

# Multiclass Classification

Wei Xu

(many slides from Greg Durrett, Vivek Srikumar, Stanford CS231n)

# This Lecture

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- ▶ Multiclass fundamentals
- ▶ Feature extraction
- ▶ Multiclass logistic regression
- ▶ Optimization

# Multiclass Fundamentals

# Text Classification

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## A Cancer Conundrum: Too Many Drug Trials, Too Few Patients

Breakthroughs in immunotherapy and a rush to develop profitable new treatments have brought a crush of clinical trials scrambling for patients.

By GINA KOLATA



→ Health

## Yankees and Mets Are on Opposite Tracks This Subway Series

As they meet for a four-game series, the Yankees are playing for a postseason spot, and the most the Mets can hope for is to play spoiler.

By FILIP BONDY



→ Sports

~20 classes



# Image Classification

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→ Dog



→ Car

- ▶ Thousands of classes (ImageNet)

# Entity Linking

Although he originally won the event, the United States Anti-Doping Agency announced in August 2012 that they had disqualified **Armstrong** from his seven consecutive Tour de France wins from 1999–2005.



Lance Edward Armstrong is an American former professional road cyclist



Armstrong County is a county in Pennsylvania...

?

?

- ▶ 4,500,000 classes (all articles in Wikipedia)



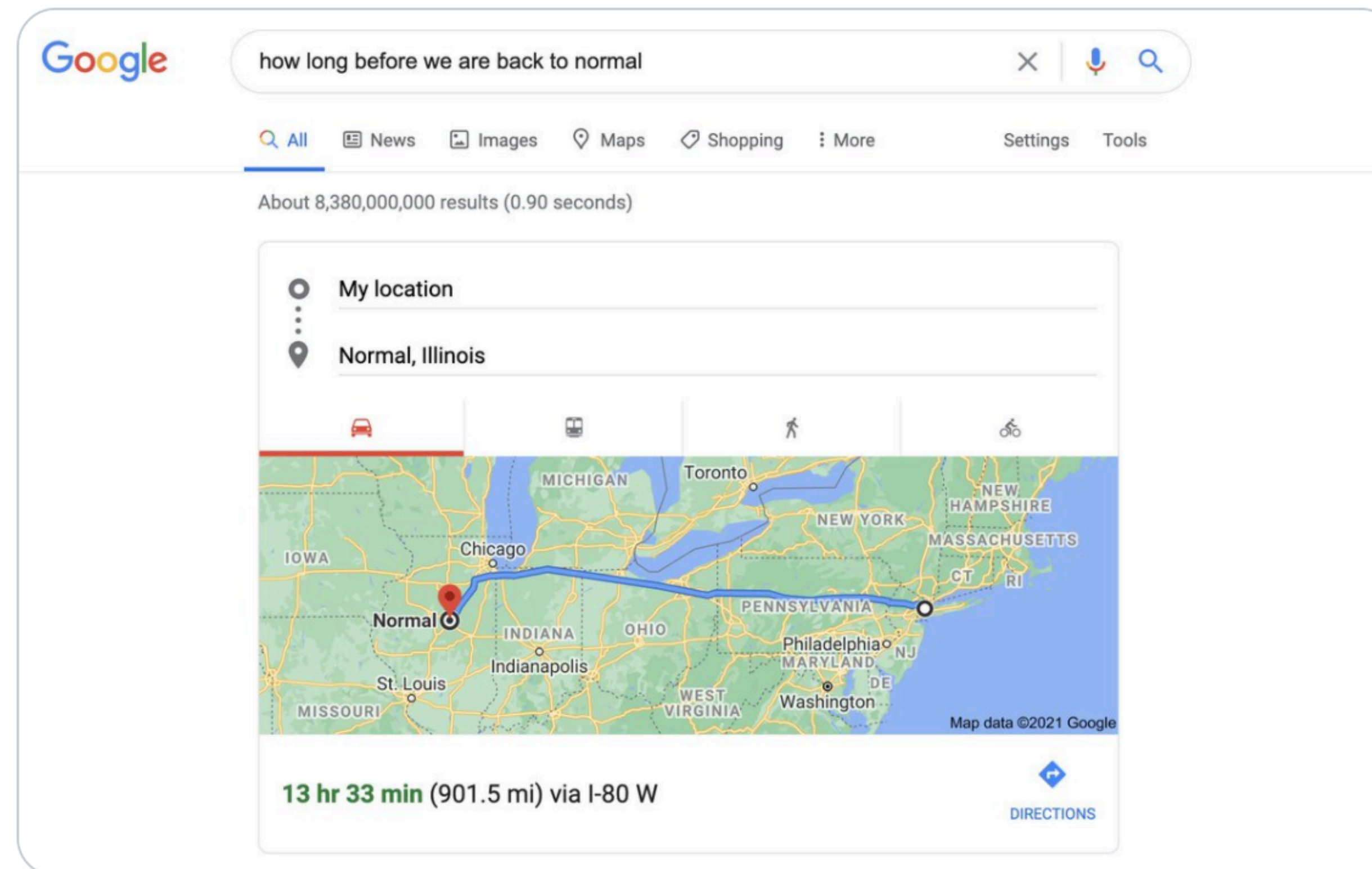
# Entity Linking



**Kara Schechtman**  
@karaschechtman



this is just decidedly not what I meant



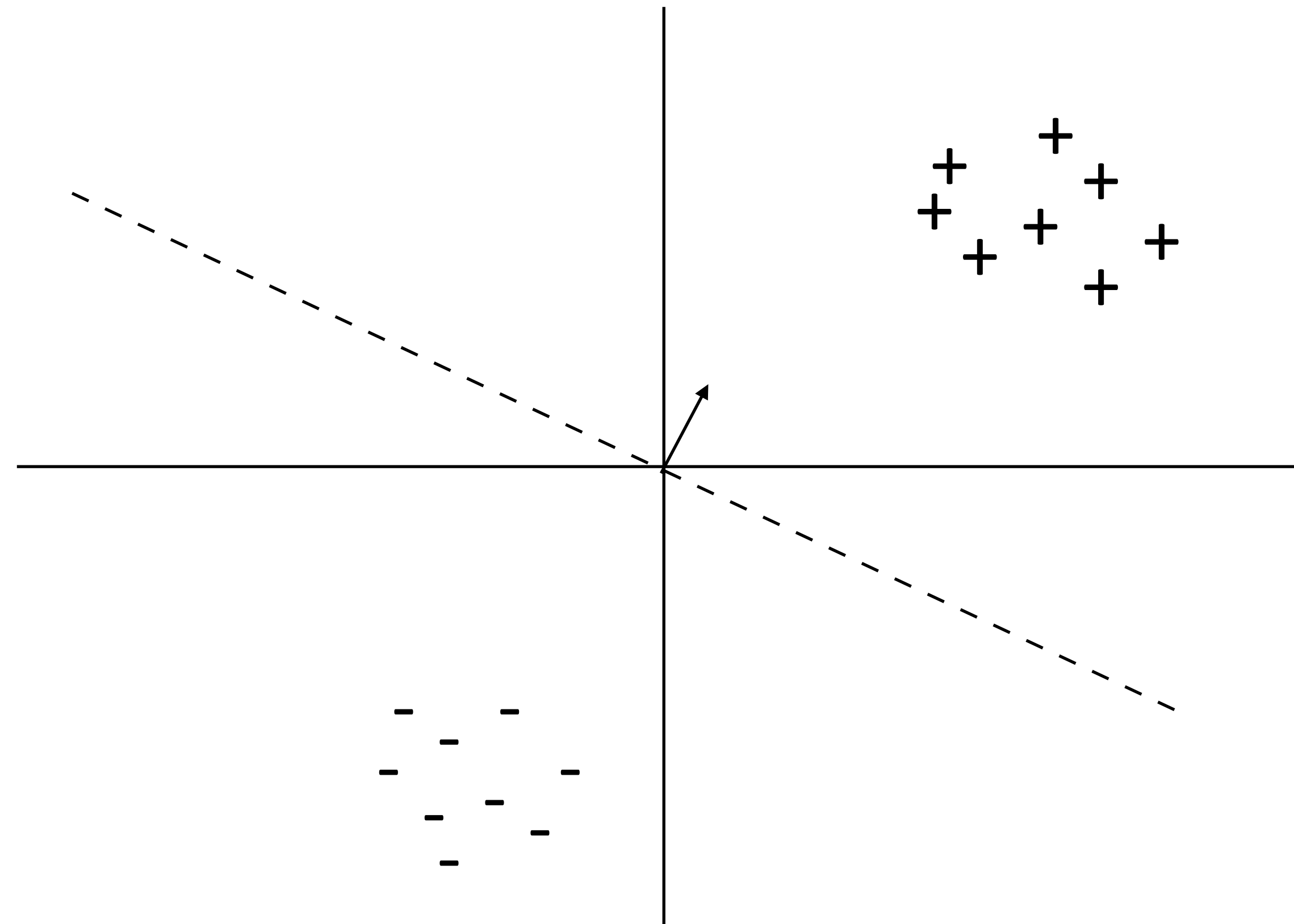
8:58 PM · Jan 30, 2021 · Twitter Web App

**80** Retweets **16** Quote Tweets **700** Likes

# Binary Classification

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- ▶ Binary classification: one weight vector defines positive and negative classes

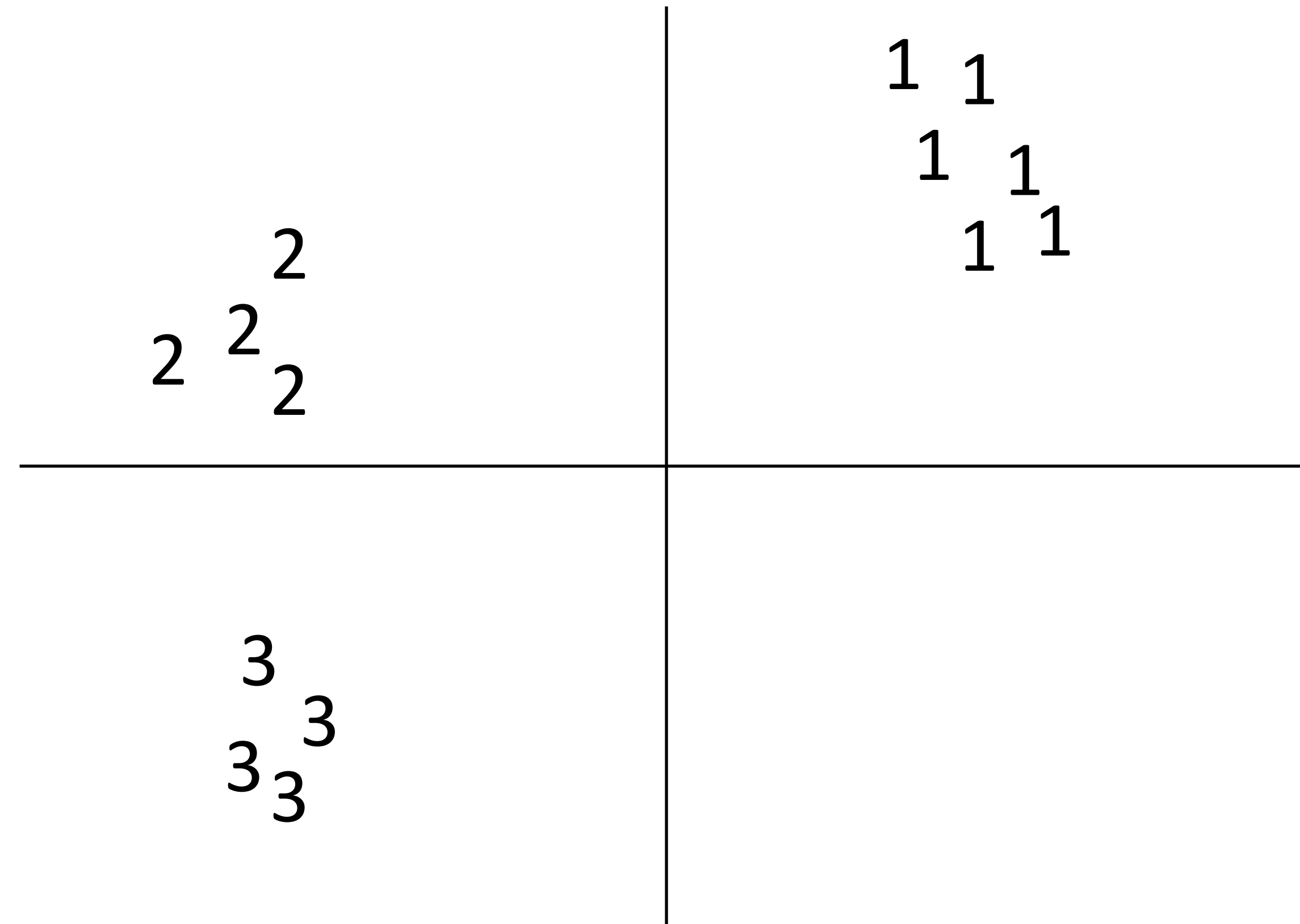




# Multiclass Classification

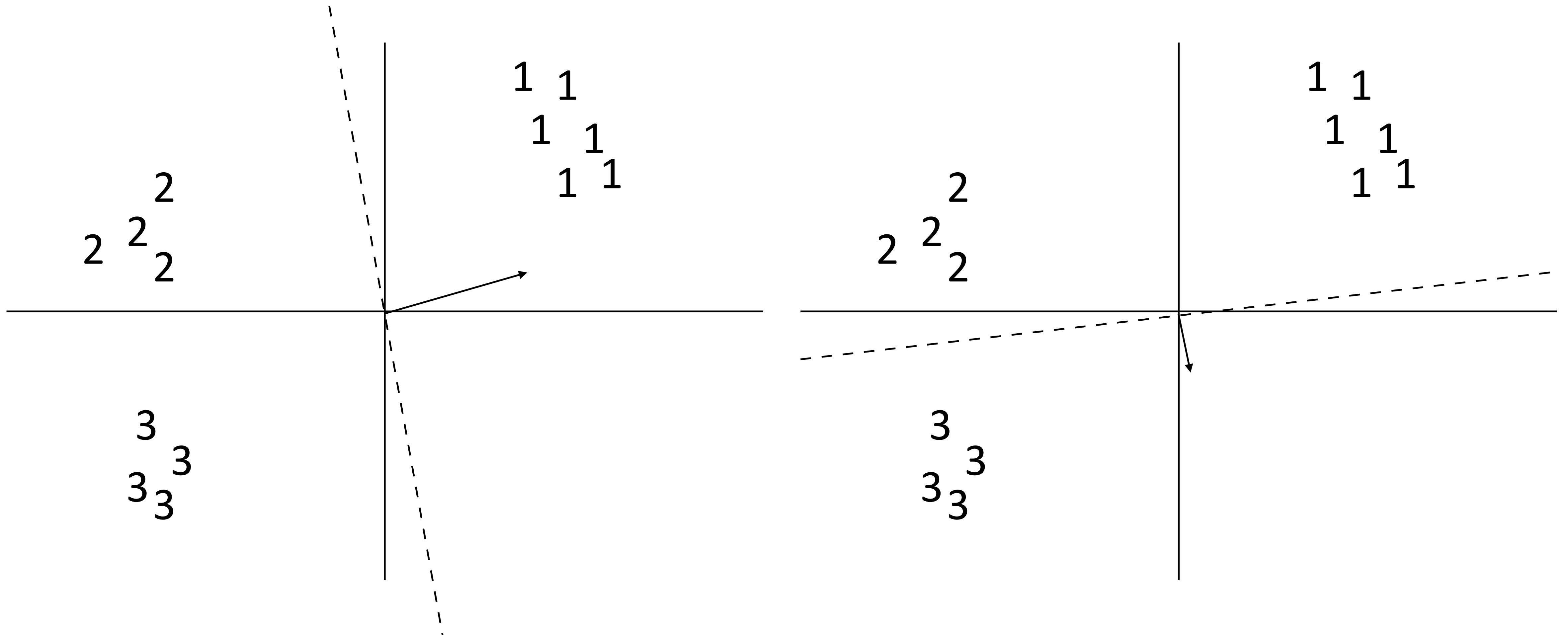
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- Can we just use binary classifiers here?



# Multiclass Classification

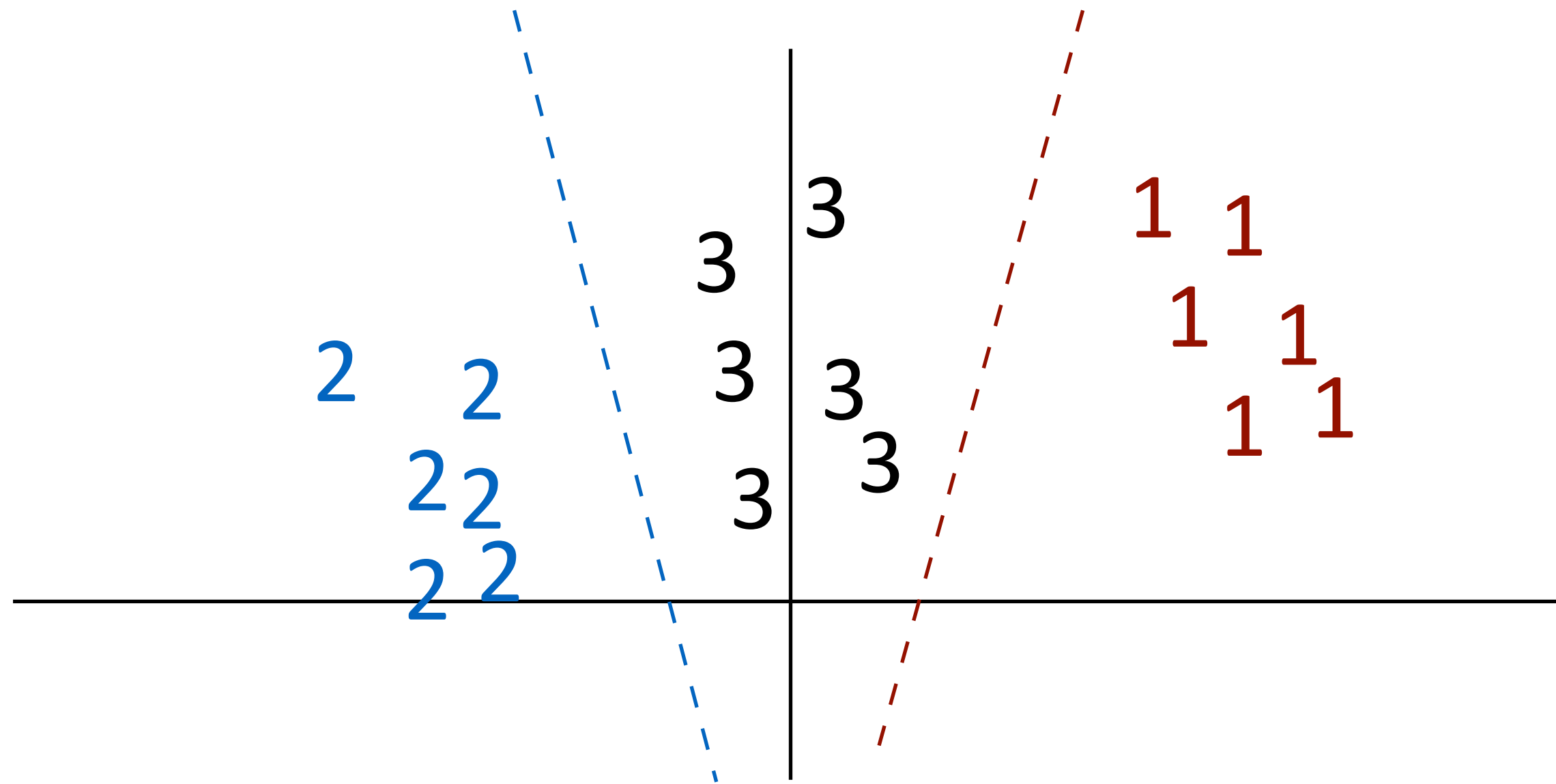
- ▶ One-vs-all: train  $k$  classifiers, one to distinguish each class from all the rest
- ▶ How do we reconcile multiple positive predictions? Highest score?



# Multiclass Classification

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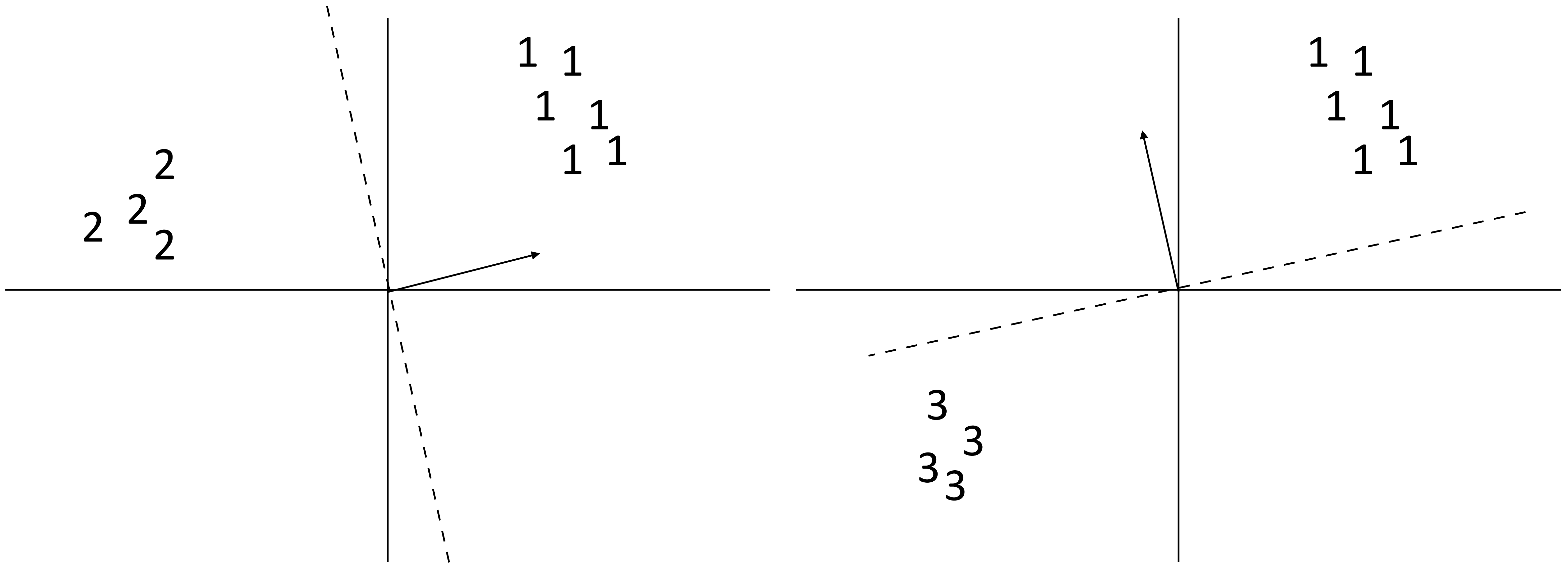
- ▶ Not all classes may even be separable using this approach



- ▶ Can separate 1 from 2+3 and 2 from 1+3 but not 3 from the others (with these features)

# Multiclass Classification

- ▶ All-vs-all: train  $n(n-1)/2$  classifiers to differentiate each pair of classes
- ▶ Again, how to reconcile?





# Multiclass Classification

Wei Xu

(many slides from Greg Durrett, Vivek Srikumar, Stanford CS231n)

# Administrivia

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- ▶ Problem Set 1 Graded (on Gradescope)
- ▶ Programming Project 1 is released (due 9/20)
- ▶ Reading: Eisenstein 2.0-2.5, 4.1, 4.3-4.5
- ▶ Optional readings related to Project 1 were posted by TA on Piazza

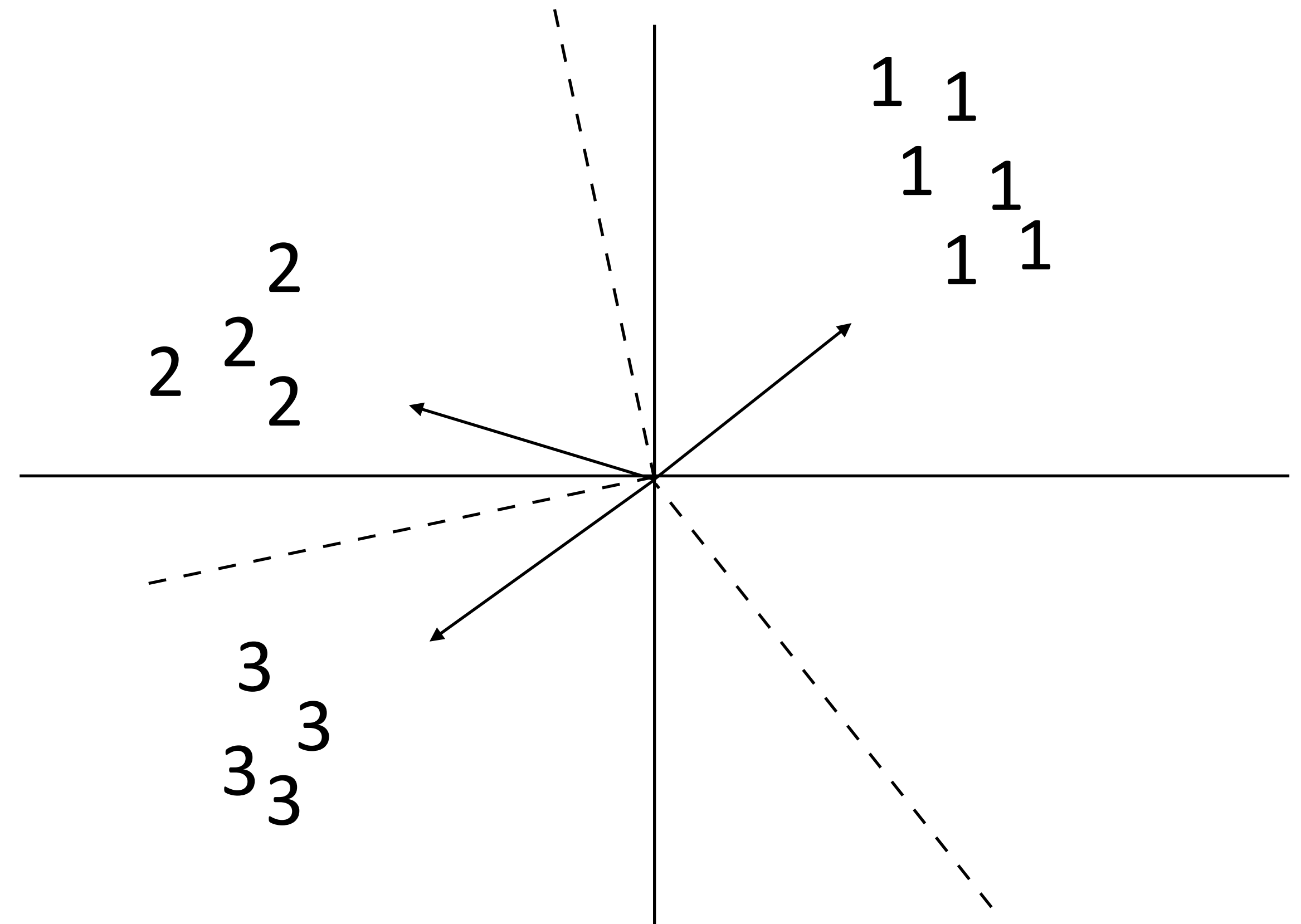
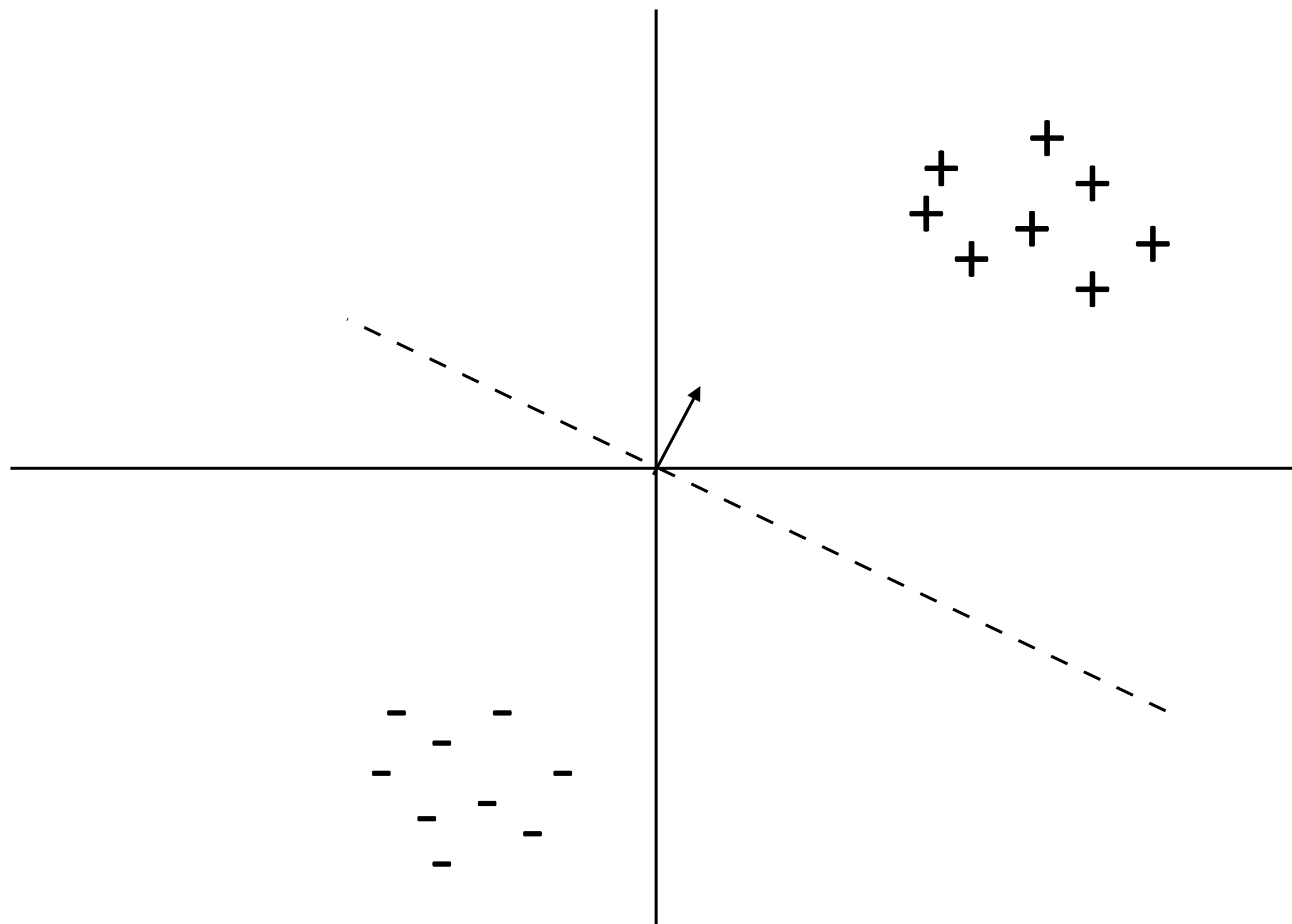
# This Lecture

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- ▶ Multiclass fundamentals
- ▶ Feature extraction
- ▶ Multiclass logistic regression
- ▶ Optimization

# Multiclass Classification


- ▶ Binary classification: one weight vector defines both classes
- ▶ Multiclass classification: different weights and/or features per class





# Multiclass Classification

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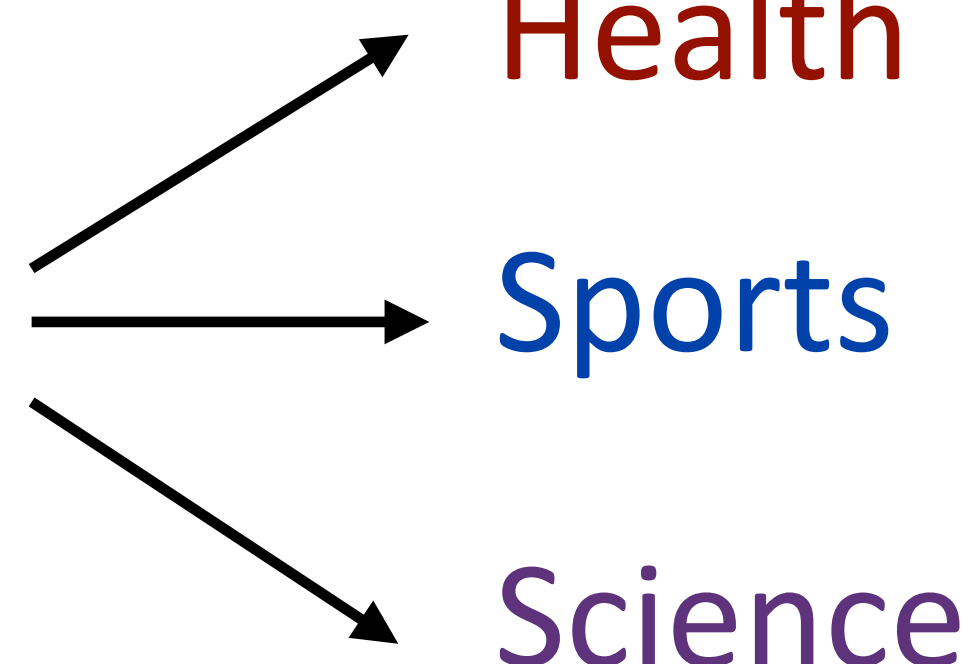
- ▶ Formally: instead of two labels, we have an output space  $\mathcal{Y}$  containing a number of possible classes
- ▶ Same machinery that we'll use later for exponentially large output spaces, including sequences and trees
- ▶ Decision rule:  $\operatorname{argmax}_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} w^\top f(x, y)$   features depend on choice of label now! note: this isn't the gold label
- ▶ Multiple feature vectors, one weight vector
- ▶ Can also have one weight vector per class:  $\operatorname{argmax}_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} w_y^\top f(x)$
- ▶ The single weight vector approach will generalize to structured output spaces, whereas per-class weight vectors won't

# Feature Extraction

# Block Feature Vectors

- ▶ Decision rule:  $\operatorname{argmax}_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} w^\top f(x, y)$

*too many drug trials, too few patients*



Health  
Sports  
Science

- ▶ Base feature function:

$$f(x) = \text{I}[\text{contains } drug], \text{I}[\text{contains } patients], \text{I}[\text{contains } baseball] = [1, 1, 0]$$

feature vector blocks for each label

$$f(x, y = \text{Health}) = [1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0]$$

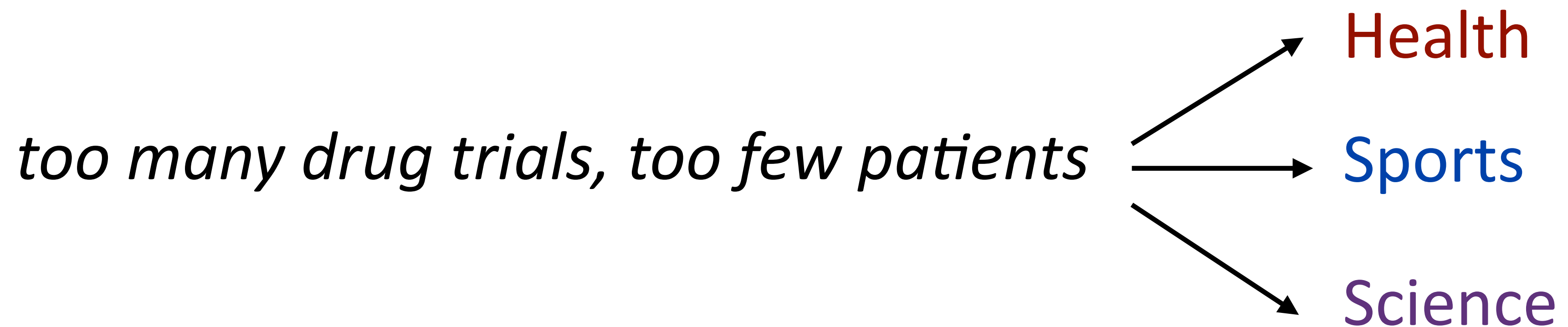

I[contains *drug* & label = Health]

$$f(x, y = \text{Sports}) = [0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0]$$

$$f(x, y = \text{Science}) = [0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0]$$

- ▶ Equivalent to having three weight vectors in this case

# Making Decisions



$f(x) = \text{I}[\text{contains } drug], \text{I}[\text{contains } patients], \text{I}[\text{contains } baseball]$

$$f(x, y = \text{Health}) = [1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0]$$

$$f(x, y = \text{Sports}) = [0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0]$$

$$f(x, y = \text{Science}) = [0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0]$$

$$w = [+2.1, +2.3, -5, -2.1, -3.8, 0, +1.1, -1.7, -1.3]$$

$$w^\top f(x, y) = \text{Health: } +4.4 \quad \text{Sports: } -5.9 \quad \text{Science: } -0.6$$

↖ argmax

“word drug in Science article” = +1.1



# Multiclass Logistic Regression

# Multiclass Logistic Regression

Softmax  
function



$$P_w(y|x) = \frac{\exp(w^\top f(x, y))}{\sum_{y' \in \mathcal{Y}} \exp(w^\top f(x, y'))}$$

sum over output  
space to normalize

► Compare to binary:

$$P(y = 1|x) = \frac{\exp(w^\top f(x))}{1 + \exp(w^\top f(x))}$$

negative class implicitly had  
 $f(x, y=0) = \text{the zero vector}$

# Multiclass Logistic Regression

$$P_w(y|x) = \frac{\exp(w^\top f(x, y))}{\sum_{y' \in \mathcal{Y}} \exp(w^\top f(x, y'))}$$

sum over output  
space to normalize

Why? Interpret raw classifier scores as **probabilities**

*too many drug trials,  
too few patients*

Health: +2.2

Sports: +3.1

Science: -0.6

$w^\top f(x, y)$

probabilities  
must be  $\geq 0$

6.05  
22.2  
0.55

unnormalized  
probabilities

exp  
→

normalize  
→

probabilities  
must sum to 1

0.21  
0.77  
0.02

$P_w(y|x)$

# Multiclass Logistic Regression

---

$$P_w(y|x) = \frac{\exp(w^\top f(x, y))}{\sum_{y' \in \mathcal{Y}} \exp(w^\top f(x, y'))}$$

sum over output  
space to normalize

i.e. minimize negative log likelihood  
or cross-entropy loss

► Training: maximize  $\mathcal{L}(x, y) = \sum_{j=1}^m \log P(y_j^* | x_j)$

index of data points ( $j$ )

$$= \sum_{j=1}^m \left( w^\top f(x_j, y_j^*) - \log \sum_y \exp(w^\top f(x_j, y)) \right)$$



# Multiclass Logistic Regression

$$P_w(y|x) = \frac{\exp(w^\top f(x, y))}{\sum_{y' \in \mathcal{Y}} \exp(w^\top f(x, y'))}$$

sum over output  
space to normalize

Q: max/min of log prob.?

*too many drug trials,  
too few patients*

Health: +2.2

Sports: +3.1

Science: -0.6

$w^\top f(x, y)$

probabilities  
must be  $\geq 0$

6.05  
22.2  
0.55

unnormalized  
probabilities

exp



normalize



probabilities  
must sum to 1

0.21  
0.77  
0.02

$P_w(y|x)$

$\log(0.21) = -1.56$

compare



$\mathcal{L}(x_j, y_j^*) = \log P(y_j^*|x_j)$

1.00

0.00

0.00

correct (gold)  
probabilities

# Training

► Multiclass logistic regression  $P_w(y|x) = \frac{\exp(w^\top f(x, y))}{\sum_{y' \in \mathcal{Y}} \exp(w^\top f(x, y'))}$

► Likelihood  $\mathcal{L}(x_j, y_j^*) = w^\top f(x_j, y_j^*) - \log \sum_y \exp(w^\top f(x_j, y))$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial w_i} \mathcal{L}(x_j, y_j^*) = f_i(x_j, y_j^*) - \frac{\sum_y f_i(x_j, y) \exp(w^\top f(x_j, y))}{\sum_y \exp(w^\top f(x_j, y))}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial w_i} \mathcal{L}(x_j, y_j^*) = f_i(x_j, y_j^*) - \sum_y f_i(x_j, y) P_w(y|x_j)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial w_i} \mathcal{L}(x_j, y_j^*) = f_i(x_j, y_j^*) - \mathbb{E}_y[f_i(x_j, y)]$$

gold feature value

model's expectation of feature value

# Training

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$$\frac{\partial}{\partial w_i} \mathcal{L}(x_j, y_j^*) = f_i(x_j, y_j^*) - \sum_y f_i(x_j, y) P_w(y|x_j)$$

*too many drug trials, too few patients*

$y^* = \text{Health}$

$$f(x, y = \text{Health}) = [1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0]$$

$$f(x, y = \text{Sports}) = [0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0]$$

$$f(x, y = \text{Science}) = [0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0]$$

$$P_w(y|x) = [0.21, 0.77, 0.02]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{gradient: } [1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0] &- 0.21 [1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0] \\ &- 0.77 [0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0] - 0.02 [0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 1, 1, 0] \end{aligned}$$

$$= [0.79, 0.79, 0, -0.77, -0.77, 0, -0.02, -0.02, 0]$$

update  $w^\top$ :

$$[1.3, 0.9, -5, 3.2, -0.1, 0, 1.1, -1.7, -1.3] + [0.79, 0.79, 0, -0.77, -0.77, 0, -0.02, -0.02, 0]$$

$$= [2.09, 1.69, 0, 2.43, -0.87, 0, 1.08, -1.72, 0]$$

$$\curvearrowright \text{new } P_w(y|x) = [0.89, 0.10, 0.01]$$

# Multiclass Logistic Regression: Summary

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- ▶ Model:  $P_w(y|x) = \frac{\exp(w^\top f(x, y))}{\sum_{y' \in \mathcal{Y}} \exp(w^\top f(x, y'))}$
- ▶ Inference:  $\operatorname{argmax}_y P_w(y|x)$
- ▶ Learning: gradient ascent on the discriminative log-likelihood

$$f(x, y^*) - \mathbb{E}_y[f(x, y)] = f(x, y^*) - \sum_y [P_w(y|x) f(x, y)]$$

“towards gold feature value, away from expectation of feature value”

# Multiclass SVM

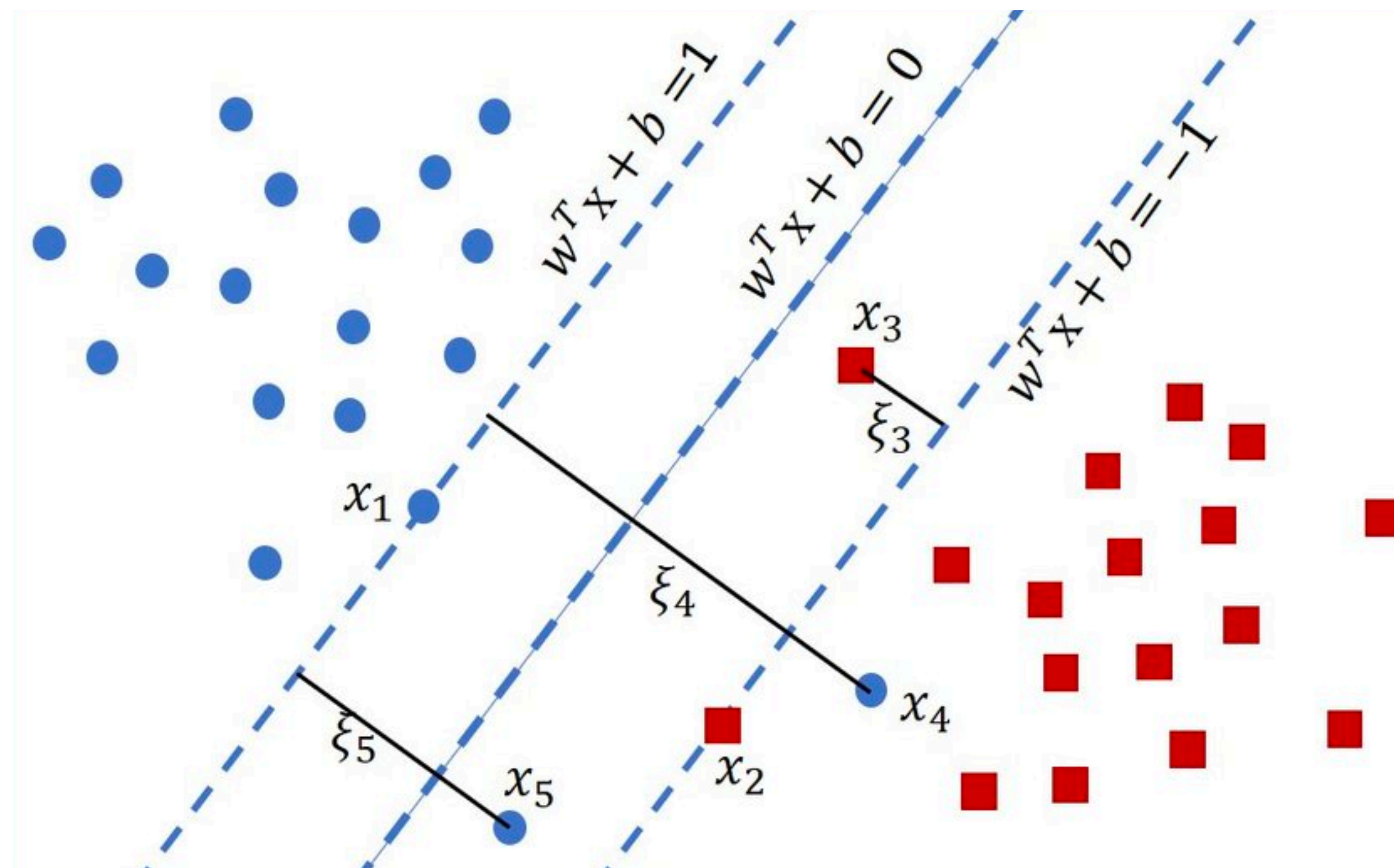
# Soft Margin SVM

$$\text{Minimize } \lambda \|w\|_2^2 + \sum_{j=1}^m \xi_j$$

← slack variables  $> 0$  iff example is support vector

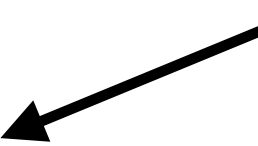
$$\text{s.t. } \forall j \quad \xi_j \geq 0$$

$$\forall j \quad (2y_j - 1)(w^\top x_j) \geq 1 - \xi_j$$





# Multiclass SVM

Minimize  $\lambda \|w\|_2^2 + \sum_{j=1}^m \xi_j$   slack variables  $> 0$  iff  
example is support vector

s.t.  $\forall j \quad \xi_j \geq 0$

~~$\forall j \quad (2y_j - 1)(w^\top x_j) \geq 1 - \xi_j$~~

$\forall j \forall y \in \mathcal{Y} \quad w^\top f(x_j, y_j^*) \geq w^\top f(x_j, y) + \ell(y, y_j^*) - \xi_j$

Correct prediction now  
has to beat every other  
class

Score comparison  
is more explicit  
now

The 1 that was here is  
replaced by a loss  
function

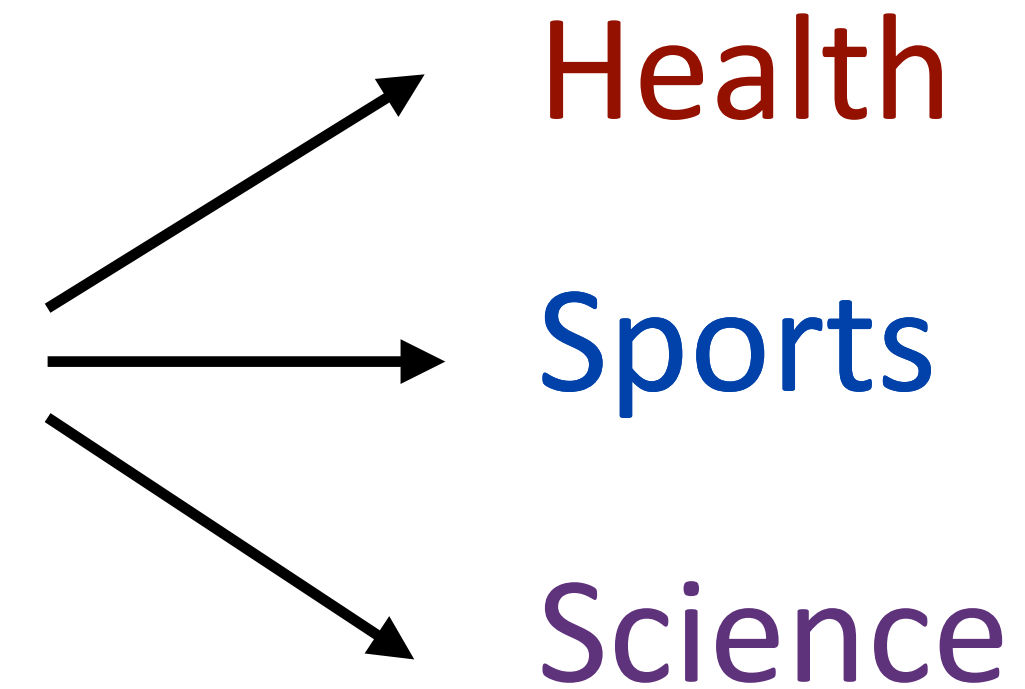


# Training (loss-augmented)

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- ▶ Are all decisions equally costly?

*too many drug trials, too few patients*



Predicted **Sports**: bad error

Predicted **Science**: not so bad

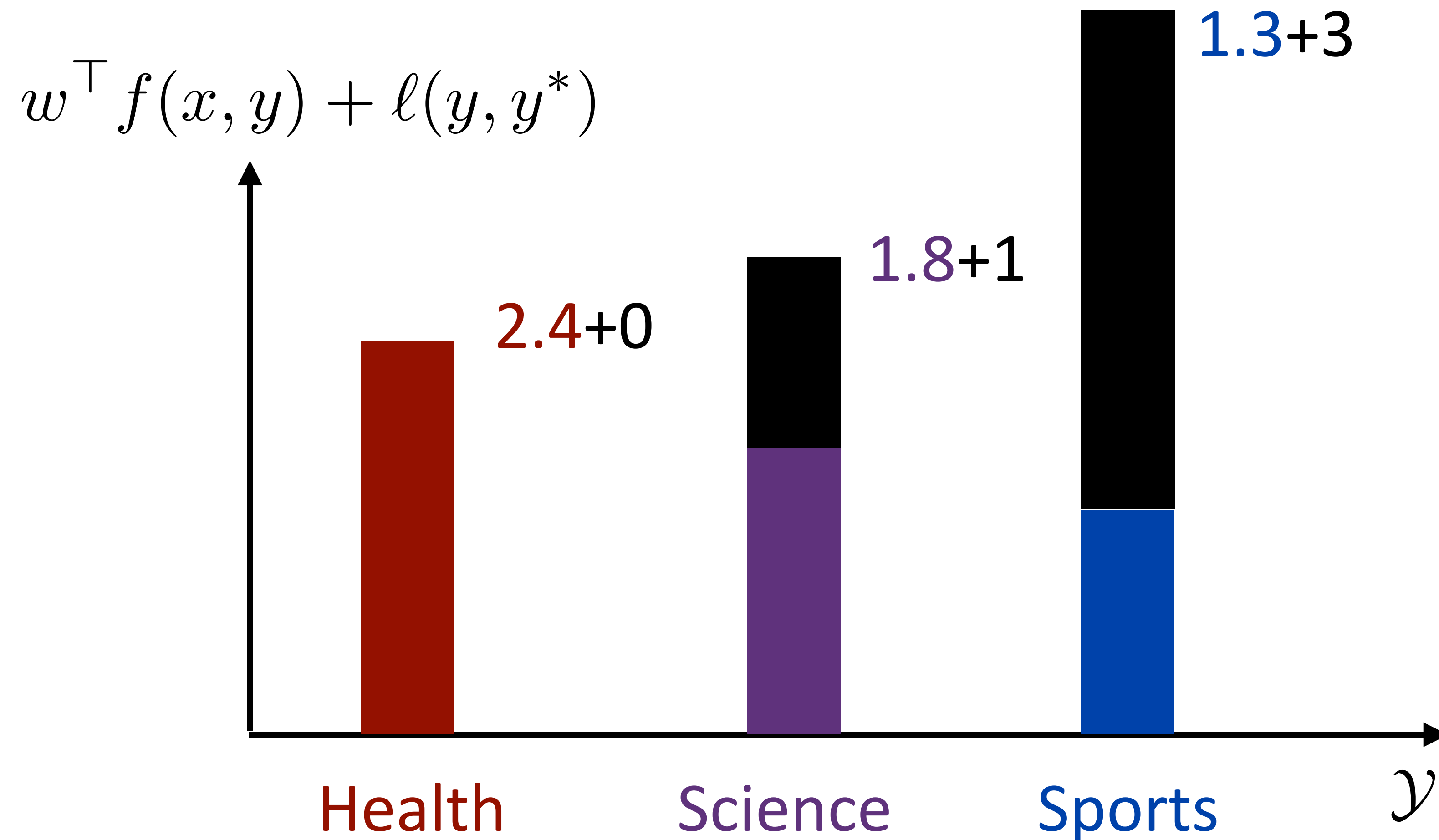
- ▶ We can define a loss function  $\ell(y, y^*)$

$$\ell(\text{Sports}, \text{Health}) = 3$$

$$\ell(\text{Science}, \text{Health}) = 1$$

# Loss-Augmented Decoding

$$\forall j \forall y \in \mathcal{Y} \quad w^\top f(x_j, y_j^*) \geq w^\top f(x_j, y) + \ell(y, y_j^*) - \xi_j$$



- ▶ Does gold beat every label + loss? No!
- ▶ Most violated constraint is **Sports**; what is  $\xi_j$ ?
- ▶  $\xi_j = 4.3 - 2.4 = 1.9$
- ▶ Perceptron would make no update here

# Loss-Augmented Decoding

$$\xi_j = \max_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \boxed{w^\top f(x_j, y) + \ell(y, y_j^*)} - w^\top f(x_j, y_j^*)$$

*too many drug trials, too few patients*    **Health**

	$w^\top f(x, y)$	Loss	Total	
<b>Health</b>	<b>+2.4</b>	0	2.4	
<b>Sports</b>	<b>+1.3</b>	3	4.3	← argmax
<b>Science</b>	<b>+1.8</b>	1	2.8	

- ▶ **Sports** is most violated constraint, slack =  $4.3 - 2.4 = 1.9$
- ▶ Perceptron would make no update, regular SVM would pick Science

# Multiclass SVM

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{Minimize } \lambda \|w\|_2^2 + \sum_{j=1}^m \xi_j \\ &\text{s.t. } \forall j \quad \xi_j \geq 0 \\ &\quad \forall j \forall y \in \mathcal{Y} \quad w^\top f(x_j, y_j^*) \geq w^\top f(x_j, y) + \ell(y, y_j^*) - \xi_j \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ One slack variable per example, so it's set to be whatever the *most violated constraint* is for that example

$$\xi_j = \max_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \boxed{w^\top f(x_j, y) + \ell(y, y_j^*)} - w^\top f(x_j, y_j^*)$$

- ▶ Plug in the gold  $y$  and you get 0, so slack is always nonnegative!

# Computing the Subgradient

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{Minimize } \lambda \|w\|_2^2 + \sum_{j=1}^m \xi_j \\ &\text{s.t. } \forall j \quad \xi_j \geq 0 \\ &\quad \forall j \forall y \in \mathcal{Y} \quad w^\top f(x_j, y_j^*) \geq w^\top f(x_j, y) + \ell(y, y_j^*) - \xi_j \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ If  $\xi_j = 0$ , the example is not a support vector, gradient is zero
- ▶ Otherwise,  $\xi_j = \max_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} w^\top f(x_j, y) + \ell(y, y_j^*) - w^\top f(x_j, y_j^*)$   
 $\frac{\partial}{\partial w_i} \xi_j = f_i(x_j, y_{\max}) - f_i(x_j, y_j^*) \leftarrow$  (update looks backwards — we're minimizing here!)
- ▶ Perceptron-like, but we update away from \*loss-augmented\* prediction

# Putting it Together

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{Minimize } \lambda \|w\|_2^2 + \sum_{j=1}^m \xi_j \\ &\text{s.t. } \forall j \quad \xi_j \geq 0 \\ &\quad \forall j \forall y \in \mathcal{Y} \quad w^\top f(x_j, y_j^*) \geq w^\top f(x_j, y) + \ell(y, y_j^*) - \xi_j \end{aligned}$$

► (Unregularized) gradients:

► SVM:  $f(x, y^*) - f(x, y_{\max})$  (loss-augmented max)

► Log reg:  $f(x, y^*) - \mathbb{E}_y[f(x, y)] = f(x, y^*) - \sum_y [P_w(y|x) f(x, y)]$

► SVM: max over  $y$ s to compute gradient. LR: need to sum over  $y$ s



# Entity Linking

Although he originally won the event, the United States Anti-Doping Agency announced in August 2012 that they had disqualified **Armstrong** from his seven consecutive Tour de France wins from 1999–2005.



Lance Edward Armstrong is an American former professional road cyclist



Armstrong County is a county in Pennsylvania...

- ▶ 4.5M classes, not enough data to learn features like “Tour de France <-> en/wiki/Lance\_Armstrong”
- ▶ Instead, features  $f(x, y)$  look at the actual article associated with  $y$



# Entity Linking

Although he originally won the event, the United States Anti-Doping Agency announced in August 2012 that they had disqualified **Armstrong** from his seven consecutive Tour de France wins from 1999–2005.



Lance Edward Armstrong



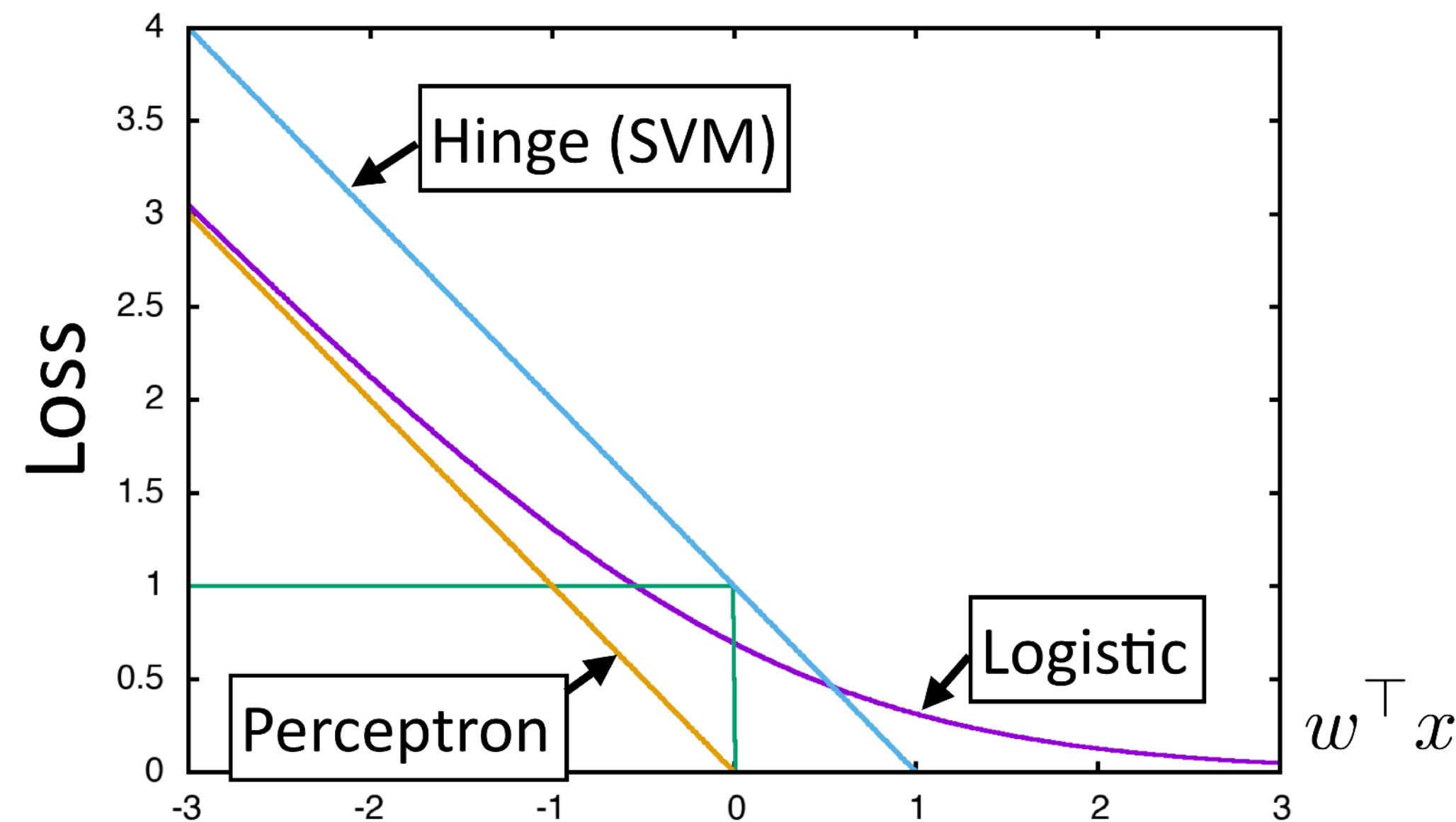
Armstrong County

- ▶  $\text{tf-idf}(\text{doc}, w) = \text{freq of } w \text{ in doc} * \log(4.5\text{M}/\# \text{ Wiki articles } w \text{ occurs in})$ 
  - ▶ *the*: occurs in every article,  $\text{tf-idf} = 0$
  - ▶ *cyclist*: occurs in 1% of articles,  $\text{tf-idf} = \# \text{ occurrences} * \log_{10}(100)$
- ▶  $\text{tf-idf}(\text{doc}) = \text{vector of } \text{tf-idf}(\text{doc}, w) \text{ for all words in vocabulary (50,000)}$
- ▶  $f(x, y) = [\cos(\text{tf-idf}(x), \text{tf-idf}(y)), \dots \text{other features}]$

# Optimization

# Recap

- ▶ Four elements of a machine learning method:
  - ▶ Model: probabilistic, max-margin, deep neural network
  - ▶ Objective:



- ▶ Inference: just maxes and simple expectations so far, but will get harder
- ▶ Training: gradient descent?

# Optimization

- ▶ Gradient descent
  - ▶ **Batch update** for logistic regression
  - ▶ Each update is based on a computation over the entire dataset

## Multiclass Logistic Regression

$$P_w(y|x) = \frac{\exp(w^\top f(x, y))}{\sum_{y' \in \mathcal{Y}} \exp(w^\top f(x, y'))}$$

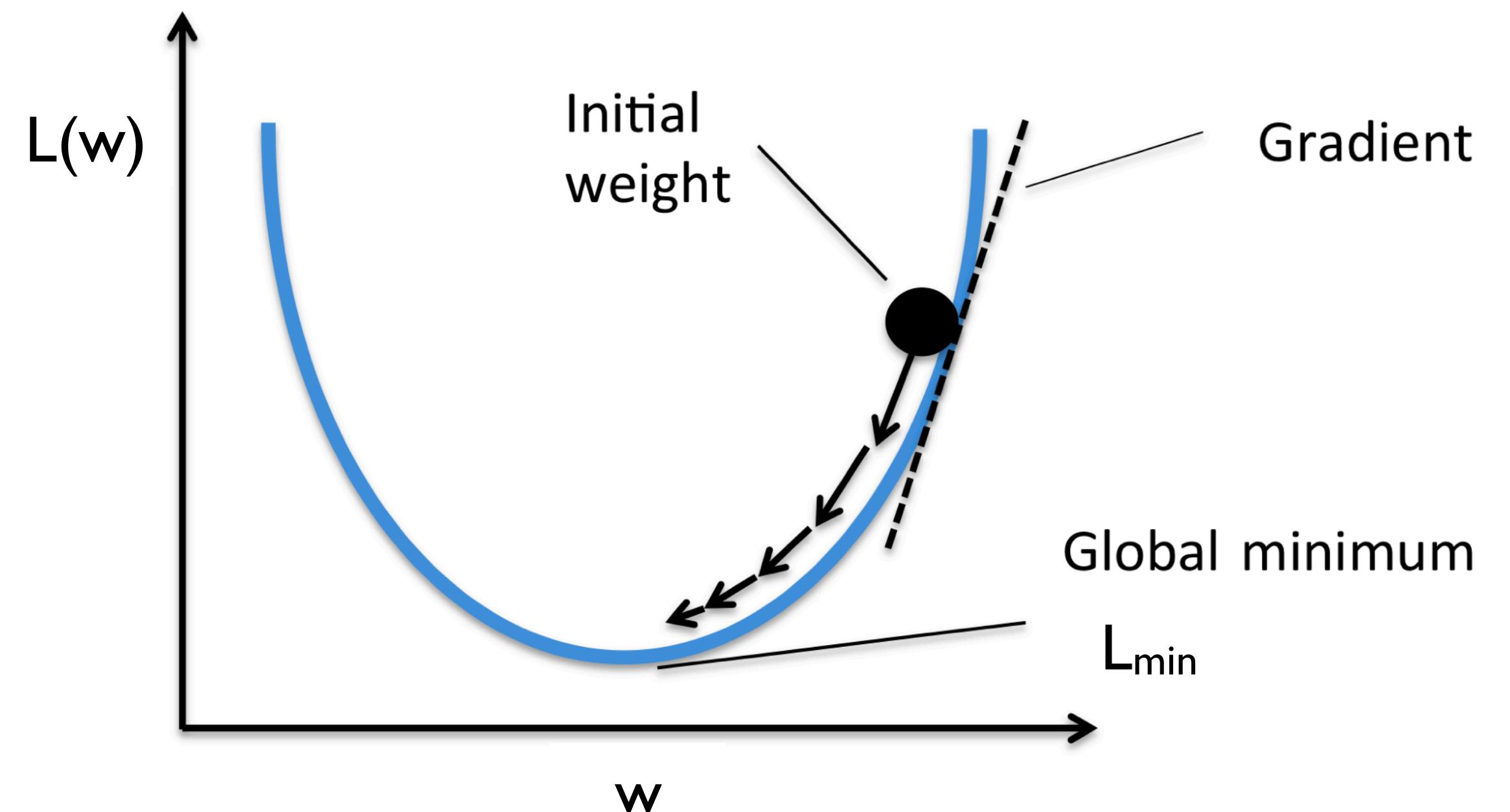
sum over output  
space to normalize

i.e. minimize negative log likelihood  
or cross-entropy loss

▶ Training: maximize  $\mathcal{L}(x, y) = \sum_{j=1}^m \log P(y_j^* | x_j)$

index of data points ( $j$ )

$$= \sum_{j=1}^m \left( w^\top f(x_j, y_j^*) - \log \sum_y \exp(w^\top f(x_j, y)) \right)$$



# Optimization

- ▶ Gradient descent
  - ▶ **Batch update** for logistic regression
  - ▶ Each update is based on a computation over the entire dataset

## Multiclass Logistic Regression

$$P_w(y|x) = \frac{\exp(w^\top f(x, y))}{\sum_{y' \in \mathcal{Y}} \exp(w^\top f(x, y'))}$$

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▶ Training: maximize  $\mathcal{L}(x, y) = \sum_{j=1}^m \log P(y_j^* | x_j)$

index of data points ( $j$ )

$$= \sum_{j=1}^m \left( w^\top f(x_j, y_j^*) - \log \sum_y \exp(w^\top f(x_j, y)) \right)$$

- ▶ Very simple to code up

```
# Vanilla Gradient Descent
```

```
while True:
```

```
    weights_grad = evaluate_gradient(loss_fun, data, weights)
```

```
    weights += - step_size * weights_grad # perform parameter update
```

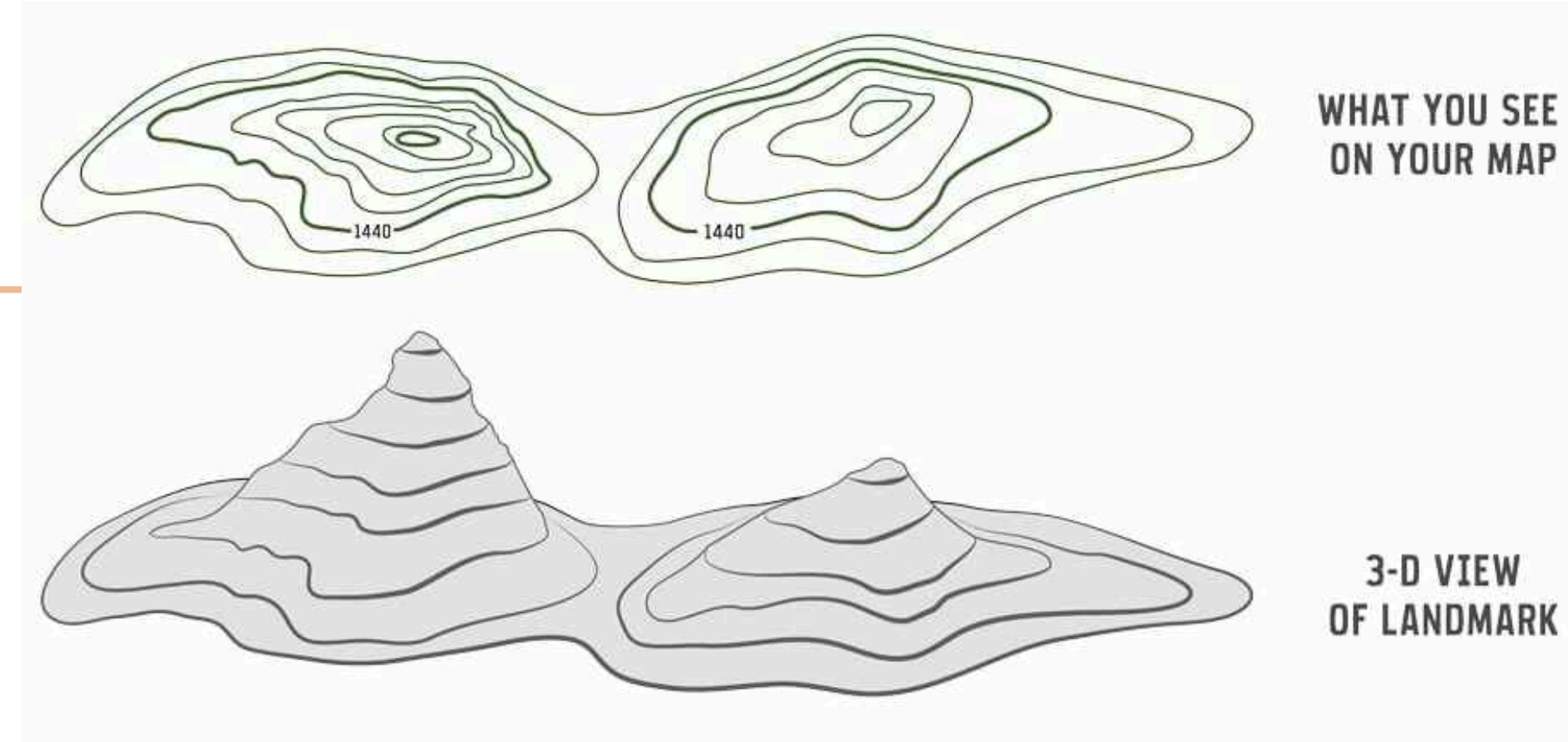


# Optimization

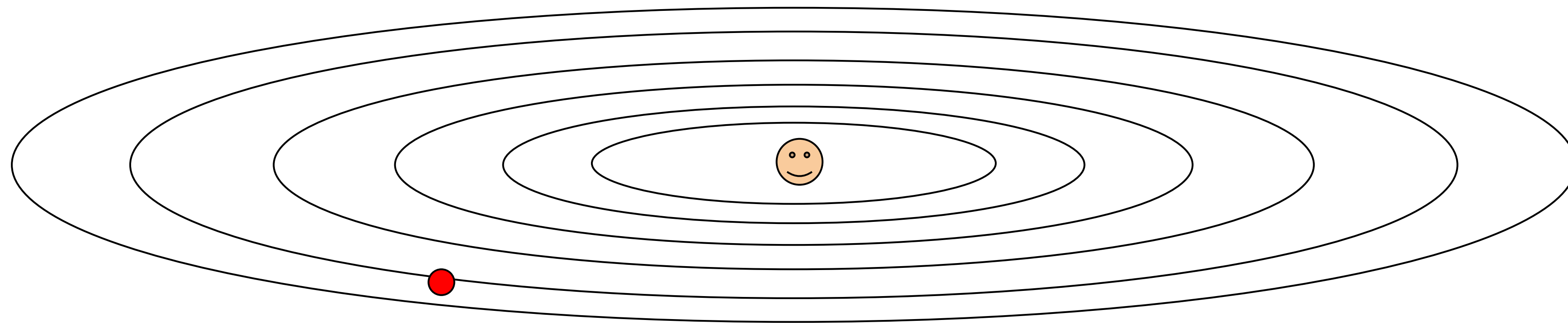
- ▶ **Stochastic gradient descent**

$$w \leftarrow w - \alpha g, \quad g = \frac{\partial}{\partial w} \mathcal{L}$$

- ▶ Approx. gradient is computed on a single instance



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



contour plot

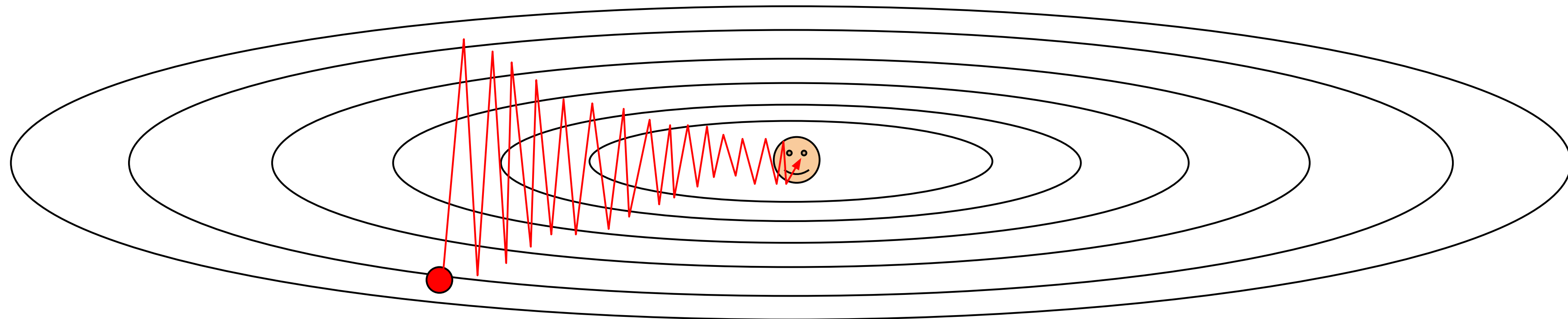
# Optimization

- ▶ **Stochastic** gradient descent

$$w \leftarrow w - \alpha g, \quad g = \frac{\partial}{\partial w} \mathcal{L}$$

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





# Optimization

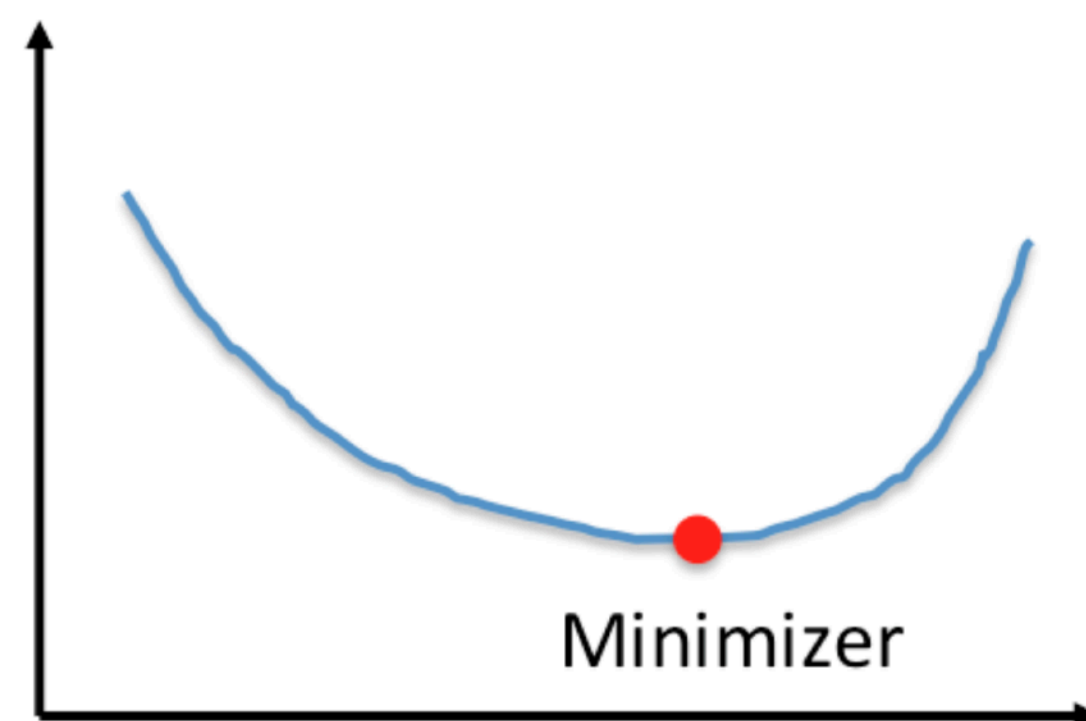
- ▶ **Stochastic gradient descent**

$$w \leftarrow w - \alpha g, \quad g = \frac{\partial}{\partial w} \mathcal{L}$$

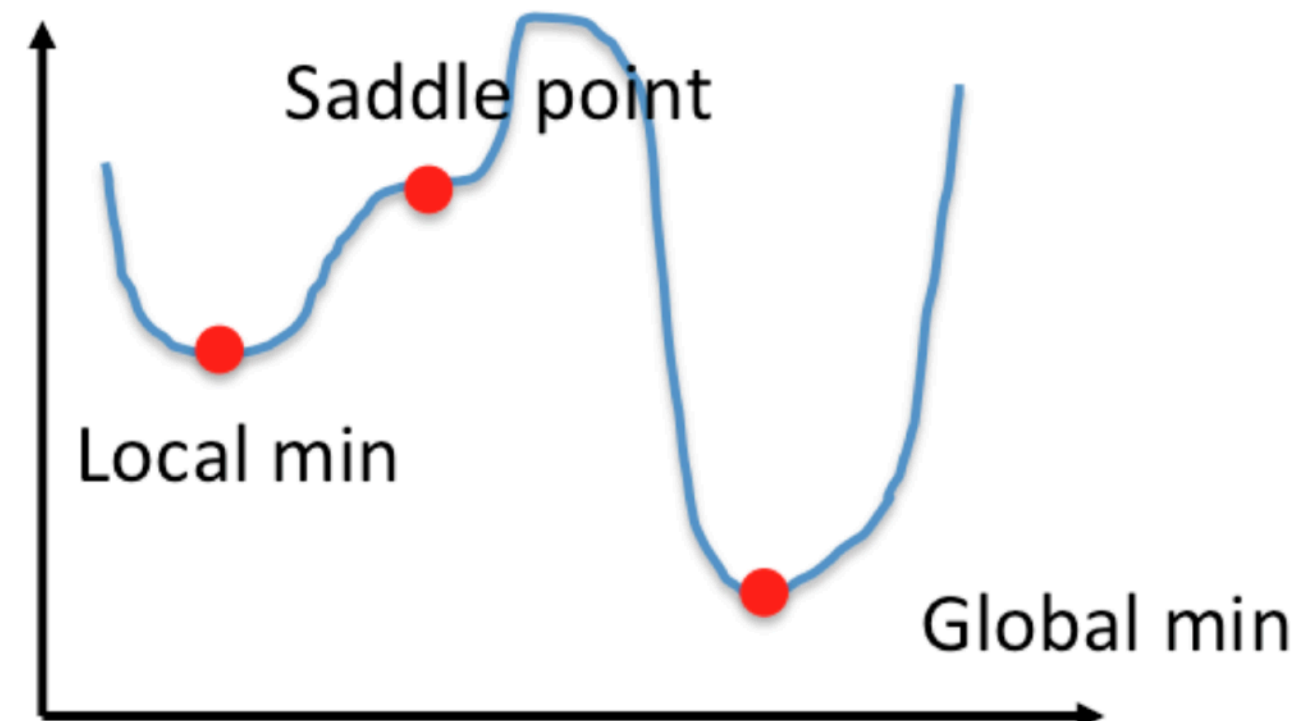
- ▶ Very simple to code up

- ▶ What if the loss function has a local minima or saddle point?

**Convex**



**Non-Convex**



“Identifying and attacking the saddle point problem in high-dimensional non-convex optimization”

Dauphin et al. (2014)

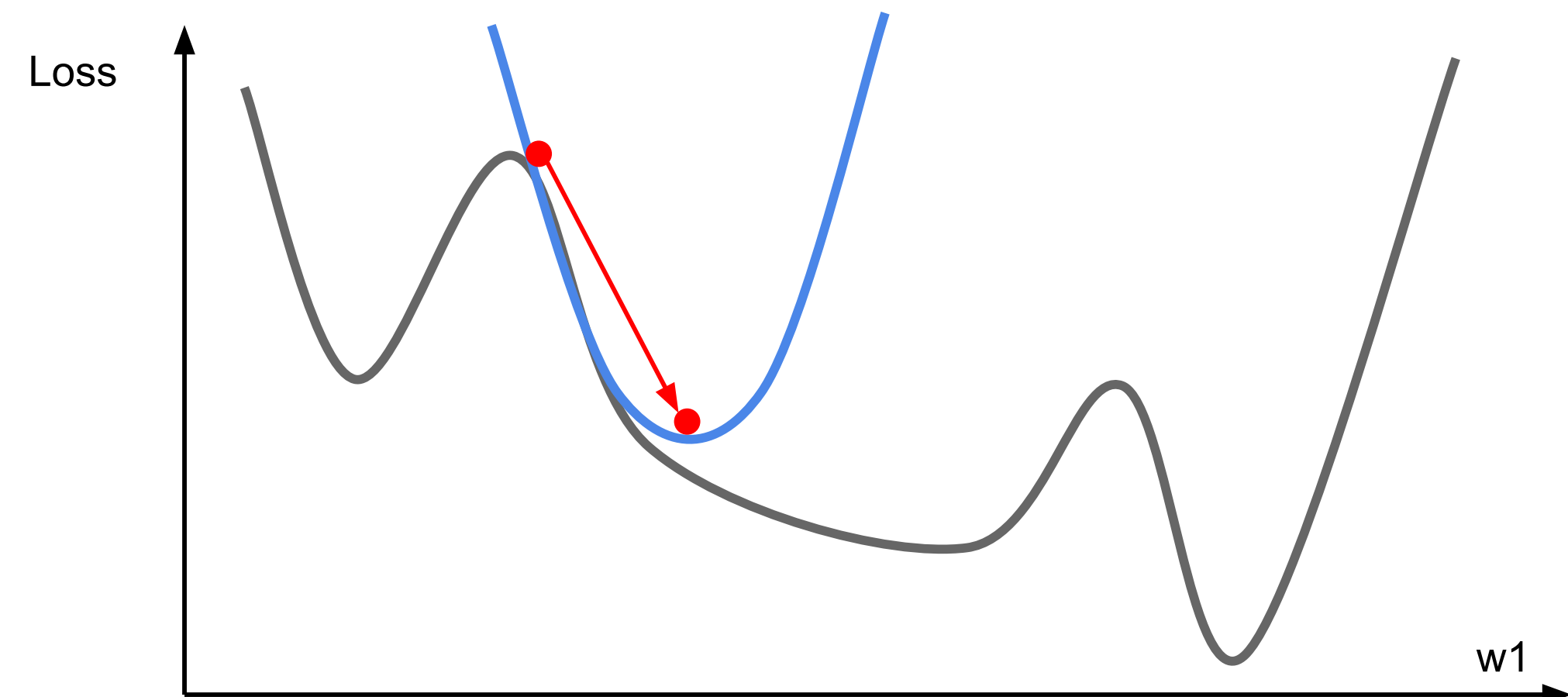
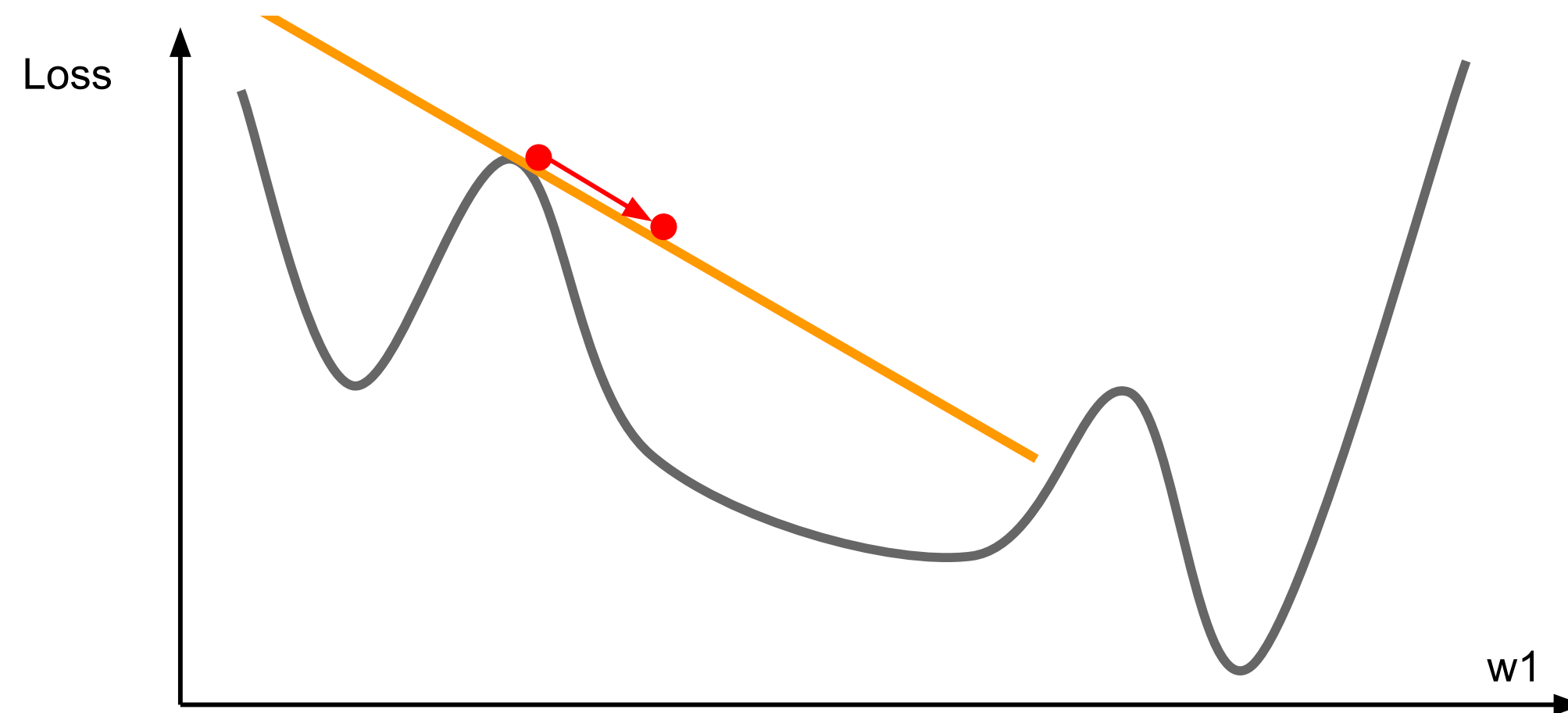
# Optimization

- ▶ Stochastic gradient descent

- ▶ Very simple to code up

- ▶ “First-order” technique: only relies on having gradient

$$w \leftarrow w - \alpha g, \quad g = \frac{\partial}{\partial w} \mathcal{L}$$



# Optimization (extracurricular)

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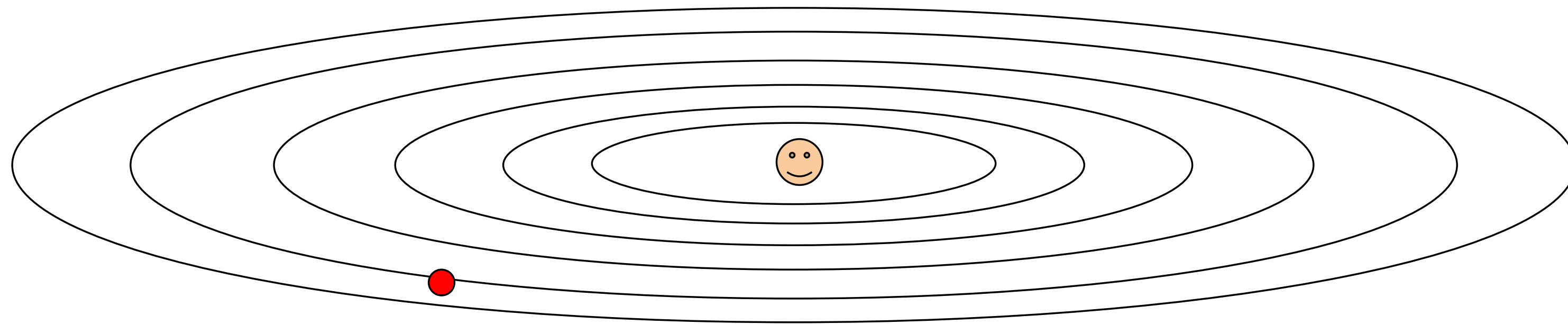
- ▶ Stochastic gradient descent
$$w \leftarrow w - \alpha g, \quad g = \frac{\partial}{\partial w} \mathcal{L}$$
  - ▶ Very simple to code up
  - ▶ “First-order” technique: only relies on having gradient
  - ▶ Setting step size is hard (decrease when held-out performance worsens?)
- ▶ Newton’s method
$$w \leftarrow w - \left( \frac{\partial^2}{\partial w^2} \mathcal{L} \right)^{-1} g$$
  - ▶ Second-order technique
  - ▶ Optimizes quadratic instantly

Inverse Hessian:  $n \times n$  mat, expensive!
- ▶ Quasi-Newton methods: L-BFGS, etc. approximate inverse Hessian

# AdaGrad

- ▶ Optimized for problems with sparse features
- ▶ Per-parameter learning rate: smaller updates are made to parameters that get updated frequently

```
grad_squared = 0
while True:
    dx = compute_gradient(x)
    grad_squared += dx * dx
    x -= learning_rate * dx / (np.sqrt(grad_squared) + 1e-7)
```



# AdaGrad

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- ▶ Optimized for problems with sparse features
- ▶ Per-parameter learning rate: smaller updates are made to parameters that get updated frequently

$$w_i \leftarrow w_i + \alpha \frac{1}{\sqrt{\epsilon + \sum_{\tau=1}^t g_{\tau,i}^2}} g_{t,i}$$

← (smoothed) sum of squared gradients from all updates

- ▶ Generally more robust than SGD, requires less tuning of learning rate
- ▶ Other techniques for optimizing deep models — more later!

# Summary

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- ▶ Design tradeoffs need to reflect interactions:
  - ▶ Model and objective are coupled: probabilistic model  $\leftrightarrow$  maximize likelihood
  - ▶ ...but not always: a linear model or neural network can be trained to minimize any differentiable loss function
  - ▶ Inference governs what learning: need to be able to compute expectations to use logistic regression

# Next Up

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- ▶ You've now seen everything you need to implement multi-class classification models
- ▶ Next time: Neural Network Basics!
- ▶ In 2 weeks: Sequential Models (HMM, CRF, ... ) for POS tagging, NER