



# Categorization of seen images from brain activity using sequence models

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## Motivation

### Background

- The **human visual system** is incredibly complex and is not yet fully understood how it can **recognize objects**.
- For biologically-inspired deep learning models for visual recognition to continue to be successful, we must study the brain further.

### Problem

- Many studies have **decoded object category** from visual brain activity, but most do not incorporate **temporal information** of fMRI.

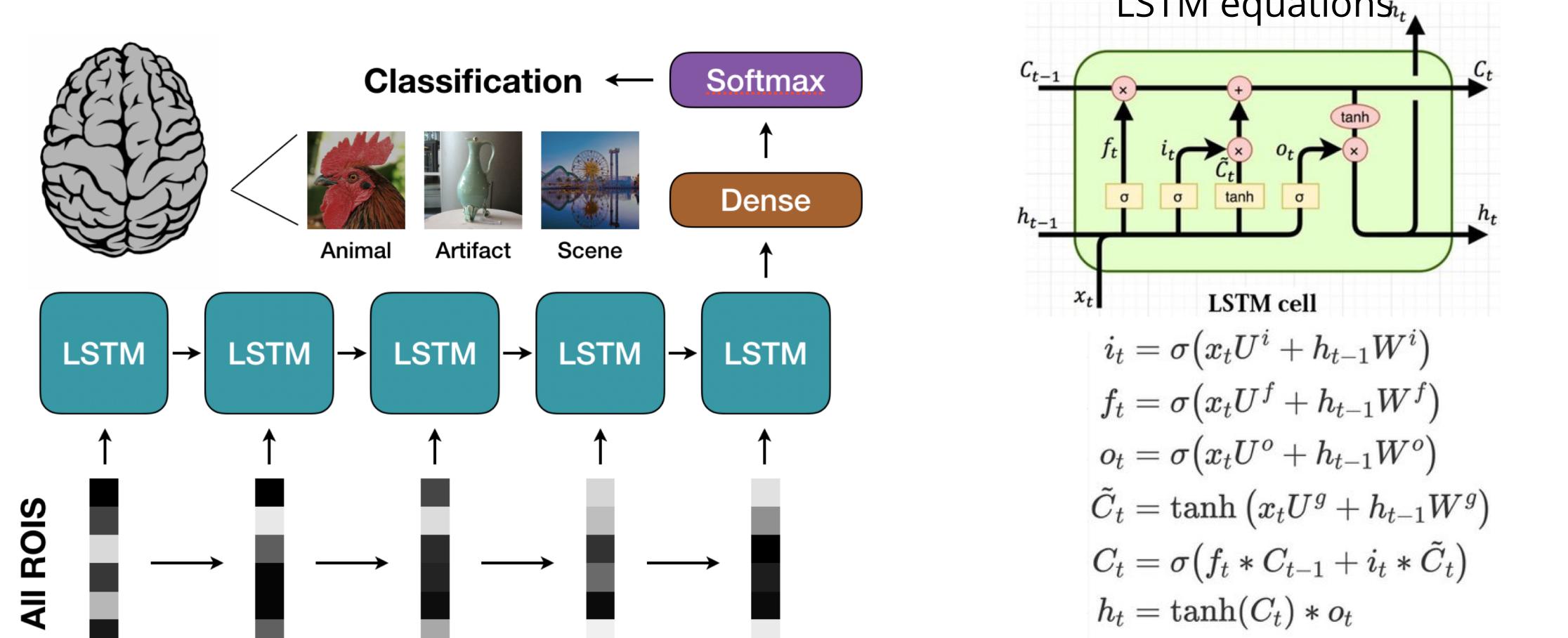
### Approach

- We apply an **LSTM classifier** to predict seen **object category** from the brain activity of visual areas using **fMRI**.

## Methods

### Dataset

- BOLD5000**: 4 subjects were shown images from **ImageNet**, **COCO**, and **Scene Understanding** (**SUN**) in the scanner.
- Images were labeled with three super categories: **Animal**, **Artifact**, **Scene**.
- fMRI timeseries was extracted from visual areas: **parahippocampal place area**, **retrosplenial complex**, **occipital place area**, **lateral occipital complex**, and **early visual area** in each hemisphere, resulting in ten total ROIs per subject
- 13136 samples x 5 timepoints/TRs x 6960 total voxels

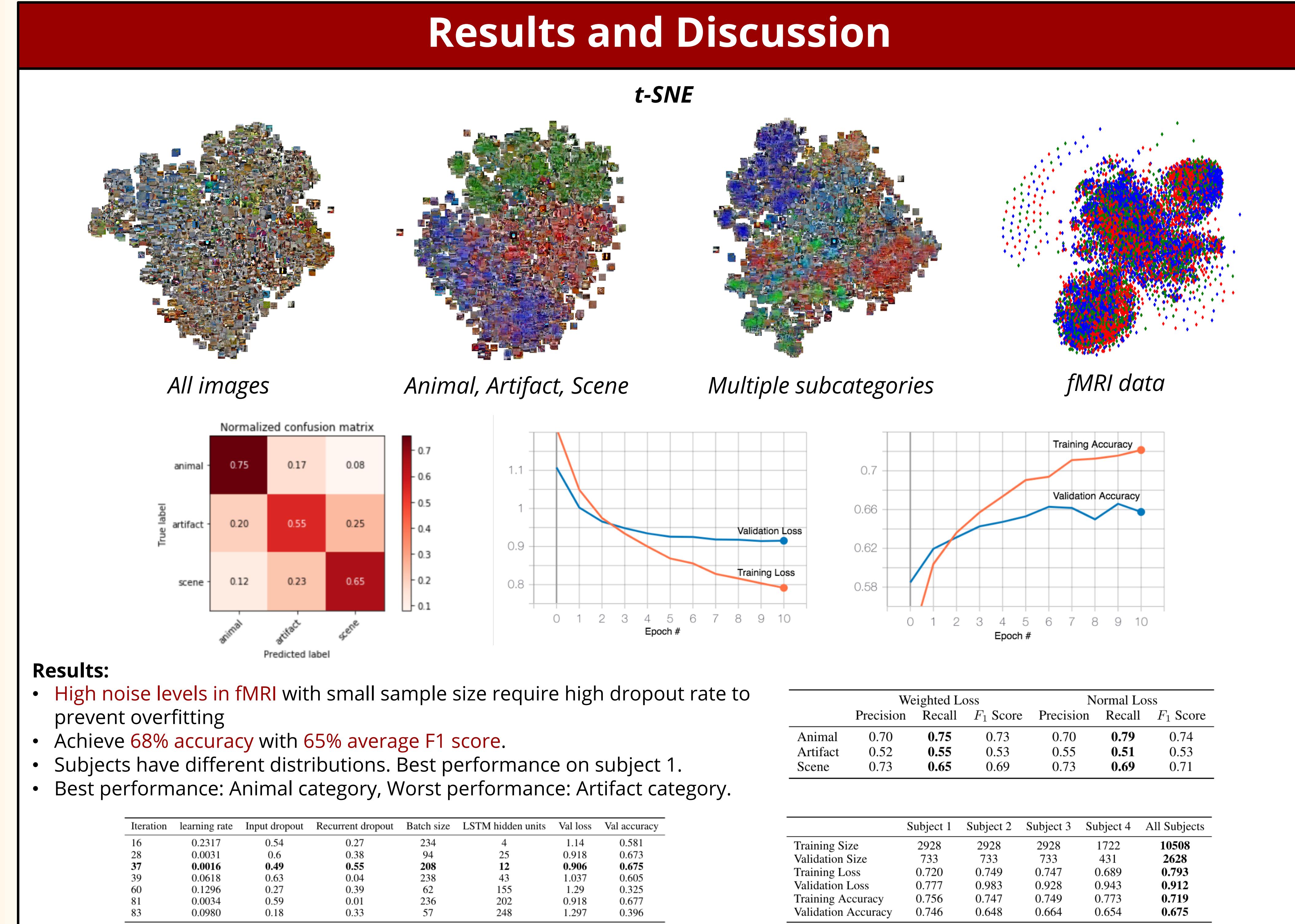


**Figure 1:** LSTM classifier model. Dropout was included before the dense layer. The optimal model after hyperparameter tuning had an LSTM size of 12 units, dense 32, dropout of 49%, recurrent dropout of 55%, Adam optimizer with learning rate 0.0016, decay 0.001, and batch size of 208.

	Animal	Artifact	Scene	Subject Total
Subject 1	1227	1014	1420	3661
Subject 2	1227	1014	1420	3661
Subject 3	1227	1014	1420	3661
Subject 4	726	585	842	2153
Total	<b>4407</b>	<b>3627</b>	<b>5102</b>	<b>13136</b>

**Table 1:** Number of images from each class shown to each subjects.

## Results and Discussion



## Future Directions

- Acquiring more fMRI data from similar studies can help significantly reduce our overfitting
- Combining an LSTM with a generator network or autoencoder can allow use to generate images from fMRI data directly

## References

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