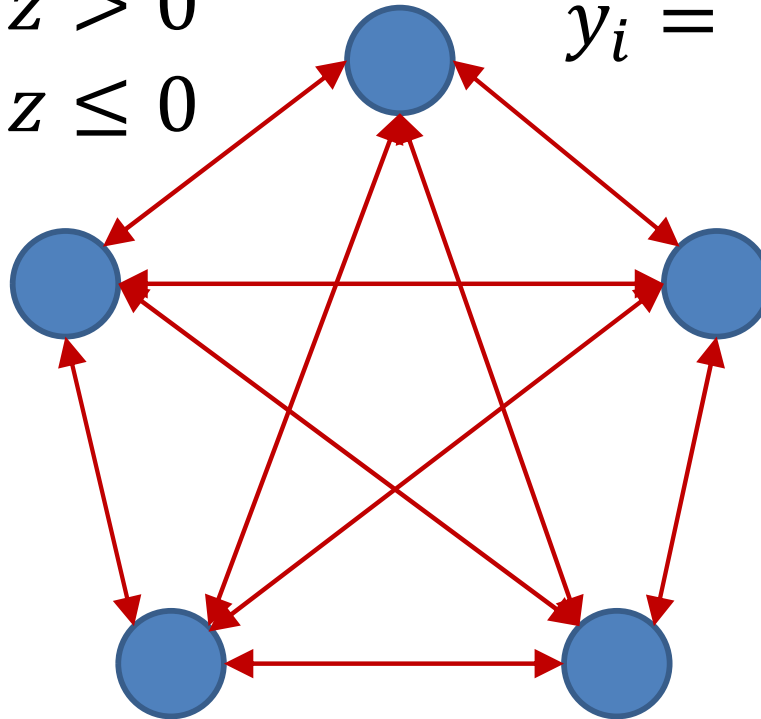


# **Neural Networks**

**Hopfield Nets and Boltzmann Machines**  
**Fall 2022**

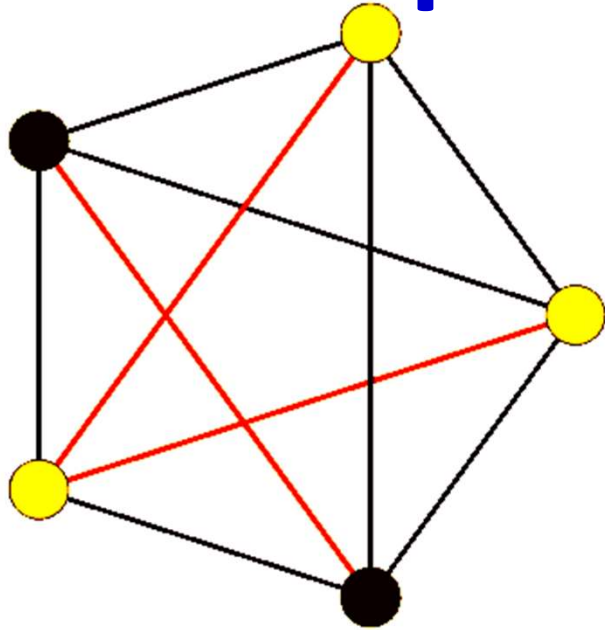
# Recap: Hopfield network

$$\Theta(z) = \begin{cases} +1 & \text{if } z > 0 \\ -1 & \text{if } z \leq 0 \end{cases} \quad y_i = \Theta \left( \sum_{j \neq i} w_{ji} y_j + b_i \right)$$



- ***Symmetric loopy network***
- Each neuron is a perceptron with +1/-1 output

# Recap: Hopfield network

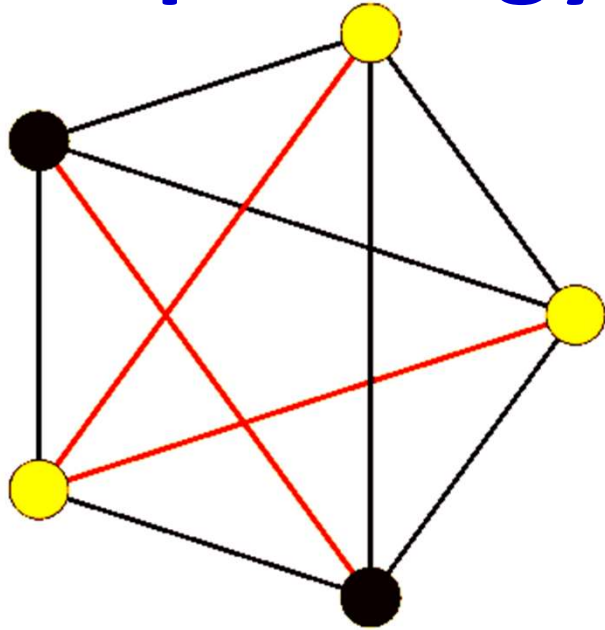


$$y_i = \Theta \left( \sum_{j \neq i} w_{ji} y_j + b_i \right)$$

$$\Theta(z) = \begin{cases} +1 & \text{if } z > 0 \\ -1 & \text{if } z \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

- At each time each neuron receives a “field”  $\sum_{j \neq i} w_{ji} y_j + b_i$
- If the sign of the field matches its own sign, it does not respond
- If the sign of the field opposes its own sign, it “flips” to match the sign of the field

# Recap: Energy of a Hopfield Network



$$y_i = \Theta \left( \sum_{j \neq i} w_{ji} y_j \right)$$

$$\Theta(z) = \begin{cases} +1 & \text{if } z > 0 \\ -1 & \text{if } z \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

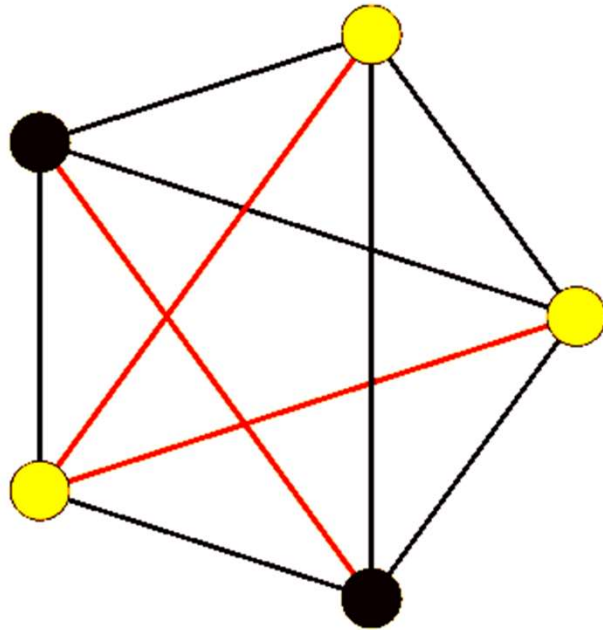
Not assuming node bias

$$E = - \sum_{i,j < i} w_{ij} y_i y_j$$

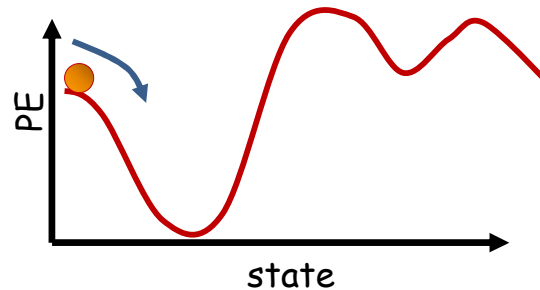
- The system will evolve until the energy hits a local minimum
- In vector form, including a bias term (not typically used in Hopfield nets)

$$E = -\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{W} \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{y}$$

# Recap: Evolution

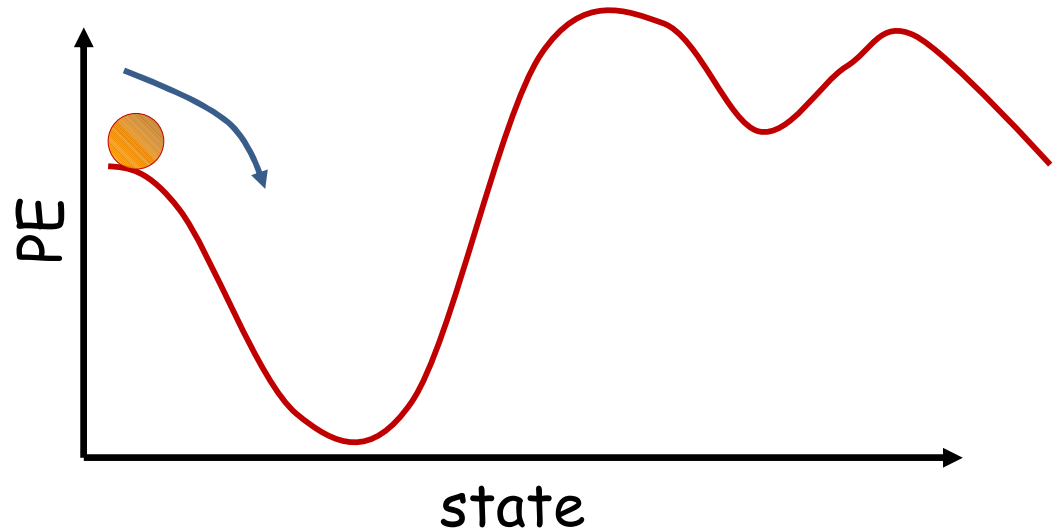
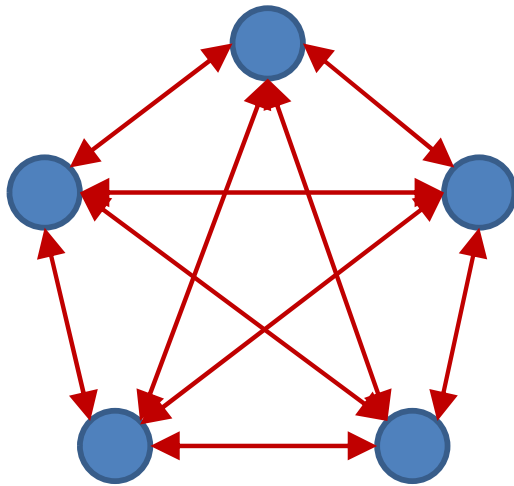


$$E = -\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{W} \mathbf{y}$$



- The network will evolve until it arrives at a local minimum in the energy contour

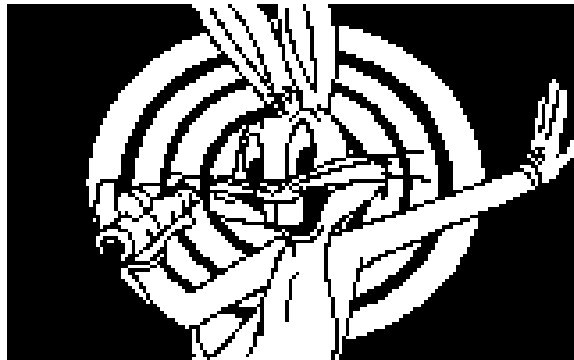
# Recap: Content-addressable memory



- Each of the minima is a “stored” pattern
  - If the network is initialized close to a stored pattern, it will inevitably evolve to the pattern
- **This is a *content addressable memory***
  - Recall memory content from partial or corrupt values
- Also called ***associative memory***

# Examples: Content addressable memory

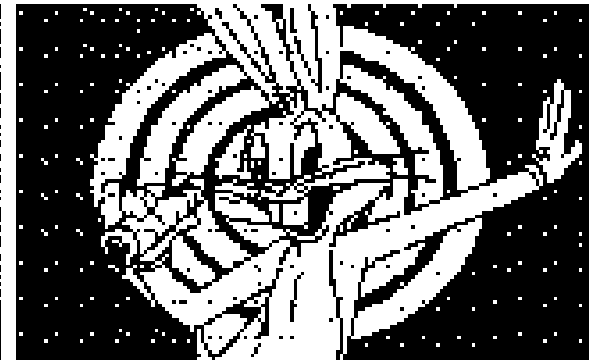
Original



Degraded



Reconstruction



Hopfield network reconstructing degraded images  
from noisy (top) or partial (bottom) cues.

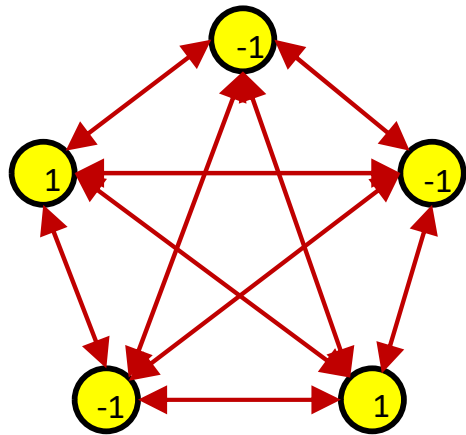
- <http://staff.itee.uq.edu.au/janetw/cmc/chapters/Hopfield/> <sub>7</sub>

# “Training” the network

- How do we make the network store *a specific* pattern or set of patterns?
  - Hebbian learning
  - Geometric approach
  - Optimization
- Secondary question
  - How many patterns can we store?



# Recap: Hebbian Learning to Store a Specific Pattern



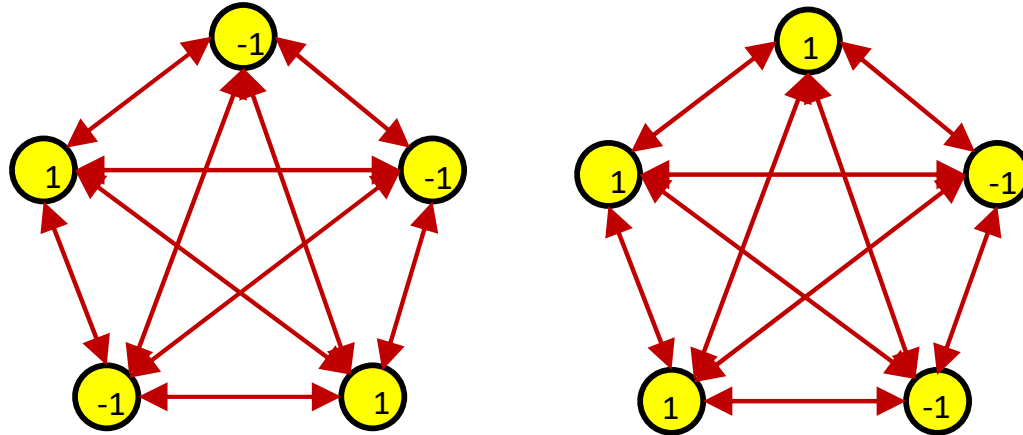
HEBBIAN LEARNING:

$$w_{ji} = y_j y_i$$

$$\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{y}_p \mathbf{y}_p^T - \mathbf{I}$$

- For a single stored pattern, Hebbian learning results in a network for which the target pattern is a global minimum

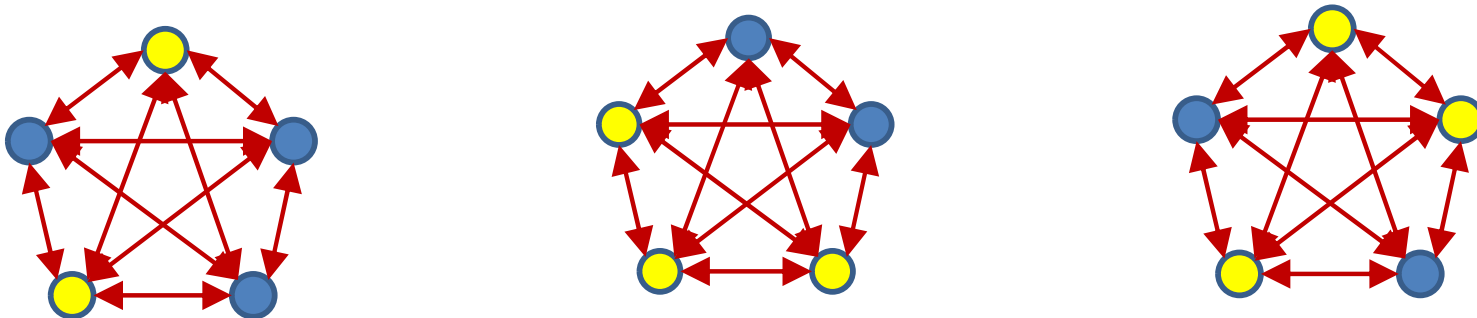
# Storing multiple patterns



$$w_{ji} \propto \sum_{p \in \{y_p\}} y_i^p y_j^p$$

- $\{y_p\}$  is the set of patterns to store
- Superscript  $p$  represents the specific pattern

# How many patterns can we store?



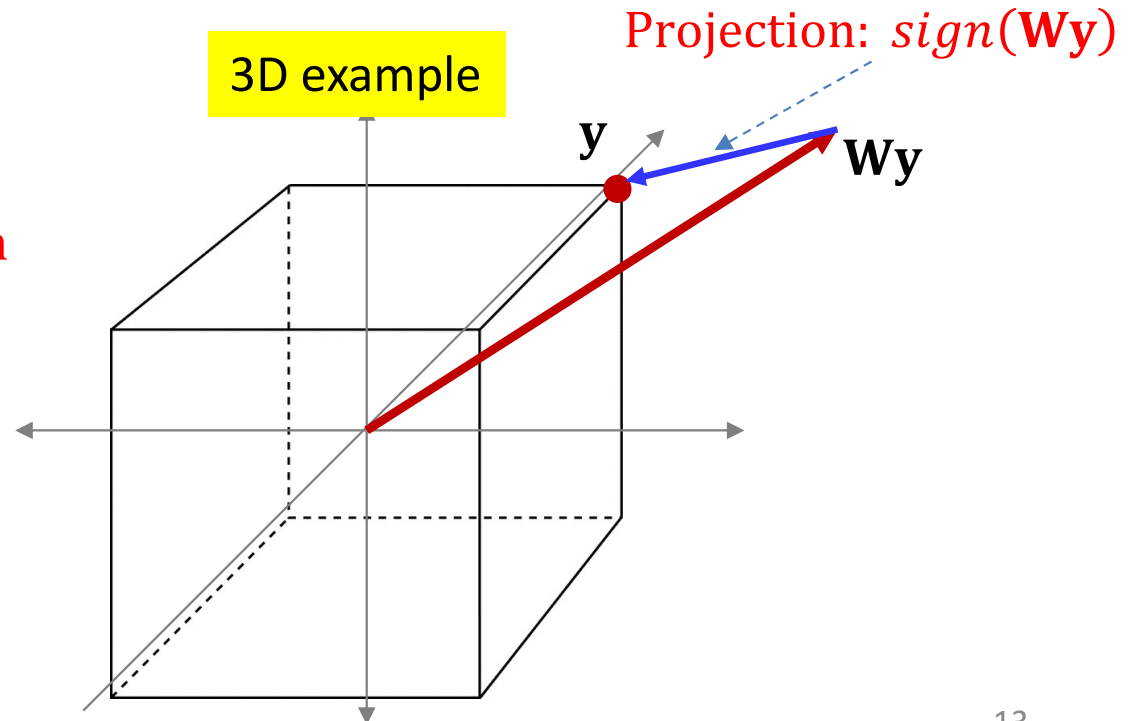
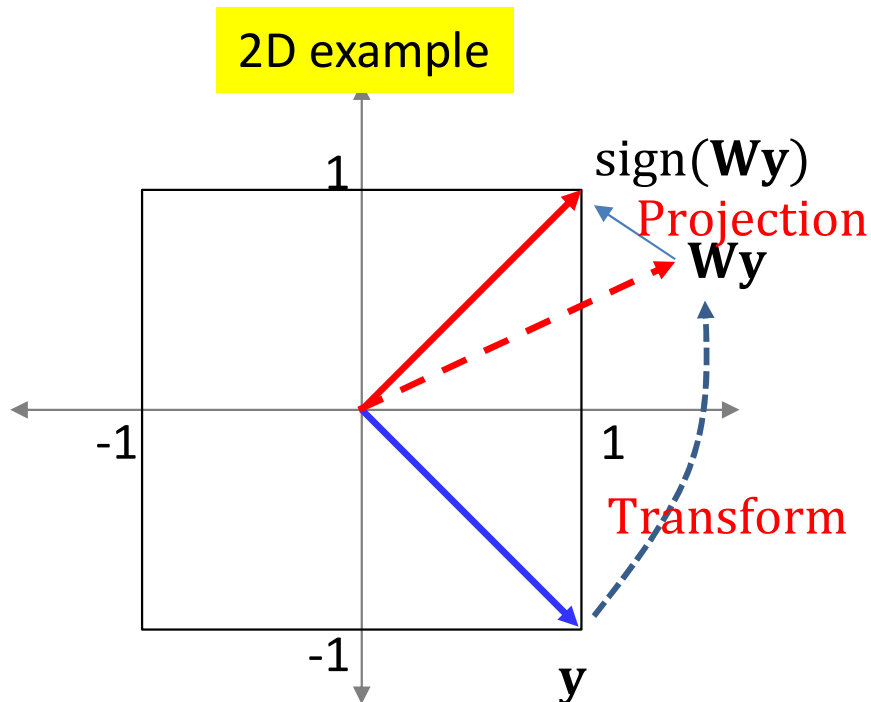
- Hopfield: For a network of  $N$  neurons can store up to  $0.14N$  random patterns
- In reality, seems possible to store  $K > 0.14N$  patterns
  - i.e. obtain a weight matrix  $W$  such that  $K > 0.14N$  patterns are stationary
  - But behavior with more than even 1 pattern is unpredictable

# “Training” the network

- How do we make the network store *a specific* pattern or set of patterns?
  - Hebbian learning
  - Geometric approach
  - Optimization
- Secondary question
  - How many patterns can we store?

# Evolution of the network

- Note: for real vectors  $\text{sign}(\mathbf{y})$  is a projection
  - Projects  $\mathbf{y}$  onto the nearest corner of the hypercube
  - It “quantizes” the space into orthants
- Response to field:  $\mathbf{y} \leftarrow \text{sign}(\mathbf{W}\mathbf{y})$ 
  - Each step rotates the vector  $\mathbf{y}$  and then projects it onto the nearest corner



# Storing patterns

- A pattern  $\mathbf{y}_p$  is stored if:
  - $\text{sign}(\mathbf{W}\mathbf{y}_p) = \mathbf{y}_p$  for all target patterns
- Training: Design  $\mathbf{W}$  such that this holds
- Simple solution:  $\mathbf{y}_p$  is an Eigenvector of  $\mathbf{W}$ 
  - And the corresponding Eigenvalue is positive
$$\mathbf{W}\mathbf{y}_p = \lambda\mathbf{y}_p$$
  - More generally  $\text{orthant}(\mathbf{W}\mathbf{y}_p) = \text{orthant}(\mathbf{y}_p)$
- How many such  $\mathbf{y}_p$  can we have?

# Storing more than one pattern

- Requirement: Given  $\mathbf{y}_1, \mathbf{y}_2, \dots, \mathbf{y}_P$ 
  - Design  $\mathbf{W}$  such that
    - $\text{sign}(\mathbf{W}\mathbf{y}_p) = \mathbf{y}_p$  for all target patterns
    - There are no other *binary* vectors for which this holds
- What is the largest number of patterns that can be stored?

# Storing $K$ orthogonal patterns

- Simple solution: Design  $\mathbf{W}$  such that  $\mathbf{y}_1, \mathbf{y}_2, \dots, \mathbf{y}_K$  are the Eigen vectors of  $\mathbf{W}$ 
  - Let  $\mathbf{Y} = [\mathbf{y}_1 \ \mathbf{y}_2 \ \dots \ \mathbf{y}_K]$

$$\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{Y} \mathbf{\Lambda} \mathbf{Y}^T$$

- $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_K$  are positive
  - For  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = \lambda_K = 1$  this is exactly the Hebbian rule
- The patterns are provably stationary



# Storing $N$ orthogonal patterns

- The  $N$  orthogonal patterns  $\mathbf{y}_1, \mathbf{y}_2, \dots, \mathbf{y}_N$  *span the space*
- Any pattern  $\mathbf{y}$  can be written as

$$\mathbf{y} = a_1 \mathbf{y}_1 + a_2 \mathbf{y}_2 + \dots + a_N \mathbf{y}_N$$

$$\mathbf{W}\mathbf{y} = a_1 \mathbf{W}\mathbf{y}_1 + a_2 \mathbf{W}\mathbf{y}_2 + \dots + a_N \mathbf{W}\mathbf{y}_N$$

$$= a_1 \mathbf{y}_1 + a_2 \mathbf{y}_2 + \dots + a_N \mathbf{y}_N = \mathbf{y}$$

- *All patterns are stationary*
  - Remembers everything
  - ***Completely useless network***

# Hebbian rule and general (non-orthogonal) vectors

$$w_{ji} = \sum_{p \in \{p\}} y_i^p y_j^p$$

- What happens when the patterns are *not* orthogonal
- What happens when the patterns are presented *more* than once
  - Different patterns presented different numbers of times
  - Equivalent to having unequal Eigen values..
- Can we predict the evolution of any vector **y**
  - Hint: For real valued vectors, use Lanczos iterations
    - Can write  $\mathbf{Y}_P = \mathbf{U}_P \mathbf{\Lambda} \mathbf{V}_p^T$ ,  $\rightarrow \mathbf{W} = \mathbf{U}_P \mathbf{\Lambda}^2 \mathbf{U}_p^T$
  - Tougher for binary vectors (NP)

# The bottom line

- With a network of  $N$  units (i.e.  $N$ -bit patterns)
- The maximum number of stationary patterns is actually *exponential* in  $N$ 
  - McElice and Posner, 84'
  - E.g. when we had the Hebbian net with  $N$  orthogonal base patterns, *all* patterns are stationary
- For a *specific* set of  $K$  patterns, we can *always* build a network for which all  $K$  patterns are stable provided  $K \leq N$ 
  - Mostafa and St. Jacques 85'
    - For large  $N$ , the upper bound on  $K$  is actually  $N/4\log N$ 
      - McElice et. Al. 87'
  - **But this may come with many “parasitic” memories**

# The bottom line

- With an network of  $N$  units (i.e.  $N$ -bit patterns)
- The maximum number of stable patterns is actually *exponential* in  $N$ 
  - McElice and Posner, 84'
  - E.g. when we had the H... use
- For a *specific* set of  $K$  patterns, we can *always* build a network for which all  $K$  patterns are stable provided  $K \leq N$ 
  - Mostafa and St. Jacques 85'
    - For large  $N$ , the upper bound on  $K$  is actually  $N/4\log N$ 
      - McElice et. Al. 87'
  - **But this may come with many “parasitic” memories**

How do we find this network?

# The bottom line

- With an network of  $N$  units (i.e.  $N$ -bit patterns)
- The maximum number of stable patterns is actually *exponential* in  $N$ 
  - McElice and Posner, 84'
  - E.g. when we had the H... use
- For a *specific* set of  $K$  patterns, we can *always* build a network for which all  $K$  patterns are stable provided  $K \leq N$ 
  - Mostafa and St. Jacques 85'
    - For large  $N$ , the upper bound on  $K$  is actually  $N$ 
      - McElice et. Al. 87'
  - But this may come with many “parasitic” memories

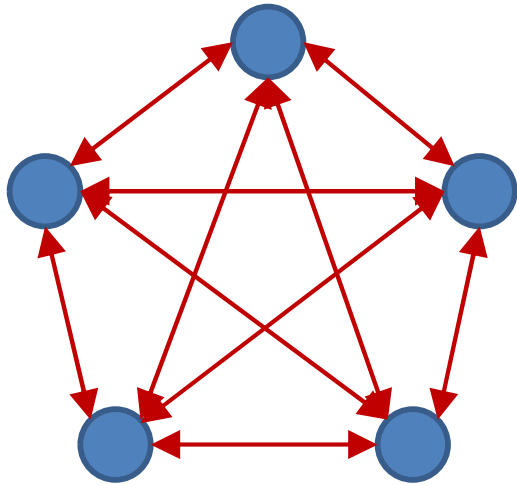
How do we find this network?

Can we do something about this?

# A different tack

- How do we make the network store *a specific* pattern or set of patterns?
  - Hebbian learning
  - Geometric approach
  - Optimization
- Secondary question
  - How many patterns can we store?

# Consider the energy function

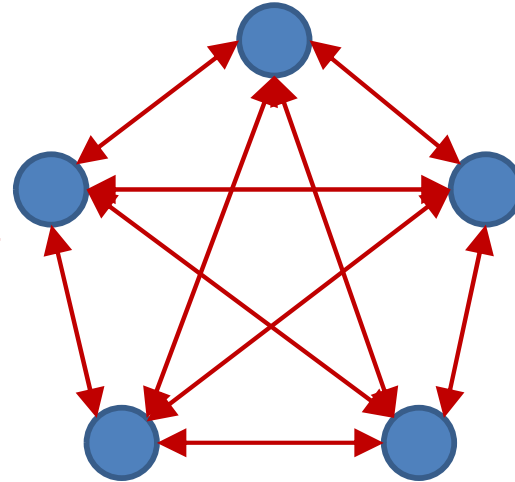


$$E = -\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{W} \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{y}$$

- This must be *maximally* low for target patterns
- Must be *maximally* high for *all other patterns*
  - So that they are unstable and evolve into one of the target patterns

# Alternate Approach to Estimating the Network

$$E(\mathbf{y}) = -\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{W} \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{y}$$



- Estimate **W** (and **b**) such that
  - *E* is minimized for  $\mathbf{y}_1, \mathbf{y}_2, \dots, \mathbf{y}_P$
  - *E* is maximized for all other  $\mathbf{y}$
- Caveat: Unrealistic to expect to store more than  $N$  patterns, but can we make those  $N$  patterns *memorable*



# Optimizing $W$ (and $b$ )

$$E(\mathbf{y}) = -\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{W} \mathbf{y} \qquad \hat{\mathbf{W}} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{W}} \sum_{\mathbf{y} \in Y_P} E(\mathbf{y})$$

The bias can be captured by  
another fixed-value component

- Minimize total energy of target patterns
  - Problem with this?

# Optimizing $W$

$$E(\mathbf{y}) = -\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{W} \mathbf{y}$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{W}} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{W}} \sum_{\mathbf{y} \in \mathbf{Y}_P} E(\mathbf{y}) - \sum_{\mathbf{y} \notin \mathbf{Y}_P} E(\mathbf{y})$$

- Minimize total energy of target patterns
- Maximize the total energy of all *non-target* patterns

# Optimizing $\mathbf{W}$

$$E(\mathbf{y}) = -\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{W} \mathbf{y} \quad \hat{\mathbf{W}} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{W}} \sum_{\mathbf{y} \in \mathbf{Y}_P} E(\mathbf{y}) - \sum_{\mathbf{y} \notin \mathbf{Y}_P} E(\mathbf{y})$$

- Simple gradient descent:

$$\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{W} + \eta \left( \sum_{\mathbf{y} \in \mathbf{Y}_P} \mathbf{y} \mathbf{y}^T - \sum_{\mathbf{y} \notin \mathbf{Y}_P} \mathbf{y} \mathbf{y}^T \right)$$

# Optimizing W

$$\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{W} + \eta \left( \sum_{\mathbf{y} \in Y_P} \mathbf{y}\mathbf{y}^T - \sum_{\mathbf{y} \notin Y_P} \mathbf{y}\mathbf{y}^T \right)$$

- Can “emphasize” the importance of a pattern by repeating
  - More repetitions  $\rightarrow$  greater emphasis

# Optimizing W

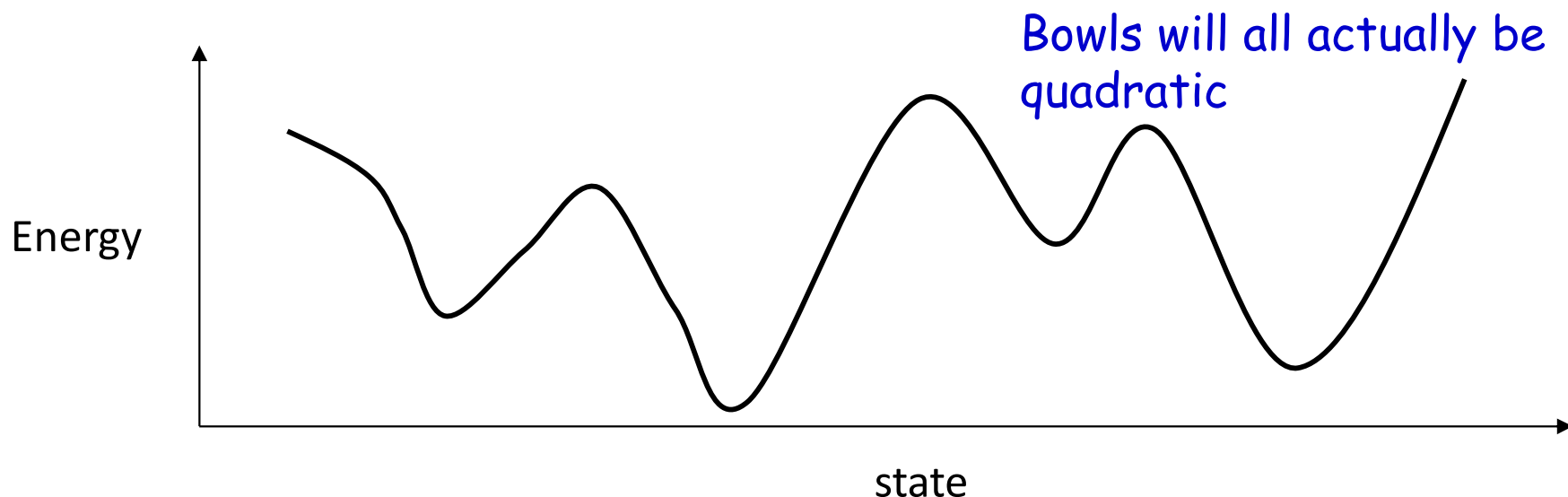
$$\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{W} + \eta \left( \sum_{\mathbf{y} \in Y_P} \mathbf{y}\mathbf{y}^T - \sum_{\mathbf{y} \notin Y_P} \mathbf{y}\mathbf{y}^T \right)$$

- Can “emphasize” the importance of a pattern by repeating
  - More repetitions  $\rightarrow$  greater emphasis
- How many of these?
  - Do we need to include *all* of them?
  - Are all equally important?

# The training again..

$$\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{W} + \eta \left( \sum_{\mathbf{y} \in Y_P} \mathbf{y}\mathbf{y}^T - \sum_{\mathbf{y} \notin Y_P} \mathbf{y}\mathbf{y}^T \right)$$

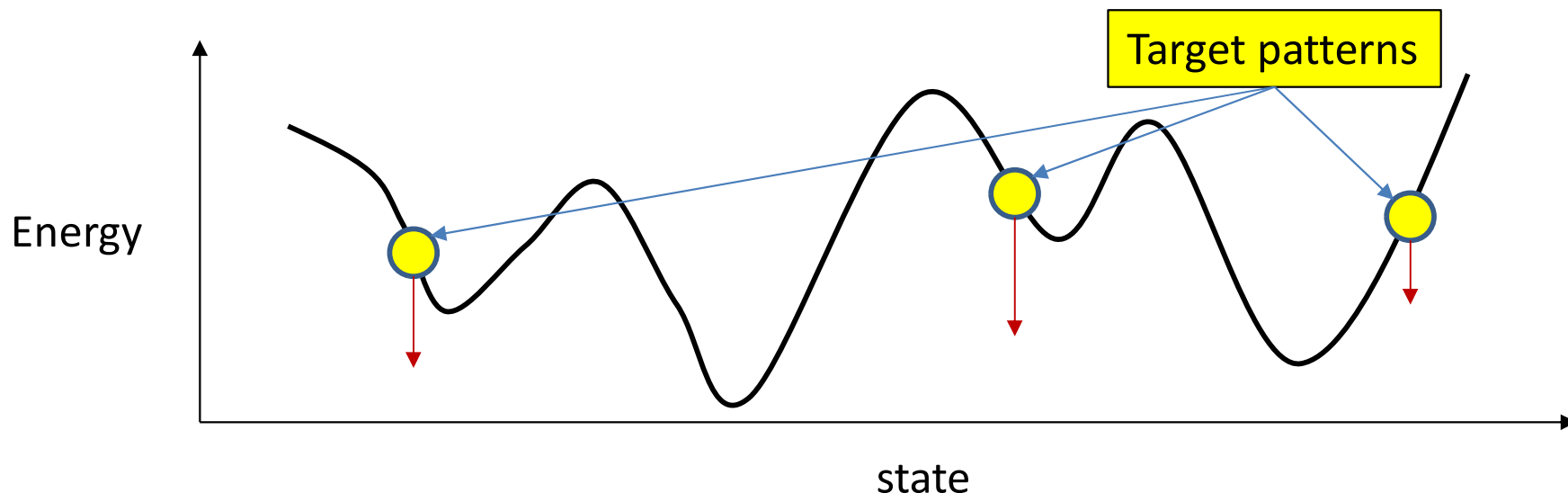
- Note the energy contour of a Hopfield network for any weight  $\mathbf{W}$



# The training again

$$\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{W} + \eta \left( \sum_{\mathbf{y} \in Y_P} \mathbf{y}\mathbf{y}^T - \sum_{\mathbf{y} \notin Y_P} \mathbf{y}\mathbf{y}^T \right)$$

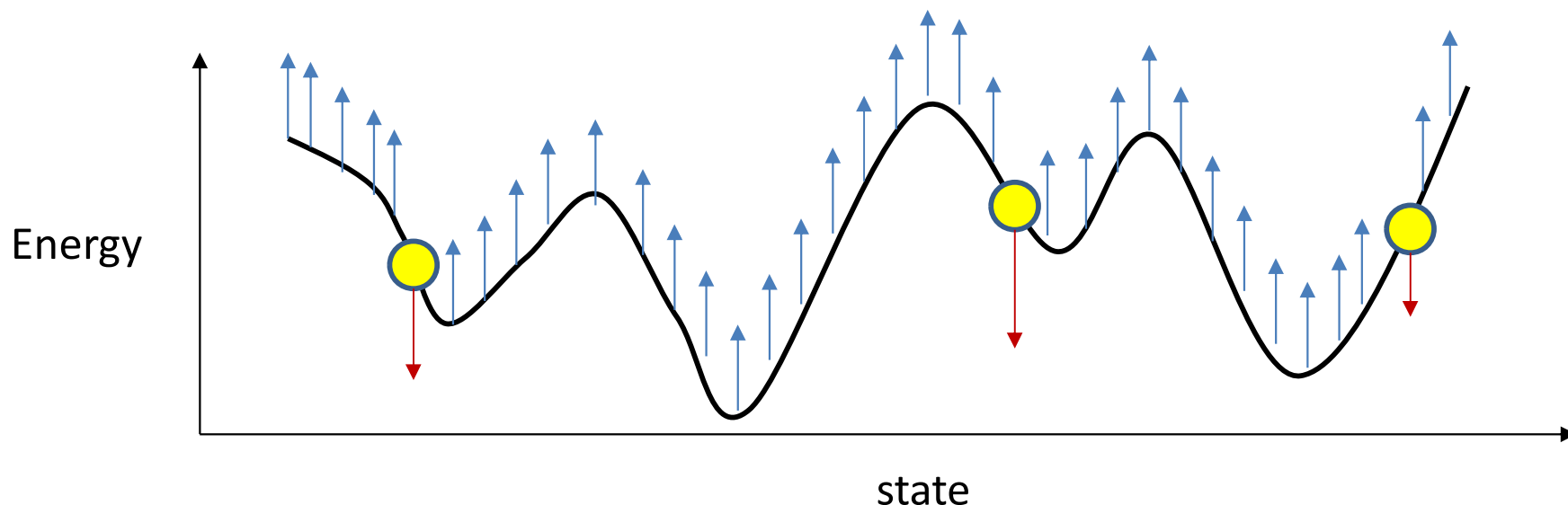
- The first term tries to *minimize* the energy at target patterns
  - Make them local minima
  - Emphasize more “important” memories by repeating them more frequently



# The negative class

$$\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{W} + \eta \left( \sum_{\mathbf{y} \in Y_P} \mathbf{y}\mathbf{y}^T - \sum_{\mathbf{y} \notin Y_P} \mathbf{y}\mathbf{y}^T \right)$$

- The second term tries to “raise” all non-target patterns
  - Do we need to raise *everything*?

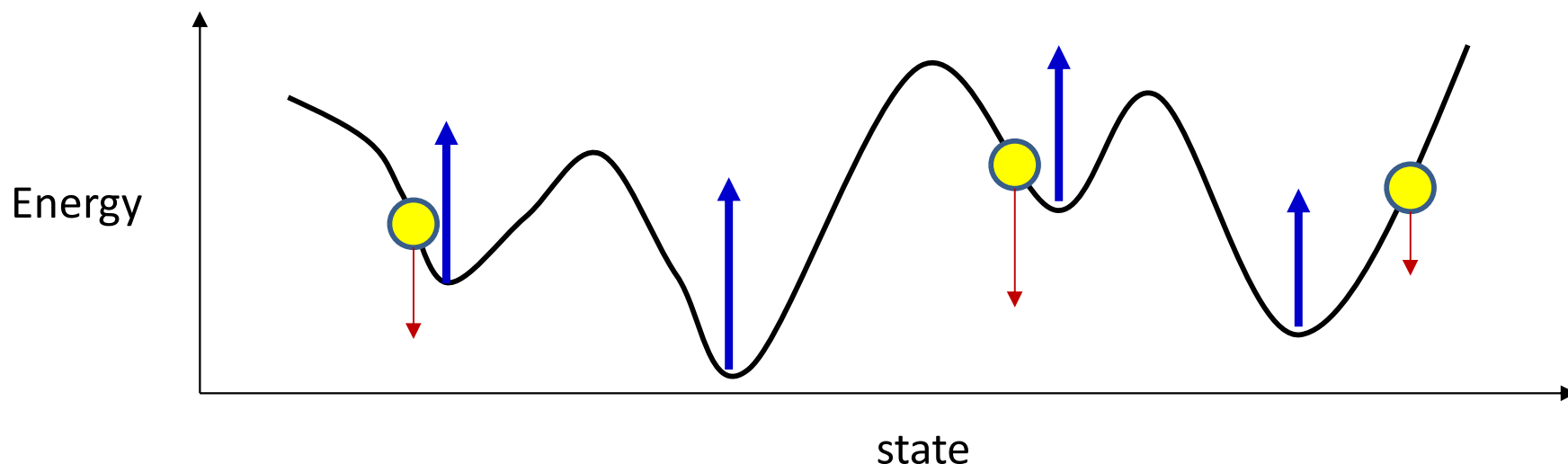




# Option 1: Focus on the valleys

$$\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{W} + \eta \left( \sum_{y \in Y_P} \mathbf{y}\mathbf{y}^T - \sum_{y \notin Y_P \& y = \text{valley}} \mathbf{y}\mathbf{y}^T \right)$$

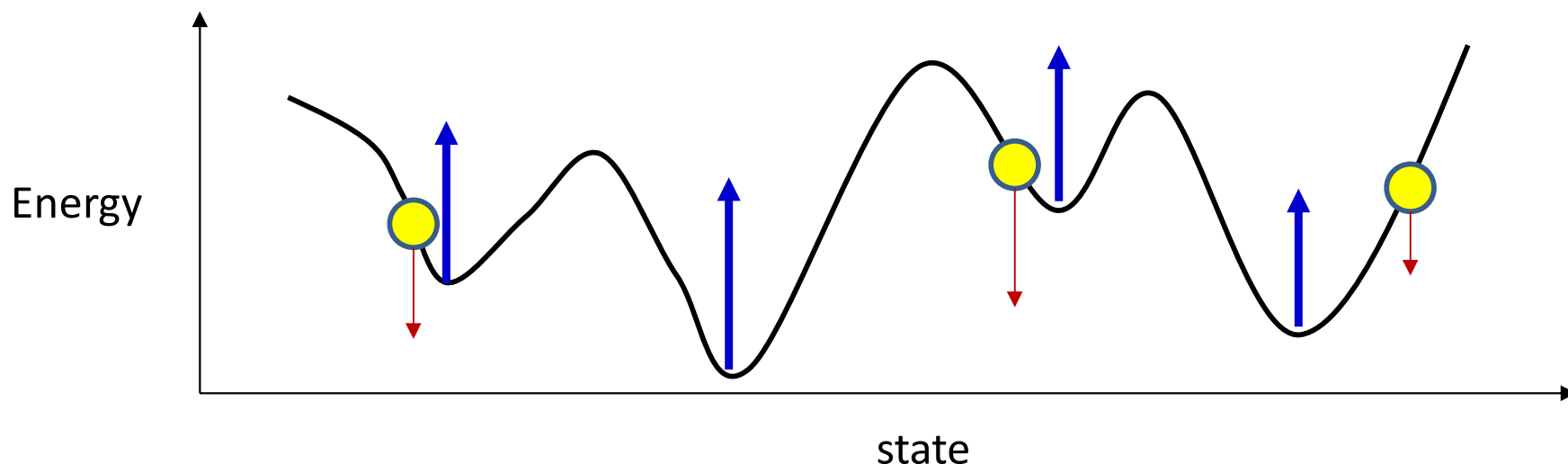
- Focus on raising the valleys
  - If you raise *every* valley, eventually they'll all move up above the target patterns, and many will even vanish



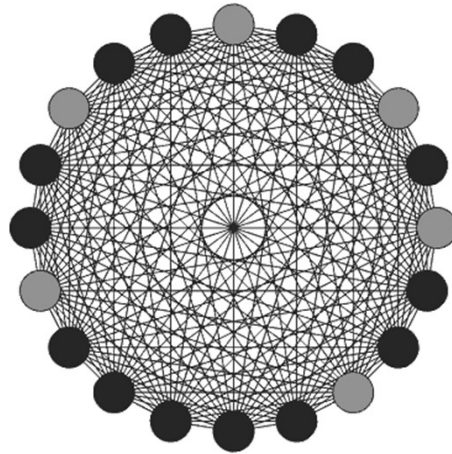
# Identifying the valleys..

$$\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{W} + \eta \left( \sum_{y \in Y_P} \mathbf{y}\mathbf{y}^T - \sum_{y \notin Y_P \& y = \text{valley}} \mathbf{y}\mathbf{y}^T \right)$$

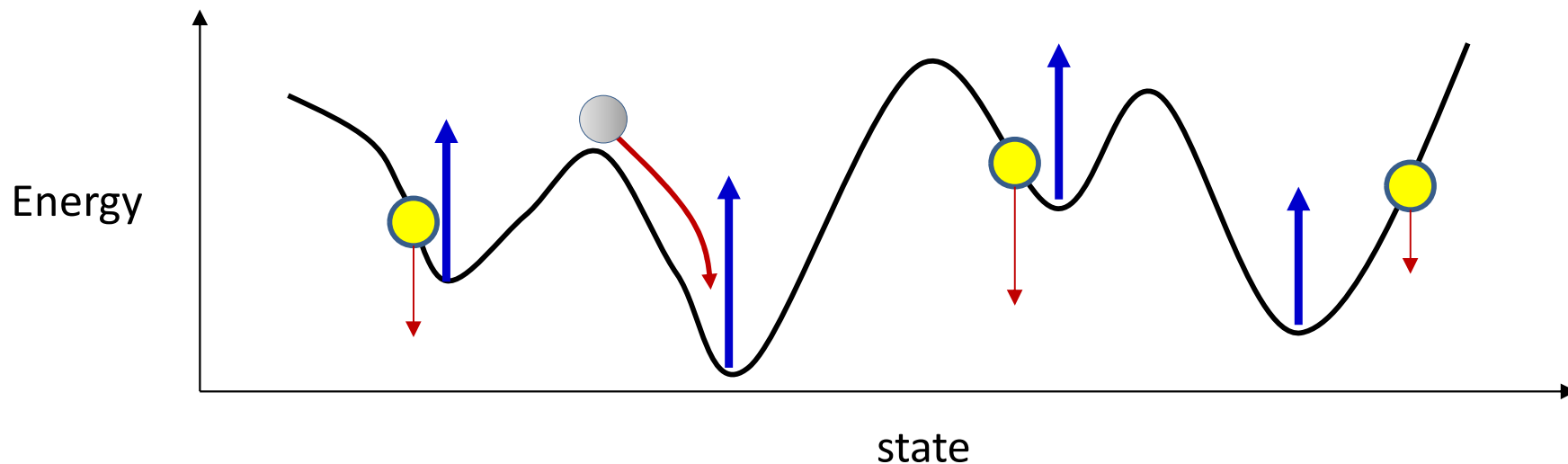
- Problem: How do you identify the valleys for the current  $\mathbf{W}$ ?



# Identifying the valleys..



- Initialize the network randomly and let it evolve
  - It will settle in a valley



# Training the Hopfield network

$$\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{W} + \eta \left( \sum_{\mathbf{y} \in \mathbf{Y}_P} \mathbf{y}\mathbf{y}^T - \sum_{\mathbf{y} \notin \mathbf{Y}_P \& \mathbf{y} = \text{valley}} \mathbf{y}\mathbf{y}^T \right)$$

- Initialize  $\mathbf{W}$
- Compute the total outer product of all target patterns
  - More important patterns presented more frequently
- Randomly initialize the network several times and let it evolve
  - And settle at a valley
- Compute the total outer product of valley patterns
- Update weights

# Training the Hopfield network: SGD version

$$\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{W} + \eta \left( \sum_{\mathbf{y} \in \mathbf{Y}_P} \mathbf{y}\mathbf{y}^T - \sum_{\mathbf{y} \notin \mathbf{Y}_P \& \mathbf{y} = \text{valley}} \mathbf{y}\mathbf{y}^T \right)$$

- Initialize  $\mathbf{W}$
- Do until convergence, satisfaction, or death from boredom:
  - Sample a target pattern  $\mathbf{y}_p$ 
    - Sampling frequency of pattern must reflect importance of pattern
  - Randomly initialize the network and let it evolve
    - And settle at a valley  $\mathbf{y}_v$
  - Update weights
    - $\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{W} + \eta(\mathbf{y}_p\mathbf{y}_p^T - \mathbf{y}_v\mathbf{y}_v^T)$

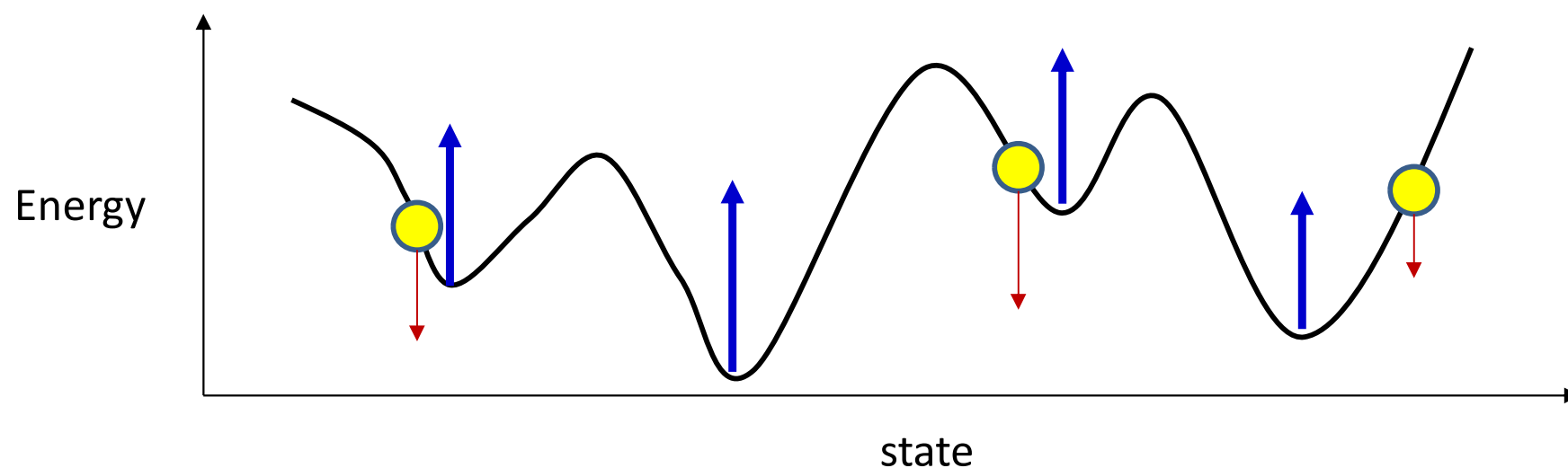
# Training the Hopfield network

$$\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{W} + \eta \left( \sum_{\mathbf{y} \in \mathbf{Y}_P} \mathbf{y}\mathbf{y}^T - \sum_{\mathbf{y} \notin \mathbf{Y}_P \& \mathbf{y} = \text{valley}} \mathbf{y}\mathbf{y}^T \right)$$

- Initialize  $\mathbf{W}$
- Do until convergence, satisfaction, or death from boredom:
  - Sample a target pattern  $\mathbf{y}_p$ 
    - Sampling frequency of pattern must reflect importance of pattern
  - Randomly initialize the network and let it evolve
    - And settle at a valley  $\mathbf{y}_v$
  - Update weights
    - $\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{W} + \eta(\mathbf{y}_p\mathbf{y}_p^T - \mathbf{y}_v\mathbf{y}_v^T)$

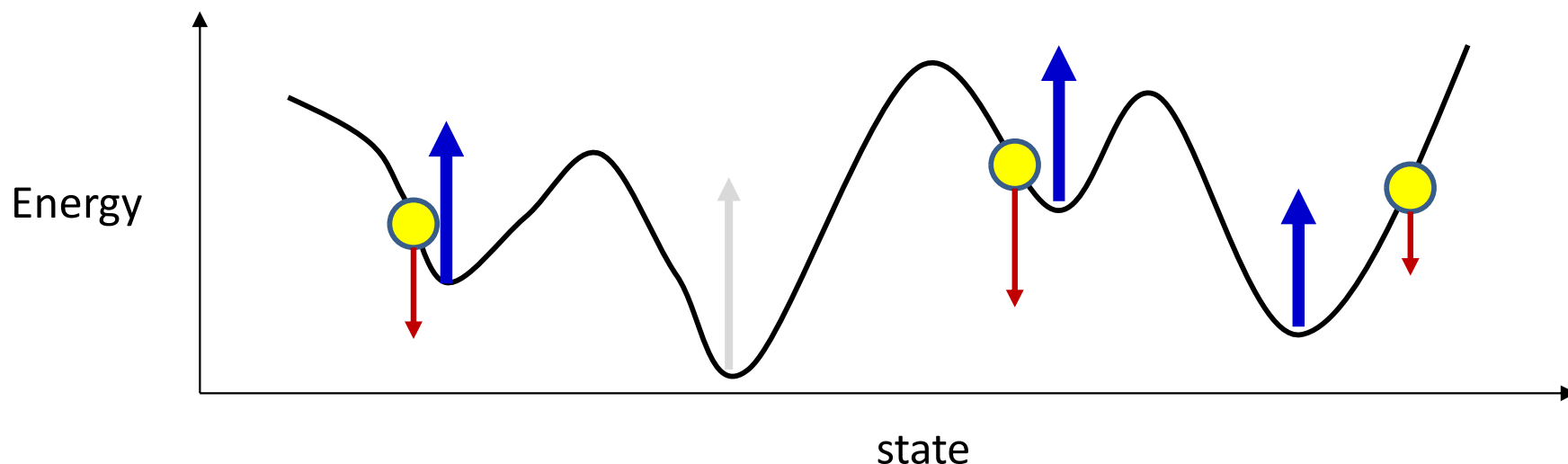
# Which valleys?

- Should we *randomly* sample valleys?
  - Are all valleys equally important?



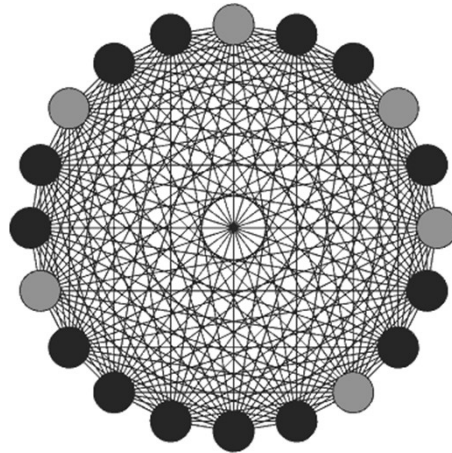
# Which valleys?

- Should we *randomly* sample valleys?
  - Are all valleys equally important?
- Major requirement: memories must be stable
  - They *must* be broad valleys
- Spurious valleys in the neighborhood of memories are more important to eliminate

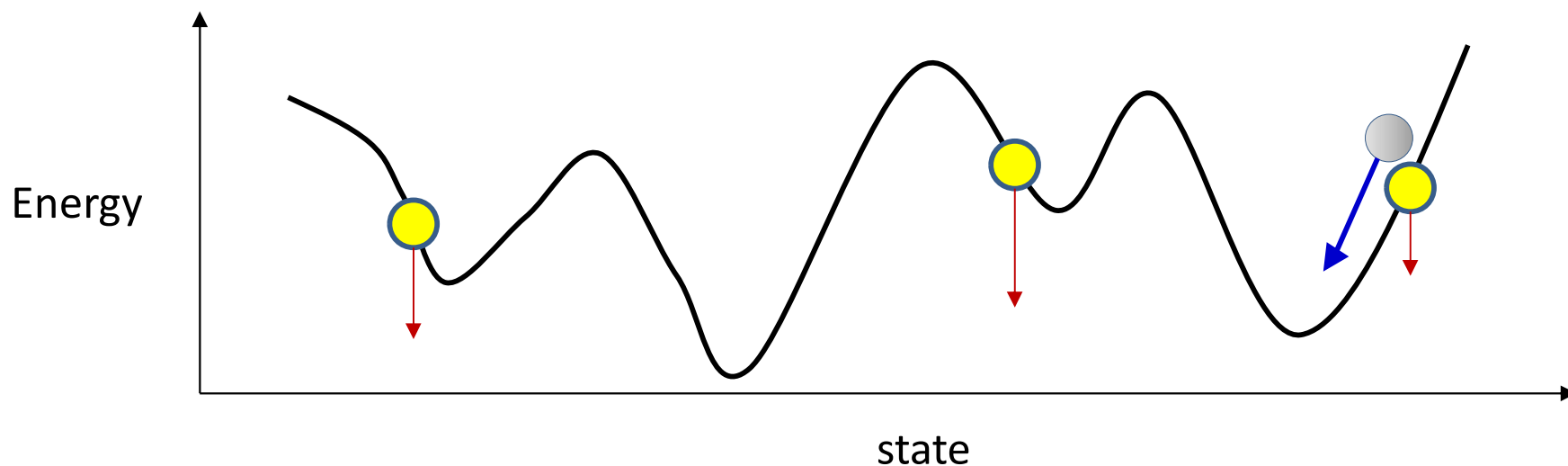




# Identifying the valleys..



- Initialize the network at valid memories and let it evolve
  - It will settle in a valley. If this is not the target pattern, raise it



# Training the Hopfield network

$$\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{W} + \eta \left( \sum_{\mathbf{y} \in \mathbf{Y}_P} \mathbf{y}\mathbf{y}^T - \sum_{\mathbf{y} \notin \mathbf{Y}_P \& \mathbf{y} = \text{valley}} \mathbf{y}\mathbf{y}^T \right)$$

- Initialize  $\mathbf{W}$
- Compute the total outer product of all target patterns
  - More important patterns presented more frequently
- Initialize the network with each target pattern and let it evolve
  - And settle at a valley
- Compute the total outer product of valley patterns
- Update weights

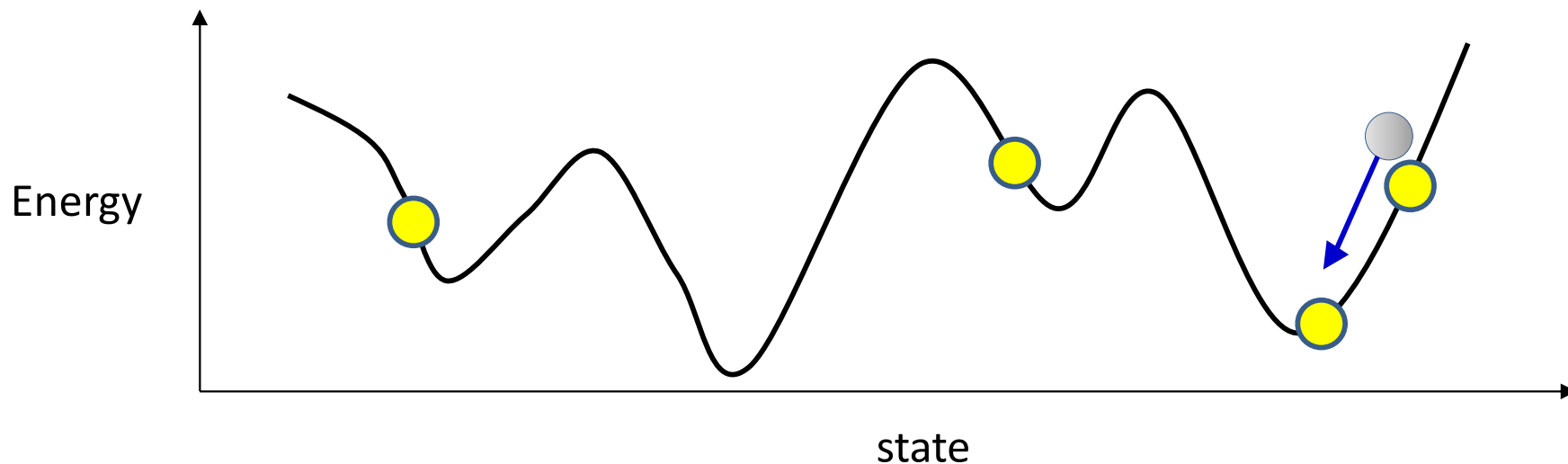
# Training the Hopfield network: SGD version

$$\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{W} + \eta \sum_{\mathbf{y} \in Y_P} (\mathbf{y}\mathbf{y}^T - \mathbf{y}_v\mathbf{y}_v^T)$$

- Initialize  $\mathbf{W}$
- Do until convergence, satisfaction, or death from boredom:
  - Sample a target pattern  $\mathbf{y}_p$ 
    - Sampling frequency of pattern must reflect importance of pattern
  - Initialize the network at  $\mathbf{y}_p$  and let it evolve
    - And settle at a valley  $\mathbf{y}_v$
  - Update weights
    - $\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{W} + \eta(\mathbf{y}_p\mathbf{y}_p^T - \mathbf{y}_v\mathbf{y}_v^T)$

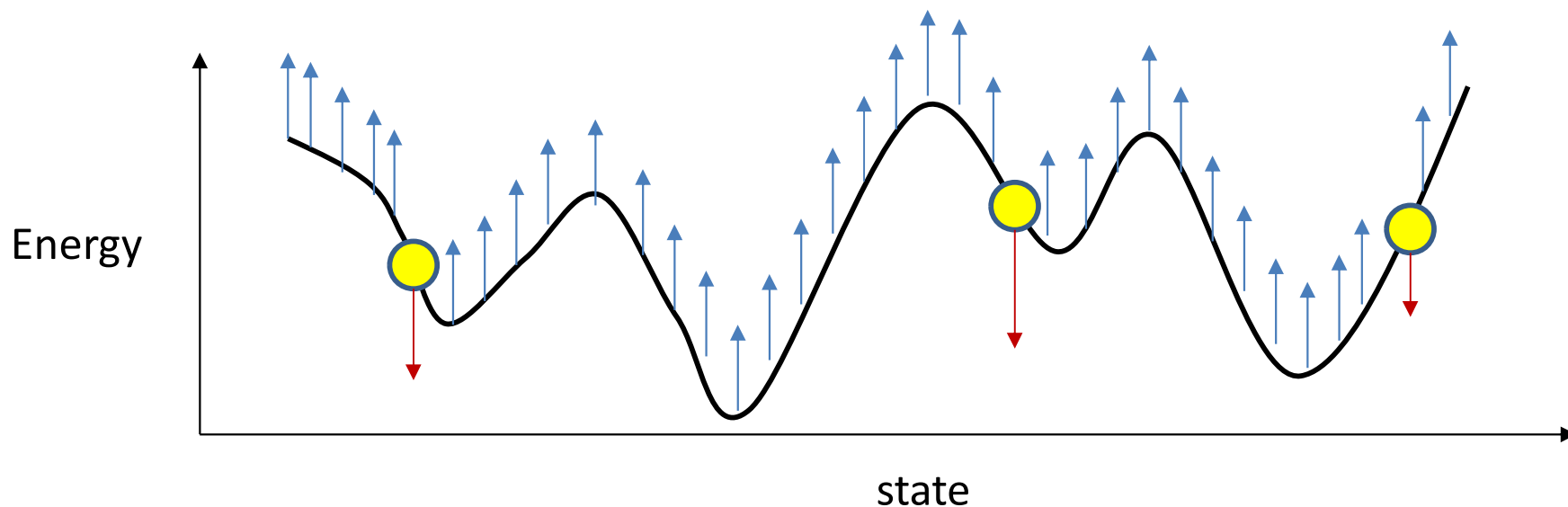
# A possible problem

- What if there's another target pattern downvalley
  - Raising it will destroy a better-represented or stored pattern!



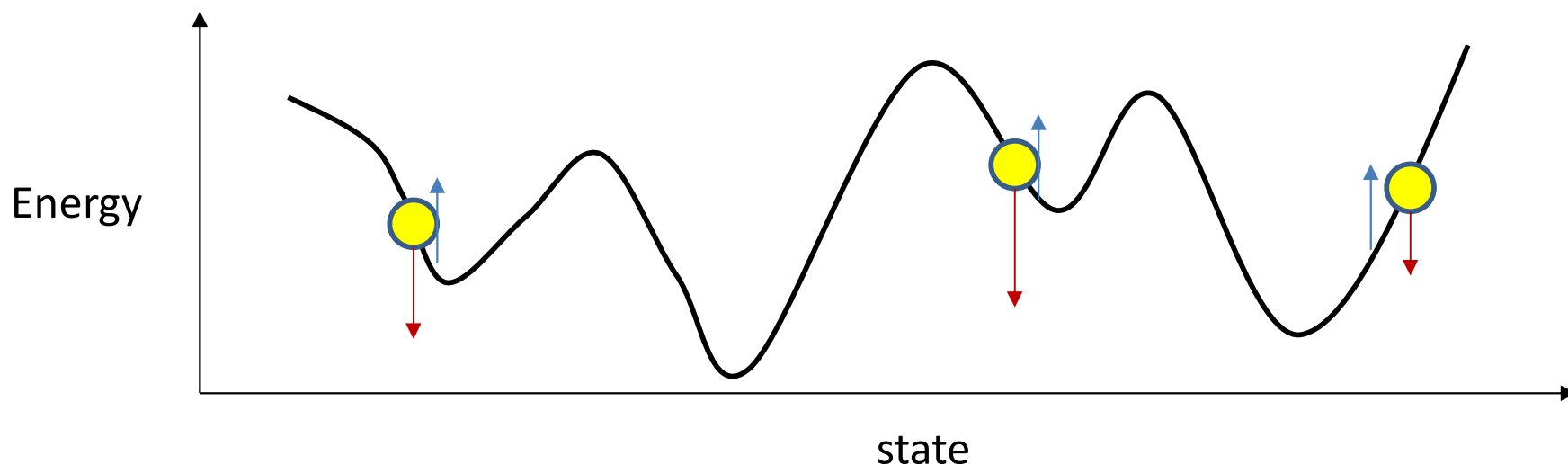
# A related issue

- Really no need to raise the entire surface, or even every valley



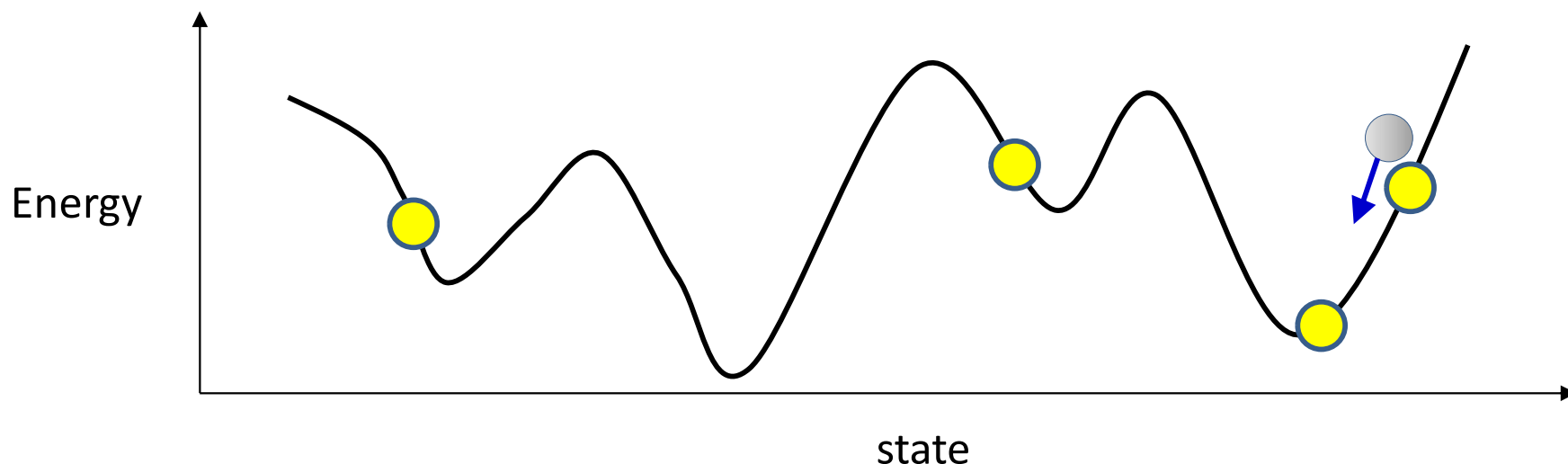
# A related issue

- Really no need to raise the entire surface, or even every valley
- Raise the *neighborhood* of each target memory
  - Sufficient to make the memory a valley
  - The broader the neighborhood considered, the broader the valley



# Raising the neighborhood

- Starting from a target pattern, let the network evolve only a few steps
  - Try to raise the resultant location
- Will raise the neighborhood of targets
- Will avoid problem of down-valley targets



# Training the Hopfield network: SGD version

$$\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{W} + \eta \sum_{\mathbf{y} \in \mathbf{Y}_P} (\mathbf{y}\mathbf{y}^T - \mathbf{y}_d\mathbf{y}_d^T)$$

- Initialize  $\mathbf{W}$
- Do until convergence, satisfaction, or death from boredom:
  - Sample a target pattern  $\mathbf{y}_p$ 
    - Sampling frequency of pattern must reflect importance of pattern
  - Initialize the network at  $\mathbf{y}_p$  and let it evolve *a few steps (2-4)*
    - And arrive at a down-valley position  $\mathbf{y}_d$
  - Update weights
    - $\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{W} + \eta(\mathbf{y}_p\mathbf{y}_p^T - \mathbf{y}_d\mathbf{y}_d^T)$



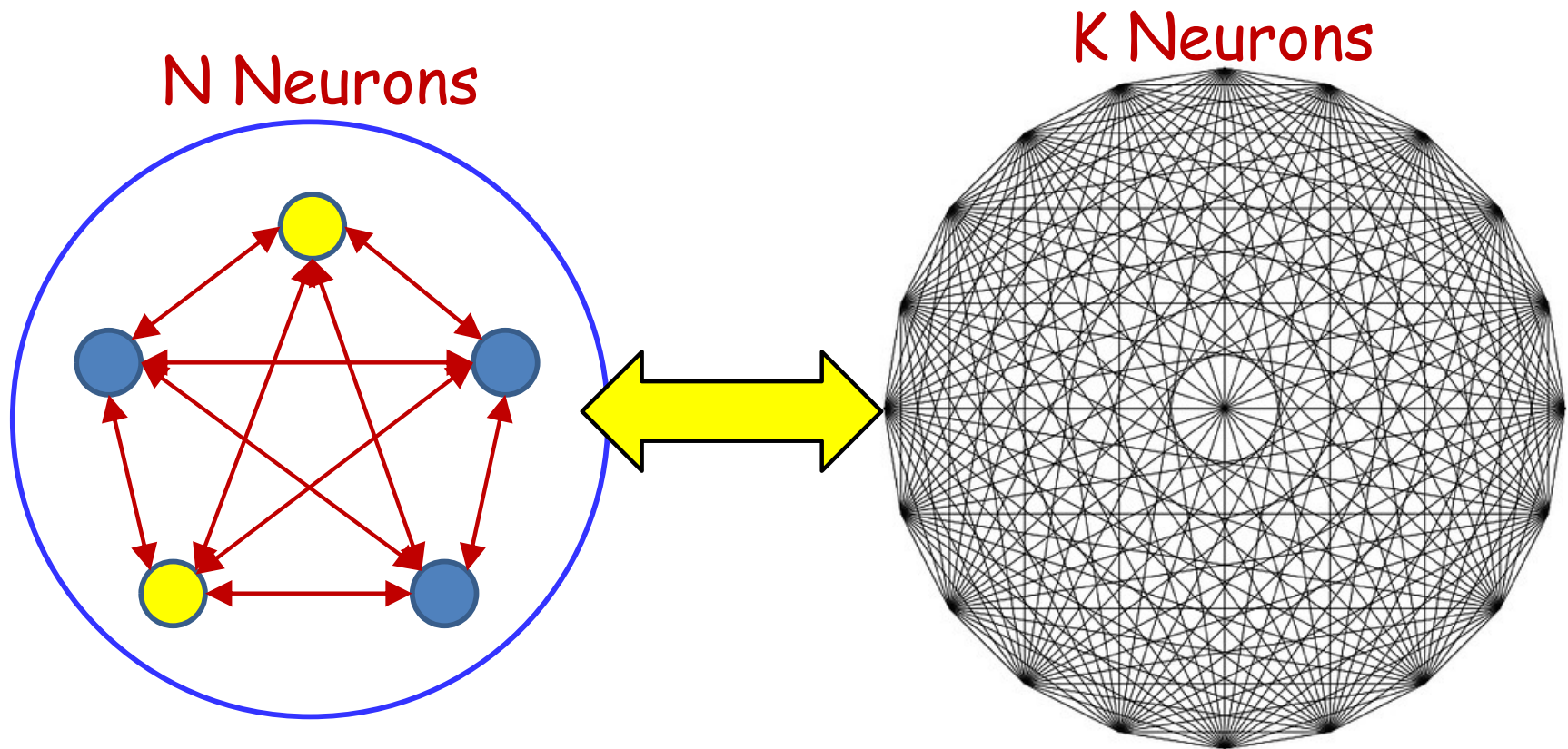
# Story so far

- Hopfield nets with  $N$  neurons can store up to  $0.14N$  random patterns through Hebbian learning
  - Issue: Hebbian learning assumes all patterns to be stored are equally important
- In theory the number of *intentionally* stored patterns (stationary *and* stable) can be as large as  $N$ 
  - But comes with many parasitic memories
- Networks that store  $O(N)$  memories can be trained through optimization
  - By minimizing the energy of the target patterns, while increasing the energy of the neighboring patterns

# Storing more than $N$ patterns

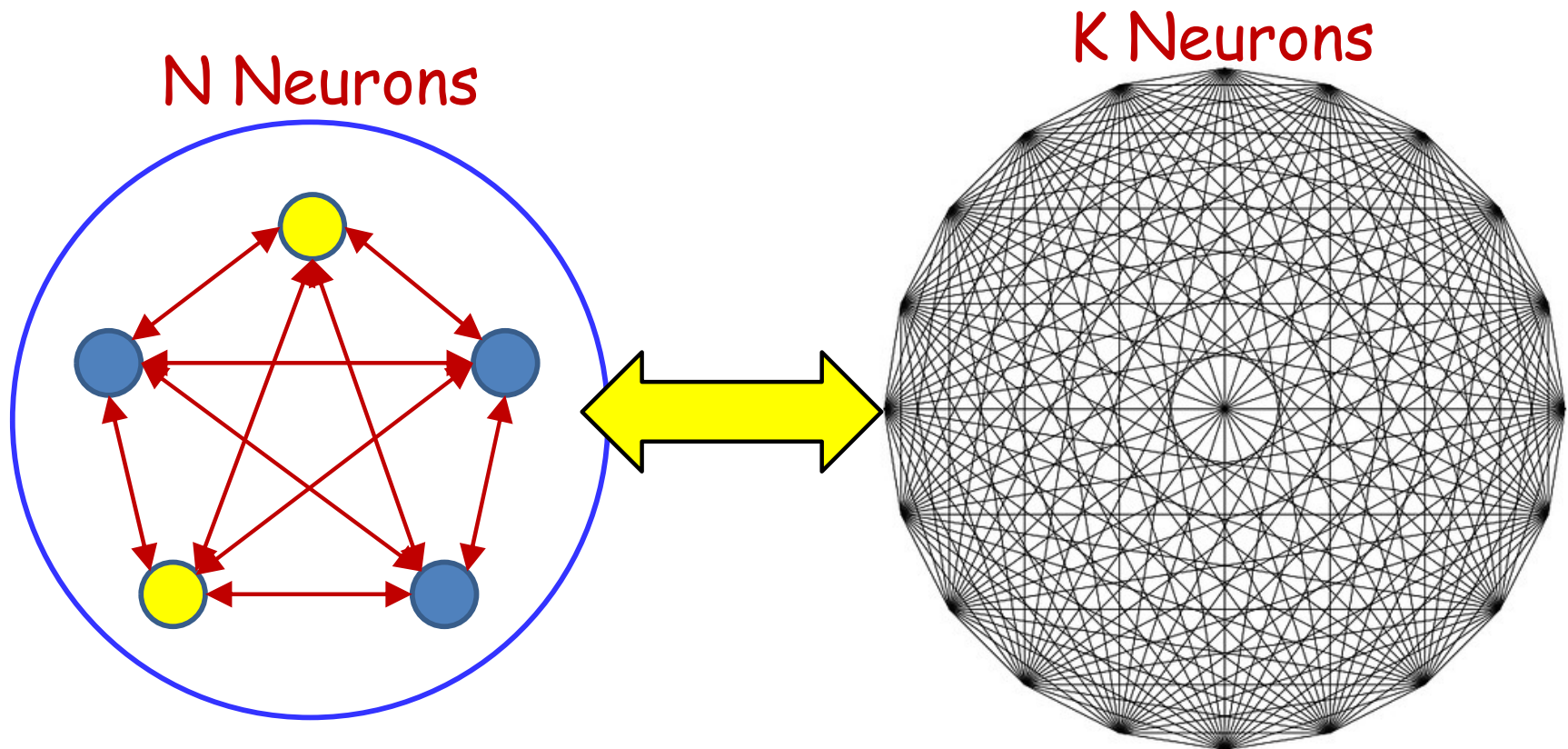
- The memory capacity of an  $N$ -bit network is at most  $N$ 
  - Stable patterns (not necessarily even stationary)
    - Abu Mustafa and St. Jacques, 1985
    - Although “information capacity” is  $\mathcal{O}(N^3)$
- How do we increase the capacity of the network
  - How to store more than  $N$  patterns

# Expanding the network



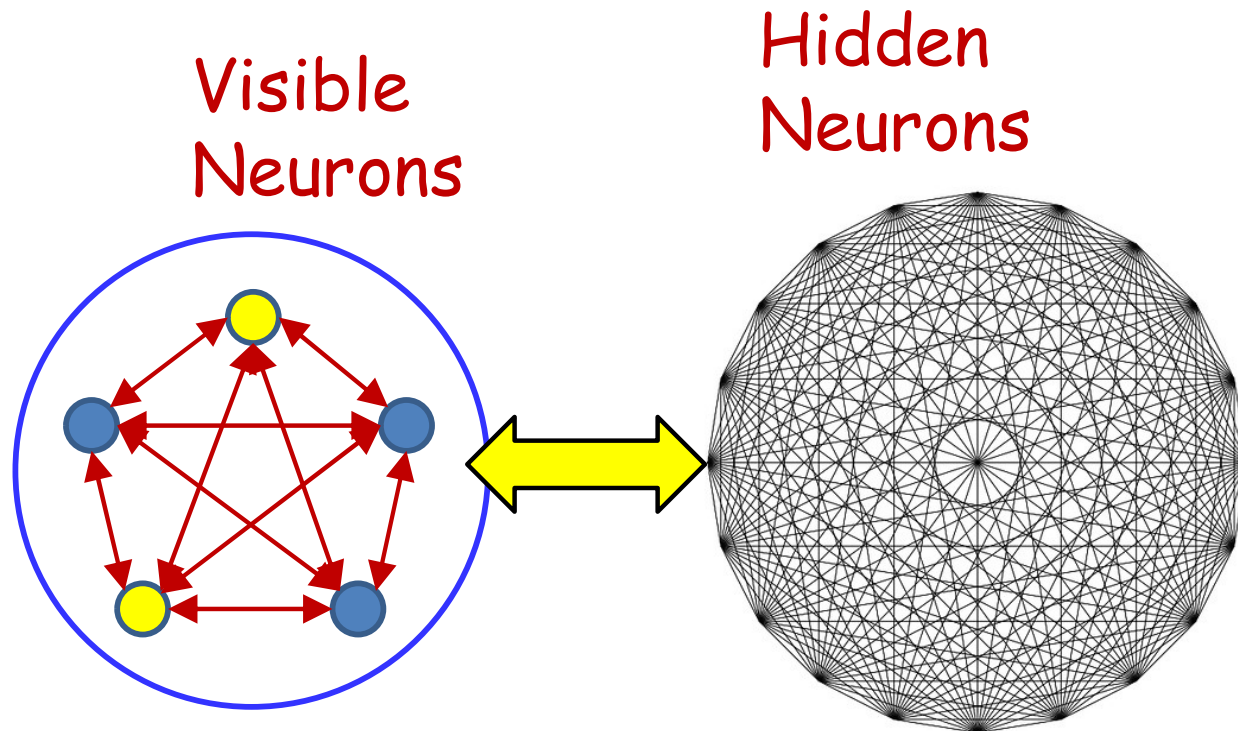
- Add a large number of neurons whose actual values you don't care about!

# Expanded Network



- New capacity:  $\sim(N + K)$  patterns
  - Although we only care about the pattern of the first  $N$  neurons
  - We're interested in  $N$ -bit patterns

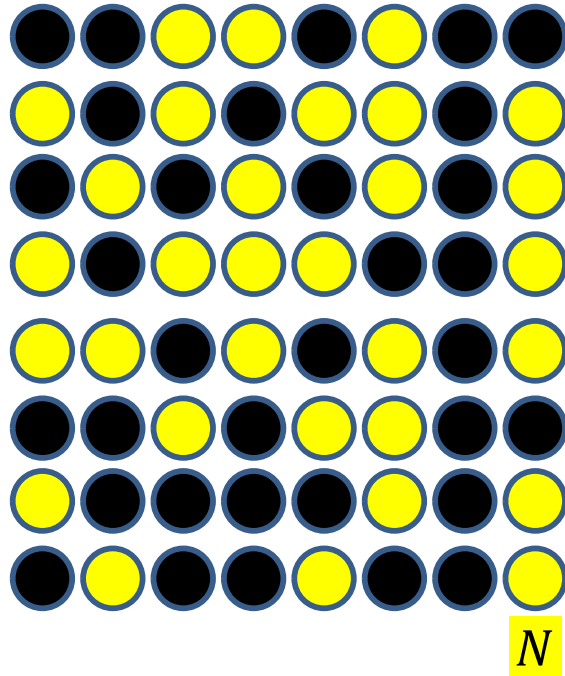
# Terminology



- Terminology:
  - The neurons that store the actual patterns of interest: *Visible neurons*
  - The neurons that only serve to increase the capacity but whose actual values are not important: *Hidden neurons*
  - These can be set to anything in order to store a visible pattern

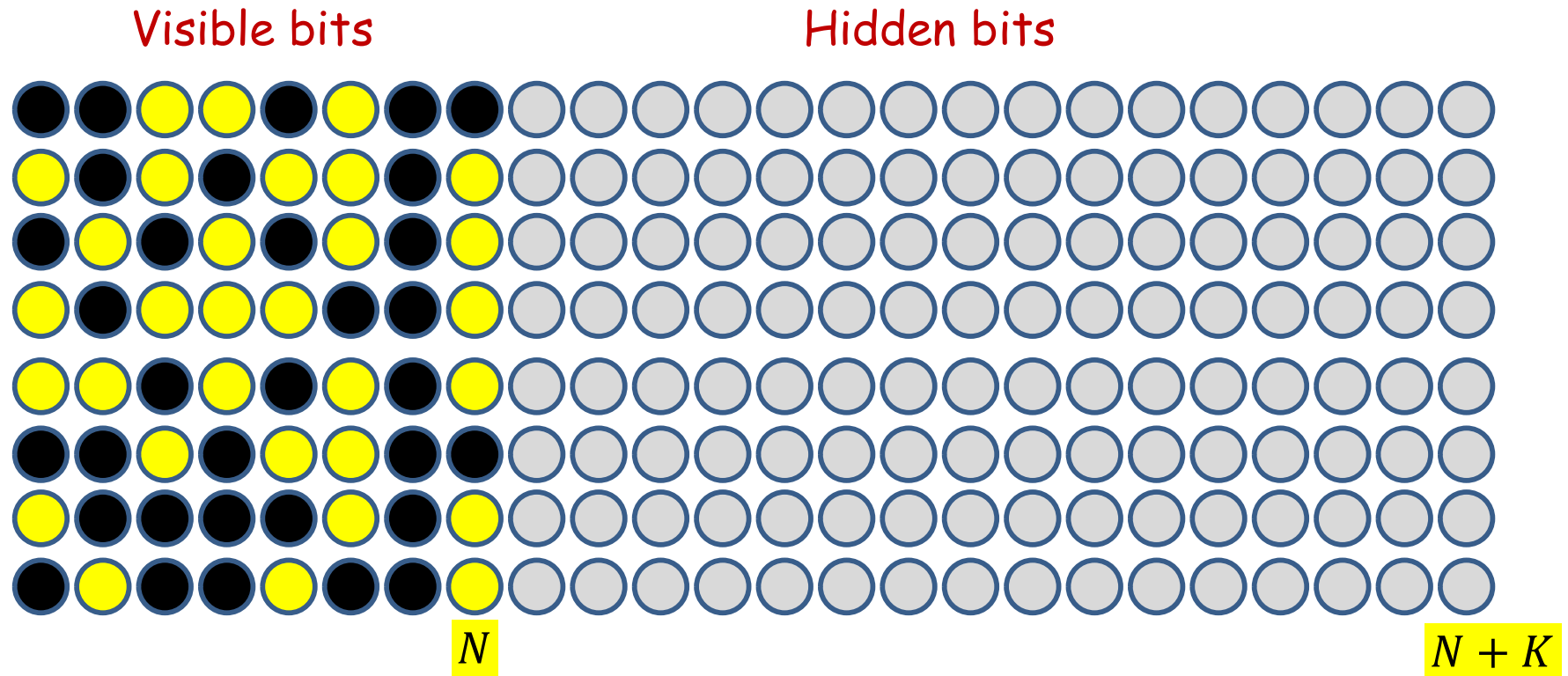
# Increasing the capacity: bits view

Visible bits



- The maximum number of patterns the net can store is bounded by the width  $N$  of the patterns..

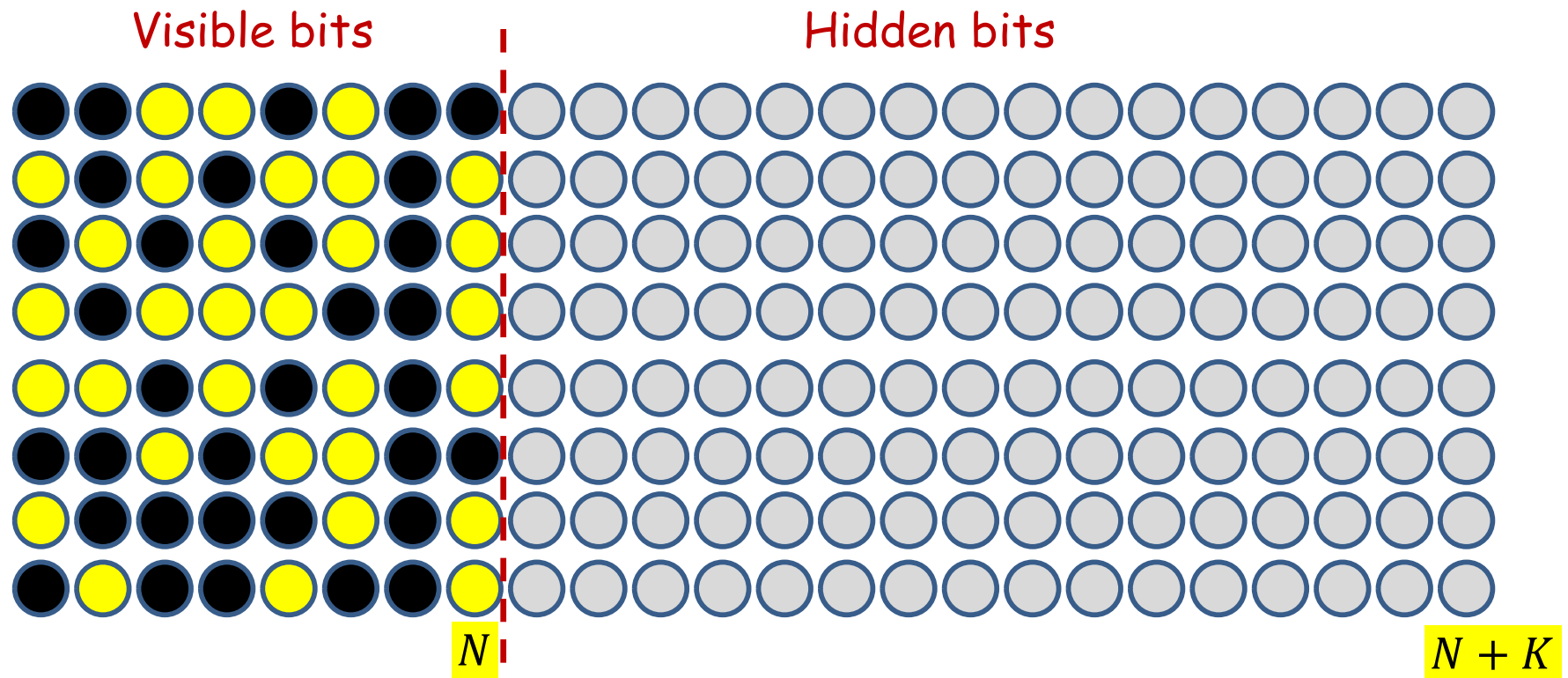
# Increasing the capacity: bits view



- The maximum number of patterns the net can store is bounded by the width  $N$  of the patterns..
- So, let's *pad* the patterns with  $K$  “don’t care” bits
  - The new width of the patterns is  $N+K$
  - Now we can store  $N+K$  patterns!



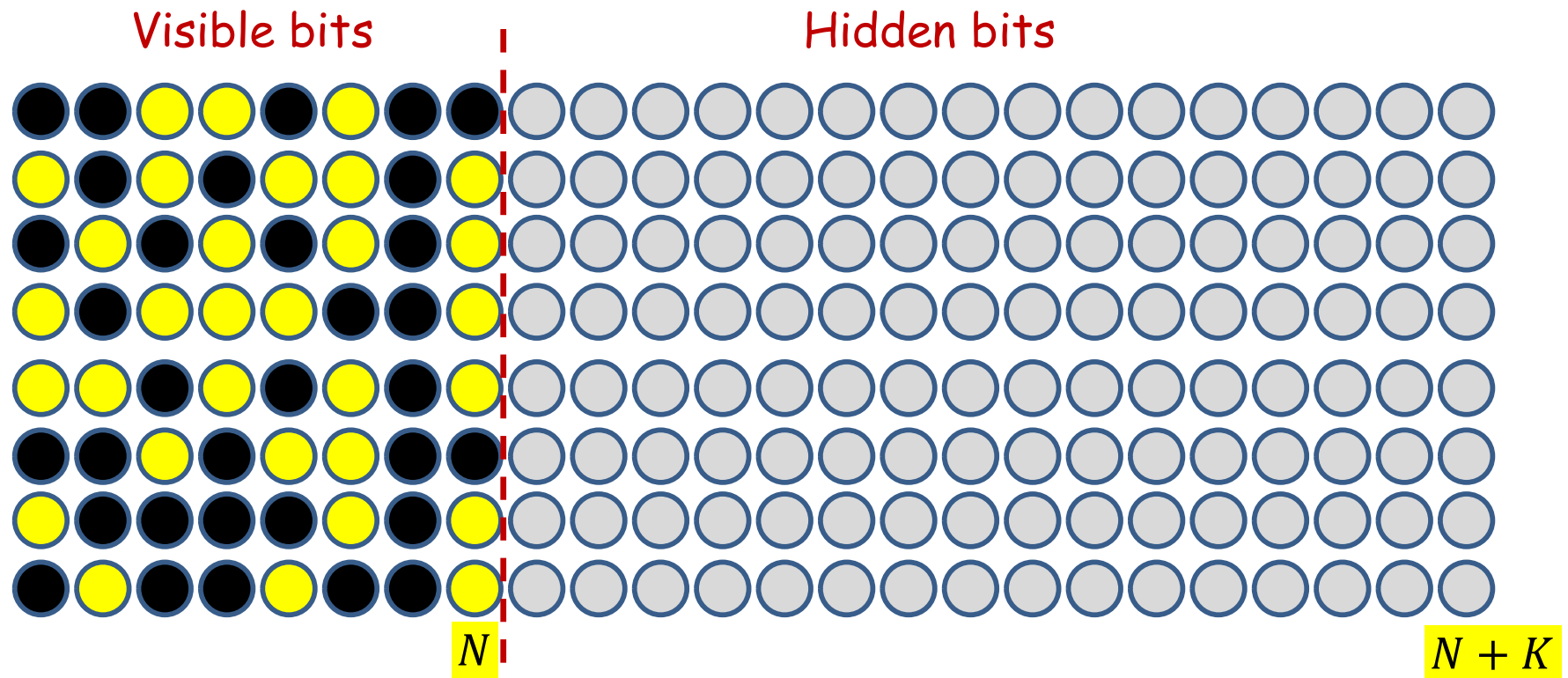
# Issues: Storage



- What patterns do we fill in the don't care bits?
  - Simple option: Randomly
    - Flip a coin for each bit
  - We could even compose *multiple* extended patterns for a base pattern to increase the probability that it will be recalled properly
    - Recalling any of the extended patterns from a base pattern will recall the base pattern
- How do we store the patterns?
  - Standard optimization method should work

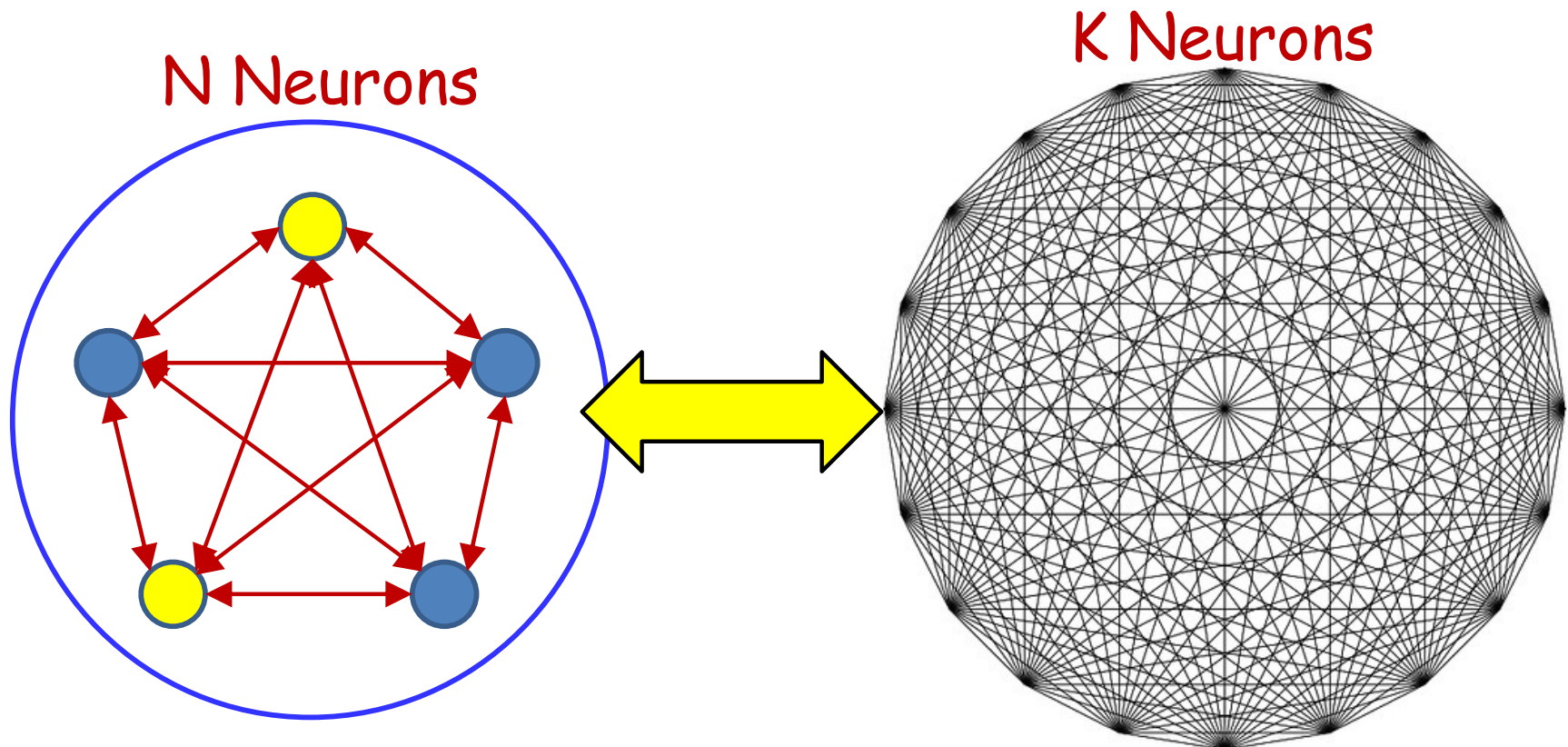


# Issues: Recall



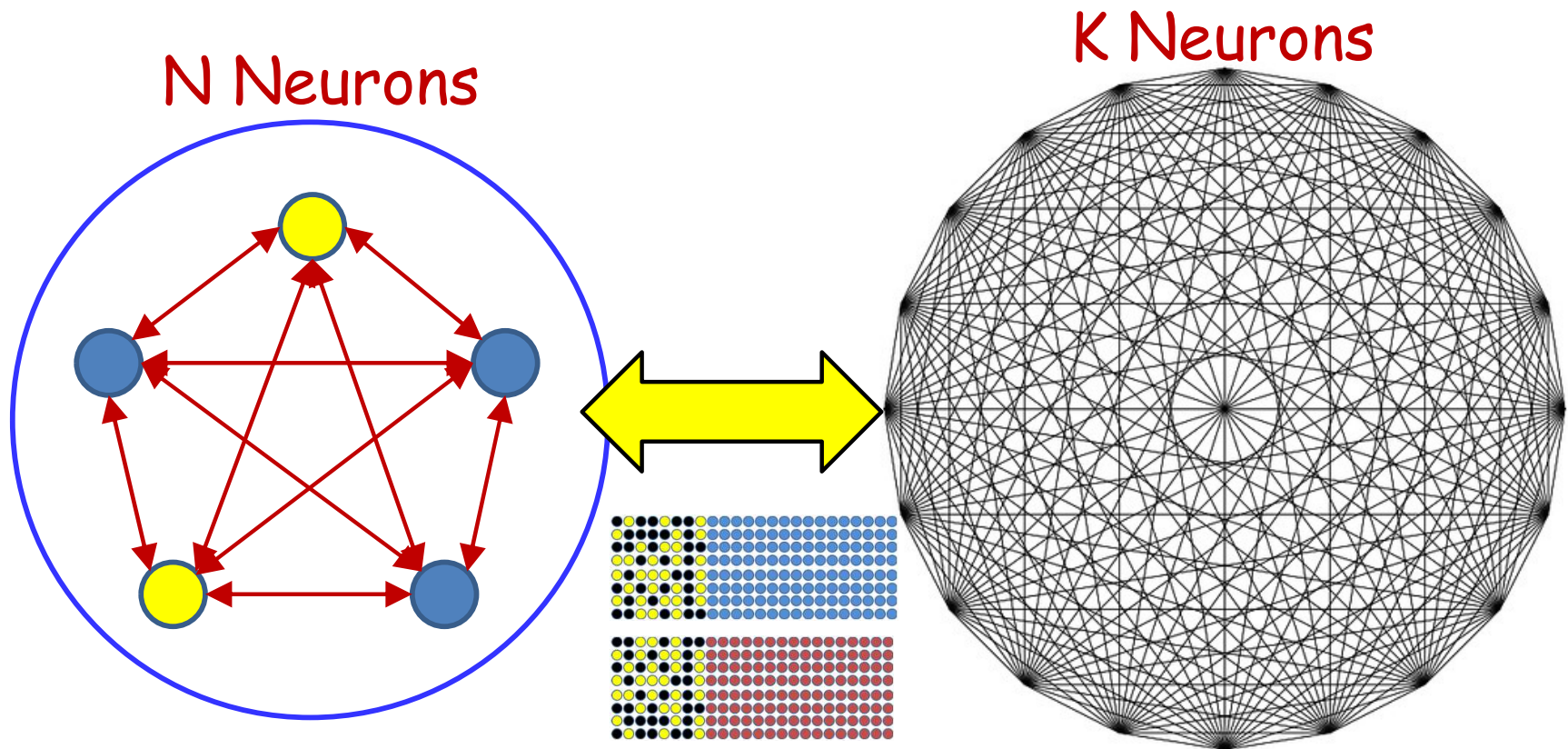
- How do we retrieve a memory?
- Can do so using usual “evolution” mechanism
- But this is not taking advantage of a key feature of the extended patterns:
  - Making errors in the don’t care bits doesn’t matter

# Robustness of recall



- The value taken by the  $K$  hidden neurons during recall doesn't really matter
  - Even if it doesn't match what we actually tried to store
- Can we take advantage of this somehow?

# Robustness of recall



- Also, we can have multiple extended patterns with the same pattern over visible bits
  - Can we exploit this somehow?

# Taking advantage of don't care bits

- Simple random setting of don't care bits, and using the usual training and recall strategies for Hopfield nets should work
- However, it doesn't sufficiently exploit the redundancy of the don't care bits
  - Possible to set the don't care bits such that the overall pattern (and hence the “visible” bits portion of the pattern) is more memorable
  - Also, may have multiple don't-care patterns for a target pattern
    - Multiple valleys, in which the visible bits remain the same, but don't care bits vary
- To exploit it properly, it helps to view the Hopfield net differently: as a probabilistic machine

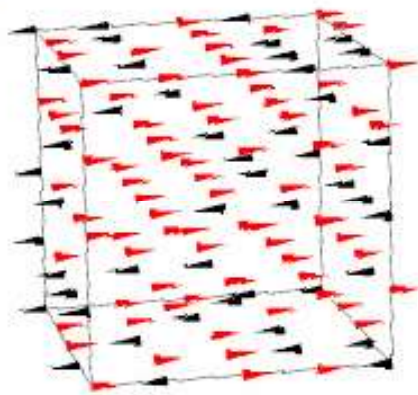
# A probabilistic interpretation of Hopfield Nets

- For *binary*  $\mathbf{y}$  the energy of a pattern is the analog of the negative log likelihood of a *Boltzmann distribution*
  - **Minimizing energy maximizes log likelihood**

$$E(\mathbf{y}) = -\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{W} \mathbf{y} \quad P(\mathbf{y}) = C \exp(-E(\mathbf{y}))$$

# The Boltzmann Distribution

$$E(\mathbf{y}) = -\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{W} \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{y} \quad P(\mathbf{y}) = C \exp\left(\frac{-E(\mathbf{y})}{kT}\right)$$

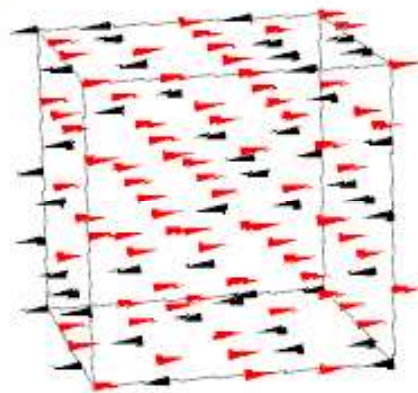


$$C = \frac{1}{\sum_{\mathbf{y}} \exp\left(\frac{-E(\mathbf{y})}{kT}\right)}$$

- $k$  is the Boltzmann constant
- $T$  is the temperature of the system
- The energy terms are the negative loglikelihood of a Boltzmann distribution at  $T = 1$  to within an additive constant
  - Derivation of this probability is in fact quite trivial..

# Continuing the Boltzmann analogy

$$E(\mathbf{y}) = -\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{W} \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{y} \quad P(\mathbf{y}) = C \exp\left(\frac{-E(\mathbf{y})}{kT}\right)$$

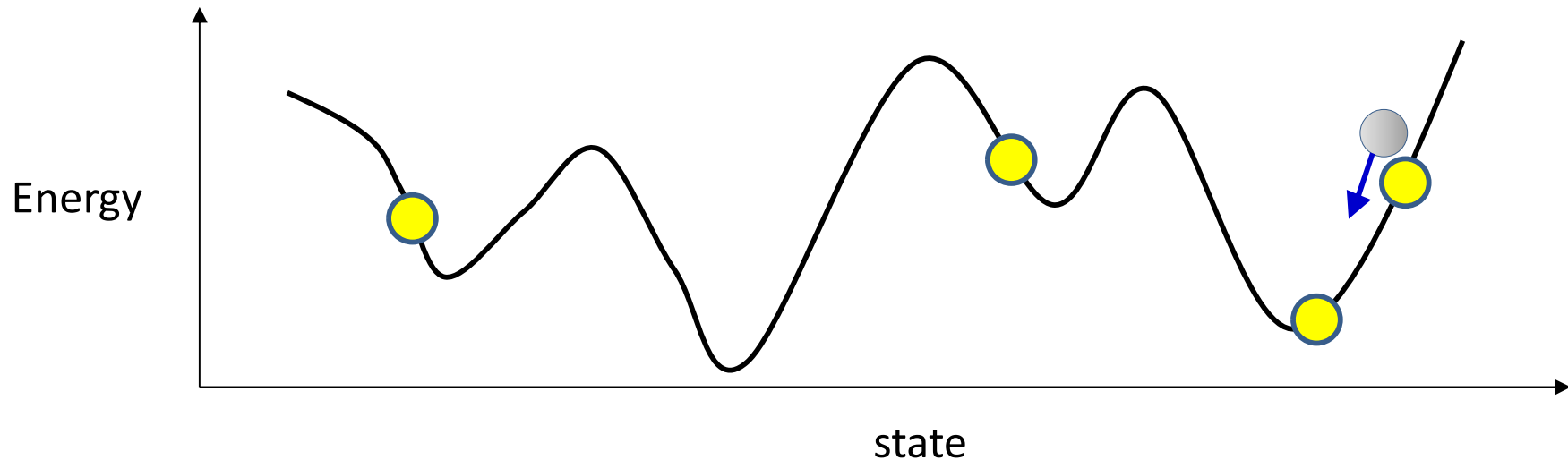


$$C = \frac{1}{\sum_{\mathbf{y}} \exp\left(\frac{-E(\mathbf{y})}{kT}\right)}$$

- The system *probabilistically* selects states with lower energy
  - With infinitesimally slow cooling, at  $T = 0$ , it arrives at the global minimal state



# Spin glasses and the Boltzmann distribution



- Selecting a next state is analogous to drawing a sample from the Boltzmann distribution at  $T = 1$ , in a universe where  $k = 1$ 
  - Energy landscape of a spin-glass model: Exploration and characterization, Zhou and Wang, Phys. Review E 79, 2009



# Hopfield nets: Optimizing $W$

$$E(\mathbf{y}) = -\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{W} \mathbf{y} \quad \hat{\mathbf{W}} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{W}} \sum_{\mathbf{y} \in \mathbf{Y}_P} E(\mathbf{y}) - \sum_{\mathbf{y} \notin \mathbf{Y}_P} E(\mathbf{y})$$

- Simple gradient descent:

$$\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{W} + \eta \left( \sum_{\mathbf{y} \in \mathbf{Y}_P} \alpha_{\mathbf{y}} \mathbf{y} \mathbf{y}^T - \sum_{\mathbf{y} \notin \mathbf{Y}_P} \beta(E(\mathbf{y})) \mathbf{y} \mathbf{y}^T \right)$$

More importance to more frequently presented memories

More importance to more attractive spurious memories

# Hopfield nets: Optimizing $W$

$$E(\mathbf{y}) = -\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{W} \mathbf{y} \quad \hat{\mathbf{W}} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{W}} \sum_{\mathbf{y} \in \mathbf{Y}_P} E(\mathbf{y}) - \sum_{\mathbf{y} \notin \mathbf{Y}_P} E(\mathbf{y})$$

- Simple gradient descent:

$$\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{W} + \eta \left( \sum_{\mathbf{y} \in \mathbf{Y}_P} \alpha_{\mathbf{y}} \mathbf{y} \mathbf{y}^T - \sum_{\mathbf{y} \notin \mathbf{Y}_P} \beta(E(\mathbf{y})) \mathbf{y} \mathbf{y}^T \right)$$

More importance to more frequently presented memories

More importance to more attractive spurious memories

THIS LOOKS LIKE AN EXPECTATION!

# Hopfield nets: Optimizing $\mathbf{W}$

$$E(\mathbf{y}) = -\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{W} \mathbf{y} \quad \hat{\mathbf{W}} = \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{W}} \sum_{\mathbf{y} \in \mathbf{Y}_P} E(\mathbf{y}) - \sum_{\mathbf{y} \notin \mathbf{Y}_P} E(\mathbf{y})$$

- Update rule

$$\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{W} + \eta \left( \sum_{\mathbf{y} \in \mathbf{Y}_P} \alpha_{\mathbf{y}} \mathbf{y} \mathbf{y}^T - \sum_{\mathbf{y} \notin \mathbf{Y}_P} \beta(E(\mathbf{y})) \mathbf{y} \mathbf{y}^T \right)$$

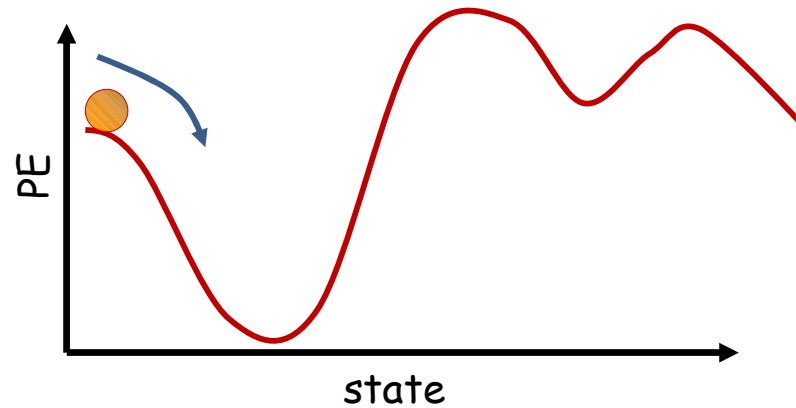
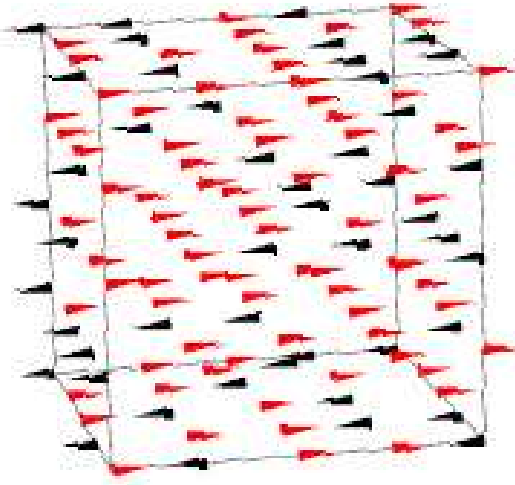
$$\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{W} + \eta (E_{\mathbf{y} \sim \mathbf{Y}_P} \mathbf{y} \mathbf{y}^T - E_{\mathbf{y} \sim \mathbf{Y}} \mathbf{y} \mathbf{y}^T)$$

Natural distribution for variables: The Boltzmann Distribution

# From Analogy to Model

- The behavior of the Hopfield net is analogous to annealed dynamics of a spin glass characterized by a Boltzmann distribution
- So, let's explicitly model the Hopfield net as a distribution..

# Revisiting Thermodynamic Phenomena



- Is the system actually in a specific state at any time?
- No – the state is actually continuously changing
  - Based on the temperature of the system
    - At higher temperatures, state changes more rapidly
- What is actually being characterized is the *probability* of the state
  - And the *expected* value of the state

# The Helmholtz Free Energy of a System

- A thermodynamic system at temperature  $T$  can exist in one of many states
  - Potentially infinite states
  - At any time, the probability of finding the system in state  $s$  at temperature  $T$  is  $P_T(s)$
- At each state  $s$  it has a potential energy  $E_s$
- The *internal energy* of the system, representing its capacity to do work, is the average:

$$U_T = \sum_s P_T(s) E_s$$

# The Helmholtz Free Energy of a System

- The capacity to do work is counteracted by the internal disorder of the system, i.e. its entropy

$$H_T = - \sum_s P_T(s) \log P_T(s)$$

- The *Helmholtz* free energy of the system combines the two terms

$$\begin{aligned} F_T &= U_T + kTH_T \\ &= \sum_s P_T(s) E_s - kT \sum_s P_T(s) \log P_T(s) \end{aligned}$$

# The Helmholtz Free Energy of a System

$$F_T = \sum_s P_T(s) E_s - kT \sum_s P_T(s) \log P_T(s)$$

- A system held at a specific temperature *anneals* by varying the rate at which it visits the various states, to reduce the free energy in the system, until a minimum free-energy state is achieved
- The probability distribution of the states at steady state is known as the *Boltzmann distribution*



# The Helmholtz Free Energy of a System

$$F_T = \sum_s P_T(s) E_s - kT \sum_s P_T(s) \log P_T(s)$$

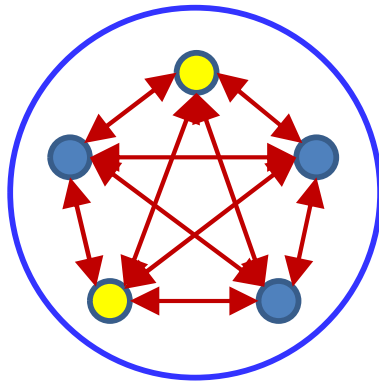
- Minimizing this w.r.t  $P_T(s)$ , we get

$$P_T(s) = \frac{1}{Z} \exp\left(\frac{-E_s}{kT}\right)$$

- Also known as the *Gibbs* distribution
- $Z$  is a normalizing constant
- Note the dependence on  $T$
- As  $T \rightarrow 0$ , the system will always remain at the lowest-energy configuration with prob = 1.

# The Energy of the Network

Visible  
Neurons



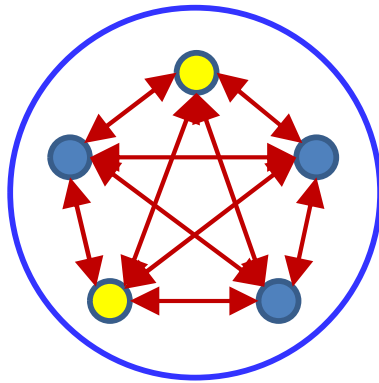
$$E(S) = - \sum_{i < j} w_{ij} s_i s_j - b_i s_i$$

$$P(S) = \frac{\exp(-E(S))}{\sum_{S'} \exp(-E(S'))}$$

- We can define the energy of the system as before
- Since neurons are stochastic, there is disorder or entropy (with  $T = 1$ )
- The *equilibrium* probability distribution over states is the Boltzmann distribution at  $T=1$ 
  - This is the probability of different states that the network will wander over *at equilibrium*

# The Hopfield net is a distribution

Visible  
Neurons



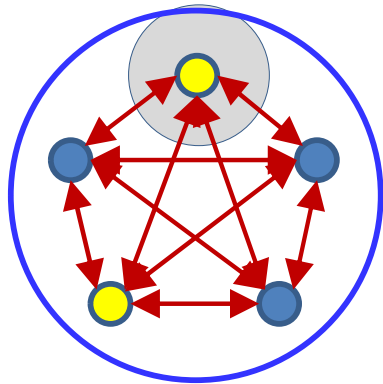
$$E(S) = - \sum_{i < j} w_{ij} s_i s_j - b_i s_i$$

$$P(S) = \frac{\exp(-E(S))}{\sum_{S'} \exp(-E(S'))}$$

- The stochastic Hopfield network models a ***probability distribution*** over states
  - Where a state is a binary string
  - Specifically, it models a *Boltzmann distribution*
  - **The parameters of the model are the weights of the network**
- The probability that (at equilibrium) the network will be in any state is  $P(S)$ 
  - It is a *generative* model: generates states according to  $P(S)$

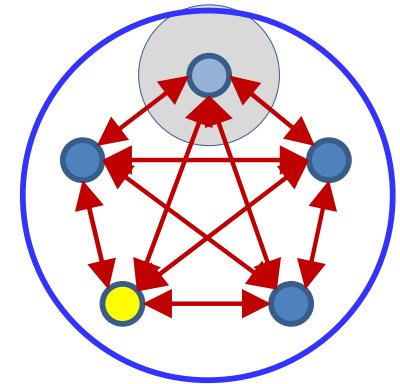
# The field at a single node

- Let  $S$  and  $S'$  be otherwise identical states that only differ in the  $i$ -th bit
  - $S$  has  $i$ -th bit =  $+1$  and  $S'$  has  $i$ -th bit =  $-1$



$$P(S) = P(s_i = 1 | s_{j \neq i}) P(s_{j \neq i})$$

$$P(S') = P(s_i = -1 | s_{j \neq i}) P(s_{j \neq i})$$

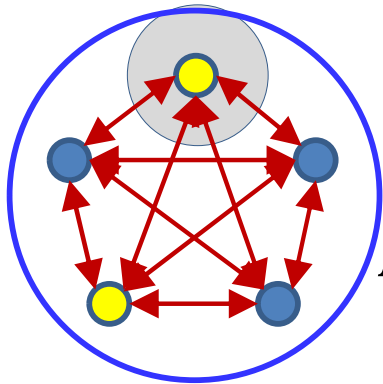


$$\log P(S) - \log P(S') = \log P(s_i = 1 | s_{j \neq i}) - \log P(s_i = -1 | s_{j \neq i})$$

$$\log P(S) - \log P(S') = \log \frac{P(s_i = 1 | s_{j \neq i})}{1 - P(s_i = 1 | s_{j \neq i})}$$

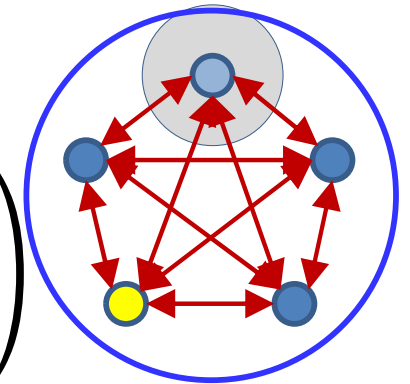
# The field at a single node

- Let  $S$  and  $S'$  be the states with the  $i$ th bit in the  $+1$  and  $-1$  states



$$\log P(S) = -E(S) + C$$

$$E(S) = -\frac{1}{2} \left( E_{not\ i} + \sum_{j \neq i} w_j s_j + b_i \right)$$



$$E(S') = -\frac{1}{2} \left( E_{not\ i} - \sum_{j \neq i} w_j s_j - b_i \right)$$

- $\log P(S) - \log P(S') = E(S') - E(S) = \sum_{j \neq i} w_j s_j + b_i$

# The field at a single node

$$\log \left( \frac{P(s_i = 1 | s_{j \neq i})}{1 - P(s_i = 1 | s_{j \neq i})} \right) = \sum_{j \neq i} w_j s_j + b_i$$

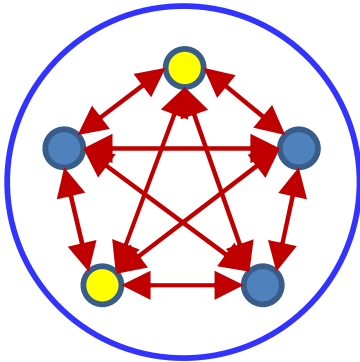
- Giving us

$$P(s_i = 1 | s_{j \neq i}) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-\left(\sum_{j \neq i} w_j s_j + b_i\right)}}$$

- The probability of any node taking value 1 given other node values is a logistic

# Redefining the network

Visible  
Neurons



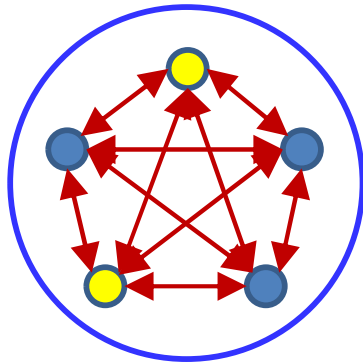
$$z_i = \sum_j w_{ji} s_j + b_i$$

$$P(s_i = 1 | s_{j \neq i}) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-z_i}}$$

- First try: Redefine a regular Hopfield net as a stochastic system
- Each neuron is *now a stochastic unit* with a binary state  $s_i$ , which can take value 0 or 1 with a probability that depends on the local field
  - Note the slight change from Hopfield nets
  - Not actually necessary; only a matter of convenience

# The Hopfield net is a distribution

Visible  
Neurons



$$z_i = \sum_j w_{ji} s_j + b_i$$

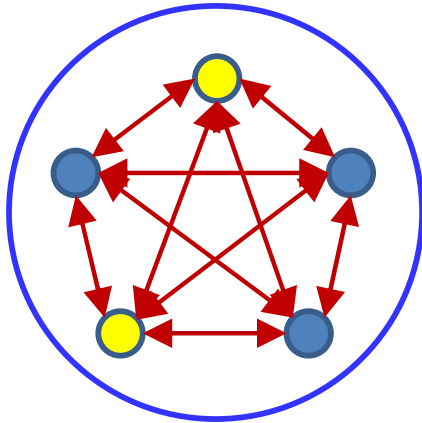
$$P(s_i = 1 | s_{j \neq i}) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-z_i}}$$

- The Hopfield net is a probability distribution over binary sequences
  - The Boltzmann distribution
- The *conditional* distribution of individual bits in the sequence is a logistic



# Running the network

Visible  
Neurons



$$z_i = \sum_j w_{ji} s_j + b_i$$

$$P(s_i = 1 | s_{j \neq i}) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-z_i}}$$

- Initialize the neurons
- Cycle through the neurons and randomly set the neuron to 1 or -1 according to the probability given above
  - Gibbs sampling: Fix N-1 variables and sample the remaining variable
  - As opposed to energy-based update (mean field approximation): run the test  $z_i > 0$  ?
- After many many iterations (until “convergence”), *sample* the individual neurons

# Exploiting the probabilistic view

- Next..