



# DEEPROB

Lecture 3  
 Regularization + Optimization  
 University of Michigan | Department of Robotics





# Recap: Image Classification

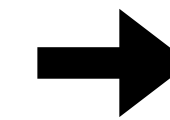
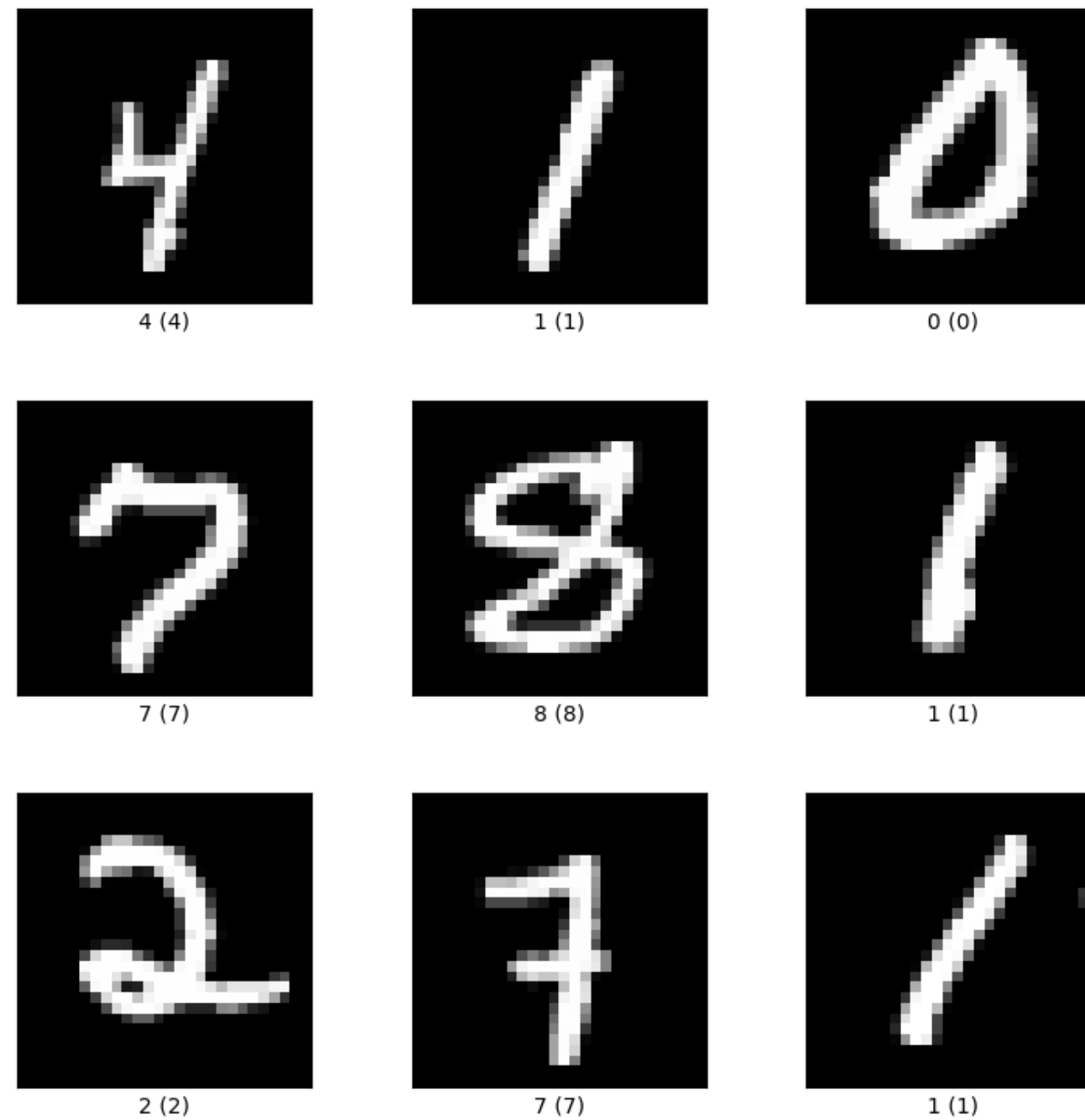
PROPS dataset





# Recap: Image Classification

MNIST dataset



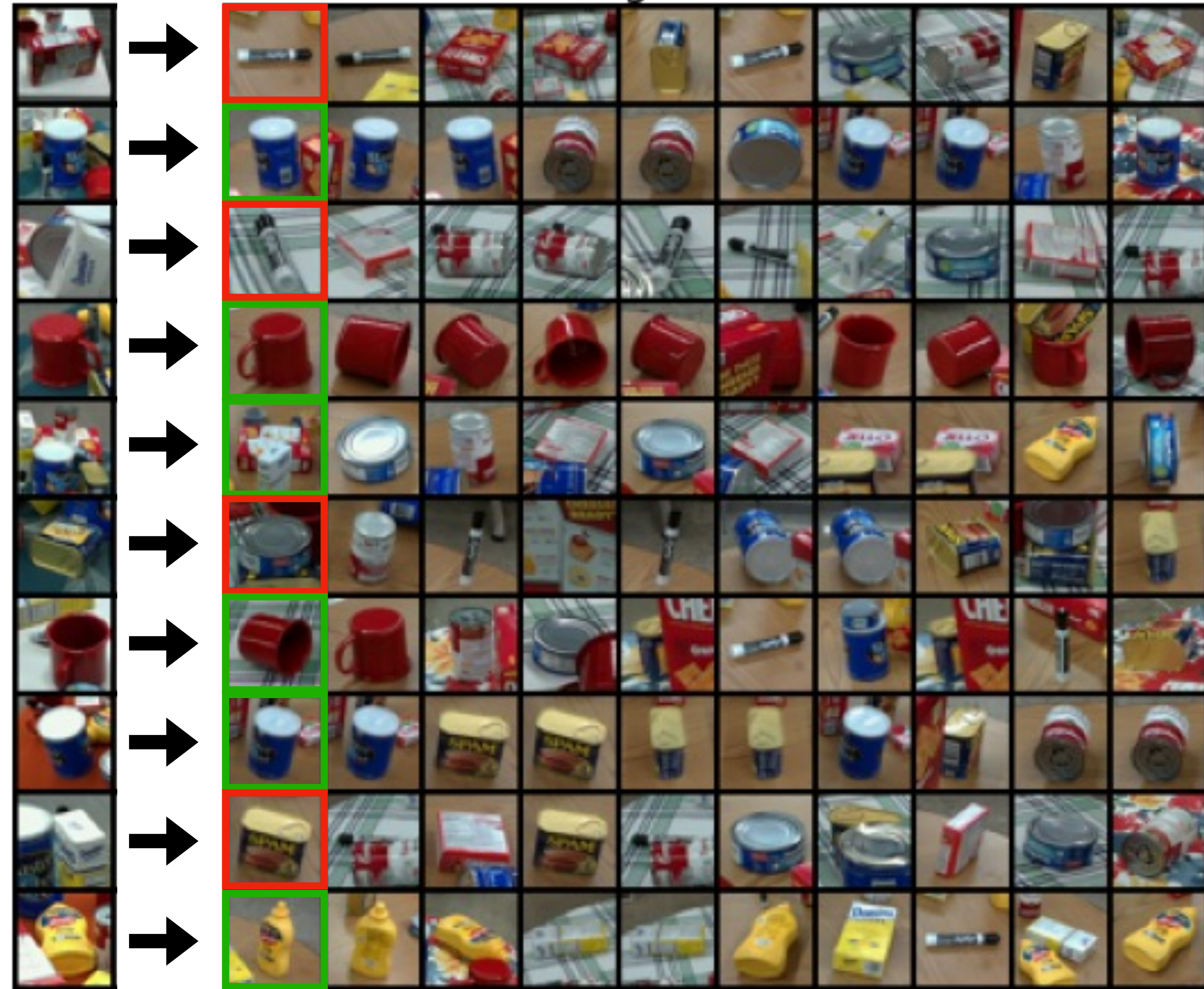
Labels

<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>1</b>



# Recap: K Nearest Neighbor

PROPS dataset





# KNN Pseudocode

---

1. Load training and testing data
2. Choose Hyperparameters ( $K=?$ )
3. For each point (image) in test data:
  - find the distance to all training data points
  - store the distance and sort it
  - choose the first  $K$  points
  - assign a class to the test image based on the majority of the classes

End



# KNN – Some things to note

1. Hyperparameters: choose from `k_choices`
2. Cross-validation (e.g., 5-fold validation)

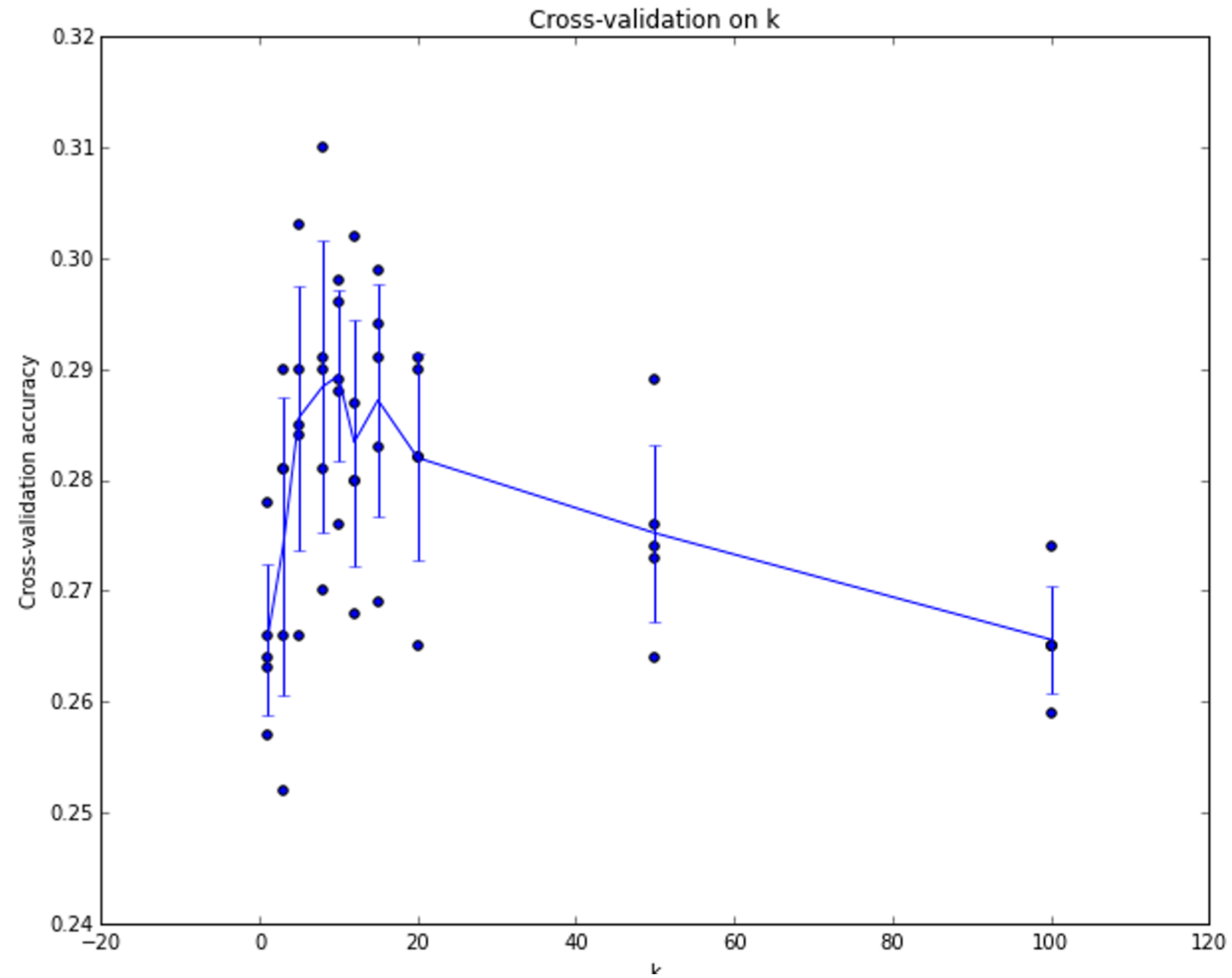
First, split the data into **folds** `torch.chunk`

Then, use all but one fold for train and one fold for validation

fold 1	fold 2	fold 3	fold 4	fold 5	test
fold 1	fold 2	fold 3	fold 4	fold 5	test
fold 1	fold 2	fold 3	fold 4	fold 5	test



# Setting Hyperparameters



Example of 5-fold cross-validation for the value of  $k$ .

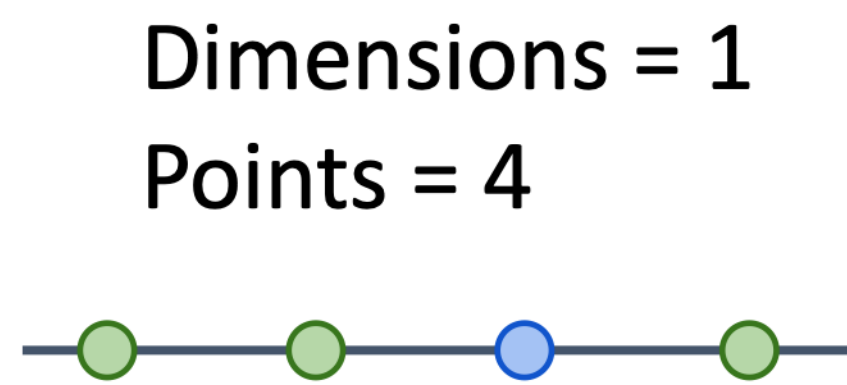
Each point: single outcome.

The line goes through the mean, bars indicated standard deviation

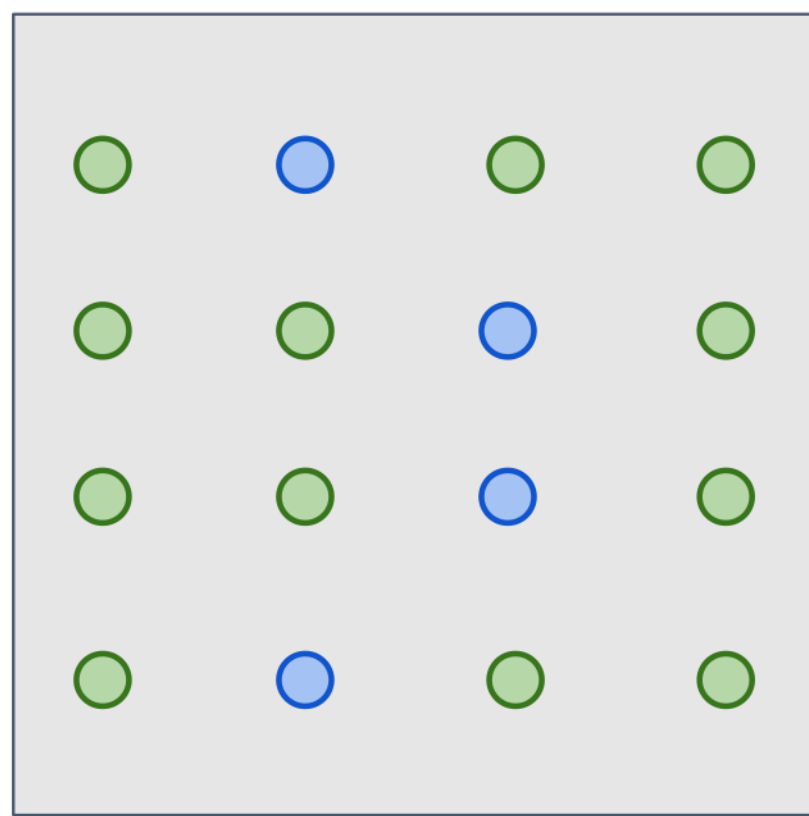


# Problem—Curse of Dimensionality

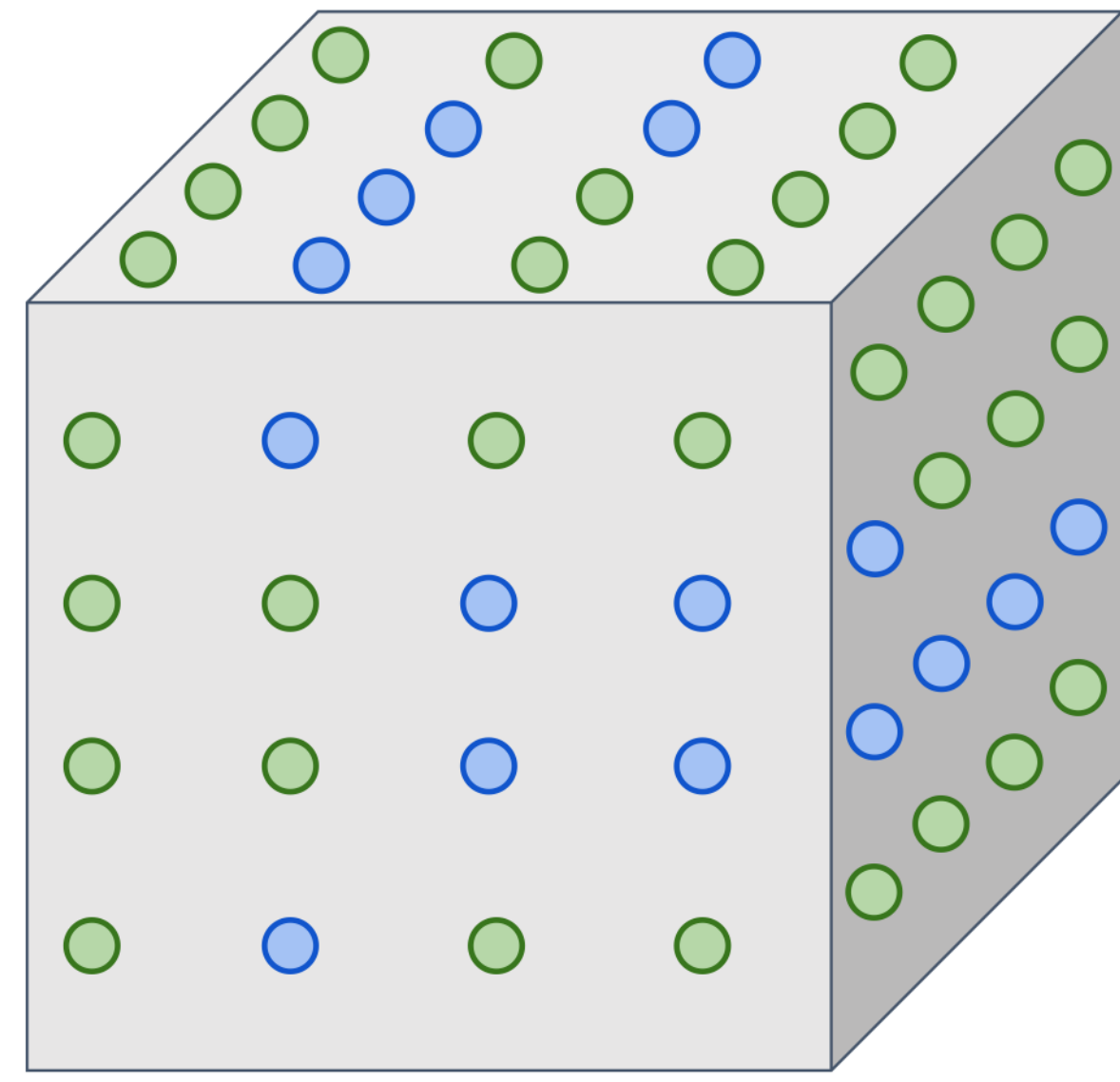
**Curse of dimensionality:** For uniform coverage of space, number of training points needed grows exponentially with dimension



Dimensions = 2  
Points =  $4^2$



Dimensions = 3  
Points =  $4^3$



$$2^{32 \times 32} \approx 10^{308}$$

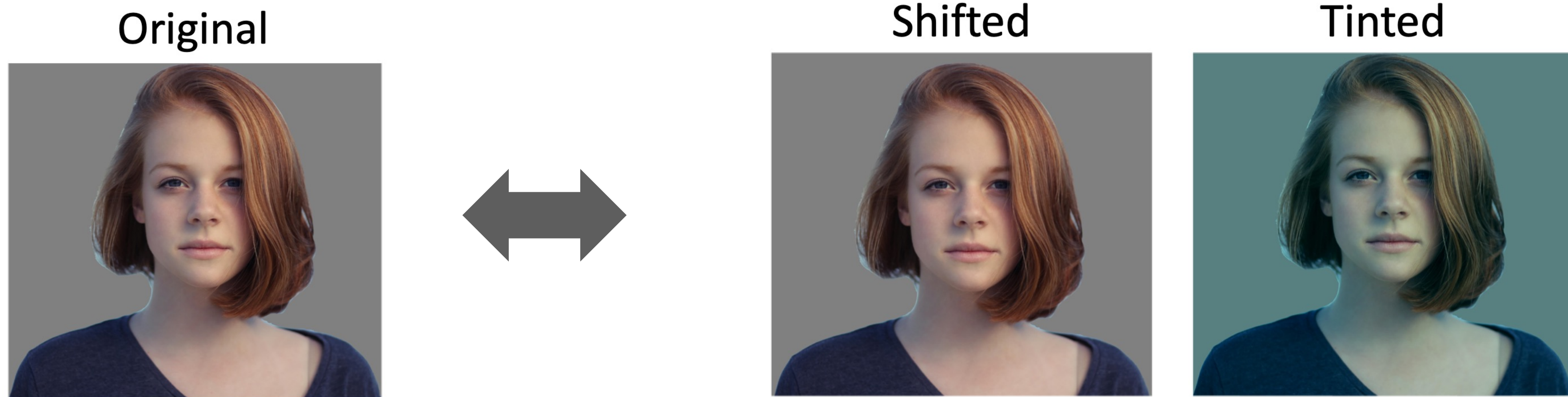




# K-Nearest Neighbors: Seldomly Used on Raw Pixels

Very slow at test time

Distance metrics on pixels are not informative



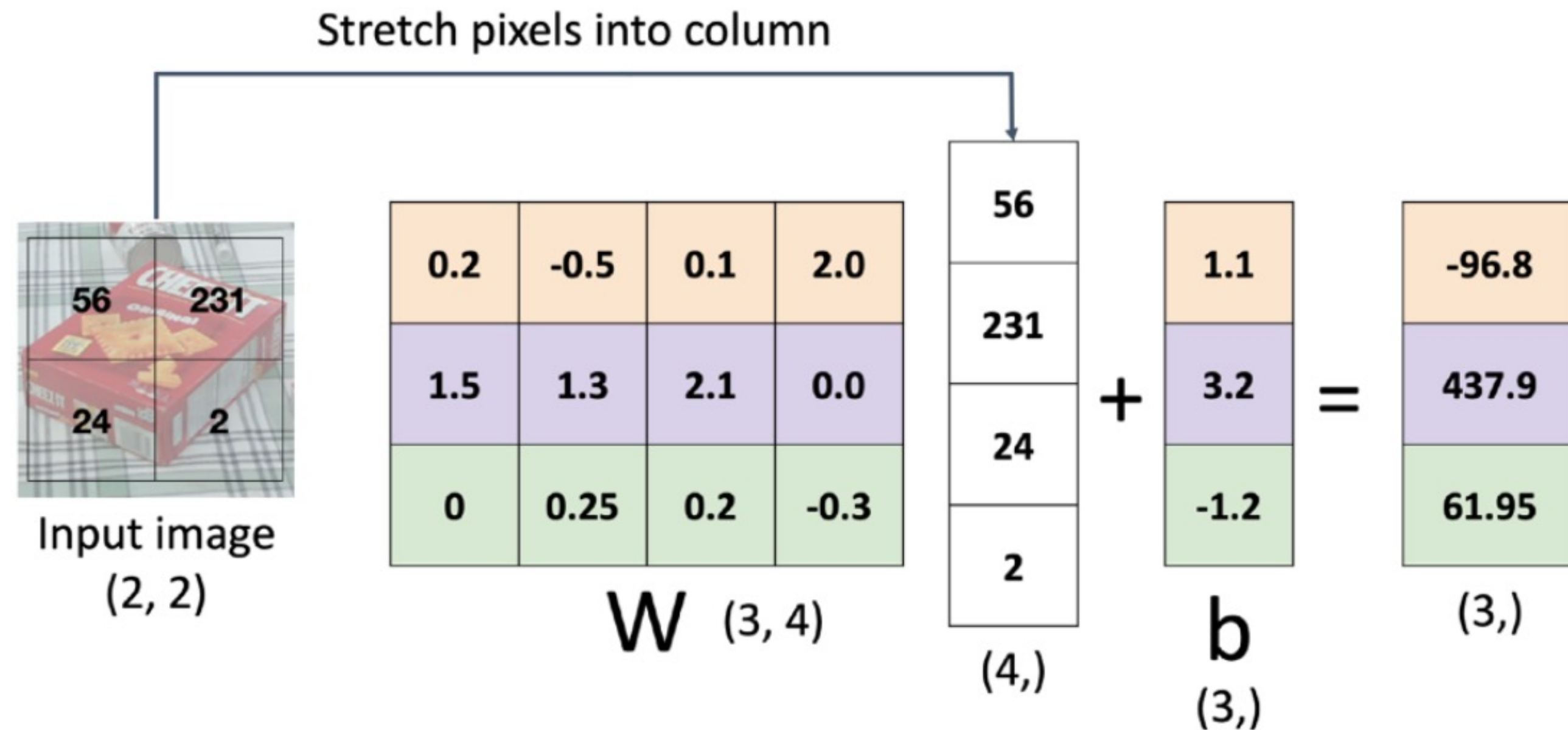
Both images have same L2 distance to the original



# Recap: Linear Classifier

Algebraic Viewpoint

$$f(x, W) = Wx$$

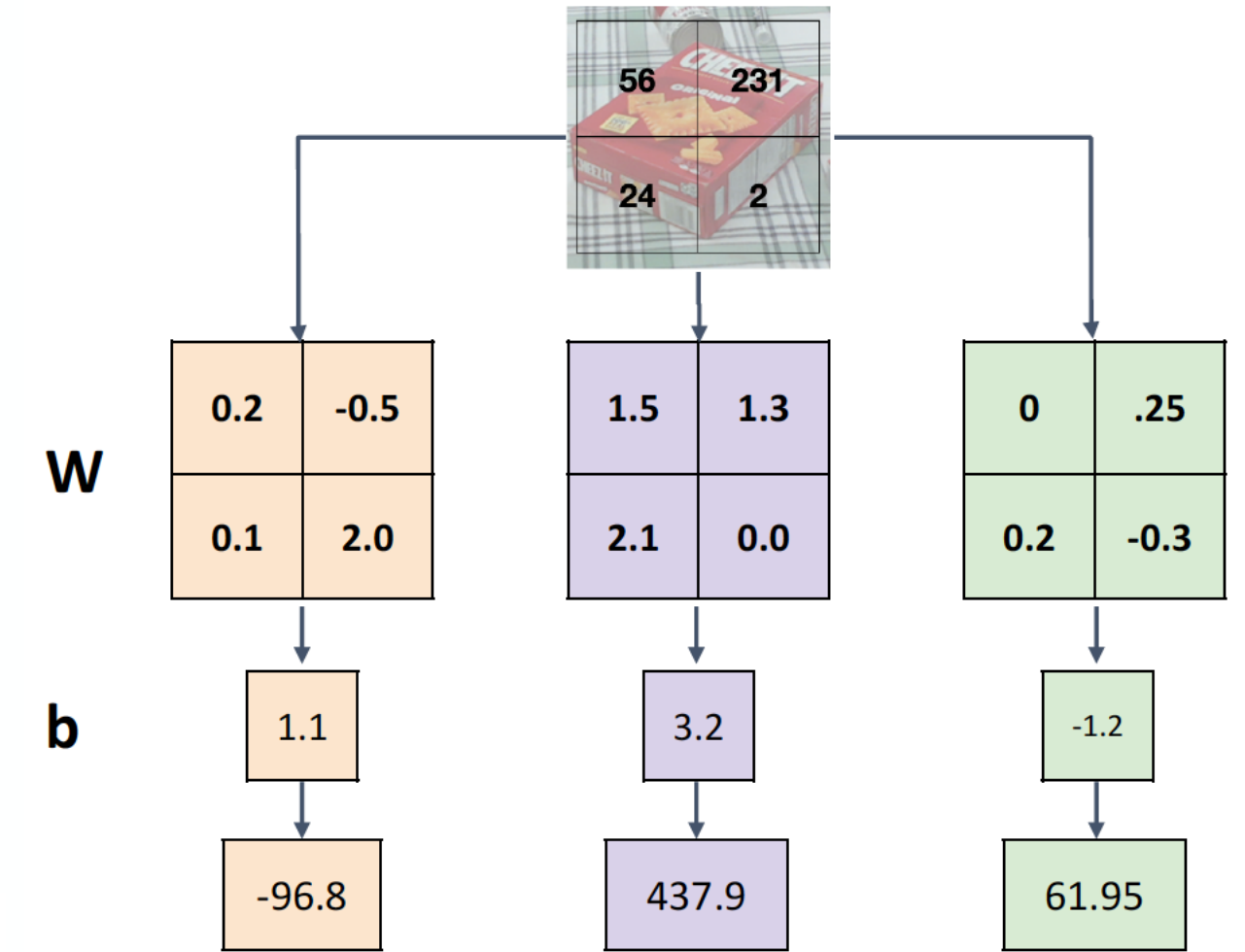
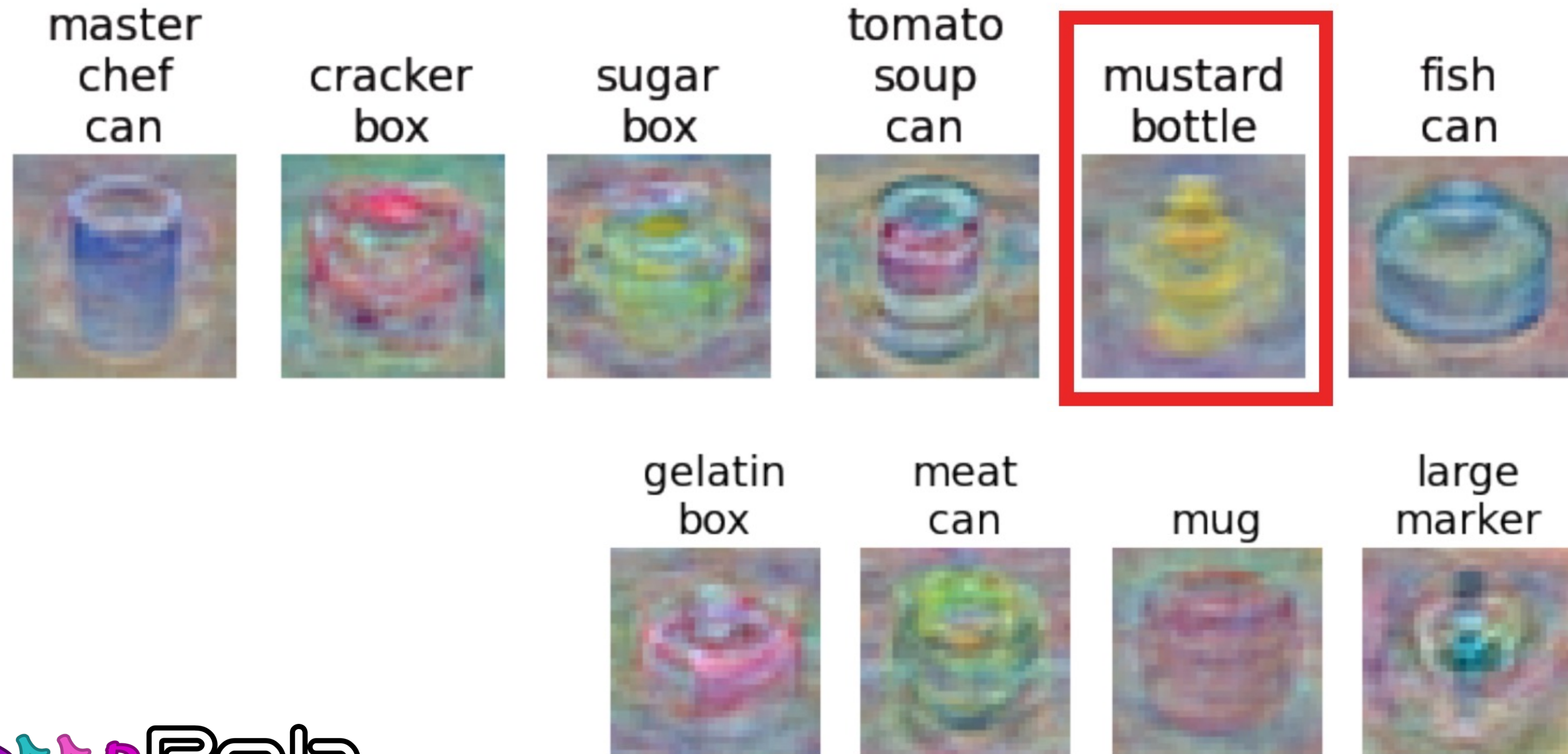




# Recap: Linear Classifier

## Visual Viewpoint

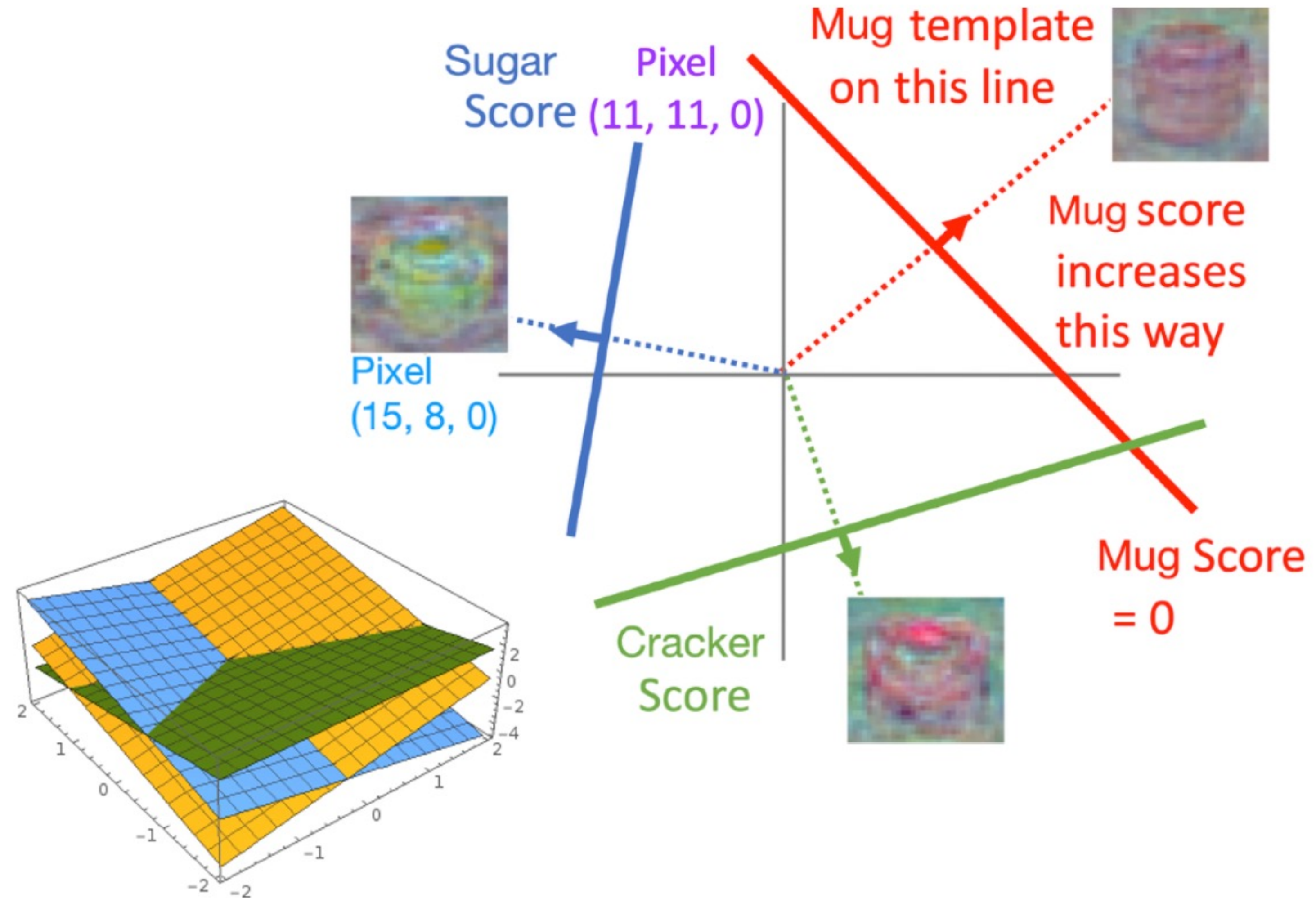
“stretch rows of  $W$  into images”





# Recap: Linear Classifier

## Geometric Viewpoint





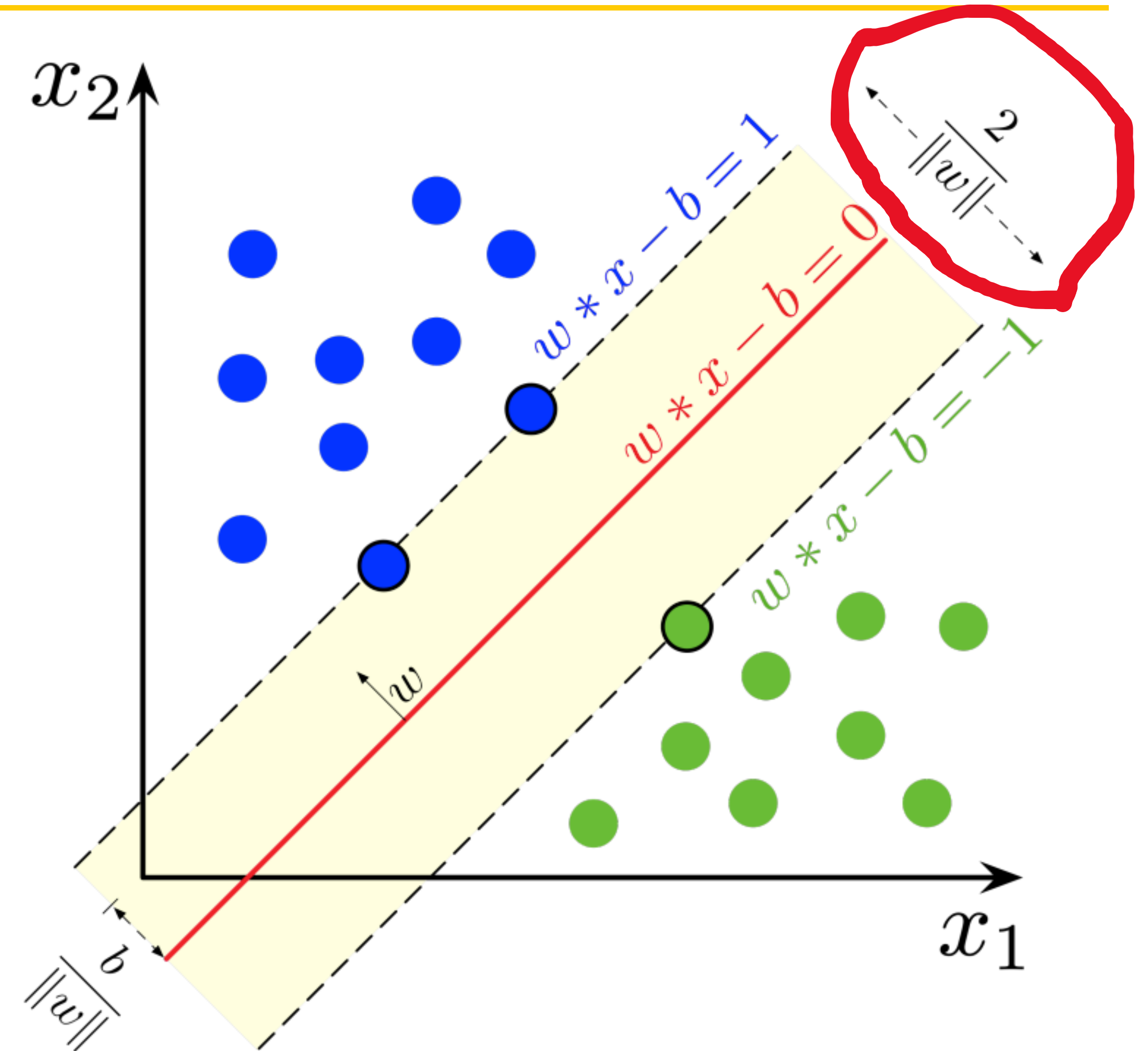
# Recap—Linear SVM

Training Data

$$(\mathbf{x}_1, y_1), (\mathbf{x}_2, y_2), \dots, (\mathbf{x}_n, y_n)$$

Hyperplane

$$\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} - b = 0$$

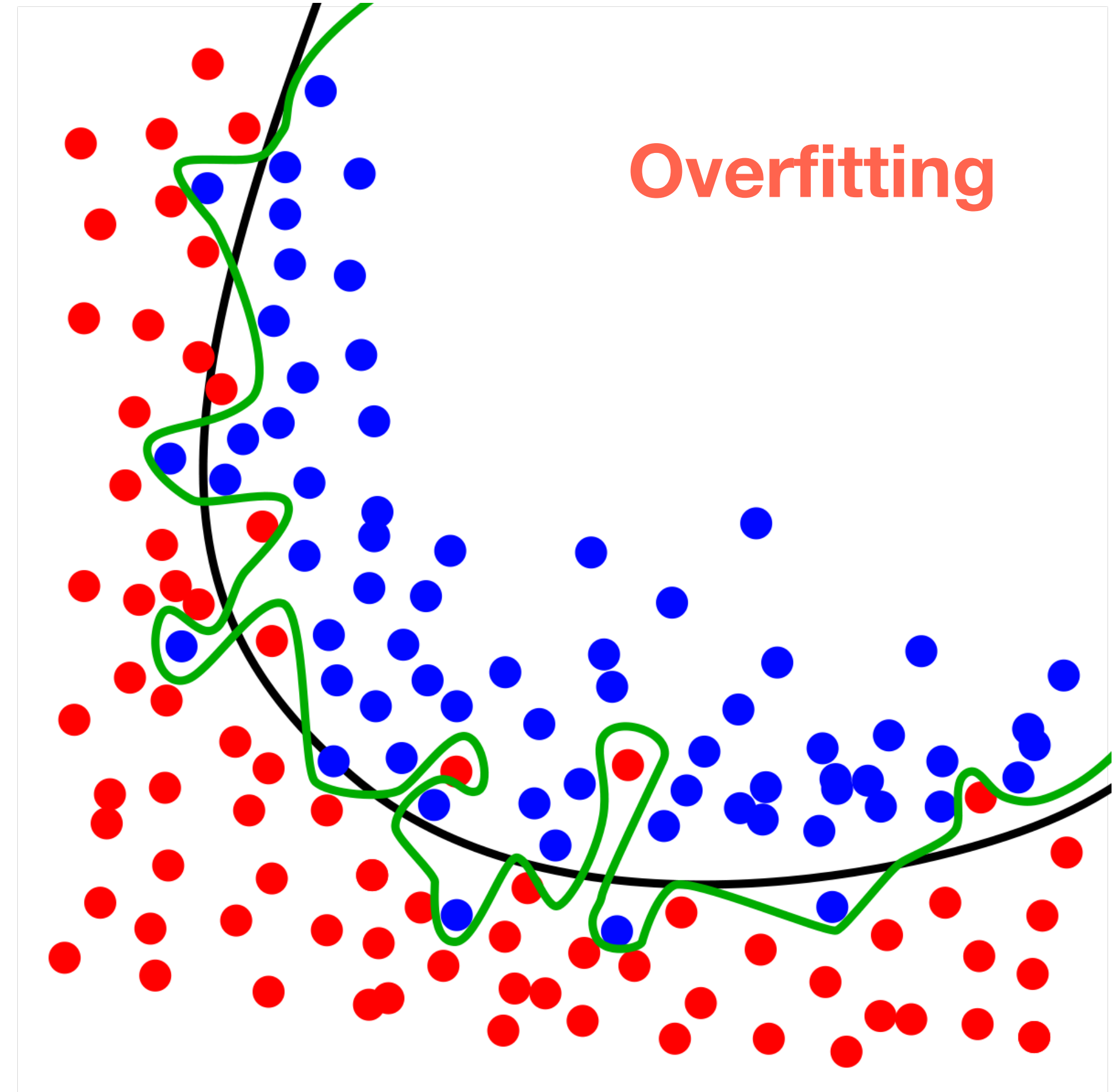




# What if there are misclassifications?

Hinge Loss (soft margin)

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





# Back to SVM...

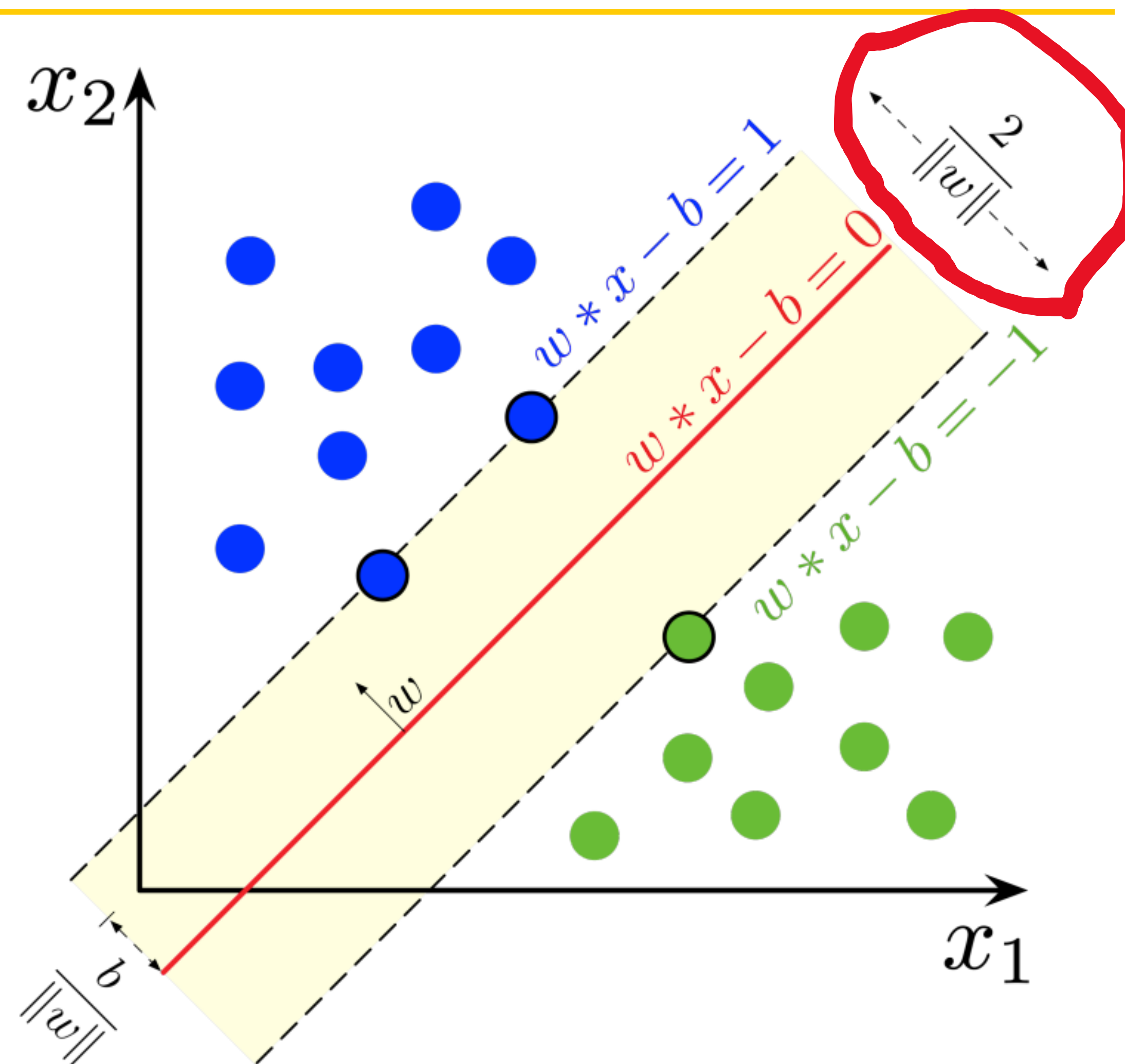
Training Data

$$(\mathbf{x}_1, y_1), (\mathbf{x}_2, y_2), \dots, (\mathbf{x}_n, y_n)$$

Hyperplane

$$\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} - b = 0$$

Maximize  $\frac{2}{\|w\|}$   $\rightarrow$  Minimize  $\frac{\|w\|}{2}$





# Loss Functions Quantify Preferences

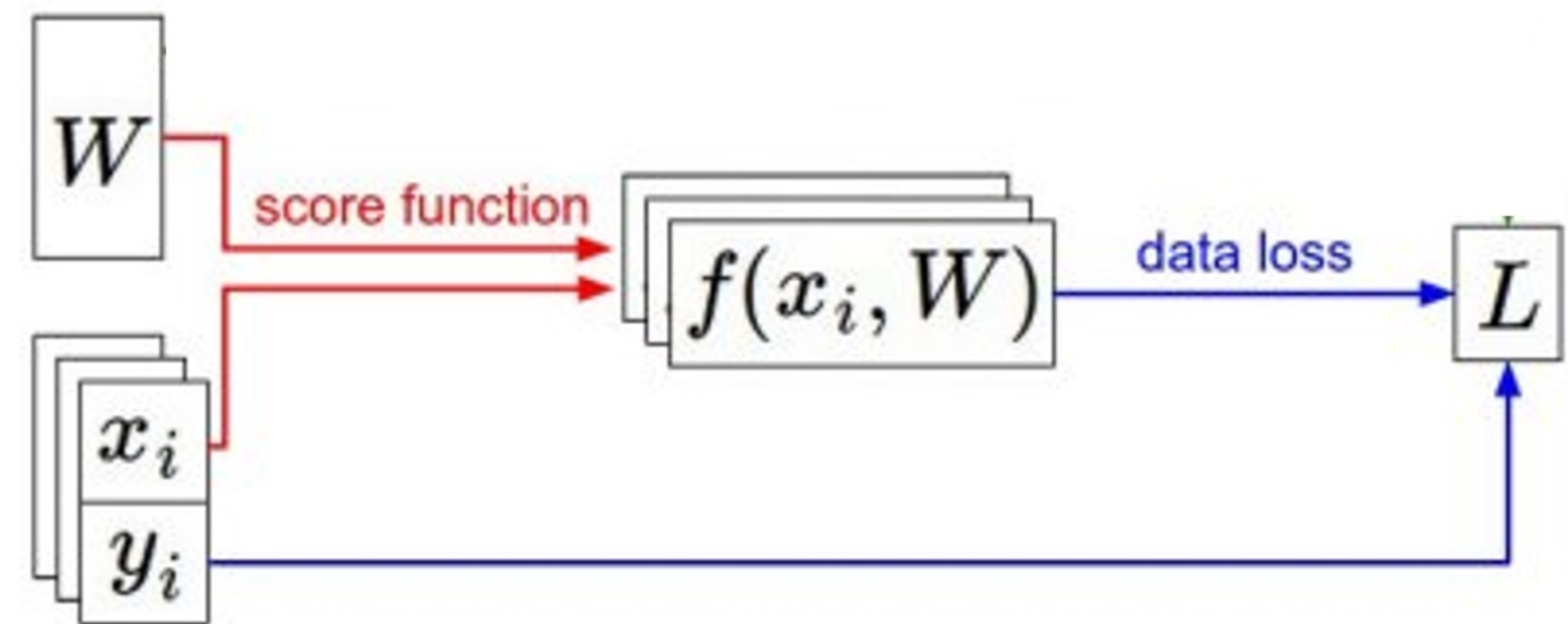
- We have some dataset of  $(x, y)$
- We have a **score function**:
- We have a **loss function**:

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

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

**Q: How do we find the best  $W, b$ ?**

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

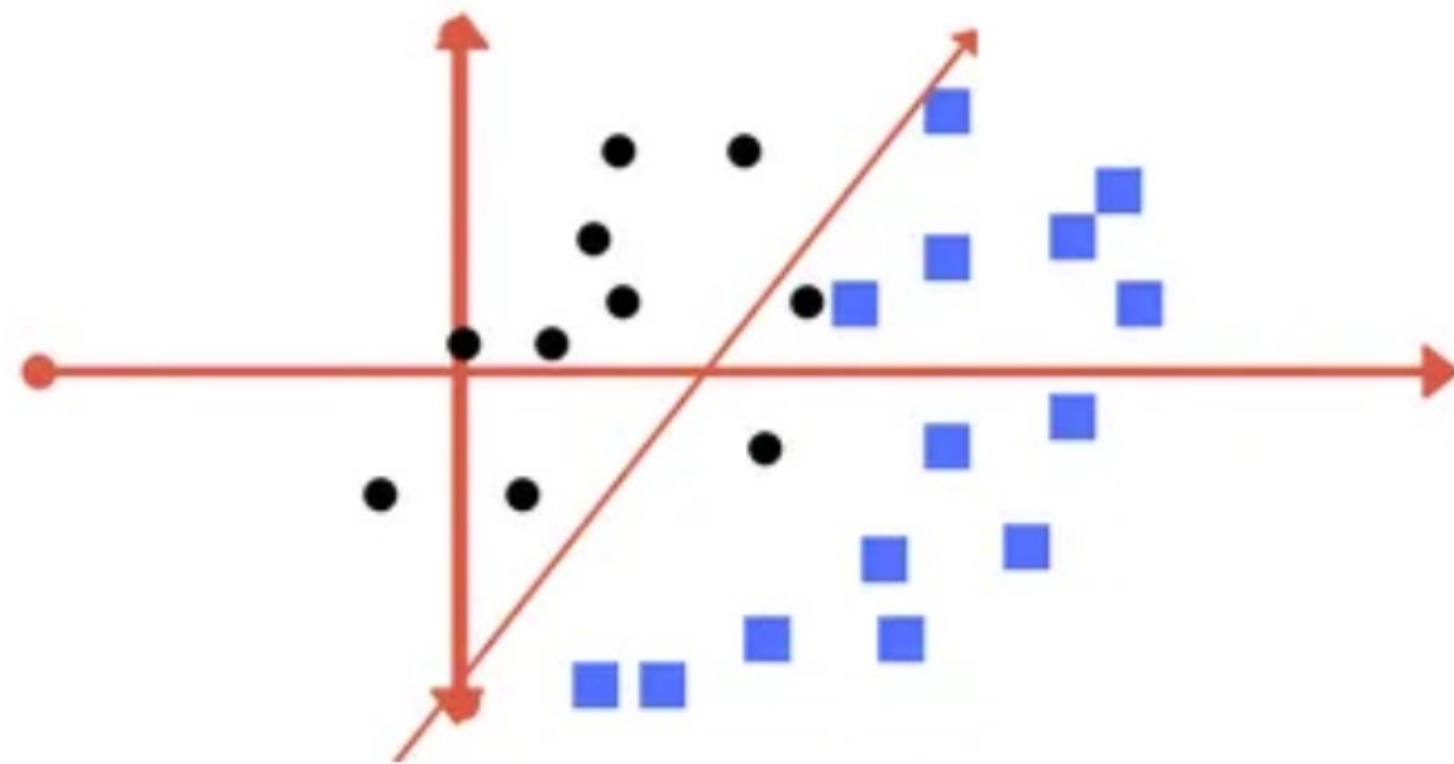


$+ \lambda \frac{\|w\|^2}{2}$

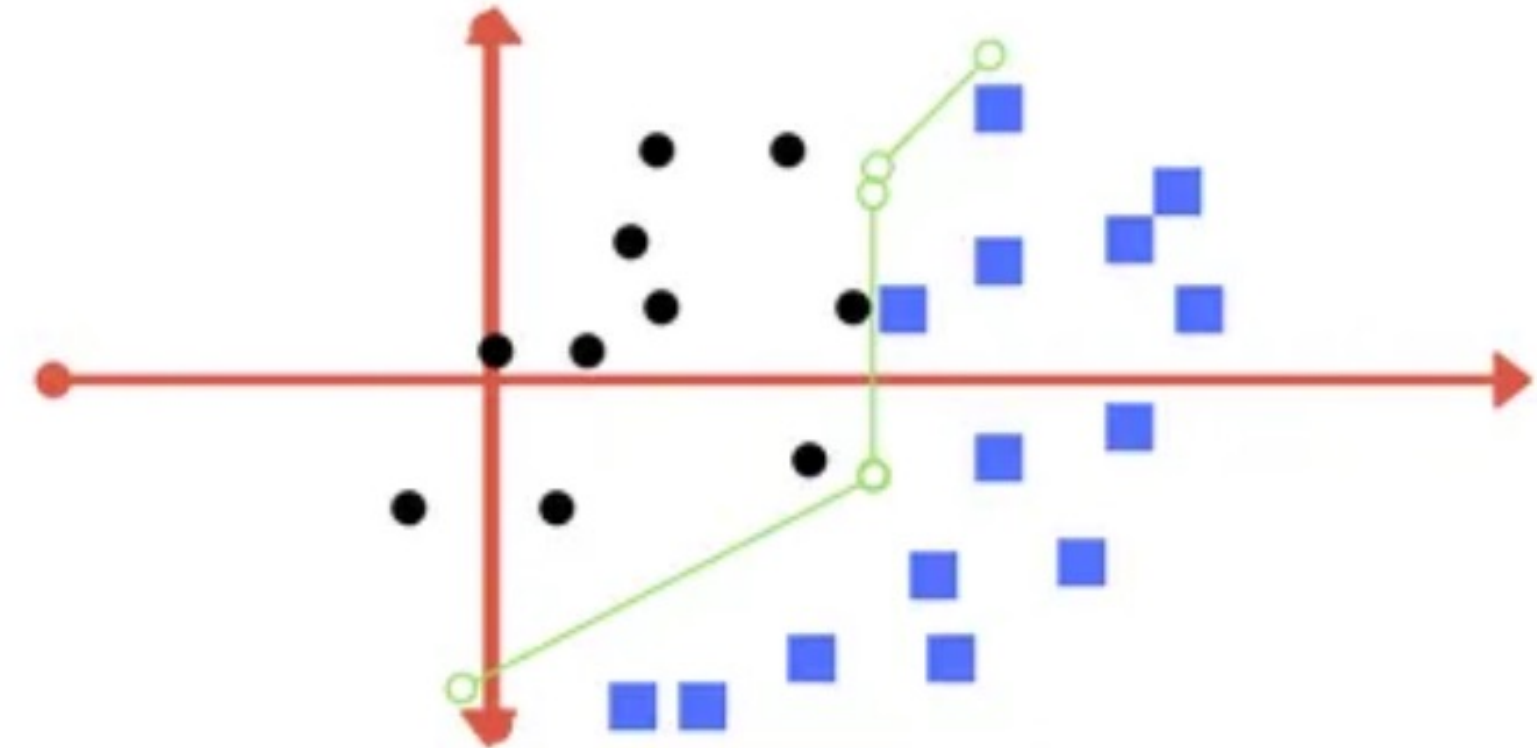




# Loss Functions Quantify Preferences



Q: Low or High regularization?



Q: Low or High regularization?

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

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

$$+ C \frac{\|w\|^2}{2}$$



# General Case: Adding Regularization Term

$$L(W) = \underbrace{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N L_i(f(x_i, W), y_i)}_{\text{Data loss: Model predictions should match training data}} + \underbrace{\lambda R(W)}_{\text{Regularization: Prevent the model from doing too well on training data}}$$

Hyperparameter giving regularization strength

## Simple examples:

L2 regularization:  $R(W) = \sum_{k,l} W_{k,l}^2$

L1 regularization:  $R(W) = \sum_{k,l} |W_{k,l}|$



# Regularization: Example

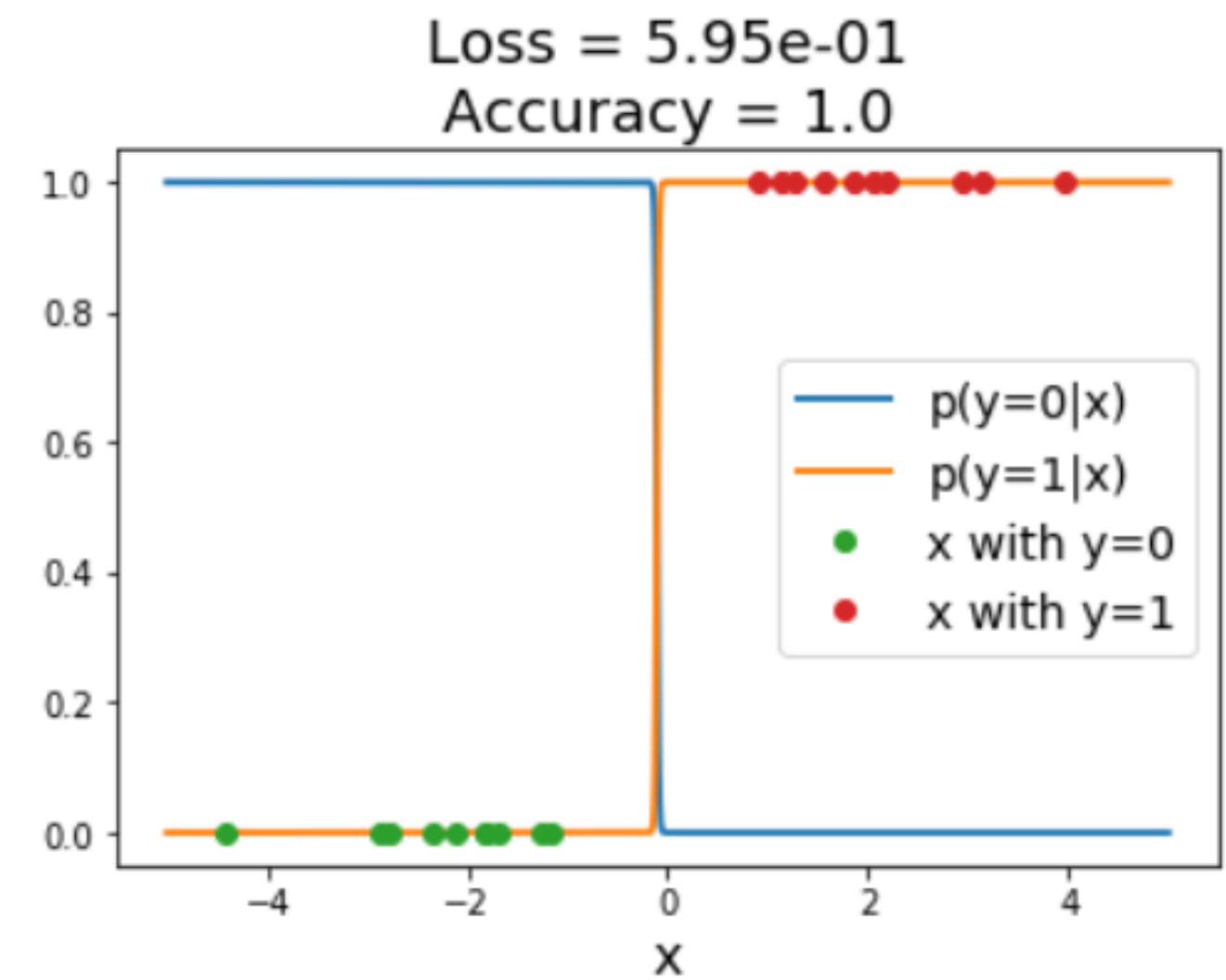
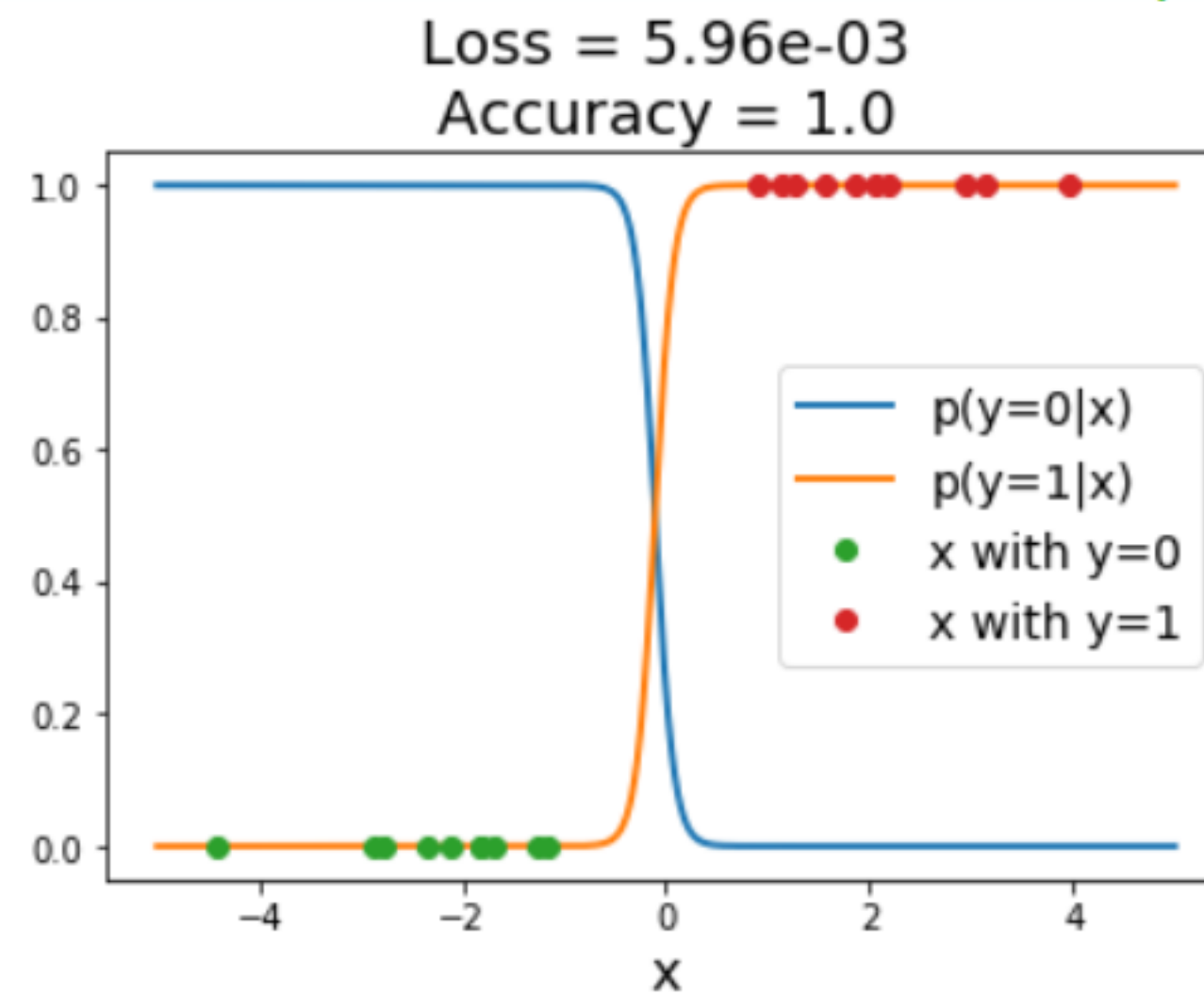
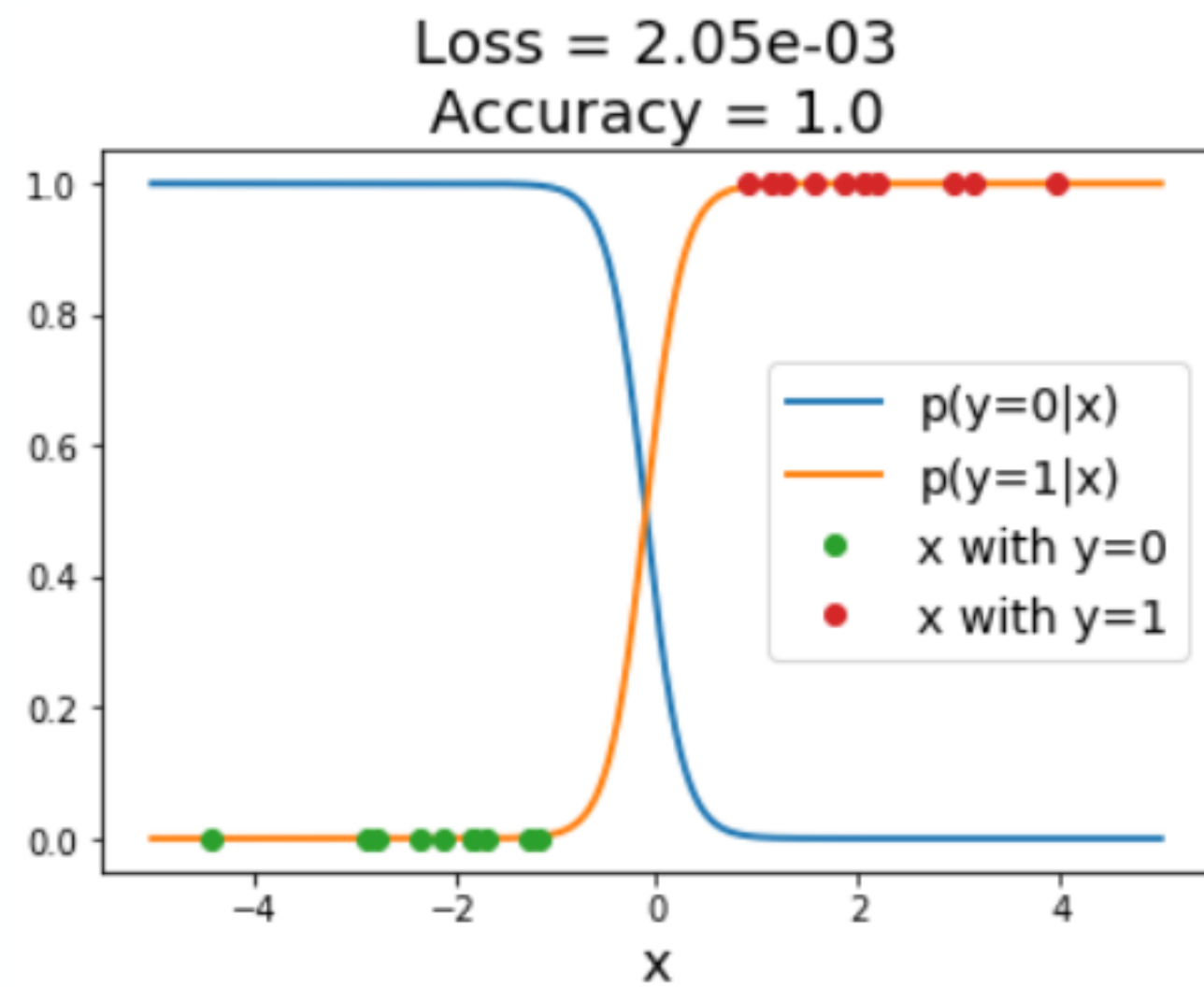
Example: Linear classifier with 1D inputs, 2 classes, and softmax loss

$$s_i = w_i x + b_i$$

$$p_i = \frac{\exp(s_i)}{\exp(s_1) + \exp(s_2)}$$

$$L = -\log(p_y) + \lambda \sum_i w_i^2$$

Regularization term causes loss to **increase** for model with sharp cliff





# Regularization: Expressing Preference

$$x = [1, 1, 1, 1]$$

$$w_1 = [1, 0, 0, 0]$$

$$w_2 = [0.25, 0.25, 0.25, 0.25]$$

L2 Regularization

$$R(W) = \sum_{k,l} W_{k,l}^2$$

L2 Regularization prefers weights to be “spread out”

$$w_1^T x = w_2^T x = 1$$

Same predictions, so data loss will always be the same



# How to find a good $W^*$ ?

---

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

**Loss function** consists of **data loss** to fit the training data and **regularization** to prevent overfitting

## Optimization

$$w^* = \arg \min_w L(w)$$





# Idea #1: Random Search (bad idea!)

```
# assume X_train is the data where each column is an example (e.g. 3073 x 50,000)
# assume Y_train are the labels (e.g. 1D array of 50,000)
# assume the function L evaluates the loss function

bestloss = float("inf") # Python assigns the highest possible float value
for num in xrange(1000):
    W = np.random.randn(10, 3073) * 0.0001 # generate random parameters
    loss = L(X_train, Y_train, W) # get the loss over the entire training set
    if loss < bestloss: # keep track of the best solution
        bestloss = loss
        bestW = W
    print 'in attempt %d the loss was %f, best %f' % (num, loss, bestloss)

# prints:
# in attempt 0 the loss was 9.401632, best 9.401632
# in attempt 1 the loss was 8.959668, best 8.959668
# in attempt 2 the loss was 9.044034, best 8.959668
# in attempt 3 the loss was 9.278948, best 8.959668
# in attempt 4 the loss was 8.857370, best 8.857370
# in attempt 5 the loss was 8.943151, best 8.857370
# in attempt 6 the loss was 8.605604, best 8.605604
# ... (truncated: continues for 1000 lines)
```



# Idea #1: Random Search (bad idea!)

---

```
# Assume X_test is [3073 x 10000], Y_test [10000 x 1]  
scores = Wbest.dot(Xte_cols) # 10 x 10000, the class scores for all test examples  
# find the index with max score in each column (the predicted class)  
Yte_predict = np.argmax(scores, axis = 0)  
# and calculate accuracy (fraction of predictions that are correct)  
np.mean(Yte_predict == Yte)  
# returns 0.1555
```

15.5 % accuracy on CIFAR-10!  
not bad but not great... (SOTA is ~95%)





# Idea #2: Follow the slope





# Idea #2: Follow the slope

“gradient descent”

In 1-dimension, the **derivative** of a function gives the slope:

$$\frac{df}{dx} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$$

In multiple dimensions, the **gradient** is the vector of (partial derivatives) along each dimension

The slope in any direction is the **dot product** of the direction with the gradient. The direction of steepest descent is the **negative gradient**.





Example:

Current W:

[0.34,  
-1.11,  
0.78,  
0.12,  
0.55,  
2.81,  
-3.1,  
-1.5,  
0.33, ...]

loss 1.25347

Gradient  $\frac{dL}{dW}$

[?,  
?,  
?,  
?,  
?,  
?,  
?,  
?,  
?, ...]



Current **W**:

[0.34,  
-1.11,  
0.78,  
0.12,  
0.55,  
2.81,  
-3.1,  
-1.5,  
0.33, ...]

loss 1.25347

**W + h** (first dim):

[0.34 + **0.0001**,  
-1.11,  
0.78,  
0.12,  
0.55,  
2.81,  
-3.1,  
-1.5,  
0.33, ...]

loss 1.25322

Gradient  $\frac{dL}{dW}$

[-2.5,  
?,  
?,  
?, ...]

$$\frac{(1.25322 - 1.25347)}{0.0001} = -2.5$$

$$\frac{df}{dx} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$$

?, ...]



Current **W**:

[0.34,  
-1.11,  
0.78,  
0.12,  
0.55,  
2.81,  
-3.1,  
-1.5,  
0.33, ...]

loss 1.25347

**W + h** (second dim):

[0.34,  
-1.11 + **0.0001**,  
0.78,  
0.12,  
0.55,  
2.81,  
-3.1,  
-1.5,  
0.33, ...]

loss 1.25353

Gradient  $\frac{dL}{dW}$

[-2.5,  
**0.6**,  
?,  
?,

$(1.25353 - 1.25347) / 0.0001 = 0.6$

$$\frac{df}{dx} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$$



# Computing Gradients

- **Numeric gradient:** approximate, slow, easy to write
- **Analytic gradient:** exact, fast, error-prone

In practice: Always use analytic gradient, but check implementation with numerical gradient. This is called a **gradient check**.

```
def grad_check_sparse(f, x, analytic_grad, num_checks=10, h=1e-7):  
    """  
    sample a few random elements and only return numerical  
    in this dimensions.  
    """
```



# Computing Gradients

- **Numeric gradient:** approximate, slow, easy to write
- **Analytic gradient:** exact, fast, error-prone

```
torch.autograd.gradcheck(func, inputs, eps=1e-06, atol=1e-05, rtol=0.001,  
raise_exception=True, check_sparse_nnz=False, nondet_tol=0.0)
```

[SOURCE] [🔗](#)

Check gradients computed via small finite differences against analytical gradients w.r.t. tensors in `inputs` that are of floating point type and with `requires_grad=True`.

The check between numerical and analytical gradients uses `allclose()`.



# Computing Gradients

- **Numeric gradient:** approximate, slow, easy to write
- **Analytic gradient:** exact, fast, error-prone

```
torch.autograd.gradgradcheck(func, inputs, grad_outputs=None, eps=1e-06, atol=1e-05, rtol=0.001, gen_non_contig_grad_outputs=False, raise_exception=True, nondet_tol=0.0)
```

[SOURCE]

Check gradients of gradients computed via small finite differences against analytical gradients w.r.t. tensors in `inputs` and `grad_outputs` that are of floating point type and with `requires_grad=True`.

This function checks that backpropagating through the gradients computed to the given `grad_outputs` are correct.





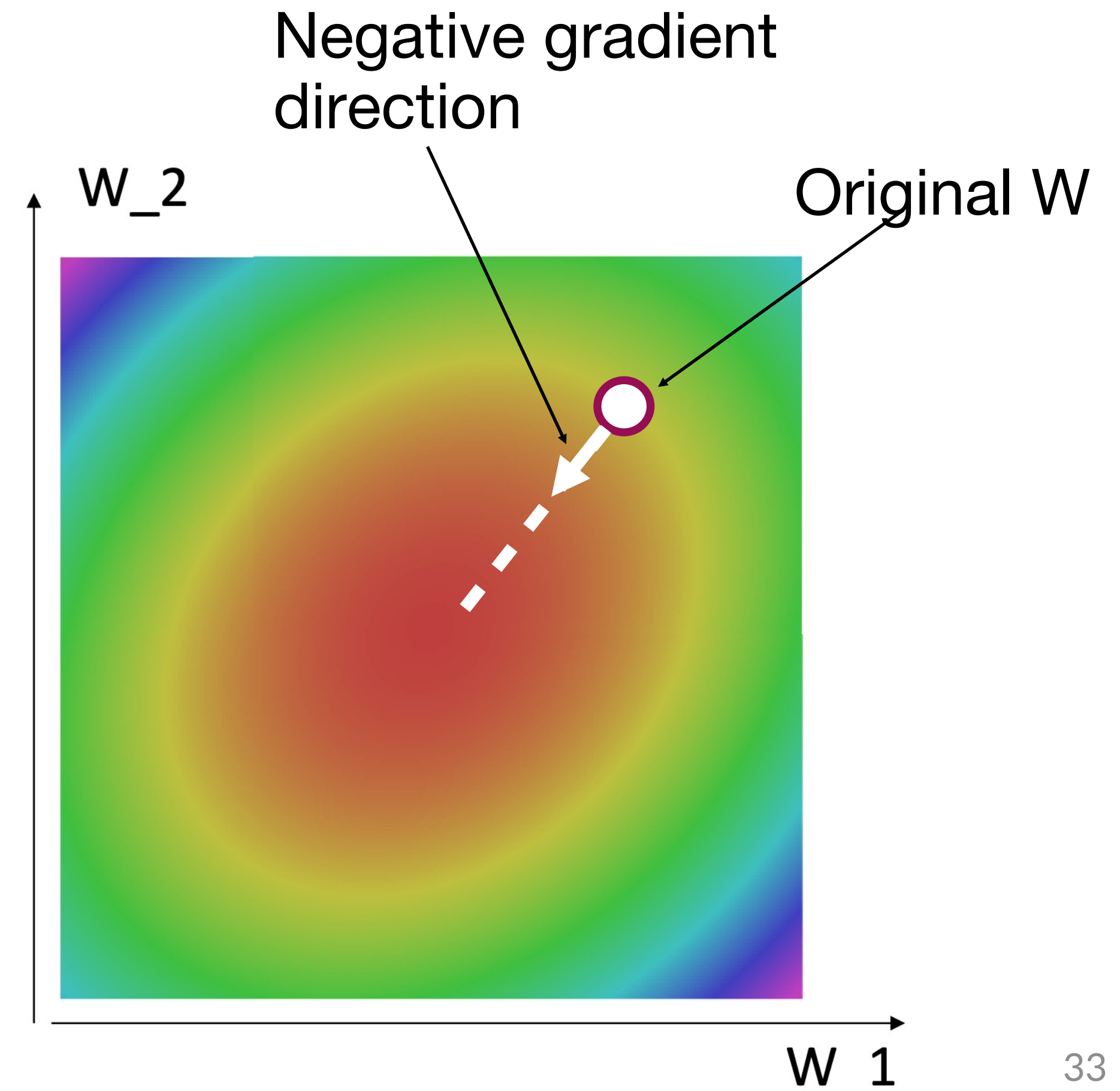
# Gradient Descent

- Iteratively step in the direction of the negative gradient (direction of local steepest descent)

```
# Vanilla gradient descent
w = initialize_weights()
for t in range(num_steps):
    dw = compute_gradient(loss_fn, data, w)
    w -= learning_rate * dw
```

## Hyperparameters:

- Weight initialization method
- Number of steps
- Learning rate





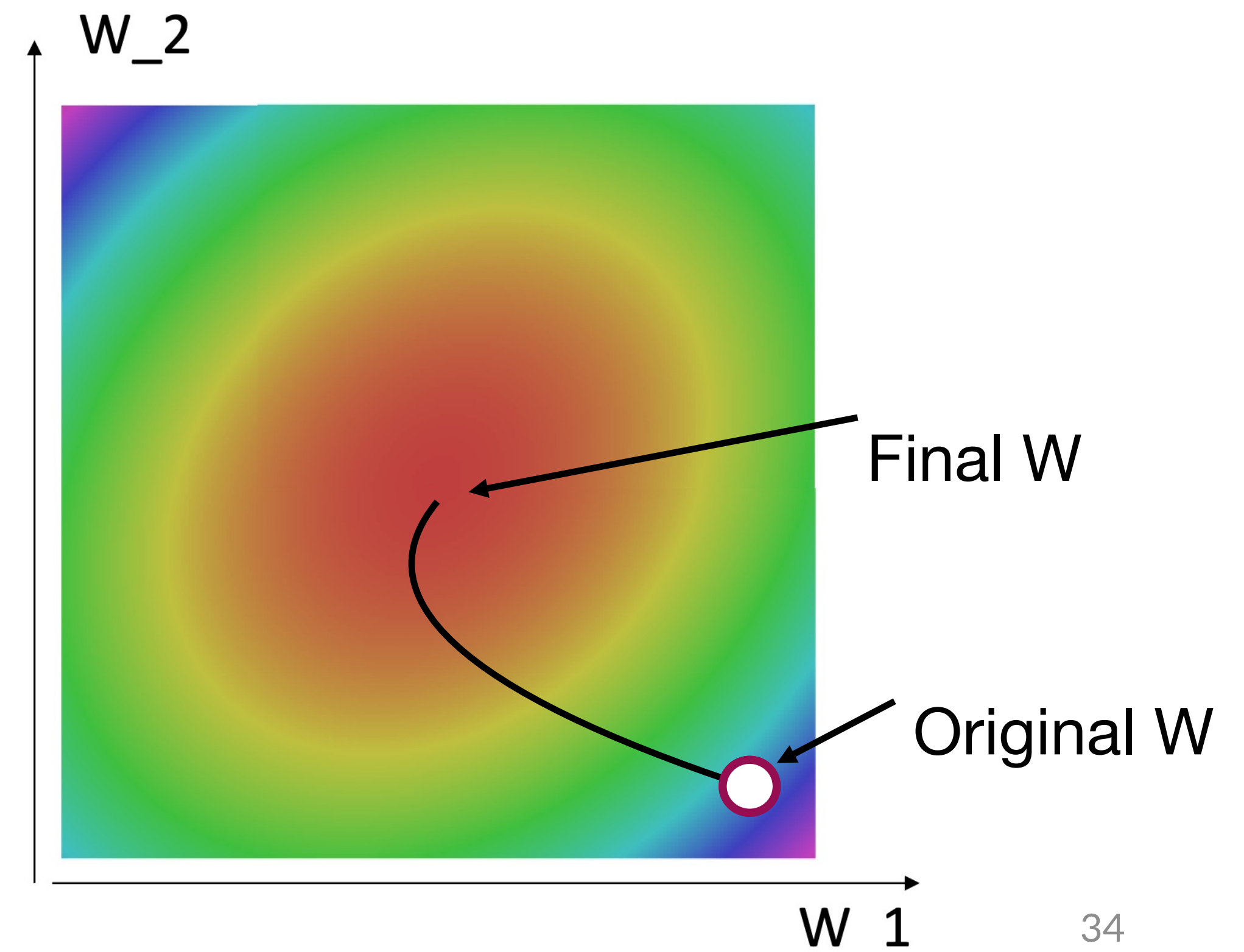
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```

## Hyperparameters:

- Weight initialization method
- Number of steps
- Learning rate





# Batch Gradient Descent

---

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

Full sum expensive  
when N is large!

$$\nabla_W L(W) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \nabla_W L_i(x_i, y_i, W) + \lambda \nabla_W R(W)$$



# Stochastic Gradient Descent (SGD)

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

$$\nabla_W L(W) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \nabla_W L_i(x_i, y_i, W) + \lambda \nabla_W R(W)$$

Full sum expensive when N is large!

Approximate sum using **minibatch** of examples  
32/64/128 common

## Hyperparameters:

- Weight initialization
- Number of steps
- Learning rate
- Batch size
- Data sampling

```
# Stochastic gradient descent
w = initialize_weights()
for t in range(num_steps):
    minibatch = sample_data(data, batch_size)
    dw = compute_gradient(loss_fn, minibatch, w)
    w -= learning_rate * dw
```



# Stochastic Gradient Descent (SGD)

$$L(W) = \mathbb{E}_{(x,y) \sim p_{data}} [L(x, y, W)] + \lambda R(W)$$

$$\approx \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N L(x_i, y_i, W) + \lambda R(W)$$

Think of loss as an expectation over the full **data distribution**

$p_{data}$

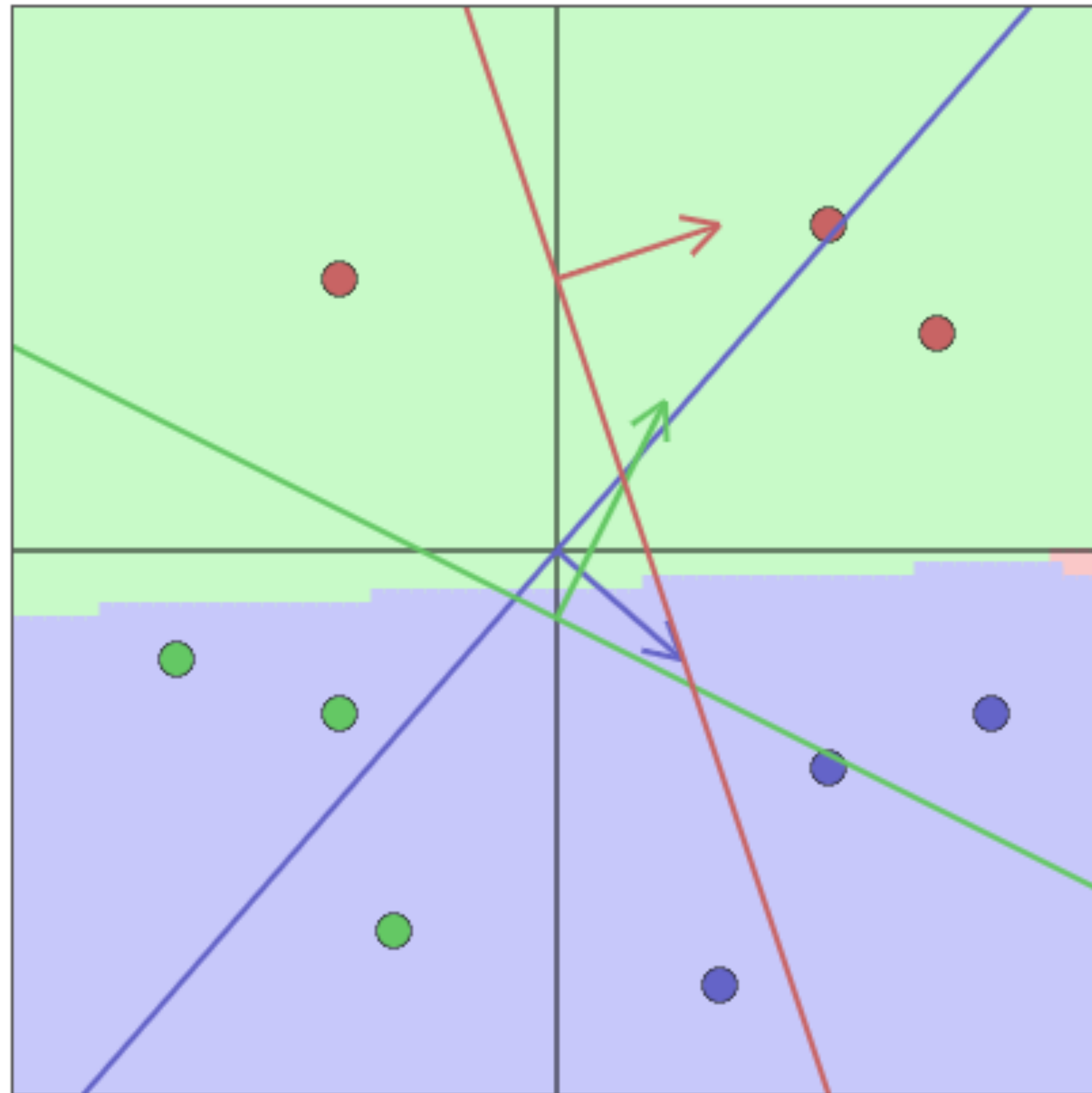
Approximate expectation via sampling

$$\nabla_W L(W) = \nabla_W \mathbb{E}_{(x,y) \sim p_{data}} [L(x, y, W)] + \lambda R(W)$$

$$\approx \sum_{i=1}^N \nabla_w L(x_i, y_i, W) + \nabla_w \lambda R(W)$$



# Interactive Web Demo



$W[0,0]$	$W[0,1]$	$b[0]$
▲	▲	▲
2.30 -0.17	2.00 0.14	0.00 0.33
▼	▼	▼
$W[1,0]$	$W[1,1]$	$b[1]$
▲	▲	▲
2.00 0.42	-4.00 -0.61	0.50 -0.22
▼	▼	▼
$W[2,0]$	$W[2,1]$	$b[2]$
▲	▲	▲
3.00 0.12	-1.00 0.32	-0.50 -0.11
▼	▼	▼

Step size: 0.09976

Single parameter update

Start repeated update

Stop repeated update

Randomize parameters

$x[0]$	$x[1]$	$y$	$s[0]$	$s[1]$	$s[2]$	$L$
0.50	0.40	0	1.95	-0.10	0.60	0.00
0.80	0.30	0	2.44	0.90	1.60	0.16
0.30	0.80	0	2.29	-2.10	-0.40	0.00
-0.40	0.30	1	-0.32	-1.50	-2.00	2.68
-0.30	0.70	1	0.71	-2.90	-2.10	6.41
-0.70	0.20	1	-1.21	-1.70	-2.80	1.49
0.70	-0.40	2	0.81	3.50	2.00	2.50
0.50	-0.60	2	-0.05	3.90	1.60	3.30
-0.40	-0.50	2	-1.92	1.70	-1.20	4.18

Total data loss: 2.30  
 Regularization loss: 3.93  
 Total loss: 6.23

L2 Regularization strength: 0.10000

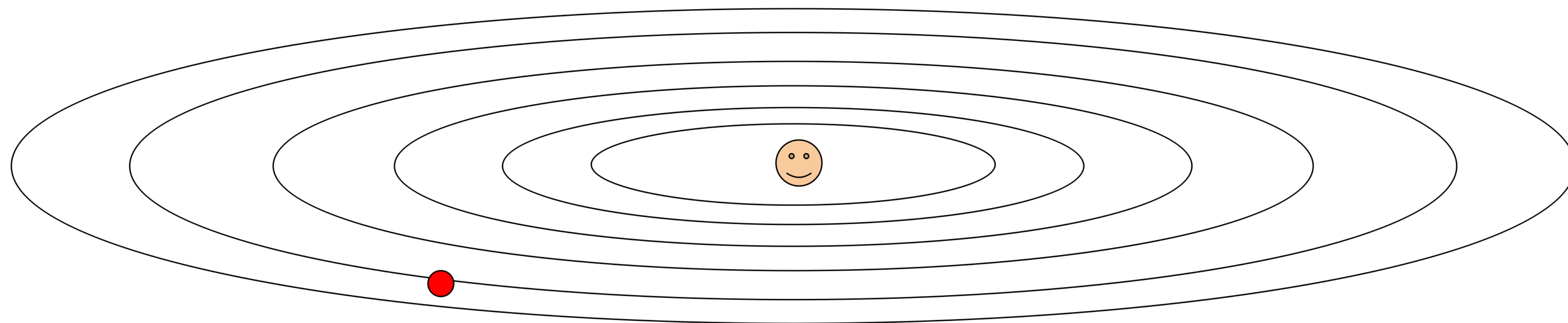
mean:  
2.30

<http://vision.stanford.edu/teaching/cs231n-demos/linear-classify/>



# Problems with SGD

What if loss changes quickly in one direction and slowly in another?  
What does gradient decent do?



Loss function has high condition number: ratio of largest to smallest singular value of the Hessian matrix is large

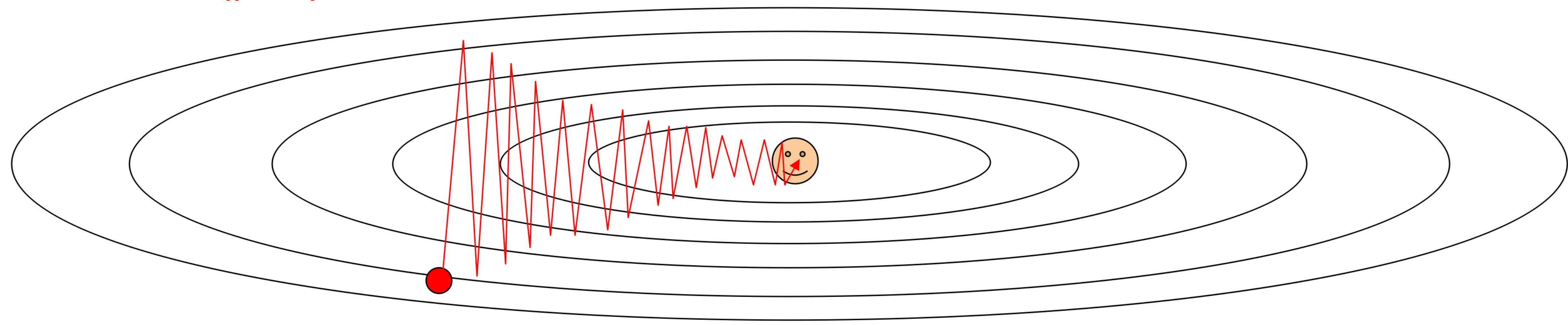


# Problems with SGD

What if loss changes quickly in one direction and slowly in another?

What does gradient decent do?

Very slow progress along shallow dimension, jitter along steep



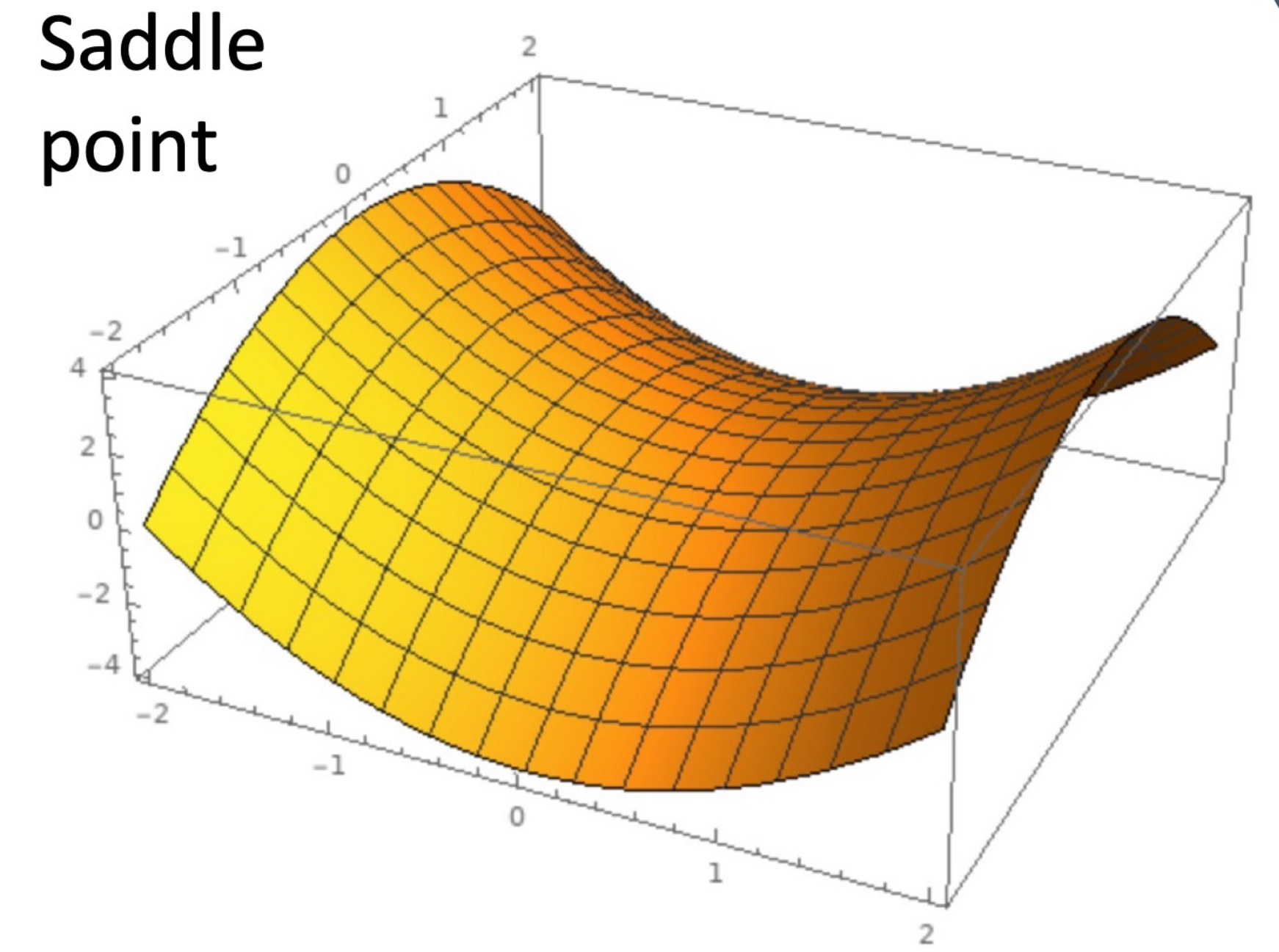
Loss function has high condition number: ratio of largest to smallest singular value of the Hessian matrix is large





# Problems with SGD

What if the loss function has a **local minimum** or **saddle point**?

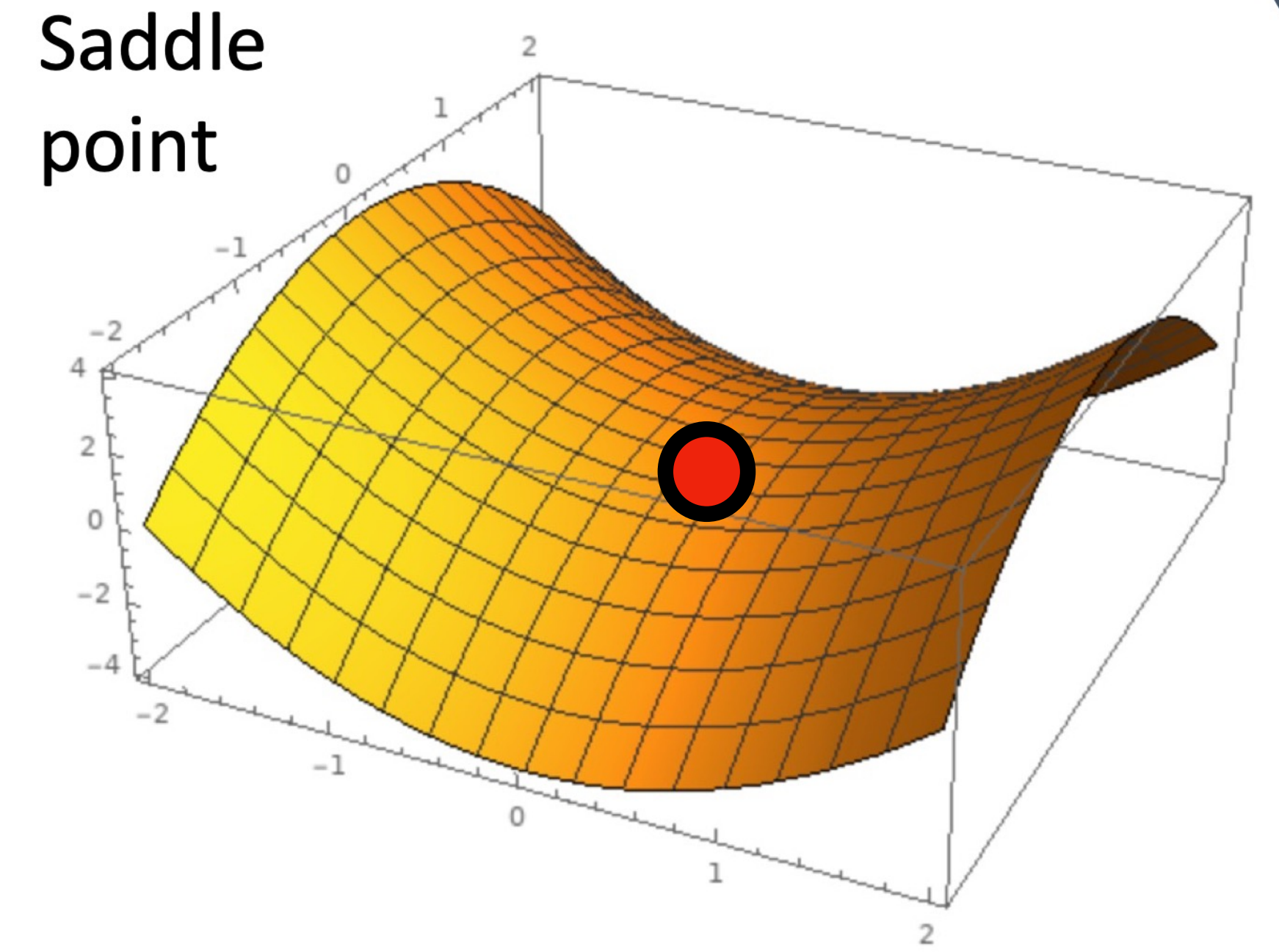
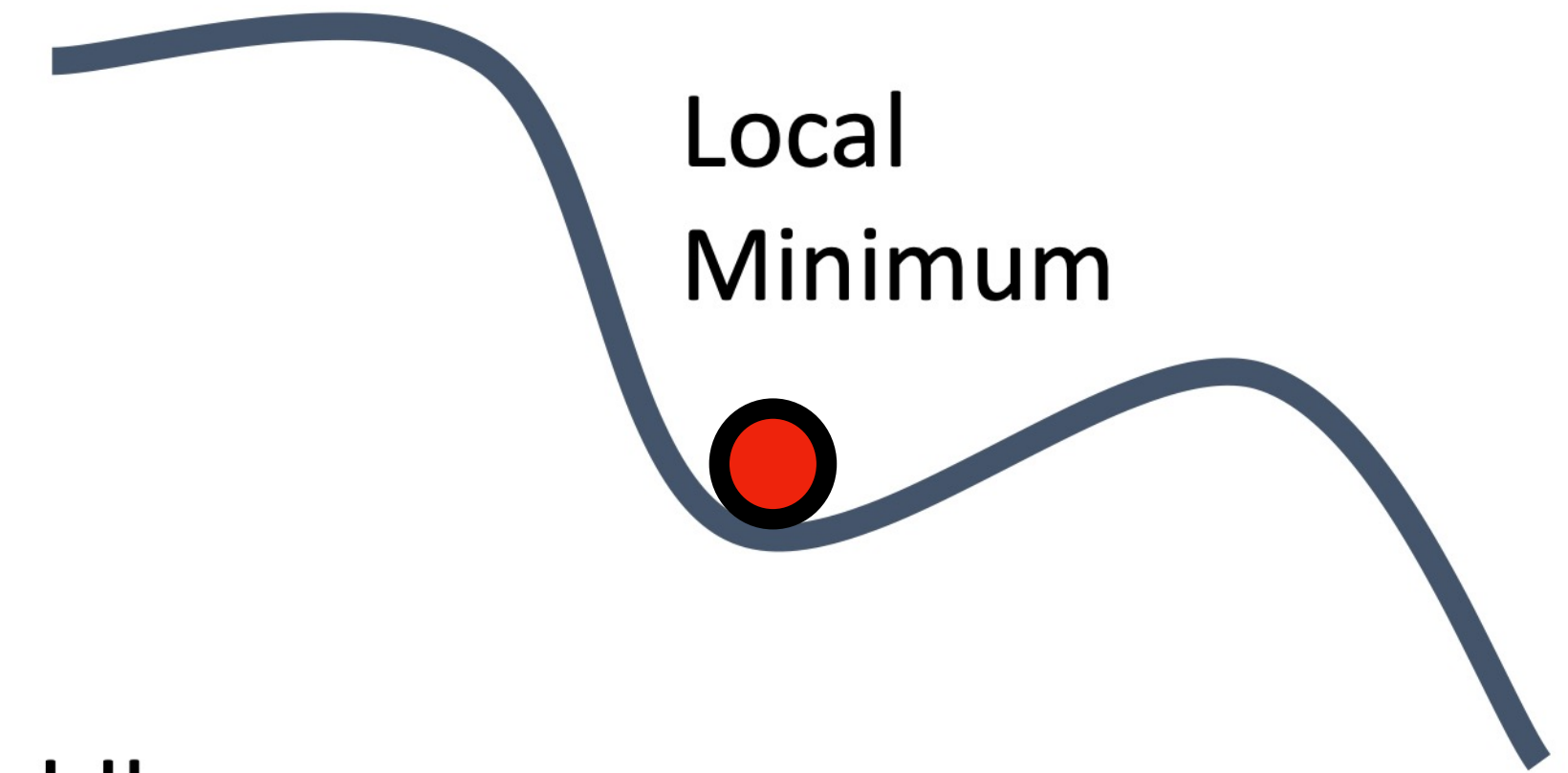




# Problems with SGD

What if the loss function has a **local minimum** or **saddle point**?

Zero gradient, gradient descent gets stuck



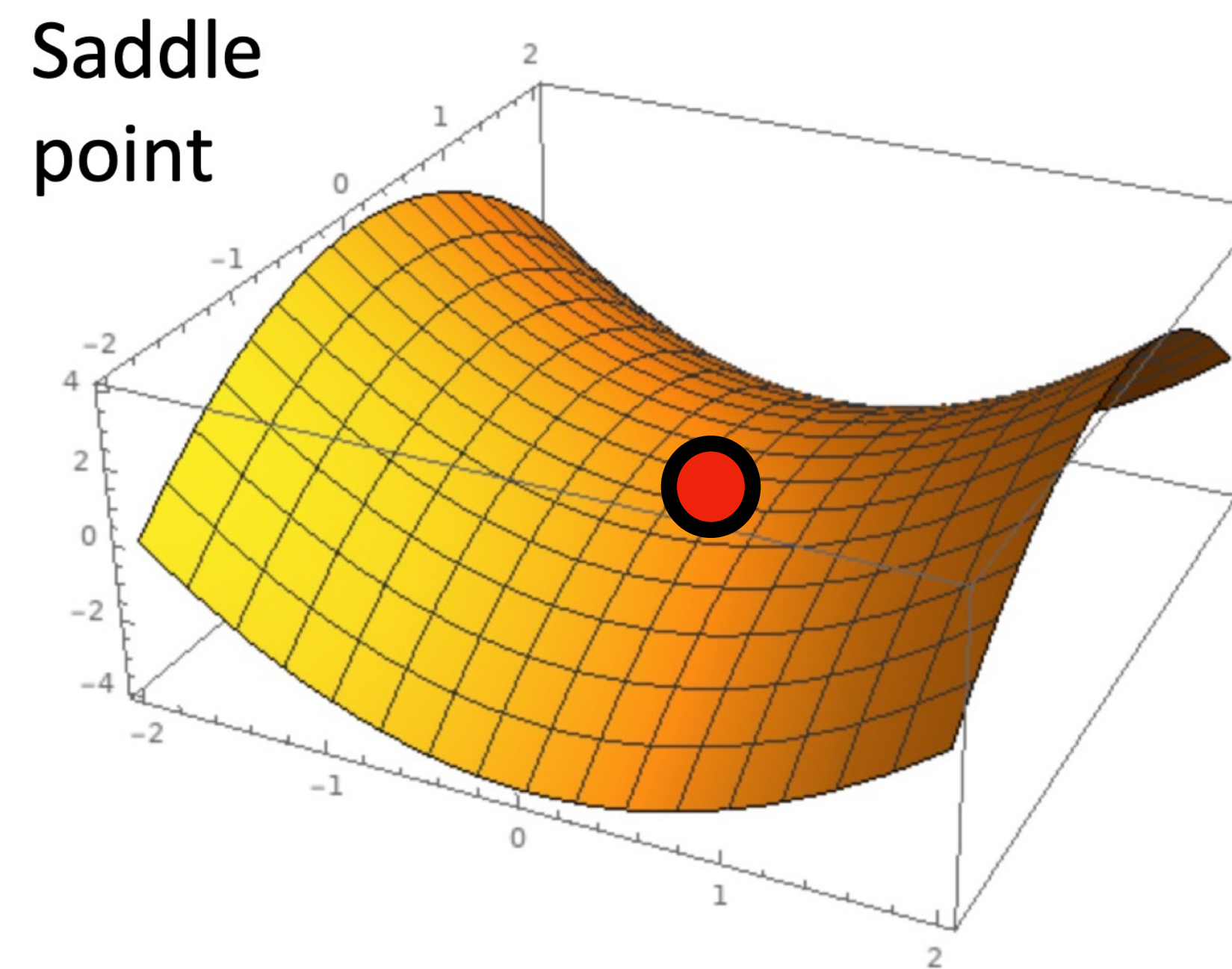
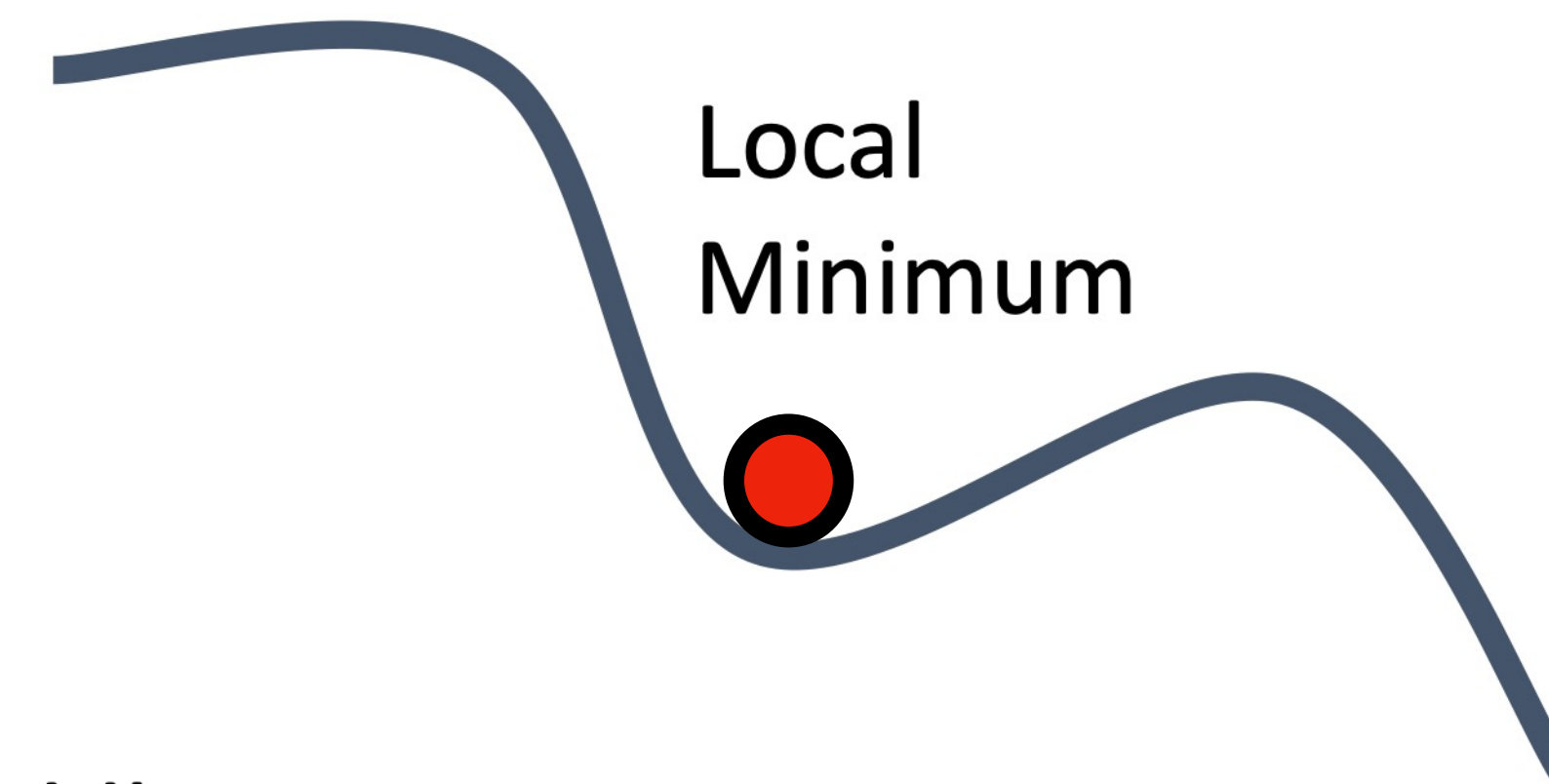


# Problems with SGD

What if the loss function has a **local minimum** or **saddle point**?

Batched gradient descent always computes same gradients

SGD computes noisy gradients, may help to escape saddle points





# SGD + Momentum

## SGD

$$w_{t+1} = w_t - \alpha \nabla L(w_t)$$

```
for t in range(num_steps):  
    dw = compute_gradient(w)  
    w -= learning_rate * dw
```

## SGD + Momentum

$$v_{t+1} = \rho v_t + \nabla L(w_t)$$

$$w_{t+1} = w_t - \alpha v_{t+1}$$

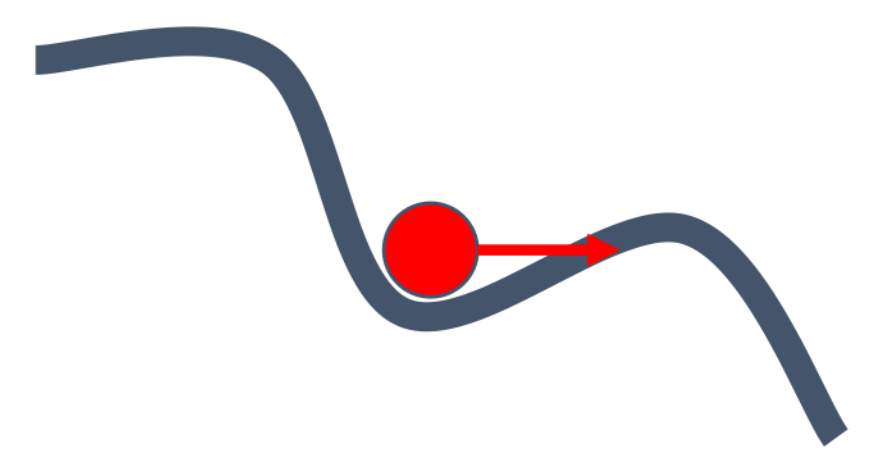
```
v = 0  
for t in range(num_steps):  
    dw = compute_gradient(w)  
    v = rho * v + dw  
    w -= learning_rate * v
```

- Build up “velocity” as a running mean of gradients
- Rho gives “friction”; typically rho = 0.9 or 0.99

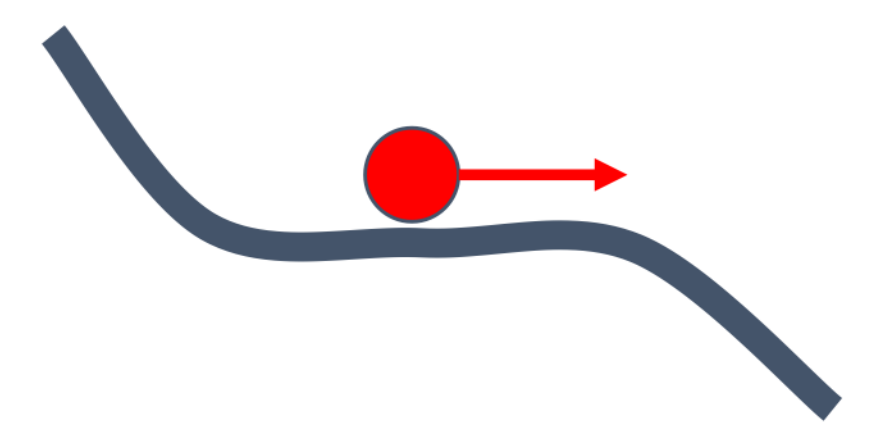


# SGD + Momentum

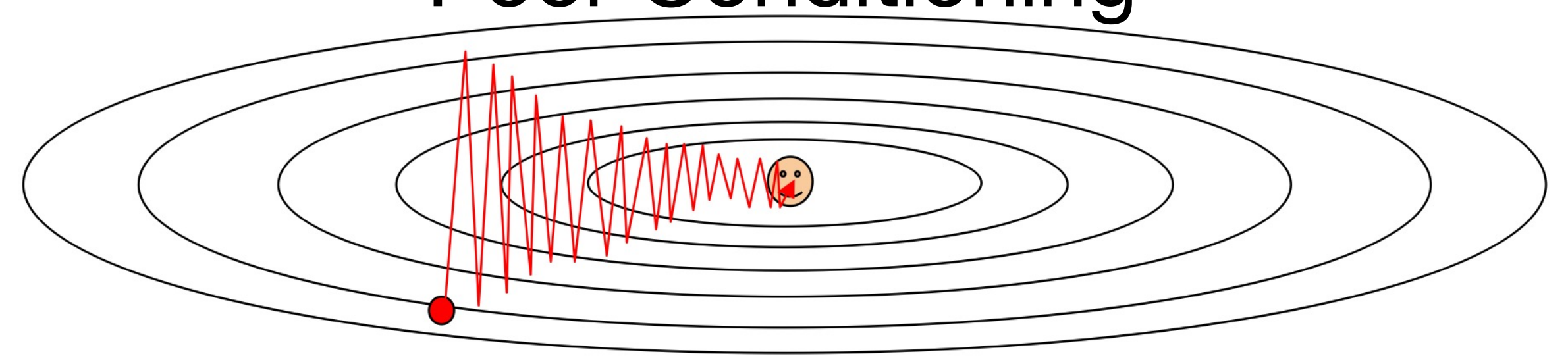
Local Minima



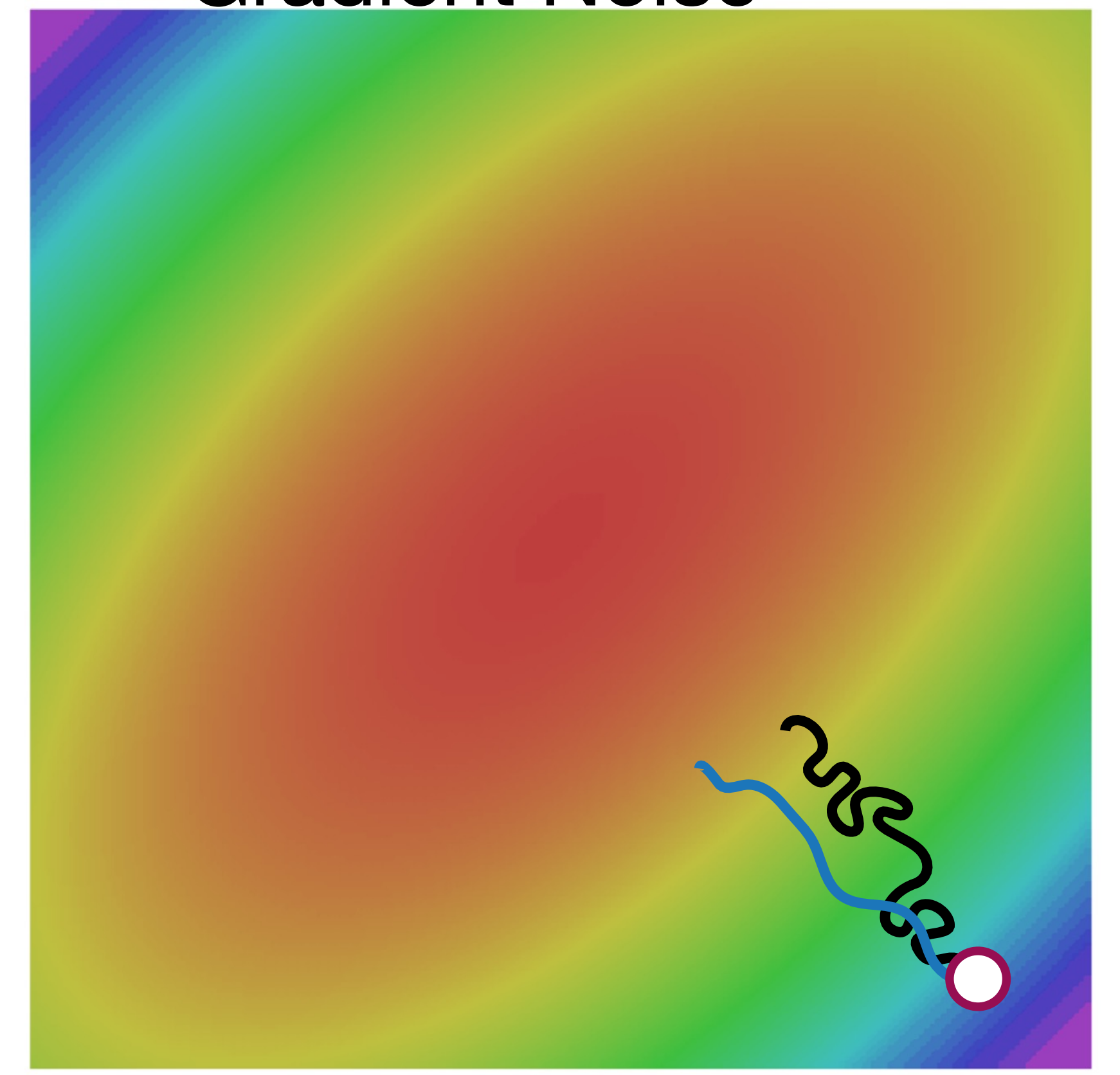
Saddle Points



Poor Conditioning



Gradient Noise

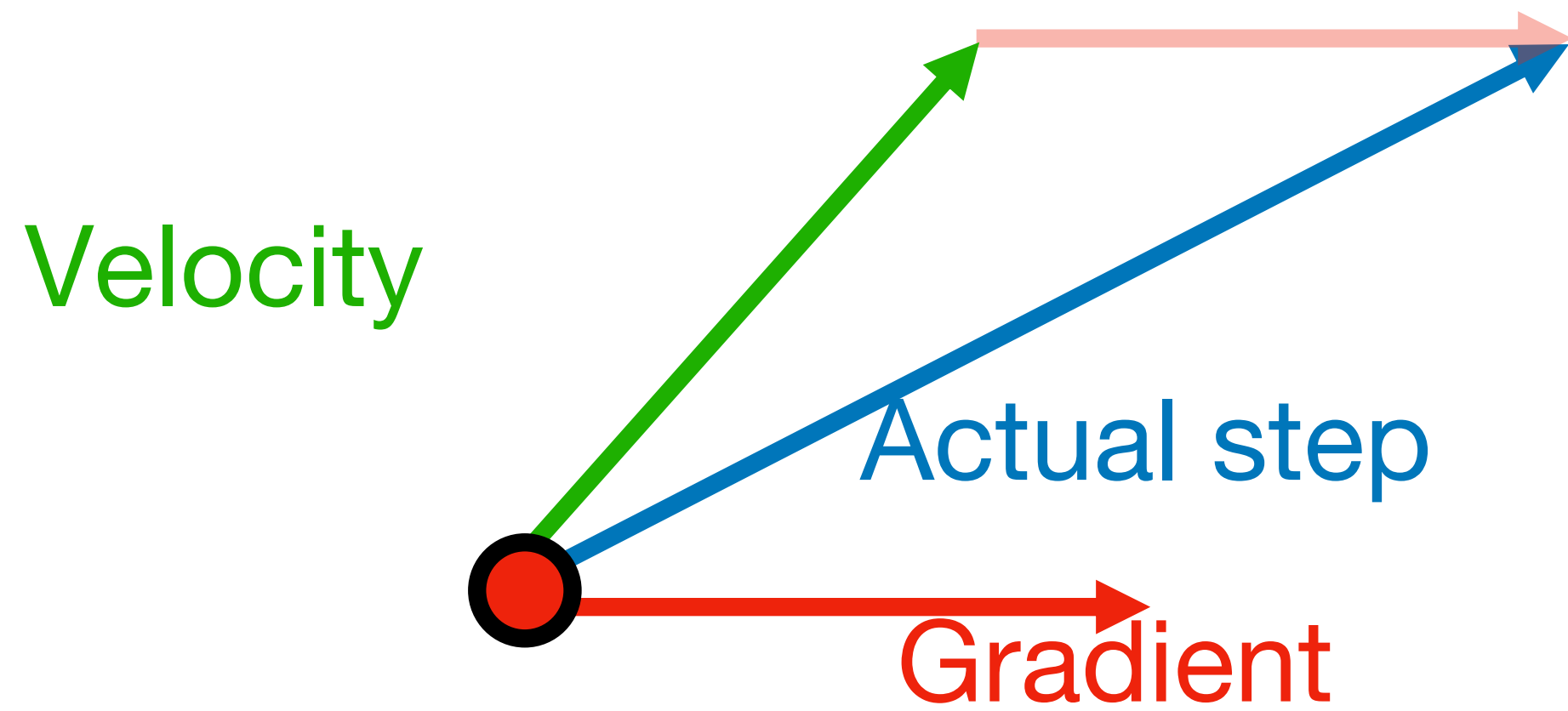


— SGD — SGD+Momentum



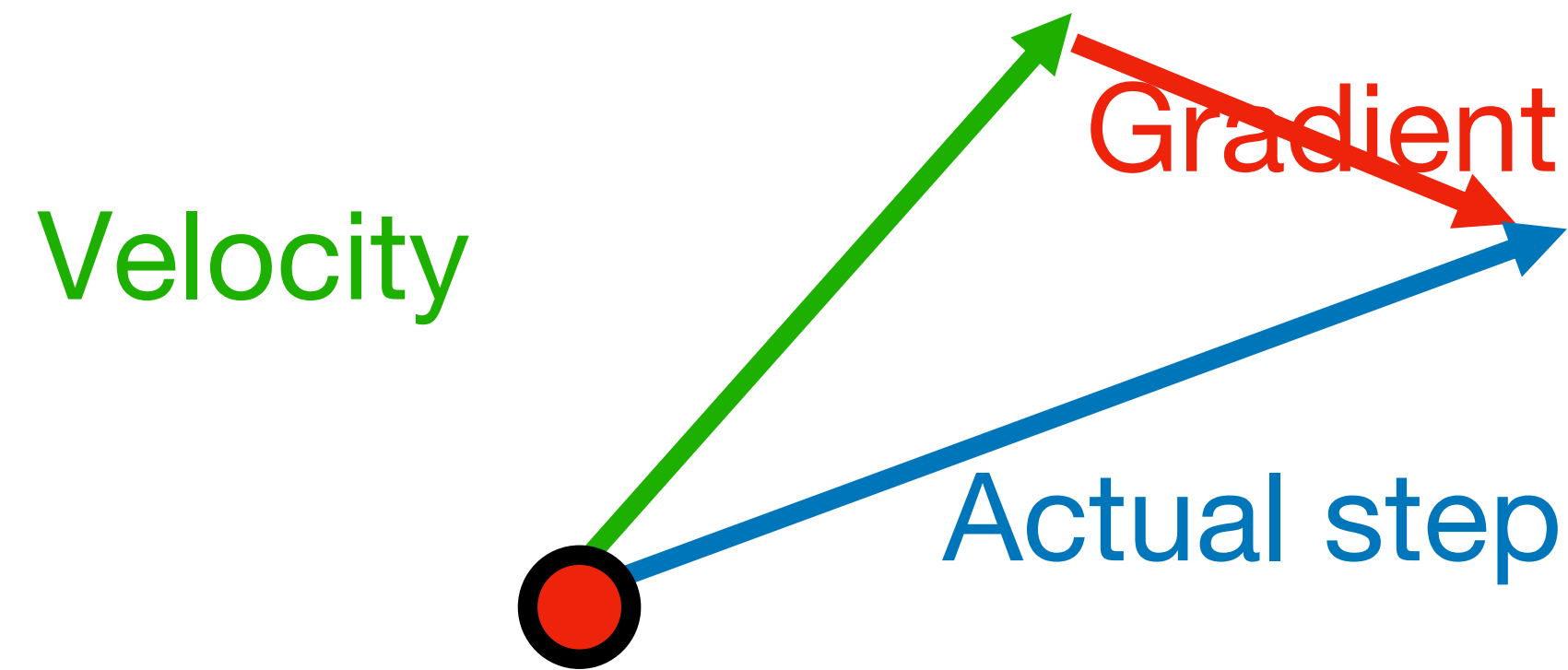
# SGD + Momentum

Momentum update:



Combine gradient at current point with velocity to get step used to update weights

Nesterov Momentum



“Look ahead” to the point where updating using velocity would take us; compute gradient there and mix it with velocity to get actual update direction



# DEEPROB

Lecture 3  
 Regularization + Optimization  
 University of Michigan | Department of Robotics

