

# A Gentle Introduction to Neural Networks (with Python)

Tariq Rashid @postenterprise

PyCon Italy April 2017



Background  
Ideas  
DIY  
Handwriting  
Thoughts



... and a **live demo!**

Background

# Start With Two Questions

locate people in this photo

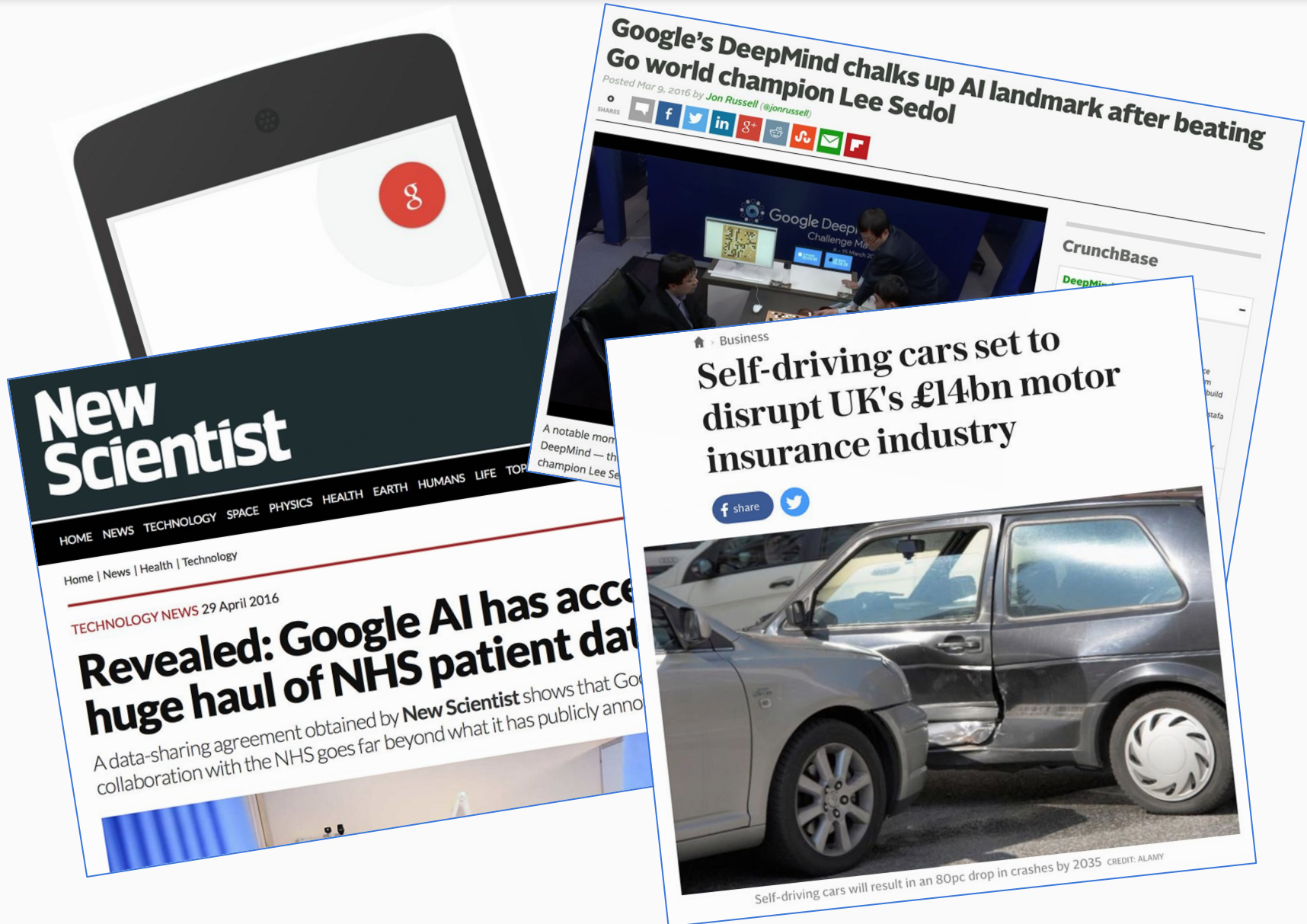


add these numbers

$$\begin{array}{r} 2403343781289312 \\ + 2843033712837981 \\ + 2362142787897881 \\ + 3256541312323213 \\ + 9864479802118978 \\ + 8976677987987897 \\ + 8981257890087988 \end{array}$$

= ?

# AI is Huge!



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NATURE | ARTICLE

日本語要約

# Mastering the game of Go with deep neural networks and tree search

David Silver, Aja Huang, Chris J. Maddison, Arthur Guez, Laurent Sifre, George van den Driessche, Julian Schrittwieser, Ioannis Antonoglou, Veda Panneershelvam, Marc Lanctot, Sander Dieleman, Dominik Grewe, John Nham, Nal Kalchbrenner, Ilya Sutskever, Timothy Lillicrap, Madeleine Leach, Koray Kavukcuoglu, Thore Graepel & Demis Hassabis

[Affiliations](#) | [Contributions](#) | [Corresponding authors](#)

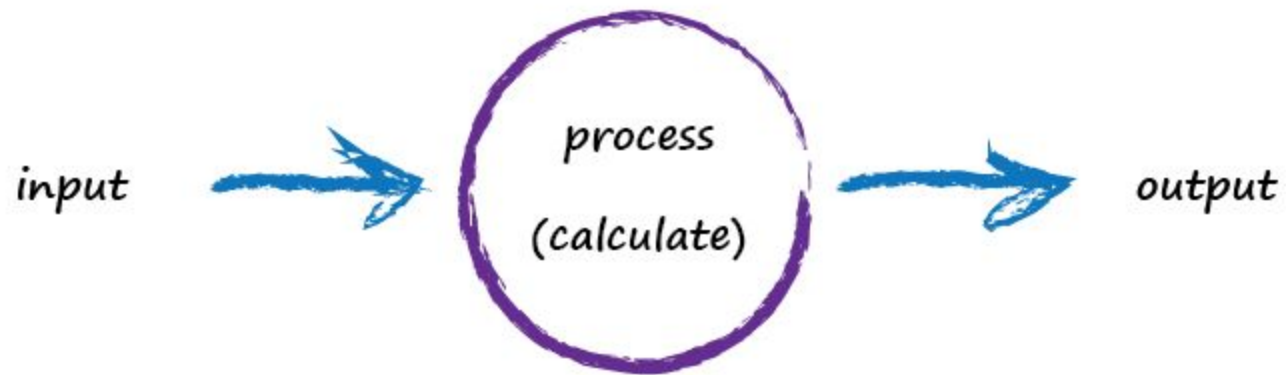
Ideas

# Simple Predicting Machine

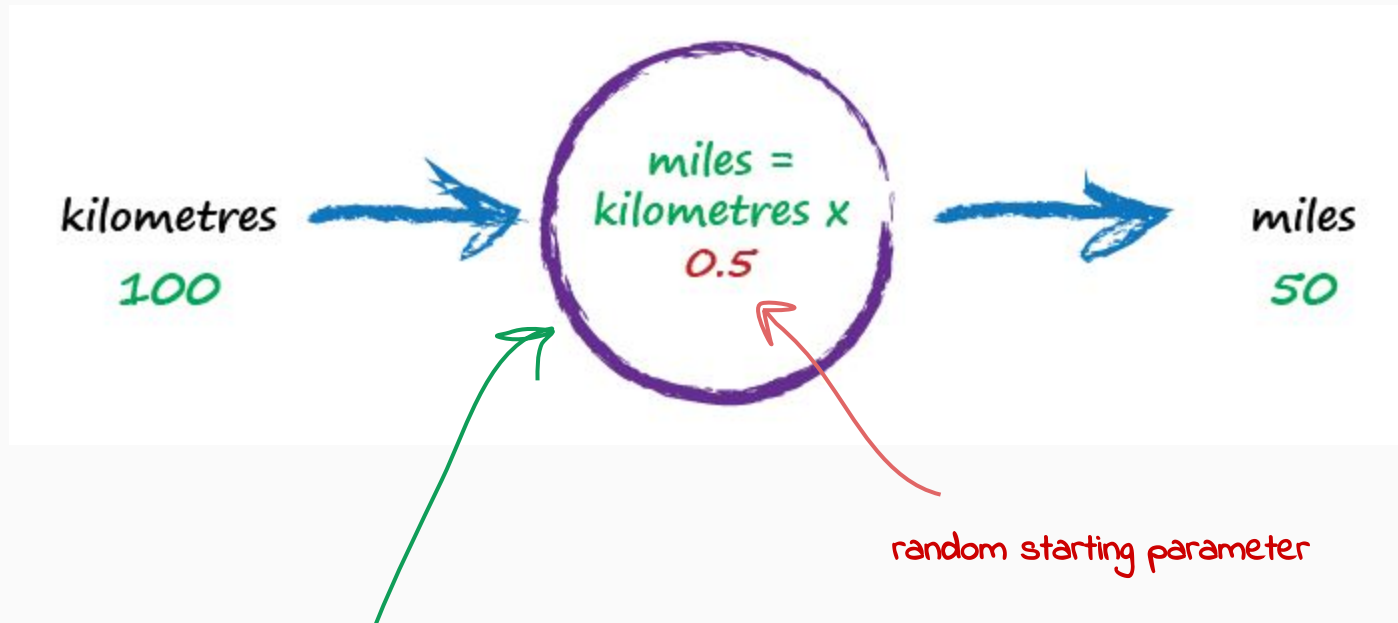




# Simple Predicting Machine

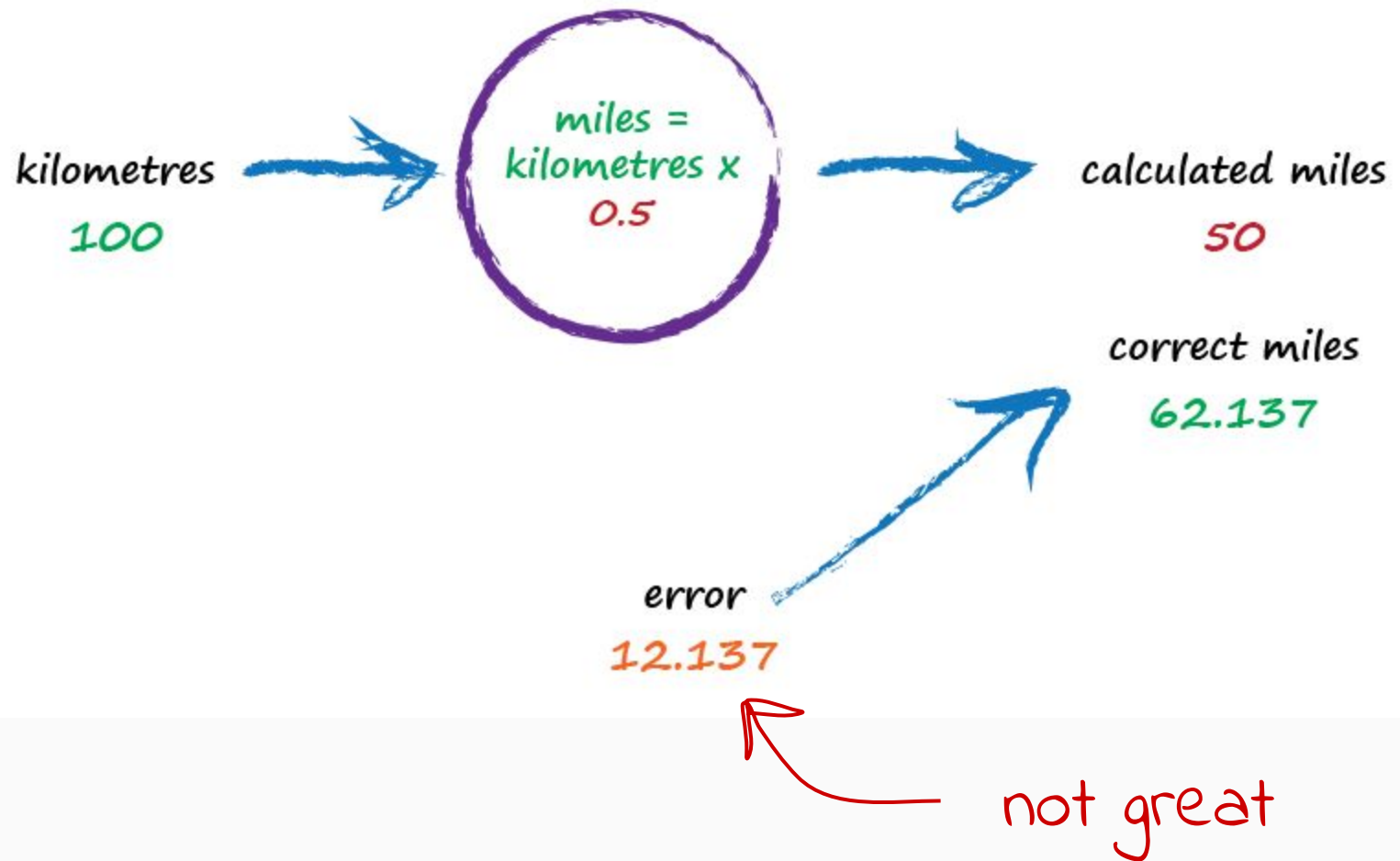


# Kilometres to Miles

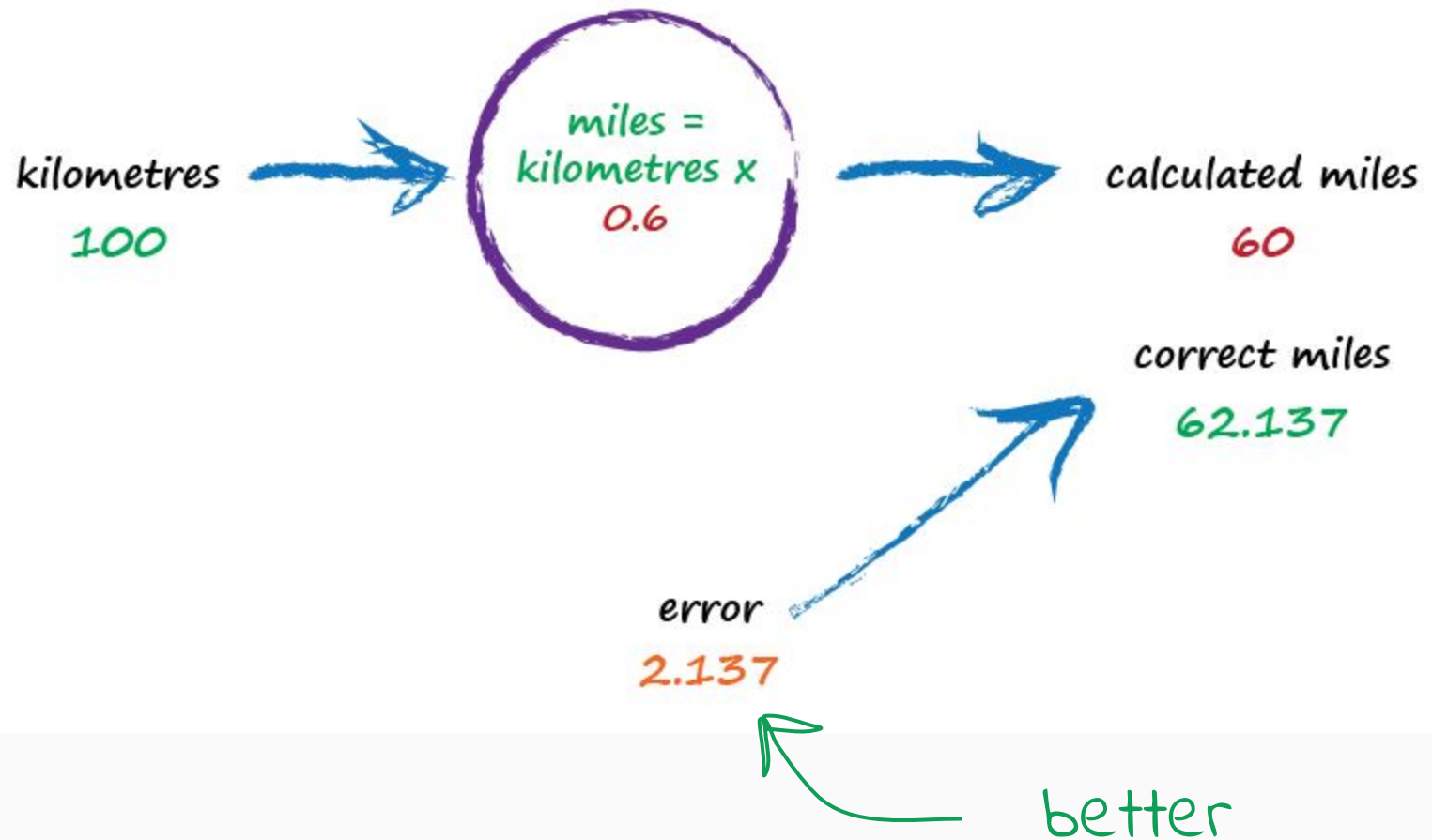


try a model - this one is linear

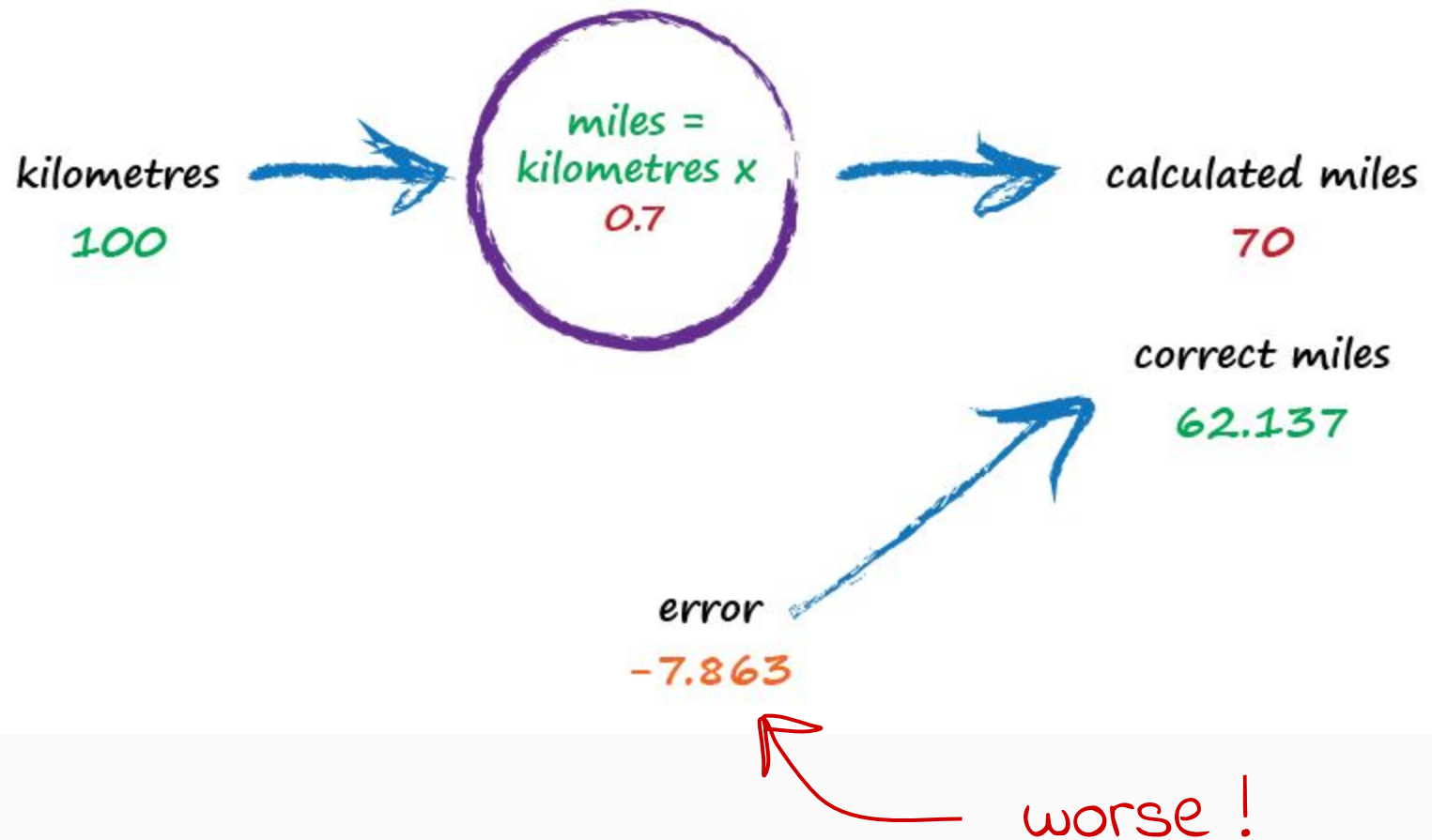
## Kilometres to Miles



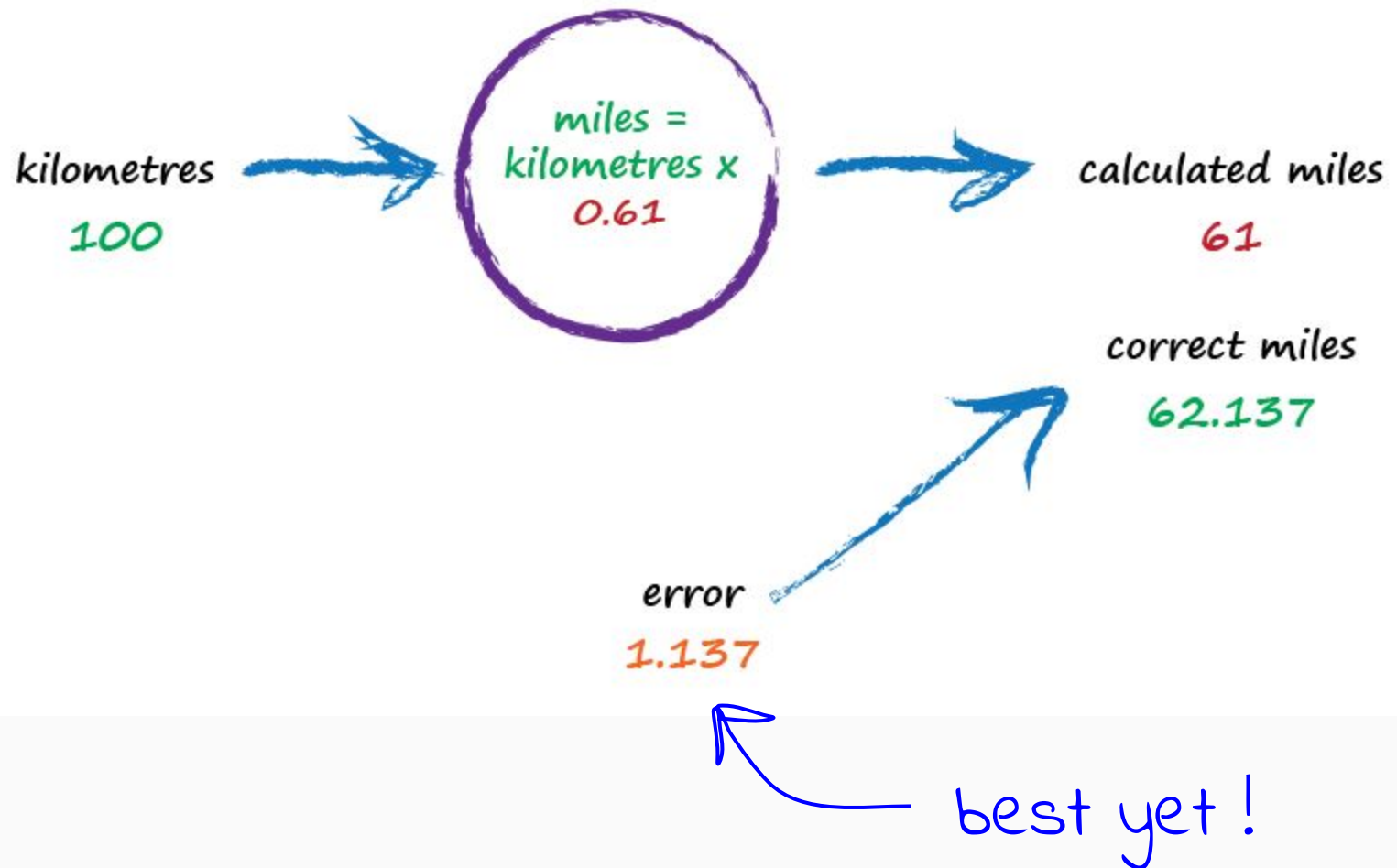
# Kilometres to Miles



## Kilometres to Miles



# Kilometres to Miles

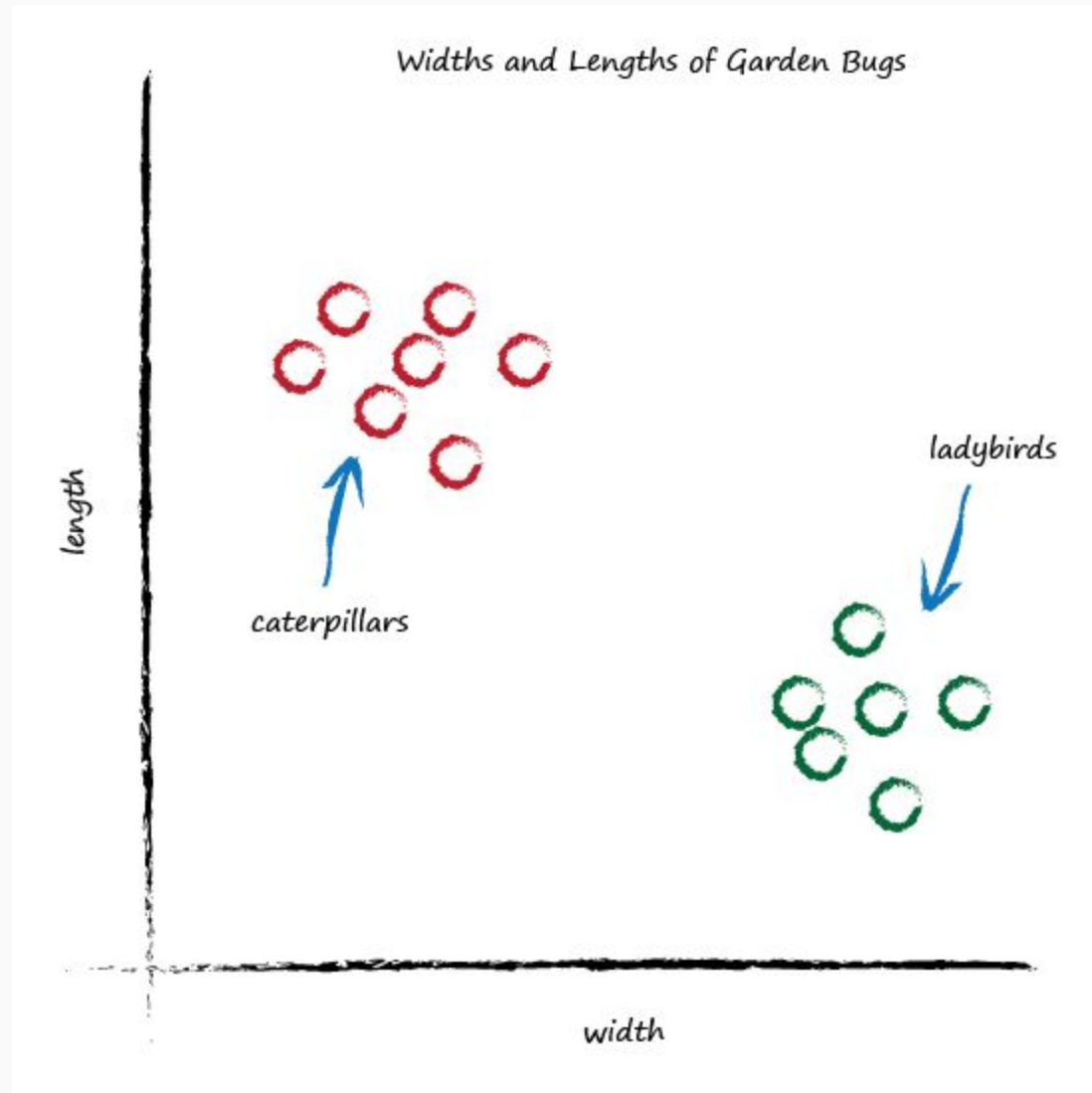


# Key Points



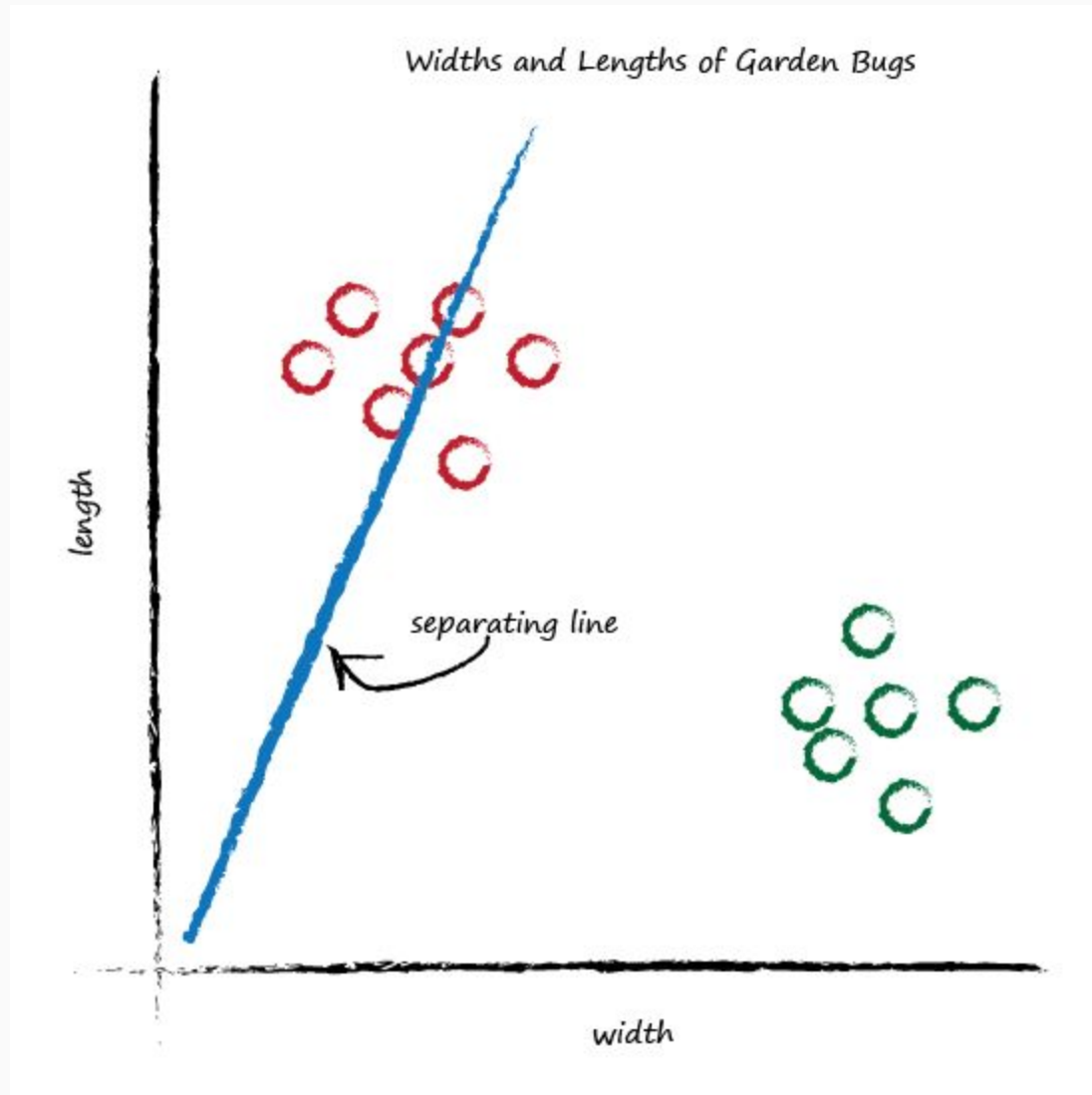
1. Don't know how something works exactly? Try a **model** with **adjustable** parameters.
2. Use the **error** to refine the parameters.

# Garden Bugs

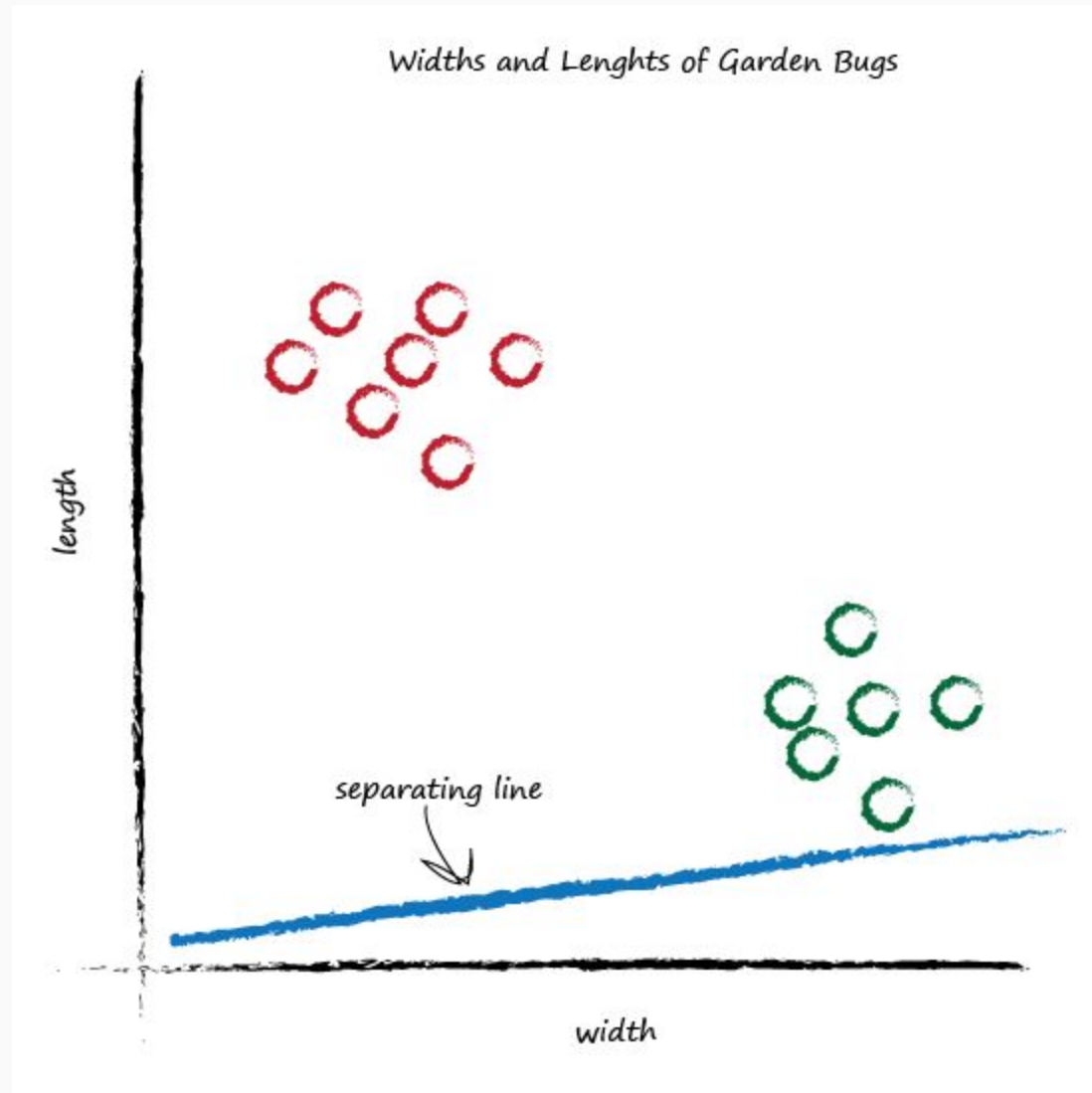




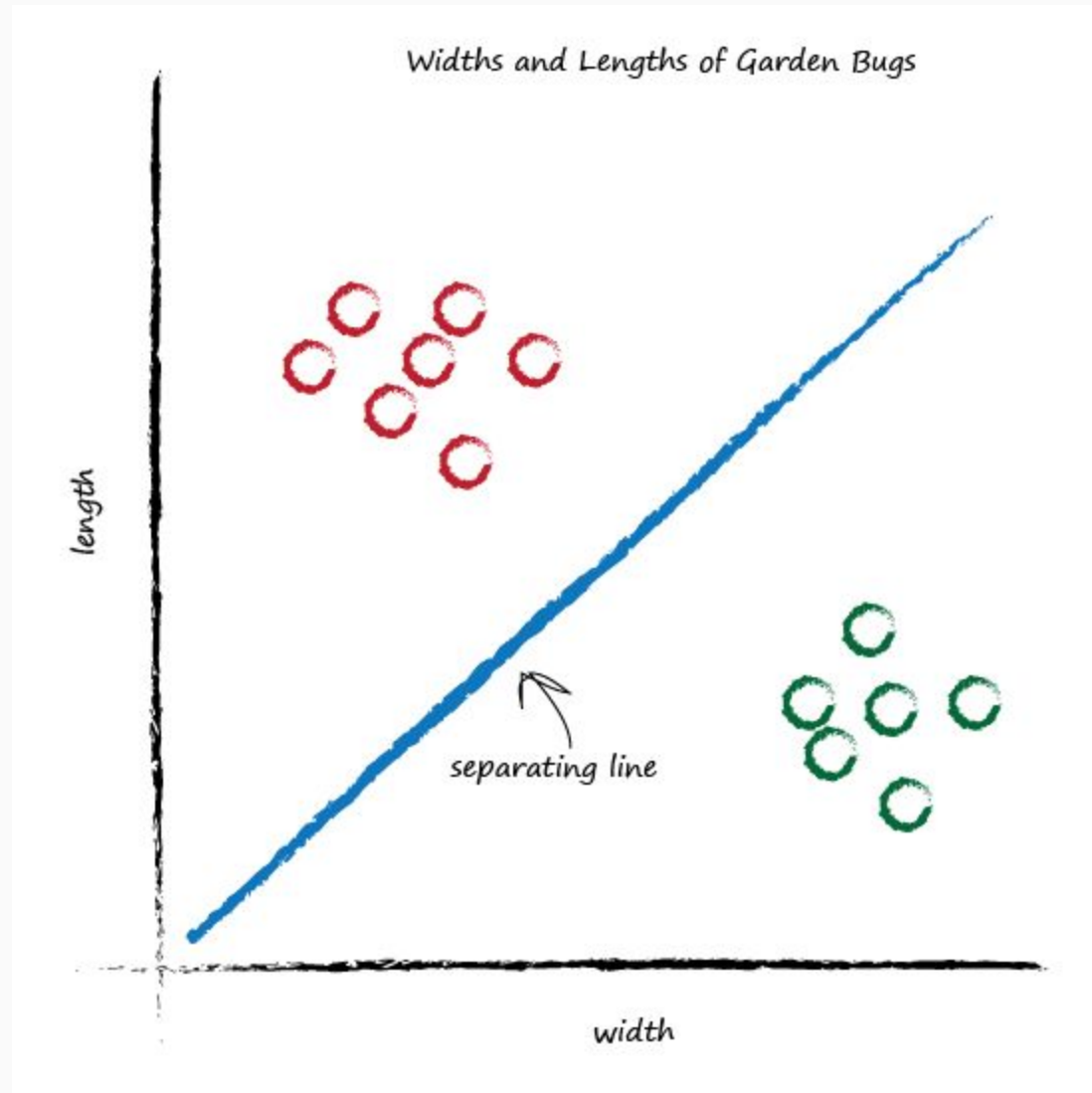
# Classifying Bugs



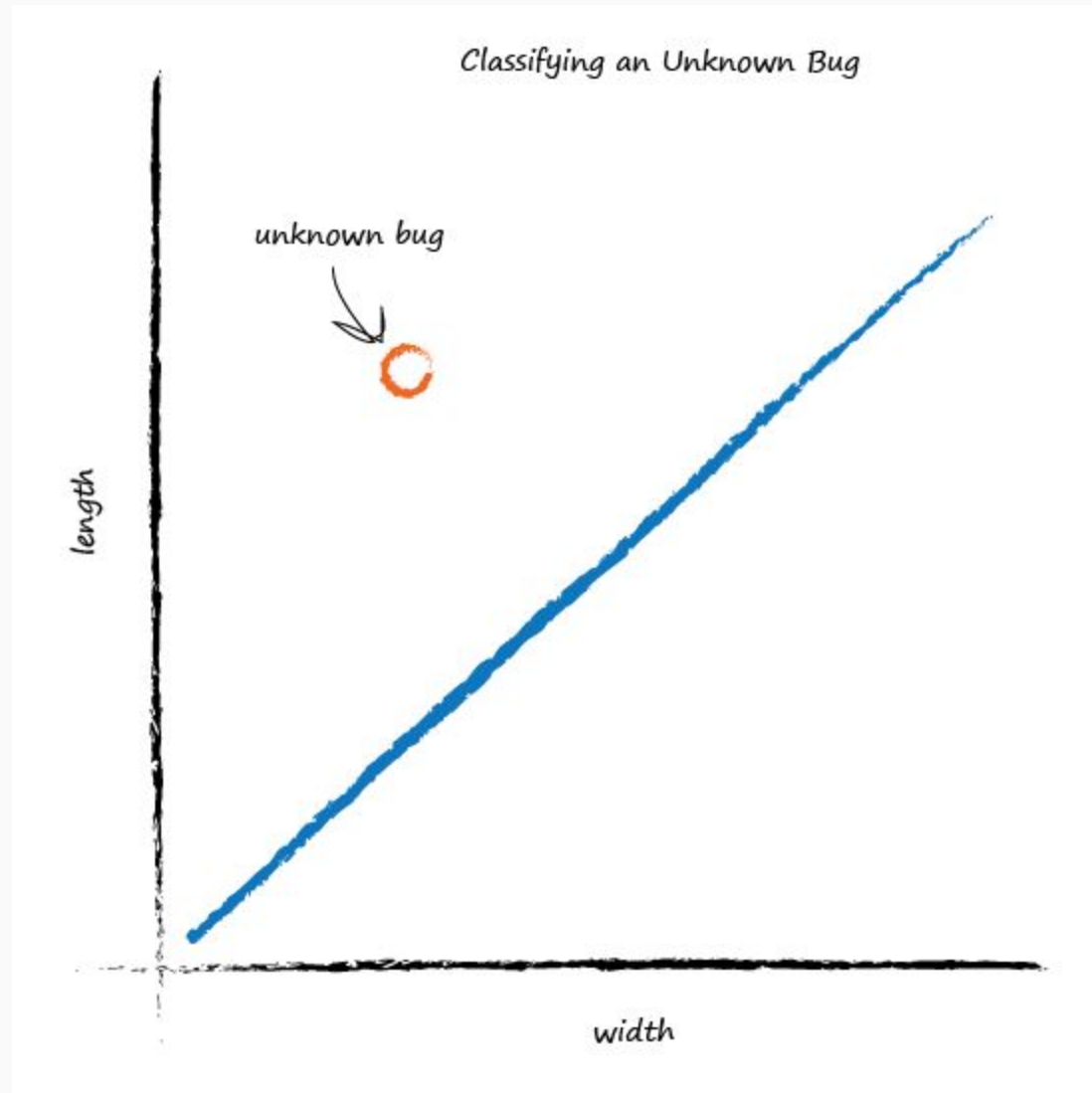
# Classifying Bugs



# Classifying Bugs



# Classifying Bugs



# Key Points

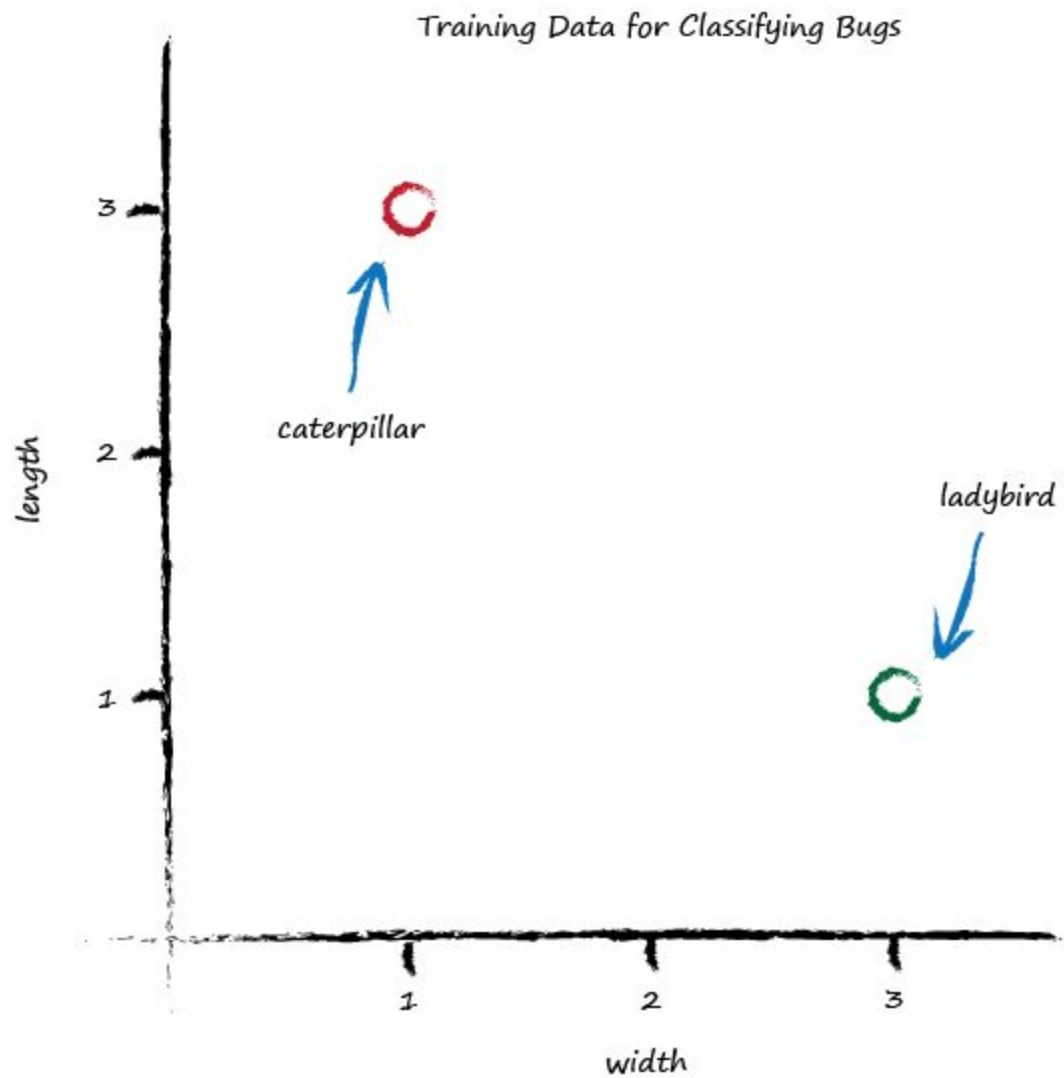


1. **Classifying** things is kinda like **predicting** things.

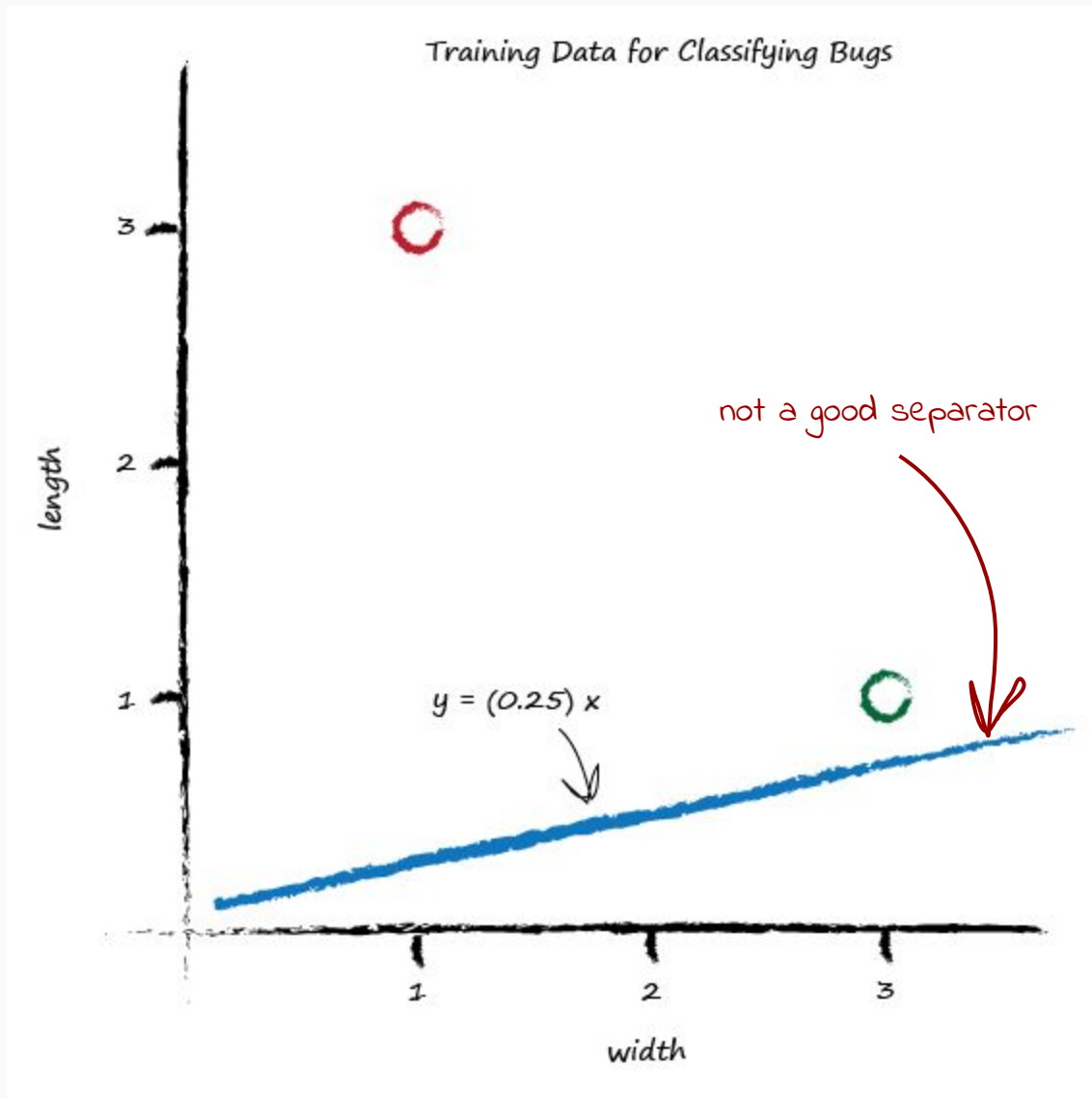
# Learning from Data

Example	Width	Length	Bug
1	3.0	1.0	ladybird
2	1.0	3.0	caterpillar

# Learning from Data

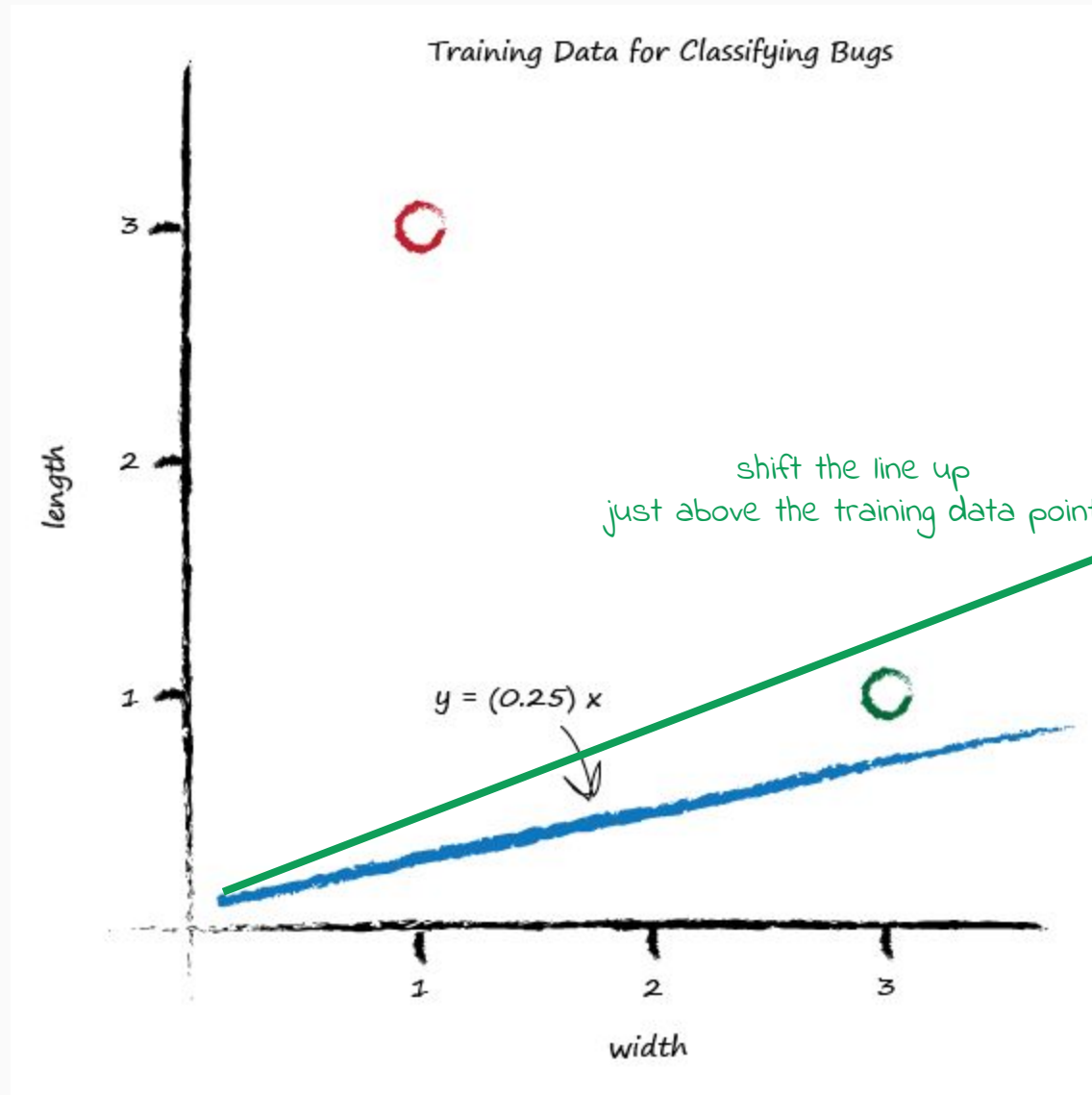


# Learning from Data

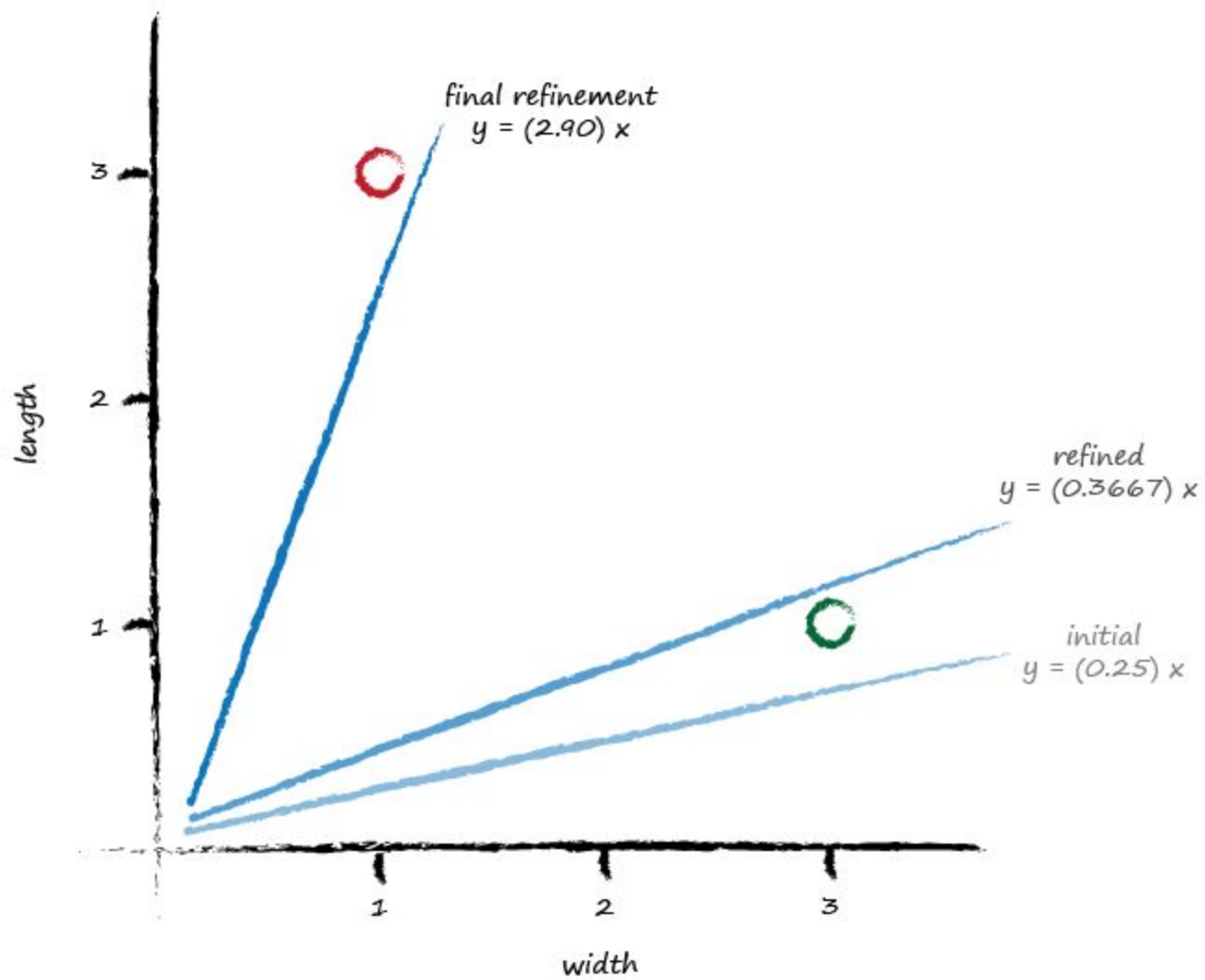




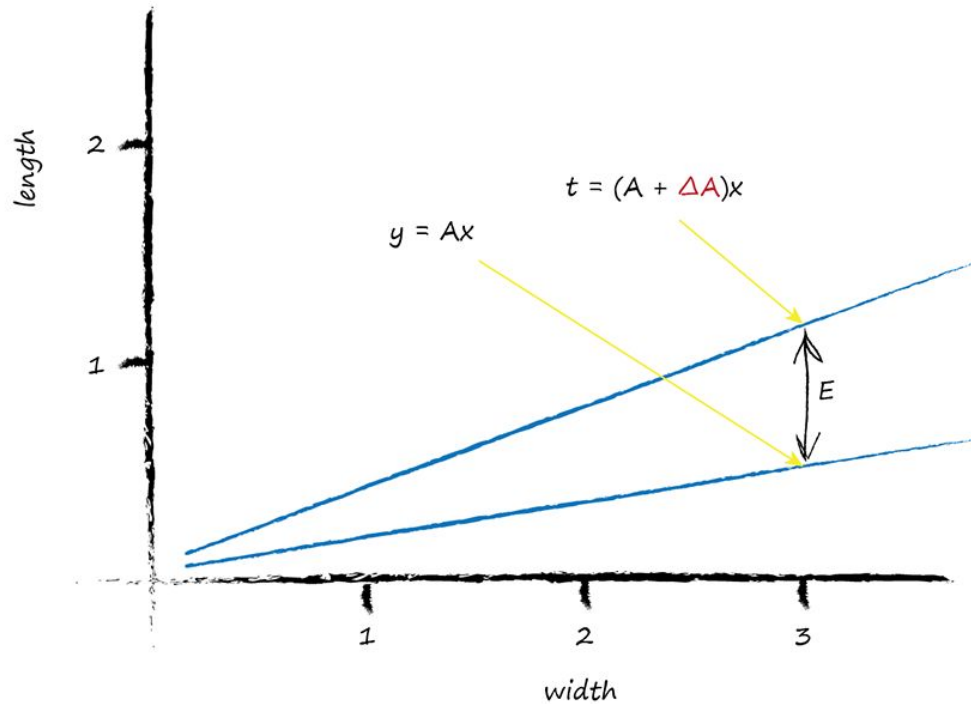
# Learning from Data



# Learning from Data



# How Do We Update The Parameter?

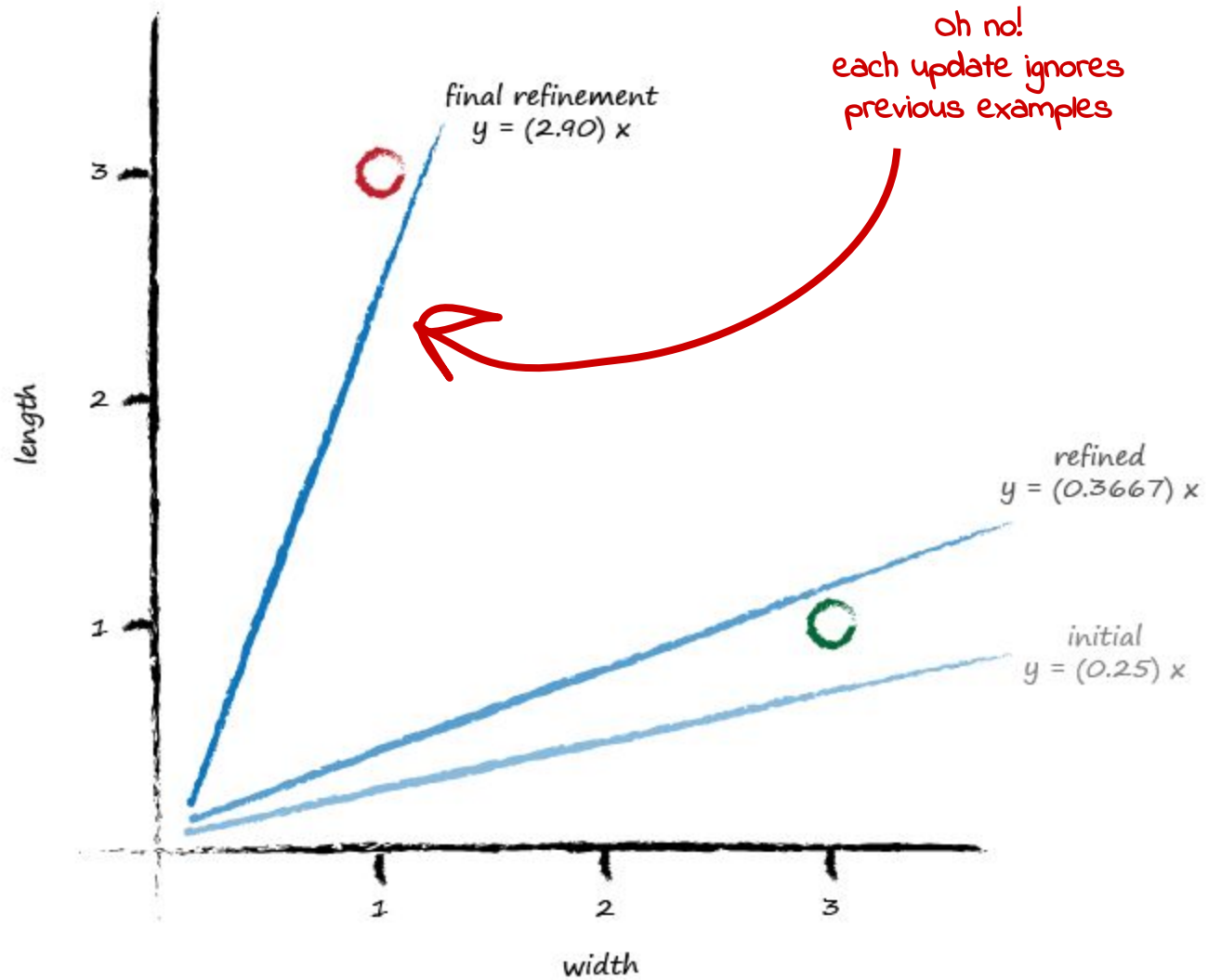


error = target - actual

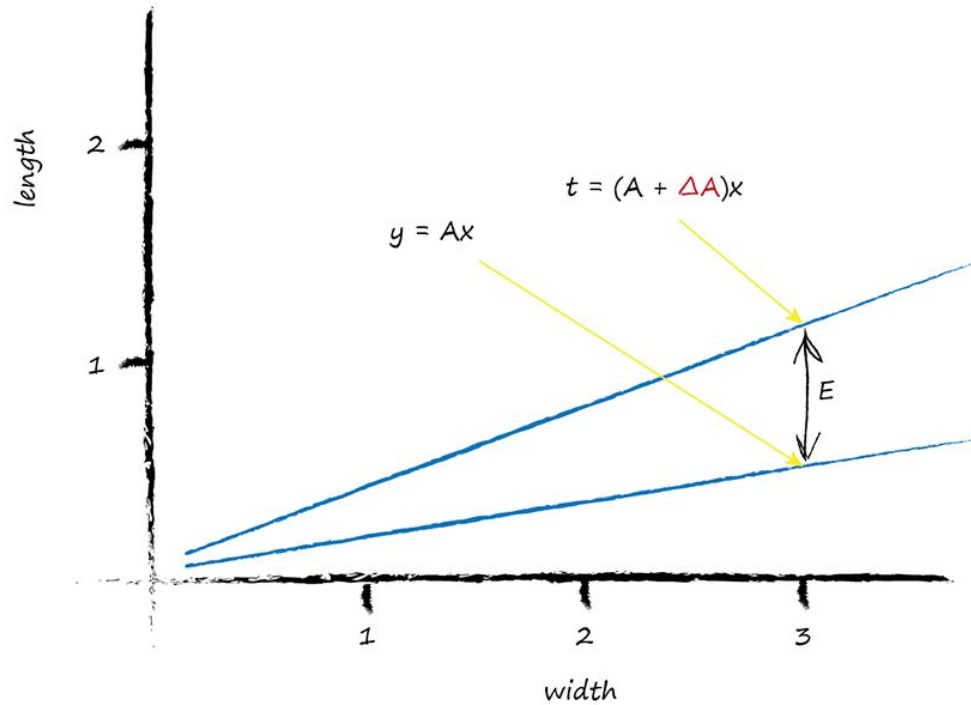
$$E = (A + \Delta A)x - Ax$$

$$\Delta A = E / x$$

# Hang On!



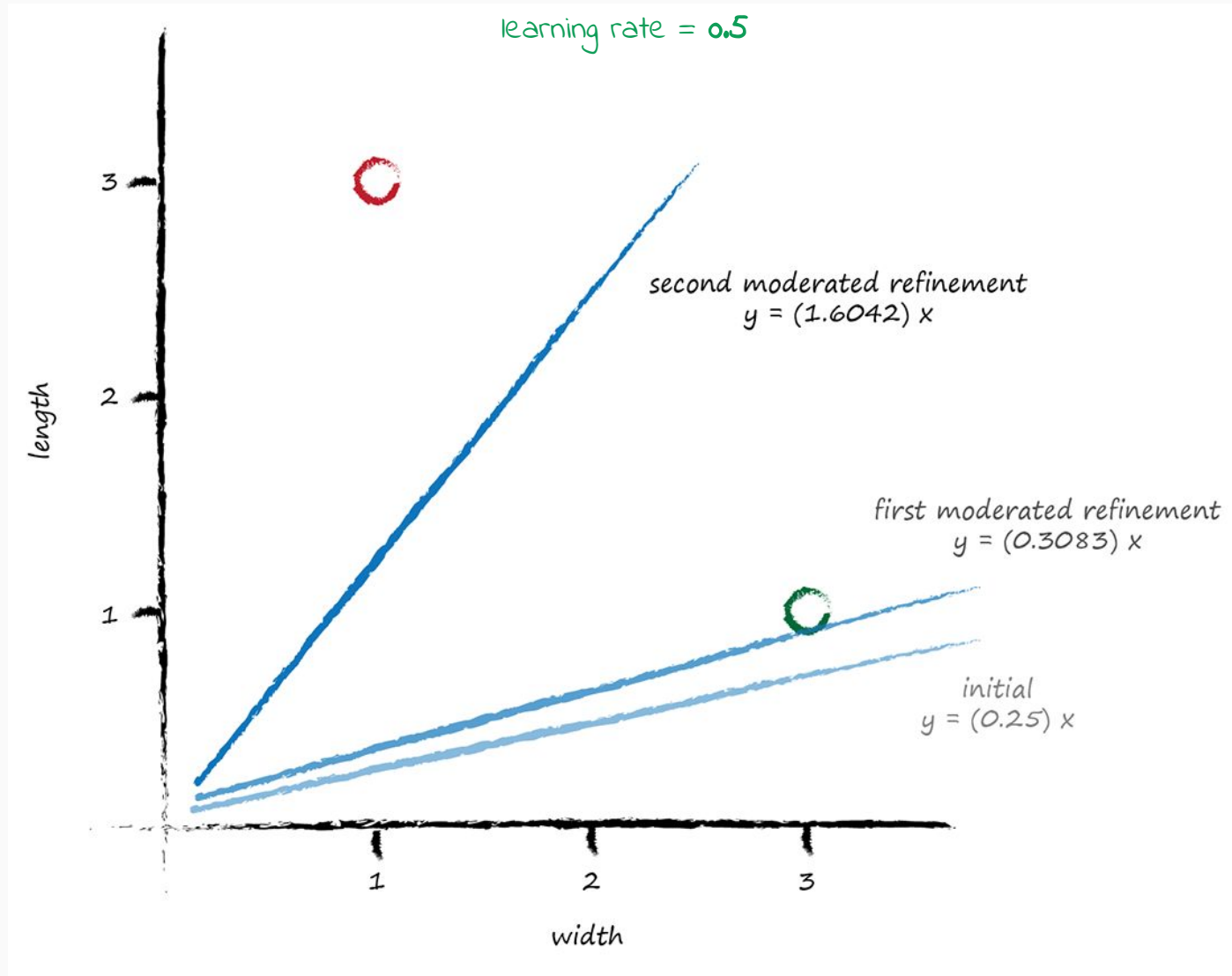
# Calm Down the Learning



$$\Delta A = L \cdot (E / x)$$

learning rate

# Calm Down the Learning



# Key Points

1. **Moderating** your learning is good - ensures you learn from all your data, and reduces impact of outliers or noisy training data.



# Boolean Logic



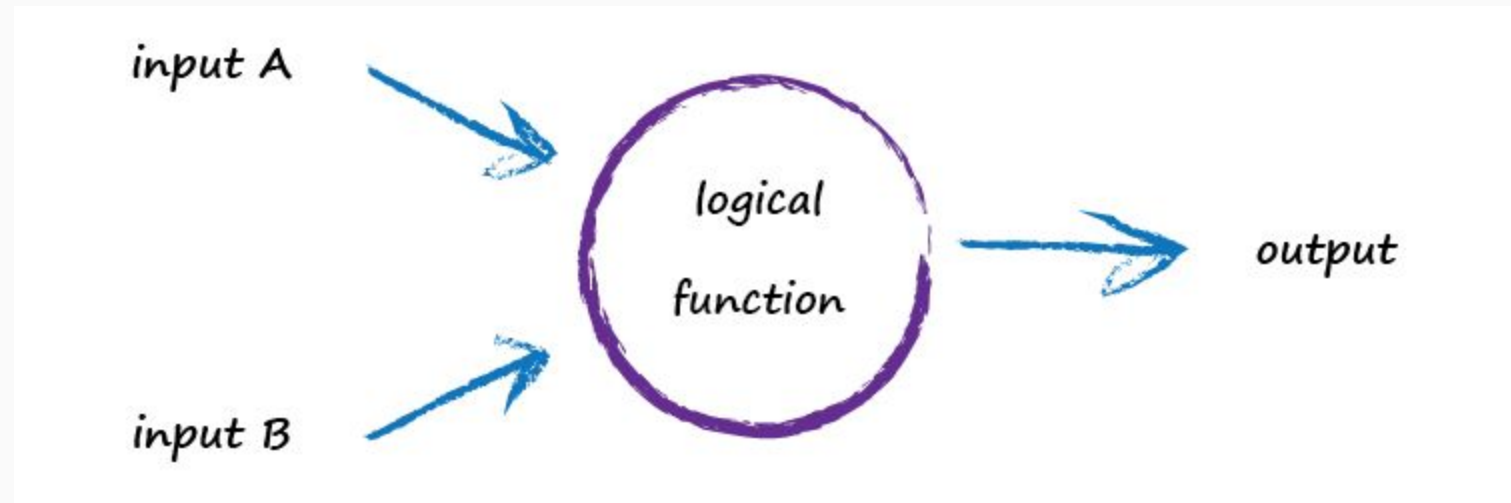
**IF** I have eaten my vegetables **AND** I am still hungry  
**THEN** I can have ice cream.

**IF** it's the weekend **OR** I am on annual leave **THEN** I'll  
go to the park.

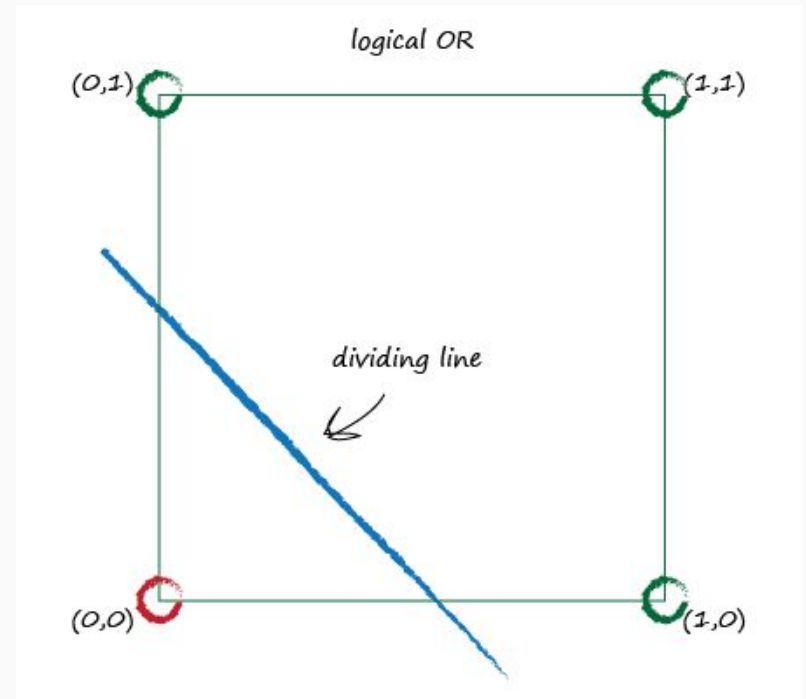
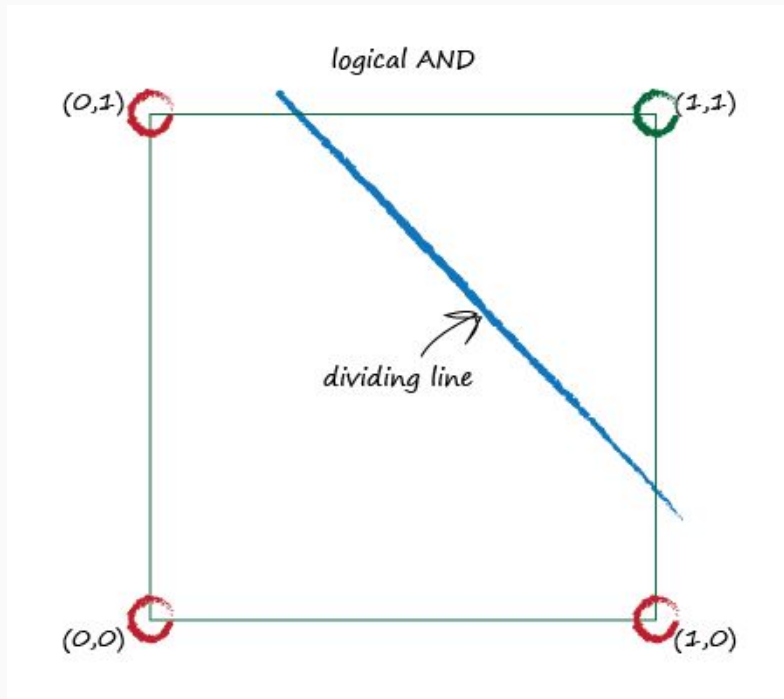
Input A	Input B	AND	OR
0	0	0	0
0	1	0	1
1	0	0	1
1	1	1	1



# Boolean Logic

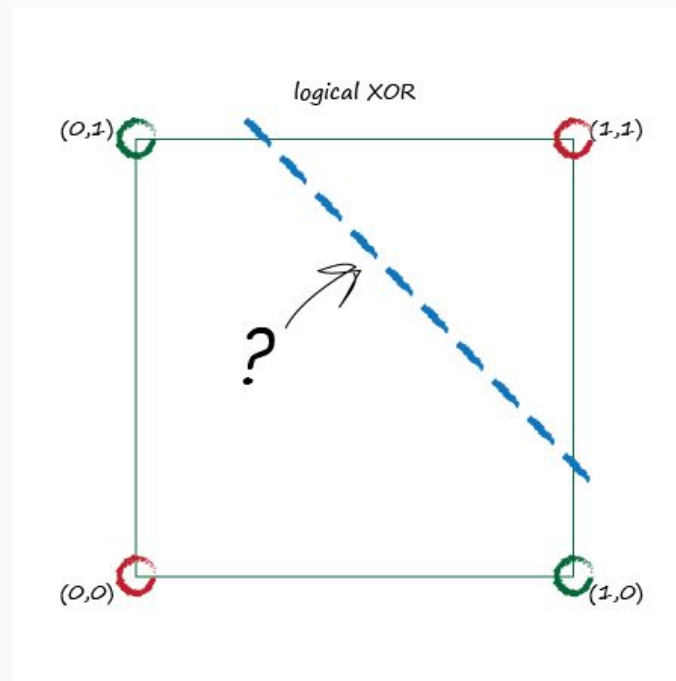


# Boolean Logic

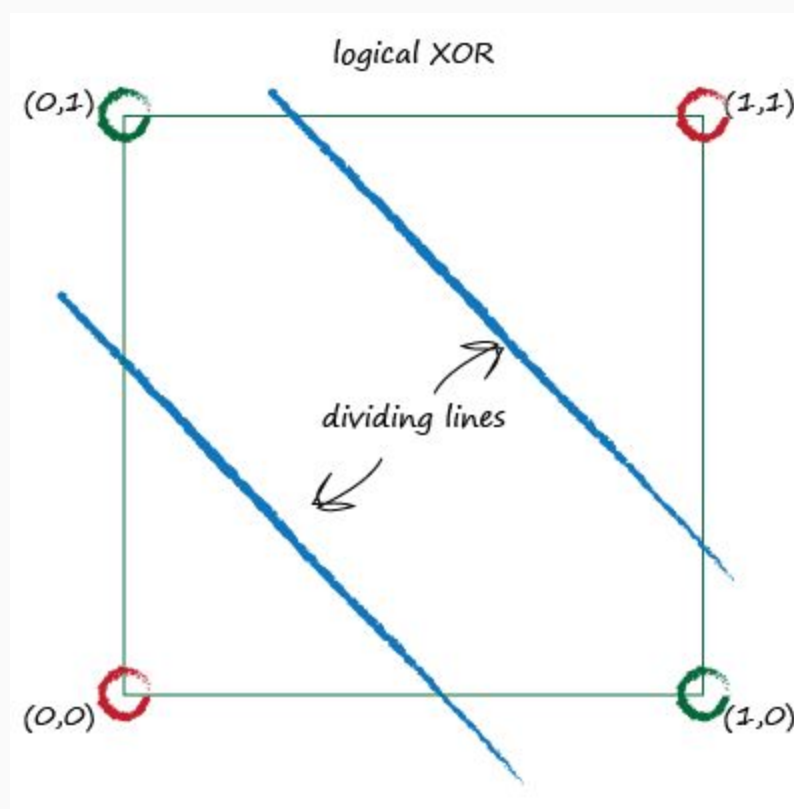


# XOR Puzzle!

Input A	Input B	XOR
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	0



# XOR Solution!



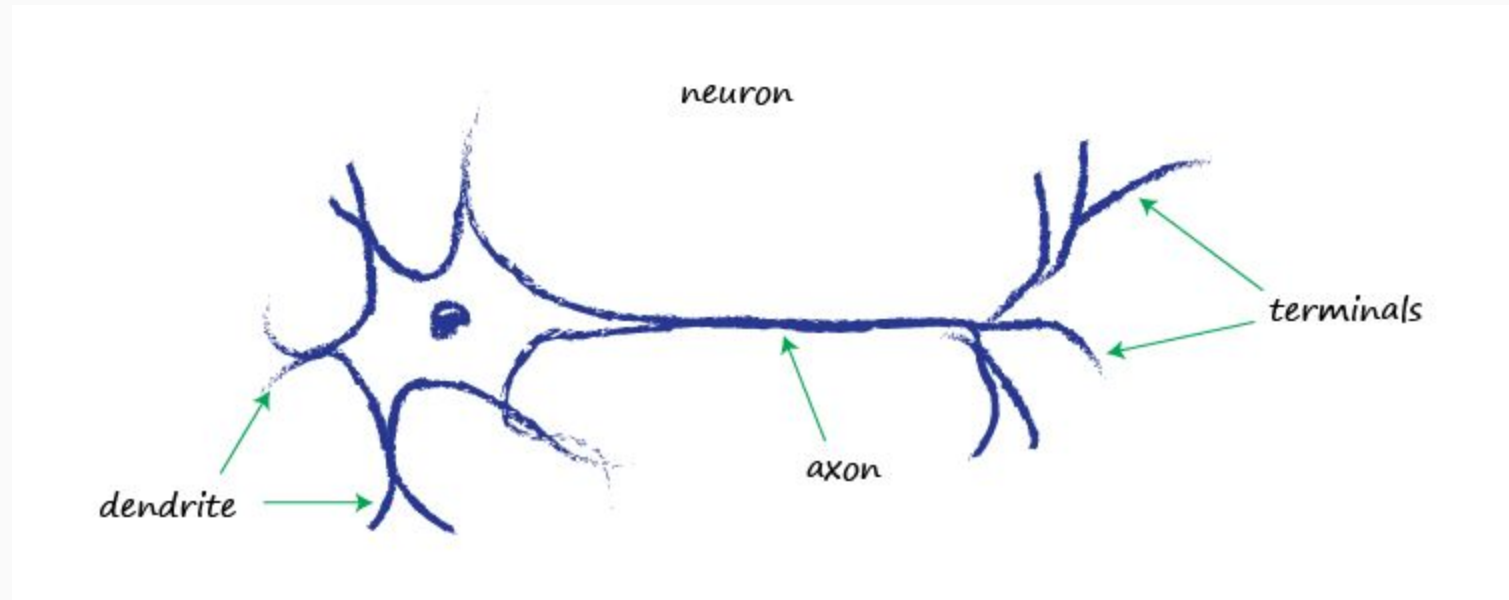
... use more than one node!

# Key Points



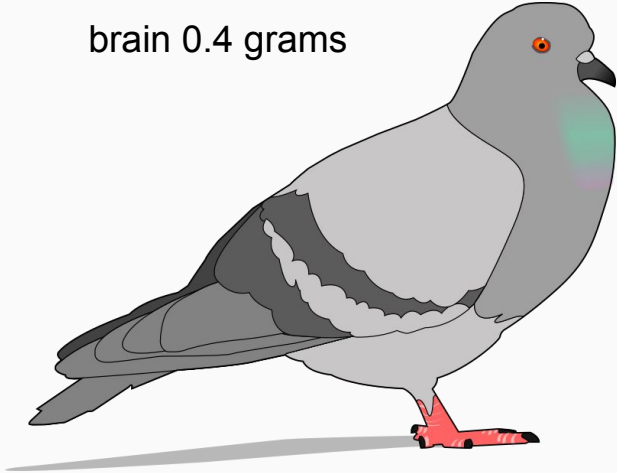
1. Some problems can't be solved with just a single simple linear classifier.
2. You can use **multiple nodes** working together to solve many of these problems.

# Brains in Nature

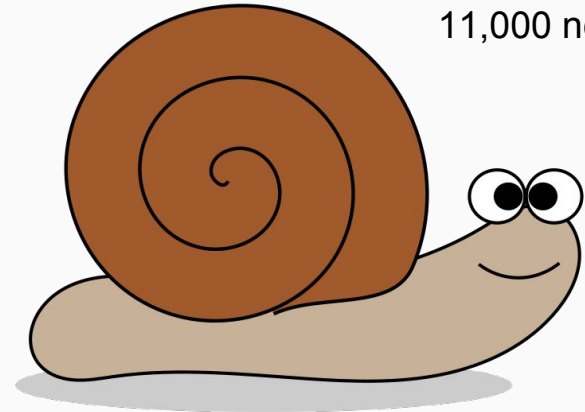


# Brains in Nature

brain 0.4 grams



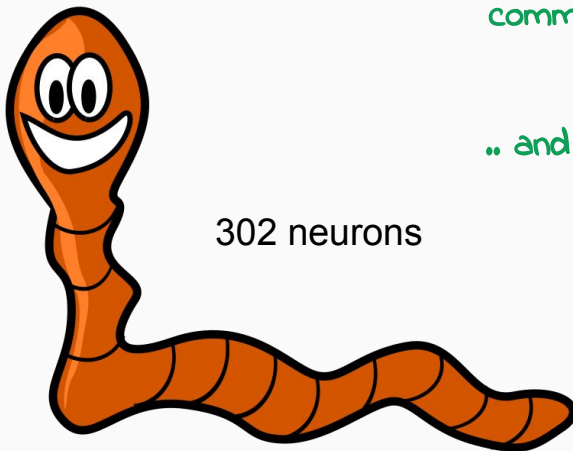
11,000 neurons



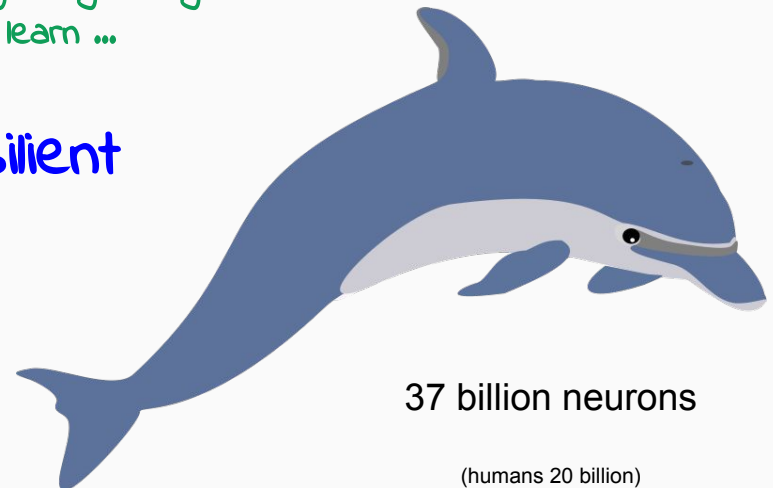
nature's brains can eat, fly, navigate, fight,  
communicate, play, learn ...

.. and they're **resilient**

302 neurons

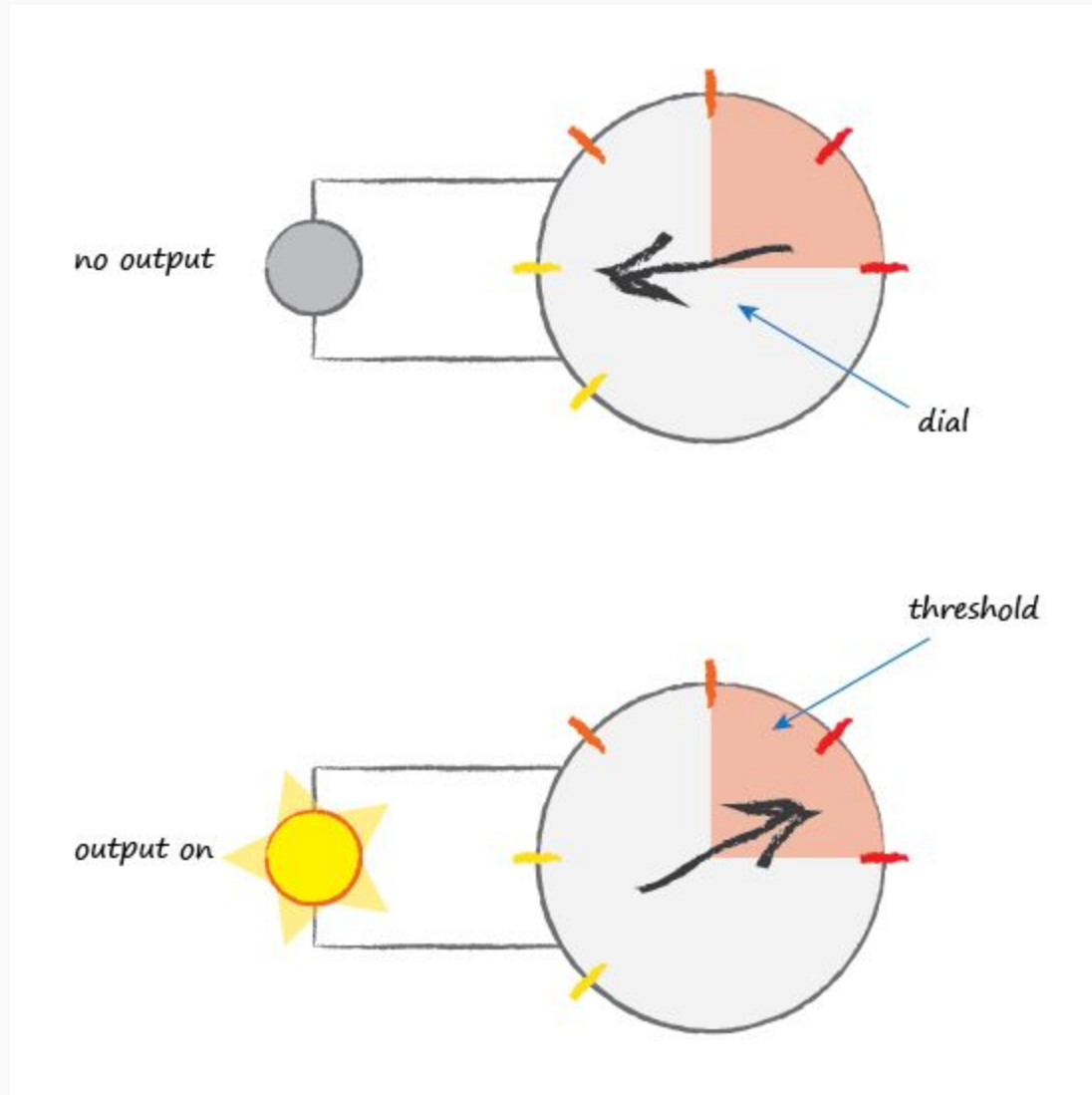


37 billion neurons



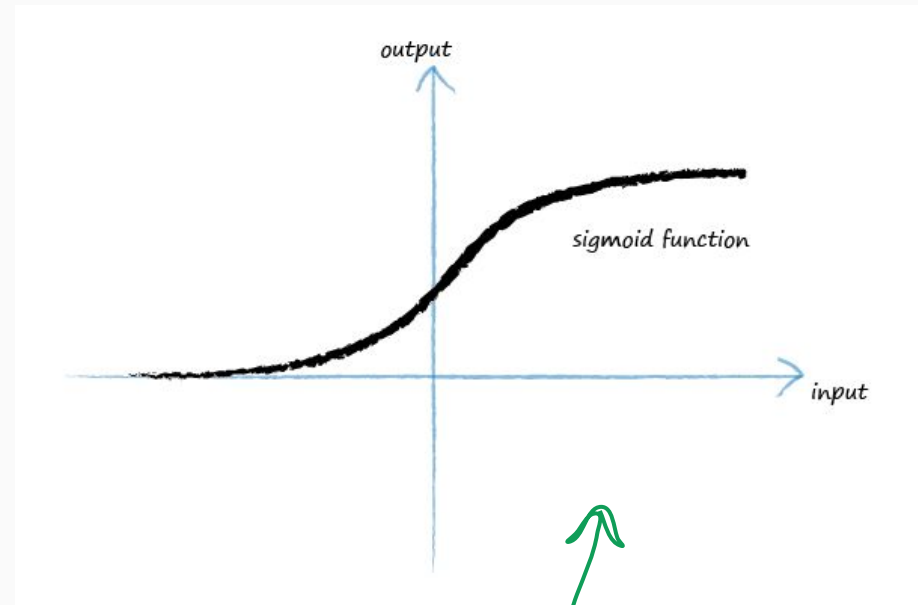
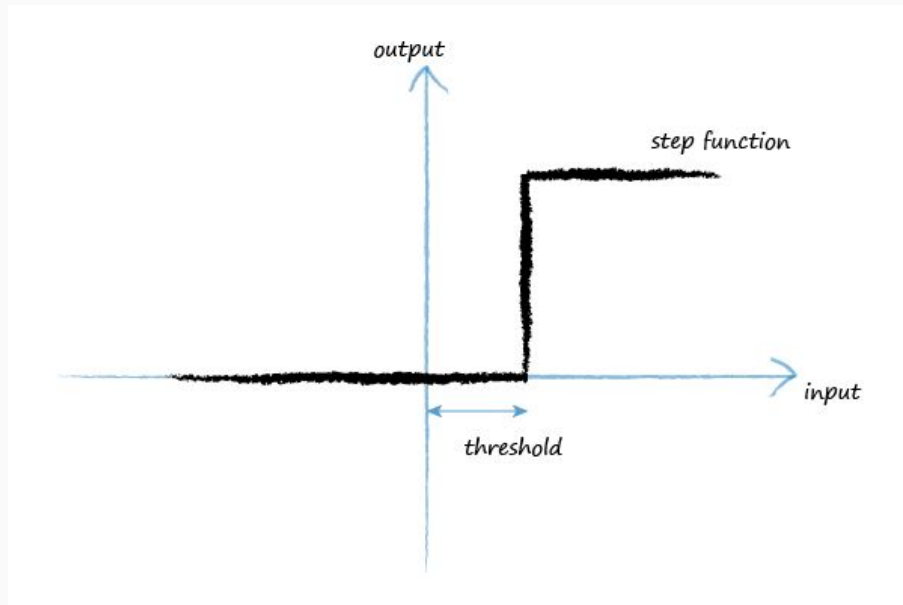
(humans 20 billion)

# Brains in Nature





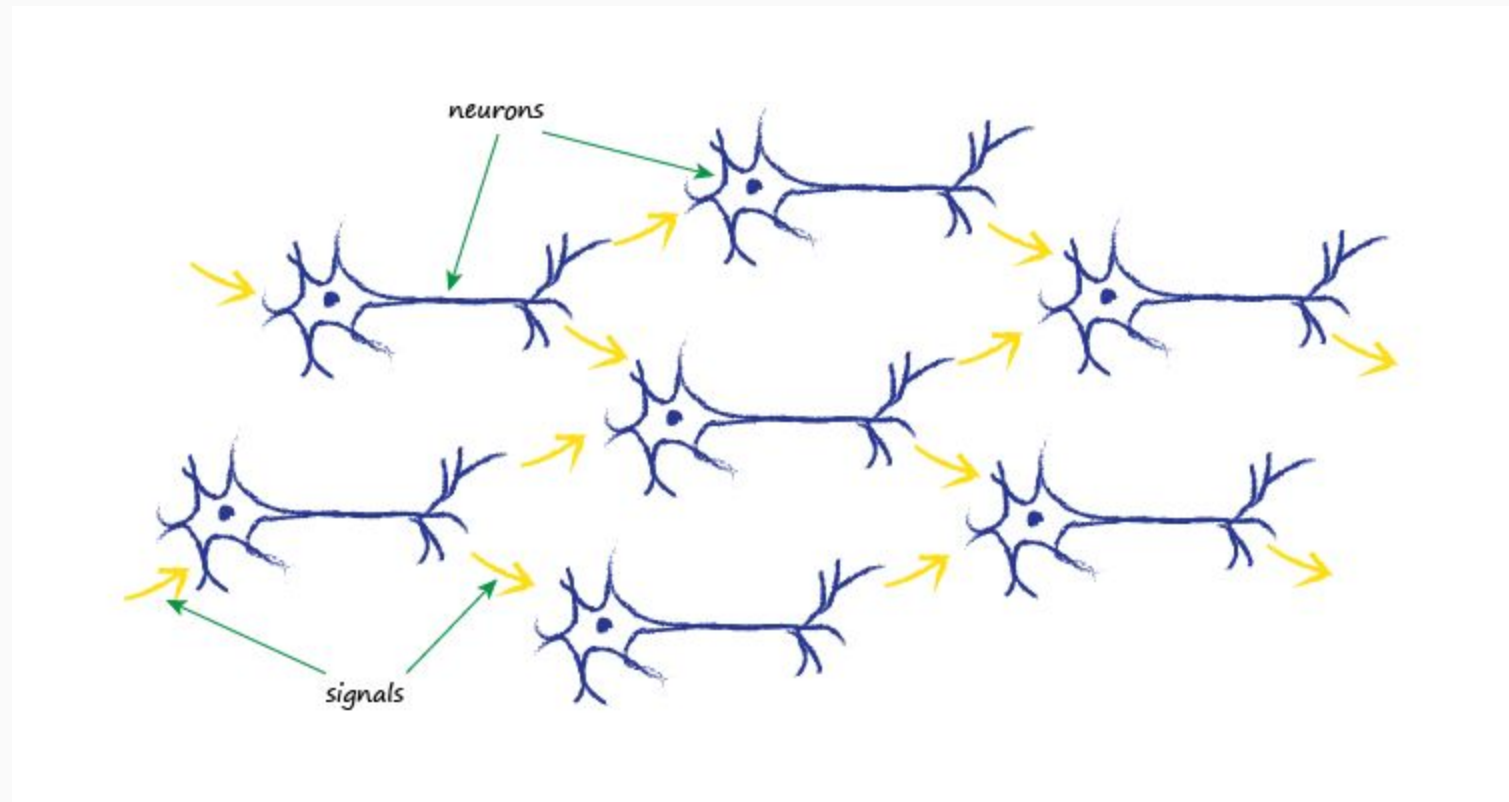
# Brains in Nature



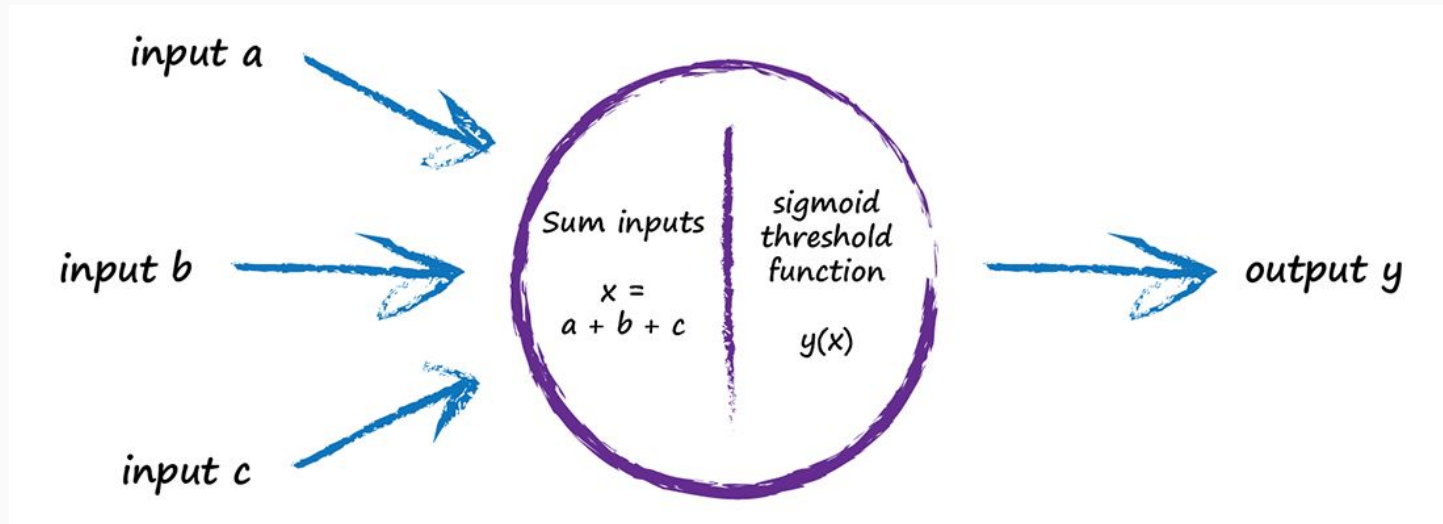
logistic function

$$y = 1 / (1 + e^{-x})$$

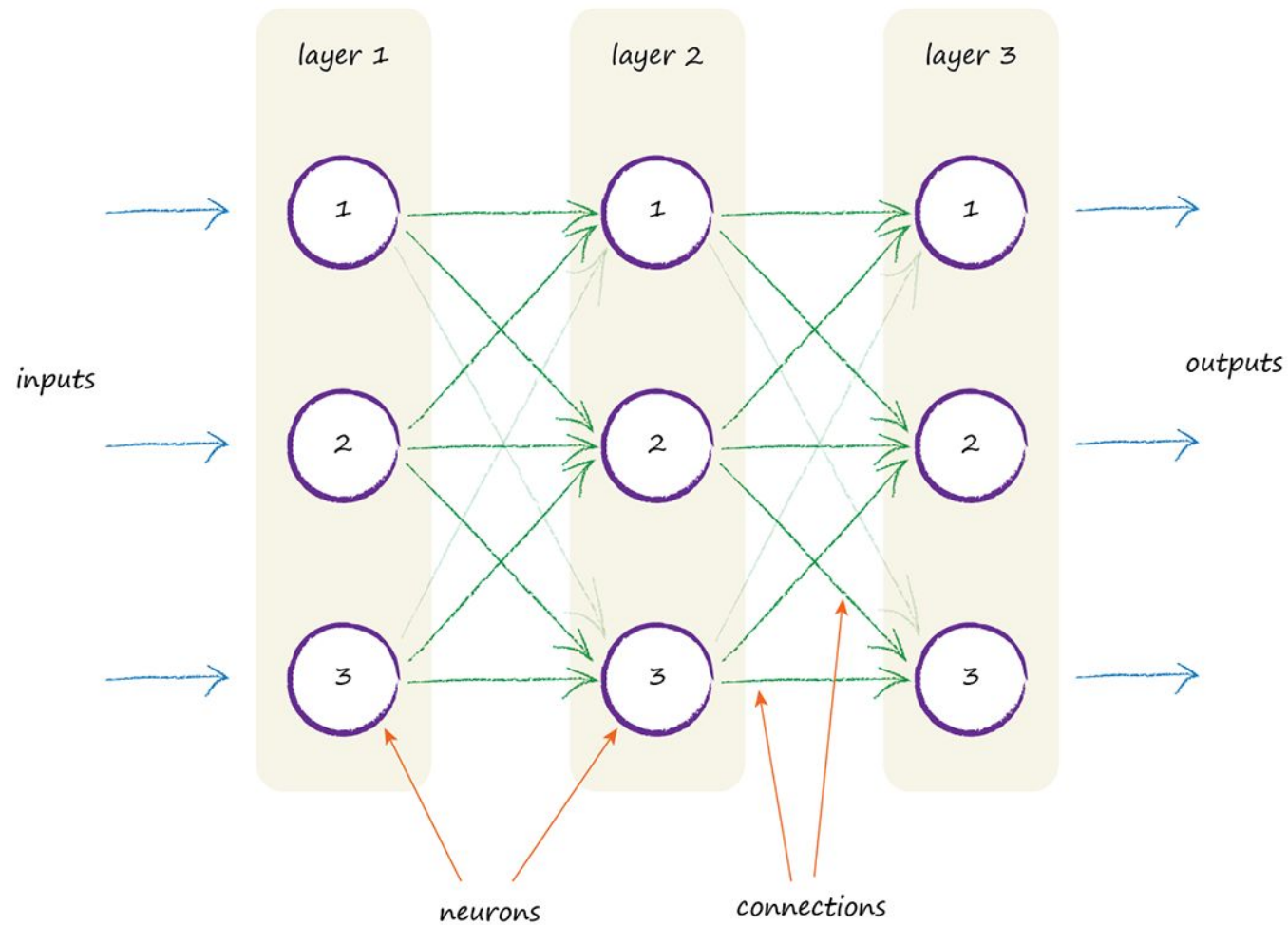
# Brains in Nature



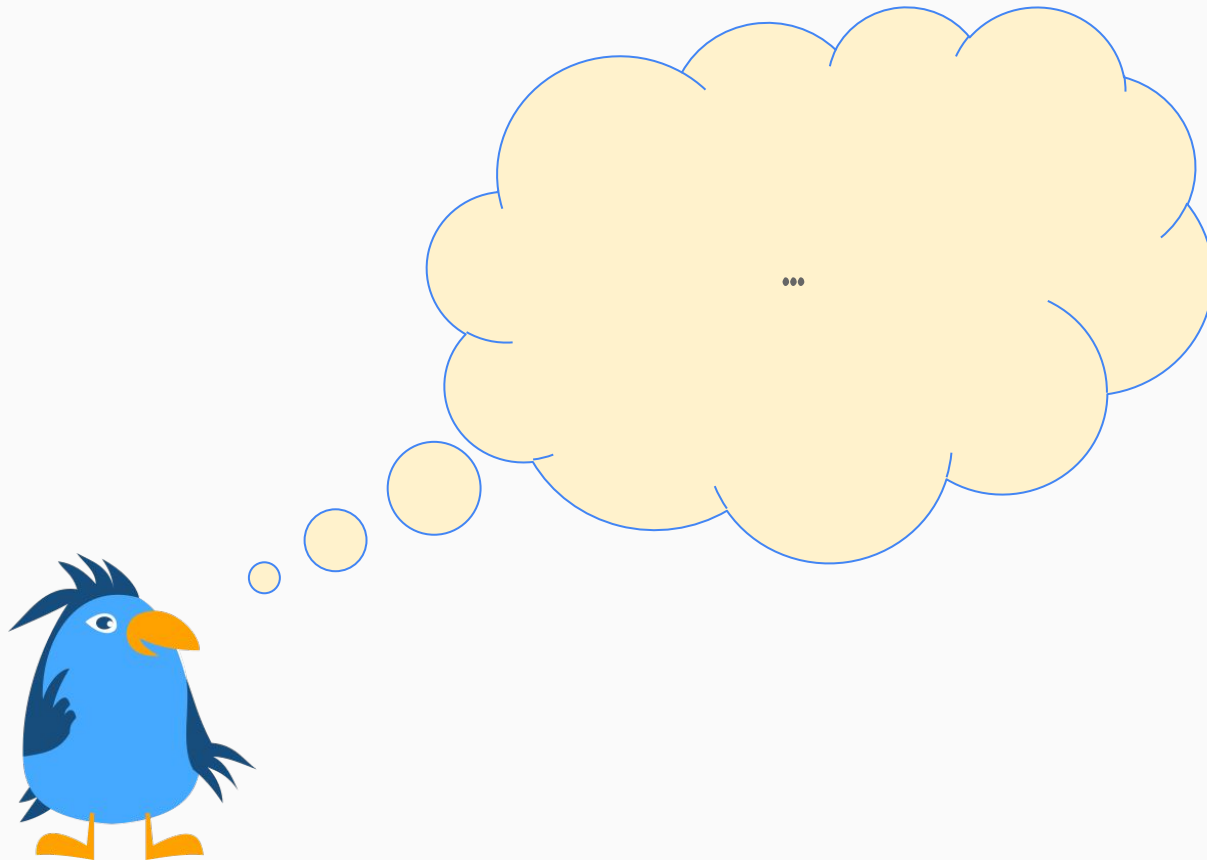
# Artificial Neuron



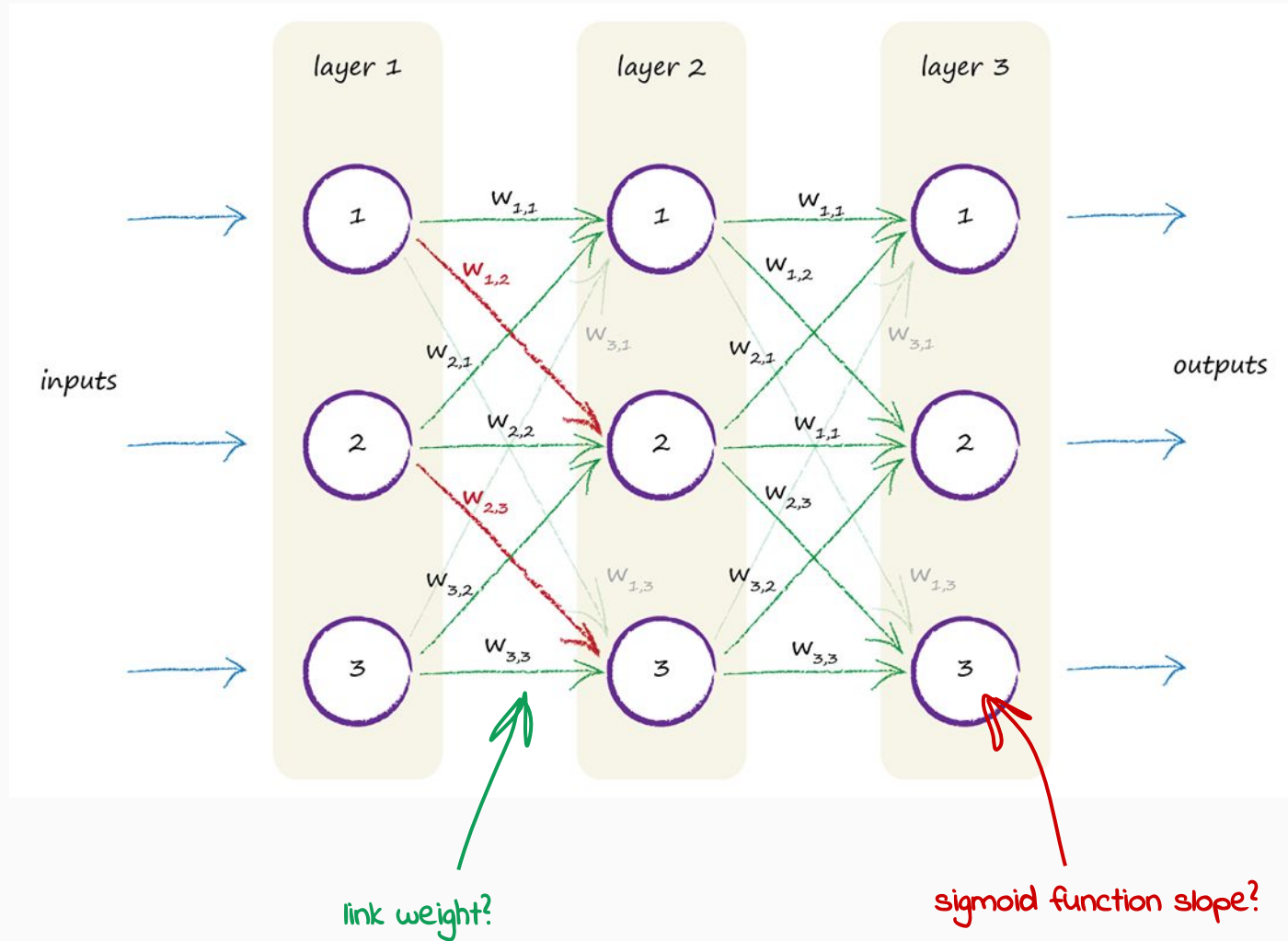
# Artificial Neural Network .. finally!



Pause.



# Where Does The Learning Happen?

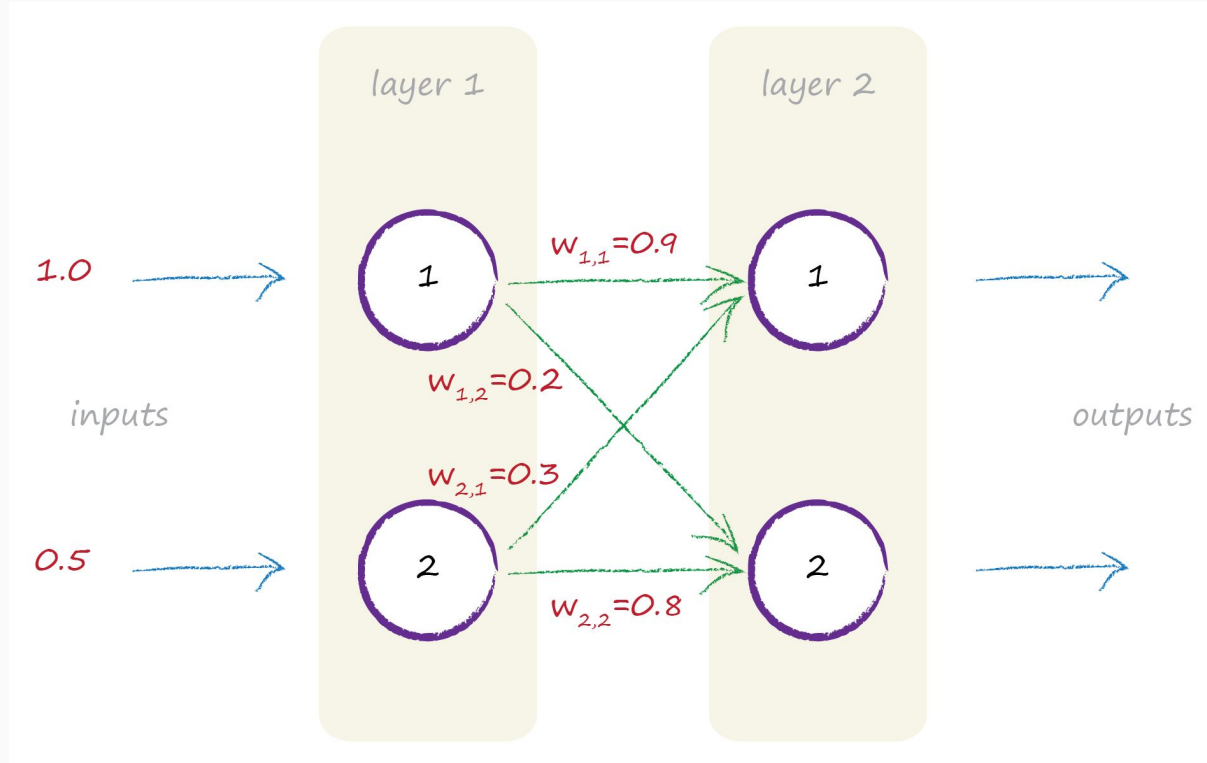


# Key Points



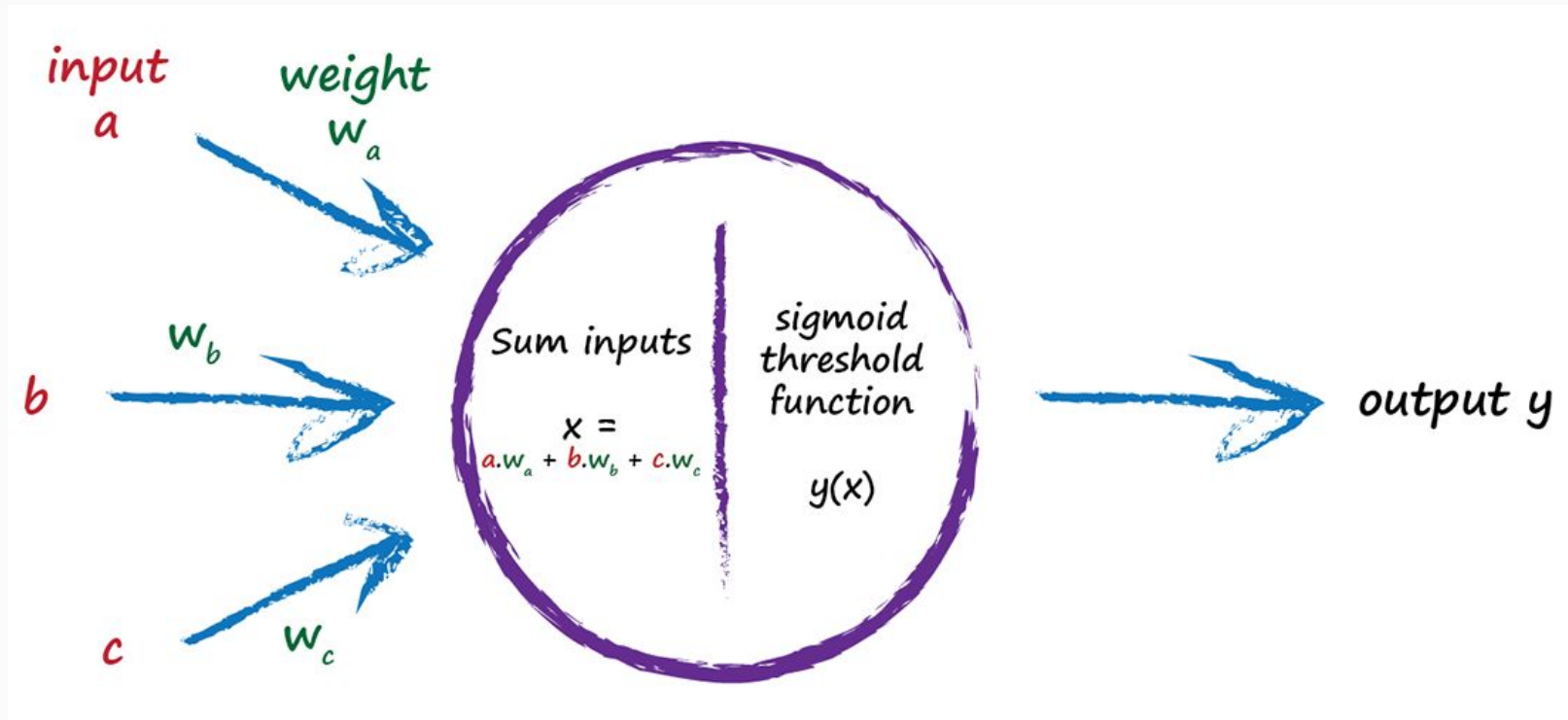
1. Natural brains can do **sophisticated** things, and are incredibly **resilient** to damage and imperfect signals .. unlike traditional computing.
2. Trying to copy biological brains partly inspired **artificial neural networks**.
3. **Link weights** are the adjustable parameter - it's where the learning happens.

# Feeding Signals Forward

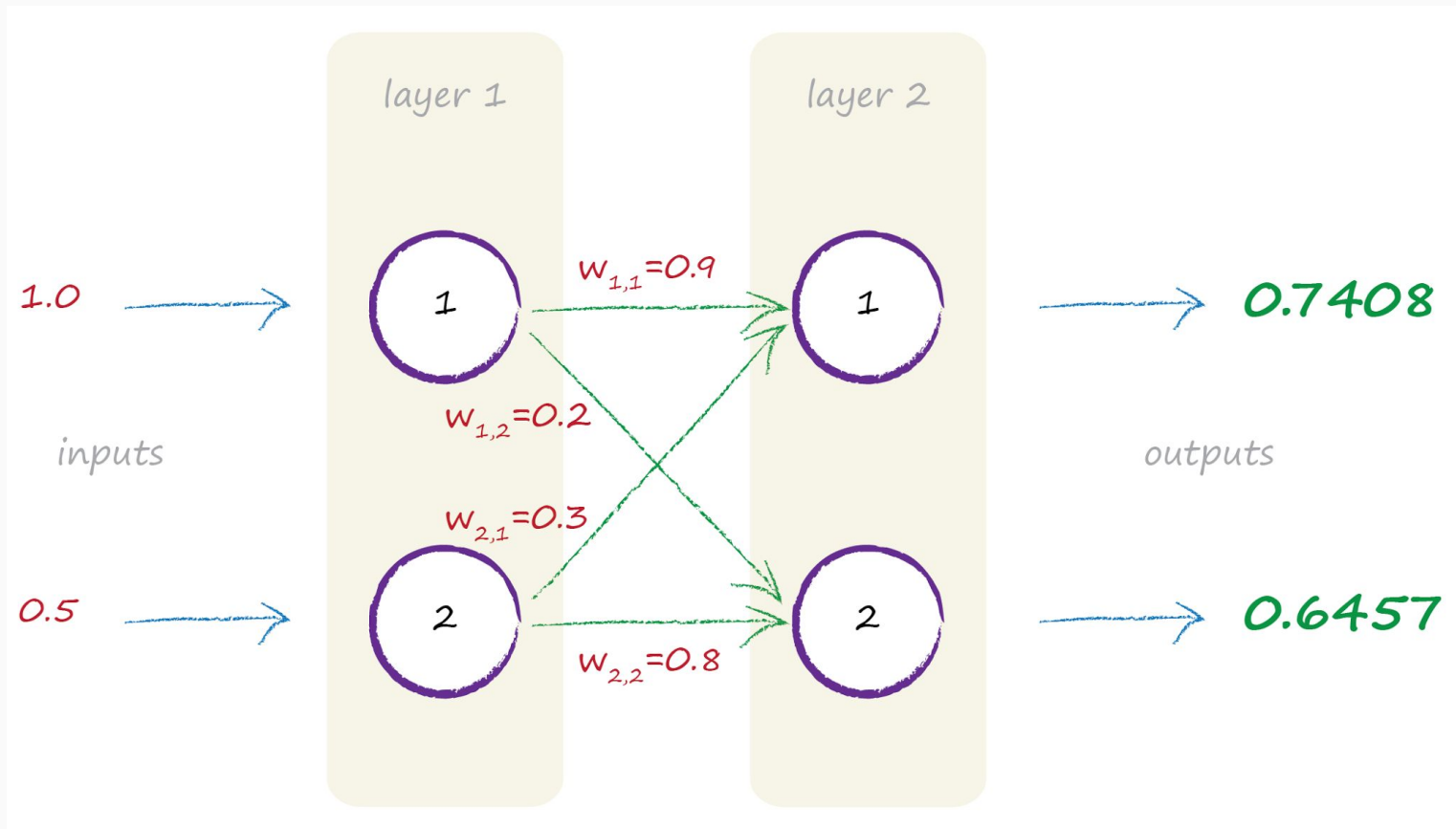




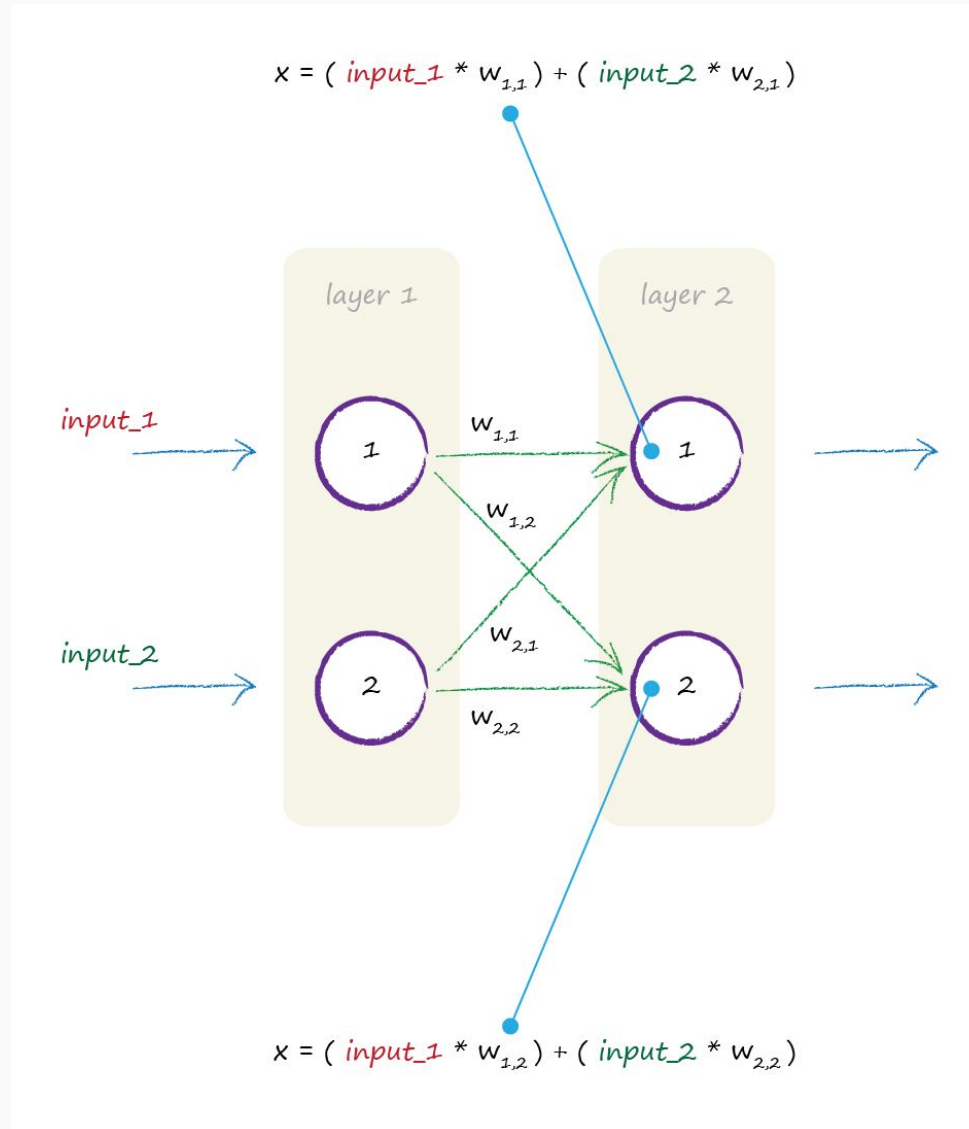
## Feeding Signals Forward



## Feeding Signals Forward



# Matrix Multiplication



# Matrix Multiplication

weights

incoming signals

$$\begin{pmatrix} w_{1,1} & w_{2,1} \\ w_{1,2} & w_{2,2} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \text{input\_1} \\ \text{input\_2} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} (\text{input\_1} * w_{1,1}) + (\text{input\_2} * w_{2,1}) \\ (\text{input\_1} * w_{1,2}) + (\text{input\_2} * w_{2,2}) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$w \cdot i = x$$

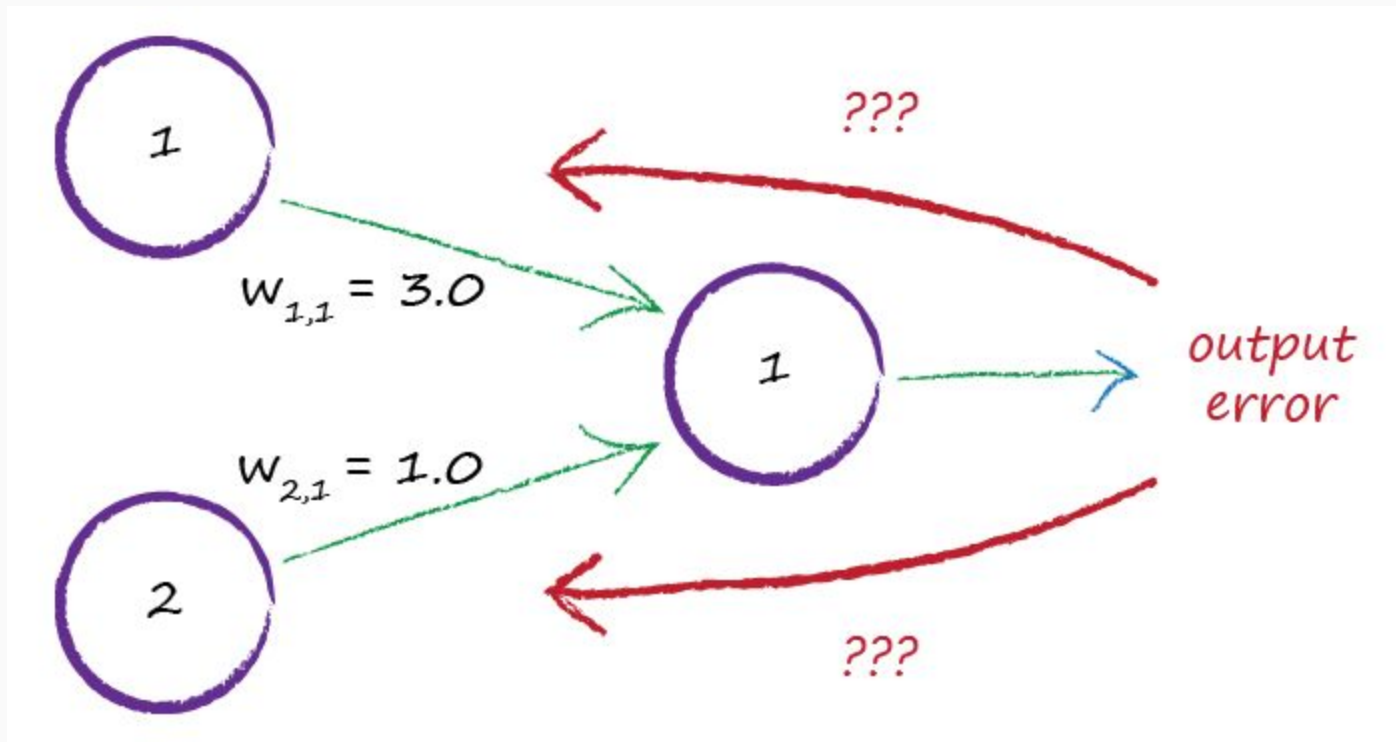
dot product

# Key Points

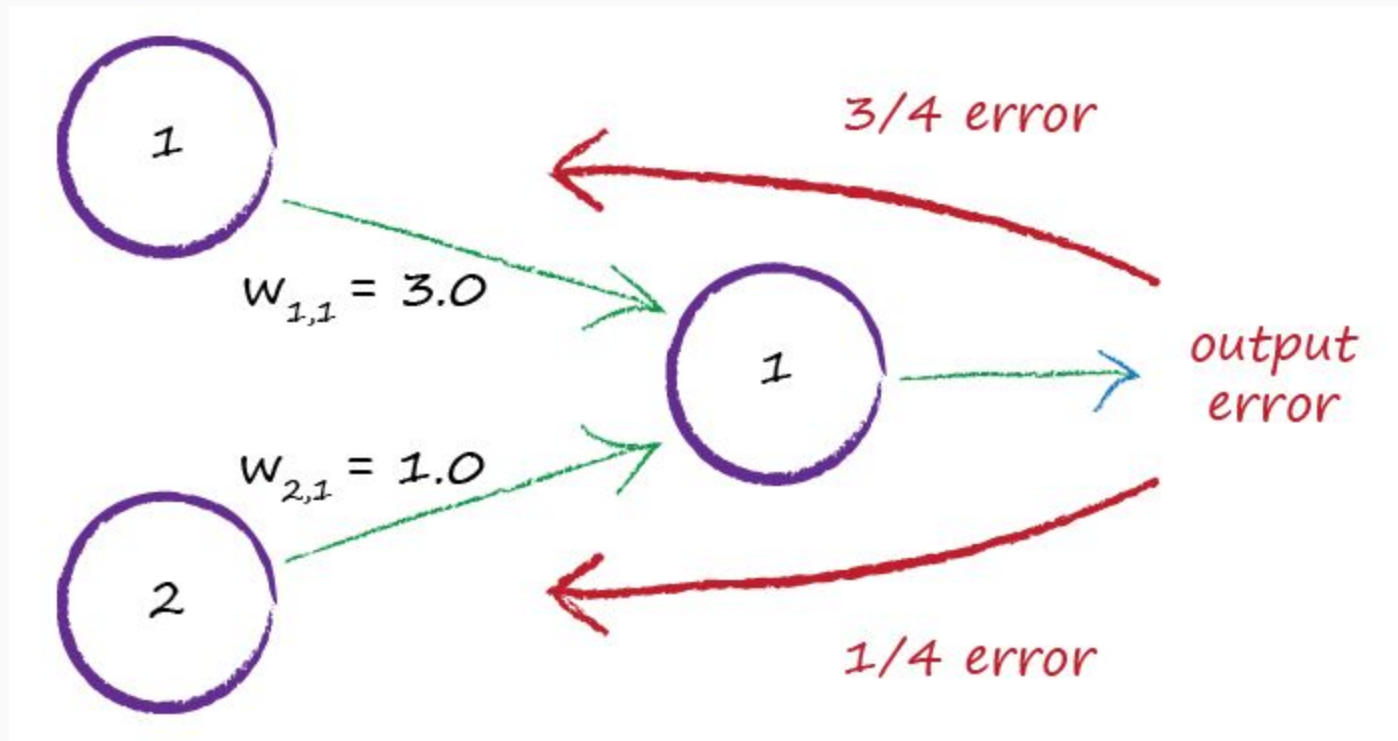


1. The many feedforward calculations can be expressed **concisely** as **matrix multiplication**, no matter what shape the network.
2. Some programming languages can do matrix multiplication really **efficiently** and **quickly**.

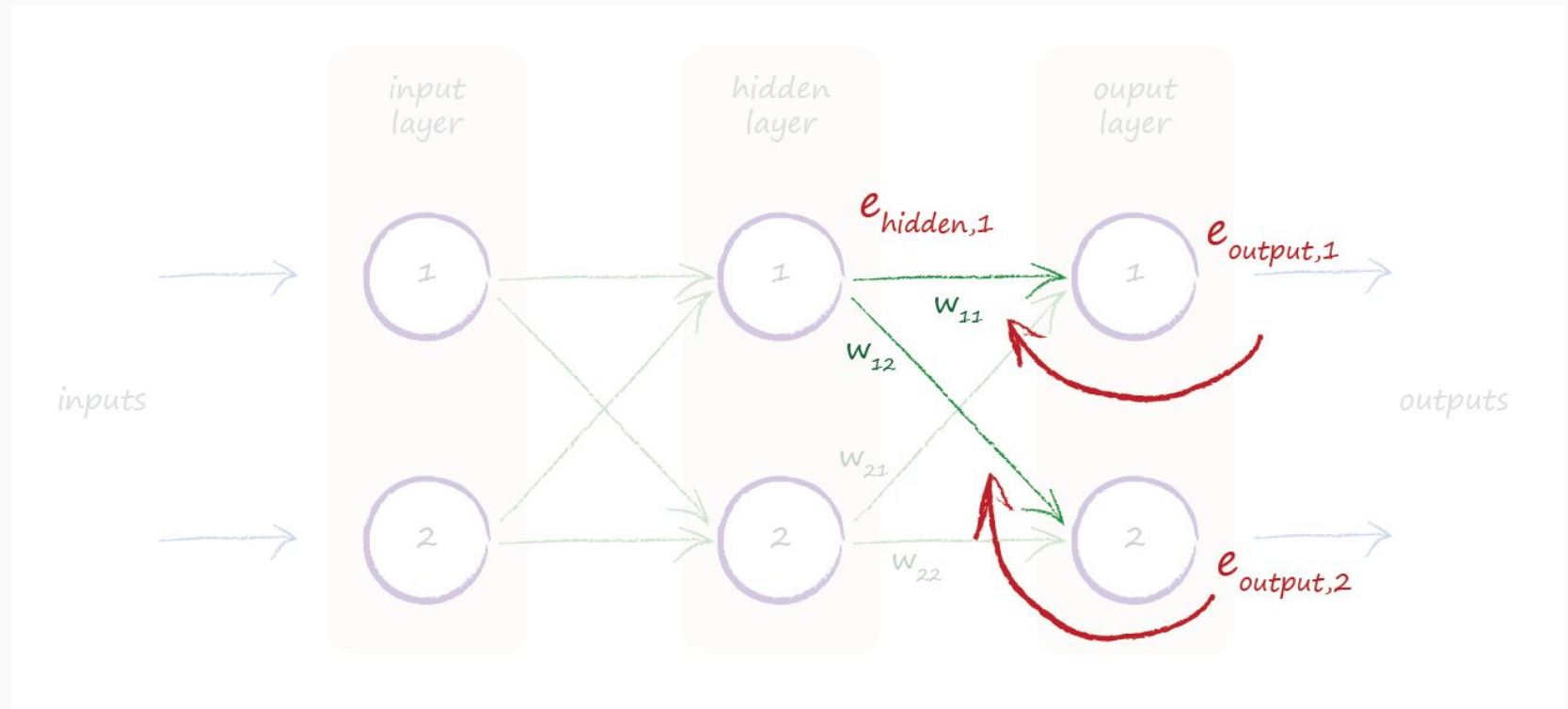
# Network Error



# Network Error

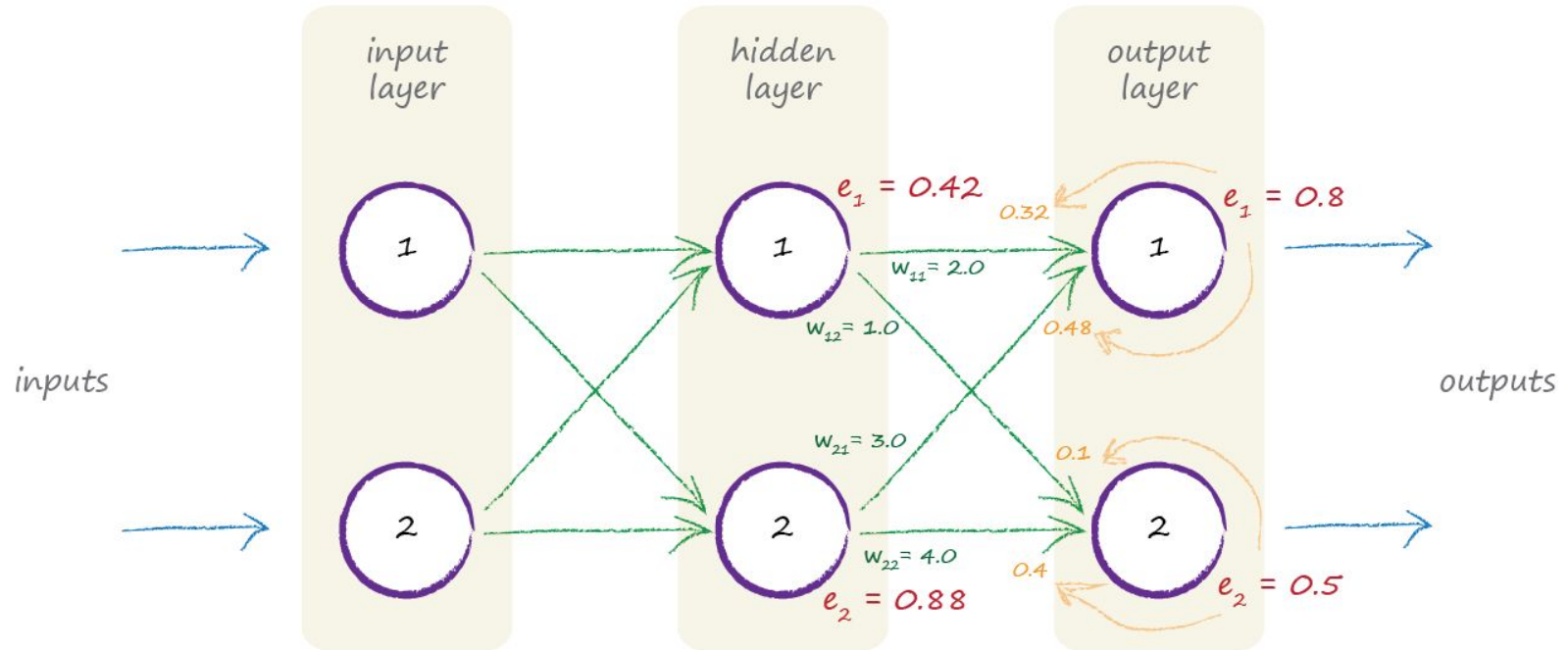


# Internal Error





# Internal Error



## Matrices Again!

$$\text{error}_{\text{hidden}} = \begin{pmatrix} w_{11} & w_{12} \\ w_{21} & w_{22} \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} e_1 \\ e_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{error}_{\text{hidden}} = w^{\text{T}}_{\text{hidden\_output}} \cdot \text{error}_{\text{output}}$$

# Key Points



1. Remember we use the **error** to guide how we refine a model's parameter - link weights.
2. The error at the output nodes is easy - the difference between the **desired** and **actual** outputs.
3. The error at internal nodes isn't obvious. A **heuristic** approach is to split it in **proportion** to the link weights.
4. ... and back propagating the error can be expressed as a **matrix** multiplication too!

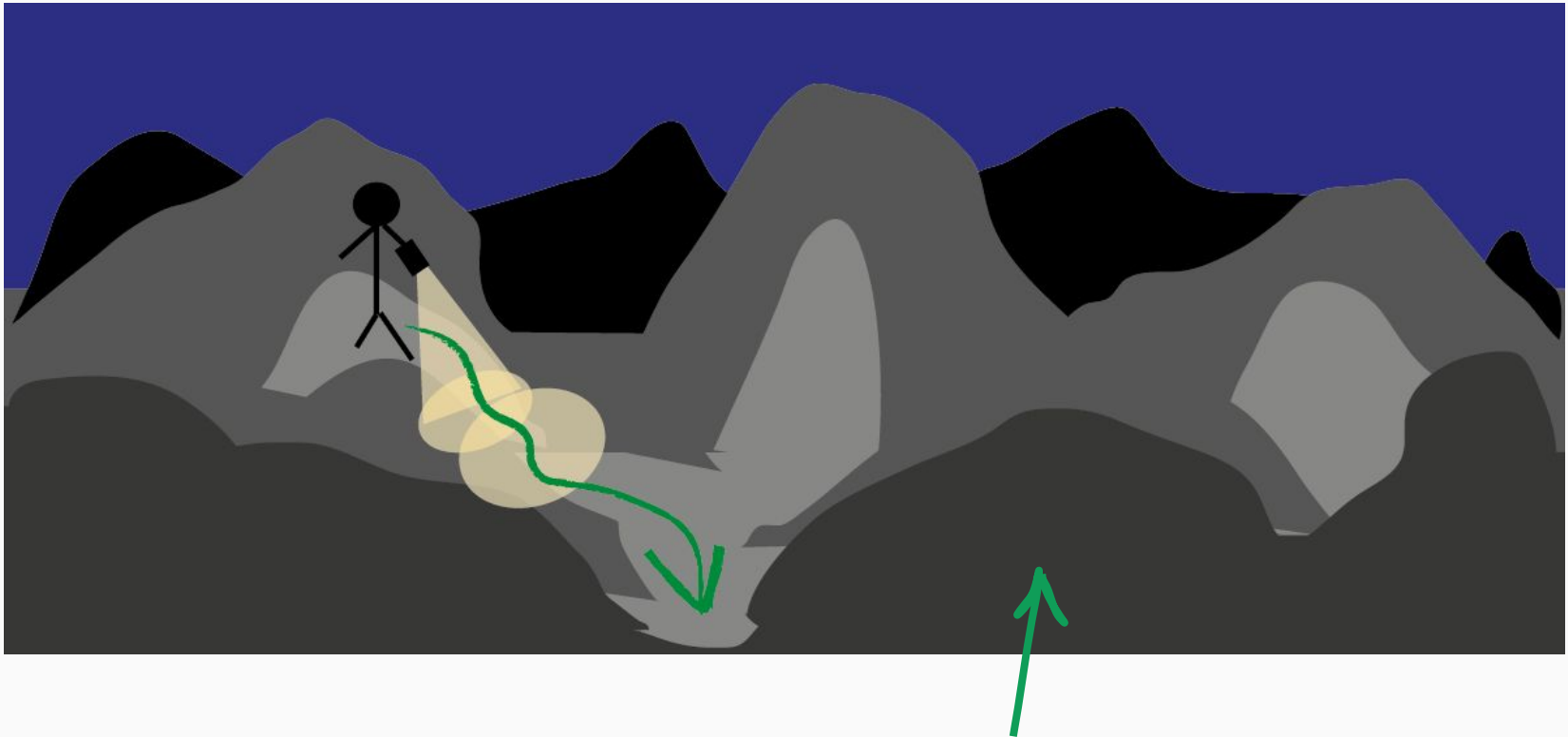
## Yes, But How Do We Actually Update The Weights?

$$o_k = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-\sum_{j=1}^3 (w_{j,k} \cdot \frac{1}{1 + e^{-\sum_{i=1}^3 (w_{i,j} \cdot x_i)})}}$$



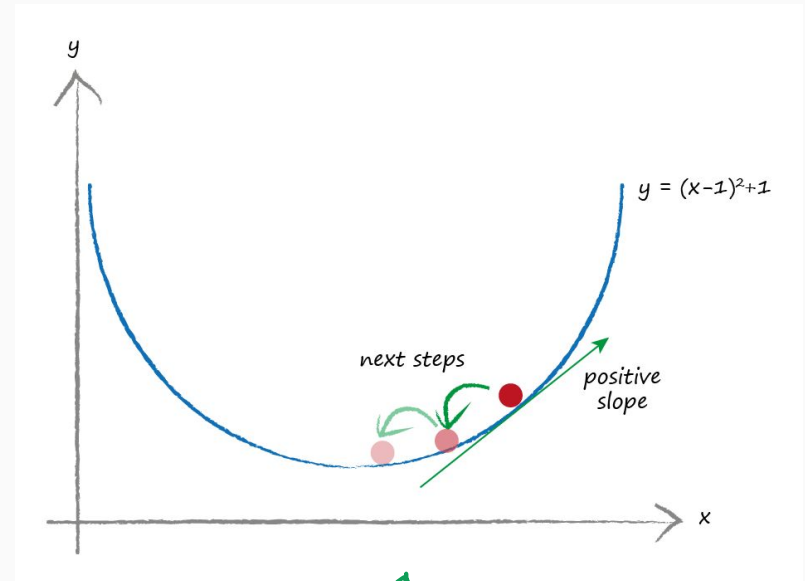
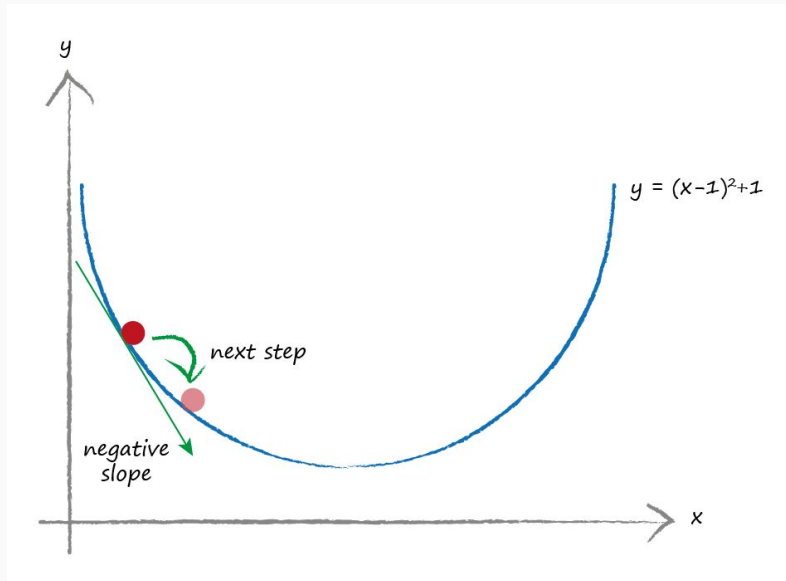
Aaarrggghhh !!

# Perfect is the Enemy of Good



landscape is a complicated difficult mathematical function ..  
... with all kinds of lumps, bumps, kinks ...

# Gradient Descent



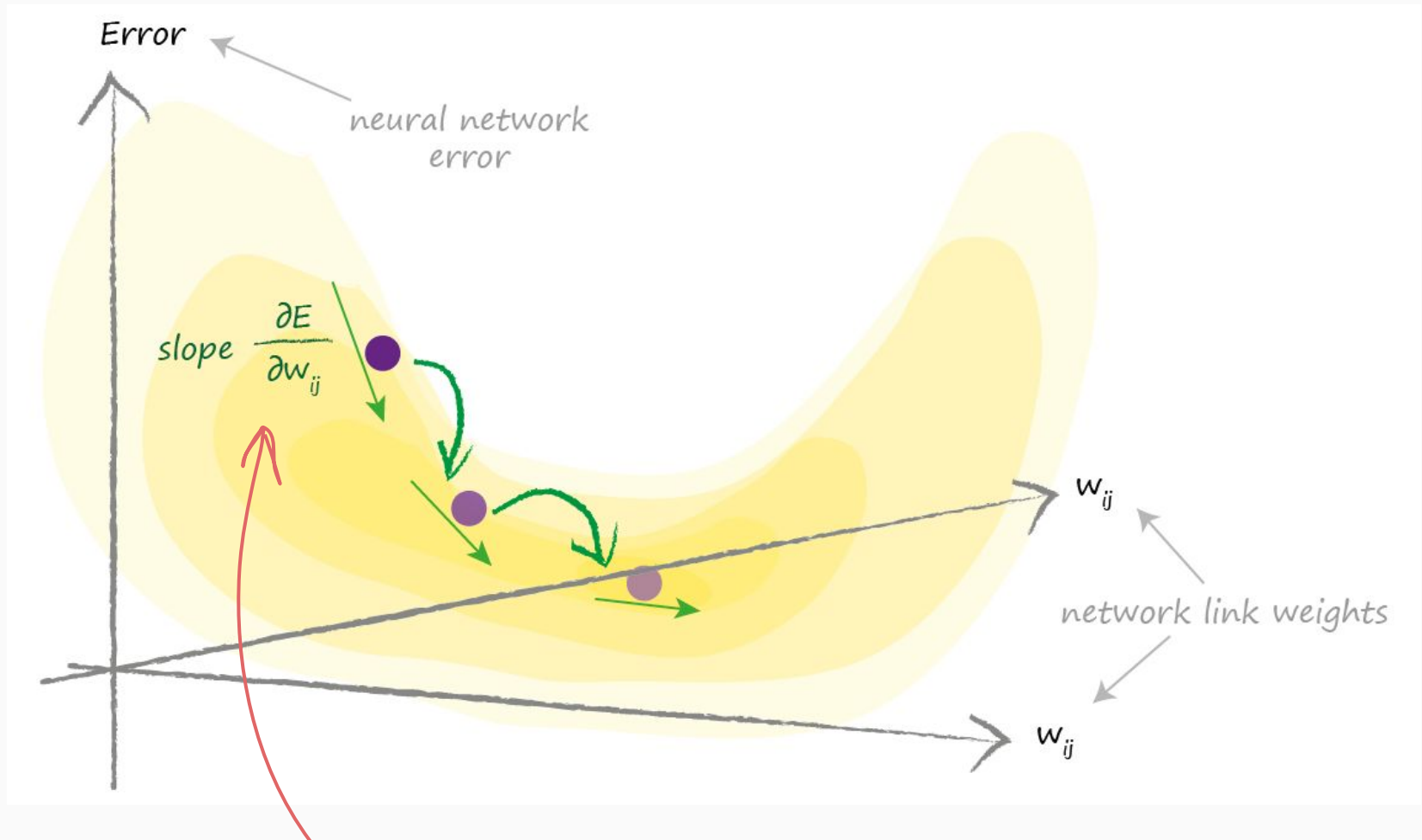
smaller gradient .. you're closer to the bottom ... take smaller steps?

# Key Points



1. **Gradient descent** is a practical way of finding the minimum of **difficult** functions.
2. You can avoid the chance of **overshooting** by taking smaller steps if the gradient gets shallower.
3. The error of a neural network is a **difficult** function of the link weights ... so maybe gradient descent will help ...

# Climbing Down the Network Error Landscape





# Error Gradient

$$E = (\text{desired} - \text{actual})^2$$

school level calculus (chain rule)

$$dE/dw_{ij} = -e_j \cdot o_j \cdot (1 - o_j) \cdot o_i$$

previous node



A gentle intro to calculus

<http://makeyourownneuralnetwork.blogspot.co.uk/2016/01/a-gentle-introduction-to-calculus.html>

# Updating the Weights

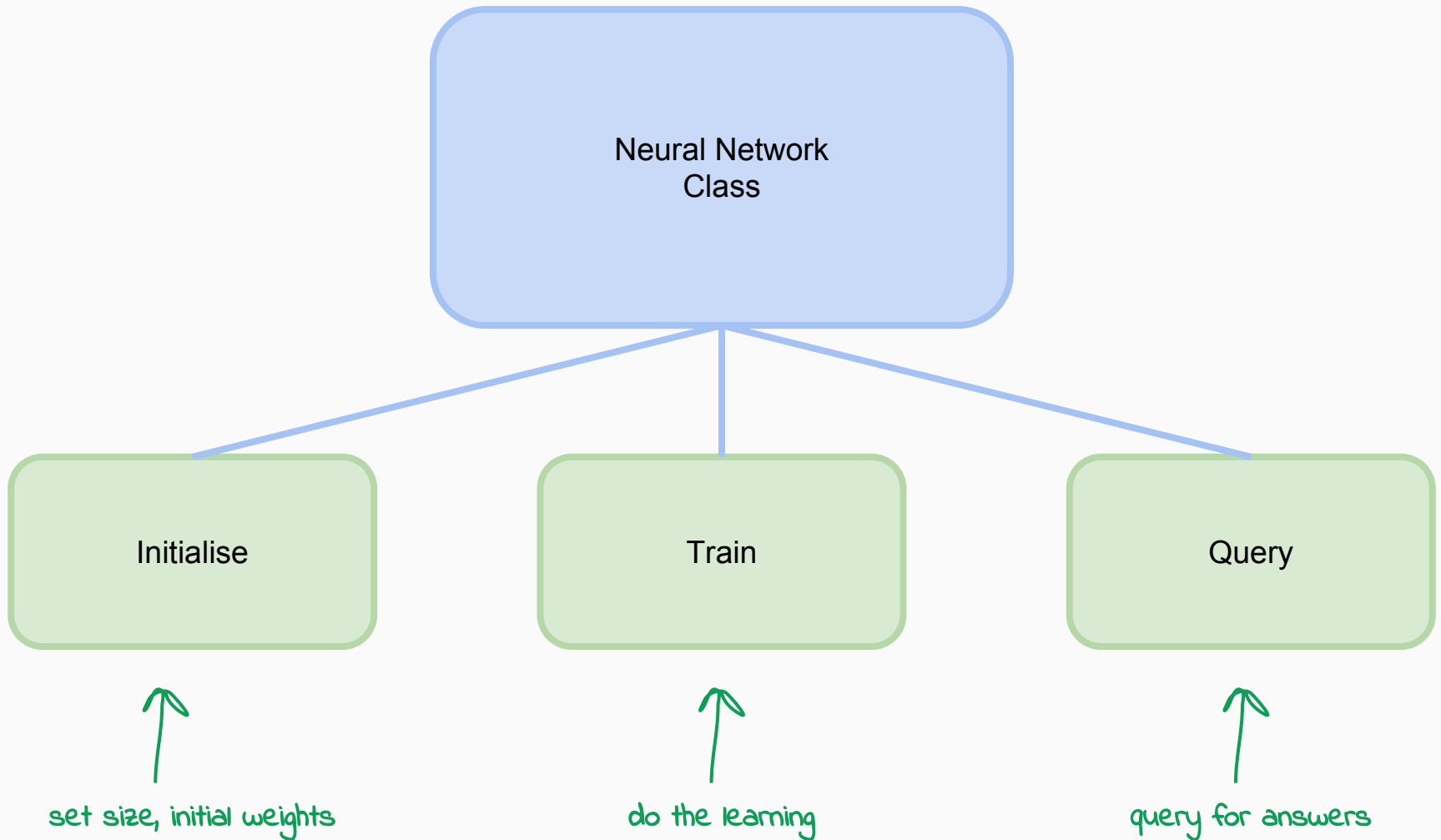
move  $w_{jk}$  in the opposite direction to the slope

$$\text{new } w_{jk} = \text{old } w_{jk} - \alpha \cdot \frac{\partial E}{\partial w_{jk}}$$

remember that learning rate

DIY

# Python Class and Functions



# Python has Cool Tools

numpy  
scipy  
matplotlib  
notebook

matrix maths



# Function - Initialise

```
# initialise the neural network
def __init__(self, inputnodes, hiddennodes, outputnodes, learningrate):
    # set number of nodes in each input, hidden, output layer
    self.inodes = inputnodes
    self.hnodes = hiddennodes
    self.onodes = outputnodes

    # link weight matrices, wih and who
    # weights inside the arrays are w_i_j, where link is from node i to node j in the next layer
    # w11 w21
    # w12 w22 etc
    self.wih = numpy.random.normal(0.0, pow(self.hnodes, -0.5), (self.hnodes, self.inodes))
    self.who = numpy.random.normal(0.0, pow(self.onodes, -0.5), (self.onodes, self.hnodes))

    # Learning rate
    self.lr = learningrate

    # activation function is the sigmoid function
    self.activation_function = lambda x: scipy.special.expit(x)

pass
```



`numpy.random.normal()`

random initial weights

# Function - Query

combined weighted signals into hidden layer

then sigmoid applied

```
# query the neural network
def query(self, inputs_list):
    # convert inputs list to 2d array
    inputs = numpy.array(inputs_list, ndmin=2).T

    # calculate signals into hidden layer
    hidden_inputs = numpy.dot(self.wih, inputs)
    # calculate the signals emerging from hidden layer
    hidden_outputs = self.activation_function(hidden_inputs)

    # calculate signals into final output layer
    final_inputs = numpy.dot(self.who, hidden_outputs)
    # calculate the signals emerging from final output layer
    final_outputs = self.activation_function(final_inputs)

    return final_outputs
```



numpy.dot()

similar for output layer

# Function - Train

```
# train the neural network
def train(self, inputs_list, targets_list):
    # convert inputs list to 2d array
    inputs = numpy.array(inputs_list, ndmin=2).T
    targets = numpy.array(targets_list, ndmin=2).T

    # calculate signals into hidden layer
    hidden_inputs = numpy.dot(self.wih, inputs)
    # calculate the signals emerging from hidden layer
    hidden_outputs = self.activation_function(hidden_inputs)

    # calculate signals into final output layer
    final_inputs = numpy.dot(self.who, hidden_outputs)
    # calculate the signals emerging from final output layer
    final_outputs = self.activation_function(final_inputs)

    # output layer error is the (target - actual)
    output_errors = targets - final_outputs
    # hidden layer error is the output_errors, split by weights, recombined at hidden nodes
    hidden_errors = numpy.dot(self.who.T, output_errors)

    # update the weights for the links between the hidden and output layers
    self.who += self.lr * numpy.dot((output_errors * final_outputs * (1.0 - final_outputs)),
    numpy.transpose(hidden_outputs))

    # update the weights for the links between the input and hidden layers
    self.wih += self.lr * numpy.dot((hidden_errors * hidden_outputs * (1.0 - hidden_outputs)),
    numpy.transpose(inputs))

pass
```

same feed forward as before

output layer errors

hidden layer errors

update weights

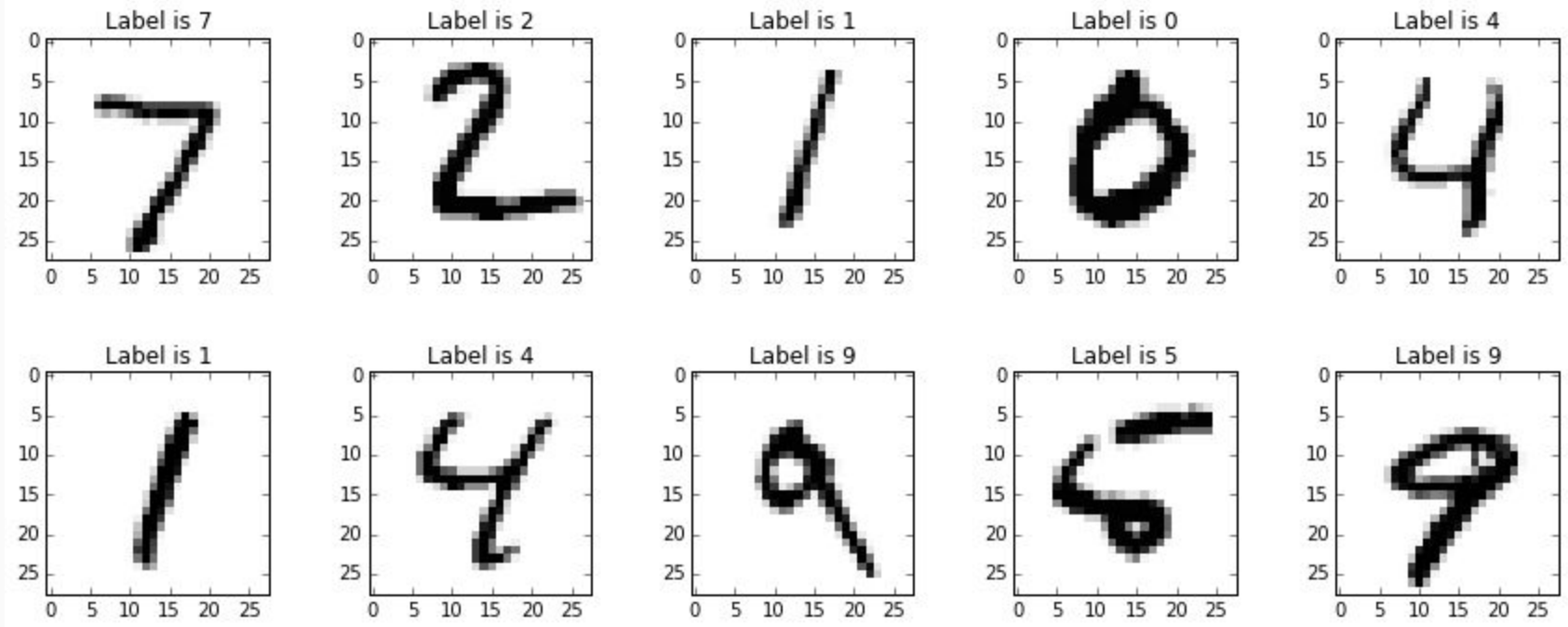
The diagram illustrates the flow of data and error calculation in a neural network training function. A red dashed line separates the feedforward phase from the backpropagation phase. Red and blue arrows point from handwritten labels to specific lines of code.

- same feed forward as before** (red text) points to the feedforward calculations (lines 10-14).
- output layer errors** (blue text) points to the calculation of output errors (line 20).
- hidden layer errors** (blue text) points to the calculation of hidden errors (line 22).
- update weights** (blue text) points to the weight update calculations (lines 24 and 28).



Handwriting

# Handwritten Numbers Challenge



# MNIST Datasets

MNIST dataset:

60,000 training data examples

10,000 test data examples

```
In [8]: data_file = open("mnist_dataset/mnist_train_100.csv", 'r')
data_list = data_file.readlines()
data_file.close()
```

```
In [9]: len(data_list)
```

Out[9]: 100

```
In [10]: data_list[0]
```

[illegible]

# MNIST Datasets

```
In [8]: data_file = open("mnist_dataset/mnist_train_100.csv", 'r')
data_list = data_file.readlines()
data_file.close()
```

```
In [9]: len(data_list)
```

Out[9]: 100

```
In [10]: data_list[0]
```

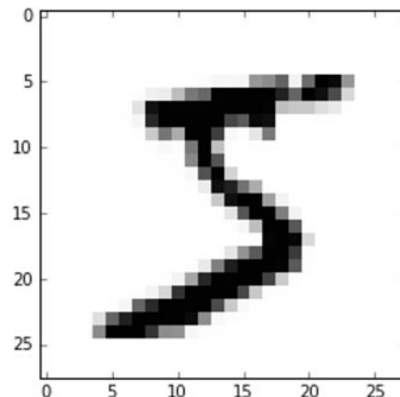
[illegible]

label

784 pixels  
values

```
In [32]: all_values = data_list[0].split(',')
         image_array = numpy.asarray(all_values[1:]).reshape((28,28))
         matplotlib.pyplot.imshow(image_array, cmap='Greys', interpolation='None')
```

```
Out[32]: <matplotlib.image.AxesImage at 0x108818cc0>
```



28 by 28 pixel image

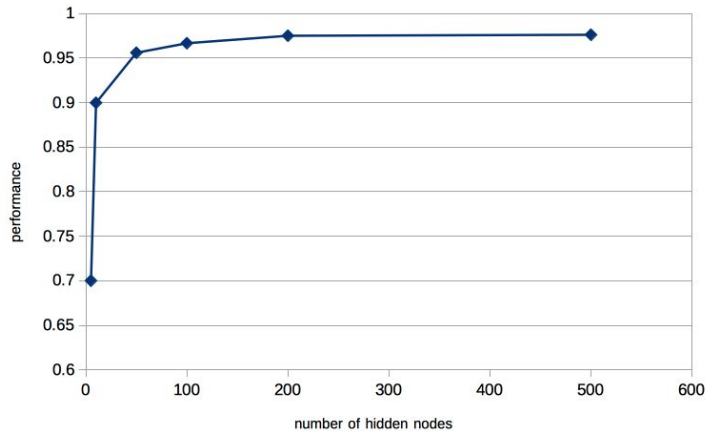
# Output Layer Values

output layer	label	example "5"	example "0"	example "9"
0	0	0.00	0.95	0.02
1	1	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	2	0.01	0.01	0.01
3	3	0.00	0.01	0.01
4	4	0.01	0.02	0.40
5	5	0.99	0.00	0.01
6	6	0.00	0.00	0.01
7	7	0.00	0.00	0.00
8	8	0.02	0.00	0.01
9	9	0.01	0.02	0.86

# Experiments

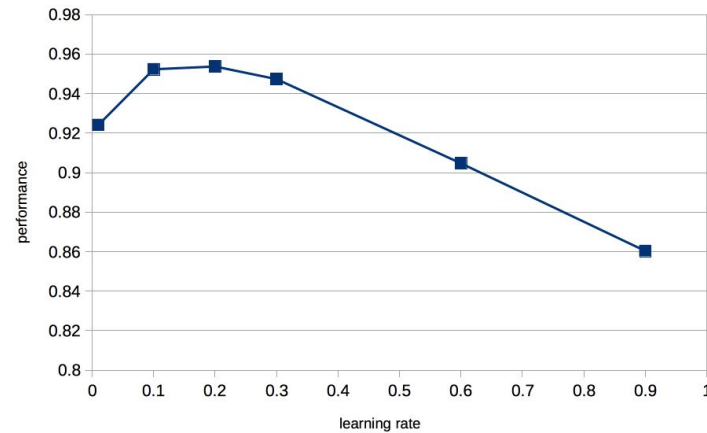
Performance and Hidden Nodes

MNIST dataset with 3-layer neural network



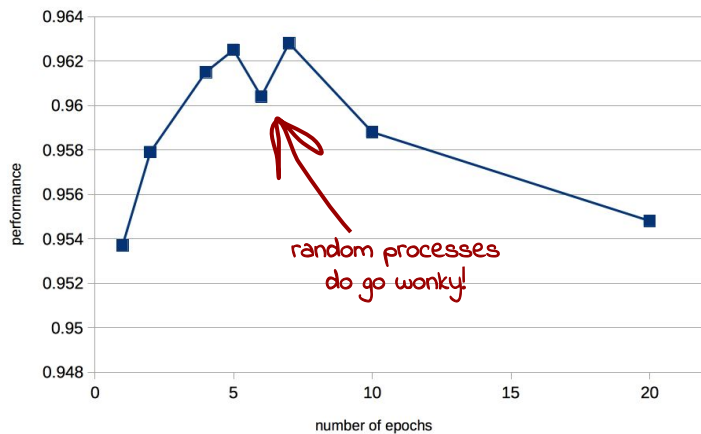
Performance and Learning Rate

MNIST dataset with 3-layer neural network



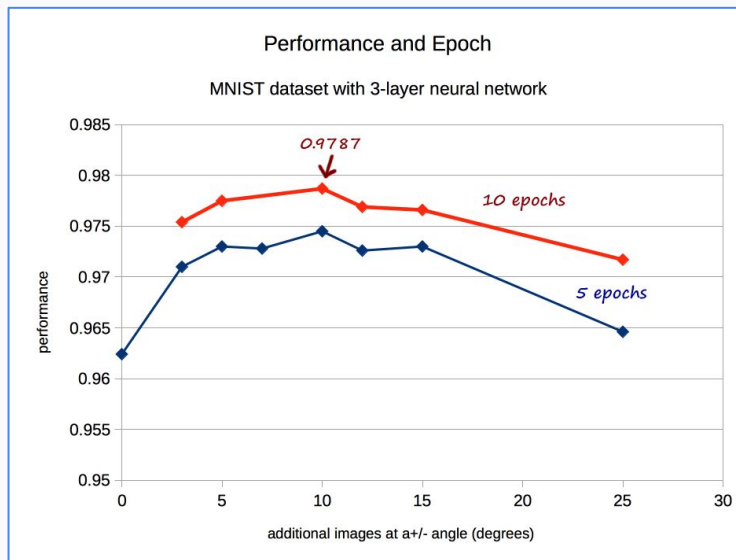
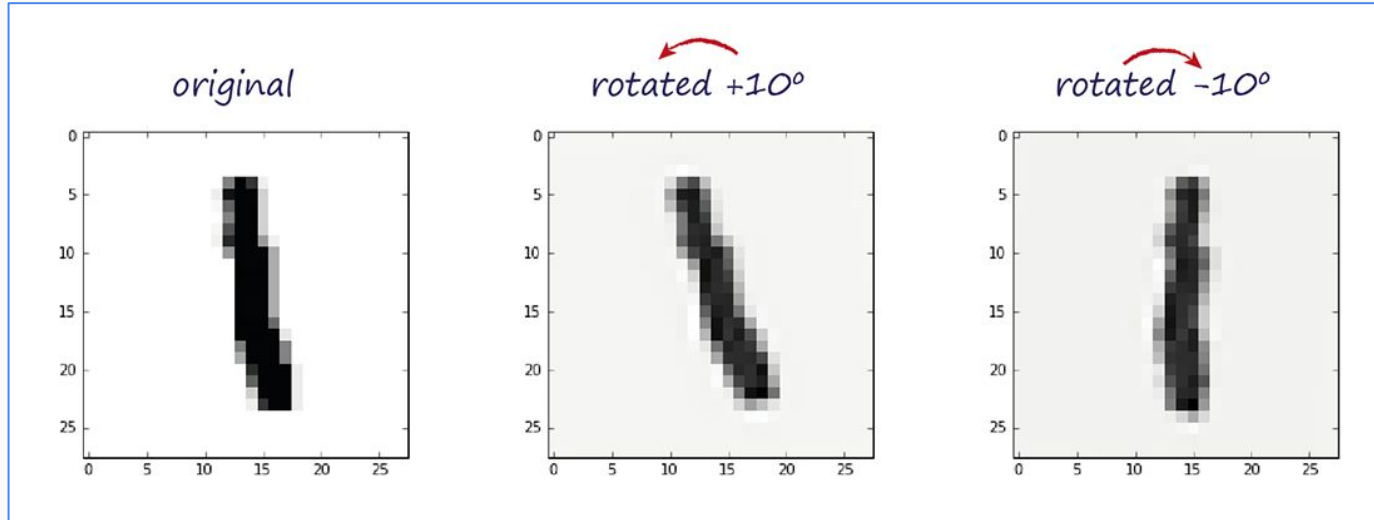
Performance and Epoch

MNIST dataset with 3-layer neural network



96% is very good!  
we've only used simple ideas  
and code

# More Experiments

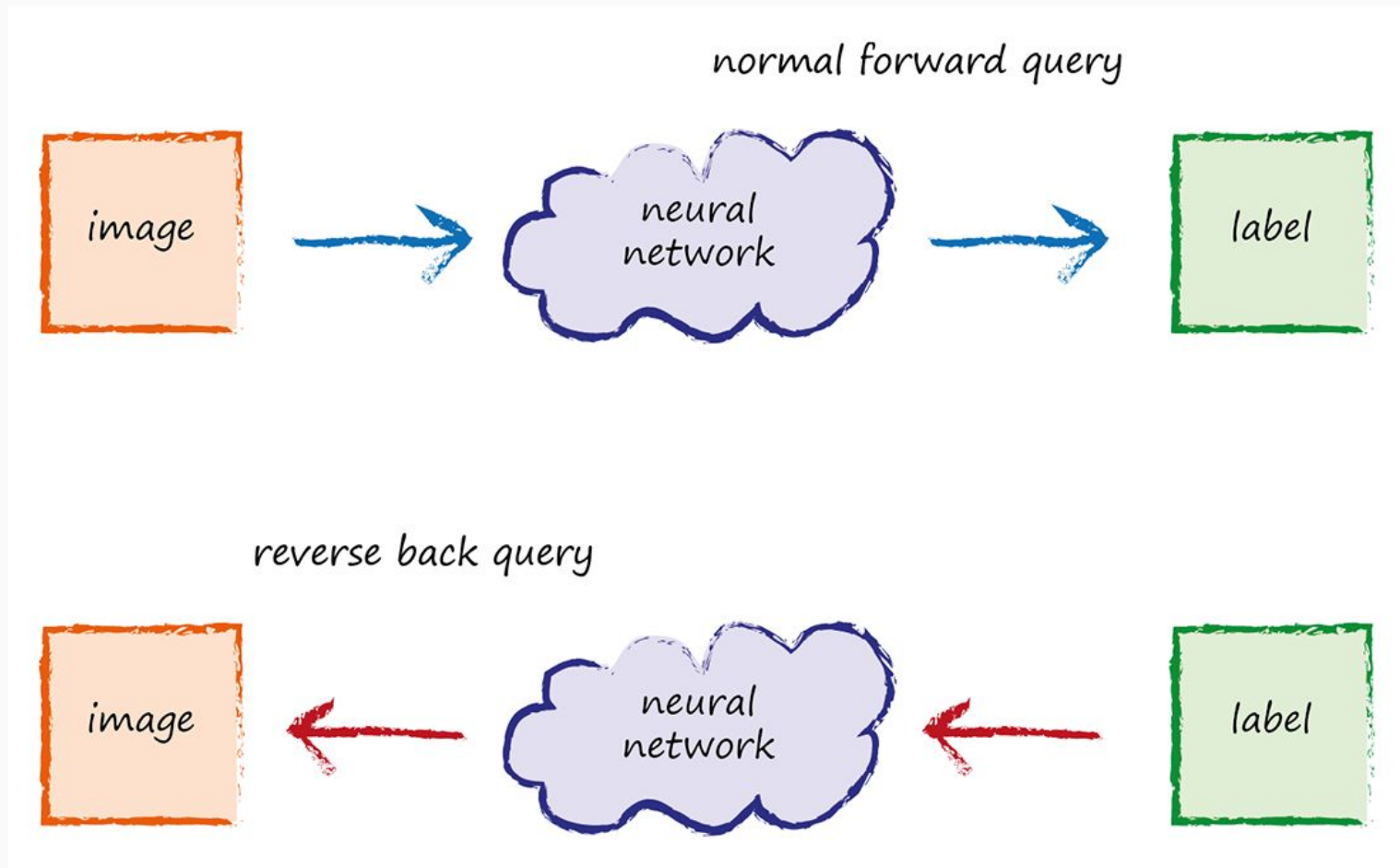


98% is amazing!

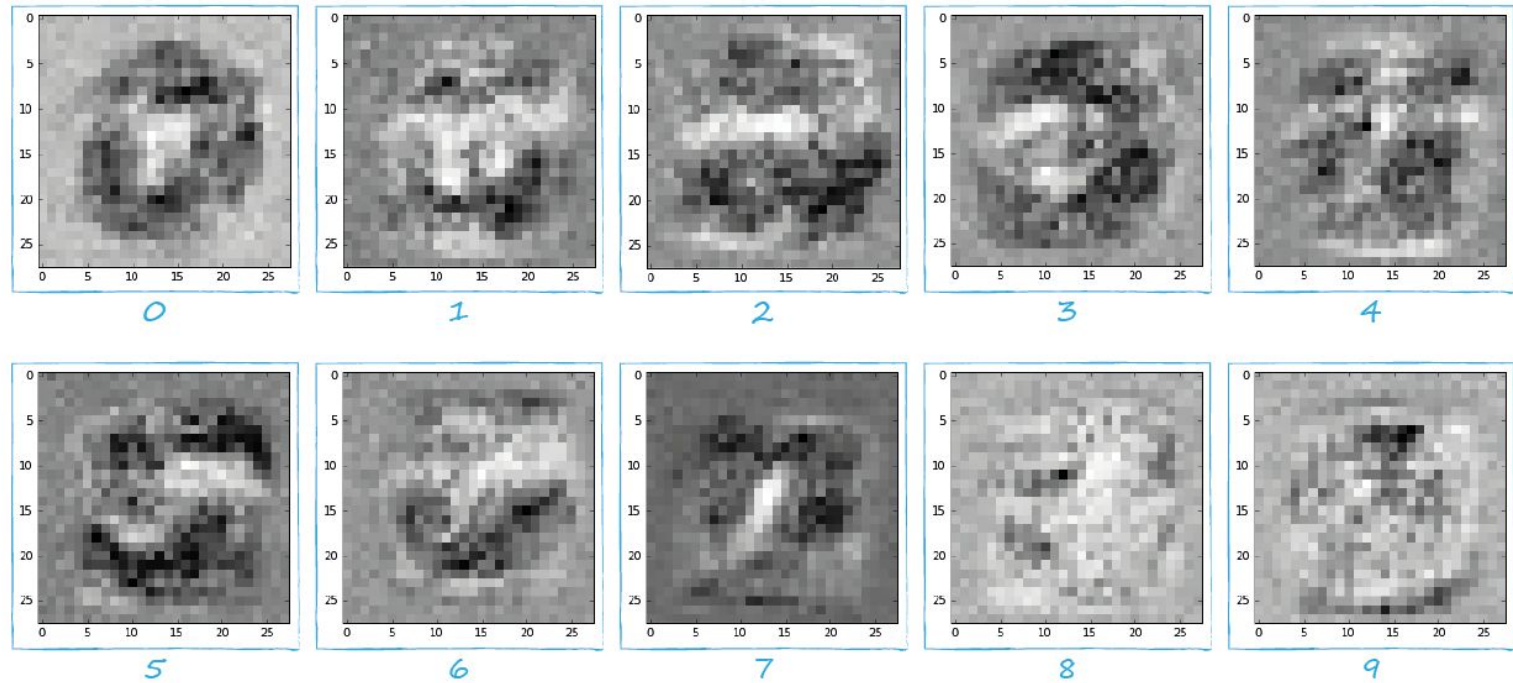
Thoughts



## Peek Inside The Mind Of a Neural Network?



# Peek Inside The Mind Of a Neural Network?



this isn't done very often

# Thanks!



live demo!

# Finding Out More

[makeyourownneuralnetwork.blogspot.co.uk](http://makeyourownneuralnetwork.blogspot.co.uk)

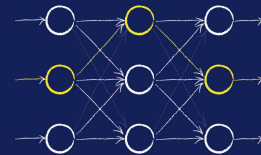
[github.com/makeyourownneuralnetwork](https://github.com/makeyourownneuralnetwork)

[www.amazon.co.uk/dp/B01EER4Z4G](http://www.amazon.co.uk/dp/B01EER4Z4G)

[twitter.com/myoneuralnet](https://twitter.com/myoneuralnet)

[slides.goo.gl/JKsb62](https://slides.goo.gl/JKsb62)

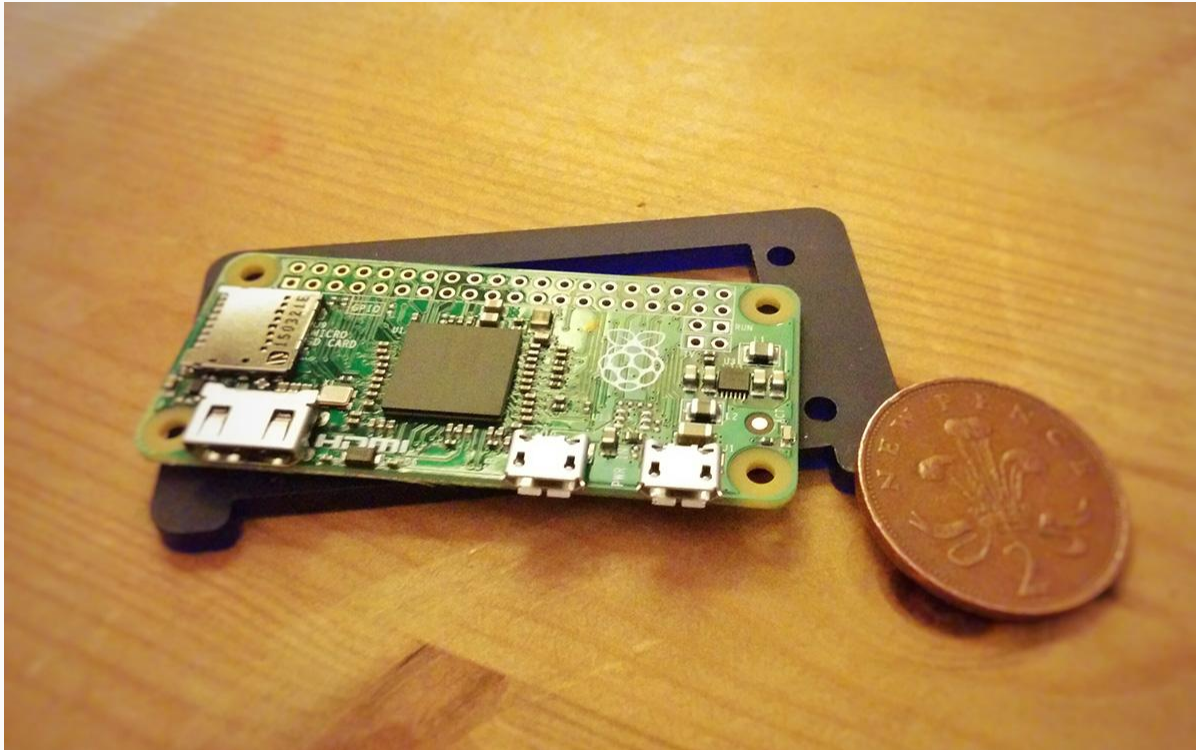
## MAKE YOUR OWN NEURAL NETWORK



*A gentle journey through the mathematics of  
neural networks, and making your own  
using the Python computer language.*

TARIQ RASHID

# Raspberry Pi Zero



It all works on a Raspberry Pi Zero  
... and it only costs £4 / \$5 !!