

# Lecture 4:

# Neural Networks and Backpropagation

So far: backprop with scalars

What about vector-valued functions?

# Recap: Vector derivatives

## Scalar to Scalar

$$x \in \mathbb{R}, y \in \mathbb{R}$$

Regular derivative:

$$\frac{\partial y}{\partial x} \in \mathbb{R}$$

If  $x$  changes by a small amount, how much will  $y$  change?

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## Vector to Scalar

$$x \in \mathbb{R}^N, y \in \mathbb{R}$$

Derivative is **Gradient**:

$$\frac{\partial y}{\partial x} \in \mathbb{R}^N \quad \left( \frac{\partial y}{\partial x} \right)_n = \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_n}$$

For each element of  $x$ , if it changes by a small amount then how much will  $y$  change?

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## Vector to Vector

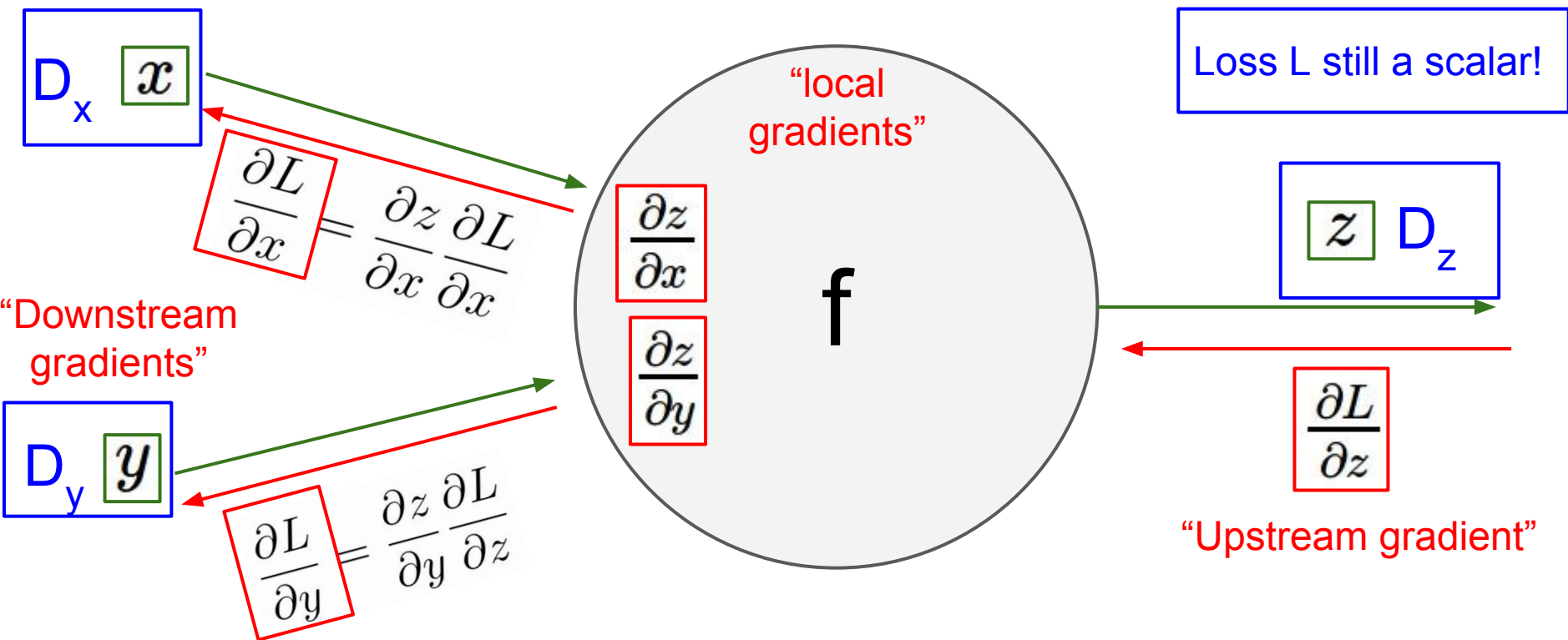
$$x \in \mathbb{R}^N, y \in \mathbb{R}^M$$

Derivative is **Jacobian**:

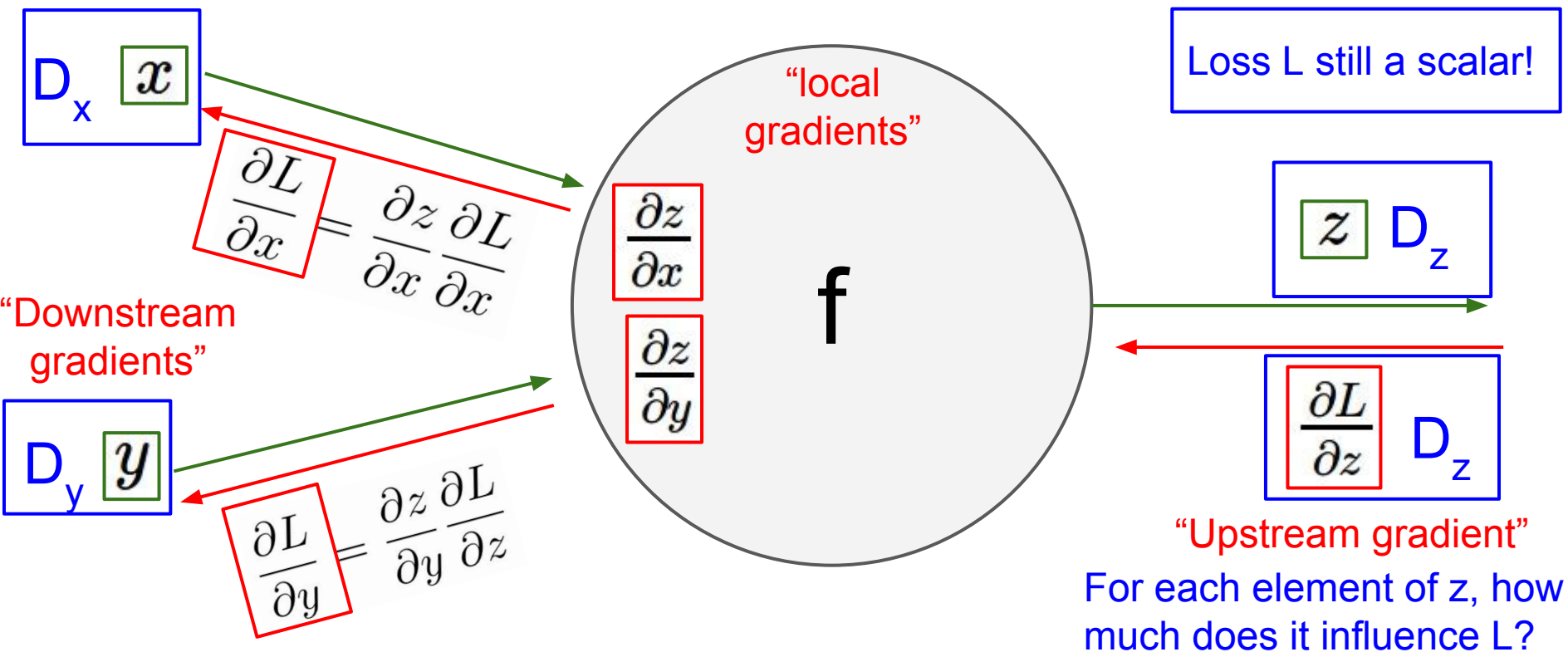
$$\frac{\partial y}{\partial x} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times M} \quad \left( \frac{\partial y}{\partial x} \right)_{n,m} = \frac{\partial y_m}{\partial x_n}$$

For each element of  $x$ , if it changes by a small amount then how much will each element of  $y$  change?

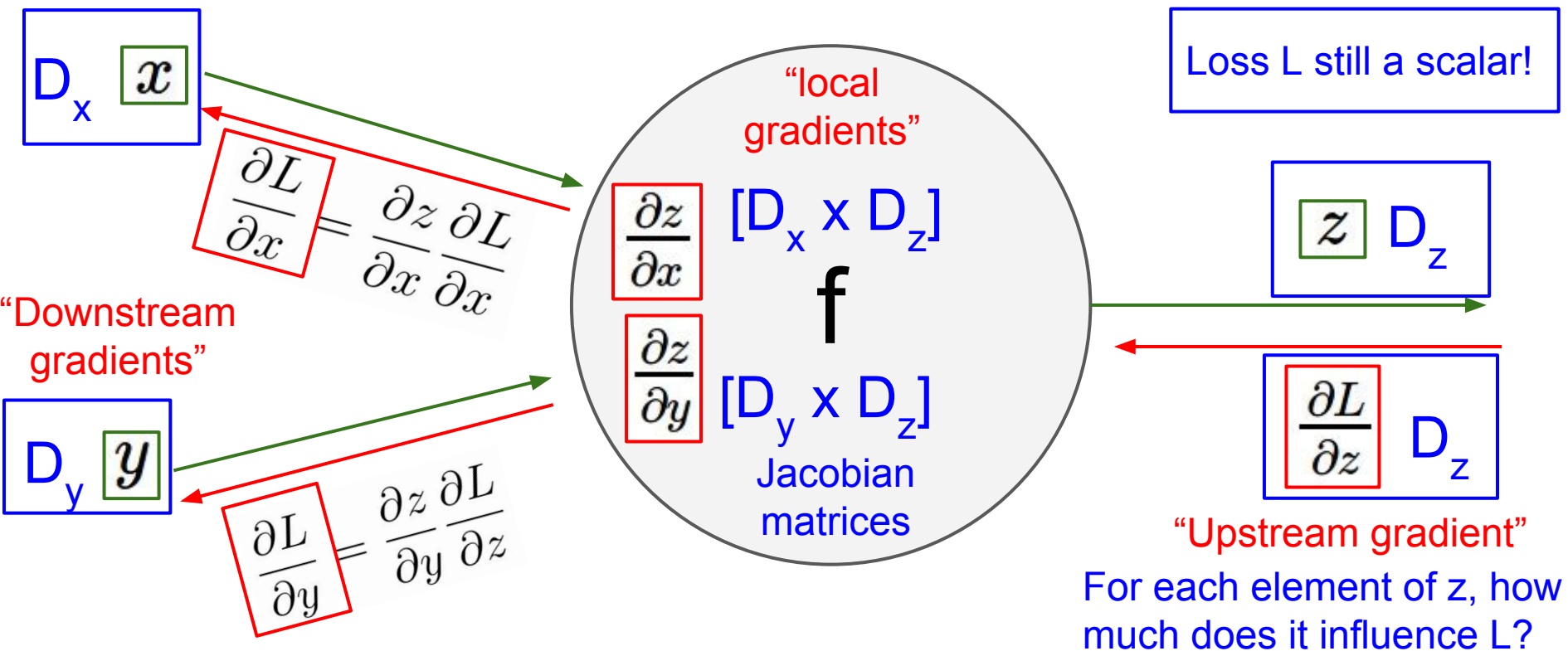
# Backprop with Vectors



# Backprop with Vectors

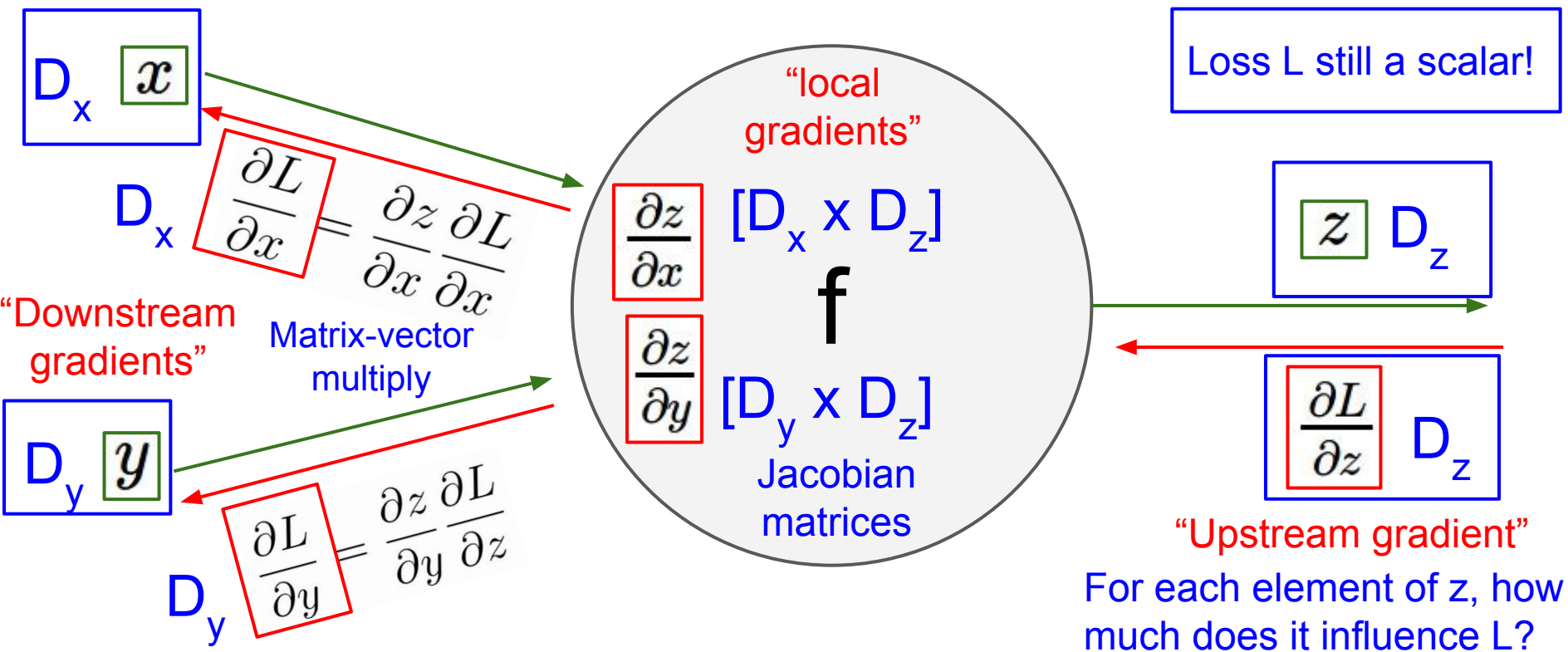


# Backprop with Vectors





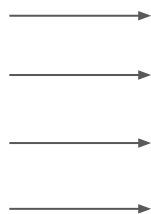
# Backprop with Vectors



# Backprop with Vectors

4D input x:

$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 3 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$

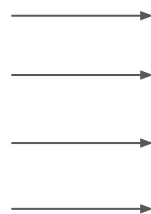


$$f(x) = \max(0, x)$$

*(elementwise)*

4D output y:

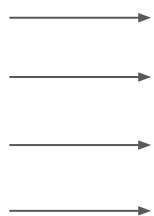
$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$



# Backprop with Vectors

4D input x:

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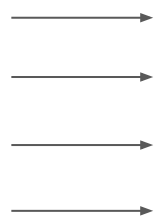


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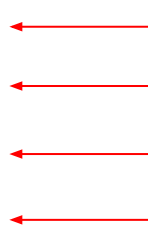
4D output y:

$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$



4D dL/dy:

$\begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -1 \\ 5 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix}$

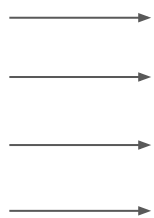


Upstream  
gradient

# Backprop with Vectors

4D input x:

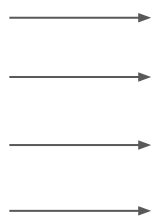
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$f(x) = \max(0, x)$   
(*elementwise*)

4D output y:

$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$



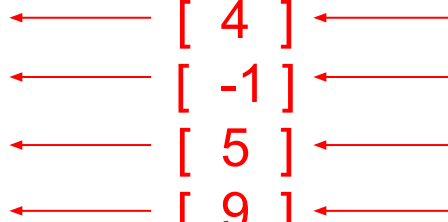
Jacobian  $dy/dx$

$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

4D  $dL/dy$ :

$\begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -1 \\ 5 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix}$

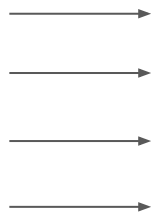
Upstream  
gradient



# Backprop with Vectors

4D input x:

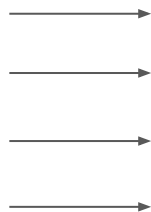
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$f(x) = \max(0, x)$   
(*elementwise*)

4D output y:

$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$



$[dy/dx] \ [dL/dy]$

$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4 \end{bmatrix}$

$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -1 \end{bmatrix}$

$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 5 \end{bmatrix}$

$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 9 \end{bmatrix}$

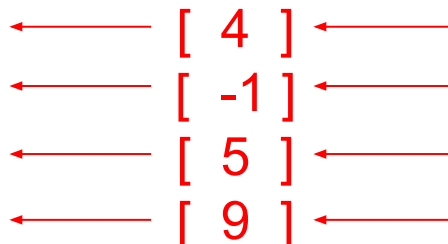
4D dL/dy:

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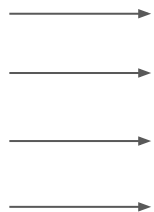


Upstream  
gradient

# Backprop with Vectors

4D input x:

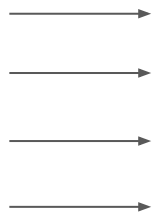
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$$f(x) = \max(0, x) \\ (\text{elementwise})$$

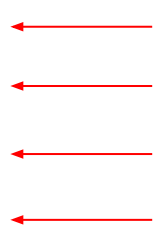
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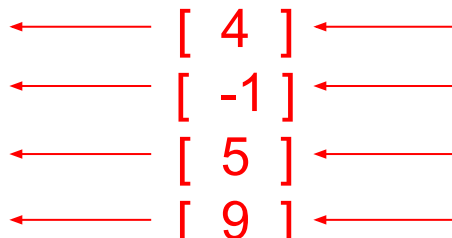


$\begin{bmatrix} dy/dx \\ dL/dy \end{bmatrix}$

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Jacobian is **sparse**:  
off-diagonal entries  
always zero! Never  
**explicitly** form  
Jacobian -- instead  
use **implicit**  
multiplication

4D  $dL/dx$ :

$\begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \\ 5 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

$[dy/dx] [dL/dy]$

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4D  $dL/dx$ :

$\begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \\ 5 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$

$[dy/dx] [dL/dy]$

$$\left( \frac{\partial L}{\partial x} \right)_i = \begin{cases} \left( \frac{\partial L}{\partial y} \right)_i & \text{if } x_i > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

4D  $dL/dy$ :

$\begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -1 \\ 5 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix}$

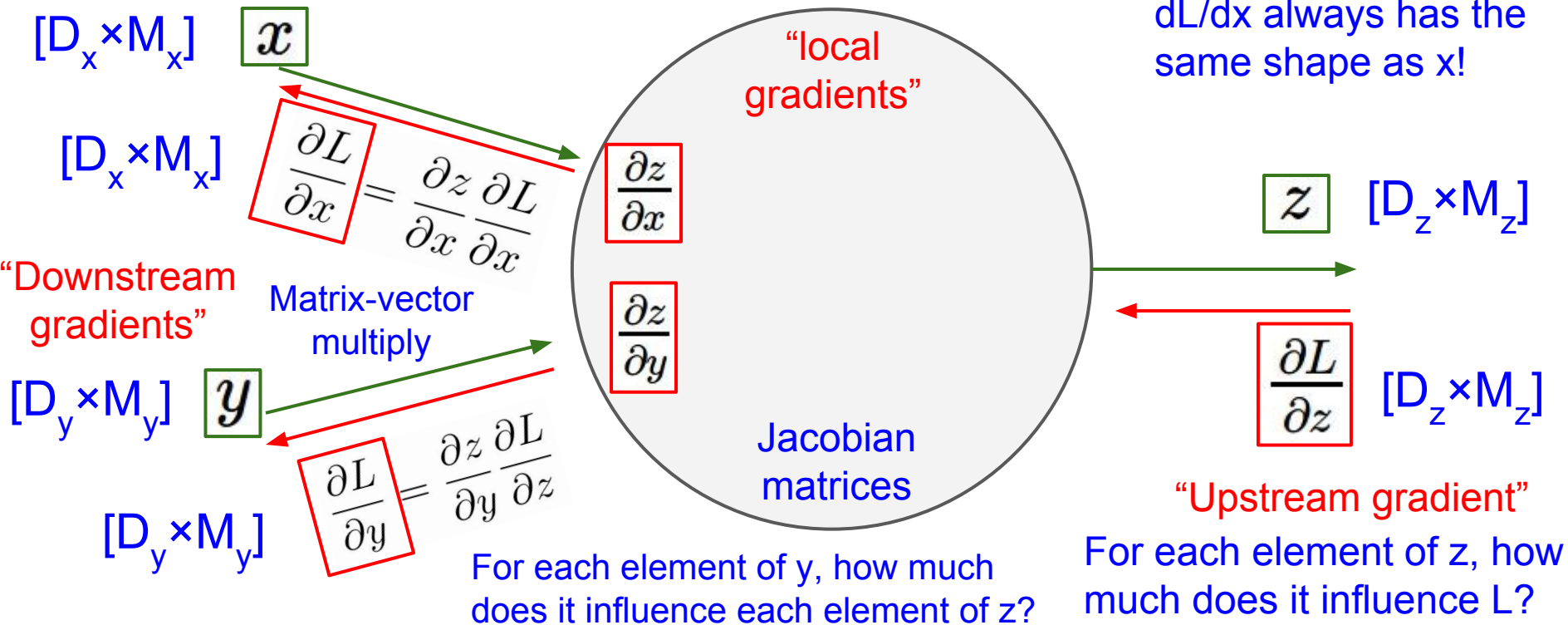
Upstream  
gradient



# Backprop with Matrices (or Tensors)

Loss L still a scalar!

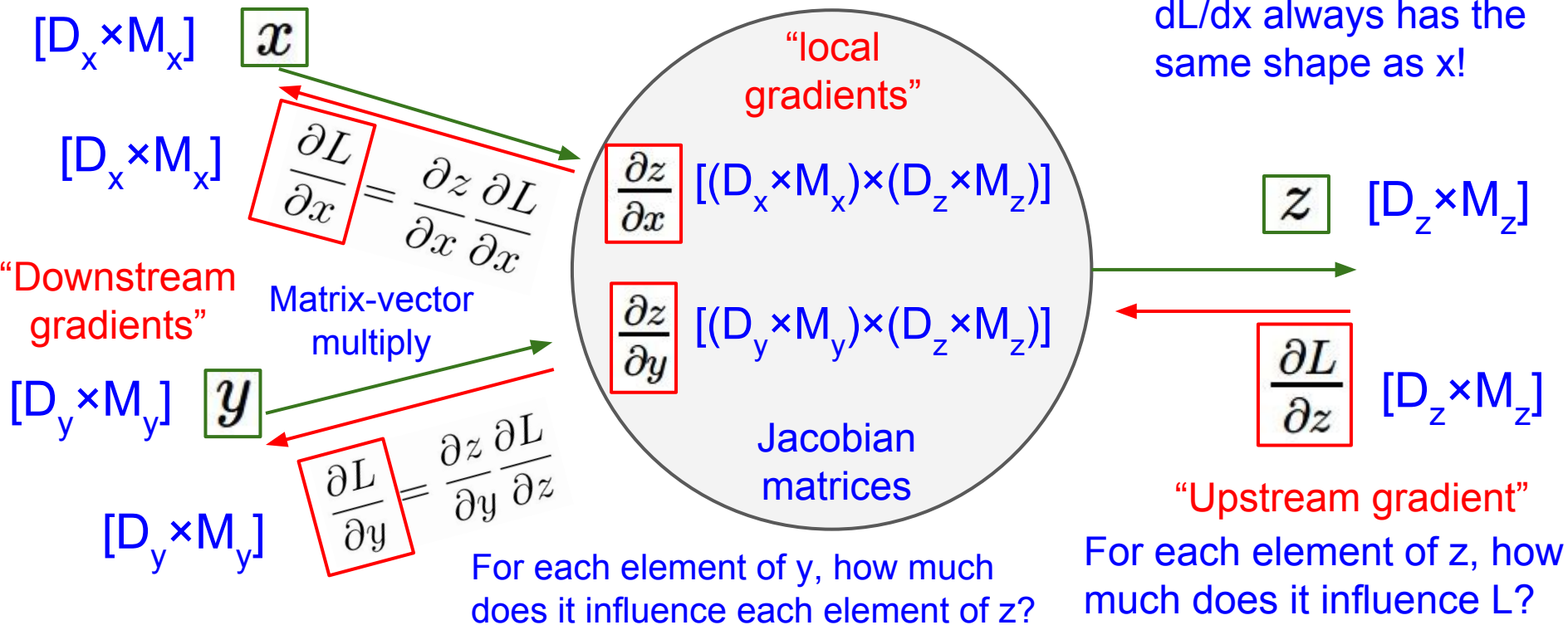
$dL/dx$  always has the same shape as  $x$ !



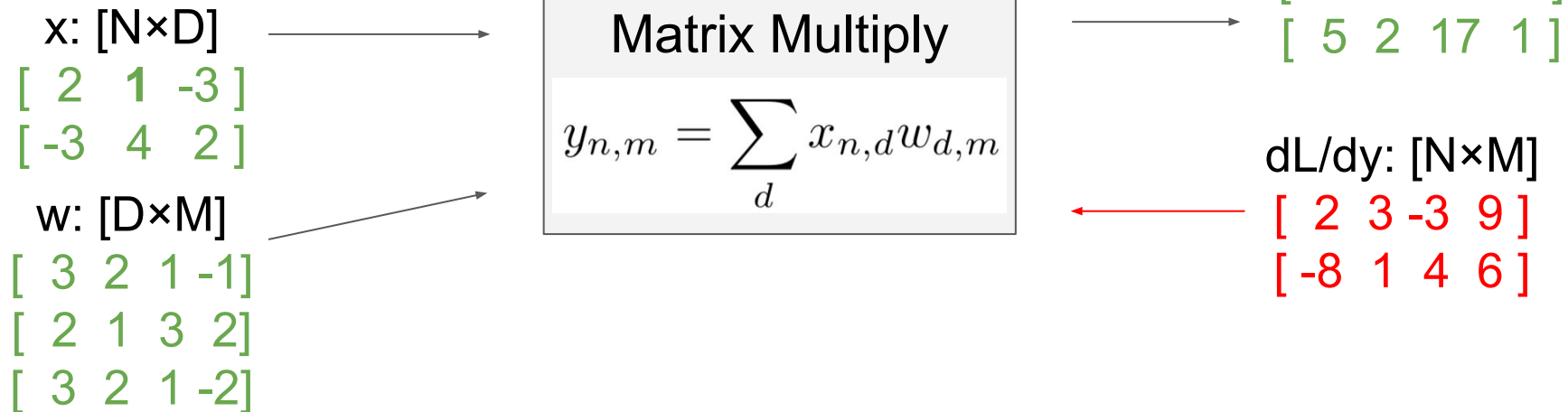
# Backprop with Matrices (or Tensors)

Loss L still a scalar!

$dL/dx$  always has the same shape as  $x$ !



# Backprop with Matrices



Also see derivation in the course notes:

<http://cs231n.stanford.edu/handouts/linear-backprop.pdf>

# Backprop with Matrices

x: [N×D]

[ 2 1 -3 ]

[ -3 4 2 ]

w: [D×M]

[ 3 2 1 -1 ]

[ 2 1 3 2 ]

[ 3 2 1 -2 ]

Matrix Multiply

$$y_{n,m} = \sum_d x_{n,d} w_{d,m}$$

**Jacobians:**

dy/dx: [(N×D)×(N×M)]

dy/dw: [(D×M)×(N×M)]

y: [N×M]

[13 9 -2 -6]

[ 5 2 17 1 ]

dL/dy: [N×M]

[ 2 3 -3 9 ]

[ -8 1 4 6 ]

For a neural net we may have

N=64, D=M=4096

Each Jacobian takes 256 GB of memory!

Must work with them implicitly!

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**Q:** What parts of y are affected by one element of x?

y: [N×M]  
[13 9 -2 -6]  
[ 5 2 17 1]

dL/dy: [N×M]  
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# Backprop with Matrices

$x: [N \times D]$   
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$w: [D \times M]$   
 $\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 & 1 & -1 \\ 2 & 1 & 3 & 2 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$

Matrix Multiply

$$y_{n,m} = \sum_d x_{n,d} w_{d,m}$$

$y: [N \times M]$   
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$dL/dy: [N \times M]$   
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**Q:** What parts of  $y$  are affected by one element of  $x$ ?

**A:**  $x_{n,d}$  affects the whole row  $y_{n,\cdot}$ .

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial x_{n,d}} = \sum_m \frac{\partial L}{\partial y_{n,m}} \frac{\partial y_{n,m}}{\partial x_{n,d}}$$

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y: [N×M]  
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dL/dy: [N×M]  
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[ -8 1 4 6 ]

**Q:** What parts of y are affected by one element of x?

**A:**  $x_{n,d}$  affects the whole row  $y_{n,\cdot}$ .

**Q:** How much does  $x_{n,d}$  affect  $y_{n,m}$ ?

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial x_{n,d}} = \sum_m \frac{\partial L}{\partial y_{n,m}} \frac{\partial y_{n,m}}{\partial x_{n,d}}$$

# Backprop with Matrices

$x: [N \times D]$   
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$w: [D \times M]$   
 $\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 & 1 & -1 \\ 2 & 1 & \boxed{3} & 2 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$

Matrix Multiply

$$y_{n,m} = \sum_d x_{n,d} w_{d,m}$$

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$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial x_{n,d}} = \sum_m \frac{\partial L}{\partial y_{n,m}} \frac{\partial y_{n,m}}{\partial x_{n,d}} = \sum_m \frac{\partial L}{\partial y_{n,m}} w_{d,m}$$



# Backprop with Matrices

$$x: [N \times D]$$

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$$w: [D \times M]$$

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$[N \times D] \quad [N \times M] \quad [M \times D]$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial x} = \left( \frac{\partial L}{\partial y} \right) w^T$$

Matrix Multiply

$$y_{n,m} = \sum_d x_{n,d} w_{d,m}$$

$$y: [N \times M]$$

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$$dL/dy: [N \times M]$$

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**A:**  $w_{d,m}$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial x_{n,d}} = \sum_m \frac{\partial L}{\partial y_{n,m}} \frac{\partial y_{n,m}}{\partial x_{n,d}} = \sum_m \frac{\partial L}{\partial y_{n,m}} w_{d,m}$$

# Backprop with Matrices

$$x: [N \times D]$$

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Matrix Multiply

$$y_{n,m} = \sum_d x_{n,d} w_{d,m}$$

$$y: [N \times M]$$

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$$dL/dy: [N \times M]$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \boxed{2} & 3 & -3 & 9 \\ -8 & 1 & 4 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

By similar logic:

$$[N \times D] \quad [N \times M] \quad [M \times D]$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial x} = \left( \frac{\partial L}{\partial y} \right) w^T$$

$$[D \times M] \quad [D \times N] \quad [N \times M]$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial w} = x^T \left( \frac{\partial L}{\partial y} \right)$$

These formulas are easy to remember: they are the only way to make shapes match up!