

# 15-780 – Graduate Artificial Intelligence: Neural networks

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# Recap of supervised ML

- Hypothesis function

~~h<sub>θ</sub>(x) = θ<sup>T</sup>x~~

$$h_{\theta}(x) = \theta^T x \quad \Rightarrow \quad \text{MLP}$$

- Loss functions → cross entropy for classification

- Optimization → GD → SGD → variants like Adam

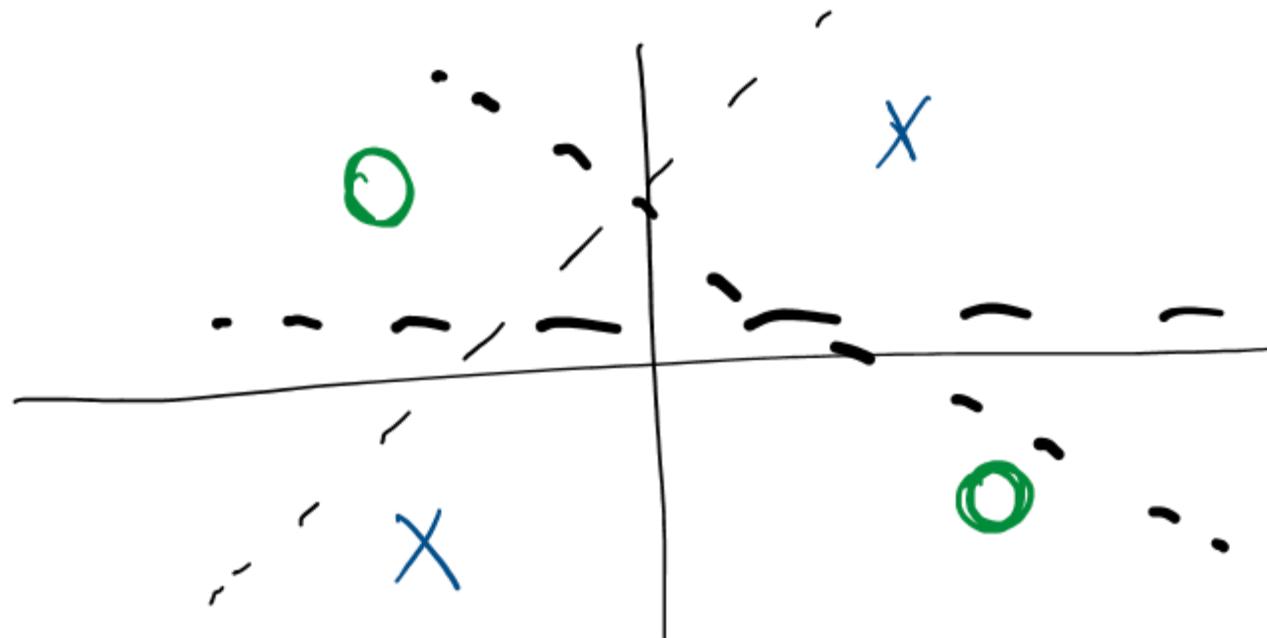
# Linear classifiers

$$h_{\theta}(x) = \theta^T \underbrace{\phi(x)}_{\text{diff features of } x}$$

$$= \theta^T \underbrace{\phi(x)}_{\text{carefully crafted features}}$$

# Linear classifiers: XOR?

→ Minsky



Linear classifier  $\rightarrow$  “feature” learning

$$h_{\theta}(x) = \theta^T \underbrace{x}_{\text{new featurization}}$$

$$= \theta^T \underbrace{\phi(x)}_{\text{“hand-crafted”}}$$

→ Vision : SIFT, HOG features

→ kernels

Goal: learn features as well!

# First attempt at feature learning

Goal: learn features

original input in  $\mathbb{R}^n$

$$\phi: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d \text{ linear}$$

$$h_\theta(x) = \theta^T \phi(x) \quad \theta \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}$$

$$\phi(x) = \theta^T x$$

$$\left[ h_\theta(x) = \theta_1^T \theta_2^T x \right] \rightarrow \begin{matrix} \text{features are} \\ \text{linear} \end{matrix}$$

$$h_\theta(x) = \tilde{\theta}^T x$$

## Second attempt

Takeway: need non-linearity

$$\phi(x) = \sigma(\theta_2^T x)$$

$$h_\theta(x) = \theta_1^T \sigma(\theta_2^T x)$$

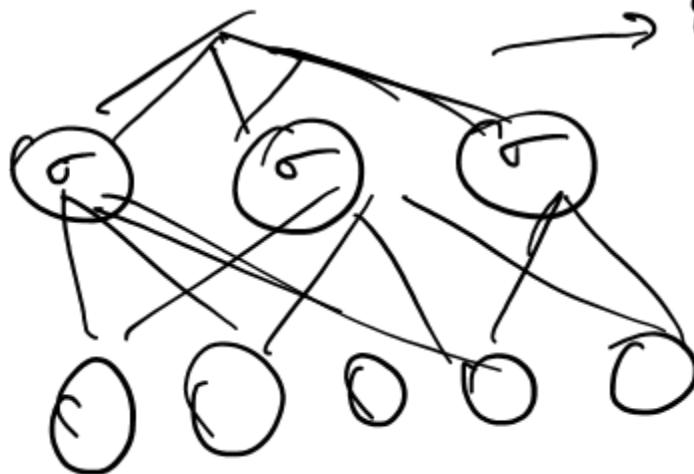
$\sigma$ : non-linearity



activation fn

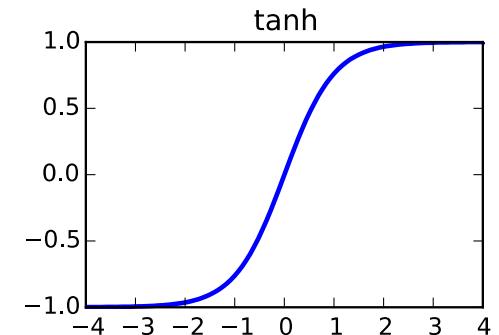
$\rightarrow \theta_1$  layer

$\theta_2^T x$  layer

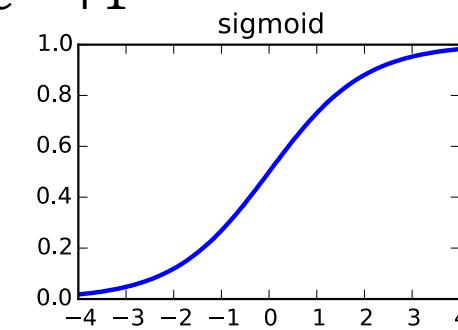


# Activation functions

**Hyperbolic tangent:**  $f(x) = \tanh(x) = \frac{e^{2x}-1}{e^{2x}+1}$

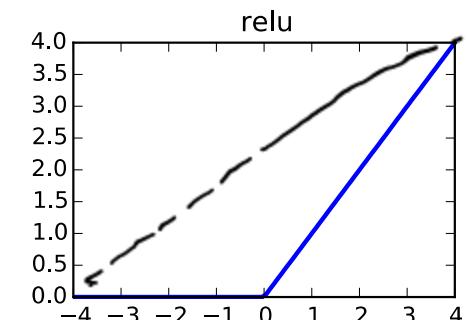


**Sigmoid:**  $f(x) = \sigma(x) = \frac{1}{1+e^{-x}}$



**Rectified linear unit (ReLU):**  $f(x) = \max\{x, 0\}$

off when  $x < 0$   
 $x$  when  $x \geq 0$



## XOR example

$$h_\theta(x) = \theta_1^T \sigma(\theta_2^T x)$$

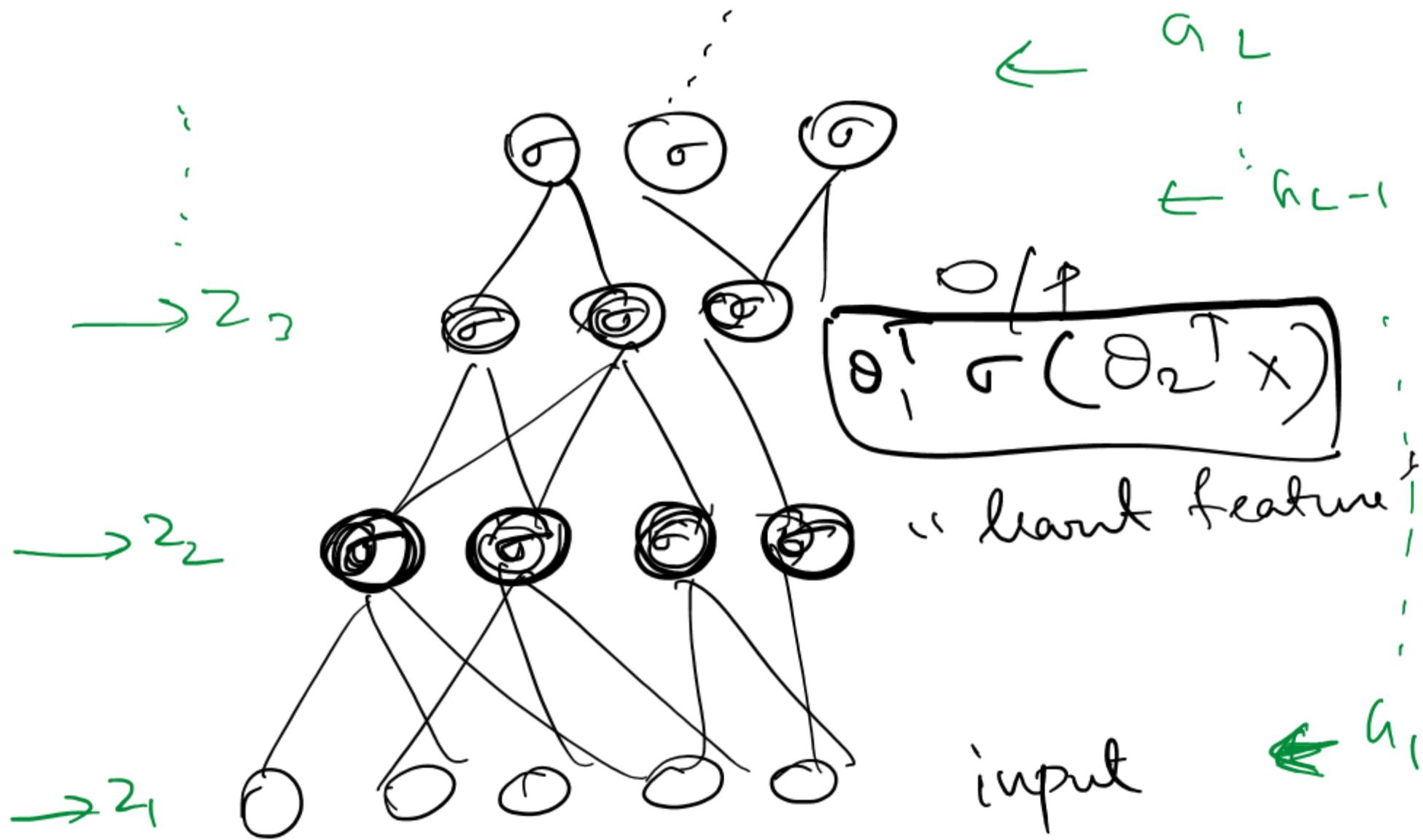
$\sigma$ : ReLU



XOR:  $\text{ReLU}(x_1 - x_2) + \text{ReLU}(x_2 - x_1)$



$x_1$	$x_2$	$y$
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	0



# “Deep” neural networks

- Multi-layer perceptron

repeat the “hidden computation”

$$h_{\theta}(x) = w_L^T (\sigma(w_{L-1}^T \sigma(\dots w_2^T \sigma(w_1^T x))))$$

parameters “ $\theta$ ”:

$$\{w_1, w_2, \dots, w_L\}$$

$$h_{\theta}(x) = w_2^T [\sigma(w_1^T x)]$$

→ Fully connected network, feed-forward network

# Universal function approximation

**Theorem (1D case):** Given any smooth function  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , closed region  $\mathcal{D} \subset \mathbb{R}$ , and  $\epsilon > 0$ , we can construct a one-hidden-layer neural network  $\hat{f}$  such that

$$\max_{x \in \mathcal{D}} |f(x) - \hat{f}(x)| \leq \epsilon$$

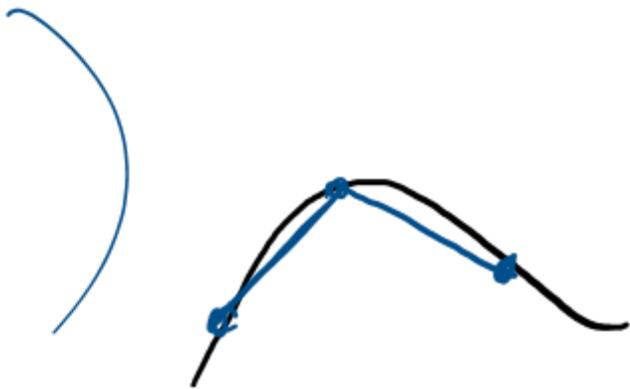
**Proof:** Select some dense sampling of points  $(x^{(i)}, f(x^{(i)}))$  over  $\mathcal{D}$ . Create a neural network that passes exactly through these points (see below). Because the neural network function is piecewise linear, and the function  $f$  is smooth, by choosing the  $x^{(i)}$  close enough together, we can approximate the function arbitrarily closely.

$$h(x) = \text{ReLU}(x - a)$$

# Universal function approximation

Assume one-hidden-layer ReLU network:

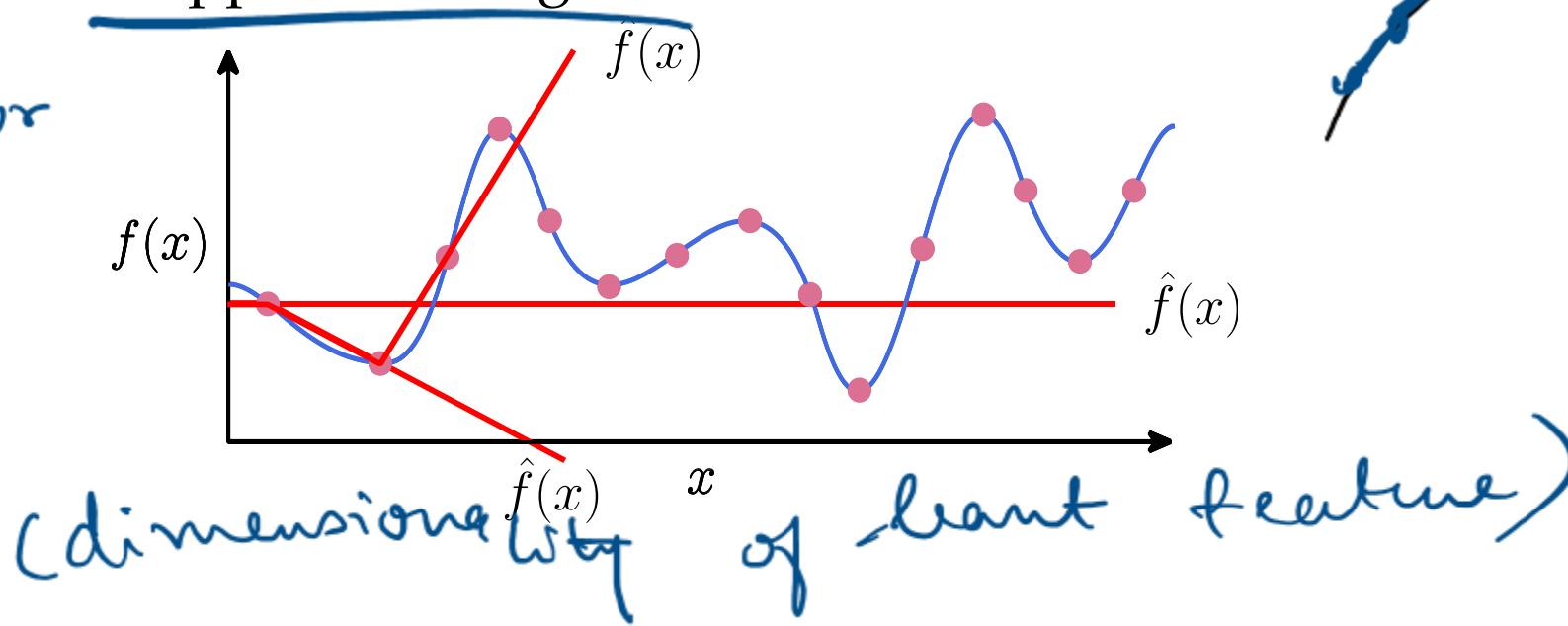
$$\hat{f}(x) = \sum_{i=1}^d \pm \max\{0, w_i x + b_i\}$$



Visual construction of approximating function.

# of points  
"kinks" or

= # hidden  
units



# Backpropagation

For SGD or variants, we need to compute **gradients of the loss** with respect to weights (parameters)

# The gradient (recap)

A key concept in solving optimization problems is the notation of the gradient of a function (multi-variate analogue of derivative)

**Derivative:**  $f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x + h) - f(x)}{h}$

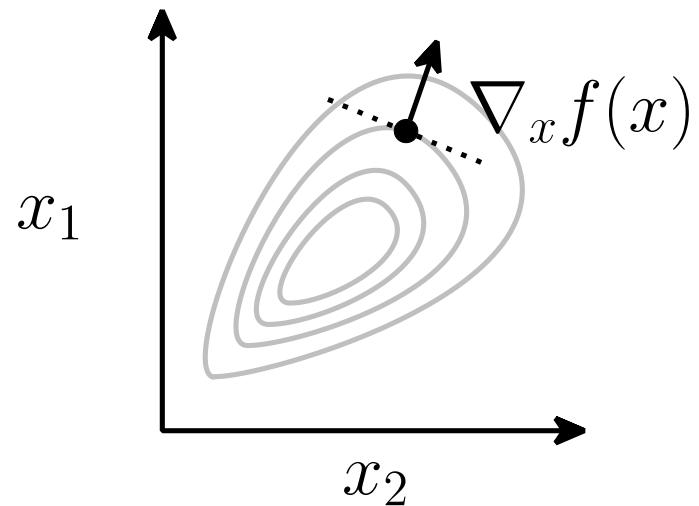
**Partial derivative:** A partial derivative of a function of several variables is derivative with respect to one of those variables with rest constant

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x + h\mathbf{e}_i) - f(x)}{h}$$

# The gradient (recap)

For  $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , gradient is defined as vector of partial derivatives

$$\nabla_x f(x) \in \mathbb{R}^n = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x_1} \\ \frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x_2} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix}$$



Points in “steepest direction” of increase in function  $f$

Chain Rule:

$$\frac{\partial f(g(x))}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial f(g(x))}{\partial g(x)} \cdot \frac{\partial g(x)}{\partial x}$$

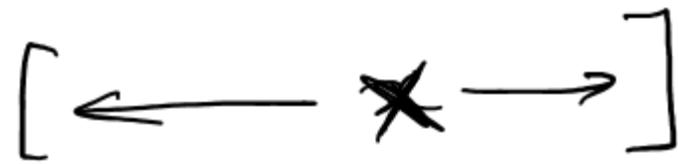
$$(3x+2)^2$$

$$g(x) = 3x+2$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial f(g(x))}{\partial x} &= 2g(x) \cdot \frac{\partial g(x)}{\partial x} \\ &= 2(3x+2) \cdot 3\end{aligned}$$

## Deep network notation

Single data point (row vector)  $1 \times d_0$



Input :  $X = z_0 \in \mathbb{R}$

Intermediate layer :  $z_{i+1} = \sigma(z_i; w_i)$

$\in \mathbb{R}$

$\in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times d_{i+1}}$

$\in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times d_i}$

$\in \mathbb{R}^{d_i \times d_{i+1}}$

Output :  $h_\theta(x) = z_{L+1} \in \mathbb{R}$

Loss :  $l(z_{L+1}, y)$  : crossentropy ( $z_{L+1}, y$ )

$$z_{i+1} = \sigma(z_i w_i)$$

$$h_\theta(x) = z_L$$

$$\frac{\partial l(h_\theta(x), y)}{\partial w_i} = \frac{\partial l(z_{L+1}, y)}{\partial w_i}$$

chain  
rule

$$= \frac{\partial l}{\partial z_{L+1}} \cdot \frac{\partial z_{L+1}}{\partial z_L} \cdot \dots \cdot \frac{\partial z_{i+2}}{\partial z_i} \cdot \frac{\partial z_{i+1}}{\partial w_i}$$

$$\frac{\partial l(z_{l+1}, y)}{\partial w_{i-1}} = \underbrace{\frac{\partial l}{\partial z_{l+1}}}_{\text{green line}} \cdot \underbrace{\frac{\partial z_{l+1}}{\partial z_L} \cdots \frac{\partial z_{i+2}}{\partial z_i}}_{\text{green line}} \cdot \underbrace{\frac{\partial z_i}{\partial w_{i-1}}}_{\text{green line}}$$

$$\frac{\partial l(z_{l+1}, y)}{\partial w_i} = \underbrace{\frac{\partial l}{\partial z_{l+1}}}_{\text{green line}} \cdot \underbrace{\frac{\partial z_{l+1}}{\partial z_L} \cdots \frac{\partial z_{i+2}}{\partial z_i}}_{\text{green line}} \cdot \underbrace{\frac{\partial z_i}{\partial w_i}}_{\text{green line}}$$

avoid repeated computations

$$\frac{\partial l(z_{l+1}, y)}{\partial z_i} = \epsilon_{i+1}$$

$$g_i = \frac{\partial l(z_{l+1}, y)}{\partial w_i} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_i \times d_{i+1}}$$

$z_i \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times d_i}$   
 $z_{i+1} \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times d_{i+1}}$   
 $w_i \in \mathbb{R}^{d_i \times d_{i+1}}$

$$\frac{\partial l(z_{l+1}, y)}{\partial z_i} = \frac{\partial l(z_{l+1}, y)}{\partial z_{i+1}} \cdot \frac{\partial z_{i+1}}{\partial z_i} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_{i+1} \times d_i}$$

$\downarrow$   
 $\in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times d_{i+1}}$

$$g_i = (g_{i+1} \odot \sigma'(z_i w_i)) w_i^T \in \mathbb{R}^{d_{i+1} \times d_i}$$

$\underbrace{g_{i+1} \odot \sigma'(z_i w_i)}_{\in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times d_{i+1}}}$

Backward iteration

$\odot$ : element wise product

$$g_i = \frac{\partial l(z_{L+1}, y)}{\partial z_i}$$

$$g_i = g_{i+1} \odot \sigma'(z_i w_i) \cdot w_i^T$$

$\frac{\partial l(z_{L+1}, y)}$  : a bit tricky to derive from first principles

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial w_i}$$

"Hack": write down different terms from chain rule and make dimensions match

$$\frac{\partial l(z_{L+1}, y)}{\partial w_i} = \frac{\partial l(z_{L+1}, y)}{\partial z_{i+1}} \cdot \frac{\partial z_{i+1}}{\partial w_i}$$

$$\begin{matrix} R & \xrightarrow{d_i \times d_{i+1}} & g_{i+1} & \xrightarrow{1 \times d_{i+1}} & \sigma'(z_i w_i) & \xrightarrow{1 \times d_i} & z_i & \xrightarrow{1 \times d_i} & R \end{matrix}$$

$$\frac{\partial l}{\partial w_i} = (z_i)^T \left( G_{i+1} \odot \sigma'(z_i w_i) \right)$$

$\downarrow d_i \times 1$        $\downarrow \mathbb{R}$        $\downarrow \mathbb{R}^{1 \times d_{i+1}}$   
 $\mathbb{R}$

Batched version: m samples at a time independently (talk more in Lec 9)

$$G_i = G_{i+1} \odot \sigma'(z_i w_i) w_i^T$$

$\downarrow m \times d_{i+1}$        $\downarrow d_{i+1} \times d_i$   
 $\mathbb{R}^{m \times d_{i+1}}$        $\mathbb{R}$

$$\frac{\partial l}{\partial w_i} = (z_i)^T \left( G_{i+1} \odot \sigma'(z_i w_i) \right)$$

$\downarrow d_i \times m$        $\downarrow \mathbb{R}^{m \times d_{i+1}}$   
 $\mathbb{R}^{d_i \times m}$        $\mathbb{R}$

$z_i \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d_i}$   
 $G_i \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d_i}$

$\left[ \begin{array}{c} z_i^{(1)} \\ z_i^{(2)} \\ \vdots \\ z_i^{(m)} \end{array} \right]$

## Terminology

$z_i$  = intermediate values in the network

$z_1$  = input       $z_L$  = output

↓  
aka activations

$$z_i = \sigma(w_{i-1}^T z_{i-1})$$

activation functions

$w_i$ : "weights" & "parameters"  $\rightarrow$  have to be estimated from data

learning process: find best  $w_i$  that

$$x^{(i)} \rightarrow z_L^{(i)}$$

$$\frac{\text{fit data}}{\text{loss}} \text{loss}(z_L^{(i)}, y^{(i)})$$

# Backpropagation algorithm

- Initialize  $z_1 = x$
- For  $i=1 \dots L$   
 $z_{i+1} = \sigma(z_i w_i)$  Forward pass
- For  $i=L \dots 1$   $G_L$ : gradient of loss function (cross entropy)  
 $G_i = G_{i+1} \odot \sigma'(z_i w_i) w_i^T$  Backward pass

$$\frac{\partial l}{\partial w_i} = z_i^T g_{i+1} \odot \sigma'(w_i^T z_i)$$

each element

Training update:

$$w^{(t)} = w^{(t-1)} - \eta \nabla_w l$$

$[w_1, w_2, \dots, w_L]$

$$\text{Tr Loss} : \sum_{i=1}^n \text{loss}(x^{(i)}, y^{(i)})$$

$$\nabla \text{Tr Loss} = \nabla \sum = \sum \nabla$$

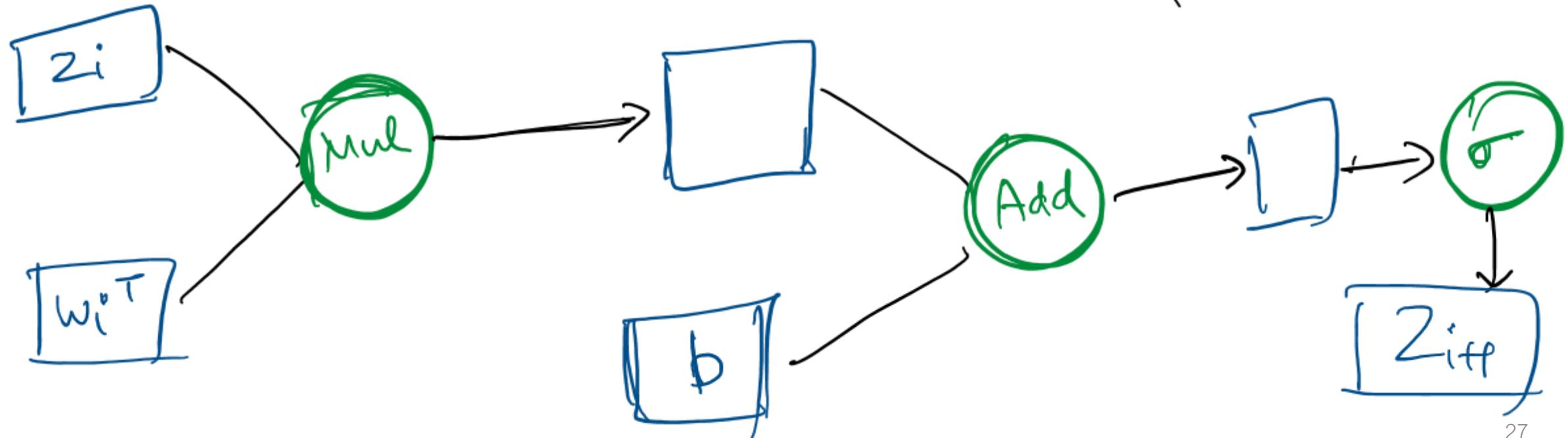
Stochastic : gradient of a batch of samples

# Computation graph

□ : variables

○ : functions

## Directed Acyclic Graph



$$\cancel{z_{iH} = \sigma(w_i^T z_i)}$$

$$z_{iH} = \sigma(w_i^T z_i + b)$$



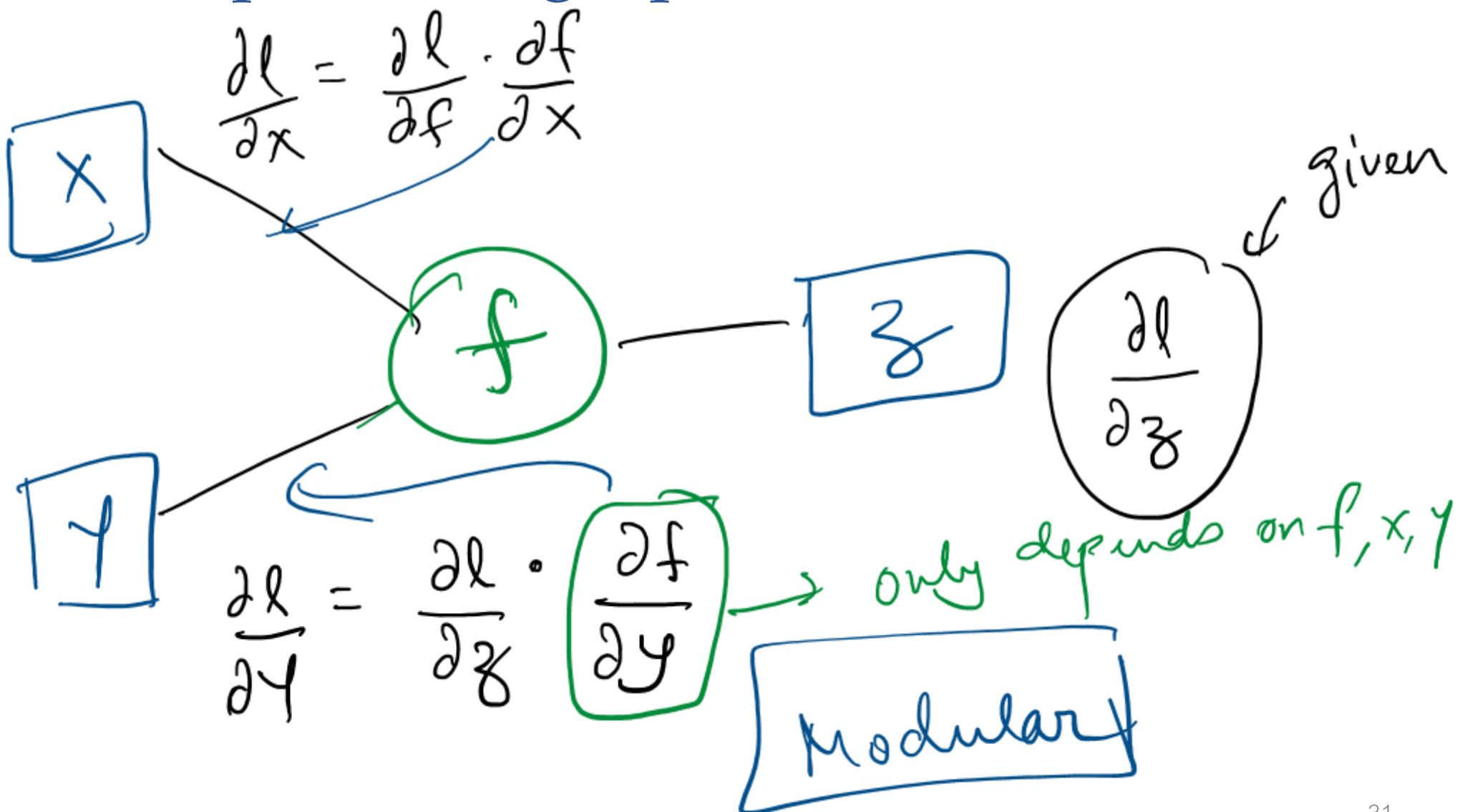
# Computation graph

**Directed Acyclic Graph** to represent the functions computed

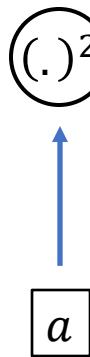
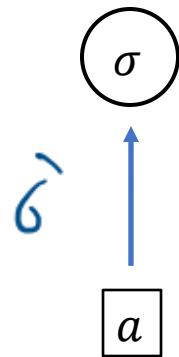
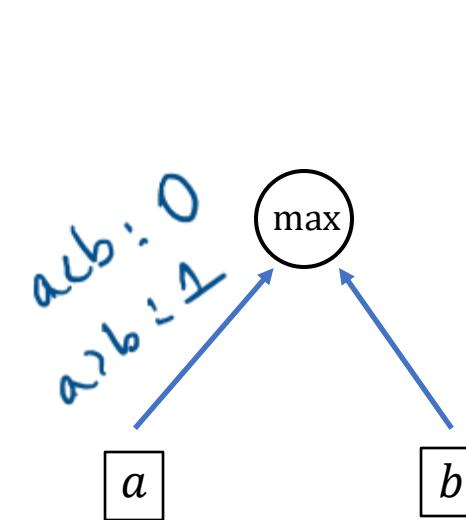
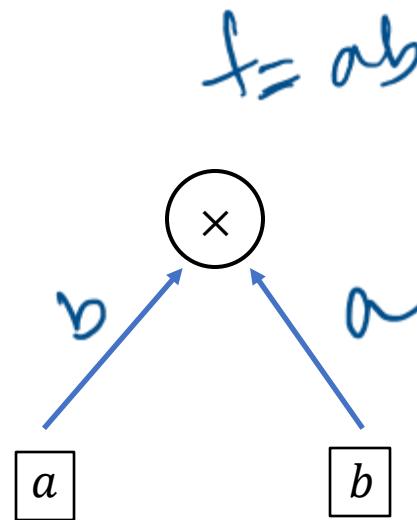
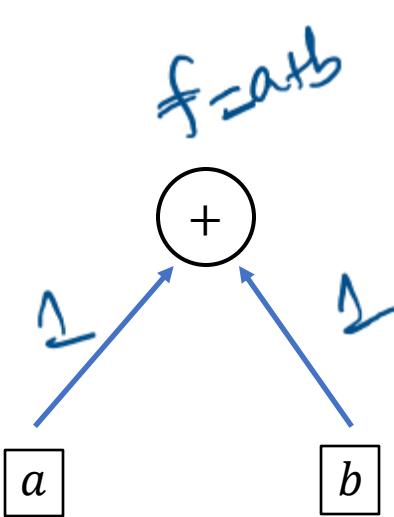
- Root node has the final expression, intermediate nodes have subexpressions
- Convenient to compute gradients, used in popular frameworks like pytorch and tensorflow

# Computation graph example

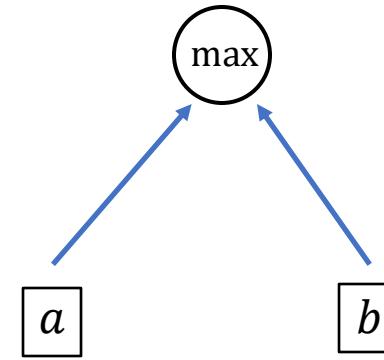
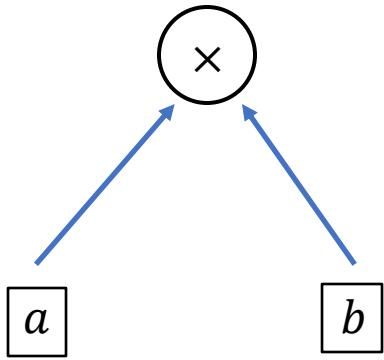
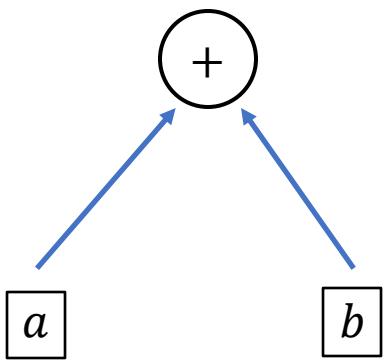
# Computation graph chain rule



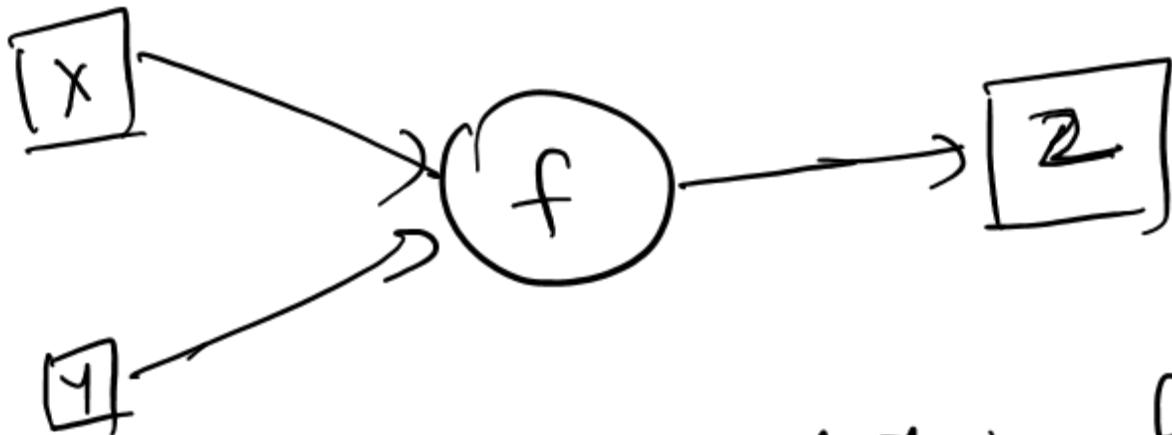
# Computation graph: gradients along edges



# Computation graph



# Auto diff



Forward pass: implementation  $f(x, y)$

Backward pass:

Given

$$\frac{\partial l}{\partial z}$$

$$\frac{\partial l}{\partial z} \cdot \frac{\partial z}{\partial x},$$

$$\frac{\partial l}{\partial z} \cdot \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} \dots$$

in general: inputs:  $[x_1, x_2 \dots x_n]$   
output:  $[z_1 \dots z_d]$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial z_1}{\partial x_1} & \frac{\partial z_2}{\partial x_1} & \dots & \dots \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \frac{\partial z_d}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix}$$

high dim

$$f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$$

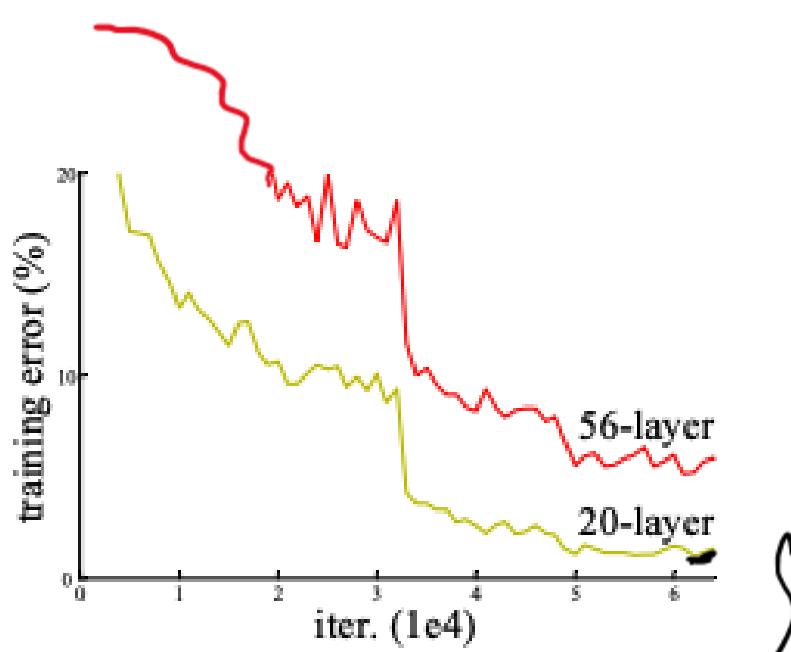
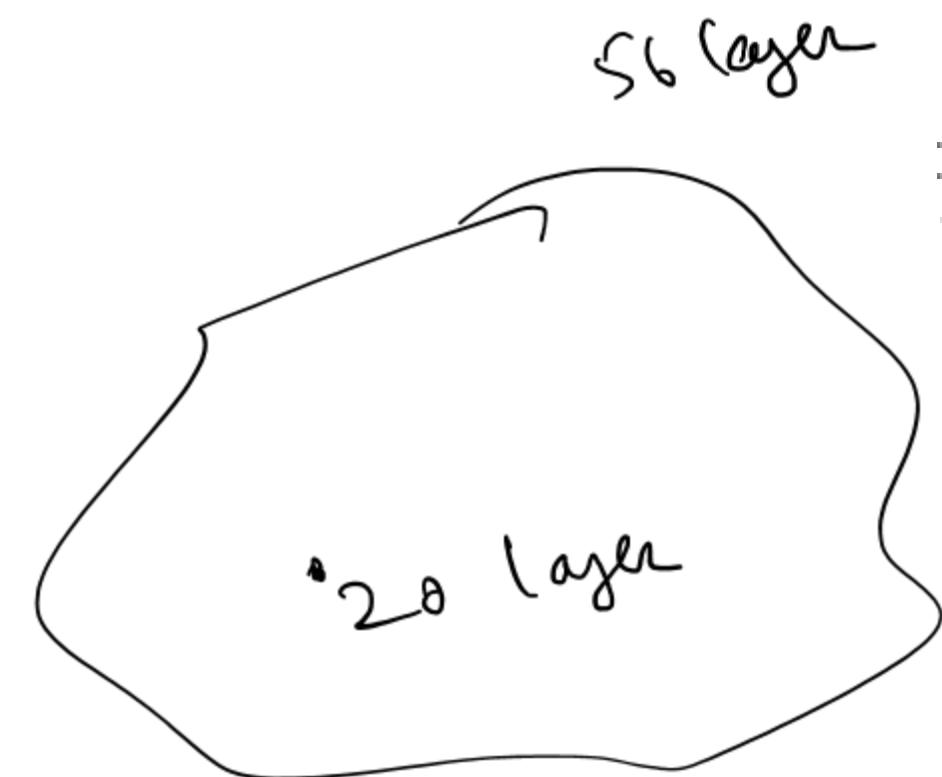
jacobian

## Multi-layer perceptron recap

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- feedforward networks
- "more layers" are better
- Perceptron by Minski = AI winter

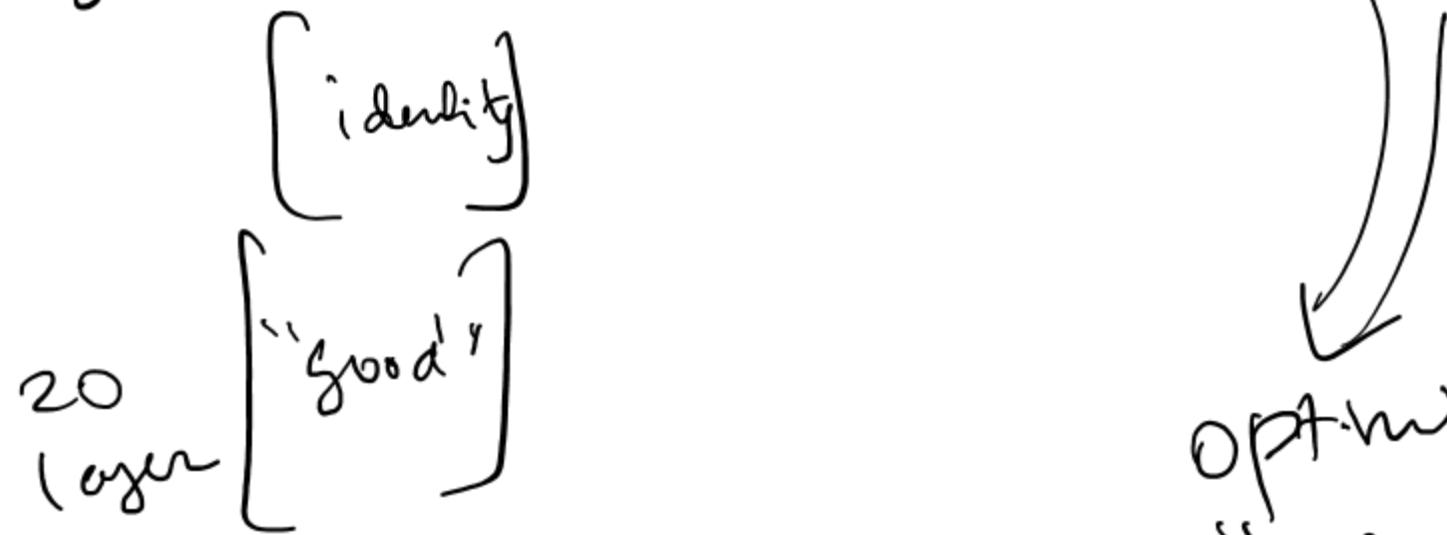
# Piazza poll question



optimization issue  
+ 56-layer network  
} identity  
20 layer

# Piazza poll question

→ f a 56 layer network with low train error



Vanishing gradient:

each “edge” = a multiplication  
and it could make the gradient  
really small

Exploding

# Residual connection

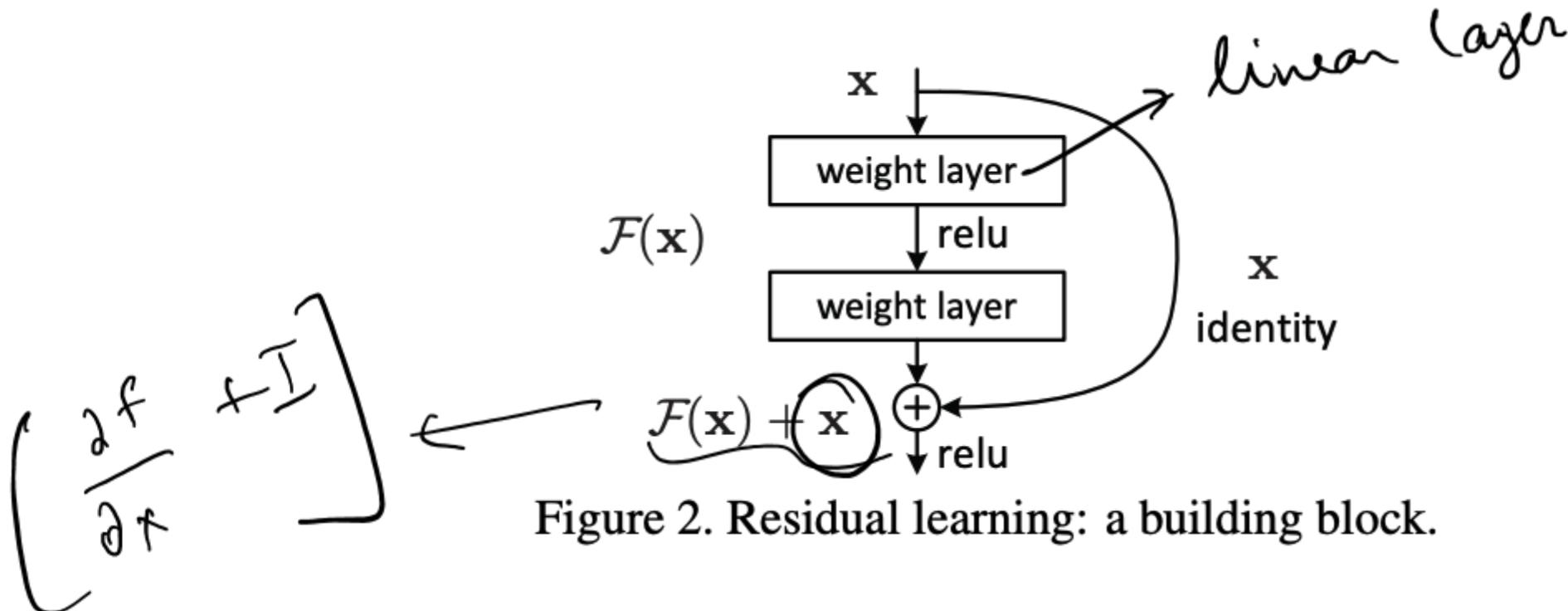


Figure 2. Residual learning: a building block.

# Residual connection

Two interpretations

1. Easier to preserve identity / good features
2. Addresses vanishing gradients due to “shortcut” connections

## Normalization

→  $z_i$ s also change a lot : compounding across layers

generic form:

$$z_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$$

$$\hat{z}_i = \left( \frac{z_i - \mathbb{E}[z_i]}{\sqrt{\text{var}(z_i) + \epsilon}} \right) \cdot \gamma + \beta$$

to avoid divide by zero

$\downarrow$   
 $z_i$  are activation  
of a layer  $\equiv$  layer norm

$$\gamma, \beta \in \mathbb{R}^d$$

$\lambda$ : bias       $\gamma$ : scale } learnable

# The canonical architecture: transformers

