



中山大學

SUN YAT-SEN UNIVERSITY

# Lecture 17: Regularization and Optimization

**Pattern Recognition and Computer Vision**

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School of Computer Science and Engineering, Sun Yat-Sen University

# 扫码签到

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# Image Classification

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- A core task in Computer Vision



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

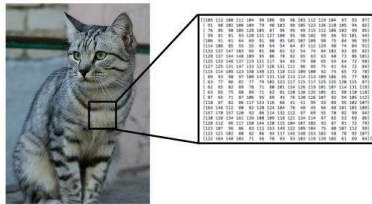


cat  
dog  
bird  
deer  
truck

# Image Classification

- **Recall from last time:** Challenges of recognition

Viewpoint

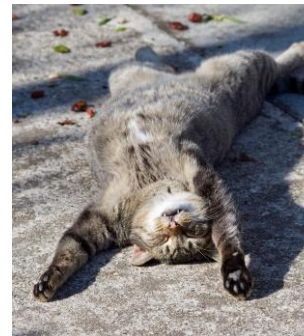


Illumination



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Deformation



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Occlusion



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Clutter

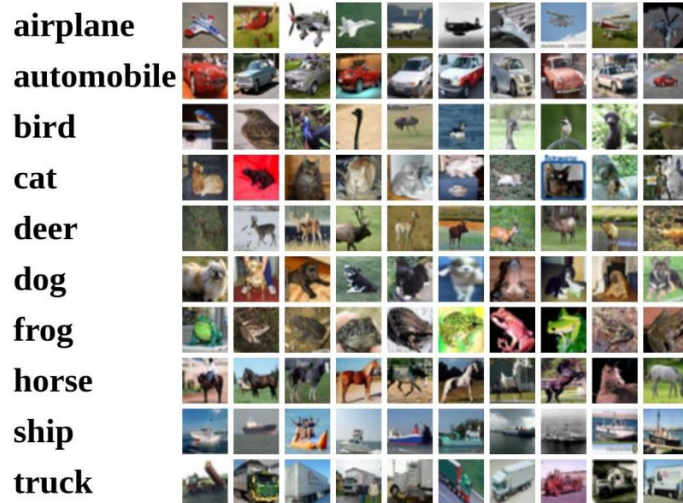


This image is [CC0 1.0](#) public domain

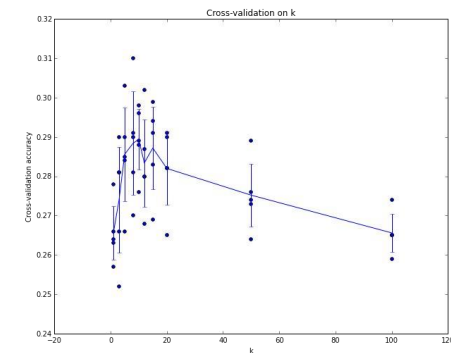
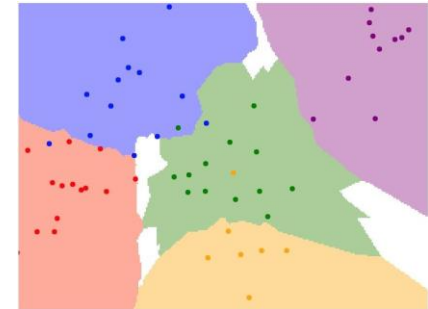
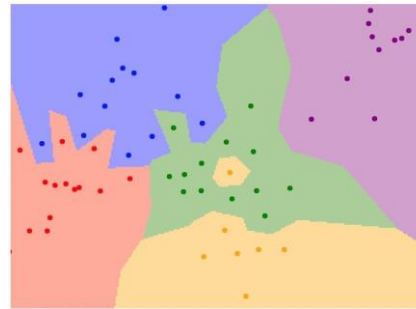
Intraclass Variation

# Image Classification

- **Recall from last time:** data-driven approach, kNN

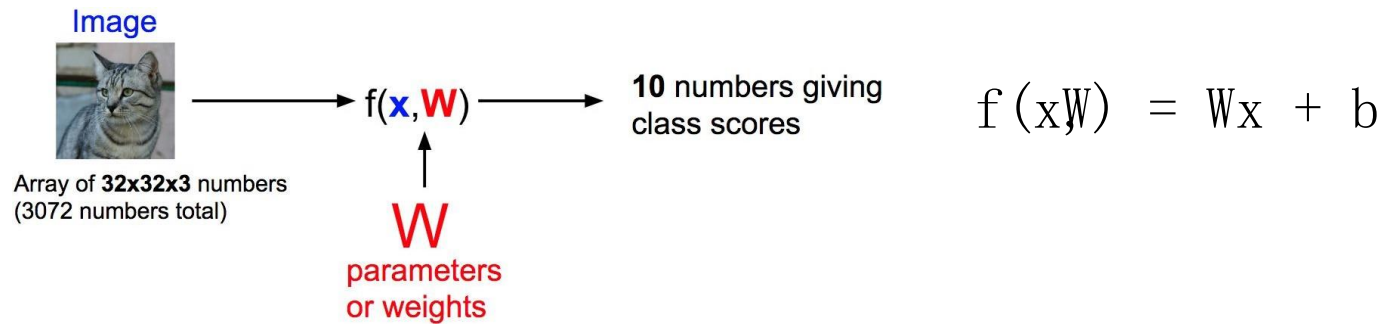


1-NN classifier    5-NN classifier



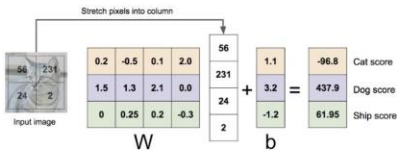
# Image Classification

- Recall from last time:** Linear Classifier



## Algebraic Viewpoint

$$f(x, W) = Wx$$



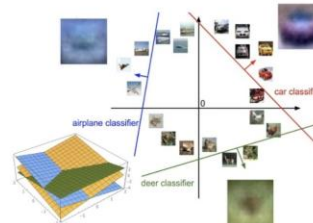
## Visual Viewpoint

One template  
per class



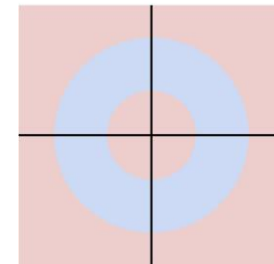
## Geometric Viewpoint

Hyperplanes  
cutting up space



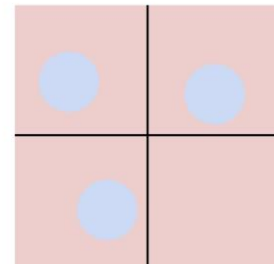
**Class 1:**  
 $1 \leq L2 \text{ norm} \leq 2$

**Class 2:**  
Everything else



**Class 1:**  
Three modes

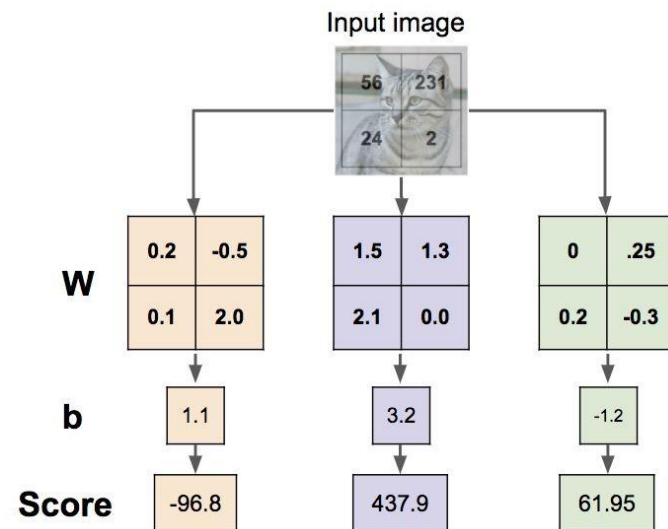
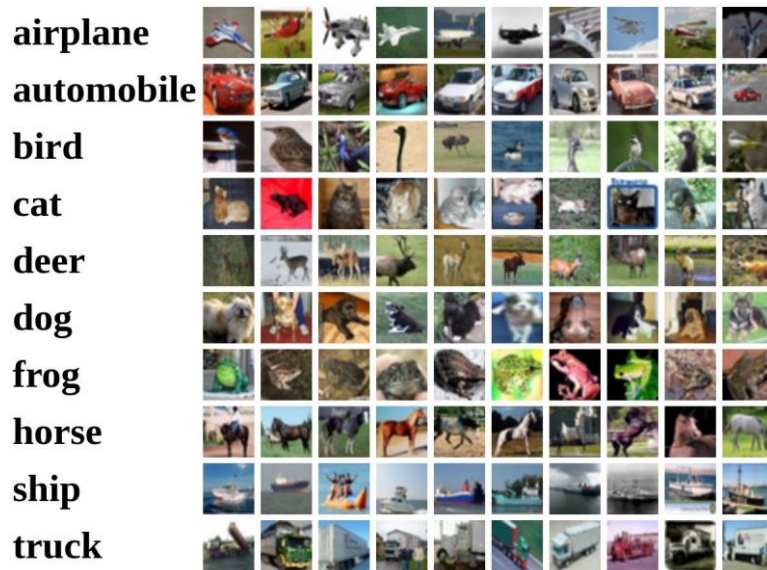
**Class 2:**  
Everything else





# Image Classification

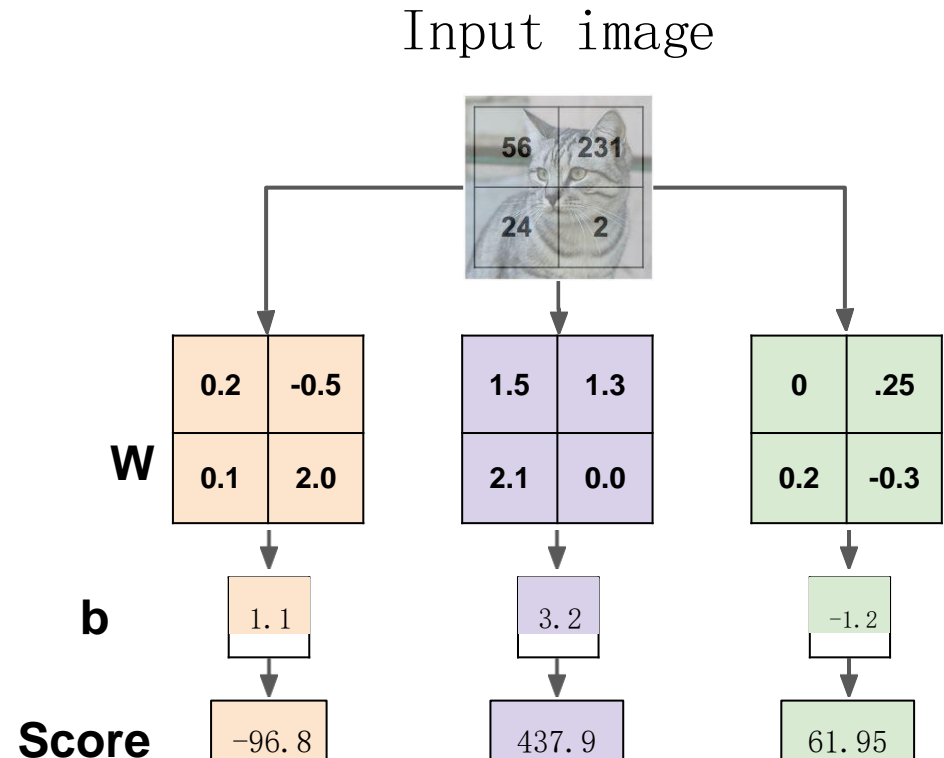
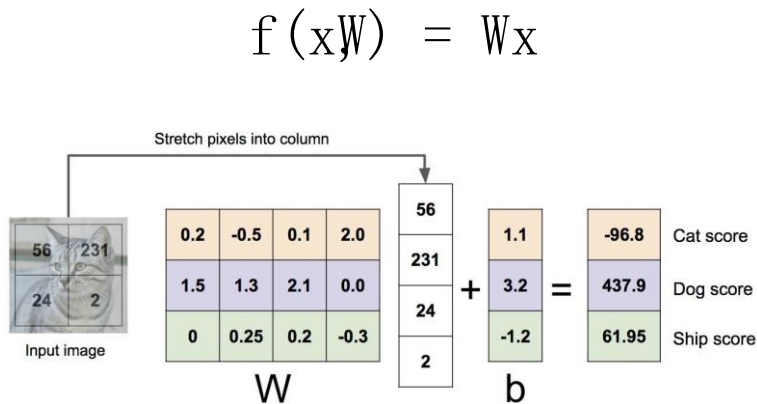
- Interpreting a Linear Classifier: Visual Viewpoint



# Image Classification

- Example with an image with 4 pixels, and 3 classes  
(cat/dog/ship)

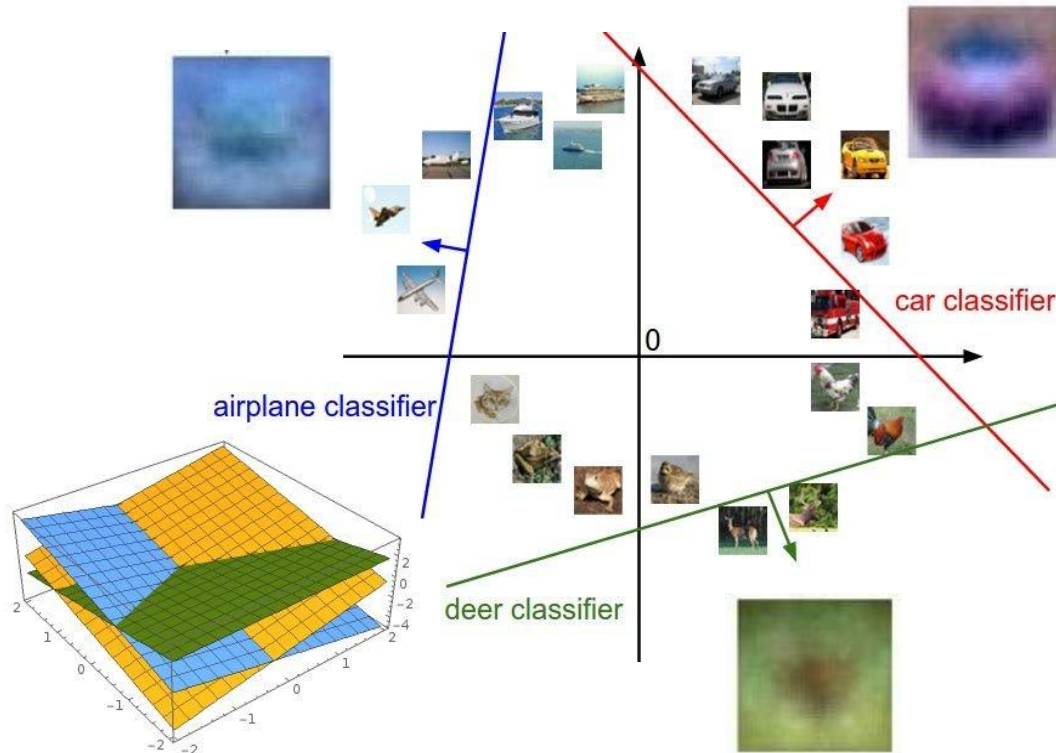
## Algebraic Viewpoint





# Image Classification

- Interpreting a Linear Classifier: Geometric Viewpoint



$$f(xW) = Wx + b$$



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

Array of **32x32x3** numbers  
(3072 numbers total)

Plot created using [Wolfram Cloud](#)

# Image Classification

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



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>

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

Given a dataset of examples  $\{(x_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^N$

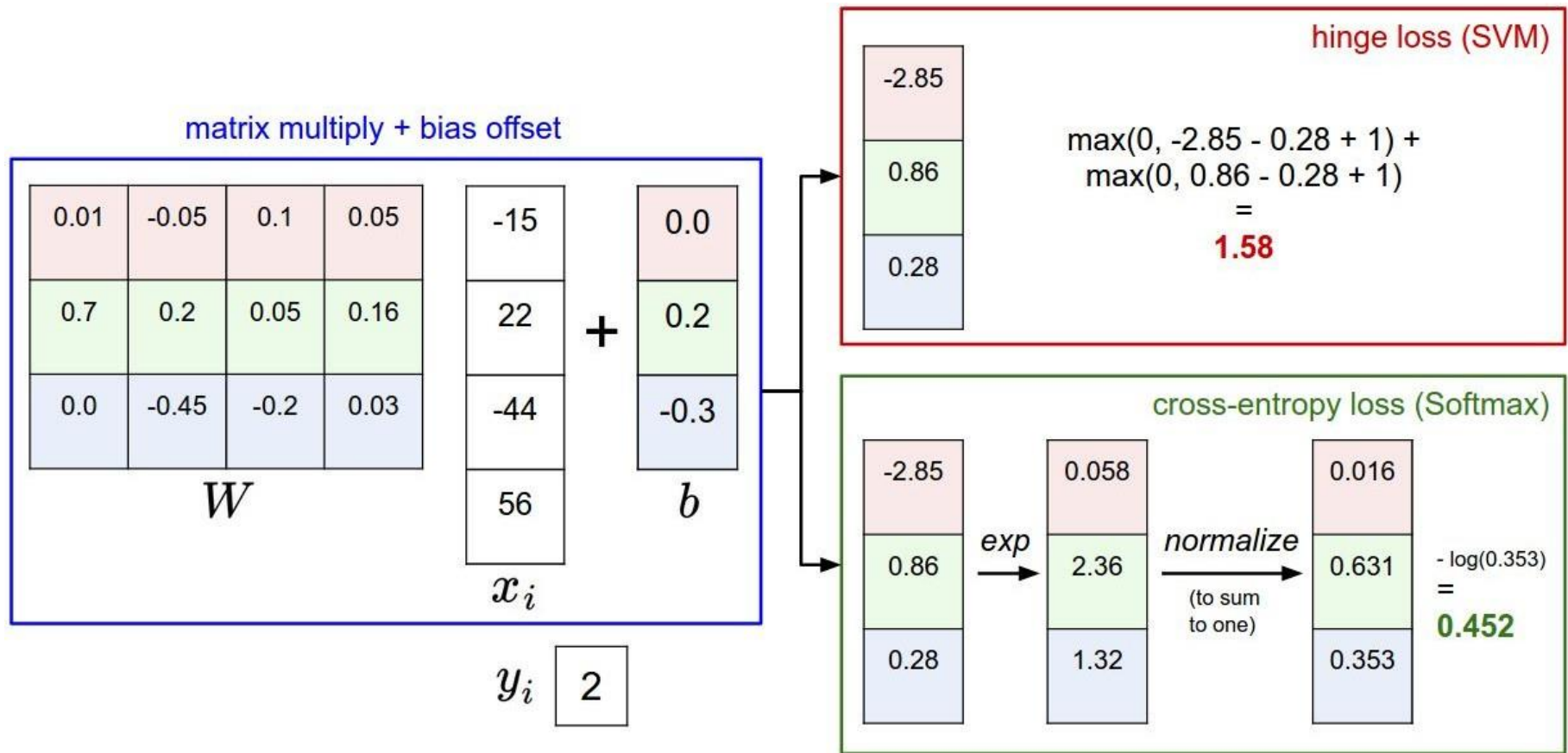
Where  $x_i$  is image and  $y_i$  is (integer) label

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

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

# Image Classification

Softmax vs. SVM  $L_i = -\log\left(\frac{e^{s_{y_i}}}{\sum_j e^{s_j}}\right)$   $L_i = \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, s_j - s_{y_i} + 1)$



# Image Classification

---

$$f(x, W) = Wx$$

$$L = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, f(x_i; W)_j - f(x_i; W)_{y_i} + 1)$$

Q: Suppose that we found a  $W$  such that  $L = 0$ . Is this  $W$  unique?

# Image Classification

---

$$f(x, W) = Wx$$

$$L = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, f(x_i; W)_j - f(x_i; W)_{y_i} + 1)$$

E. g. Suppose that we found a  $W$  such that  $L = 0$ . Is this  $W$  unique?

**No!  $2W$  is also has  $L = 0$ !**

# Image Classification

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



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:	2.9	0	

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

**Before:**

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \max(0, 1.3 - 4.9 + 1) \\
 &\quad + \max(0, 2.0 - 4.9 + 1) \\
 &= \max(0, -2.6) + \max(0, -1.9) \\
 &= 0 + 0 \\
 &= 0
 \end{aligned}$$

**With  $W$  twice as large:**

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \max(0, 2.6 - 9.8 + 1) \\
 &\quad + \max(0, 4.0 - 9.8 + 1) \\
 &= \max(0, -6.2) + \max(0, -4.8) \\
 &= 0 + 0 \\
 &= 0
 \end{aligned}$$



# Image Classification

---

$$f(x, W) = Wx$$

$$L = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, f(x_i; W)_j - f(x_i; W)_{y_i} + 1)$$


E. g. Suppose that we found a  $W$  such that  $L = 0$ . Is this  $W$  unique?

**No!  $2W$  is also has  $L = 0$ !**

**How do we choose between  $W$  and  $2W$ ?**

# Regularization

---

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


**Data loss:** Model  
predictions should  
match training data

# Regularization

---

$$L(W) = \underbrace{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N L_i(f(x_i, W), y_i)}_{\text{Data loss}} + \underbrace{\lambda R(W)}_{\text{Regularization}}$$

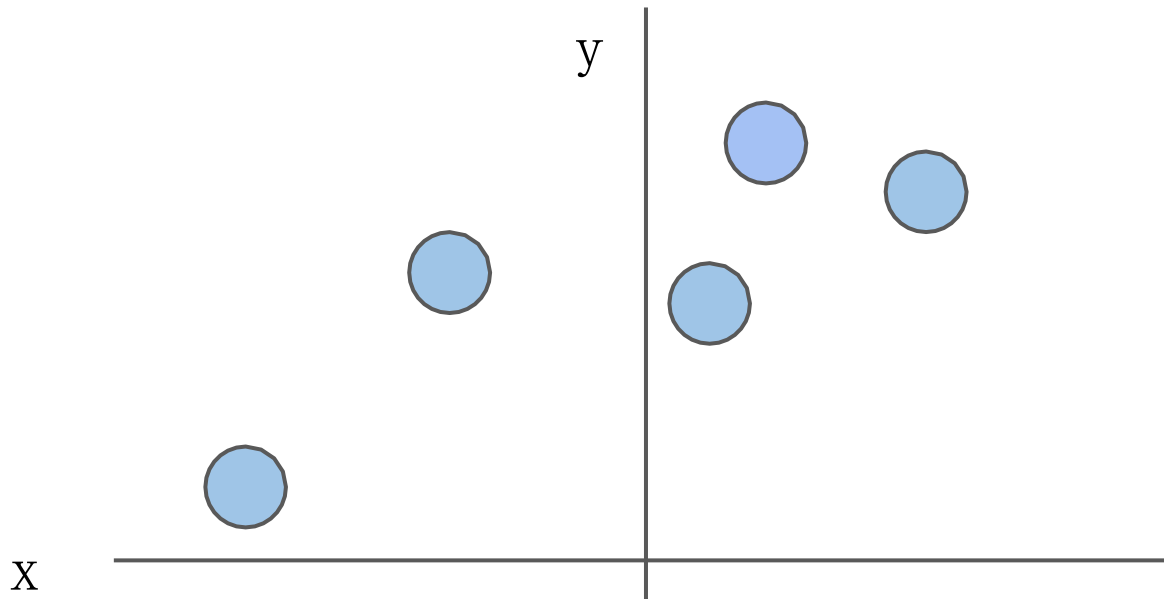
**Data loss:** Model predictions should match training data

**Regularization:** Prevent the model from doing *too* well on training data

# Regularization

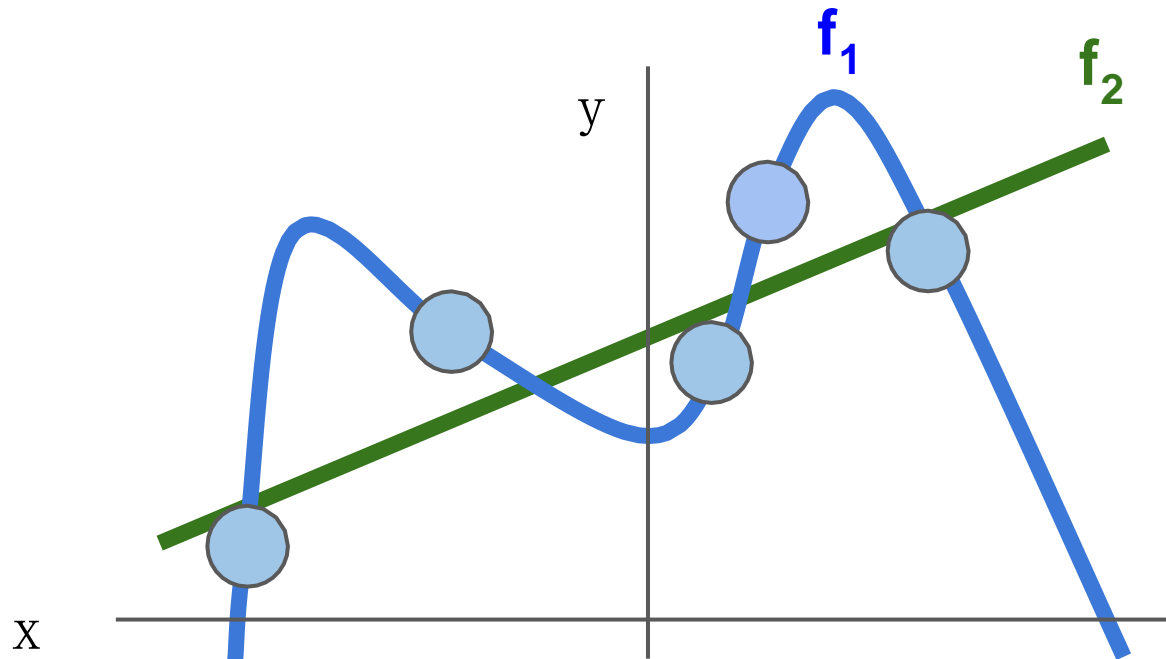
---

- Regularization intuition: toy example training data



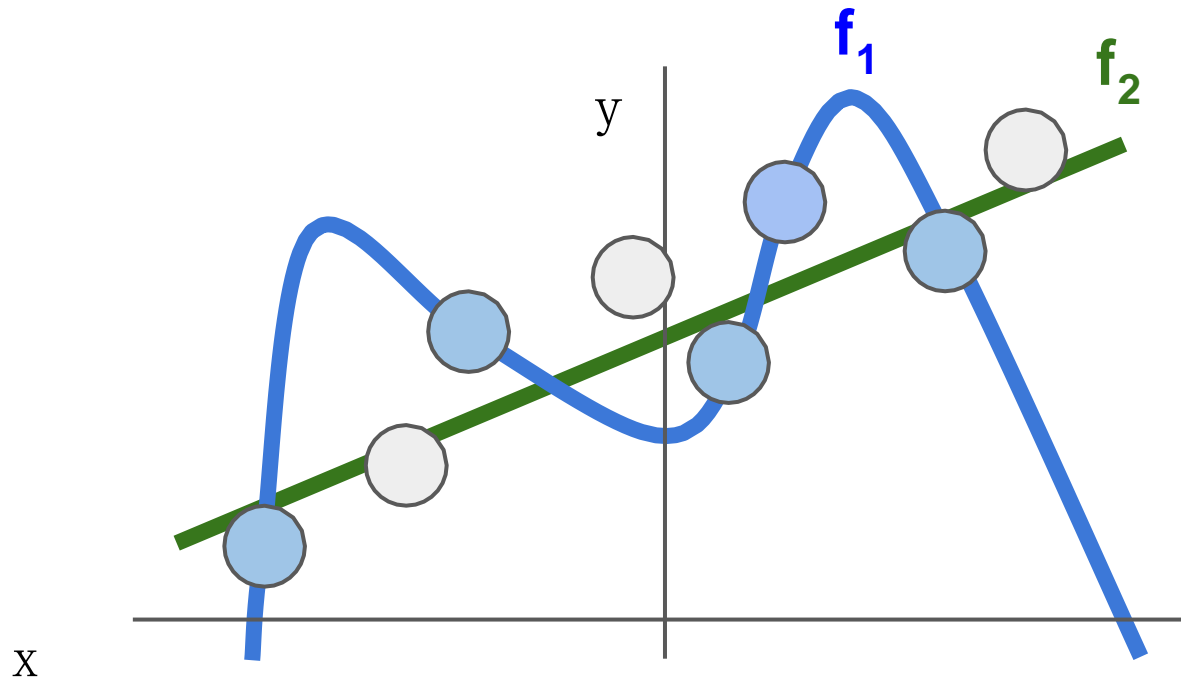
# Regularization

- Regularization intuition: Prefer Simpler Models



# Regularization

- Regularization: Prefer Simpler Models



Regularization pushes against fitting the data *too* well so we don't fit noise in the data



# Regularization

---

$$L(W) = \underbrace{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N L_i(f(x_i, W), y_i)}_{\text{Data loss}} + \underbrace{\lambda R(W)}_{\text{Regularization}}$$

**Data loss:** Model predictions should match training data

**Regularization:** Prevent the model from doing *too* well on training data

**Occam's Razar:** Among multiple competing hypotheses, the simplest is the best, William of Ockham 1285–1347

# Regularization

---

$\lambda$  = regularization  
strength  
(hyperparameter)

$$L(W) = \underbrace{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N L_i(f(x_i, W), y_i)}_{\text{Data loss}} + \underbrace{\lambda R(W)}_{\text{Regularization}}$$

**Data loss:** Model predictions should match training data

**Regularization:** Prevent the model from doing *too* well on training data

# Regularization

$\lambda$  = regularization  
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(hyperparameter)

$$L(W) = \underbrace{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N L_i(f(x_i, W), y_i)}_{\text{Data loss}} + \underbrace{\lambda R(W)}_{\text{Regularization}}$$

**Data loss:** Model predictions should match training data

**Regularization:** Prevent the model from doing *too* well on training data

## Simple examples

L2 regularization:  $R(W) = \sum_k \sum_l W_{k,l}^2$

L1 regularization:  $R(W) = \sum_k \sum_l |W_{k,l}|$

Elastic net (L1+L2):  $R(W) = \sum_k \sum_l \beta W_{k,l}^2 + |W_{k,l}|$

# Regularization

$\lambda$  = regularization  
strength  
(hyperparameter)

$$L(W) = \underbrace{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N L_i(f(x_i, W), y_i)}_{\text{Data loss}} + \underbrace{\lambda R(W)}_{\text{Regularization}}$$

**Data loss:** Model predictions should match training data

**Regularization:** Prevent the model from doing *too* well on training data

## Simple examples

L2 regularization:  $R(W) = \sum_k \sum_l W_{k,l}^2$

L1 regularization:  $R(W) = \sum_k \sum_l |W_{k,l}|$

Elastic net (L1+L2):  $R(W) = \sum_k \sum_l \beta W_{k,l}^2 + |W_{k,l}|$

## More complex:

Dropout

Batch normalization

Stochastic depth, fractional pooling, etc

# Regularization

$$L(W) = \underbrace{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N L_i(f(x_i, W), y_i)}_{\text{Data loss: Model predictions should match training data}} + \underbrace{\lambda R(W)}_{\substack{\lambda = \text{regularization} \\ \text{strength} \\ \text{(hyperparameter)}}}$$

**Data loss:** Model predictions should match training data

**Regularization:** Prevent the model from doing *too* well on training data

Why regularize?

- Express preferences over weights
- Make the model *simple* so it works on test data
- Improve optimization by adding curvature

# Regularization

- Regularization: Expressing Preferences

$$x = [1, 1, 1, 1]$$

$$w_1 = [1, 0, 0, 0]$$

$$w_2 = [0.25, 0.25, 0.25, 0.25]$$

$$w_1^T x = w_2^T x = 1$$

L2 Regularization

$$R(W) = \sum_k \sum_l W_{k,l}^2$$

Which of  $w_1$  or  $w_2$  will  
the L2 regularizer  
prefer?



# Regularization

- Regularization: Expressing Preferences

$$x = [1, 1, 1, 1]$$

$$w_1 = [1, 0, 0, 0]$$

$$w_2 = [0.25, 0.25, 0.25, 0.25]$$

$$w_1^T x = w_2^T x = 1$$

L2 Regularization

$$R(W) = \sum_k \sum_l W_{k,l}^2$$

Which of  $w_1$  or  $w_2$  will the L2 regularizer prefer?

L2 regularization likes to “spread out” the weights

# Regularization

- Regularization: Expressing Preferences

$$x = [1, 1, 1, 1]$$

$$w_1 = [1, 0, 0, 0]$$

$$w_2 = [0.25, 0.25, 0.25, 0.25]$$

$$w_1^T x = w_2^T x = 1$$

L2 Regularization

$$R(W) = \sum_k \sum_l W_{k,l}^2$$

Which of  $w_1$  or  $w_2$  will the L2 regularizer prefer?

L2 regularization likes to “spread out” the weights

Which one would L1 regularization prefer?

# Regularization

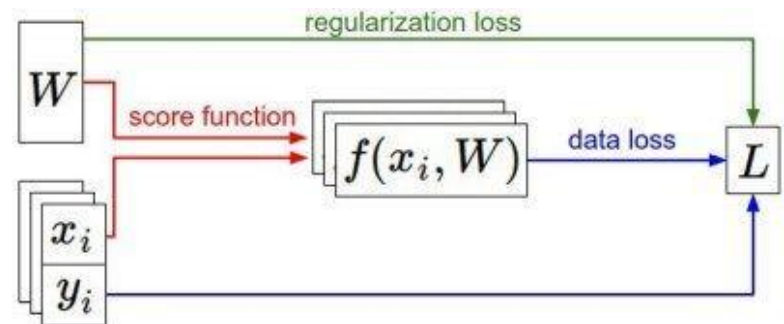
## Recap

- We have some dataset of  $(x, y)$
- We have a **score function**:  $s = f(x; W) \stackrel{\text{e. g.}}{=} Wx$
- We have a **loss function**:

$$L_i = -\log\left(\frac{e^{s_{y_i}}}{\sum_j e^{s_j}}\right) \text{ Softmax}$$

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

$$L = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N L_i + R(W) \text{ Full loss}$$



# Regularization

## Recap

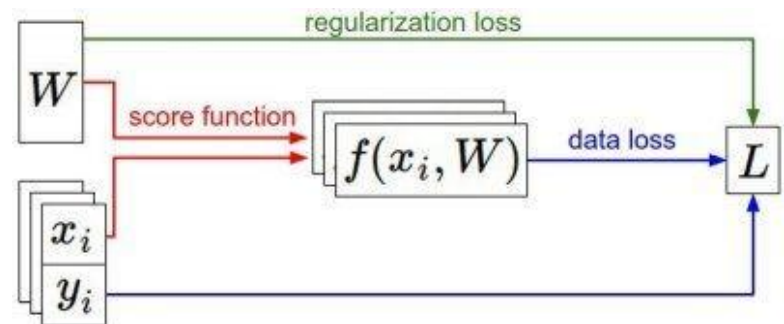
How do we find the best  $W$ ?

- We have some dataset of  $(x, y)$
- We have a **score function**:  $s = f(x; W) \stackrel{\text{e. g.}}{=} Wx$
- We have a **loss function**:

$$L_i = -\log\left(\frac{e^{s_{y_i}}}{\sum_j e^{s_j}}\right) \text{ Softmax}$$

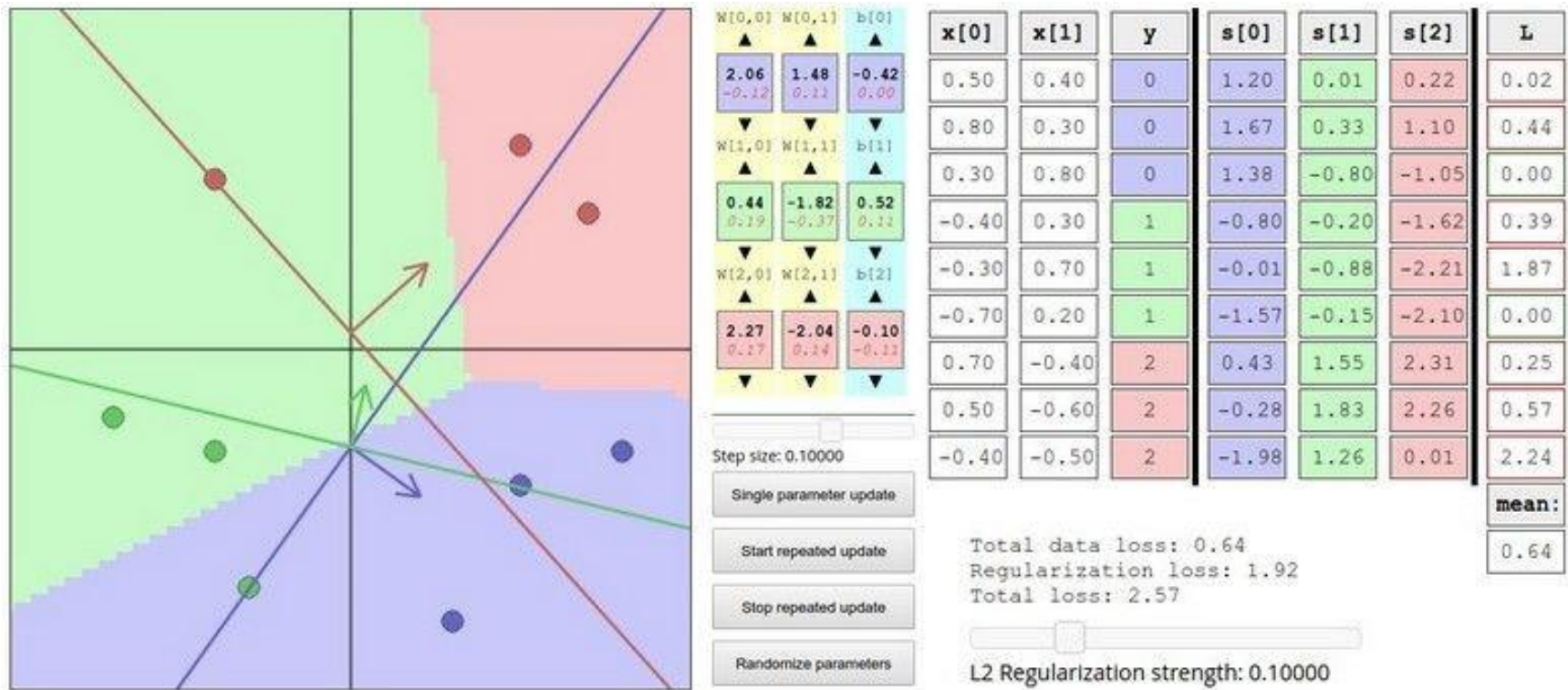
$$L_i = \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, s_j - s_{y_i} + 1) \text{ SVM}$$

$$L = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N L_i + R(W) \text{ Full loss}$$



# Regularization

- Interactive Web Demo



<http://vision.stanford.edu/teaching/cs231n-demos/linear-classify/>

# *Optimization*



# Optimization

---



[Walking man image](#) is [CC0 1.0](#) public domain



# Optimization

---



[Walking man image](#) is [CC0 1.0](#) public domain

# Optimization

- Strategy #1: A first very bad idea solution: **Random search**

```
# assume X_train is the data where each column is an example (e.g. 3073 x 50,000)
# assume Y_train are the labels (e.g. 1D array of 50,000)
# assume the function L evaluates the loss function

bestloss = float("inf") # Python assigns the highest possible float value
for num in xrange(1000):
    W = np.random.randn(10, 3073) * 0.0001 # generate random parameters
    loss = L(X_train, Y_train, W) # get the loss over the entire training set
    if loss < bestloss: # keep track of the best solution
        bestloss = loss
        bestW = W
    print 'in attempt %d the loss was %f, best %f' % (num, loss, bestloss)

# prints:
# in attempt 0 the loss was 9.401632, best 9.401632
# in attempt 1 the loss was 8.959668, best 8.959668
# in attempt 2 the loss was 9.044034, best 8.959668
# in attempt 3 the loss was 9.278948, best 8.959668
# in attempt 4 the loss was 8.857370, best 8.857370
# in attempt 5 the loss was 8.943151, best 8.857370
# in attempt 6 the loss was 8.605604, best 8.605604
# ... (truncated: continues for 1000 lines)
```

# Optimization

- Lets see how well this works on the test set...

```
# Assume X_test is [3073 x 10000], Y_test [10000 x 1]
scores = Wbest.dot(Xte_cols) # 10 x 10000, the class scores for all test examples
# find the index with max score in each column (the predicted class)
Yte_predict = np.argmax(scores, axis = 0)
# and calculate accuracy (fraction of predictions that are correct)
np.mean(Yte_predict == Yte)
# returns 0.1555
```

15.5% accuracy! not  
bad! (SOM is ~99.7%)



# Optimization

---

- Strategy #2: **Follow the slope**



# Optimization

---

- Strategy #2: **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**.

# Optimization

current W:

[0.34,  
-1.11,  
0.78,  
0.12,  
0.55,  
2.81,  
-3.1,  
-1.5,  
0.33, ...]

**loss 1.25347**

gradient dW:

[?,  
?,  
?,  
?,  
?,  
?,  
?,  
?,  
?, ...  
]

# Optimization

current  $W$ :

[0.34,  
-1.11,  
0.78,  
0.12,  
0.55,  
2.81,  
-3.1,  
-1.5,  
0.33, ...]

**loss 1.25347**

$W + h$  (first  
dim):

[0.34 +  
**0.0001**,  
-1.11,  
0.78,  
0.12,  
0.55,  
2.81,  
-3.1,  
-1.5,  
0.33, ...]

**loss 1.25322**

gradient  $dW$ :

[?,  
?,  
?,  
?,  
?,  
?,  
?,  
?,  
?, ...  
]



# Optimization

current W:

[0.34,  
-1.11,  
0.78,  
0.12,  
0.55,  
2.81,  
-3.1,  
-1.5,  
0.33, ...]

**loss 1.25347**

**W + h** (first  
dim):

[0.34 +  
**0.0001**,  
-1.11,  
0.78,  
0.12,  
0.55,  
2.81,  
-3.1,  
-1.5,  
0.33, ...]

**loss 1.25322**

gradient dW:

[-  
**2.5**,  
?,

$$(1.25322 - 1.25347) / 0.0001 = -2.5$$

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

?,  
?,  
...]

# Optimization

current **W**:

[0.34,  
-1.11,  
0.78,  
0.12,  
0.55,  
2.81,  
-3.1,  
-1.5,  
0.33, ...]

**loss 1.25347**

**W + h** (second  
dim):

[0.34,  
-1.11 +  
**0.0001**,  
0.78,  
0.12,  
0.55,  
2.81,  
-3.1,  
-1.5,  
0.33, ...]

**loss 1.25353**

**gradient dW:**

[ -  
2.5,  
?,  
?,  
?,  
?,  
?,  
?,  
?,  
?, ...  
]

# Optimization

current **W**:

[0.34,  
-1.11,  
0.78,  
0.12,  
0.55,  
2.81,  
-3.1,  
-1.5,  
0.33, ...]

**loss 1.25347**

**W + h** (second  
dim):

[0.34,  
-1.11 +  
**0.0001**,  
0.78,  
0.12,  
0.55,  
2.81,  
-3.1,  
-1.5,  
0.33, ...]

**loss 1.25353**

gradient **dW**:

[-  
2.5,  
**0.6**,  
?,  
...]

$$(1.25353 - 1.25347) / 0.0001 = 0.6$$

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

?, ...  
]

# Optimization

current  $W$ :

[0.34,  
-1.11,  
0.78,  
0.12,  
0.55,  
2.81,  
-3.1,  
-1.5,  
0.33, ...]

**loss 1.25347**

$W + h$  (third  
dim):

[0.34,  
-1.11,  
0.78 +  
**0.0001**,  
0.12,  
0.55,  
2.81,  
-3.1,  
-1.5,  
0.33, ...]

**loss 1.25347**

gradient  $dW$ :

[-  
2.5,  
0.6,  
?,  
?,  
?,  
?,  
?,  
?,  
?, ...  
]

# Optimization

current W:

[0.34,  
-1.11,  
0.78,  
0.12,  
0.55,  
2.81,  
-3.1,  
-1.5,  
0.33, ...]

**loss 1.25347**

**W + h** (third  
dim):

[0.34,  
-1.11,  
0.78 +  
**0.0001**,  
0.12,  
0.55,  
2.81,  
-3.1,  
-1.5,  
0.33, ...]

**loss 1.25347**

gradient dW:

[-  
2.5,  
0.6,  
**0**,

$$(1.25347 - 1.25347) / 0.0001 = 0$$

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

?,  
...]

# Optimization

current  $W$ :

[0.34,  
-1.11,  
0.78,  
0.12,  
0.55,  
2.81,  
-3.1,  
-1.5,  
0.33, ...]

**loss 1.25347**

$W + h$  (third  
dim):

[0.34,  
-1.11,  
0.78 +  
**0.0001**,  
0.12,  
0.55,  
2.81,  
-3.1,  
-1.5,  
0.33, ...]

**loss 1.25347**

gradient  $dW$ :

[-  
2.5,  
0.6,  
**0**,

## Numeric Gradient

- Slow! Need to loop over all dimensions
- Approximate

?,  
...]

# Optimization

---

This is silly The loss is just a function of  $W$ :

$$L = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N L_i + \sum_k W_k^2$$

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

$$s = f(x; W) = Wx$$

want  $\nabla_W L$

# Optimization

This is silly The loss is just a function of  $W$ :

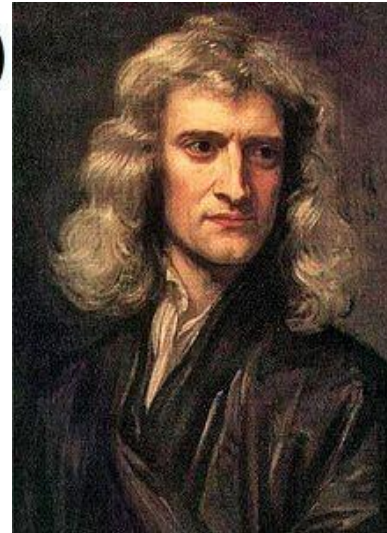
$$L = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N L_i + \sum_k W_k^2$$

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

$$s = f(x; W) = Wx$$

want  $\nabla_W L$

Use calculus to compute an  
**analytic gradient**



[This image](#) is in the public domain



[This image](#) is in the public domain



# Optimization

current W:

[0.34,  
-1.11,  
0.78,  
0.12,  
0.55,  
2.81,  
-3.1,  
-1.5,  
0.33, ...]

**loss 1.25347**

$dW = \dots$   
(some  
function data  
and W)



gradient dW:

[-2.5,  
0.6,  
0,  
0.2,  
0.7,  
-0.5,  
1.1,  
1.3,  
-2.1,  
...]

# Optimization

---

In summary:

- Numerical gradient: approximate, slow easy to write
- Analytic gradient: exact, fast, error-prone

=>

In practice: Always use analytic gradient, but check implementation with numerical gradient. This is called a **gradient check**.

# Optimization

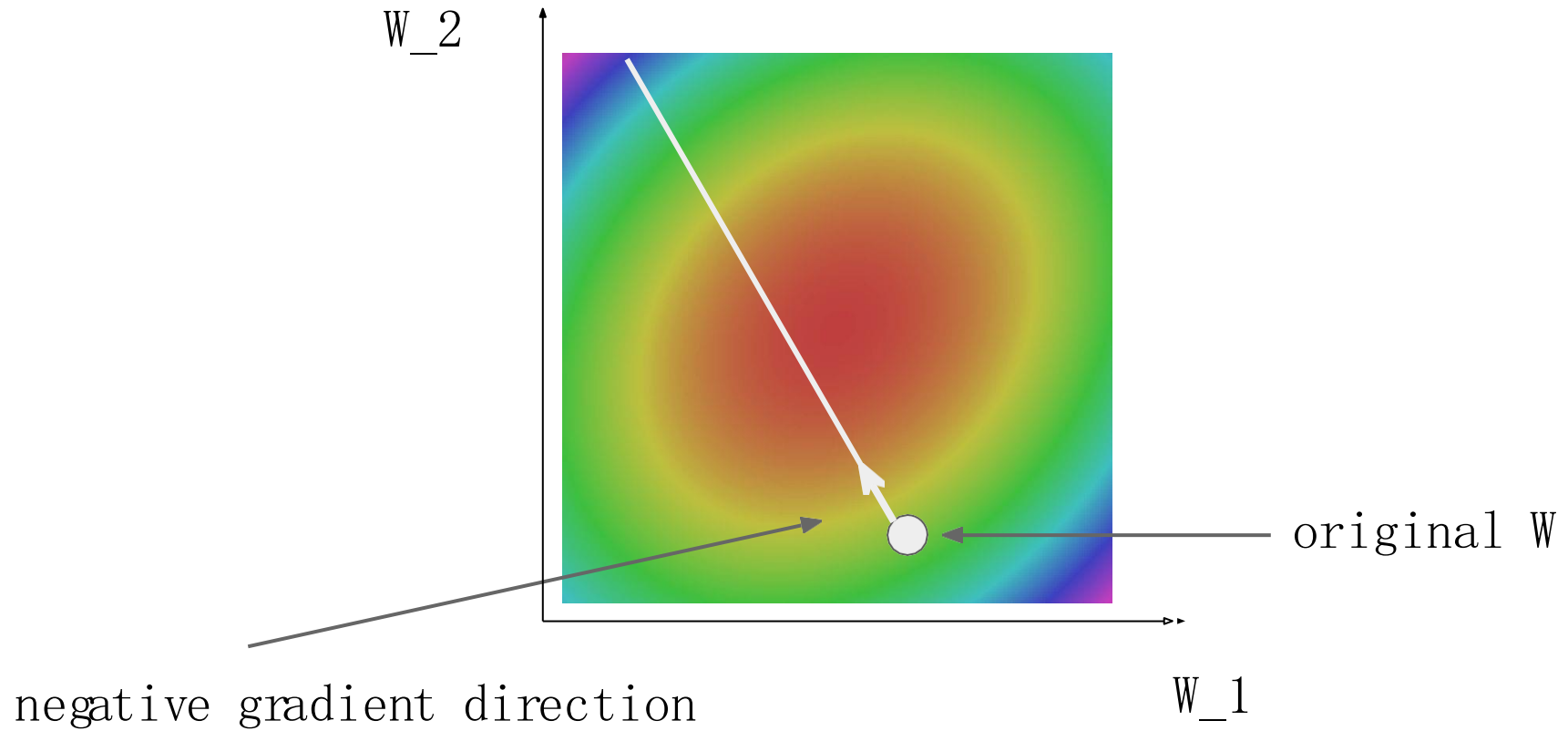
---

- Gradient Descent

```
# Vanilla Gradient Descent

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

# Optimization



# 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:
```

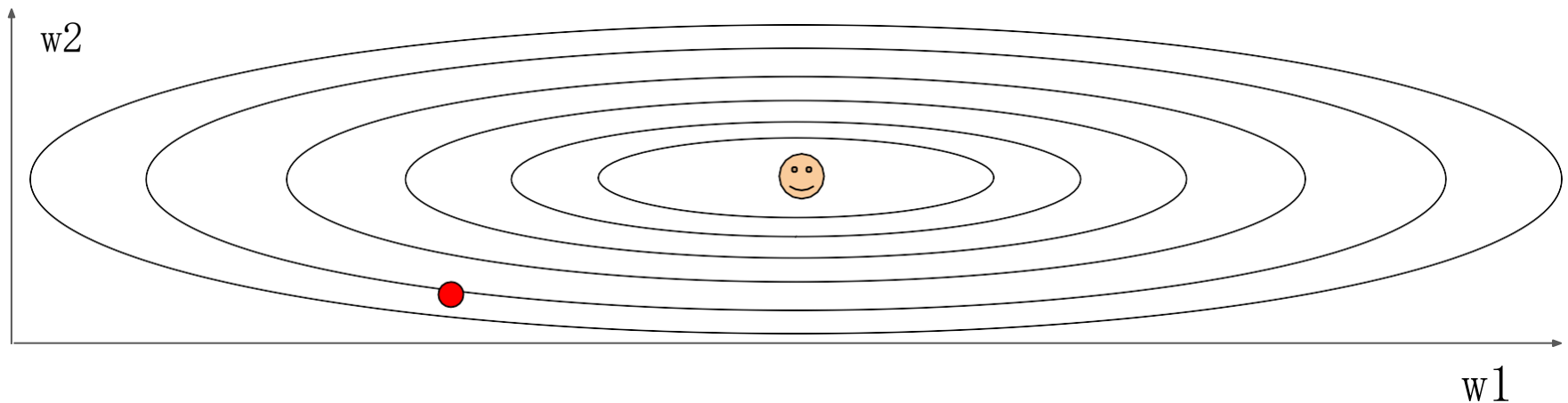
```
    data_batch = sample_training_data(data, 256) # sample 256 examples
```

```
    weights_grad = evaluate_gradient(loss_fun, data_batch, weights)
```

```
    weights += - step_size * weights_grad # perform parameter update
```

# Optimization: Problem #1 with SGD

What if loss changes quickly in one direction and slowly in another? What does gradient descent do?

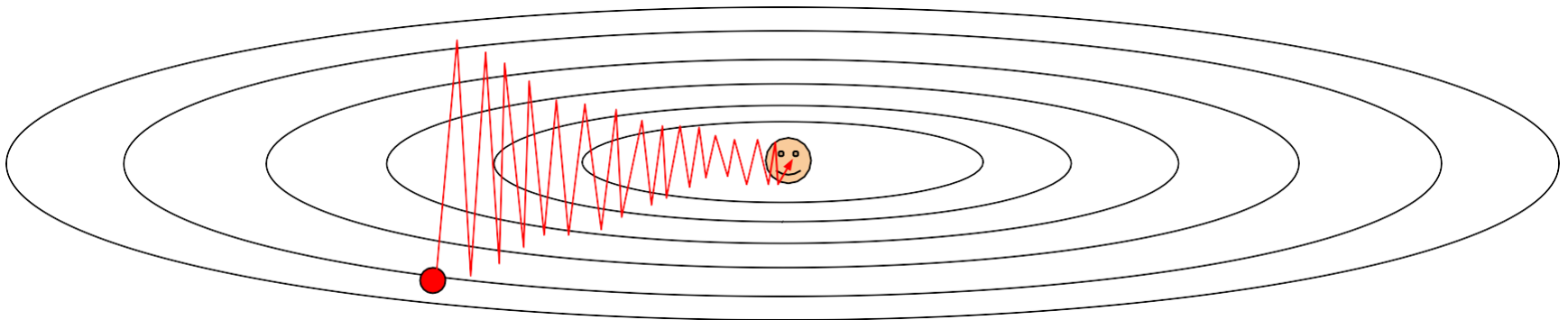


Aside: Loss function has high **condition number**: ratio of largest to smallest singular value of the Hessian matrix is large.

# Optimization: Problem #1 with SGD

What if loss changes quickly in one direction and slowly in another? What does gradient descent do?

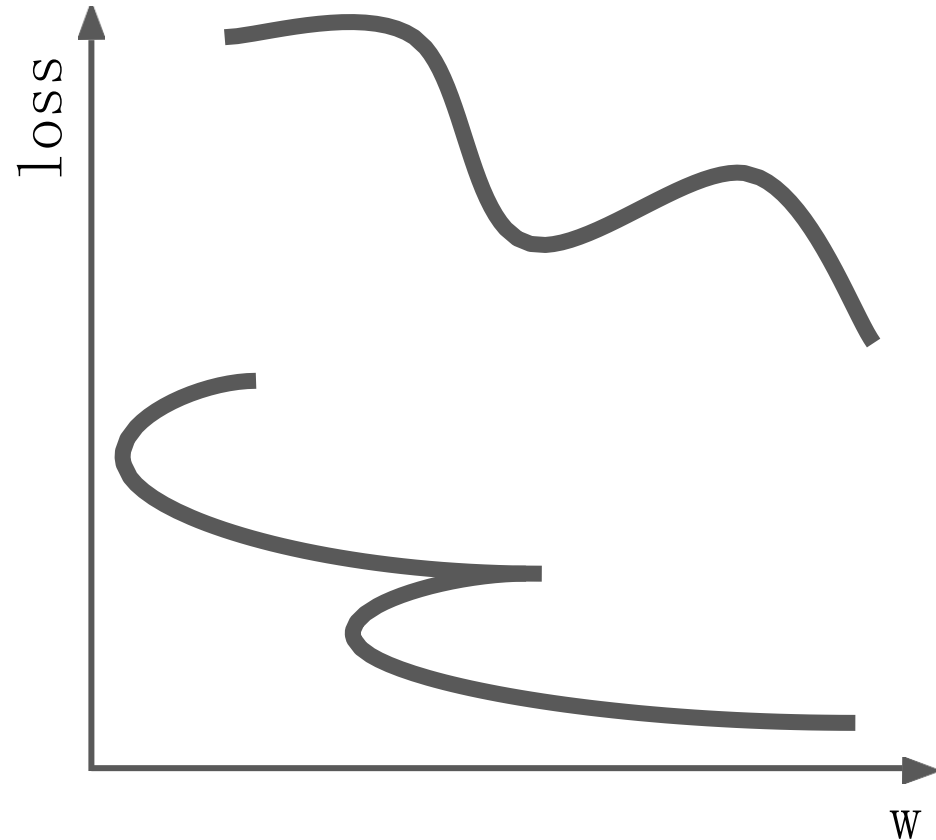
Very slow progress along shallow dimension, jitter along steep direction



Loss function has high **condition number**: ratio of largest to smallest singular value of the Hessian matrix is large

# Optimization: Problem #2 with SGD

What if the  
loss function  
has a **local  
minima** or  
**saddle point**?

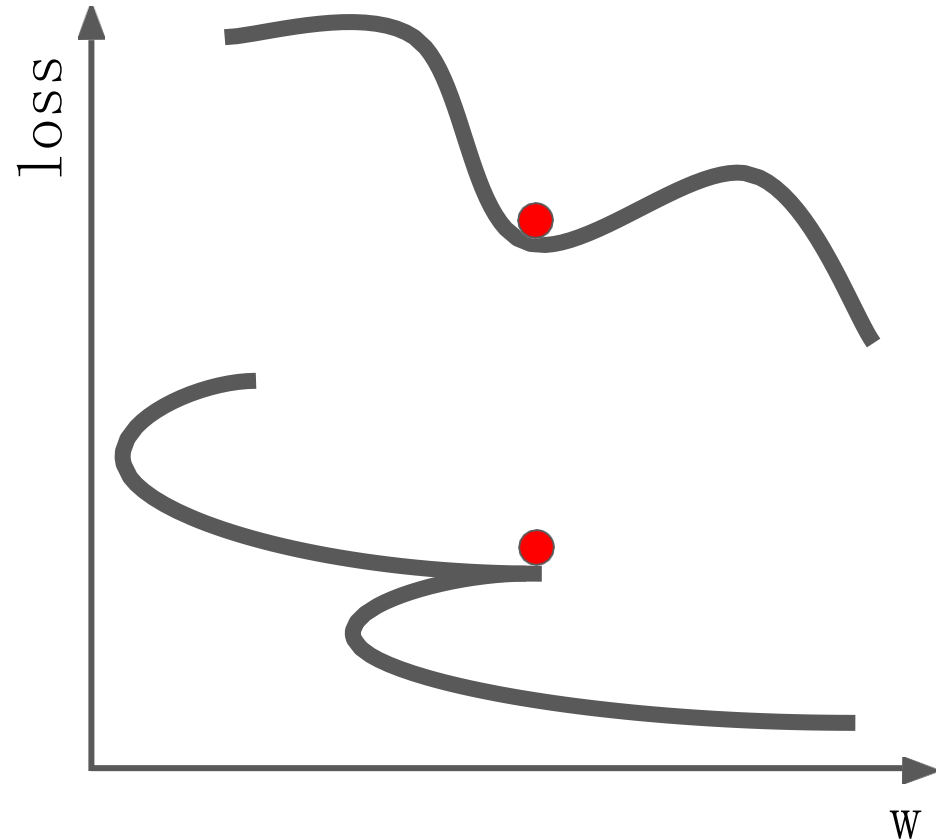




# Optimization: Problem #2 with SGD

What if the loss function has a **local minima** or **saddle point**?

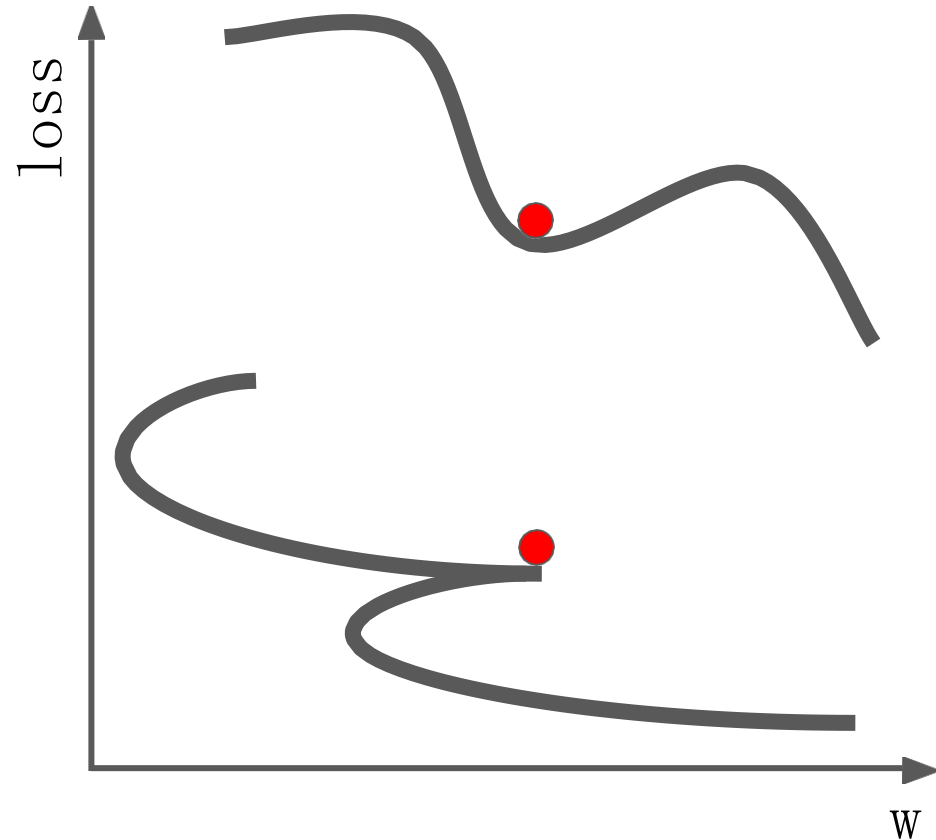
Zero gradient,  
gradient descent  
gets stuck



# Optimization: Problem #2 with SGD

What if the loss function has a **local minima** or **saddle point**?

Saddle points  
much more common  
in high  
dimension



Dauphin et al, "Identifying and attacking the saddle point problem in high-dimensional non-convex optimization", NIPS 2014

# Optimization: Problem #2 with SGD

**saddle point** in two dimension

$$f(x, y) = x^2 - y^2$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x}(x^2 - y^2) = 2x \rightarrow 2(0) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial y}(x^2 - y^2) = -2y \rightarrow -2(0) = 0$$

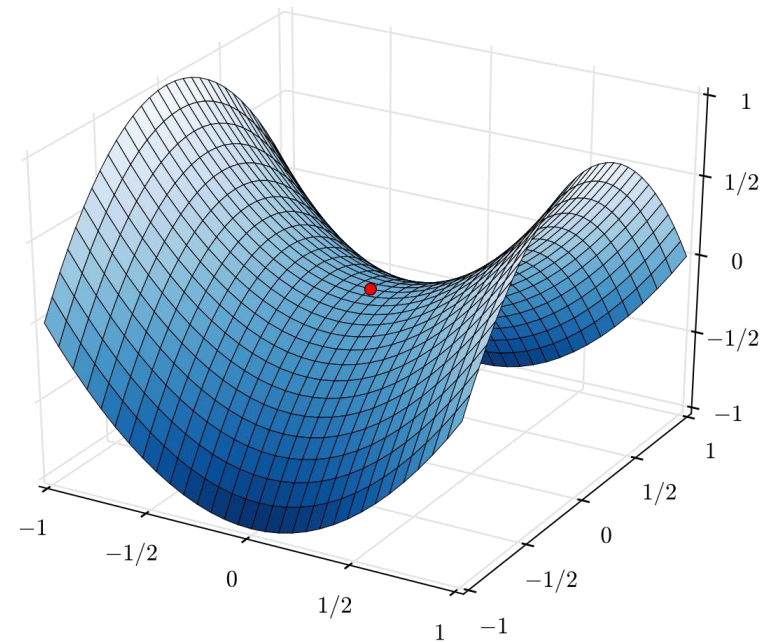


Image source:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saddle\\_point](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saddle_point)

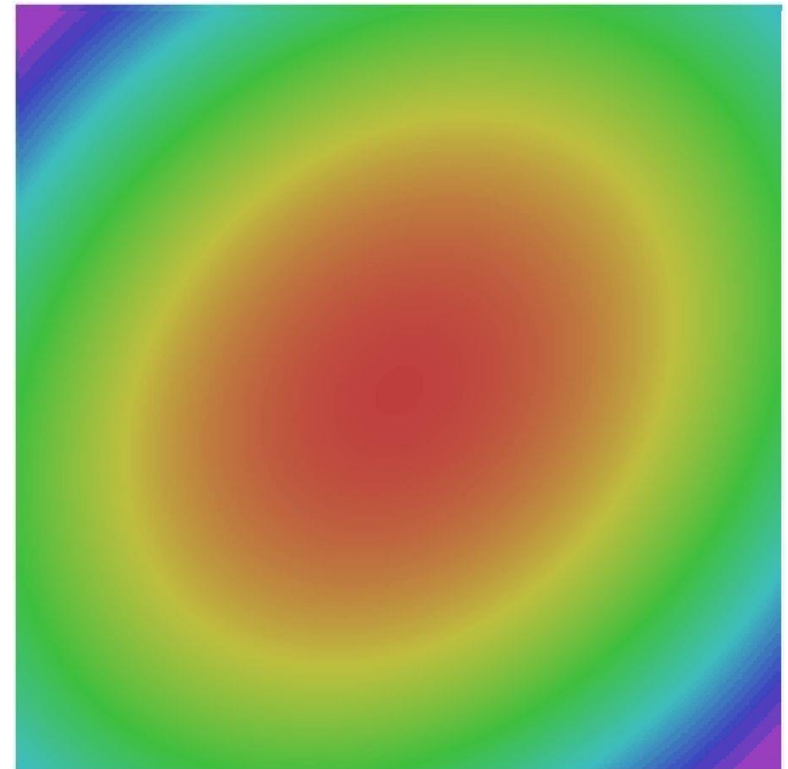
# Optimization: Problem #3 with SGD

---

Our gradients come from minibatches so they can be noisy!

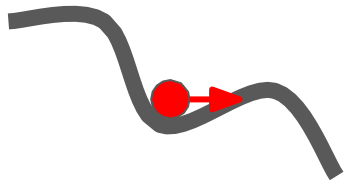
$$L(W) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N L_i(x_i, y_i, W)$$

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

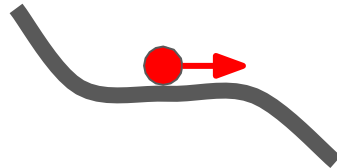


# SGD + Momentum

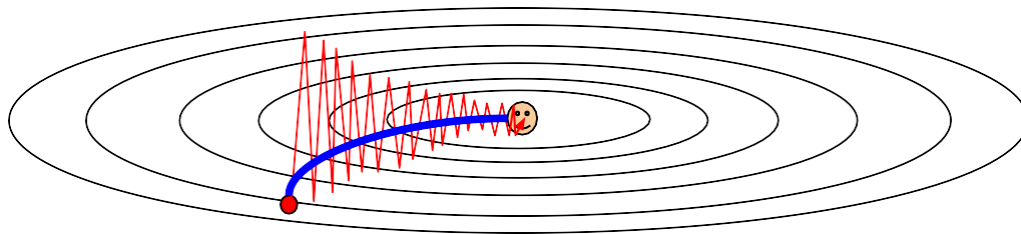
Local Minima



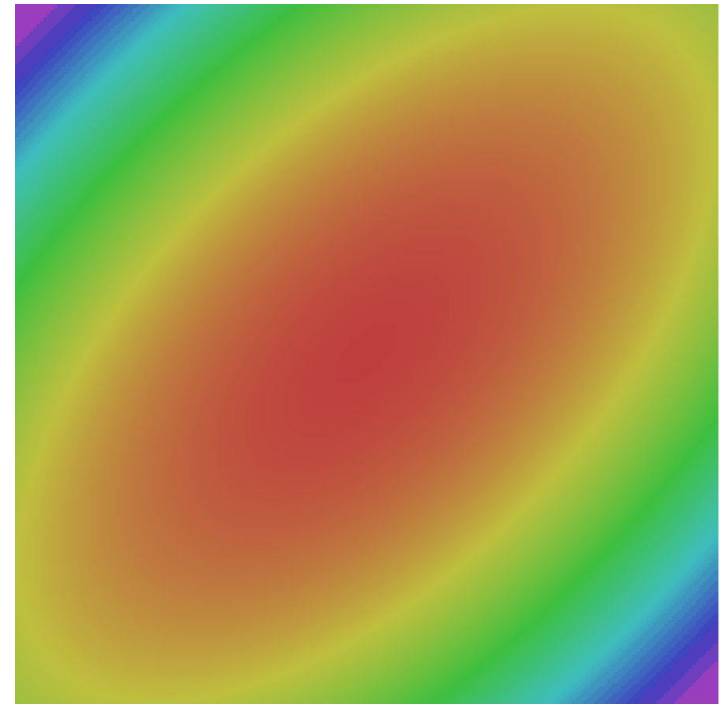
Saddle points



Poor Conditioning



Gradient Noise



SGD

SGD+Momentum

# SGD: the simple two line update code

---

$$x_{t+1} = x_t - \alpha \nabla f(x_t)$$

```
while True:  
    dx = compute_gradient(x)  
    x -= learning_rate * dx
```

# SGD + Momentum

continue moving in the general direction as the previous iterations

SGD

$$x_{t+1} = x_t - \alpha \nabla f(x_t)$$

```
while True:
    dx = compute_gradient(x)
    x -= learning_rate * dx
```

SGD+Momentum

$$v_{t+1} = \rho v_t + \nabla f(x_t)$$

$$x_{t+1} = x_t - \alpha v_{t+1}$$

```
vx = 0
while True:
    dx = compute_gradient(x)
    vx = rho * vx + dx
    x -= learning_rate * vx
```

- Build up “velocity” as a running mean of gradients
- Rho gives “friction”; typically rho=0.9 or 0.99

# SGD + Momentum

alternative equivalent formulation

SGD+Momentum

$$v_{t+1} = \rho v_t - \alpha \nabla f(x_t)$$

$$x_{t+1} = x_t + v_{t+1}$$

```
vx = 0
while True:
    dx = compute_gradient(x)
    vx = rho * vx - learning_rate * dx
    x += vx
```

SGD+Momentum

$$v_{t+1} = \rho v_t + \nabla f(x_t)$$

$$x_{t+1} = x_t - \alpha v_{t+1}$$

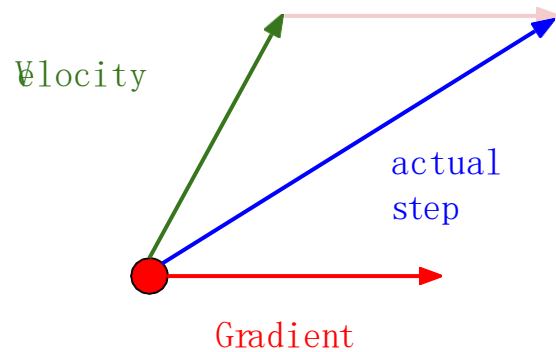
```
vx = 0
while True:
    dx = compute_gradient(x)
    vx = rho * vx + dx
    x -= learning_rate * vx
```

You may see SGD+Momentum formulated different ways,  
but they are equivalent – give same sequence of  $x$



# SGD + Momentum

Momentum update:



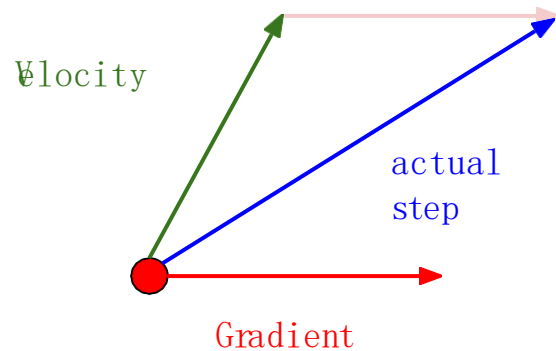
Combine gradient at current point with velocity to get step used to update weights

Nesterov, "A method of solving a convex programming problem with convergence rate  $O(1/k^2)$ ", 1983  
Nesterov, "Introductory lectures on convex optimization: a basic course", 2004

Sutskever et al, "On the importance of initialization and momentum in deep learning", ICML 2013

# Nesterov Momentum

Momentum update:

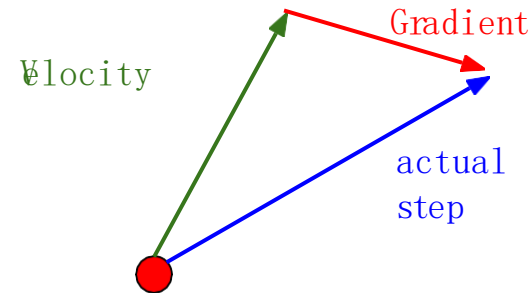


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Nesterov Momentum

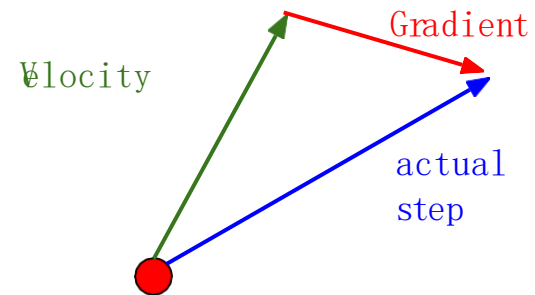


"Look ahead" to the point where updating using velocity would take us; compute gradient there and mix it with velocity to get actual update direction

# Nesterov Momentum

$$\begin{aligned}v_{t+1} &= \rho v_t - \alpha \nabla f(x_t + \rho v_t) \\x_{t+1} &= x_t + v_{t+1}\end{aligned}$$

Annoying, usually we want update in terms of  $x_t, \nabla f(x_t)$



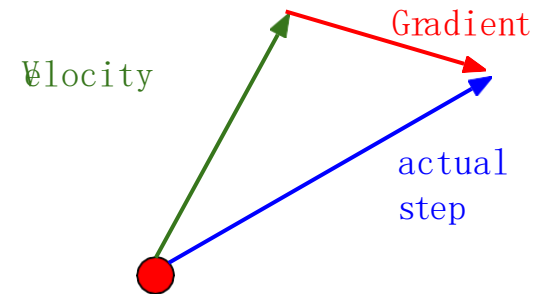
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Annoying, usually we want update in terms of  $x_t, \nabla f(x_t)$

Change of variables  $\tilde{x}_t = x_t + \rho v_t$  and rearrange:



“Look ahead” to the point where updating using velocity would take us; compute gradient there and mix it with velocity to get actual update direction

<https://cs231n.github.io/neural-networks-3/>

# Nesterov Momentum

$$v_{t+1} = \rho v_t - \alpha \nabla f(x_t + \rho v_t)$$

$$x_{t+1} = x_t + v_{t+1}$$

Annoying, usually we want update in terms of  $x_t, \nabla f(x_t)$

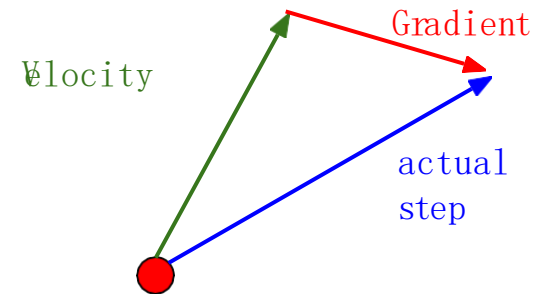
Change of variables  $\tilde{x}_t = x_t + \rho v_t$  and rearrange:

$$v_{t+1} = \rho v_t - \alpha \nabla f(\tilde{x}_t)$$

$$\tilde{x}_{t+1} = \tilde{x}_t - \rho v_t + (1 + \rho)v_{t+1}$$

$$= \tilde{x}_t + v_{t+1} + \rho(v_{t+1} - v_t)$$

<https://cs231n.github.io/neural-networks-3/>



“Look ahead” to the point where updating using velocity would take us; compute gradient there and mix it with velocity to get actual update direction

# AdaGrad

---

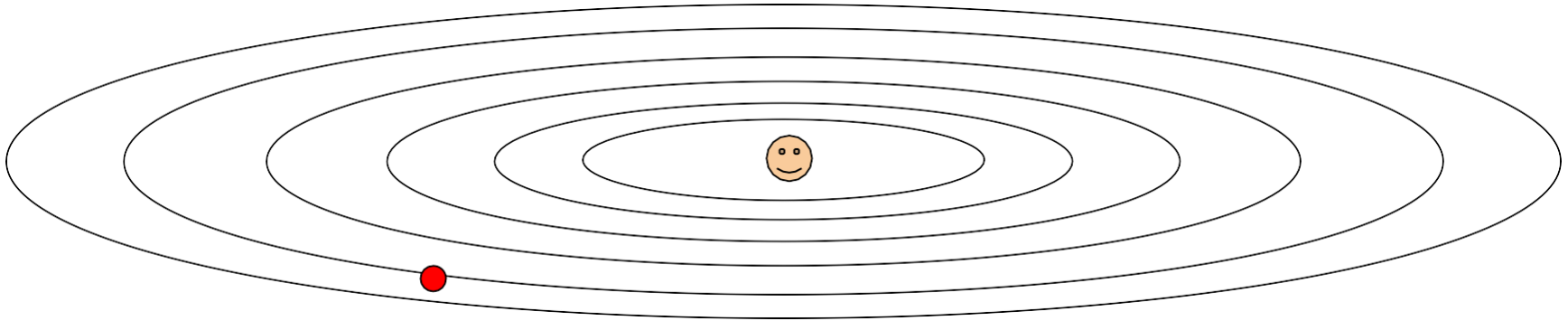
```
grad_squared = 0
while True:
    dx = compute_gradient(x)
    grad_squared += dx * dx
    x -= learning_rate * dx / (np.sqrt(grad_squared) + 1e-7)
```

Added element-wise scaling of the gradient based on the historical sum of squares in each dimension

“Per-parameter learning rates” or  
“adaptive learning rates”

# AdaGrad

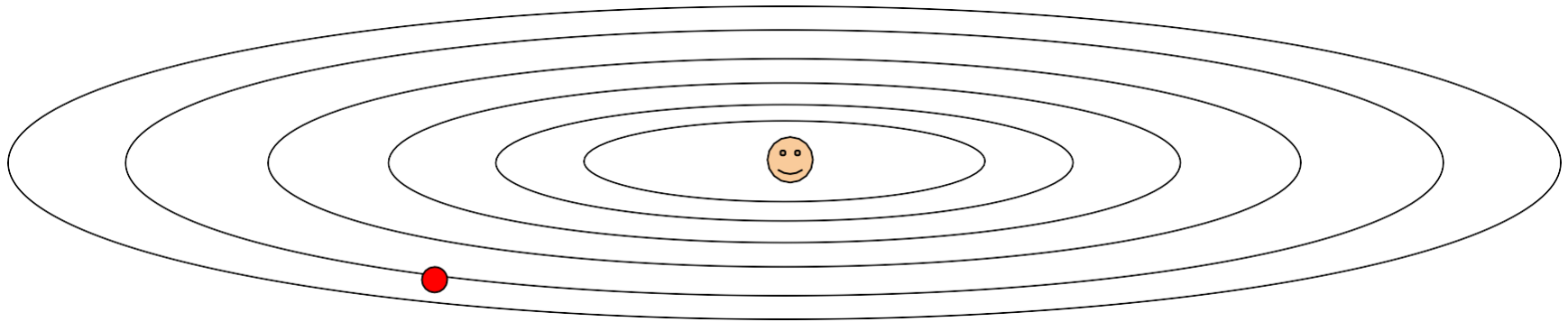
```
grad_squared = 0
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```



Q: What happens with AdaGrad?

# AdaGrad

```
grad_squared = 0
while True:
    dx = compute_gradient(x)
    grad_squared += dx * dx
    x -= learning_rate * dx / (np.sqrt(grad_squared) + 1e-7)
```



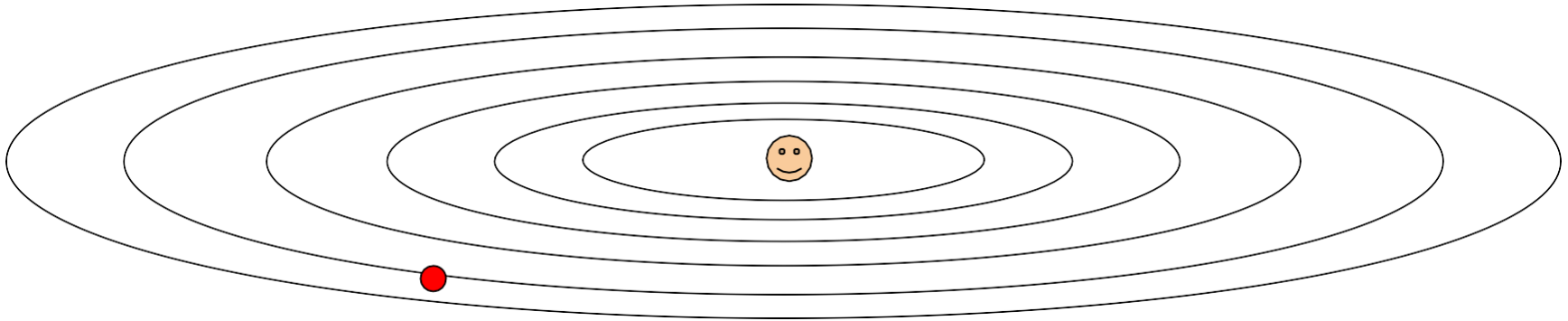
Q: What happens with AdaGrad?

Progress along “steep” directions is damped; progress along “flat” directions is accelerated



# AdaGrad

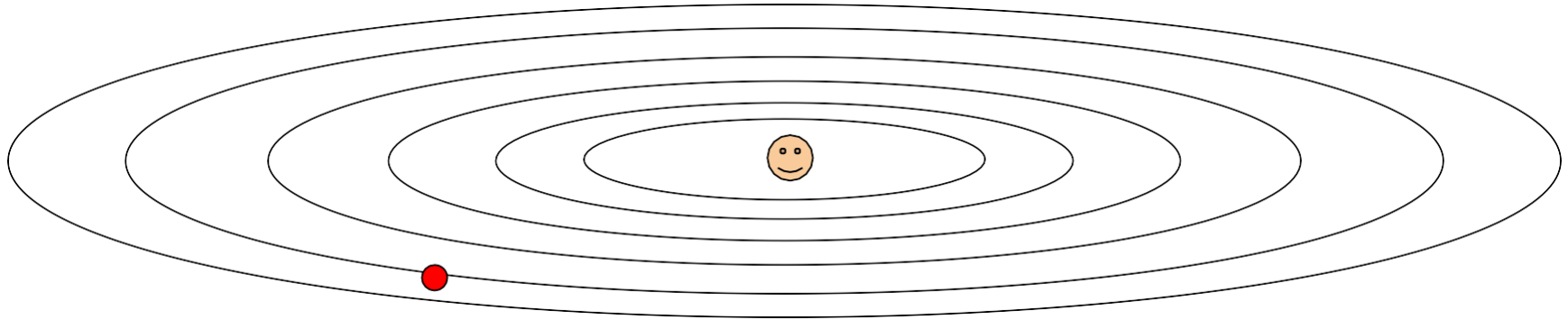
```
grad_squared = 0
while True:
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    grad_squared += dx * dx
    x -= learning_rate * dx / (np.sqrt(grad_squared) + 1e-7)
```



Q2: What happens to the step size over long time?

# AdaGrad

```
grad_squared = 0
while True:
    dx = compute_gradient(x)
    grad_squared += dx * dx
    x -= learning_rate * dx / (np.sqrt(grad_squared) + 1e-7)
```



Q2: What happens to the step size over long time?

Decays to zero

# RMSProp: “Leaky AdaGrad”

AdaGrad

```
grad_squared = 0
while True:
    dx = compute_gradient(x)
    grad_squared += dx * dx
    x -= learning_rate * dx / (np.sqrt(grad_squared) + 1e-7)
```



RMSProp

```
grad_squared = 0
while True:
    dx = compute_gradient(x)
    grad_squared = decay_rate * grad_squared + (1 - decay_rate) * dx * dx
    x -= learning_rate * dx / (np.sqrt(grad_squared) + 1e-7)
```

Tieleman and Hinton, 2012

# Adam (almost)

---

```
first_moment = 0
second_moment = 0
while True:
    dx = compute_gradient(x)
    first_moment = beta1 * first_moment + (1 - beta1) * dx
    second_moment = beta2 * second_moment + (1 - beta2) * dx * dx
    x -= learning_rate * first_moment / (np.sqrt(second_moment) + 1e-7))
```

Kingma and Ba, “Adam: A method for stochastic optimization”,  
ICLR 2015

# Adam (almost)

```
first_moment = 0
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while True:
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    x -= learning_rate * first_moment / (np.sqrt(second_moment) + 1e-7))
```

Momentum

AdaGrad / RMSProp

Sort of like RMSProp with momentum

Q: What happens at first timestep?

Kingma and Ba, "Adam: A method for stochastic optimization",  
ICLR 2015

# Adam (full form)

```

first_moment = 0
second_moment = 0
for t in range(1, num_iterations):
    dx = compute_gradient(x)
    first_moment = beta1 * first_moment + (1 - beta1) * dx
    second_moment = beta2 * second_moment + (1 - beta2) * dx * dx
    first_unbias = first_moment / (1 - beta1 ** t)
    second_unbias = second_moment / (1 - beta2 ** t)
    x -= learning_rate * first_unbias / (np.sqrt(second_unbias) + 1e-7))

```

Momentum

Bias correction

AdaGrad / RMSProp

Bias correction for the fact  
that first and second moment  
estimates start at zero

Kingma and Ba, “Adam: A method for stochastic optimization”,  
ICLR 2015

# Adam (full form)

```

first_moment = 0
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    second_moment = beta2 * second_moment + (1 - beta2) * dx * dx
    first_unbias = first_moment / (1 - beta1 ** t)
    second_unbias = second_moment / (1 - beta2 ** t)
    x -= learning_rate * first_unbias / (np.sqrt(second_unbias) + 1e-7))

```

Momentum

Bias correction

AdaGrad / RMSProp

Bias correction for the fact that first and second moment estimates start at zero

Adam with  $\text{beta1} = 0.9$ ,  $\text{beta2} = 0.999$ , and  $\text{learning\_rate} = 1\text{e-}3$  or  $5\text{e-}4$  is a great starting point for many models!

Kingma and Ba, “Adam: A method for stochastic optimization”, ICLR 2015

# Learning rate schedules

---

```
# Vanilla Gradient Descent

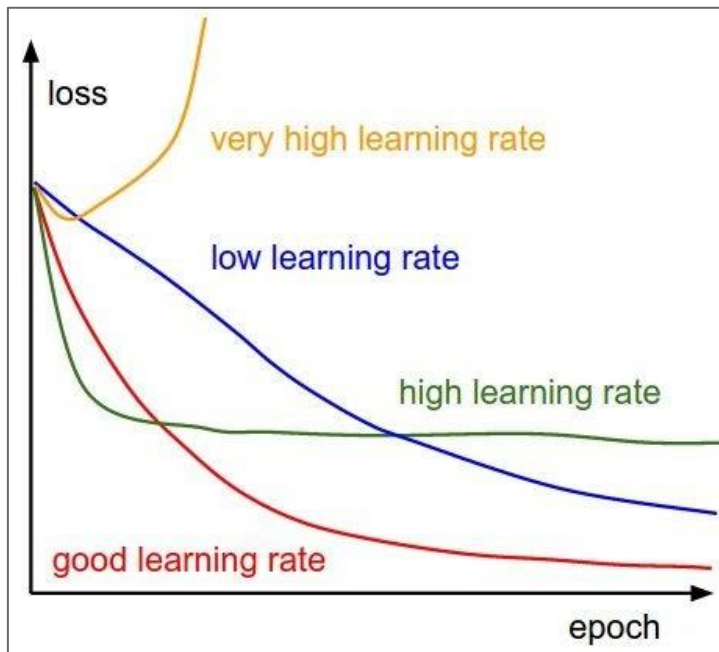
while True:
    weights_grad = evaluate_gradient(loss_fun, data, weights)
    weights += - step_size * weights_grad # perform parameter update
```

↓  
Learning rate



# Learning rate schedules

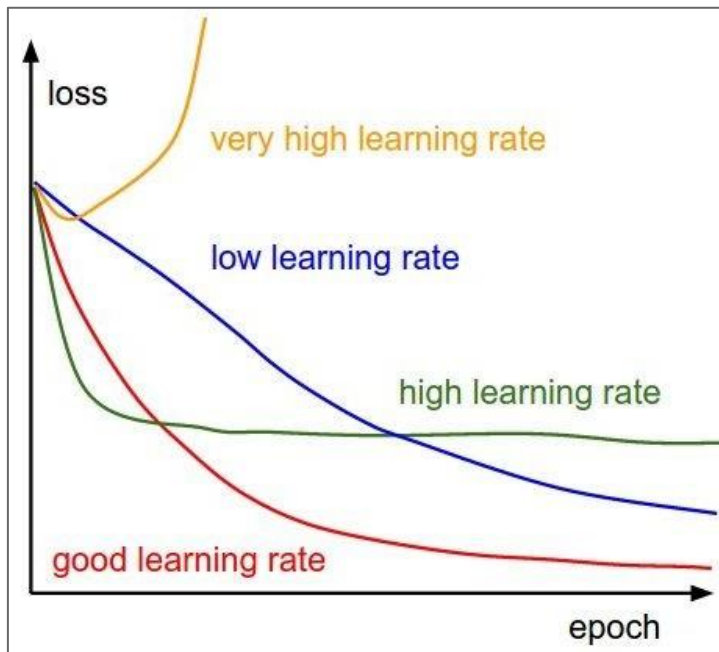
SGD, SGD+Momentum, Adagrad, RMSProp, Adam all have **learning rate** as a hyperparameter



Q: Which one of these learning rates is best to use?

# Learning rate schedules

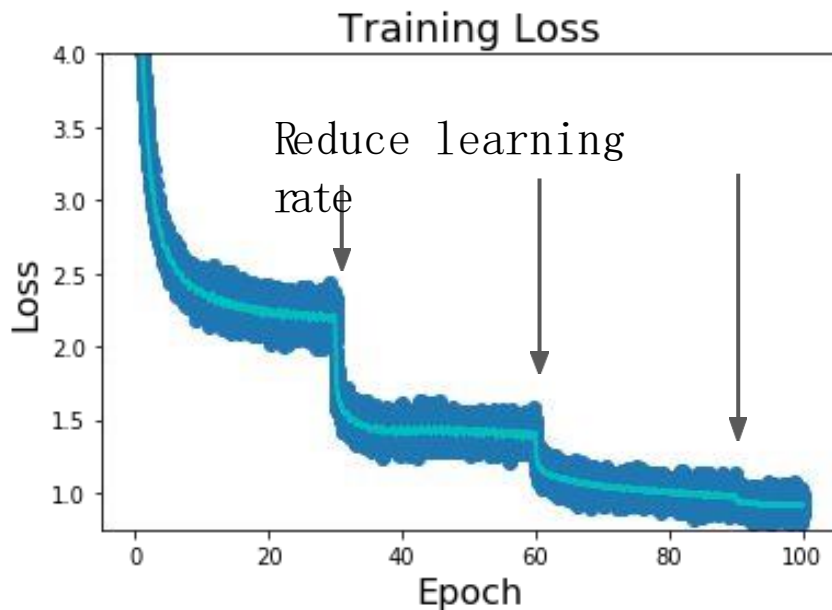
SGD, SGD+Momentum, Adagrad, RMSProp, Adam all have **learning rate** as a hyperparameter



Q: Which one of these learning rates is best to use?

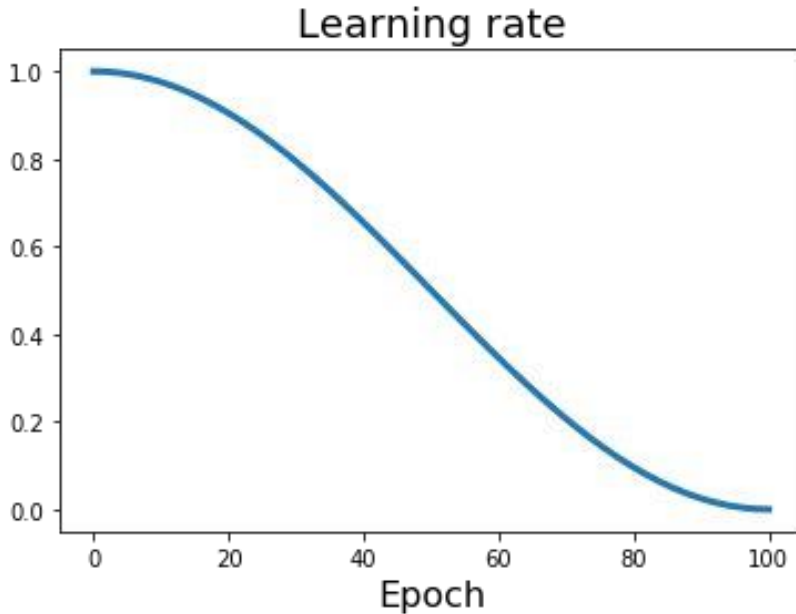
A: In reality all of these are good learning rates.

# Learning rate decays over time



**Step:** Reduce learning rate at a few fixed points. E. g. for ResNets, multiply LR by 0.1 after epochs 30, 60, and 90.

# Learning Rate Decay



**Step:** Reduce learning rate at a few fixed points. E.g. for ResNets, multiply LR by 0.1 after epochs 30, 60, and 90.

**Cosine:** 
$$\alpha_t = \frac{1}{2}\alpha_0 (1 + \cos(t\pi/T))$$

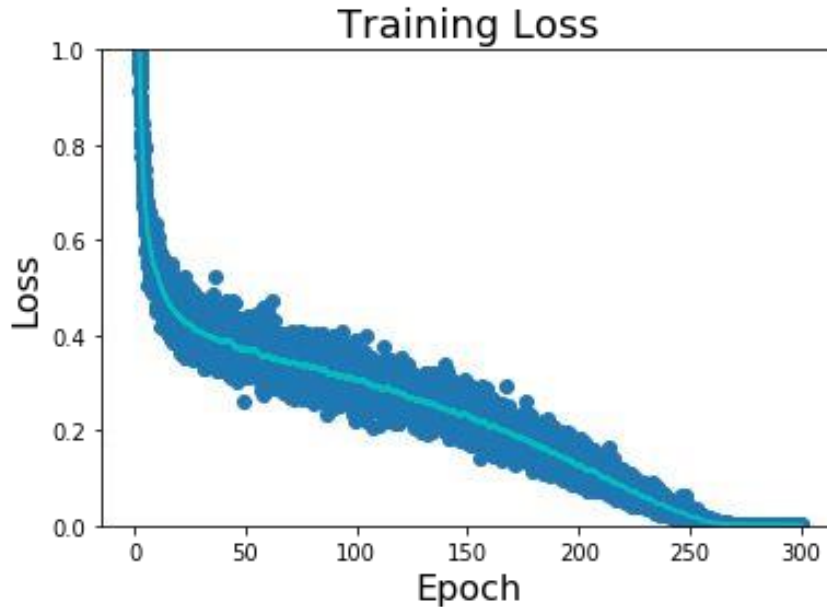
$\alpha_0$  : Initial learning rate

$\alpha_t$  : Learning rate at epoch  $t$

$T$  : Total number of epochs

Loshchilov and Hutter, “SGDR: Stochastic Gradient Descent with Warm Restarts”, ICLR 2017  
 Radford et al, “Improving Language Understanding by Generative Pre-Training”, 2018  
 Feichtenhofer et al, “SlowFast Networks for Video Recognition”, arXiv 2018  
 Child et al, “Generating Long Sequences with Sparse Transformers”, arXiv 2019

# Learning Rate Decay



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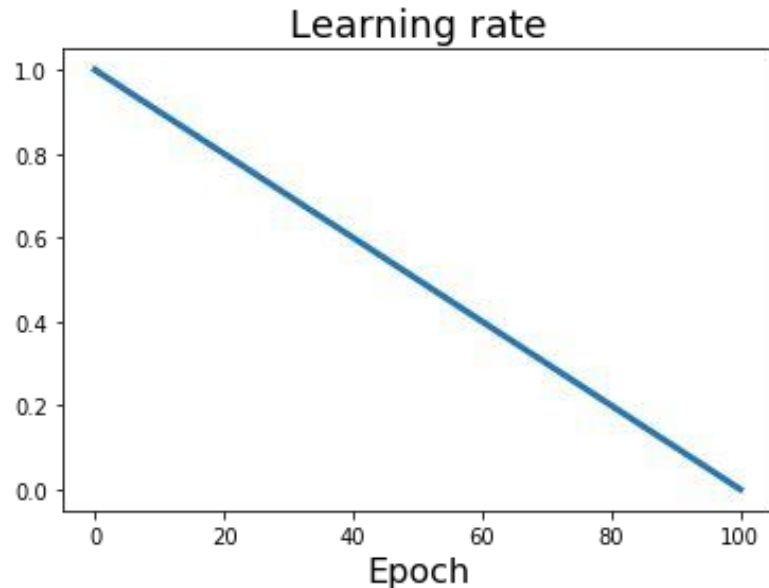
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# Learning Rate Decay



**Step:** Reduce learning rate at a few fixed points. E.g. for ResNets, multiply LR by 0.1 after epochs 30, 60, and 90.

**Cosine:**  $\alpha_t = \frac{1}{2}\alpha_0 (1 + \cos(t\pi/T))$

$\alpha_0$  : Initial learning rate

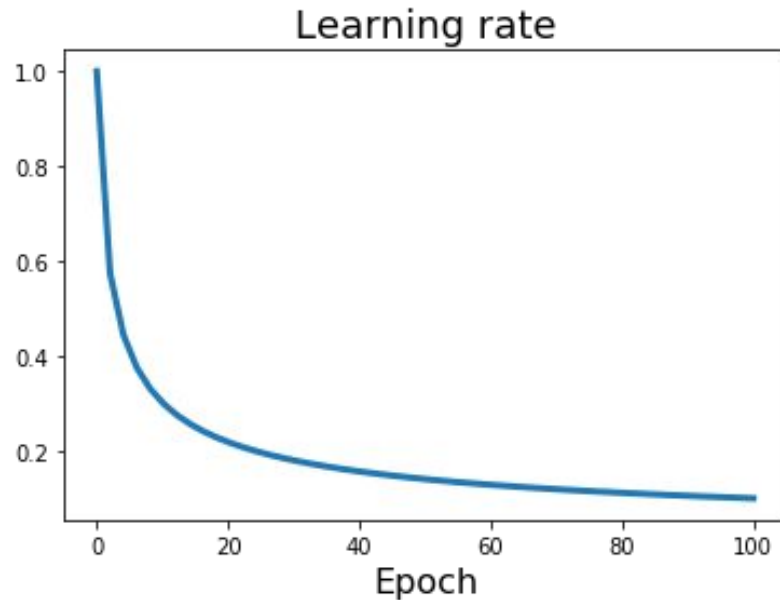
$\alpha_t$  : Learning rate at epoch  $t$

$T$  : Total number of epochs

**Linear:**  $\alpha_t = \alpha_0(1 - t/T)$

Vaswani et al, "Attention is all you need",  
NIPS 2017

# Learning Rate Decay



**Step:** Reduce learning rate at a few fixed points. E.g. for ResNets, multiply LR by 0.1 after epochs 30, 60, and 90.

**Cosine:**  $\alpha_t = \frac{1}{2}\alpha_0 (1 + \cos(t\pi/T))$

$\alpha_0$  : Initial learning rate

$\alpha_t$  : Learning rate at epoch  $t$

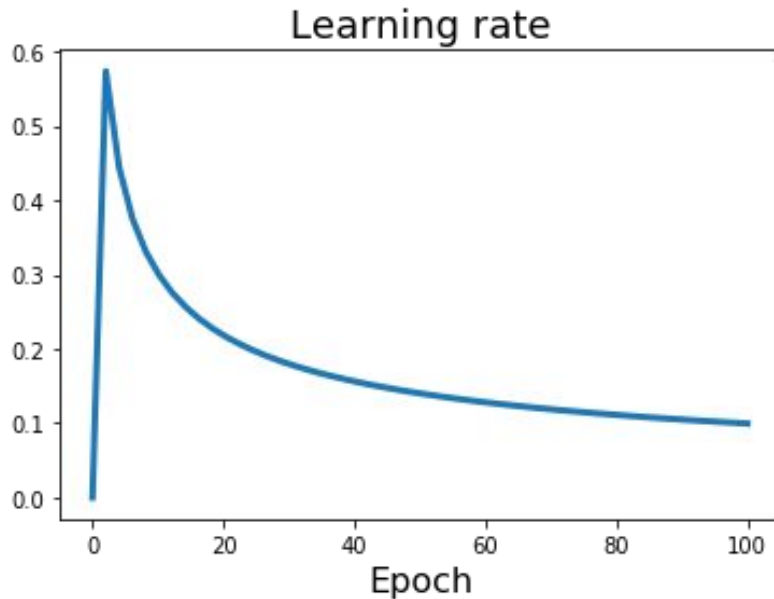
$T$  : Total number of epochs

**Linear:**  $\alpha_t = \alpha_0(1 - t/T)$

**Inverse sqrt:**  $\alpha_t = \alpha_0/\sqrt{t}$

Vaswani et al, "Attention is all you need",  
NIPS 2017

# Learning Rate Decay: Linear Warmup



High initial learning rates can make loss explode; linearly increasing learning rate from 0 over the first  $\sim 5,000$  iterations can prevent this.

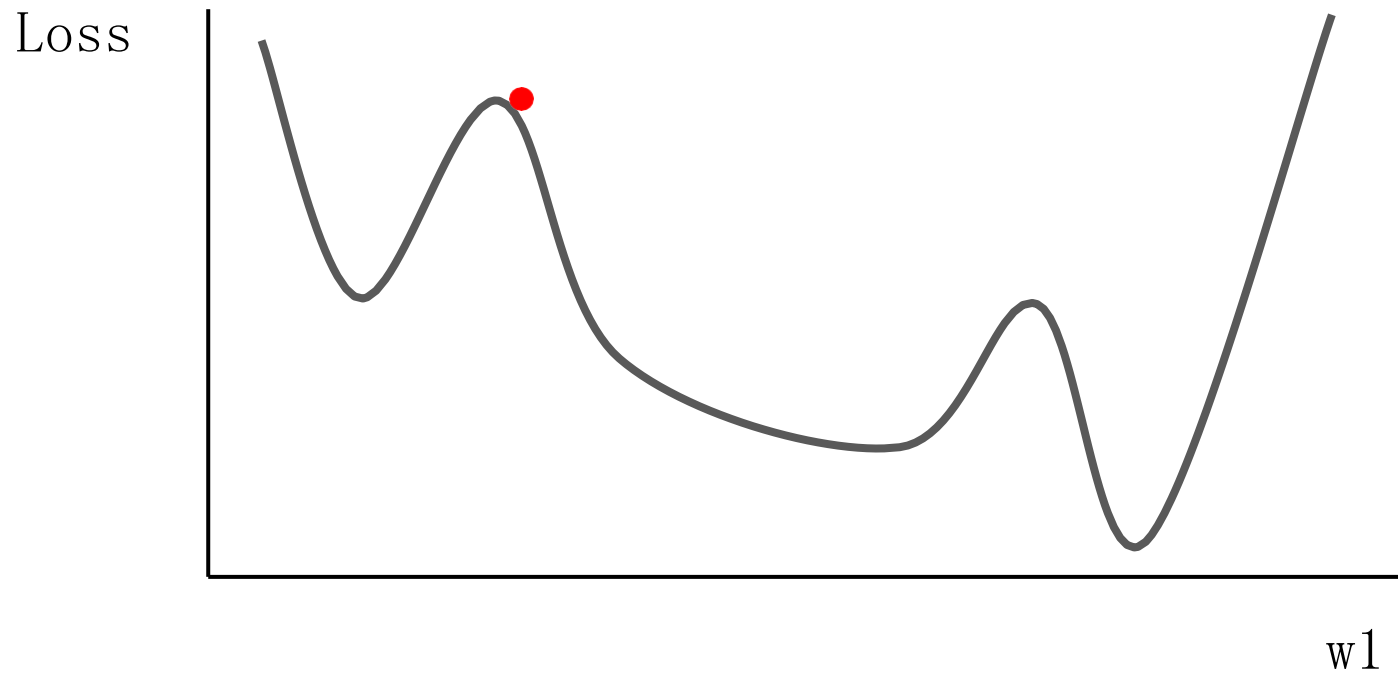
Empirical rule of thumb: If you increase the batch size by  $N$ , also scale the initial learning rate by  $N$

Goyal et al, "Accurate, Large Minibatch SGD: Training ImageNet in 1 Hour", arXiv 2017



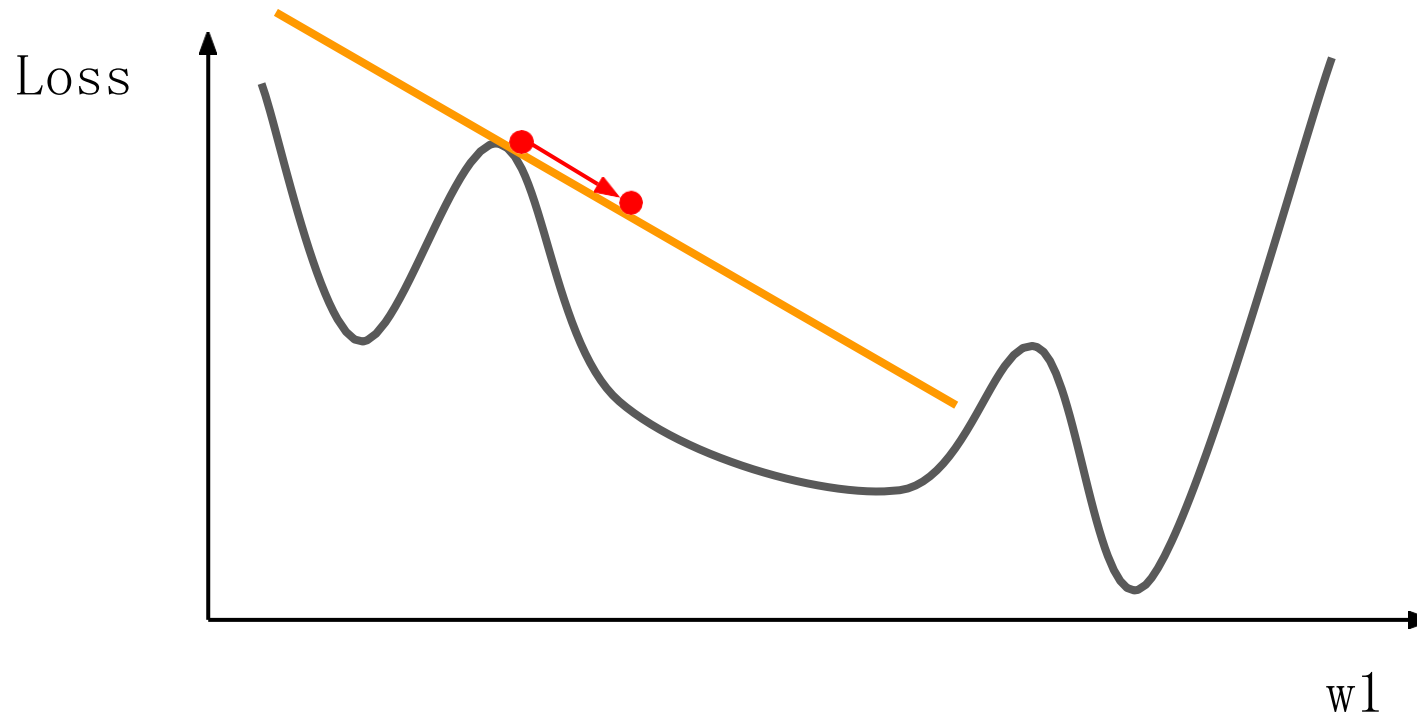
# First-Order Optimization

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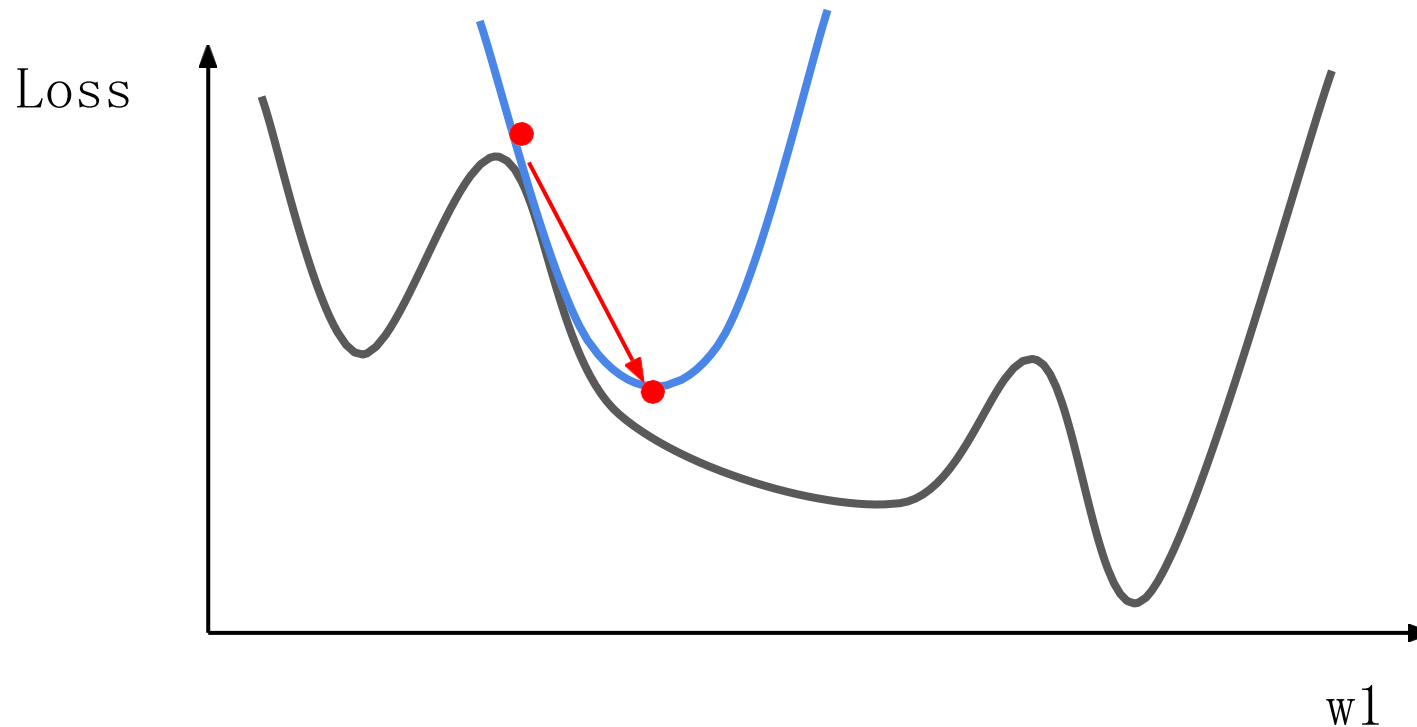
# First-Order Optimization

- (1) Use gradient form linear approximation
- (2) Step to minimize the approximation



# Second-Order Optimization

- (1) Use gradient **and Hessian** to form **quadratic** approximation
- (2) Step to the **minima** of the approximation



# Second-Order Optimization

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second-order Taylor expansion:

$$J(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \approx J(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0) + (\boldsymbol{\theta} - \boldsymbol{\theta}_0)^\top \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} J(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0) + \frac{1}{2} (\boldsymbol{\theta} - \boldsymbol{\theta}_0)^\top \mathbf{H} (\boldsymbol{\theta} - \boldsymbol{\theta}_0)$$

Solving for the critical point we obtain the Newton parameter update:

$$\boldsymbol{\theta}^* = \boldsymbol{\theta}_0 - \mathbf{H}^{-1} \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} J(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0)$$

Q: Why is this bad for deep learning?

# Second-Order Optimization

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Hessian has  $O(N^2)$  elements  
 Inverting takes  $O(N^3)$   
 $N = (\text{Tens or Hundreds of Millions})$

Q: Why is this bad for deep learning?

# Second-Order Optimization

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$$\theta^* = \theta_0 - H^{-1} \nabla_{\theta} J(\theta_0)$$

- Quasi-Newton methods (**BGFS** most popular):  
*instead of inverting the Hessian ( $O(n^3)$ ), approximate inverse Hessian with rank 1 updates over time ( $O(n^2)$  each).*
- **L-BFGS** (Limited memory BFGS):  
*Does not form/store the full inverse Hessian.*

# L-BFGS

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- **Usually works very well in full batch, deterministic mode**  
i.e. if you have a single, deterministic  $f(x)$  then L-BFGS will probably work very nicely
- **Does not transfer very well to mini-batch setting.**  
Gives bad results. Adapting second-order methods to large-scale, stochastic setting is an active area of research.

Le et al, “On optimization methods for deep learning, ICML 2011”

Ba et al, “Distributed second-order optimization using Kronecker-factored approximations”, ICLR 2017

## In practice:

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- **Adam** is a good default choice in many cases; it often works ok even with constant learning rate
- **SGD+Momentum** can outperform Adam but may require more tuning of LR and schedule
- If you can afford to do full batch updates then try out **L-BFGS** (and don' t forget to disable all sources of noise)





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*Next time:*

# ***Neural Networks and Backpropagation***

**Pattern Recognition and Computer Vision**

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