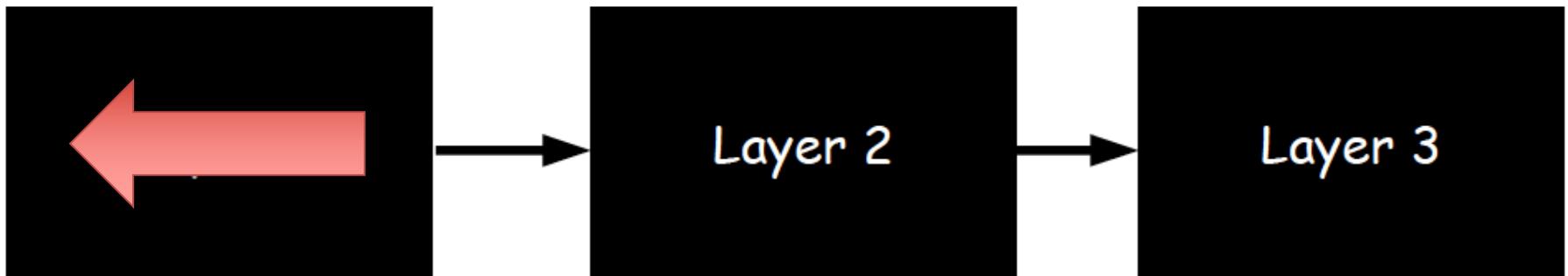
# Neural Network Training

- Step 1: Compute Loss on mini-batch [F-Pass]
- Step 2: Compute gradients wrt parameters [B-Pass]



# Neural Network Training

- Step 1: Compute Loss on mini-batch [F-Pass]
- Step 2: Compute gradients wrt parameters [B-Pass]
- Step 3: Use gradient to update parameters



$$\theta \leftarrow \theta - \eta \frac{dL}{d\theta}$$