

ROB 498/599: Deep Learning for Robot Perception (DeepRob)

Lecture 6: Backpropagation

01/29/2025



<https://deeprob.org/w25/>

Today

- Feedback and Recap (5min)
- Backpropagation
 - P1 - Linear Classifier gradients (20min)
 - Computational Graph: Examples of calculating backprop (30min)
 - Backprop with vectors (20min)
- Summary and Takeaways (5min)

P1 Hints

- `.view` VS. `.reshape`
 - `.view` more memory efficient, but only works with contiguous memory tensor. Preferred in our P1.
 - `.reshape` works with both contiguous and non-contiguous memory tensor. May return a view or a copy.
- `torch.chunk(tensor, NumChucks, dim)`: split a tensor in chunks - useful in cross validation
- `Compute_distances_no_loops` - good place to debug (see <https://piazza.com/class/m4pgejar4ua2qf/post/49>)
 - Hint: Euclidean distance
$$dist = \sqrt{(p - q)^2} = p^2 + q^2 - 2p \cdot q$$

P1 Hints

- Deriving Derivatives $\frac{\partial L}{\partial W}$ for Linear Classifiers

- We have some dataset of (x, y)
- We have a **score function**:
- We have a **loss function**:

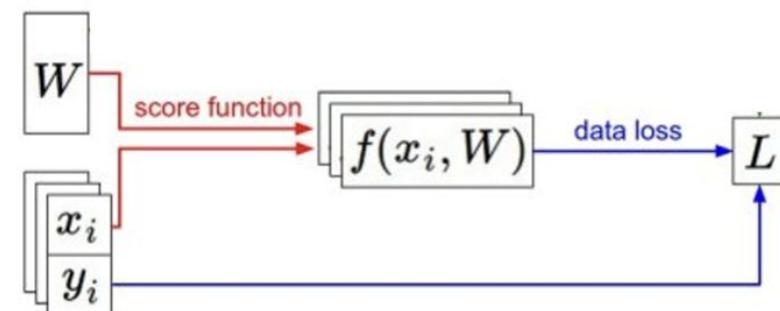
$$s = f(x; W, b) = Wx + b$$

Linear classifier

$$L(W) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N L_i(f(x_i, W), y_i) + \lambda \sum_i w_i^2$$

Softmax: $L_i = -\log \left(\frac{\exp(s_{y_i})}{\sum_j \exp(s_j)} \right)$

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

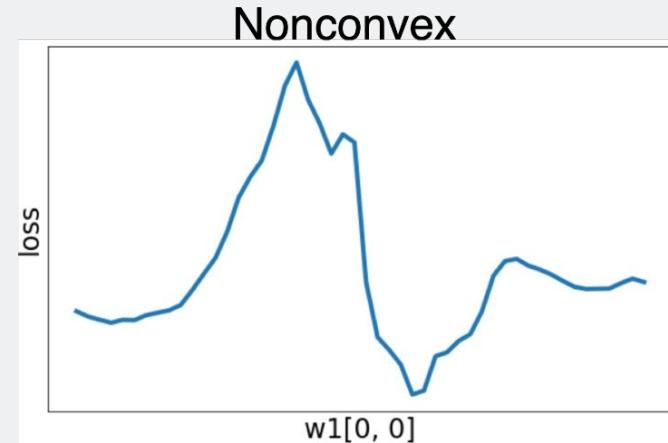
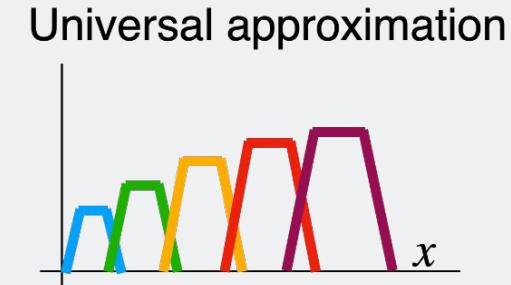
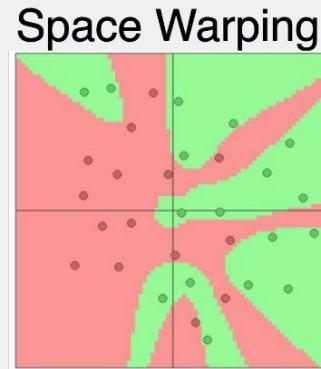
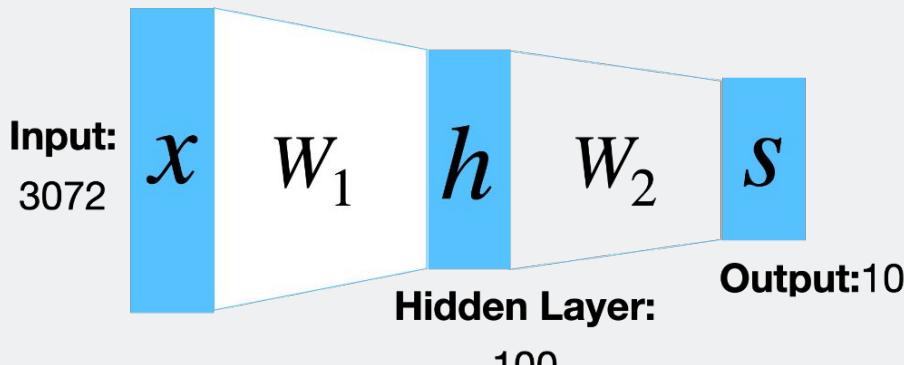


Recap

P1 Deadline: Feb. 2, 2025

From linear classifiers to
fully-connected networks

$$f(x) = W_2 \max(0, W_1 x + b_1) + b_2$$



How to Compute Gradients?

$$s = W_2 \max(0, W_1 x + b_1) + b_2$$

ReLU activation

Nonlinear score function

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

Hinge loss

Per-element data loss

$$R(W) = \sum_k W_k^2$$

L2 regularization

$$L(W_1, W_2, b_1, b_2) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N L_i + \lambda R(W_1) + \lambda R(W_2)$$

Data loss Regularization term

Total loss

If we can compute $\frac{\delta L}{\delta W_1}, \frac{\delta L}{\delta W_2}, \frac{\delta L}{\delta b_1}, \frac{\delta L}{\delta b_2}$ then we can optimize with SGD

Bad Idea: Derive $\nabla_W L$ on paper

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

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

$$= \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, W_{j,:} x - W_{y_i,:} x + 1)$$

$$L = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N L_i + \lambda \sum_k W_k^2$$

$$= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, W_{j,:} x - W_{y_i,:} x + 1) + \lambda \sum_k W_k^2$$

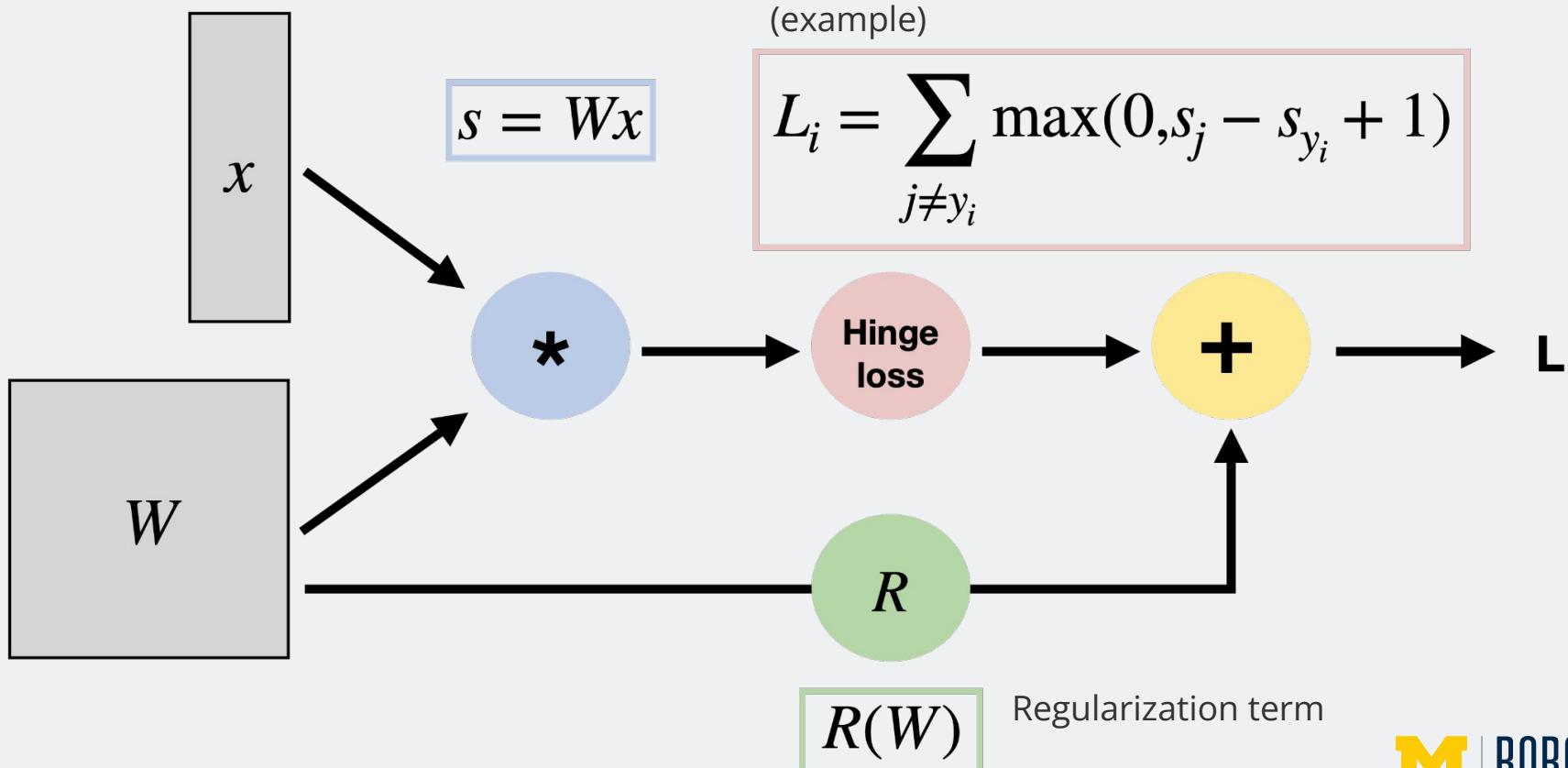
$$\nabla_W L = \nabla_W \left(\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, W_{j,:} x - W_{y_i,:} x + 1) + \lambda \sum_k W_k^2 \right)$$

Problem: Very tedious with lots of matrix calculus

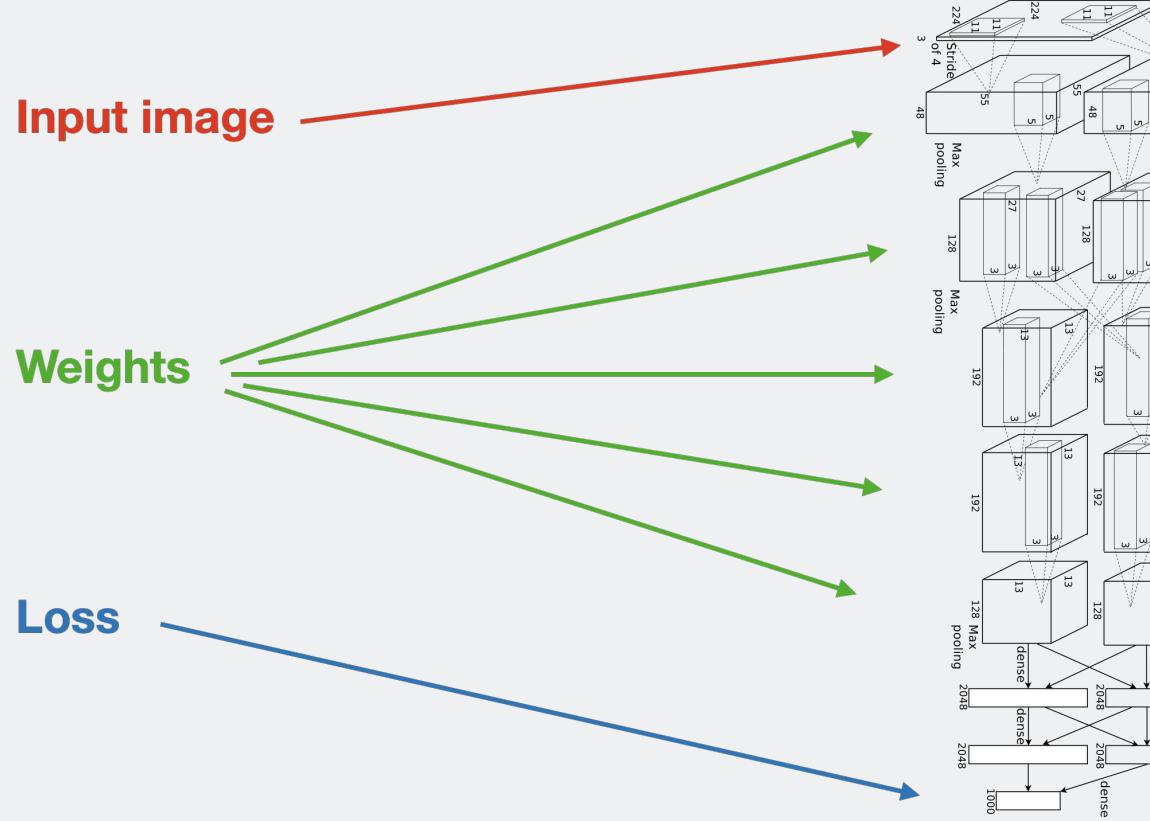
Problem: What if we want to change the loss? E.g. use softmax instead of SVM? Need to re-derive from scratch. Not modular!

Problem: Not feasible for very complex models!

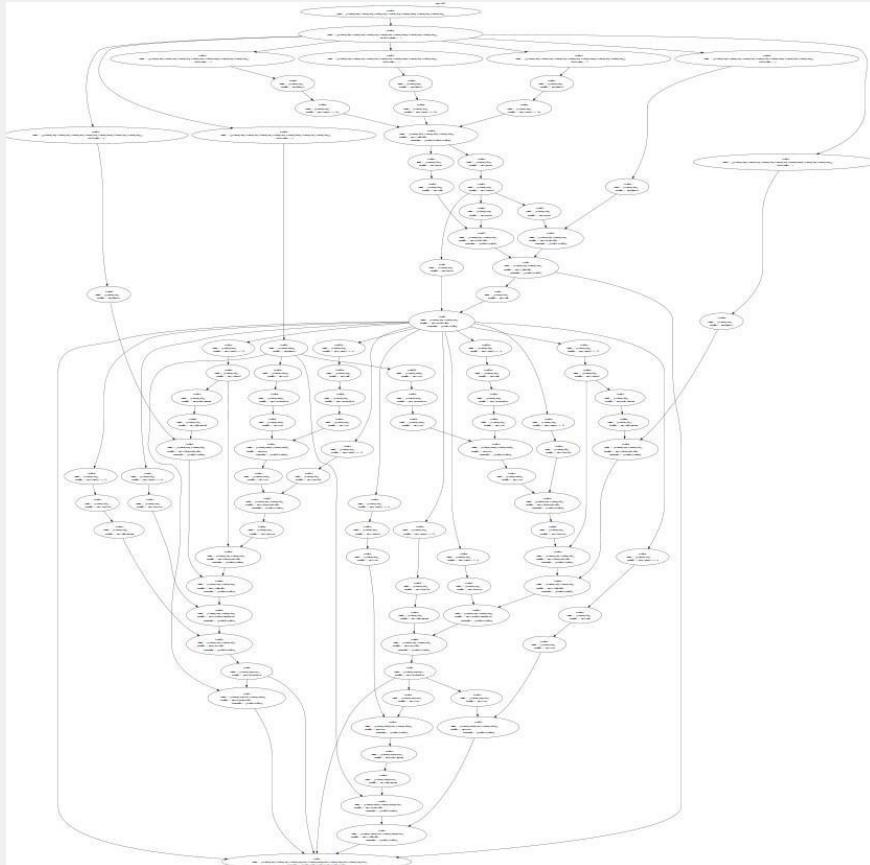
Better Idea: Computational Graphs



Deep Network (AlexNet)



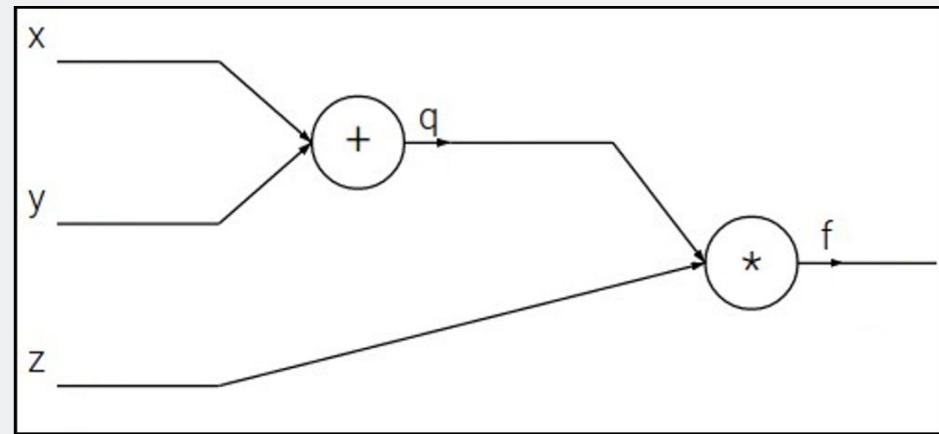
Deep Network (Neural Turing Machine)



<https://arxiv.org/abs/1410.5401>
andrey karpathy (graph)

Backpropagation: A simple example

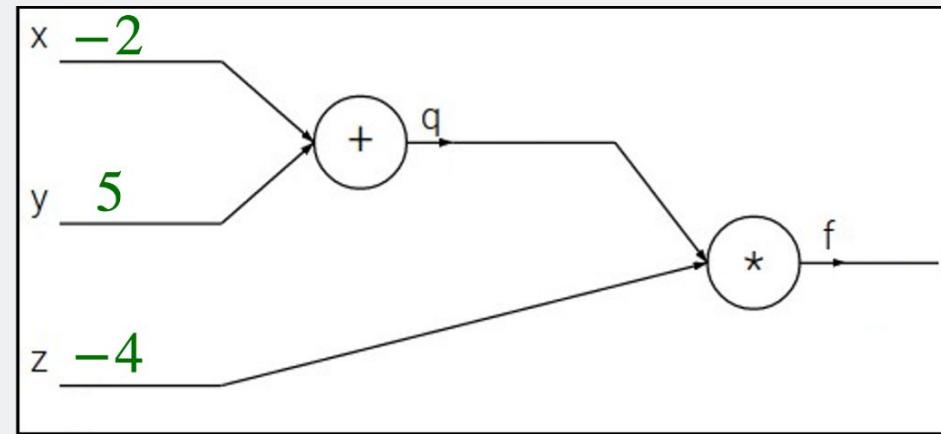
$$f(x, y, z) = (x + y) \cdot z$$



Backpropagation: A simple example

$$f(x, y, z) = (x + y) \cdot z$$

e.g. $x = -2, y = 5, z = -4$



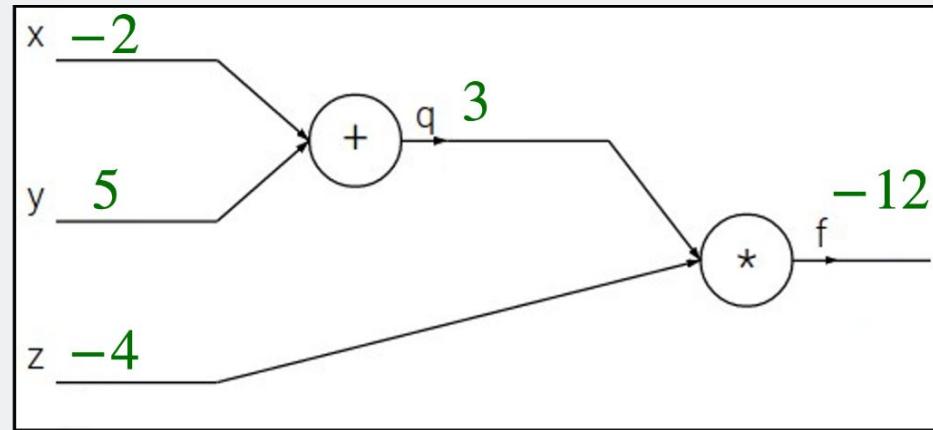
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1. Forward pass: Compute outputs

$$q = x + y \quad f = q \cdot z$$



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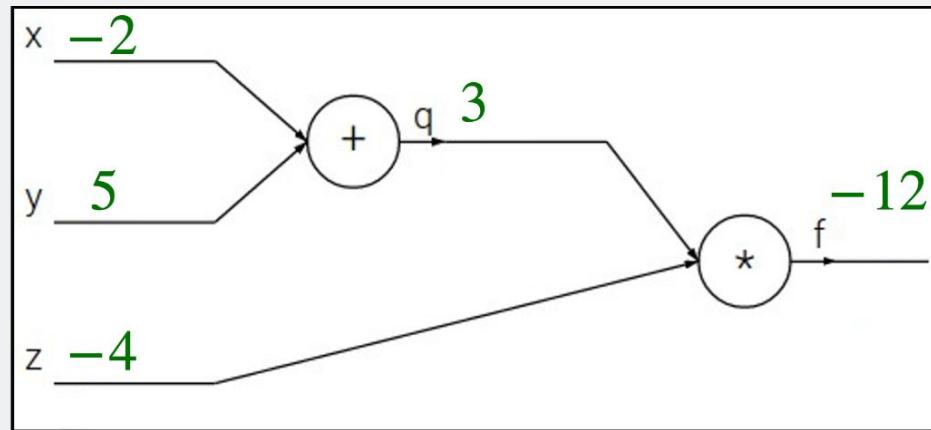
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1. Forward pass: Compute outputs

$$q = x + y \quad f = q \cdot z$$

2. Backward pass: Compute derivatives

Want: $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial z}$



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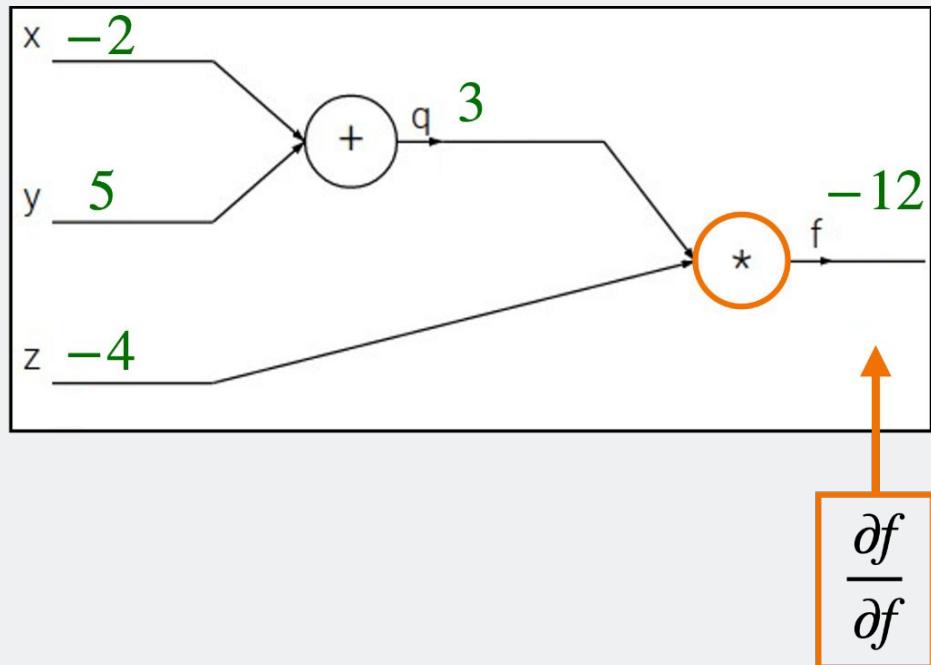
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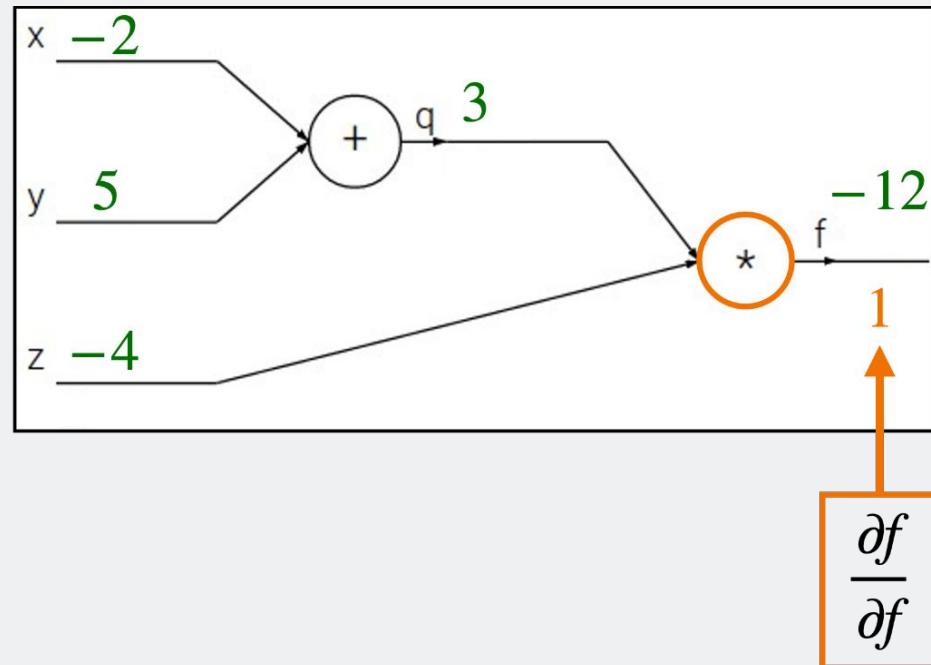
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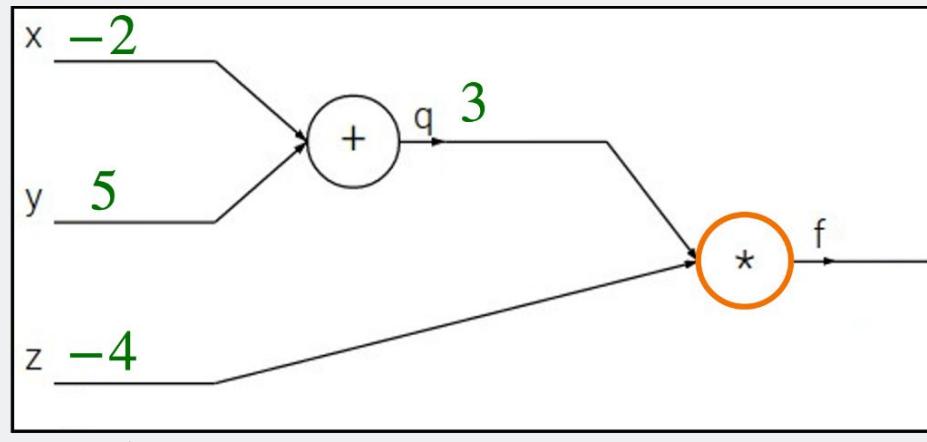
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$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial z} = ???$$

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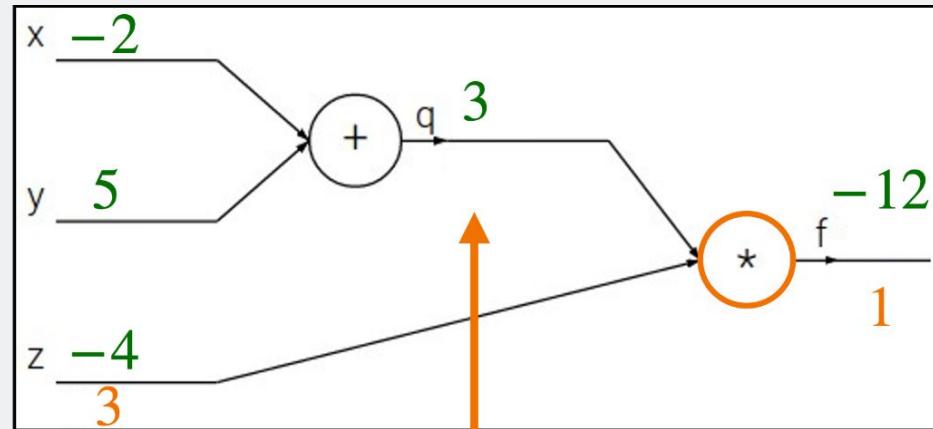
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Want: $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial z}$



$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial q}$$

= ???

Backpropagation: A simple example

$$f(x, y, z) = (x + y) \cdot z$$

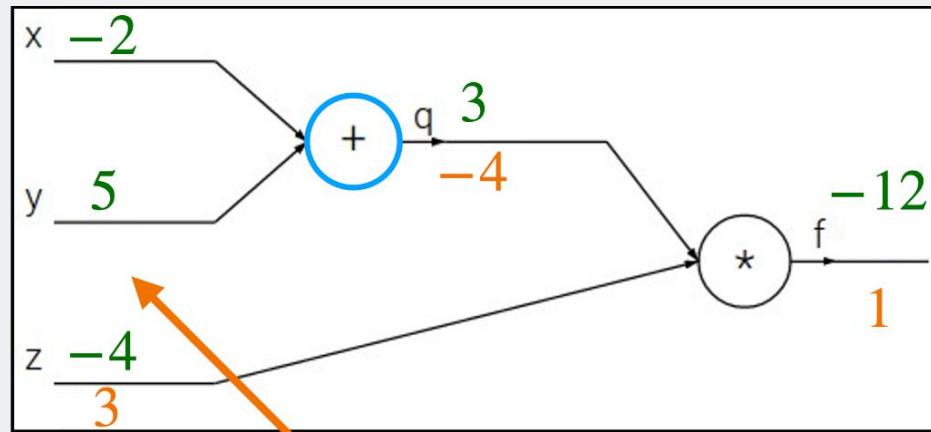
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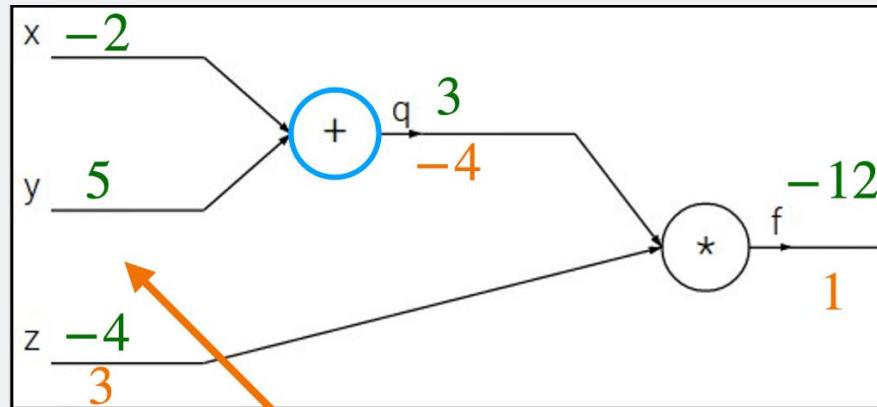
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Want: $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial z}$



$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial q}{\partial y} \frac{\partial f}{\partial q} = ???$$

Downstream
Gradient

Local
Gradient

Upstream
Gradient

Backpropagation: A simple example

$$f(x, y, z) = (x + y) \cdot z$$

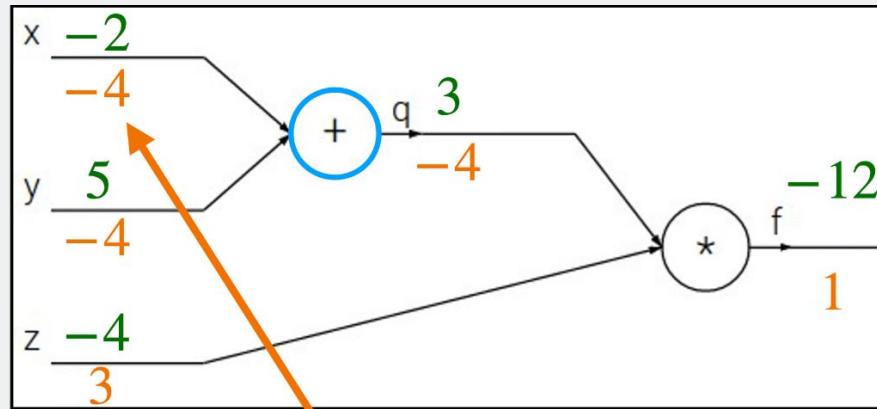
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1. Forward pass: Compute outputs

$$q = x + y \quad f = q \cdot z$$

2. Backward pass: Compute derivatives

Want: $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial z}$



$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial q}{\partial x} \frac{\partial f}{\partial q}$$

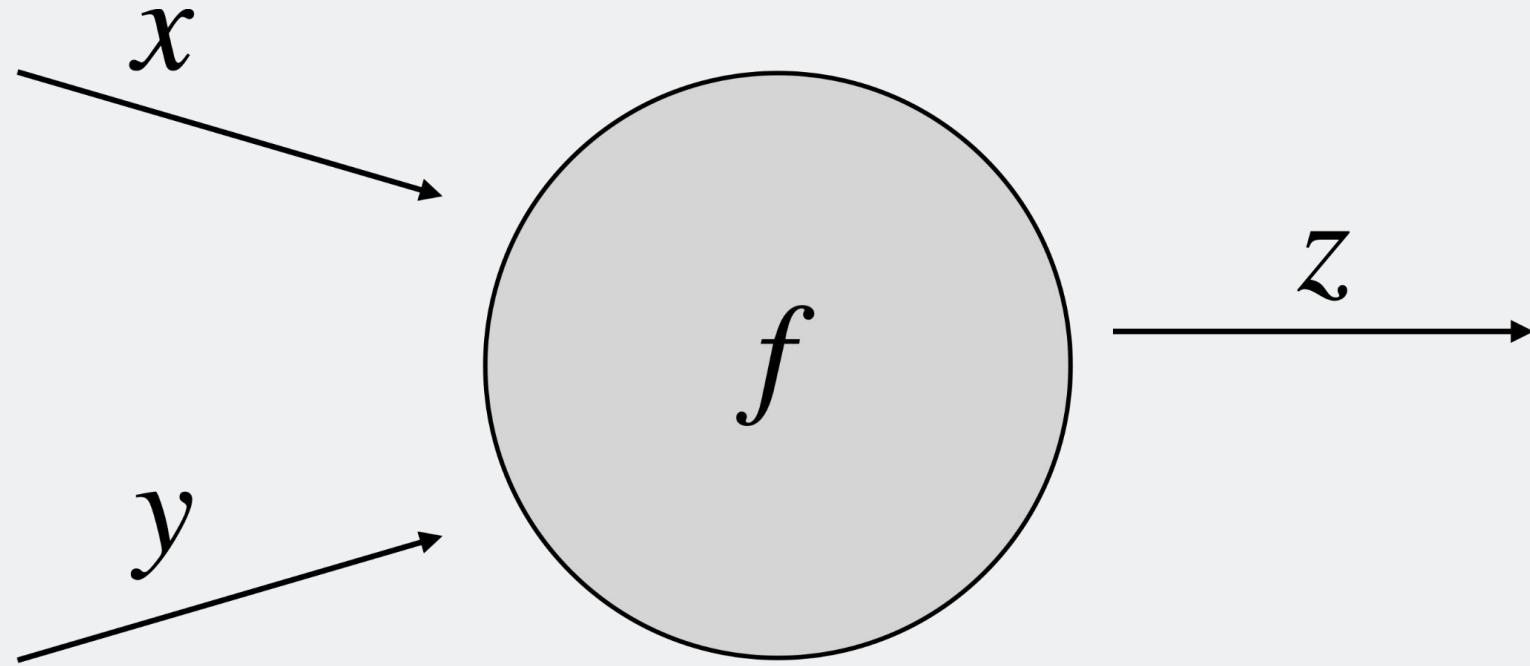
Downstream
Gradient

$$\frac{\partial q}{\partial x} = 1$$

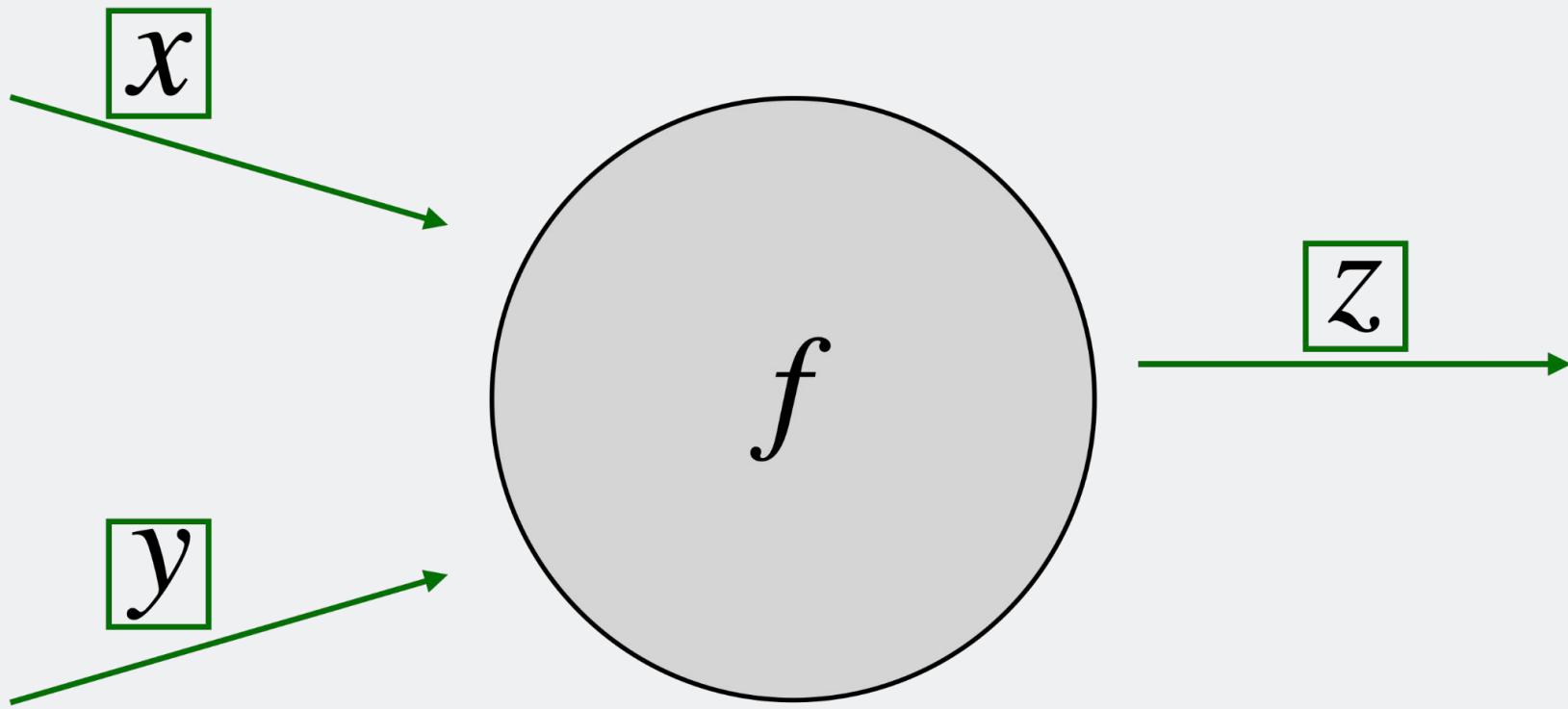
Local
Gradient

Upstream
Gradient

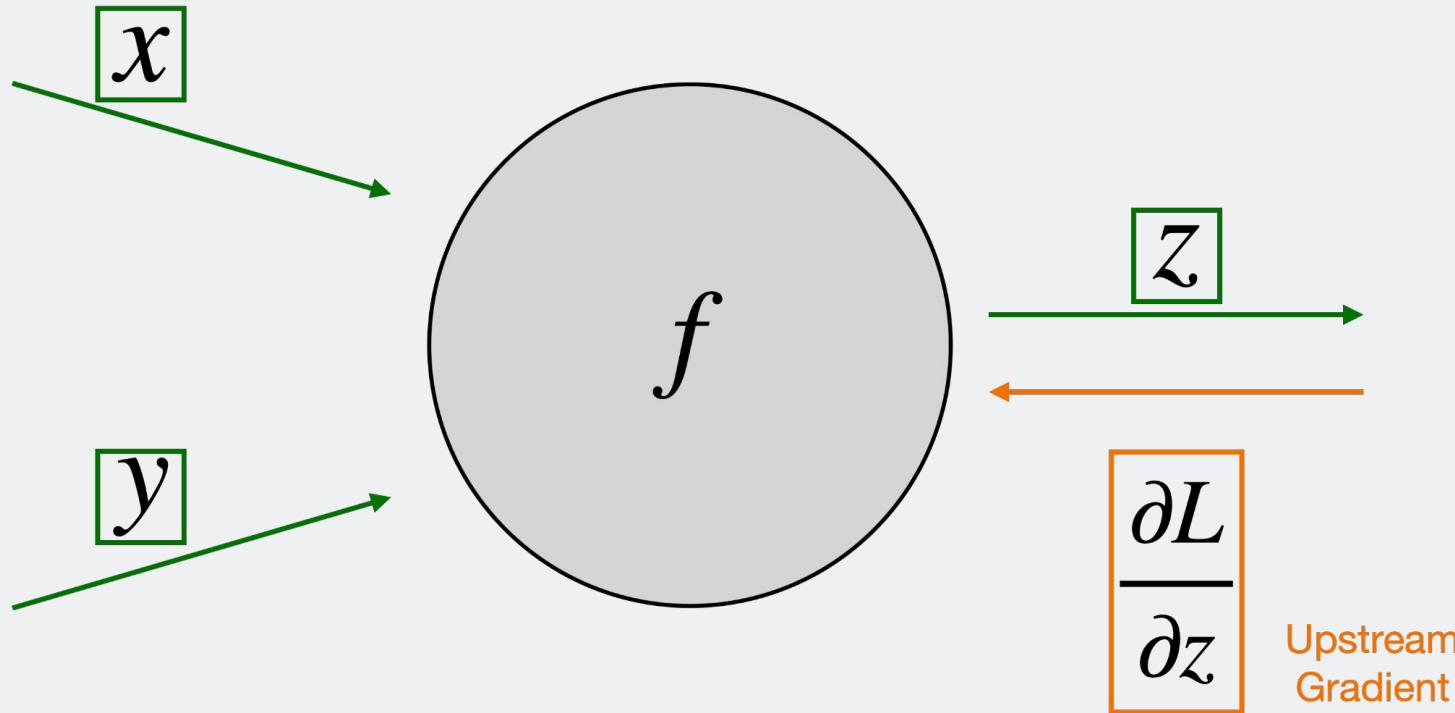
Local Properties of Backpropagation



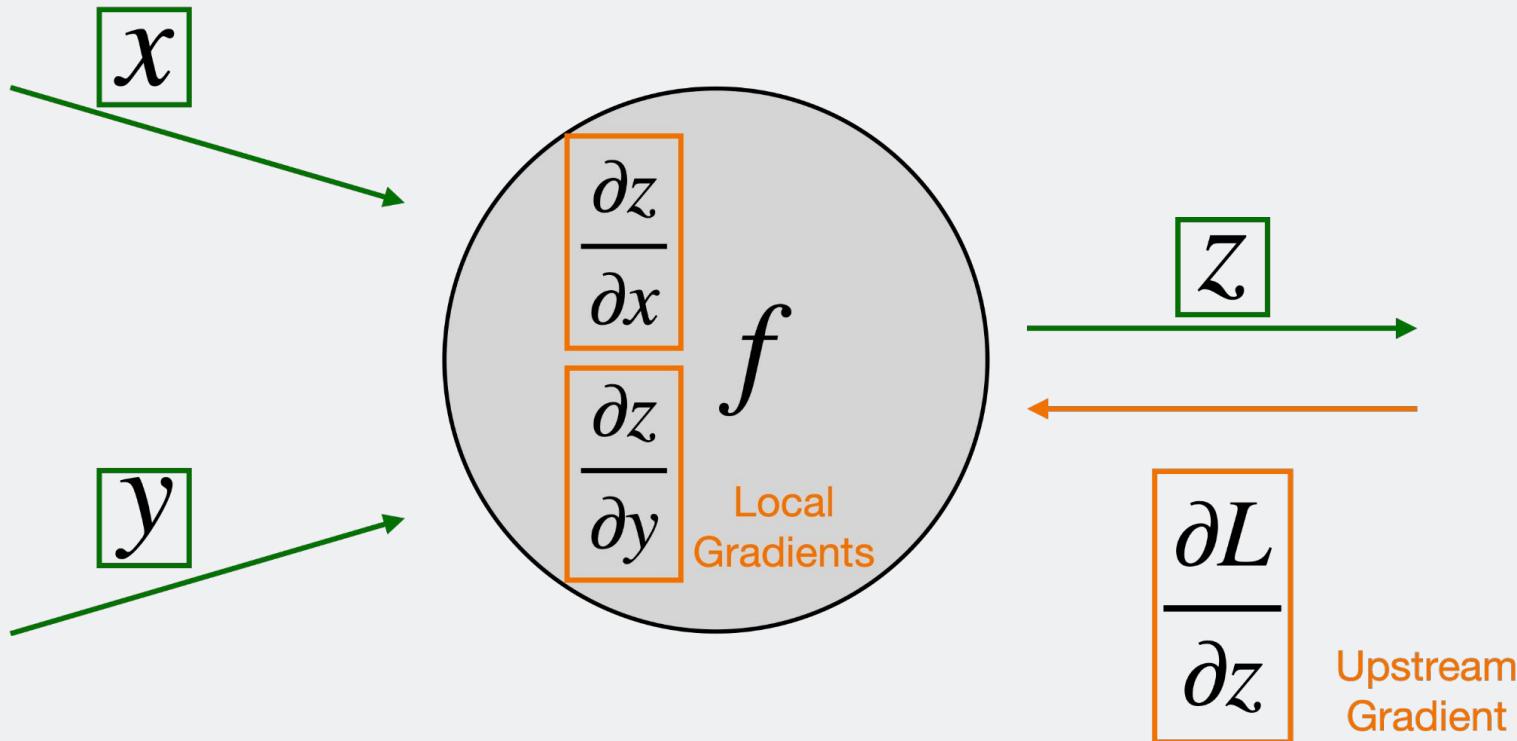
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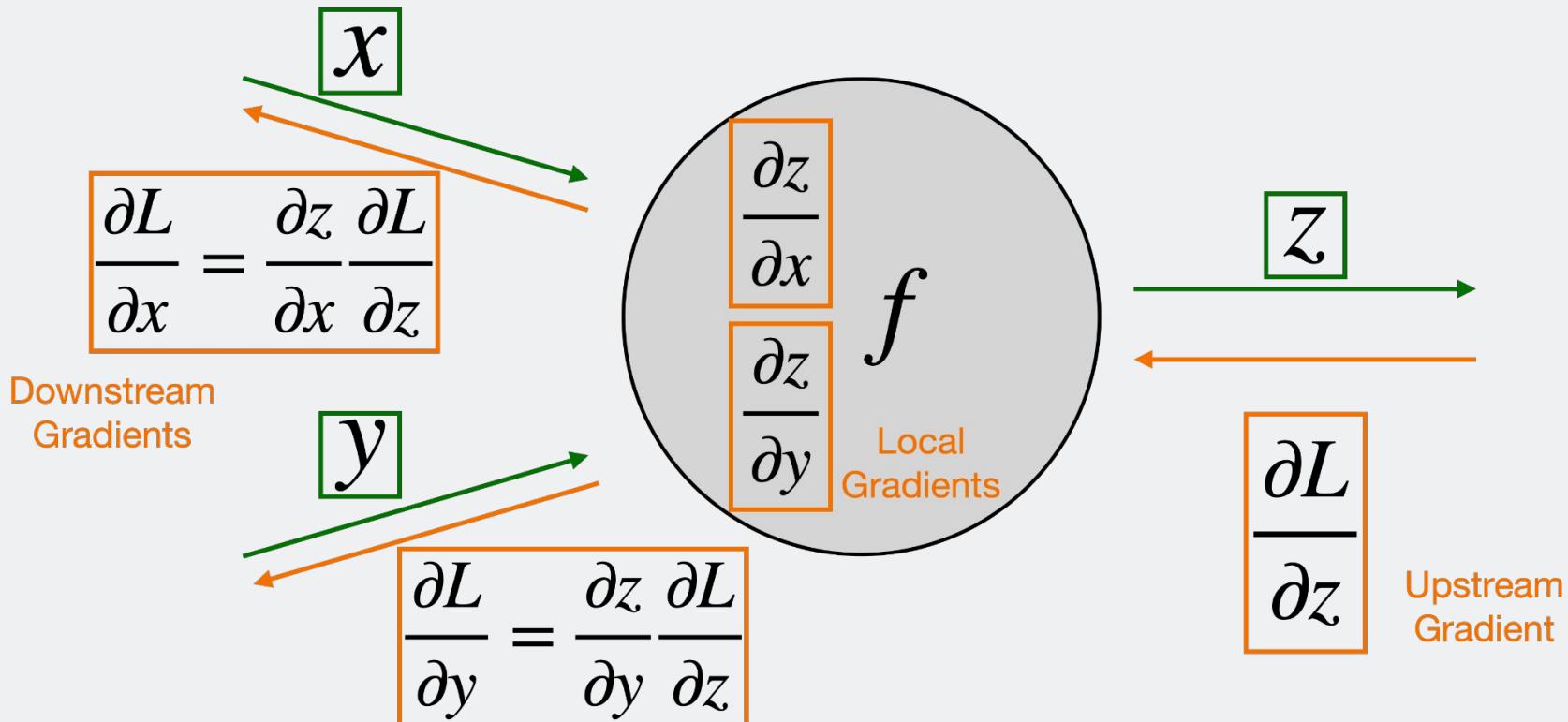
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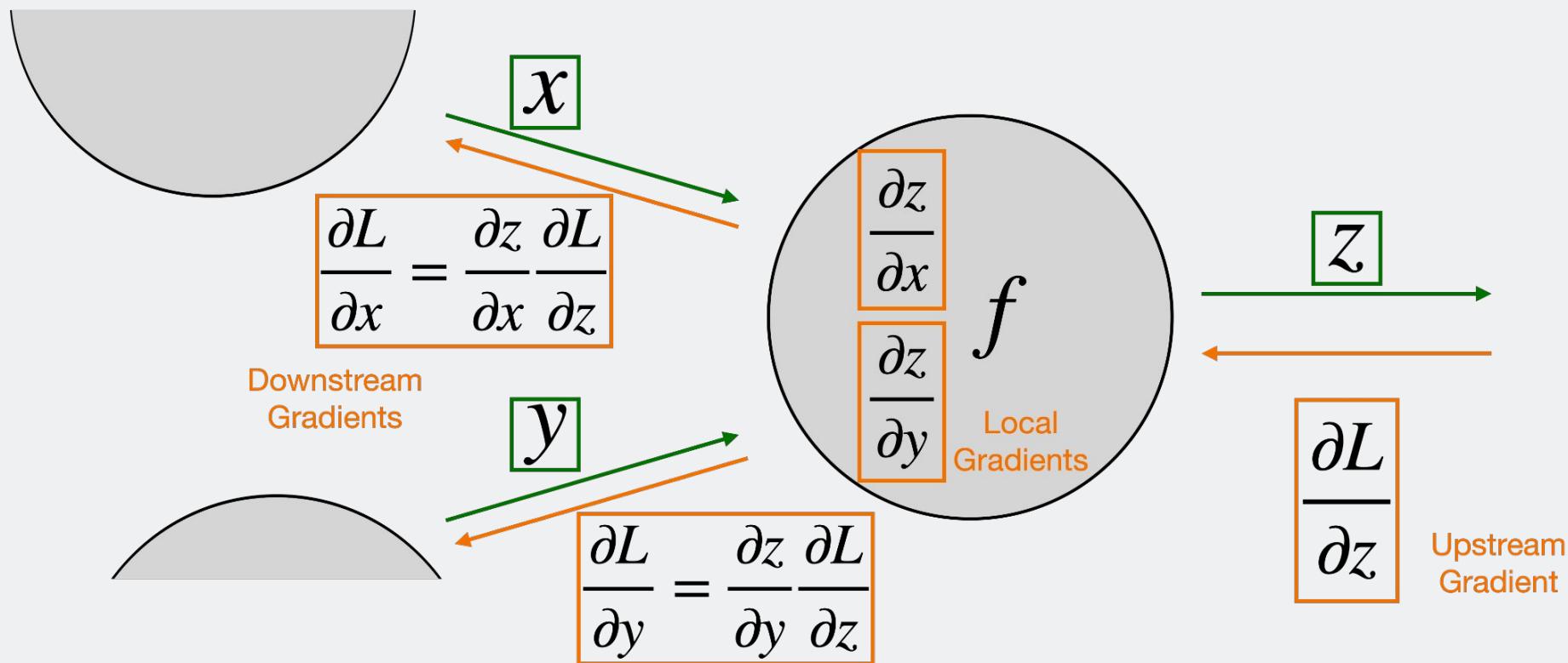
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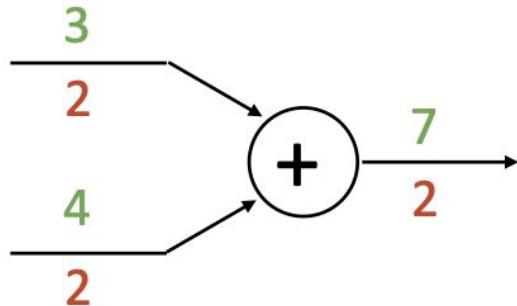
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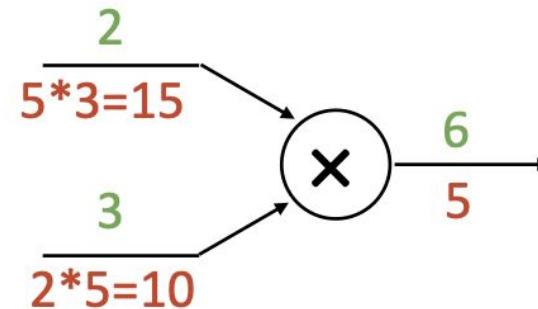
Patterns in Gradient Flow

important!

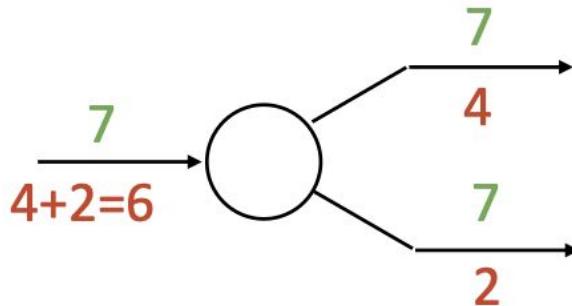
add gate: gradient distributor



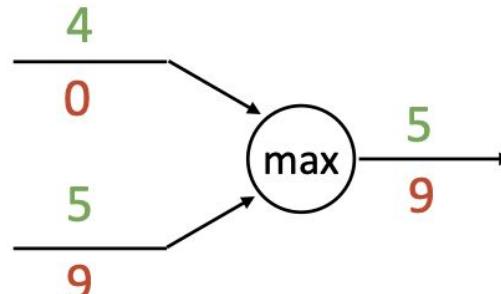
mul gate: “swap multiplier”



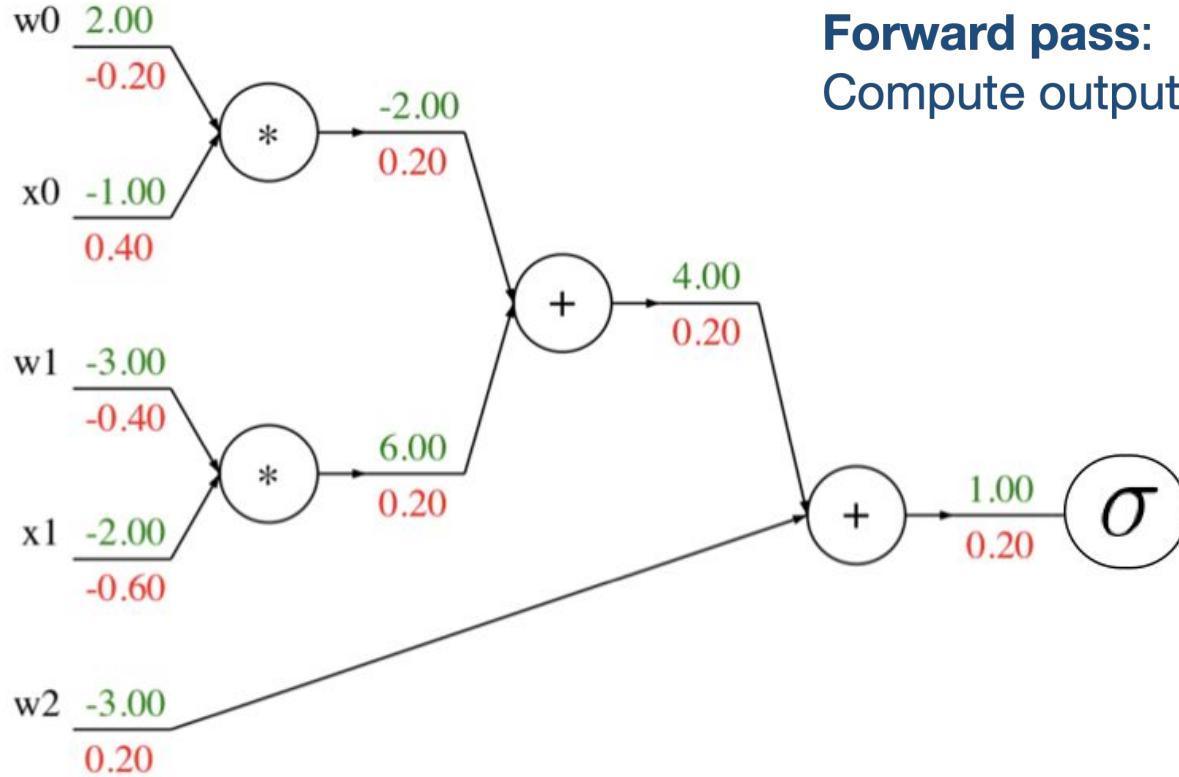
copy gate: gradient adder



max gate: gradient router

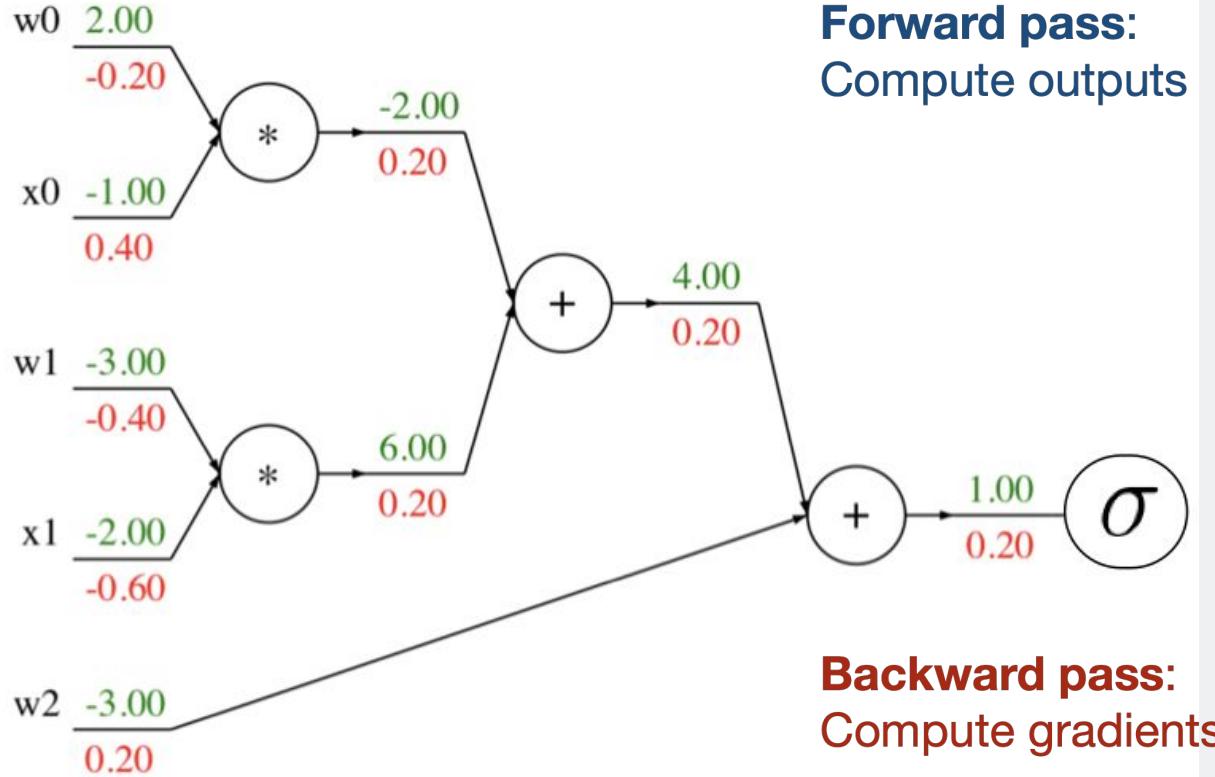


Backprop Implementation: “Flat” gradient code



```
def f(w0, x0, w1, x1, w2):  
    s0 = w0 * x0  
    s1 = w1 * x1  
    s2 = s0 + s1  
    s3 = s2 + w2  
    L = sigmoid(s3)
```

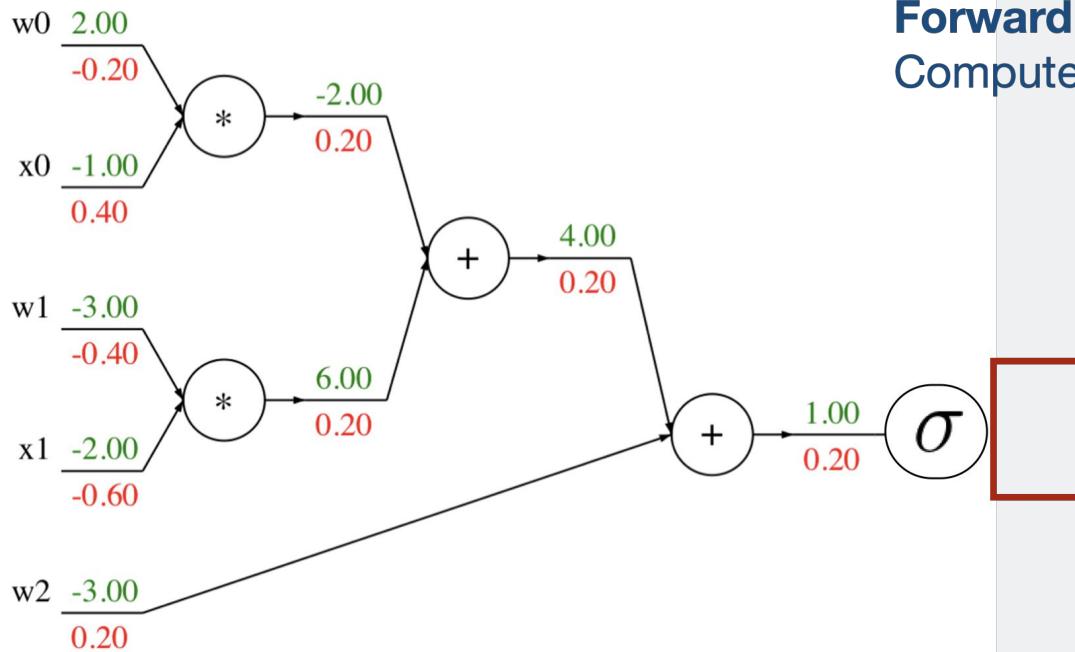
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```

```
grad_L = 1.0  
grad_s3 = grad_L * (1 - L) * L  
grad_w2 = grad_s3  
grad_s2 = grad_s3  
grad_s0 = grad_s2  
grad_s1 = grad_s2  
grad_w1 = grad_s1 * x1  
grad_x1 = grad_s1 * w1  
grad_w0 = grad_s0 * x0  
grad_x0 = grad_s0 * w0
```

Backprop Implementation: “Flat” gradient code



Forward pass:
Compute outputs

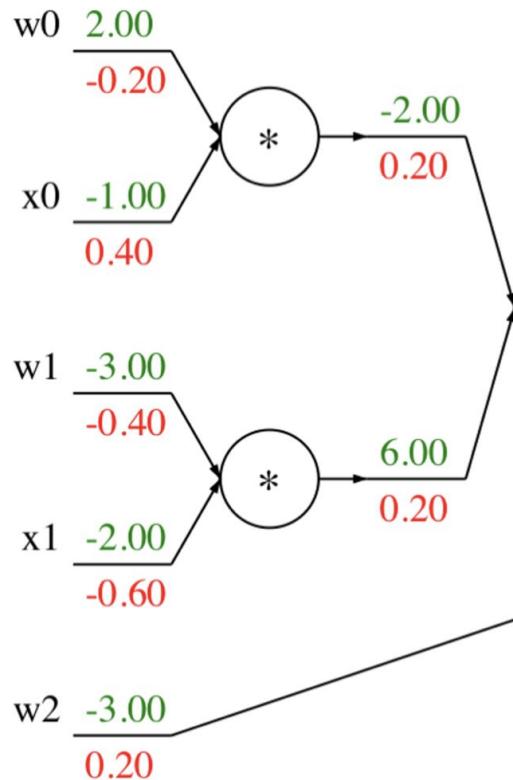
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```

Base case

```
grad_L = 1.0  
grad_s3 = grad_L * (1 - L) * L  
grad_w2 = grad_s3  
grad_s2 = grad_s3  
grad_s0 = grad_s2  
grad_s1 = grad_s2  
grad_w1 = grad_s1 * x1  
grad_x1 = grad_s1 * w1  
grad_w0 = grad_s0 * x0  
grad_x0 = grad_s0 * w0
```

Backward pass:
Compute gradients

Backprop Implementation: “Flat” gradient code



Forward pass:
Compute outputs

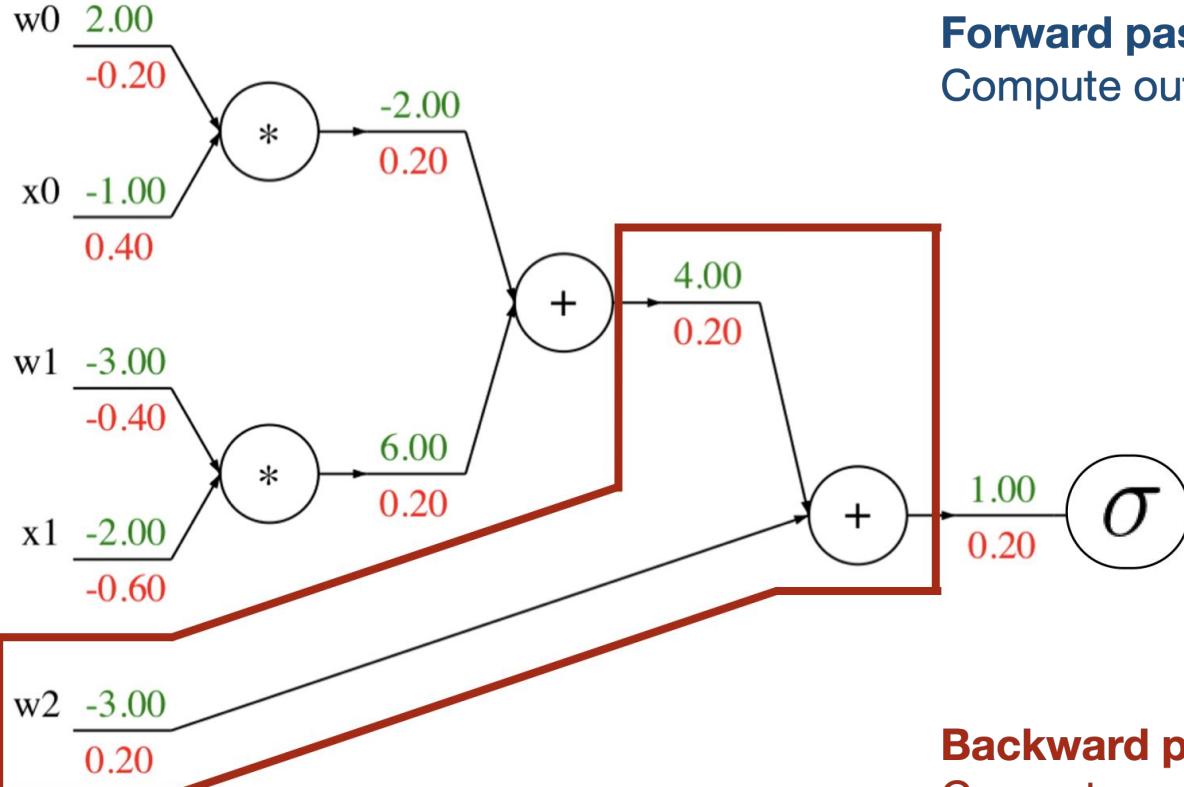
Sigmoid

Backward pass:
Compute gradients

```
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grad_w1 = grad_s1 * x1  
grad_x1 = grad_s1 * w1  
grad_w0 = grad_s0 * x0  
grad_x0 = grad_s0 * w0
```

Backprop Implementation: “Flat” gradient code

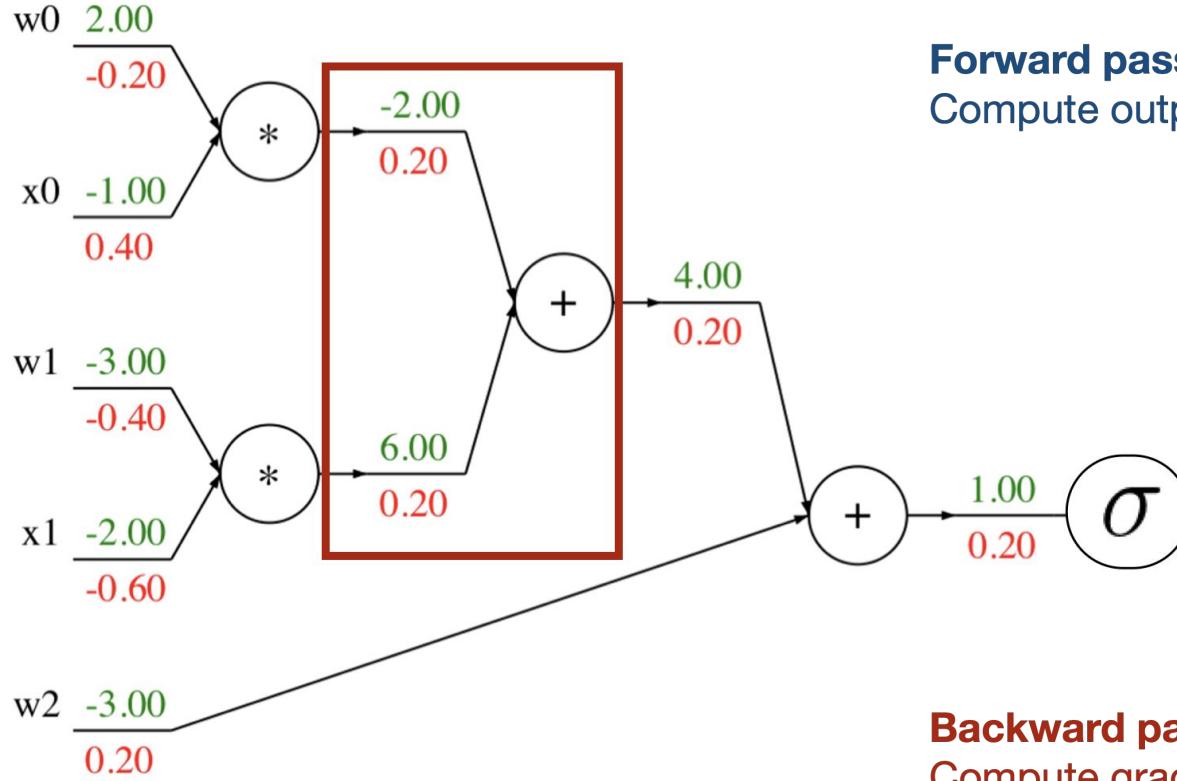


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grad_w1 = grad_s1 * x1  
grad_x1 = grad_s1 * w1  
grad_w0 = grad_s0 * x0  
grad_x0 = grad_s0 * w0
```

Add

Backprop Implementation: “Flat” gradient code

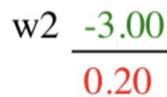
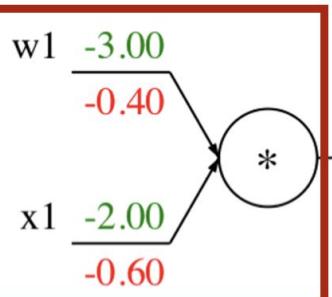
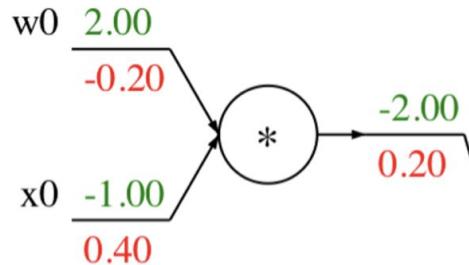


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grad_x1 = grad_s1 * w1  
grad_w0 = grad_s0 * x0  
grad_x0 = grad_s0 * w0
```

Add

Backprop Implementation: “Flat” gradient code



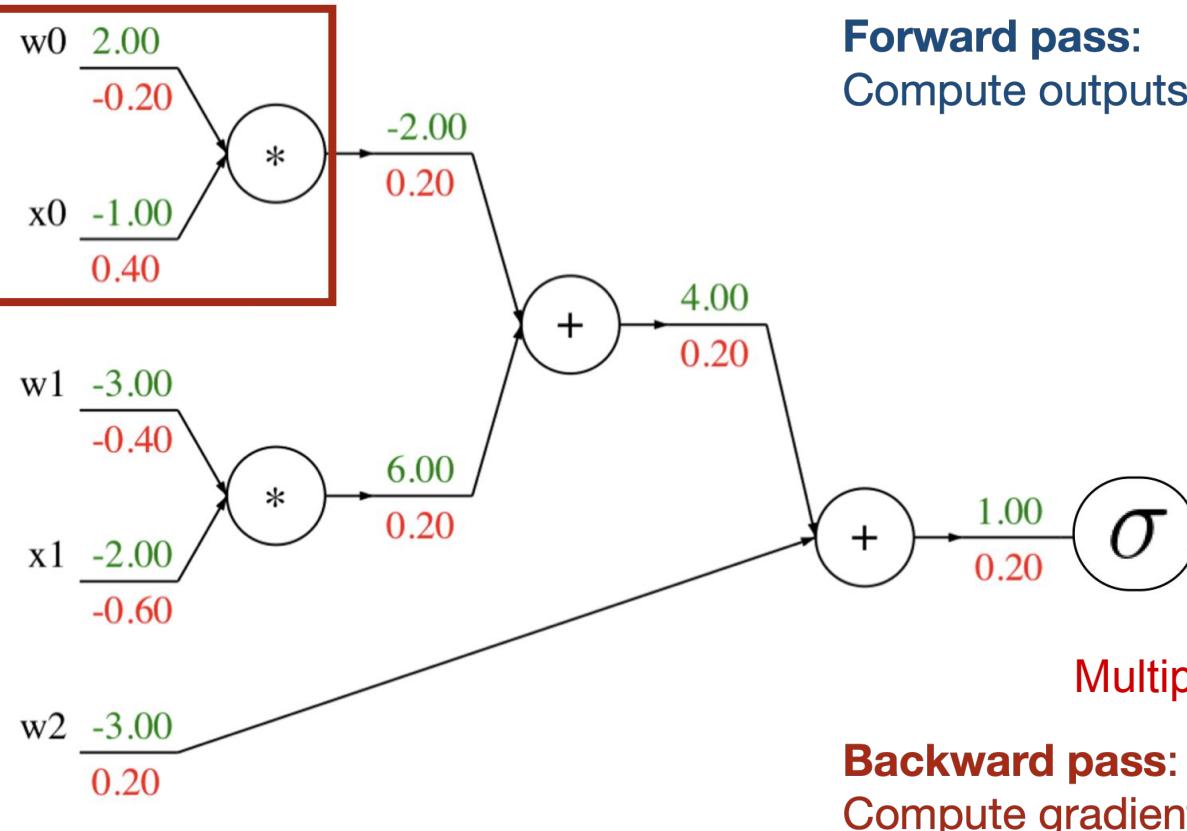
Forward pass:
Compute outputs

```
def f(w0, x0, w1, x1, w2):  
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Backward pass:
Compute gradients

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grad_w0 = grad_s0 * x0  
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Backprop Implementation: “Flat” gradient code



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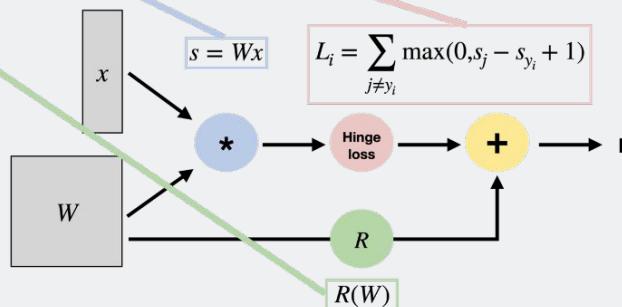
“Flat” backprop: Do this for Project 2

Forward pass: Compute outputs

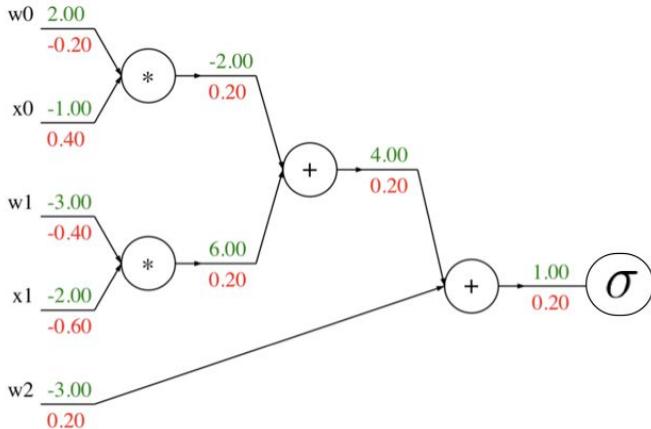
```
#####
# TODO:
# Implement a vectorized version of the structured SVM loss, storing the #
# result in loss.
#####
# Replace "pass" statement with your code
num_classes = W.shape[1]
num_train = X.shape[0]
score = # ...
correct_class_score = # ...
margin = # ...
data_loss = # ...
reg_loss = # ...
loss += data_loss + reg_loss
#####
# END OF YOUR CODE
#####
#
```

Backward pass: Compute gradients

```
#####
# TODO:
# Implement a vectorized version of the gradient for the structured SVM #
# loss, storing the result in dW.
#
# Hint: Instead of computing the gradient from scratch, it may be easier #
# to reuse some of the intermediate values that you used to compute the #
# loss.
#####
# Replace "pass" statement with your code
dmargins = # ...
dscores = # ...
dW = # ...
#####
# END OF YOUR CODE
#####
#
```



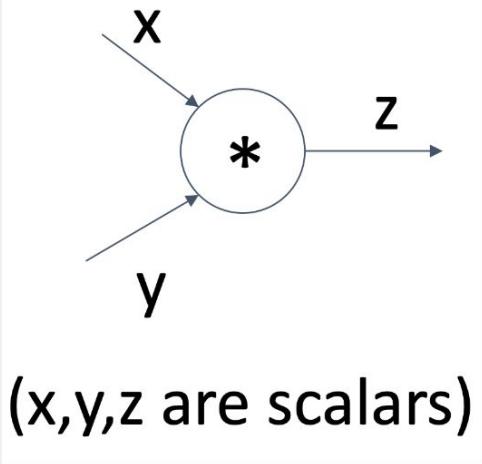
Backprop Implementation: Modular API



Graph (or Net) object (*rough pseudo code*)

```
class ComputationalGraph(object):  
    #...  
    def forward(inputs):  
        # 1. [pass inputs to input gates...]  
        # 2. forward the computational graph:  
        for gate in self.graph.nodes_topologically_sorted():  
            gate.forward()  
  
        return loss # the final gate in the graph outputs the loss  
    def backward():  
        for gate in reversed(self.graph.nodes_topologically_sorted()):  
            gate.backward() # little piece of backprop (chain rule applied)  
  
        return inputs_gradients
```

Example: PyTorch Autograd Functions



```
class Multiply(torch.autograd.Function):
    @staticmethod
    def forward(ctx, x, y):
        ctx.save_for_backward(x, y)
        z = x * y
        return z
    @staticmethod
    def backward(ctx, grad_z):
        x, y = ctx.saved_tensors
        grad_x = y * grad_z # dz/dx * dL/dz
        grad_y = x * grad_z # dz/dy * dL/dz
        return grad_x, grad_y
```

Need to stash some values for use in backward

Upstream gradient

Multiply upstream and local gradients

So far: backprop w/ scalars...

What about vector-valued functions?

Recap: Vector Derivatives

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

Regular derivative:

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

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

Recap: Vector Derivatives

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

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

Derivative is **Gradient**:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial y}{\partial x} &\in \mathbb{R}^N, \\ \left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial x}\right)_i &= \frac{\partial y}{\partial x_i}\end{aligned}$$

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

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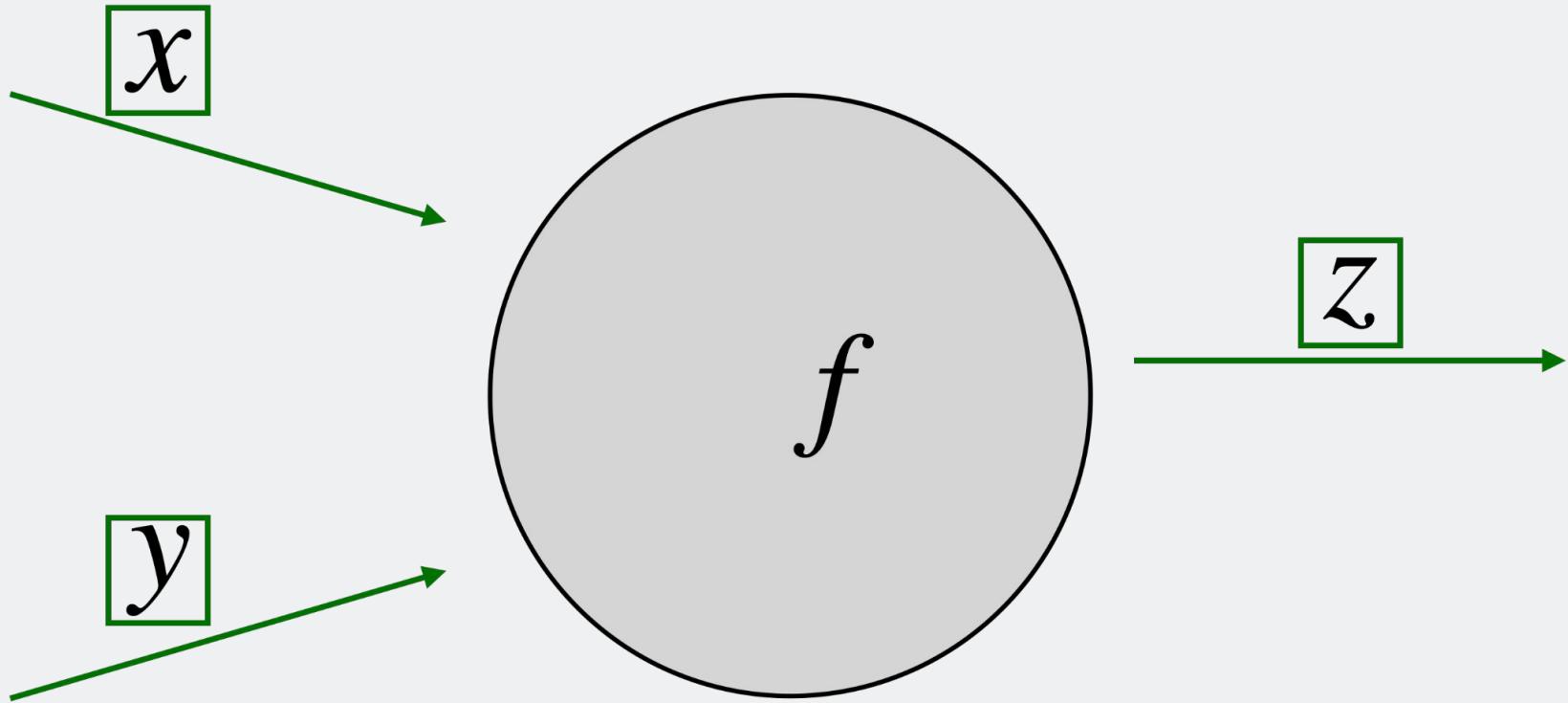
$$x \in \mathbb{R}^N, y \in \mathbb{R}^M$$

Derivative is **Jacobian**:

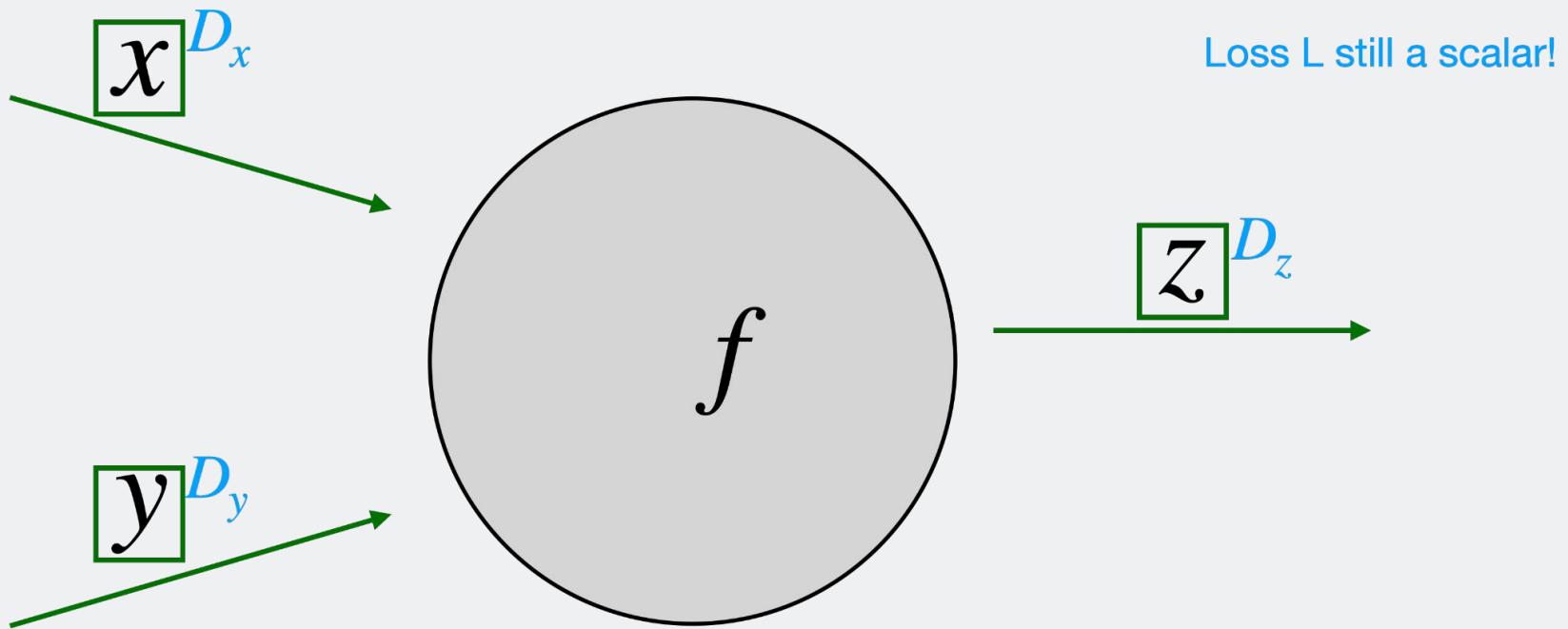
$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial y}{\partial x} &\in \mathbb{R}^{N \times M} \\ \left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial x}\right)_{i,j} &= \frac{\partial y_j}{\partial x_i}\end{aligned}$$

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

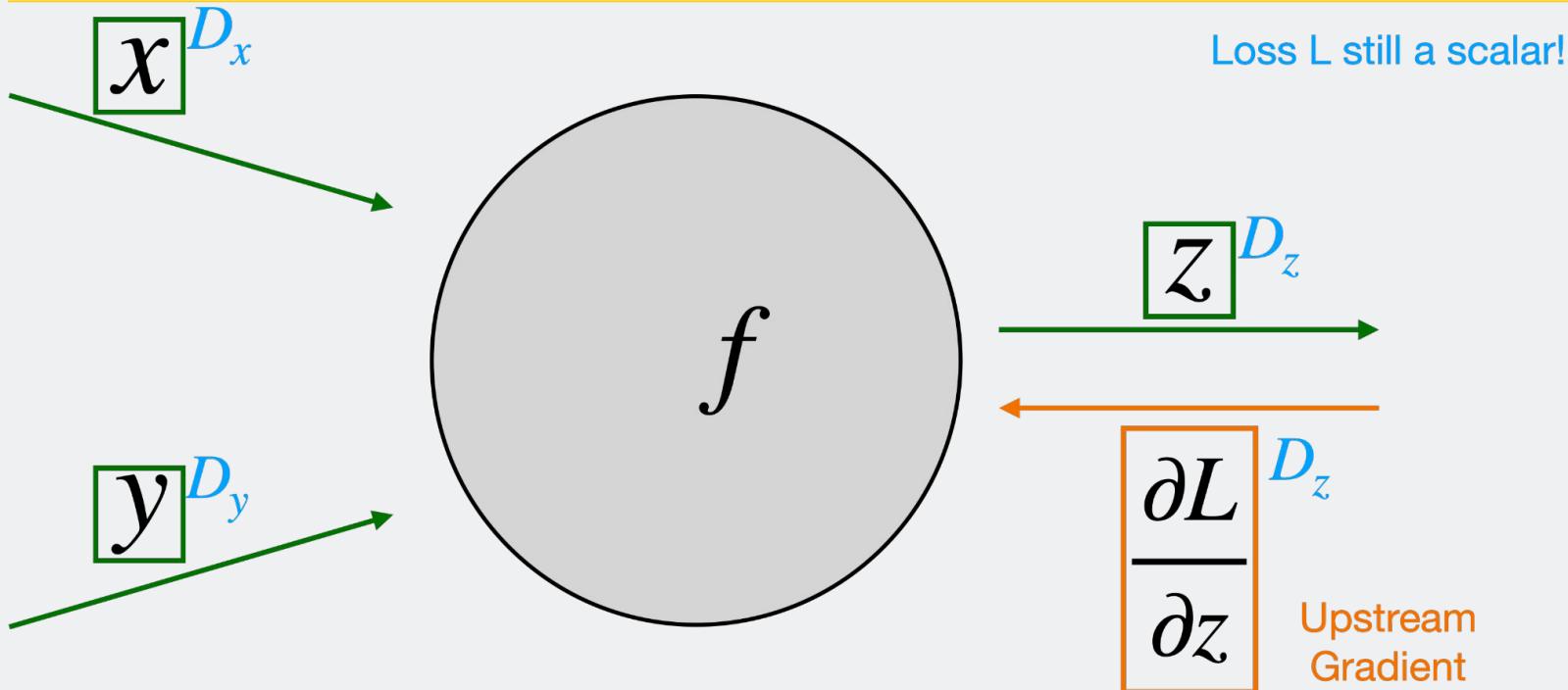
Backprop with Vectors



Backprop with Vectors

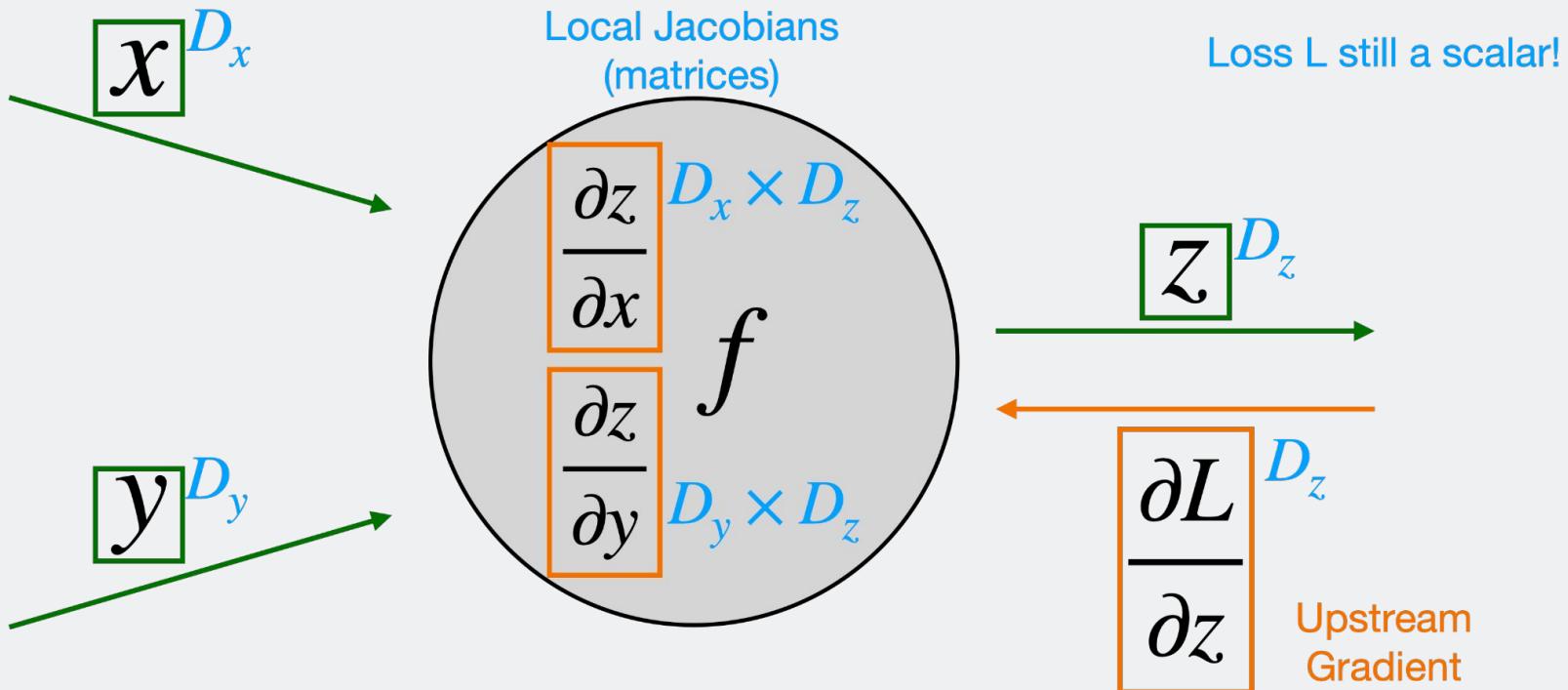


Backprop with Vectors



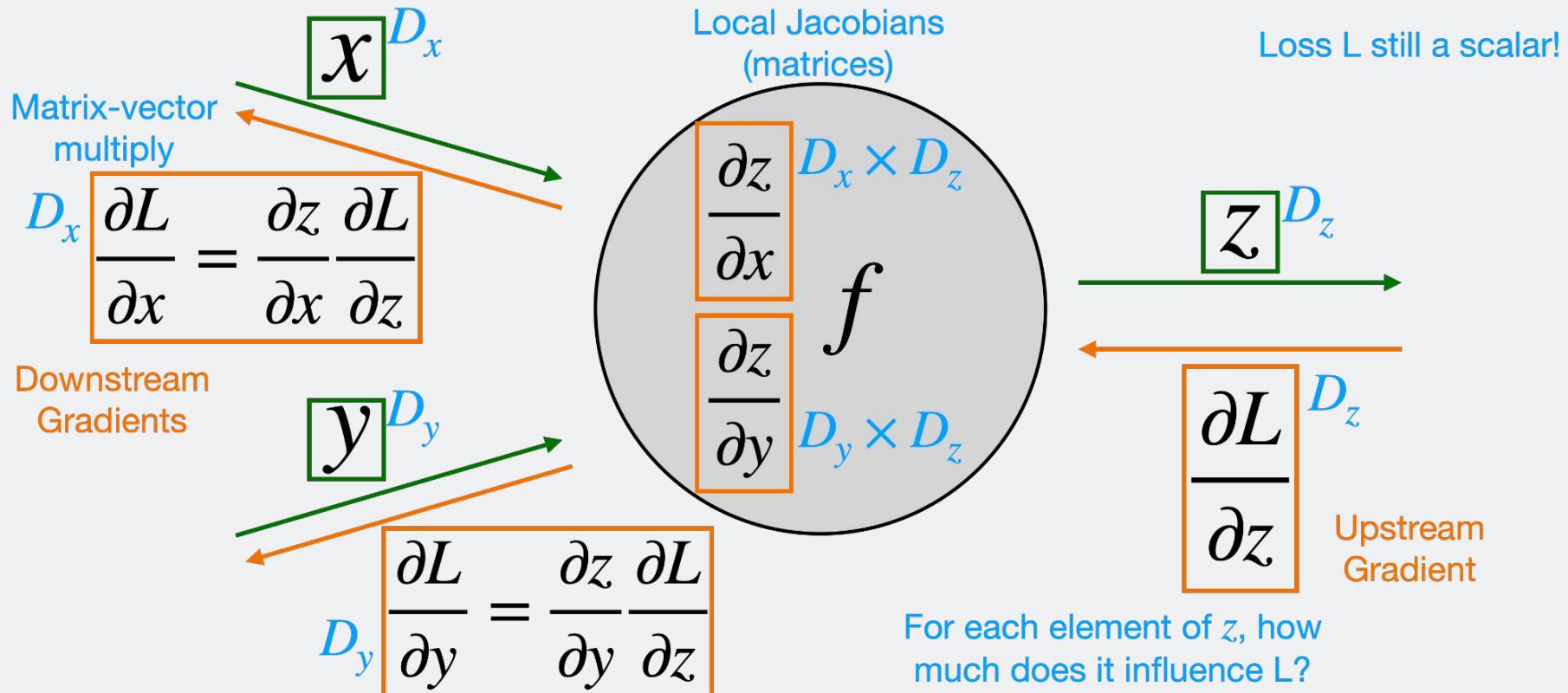
For each element of z , how
much does it influence L ?

Backprop with Vectors



For each element of z , how
much does it influence L ?

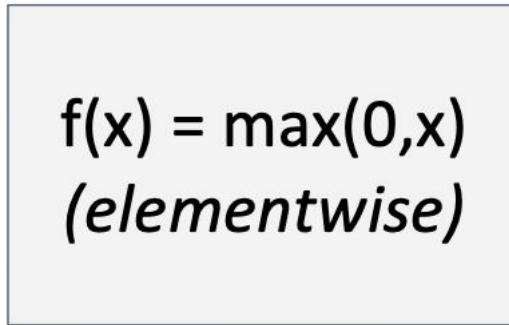
Backprop with Vectors



Backprop with Vectors

4D input x:

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



4D output y:

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

Backprop with Vectors

4D input x:

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

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

(elementwise)

4D output y:

$$\begin{array}{l} \longrightarrow [1] \\ \longrightarrow [0] \\ \longrightarrow [3] \\ \longrightarrow [0] \end{array}$$

4D dL/dy :

$$\begin{array}{c} \longleftarrow [4] \qquad \longleftarrow \\ \longleftarrow [-1] \qquad \longleftarrow \qquad \text{Upstream} \\ \longleftarrow [5] \qquad \longleftarrow \qquad \text{gradient} \\ \longleftarrow [9] \qquad \longleftarrow \end{array}$$

Backprop with Vectors

4D input x:

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4D output y:

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[dy/dx] [dL/dy]

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

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

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

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

4D dL/dy:

$$\begin{array}{c} \longleftarrow [4] \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \longleftarrow [-1] \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \longleftarrow [5] \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \longleftarrow [9] \end{array}$$

Upstream
gradient

Backprop with Vectors

4D input x:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 3 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\text{green arrows}}$$

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

(elementwise)

4D output y:

$$\xrightarrow{\text{green arrows}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 3 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

4D dL/dx :

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \\ 5 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \xleftarrow{\text{red arrows}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \\ 5 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

4D dL/dy :

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -1 \\ 5 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix} \xleftarrow{\text{red arrows}} \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -1 \\ 5 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix}$$

Upstream
gradient

Backprop with Vectors

4D input x:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 3 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\quad} \begin{bmatrix} f(x) = \max(0, x) \\ \text{(elementwise)} \end{bmatrix}$$

4D output y:

$$\begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{\quad} [1] \\ \xrightarrow{\quad} [0] \\ \xrightarrow{\quad} [3] \\ \xrightarrow{\quad} [0] \end{array}$$

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

4D dL/dx :

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \\ 5 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \xleftarrow{\quad} \begin{bmatrix} dy/dx \\ dL/dy \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -1 \\ 5 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix}$$

4D dL/dy :

$$\begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{\quad} [4] \\ \xleftarrow{\quad} [-1] \\ \xleftarrow{\quad} [5] \\ \xleftarrow{\quad} [9] \end{array} \xleftarrow{\quad} \begin{bmatrix} Upstream \\ gradient \end{bmatrix}$$

Backprop with Vectors

4D input x:

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

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(elementwise)

4D output y:

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4D dL/dx :

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

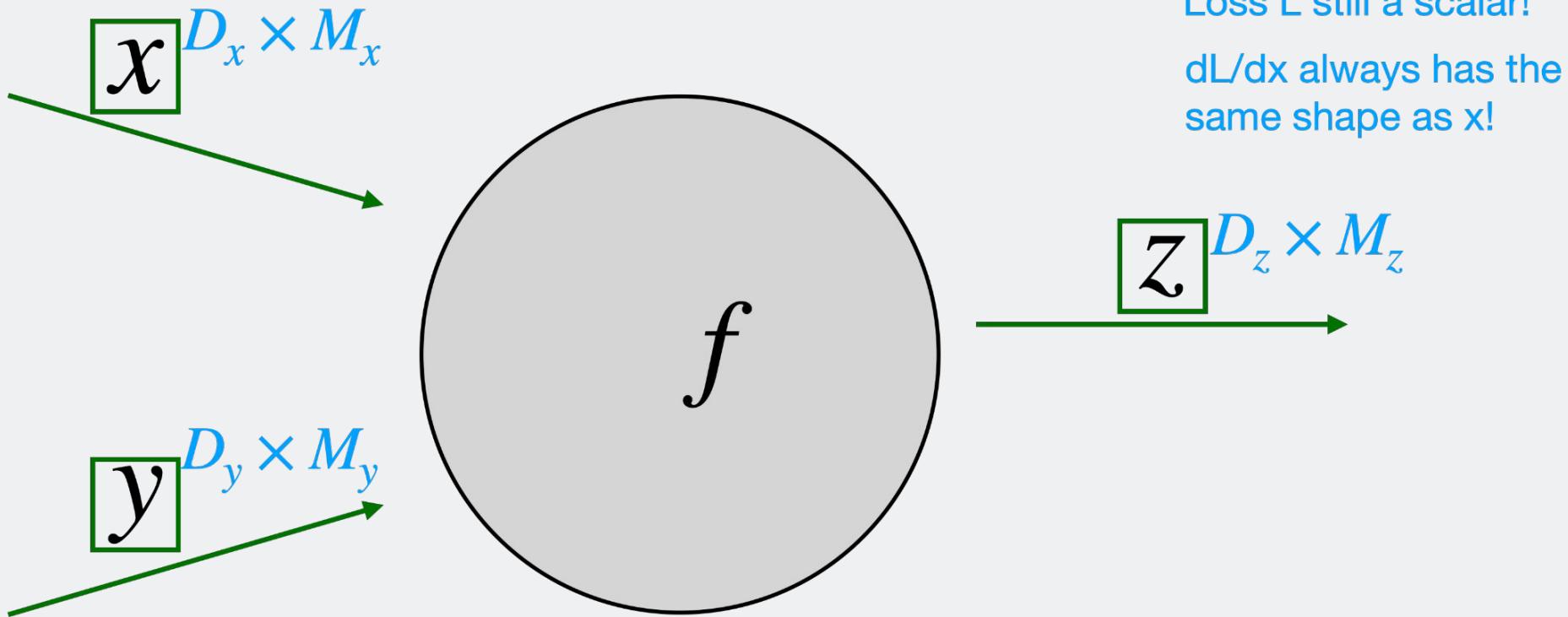
$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 0 \\ 5 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial x} \right)_i = \begin{cases} \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial y} \right)_i, & \text{if } x_i > 0 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

4D dL/dy :

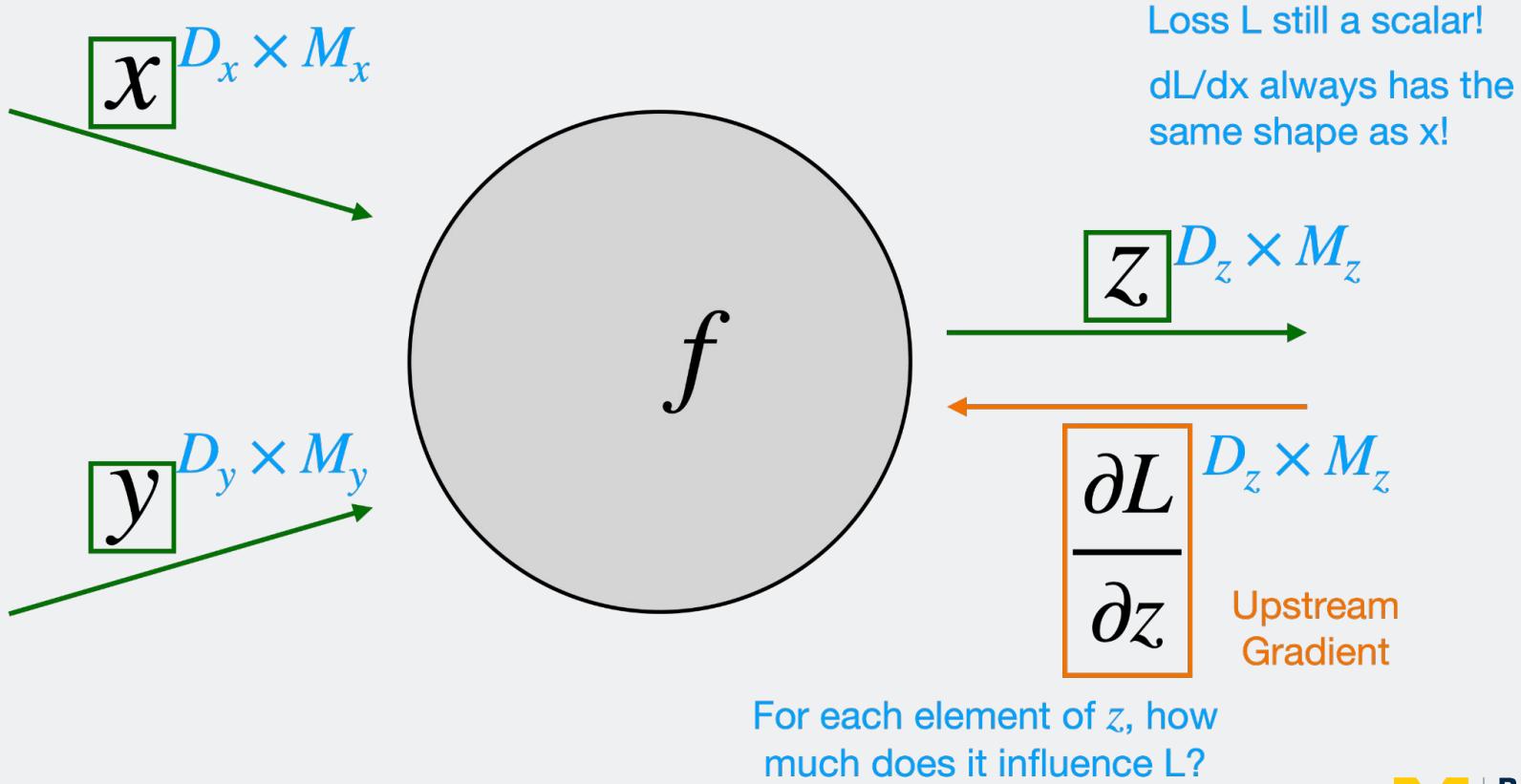
$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ -1 \\ 5 \\ 9 \end{bmatrix} \leftarrow \begin{array}{l} \leftarrow [4] \\ \leftarrow [-1] \\ \leftarrow [5] \\ \leftarrow [9] \end{array}$$

Upstream gradient

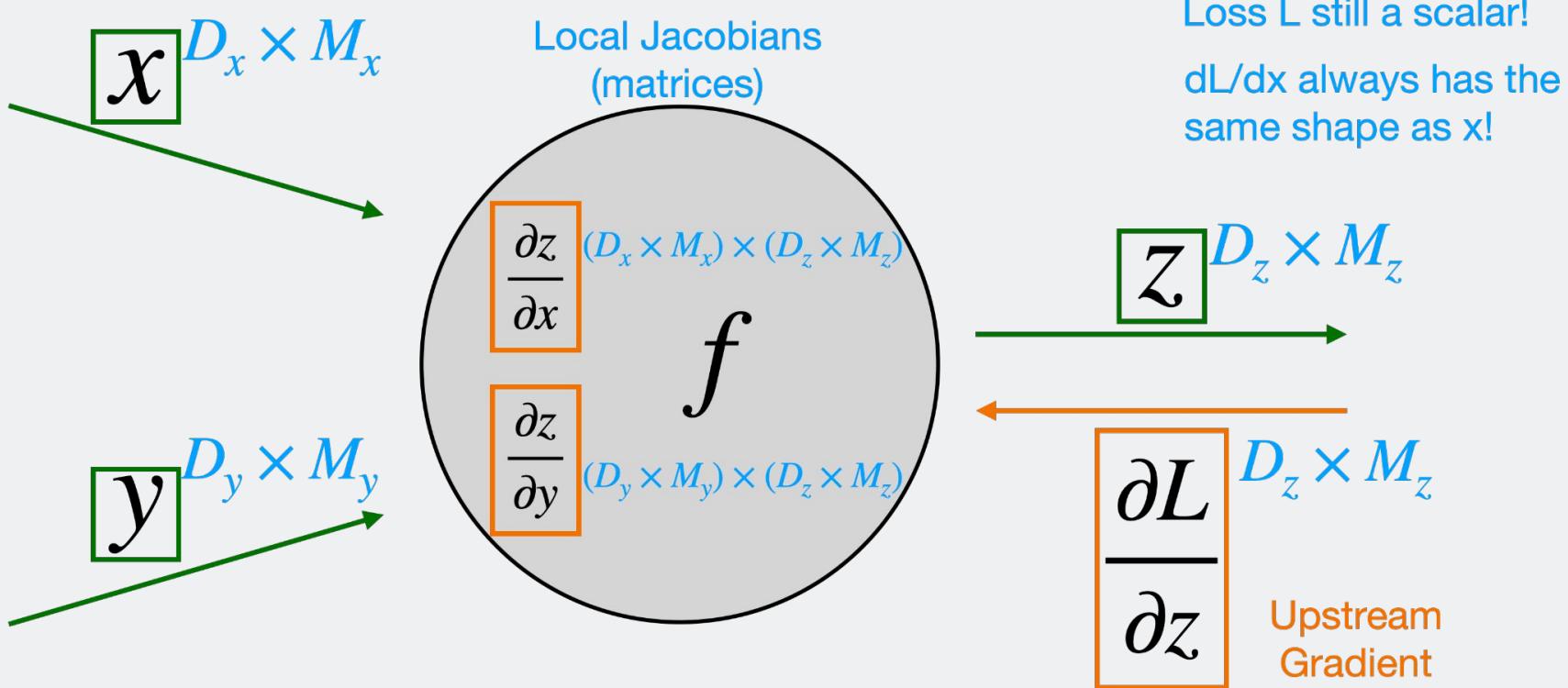
Backprop with Matrices (or Tensors)



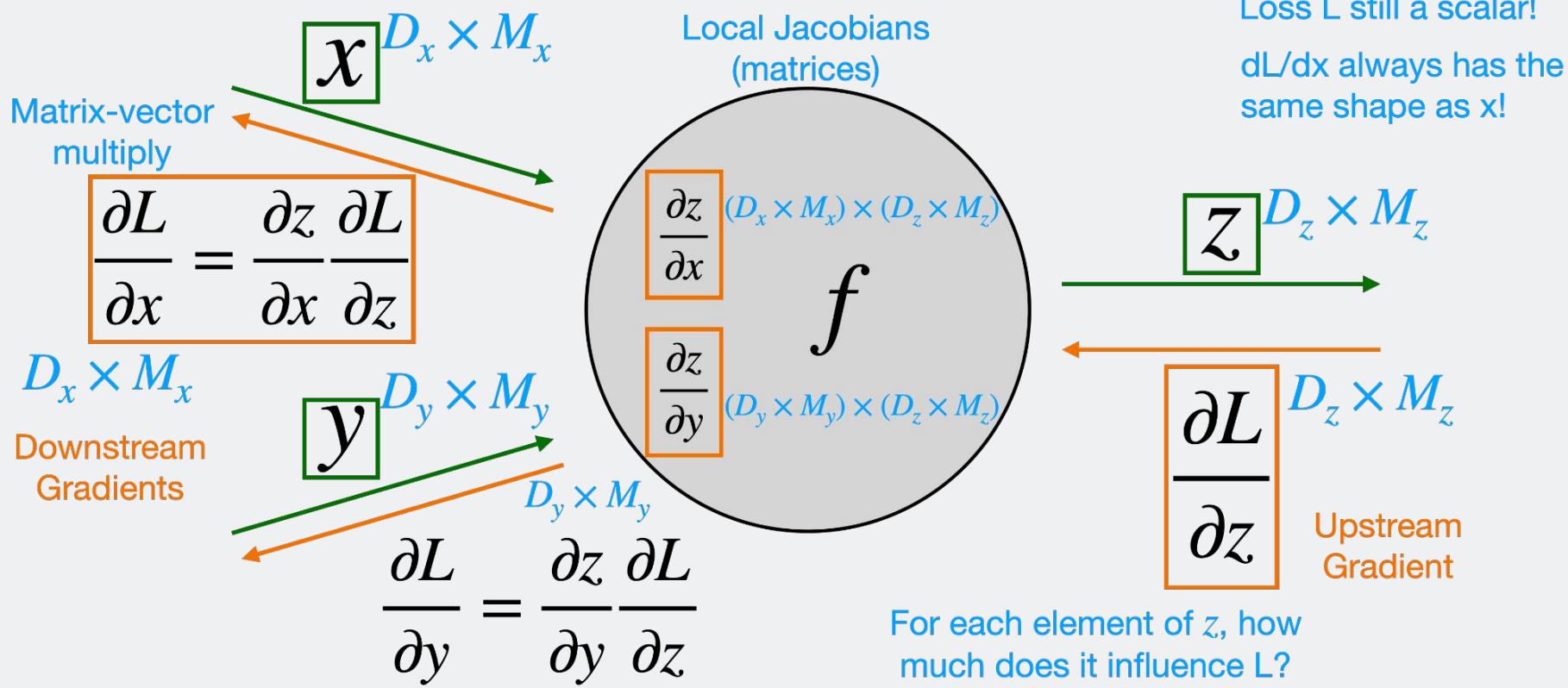
Backprop with Matrices (or Tensors)



Backprop with Matrices (or Tensors)



Backprop with Matrices (or Tensors)



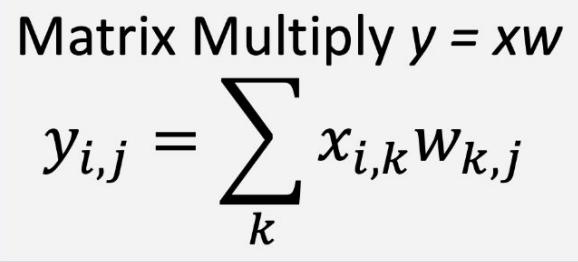
Example: Matrix Multiplication

$x: [N \times D]$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & -3 \\ -3 & 4 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$w: [D \times M]$

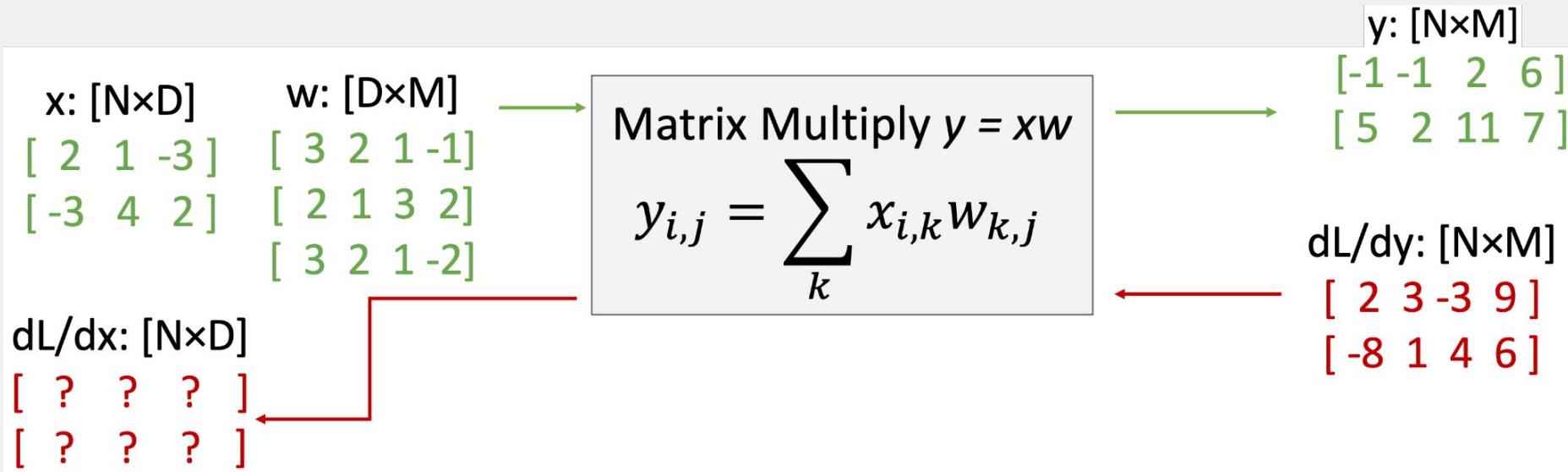
$$\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 & 1 & -1 \\ 2 & 1 & 3 & 2 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$



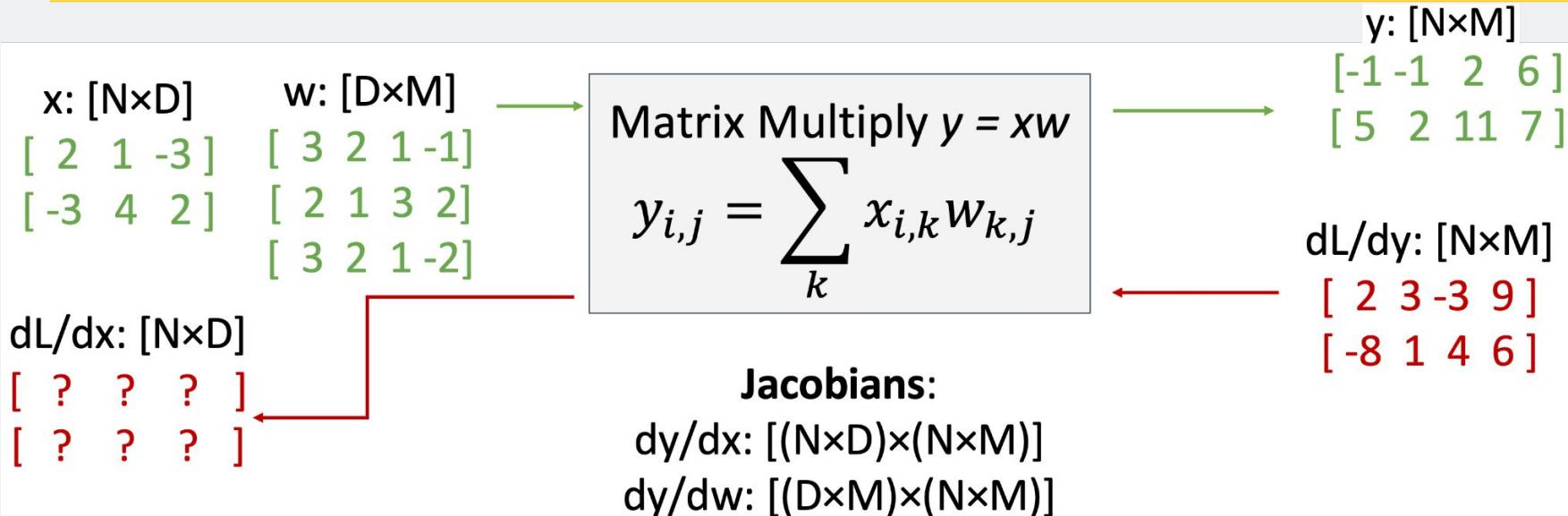
$y: [N \times M]$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 & 2 & 6 \\ 5 & 2 & 11 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$$

Example: Matrix Multiplication



Example: Matrix Multiplication

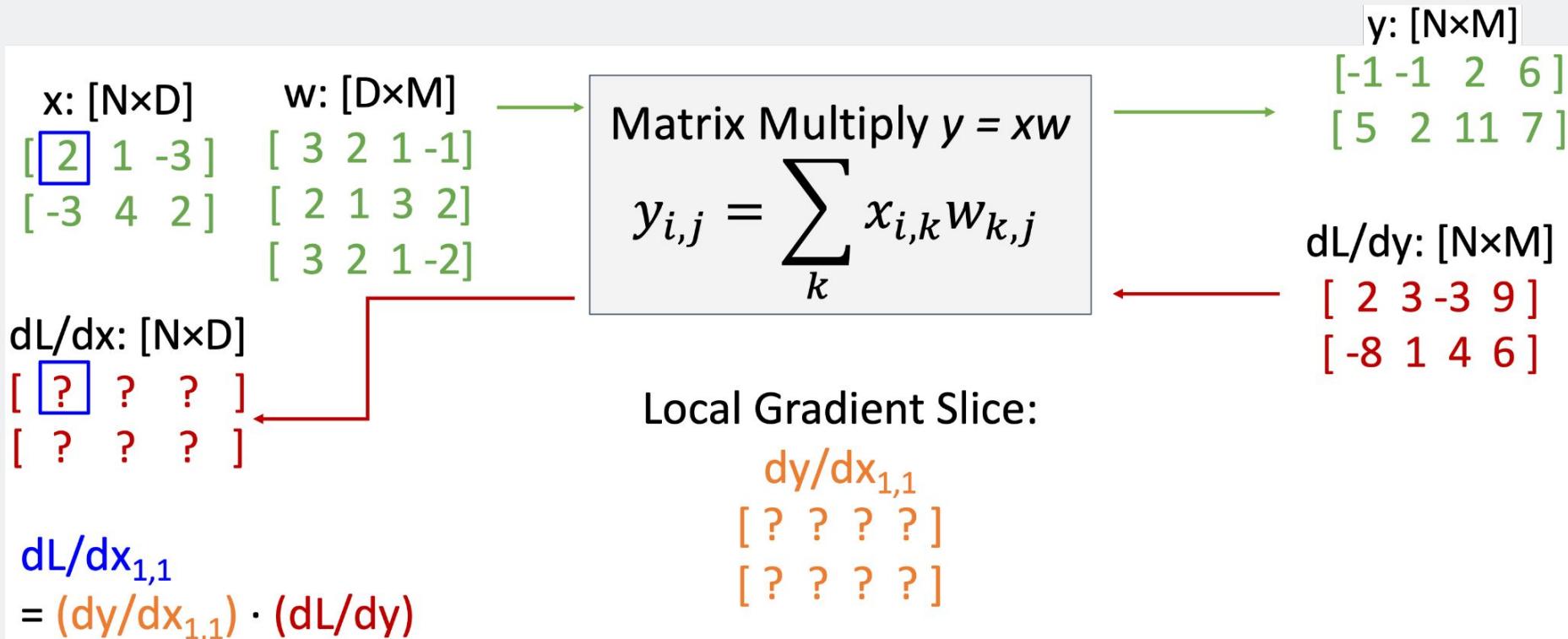


For a neural net we may have

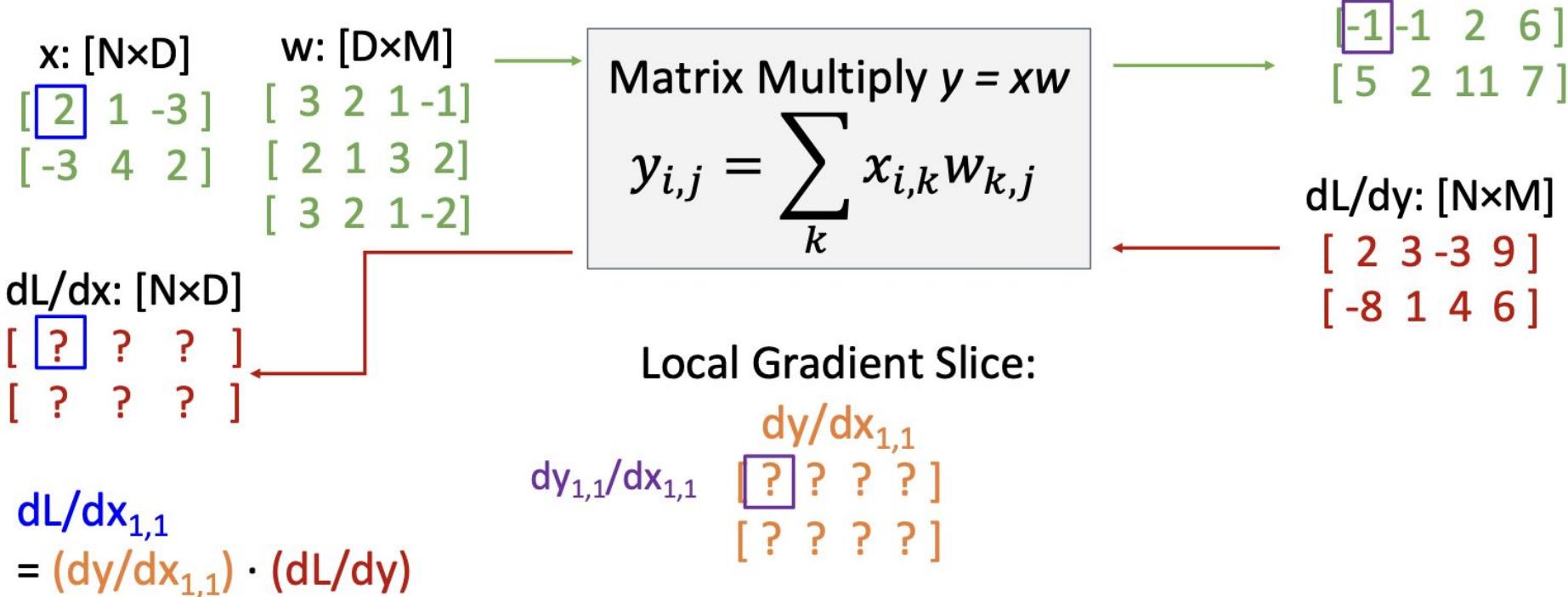
$$N=64, D=M=4096$$

Each Jacobian takes 256 GB of memory! Must work with them implicitly!

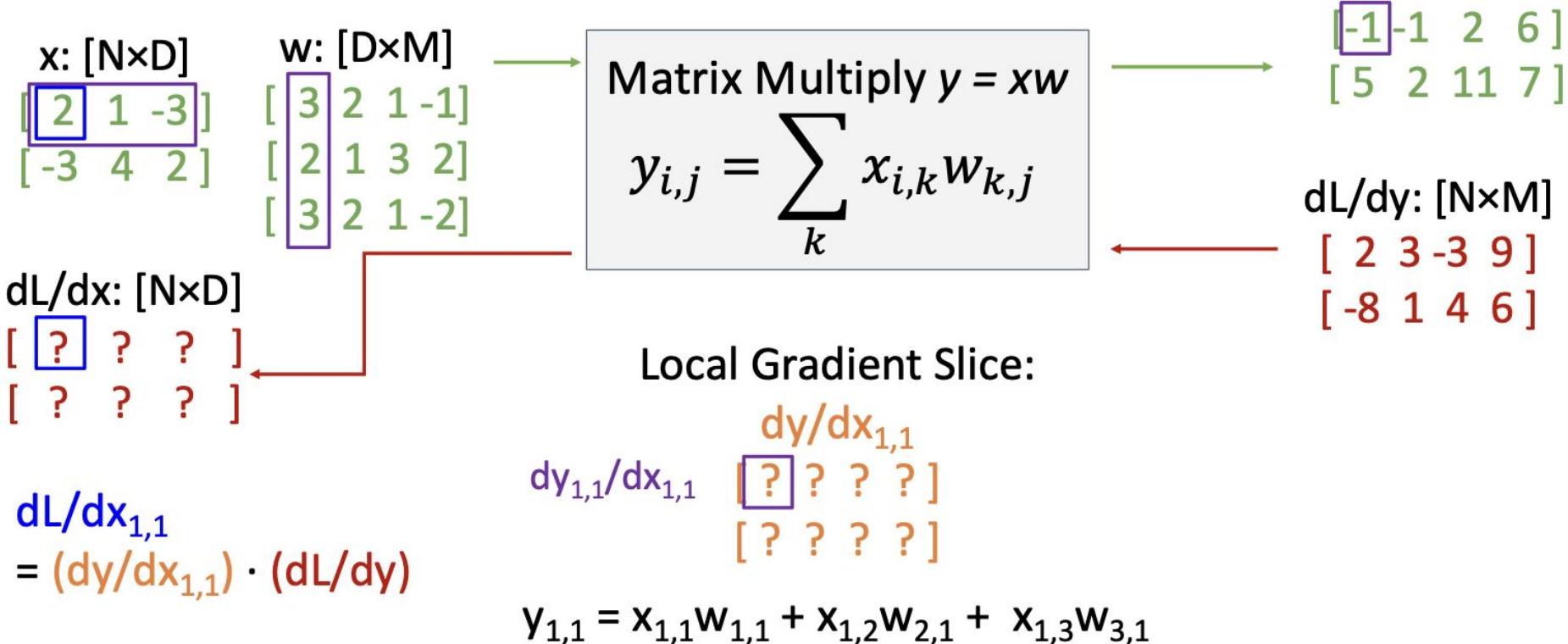
Example: Matrix Multiplication



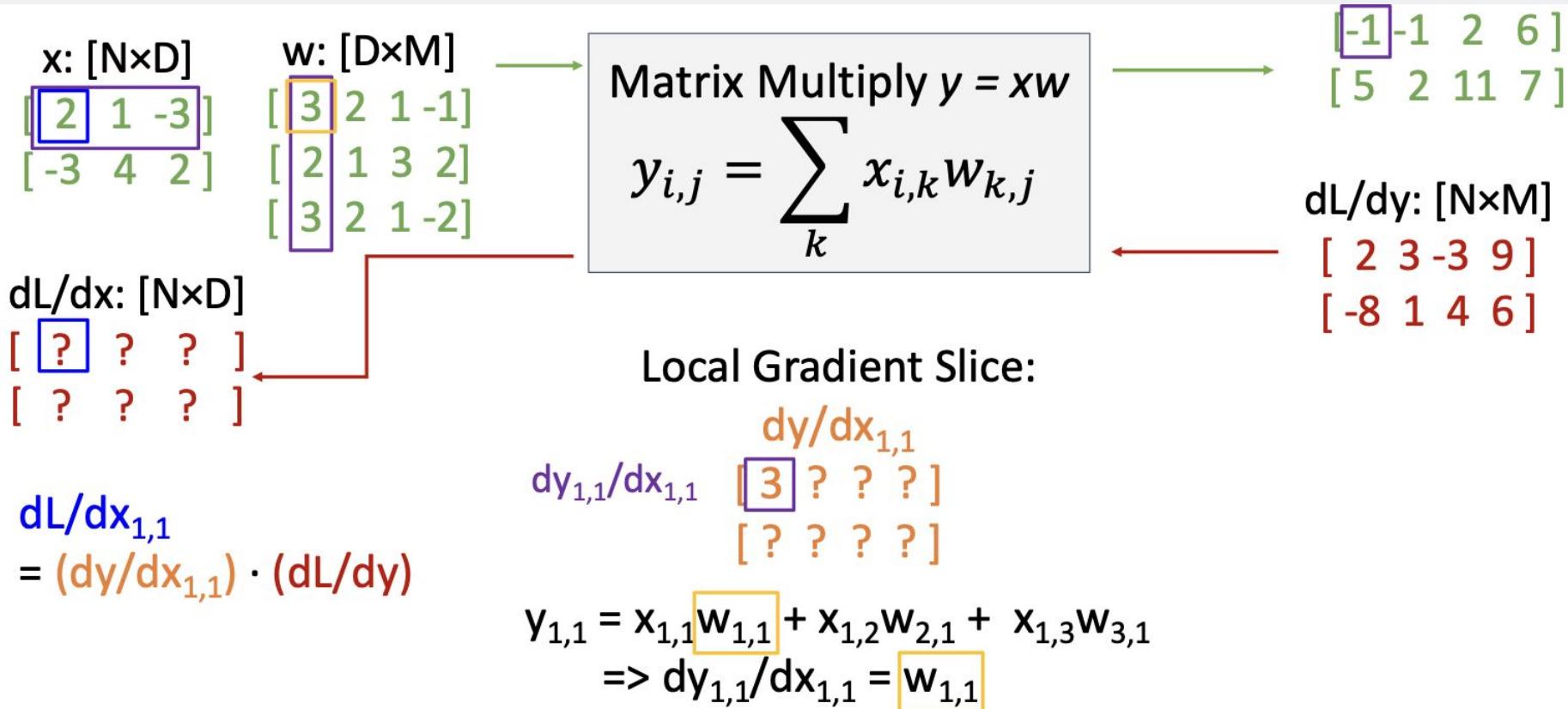
Example: Matrix Multiplication



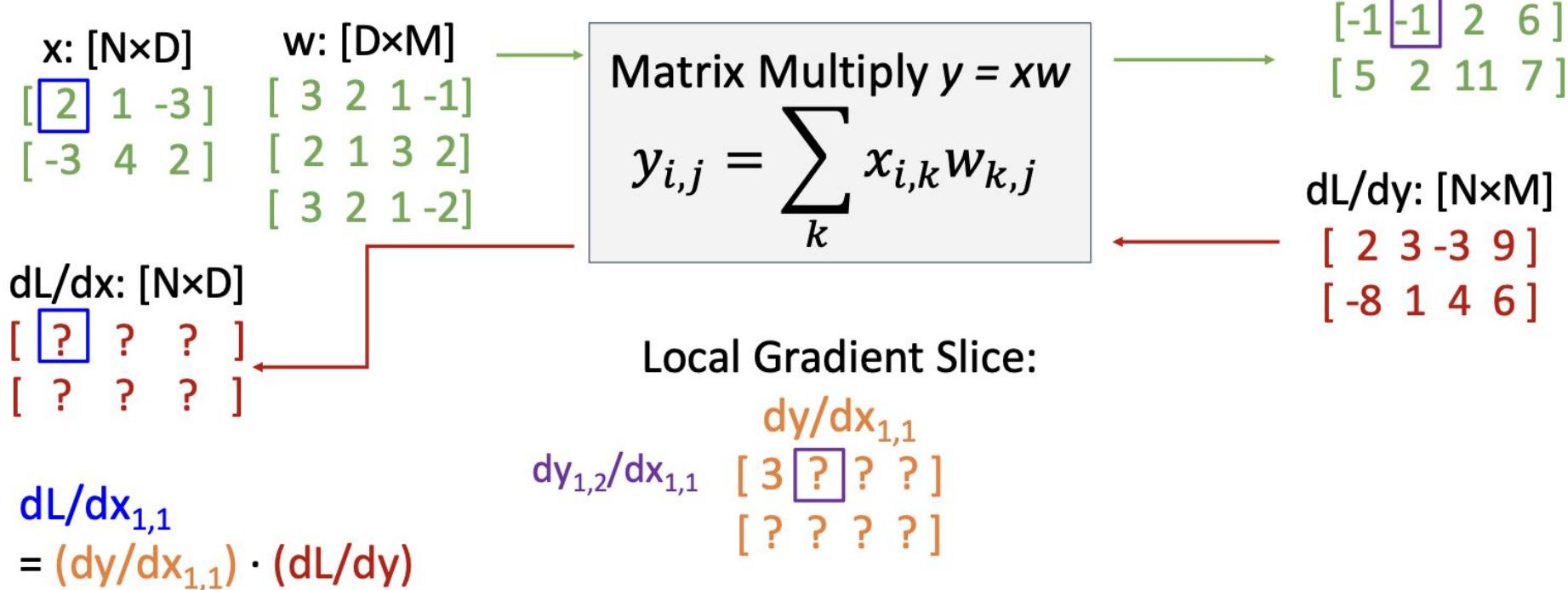
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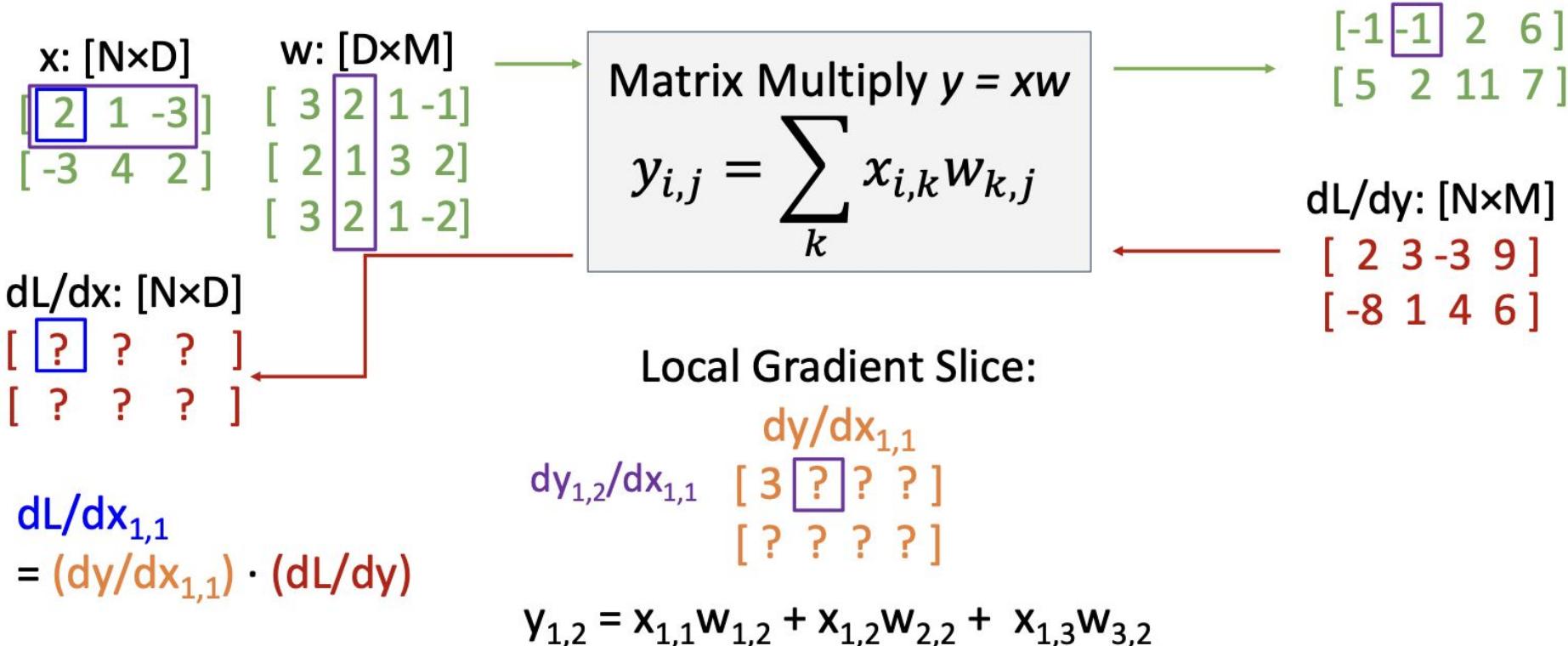
Example: Matrix Multiplication



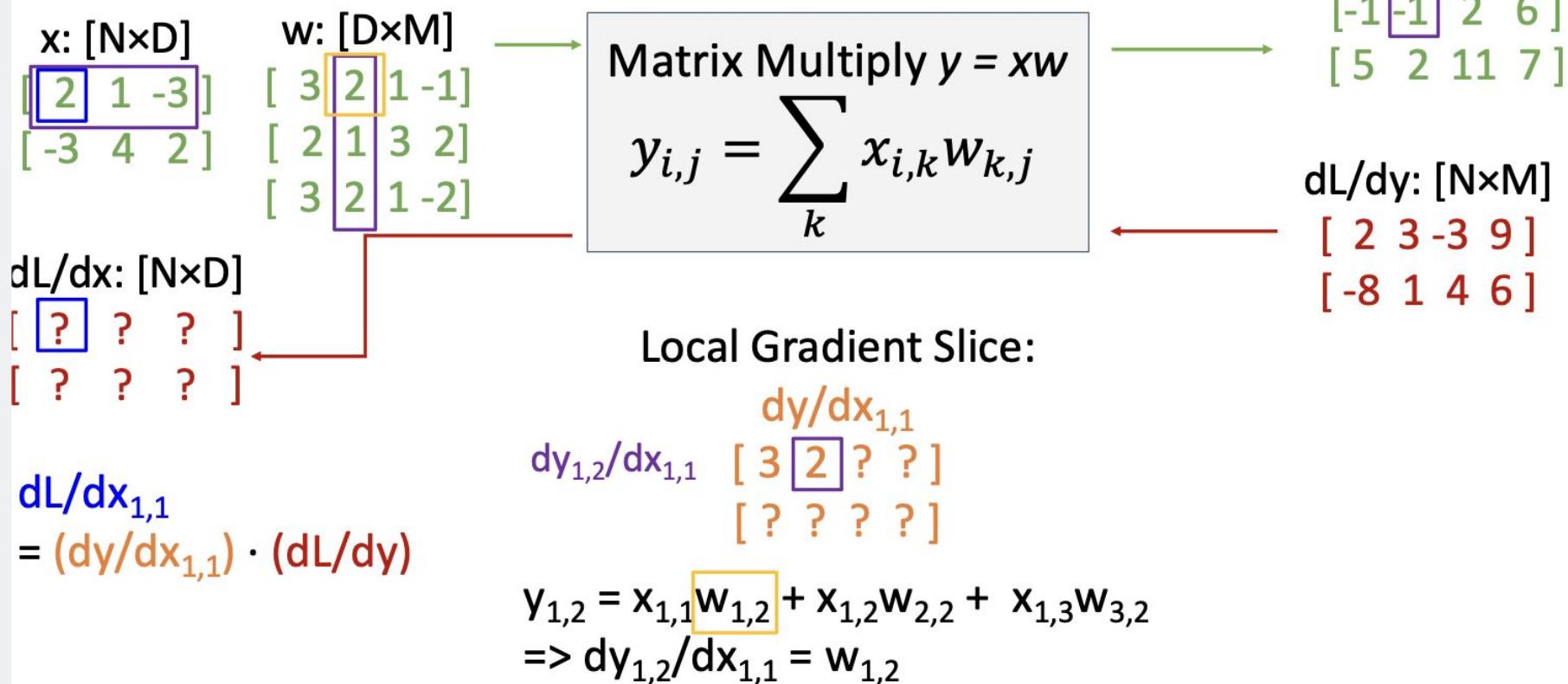
Example: Matrix Multiplication



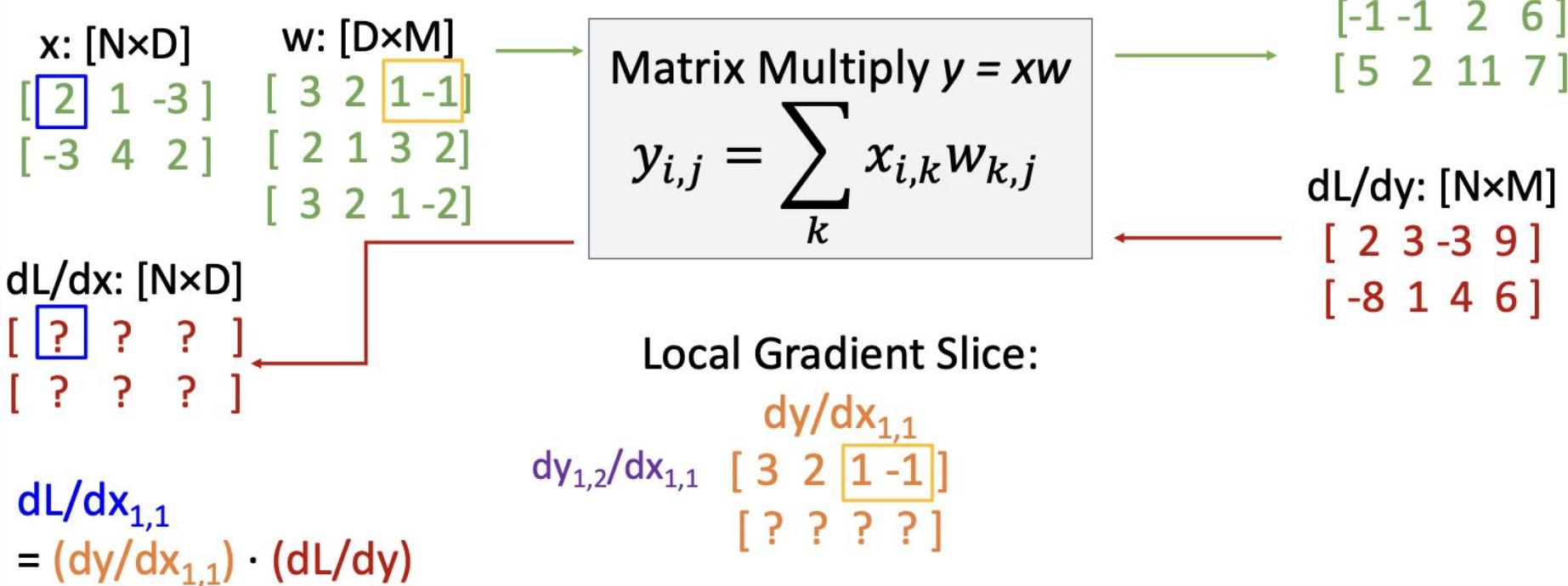
Example: Matrix Multiplication



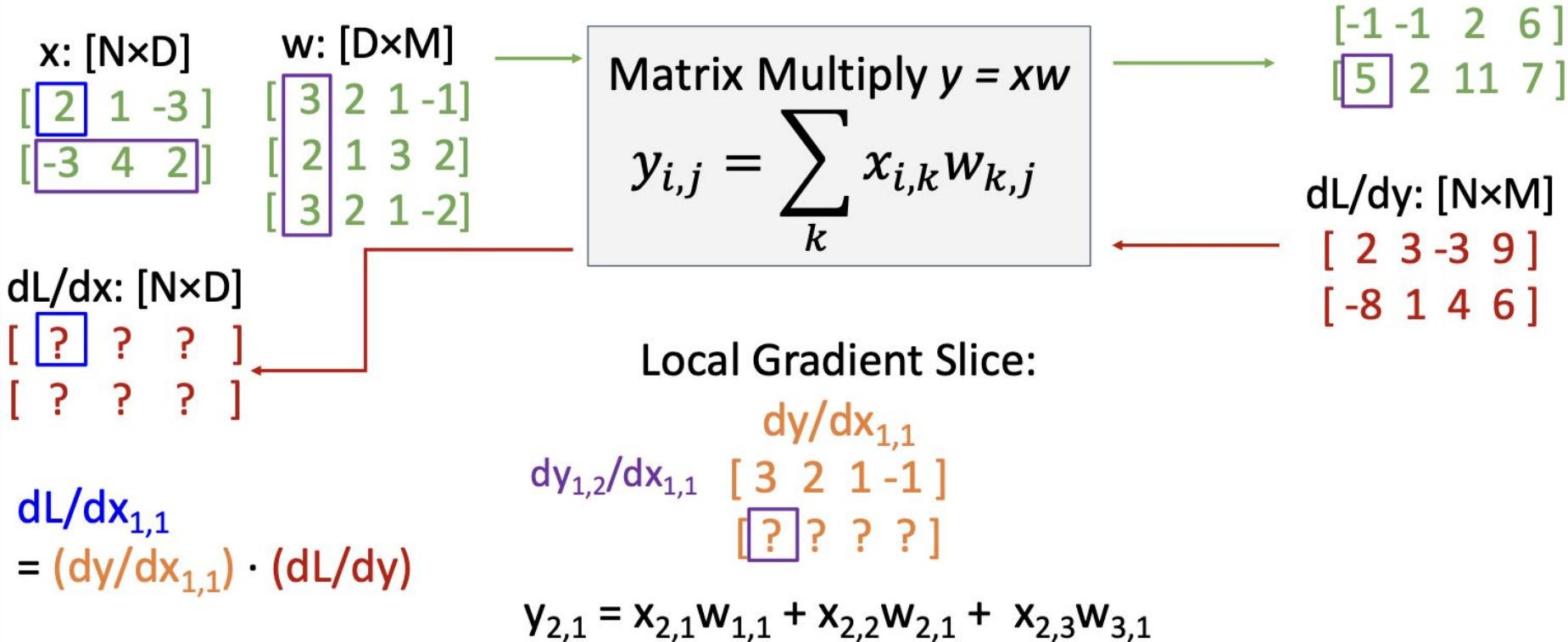
Example: Matrix Multiplication



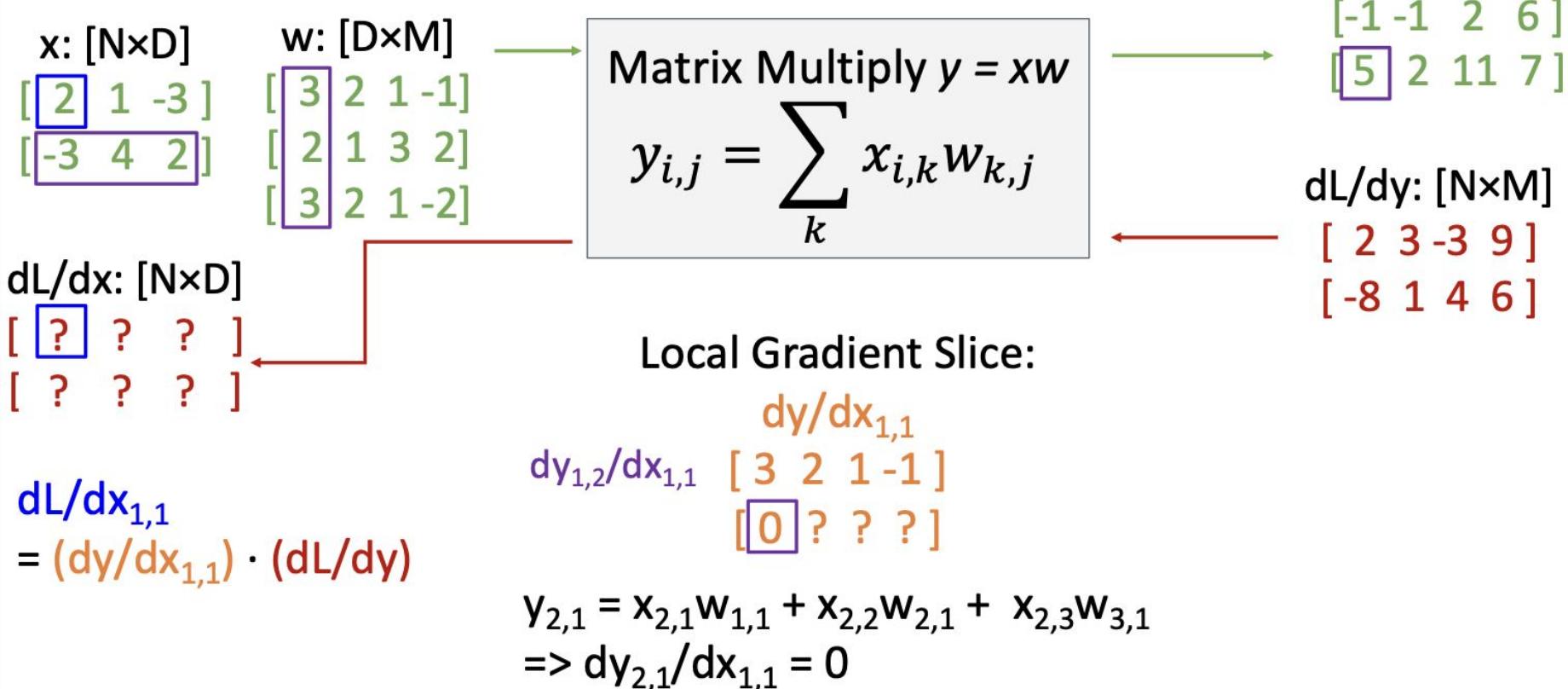
Example: Matrix Multiplication



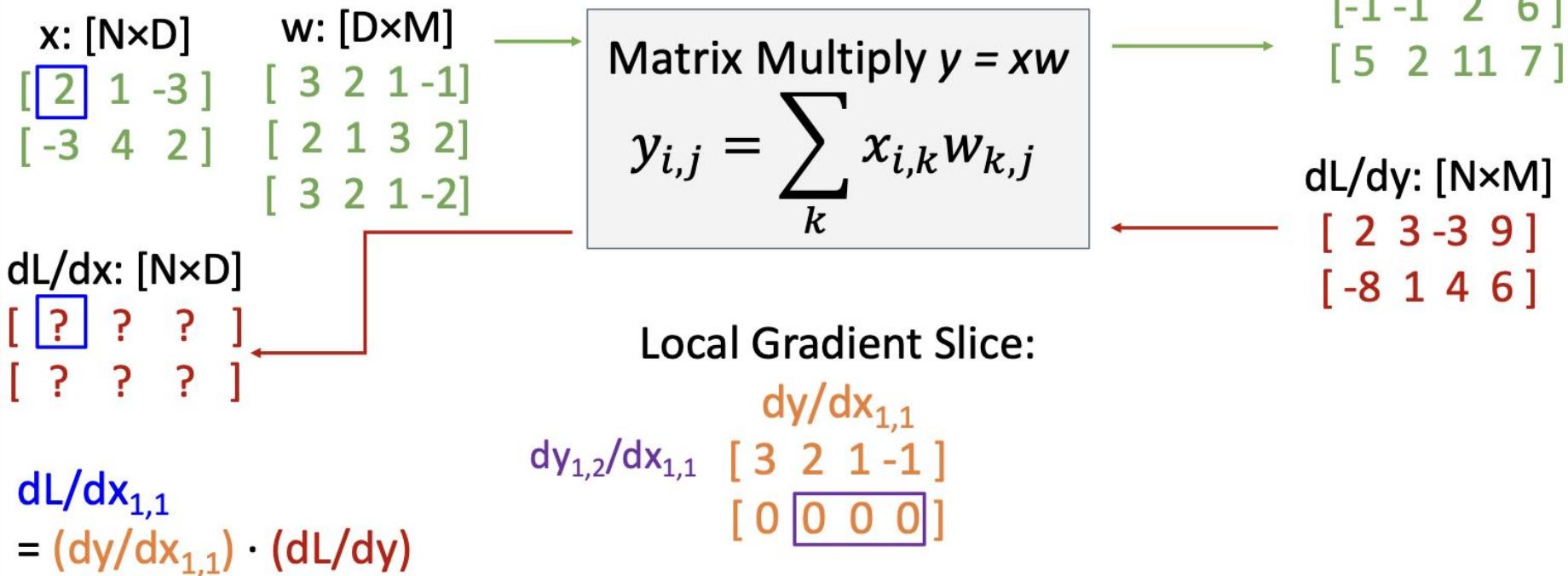
Example: Matrix Multiplication



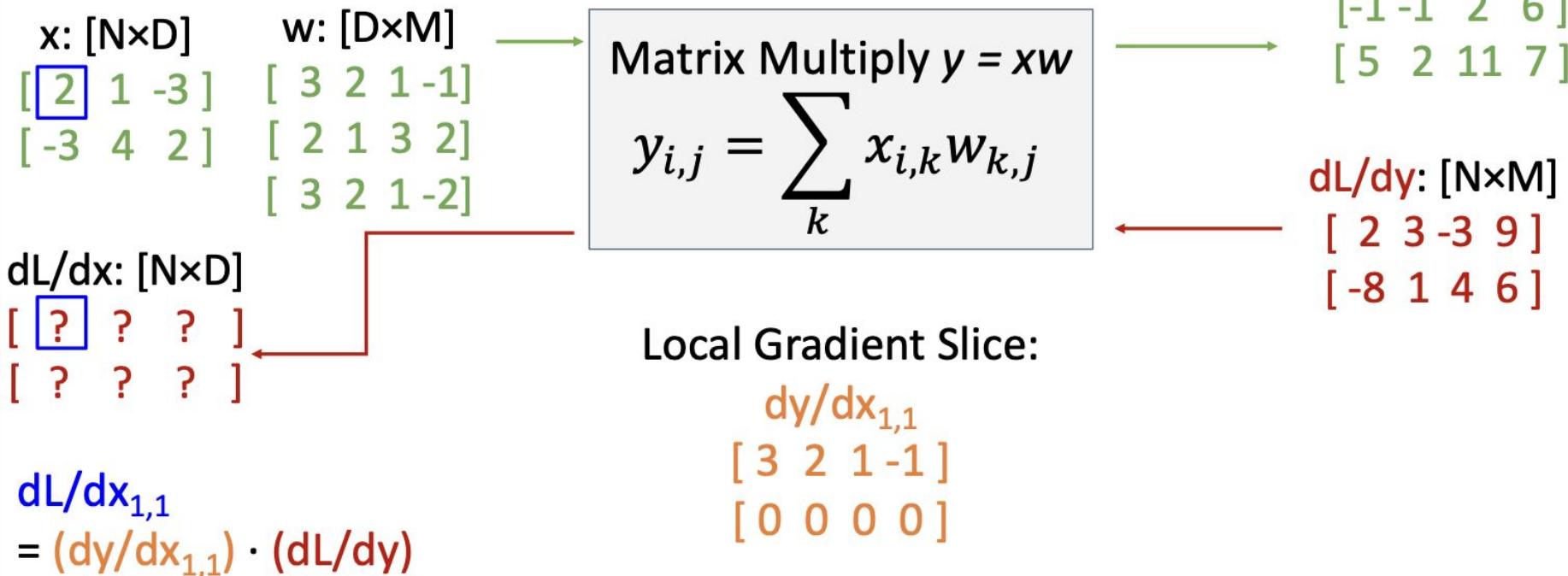
Example: Matrix Multiplication



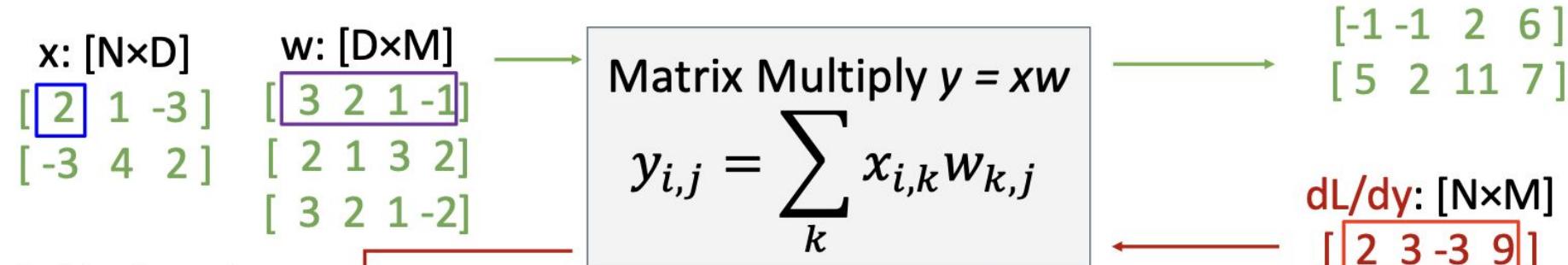
Example: Matrix Multiplication



Example: Matrix Multiplication

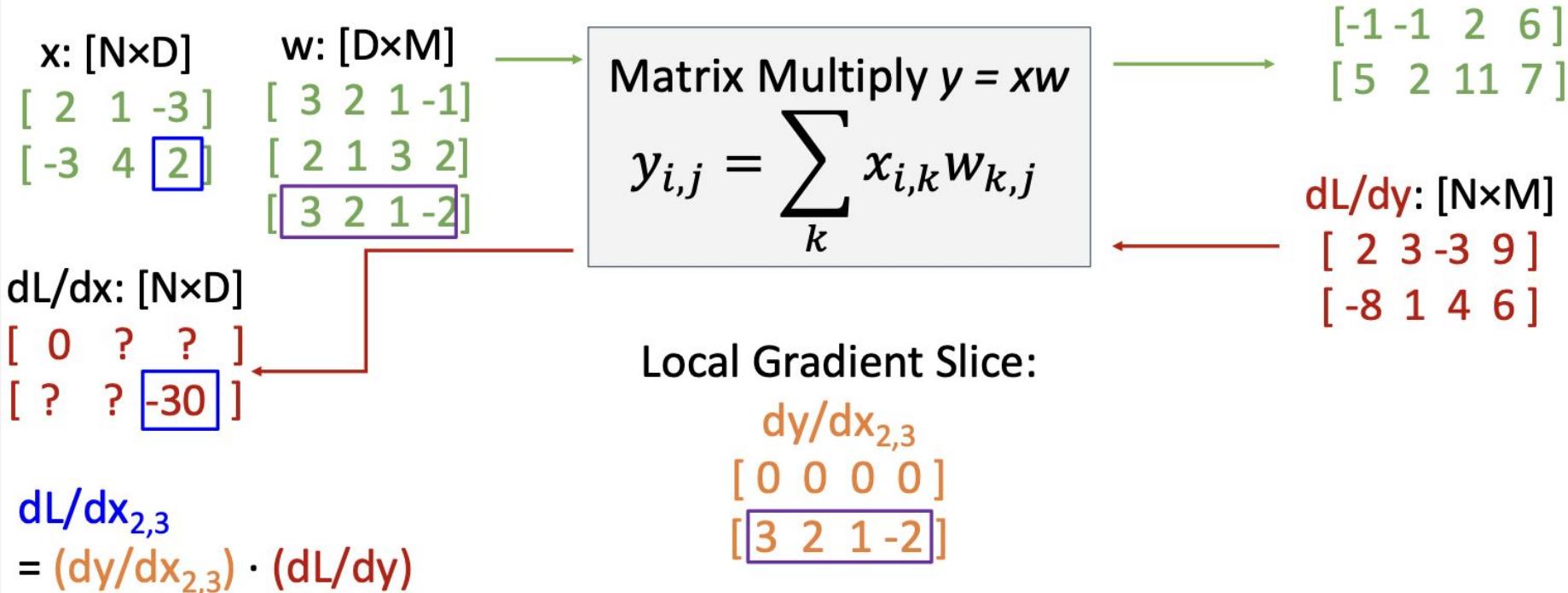


Example: Matrix Multiplication

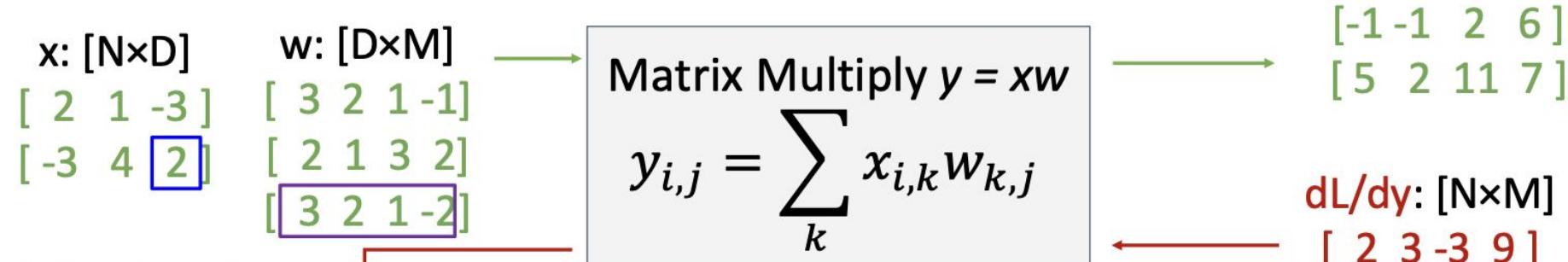


$$\begin{matrix} dy/dx_{1,1} \\ [3 \ 2 \ 1 \ -1] \\ [0 \ 0 \ 0 \ 0] \end{matrix}$$

Example: Matrix Multiplication



Example: Matrix Multiplication



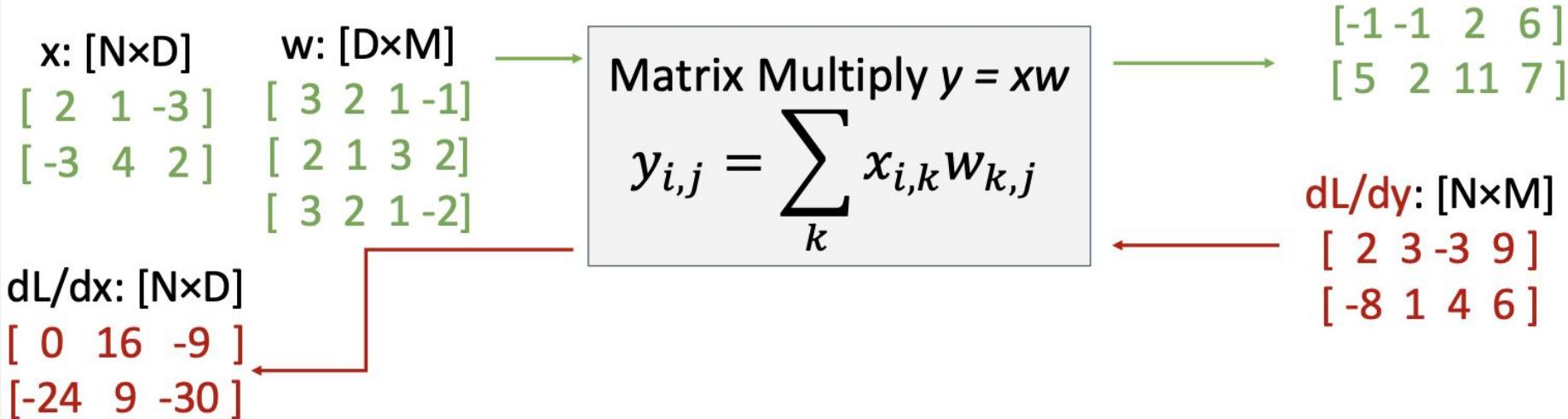
$$dL/dx: [N \times D]$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & ? & ? \\ ? & ? & -30 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$dL/dx_{2,3}$$
$$= (dy/dx_{2,3}) \cdot (dL/dy)$$
$$= (w_{3,:}) \cdot (dL/dy_{2,:})$$
$$= 3*(-8) + 2*1 + 1*4 + (-2)*6 = -30$$

Local Gradient Slice:

$$dy/dx_{2,3}$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Example: Matrix Multiplication



$$\begin{aligned} dL/dx_{i,j} &= (dy/dx_{i,j}) \cdot (dL/dy) \\ &= (w_{j,:}) \cdot (dL/dy_{i,:}) \end{aligned}$$

Example: Matrix Multiplication

$$x: [N \times D] \quad w: [D \times M]$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & -3 \\ -3 & 4 & 2 \\ 3 & 2 & 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 3 & 2 & 1 & -1 \\ 2 & 1 & 3 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$dL/dx: [N \times D]$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 16 & -9 \\ -24 & 9 & -30 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$dL/dx_{i,j}$$
$$= (\frac{dy}{dx}_{i,j}) \cdot (dL/dy)$$
$$= (w_{j,:}) \cdot (dL/dy_{i,:})$$

Matrix Multiply $y = xw$

$$y_{i,j} = \sum_k x_{i,k} w_{k,j}$$

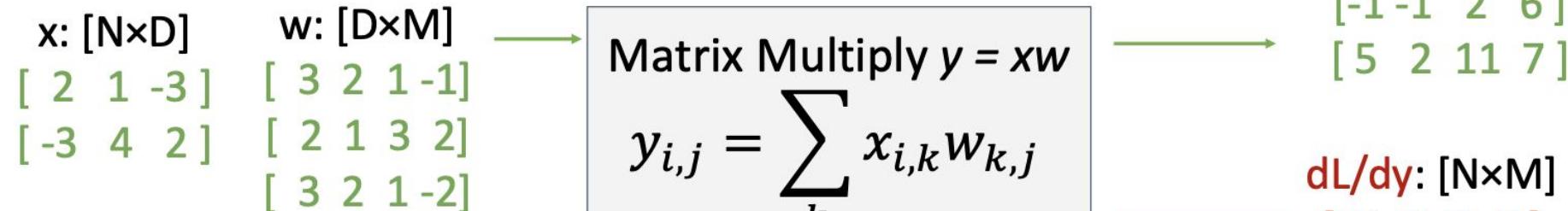
$$\begin{bmatrix} -1 & -1 & 2 & 6 \\ 5 & 2 & 11 & 7 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$dL/dy: [N \times M]$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 3 & -3 & 9 \\ -8 & 1 & 4 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$dL/dx = (dL/dy) w^T$$
$$[N \times D] \quad [N \times M] \quad [M \times D]$$

Easy way to remember:
It's the only way the
shapes work out!

Example: Matrix Multiplication



$dL/dx: [N \times D]$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 16 & -9 \\ -24 & 9 & -30 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$dL/dx = (dL/dy) w^T$$

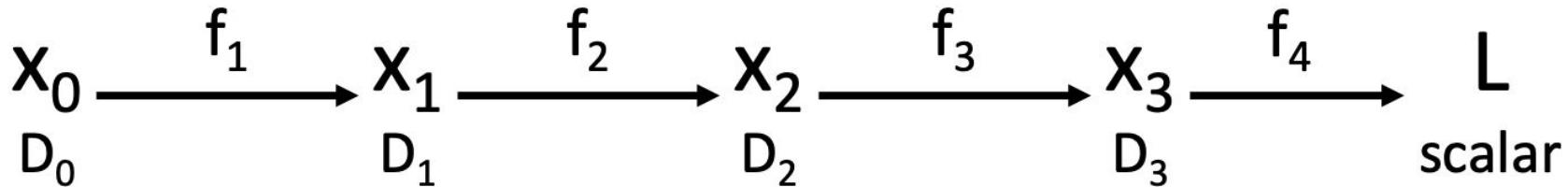
$[N \times D] \quad [N \times M] \quad [M \times D]$

$$dL/dw = x^T (dL/dy)$$

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

Easy way to remember:
It's the only way the
shapes work out!

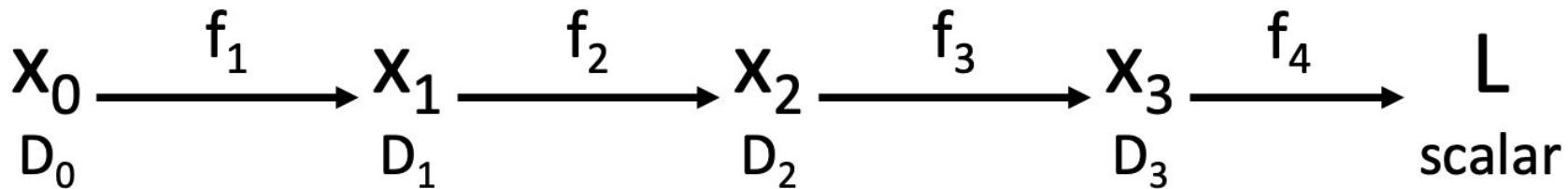
Backpropagation: Another View



Chain
rule

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial x_0} = \left(\frac{\partial x_1}{\partial x_0} \right) \left(\frac{\partial x_2}{\partial x_1} \right) \left(\frac{\partial x_3}{\partial x_2} \right) \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial x_3} \right)$$

Backpropagation: Another View



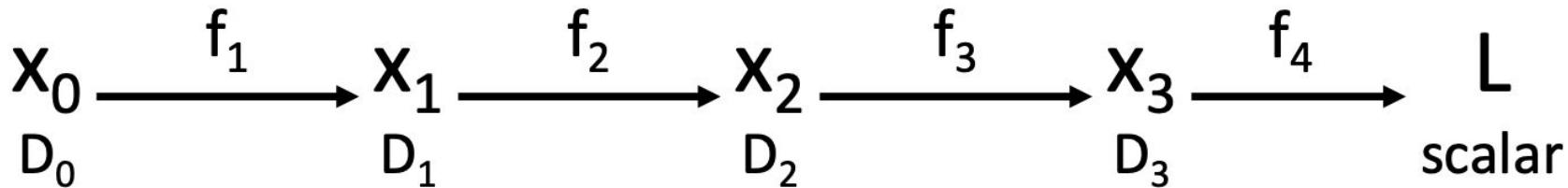
Matrix multiplication is **associative**: we can compute products in any order

Chain rule

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial x_0} = \left(\frac{\partial x_1}{\partial x_0} \right) \left(\frac{\partial x_2}{\partial x_1} \right) \left(\frac{\partial x_3}{\partial x_2} \right) \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial x_3} \right)$$

$$[D_0 \times D_1] [D_1 \times D_2] [D_2 \times D_3] [D_3]$$

Reverse-Mode Automatic Differentiation

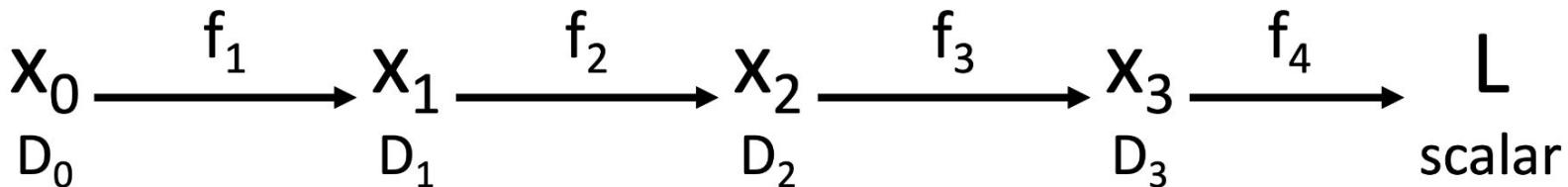


Matrix multiplication is **associative**: we can compute products in any order
Computing products right-to-left avoids matrix-matrix products; only needs matrix-vector

Chain rule

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial x_0} = \overbrace{\left(\frac{\partial x_1}{\partial x_0} \right) \left(\frac{\partial x_2}{\partial x_1} \right) \left(\frac{\partial x_3}{\partial x_2} \right) \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial x_3} \right)}^{\longrightarrow}$$
$$[D_0 \times D_1] [D_1 \times D_2] [D_2 \times D_3] [D_3]$$

Reverse-Mode Automatic Differentiation



Matrix multiplication is **associative**: we can compute products in any order

Computing products right-to-left avoids matrix-matrix products; only needs matrix-vector

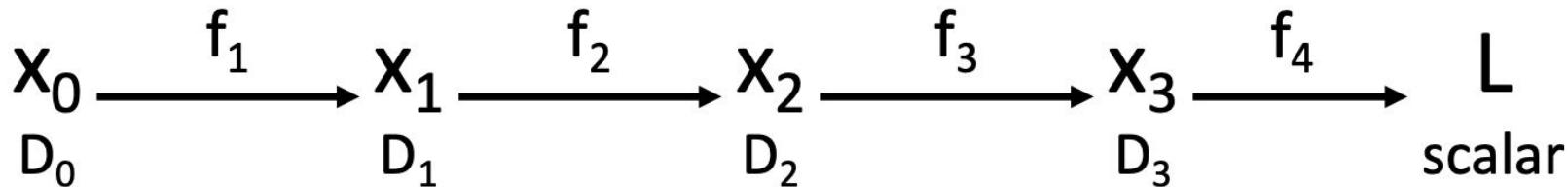
Chain rule

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial x_0} = \overbrace{\left(\frac{\partial x_1}{\partial x_0} \right) \left(\frac{\partial x_2}{\partial x_1} \right) \left(\frac{\partial x_3}{\partial x_2} \right) \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial x_3} \right)}$$

Compute grad of scalar output
w/ respect to all vector inputs

$[D_0 \times D_1]$ $[D_1 \times D_2]$ $[D_2 \times D_3]$ $[D_3]$

Reverse-Mode Automatic Differentiation



Matrix multiplication is **associative**: we can compute products in any order

Computing products right-to-left avoids matrix-matrix products; only needs matrix-vector

Chain
rule

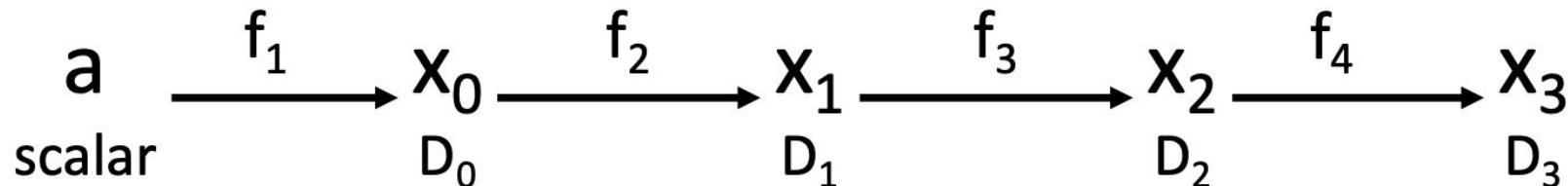
$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial x_0} = \left(\frac{\partial x_1}{\partial x_0} \right) \left(\frac{\partial x_2}{\partial x_1} \right) \left(\frac{\partial x_3}{\partial x_2} \right) \left(\frac{\partial L}{\partial x_3} \right)$$

Compute grad of scalar output
w/ respect to all vector inputs

[D₀ × D₁] [D₁ × D₂] [D₂ × D₃] [D₃]

What if we want
grads of scalar
input w/ respect
to vector
outputs?

Forward-Mode Automatic Differentiation

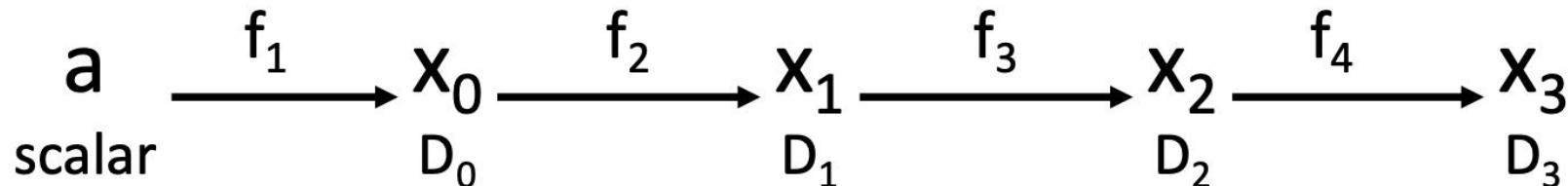


Chain
rule

$$\frac{\partial x_3}{\partial a} = \left(\frac{\partial x_0}{\partial a} \right) \left(\frac{\partial x_1}{\partial x_0} \right) \left(\frac{\partial x_2}{\partial x_1} \right) \left(\frac{\partial x_3}{\partial x_2} \right)$$

$$[D_0] \quad [D_0 \times D_1] \quad [D_1 \times D_2] \quad [D_2 \times D_3]$$

Forward-Mode Automatic Differentiation



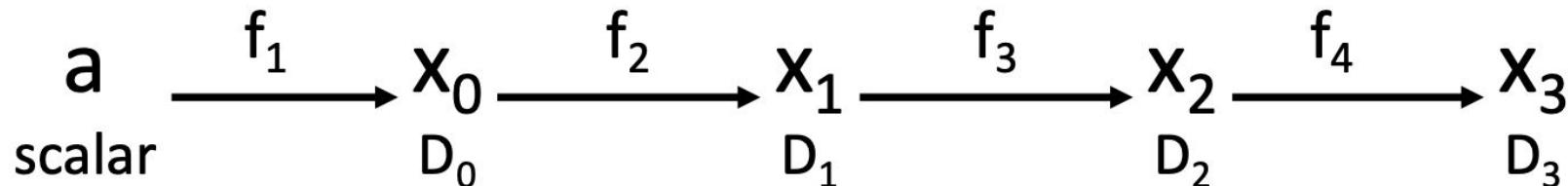
Computing products left-to-right avoids matrix-matrix products; only needs matrix-vector

Chain rule

$$\frac{\partial x_3}{\partial a} = \overrightarrow{\left(\frac{\partial x_0}{\partial a} \right) \left(\frac{\partial x_1}{\partial x_0} \right) \left(\frac{\partial x_2}{\partial x_1} \right) \left(\frac{\partial x_3}{\partial x_2} \right)}$$

$$[D_0] \ [D_0 \times D_1] \ [D_1 \times D_2] \ [D_2 \times D_3]$$

Forward-Mode Automatic Differentiation



Computing products left-to-right avoids matrix-matrix products; only needs matrix-vector

Beta implementation in PyTorch! https://pytorch.org/tutorials/intermediate/forward_ad_usage.html

Chain rule

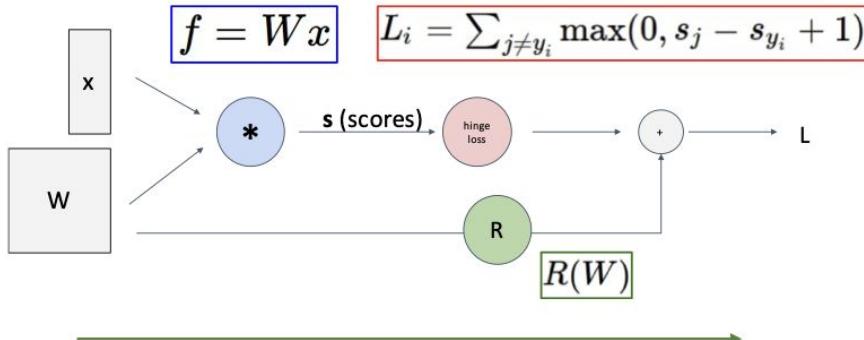
$$\frac{\partial x_3}{\partial a} = \overbrace{\left(\frac{\partial x_0}{\partial a} \right) \left(\frac{\partial x_1}{\partial x_0} \right) \left(\frac{\partial x_2}{\partial x_1} \right) \left(\frac{\partial x_3}{\partial x_2} \right)}^{\longrightarrow}$$

$[D_0] \quad [D_0 \times D_1] \quad [D_1 \times D_2] \quad [D_2 \times D_3]$

You can also implement forward-mode AD using two calls to reverse-mode AD!
(Inefficient but elegant)

Summary

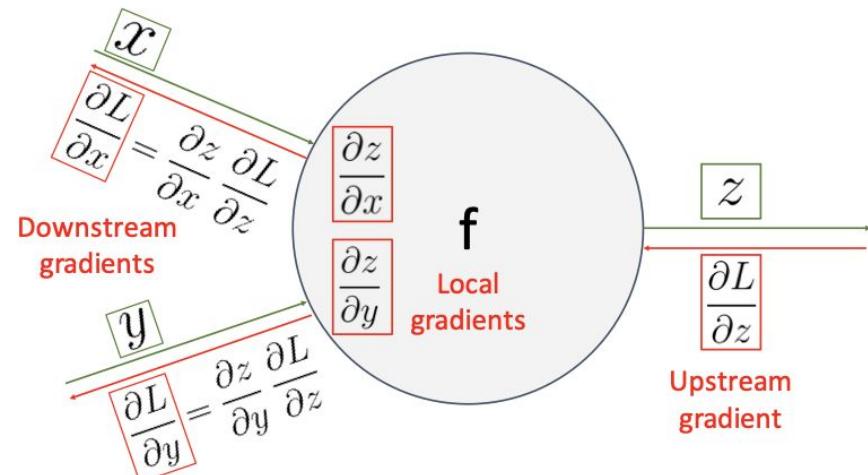
Represent complex expressions
as **computational graphs**



Forward pass computes outputs

Backward pass computes gradients

During the backward pass, each node in the graph receives **upstream gradients** and multiplies them by **local gradients** to compute **downstream gradients**



Summary

Backprop can be implemented with “flat” code where the backward pass looks like forward pass reversed

```
def f(w0, x0, w1, x1, w2):
    s0 = w0 * x0
    s1 = w1 * x1
    s2 = s0 + s1
    s3 = s2 + w2
    L = sigmoid(s3)

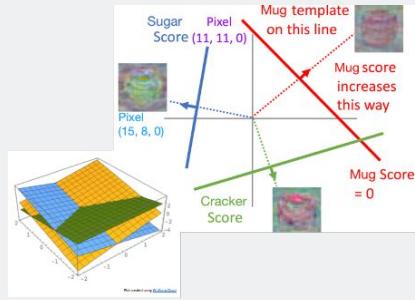
    grad_L = 1.0
    grad_s3 = grad_L * (1 - L) * L
    grad_w2 = grad_s3
    grad_s2 = grad_s3
    grad_s0 = grad_s2
    grad_s1 = grad_s2
    grad_w1 = grad_s1 * x1
    grad_x1 = grad_s1 * w1
    grad_w0 = grad_s0 * x0
    grad_x0 = grad_s0 * w0
```

Backprop can be implemented with a modular API, as a set of paired forward/backward functions

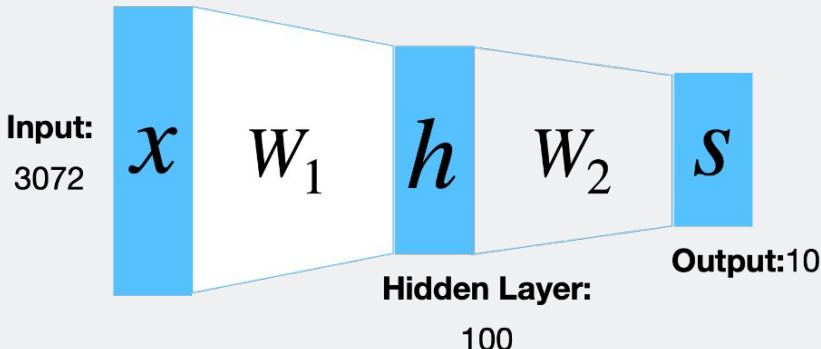
```
class Multiply(torch.autograd.Function):
    @staticmethod
    def forward(ctx, x, y):
        ctx.save_for_backward(x, y)
        z = x * y
        return z

    @staticmethod
    def backward(ctx, grad_z):
        x, y = ctx.saved_tensors
        grad_x = y * grad_z    # dz/dx * dL/dz
        grad_y = x * grad_z    # dz/dy * dL/dz
        return grad_x, grad_y
```

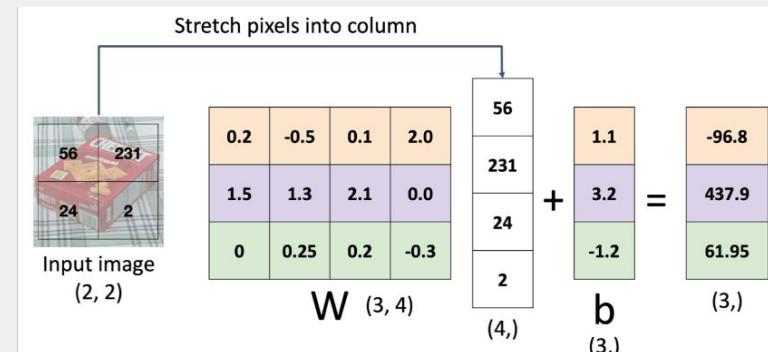
Summary



$$f(x) = W_2 \max(0, W_1 x + b_1) + b_2$$



Problem: So far our classifiers don't respect the spatial structure of images!



Next up: Convolutional Neural Networks