

Double descent and contrastive learning



Veronica Guidetti

(funded by: **CoSubmitting Summer @ ICLR 2022**)

Open problem in
Deep Learning

Double descent and contrastive learning



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Study similarity
(Siamese NNs)

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Why there's no Physics in here (yet)?

Our aim was to find symmetries using siamese NN

Wetzel et al. arXiv[2003.04299]

BIG NEWS: Working unsupervised constrastive learning

Chen et He arXiv[2011.10566]

UNSUPERVISED SYMMETRY DETECTION?!?

It's a long way to Tipperary....

Need to **control generalization error** and make training stable

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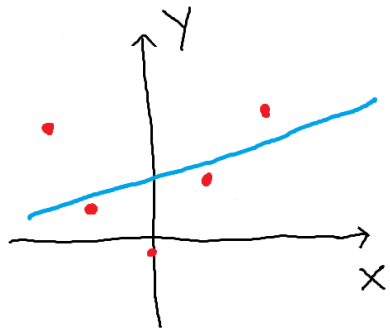
~~*It's a long way to Tipperary....*~~

It's a long way to go!

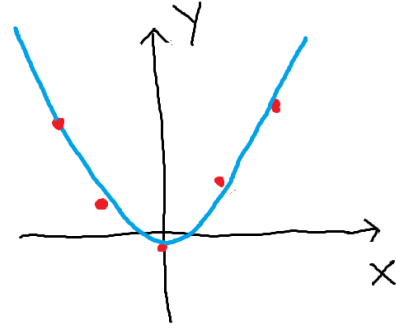
*Don't mind if you do
not know the song*

Need to **control generalization error** and make training stable

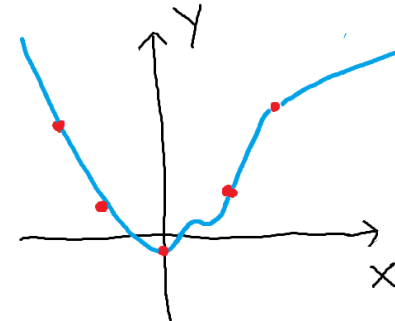
Double descent: How NNs generalise



underfitting

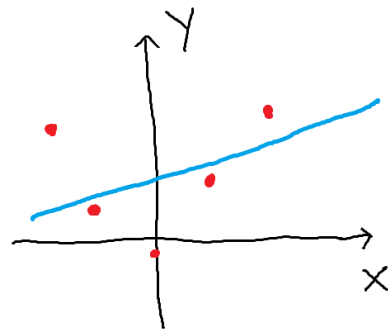


optimal fit

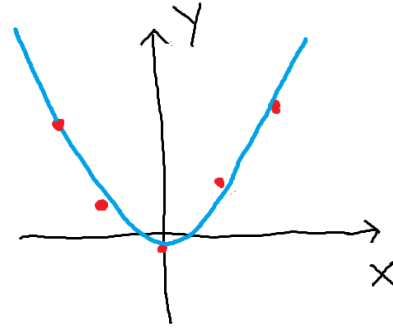


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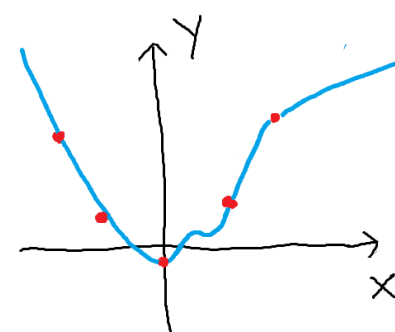
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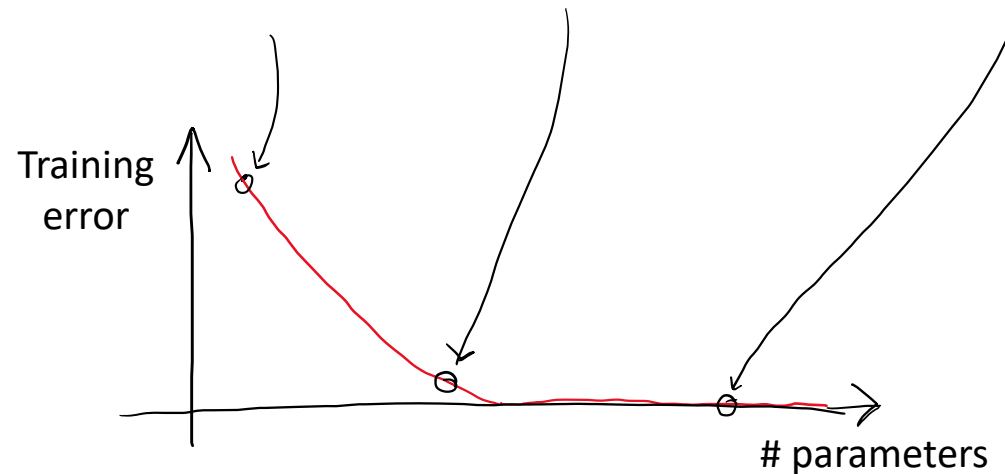
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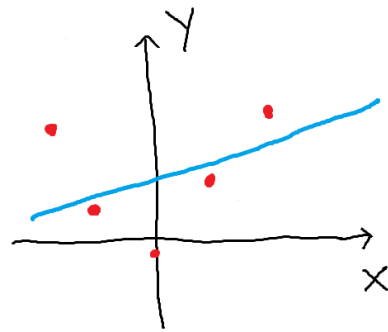
overfitting



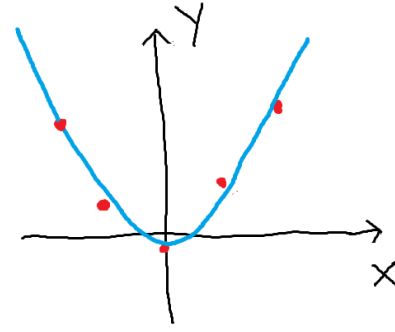
Error may be measured by

$$\text{MSE}(y, f) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_i (y_i - f(x_i))^2$$

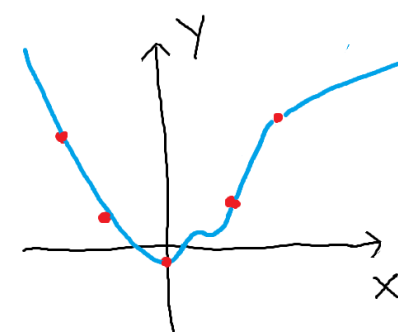
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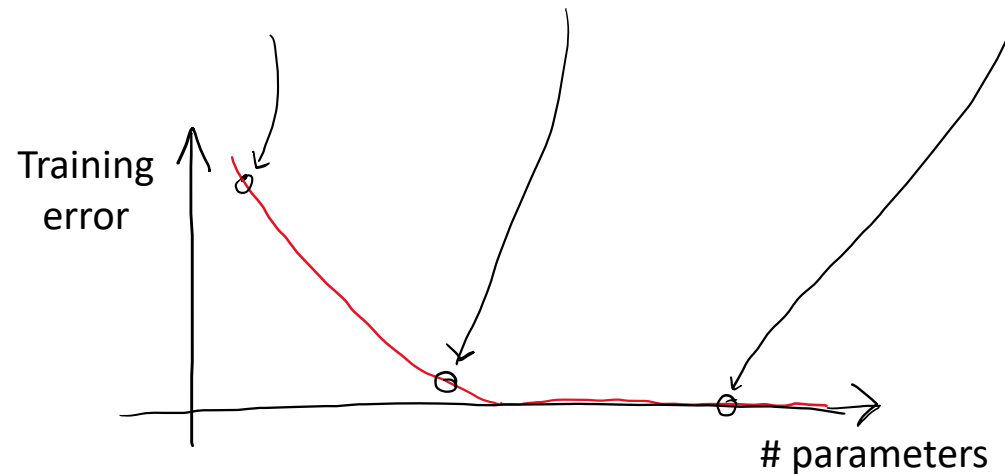
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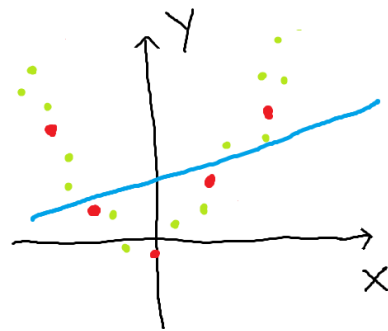


overfitting

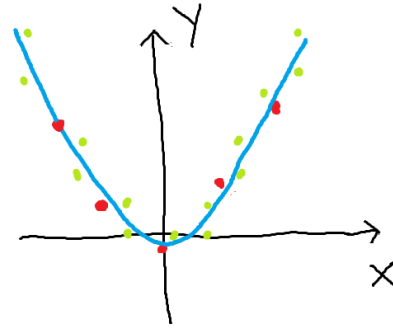


*What about
generalisation
error?*

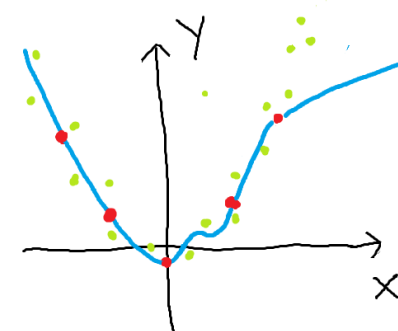
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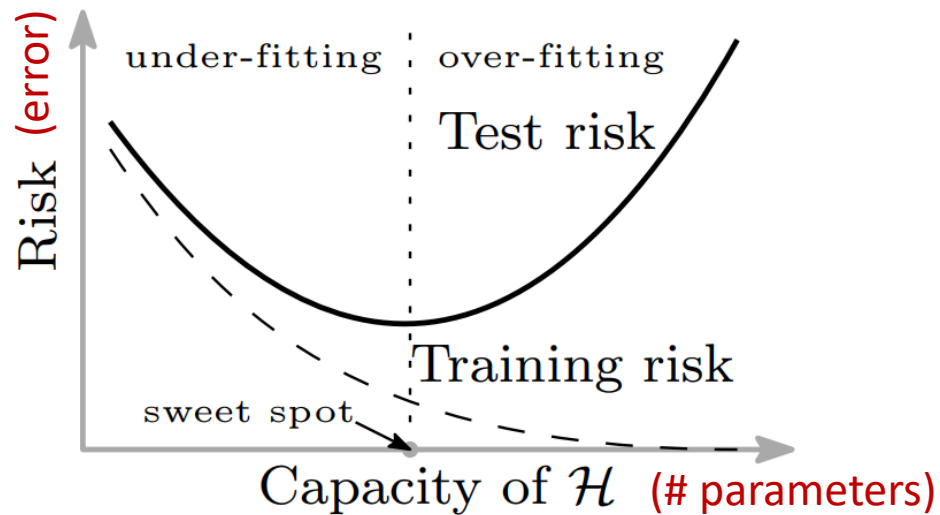


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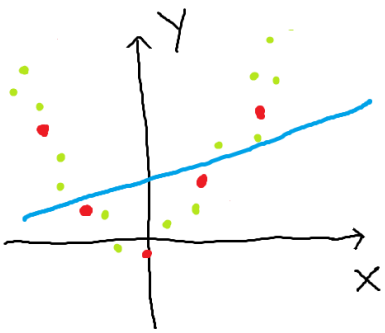


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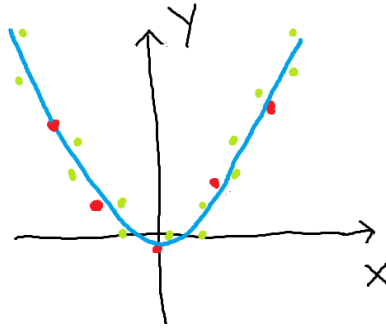
*Bias – variance
tradeoff*



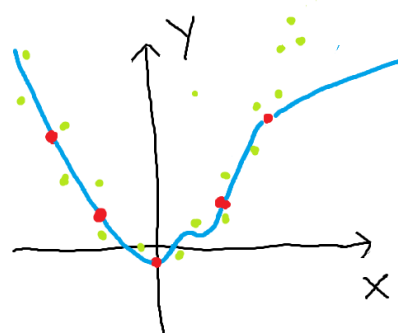
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underfitting

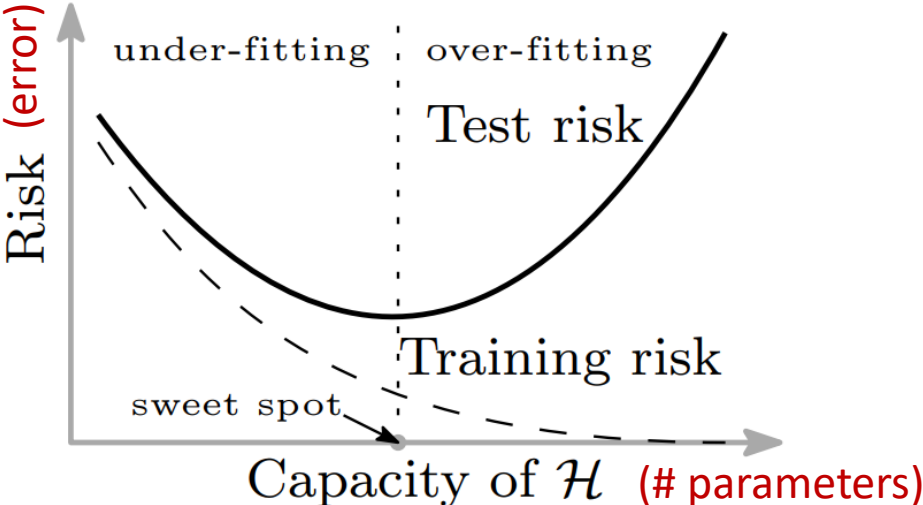


optimal fit



overfitting

Bias – variance tradeoff



In ML courses we learn that overfitting:

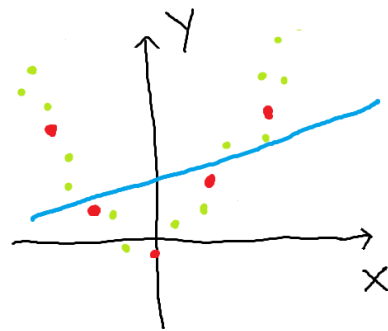
- Learning training set features by heart
- Generalise worse

Techniques used not to overfit:

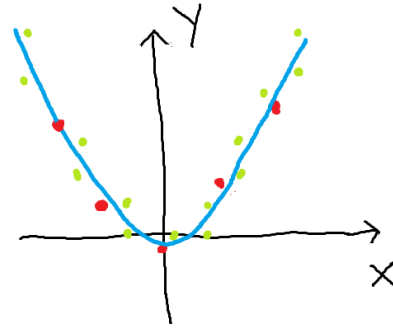
- Early stopping
- Regularisation
- ...

Belkin et al. arXiv[1812.11118]

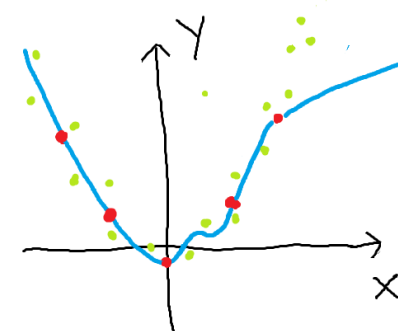
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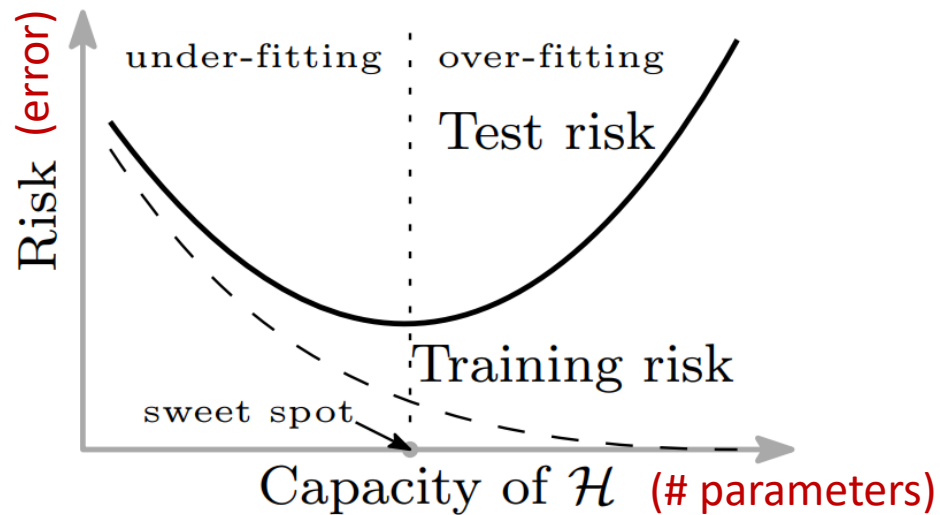


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overfitting

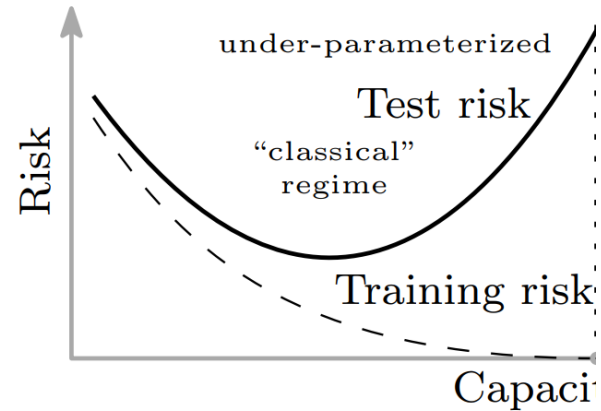
*Bias – variance
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End of the story?

... not quite...

Double descent: How NNs generalise

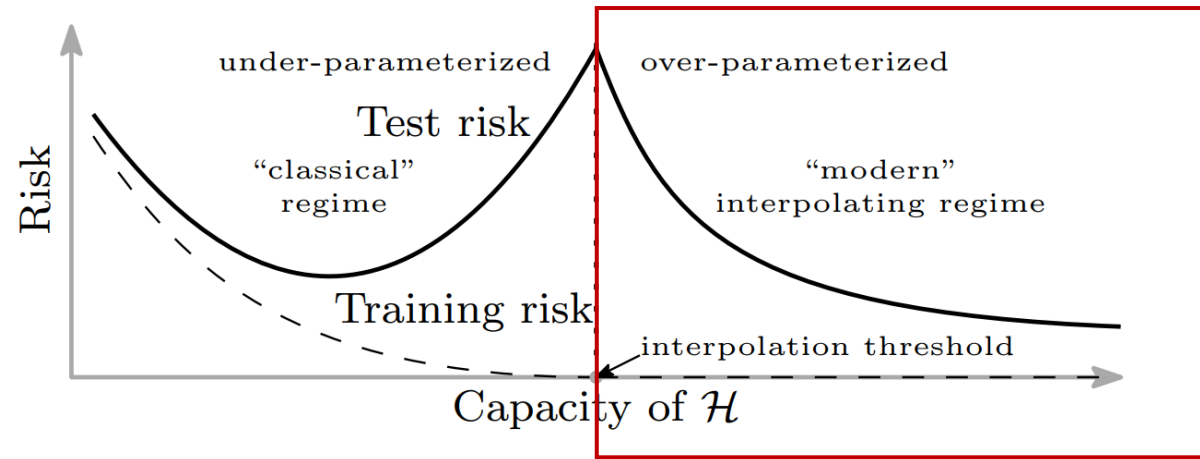


Test error decreases in the overparametrized region!

- Different behaviours (global minimum/peak height/peak position)
- Partially explained in classification and regression tasks using Random Feature Models

Belkin et al. 2019
Nakkiran et al. 2019
Mei and Montanari 2019
Kini et al. 2020
D'Ascoli et al 2020
...

Double descent: How NNs generalise

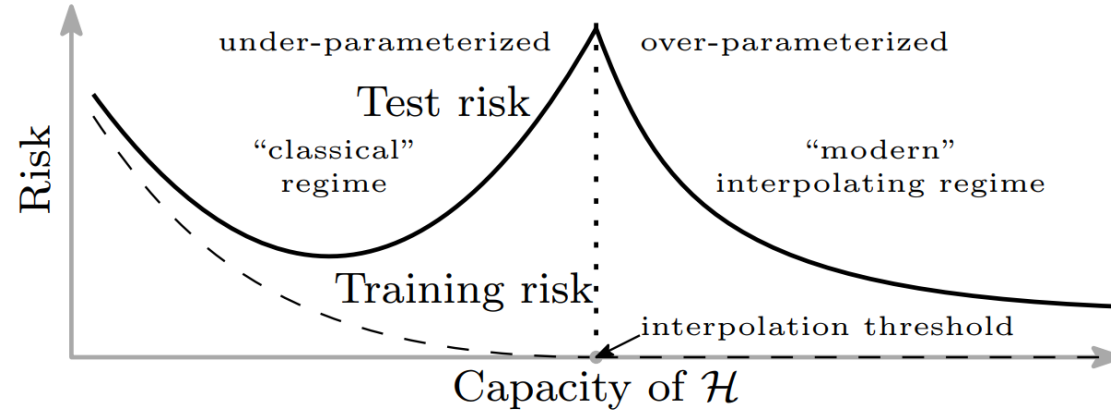


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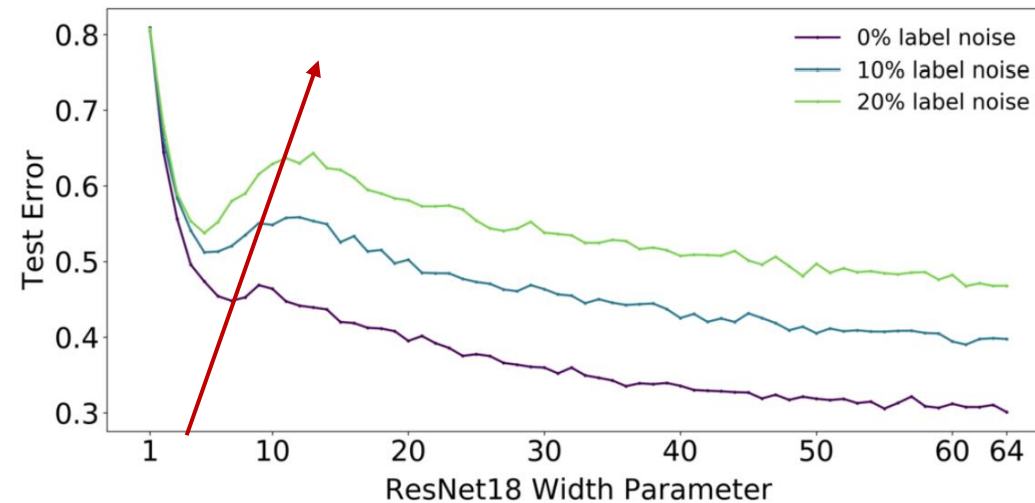
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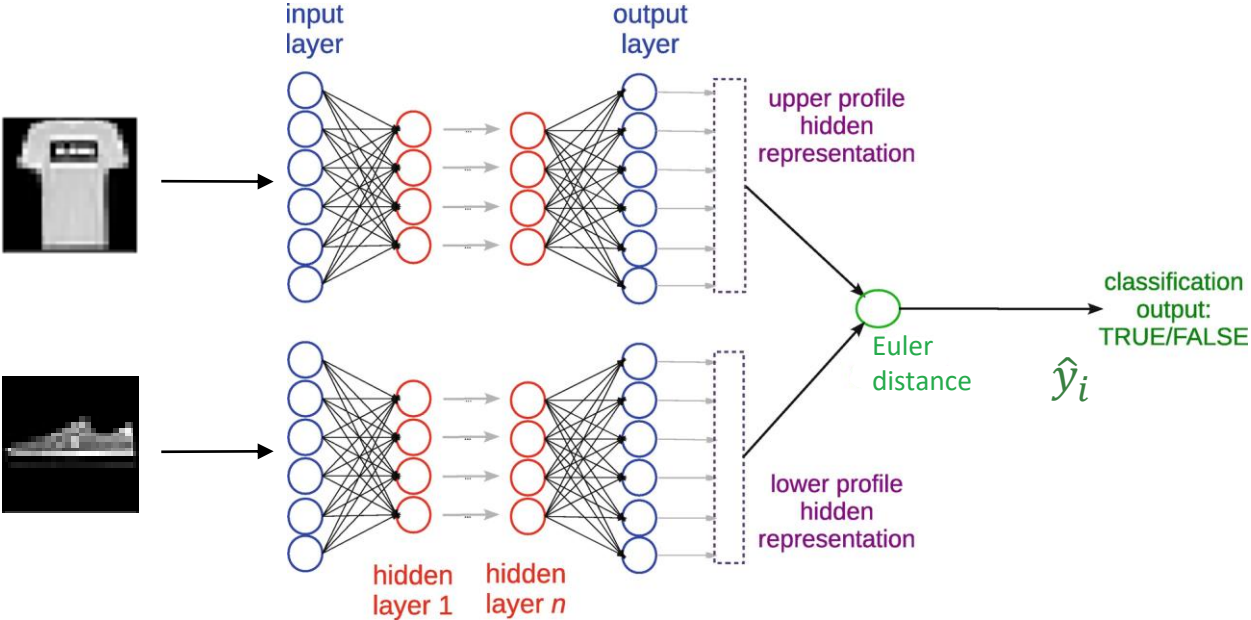
Double descent: How NNs generalise

Higher peak in presence of noise

- Need more parameters to over fit data
- Spurious feature learning



Double descent in Siamese NN

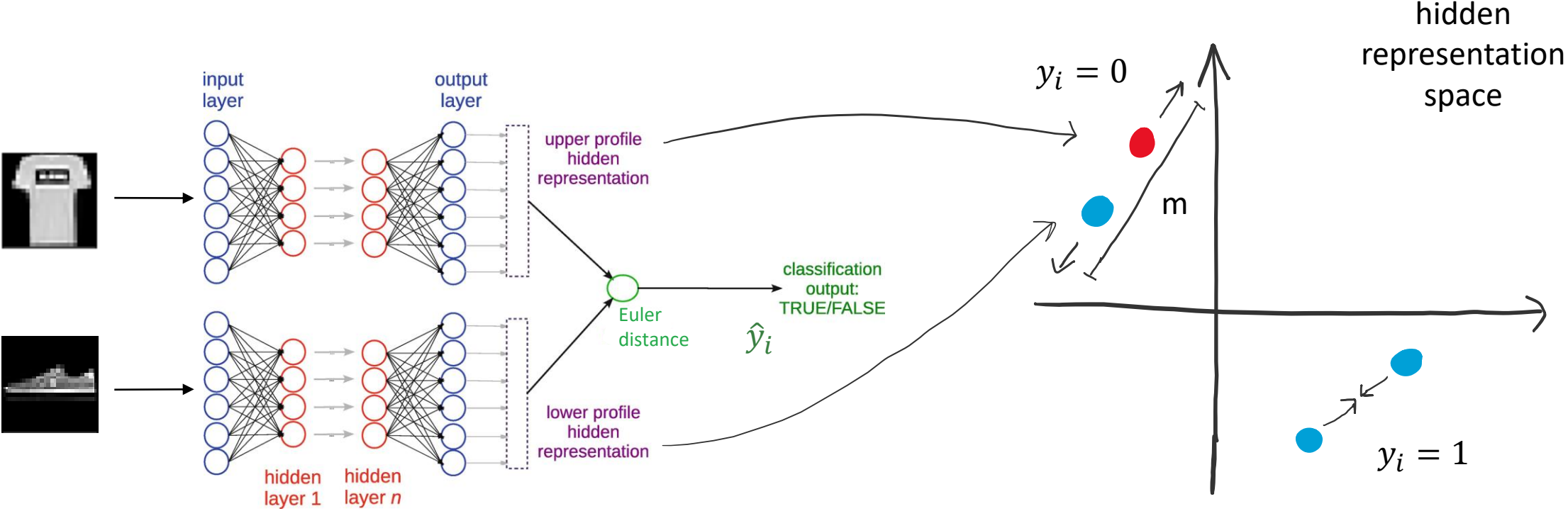


Contrastive Loss:

$$\mathcal{L}(y, \hat{y}) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_i y_i \hat{y}_i^2 + (1 - y_i) \left[\max(0, m - \hat{y}_i) \right]^2$$

LeCun et al. 2006

Double descent in Siamese NN



Contrastive Loss:

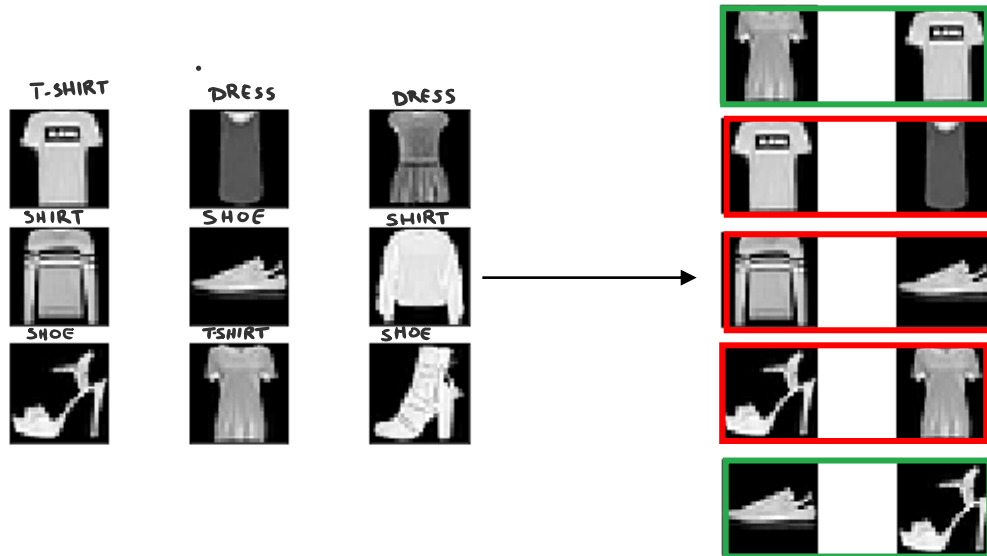
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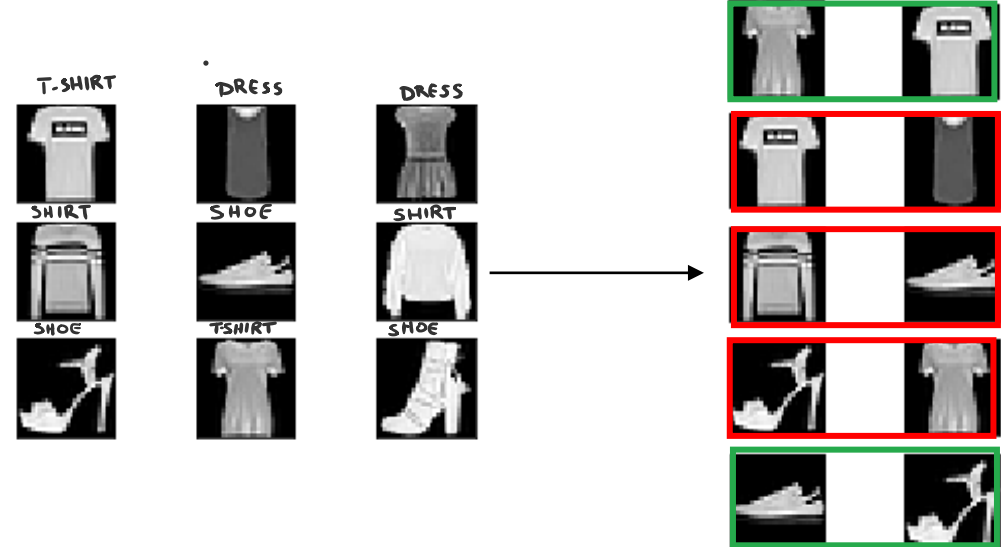
TWO NOISE SOURCES

Pair Label Noise (PLN)
symmetric stochastic error



$$T^P(p): y_i^P \rightarrow \text{Rnd}\{0,1\}$$

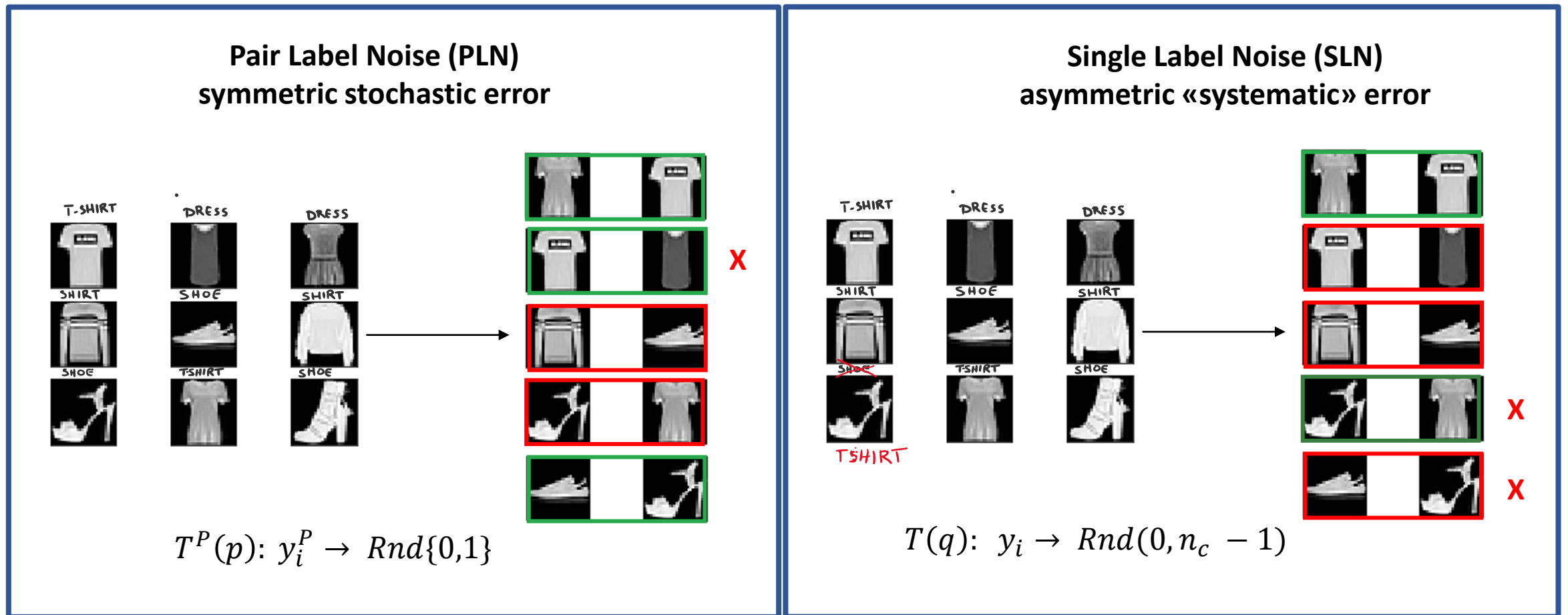
Single Label Noise (SLN)
asymmetric «systematic» error



$$T(q): y_i \rightarrow \text{Rnd}(0, n_c - 1)$$

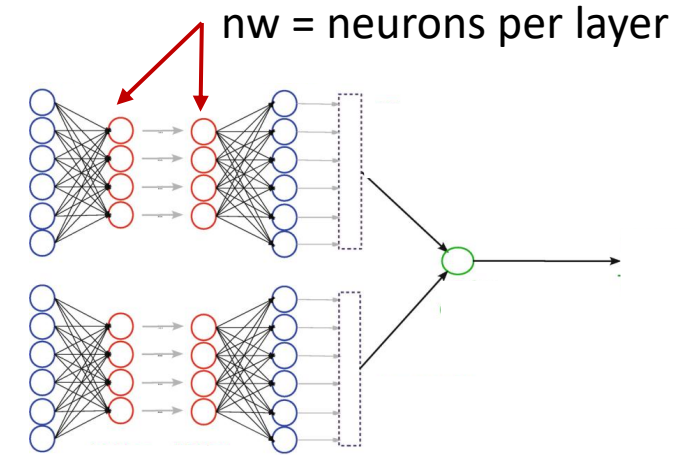
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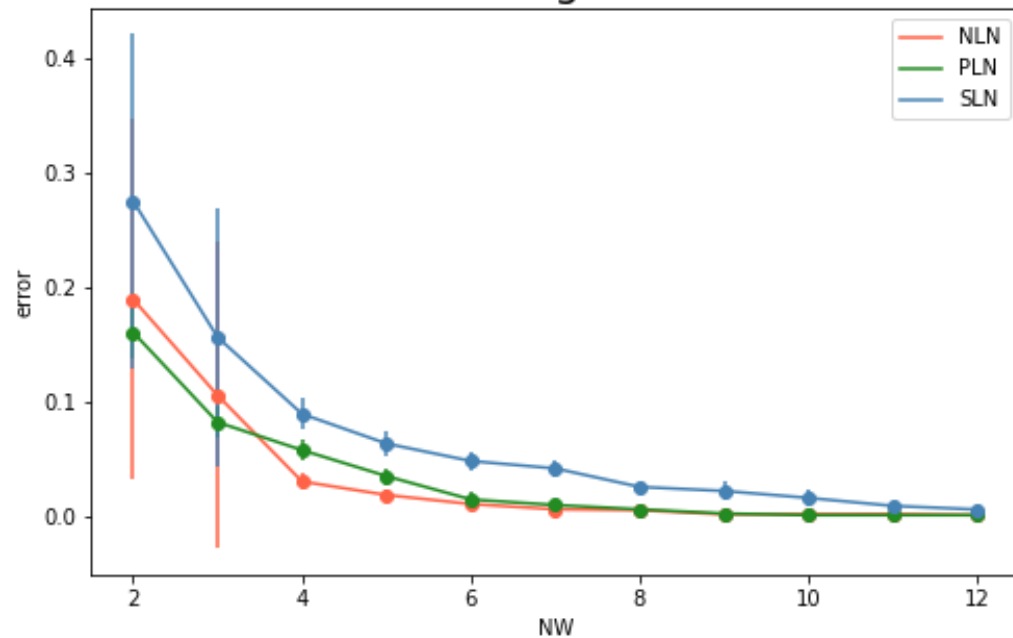


Results:

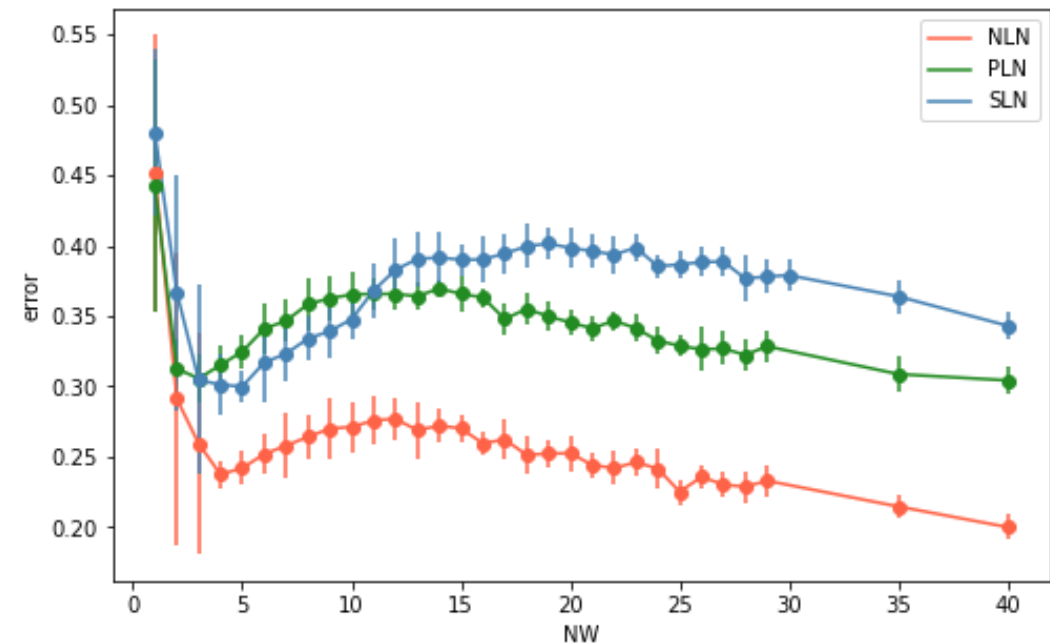
- FMNIST: 6k training set, 10k test set
- 10% effective noise (both PLN and SLN)



Training error

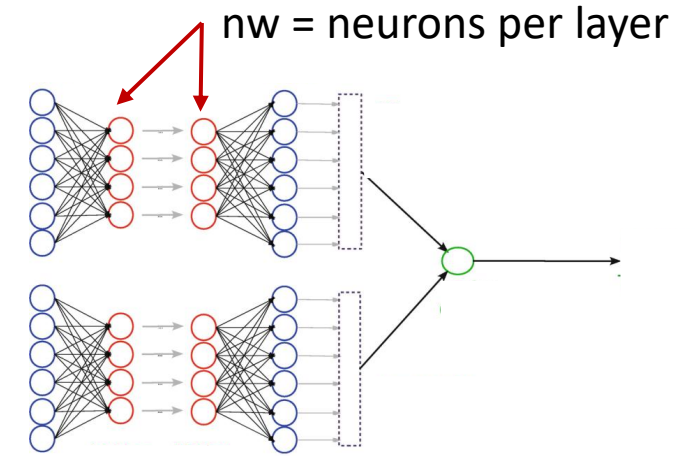


Test error

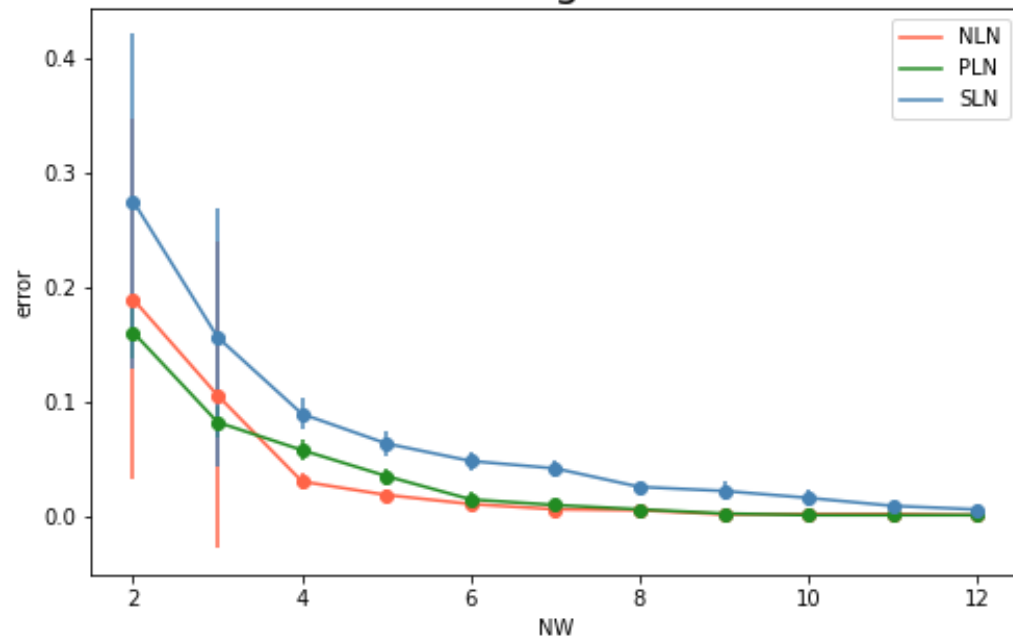


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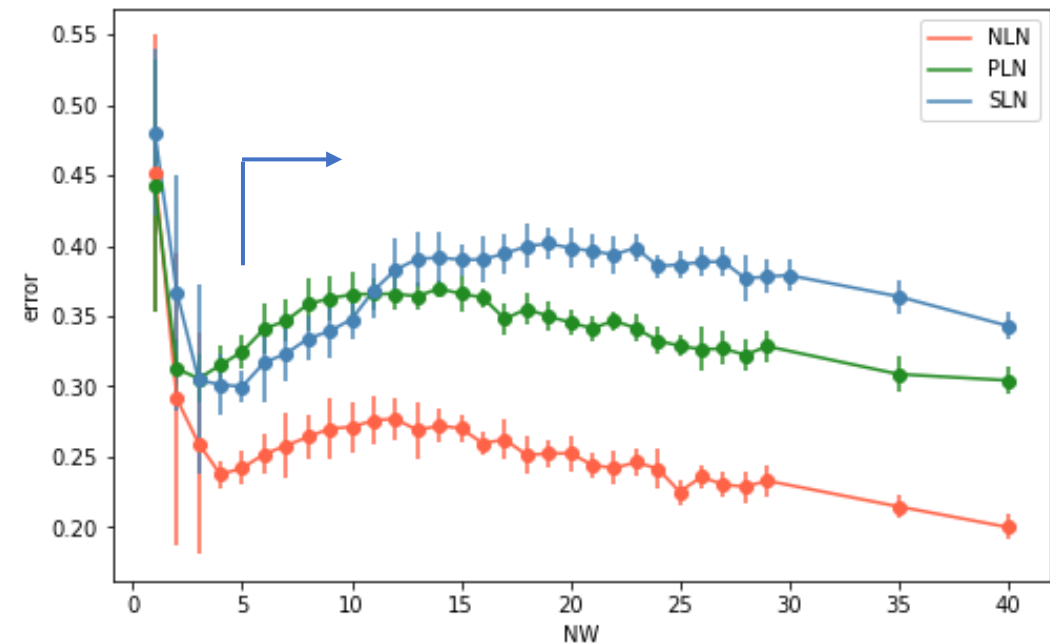
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Training error



Test error



What's next?

Provide a quantitative explanation about SLN/PLN difference:

- Earth Mover's Distance
- Random Feature Models

Analyse different architectures/datasets/losses

→ Explain generalisation in contrastive learning

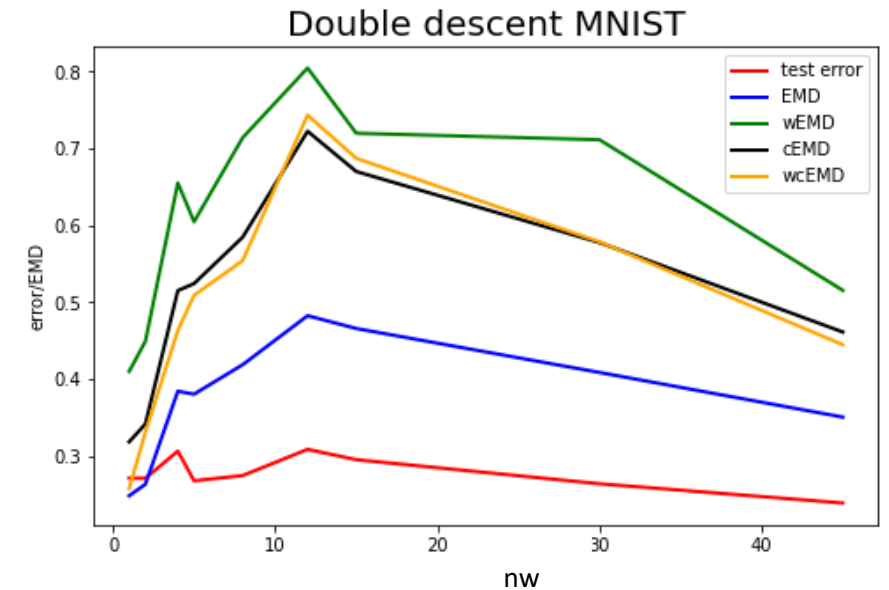
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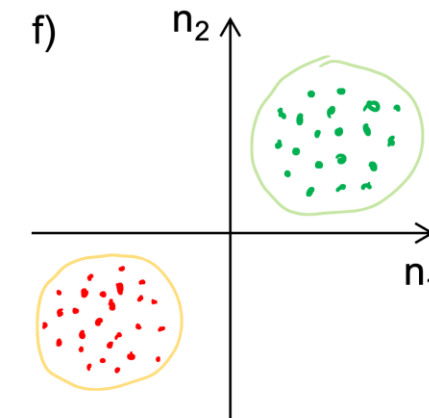
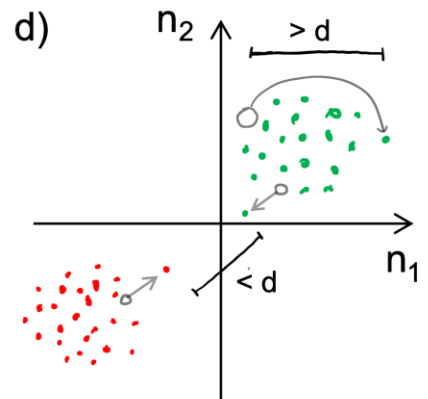
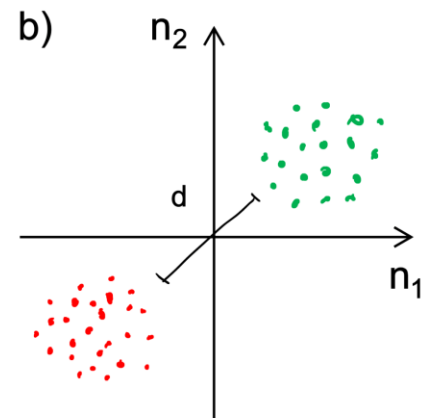
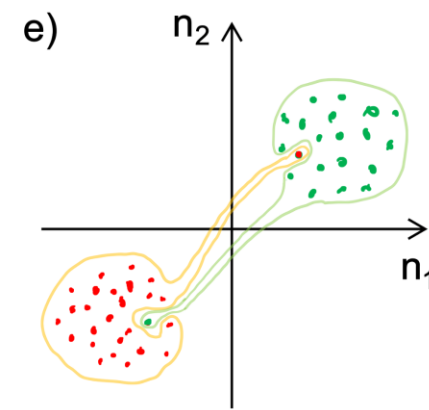
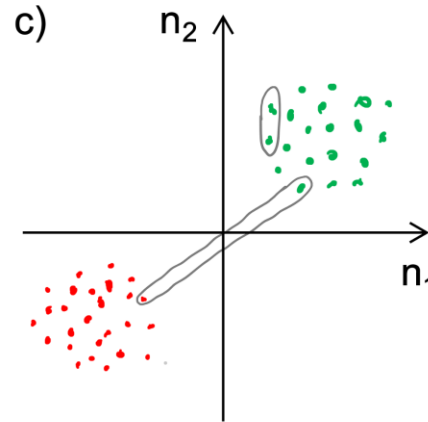
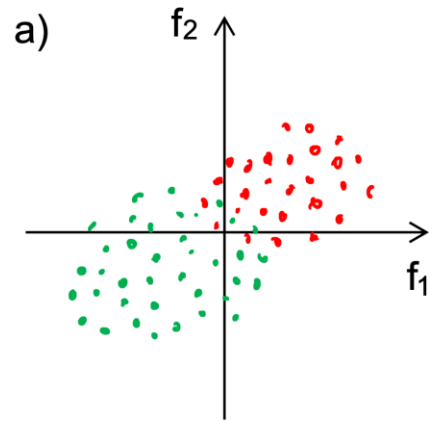
→ Explain generalisation in contrastive learning

Why do the these curves look different?

NO NOISE

PLN

SLN



Observations:

- Bottleneck layer: need to choose width
- Unstable training: half times you get the wrong result, NN size is crucial

Finding symmetries implies

- Finding conserved quantities
- Infinite classes: hard to fit
- SR extremely sensitive to bias error

Need to decrease generalization error and make training stable