Lecture 7:
Training Neural Networks,
Part I

Administrative: Project Proposal

Due yesterday, 4/27 on GradeScope

1 person per group needs to submit, but tag all group members

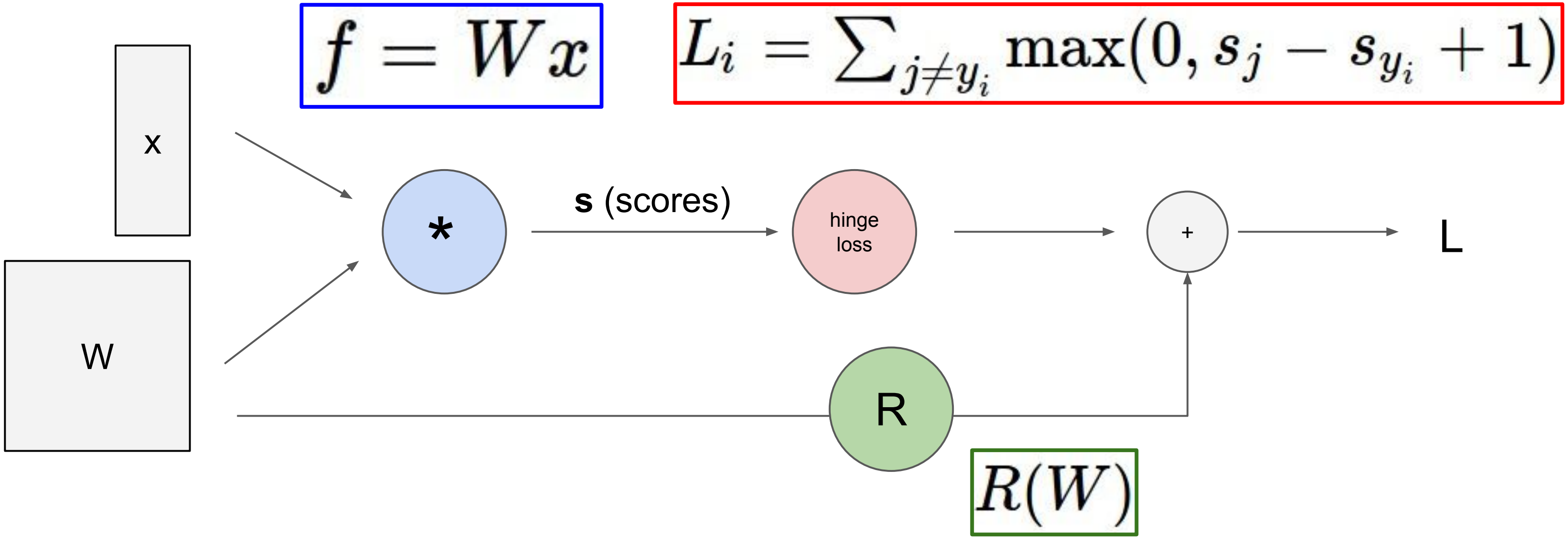
Administrative: A2

A2 is out, due Wednesday 5/6

We recommend using Colab for the assignment, especially if your local machine uses Windows

Where we are now...

Computational graphs



$$f = Wx$$

$$L_i = \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, s_j - s_{y_i} + 1)$$

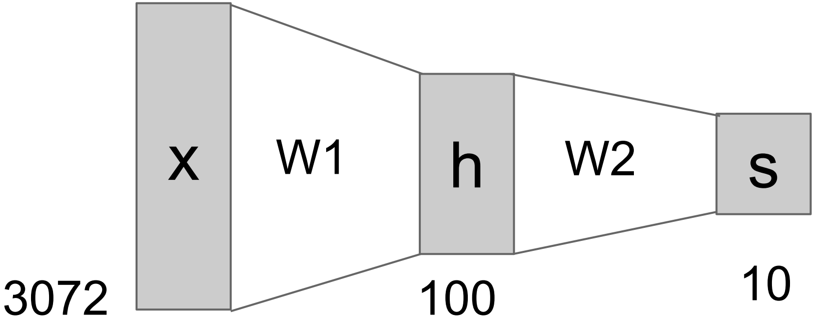
$$R(W)$$

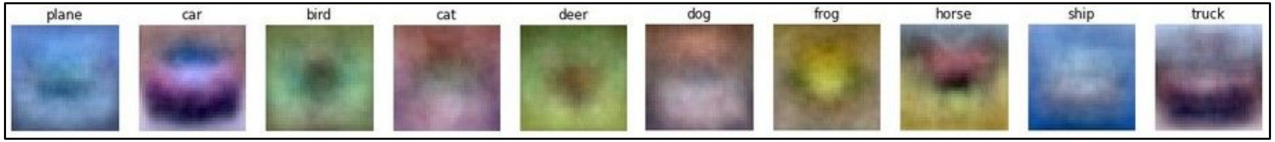
Where we are now...

Neural Networks

Linear score function: $f = Wx$

2-layer Neural Network $f = W_2 \max(0, W_1 x)$





Where we are now...

Convolutional Neural Networks

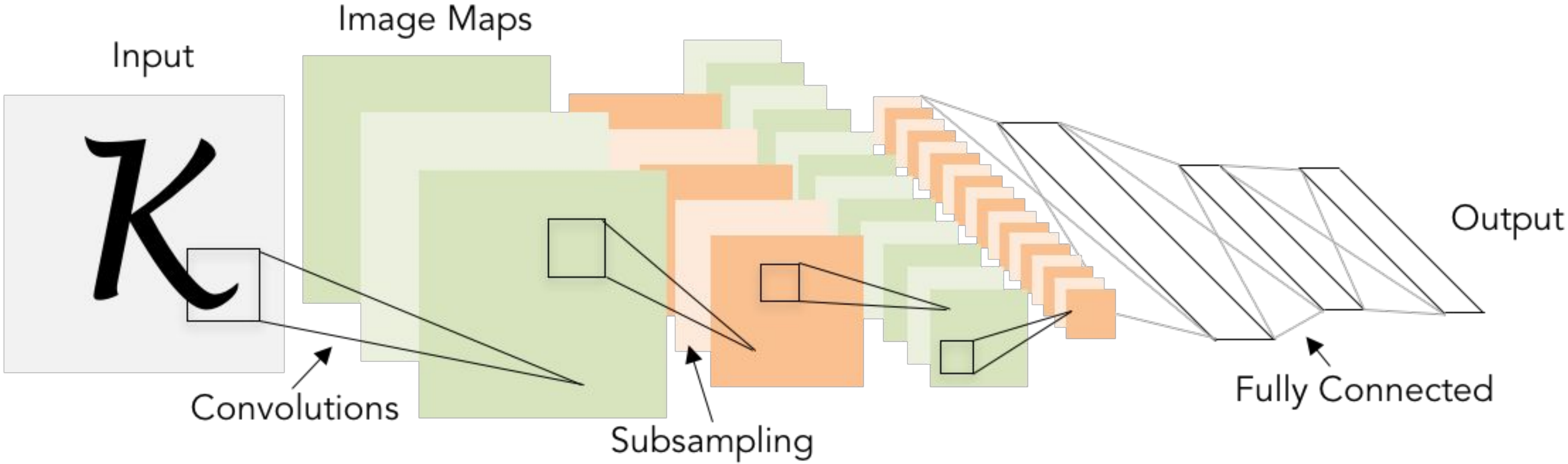
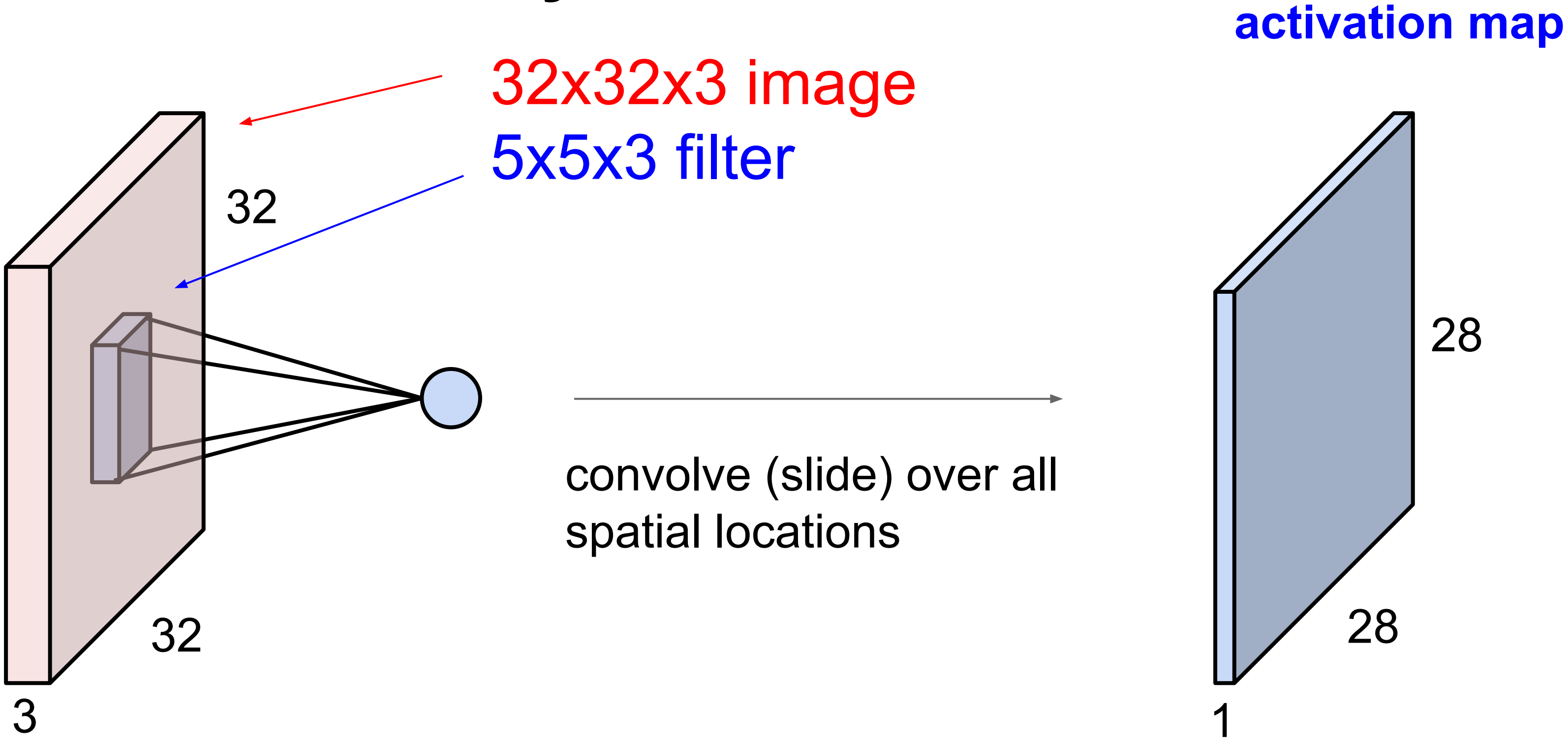


Illustration of LeCun et al. 1998 from CS231n 2017 Lecture 1

Where we are now...

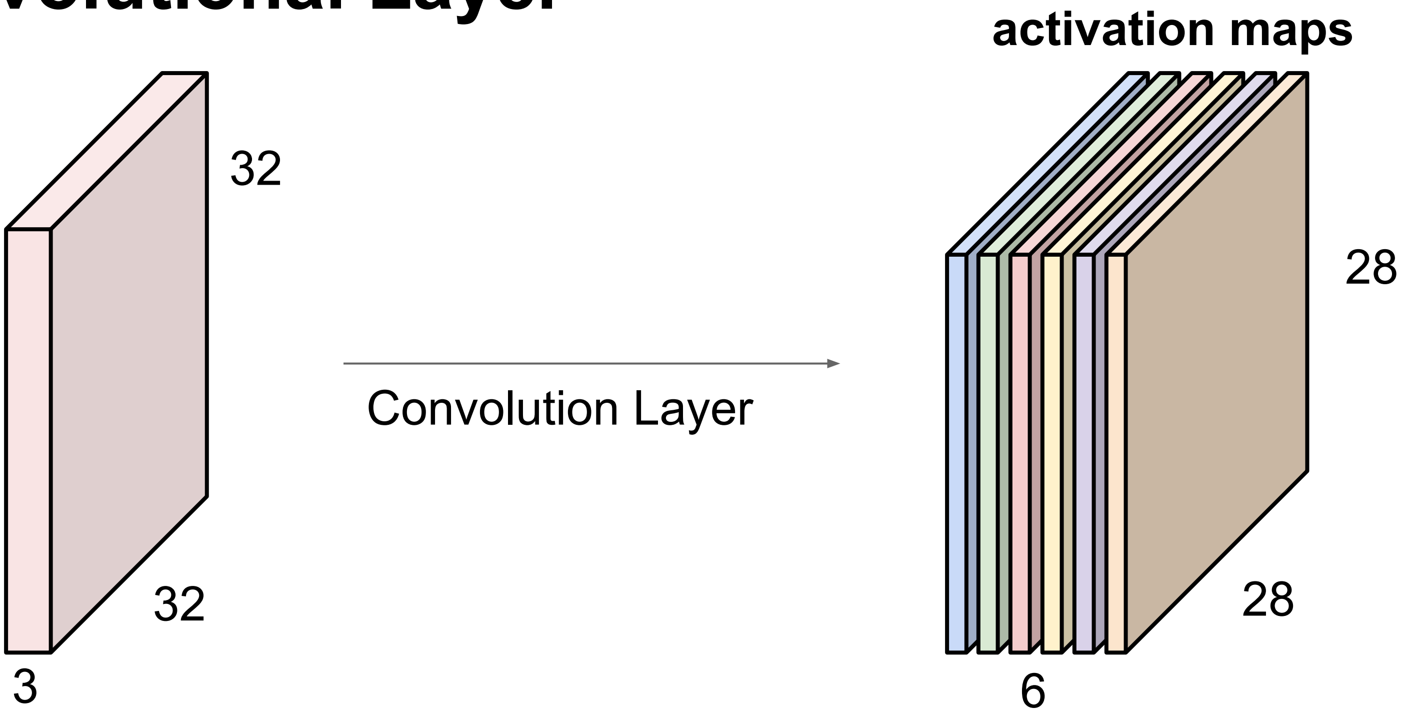
Convolutional Layer



Where we are now...

Convolutional Layer

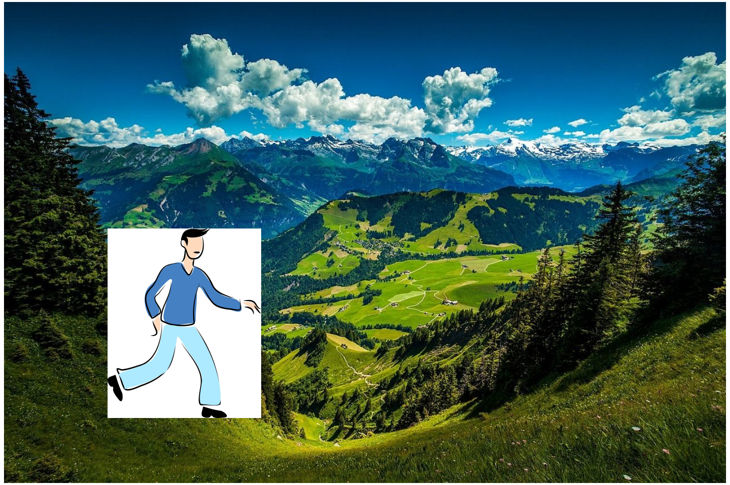
For example, if we had 6 5x5 filters, we'll get 6 separate activation maps:

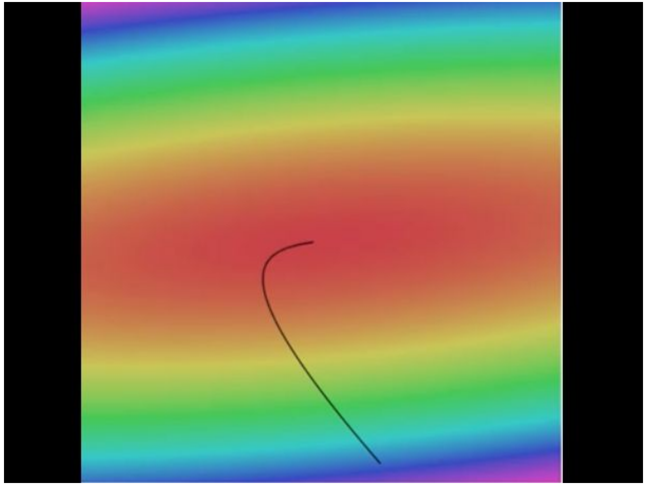


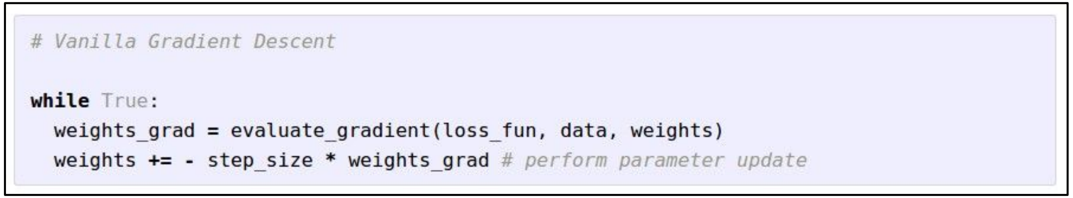
We stack these up to get a "new image" of size 28x28x6!

Where we are now...

Learning network parameters through optimization







```
# Vanilla Gradient Descent

while True:
  weights_grad = evaluate_gradient(loss_fun, data, weights)
  weights += - step_size * weights_grad # perform parameter update
```

Where we are now...

Mini-batch SGD

Loop:

1. **Sample** a batch of data
2. **Forward** prop it through the graph (network), get loss
3. **Backprop** to calculate the gradients
4. **Update** the parameters using the gradient

Where we are now...

Hardware + Software

PyTorch

TensorFlow

Next: Training Neural Networks

Overview

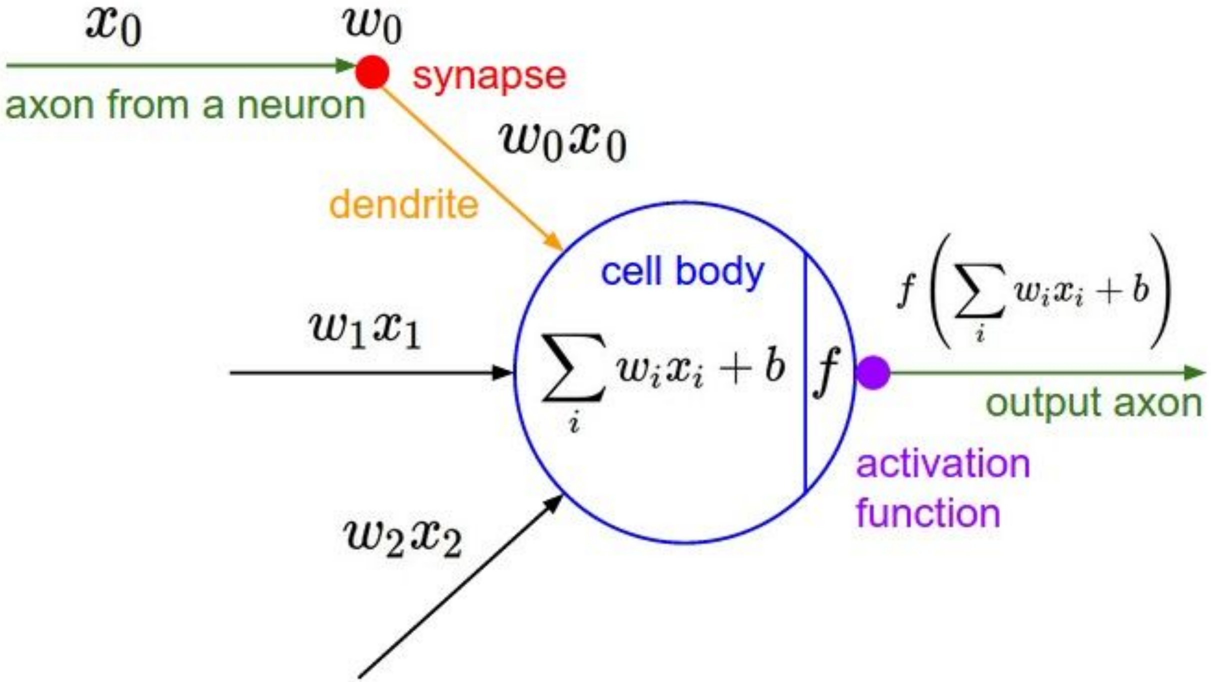
1. **One time setup**
   activation functions, preprocessing, weight initialization, regularization, gradient checking
2. **Training dynamics**
   transfer learning, *babysitting the learning process, parameter updates, hyperparameter optimization*
3. **Evaluation**
   model ensembles, test-time augmentation

Part 1

- Activation Functions
- Data Preprocessing
- Weight Initialization
- Batch Normalization
- Transfer learning

Activation Functions

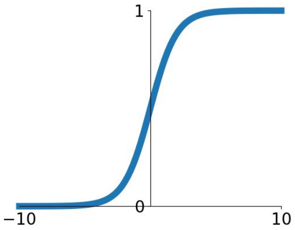
Activation Functions



Activation Functions

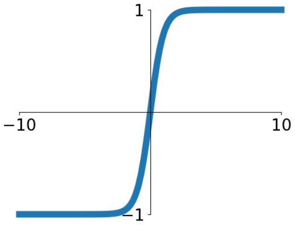
Sigmoid

$$\sigma(x) = \frac{1}{1+e^{-x}}$$



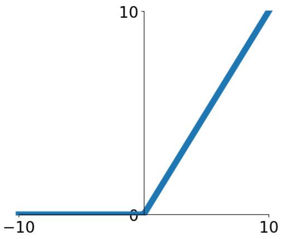
tanh

$$\tanh(x)$$



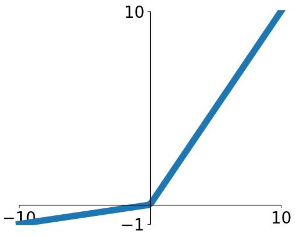
ReLU

$$\max(0, x)$$



Leaky ReLU

$$\max(0.1x, x)$$

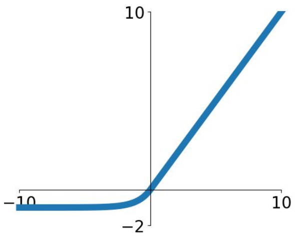


Maxout

$$\max(w_1^T x + b_1, w_2^T x + b_2)$$

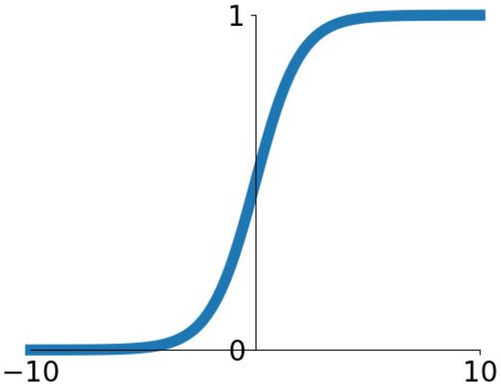
ELU

$$\begin{cases} x & x \geq 0 \\ \alpha(e^x - 1) & x < 0 \end{cases}$$



Activation Functions

$$\sigma(x) = 1/(1+e^{-x})$$

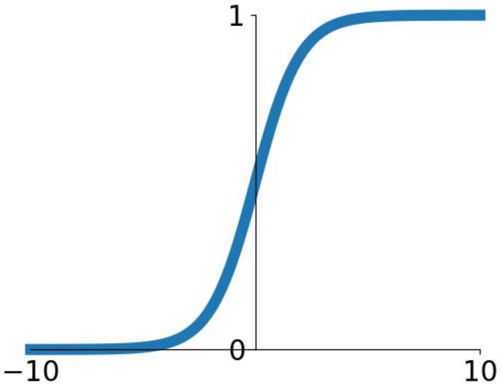


Sigmoid

- Squashes numbers to range [0,1]
- Historically popular since they have nice interpretation as a saturating “firing rate” of a neuron

Activation Functions

$$\sigma(x) = 1/(1 + e^{-x})$$

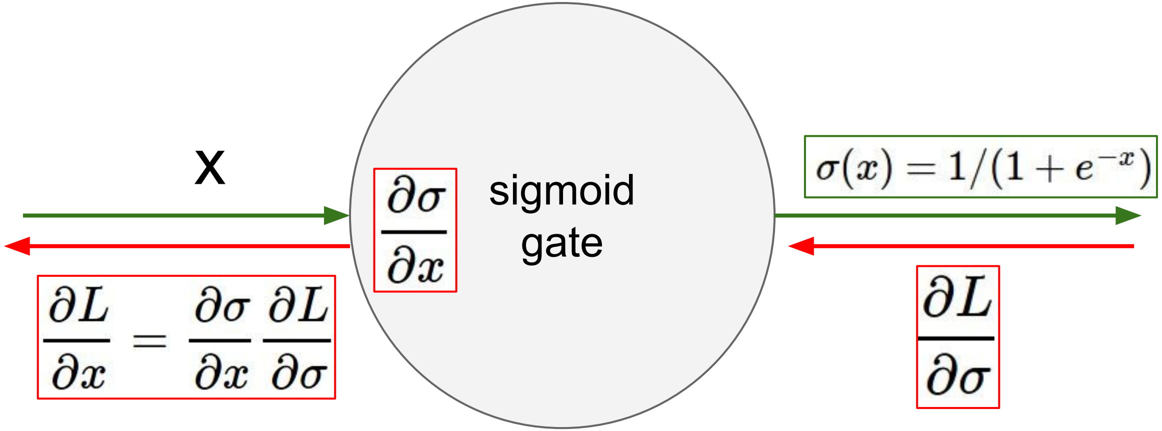


Sigmoid

- Squashes numbers to range [0,1]
- Historically popular since they have nice interpretation as a saturating “firing rate” of a neuron

3 problems:

1. Saturated neurons “kill” the gradients

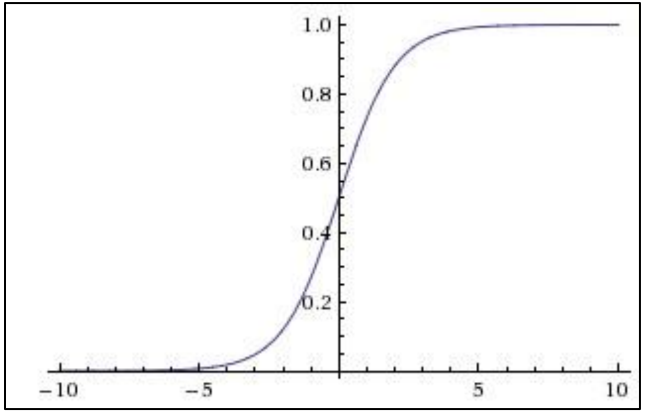


$$\sigma(x) = 1/(1+e^{-x})$$

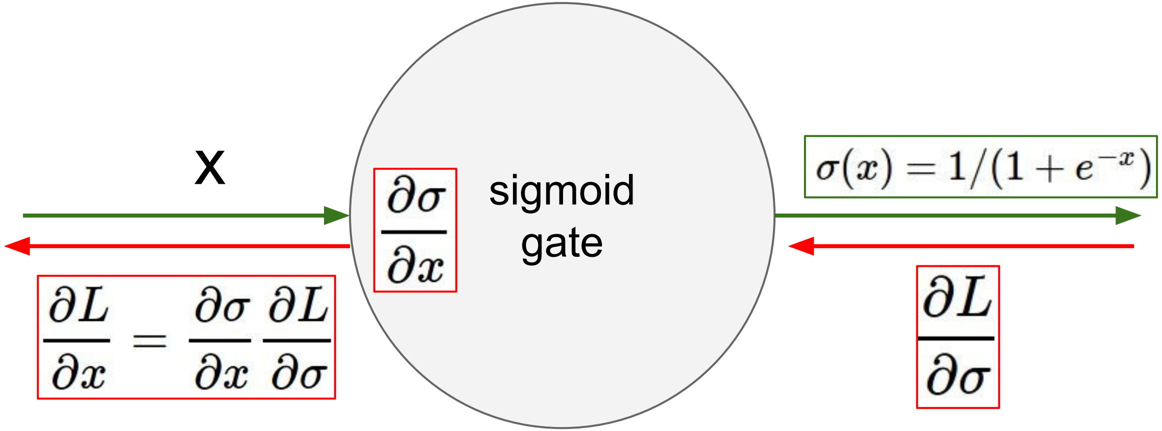
$$\frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial x}$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \sigma}$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial x} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \sigma}$$



$$\frac{\partial \sigma(x)}{\partial x} = \sigma(x)\,(1 - \sigma(x)\,)$$



x

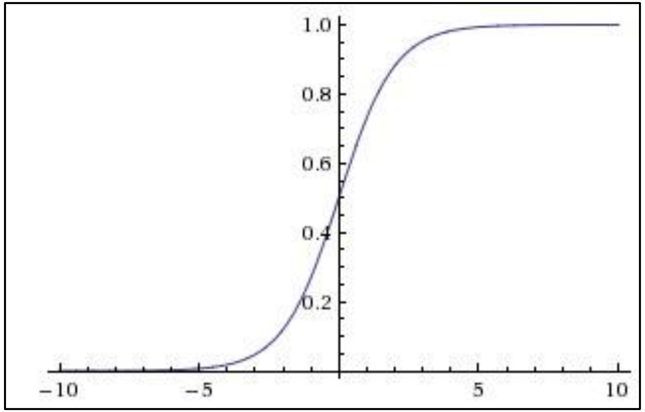
sigmoid gate

$$\frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial x}$$

$$\sigma(x) = 1/(1+e^{-x})$$

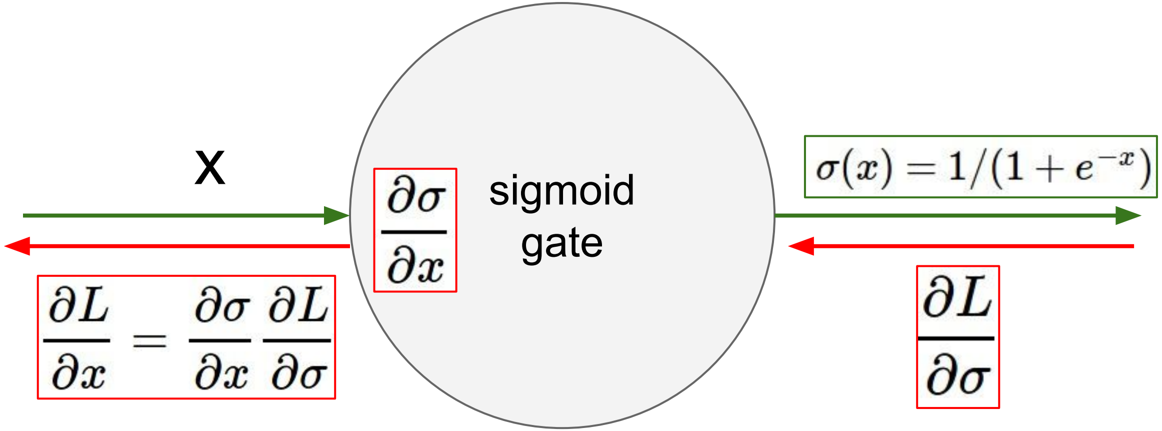
$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \sigma}$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial x} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \sigma}$$



What happens when x = -10?

$$\frac{\partial \sigma(x)}{\partial x} = \sigma(x)\,(1 - \sigma(x)\,)$$



x

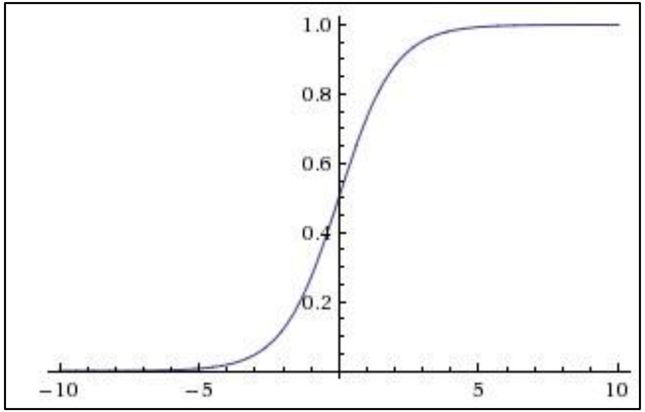
$$\frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial x}$$

sigmoid gate

$$\sigma(x) = 1/(1+e^{-x})$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \sigma}$$

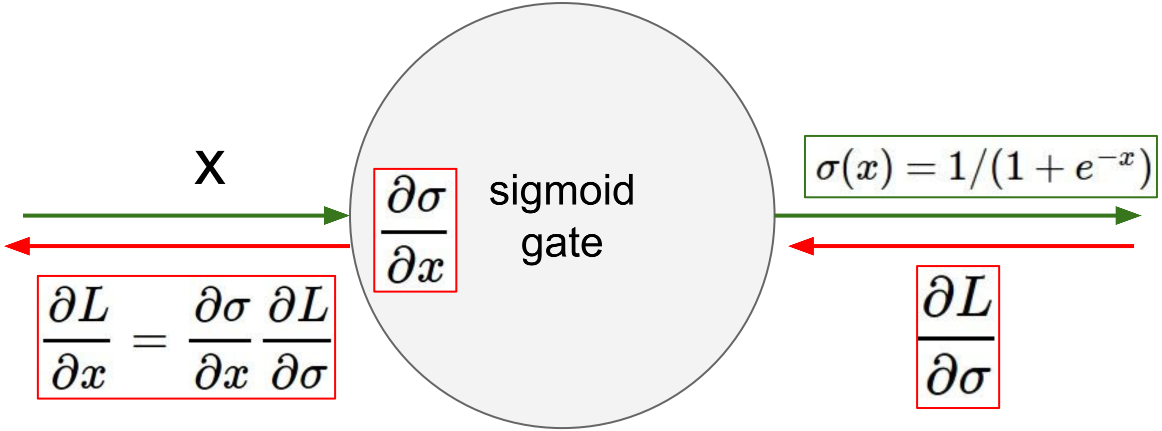
$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial x}\frac{\partial L}{\partial \sigma}$$

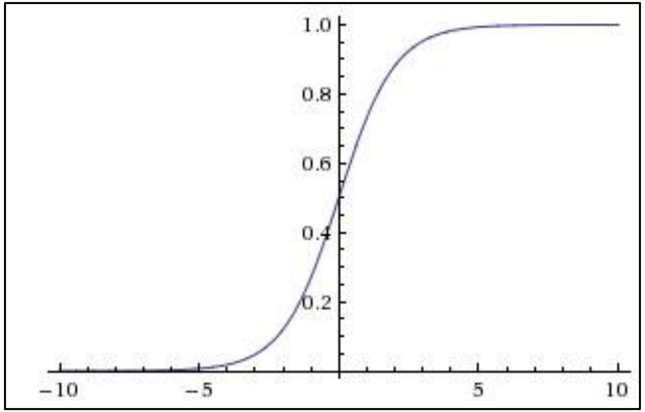


What happens when x = -10?

What happens when x = 0?

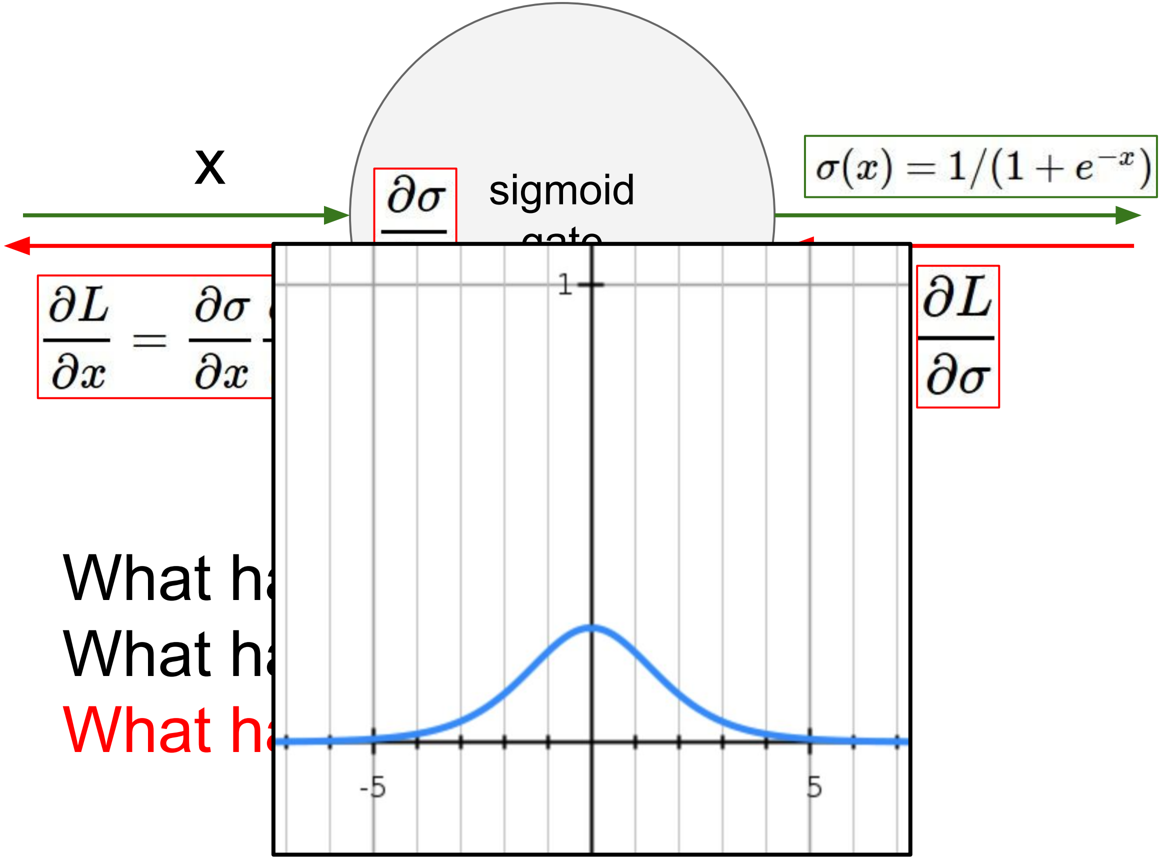
$$\frac{\partial \sigma(x)}{\partial x} = \sigma(x)\,(1 - \sigma(x)\,)$$


x
$\frac{\partial\sigma}{\partial x}$
sigmoid
gate
$\sigma(x) = 1/(1+e^{-x})$
$\frac{\partial L}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial\sigma}{\partial x}\frac{\partial L}{\partial\sigma}$
$\frac{\partial L}{\partial\sigma}$



$$\frac{\partial\sigma(x)}{\partial x} = \sigma(x)\,(1-\sigma(x)\,)$$

What happens when x = -10?
What happens when x = 0?
What happens when x = 10?

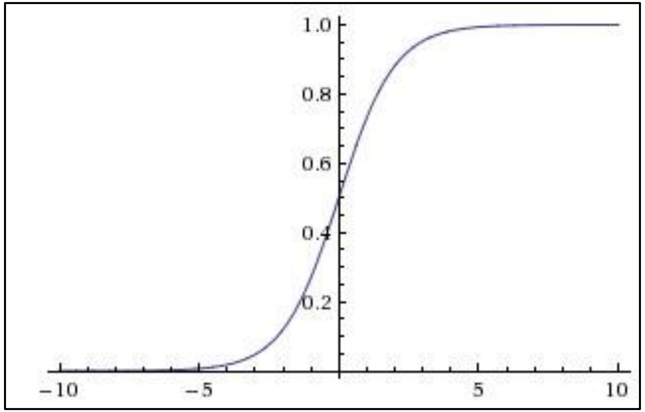


$\frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial x}$

$\frac{\partial L}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial x}$

$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \sigma}$

$\sigma(x) = 1/(1+e^{-x})$



$$\frac{\partial \sigma(x)}{\partial x} = \sigma(x)\,(1 - \sigma(x)\,)$$

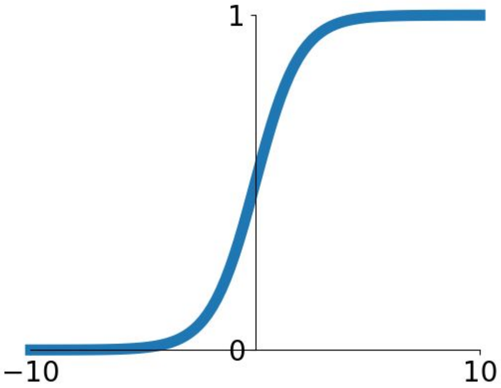
What ha

What ha

What ha

Activation Functions

$$\sigma(x) = 1/(1+e^{-x})$$



Sigmoid

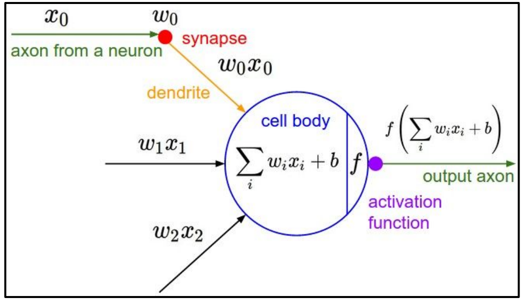
- Squashes numbers to range [0,1]
- Historically popular since they have nice interpretation as a saturating “firing rate” of a neuron

3 problems:

1. Saturated neurons “kill” the gradients
2. Sigmoid outputs are not zero-centered

Consider what happens when the input to a neuron is always positive...

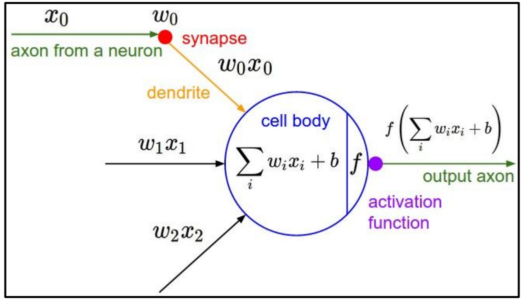
$$f\left(\sum_i w_i x_i + b\right)$$



What can we say about the gradients on **w**?

Consider what happens when the input to a neuron is always positive...

$$f\left(\sum_i w_i x_i + b\right)$$

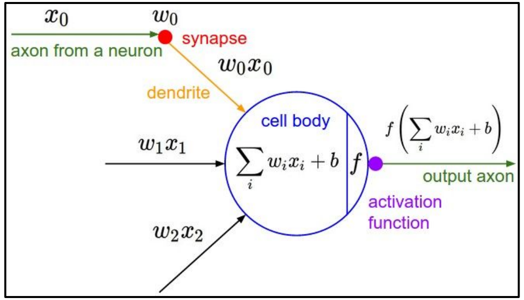


What can we say about the gradients on **w**?

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial w} = \sigma(\sum_i w_i x_i + b)(1 - \sigma(\sum_i w_i x_i + b))x \times upstream\_gradient$$

Consider what happens when the input to a neuron is always positive...

$$f\left(\sum_i w_i x_i + b\right)$$



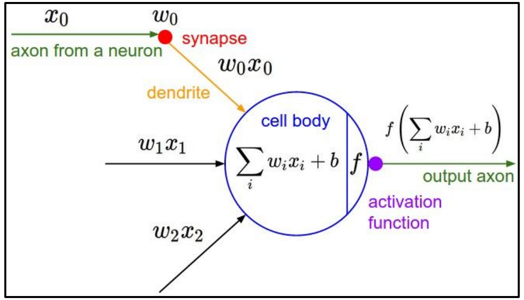
What can we say about the gradients on **w**?

We know that local gradient of sigmoid is always positive

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial w} = \boxed{\sigma(\sum_i w_i x_i + b)(1 - \sigma(\sum_i w_i x_i + b))} x \times upstream\_gradient$$

Consider what happens when the input to a neuron is always positive...

$$f\left(\sum_i w_i x_i + b\right)$$



What can we say about the gradients on **w**?

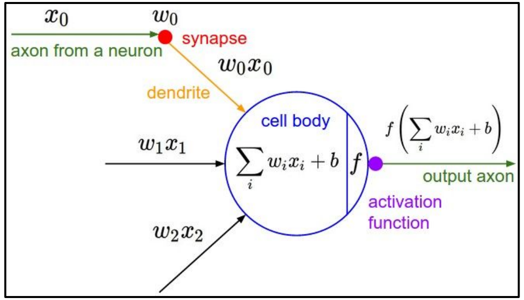
We know that local gradient of sigmoid is always positive

We are assuming x is always positive

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial w} = \boxed{\sigma(\textstyle\sum_i w_i x_i + b)(1 - \sigma(\textstyle\sum_i w_i x_i + b))}\boxed{x} \times upstream\_gradient$$

Consider what happens when the input to a neuron is always positive...

$$f\left(\sum_i w_i x_i + b\right)$$



What can we say about the gradients on **w**?

We know that local gradient of sigmoid is always positive

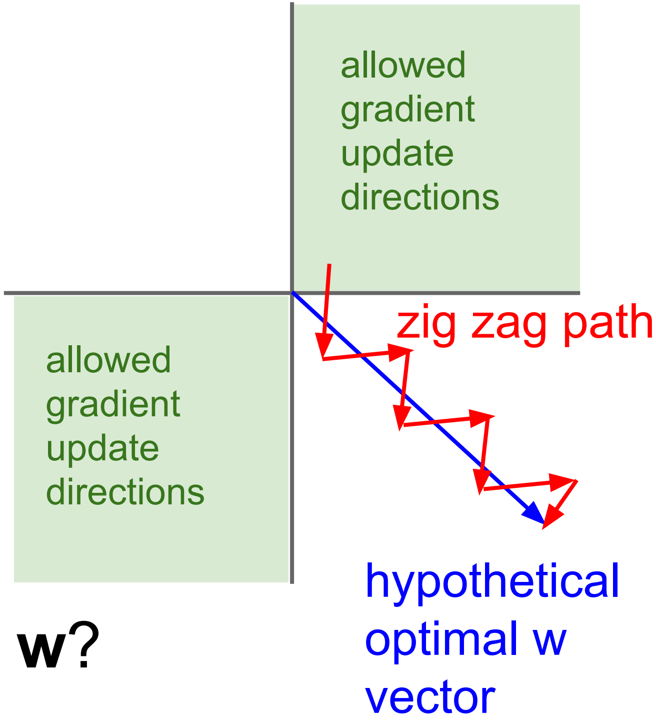
We are assuming x is always positive

So!! Sign of gradient **for all w_i** is the same as the sign of upstream scalar gradient!

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial L}{\partial w}} = \boxed{\sigma(\textstyle\sum_i w_i x_i + b)(1 - \sigma(\textstyle\sum_i w_i x_i + b))}\boxed{x} \times \boxed{upstream\_gradient}$$

Consider what happens when the input to a neuron is always positive...

$$f\left(\sum_i w_i x_i + b\right)$$

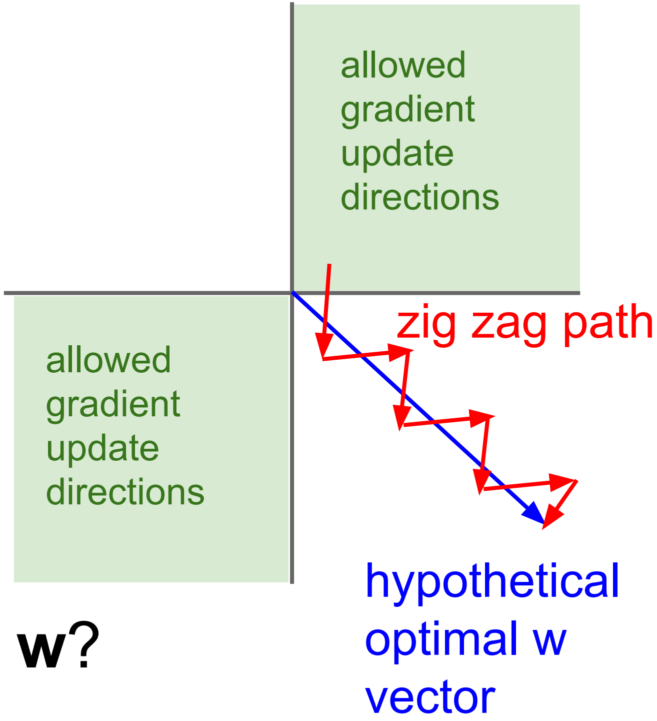

allowed gradient update directions
allowed gradient update directions
zig zag path
hypothetical optimal w vector

What can we say about the gradients on **w**?

Always all positive or all negative :(

Consider what happens when the input to a neuron is always positive...

$$f\left(\sum_i w_i x_i + b\right)$$


allowed gradient update directions
allowed gradient update directions
zig zag path
hypothetical optimal w vector

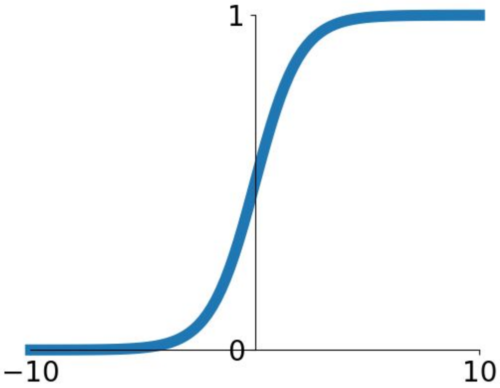
What can we say about the gradients on **w**?

Always all positive or all negative :(

(For a single element! Minibatches help)

Activation Functions

$$\sigma(x) = 1/(1+e^{-x})$$



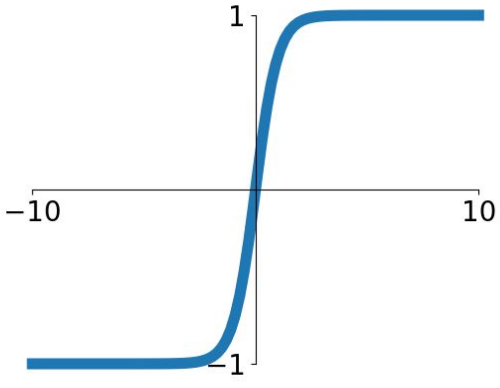
Sigmoid

- Squashes numbers to range [0,1]
- Historically popular since they have nice interpretation as a saturating “firing rate” of a neuron

3 problems:

1. Saturated neurons “kill” the gradients
2. Sigmoid outputs are not zero-centered
3. exp() is a bit compute expensive

Activation Functions

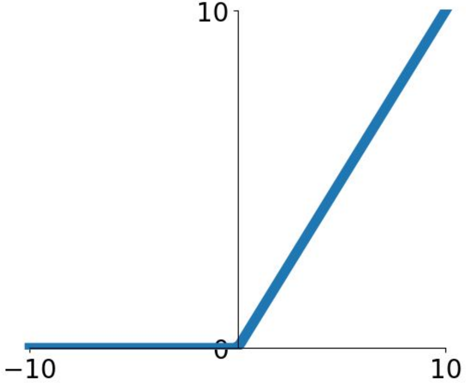


tanh(x)

- Squashes numbers to range [-1,1]
- zero centered (nice)
- still kills gradients when saturated :(

[LeCun et al., 1991]

Activation Functions



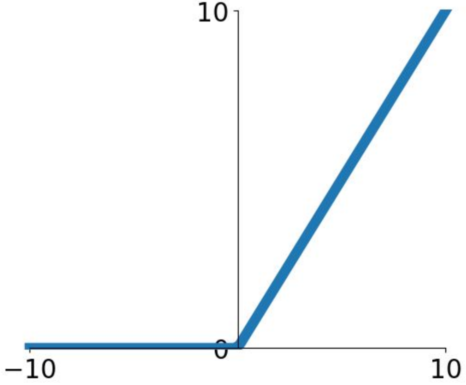
ReLU
(Rectified Linear Unit)

- Computes **f(x) = max(0,x)**

- Does not saturate (in +region)
- Very computationally efficient
- Converges much faster than sigmoid/tanh in practice (e.g. 6x)

[Krizhevsky et al., 2012]

Activation Functions



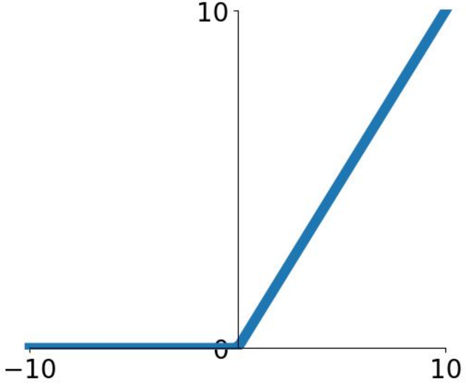
ReLU
(Rectified Linear Unit)

- Computes **f(x) = max(0,x)**

- Does not saturate (in +region)
- Very computationally efficient
- Converges much faster than sigmoid/tanh in practice (e.g. 6x)

- Not zero-centered output

Activation Functions



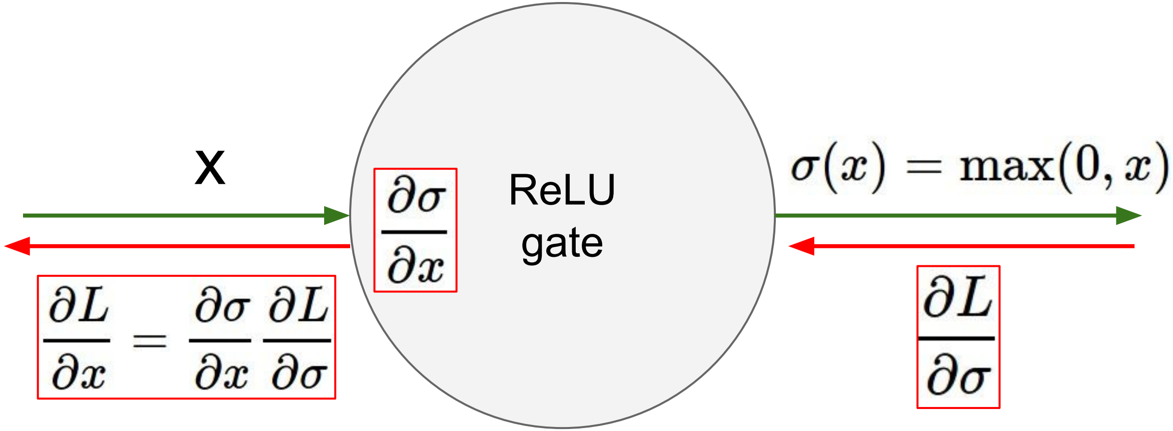
ReLU
(Rectified Linear Unit)

- Computes **f(x) = max(0,x)**

- Does not saturate (in +region)
- Very computationally efficient
- Converges much faster than sigmoid/tanh in practice (e.g. 6x)

- Not zero-centered output
- An annoyance:

hint: what is the gradient when x < 0?



x

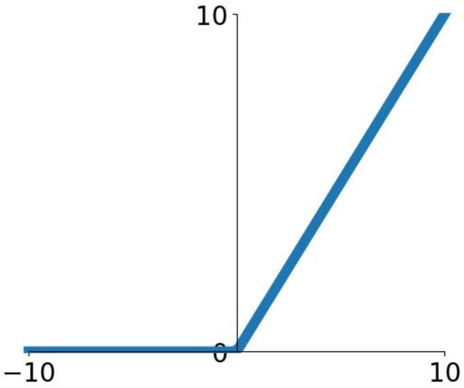
ReLU gate

$\sigma(x) = \max(0, x)$

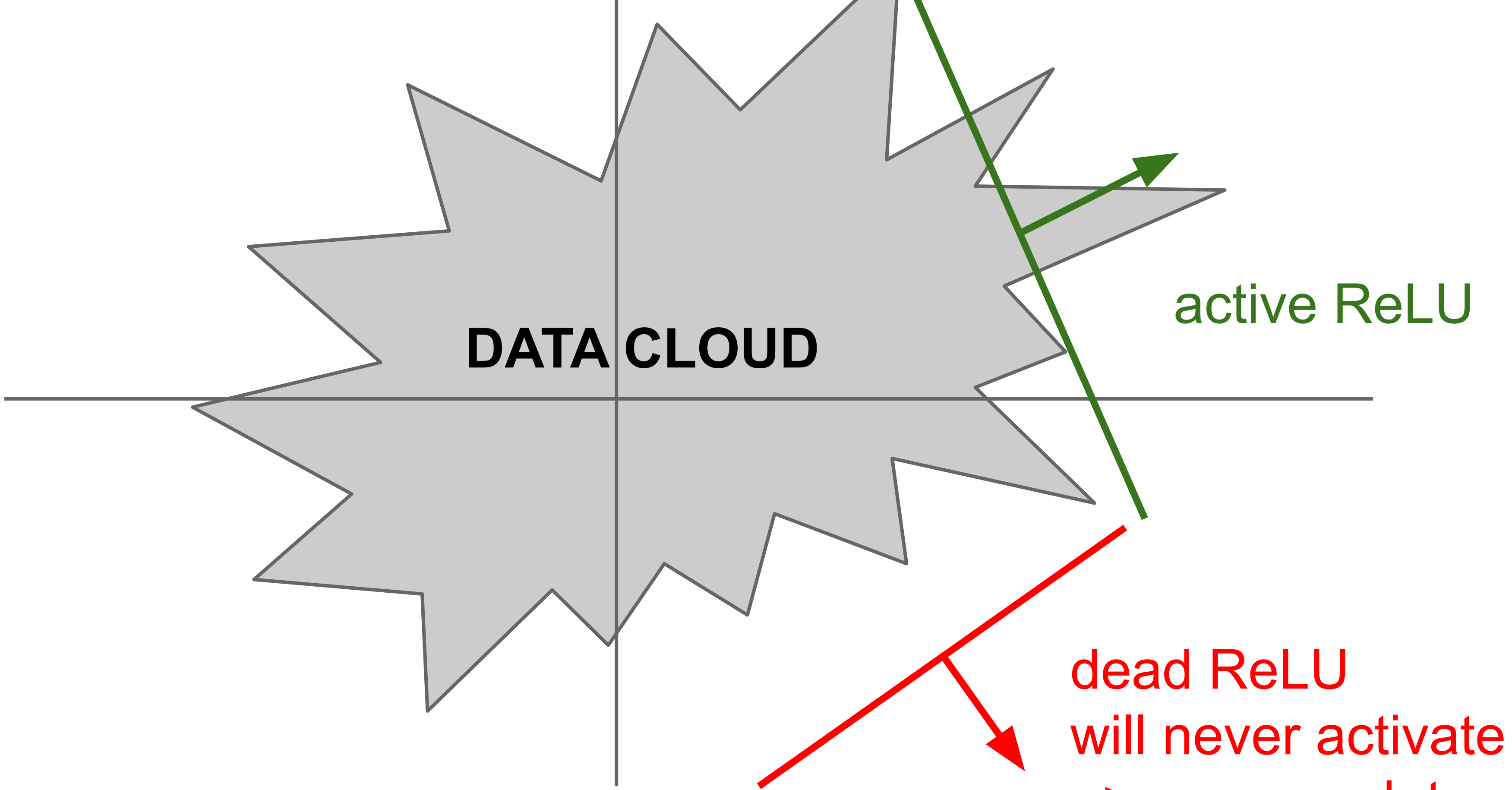
$\frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial x}$

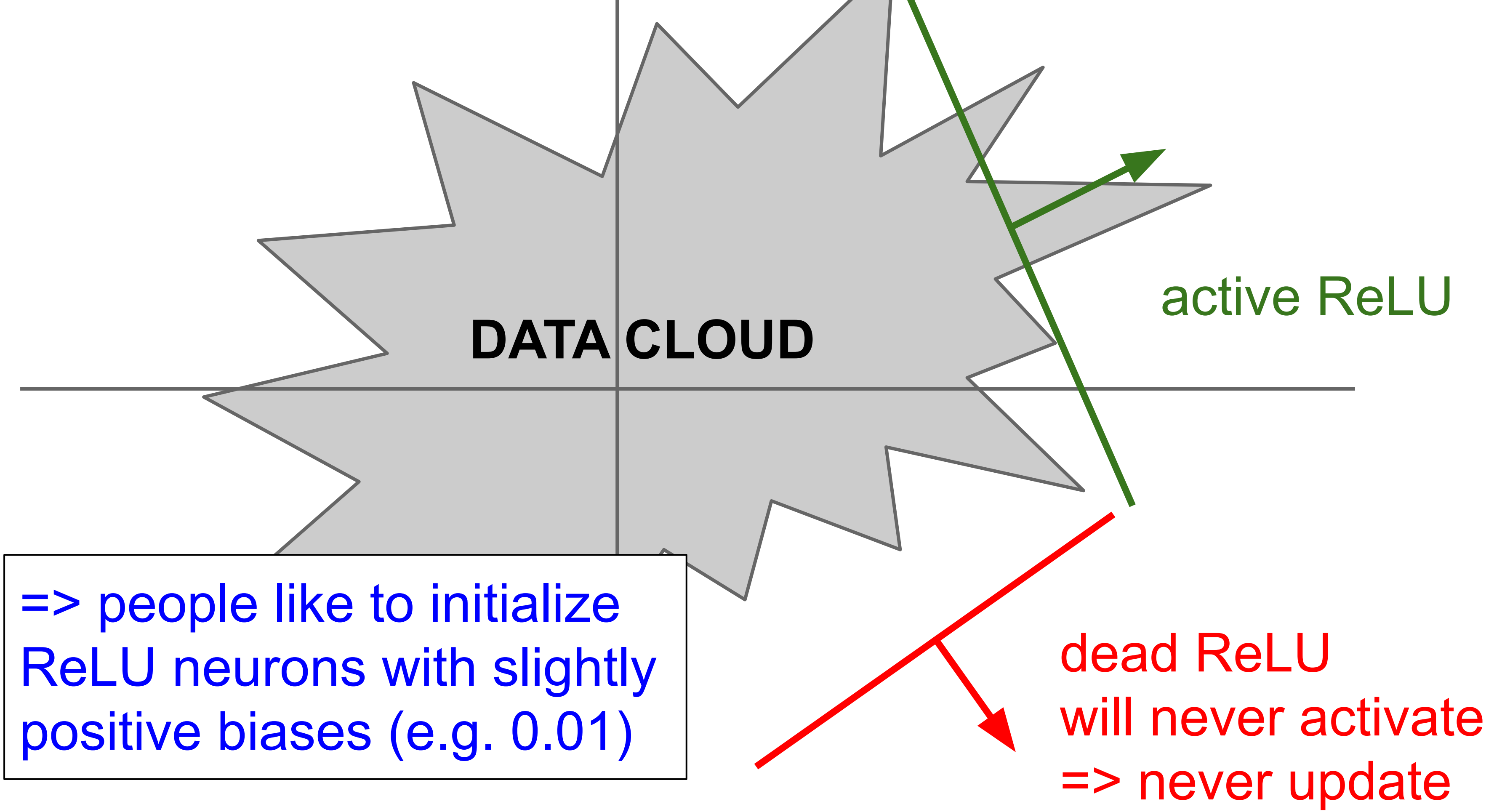
$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \sigma}$

$\frac{\partial L}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial x} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \sigma}$



What happens when x = -10?
What happens when x = 0?
What happens when x = 10?


DATA CLOUD
active ReLU
dead ReLU
will never activate
=> never update



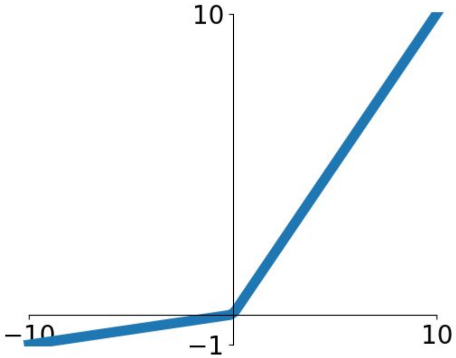
active ReLU

dead ReLU
will never activate
=> never update

=> people like to initialize ReLU neurons with slightly positive biases (e.g. 0.01)

Activation Functions

[Mass et al., 2013]
[He et al., 2015]



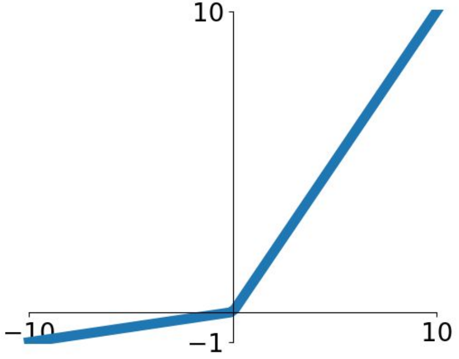
- Does not saturate
- Computationally efficient
- Converges much faster than sigmoid/tanh in practice! (e.g. 6x)
- **will not "die".**

Leaky ReLU

$$f(x) = \max(0.01x, x)$$

Activation Functions

[Mass et al., 2013]
[He et al., 2015]



- Does not saturate
- Computationally efficient
- Converges much faster than sigmoid/tanh in practice! (e.g. 6x)
- **will not “die”.**

Leaky ReLU

$$f(x) = \max(0.01x, x)$$

Parametric Rectifier (PReLU)

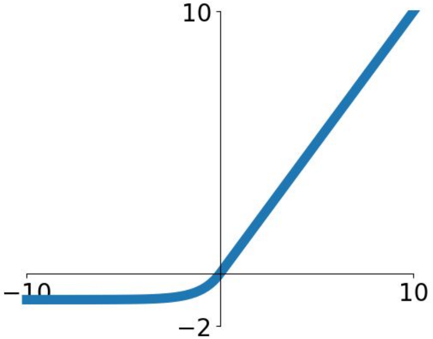
$$f(x) = \max(\alpha x, x)$$

backprop into \alpha (parameter)

Activation Functions

[Clevert et al., 2015]

Exponential Linear Units (ELU)



$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x > 0 \\ \alpha\,(\exp(x) - 1) & \text{if } x \le 0 \end{cases}$$

(Alpha default = 1)

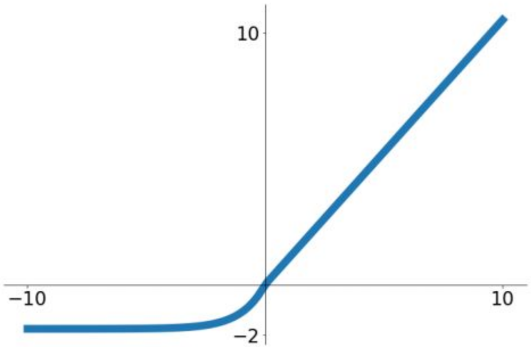
- All benefits of ReLU
- Closer to zero mean outputs
- Negative saturation regime compared with Leaky ReLU adds some robustness to noise

- Computation requires exp()

Activation Functions

[Klambauer et al. ICLR 2017]

Scaled Exponential Linear Units (SELU)



- Scaled versionof ELU that works better for deep networks
- “Self-normalizing” property;
- Can train deep SELU networks without BatchNorm
  - (will discuss more later)

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \lambda x & \text{if } x > 0 \\ \lambda\alpha(e^x - 1) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

α = 1.6733, λ = 1.0507

Maxout "Neuron"

[Goodfellow et al., 2013]

- Does not have the basic form of dot product -> nonlinearity
- Generalizes ReLU and Leaky ReLU
- Linear Regime! Does not saturate! Does not die!

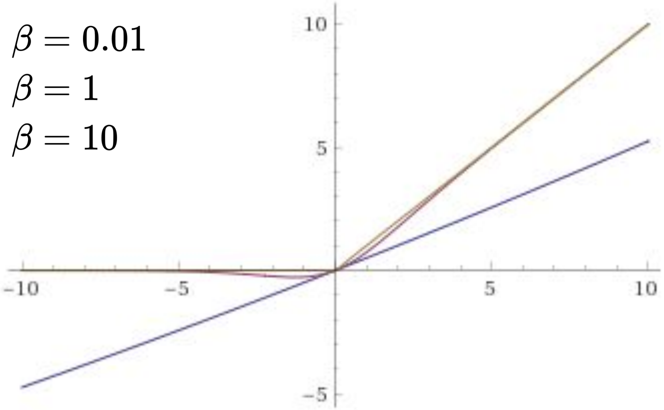
$$\max(w_1^T x + b_1, w_2^T x + b_2)$$

Problem: doubles the number of parameters/neuron :(

Activation Functions

[Ramachandran et al. 2018]

Swish



$$f(x) = x\sigma(\beta x)$$

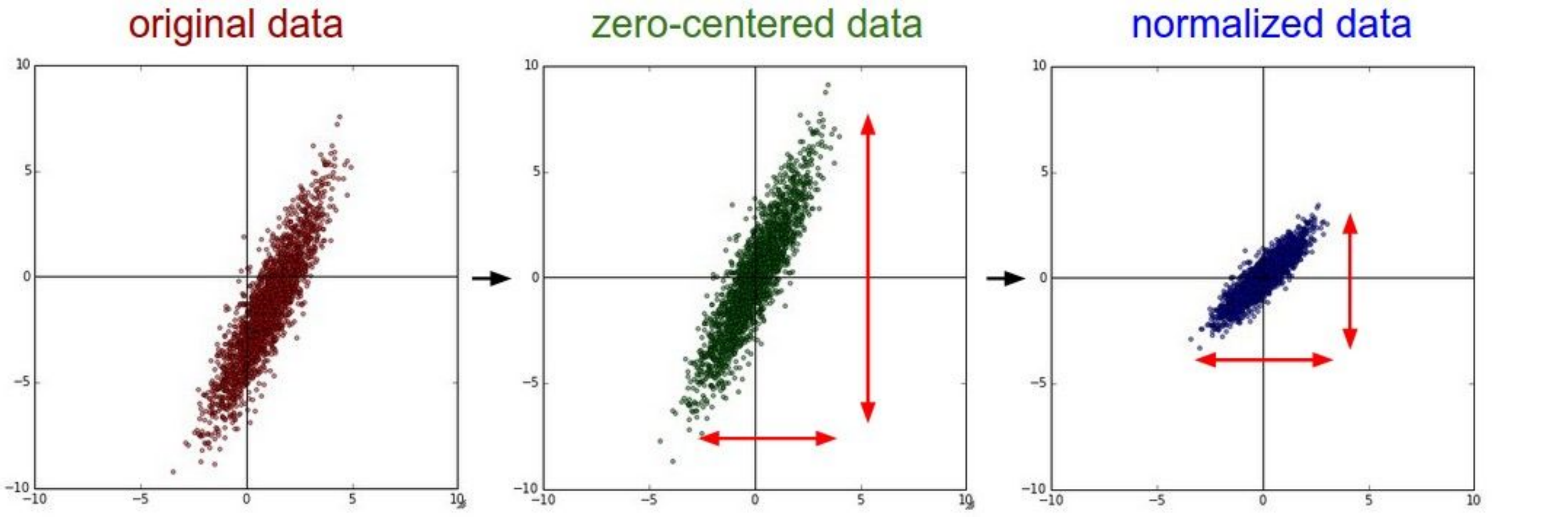
- They trained a neural network to generate and test out different non-linearities.
- Swish outperformed all other options for CIFAR-10 accuracy

TLDR: In practice:

- Use ReLU. Be careful with your learning rates
- Try out Leaky ReLU / Maxout / ELU / SELU
  - To squeeze out some marginal gains
- Don’t use sigmoid or tanh

Data Preprocessing

Data Preprocessing



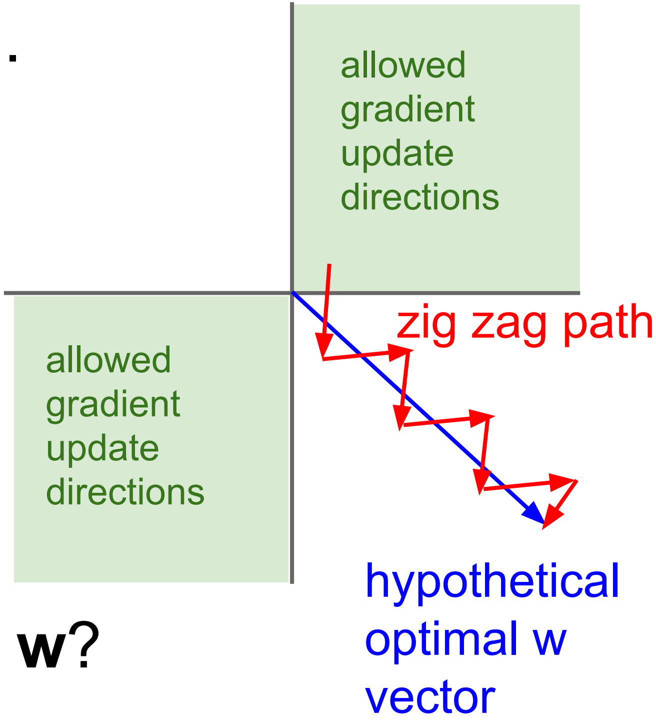
```
X -= np.mean(X, axis = 0)
```

```
X /= np.std(X, axis = 0)
```

(Assume X [NxD] is data matrix,
each example in a row)

Remember: Consider what happens when the input to a neuron is always positive...

$$f\left(\sum_i w_i x_i + b\right)$$

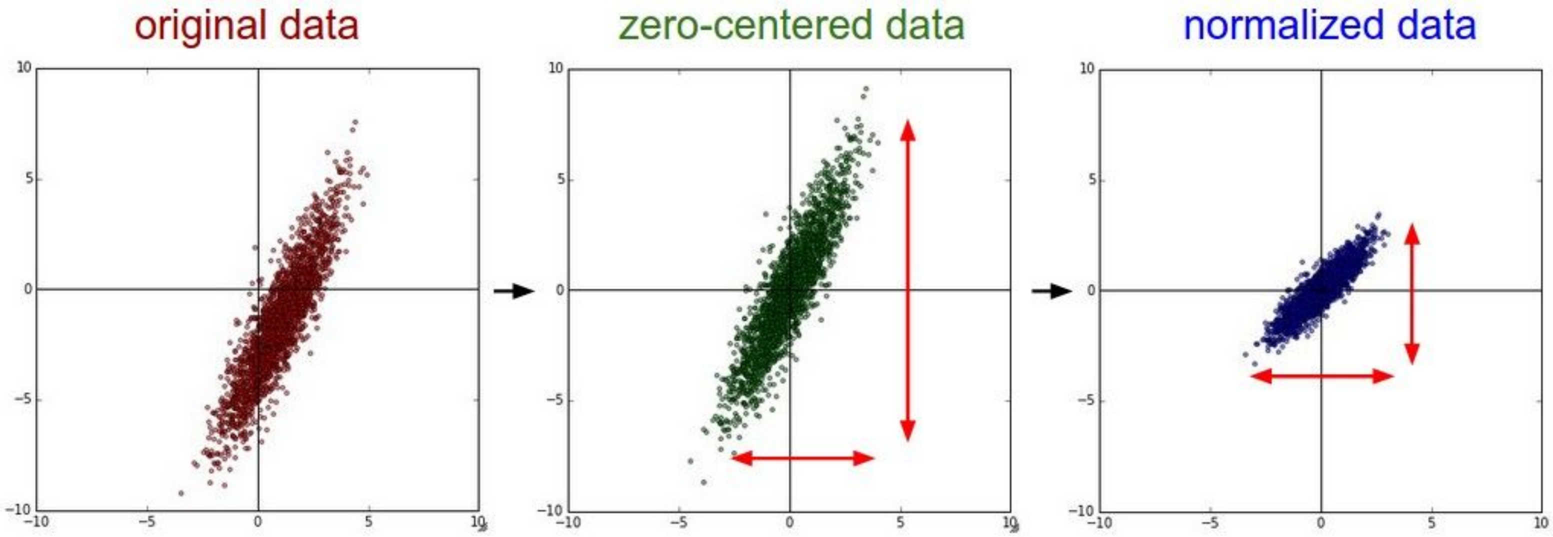

allowed gradient update directions
allowed gradient update directions
zig zag path
hypothetical optimal w vector

What can we say about the gradients on **w**?

Always all positive or all negative :(

(this is also why you want zero-mean data!)

Data Preprocessing


original data

zero-centered data

normalized data

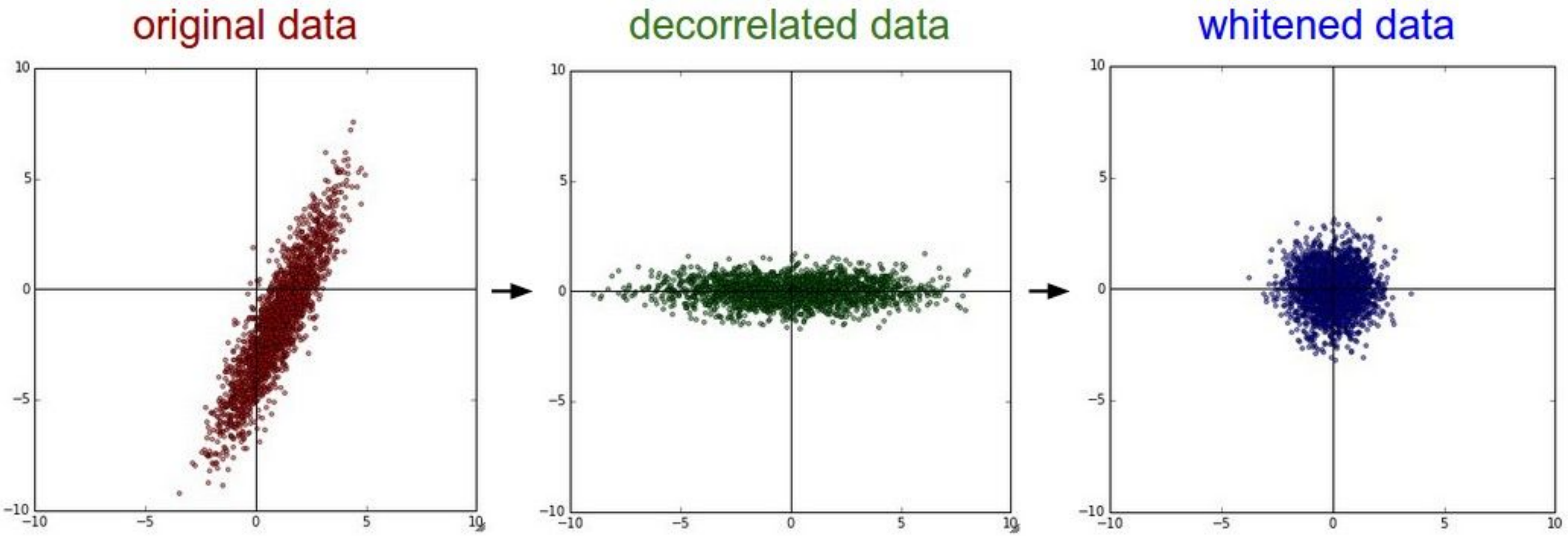
```
X -= np.mean(X, axis = 0)
```

```
X /= np.std(X, axis = 0)
```

(Assume X [NxD] is data matrix, each example in a row)

Data Preprocessing

In practice, you may also see **PCA** and **Whitening** of the data

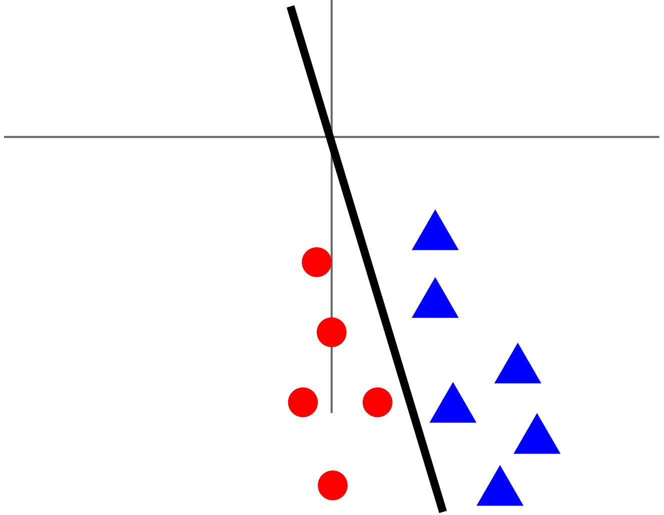


(data has diagonal covariance matrix)

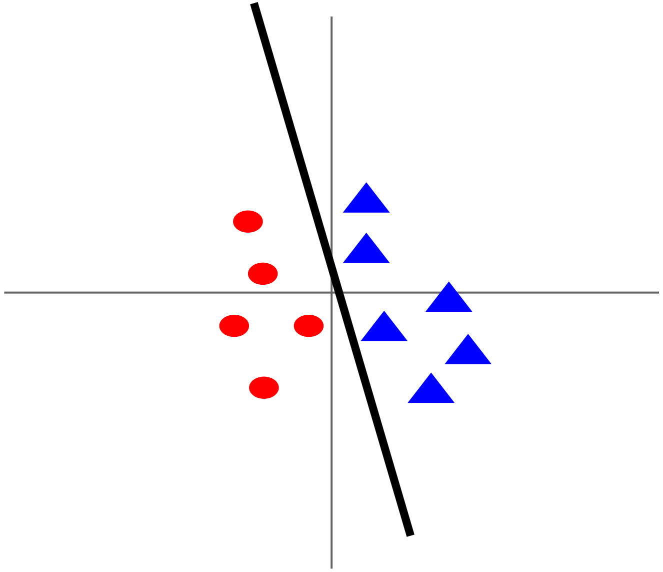
(covariance matrix is the identity matrix)

Data Preprocessing

Before normalization: classification loss very sensitive to changes in weight matrix; hard to optimize



After normalization: less sensitive to small changes in weights; easier to optimize



TLDR: In practice for Images: center only

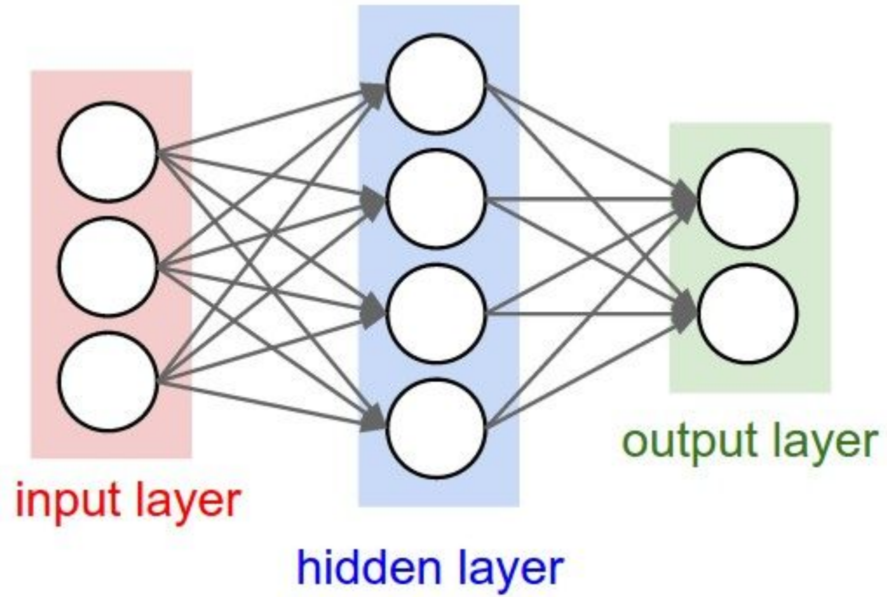
e.g. consider CIFAR-10 example with [32,32,3] images

- Subtract the mean image (e.g. AlexNet)
  (mean image = [32,32,3] array)
- Subtract per-channel mean (e.g. VGGNet)
  (mean along each channel = 3 numbers)
- Subtract per-channel mean and
  Divide by per-channel std (e.g. ResNet)
  (mean along each channel = 3 numbers)

Not common to do PCA or whitening

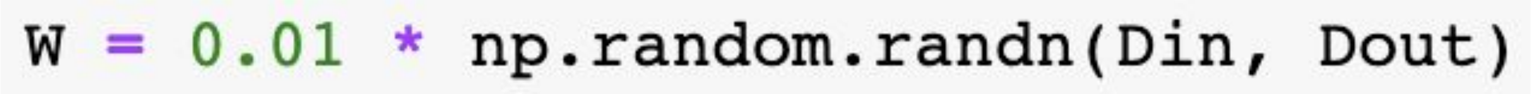
Weight Initialization

- Q: what happens when W=constant init is used?



- First idea: **Small random numbers**

(gaussian with zero mean and 1e-2 standard deviation)



```
W = 0.01 * np.random.randn(Din, Dout)
```

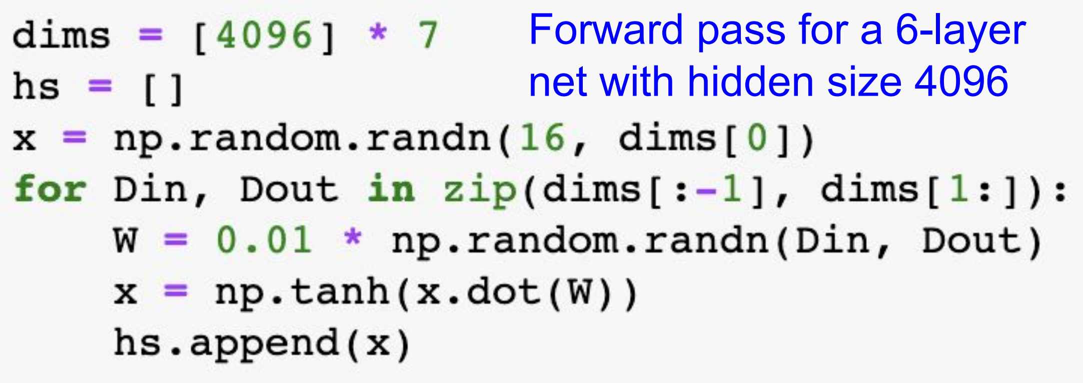
- First idea: **Small random numbers**

(gaussian with zero mean and 1e-2 standard deviation)

```
W = 0.01 * np.random.randn(Din, Dout)
```

Works ~okay for small networks, but problems with deeper networks.

Weight Initialization: Activation statistics

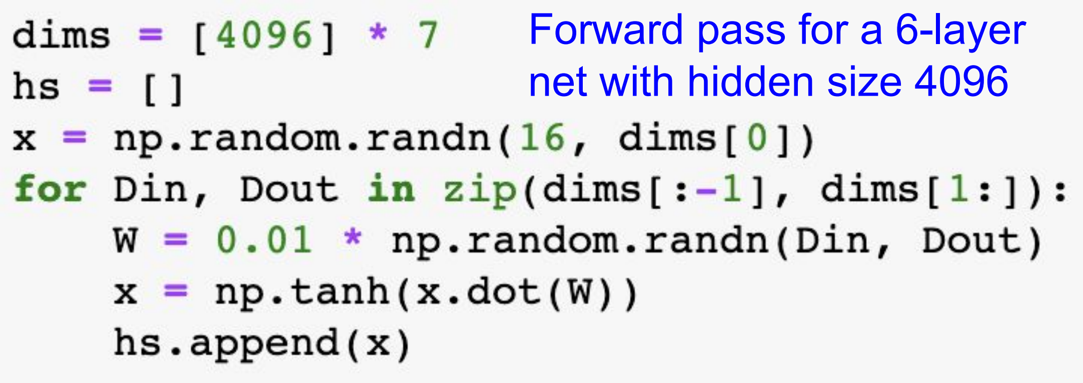


```
dims = [4096] * 7
hs = []
x = np.random.randn(16, dims[0])
for Din, Dout in zip(dims[:-1], dims[1:]):
    W = 0.01 * np.random.randn(Din, Dout)
    x = np.tanh(x.dot(W))
    hs.append(x)
```

Forward pass for a 6-layer net with hidden size 4096

What will happen to the activations for the last layer?

Weight Initialization: Activation statistics

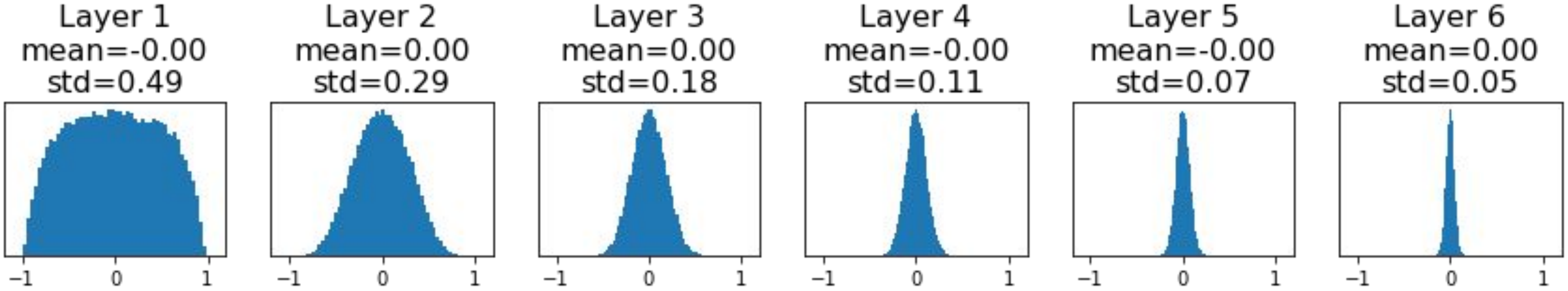


```
dims = [4096] * 7
hs = []
x = np.random.randn(16, dims[0])
for Din, Dout in zip(dims[:-1], dims[1:]):
    W = 0.01 * np.random.randn(Din, Dout)
    x = np.tanh(x.dot(W))
    hs.append(x)
```

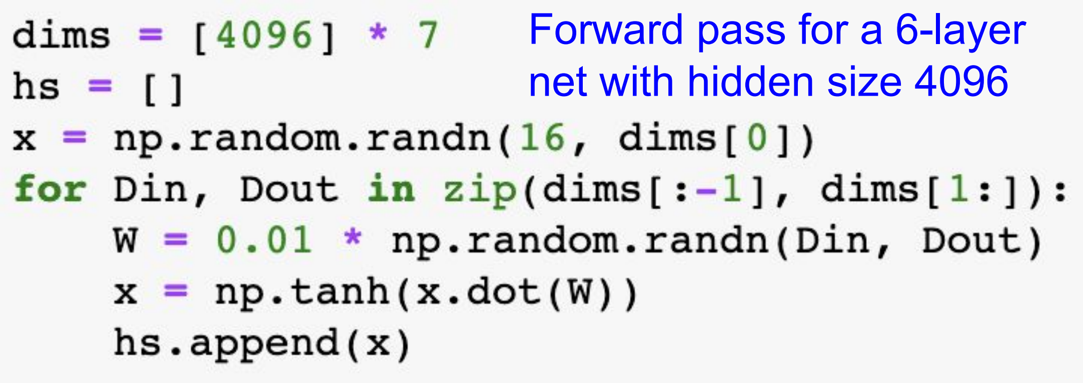
Forward pass for a 6-layer net with hidden size 4096

All activations tend to zero for deeper network layers

Q: What do the gradients dL/dW look like?



Weight Initialization: Activation statistics



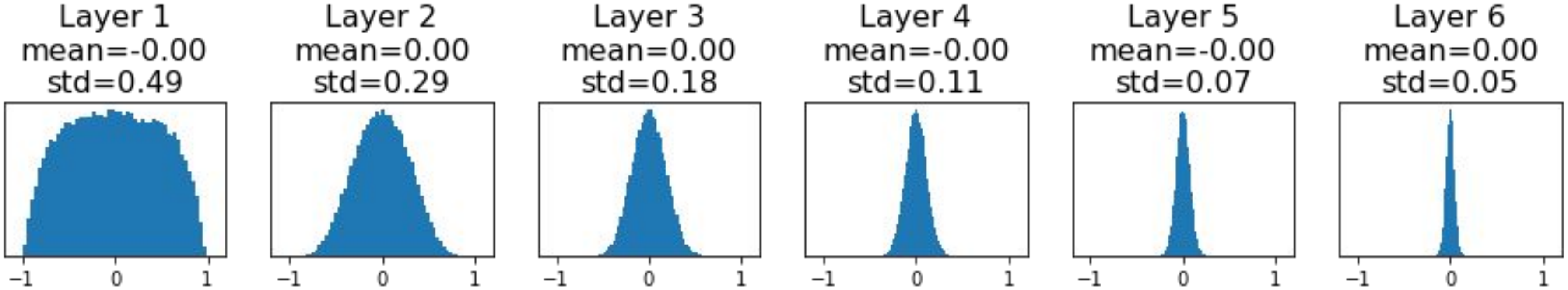
```
dims = [4096] * 7
hs = []
x = np.random.randn(16, dims[0])
for Din, Dout in zip(dims[:-1], dims[1:]):
    W = 0.01 * np.random.randn(Din, Dout)
    x = np.tanh(x.dot(W))
    hs.append(x)
```

Forward pass for a 6-layer net with hidden size 4096

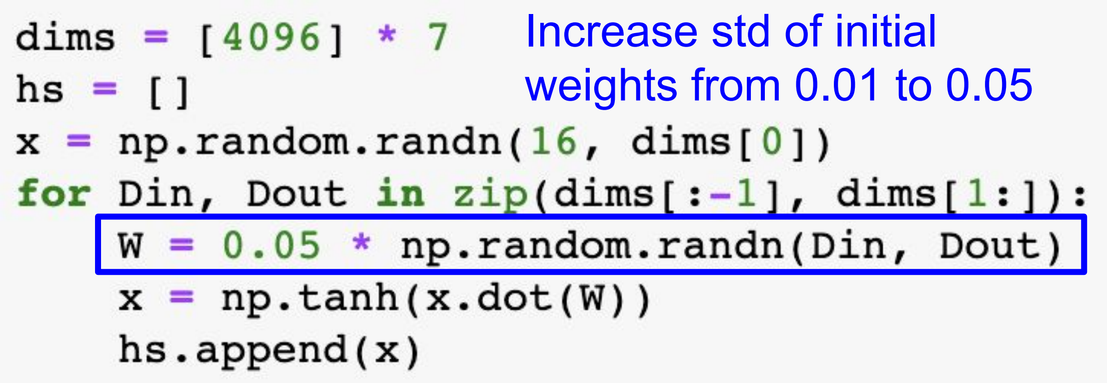
All activations tend to zero for deeper network layers

Q: What do the gradients dL/dW look like?

A: All zero, no learning =(



Weight Initialization: Activation statistics

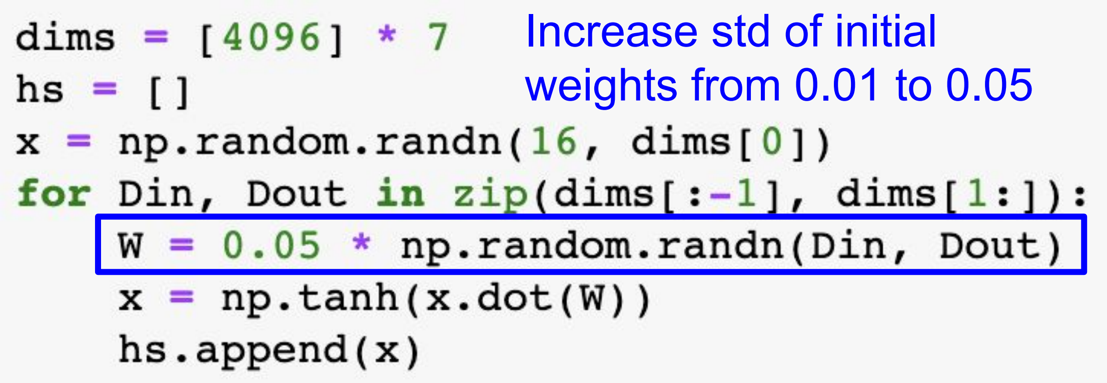


```
dims = [4096] * 7
hs = []
x = np.random.randn(16, dims[0])
for Din, Dout in zip(dims[:-1], dims[1:]):
    W = 0.05 * np.random.randn(Din, Dout)
    x = np.tanh(x.dot(W))
    hs.append(x)
```

Increase std of initial weights from 0.01 to 0.05

What will happen to the activations for the last layer?

Weight Initialization: Activation statistics

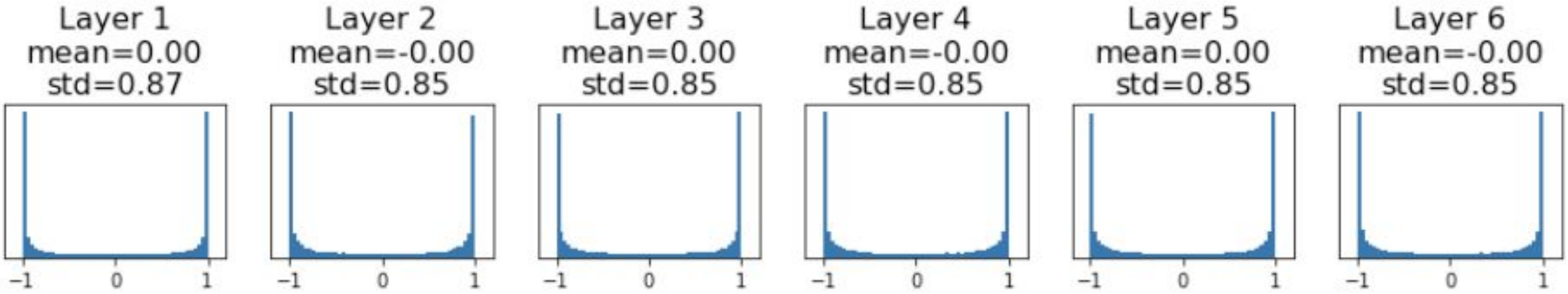


```
dims = [4096] * 7
hs = []
x = np.random.randn(16, dims[0])
for Din, Dout in zip(dims[:-1], dims[1:]):
    W = 0.05 * np.random.randn(Din, Dout)
    x = np.tanh(x.dot(W))
    hs.append(x)
```

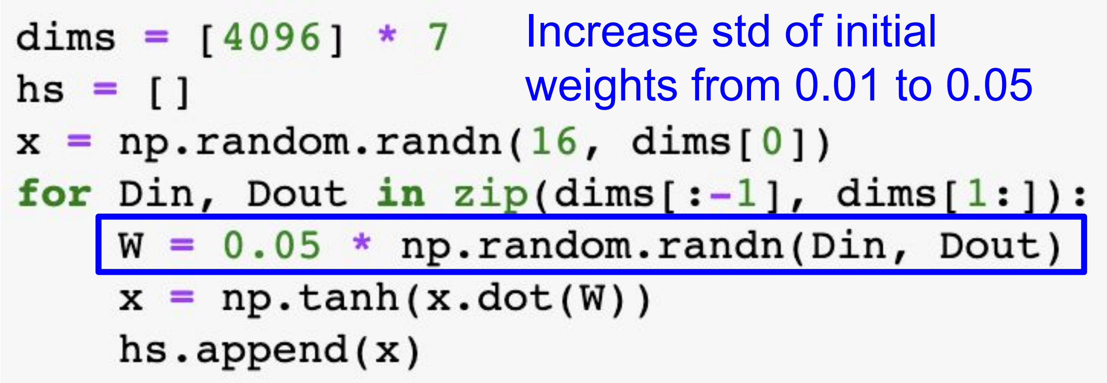
Increase std of initial weights from 0.01 to 0.05

All activations saturate

Q: What do the gradients look like?



Weight Initialization: Activation statistics



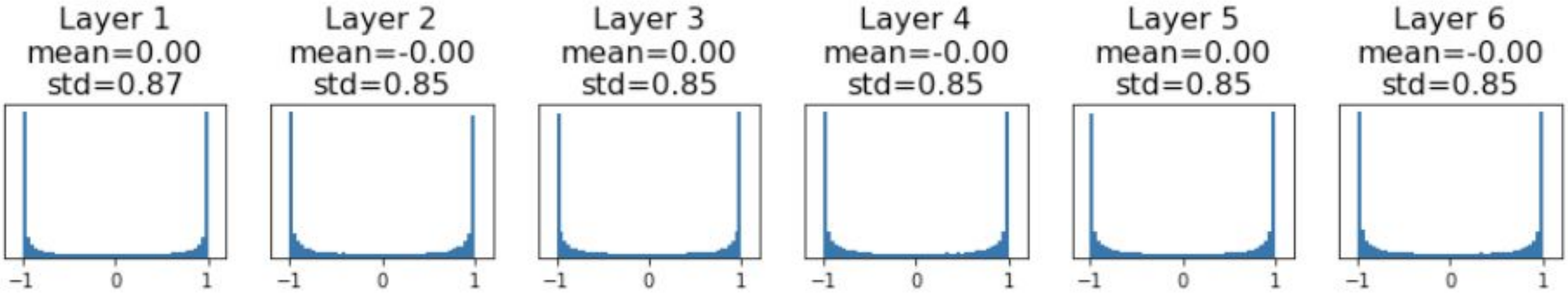
```
dims = [4096] * 7
hs = []
x = np.random.randn(16, dims[0])
for Din, Dout in zip(dims[:-1], dims[1:]):
    W = 0.05 * np.random.randn(Din, Dout)
    x = np.tanh(x.dot(W))
    hs.append(x)
```

Increase std of initial weights from 0.01 to 0.05

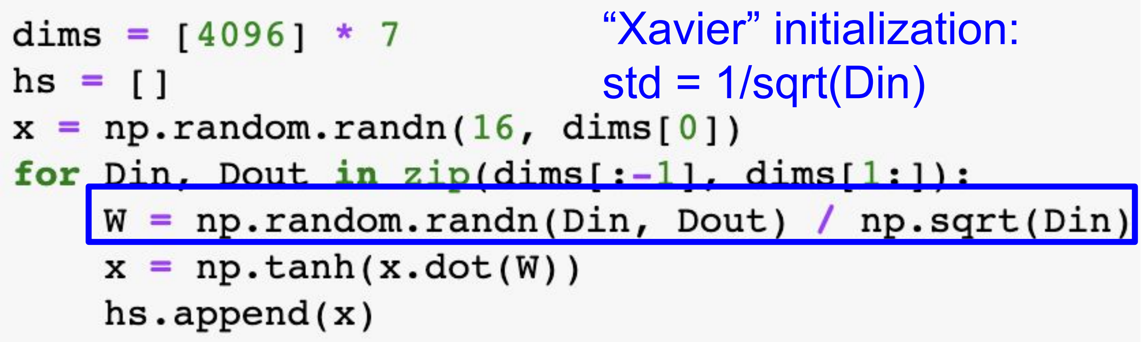
All activations saturate

Q: What do the gradients look like?

A: Local gradients all zero, no learning =(



Weight Initialization: “Xavier” Initialization

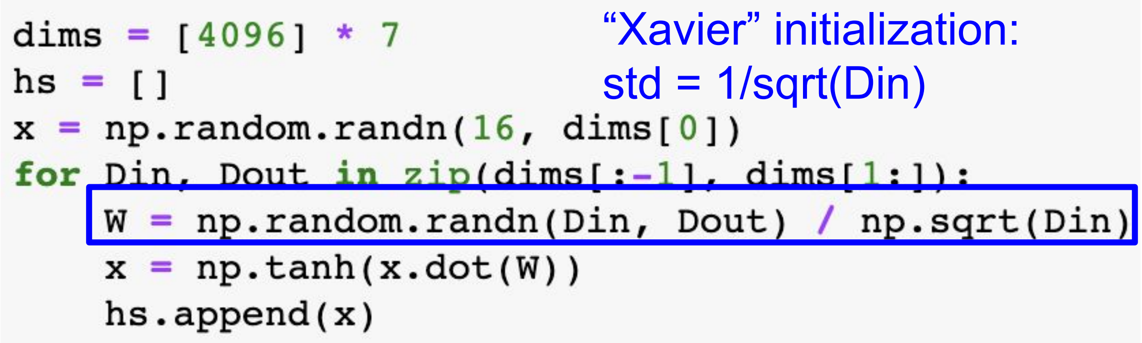


```
dims = [4096] * 7
hs = []
x = np.random.randn(16, dims[0])
for Din, Dout in zip(dims[:-1], dims[1:]):
    W = np.random.randn(Din, Dout) / np.sqrt(Din)
    x = np.tanh(x.dot(W))
    hs.append(x)
```

“Xavier” initialization:
std = 1/sqrt(Din)

Glorot and Bengio, “Understanding the difficulty of training deep feedforward neural networks”, AISTAT 2010

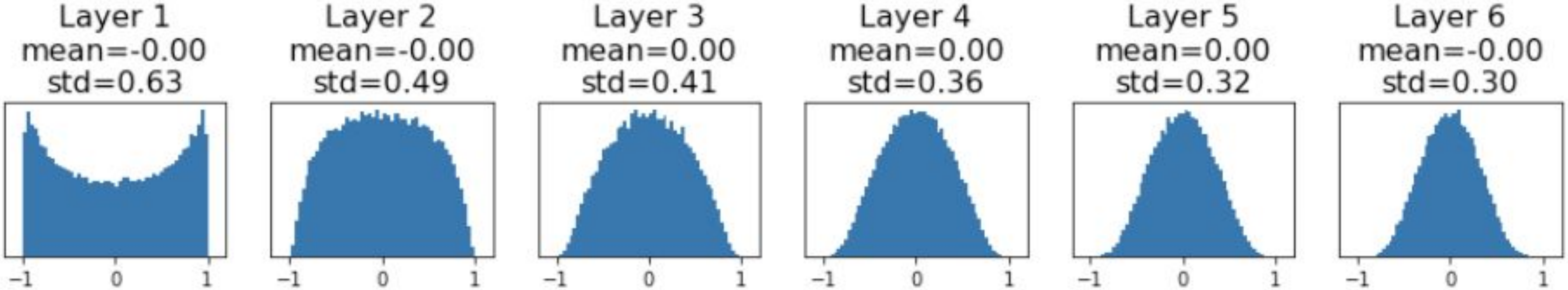
Weight Initialization: “Xavier” Initialization



```
dims = [4096] * 7
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(Din)
    x = np.tanh(x.dot(W))
    hs.append(x)
```

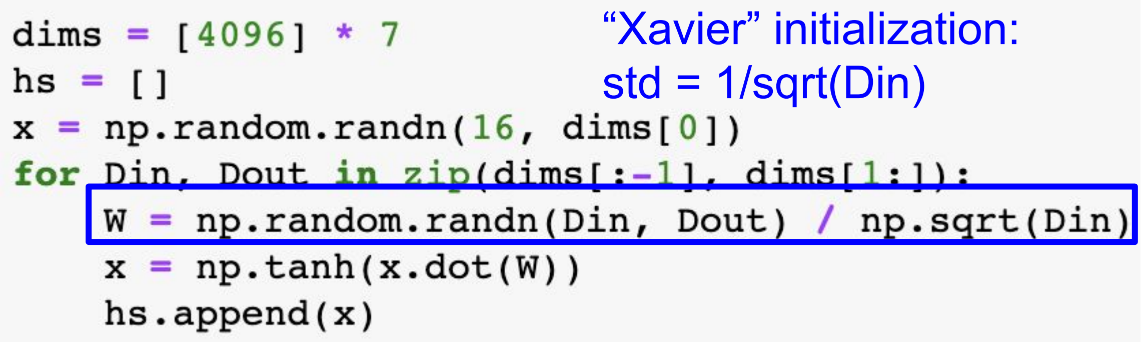
“Xavier” initialization:
std = 1/sqrt(Din)

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



Glorot and Bengio, “Understanding the difficulty of training deep feedforward neural networks”, AISTAT 2010

Weight Initialization: “Xavier” Initialization

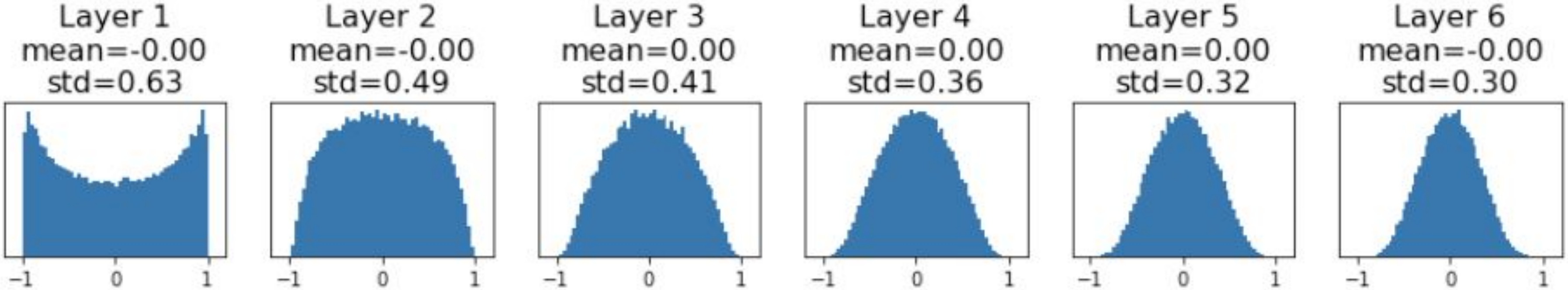


```
dims = [4096] * 7
hs = []
x = np.random.randn(16, dims[0])
for Din, Dout in zip(dims[:-1], dims[1:]):
    W = np.random.randn(Din, Dout) / np.sqrt(Din)
    x = np.tanh(x.dot(W))
    hs.append(x)
```

“Xavier” initialization:
std = 1/sqrt(Din)

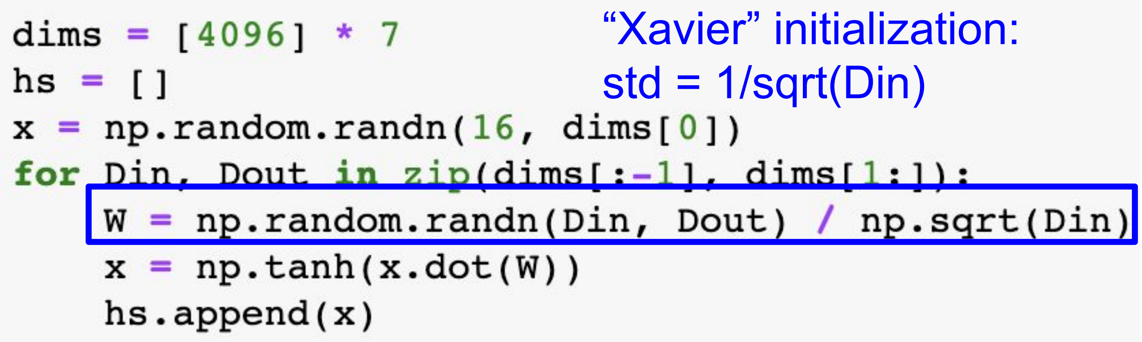
“Just right”: Activations are nicely scaled for all layers!

For conv layers, Din is filter_size^2 * input_channels



Glorot and Bengio, “Understanding the difficulty of training deep feedforward neural networks”, AISTAT 2010

Weight Initialization: “Xavier” Initialization



```
dims = [4096] * 7
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(Din)
    x = np.tanh(x.dot(W))
    hs.append(x)
```

“Xavier” initialization:
std = 1/sqrt(Din)

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

For conv layers, Din is filter_size^2 * input_channels

$y = Wx$
$h = f(y)$

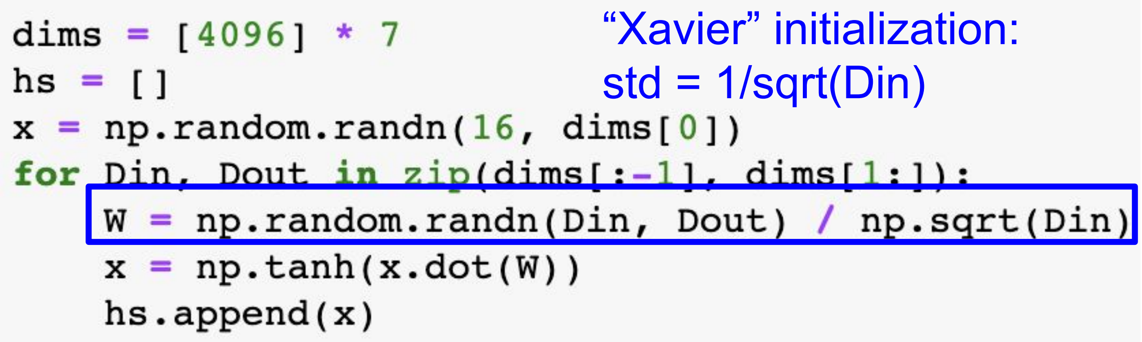
Derivation:

$\mathrm{Var}(y_i) = \mathrm{Din} * \mathrm{Var}(x_i w_i)$

[Assume x, w are iid]

Glorot and Bengio, “Understanding the difficulty of training deep feedforward neural networks”, AISTAT 2010

Weight Initialization: “Xavier” Initialization



```
dims = [4096] * 7
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(Din)
    x = np.tanh(x.dot(W))
    hs.append(x)
```

“Xavier” initialization:
std = 1/sqrt(Din)

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

For conv layers, Din is filter_size^2 * input_channels

Derivation:

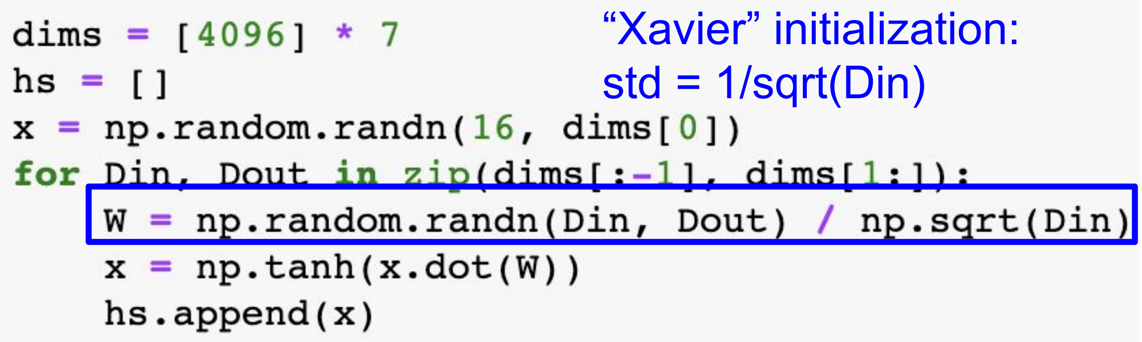
y = Wx
h = f(y)

$\mathrm{Var}(y_i) = \mathrm{Din} * \mathrm{Var}(x_i w_i)$ [Assume x, w are iid]

$= \mathrm{Din} * (E[x_i^2]E[w_i^2] - E[x_i]^2\ E[w_i]^2)$ [Assume x, w independant]

Glorot and Bengio, “Understanding the difficulty of training deep feedforward neural networks”, AISTAT 2010

Weight Initialization: “Xavier” Initialization



```
dims = [4096] * 7
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(Din)
    x = np.tanh(x.dot(W))
    hs.append(x)
```

“Xavier” initialization:
std = 1/sqrt(Din)

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

For conv layers, Din is kernel_size^2 * input_channels

$y = Wx$
$h = f(y)$

Derivation:

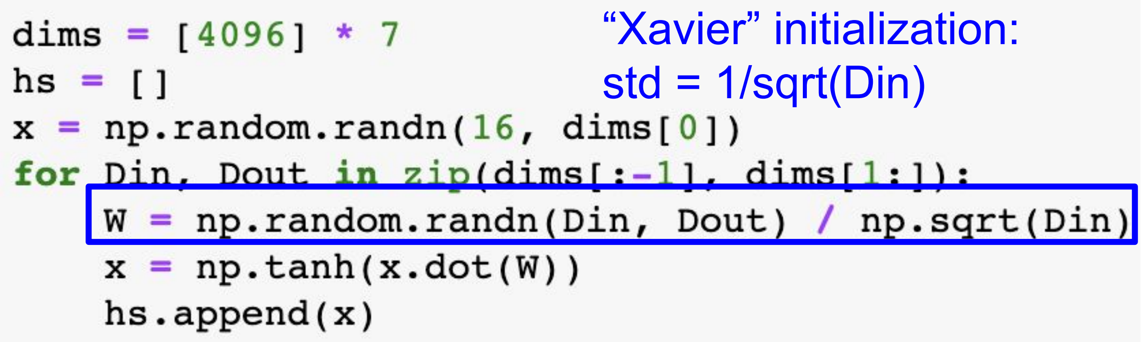
$\mathrm{Var}(y_i) = \mathrm{Din} * \mathrm{Var}(x_i w_i)$ [Assume x, w are iid]

$= \mathrm{Din} * (E[x_i^2]E[w_i^2] - E[x_i]^2 E[w_i]^2)$ [Assume x, w independant]

$= \mathrm{Din} * \mathrm{Var}(x_i) * \mathrm{Var}(w_i)$ [Assume x, w are zero-mean]

Glorot and Bengio, “Understanding the difficulty of training deep feedforward neural networks”, AISTAT 2010

Weight Initialization: “Xavier” Initialization



```
dims = [4096] * 7
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(Din)
    x = np.tanh(x.dot(W))
    hs.append(x)
```

“Xavier” initialization:
std = 1/sqrt(Din)

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

For conv layers, Din is kernel_size^2 * input_channels

Derivation:

$y = Wx$
$h = f(y)$

$\mathrm{Var}(y_i) = \mathrm{Din} * \mathrm{Var}(x_i w_i)$ [Assume x, w are iid]

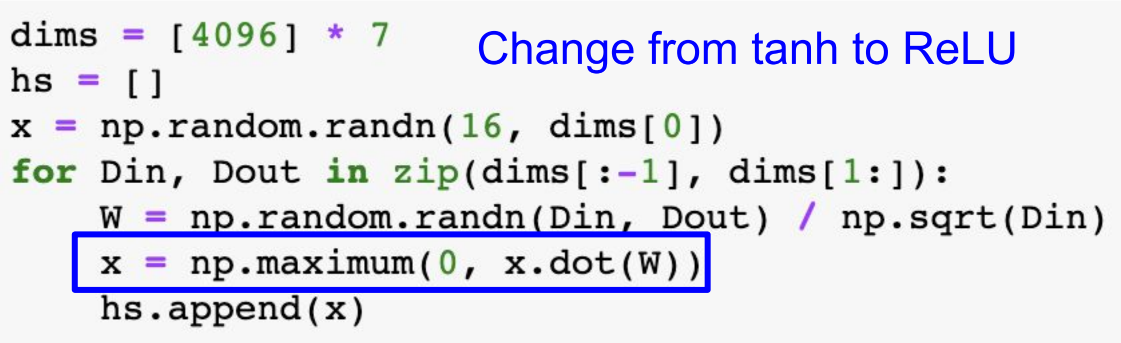
$= \mathrm{Din} * (E[x_i^2]E[w_i^2] - E[x_i]^2\, E[w_i]^2)$ [Assume x, w independant]

$= \mathrm{Din} * \mathrm{Var}(x_i) * \mathrm{Var}(w_i)$ [Assume x, w are zero-mean]

If $\mathrm{Var}(w_i) = 1/\mathrm{Din}$ then $\mathrm{Var}(y_i) = \mathrm{Var}(x_i)$

Glorot and Bengio, “Understanding the difficulty of training deep feedforward neural networks”, AISTAT 2010

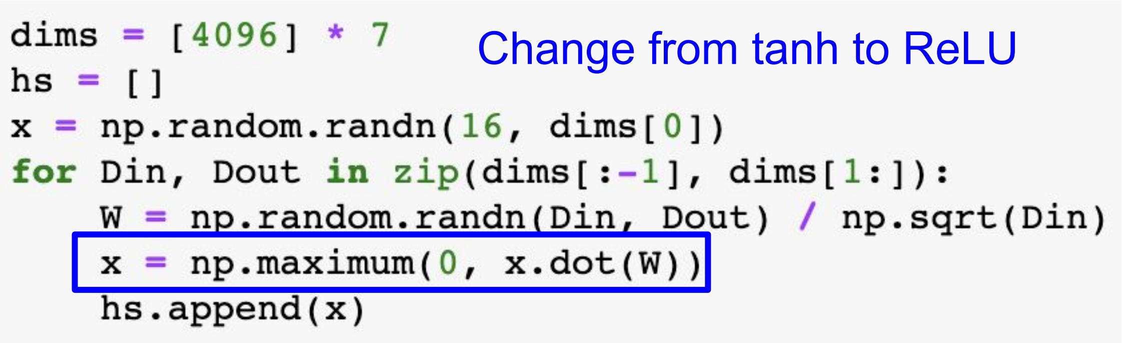
Weight Initialization: What about ReLU?



```
dims = [4096] * 7
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(Din)
    x = np.maximum(0, x.dot(W))
    hs.append(x)
```

Change from tanh to ReLU

Weight Initialization: What about ReLU?

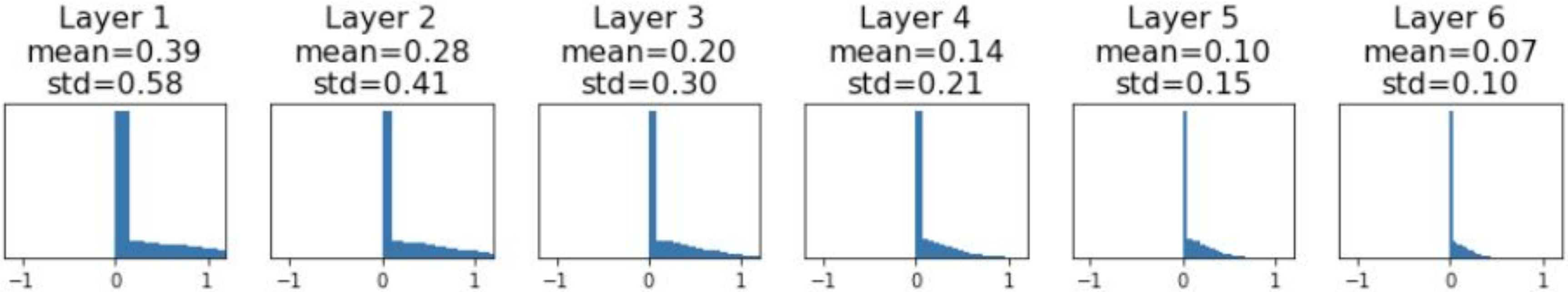


```
dims = [4096] * 7
hs = []
x = np.random.randn(16, dims[0])
for Din, Dout in zip(dims[:-1], dims[1:]):
    W = np.random.randn(Din, Dout) / np.sqrt(Din)
    x = np.maximum(0, x.dot(W))
    hs.append(x)
```

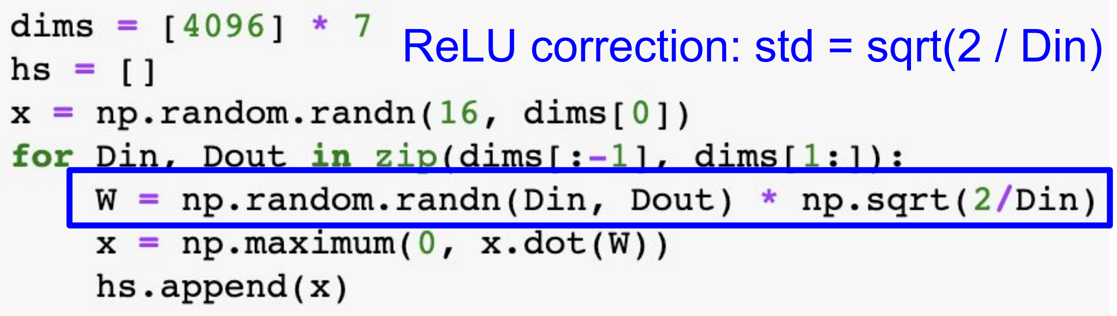
Change from tanh to ReLU

Xavier assumes zero centered activation function

Activations collapse to zero again, no learning =(



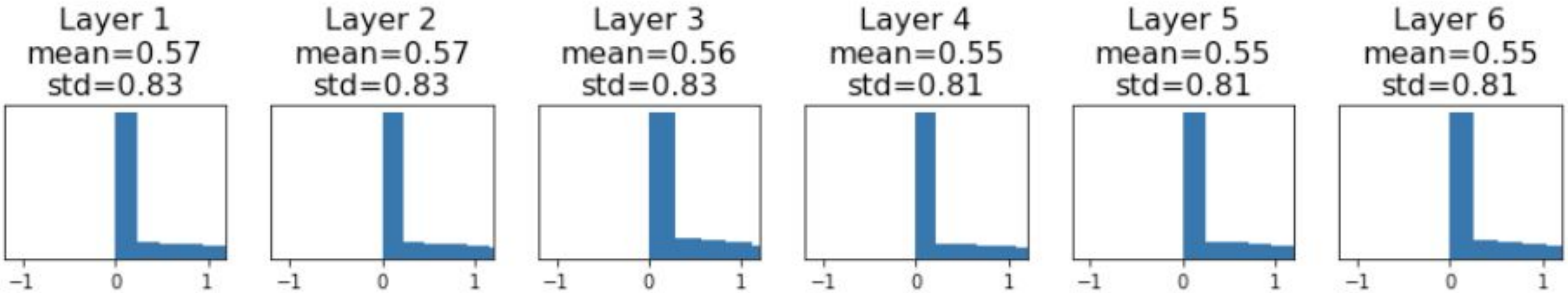
Weight Initialization: Kaiming / MSRA Initialization



```
dims = [4096] * 7
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)
```

ReLU correction: std = sqrt(2 / Din)

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



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

Proper initialization is an active area of research…

Understanding the difficulty of training deep feedforward neural networks
by Glorot and Bengio, 2010

Exact solutions to the nonlinear dynamics of learning in deep linear neural networks by Saxe et al, 2013

Random walk initialization for training very deep feedforward networks by Sussillo and Abbott, 2014

Delving deep into rectifiers: Surpassing human-level performance on ImageNet classification by He et al., 2015

Data-dependent Initializations of Convolutional Neural Networks by Krähenbühl et al., 2015

All you need is a good init, Mishkin and Matas, 2015

Fixup Initialization: Residual Learning Without Normalization, Zhang et al, 2019

The Lottery Ticket Hypothesis: Finding Sparse, Trainable Neural Networks, Frankle and Carbin, 2019

Batch Normalization

Batch Normalization

[Ioffe and Szegedy, 2015]

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

consider a batch of activations at some layer. To make each dimension zero-mean unit-variance, apply:

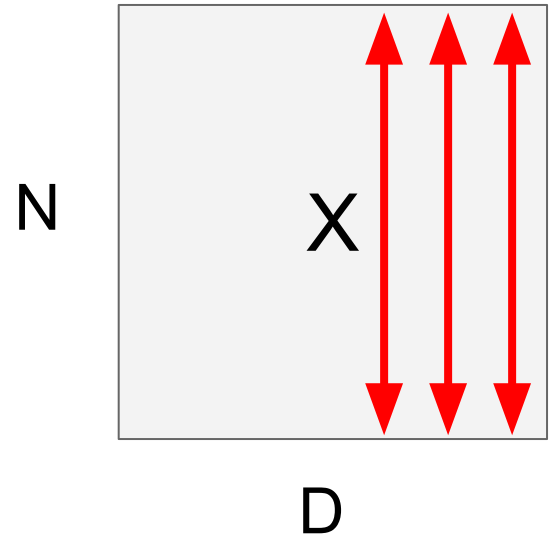
$$\widehat{x}^{(k)} = \frac{x^{(k)} - \mathrm{E}[x^{(k)}]}{\sqrt{\mathrm{Var}[x^{(k)}]}}$$

this is a vanilla differentiable function...

Batch Normalization

[Ioffe and Szegedy, 2015]

Input: $x : N \times D$



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

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

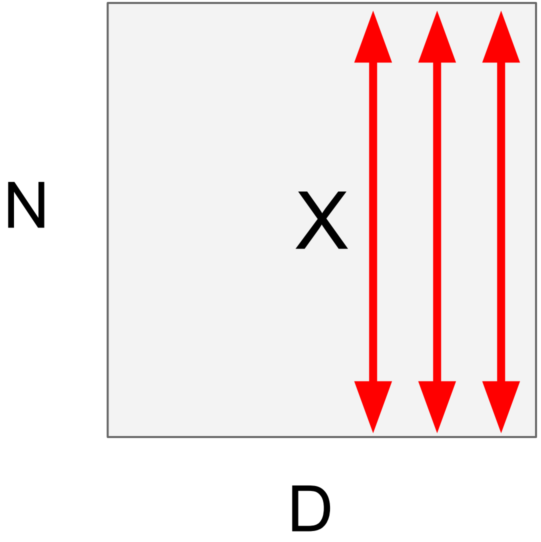
$$\hat{x}_{i,j} = \frac{x_{i,j} - \mu_j}{\sqrt{\sigma_j^2 + \varepsilon}}$$

Normalized x, Shape is N x D

Batch Normalization

[Ioffe and Szegedy, 2015]

Input: $x : N \times D$



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

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 x D

Problem: What if zero-mean, unit variance is too hard of a constraint?

Batch Normalization

[Ioffe and Szegedy, 2015]

Input: $x : N \times D$

Learnable scale and shift parameters:

$$\gamma, \beta : D$$

Learning γ = σ , β = μ 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 x D

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

Output, Shape is N x D

Batch Normalization: Test-Time

Estimates depend on minibatch; can't do this at test-time!

Input: $x : N \times D$

Learnable scale and shift parameters:

$$\gamma, \beta : D$$

Learning $\gamma = \sigma$, $\beta = \mu$ 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 x D

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

Output, Shape is N x D

Batch Normalization: Test-Time

Input: $x : N \times D$

Learnable scale and shift parameters:

$$\gamma, \beta : D$$

During testing batchnorm becomes a linear operator! Can be fused with the previous fully-connected or conv layer

$\mu_j =$ (Running) average of values seen during training

Per-channel mean, shape is D

$\sigma_j^2 =$ (Running) average of values seen during training

Per-channel var, shape is D

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

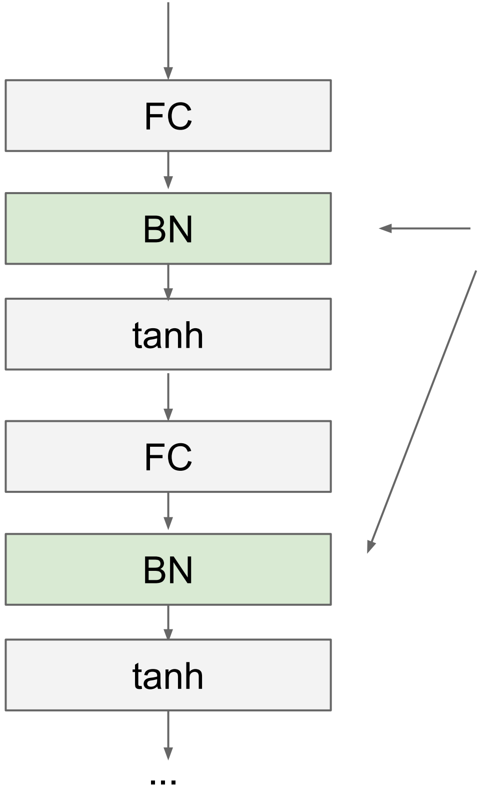
Normalized x, Shape is N x D

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

Output, Shape is N x D

Batch Normalization

[Ioffe and Szegedy, 2015]

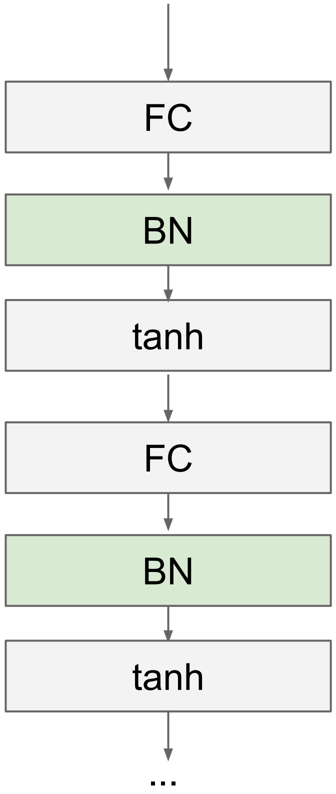


Usually inserted after Fully Connected or Convolutional layers, and before nonlinearity.

$$\widehat{x}^{(k)} = \frac{x^{(k)} - \mathrm{E}[x^{(k)}]}{\sqrt{\mathrm{Var}[x^{(k)}]}}$$

Batch Normalization

[Ioffe and Szegedy, 2015]



- Makes deep networks **much** easier to train!
- Improves gradient flow
- Allows higher learning rates, faster convergence
- Networks become more robust to initialization
- Acts as regularization during training
- Zero overhead at test-time: can be fused with conv!
- Behaves differently during training and testing: this is a very common source of bugs!

Batch Normalization for ConvNets

Batch Normalization for **fully-connected** networks

$\mathbf{x}: N \times D$

Normalize

$\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\sigma}: 1 \times D$

$\gamma, \beta: 1 \times D$

$\mathbf{y} = \gamma(\mathbf{x}-\boldsymbol{\mu})/\boldsymbol{\sigma}+\beta$

Batch Normalization for **convolutional** networks (Spatial Batchnorm, BatchNorm2D)

$\mathbf{x}: N \times C \times H \times W$

Normalize

$\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\sigma}: 1 \times C \times 1 \times 1$

$\gamma, \beta: 1 \times C \times 1 \times 1$

$\mathbf{y} = \gamma(\mathbf{x}-\boldsymbol{\mu})/\boldsymbol{\sigma}+\beta$

Layer Normalization

Batch Normalization for fully-connected networks

$\mathbf{x}: N \times D$

Normalize

$\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\sigma}: 1 \times D$

$\gamma, \beta: 1 \times D$

$\mathbf{y} = \gamma(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) / \boldsymbol{\sigma} + \beta$

Layer Normalization for fully-connected networks
Same behavior at train and test!
Can be used in recurrent networks

$\mathbf{x}: N \times D$

Normalize

$\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\sigma}: N \times 1$

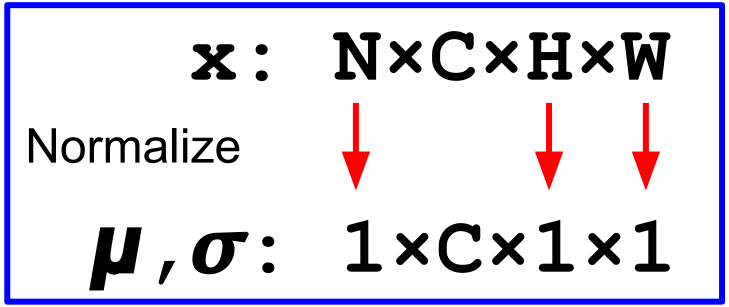
$\gamma, \beta: 1 \times D$

$\mathbf{y} = \gamma(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu}) / \boldsymbol{\sigma} + \beta$

Ba, Kiros, and Hinton, “Layer Normalization”, arXiv 2016

Instance Normalization

Batch Normalization for convolutional networks



$\mathbf{x}$: N×C×H×W

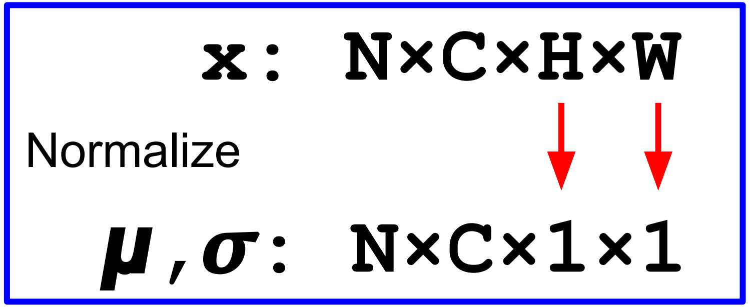
Normalize

$\boldsymbol{\mu},\boldsymbol{\sigma}$: 1×C×1×1

γ,β: 1×C×1×1

$\mathbf{y} = \gamma(\mathbf{x}-\boldsymbol{\mu})/\boldsymbol{\sigma}+\beta$

Instance Normalization for convolutional networks
Same behavior at train / test!



$\mathbf{x}$: N×C×H×W

Normalize

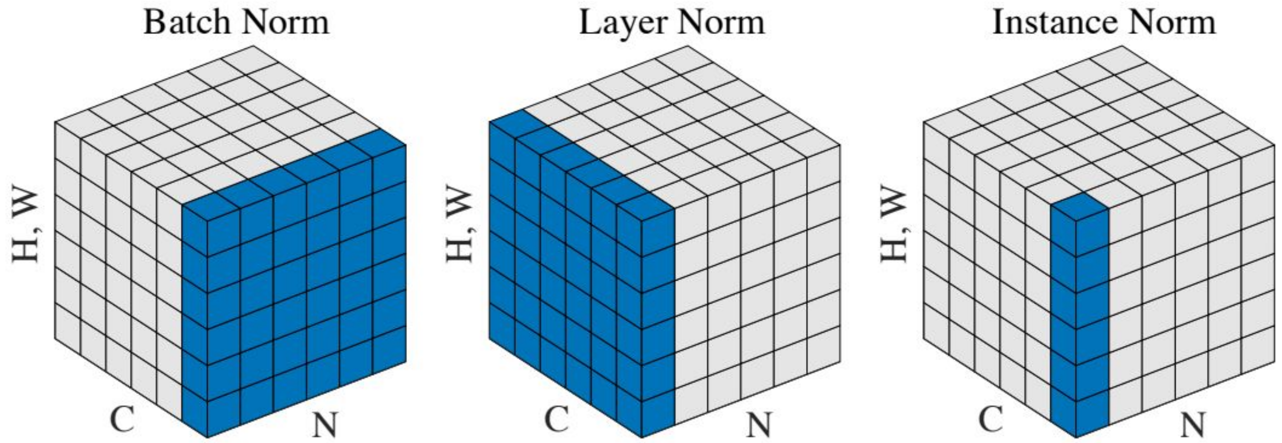
$\boldsymbol{\mu},\boldsymbol{\sigma}$: N×C×1×1

γ,β: 1×C×1×1

$\mathbf{y} = \gamma(\mathbf{x}-\boldsymbol{\mu})/\boldsymbol{\sigma}+\beta$

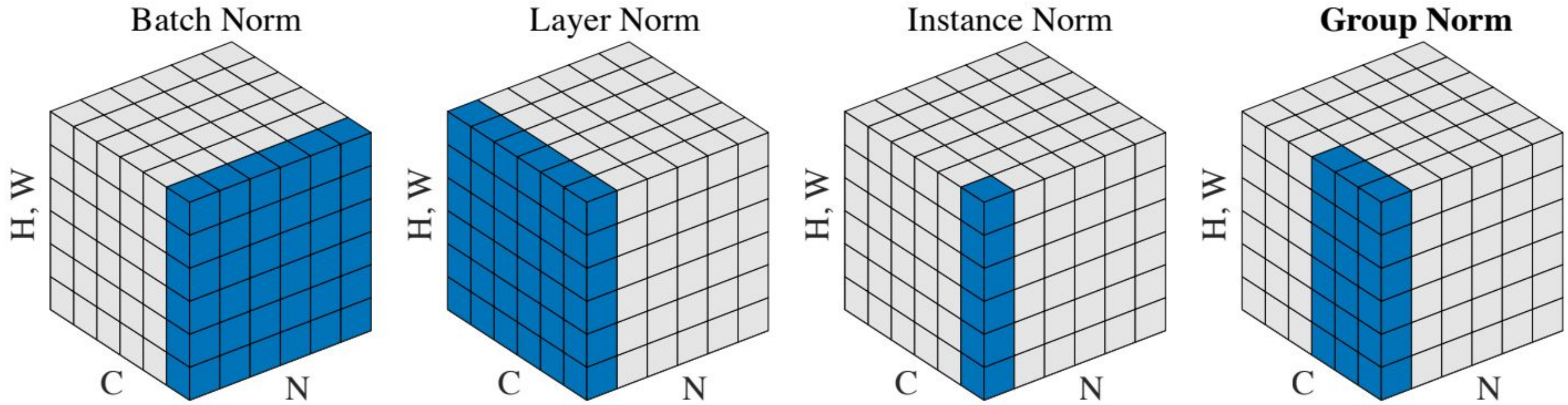
Ulyanov et al, Improved Texture Networks: Maximizing Quality and Diversity in Feed-forward Stylization and Texture Synthesis, CVPR 2017

Comparison of Normalization Layers



Wu and He, “Group Normalization”, ECCV 2018

Group Normalization



Wu and He, “Group Normalization”, ECCV 2018

Transfer learning

“You need a lot of a data if you want to train/use CNNs”

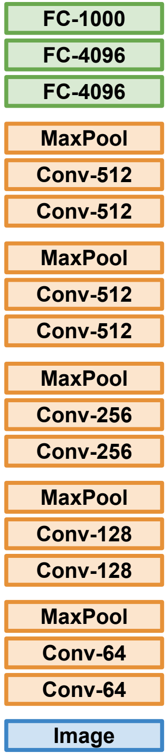
“You need a lot of a data if you want to train/use CNNs”

BUSTED

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

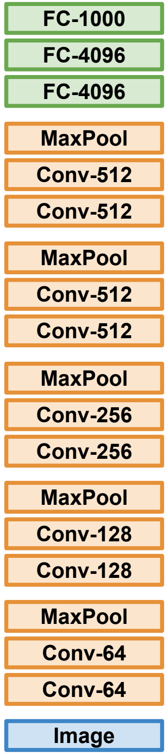
1. Train on Imagenet



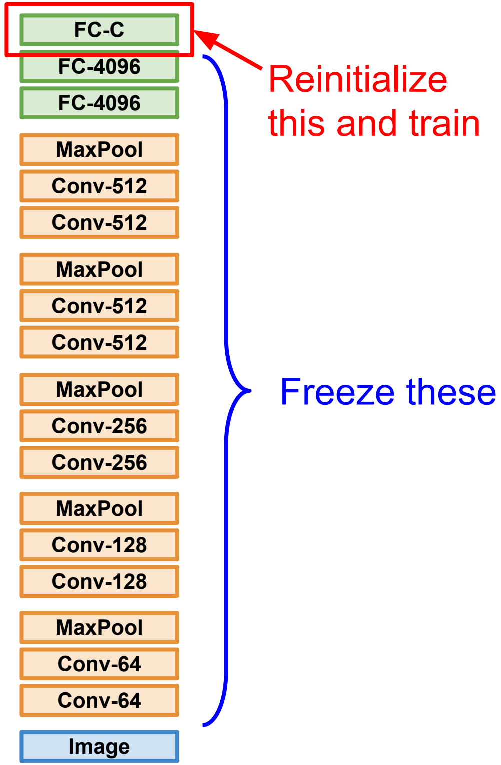
Transfer Learning with CNNs

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



2. Small Dataset (C classes)



Reinitialize this and train

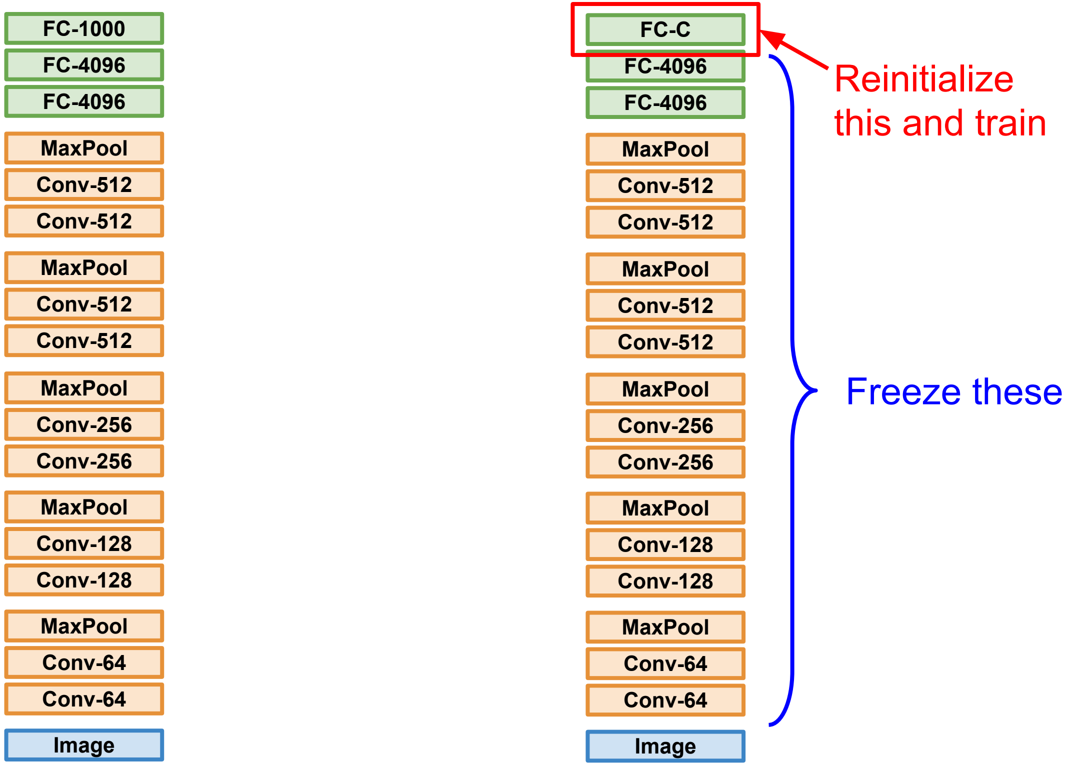
Freeze these

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

Transfer Learning with CNNs

1. Train on Imagenet

2. Small Dataset (C classes)

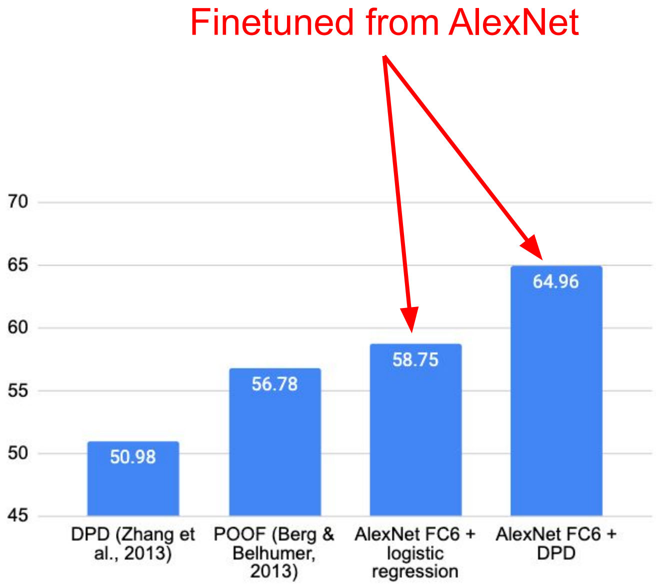


FC-1000
FC-4096
FC-4096
MaxPool
Conv-512
Conv-512
MaxPool
Conv-512
Conv-512
MaxPool
Conv-256
Conv-256
MaxPool
Conv-128
Conv-128
MaxPool
Conv-64
Conv-64
Image

FC-C
FC-4096
FC-4096
MaxPool
Conv-512
Conv-512
MaxPool
Conv-512
Conv-512
MaxPool
Conv-256
Conv-256
MaxPool
Conv-128
Conv-128
MaxPool
Conv-64
Conv-64
Image

Reinitialize this and train

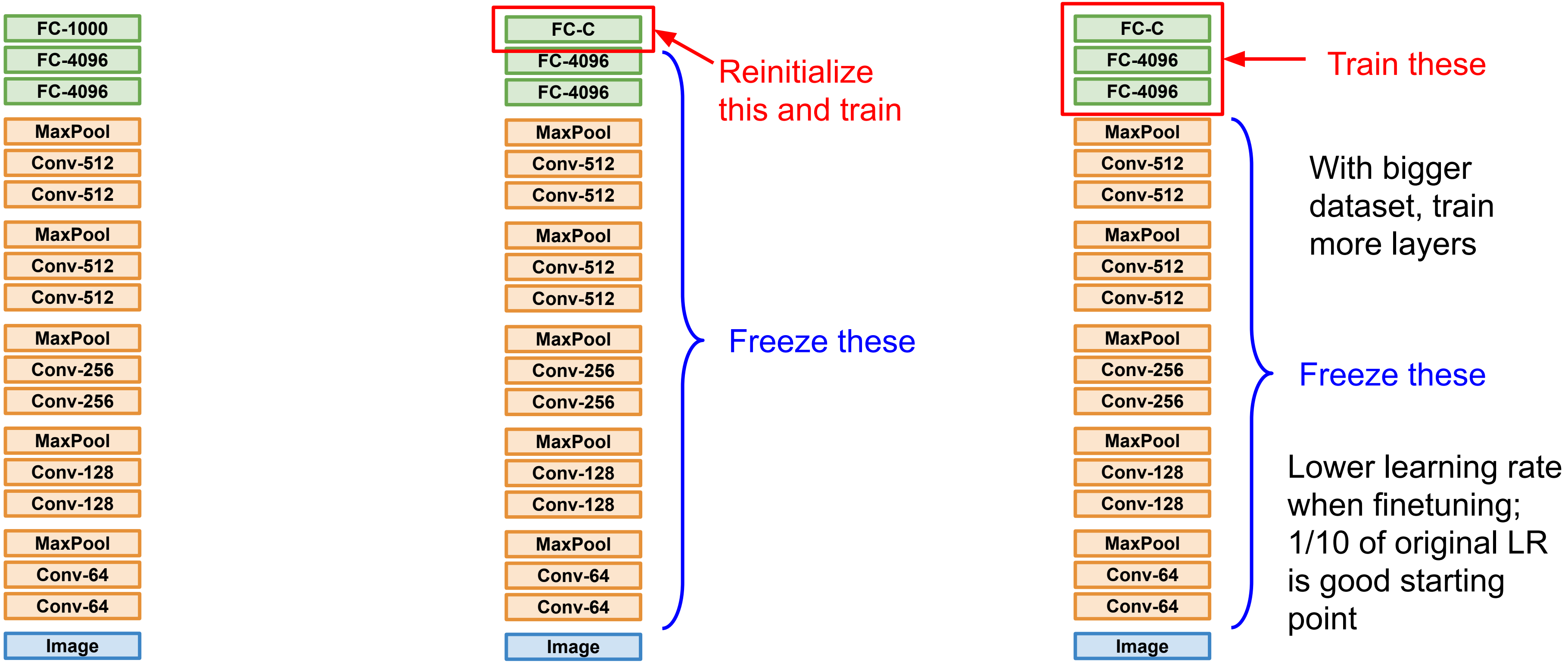
Freeze these



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

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

FC-1000
FC-4096
FC-4096
MaxPool
Conv-512
Conv-512
MaxPool
Conv-512
Conv-512
MaxPool
Conv-256
Conv-256
MaxPool
Conv-128
Conv-128
MaxPool
Conv-64
Conv-64
Image

2. Small Dataset (C classes)

FC-C
FC-4096
FC-4096
MaxPool
Conv-512
Conv-512
MaxPool
Conv-512
Conv-512
MaxPool
Conv-256
Conv-256
MaxPool
Conv-128
Conv-128
MaxPool
Conv-64
Conv-64
Image

Reinitialize this and train

Freeze these

3. Bigger dataset

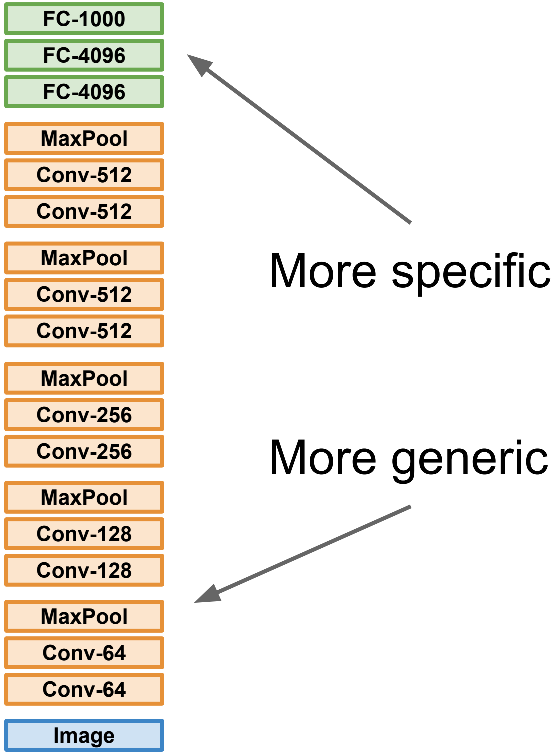
FC-C
FC-4096
FC-4096
MaxPool
Conv-512
Conv-512
MaxPool
Conv-512
Conv-512
MaxPool
Conv-256
Conv-256
MaxPool
Conv-128
Conv-128
MaxPool
Conv-64
Conv-64
Image

Train these

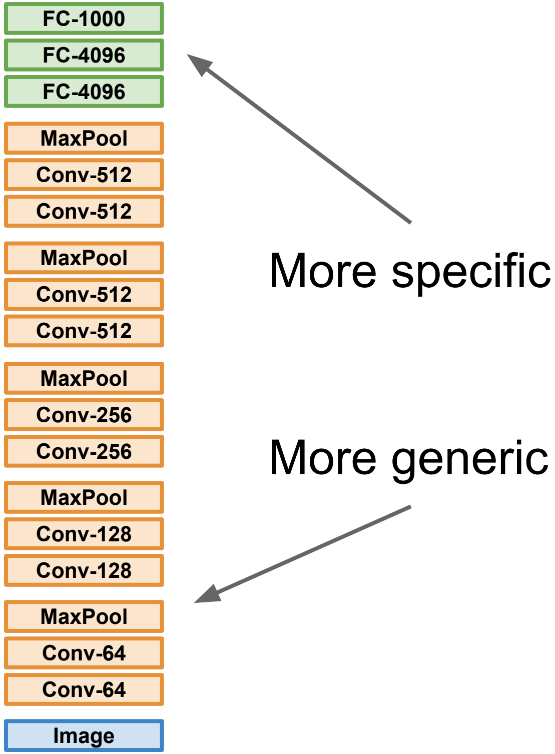
With bigger dataset, train more layers

Freeze these

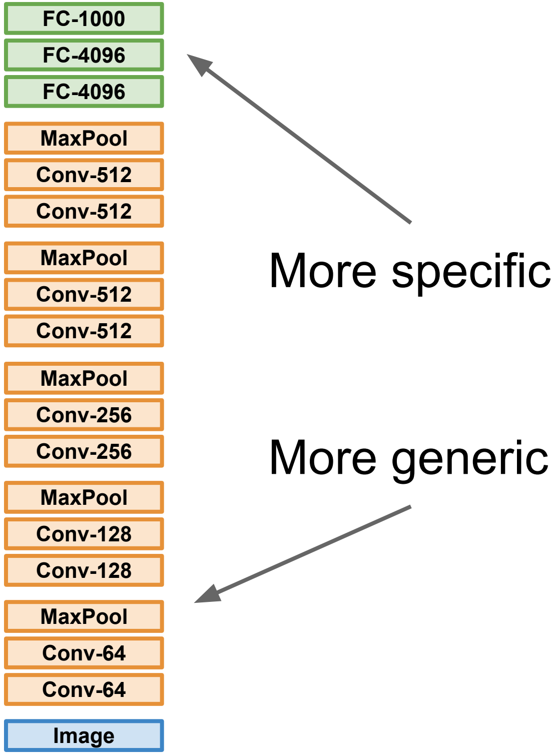
Lower learning rate when finetuning; 1/10 of original LR is good starting point



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



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



	very similar dataset	**very different dataset**
very little data	Use Linear Classifier on top layer	You’re in trouble… Try linear classifier from different stages
quite a lot of data	Finetune a few layers	Finetune a larger number of layers

Transfer learning with CNNs is pervasive…
(it’s the norm, not an exception)

Object Detection
(Fast R-CNN)

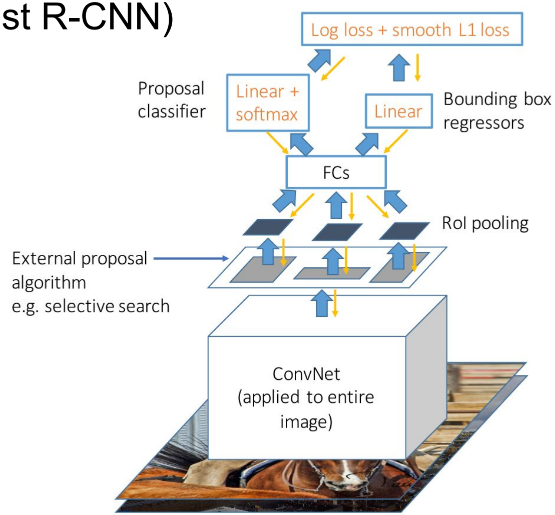
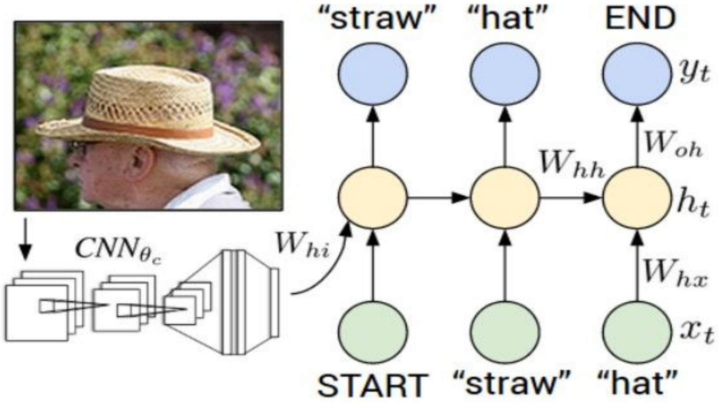

Log loss + smooth L1 loss
Proposal classifier
Linear + softmax
Linear
Bounding box regressors
FCs
RoI pooling
External proposal algorithm e.g. selective search
ConvNet (applied to entire image)

Image Captioning: CNN + RNN

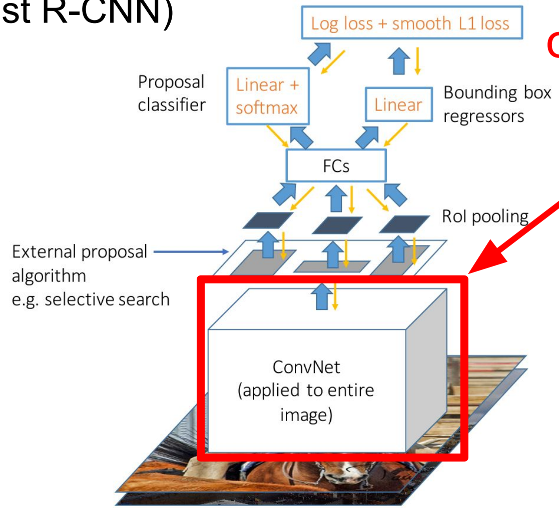


Girshick, “Fast R-CNN”, ICCV 2015
Figure copyright Ross Girshick, 2015. Reproduced with permission.

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

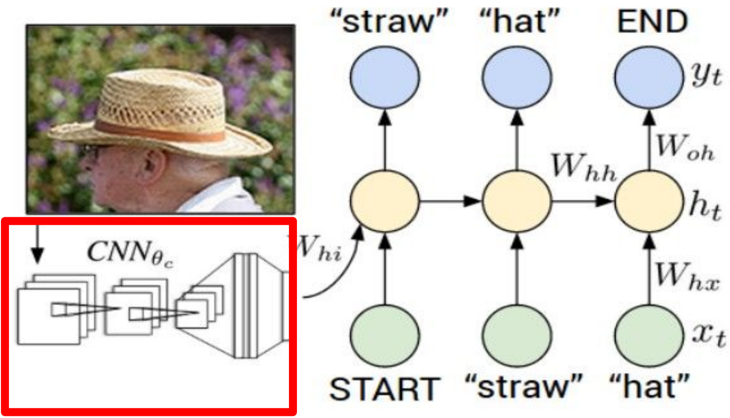
Transfer learning with CNNs is pervasive…
(it’s the norm, not an exception)

Object Detection
(Fast R-CNN)


Log loss + smooth L1 loss
Proposal classifier
Linear + softmax
Linear
Bounding box regressors
FCs
RoI pooling
External proposal algorithm e.g. selective search
ConvNet (applied to entire image)

CNN pretrained on ImageNet

Image Captioning: CNN + RNN

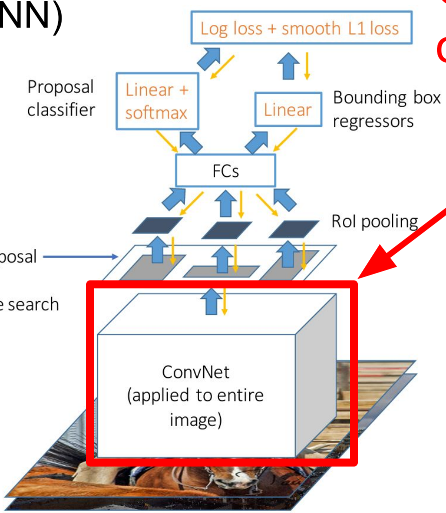


Girshick, “Fast R-CNN”, ICCV 2015
Figure copyright Ross Girshick, 2015. Reproduced with permission.

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

Transfer learning with CNNs is pervasive…
(it's the norm, not an exception)

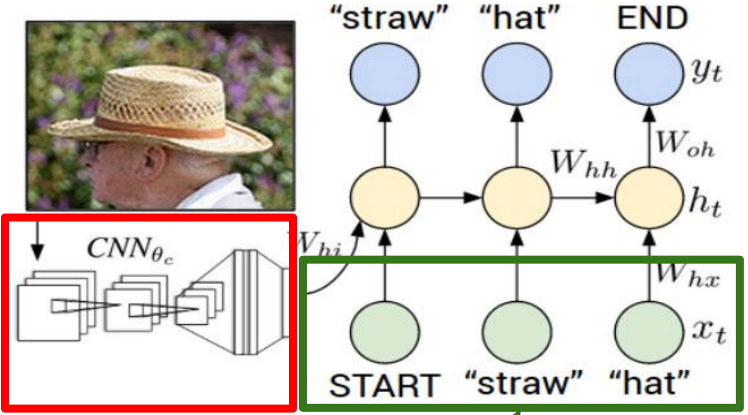
Object Detection
(Fast R-CNN)



Log loss + smooth L1 loss
Proposal classifier
Linear + softmax
Linear
Bounding box regressors
FCs
RoI pooling
External proposal algorithm e.g. selective search
ConvNet (applied to entire image)

CNN pretrained on ImageNet

Image Captioning: CNN + RNN



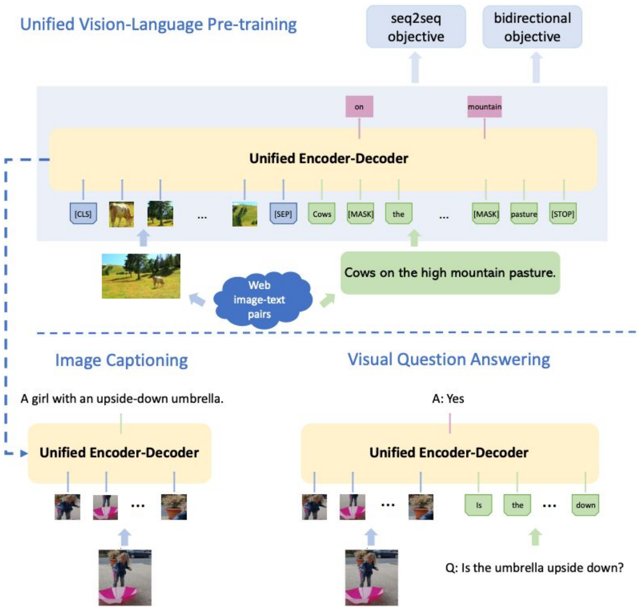
Word vectors pretrained with word2vec

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 with CNNs is pervasive…

(it's the norm, not an exception)

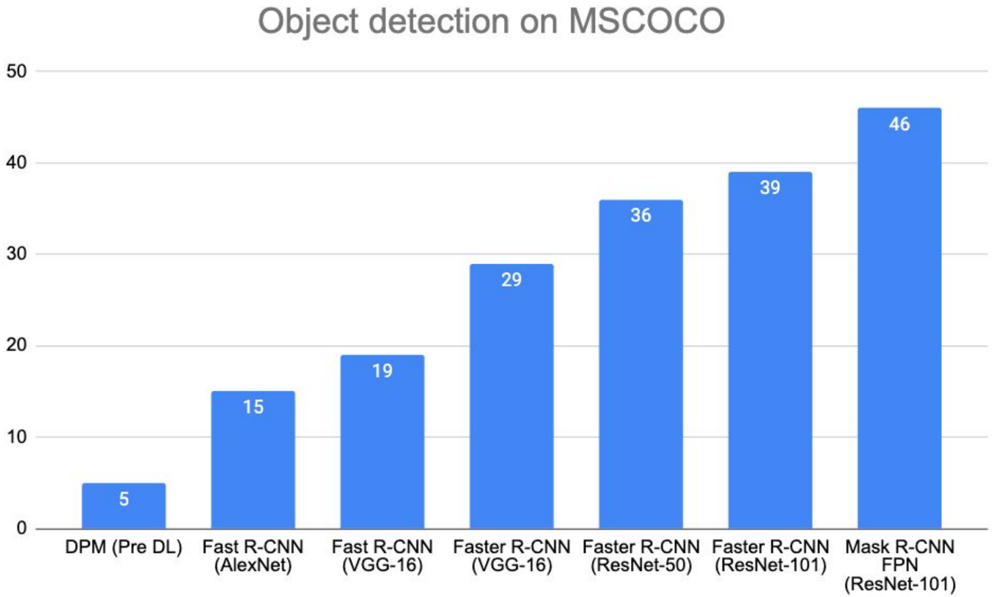


1. Train CNN on ImageNet
2. Fine-Tune (1) for object detection on Visual Genome
3. Train BERT language model on lots of text
4. Combine(2) and (3), train for joint image / language modeling
5. Fine-tune (4) for image captioning, visual question answering, etc.

Zhou et al, "Unified Vision-Language Pre-Training for Image Captioning and VQA" CVPR 2020
Figure copyright Luowei Zhou, 2020. Reproduced with permission.

Krishna et al, "Visual genome: Connecting language and vision using crowdsourced dense image annotations" IJCV 2017
Devlin et al. "BERT: Pre-training of Deep Bidirectional Transformers for Language Understanding" ArXiv 2018

Transfer learning with CNNs - Architecture matters

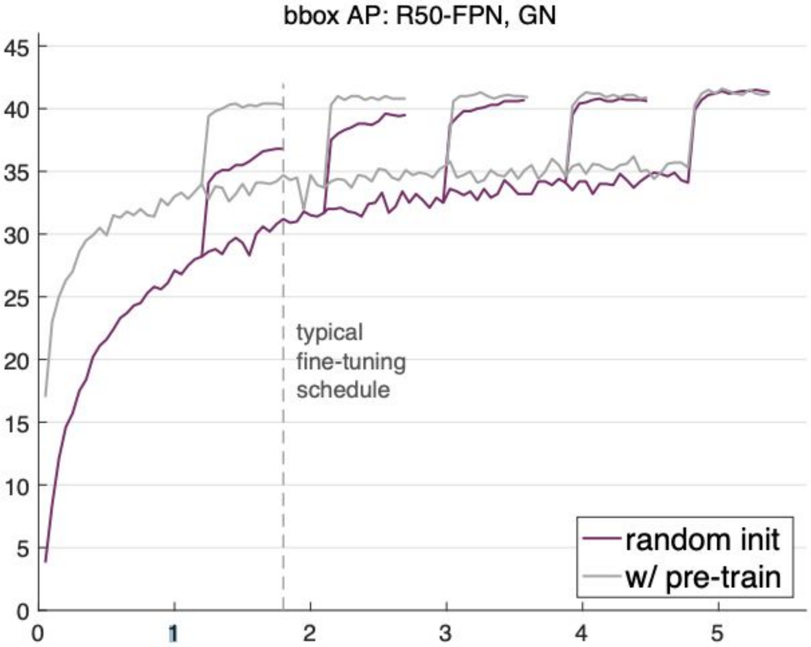


Girshick, “The Generalized R-CNN Framework for Object Detection”, ICCV 2017 Tutorial on Instance-Level Visual Recognition

We will discuss different architectures in detail in two lectures

Transfer learning with CNNs is pervasive…

But recent results show it might not always be necessary!



He et al, "Rethinking ImageNet Pre-training", ICCV 2019
Figure copyright Kaiming He, 2019. Reproduced with permission.

Training from scratch can work just as well as training from a pretrained ImageNet model for object detection

But it takes 2-3x as long to train.

They also find that collecting more data is better than finetuning on a related task

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 it has < ~1M images?

1. Find a very large dataset that has similar data, train a big ConvNet there
2. Transfer learn to your dataset

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: https://github.com/pytorch/vision

Summary

TLDRs

We looked in detail at:

- Activation Functions (use ReLU)
- Data Preprocessing (images: subtract mean)
- Weight Initialization (use Xavier/He init)
- Batch Normalization (use this!)
- Transfer learning (use this if you can!)

Next time:
Training Neural Networks, Part 2

- Parameter update schemes
- Learning rate schedules
- Gradient checking
- Regularization (Dropout etc.)
- Babysitting learning
- Evaluation (Ensembles etc.)
- Hyperparameter Optimization
- Transfer learning / fine-tuning