

# Optimization and Generalization for Deep Linear Neural Networks via Trajectories of Gradient Descent

**Nadav Cohen**

Tel Aviv University

*Princeton University, Computer Science Department*

*Theoretical Deep Learning Course (COS 597B)*

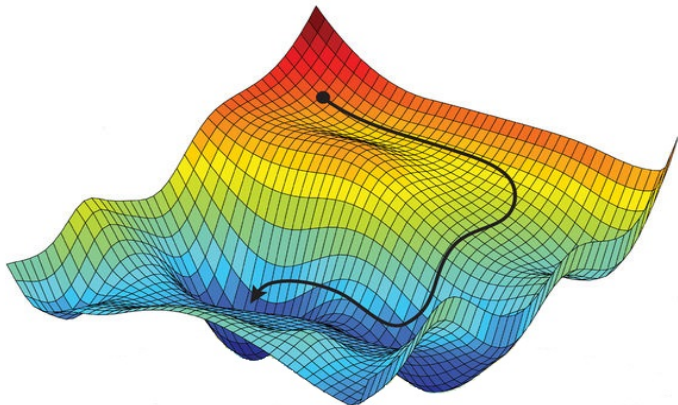
6 December 2019

# Outline

- 1 Optimization and Generalization in Deep Learning via Trajectories
- 2 Case Study: Linear Neural Networks
  - Trajectory Analysis
  - Optimization
  - Generalization
- 3 Conclusion

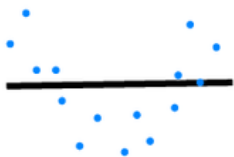
# Optimization

Fitting training data by minimizing an objective (loss) function



# Generalization

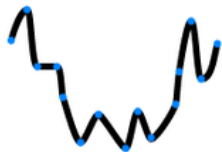
Controlling gap between train and test errors, e.g. by adding regularization term/constraint to objective



Underfitting

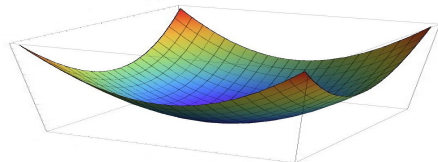


Desired



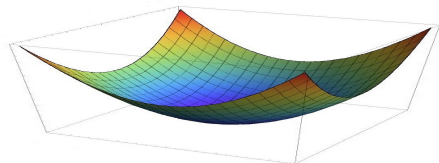
Overfitting

# Classical Machine Learning



**Theme:** make sure objective is **convex!**

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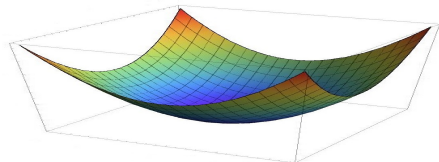


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- Single global minimum, efficiently attainable
- Choice of **algorithm affects only speed** of convergence

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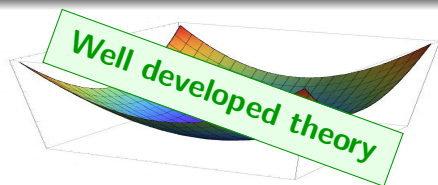
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## Generalization

**Bias-variance trade-off:**

<i>regularization</i>	<i>train/test gap</i>	<i>train err</i>
more	↘	↗
less	↗	↘

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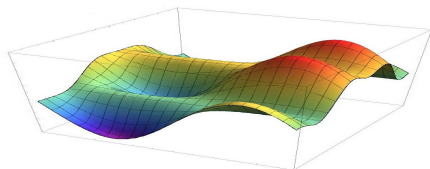
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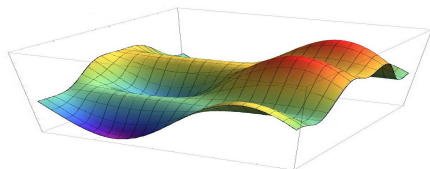


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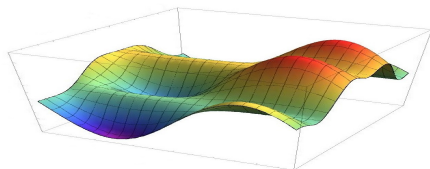


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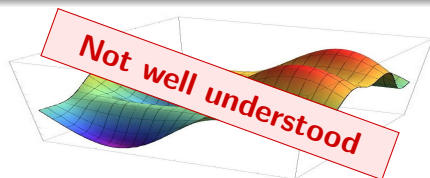
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# Analysis via Trajectories of Gradient Descent

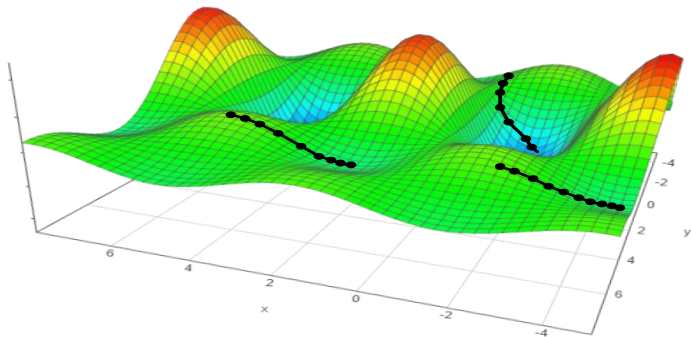
## Perspective

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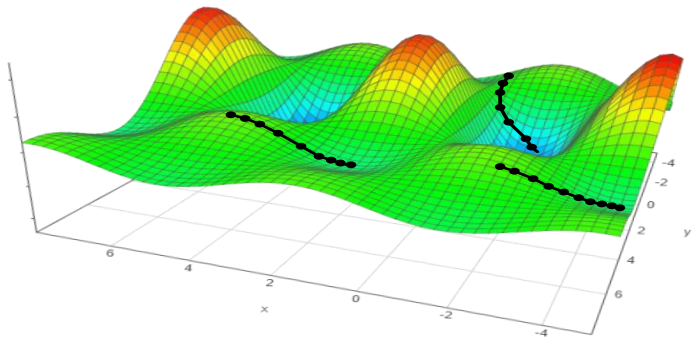
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We will demonstrate this for **deep linear neural networks**

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# Sources

## **On the Optimization of Deep Networks: Implicit Acceleration by Overparameterization**

Arora + C + Hazan

*International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML) 2018*

## **A Convergence Analysis of Gradient Descent for Deep Linear Neural Networks**

Arora + C + Golowich + Hu

*International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR) 2019*

## **Implicit Regularization in Deep Matrix Factorization**

Arora + C + Hu + Luo

*Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS) 2019*

# Collaborators



**Sanjeev Arora**



**Elad Hazan**



**PRINCETON  
UNIVERSITY**



**Yuping Luo**



**Wei Hu**

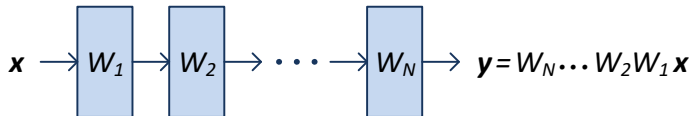


**Noah Golowich**



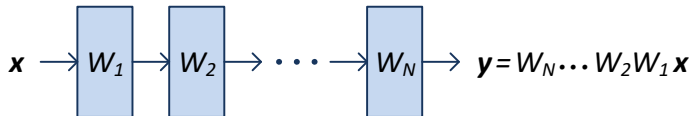
# Linear Neural Networks

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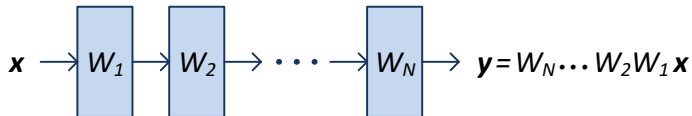
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Studied extensively as surrogate for non-linear neural networks:

- Saxe et al. 2014
- Kawaguchi 2016
- Advani & Saxe 2017
- Hardt & Ma 2017
- Laurent & Brecht 2018
- Gunasekar et al. 2018
- Ji & Telgarsky 2019
- Lampinen & Ganguli 2019

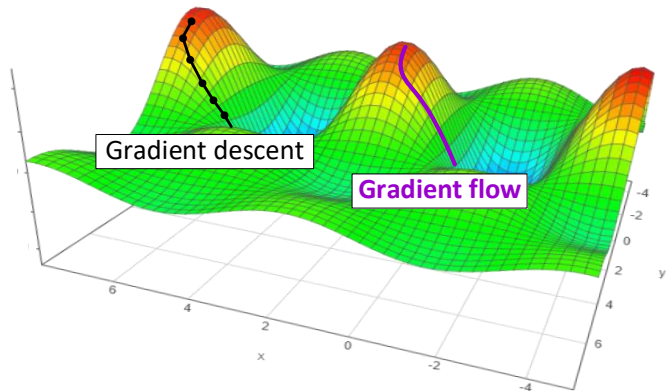
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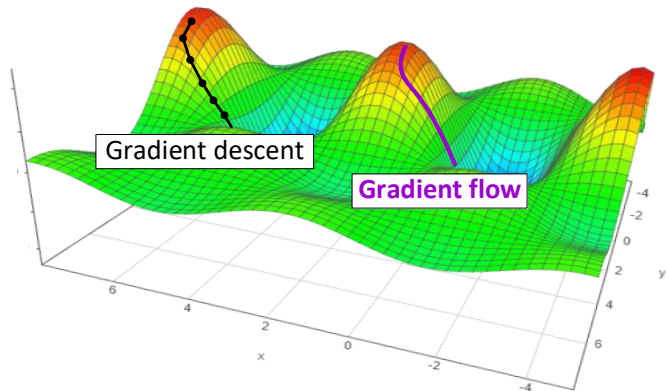
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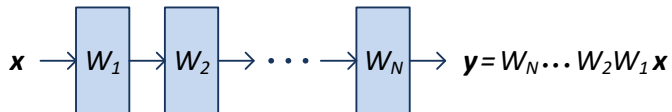
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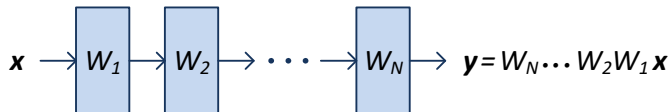
Admits use of theoretical tools from differential geometry/equations



# Balanced Trajectories



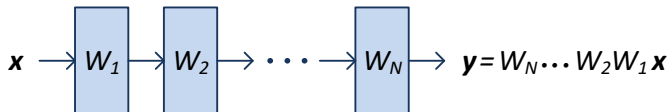
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Loss  $\ell(\cdot)$  for linear model induces **overparameterized objective** for LNN:

$$\phi(W_1, \dots, W_N) := \ell(W_N \cdots W_2 W_1)$$

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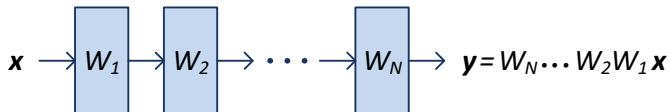
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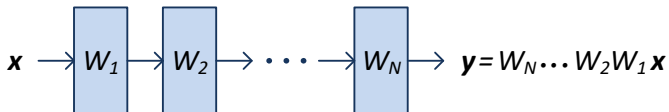
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Take transpose of eq, add to itself, and integrate (w.r.t.  $t$ ):

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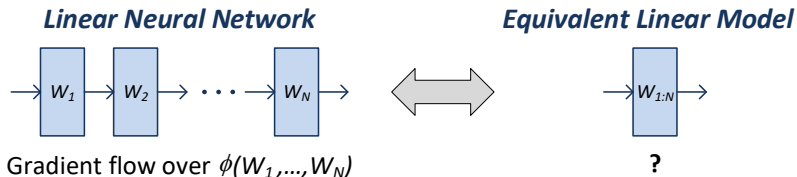
Balance at init  $\implies \text{const} = 0$



# Implicit Preconditioning

## Question

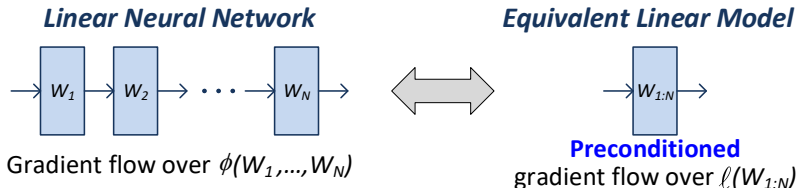
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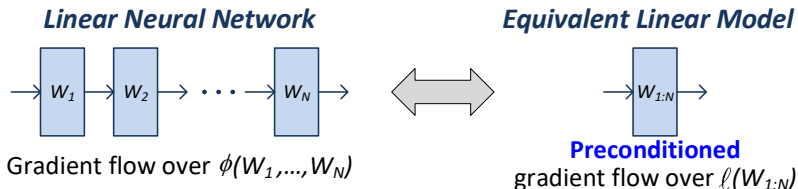
$$\frac{d}{dt} \text{vec} [W_{1:N}(t)] = -P_{W_{1:N}(t)} \cdot \text{vec} [\nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t))]$$

where  $P_{W_{1:N}(t)}$  is a preconditioner (PSD matrix) that “reinforces”  $W_{1:N}(t)$

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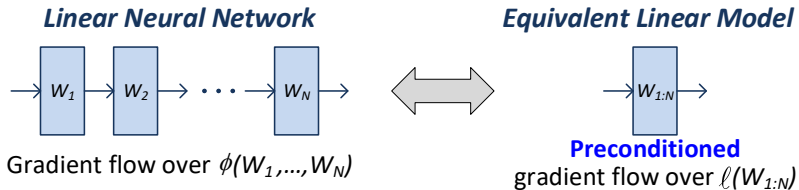
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$$P_{W_{1:N}(t)} \cdot \text{vec} [\nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t))] = \text{vec} \left[ \sum_{j=1}^N [W_{1:N}(t) W_{1:N}(t)^\top]^{\frac{N-j}{N}} \cdot \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)) \cdot [W_{1:N}(t)^\top W_{1:N}(t)]^{\frac{j-1}{N}} \right]$$

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**Adding (redundant) linear layers to classic linear model induces preconditioner promoting movement in directions already taken!**

# Implicit Preconditioning — Proof Sketch

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If  $W_1 \dots W_N$  are balanced at init,  $W_{1:N}$  follows **end-to-end dynamics**:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \text{vec} [W_{1:N}(t)] = -P_{W_{1:N}(t)} \cdot \text{vec} [\nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t))]$$

where  $P_{W_{1:N}(t)}$  is a preconditioner (PSD matrix) that “reinforces”  $W_{1:N}(t)$

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$$\text{SVD: } W_j(t) = U_j(t)S_j(t)V_j(t)^\top$$

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Vectorizing gives **end-to-end dynamics** (with closed-form expression for  $P_{W_{1:N}(t)}$ )

# Trajectories Cannot Be Emulated via Regularization

End-to-end dynamics (**implicit preconditioning**):

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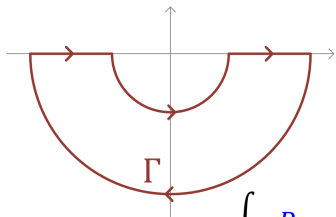
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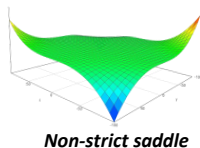
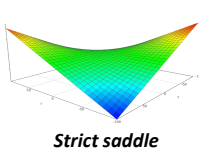
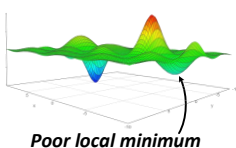
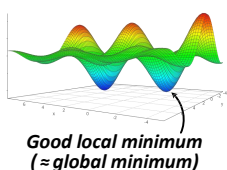
$$\int_{\Gamma} P_W \cdot \text{vec} [\nabla \ell(W)] \neq 0$$

# Outline

- 1 Optimization and Generalization in Deep Learning via Trajectories
- 2 Case Study: Linear Neural Networks
  - Trajectory Analysis
  - Optimization
  - Generalization
- 3 Conclusion

# Classic Approach: Characterization of Critical Points

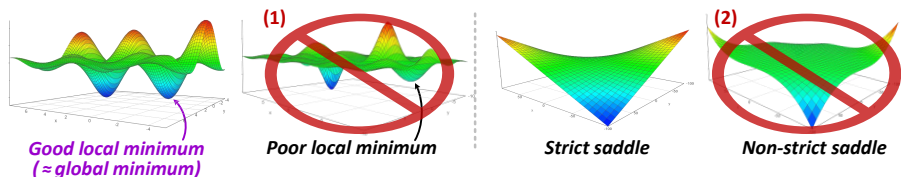
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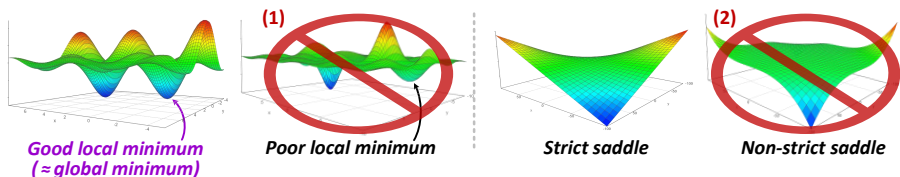


**Result** (cf. *Ge et al. 2015*; *Lee et al. 2016*)

If: **(1)** there are no poor local minima; and **(2)** all saddle points are strict, then **GD converges to global min**

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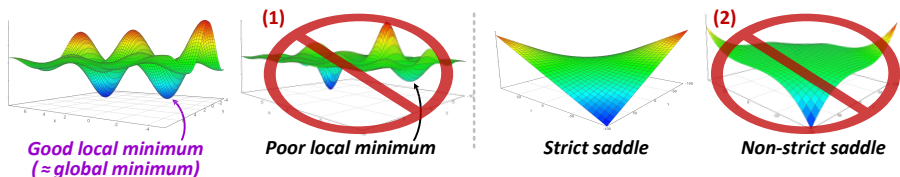
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**Limitation:** deep ( $\geq 3$  layer) models violate **(2)** (consider all weights = 0)!

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**Guarantee of efficient (linear rate) convergence to global min!**  
**Most general guarantee to date for GD efficiently training deep net.**

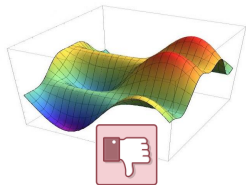
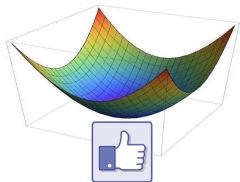
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## Viewpoint of classical learning theory:

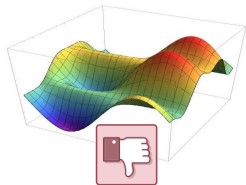
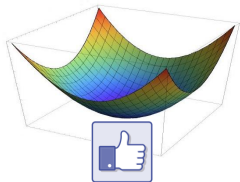
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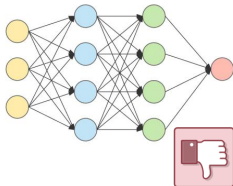
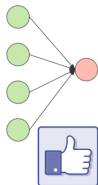
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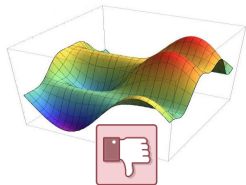
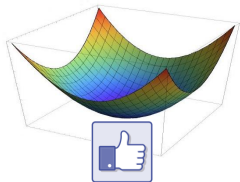
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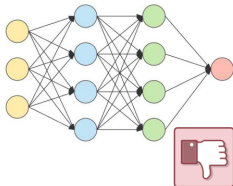
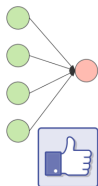
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**Our trajectory analysis reveals:** not always true...

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Discrete version of [end-to-end dynamics](#) for LNN:

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$$\text{vec}[W_{1:N}(t+1)] \leftarrow \text{vec}[W_{1:N}(t)] - \eta \cdot P_{W_{1:N}(t)} \cdot \text{vec}[\nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t))]$$

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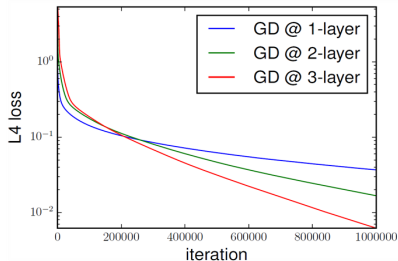
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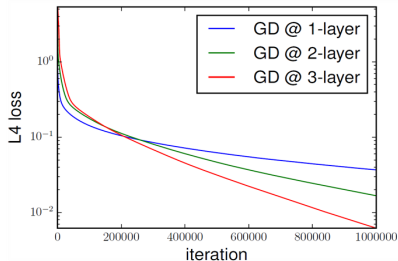
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**Depth can speed-up GD, even without any gain in expressiveness, and despite introducing non-convexity!**

# Outline

- 1 Optimization and Generalization in Deep Learning via Trajectories
- 2 Case Study: Linear Neural Networks
  - Trajectory Analysis
  - Optimization
  - Generalization
- 3 Conclusion

# Setting: Matrix Completion

**Matrix completion:** recover matrix given subset of entries

				
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**Classical Result** (*cf. Candes & Recht 2008*)

**Nuclear norm minimization** (convex program) **perfectly recovers** (“almost any”) low rank matrix **if observations are sufficiently many**

# Two-Layer Network $\longleftrightarrow$ Matrix Factorization

Matrix completion via two-layer LNN:

- Parameterize ground truth as  $W_2 W_1$

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Gunasekar et al. **proved conjecture for certain restricted setting**

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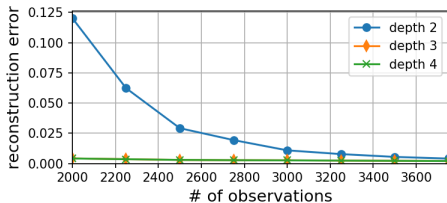
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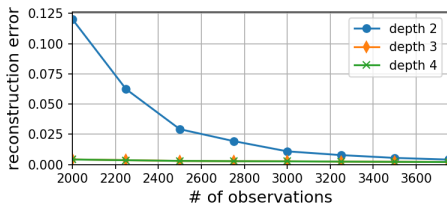
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**Depth enhanced implicit regularization towards low rank!**



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- $0 < p < 1$ : **closer to rank**, may correspond to **higher depths**

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**But our experiment shows depth changes implicit regularization!**

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- Correspondence, but can't distinguish between nuclear norm min and any bias leading to low rank

# Experiments Testing Nuclear Norm Conjecture (cont')

Few (2K) Observations:

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## Hypothesis

Single norm (or quasi-norm) not enough to capture implicit regularization,  
 detailed account for trajectories is needed

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- $N \geq 2$ : factors **speed up (slow down) large (small) singular vals**, more so for larger  $N$  (higher depth)



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$$\text{SVD: } W_{1:N}(t) = U(t)S(t)V(t)^\top \quad (S = \text{diag}(\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots) \quad U = [\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots] \quad V = [\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots])$$

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$$\frac{d}{dt}\sigma_r(t) = -N \cdot \sigma_r^{2 - \frac{2}{N}}(t) \cdot \langle \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)), \mathbf{u}_r(t) \mathbf{v}_r^\top(t) \rangle$$

## Proof Sketch

SVD:  $W_{1:N}(t) = U(t)S(t)V(t)^\top$  ( $S = \text{diag}(\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots)$   $U = [\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots]$   $V = [\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots]$ )

$$\implies \frac{d}{dt}W_{1:N}(t) = \frac{d}{dt}U(t) \cdot S(t) \cdot V(t)^\top + U(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt}S(t) \cdot V(t)^\top + U(t) \cdot S(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt}V(t)^\top$$

# Dynamics of Singular Values — Proof Sketch

## Theorem

$$\frac{d}{dt}\sigma_r(t) = -N \cdot \sigma_r^{2-\frac{2}{N}}(t) \cdot \langle \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)), \mathbf{u}_r(t)\mathbf{v}_r^\top(t) \rangle$$

## Proof Sketch

$$\text{SVD: } W_{1:N}(t) = U(t)S(t)V(t)^\top \quad (S = \text{diag}(\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots) \quad U = [\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots] \quad V = [\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots])$$

$$\implies \frac{d}{dt}W_{1:N}(t) = \frac{d}{dt}U(t) \cdot S(t) \cdot V(t)^\top + U(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt}S(t) \cdot V(t)^\top + U(t) \cdot S(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt}V(t)^\top$$

$$\implies U(t)^\top \cdot \frac{d}{dt}W_{1:N}(t) \cdot V(t) = U(t)^\top \cdot \frac{d}{dt}U(t) \cdot S(t) + \frac{d}{dt}S(t) + S(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt}V(t)^\top \cdot V(t)$$

# Dynamics of Singular Values — Proof Sketch

## Theorem

$$\frac{d}{dt}\sigma_r(t) = -N \cdot \sigma_r^{2 - \frac{2}{N}}(t) \cdot \langle \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)), \mathbf{u}_r(t) \mathbf{v}_r^\top(t) \rangle$$

## Proof Sketch

$$\text{SVD: } W_{1:N}(t) = U(t)S(t)V(t)^\top \quad (S = \text{diag}(\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots) \quad U = [\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots] \quad V = [\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots])$$

$$\implies \frac{d}{dt}W_{1:N}(t) = \frac{d}{dt}U(t) \cdot S(t) \cdot V(t)^\top + U(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt}S(t) \cdot V(t)^\top + U(t) \cdot S(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt}V(t)^\top$$

$$\implies U(t)^\top \cdot \frac{d}{dt}W_{1:N}(t) \cdot V(t) = U(t)^\top \cdot \frac{d}{dt}U(t) \cdot S(t) + \frac{d}{dt}S(t) + S(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt}V(t)^\top \cdot V(t)$$

End-to-end dynamics:

$$\frac{d}{dt}W_{1:N}(t) = -\sum_{j=1}^N \left[ W_{1:N}(t)W_{1:N}(t)^\top \right]^{\frac{N-j}{N}} \cdot \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)) \cdot \left[ W_{1:N}(t)^\top W_{1:N}(t) \right]^{\frac{j-1}{N}}$$

# Dynamics of Singular Values — Proof Sketch

## Theorem

$$\frac{d}{dt}\sigma_r(t) = -N \cdot \sigma_r^{2 - \frac{2}{N}}(t) \cdot \langle \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)), \mathbf{u}_r(t) \mathbf{v}_r^\top(t) \rangle$$

## Proof Sketch

$$\text{SVD: } W_{1:N}(t) = U(t)S(t)V(t)^\top \quad (S = \text{diag}(\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots) \quad U = [\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots] \quad V = [\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots])$$

$$\implies \frac{d}{dt} W_{1:N}(t) = \frac{d}{dt} U(t) \cdot S(t) \cdot V(t)^\top + U(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt} S(t) \cdot V(t)^\top + U(t) \cdot S(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt} V(t)^\top$$

$$\implies U(t)^\top \cdot \frac{d}{dt} W_{1:N}(t) \cdot V(t) = U(t)^\top \cdot \frac{d}{dt} U(t) \cdot S(t) + \frac{d}{dt} S(t) + S(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt} V(t)^\top \cdot V(t)$$

End-to-end dynamics:

$$\frac{d}{dt} W_{1:N}(t) = - \sum_{j=1}^N \left[ W_{1:N}(t) W_{1:N}(t)^\top \right]^{\frac{N-j}{N}} \cdot \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)) \cdot \left[ W_{1:N}(t)^\top W_{1:N}(t) \right]^{\frac{j-1}{N}}$$

## Dynamics of Singular Values — Proof Sketch

## Theorem

$$\frac{d}{dt}\sigma_r(t) = -N \cdot \sigma_r^{2-\frac{2}{N}}(t) \cdot \langle \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)), \mathbf{u}_r(t)\mathbf{v}_r^\top(t) \rangle$$

Proof Sketch

$$\text{SVD: } W_{1:N}(t) = U(t)S(t)V(t)^\top \quad (S = \text{diag}(\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots) \quad U = [\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots] \quad V = [\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots])$$

$$\implies \frac{d}{dt}W_{1:N}(t) = \frac{d}{dt}U(t) \cdot S(t) \cdot V(t)^\top + U(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt}S(t) \cdot V(t)^\top + U(t) \cdot S(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt}V(t)^\top$$

$$\implies U(t)^\top \cdot \frac{d}{dt}W_{1:N}(t) \cdot V(t) = U(t)^\top \cdot \frac{d}{dt}U(t) \cdot S(t) + \frac{d}{dt}S(t) + S(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt}V(t)^\top \cdot V(t)$$

End-to-end dynamics:

$$\frac{d}{dt}W_{1:N}(t) = -\sum_{j=1}^N U(t) \left[ S(t)S(t)^\top \right]^{\frac{N-j}{N}} U(t)^\top \cdot \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)) \cdot V(t) \left[ S(t)^\top S(t) \right]^{\frac{j-1}{N}} V(t)^\top$$

## Dynamics of Singular Values — Proof Sketch

## Theorem

$$\frac{d}{dt}\sigma_r(t) = -N \cdot \sigma_r^{2-\frac{2}{N}}(t) \cdot \langle \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)), \mathbf{u}_r(t)\mathbf{v}_r^\top(t) \rangle$$

Proof Sketch

$$\text{SVD: } W_{1:N}(t) = U(t)S(t)V(t)^\top \quad (S = \text{diag}(\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots) \quad U = [\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots] \quad V = [\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots])$$

$$\implies \frac{d}{dt}W_{1:N}(t) = \frac{d}{dt}U(t) \cdot S(t) \cdot V(t)^\top + U(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt}S(t) \cdot V(t)^\top + U(t) \cdot S(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt}V(t)^\top$$

$$\implies U(t)^\top \cdot \frac{d}{dt}W_{1:N}(t) \cdot V(t) = U(t)^\top \cdot \frac{d}{dt}U(t) \cdot S(t) + \frac{d}{dt}S(t) + S(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt}V(t)^\top \cdot V(t)$$

End-to-end dynamics:

$$\frac{d}{dt}W_{1:N}(t) = -\sum_{j=1}^N U(t) \left[ S(t)S(t)^\top \right]^{\frac{N-j}{N}} U(t)^\top \cdot \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)) \cdot V(t) \left[ S(t)^\top S(t) \right]^{\frac{j-1}{N}} V(t)^\top$$

$$\implies U(t)^\top \cdot \frac{d}{dt}W_{1:N}(t) \cdot V(t) = -\sum_{j=1}^N \left[ S(t)S(t)^\top \right]^{\frac{N-j}{N}} U(t)^\top \cdot \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)) \cdot V(t) \left[ S(t)^\top S(t) \right]^{\frac{j-1}{N}}$$



# Dynamics of Singular Values — Proof Sketch

## Theorem

$$\frac{d}{dt} \sigma_r(t) = -N \cdot \sigma_r^{2 - \frac{2}{N}}(t) \cdot \langle \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)), \mathbf{u}_r(t) \mathbf{v}_r^\top(t) \rangle$$

## Proof Sketch

$$\text{SVD: } W_{1:N}(t) = U(t)S(t)V(t)^\top \quad (S = \text{diag}(\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots) \quad U = [\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots] \quad V = [\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots])$$

$$\implies \frac{d}{dt} W_{1:N}(t) = \frac{d}{dt} U(t) \cdot S(t) \cdot V(t)^\top + U(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt} S(t) \cdot V(t)^\top + U(t) \cdot S(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt} V(t)^\top$$

$$\implies U(t)^\top \cdot \frac{d}{dt} W_{1:N}(t) \cdot V(t) = U(t)^\top \cdot \frac{d}{dt} U(t) \cdot S(t) + \frac{d}{dt} S(t) + S(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt} V(t)^\top \cdot V(t)$$

End-to-end dynamics:

$$\frac{d}{dt} W_{1:N}(t) = - \sum_{j=1}^N U(t) \left[ S(t)S(t)^\top \right]^{\frac{N-j}{N}} U(t)^\top \cdot \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)) \cdot V(t) \left[ S(t)^\top S(t) \right]^{\frac{j-1}{N}} V(t)^\top$$

$$\implies U(t)^\top \cdot \frac{d}{dt} W_{1:N}(t) \cdot V(t)$$

$$= - \sum_{j=1}^N \left[ S(t)S(t)^\top \right]^{\frac{N-j}{N}} U(t)^\top \cdot \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)) \cdot V(t) \left[ S(t)^\top S(t) \right]^{\frac{j-1}{N}}$$

# Dynamics of Singular Values — Proof Sketch

## Theorem

$$\frac{d}{dt}\sigma_r(t) = -N \cdot \sigma_r^{2-\frac{2}{N}}(t) \cdot \langle \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)), \mathbf{u}_r(t)\mathbf{v}_r^\top(t) \rangle$$

## Proof Sketch

SVD:  $W_{1:N}(t) = U(t)S(t)V(t)^\top$  ( $S = \text{diag}(\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots)$   $U = [\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots]$   $V = [\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots]$ )

$$\implies \frac{d}{dt}W_{1:N}(t) = \frac{d}{dt}U(t) \cdot S(t) \cdot V(t)^\top + U(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt}S(t) \cdot V(t)^\top + U(t) \cdot S(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt}V(t)^\top$$

$$\implies U(t)^\top \cdot \frac{d}{dt}W_{1:N}(t) \cdot V(t) = U(t)^\top \cdot \frac{d}{dt}U(t) \cdot S(t) + \frac{d}{dt}S(t) + S(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt}V(t)^\top \cdot V(t)$$

End-to-end dynamics:

$$\frac{d}{dt}W_{1:N}(t) = -\sum_{j=1}^N U(t) \left[ S(t)S(t)^\top \right]^{\frac{N-j}{N}} U(t)^\top \cdot \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)) \cdot V(t) \left[ S(t)^\top S(t) \right]^{\frac{j-1}{N}} V(t)^\top$$

$$\implies U(t)^\top \cdot \frac{d}{dt}U(t) \cdot S(t) + \frac{d}{dt}S(t) + S(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt}V(t)^\top \cdot V(t)$$

$$= -\sum_{j=1}^N \left[ S(t)S(t)^\top \right]^{\frac{N-j}{N}} U(t)^\top \cdot \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)) \cdot V(t) \left[ S(t)^\top S(t) \right]^{\frac{j-1}{N}}$$

# Dynamics of Singular Values — Proof Sketch

## Theorem

$$\frac{d}{dt} \sigma_r(t) = -N \cdot \sigma_r^{2 - \frac{2}{N}}(t) \cdot \langle \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)), \mathbf{u}_r(t) \mathbf{v}_r^\top(t) \rangle$$

## Proof Sketch

$$\text{SVD: } W_{1:N}(t) = U(t)S(t)V(t)^\top \quad (S = \text{diag}(\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots) \quad U = [\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots] \quad V = [\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots])$$

$$\implies \frac{d}{dt} W_{1:N}(t) = \frac{d}{dt} U(t) \cdot S(t) \cdot V(t)^\top + U(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt} S(t) \cdot V(t)^\top + U(t) \cdot S(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt} V(t)^\top$$

$$\implies U(t)^\top \cdot \frac{d}{dt} W_{1:N}(t) \cdot V(t) = U(t)^\top \cdot \frac{d}{dt} U(t) \cdot S(t) + \frac{d}{dt} S(t) + S(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt} V(t)^\top \cdot V(t)$$

End-to-end dynamics:

$$\frac{d}{dt} W_{1:N}(t) = - \sum_{j=1}^N U(t) \left[ S(t)S(t)^\top \right]^{\frac{N-j}{N}} U(t)^\top \cdot \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)) \cdot V(t) \left[ S(t)^\top S(t) \right]^{\frac{j-1}{N}} V(t)^\top$$

$$\implies U(t)^\top \cdot \frac{d}{dt} U(t) \cdot S(t) + \frac{d}{dt} S(t) + S(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt} V(t)^\top \cdot V(t)$$

$$= - \sum_{j=1}^N \left[ S(t)S(t)^\top \right]^{\frac{N-j}{N}} U(t)^\top \cdot \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)) \cdot V(t) \left[ S(t)^\top S(t) \right]^{\frac{j-1}{N}}$$

Restrict attention to  $r$ 'th diagonal element:

# Dynamics of Singular Values — Proof Sketch

## Theorem

$$\frac{d}{dt} \sigma_r(t) = -N \cdot \sigma_r^{2 - \frac{2}{N}}(t) \cdot \langle \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)), \mathbf{u}_r(t) \mathbf{v}_r^\top(t) \rangle$$

## Proof Sketch

$$\text{SVD: } W_{1:N}(t) = U(t)S(t)V(t)^\top \quad (S = \text{diag}(\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots) \quad U = [\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots] \quad V = [\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots])$$

$$\implies \frac{d}{dt} W_{1:N}(t) = \frac{d}{dt} U(t) \cdot S(t) \cdot V(t)^\top + U(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt} S(t) \cdot V(t)^\top + U(t) \cdot S(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt} V(t)^\top$$

$$\implies U(t)^\top \cdot \frac{d}{dt} W_{1:N}(t) \cdot V(t) = U(t)^\top \cdot \frac{d}{dt} U(t) \cdot S(t) + \frac{d}{dt} S(t) + S(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt} V(t)^\top \cdot V(t)$$

End-to-end dynamics:

$$\frac{d}{dt} W_{1:N}(t) = - \sum_{j=1}^N U(t) \left[ S(t) S(t)^\top \right]^{\frac{N-j}{N}} U(t)^\top \cdot \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)) \cdot V(t) \left[ S(t)^\top S(t) \right]^{\frac{j-1}{N}} V(t)^\top$$

$$\implies U(t)^\top \cdot \frac{d}{dt} U(t) \cdot S(t) + \frac{d}{dt} S(t) + S(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt} V(t)^\top \cdot V(t)$$

$$= - \sum_{j=1}^N \left[ S(t) S(t)^\top \right]^{\frac{N-j}{N}} U(t)^\top \cdot \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)) \cdot V(t) \left[ S(t)^\top S(t) \right]^{\frac{j-1}{N}}$$

Restrict attention to  $r$ 'th diagonal element:

$$\mathbf{u}_r(t)^\top \cdot \frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{u}_r(t) \cdot \sigma_r(t) + \frac{d}{dt} \sigma_r(t) + \sigma_r(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{v}_r(t)^\top \cdot \mathbf{v}_r(t) =$$

$$- \sum_{j=1}^N \sigma_r^{2 - \frac{2j}{N}}(t) \cdot \mathbf{u}_r(t)^\top \cdot \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)) \cdot \mathbf{v}_r(t) \cdot \sigma_r^{2 \frac{j-1}{N}}(t)$$

## Dynamics of Singular Values — Proof Sketch

## Theorem

$$\frac{d}{dt} \sigma_r(t) = -N \cdot \sigma_r^{2 - \frac{2}{N}}(t) \cdot \langle \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)), \mathbf{u}_r(t) \mathbf{v}_r^\top(t) \rangle$$

Proof Sketch

$$\text{SVD: } W_{1:N}(t) = U(t)S(t)V(t)^\top \quad (S = \text{diag}(\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots) \quad U = [\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots] \quad V = [\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots])$$

$$\implies \frac{d}{dt} W_{1:N}(t) = \frac{d}{dt} U(t) \cdot S(t) \cdot V(t)^\top + U(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt} S(t) \cdot V(t)^\top + U(t) \cdot S(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt} V(t)^\top$$

$$\implies U(t)^\top \cdot \frac{d}{dt} W_{1:N}(t) \cdot V(t) = U(t)^\top \cdot \frac{d}{dt} U(t) \cdot S(t) + \frac{d}{dt} S(t) + S(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt} V(t)^\top \cdot V(t)$$

End-to-end dynamics:

$$\frac{d}{dt} W_{1:N}(t) = - \sum_{j=1}^N U(t) \left[ S(t)S(t)^\top \right]^{\frac{N-j}{N}} U(t)^\top \cdot \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)) \cdot V(t) \left[ S(t)^\top S(t) \right]^{\frac{j-1}{N}} V(t)^\top$$

$$\implies U(t)^\top \cdot \frac{d}{dt} U(t) \cdot S(t) + \frac{d}{dt} S(t) + S(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt} V(t)^\top \cdot V(t)$$

$$= - \sum_{j=1}^N \left[ S(t)S(t)^\top \right]^{\frac{N-j}{N}} U(t)^\top \cdot \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)) \cdot V(t) \left[ S(t)^\top S(t) \right]^{\frac{j-1}{N}}$$

Restrict attention to  $r$ 'th diagonal element:

$$\mathbf{u}_r(t)^\top \cdot \frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{u}_r(t) \cdot \sigma_r(t) + \frac{d}{dt} \sigma_r(t) + \sigma_r(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{v}_r(t)^\top \cdot \mathbf{v}_r(t) =$$

$$- \sum_{j=1}^N \sigma_r^{2 \frac{N-1}{N}}(t) \cdot \mathbf{u}_r(t)^\top \cdot \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)) \cdot \mathbf{v}_r(t)$$

# Dynamics of Singular Values — Proof Sketch

## Theorem

$$\frac{d}{dt} \sigma_r(t) = -N \cdot \sigma_r^{2 - \frac{2}{N}}(t) \cdot \langle \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)), \mathbf{u}_r(t) \mathbf{v}_r^\top(t) \rangle$$

## Proof Sketch

$$\text{SVD: } W_{1:N}(t) = U(t)S(t)V(t)^\top \quad (S = \text{diag}(\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots) \quad U = [\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots] \quad V = [\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots])$$

$$\implies \frac{d}{dt} W_{1:N}(t) = \frac{d}{dt} U(t) \cdot S(t) \cdot V(t)^\top + U(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt} S(t) \cdot V(t)^\top + U(t) \cdot S(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt} V(t)^\top$$

$$\implies U(t)^\top \cdot \frac{d}{dt} W_{1:N}(t) \cdot V(t) = U(t)^\top \cdot \frac{d}{dt} U(t) \cdot S(t) + \frac{d}{dt} S(t) + S(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt} V(t)^\top \cdot V(t)$$

End-to-end dynamics:

$$\frac{d}{dt} W_{1:N}(t) = - \sum_{j=1}^N U(t) \left[ S(t)S(t)^\top \right]^{\frac{N-j}{N}} U(t)^\top \cdot \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)) \cdot V(t) \left[ S(t)^\top S(t) \right]^{\frac{j-1}{N}} V(t)^\top$$

$$\implies U(t)^\top \cdot \frac{d}{dt} U(t) \cdot S(t) + \frac{d}{dt} S(t) + S(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt} V(t)^\top \cdot V(t)$$

$$= - \sum_{j=1}^N \left[ S(t)S(t)^\top \right]^{\frac{N-j}{N}} U(t)^\top \cdot \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)) \cdot V(t) \left[ S(t)^\top S(t) \right]^{\frac{j-1}{N}}$$

Restrict attention to  $r$ 'th diagonal element:

$$\mathbf{u}_r(t)^\top \cdot \frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{u}_r(t) \cdot \sigma_r(t) + \frac{d}{dt} \sigma_r(t) + \sigma_r(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{v}_r(t)^\top \cdot \mathbf{v}_r(t) =$$

$$-N \cdot \sigma_r^{2 - \frac{2}{N}}(t) \cdot \mathbf{u}_r(t)^\top \cdot \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)) \cdot \mathbf{v}_r(t)$$

# Dynamics of Singular Values — Proof Sketch

## Theorem

$$\frac{d}{dt} \sigma_r(t) = -N \cdot \sigma_r^{2 - \frac{2}{N}}(t) \cdot \langle \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)), \mathbf{u}_r(t) \mathbf{v}_r^\top(t) \rangle$$

## Proof Sketch

$$\text{SVD: } W_{1:N}(t) = U(t)S(t)V(t)^\top \quad (S = \text{diag}(\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots) \quad U = [\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots] \quad V = [\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots])$$

$$\implies \frac{d}{dt} W_{1:N}(t) = \frac{d}{dt} U(t) \cdot S(t) \cdot V(t)^\top + U(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt} S(t) \cdot V(t)^\top + U(t) \cdot S(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt} V(t)^\top$$

$$\implies U(t)^\top \cdot \frac{d}{dt} W_{1:N}(t) \cdot V(t) = U(t)^\top \cdot \frac{d}{dt} U(t) \cdot S(t) + \frac{d}{dt} S(t) + S(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt} V(t)^\top \cdot V(t)$$

End-to-end dynamics:

$$\frac{d}{dt} W_{1:N}(t) = - \sum_{j=1}^N U(t) \left[ S(t) S(t)^\top \right]^{\frac{N-j}{N}} U(t)^\top \cdot \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)) \cdot V(t) \left[ S(t)^\top S(t) \right]^{\frac{j-1}{N}} V(t)^\top$$

$$\implies U(t)^\top \cdot \frac{d}{dt} U(t) \cdot S(t) + \frac{d}{dt} S(t) + S(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt} V(t)^\top \cdot V(t)$$

$$= - \sum_{j=1}^N \left[ S(t) S(t)^\top \right]^{\frac{N-j}{N}} U(t)^\top \cdot \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)) \cdot V(t) \left[ S(t)^\top S(t) \right]^{\frac{j-1}{N}}$$

Restrict attention to  $r$ 'th diagonal element:

$$\mathbf{u}_r(t)^\top \cdot \frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{u}_r(t) \cdot \sigma_r(t) + \frac{d}{dt} \sigma_r(t) + \sigma_r(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{v}_r(t)^\top \cdot \mathbf{v}_r(t) =$$

$$-N \cdot \sigma_r^{2 - \frac{2}{N}}(t) \cdot \langle \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)), \mathbf{u}_r(t) \mathbf{v}_r^\top(t) \rangle$$

# Dynamics of Singular Values — Proof Sketch

## Theorem

$$\frac{d}{dt} \sigma_r(t) = -N \cdot \sigma_r^{2 - \frac{2}{N}}(t) \cdot \langle \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)), \mathbf{u}_r(t) \mathbf{v}_r^\top(t) \rangle$$

## Proof Sketch

$$\text{SVD: } W_{1:N}(t) = U(t)S(t)V(t)^\top \quad (S = \text{diag}(\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots) \quad U = [\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots] \quad V = [\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots])$$

$$\implies \frac{d}{dt} W_{1:N}(t) = \frac{d}{dt} U(t) \cdot S(t) \cdot V(t)^\top + U(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt} S(t) \cdot V(t)^\top + U(t) \cdot S(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt} V(t)^\top$$

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End-to-end dynamics:

$$\frac{d}{dt} W_{1:N}(t) = - \sum_{j=1}^N U(t) \left[ S(t) S(t)^\top \right]^{\frac{N-j}{N}} U(t)^\top \cdot \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)) \cdot V(t) \left[ S(t)^\top S(t) \right]^{\frac{j-1}{N}} V(t)^\top$$

$$\implies U(t)^\top \cdot \frac{d}{dt} U(t) \cdot S(t) + \frac{d}{dt} S(t) + S(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt} V(t)^\top \cdot V(t)$$

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Restrict attention to  $r$ 'th diagonal element:

$$\mathbf{u}_r(t)^\top \cdot \frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{u}_r(t) \cdot \sigma_r(t) + \frac{d}{dt} \sigma_r(t) + \sigma_r(t) \cdot \frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{v}_r(t)^\top \cdot \mathbf{v}_r(t) =$$

$$-N \cdot \sigma_r^{2 - \frac{2}{N}}(t) \cdot \langle \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)), \mathbf{u}_r(t) \mathbf{v}_r^\top(t) \rangle$$



# Dynamics of Singular Values — Proof Sketch

## Theorem

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Restrict attention to  $r$ 'th diagonal element:

$$\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \|\mathbf{u}_r(t)\|_2^2 \cdot \sigma_r(t) + \frac{d}{dt} \sigma_r(t) + \sigma_r(t) \cdot \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \|\mathbf{v}_r(t)\|_2^2 = -N \cdot \sigma_r^{2 - \frac{2}{N}}(t) \cdot \langle \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)), \mathbf{u}_r(t) \mathbf{v}_r^\top(t) \rangle$$

# Dynamics of Singular Values — Proof Sketch

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$$\frac{d}{dt} \sigma_r(t) = -N \cdot \sigma_r^{2 - \frac{2}{N}}(t) \cdot \langle \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)), \mathbf{u}_r(t) \mathbf{v}_r^\top(t) \rangle$$

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$$\text{SVD: } W_{1:N}(t) = U(t)S(t)V(t)^\top \quad (S = \text{diag}(\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots) \quad U = [\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots] \quad V = [\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots])$$

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Restrict attention to  $r$ 'th diagonal element:

$$\underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \|\mathbf{u}_r(t)\|_2^2}_{\equiv 1} \cdot \sigma_r(t) + \frac{d}{dt} \sigma_r(t) + \sigma_r(t) \cdot \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \|\mathbf{v}_r(t)\|_2^2}_{\equiv 1} = -N \cdot \sigma_r^{2 - \frac{2}{N}}(t) \cdot \langle \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)), \mathbf{u}_r(t) \mathbf{v}_r^\top(t) \rangle$$

# Dynamics of Singular Values — Proof Sketch

## Theorem

$$\frac{d}{dt} \sigma_r(t) = -N \cdot \sigma_r^{2 - \frac{2}{N}}(t) \cdot \langle \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)), \mathbf{u}_r(t) \mathbf{v}_r^\top(t) \rangle$$

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$$\text{SVD: } W_{1:N}(t) = U(t)S(t)V(t)^\top \quad (S = \text{diag}(\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots) \quad U = [\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots] \quad V = [\mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \dots])$$

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Restrict attention to  $r$ 'th diagonal element:

$$0 \cdot \sigma_r(t) + \frac{d}{dt} \sigma_r(t) + \sigma_r(t) \cdot 0 = -N \cdot \sigma_r^{2 - \frac{2}{N}}(t) \cdot \langle \nabla \ell(W_{1:N}(t)), \mathbf{u}_r(t) \mathbf{v}_r^\top(t) \rangle$$

## Dynamics of Singular Values — Proof Sketch

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**Proof Sketch**

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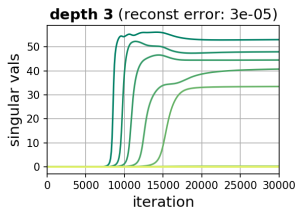
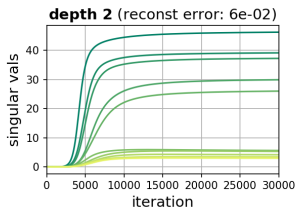
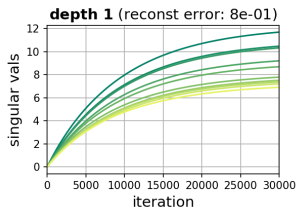
□

# Implicit Bias Towards Low Rank

# Implicit Bias Towards Low Rank

## Experiment

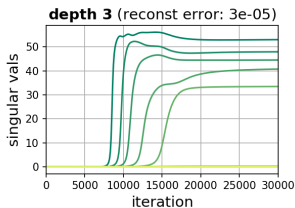
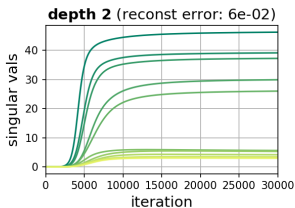
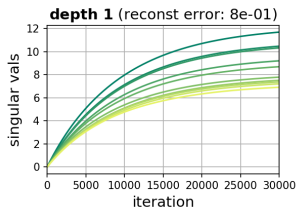
Completion of low rank matrix via GD over LNN



# Implicit Bias Towards Low Rank

## Experiment

Completion of low rank matrix via GD over LNN



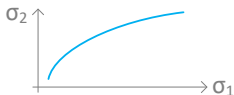
## Theoretical Example

For one observed entry and  $\ell_2$  loss, relationship between singular vals is:

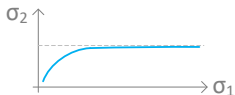
*depth 1: linear*



*depth 2: polynomial*



*depth  $\geq 3$ : asymptotic*

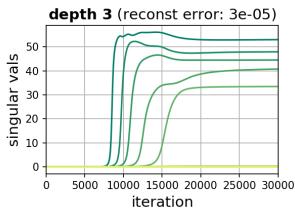
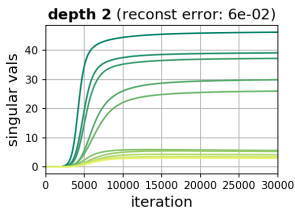
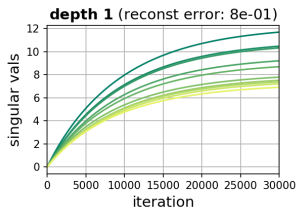




# Implicit Bias Towards Low Rank

## Experiment

Completion of low rank matrix via GD over LNN



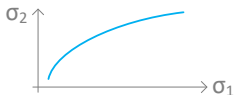
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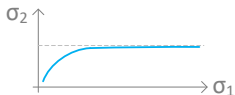
*depth 1: linear*



*depth 2: polynomial*



*depth  $\geq 3$ : asymptotic*



**Depth leads to larger gaps between singular vals (lower rank)!**

# Outline

- 1 Optimization and Generalization in Deep Learning via Trajectories
- 2 Case Study: Linear Neural Networks
  - Trajectory Analysis
  - Optimization
  - Generalization
- 3 Conclusion

# Recap

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## Perspective

To understand optimization and generalization in deep learning:

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To understand optimization and generalization in deep learning:

- Language of classical learning theory may be insufficient

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## Case Study — Deep Linear Neural Networks

Trajectory analysis:



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Trajectory analysis:

- **Depth induces preconditioner** promoting movement in directions taken

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# Recap

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## Case Study — Deep Linear Neural Networks

Trajectory analysis:

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Optimization:

- **Guarantee of efficient convergence to global min** (most general yet)
- **Depth can accelerate convergence** (w/o any gain in expressiveness)!

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Generalization:

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- **Depth induces preconditioner** promoting movement in directions taken

Optimization:

- **Guarantee of efficient convergence to global min** (most general yet)
- **Depth can accelerate convergence** (w/o any gain in expressiveness)!

Generalization:

- **Depth enhances implicit regularization towards low rank**, yielding generalization for problems such as matrix completion

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# Thank You