

What is Transfer Learning and Finetuning?

Monday, April 28, 2025 4:04 PM

- "Transfer learning means taking experience from one problem and using it to solve another related problem."

Real Life Example: "It's like learning to ride a bicycle and then using that skill to learn how to ride a motorcycle faster."

Computer Scientist took this simple idea and integrated into the deep learning.

- ILSVRC (ImageNet Large Scale Visual Recognition Challenge) version mein:

- Training Images: ~1.2 million
- Validation Images: 50,000
- Test Images: 100,000 (labels hidden, competition ke liye)
- Classes: 1000 (dog, cat, car, airplane, etc.)

- Full ImageNet Dataset (original, jo Stanford maintain karta hai):

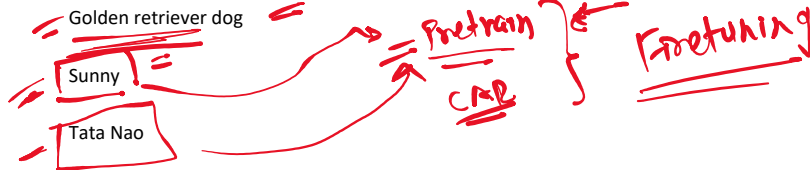
- 14M+ million images
- 21,841 categories (WordNet synsets ke hisaab se)

This is example of those 1000 classes

- Cat
- Dog
- Vehicle
- Aircraft
- Bird
- Fruit
- Vehicle
- Sports Object
- Musical Instrument
- Humans

ImageNet

Now suppose your specific class is not included among the 1000 classes available in the ImageNet dataset.



Now the ways of doing this Transfer Learning:

In CNN based Architecture: # 3 layer step

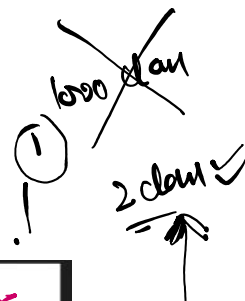
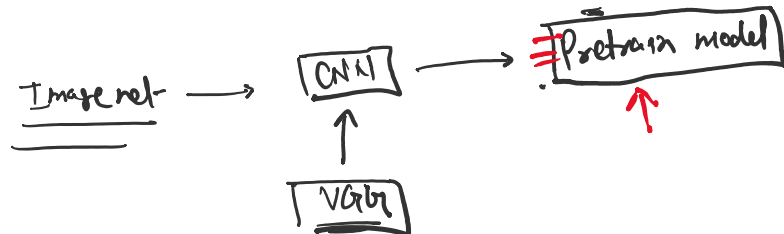
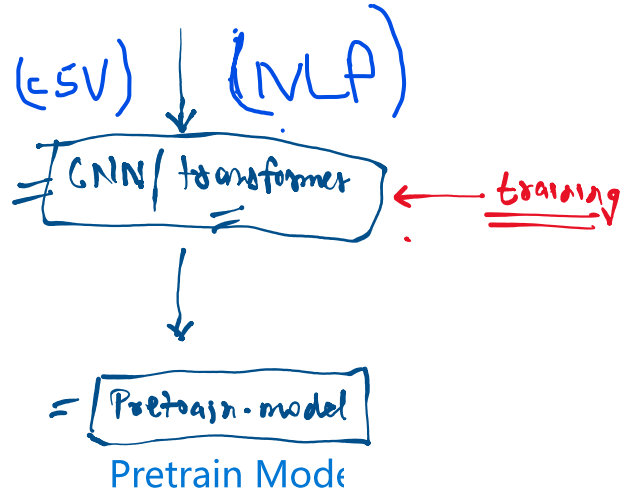
- Replacing the output layer of pretrain model
- Or don't change weights means keep freezing all the weights just retrain the Neural Network Weights
- Or unfreezing some layers of the network and fine-tuning it on the new, task-specific dataset

Now Lets take a very simple example:

First understand it using the CNN based Architecture.

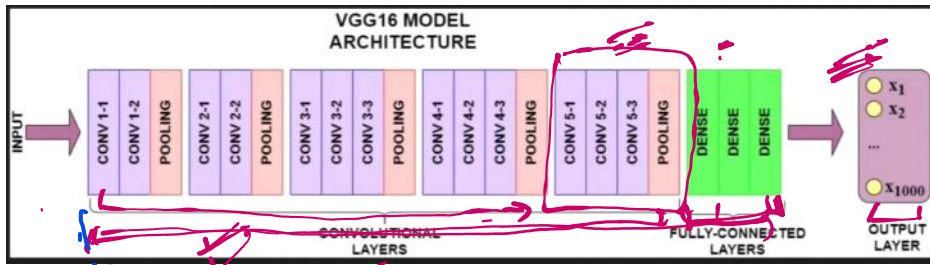
VGG16 MODEL ARCHITECTURE

huge amt of data



Rahul Sharma

First understand it using the CNN based Architecture.



Convolutional Neural Network

TC/FT

Why this transfer learning works

We train a model on a **huge dataset** initially, allowing it to learn **primitive features** (like edges, textures, and simple shapes).

When applying it to a **different dataset**, we don't retrain the entire model — we only retrain certain layers if the new data is **very different**.

Otherwise, we can directly reuse the model's knowledge.

(Pretrain) → (transfer learn) = FT Model

Act Pin

↳ binary → Sigmoid
↳ multi → Softmax

Specific

more car eyes lips

Transfer Learning in Generative AI (Using LLMs)

In Transformer based Architecture:

- Replacing the **output layer** of pretrain model
- Or **unfreezing some layers** of the network and **fine-tuning** it on the new, task-specific dataset

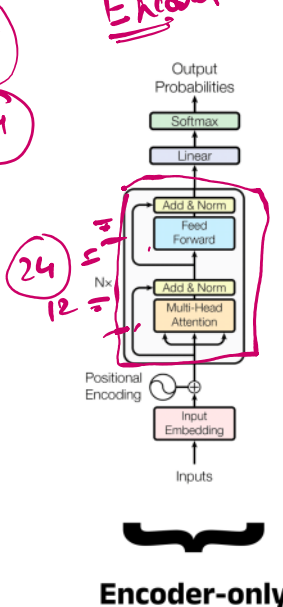
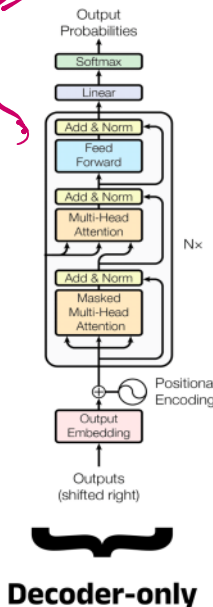
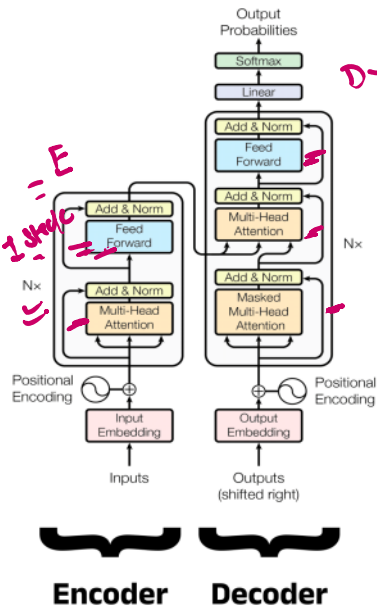
huge PEFT
GPT 3.5, 4, 4V

Transformer

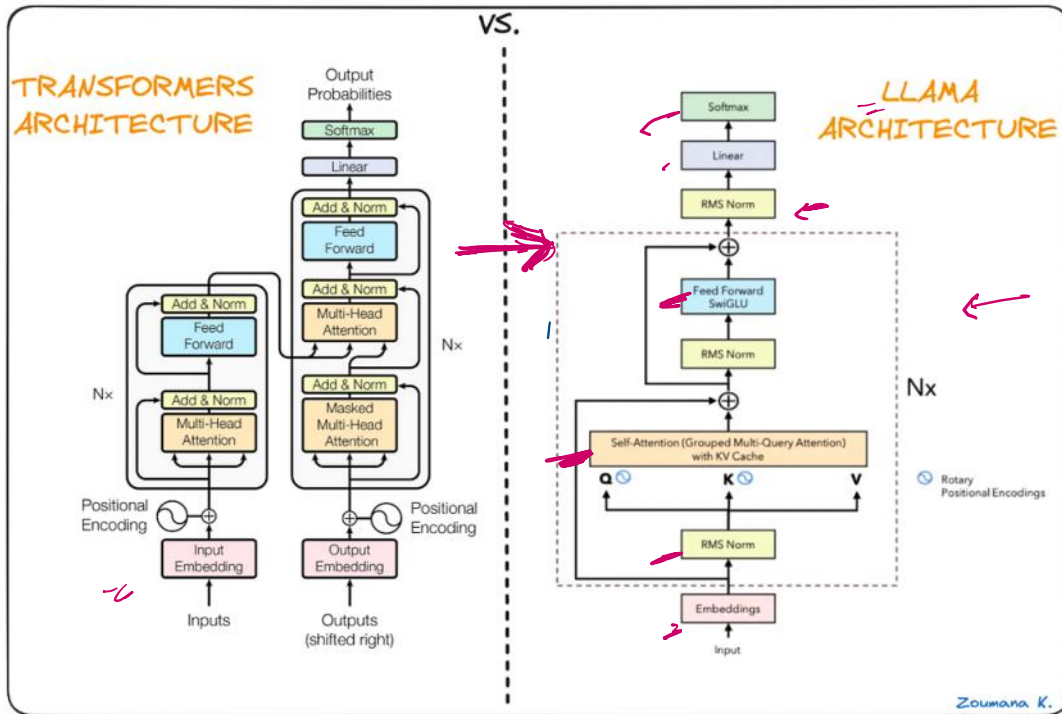
GPT*

BERT*

Encoder



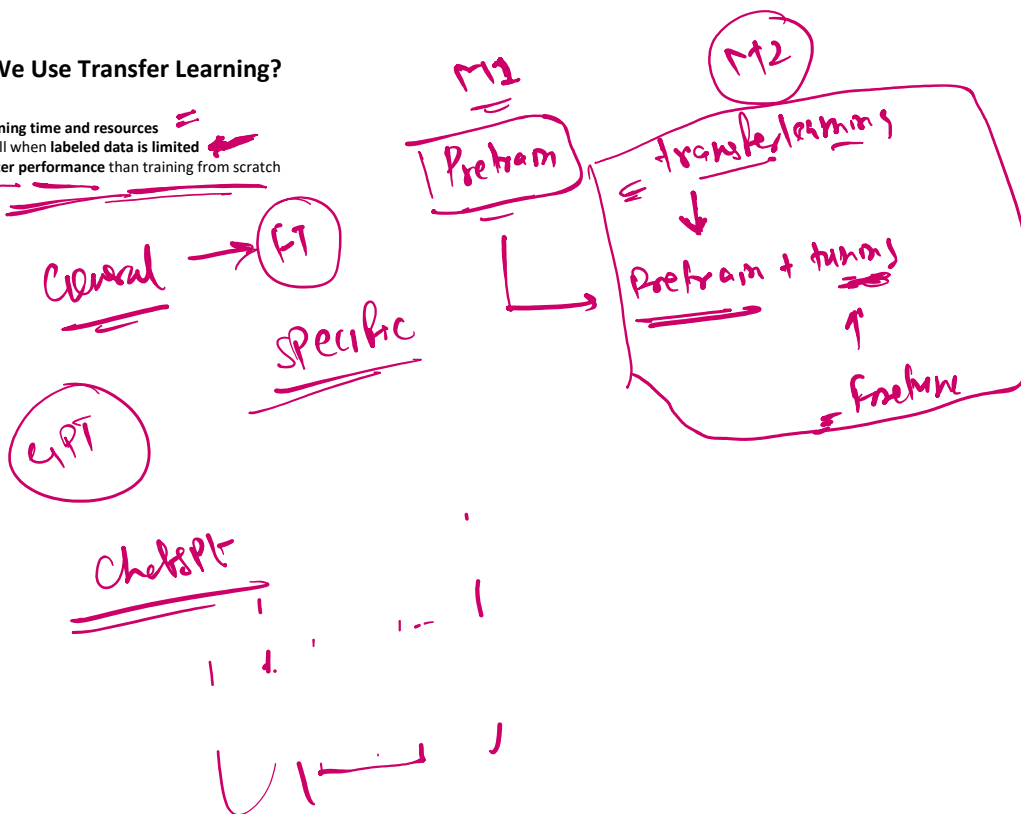
*Illustrative example, exact model architecture may vary slightly



BIT
PEFT
SUBSET
Quantized

Why Do We Use Transfer Learning?

- Saves training time and resources
- Works well when labeled data is limited
- Gives better performance than training from scratch



CNN Finetuning

Wednesday, April 23, 2025 6:54 PM

Correct: <https://colab.research.google.com/drive/1Dtipjnr4WXnl8ErDeNzzOjzGtgmV-F4r?usp=sharing>

<https://colab.research.google.com/drive/1U57ZndGQ6WnPdtM2rTdxPARNnTsfRds7?usp=sharing>

Bert Finetuning

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<https://colab.research.google.com/drive/1Dtipjnr4WXnl8ErDeNzzOjzGtgmV-F4r?usp=sharing>

<https://colab.research.google.com/drive/1U57ZndGQ6WnPdtM2rTdxPARNnTsfRds7?usp=sharing>