

Fall 2021

ADVANCED TOPICS IN COMPUTER VISION

Atlas Wang

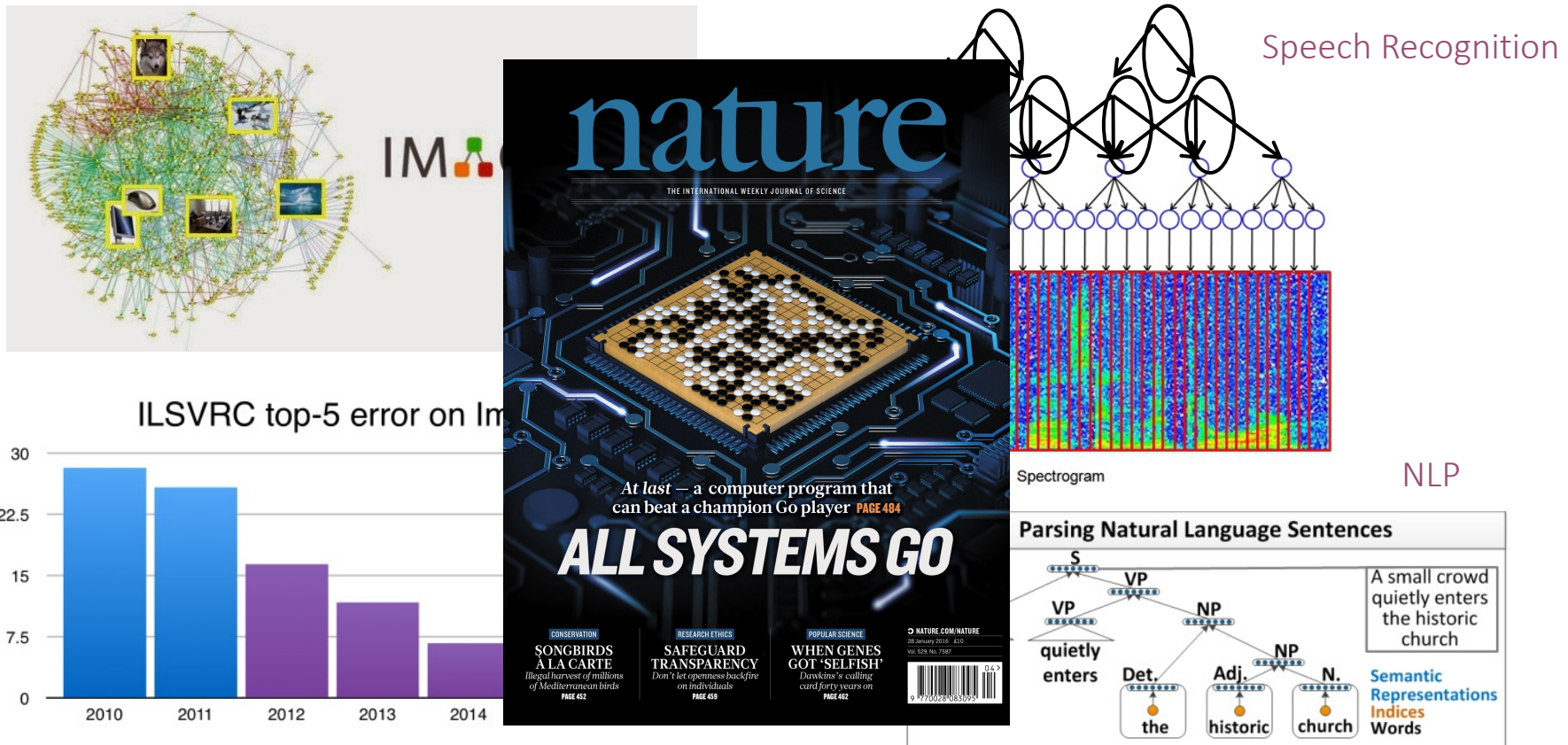
Assistant Professor, The University of Texas at Austin

Visual Informatics Group@UT Austin

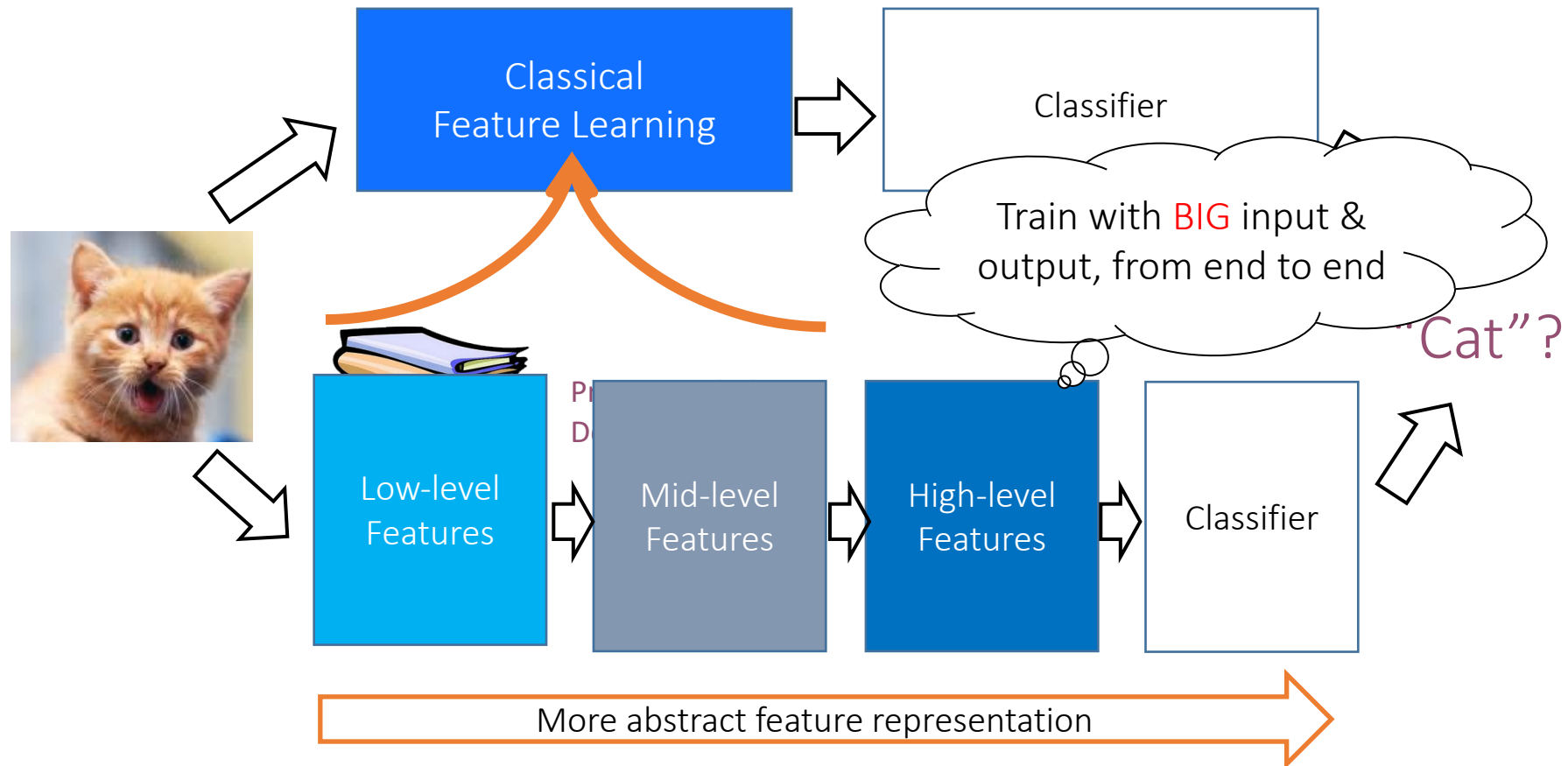
<https://vita-group.github.io/>

A Triumph of Deep Learning: 2012 - present

Top-performers in many tasks, over many domains

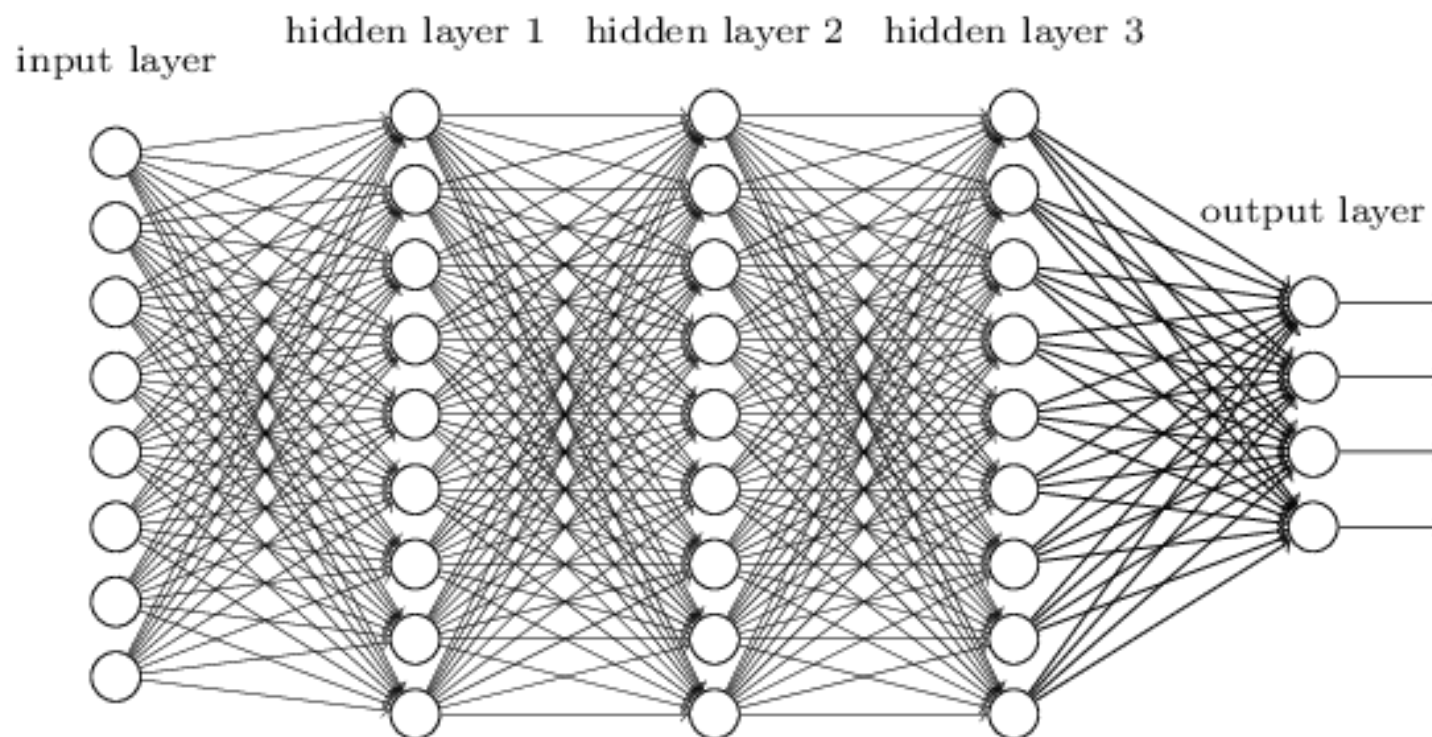


Feature learning: Going Deep



Deep learning

- Learn a *feature hierarchy* all the way from raw inputs (e.g. pixels) to classifier
- Each layer extracts features from the output of previous layer
- Train all layers jointly



Status Quo

AlexNet, 8 layers
(ILSVRC 2012)



VGG, 19 layers
(ILSVRC 2014)



ResNet, 152 layers
(ILSVRC 2015)



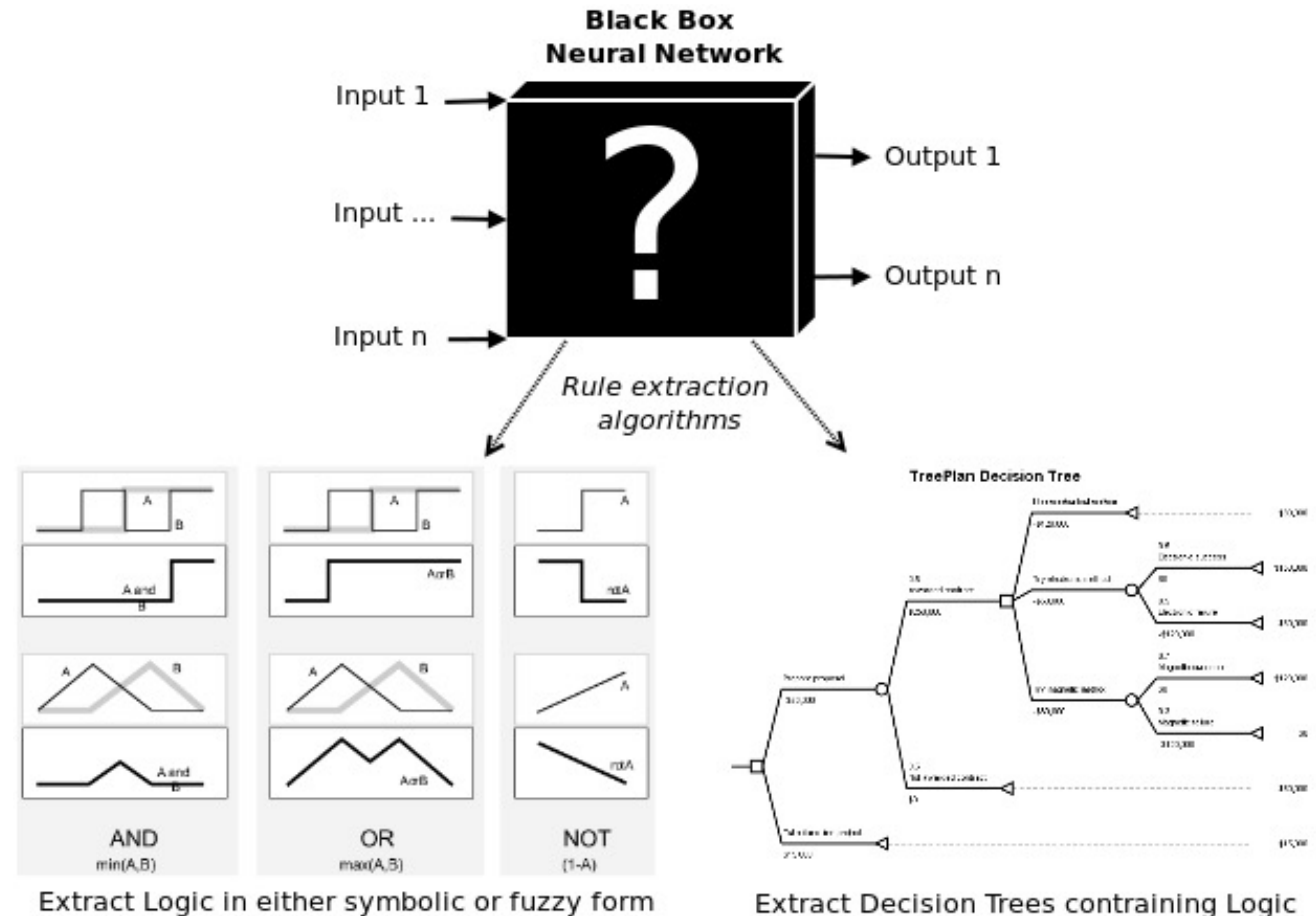
Current Trend:

- To build increasingly larger, deeper networks, trained with more massive data, based on the benefits of high-performance computing.
- Play with the connectivity and add “skips”



Grand Challenges

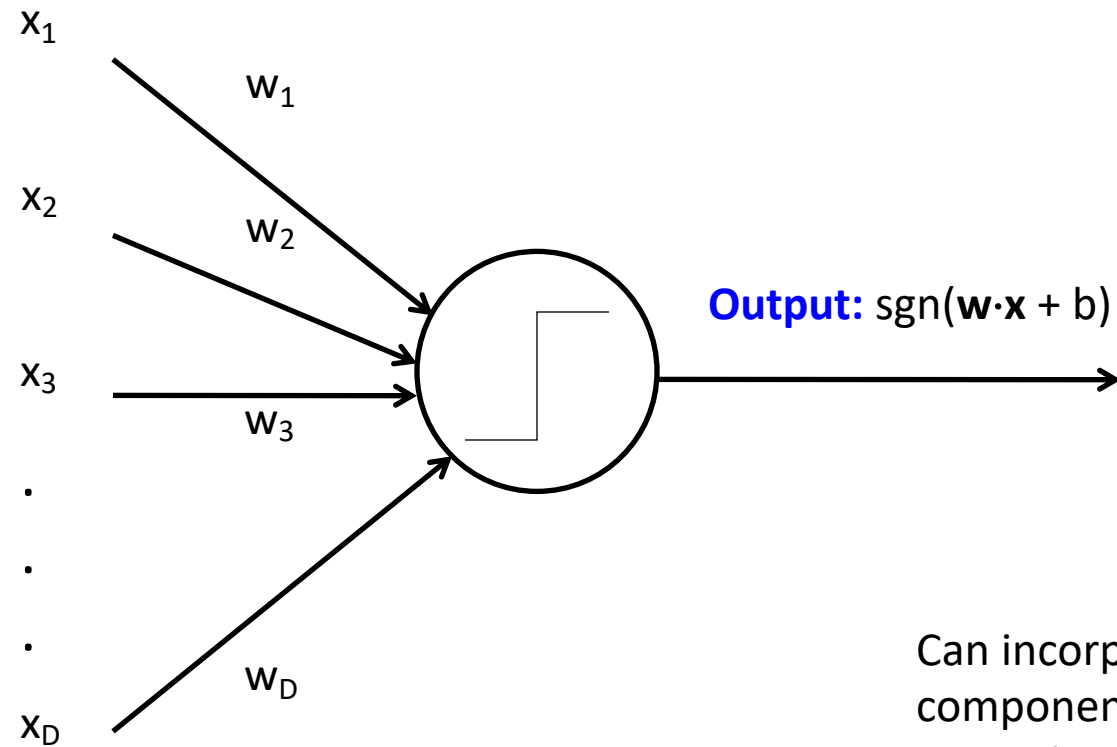
- Why/how deep learning works?
 - *In theory, many cases shouldn't even work...*
 - Gap between engineering (or art) and science: Lack of theoretical understandings & guarantees, and analytical tools
 - Training is computationally expensive and difficult, relying on many “magics”
 - No principled way to incorporate domain expertise, or to interpret the model behaviors



Perceptron

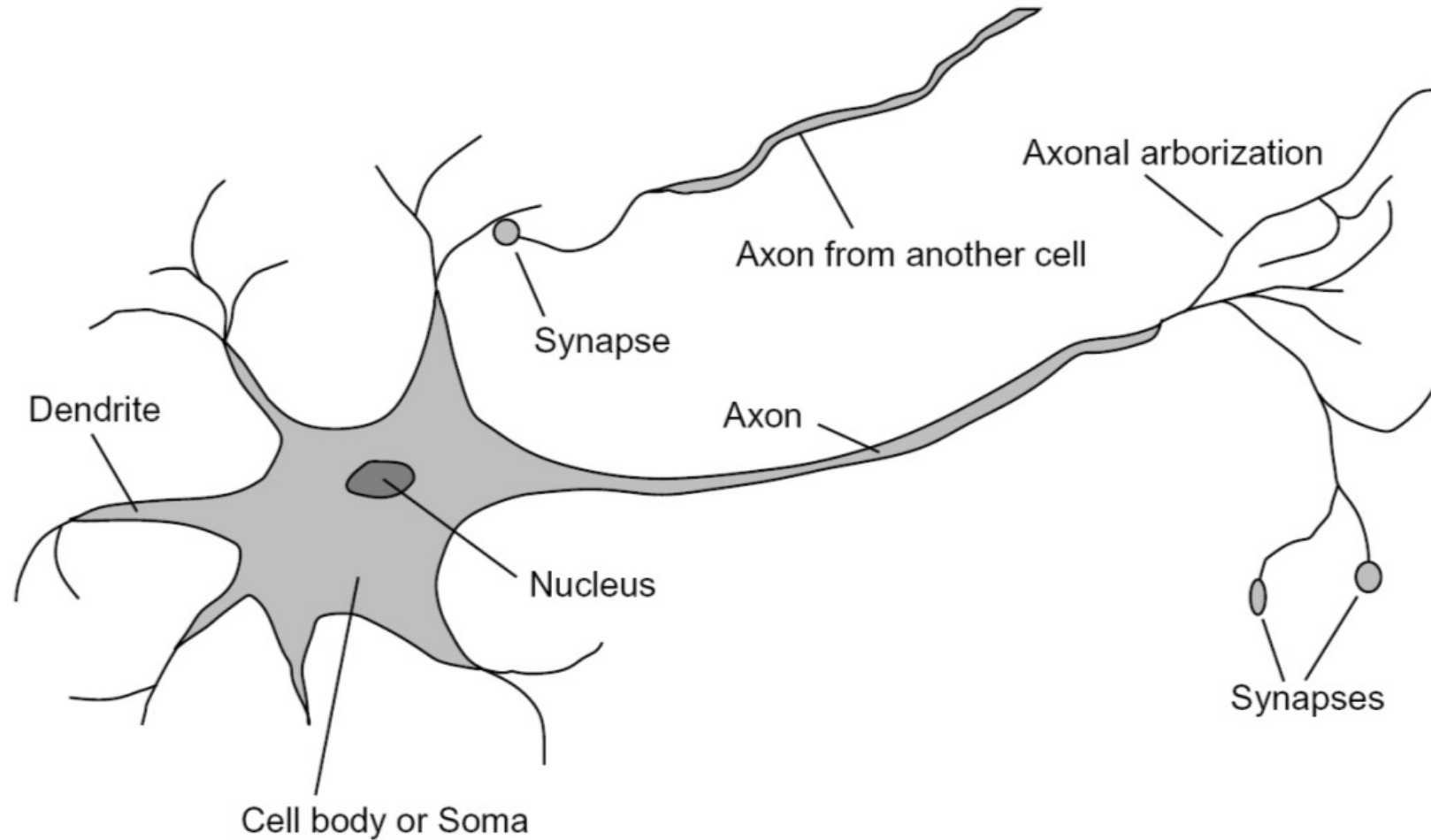
Input

Weights



Can incorporate bias as component of the weight vector by always including a feature with value set to 1

Loose inspiration: Human neurons



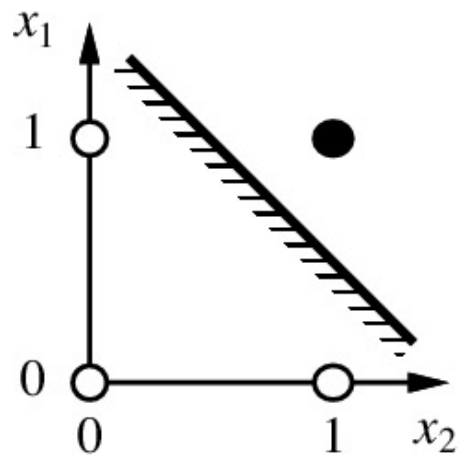
Perceptron training algorithm

- Initialize weights
- Cycle through training examples in multiple passes (*epochs*)
- For each training example:
 - Classify with current weights: $y' = \text{sgn}(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x})$
 - If classified incorrectly, update weights:

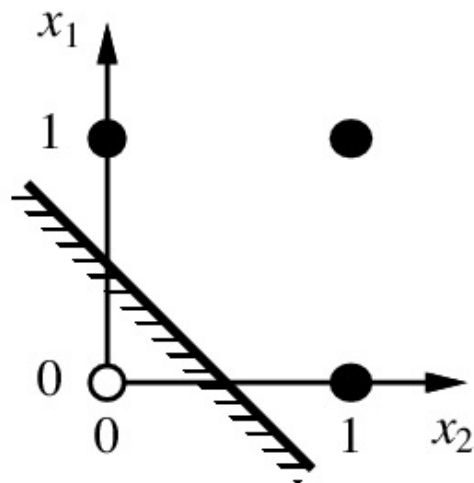
$$\mathbf{w} \leftarrow \mathbf{w} + \alpha (y - y') \mathbf{x}$$

- α is a *learning rate* that should decay as a function of epoch t , e.g., $1000/(1000+t)$

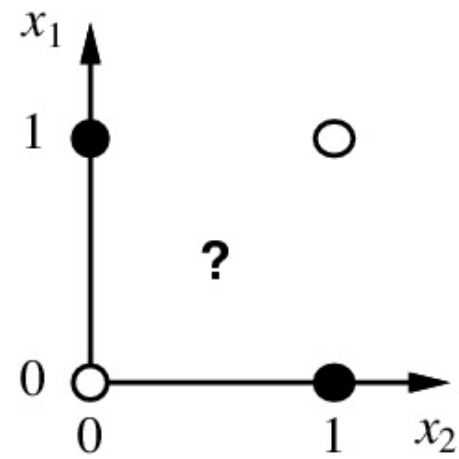
Linear separability



x_1 **and** x_2



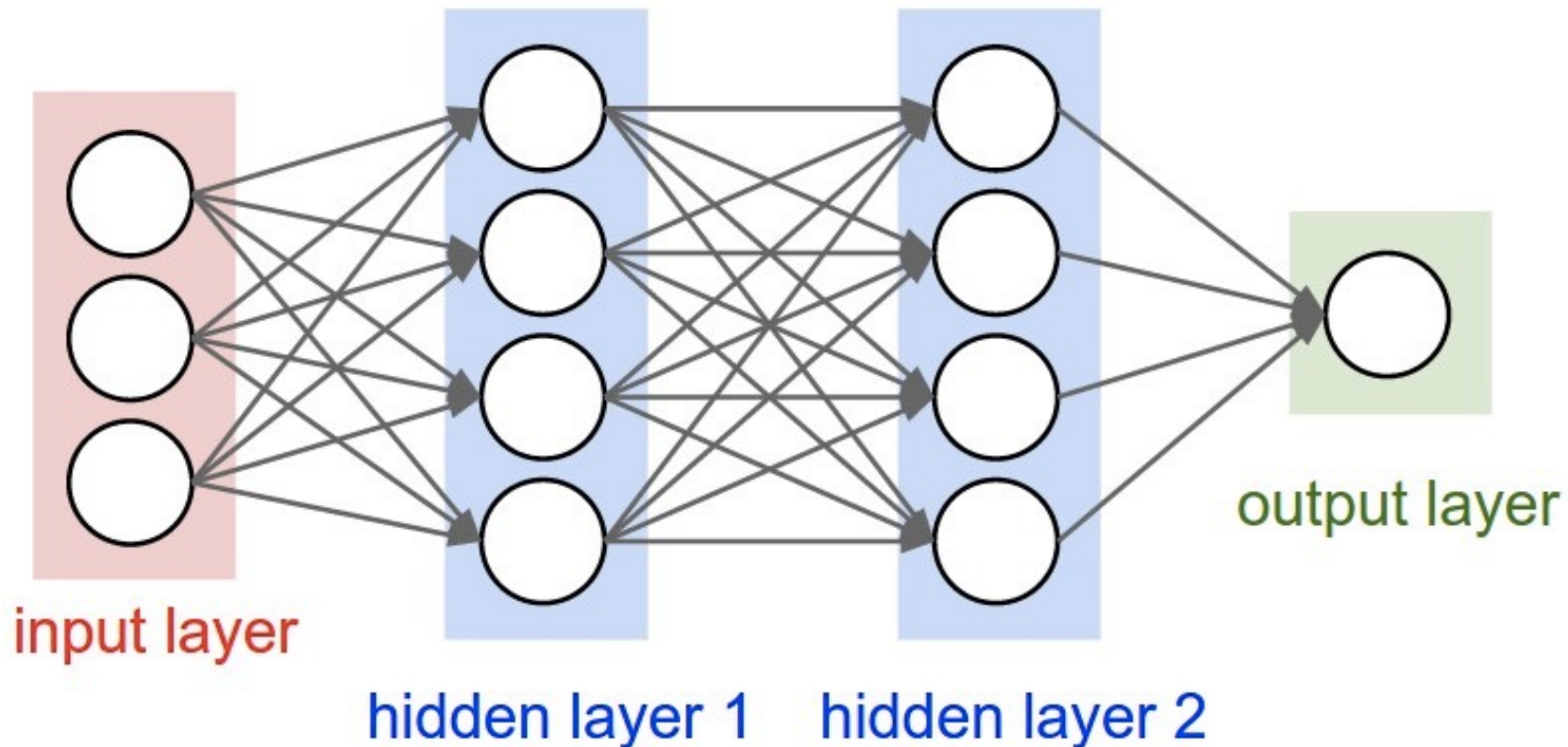
x_1 **or** x_2



x_1 **xor** x_2

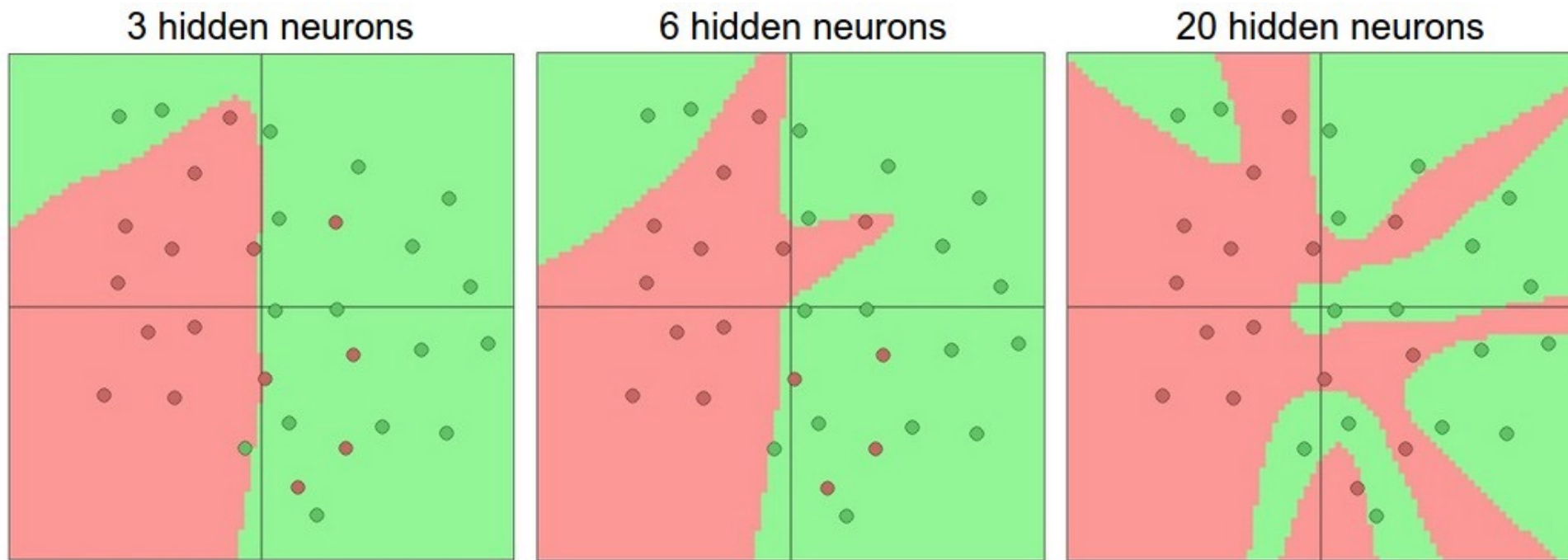
How do we make nonlinear classifiers out of perceptrons?

- Build a multi-layer neural network!



Network with a single hidden layer

- Hidden layer size and *network capacity*:



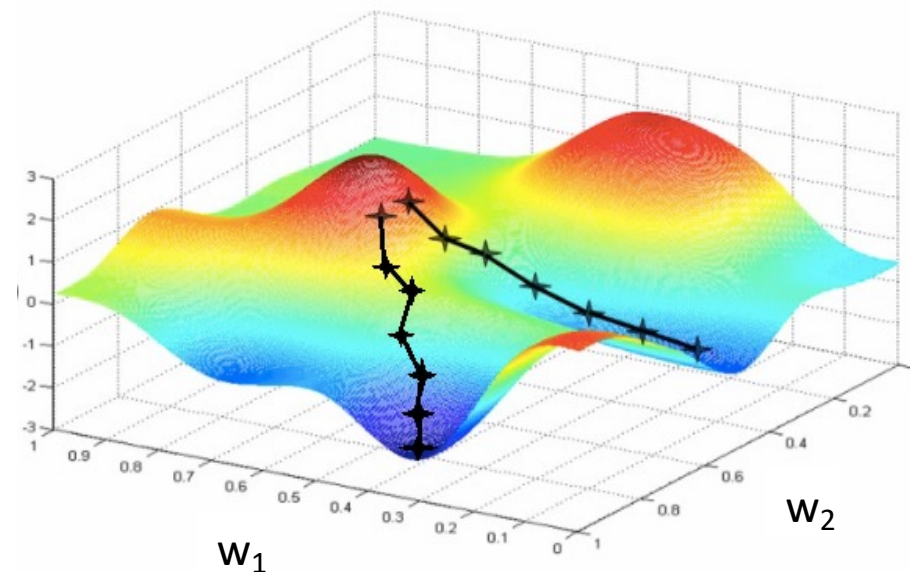
Training of multi-layer networks

- Find network weights to minimize the error between true and estimated labels of training examples:

$$E(\mathbf{w}) = \sum_{j=1}^N (y_j - f_{\mathbf{w}}(\mathbf{x}_j))^2$$

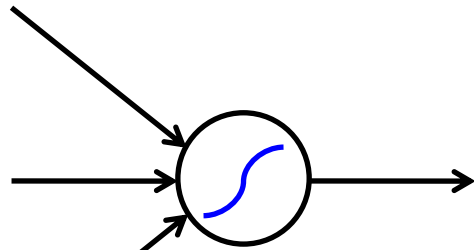
- Update weights by **gradient descent**:

$$\mathbf{w} \leftarrow \mathbf{w} - \alpha \frac{\partial E}{\partial \mathbf{w}}$$

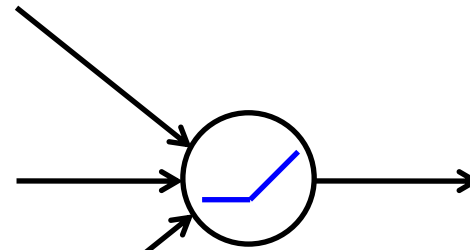


Training of multi-layer networks

- **Gradient descent** requires neural networks to be equipped with a (nearly) differentiable nonlinearity function, called **neuron**

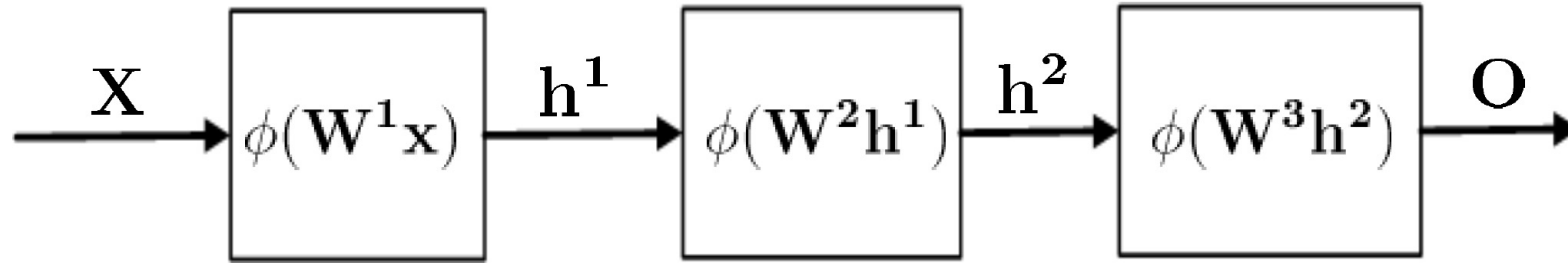


Sigmoid: $g(t) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-t}}$

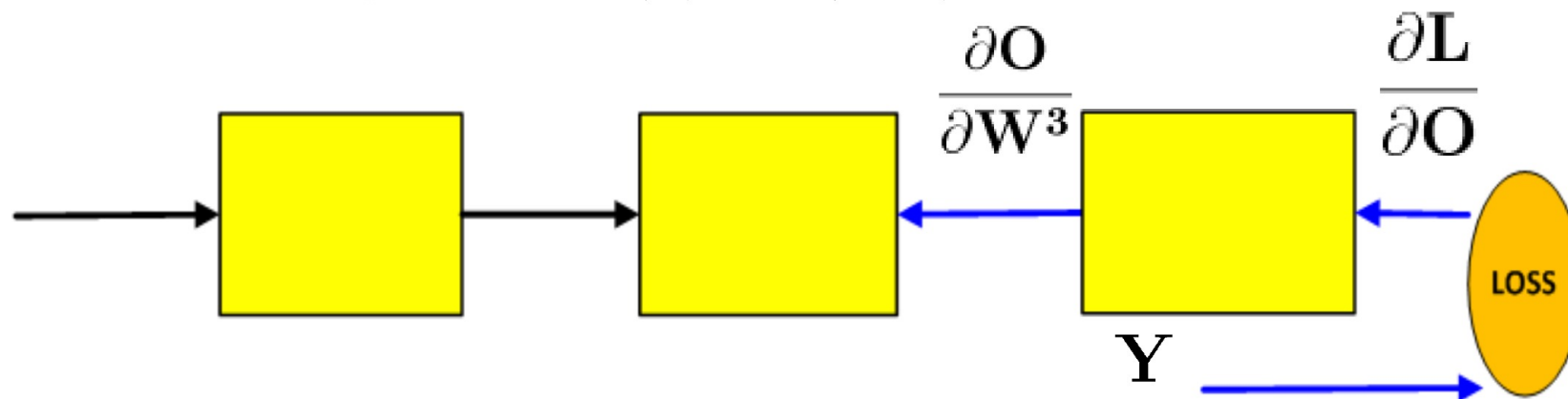


Rectified linear unit (ReLU): $g(t) = \max(0, t)$

Forward-Backward Propagation



Forward propagation: $h(\mathbf{x}) = \phi(\mathbf{W}\mathbf{x})$



Backward propagation: $\frac{\partial L}{\partial W^3} = \frac{\partial L}{\partial O} \frac{\partial O}{\partial W^3}$ (Chain Rule)

NNs are Universal Approximators (in theory)

Let $\varphi(\cdot)$ be a nonconstant, **bounded**, and **monotonically**-increasing **continuous** function. Let I_m denote the m -dimensional **unit hypercube** $[0, 1]^m$. The space of continuous functions on I_m is denoted by $C(I_m)$. Then, given any $\varepsilon > 0$ and any function $f \in C(I_m)$, there exist an integer N , real constants $v_i, b_i \in \mathbb{R}$ and real vectors $w_i \in \mathbb{R}^m$, where $i = 1, \dots, N$, such that we may define:

$$F(x) = \sum_{i=1}^N v_i \varphi(w_i^T x + b_i)$$

as an approximate realization of the function f where f is independent of φ ; that is,

$$|F(x) - f(x)| < \varepsilon$$

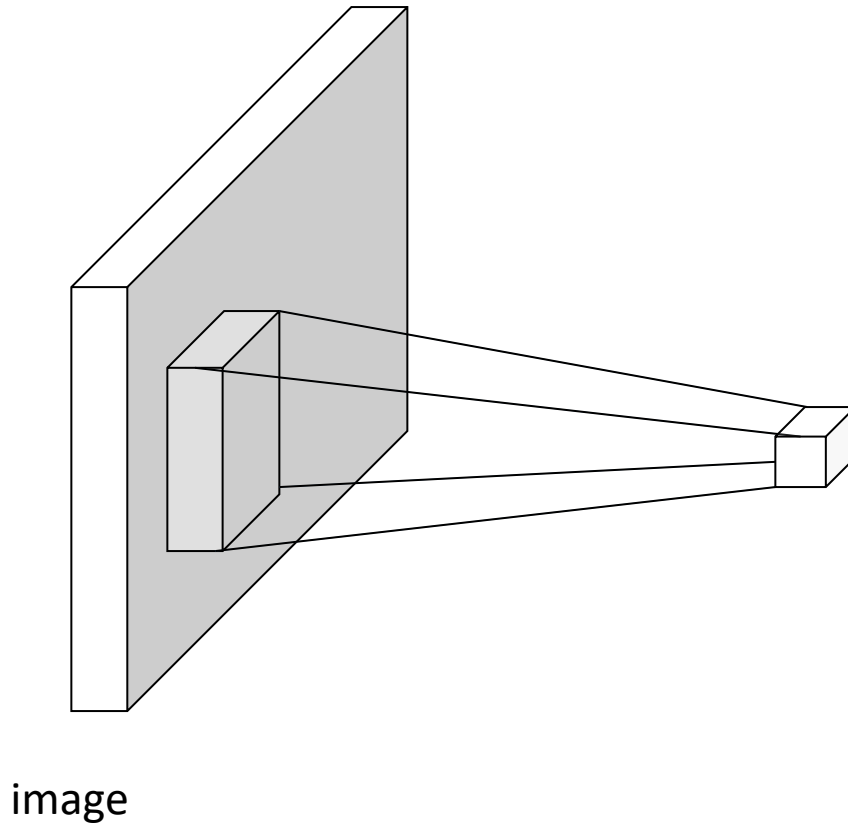
for all $x \in I_m$. In other words, functions of the form $F(x)$ are **dense** in $C(I_m)$.

- A feed-forward network with a single hidden layer containing a finite number of **nonlinear** neurons, can approximate **any continuous function on compact subsets of R^n** , under mild assumptions.
- It is not the specific choice of the activation function, but rather the **multilayer feedforward architecture** itself which gives neural networks the potential of being universal approximators.
- It does not touch upon the **algorithmic learnability** of those parameters.

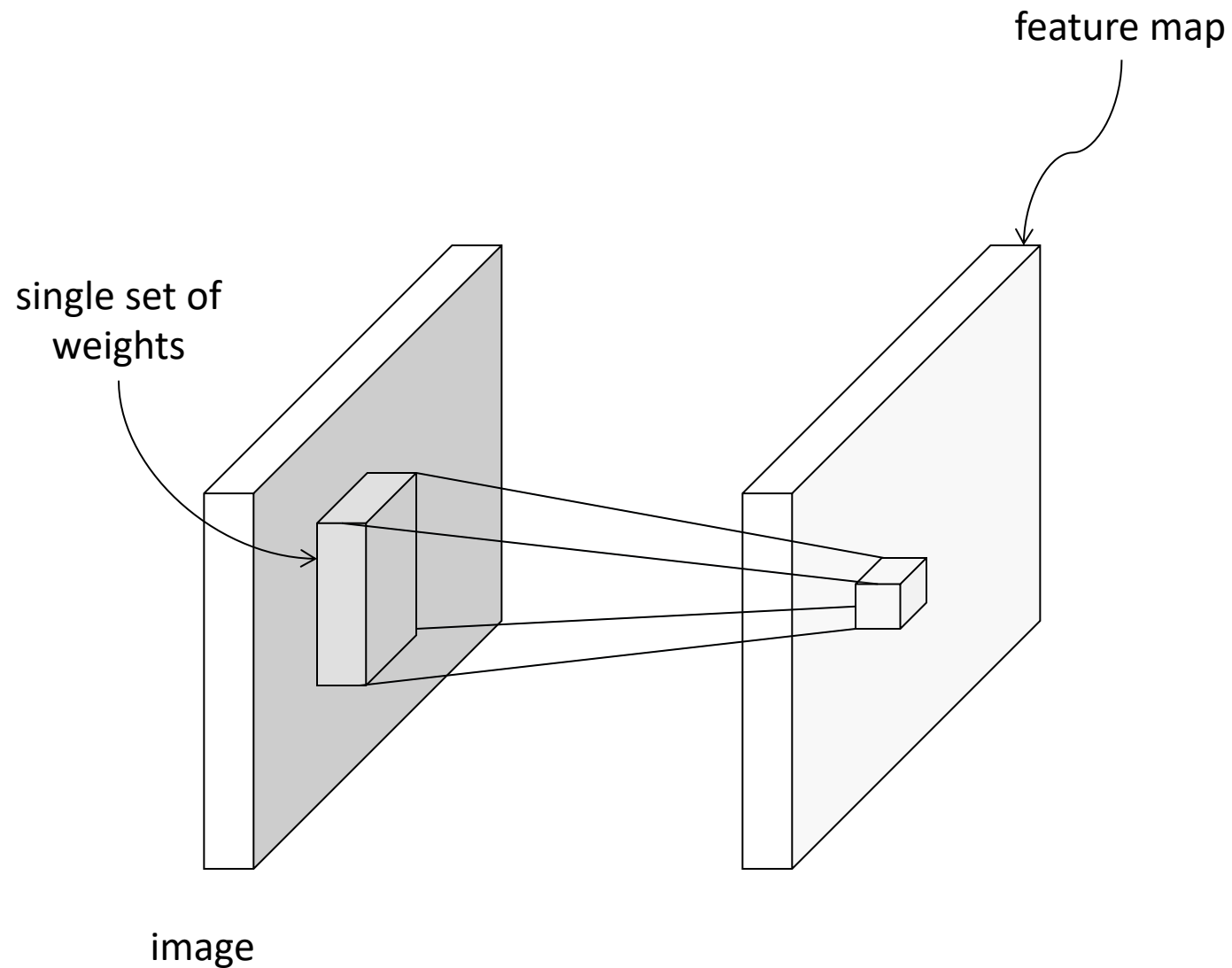
From NNs to Convolution NNs

The most important building block in modern deep learning

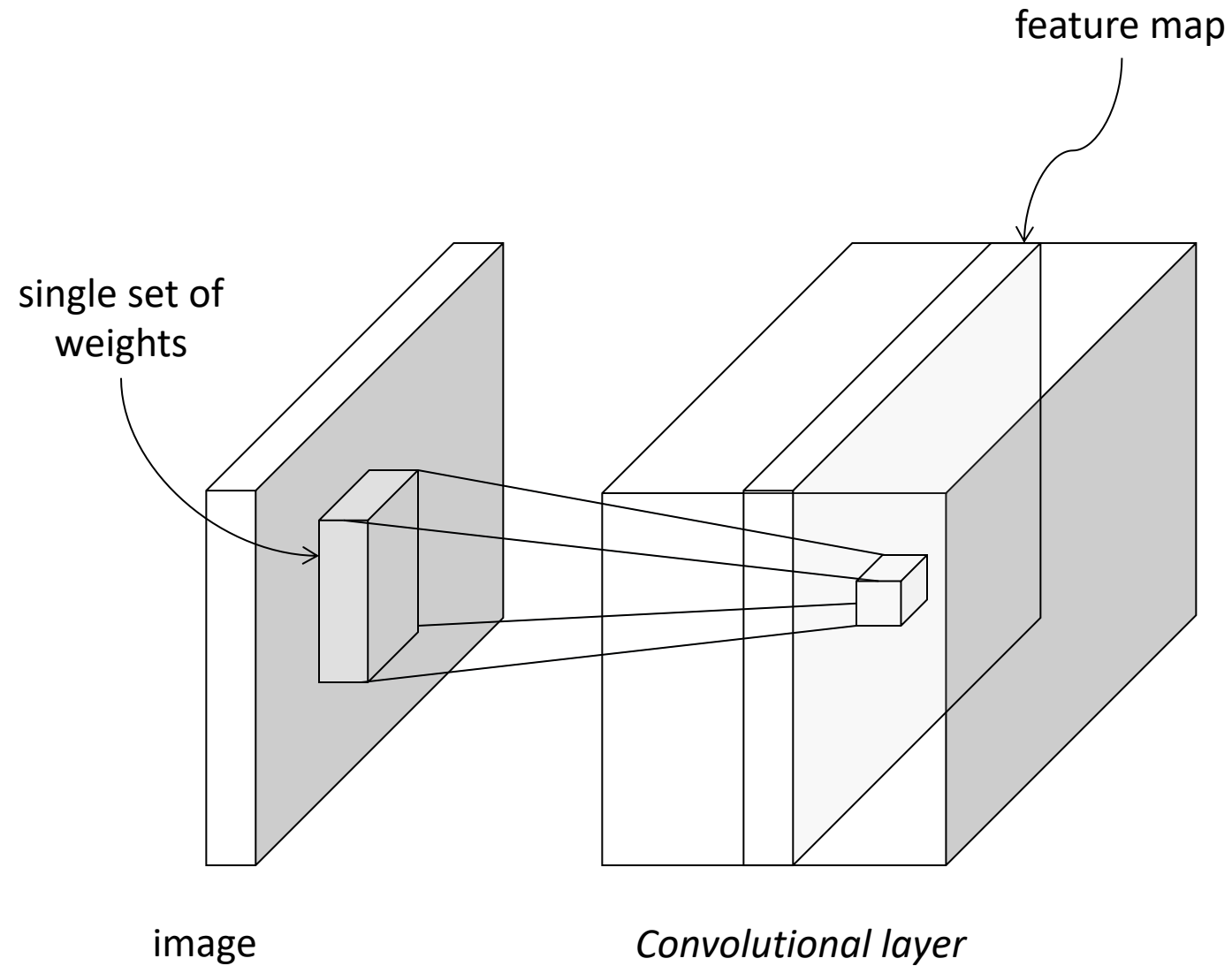
From fully connected to convolutional networks



From fully connected to convolutional networks



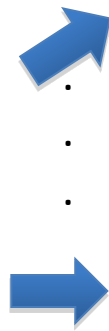
From fully connected to convolutional networks



Convolution as feature extraction

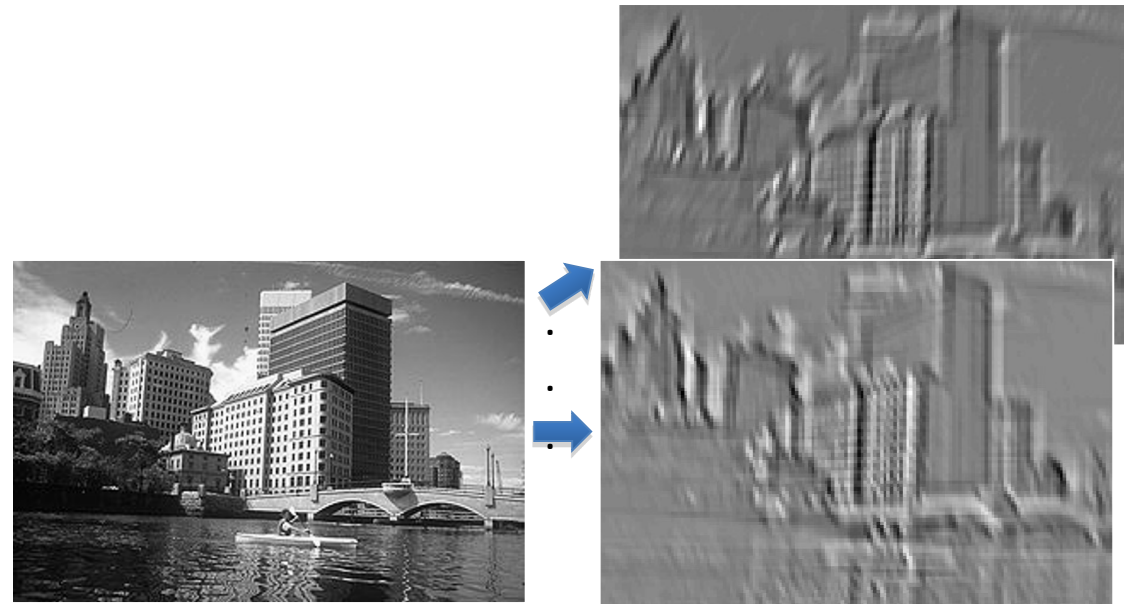
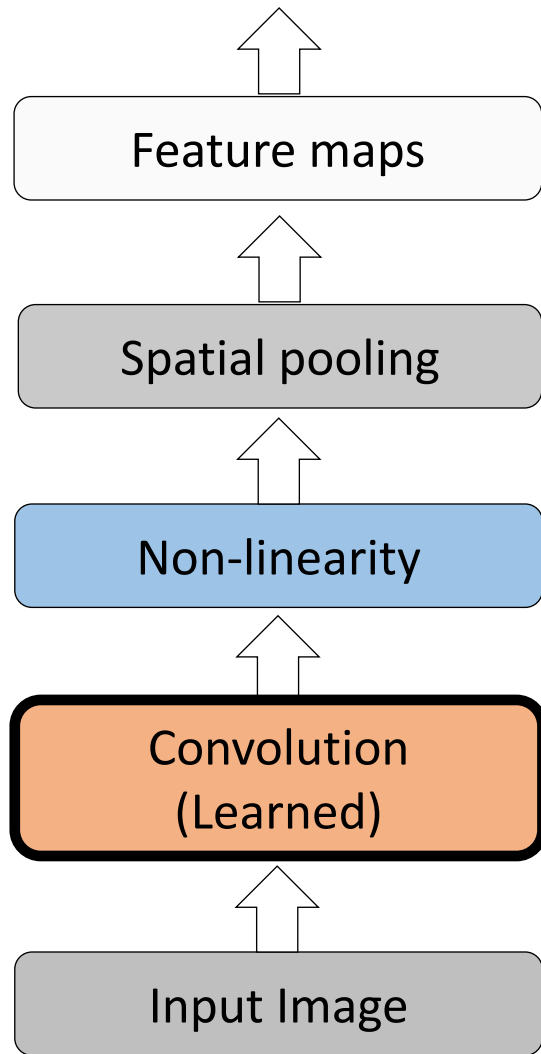


Input



Feature Map

Key operations in a CNN



Input

Feature Map

Review: Computer Vision Has “Three Levels”



“There’s an edge!”

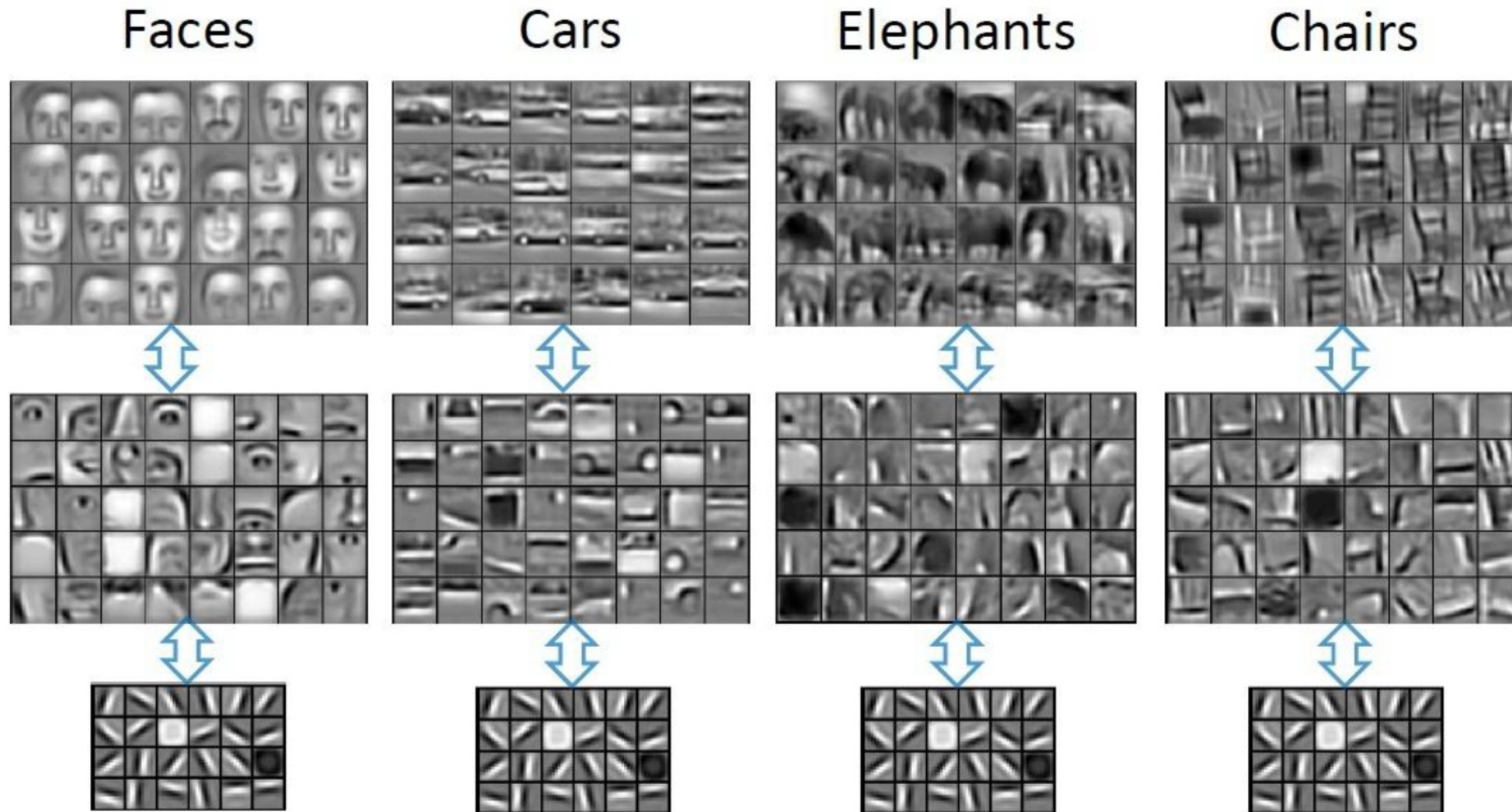


“There’s an object
and a background!”



“There’s a chair!”

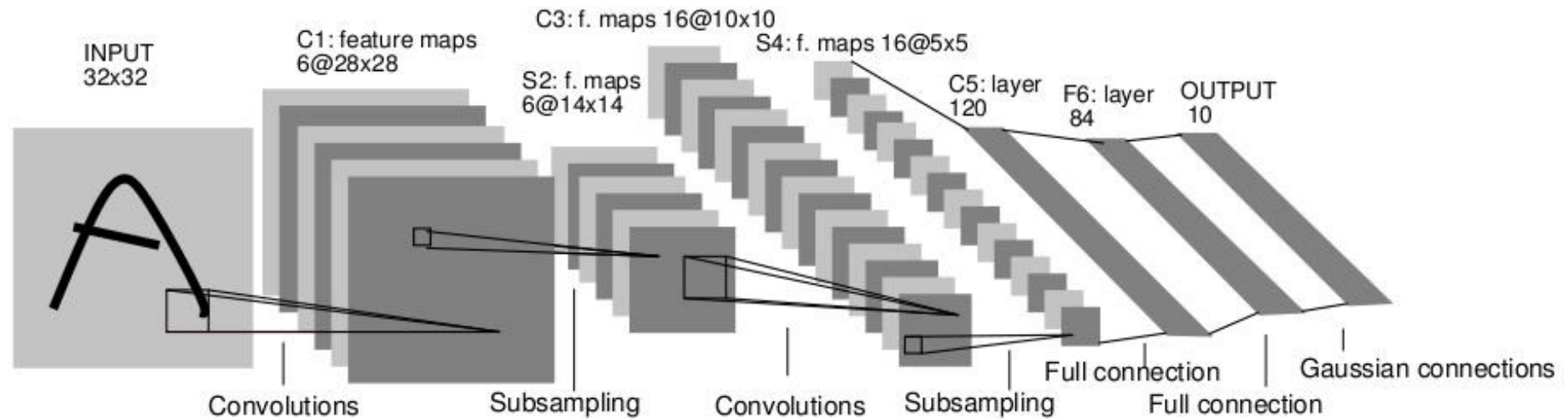
Deep Features (May) Learn Semantic Hierarchy



Popular Backbones: From LeNet to DenseNet

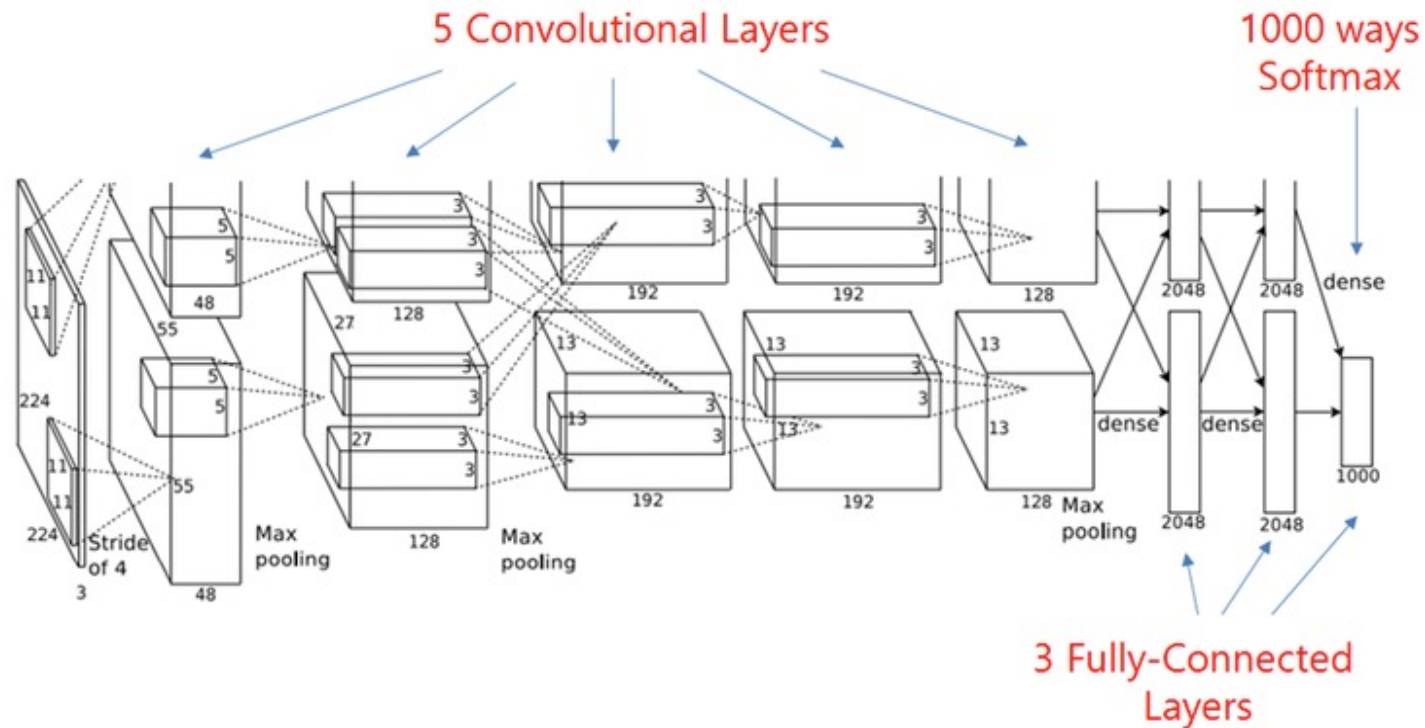
A Remarkable Odyssey to Artificial Intelligence by
Human Intelligence

LeNet-5



- Average pooling
- Sigmoid or tanh nonlinearity
- Fully connected layers at the end
- Trained on MNIST digit dataset with 60K training examples

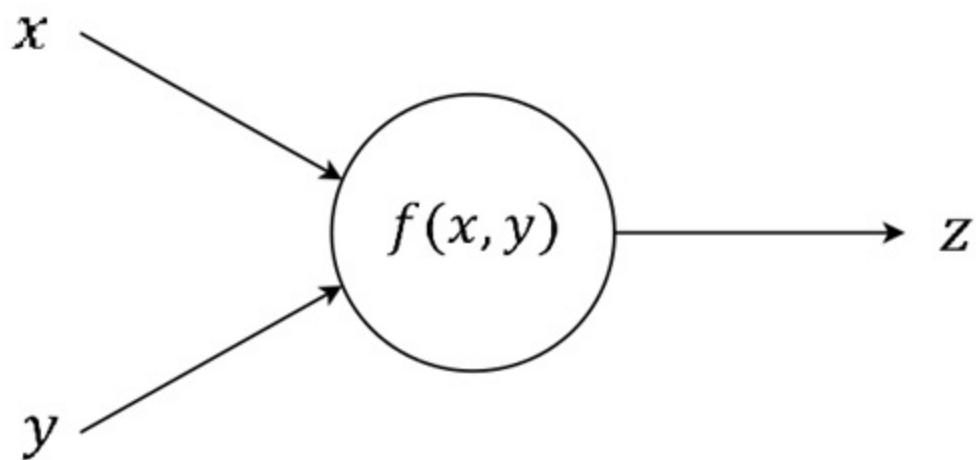
AlexNet, 2012



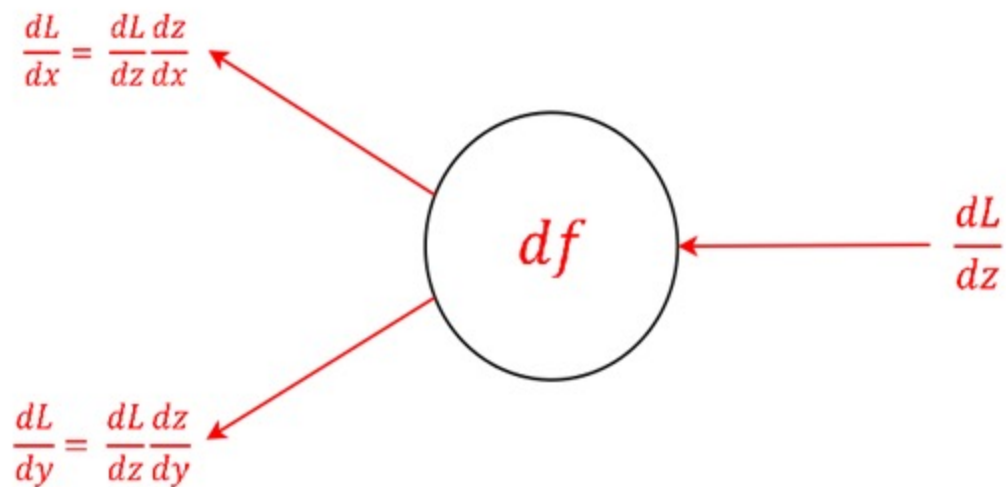
- The **FIRST** winner deep model in computer vision, and one of the most classical choices for domain experts to adapt for their applications
- 5 convolutional layers + 3 fully-connected layers + softmax classifier
- Three Key Design Features: ReLU, dropout, data augmentation

Recap: “Chain Rule”

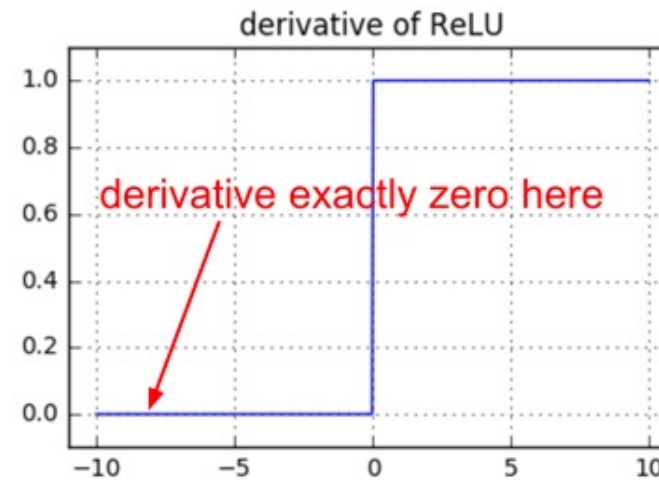
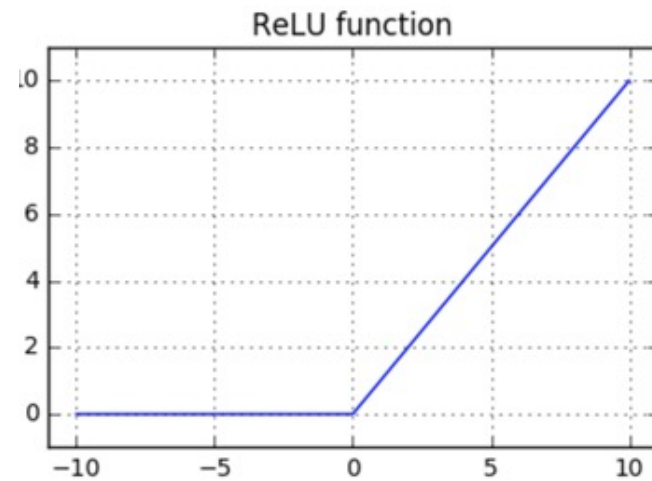
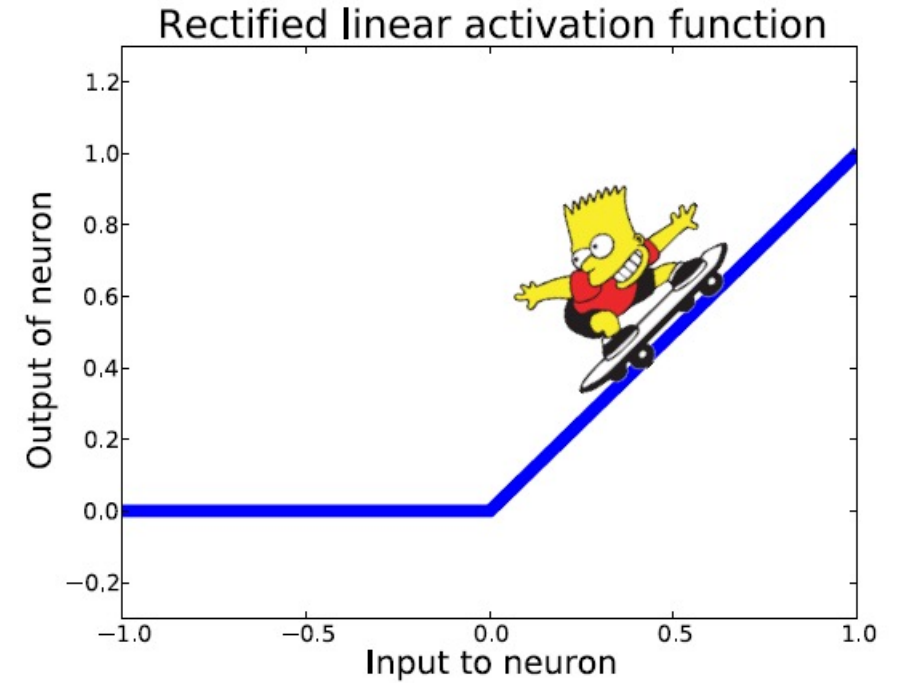
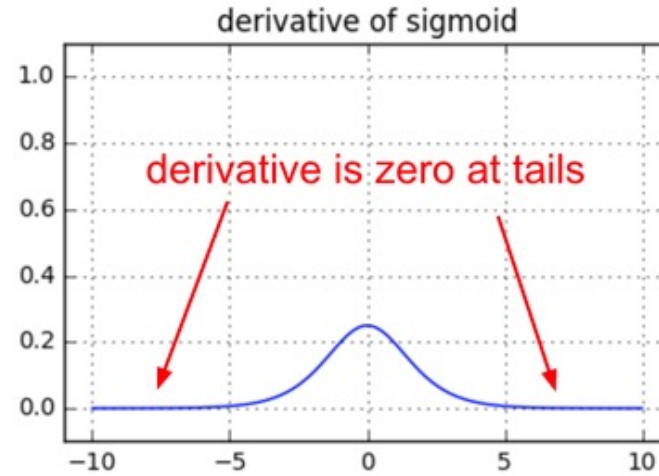
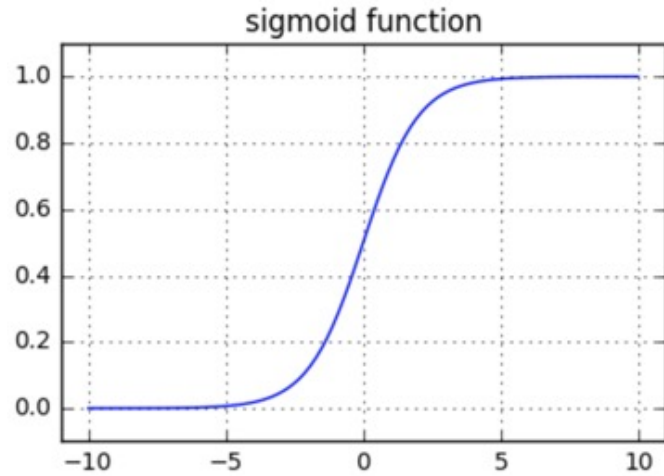
Forwardpass



Backwardpass

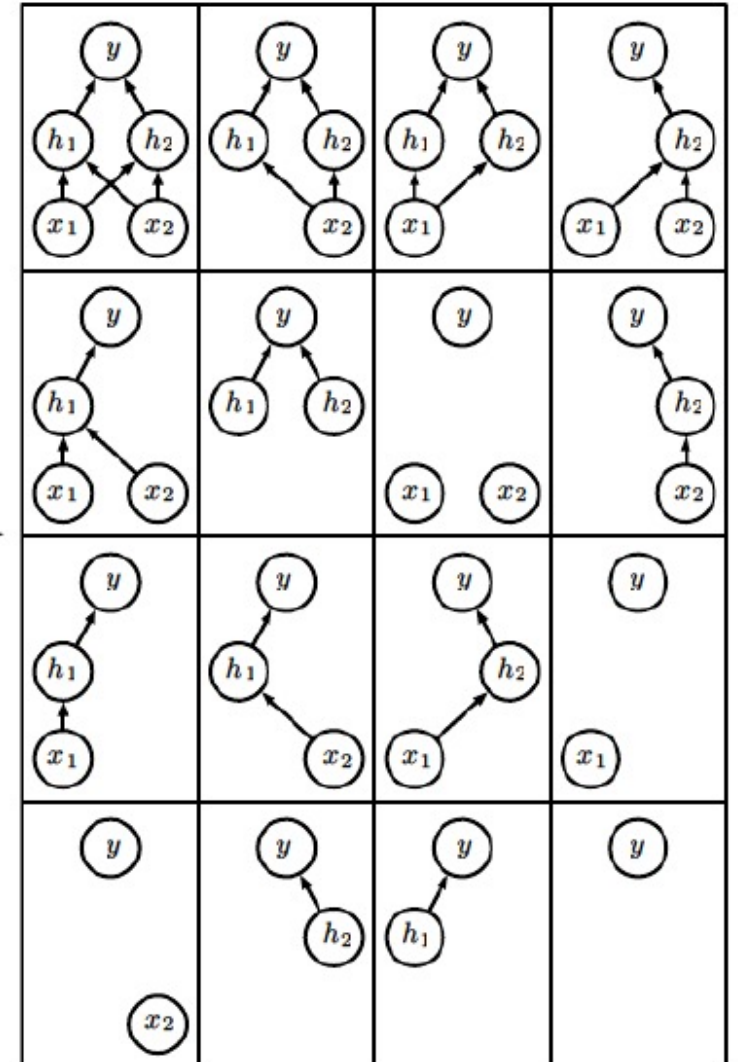
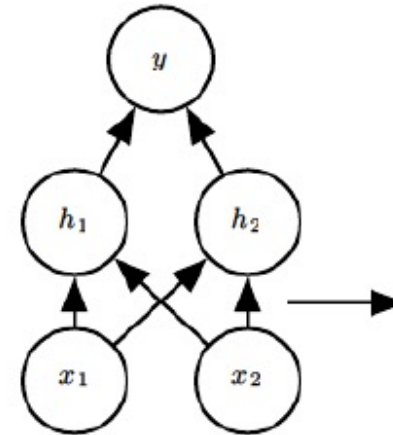


From Sigmoid to ReLU



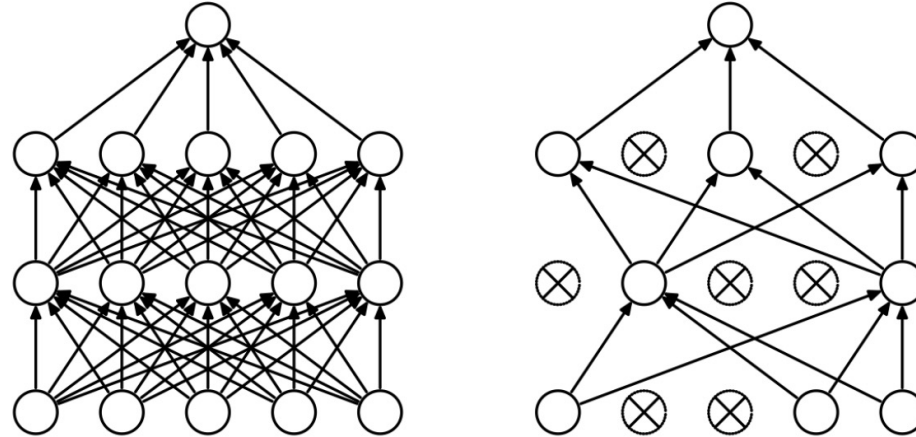
Dropout

- Randomly select weights to update
 - In each update step, randomly sample a different binary mask to all the input and hidden units
 - Multiple the mask bits with the units and do the update as usual
 - Typical dropout probability: 0.2 for input and 0.5 for hidden units
 - Very useful for FC layers, less for conv layers, not useful in RNNs



Dropout: A Stochastic Ensemble

- **Dropout**: a feature-based bagging
 - Resamples input as well as **latent** features
 - With **parameter sharing** among voters



- SGD training: each time loading a minibatch, randomly sample a binary mask to apply to all input and hidden units
 - Each unit has probability α to be included (a hyperparameter)
 - Typically, 0.8 for input units and 0.5 for hidden units
- Different minibatches are used to train different parts of the NN
 - Similar to bagging, but much more efficient
 - No need to retrain unmasked units
 - Exponential number of voters

Data Augmentation

Horizontal Flip



Crop



Rotate



- Adding noise to the input: a special kind of augmentation
- Be careful about the transformation applied -> **label preserving**
 - **Example:** classifying 'b' and 'd'; '6' and '9'

VGG-Net, 2014

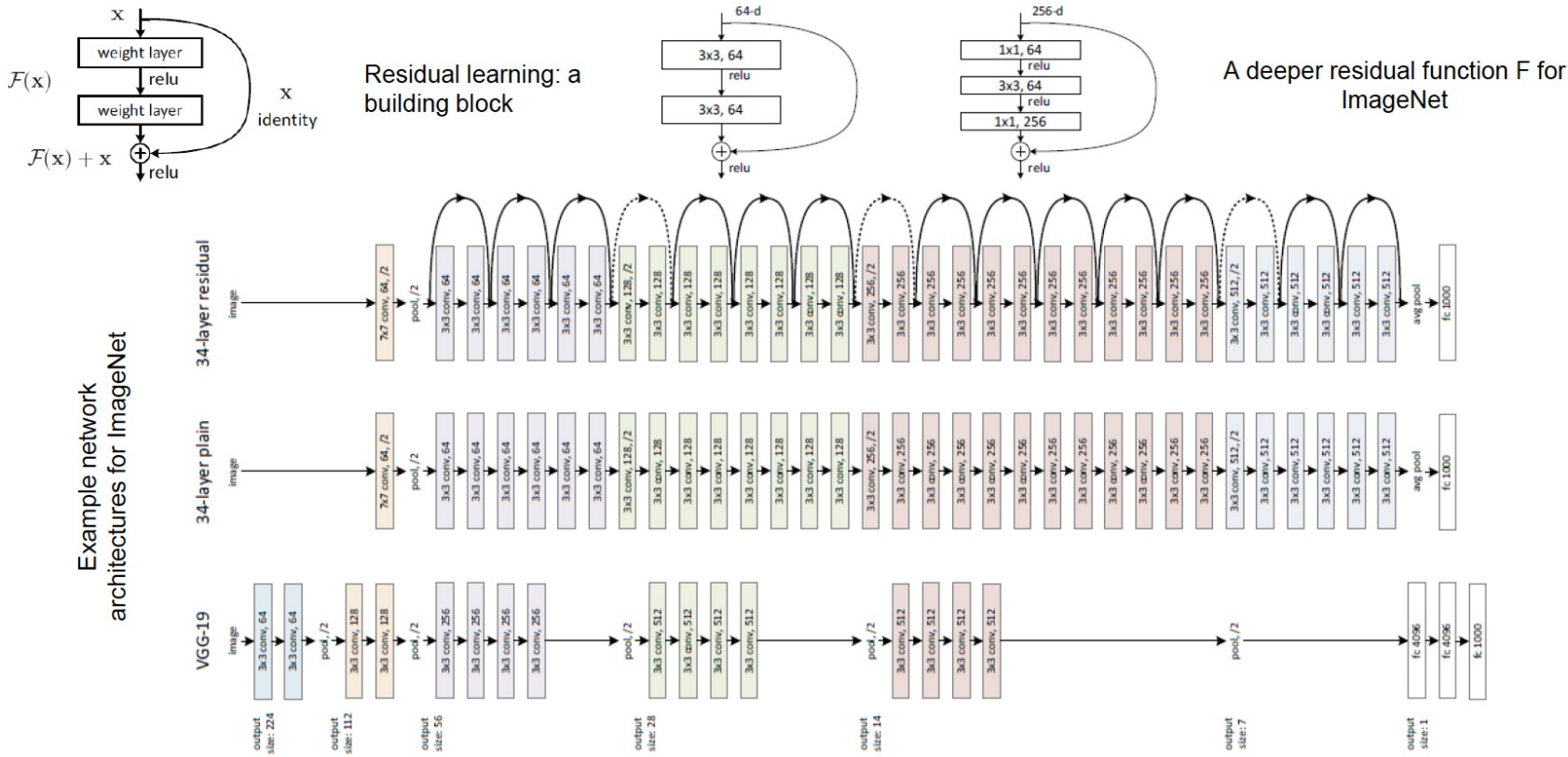
ConvNet Configuration					
A	A-LRN	B	C	D	E
11 weight layers	11 weight layers	13 weight layers	16 weight layers	16 weight layers	19 weight layers
input (224 × 224 RGB image)					
conv3-64	conv3-64 LRN	conv3-64 conv3-64	conv3-64 conv3-64	conv3-64 conv3-64	conv3-64 conv3-64
maxpool					
conv3-128	conv3-128	conv3-128 conv3-128	conv3-128 conv3-128	conv3-128 conv3-128	conv3-128 conv3-128
maxpool					
conv3-256 conv3-256	conv3-256 conv3-256	conv3-256 conv3-256	conv3-256 conv3-256 conv1-256	conv3-256 conv3-256 conv3-256	conv3-256 conv3-256 conv3-256 conv3-256
maxpool					
conv3-512 conv3-512	conv3-512 conv3-512	conv3-512 conv3-512	conv3-512 conv3-512 conv1-512	conv3-512 conv3-512 conv3-512	conv3-512 conv3-512 conv3-512 conv3-512
maxpool					
conv3-512 conv3-512	conv3-512 conv3-512	conv3-512 conv3-512	conv3-512 conv3-512 conv1-512	conv3-512 conv3-512 conv3-512	conv3-512 conv3-512 conv3-512 conv3-512
maxpool					
FC-4096					
FC-4096					
FC-1000					
soft-max					

Key Technical Features:

- Increase depth (up to 19)
- Smaller filter size (3)

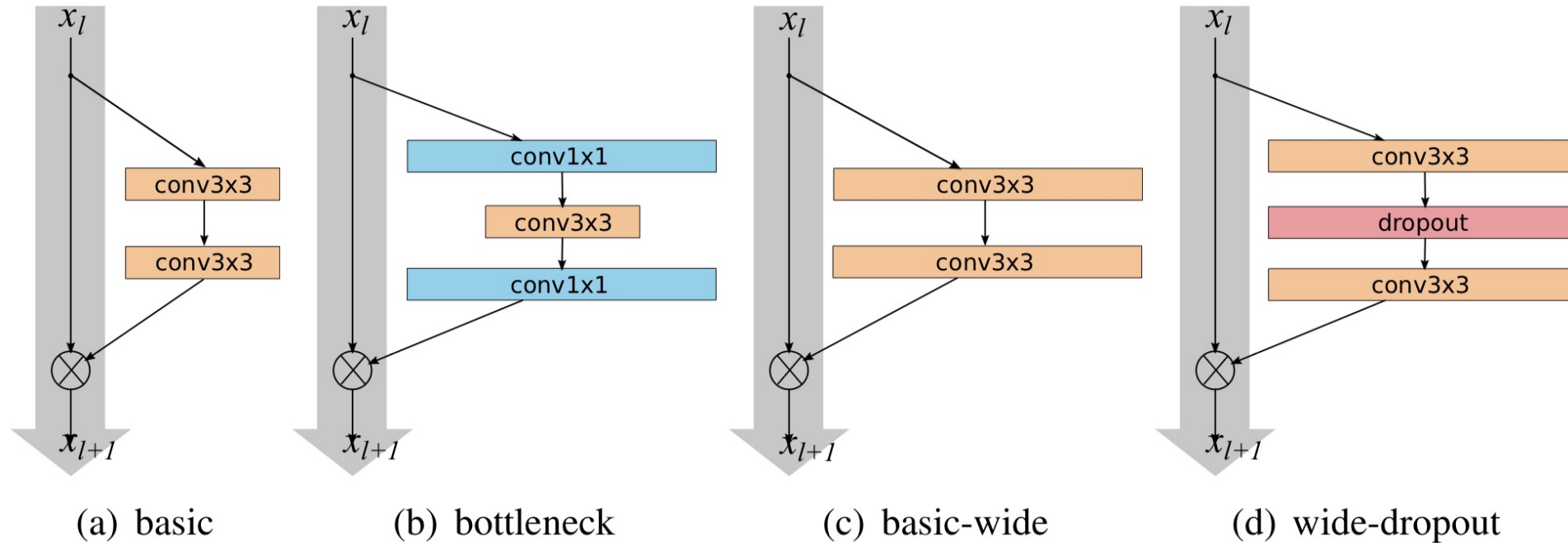
Configurations D and E are widely used for various tasks, called *VGG-16* and *VGG-19*

Deep Residual Network (ResNet), 2015



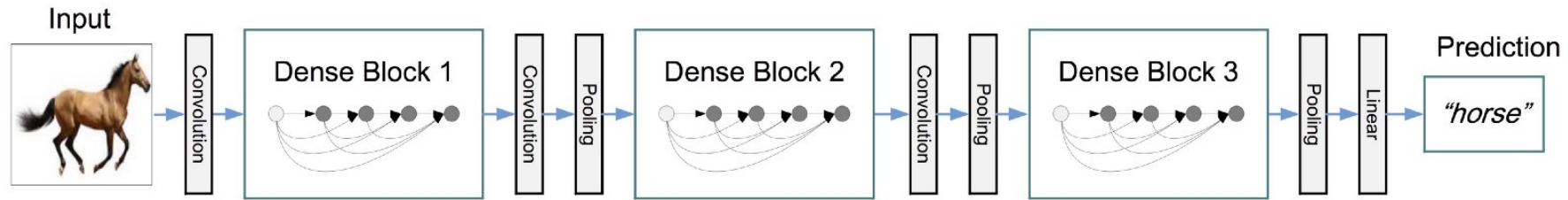
Key Technical Features: skip connections for residual mapping, up to > 1000 layers

Wide ResNet, 2016



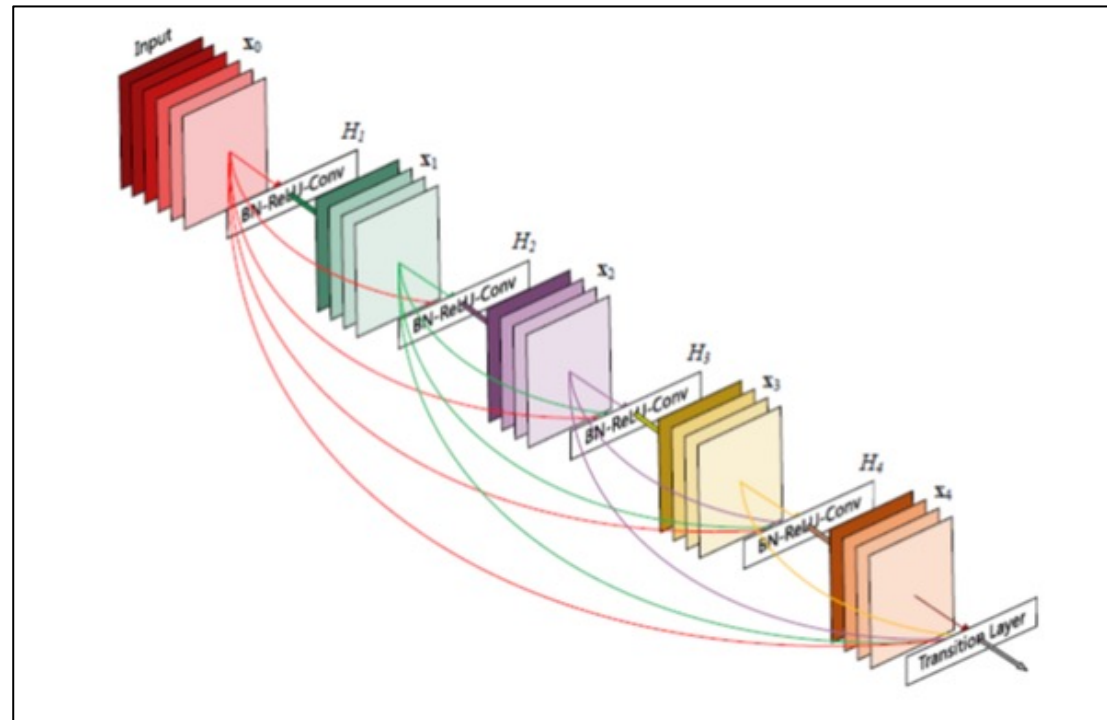
- Widening of ResNet blocks (if done properly) provides a more effective way of improving performance of residual networks compared to increasing their depth.
- A wide 16-layer deep network has the same accuracy as a 1000-layer thin deep network and a comparable number of parameters, although being several times faster to train.

Densely Connected Convolutional Networks (DenseNet), 2017



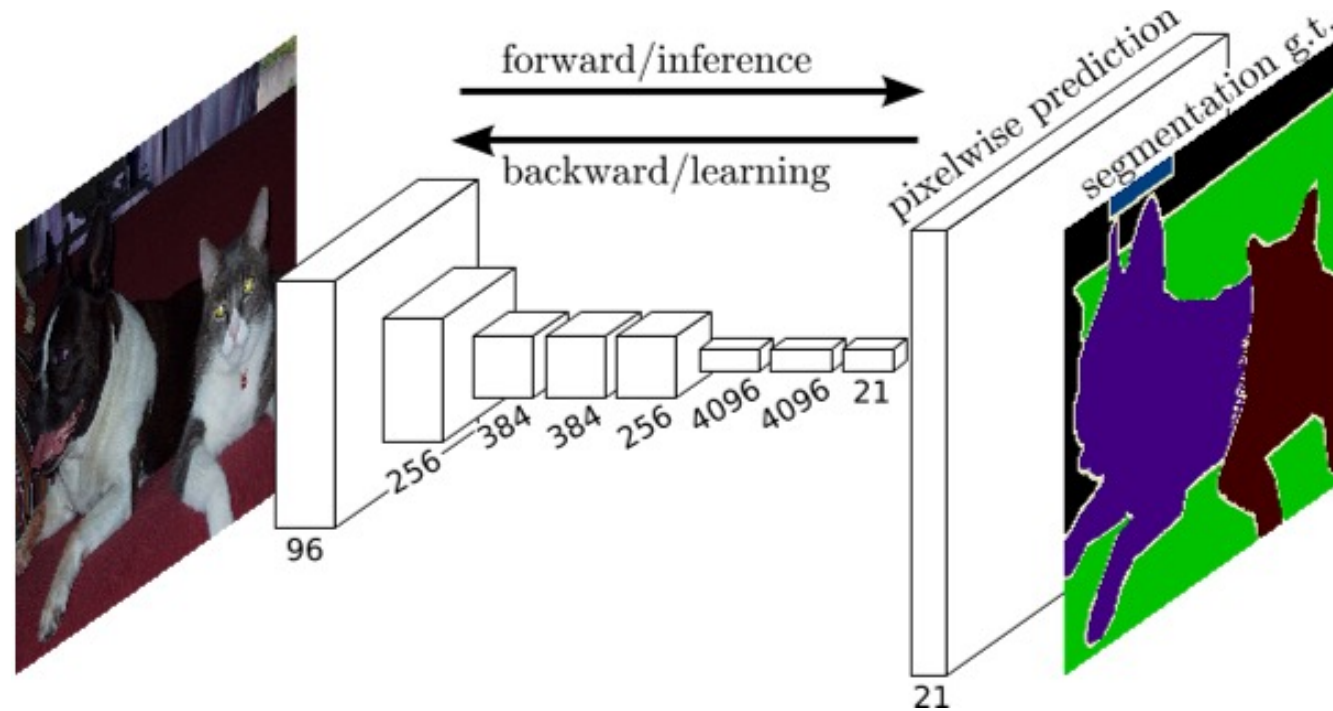
Key Technical Features:

- Finer combination of multi-scale features (or whatever...)



(More) Art of Convolutions

Fully Convolutional Network (FCN), 2014

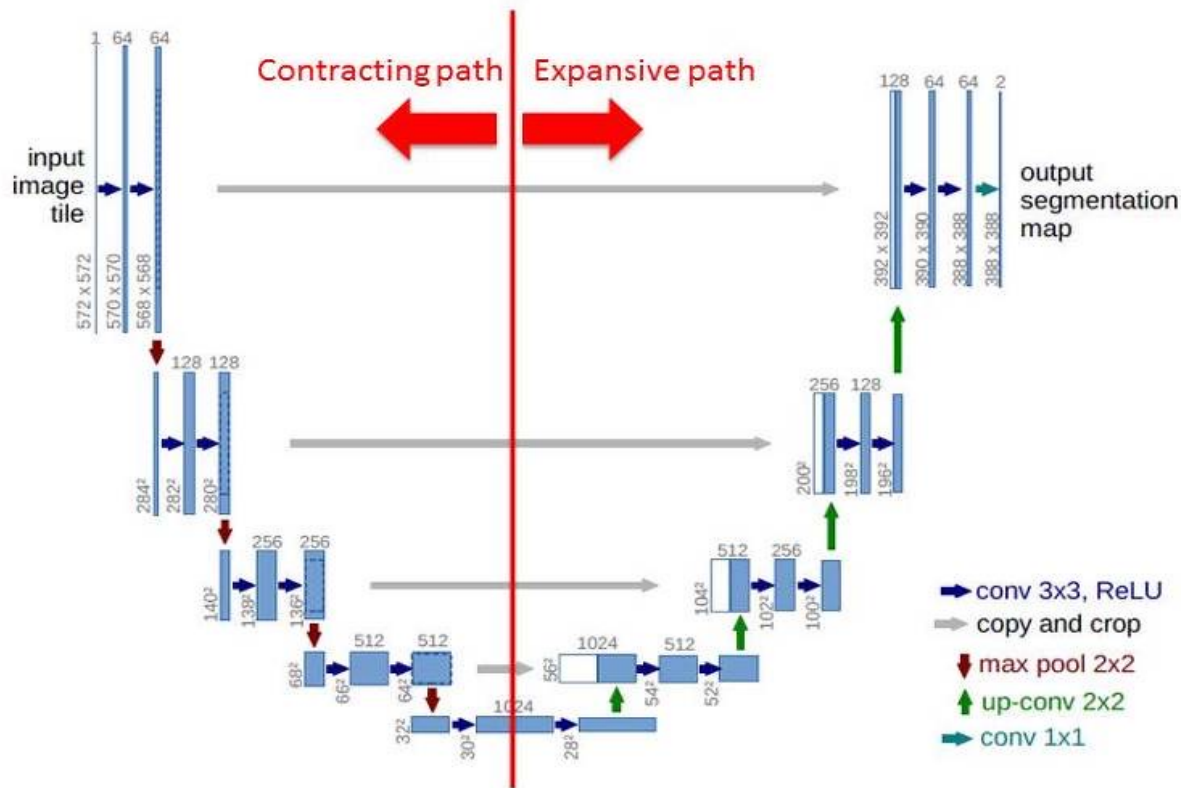


Key Technical Features:

- No fully-connected layer -> No fixed requirement on input size
- Widely adopted in pixel-to-pixel prediction tasks, e.g., image segmentation

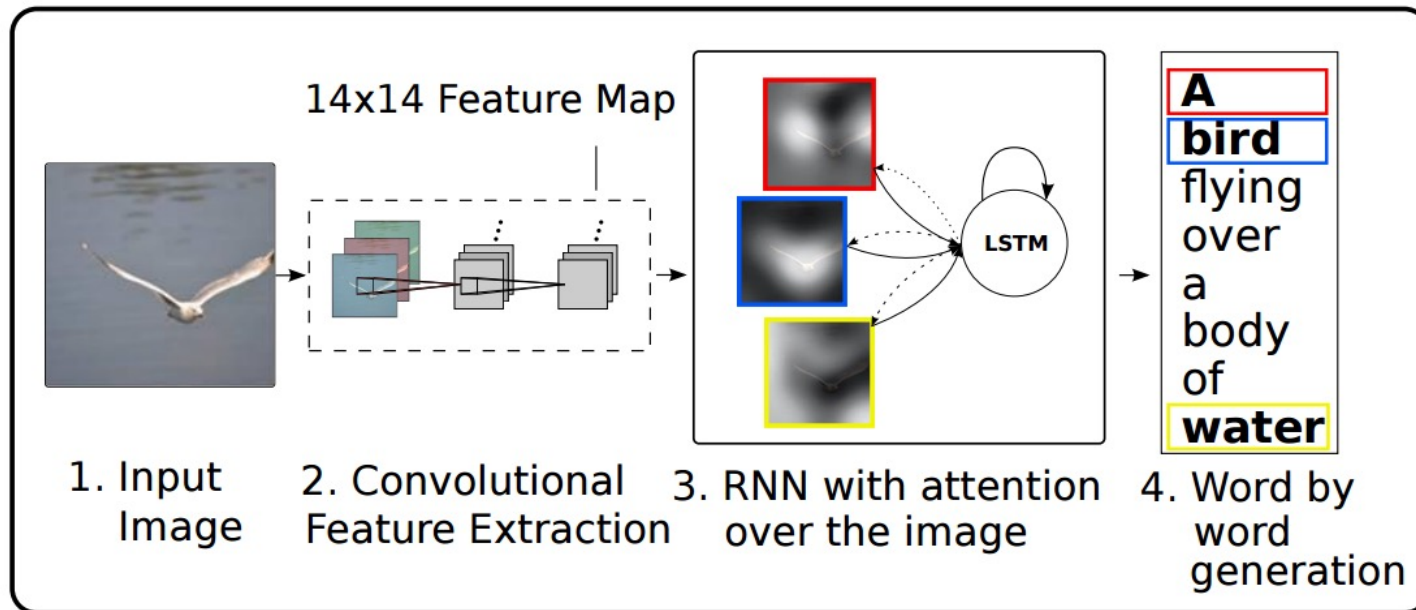
U-Net, 2015

Network Architecture



- The architecture consists of a **contracting path** to capture context
- ...and a **symmetric expanding path** to enable precise localization.
- Also **fully convolutional**
- Very popular backbone for dense prediction (image segmentation, restoration...)

Attention Mechanism



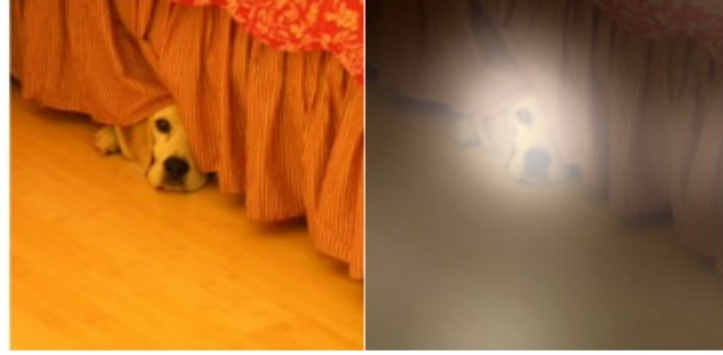
- **Idea is simple:** add a (learned) weighted mask to feature (feature selection)
- Use a feed-forward deep network to extract L feature vectors
- Can use a recurrent network to iteratively update the attention (shown as bright regions) for each output word
- Find meaningful correspondences between words and attentions

“Show, Attend and Tell: Neural Image Caption Generation with Visual Attention”, 2015

Examples of (Input) Visual Attention



A woman is throwing a frisbee in a park.



A dog is standing on a hardwood floor.



A stop sign is on a road with a mountain in the background.



A little girl sitting on a bed with a teddy bear.

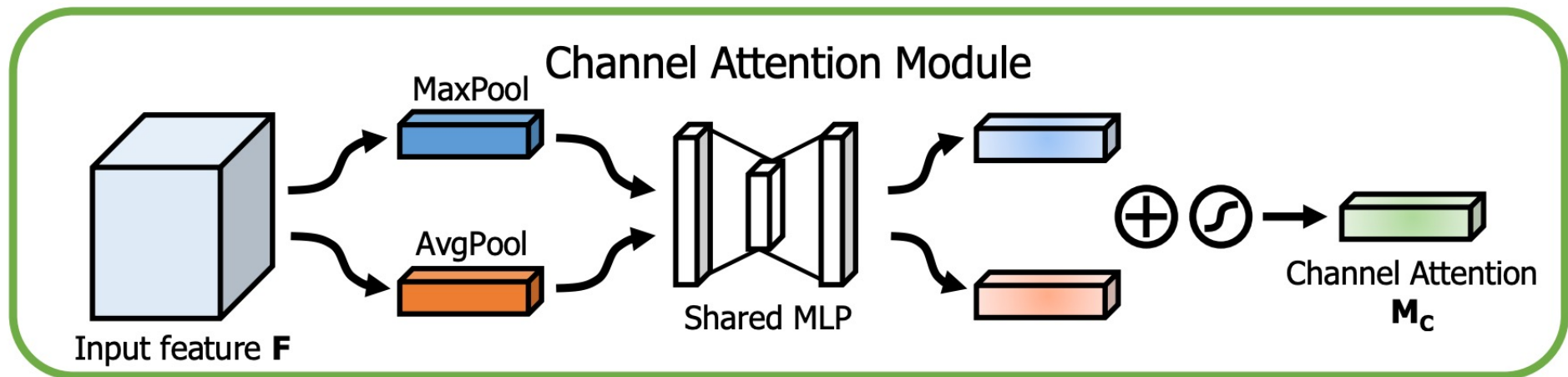
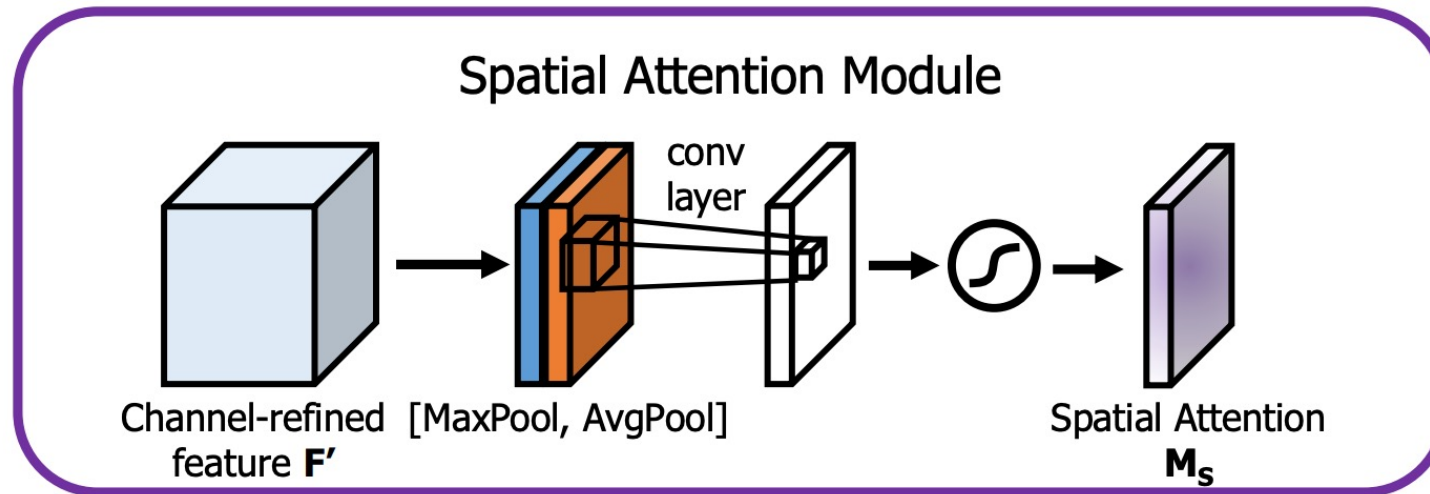


A group of people sitting on a boat in the water.



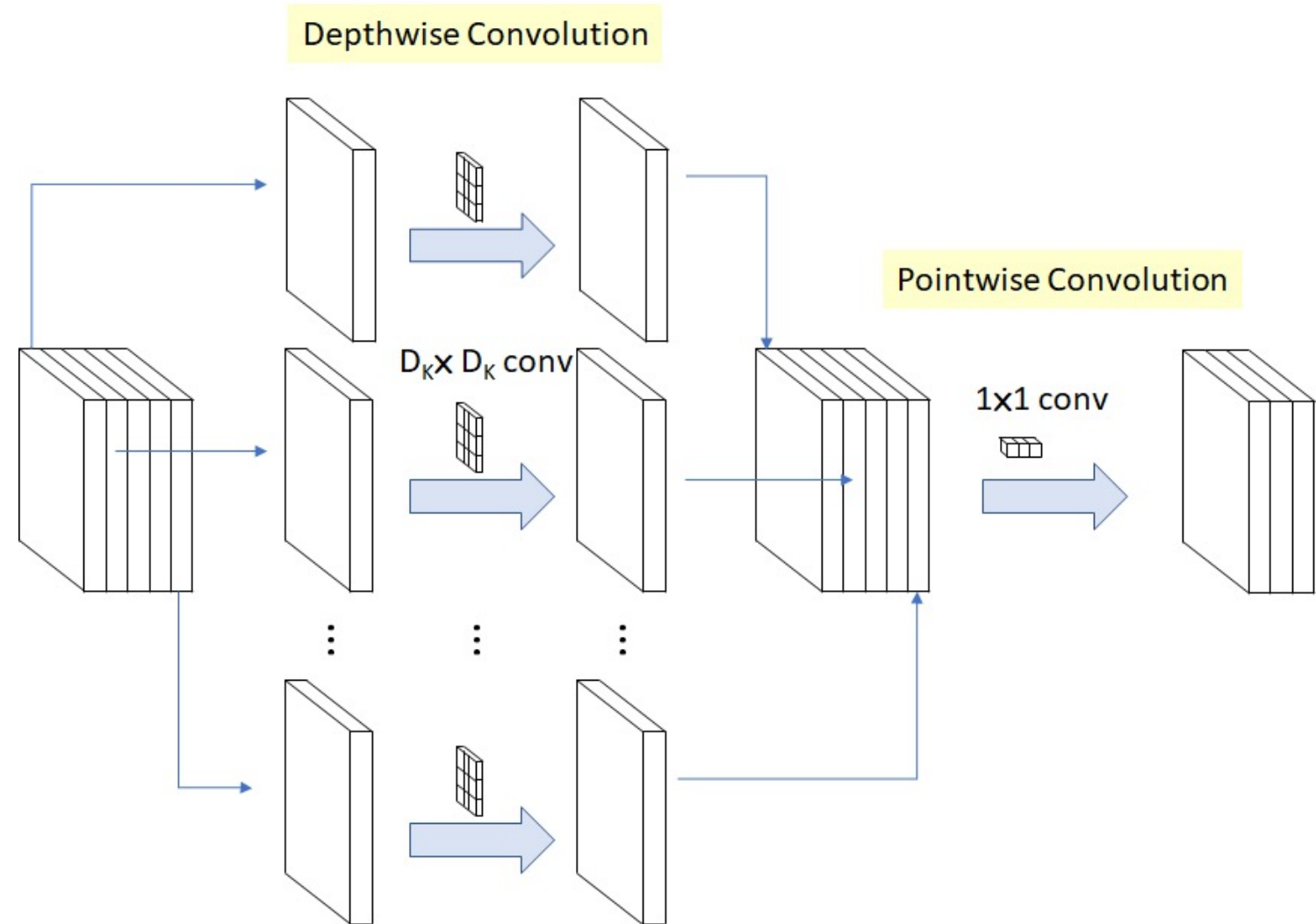
A giraffe standing in a forest with trees in the background.

Spatial and Channel Attention



Depth-Wise Convolution

- **Depthwise convolution** is the channel-wise spatial convolution.
- It is often used together with **pointwise convolution**, i.e., 1×1 convolution to change the channel dimension (number of feature maps)



MobileNet (v1)

- Single streamlined, very light-weight architecture
- **Main idea:** Depthwise Separable Convolutions
- **Other ideas:** Width Multiplier α for Thinner Models + Resolution Multiplier ρ for Reduced Representation

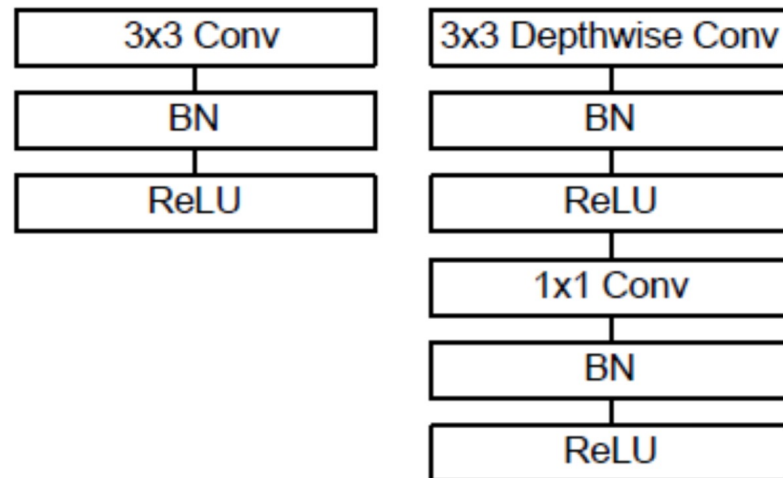
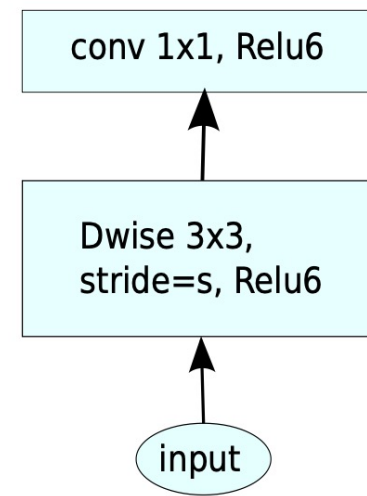
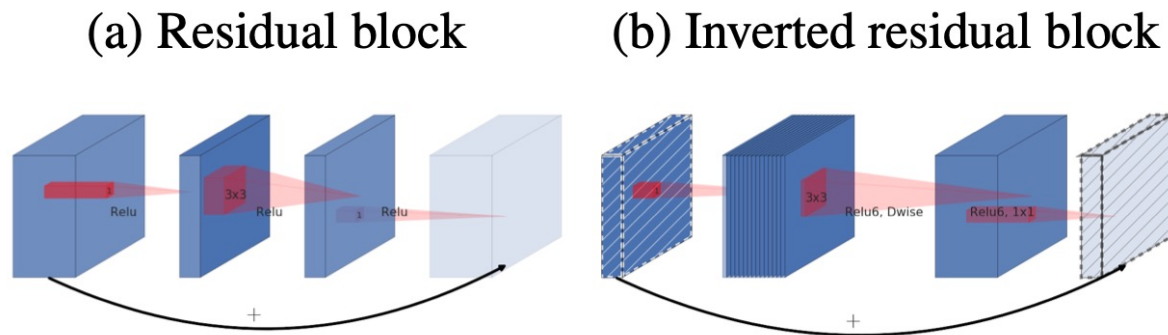


Table 1. MobileNet Body Architecture

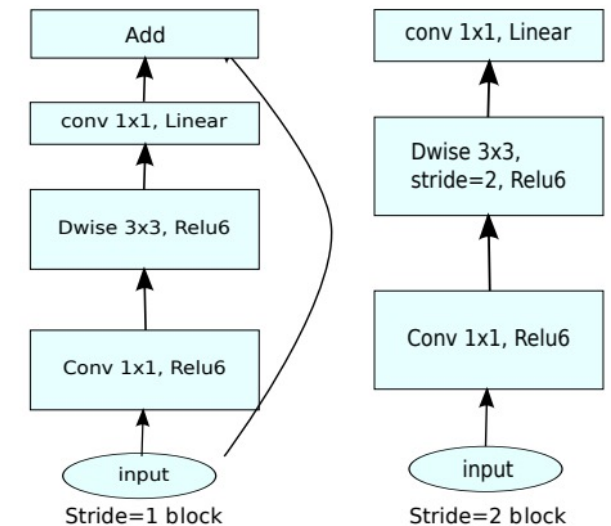
Type / Stride	Filter Shape	Input Size	
Conv / s2	$3 \times 3 \times 3 \times 32$	$224 \times 224 \times 3$	
Conv dw / s1	$3 \times 3 \times 32$ dw	$112 \times 112 \times 32$	
Conv / s1	$1 \times 1 \times 32 \times 64$	$112 \times 112 \times 32$	
Conv dw / s2	$3 \times 3 \times 64$ dw	$112 \times 112 \times 64$	
Conv / s1	$1 \times 1 \times 64 \times 128$	$56 \times 56 \times 64$	
Conv dw / s1	$3 \times 3 \times 128$ dw	$56 \times 56 \times 128$	
Conv / s1	$1 \times 1 \times 128 \times 128$	$56 \times 56 \times 128$	
Conv dw / s2	$3 \times 3 \times 128$ dw	$56 \times 56 \times 128$	
Conv / s1	$1 \times 1 \times 128 \times 256$	$28 \times 28 \times 128$	
Conv dw / s1	$3 \times 3 \times 256$ dw	$28 \times 28 \times 256$	
Conv / s1	$1 \times 1 \times 256 \times 256$	$28 \times 28 \times 256$	
Conv dw / s2	$3 \times 3 \times 256$ dw	$28 \times 28 \times 256$	
Conv / s1	$1 \times 1 \times 256 \times 512$	$14 \times 14 \times 256$	
5 \times	Conv dw / s1	$3 \times 3 \times 512$ dw	$14 \times 14 \times 512$
	Conv / s1	$1 \times 1 \times 512 \times 512$	$14 \times 14 \times 512$
Conv dw / s2	$3 \times 3 \times 512$ dw	$14 \times 14 \times 512$	
Conv / s1	$1 \times 1 \times 512 \times 1024$	$7 \times 7 \times 512$	
Conv dw / s2	$3 \times 3 \times 1024$ dw	$7 \times 7 \times 1024$	
Conv / s1	$1 \times 1 \times 1024 \times 1024$	$7 \times 7 \times 1024$	
Avg Pool / s1	Pool 7×7	$7 \times 7 \times 1024$	
FC / s1	1024×1000	$1 \times 1 \times 1024$	
Softmax / s1	Classifier	$1 \times 1 \times 1000$	

MobileNet (v2)

- **Main idea:** inverted residual structure
 - Adding residual connections between the narrow bottleneck layers (considerably more memory efficient - **Why?**)
 - Non-linearities are removed in narrow layers to maintain representational power
 - The intermediate expansion layer uses lightweight depthwise convolutions to filter features as a source of non-linearity

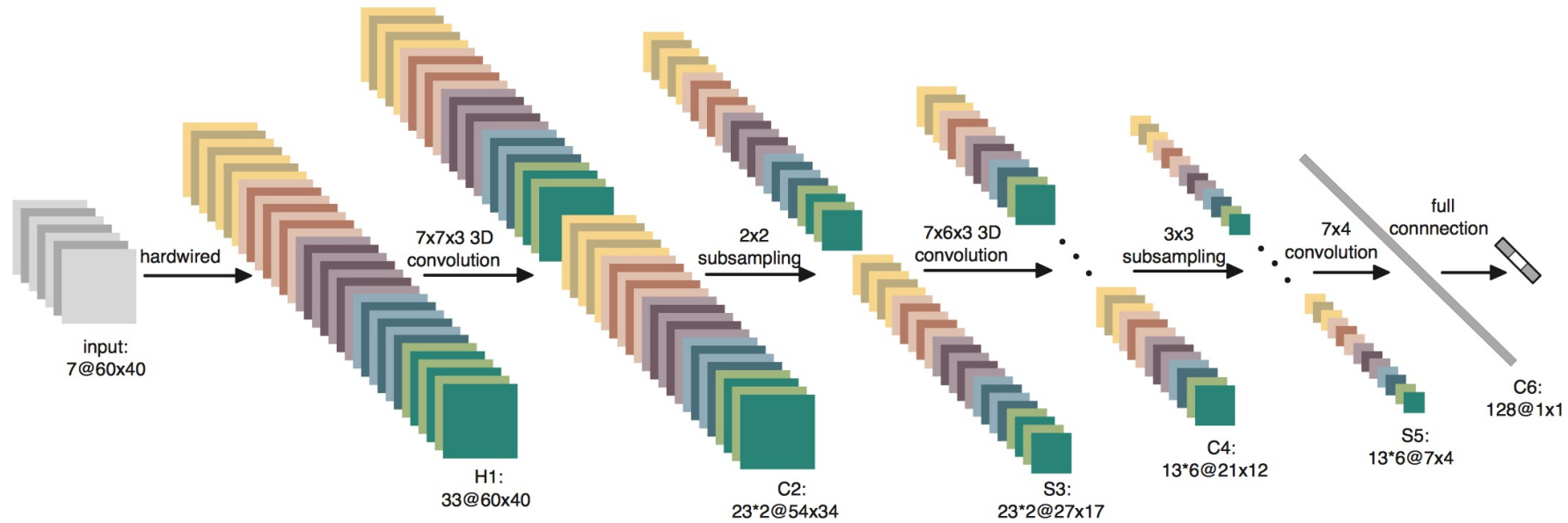


(b) MobileNet[27]



(d) Mobilenet V2

3D Convolutional Network (3D CNN), 2011

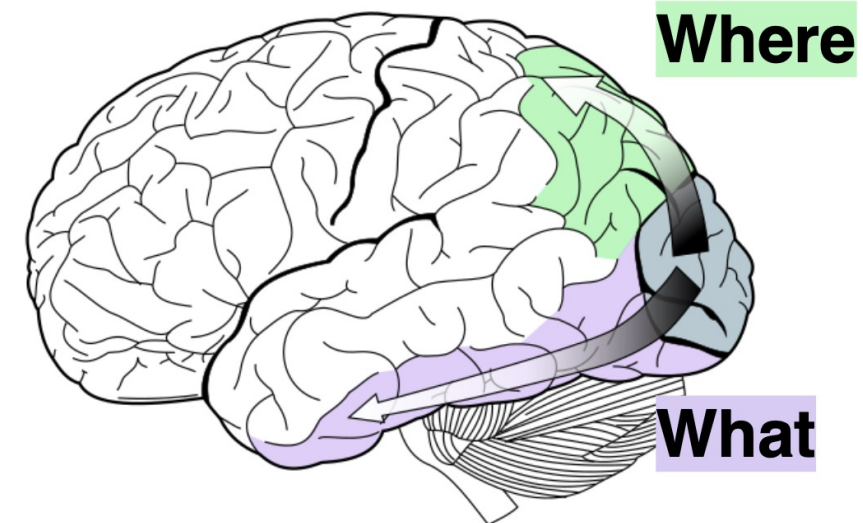
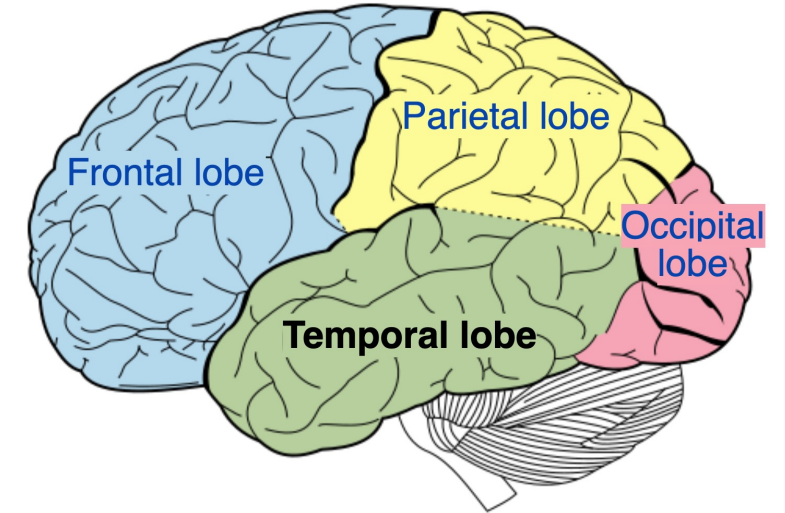


Key Technical Features:

- Going from 2D convolutional filters to 3D filters, to take temporal coherence into consideration

More Efficient Design?

- “Two-streams hypothesis” for human vision
 - The **dorsal stream** involves in the guidance of actions and recognizing where objects are in space. It contains a detailed map of the visual field. and detects & analyzes location movements
 - The **ventral stream** is associated with object recognition and form representation. Also described as the “what” stream, it has strong connections to the dorsal stream and other brain regions controlling memory or emotion
- **Long story short:** human brains use two relatively independent systems to recognize objects and to record temporal movements.



Two Stream Network, 2014

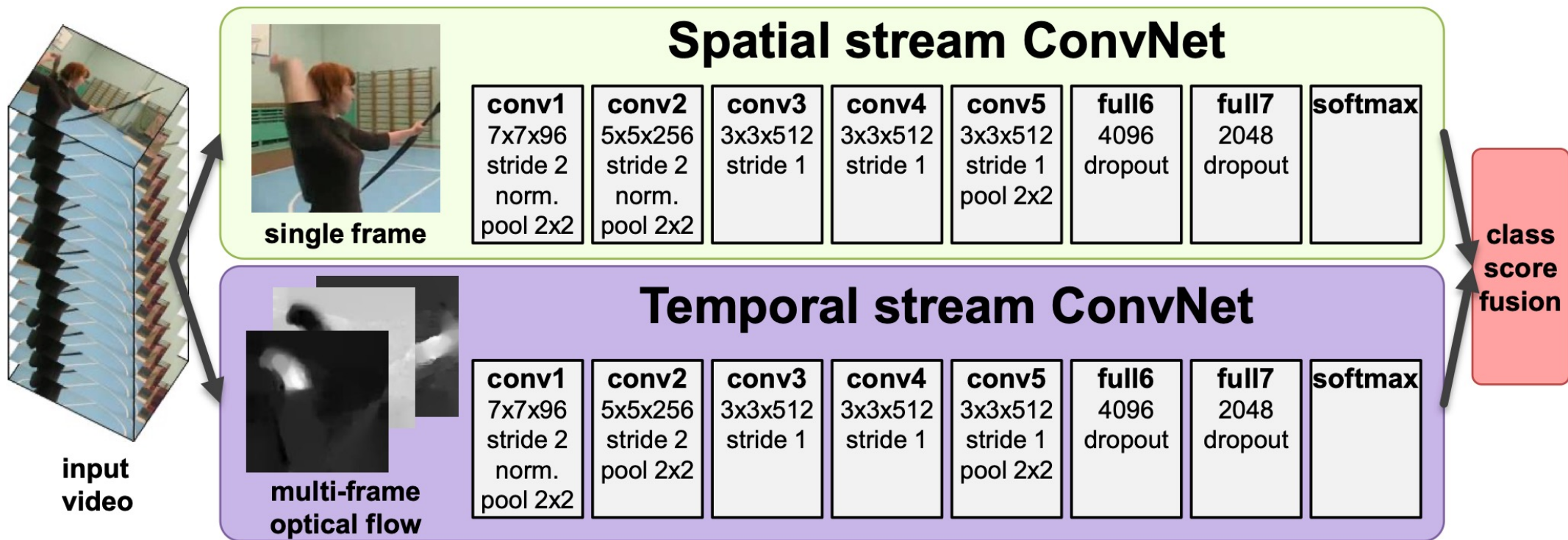
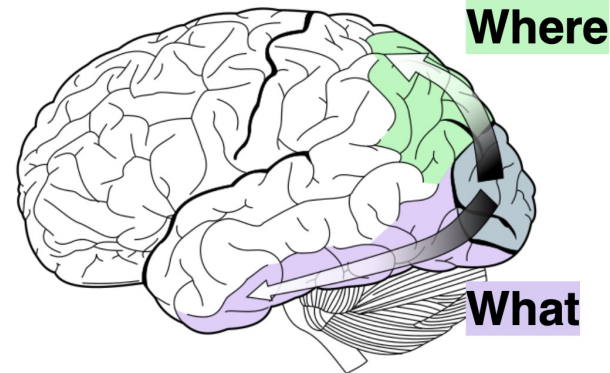
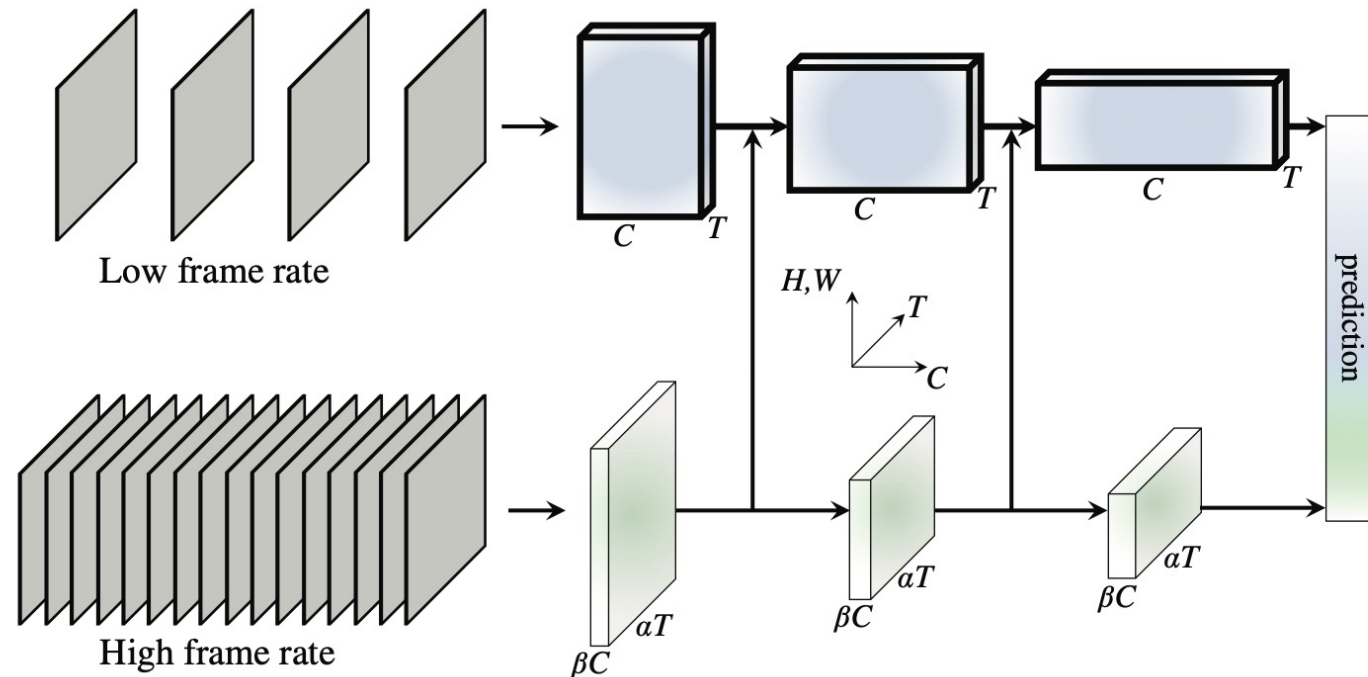


Figure 1: Two-stream architecture for video classification.

Slow-Fast Network, 2019

A state-of-the-art two-stream model with

- (i) a Slow pathway, operating at low frame rate, to capture spatial semantics
- (ii) a Fast pathway, operating at high frame rate, to capture motion at fine temporal resolution.



Optimization Algorithms

Where the magic happens

Gradient Descent (GD)

Algorithm 1 Batch Gradient Descent at Iteration k

Require: Learning rate ϵ_k

Require: Initial Parameter θ

- 1: **while** stopping criteria not met **do**
 - 2: Compute gradient estimate over N examples:
 - 3: $\hat{\mathbf{g}} \leftarrow +\frac{1}{N} \nabla_{\theta} \sum_i L(f(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}; \theta), \mathbf{y}^{(i)})$
 - 4: Apply Update: $\theta \leftarrow \theta - \epsilon \hat{\mathbf{g}}$
 - 5: **end while**
-

- Positive: Gradient estimates are stable
- Negative: Need to compute gradients over the entire training for one update

Stochastic Gradient Descent (SGD)

Algorithm 2 Stochastic Gradient Descent at Iteration k

Require: Learning rate ϵ_k

Require: Initial Parameter θ

- 1: **while** stopping criteria not met **do**
 - 2: Sample example $(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}, \mathbf{y}^{(i)})$ from training set
 - 3: Compute gradient estimate:
 - 4: $\hat{\mathbf{g}} \leftarrow +\nabla_{\theta} L(f(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}; \theta), \mathbf{y}^{(i)})$
 - 5: Apply Update: $\theta \leftarrow \theta - \epsilon \hat{\mathbf{g}}$
 - 6: **end while**
-

- ϵ_k is learning rate at step k
- Sufficient condition to guarantee convergence:

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \epsilon_k = \infty \text{ and } \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \epsilon_k^2 < \infty$$

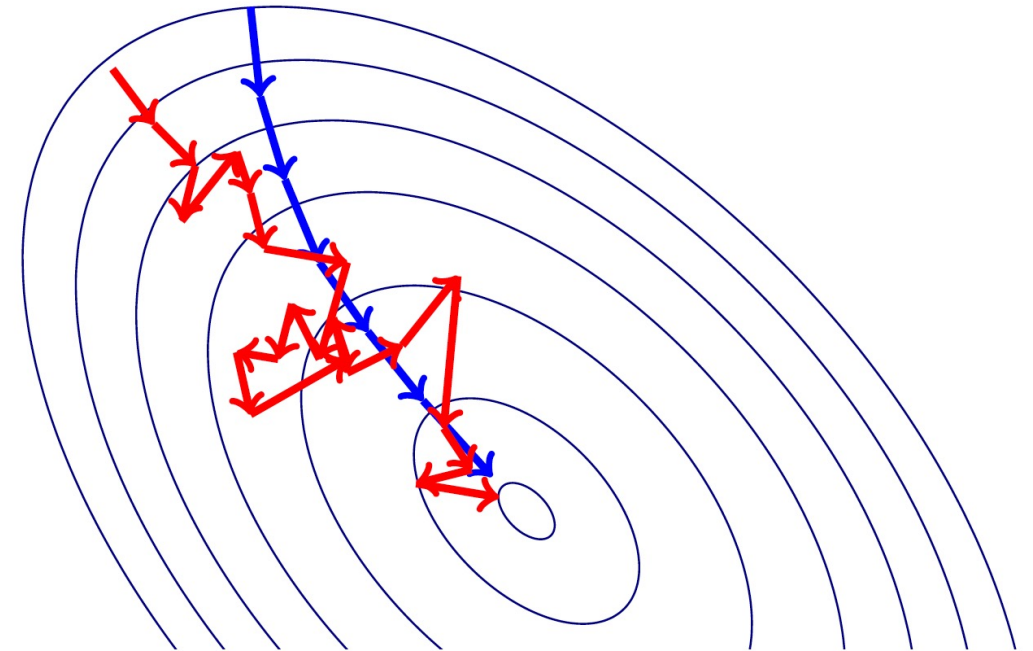
GD versus SGD

- Batch Gradient Descent:

$$\hat{\mathbf{g}} \leftarrow +\frac{1}{N} \nabla_{\theta} \sum_i L(f(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}; \theta), \mathbf{y}^{(i)})$$
$$\theta \leftarrow \theta - \epsilon \hat{\mathbf{g}}$$

- SGD:

$$\hat{\mathbf{g}} \leftarrow +\nabla_{\theta} L(f(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}; \theta), \mathbf{y}^{(i)})$$
$$\theta \leftarrow \theta - \epsilon \hat{\mathbf{g}}$$



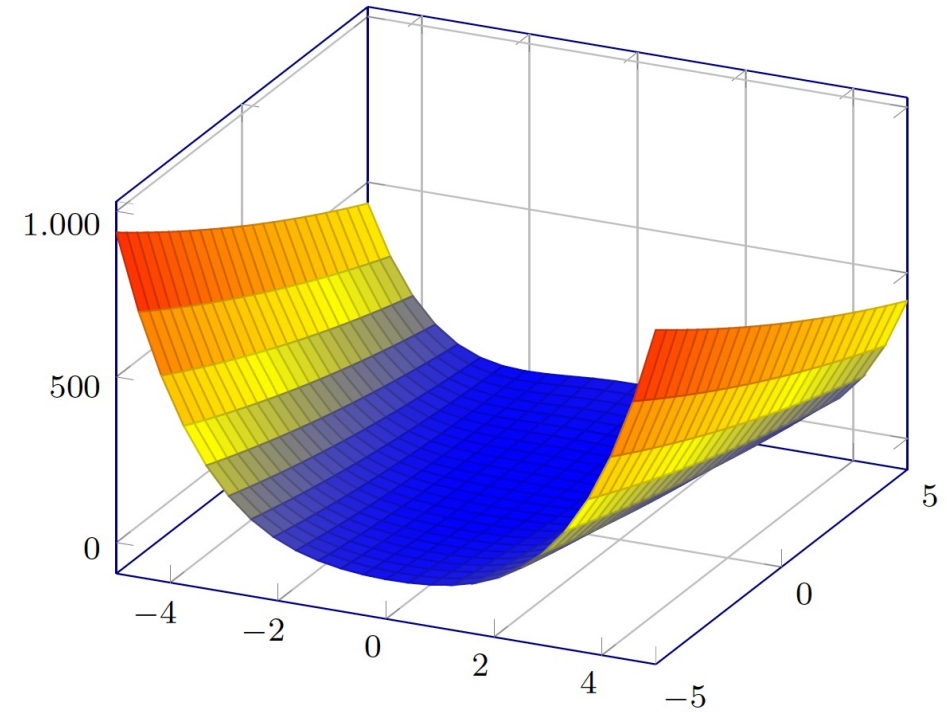
Minibatch

- Potential Problem: Gradient estimates can be very noisy
- Obvious Solution: Use larger mini-batches (In theory, growingly larger)
- Advantage: Computation time per update does not depend on number of training examples.
- This allows convergence on extremely large datasets
- **The larger MB size the better (only if you can)!!**

“Large Scale Learning with Stochastic Gradient Descent”, Leon Bottou.

Momentum

- The Momentum method is a method to accelerate learning using SGD
- In particular SGD suffers in the following scenarios:
 - Error surface has high curvature
 - Small but consistent gradients
 - Noisy gradients



- Gradient Descent would move quickly down the walls, but very slowly through the valley floor

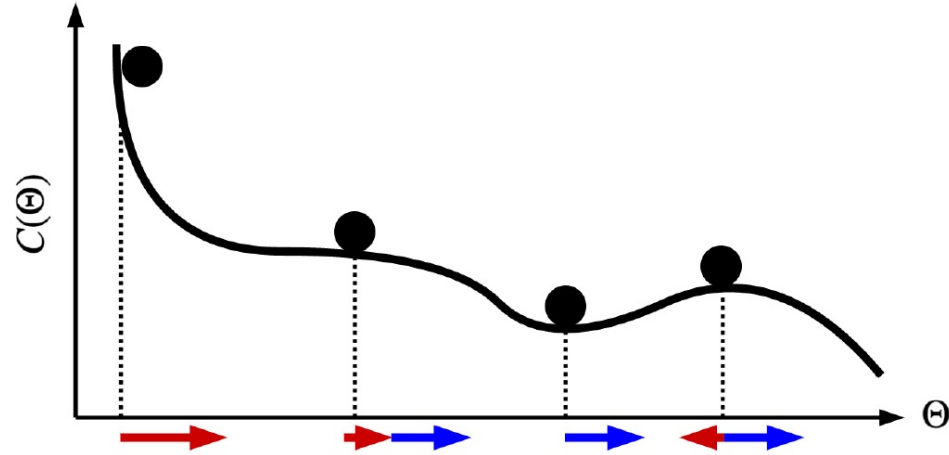
Momentum

- Update rule in SGD:

$$\Theta^{(t+1)} \leftarrow \Theta^{(t)} - \eta \mathbf{g}^{(t)}$$

where $\mathbf{g}^{(t)} = \nabla_{\Theta} C(\Theta^{(t)})$

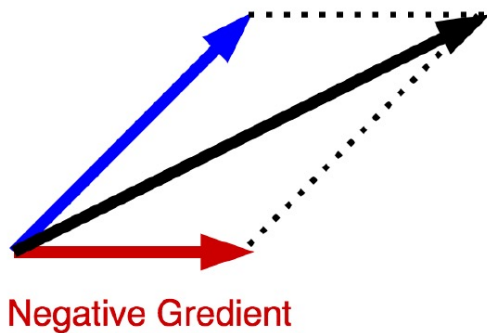
- Gets stuck in local minima or saddle points



- Momentum: make the same movement $\mathbf{v}^{(t)}$ in the last iteration, corrected by negative gradient:

$$\mathbf{v}^{(t+1)} \leftarrow \lambda \mathbf{v}^{(t)} - (1 - \lambda) \mathbf{g}^{(t)}$$

$$\Theta^{(t+1)} \leftarrow \Theta^{(t)} + \eta \mathbf{v}^{(t+1)}$$



- $\mathbf{v}^{(t)}$ is a moving average of $-\mathbf{g}^{(t)}$

Adaptive Learning Rate Optimization

- Popular Solver Examples: AdGrad, RMSProp, Adam

$$\text{SGD: } \theta \leftarrow \theta - \epsilon \hat{\mathbf{g}}$$

$$\text{Momentum: } \mathbf{v} \leftarrow \alpha \mathbf{v} - \epsilon \hat{\mathbf{g}} \text{ then } \theta \leftarrow \theta + \mathbf{v}$$

$$\text{Nesterov: } \mathbf{v} \leftarrow \alpha \mathbf{v} - \epsilon \nabla_{\theta} \left(L(f(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}; \theta + \alpha \mathbf{v}), \mathbf{y}^{(i)}) \right) \text{ then } \theta \leftarrow \theta + \mathbf{v}$$

$$\text{AdaGrad: } \mathbf{r} \leftarrow \mathbf{r} + \mathbf{g} \odot \mathbf{g} \text{ then } \Delta\theta \leftarrow -\frac{\epsilon}{\delta + \sqrt{\mathbf{r}}} \odot \mathbf{g} \text{ then } \theta \leftarrow \theta + \Delta\theta$$

$$\text{RMSProp: } \mathbf{r} \leftarrow \rho \mathbf{r} + (1 - \rho) \hat{\mathbf{g}} \odot \hat{\mathbf{g}} \text{ then } \Delta\theta \leftarrow -\frac{\epsilon}{\delta + \sqrt{\mathbf{r}}} \odot \hat{\mathbf{g}} \text{ then } \theta \leftarrow \theta + \Delta\theta$$

$$\text{Adam: } \hat{\mathbf{s}} \leftarrow \frac{\mathbf{s}}{1 - \rho_1^t}, \hat{\mathbf{r}} \leftarrow \frac{\mathbf{r}}{1 - \rho_2^t} \text{ then } \Delta\theta = -\epsilon \frac{\hat{\mathbf{s}}}{\sqrt{\hat{\mathbf{r}} + \delta}} \text{ then } \theta \leftarrow \theta + \Delta\theta$$

Batch Normalization

- In ML, we assume future data will be drawn from same probability distribution as training data
- For a hidden layer, after training, the earlier layers have new weights and hence may generate a new distribution for the next hidden layer
- We want to reduce this internal covariate shift for the benefit of later layers

Input: Values of x over a mini-batch: $\mathcal{B} = \{x_{1\dots m}\}$;

Parameters to be learned: γ, β

Output: $\{y_i = \text{BN}_{\gamma,\beta}(x_i)\}$

$$\mu_{\mathcal{B}} \leftarrow \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m x_i \quad // \text{ mini-batch mean}$$

$$\sigma_{\mathcal{B}}^2 \leftarrow \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m (x_i - \mu_{\mathcal{B}})^2 \quad // \text{ mini-batch variance}$$

$$\hat{x}_i \leftarrow \frac{x_i - \mu_{\mathcal{B}}}{\sqrt{\sigma_{\mathcal{B}}^2 + \epsilon}} \quad // \text{ normalize}$$

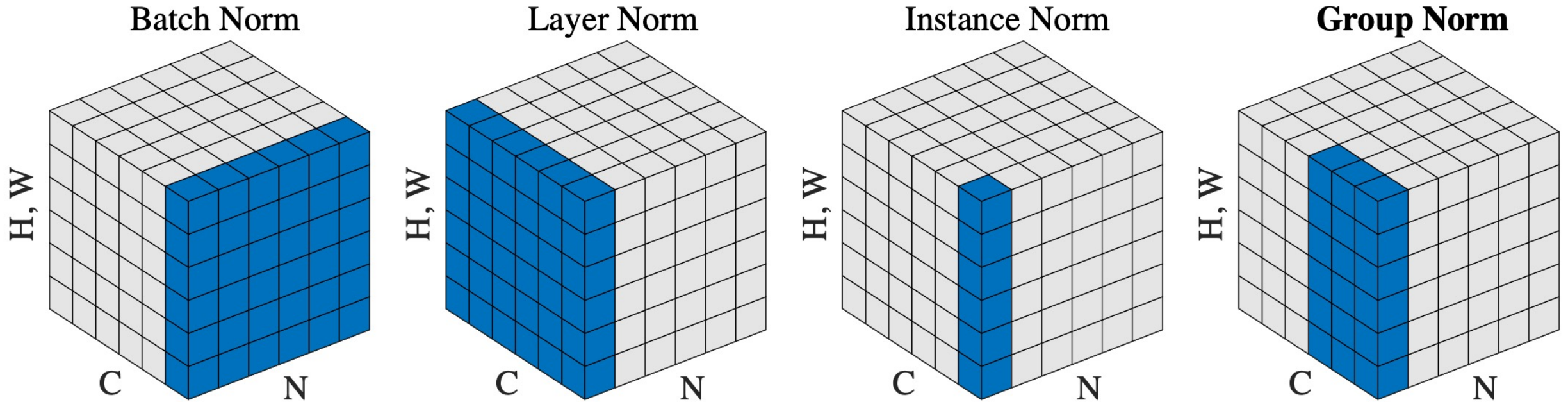
$$y_i \leftarrow \gamma \hat{x}_i + \beta \equiv \text{BN}_{\gamma,\beta}(x_i) \quad // \text{ scale and shift}$$

Algorithm 1: Batch Normalizing Transform, applied to activation x over a mini-batch.

Batch Normalization

- First three steps are just like standardization of input data, but with respect to only the data in mini-batch.
- We can take derivative and incorporate the learning of last step parameters into backpropagation.
- Note last step can completely un-do previous 3 steps
- But even if so, this un-doing is driven by the **later layers**, not the **earlier layers**; later layers get to “choose” whether they want standard normal inputs or not
- In fact, the **true reason** why BN works remains to be a mystery ...

Many Normalization Schemes...

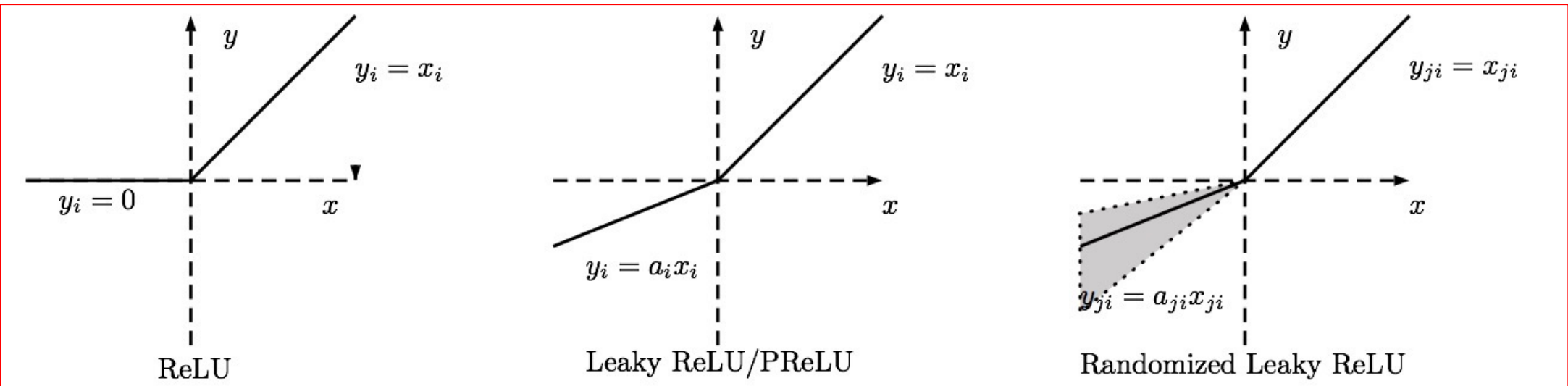
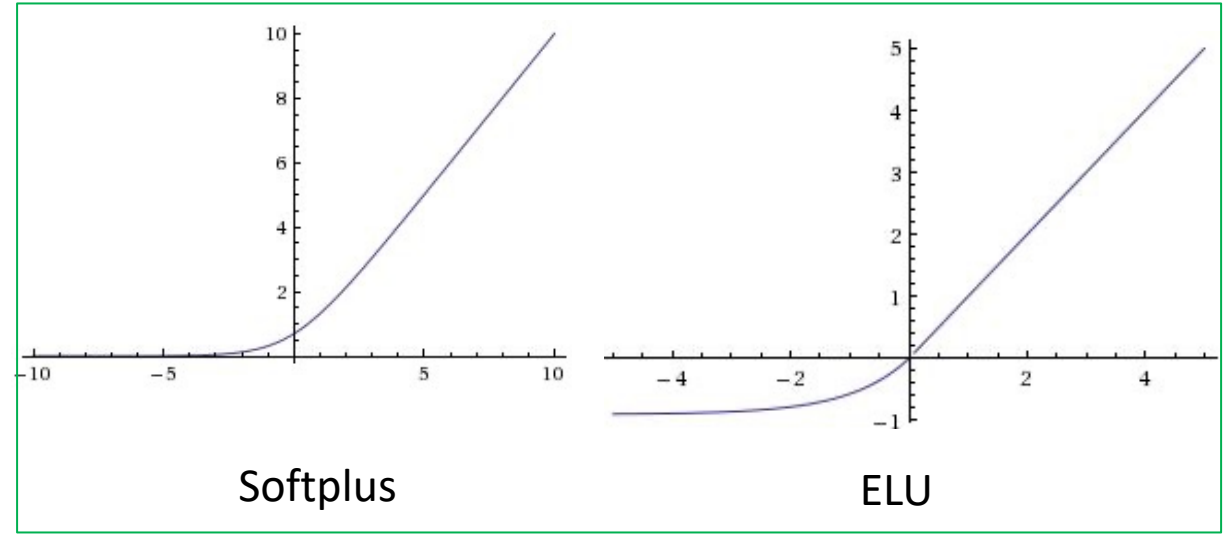
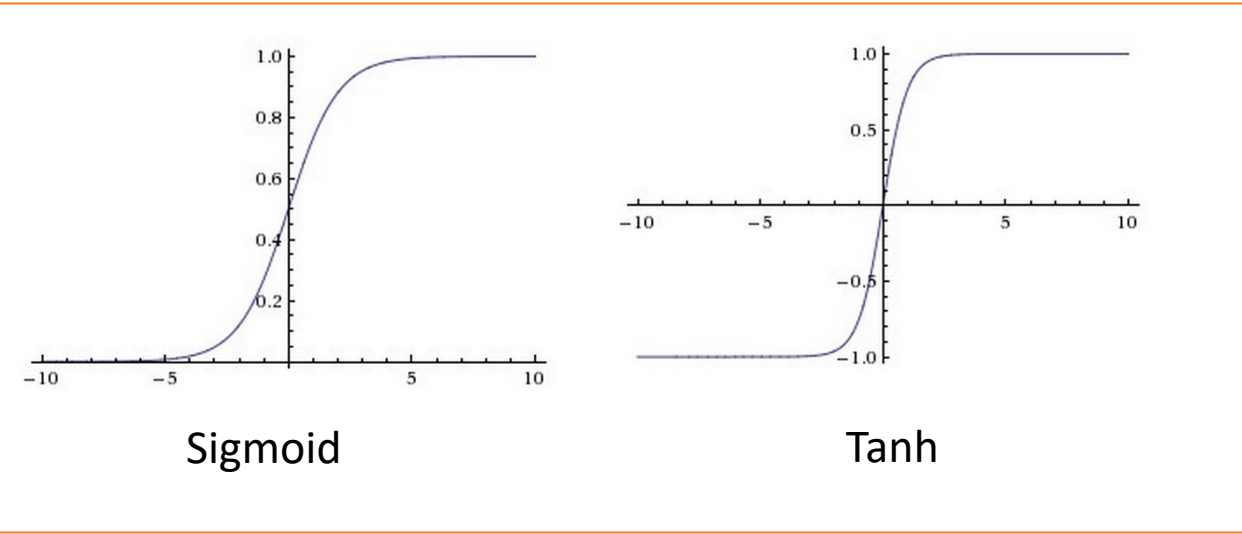


Comparing Popular Normalization methods. Each subplot shows a feature map tensor, with N as the batch axis, C as the channel axis, and (H, W) as the spatial axes. The pixels in blue are normalized by the same mean and variance, computed by aggregating the values of these pixels.

Weight Initialization

- All Zero Initialization: **Terribly Wrong!**
 - If every neuron in the network computes the same output, then they will also all compute the same gradients during back-propagation and undergo the exact same parameter updates.
 - Need “break the symmetry”
- Small Random Initialization is the standard practice
- Current recommendation for initializing CNNs with RELU: **Why?**
$$w = \text{np.random.randn}(n) * \text{sqrt}(2.0/n)$$
- “randn”: Gaussian; “n”: the number of inputs for current layer.
- For general NNs, layer-wise pre-training is safe.
- Even safer: start from a pre-trained model

Choice of Activation Functions



Monitor Your Training Curve

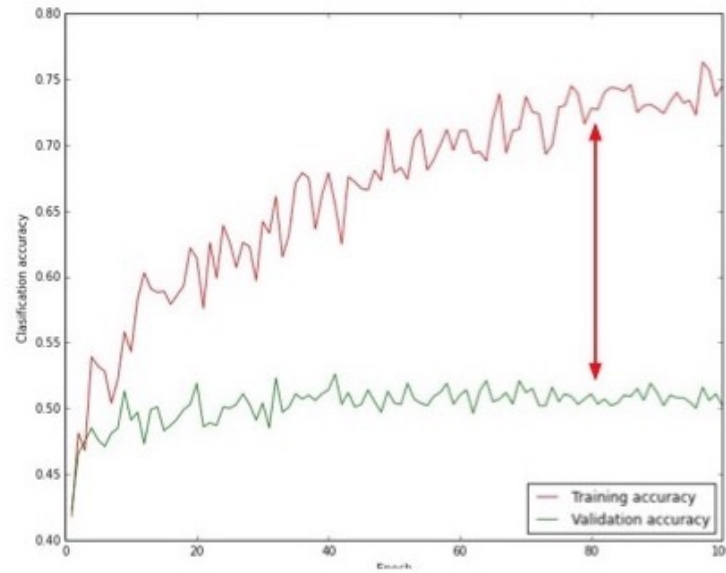


Figure 3

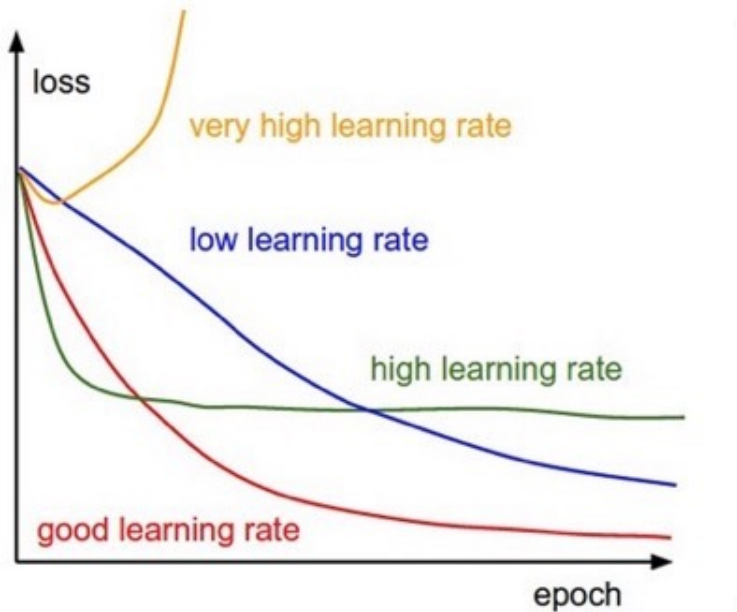


Figure 1

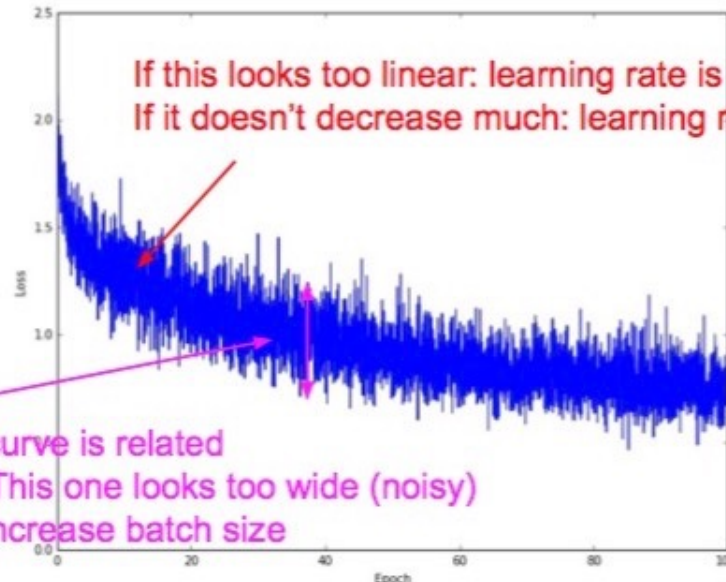


Figure 2



The University of Texas at Austin
**Electrical and Computer
Engineering**
Cockrell School of Engineering