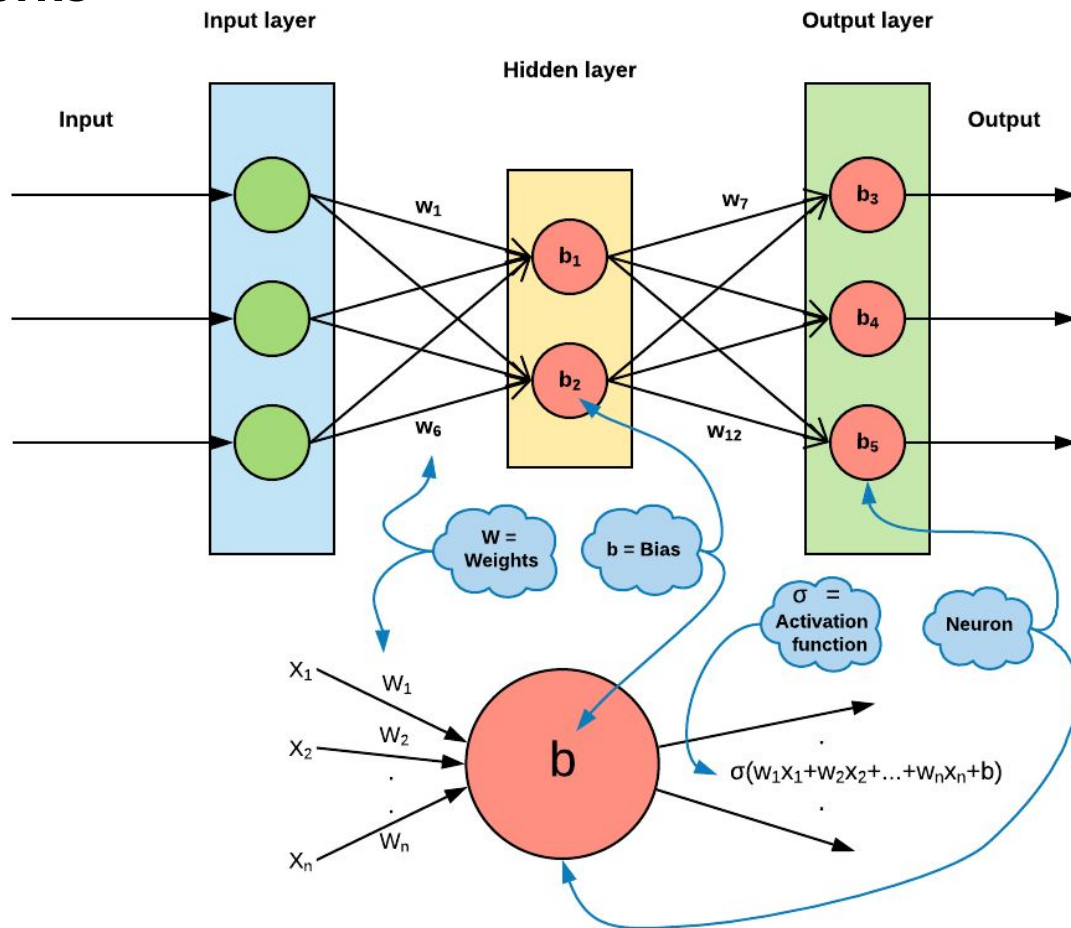


# Attractors of autoencoders

- Memorization in neural networks

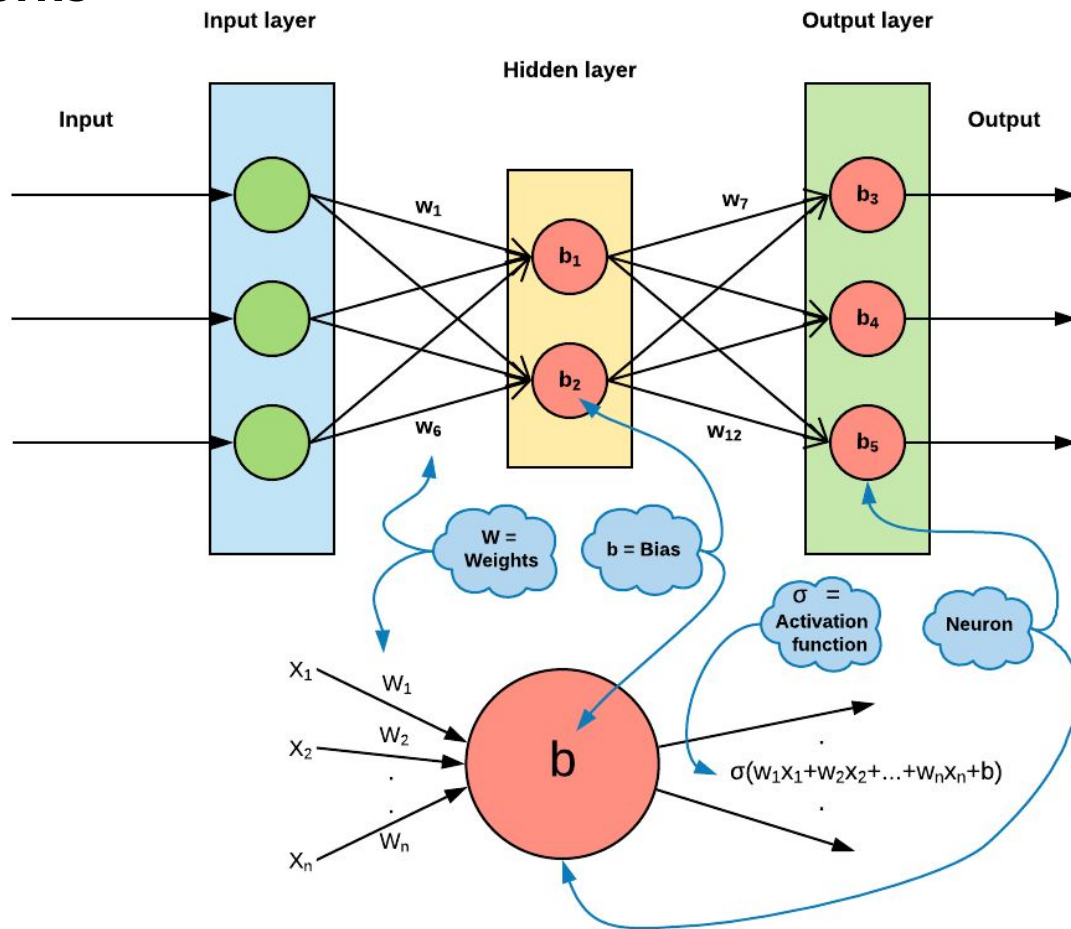
# Autoencoder neural networks

- Input & output layers:  
same number of neurons



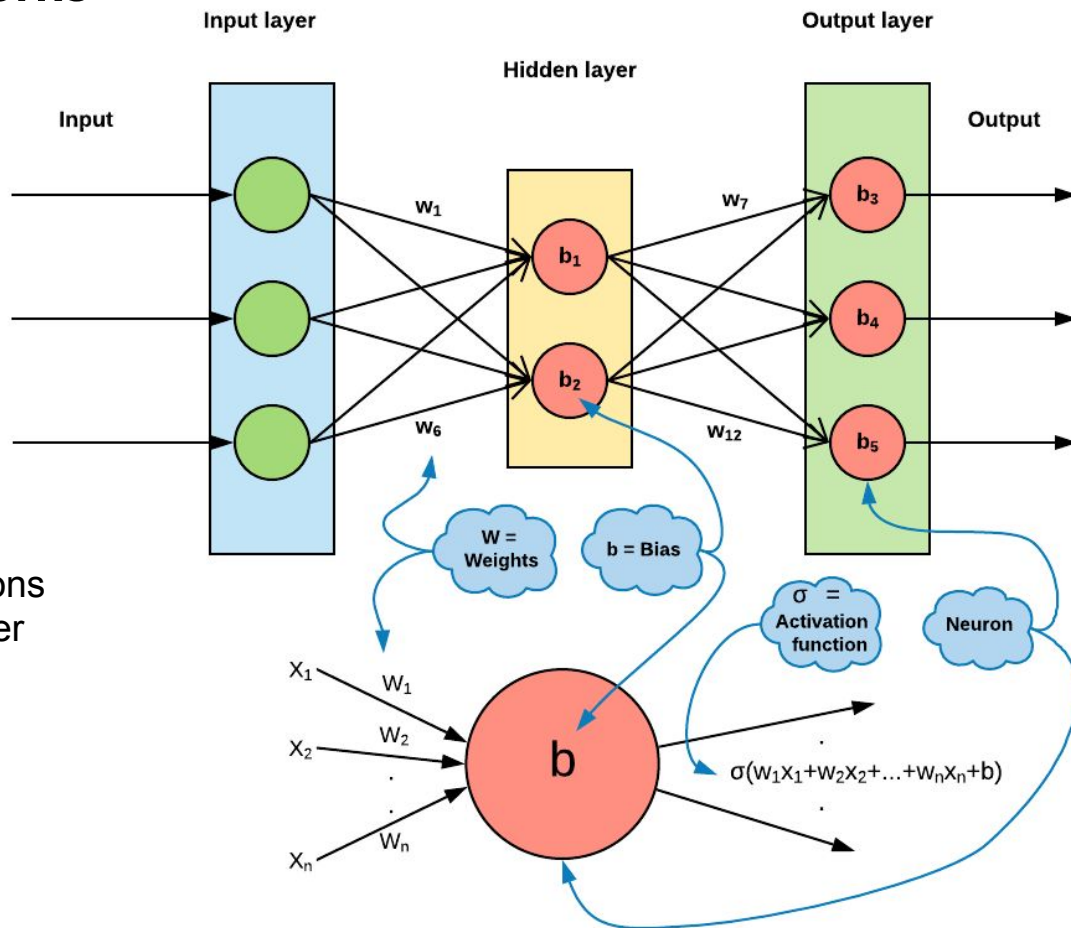
# Autoencoder neural networks

- Input & output layers: same number of neurons
- **Depth** = number of hidden layers in neural network
  - Example: depth = 1



# Autoencoder neural networks

- Input & output layers: same number of neurons
- **Depth** = number of hidden layers in neural network
  - Example: depth = 1
- In this talk:
  - Every hidden layer has the same number of neurons
  - **Width** refers to this number
  - Example: width = 2



# Machine learning with autoencoders

**Training** is the process that improves weights and biases such that our neural networks produces better results.

**Goal of an autoencoder:**



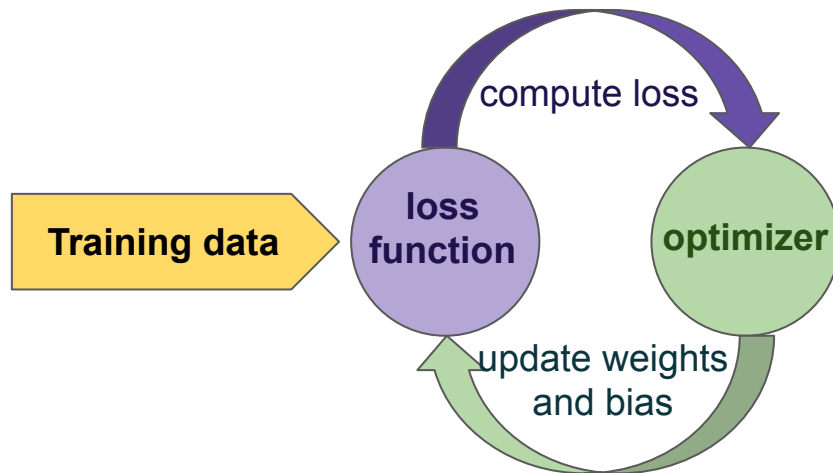
# Machine learning with autoencoders

**Training** is the process that improves weights and biases such that our neural networks produces better results.

Requires three ingredients:

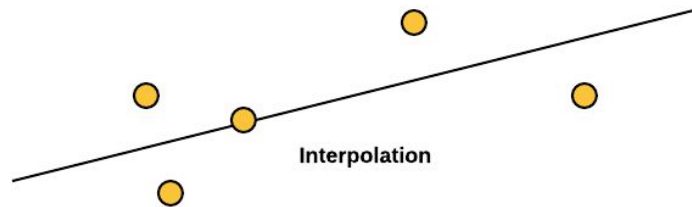
- a set of training data
- a loss function: measures how well the autoencoder achieves its task
- an optimizer: changes weights and biases to improve loss

**Goal of an autoencoder:**

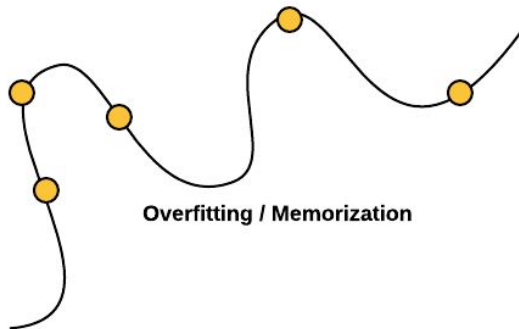


# Memorization in autoencoders

Few parameters lead to interpolation.

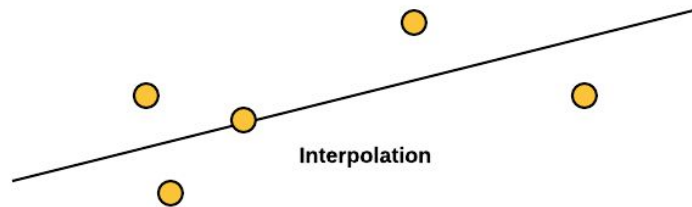


Too many parameters allow the network to learn the dataset.

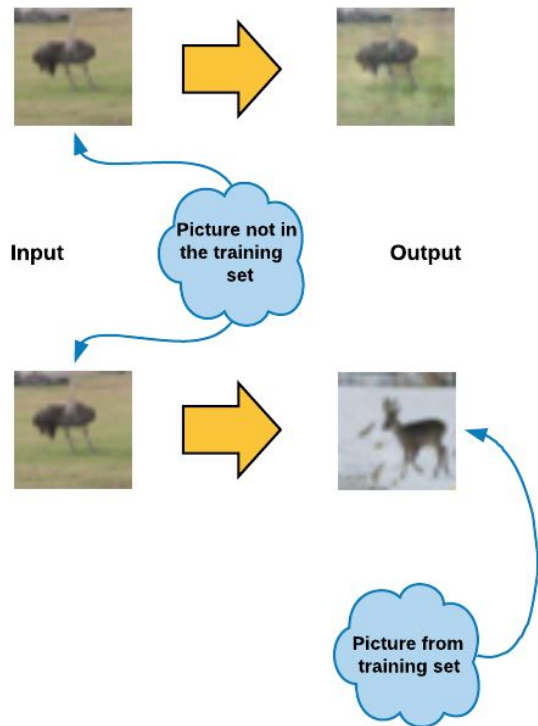
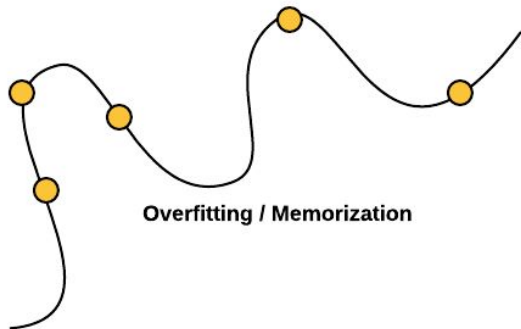


# Memorization in autoencoders

Few parameters lead to interpolation.



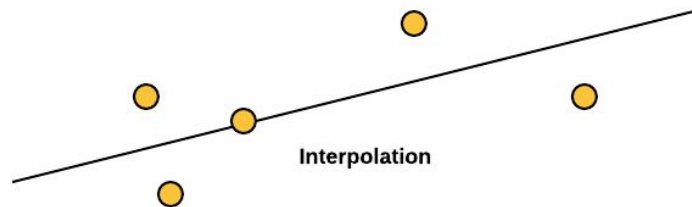
Too many parameters allow the network to learn the dataset.



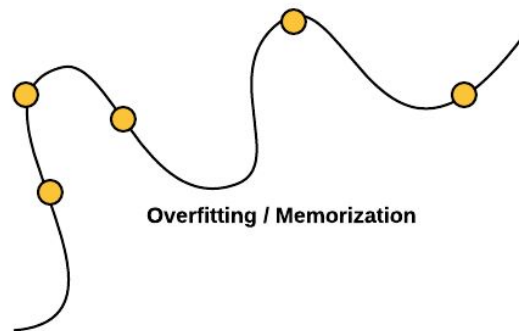


# Memorization in autoencoders

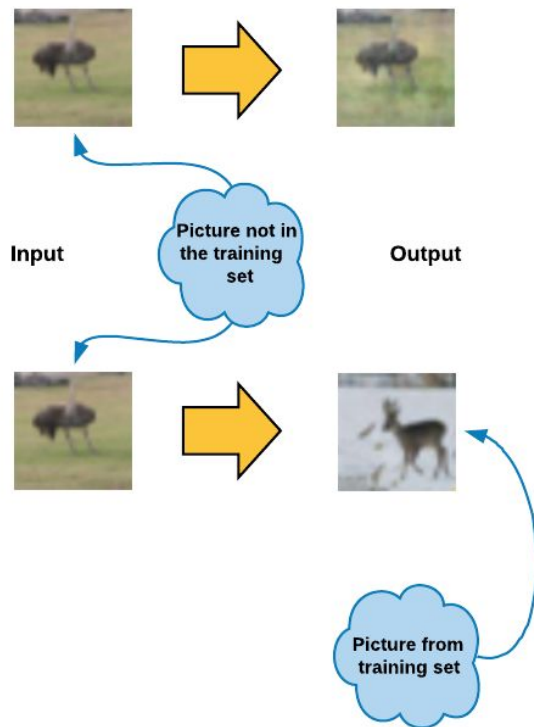
Few parameters lead to interpolation.



Too many parameters allow the network to learn the dataset.



It is still an open question how neural networks memorize data.  
For this, articles [1] and [2] suggest to study **attractors** of autoencoders.



[1] "Memorization in overparameterized autoencoders" - A. Radhakrishnan, K.D. Yang, M. Belkin and C. Uhler

[2] "Overparameterized Neural Networks Can Implement Associative Memory" - A. Radhakrishnan, M. Belkin, C. Uhler

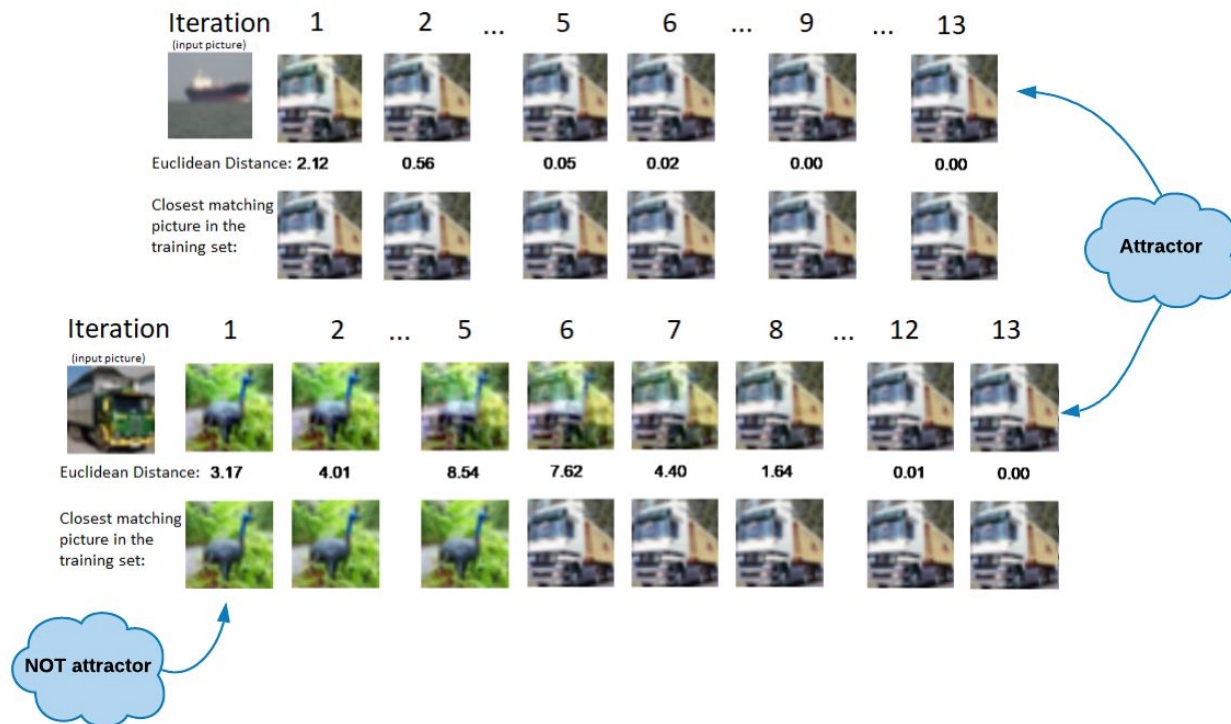
# Attractors of autoencoders



# Attractors of autoencoders




## Attractors of autoencoders



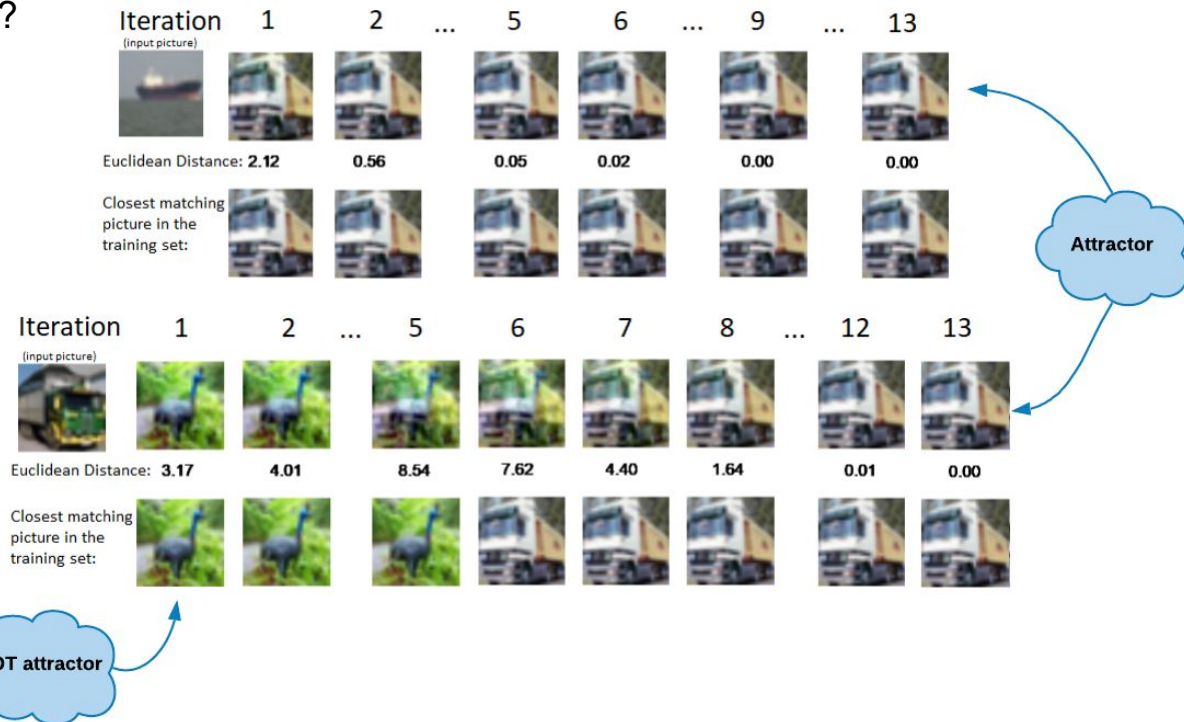
# Attractors of autoencoders

When is a training image  an attractor?

Two things can go wrong:

-  becomes another image when iterating autoencoder


→ we say that  is not an **iterative fixed point**



# Attractors of autoencoders


When is a training image  an attractor?

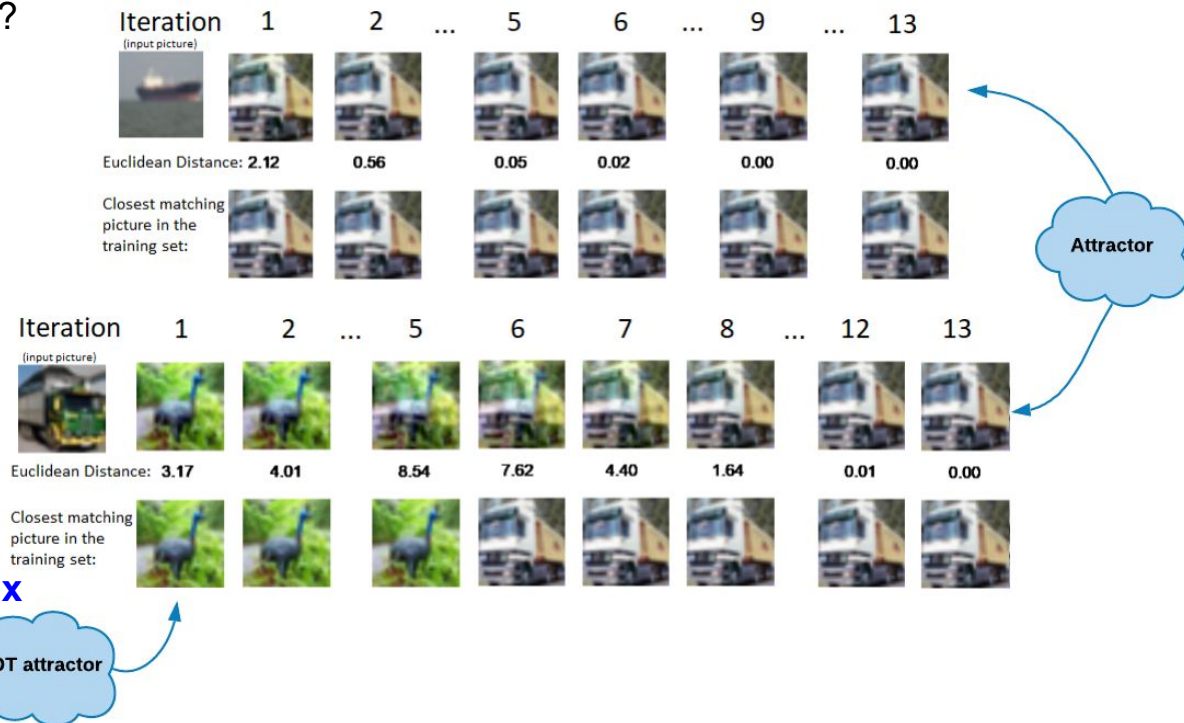
Two things can go wrong:

-  becomes another image when iterating autoencoder

→ we say that  is not an **iterative fixed point**

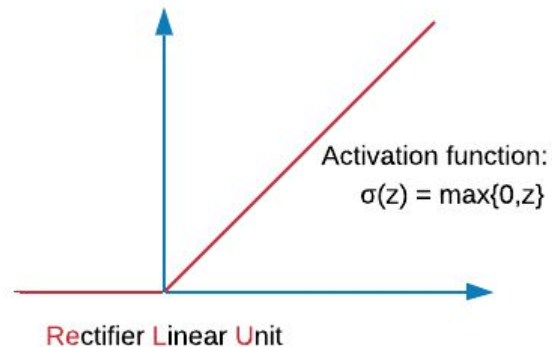
- **other** images never become 

(can be checked with the **eigenvalues of the Jacobian matrix** of the autoencoder at )



# Problem formulation

We want to extend the experiments in [2] to **ReLU** autoencoders.

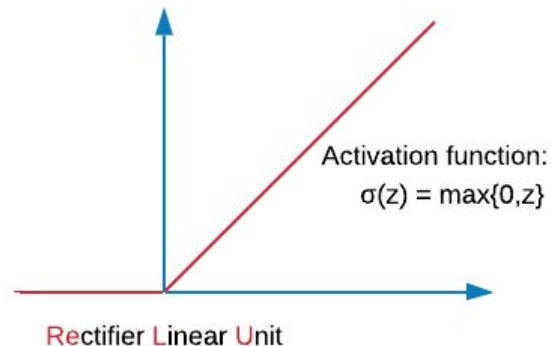
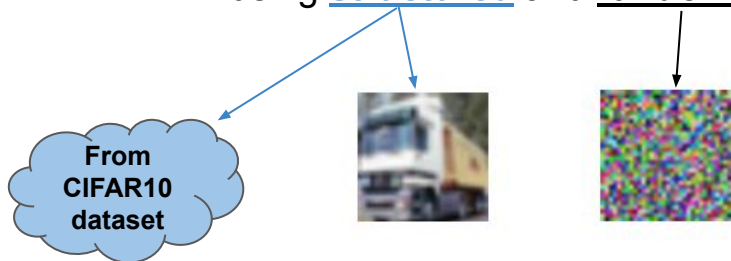


# Problem formulation

We want to extend the experiments in [2] to **ReLU** autoencoders.

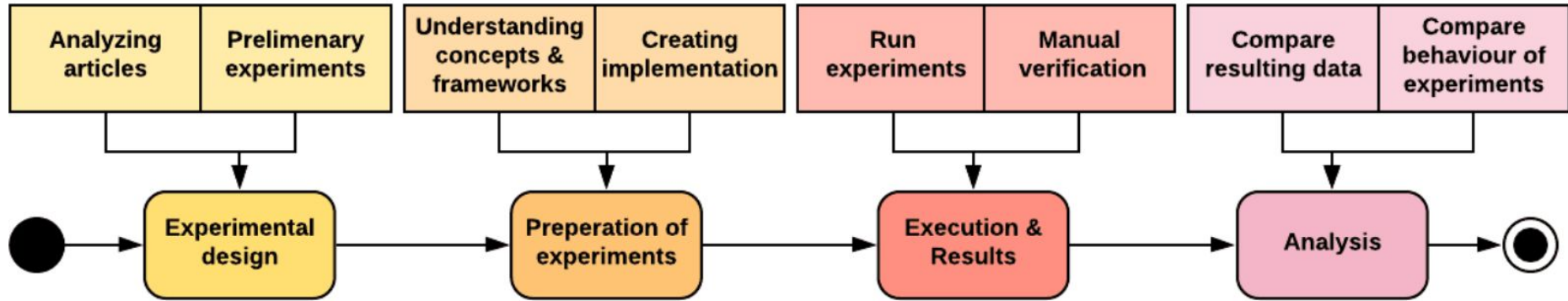
We investigate the impact on the amount of attractors:

- changing **depth** and **width**
- with and without **bias**
- using structured and random pictures

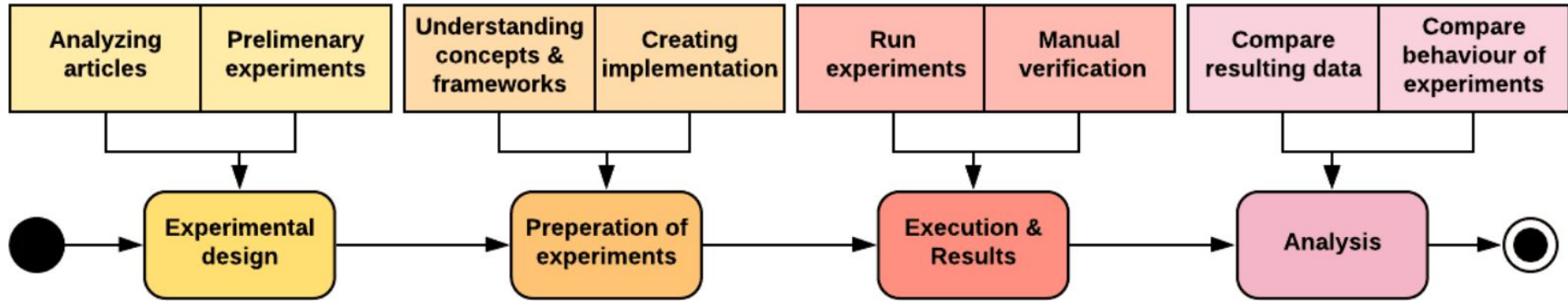




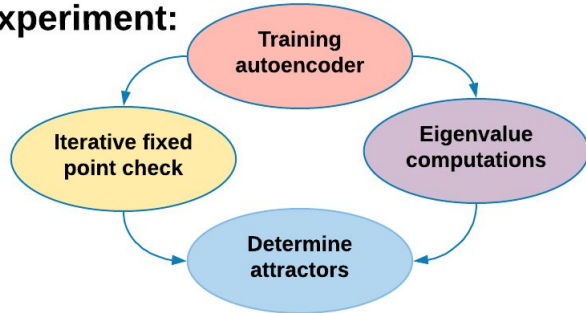
## Method : Controlled experiment(s)



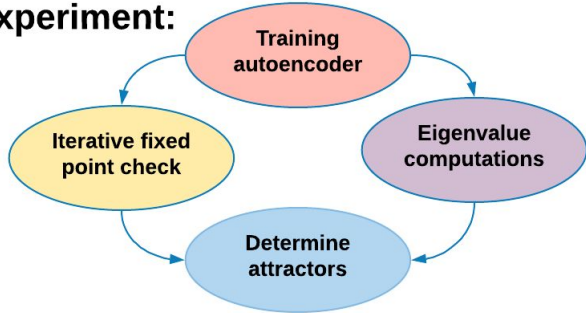
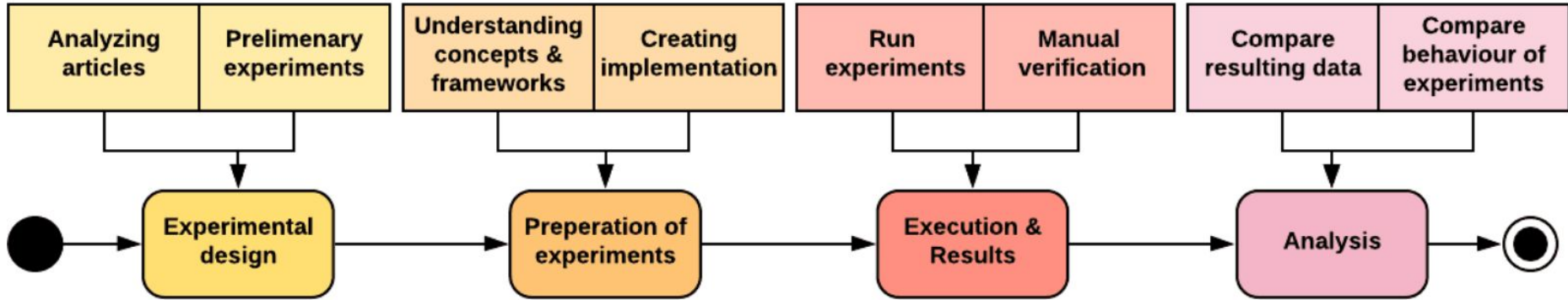
# Method : Controlled experiment(s)



## Single experiment:



**Method : Controlled experiment(s)**





**Each experiment repeats 4x,  
totalling 240 experiments**

## Scope:

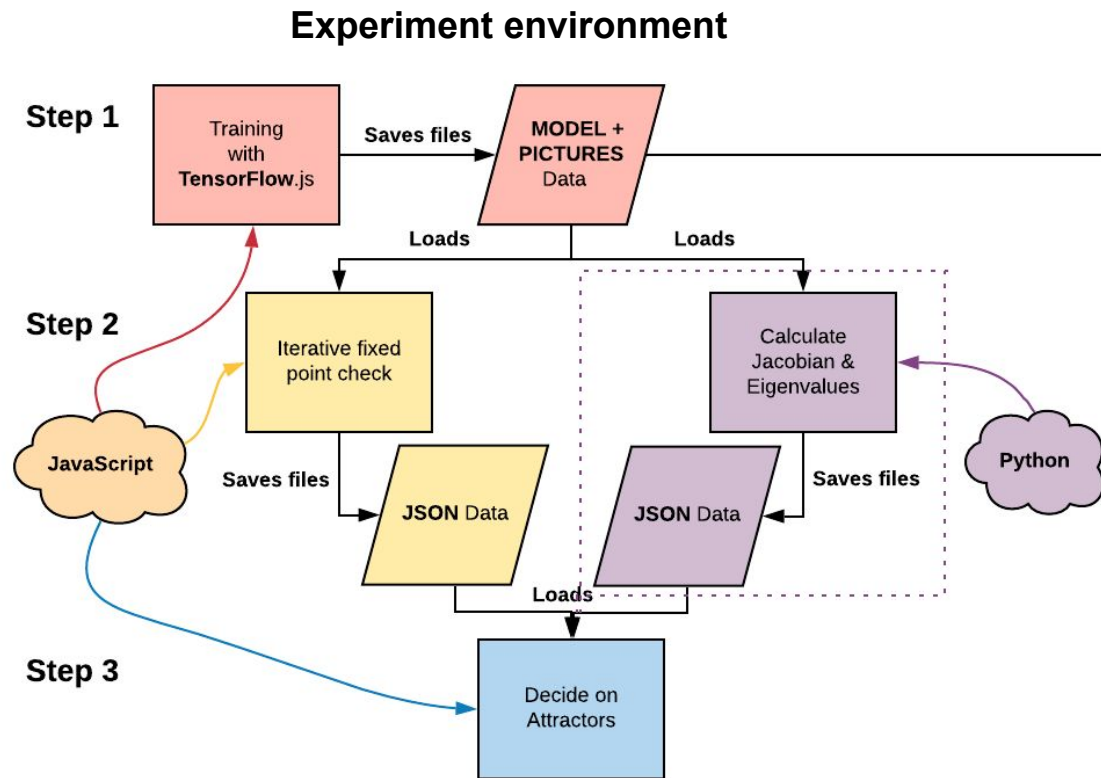
width \ depth	128	64	32
11			
6			
3			
2			
1			

with and without bias

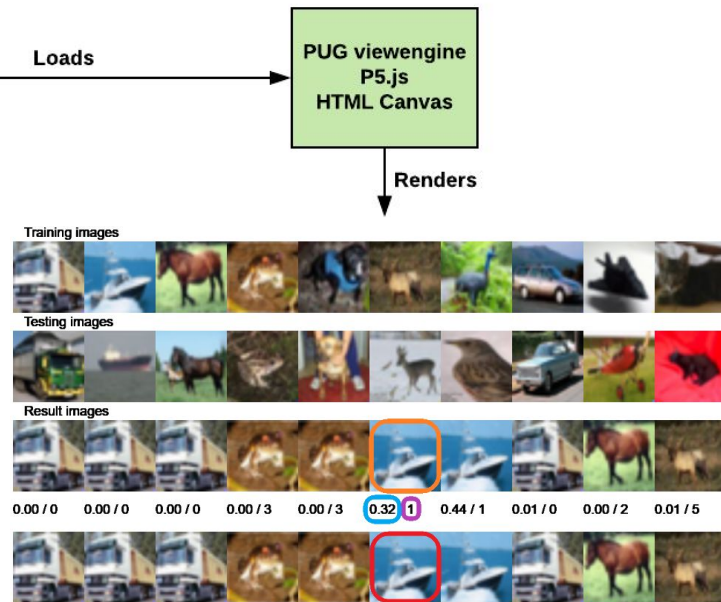
training pictures:  
random and CIFAR10

# Implementation



## Manual verification

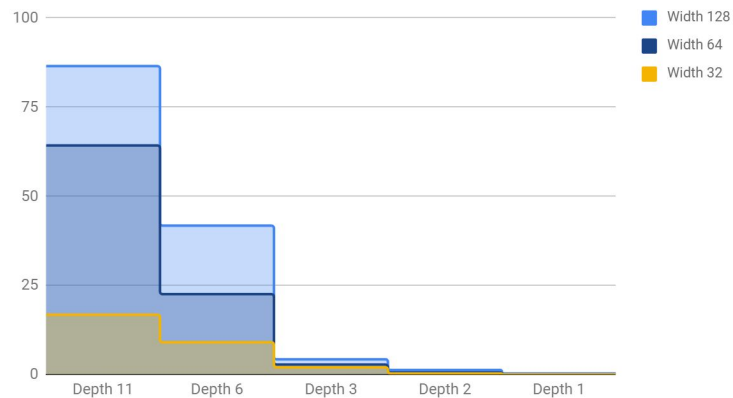


Euclidean distance of and index to  
the closest image in the training set to the prediction

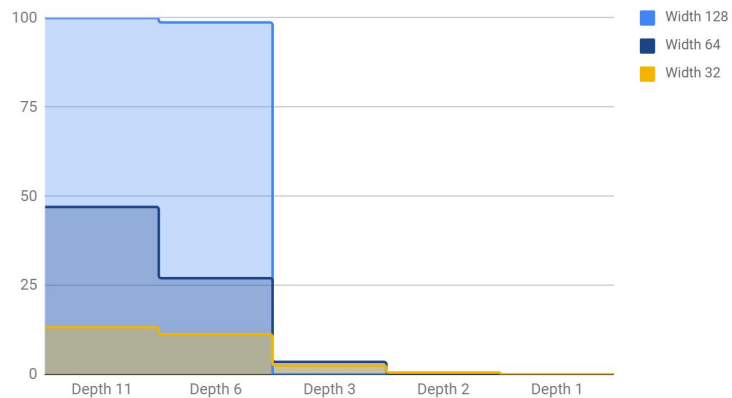
# Results & Analysis

## (trained models with bias)

Attractors with CIFAR10 pictures



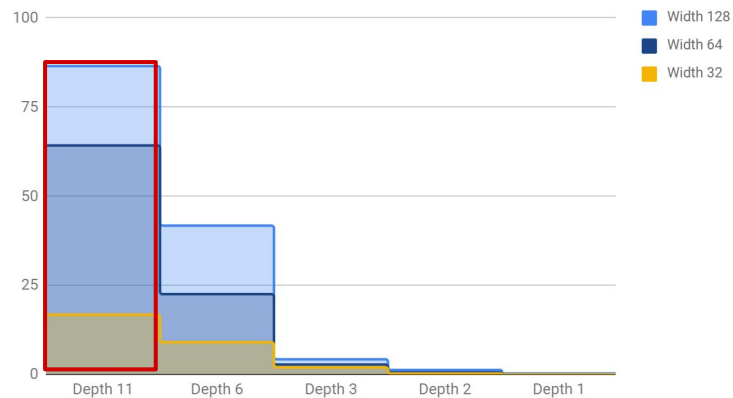
Attractors with Random pictures



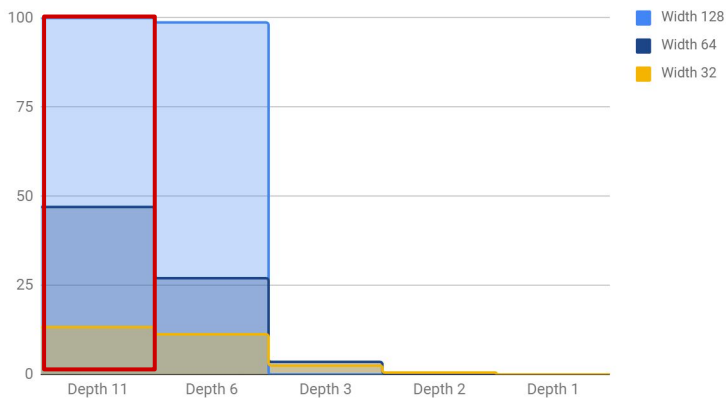
# Results & Analysis

## (trained models with bias)

Attractors with CIFAR10 pictures



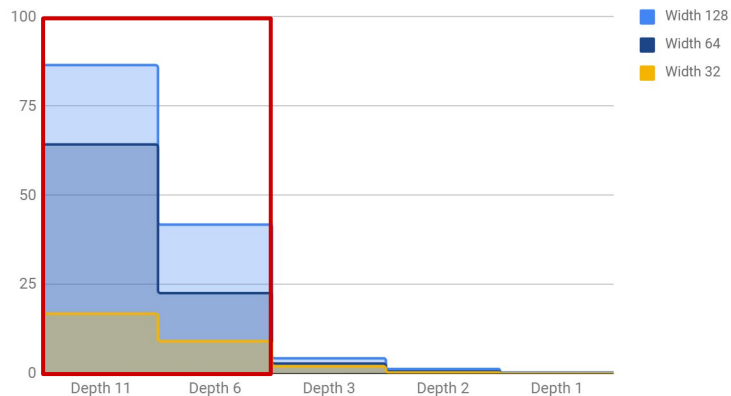
Attractors with Random pictures



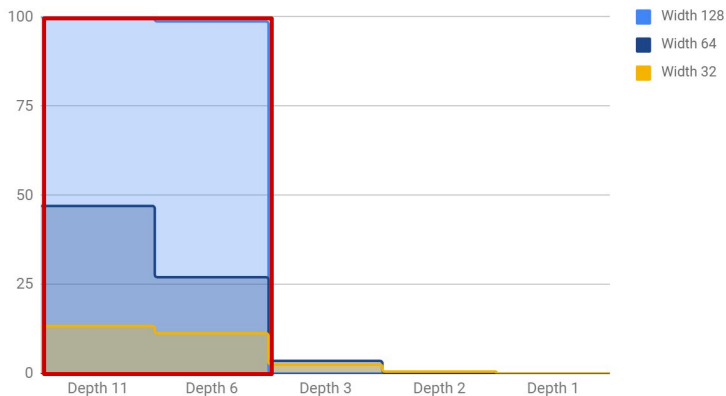
# Results & Analysis

## (trained models with bias)

Attractors with CIFAR10 pictures



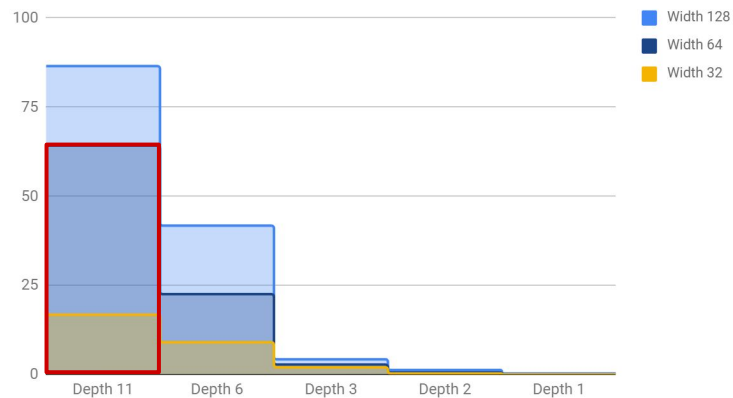
Attractors with Random pictures



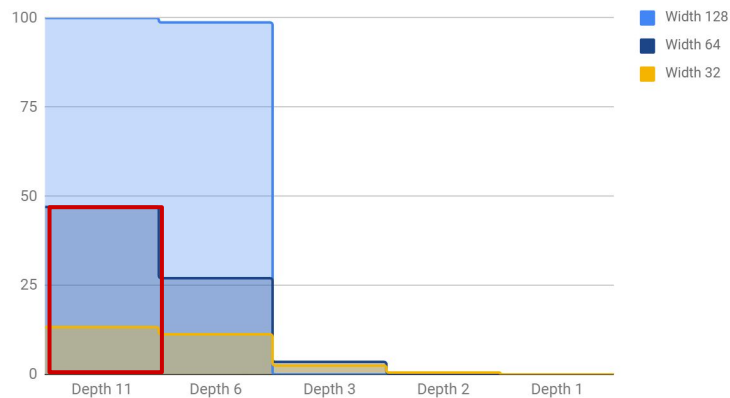
# Results & Analysis

## (trained models with bias)

Attractors with CIFAR10 pictures



Attractors with Random pictures

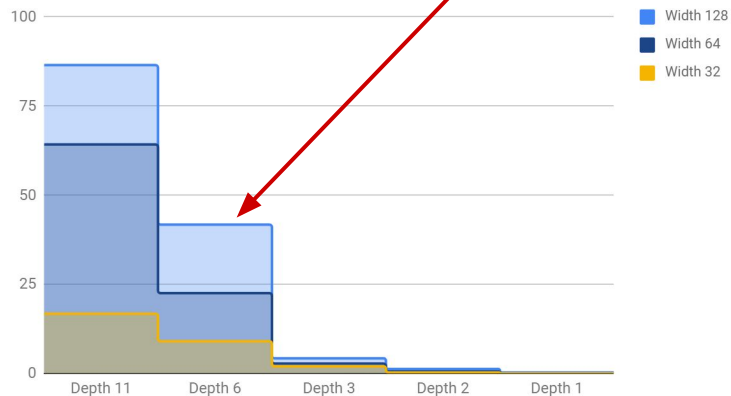




# Results & Analysis (trained models with bias)

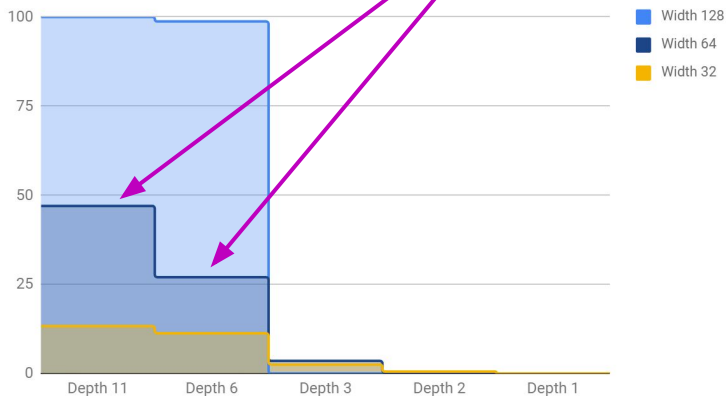
- CIFAR10 pictures:  
greater impact when changing depth

Attractors with CIFAR10 pictures



- Random pictures:  
greater impact when changing width

Attractors with Random pictures

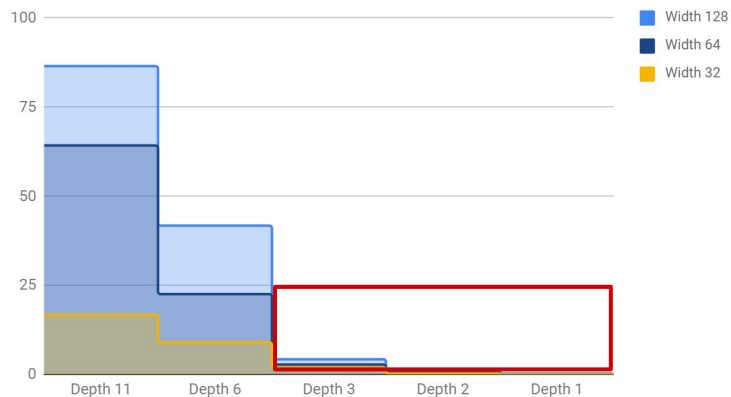


# Results & Analysis

## (trained models with bias)

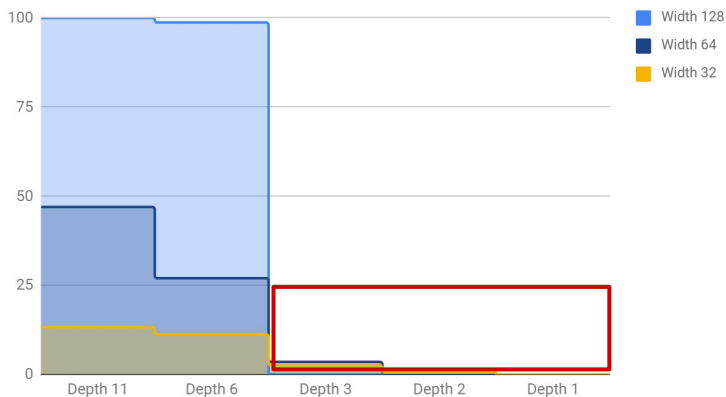
- CIFAR10 pictures:  
greater impact when changing depth

Attractors with CIFAR10 pictures



- Random pictures:  
greater impact when changing width
- Sufficient depth is required for creating attractors

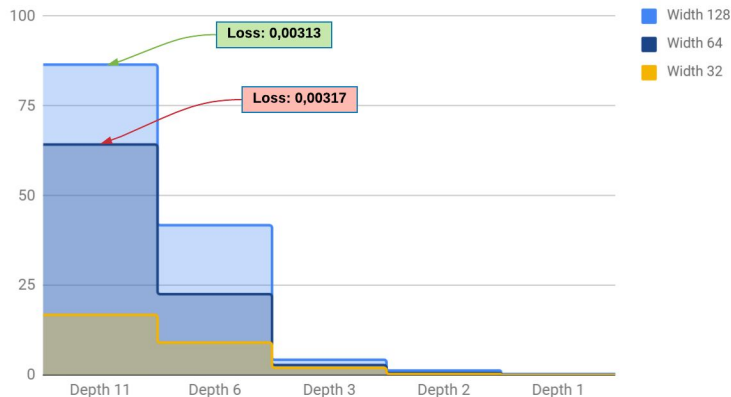
Attractors with Random pictures



# Results & Analysis (trained models with bias)

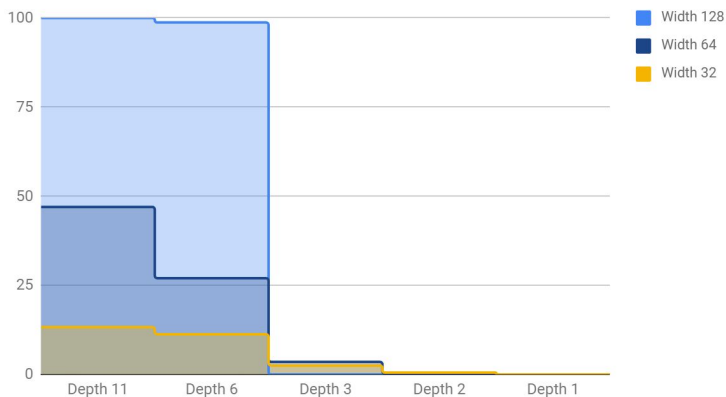
- CIFAR10 pictures:  
greater impact when changing depth
- Good loss and number of attractors are not necessarily related

Attractors with CIFAR10 pictures



- Random pictures:  
greater impact when changing width
- Sufficient depth is required for creating attractors

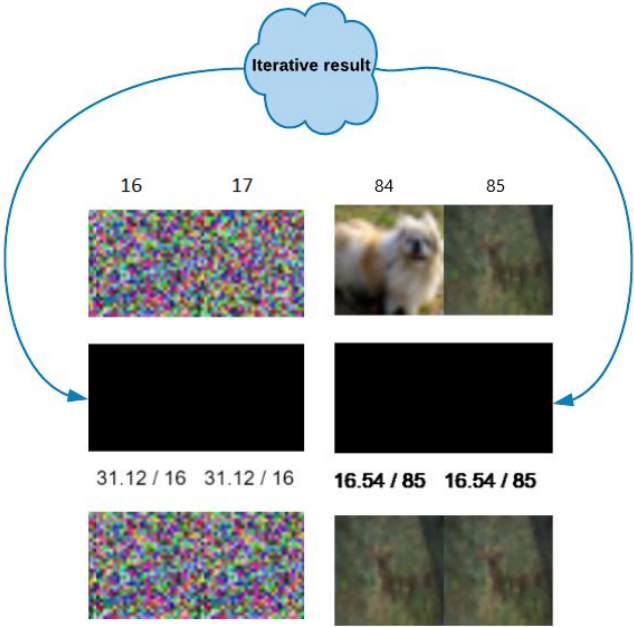
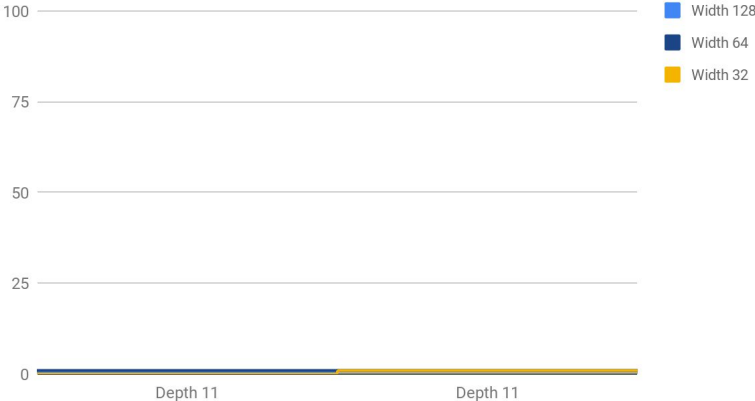
Attractors with Random pictures



# Results & Analysis

(trained models without bias)

Not using bias, CIFAR10 & Random pictures

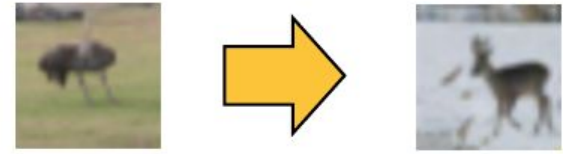


Not using bias, produces no attractors

## Future work

- increase the scope (width and depth) of autoencoders
- the effect of epochs on trained autoencoders was not covered in the thesis (only trained 50k).
- training pictures was always 100, the impact of changing this amount would be interesting.
- training with pictures with a more specific structure could give interesting results.
- optimizing the thesis' notion of iterative fixed points, excluding the “false positives”.
- a mathematical proof showing that every data point becomes an attractor for a sufficiently generic training set for a sufficiently large ReLU autoencoder



An autoencoder is a mathematical function; in this thesis:





$$\alpha : \mathbb{R}^{3072} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{3072}$$

At every picture, we can compute the Jacobian matrix  $J_{\alpha}(\text{img}) \rightarrow$  this is a 3072 x 3072 matrix.

[1] and [2] show for a **perfectly trained autoencoder with loss 0**:

-  is an attractor if the highest absolute value of the eigenvalues of  $J_{\alpha}(\text{img})$  is smaller than 1.
-  is not an attractor if this highest absolute value is larger than 1.

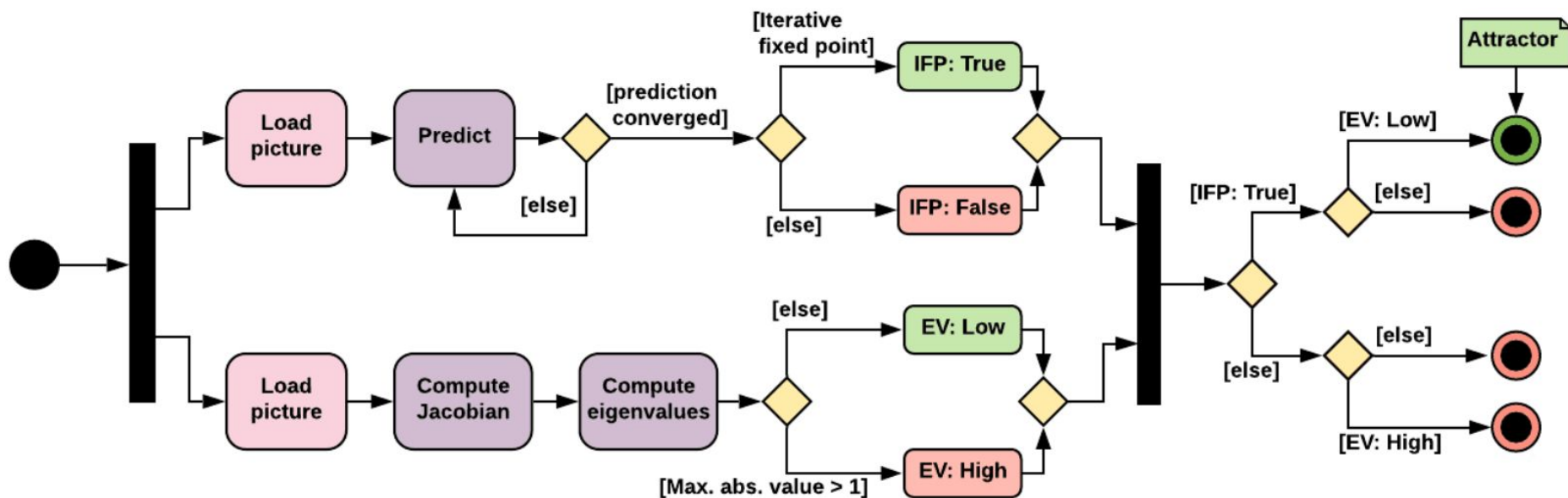
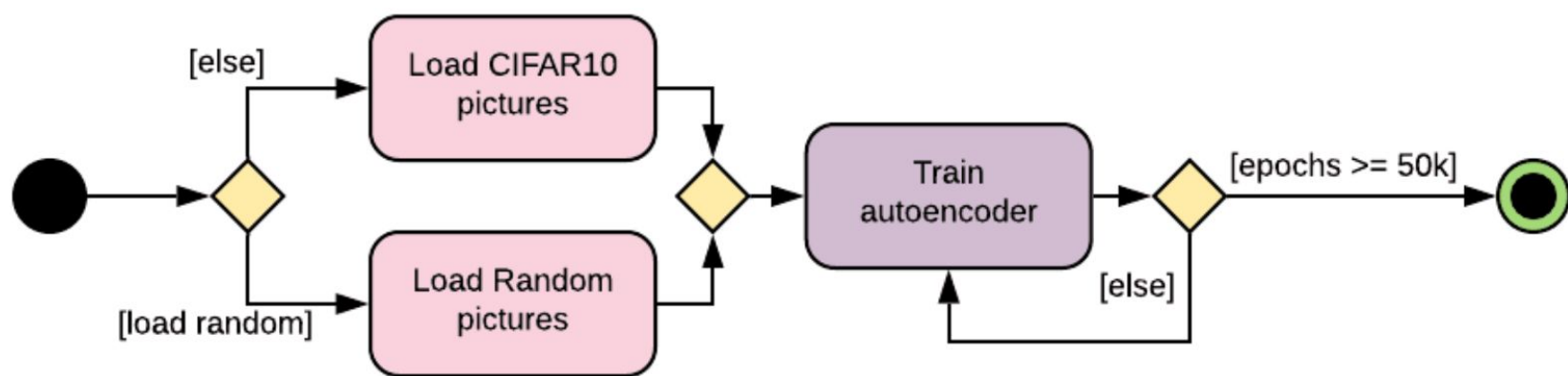
For an **autoencoder with loss > 0**,

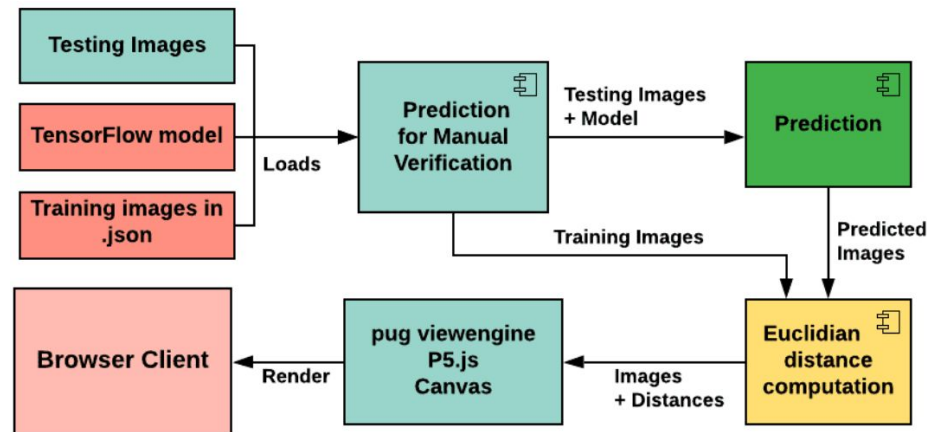
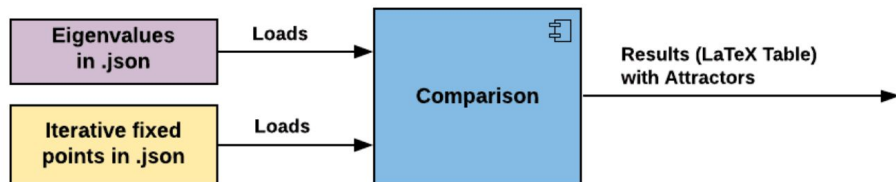
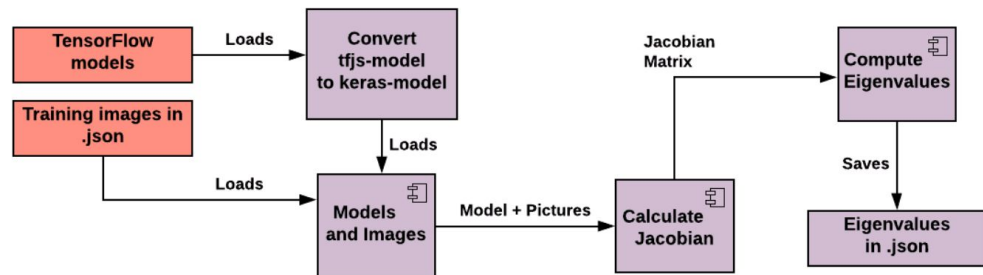
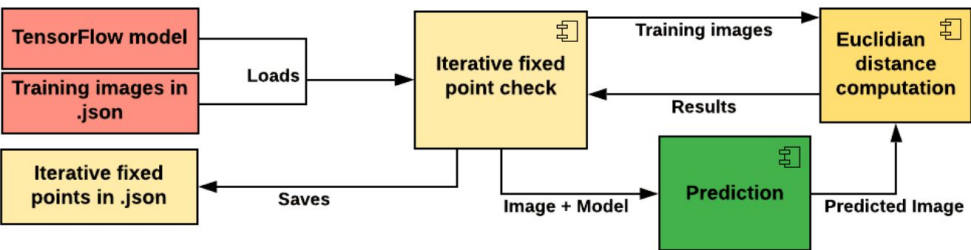
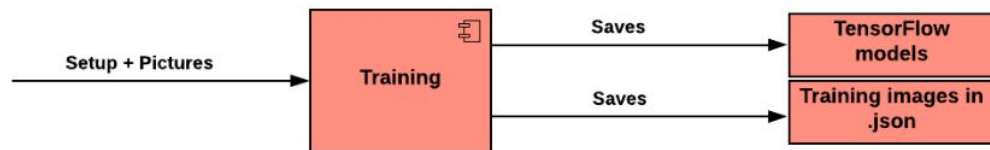
 is an attractor if this highest absolute value is smaller than 1 and  is an iterative fixed point.

		largest absolute value of all eigenvalues:	
		< 1	> 1
iterative fixed point?	yes	attractor	not attractor
	no	not attractor	not attractor

[1] "Memorization in overparameterized autoencoders" - A. Radhakrishnan, K.D. Yang, M. Belkin and C. Uhler

[2] "Overparameterized Neural Networks Can Implement Associative Memory" - A. Radhakrishnan, M. Belkin, C. Uhler





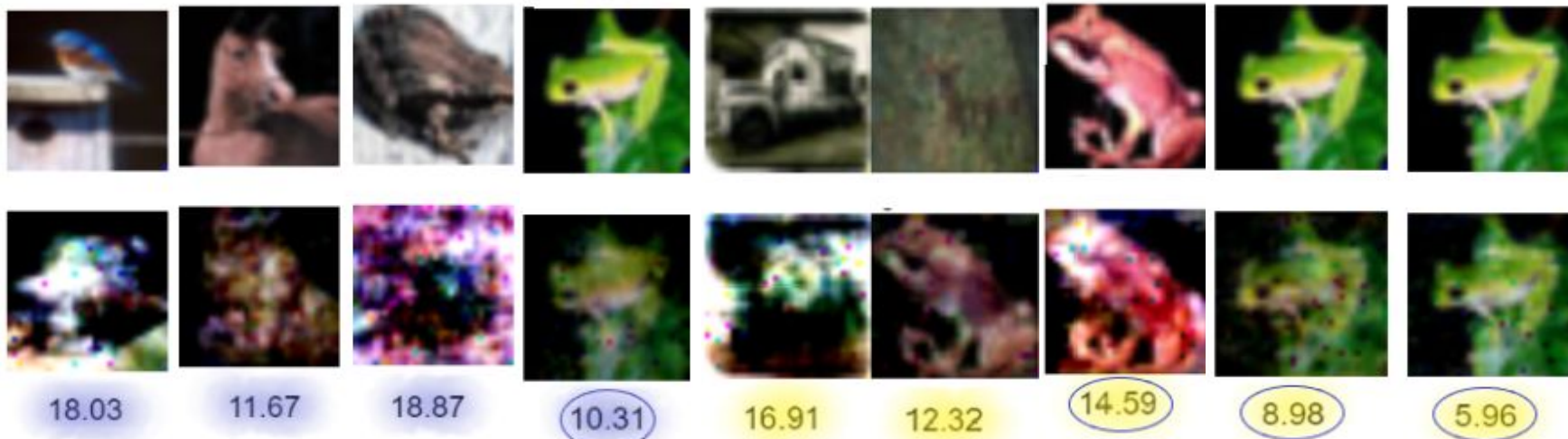


# Results & Analysis

(iterative fixed points at lower depths  
& manual verification)

'false predictions':

- 82% at depth 1
- 36% at depth 2
- 19% at depth 3



Examples depth 2

Examples depth 1