

# Advanced Architectures for Vision

Anurag Arnab

Google DeepMind

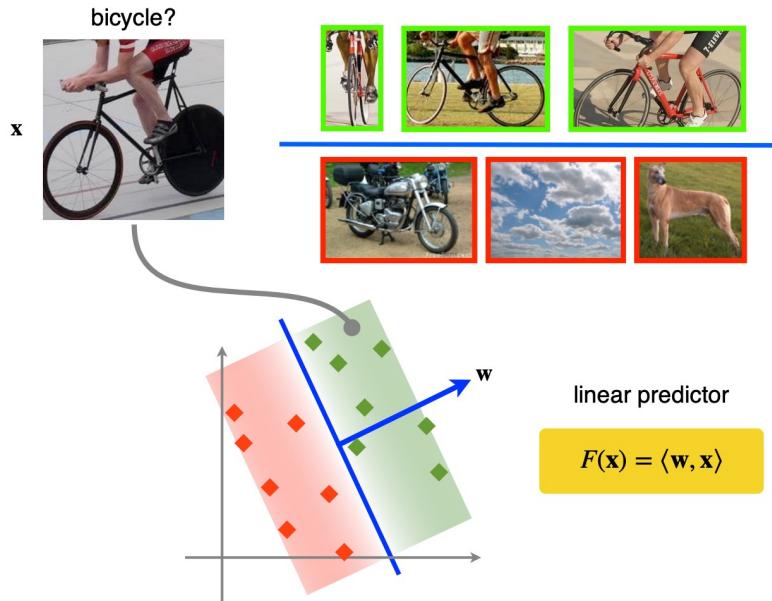


# Outline

- Supervised learning fundamentals
  - Linear classifiers
  - Perceptrons
  - Convolutional Networks
- Transformers
  - Transformer deep-dive
  - Architectures for specialized tasks
- Connecting Vision and Language
  - Image-text models
  - Large Language Models
  - Vision Language Models

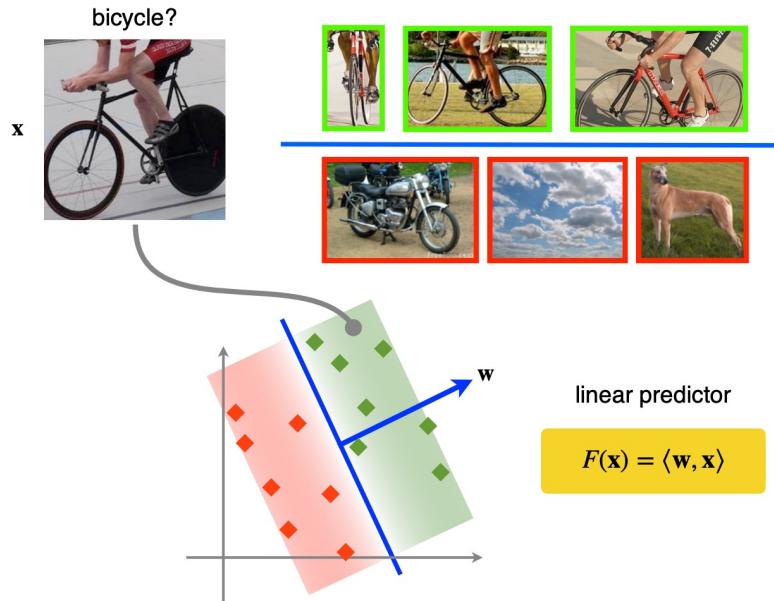
# Linear Predictor

- We want to train a classifier that predicts whether an image,  $x$ , contains a certain class (ie "bicycle")
- We can learn this function,  $F(x)$ , from images that have, or do not have, the object.



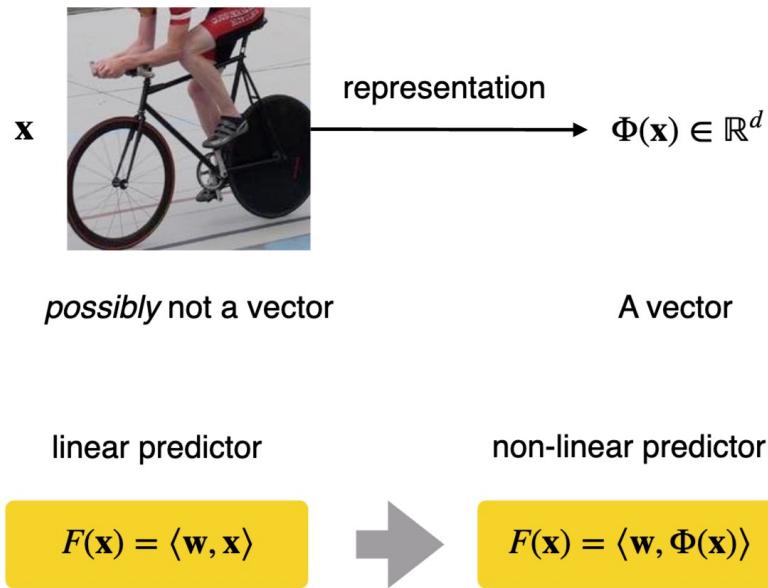
# Linear Predictor

- In the simplest case, the function is a linear classifier,  $F(x)$ .
  - Images are high dimensional vectors.
  - Compute the dot product, between a parameter vector,  $w$ , and image,  $x$ , to compute a score.
  - The sign of  $F(x)$  is used as the prediction.



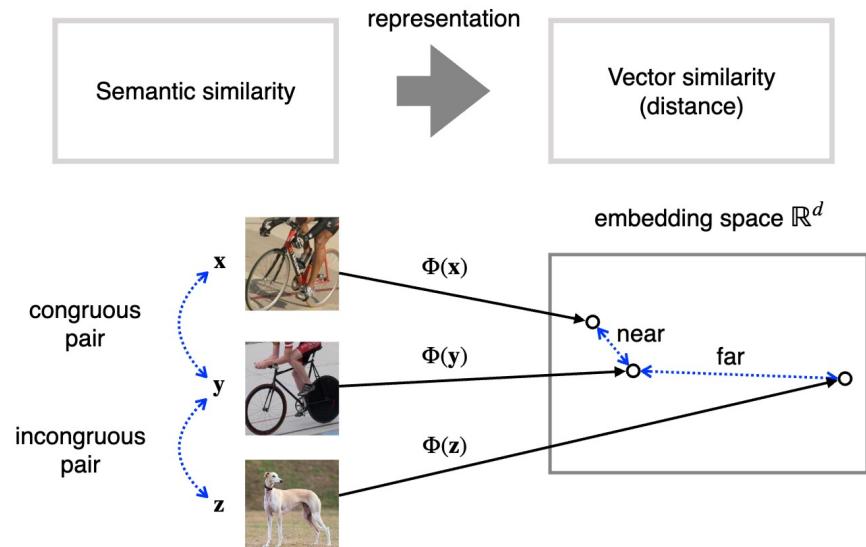
# Data Representations

- We can apply a linear classifier to vectors,  $x$ .
- However, we want to process images, videos or other data that are not necessarily vectors.
- Representation function,  $\phi(x)$ , maps data to vectors.
- Non-linear classifier by applying linear predictor to non-linear representation function.



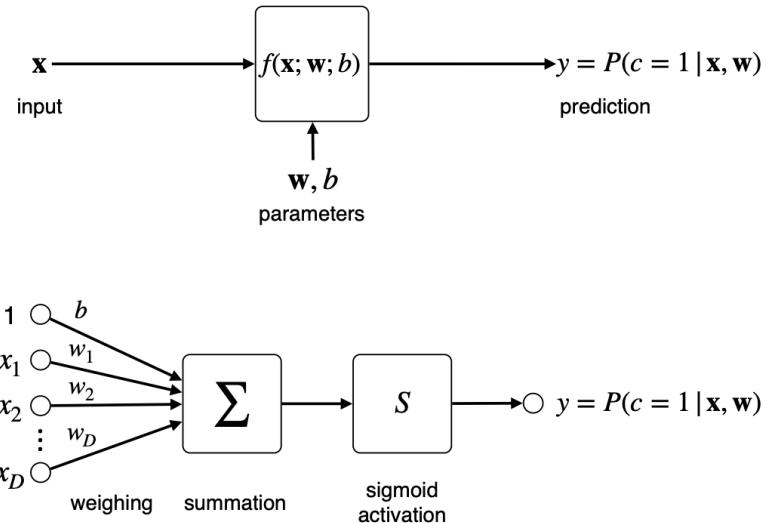
# Meaningful Representations

- Representation should help a linear classifier to perform classification.
- *Semantic similarity* between data points needs to be mapped to a *vector similarity*.
- Therefore, a good representation needs to:
  - Be invariant to nuisance factors
  - Sensitive to semantic factors.
- How do we choose  $\phi$ ?



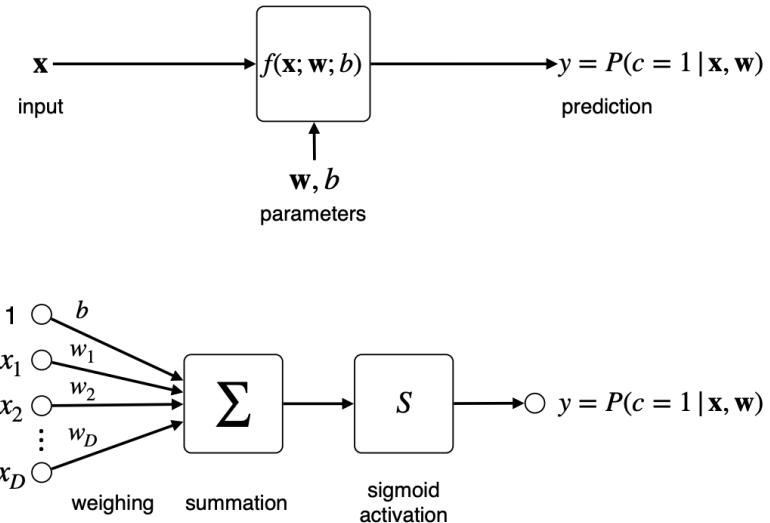
# Perceptron

- One of, if not, the first neural networks by [Rosenblatt, 1957.](#)
- The perceptron maps an input vector,  $x$ , to a probability,  $y$ .
- Example:  $y$  is the probability that image  $x$  is a bicycle.



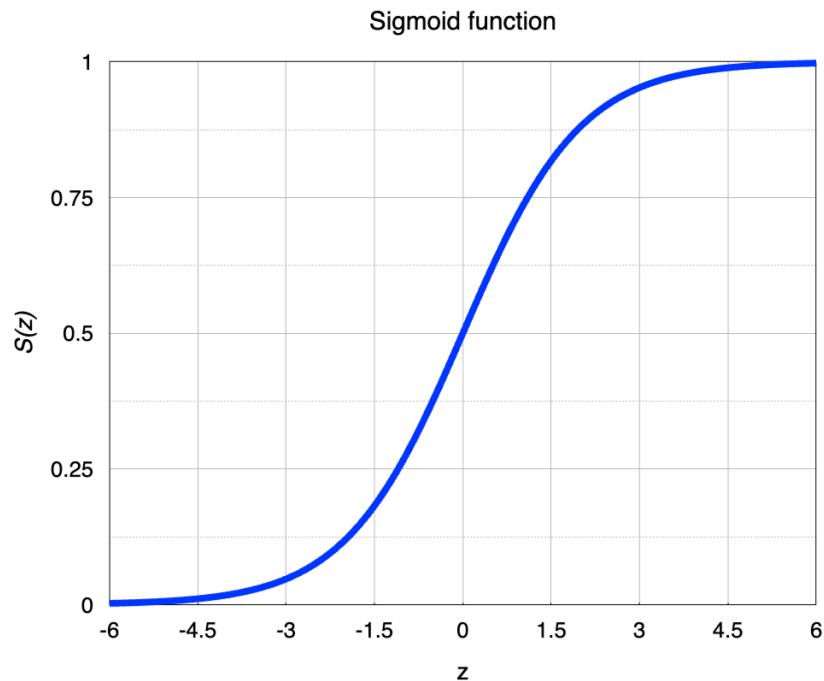
# Perceptron

- Computes the probability by computing a weighted sum of the input with a learned vector  $\mathbf{w}$ , and then applying a non-linear sigmoid activation function.
- Sigmoid makes the perceptron non-linear.
- Perceptron is effectively a linear classifier with a sigmoid activation function.



# Sigmoid Function

- Non-linear activation function of the perceptron.
- $S(z) = \frac{1}{1+e^{-z}}$
- Converts real values,  $z$ , in the range  $(-\infty, \infty)$  into probabilities in the range  $(0, 1)$ .



# Training a Perceptron

- Minimise the cross entropy loss.
- $$L(w) = -\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N y_i \log(f(x_i; w)) + (1 - y_i) \log(1 - f(x_i; w))$$

↑                                      ↑  
For positive labels,  $y = 1$         For negative labels,  $y = 0$

# Why Cross-Entropy Loss?

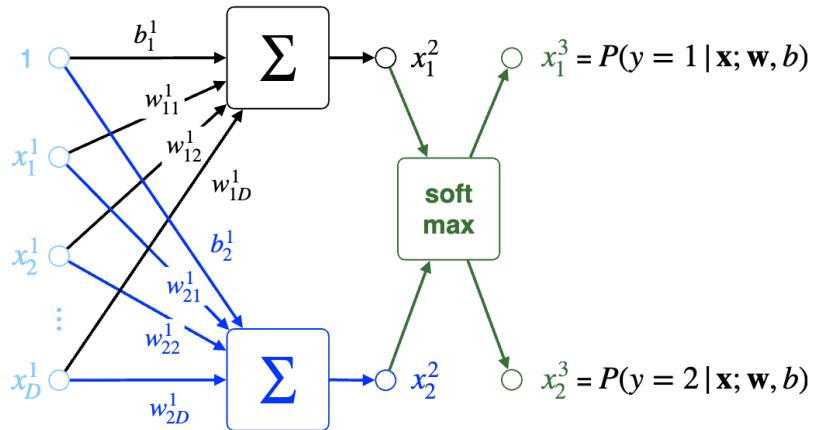
- We want to maximise the likelihood,  $p(y_i | x_i ; \mathbf{w})$ .
- If we assume we sample  $N$  examples in an independent and identically distributed (IID) manner, then
- $p(\mathbf{y} | \mathbf{x}) = \prod_i p(y_i | x_i)$ .
- And so to learn parameters,  $\mathbf{w}$ , we want to maximise
- $\mathbf{w} = \underset{\mathbf{w}}{\operatorname{argmax}} p(\mathbf{y} | \mathbf{x} ; \mathbf{w}) = \prod_i p(y_i | x_i ; \mathbf{w})$ .

# Why Cross-Entropy Loss?

- $\mathbf{w} = \underset{\mathbf{w}}{\operatorname{argmax}} p(\mathbf{y} | \mathbf{x}; \mathbf{w}) = \prod_i p(y_i | x_i; \mathbf{w}).$
- If we take the logarithm, we obtain
- $\mathbf{w} = \underset{\mathbf{w}}{\operatorname{argmax}} \sum_i \log p(y_i | x_i; \mathbf{w}).$
- Since we like minimizing losses, we can minimise the negative of the log-likelihood
- $\mathbf{w} = \underset{\mathbf{w}}{\operatorname{argmax}} -\sum_i \log p(y_i | x_i; \mathbf{w}).$

# Multi-Class Perceptron

- We can combine multiple perceptrons to predict more than one class.
- Each perceptron computes a score,  $x_c^{(2)}$  for a class hypothesis of  $c = 1, 2, \dots, C$ .
  - Subscript denotes the class, superscript the layer index.
- The vector of scores,  $\mathbf{x}^{(2)}$ , is mapped to a vector of probabilities,  $\mathbf{x}^{(3)}$ , with a softmax function.

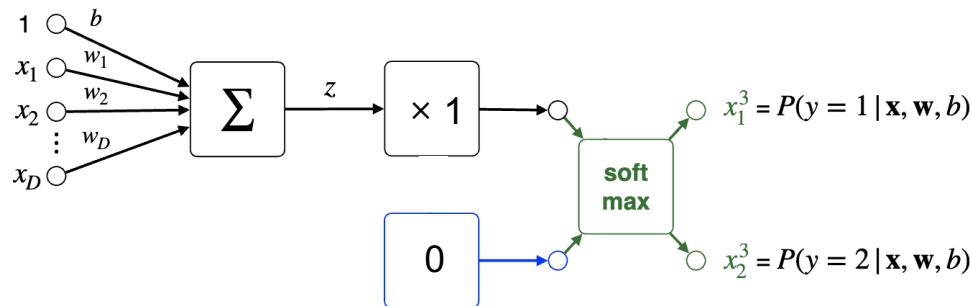


# Softmax

- Maps a vector of scores to probabilities.
- $S(z_i) = \frac{e^{z_i}}{\sum_j e^{z_j}}$
- In the binary case, the softmax is the same as the sigmoid.

# Softmax

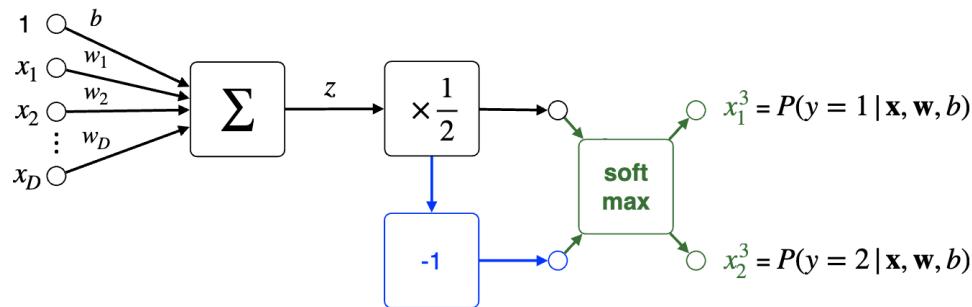
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$$x_1^3 = \frac{e^z}{e^z + e^0} \times \frac{e^{-z}}{e^{-z}} = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-z}}$$

# Softmax

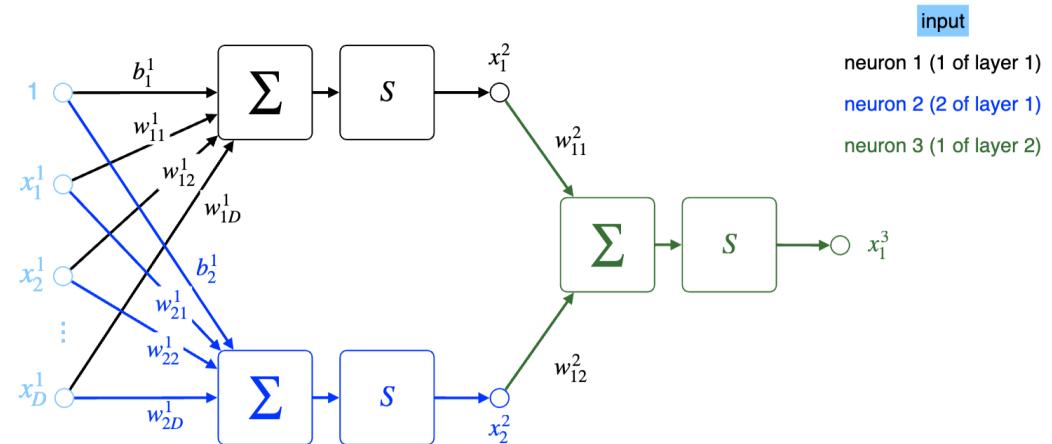
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$$x_1^3 = \frac{e^{z/2}}{e^{z/2} + e^{-z/2}} = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-z}}$$

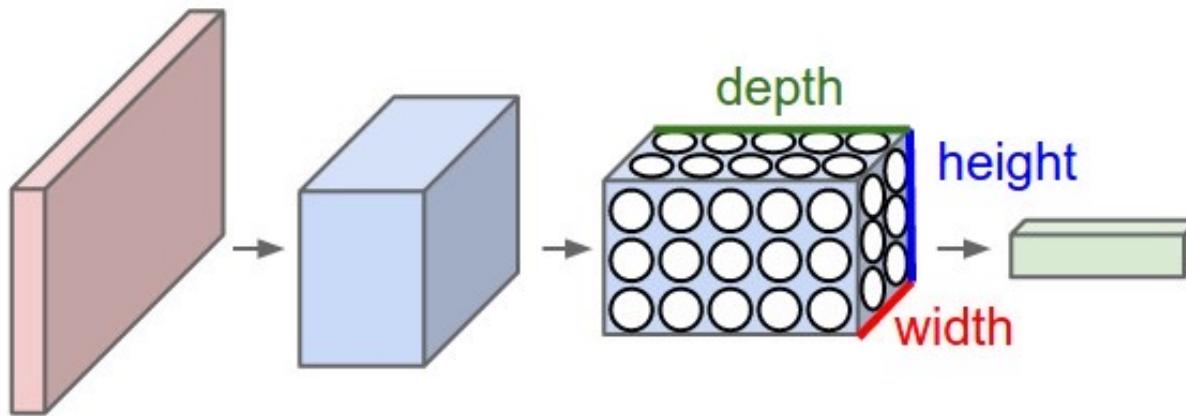
# Multilayer Perceptron

- We can chain multiple perceptrons together, resulting in a deep neural network.
- Depth refers to the fact that the resulting function decomposes as a long, "deep" chain of simpler perceptrons.
- 2-layer MLP is shown here



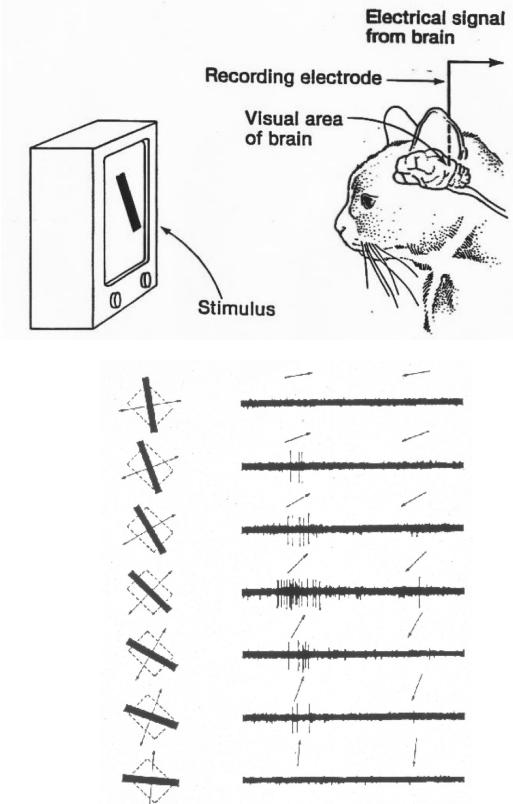
# Convolutional Networks

- Architectures designed specifically for images, operating on 2D (images) or 3D (video) grids.
- View data as a  $B \times H \times W \times C$  grid, where B is the batch size, H the height, W the width and C the number of channels.



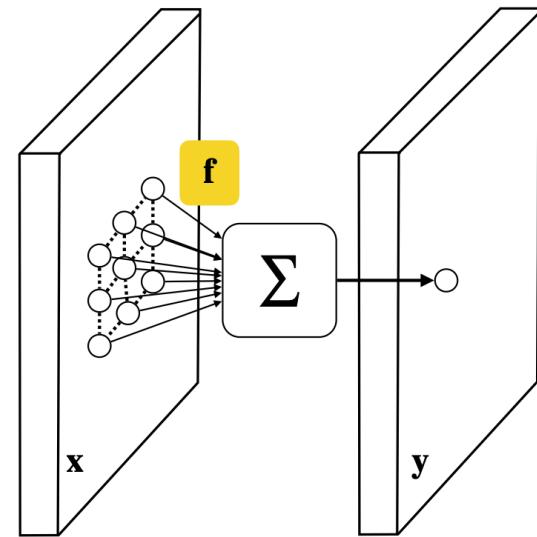
# Biological Motivation

- [Hubel & Wiesel](#) conducted seminal experiments in understanding the visual cortex of mammals.
- In cats and monkeys, they found the existence of neurons in the brain that activate (by measuring with implanted electrodes) to specific orientations and locations of a visual stimulus.
- Therefore, these neurons behave like local, translation-invariant operators.
- They later won the Nobel Prize in Physiology and Medicine in 1981.
- Their work inspired the [Neurocognitron](#) architecture which may be the first CNN (1980).



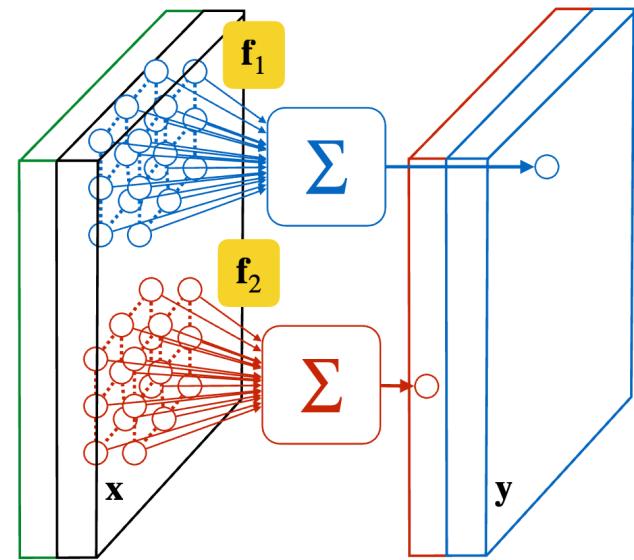
# Convolution

- A linear filter,  $f$ , computes the weighted summation of a window of the input,  $x$ .
- Key properties
  - Linearity: Operation is linear in the input and the filter parameters.
  - Locality: Only looks at a small window of the data.
  - Translation invariance: All windows are processed using the same filter weights



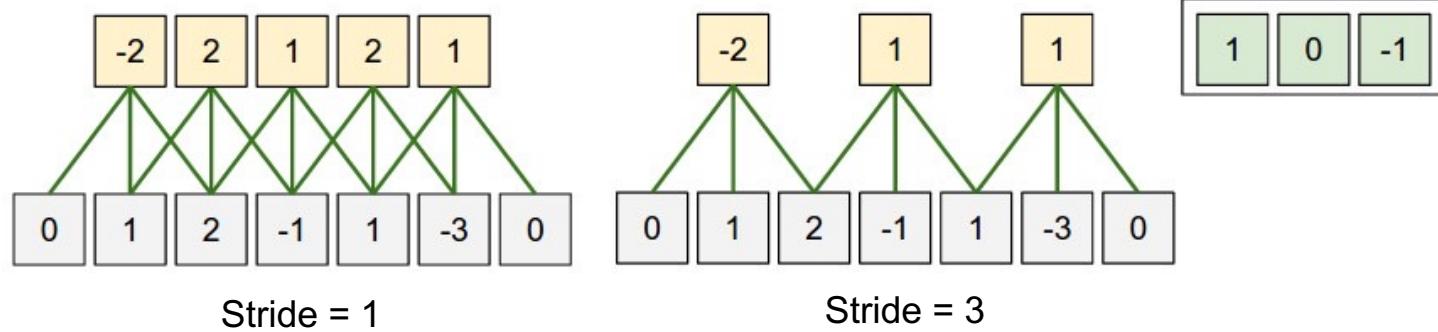
# Convolution

- A linear filter,  $f$ , computes the weighted summation of a window of the input,  $x$ .
- Key properties
  - Linearity: Operation is linear in the input and the filter parameters.
  - Locality: Only looks at a small window of the data.
  - Translation invariance: All windows are processed using the same filter weights.
- We use multiple filters – one output channel per filter.
  - Intuitively, each filter activates for a certain pattern in the input.



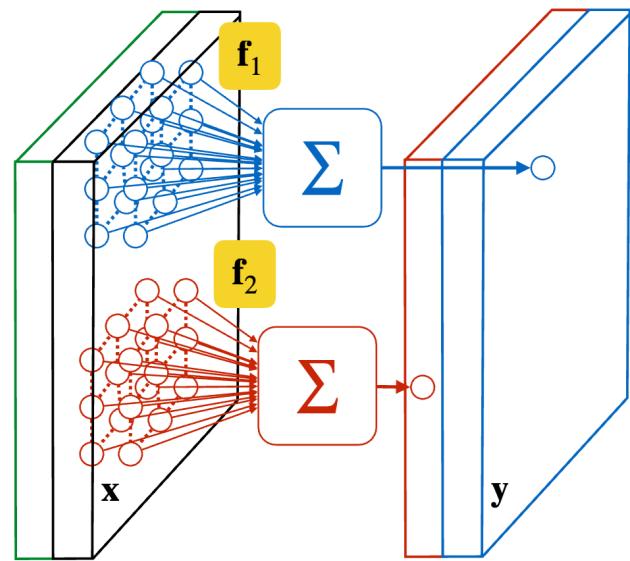
# Convolution in 1D

- Convolve a filter (in green) with input (in grey) to get the output (in yellow).



# Convolution

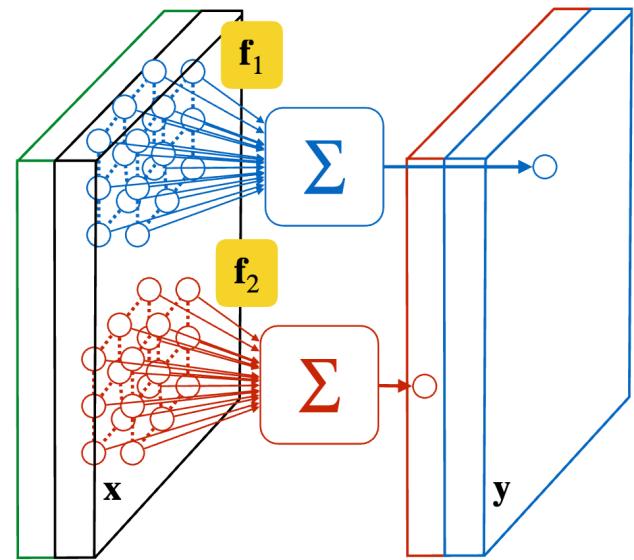
- So if the input,  $x$ , has shape  $N \times H \times W \times C_{in}$
- The filter,  $f$ , has shape,  $k_h \times k_w \times C_{in} \times C_{out}$
- The output  $y$ , has shape (with stride 1)



# Convolution

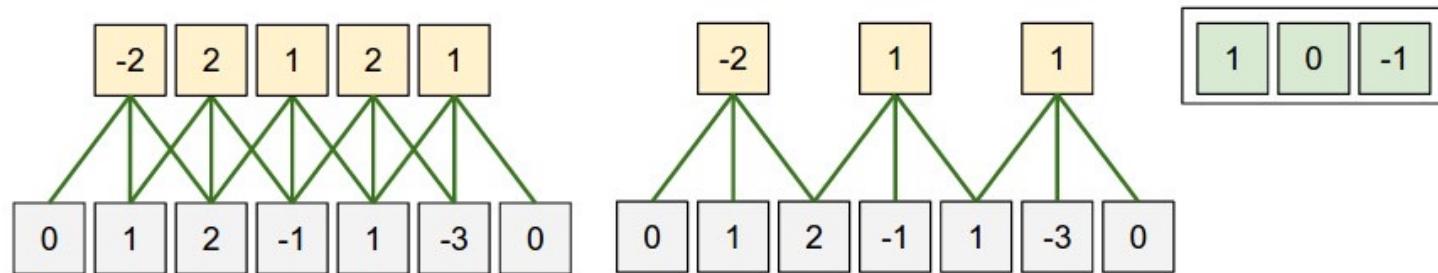
- So if the input,  $x$ , has shape  $N \times H \times W \times C_{in}$
- The filter,  $f$ , has shape,  $k_h \times k_w \times C_{in} \times C_{out}$
- The output  $y$ , has shape

$$N \times H - k_h - 1 \times W - k_w - 1 \times C_{out}$$



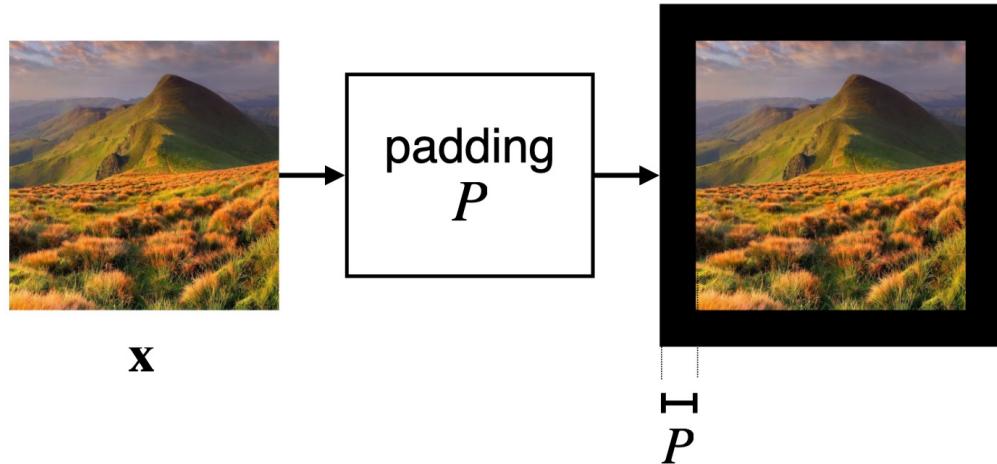
# Convolution in 1D

- The output size decreases progressively



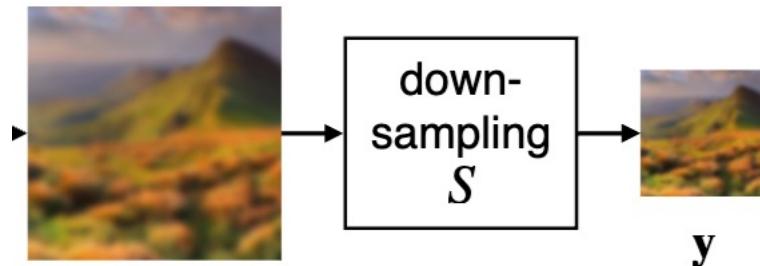
# Padding

- Padding extends a tensor,  $x$ , with a border filled with zeros.
- Typically used to retain the original input dimensions after each operation.



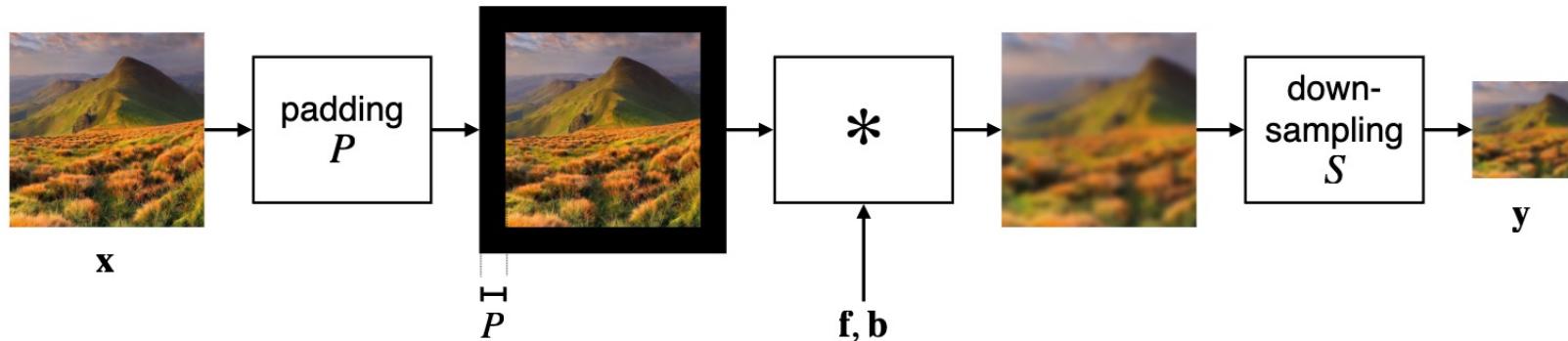
# Striding

- Striding moves the filter  $S$  pixels at a time.
- It produces smaller output volumes. And increases the *receptive field* of subsequent operations.



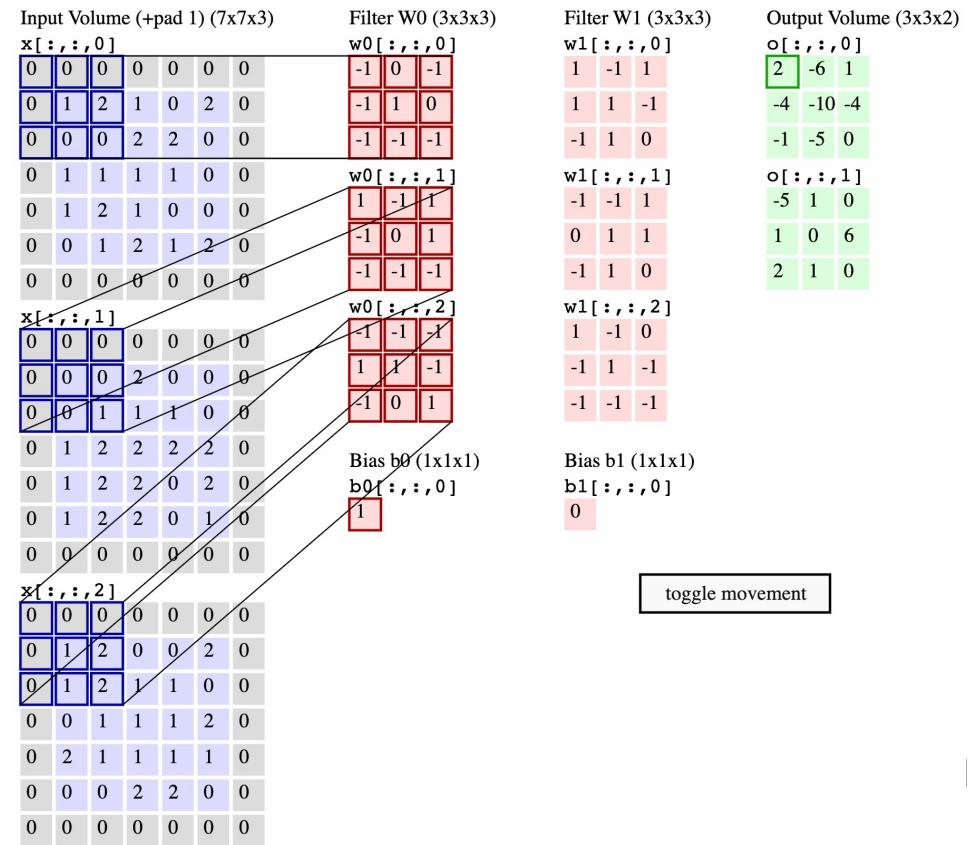
# Striding

- We can also think of padding and striding as layers that we do before and after a standard convolution layer.



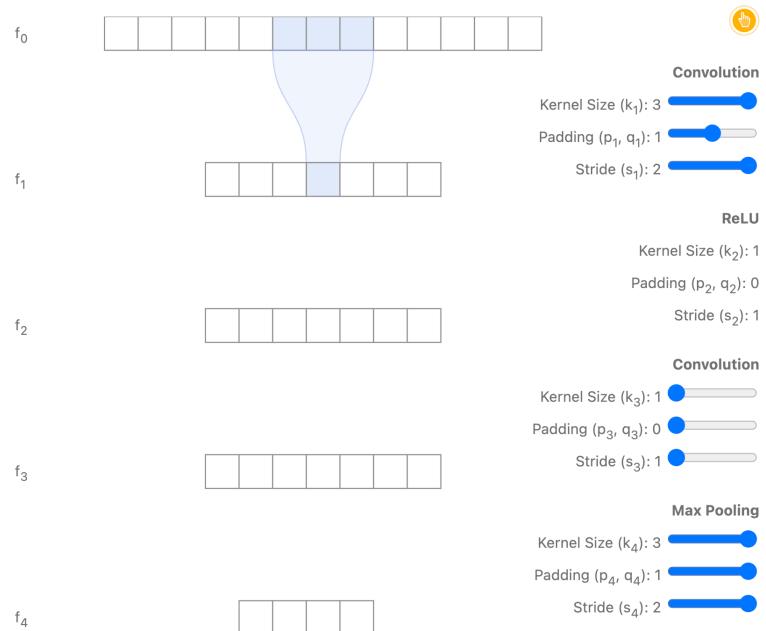
# Convolution Example

- What is the padding?
- Filter dimensions?
- Input size?
- Output size?
- Demo [here](#).



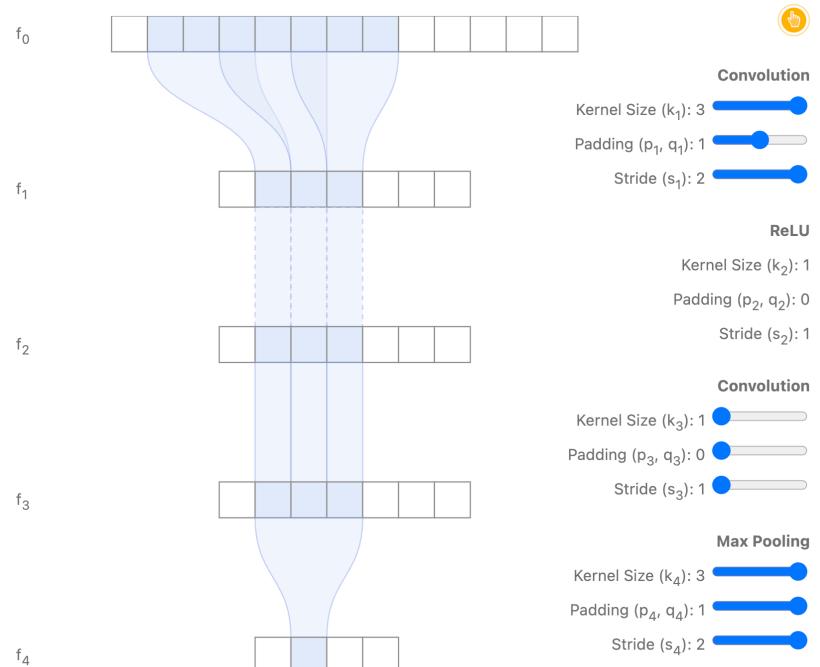
# Receptive Field

- How many input pixels are considered by a cell at a particular feature map of the network.
- Try out the demo [here](#).



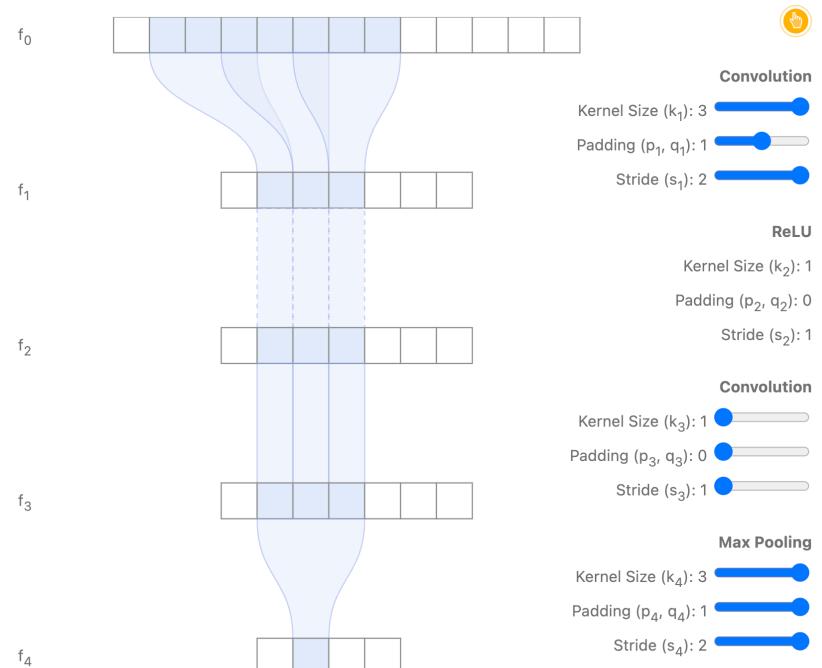
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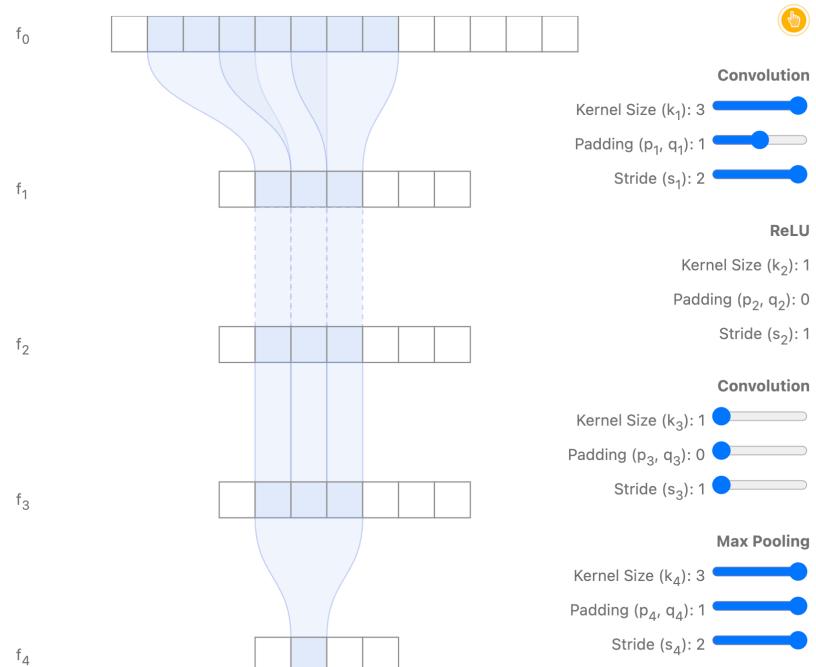
# Receptive Field

- How many input pixels are considered by a cell at a particular feature map of the network.
- Try out the demo [here](#).
- What do we want to be at the end of the network?



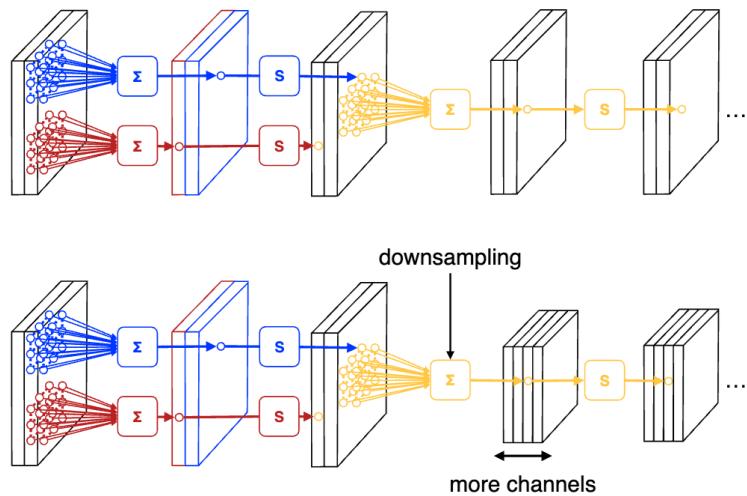
# Receptive Field

- How many input pixels are considered by a cell at a particular feature map of the network.
- Try out the demo [here](#).
- What do we want to be at the end of the network?
  - For classification, should be the entire input.



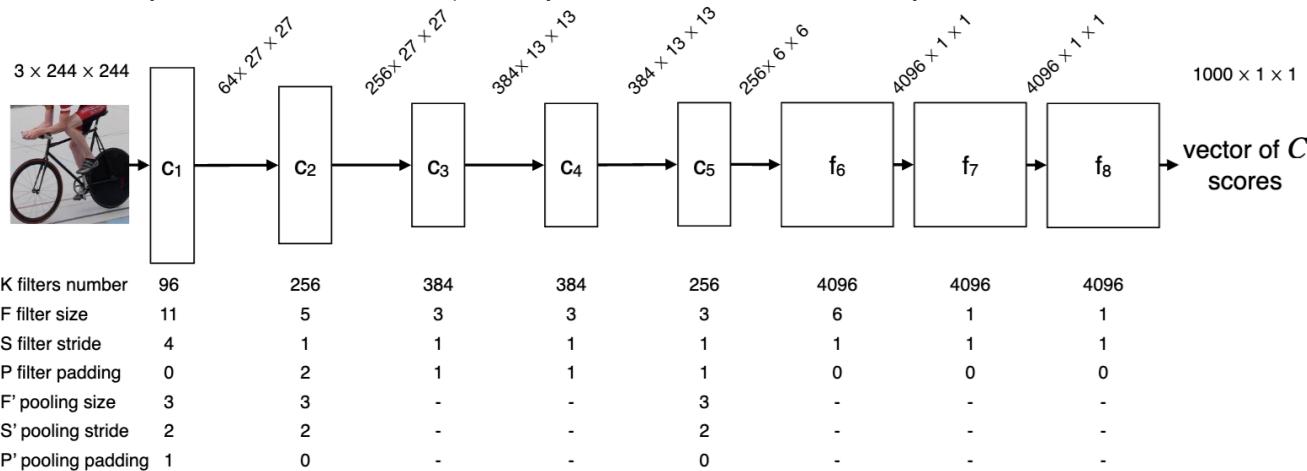
# Deep Convolutional Neural Network

- A long sequence of layers!
- Typically alternate convolution, non-linear activation (ie ReLU).
- Perform pooling and/or striding to increase the receptive field, and decrease resolution.
- Usually decrease spatial dimensions, increase channel dimensions through the network



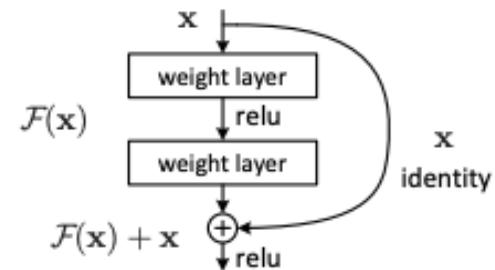
# AlexNet

- Started the Deep Learning revolution in Computer Vision by winning the [ImageNet challenge](#) in 2012
  - The Top-5 error was 16%, compared to the runner-up with 26% error.



# Residual Networks

- Standard deep networks can become difficult to optimize when they become deep.
- Residual connections enable training very deep networks (even 1000 layers) in a stable manner.
- Intuition: Adding additional layers with identical connections to an existing network should not degrade performance; the weight layers can be 0 and the original function is maintained.



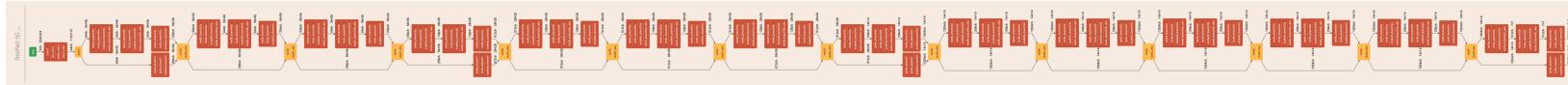
# Residual Networks

- Principle of residual connections has been employed in subsequent architectures (both for more advanced CNNs, and other architectures like transformers).

AlexNet



ResNet-50



# Questions?

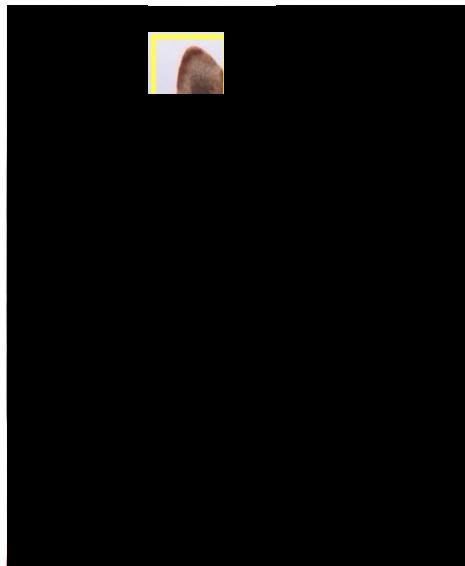
Or just take a break ...

# Transformers

# Outline

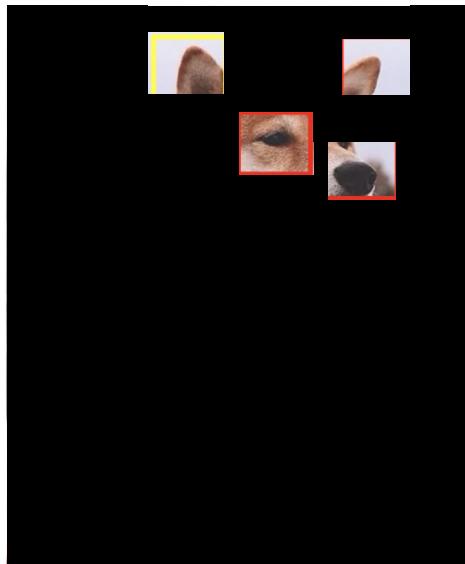
- Deep dive of transformers and self-attention
- Transformers in Computer Vision.

# Context



[Image credit](#)

# Context



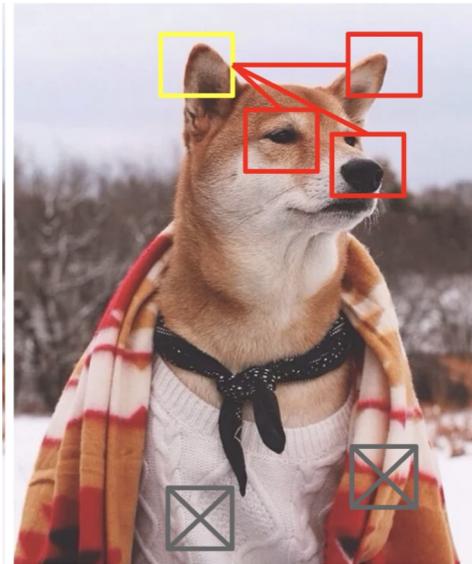
[Image credit](#)

# Context



[Image credit](#)

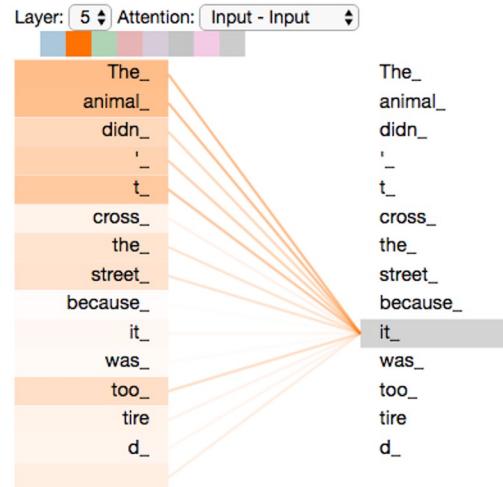
# Context



[Image credit](#)

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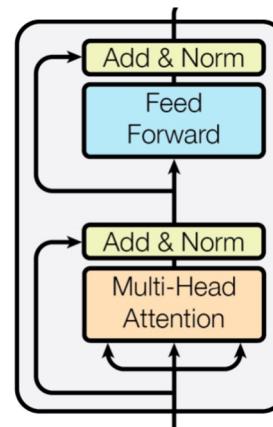
- “The animal didn't cross the street because it was too tired”
- What is “it”?



Try more examples [here](#)

# Attention and Transformers

- Attention is a method of gathering relevant contextual information
- The transformer is a neural network layer that relies on attention
- In fact, state-of-the-art models across various domains consist almost entirely of transformer layers.



# What is Attention?

# High-Level Overview

- Use machine translation as initial example, as this is what Transformers were initially developed for

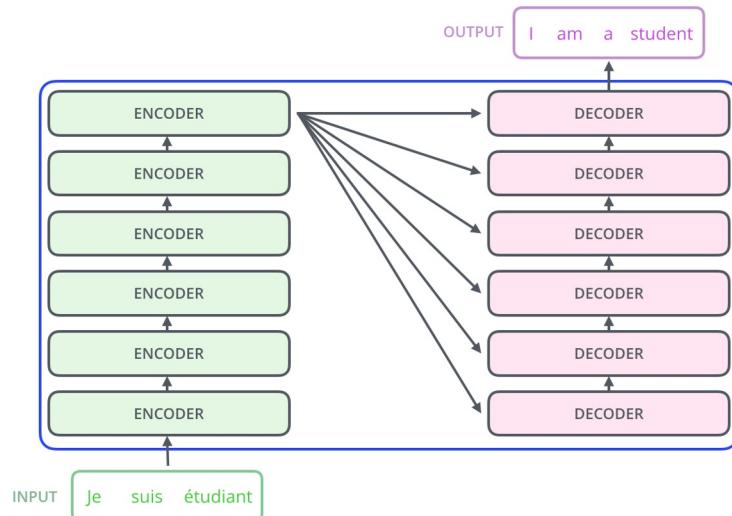


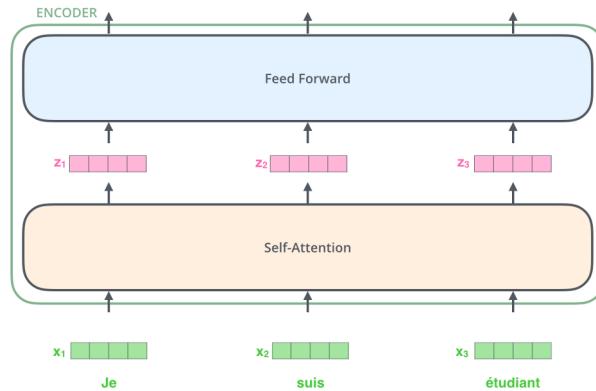
Figure credit for this, and next few slides  
Google DeepMind

# High-Level Overview

- Embed input into tokens (fixed dimensional vector)



- Process with encoder layer

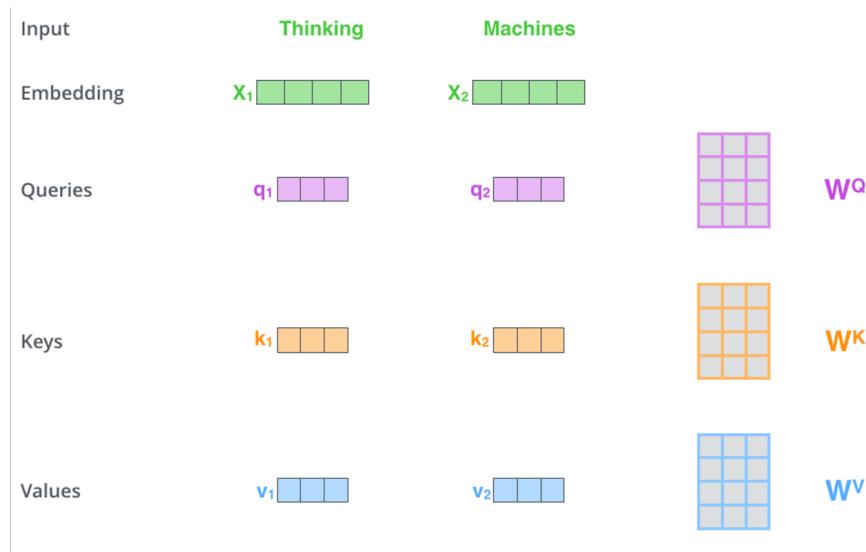


# Self-Attention in Detail

- Given an input sequence,  $X$ .
- Project to Query, Key, Values using linear transforms.
- Head output =  $\text{Softmax}(QK^T)V$

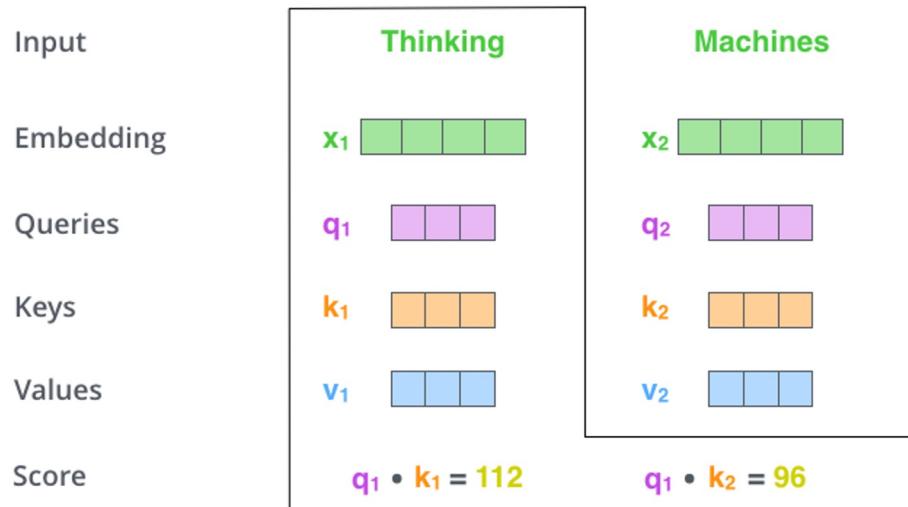
# Self-Attention in Detail

- Given an input sequence, X
- Project to Queries, Keys and Values using linear transforms.
  - $Q = W^q X, K = W^k X, V = W^v X$



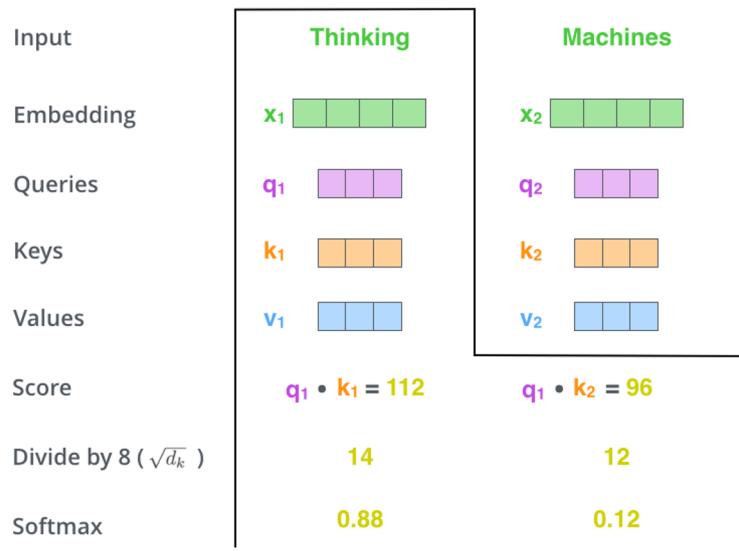
# Self-Attention in Detail

- Given an input sequence, X
- Project to Queries, Keys and Values using linear transforms.
  - Softmax( $QK^T$ )



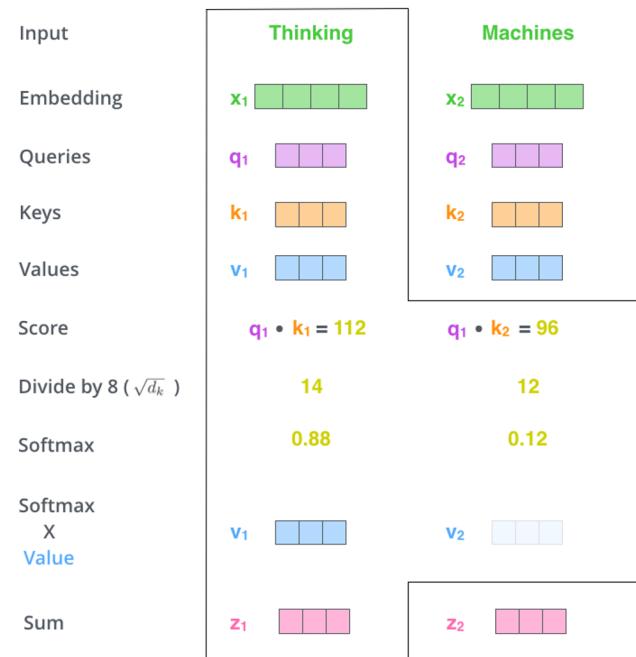
# Self-Attention in Detail

- Project to Queries, Keys and Values using linear transforms.
- Calculate a score: For each query, how relevant are all the other words?



# Self-Attention in Detail

- Project to Queries, Keys and Values using linear transforms.
- Calculate a score
- Representation of each query token is attention-weighted sum of values.
  - $Z = \text{Softmax}(QK^T)V$



# Self-Attention in Detail: As a Matrix

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{X} & \mathbf{W^Q} & \mathbf{Q} \\ n_t \begin{matrix} \text{---} \\ \boxed{\text{---}} \\ \text{---} \end{matrix} \times d_1 \begin{matrix} \text{---} \\ \boxed{\text{---}} \\ \text{---} \end{matrix} & = & \begin{matrix} \text{---} \\ \boxed{\text{---}} \\ \text{---} \end{matrix} \quad n_t \\ d_1 & d_2 & d_2 \end{array}$$
  
$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{X} & \mathbf{W^K} & \mathbf{K} \\ \boxed{\text{---}} \times \begin{matrix} \text{---} \\ \boxed{\text{---}} \\ \text{---} \end{matrix} & = & \begin{matrix} \text{---} \\ \boxed{\text{---}} \\ \text{---} \end{matrix} \end{array}$$
  
$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{X} & \mathbf{W^V} & \mathbf{V} \\ \boxed{\text{---}} \times \begin{matrix} \text{---} \\ \boxed{\text{---}} \\ \text{---} \end{matrix} & = & \begin{matrix} \text{---} \\ \boxed{\text{---}} \\ \text{---} \end{matrix} \end{array}$$

# Self-Attention in Detail: As a Matrix

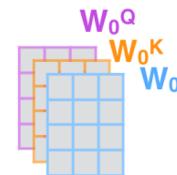
$$\begin{array}{c} \textbf{X} \\ n_t \begin{matrix} \text{---} \\ | \\ \text{---} \end{matrix} \begin{matrix} d_1 & \times & d_1 \\ \text{---} & \times & \text{---} \end{matrix} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \textbf{W}^Q \\ \text{---} \\ \text{---} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \textbf{Q} \\ n_t \\ \begin{matrix} \text{---} \\ | \\ \text{---} \end{matrix} \end{array}$$
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$$\text{softmax} \left( \frac{\textbf{Q} \times \textbf{K}^T}{\sqrt{d_k}} \right) \textbf{V}$$
$$= \begin{array}{c} \textbf{Z} \\ n_t \\ \begin{matrix} \text{---} \\ | \\ \text{---} \end{matrix} \end{array}$$

# Self-Attention in Detail: Multiple Heads

1) This is our input sentence\*  
2) We embed each word\*



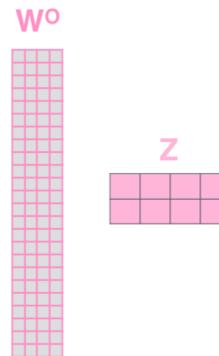
3) Split into 8 heads.  
We multiply  $X$  or  $R$  with weight matrices



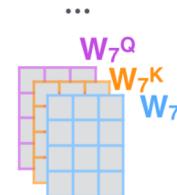
4) Calculate attention using the resulting  $Q/K/V$  matrices



5) Concatenate the resulting  $Z$  matrices, then multiply with weight matrix  $W^o$  to produce the output of the layer

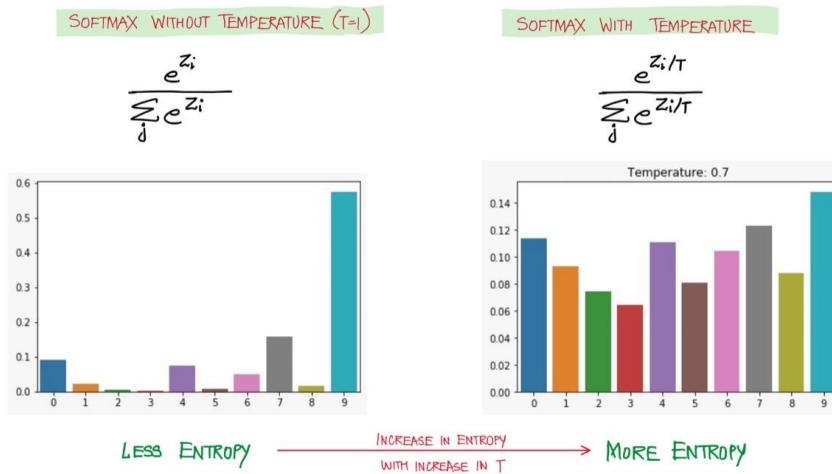


\* In all encoders other than #0, we don't need embedding.  
We start directly with the output of the encoder right below this one



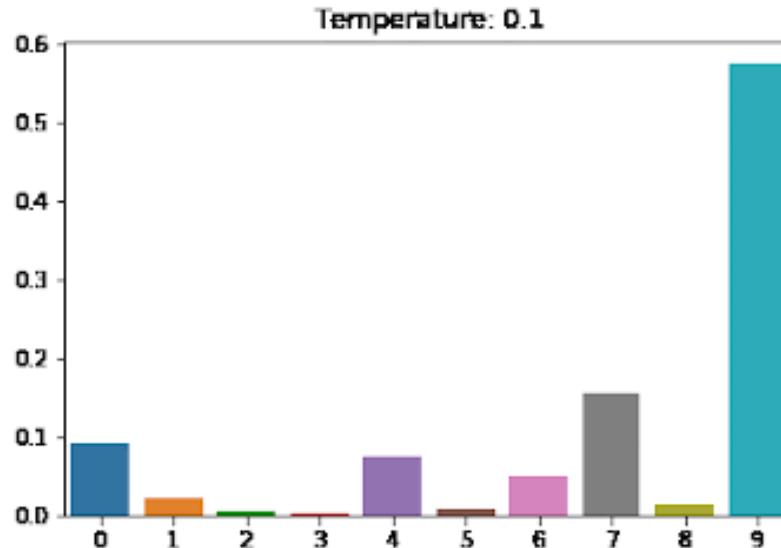
# Self-Attention in Detail

- Where did the  $\sqrt{d_k}$  come from
- Temperature of the softmax to control its “peakiness”



# Self-Attention in Detail

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- Temperature of the softmax to control its “peakiness”



# Positional Embeddings

- Self-attention is permutation invariant!
  - Say input is  $[x_1, x_2, x_3]$ . And output is  $y_1$
  - If input is  $[x_1, x_3, x_2]$ . Output is ...

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# Positional Embeddings

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  - Say input is  $[x_1, x_2, x_3]$ . And output is  $y_1$
  - If input is  $[x_1, x_3, x_2]$ . Output is  $y_1$
- But what if the ordering of the input vectors conveys information as well?
  - The position of a word in a sentence matters!
  - ““The man ate a fish” != “The fish ate a man””

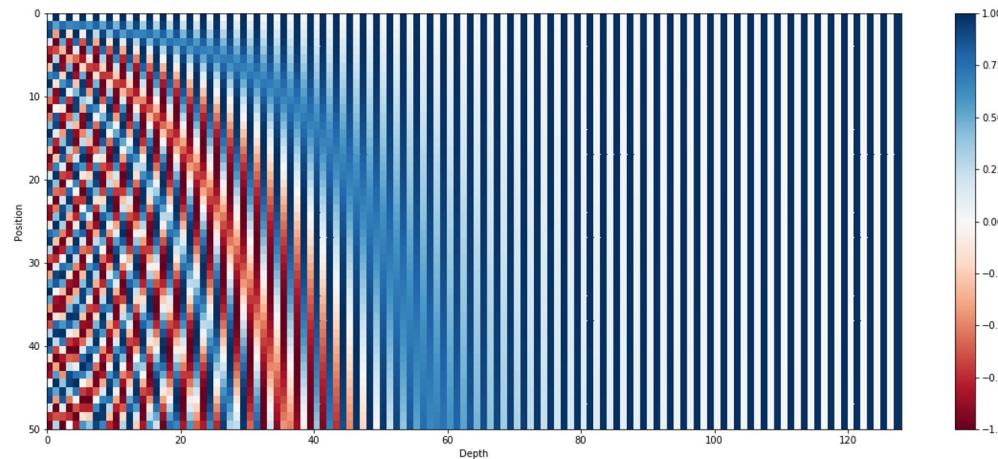
# Positional Embeddings

- Self-attention is permutation invariant!
- Learned positional embedding
  - At the input, add a learned vector to each token
  - Representation of the token changes depending on its input position

# Positional Embeddings

- Self-attention is permutation invariant!
- Sinusoidal positional embedding

$$\text{PE}(i, \delta) = \begin{cases} \sin\left(\frac{i}{10000^{2\delta/d}}\right) & \text{if } \delta = 2\delta' \\ \cos\left(\frac{i}{10000^{2\delta/d}}\right) & \text{if } \delta = 2\delta' + 1 \end{cases}$$



# Putting it all together

- Original Transformer of [Vaswani et al. Attention is all You Need](#)

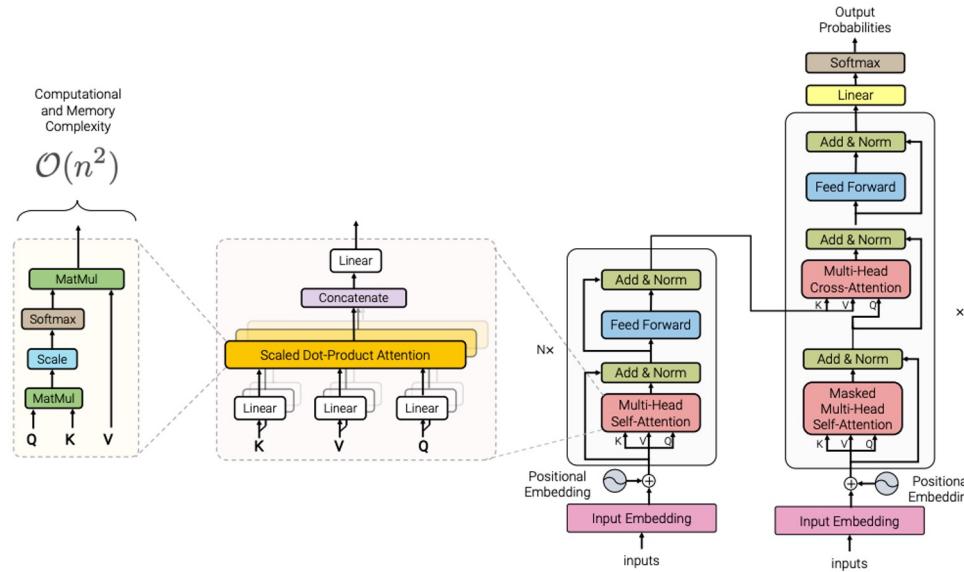


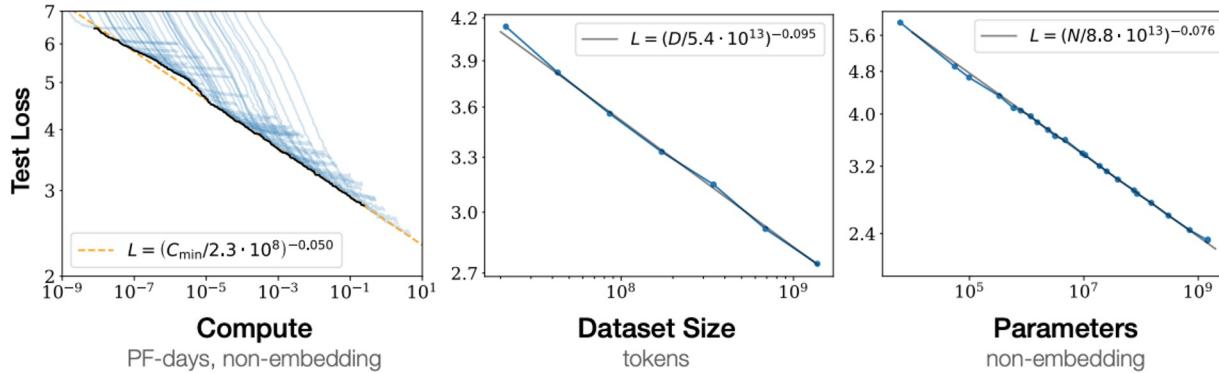
Figure 1: Architecture of the standard Transformer (Vaswani et al., 2017)

# Advantages of Transformers

- Great for modelling context
  - Each token can have access to all other tokens in the sequence
  - *What is the receptive field of a transformer? Compared to a CNN?*
- A generic architecture:
  - Operates on any inputs that can be tokenized!
- Parallelizable
- Empirically shown to perform excellently at scale

# Transformers at Scale

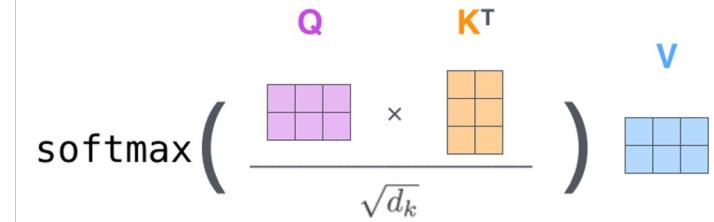
- Keep performing better with deeper models and more data
- Scaling Laws for Neural Language Models



**Figure 1** Language modeling performance improves smoothly as we increase the model size, dataset size, and amount of compute<sup>2</sup> used for training. For optimal performance all three factors must be scaled up in tandem. Empirical performance has a power-law relationship with each individual factor when not bottlenecked by the other two.

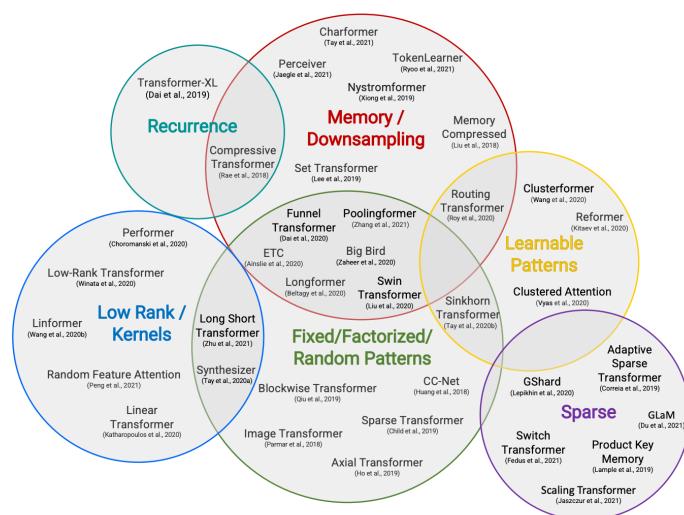
# Weaknesses of Transformers

- Quadratic complexity
  - Each token attends to every other token
  - $N$  tokens  $\rightarrow N^2$  operations
  - Prohibitive as the number of tokens increases!
- Most powerful language models are extremely expensive
- Large body of work on more efficient transformers.
  - [Good survey paper](#)
- Transformers can overfit easily on smaller datasets

$$\text{softmax} \left( \frac{\mathbf{Q} \times \mathbf{K}^T}{\sqrt{d_k}} \right) \mathbf{V}$$


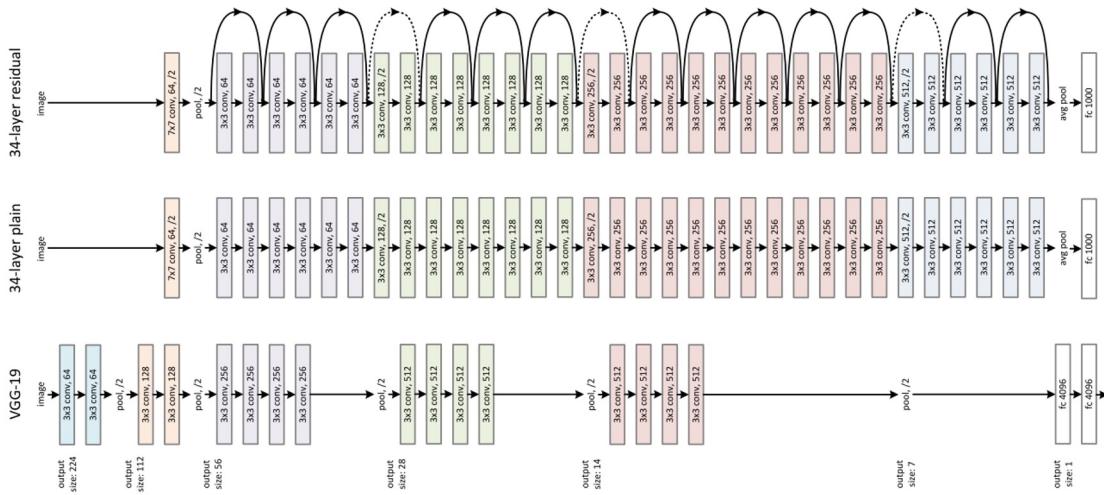
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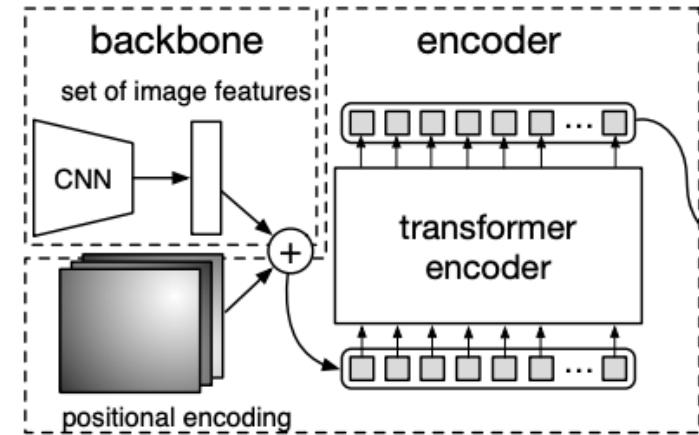
# Transformers and Computer Vision

- CNNs used to be the architecture of choice in Vision
- Transformers were quite established as the architecture of choice in NLP



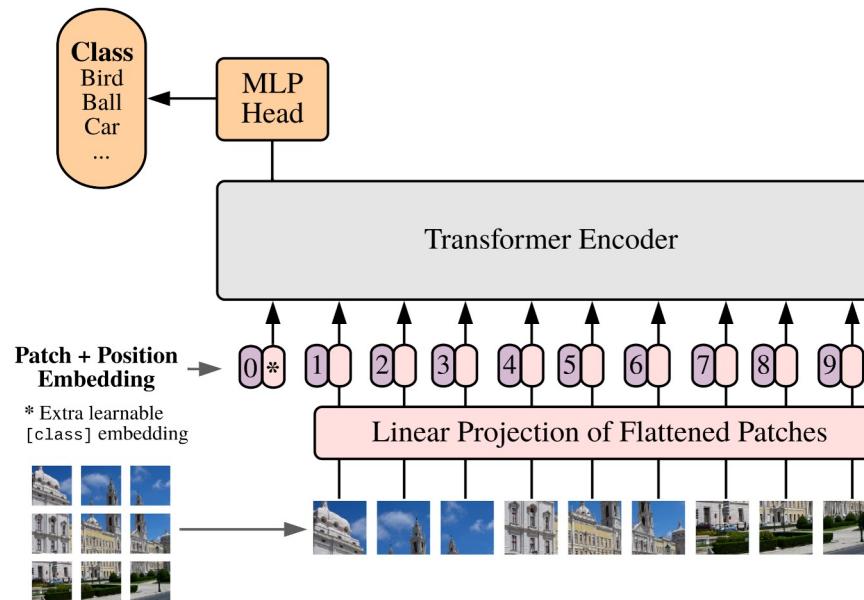
# Transformers and Computer Vision

- CNNs used to be the architecture of choice in Vision
- Transformers were quite established as the architecture of choice in NLP
- Numerous attempts to incorporate self-attention into CNNs:
  - [Wang CVPR 2018](#), [Bello ICCV 2019](#), [Huang ICCV 2019](#), [Carion ECCV 2020](#)
- Or to replace convolutions entirely with self-attention
  - [Parmar ICML 2018](#), [Ramachandran NeurIPS 2019](#)



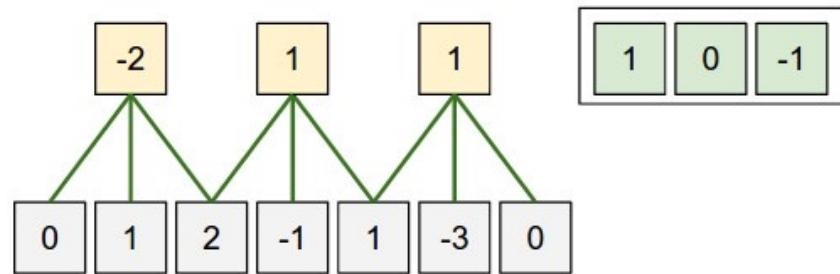
# Vision Transformers

- An Image is Worth 16x16 Words
- "Tokenize" an image by splitting it into patches. Pass tokens through a transformer.



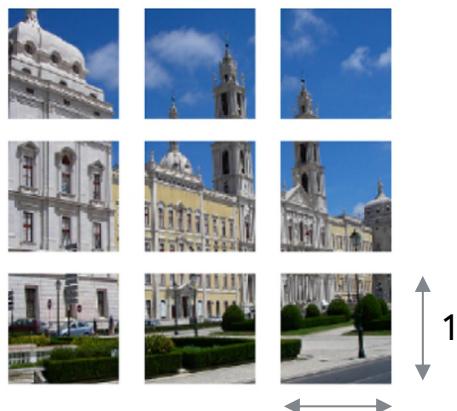
# Vision Transformers

- An Image is Worth 16x16 Words
- "Tokenize" an image by splitting it into patches. Pass tokens through a transformer.
- Same as convolution where the stride is the same as the filter size.



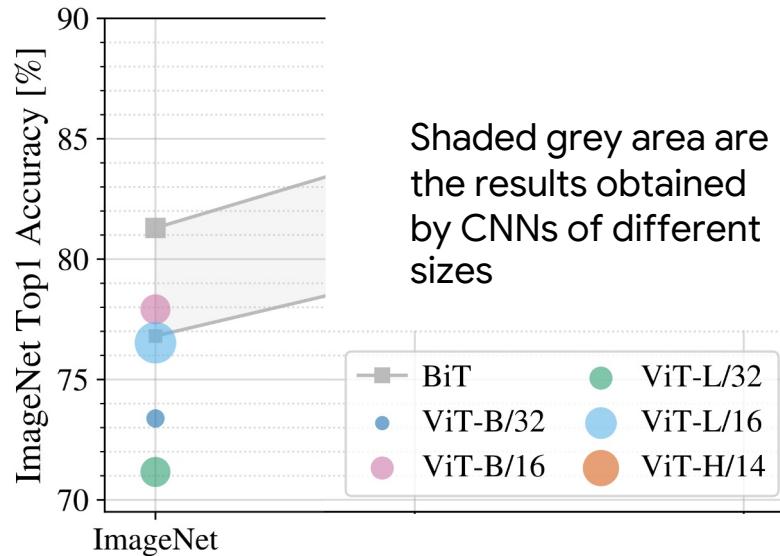
# Vision Transformer Models

Model	Layers	Hidden size $D$	MLP size	Heads	Params
ViT-Base	12	768	3072	12	86M
ViT-Large	24	1024	4096	16	307M
ViT-Huge	32	1280	5120	16	632M



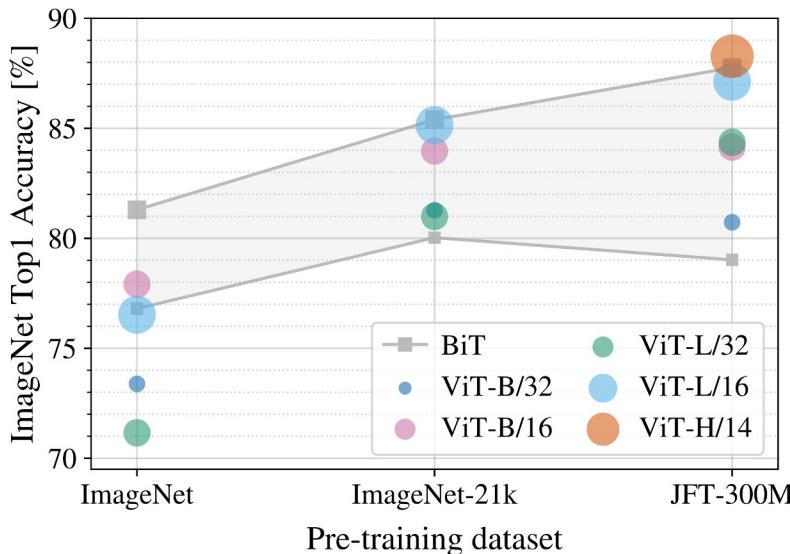
# An Obvious Idea?

- Might appear obvious to replace CNN entirely with a transformer.
- Does not really work well at standard, ImageNet setting
- Larger models, ie ViT-L/16 are actually worse than smaller ones, ie ViT-B/16.



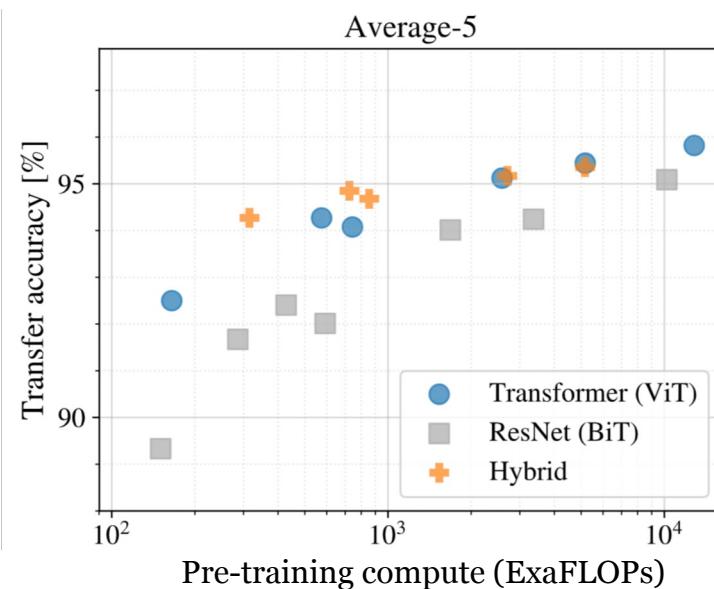
# Vision Transformers are effective at scale

- Transformers have less inductive biases than Convolutional Networks (ie translational equivariance)
- So they need more data to train



# Vision Transformers are effective at scale

- Transformers, are however, able to take advantage of large-scale data better than CNNs can
- And are more compute-efficient too in terms of computation to reach accuracy.



# High Resolution Data

- Vision Transformers still have issue with quadratic complexity with respect to the number of tokens.
- Becomes a problem when we have high resolution images.
- Need to process images at high resolution for tasks like object detection and semantic segmentation.



CAT  
Image classification. Process at 224 x 224. ? tokens!



Object detection. Process at 1024 x 1024. ? tokens!

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GFLOPs

Google DeepMind

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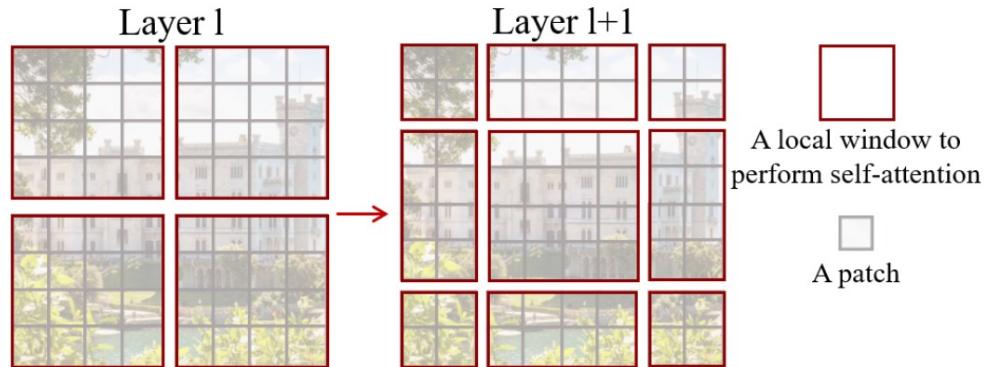


Object detection. Process at 1024 x 1024. 4096 tokens! 8734 GFLOPs

Google DeepMind

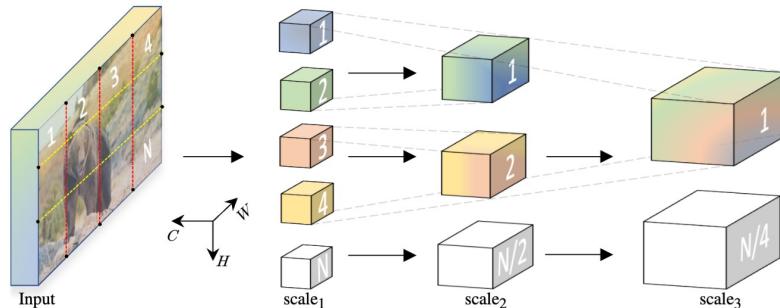
# Swin Transformer

- Process alternating sliding windows of tokens at a time.
- Substantially reduces the computation required for high resolution data.
- Makes a transformer more “CNN”-like.
- Excels at tasks like object detection and segmentation.



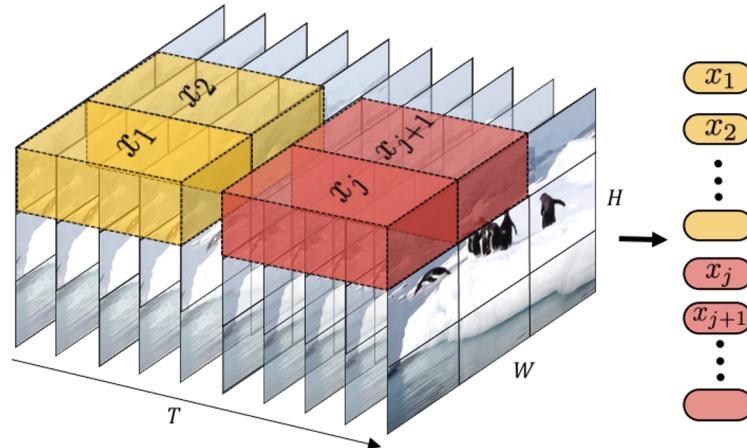
# Hierarchical Pooling

- CNNs use pooling throughout the network to reduce spatial dimensions and increase the “receptive field”
- In transformers, we can use them to reduce the number of tokens and increase the efficiency of the model.
- Examples: [Multiscale ViT](#), [Pyramid ViT](#). Particularly suited for high-resolution tasks.



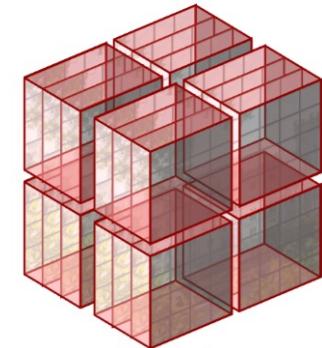
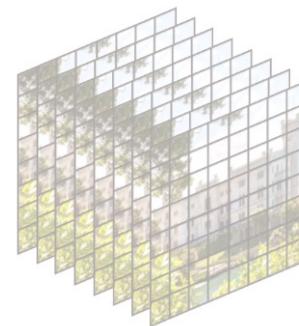
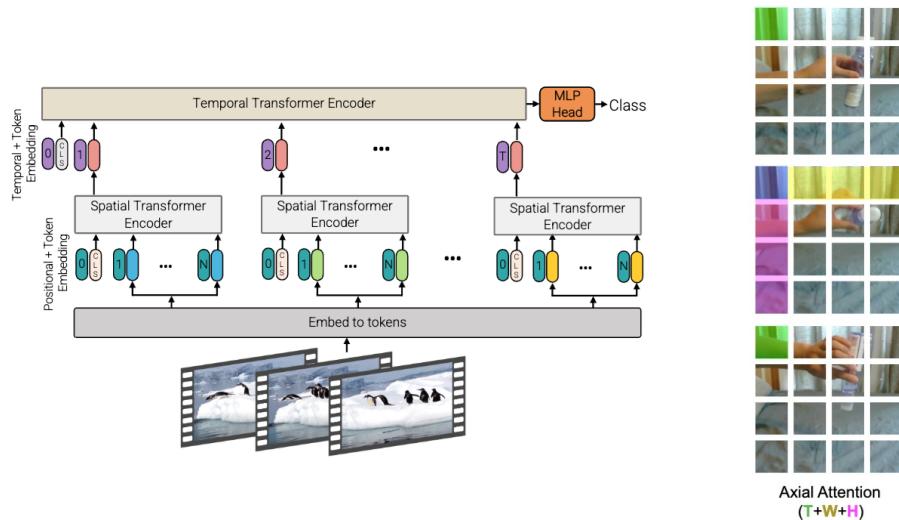
# Video

- Video data is also computationally very demanding due to the additional “time” dimension.
- Can tokenize data in the same way as images, by extending “patches” to “tubelets” in time (ie [ViViT](#)).



# Video

- Manage complexity of the data by alternating attention between spatial and temporal axes in various manners ([ViViT](#), [Timesformer](#)).
- Sliding windows in 3D ([Video Swin](#))



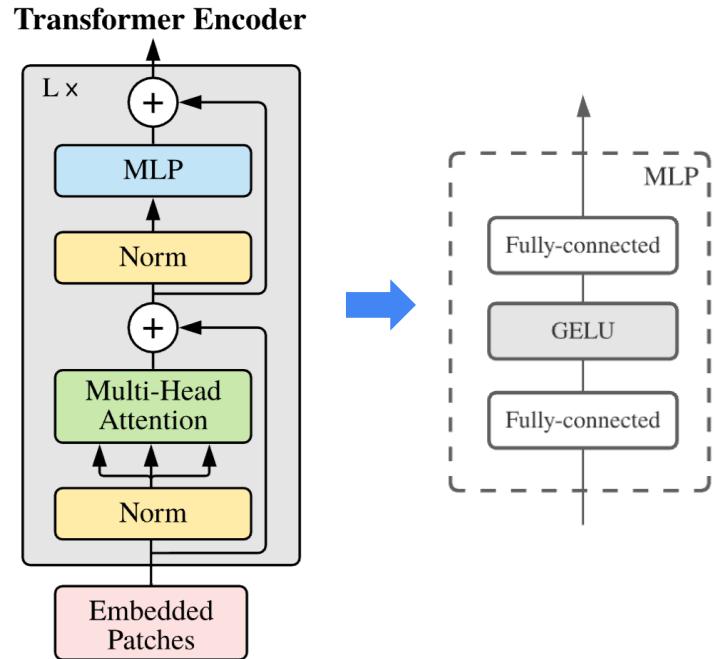
Google DeepMind

# Are Transformers All You Need?

- Vision Transformers outperform CNNs at large scale (model size and dataset size).
- Vision transformers need more data as they have fewer inductive biases?
- Are there other architectures besides CNNs and transformers that we could be using?

# MLP-Mixers

- Transformer encoder block has two main operations:
  - Multi-head attention
  - MLP / Feedforward
- What if we use only MLPs?
- MLP-Mixer: Alternate between MLPs on the “channel” and “token” axes



# MLP-Mixers

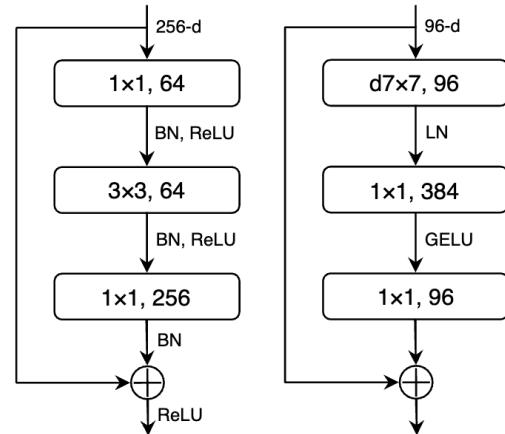
- Competitive with Vision Transformers and CNNs.
- Again, only effective at larger scales

	ImNet top-1	ReaL top-1	Avg 5 top-1	VTAB-1k 19 tasks	Throughput img/sec/core	TPUv3 core-days
Pre-trained on ImageNet-21k (public)						
● HaloNet [51]	85.8	—	—	—	120	0.10k
● Mixer-L/16	84.15	87.86	93.91	74.95	105	0.41k
● ViT-L/16 [14]	85.30	88.62	94.39	72.72	32	0.18k
● BiT-R152x4 [22]	85.39	—	94.04	70.64	26	0.94k
Pre-trained on JFT-300M (proprietary)						
● NFNet-F4+ [7]	89.2	—	—	—	46	1.86k
● Mixer-H/14	87.94	90.18	95.71	75.33	40	1.01k
● BiT-R152x4 [22]	87.54	90.54	95.33	76.29	26	9.90k
● ViT-H/14 [14]	88.55	90.72	95.97	77.63	15	2.30k
Pre-trained on unlabelled or weakly labelled data (proprietary)						
● MPL [34]	90.0	91.12	—	—	—	20.48k
● ALIGN [21]	88.64	—	—	79.99	15	14.82k

# ConvNeXt

- Redesign ConvNet using modern “tricks” from transformers
  - ReLU → GeLU
  - Batch Norm → Layer Norm
  - Fewer activation functions and normalization
  - Further regularization during training (ie label smoothing mixup, data augmentation)
- Performs on-par with vision transformers.
- Good at high-resolution tasks.

**ResNet Block**      **ConvNeXt Block**



# ConvNeXt

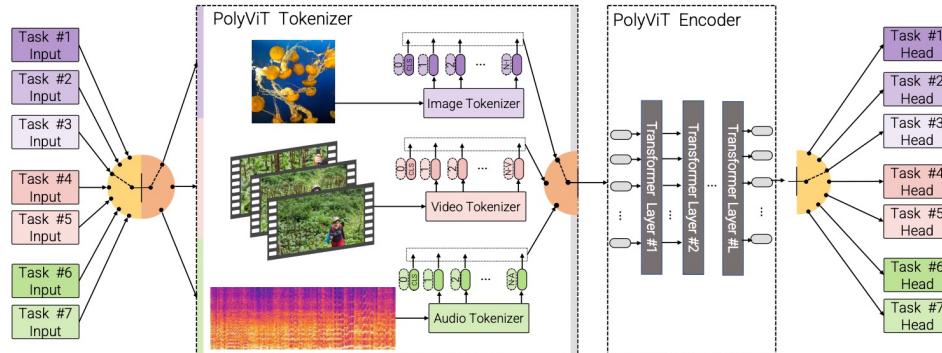
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- Performs on-par with vision transformers.
- Good at high-resolution tasks.

## Semantic segmentation on ADE20K

backbone	input crop.	mIoU	#param.	FLOPs
ImageNet-1K pre-trained				
◦ Swin-T	512 <sup>2</sup>	45.8	60M	945G
• ConvNeXt-T	512 <sup>2</sup>	<b>46.7</b>	60M	939G
◦ Swin-S	512 <sup>2</sup>	49.5	81M	1038G
• ConvNeXt-S	512 <sup>2</sup>	<b>49.6</b>	82M	1027G
◦ Swin-B	512 <sup>2</sup>	49.7	121M	1188G
• ConvNeXt-B	512 <sup>2</sup>	<b>49.9</b>	122M	1170G
ImageNet-22K pre-trained				
◦ Swin-B <sup>‡</sup>	640 <sup>2</sup>	51.7	121M	1841G
• ConvNeXt-B <sup>‡</sup>	640 <sup>2</sup>	<b>53.1</b>	122M	1828G
◦ Swin-L <sup>‡</sup>	640 <sup>2</sup>	53.5	234M	2468G
• ConvNeXt-L <sup>‡</sup>	640 <sup>2</sup>	<b>53.7</b>	235M	2458G
• ConvNeXt-XL <sup>‡</sup>	640 <sup>2</sup>	<b>54.0</b>	391M	3335G

# So Why Transformers?

- Can handle variable resolution inputs
  - Videos or images of different sizes.
  - Problematic for a Mixer since “token mixing” depends on the number of tokens.
- Architecture that works well for multiple modalities
  - Language, images, video, audio ...
  - Any data that can be tokenized can be processed by a transformer.



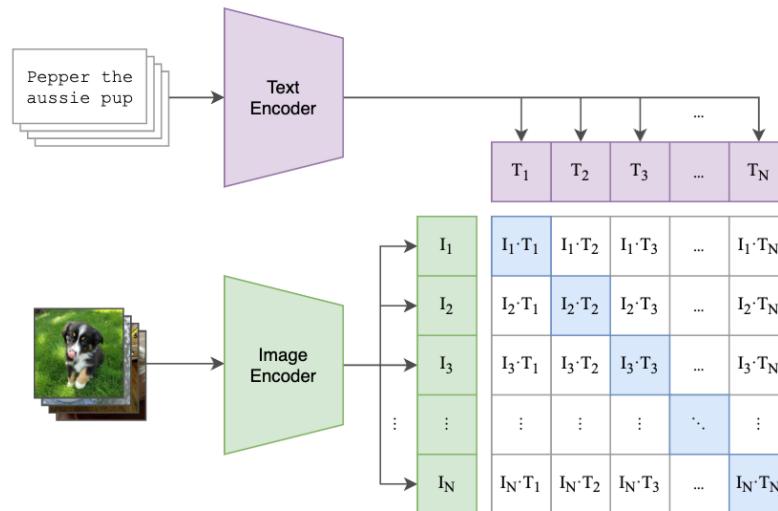
# Questions?

Or just take a break ...

# Connecting Vision and Language

# Discriminative Image-Text Modelling

- CLIP performs *contrastive pretraining* of image and text.
- Scrapes a dataset of image-text pairs from the web.
- Pretraining loss function encourages the model to match a feature representations from an image to the representation from text.



# CLIP Architecture and Loss

- CLIP architecture is simply a vision encoder and a text encoder
  - Both are transformers in practice.
- Contrastive loss encourages a high score for the correct image-text pair. And a low score for all other examples in the batch
  - What do we need to be careful of here?

$$\max_{f,g} \log \left( \frac{\exp(f(x)^\top g(y))}{\exp(f(x)^\top g(y)) + \sum_{(x',y') \in \mathcal{N}} \exp(f(x')^\top g(y'))} \right)$$

Image                          Text

Positive Image-Text pair      Negative Image-Text pairs

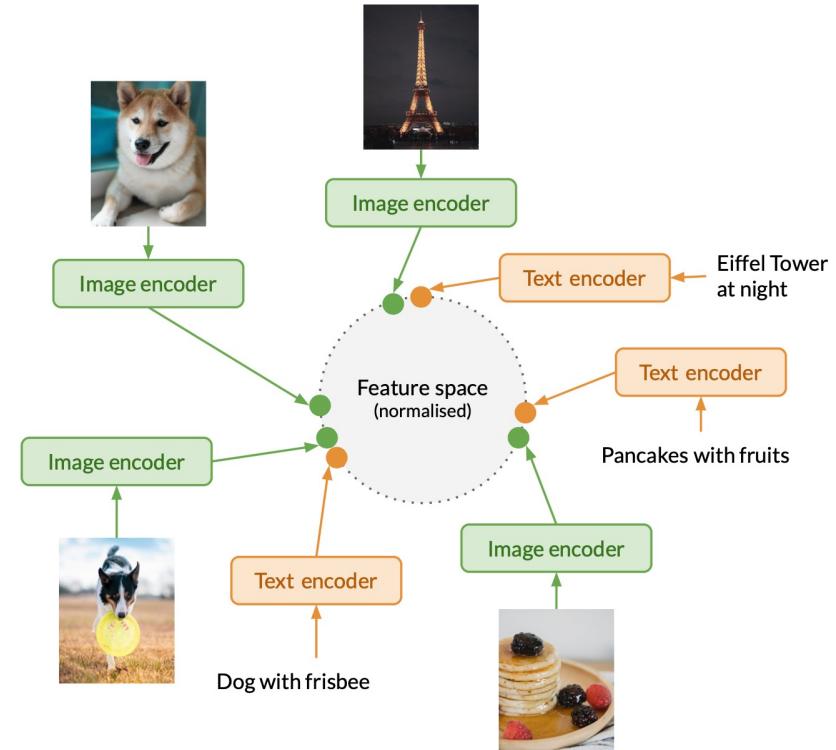
Image encoder    Text encoder

# CLIP Architecture and Loss

- CLIP architecture is simply a vision encoder and a text encoder
  - Both are transformers in practice.
- Contrastive loss encourages a high score for the correct image-text pair. And a low score for all other examples in the batch
  - The objective can be too easy if there are no other “hard examples” in the batch.
  - Typically means that we need a large batch size during training in order to have a higher chance of having “hard examples”
  - It is also possible to construct batches in the data-loader to be “harder”. But this does not scale well to large-scale training.

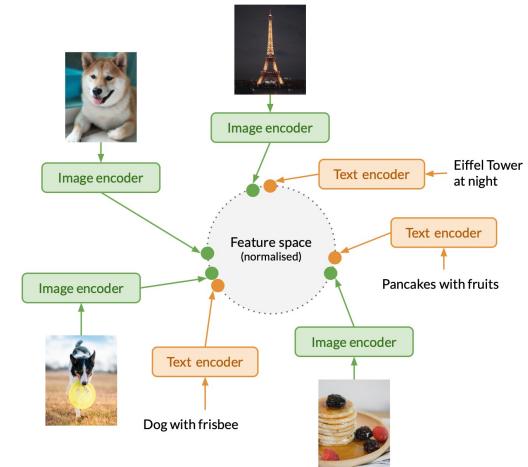
# Joint Image-Text Embedding

- Images and text are embedded into a common latent space.
- This facilitates many different applications



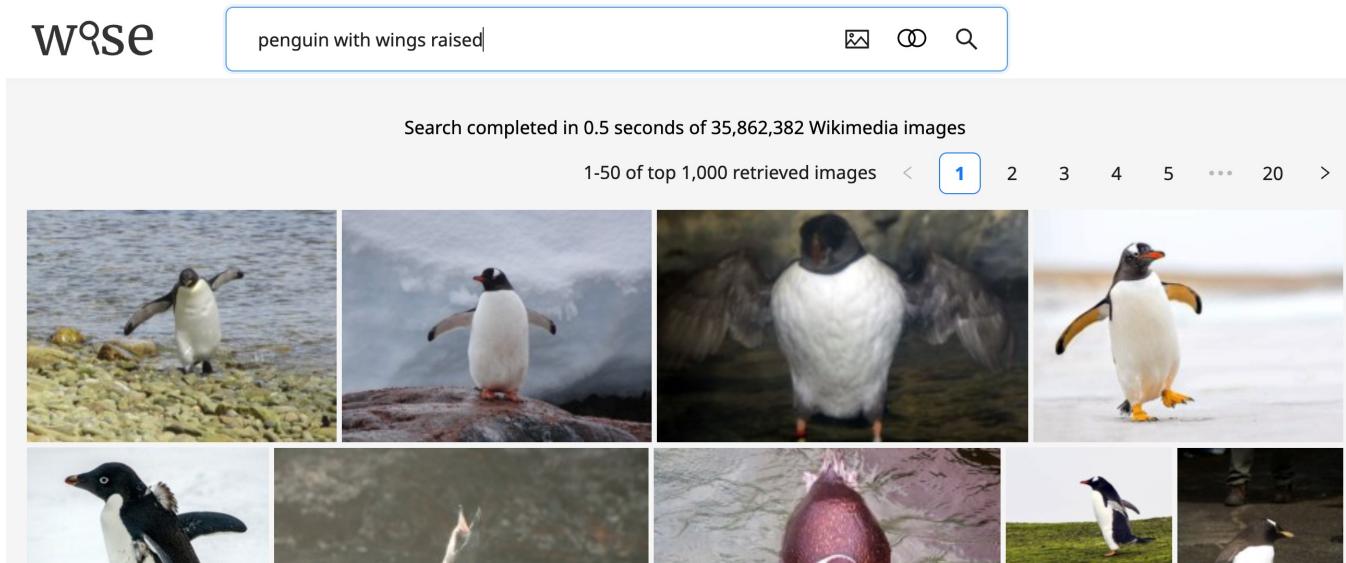
# Retrieval: Image- and Video Search

- Image-Text pretraining enables text-to-image search
- We embed a text query, and l2-normalize it.
- We construct an “index” of images, by precomputed computing their l2-normalized embeddings.
- We then find the the image which best matches the text query
  - “Best matches” means the lowest distance / highest inner product
  - Why are the two equivalent?



# Text to Image Search

- Image-Text pretraining enables text-to-image search.
- [Demo / code](#) for VGG Wise.



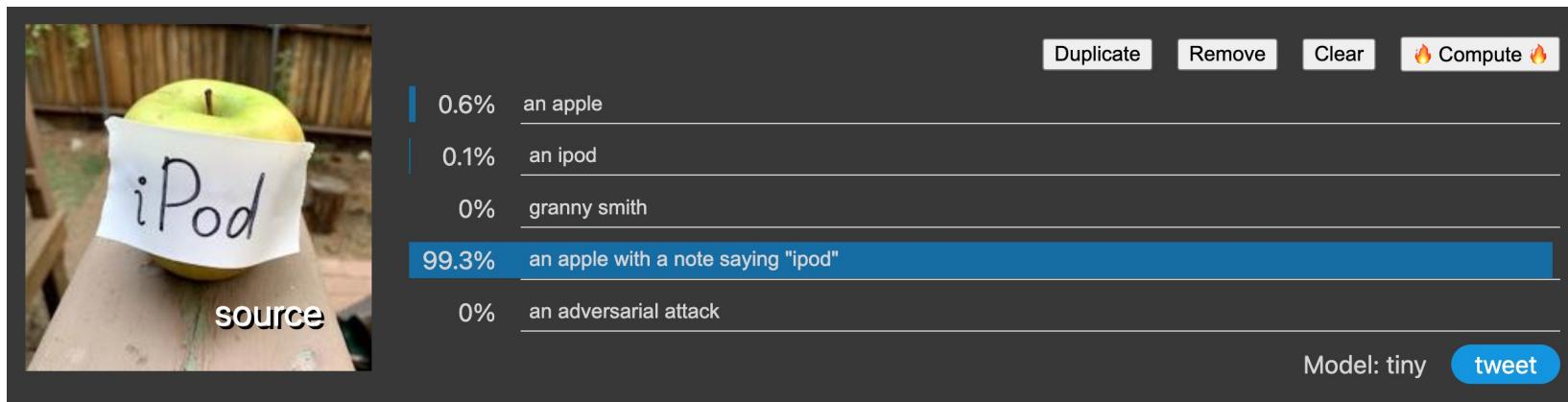
# Search between modalities

- This approach can be generalized to any modalities for which we can compute embeddings [[ImageBind](#)].
- And we can use transformers to produce embeddings for different modalities.

Audio	Images & Videos				Depth	Text
 Crackle of a Fire						 “A fire crackles while a pan of food is frying on the fire.” <a href="#">“Fire is crackling then wind starts blowing.”</a> <a href="#">“Firewood crackles then music...”</a>
 Baby Cooing						 “A baby is crying while a toddler is laughing.” <a href="#">“A baby is laughing while an adult is laughing.”</a> <a href="#">“A baby laughs and something...”</a>

# Zero-Shot Recognition

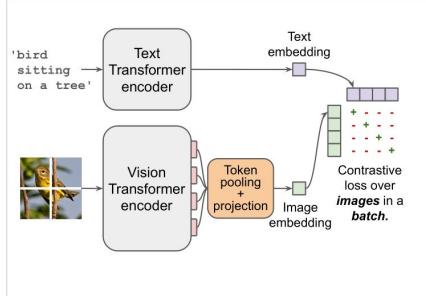
- We can also easily perform “zero-shot” classification, by comparing the image embedding, to text embeddings for different class names.
- Allows us to build classifiers without any training data!
- Try the [demo](#) for [Locked-Image Tuning](#).



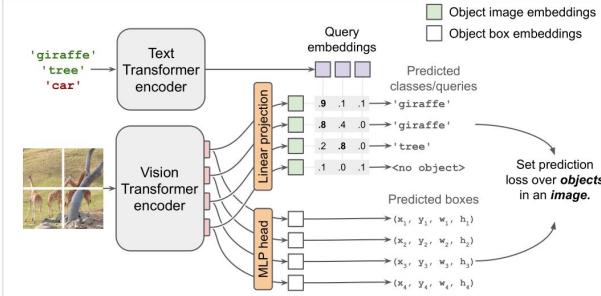
# Open-Vocabulary Tasks

- We can extend these to open-vocabulary detection and segmentation too in analogous ways.
- Train the model to recognize a set of “seen classes”, and we can then evaluate on “unseen” ones.
- Online [demo for Owl-ViT](#).

Image-level contrastive pre-training



Transfer to open-vocabulary detection



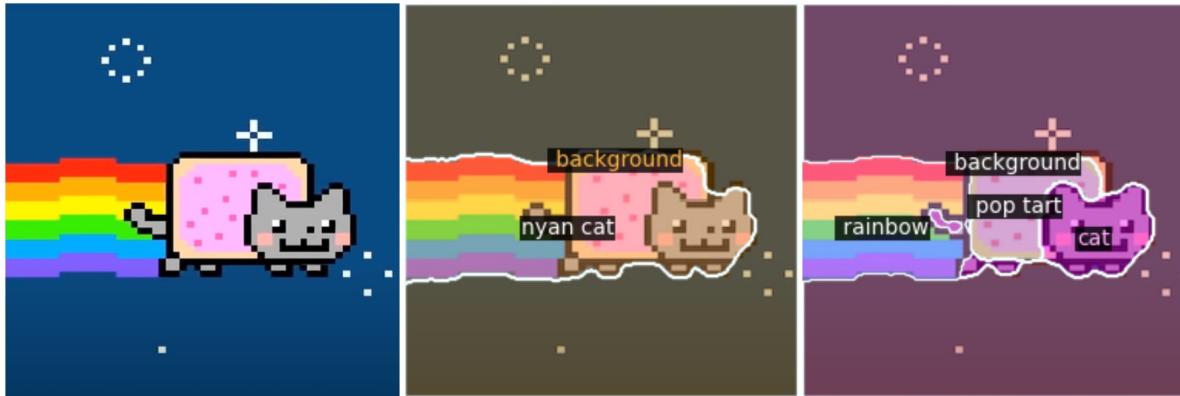
Enter comma-separated queries:

|



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- Train the model to recognize a set of “seen classes”, and we can then evaluate on “unseen” ones.
- Online [demo](#) for [CAT-Seg](#).



# Generative Text Models

- We have discussed matching images / videos to text.
- What about generating text directly from the image?

---

Input Image	Input Audio (transcribed)	Model Response: Text
	🔊 What's the first step to make a veggie omelet with these ingredients?	Crack the eggs into a bowl and whisk them.

From [Gemini Tech Report](#).

# Generative vs Discriminative Models

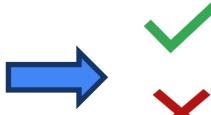
- Informally
  - Discriminative models can distinguish between different kinds of data instances.
  - Generative models can generate new data instances

Discriminative Model



Two penguins walking

Two men in suits



Generative Model

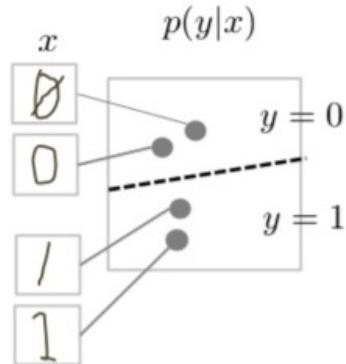


A photo of two  
penguins  
walking

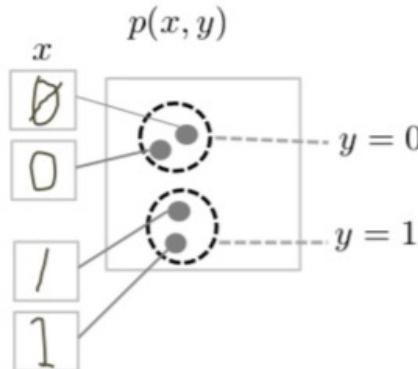
# Generative vs Discriminative Models

- Formally
  - Discriminative models capture a conditional probability  $p(y|x)$ , where  $x$  is the data instance, and  $y$  is the label.
  - Generative models capture the joint probability,  $p(x,y)$

• Discriminative Model



• Generative Model

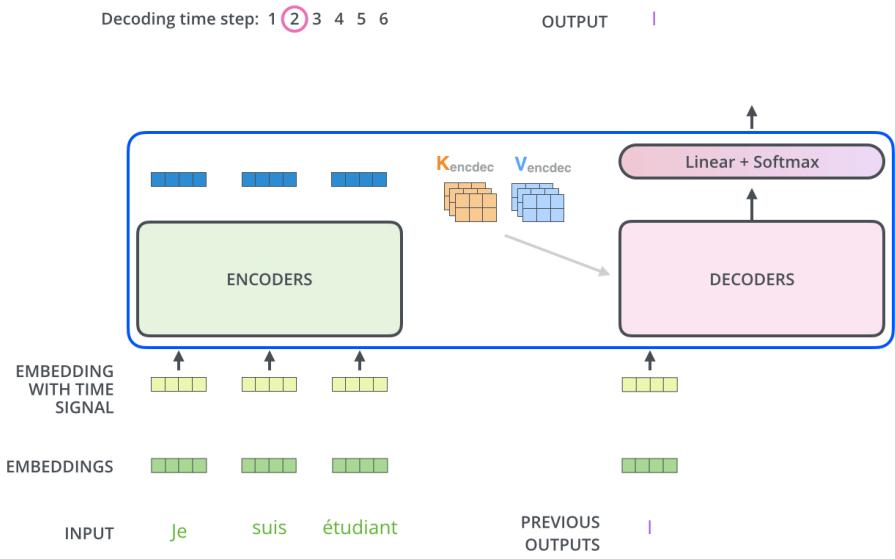


# Transformers for Language Modelling

- Textual transformer in CLIP is just like a vision transformer:
  - Tokenise the text, pass it through a transformer.
  - Each token attends to each other token

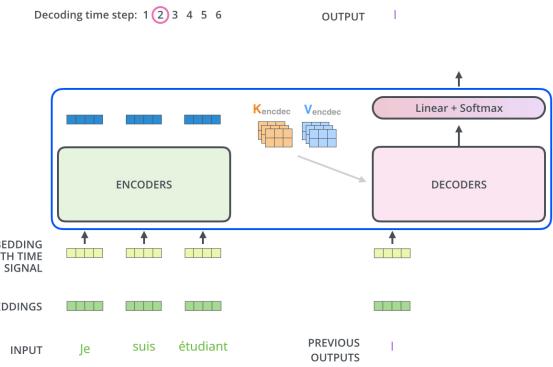
# Transformers for Language Modelling

- For language modelling, we predict the next text token given all previous text tokens.
- The next text token is simply a token from our vocabulary of tokens
  - Therefore, simply a large classification problem.
  - Llama has ~32K tokens, Gemini has 256K vocabulary size.



# Transformers for Language Modelling

- Transformers for language modelling need to be *causal*
  - A token should only attend to previous tokens.
- Inference is also done sequentially
  - We first predict Token 1.
  - Then predict Token 2 given Token 1.
  - Then Token 3, given Tokens 1 and 2 ...
- Language models are therefore comparatively computationally expensive!
- Can we speed up training though?



# Transformers for Language Modelling

- Training can still be done in parallel by making use of attention masks.
- We can process a sentence in parallel, but each word token only attends to previous ones.

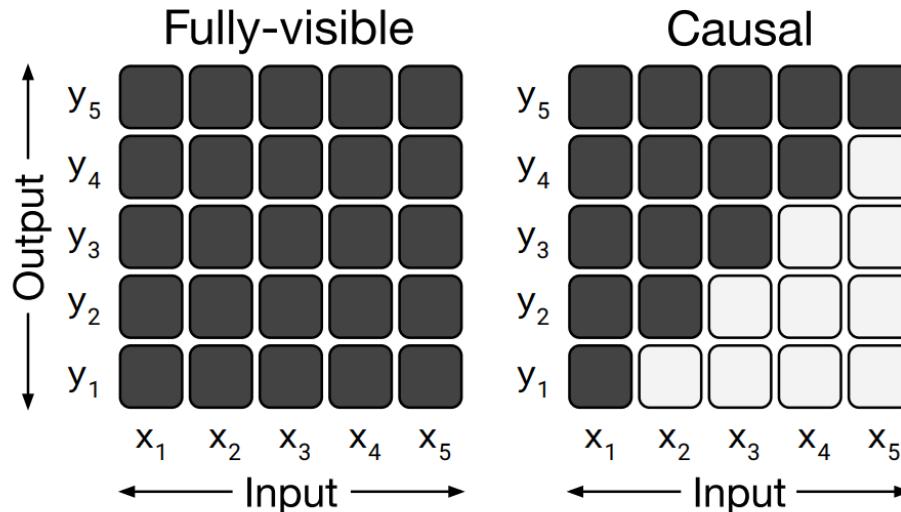


Figure from [T5](#).

$$\text{softmax}\left(\frac{\mathbf{Q} \times \mathbf{K}^T}{\sqrt{d_k}}\right) \mathbf{V}$$
$$= \mathbf{Z}$$

Apply the mask to  $\mathbf{QK}^T$

# Large Language Models

- Large Language Models are standard transformers that have been greatly scaled up!
- Not many architectural differences to what we've already discussed!
- Open-source models
  - [Llama](#), [Mistral](#), [Gemma](#), ...
- Closed-source models
  - GPT, Gemini, Claude ...

## Model Architecture

The Gemma model architecture is based on the transformer decoder ([Vaswani et al., 2017](#)). The core parameters of the architecture are summarized in Table 1. Models are trained on a context length of 8192 tokens. We also utilize several improvements proposed after the original transformer paper, and list them below:

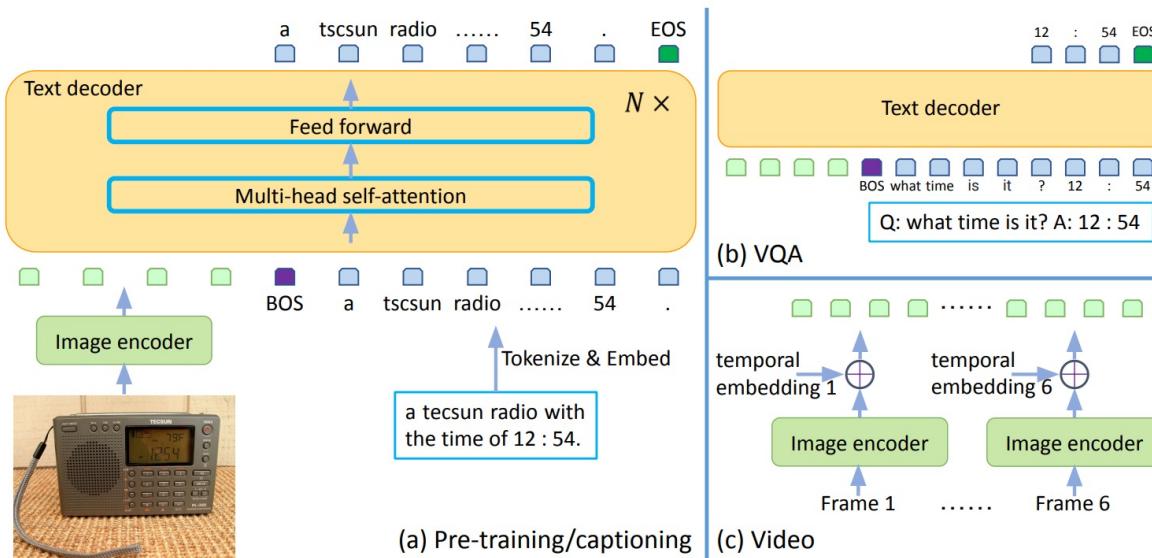
**Multi-Query Attention** ([Shazeer, 2019](#)). Notably, the 7B model uses multi-head attention while the 2B checkpoints use multi-query attention (with  $num\_kv\_heads = 1$ ), based on ablations that showed that multi-query attention works well at small scales ([Shazeer, 2019](#)).

**RoPE Embeddings** ([Su et al., 2021](#)). Rather than using absolute positional embeddings, we use rotary positional embeddings in each layer; we also share embeddings across our inputs and outputs to reduce model size.

**GeGLU Activations** ([Shazeer, 2020](#)). The standard ReLU non-linearity is replaced by the approx-

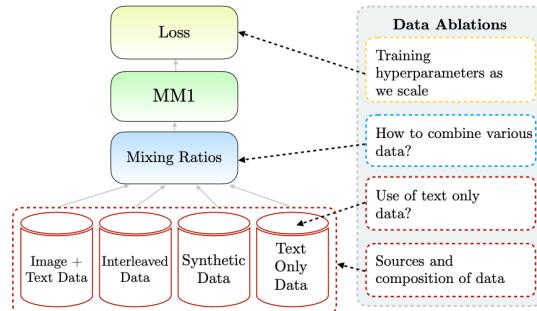
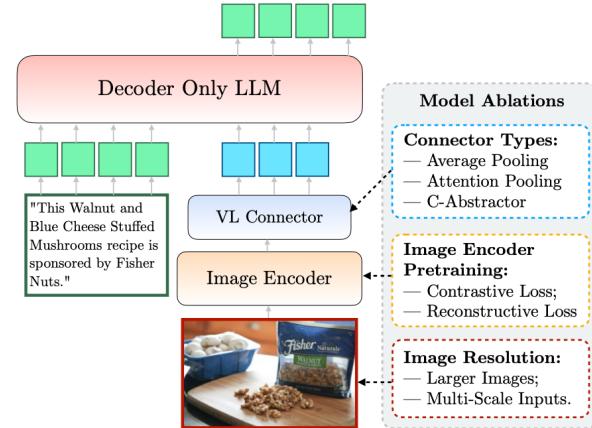
# Generative Image Text Modelling

- Connect a vision encoder to a language decoder
- Both models are typically transformers



# Design Questions

- What image encoder to use?
- How do we “convert” vision tokens to a common space as the language model?
- Do we need to reduce the number of vision tokens (particularly for video)?
- What mixture of data do we include in our training dataset?
- Figures from [MM1: Methods, Analysis & Insights from Multimodal LLM Pre-training](#)



# Vision Encoders

- Most works use strong, pretrained vision and language models.
- Language models are typically substantially larger (order of 10s of billions of parameters) than vision encoders (often less than a billion parameters)
- Why?
  - Representation learning for images and video is harder than for text.
  - We can pretrain text models from scraping web data; vision models are harder.
  - Stay tuned for upcoming lectures on Representation Learning.

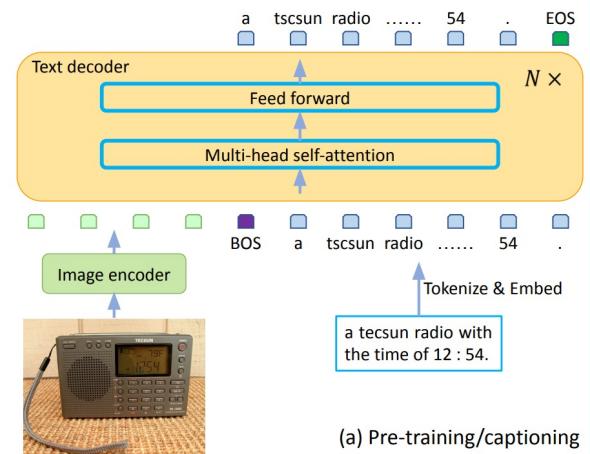
# Vision Encoders

- In practice, image-text pretrained vision encoders (like [CLIP](#) and [SigLIP](#)) tend to work the best
- Intuitively, this makes sense as the model has been exposed to language during pretraining.
- Other vision encoders can work too.

Language Supervised							Self-Supervised & Other						
Model	Architecture	All	G	K	O	V	Model	Architecture	All	G	K	O	V
SigLIP	ViT-SO400M/14@384	1	1	1	2	1	DINOv2	ViT-L/14@518	1	1	1	1	1
OpenCLIP	ConvNeXt-XXL@1024	2	6	8	1	3	DINOv2	ViT-L/14@336	2	2	3	3	2
DFN-CLIP	ViT-H/14@378	3	4	2	5	4	MAE	ViT-L/16@224	3	5	2	2	4
OpenCLIP	ConvNeXt-L@1024	4	8	7	3	8	I-JEPA	ViT-H/14@224	4	3	6	8	3
SigLIP	ViT-L/16@384	5	5	4	4	6	SD2.1	VAE+UNet/16@512	5	7	9	9	5
OpenAI CLIP	ViT-L/14@336	6	3	6	6	7	MiDaS 3.0	ViT-L/16@384	6	6	8	5	6
EVA-CLIP-02	ViT-L/14@336	7	2	5	8	2	SupViT	ViT-L/16@224	7	4	9	4	8
OpenCLIP	ConvNeXt-L@512	8	7	3	7	9	MoCo v3	ViT-B/16@224	8	8	4	7	7
DFN-CLIP	ViT-L/14@224	9	9	9	9	10	MoCo v3	ViT-L/16@224	9	9	5	6	9
DINOv2*	ViT-L/14@518	10	10	10	10	5	SAM	ViT-H/16@1024	10	10	10	10	10

# Connecting Vision Encoder to Language Decoder

- To connect a vision encoder to a language decoder, we need to:
  - Project vision tokens to the same dimensionality as used by the language model.
  - Potentially reduce the number of vision tokens. Otherwise, the cost of processing them all with the language decoder is too large.
  - Especially the case with high-resolution images, or videos.



# Vision-Language Connector

- Average pooling to  $K$  tokens.

# Vision-Language Connector

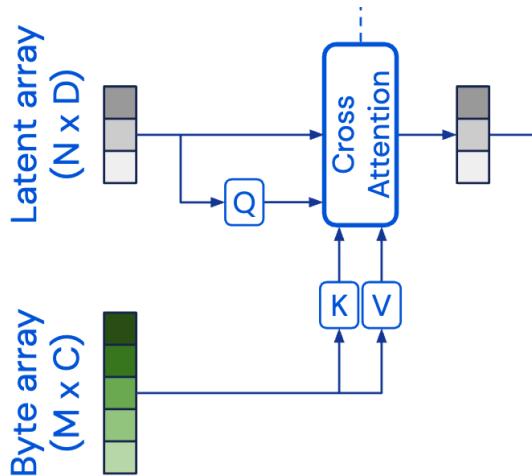
- Learned cross-attention with  $K$  query tokens.
- Self-attention when Query, Key and Values are projections of the same input,  $X$ .
- Cross-attention when Query is separate from the Keys and Values.
- Number of query tokens determines the number of output tokens.

$$\text{softmax} \left( \frac{\begin{matrix} Q \\ \times \\ K^T \end{matrix}}{\sqrt{d_k}} \right) V = Z$$

The diagram illustrates the computation of cross-attention. It shows three matrices:  $Q$  (purple, 3x3),  $K^T$  (orange, 3x3), and  $V$  (blue, 3x3). The  $Q$  matrix is multiplied by the transpose of the  $K$  matrix ( $K^T$ ) and then divided by the square root of the dimension  $d_k$ . The result is passed through a softmax function to produce the output matrix  $Z$  (pink, 3x3).

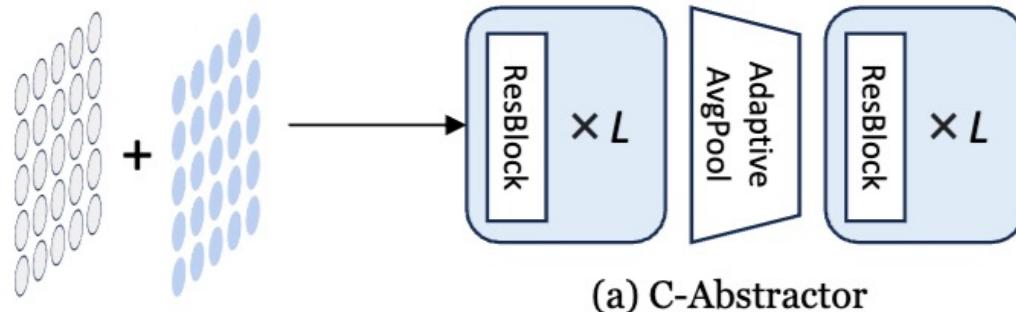
# Vision-Language Connector

- Learned cross-attention with  $K$  query tokens.
- Used by multiple different models with different names:
  - [Perceiver Resampler](#), also used in [Flamingo](#)
  - Q-Former used in [BLIP](#).
  - [TokenLearner](#) used in [Mirasol](#).
  - “Attention Pooling”



# Vision-Language Connector

- **Convolutional Network with Adaptive Pooling.**
- A small CNN on visual features maintains the locality of features.
- Adaptive average pooling can maintain a fixed number of tokens.
- Cross-attention does not preserve locality among tokens.



[Honeybee: Locality-enhanced Projector for Multimodal LLM](#)

# Vision-Language Connector

- So which one to use?
- Recent studies ([MM1](#)), have indicated that the biggest factor is the number of tokens,  $K$ , that are pooled.
  - Trade-off being that it is more computationally expensive too.
- Convolutional connectors were found to be the best though.
- Also beneficial to use “two stage training” ([LLaVa](#), [Cambrian](#))
  - First train only the connector
  - Then finetune the whole model.
  - This is intuitive, since the connector is the only randomly initialized part of the network to start with.

# Instruction Tuning

- Language models are pretrained with “next token prediction”.
- Predicting the next word does not align with what humans want
- For example, when asking a raw LLM a question, it will respond with other similar questions.
  - These are the most likely completions based on the training data.

*Explain the moon landing to a 6 year old in a few sentences.*

Prompt

GPT-3

Completion

Explain the theory of gravity to a 6 year old.

< Explain the theory of relativity to a 6 year old in a few sentences. >

Explain the big bang theory to a 6 year old.

Explain evolution to a 6 year old.

[InstructGPT](#)

Google DeepMind

# Instruction Tuning

- We need to finetune language or vision-language models to answer questions of interest.
- Instruction Tuning refers to finetuning on (Instruction, Input, Answer) triplets.
- A key component of assistants like ChatGPT, Gemini and Claude.

Prompt *Explain the moon landing to a 6 year old in a few sentences.*

Completion GPT-3

Explain the theory of gravity to a 6 year old.

<

Explain the theory of relativity to a 6 year old in a few sentences.

Explain the big bang theory to a 6 year old.

Explain evolution to a 6 year old.

InstructGPT

People went to the moon, and they took pictures of what they saw, and sent them back to the earth so we could all see them.

# Instruction Tuning

- We need to finetune language or vision-language models to answer questions of interest.
- Instruction Tuning refers to training on (Instruction, Input, Answer) triplets.
- Some tasks are naturally in an instruction-tuning format (ie Visual Question Answering)



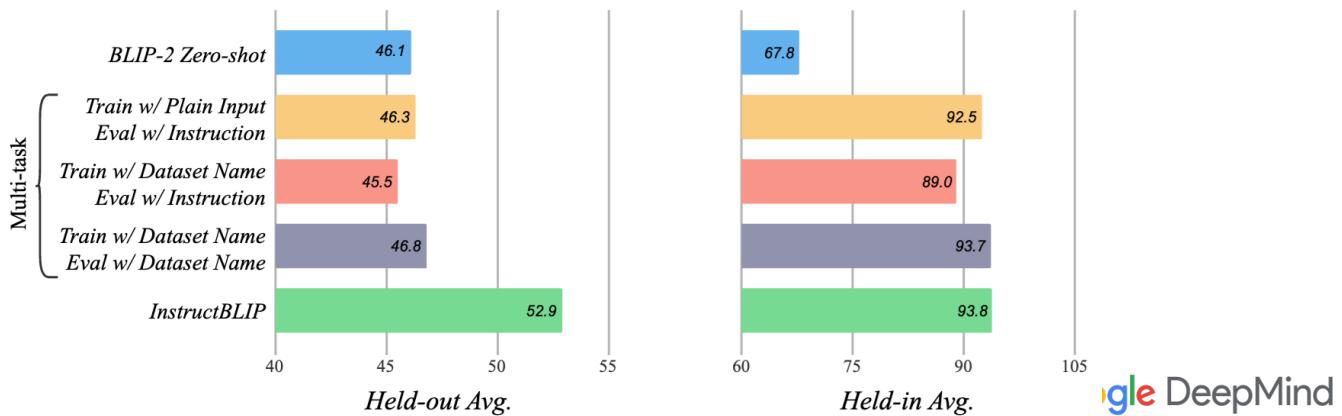
What color are her eyes?  
What is the mustache made of?

# Instruction Tuning

- We need to finetune language or vision-language models to answer questions of interest.
- Instruction Tuning refers to training on (Instruction, Input, Answer) triplets.
- And others can be transformed into a question-answering format (ie classification)
  - “What objects are present in this image?”

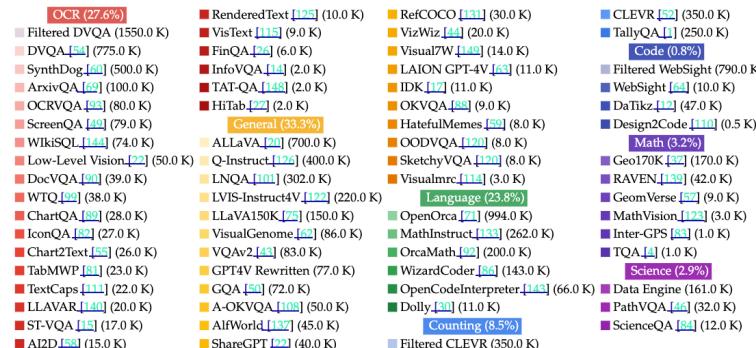
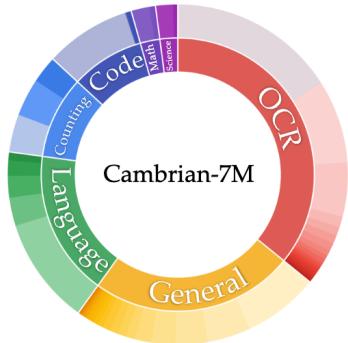
# Instruction Tuning

- We need to finetune language or vision-language models to answer questions of interest.
- Instruction Tuning refers to training on (Instruction, Input, Answer) triplets.
- Aim is to train on a diverse range of instructions, in the hope that we will be able to generalize better to unseen instructions.
- Instruct-BLIP shows that this is indeed the case.



# Instruction Tuning

- We need to finetune language or vision-language models to answer questions of interest.
- Instruction Tuning refers to training on (Instruction, Input, Answer) triplets.
- To generalize to a wide range of tasks, we need diverse datasets and tasks.
- A lot of empirical analysis to work out good mixtures and datasets.
- Lot of “secret sauce” goes into here.



Cambrian

Google DeepMind

# Credits and References

- Andrea Vedaldi's lecture slides [here](#).
- Andrew Zisserman's lecture slides [here](#).
- [The Annotated Transformer](#)
- [The Illustrated Transformer](#)
- [Stanford CS231N: Deep Learning for Computer Vision](#)
- [Stanford CS224N: Natural Language Processing with Deep Learning](#)
- [Deep Learning Book](#) by Ian Goodfellow
- All the papers linked in these slides

# Thank you! Questions?

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