

# Machine learning

---

370: Intro to Computer Vision

Subhransu Maji

April 15 & 17, 2025

# Image classification



(assume given set of discrete labels)  
{dog, cat, truck, plane, ...}

→ cat

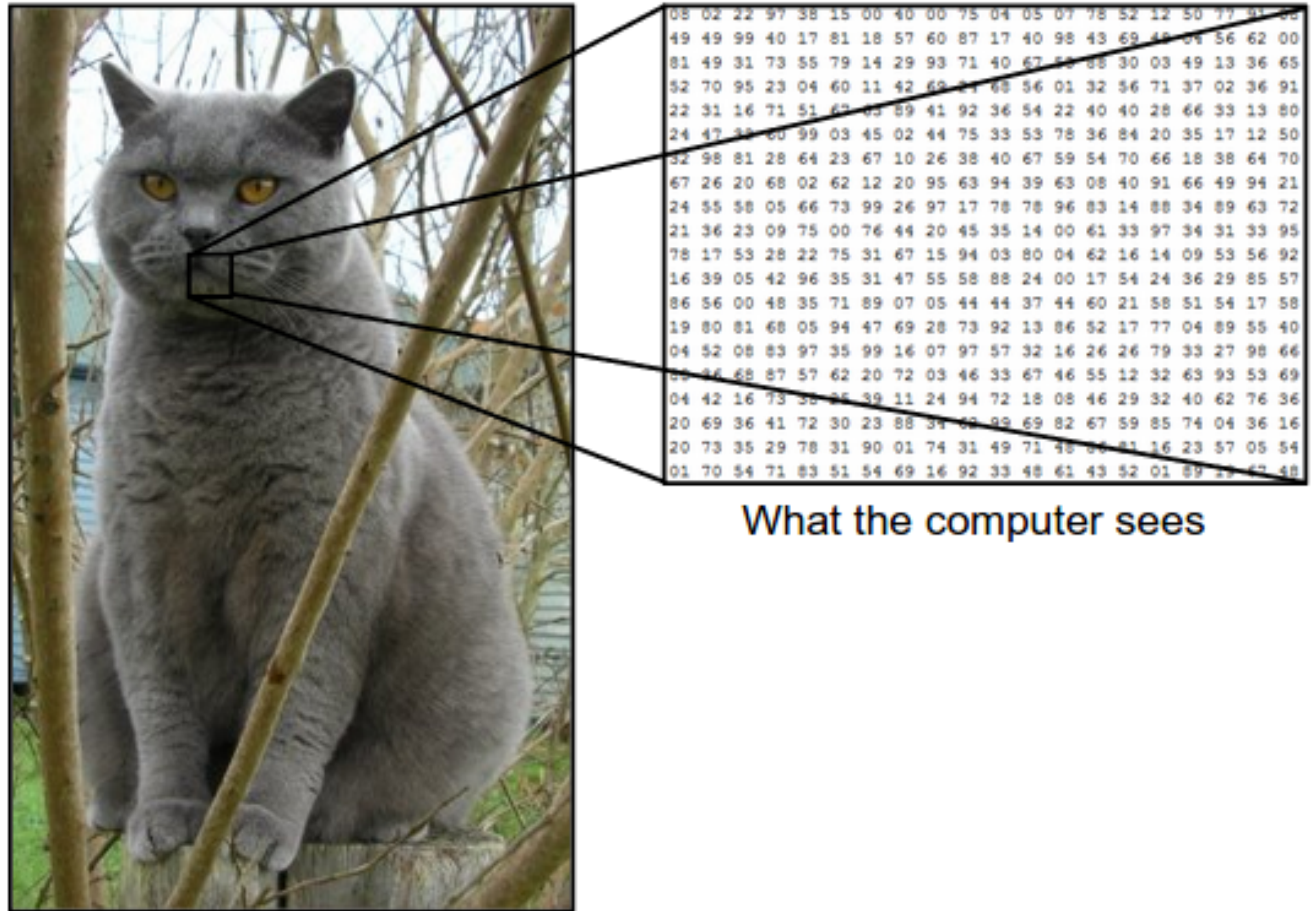


# Challenges: Semantic gap

Images are represented as 3D arrays of numbers, with integers between [0, 255].

E.g.  
300 x 100 x 3

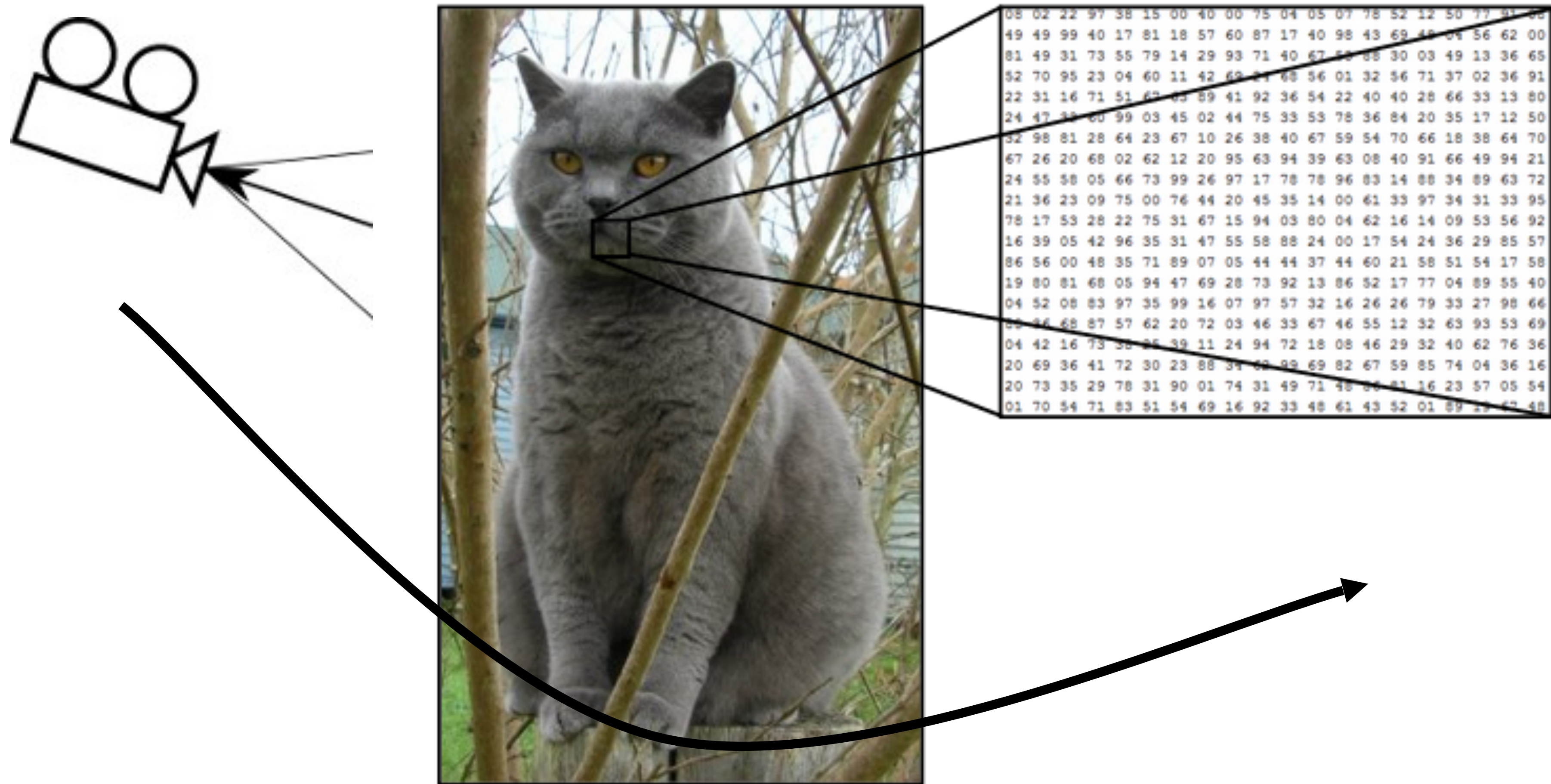
(3 for 3 color channels RGB)



What the computer sees



# Challenges: Viewpoint Variation



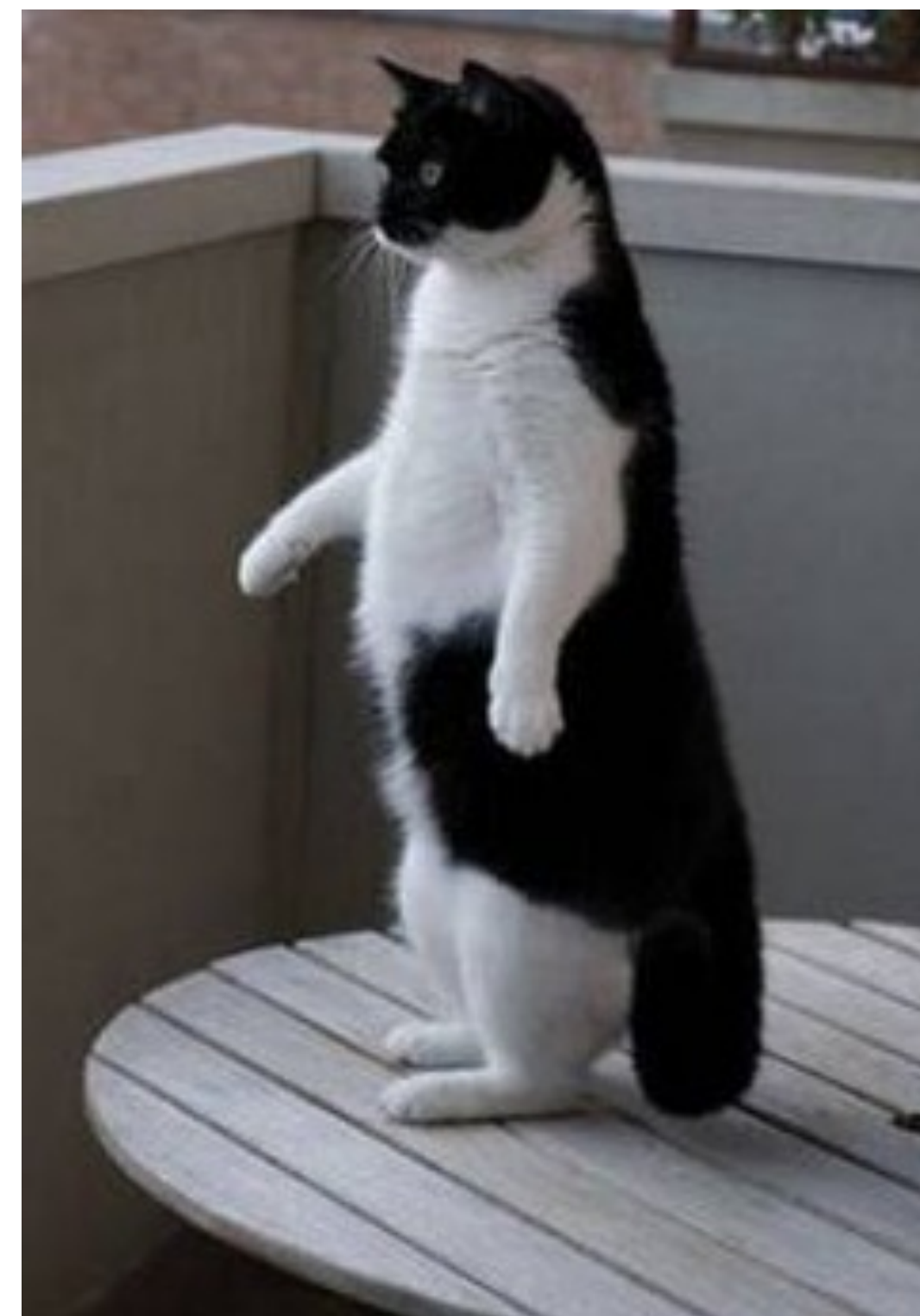


# Challenges: Illumination





# Challenges: Deformation





# Challenges: Occlusion





# Challenges: Background clutter





# Challenges: Intraclass variation





# Writing an image classifier

```
def predict(image):  
    # ????  
    return class_label
```

Unlike e.g. sorting a list of numbers,

**no obvious way** to hand-code the algorithm for recognizing a cat, or other classes.



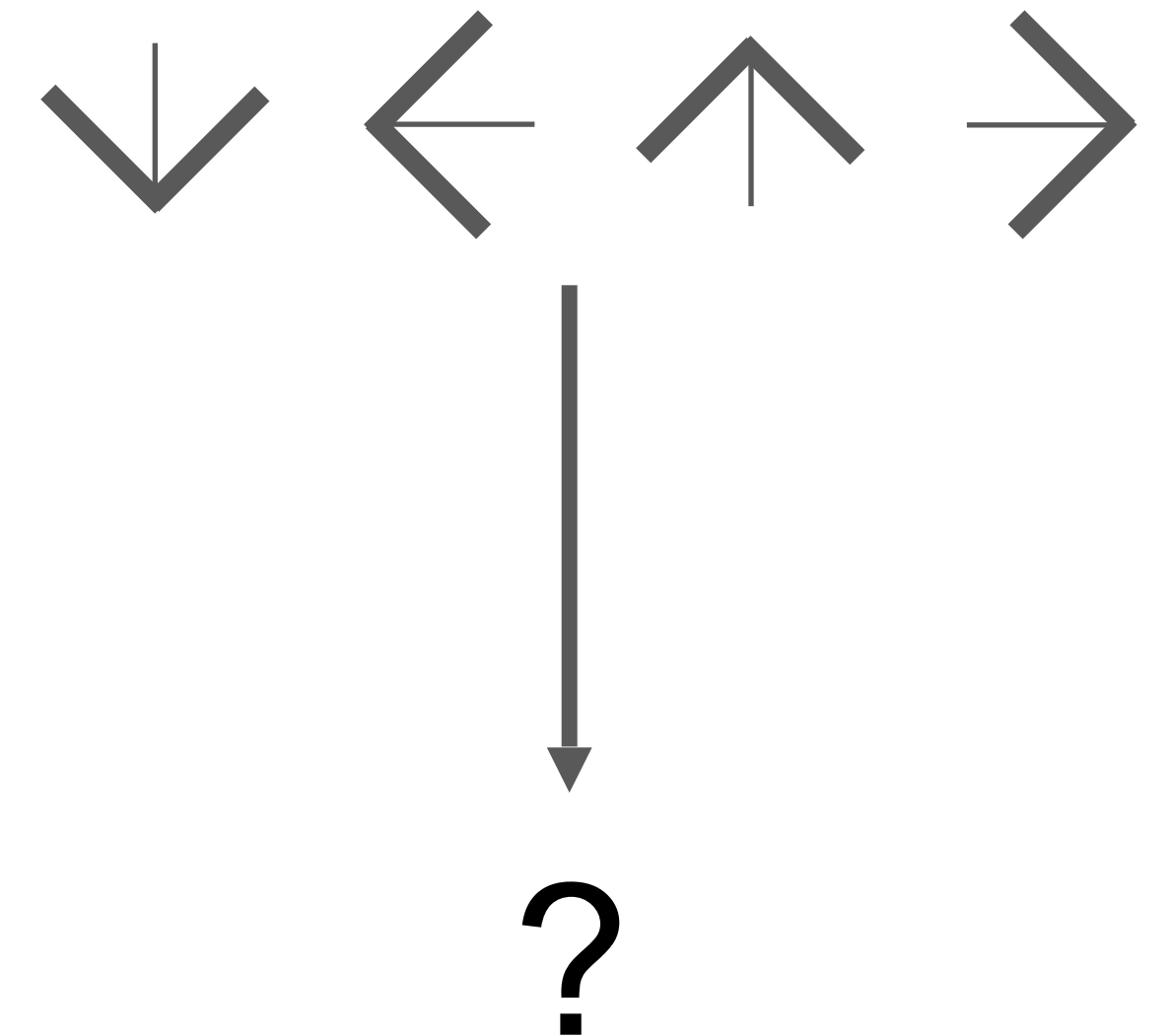
# Attempts have been made



Find edges



Find corners



John Canny, "A Computational Approach to Edge Detection", IEEE TPAMI 1986



# Machine Learning: Data Driven Approach

1. Collect a dataset of images and labels
2. Use Machine Learning algorithms to train a classifier
3. Evaluate the classifier on new images

Example training set

```
def train(train_images, train_labels):  
    # build a model for images -> labels...  
    return model  
  
def predict(model, test_images):  
    # predict test_labels using the model...  
    return test_labels
```





# Today

## Examples of machine learning models

- Nearest neighbor classifiers
- Linear classifiers



# Nearest Neighbor Classifier



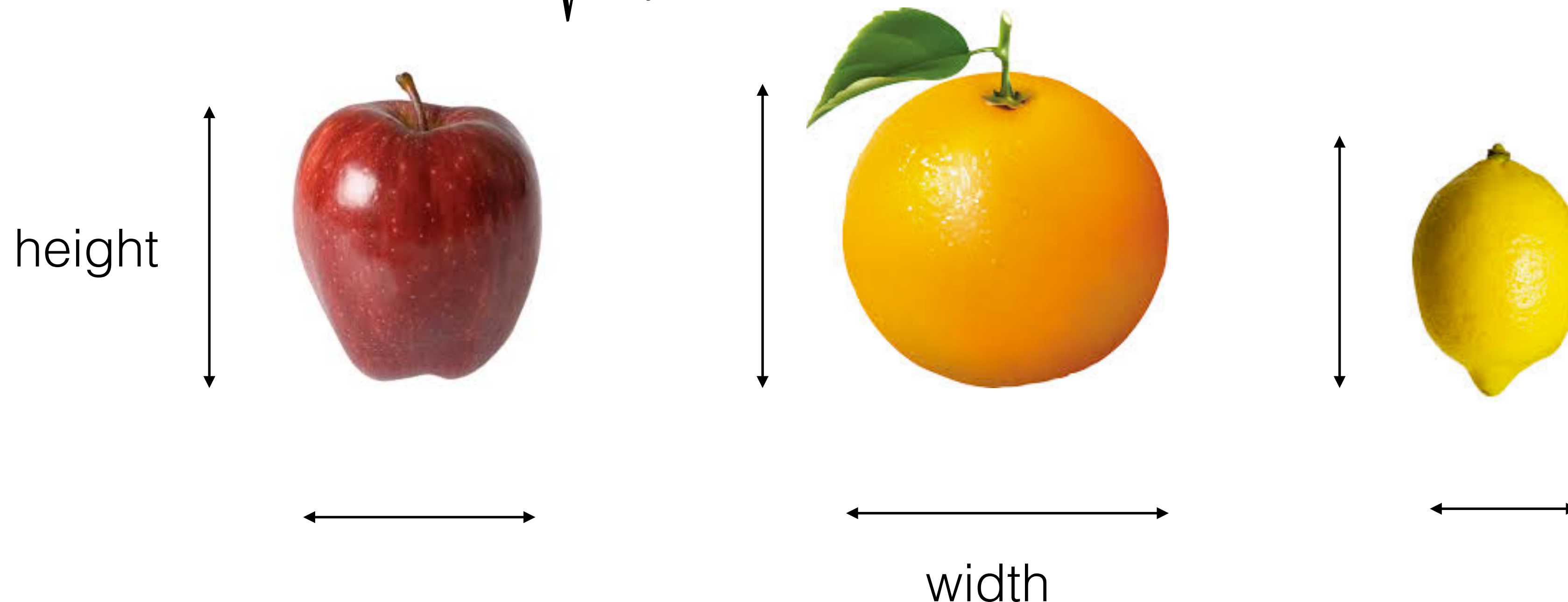
# Nearest neighbor classifier

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

Fruit data:

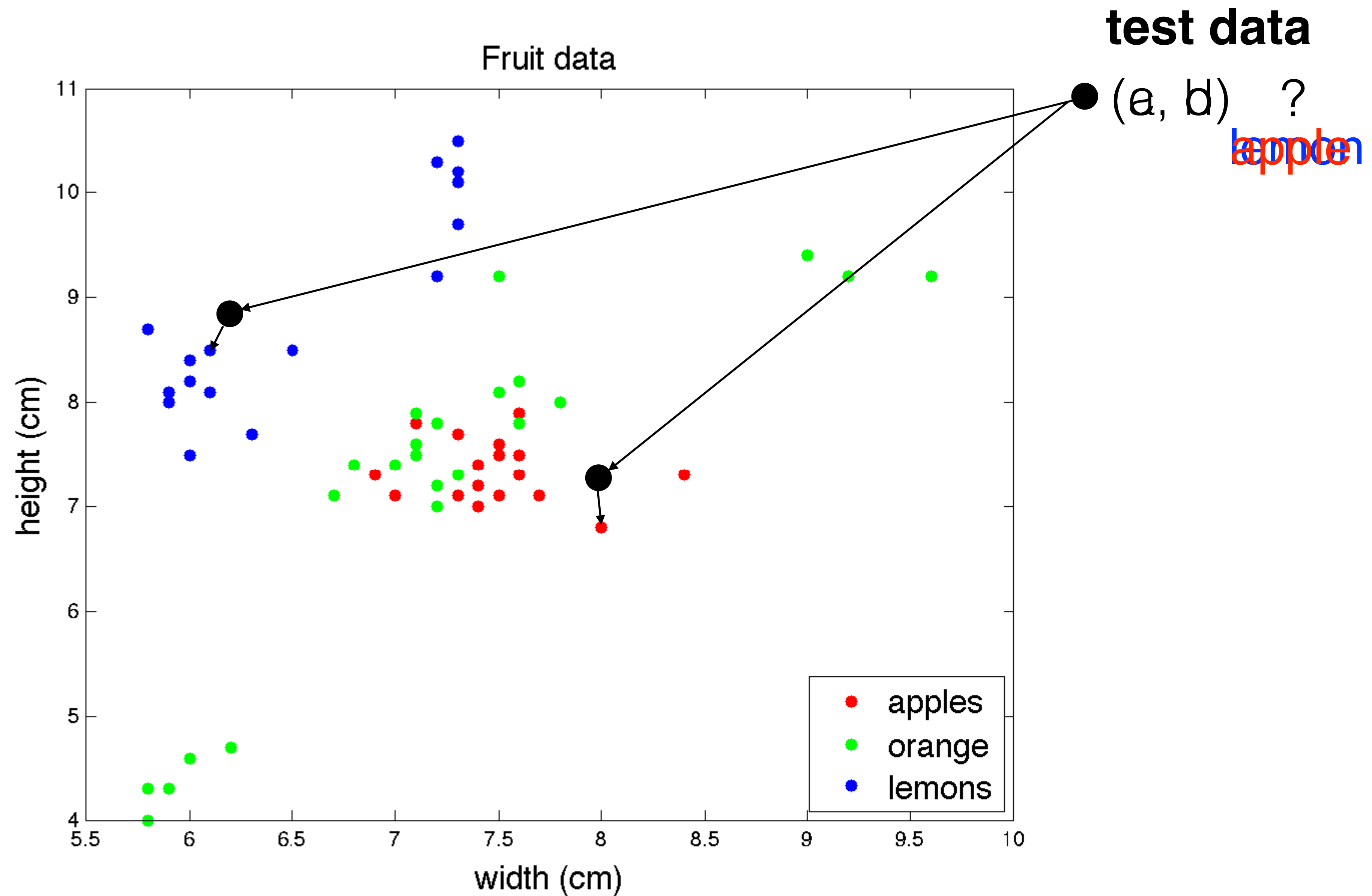
- label: {apples, oranges, lemons}
- attributes: {width, height}

Euclidean distance  $d(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2) = \sqrt{\sum_i (\mathbf{x}_{1,i} - \mathbf{x}_{2,i})^2}$



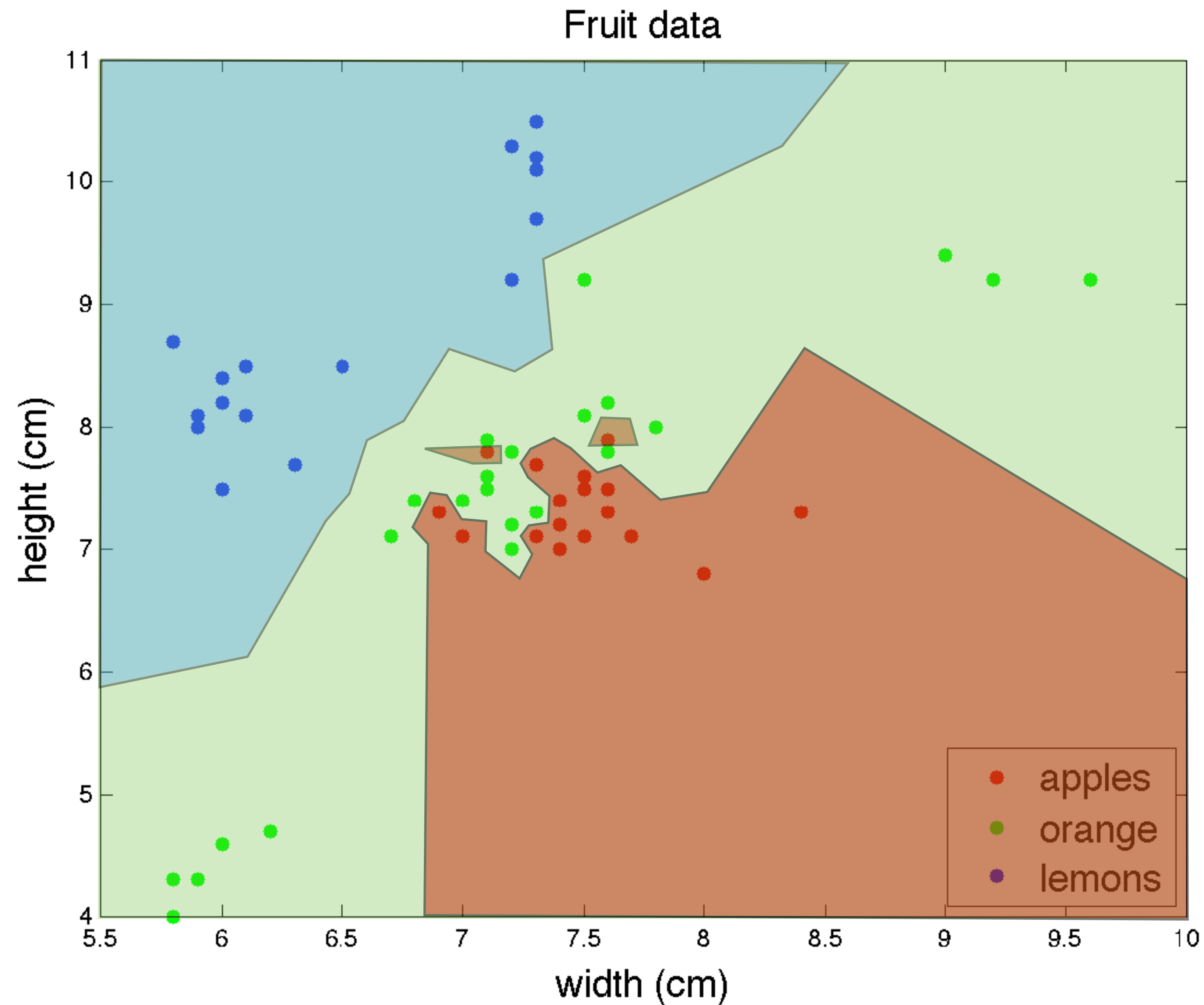


# Nearest neighbor classifier





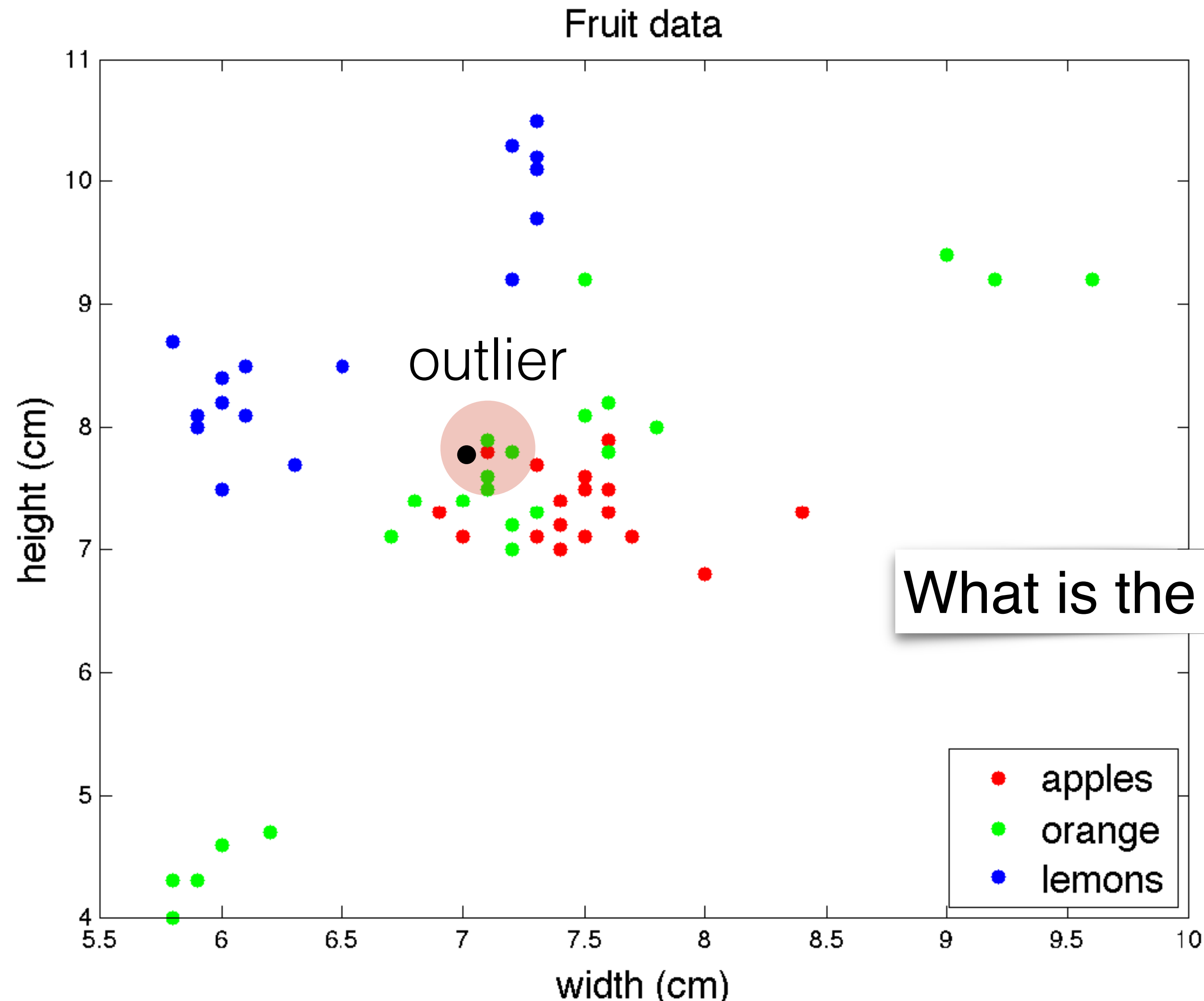
# Decision boundaries: 1NN





# k-Nearest neighbor classifier

Take majority vote among the k nearest neighbors

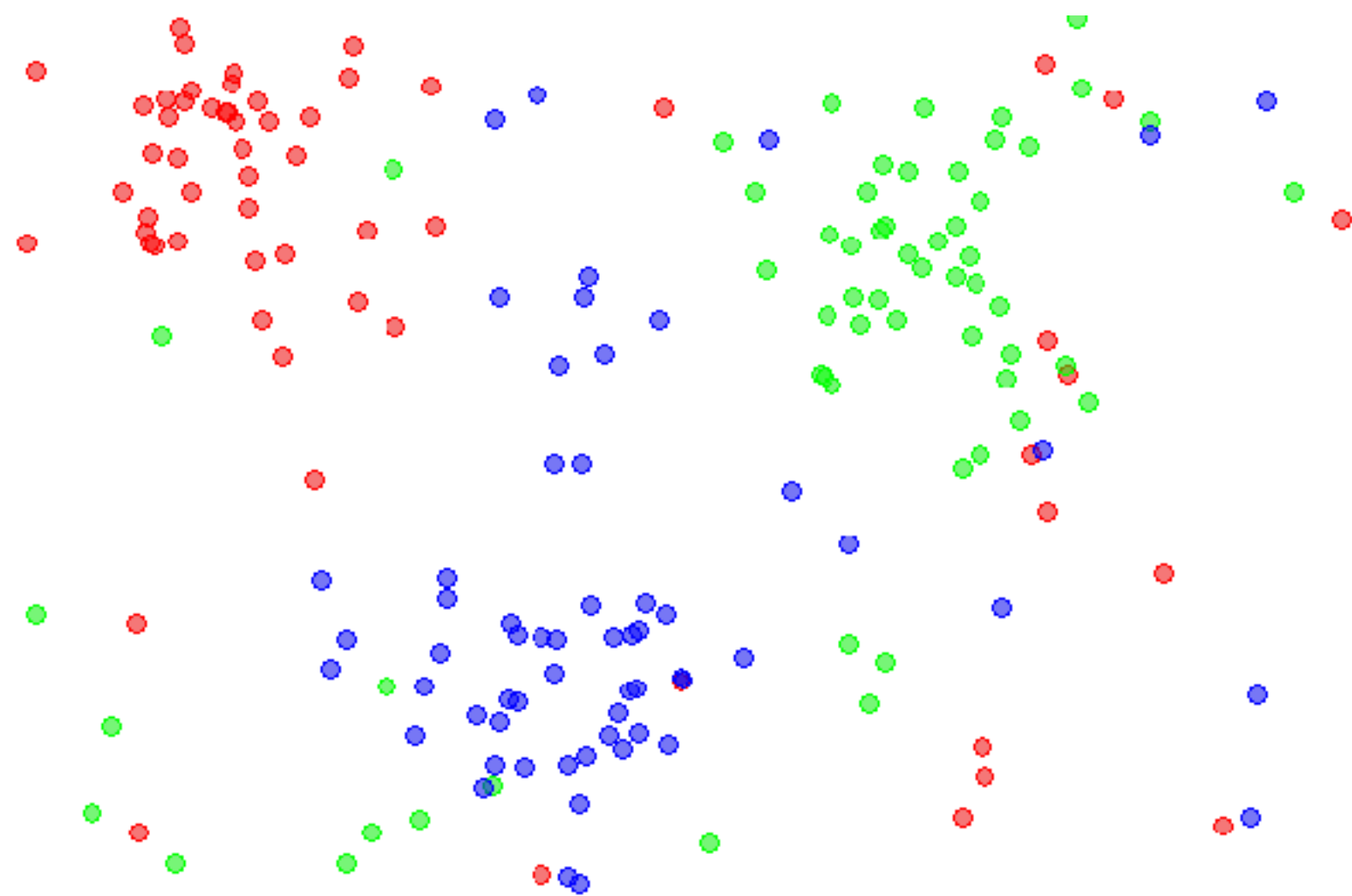




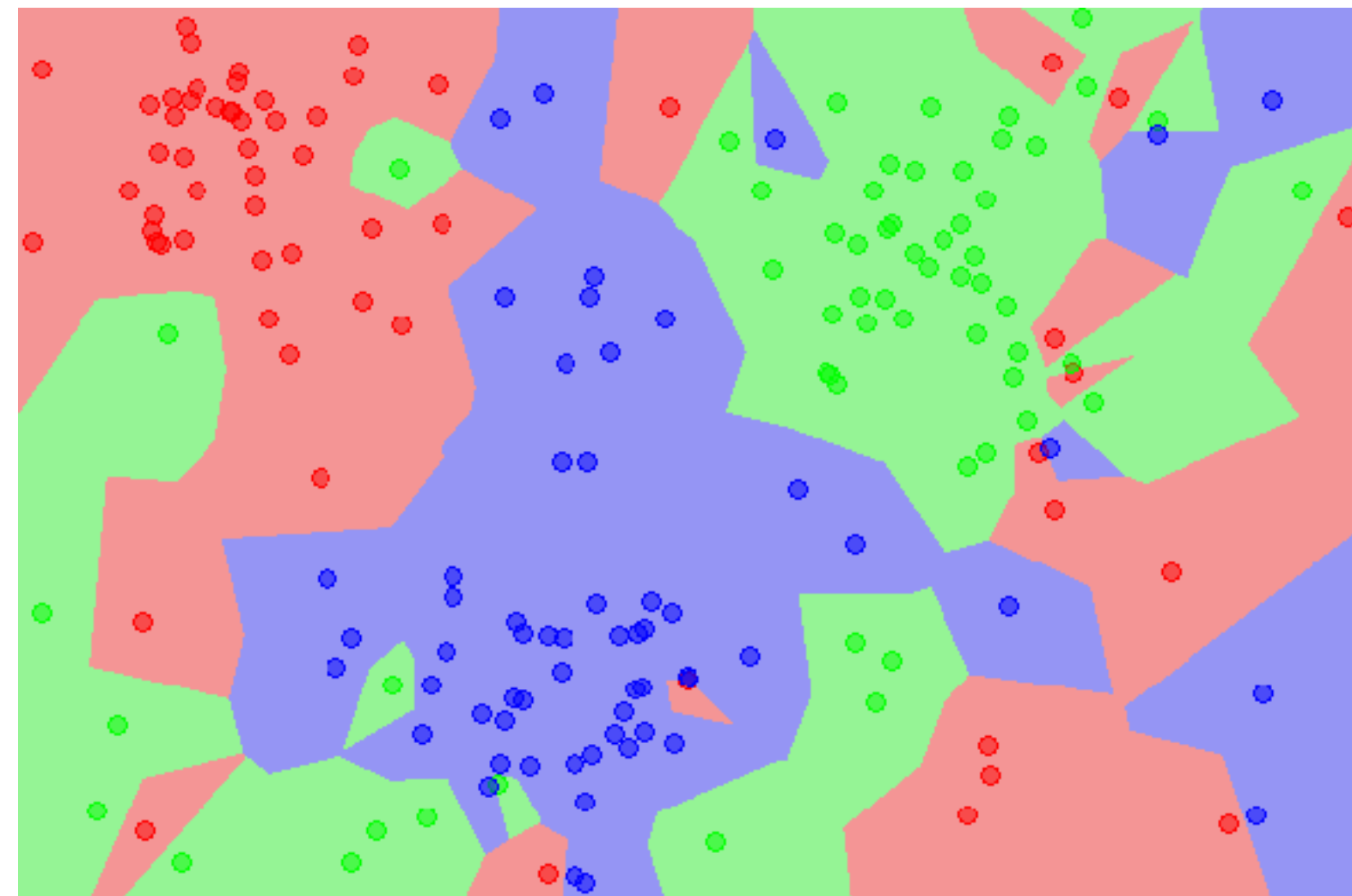
# k-Nearest Neighbor

find the k nearest images, have them vote on the label

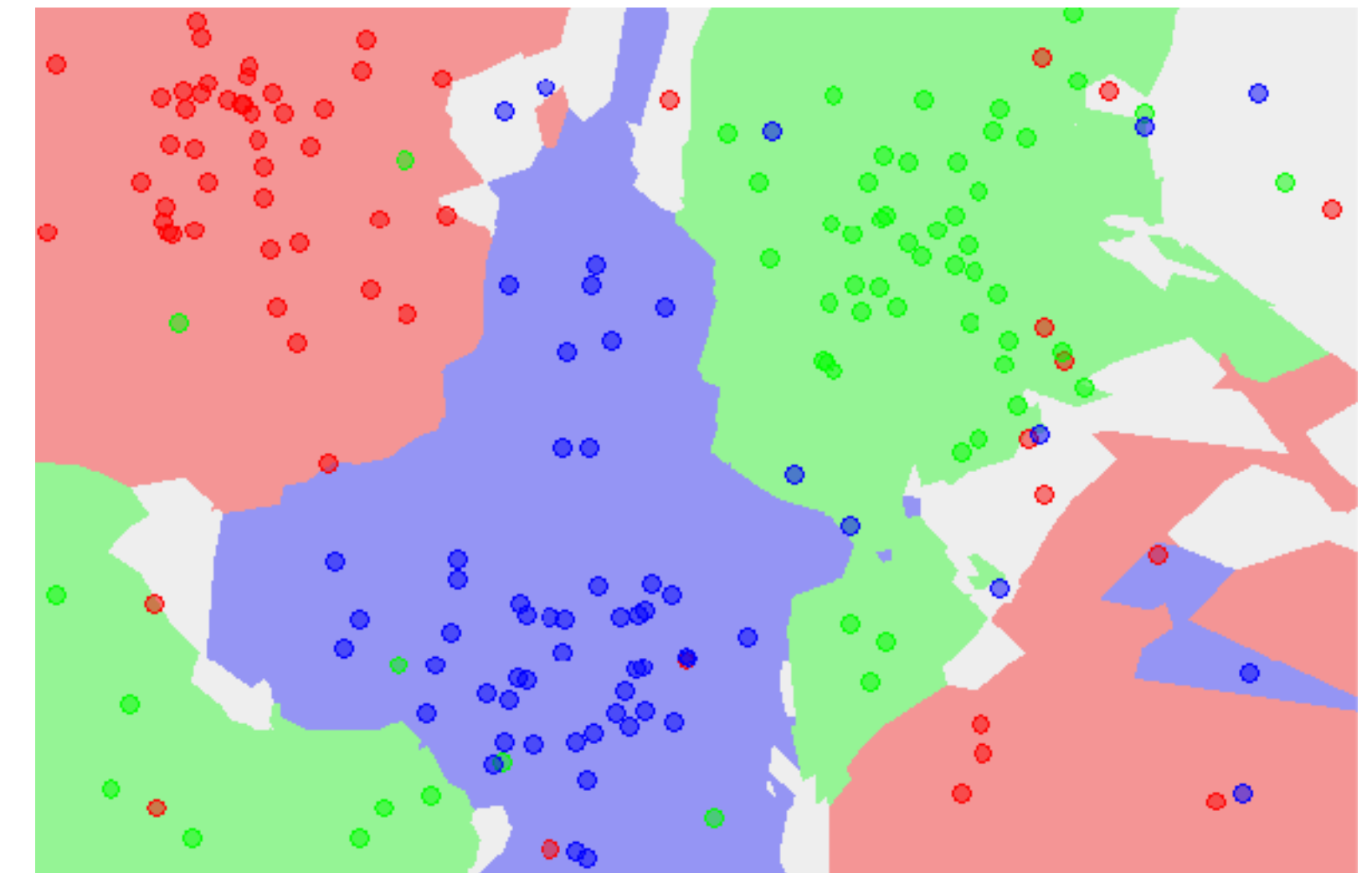
the data



NN classifier



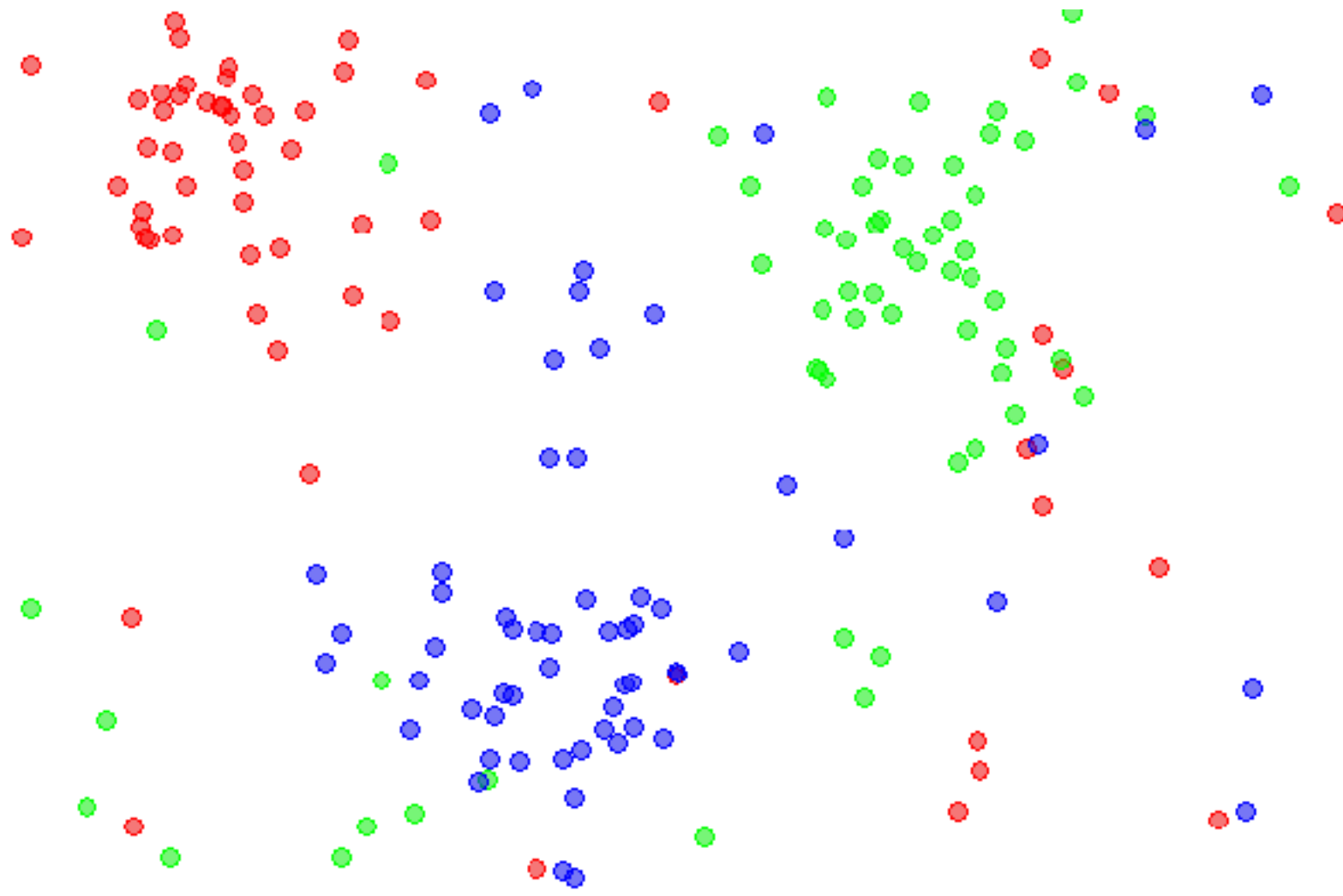
5-NN classifier



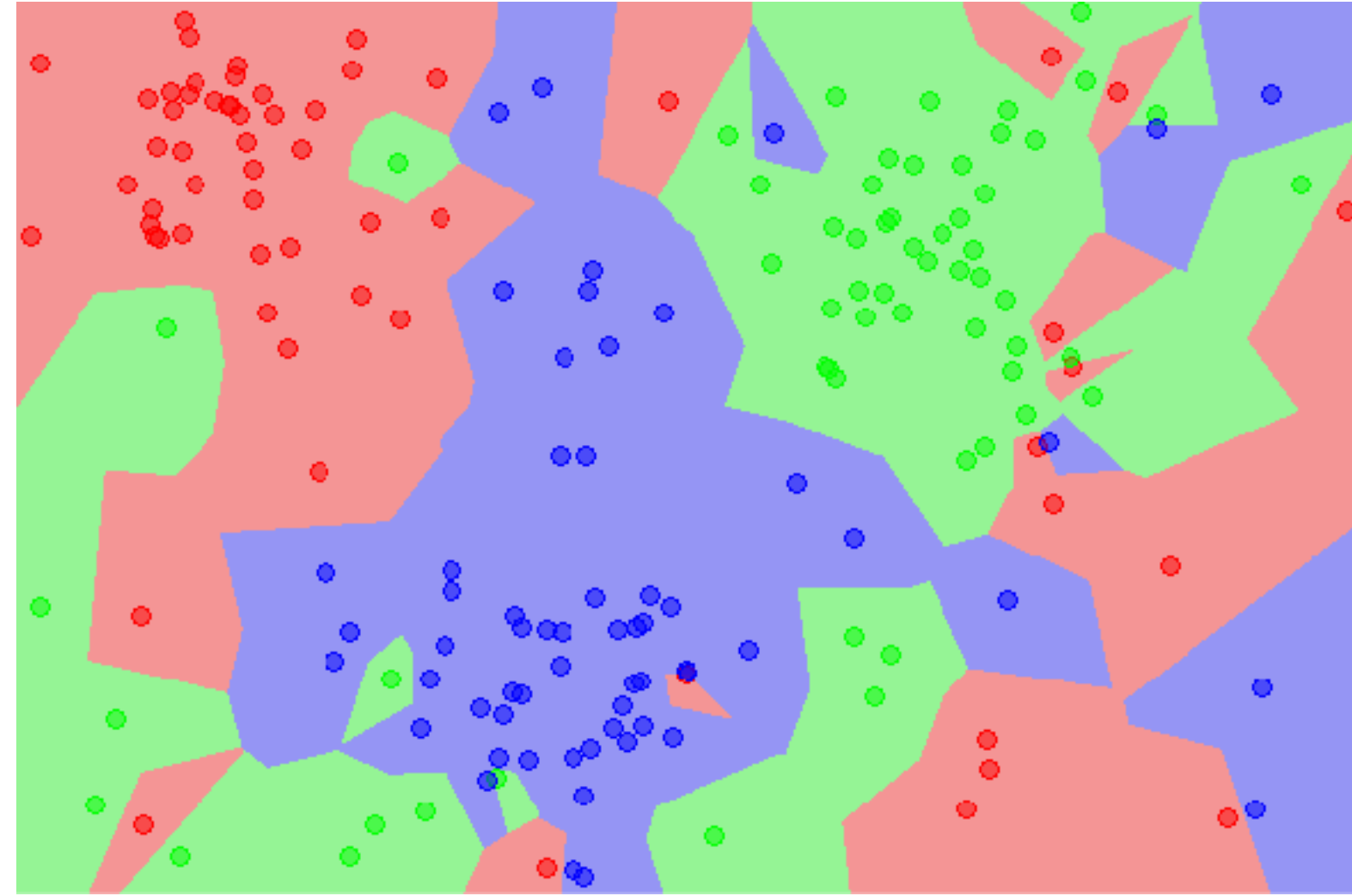
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/K-nearest\\_neighbors\\_algorithm](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/K-nearest_neighbors_algorithm)



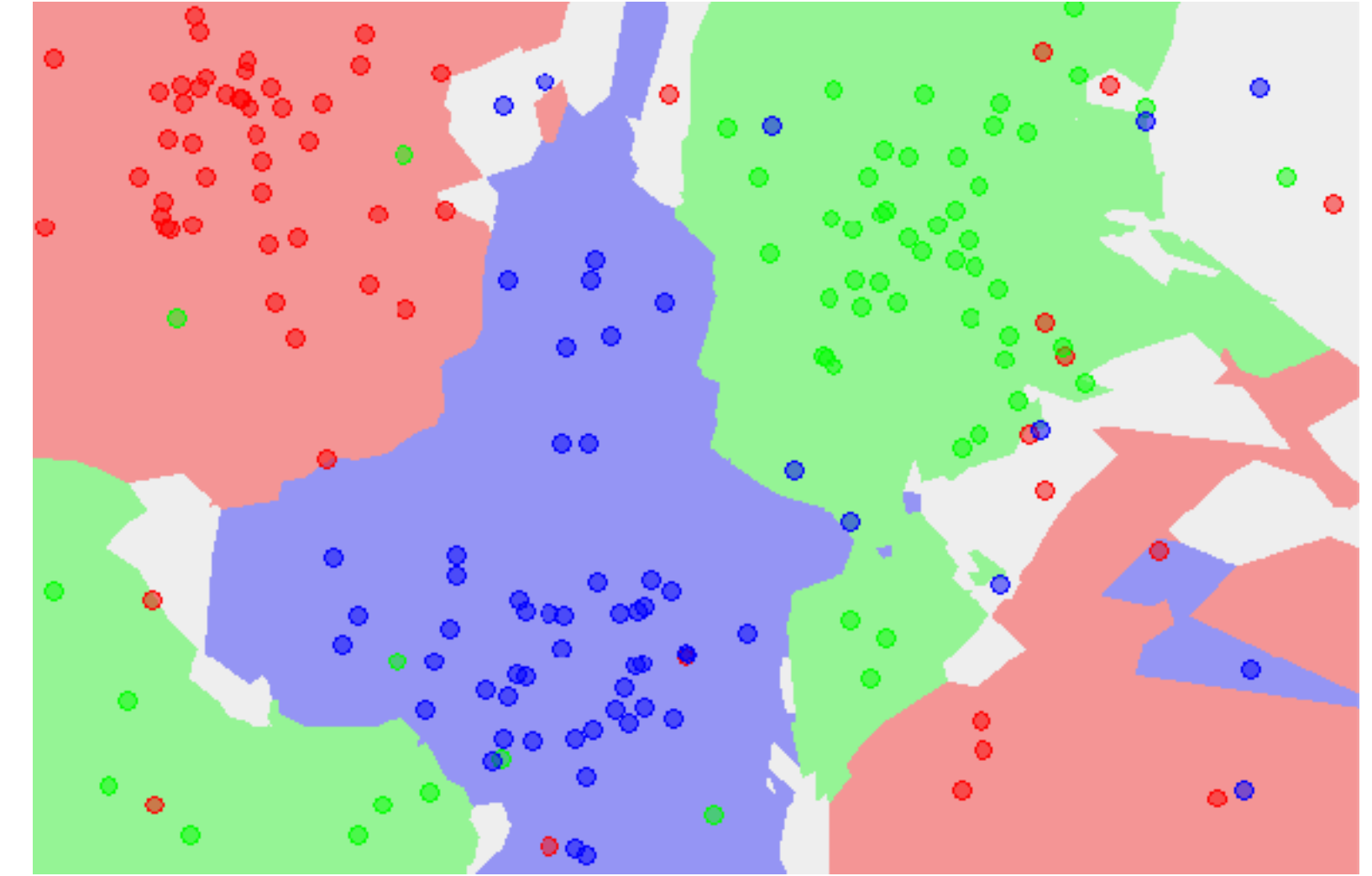
the data



NN classifier



5-NN classifier



**Q:** what is the accuracy of the nearest neighbor classifier on the training data, when using the Euclidean distance?



# Example dataset: **CIFAR-10**

**10** labels

**50,000** training images

**10,000** test images

airplane



automobile



bird



cat



deer



dog



frog



horse



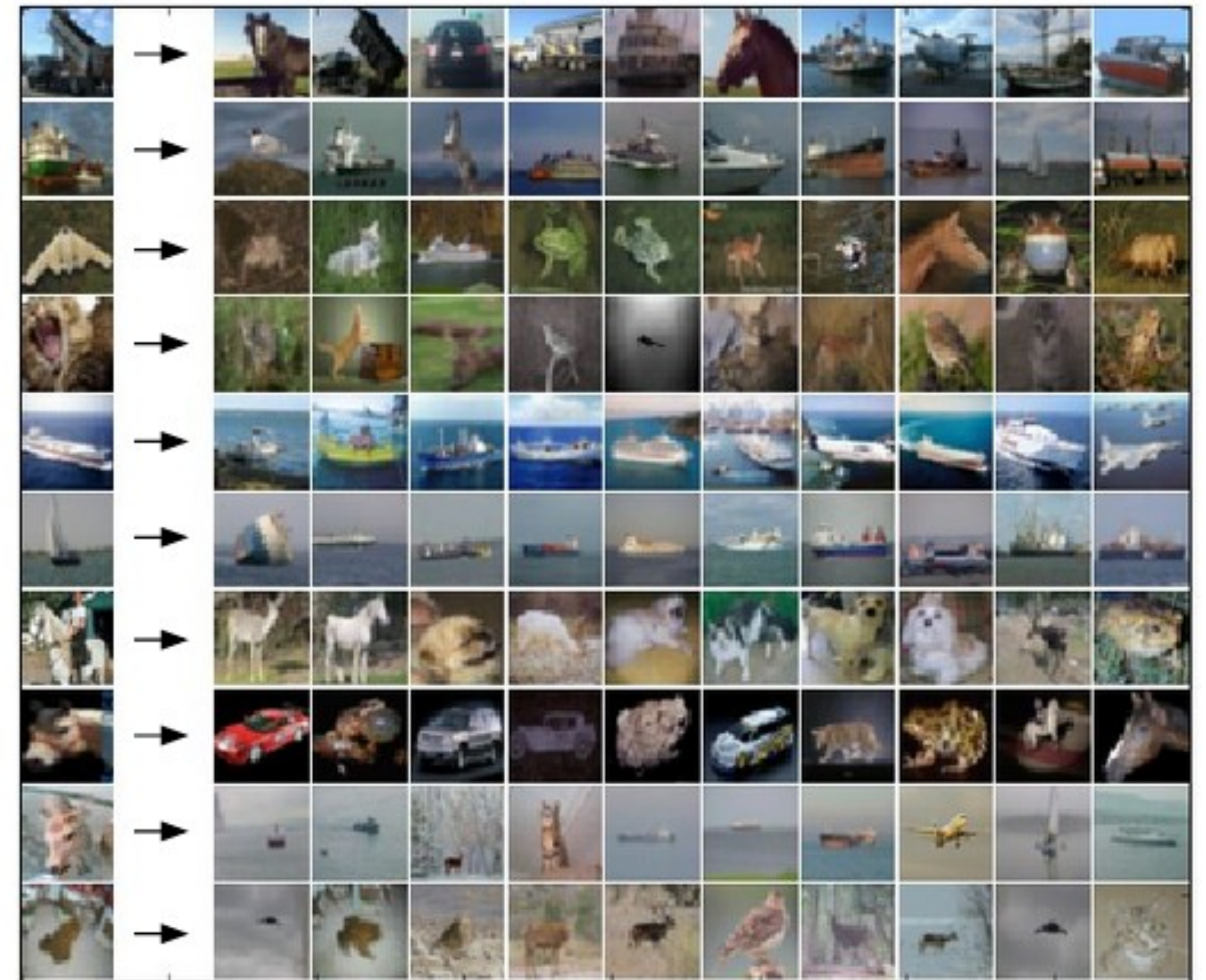
ship



truck



For every test image (first column),  
examples of nearest neighbors in rows





# Nearest Neighbor classifier

```
import numpy as np

class NearestNeighbor:
    def __init__(self):
        pass

    def train(self, X, y):
        """ X is N x D where each row is an example. Y is 1-dimension of size N """
        # the nearest neighbor classifier simply remembers all the training data
        self.Xtr = X
        self.ytr = y

    def predict(self, X):
        """ X is N x D where each row is an example we wish to predict label for """
        num_test = X.shape[0]
        # lets make sure that the output type matches the input type
        Ypred = np.zeros(num_test, dtype = self.ytr.dtype)

        # loop over all test rows
        for i in xrange(num_test):
            # find the nearest training image to the i'th test image
            # using the L1 distance (sum of absolute value differences)
            distances = np.sum(np.abs(self.Xtr - X[i,:]), axis = 1)
            min_index = np.argmin(distances) # get the index with smallest distance
            Ypred[i] = self.ytr[min_index] # predict the label of the nearest example

        return Ypred
```



# Nearest Neighbor classifier

```
import numpy as np
```

```
class NearestNeighbor:
```

```
    def __init__(self):  
        pass
```

```
    def train(self, X, y):  
        """ X is N x D where each row is an example. Y is 1-dimension of size N """  
        # the nearest neighbor classifier simply remembers all the training data  
        self.Xtr = X  
        self.ytr = y
```

```
    def predict(self, X):  
        """ X is N x D where each row is an example we wish to predict label for """  
        num_test = X.shape[0]  
        # lets make sure that the output type matches the input type  
        Ypred = np.zeros(num_test, dtype = self.ytr.dtype)  
  
        # loop over all test rows  
        for i in xrange(num_test):  
            # find the nearest training image to the i'th test image  
            # using the L1 distance (sum of absolute value differences)  
            distances = np.sum(np.abs(self.Xtr - X[i,:]), axis = 1)  
            min_index = np.argmin(distances) # get the index with smallest distance  
            Ypred[i] = self.ytr[min_index] # predict the label of the nearest example  
  
        return Ypred
```

remember the training data



# Nearest Neighbor classifier

```
import numpy as np

class NearestNeighbor:
    def __init__(self):
        pass

    def train(self, X, y):
        """ X is N x D where each row is an example. Y is 1-dimension of size N """
        # the nearest neighbor classifier simply remembers all the training data
        self.Xtr = X
        self.ytr = y

    def predict(self, X):
        """ X is N x D where each row is an example we wish to predict label for """
        num_test = X.shape[0]
        # lets make sure that the output type matches the input type
        Ypred = np.zeros(num_test, dtype = self.ytr.dtype)

        # loop over all test rows
        for i in xrange(num_test):
            # find the nearest training image to the i'th test image
            # using the L1 distance (sum of absolute value differences)
            distances = np.sum(np.abs(self.Xtr - X[i,:]), axis = 1)
            min_index = np.argmin(distances) # get the index with smallest distance
            Ypred[i] = self.ytr[min_index] # predict the label of the nearest example

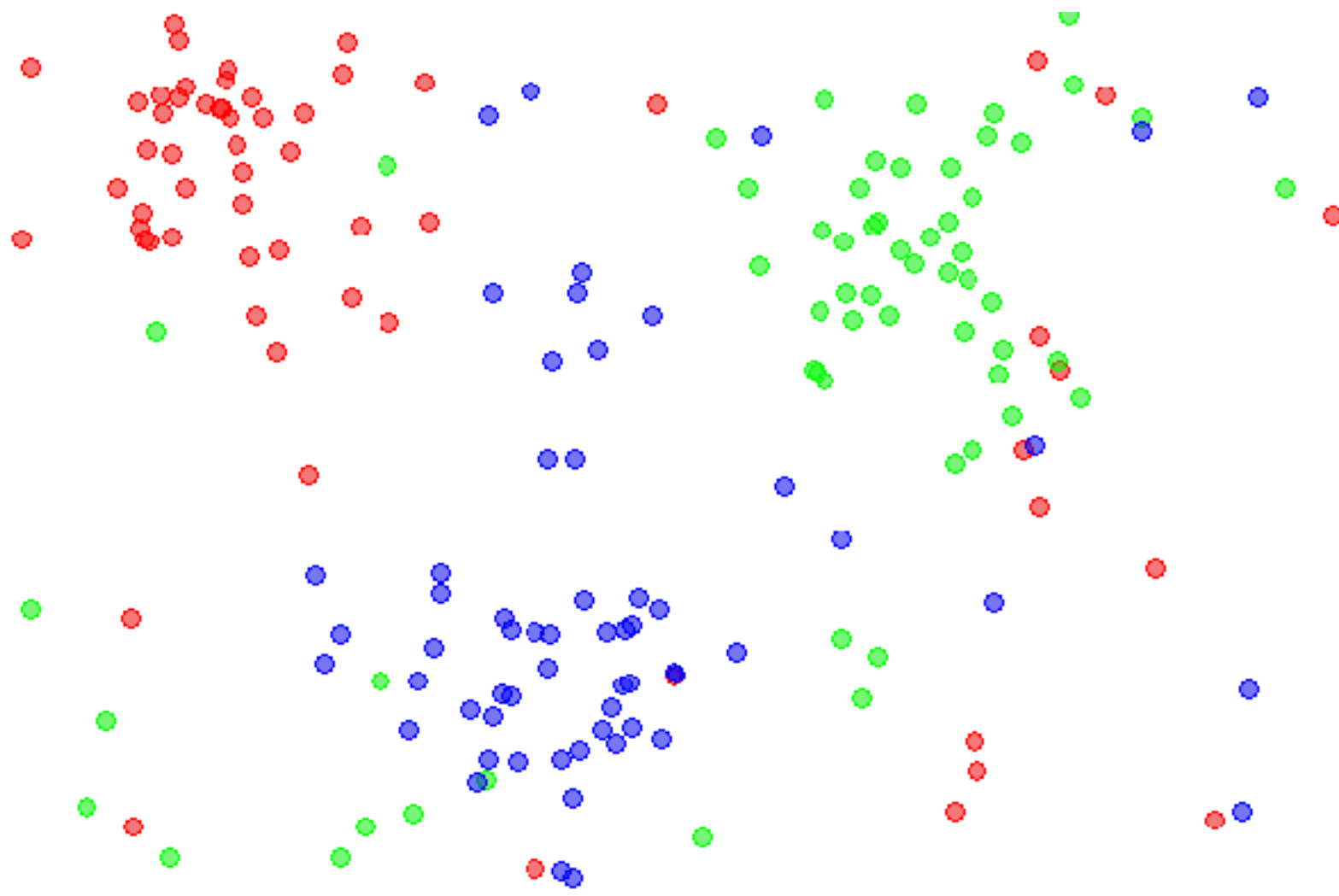
        return Ypred
```

for every test image:

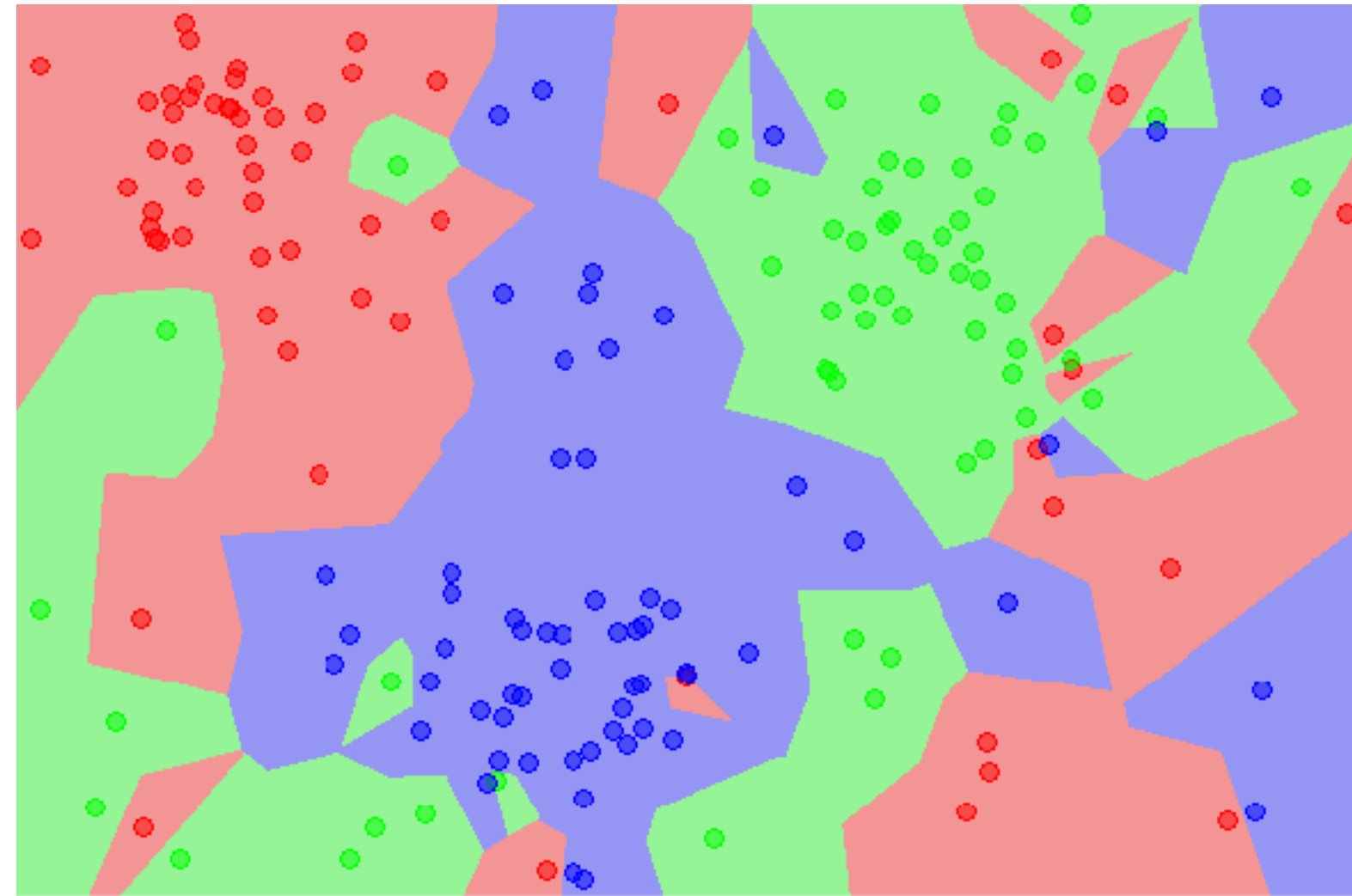
- find nearest train image with L1 distance
- predict the label of nearest training image



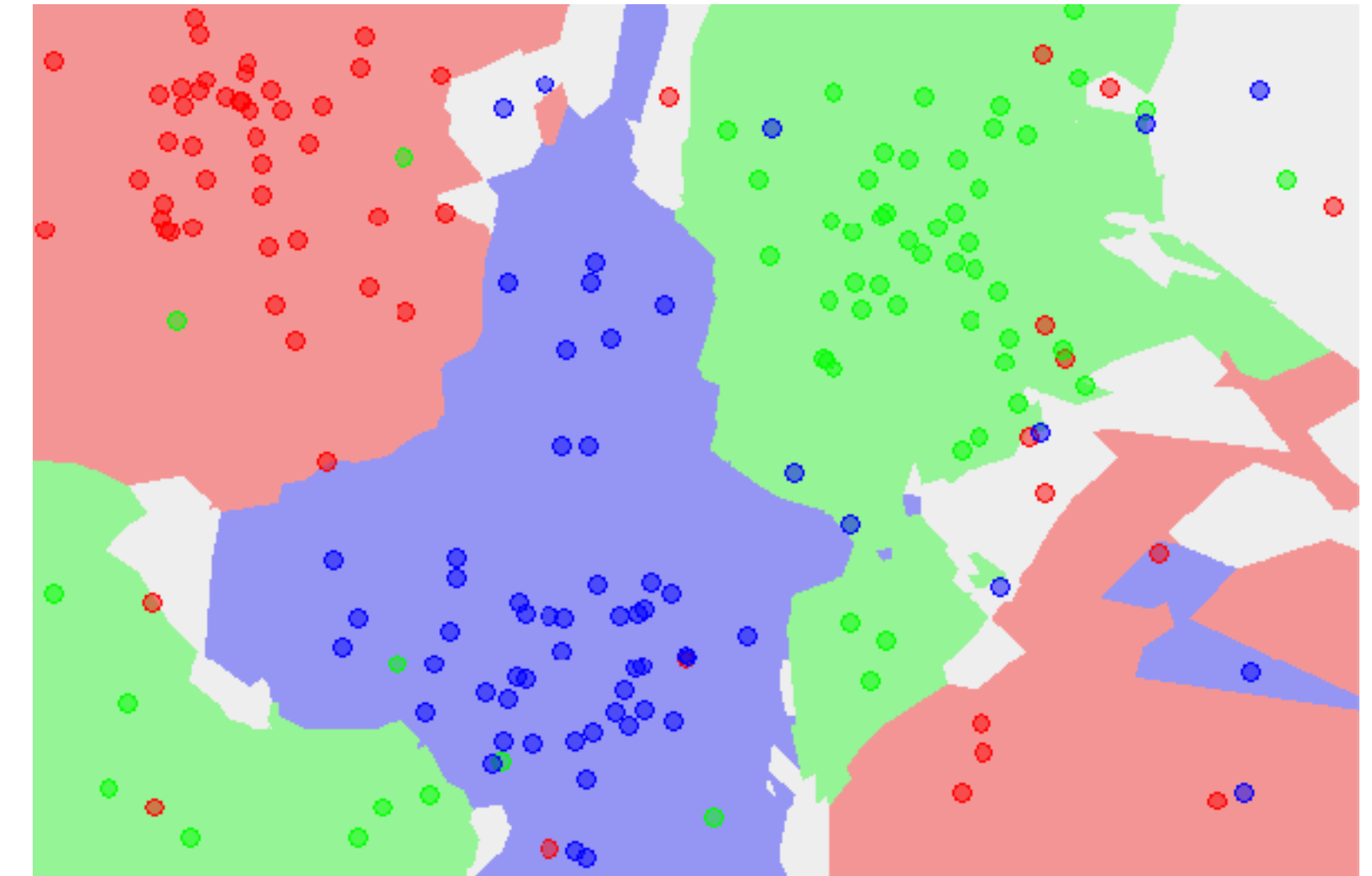
the data



NN classifier



5-NN classifier



**Q:** Suppose you have  $N$  training examples. How long does it take to make a prediction with a nearest neighbor classifier on one test example?

What is the best **distance** to use?

What is the best value of **k** to use?

i.e. how do we set the **hyperparameters**?



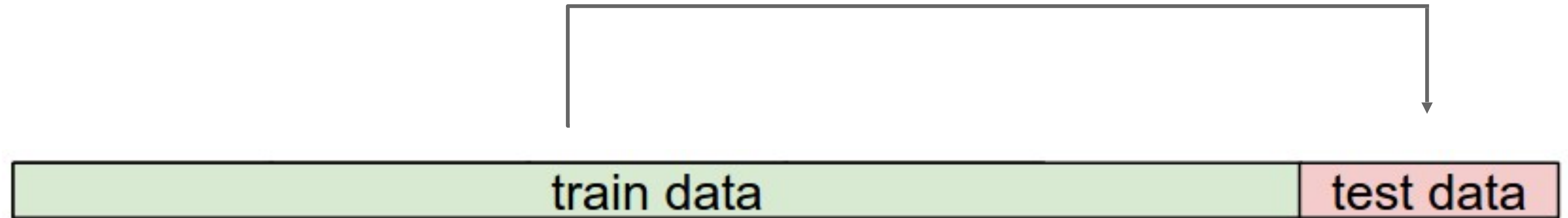
What is the best **distance** to use?  
What is the best value of **k** to use?

i.e. how do we set the **hyperparameters**?

Very problem-dependent.  
Must try them all out and see what works best.



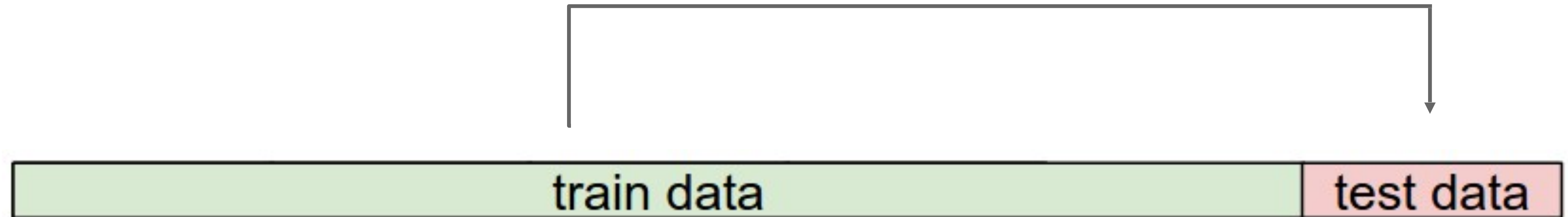
Trying out what hyperparameters work best on test set.



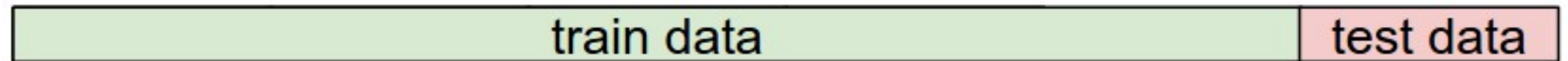
Trying out what hyperparameters work best on test set:

Very bad idea. The test set is a proxy for the generalization performance!

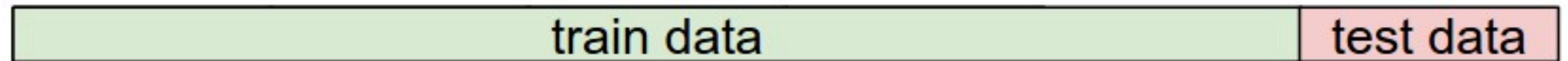
Use only **VERY SPARINGLY**, at the end.







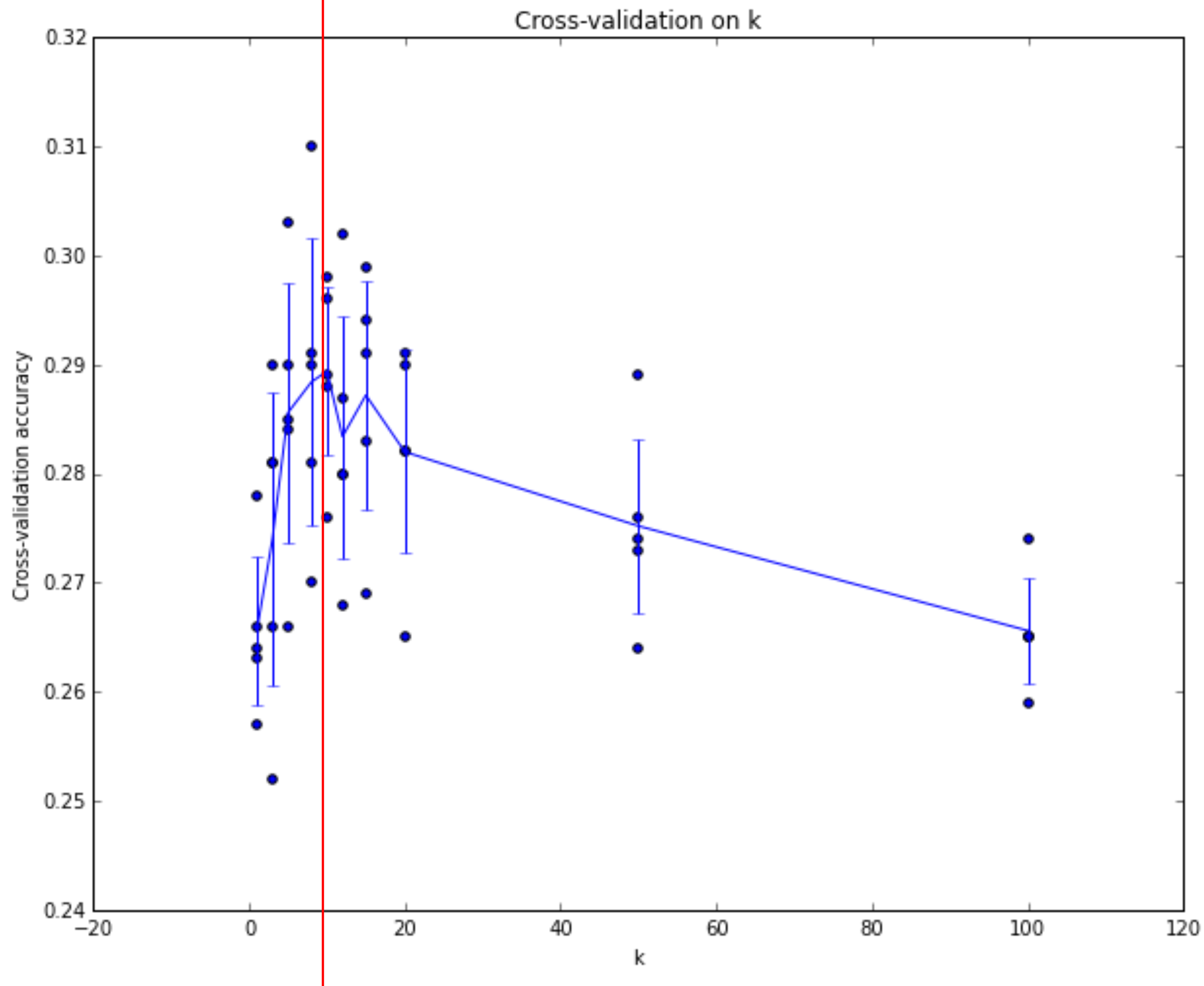
Validation data  
use to tune hyperparameters



## Cross-validation

cycle through the choice of which fold is the validation fold, average results.





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

(Seems that  $k \approx 7$  works best  
for this data)



k-Nearest Neighbor on *raw* images is **never used**.

- terrible performance at test time
- distance metrics on level of whole images can be very unintuitive



(all 3 images have same L2 distance to the one on the left)



# So far ...

## Nearest neighbor classifier

- All features are equally good
- No training required!
- Slow at test time

## Linear classifiers (next)

- Use all features, but some more than others
- Training required
- Fast at test time!

# Linear Classification



airplane



automobile



bird



cat



deer



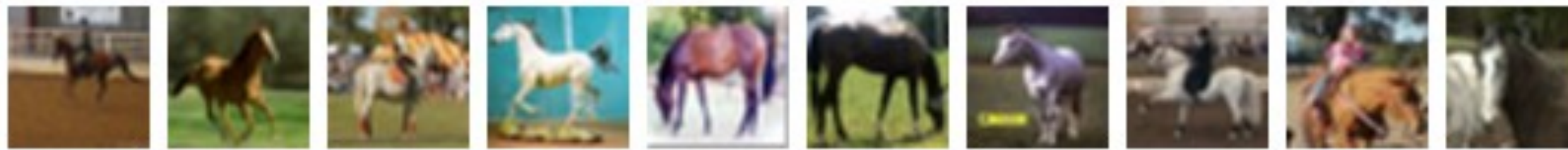
dog



frog



horse



ship



truck



Example dataset: **CIFAR-10**  
**10** labels  
**50,000** training images  
each image is **32x32x3**  
**10,000** test images.



# Parametric approach



image parameters

$$f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{W})$$



**10** numbers,  
indicating class  
scores

**[32x32x3]**

array of numbers 0...1  
(3072 numbers total)



# Parametric approach: **Linear classifier**

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



**[32x32x3]**  
array of numbers 0...1



**10** numbers,  
indicating class  
scores

# Parametric approach: **Linear classifier**



**[32x32x3]**  
array of numbers 0...1

$$\boxed{f(x, W)} = \boxed{W} \boxed{x}$$

**10x1**      **10x3072**      **3072x1**

**10** numbers,  
indicating class  
scores

parameters, or “weights”



# Parametric approach: Linear classifier



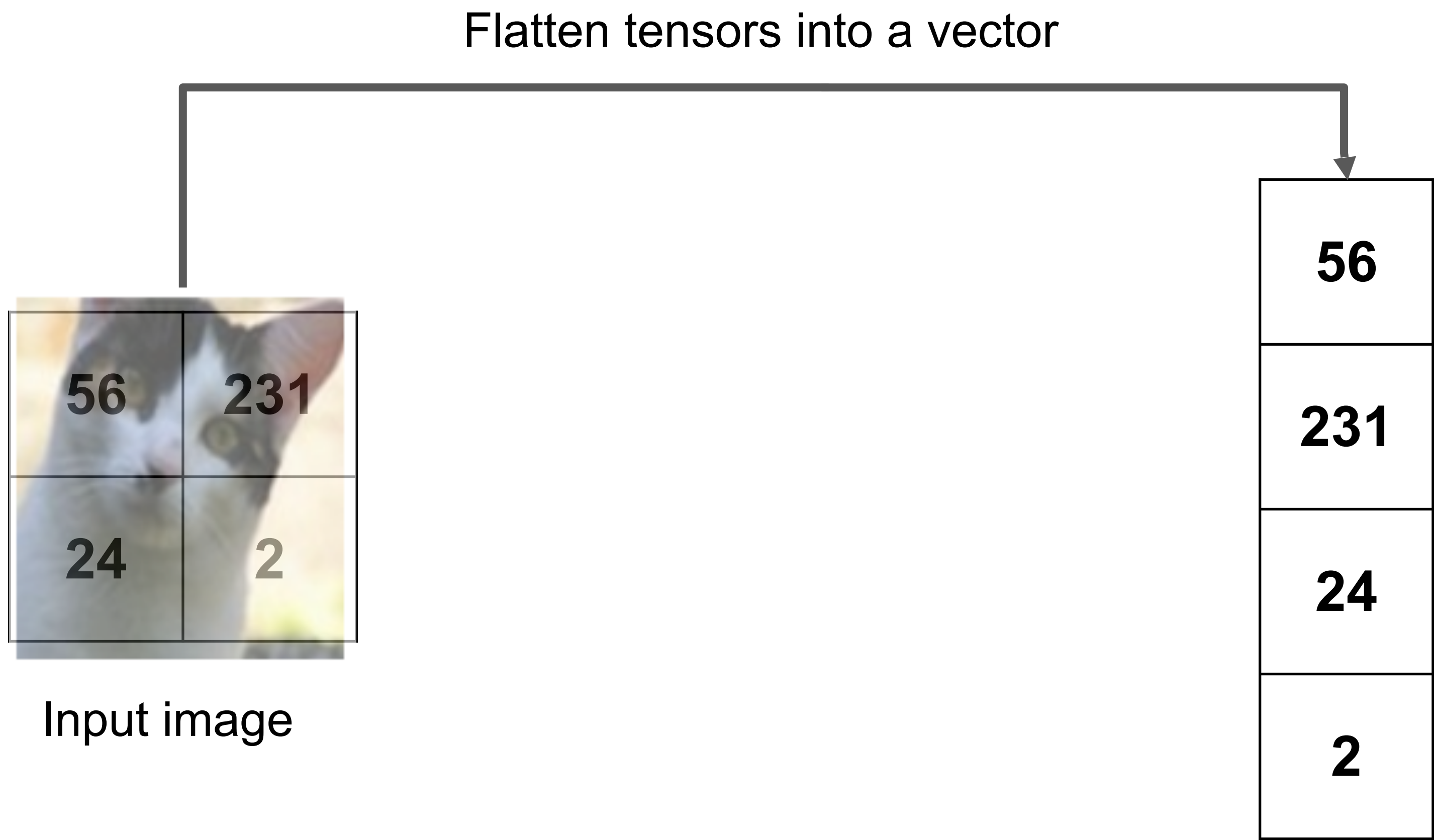
**[32x32x3]**  
array of numbers 0...1

$$\boxed{f(x, W)}_{10 \times 1} = \boxed{W}_{10 \times 3072} \boxed{x}_{3072 \times 1} \boxed{(+b)}_{10 \times 1}$$

**10** numbers,  
indicating class  
scores

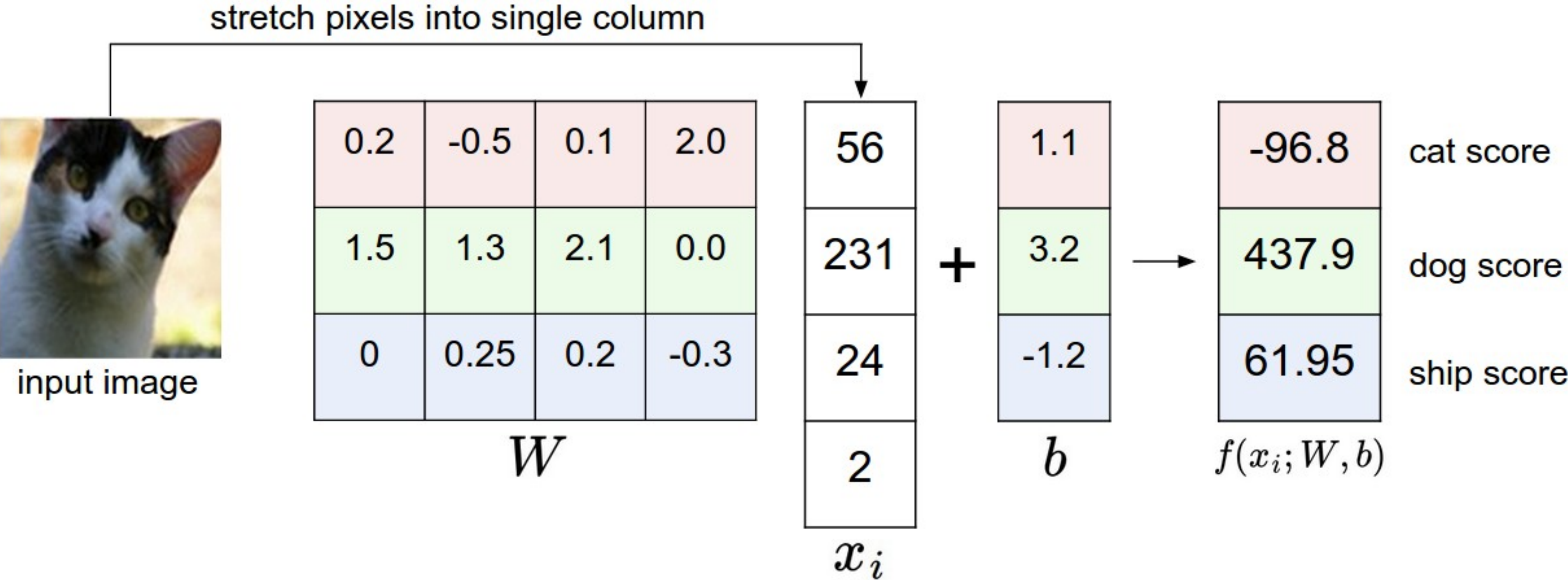
parameters, or “weights”

# Example with an image with 4 pixels, and 3 classes (cat/dog/ship)



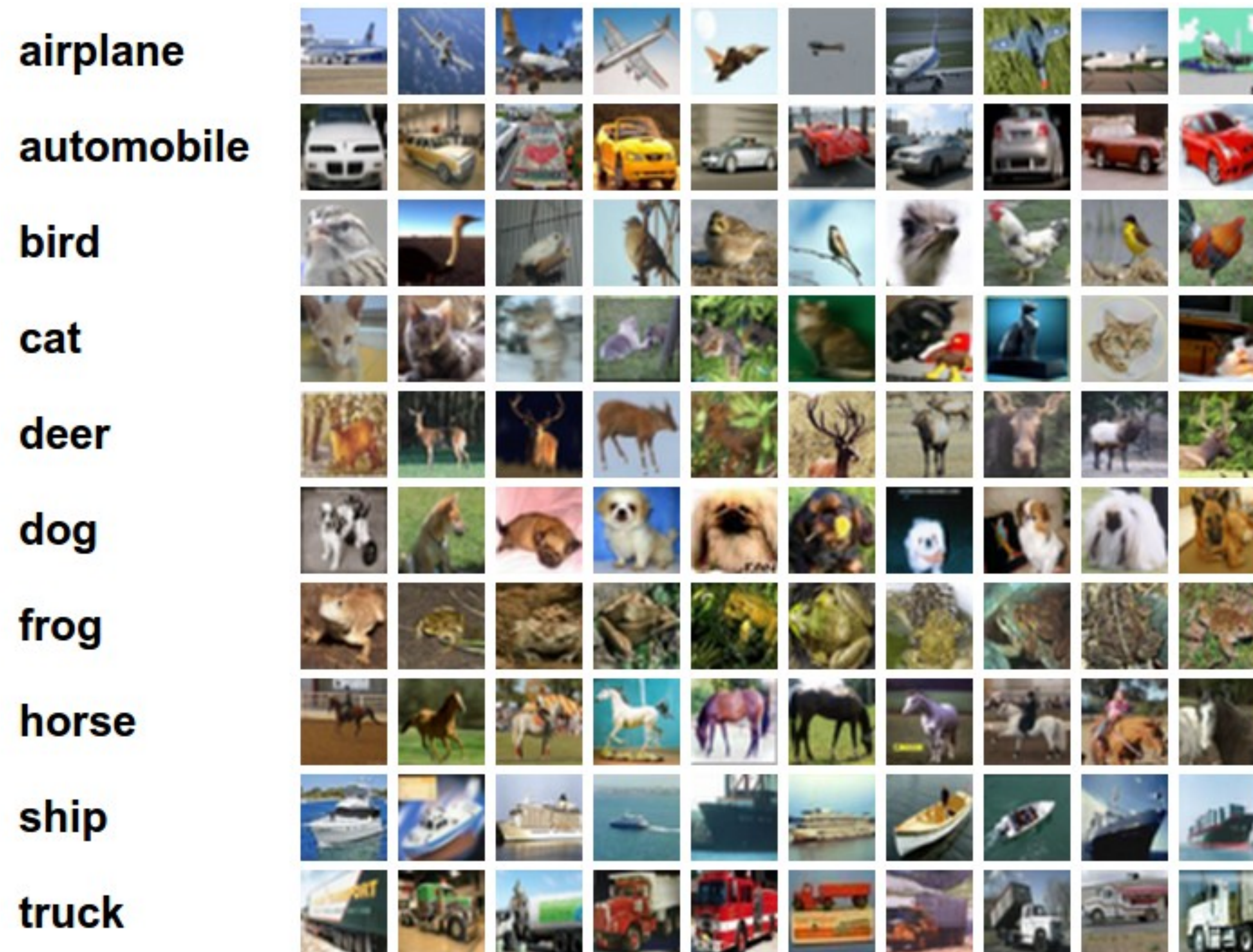


# Example with an image with 4 pixels, and 3 classes (cat/dog/ship)





# Interpreting a Linear Classifier

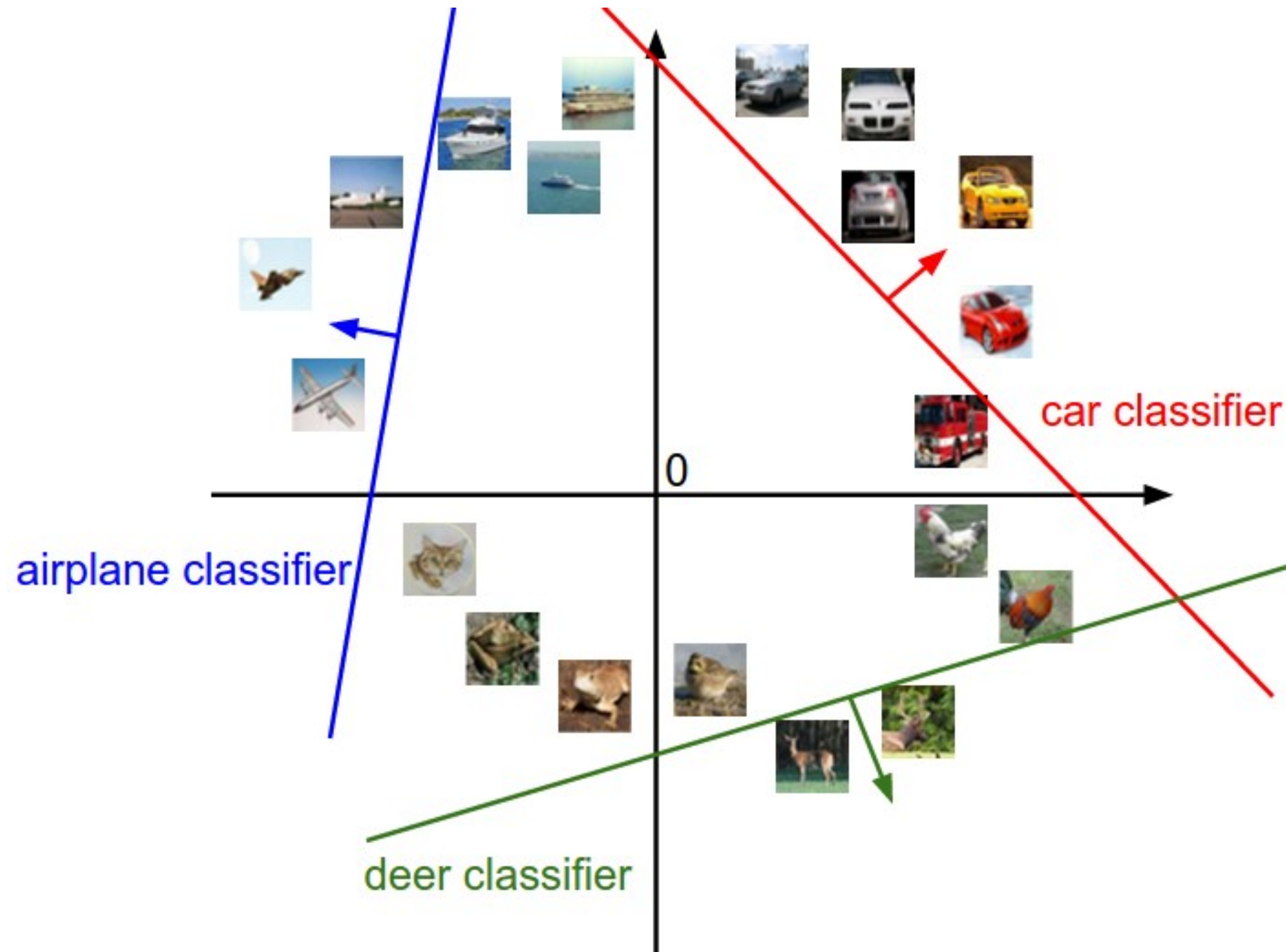


$$f(x_i, W, b) = Wx_i + b$$

Q: what does the linear classifier do, in English?



# Interpreting a Linear Classifier



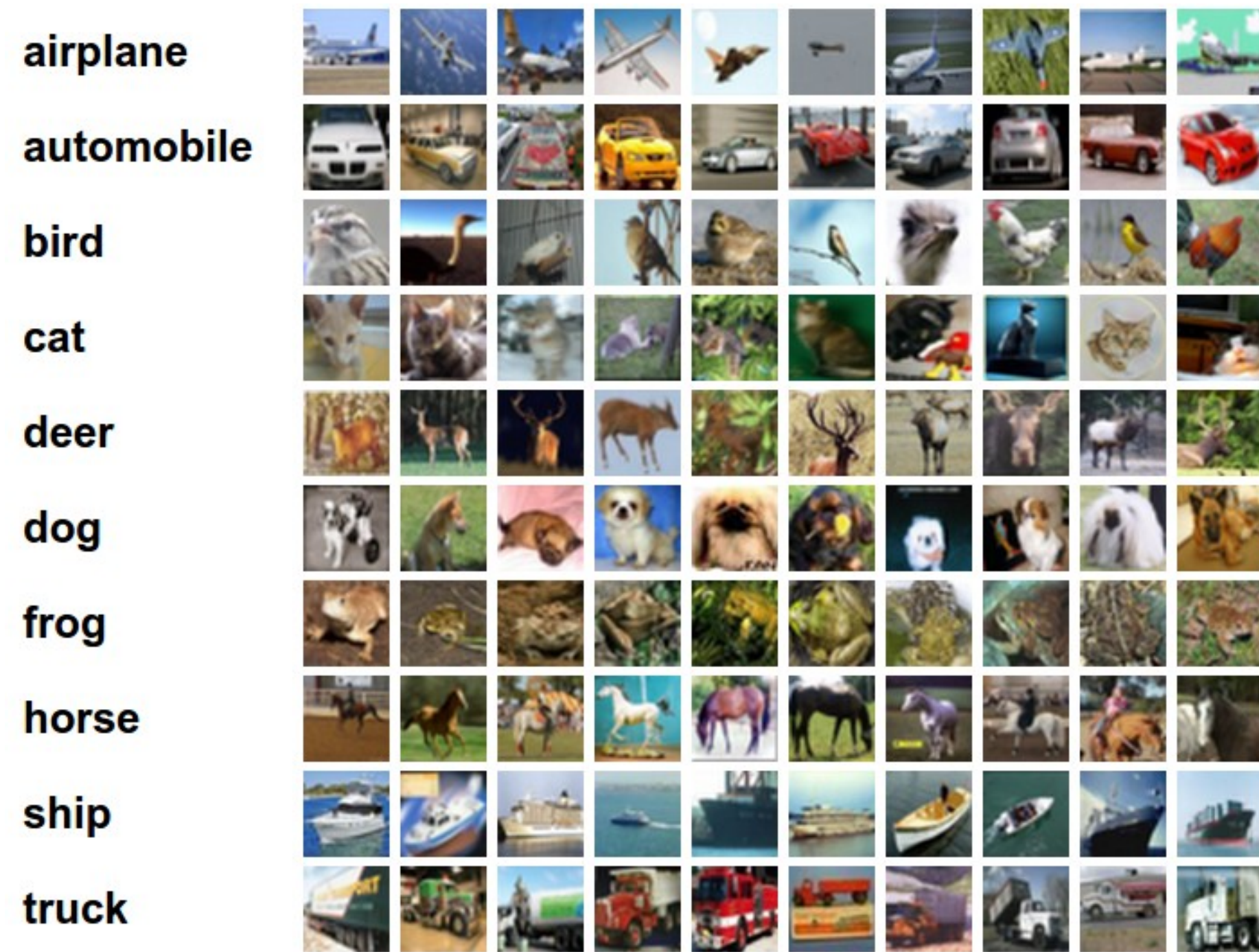
$$f(x_i, W, b) = Wx_i + b$$



**[32x32x3]**  
array of numbers 0...1  
(3072 numbers total)



# Interpreting a Linear Classifier



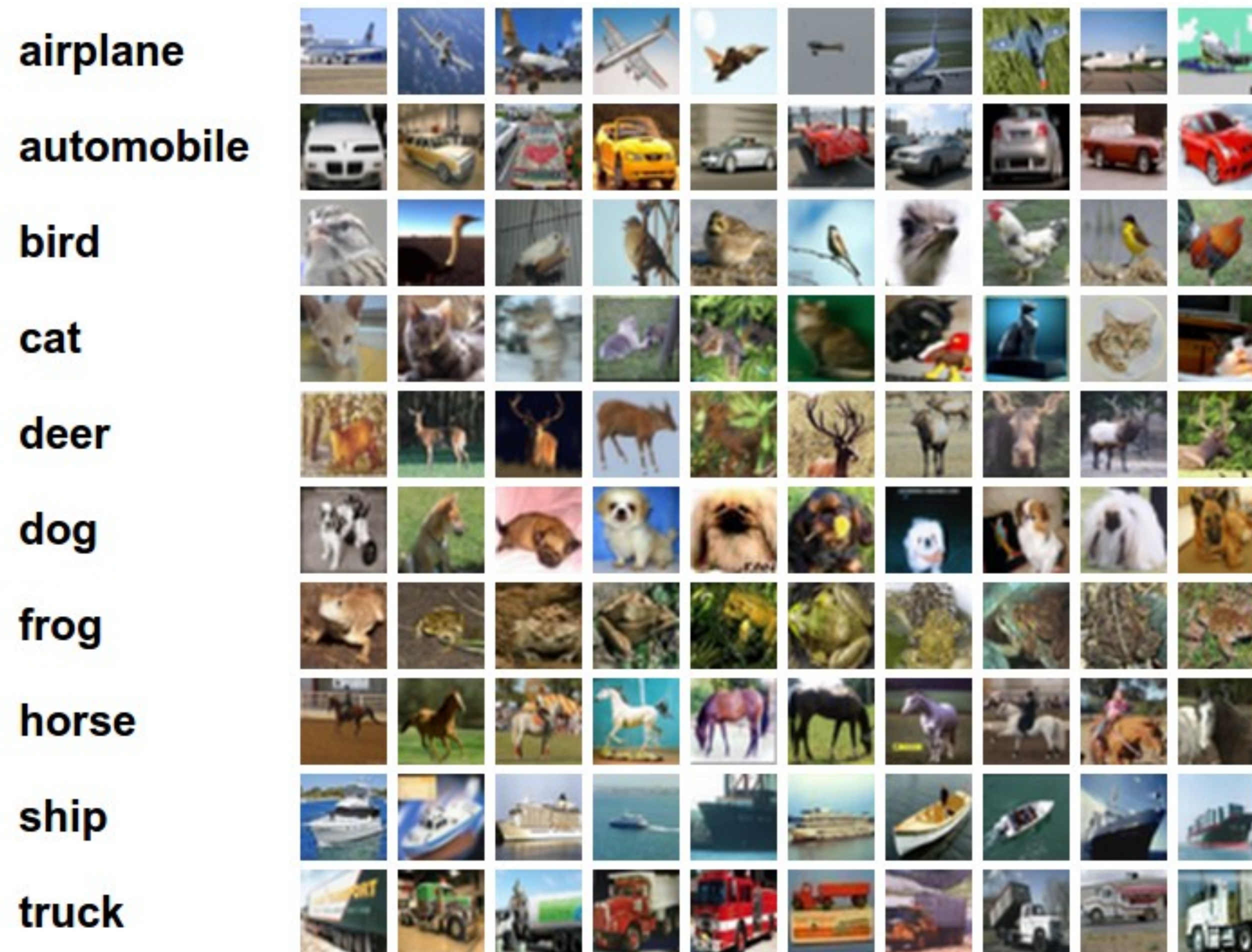
$$f(x_i, W, b) = Wx_i + b$$

Example trained weights  
of a linear classifier  
trained on CIFAR-10:





# Interpreting a Linear Classifier



$$f(x_i, W, b) = Wx_i + b$$

Q2: what would be a very hard set of classes for a linear classifier to distinguish?



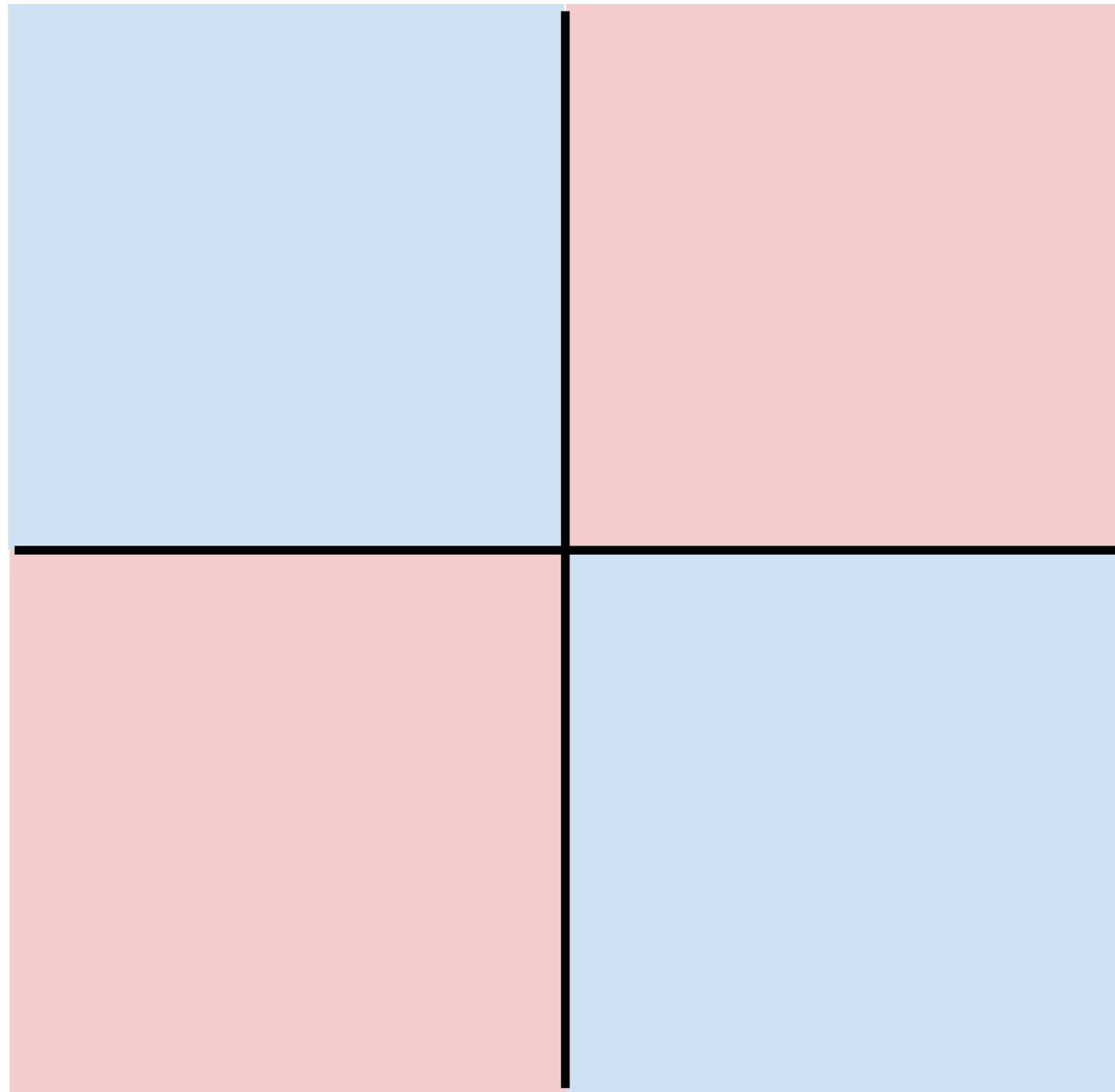
# Hard cases for a linear classifier

**Class 1:**

First and third quadrants

**Class 2:**

Second and fourth quadrants

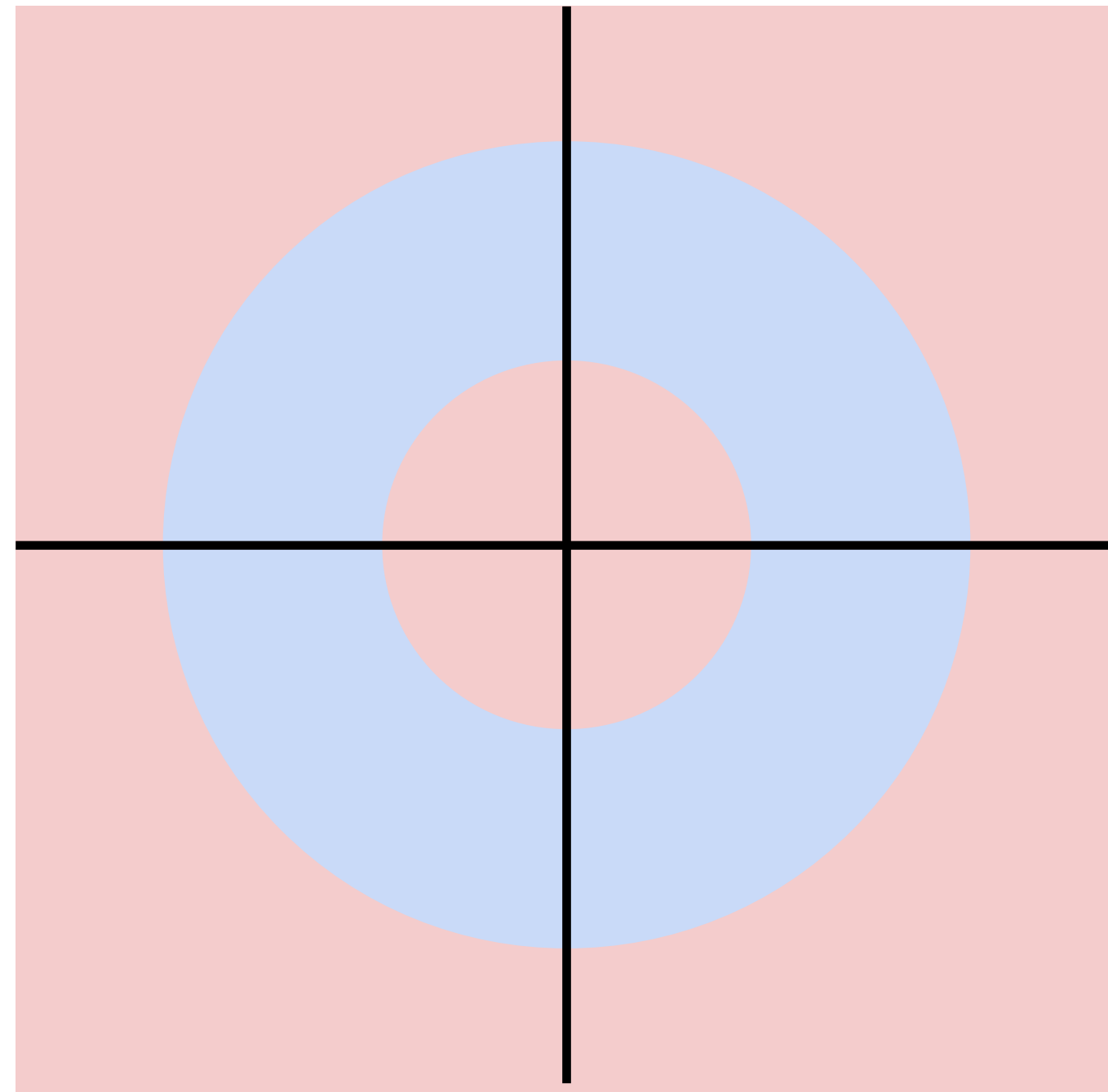


**Class 1:**

$1 \leq \text{L2 norm} \leq 2$

**Class 2:**

Everything else

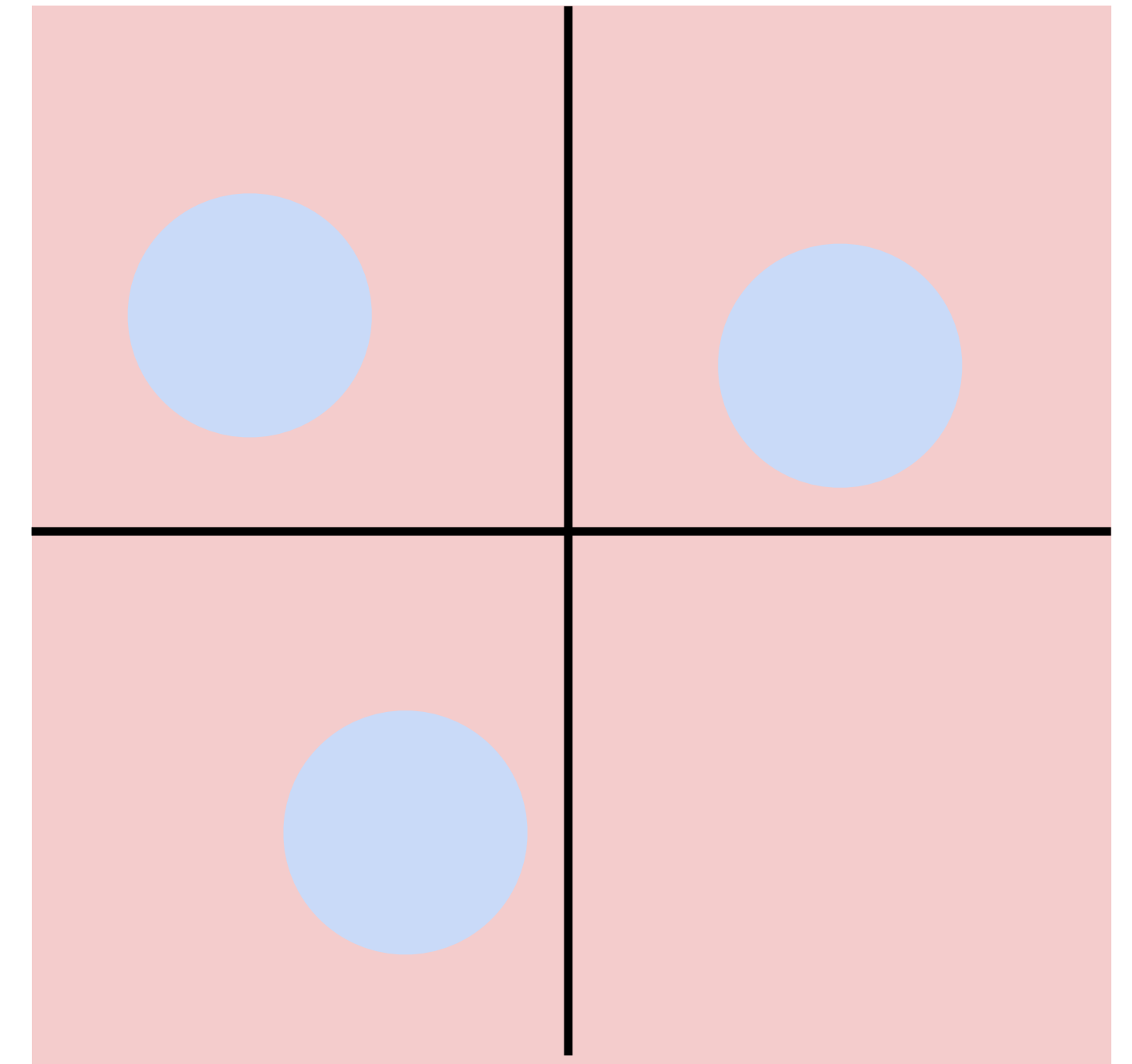


**Class 1:**

Three modes

**Class 2:**

Everything else





**So far:** We defined a (linear) **score function**:  $f(x_i, W, b) = Wx_i + b$

really *affine*



Example class  
scores for 3  
images, with a  
random  $W$ :

airplane	-3.45	-0.51	3.42
automobile	-8.87	<b>6.04</b>	4.64
bird	0.09	5.31	2.65
cat	<b>2.9</b>	-4.22	5.1
deer	4.48	-4.19	2.64
dog	8.02	3.58	5.55
frog	3.78	4.49	<b>-4.34</b>
horse	1.06	-4.37	-1.5
ship	-0.36	-2.09	-4.79
truck	-0.72	-2.93	6.14

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

# Coming up:

- **Loss function** (quantifying what it means to have a “good”  $W$ )
- **Optimization** (start with random  $W$  and find a  $W$  that minimizes the loss)
- **Neural nets!** (tweak the functional form of  $f$ )



# Summary so far ... Linear classifier

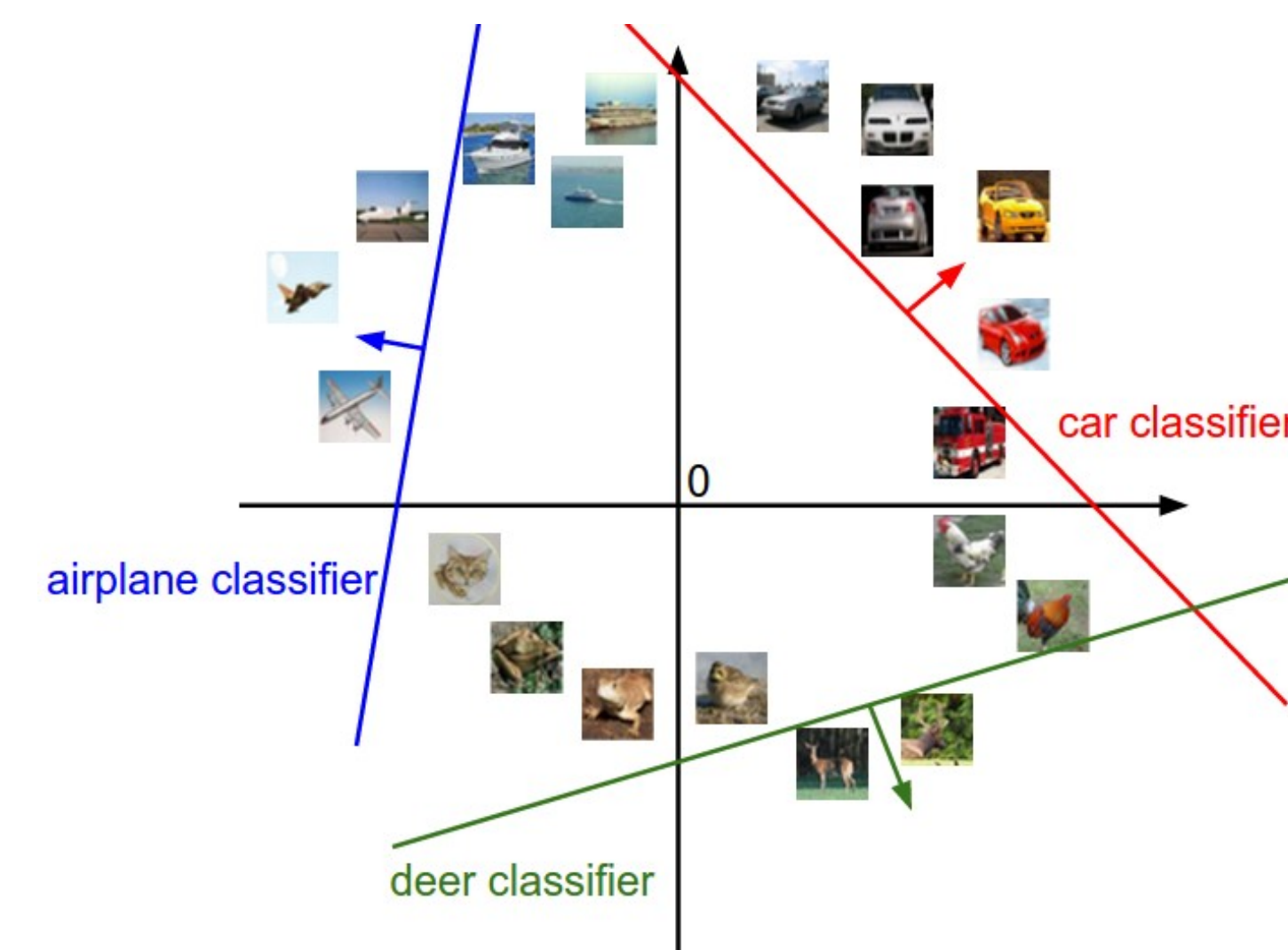
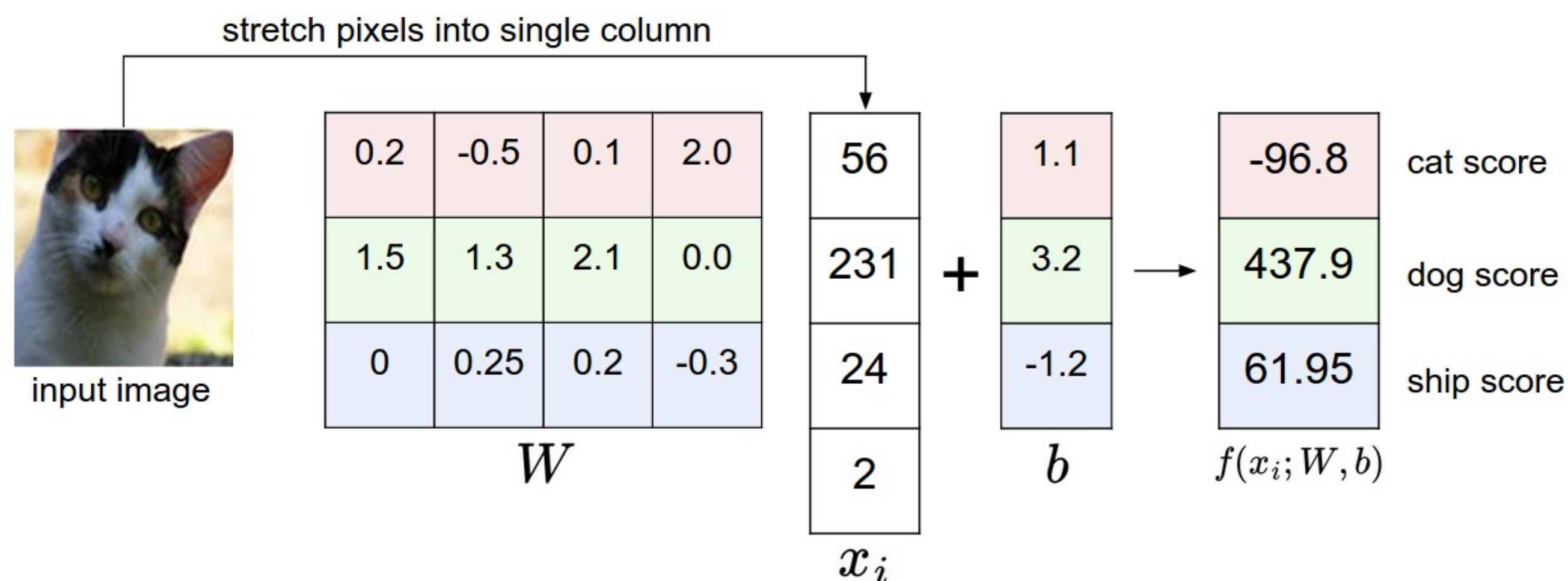


[32x32x3]

array of numbers 0...1  
(3072 numbers total)

image parameters  
 $f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{W})$

10 numbers, indicating  
class scores



# Loss function/Optimization



airplane	-3.45	-0.51	3.42
automobile	-8.87	<b>6.04</b>	4.64
bird	0.09	5.31	2.65
cat	<b>2.9</b>	-4.22	5.1
deer	4.48	-4.19	2.64
dog	8.02	3.58	5.55
frog	3.78	4.49	<b>-4.34</b>
horse	1.06	-4.37	-1.5
ship	-0.36	-2.09	-4.79
truck	-0.72	-2.93	6.14

TODO:

1. Define a **loss function** that quantifies our unhappiness with the scores across the training data.
1. Come up with a way of efficiently finding the parameters that minimize the loss function.  
**(optimization)**



Suppose: 3 training examples, 3 classes.  
With some  $W$  the scores  $f(x, W) = Wx$  are:



cat	<b>3.2</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>2.2</b>
car	<b>5.1</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>2.5</b>
frog	<b>-1.7</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>-3.1</b>

Suppose: 3 training examples, 3 classes.  
With some  $W$  the scores  $f(x, W) = Wx$  are:



cat	3.2	1.3	2.2
car	5.1	4.9	2.5
frog	-1.7	2.0	-3.1

## Multiclass **SVM** loss:

Given an example  $(x_i, y_i)$   
where  $x_i$  is the image and  
where  $y_i$  is the (integer) label,

and using the shorthand for the scores  
vector:  $s_i = f(x_i, W)$

the SVM loss has the form:

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



Suppose: 3 training examples, 3 classes.  
 With some  $W$  the scores  $f(x, W) = Wx$  are:



cat	<b>3.2</b>	1.3	2.2
car	5.1	<b>4.9</b>	2.5
frog	-1.7	2.0	<b>-3.1</b>
<b>Losses:</b>	<b>2.9</b>		

## Multiclass SVM loss:

Given an example  $(x_i, y_i)$   
 where  $x_i$  is the image and  
 where  $y_i$  is the (integer) label,

and using the shorthand for the scores  
 vector:  $s_i = f(x_i, W)$

the SVM loss has the form:

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

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \max(0, 5.1 - 3.2 + 1) \\
 &\quad + \max(0, -1.7 - 3.2 + 1) \\
 &= \max(0, 2.9) + \max(0, -3.9) \\
 &= 2.9 + 0 \\
 &= 2.9
 \end{aligned}$$

Suppose: 3 training examples, 3 classes.  
 With some  $W$  the scores  $f(x, W) = Wx$  are:



cat	3.2	1.3	2.2
car	5.1	4.9	2.5
frog	-1.7	2.0	-3.1
Losses:	2.9	0	

### Multiclass SVM loss:

Given an example  $(x_i, y_i)$   
 where  $x_i$  is the image and  
 where  $y_i$  is the (integer) label,

and using the shorthand for the scores  
 vector:  $s_i = f(x_i, W)$

the SVM loss has the form:

$$\begin{aligned}
 L_i &= \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, s_j - s_{y_i} + 1) \\
 &= \max(0, 1.3 - 4.9 + 1) \\
 &\quad + \max(0, 2.0 - 4.9 + 1) \\
 &= \max(0, -2.6) + \max(0, -1.9) \\
 &= 0 + 0 \\
 &= 0
 \end{aligned}$$



Suppose: 3 training examples, 3 classes.  
 With some  $W$  the scores  $f(x, W) = Wx$  are:



cat	3.2	1.3	2.2
car	5.1	4.9	2.5
frog	-1.7	2.0	-3.1
Losses:	2.9	0	12.9

### Multiclass SVM loss:

Given an example  $(x_i, y_i)$   
 where  $x_i$  is the image and  
 where  $y_i$  is the (integer) label,

and using the shorthand for the scores  
 vector:  $s_i = f(x_i, W)$

the SVM loss has the form:

$$\begin{aligned}
 L_i &= \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, s_j - s_{y_i} + 1) \\
 &= \max(0, 2.2 - (-3.1) + 1) \\
 &\quad + \max(0, 2.5 - (-3.1) + 1) \\
 &= \max(0, 6.3) + \max(0, 6.6) \\
 &= 6.3 + 6.6 \\
 &= 12.9
 \end{aligned}$$

Suppose: 3 training examples, 3 classes.  
With some  $W$  the scores  $f(x, W) = Wx$  are:



cat	3.2	1.3	2.2
car	5.1	4.9	2.5
frog	-1.7	2.0	-3.1
Losses:	2.9	0	12.9

**Multiclass SVM loss:**

Given an example  $(x_i, y_i)$   
where  $x_i$  is the image and  
where  $y_i$  is the (integer) label,

and using the shorthand for the scores  
vector:  $s_i = f(x_i, W)$

the SVM loss has the form:

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

and the full training loss is the mean  
over all examples in the training data:

$$L = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N L_i$$

$$L = (2.9 + 0 + 12.9)/3 = 5.3$$



Suppose: 3 training examples, 3 classes.  
 With some  $W$  the scores  $f(x, W) = Wx$  are:



cat	<b>3.2</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>2.2</b>
car	<b>5.1</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>2.5</b>
frog	<b>-1.7</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>-3.1</b>
Losses:	<b>2.9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12.9</b>

## Multiclass SVM loss:

Given an example  $(x_i, y_i)$   
 where  $x_i$  is the image and  
 where  $y_i$  is the (integer) label,

and using the shorthand for the scores  
 vector:  $s_i = f(x_i, W)$

the SVM loss has the form:

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

**Q: what if the sum  
 was instead over all  
 classes?  
 (including  $j = y_i$ )**

Suppose: 3 training examples, 3 classes.  
 With some  $W$  the scores  $f(x, W) = Wx$  are:



cat	<b>3.2</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>2.2</b>
car	<b>5.1</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>2.5</b>
frog	<b>-1.7</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>-3.1</b>
Losses:	<b>2.9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12.9</b>

## Multiclass SVM loss:

Given an example  $(x_i, y_i)$   
 where  $x_i$  is the image and  
 where  $y_i$  is the (integer) label,

and using the shorthand for the scores  
 vector:  $s_i = f(x_i, W)$

the SVM loss has the form:

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

Q2: what if we used a  
 mean instead of a  
 sum here?



Suppose: 3 training examples, 3 classes.  
 With some  $W$  the scores  $f(x, W) = Wx$  are:



cat	<b>3.2</b>	1.3	2.2
car	5.1	<b>4.9</b>	2.5
frog	-1.7	2.0	<b>-3.1</b>
Losses:	<b>2.9</b>	0	<b>12.9</b>

## Multiclass SVM loss:

Given an example  $(x_i, y_i)$   
 where  $x_i$  is the image and  
 where  $y_i$  is the (integer) label,

and using the shorthand for the scores  
 vector:

$$s_i = f(x_i, W)$$

the SVM loss has the form:

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

Q3: what if we used

$$L_i = \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, s_j - s_{y_i} + 1)^2$$

Suppose: 3 training examples, 3 classes.  
 With some  $W$  the scores  $f(x, W) = Wx$  are:



cat	<b>3.2</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>2.2</b>
car	<b>5.1</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>2.5</b>
frog	<b>-1.7</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>-3.1</b>
Losses:	<b>2.9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12.9</b>

## Multiclass SVM loss:

Given an example  $(x_i, y_i)$   
 where  $x_i$  is the image and  
 where  $y_i$  is the (integer) label,

and using the shorthand for the scores  
 vector:

$$s_i = f(x_i, W)$$

the SVM loss has the form:

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

**Q4: what is the min/  
 max possible loss?**



Suppose: 3 training examples, 3 classes.  
 With some  $W$  the scores  $f(x, W) = Wx$  are:



cat	<b>3.2</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>2.2</b>
car	<b>5.1</b>	<b>4.9</b>	<b>2.5</b>
frog	<b>-1.7</b>	<b>2.0</b>	<b>-3.1</b>
Losses:	<b>2.9</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>12.9</b>

## Multiclass SVM loss:

Given an example  $(x_i, y_i)$   
 where  $x_i$  is the image and  
 where  $y_i$  is the (integer) label,

and using the shorthand for the scores  
 vector:

$$s_i = f(x_i, W)$$

the SVM loss has the form:

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

Q5: usually at  
 initialization  $W$  are small  
 numbers, so all  $s \approx 0$ .  
 What is the loss?

## Example numpy code:

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

```
def L_i_vectorized(x, y, W):  
    scores = W.dot(x)  
    margins = np.maximum(0, scores - scores[y] + 1)  
    margins[y] = 0  
    loss_i = np.sum(margins)  
    return loss_i
```



# Coding tip: Keep track of dimensions:

```
N = X.shape[0]  
D = X.shape[1]  
C = W.shape[1]  
  
scores=X.dot(W)           # (N,D)*(D,C)=(N,C)
```

# Softmax Classifier (Multinomial Logistic Regression)



cat	3.2
car	5.1
frog	-1.7



# Softmax Classifier (Multinomial Logistic Regression)



**scores = unnormalized log probabilities of the classes.**

$$s = f(x_i; W)$$

cat                    **3.2**

car                    **5.1**

frog                   **-1.7**

# Softmax Classifier (Multinomial Logistic Regression)



**scores = unnormalized log probabilities of the classes.**

$$P(Y = k | X = x_i) = \frac{e^{s_k}}{\sum_j e^{s_j}}$$

where

$$s = f(x_i; W)$$

cat	3.2
car	5.1
frog	-1.7



# Softmax Classifier (Multinomial Logistic Regression)



**scores = unnormalized log probabilities of the classes.**

$$P(Y = k | X = x_i) = \frac{e^{s_k}}{\sum_j e^{s_j}}$$

where

$$s = f(x_i; W)$$

cat	3.2
car	5.1
frog	-1.7

Softmax function

# Softmax Classifier (Multinomial Logistic Regression)



cat	3.2
car	5.1
frog	-1.7

**scores = unnormalized log probabilities of the classes.**

$$P(Y = k | X = x_i) = \frac{e^{s_k}}{\sum_j e^{s_j}} \quad \text{where} \quad s = f(x_i; W)$$

Want to maximize the log likelihood, or (for a loss function) to minimize the negative log likelihood of the correct class:

$$L_i = -\log P(Y = y_i | X = x_i)$$



# Softmax Classifier (Multinomial Logistic Regression)



cat	3.2
car	5.1
frog	-1.7

**scores = unnormalized log probabilities of the classes.**

$$P(Y = k | X = x_i) = \frac{e^{s_k}}{\sum_j e^{s_j}} \quad \text{where} \quad s = f(x_i; W)$$

Want to maximize the log likelihood, or (for a loss function) to minimize the negative log likelihood of the correct class:

$$L_i = -\log P(Y = y_i | X = x_i)$$

---

in summary: 
$$L_i = -\log\left(\frac{e^{s_{y_i}}}{\sum_j e^{s_j}}\right)$$

# Softmax Classifier (Multinomial Logistic Regression)



$$L_i = -\log\left(\frac{e^{s_{y_i}}}{\sum_j e^{s_j}}\right)$$

cat

**3.2**

car

5.1

frog

-1.7

unnormalized log probabilities



# Softmax Classifier (Multinomial Logistic Regression)



$$L_i = -\log\left(\frac{e^{s_{y_i}}}{\sum_j e^{s_j}}\right)$$

unnormalized probabilities

cat  
car  
frog

3.2

5.1

-1.7

exp

24.5

164.0

0.18

unnormalized log probabilities

# Softmax Classifier (Multinomial Logistic Regression)



$$L_i = -\log\left(\frac{e^{s_{y_i}}}{\sum_j e^{s_j}}\right)$$

unnormalized probabilities

cat  
car  
frog

3.2  
5.1  
-1.7

exp

24.5  
164.0  
0.18

normalize

0.13  
0.87  
0.00

unnormalized log probabilities

probabilities  
>0, sum to 1



# Softmax Classifier (Multinomial Logistic Regression)



$$L_i = -\log\left(\frac{e^{s_{y_i}}}{\sum_j e^{s_j}}\right)$$

unnormalized probabilities

cat  
car  
frog

3.2  
5.1  
-1.7

exp

24.5  
164.0  
0.18

normalize

0.13  
0.87  
0.00

$$L_i = -\log(0.13) = 0.89$$

unnormalized log probabilities

probabilities

# Softmax Classifier (Multinomial Logistic Regression)



$$L_i = -\log\left(\frac{e^{s_{y_i}}}{\sum_j e^{s_j}}\right)$$

unnormalized probabilities

cat  
car  
frog

3.2  
5.1  
-1.7

exp

24.5  
164.0  
0.18

normalize

0.13  
0.87  
0.00

$$L_i = -\log(0.13) = 0.89$$

unnormalized log probabilities

probabilities



# Softmax Classifier (Multinomial Logistic Regression)



$$L_i = -\log\left(\frac{e^{sy_i}}{\sum_j e^{s_j}}\right)$$

unnormalized probabilities

Q: What is the min/max possible loss  $L_i$ ?

cat  
car  
frog

3.2  
5.1  
-1.7

exp

24.5  
164.0  
0.18

normalize

0.13  
0.87  
0.00

$L_i = -\log(0.13)$   
 $= 0.89$

unnormalized log probabilities

probabilities

# Softmax Classifier (Multinomial Logistic Regression)



$$L_i = -\log\left(\frac{e^{sy_i}}{\sum_j e^{s_j}}\right)$$

unnormalized probabilities

Q2: usually at initialization  $W$  are small numbers, so all  $s \approx 0$ . What is the loss?

cat

3.2

car

5.1

frog

-1.7

exp

24.5

164.0

0.18

normalize

0.13

0.87

0.00



$$L_i = -\log(0.13) = 0.89$$

unnormalized log probabilities

probabilities

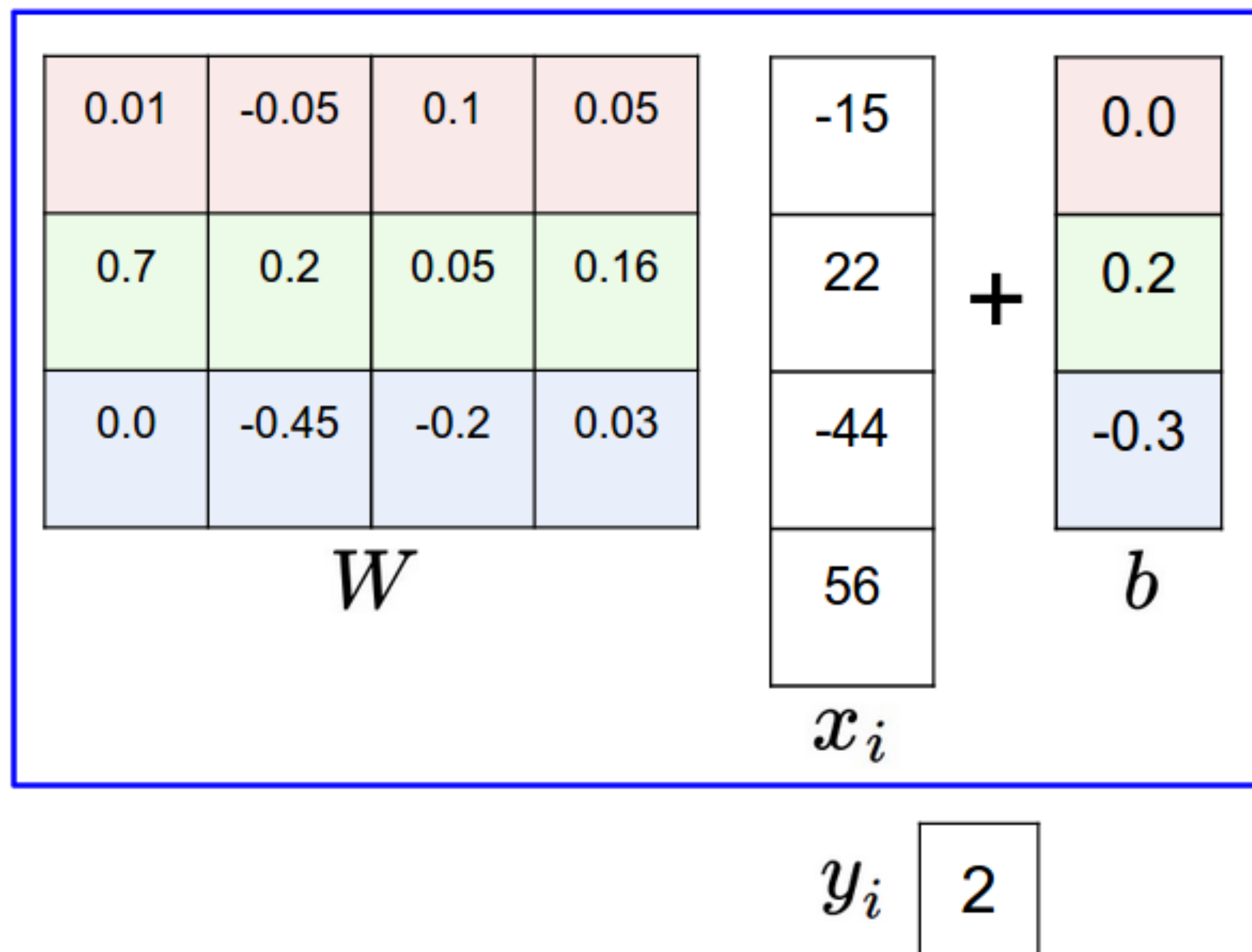


# Softmax vs. SVM

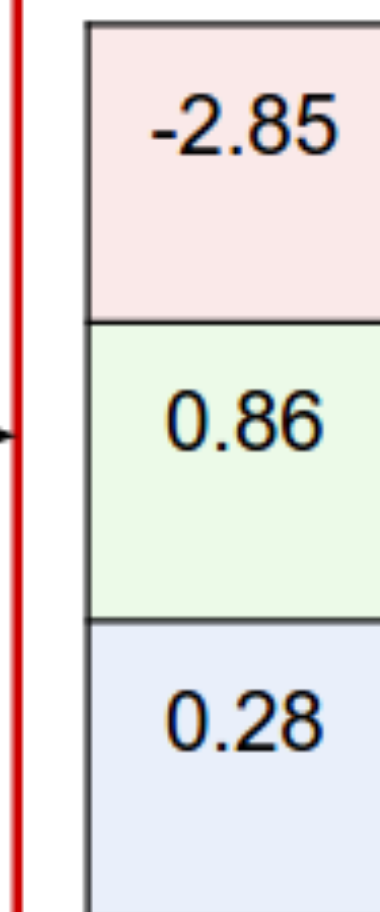
$$L_i = -\log\left(\frac{e^{s_{y_i}}}{\sum_j e^{s_j}}\right)$$

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

matrix multiply + bias offset

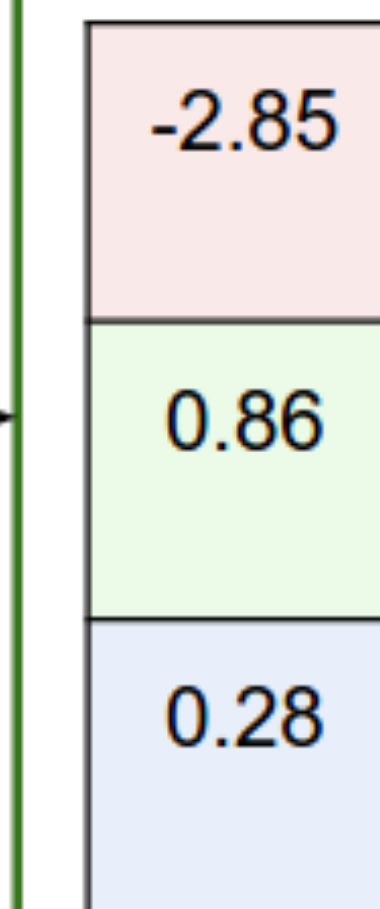


hinge loss (SVM)



$$= 1.58$$

cross-entropy loss (Softmax)



$$= 0.452$$



# Softmax vs. SVM

$$L_i = -\log\left(\frac{e^{s_{y_i}}}{\sum_j e^{s_j}}\right)$$

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

assume scores:

[10, -2, 3]

[10, 9, 9]

[10, -100, -100]

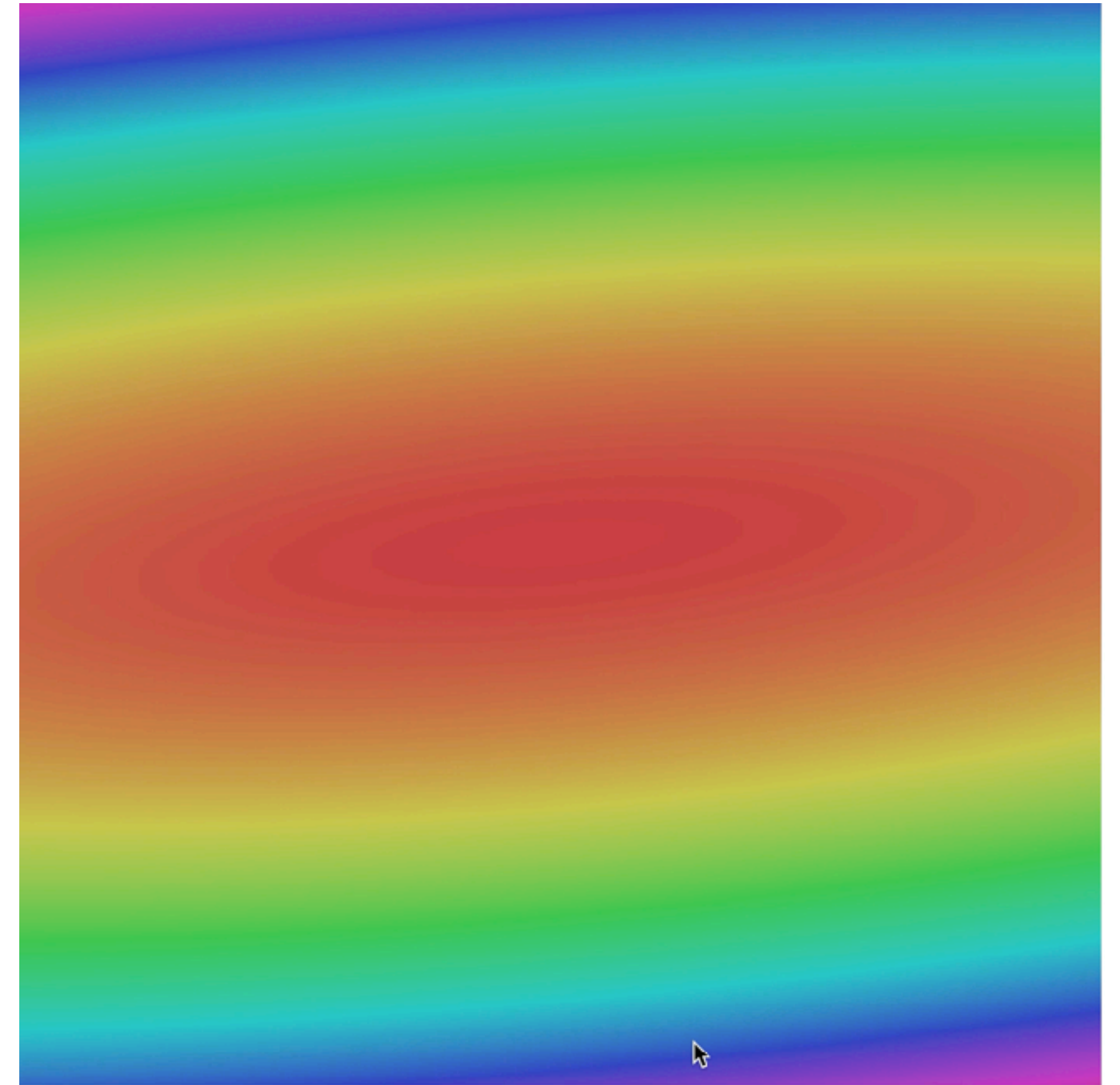
and  $y_i = 0$

Q: Suppose I take a datapoint and I jiggle a bit (changing its score slightly). What happens to the loss in both cases?

# Coming up:

- Regularization
- Optimization

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





# Regularization

There is a “bug” with the loss:

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

$$L = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, f(x_i; W)_j - f(x_i; W)_{y_i} + 1)$$



E.g. Suppose that we found a  $W$  such that  $L = 0$ .  
Is this  $W$  unique?



Suppose: 3 training examples, 3 classes.  
 With some  $W$  the scores  $f(x, W) = Wx$  are:



cat	3.2	1.3	2.2
car	5.1	4.9	2.5
frog	-1.7	2.0	-3.1
Losses:	2.9	0	12.9

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

**Before:**

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \max(0, 1.3 - 4.9 + 1) \\
 &\quad + \max(0, 2.0 - 4.9 + 1) \\
 &= \max(0, -2.6) + \max(0, -1.9) \\
 &= 0 + 0 \\
 &= 0
 \end{aligned}$$

**With  $W$  twice as large:**

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \max(0, 2.6 - 9.8 + 1) \\
 &\quad + \max(0, 4.0 - 9.8 + 1) \\
 &= \max(0, -6.2) + \max(0, -4.8) \\
 &= 0 + 0 \\
 &= 0
 \end{aligned}$$

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



An example:

What is the loss? (POLL)

cat

1.3

car

2.5

frog

2.0

---

Loss:



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



An example:

What is the loss?

cat 1.3

car **2.5**

frog 2.0

---

Loss: **0.5**

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



An example:

What is the loss?

How could we change  $W$  to eliminate the loss? (POLL)

cat 1.3

car 2.5

frog 2.0

---

Loss: 0.5



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



An example:

What is the loss?

How could we change  $W$  to eliminate the loss? (POLL)

Multiply  $W$  (and  $b$ ) by 2!

cat	1.3	2.6
car	2.5	5.0
frog	2.0	4.0
<hr/>		
Loss:	0.5	0

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



cat	1.3	2.6
car	2.5	5.0
frog	2.0	4.0
<hr/>		
Loss:	0.5	0

An example:

What is the loss?

How could we change  $W$  to eliminate the loss? (POLL)

Multiply  $W$  (and  $b$ ) by 2!

Wait a minute! Have we done anything useful???



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



cat	1.3	2.6
car	2.5	5.0
frog	2.0	4.0
<hr/>		
Loss:	0.5	0

An example:

What is the loss?

How could we change  $W$  to eliminate the loss? (POLL)

Multiply  $W$  (and  $b$ ) by 2!

Wait a minute! Have we done anything useful???

No! Any example that used to be wrong is still wrong (on the wrong side of the boundary). Any example that is right is still right (on the correct side of the boundary).

# Regularization

$\lambda$  = regularization strength  
(hyperparameter)

$$L(W) = \underbrace{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N L_i(f(x_i, W), y_i)}_{\text{Data loss}} + \underbrace{\lambda R(W)}_{\text{Regularization}}$$

**Data loss:** Model predictions should match training data

**Regularization:** Prevent the model from having too much flexibility.

## Simple examples

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

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

Elastic net (L1 + L2):  $R(W) = \sum_k \sum_l \beta W_{k,l}^2 + |W_{k,l}|$

## More complex:

Dropout

Batch normalization

Stochastic depth, fractional pooling, etc



# Regularization

$\lambda$  = regularization strength  
(hyperparameter)

$$L(W) = \underbrace{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N L_i(f(x_i, W), y_i)}_{\text{Data loss}} + \underbrace{\lambda R(W)}_{\text{Regularization}}$$

**Data loss:** Model predictions should match training data

**Regularization:** Prevent the model from having too much flexibility.

Why regularize?

- Express preferences over weights
- Make the model *simple* so it works on test data
- Improve optimization by adding curvature

# Regularization: Expressing Preferences

L2 Regularization

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

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

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

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

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



# Regularization: Expressing Preferences

L2 Regularization

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

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

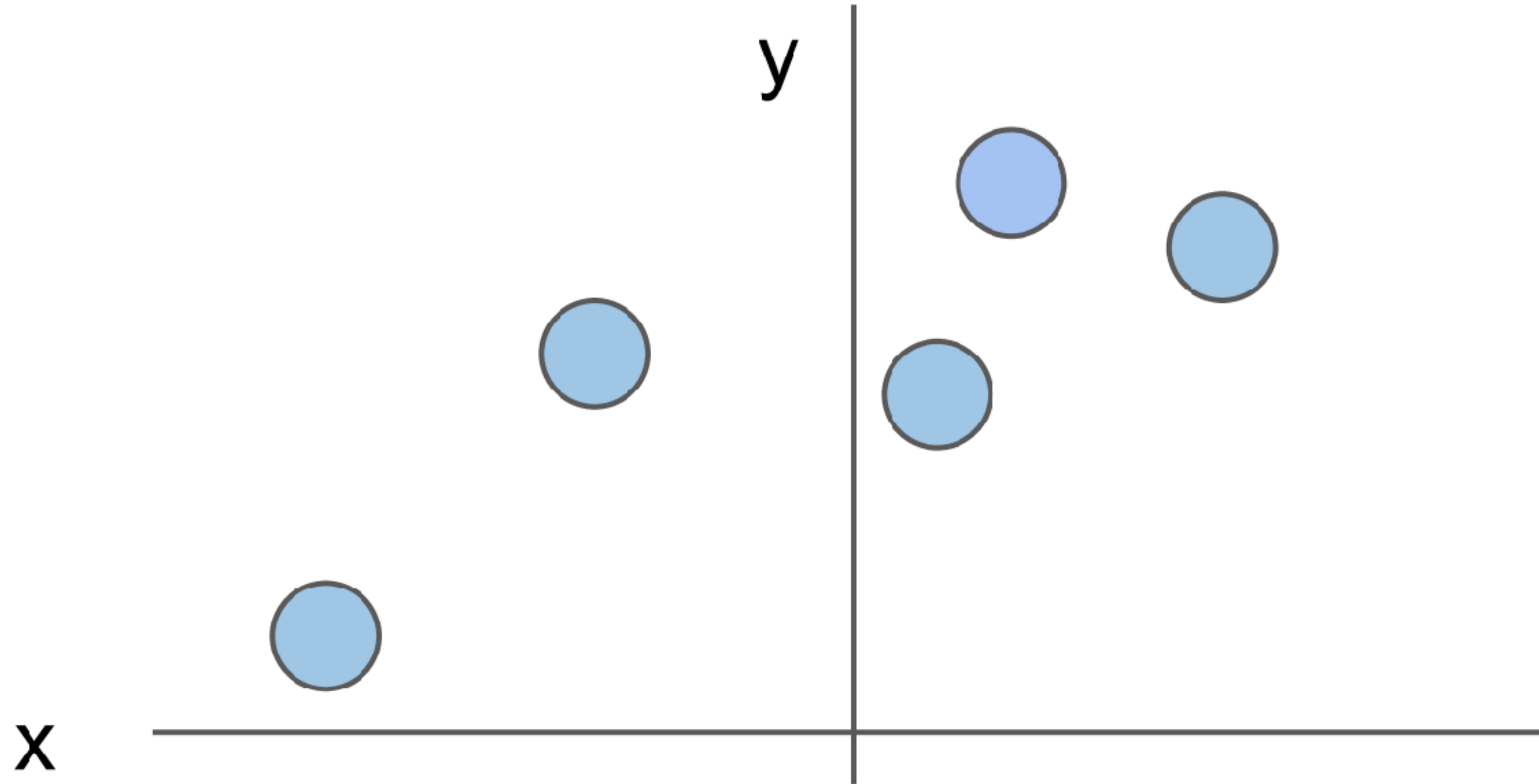
$$w_1 = [1, 0, 0, 0]$$

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

L2 regularization likes to  
“spread out” the weights

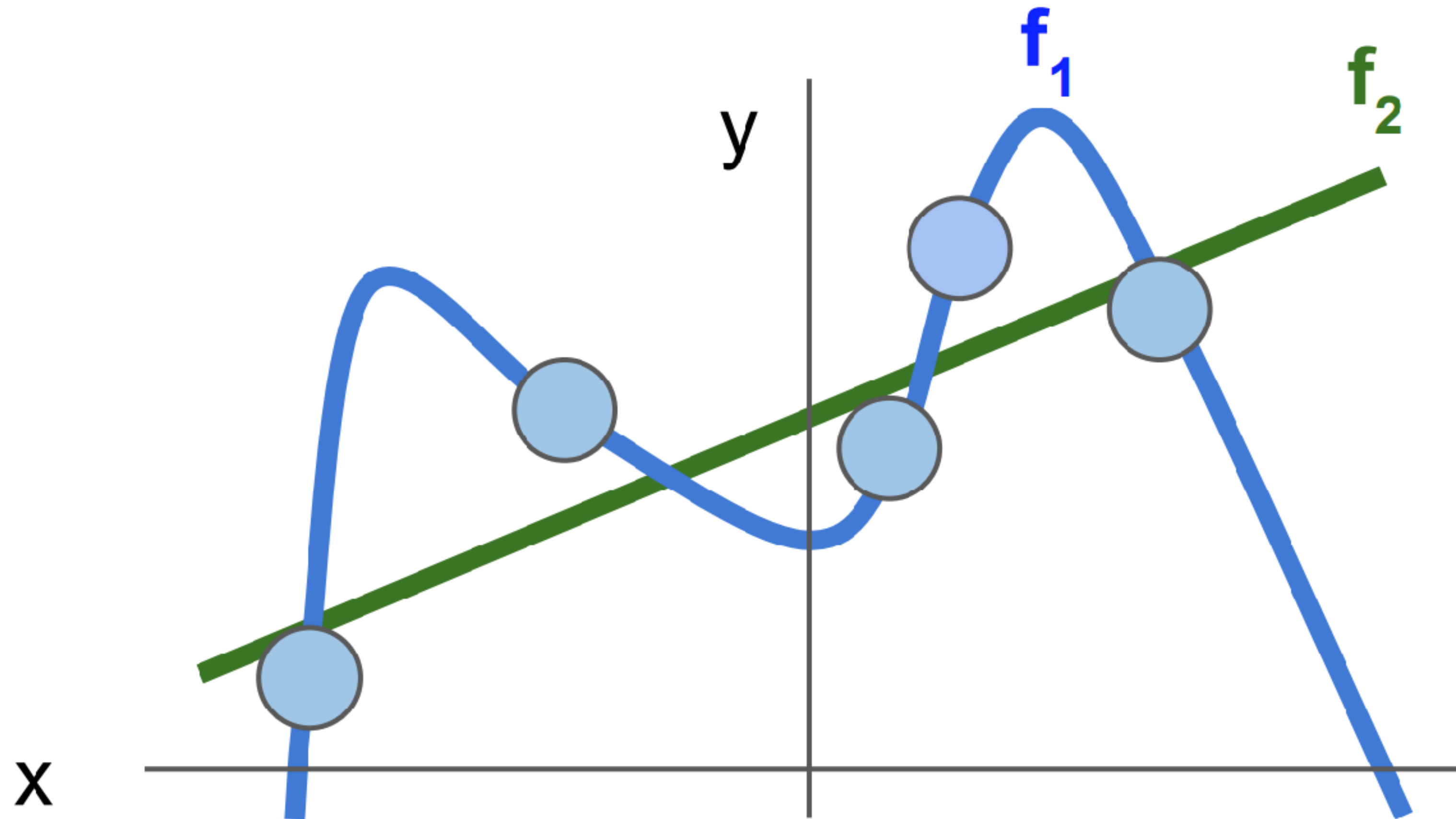
$$w_1^T x = w_2^T x = 1$$

# Regularization: Prefer Simpler Models

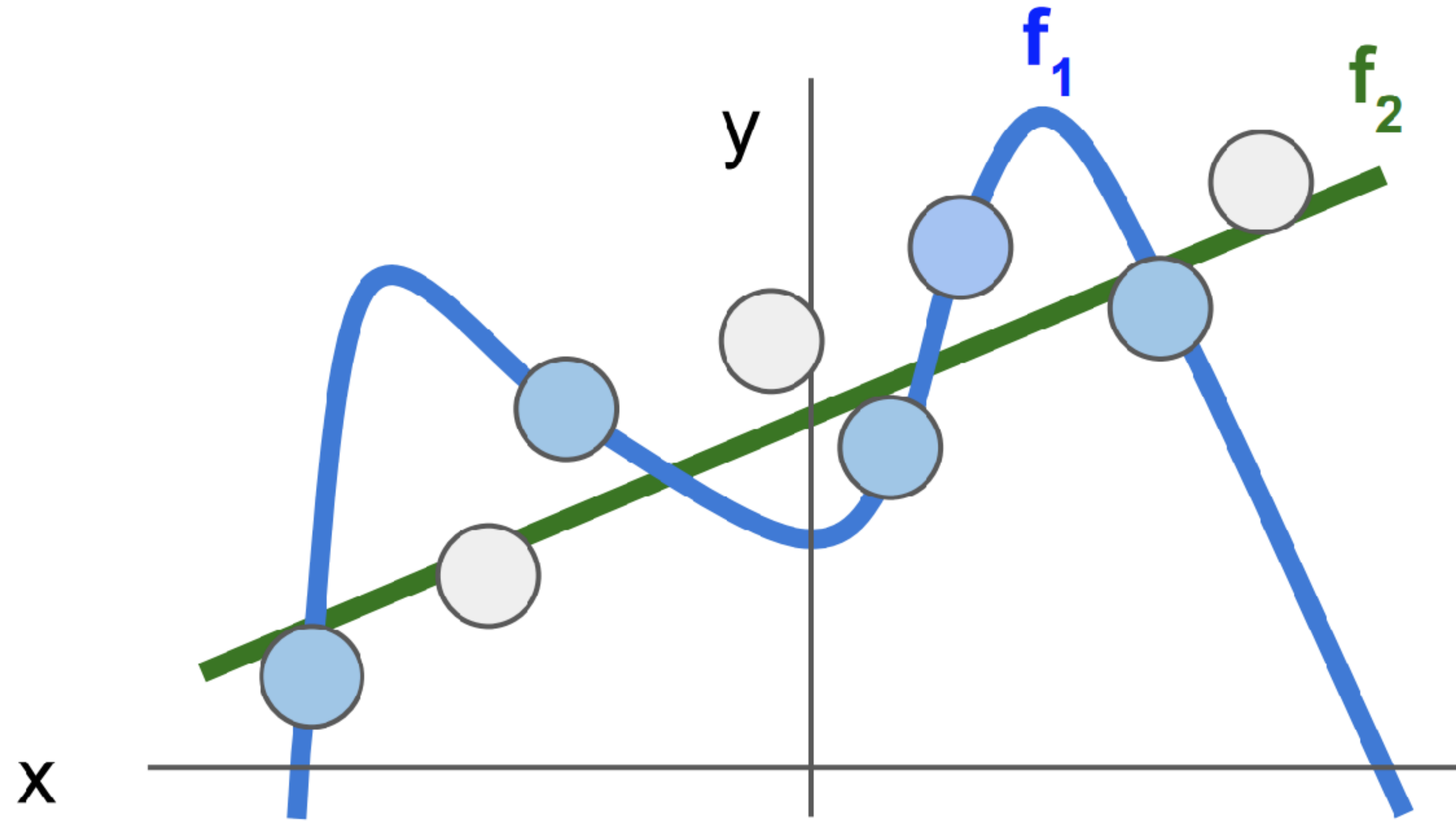




# Regularization: Prefer Simpler Models



# Regularization: Prefer Simpler Models



Regularization pushes against fitting the data with too much flexibility. If you are going to use a complex function to fit the data, you should be doing based on a lot of data!



# Optimization

# Recap

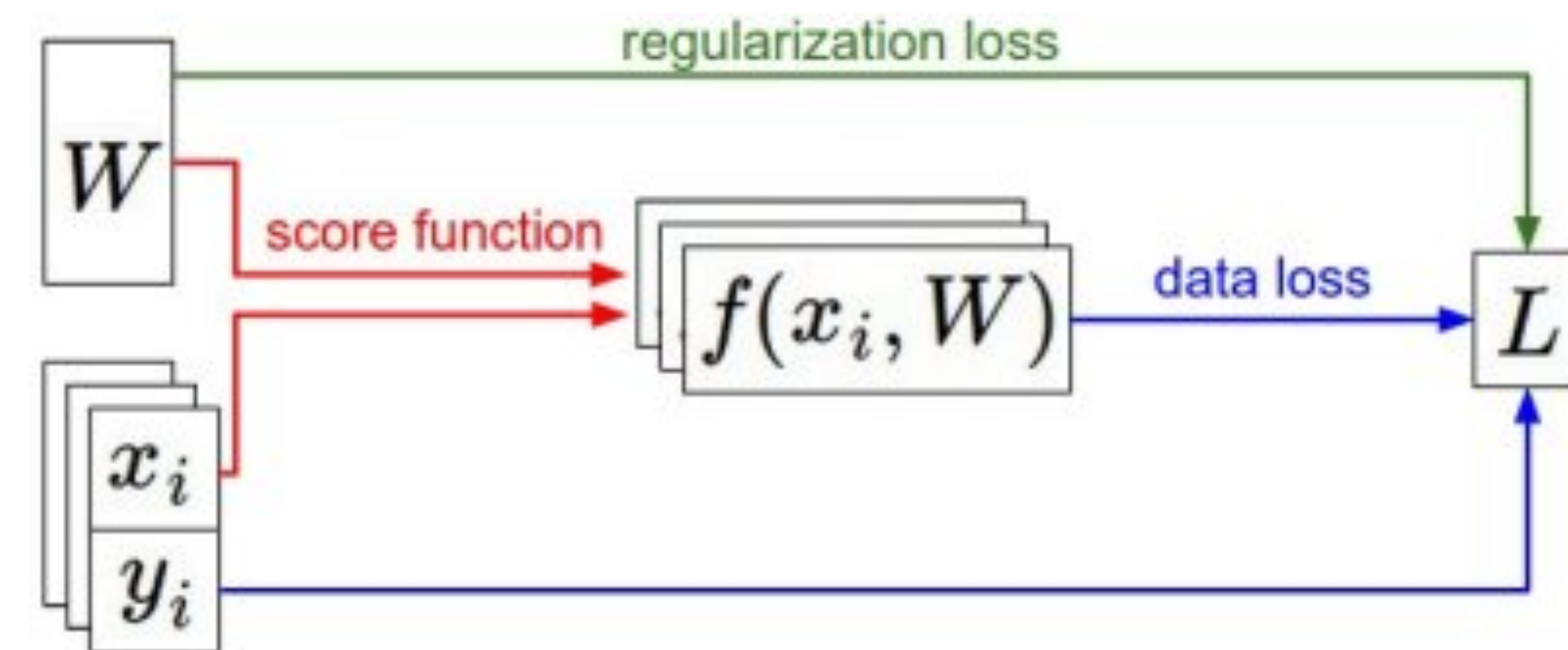
- We have some dataset of  $(x, y)$
- We have a **score function**:
- We have a **loss function**:

$$s = f(x; W) \stackrel{\text{e.g.}}{=} Wx$$

$$L_i = -\log\left(\frac{e^{sy_i}}{\sum_j e^{sj}}\right) \text{ Softmax}$$

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

$$L = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N L_i + R(W) \text{ Full loss}$$





# Strategy #1: A first very bad idea solution: Random search

```
# 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)
```



# Let's see how well this works on the test set...

```
# 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! not bad!  
(SOTA is ~95%)

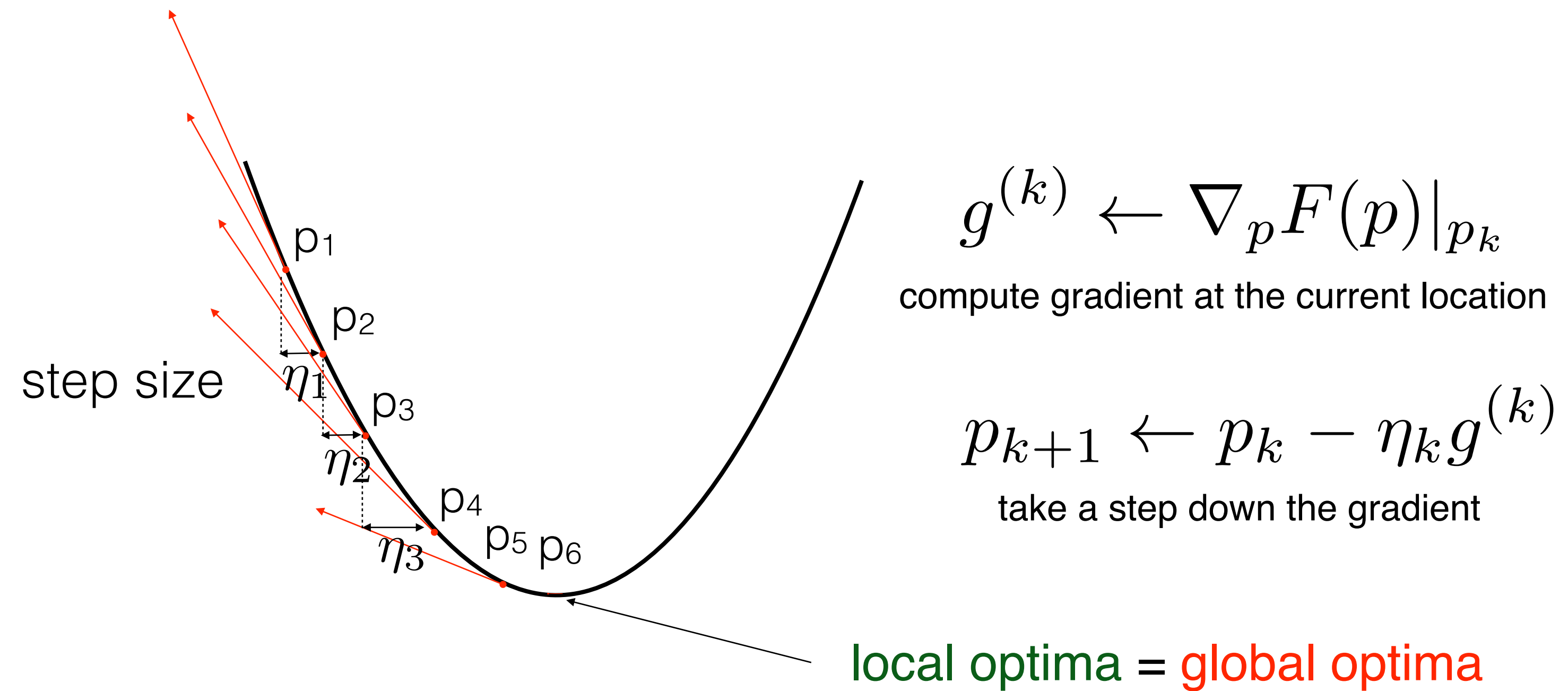


# How often will a random search succeed?





# Strategy #2: Follow the slope





## Strategy #2: **Follow the slope**

In 1-dimension, the derivative of a function:

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

In multiple dimensions, the **gradient** is the vector of (partial derivatives).

# Numerical evaluation of the gradient...



**current W:**

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

**loss 1.25347**

**gradient 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 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 dW:**

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

$$(1.25322 - 1.25347)/0.0001 = -2.5$$

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

?,  
?,...]

**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 dW:**

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



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 dW:

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

$$(1.25353 - 1.25347)/0.0001 = 0.6$$

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

?,...]

**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 (third dim):**

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

**loss 1.25347**

**gradient dW:**

[-2.5,  
0.6,  
?,  
?,  
?,  
?,  
?,  
?,  
?,...]



**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 (third dim):**

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

**loss 1.25347**

**gradient dW:**

[-2.5,  
0.6,  
**0**,  
?,  
?

$$(1.25347 - 1.25347)/0.0001 = 0$$

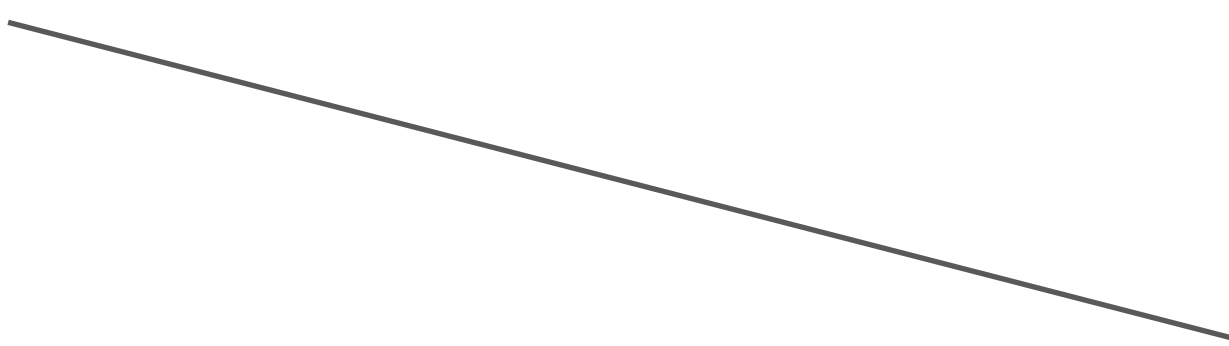
$$\frac{df(x)}{dx} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$$

**current W:**

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

**loss 1.25347**

$dW = \dots$   
(some function of  
data and W)



**gradient dW:**

[-2.5,  
0.6,  
0,  
0.2,  
0.7,  
-0.5,  
1.1,  
1.3,  
-2.1,...]



# Evaluating the gradient numerically

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

```
def eval_numerical_gradient(f, x):  
    """  
    a naive implementation of numerical gradient of f at x  
    - f should be a function that takes a single argument  
    - x is the point (numpy array) to evaluate the gradient at  
    """  
  
    fx = f(x) # evaluate function value at original point  
    grad = np.zeros(x.shape)  
    h = 0.00001  
  
    # iterate over all indexes in x  
    it = np.nditer(x, flags=['multi_index'], op_flags=['readwrite'])  
    while not it.finished:  
  
        # evaluate function at x+h  
        ix = it.multi_index  
        old_value = x[ix]  
        x[ix] = old_value + h # increment by h  
        fxh = f(x) # evalute f(x + h)  
        x[ix] = old_value # restore to previous value (very important!)  
  
        # compute the partial derivative  
        grad[ix] = (fxh - fx) / h # the slope  
        it.iternext() # step to next dimension  
  
    return grad
```



# Evaluating the gradient numerically

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

- approximate
- very slow to evaluate

```
def eval_numerical_gradient(f, x):  
    """  
    a naive implementation of numerical gradient of f at x  
    - f should be a function that takes a single argument  
    - x is the point (numpy array) to evaluate the gradient at  
    """  
  
    fx = f(x) # evaluate function value at original point  
    grad = np.zeros(x.shape)  
    h = 0.00001  
  
    # iterate over all indexes in x  
    it = np.nditer(x, flags=['multi_index'], op_flags=['readwrite'])  
    while not it.finished:  
  
        # evaluate function at x+h  
        ix = it.multi_index  
        old_value = x[ix]  
        x[ix] = old_value + h # increment by h  
        fxh = f(x) # evaluate f(x + h)  
        x[ix] = old_value # restore to previous value (very important!)  
  
        # compute the partial derivative  
        grad[ix] = (fxh - fx) / h # the slope  
        it.iternext() # step to next dimension  
  
    return grad
```



This is silly. The loss is just a function of  $W$ :

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

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

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

want  $\nabla_W L$  ←

“The gradient of the loss  $L$  with respect to the parameters  $W$ ”



This is silly. The loss is just a function of  $W$ :

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

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

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

want  $\nabla_W L$





# During a pandemic, Isaac Newton had to work from home, too. He used the time wisely.



A later portrait of Sir Isaac Newton by Samuel Freeman. (British Library/National Endowment for the Humanities)

By **Gillian Brockell**

March 12, 2020 at 2:18 p.m. EDT

Isaac Newton was in his early 20s when the Great Plague of London hit. He wasn't a "Sir" yet, didn't

1. Developed calculus
2. Fundamentals of optics
3. Theory of gravity

...not too shabby!



This is silly. The loss is just a function of  $W$ :

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

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

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

$$\nabla_W L = \dots$$



# In summary:

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

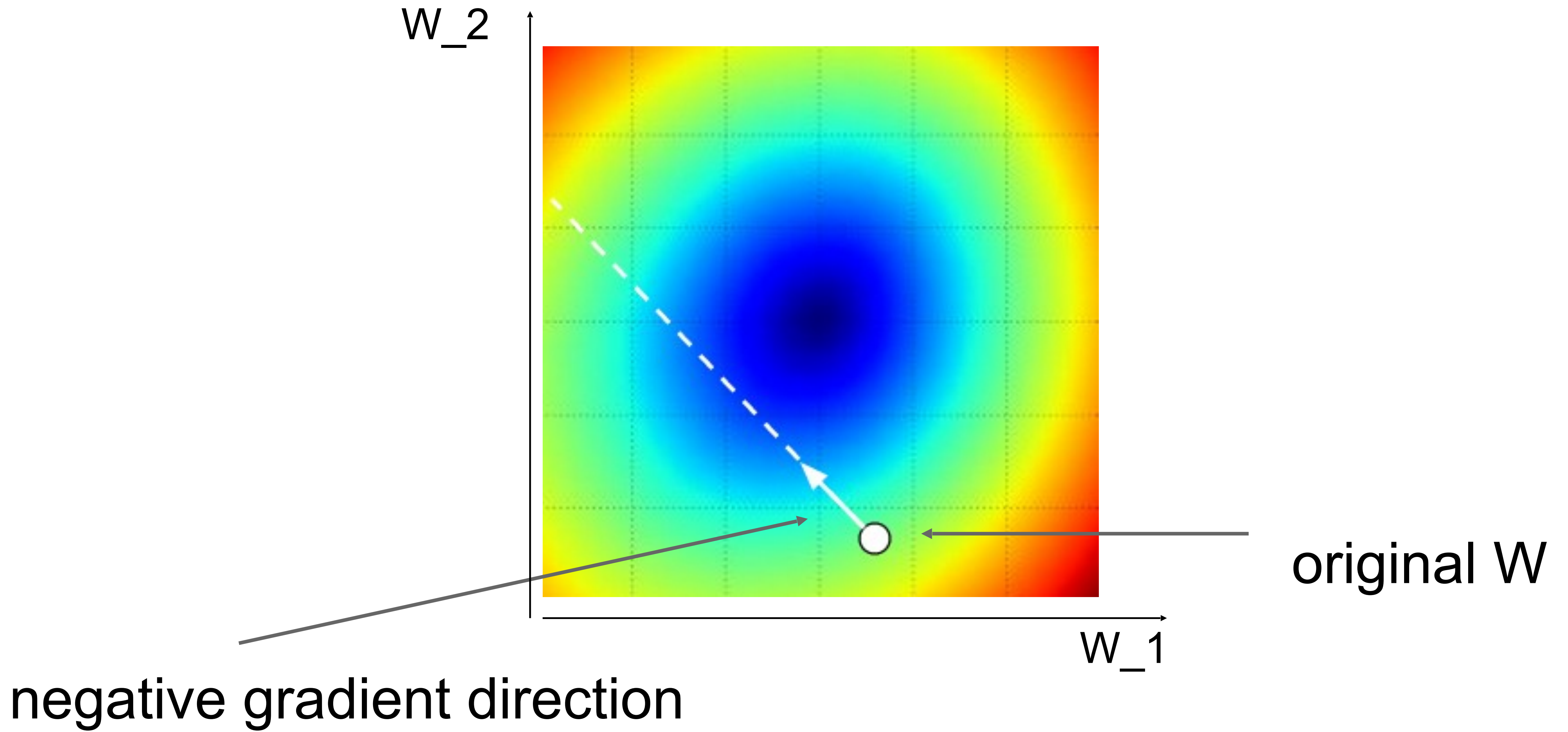
In practice: Always use analytic gradient, but check implementation with numerical gradient. This is called a **gradient check**.

# Gradient Descent

```
# Vanilla Gradient Descent

while True:
    weights_grad = evaluate_gradient(loss_fun, data, weights)
    weights += - step_size * weights_grad # perform parameter update
```





# Mini-batch Gradient Descent

- only use a small portion of the training set to compute the gradient.

```
# Vanilla Minibatch Gradient Descent  
  
while True:  
    data_batch = sample_training_data(data, 256) # sample 256 examples  
    weights_grad = evaluate_gradient(loss_fun, data_batch, weights)  
    weights += - step_size * weights_grad # perform parameter update
```

Common mini-batch sizes are 32/64/128 examples  
e.g. Krizhevsky ILSVRC ConvNet used 256 examples



# Mini-batch Gradient Descent

- only use a small portion of the training set to compute the gradient.  
Why?
  - Goal is to estimate the gradient
  - Trade-off between accuracy and computation
  - No point in doing more computation if it won't change the updates

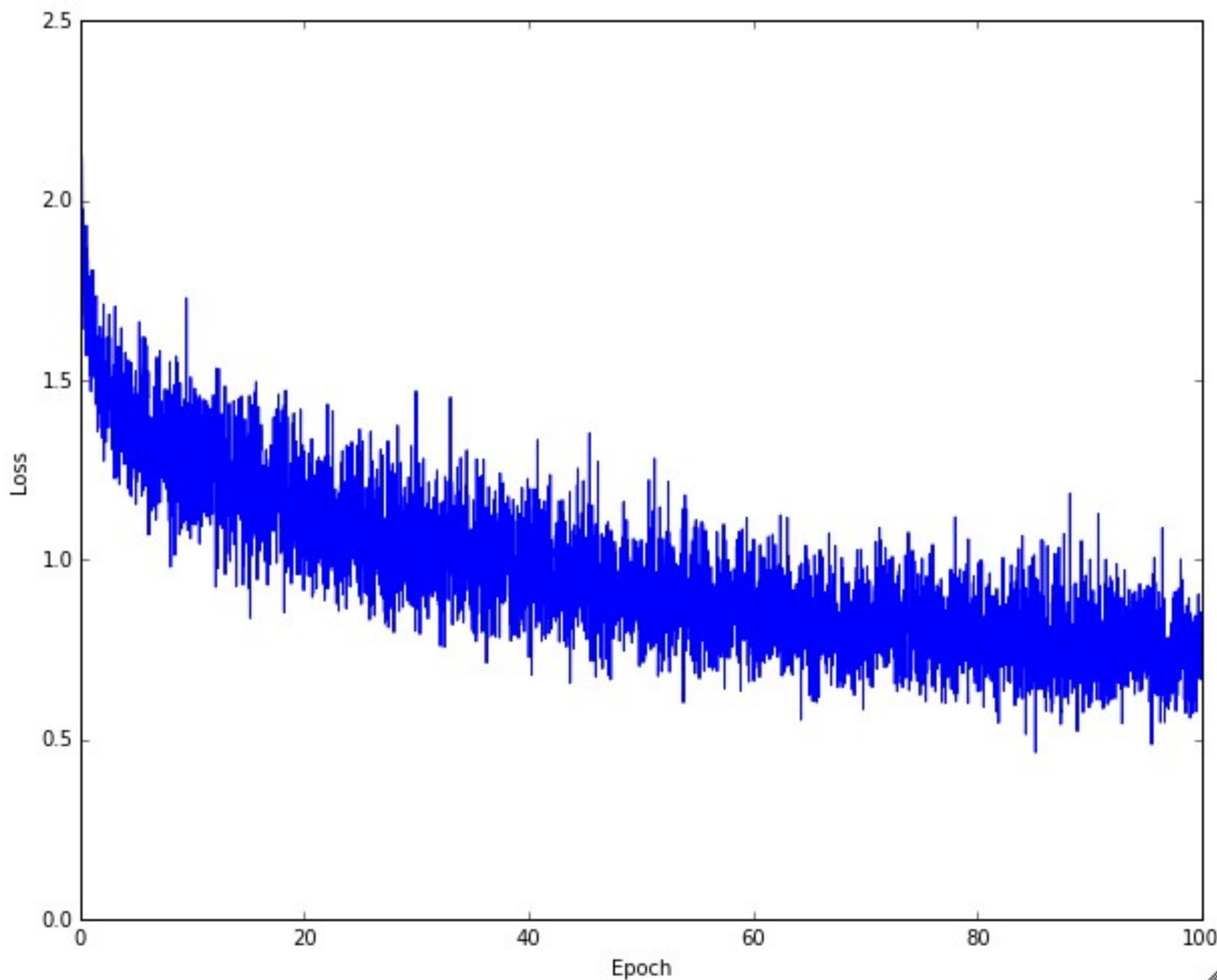
# Mini-batch Gradient Descent

- only use a small portion of the training set to compute the gradient.

```
# Vanilla Minibatch Gradient Descent  
  
while True:  
    data_batch = sample_training_data(data, 256) # sample 256 examples  
    weights_grad = evaluate_gradient(loss_fun, data_batch, weights)  
    weights += - step_size * weights_grad # perform parameter update
```

Common mini-batch sizes are 32/64/128 examples  
e.g. Krizhevsky ILSVRC ConvNet used 256 examples

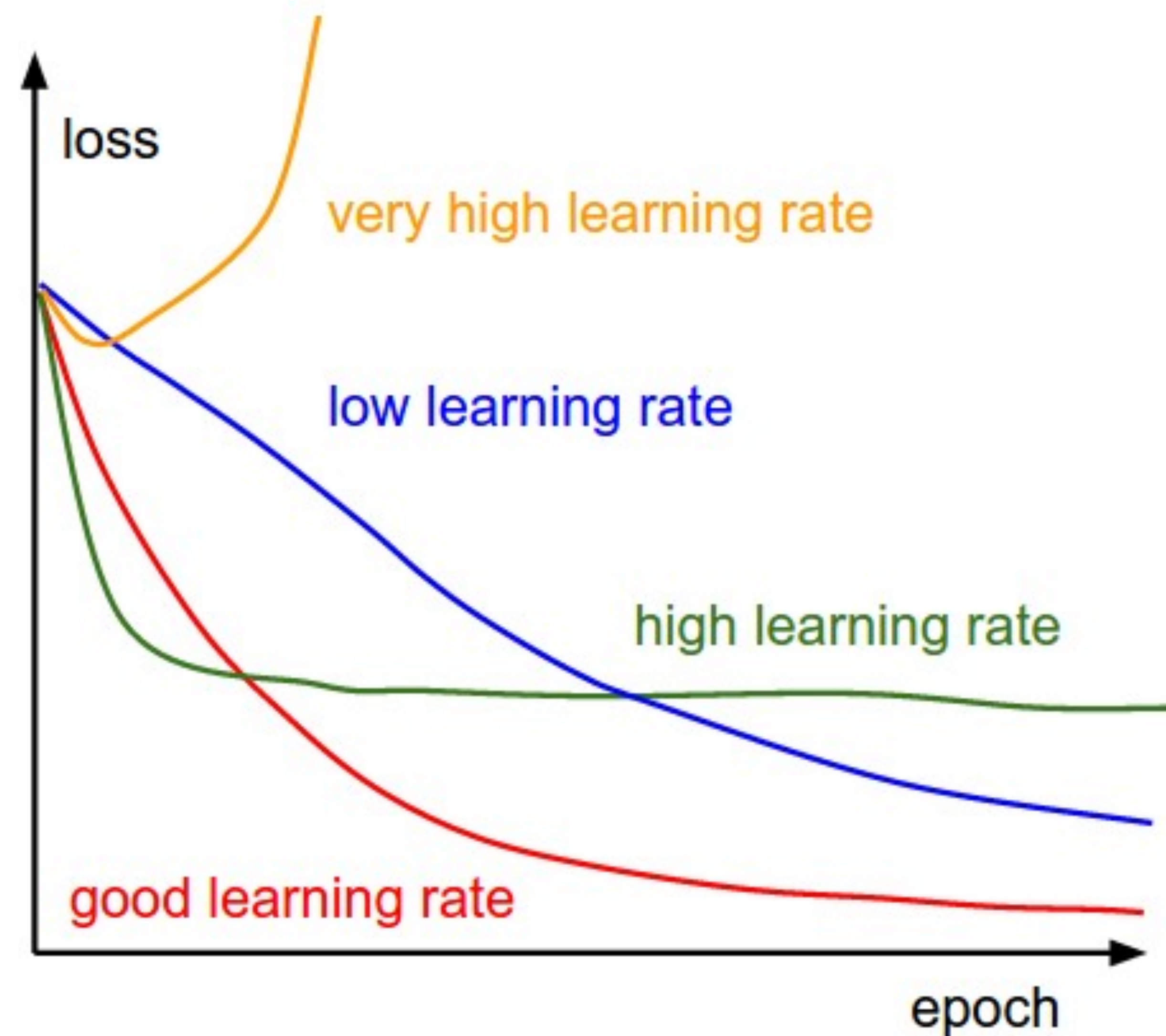
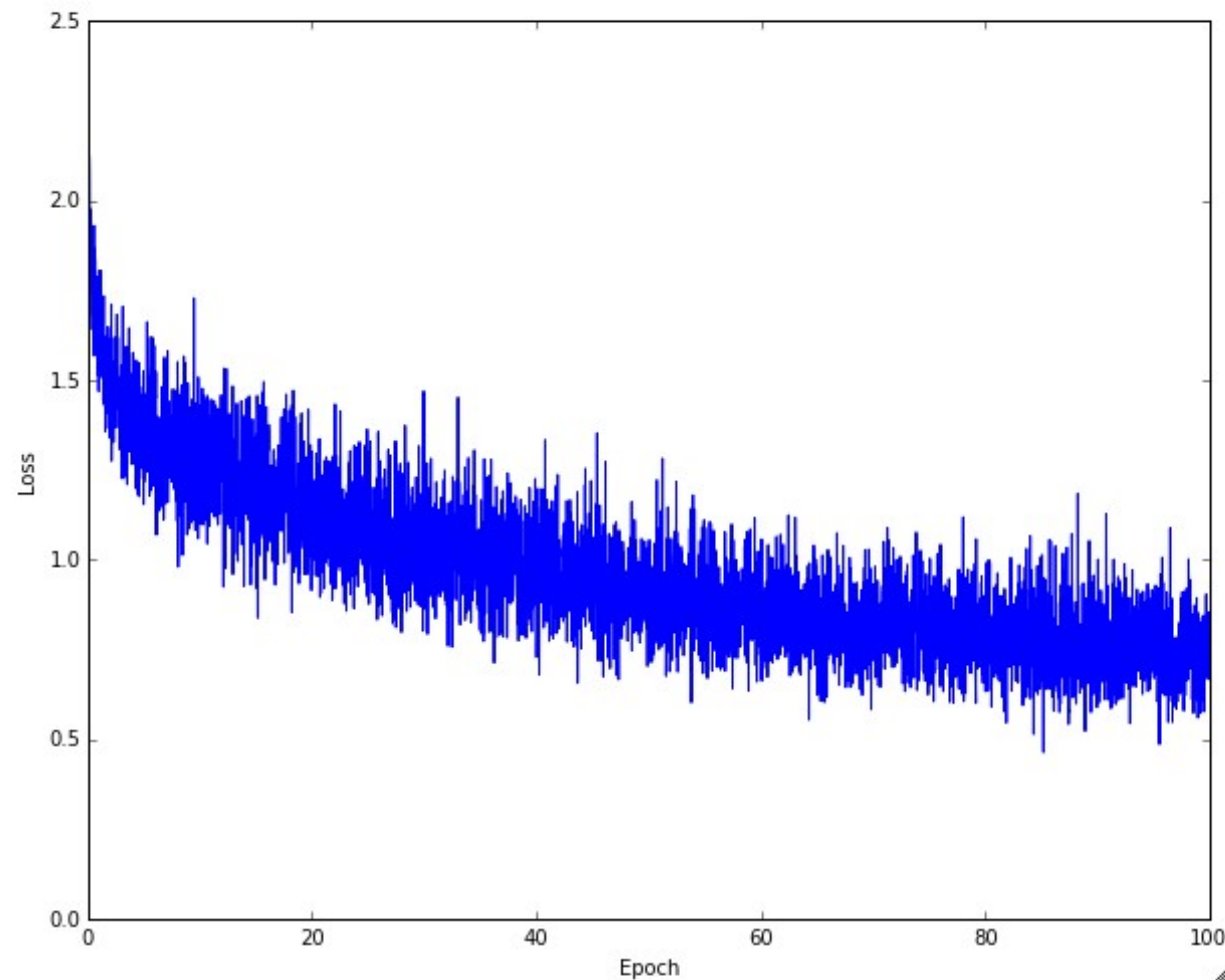




Example of optimization progress while training a neural network.

(Loss over mini-batches goes down over time.)

# The effects of step size (or “learning rate”)





# Mini-batch Gradient Descent

- only use a small portion of the training set to compute the gradient.

```
# Vanilla Minibatch Gradient Descent

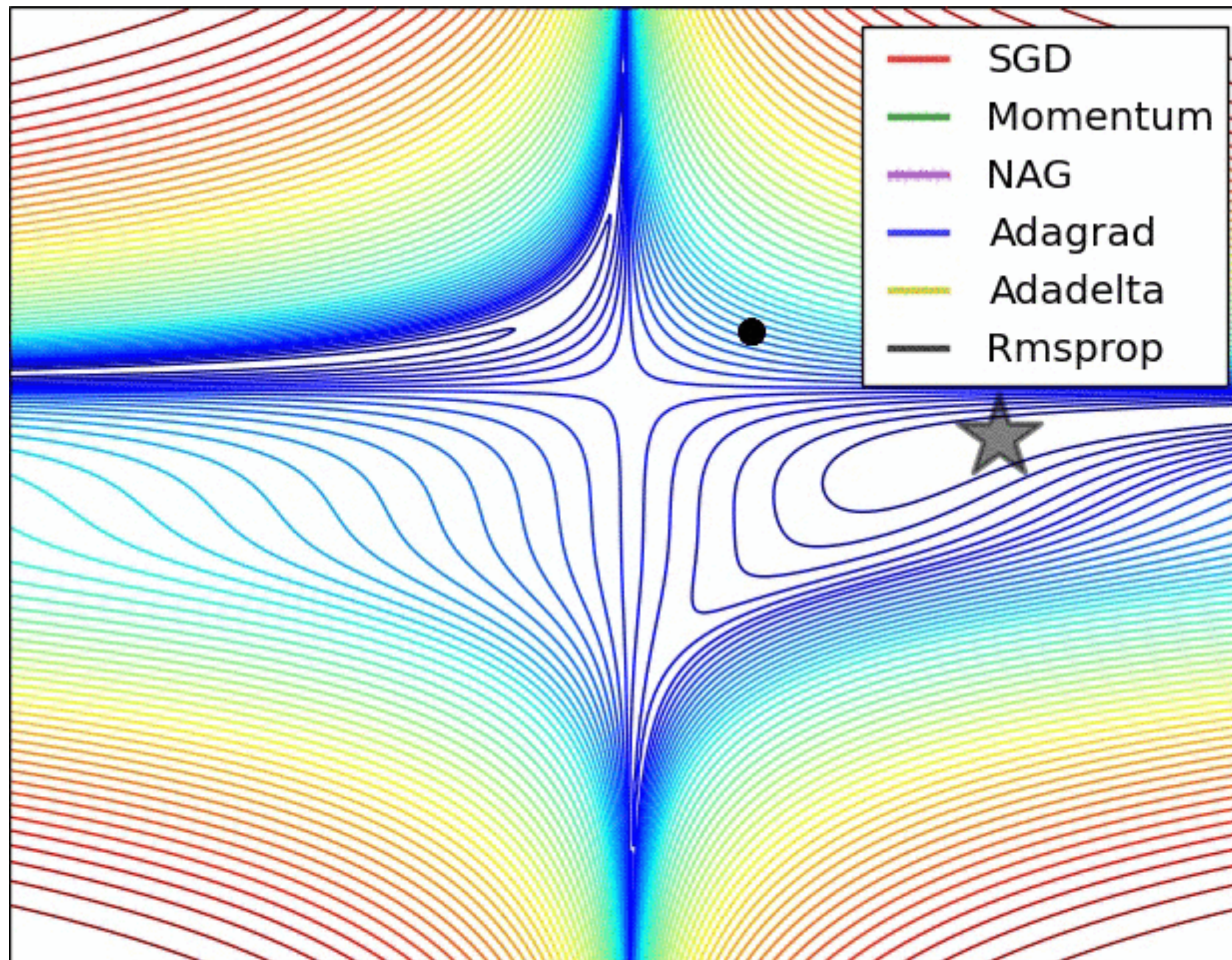
while True:
    data_batch = sample_training_data(data, 256) # sample 256 examples
    weights_grad = evaluate_gradient(loss_fun, data_batch, weights)
    weights += - step_size * weights_grad # perform parameter update
```

Common mini-batch sizes are 32/64/128 examples  
e.g. Krizhevsky ILSVRC ConvNet used 256 examples

Fancier update formulas  
(momentum, Adagrad,  
RMSProp, Adam, ...) —  
taught in 682



# The effects of different update formulas



(image credits to Alec Radford)