

# About Judith



Born in Aachen, University in Heidelberg

Postdoc in USA (University at Chicago and MIT in Boston)

- ROOT user since 1998

Research at DESY, one year at CERN, teaching in Berlin

Experiments at colliders:

PSI (Switzerland), HERA (DESY), RHIC (USA), LHC (CERN)

- ML and top-Higgs coupling



## Hobbies:

Mountaineering  
Swimming  
Running  
Pilates  
Music  
Reading novels

# Introduction to Machine Learning

Part I

Judith Katzy  
Hamburg, September 2024

HELMHOLTZ



# Outline

- The big picture
  - Extracting physics knowledge with machine learning
  - Learning frameworks and its ingredients
- The key elements
  - Data sets
  - Hypothesis sets
  - Optimisation
- Example: Neural networks
  - Building functions with perceptrons
  - Universal approximation theorem

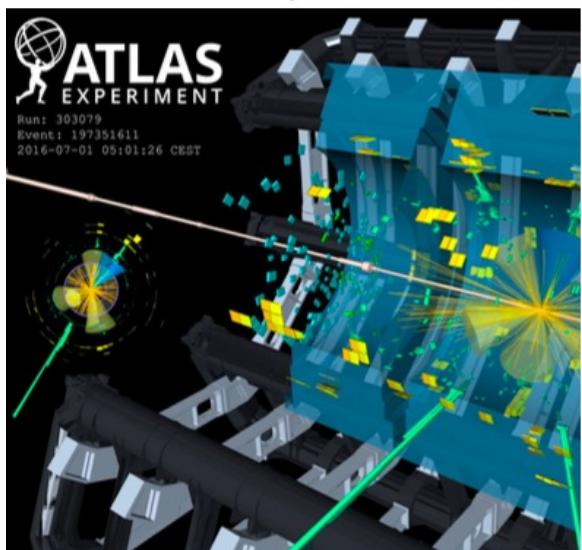
# Material

- book: Understanding deep learning from Simon Price
- Deeplearning.org book from Ian Goodfellow
- Pictures from Lukas Heinrich
- Kyle Cranmer, ML Review

ML is NOT a spectator sport – important material in exercises from Peter Steinbach

# Why is machine learning relevant for particle physics?

# Fundamentals of particle physics analysis



100 Mio electronic channels

measurement

**Quantum mechanical nature of physics process**

-> Probabilistic distributed events  $p(x|\theta)$

Rely on a statistical model  $p$  to extract parameters  $\theta$  from data  $x$ :

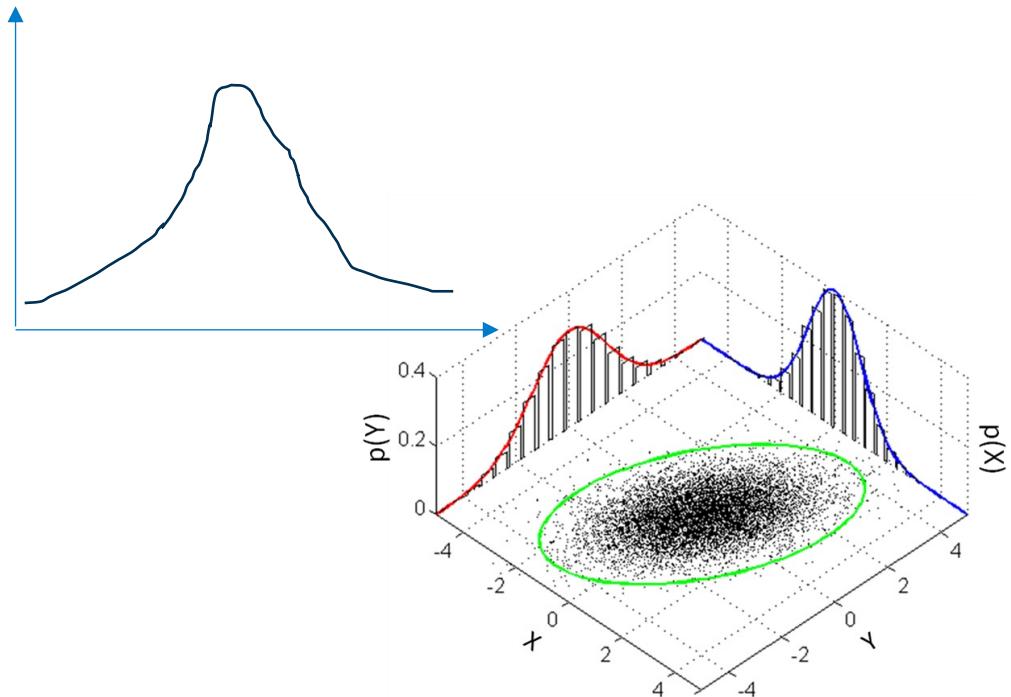
**We have high dimensional data**

**We have large data sets**

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} = & -\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} \\ & + i \bar{\psi} \not{D} \psi + h.c. \\ & + \bar{\psi}_i \gamma_i \psi_j \phi + h.c. \\ & + D_\mu \phi^2 - V(\phi) \end{aligned}$$

Few parameters

# Curse of dimensionality

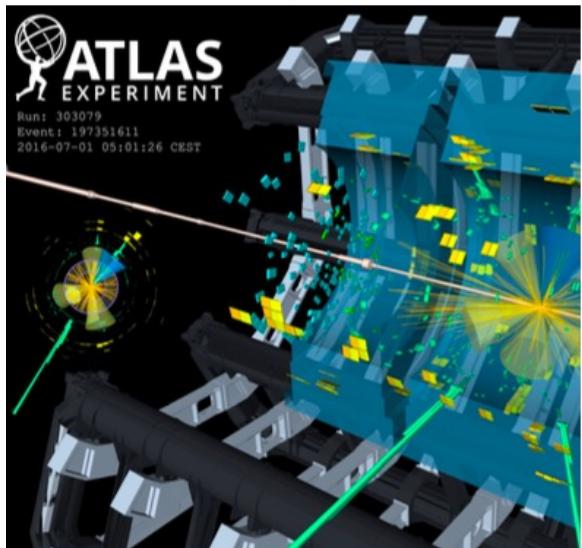


1 dim: Sample N events to describe distribution  
2 dim: sample  $N^2$  events to describe distribution

$\vdots$   
 $\vdots$   
 $\vdots$   
 $d$  dim: sample  $O(N^d)$  events to describe distribution

-> Needs impractical computational resources

# Fundamentals of particle physics analysis



100 Mio electronic channels

**Quantum mechanical nature of physics process**

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Rely on a statistical model  $p$  to extract parameters  $\theta$  from data  $x$ :

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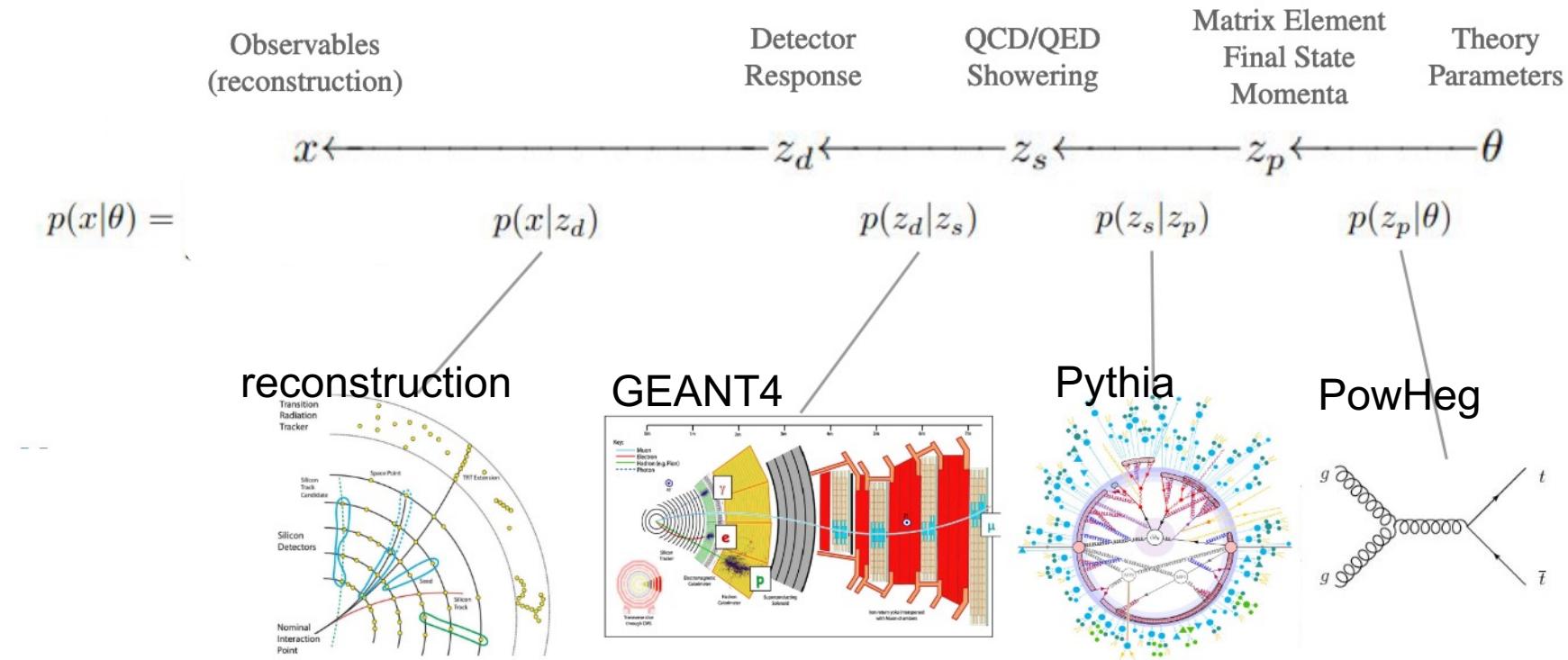
Few parameters

simulation



# The role of simulators

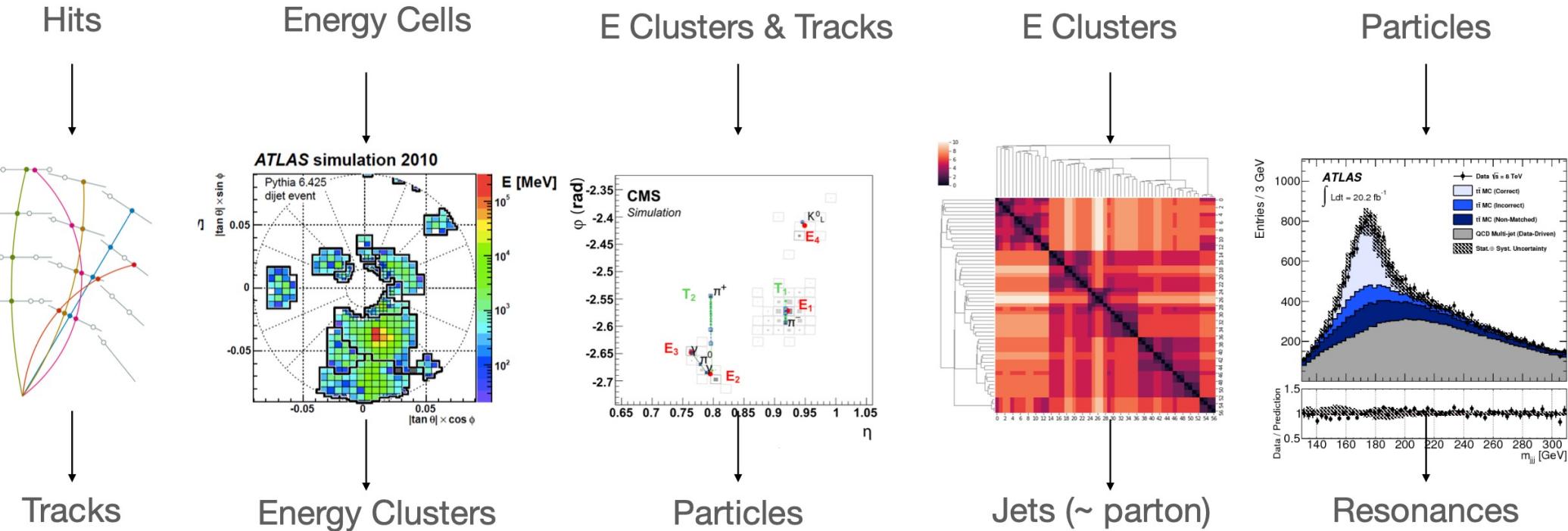
simulators capture the relevant physics on a hierarchy of scales



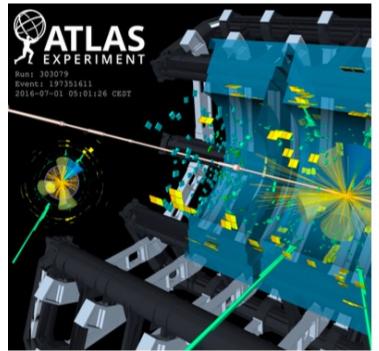
- Data  $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^N$  N samples independently and identically distributed from  $p(x|\theta)$  with simulator settings  $\theta$
- Approximate  $p(x|\theta) = \int p(x, z|\theta) dz$
  - fixed value of  $z$  specifies everything about the simulated event:  $z = \text{ground truth "label"}$
  - Reconstruction algorithms estimate components from  $z$ 
    - data set  $\{x_i, z_i\}_{i=1}^N$  to study reco algorithms

# Data representation

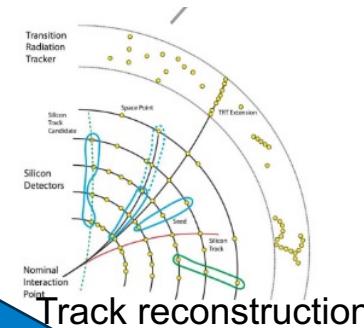
Goal: bring the data into a form that is easier to understand and interpret



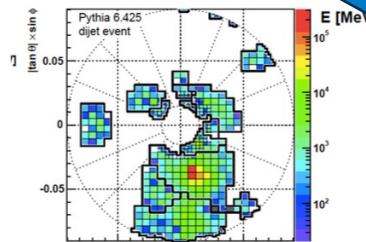
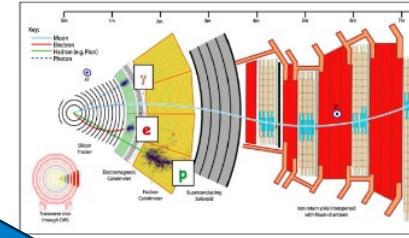
# Reducing dimensionality



100 Mio electronic channels

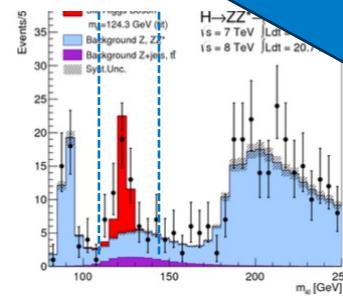


Particle identification



energy reconstruction

$N_{\text{electron}} > 4$



$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} = & -\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} \\ & + i \bar{\psi} \not{D} \psi + h.c. \\ & + \bar{\psi}_i \gamma_{ij} \psi_j \phi + h.c. \\ & + D_\mu \phi^2 - V(\phi) \end{aligned}$$

$m_{\text{Higgs}} = 125 \text{ GeV}$

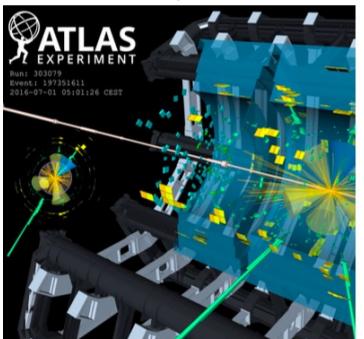
# Summary

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L} = & -\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} \\ & + i \bar{\psi} \not{D} \psi + h.c. \\ & + \bar{\psi}_i y_{ij} \psi_j \phi + h.c. \\ & + |\nabla_\mu \phi|^2 - V(\phi) \end{aligned}$$

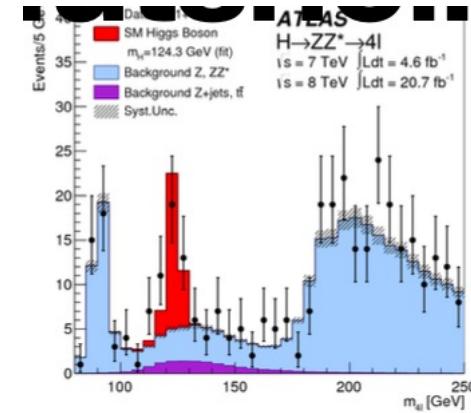
High level  
concepts



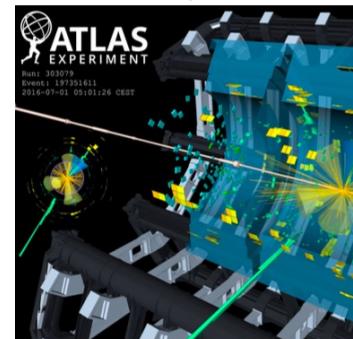
generate low-level, high-dim data  
from high-level concepts



Low level data



reconstruct high level concepts  
from low-level, high-dim data



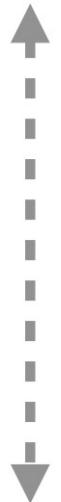
# ML excels at both!

*street style photo of a woman selling pho  
at a Vietnamese street market,  
sunset, shot on fujifilm*

generate low-level, high-dim data  
from high-level concepts



High-Level  
Concept



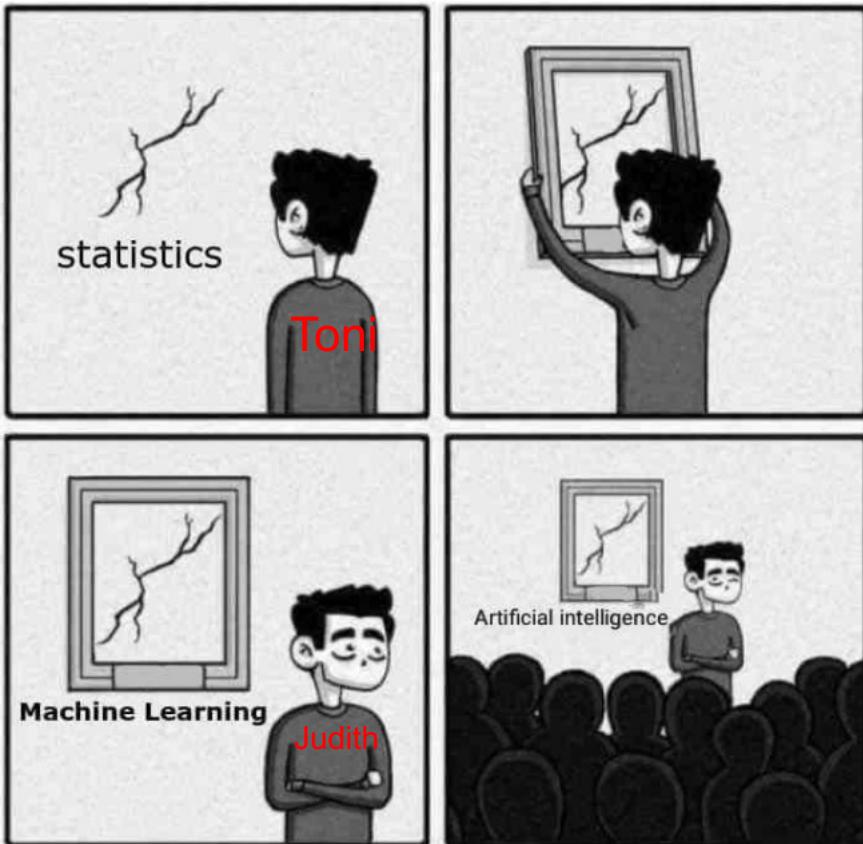
*This is a picture of Barack Obama.  
His foot is positioned on the right side of the scale.  
The scale will show a higher weight.*

reconstruct high level concepts  
from low-level, high-dim data



# What is machine learning?

# What is machine learning?



Mat Velloso 🇺🇦  
@matveloso

Difference between machine learning and AI:

If it is written in Python, it's probably machine learning

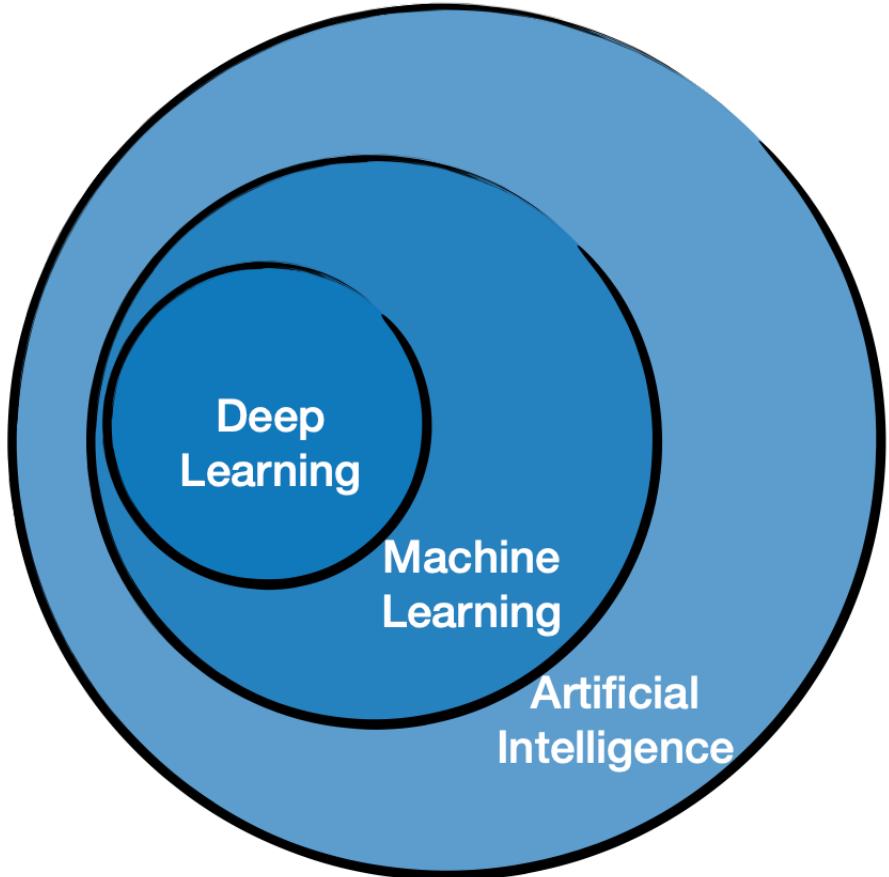
If it is written in PowerPoint, it's probably AI

3:25 AM · Nov 23, 2018 · Twitter Web Client

8,264 Retweets 911 Quote Tweets 23.8K Likes

Reply Retweet Like Share

# What is machine learning?



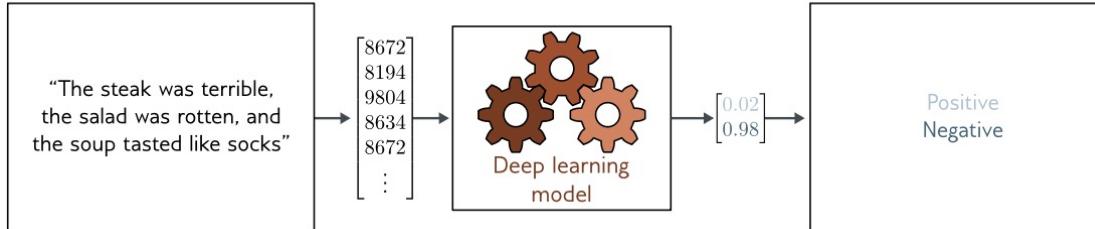
**AI:** systems that simulate intelligent behavior e.g. via rules, reasoning, symbol manipulation

**ML:** subset of AI that **learns to make decisions or predictions by fitting mathematical models to observed data.**

**DL:** type of machine learning model, that aims at **complex pipelines**, work on **low-level data** (e.g. pixels)

# ML examples: make decisions

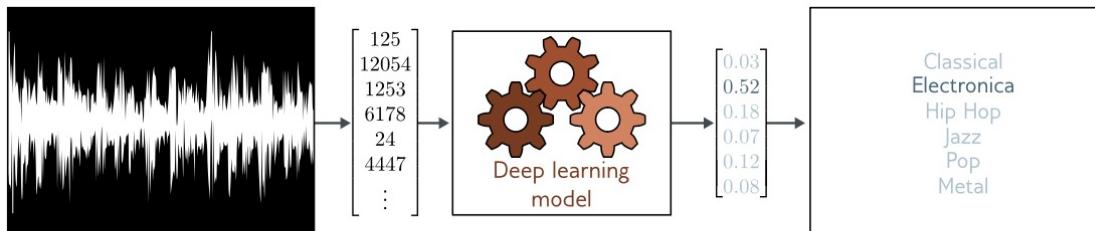
Variable length  
structured  
input



## Classification

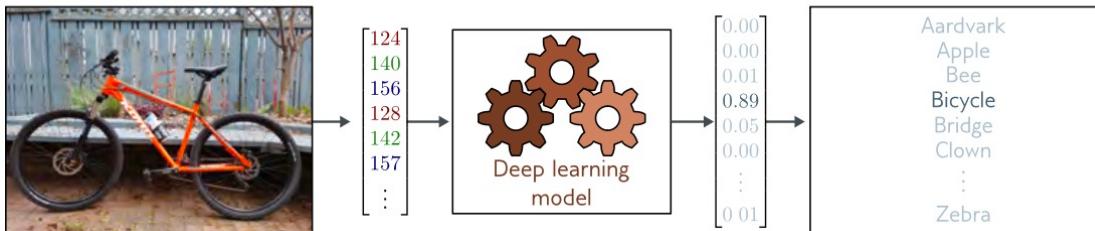
Binary class

Fixed length  
structured  
input



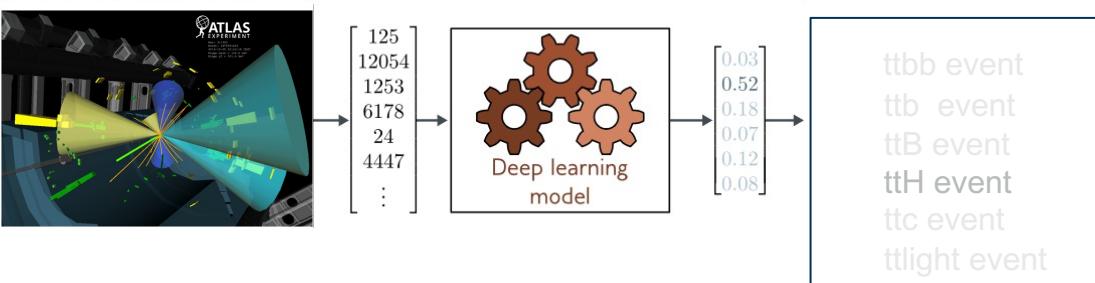
multi class

Fixed length  
structured  
input



multi class

Variable  
length  
unstructured  
input  
(4vectors of  
DESY.  
particles)

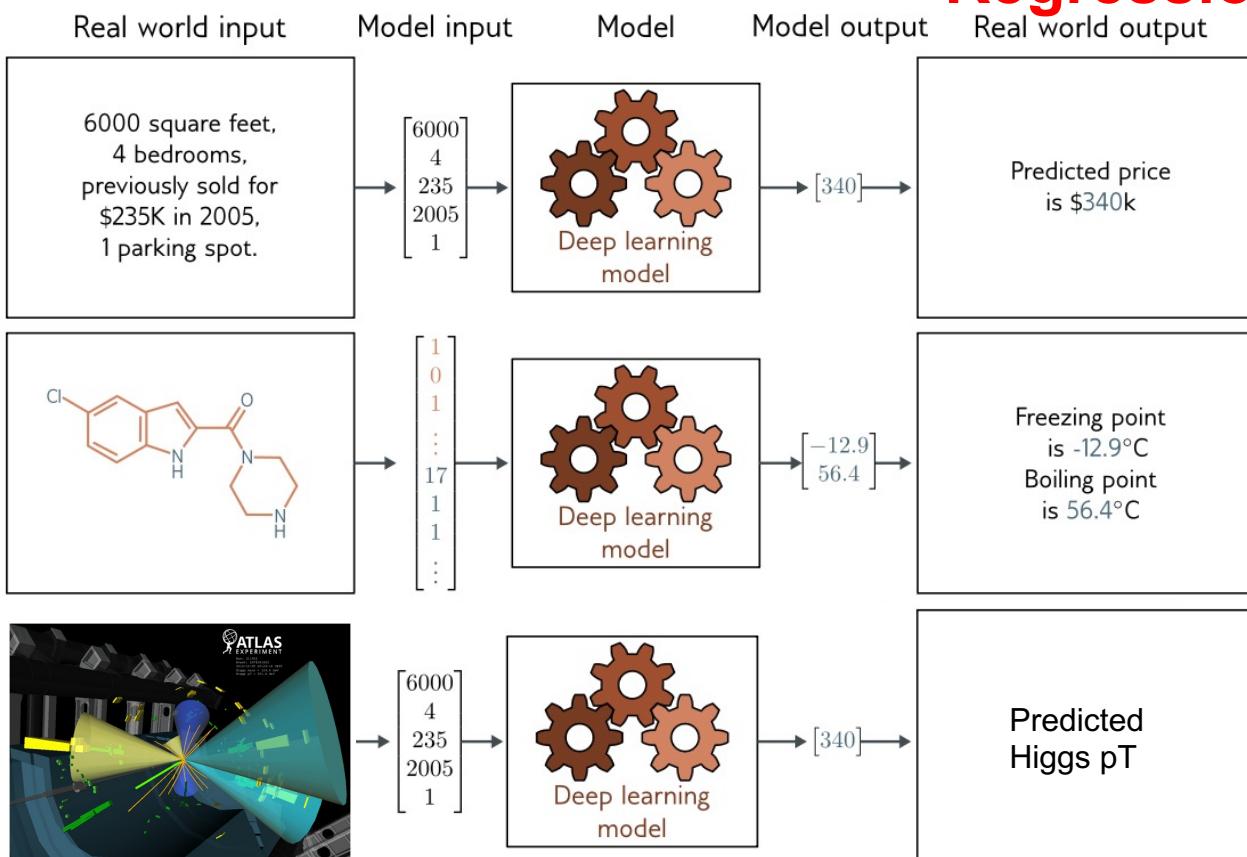


multi class

# ML examples: making predictions

Adapted from <http://udlbook.com>.

Fixed length  
unstructured  
input



## Regression

single real  
value output

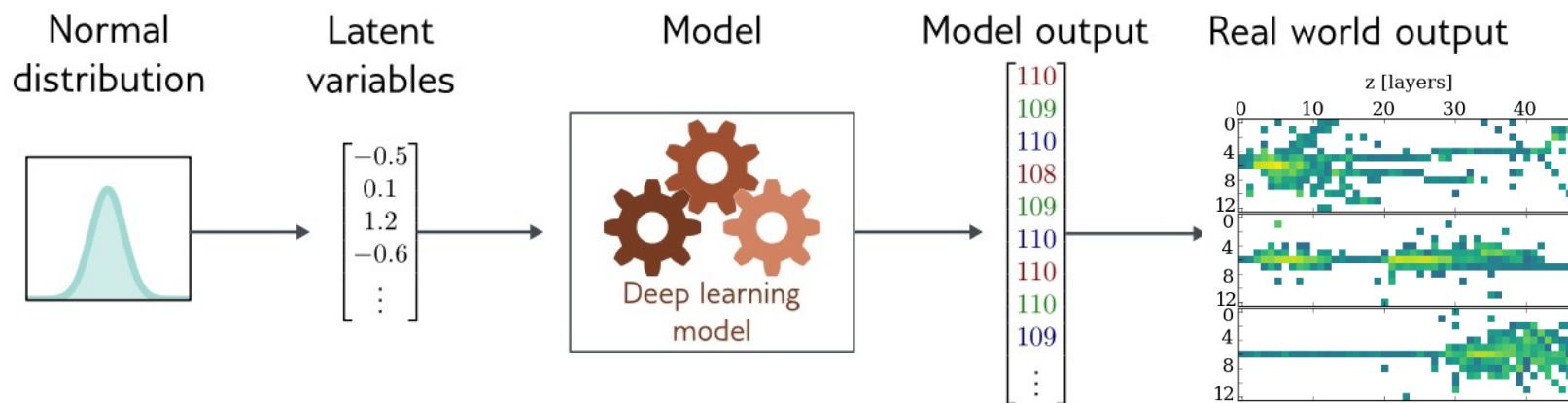
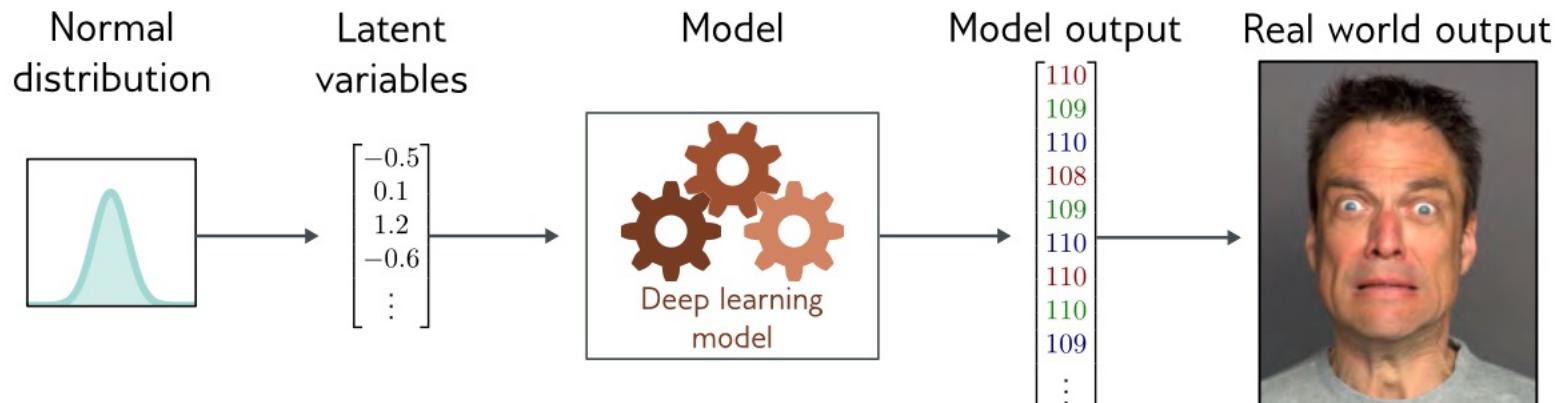
multiple real  
value outputs

single real  
value output

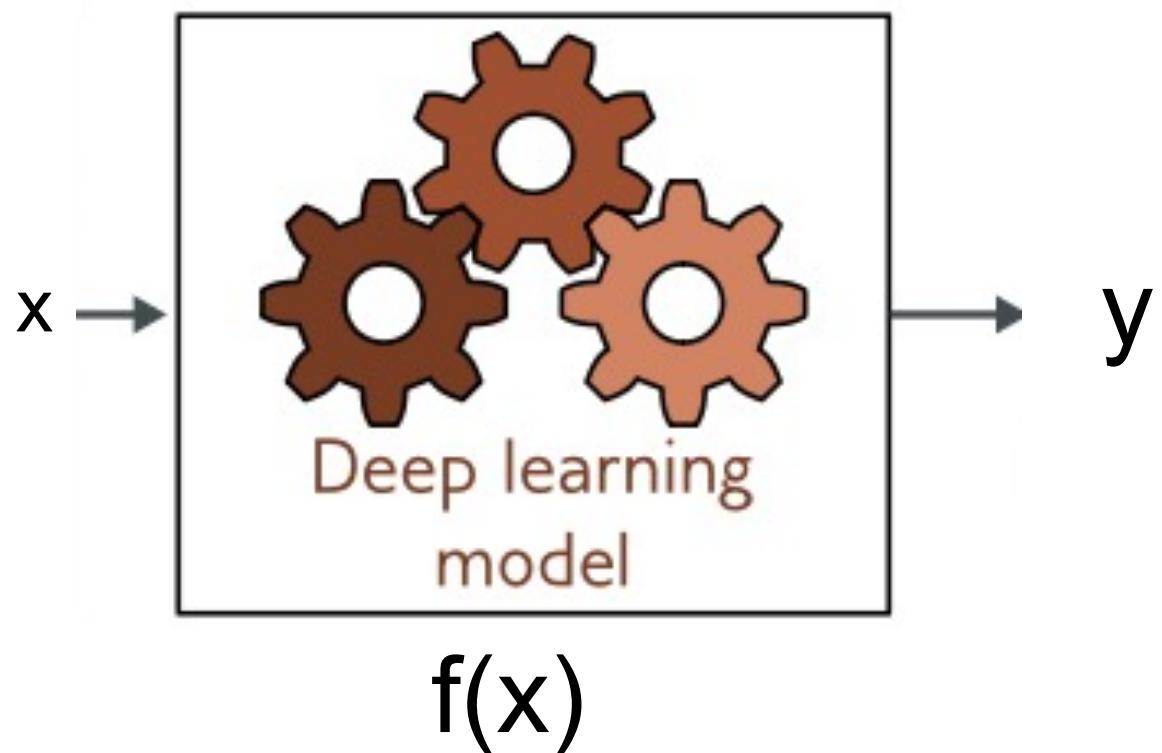
variable  
length  
unstructured  
input  
(4vectors of  
particles)

# ML example: generate new data

## Generation

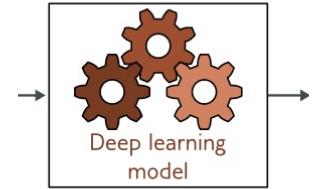


Pion in hadronic calorimeter



# **What does the machine learn?**

# Open the box or fitting mathematical model to data

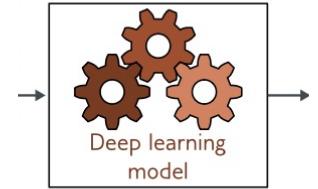


$$y = f(x)$$

output                      input

Two blue arrows point to the equation  $y = f(x)$ . One arrow points from the left towards the equals sign and is labeled "output". Another arrow points from the right towards the equals sign and is labeled "input".

# Open the box or fitting mathematical model to data



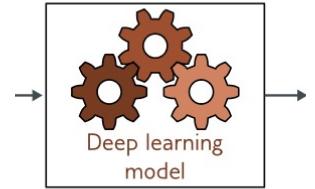
$$y = f(x, \phi)$$

input →  $y = f(x, \phi)$  ← family of functions

output →  $y = f(x, \phi)$

The equation  $y = f(x, \phi)$  is centered. Three blue arrows point to it from the left, right, and bottom. The top arrow is labeled "input". The right arrow is labeled "family of functions". The bottom-left arrow is labeled "output".

# Open the box or fitting mathematical model to data

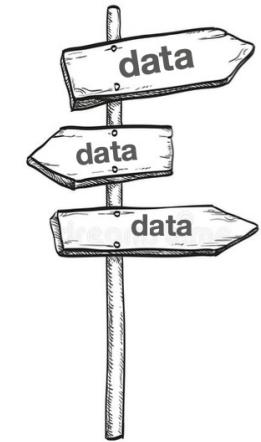


$$y = f(x, \phi)$$

input →  $y = f(x, \phi)$  ← family of functions

output

The equation  $y = f(x, \phi)$  is shown with three arrows pointing to its components: "input" points to  $x$ , "family of functions" points to  $f$ , and "output" points to  $y$ .



Learning = search through a family of functions to let the data guide you to find the best one

Easiest if you have a **labeled data set** where the **input-output relation is known** to train and validate

# The data

Your connection to the algorithm is the data

- The most important thing in the ML lifecycle

Need to know:

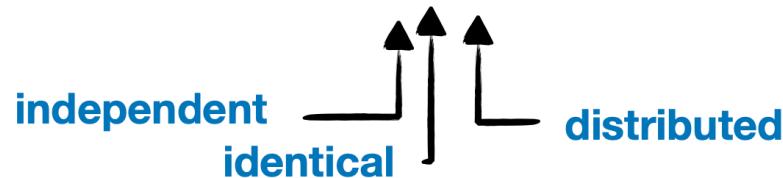
- Where does the **existing (labeled) data** come from?
- Where will the **new data** come from?



[src]

# The dominant paradigm: statistical learning

We **assume** the data is drawn i.i.d.

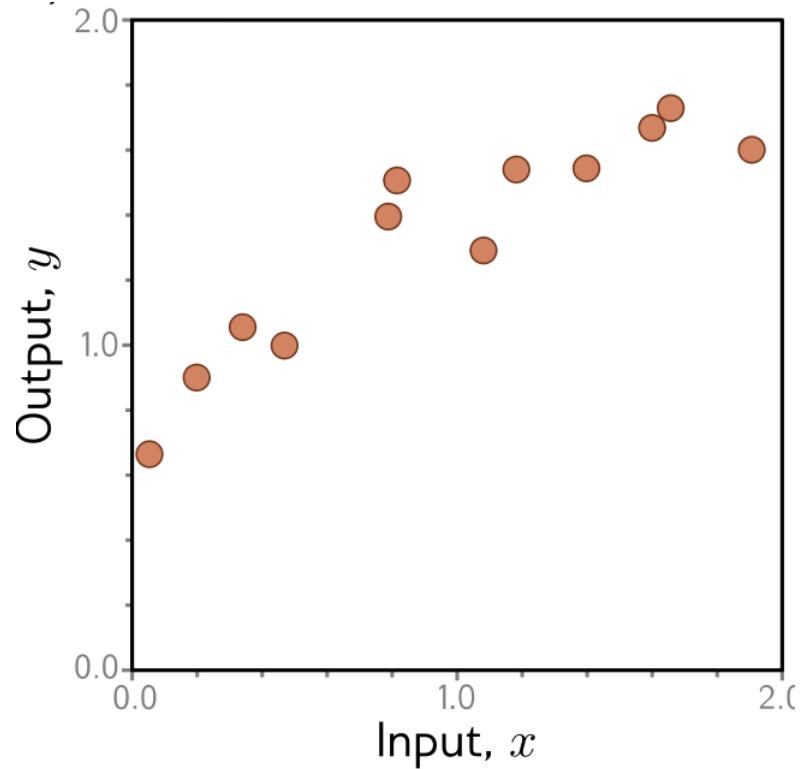


$$\text{data} = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N\} \quad x \sim p(x)$$

We **assume** all **existing data and all future data** come from the same distribution.

- Danger: “Out-of-Distribution” samples / Distribution Shift

# Example

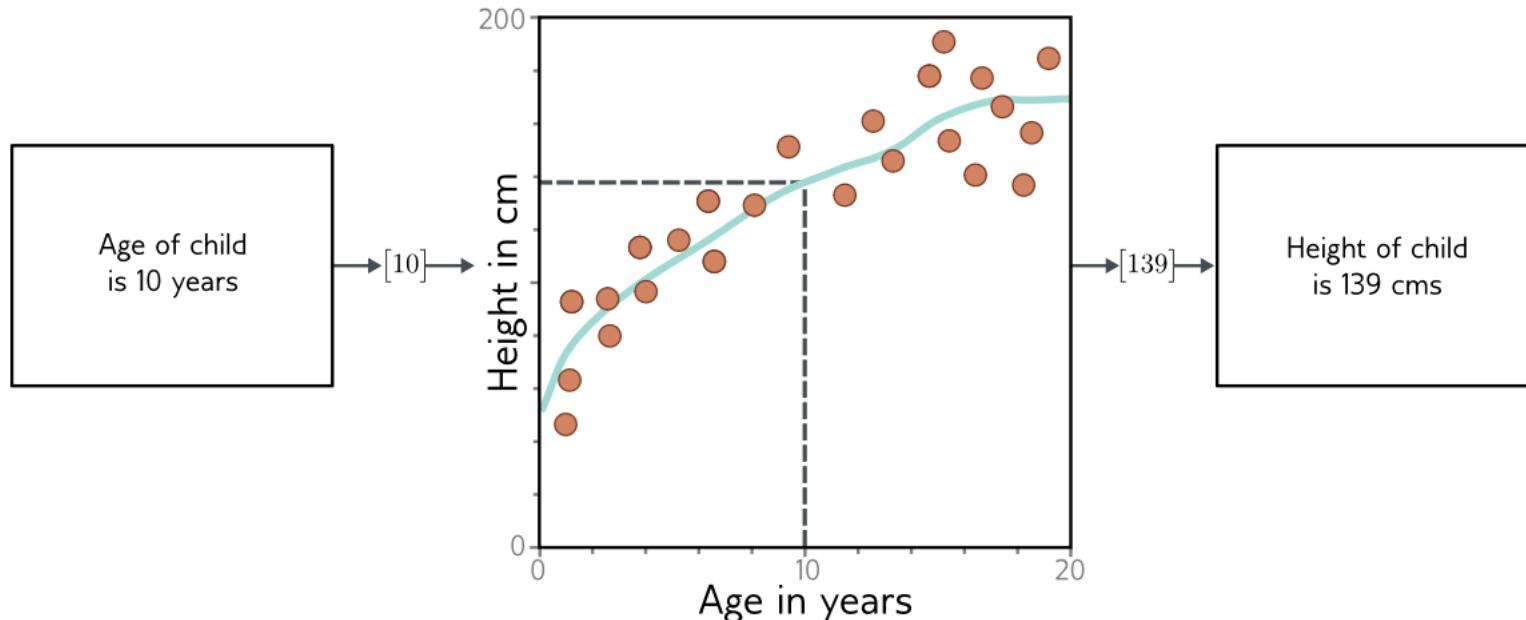
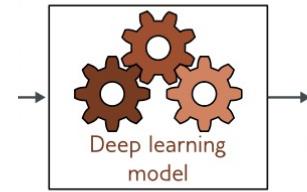


Labeled data set

Let's try to describe them with a **linear function**, i.s.  
my set of hypothesis to describe the data is

$$\begin{aligned}y &= f[x, \phi] \\&= \phi_0 + \phi_1 x.\end{aligned}$$

# Open the black box or what's this “mapping”?

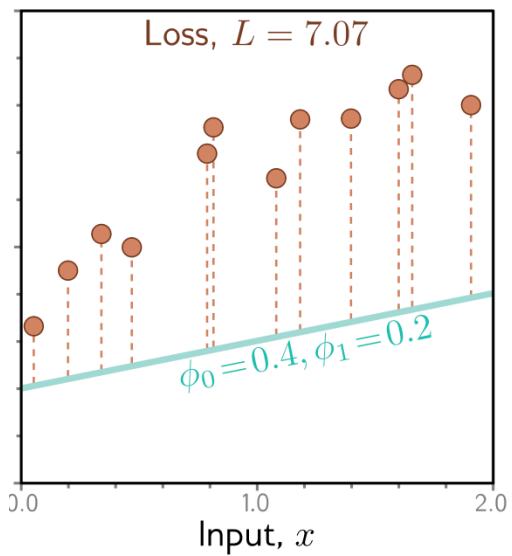


$$y = f_w[x]$$

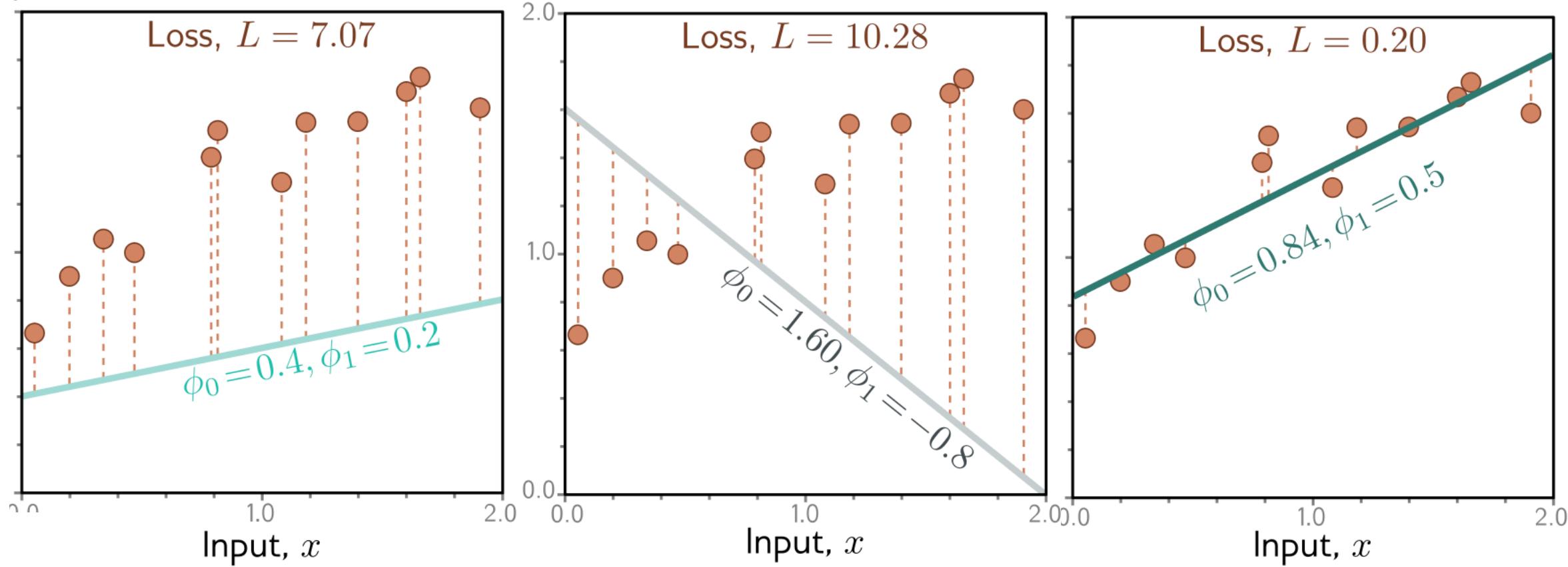
Learning = finding the optimal function from a **set of functions** to describe known “labeled” data

# The Loss

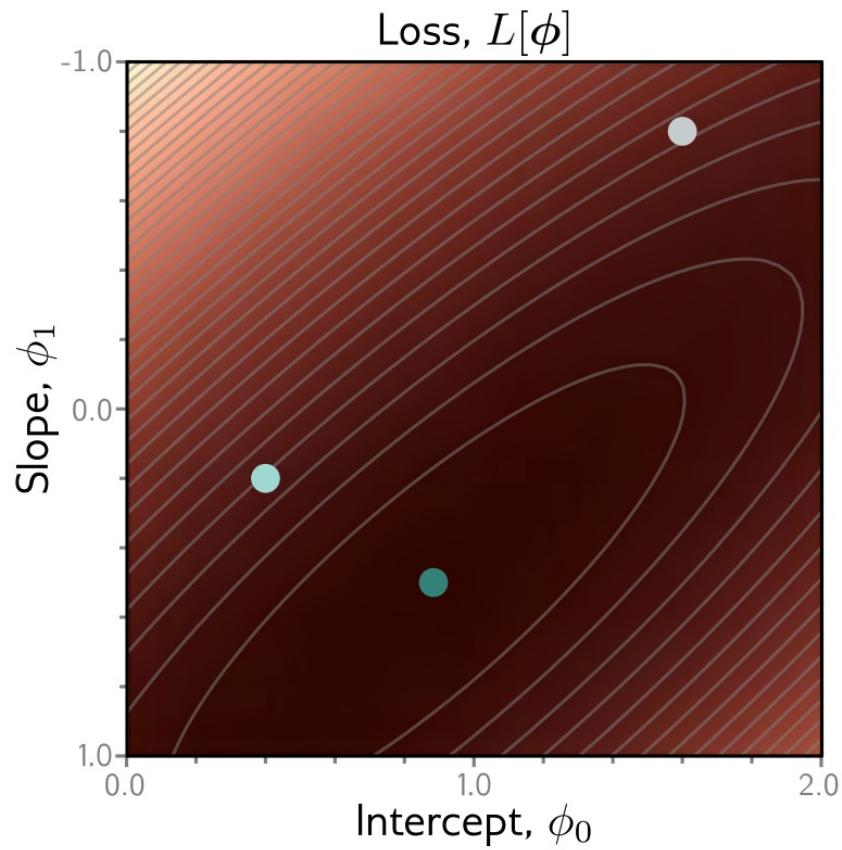
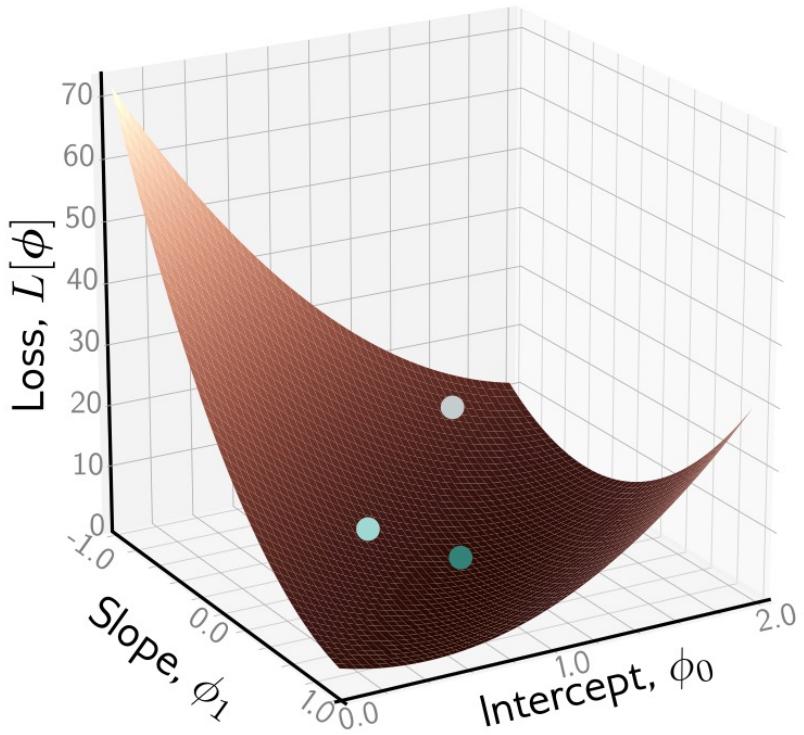
- Need to have a **performance measure** to quantify what "best" means: "loss", "risk", "cost" function



$$\begin{aligned} L[\phi] &= \sum_{i=1}^I (f[x_i, \phi] - y_i)^2 \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^I (\phi_0 + \phi_1 x_i - y_i)^2 \end{aligned}$$



# The Loss



# Learning algorithms

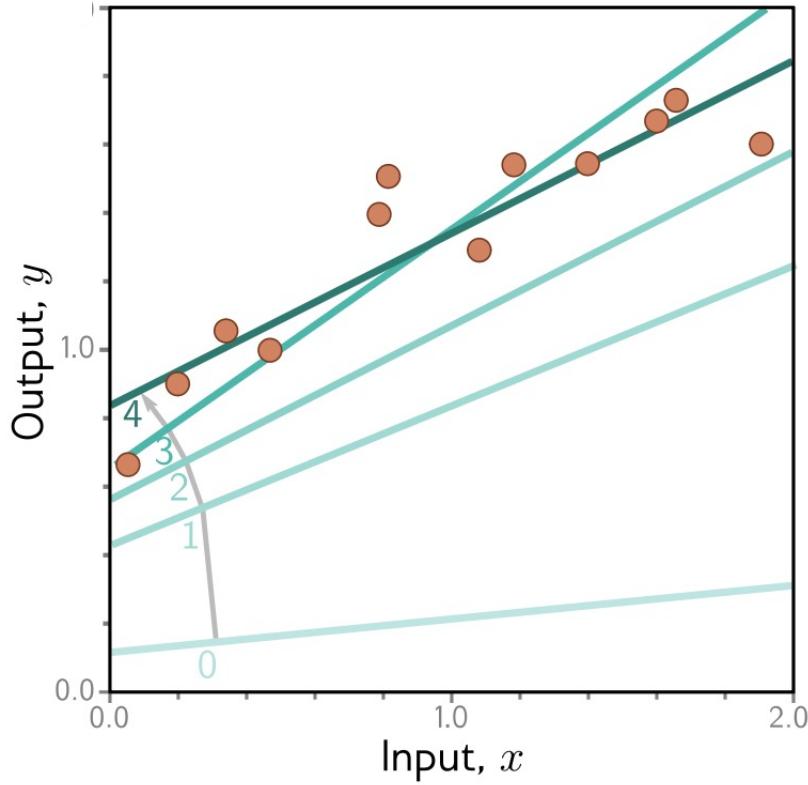
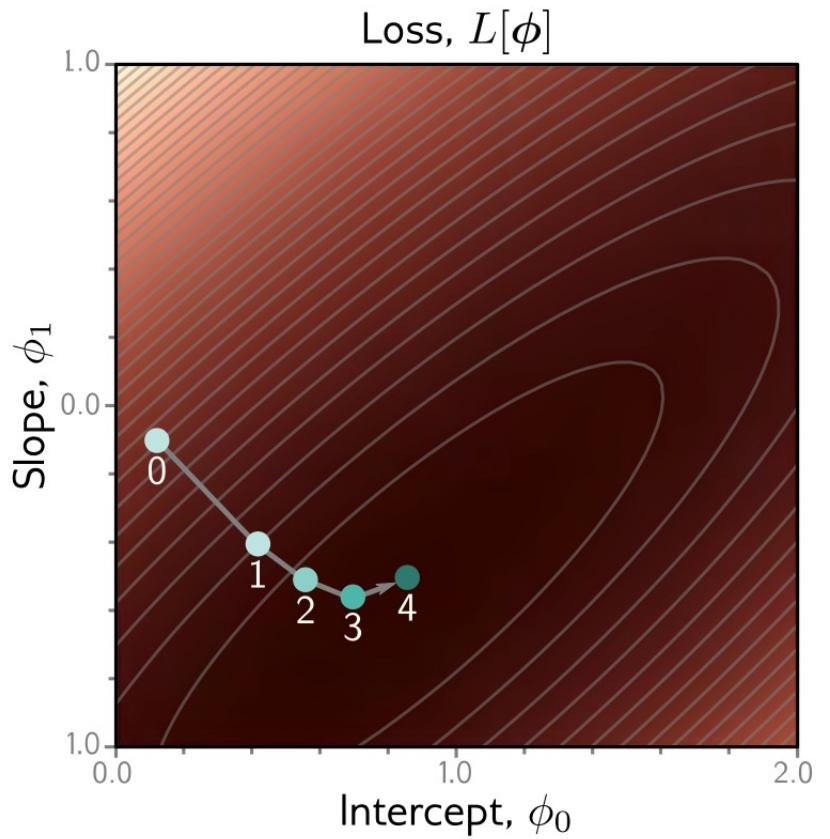
We usually have no idea which of the functions is the best, we need to have a learning algorithm that leads us there

## Various possibilities:

- Exhaustive search (discrete functions)
- Closed form solutions (rare)
- Iterative optimization (mostly used)

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\phi} &= \operatorname{argmin}_{\phi} [L[\phi]] \\ &= \operatorname{argmin}_{\phi} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^I (f[x_i, \phi] - y_i)^2 \right] \\ &= \operatorname{argmin}_{\phi} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^I (\phi_0 + \phi_1 x_i - y_i)^2 \right]\end{aligned}$$

# Learning algorithm

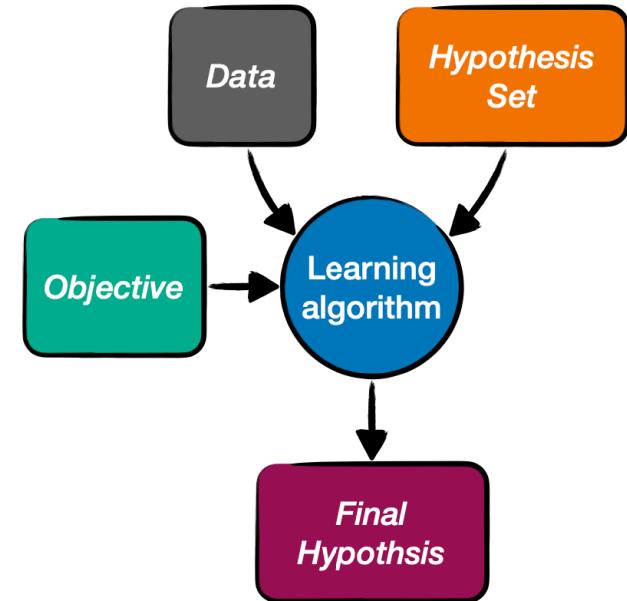


This case: exact solution  $\hat{\phi} = \Phi^{-1} X^T y$  with  $X_{ik} = x_i^k$  (i-th data point, k-th power)

# Learning framework

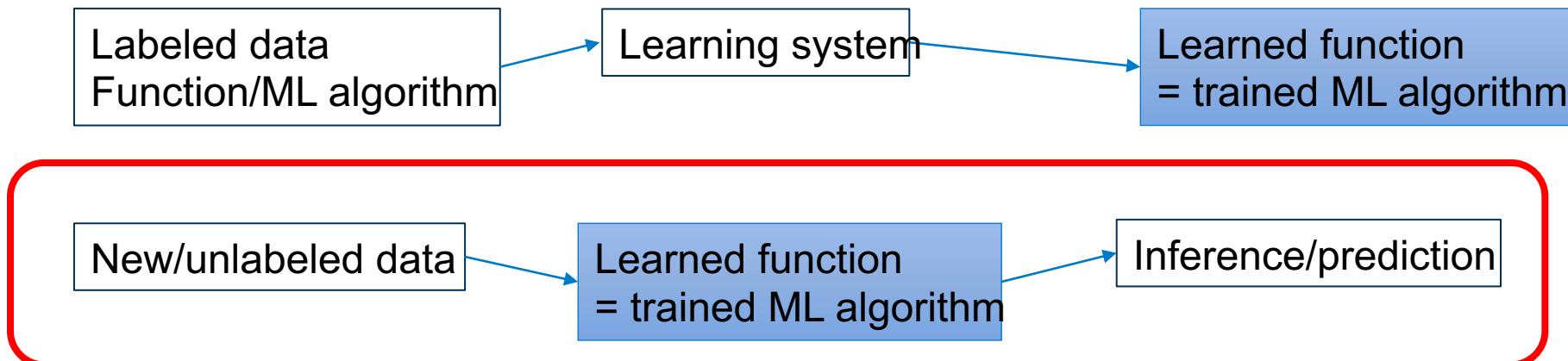
## Putting it all together

- Collect and **prepare data** to be consumed by the machine
- Define the task (objective)
- Choose search **space of possible functions** (algorithms) aka “hypothesis set”
- Define what “good” means, i.e. **a performance measure**
- Provide an **optimising algorithm** to update functions, i.e. change hypothesis
- Decide when to stop and to define the final hypothesis (function)



# Supervised learning

mapping from input data to an output prediction



# Neural nets

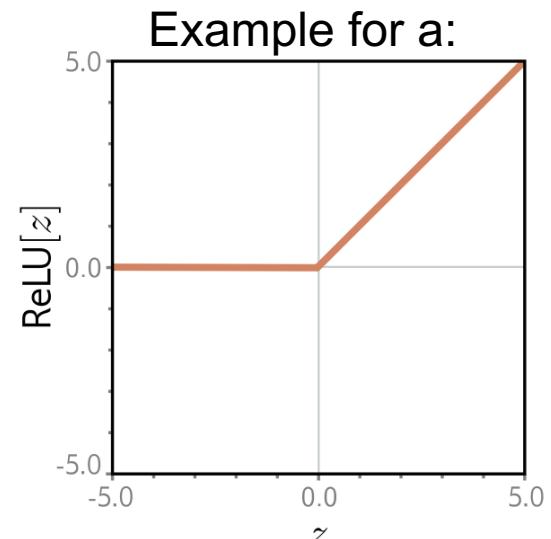
# More complex family of functions

Build complexity by composing very simple building blocks

$$\begin{aligned}y &= f[x, \phi] \\&= \phi_0 + \phi_1 a[\theta_{10} + \theta_{11}x] + \phi_2 a[\theta_{20} + \theta_{21}x] + \phi_3 a[\theta_{30} + \theta_{31}x]\end{aligned}$$

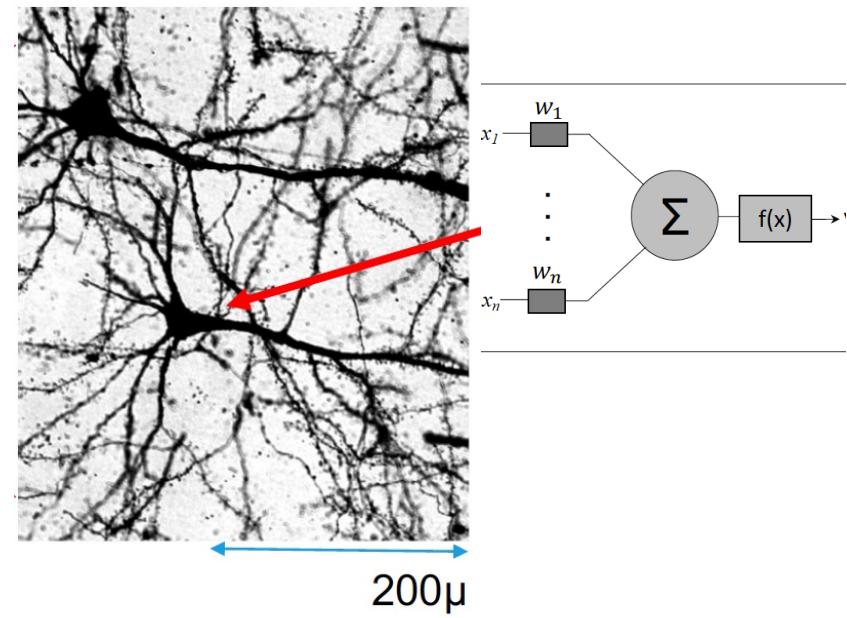
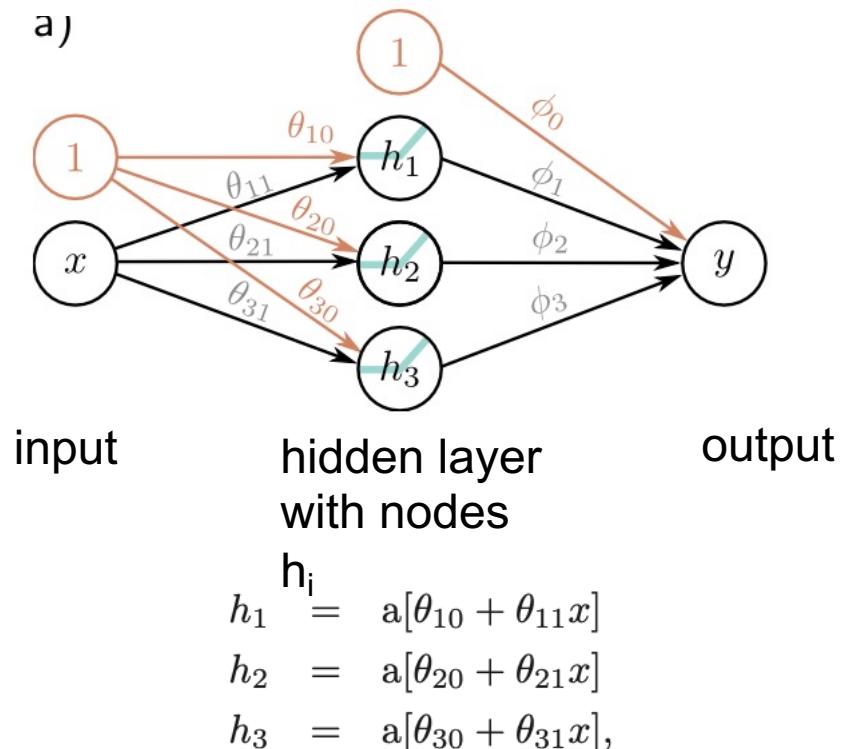
Linear  
function  
of  
input

10 parameters  $\phi_i, \theta_j$ ,  
activation function a



# Neural network family of functions

$$\begin{aligned}y &= f[x, \phi] \\&= \phi_0 + \phi_1 a[\theta_{10} + \theta_{11}x] + \phi_2 a[\theta_{20} + \theta_{21}x] + \phi_3 a[\theta_{30} + \theta_{31}x]\end{aligned}$$



# Neural network hard wired

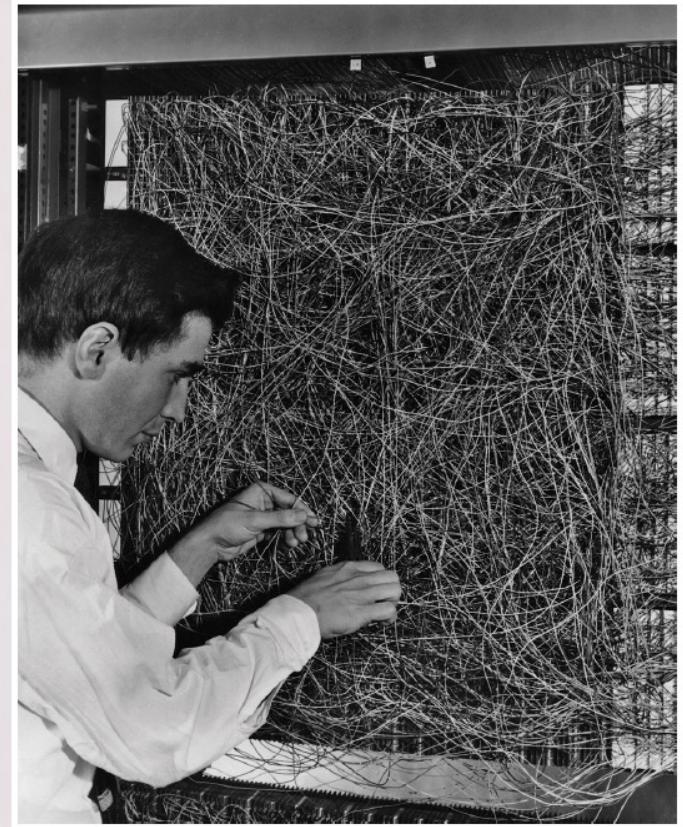
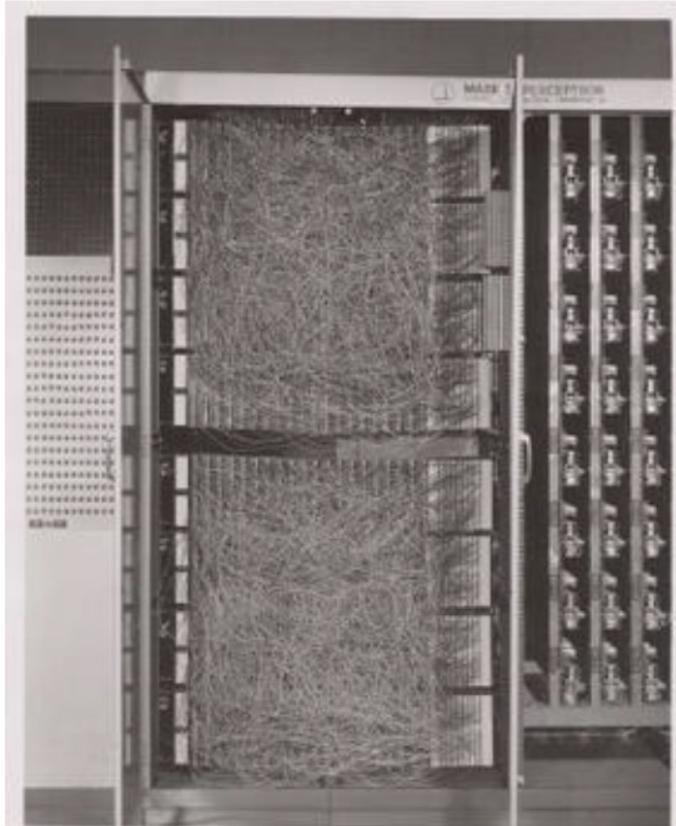
- Mark I perceptron

Perceptron:  
$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x} + b > 0, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

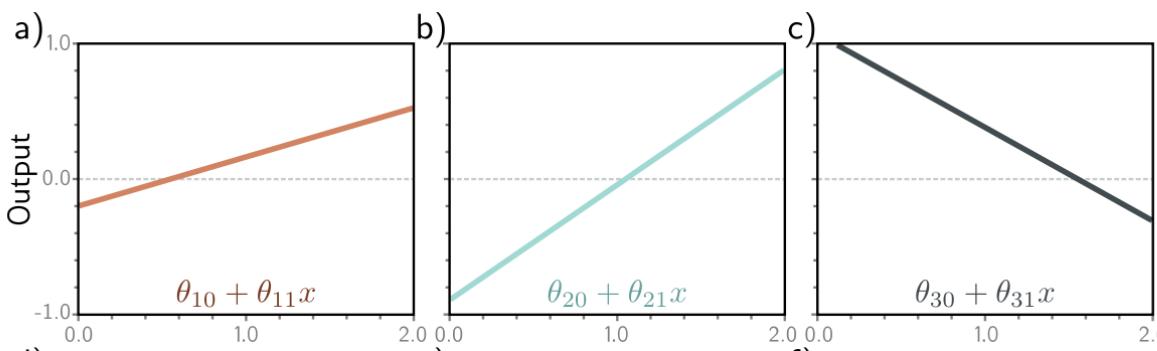
$$\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x} = \sum_{i=1}^m w_i x_i.$$

Images of 20x20 photo cells were trained for image recognition: “connections” = wires between photo cells and neurons  
“weights” = potentiometers moved by electrical motors

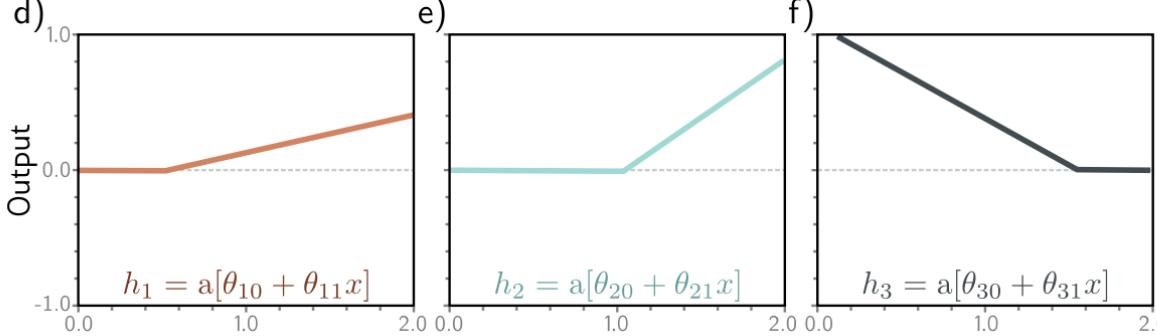
1958



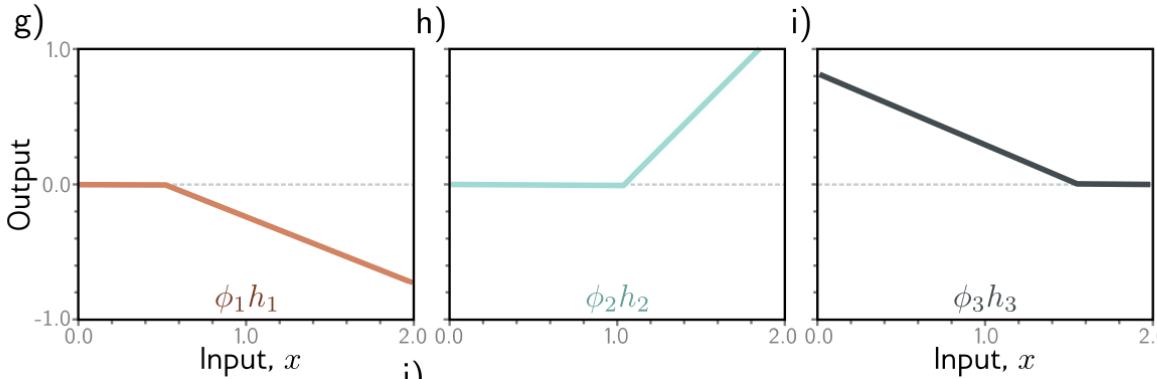
Linear function of the input



Output of the activation function



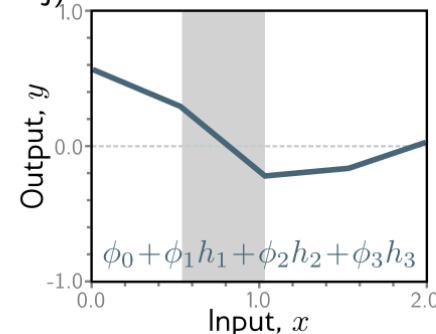
Weighted output of the activation function



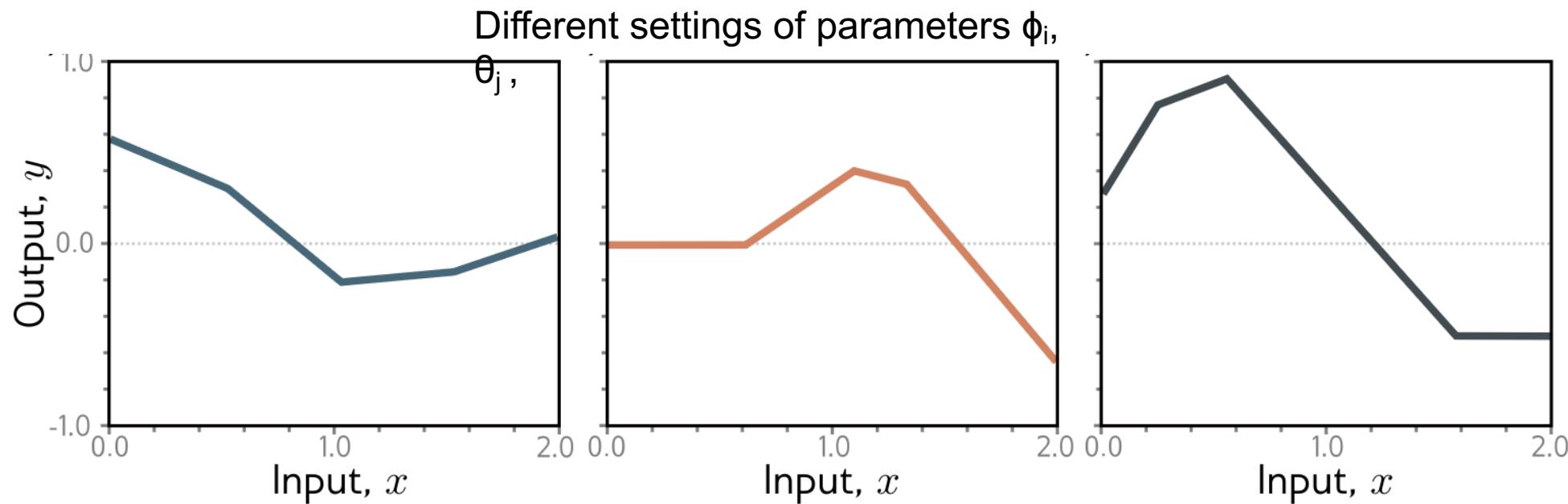
Resulting  $y = f(x, \phi)$

Piecewise linear function

Number of joints given by number of nodes  $h_i$   
DEST.

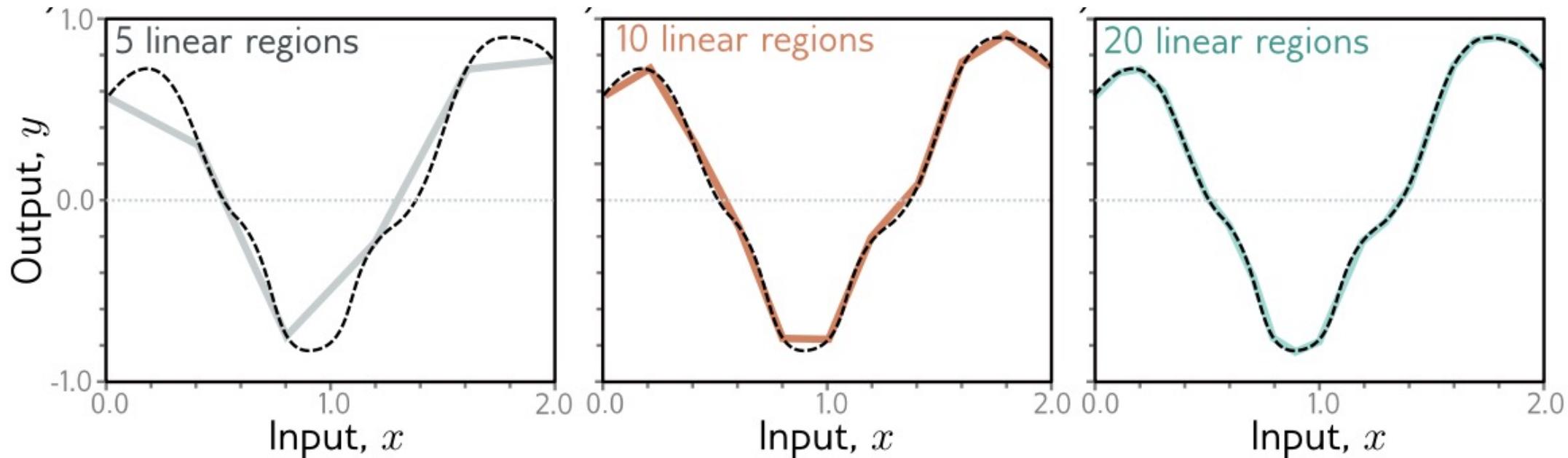


# More variability



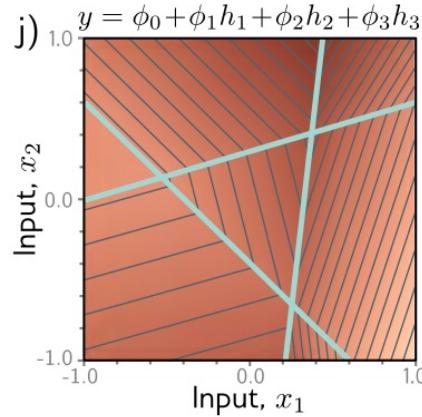
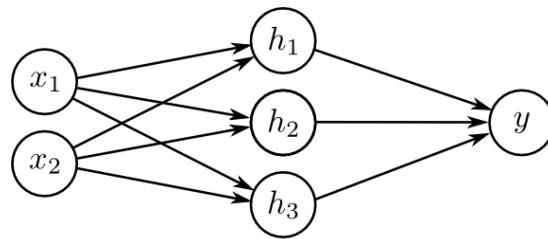
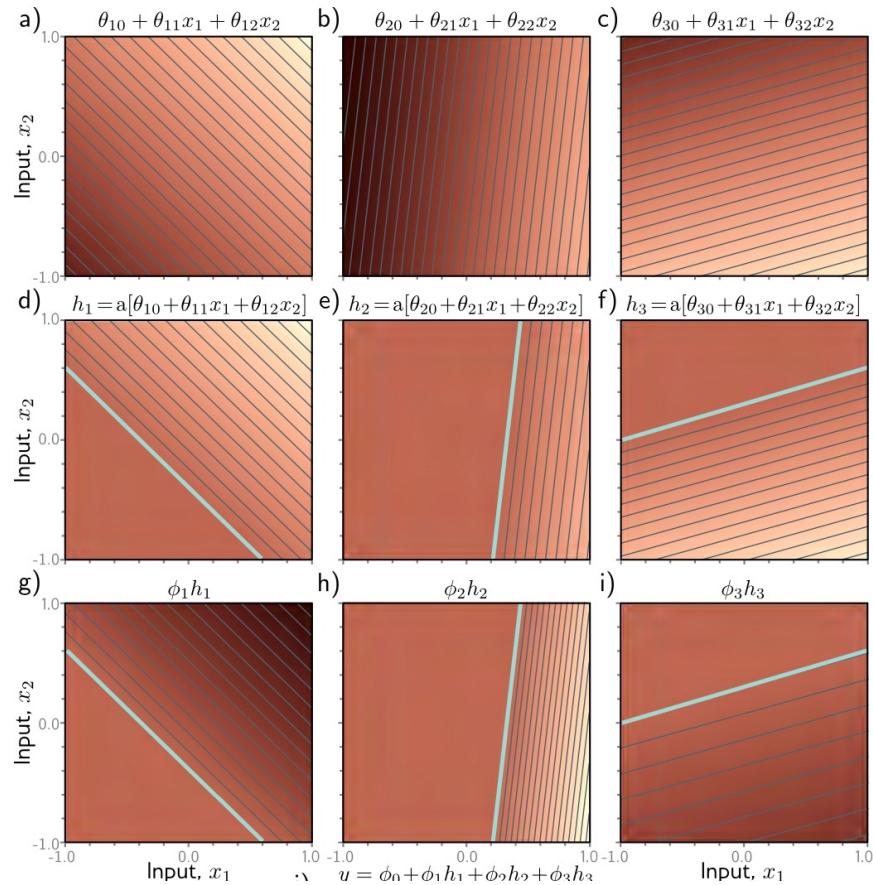
# Expanding the number of nodes

A lot to gain!

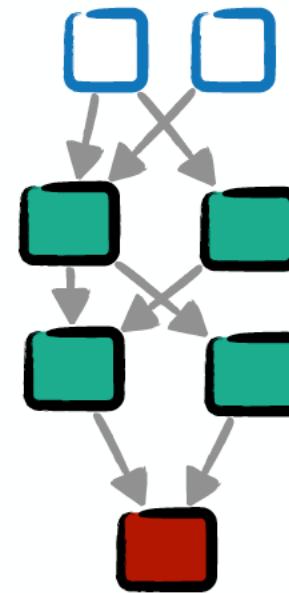
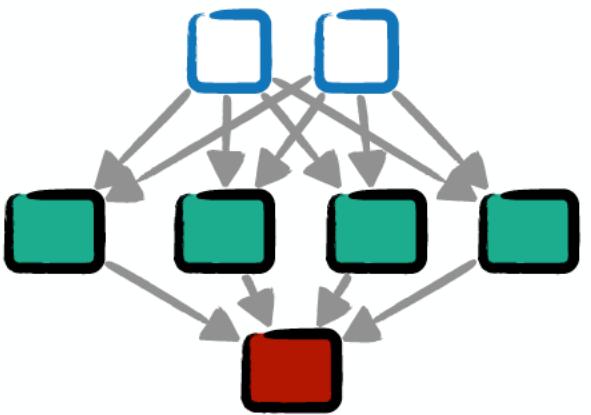


Neural networks with a single hidden layer are universal function approximators  
This also holds for multi-dimensional inputs and outputs.

# Going more complex



# Beyond single layer



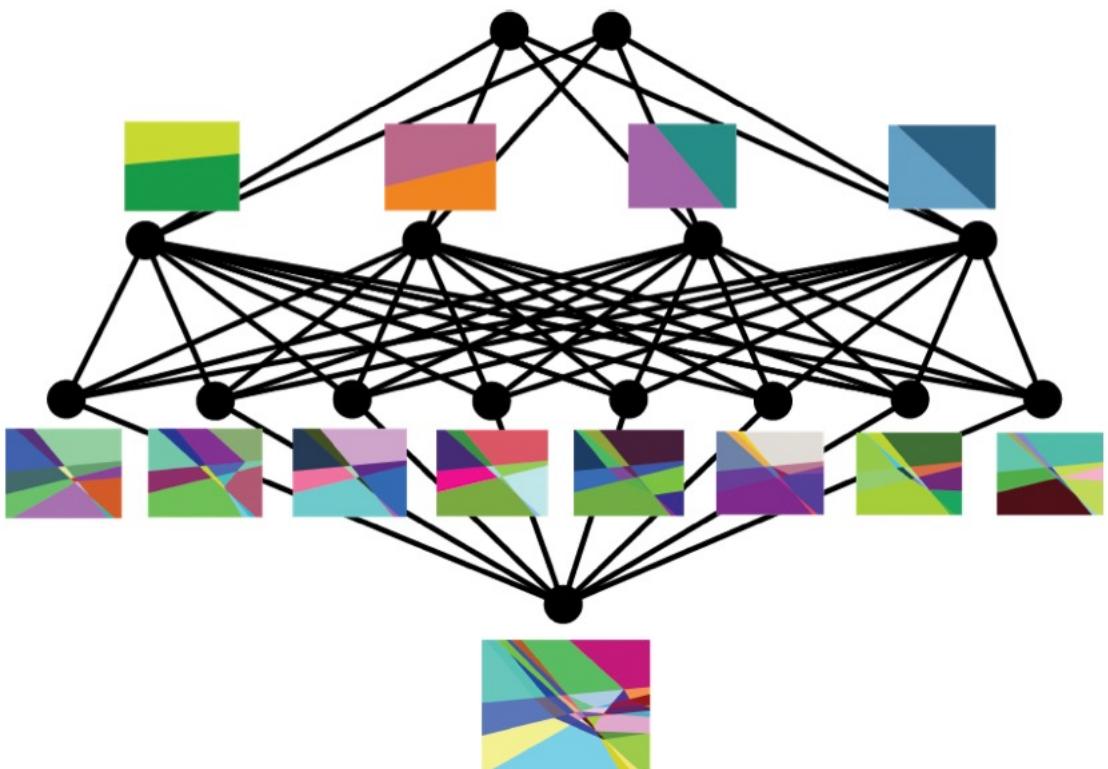
Not forbidden to stack neurons in a different way: go deep instead of wide

->opportunity to build up complex things step by step

# Wide or deep?

The relationship between expressivity of shallow networks and deep networks is an active area of research

But empirically:  
It seems that deep networks can generate complex patterns with much fewer parameters

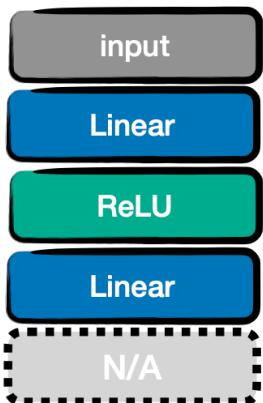


# Activation functions

UFA is achieved with any non-linear activation function, but at least for the output activation we need to be careful about the task

**Regression**

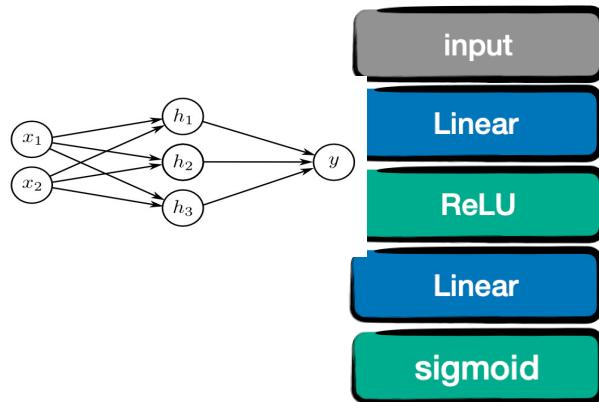
$$\mu_\phi(x) \in \mathbb{R}$$



No activation!

**Binary Classification**

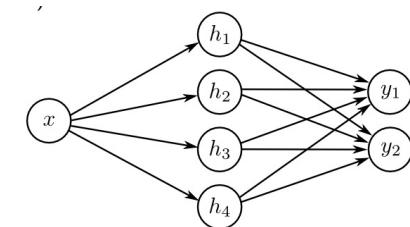
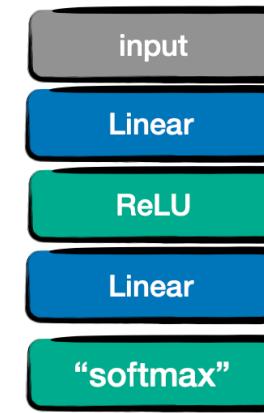
$$\theta(x) \in [0,1]$$



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

**Multi-class Classification**

$$p_i(x) \geq 0 \text{ s.t. } \sum p_i = 1$$



$$\text{softmax}(x) = \frac{e^{x_i}}{\sum_i e^{x_i}}$$

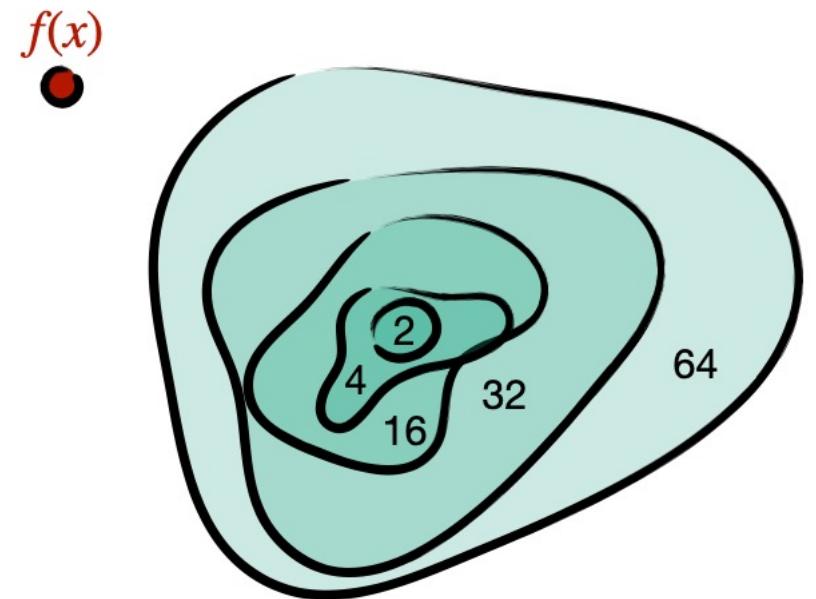
# How big should we go?

With increasing size you get a better chance that the actual algorithm you are looking for lives within the family of functions

Bias: the loss  $L(f_{\min})$  of the overall best function  $f \in \mathcal{H}$

$$f_{\min} = \langle f(x, \hat{\phi}) \rangle_D$$

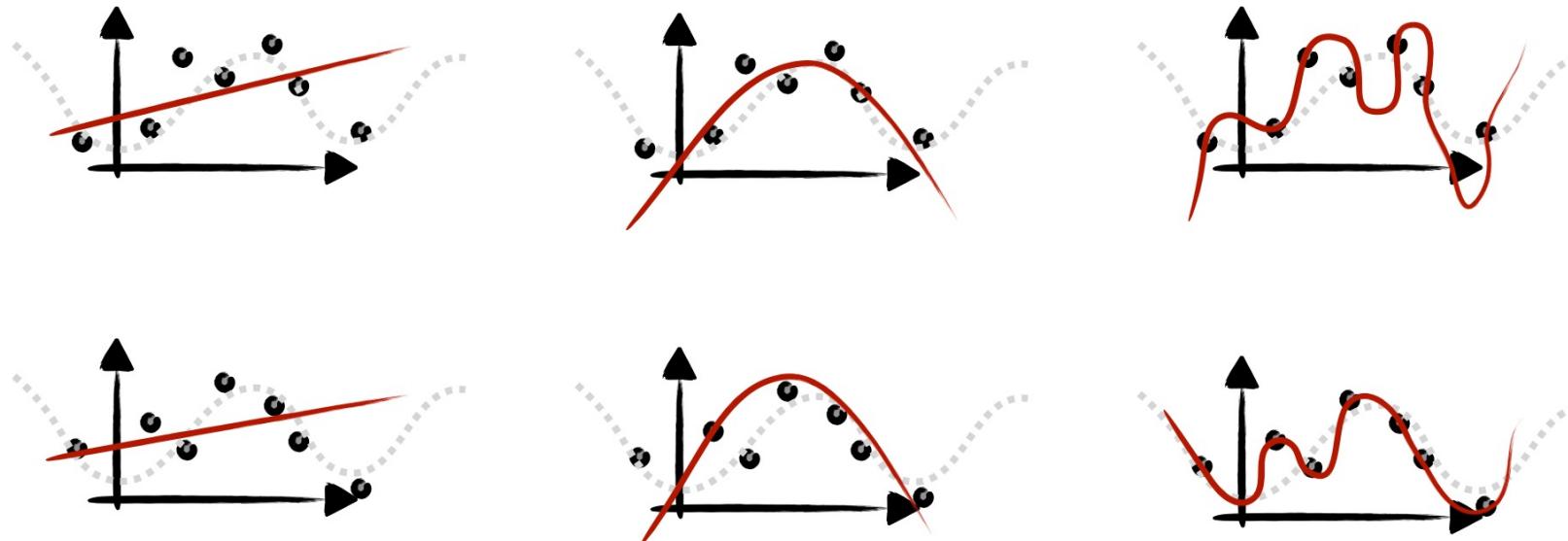
An argument to make the function family as big as possible



# But should we really....?

“With four parameters I can fit an elephant,  
and with five I can make him wiggle his  
trunk”

- John von Neumann



# No free lunch theorem of learning

- With limited data you must learn effectively, i.e. you must restrict the “hypothesis set” of functions to perform the task
- Only possible with “**inductive bias**”: constrain on the hypothesis set by adjusting the search space

# **Empirical risk minimization**

# The risk we want

In statistical learning we are interested in the **expected performance of the algorithm** on **future data**

With assumption of i.i.d. distribution of data:

$$\bar{L} = \int_S p(s)L(s, h) = \mathbb{E}_{p(s)} L(s, h)$$

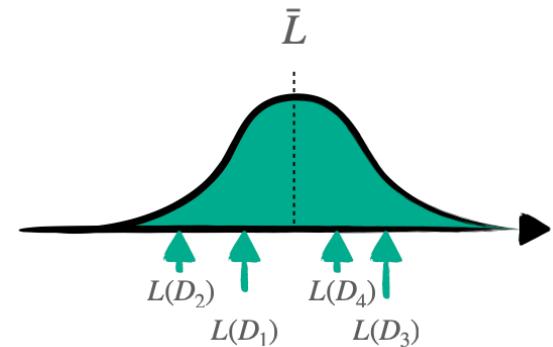
↑  
Performance of the hypothesis  
for a specific input  
↑  
Distribution of  
possible inputs

# The risk we can get

While we don't have  $p(s)$  we do have samples  $s \sim p(s)$

- We can (only) estimate the loss **empirically as a proxy!**

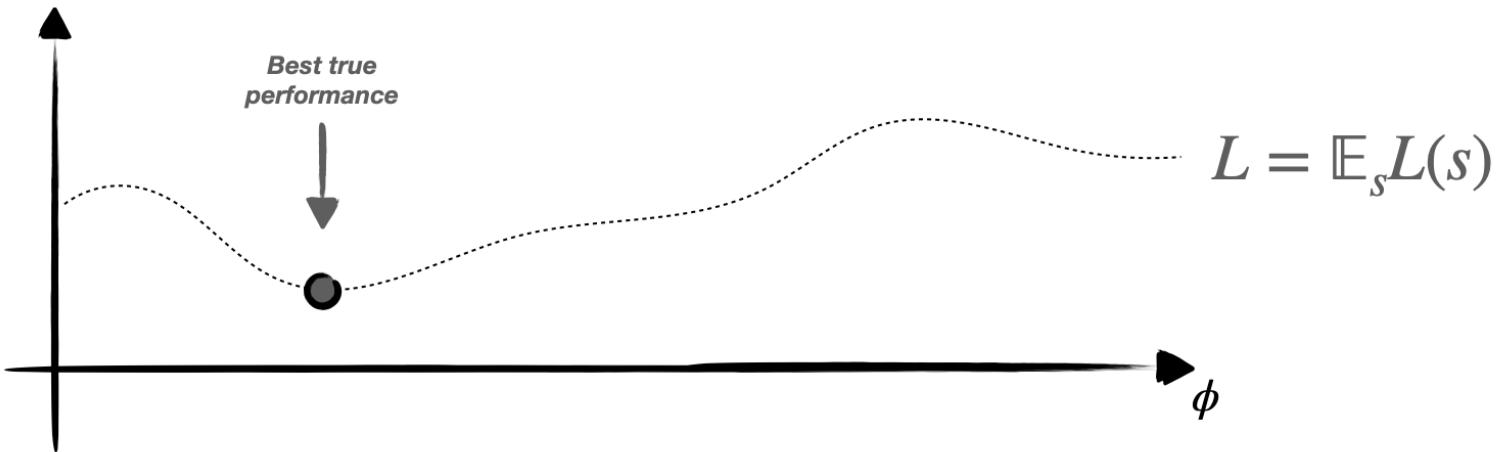
$$\bar{L} = \int_S p(s)L(s, h) \rightarrow \hat{L} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_i L(s_i, h)$$



**This difference between what we want  
and what we get has tricky  
consequences**

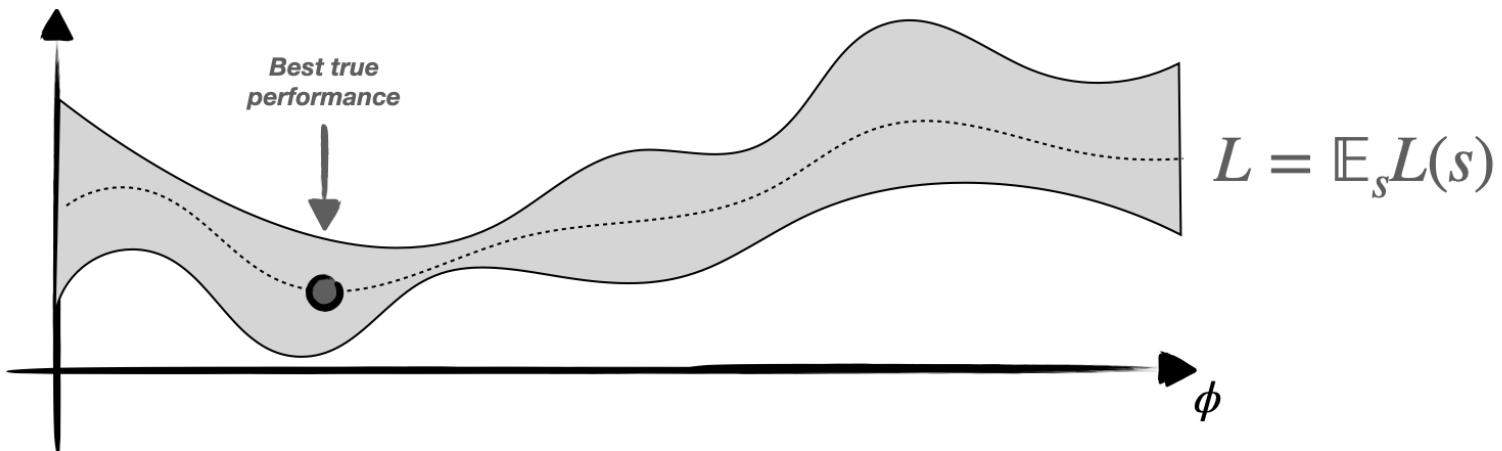
# Empirical risk minimisation

Keep in mind that this is just a proxy depending on the **training data set** we have!



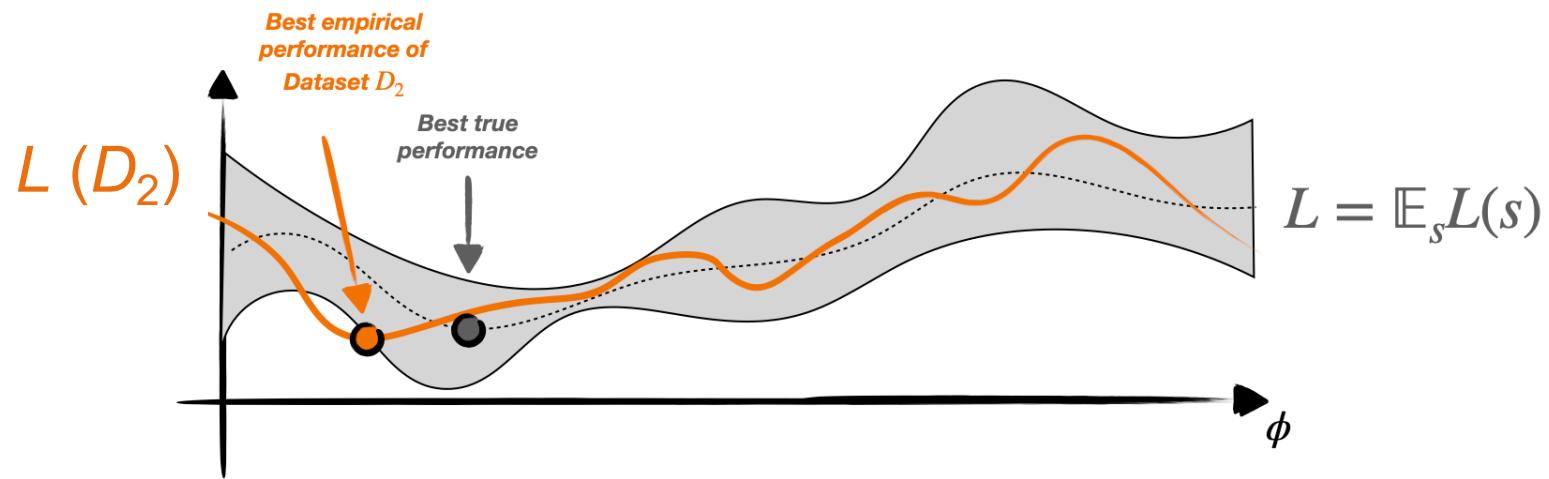
# Empirical risk minimization

Keep in mind that this is just a proxy depending on the **training data set** we have!



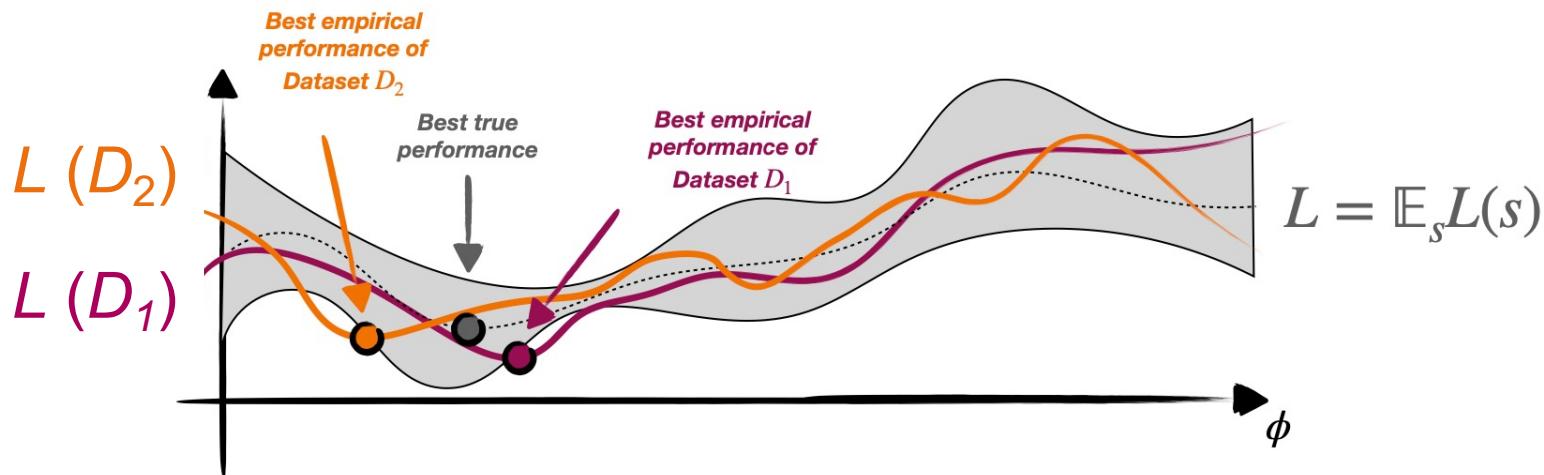
# Empirical risk minimization

Keep in mind that this is just a proxy depending on the **training data set we have!**

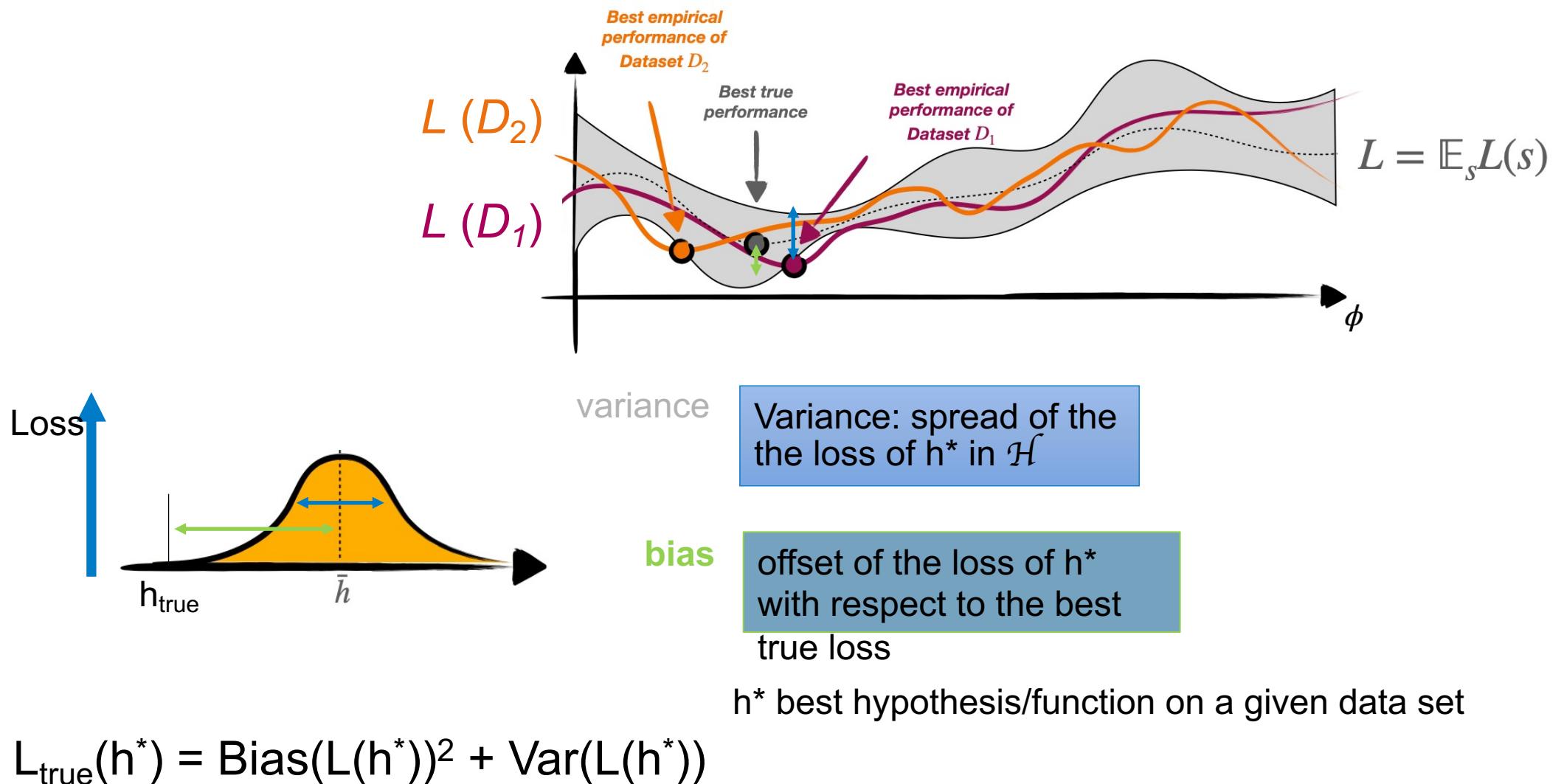


# Empirical risk minimization

Keep in mind that this is just a proxy depending on the **training data set we have!**

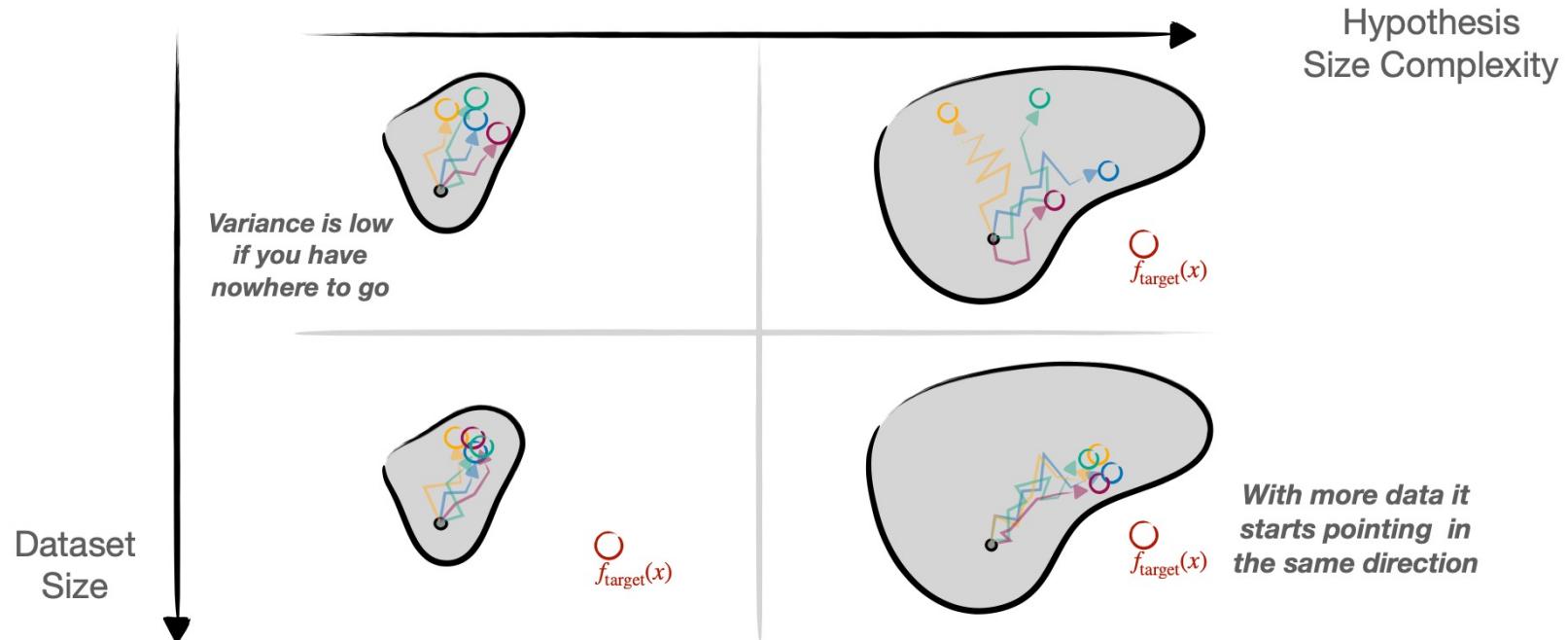


# Variance and bias



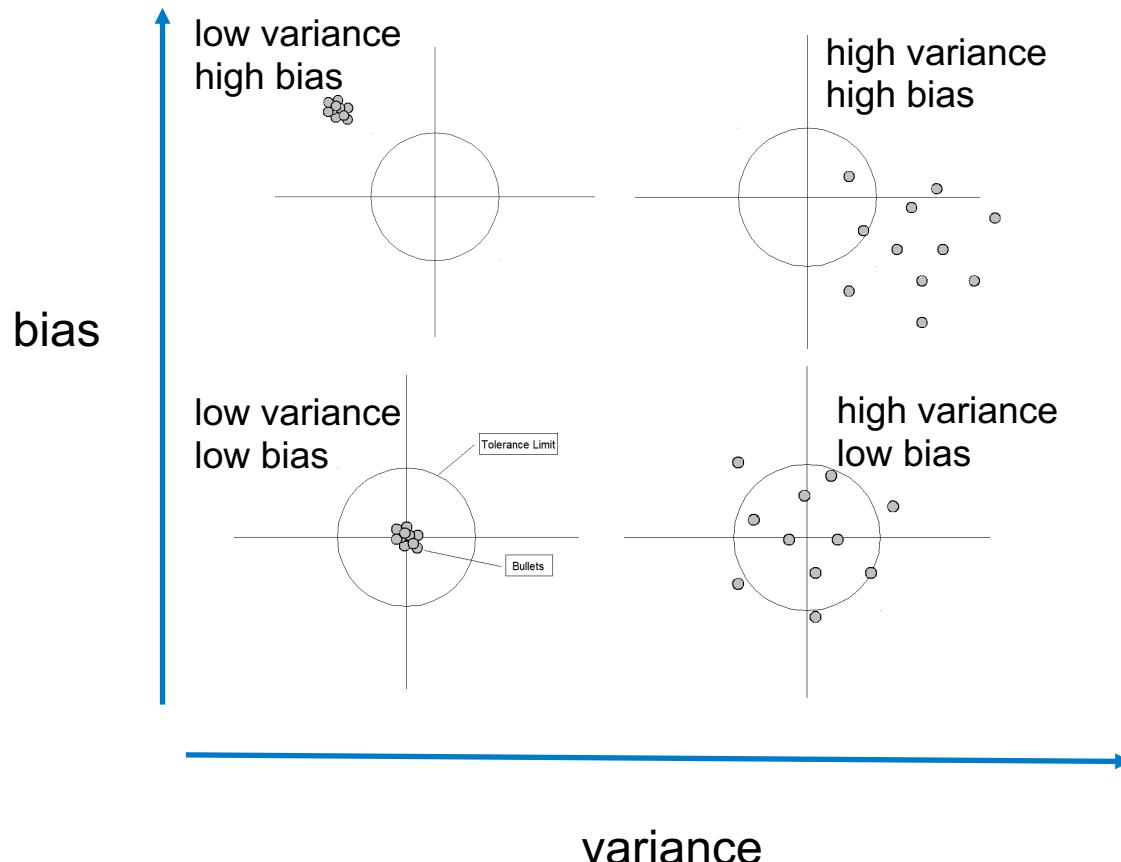
# Variance

**Increases with  $\mathcal{H}$ , decreases with  $N$**



An argument to make the hypothesis set as small as possible given the data set size

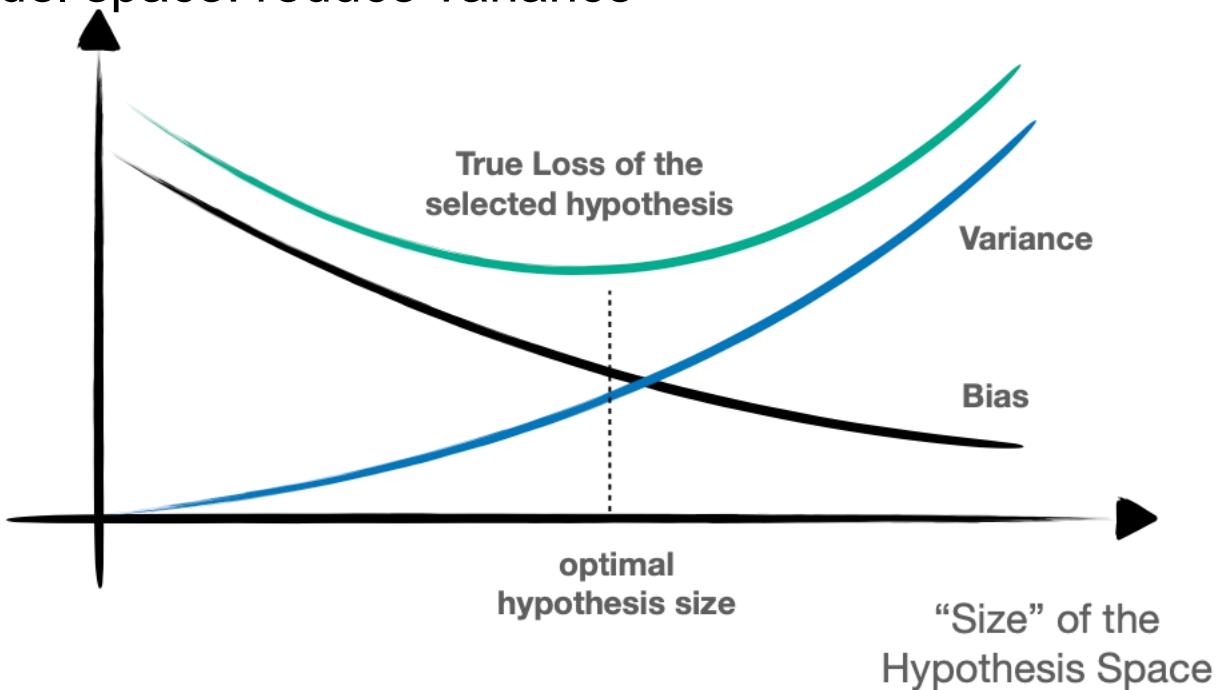
# Bias - Variance trade-off



# Bias-Variance trade off

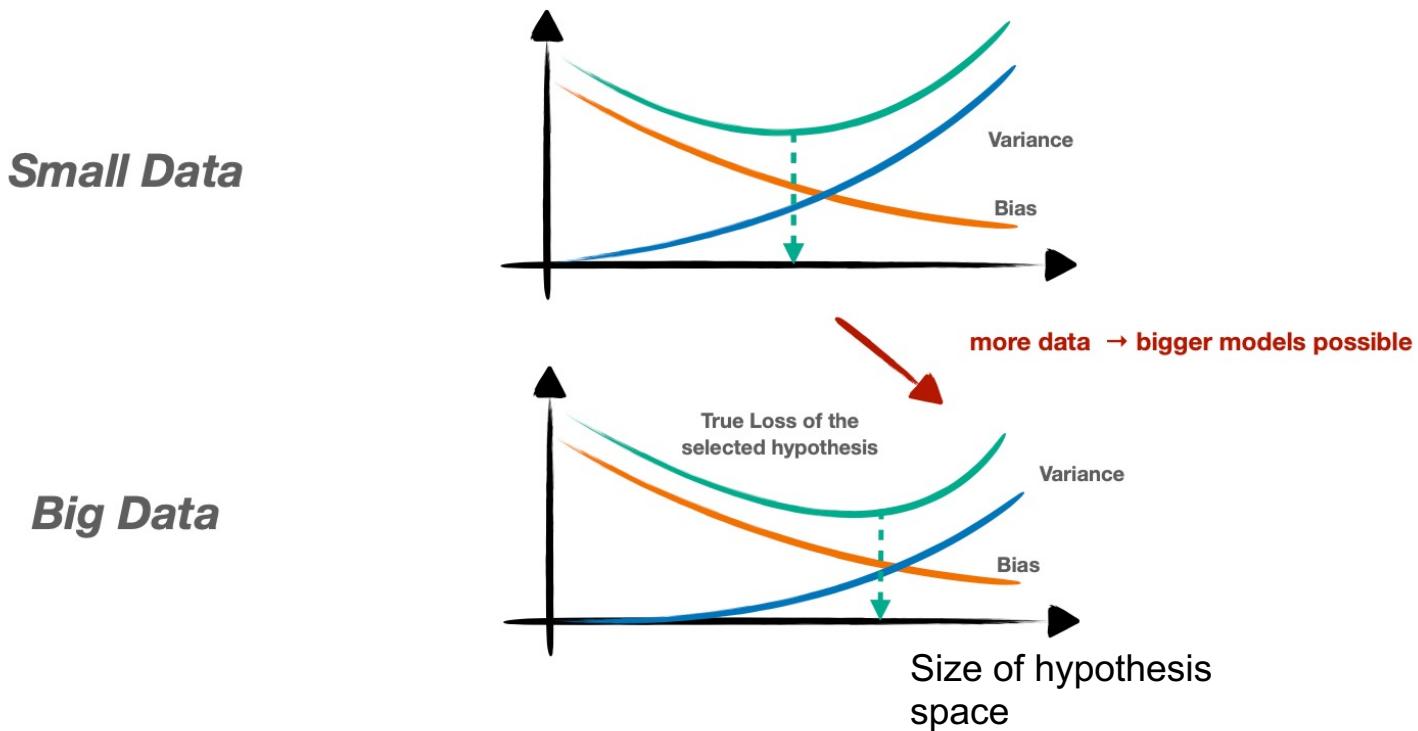
We now have two competing forces

- Make model space as big as possible: reduce bias
- Constrain the model space: reduce variance



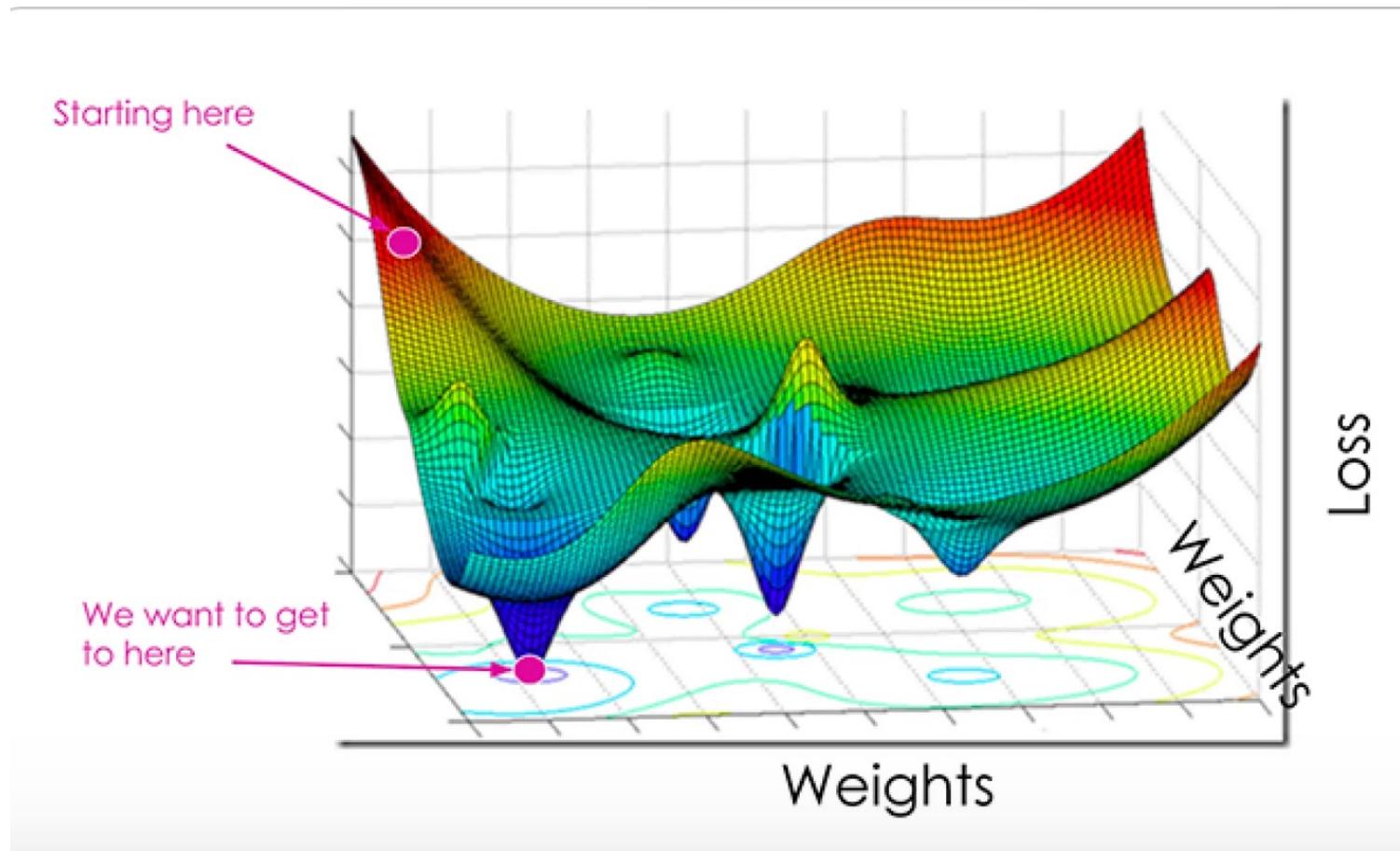
# Big networks require big data!

If you don't have enough of it, you simply cannot afford to train a billion parameter model!



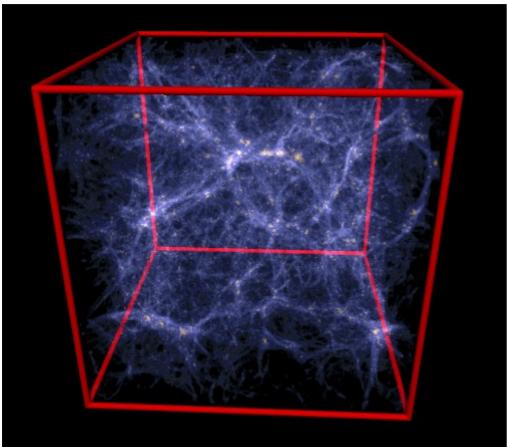
# Back-up

# Loss becomes also more complex

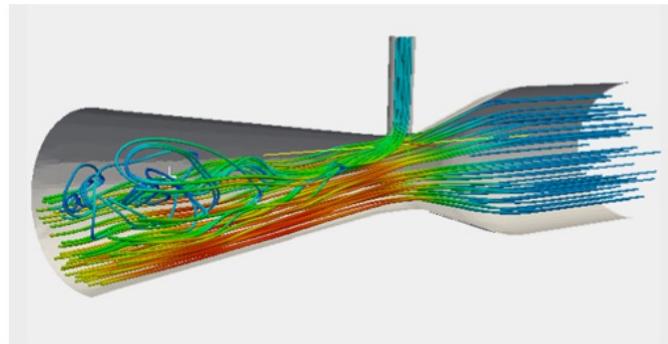


# Possible sources of labelled data

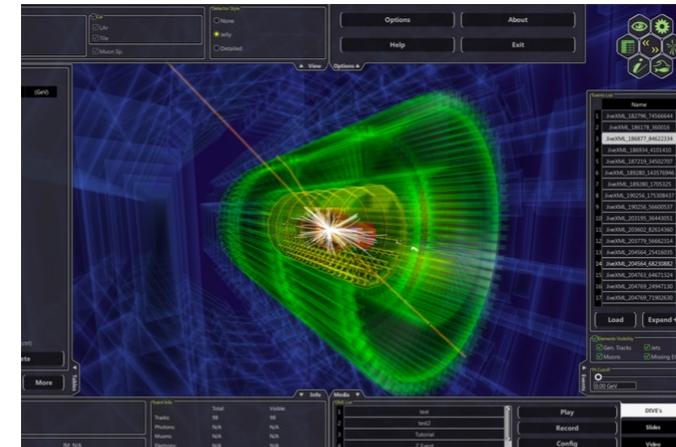
Huge advantage of ML in science: high-fidelity simulators



simulated cosmology



simulated fluid dynamics



simulated particle physics

