



# Lecture 8: CNNs in Vision I: Semantic Segmentation

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# Review

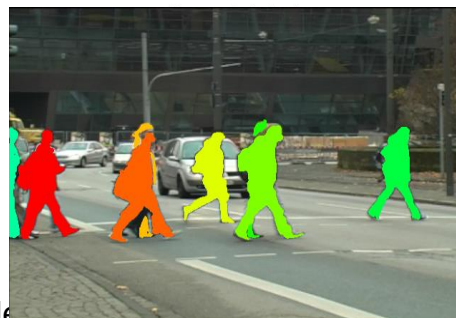
- In general, our goal is to learn a mapping from a signal to a ‘semantically meaningful’ representation.
  - Output can have many different forms:



**red panda** (*Ailurus fulgens*)



1: Person  
2: Purse  
3: Plants/Grass  
4: Sidewalk  
5: Building/Structures

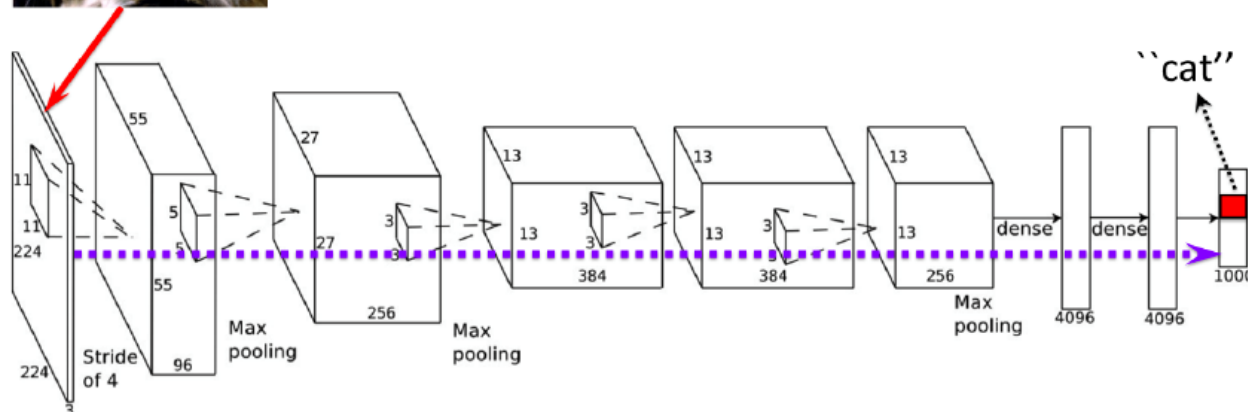


# Previously on CNNs

- CNNs for image/object classification
  - AlexNet, VGGNet, GoogLeNet, ResNet, DenseNet
  - Trend towards deeper networks with more flexible network architecture
  - Better representation and more effective learning strategies

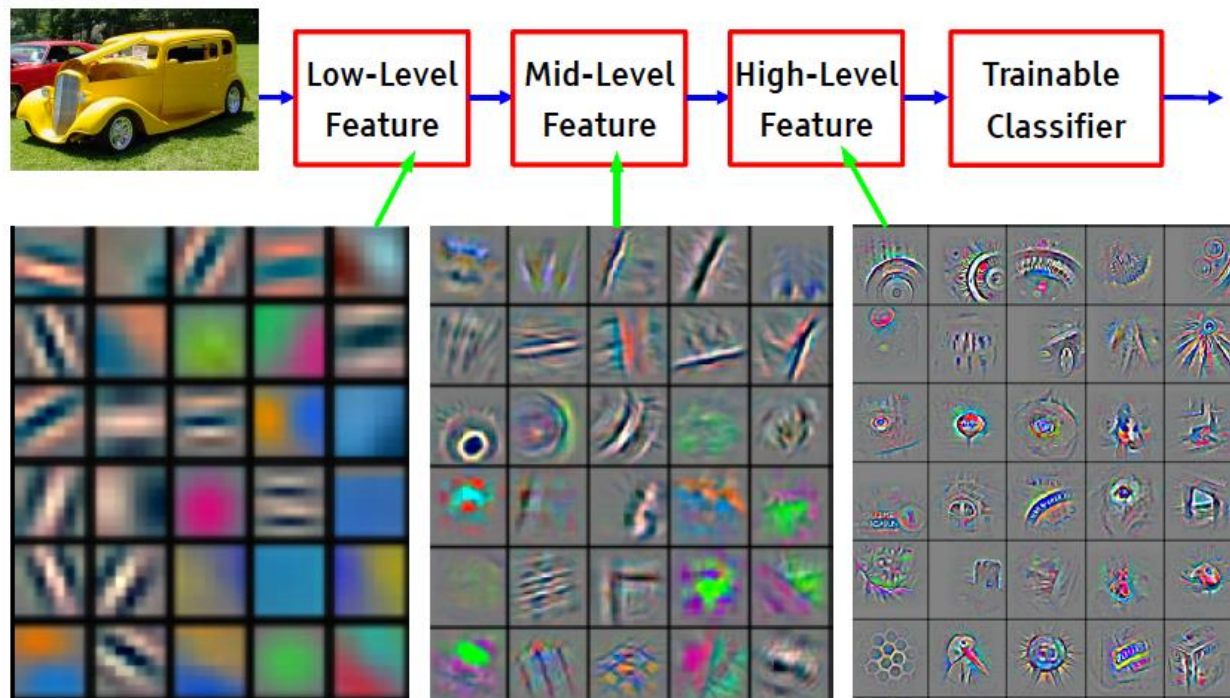


What's the class of this object?



# More on classification

- Why it works well for image classification?
  - Built-in translation and small deformation **invariance**
  - **Hierarchical feature** learning – shared representation
  - **End-to-end training** for the target problem



Feature visualization of convolutional net trained on ImageNet from [Zeiler & Fergus 2013]

# More on classification

- Is image classification a solved problem?
  - “(Super-)Human level” performance on some benchmarks
    - Face identification
    - ImageNet 1000 classes
- But compared to human vision...
  - Limitations in learning
    - We can learn new classes using one or two examples
    - We can also handle label noises
    - We can generalize to unfamiliar scenes
  - Limitation in prediction
    - We can also predict the uncertainty
    - We can easily handle adversarial examples
    - We are much more efficient in power consumption

# Outline

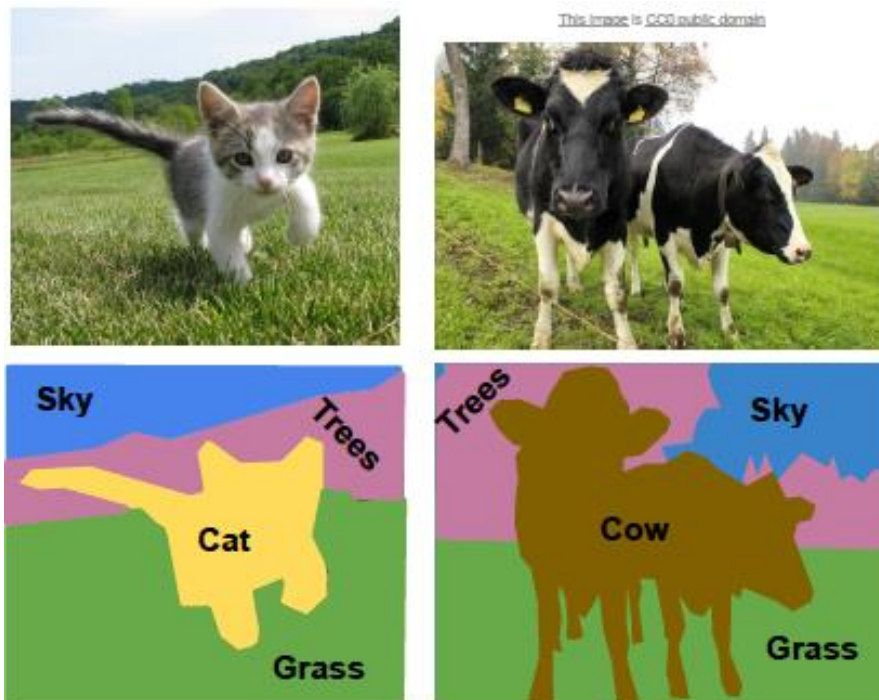
- What is semantic segmentation?
- Network architecture for semantic segmentation
  - Main idea for dense prediction
  - Fully convolutional network
  - Upsampling operators
  - Multiscale context modeling
- Network training losses

*Acknowledgement: Feifei Li et al's cs231n notes*

# Semantic Segmentation

## ■ Problem setup

- Label each pixel in the image with an object category label
- Do not differentiate object instances





# Key to many applications

- Autonomous robots and cars
- Safety and security
- Medical analysis and health
- etc...





# Key to many applications

Autonomous driving

<https://youtu.be/qWI9idsCuLQ>

## ICNet for Real-Time Semantic Segmentation on High-Resolution Images

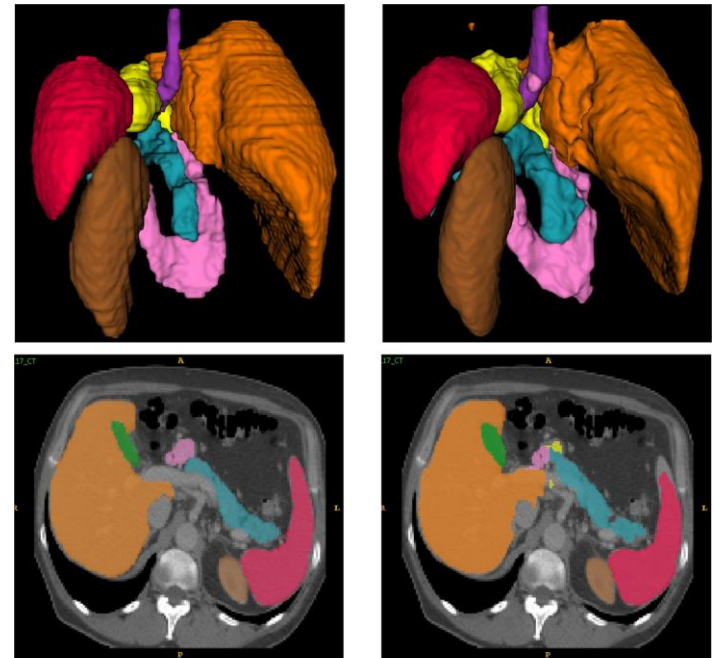
Hengshuang Zhao<sup>1</sup> Xiaojuan Qi<sup>1</sup> Xiaoyong Shen<sup>1</sup> Jianping Shi<sup>2</sup> Jiaya Jia<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>The Chinese University of Hong Kong <sup>2</sup>SenseTime Group Limited

*Each frame in the video is processed independently at the rate of 30 fps on a 1024\*2048 resolution image.*

Multi-organ abdominal  
CT segmentation

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cmpb.2018.01.025>



Reference standard

NiftyNet segmentation

# Semantic Segmentation

- Problem formulation
  - Pixel-wise object classification task



Input

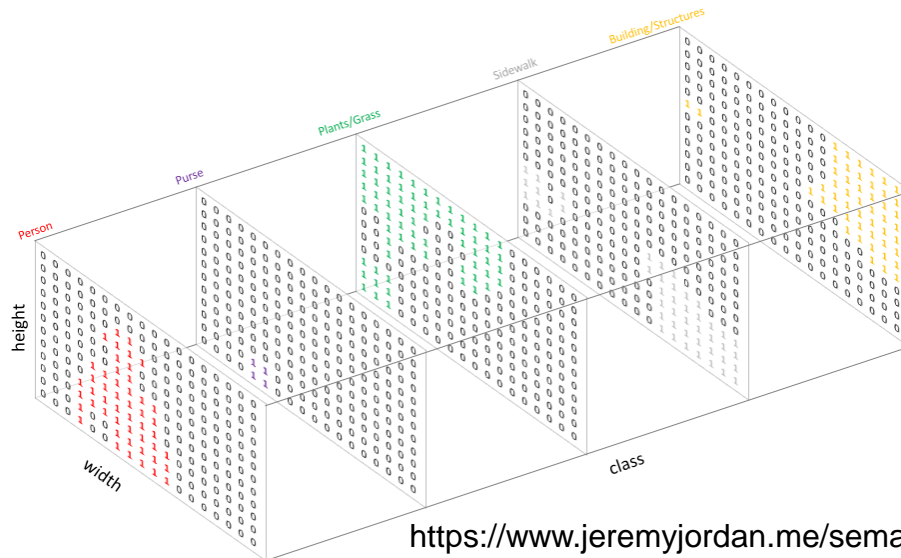
segmented →

- 1: Person
- 2: Purse
- 3: Plants/Grass
- 4: Sidewalk
- 5: Building/Structures

3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	5	5	5	5	5	5
3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	5	5	5	5	5	5
3	3	3	3	3	3	1	1	3	3	3	5	5	5	5	5	5
3	3	3	3	3	1	1	1	1	3	3	5	5	5	5	5	5
3	3	3	3	3	1	1	3	3	3	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
5	5	3	3	3	3	1	1	3	3	5	5	5	5	5	5	5
4	4	3	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	4	4	5	5	5	5
4	4	3	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	4	4	4	5	5	5
4	4	4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	4	4	4	4	4
3	3	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	4	4	4	4	4	4
3	3	3	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	4	4	4	4	4	4
3	3	3	1	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	4	4	4	4	4	4

Semantic Labels

- One-hot encoding



<https://www.jeremyjordan.me/semantic-segmentation/>

# Why this is challenging?

- A naïve approach

Full image



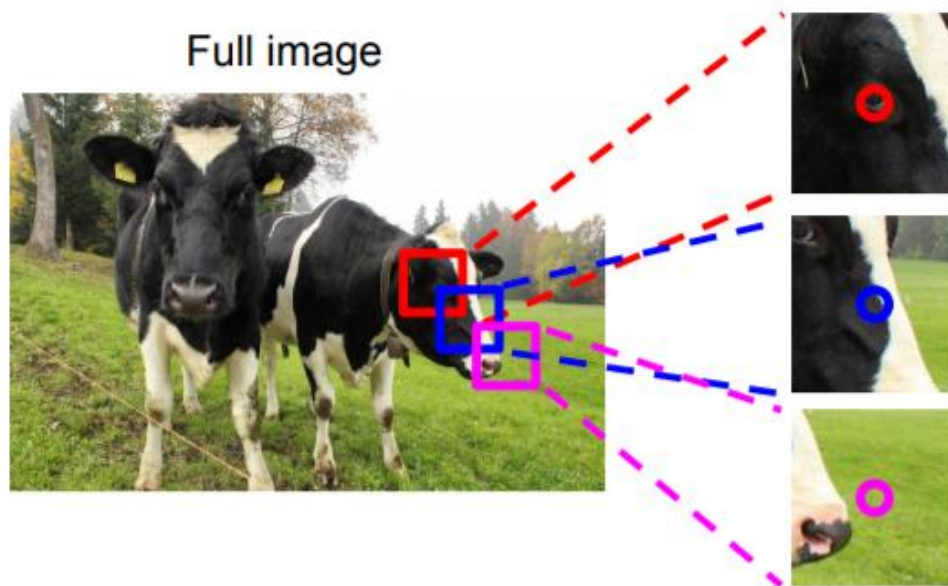
?

Impossible to classify without context

Q: how do we include context?

# Why this is challenging?

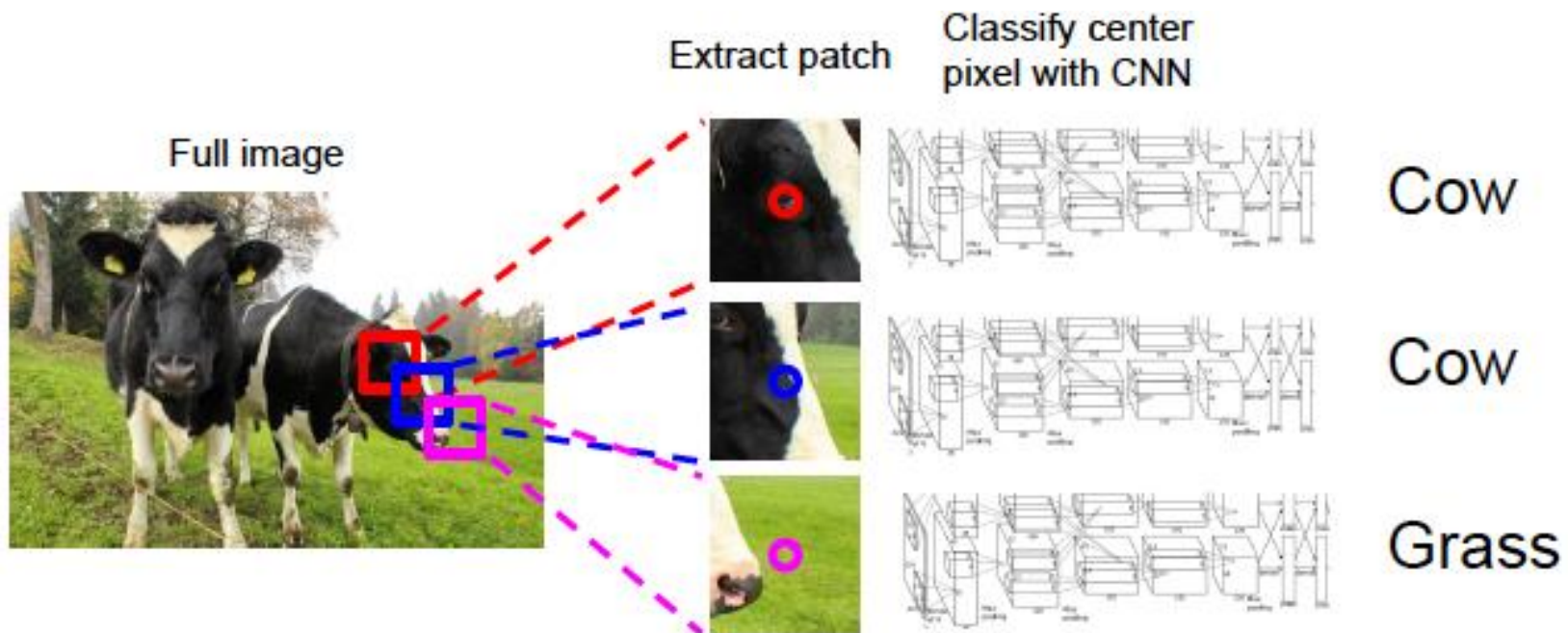
- A naïve approach



Q: how do we model this?

# Why this is challenging?

- A naïve approach



**Problem: Very inefficient! Not reusing shared features between overlapping patches**

Farabet et al, "Learning Hierarchical Features for Scene Labeling," TPAMI 2013  
Pinheiro and Collobert, "Recurrent Convolutional Neural Networks for Scene Labeling", ICML 2014

# Outline

- What is semantic segmentation?
- Network architecture for semantic segmentation
  - Main idea for dense prediction
  - Fully convolutional network
  - Upsampling operators
  - Multiscale context modeling
- Network training losses

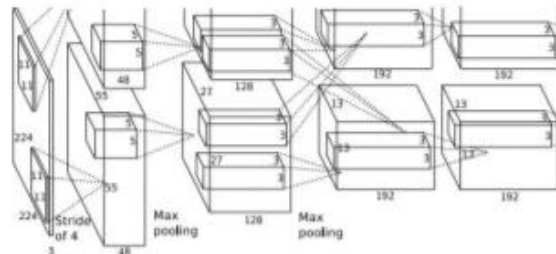
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# Several Ideas for SS

- First idea

Full image



An intuitive idea: encode the entire image with conv net, and do semantic segmentation on top.

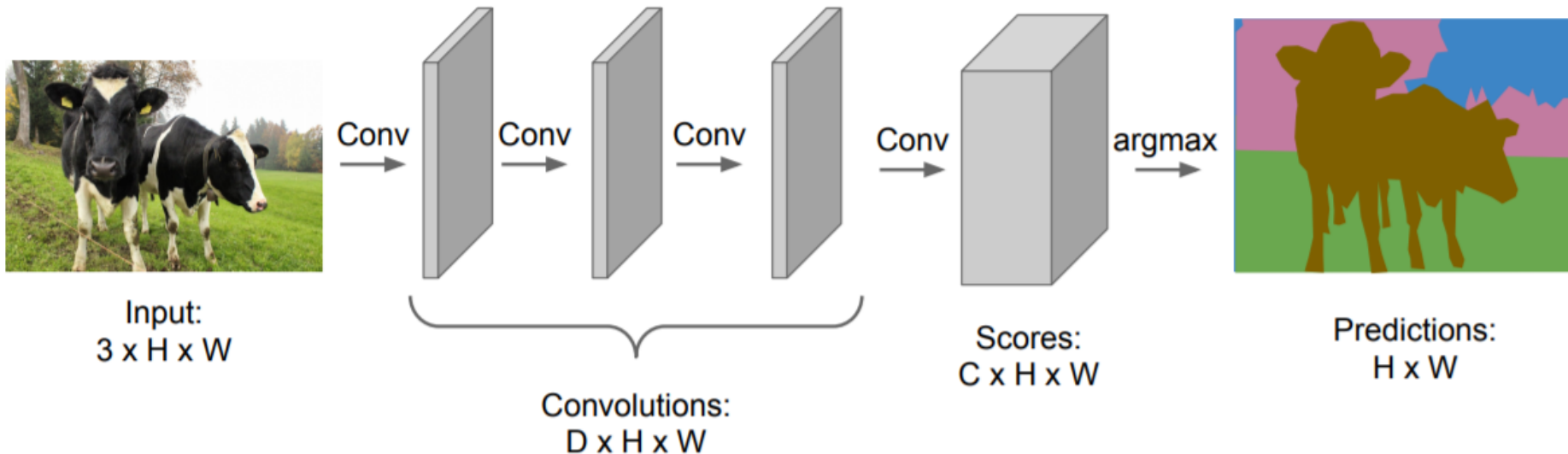
**Problem: classification architectures often reduce feature spatial sizes to go deeper, but semantic segmentation requires the output size to be the same as input size.**



# Several Ideas for SS

- Second idea

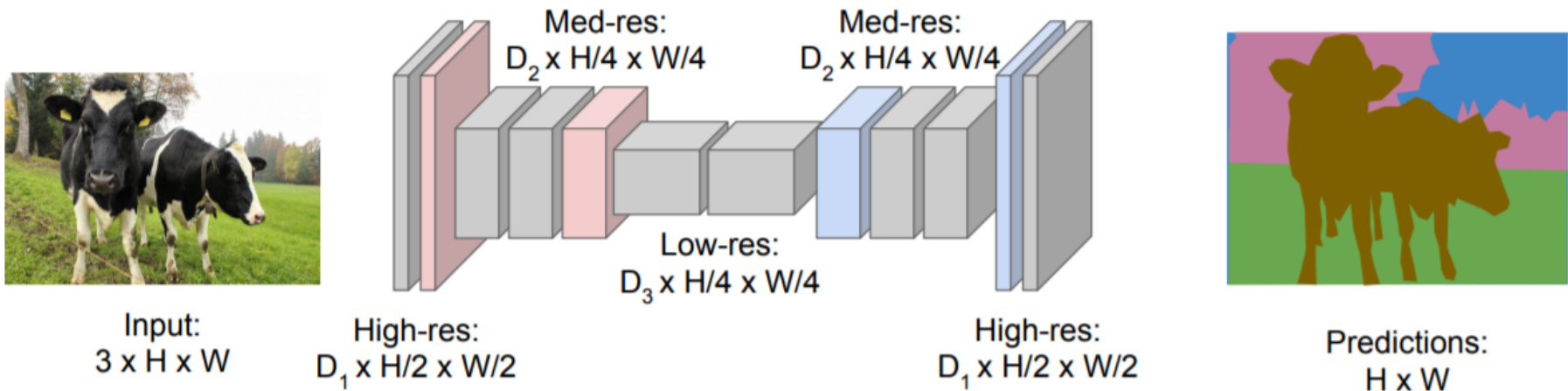
Design a network with only convolutional layers without downsampling operators to make predictions for pixels all at once!



# Several Ideas for SS

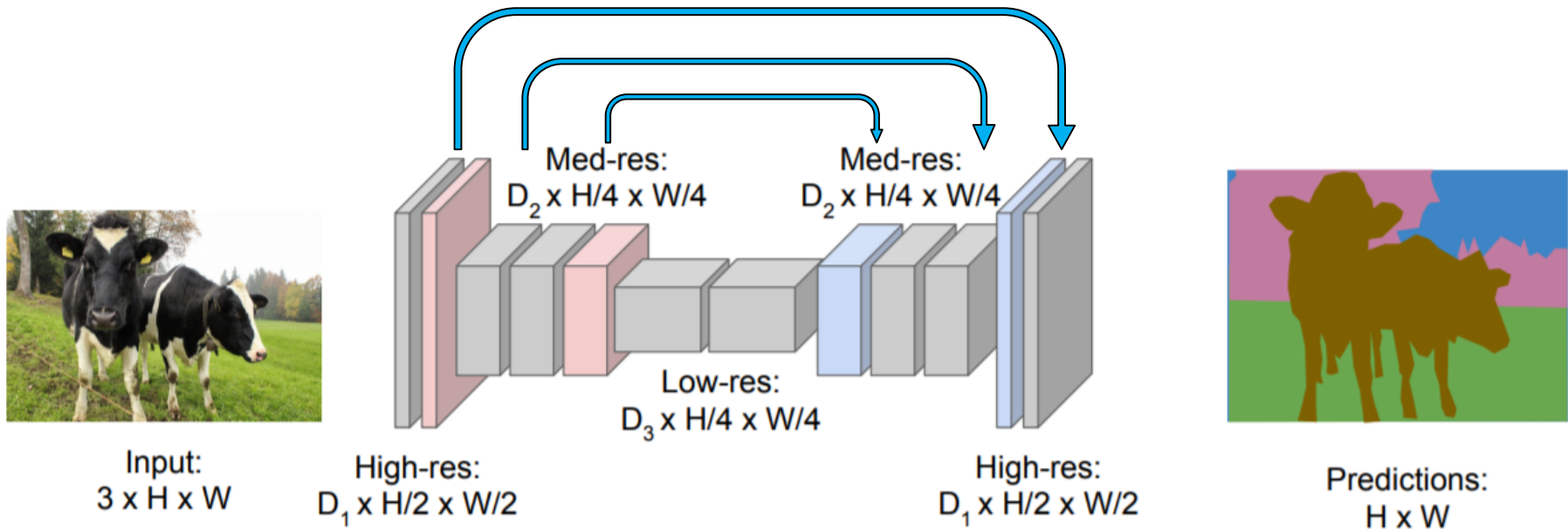
- Second idea improved

Design network as a bunch of convolutional layers, with **downsampling** and **upsampling** inside the network!



# Several Ideas for SS

## ■ Third idea



# Outline

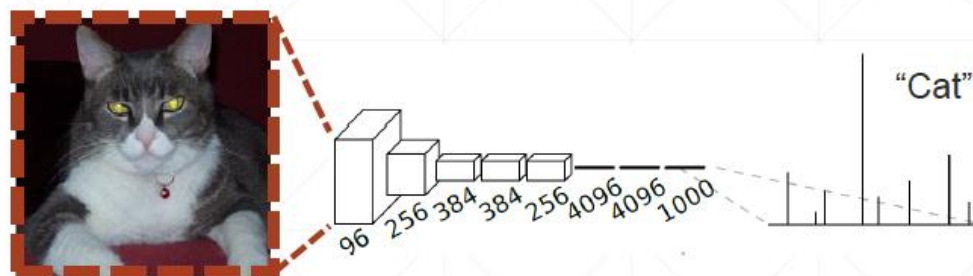
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# Network Design I: Efficiency

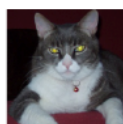
- Starting from a classification network

CNN:



convolution

fully connected

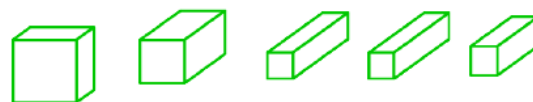


$227 \times 227$

$55 \times 55$

$27 \times 27$

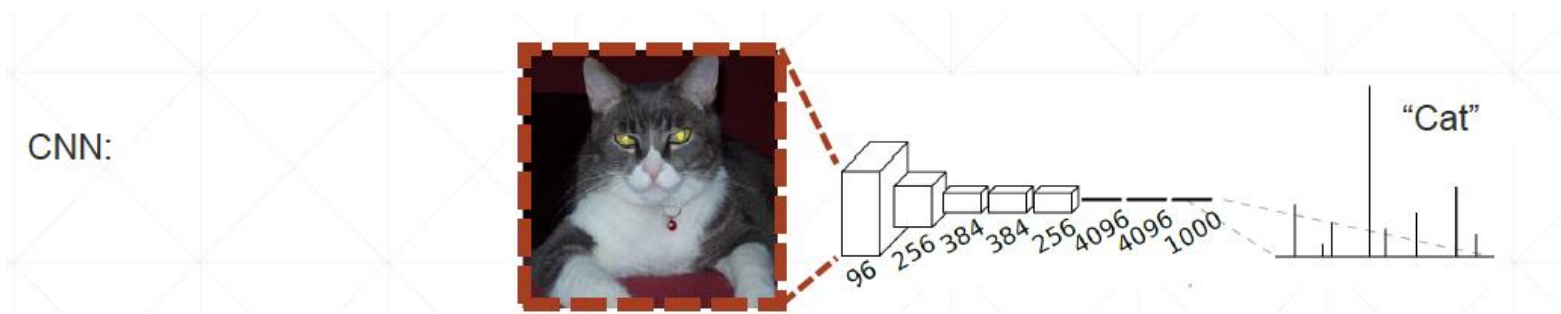
$13 \times 13$



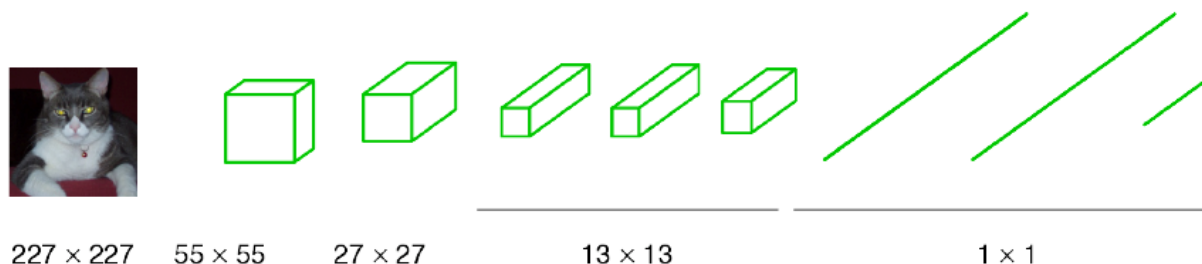
"tabby cat"

# Network Design I: Efficiency

- Interpreting fully connected layers as 1x1 convolution (after reshaping)

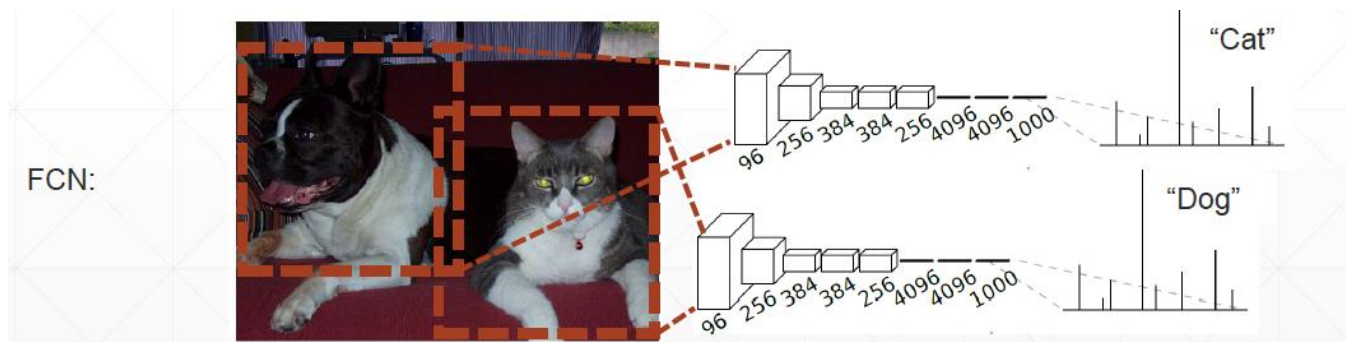


convolution



# Network Design I: Efficiency

- Extending to a complete image



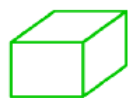
convolution



$H \times W$



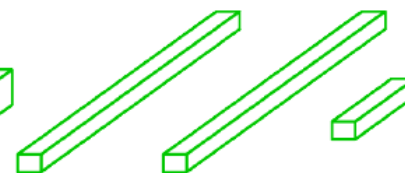
$H/4 \times W/4$



$H/8 \times W/8$



$H/16 \times W/16$

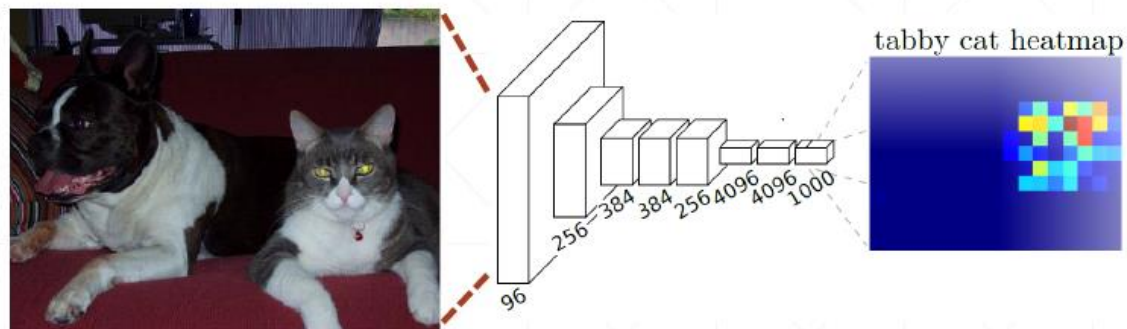
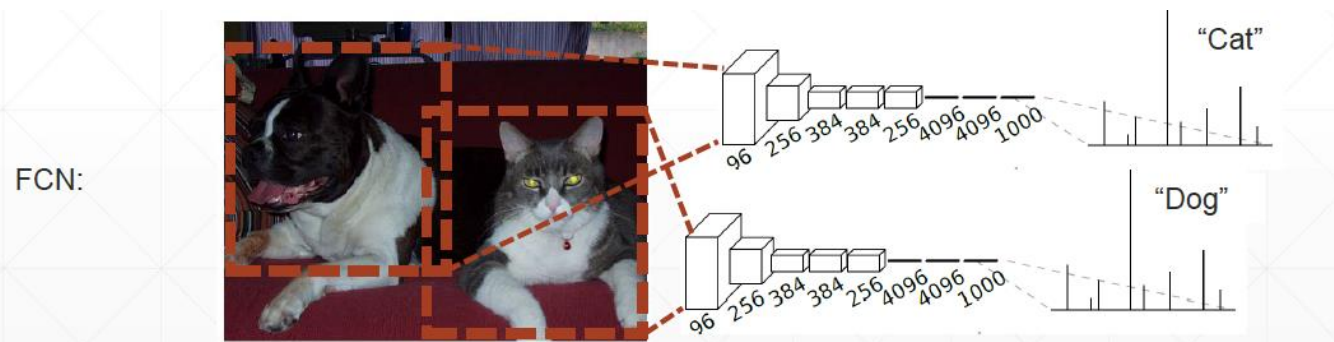


$H/32 \times W/32$



# Network Design I: Efficiency

## ■ Extending to a complete image



- Keep kernel sizes and strides
- Replace dense layer with convolution

# Outline

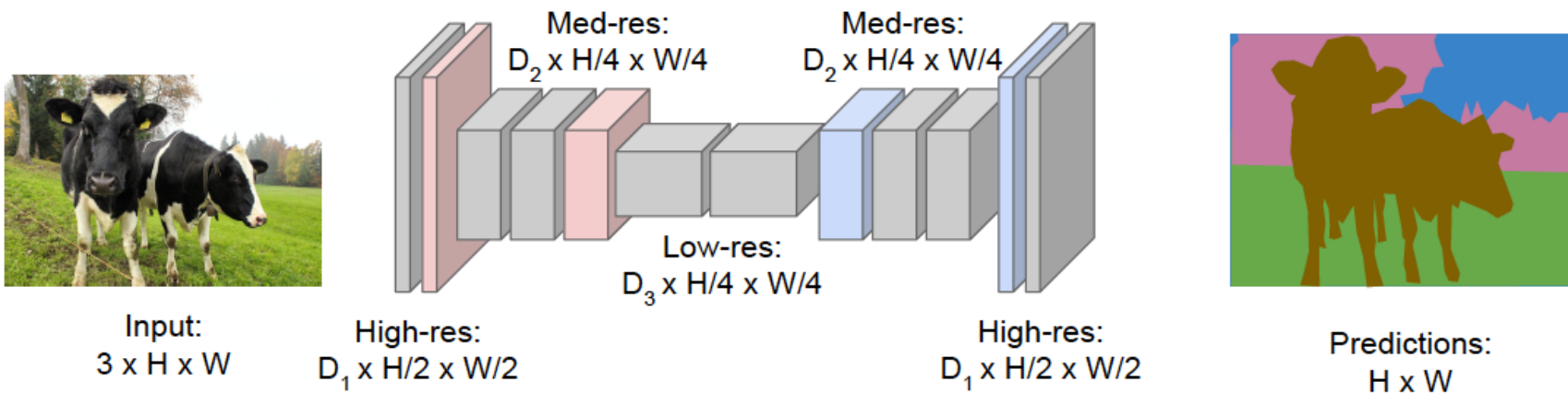
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# Network Design II: Spatial resolution

- General encoder-decoder architecture

Design network as a bunch of convolutional layers, with **downsampling** and **upsampling** inside the network!



# In-Network upsampling

## ■ Unpooling

### Nearest Neighbor

1	2
3	4



1	1	2	2
1	1	2	2
3	3	4	4
3	3	4	4

Input: 2 x 2

Output: 4 x 4

### "Bed of Nails"

1	2
3	4



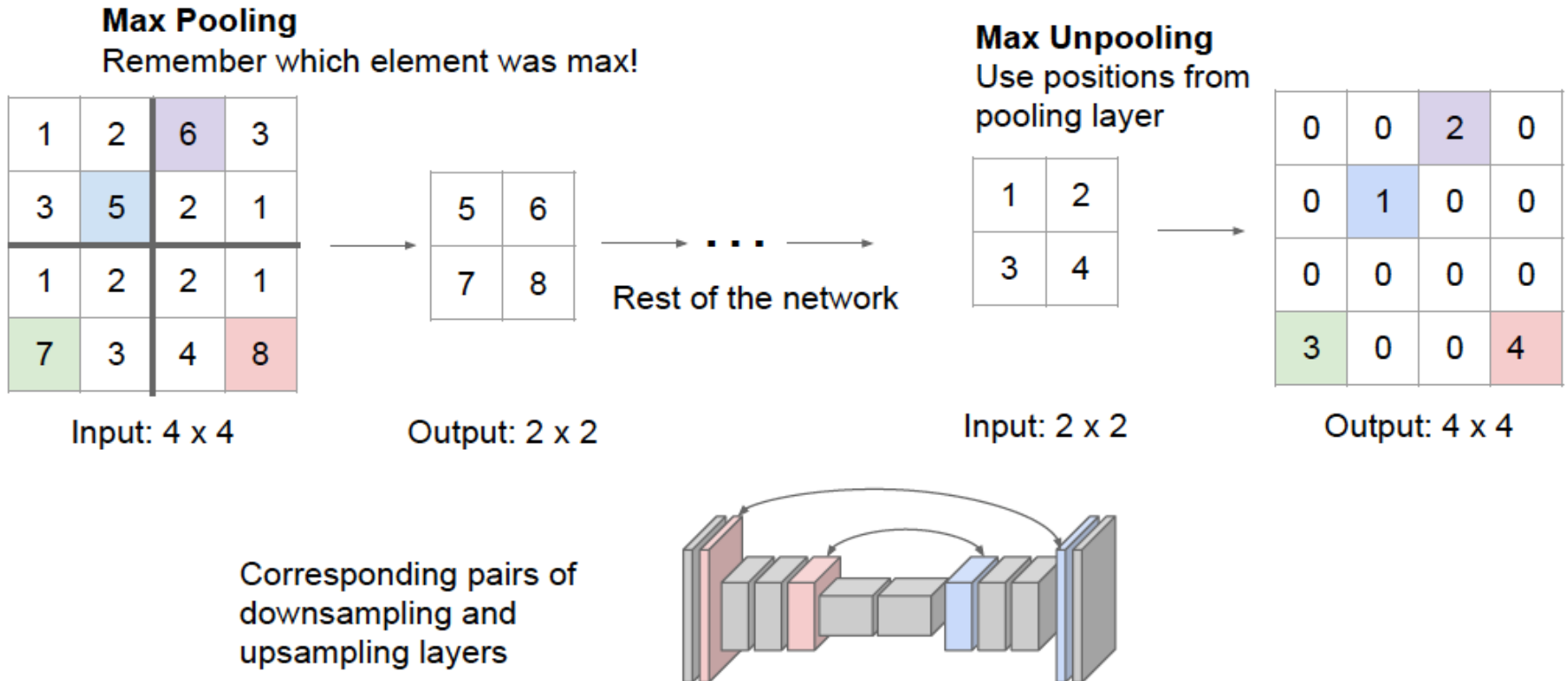
1	0	2	0
0	0	0	0
3	0	4	0
0	0	0	0

Input: 2 x 2

Output: 4 x 4

# In-Network upsampling

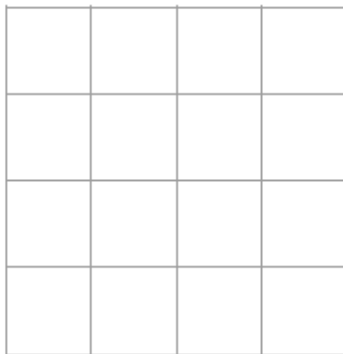
## ■ Max Unpooling



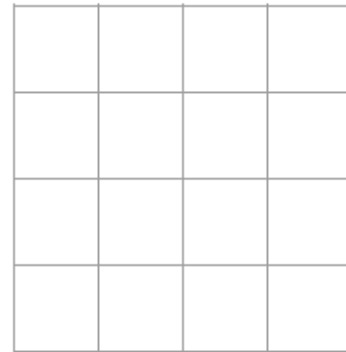
# In-Network upsampling

- Learnable Upsampling: Transpose convolution

**Recall:** Typical 3 x 3 convolution, stride 1 pad 1



Input: 4 x 4

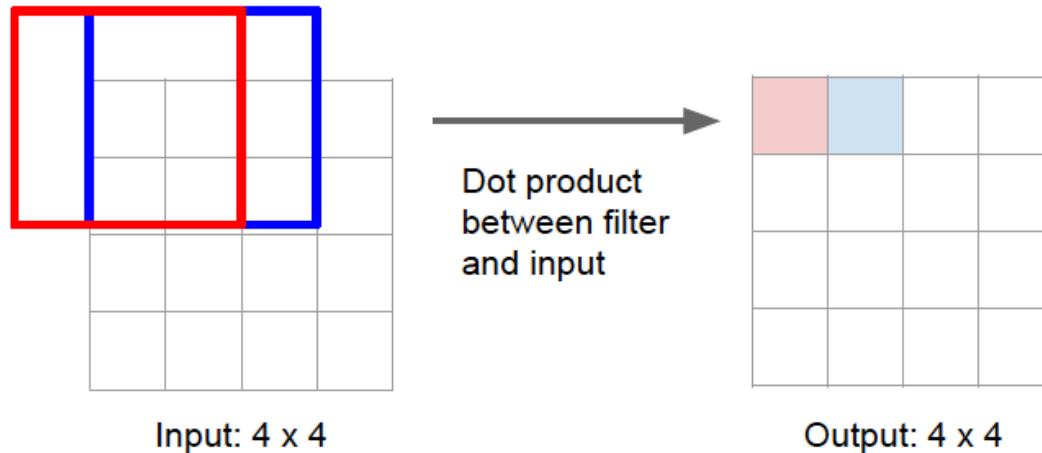


Output: 4 x 4

# In-Network upsampling

- Learnable Upsampling: Transpose convolution

**Recall:** Normal 3 x 3 convolution, stride 1 pad 1

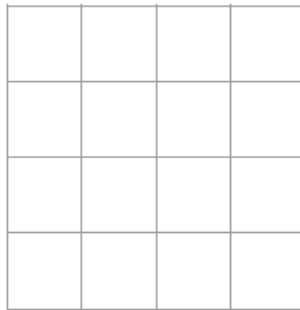




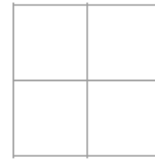
# In-Network upsampling

- Learnable Upsampling: Transpose convolution

**Recall:** Normal 3 x 3 convolution, stride 2 pad 1



Input: 4 x 4

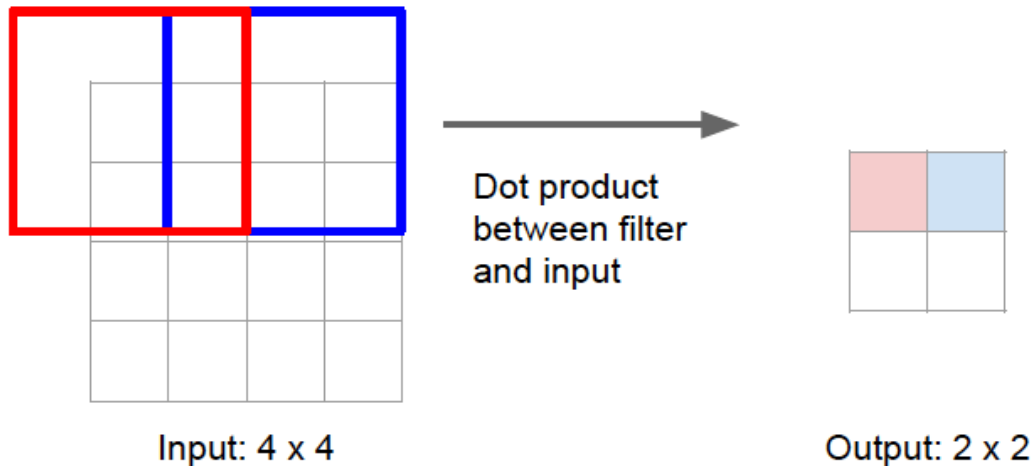


Output: 2 x 2

# In-Network upsampling

- Learnable Upsampling: Transpose convolution

**Recall:** Normal 3 x 3 convolution, stride 2 pad 1



Dot product  
between filter  
and input

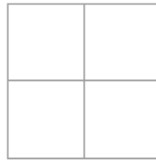
Filter moves 2 pixels in  
the input for every one  
pixel in the output

Stride gives ratio between  
movement in input and  
output

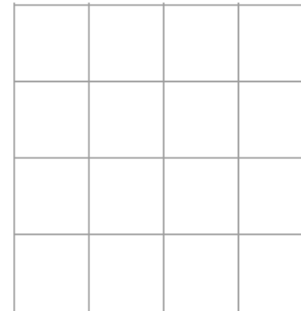
# In-Network upsampling

- Learnable Upsampling: Transpose convolution

3 x 3 **transpose** convolution, stride 2 pad 1



Input: 2 x 2



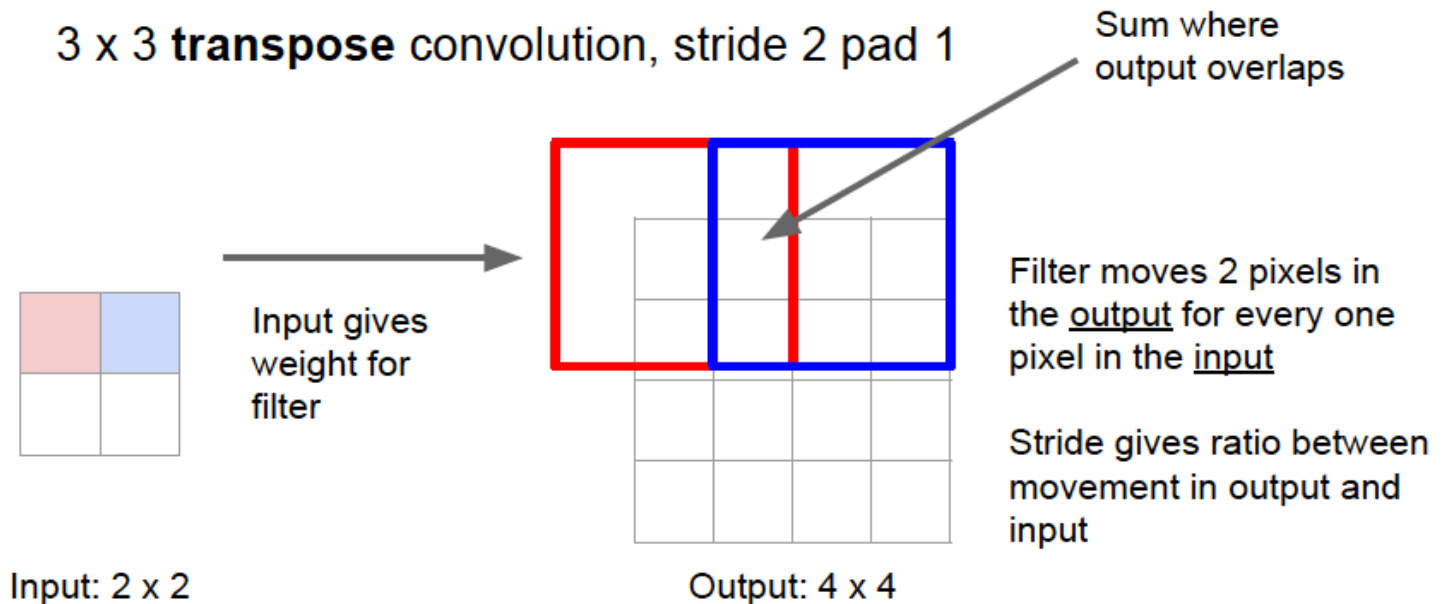
Output: 4 x 4

# In-Network upsampling

## ■ Learnable Upsampling: Transpose convolution

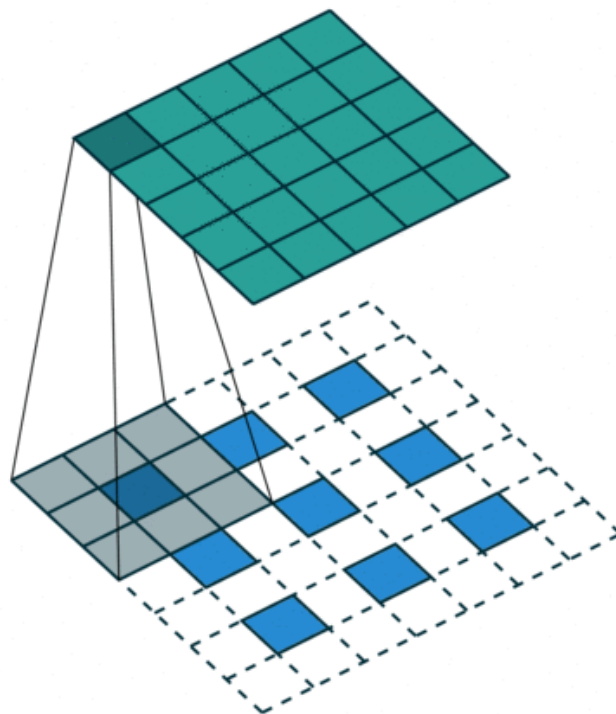
### Other names:

- Deconvolution (bad)
- Upconvolution
- Fractionally strided convolution
- Backward strided convolution



# In-Network upsampling

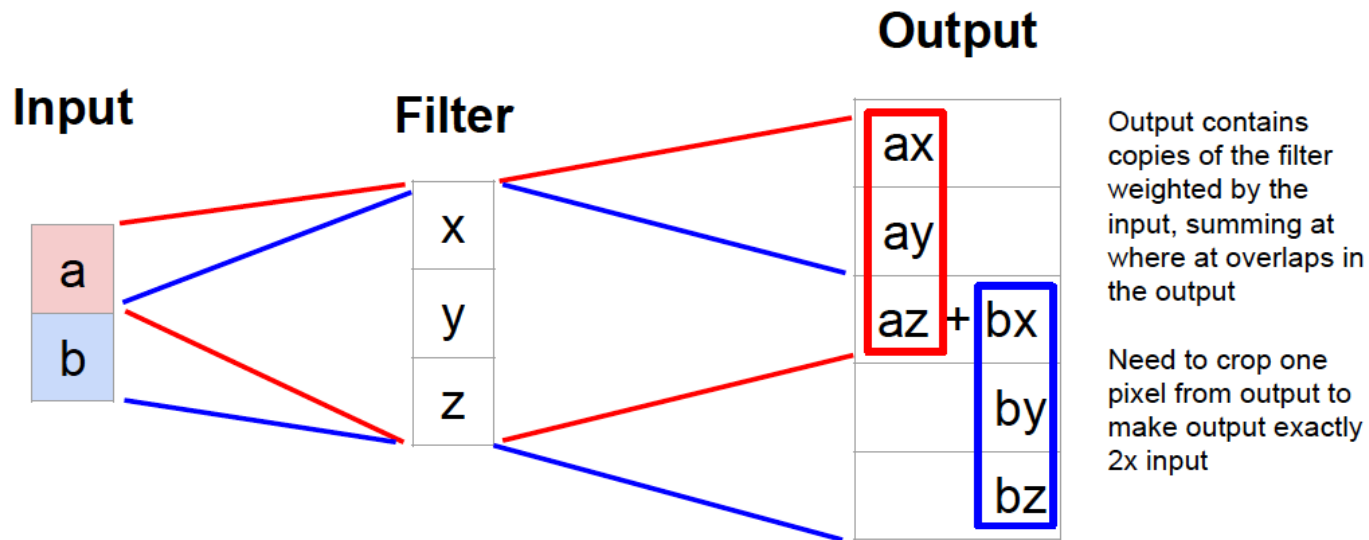
- 2D animation



[https://github.com/vdumoulin/conv\\_arithmetic](https://github.com/vdumoulin/conv_arithmetic)

# In-Network upsampling

- Learnable Upsampling: Transpose convolution
  - 1D example



# In-Network upsampling

- Learnable Upsampling: Transpose convolution
  - 1D example

We can express convolution in terms of a matrix multiplication

$$\vec{x} * \vec{a} = X \vec{a}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x & y & z & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & x & y & z & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ a \\ b \\ c \\ d \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} ay + bz \\ bx + cy + dz \end{bmatrix}$$

Example: 1D conv, kernel size=3, stride=2, padding=1

Convolution transpose multiplies by the transpose of the same matrix:

$$\vec{x} *^T \vec{a} = X^T \vec{a}$$

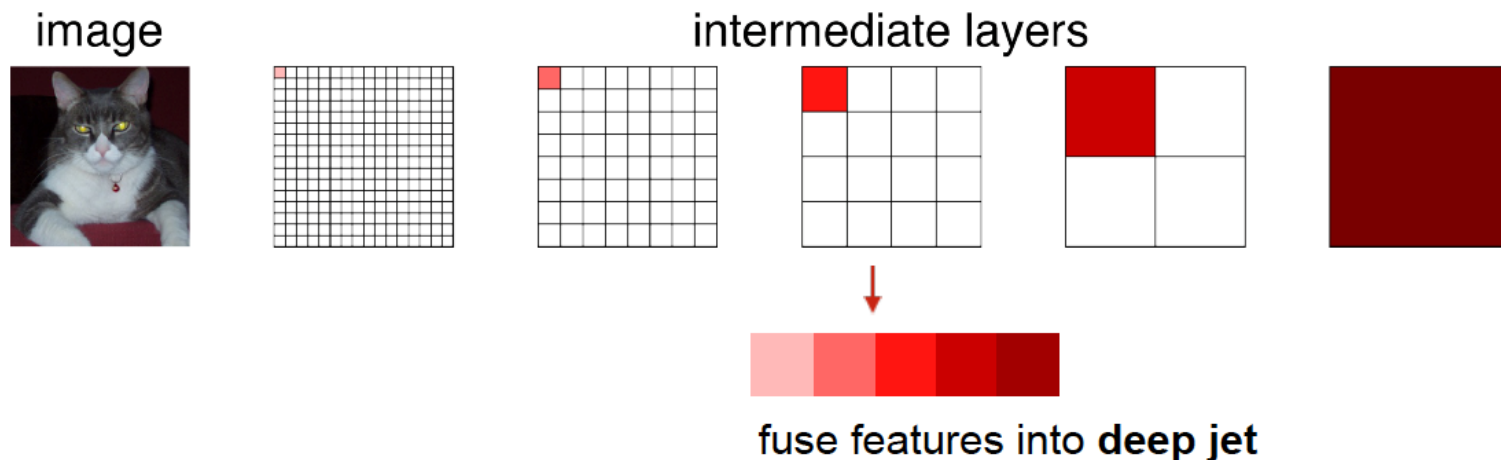
$$\begin{bmatrix} x & 0 \\ y & 0 \\ z & x \\ 0 & y \\ 0 & z \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} ax \\ ay \\ az + bx \\ by \\ bz \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

When stride>1, convolution transpose is no longer a normal convolution!



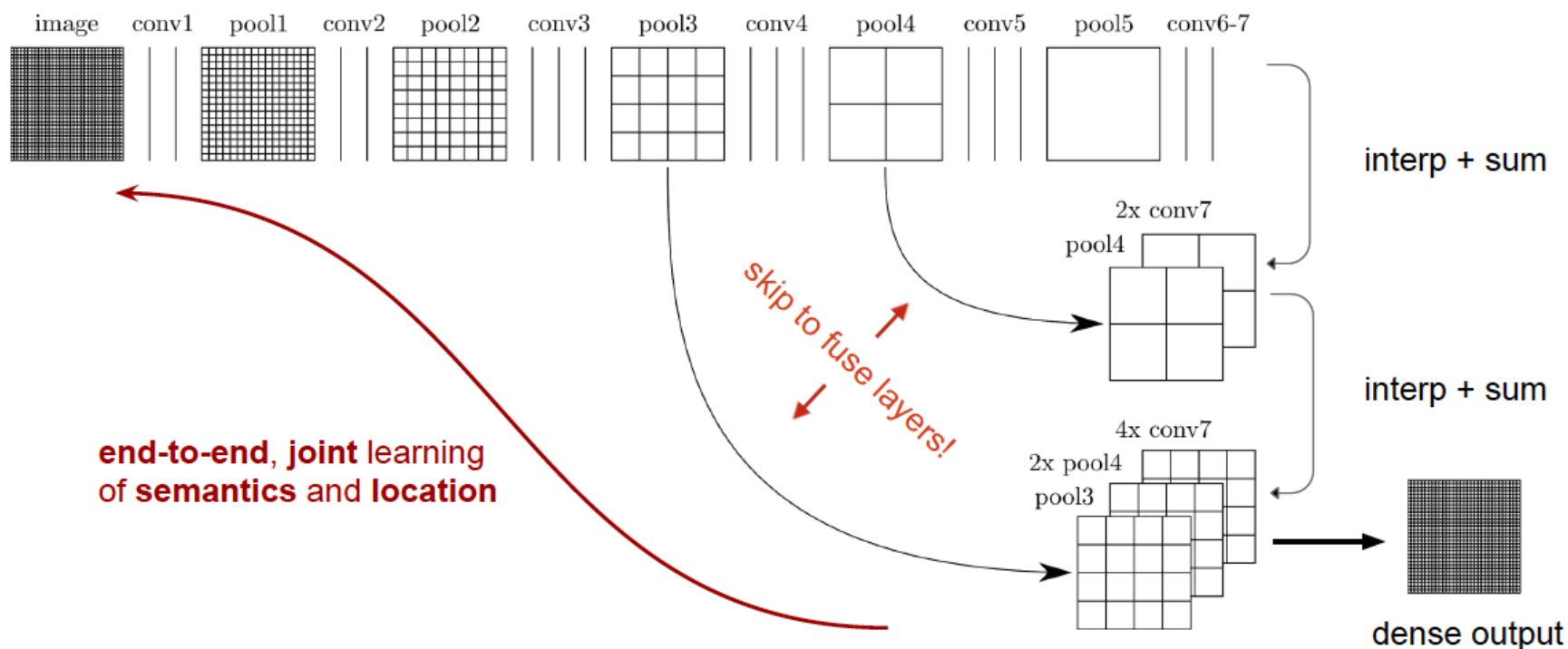
# Network Design II: Examples

- Fully Convolutional Network [Long et al, CVPR 2015]
  - Upsampling: low-resolution, lack spatial details
  - Combining *where (local, shallow)* with *what (global, deep)*



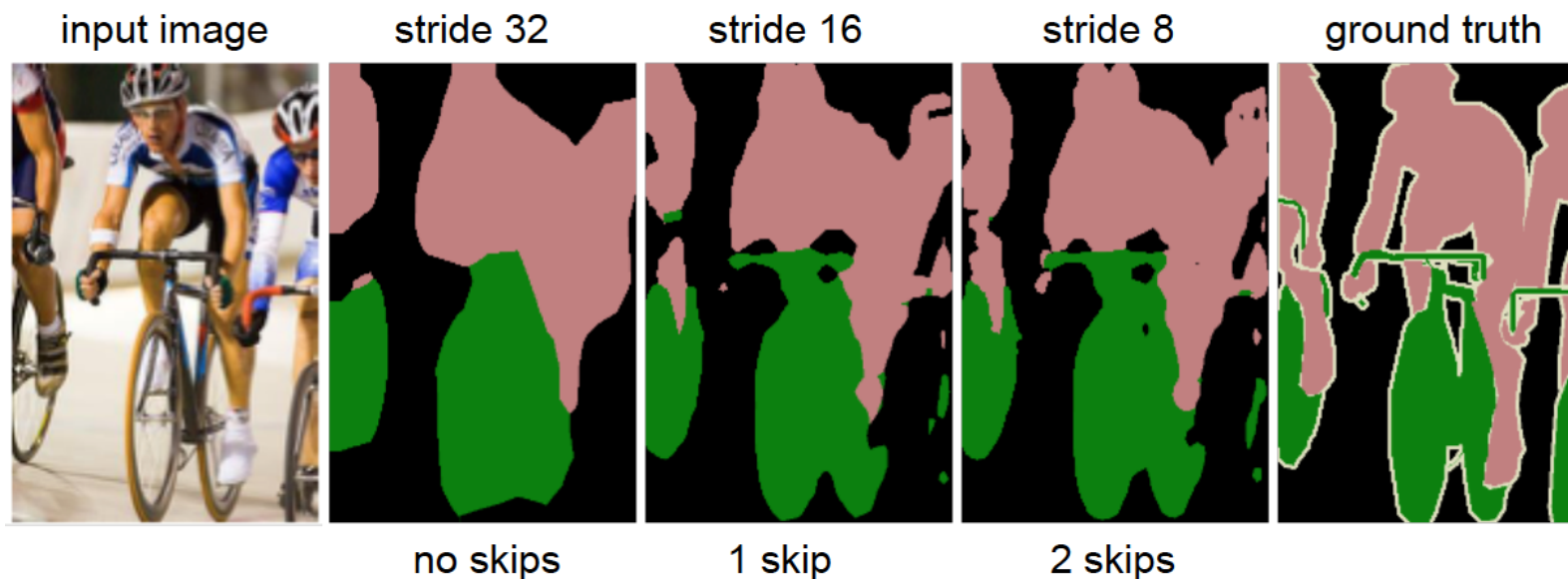
# Network Design II: Examples

- Fully Convolutional Network [Long et al, CVPR 2015]
  - Upsampling: low-resolution, lack spatial details
  - Introducing **skip layers**



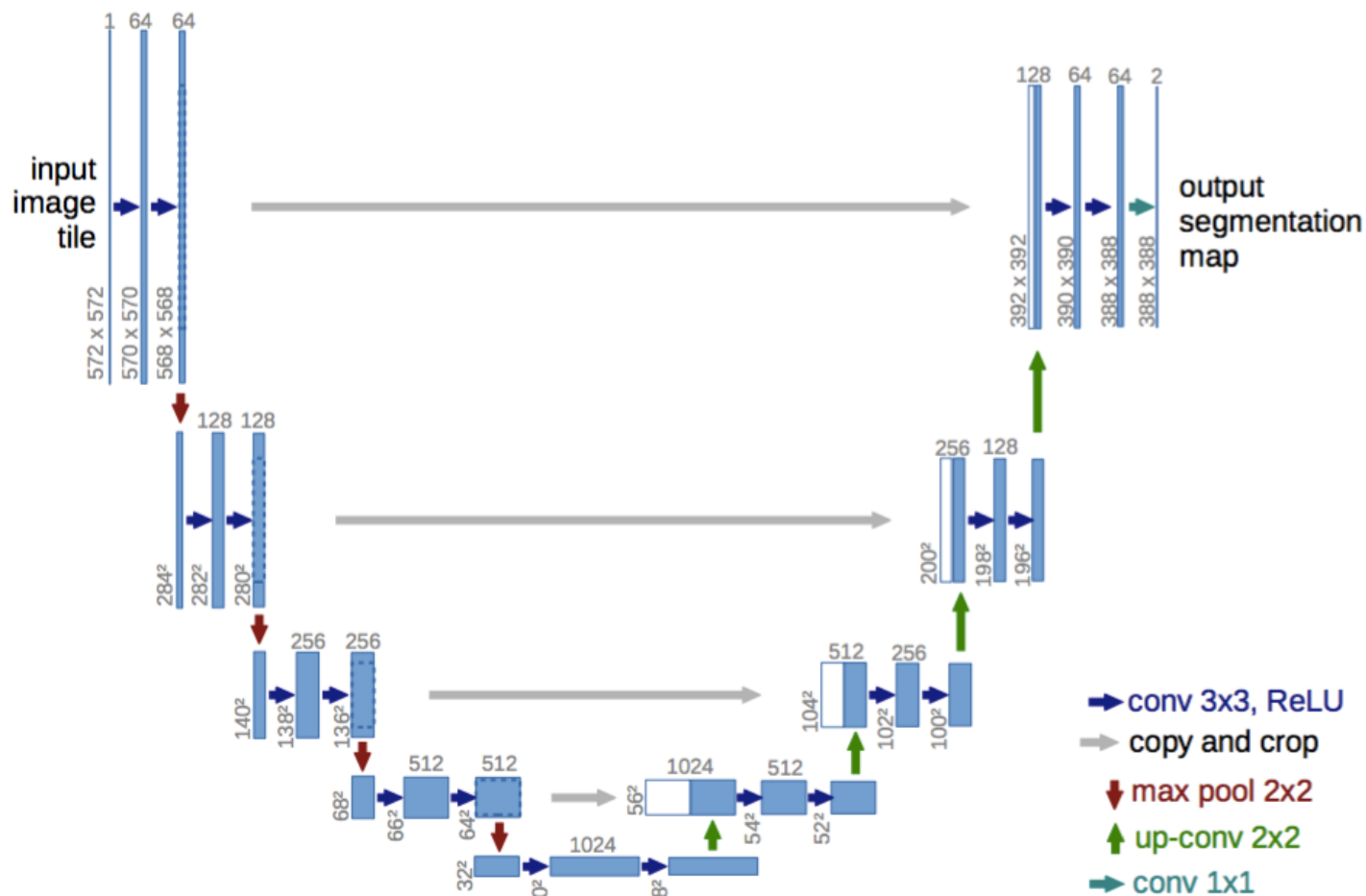
# Network Design II: Examples

- Fully Convolutional Network [Long et al, CVPR 2015]
  - Upsampling: low-resolution, lack spatial details
  - Skip layer refinement



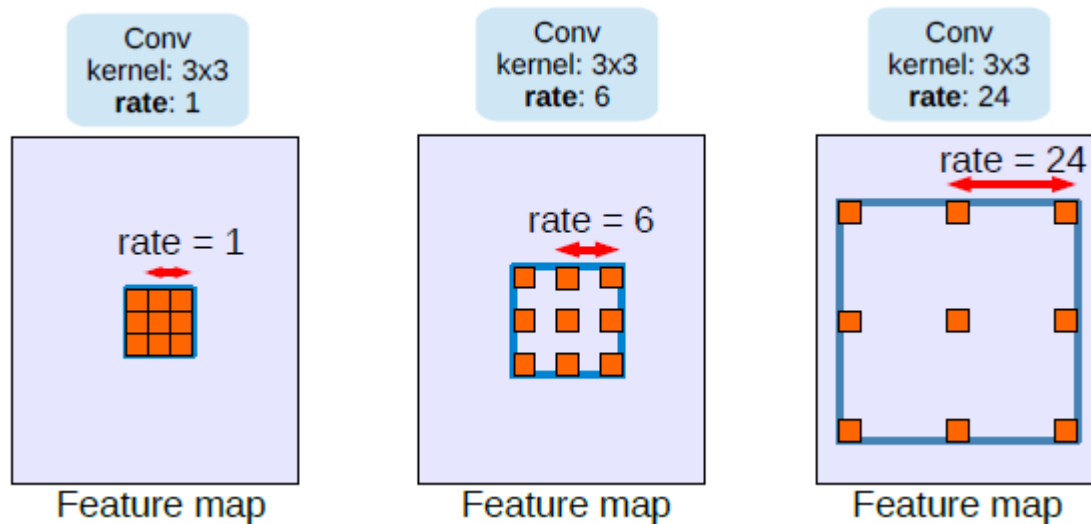
# Network Design II: Examples

## ■ U-Net [Ronneberger et al, MICCAI 2015]



# Network Design II: Spatial resolution

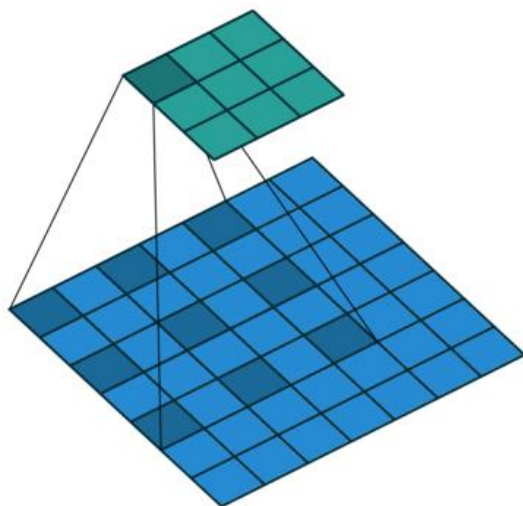
- Dilated Convolutional Network [Yu and Koltun, ICLR 2016]
  - Dense feature map without upsampling
  - ***Dilated (or Atrous) convolution***



$$y[i] = \sum_{k=1}^K x[i + r \cdot k] w[k].$$

# Network Design II: Spatial resolution

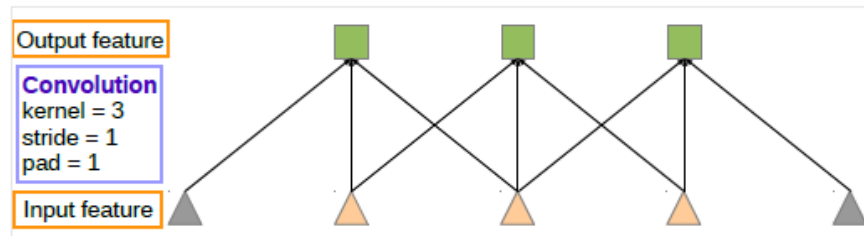
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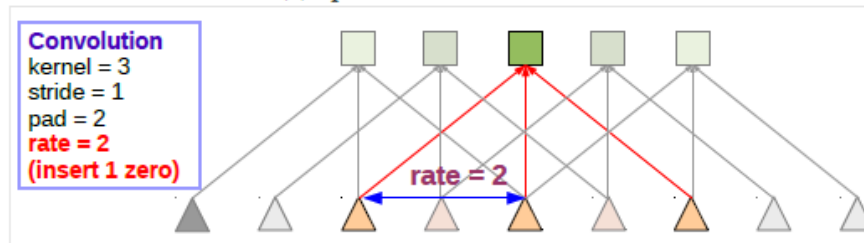
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# Network Design II : Spatial resolution

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(a) Sparse feature extraction

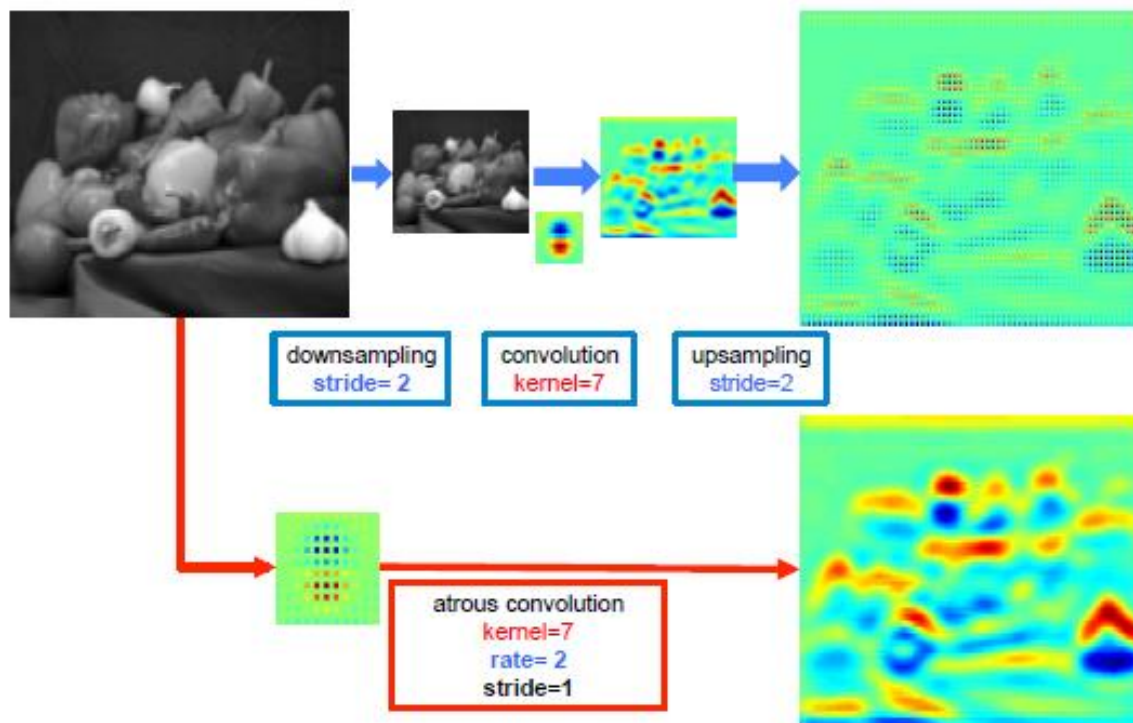


(b) Dense feature extraction

$$y[i] = \sum_{k=1}^K x[i + r \cdot k] w[k].$$

# Network Design II: Spatial resolution

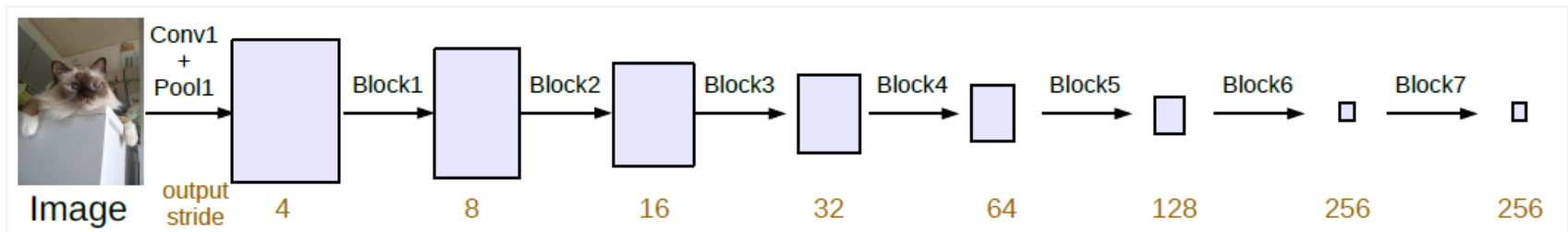
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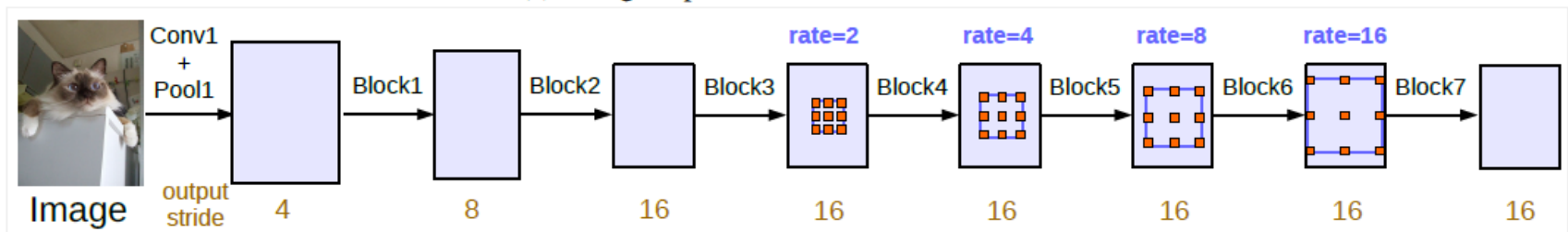


# Network Design II: Spatial resolution

- Dilated Convolutional Network [Yu and Koltun, ICLR 2016]
  - Dense feature map without upsampling
  - ***Dilated (or Atrous) convolution***



(a) Going deeper without atrous convolution.



(b) Going deeper with atrous convolution. Atrous convolution with  $rate > 1$  is applied after block3 when  $output\_stride = 16$ .

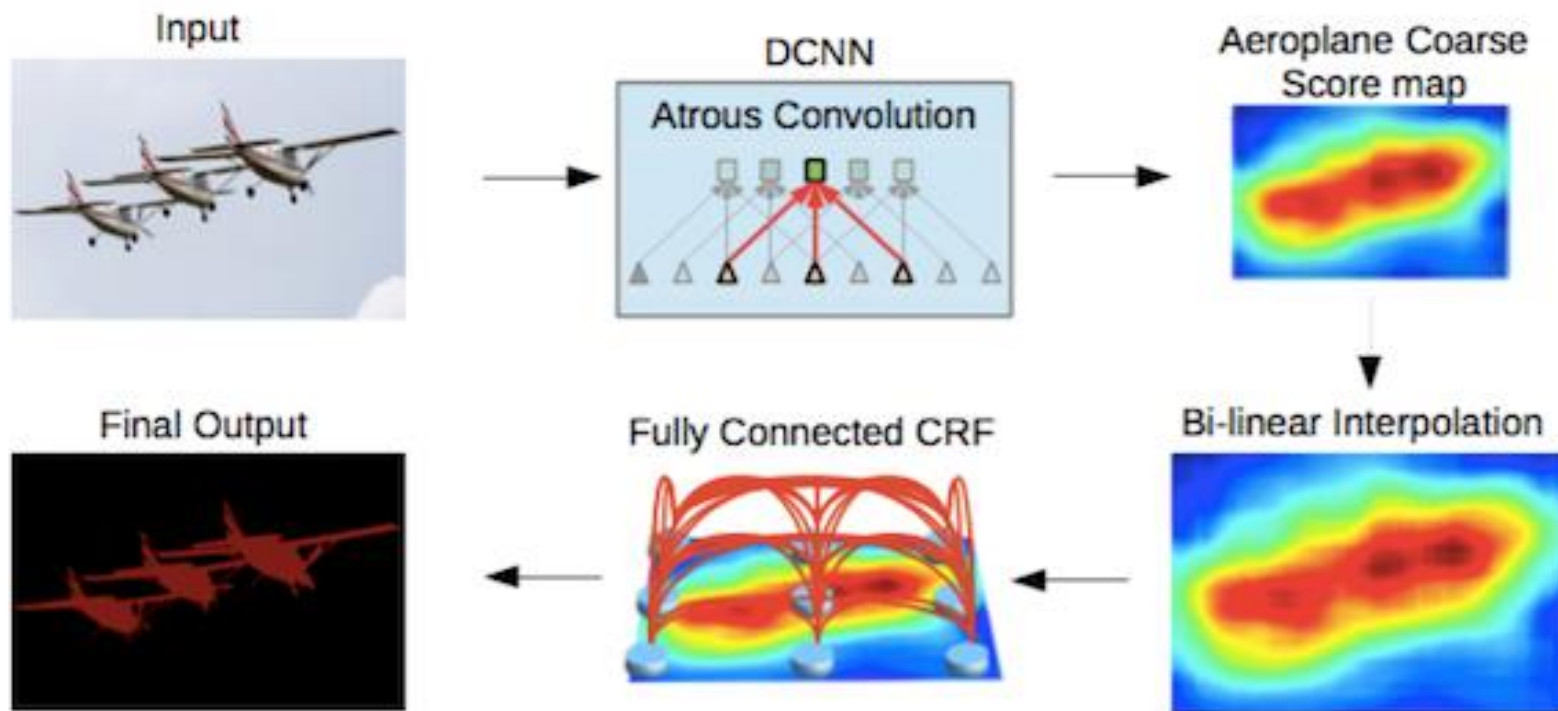
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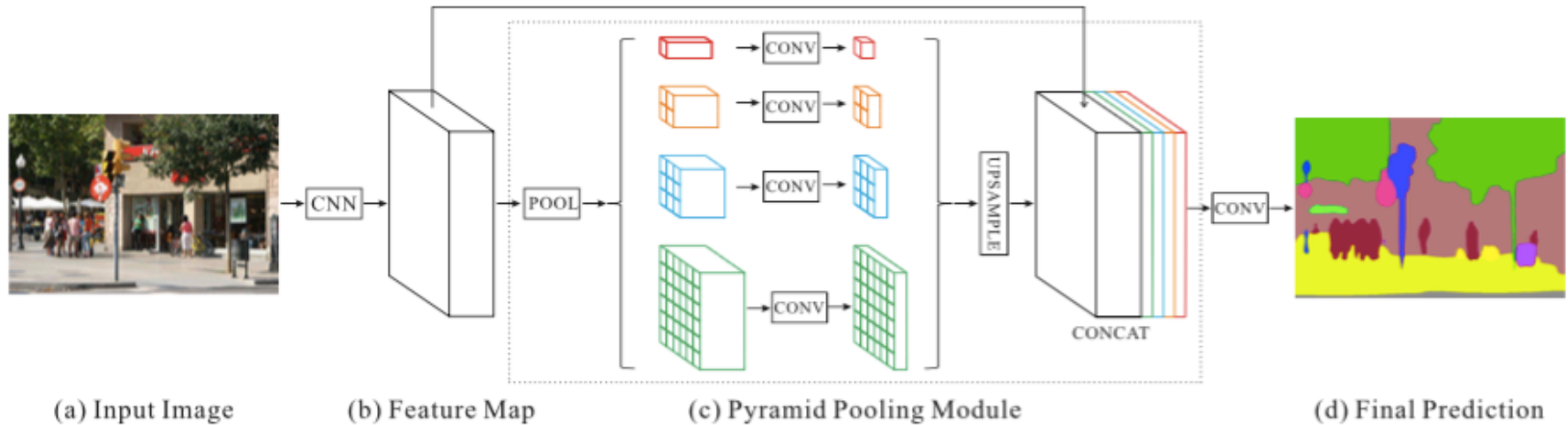
# Network Design III: Multi-scale context

- DeepLab v1&v2
  - Post-processing with dense CRFs.



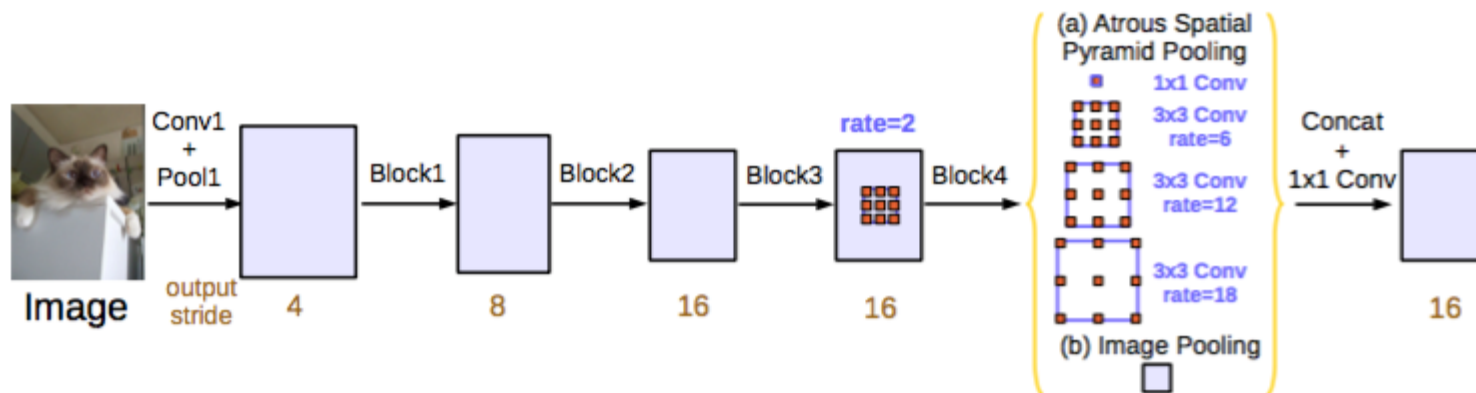
# Network Design III: Multi-scale context

- PSPNet [Zhao et al CVPR 2017]
  - A pyramid pooling module that carries both local and global context information

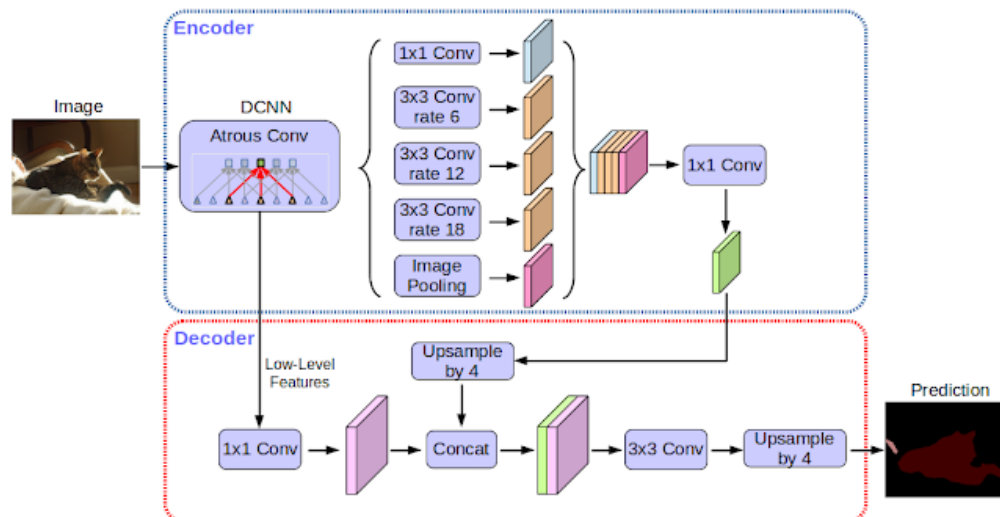


# Network Design III: Multi-scale context

## ■ DeepLab v3



## ■ Deeplab v3+



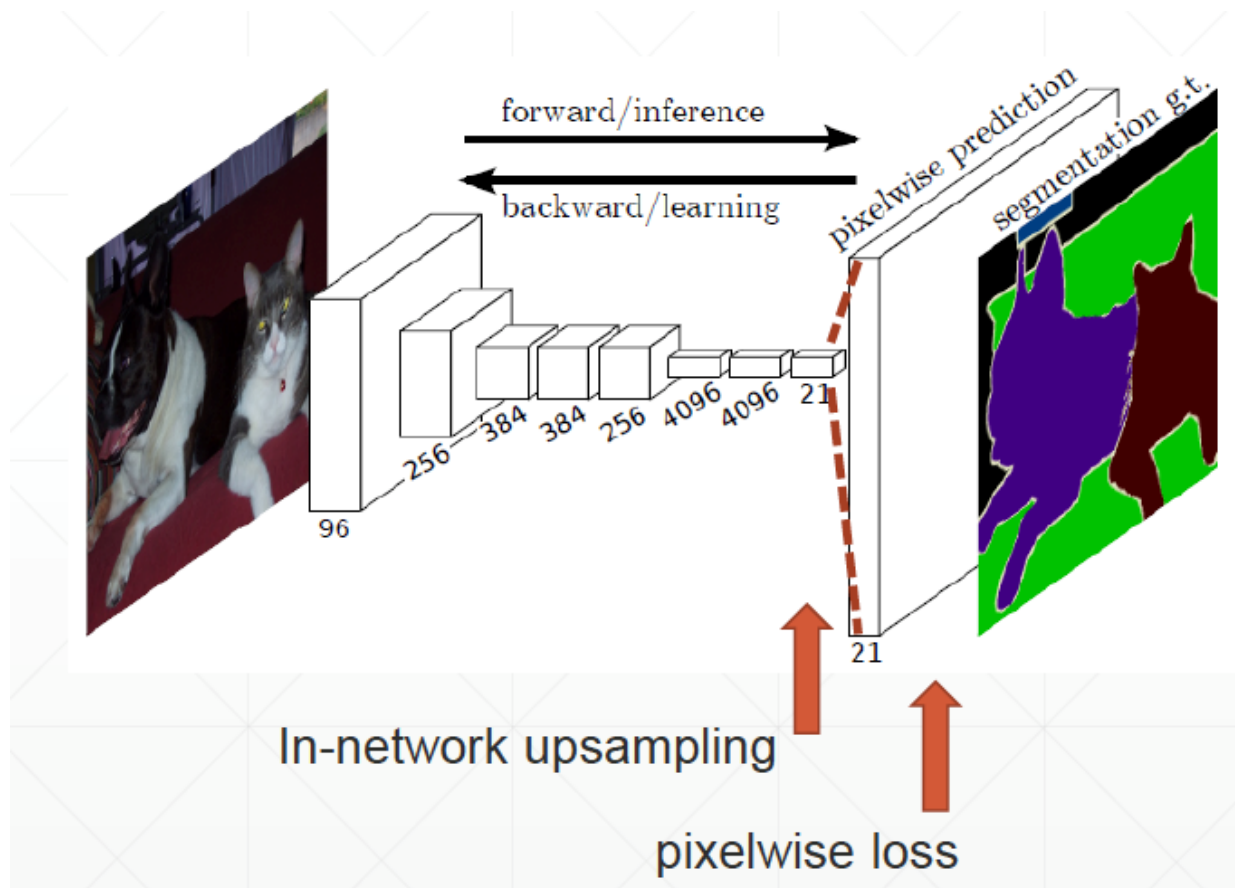
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- Network training losses

*Acknowledgement: Feifei Li et al's cs231n notes*

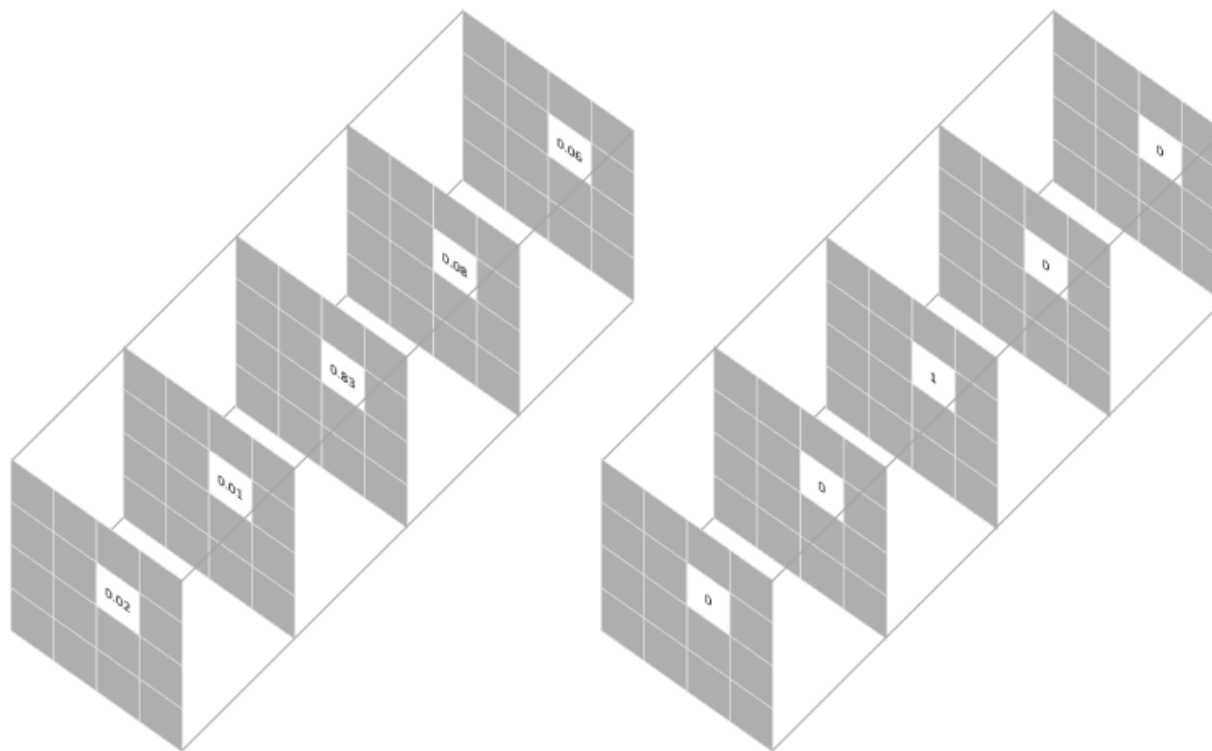
# Semantic segmentation: loss function

- Main idea: pixel-wise classification



# Semantic segmentation: loss function

## ■ Pixel-wise loss



Prediction for a selected pixel

Target for the corresponding pixel

Pixel-wise loss is calculated as the log loss, summed over all possible classes

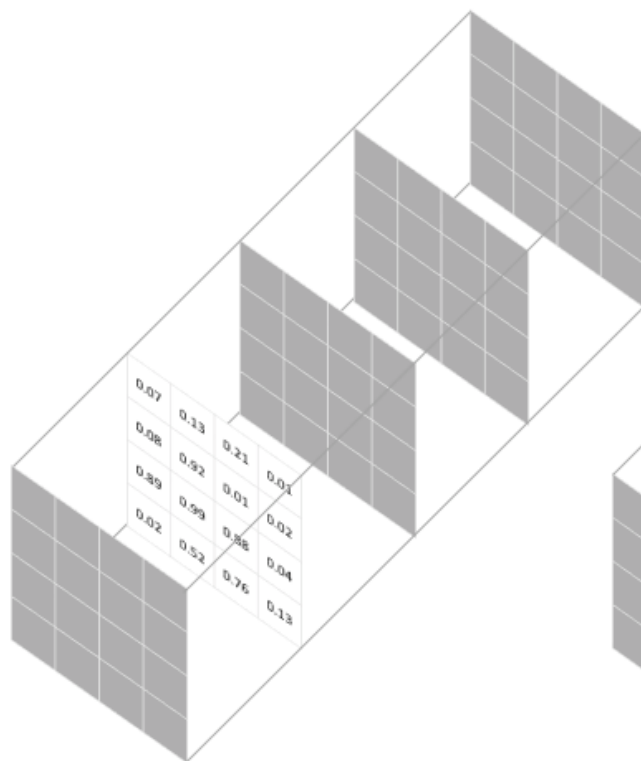
$$-\sum_{classes} y_{true} \log(y_{pred})$$

This scoring is repeated over all **pixels** and averaged

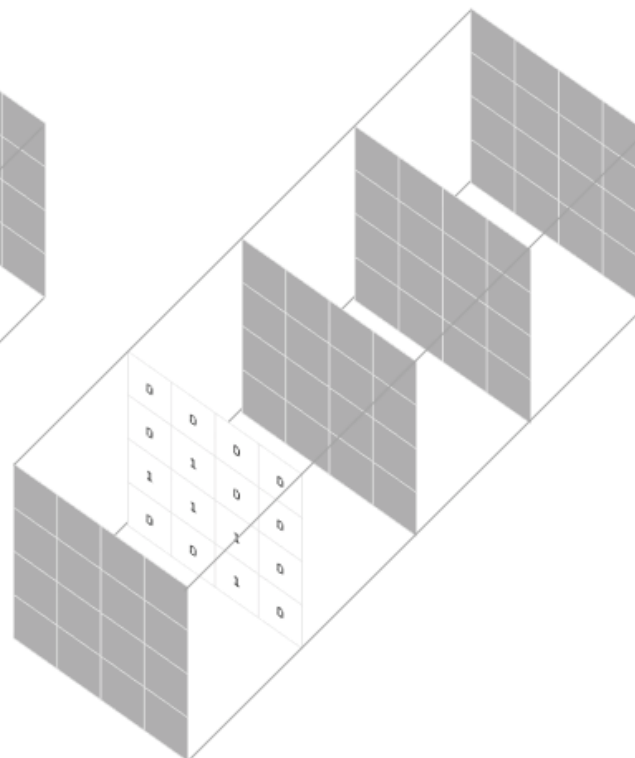


# Semantic segmentation: loss function

## ■ Region-based loss



Prediction for a selected class



Target for the corresponding class

$$Dice = \frac{2|A \cap B|}{|A| + |B|}$$

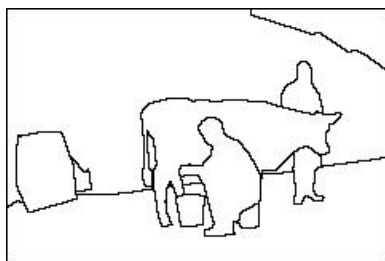
Soft Dice coefficient is calculated for each class mask

$$1 - \frac{2 \sum_{pixels} y_{true} y_{pred}}{\sum_{pixels} y_{true}^2 + \sum_{pixels} y_{pred}^2}$$

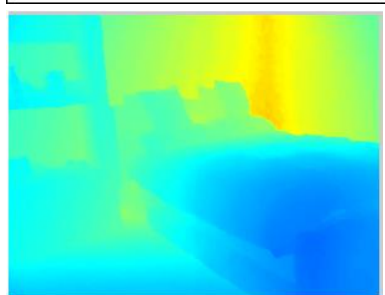
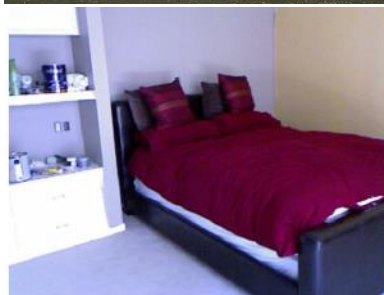
This scoring is repeated over all **classes** and averaged

# Semantic Segmentation: Summary

- Pixel-wise annotation of images
  - An instance of scene understanding



Boundary



Depth

- Many questions remain unanswered
  - Training data?
  - Things vs. Stuff?
  - Boundary vs Region?

# Semantic Segmentation: Summary

- Other research topics (not discussed)
  - *Low-level vision: superresolution, deblurring, inpainting, depth*
  - *Video: optical flow, action and activity recognition and detection*
  - *Volumetric/Multimodality: RGB-D images, medical imaging, etc.*
- Next time:
  - Instance detection and segmentation