



# Genetic Programming Approach to Deep Neuroevolution

Ricardo H. R. de Lima  
Aurora Pozo

# 1. Deep Learning

Exploring the topic

# 2. Genetic Programming

Why using it?

# 3. Deep Neuroevolution

Pros and Cons

# 4. Experiments

Initial experiments

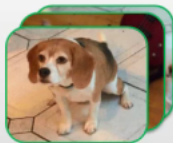
# 5. Conclusions

Next steps

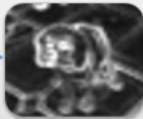
# Deep Learning

# Introduction

## Traditional Machine Learning approach



Manual Feature Extraction

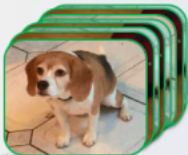


Classification

Machine Learning

Dog ✓  
Boy ✗  
⋮  
Bicycle ✗

## Deep Learning approach



Convolutional Neural Network (CNN)

Learned features



95%  
3%  
⋮  
2%

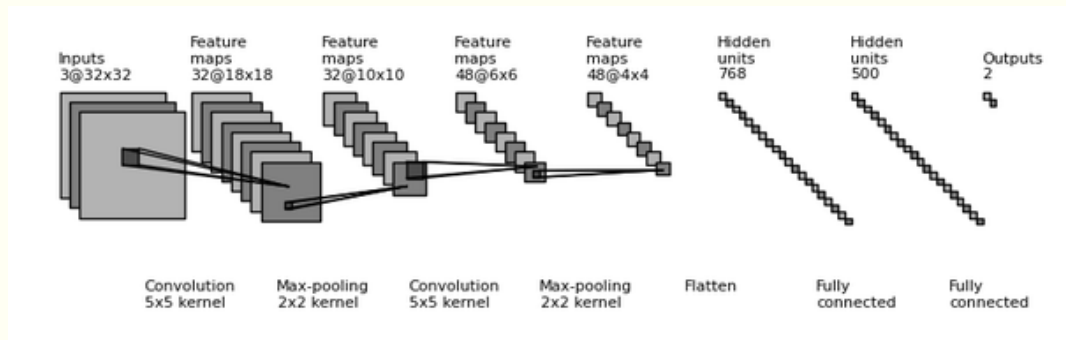
Dog ✓  
Boy ✗  
⋮  
Bicycle ✗

# Introduction

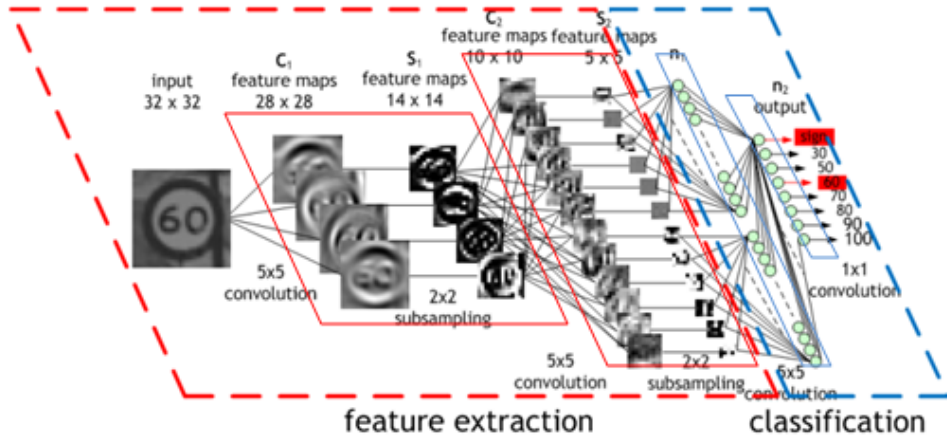
Deep Learning is a machine learning technique that can learn **useful representations** or features directly from images, text and sound

- ❖ Machine Learning approach
- ❖ Learns useful representations or features
- ❖ Reduces the use of preprocessing

# Convolutional Neural Networks



# Convolutional Neural Networks



# Convolutional Neural Networks

- ❖ Used for image recognition
- ❖ Performs both generative and descriptive tasks
- ❖ Require large number of examples
- ❖ High number of trainable parameters
- ❖ High computational cost



# Genetic Programming

# Features

- ❖ Evolve programs
- ❖ Combines and modifies solutions to create new ones
- ❖ Classic Tree-based GP
- ❖ Grammatical Evolution
- ❖ Cartesian GP

# Grammatical Evolution

- ❖ **BNF Grammar**

  - Define the programs structure

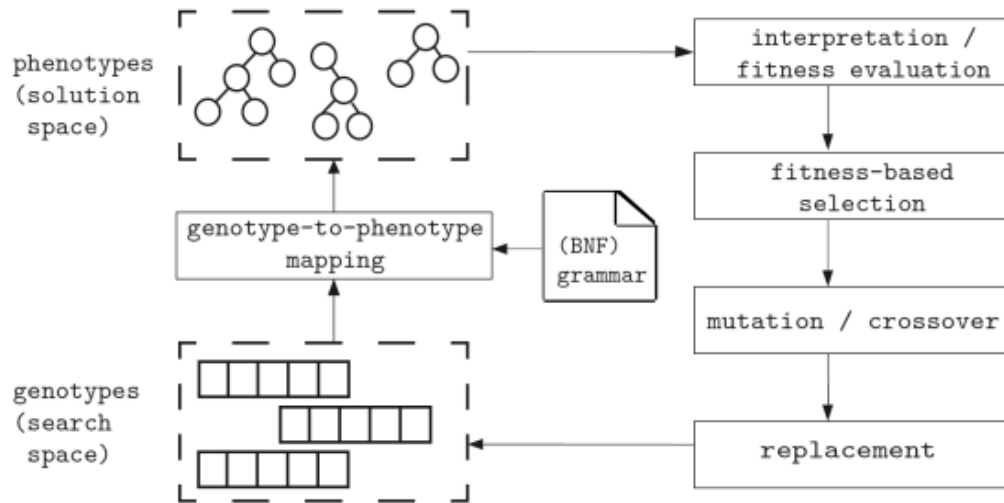
- ❖ **Mapping process**

  - Translate genotype to phenotype

- ❖ **Search Engine**

  - Genetic Algorithm

# Grammatical Evolution



# Deep Neuroevolution

# Proposed Approach

Neuroevolution is a form of artificial intelligence that uses **evolutionary algorithms** to **generate artificial neural networks**, parameters, topology and rules. Studies on how to evolve Deep Neural Networks are called **Deep Neuroevolution**

- ❖ Fitness function

Accuracy/Error Rate

- ❖ Architecture

Define smallest/biggest valid model

# Approach: Evaluating the Models

The CNNs are evaluated using the **error rate**, obtained from training and test, on well known datasets.

- ❖ Number of epochs
- ❖ Time spent
- ❖ Loss

# Approach: Architecture

## Smallest CNN

The smallest cnn that we can think of is:  
inputs » convolution » dense » outputs

- ❖ What defines a CNN is the use of convolutions
- ❖ The NN needs a fully connected layer to process correctly the inputs

## Biggest CNN

How many layers is enough? 30, 50, 100?

- ❖ Define a upper bound

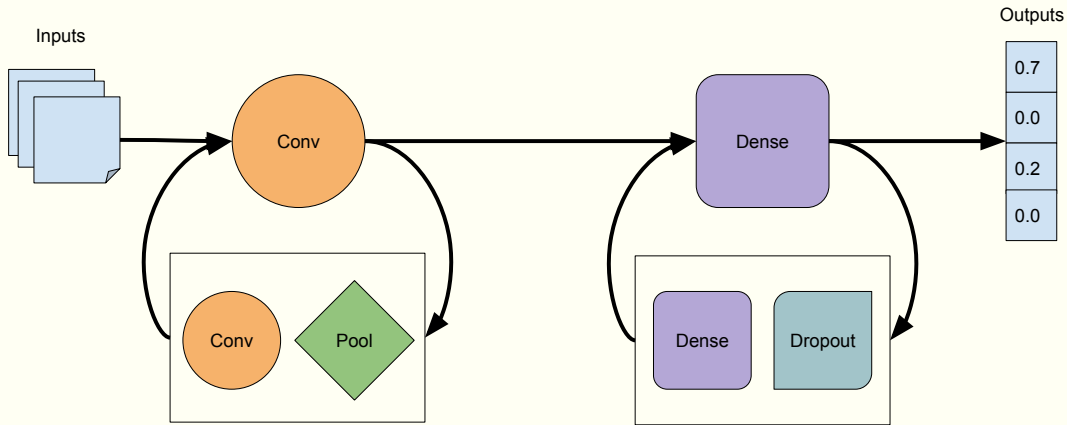


# Approach: Grammar

```
1  <cnn> ::= <conv> <c_layer> <d_layer> <dense>
2
3
4  <c_layer> ::= <c_layer> <c_layer> | <c_node> | '&'
5
6  <d_layer> ::= <d_node> <d_node> | <d_node> | '&'
7
8
9  <c_node> ::= <conv> | <maxpool> | <avgpool>
10
11 <d_node> ::= <dense> | <dropout>
12
13
14 <conv> ::= 'class_name' 'Conv2D' 'filters' <filters> 'kernel_size' <k_size> 'activation' <activation>
15
16 <dense> ::= 'class_name' 'Dense' 'units' <units>
17
18 <dropout> ::= 'class_name' 'Dropout' 'rate' <rate>
19
20 <maxpool> ::= 'class_name' 'MaxPooling2D' 'pool_size' <p_size> 'padding' <padding>
21
22 <avgpool> ::= 'class_name' 'AveragePooling2D' 'pool_size' <p_size> 'padding' <padding>
```

Figure: Part of the proposed grammar for designing CNNs

# Approach: Grammar



# Approach: Grammar

To avoid invalid models, some rules were created:

1. All models start with a convolution node
2. All models end with a dense node
3. The last node has the number of units set to the number of classes
4. The last node has the activation function set to 'softmax'
5. The first dense node is preceded by a 'flatten' node

Invalid models are still possible, in these cases, we penalize the solution.

# Approach: CNN Parameters

- ❖ Convolution: Filters, Kernel Size, Activation
- ❖ Max/Average Pooling: Pool size, Padding
- ❖ Dense: Units, Activation
- ❖ Dropout: Drop rate
- ❖ Filters: 32, 64
- ❖ Kernel Size: (3, 3), (5, 5)
- ❖ Activation: Relu, Tahnm, Linear
- ❖ Pool size: (2, 2), (4, 4)
- ❖ Padding: Valid, Same
- ❖ Units: 32, 64
- ❖ Drop rate: [0, 1]

# Approach: GE Parameters

Parameter	Method	Value
Population	-	20
Evaluations	-	400
Selection	Random	2
Crossover	One point	0.8
Mutation	Point	0.1
Prune	-	0.1
Duplication	-	0.1

# Tools

- ❏ Tensorflow/Theano

Powerful tools to build and run cnns

- ❏ Keras

High level framework that make easier to build the networks that run over tensorflow/theano

- ❏ Python

# Experiments

# Experiments: MNIST

The MNIST dataset has 50000 for training and 10000 for validation and test. The images are 28x28 greyscale, 10 classes.

Run	Solution	Params	Validation	Test
1	[114 22 204 177]	506,058	0,989	0,990
2	[ 4 99 69]	181,194	0,991	0,993
3	too big	87,281	0,990	0,990
4	[213 121 215]	401,226	0,990	0,992
5	[ 37 141 108]	31,841	0,992	0,993
Mean	-	241,520	0,990	0,992



# Experiments: notMNIST

The MNIST dataset has 50000 for training and 10000 for validation and test. The images are 28x28 greyscale, 10 classes.

Run	Solution	Params	Validation	Test
1	[217 21 150]	318,41	0,901	0,951
2	[ 51 193]	360,138	0,899	0,951
3	[63 85]	360,138	0,895	0,950
4	too big	360,138	0,897	0,948
5	[225 123 209 253 84 205]	360,138	0,897	0,949
Mean	-	351,792	0,898	0,950

# Experiments: fashion MNIST

The MNIST dataset has 50000 for training and 10000 for validation and test. The images are 28x28 greyscale, 10 classes.

Run	Solution	Params	Validation	Test
1	[135 34]	406,218	0,918	0,917
2	[ 6 127 17]	1731,786	0,914	0,915
3	too big	361,354	0,917	0,920
4	[204 28]	599,754	0,915	0,914
5	[189 220]	406,218	0,9171	0,918
Mean	-	701,066	0,916	0,917

# Experiments: CIFAR 10

The MNIST dataset has 40000 for training and 10000 for validation and test. The images are 32x32 RGB, 10 classes.

Run	Solution	Params	Validation	Test
1	[235 220 235 13 210]	206,282	0,649	0,636
2	[ 63 209 120 138 130 117]	439,946	0,714	0,708
3	[166 165]	426,506	0,696	0,690
4	[ 94 117]	426,506	0,693	0,692
5	[ 34 171]	426,506	0,694	0,690
Mean	-	385,149	0,689	0,683

# Experiments: CIFAR 100

The MNIST dataset has 50000 for training and 10000 for validation and test. The images are 32x32 RGB, 100 classes.

Run	Solution	Params	Validation	Test
1	[ 92 43 136 151 204 85 193 47 185 221]	159,332	0,322	0,329
2	[ 59 8 227 77 117 91 178 173]	318,564	0,350	0,350
3	[219 118 138 67]	5037,092	0,340	0,336
4	too big	1441,892	0,334	0,325
5	[13 37]	318,564	0,325	0,318
Mean	-	1455,089	0,334	0,332

# Conclusions

# Next steps

- ❖ Optimize the Grammar
- ❖ Add other GP algorithms
  - Similar work done using Cartesian GP
- ❖ Experiments
  - Verify efficiency of approach
- ❖ Compare with similar approaches
  - CIFAR 10-100/MNIST and other well known datasets

## Genetic Programming Approach to Deep Neuroevolution

# Thank you!

Ricardo H. R. de Lima  
Aurora Pozo