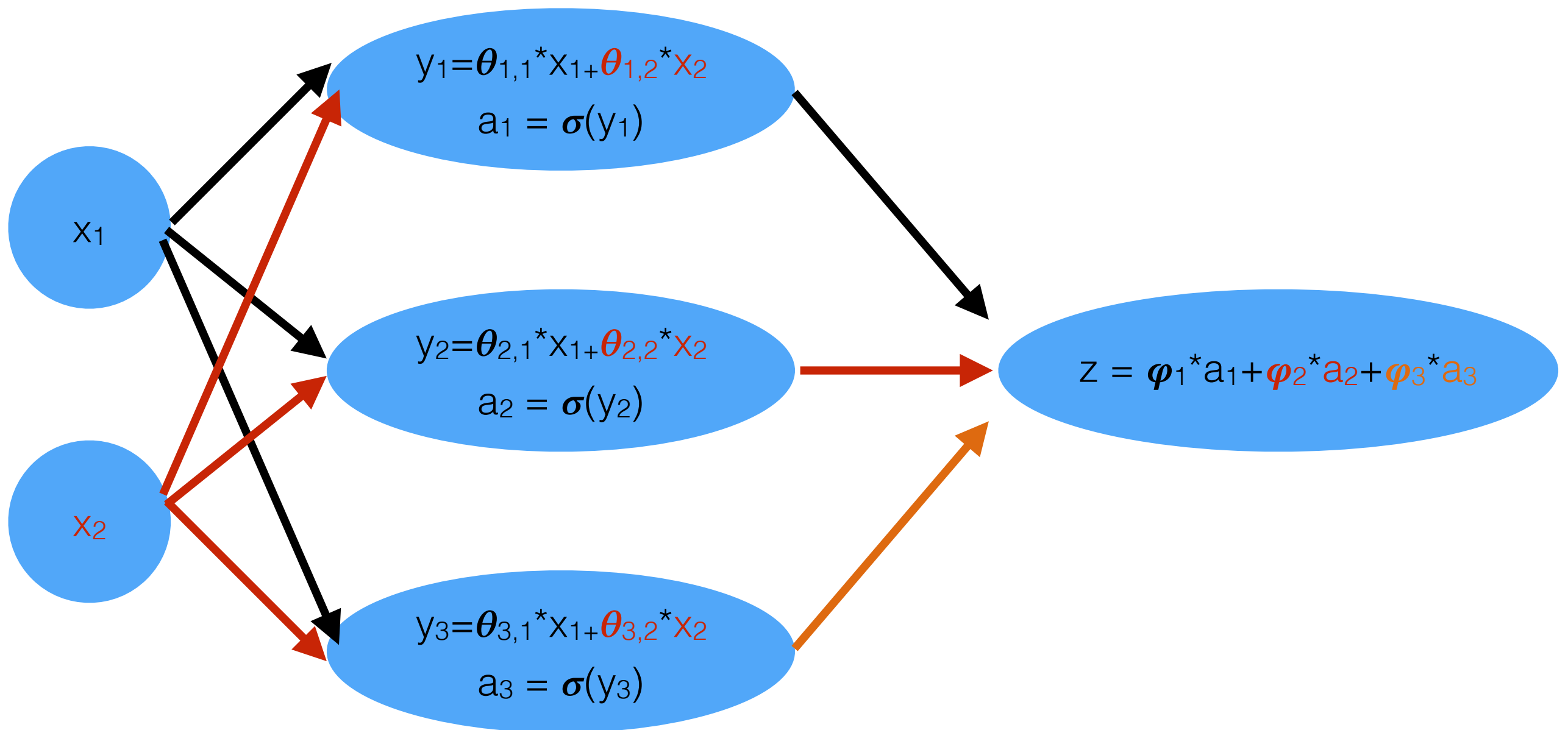


# Back-propagation and Parallel Implementation

# Overview

- Back-propagation review
- MPI Implementation
- Parameter Server Implementation

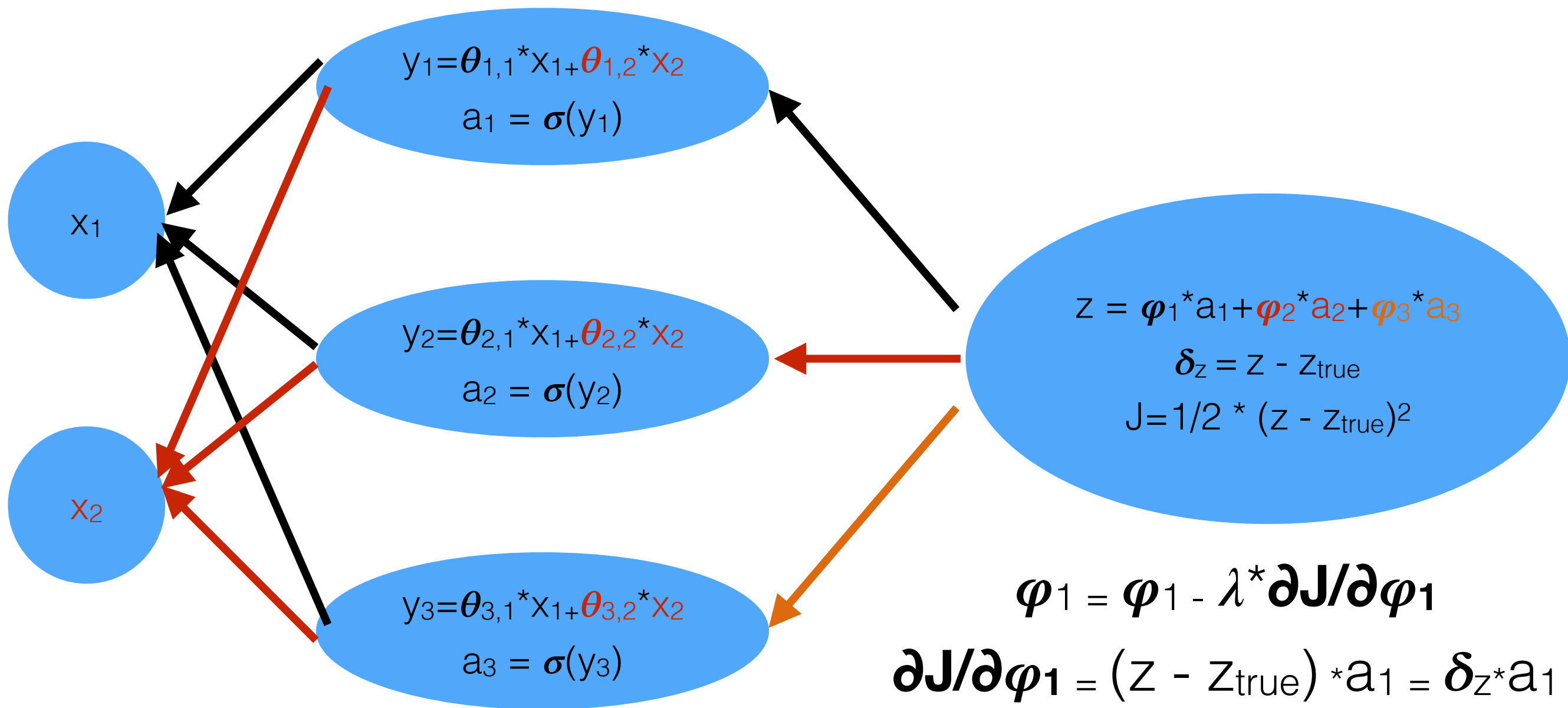
# Back-propagation Review



$$\theta = \begin{bmatrix} \theta_{1,1} & \theta_{1,2} \\ \theta_{2,1} & \theta_{2,2} \\ \theta_{3,1} & \theta_{3,2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\varphi = \begin{bmatrix} \varphi_1 \\ \varphi_2 \\ \varphi_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Back-propagation Review



$$\theta = \begin{bmatrix} \theta_{1,1} & \theta_{1,2} \\ \theta_{2,1} & \theta_{2,2} \\ \theta_{3,1} & \theta_{3,2} \end{bmatrix}$$

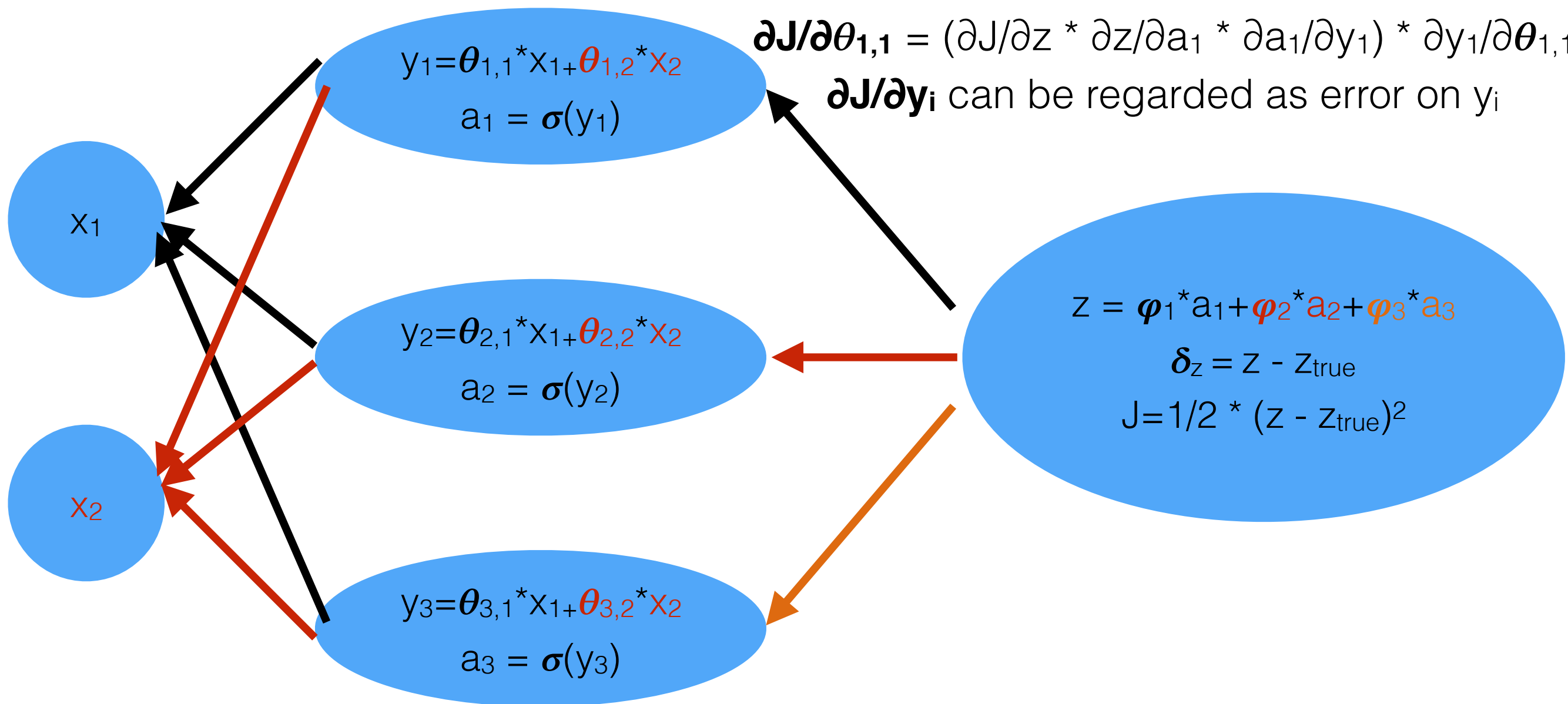
$$\varphi = \begin{bmatrix} \varphi_1 & \varphi_2 & \varphi_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Back-propagation Review

$$\theta_{1,1} = \theta_{1,1} - \lambda * \partial J / \partial \theta_{1,1}$$

$$\partial J / \partial \theta_{1,1} = (\partial J / \partial z * \partial z / \partial a_1 * \partial a_1 / \partial y_1) * \partial y_1 / \partial \theta_{1,1}$$

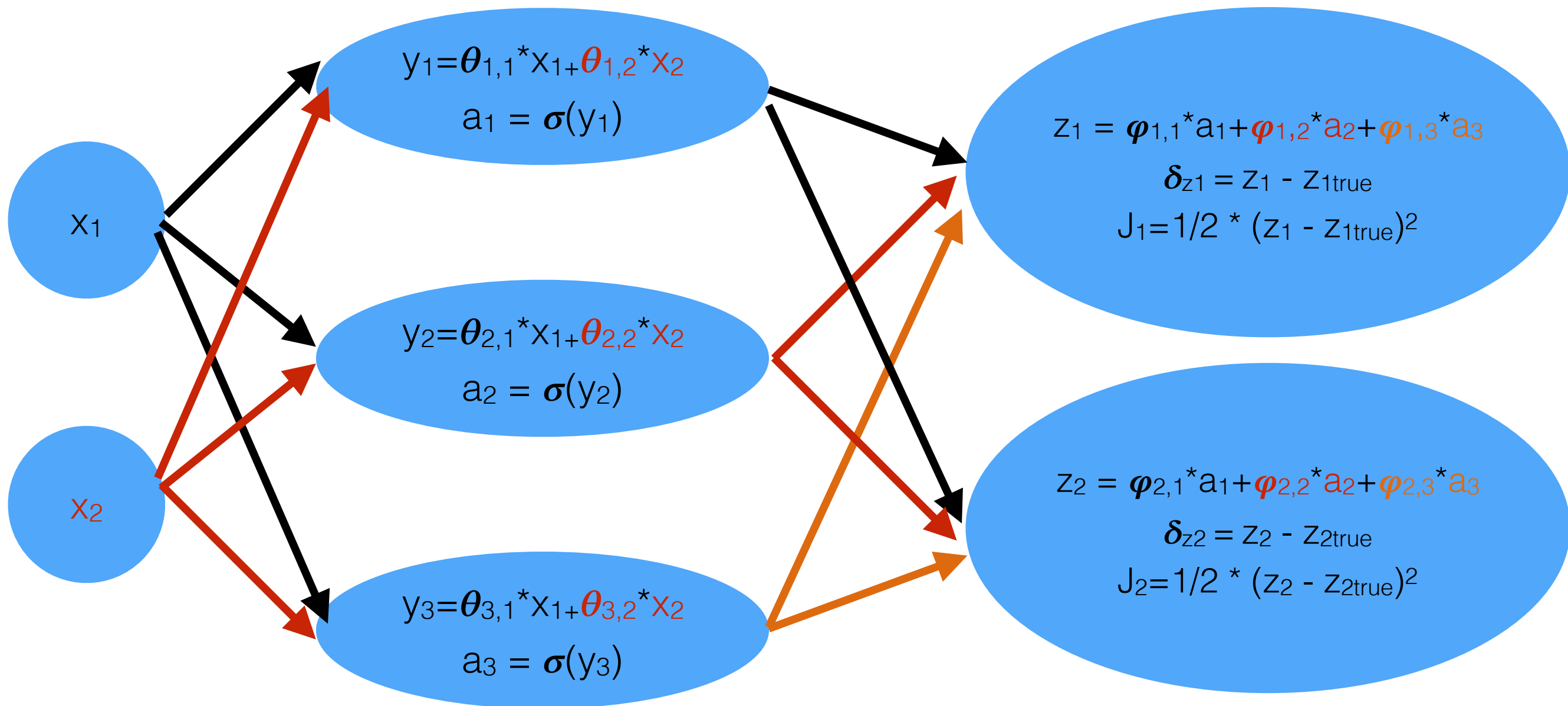
$\partial J / \partial y_i$  can be regarded as error on  $y_i$



$$\theta = \begin{bmatrix} \theta_{1,1} & \theta_{1,2} \\ \theta_{2,1} & \theta_{2,2} \\ \theta_{3,1} & \theta_{3,2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\varphi = \begin{bmatrix} \varphi_1 & \varphi_2 & \varphi_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

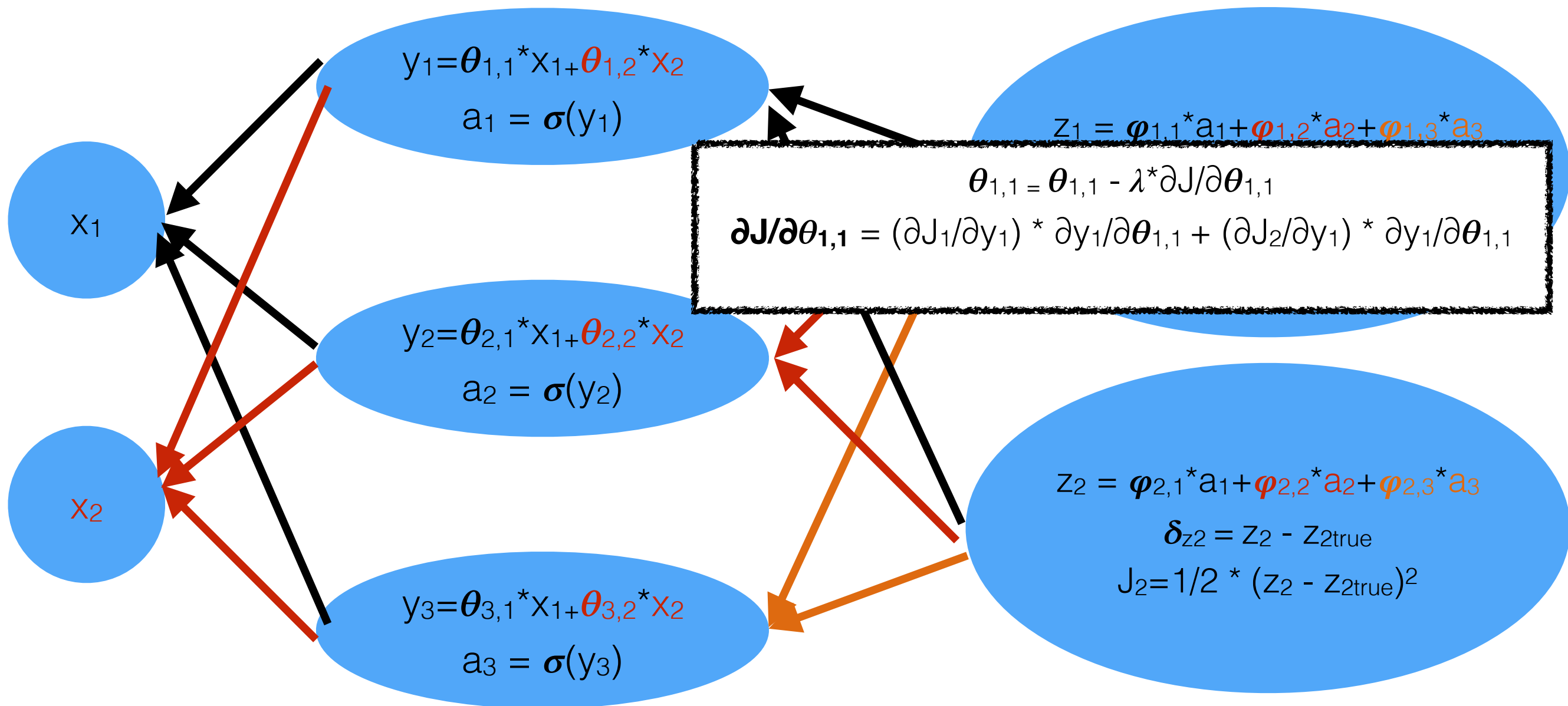
# Back-propagation Review



$$\theta = \begin{bmatrix} \theta_{1,1} & \theta_{1,2} \\ \theta_{2,1} & \theta_{2,2} \\ \theta_{3,1} & \theta_{3,2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\varphi = \begin{bmatrix} \varphi_{1,1} & \varphi_{1,2} & \varphi_{1,3} \\ \varphi_{2,1} & \varphi_{2,2} & \varphi_{2,3} \end{bmatrix}$$

# Back-propagation Review



$$\theta = \begin{bmatrix} \theta_{1,1} & \theta_{1,2} \\ \theta_{2,1} & \theta_{2,2} \\ \theta_{3,1} & \theta_{3,2} \end{bmatrix}$$

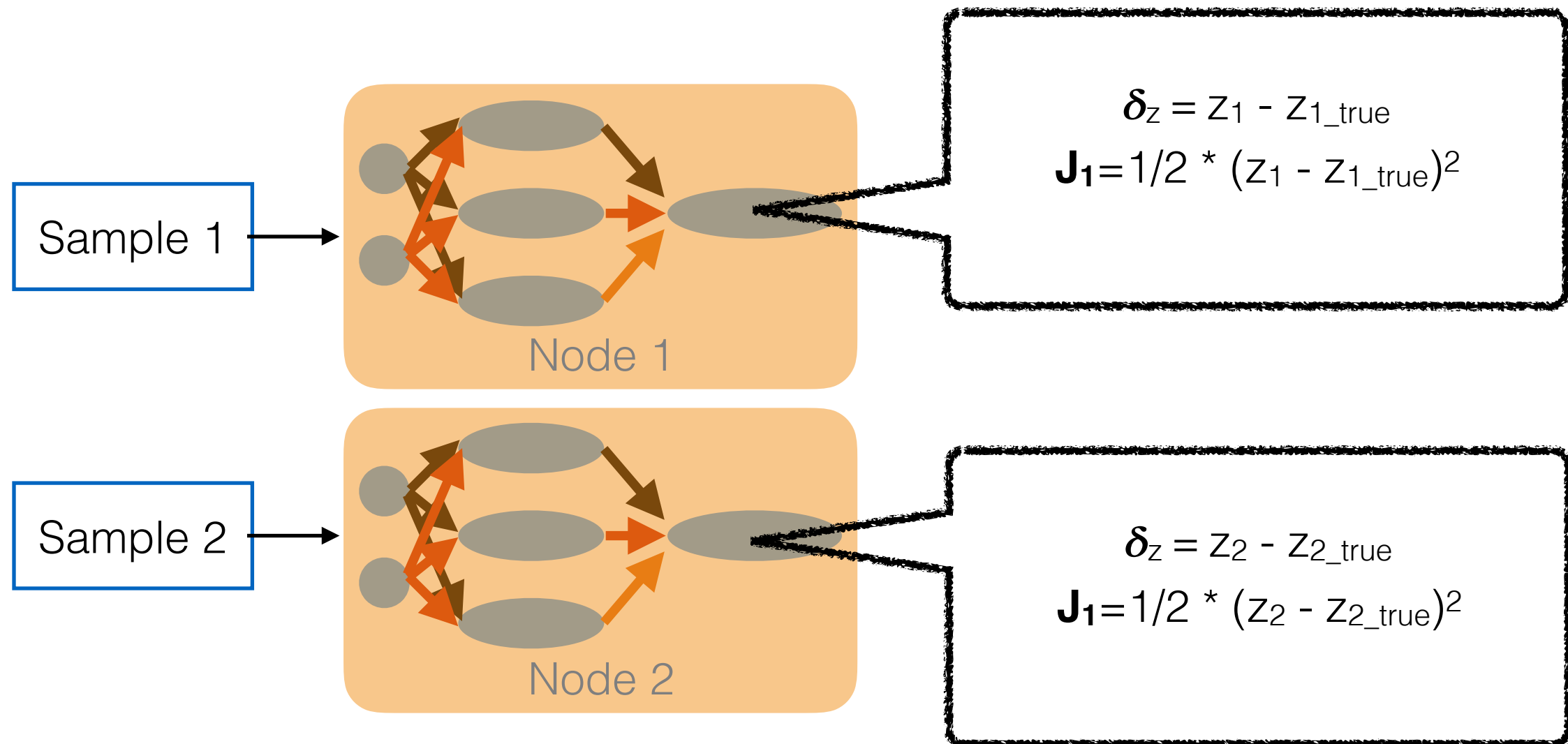
$$\varphi = \begin{bmatrix} \varphi_{1,1} & \varphi_{1,2} & \varphi_{1,3} \\ \varphi_{2,1} & \varphi_{2,2} & \varphi_{2,3} \end{bmatrix}$$

# Intel MLSL Implementation

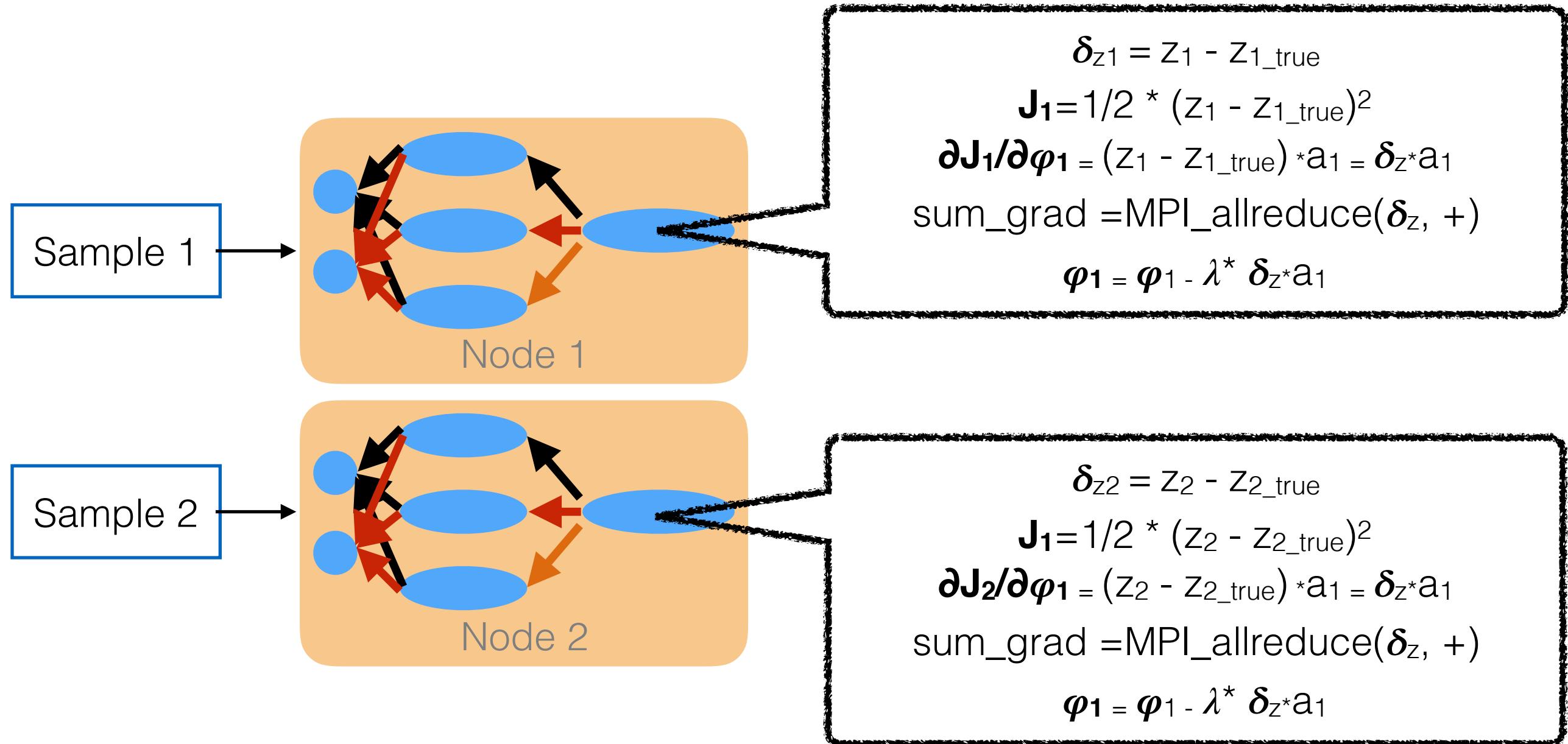
- MPI based library MLSL
- Supports Caffe, Theano
- Data parallelism based
- It is as simple as an MPI\_allreduce between forward propagation and back propagation



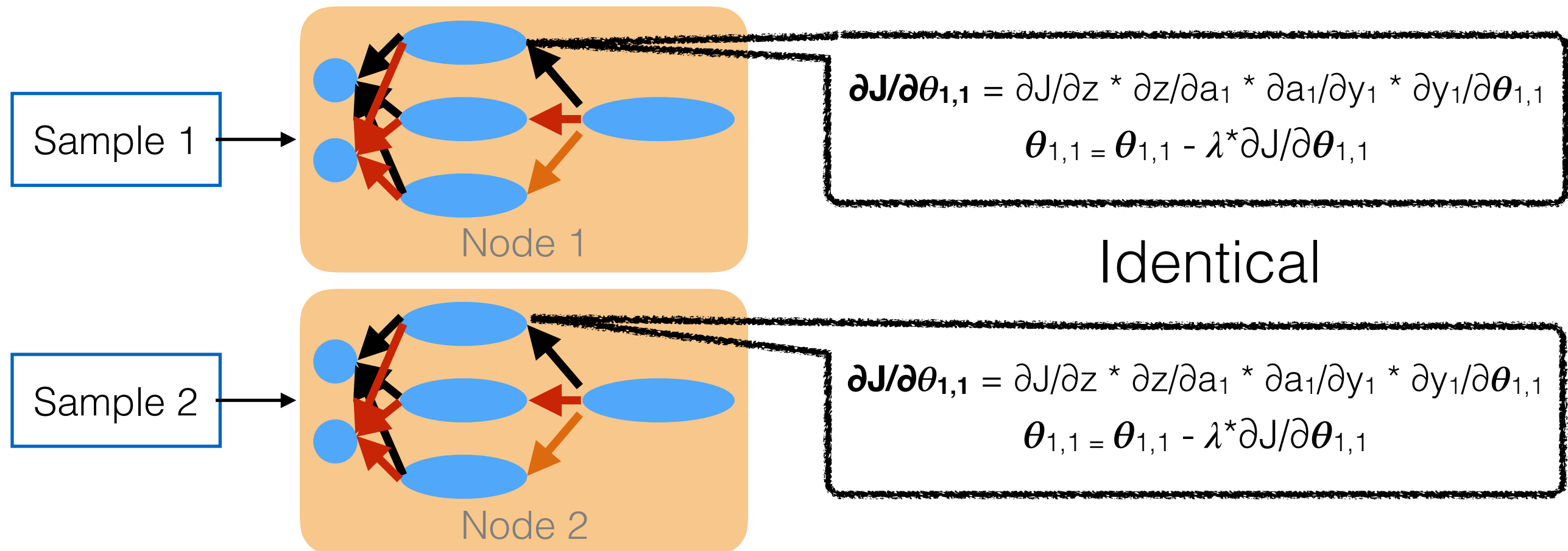
# Intel MLSL Implementation



# Intel MLSL Implementation



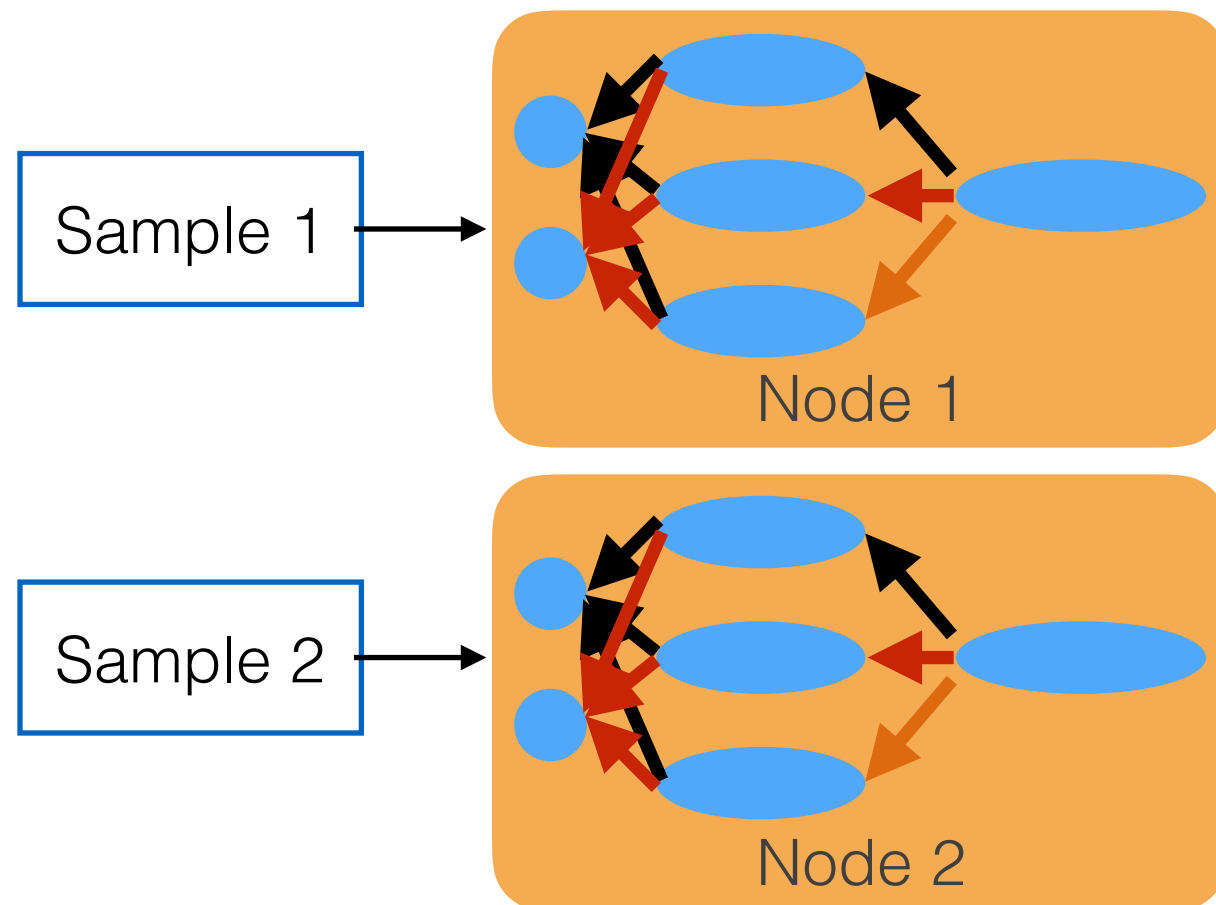
# Intel MLSL Implementation



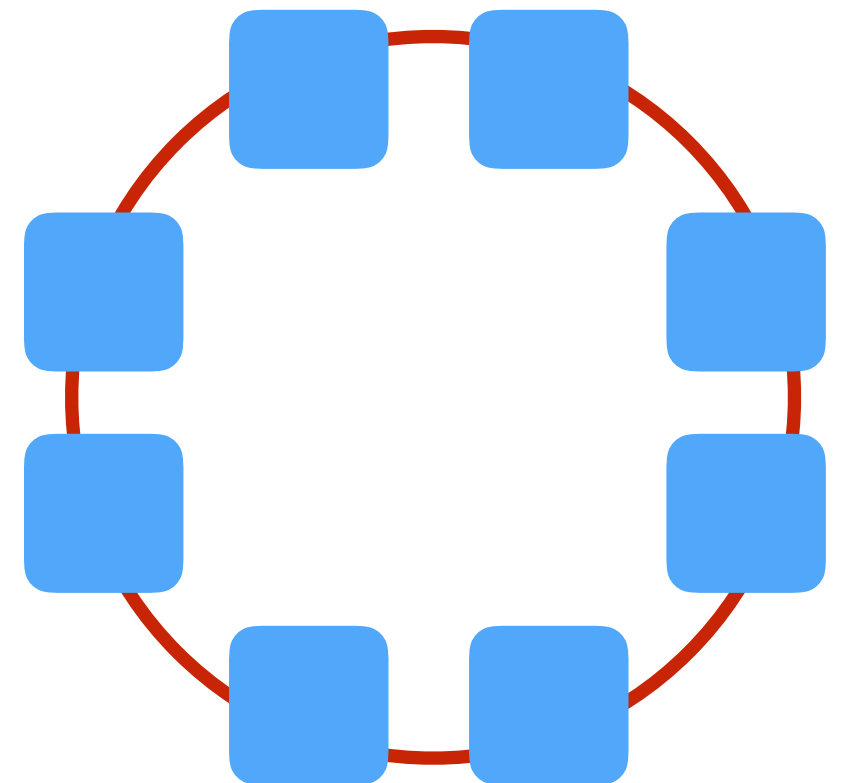
# Parameter Server

- Uses a separate set of nodes as key-value stores
- Data parallelism based
- Training workers synchronize via push and pull operations
- Key innovation: consistency model

# Parameter Server

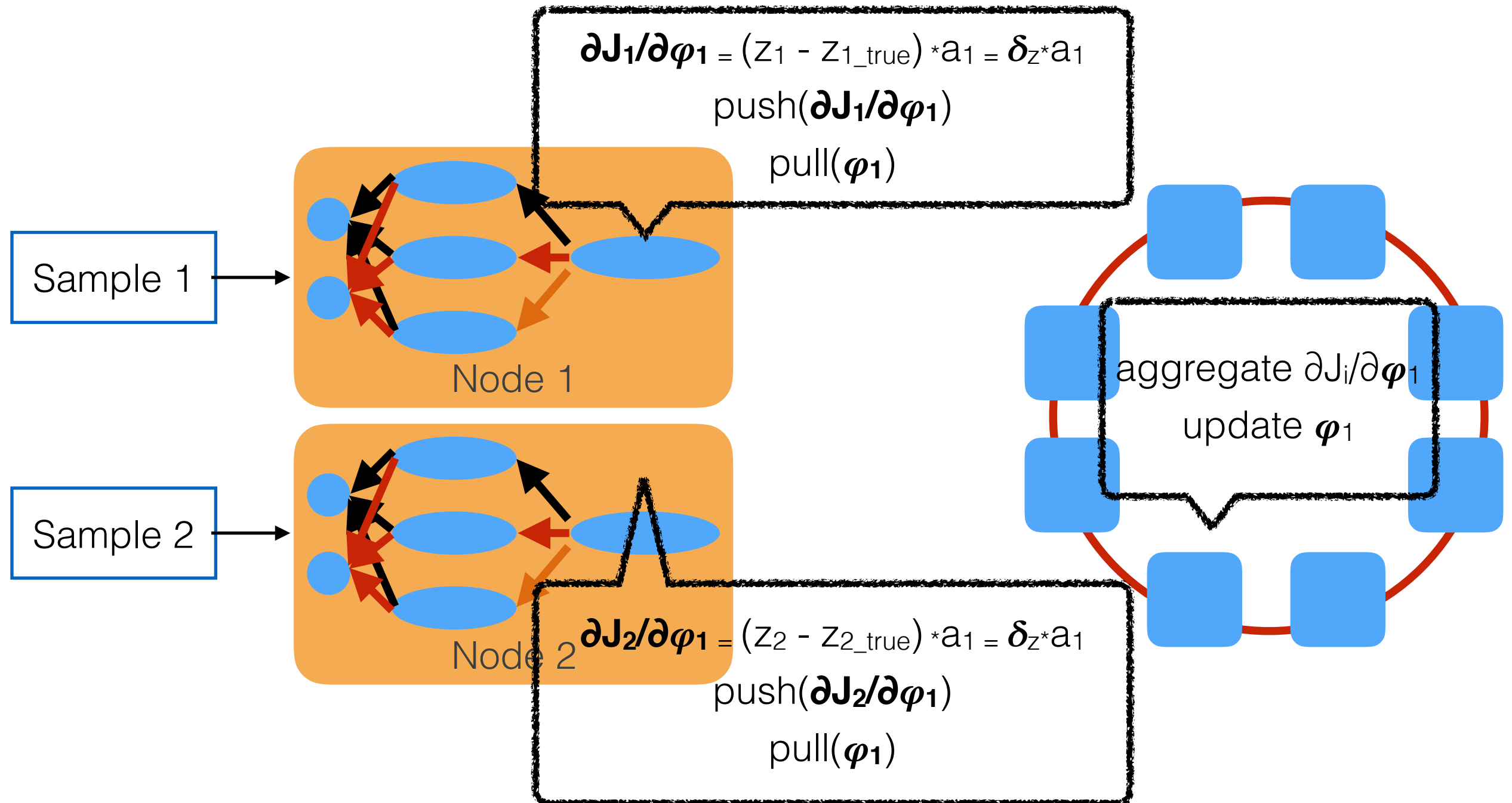


Key-Value pairs:  
(parameter\_name, value)



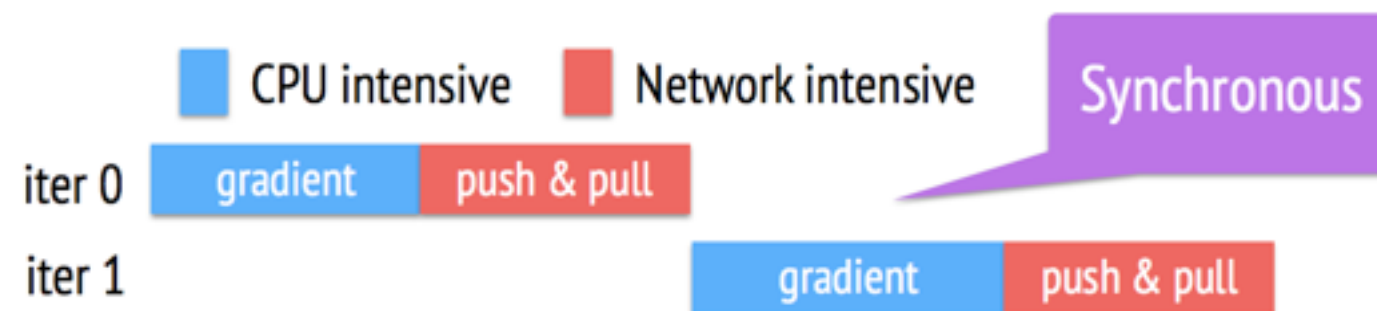
Parameter Server

# Parameter Server

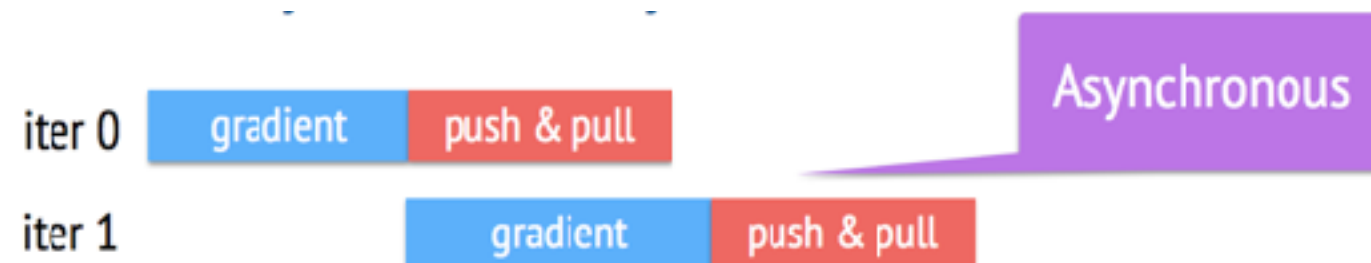


# Task

- a push/pull/user defined function (an iteration)
- “execute-after-finished” dependency



- executed asynchronously



# Flexible Iteration Dependency

- Executed asynchronously



- Iteration 1 uses the old parameters as in Iteration 0, and obtains the same gradient.
- It is likely to slow down the convergence progress
- Some algorithms are less sensitive to this type of inconsistency



# Flexible Iteration Dependency

- Sequential



- Eventual



- Bounded Delay



- $\tau$ : maximal delay time. A new iteration will be blocked until all previous tasks  $\tau$  time ago have been finished.
- $\tau = 0 \longrightarrow$  Sequential,  $\tau = \infty \longrightarrow$  Eventual

# Flexible Iteration Dependency

- Bounded Delay consistency model is referred as Stale Synchronous Parallel (SSP) consistency model.

# Practical Scalability

- MPI based solution
  - Intel MLSL — measuring now
- Parameter Server based solution
  - Poseidon — 8 GPU nodes 4-4.5x speedup
  - Common ML algorithm — 5000 workers and 1000 parameter servers