

Neural Network Regularization

Part C - Batch Normalization

CS1090B Data Science II – Spring 2025

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Feature Normalization

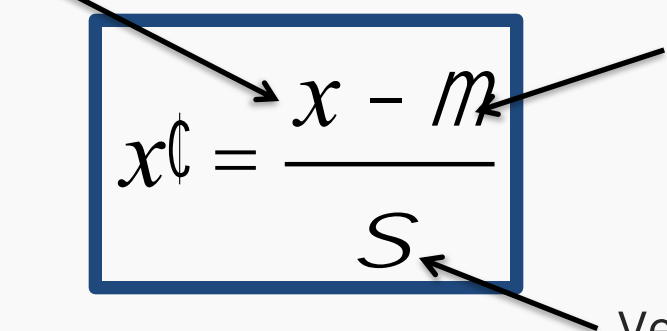
It is a good practice to **normalize** features before applying the learning algorithm:

Feature vector

$$x_c = \frac{x - m}{S}$$

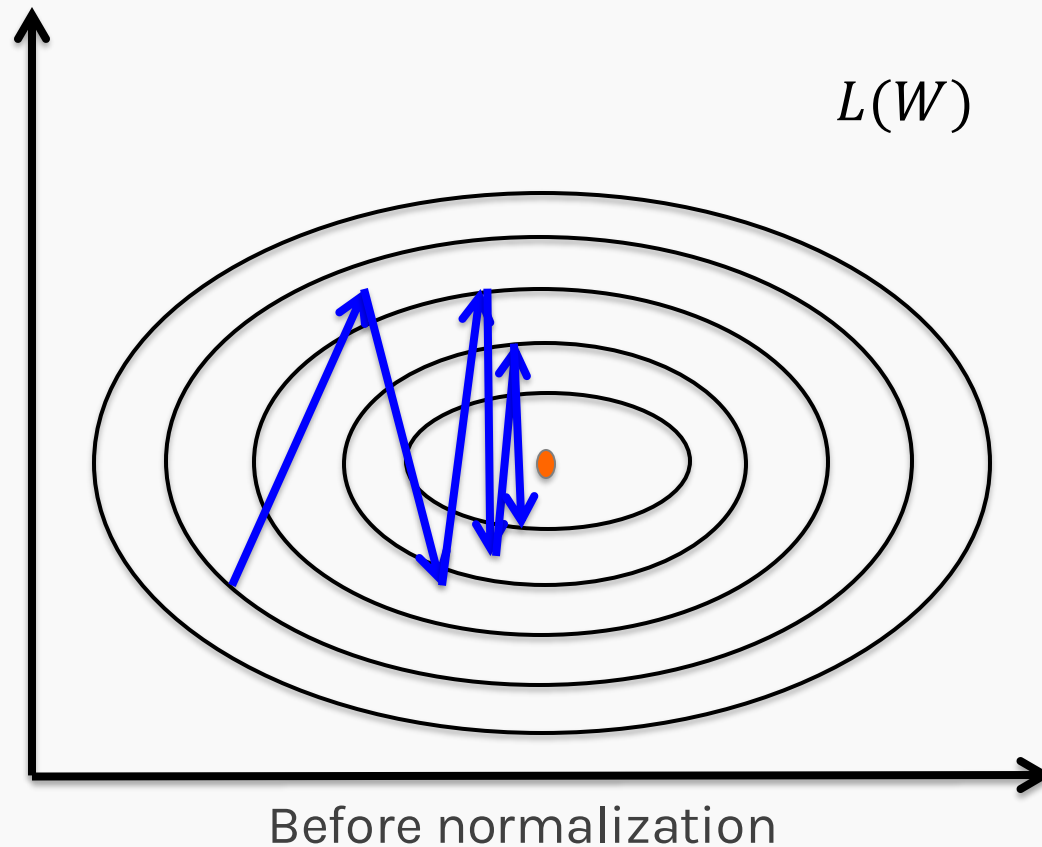
Vector of mean feature values

Vector of SD of feature values

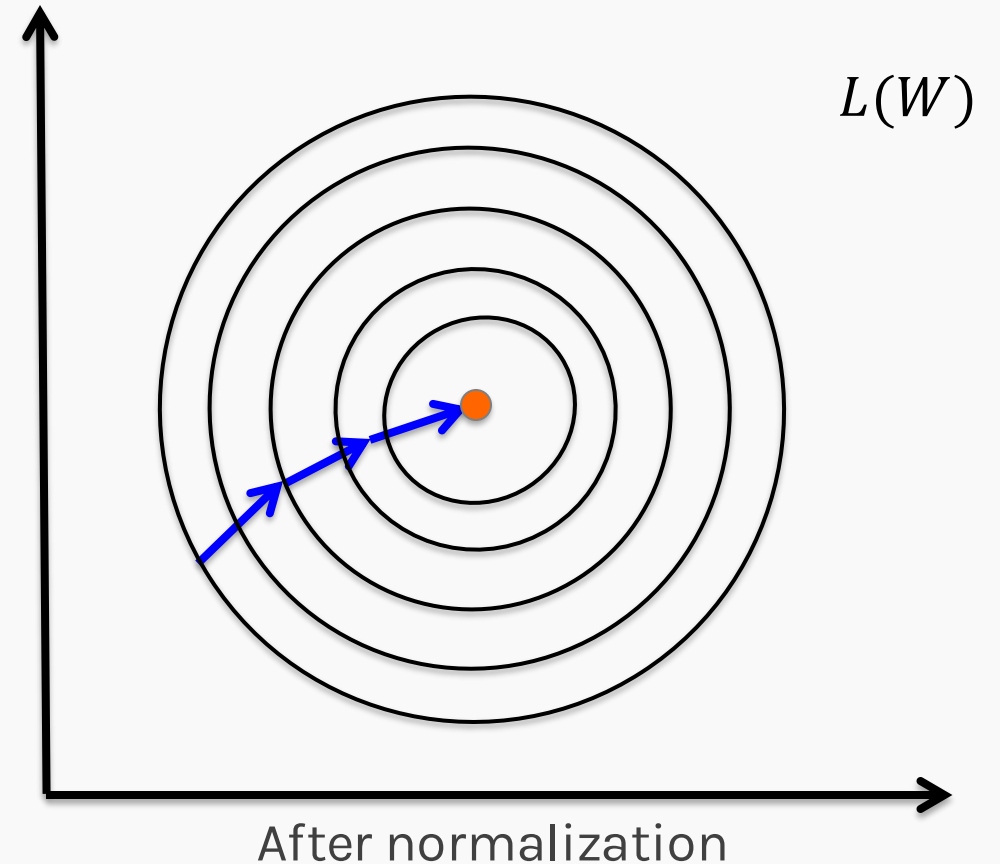
A diagram showing the feature normalization formula $x_c = \frac{x - m}{S}$ enclosed in a blue rectangular box. Three arrows point from text labels to parts of the formula: 'Feature vector' points to the x in the numerator; 'Vector of mean feature values' points to the m in the numerator; and 'Vector of SD of feature values' points to the S in the denominator.

Features in the **same scale**: mean 0 and variance 1

Feature Normalization



Speeds up learning

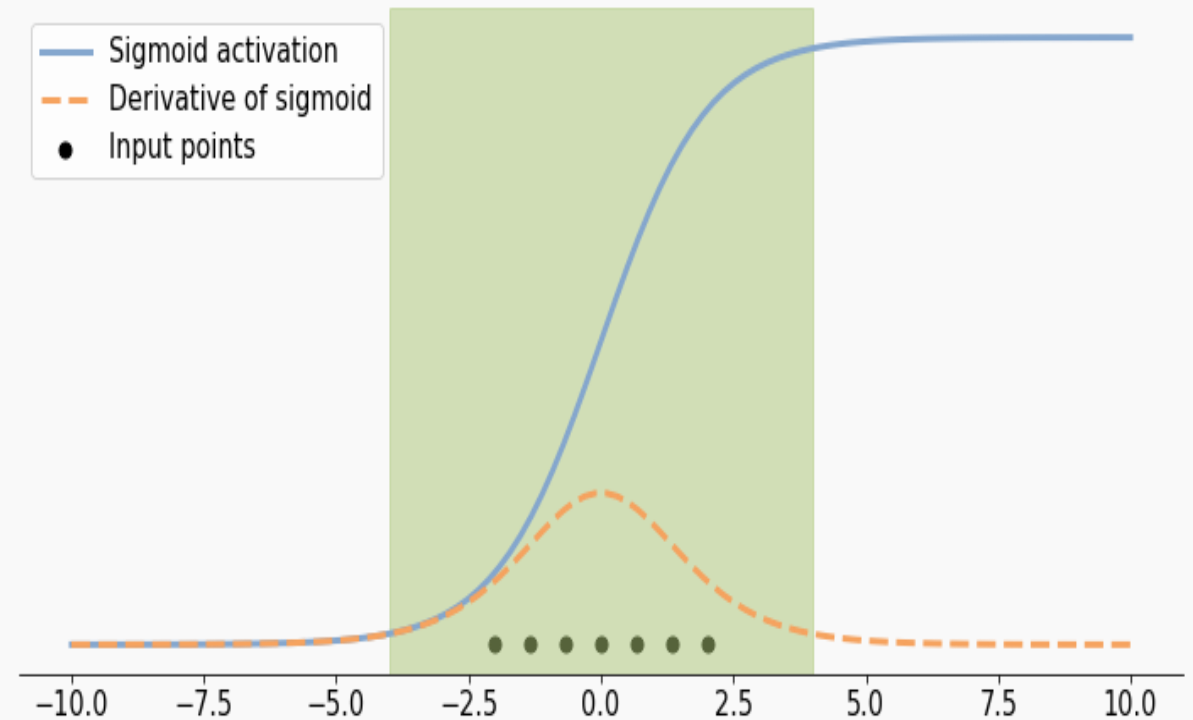
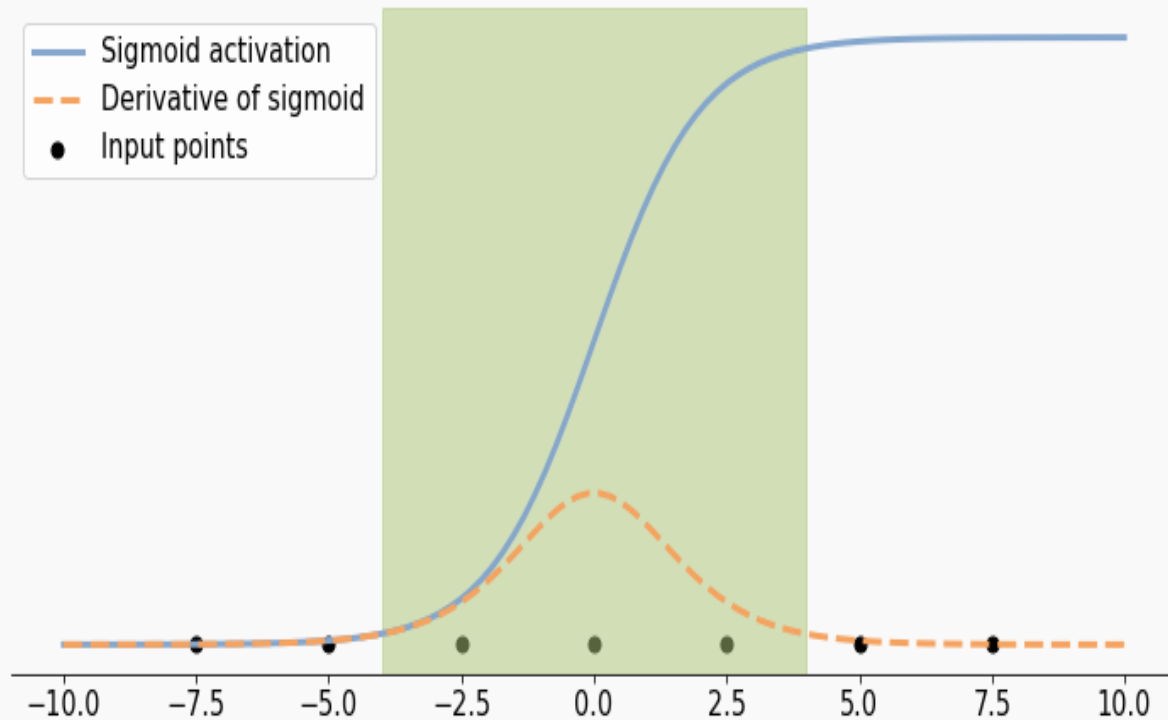


Note: This is an ideal case scenario. In reality, the loss landscapes are much more complex.

How do neural networks learn efficiently?

The distribution that is fed to the layers of a network should be somewhat:

- Normalized - to avoid vanishing gradients



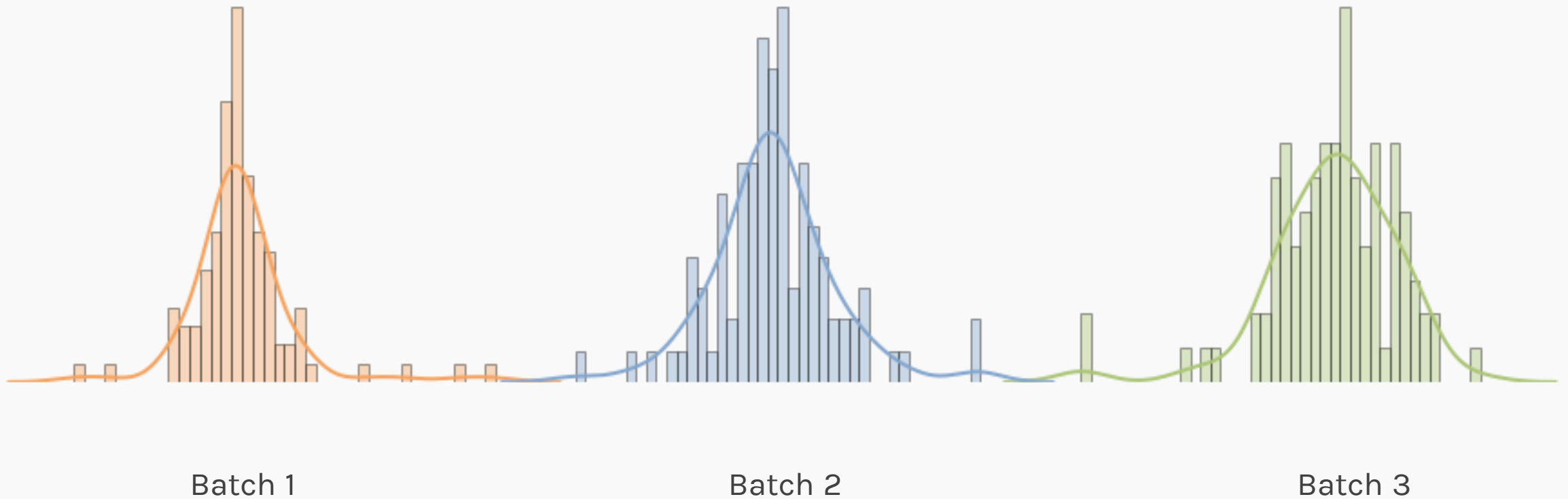
How do neural networks learn efficiently?

The distribution that is fed to the layers of a network should be somewhat:

- Normalized - to avoid vanishing gradients
- Constant through epochs or batches and data

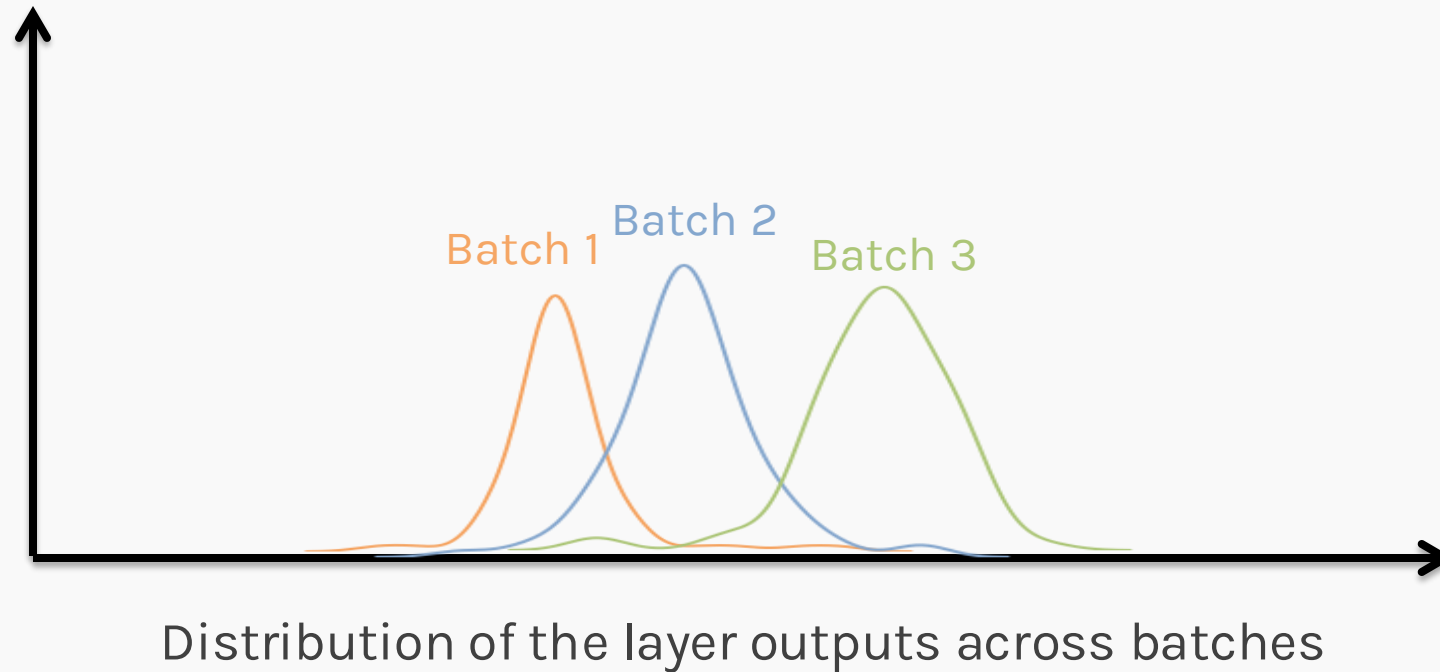
Internal Covariance Shift (ICS)

ICS occurs when the input distribution to the hidden layers (hence “internal”) of the neural network end up fluctuating or shifting.

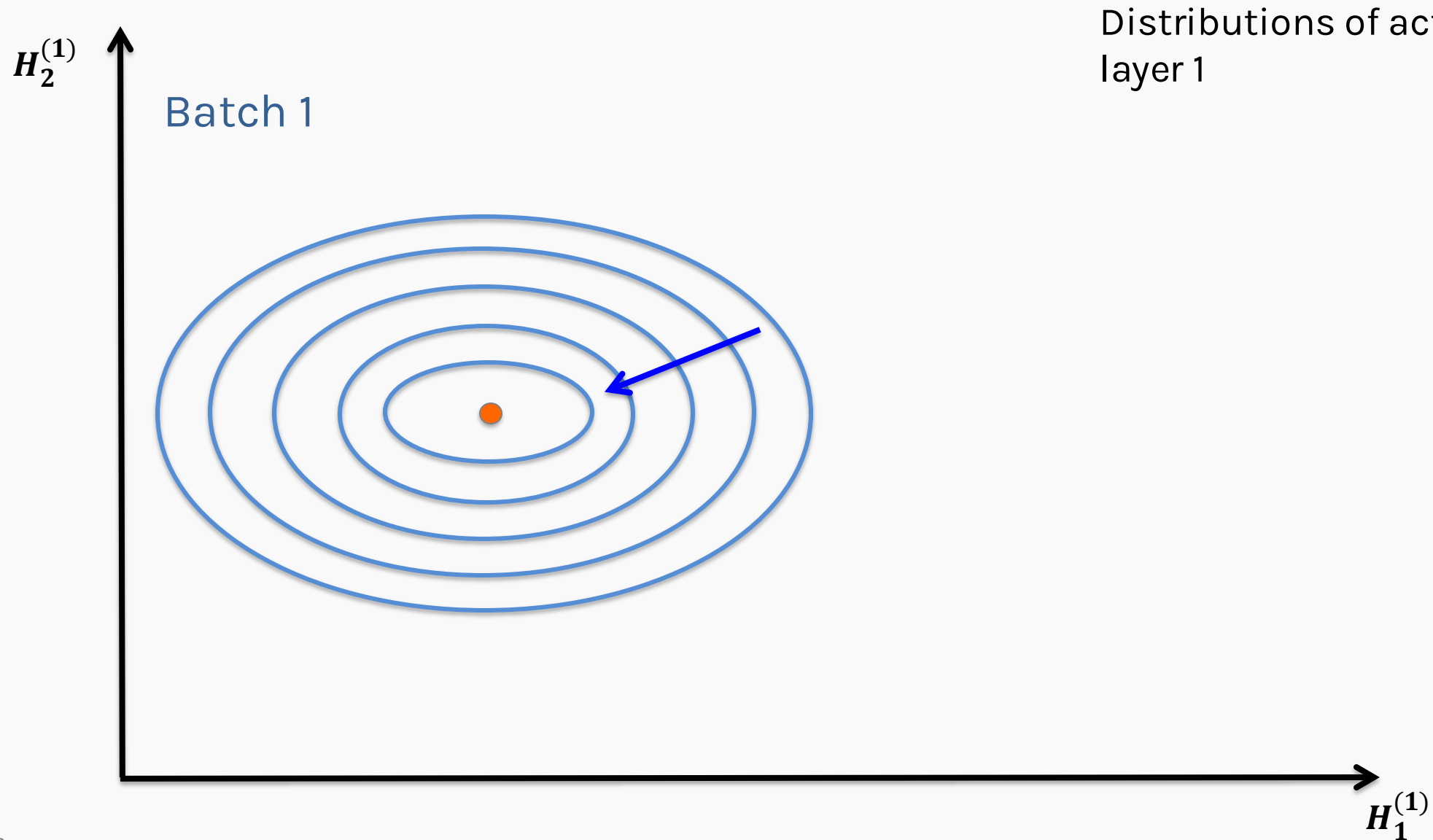


Internal Covariance Shift (ICS)

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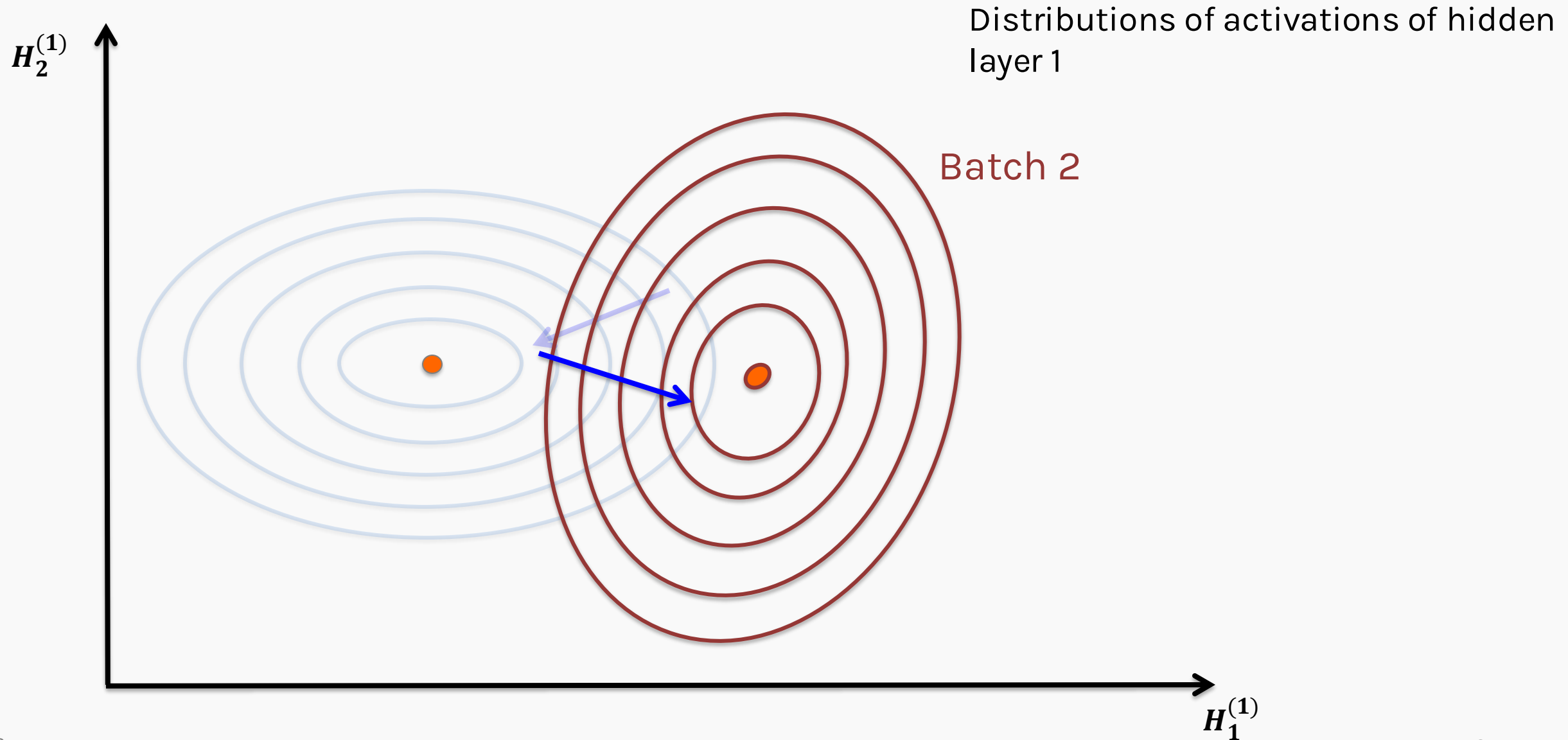


Internal Covariance Shift

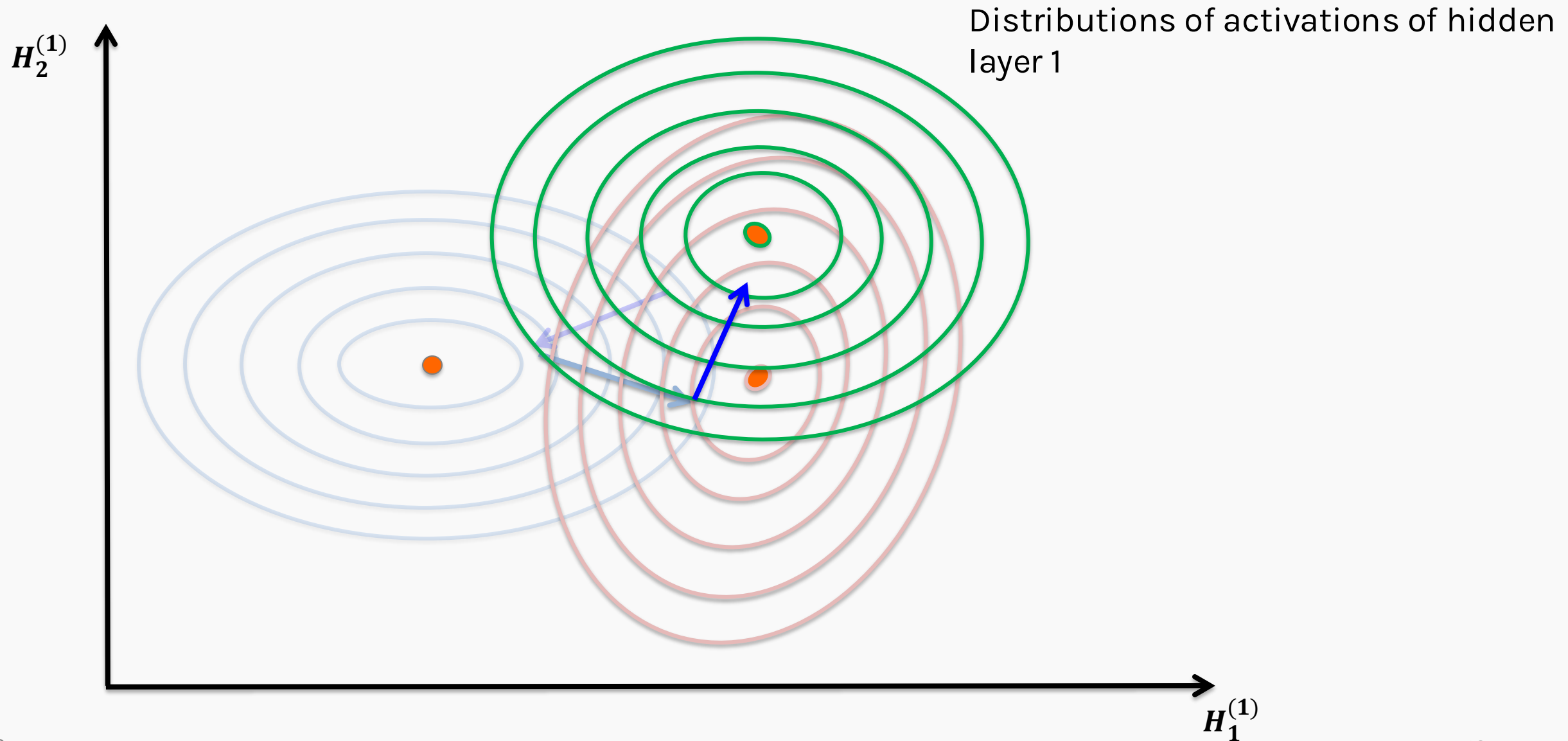


Distributions of activations of hidden layer 1

Internal Covariance Shift

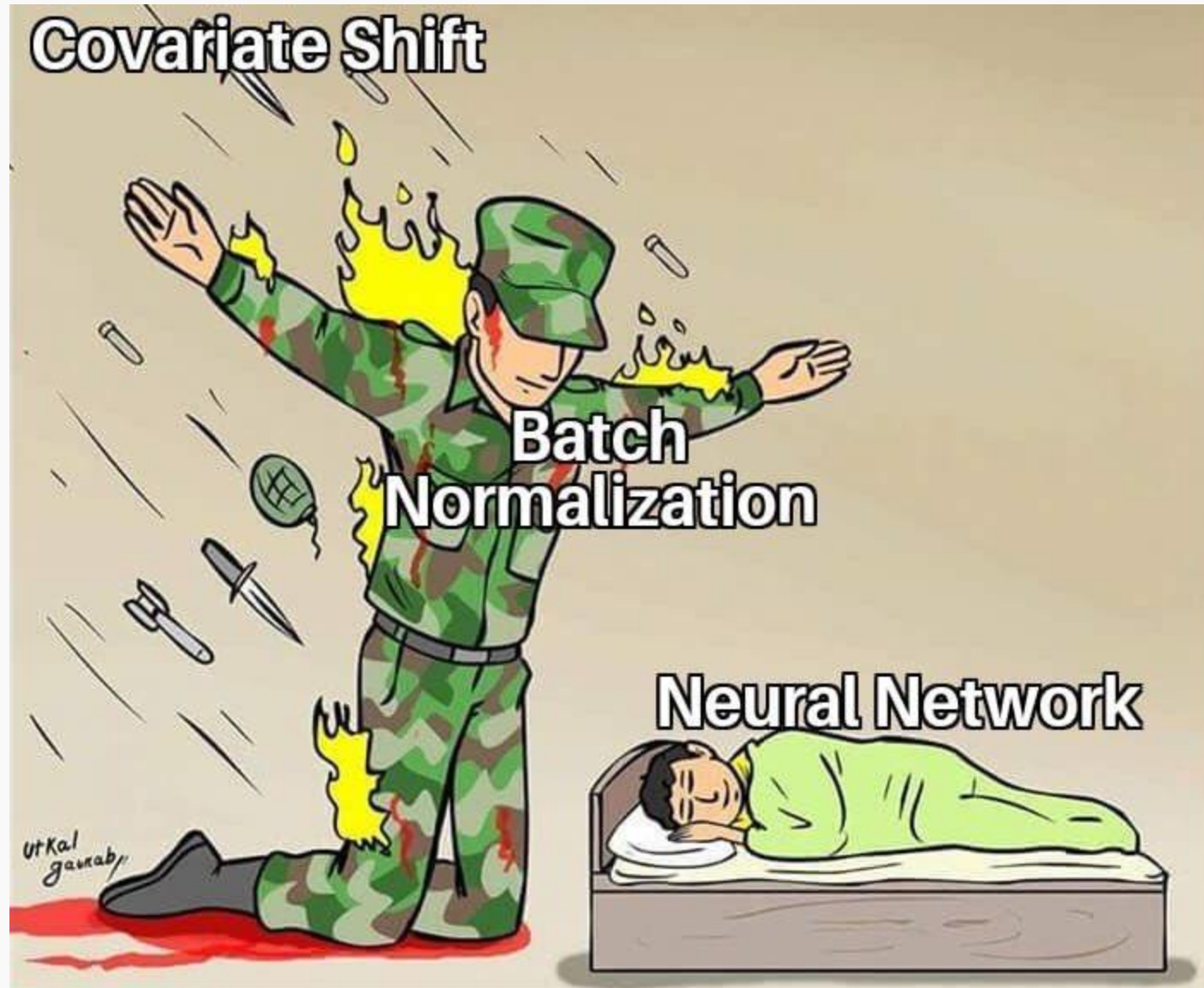


Internal Covariance Shift



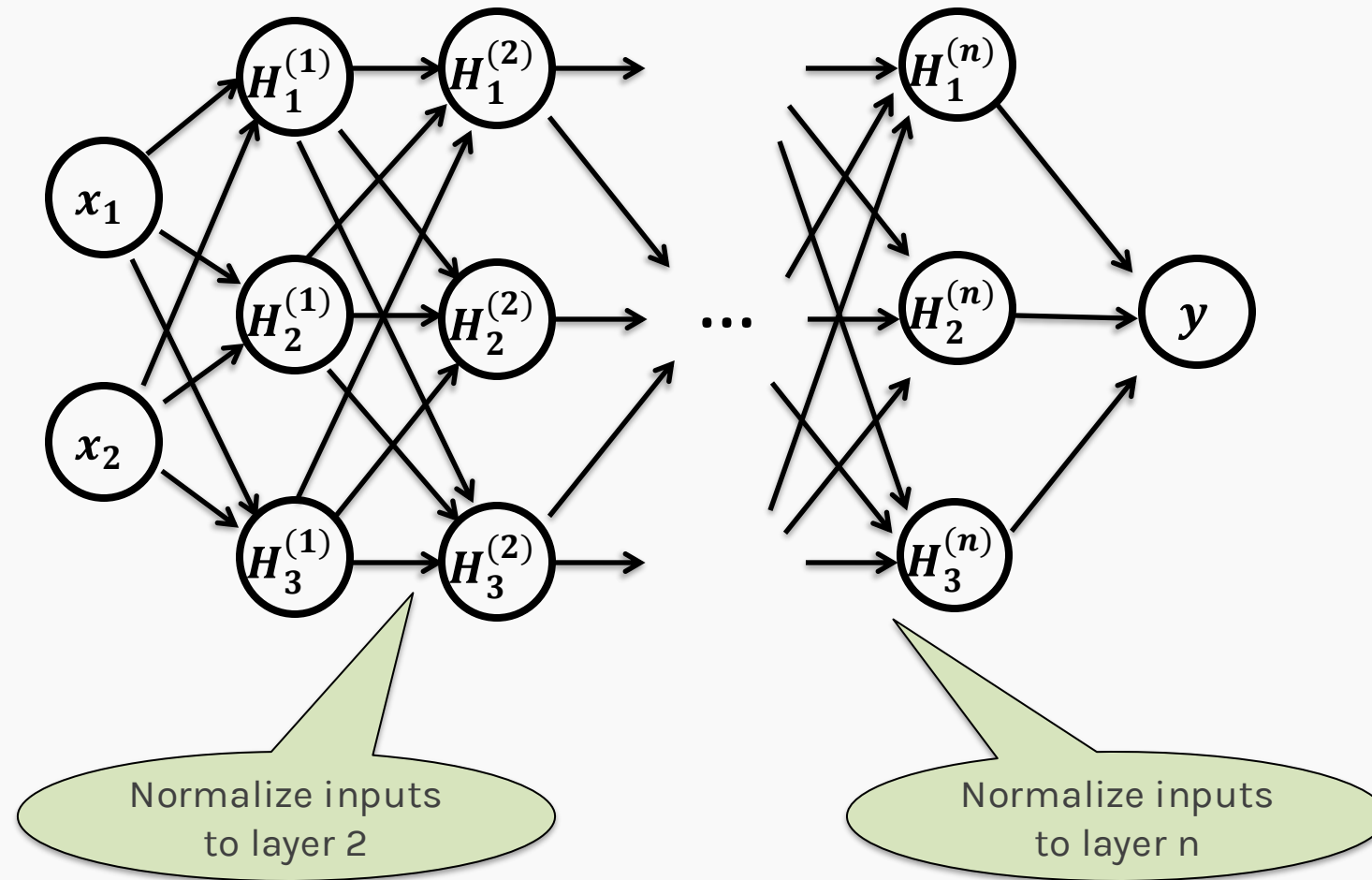
Internal Covariance Shift

How can this problem be solved?



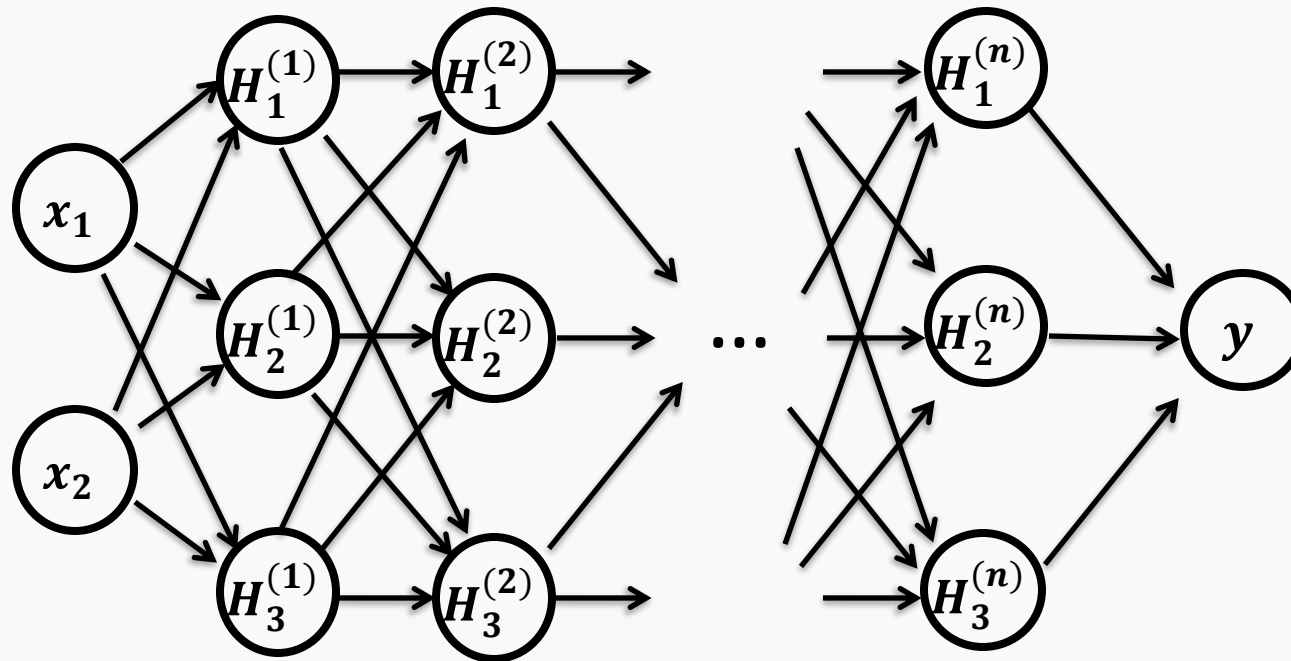
Internal Covariance Shift Solution

We normalize the inputs to every hidden layer.



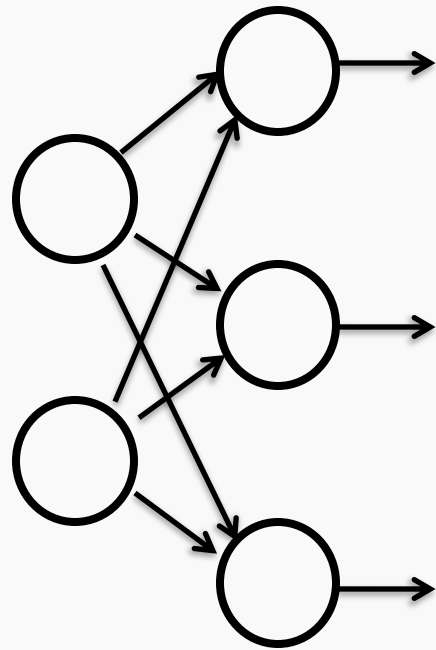
Internal Covariance Shift Solution

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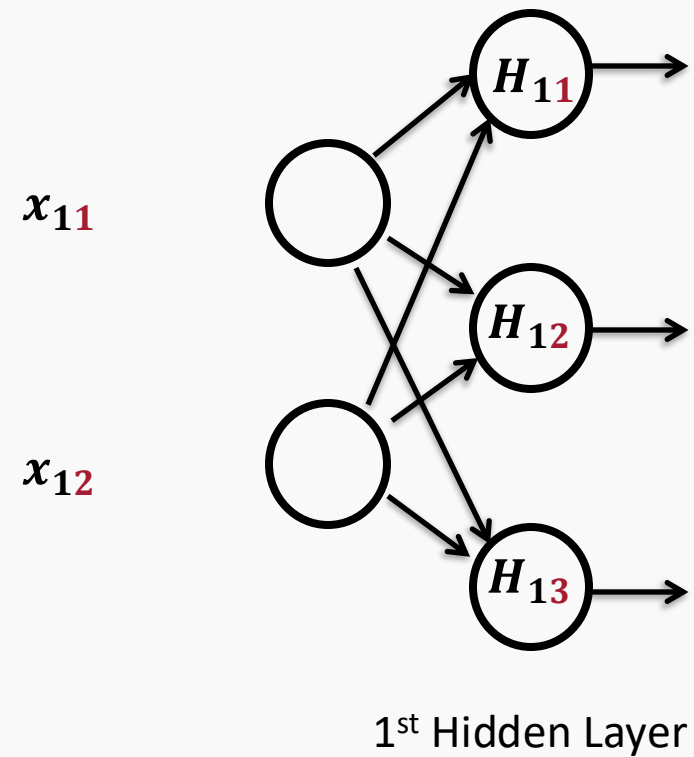
Batch Normalization

We get the outputs from the first hidden layer.



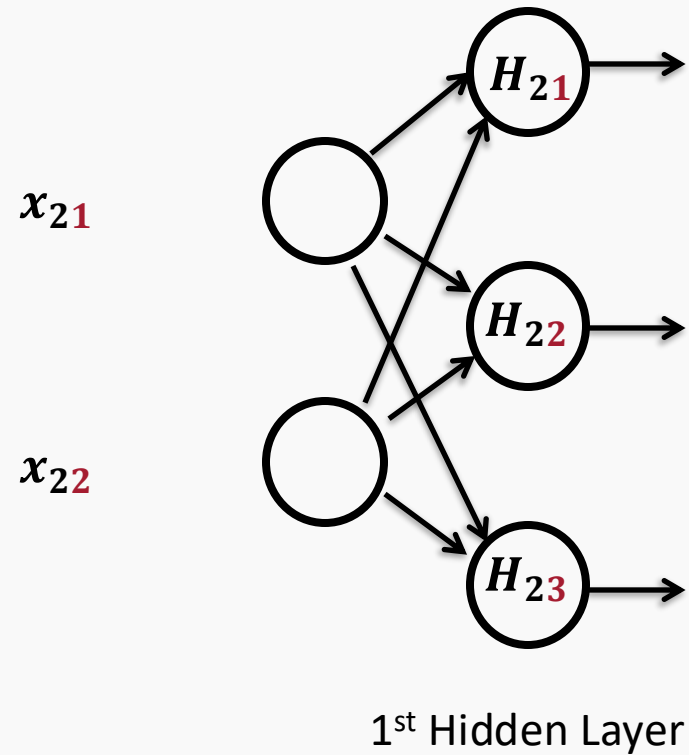
1st Hidden Layer

Batch Normalization



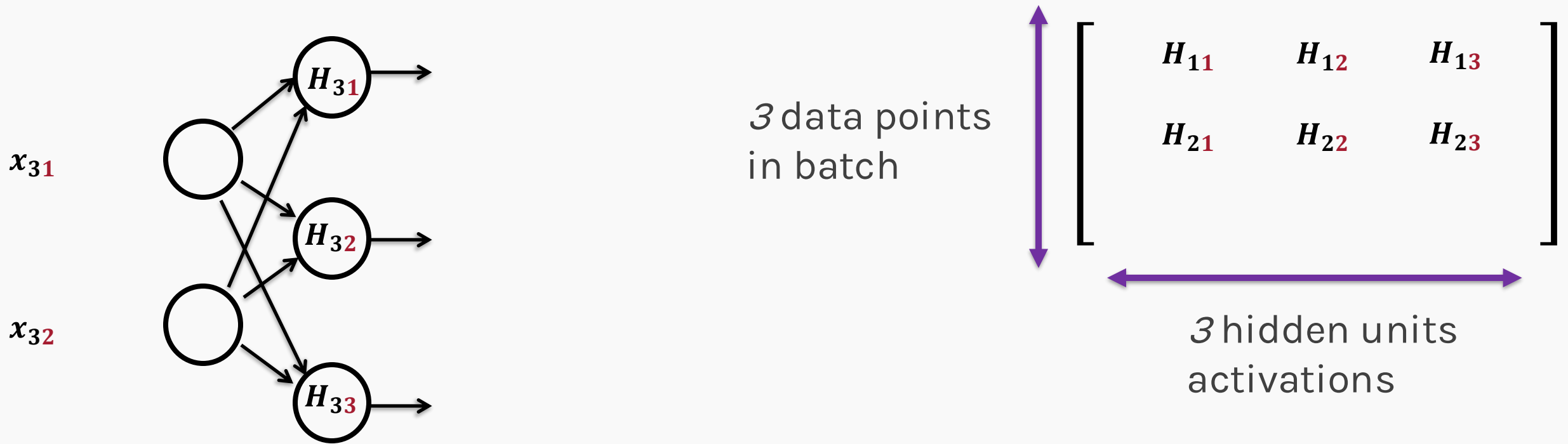
[]

Batch Normalization



$$\begin{bmatrix} H_{11} & H_{12} & H_{13} \end{bmatrix}$$

Batch Normalization



We do the same for N data points in batch and K hidden units activations in the next slide

Batch Normalization

Training time:

Batch of activations for a given layer to normalize

For a given
hidden layer

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} H_{11} & \cdots & H_{1K} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ H_{N1} & \cdots & H_{NK} \end{bmatrix}$$

N data points
in batch

K hidden units'
activations

Batch Normalization

Training time:

Batch of activations for a given layer to normalize

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} H_{11} & \cdots & H_{1K} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ H_{N1} & \cdots & H_{NK} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$H'_{ik} = \frac{H_{ik} - \mu_k}{\sigma_k}$$

Batch Normalization

Training time:

Batch of activations for a given layer to normalize

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} H_{11} & \cdots & H_{1K} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ H_{N1} & \cdots & H_{NK} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$H'_{ik} = \frac{H_{ik} - \mu_k}{\sigma_k}$$

$$\mu_k = \frac{1}{N} \sum_i H_{ik}$$

Mean activations across batch for node k.

Batch Normalization

Training time:

Batch of activations for a given layer to normalize

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} H_{11} & \cdots & H_{1K} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ H_{N1} & \cdots & H_{NK} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$H'_{ik} = \frac{H_{ik} - \mu_k}{\sigma_k}$$

$$\mu_k = \frac{1}{N} \sum_i H_{ik}$$

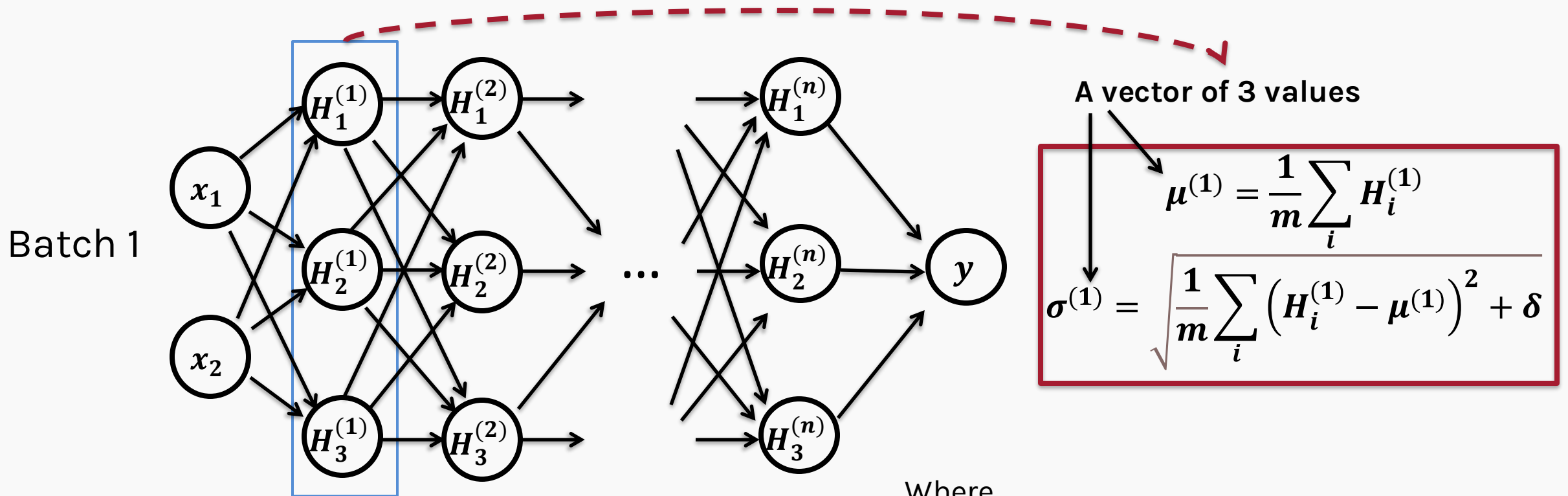
Mean activation across batch for node

$$\sigma_k = \sqrt{\frac{1}{N} \sum_i (H_{ik} - \mu_k)^2 + \delta}$$

Standard deviation across batch, k

When calculating the variance, we add a small constant to the variance to prevent potential divisions by zero.

Batch Normalization



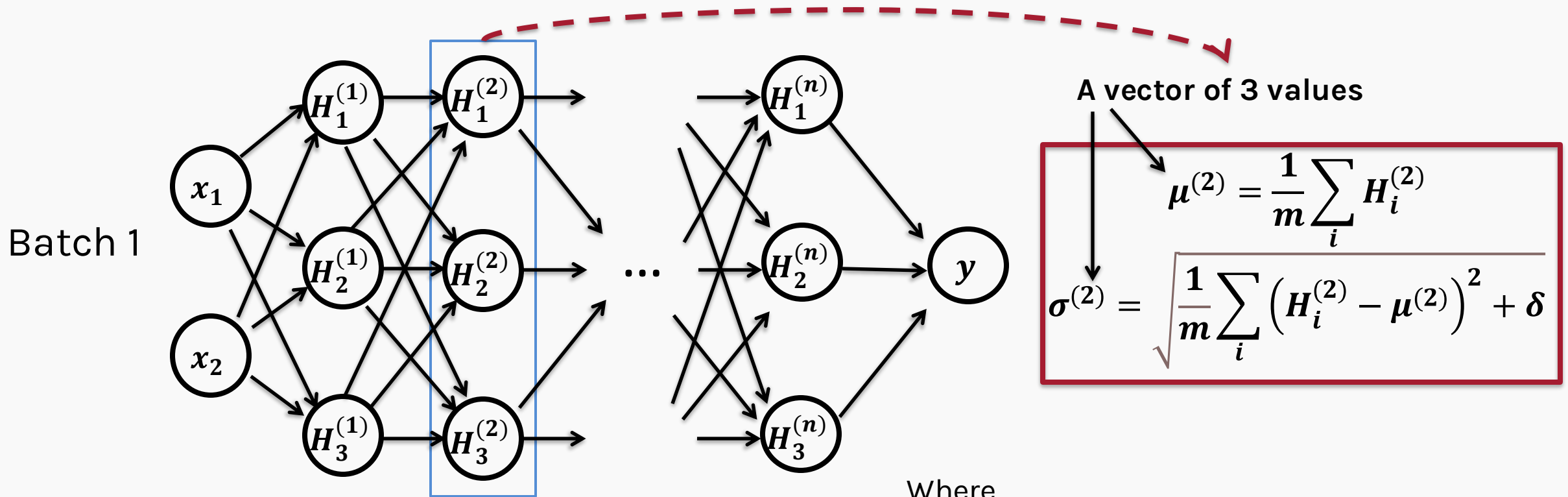
Where,

m : Number of training examples in the batch

$H_i^{(1)}$: Hidden layer activation of the first hidden layer for the i^{th} training example

δ : A small constant

Batch Normalization



Where,

m : Number of training examples in the batch

$H_i^{(2)}$: Hidden layer activation of the second hidden layer for the i^{th} training example

δ : A small constant

Batch Normalization

Training time:

- Normalization can reduce expressive power
- Instead use:

$$H''_{ik} = \gamma H'_{ik} + \beta$$

Batch Normalization

Training time:

- Normalization can reduce expressive power
- Instead use:

Final Transformed Activation

$$H''_{ik} = \gamma H'_{ik} + \beta$$

Normalized Activation

Learnable parameters



When do we apply batch normalize: before or after activation?

Before Activation

Batch Normalization

We have the equation

$$h^{(2)} = W a^{(1)} + b$$

where

$a^{(1)}$: Activation of the first hidden layer

$h^{(2)}$: the output of the second hidden layer
w/o activation

If we do batch normalization **after** activation:

$a^{(1)}$ will be affined transformed after this and therefore there is not need to transform again.

Batch Normalization

We have the equation

$$h^{(2)} = W a^{(1)} + b$$

where

$a^{(1)}$: Activation of the first hidden layer

$h^{(2)}$: the output of the second hidden layer
w/o activation

If we do batch normalization **before** activation:

$W a^{(1)} + b$ is very likely to have a symmetric, non-sparse distribution;
normalizing it is likely to produce activations with a stable distribution.



We saw how batch normalization works during training, but what about **prediction**, when we might not have a complete batch!

Evaluation

Evaluation time:

- Calculate the running average of the mean and standard deviation.
- For every batch:

Decay
parameter

Use this for
evaluation

$$\mu_{global} = \alpha \mu_{global} + (1 - \alpha) \mu_k$$

$$\sigma_{global} = \alpha \sigma_{global} + (1 - \alpha) \sigma_k$$

Batch Normalization

Evaluation time:

Hidden activations will be a vector as there are no batches.

$$H = [H_1 \quad \dots \quad H_K]$$

Batch Normalization

Evaluation time:

Use the global statistics to normalize the node activations.

$$H = [H_1 \quad \dots \quad H_K]$$

For each hidden node k :

$$H'_k = \frac{H_k - \mu_{global}}{\sigma_{global}}$$

← Estimated global mean of each unit activation.

↑ Estimated global SD of each unit activation.

Thank you (again)

