

Snow Leopard Conservation with Deep Learning

Mark Hamilton + Rhetick Sengupta

marhamil@microsoft.com

rheticks@microsoft.com



Snow
Leopard
Trust



MMLSpark
aka.ms/mmlspark

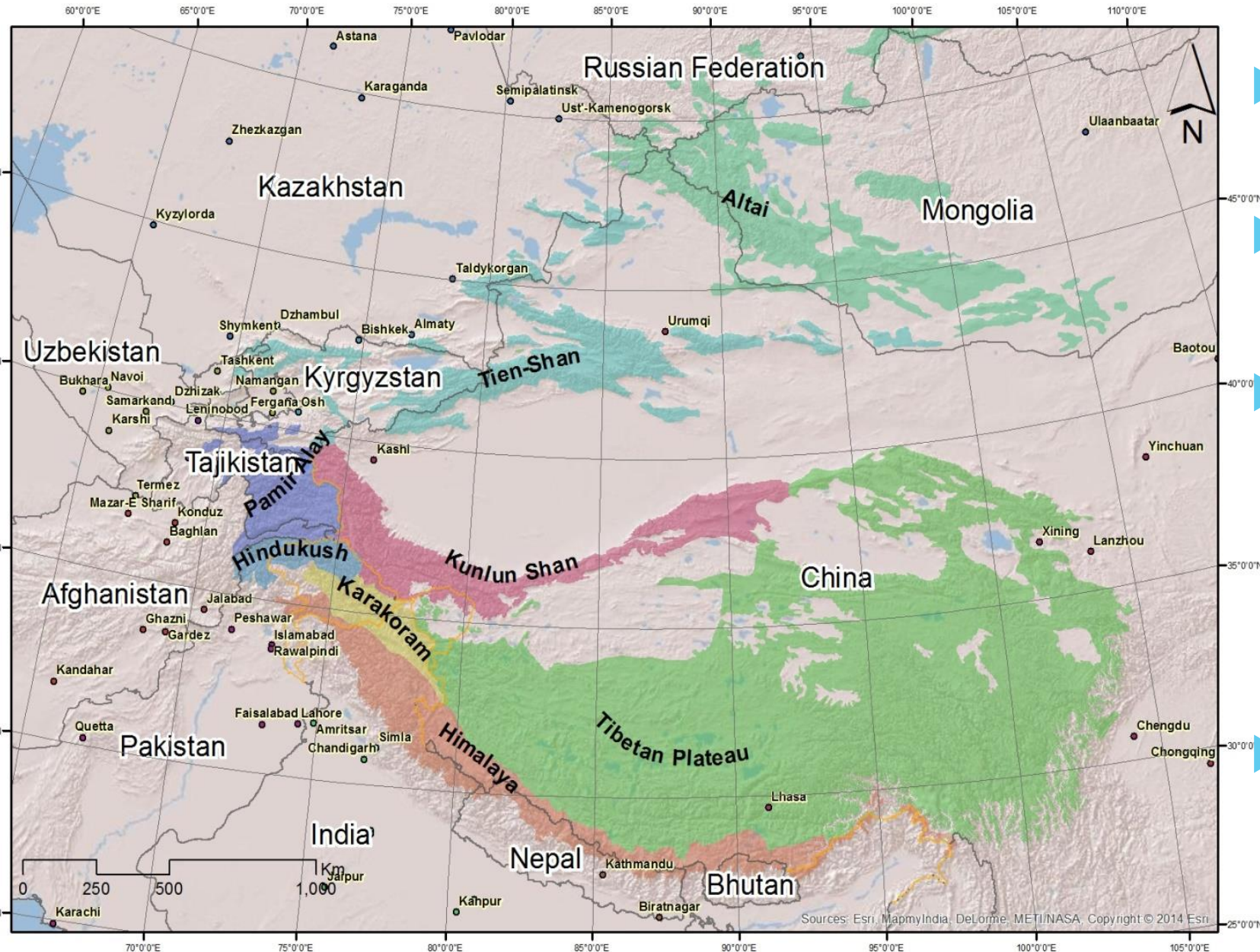




Snow
Leopard
Trust



Habitat



- ▶ 3,900-6,500 individuals left in the wild
- ▶ Range spread over 1.5 million km^2
- ▶ Little known about their ecology, behavior, movement patterns, survival rates
- ▶ More data required to influence survival

Threats



Mining



Poaching



Retribution Killing

Community Based Conservation



Snow leopard no longer 'endangered'

14 September 2017



Share



Statement on IUCN Red List Status Change of the Snow Leopard

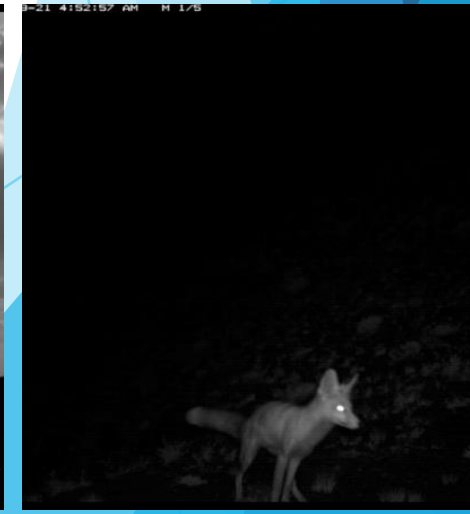
The Snow Leopard Trust, one the leading conservation organizations working to protect this cat, opposes the IUCN's decision to change the snow leopard's Red List status from 'Endangered' to 'Vulnerable'.

Camera Trap Images

Manually classifying 20k images took 300 hours



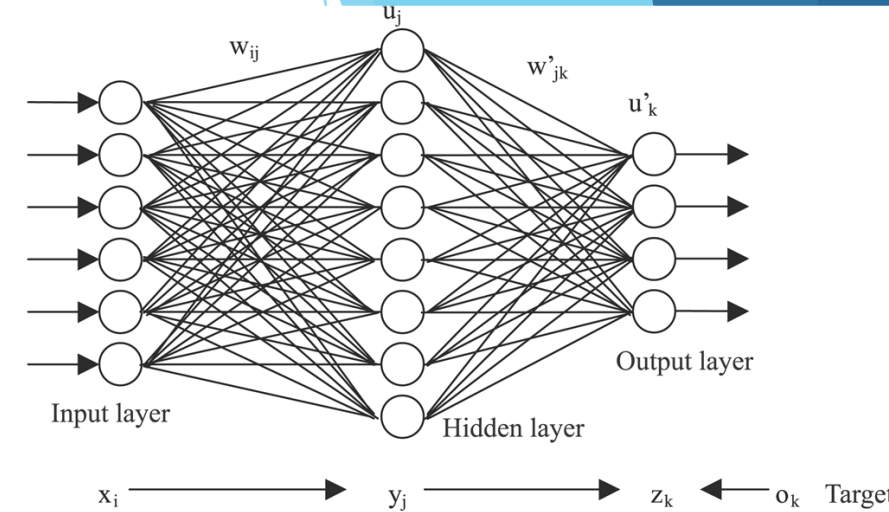
1.3 million will take 19,500 hours

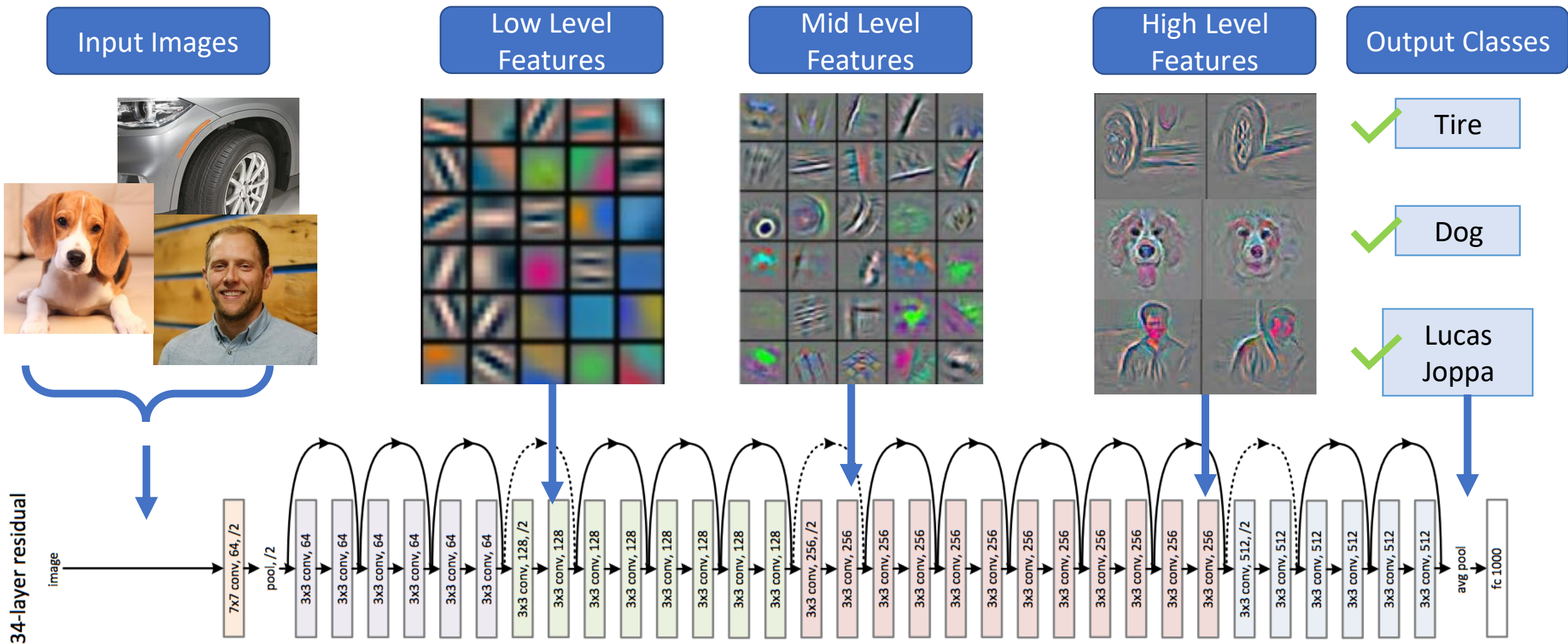




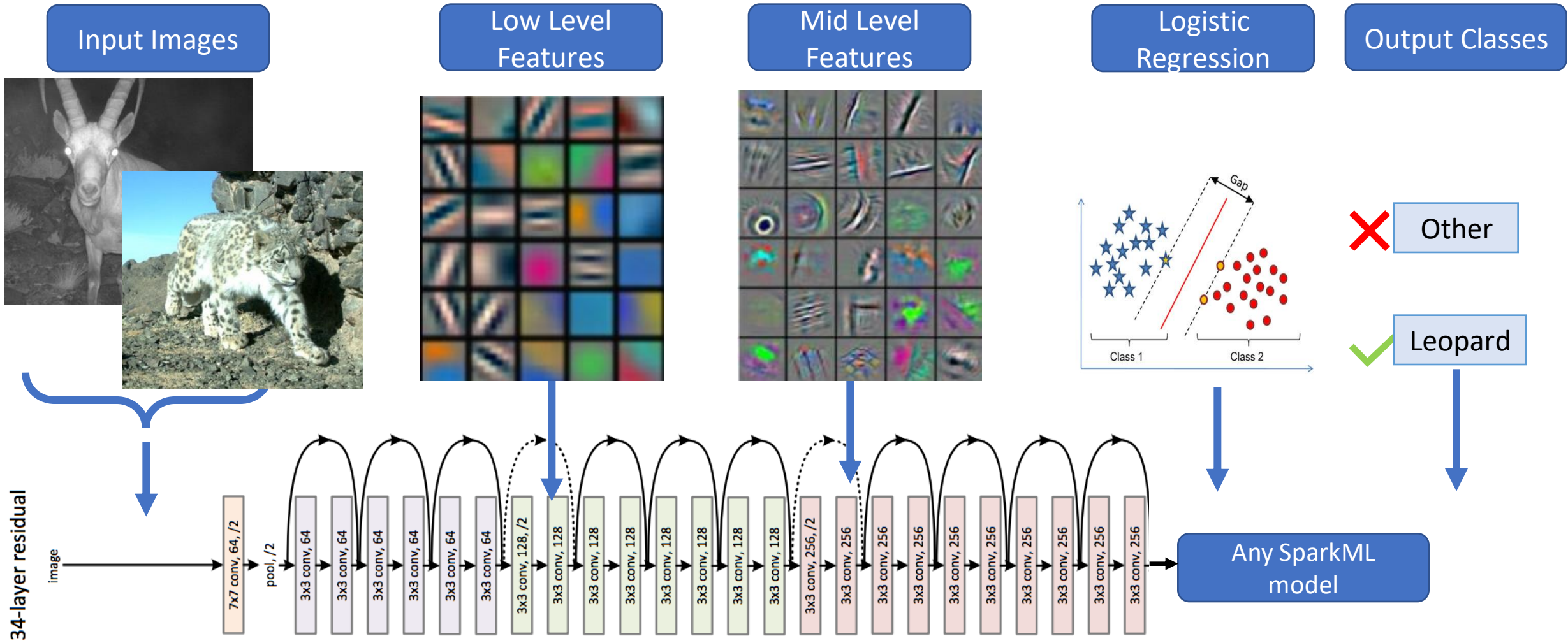
Deep Learning

- ▶ Brain-like algorithms trained with gradient descent
- ▶ Has become a recent favorite because:
 - ▶ Spectacular performance in many domains
 - ▶ Quick training
 - ▶ Low memory
 - ▶ Large space of possible model architectures
 - ▶ Automatic differentiation software makes it very easy





Filters from Zeiler + Fergus 2013



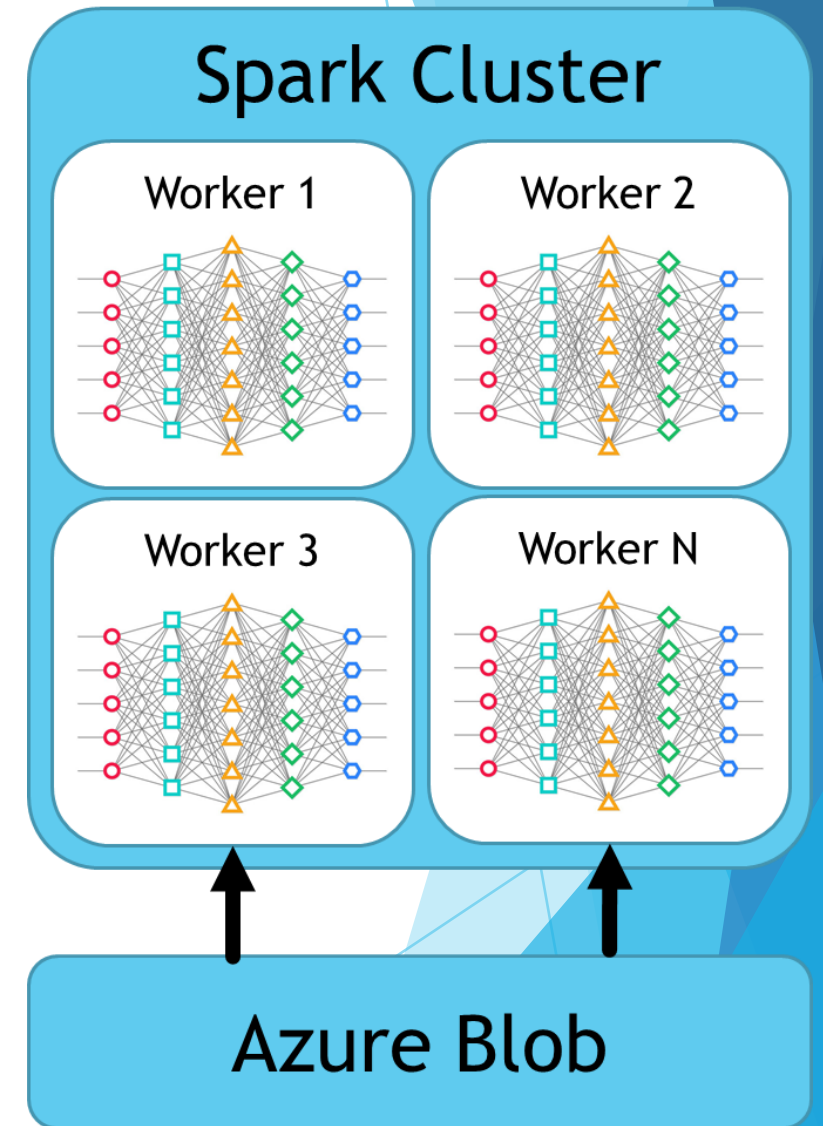
Filters from Zeiler + Fergus 2013



MMLSpark

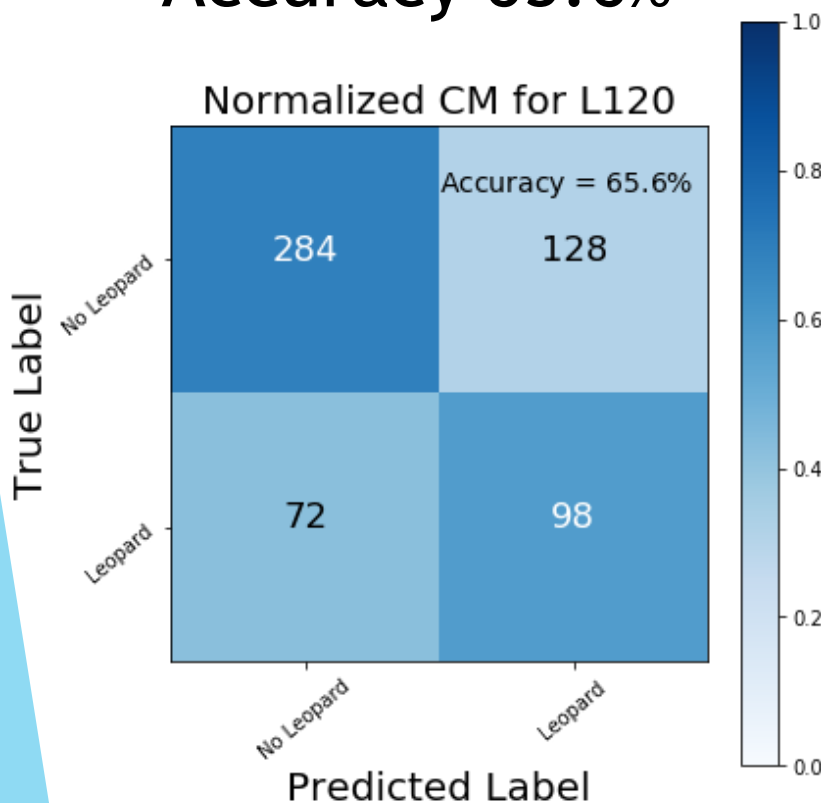
aka.ms/mmlspark

- ▶ Open Source
 - ▶ Contributions welcome!
- ▶ Combines the Distributed Computing Framework Spark, with the Deep Learning Framework CNTK.
- ▶ Lets you create distributed and fault-tolerant applications in a few lines of code



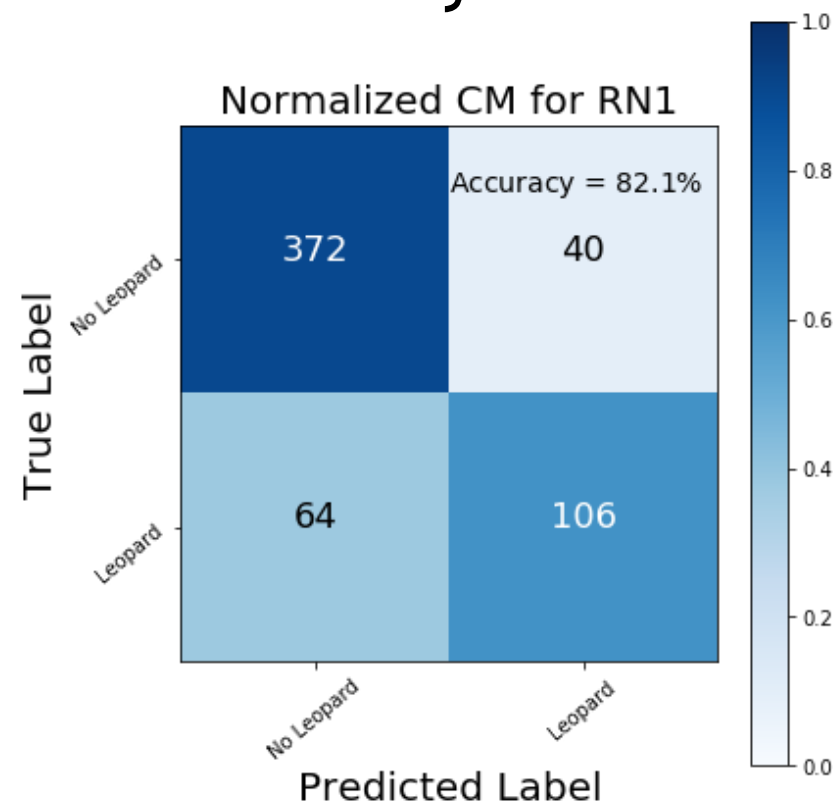
Performance

Accuracy 65.6%



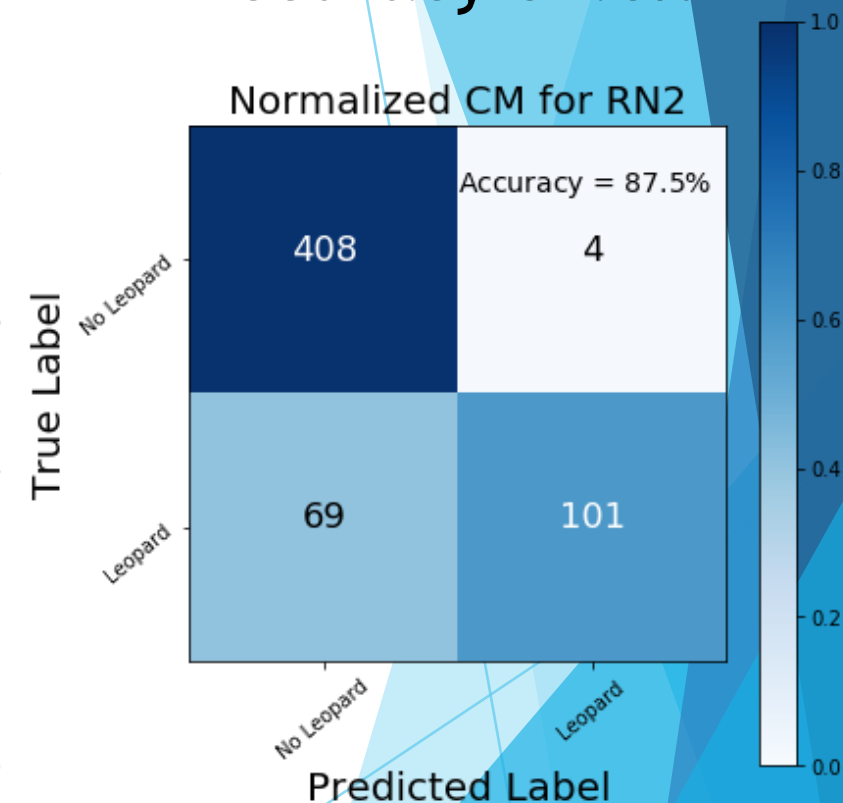
Without Deep
Featurization

Accuracy 82.1%



With Deep Featurization

Accuracy 87.5%

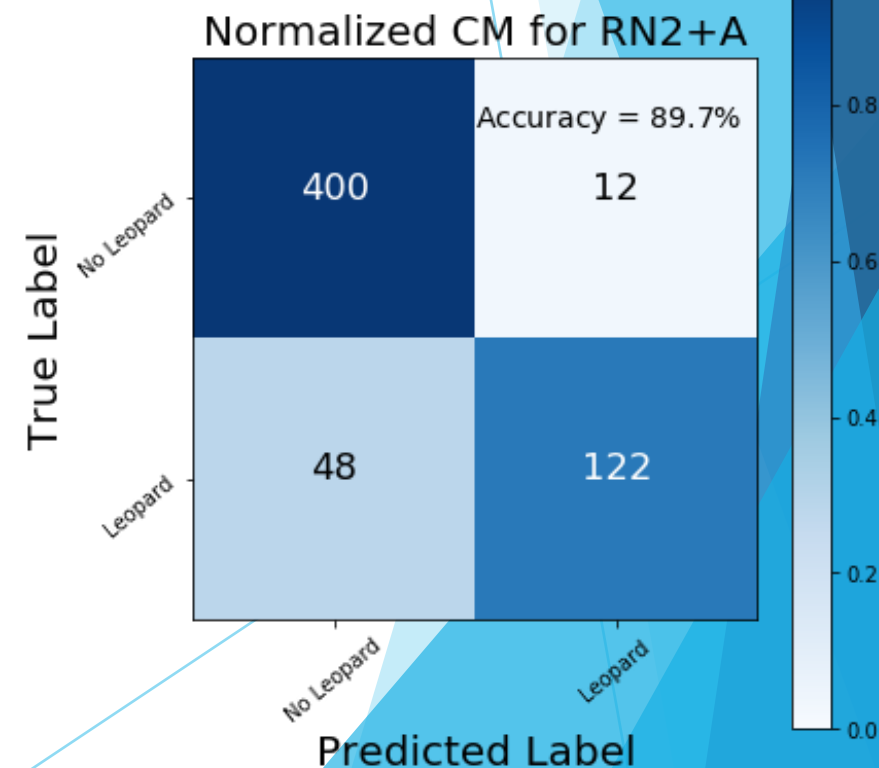


Further Refinements

► Dataset Augmentation

```
ia = mml.ImageSetAugmenter(inputCol="images", outputCol="images")  
pipe = Pipeline(stages=[ia, featurizer, classifier])
```

Accuracy 89.7%





2012-06-30 9:03:10 PM M 1/5

24°C



SLT017



2012-06-30 9:03:11 PM M 2/5

24°C



SLT017



2012-06-30 9:03:12 PM M 3/5

24°C

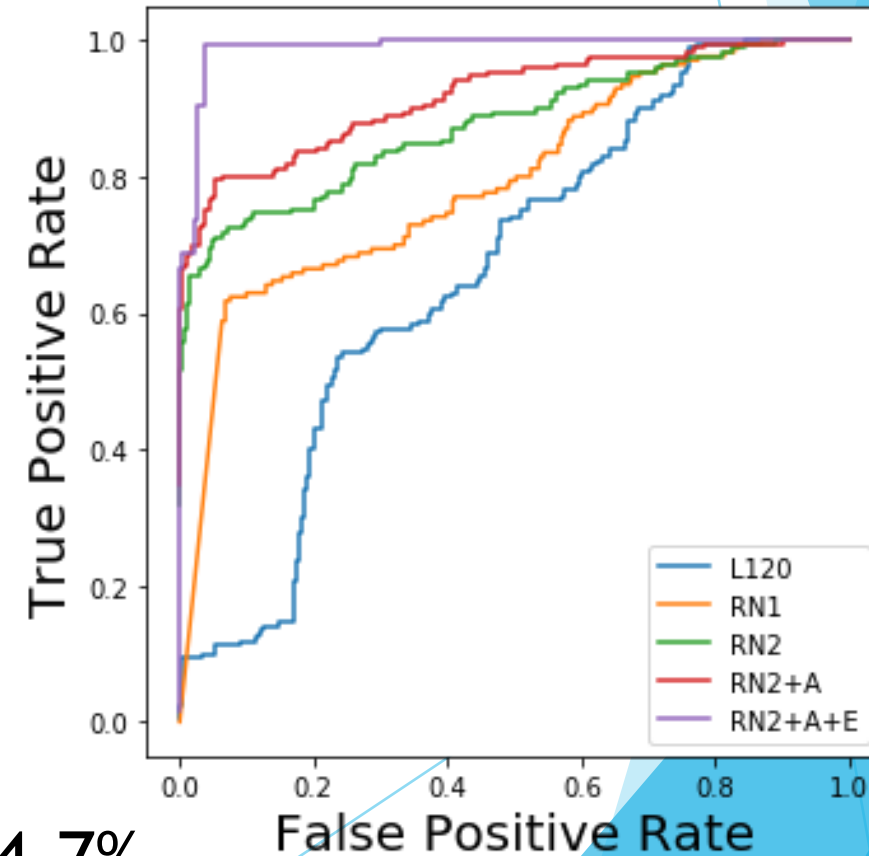
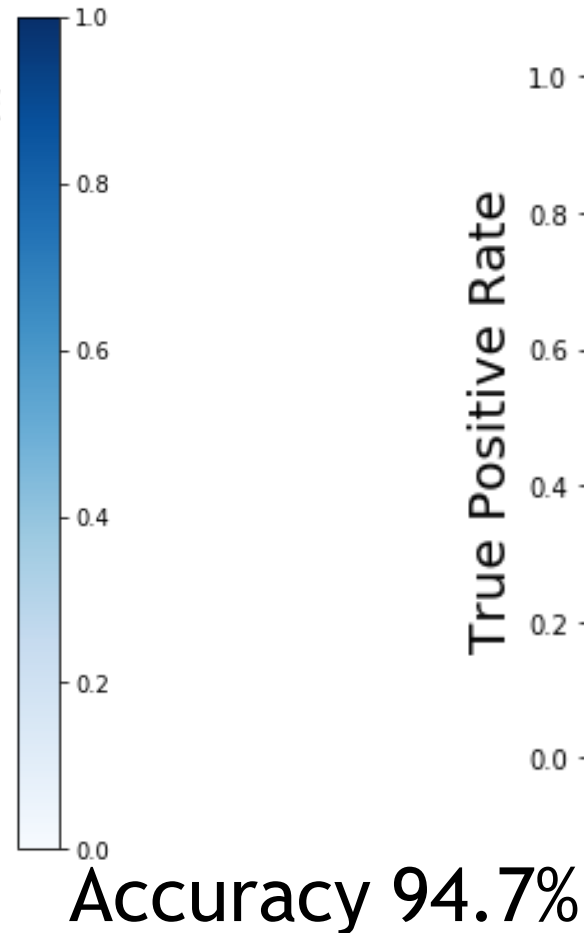
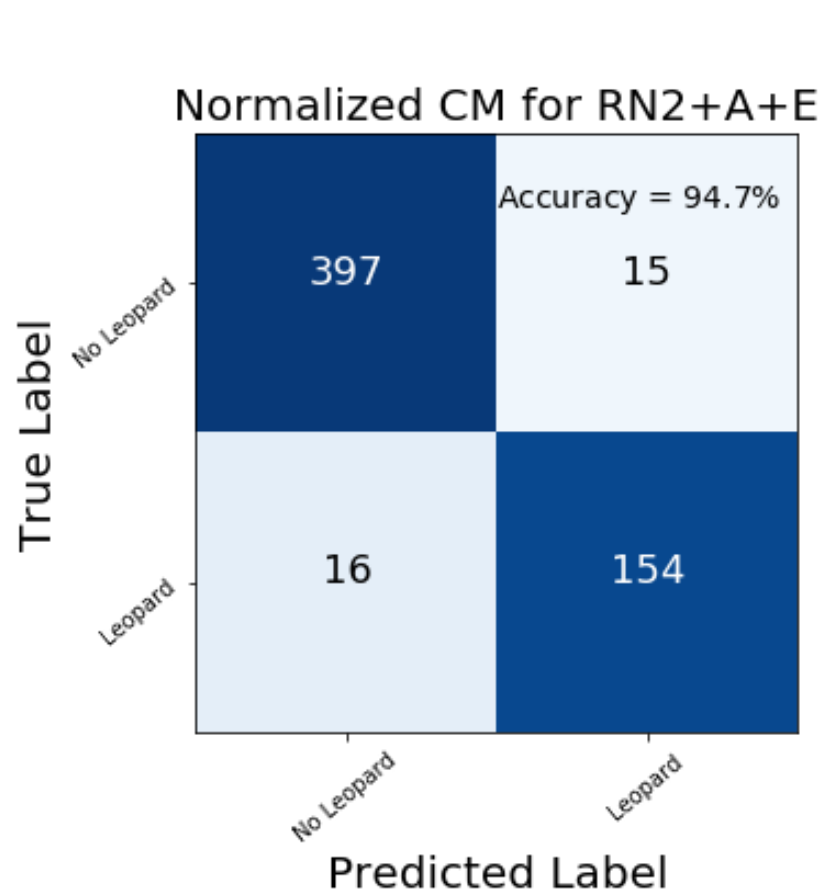


SLT017



Ensembling over Sequences

```
ebk = mm1.EnsembleByKey(  
    keys=["group", "filename"],  
    cols=["prob"],  
    colNames=["mean(prob)"]  
)  
pipe = Pipeline(stages=[ia, featurizer, classifier, ebk])
```



Azure
Storage



Time

...

1

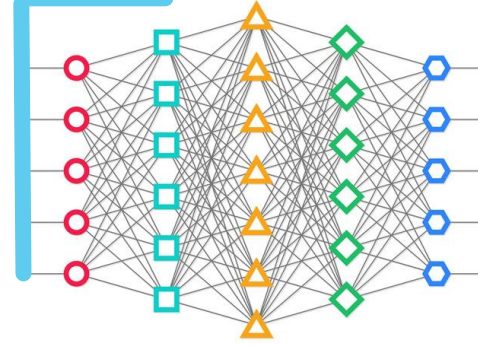
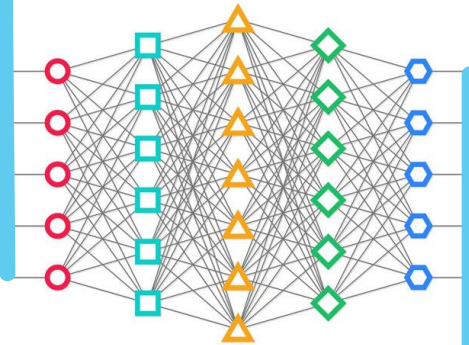
2

3

4

5

MMLSpark
Streaming
Pipeline



...

Time

1

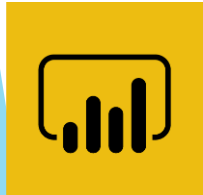
2

3

4







5

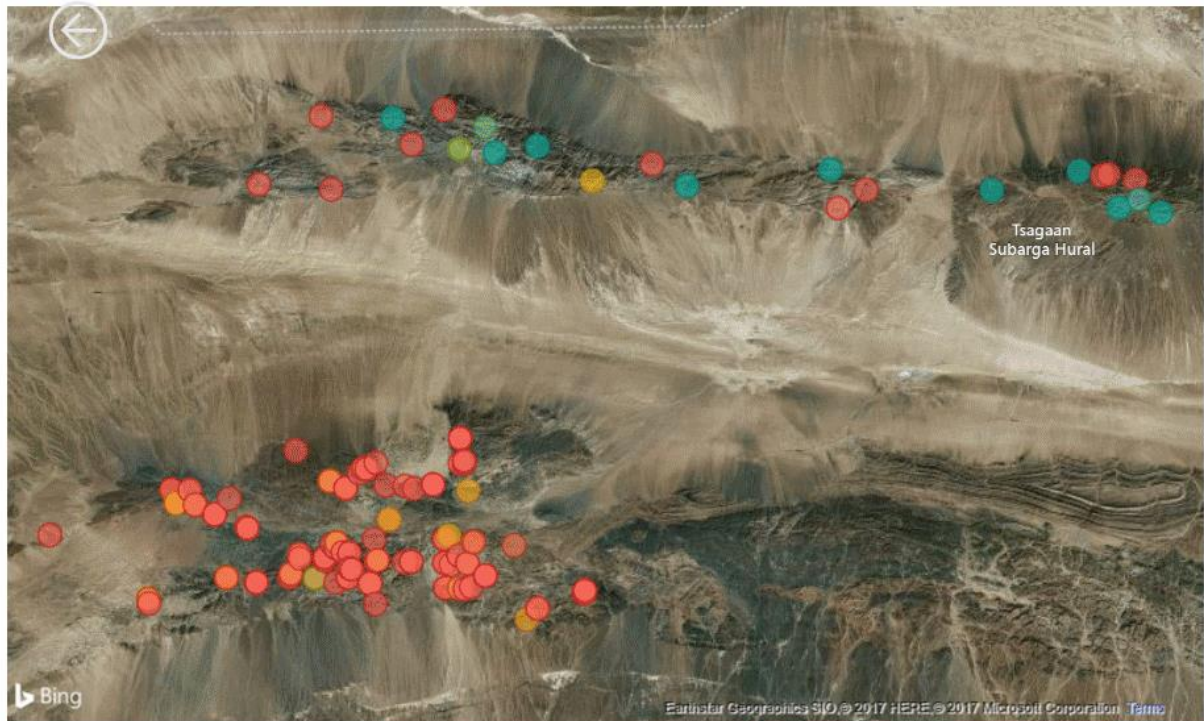
...



PowerBI








Tsagaan Subarga Hural

Bing

Earthstar Geographics SIO © 2017 HERE © 2017 Microsoft Corporation Taito







2014-09-02 10:30:42 H 4 3/5 10 18:0

Total

51.88K

Leopards

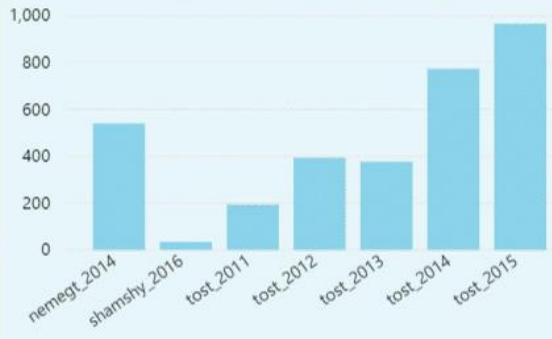
3274



Other

48.61K

Leopards by Survey



Survey	Count
nemegt_2014	550
shamshy_2016	20
tost_2011	180
tost_2012	380
tost_2013	360
tost_2014	780
tost_2015	950

Survey Selector

☐ Select All

☐ nemegt_2014

☐ shamshy_2016


☐ tost_2011

☐ tost_2012

☐ tost_2013

☐ tost_2014

Page 1

 FILTERS

Going Forward



(a) Original Image



(b) Explaining *Electric guitar*



(c) Explaining *Acoustic guitar*



(d) Explaining *Labrador*

Figure 4: Explaining an image classification prediction made by Google's Inception network, highlighting positive pixels. The top 3 classes predicted are “Electric Guitar” ($p = 0.32$), “Acoustic guitar” ($p = 0.24$) and “Labrador” ($p = 0.21$)

Thanks to

- ▶ Snow Leopard Trust: Koustubh Sharma, Jeff Brown, Michael Despines
- ▶ MMLSpark Team: Sudarshan Raghunathan, Ilya Matiach, Tong Wen, Eli Barzilay, Ben Brodsky
- ▶ AI for Earth Program, CNTK Team
- ▶ All others who made this work possible

www.snowleopard.org