

# Searching for activation functions

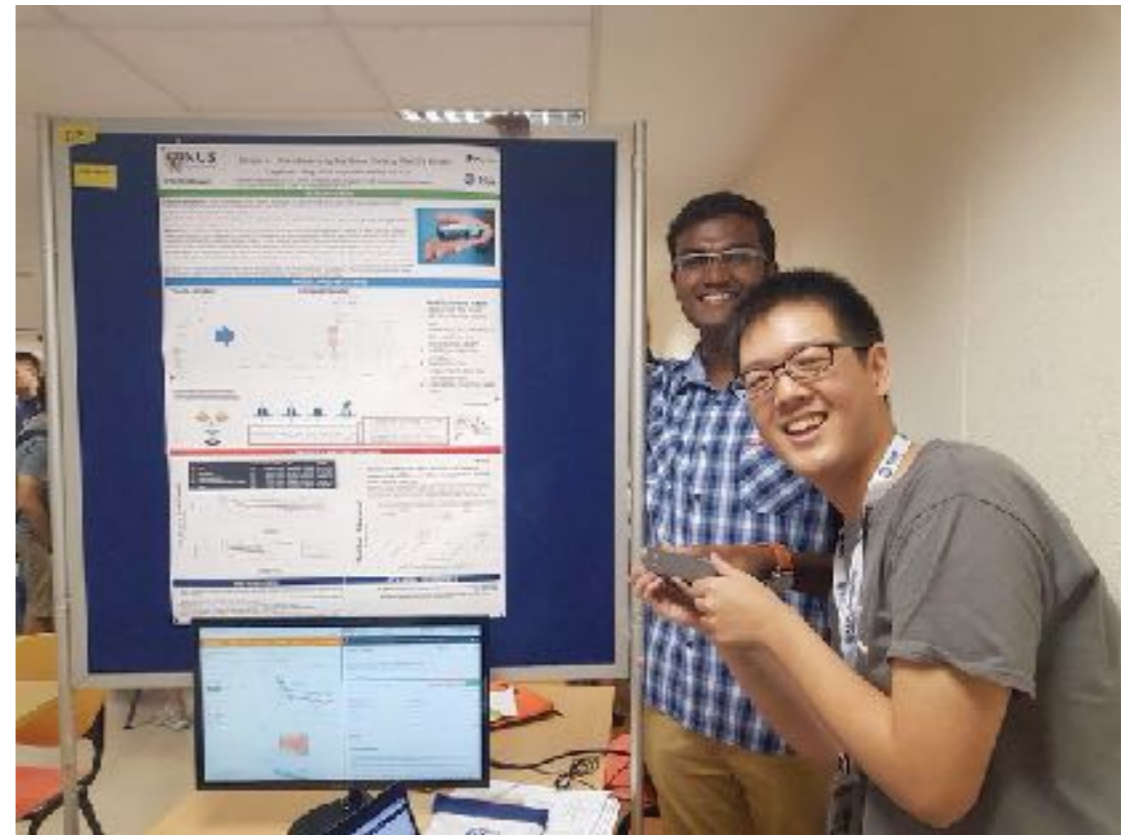
By Ang Ming Liang

# About Me

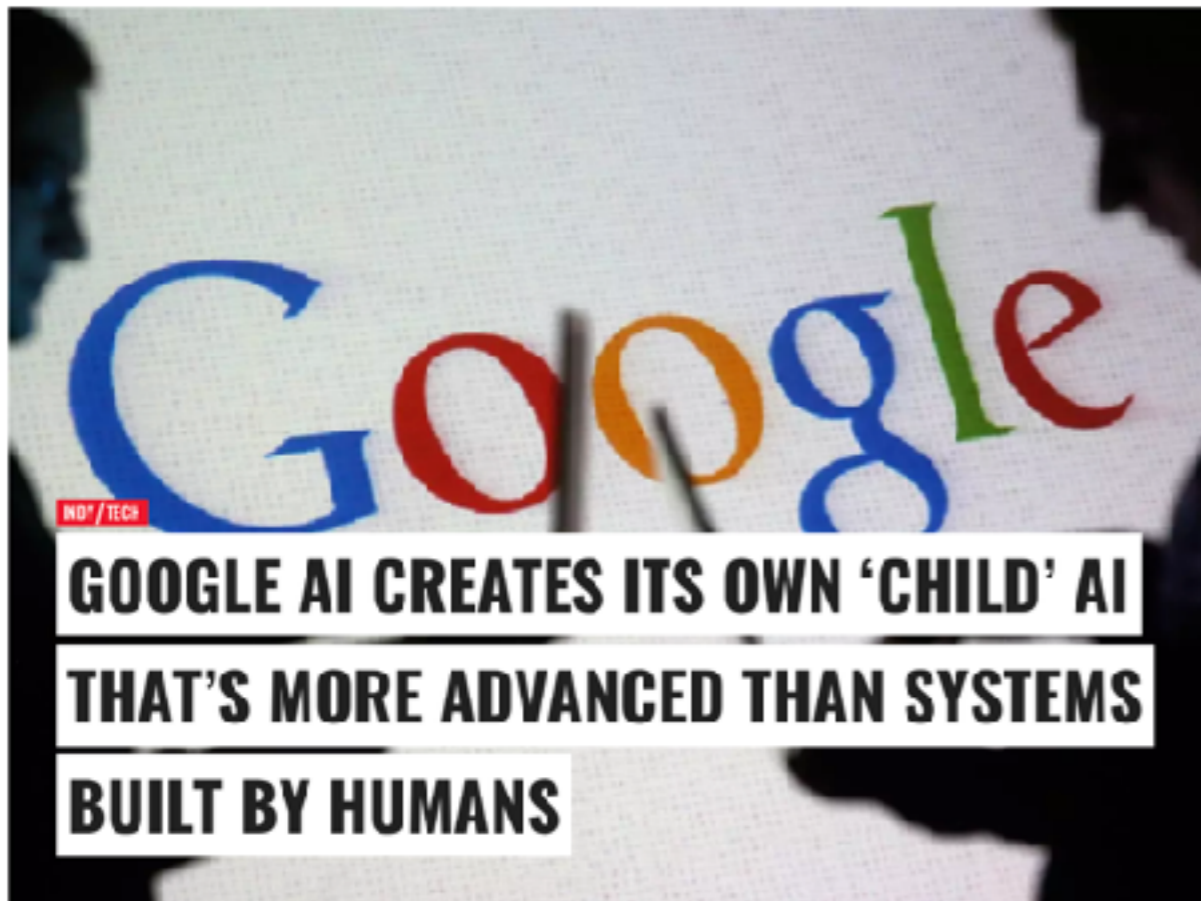
I am an AI enthusiast

Interested in solving general intelligence

Will enter NUS Computational Biology program in 2019



# Motivation



**I am calling BS**

# AutoML



## CLOUD AUTOML <sup>ALPHA</sup>

Train high quality custom machine learning models with minimum effort and machine learning expertise

KEEP ME UPDATED

## Train Custom Machine Learning Models

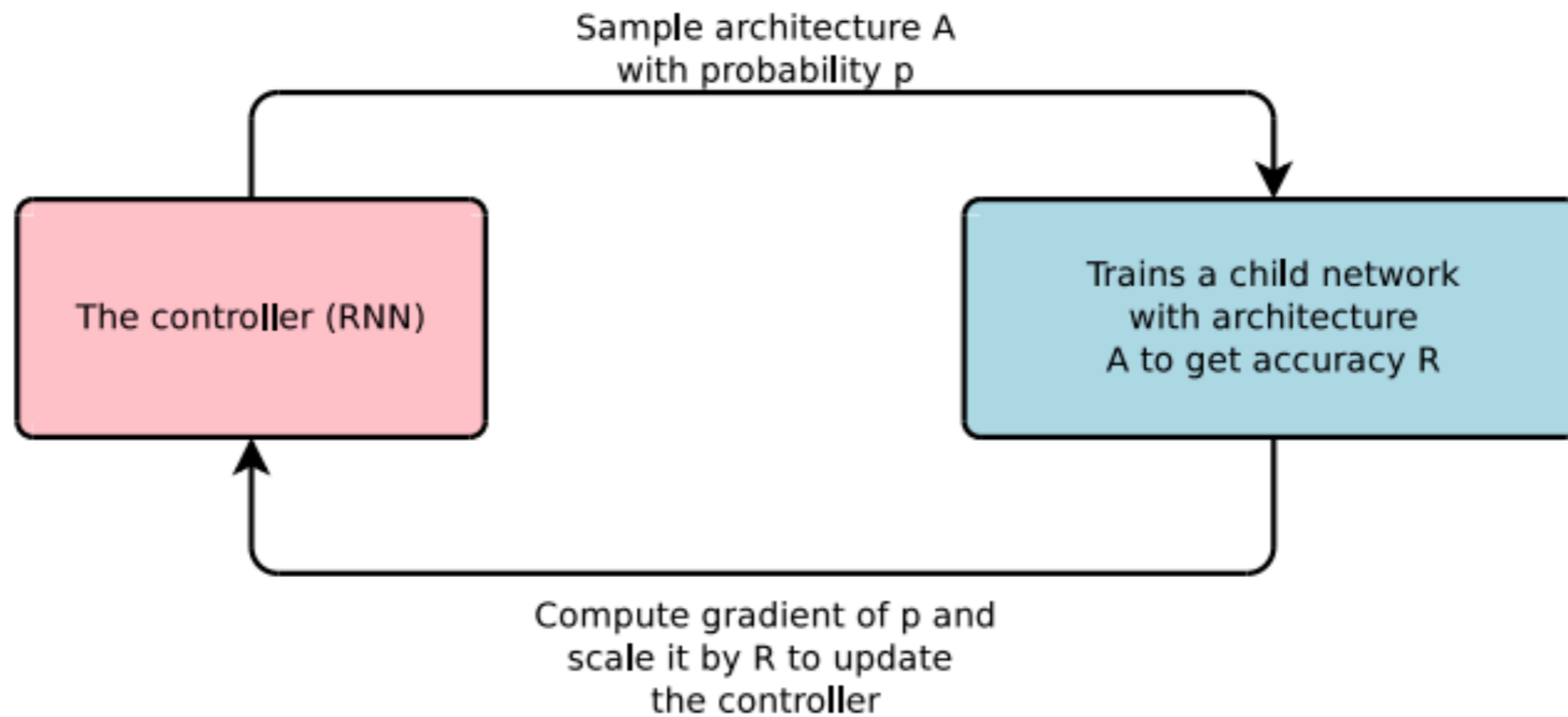
Cloud AutoML is a suite of Machine Learning products that enables developers with limited machine learning expertise to train high quality models by leveraging Google's state of the art transfer learning, and Neural Architecture Search technology.

AutoML Vision is the first product to be released. It is a simple, secure and flexible ML service that lets you train custom vision models for your own use cases. Soon, Cloud AutoML will release other services for all other major fields of AI.

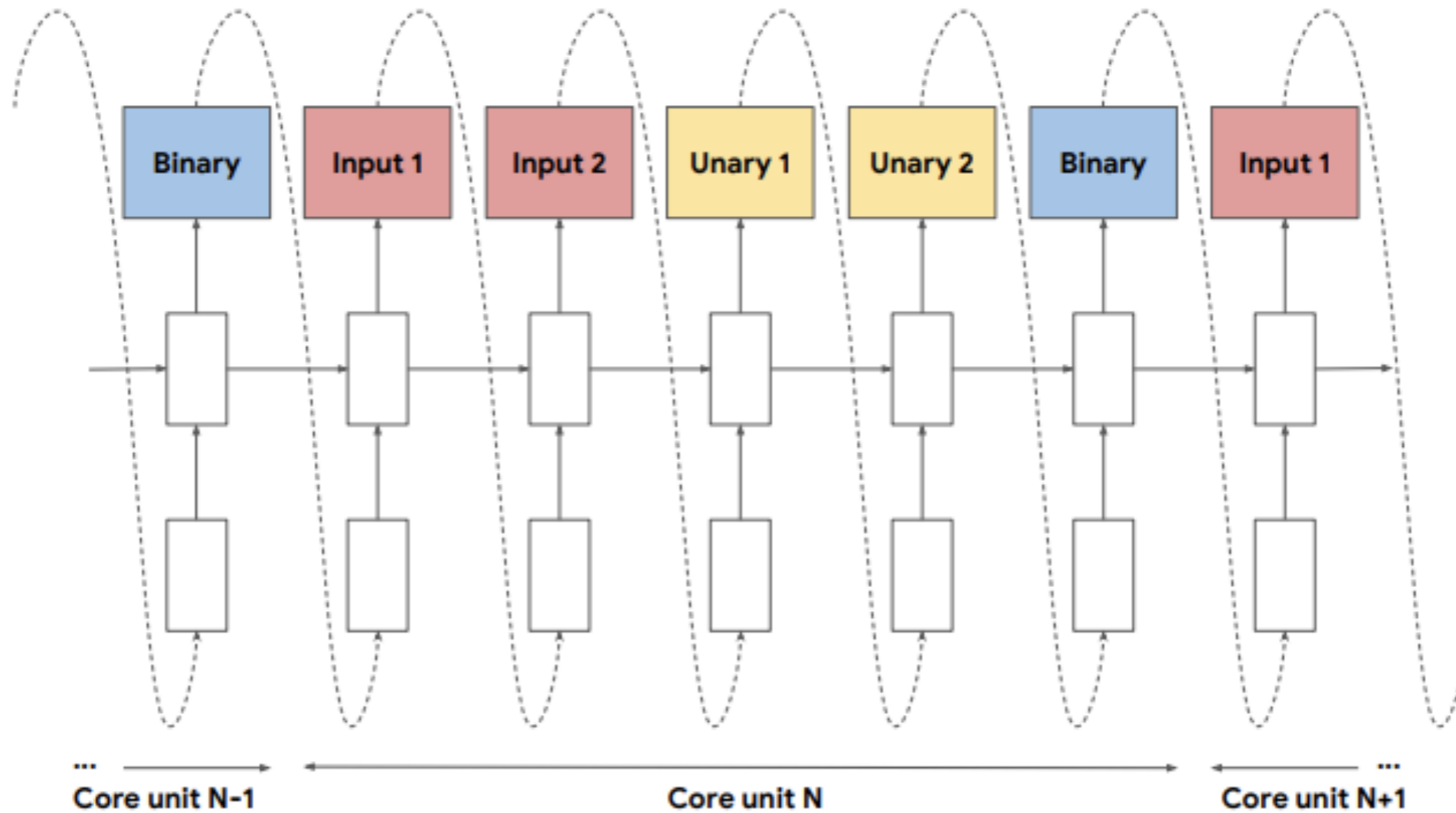




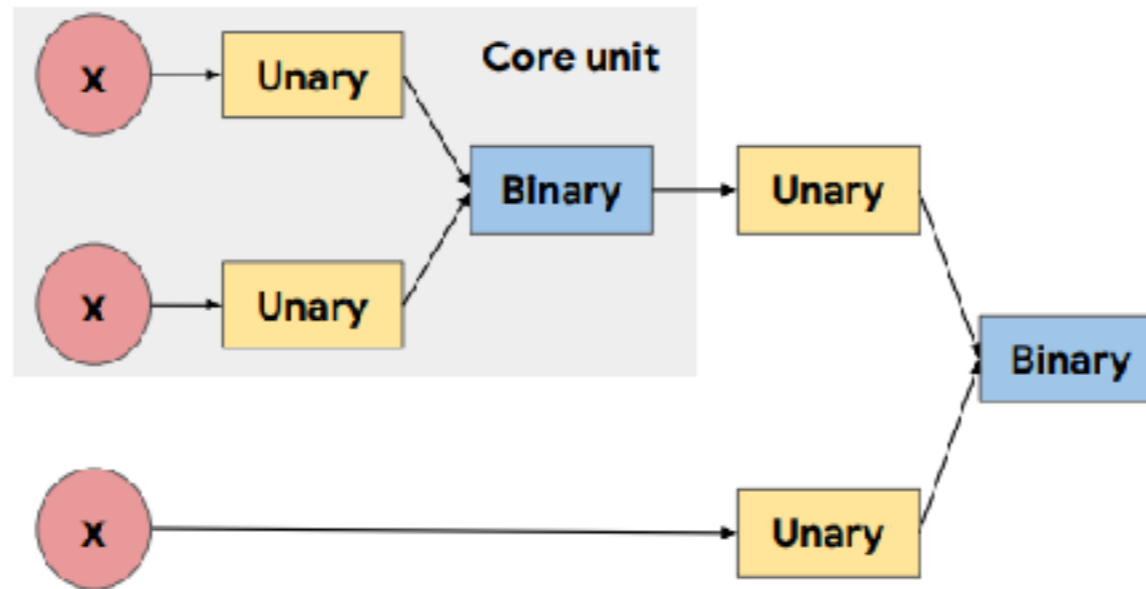
# The idea



# RNN part



# Sampling functions



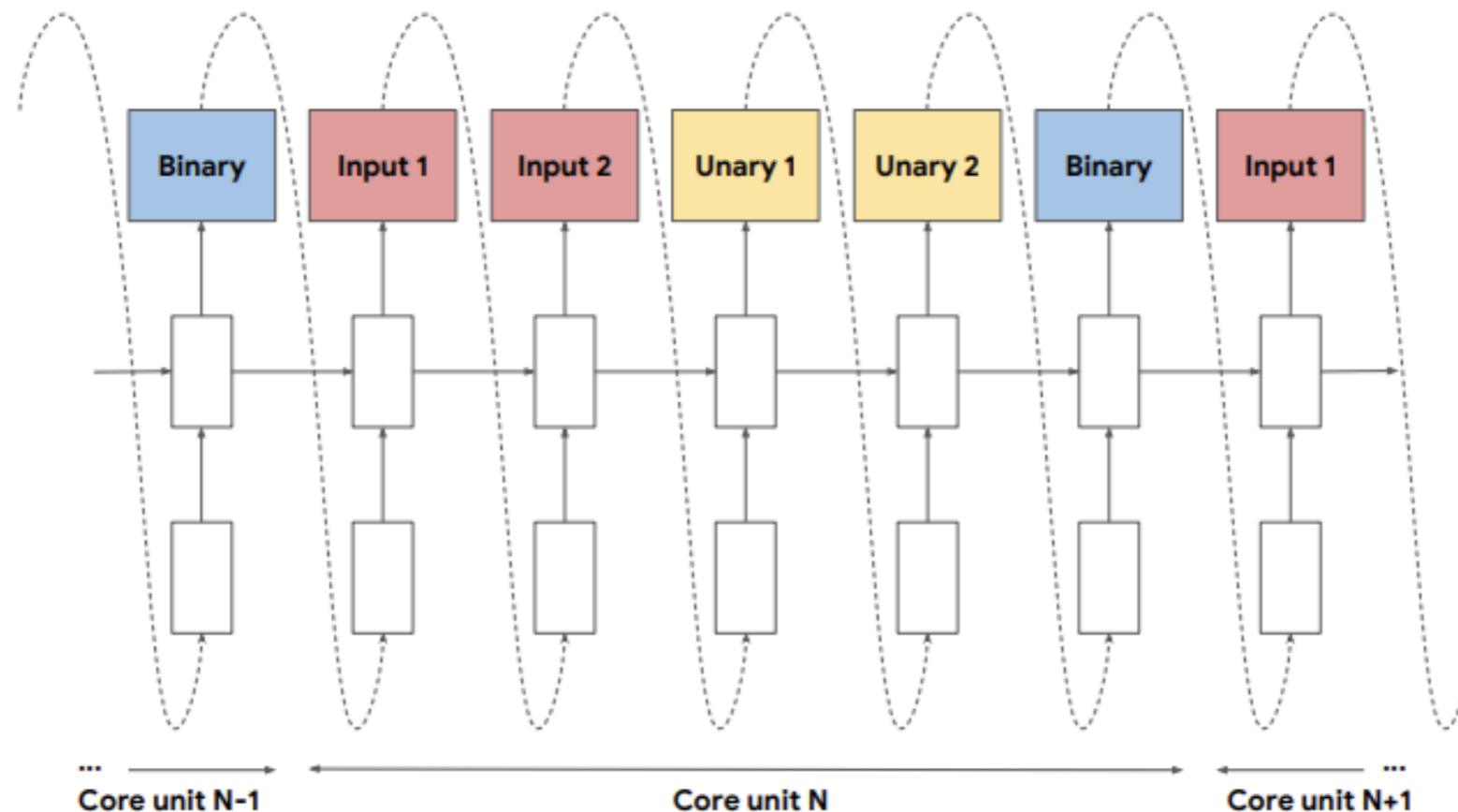
Core unit

$$b(u_1(x_1), u_2(x_2)).$$



# Sampling functions

- **Unary functions:**  $x$ ,  $-x$ ,  $|x|$ ,  $x^2$ ,  $x^3$ ,  $\sqrt{x}$ ,  $\beta x$ ,  $x + \beta$ ,  $\log(|x| + \epsilon)$ ,  $\exp(x)$ ,  $\sin(x)$ ,  $\cos(x)$ ,  $\sinh(x)$ ,  $\cosh(x)$ ,  $\tanh(x)$ ,  $\sinh^{-1}(x)$ ,  $\tan^{-1}(x)$ ,  $\text{sinc}(x)$ ,  $\max(x, 0)$ ,  $\min(x, 0)$ ,  $\sigma(x)$ ,  $\log(1 + \exp(x))$ ,  $\exp(-x^2)$ ,  $\text{erf}(x)$ ,  $\beta$
- **Binary functions:**  $x_1 + x_2$ ,  $x_1 \cdot x_2$ ,  $x_1 - x_2$ ,  $\frac{x_1}{x_2 + \epsilon}$ ,  $\max(x_1, x_2)$ ,  $\min(x_1, x_2)$ ,  $\sigma(x_1) \cdot x_2$ ,  $\exp(-\beta(x_1 - x_2)^2)$ ,  $\exp(-\beta|x_1 - x_2|)$ ,  $\beta x_1 + (1 - \beta)x_2$



# Policy Gradients

Update the **policy directly** to maximise the expected long term rewards !

$$\hat{g} = \hat{\mathbb{E}}_t \left[ \nabla_{\theta} \log \pi_{\theta}(a_t | s_t) \hat{A}_t \right]$$

$$\hat{A}_t = \delta_t + (\gamma\lambda)\delta_{t+1} + \dots + \dots + (\gamma\lambda)^{T-t+1}\delta_{T-1},$$

where  $\delta_t = r_t + \gamma V(s_{t+1}) - V(s_t)$

**Leads to destructively large policy update !**

Agent loss function

# Trust Region Methods

Surrogate function

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{maximize}_{\theta} \hat{\mathbb{E}}_t \left[ \frac{\pi_{\theta}(a_t | s_t)}{\pi_{\theta_{\text{old}}}(a_t | s_t)} \hat{A}_t \right] \\ &\text{subject to } \hat{\mathbb{E}}_t [\text{KL}[\pi_{\theta_{\text{old}}}(\cdot | s_t), \pi_{\theta}(\cdot | s_t)]] \leq \delta. \end{aligned}$$

Constraint based on the the size of the policy update

# Clipped Surrogate

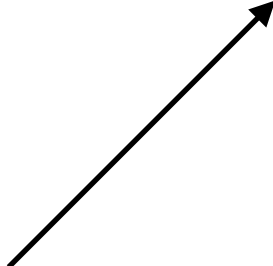
$$: \hat{\mathbb{E}}_t \left[ \frac{\pi_{\theta}(a_t | s_t)}{\pi_{\theta_{\text{old}}}(a_t | s_t)} \hat{A}_t \right] = \hat{\mathbb{E}}_t \left[ r_t(\theta) \hat{A}_t \right].$$

$$\text{clip}(r_t(\theta), 1 - \epsilon, 1 + \epsilon) \hat{A}_t$$

$$L^{CLIP}(\theta) = \hat{\mathbb{E}}_t \left[ \min(r_t(\theta) \hat{A}_t, \text{clip}(r_t(\theta), 1 - \epsilon, 1 + \epsilon) \hat{A}_t) \right]$$

# Putting everything together

$$L_t^{CLIP+VF+S}(\theta) = \hat{\mathbb{E}}_t [L_t^{CLIP}(\theta) - c_1 L_t^{VF}(\theta) + c_2 S[\pi_\theta](s_t)]$$

$$(V_\theta(s_t) - V_t^{\text{targ}})^2$$


Entropy Bonus to  
increase exploration



# Proximal Policy Optimisation

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**Algorithm 1** PPO, Actor-Critic Style

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```
for iteration=1,2,... do  
  for actor=1,2,...,  $N$  do  
    Run policy  $\pi_{\theta_{\text{old}}}$  in environment for  $T$  timesteps  
    Compute advantage estimates  $\hat{A}_1, \dots, \hat{A}_T$   
  end for  
  Optimize surrogate  $L$  wrt  $\theta$ , with  $K$  epochs and minibatch size  $M \leq NT$   
   $\theta_{\text{old}} \leftarrow \theta$   
end for
```

---

# Results

```
INFO:tensorflow:global_step/sec: 74.7513
INFO:tensorflow:loss = 2.307766, step = 15980378 (1.337 sec)
INFO:tensorflow:global_step/sec: 74.5161
INFO:tensorflow:loss = 2.2983985, step = 15980478 (1.342 sec)
INFO:tensorflow:global_step/sec: 74.6956
INFO:tensorflow:loss = 2.3078947, step = 15980578 (1.339 sec)
INFO:tensorflow:global_step/sec: 74.7885
INFO:tensorflow:loss = 2.3001652, step = 15980678 (1.337 sec)
INFO:tensorflow:global_step/sec: 74.809
INFO:tensorflow:loss = 2.3074267, step = 15980778 (1.337 sec)
INFO:tensorflow:global_step/sec: 76.1826
INFO:tensorflow:loss = 2.3065348, step = 15980878 (1.313 sec)
INFO:tensorflow:global_step/sec: 75.3713
INFO:tensorflow:loss = 2.3012478, step = 15980978 (1.327 sec)
INFO:tensorflow:global_step/sec: 75.647
INFO:tensorflow:loss = 2.3102431, step = 15981078 (1.322 sec)
INFO:tensorflow:global_step/sec: 75.9671
INFO:tensorflow:loss = 2.310913, step = 15981178 (1.316 sec)
INFO:tensorflow:global_step/sec: 73.7092
INFO:tensorflow:loss = 2.3001149, step = 15981278 (1.357 sec)
INFO:tensorflow:global_step/sec: 74.0312
INFO:tensorflow:loss = 2.3001096, step = 15981378 (1.350 sec)
INFO:tensorflow:global_step/sec: 74.6679
INFO:tensorflow:loss = 2.3046515, step = 15981478 (1.340 sec)
```

## Activation functions

3x

1

-3

**Negative result :(**

# Why did we fail ?

1. Didn't train the model enough





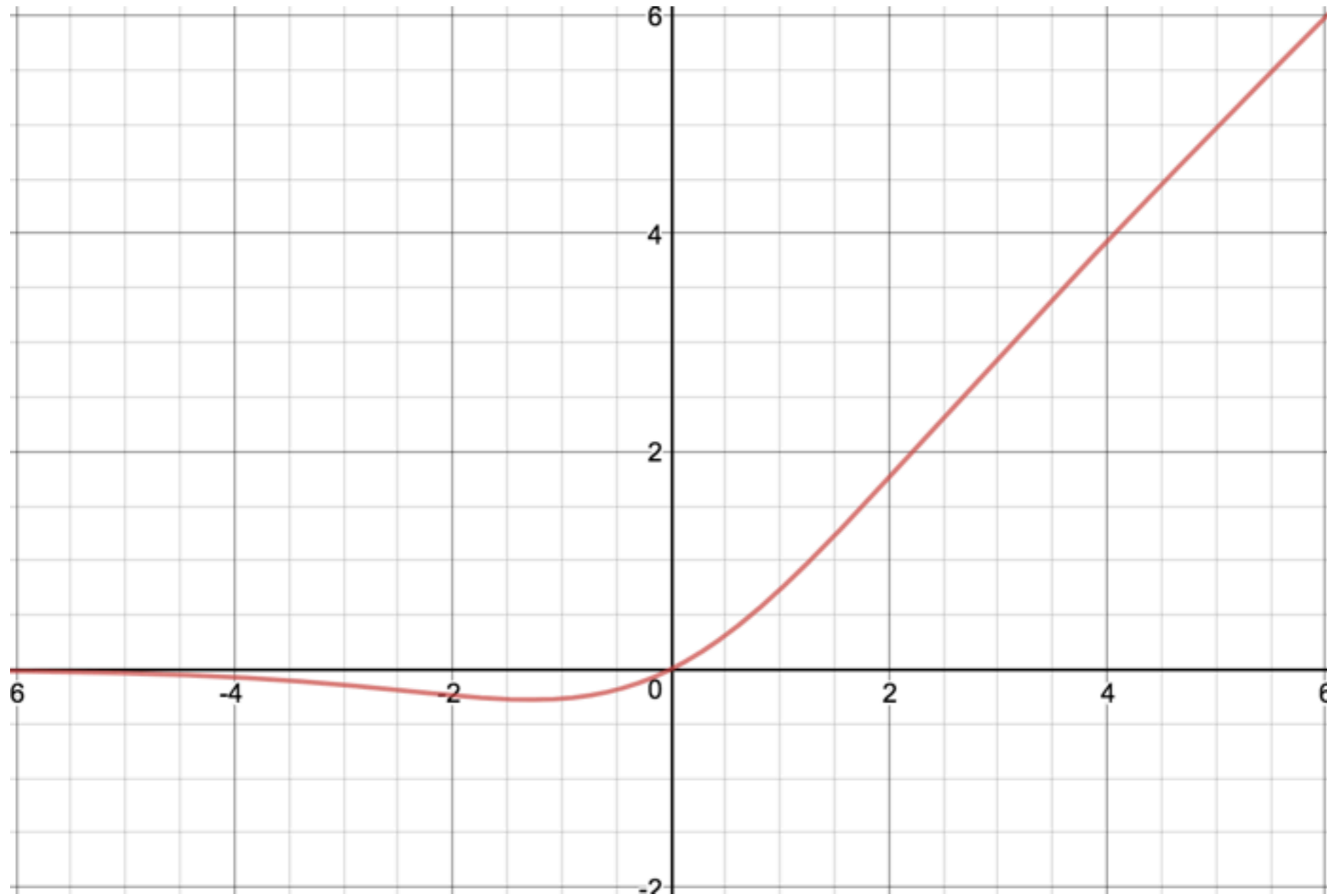
# Why did we fail ?

2. Local minima  
and saddle points



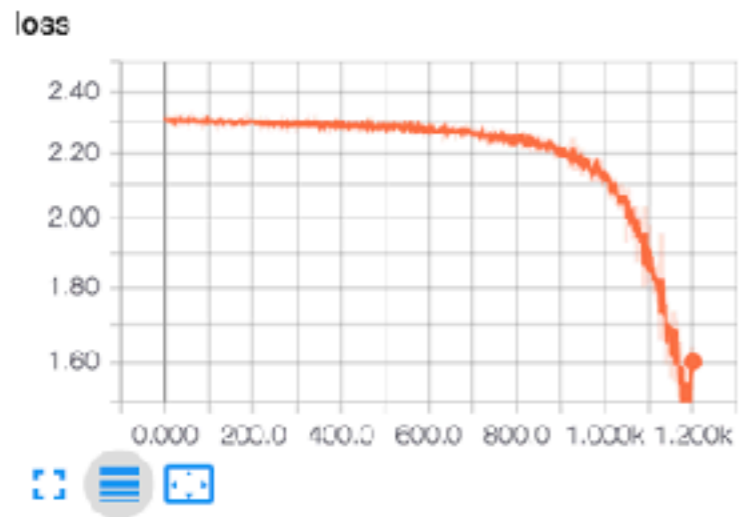
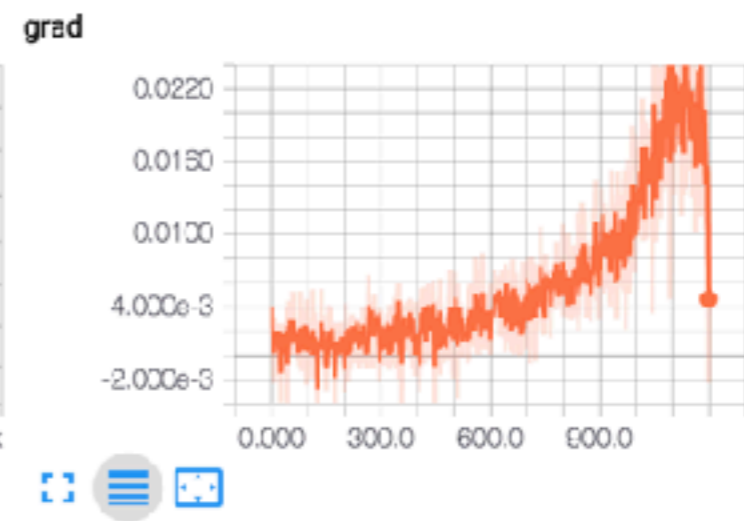
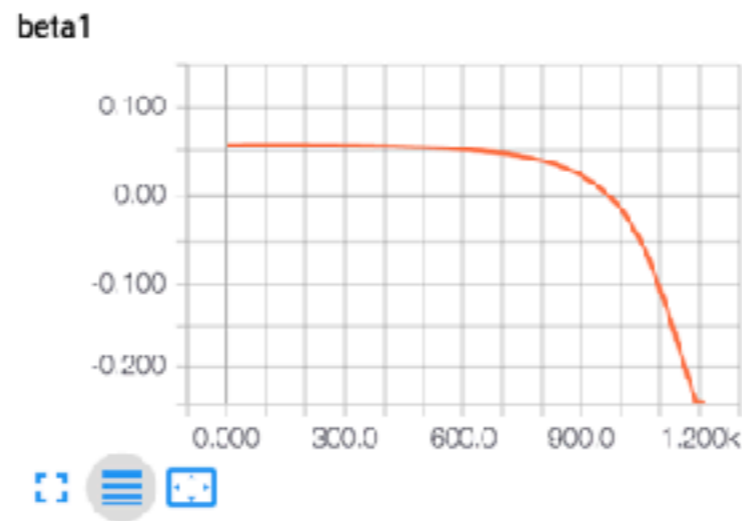
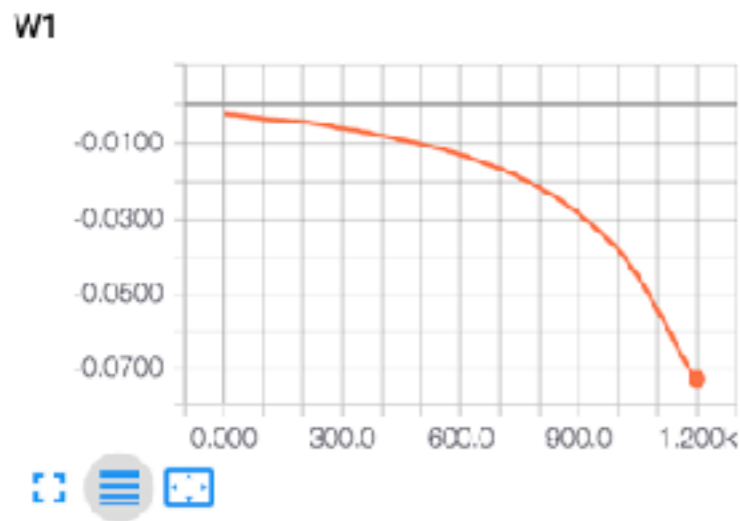
# Swish

$$x \cdot \text{sigmoid}(x)$$



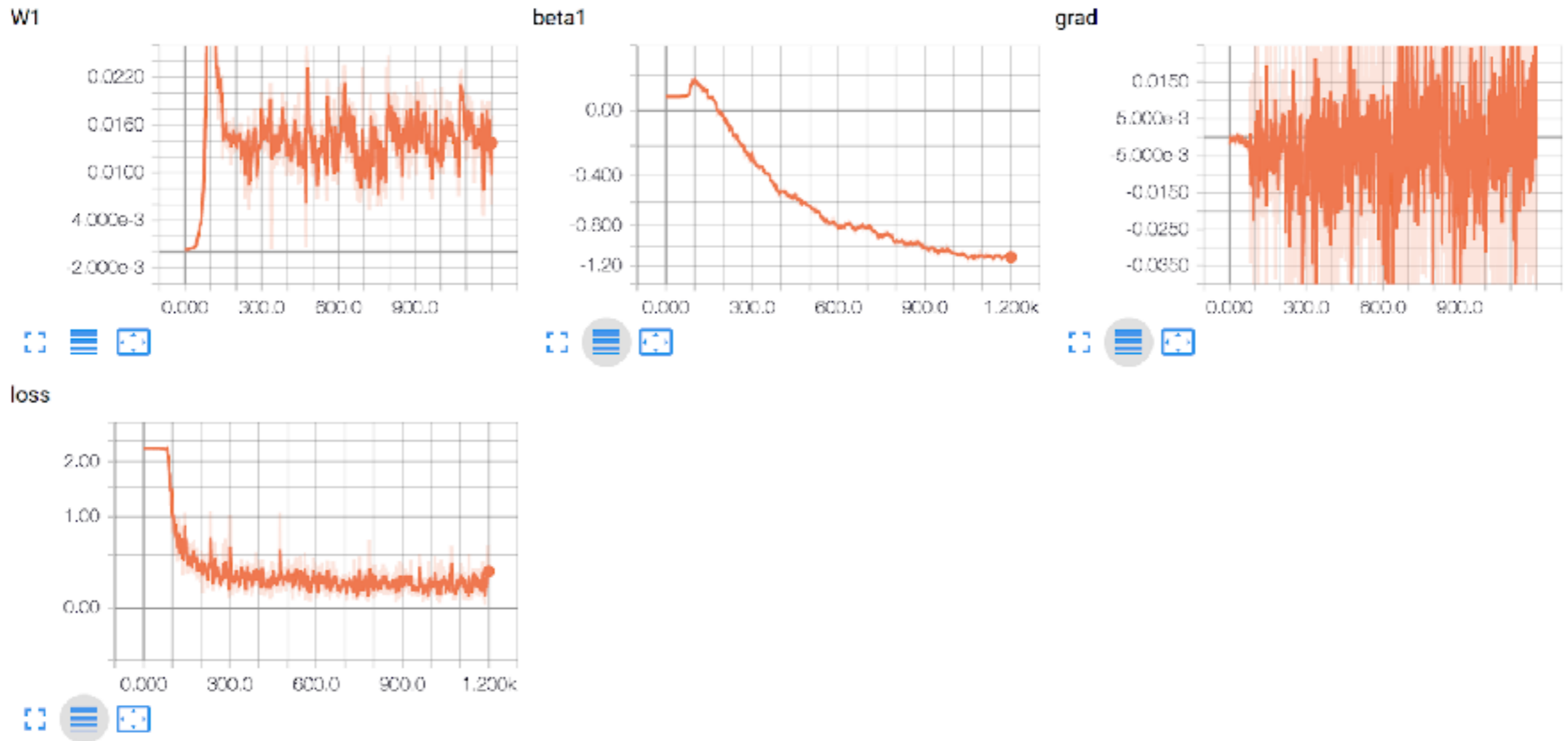
# Training using swish

## Using SGD

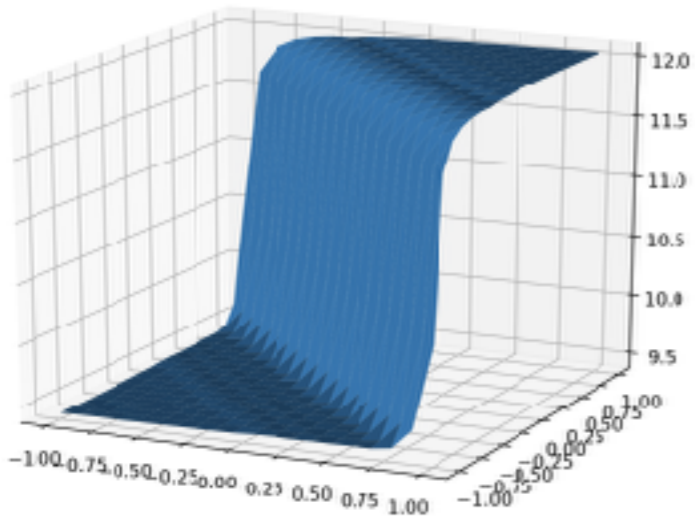


# Training using swish

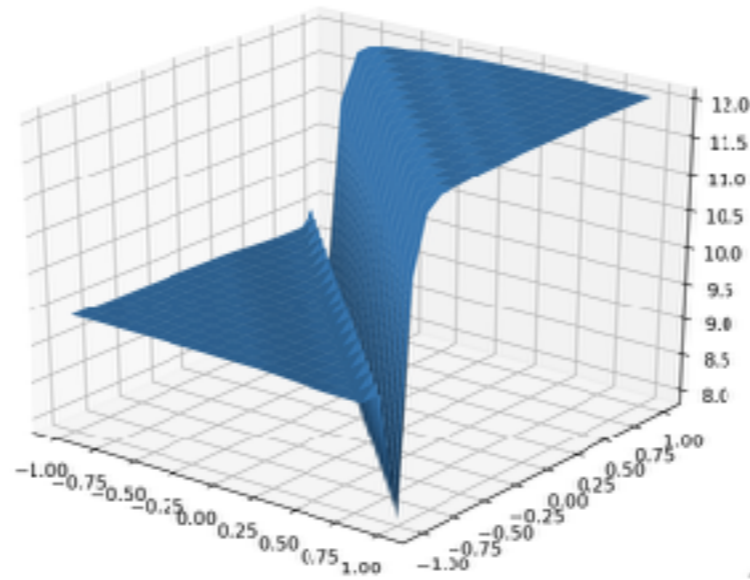
## Using RMSprop



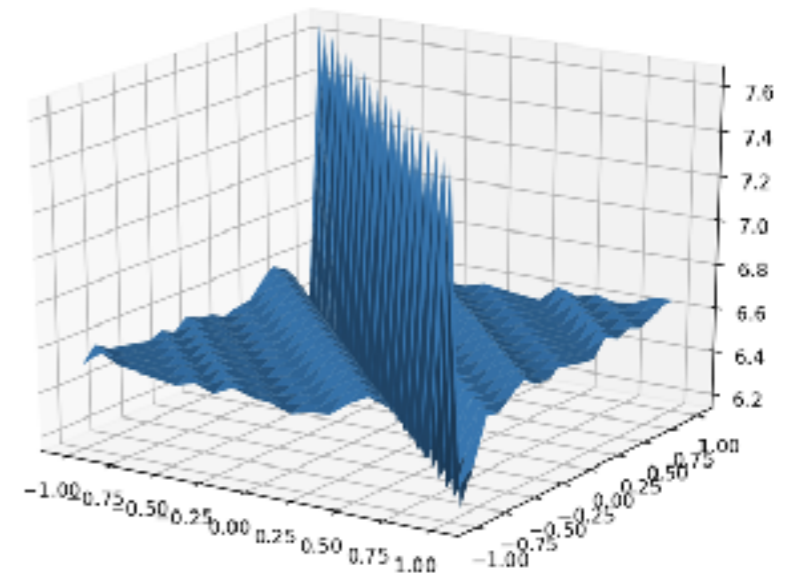
# Visualisation



**RELU**



**SWISH**



**TANH**

# The future ?



# Hyperparameter search



AutoML

# **Github link**

**[bit.ly/saf\\_git](https://bit.ly/saf_git)**



# Thank you

Email : [angmingliang4017ic@gmail.com](mailto:angmingliang4017ic@gmail.com)

Facebook: Ang Ming Liang