

Parameter-Efficient Fine-Tuning

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04/30/2024

Fine-Tuning

- Copy weights from pre-trained network
- Perform training on downstream task of interest
- Learn new set of weights
- Naively: use the same architecture and all weights updated
 - For over-parameterized networks like LLM, requires a lot of data to converge
 - Large memory footprint to train all parameters

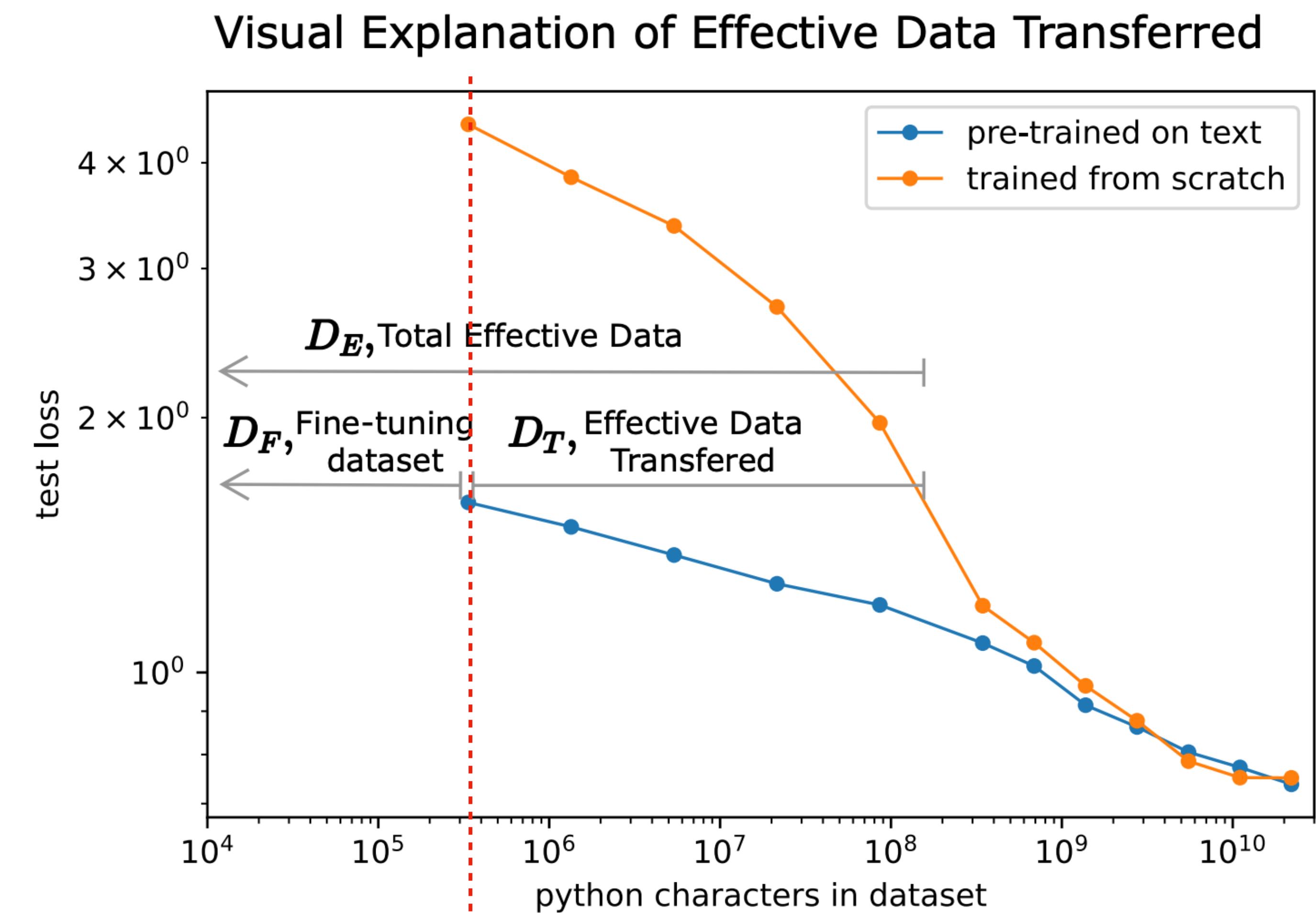
Outline

- Why is fine-tuning necessary?
- Adapter methods (LoRA)
- Quantization
- Prefix Tuning

Scaling Laws for Transfer

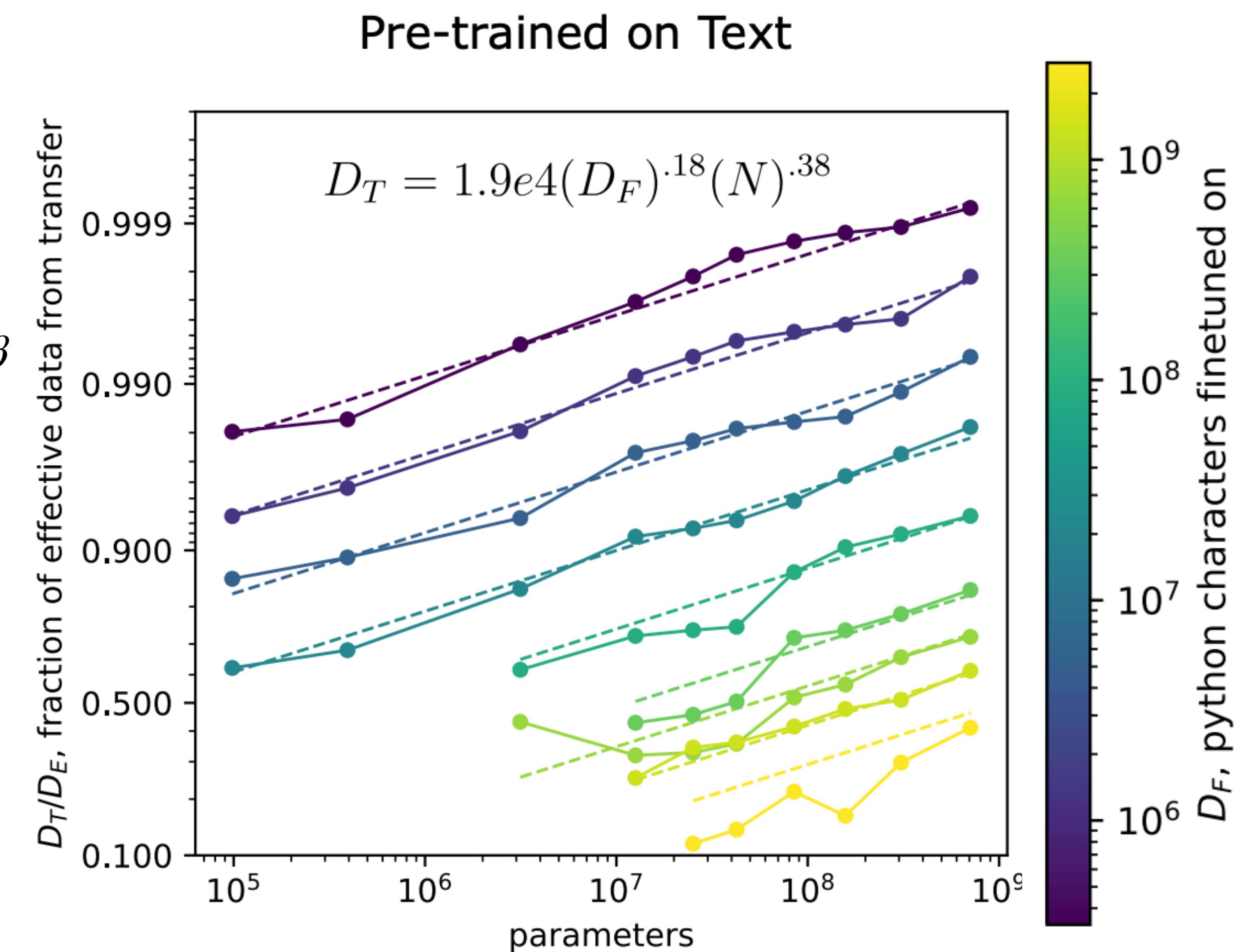
Why Fine-Tune At All?

- Models pre-trained on large datasets have acquired good representations
- Important in low-data regime
- Right: 40M Transformer model, pre-training dataset 24b characters
- At 3e5 chars, fine-tuning performs as well as training from scratch with 1000x more data



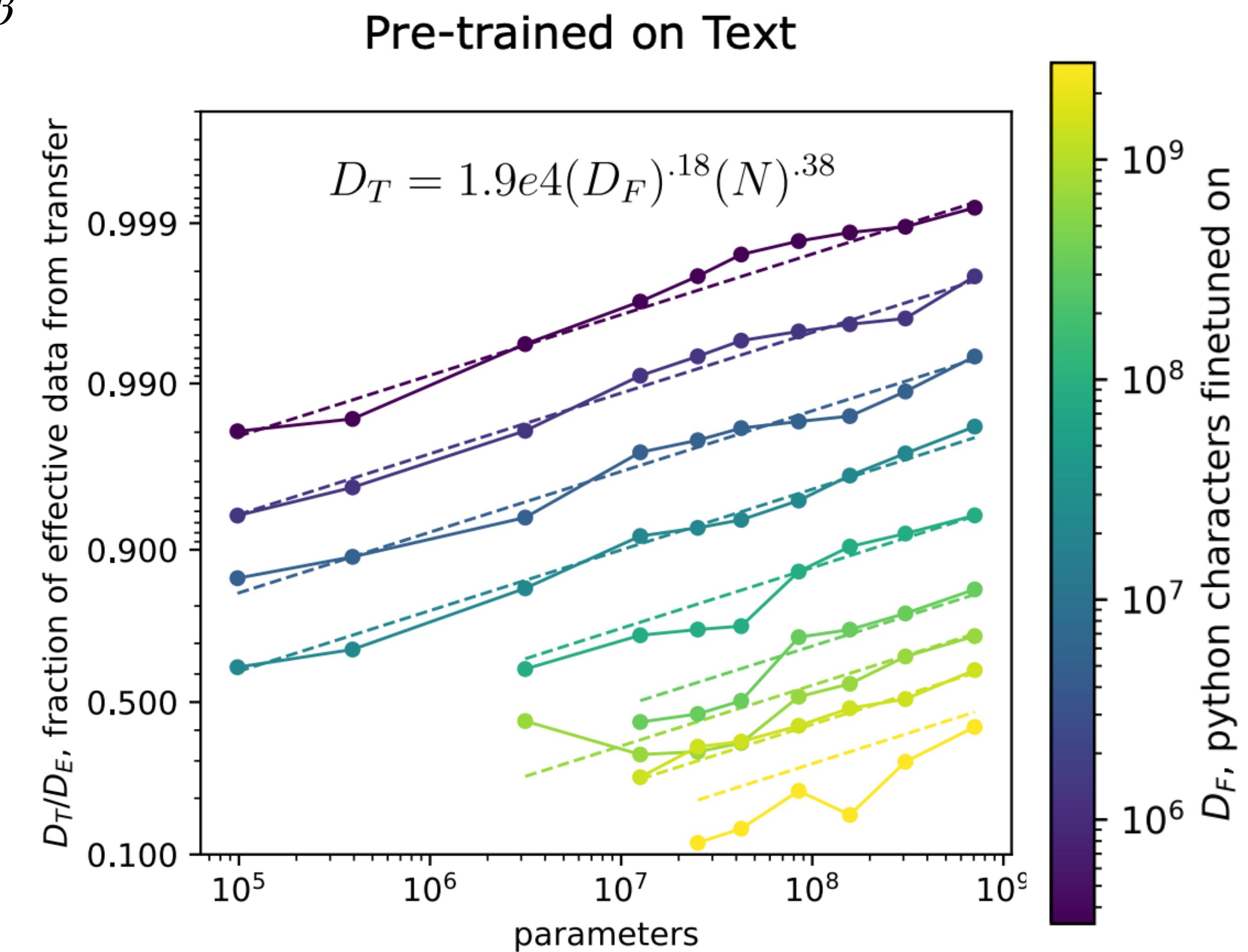
Scaling Laws for Transfer in the Low-Data Regime

- Data transfer also follows a power-law (similar to neural scaling laws)
- $D_T = \text{effective data transferred} = k(D_F)^\alpha(N)^\beta$
- k : transfer multiplier
- D_F : size of fine-tuning distribution
- N : number of non-embedding parameters



Scaling Laws for Transfer in the Low-Data Regime

- $D_T = \text{effective data transferred} = k(D_F)^\alpha(N)^\beta$
- For fine-tuning on Python on a model pre-trained on text,
 $\beta \approx 2\alpha$
- Increasing fine-tuning dataset by 100x gives same improvement as increasing size of model by 10x



Scaling Laws for Transfer

Transfer from	Transfer Coefficients		
	k	α	β
Text \implies Python	1.9e4	0.18	0.38
50% Text and 50% non-python code \implies Python	2.1e5	0.096	0.38

- α : measures similarity between pre-training and fine-tuning distribution (smaller for closer similarity)
 - Smaller α means less transfer in the high-data regime
- Can conduct experiments to get α, β to understand trade-off between more data or larger model size

Scaling Laws for Transfer

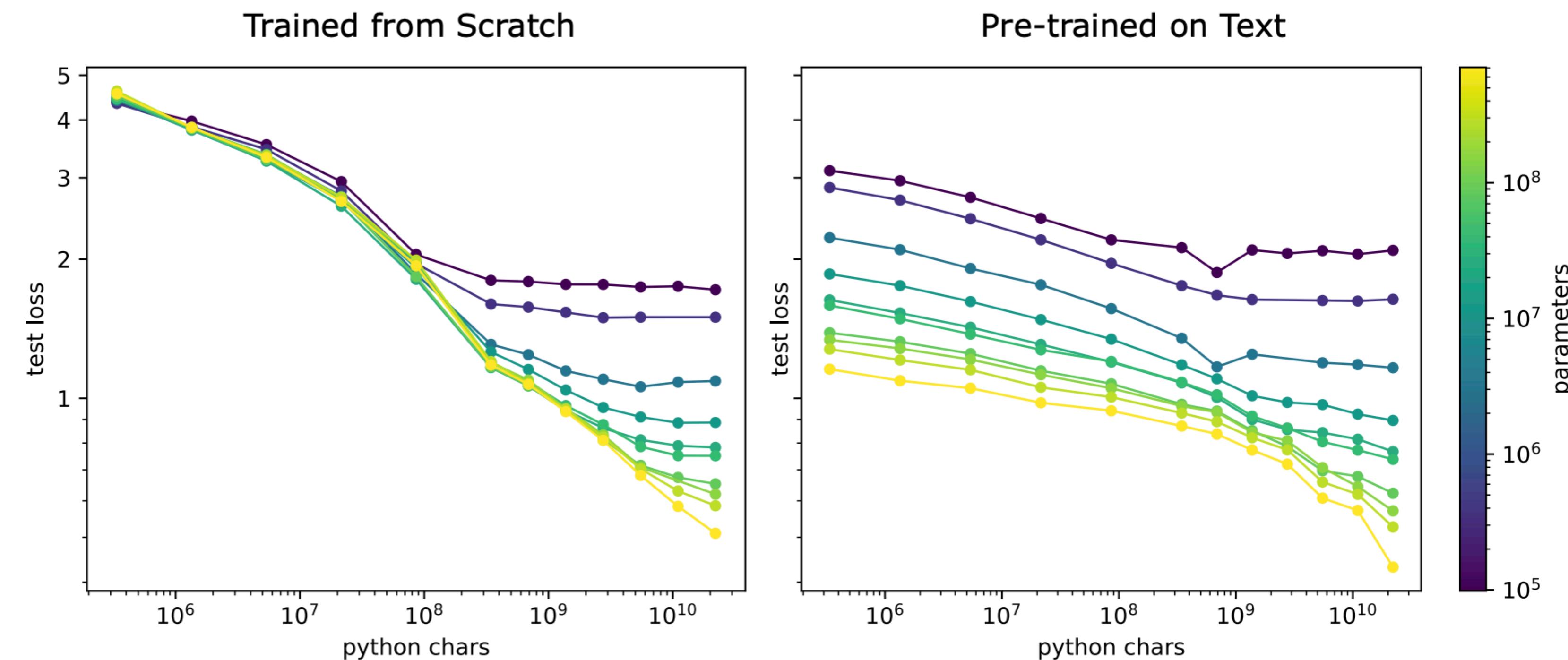
- On low-data regime $D_T \gg D_F$:

$$\text{Effective data multiplier} = \frac{D_F + D_T}{D_F} \approx \frac{D_T}{D_F} = \frac{k(N)^\beta}{(D_F)^{1-\alpha}}$$

- As fine-tuning data D_F increases, multiplier decreases

Can Pre-Training be Harmful?

- Yes, for small models:



- Hypothesized due to pre-training being like a poor initialization point that fine-tuning has trouble recovering from ("ossification")

Challenges of Full-Parameter Fine-Tuning

1.5b parameters does not mean using 6gb of vRAM

- Consider a “small” 1.5b GPT-2 model
- Surely you can fine-tune this on your RTX 4080 16GB GPU?

```
RuntimeError: CUDA out of memory. Tried to allocate 200.00 MiB (GPU 0; 15.78 GiB total  
capacity; 14.56 GiB already allocated; 38.44 MiB free; 14.80 GiB reserved in total by  
PyTorch) If reserved memory is >> allocated memory try setting max_split_size_mb to avoid  
fragmentation. See documentation for Memory Management and PYTORCH_CUDA_ALLOC_CONF
```

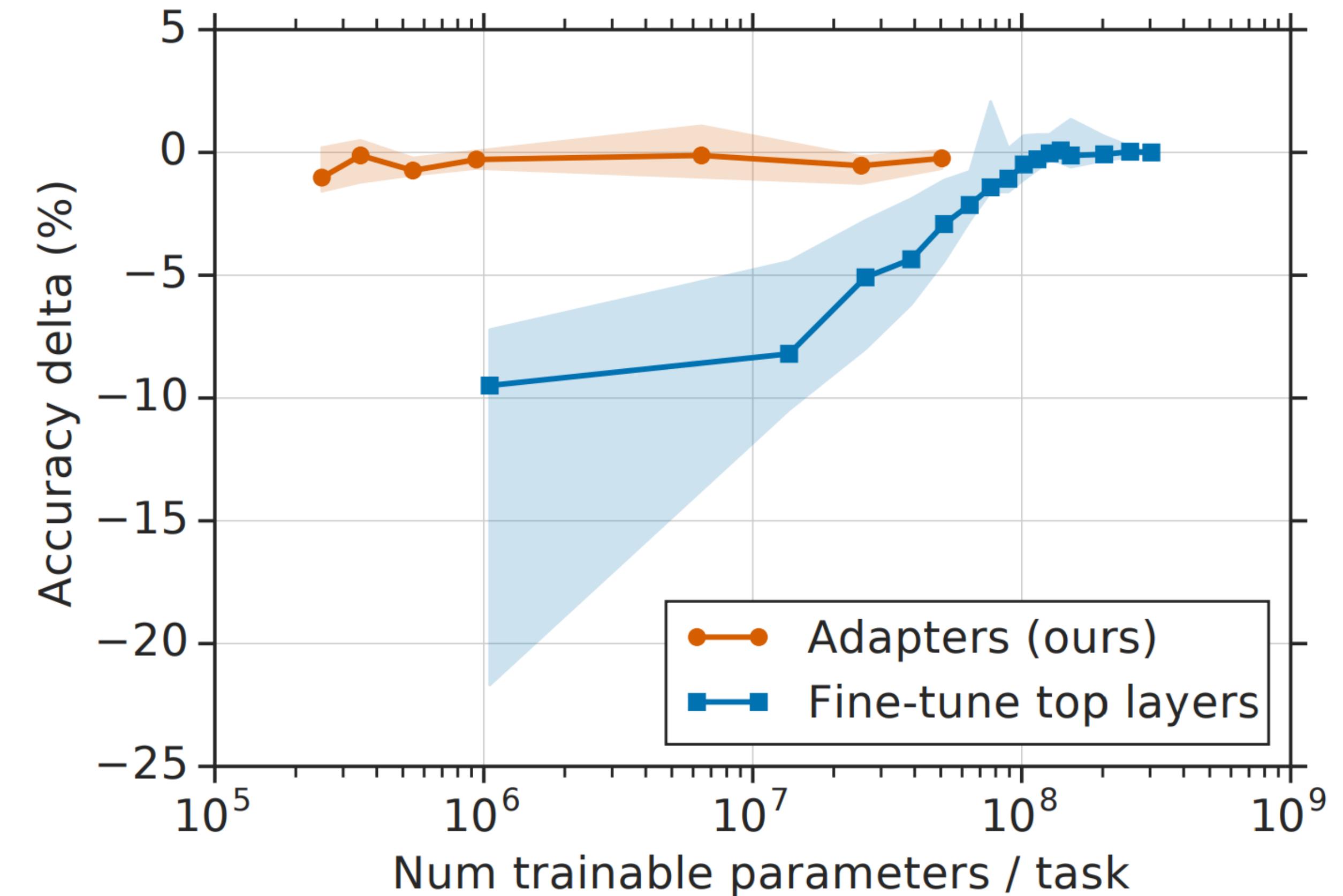
Where did all the memory go?

- For float32 data types:
- Parameters: 4 bytes
- Gradients: 4 bytes
- Optimizer state:
 - Suppose we use Adam (most popular for Transformers), which tracks weight and variance in updates
 - $2 * 4$ bytes
 - Activations: variable (depends on model architecture)
 - Also: memory fragmentation, temporary buffers allocated (for gradient norm computation, etc)
- Total: at least $1.5b * (4 + 4 + 8)$ bytes = 24GB vRAM

Adapter Methods

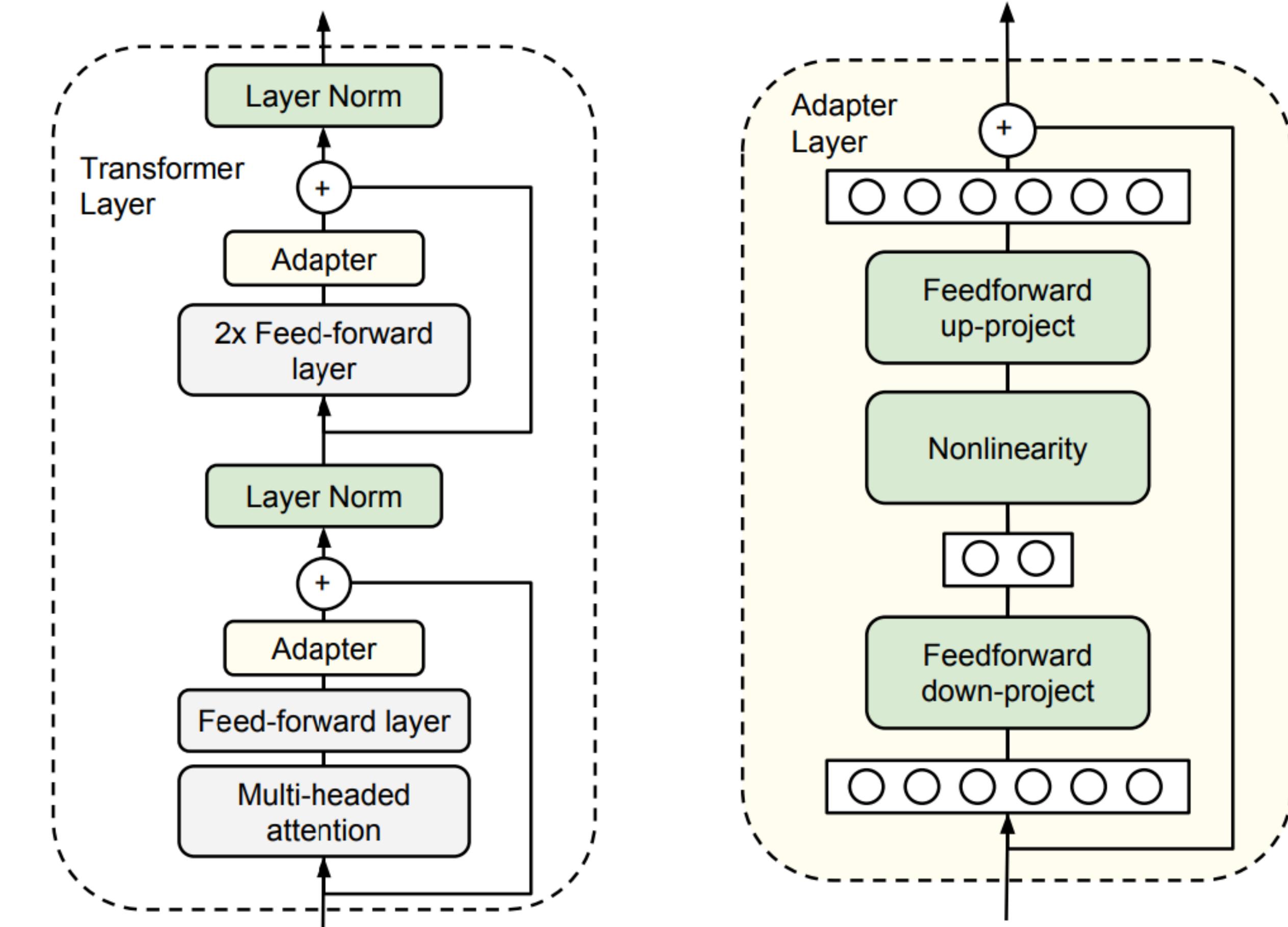
Simplest method: fine-tune top layers

- Freeze all weights but those at top layers (or add additional layers to fine-tune)
- Idea: as you go up the Transformer layers, you build up to higher representations
- Top representations corresponds to high-level features most useful for a specific task
- Outperformed by adapters



Adapters

- Houldsby et al. introduced adapter modules in Transformer layers which are fine-tuned (all other parameters fixed)
- Adds 3.6% extra parameters

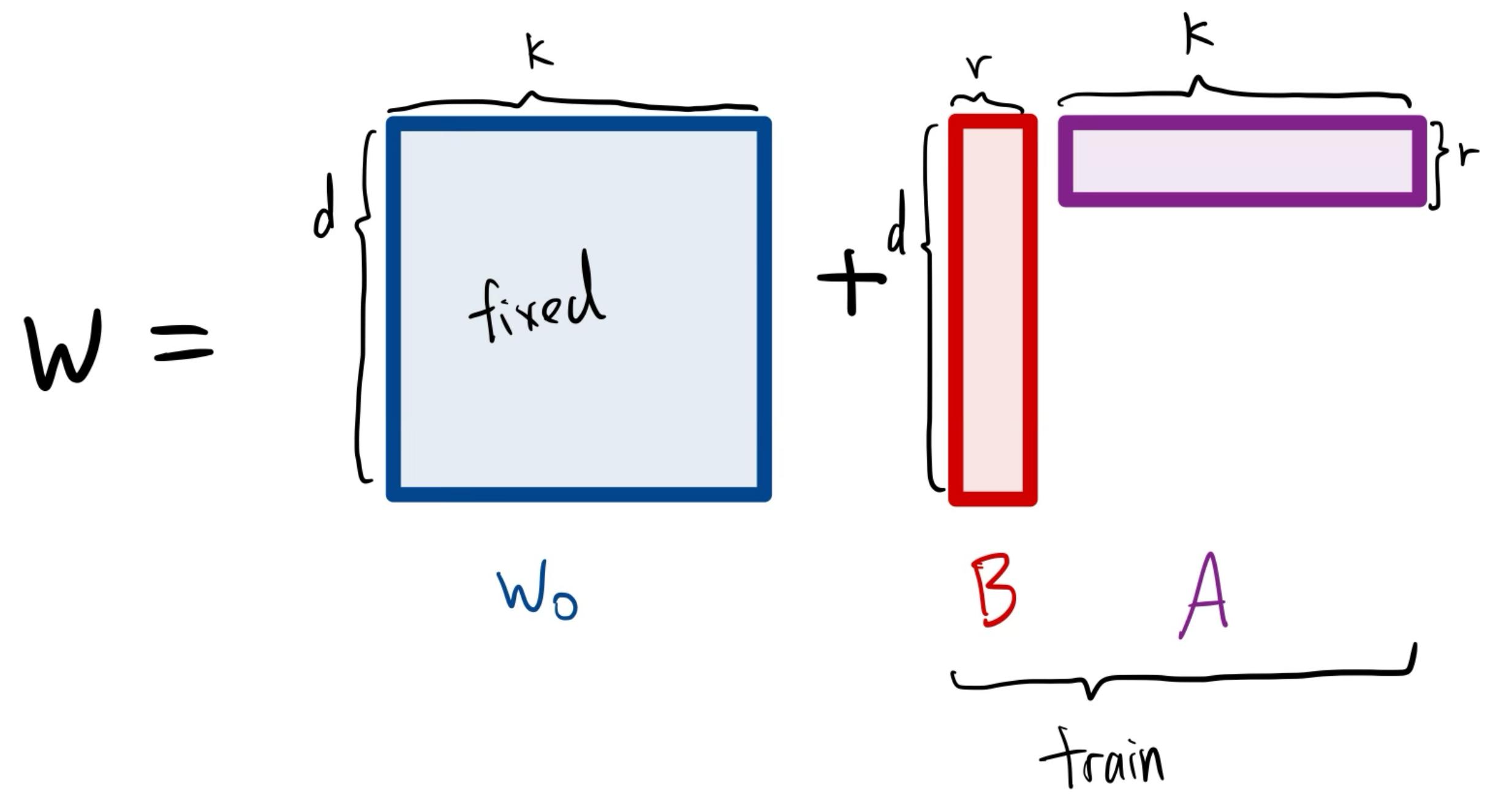


LoRA: Low-Rank Adaptation

- Downside of adapters:
 - Increased inference latency
 - Performs worse than full-parameter fine-tuning
- LoRA addresses both!

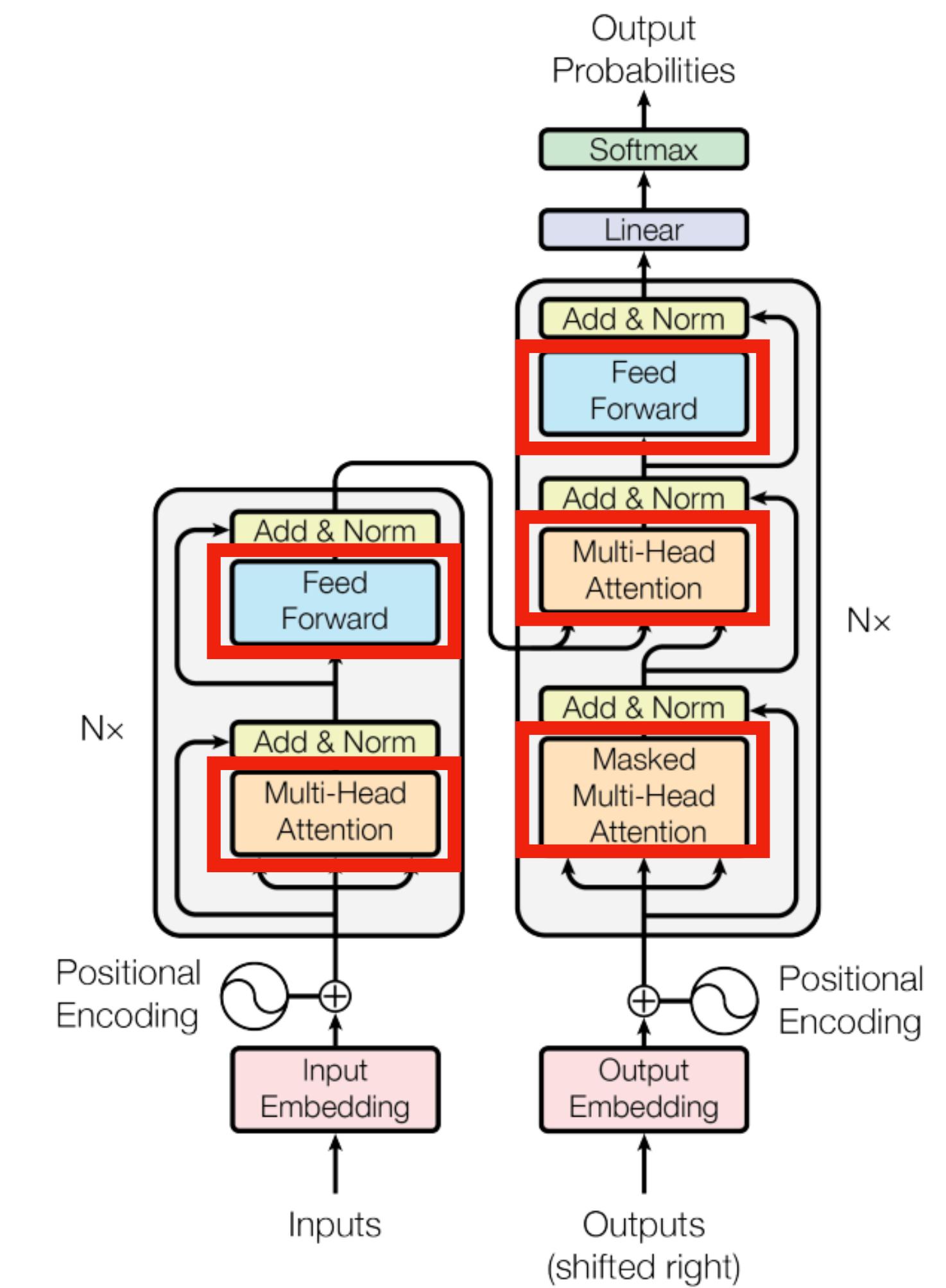
LoRA: Low-Rank Adaptation

- Have a large pre-trained $d \times k$ weight matrix W_0
- Instead of fine-tuning all weights, consider fine-tuning a low-rank r adapter AB , where $A \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times r}, B \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times k}$
 - r as small as 1
- For inputs x , forward pass yields $h = W_0x + BAx$
- During back propagation, W_0 is frozen and we only update BA

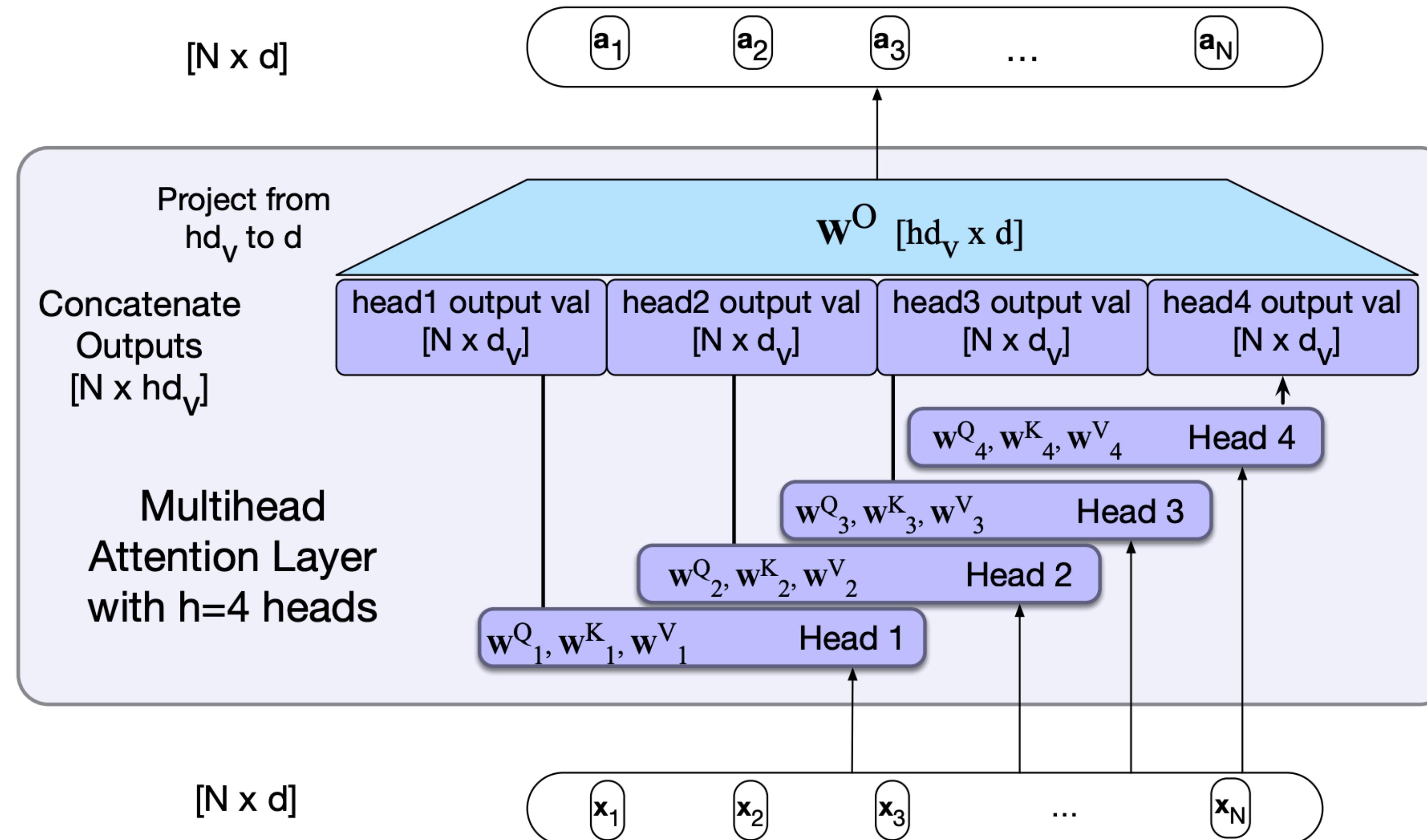


Which weight matrices to use LoRA for?

- Candidates for Transformer models:
 - Weight matrices for self-attention
$$\mathbf{Q} = \mathbf{XW}^Q, \mathbf{K} = \mathbf{XW}^K, \mathbf{V} = \mathbf{XW}^V$$
 - Weight matrices for output projection
$$\mathbf{W}^o$$
 - Weights for feed-forward networks



$\mathbf{W}^q, \mathbf{W}^k, \mathbf{W}^v, \mathbf{W}^o$ recap

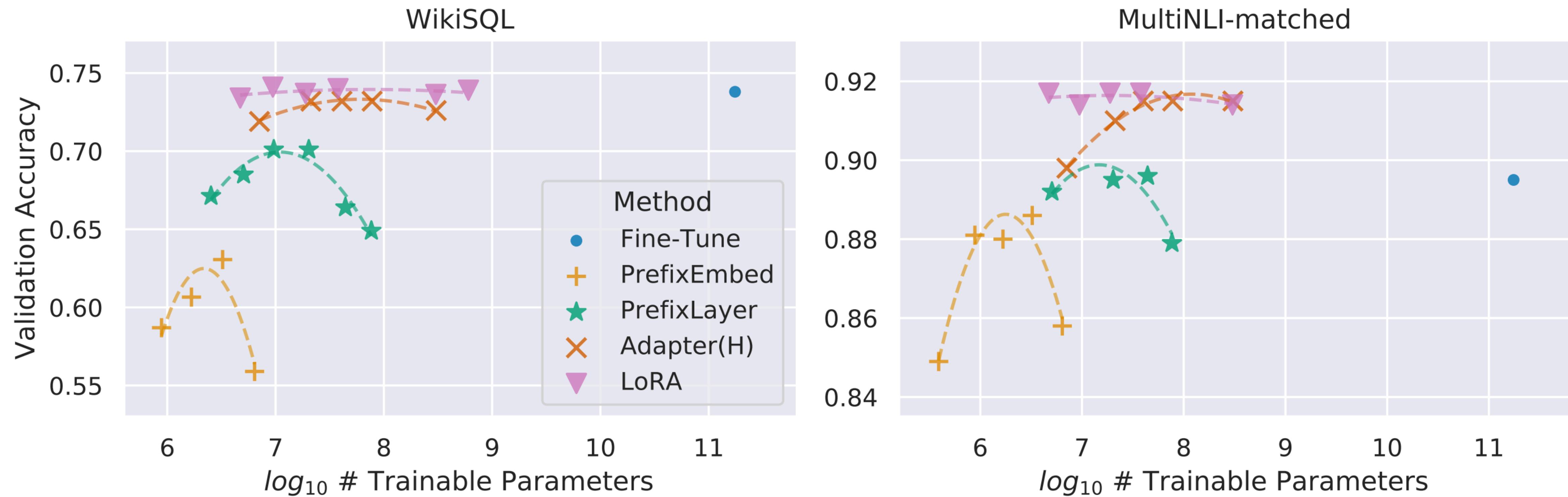


Which weight matrices to use LoRA for?

		# of Trainable Parameters = 18M						
Weight Type	Rank r	W_q	W_k	W_v	W_o	W_q, W_k	W_q, W_v	W_q, W_k, W_v, W_o
WikiSQL ($\pm 0.5\%$)	8	70.4	70.0	73.0	73.2	71.4	73.7	73.7
MultiNLI ($\pm 0.1\%$)	4	91.0	90.8	91.0	91.3	91.3	91.3	91.7

- Generally having both W_q, W_v gives best result (as low as rank 4)
- Only fine-tune on an additional 0.01% extra parameters! (18M/175B for GPT-3)

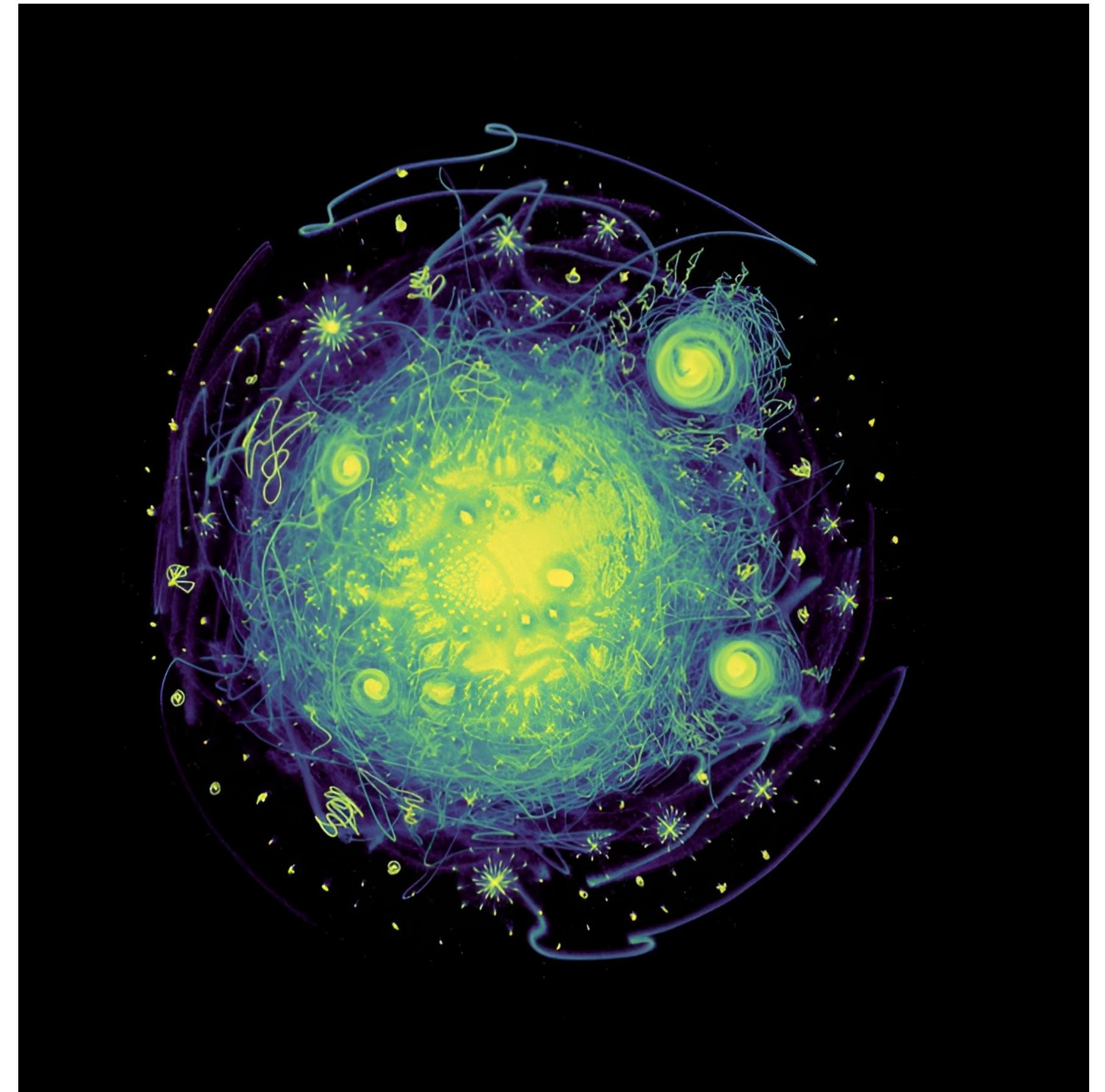
Results



- Note: prefix-tuning approaches start to perform worse when there are too many parameters, hypothesized due to mismatch between input and pre-training data distribution

Why does LoRA work?

- Over-parameterized models have intrinsic low-rank structure after training
- Manifold hypothesis: real-world data lives on a low-dimensional manifold inside a high-dimensional space



One Base Model, Many Adapters

- Can fine-tune many low-rank adapters for different tasks with the same base model
- During inference time, dynamically swap out for appropriate A, B matrices depending on task, while using shared base model weights
- Much cheaper than serving n different full-parameter fine-tuned models!

Startups have been built on this idea



Efficient Fine-Tuning and Serving

Train and deploy task-specific open-source models in record time and under budget.



First-class fine-tuning experience

Predibase offers state-of-the-art fine-tuning techniques out of the box such as quantization, low-rank adaptation, and memory-efficient distributed training to ensure your fine-tuning jobs are fast and efficient—even on commodity GPUs.



The most cost-effective serving infra

With Serverless Fine-Tuned Endpoints and token-based pricing you can stop paying for GPU resources you don't need. Our unique serving infra—LoRAX—lets you cost-effectively serve many fine-tuned adapters on a single GPU in dedicated deployments.



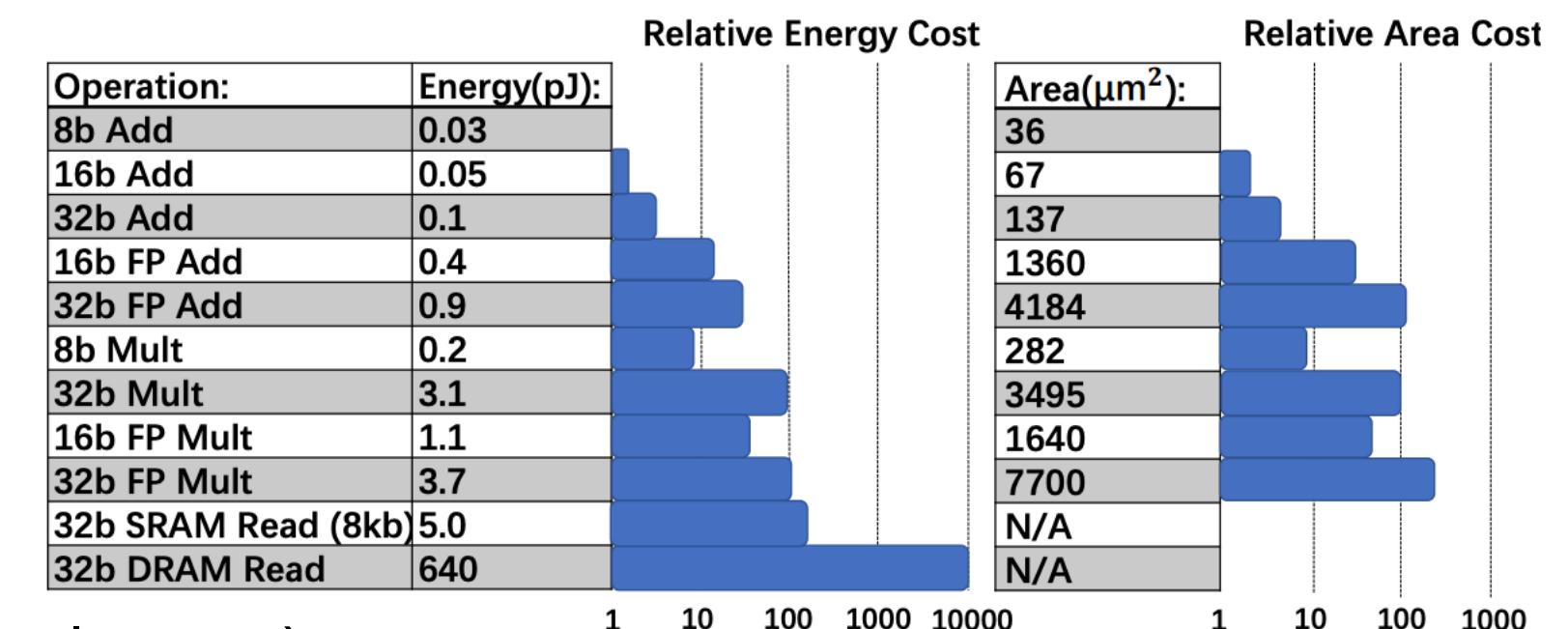
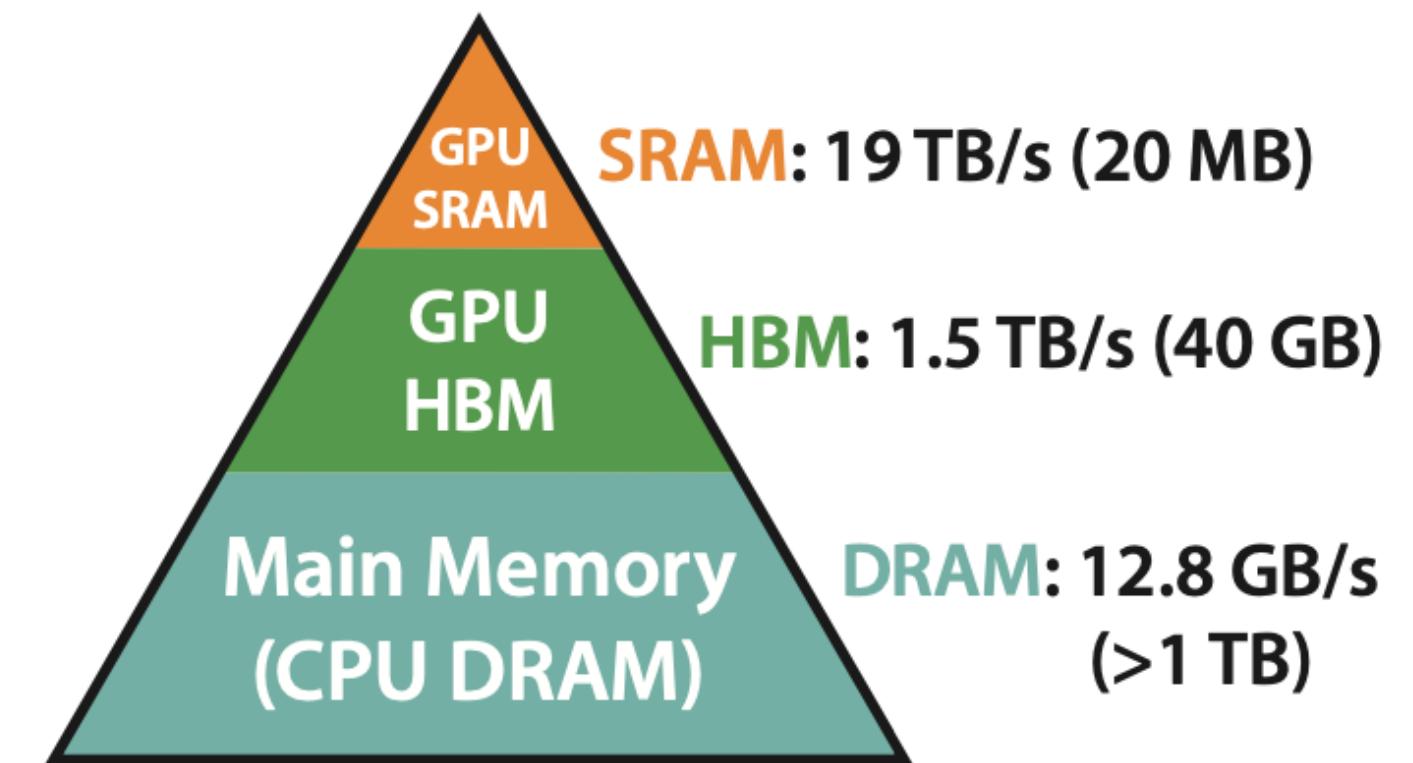
Your Models, Your Property

Start owning and stop renting your LLMs. The models you build and customize on Predibase are your property, regardless of whether you use the Predibase Cloud and Serverless Fine-Tuned Endpoints or deploy inside your VPC.

Quantization

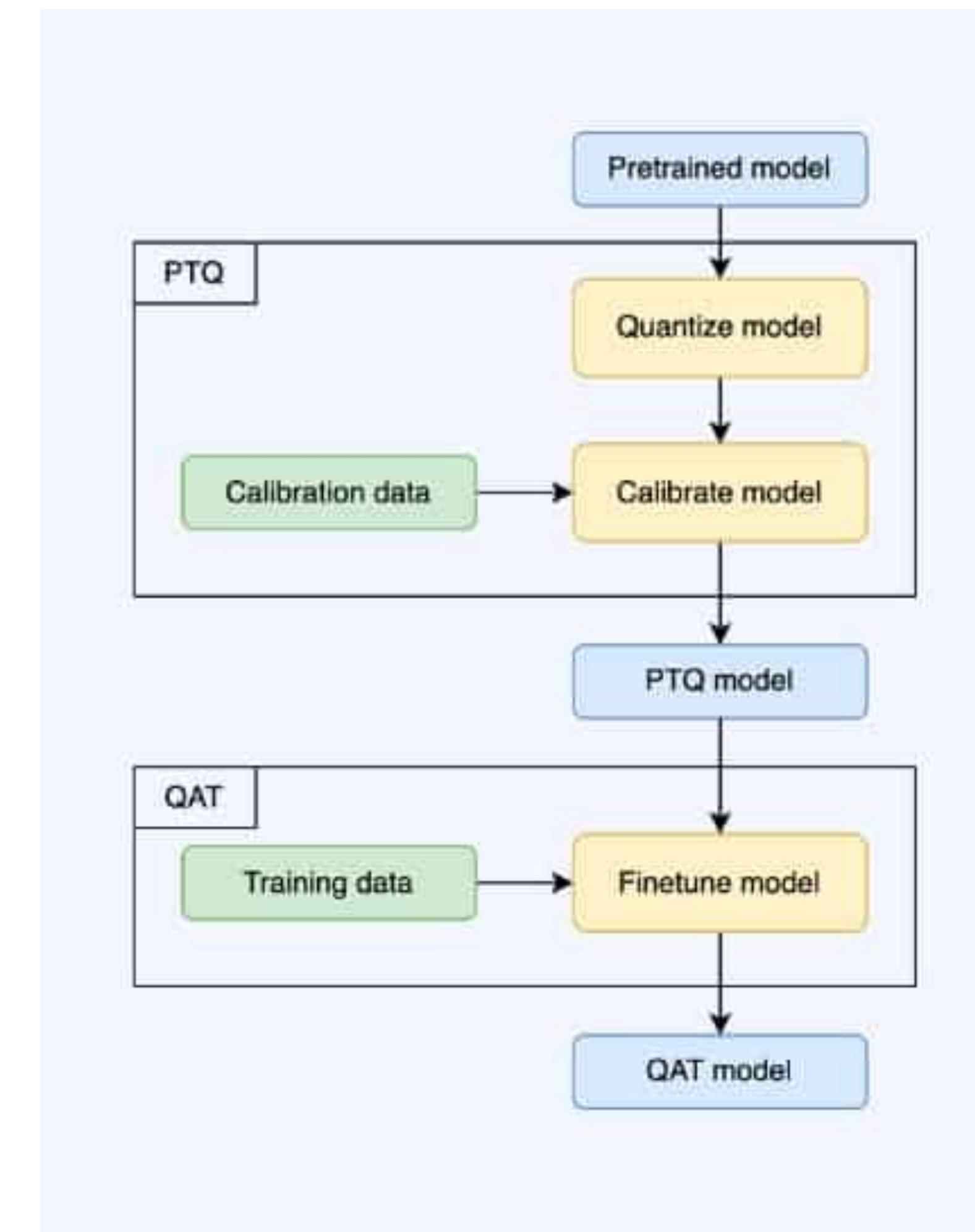
Quantization

- Using a lower-precision quantized representation (i.e INT8 instead of FP32)
- Smaller memory footprint
 - Also less memory traffic, better able to take advantage of GPU memory hierarchy
- Less power consumption
 - Integer ALU faster, smaller, & consume less power than floating point ALUs



Quantization

- 2 main approaches
 - Post-training quantization (PTQ)
 - Quantize model after training
 - Requires calibration
 - Quantization-aware training (QAT)
 - Incorporates quantization while model is training
 - QLoRA
- Calibration: determining range of values that the weights/activations take on for rescaling



Absmax quantization

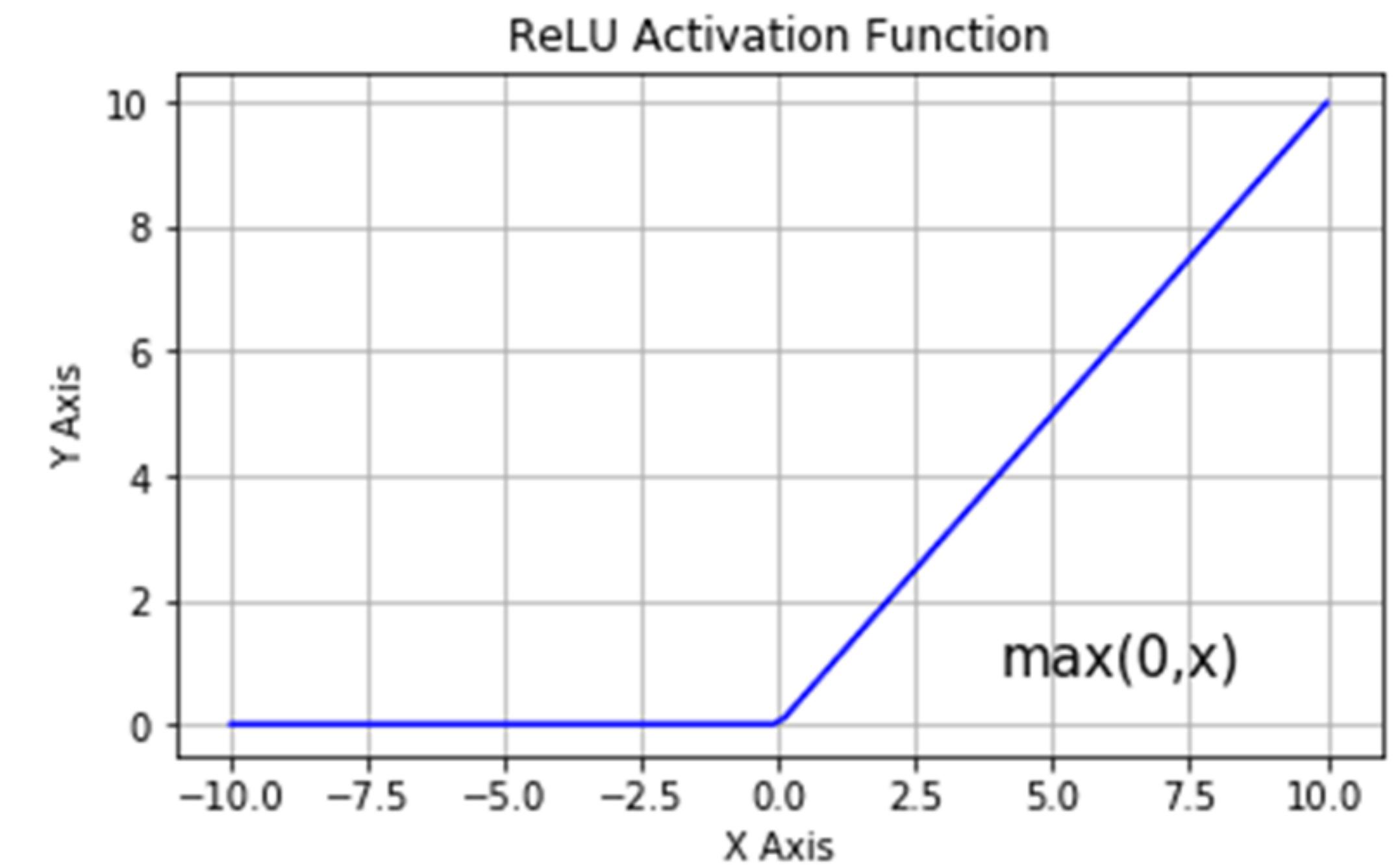
- FP16 input matrix \mathbf{X}_{f16}
- To scale inputs into 8-bit range $[-127, 127]$:
 - Divide by abs maximum of tensor
 - Scale by half of range
- Overall:

$$\mathbf{X}_{i8} = \left[\frac{127 \cdot \mathbf{X}_{f16}}{\max_{ij}(|\mathbf{X}_{f16}_{ij}|)} \right] = \left[\frac{127}{\|\mathbf{X}_{f16}\|_\infty} \mathbf{X}_{f16} \right] = \left[s_{x_{f16}} \mathbf{X}_{f16} \right]$$

where $[]$ denotes rounding to nearest integer

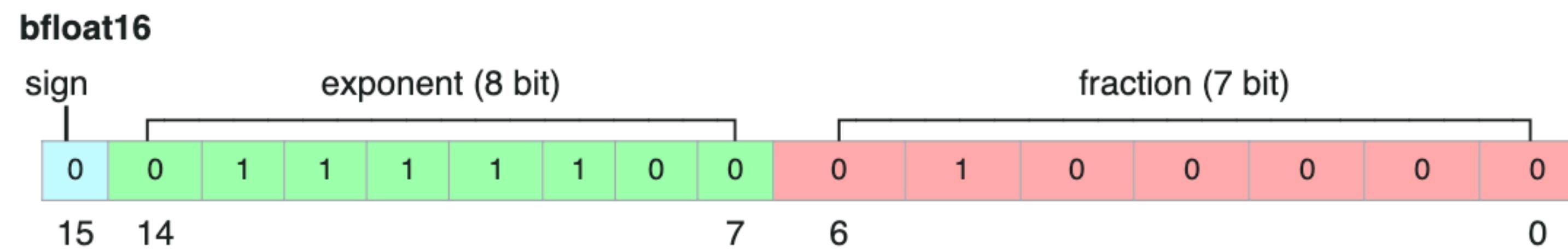
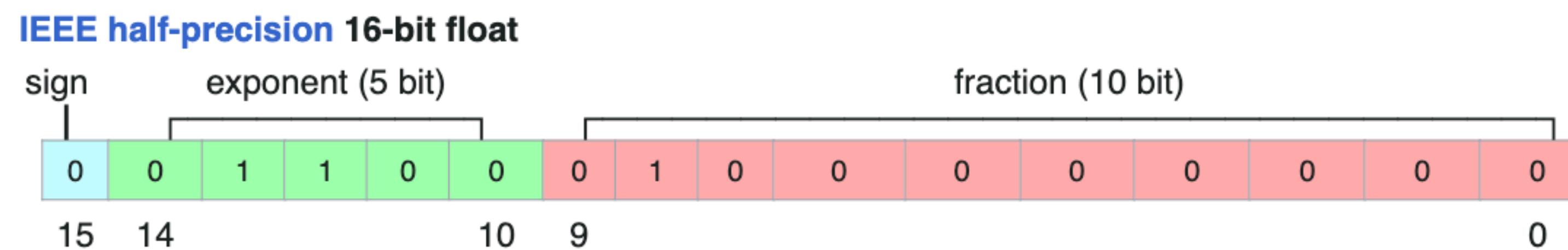
Zeropoint quantization

- Absmax quantization wasteful for asymmetric distributions
 - I.e ReLU activations never use negative values
 - Instead: scale by range, then offset by smallest value to make sure all values in range are used
 - There are SIMD instructions to do this efficiently (i.e PMADDUBSW)



bfloat16

- Use more bits for exponents to sacrifice significand precision
 - Supports wider range of values



Pop Quiz

What are these animals?

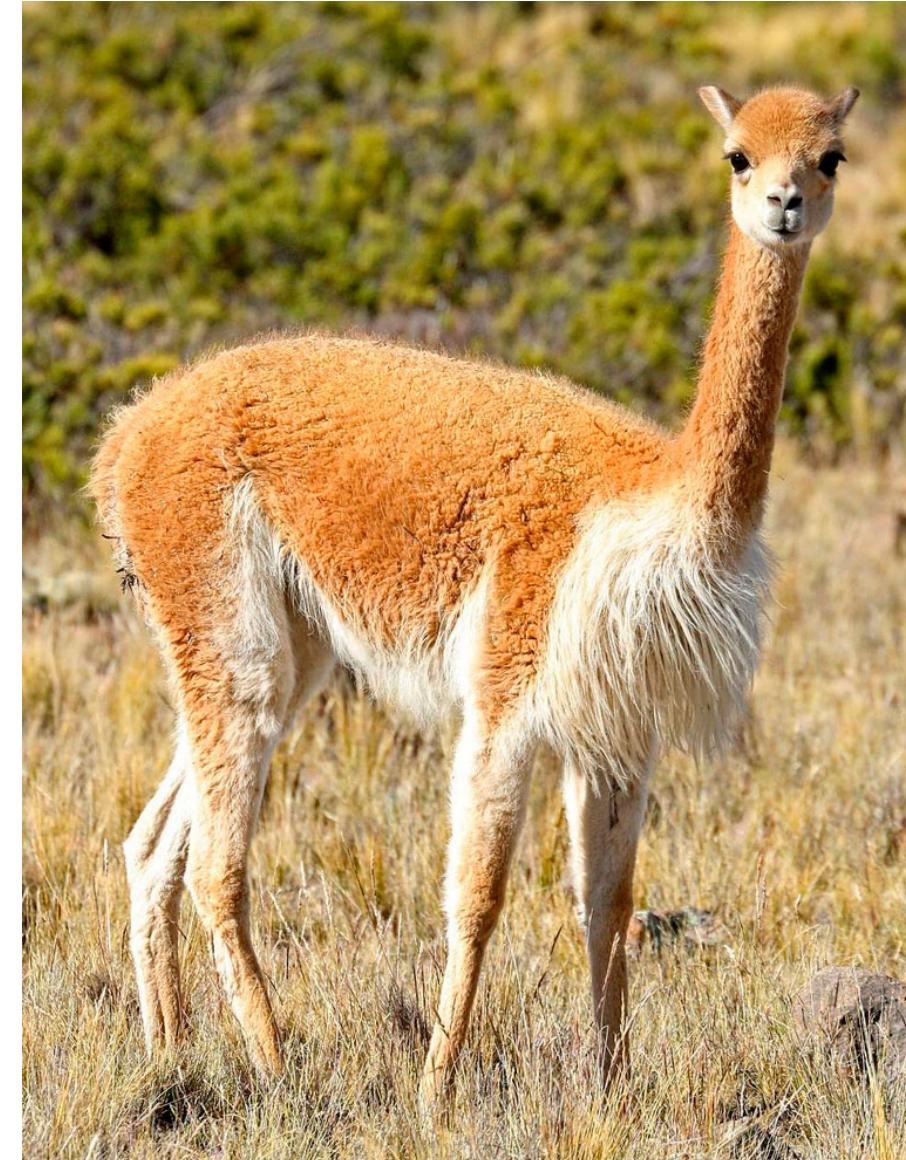


Pop Quiz

They are all named after LLMs!



Llama (Meta)



Vicuna (LMSYS)



Guanaco (QLoRA)



Alpaca (Stanford)

Block-wise Quantization

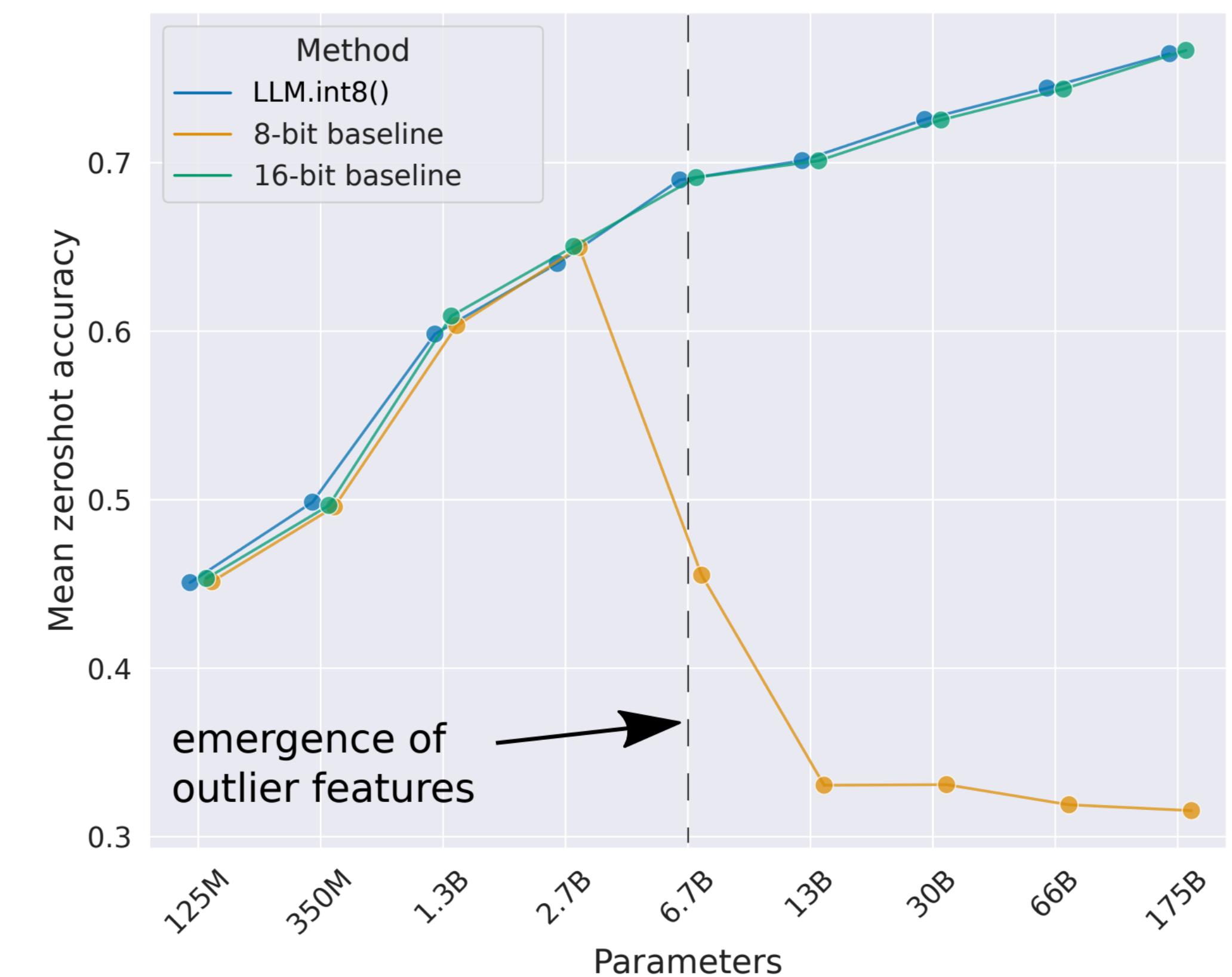
- Large outlier features in tensors can cause common small magnitude values to lose a lot of accuracy (quantization error)
- Non-linear quantization methods can address this, but at significant computational cost
- Solution: block-wise quantization
 - Split tensor into blocks
 - Quantize each block independently
 - Improves quantization precision by isolating outliers

Vector-wise Quantization

- We can apply the same idea for tensors
- Suppose we have hidden states $\mathbf{X}_{f16} \in \mathbb{R}^{b \times h}$ and weights $\mathbf{W}_{f16} \in \mathbb{R}^{h \times o}$
- Computing $\mathbf{X}_{f16}\mathbf{W}_{f16}$ requires computing the dot product of each row of \mathbf{X}_{f16} against each column of \mathbf{W}_{f16}
- We can perform absmax quantization for each row and column for \mathbf{X}_{f16} and \mathbf{W}_{f16} respectively, with normalization constants $\mathbf{c}_{x_{f16}}, \mathbf{c}_{w_{f16}}$ respectively
- $\mathbf{C}_{f16} \approx \frac{1}{\mathbf{c}_{x_{f16}} \otimes \mathbf{c}_{w_{f16}}} \mathbf{C}_{i32} = \frac{1}{\mathbf{c}_{x_{f16}} \otimes \mathbf{c}_{w_{f16}}} Q(\mathbf{A}_{f16}) Q(\mathbf{B}_{f16})$

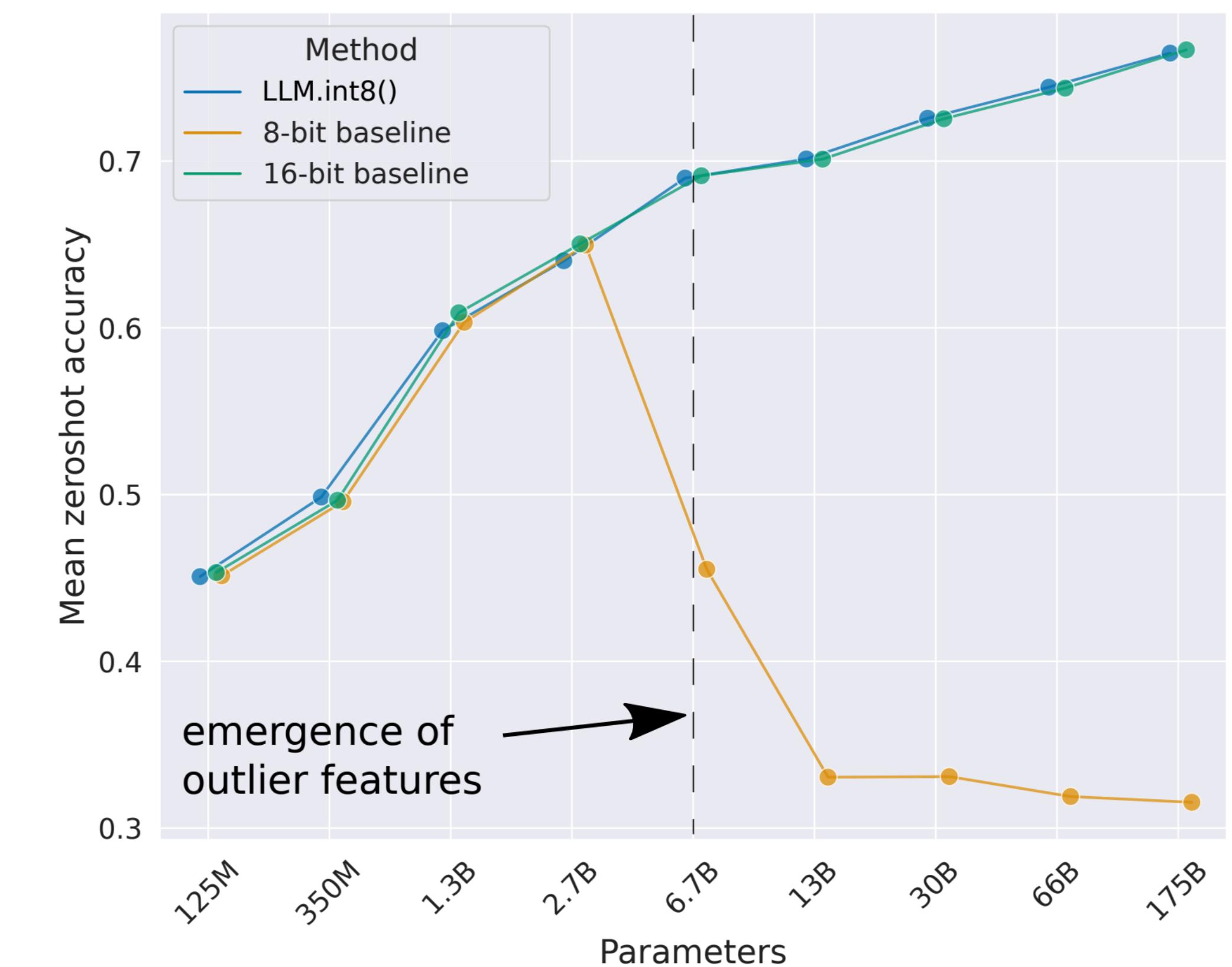
Outlier Features

- As model size increases beyond 6.7B, emergence of sparse but large magnitude outlier features ruin quantization precision
- What if we just throw outlier features away?



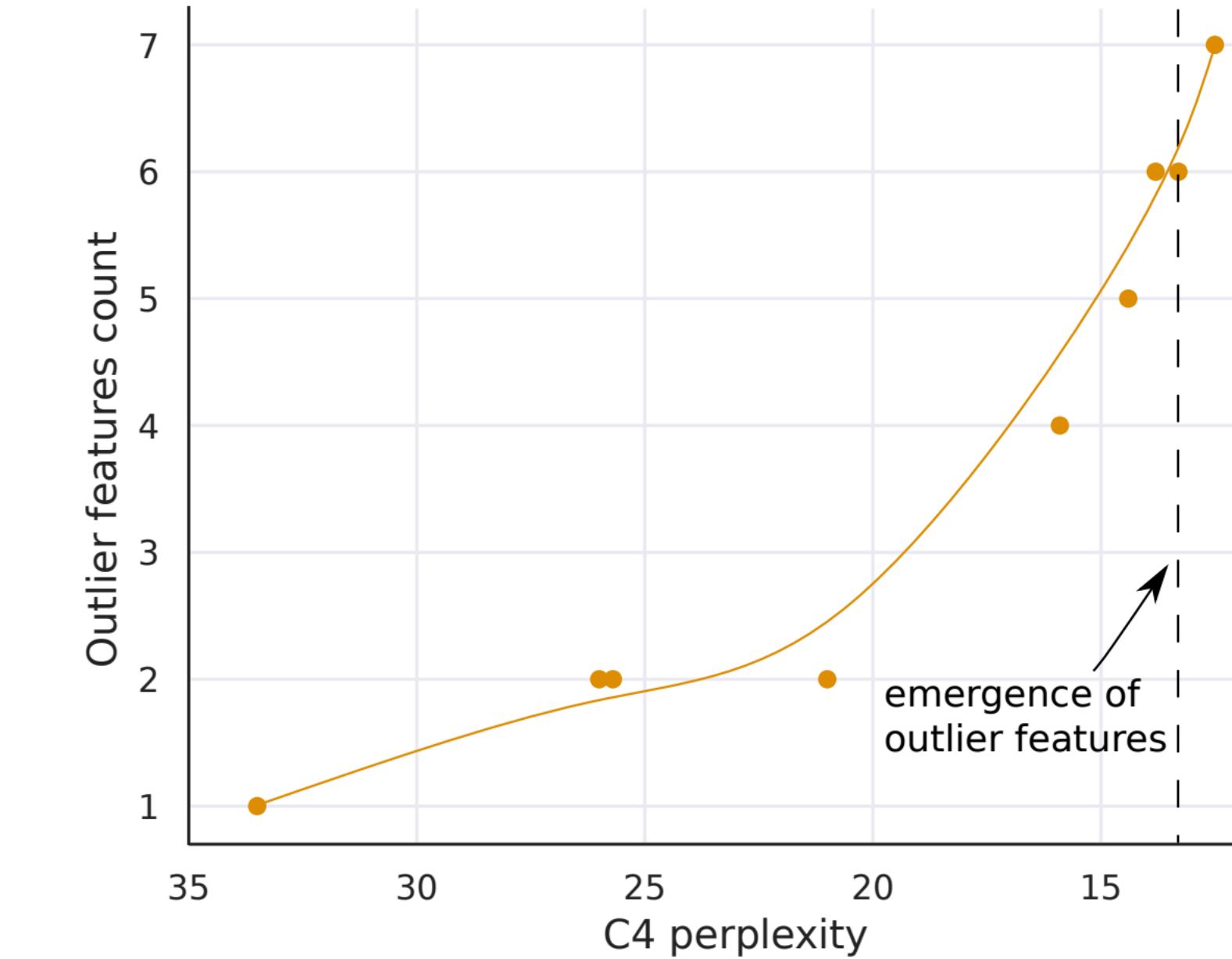
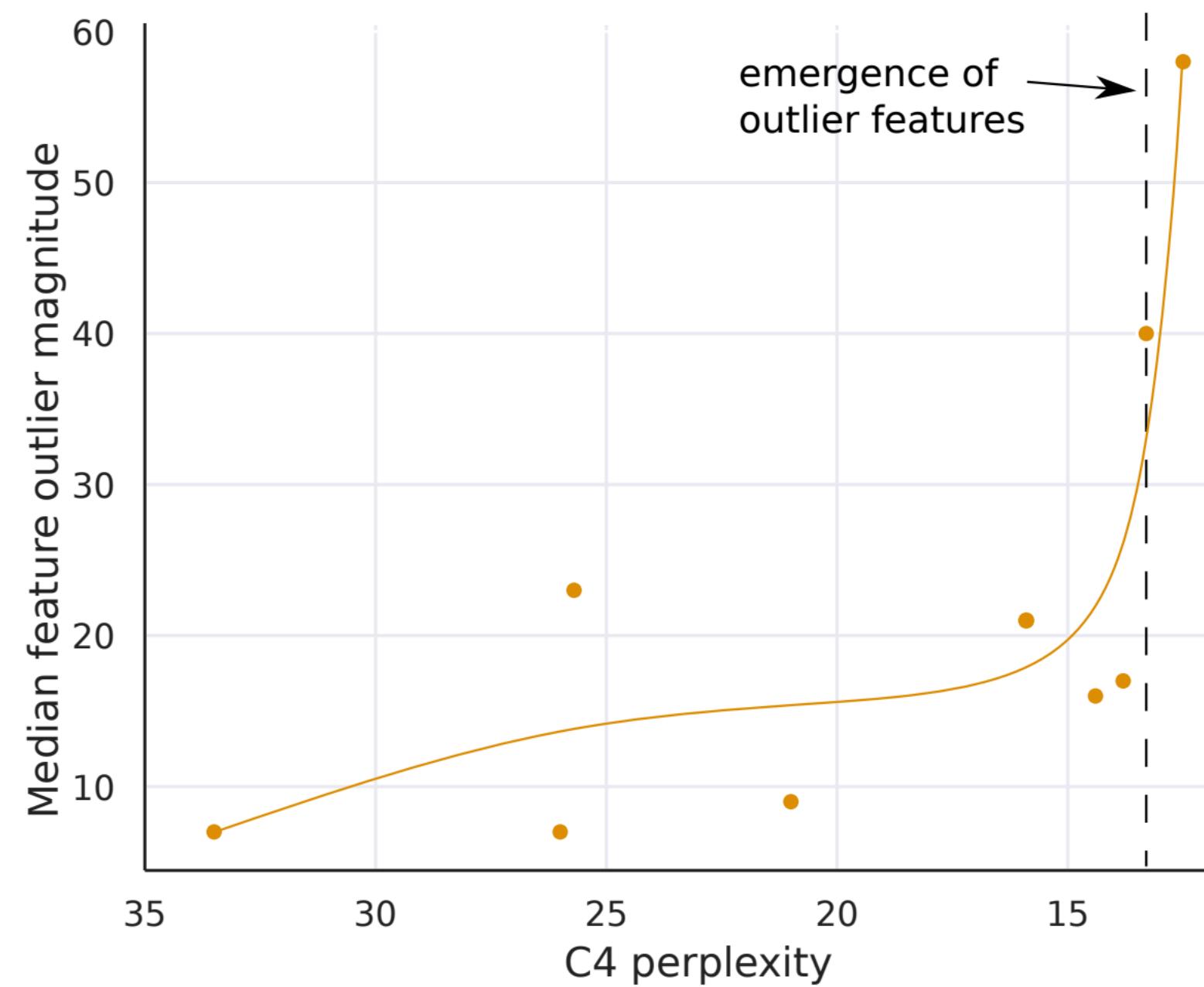
Outlier Features Are Essential

- At 6.7B, 150k outliers occur per sequence concentrated along 6 feature dimensions
- Setting these to 0 causes validation perplexity to increase by 600-1000% despite being only 0.1% of input features
- In contrast, setting same amount of random features to 0 only degrades perplexity by 0.1%



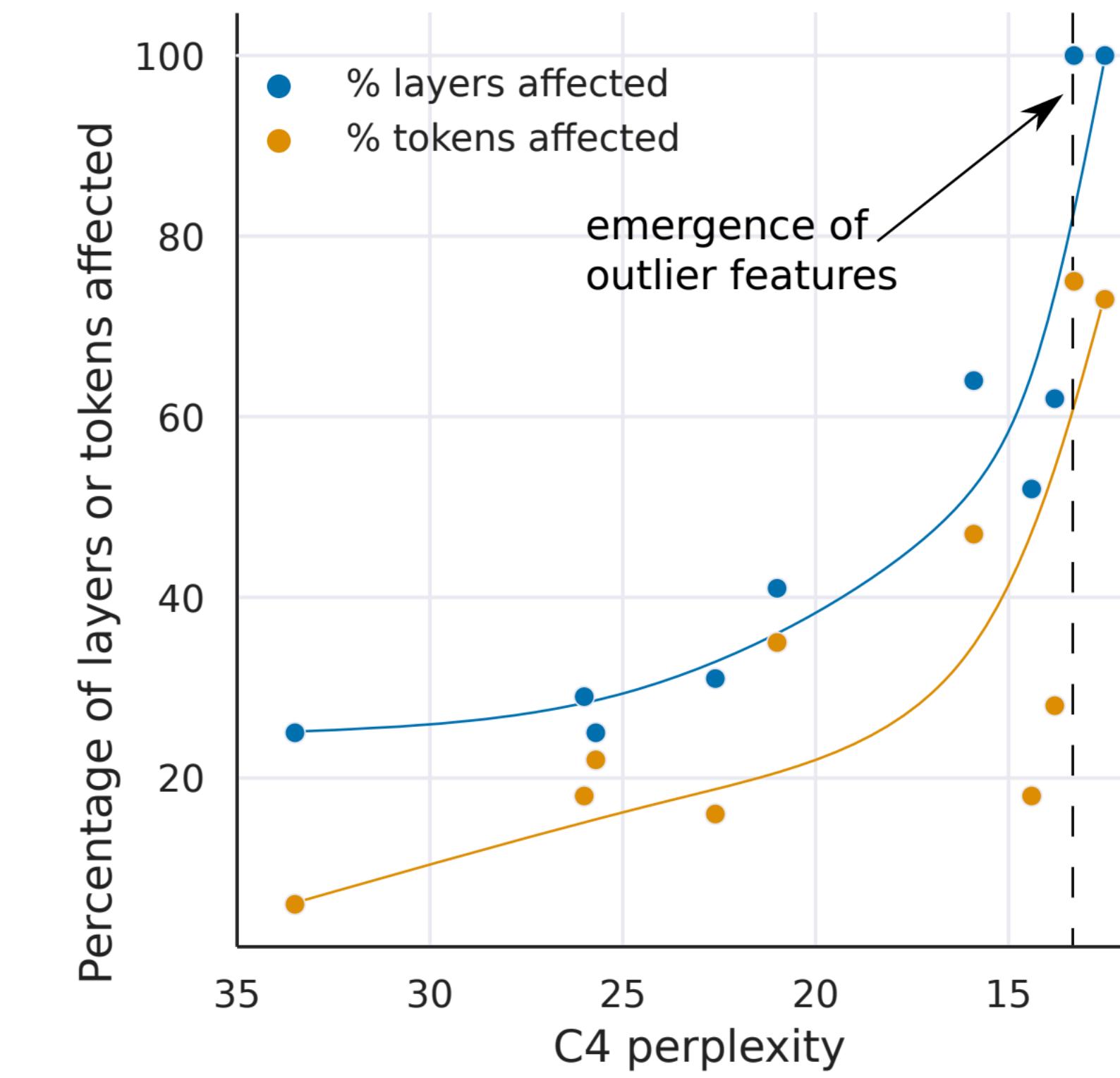
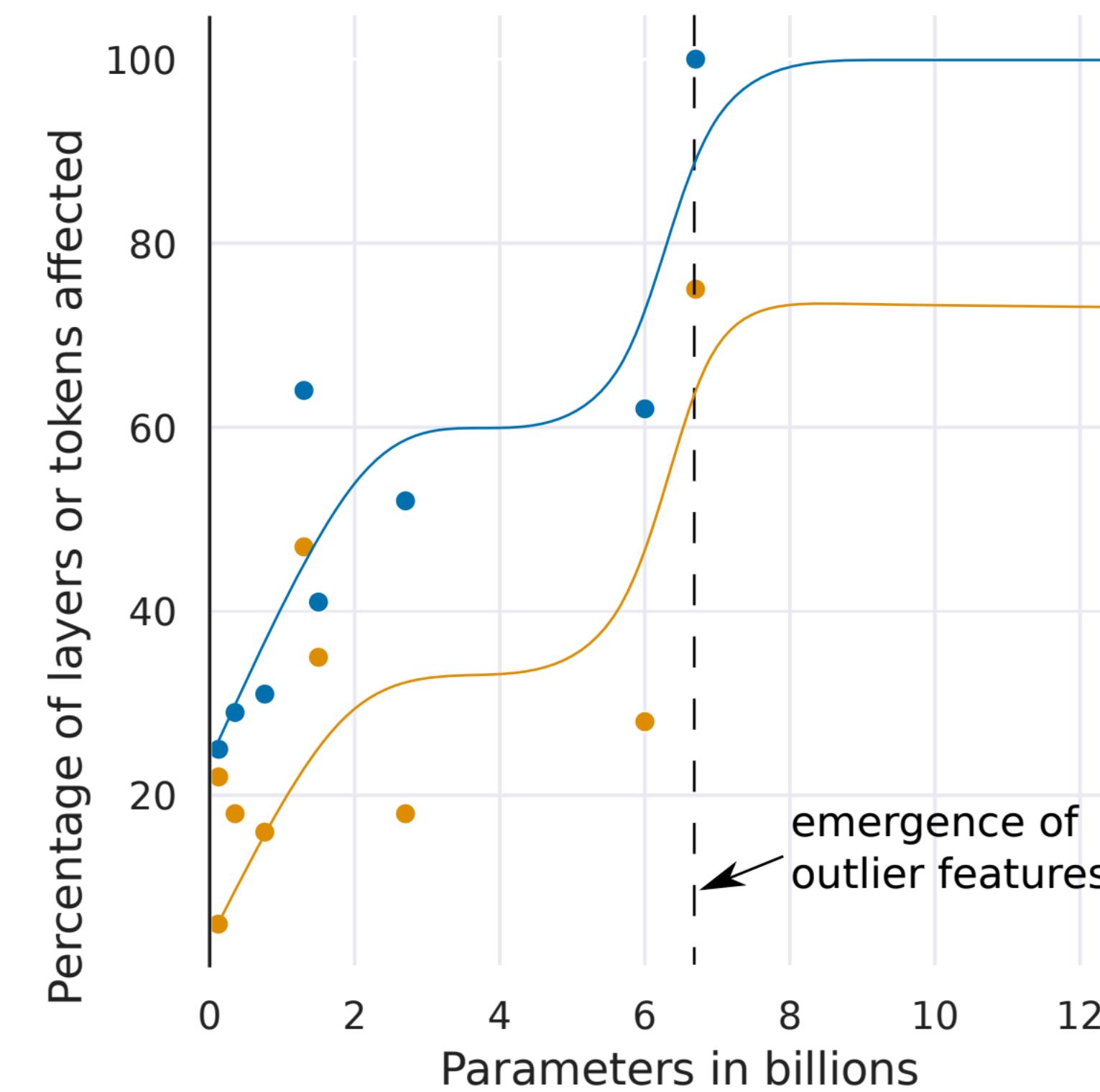
Outlier Features Are Huge

- As evaluation perplexity decreases, outlier features also blow up in magnitude & further ruins quantization precision
- Fortunately outlier features are rare



Outlier Features Affects Almost All Layers and Tokens

- Almost all layers and 75% tokens affected by outlier features beyond 6.7B
- Not actually a phase shift but smooth transition when measured against perplexity



Solution: mixed precision

- Simple solution: Don't quantize dimensions with outlier features!

- Let O be the set of all outlier feature dimensions

- Then

$$\mathbf{C}_{f16} \approx \sum_{h \in O} \mathbf{X}_{f16}^h \mathbf{W}_{f16}^h + \frac{1}{\mathbf{c}_{x_{f16}} \otimes \mathbf{c}_{w_{f16}}} \cdot \sum_{h \notin O} \mathbf{X}_{i8}^h \mathbf{W}_{i8}^h$$

- Only ~7 outlier feature dimensions for Transformers up to 13B, so only adds 0.1% additional memory

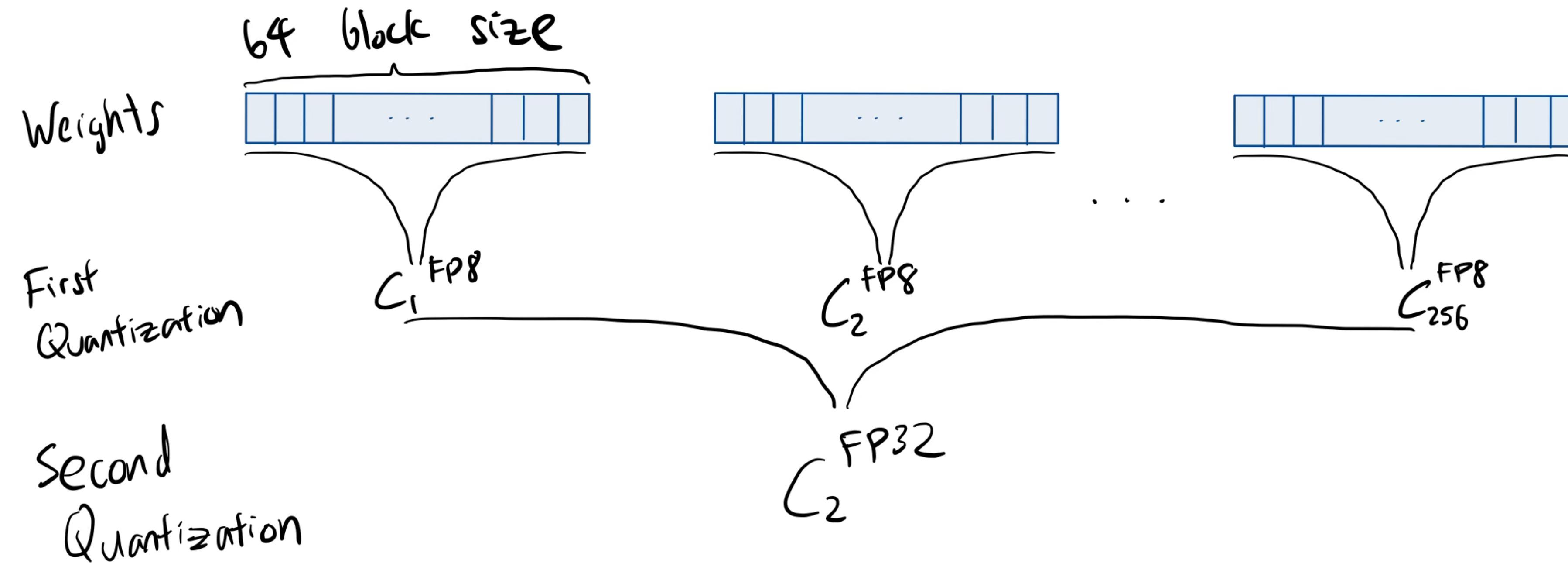
QLoRA

- Most of LoRA memory usage not from adapter parameters, but from activation gradients
 - I.e LLaMA 7B batch size 1: input gradients take up 567 MB but LoRA parameters only use 26 MB
- Marginal savings from trying to use fewer adapter parameters
- They really wanted to fine-tune LLaMA 70B on just 2 consumer GPUs but LoRA requires 154 GB memory -> 8x consumer GPUs

Double Quantization

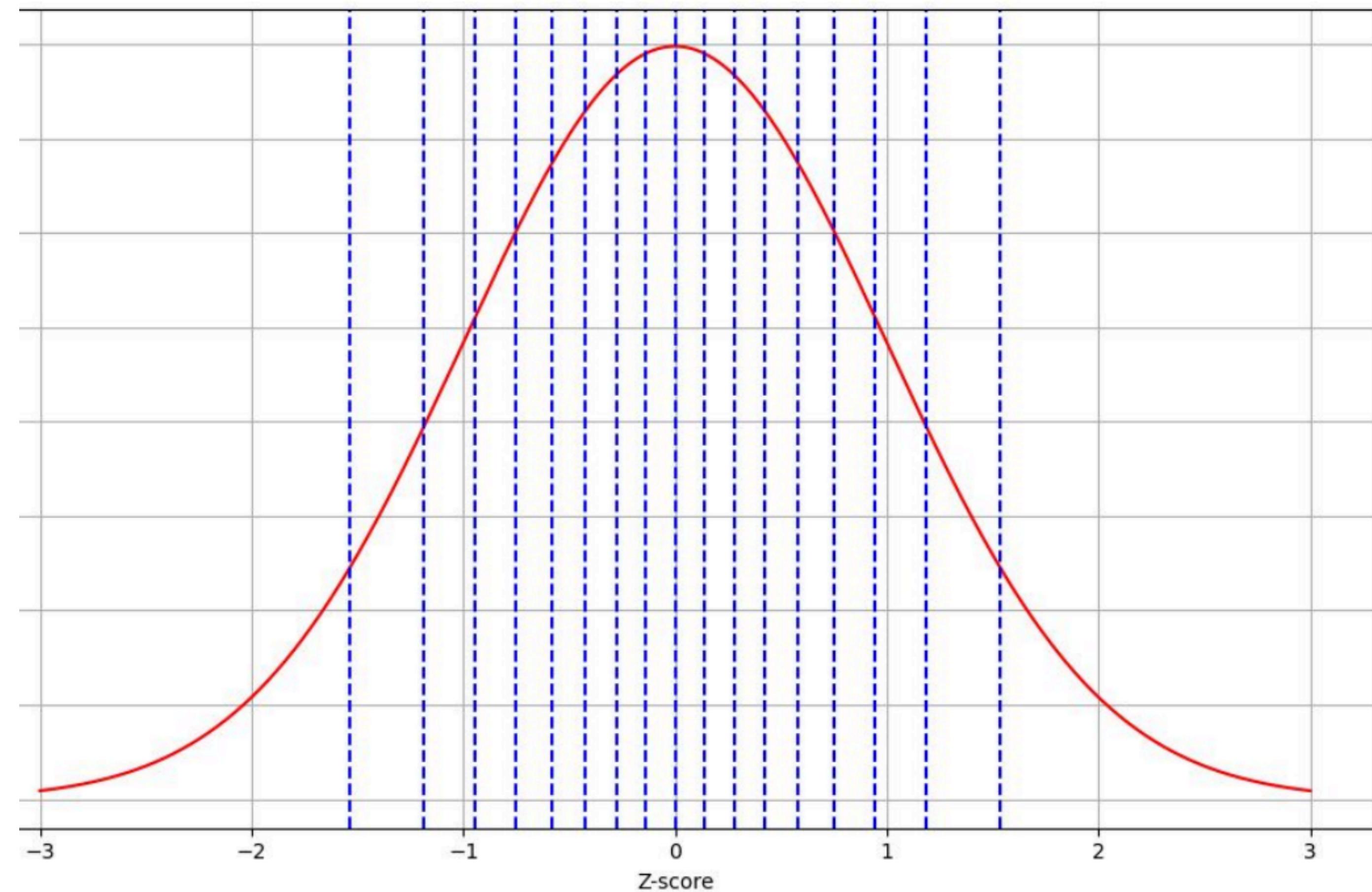
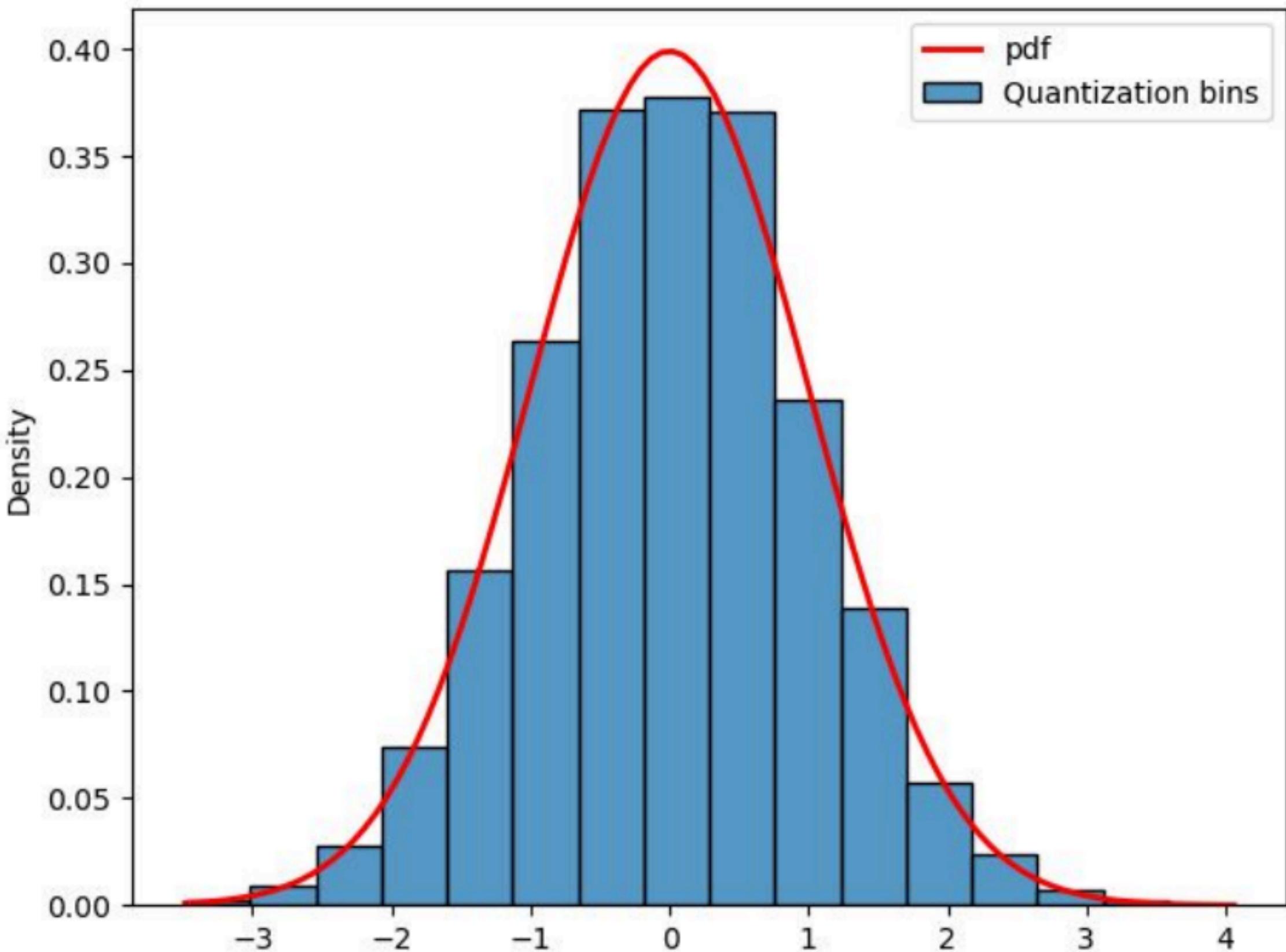
- Block-wise quantization require scaling constants to be saved for each block
- Smaller blocks help reduce effect of outliers, but requires higher memory usage
 - I.e block size of 64 with 32-bit scaling constants gives 0.5 bits/ parameter memory overhead
- Solution: quantize the quantization constants!

Double Quantization



- Memory overhead: $8/64 + 32/(64 \cdot 256) = 0.127$ bits per parameter, reduction of 75%

4-bit NormalFloat (NF4)



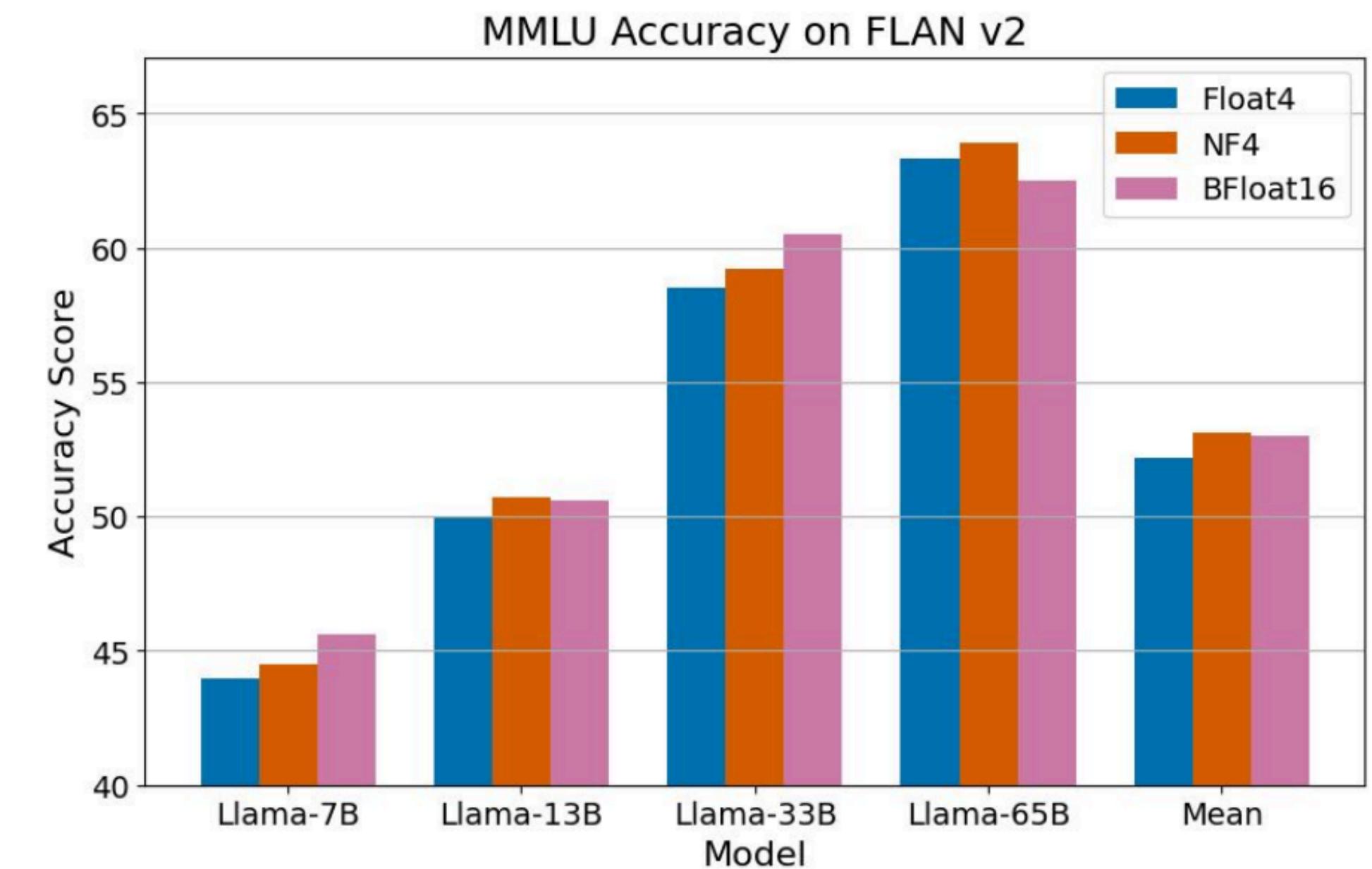
QLoRA

- Recall LoRA: $h = W_0x + BAx$

- QLoRA:

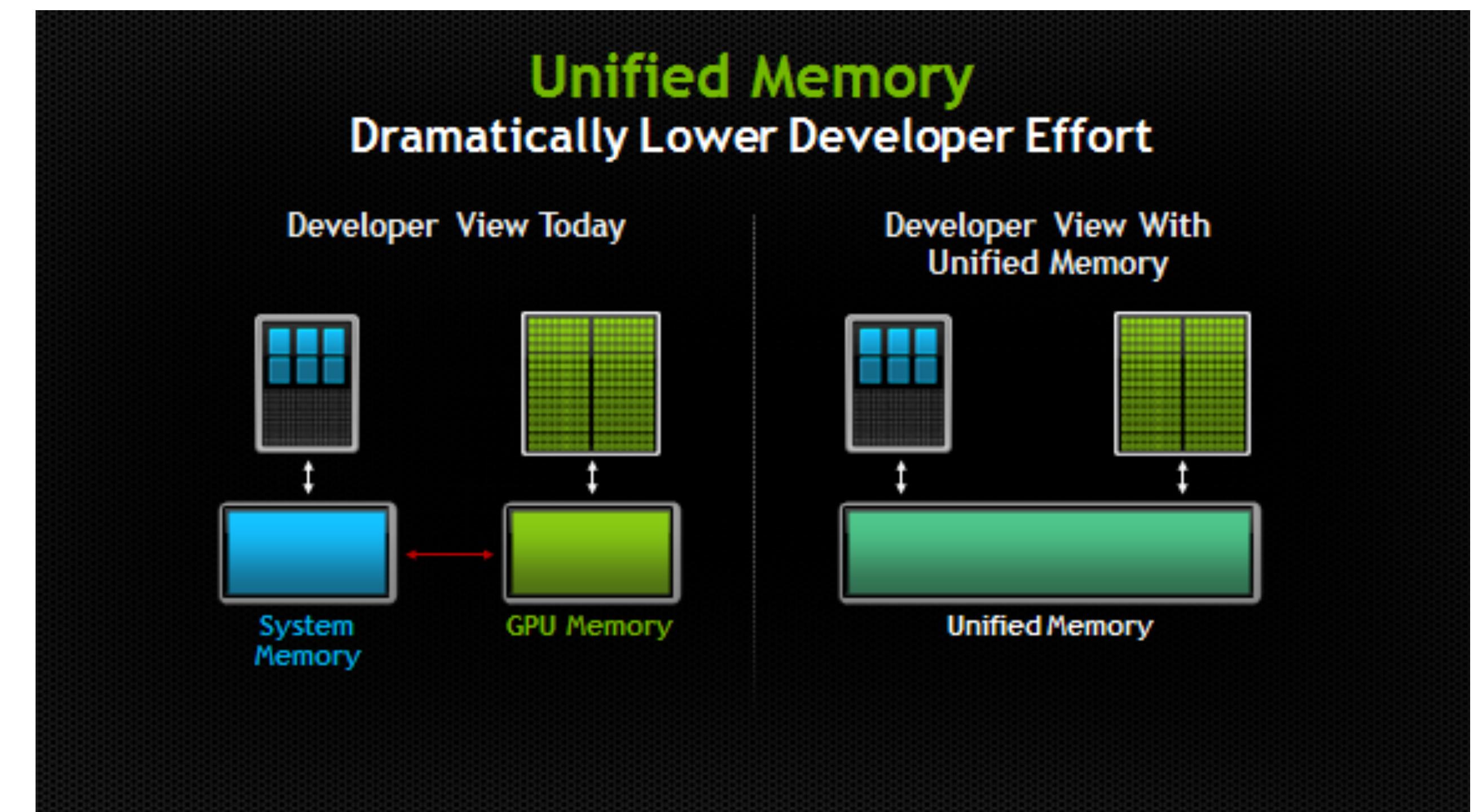
$$\mathbf{Y}^{\text{BF16}} = \mathbf{X}^{\text{BF16}} \text{doubleDequant} \left(c_1^{\text{FP32}}, c_2^{\text{k-bit}}, \mathbf{W}^{\text{NF4}} \right) + \mathbf{X}^{\text{BF16}} \mathbf{L}_1^{\text{BF16}} \mathbf{L}_2^{\text{BF16}}$$

- Inputs and adapter parameters remain in BF16
- Replicates performance of BF16 fine-tuning!



Paged Optimizers

- Memory spikes during training (i.e with long sequence length inputs) can cause GPU OOM
- They introduced paged optimizers to page optimizer state information between GPU and CPU memory



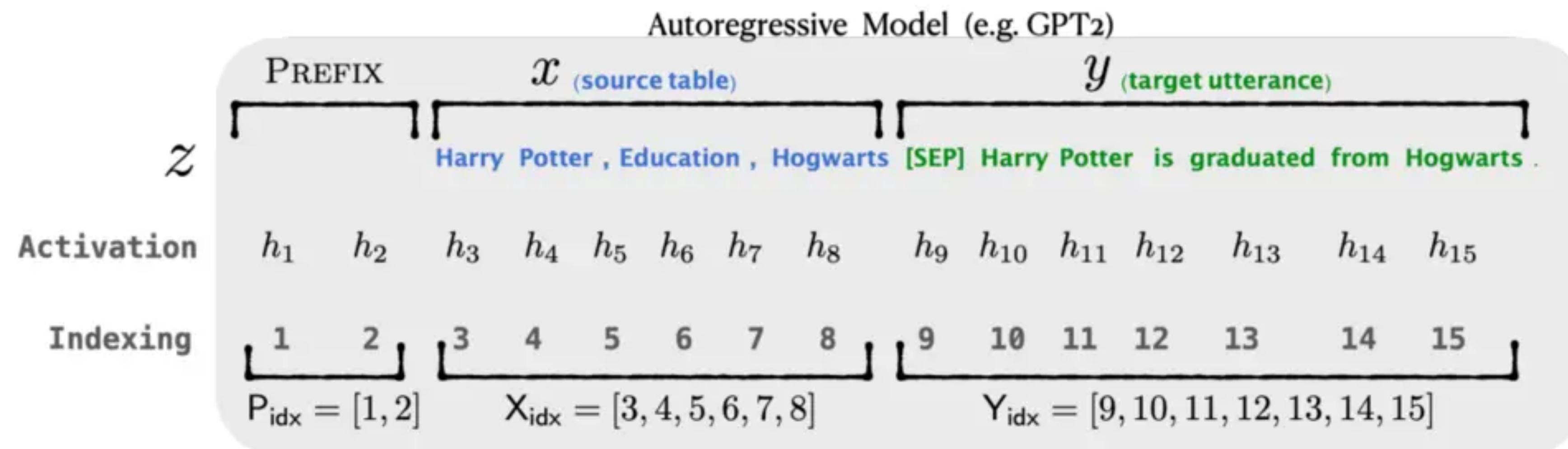
Prefix Tuning

Prefix Tuning

- Alternative approach to adapters for parameter-efficient fine-tuning
- Suppose you have a task with inputs x and outputs y (i.e text summarization)
- Could use in-context learning to do this, but:
 - Require coming up with prompt that the model can reliably follow
 - Hard to optimize prompts
 - Optimization over discrete tokens computationally challenging in general

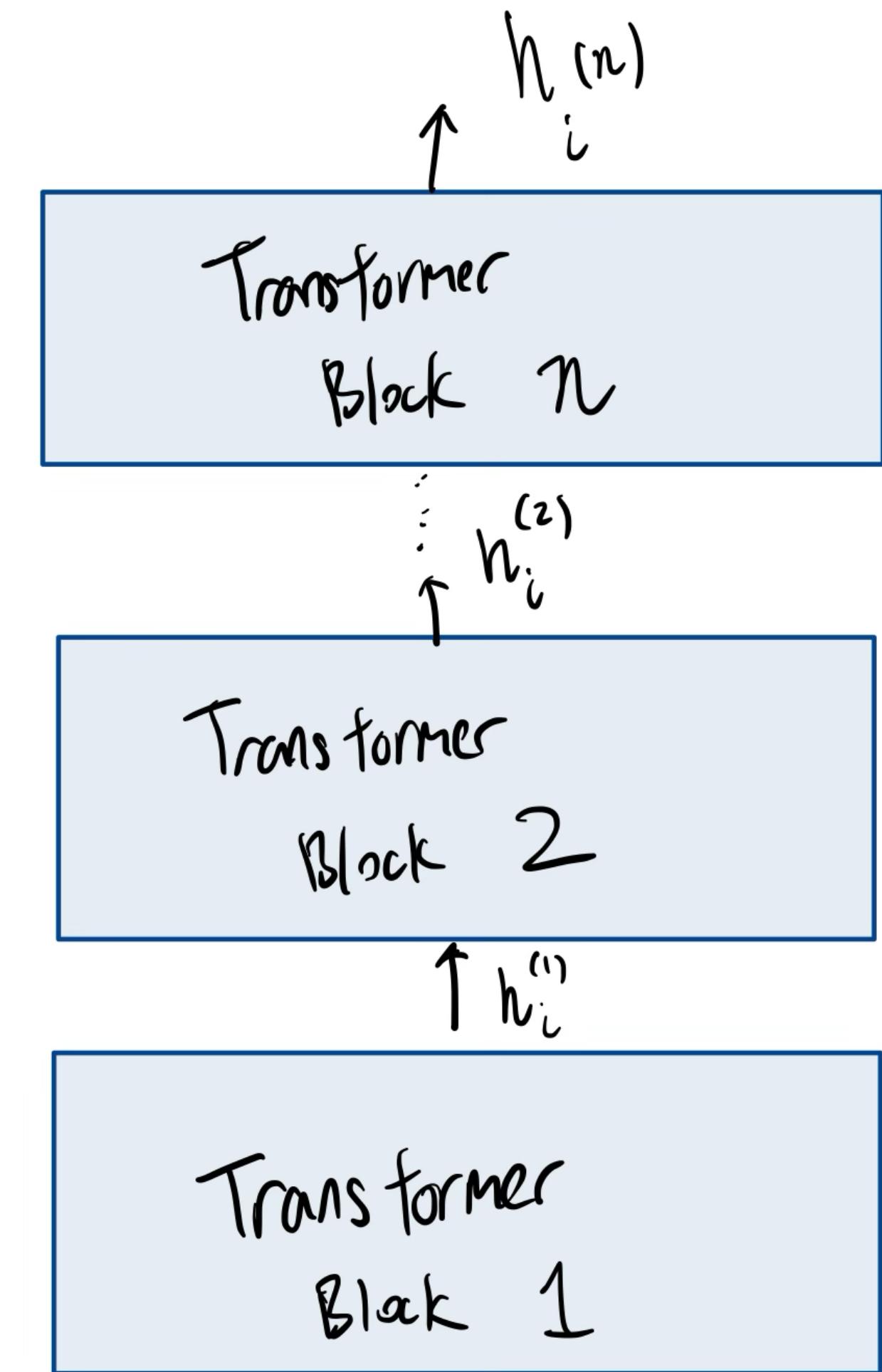
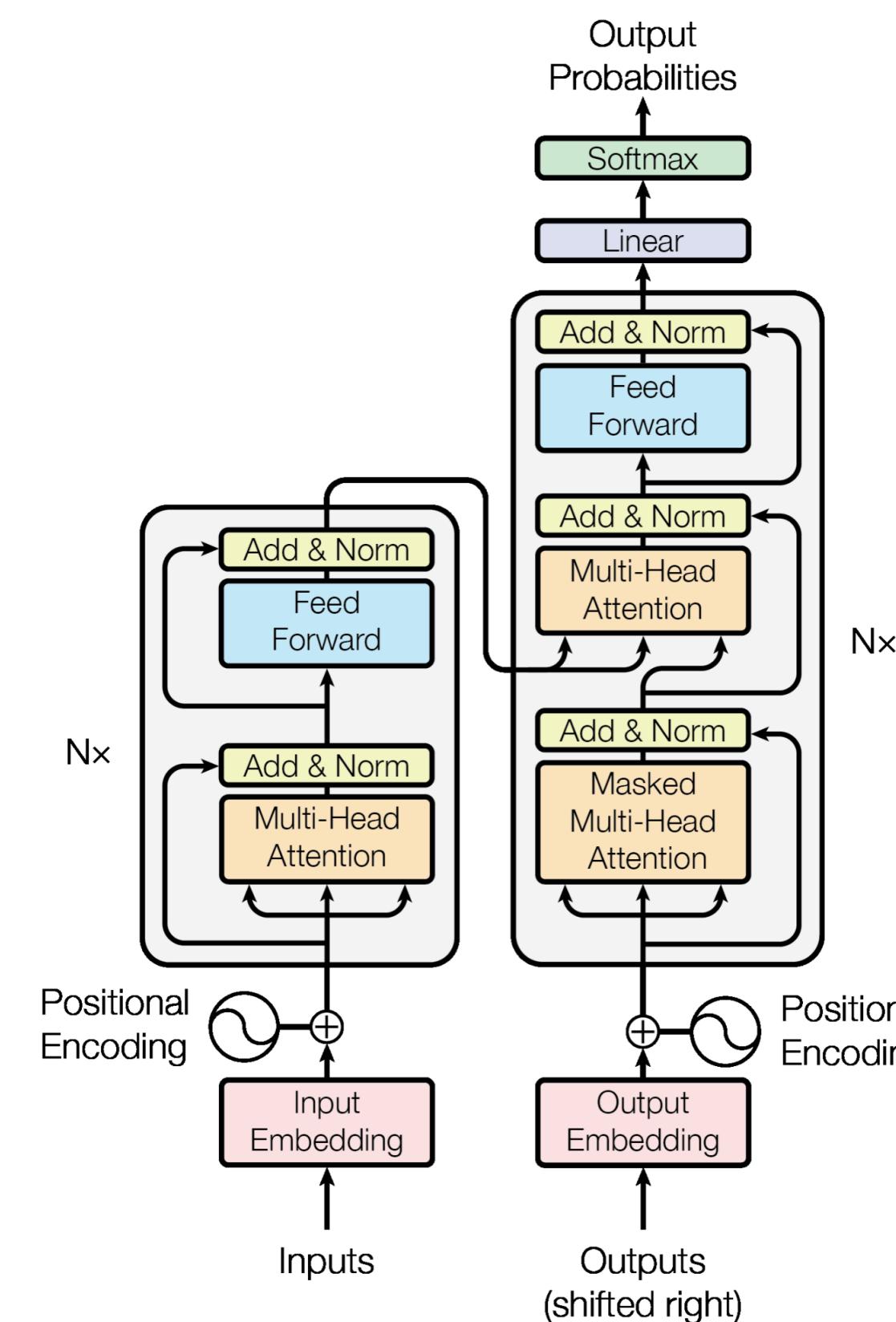
Prefix Tuning

- In prefix-tuning, you add a prefix of activations to all Transformer layers

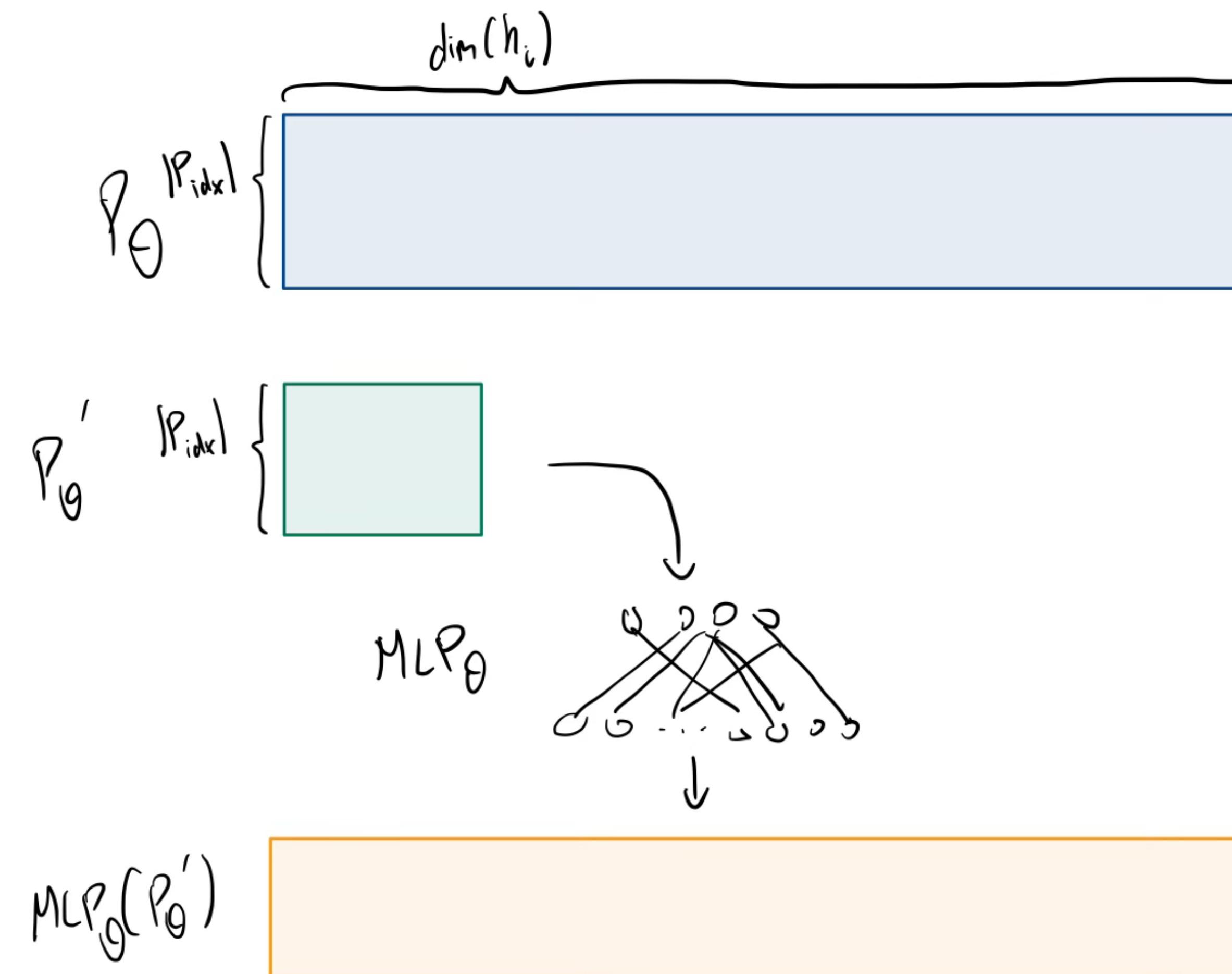


Learning Hidden Activations

- For each of the prefix indices $i \in P_{\text{idx}}$, want to learn activations $h_i^{(1)}, h_i^{(2)}, \dots, h_i^{(n)}$



Training Stability Mitigation



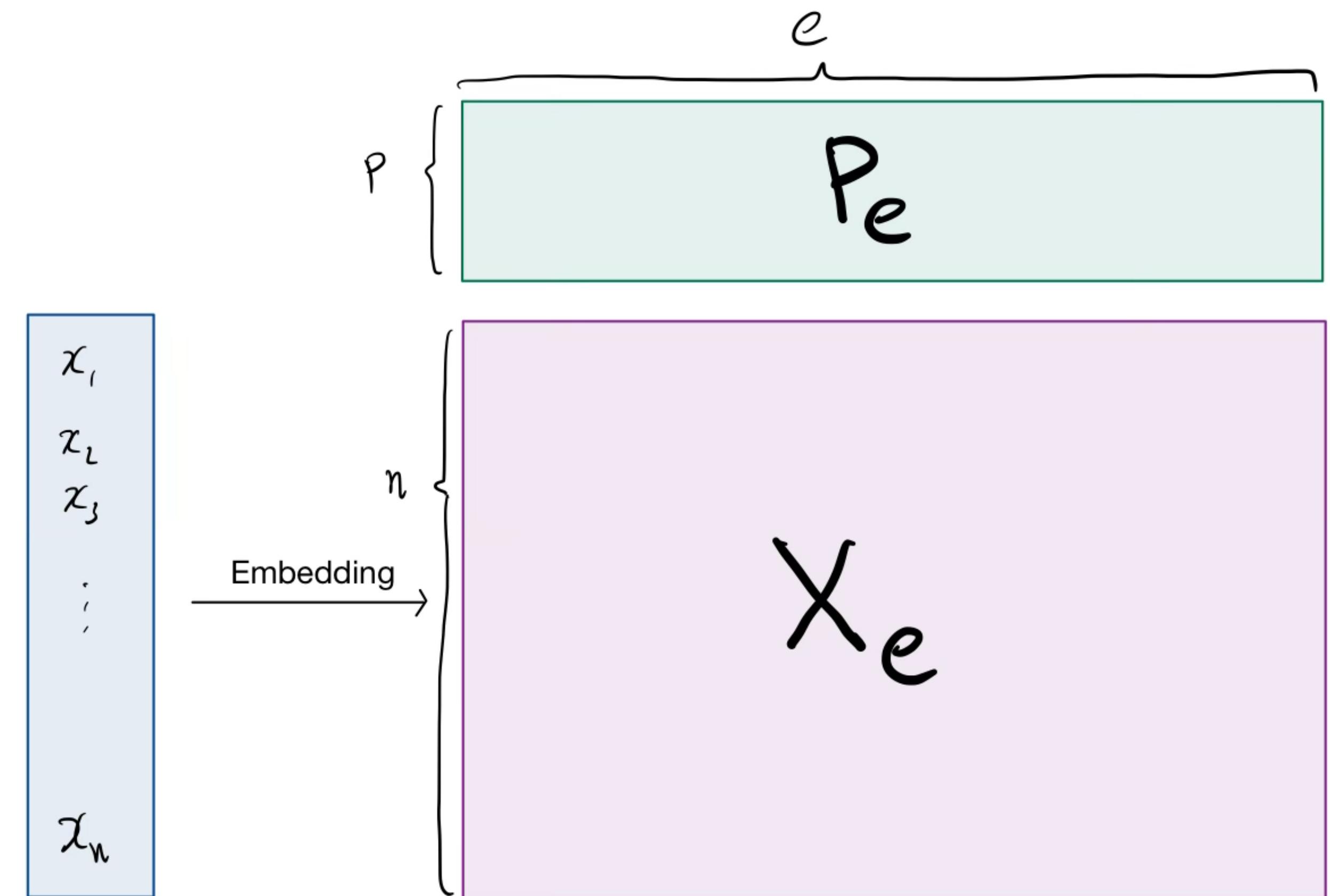
Prompt Tuning

Prompt Tuning

- Concurrent work with prefix-tuning
- Instead of learning a prefix of activations, you learn a prefix of “soft prompts”
- In normal prompting: provide series of tokens which are embedded into vectors
- Soft prompting: learn a length- p prefix of embeddings

Prompt Tuning

- Input tokens x_1, \dots, x_n embedded into matrix $X_e \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times e}$
- Learn length p soft prompt $P_e \in \mathbb{R}^{p \times e}$
- Transformer input: concatenated input $[P_e; X_e]$
- Learn P_e by backpropagation



Conclusion

Summary

- Techniques to reduce parameters required for fine-tuning:
 - Adapter-based
 - Prefix/prompt tuning
- Techniques to further reduce memory requirement:
 - Quantization