

Lecture 5: Neural Networks

Waitlist update

I was confused about the way waitlists work on Monday =(

We have set enrollment sizes of 35 / 85 for 498 / 598

Each day overrides will be sent automatically in waitlist order to fill up to capacity

If you don't enroll within a day of getting an override you will be dropped from the waitlist

Assignment 1

Was due on Sunday

If you use all 3 late days then you can turn it in today with no penalty

If you enrolled late, your A1 will be due **one week from the time you enrolled**

Assignment 2

Due Monday, September 30

Much longer than A1 – Start early

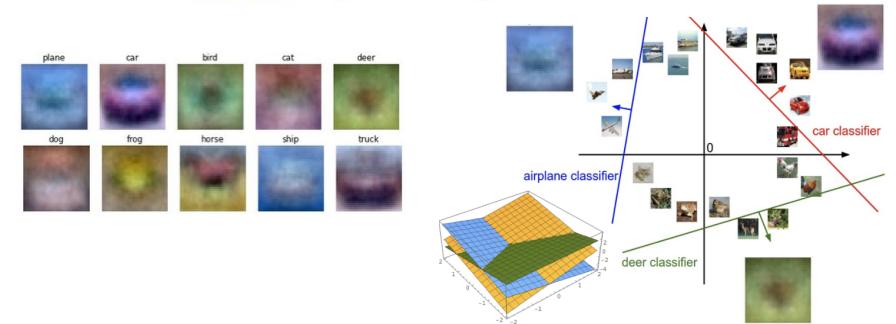
Your submission **must** pass the [validation script](#) to be graded!

We will be lenient on A1 submissions, but starting with A2 we will not grade your assignment if it does not pass the validation script

Where we are:

1. Use **Linear Models** for image classification problems
2. Use **Loss Functions** to express preferences over different choices of weights
3. Use **Stochastic Gradient Descent** to minimize our loss functions and train the model

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

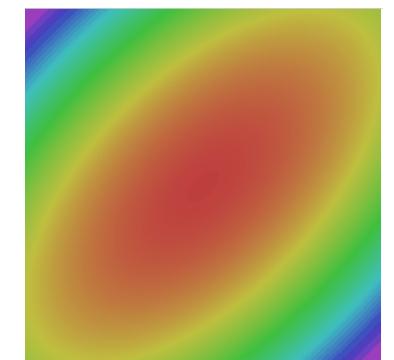


$$L_i = -\log\left(\frac{e^{sy_i}}{\sum_j e^{sj}}\right)$$
 Softmax

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

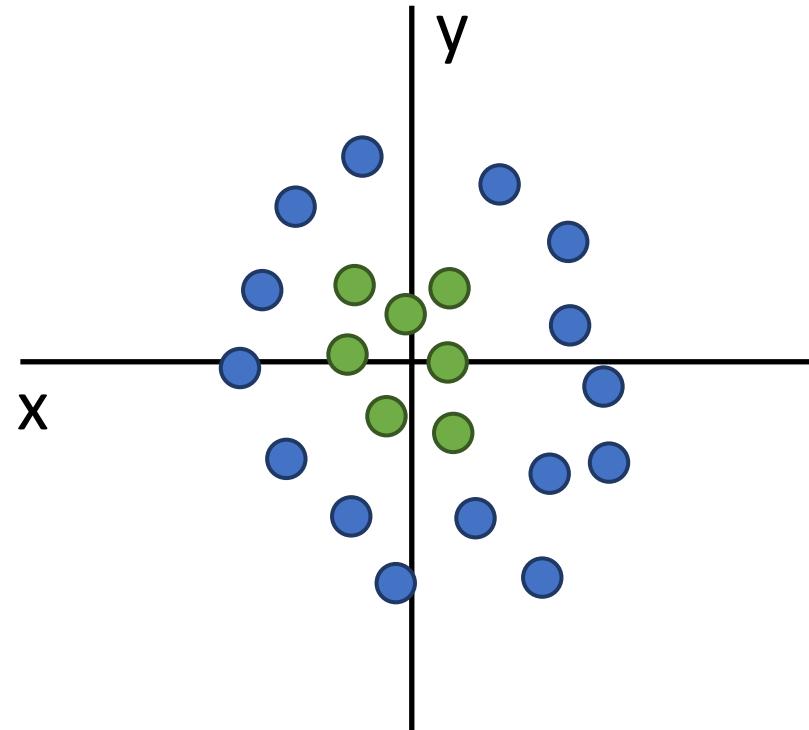
$$L = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N L_i + R(W)$$

```
v = 0
for t in range(num_steps):
    dw = compute_gradient(w)
    v = rho * v + dw
    w -= learning_rate * v
```



Problem: Linear Classifiers aren't that powerful

Geometric Viewpoint

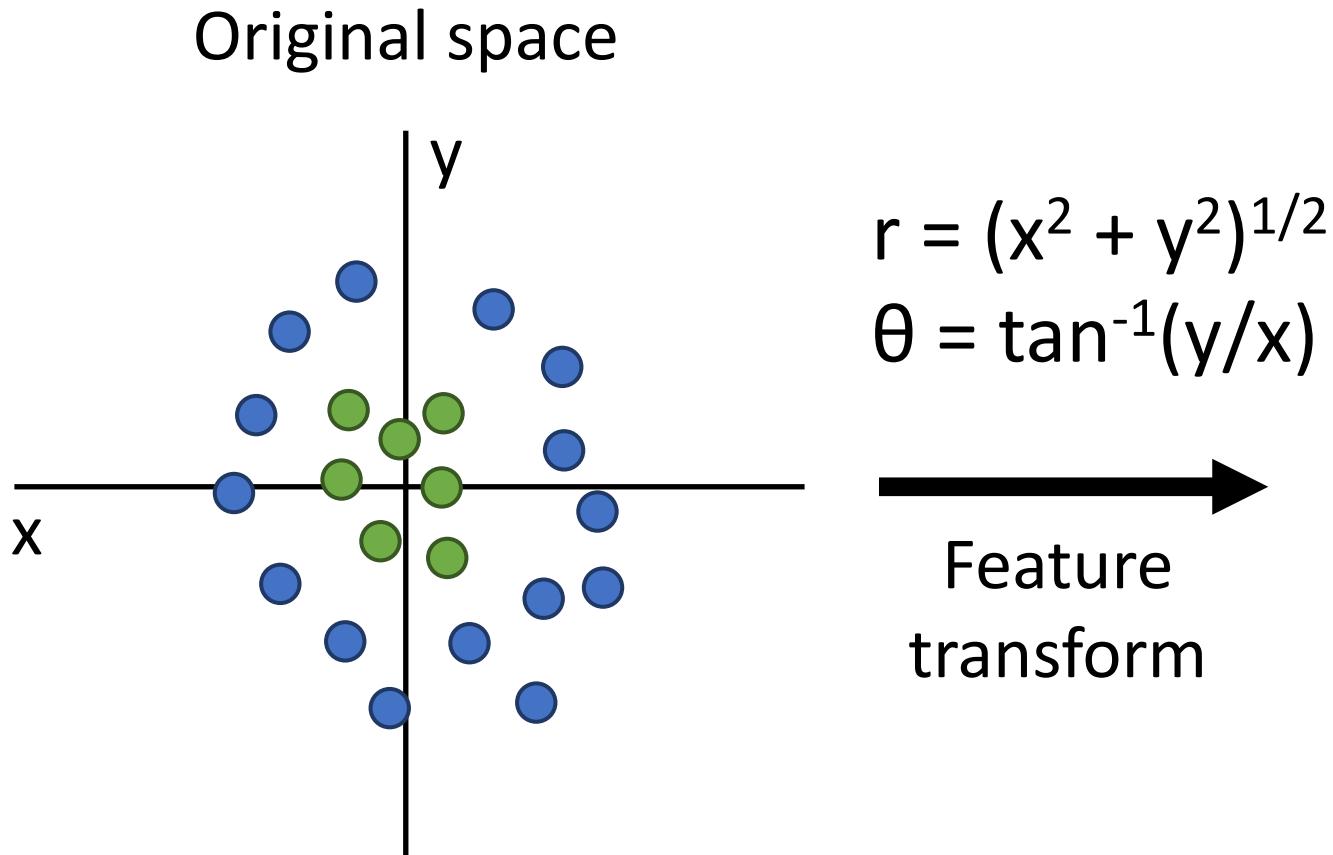


Visual Viewpoint

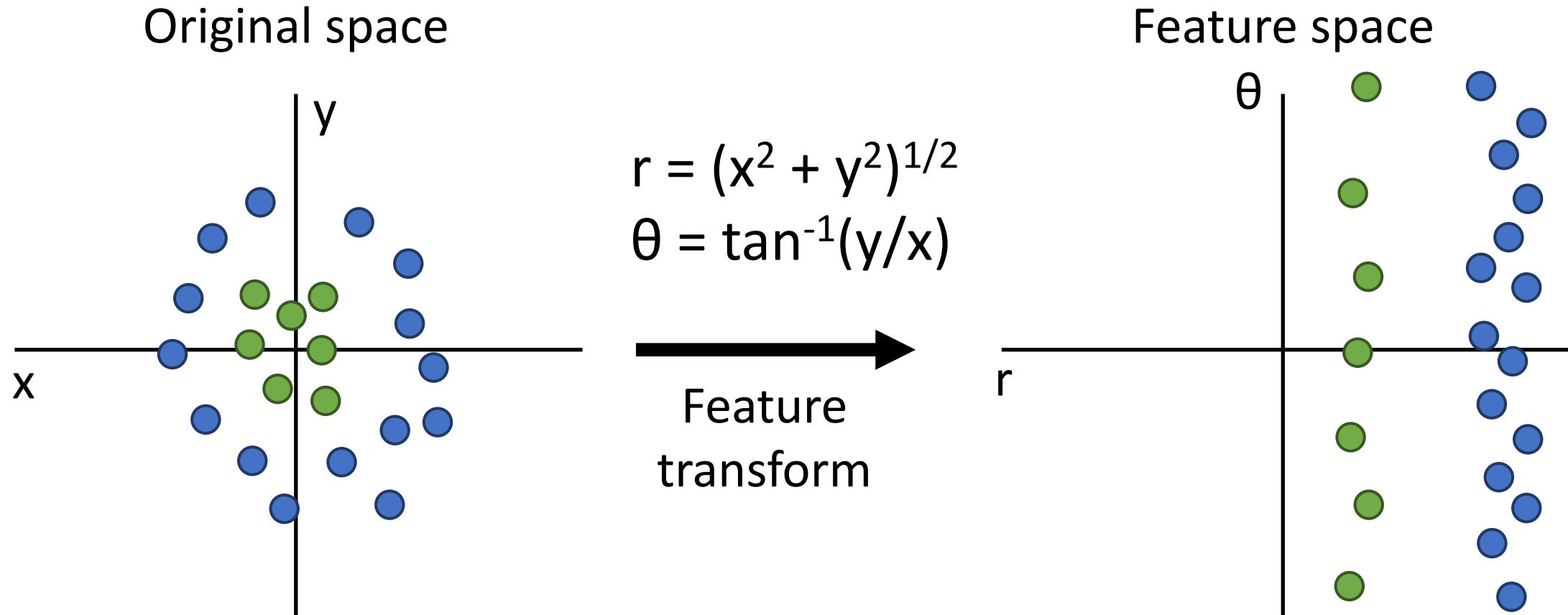
One template per class:
Can't recognize different
modes of a class



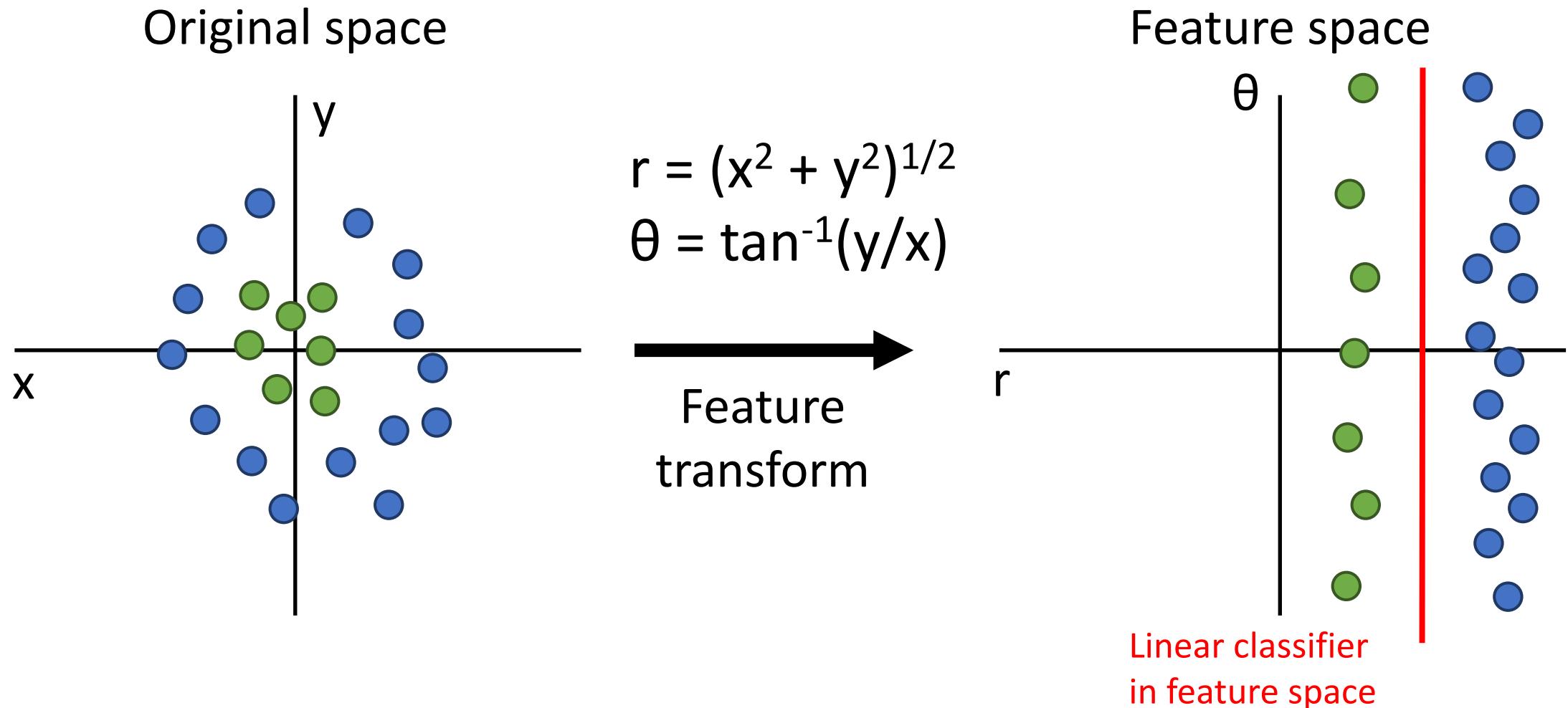
One solution: Feature Transforms



One solution: Feature Transforms



One solution: Feature Transforms



One solution: Feature Transforms

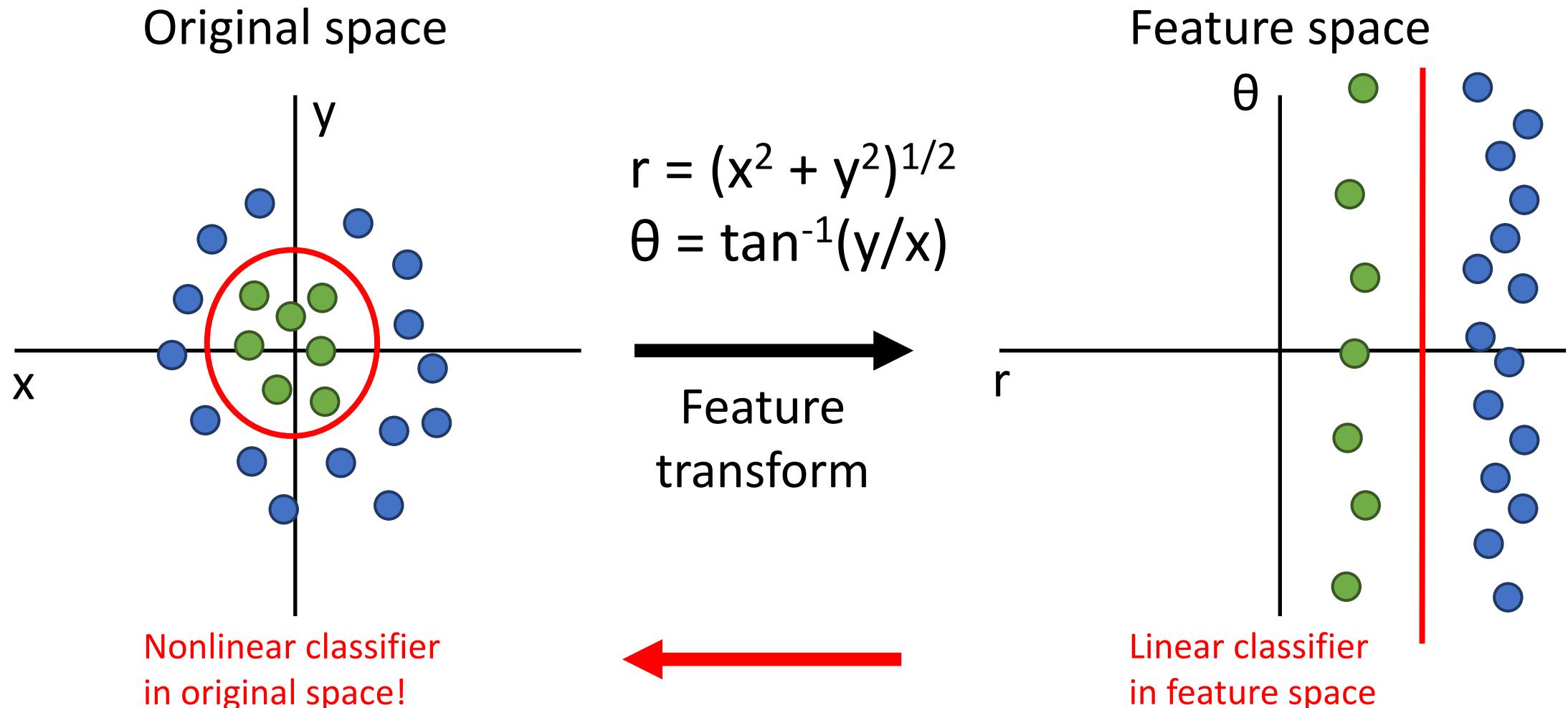
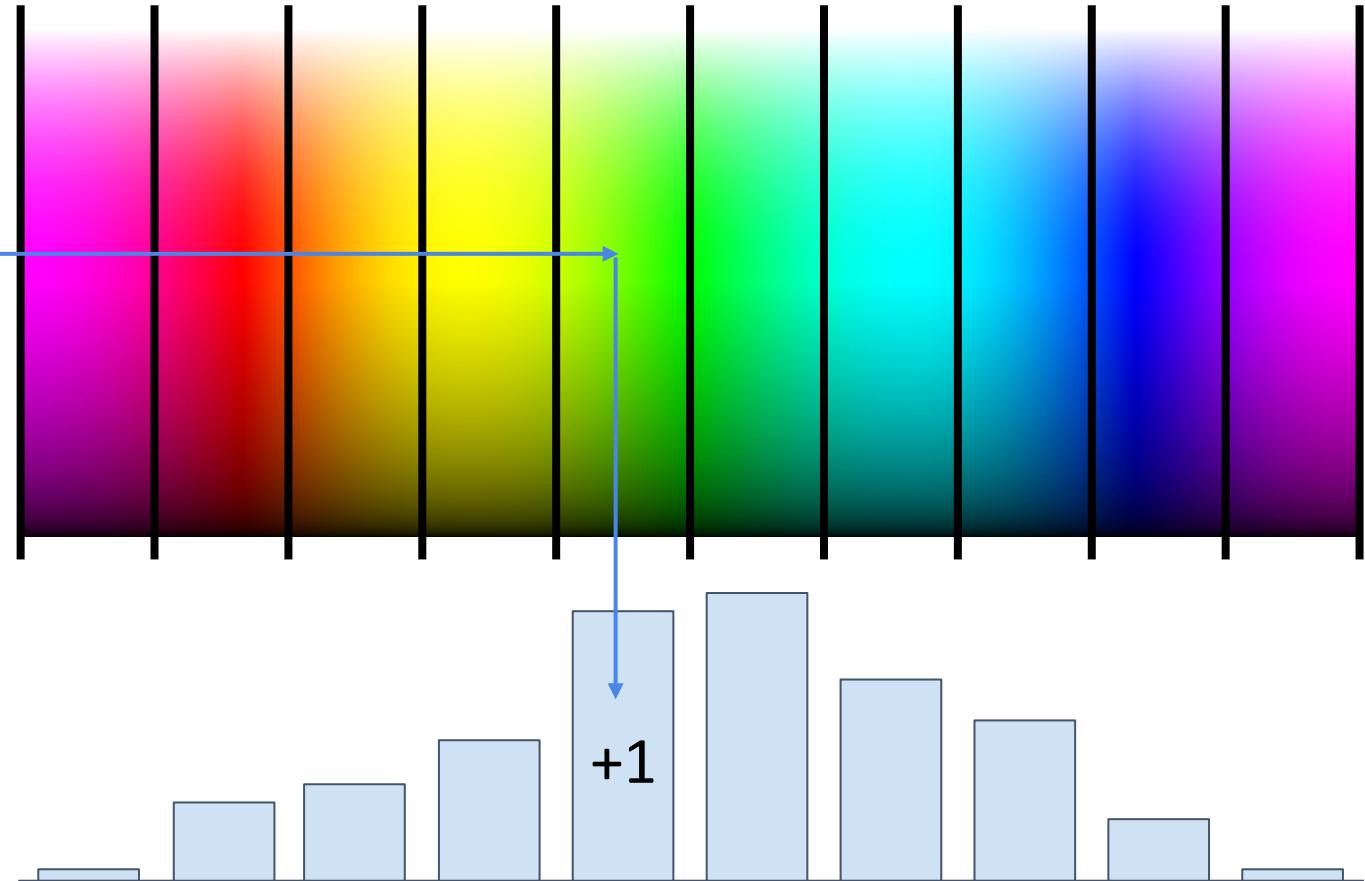


Image Features: Color Histogram



Ignores texture,
spatial positions

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

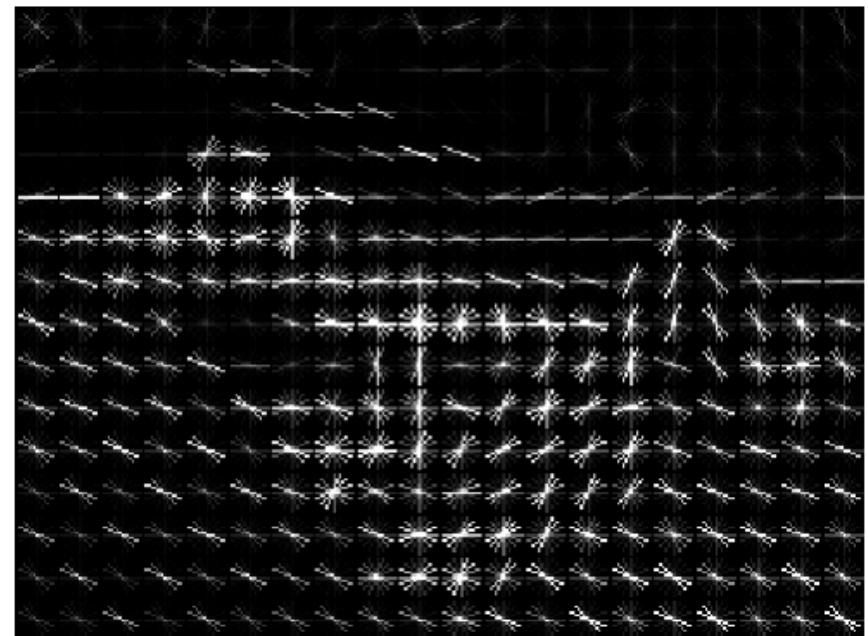
Image Features: Histogram of Oriented Gradients (HoG)



1. Compute edge direction / strength at each pixel
2. Divide image into 8x8 regions
3. Within each region compute a histogram of edge directions weighted by edge strength

Lowe, "Object recognition from local scale-invariant features", ICCV 1999
Dalal and Triggs, "Histograms of oriented gradients for human detection," CVPR 2005

Image Features: Histogram of Oriented Gradients (HoG)

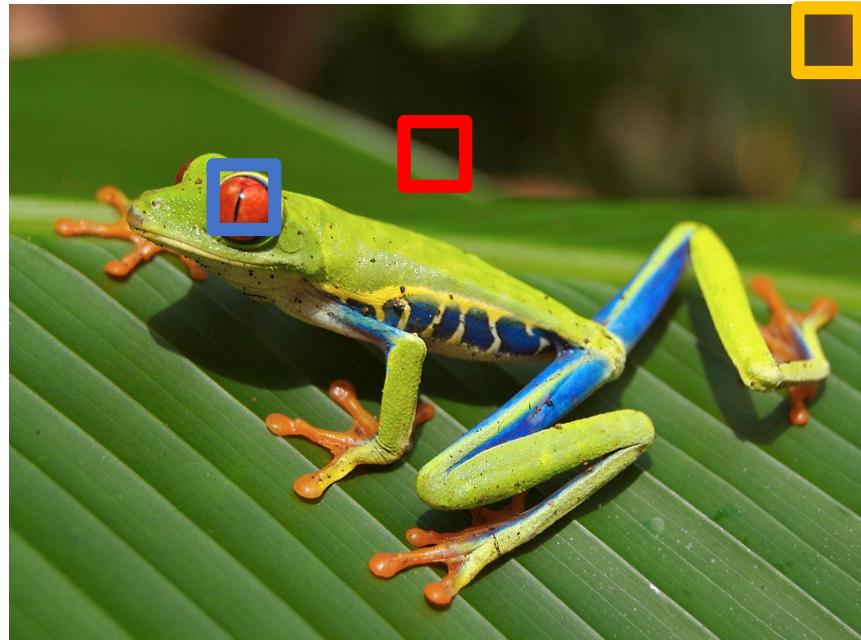


1. Compute edge direction / strength at each pixel
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Example: 320×240 image gets divided into 40×30 bins; 8 directions per bin; feature vector has $30 * 40 * 9 = 10,800$ numbers

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Image Features: Histogram of Oriented Gradients (HoG)

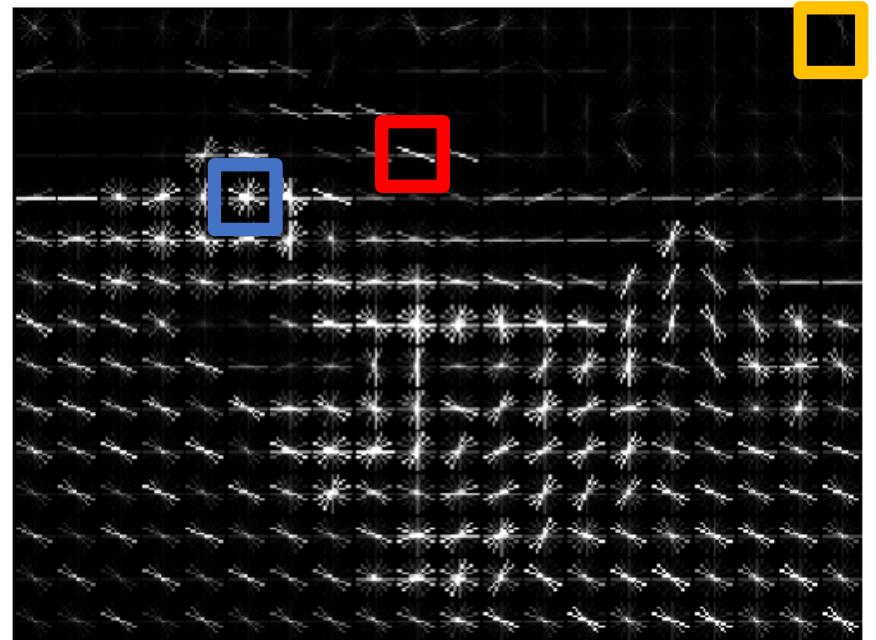


Weak edges

Strong diagonal
edges



Edges in all
directions

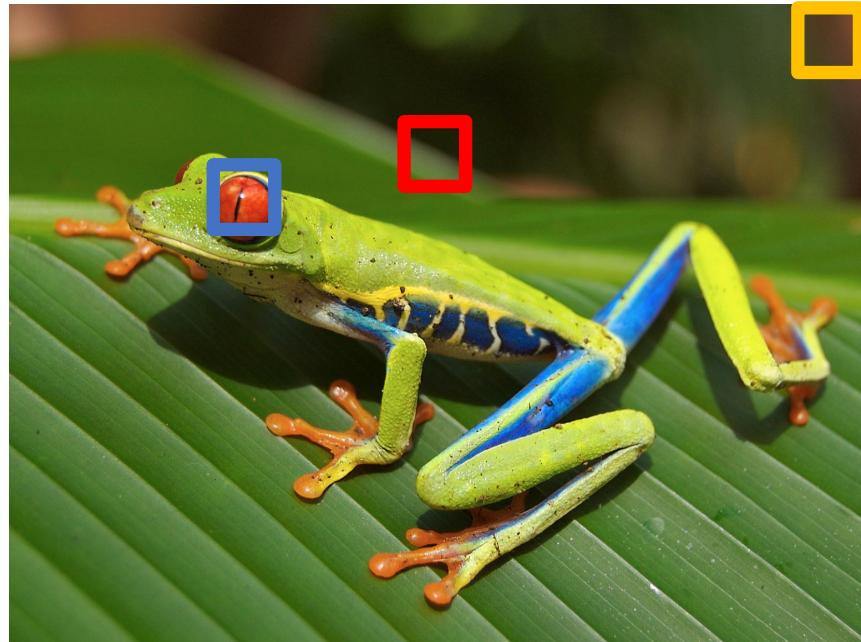


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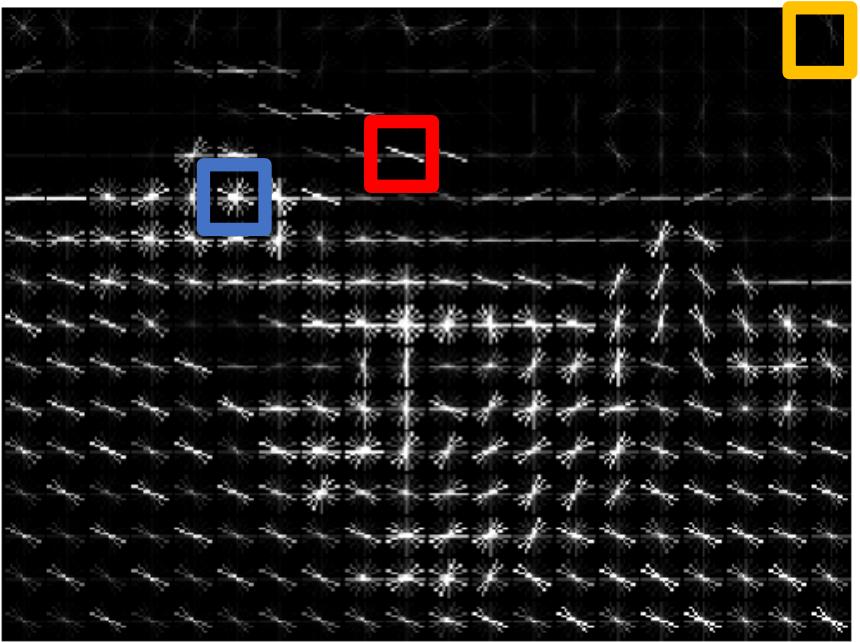
Weak edges

Strong diagonal edges

Edges in all directions

Captures
texture and
position,
robust to
small image
changes

1. Compute edge direction / strength at each pixel
2. Divide image into 8x8 regions
3. Within each region compute a histogram of edge directions weighted by edge strength



Example: 320x240 image gets divided into 40x30 bins; 8 directions per bin; feature vector has $30 \times 40 \times 9 = 10,800$ numbers

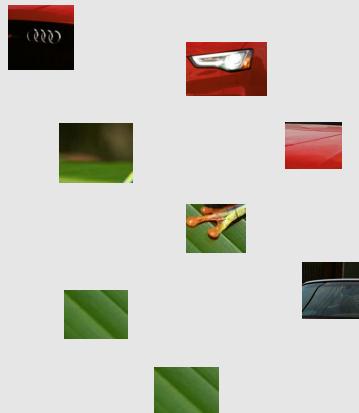
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Image Features: Bag of Words (Data-Driven!)

Step 1: Build codebook



Extract random patches



Cluster patches to form “codebook” of “visual words”

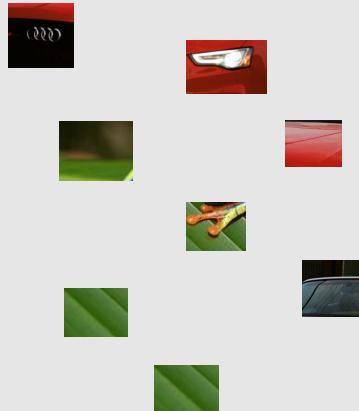


Image Features: Bag of Words (Data-Driven!)

Step 1: Build codebook



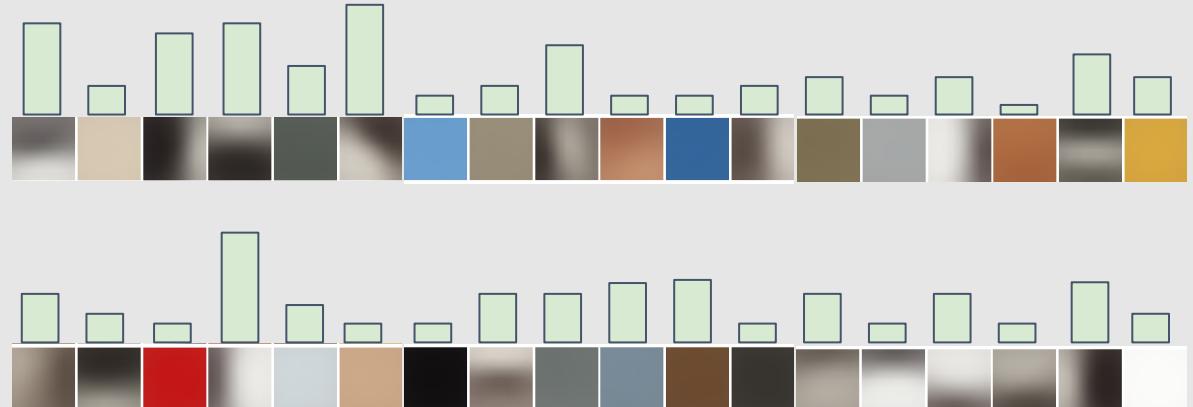
Extract random patches



Cluster patches to form “codebook” of “visual words”

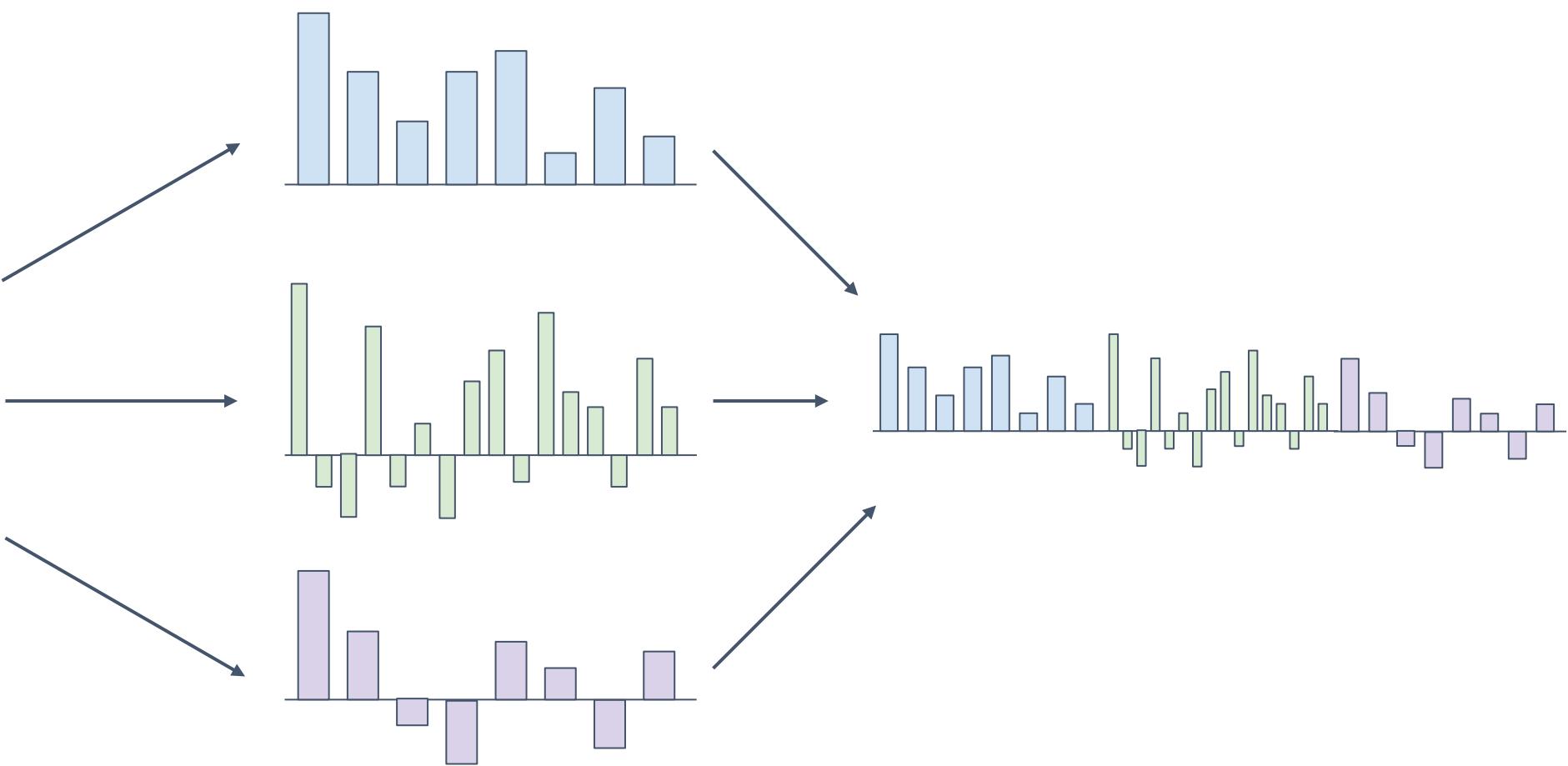


Step 2: Encode images



Fei-Fei and Perona, “A bayesian hierarchical model for learning natural scene categories”, CVPR 2005

Image Features



Example: Winner of 2011 ImageNet challenge

Low-level feature extraction \approx 10k patches per image

- SIFT: 128-dim
 - color: 96-dim
- }
- reduced to 64-dim with PCA

FV extraction and compression:

- $N=1,024$ Gaussians, $R=4$ regions $\Rightarrow 520K \text{ dim} \times 2$
- compression: $G=8$, $b=1$ bit per dimension

One-vs-all SVM learning with SGD

Late fusion of SIFT and color systems

Image Features

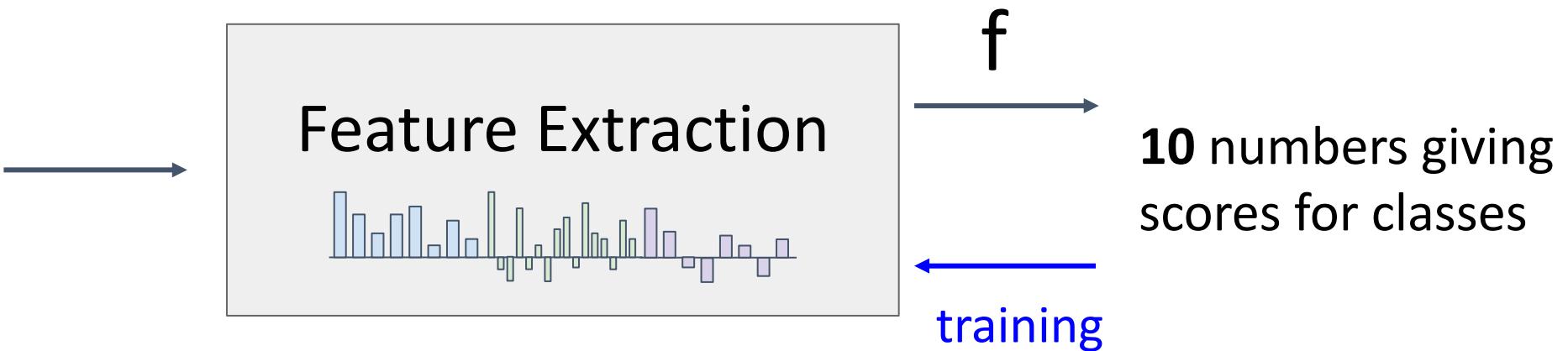
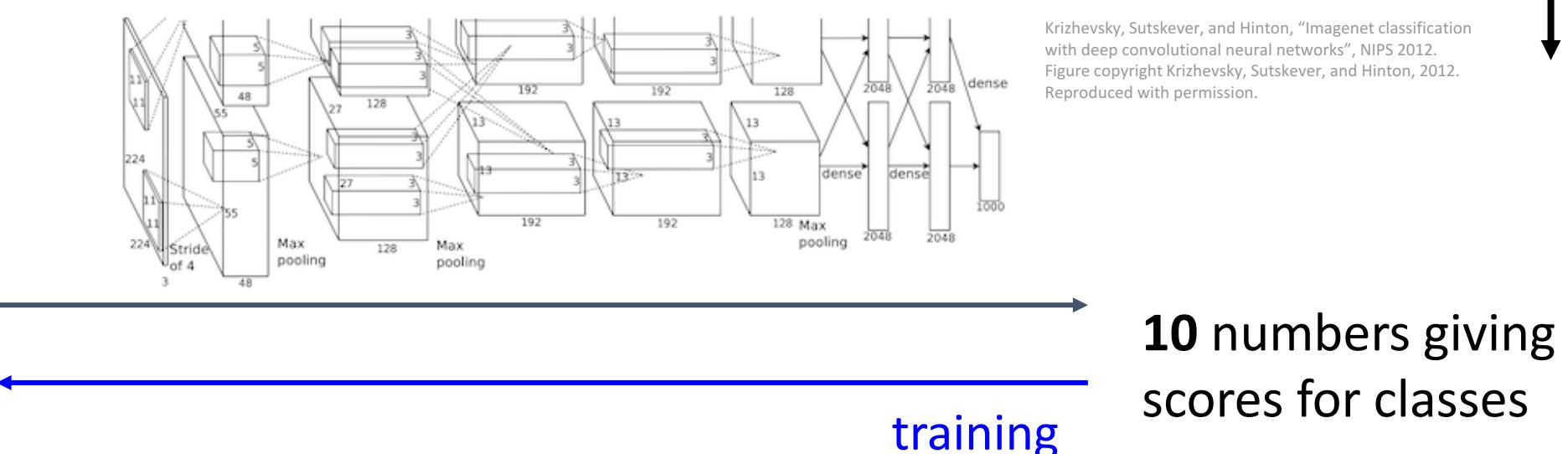
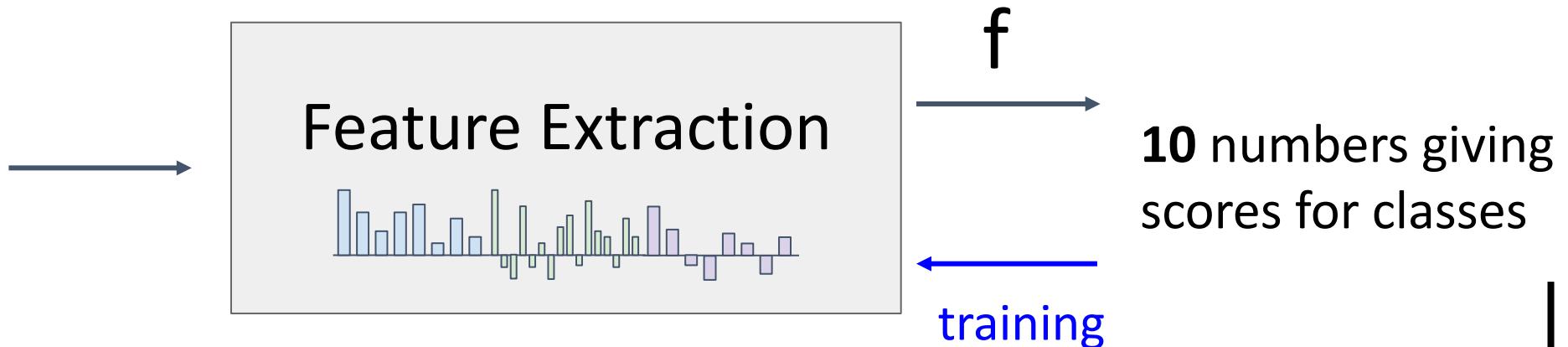


Image Features vs Neural Networks



Neural Networks

(Before) Linear score function:

$$f = Wx$$

$$x \in \mathbb{R}^D, W \in \mathbb{R}^{C \times D}$$

Neural Networks

(Before) Linear score function:

$$f = Wx$$

(Now) 2-layer Neural Network

$$f = W_2 \max(0, W_1 x)$$

$$W_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{C \times H} \quad W_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{H \times D} \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^D$$

(In practice we will usually add a learnable bias at each layer as well)

Neural Networks

(Before) Linear score function:

$$f = Wx$$

(Now) 2-layer Neural Network

$$f = W_2 \max(0, W_1 x)$$

or 3-layer Neural Network

$$f = W_3 \max(0, W_2 \max(0, W_1 x))$$

$$W_3 \in \mathbb{R}^{C \times H_2} \quad W_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{H_2 \times H_1} \quad W_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{H_1 \times D} \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^D$$

(In practice we will usually add a learnable bias at each layer as well)

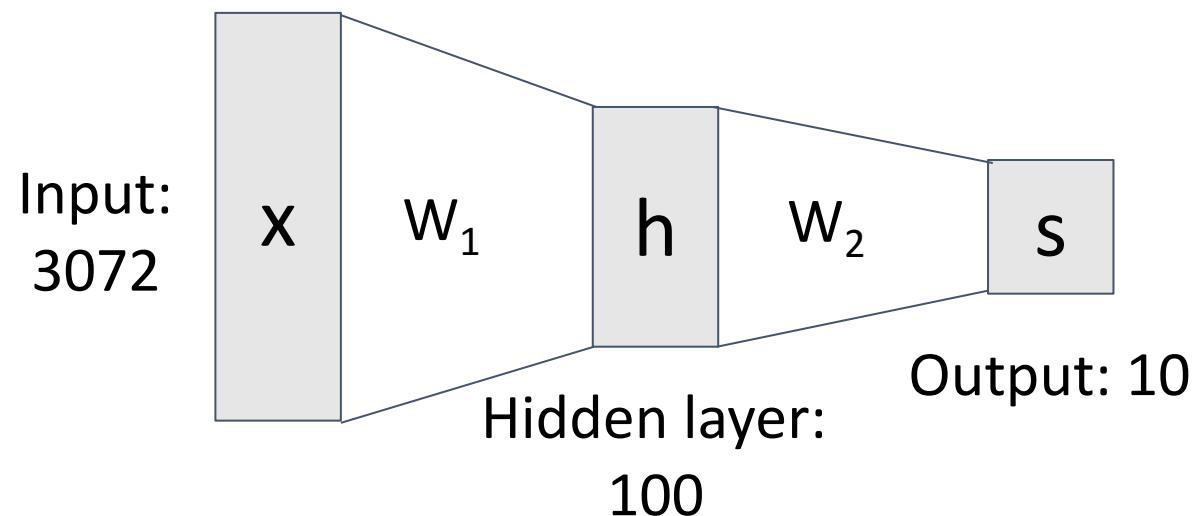
Neural Networks

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$$f = W_2 \max(0, W_1 x)$$



$$x \in \mathbb{R}^D, W_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{H \times D}, W_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{C \times H}$$

Neural Networks

(Before) Linear score function:

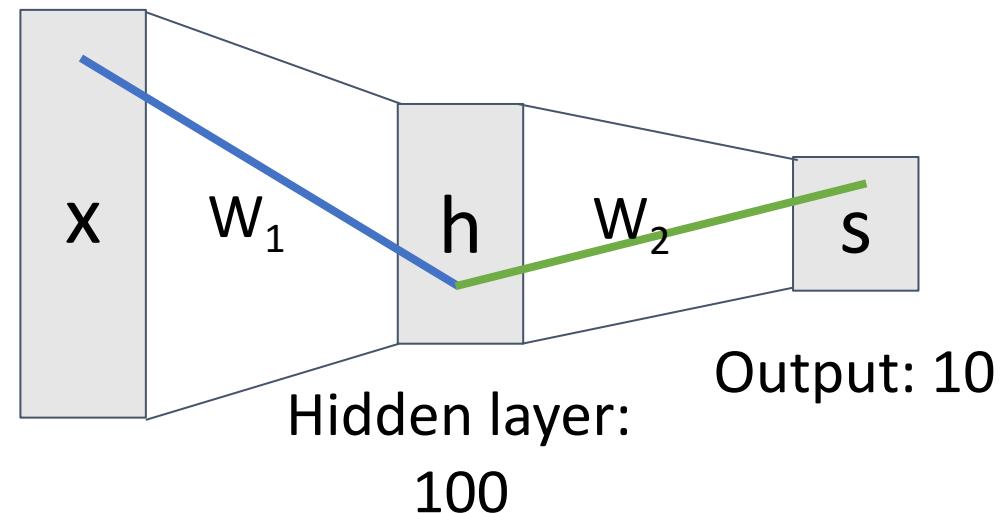
$$f = Wx$$

(Now) 2-layer Neural Network

$$f = W_2 \max(0, W_1 x)$$

Element (i, j)
of W_1 gives
the effect on
 h_i from x_j

Input:
3072



Element (i, j)
of W_2 gives
the effect on
 s_i from h_j

$$x \in \mathbb{R}^D, W_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{H \times D}, W_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{C \times H}$$

Neural Networks

(Before) Linear score function:

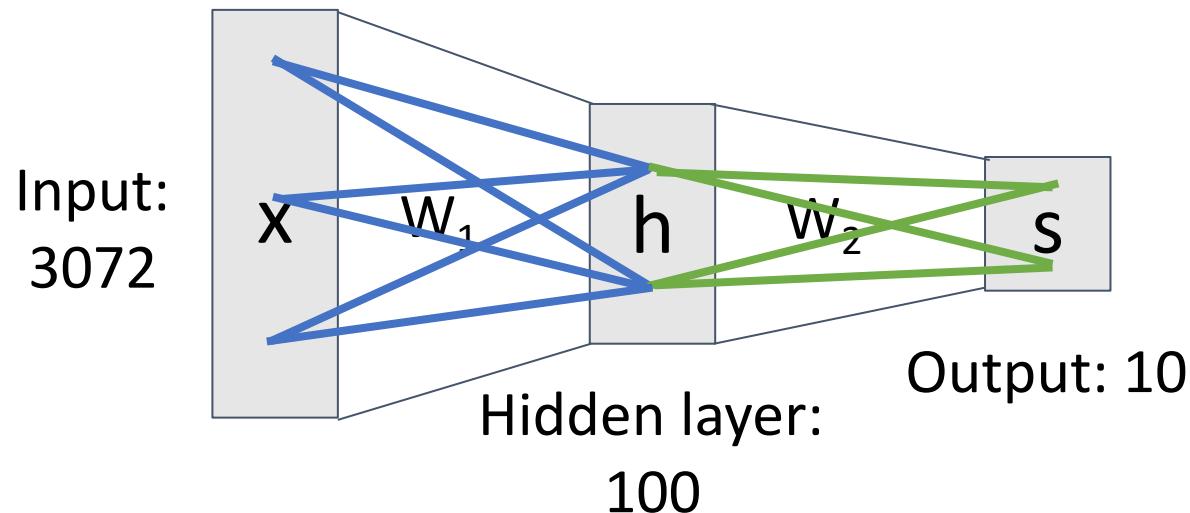
$$f = \mathbf{W}\mathbf{x}$$

(Now) 2-layer Neural Network

$$f = \mathbf{W}_2 \max(0, \mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x})$$

Element (i, j) of \mathbf{W}_1
gives the effect on
 h_i from x_j

All elements
of \mathbf{x} affect all
elements of \mathbf{h}



Element (i, j) of \mathbf{W}_2
gives the effect on
 s_i from h_j

All elements
of \mathbf{h} affect all
elements of \mathbf{s}

Fully-connected neural network
Also “Multi-Layer Perceptron” (MLP)

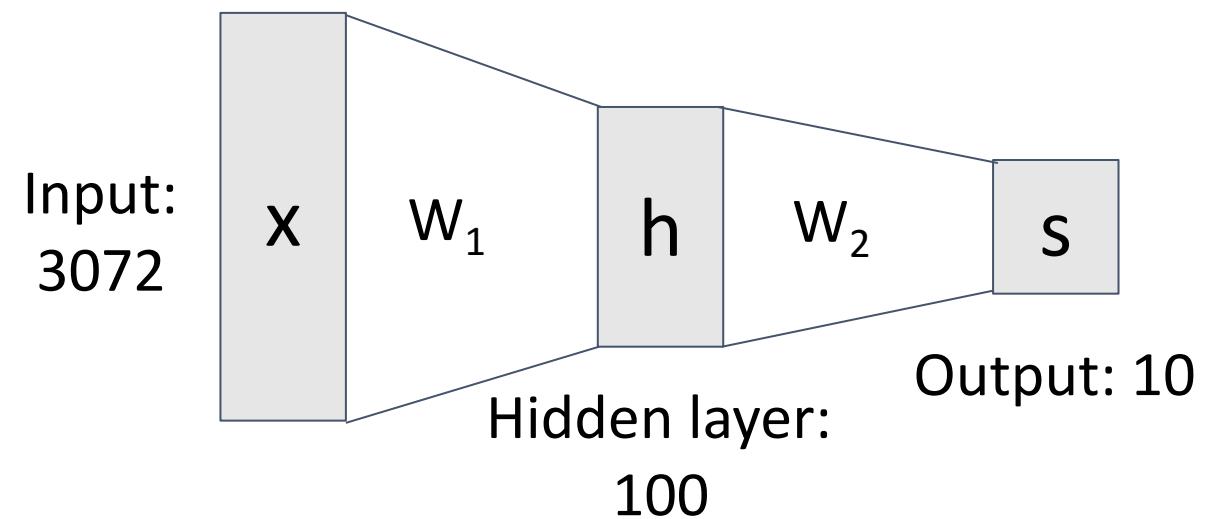
Neural Networks

Linear classifier: One template per class



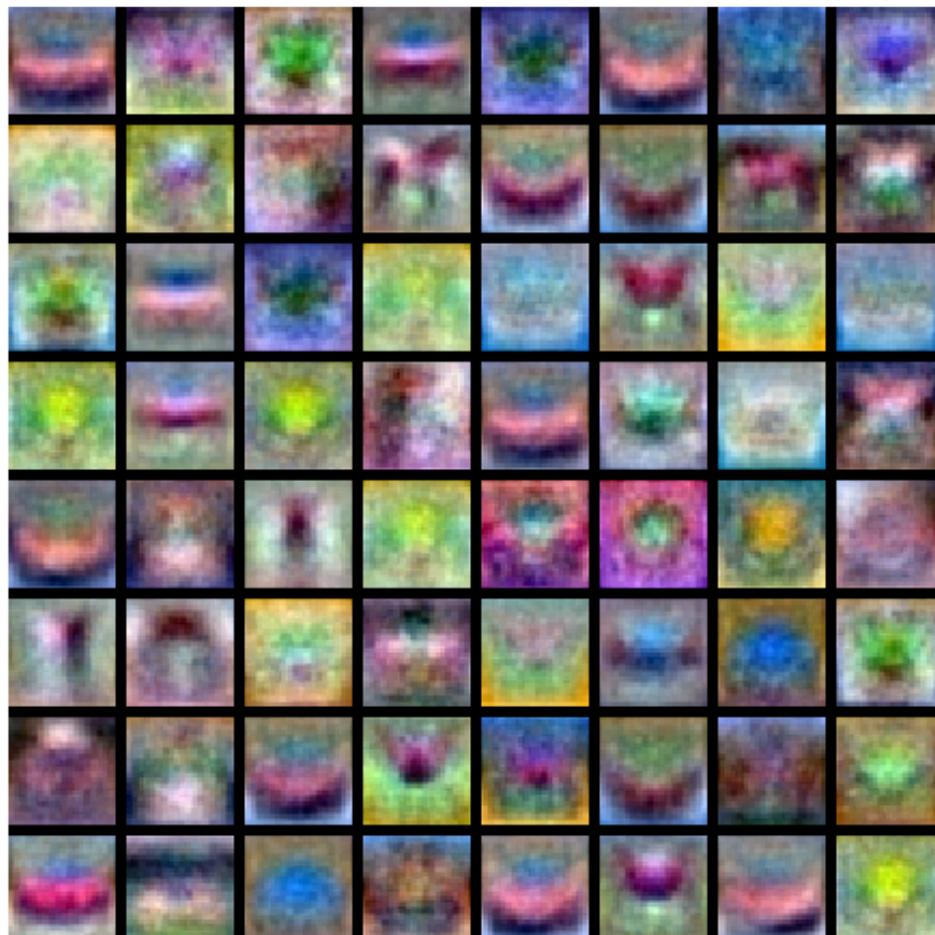
(Before) Linear score function:

(Now) 2-layer Neural Network



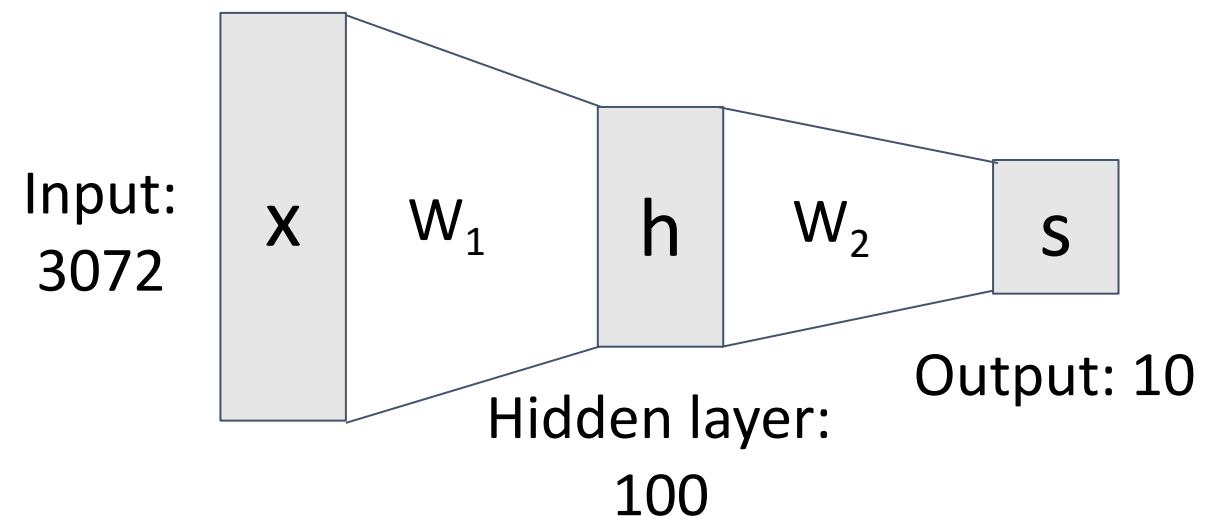
Neural Networks

Neural net: first layer is bank of templates;
Second layer recombines templates



(Before) Linear score function:

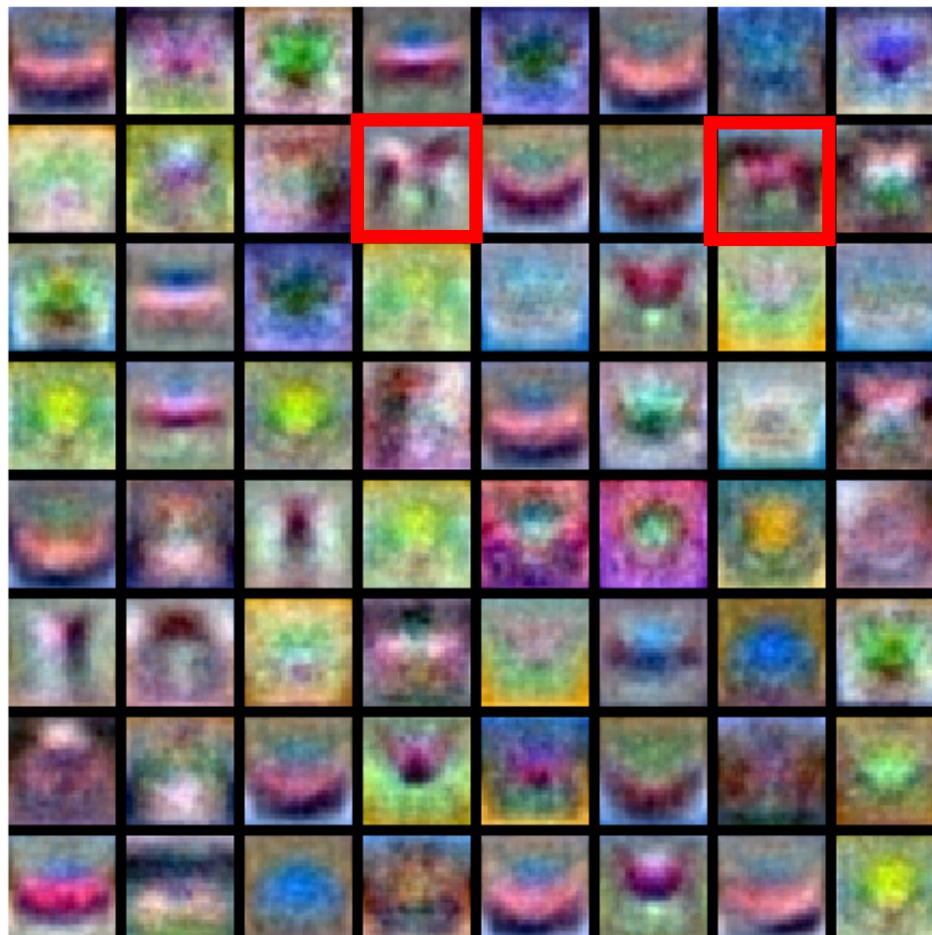
(Now) 2-layer Neural Network



$$x \in \mathbb{R}^D, W_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{H \times D}, W_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{C \times H}$$

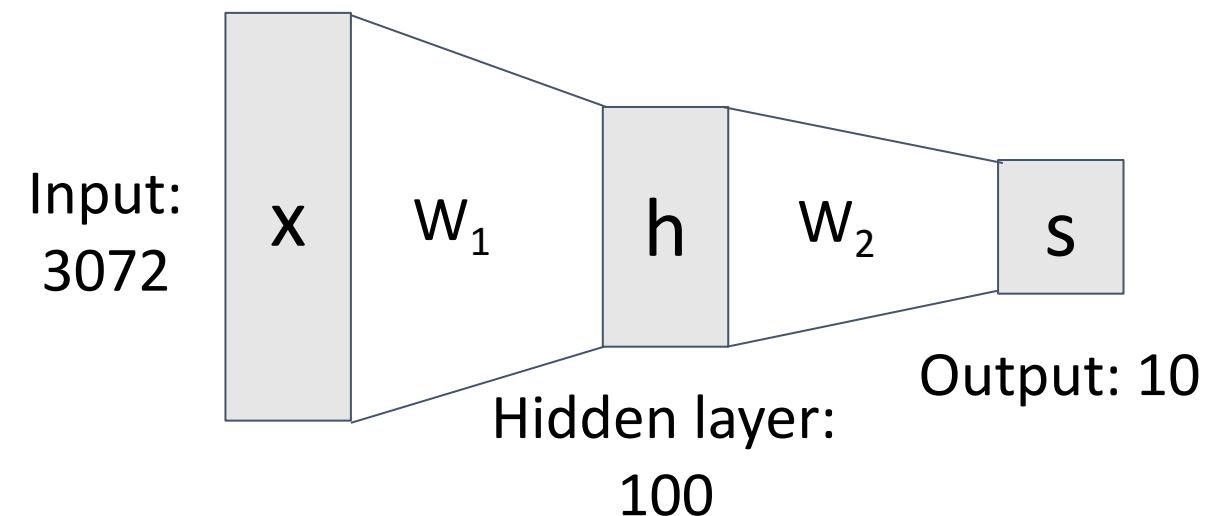
Neural Networks

Can use different templates to cover multiple modes of a class!



(Before) Linear score function:

(Now) 2-layer Neural Network



$$x \in \mathbb{R}^D, W_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{H \times D}, W_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{C \times H}$$

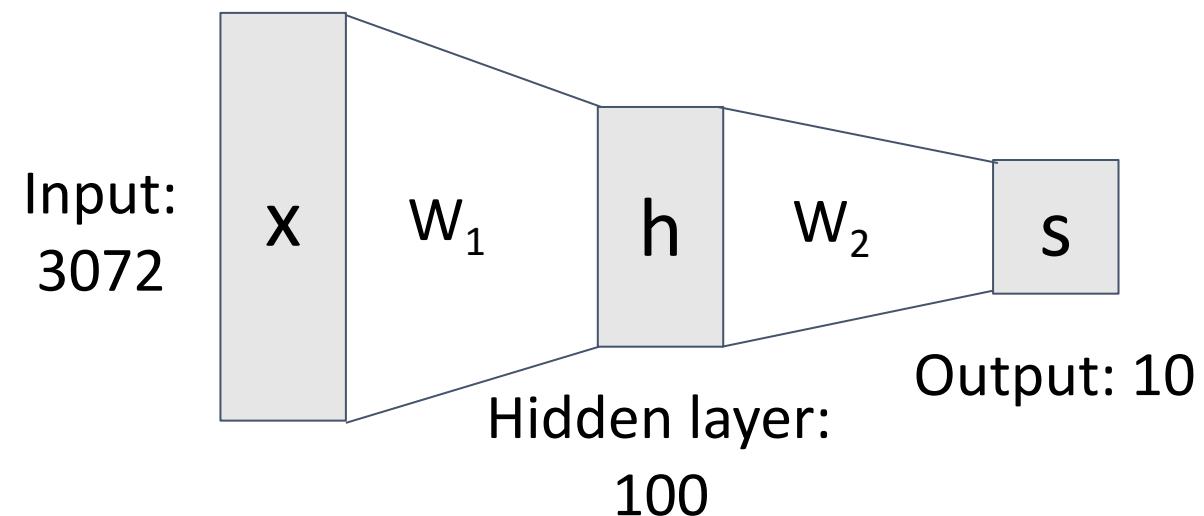
Neural Networks

“Distributed representation”:
Most templates not interpretable!



(Before) Linear score function:

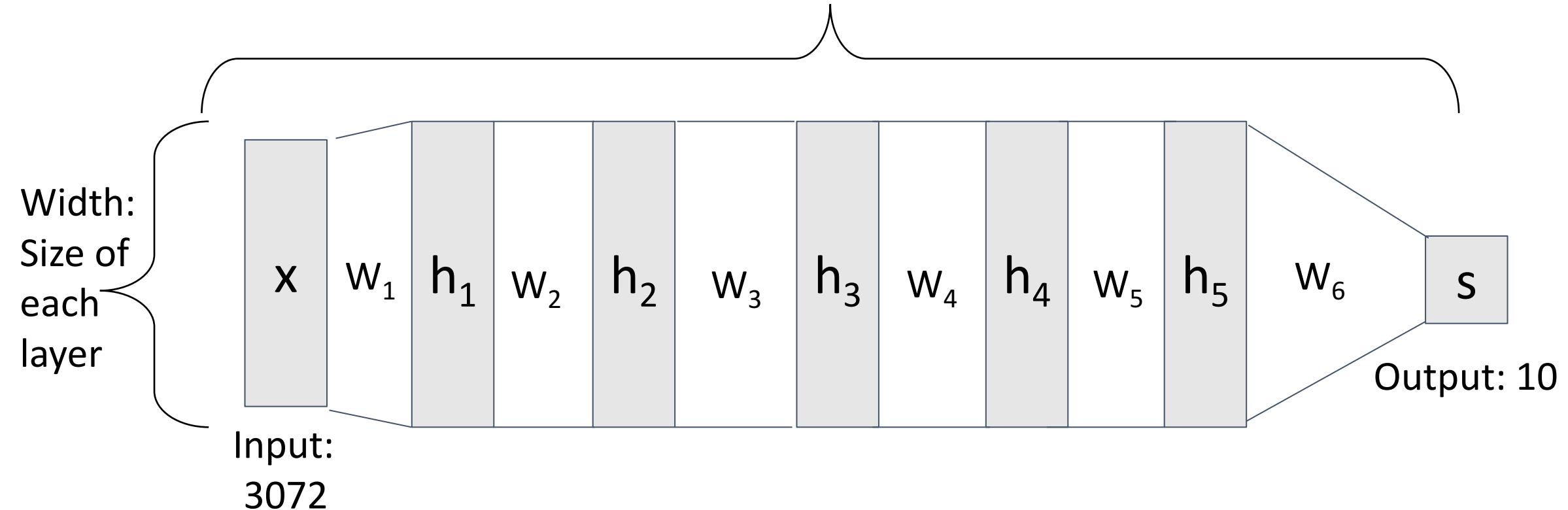
(Now) 2-layer Neural Network



$$x \in \mathbb{R}^D, W_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{H \times D}, W_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{C \times H}$$

Deep Neural Networks

Depth = number of layers



$$s = W_6 \max(0, W_6 \max(0, W_5 \max(0, W_4 \max(0, W_3 \max(0, W_2 \max(0, W_1 x))))))$$

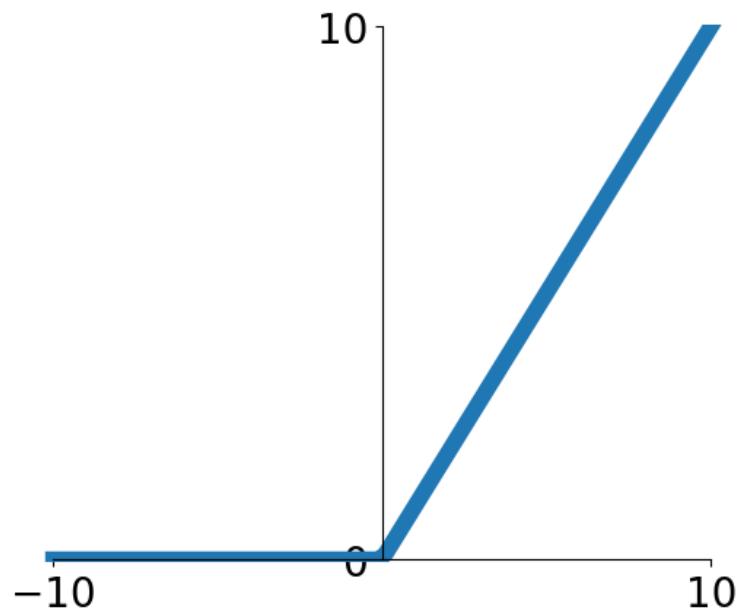
Activation Functions

2-layer Neural Network

The function $ReLU(z) = \max(0, z)$
is called “Rectified Linear Unit”

$$f = W_2 \boxed{\max(0, W_1 x)}$$

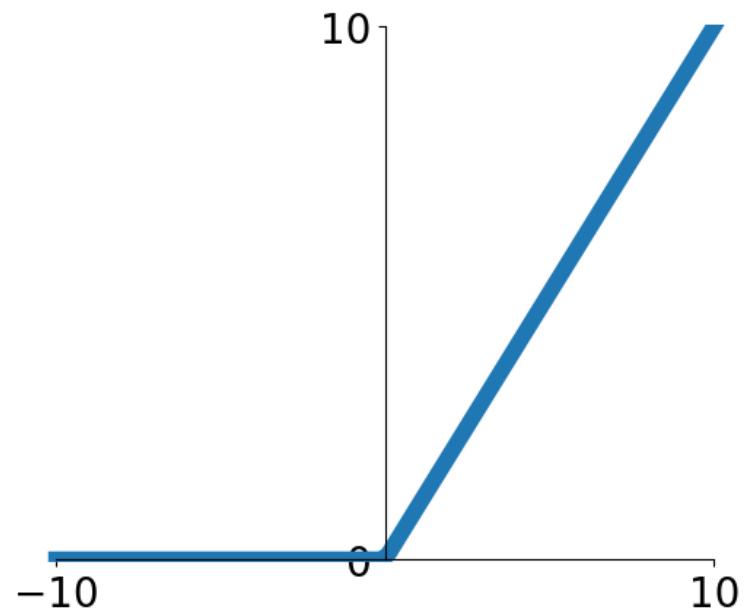
This is called the **activation function** of
the neural network



Activation Functions

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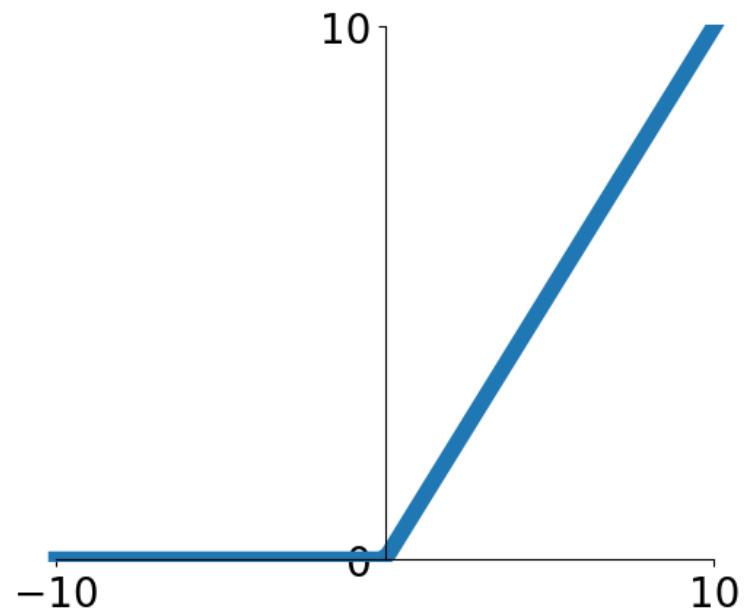
Q: What happens if we build a neural network with no activation function?

$$s = W_2 W_1 x$$

Activation Functions

2-layer Neural Network

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Q: What happens if we build a neural network with no activation function?

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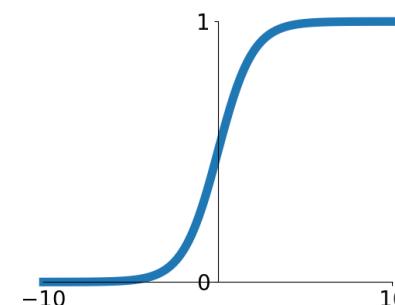
$$W_3 = W_2 W_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{C \times H} \quad s = W_3 x$$

A: We end up with a linear classifier!

Activation Functions

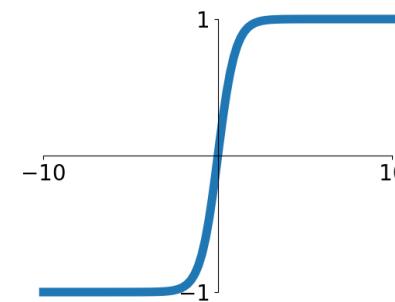
Sigmoid

$$\sigma(x) = \frac{1}{1+e^{-x}}$$



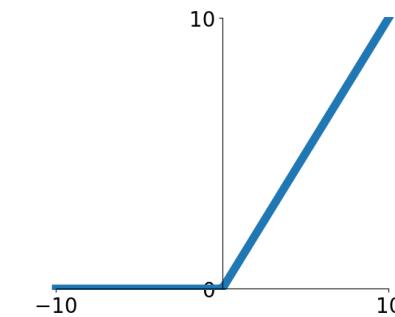
tanh

$$\tanh(x)$$



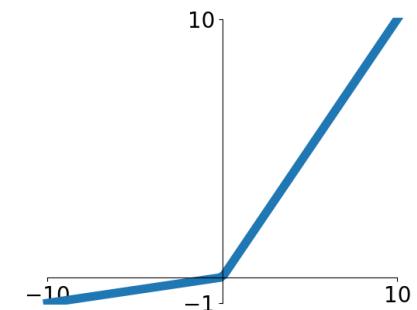
ReLU

$$\max(0, x)$$



Leaky ReLU

$$\max(0.1x, x)$$

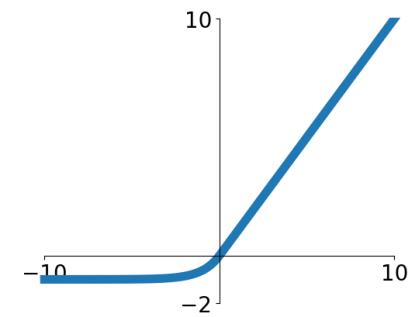


Maxout

$$\max(w_1^T x + b_1, w_2^T x + b_2)$$

ELU

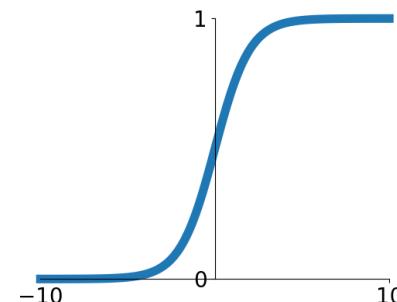
$$\begin{cases} x & x \geq 0 \\ \alpha(e^x - 1) & x < 0 \end{cases}$$



Activation Functions

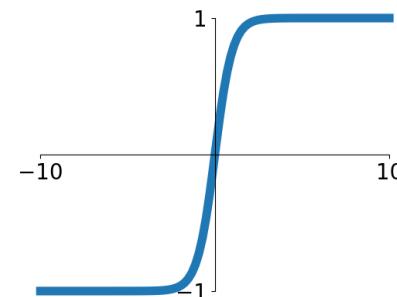
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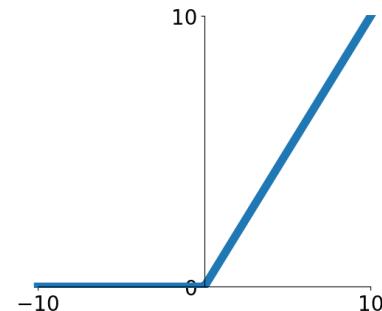
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ReLU

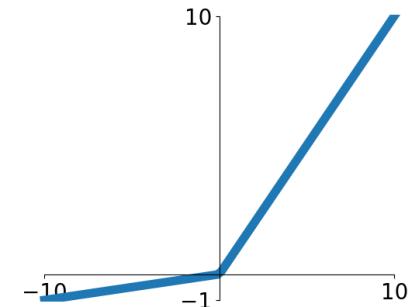
$$\max(0, x)$$



ReLU is a good default choice
for most problems

Leaky ReLU

$$\max(0.1x, x)$$

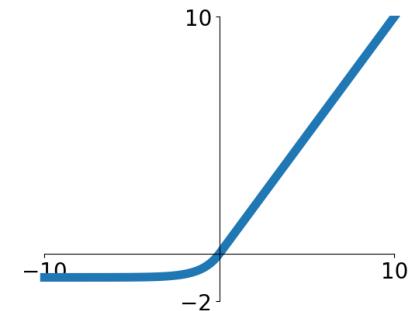


Maxout

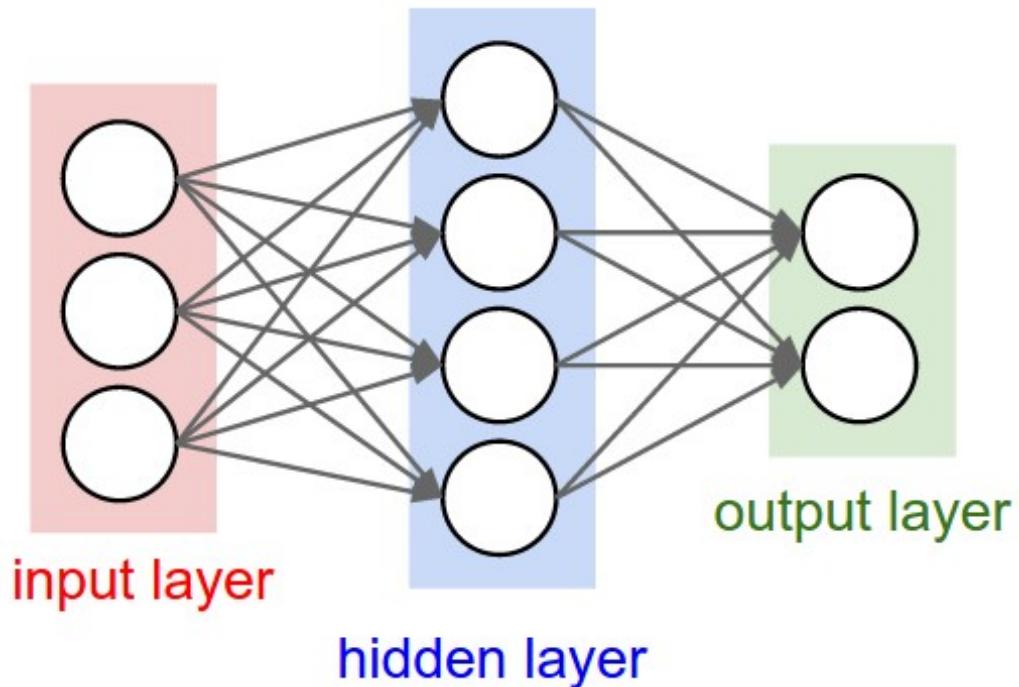
$$\max(w_1^T x + b_1, w_2^T x + b_2)$$

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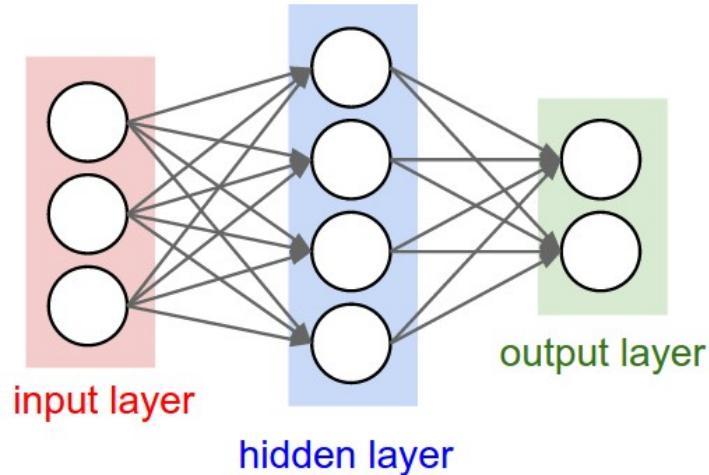


Neural Net in <20 lines!

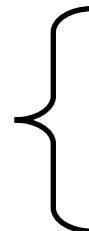


```
1 import numpy as np
2 from numpy.random import randn
3
4 N, Din, H, Dout = 64, 1000, 100, 10
5 x, y = randn(N, Din), randn(N, Dout)
6 w1, w2 = randn(Din, H), randn(H, Dout)
7 for t in range(10000):
8     h = 1.0 / (1.0 + np.exp(-x.dot(w1)))
9     y_pred = h.dot(w2)
10    loss = np.square(y_pred - y).sum()
11    dy_pred = 2.0 * (y_pred - y)
12    dw2 = h.T.dot(dy_pred)
13    dh = dy_pred.dot(w2.T)
14    dw1 = x.T.dot(dh * h * (1 - h))
15    w1 -= 1e-4 * dw1
16    w2 -= 1e-4 * dw2
```

Neural Net in <20 lines!

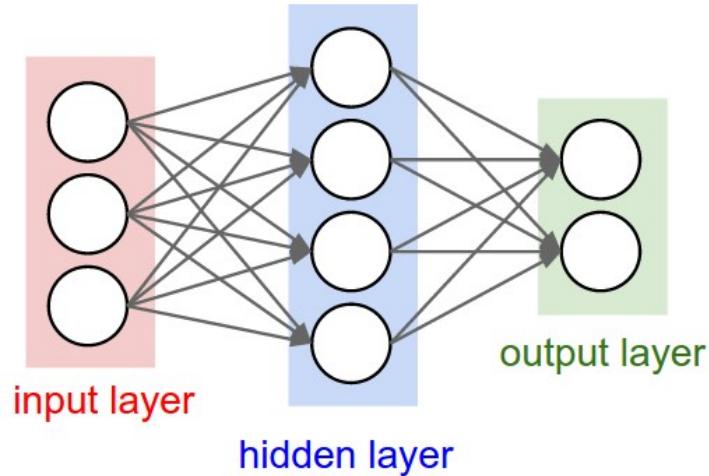


Initialize weights
and data



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Neural Net in <20 lines!

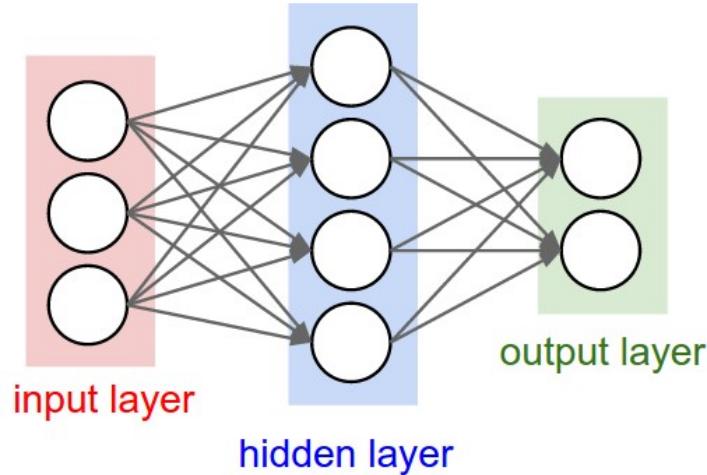


Initialize weights
and data

Compute loss
(sigmoid activation,
L2 loss)

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Neural Net in <20 lines!



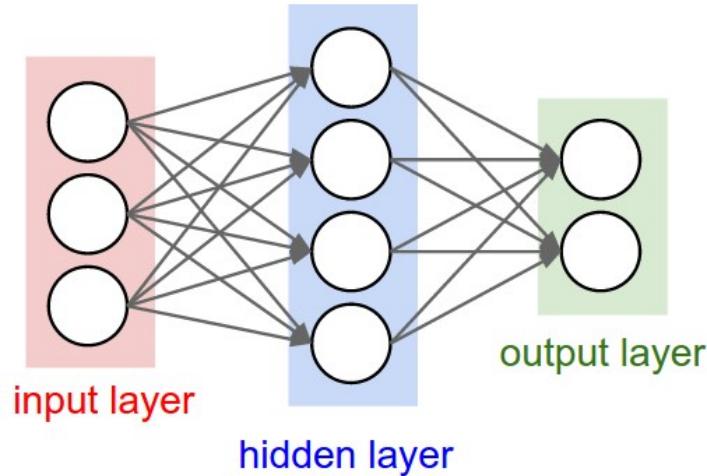
Initialize weights
and data

Compute loss
(sigmoid activation,
L2 loss)

Compute
gradients

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4 N, Din, H, Dout = 64, 1000, 100, 10
5 x, y = randn(N, Din), randn(N, Dout)
6 w1, w2 = randn(Din, H), randn(H, Dout)
7 for t in range(10000):
8     h = 1.0 / (1.0 + np.exp(-x.dot(w1)))
9     y_pred = h.dot(w2)
10    loss = np.square(y_pred - y).sum()
11    dy_pred = 2.0 * (y_pred - y)
12    dw2 = h.T.dot(dy_pred)
13    dh = dy_pred.dot(w2.T)
14    dw1 = x.T.dot(dh * h * (1 - h))
15    w1 -= 1e-4 * dw1
16    w2 -= 1e-4 * dw2
```

Neural Net in <20 lines!



Initialize weights
and data

Compute loss
(sigmoid activation,
L2 loss)

Compute
gradients

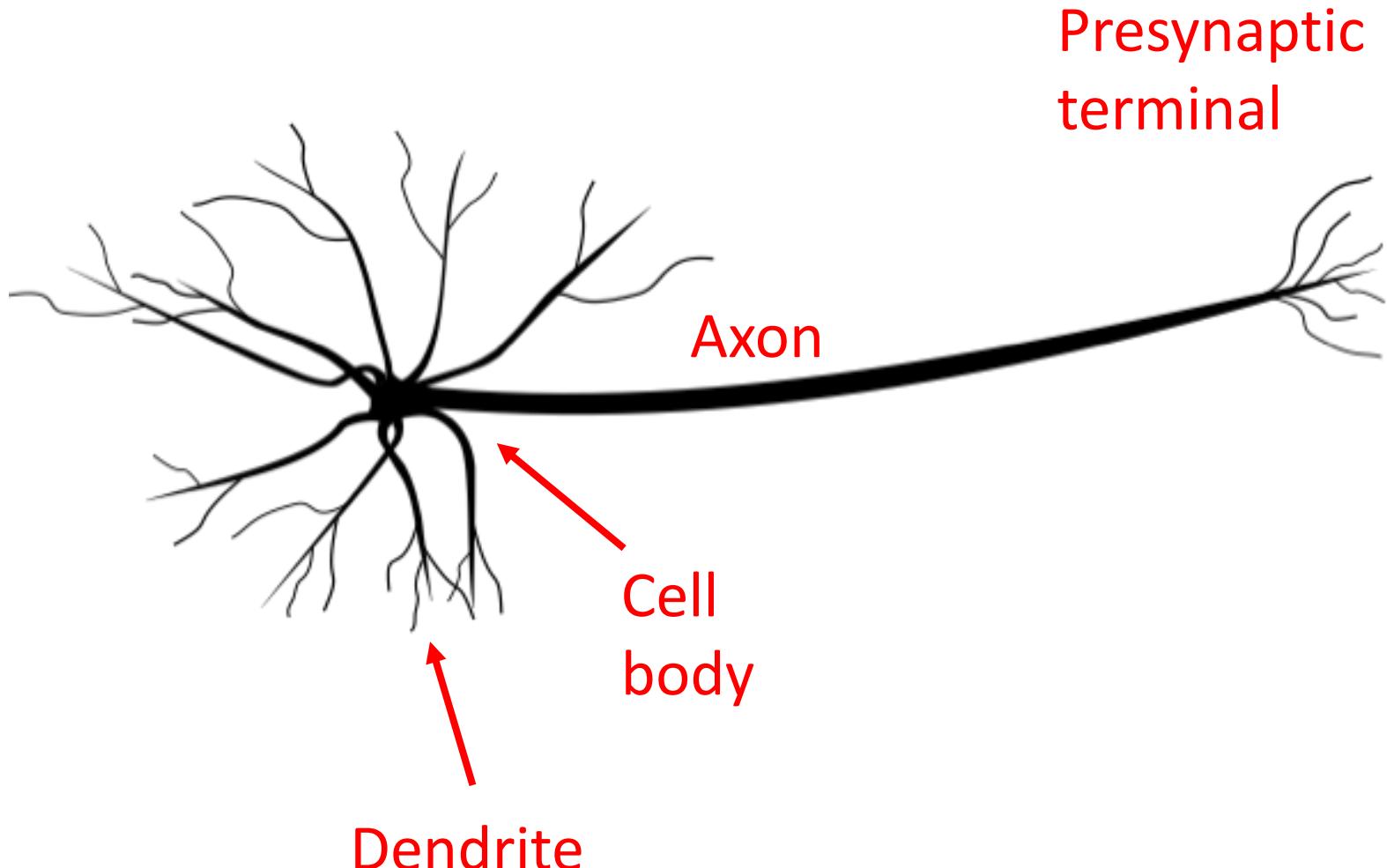
SGD
step

```
1 import numpy as np
2 from numpy.random import randn
3
4 N, Din, H, Dout = 64, 1000, 100, 10
5 x, y = randn(N, Din), randn(N, Dout)
6 w1, w2 = randn(Din, H), randn(H, Dout)
7 for t in range(10000):
8     h = 1.0 / (1.0 + np.exp(-x.dot(w1)))
9     y_pred = h.dot(w2)
10    loss = np.square(y_pred - y).sum()
11    dy_pred = 2.0 * (y_pred - y)
12    dw2 = h.T.dot(dy_pred)
13    dh = dy_pred.dot(w2.T)
14    dw1 = x.T.dot(dh * h * (1 - h))
15    w1 -= 1e-4 * dw1
16    w2 -= 1e-4 * dw2
```



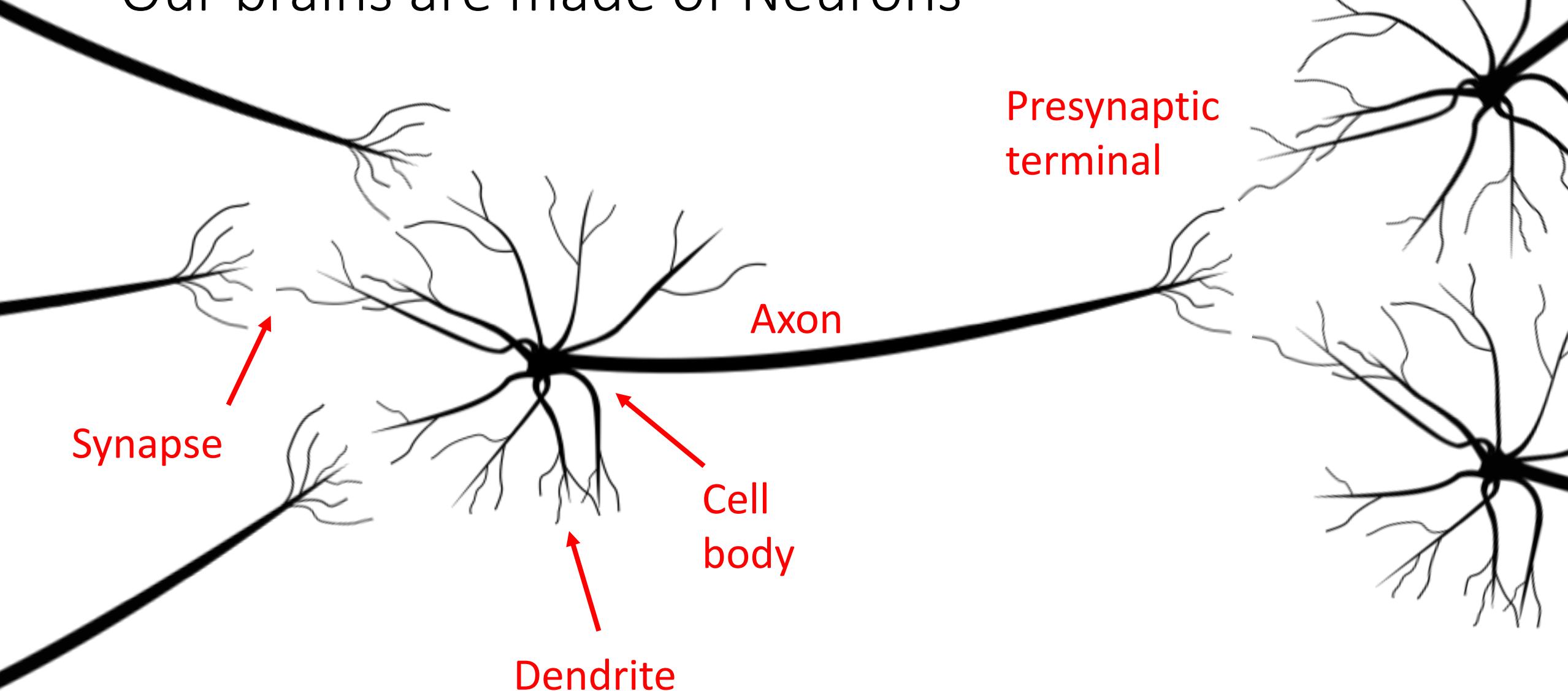
This image by [Fotis Bobolas](#) is
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Our brains are made of Neurons

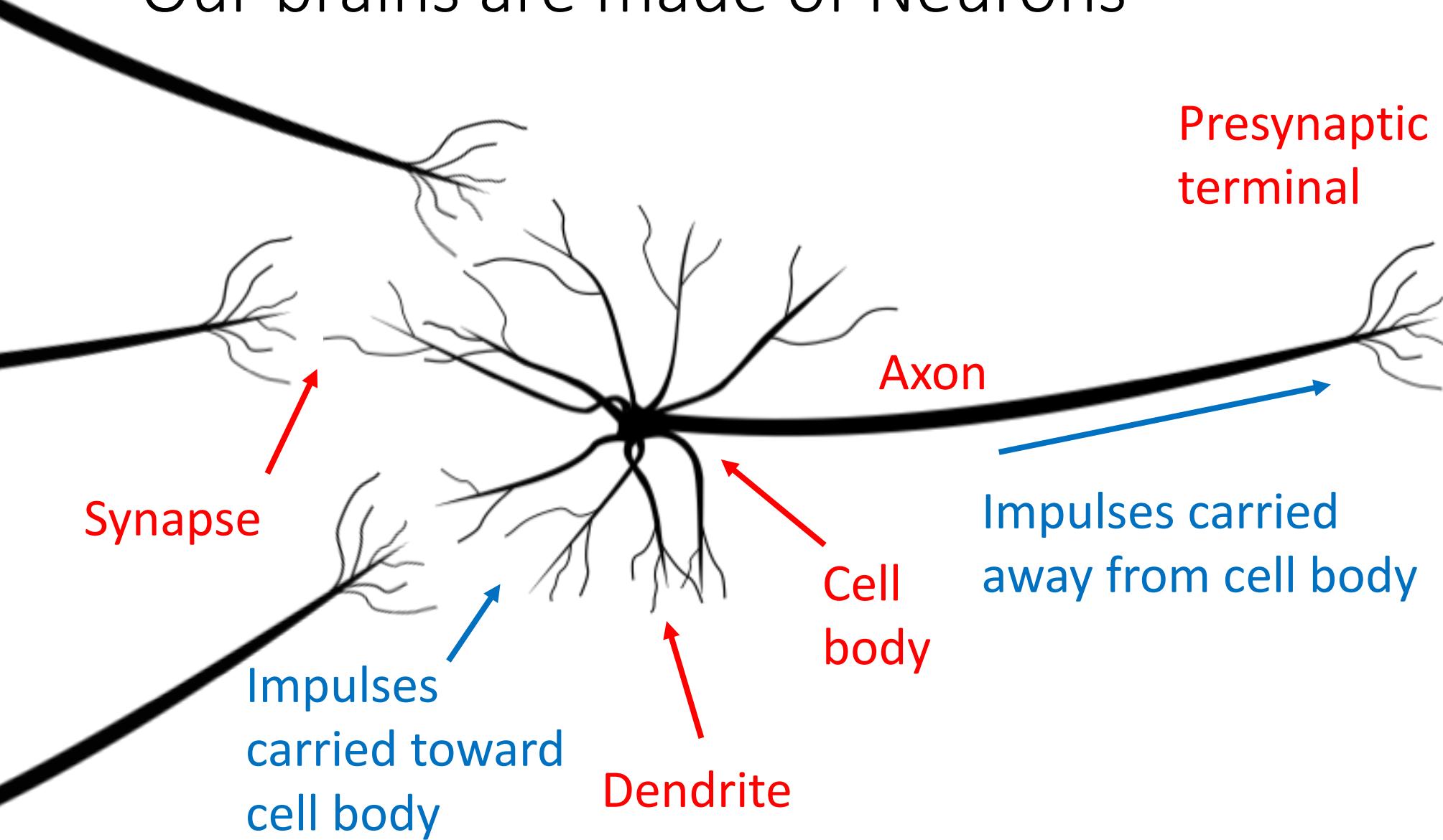


[Neuron image](#) by Felipe Perucho
is licensed under [CC-BY 3.0](#)

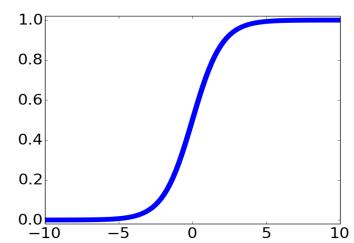
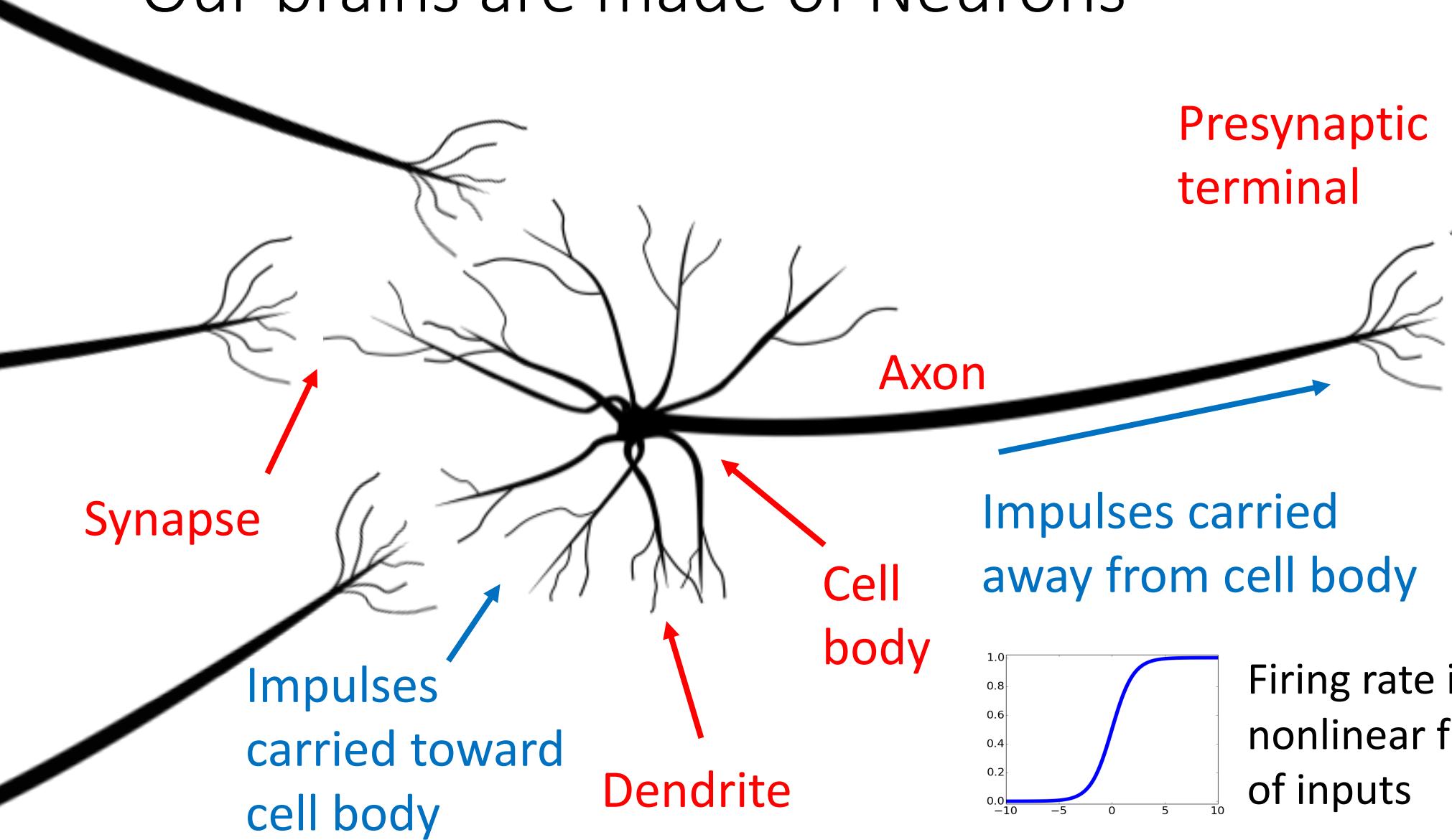
Our brains are made of Neurons



Our brains are made of Neurons

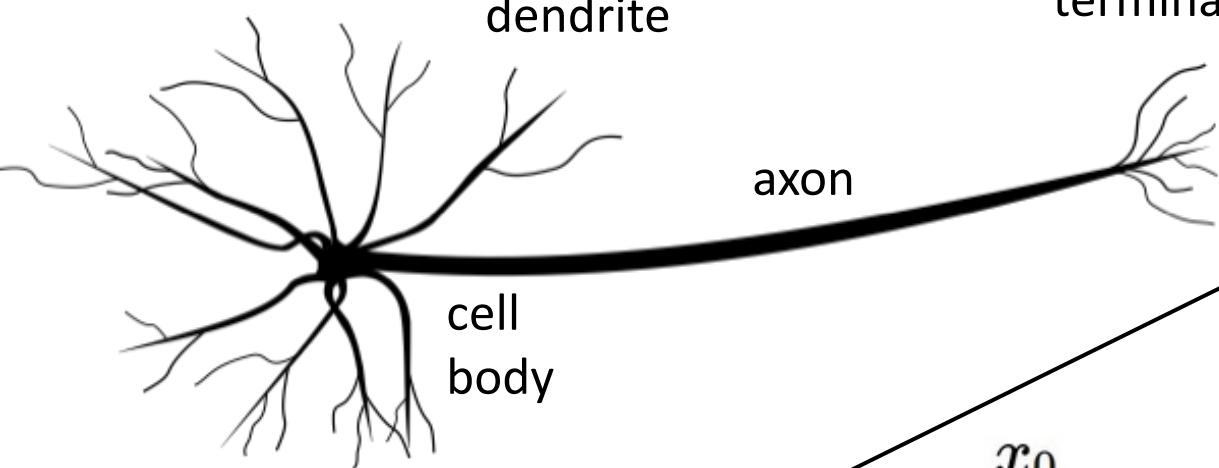


Our brains are made of Neurons

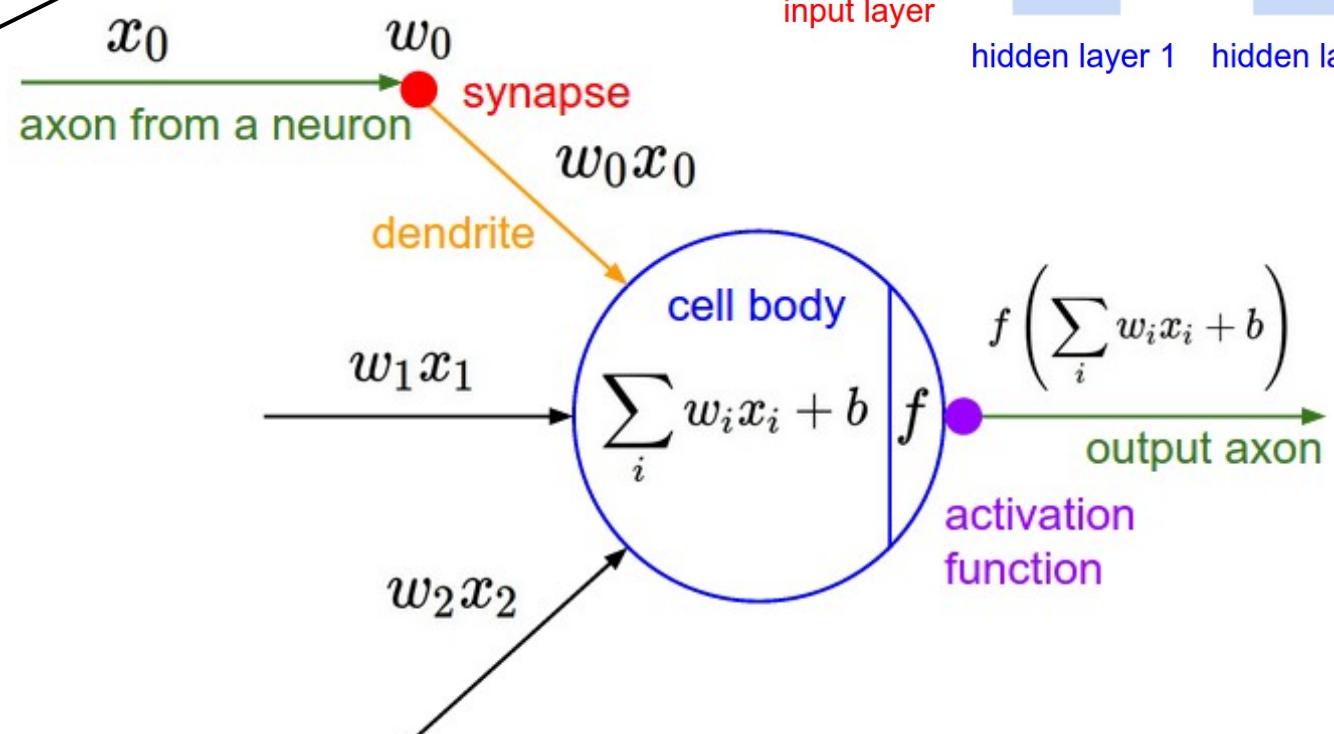
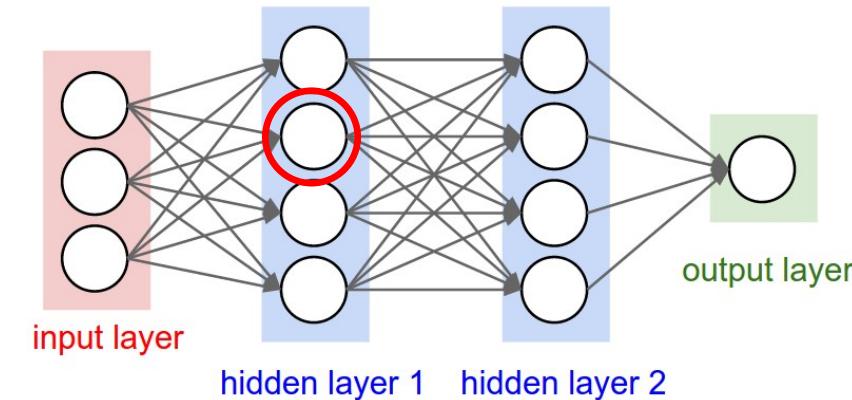


Firing rate is a
nonlinear function
of inputs

Biological Neuron

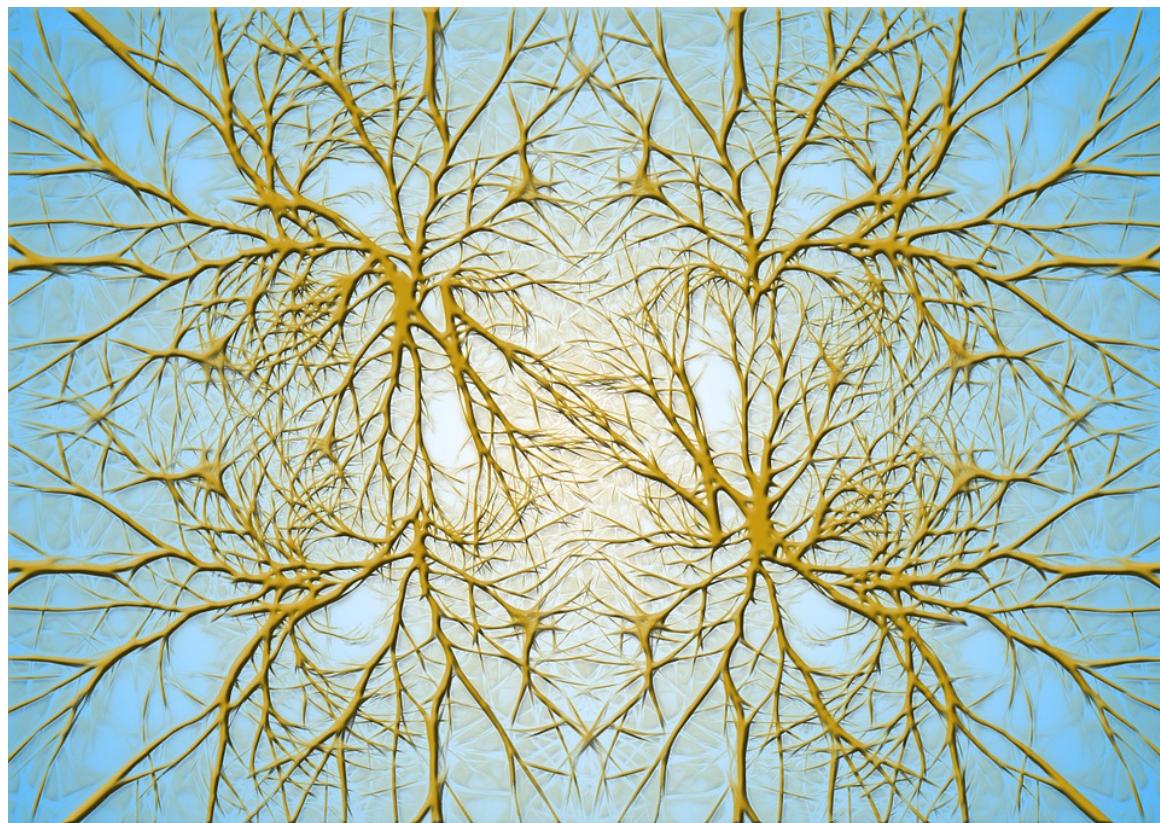


Artificial Neuron



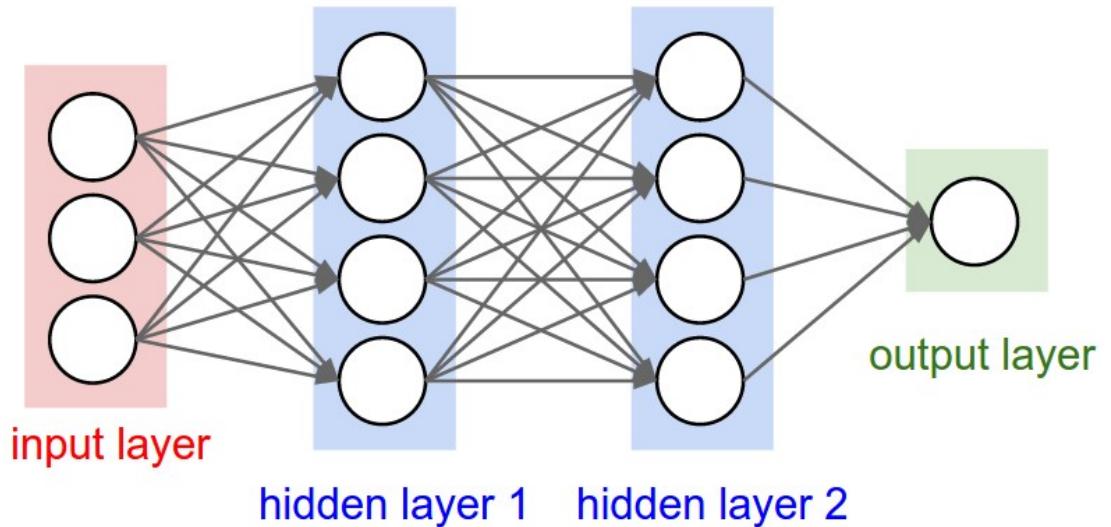
[Neuron image](#) by Felipe Perucho
is licensed under [CC-BY 3.0](#)

Biological Neurons: Complex connectivity patterns

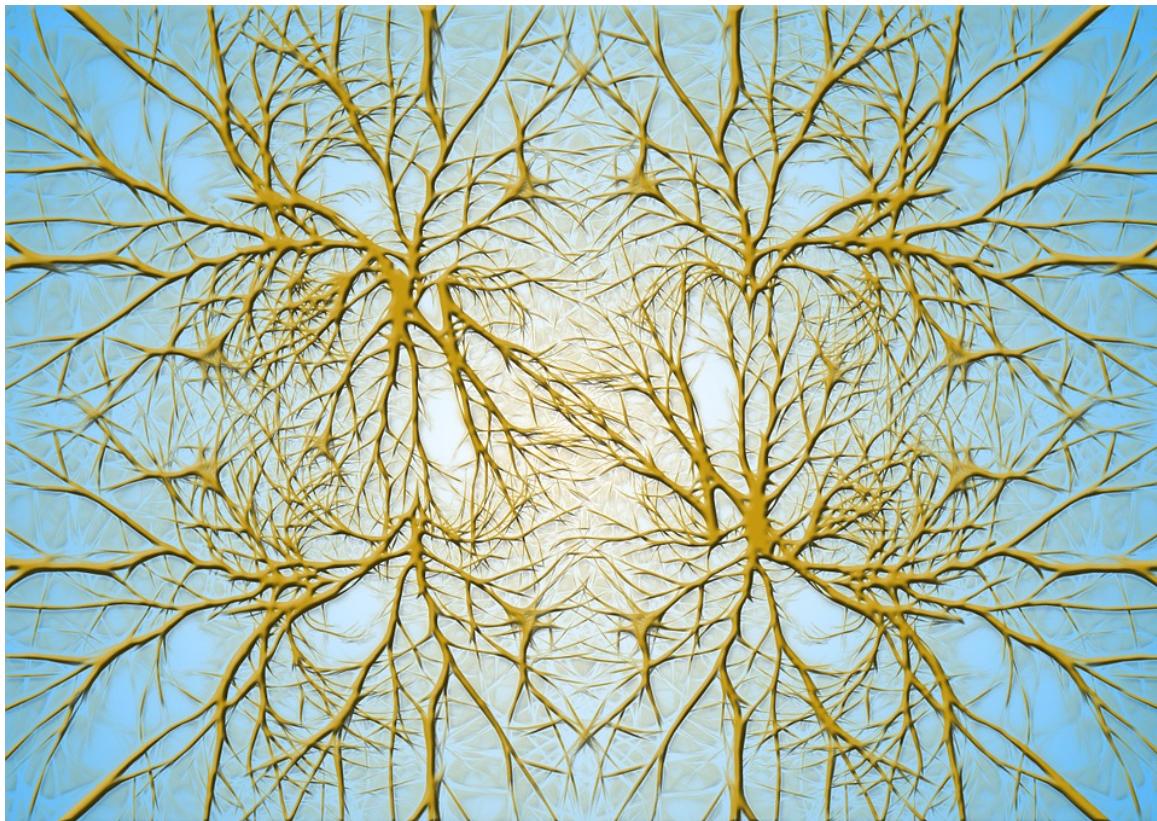


[This image is CC0 Public Domain](#)

Neurons in a neural network:
Organized into regular layers for
computational efficiency

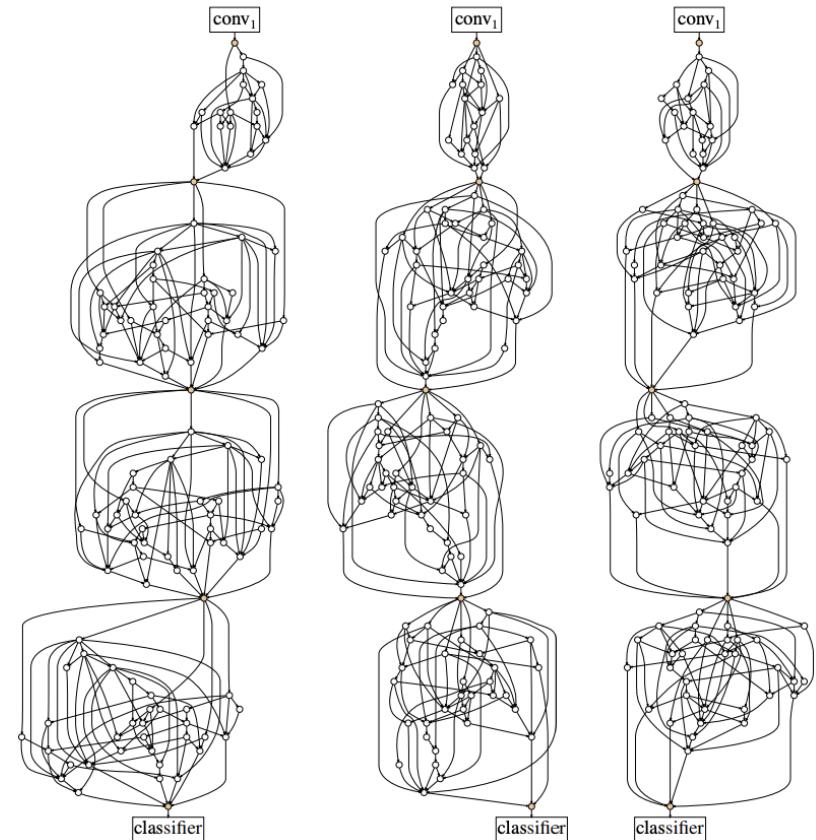


Biological Neurons: Complex connectivity patterns



[This image is CC0 Public Domain](#)

But neural networks with random connections can work too!



Xie et al, "Exploring Randomly Wired Neural Networks for Image Recognition", ICCV 2019

Be very careful with brain analogies!

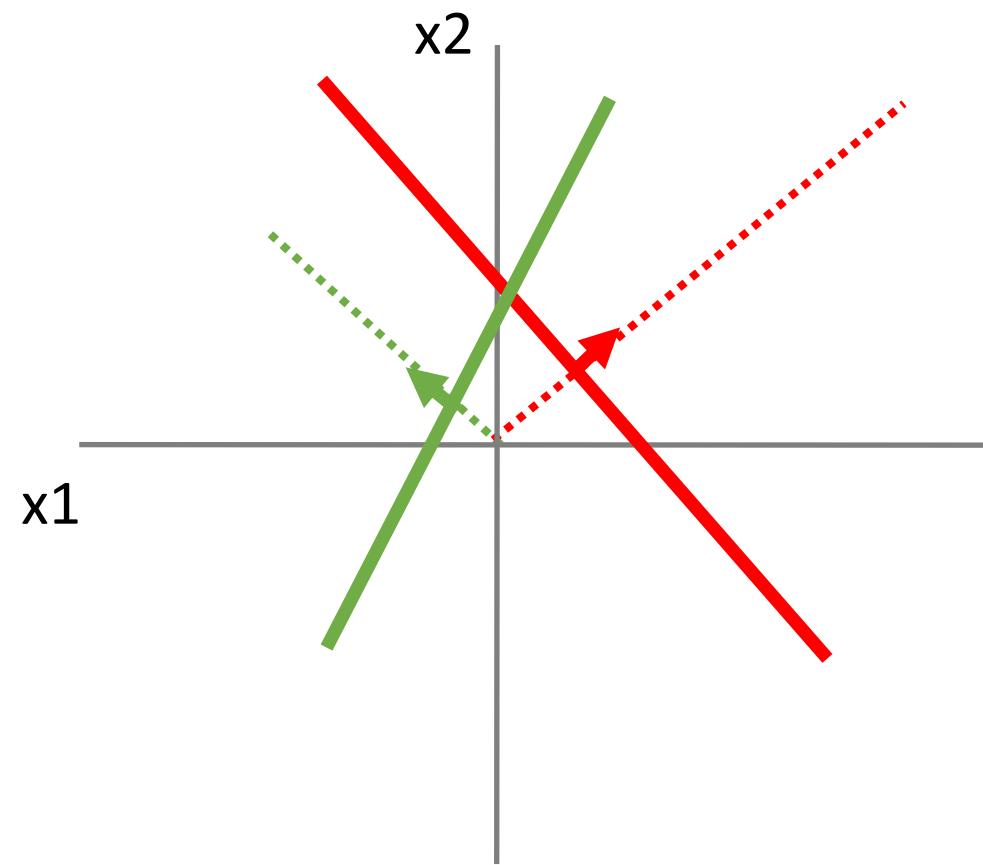
Biological Neurons:

- Many different types
- Dendrites can perform complex non-linear computations
- Synapses are not a single weight but a complex non-linear dynamical system
- Rate code may not be adequate

[Dendritic Computation. London and Häusser]

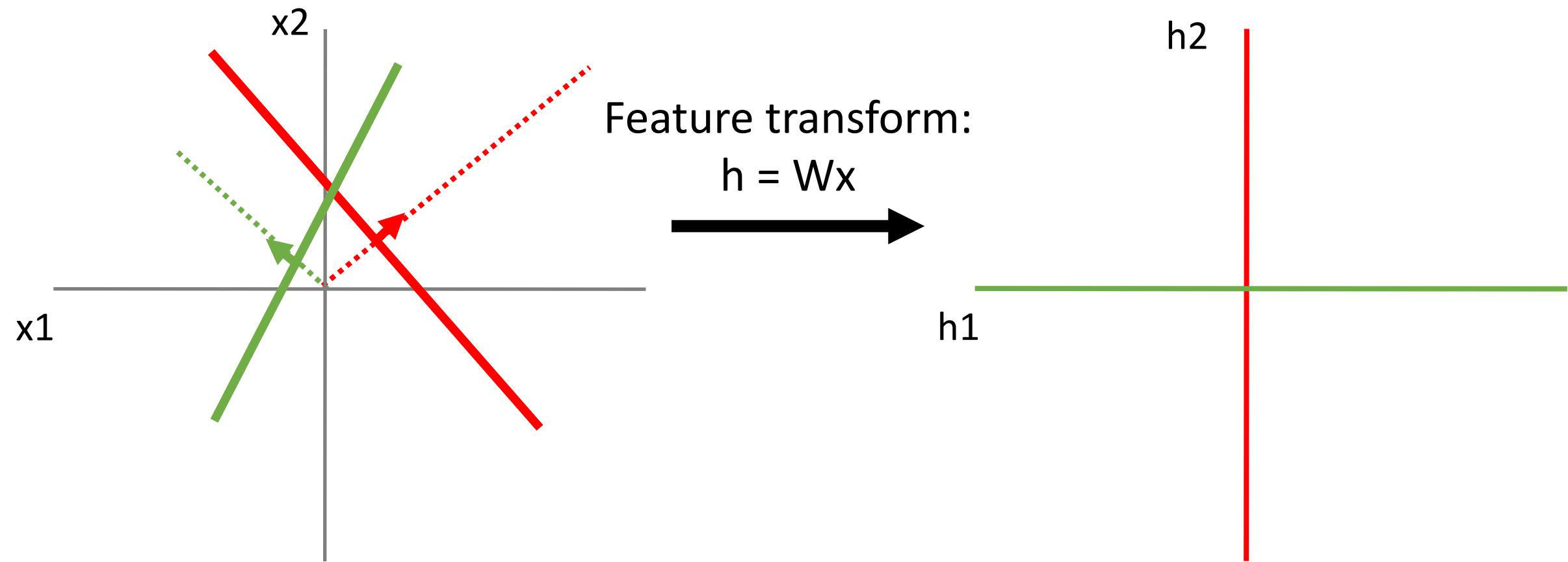
Space Warping

Consider a linear transform: $h = Wx$
Where x, h are both 2-dimensional



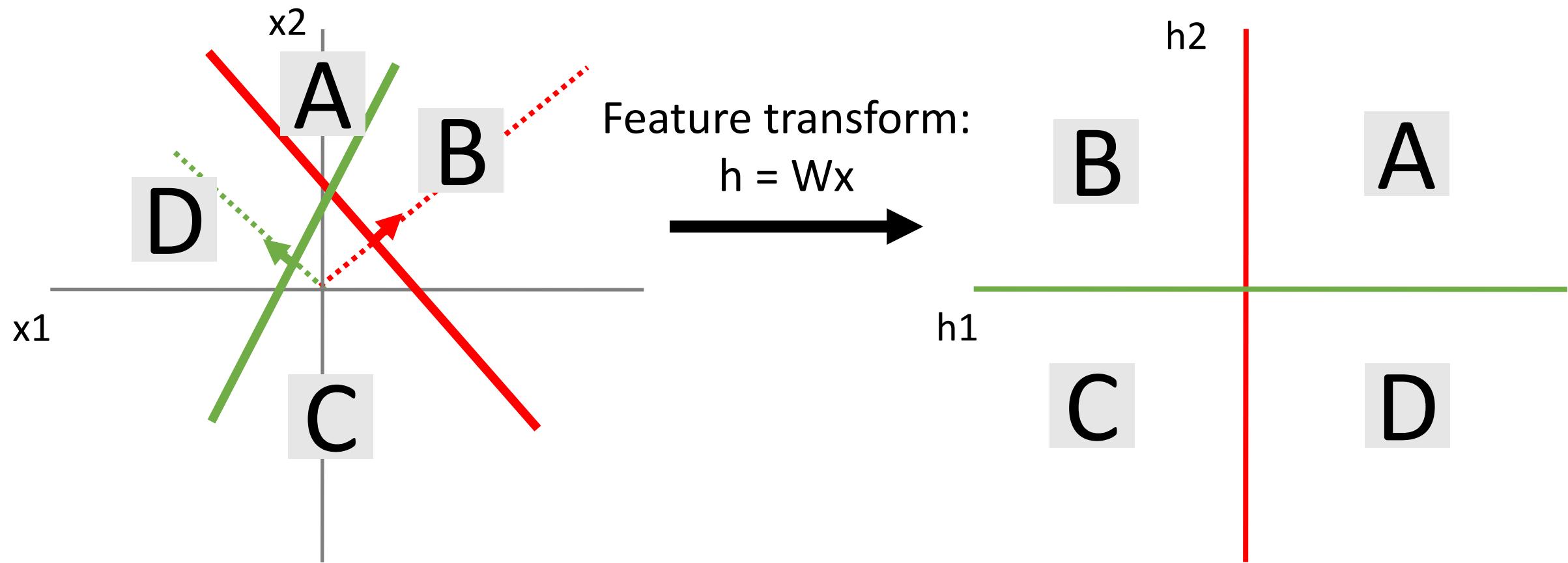
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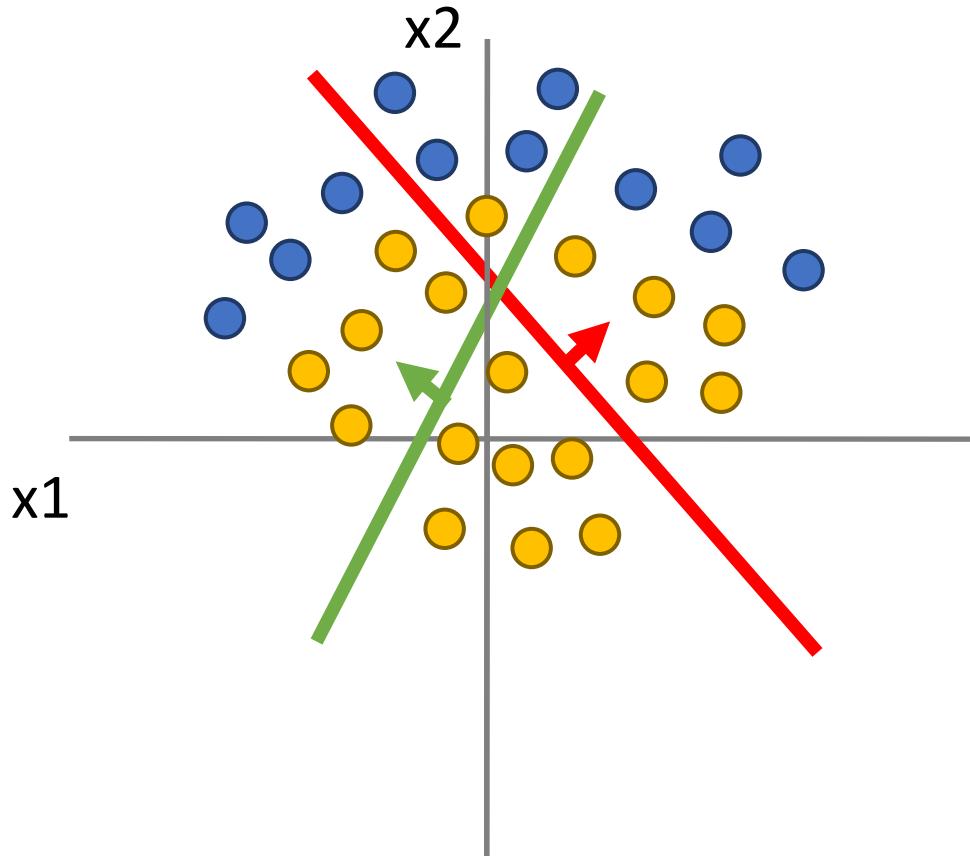
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Space Warping

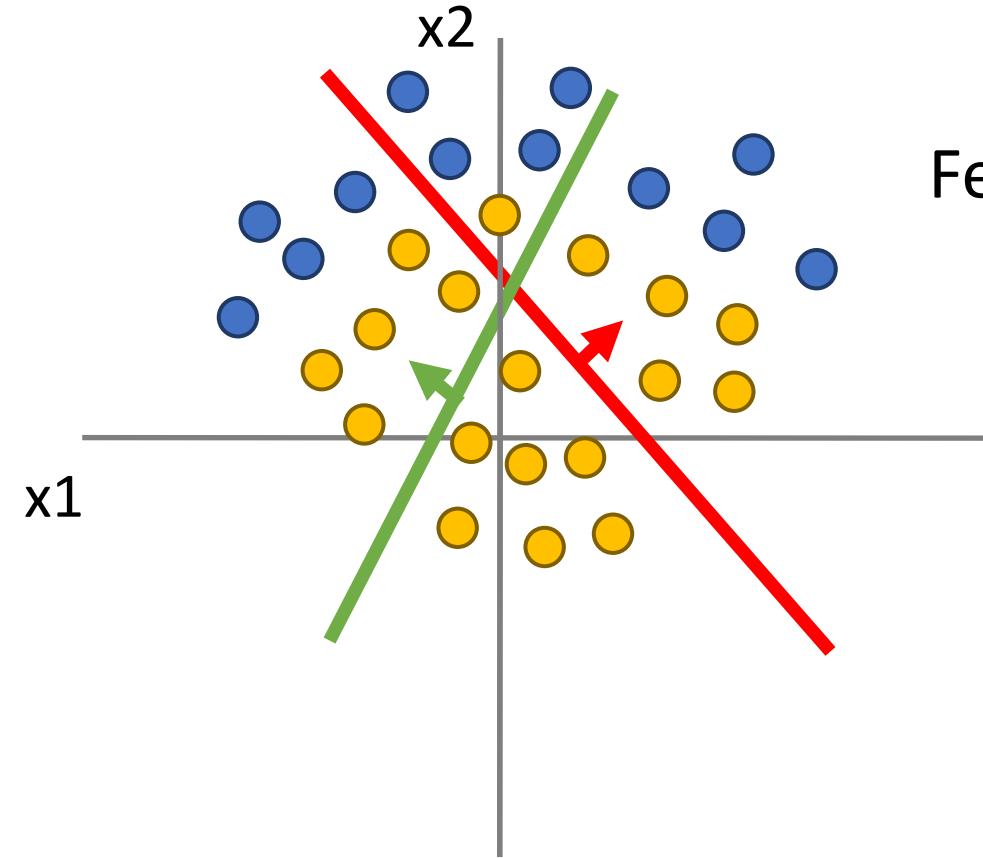
Points not linearly
separable in original space



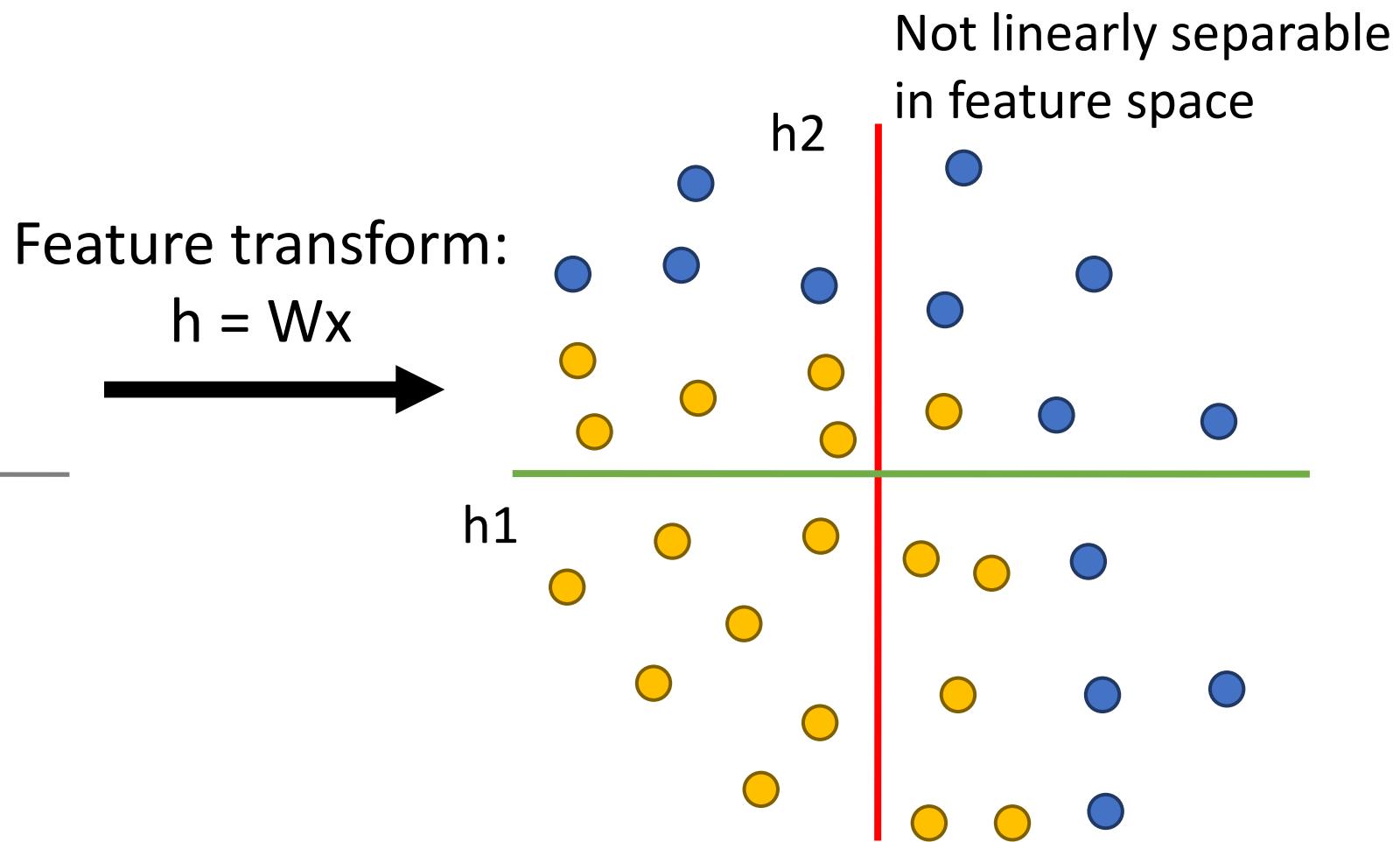
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Where x, h are both 2-dimensional

Space Warping

Points not linearly separable in original space

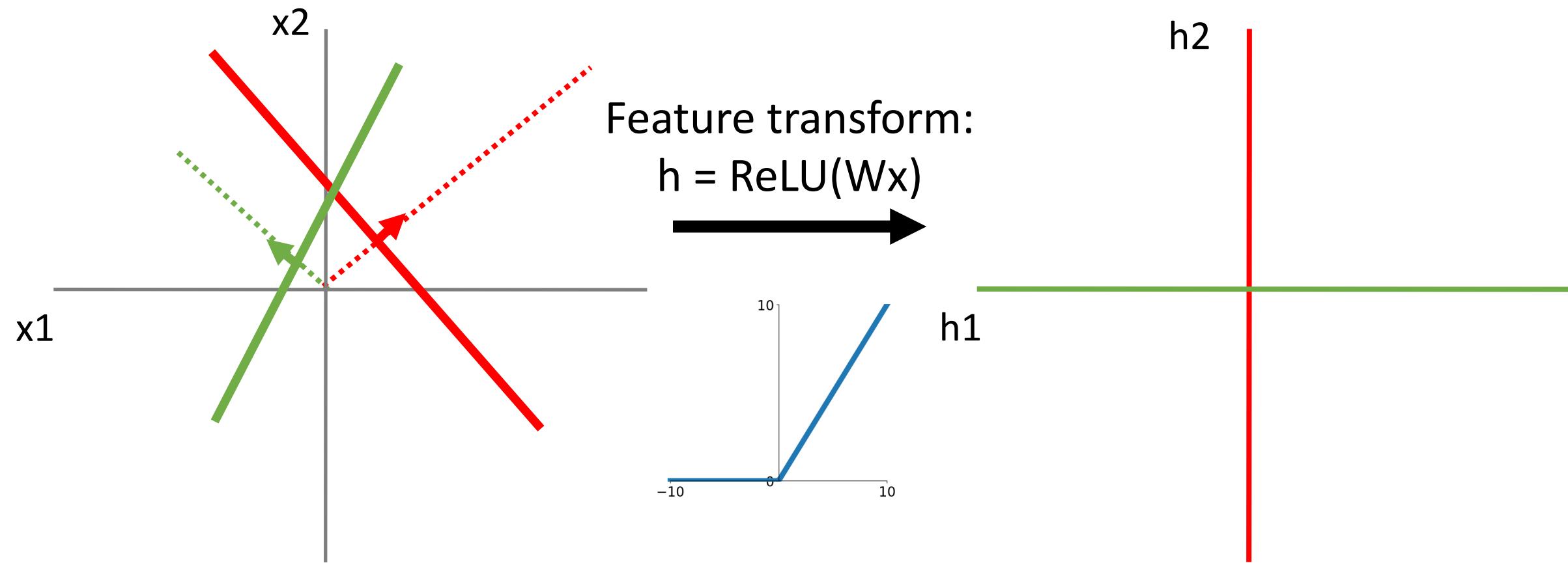


Consider a linear transform: $h = Wx$
Where x, h are both 2-dimensional



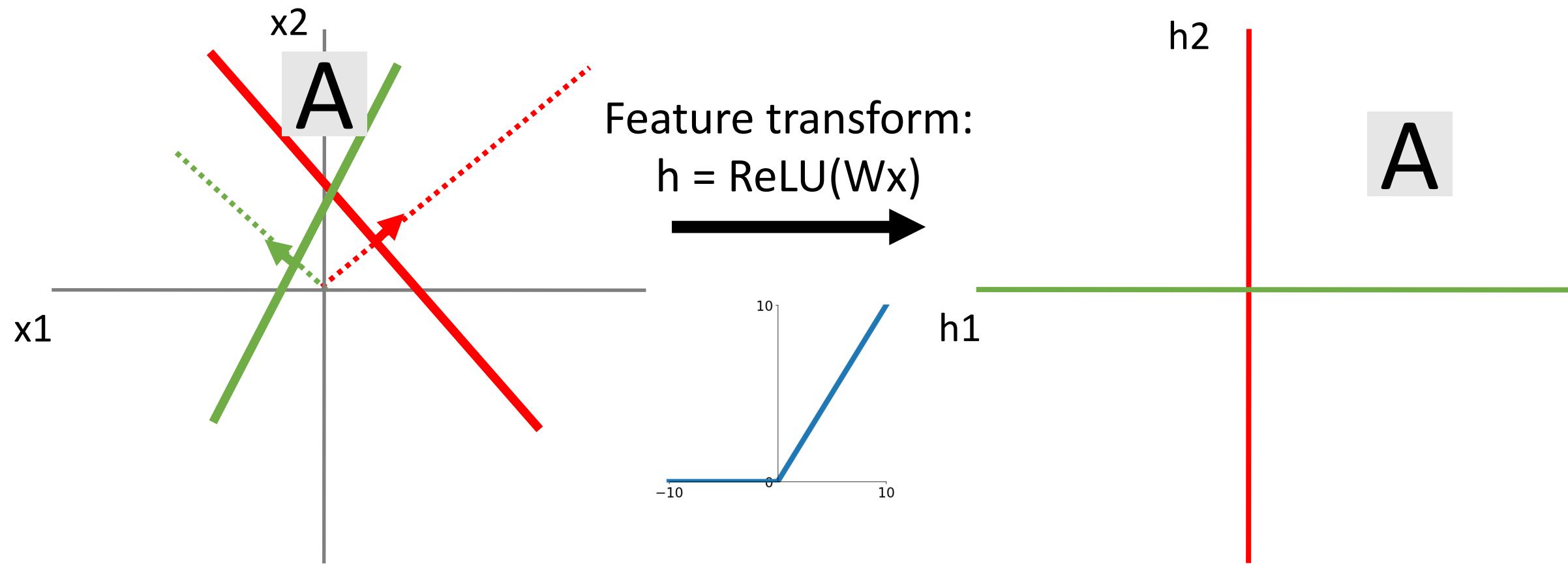
Space Warping

Consider a neural net hidden layer:
 $h = \text{ReLU}(Wx) = \max(0, Wx)$
Where x, h are both 2-dimensional



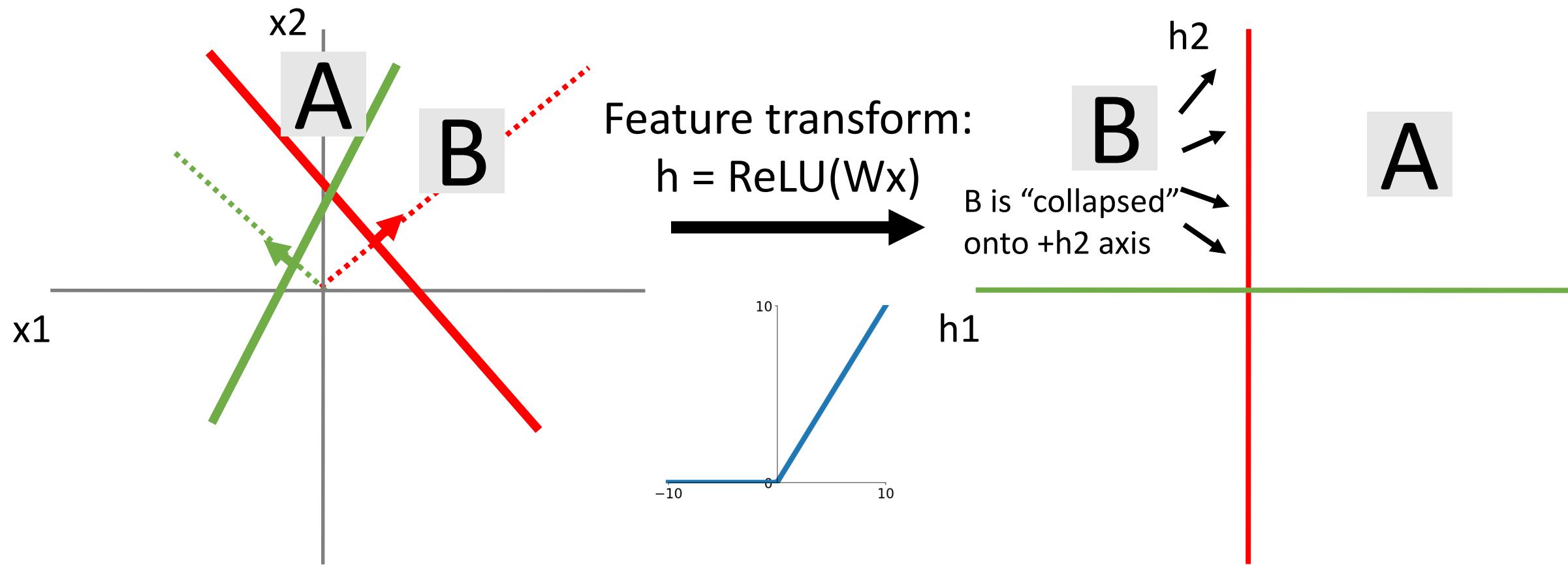
Space Warping

Consider a neural net hidden layer:
 $h = \text{ReLU}(Wx) = \max(0, Wx)$
Where x, h are both 2-dimensional



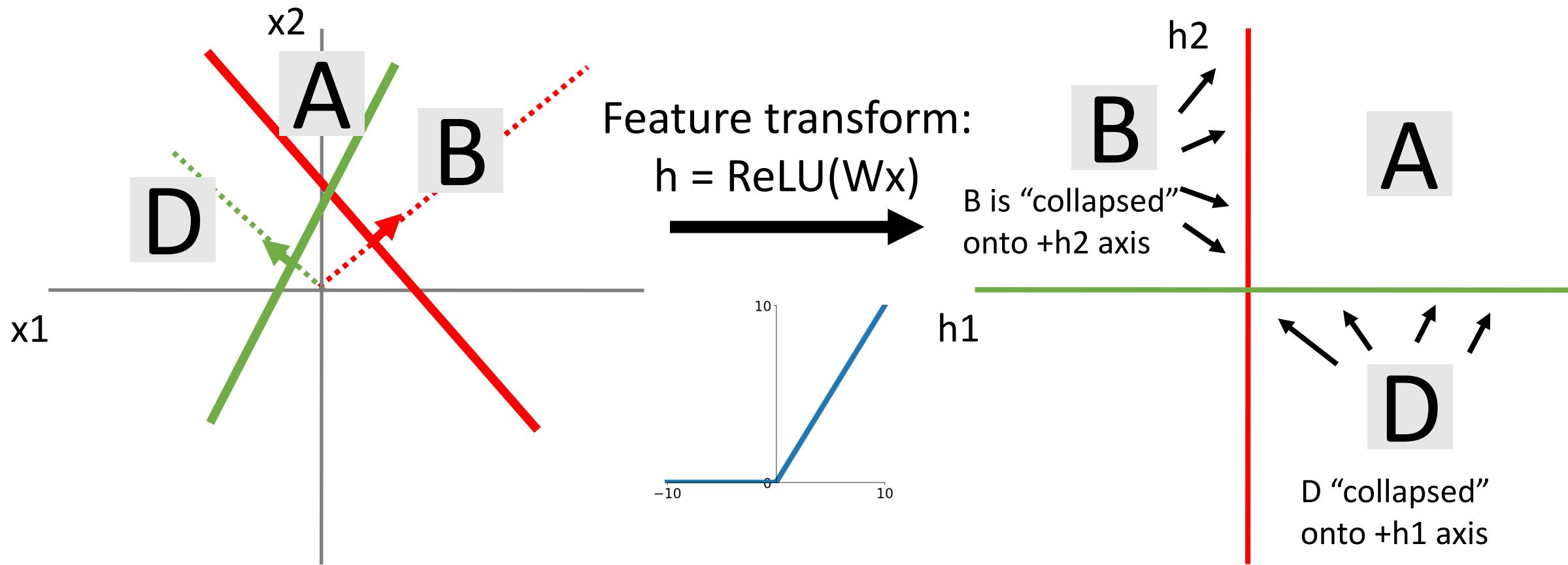
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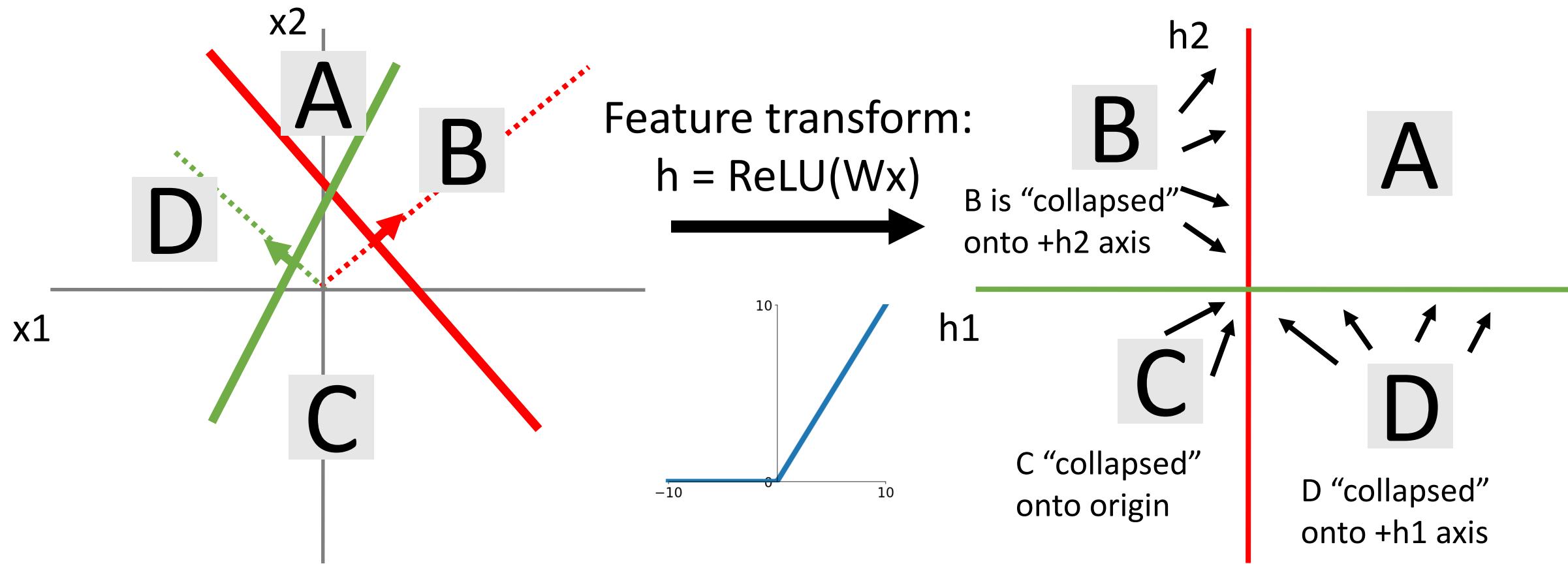
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 $h = \text{ReLU}(Wx) = \max(0, Wx)$
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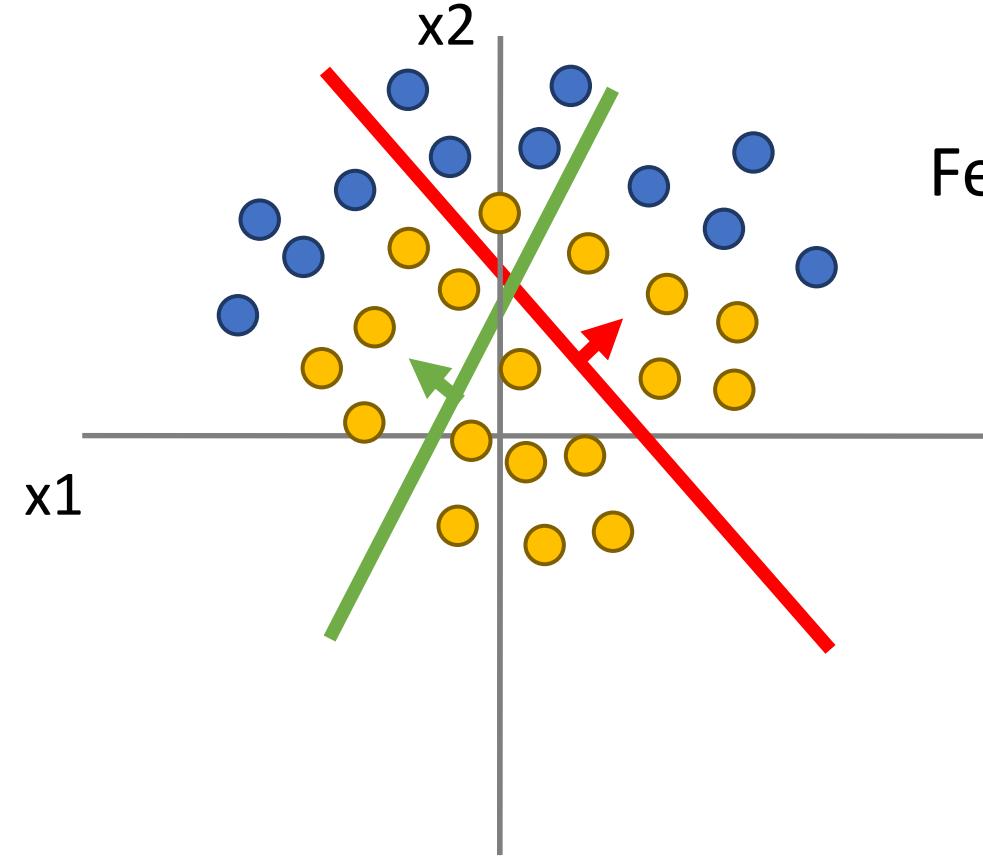
Space Warping

Consider a neural net hidden layer:
 $h = \text{ReLU}(Wx) = \max(0, Wx)$
Where x, h are both 2-dimensional

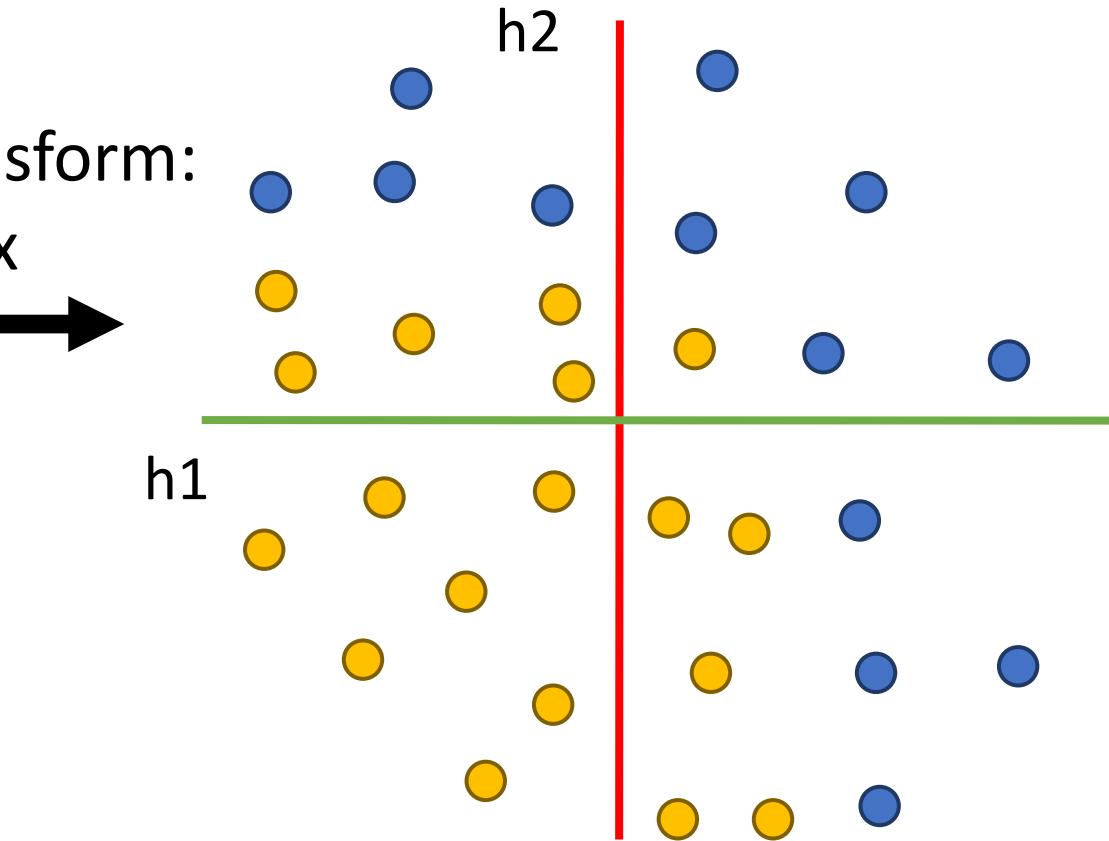


Space Warping

Points not linearly
separable in original space



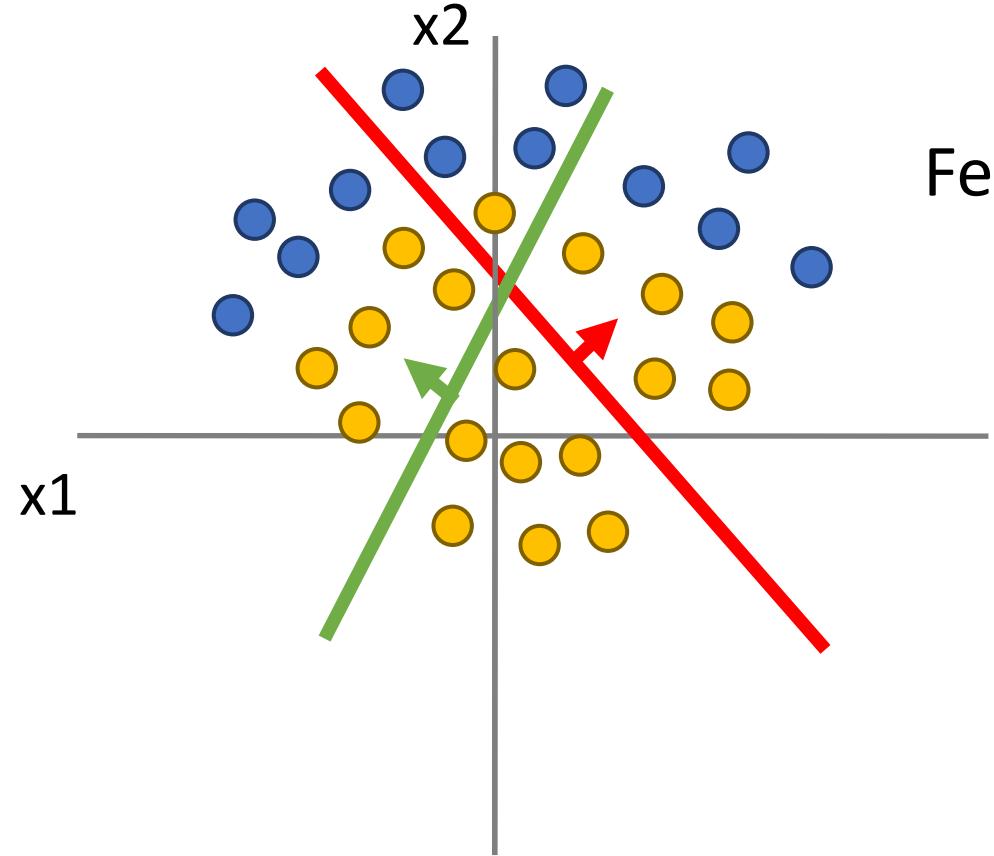
Feature transform:
 $h = Wx$



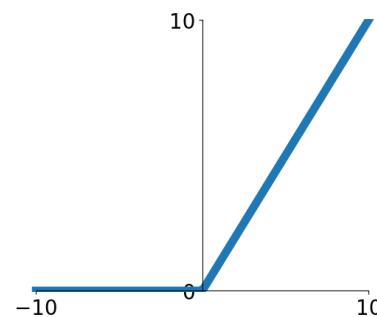
Consider a neural net hidden layer:
 $h = \text{ReLU}(Wx) = \max(0, Wx)$
Where x, h are both 2-dimensional

Space Warping

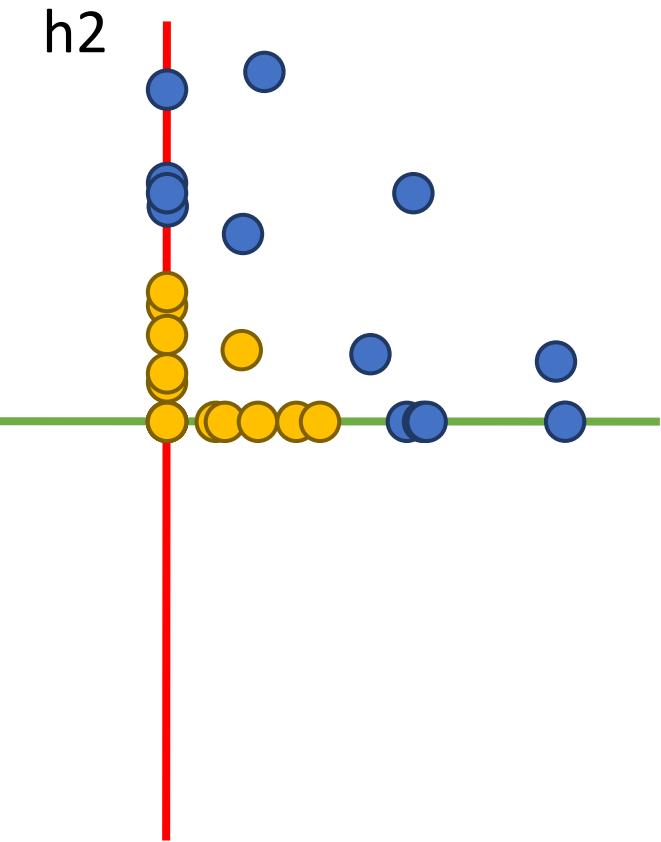
Points not linearly
separable in original space



Feature transform:
 $h = \text{ReLU}(Wx)$

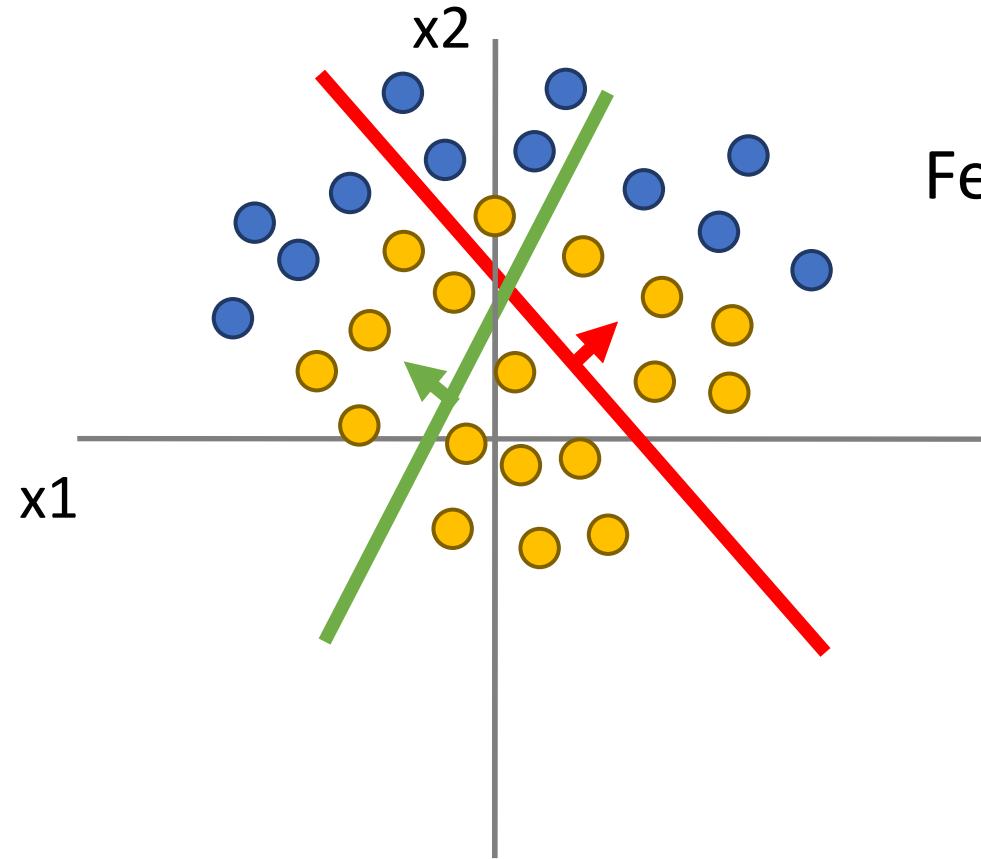


Consider a neural net hidden layer:
 $h = \text{ReLU}(Wx) = \max(0, Wx)$
Where x, h are both 2-dimensional



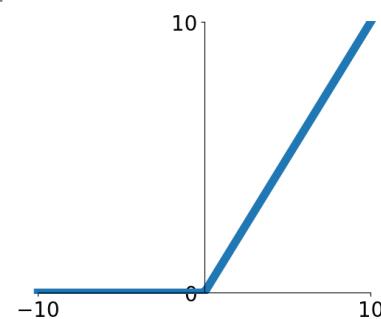
Space Warping

Points not linearly separable in original space

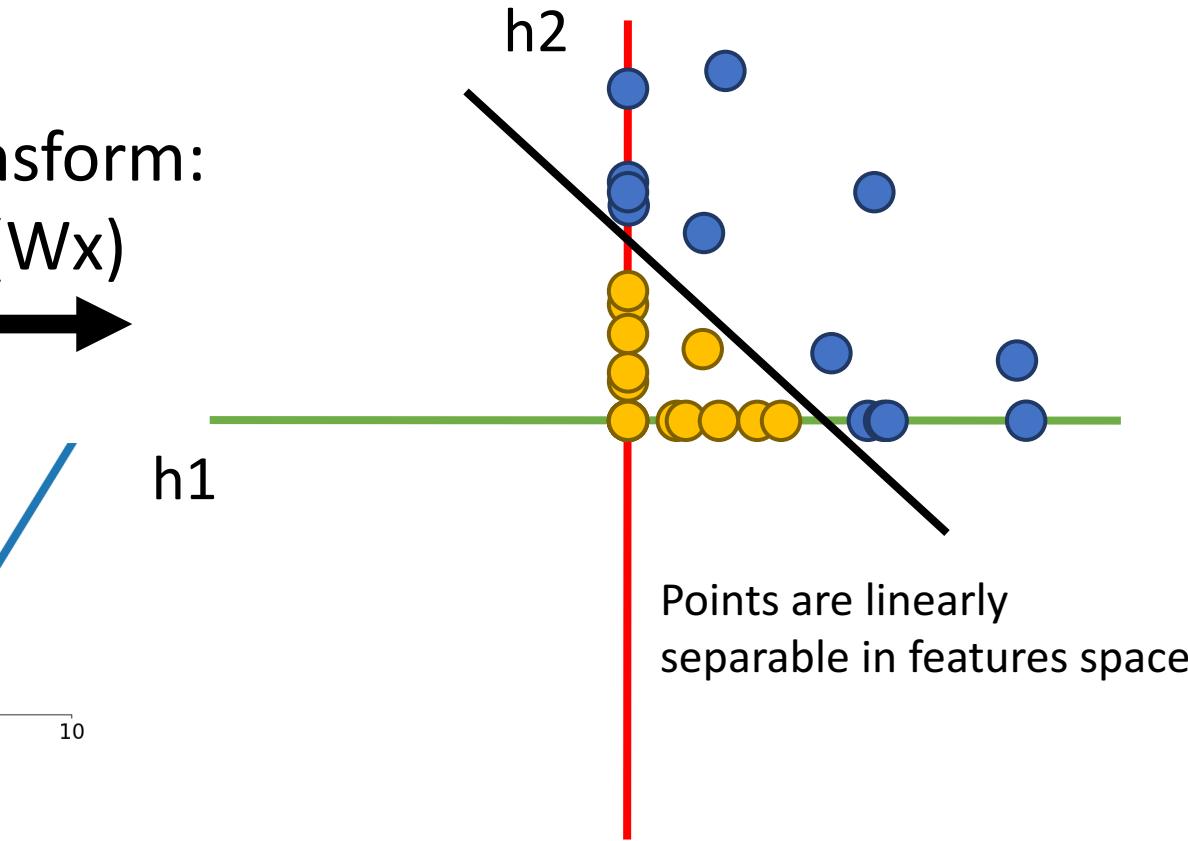


Feature transform:

$$h = \text{ReLU}(Wx)$$



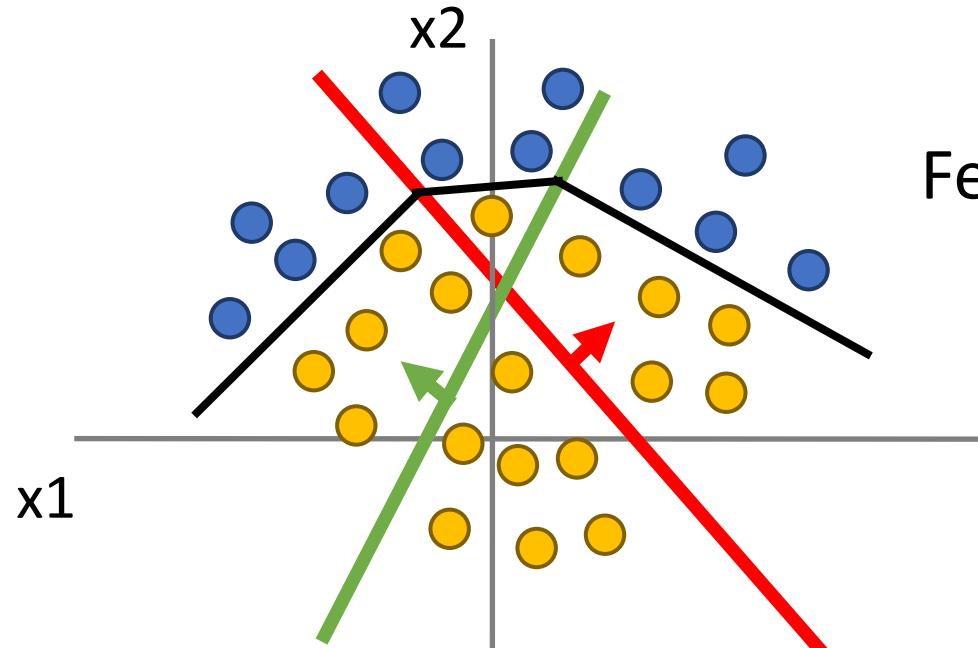
h_1



Points are linearly separable in features space!

Space Warping

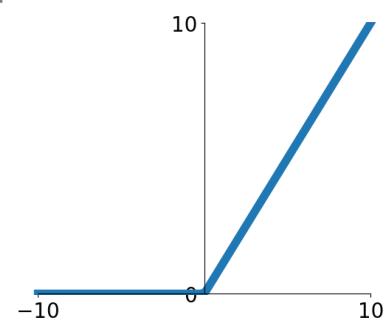
Points not linearly separable in original space



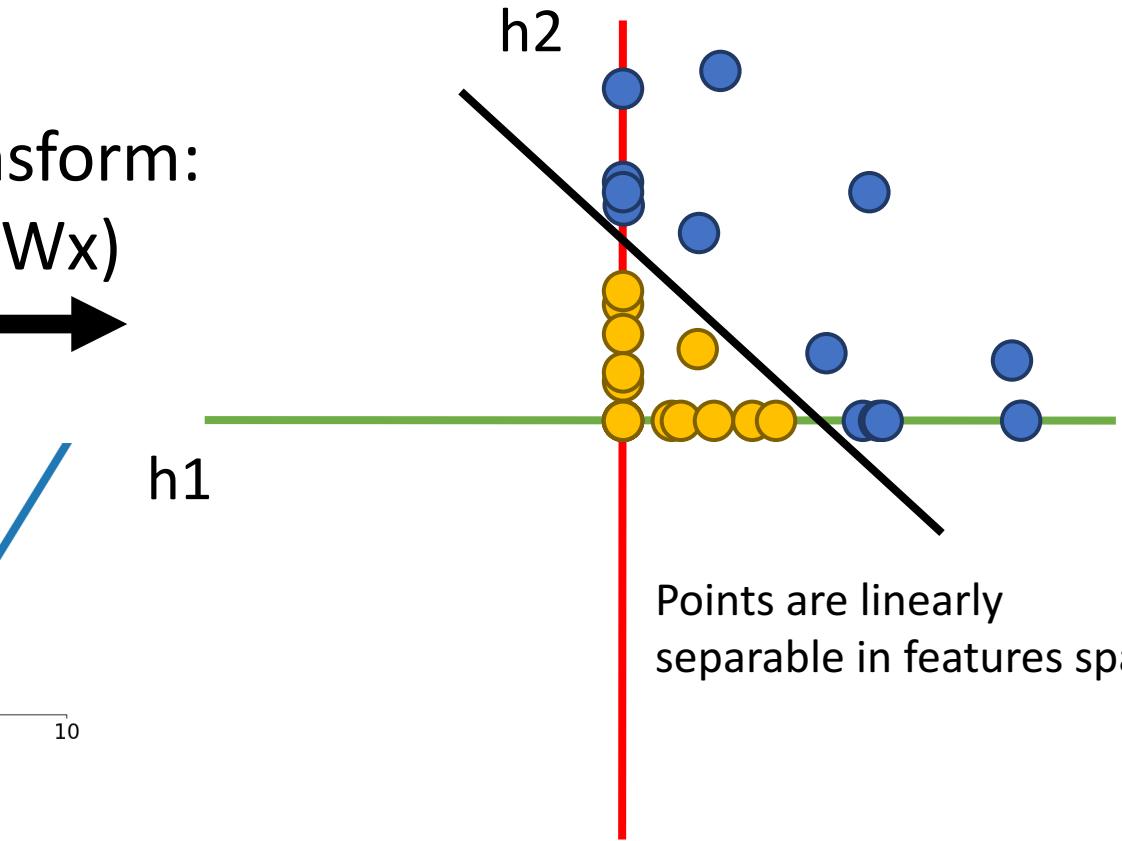
Linear classifier in feature space gives nonlinear classifier in original space

Feature transform:

$$h = \text{ReLU}(Wx)$$



h_1



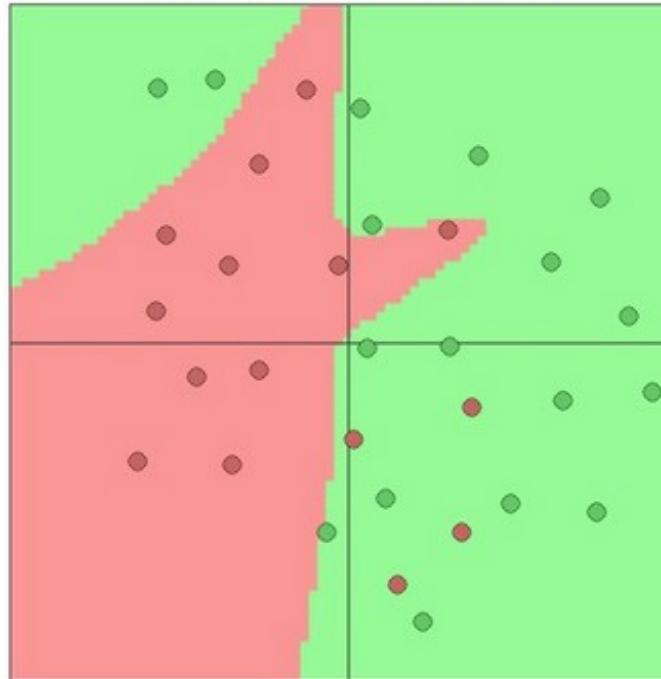
Points are linearly separable in features space!

Setting the number of layers and their sizes

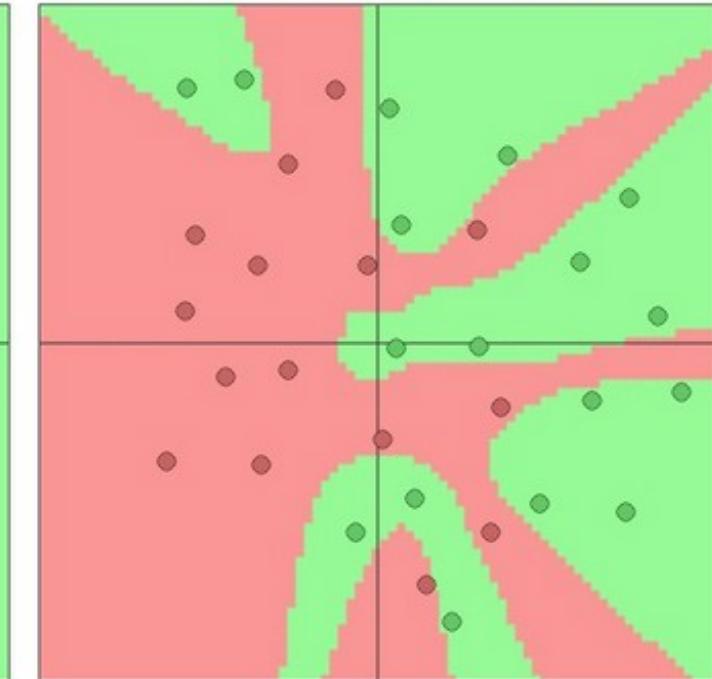
3 hidden units



6 hidden units



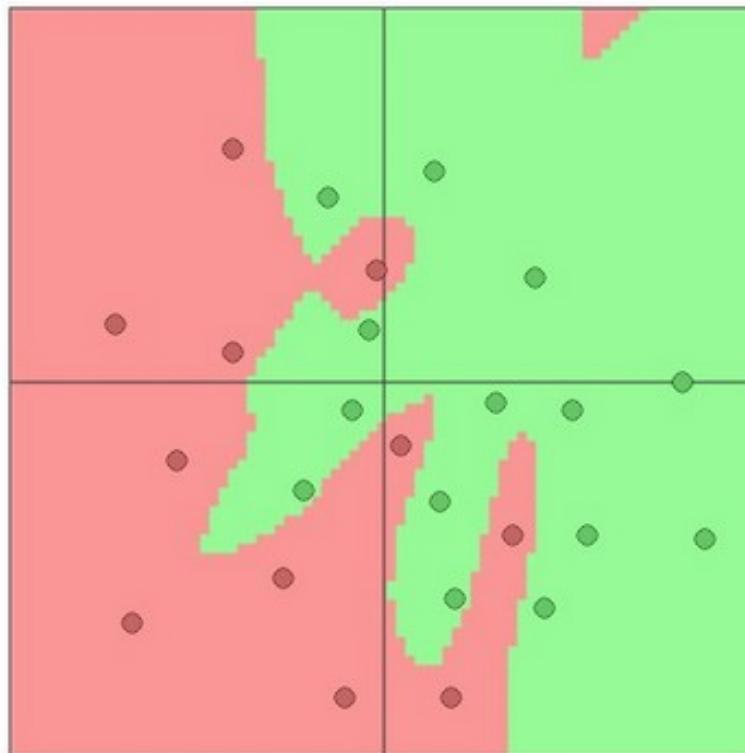
20 hidden units



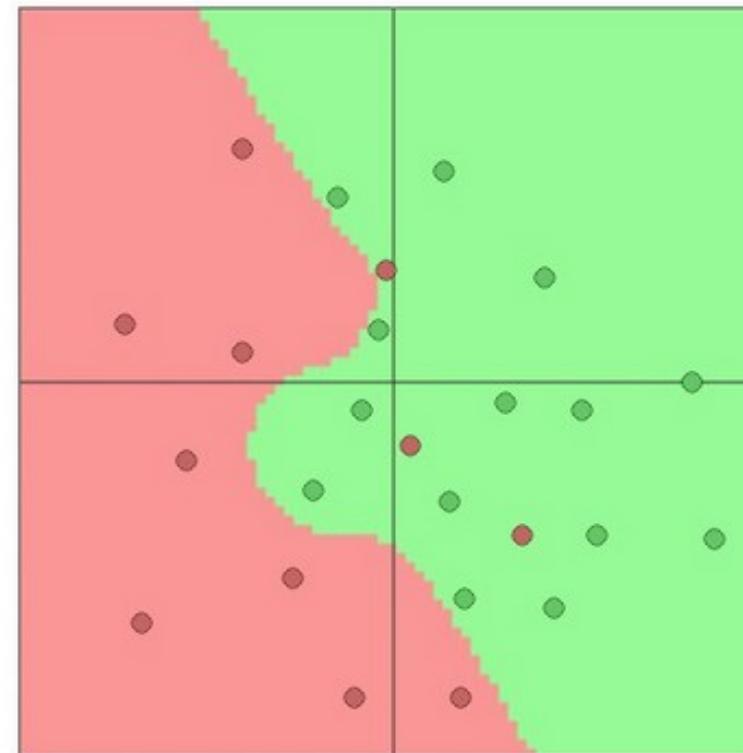
More hidden units = more capacity

Don't regularize with size; instead use stronger L2

$\lambda = 0.001$



$\lambda = 0.01$



$\lambda = 0.1$



(Web demo with ConvNetJS:

<http://cs.stanford.edu/people/karpathy/convnetjs/demo/classify2d.html>)

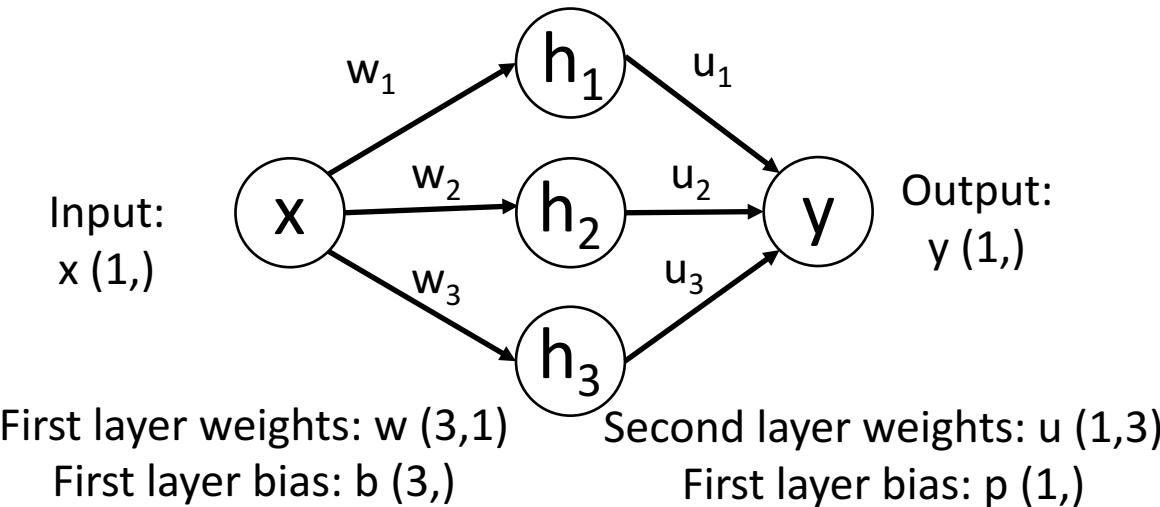
Universal Approximation

A neural network with one hidden layer can approximate any function $f: \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^M$ with arbitrary precision*

*Many technical conditions: Only holds on compact subsets of \mathbb{R}^N ; function must be continuous; need to define “arbitrary precision”; etc

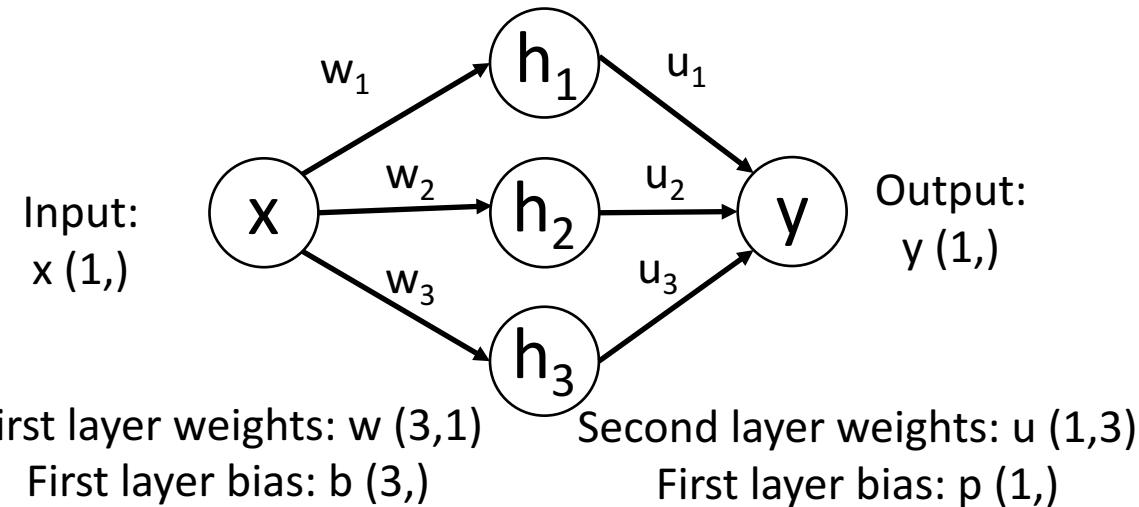
Universal Approximation

Example: Approximating a function $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with a two-layer ReLU network



Universal Approximation

Example: Approximating a function $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with a two-layer ReLU network



$$h_1 = \max(0, w_1 * x + b_1)$$

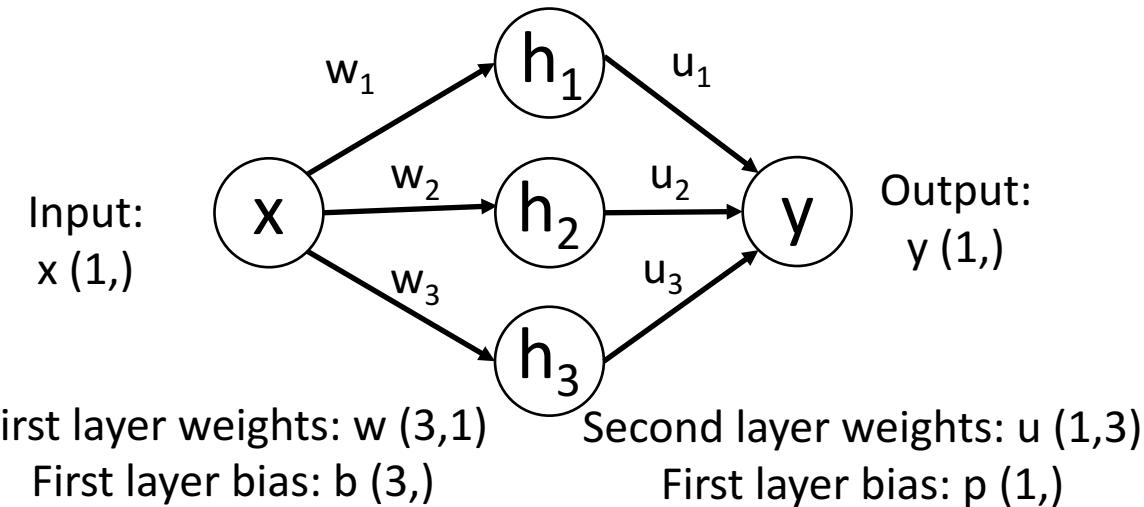
$$h_2 = \max(0, w_2 * x + b_2)$$

$$h_3 = \max(0, w_3 * x + b_3)$$

$$y = u_1 * h_1 + u_2 * h_2 + u_3 * h_3 + p$$

Universal Approximation

Example: Approximating a function $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with a two-layer ReLU network



$$h_1 = \max(0, w_1 * x + b_1)$$

$$h_2 = \max(0, w_2 * x + b_2)$$

$$h_3 = \max(0, w_3 * x + b_3)$$

$$y = u_1 * h_1 + u_2 * h_2 + u_3 * h_3 + p$$

$$y = u_1 * \max(0, w_1 * x + b_1)$$

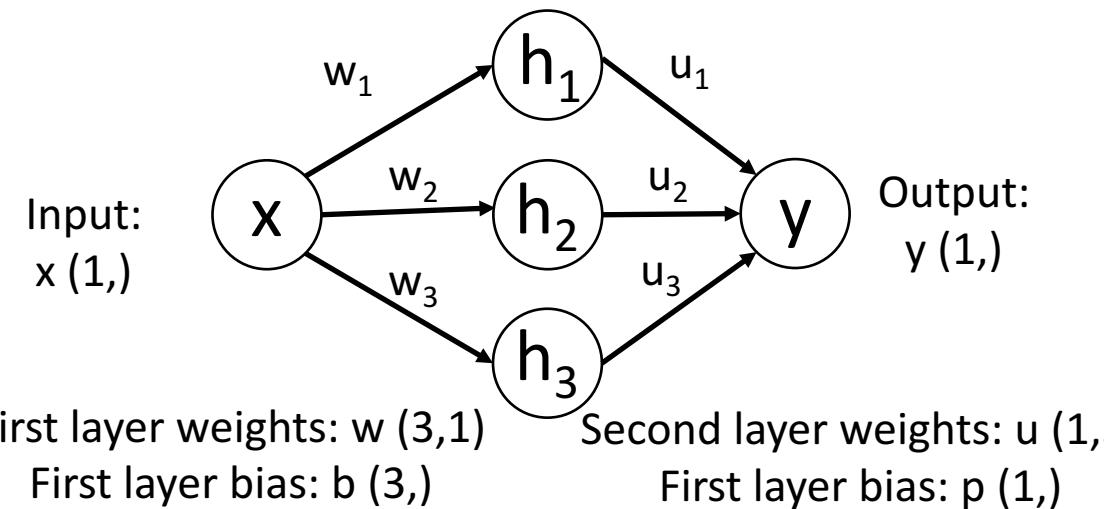
$$+ u_2 * \max(0, w_2 * x + b_2)$$

$$+ u_3 * \max(0, w_3 * x + b_3)$$

$$+ p$$

Universal Approximation

Example: Approximating a function $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with a two-layer ReLU network



$$h_1 = \max(0, w_1 * x + b_1)$$

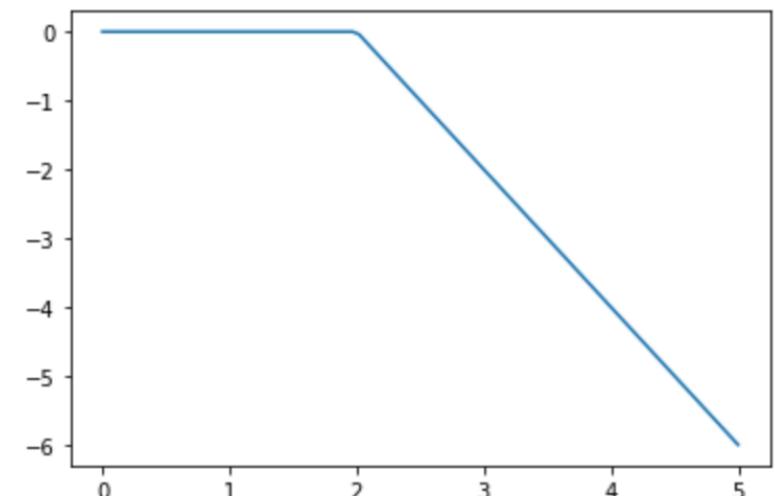
$$h_2 = \max(0, w_2 * x + b_2)$$

$$h_3 = \max(0, w_3 * x + b_3)$$

$$y = u_1 * h_1 + u_2 * h_2 + u_3 * h_3 + p$$

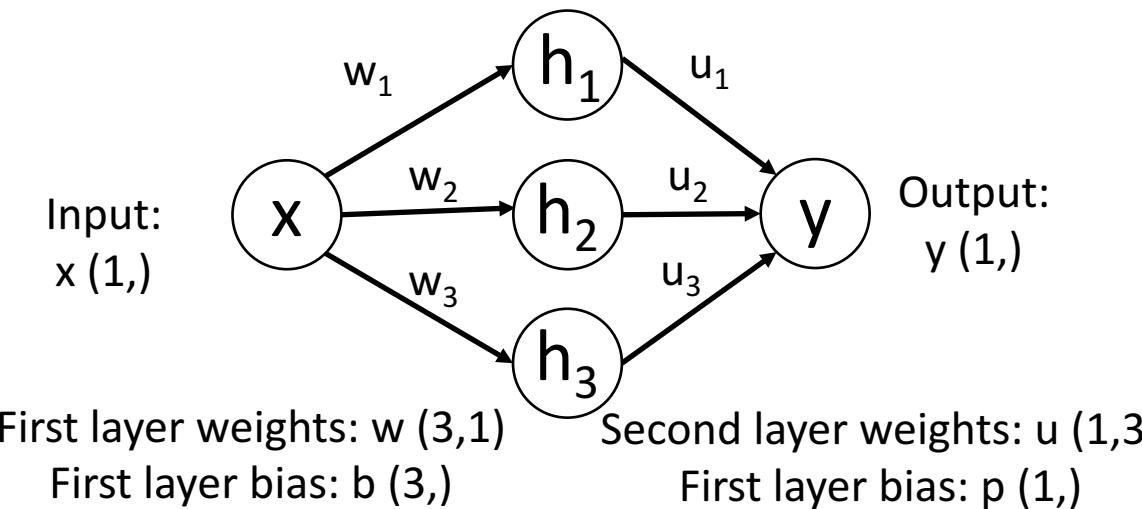
$$\begin{aligned} y = & u_1 * \max(0, w_1 * x + b_1) \\ & + u_2 * \max(0, w_2 * x + b_2) \\ & + u_3 * \max(0, w_3 * x + b_3) \\ & + p \end{aligned}$$

Output is a sum of shifted, scaled ReLUs:



Universal Approximation

Example: Approximating a function $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with a two-layer ReLU network



$$h_1 = \max(0, w_1 * x + b_1)$$

$$h_2 = \max(0, w_2 * x + b_2)$$

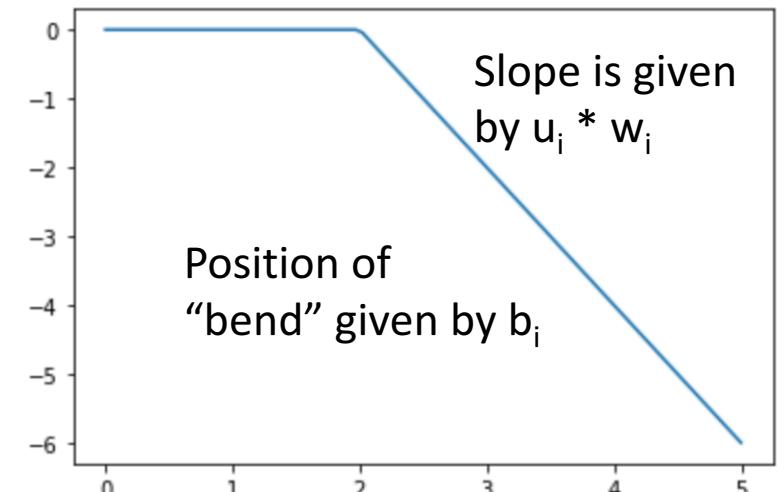
$$h_3 = \max(0, w_3 * x + b_3)$$

$$y = u_1 * h_1 + u_2 * h_2 + u_3 * h_3 + p$$

$$\begin{aligned} y = & u_1 * \max(0, w_1 * x + b_1) \\ & + u_2 * \max(0, w_2 * x + b_2) \\ & + u_3 * \max(0, w_3 * x + b_3) \\ & + p \end{aligned}$$

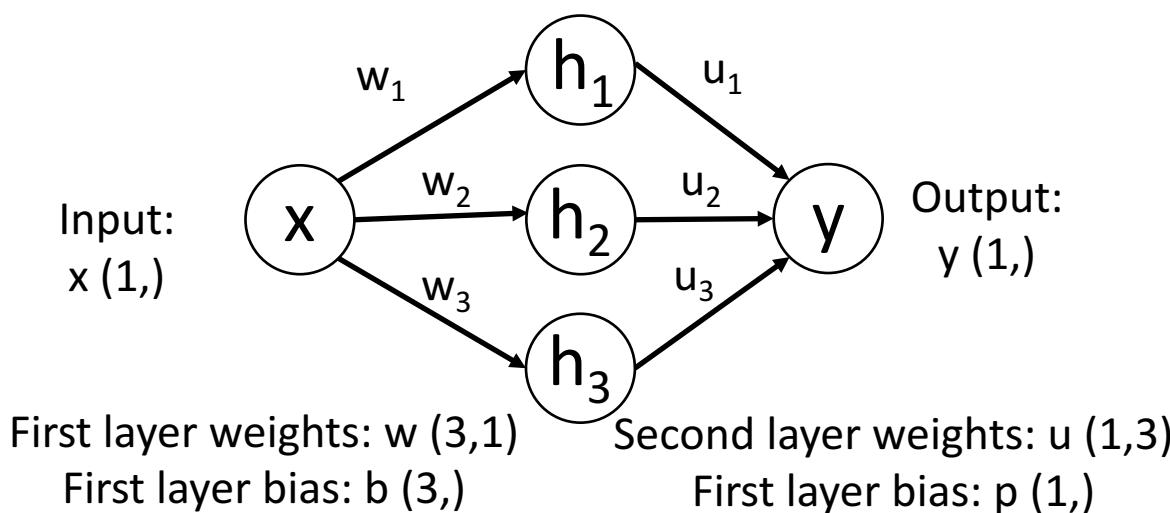
Output is a sum of shifted, scaled ReLUs:

Flip left / right based on sign of w_i



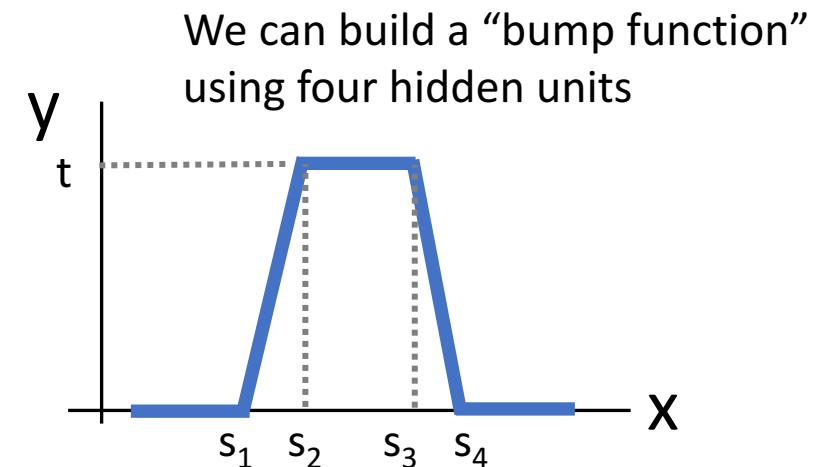
Universal Approximation

Example: Approximating a function $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with a two-layer ReLU network



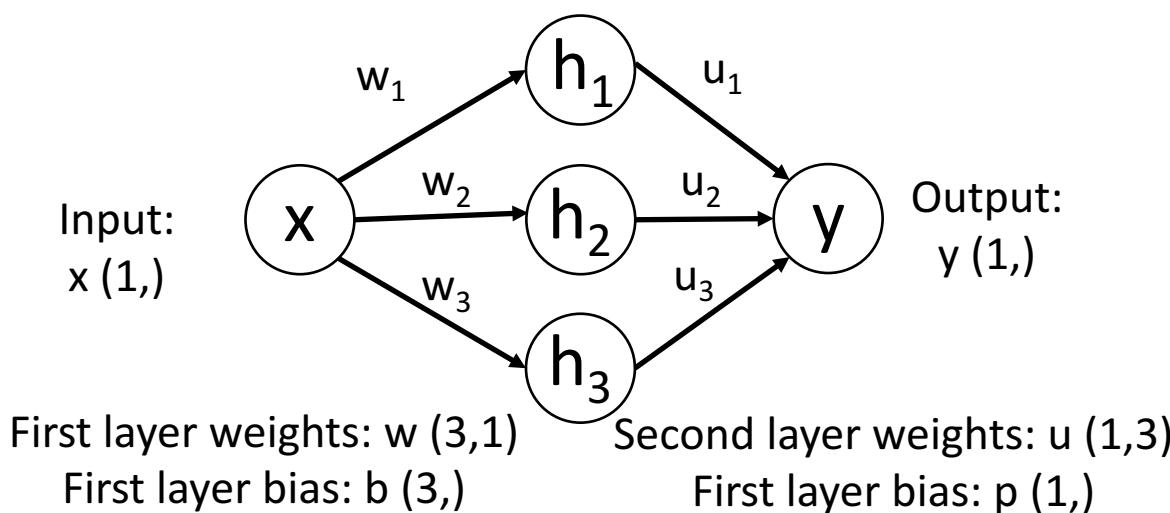
$$\begin{aligned} h_1 &= \max(0, w_1 * x + b_1) \\ h_2 &= \max(0, w_2 * x + b_2) \\ h_3 &= \max(0, w_3 * x + b_3) \\ y &= u_1 * h_1 + u_2 * h_2 + u_3 * h_3 + p \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} y &= u_1 * \max(0, w_1 * x + b_1) \\ &\quad + u_2 * \max(0, w_2 * x + b_2) \\ &\quad + u_3 * \max(0, w_3 * x + b_3) \\ &\quad + p \end{aligned}$$



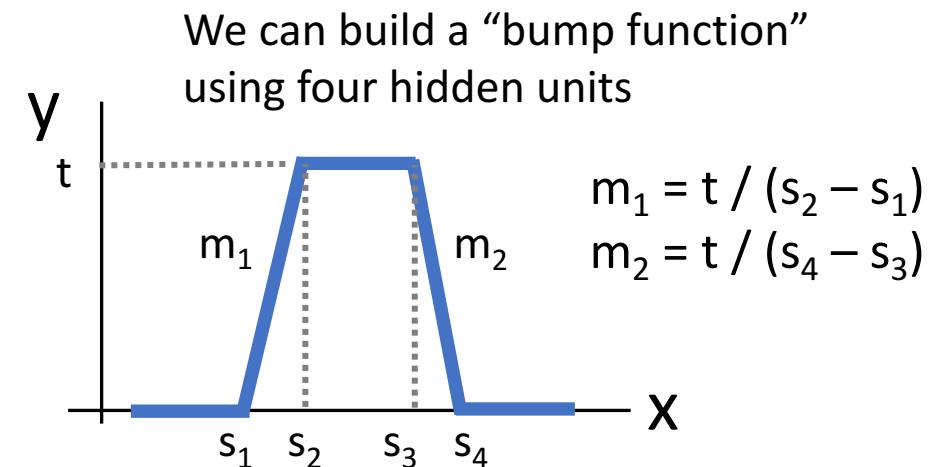
Universal Approximation

Example: Approximating a function $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with a two-layer ReLU network



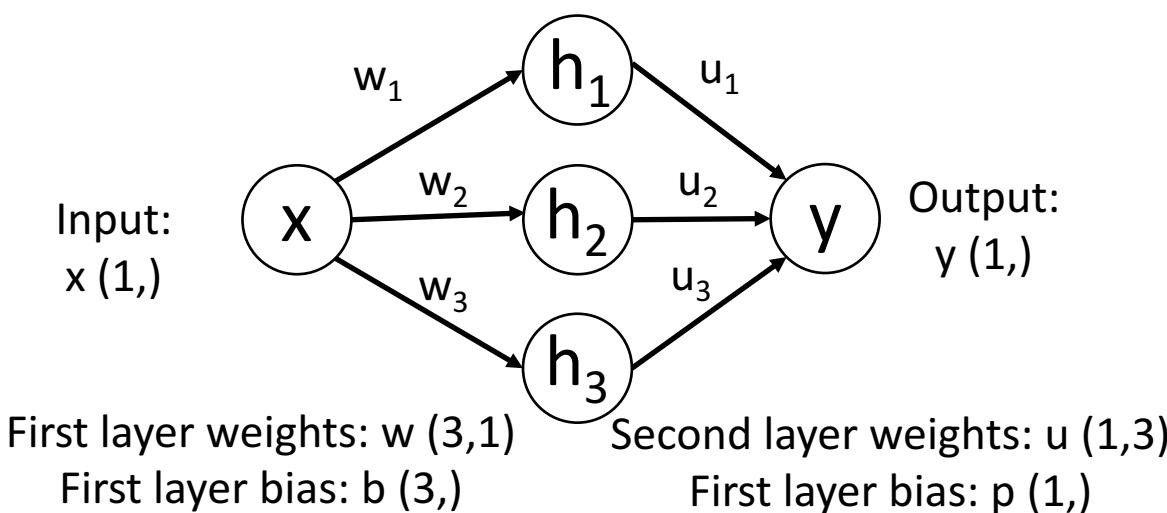
$$\begin{aligned} h_1 &= \max(0, w_1 * x + b_1) \\ h_2 &= \max(0, w_2 * x + b_2) \\ h_3 &= \max(0, w_3 * x + b_3) \\ y &= u_1 * h_1 + u_2 * h_2 + u_3 * h_3 + p \end{aligned}$$

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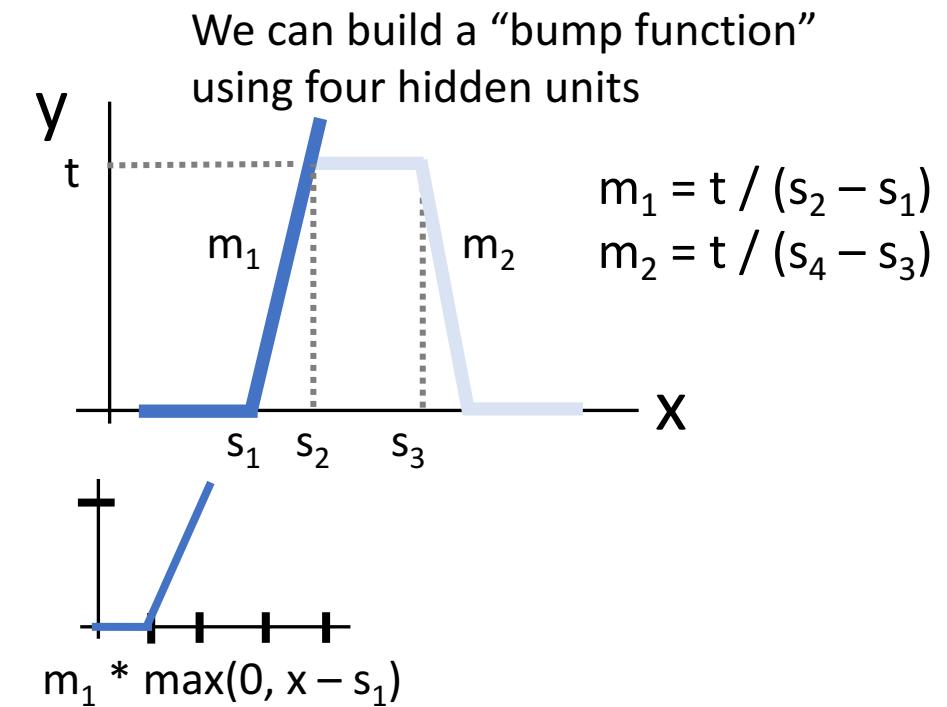
Universal Approximation

Example: Approximating a function $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with a two-layer ReLU network



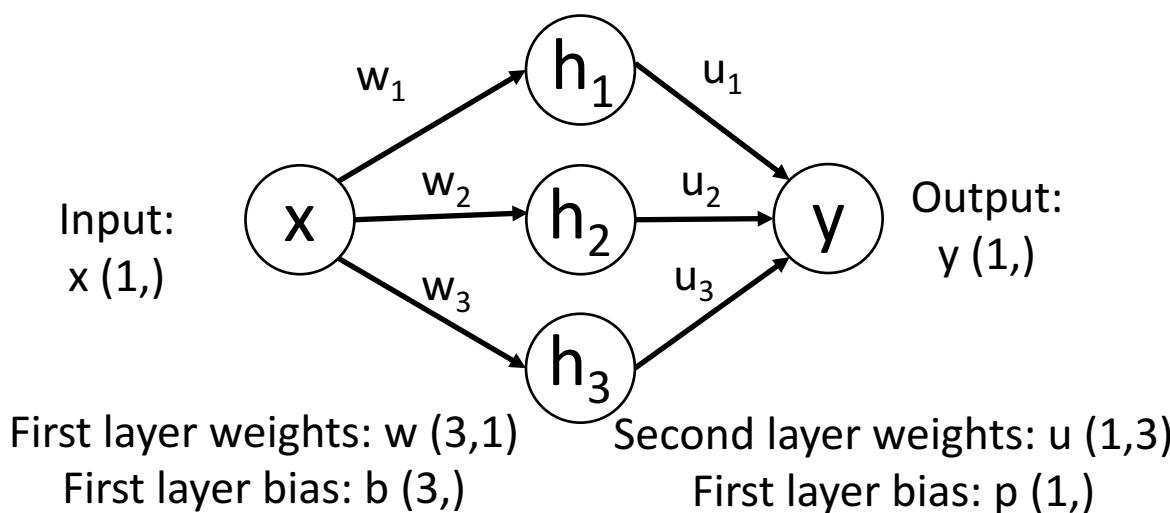
$$\begin{aligned} h_1 &= \max(0, w_1 * x + b_1) \\ h_2 &= \max(0, w_2 * x + b_2) \\ h_3 &= \max(0, w_3 * x + b_3) \\ y &= u_1 * h_1 + u_2 * h_2 + u_3 * h_3 + p \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} y &= u_1 * \max(0, w_1 * x + b_1) \\ &\quad + u_2 * \max(0, w_2 * x + b_2) \\ &\quad + u_3 * \max(0, w_3 * x + b_3) \\ &\quad + p \end{aligned}$$



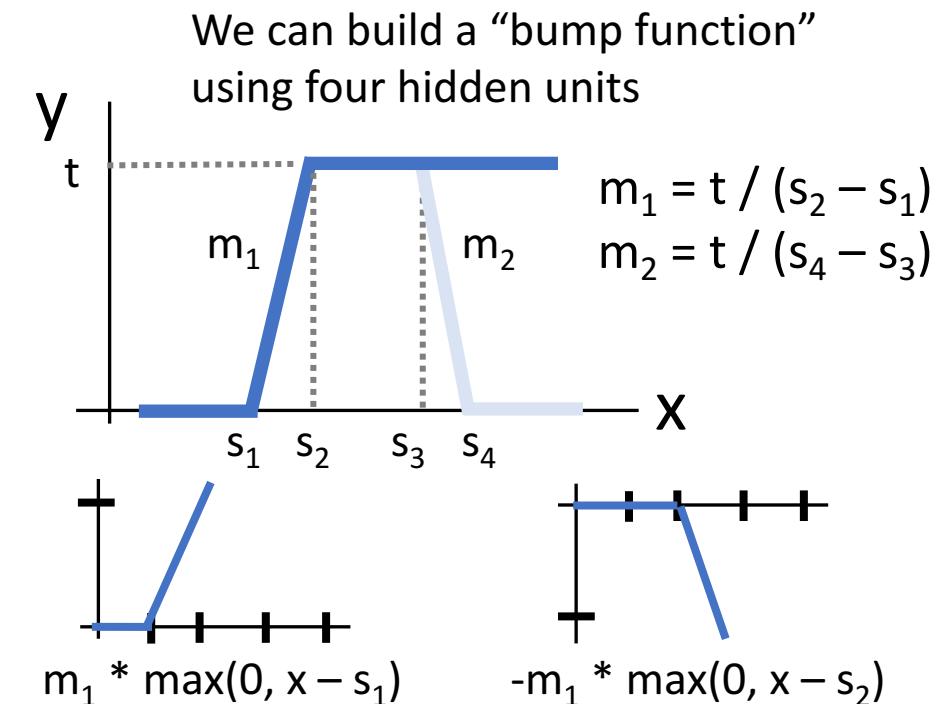
Universal Approximation

Example: Approximating a function $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with a two-layer ReLU network



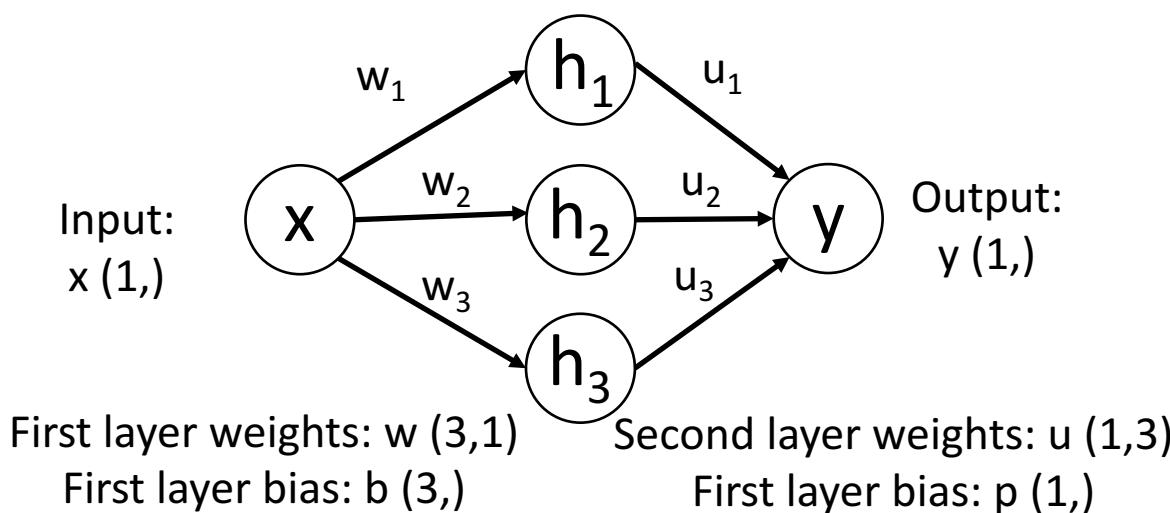
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$$\begin{aligned} y &= u_1 * \max(0, w_1 * x + b_1) \\ &\quad + u_2 * \max(0, w_2 * x + b_2) \\ &\quad + u_3 * \max(0, w_3 * x + b_3) \\ &\quad + p \end{aligned}$$



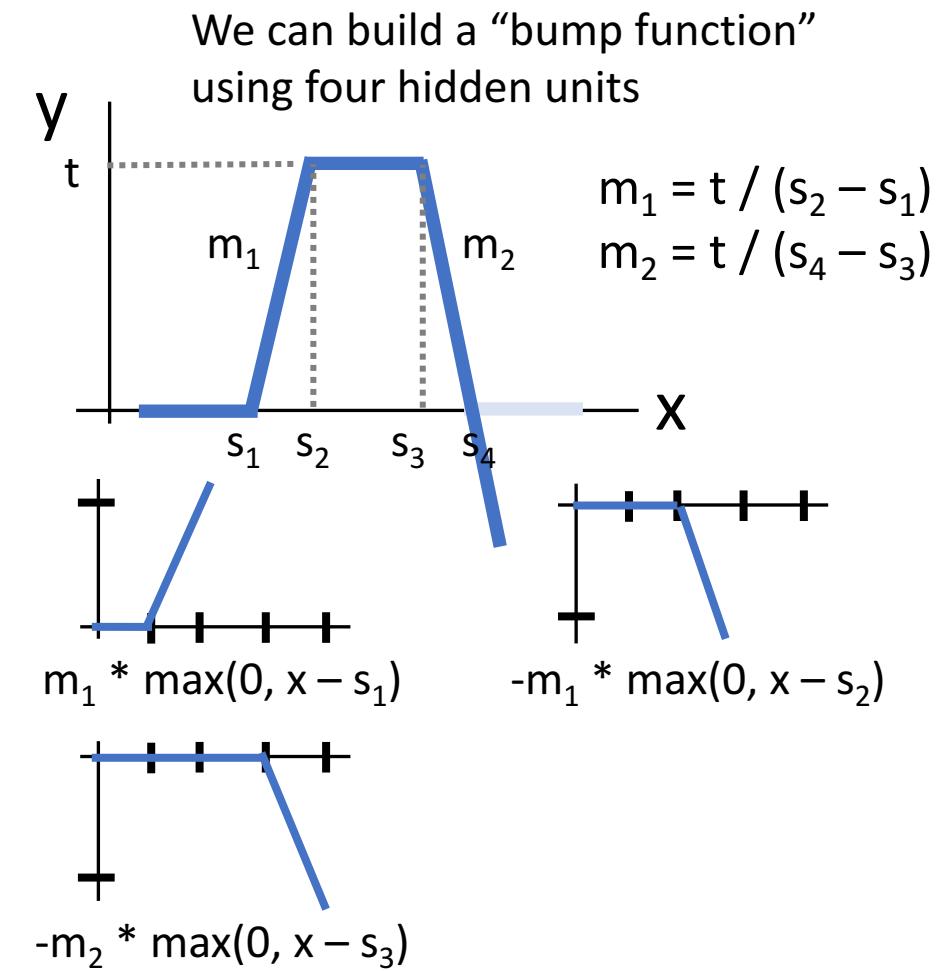
Universal Approximation

Example: Approximating a function $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with a two-layer ReLU network



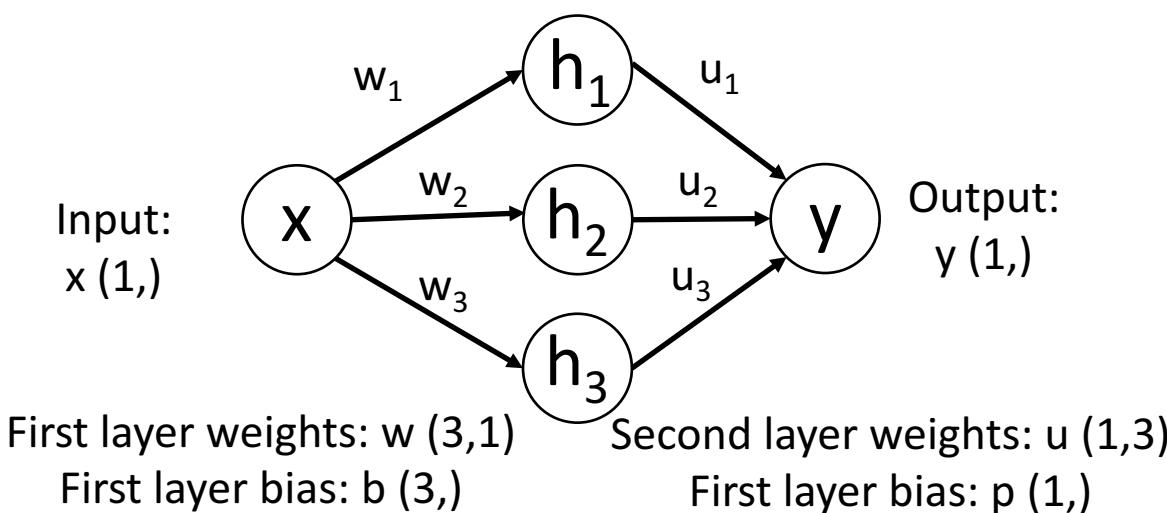
$$\begin{aligned} h_1 &= \max(0, w_1 * x + b_1) \\ h_2 &= \max(0, w_2 * x + b_2) \\ h_3 &= \max(0, w_3 * x + b_3) \\ y &= u_1 * h_1 + u_2 * h_2 + u_3 * h_3 + p \end{aligned}$$

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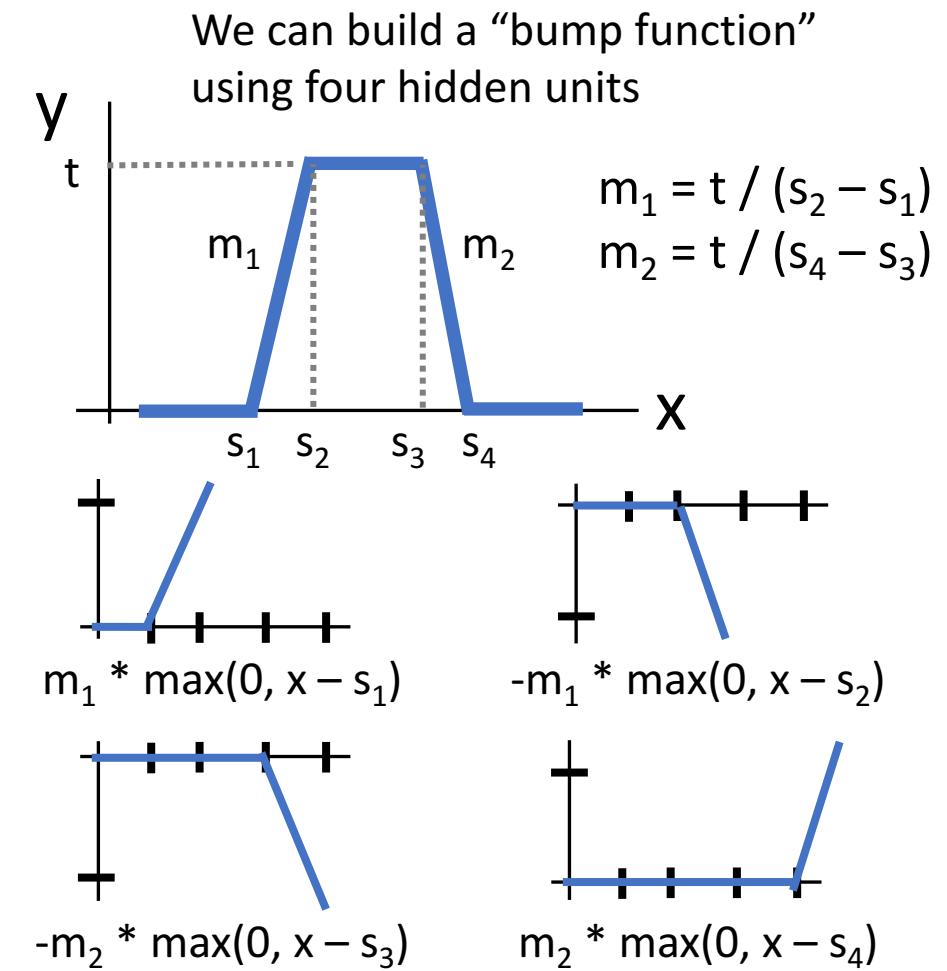
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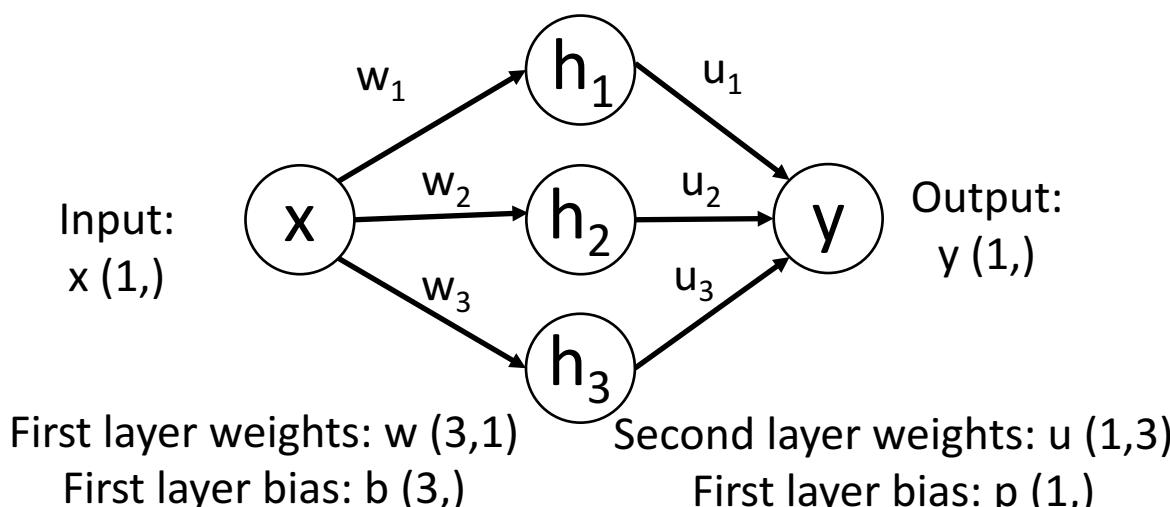
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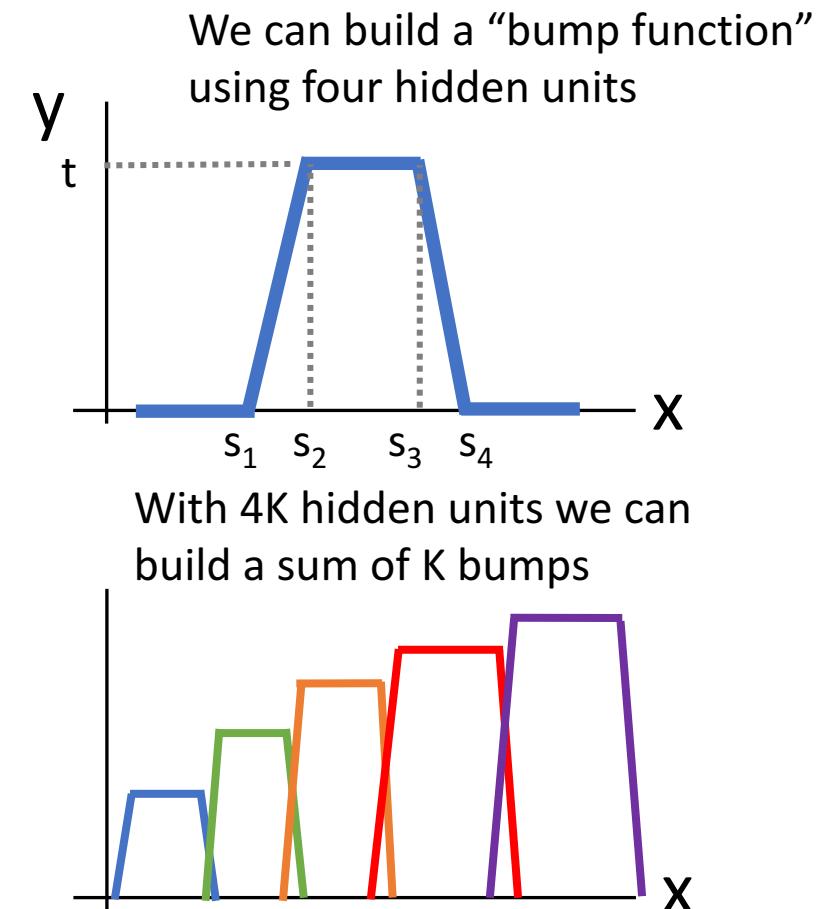
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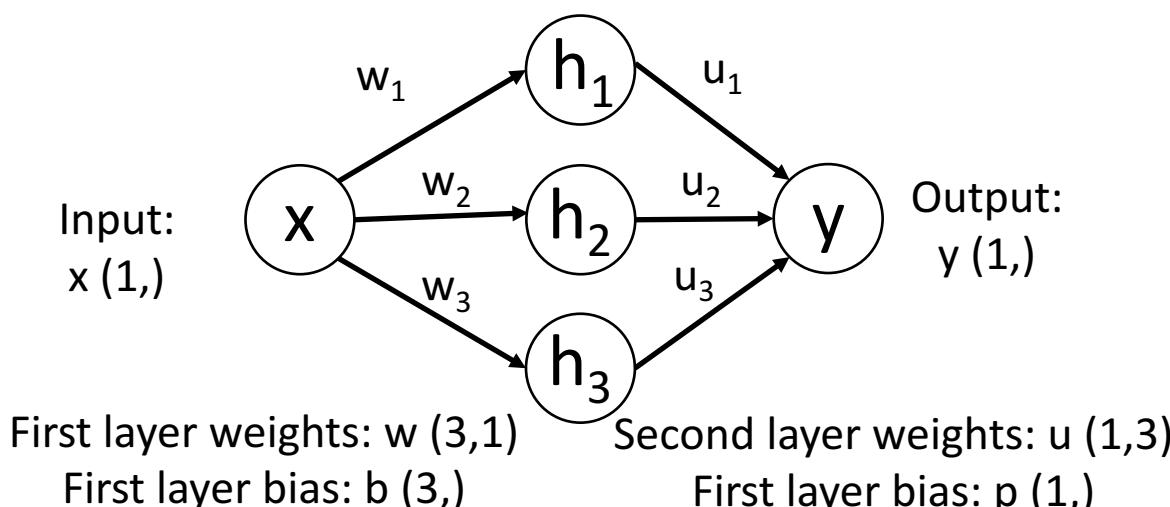
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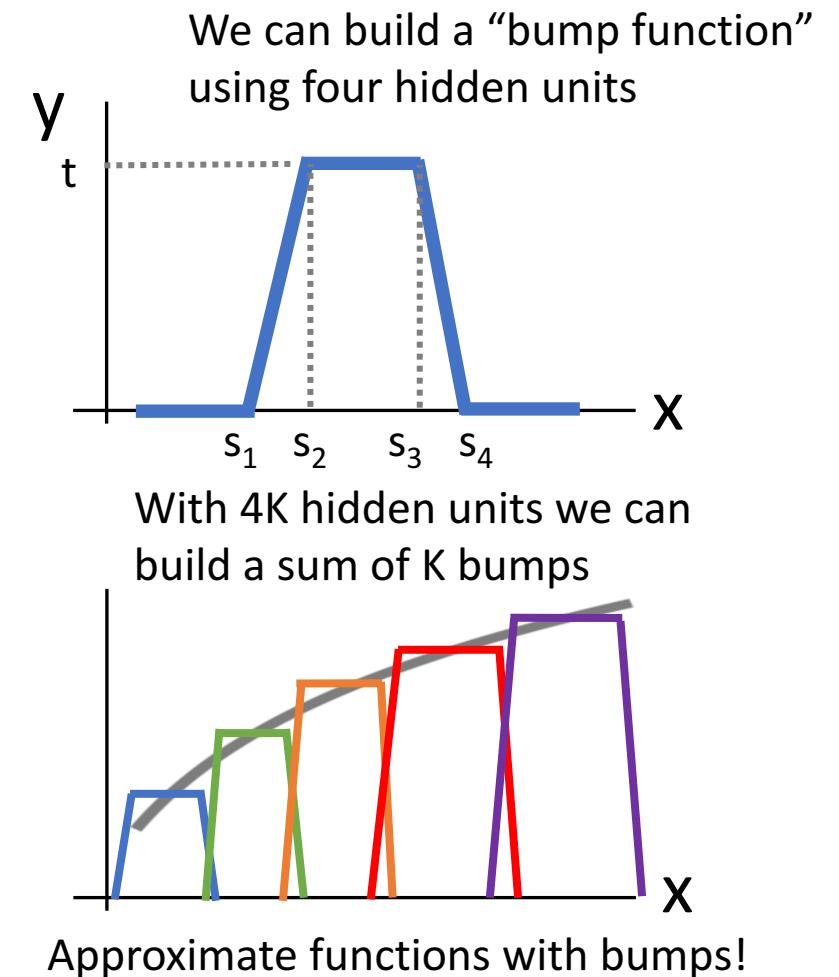
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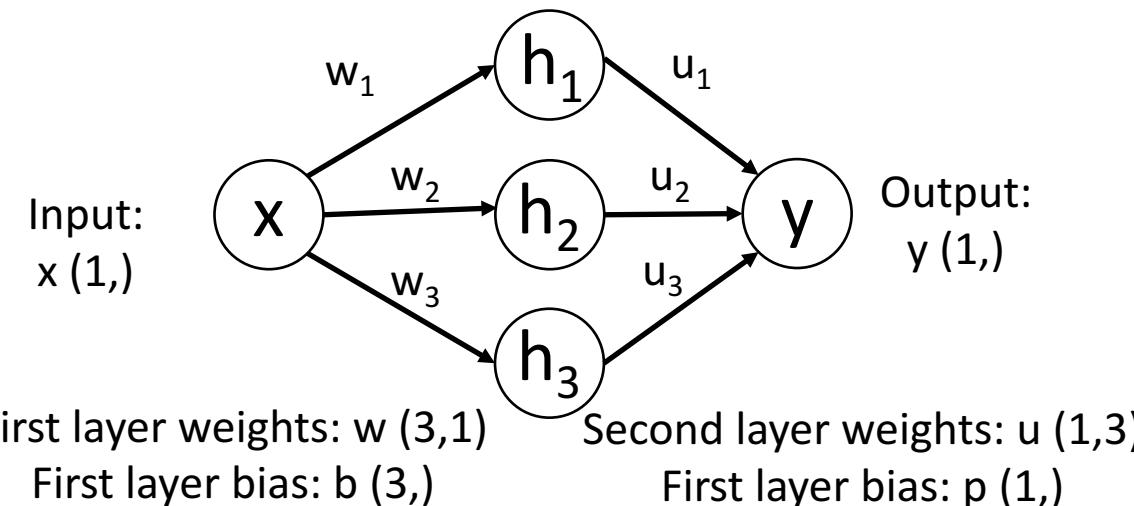
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$$h_1 = \max(0, w_1 * x + b_1)$$

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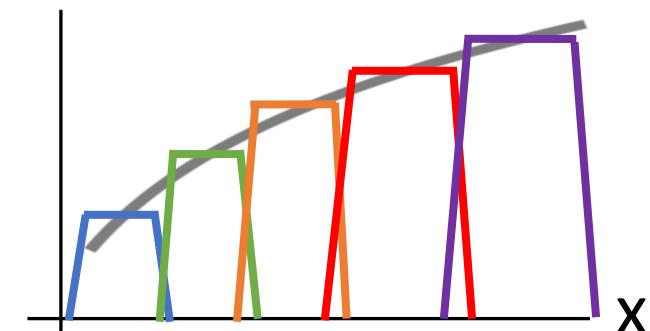
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What about...

- Gaps between bumps?
- Other nonlinearities?
- Higher-dimensional functions?

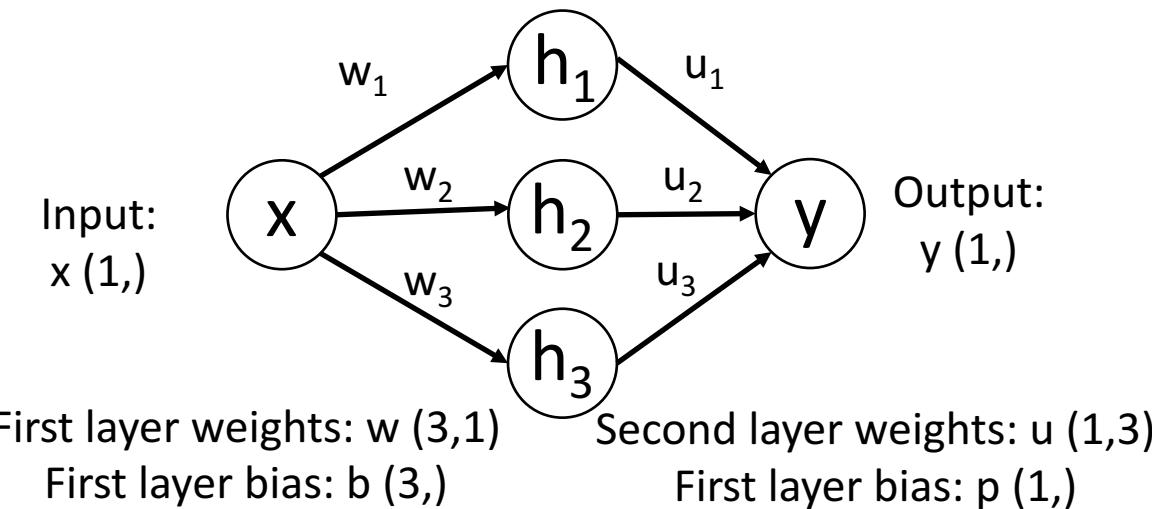
See [Nielsen, Chapter 4](#)



Approximate functions with bumps!

Universal Approximation

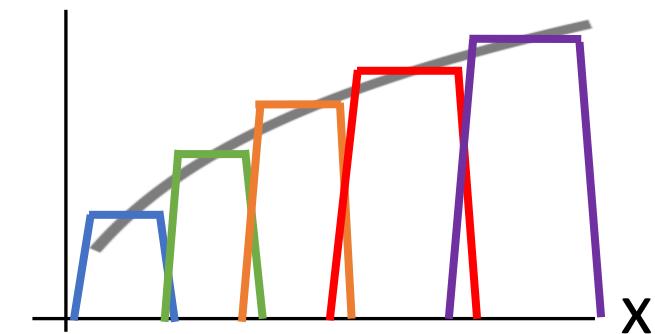
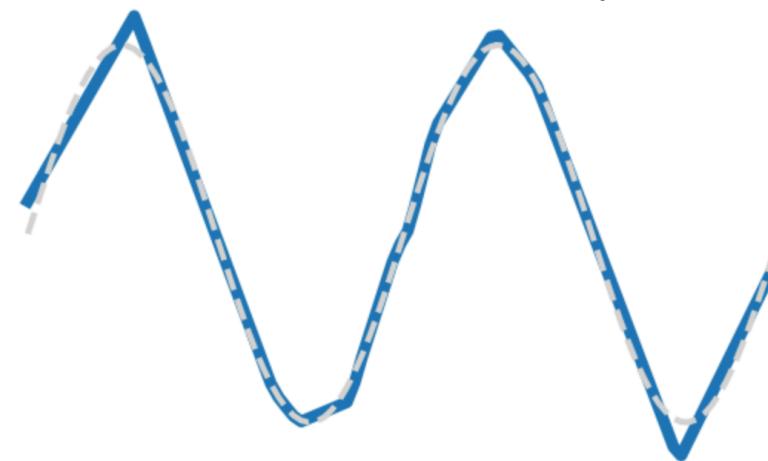
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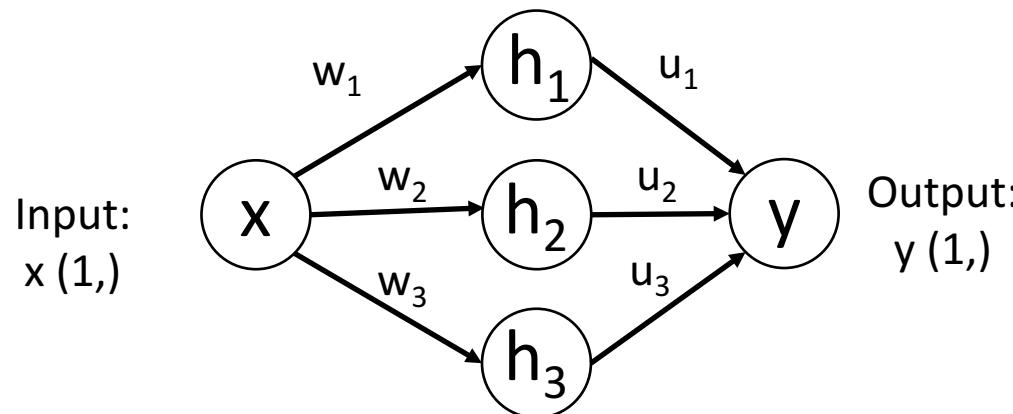
Reality check: Networks don't really learn bumps!



Approximate functions with bumps!

Universal Approximation

Example: Approximating a function $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with a two-layer ReLU network



Universal approximation tells us:

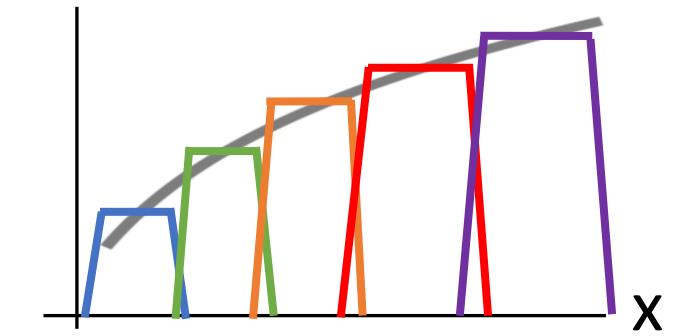
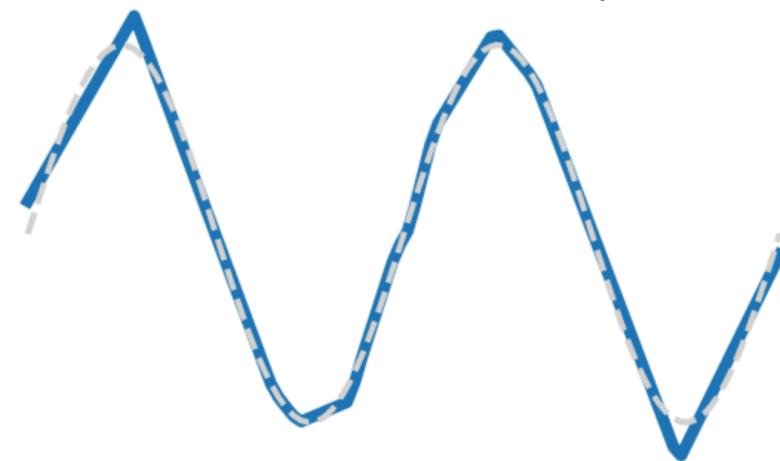
- Neural nets can represent any function

Universal approximation DOES NOT tell us:

- Whether we can actually learn any function with SGD
- How much data we need to learn a function

Remember: kNN is also a universal approximator!

Reality check: Networks don't really learn bumps!



Approximate functions with bumps!

Convex Functions

A function $f : X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is **convex** if for all $x_1, x_2 \in X, t \in [0, 1]$,

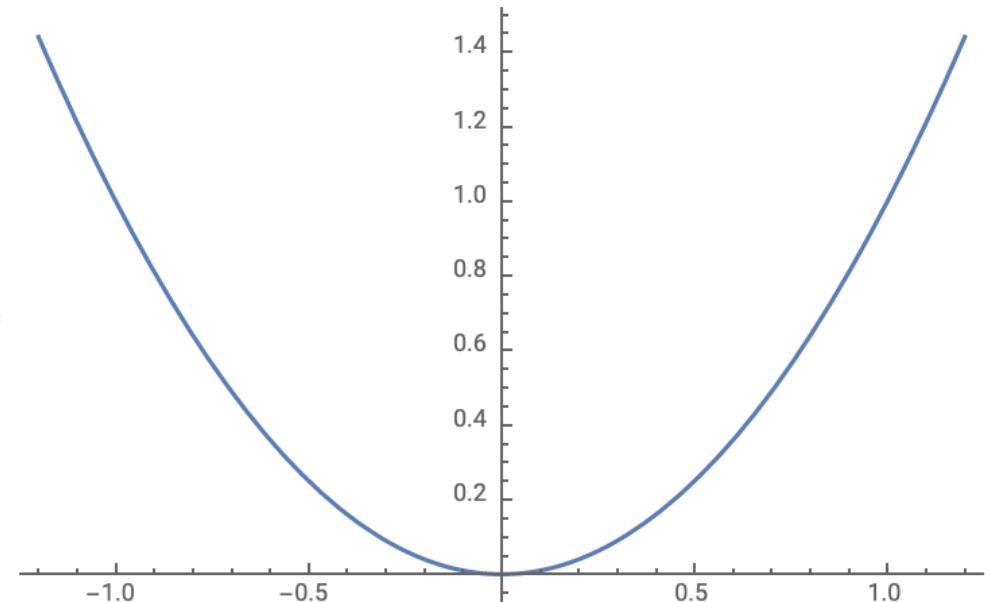
$$f(tx_1 + (1 - t)x_2) \leq tf(x_1) + (1 - t)f(x_2)$$

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Example: $f(x) = x^2$ is convex:

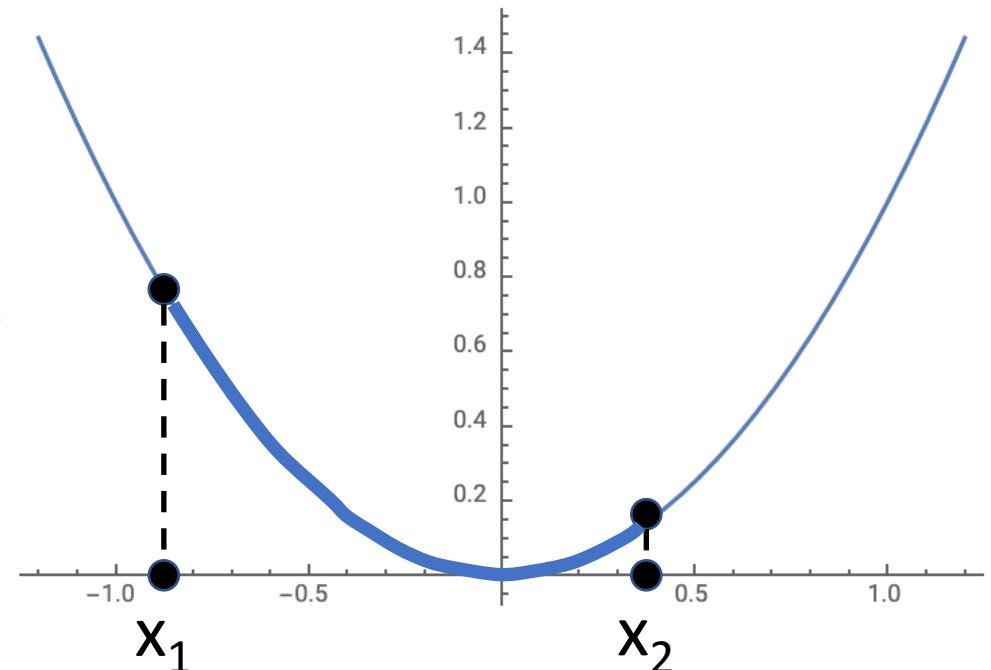


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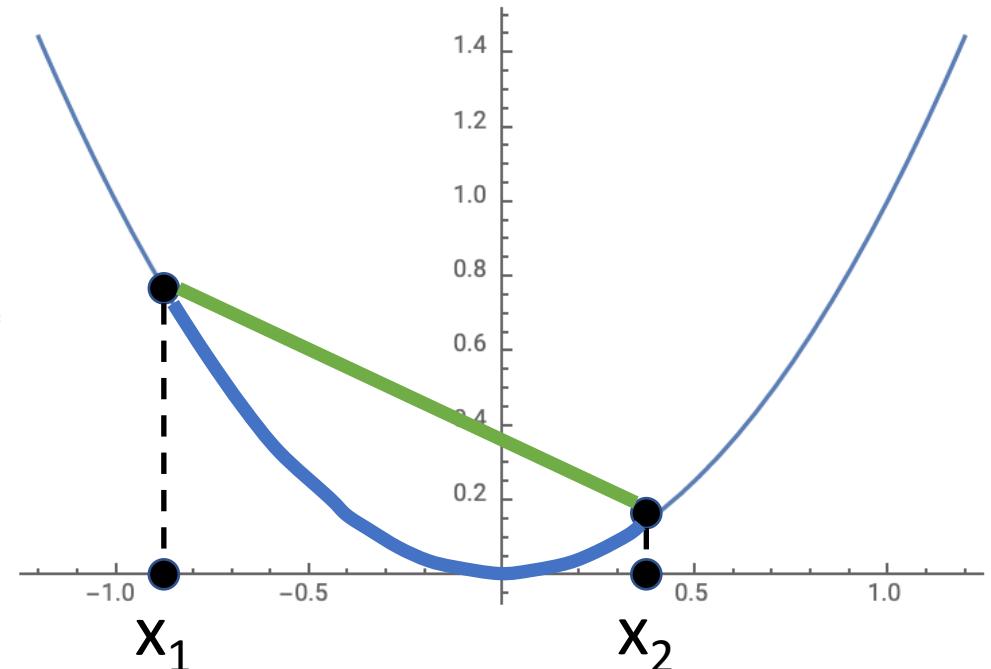


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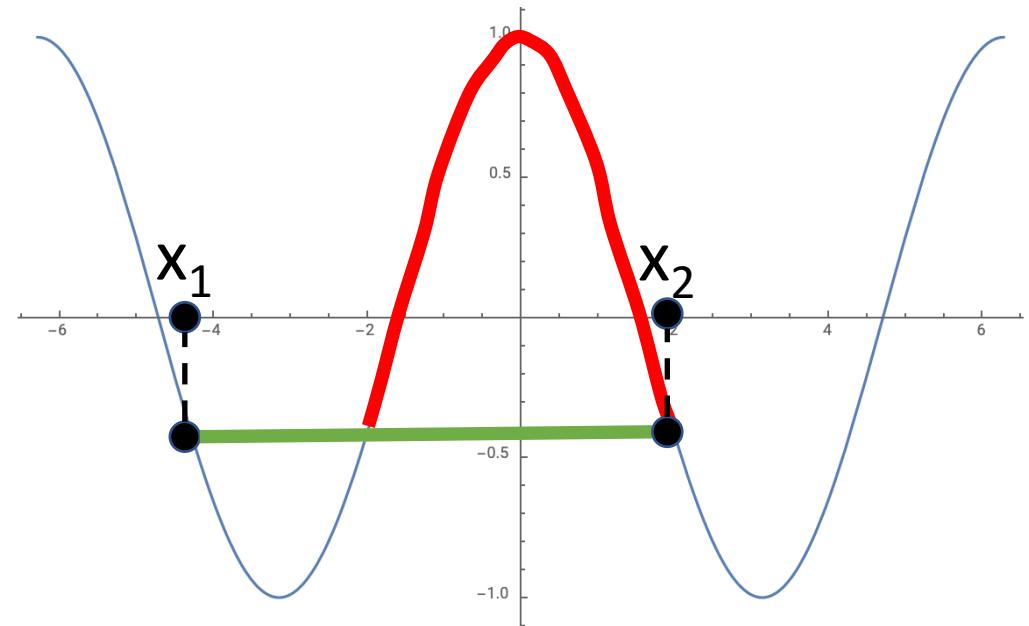


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Example: $f(x) = \cos(x)$
is not convex:

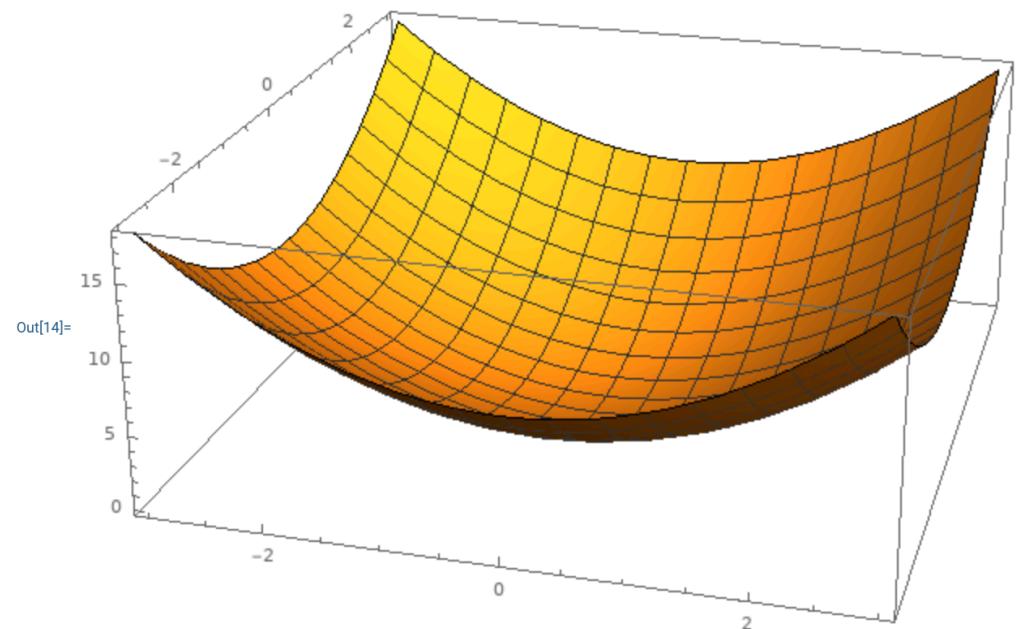


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Intuition: A convex function
is a (multidimensional) bowl



*Many technical details! See e.g. IOE 661 / MATH 663

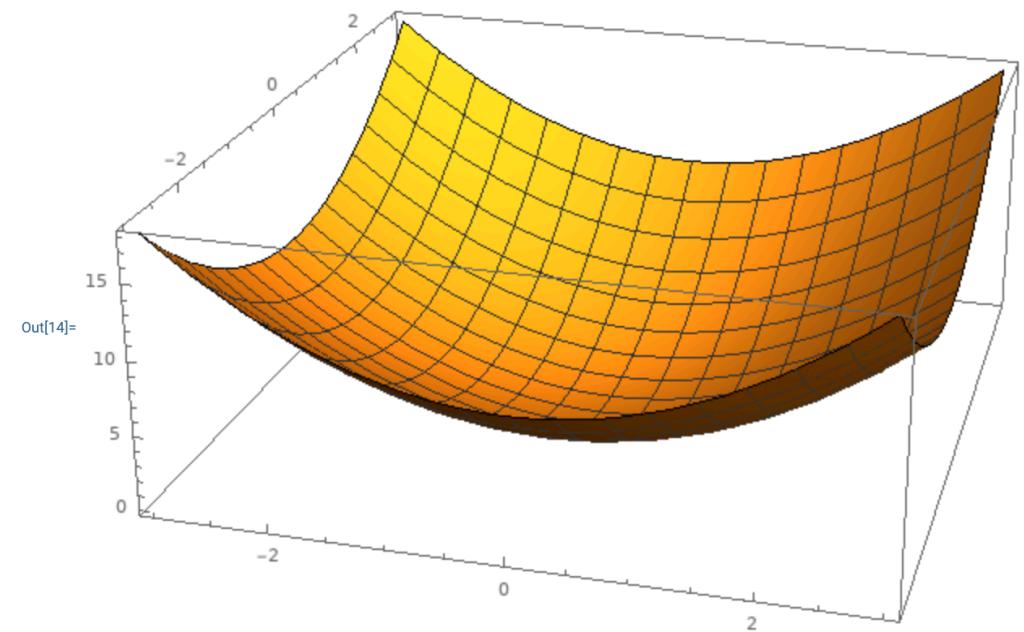
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Generally speaking, convex
functions are **easy to optimize**: can
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Linear classifiers optimize a **convex function!**

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

$$L_i = -\log\left(\frac{e^{sy_i}}{\sum_j e^{sj}}\right) \text{ Softmax}$$

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

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

$R(W)$ = L2 or L1 regularization

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Convex Functions

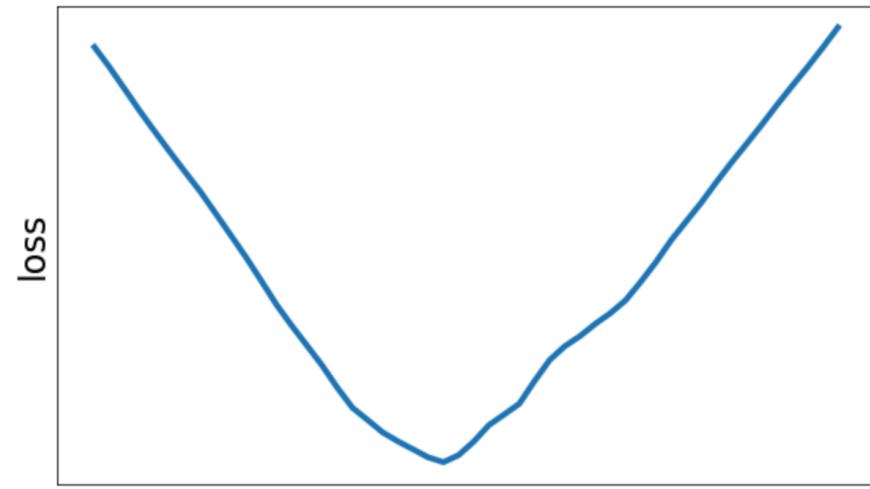
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Neural net losses sometimes look convex-ish:



1D slice of loss landscape for a 4-layer ReLU network with 10 input features, 32 units per hidden layer, 10 categories, with softmax loss

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Convex Functions

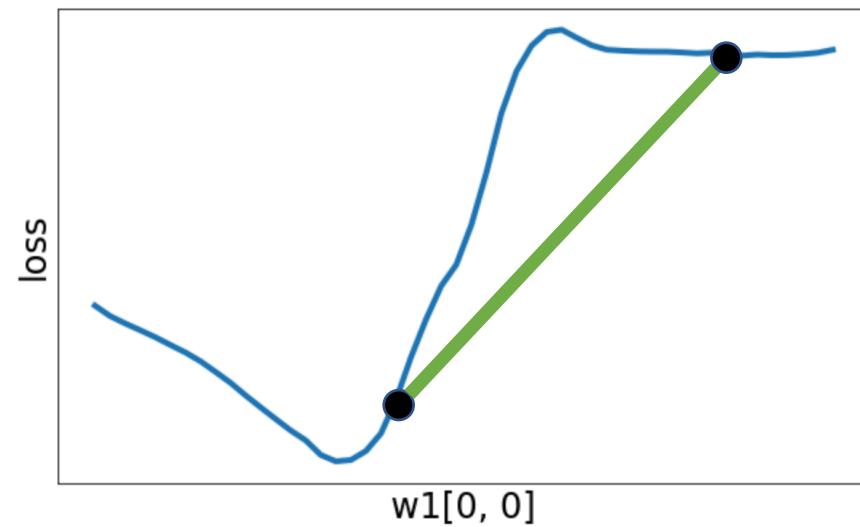
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Intuition: A convex function is a (multidimensional) bowl

Generally speaking, convex functions are **easy to optimize**: can derive theoretical guarantees about **converging to global minimum***

But often clearly nonconvex:



1D slice of loss landscape for a 4-layer ReLU network with 10 input features, 32 units per hidden layer, 10 categories, with softmax loss

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Convex Functions

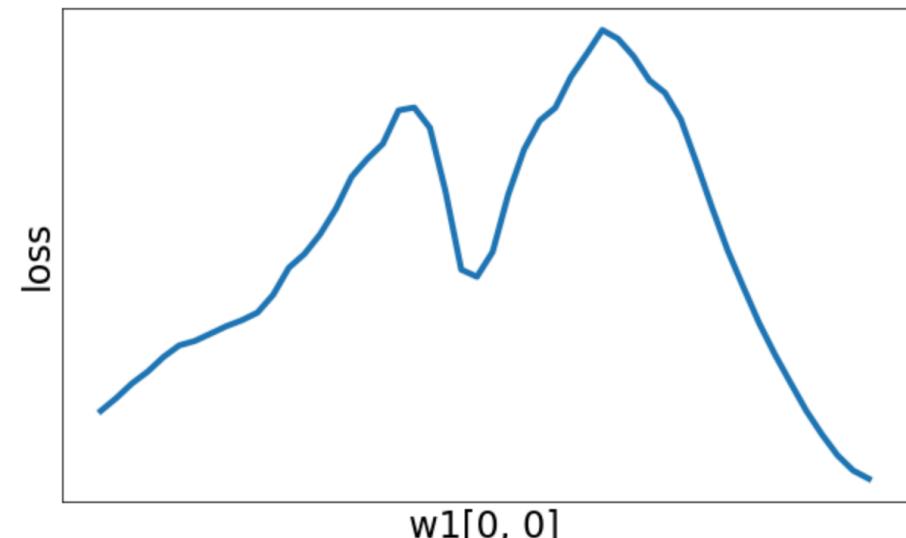
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With local minima:



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Convex Functions

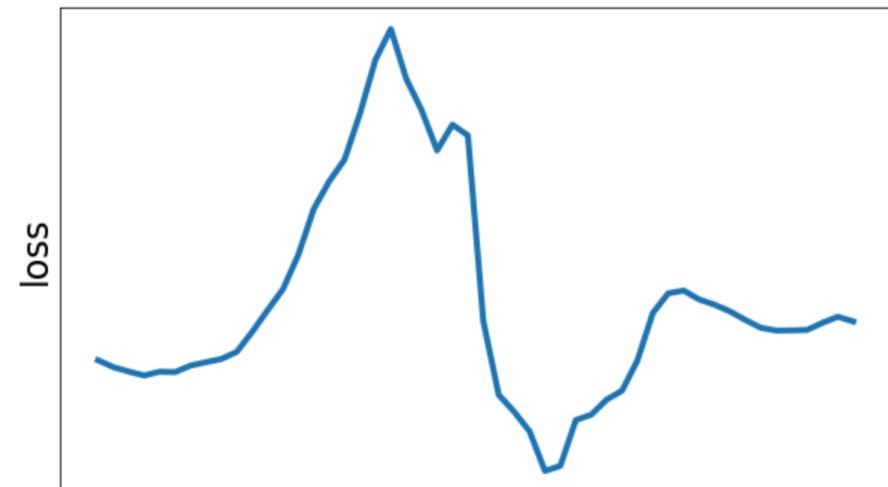
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Can get very wild!



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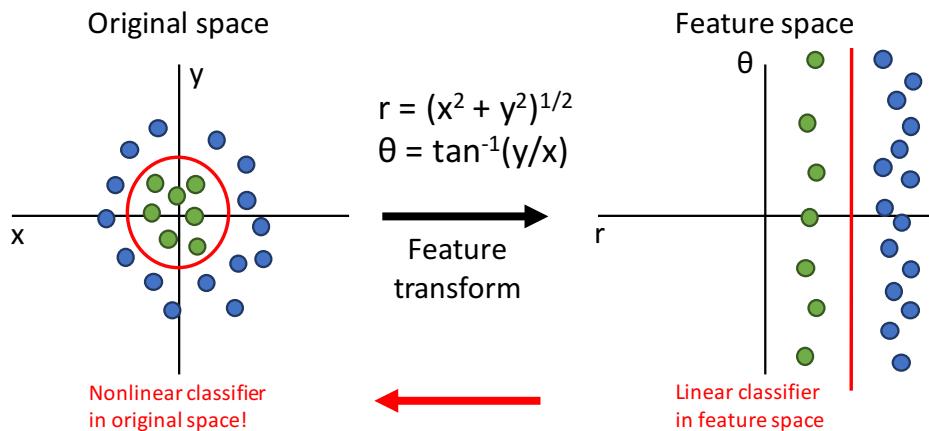
Most neural networks need **nonconvex optimization**

- Few or no guarantees about convergence
- Empirically it seems to work anyway
- Active area of research

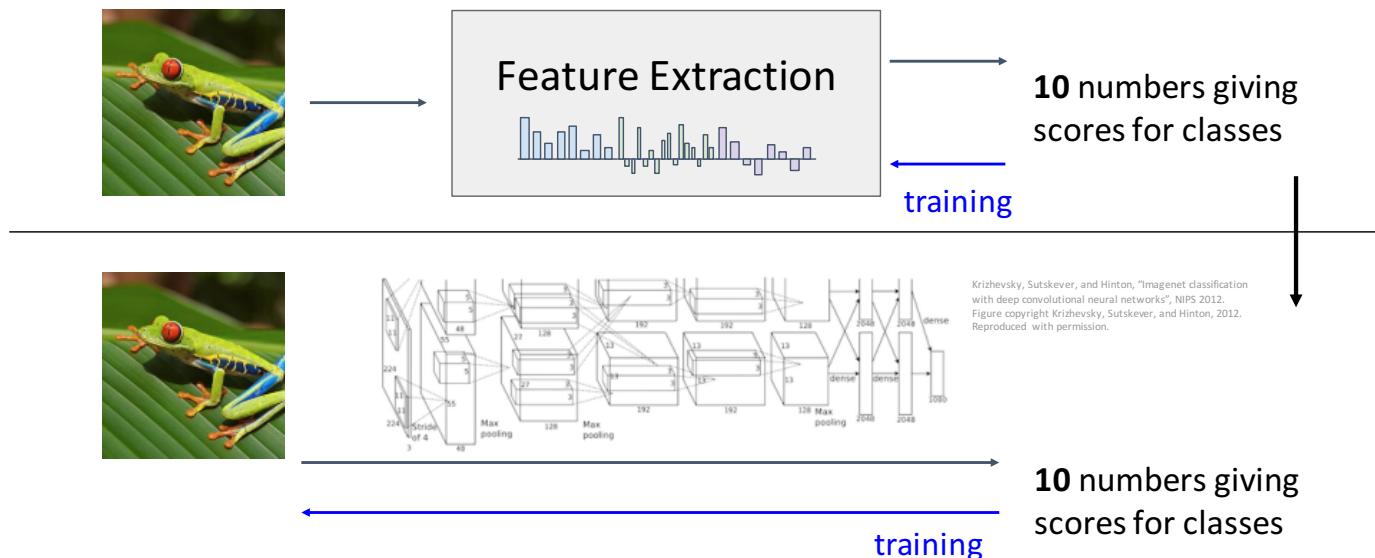
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Summary

Feature transform + Linear classifier
allows nonlinear decision boundaries



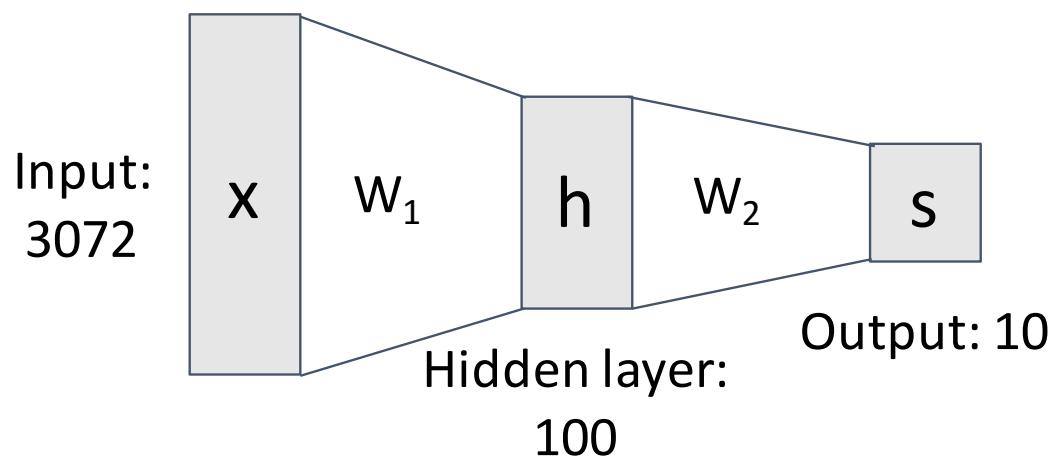
Neural Networks as learnable feature transforms



Summary

From linear classifiers to
fully-connected networks

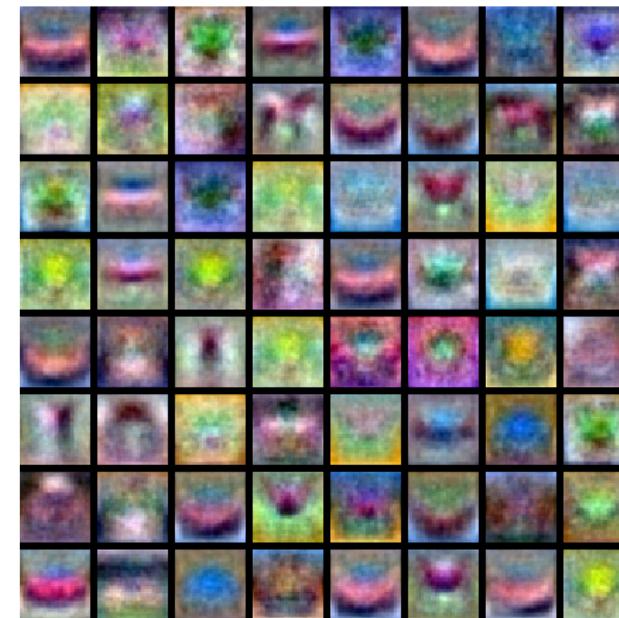
$$f = W_2 \max(0, W_1 x)$$



Linear classifier: One template per class



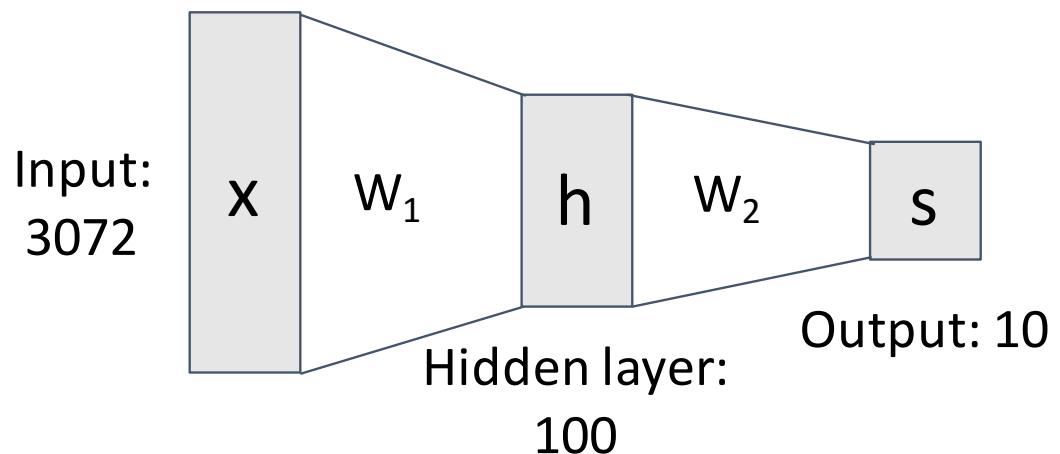
Neural networks: Many reusable templates



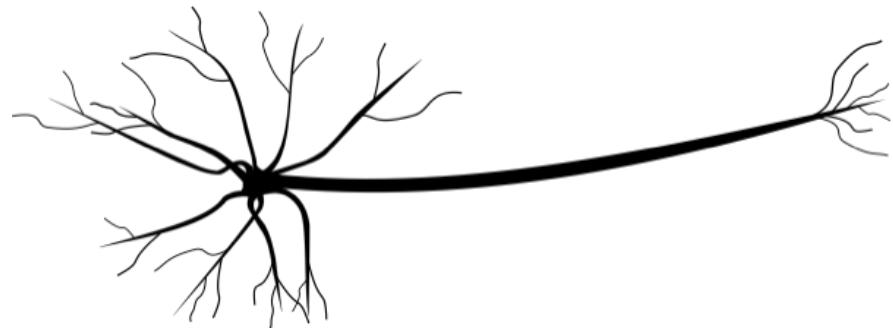
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From linear classifiers to
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$$f = W_2 \max(0, W_1 x)$$



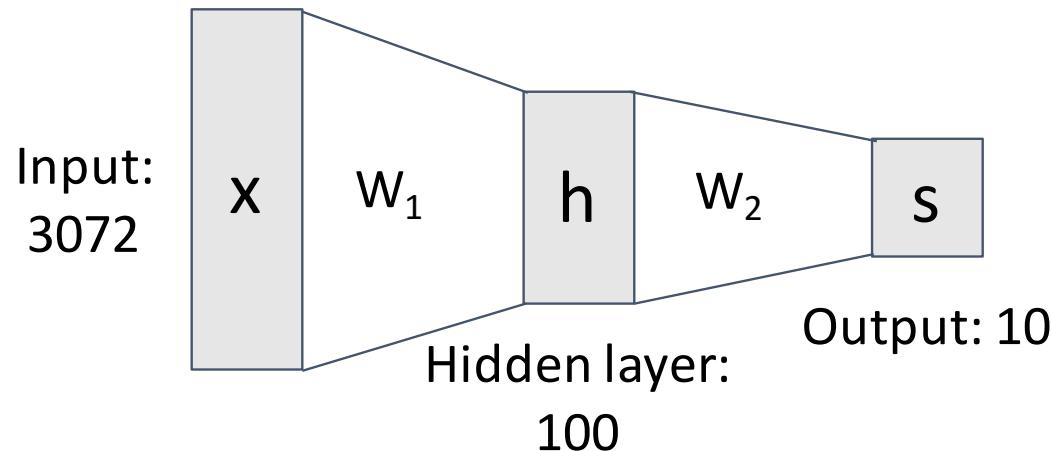
Neural networks loosely inspired by biological neurons but be careful with analogies



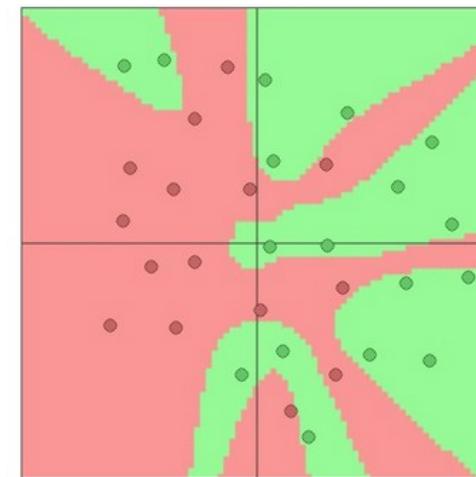
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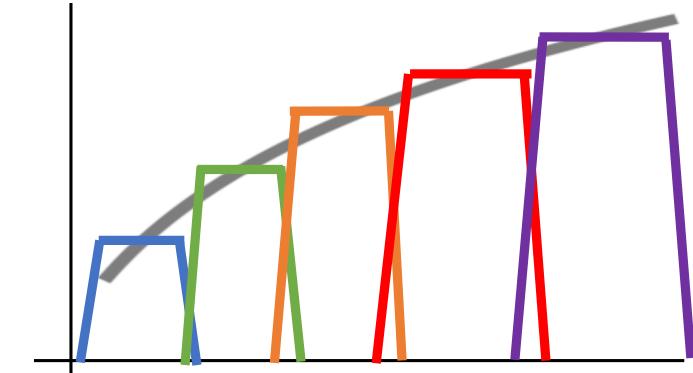
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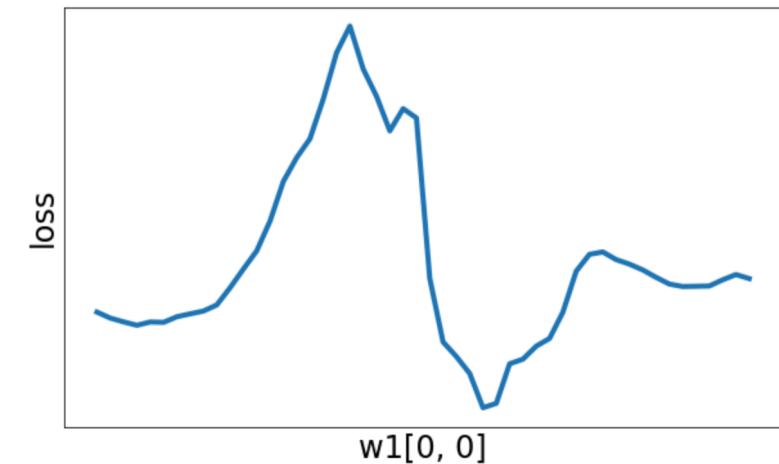
Space Warping



Universal Approximation



Nonconvex



Problem: How to compute gradients?

$$s = f(x; W_1, W_2) = W_2 \max(0, W_1 x) \quad \text{Nonlinear score function}$$

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

$$R(W) = \sum_k W_k^2 \quad \text{Regularization}$$

$$L = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N L_i + \lambda R(W_1) + \lambda R(W_2) \quad \text{Total loss: data loss + regularization}$$

If we can compute $\frac{\partial L}{\partial W_1}, \frac{\partial L}{\partial W_2}$ n we can learn W_1 and W_2

Next time:
Backpropagation