

# Lecture 9: LLM-3 Finetuning

AC215

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SEAS/Harvard



# Outline

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- Training Cycle – LLM
- Instruction-tuning
  - Full Parameter
  - PEFT
- LoRA
- QLoRA

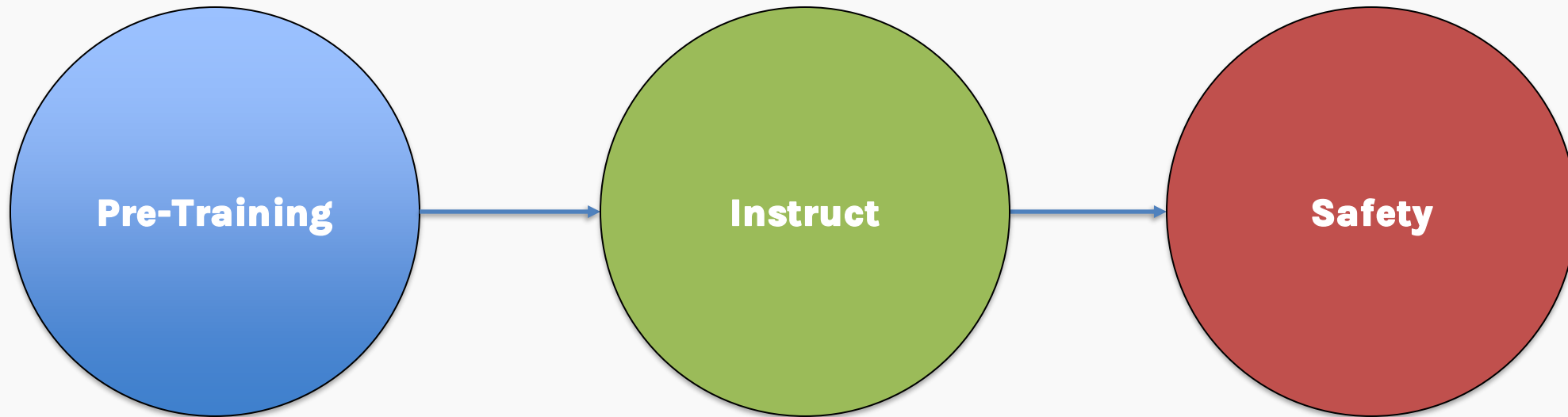
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- QLoRA

# Training Cycle - LLM

The training cycle for a LLM consists of 3 main stages:



# Training Cycle - LLM



## **Objective:**

The goal of pre-training is to teach the model **general language** understanding.

## **Process:**

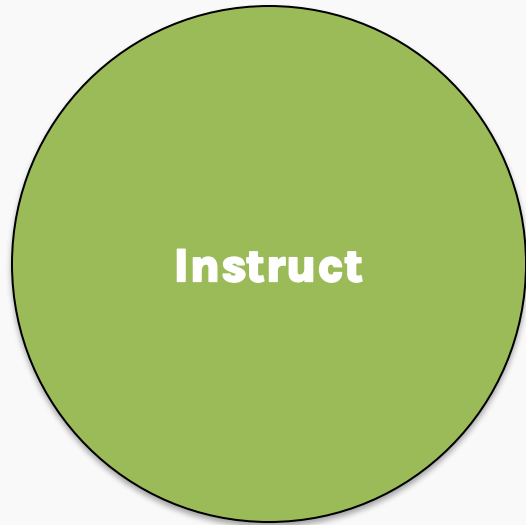
The model is trained on a massive dataset of **text** from the **internet** and **other sources**.

## **Outcome:**

A base model that has a **general understanding** of the language.

This is what we've learned when we talked about how GPT works

# Training Cycle - LLM



## Objective:

The goal is to make the model useful for **specific tasks** and improving its ability to **follow instructions**.

## Process:

**Fine-tuning** the model on datasets that contain instructions and the desired outputs.

This also includes RLHF.

## Outcome:

A model that becomes better at interpreting and following user instructions.

# Training Cycle - LLM



## **Objective:**

The goal is to make sure that the model outputs are safe and ethical.

## **Process:**

Involves further **fine-tuning**. We use RLHF to provide feedback on model outputs.

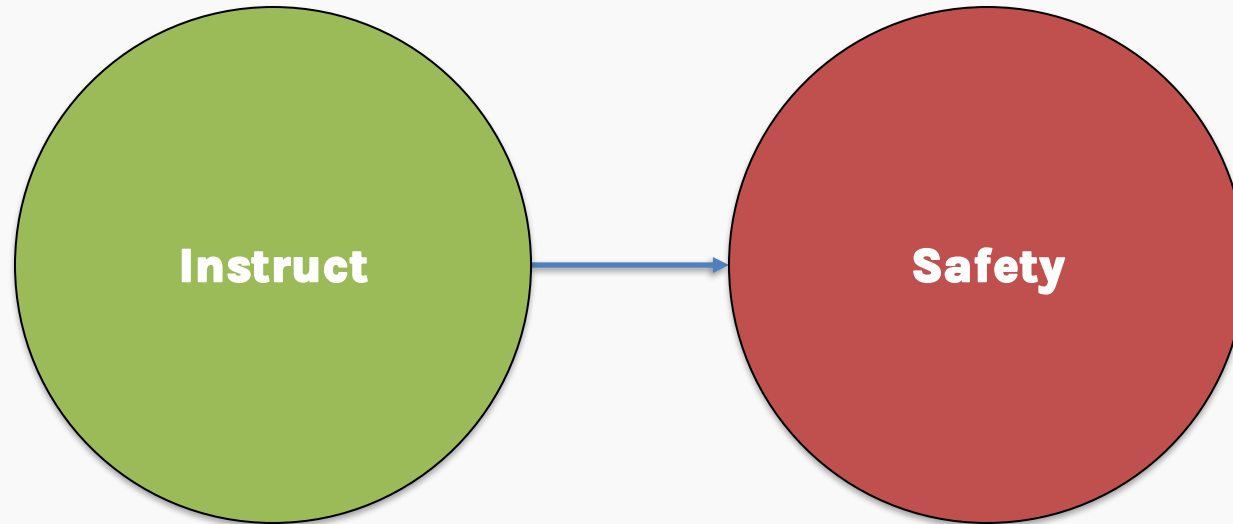
## **Outcome:**

The model becomes safer reducing risk of biased content.

It's after this step that we get models like ChatGPT, Claude etc

# Training Cycle - LLM

So, fine-tuning takes place in 2 stages.

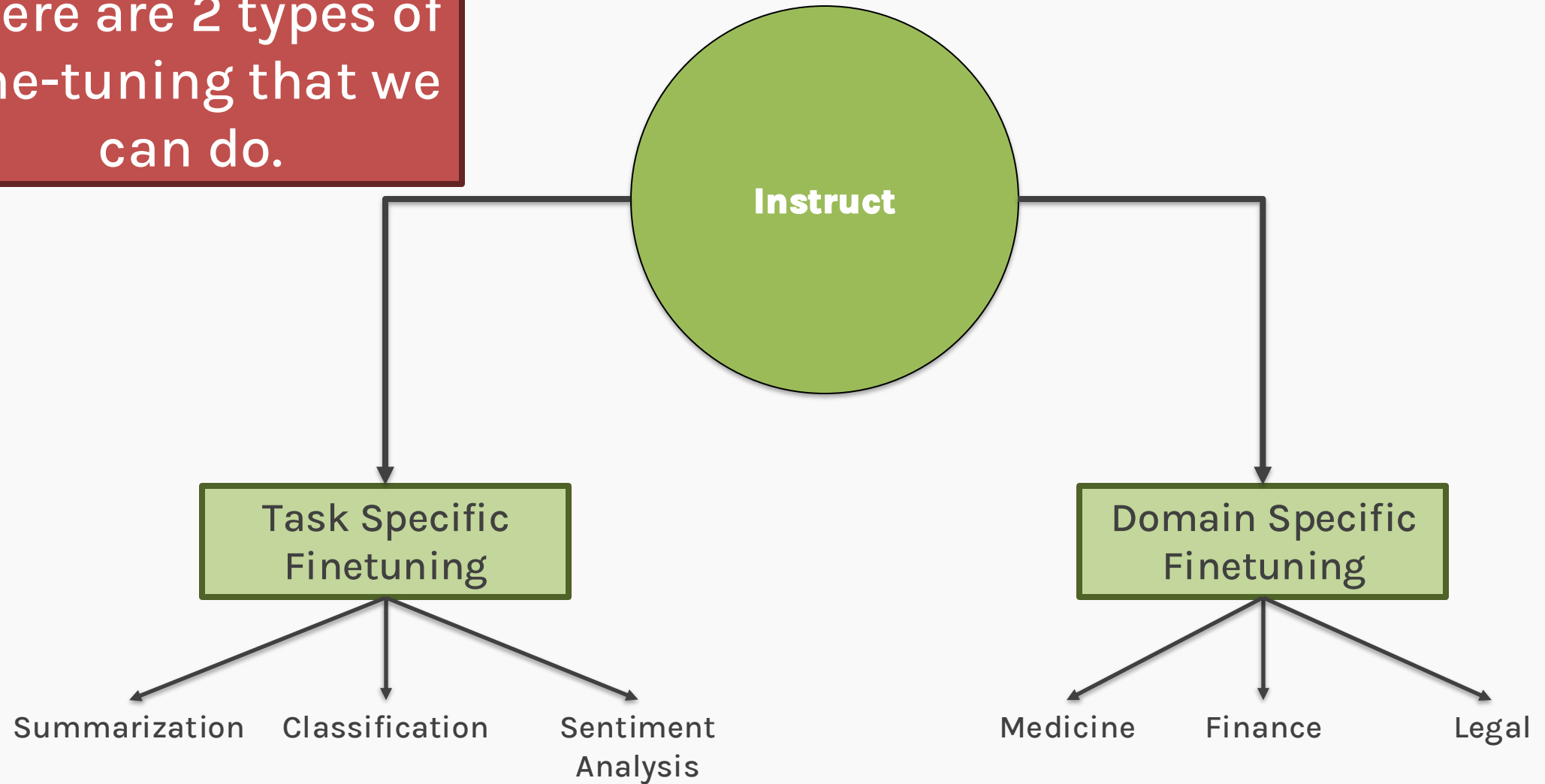


In this lecture, we will be focusing on the **Instruct stage** of fine-tuning.



# Training Cycle - LLM

There are 2 types of fine-tuning that we can do.



# Training Cycle - LLM

Before we go deeper into fine-tuning there is another way of adapting LLMs for specific task, which is called “In-context” learning.

## In-context Learning

- A method of prompt engineering where the model is shown task demonstrations as part of the prompt.
- No change in model

parameters.

## Fine-tuning

- A process of training the LLM on a labelled dataset specific to a particular task.
- Change in model parameters.

Fine-tuning is a **supervised process** that leads to a new model, in contrast with in-context learning, which is considered “**ephemeral**.”

# Training Cycle - LLM

Before we go deeper into fine-tuning there is another way of adapting LLMs for specific task, which is called "in-context" learning.



You may recall **in-context learning** from a previous lecture about prompting.

Let's focus on fine-tuning and how it makes our LLM better.

Fine-tuning is a **supervised process** that leads to a new model, in contrast with in-context learning, which is considered "**ephemeral**."

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# Instruction-tuning (Full Parameter)

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Fine-tuning very often means **instruction fine-tuning**.

An **instruction dataset**, comprising pairs of **instructions**, **answers**, and sometimes **context**, is required for such fine-tuning.

# Instruction-tuning (Full Parameter)

Instruction	Context	Output
Suggest a good restaurant	Los Angeles, CA	In Los Angeles, CA, I suggest Rossoblu Italian Restaurant
Rewrite the sentence with more descriptive words	The game is fun	The game is exhilarating and enjoyable
Calculate the area of the triangle	Base: 5cm; Height: 6cm	The area of the triangle is $15 \text{ cm}^2$

This is an example of what an instruction dataset looks like.

# Instruction-tuning (Full Parameter)

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## Task-specific fine-tuning:

This particular process involves training the model on a **smaller, task-specific** dataset.

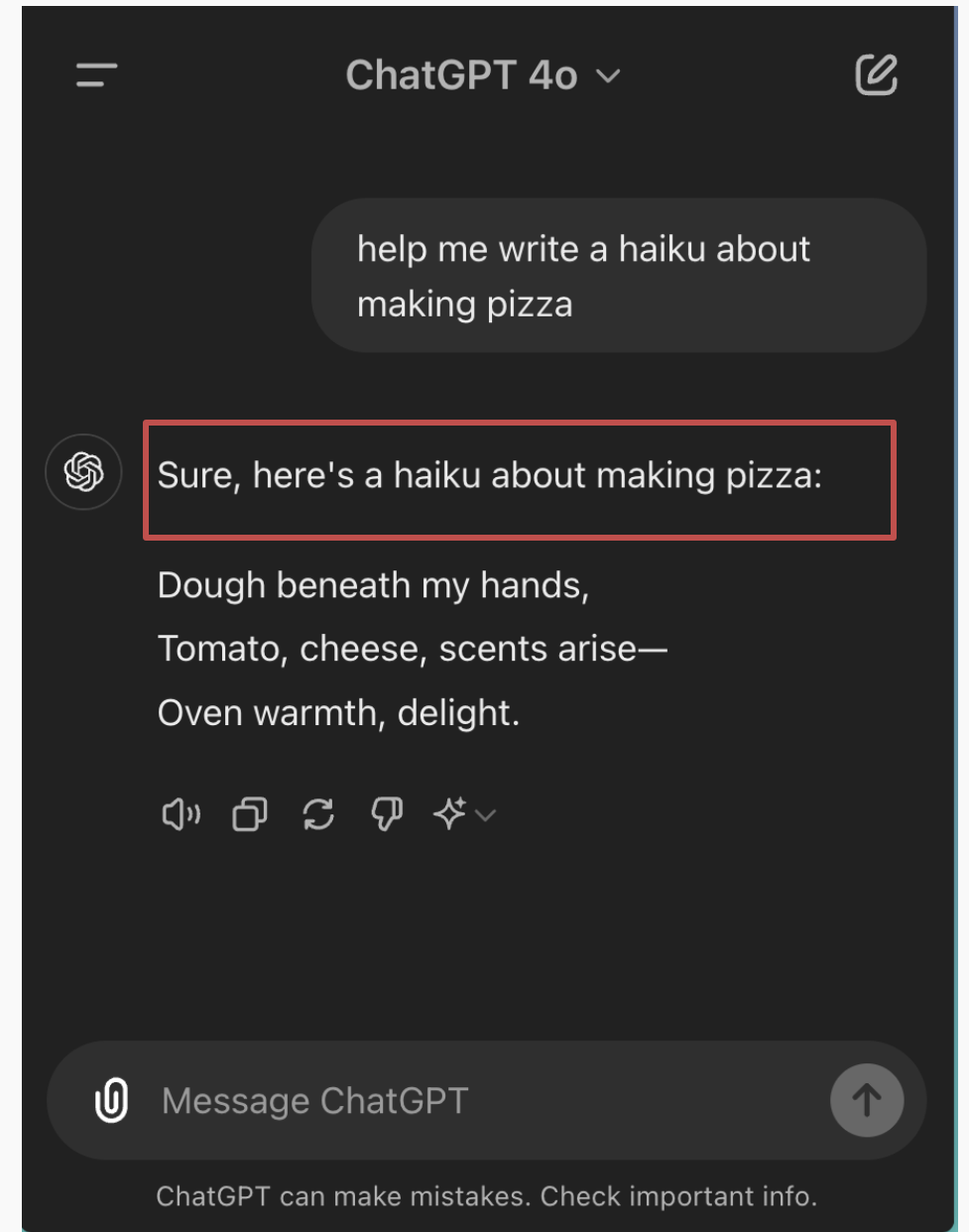
For e.g.: Summarize this, translate that, etc

This allows the model to **learn** the **nuances**, and **specialized vocabulary** relevant to the task.

# Instruction-tuning (Full Parameter)

For e.g., if you train a model specifically for question answering:

Notice, how it **answers** requests, starting with ‘Sure...’.



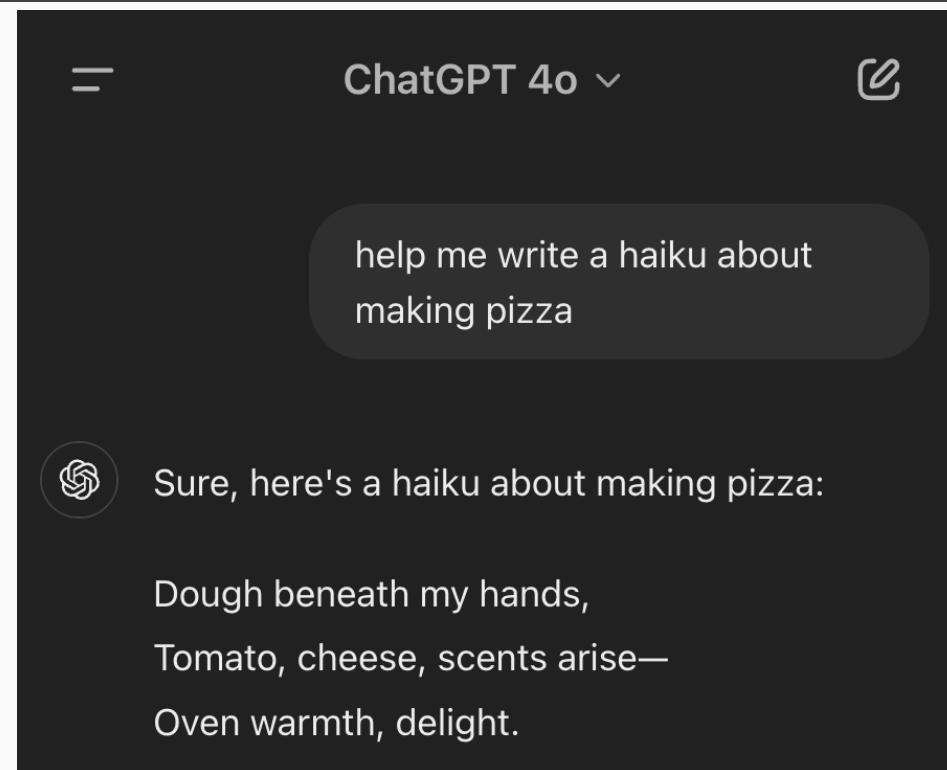


# Instruction-tuning (Full Parameter)

For e.g., if you train a model specifically for question answering:

Notice, how it **answers** requests, starting with ‘Sure...’.

This is **opposed** to how language models are trained (**next-word prediction**), according to which the answer should just include the haiku directly.



# Instruction-tuning (Full Parameter)

---

We have to be careful while doing task-specific finetuning to avoid **catastrophic forgetting**.

**Catastrophic forgetting** refers to the phenomenon where a model **loses its ability to perform previously learned tasks** when it is being fine-tuned on new tasks.

The key idea of catastrophic **forgetting** is that as the model learns new tasks, it may **overwrite** what it previously learned, leading to a loss in performance on earlier tasks.

# Instruction-tuning (Full Parameter)

To **mitigate** the problem of catastrophic forgetting, we need to do multi-task finetuning.

This requires a lot of **data**, and **training resources**.



# Instruction-tuning (Full Parameter)

- We need to update all the parameters while finetuning.
  - For a 7B model, we need to update 7 billion weights. For a 13 billion model, we need to update 13 billion weights and so on.
- Storing and updating these weights require a lot of **GPU memory**.



**Fun Fact:** Did you know, training GPT-4 involved **~25,000 A100 GPUs** over **~90-100 days**, costing OpenAI nearly **\$100 million!**

# Instruction-tuning (Full Parameter)

**Not so fun Fact:**

 **Fun Fact:** Did you know, training GPT-4 involved **~25,000 A100 GPUs** over **~90-100 days**, costing OpenAI nearly **\$100 million!**



# Instruction-tuning (Full Parameter)

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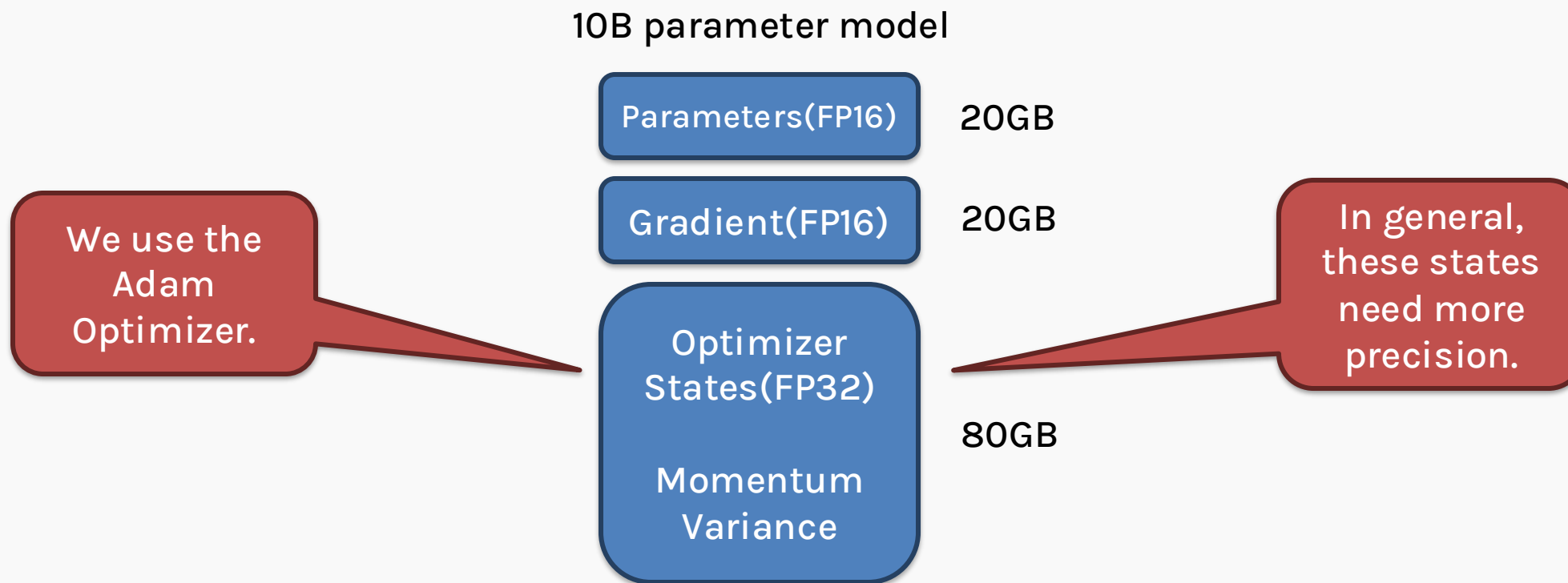
Let's take a fine-tuning example now.

Say we want to finetune a 10 billion parameter model. Let's see how that looks in memory.

Assuming, we're working with FP16 (half precision), which takes approximately 2 bytes per parameter.

# Instruction-tuning (Full Parameter)

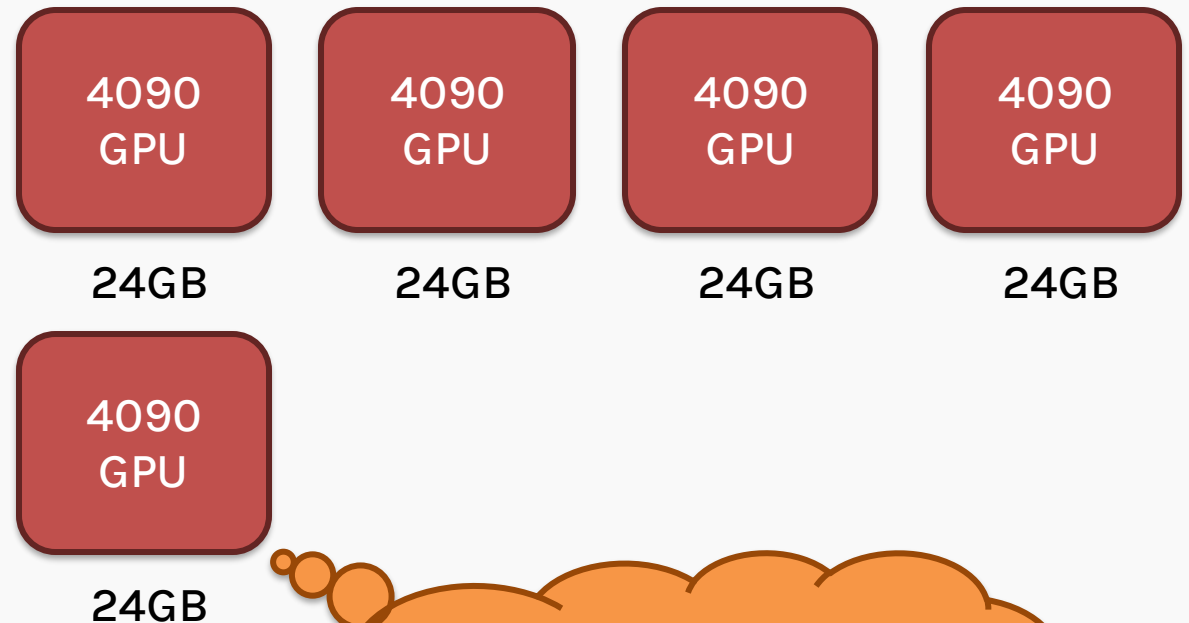
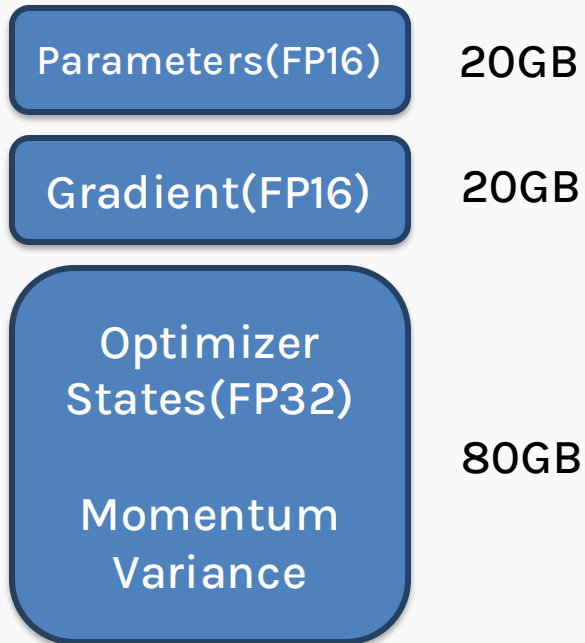
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# Instruction-tuning (Full Parameter)

Assuming, we're working with **FP16 (half precision)**, which takes approximately 2 bytes per parameter.

10B parameter model



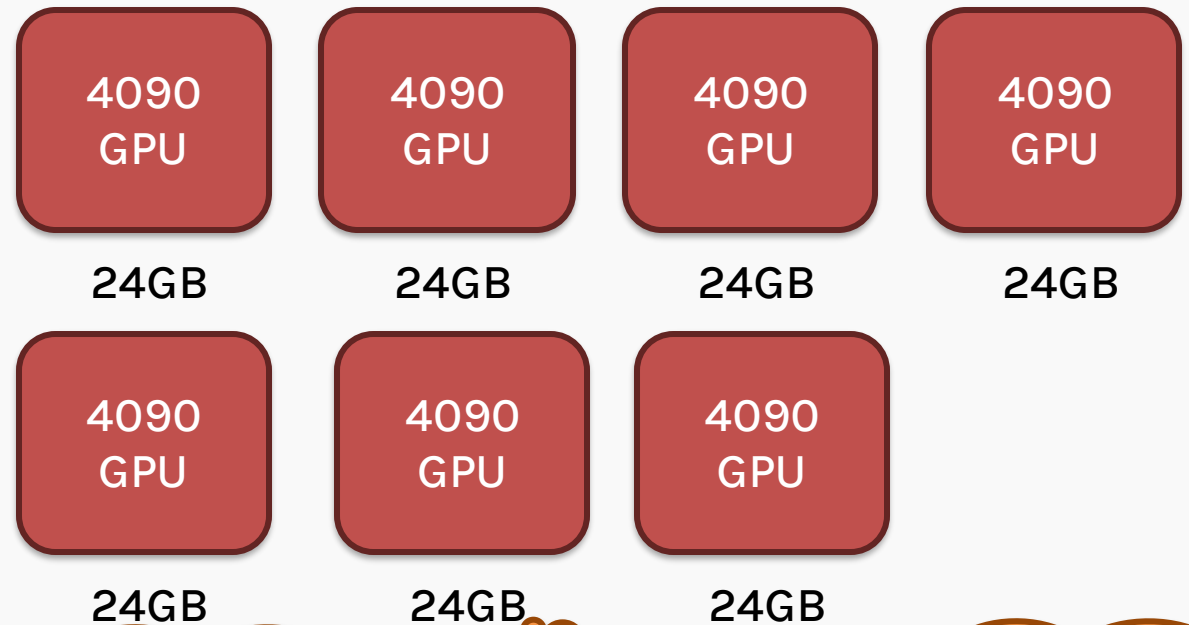
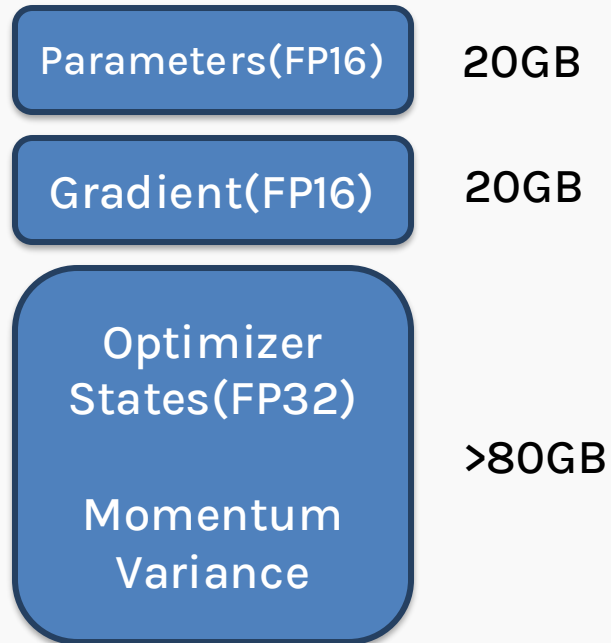
This model needs at least 5 top-of-the-line consumer-grade GPU's to finetune.



# Instruction-tuning (Full Parameter)

Assuming, we're working with **FP16 (half precision)**, which takes approximately 2 bytes per parameter.

10B parameter model



>80GB because we need to save activations and a few other things

This model needs at least 7 top-of-the-line consumer-grade GPU's to finetune.

# Instruction-tuning (Full Parameter)

This makes full parameter finetuning **inaccessible** to normal folks like us.

So, what can we  
do?



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  - Full Parameter
  - **PEFT**
- LoRA
- QLoRA

# Instruction-tuning (PEFT)

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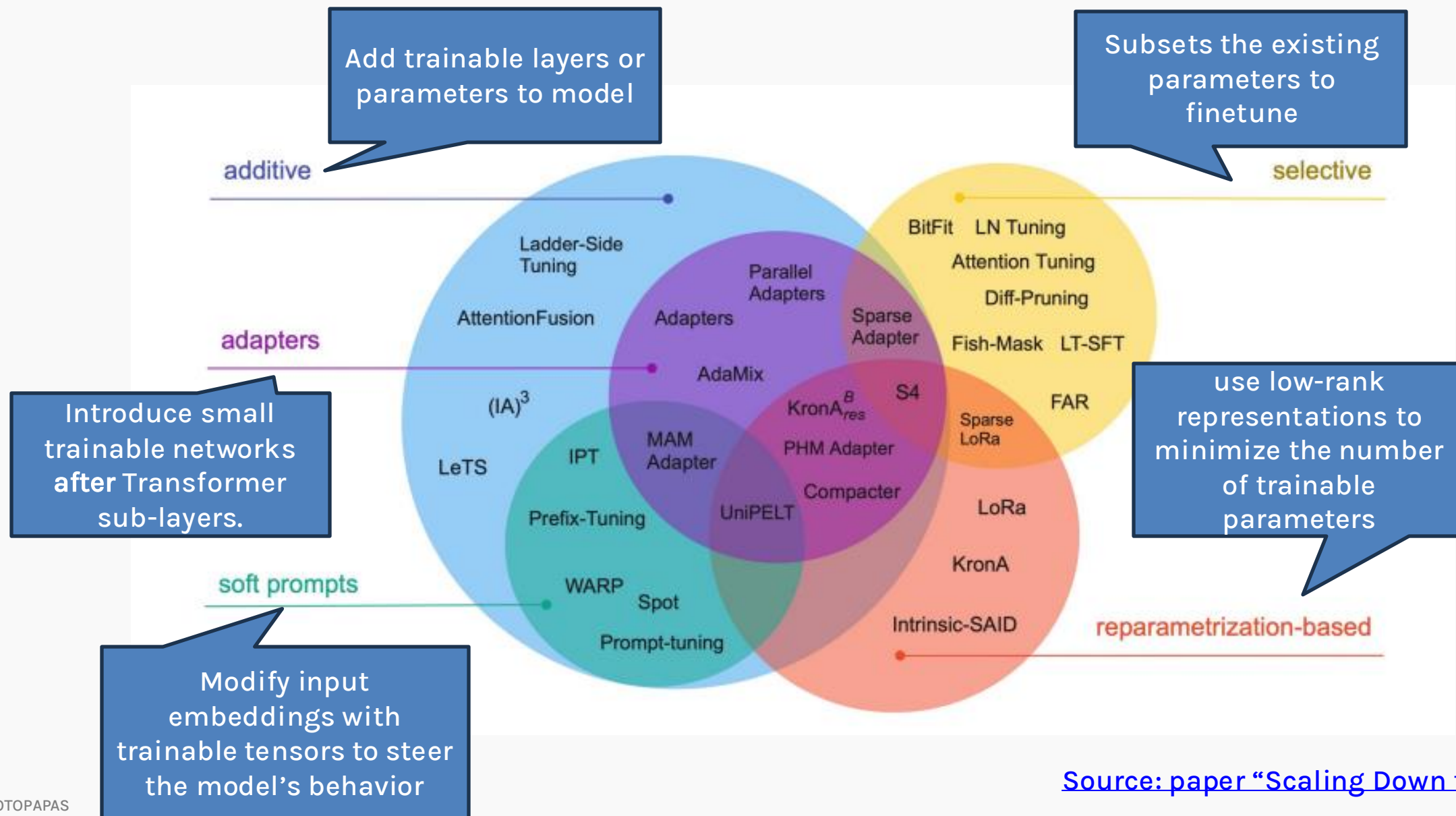
PEFT stands for **Parameter Efficient Finetuning**.

Unlike full parameter finetuning, PEFT **preserves** the vast majority of the model's original weights.

There are majorly **three** methods to do PEFT.

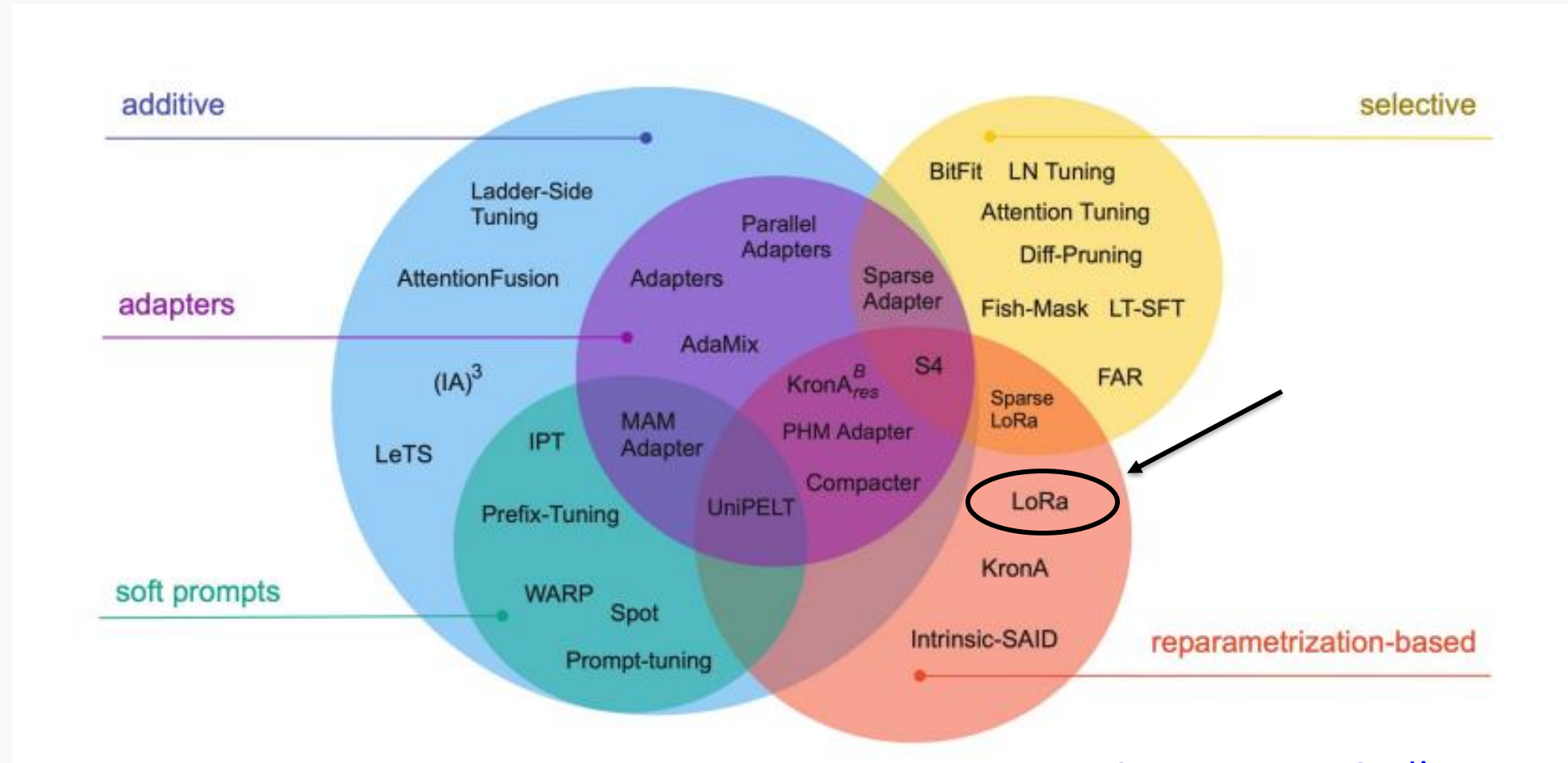
1. Additive
2. Selective
3. Reparameterization

# Instruction-tuning (PEFT)



# Instruction-tuning (PEFT)

There are a lot of techniques. We're interested in **LoRA**, which is one of the most popular.



Source: paper “Scaling Down to Scale Up”  
([arxiv.org](https://arxiv.org/abs/2303.15466))

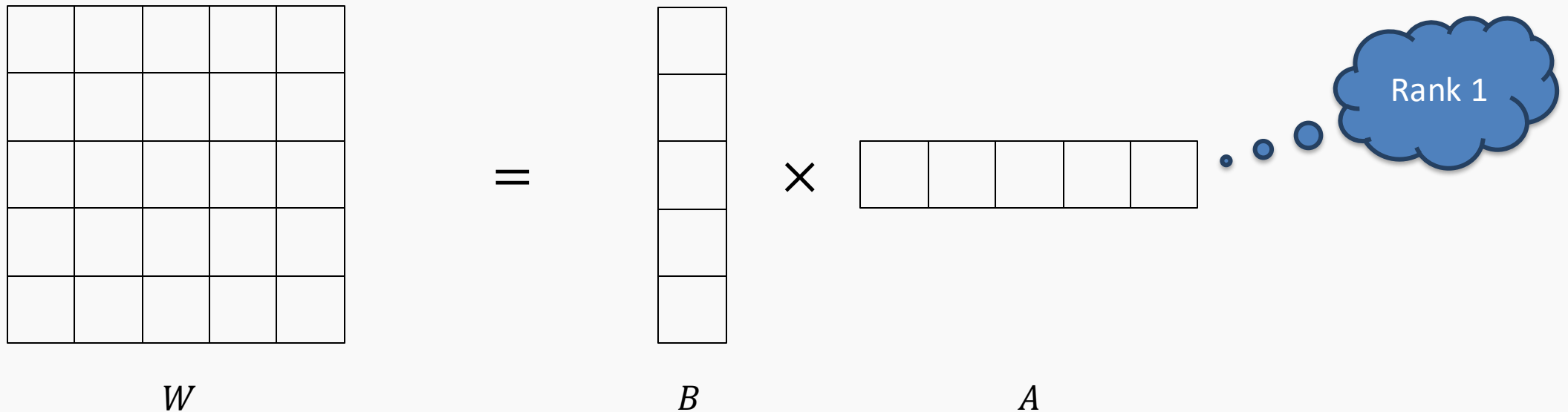
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# LoRA - Intuition

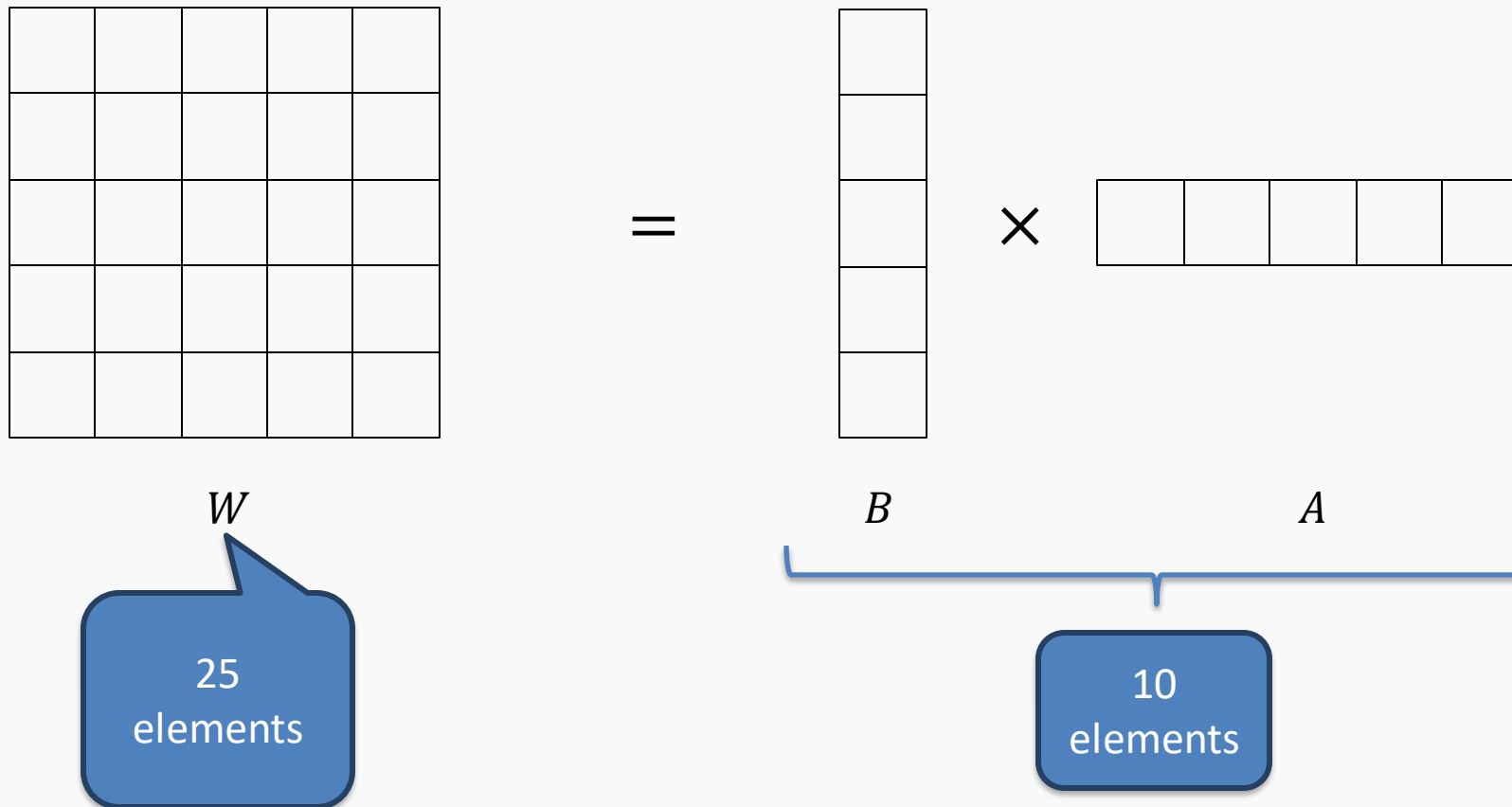
LoRA revolves around the idea that any matrix  $W \in R^{m \times n}$  can be decomposed into  $W = BA$  where  $B \in R^{m \times r}$  and  $A \in R^{r \times n}$





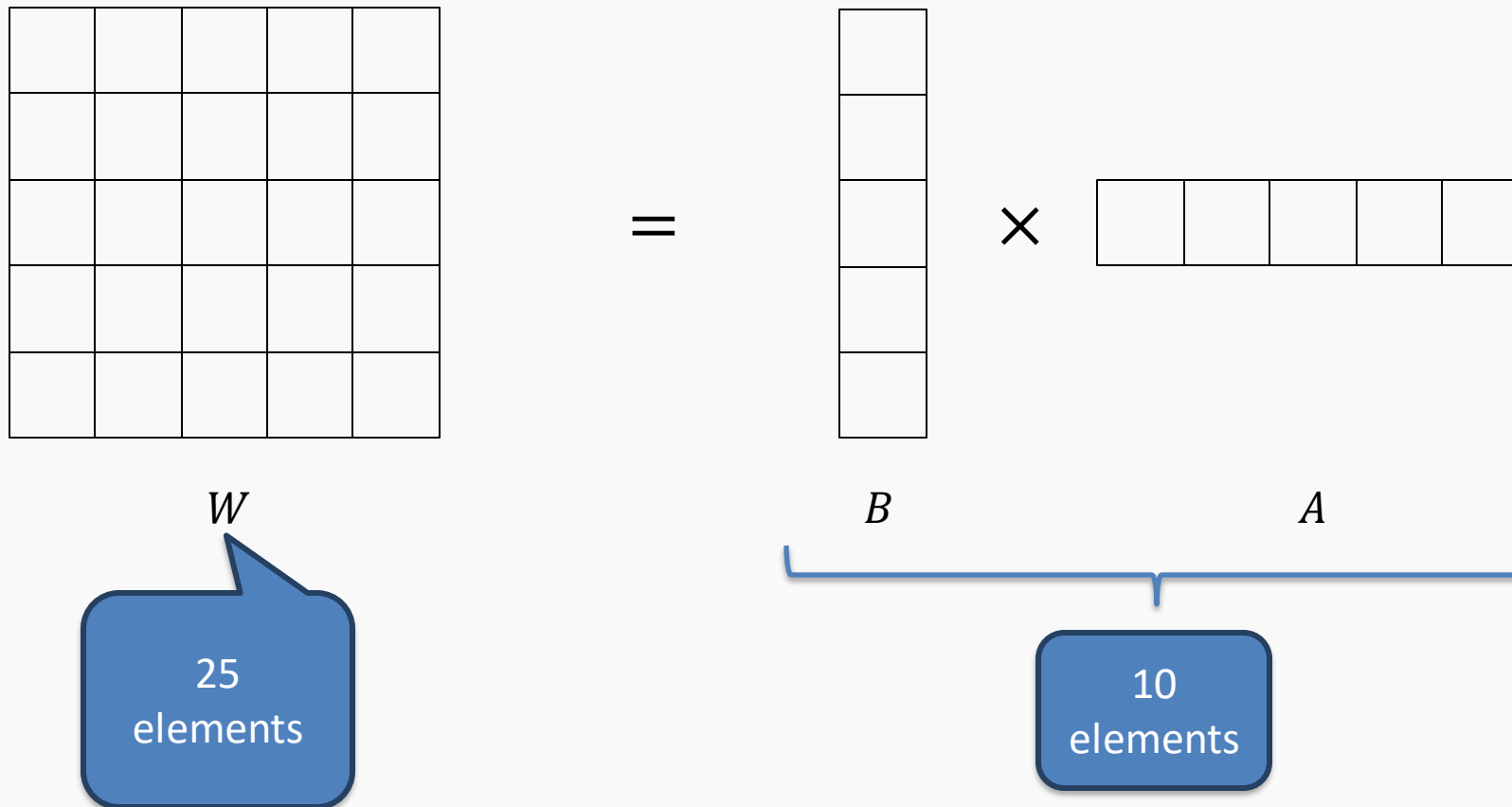
# LoRA - Intuition

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# LoRA - Intuition

We can even increase the rank to get better performance.



# LoRA - Working

Now, we use the same concept of matrix decomposition while finetuning an LLM.

The diagram illustrates the LoRA equation:  $W_0 + \Delta W = W_0 + \frac{\alpha}{r} BA$ . Callouts identify the components:  $W_0$  is 'Initial LLM Weights',  $\Delta W$  is the 'Update matrix',  $\alpha$  is the 'Scaling parameter',  $r$  is the 'Rank of BA', and  $BA$  are the 'Decomposed matrices'.

$$W_0 + \Delta W = W_0 + \frac{\alpha}{r} BA$$

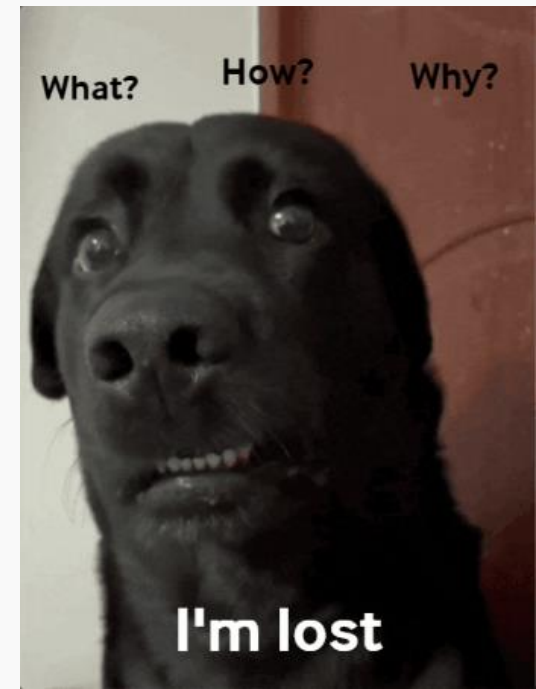
Remember, we are decomposing the update matrix ( $\Delta W$ ), and not the original weights  $W_0$ .

# LoRA - Working

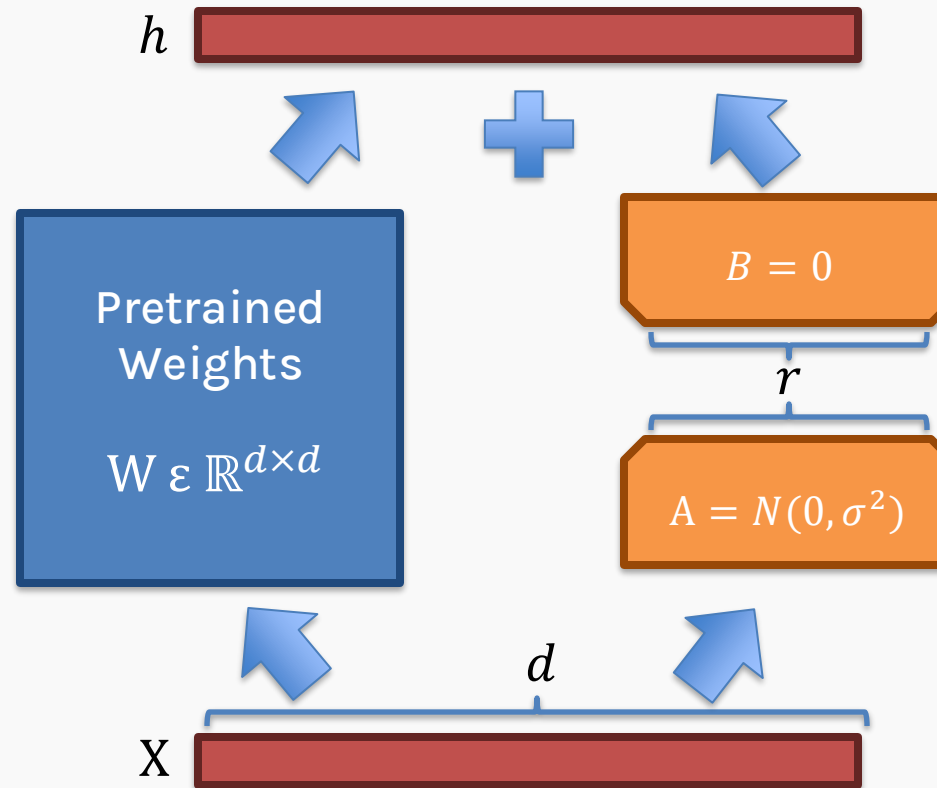
$$W_0 + \Delta W = W_0 + \frac{\alpha}{r} BA$$

We initialize B using a zero matrix, and A using a normal distribution.

Now, let's look at this diagrammatically.

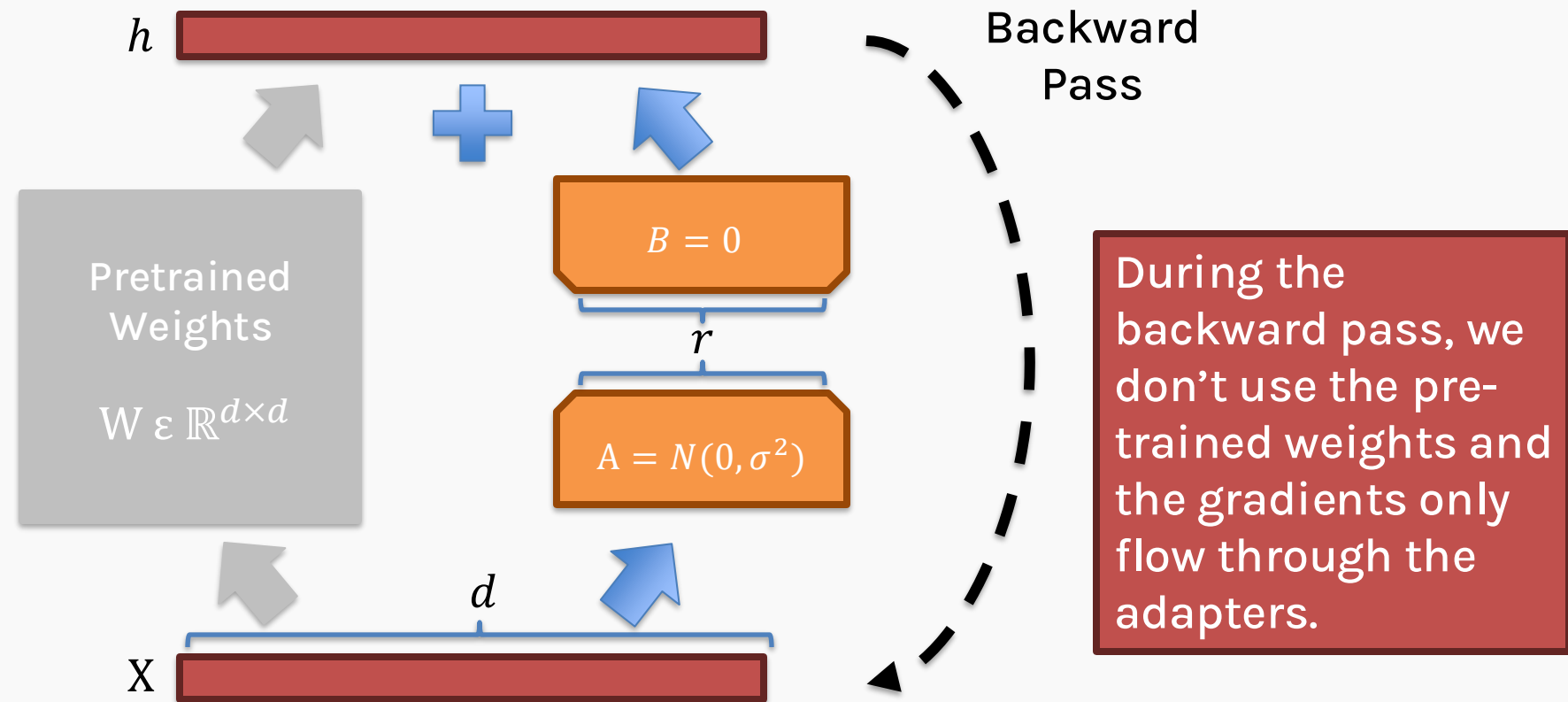


# LoRA - Working



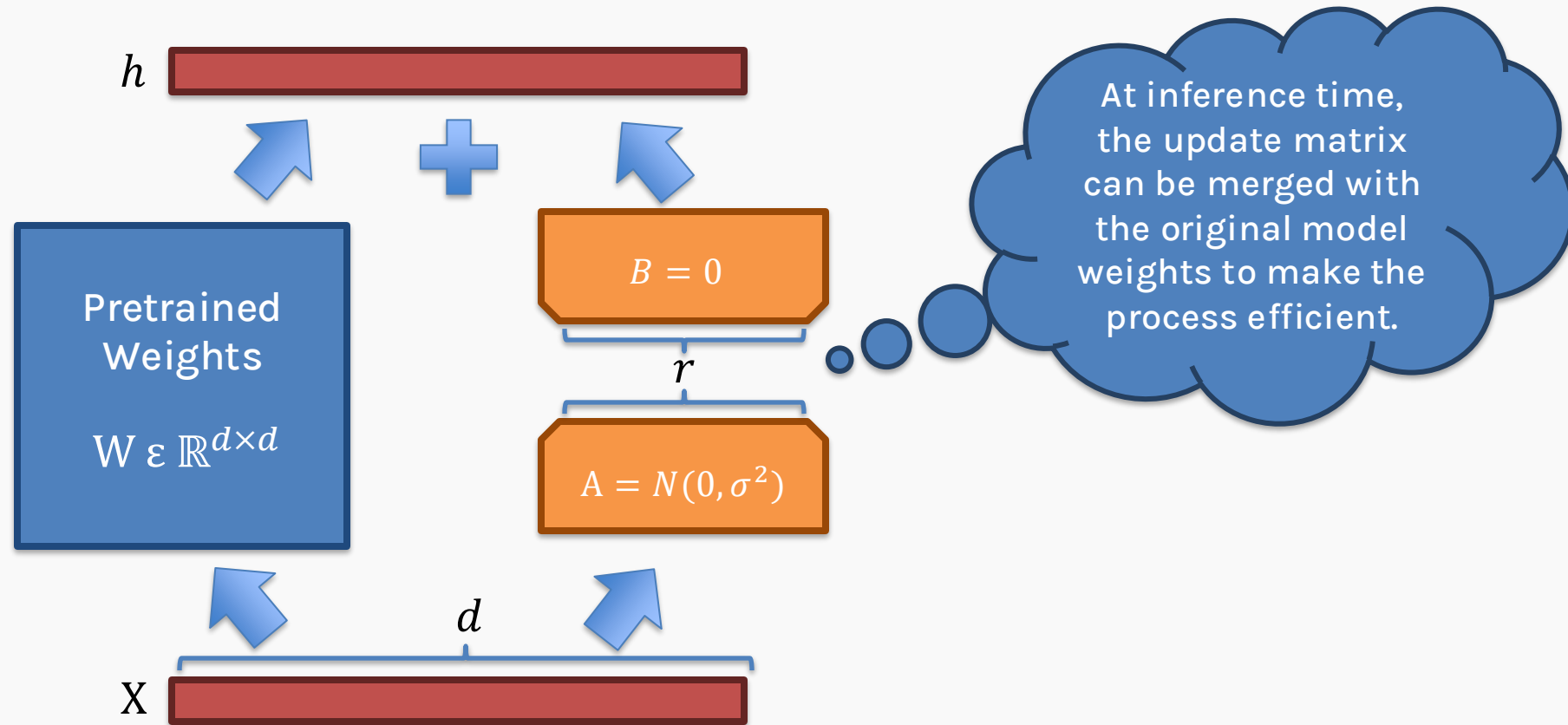
Notice how the reparameterization (LoRA) runs parallel to the original model.

# LoRA - Working



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# LoRA - Working



Notice how the reparameterization (LoRA) runs parallel to the original model.

# LoRA - Intuition

---

Let's explore the scale at which **LoRA** can help reduce the number of parameters needed to achieve comparable performance!



# LoRA - Intuition

## Number of trainable parameters

[illegible]

# LoRA - Intuition

## Number of trainable parameters

Rank	Model 7B	Model 13B	Model 70B	Model 180B
1	167K	228K	529K	849K
2	334K	456K	1M	2M

# LoRA - Intuition

## Number of trainable parameters

Rank	Model 7B	Model 13B	Model 70B	Model 180B
1	167K	228K	529K	849K
2	334K	456K	1M	2M
8	1M	2M	4M	7M

# LoRA - Intuition

## Number of trainable parameters

Rank	Model 7B	Model 13B	Model 70B	Model 180B
1	167K	228K	529K	849K
2	334K	456K	1M	2M
8	1M	2M	4M	7M
16	3M	4M	8M	14M
512	86M	117M	270M	434M
1024	171M	233M	542M	869M
8192	1.4B	1.8B	4.3B	7B
Full	7B	13B	70B	180B



This is a generalization considering an LLM of one layer. LLMs are made up of multiple layers.

# LoRA - Advantages

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Compared to full parameter finetuning, LoRA has the following advantages:

1. Much faster
2. Finetuning can be achieved using less GPU memory
3. Cost efficient
4. Less prone to “catastrophic forgetting” since the original model weights are kept the same.

# LoRA – Isn't it enough?

## Full Parameter Fine Tuning

Optimizer  
State  
(FP32)



Base Model  
(FP16)



10B → 120GB

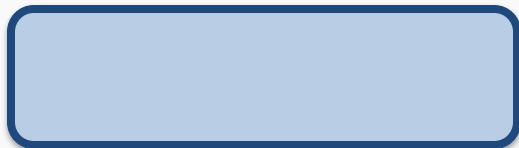
# LoRA – Isn't it enough?

## Full Parameter Fine Tuning

Optimizer  
State  
(FP32)



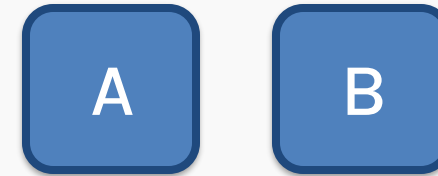
Base Model  
(FP16)



10B → 120GB

## LoRA

Optimizer  
State  
(FP32)



LoRA  
Adapter  
(FP16)



Base Model  
(FP16)



10B → ~40GB

# LoRA – Isn't it enough?

## Full Parameter Fine Tuning

Optimizer State (FP32)



Base Model (FP16)



This will be frozen. So, no optimization, but the parameters still needs to be stored in memory for forward pass

Optimizer State (FP32)

LoRA Adapter (FP16)

Base Model (FP16)

## LoRA



10B → ~40GB



# LoRA – Isn't it enough?

As we can see below, **LoRA's** performance is comparative to **full parameter fine-tuning** and, in some cases, even **outperforms** it.

Model & Method	# Trainable Parameters	E2E NLG Challenge				
		BLEU	NIST	MET	ROUGE-L	CIDEr
GPT-2 M (FT)*	354.92M	68.2	8.62	46.2	71.0	2.47
GPT-2 M (Adapter <sup>L</sup> )*	0.37M	66.3	8.41	45.0	69.8	2.40
GPT-2 M (Adapter <sup>L</sup> )*	11.09M	68.9	8.71	46.1	71.3	2.47
GPT-2 M (Adapter <sup>H</sup> )	11.09M	67.3 $\pm$ .6	8.50 $\pm$ .07	46.0 $\pm$ .2	70.7 $\pm$ .2	2.44 $\pm$ .01
GPT-2 M (FT <sup>Top2</sup> )*	25.19M	68.1	8.59	46.0	70.8	2.41
GPT-2 M (PreLayer)*	0.35M	69.7	8.81	46.1	71.4	2.49
GPT-2 M (LoRA)	0.35M	<b>70.4<math>\pm</math>.1</b>	<b>8.85<math>\pm</math>.02</b>	<b>46.8<math>\pm</math>.2</b>	<b>71.8<math>\pm</math>.1</b>	<b>2.53<math>\pm</math>.02</b>
GPT-2 L (FT)*	774.03M	68.5	8.78	46.0	69.9	2.45
GPT-2 L (Adapter <sup>L</sup> )	0.88M	69.1 $\pm$ .1	8.68 $\pm$ .03	46.3 $\pm$ .0	71.4 $\pm$ .2	<b>2.49<math>\pm</math>.0</b>
GPT-2 L (Adapter <sup>L</sup> )	23.00M	68.9 $\pm$ .3	8.70 $\pm$ .04	46.1 $\pm$ .1	71.3 $\pm$ .2	2.45 $\pm$ .02
GPT-2 L (PreLayer)*	0.77M	70.3	8.85	46.2	71.7	2.47
GPT-2 L (LoRA)	0.77M	<b>70.4<math>\pm</math>.1</b>	<b>8.89<math>\pm</math>.02</b>	<b>46.8<math>\pm</math>.2</b>	<b>72.0<math>\pm</math>.2</b>	2.47 $\pm$ .02

Table 3: GPT-2 medium (M) and large (L) with different adaptation methods on the E2E NLG Challenge. For all metrics, higher is better. LoRA outperforms several baselines with comparable or fewer trainable parameters. Confidence intervals are shown for experiments we ran. \* indicates numbers published in prior works.

These metrics are used for performance evaluation.

# LoRA - Summary

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- LoRA **reduces** the trainable parameters and memory requirements while maintaining good performance.
- LoRA adds **pairs of rank decomposition weight matrices** (called update matrices) to each layer of the LLM.
- Only the update matrices, which have **significantly** fewer parameters than the original model weights, are trained.

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# QLoRA

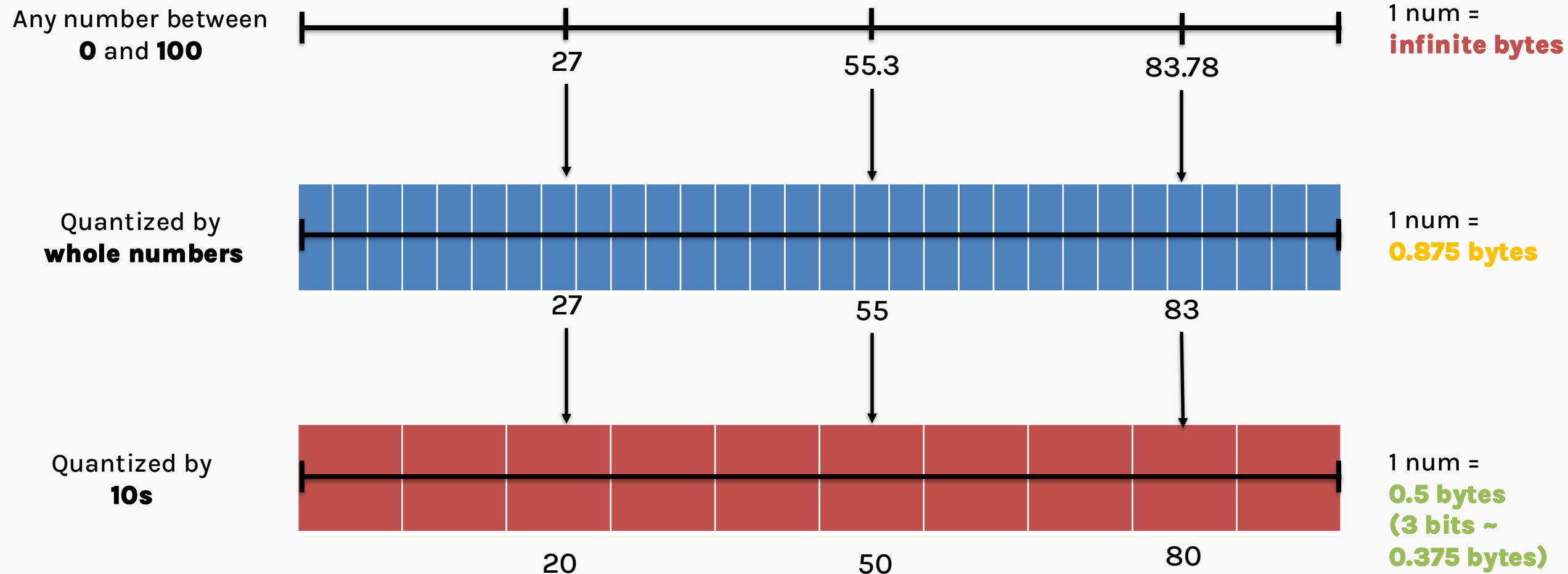
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- QLoRA is the extended version of LoRA which works mainly by **quantizing the precision** of the original network parameters.
- Before we dive into what QLoRA is, let's look at what quantization is.

Think of quantization as ‘ **splitting range into buckets** ’.

# QLoRA

Think of quantization as ‘ **splitting range into buckets** ’.



# QLoRA

Let's look at an example!

Let  $X^{FP32}$  be an array of values.

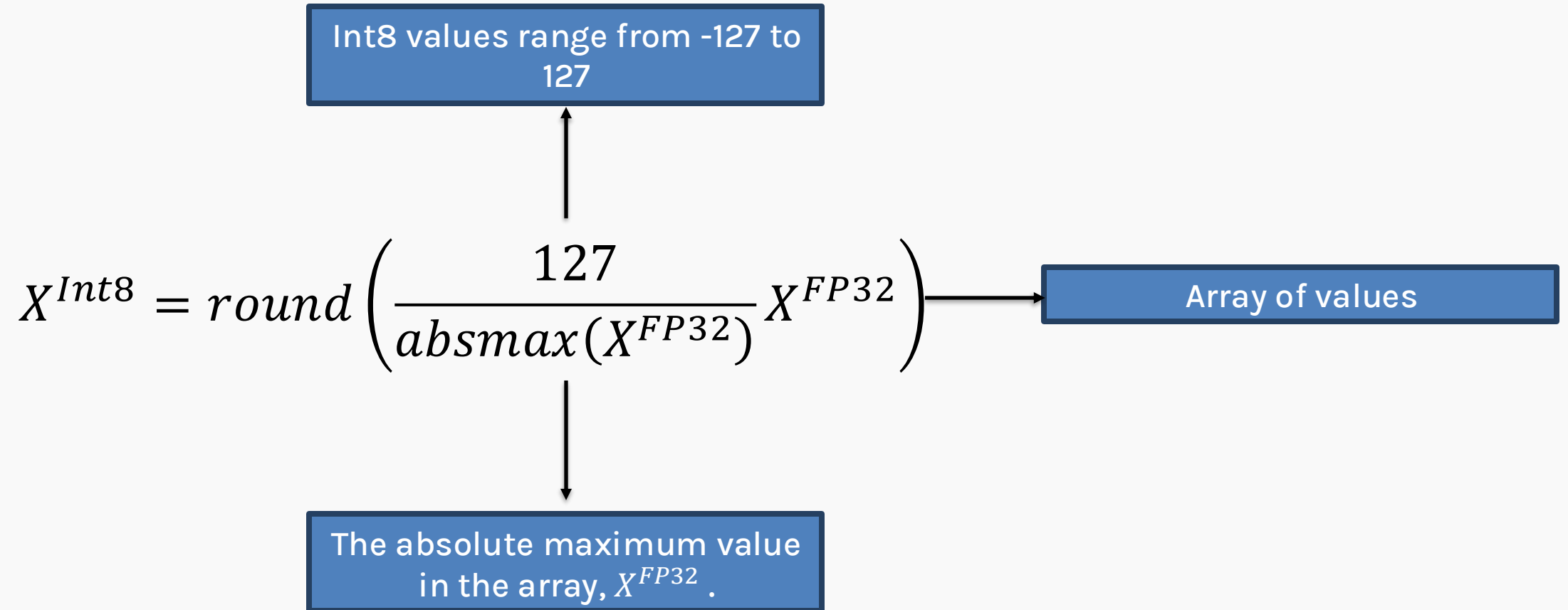
Here, FP32 refers to a 32-bit floating-point number.

1.5	2.3	3.7	4.1	5.6	6.8	7.9	8.4	9.2	10.2
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	------

What if we want to quantize from FP32 to Int8?

# QLoRA

So, to quantize  $X^{FP32}$  to  $X^{Int8}$  :



So, to quantize  $X^{FP32}$  to  $X^{Int8}$  :

$$X^{Int8} = round \left( \frac{127}{absmax(X^{FP32})} X^{FP32} \right)$$



$$X^{Int8} = round(c^{FP32} X^{FP32})$$



So, to quantize  $X^{FP32}$  to  $X^{Int8}$  :

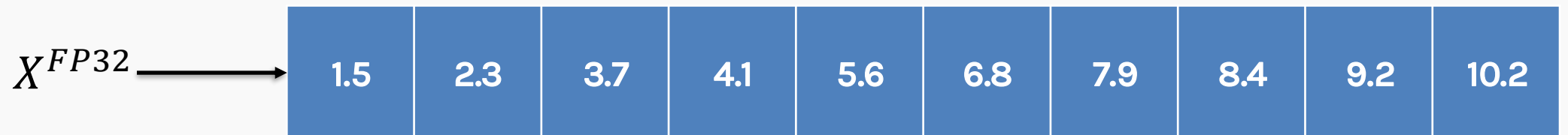
$$X^{Int8} = round \left( \frac{127}{absmax(X^{FP32})} X^{FP32} \right)$$



$$X^{Int8} = round(c^{FP32} X^{FP32})$$

$$X^{Int8} = round(c^{FP32} X^{FP32})$$

In our example,



$$c^{FP32} = \frac{127}{absmax(X^{FP32})} = \frac{127}{10.2} = 12.4509$$

Now, we combine the formula and the values that we have

$$X^{Int8} = round(12.4509 \times \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline 1.5 & 2.3 & 3.7 & 4.1 & 5.6 & 6.8 & 7.9 & 8.4 & 9.2 & 10.2 \\ \hline \end{array})$$

$$X^{Int8} = \begin{array}{|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|c|} \hline 18 & 29 & 46 & 51 & 69 & 85 & 98 & 105 & 115 & 127 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

Voila! That's how we quantize from **FP32** to **Int8** using the formula:

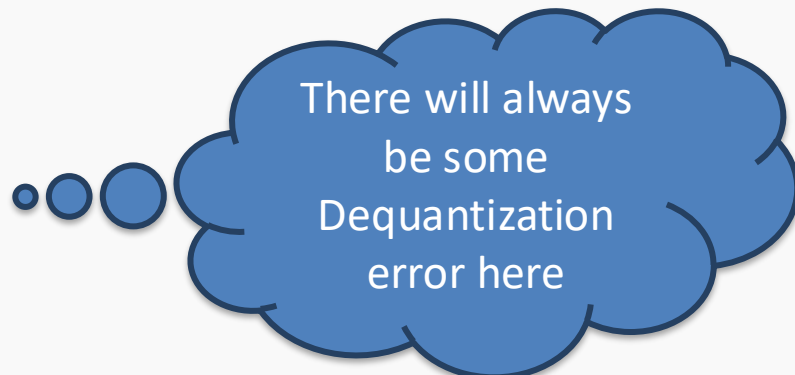
$$X^{Int8} = round(c^{FP32} X^{FP32})$$

$$X^{Int8} = round(c^{FP32} X^{FP32})$$

What if we want to **dequantize** and get back the original array,  $X^{FP32}$ ?

To dequantize:

$$X^{FP32} = \frac{X^{Int8}}{c^{FP32}}$$



There will always  
be some  
Dequantization  
error here

Now that we know what **quantization** is, let's look at how **QLoRA** works!

# QLoRA – The Pizza

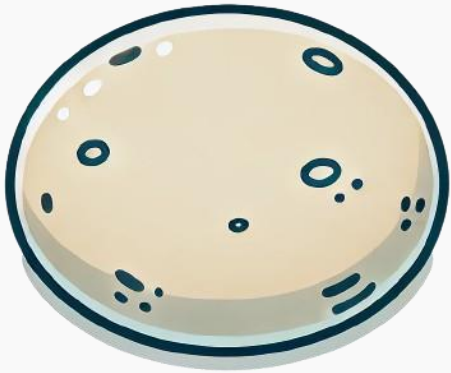
Imagine QLoRA to be a mouthwatering pizza.



Now, to make a pizza, we need to gather a few key ingredients!

# QLoRA – The Ingredients

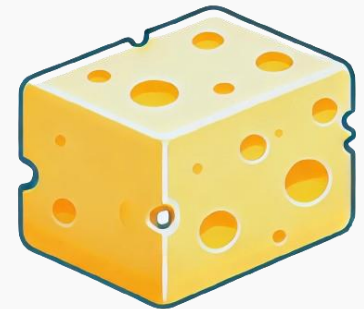
There are 3 key ingredients which helps us make **QLoRA**:



4-Bit NormalFloat

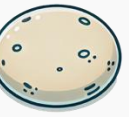


Double Quantization



Paged Optimizer

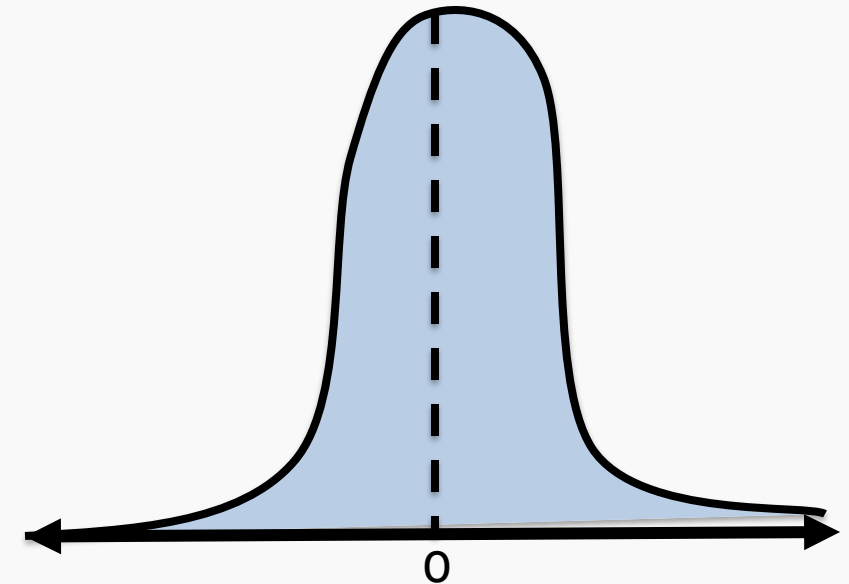
# QLoRA – Ingredient 1: 4-Bit NormalFloat



## 4-bit NormalFloat

4-bit NormalFloat is a clever way to split the buckets.

4-bit means we have  $2^4 = 16$  possible buckets for quantization.



Equally spaced buckets



Equally sized buckets

This is an enhanced version of **quantile quantization**.

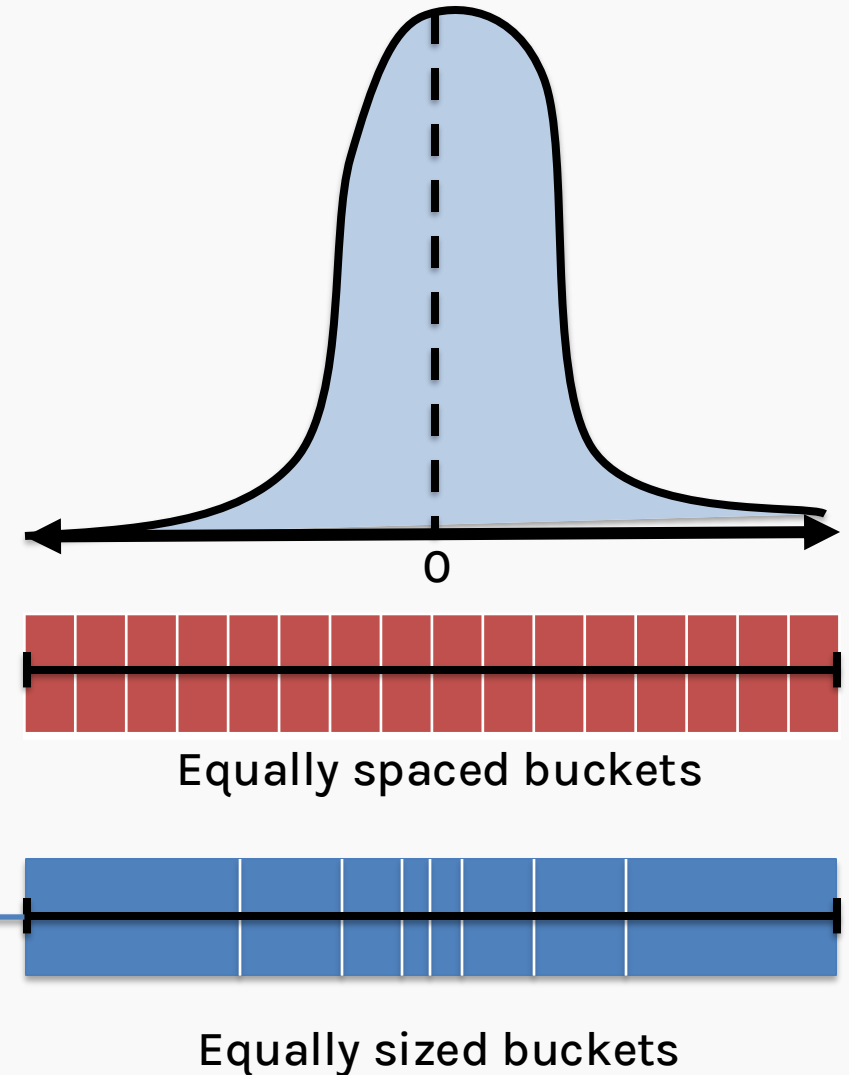
# QLoRA – Ingredient 1: 4-Bit NormalFloat



## Why use 4-bit NormalFloat

Designed for efficient storage and computation in machine learning.

Most datasets in machine learning are normally distributed and precision around the mean is valuable.

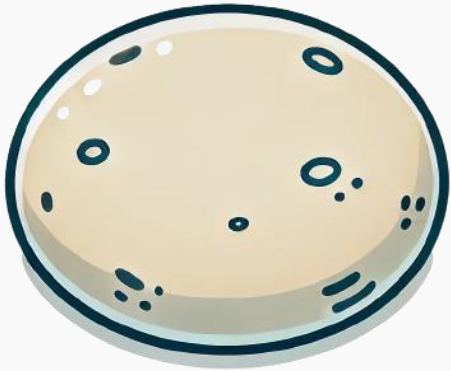


This is an enhanced version of **quantile quantization**.



# QLoRA – The Ingredients

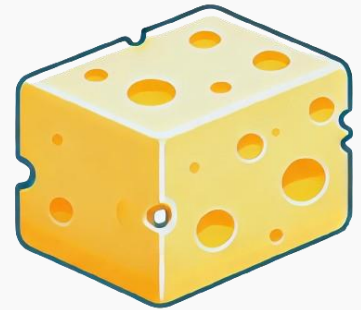
There are 3 key ingredients which helps us make **QLoRA**:



4-Bit NormalFloat



Double Quantization



Paged Optimizer

# QLoRA – Ingredient 2: Double Quantization



Remember this formula?



$$X^{Int8} = round(c^{FP32} X^{FP32})$$

Which is not an issue, as it's just 1 constant. Right?

Now, if we think about this in terms of neural networks....

# QLoRA – Ingredient 2: Double Quantization



Now, if we think about this in terms of neural networks....

Let's take a **5x5** matrix to be the **weights** in a neural network:

Weight Tensor

-0.7	-0.3	0.0	-0.4	0.3
-1.0	0.2	0.7	1.7	-0.9
-0.1	-1.5	-0.1	0.8	0.5
1.2	-1.7	-0.9	-0.3	0.7
0.4	0.1	-1.4	2.2	-1.1

# QLoRA – Ingredient 2: Double Quantization



Now, if we think about this in terms of neural networks....

Weight Tensor

-0.7	-0.3	0.0	-0.4	0.3
-1.0	0.2	0.7	1.7	-0.9
-0.1	-1.5	-0.1	0.8	0.5
1.2	-1.7	-0.9	-0.3	0.7
0.4	0.1	-1.4	2.2	-1.1

Rescale all parameters

*using  $c$*

Rescaled Weight Tensor

-4	-2	0	-22	16
-60	10	40	99	-57
-5	-88	-9	48	27
72	-100	-50	-18	40
22	8	-81	127	-66

If we bring back the formula:

$$\text{round}(W^{FP32} c^{FP32}) = W^{Int8}$$

# QLoRA – Ingredient 2: Double Quantization



Now, if we think about this in terms of neural networks....

Weight Tensor

-0.7	-0.3	0.0	-0.4	0.3
-1.0	0.2	0.7	1.7	0.1
-0.1	-1.5	-0.1	0.8	0.5
1.2	-1.7	-0.9	-0.3	0.6
0.4	0.1	-1.4	2.2	-1.1

Rescaled Weight Tensor

-4	-2	0	-22	16
40	99	-57		
-9	48	27		
50	-18	40		
22	8	-81	127	-66



We quantize to Int8 for simplicity but  
when we implement QLoRA we use  
**4-bit Normal Float.**

If we bring back the formula:  $\text{round}(W^{FP32} c^{FP32}) = W^{Int8}$

# QLoRA – Ingredient 2: Double Quantization



Now, if we think about this in terms of neural networks....

Weight Tensor

-0.7	-0.3	0.0	-0.4	0.3
-1.0	0.2	0.7	1.7	-0.9
-0.1	-1.5	-0.1	0.8	0.5
1.2	-1.7	-0.9	-0.3	0.7
0.4	0.1	-1.4	2.2	-1.1

Rescale all parameters

*using  $c$*

Rescaled Weight Tensor

-4	-2	0	-22	16
-60	10	40	99	-57
-5	-88	-9	48	27
72	-100	-50	-18	40
22	8	-81		

Do you see a problem here?

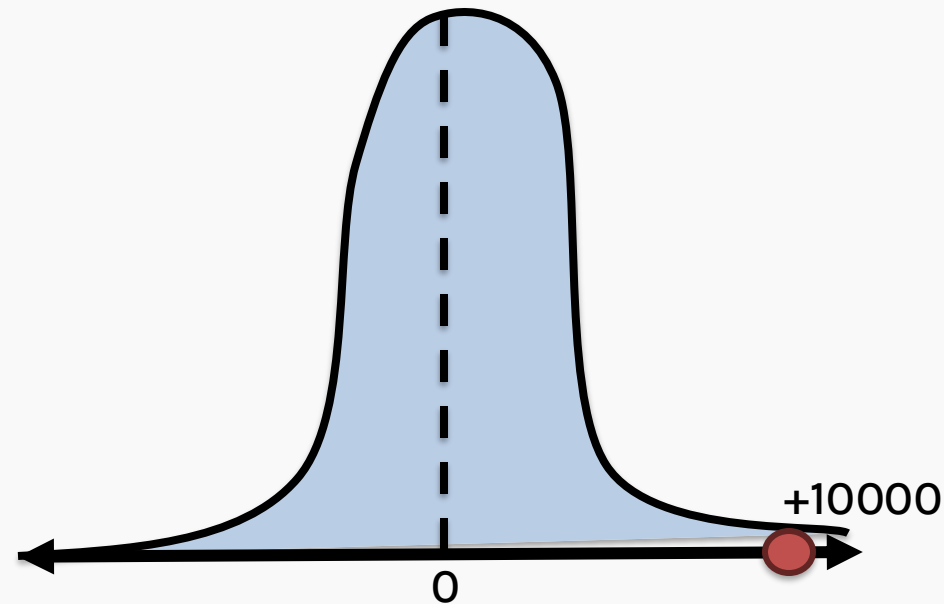
If we bring back the formula:

$$\text{round}(W^{FP32} c^{FP32}) = W^{Int8}$$

## QLoRA – Ingredient 2: Double Quantization



Let's see how the weight tensors look like on the graph.



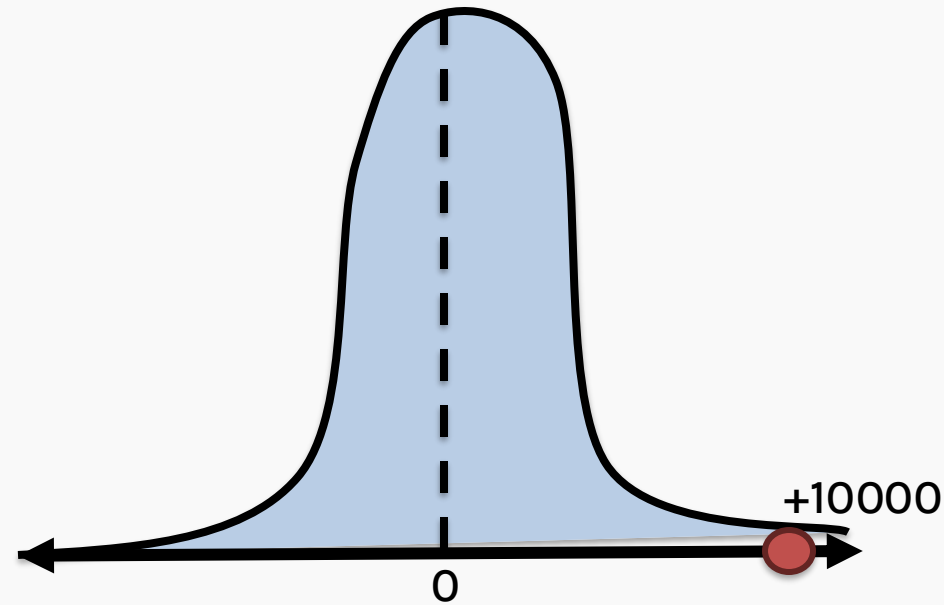
This is **unbounded** and could take up any **maximum value** (an outlier!).

$$W^{Int8} = round(\frac{127}{absmax(W^{FP32})} W^{FP32})$$

# QLoRA – Ingredient 2: Double Quantization



Let's see how the weight tensors look like on the graph.



This is **unbounded** and could take up any **maximum value**

This could introduce **bias** in our quantization process

$$W^{Int8} = round\left(\frac{127}{absmax(W^{FP32})} \cdot W^{FP32}\right)$$

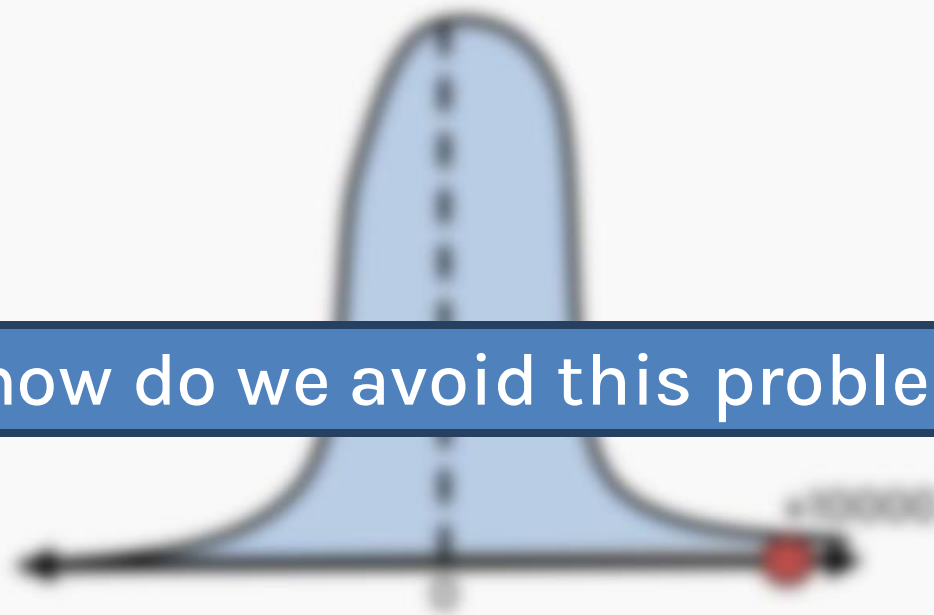


## QLoRA - Ingredient 2: Double Quantization



Let's see how the weight tensors look like on the graph.

So, how do we avoid this problem?



This is **unbounded** and could take up any **maximum value**.



$$W^{int8} = \text{round}\left(\frac{127}{\text{absmax}(W^{FP16})} W^{FP16}\right)$$

# QLoRA – Ingredient 2 : Double Quantization



The answer to that is: **Block-wise Quantization**, which is the first step in **Double Quantization**!

Let's look at an example to understand this concept.

We take the weight tensor that we saw in the previous slides.

Weight Tensor ( $W^{FP32}$ )

-0.7	-0.3	0.0	-0.4	0.3
-1.0	0.2	0.7	1.7	-0.9
-0.1	-1.5	-0.1	0.8	0.5
1.2	-1.7	-0.9	-0.3	0.7
0.4	0.1	-1.4	2.2	-1.1

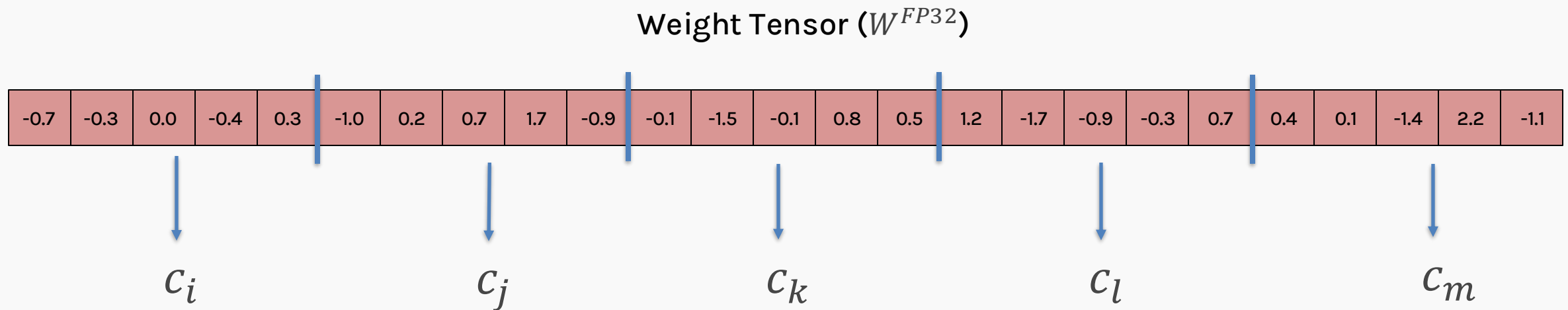
# QLoRA – Ingredient 2 : Double Quantization



We flatten the matrix as follows:

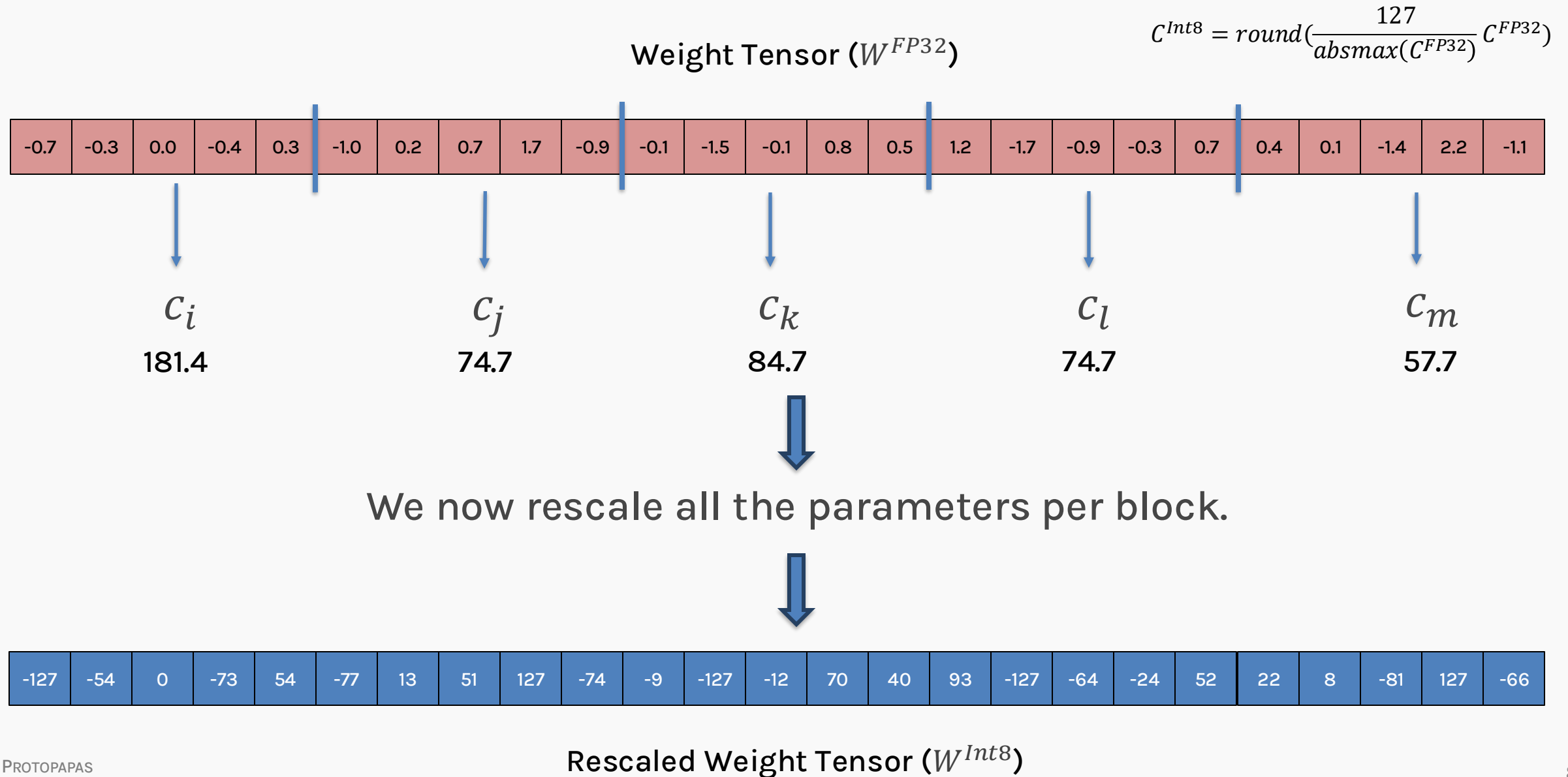
Now we divide it up into different blocks.

We calculate the **quantization constants** for each block.



If there are any outliers in a block, they won't affect the quantisation in the other blocks.

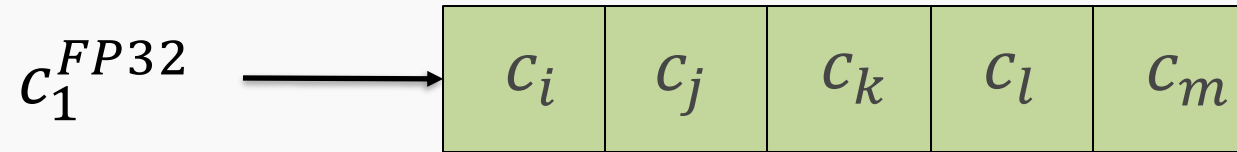
# QLoRA – Ingredient 2 : Double Quantization



## QLoRA – Ingredient 2 : Double Quantization



We now have a new array:



$c_1^{FP32}$  is an array of all the constants from each block of the Weight Tensor.

Now, we repeat the same process of quantization for the quantization constants.

$$c_1^{Int8} = \text{round}\left(\frac{127}{\text{absmax}(c_1^{FP32})} c_1^{FP32}\right)$$

$$c_1^{Int8} = \text{round}(c_2^{FP32} c_1^{FP32})$$

Double Quantization

## QLoRA – Ingredient 2 : Double Quantization



$$c_1^{Int8} = round(c_2^{FP32} c_1^{FP32})$$

Let's see the difference in memory usage before and after  
**Double Quantization.**

# QLoRA – Ingredient 2 : Double Quantization



## Before

All we had was a weight matrix containing FP32 values.

In our example, we had a 5x5 matrix.

Each value was 4 bytes in size.

So, the total memory used was:  $25 \times 4 = 100$  bytes

-0.7	-0.3	0.0	-0.4	0.3
-1.0	0.2	0.7	1.7	-0.9
-0.1	-1.5	-0.1	0.8	0.5
1.2	-1.7	-0.9	-0.3	0.7
0.4	0.1	-1.4	2.2	-1.1

Weight Tensor ( $W^{FP32}$ )

Next, let's look at the memory usage **after**  
Double Quantization.

# QLoRA – Ingredient 2 : Double Quantization



**Before** 25x4=100 bytes

**After**

-127	-54	0	-73	54
-77	13	51	127	-74
-9	-127	-12	70	40
93	-127	-64	-24	52
22	8	-81	127	-66

Rescaled Weight Tensor  
( $W^{Int8}$ )

25x1=25 bytes.

$c_i$	$c_j$	$c_k$	$c_l$	$c_m$
-------	-------	-------	-------	-------

$c_1^{Int8}$

5x1=5bytes.

$c_2^{FP32}$

4 bytes

So, in total:

25 + 5 + 4 = **34 bytes**



# QLoRA – Ingredient 2 : Double Quantization



**After**

-127	-54	0	-73	54
-77	13	51	127	-74
-9	-127	-12	70	40
93	-127	-64	-24	52
22	8	-81	127	-66

$c_i$	$c_j$	$c_k$	$c_l$	$c_m$
-------	-------	-------	-------	-------

$C_2^{FP32}$

**25 + 5 + 4 = 34 bytes**

**Before**

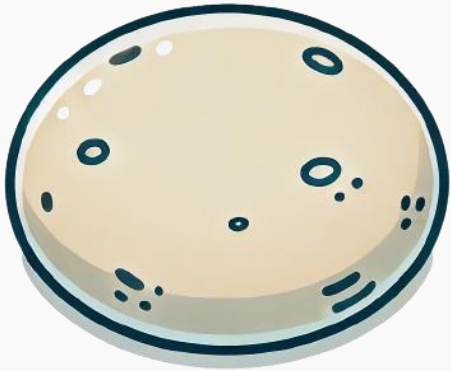
-0.7	-0.3	0.0	-0.4	0.3
-1.0	0.2	0.7	1.7	-0.9
-0.1	-1.5	-0.1	0.8	0.5
1.2	-1.7	-0.9	-0.3	0.7
0.4	0.1	-1.4	2.2	-1.1

**25x4=100 bytes**

That is an approximate 70% reduction in memory usage!!

# QLoRA – The Ingredients

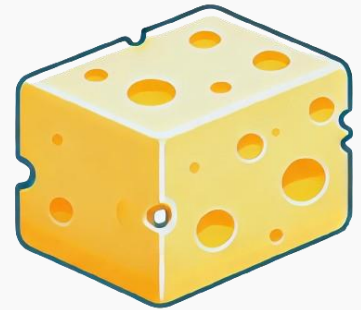
There are 3 key ingredients which helps us make **QLoRA**:



4-Bit NormalFloat



Double Quantization



Paged Optimizer



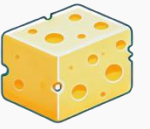
Before we talk about the third ingredient in **QLoRA**, let's talk about a problem.

A problem which all of us have faced while training a Neural Network

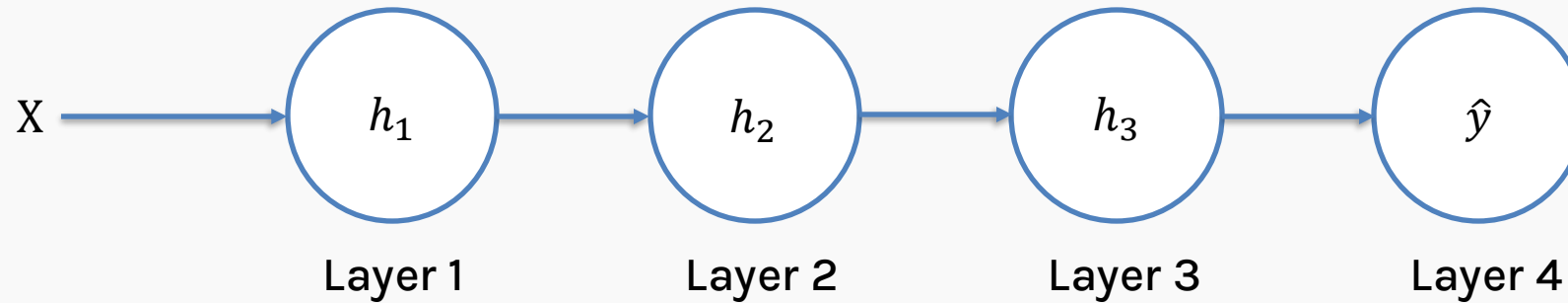
Running Out of  
Memory!

So, how do we train a modern Neural Networks without taking a hit on the memory?

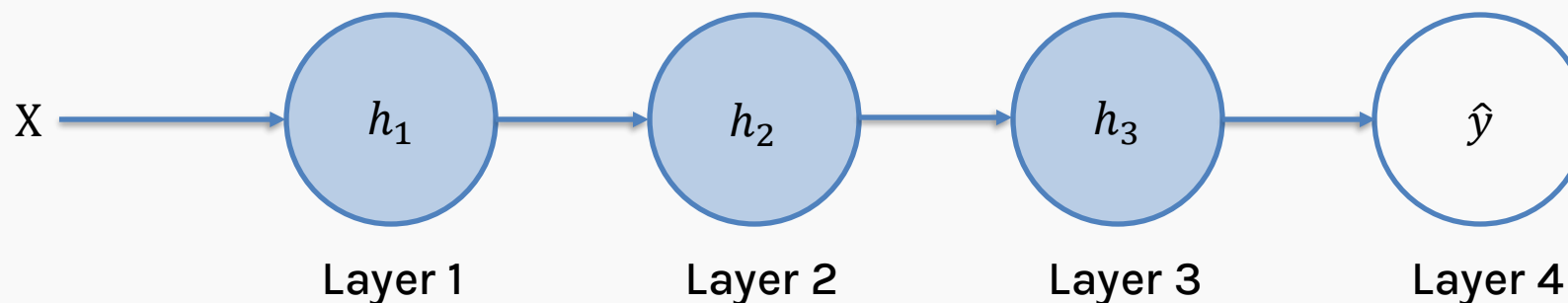
We use **gradient checkpointing**.



Imagine this simple neural network



When we do a forward-pass, we calculate the activations for each layer.



However, this takes up precious memory.

Modern-day computers have become very efficient at **parallel processing**. What they lack is memory.

We don't need to store all the hidden states.

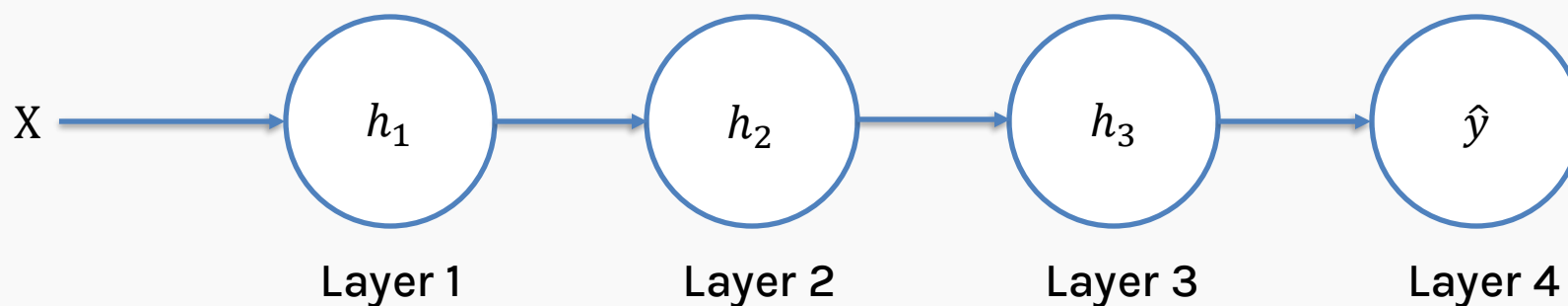
# QLoRA – Ingredient 3

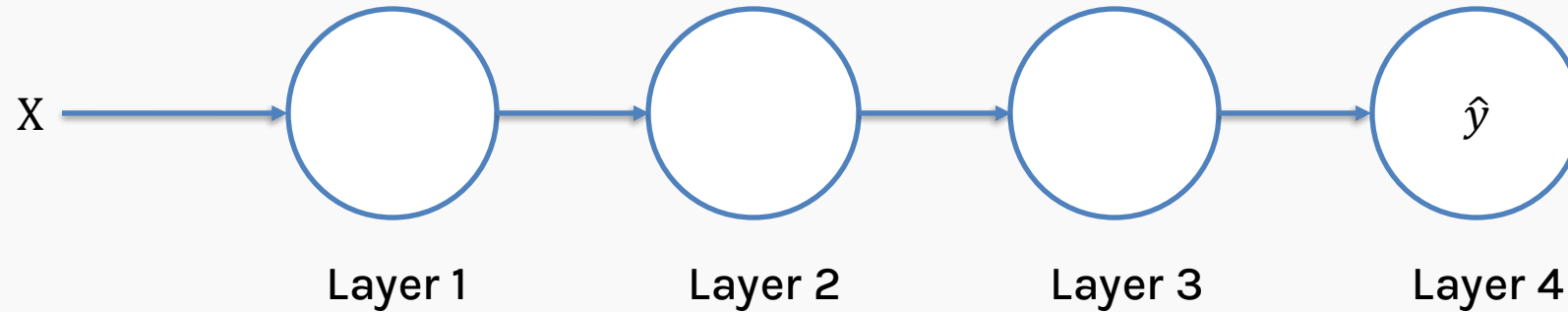
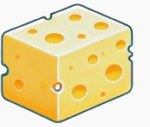


We only store in memory what is needed at the moment.

We keep **discarding** activations that have already been used to calculate the **next dependent hidden state's activation**.

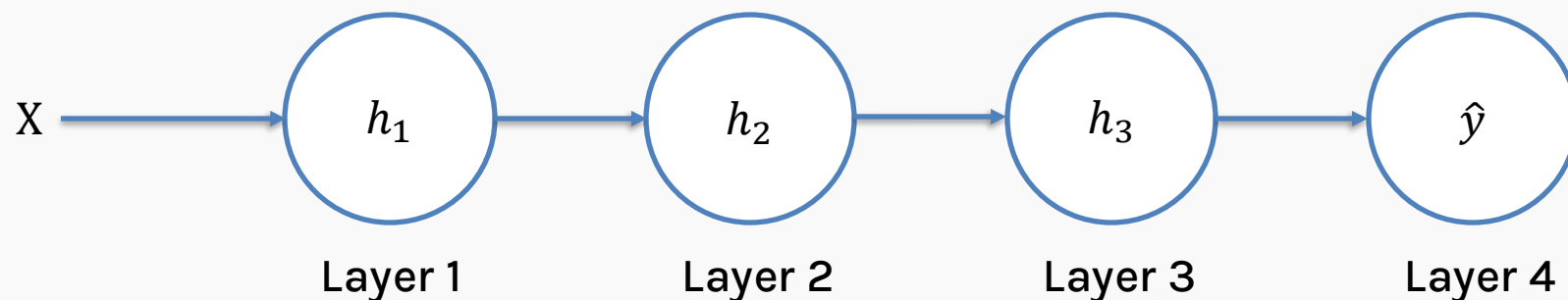
So, let's see how it looks!





During backpropagation, we must recompute all the discarded activations.

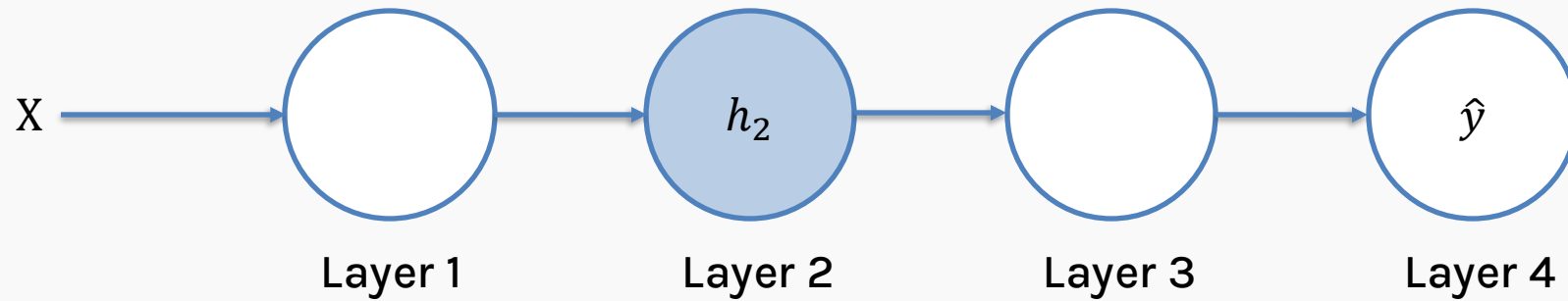
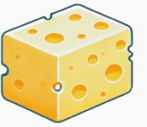
To manage this, we introduce checkpoints in the middle.



Checkpoints are usually placed at every  $\sqrt{n}$  layer, considering we have a  $n$ -layer neural network.

So, now when we re-compute the activations for **backward pass**, we don't have to start from the beginning!





This allows us to mitigate the **OOM (Out of memory) error** to some extent, but it doesn't get rid of it!

We still see some **memory spikes** especially when we pass larger batches.

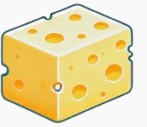


This is where our third ingredient comes in!

This allows us to mitigate the **OOM (out of memory) error** to some extent, but it doesn't get rid of it!

We still see some **memory spikes** especially when we pass in long sequences in the batch.

# QLoRA – Ingredient 3 : Paged Optimizer



## Paged Optimizer - Looping in your CPU



Paging is a memory management technique, where RAM is divided into fixed-size blocks called

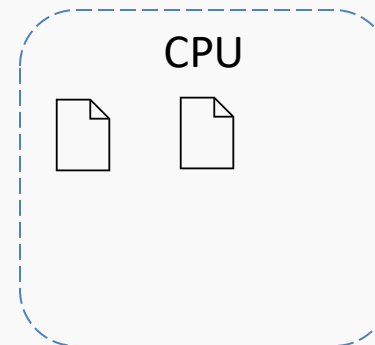
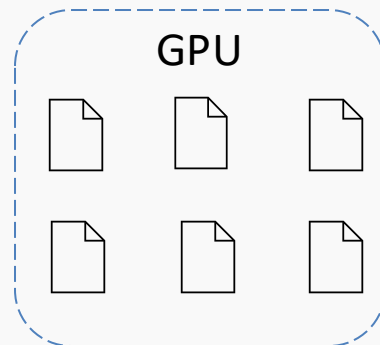
pages

It does automatic page-to-page transfers between CPU and GPU

Avoids the gradient checkpointing memory spikes that occur when processing a mini batch with a long sequence length.



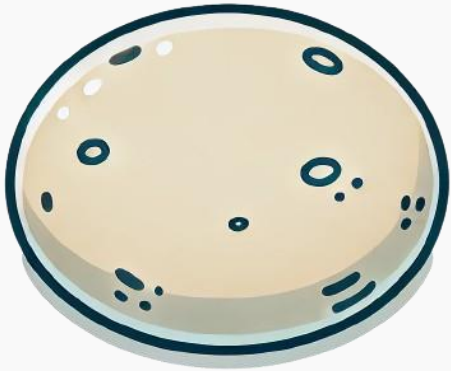
GPU Memory has space now.



Now that the GPU has space, when a page moved to CPU is required, we move it back to GPU for computation.

# QLoRA – The Ingredients

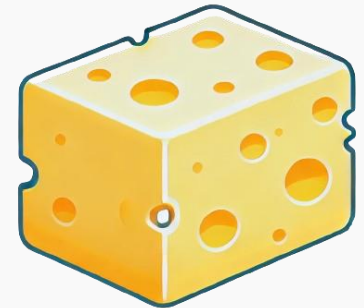
We saw the 3 key ingredients needed to make QLoRA:



4-Bit NormalFloat



Double Quantization



Paged Optimizer

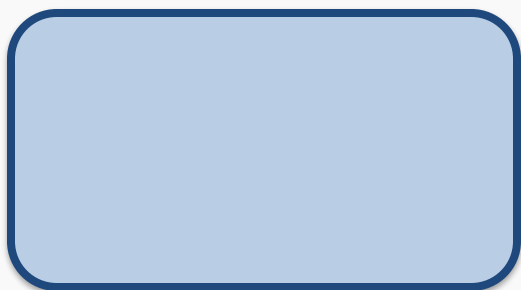
Let's bring it all  
together.

# QLoRA – Putting it all together



## Full Parameter Fine Tuning

Optimizer  
State  
(FP32)



Base Model



FP16

10B => 120GB

## LoRA

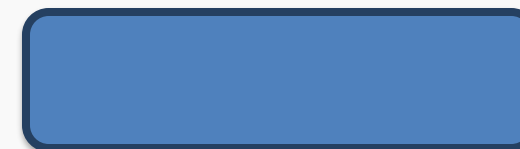
Optimizer  
State  
(FP32)



LoRA  
Adapter  
(FP16)



Base Model



FP16

10B => ~40GB

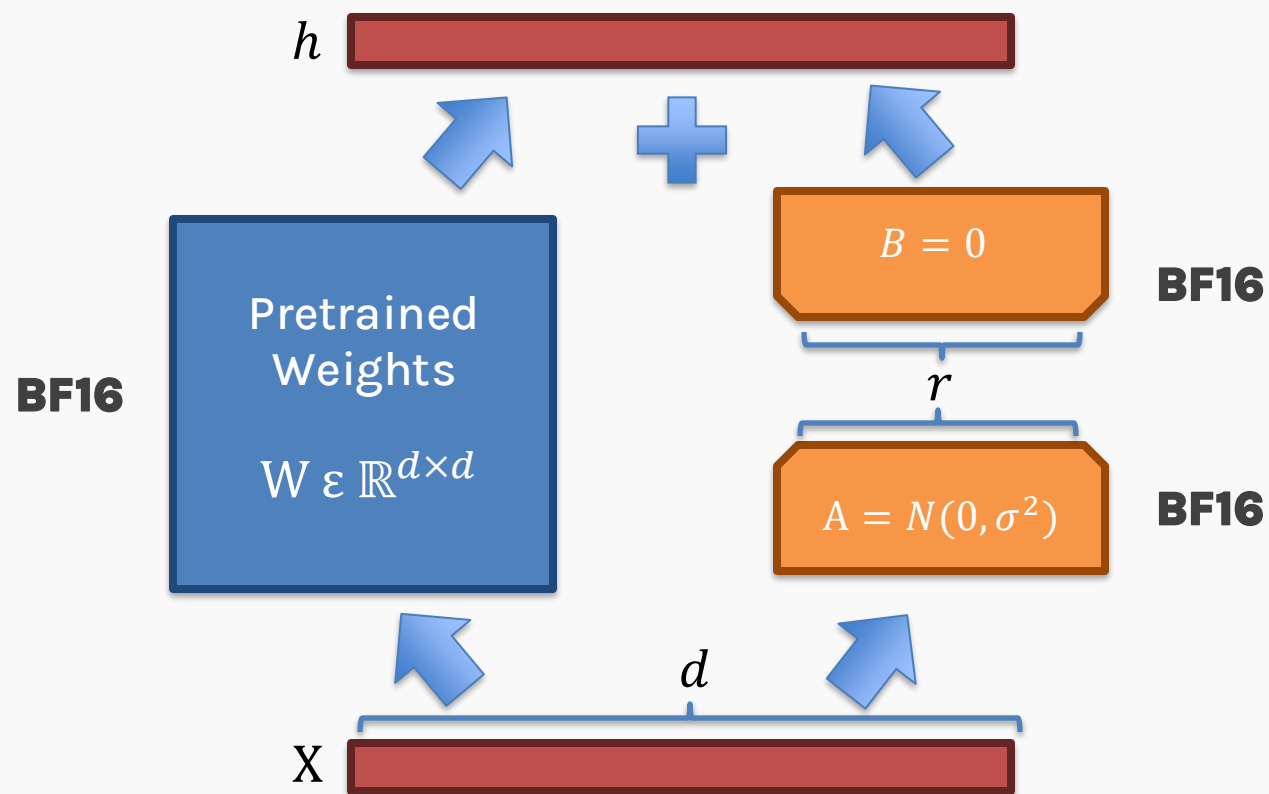
# QLoRA – Putting it all together



Before we talk about the 3 ingredients, there is another **key difference** that we should know.

In **QLoRA** we use **BF16** (BrainFloat16) as compared to **FP16** in **LoRA**.

This leads to a change in **precision** which is tailor-made for deep learning tasks.



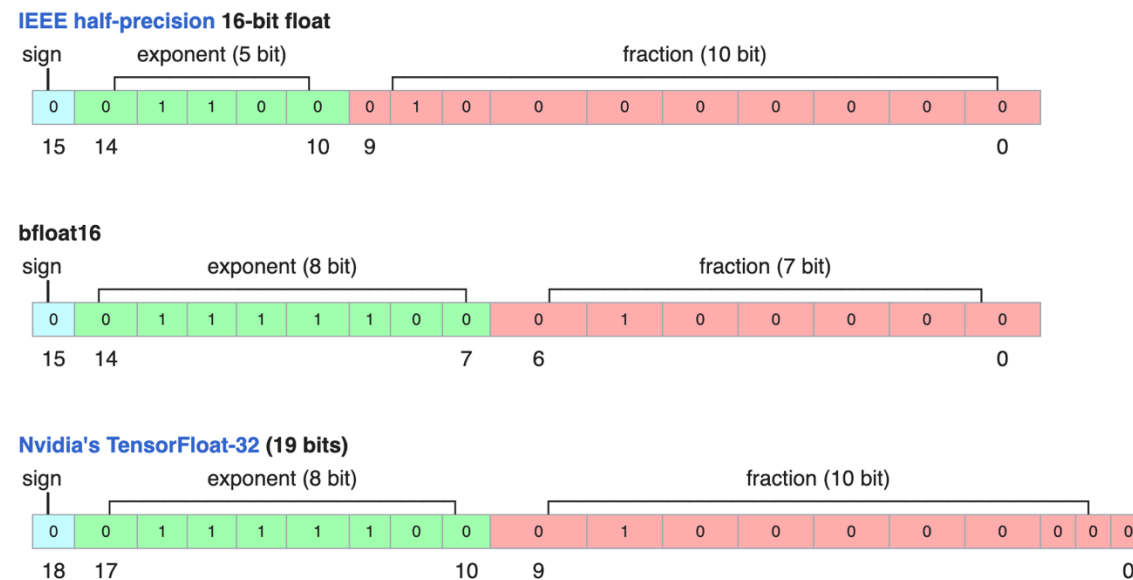
# QLoRA – Putting it all together



Before we talk about the 3 ingredients, there is another key difference that we should know.

In QLoRA we use **BF16 (BrainFloat16)** as compared to FP16 in LoRA.

This leads to a change in precision which is tailor-made for deep learning tasks.



BF16

A 16-bit floating-point format keeping a wide range like 32-bit floats but with lower precision to speed up training.



# QLoRA – Putting it all together



## Ingredient 1:



4-Bit NormalFloat

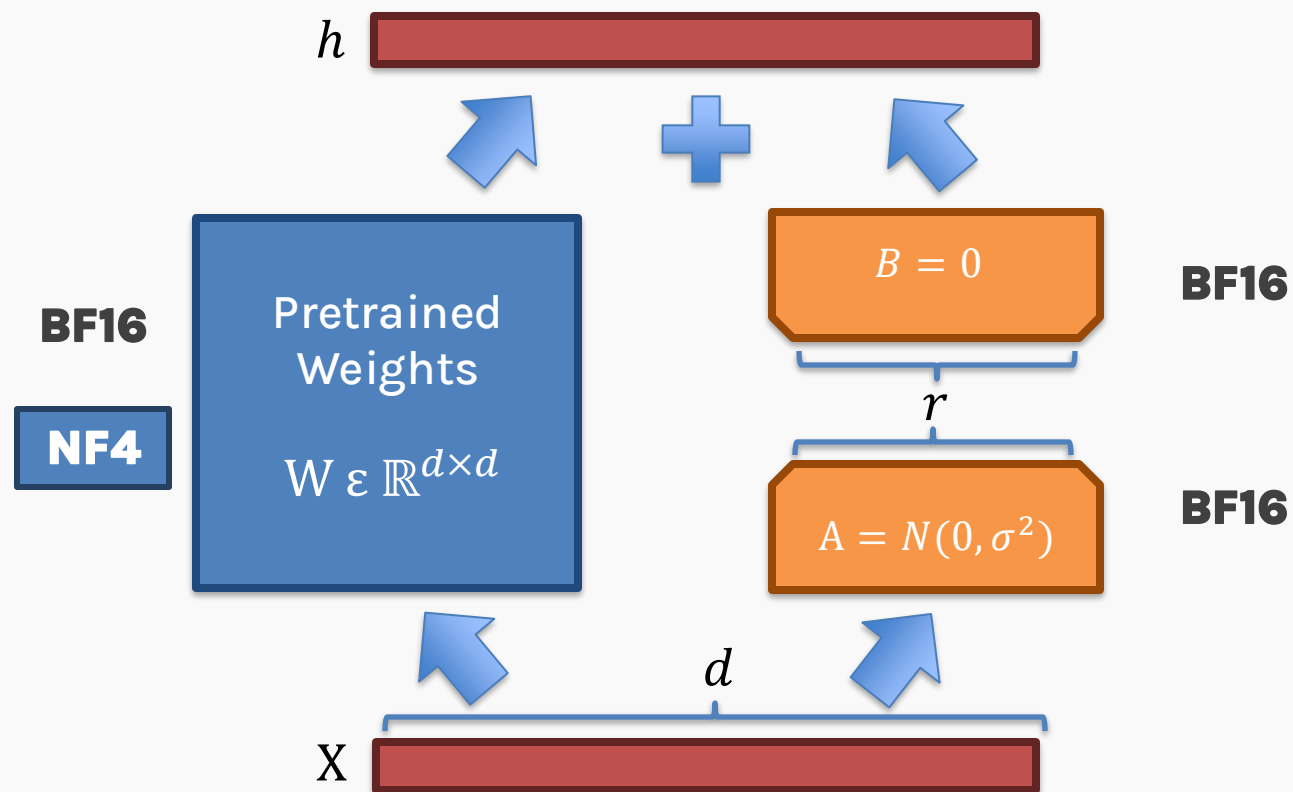
## Ingredient 2:



Double Quantization

To convert and store, we make use of Double Quantization!

We store  $W$  (original model parameters) as 4-Bit NormalFloat





# QLoRA – Putting it all together

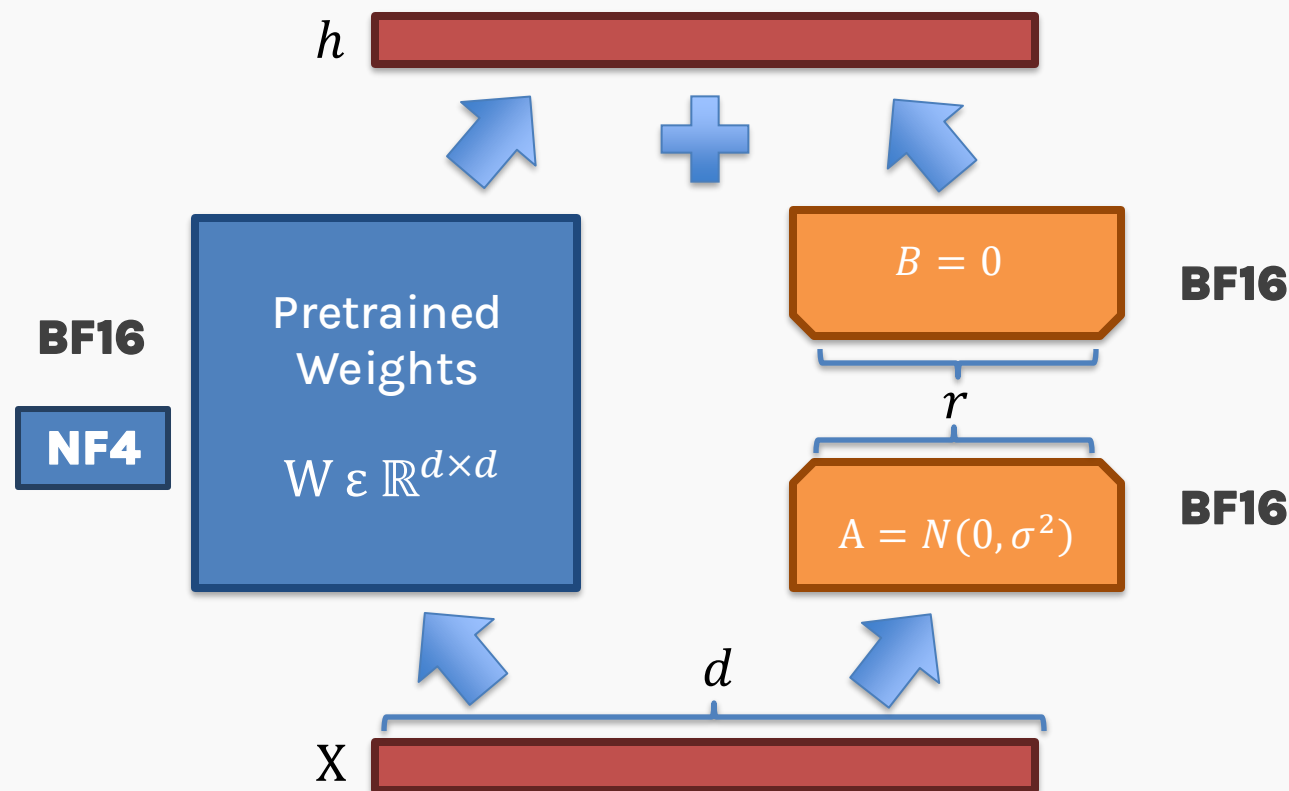


## Forward Pass

During the **forward pass**, we first dequantize the  $W$  weights from **NF4** to **BF16** for computation.

We then use the **BF16** values of  $W$ ,  $A$  and  $B$  to perform the required calculations.

The **BF16** values of  $W$  is then **deleted** to save on storage!



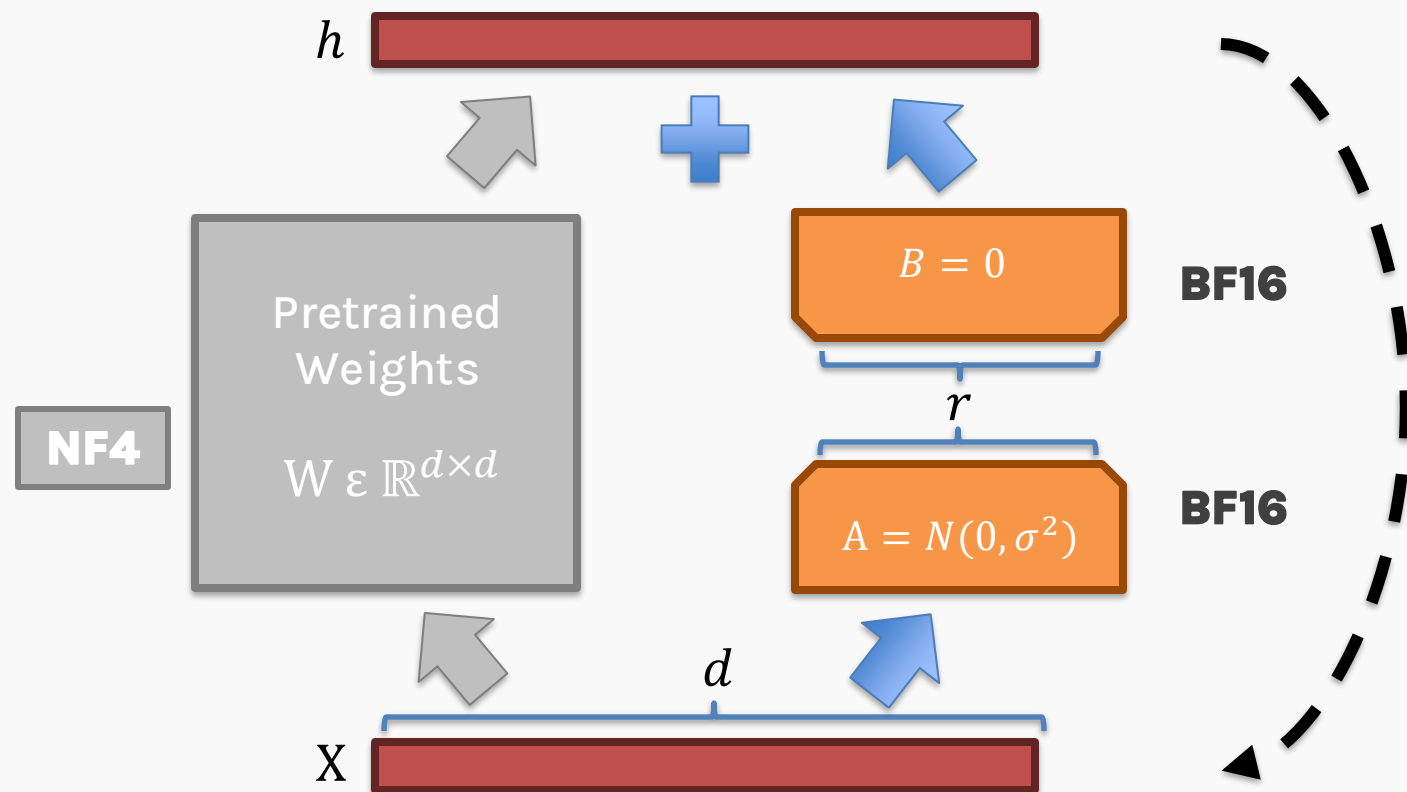
# QLoRA – Putting it all together



## Backward Pass

As in LoRA, we keep  $W$  weights frozen and allow the **gradients** to only flow through the **adapters**.

We then repeat the cycle of forward and backward passes till a minima is reached.



# QLoRA – Putting it all together



## Ingredient 3:

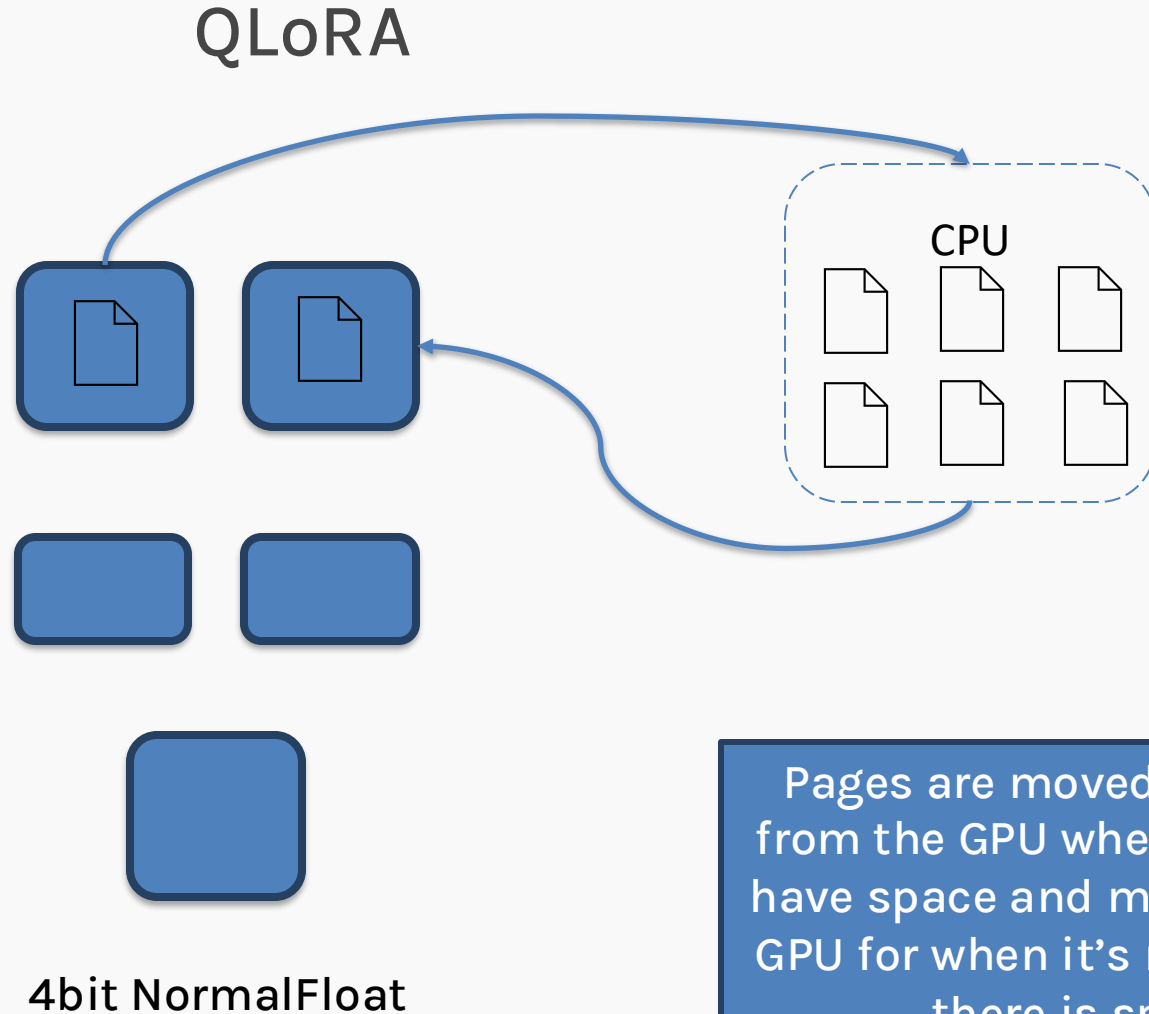


Paged  
Optimizer

Optimizer  
State (FP32)

LoRA Adapter  
(BF16)

Base Model



Pages are moved to the CPU from the GPU when it does not have space and moved back to GPU for when it's required and there is space.

# QLoRA – Putting it all together



Putting it mathematically,

Let's start with **LoRA**:

**Weights** of LoRA:  $W_0 + \frac{\alpha}{r} BA$

Initial LLM Weights

Scaling parameter

Decomposed matrices

Rank of B and A

**Forward pass** in LoRA:  $Y = XW_0 + \frac{\alpha}{r} XBA$

# QLoRA – Putting it all together



$$Y = XW_0 + \frac{\alpha}{r} XBA$$

Let's expand the formula and see how it looks!

$$Y^{BF16} = X^{BF16} \text{doubleDequant}(c_1^{FP32}, c_2^{k-bit}, W_o^{NF4}) + \frac{\alpha}{r} X^{BF16} B^{BF16} A^{BF16}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{where } \text{doubleDequant}(c_1^{FP32}, c_2^{k-bit}, W_o^{NF4}) &= \text{dequant}(\text{dequant}(c_1^{FP32}, c_2^{k-bit}), W_o^{4bit}) \\ &= W^{BF16} \end{aligned}$$

# Tutorial 10: Finetuning

In this tutorial, we will fine-tune a large language model (LLM) to respond like a cheese expert named Pavlos – who else?

The first step is to create question-answer pairs that reflect the knowledge and tone of Pavlos talking – using common phrases he uses. While this is usually done by a human, we'll use an LLM to help generate these pairs. We will use the dataset-creator container for that.

After preparing the dataset, we will fine-tune the LLM using QLORA. For this, we'll use a tool called the Gemini finetuner to complete the process.

<https://github.com/dlops-io/llm-finetuning/tree/main>



After completing Finetuning:



THANK YOU

