Neural Network Regularization Strategy

Course 3, Module 3, Lesson 5

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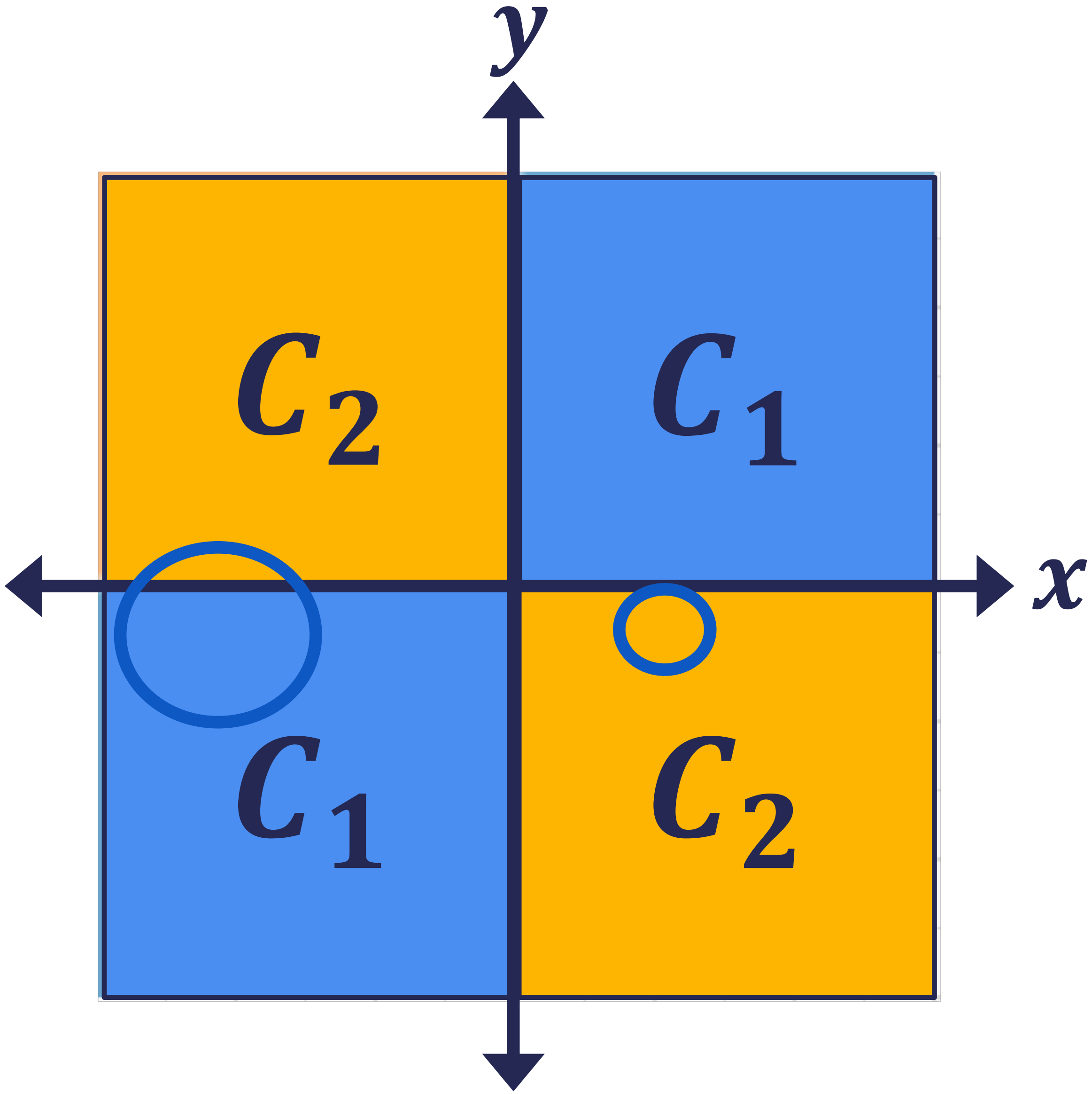
Learning Objectives

- Learn to remedy overfitting through various regularization strategies including:
  - Parameter norm penalties
  - Dropout
  - Early Stopping

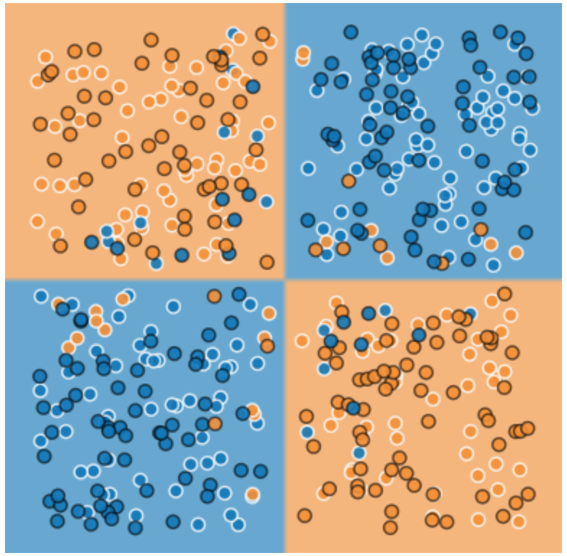
Toy Example

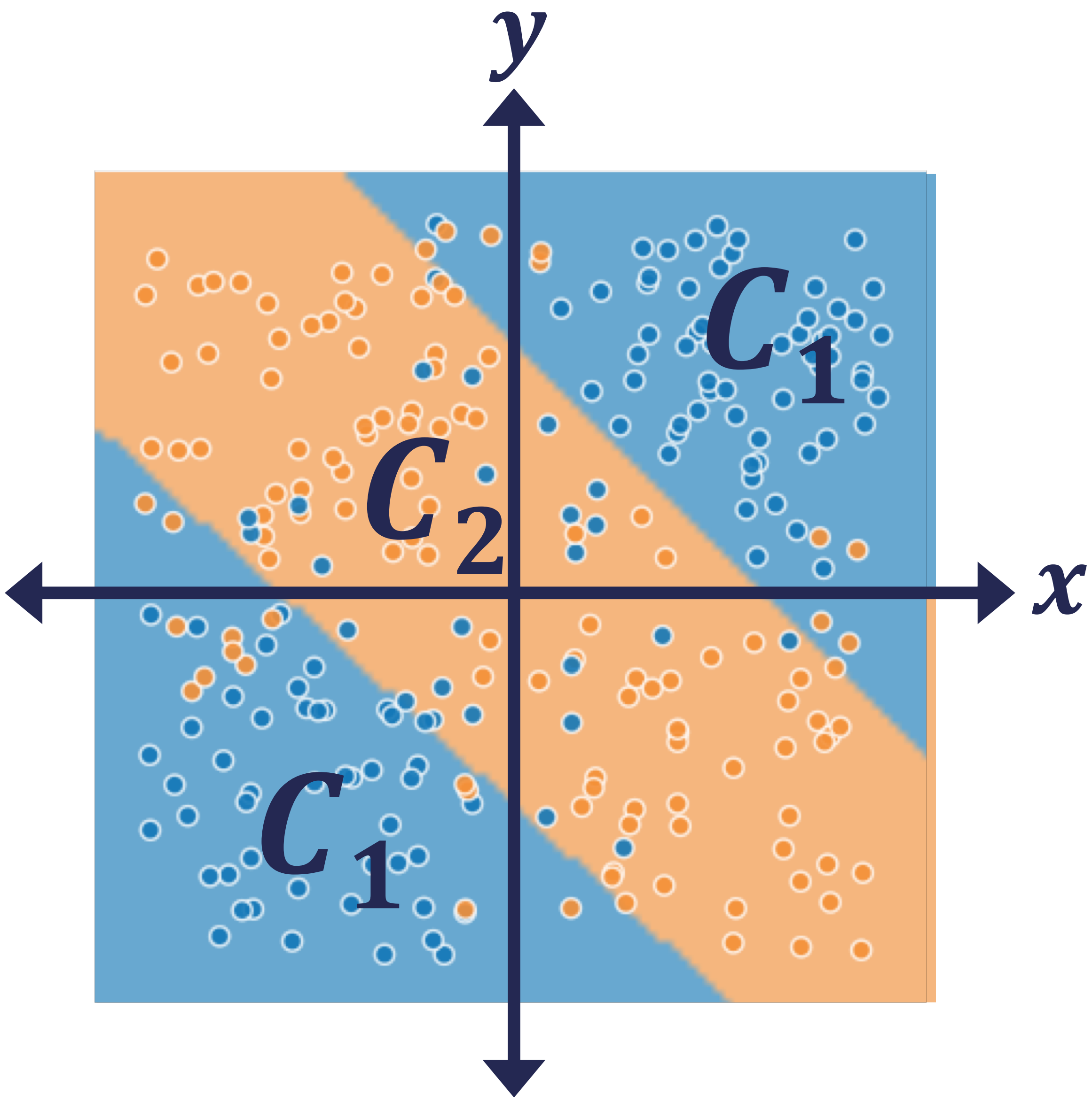


Toy Example

- **Initial Design:**
  - 1 Layer NN, 2 Hidden Units/Layer
  - **Train set Loss**: 0.264
  - **Val set Loss**: 0.268
  - **Minimum Loss achievable:** 0.1

noisy sensor data

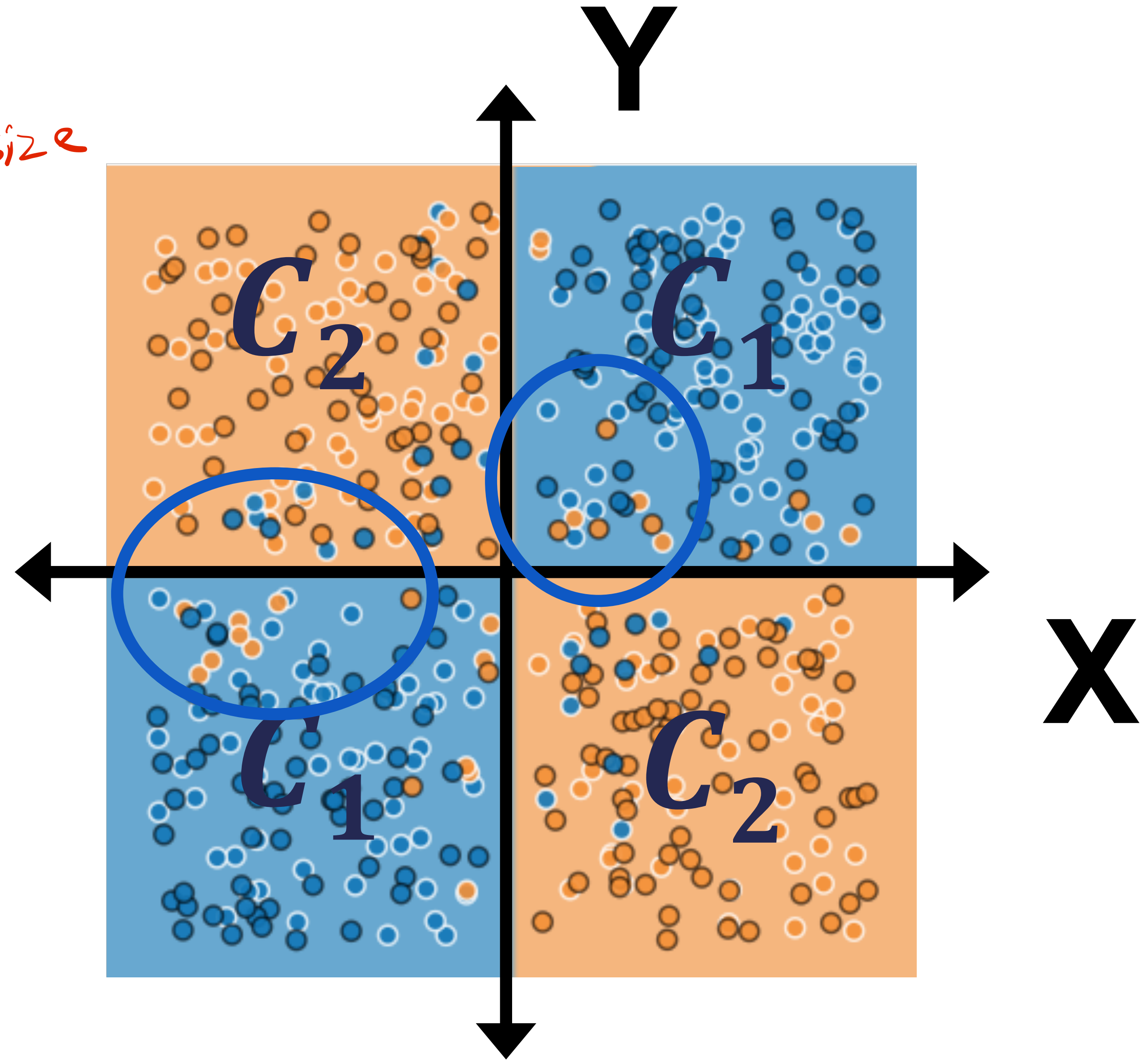




Toy Example

Increase NN size

- **New Design:**
  - 6 Layer NN, 6 Hidden Units/Layer
  - **Train set Loss**: 0.1
  - **Val set Loss**: 0.45
  - **Minimum Loss achievable:** 0.1



Parameter Norm Penalties

$$J(\theta)_{reg} = J(\theta) + \alpha\Omega(\theta)$$

- α is a **hyperparameter** that weights the relative contribution of the norm penalty to the value of the loss function
- $\Omega(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ is a measure of how large $\boldsymbol{\theta}$'s value is, usually an **Lp Norm**
- We usually only constrain the size of **weights** and not biases

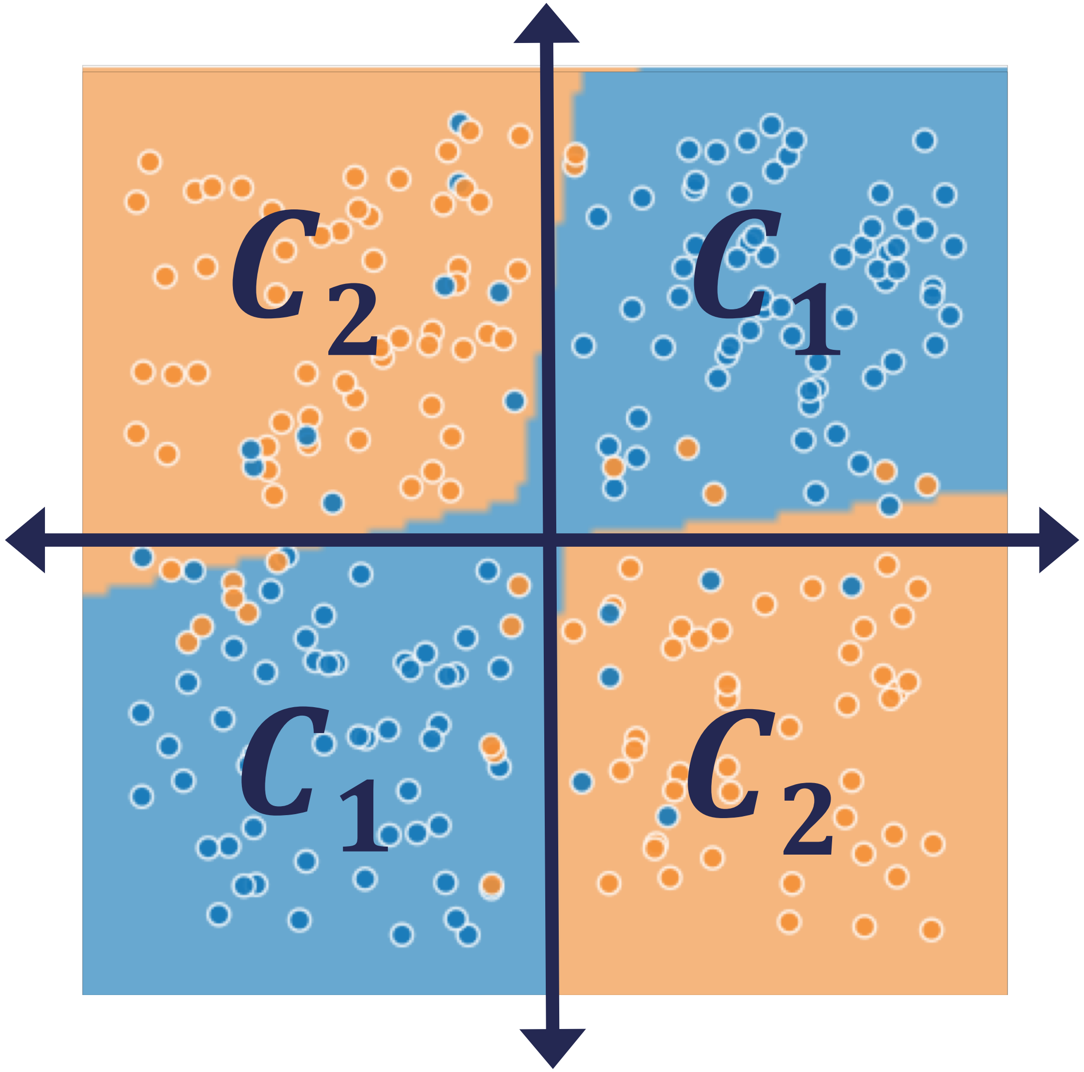
weights >> # biases

$$J(\theta)_{reg} = J(\theta) + \alpha\Omega(W)$$

L2-Norm Parameter Penalty

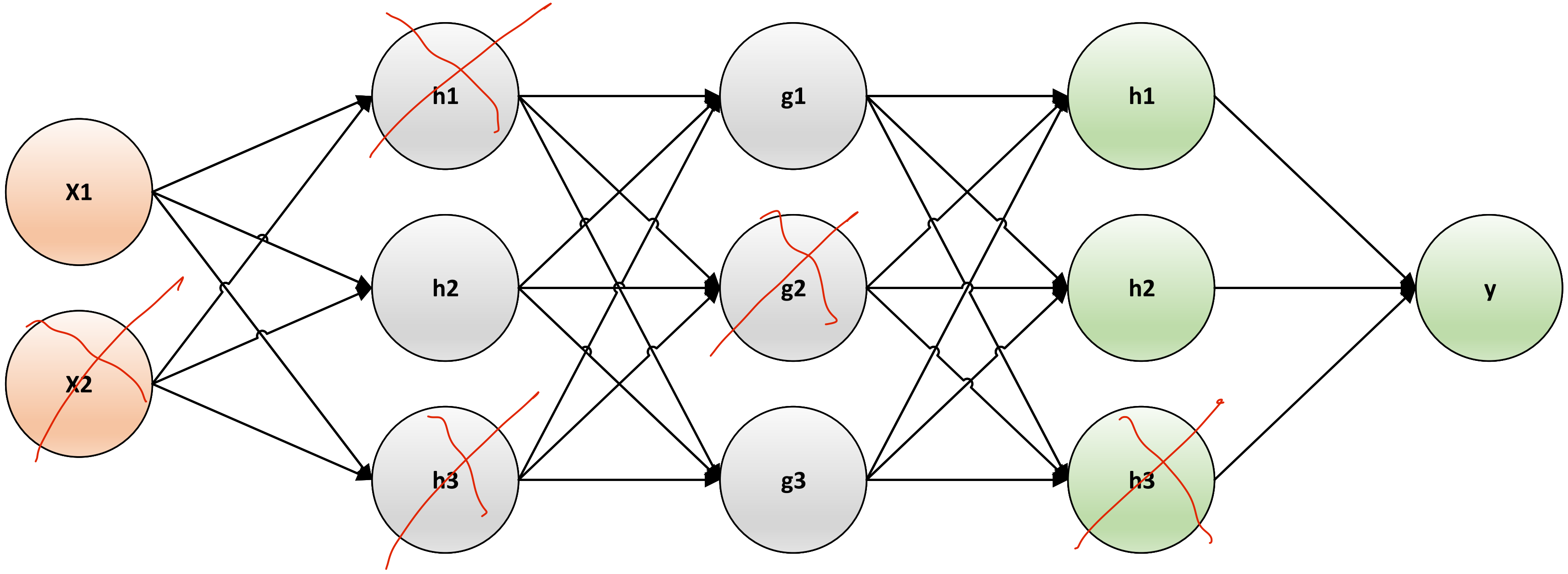
$$\Omega(W) = \frac{1}{2}W^T W = \frac{1}{2}\|W\|_2^2$$

- **New Design:**
  - 6 Layer NN, 6 Hidden Units/Layer
  - **Minimum Loss achievable:** 0.1
  - L2-Norm Penalty
  - **Train set Loss**: 0.1 0.176
  - **Val set Loss**: 0.45 0.182



Dropout

Multiply **Weights** by P_{keep} at the end of training



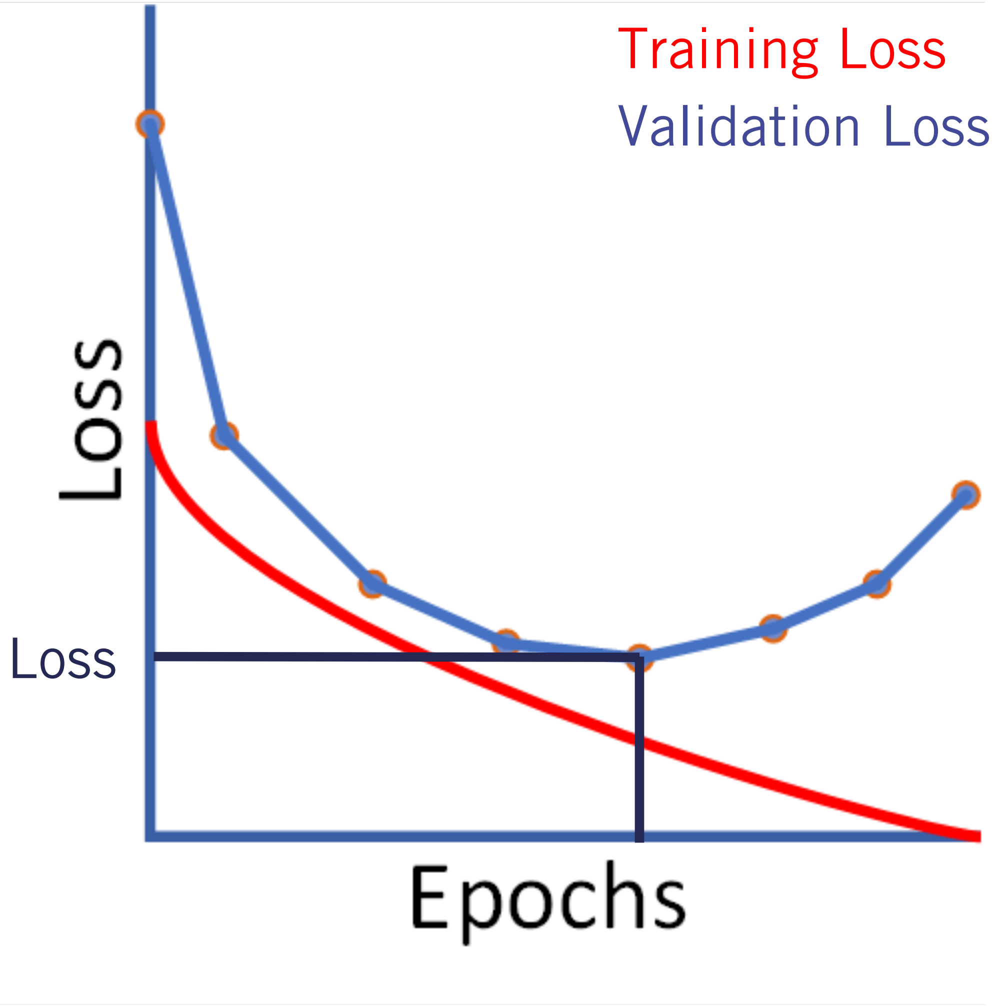
$$P_{keep} = 0.5$$

Dropout

- Computationally inexpensive but powerful regularization method
- Does not significantly limit the type of model or training procedure that can be used
- Dropout layers are practically implemented in all neural network libraries !

dense feedforward NN layers

Early Stopping



Lowest Validation Loss

Summary

- Regularization methods are used when the neural network exhibits signs of overfitting
- For more information about regularization, check the provided additional resources
- http://www.deeplearningbook.org/contents/regularization.html

- **Next: Convolutional Neural Networks**