

# **CS 4644-DL / 7643-A: LECTURE 12**

## **DANFEI XU**

Topics:

- Training Neural Networks (Part 3)

# Administrative

- Project Proposal deadline today! **No grace period**
- No class next Tue (10/03)
- HW2/PS2 due next Thu (10/05) + 48hr grace period

# Recap: “Xavier” Initialization

```
dims = [4096] * 7          "Xavier" initialization:  
hs = []                      std = 1/sqrt(Din)  
x = np.random.randn(16, dims[0])  
for Din, Dout in zip(dims[:-1], dims[1:]):  
    W = np.random.randn(Din, Dout) / np.sqrt(Din)  
    x = np.tanh(x.dot(W))  
    hs.append(x)
```

“Just right”: Activations are nicely scaled for all layers!

For conv layers,  $Din$  is  $\text{filter\_size}^2 * \text{input\_channels}$

**Let:**  $y = x_1w_1 + x_2w_2 + \dots + x_{Din}w_{Din}$

**Assume:**  $\text{Var}(x_1) = \text{Var}(x_2) = \dots = \text{Var}(x_{Din})$

**We want:**  $\text{Var}(y) = \text{Var}(x_i)$

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Var}(y) &= \text{Var}(x_1w_1 + x_2w_2 + \dots + x_{Din}w_{Din}) \\ &= \text{Din} \text{Var}(x_i w_i) \\ &= \text{Din} \text{Var}(x_i) \text{Var}(w_i)\end{aligned}$$

[Assume all  $x_i, w_i$  are iid]

So,  $\text{Var}(y) = \text{Var}(x_i)$  only when  $\text{Var}(w_i) = 1/\text{Din}$

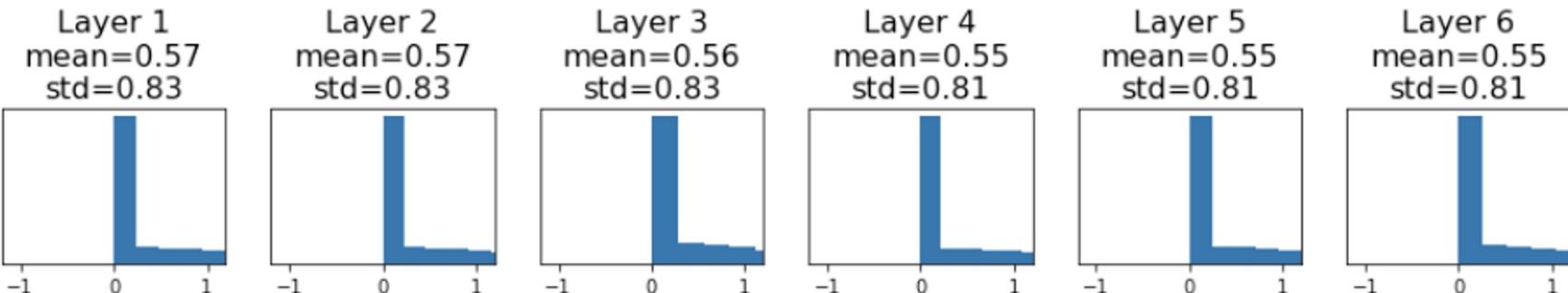
Scaling a normal distribution ( $\text{std}=1$ ) to have  $\text{Var}=1/\text{Din} \rightarrow$  multiply by  $\sqrt{1/\text{Din}}$

# Recap: Kaiming / MSRA Initialization

```
dims = [4096] * 7    ReLU correction: std = sqrt(2 / Din)
hs = []
x = np.random.randn(16, dims[0])
for Din, Dout in zip(dims[:-1], dims[1:]):
    W = np.random.randn(Din, Dout) * np.sqrt(2/Din)
    x = np.maximum(0, x.dot(W))
    hs.append(x)
```

Issue: Half of the activation get killed.

Solution: make the non-zero output variance twice as large as input

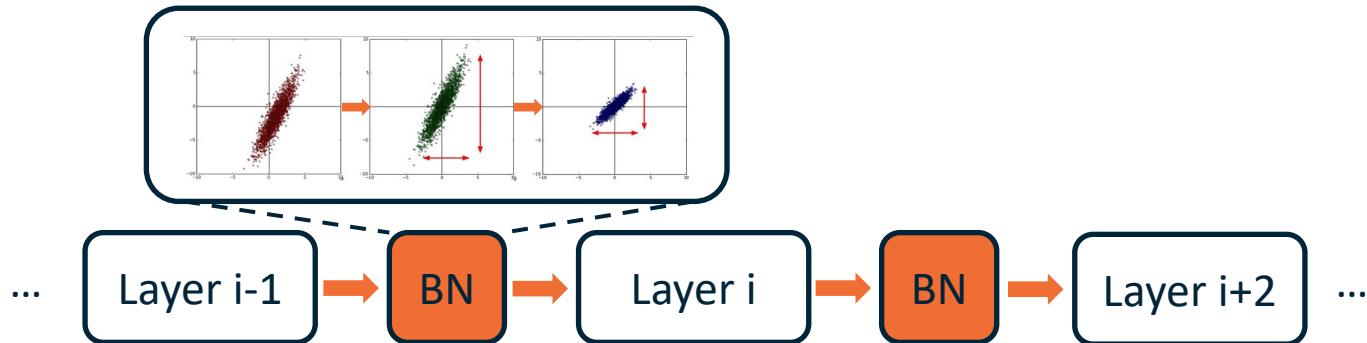


He et al, "Delving Deep into Rectifiers: Surpassing Human-Level Performance on ImageNet Classification", ICCV 2015

Visualize distribution of activations

# Recap: Batch Normalization

“you want zero-mean unit-variance activations? just make them so.”



$$\hat{x} = \frac{x - \text{E}[x]}{\sqrt{\text{Var}[x]}}$$

# Batch Normalization

[Ioffe and Szegedy, 2015]

**Input:**  $x : N \times D$

**Learnable scale and shift parameters:**

$$\gamma, \beta : \mathbb{R}^D$$

We want to give the model a chance to **adjust batchnorm** if the default is not optimal.

Learning  $\gamma = \sigma$  and  $\beta = \mu$  will recover the identity function!

$$\mu_j = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N x_{i,j}$$

Per-channel mean,  
shape is D

$$\sigma_j^2 = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (x_{i,j} - \mu_j)^2$$

Per-channel var,  
shape is D

$$\hat{x}_{i,j} = \frac{x_{i,j} - \mu_j}{\sqrt{\sigma_j^2 + \varepsilon}}$$

Normalized x,  
Shape is  $N \times D$

$$y_{i,j} = \underline{\gamma}_j \hat{x}_{i,j} + \underline{\beta}_j$$

Output,  
Shape is  $N \times D$

# Batch Normalization: Test-Time

**Input:**  $x : N \times D$

**Learnable scale and shift parameters:**

$$\gamma, \beta: \mathbb{R}^D$$

During testing batchnorm becomes a linear operator!

Can be fused with the previous fully-connected or conv layer

$$\mu_j = \text{(Moving) average of values seen during training}$$

Per-channel mean, shape is D

$$\sigma_j^2 = \text{(Moving) average of values seen during training}$$

Per-channel var, shape is D

$$\hat{x}_{i,j} = \frac{x_{i,j} - \mu_j}{\sqrt{\sigma_j^2 + \varepsilon}}$$

Normalized x, Shape is N x D

$$y_{i,j} = \gamma_j \hat{x}_{i,j} + \beta_j$$

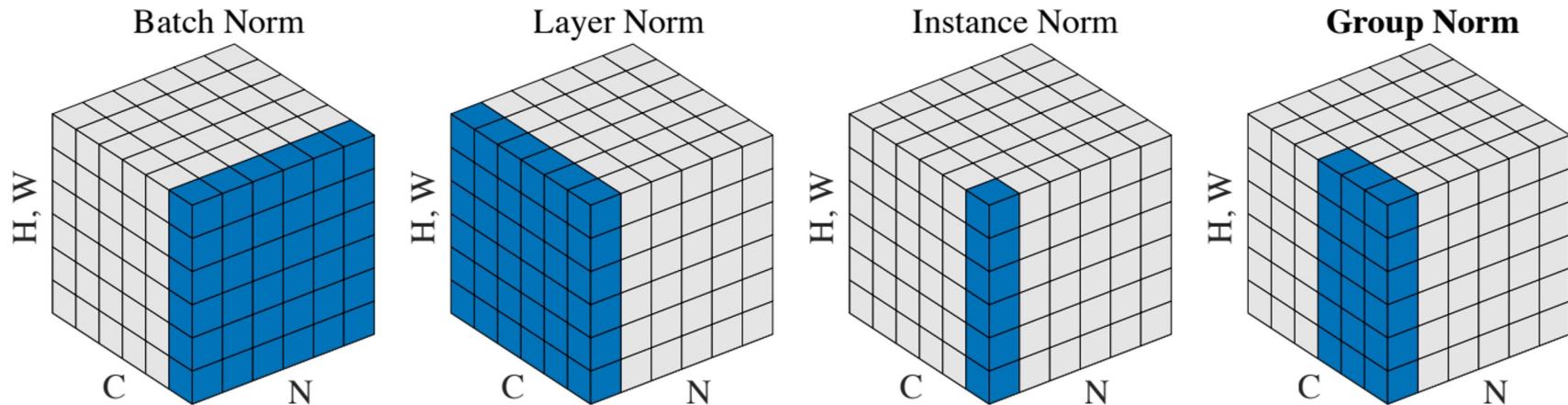
Output, Shape is N x D

# Batch Normalization

[Ioffe and Szegedy, 2015]

- Makes deep networks **much** easier to train!
  - If you are interested in the theory, read  
<https://arxiv.org/abs/1805.11604>
  - TL;DR: makes optimization landscape smoother
- Allows higher learning rates, faster convergence
- More useful in deeper networks
- Networks become more robust to initialization
- Zero overhead at test-time: can be fused with conv!
- Behaves differently during training and testing: this is a very common source of bugs!
- Needs large batch size to calculate accurate stats

# Group Normalization



# SGD + Momentum

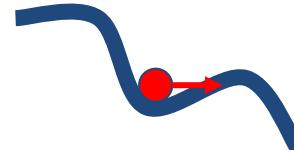
Intuitions:

- Think of a ball (set of parameters) moving in space (loss landscape), with momentum keeping it going in a direction.
- Individual gradient step may be noisy, the general trend accumulated over a few steps will point to the right direction.
- Momentum can “push” the ball over saddle points or local minima.

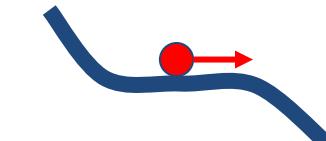
Noisy gradients



Local Minima



Saddle points



# SGD + Momentum:

continue moving in the general direction as the previous iterations

## SGD

$$x_{t+1} = x_t - \alpha \nabla f(x_t)$$

```
while True:  
    dx = compute_gradient(x)  
    x -= learning_rate * dx
```

## SGD+Momentum

$$v_{t+1} = \rho v_t + \nabla f(x_t)$$

$$x_{t+1} = x_t - \alpha v_{t+1}$$

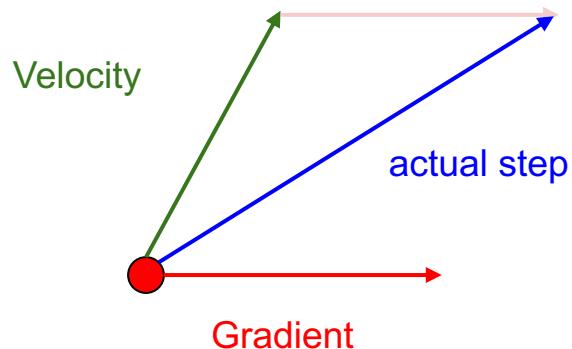
```
vx = 0  
while True:  
    dx = compute_gradient(x)  
    vx = rho * vx + dx  
    x -= learning_rate * vx
```

- Build up “velocity” as a running mean of gradients
- Rho gives “friction”; typically rho=0.9 or 0.99

Sutskever et al, “On the importance of initialization and momentum in deep learning”, ICML 2013

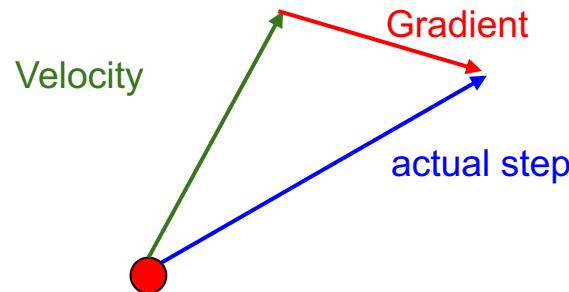
# Nesterov Momentum

Momentum update:



Combine gradient at current point with velocity to get step used to update weights

Nesterov Momentum



"Look ahead" to the point where updating using velocity would take us; compute gradient there and mix it with velocity to get actual update direction

Nesterov, "A method of solving a convex programming problem with convergence rate  $O(1/k^2)$ ", 1983

Nesterov, "Introductory lectures on convex optimization: a basic course", 2004

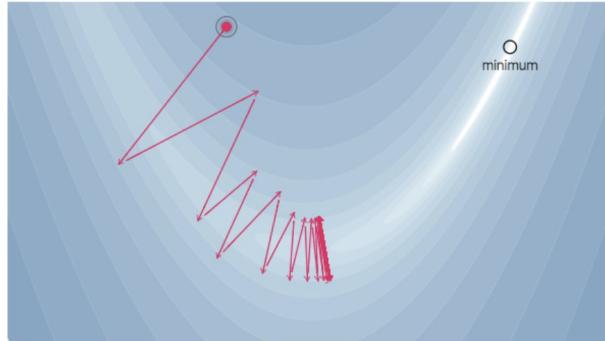
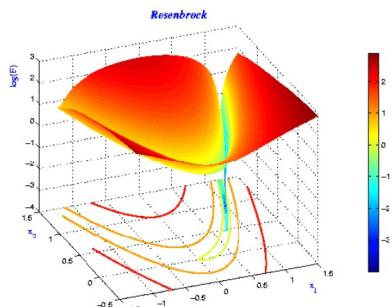
Sutskever et al, "On the importance of initialization and momentum in deep learning", ICML 2013

# Optimization: Problem #3 with SGD

What if loss changes quickly in one direction and slowly in another?

Very slow progress along shallow dimension, jitter along steep direction

Long, narrow ravines:



[https://www.cs.toronto.edu/~rgrosse/courses/csc421\\_2019/slides/lec07.pdf](https://www.cs.toronto.edu/~rgrosse/courses/csc421_2019/slides/lec07.pdf)

Loss function has high **condition number**: ratio of largest to smallest eigen value ( $\lambda_{max}/\lambda_{min}$ ) of the Hessian matrix of a loss function is large

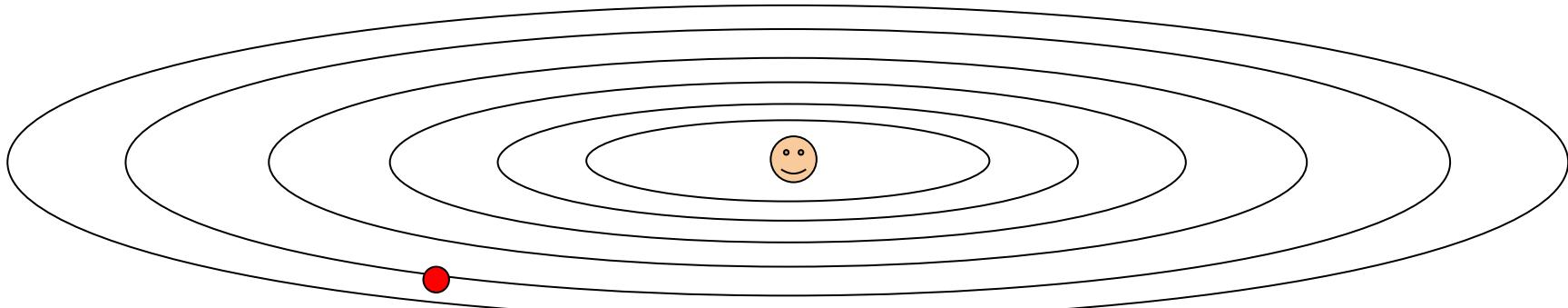
Small condition number in loss Hessian  $\rightarrow$  circular contour

Large condition number in loss Hessian  $\rightarrow$  skewed contour

Can we enable SGD to adapt to this skew-ness?

# AdaGrad

```
grad_squared = 0
while True:
    dx = compute_gradient(x)
    grad_squared += dx * dx
    x -= learning_rate * dx / (np.sqrt(grad_squared) + 1e-7)
```



Q2: What happens to the step size over long time? Decays to zero

# RMSProp: “Leaky AdaGrad”

AdaGrad

```
grad_squared = 0
while True:
    dx = compute_gradient(x)
    grad_squared += dx * dx
    x -= learning_rate * dx / (np.sqrt(grad_squared) + 1e-7)
```



RMSProp

```
grad_squared = 0
while True:
    dx = compute_gradient(x)
    grad_squared = decay_rate * grad_squared + (1 - decay_rate) * dx * dx
    x -= learning_rate * dx / (np.sqrt(grad_squared) + 1e-7)
```

# Adam (full form)

```
first_moment = 0
second_moment = 0
for t in range(1, num_iterations):
    dx = compute_gradient(x)
    first_moment = beta1 * first_moment + (1 - beta1) * dx
    second_moment = beta2 * second_moment + (1 - beta2) * dx * dx
    first_unbias = first_moment / (1 - beta1 ** t)
    second_unbias = second_moment / (1 - beta2 ** t)
    x -= learning_rate * first_unbias / (np.sqrt(second_unbias) + 1e-7))
```

Momentum

Bias correction

AdaGrad / RMSProp

Bias correction for the fact that  
first and second moment  
estimates start at zero

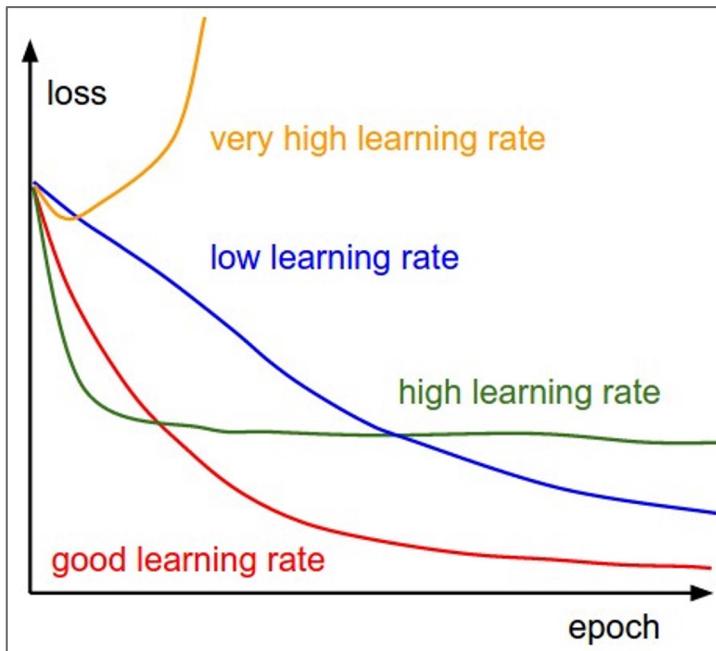
Adam with  $\text{beta1} = 0.9$ ,  
 $\text{beta2} = 0.999$ , and  $\text{learning\_rate} = 1e-3$  or  $5e-4$   
is a great starting point for many models!

# Adam



- SGD
- SGD+Momentum
- RMSProp
- Adam

SGD, SGD+Momentum, Adagrad, RMSProp, Adam all have **learning rate** as a hyperparameter.

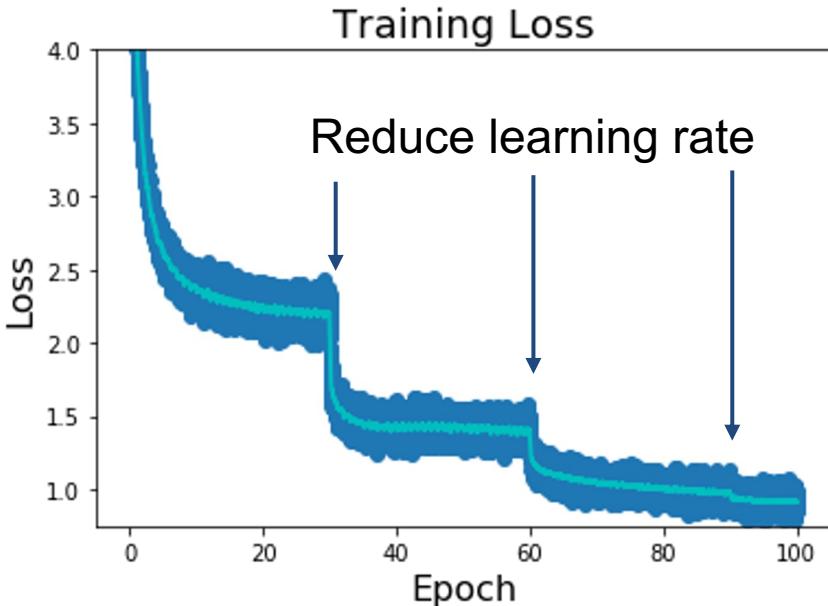


Q: Which one of these learning rates is best to use?

A: In reality, all of these are good learning rates.

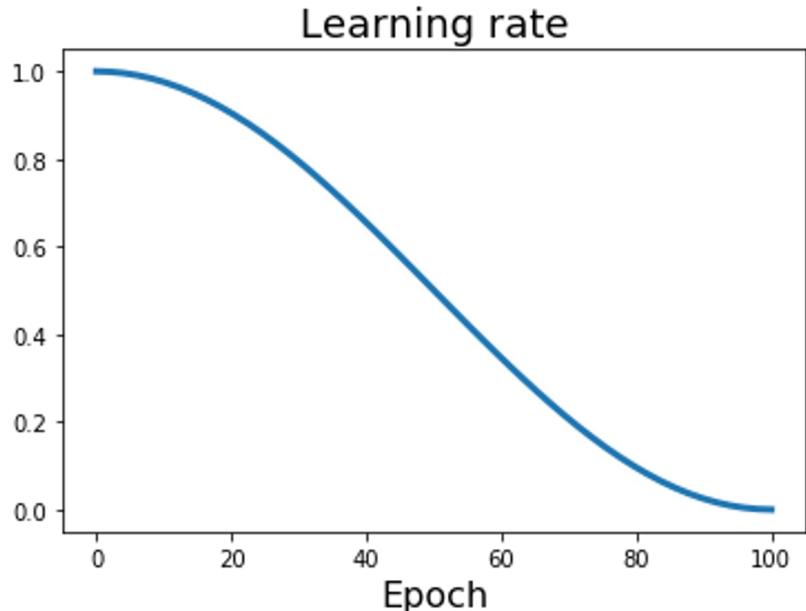
Need finer adjustment closer to convergence, so we want to reduce learning rate over time to keep making progress.

# Learning rate decays over time



**Step:** Reduce learning rate at a few fixed points. E.g. for ResNets, multiply LR by 0.1 after epochs 30, 60, and 90.

# Learning Rate Decay



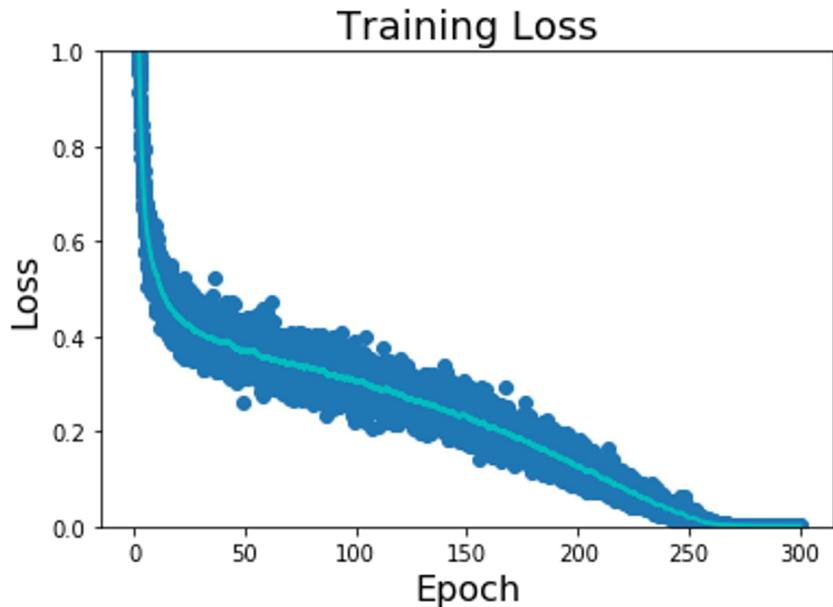
**Step:** Reduce learning rate at a few fixed points. E.g. for ResNets, multiply LR by 0.1 after epochs 30, 60, and 90.

**Cosine:**  $\alpha_t = \frac{1}{2}\alpha_0 (1 + \cos(t\pi/T))$

$\alpha_0$  : Initial learning rate  
 $\alpha_t$  : Learning rate at epoch t  
 $T$  : Total number of epochs

Loshchilov and Hutter, "SGDR: Stochastic Gradient Descent with Warm Restarts", ICLR 2017  
Radford et al, "Improving Language Understanding by Generative Pre-Training", 2018  
Feichtenhofer et al, "SlowFast Networks for Video Recognition", arXiv 2018  
Child et al, "Generating Long Sequences with Sparse Transformers", arXiv 2019

# Learning Rate Decay



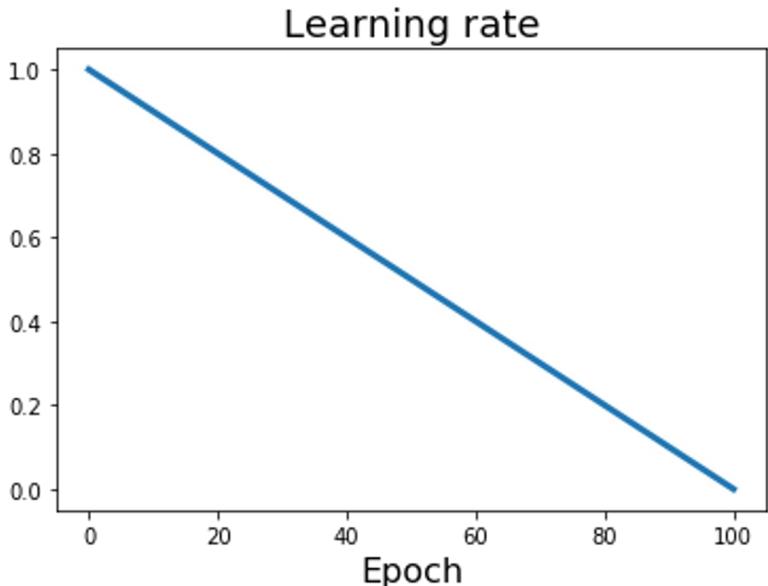
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# Learning Rate Decay



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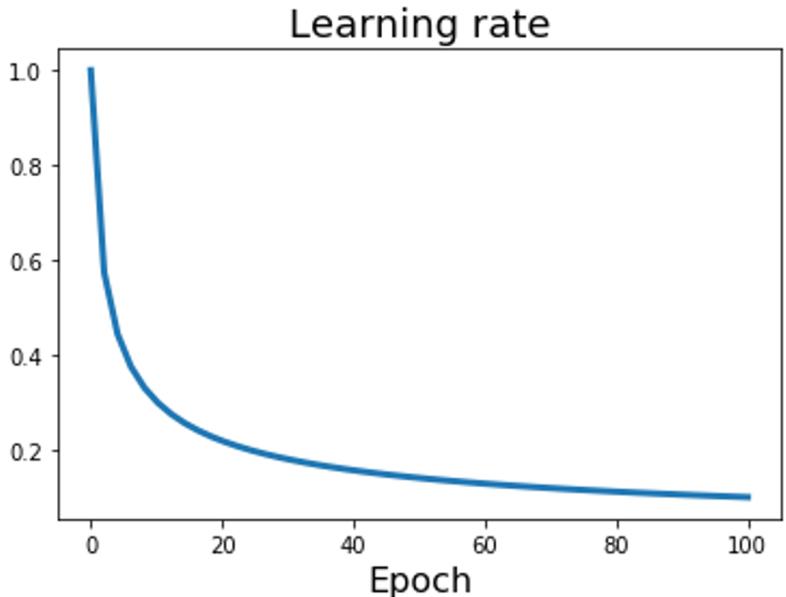
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**Linear:**  $\alpha_t = \alpha_0(1 - t/T)$

---

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# Learning Rate Decay



**Step:** Reduce learning rate at a few fixed points. E.g. for ResNets, multiply LR by 0.1 after epochs 30, 60, and 90.

**Cosine:**  $\alpha_t = \frac{1}{2}\alpha_0 (1 + \cos(t\pi/T))$

**Linear:**  $\alpha_t = \alpha_0(1 - t/T)$

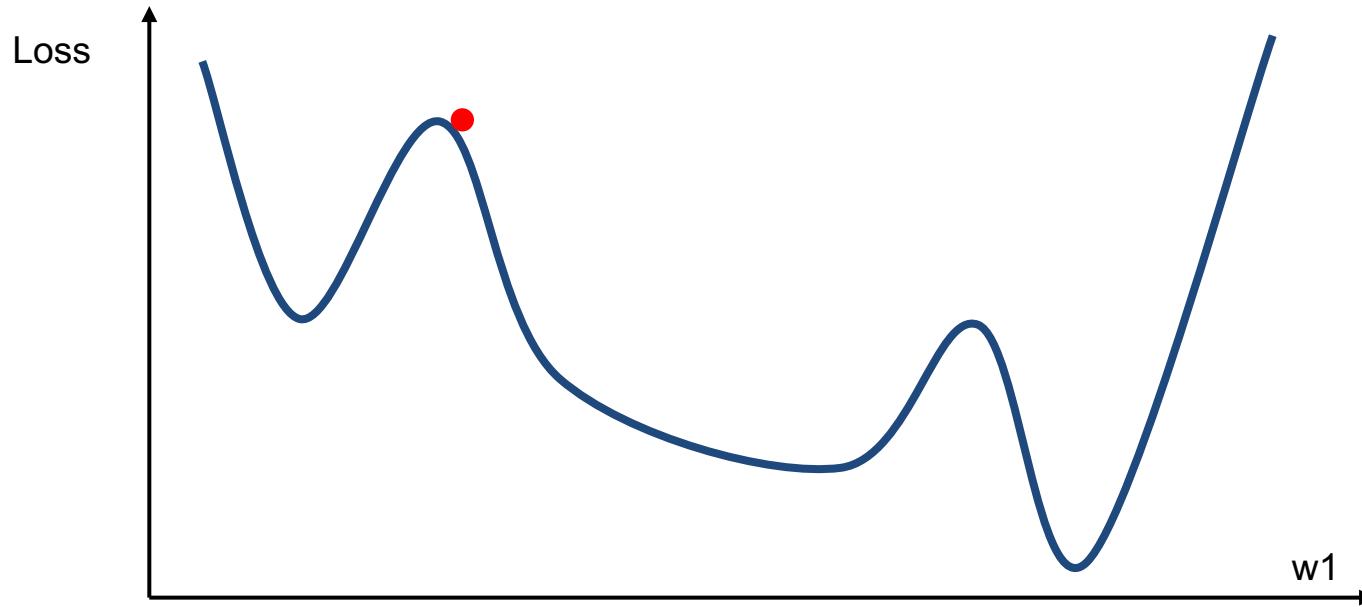
**Inverse sqrt:**  $\alpha_t = \alpha_0/\sqrt{t}$

$\alpha_0$  : Initial learning rate

$\alpha_t$  : Learning rate at epoch  $t$

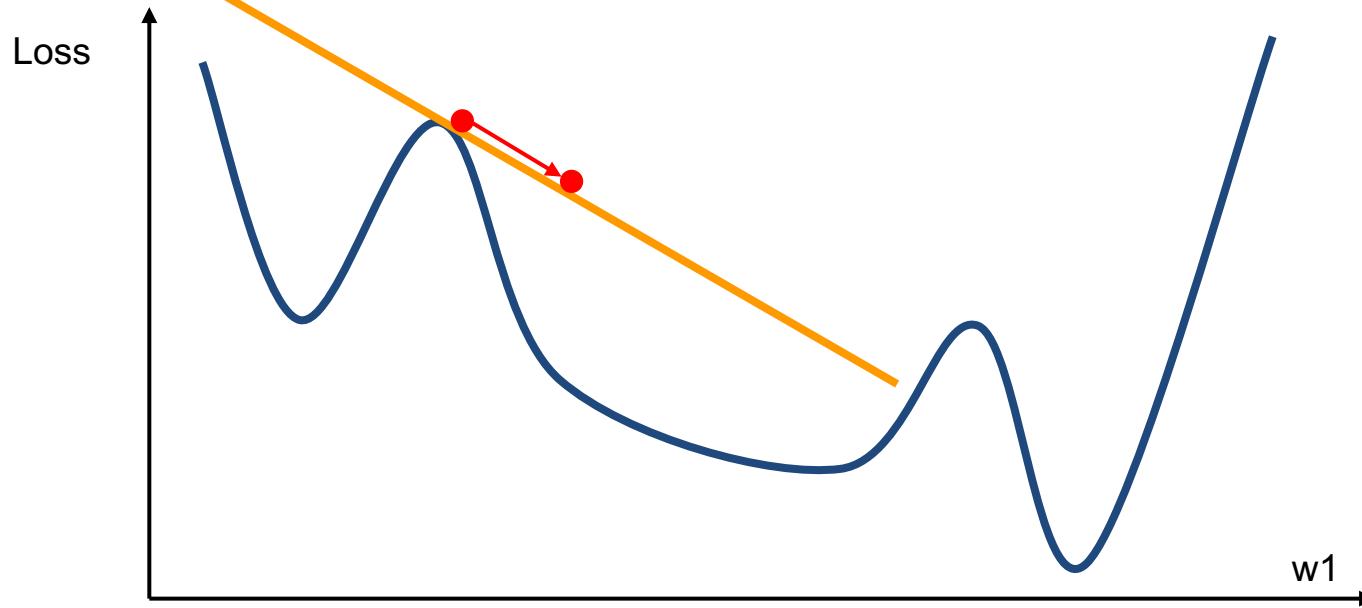
$T$  : Total number of epochs

# First-Order Optimization



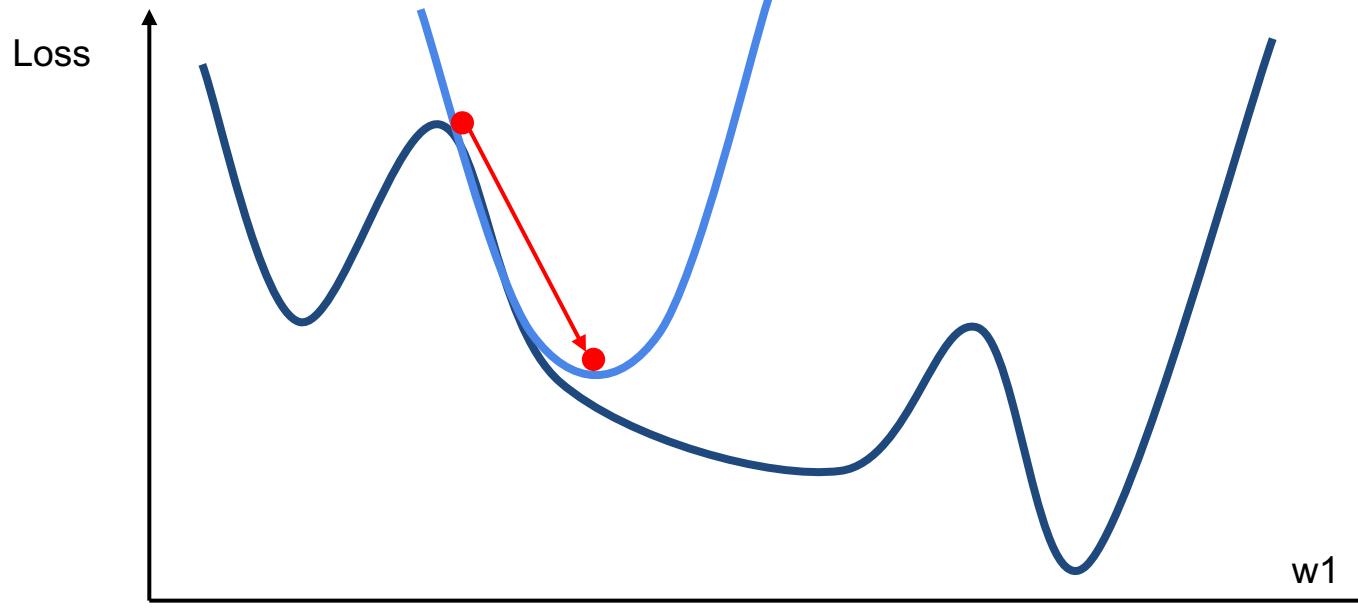
# First-Order Optimization

- (1) Use gradient form linear approximation
- (2) Step to minimize the approximation



# Second-Order Optimization

- (1) Use gradient **and Hessian** to form **quadratic approximation**
- (2) Step to the **minima** of the approximation



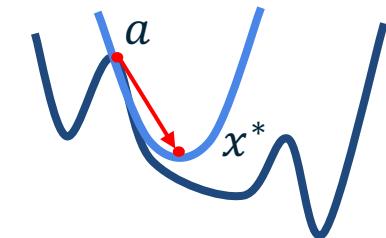
# Second-Order Optimization

second-order Taylor Expansion of  $f(x)$  at  $a$ :

$$f(x) = f(a) + \frac{f'(a)}{1!}(x - a) + \frac{f''(a)}{2!}(x - a)^2$$

Newton's method for optimization: solving for the critical point  $f'(x) = 0$ , we obtain the Newton update rule

$$\begin{aligned}f'(x) &= f'(a) + f''(a)(x - a) = 0 \\x^* &= a - \frac{1}{f''(a)}f'(a)\end{aligned}$$



Think of  $a$  as the current params,  $x^*$  as the updated params

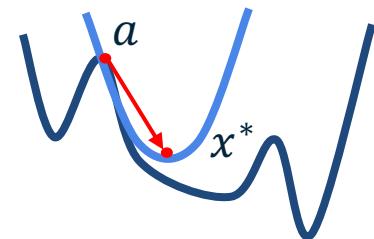
# Second-Order Optimization (multivariate)

second-order Taylor Expansion of  $f(x)$  at  $a$ :

$$f(w) = f(a) + (x - a)^T \nabla f + \frac{1}{2} (x - a)^T H(x - a)$$

Newton's method for optimization: solving for the critical point we obtain the Newton update rule:

$$x^* = a - H^{-1} \nabla f$$



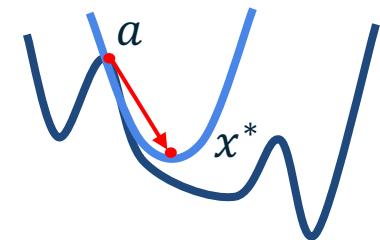
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Newton's method for optimization: solving for the critical point we obtain the Newton update rule:

$$x^* = a - H^{-1} \nabla f$$



Q: Why is this bad for deep learning?

# Hessian Matrix

$$\mathbf{H}_f = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1^2} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1 \partial x_n} \\ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_2 \partial x_1} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_2^2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_2 \partial x_n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_n \partial x_1} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_n \partial x_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_n^2} \end{bmatrix}$$

# Second-Order Optimization

second-order Taylor expansion:

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = f(\mathbf{a}) + (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{a})^T \nabla f + \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{a})^T H(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{a})$$

Solving for the critical point we obtain the Newton parameter update:

$$\mathbf{x}^* = \mathbf{a} - H^{-1} \nabla f$$

Hessian has  $O(N^2)$  elements  
Inverting takes  $O(N^3)$   
 $N = \text{Millions}$

Q: Why is this bad for deep learning?

# Second-Order Optimization

- Quasi-Newton methods (**BFGS** most popular):  
*instead of inverting the Hessian ( $O(n^3)$ ), approximate inverse Hessian with rank 1 updates over time ( $O(n^2)$  each).*  
Still pretty expensive
- **L-BFGS** (Limited memory BFGS):  
*Does not form/store the full inverse Hessian.*

# L-BFGS

- **Usually works very well in full batch, deterministic mode**  
i.e. if you have a single, deterministic  $f(x)$  then L-BFGS will probably work very nicely
- **Does not transfer very well to mini-batch setting.** Gives bad results. Adapting second-order methods to large-scale, stochastic setting is an active area of research.

Le et al, “On optimization methods for deep learning, ICML 2011”

Ba et al, “Distributed second-order optimization using Kronecker-factored approximations”, ICLR 2017

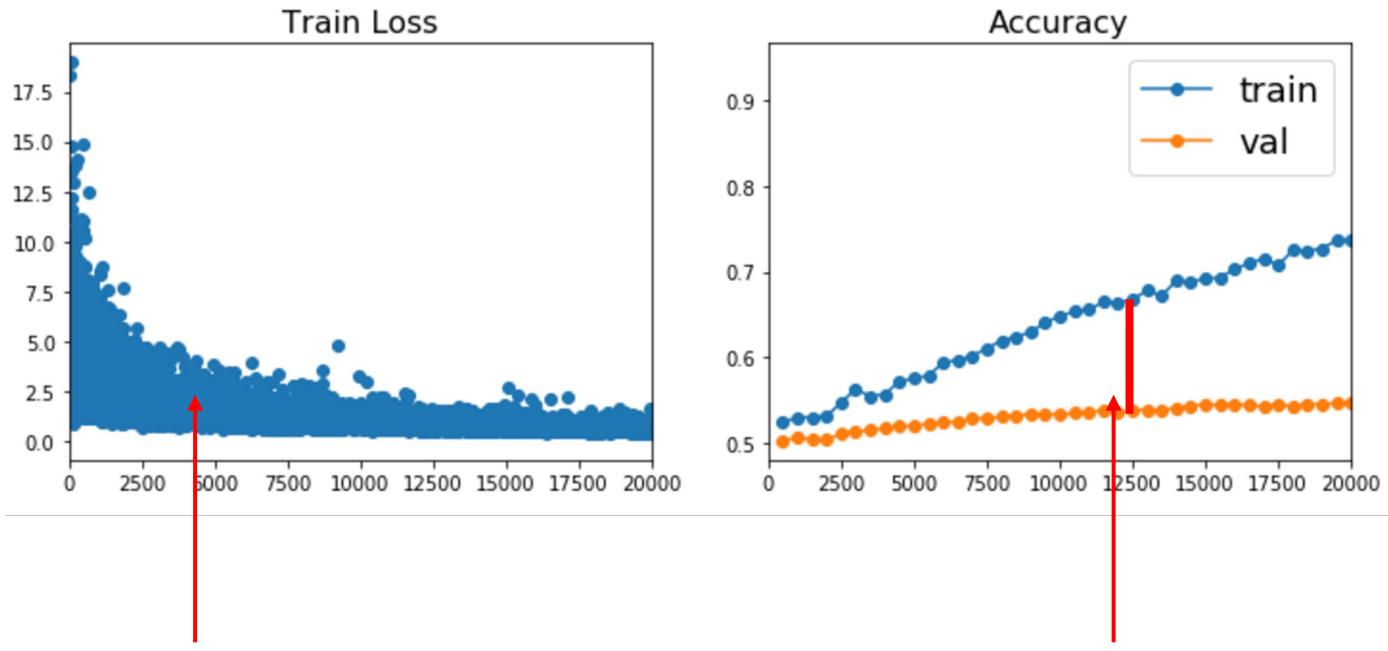
# This Time:

## **Training Deep Neural Networks**

- Details of the non-linear activation functions
- Data normalization
- Weight Initialization
- Batch Normalization
- Advanced Optimization
- Regularization
- Data Augmentation
- Transfer learning
- Hyperparameter Tuning

# Regularization

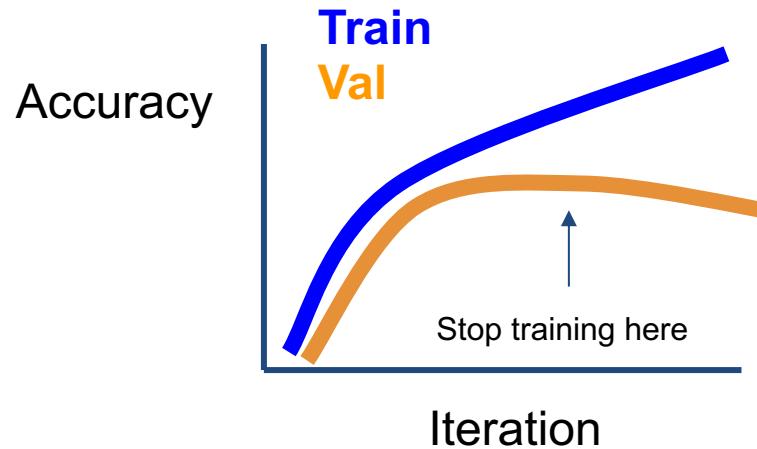
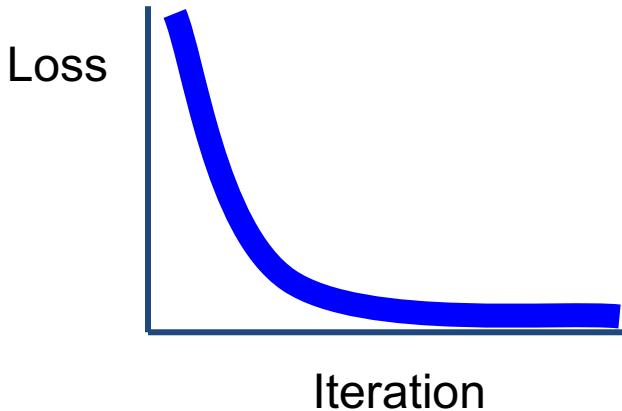
# Beyond Training Error



Better optimization algorithms  
help reduce training loss

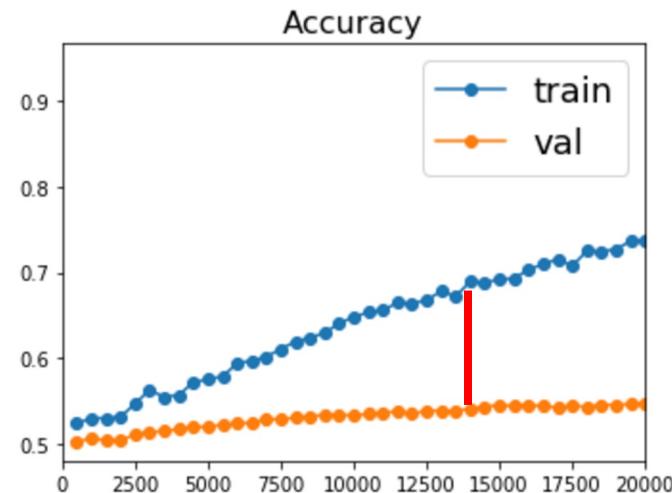
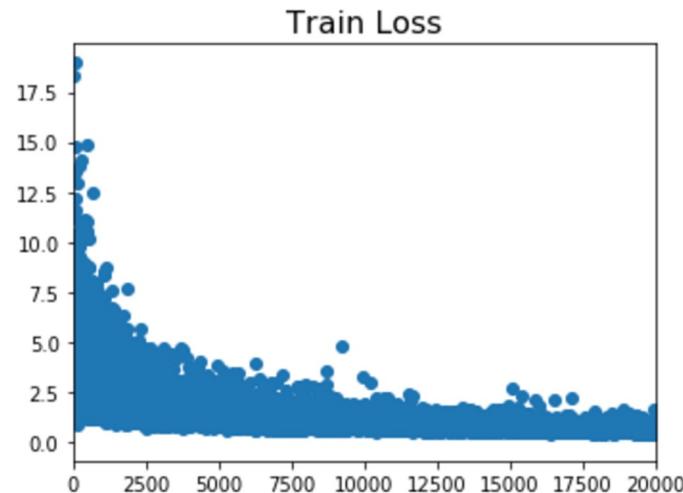
But we really care about error on  
new data - how to reduce the gap?

# Early Stopping: Always do this



Stop training the model when accuracy on the validation set decreases  
Or train for a long time, but always keep track of the model snapshot  
that worked best on val

# How to improve generalization?



Regularization

# Regularization: Add term to loss

$$L = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, f(x_i; W)_j - f(x_i; W)_{y_i} + 1) + \boxed{\lambda R(W)}$$

In common use:

L2 regularization       $R(W) = \sum_k \sum_l W_{k,l}^2$  (Weight decay)

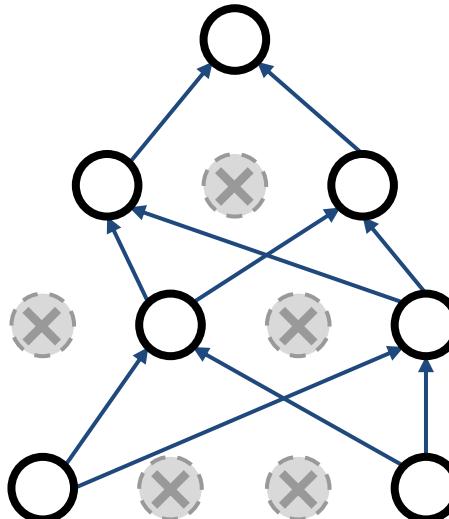
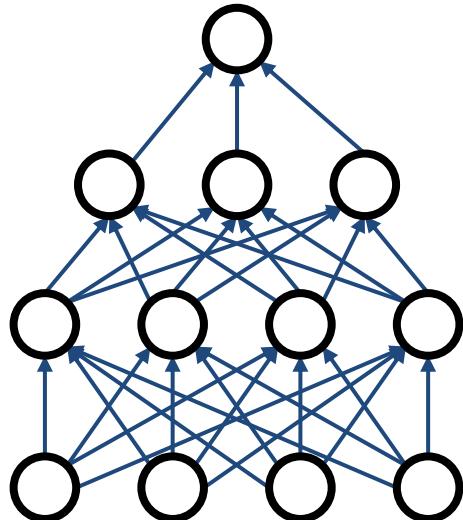
L1 regularization       $R(W) = \sum_k \sum_l |W_{k,l}|$

Elastic net (L1 + L2)     $R(W) = \sum_k \sum_l \beta W_{k,l}^2 + |W_{k,l}|$

# Regularization: Dropout

In each forward pass, randomly set some neurons to zero

Probability of dropping is a hyperparameter; 0.5 is common



Srivastava et al, "Dropout: A simple way to prevent neural networks from overfitting", JMLR 2014

# Regularization: Dropout

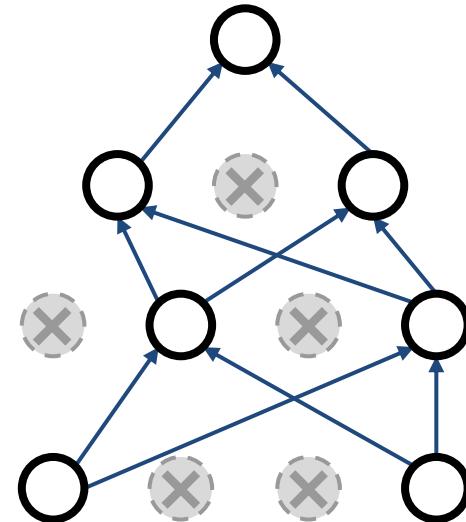
```
p = 0.5 # probability of keeping a unit active. higher = less dropout

def train_step(X):
    """ X contains the data """

    # forward pass for example 3-layer neural network
    H1 = np.maximum(0, np.dot(W1, X) + b1)
    U1 = np.random.rand(*H1.shape) < p # first dropout mask
    H1 *= U1 # drop!
    H2 = np.maximum(0, np.dot(W2, H1) + b2)
    U2 = np.random.rand(*H2.shape) < p # second dropout mask
    H2 *= U2 # drop!
    out = np.dot(W3, H2) + b3

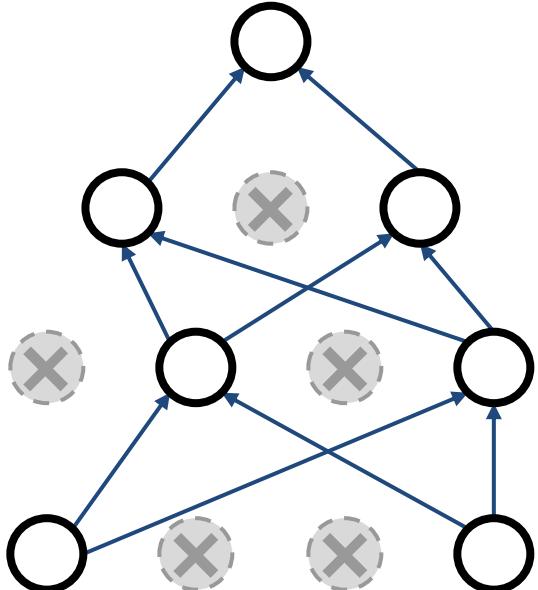
    # backward pass: compute gradients... (not shown)
    # perform parameter update... (not shown)
```

Example forward pass with a 3-layer network using dropout



# Regularization: Dropout

How can this possibly be a good idea?

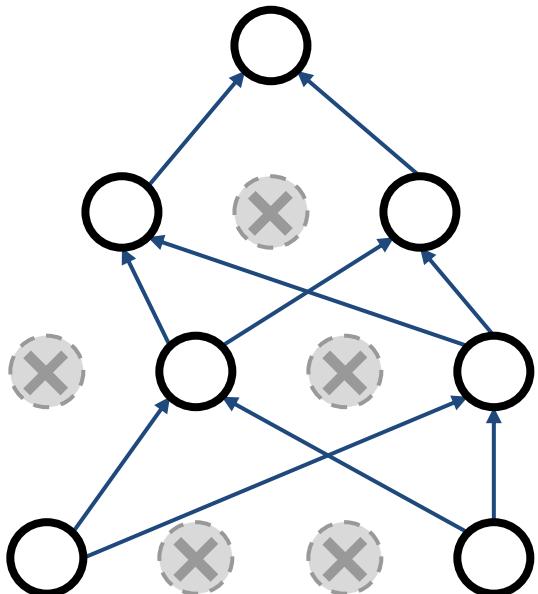


Forces the network to have a redundant representation;  
Prevents co-adaptation of features



# Regularization: Dropout

How can this possibly be a good idea?



Another interpretation:

Dropout is training a large **ensemble** of models (that share parameters).

Each binary mask is one model

An FC layer with 4096 units has  $2^{4096} \sim 10^{1233}$  possible masks!

Only  $\sim 10^{82}$  atoms in the universe...

# Dropout: Test time

Dropout makes our output random!

Output  
(label)      Input  
(image)      Random  
mask

$$\boxed{y} = f_W(\boxed{x}, \boxed{z})$$

Want to “average out” the randomness at test-time

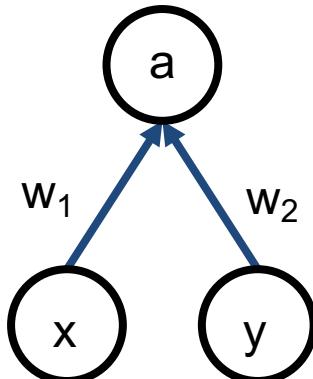
$$y = f(x) = E_z[f(x, z)] = \int p(z)f(x, z)dz$$

# Dropout: Test time

Compute the expectation

$$y = f(x) = E_z[f(x, z)] = \int p(z)f(x, z)dz$$

Consider a single neuron.

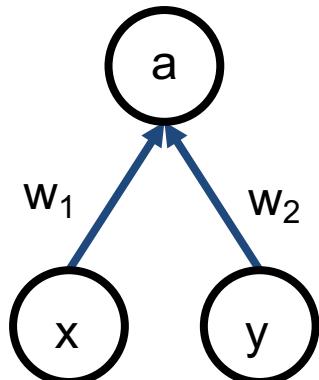


# Dropout: Test time

Compute the expectation

$$y = f(x) = E_z[f(x, z)] = \int p(z)f(x, z)dz$$

Consider a single neuron.



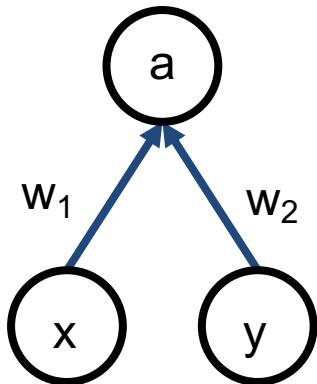
Without dropout:  $E[a] = w_1x + w_2y$

# Dropout: Test time

Compute the expectation

$$y = f(x) = E_z[f(x, z)] = \int p(z)f(x, z)dz$$

Consider a single neuron.



Without dropout:  $E[a] = w_1x + w_2y$

With dropout we have:

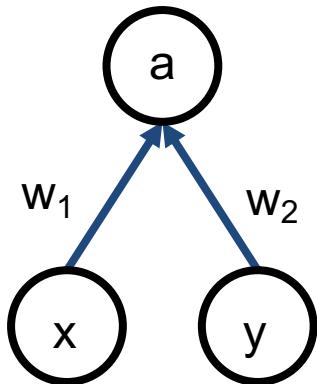
$$\begin{aligned} E[a] &= \frac{1}{4}(w_1x + w_2y) + \frac{1}{4}(w_1x + 0y) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{4}(0x + 0y) + \frac{1}{4}(0x + w_2y) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(w_1x + w_2y) \end{aligned}$$

# Dropout: Test time

Compute the expectation

$$y = f(x) = E_z[f(x, z)] = \int p(z)f(x, z)dz$$

Consider a single neuron.



Without dropout:  $E[a] = w_1x + w_2y$

With dropout we have:

$$\begin{aligned} E[a] &= \frac{1}{4}(w_1x + w_2y) + \frac{1}{4}(w_1x + 0y) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{4}(0x + 0y) + \frac{1}{4}(0x + w_2y) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(w_1x + w_2y) \end{aligned}$$

At test time, multiply by dropout probability

# Dropout: Test time

```
def predict(X):
    # ensembled forward pass
    H1 = np.maximum(0, np.dot(W1, X) + b1) * p # NOTE: scale the activations
    H2 = np.maximum(0, np.dot(W2, H1) + b2) * p # NOTE: scale the activations
    out = np.dot(W3, H2) + b3
```

At test time all neurons are active always  
=> We must scale the activations so that for each neuron:  
output at test time = expected output at training time

```

"""
Vanilla Dropout: Not recommended implementation (see notes below)
"""

p = 0.5 # probability of keeping a unit active. higher = less dropout

def train_step(X):
    """ X contains the data """

    # forward pass for example 3-layer neural network
    H1 = np.maximum(0, np.dot(W1, X) + b1)
    U1 = np.random.rand(*H1.shape) < p # first dropout mask
    H1 *= U1 # drop!
    H2 = np.maximum(0, np.dot(W2, H1) + b2)
    U2 = np.random.rand(*H2.shape) < p # second dropout mask
    H2 *= U2 # drop!
    out = np.dot(W3, H2) + b3

    # backward pass: compute gradients... (not shown)
    # perform parameter update... (not shown)

def predict(X):
    # ensembled forward pass
    H1 = np.maximum(0, np.dot(W1, X) + b1) * p # NOTE: scale the activations
    H2 = np.maximum(0, np.dot(W2, H1) + b2) * p # NOTE: scale the activations
    out = np.dot(W3, H2) + b3

```

# Dropout Summary

drop in train time

scale at test time

# More common: “Inverted dropout”

```
p = 0.5 # probability of keeping a unit active. higher = less dropout

def train_step(X):
    # forward pass for example 3-layer neural network
    H1 = np.maximum(0, np.dot(W1, X) + b1)
    U1 = (np.random.rand(*H1.shape) < p) / p # first dropout mask. Notice /p!
    H1 *= U1 # drop!
    H2 = np.maximum(0, np.dot(W2, H1) + b2)
    U2 = (np.random.rand(*H2.shape) < p) / p # second dropout mask. Notice /p!
    H2 *= U2 # drop!
    out = np.dot(W3, H2) + b3

    # backward pass: compute gradients... (not shown)
    # perform parameter update... (not shown)

def predict(X):
    # ensembled forward pass
    H1 = np.maximum(0, np.dot(W1, X) + b1) # no scaling necessary
    H2 = np.maximum(0, np.dot(W2, H1) + b2)
    out = np.dot(W3, H2) + b3
```

test time is unchanged!



Similar to BatchNorm, different behavior train vs test!

# Regularization: A common strategy

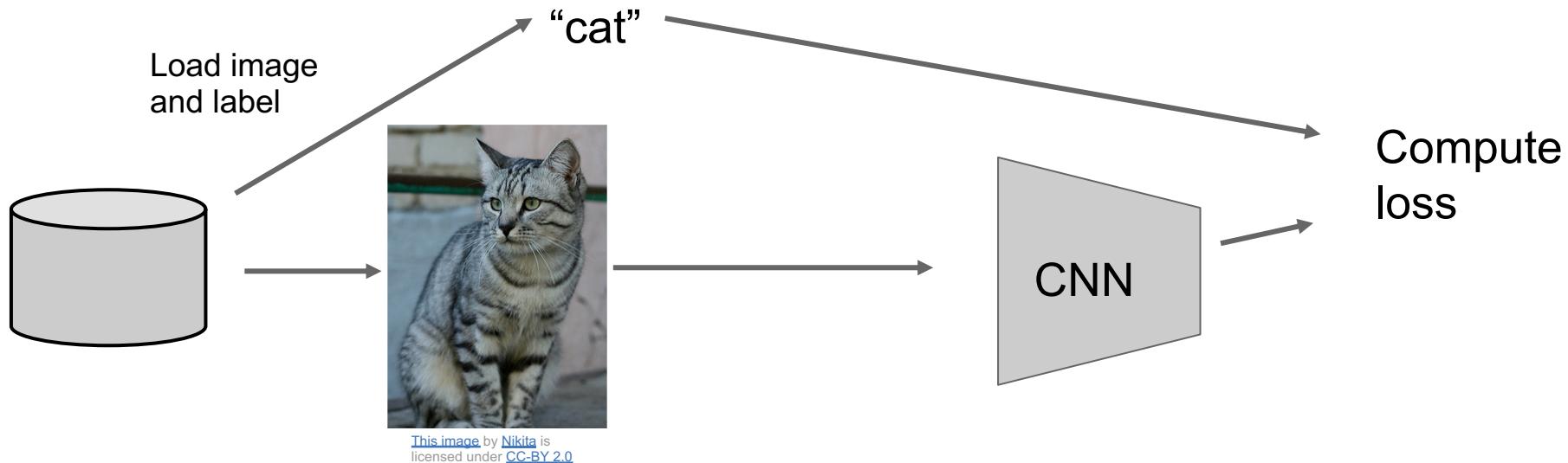
**Training:** Add some kind  
of randomness

$$y = f_W(x, z)$$

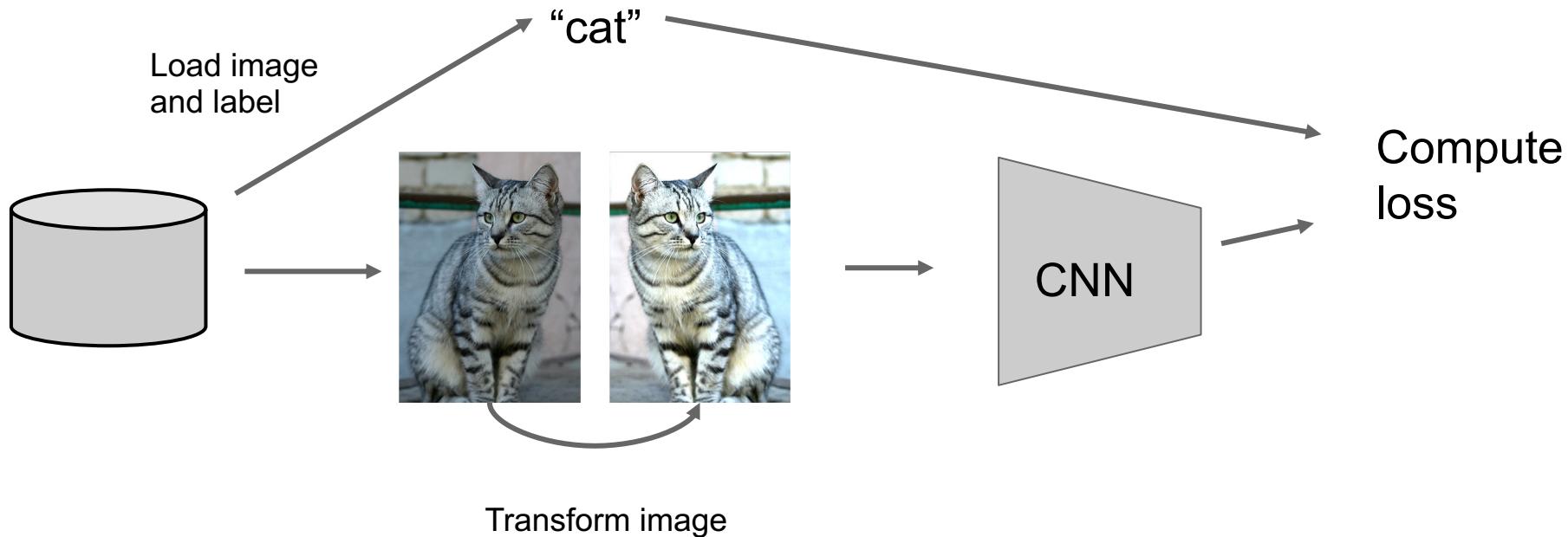
**Testing:** Average out randomness  
(sometimes approximate)

$$y = f(x) = E_z[f(x, z)] = \int p(z)f(x, z)dz$$

# Regularization: Data Augmentation



# Regularization: Data Augmentation



# Data Augmentation

## Horizontal Flips



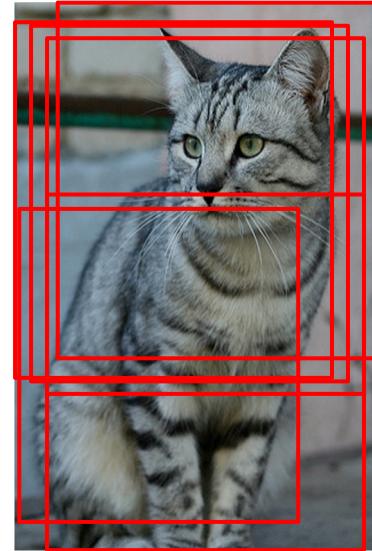
# Data Augmentation

## Random crops and scales

**Training:** sample random crops / scales

ResNet:

1. Pick random  $L$  in range [256, 480]
2. Resize training image, short side =  $L$
3. Sample random  $224 \times 224$  patch



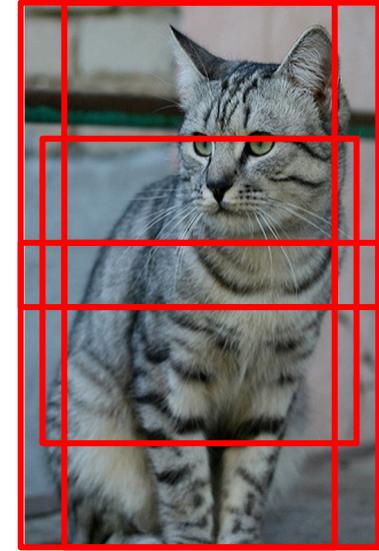
# Data Augmentation

## Random crops and scales

**Training:** sample random crops / scales

ResNet:

1. Pick random  $L$  in range [256, 480]
2. Resize training image, short side =  $L$
3. Sample random  $224 \times 224$  patch



**Testing (test-time augmentation):**

take votes / average from a fixed set of crops

1. Resize image at 5 scales: {224, 256, 384, 480, 640}
2. For each size, use 10  $224 \times 224$  crops: 4 corners + center, + flips
3. Make prediction on all crops, use the majority vote as the final output.

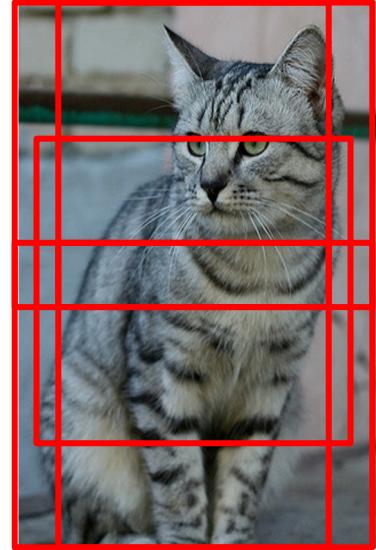
# Data Augmentation

## Random crops and scales

**Training:** sample random crops / scales

ResNet:

1. Pick random  $L$  in range [256, 480]
2. Resize training image, short side =  $L$
3. Sample random  $224 \times 224$  patch



**Testing (deterministic):**

- Take a center crop of 224 by 224.
- Or crop by longer dimension and resize.

# Data Augmentation

## Color Jitter

Simple: Randomize  
contrast and brightness



# Data Augmentation

## Color Jitter

Simple: Randomize  
contrast and brightness



## More Complex:

1. Apply PCA to all [R, G, B] pixels in training set
2. Sample a “color offset” along principal component directions
1. Add offset to all pixels of a training image

(As seen in *[Krizhevsky et al. 2012]*, ResNet, etc)

# Data Augmentation

Get creative for your problem!

Examples of data augmentations:

- translation
- rotation
- stretching
- shearing,
- chromatic aberration
- lens distortions, ... (go crazy)

# Automatic Data Augmentation

	Original	Sub-policy 1	Sub-policy 2	Sub-policy 3	Sub-policy 4	Sub-policy 5
Batch 1						
Batch 2						
Batch 3						
	ShearX, 0.9, 7 Invert, 0.2, 3	ShearY, 0.7, 6 Solarize, 0.4, 8	ShearX, 0.9, 4 AutoContrast, 0.8, 3	Invert, 0.9, 3 Equalize, 0.6, 3	ShearY, 0.8, 5 AutoContrast, 0.7, 3	

# Gradient clipping: prevent large gradient step

Large gradient step will likely destabilize training (gradients are noisy!)

Large gradient update can be caused by many issues, e.g., large weights, large input, bad loss function / activation function, ...

Should always first try to fix the root cause (normalization, better loss / activation function, etc.)

But if all things fail ... just clip the gradient

$$g_{new} = \min\left(1, \frac{\lambda}{||g||}\right) \times g$$

$g$ : original gradient

$\lambda$ : clipping threshold

```
# Zero the gradients.  
optimizer.zero_grad()  
  
# Perform forward pass.  
outputs = model(inputs)  
  
# Compute the loss.  
loss = loss_function(outputs, targets)  
  
# Perform backward pass (compute gradients).  
loss.backward()  
  
# Clip the gradients.  
torch.nn.utils.clip_grad_norm_(model.parameters(), max_norm=1.0)  
  
# Update the model parameters.  
optimizer.step()
```

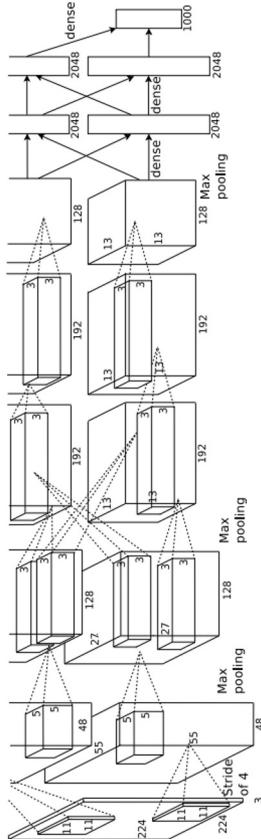
# Transfer learning / Pretraining

“You need a lot of data if you want to  
train/use deep neural networks”

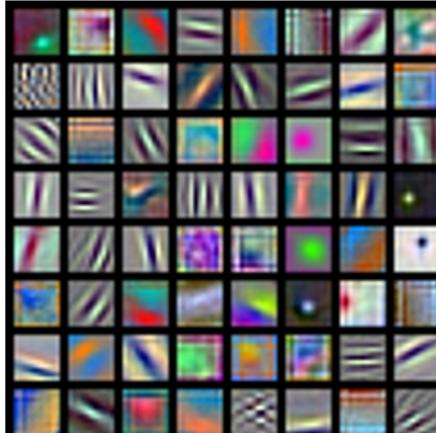
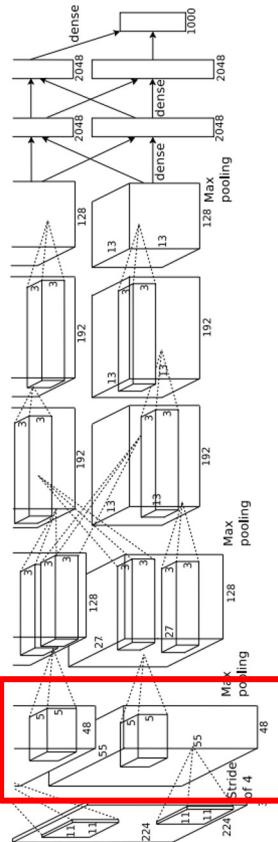
“You need a lot of data if you want to  
train/use deep neural networks”

**BUSTED**

# Transfer Learning with CNNs



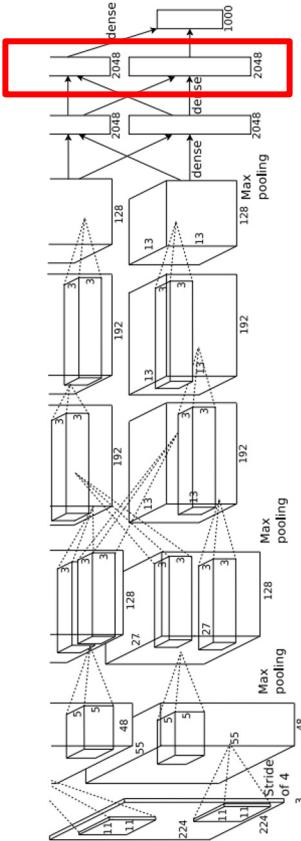
# Transfer Learning with CNNs



AlexNet:  
64 x 3 x 11 x 11

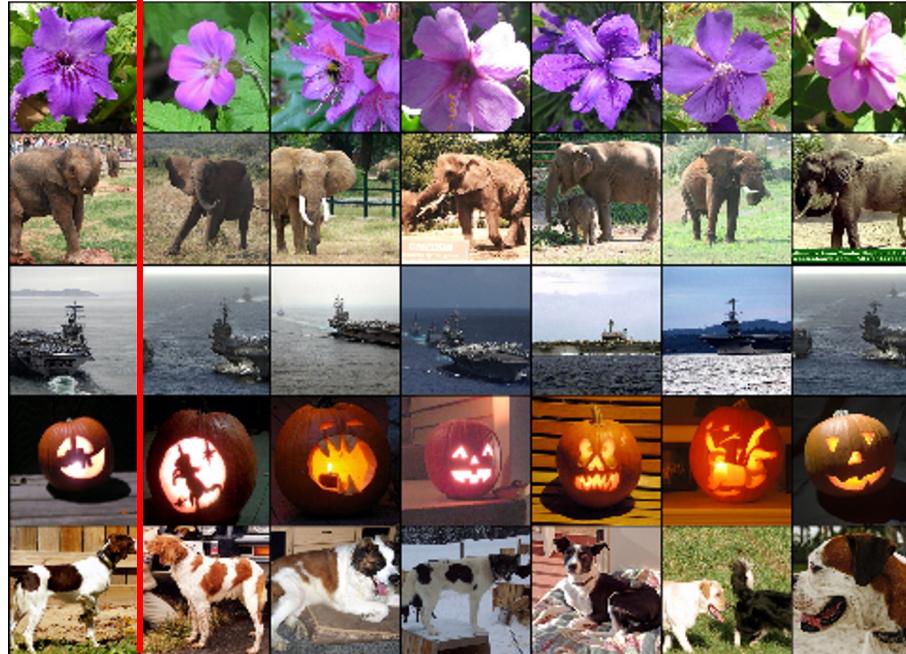
(More on this in Lecture 13)

# Transfer Learning with CNNs



Test image

L2 Nearest neighbors in feature space



(More on this in Lecture 13)

# Transfer Learning with CNNs

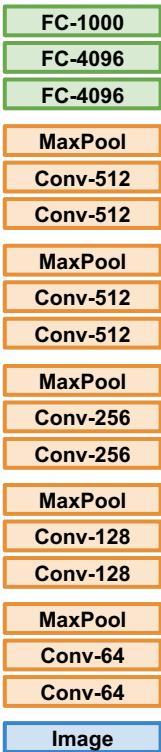
Donahue et al, "DeCAF: A Deep Convolutional Activation Feature for Generic Visual Recognition", ICML 2014  
Razavian et al, "CNN Features Off-the-Shelf: An Astounding Baseline for Recognition", CVPR Workshops 2014

## 1. Train on Imagenet

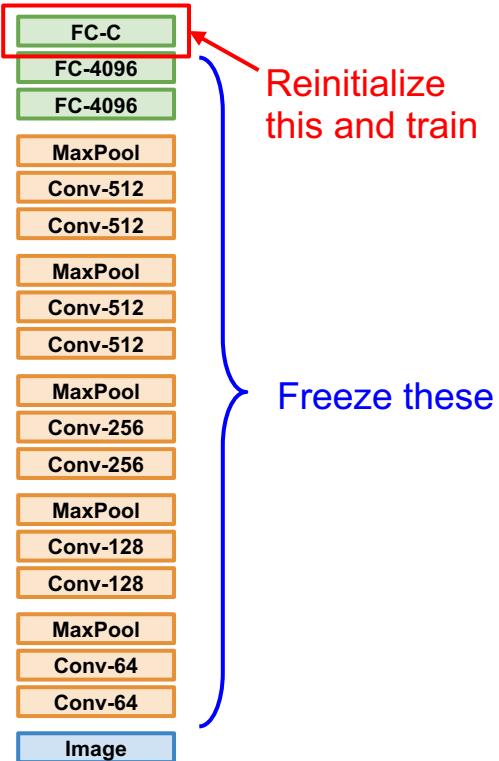


# Transfer Learning with CNNs

1. Train on Imagenet



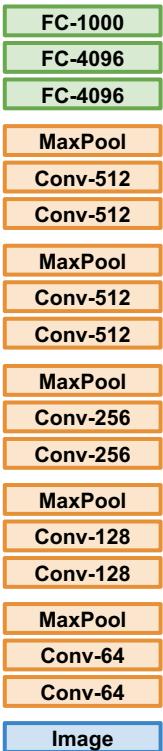
2. Small Dataset (C classes)



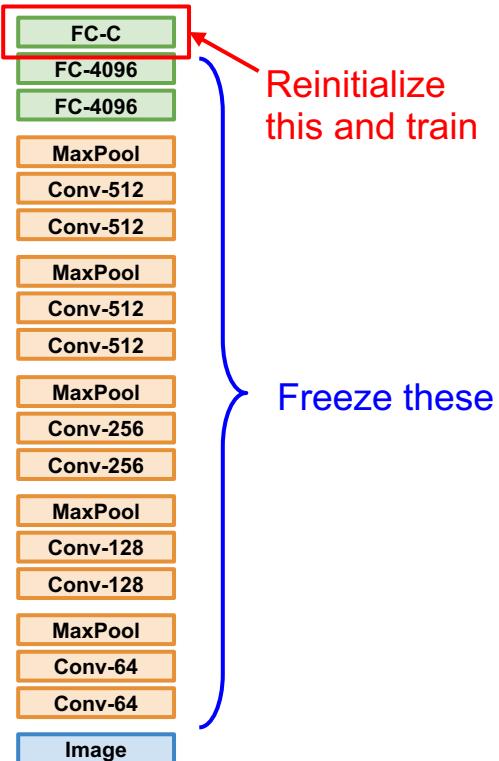
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# Transfer Learning with CNNs

1. Train on Imagenet

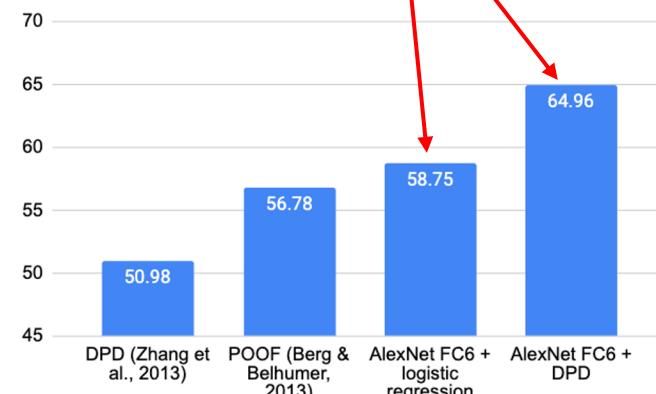


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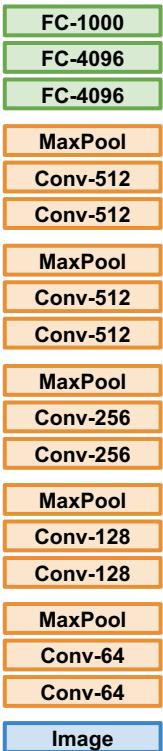
Finetuned from AlexNet



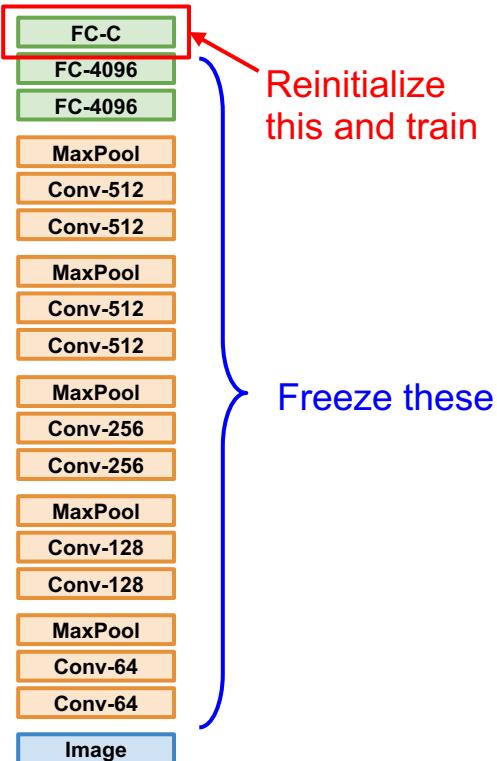
Donahue et al, "DeCAF: A Deep Convolutional Activation Feature for Generic Visual Recognition", ICML 2014

# Transfer Learning with CNNs

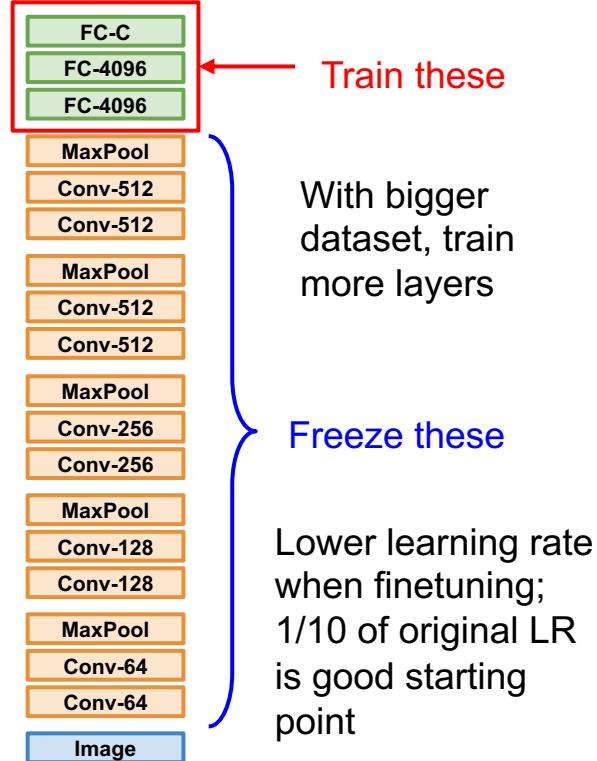
## 1. Train on Imagenet



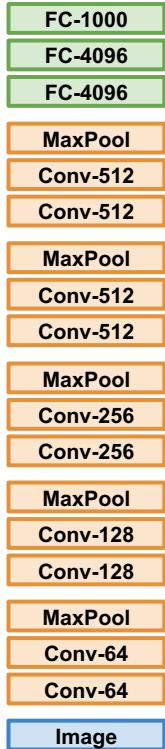
## 2. Small Dataset (C classes)



## 3. Bigger dataset



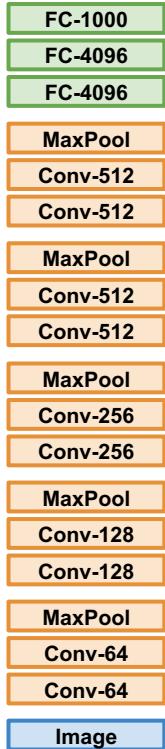
Donahue et al, "DeCAF: A Deep Convolutional Activation Feature for Generic Visual Recognition", ICML 2014  
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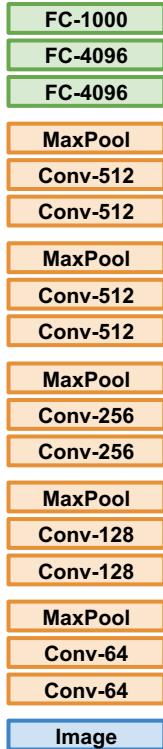
Task-specific

Task-agnostic

	very similar dataset	very different dataset
very little data	?	?
quite a lot of data	?	?



	<b>very similar dataset</b>	<b>very different dataset</b>
<b>very little data</b>	Use Linear Classifier on top layer	?
<b>quite a lot of data</b>	Finetune a few layers	?



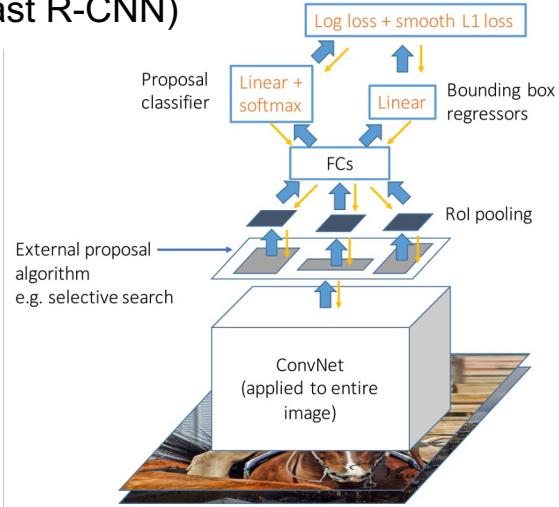
Task-specific

Task-agnostic

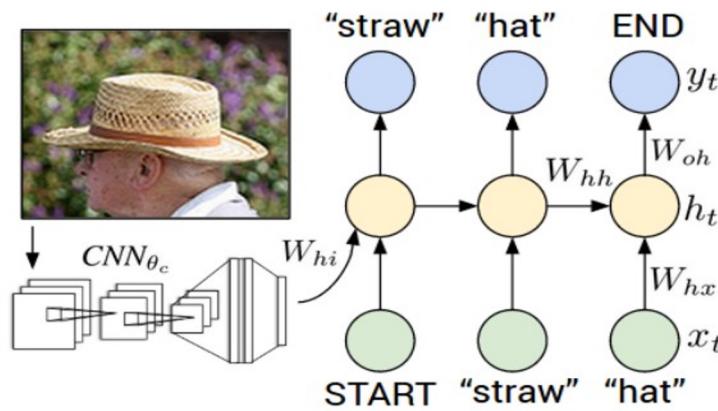
	<b>very similar dataset</b>	<b>very different dataset</b>
<b>very little data</b>	Use Linear Classifier on top layer	You're in trouble... Try linear classifier from different stages
<b>quite a lot of data</b>	Finetune a few layers	Finetune a larger number of layers

# Transfer learning is pervasive... (it's the norm, not an exception)

## Object Detection (Fast R-CNN)



## Image Captioning: CNN + RNN

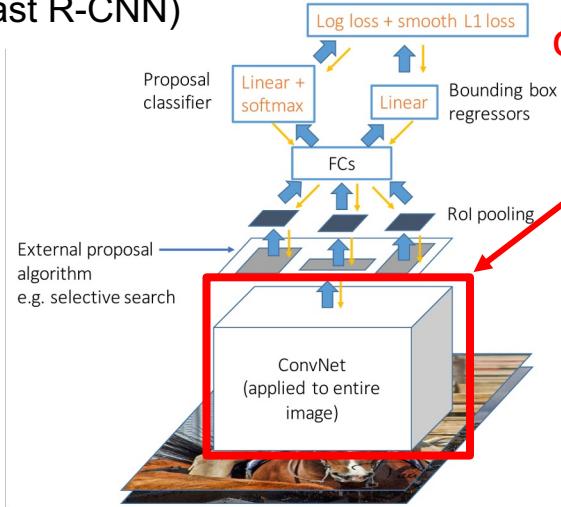


Girshick, "Fast R-CNN", ICCV 2015  
Figure copyright Ross Girshick, 2015. Reproduced with permission.

Karpathy and Fei-Fei, "Deep Visual-Semantic Alignments for Generating Image Descriptions", CVPR 2015  
Figure copyright IEEE, 2015. Reproduced for educational purposes.

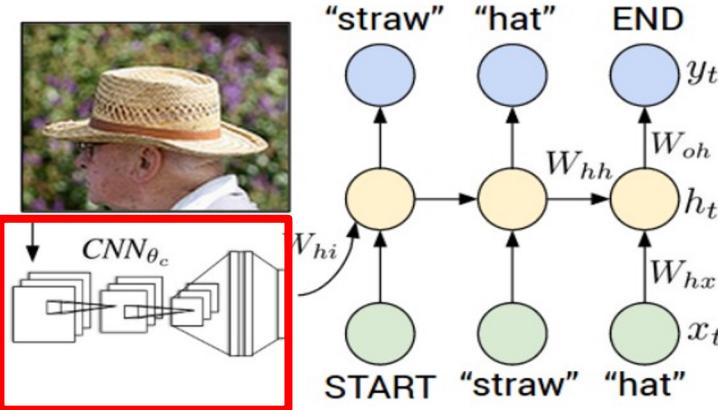
# Transfer learning is pervasive... (it's the norm, not an exception)

Object Detection  
(Fast R-CNN)



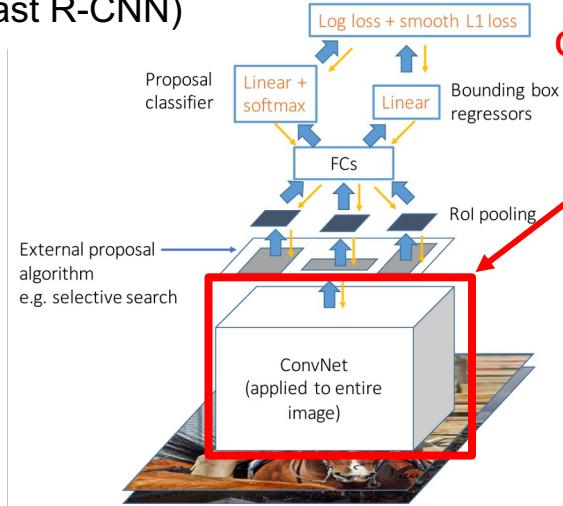
CNN pretrained  
on ImageNet

Image Captioning: CNN + RNN



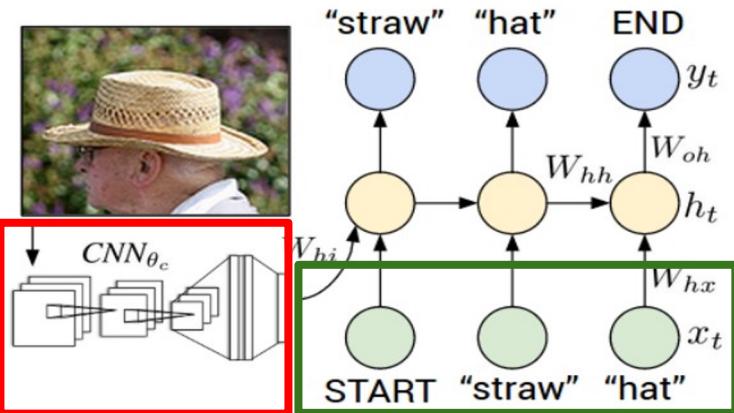
# Transfer learning is pervasive... (it's the norm, not an exception)

Object Detection  
(Fast R-CNN)



CNN pretrained  
on ImageNet

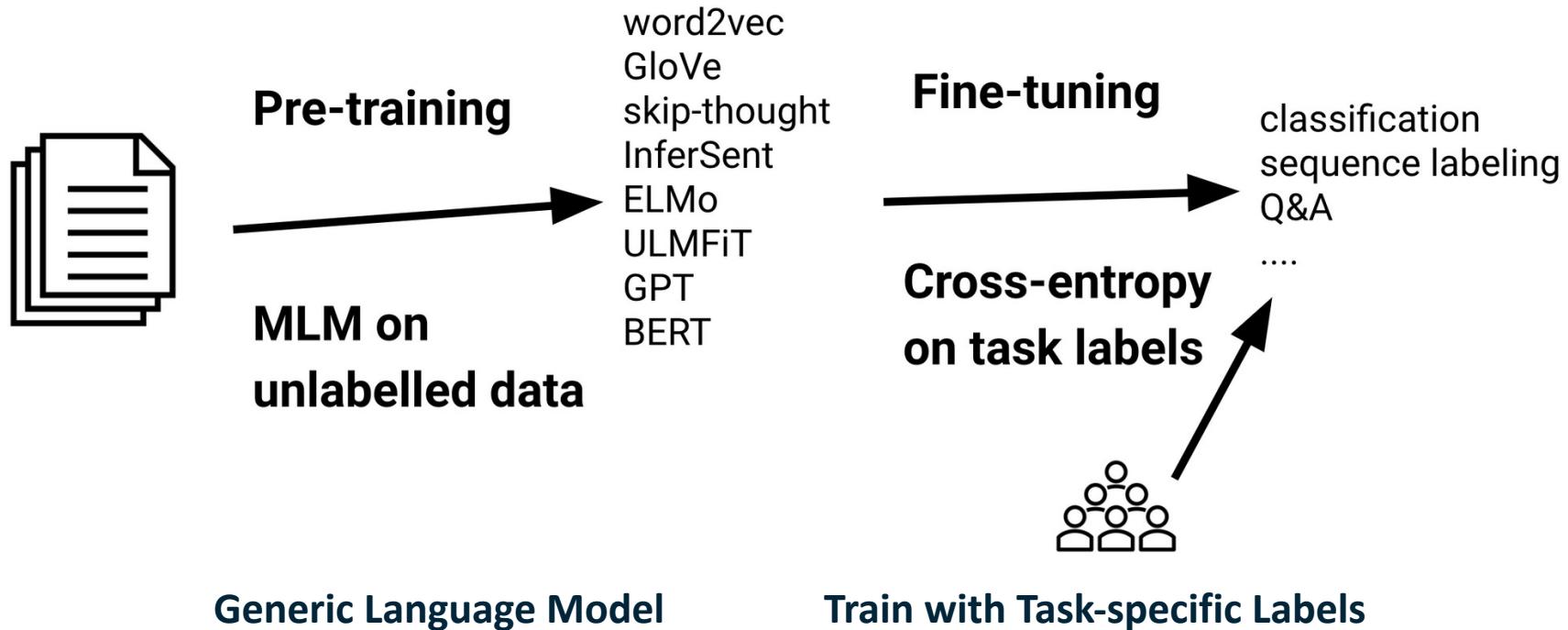
Image Captioning: CNN + RNN



Word vectors pretrained  
with word2vec

# Transfer learning is pervasive...

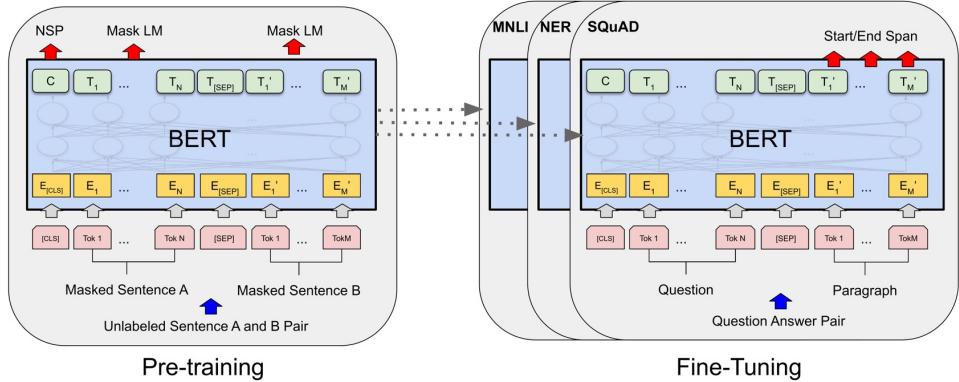
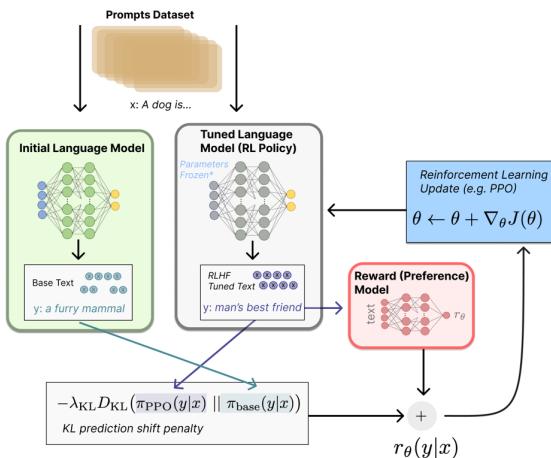
(it's the norm, not an exception)



# Preview: Pretrained Language Models



“Generative Pretrained Transformer”



Devlin et al. in BERT: Pre-training of Deep Bidirectional Transformers for Language Understanding, 2019

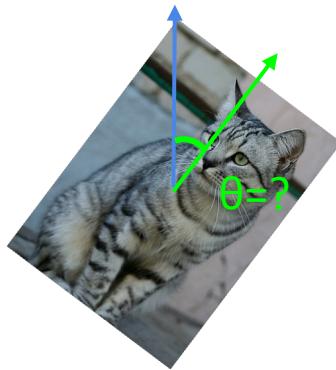
# Preview: Self-Supervised Pretraining

## (pretraining tasks that do not need labels)

Example: learn to predict image transformations / complete corrupted images



image  
completion



rotation  
prediction



“jigsaw puzzle”



colorization

1. Solving the pretext tasks allow the model to learn good features.
2. We can automatically generate labels for the pretext tasks.

# Preview: Low-rank finetuning (LORA)

## quickly finetune a billion-parameter model

**Problem:** finetuning still takes a lot of data, especially if the model is huge and/or the domain gap is large.

**Fact:** finetuning is just adding a  $W_\delta$  to the existing weight matrix  $W$ , i.e.,  $W^* = W + W_\delta$

**Hypothesis:**  $W_\delta$  is *low-rank*, meaning that  $W_\delta$  can be decomposed into two smaller matrices  $A$  and  $B$ , i.e.,  $W_\delta = A^T B$ .

**So what?**:  $A$  and  $B$  have a lot fewer parameters than the full  $W$ .  
Requires less data and faster to train.

# Takeaway for your projects and beyond:

## Transfer learning be like



Source: AI & Deep Learning Memes For Back-propagated Poets

# **Takeaway for your projects and beyond:**

Have some dataset of interest but not big enough to train deep models?

1. Find a very large dataset that has similar data, train a big model there
2. Transfer learn to your dataset
3. Try LORA (low-rank finetuning) if necessary

Deep learning frameworks provide a “Model Zoo” of pretrained models so you don’t need to train your own

TensorFlow: <https://github.com/tensorflow/models>

PyTorch (Vision): <https://github.com/pytorch/vision>

PyTorch (NLP): <https://github.com/pytorch/text>

# Diagnose your training

(without tons of GPUs)

# Diagnose your training

## Step 1: Check initial loss

Turn off weight decay, sanity check loss at initialization  
e.g.  $\log(C)$  for softmax with  $C$  classes

Reminder:  $L = -\log p = -\log(1/C) = \log(C)$

# Diagnose your training

**Step 1:** Check initial loss

**Step 2:** Overfit a small sample

Try to train to 100% training accuracy on a small sample of training data (~5-10 minibatches); fiddle with architecture, learning rate, weight initialization

Loss not going down? LR too low, bad initialization, bug in code or errors in training labels

Loss explodes to Inf or NaN? LR too high, bad initialization, bug in code

# Diagnose your training

**Step 1:** Check initial loss

**Step 2:** Overfit a small sample

**Step 3:** Find LR that makes loss go down

Use the architecture from the previous step, use all training data, turn on small weight decay, find a learning rate that makes the loss drop significantly within ~100 iterations

Good learning rates to try: 1e-3, 3e-4, 1e-4

# Diagnose your training

**Step 1:** Check initial loss

**Step 2:** Overfit a small sample

**Step 3:** Find LR that makes loss go down

**Step 4:** Coarse grid, train for ~1-5 epochs

Choose a few values of learning rate and weight decay around what worked from Step 3, train a few models for ~1-5 epochs.

Good weight decay to try: 1e-4, 1e-5, 0

# Diagnose your training

**Step 1:** Check initial loss

**Step 2:** Overfit a small sample

**Step 3:** Find LR that makes loss go down

**Step 4:** Coarse grid, train for ~1-5 epochs

**Step 5:** Refine grid, train longer

Pick best models from Step 4, train them for longer (~10-20 epochs) without learning rate decay

# Diagnose your training

**Step 1:** Check initial loss

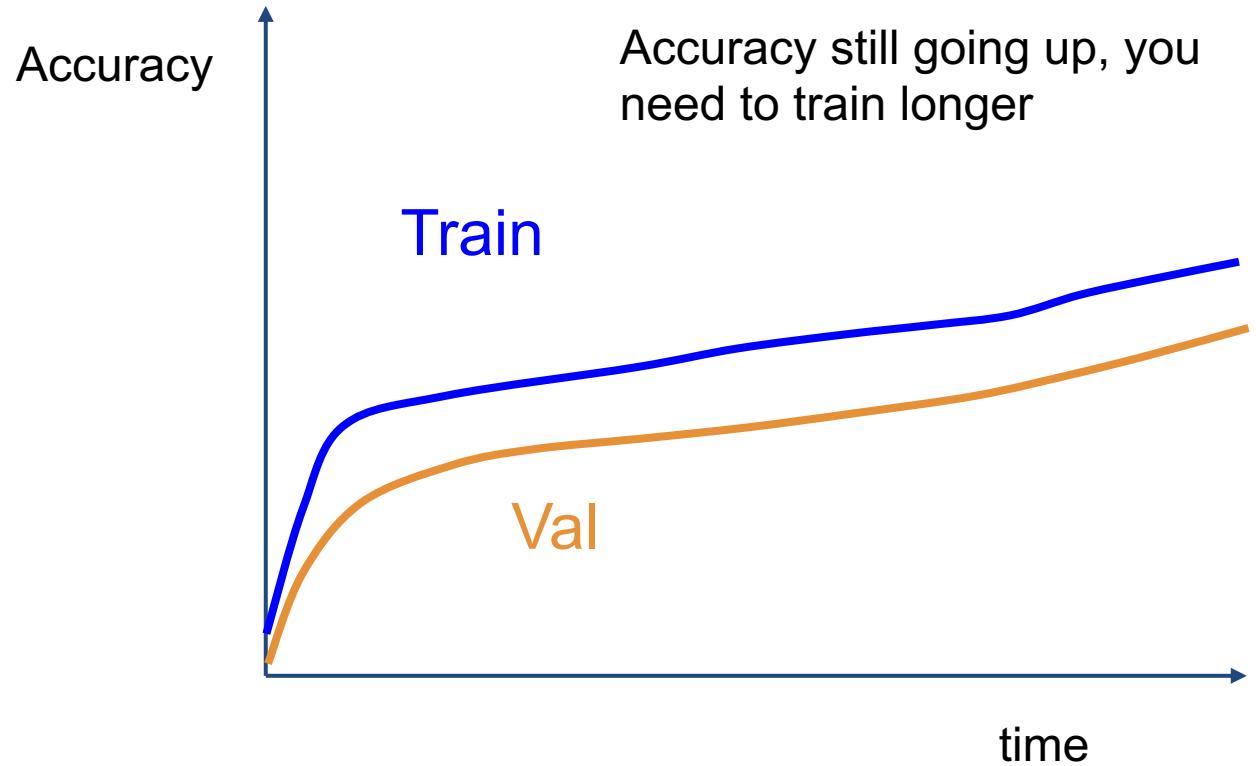
**Step 2:** Overfit a small sample

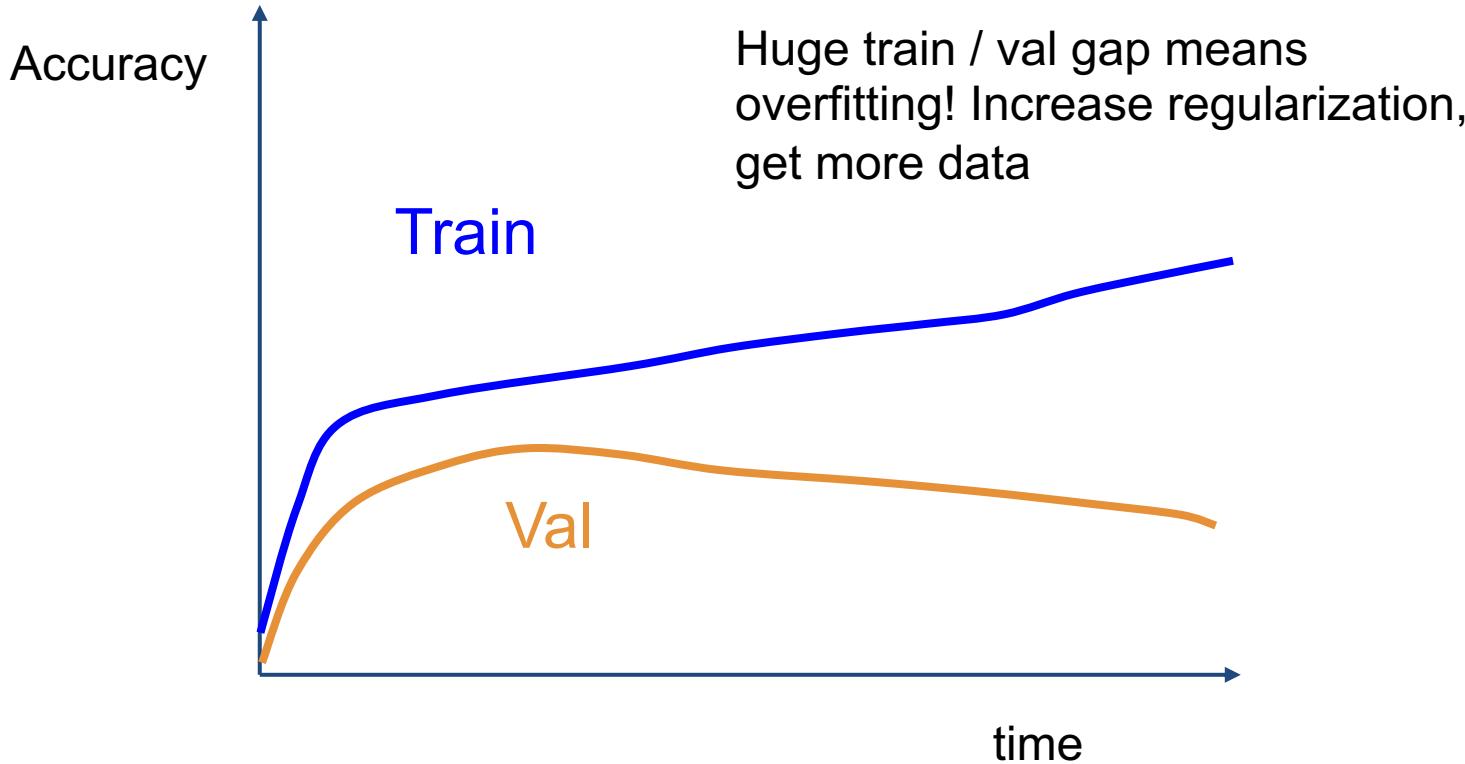
**Step 3:** Find LR that makes loss go down

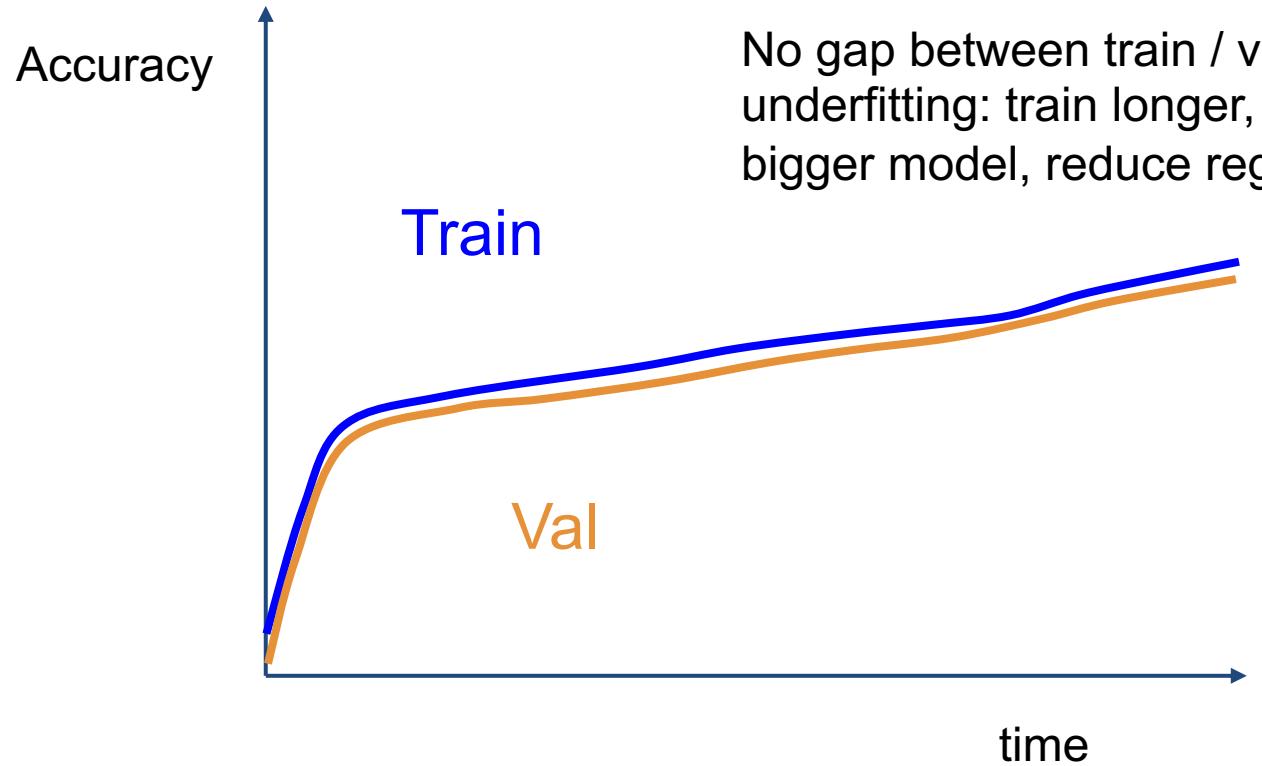
**Step 4:** Coarse grid, train for ~1-5 epochs

**Step 5:** Refine grid, train longer

**Step 6:** Look at loss and accuracy curves

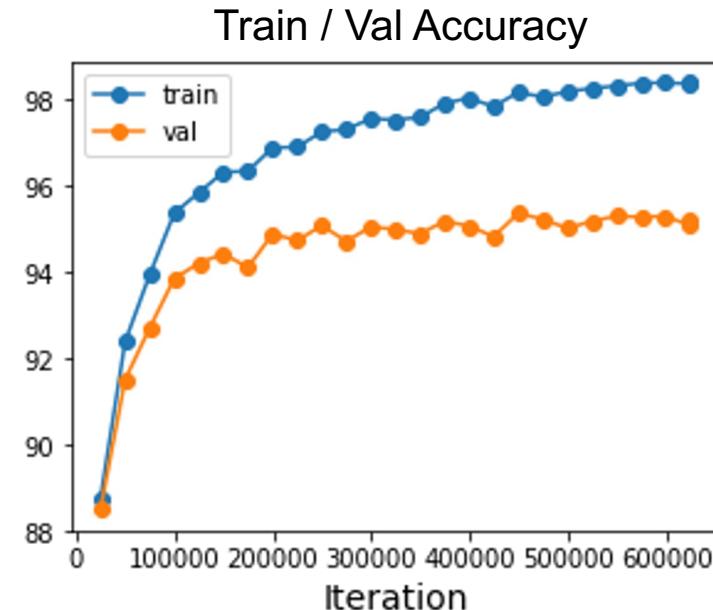
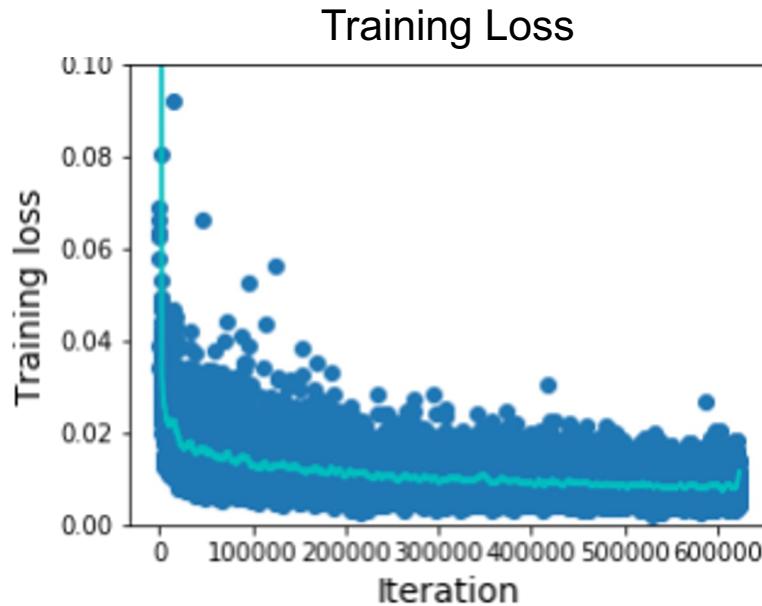






No gap between train / val means underfitting: train longer, use a bigger model, reduce regularization

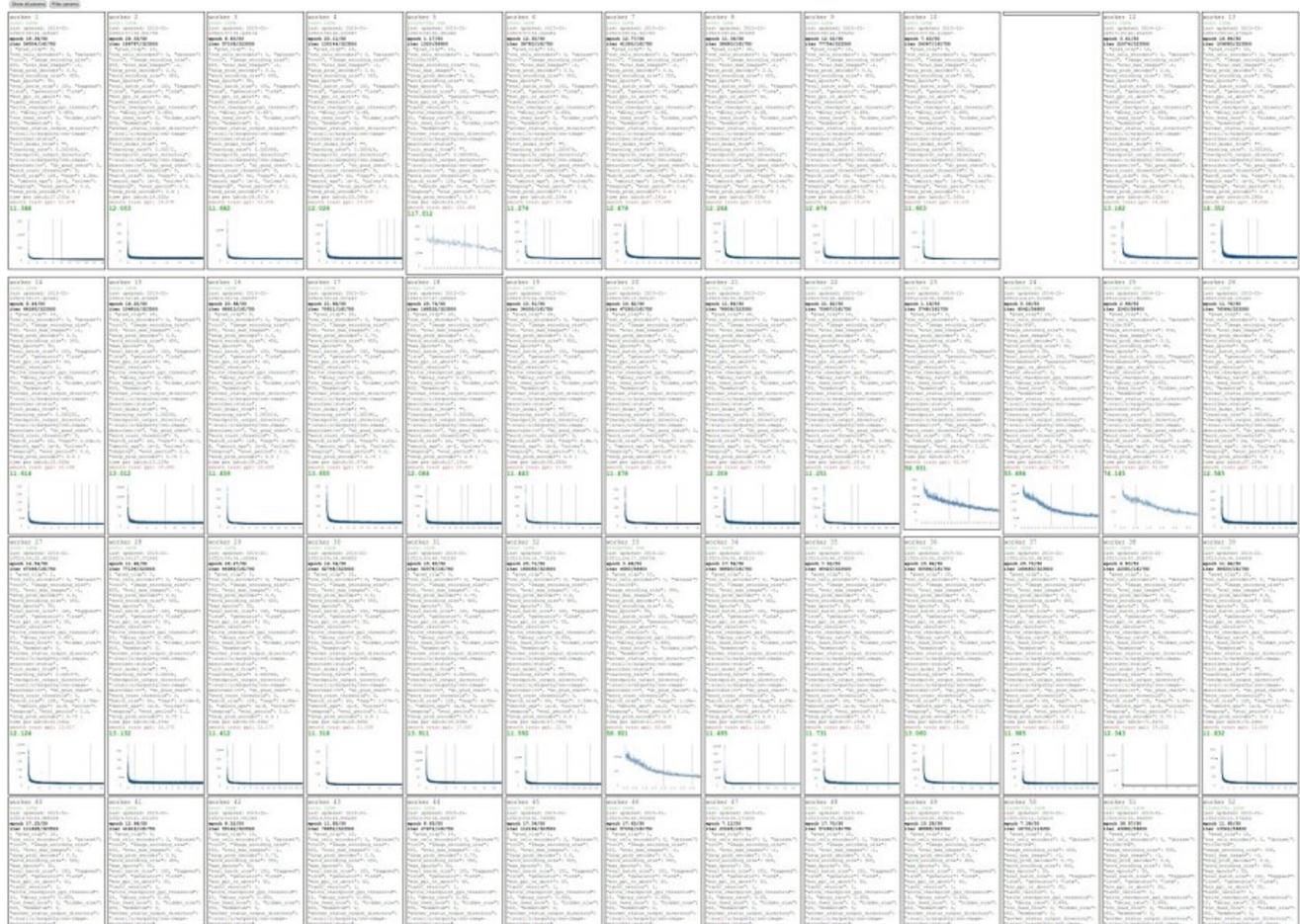
# Look at learning curves!



Losses may be noisy, use a scatter plot and also plot moving average to see trends better

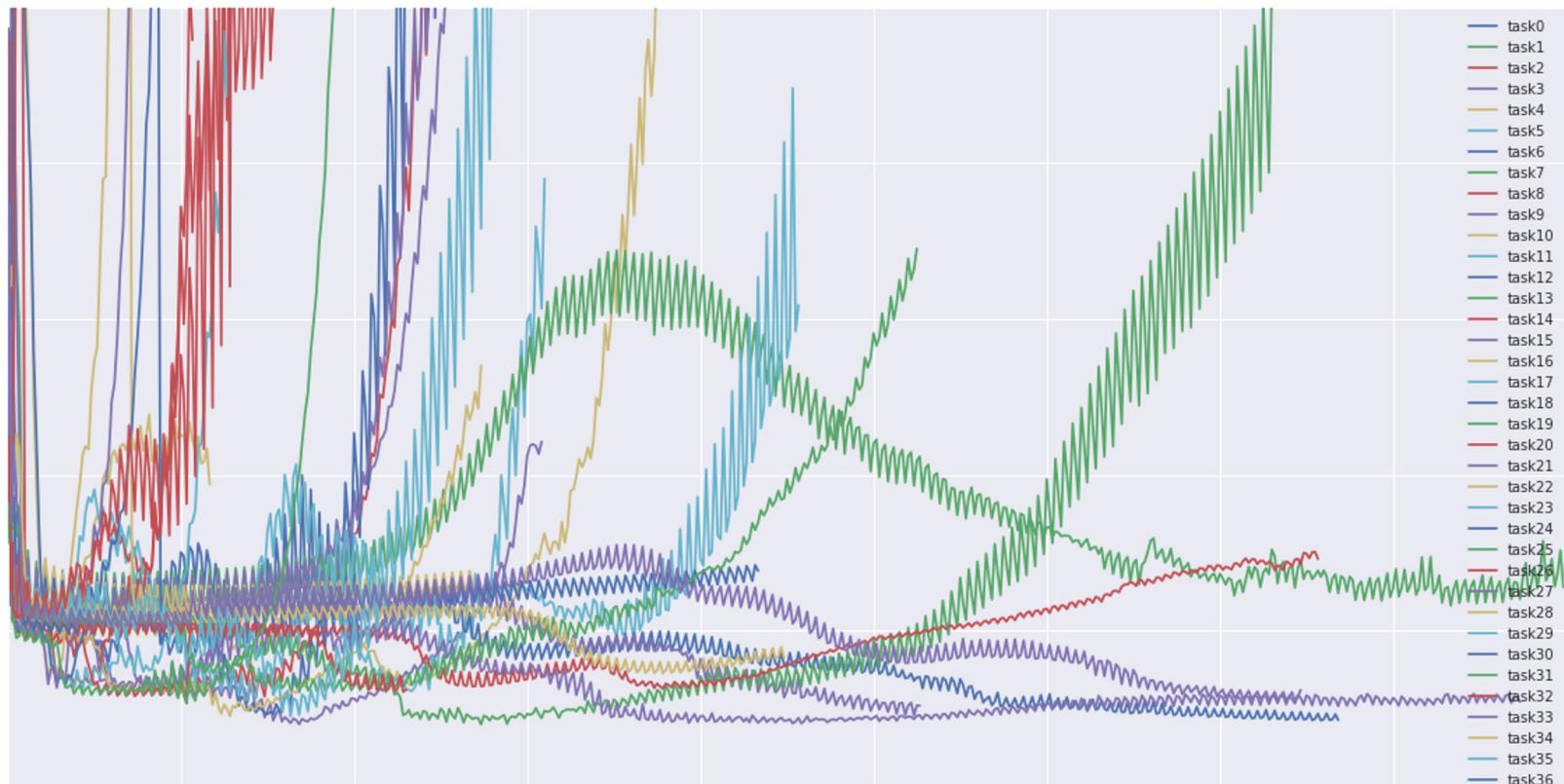
# Cross-validation

We develop  
"command centers"  
to visualize all our  
models training with  
different  
hyperparameters



check out [weights and biases](#)

You can plot all your loss curves for different hyperparameters on a single plot



Don't look at accuracy or loss curves for too long!



# Choosing Hyperparameters

**Step 1:** Check initial loss

**Step 2:** Overfit a small sample

**Step 3:** Find LR that makes loss go down

**Step 4:** Coarse grid, train for ~1-5 epochs

**Step 5:** Refine grid, train longer

**Step 6:** Look at loss and accuracy curves

**Step 7:** GOTO step 5

# Hyperparameters to play with:

- network architecture
- learning rate, its decay schedule, update type
- regularization (L1/L2/Dropout strength)

# Summary

- Improve your training error:
  - Optimizers
  - Learning rate schedules
- Improve your test error:
  - Regularization
  - Choosing Hyperparameters

# Summary

## Training Deep Neural Networks

- Details of the non-linear activation functions
- Data normalization
- Weight Initialization
- Batch Normalization
- Advanced Optimization
- Regularization
- Data Augmentation
- Transfer learning
- Hyperparameter Tuning

Next time: Recurrent Neural Networks