

# Computer vision and machine learning for the material scientist

## Lecture 8. *Semantic Segmentation*

Romain Vo



\*slides adapted from [CS231n](#)

# Computer Vision Tasks

## Classification



**DOG**



Classify the image

# Computer Vision Tasks

Classification



**DOG**



Classify the image

Semantic  
segmentation



**DOG,CAT,BG**



Classify each pixel

# Computer Vision Tasks

Classification

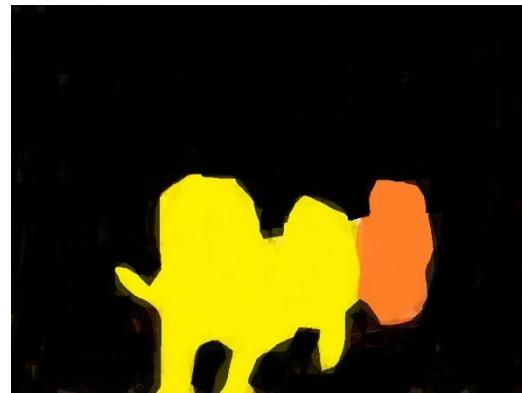


**DOG**



Classify the image

Semantic  
segmentation



**DOG,CAT,BG**



Classify each pixel

Instance  
Segmentation



**SMTH, SMTH,  
SMTH**



Segment independent  
instances

Panoptic  
segmentation



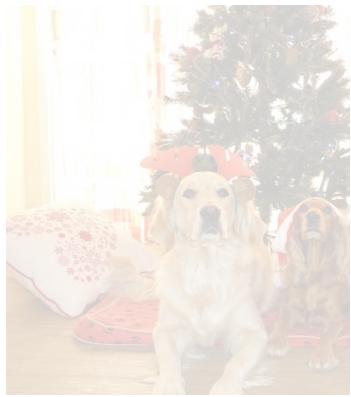
**DOG,DOG,CAT**



Segment & Classify independent  
instances

# Computer Vision Tasks

Classification

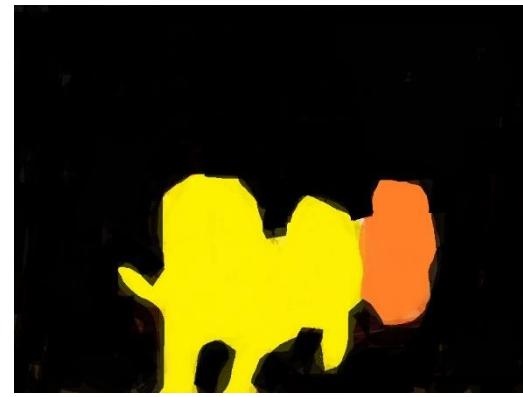


DOG



Classify the image

Semantic  
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Classify each pixel

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Segment & Classify independent  
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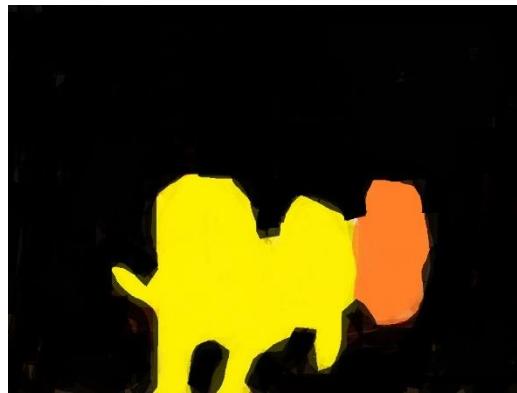
# Semantic segmentation

Training data = pairs of (image, mask)

image



mask



**DOG,CAT,BG**

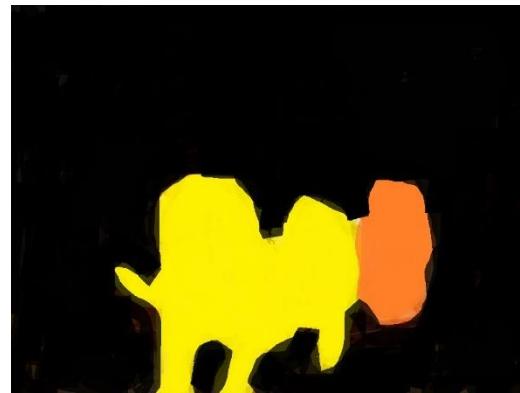
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Training data = pairs of (image, mask)

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**DOG,CAT,BG**

For each training image, each pixel in the image is assigned a label:

- For example here - BG = 0, DOG = 1, CAT = 2

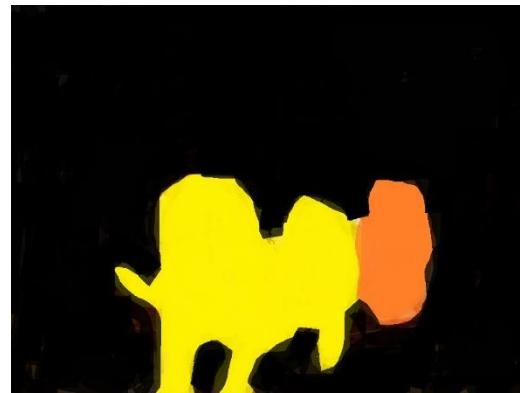
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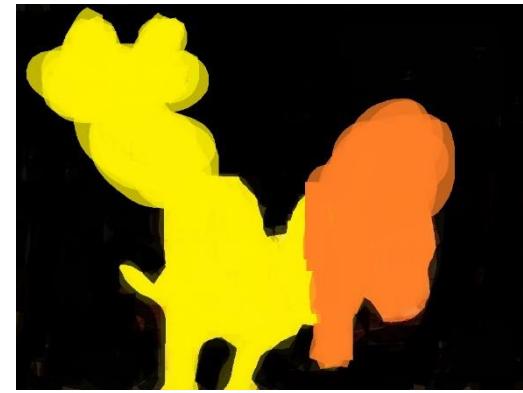


**DOG,CAT,BG**

For each training image, each pixel in the image is assigned a label:

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prediction



How do we evaluate the quality of prediction with respect to mask ?

# Segmentation metrics

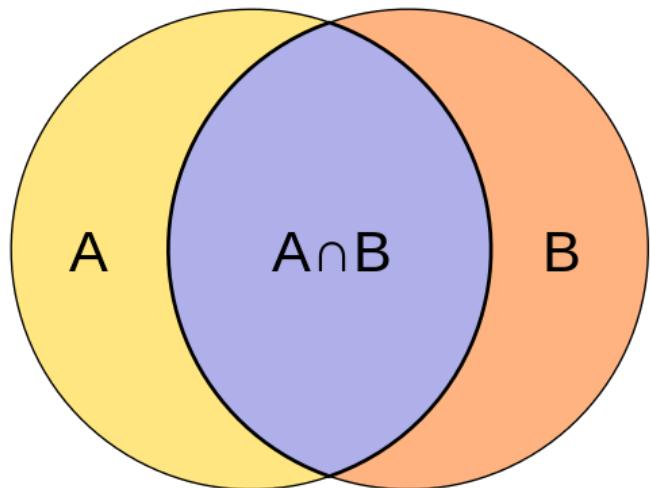
Let A and B be two finite sets, not simultaneously empty. We can measure their similarity using the *Jaccard index* or the *Dice coefficient*

$$\text{Jaccard index} \quad J(A, B) = \frac{|A \cap B|}{|A \cup B|} \quad \text{also called IoU (\underline{Intersection over Union})}$$

$$\text{Dice coefficient} \quad D(A, B) = \frac{2|A \cap B|}{|A| + |B|}$$

When  $A = B$  we have  $J(A, B) = D(A, B) = 1$

When  $A \cap B = \emptyset$  we have  $J(A, B) = D(A, B) = 0$



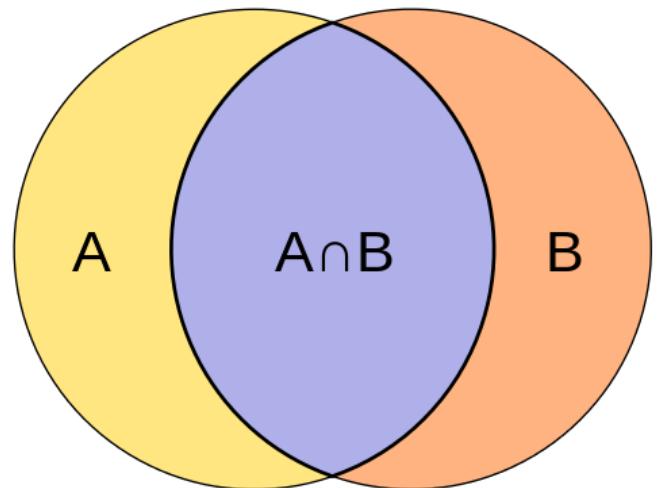
# Segmentation loss

We can generalize these metrics to continuous output, i.e  $y, \hat{y} \in [0,1]^n$

Jaccard loss     $J(y, \hat{y}) = 1 - \frac{y \cdot \hat{y} + \varepsilon}{y + \hat{y} + \varepsilon}$

Dice loss     $D(y, \hat{y}) = 1 - \frac{2 y \cdot \hat{y} + \varepsilon}{y + \hat{y} + \varepsilon}$

In practice, these two losses give similar results



# Semantic segmentation

Training data = pairs of (image, mask)

image



mask

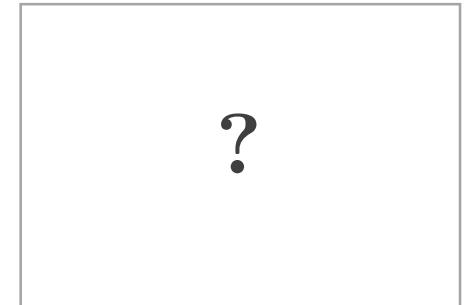


**DOG,CAT,BG**

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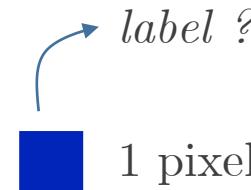
Test time



At test-time classify each pixel of the image

# Semantic segmentation : pixel classification

Image =  $H \times W$  pixels



*Impossible to classify a single pixel without context ..*

How to include context ?

# Semantic segmentation : context window

Image =  $H \times W$  pixels

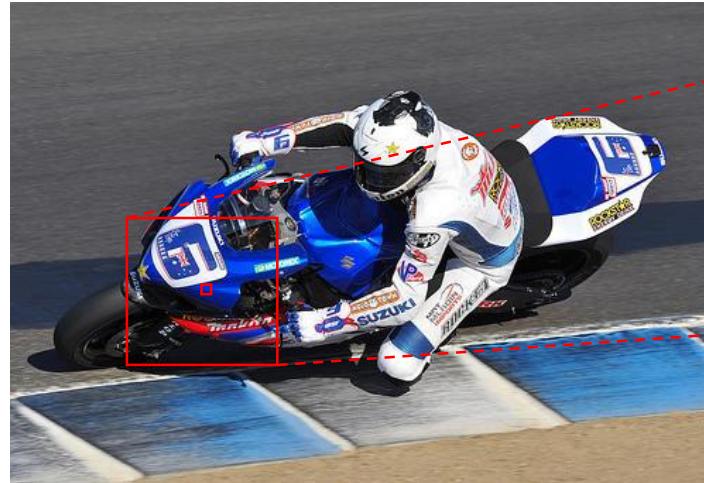


patch =  $H_p \times W_p$  pixels

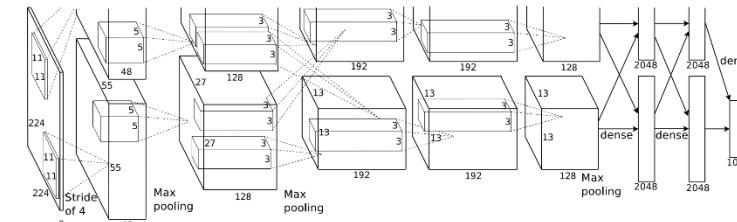


# Semantic segmentation : classify window

Image =  $H \times W$  pixels



patch =  $H_p \times W_p$  pixels



motorbike

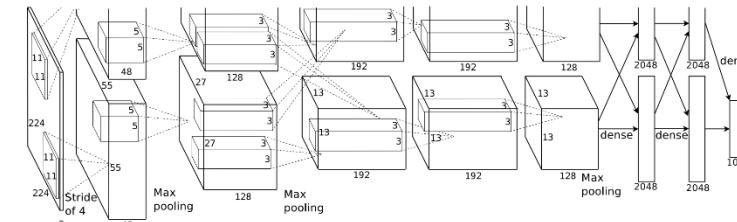
Classification network, e.g AlexNet

# Semantic segmentation : sliding window

Image =  $H \times W$  pixels



patch =  $H_p \times W_p$  pixels



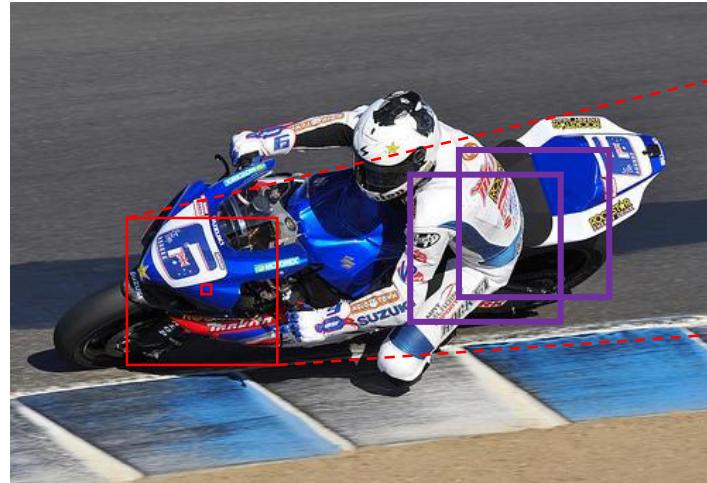
motorbike

Classification network, e.g AlexNet

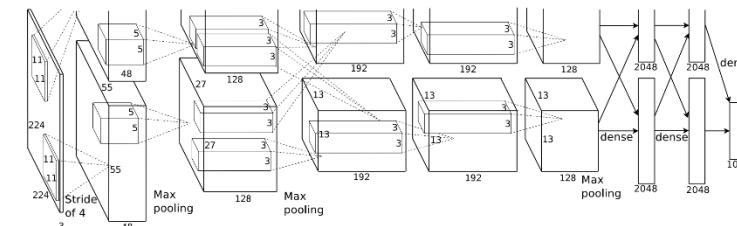
Problem 1: need to extract  $(H \times W)$  patches and then predict the label for each patch

# Semantic segmentation : sliding window

Image =  $H \times W$  pixels



patch =  $H_p \times W_p$  pixels



motorbike

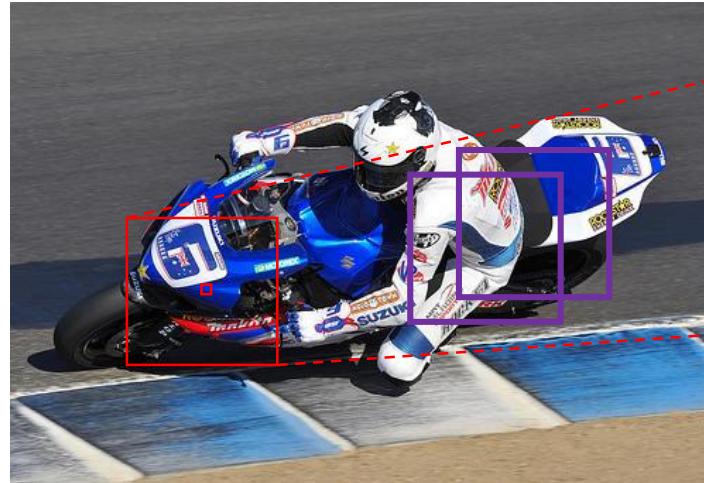
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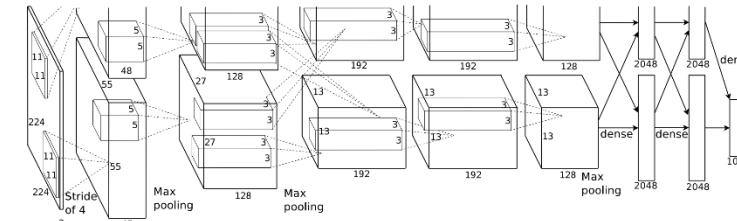
Problem 2: Does not reuse shared features between overlapping patches

# Semantic segmentation : sliding window

Image =  $H \times W$  pixels



patch =  $H_p \times W_p$  pixels



motorbike

Classification network, e.g AlexNet

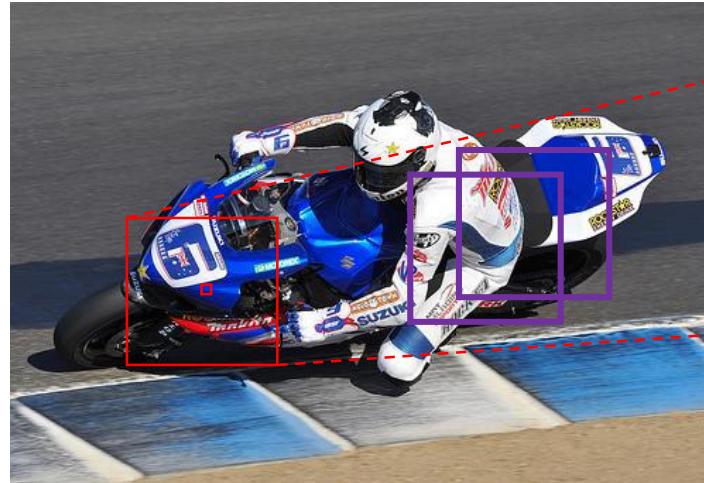
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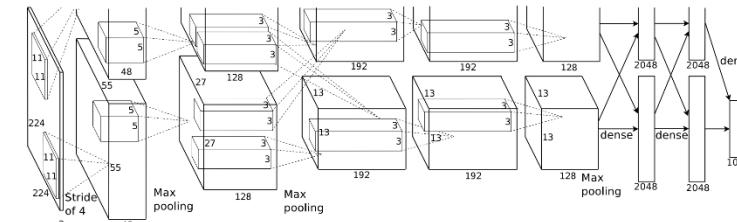
Solution: ?

# Semantic segmentation : Fully convolutional

Image =  $H \times W$  pixels



patch =  $H_p \times W_p$  pixels



motorbike

Classification network, e.g AlexNet

Problem 1: need to extract  $(H \times W)$  patches and then predict the label for each patch

Problem 2: Does not reuse shared features between overlapping patches

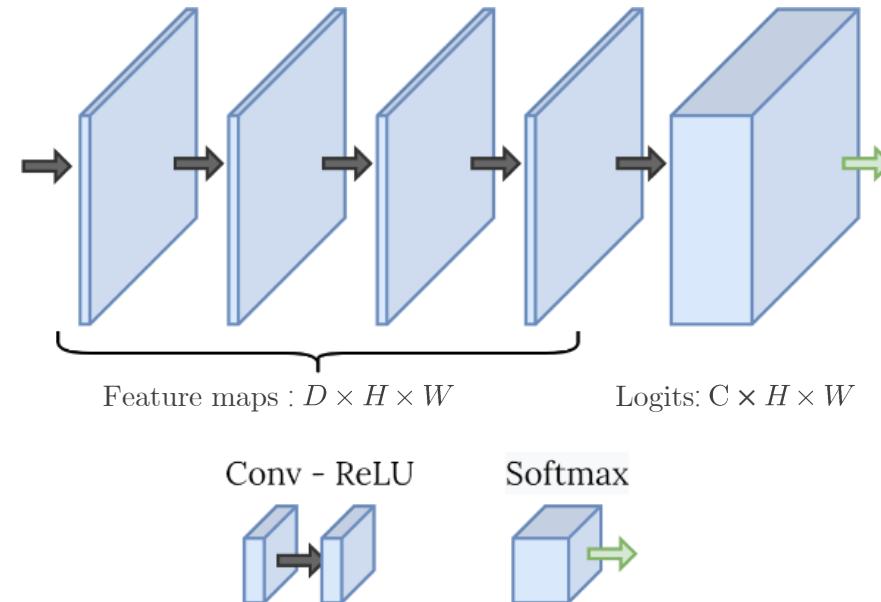
Solution: ?

# Semantic segmentation : Fully convolutional

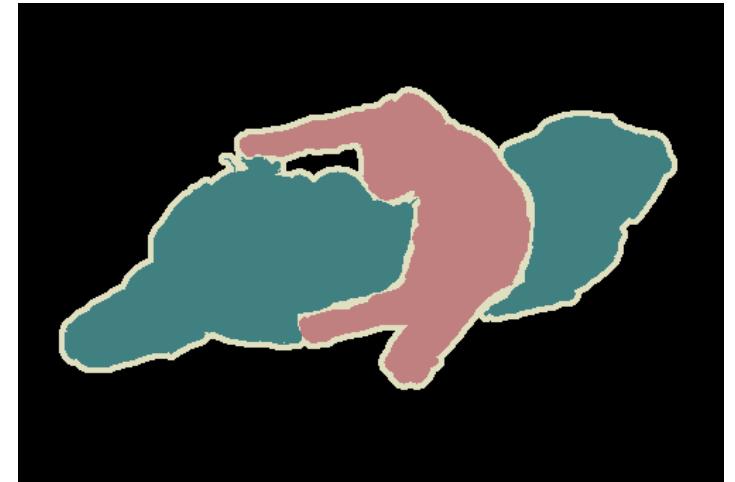
Image =  $H \times W$  pixels



CNN with no down-sampling *ops*



Predictions =  $H \times W$  pixels



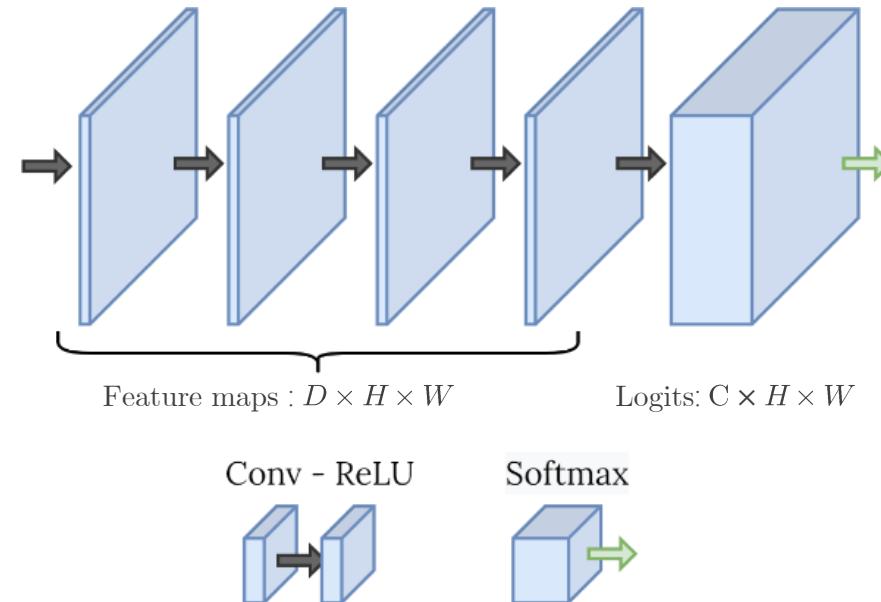
$C = 3$  classes

# Semantic segmentation : Fully convolutional

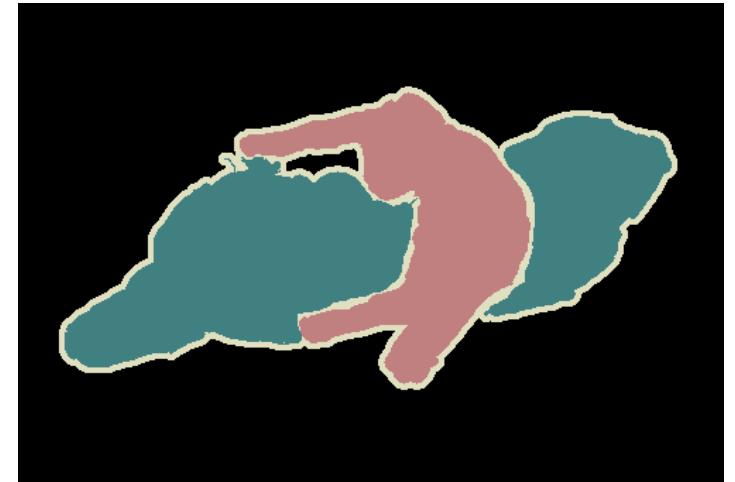
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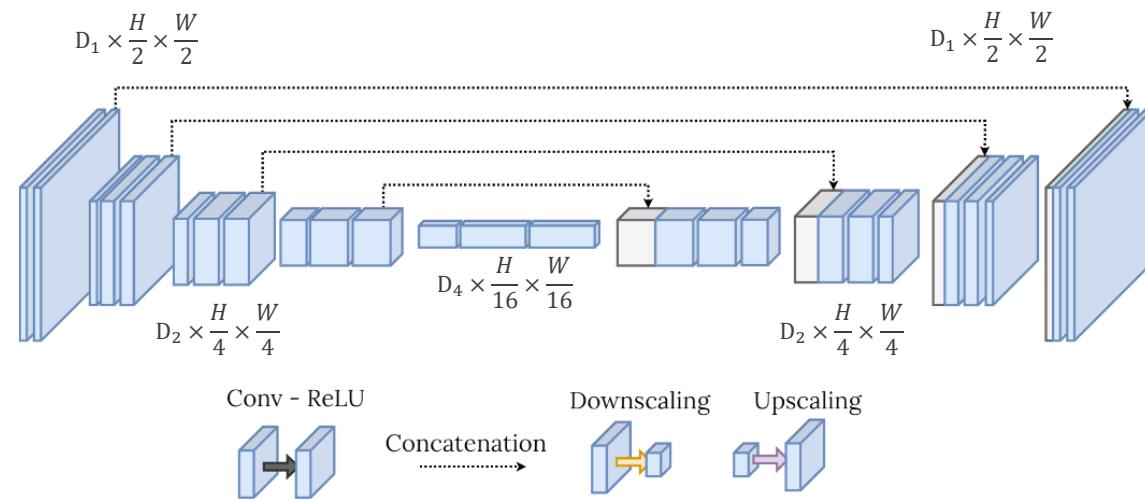
$C = 3$  classes

Problem 1: computationally expansive and memory consuming

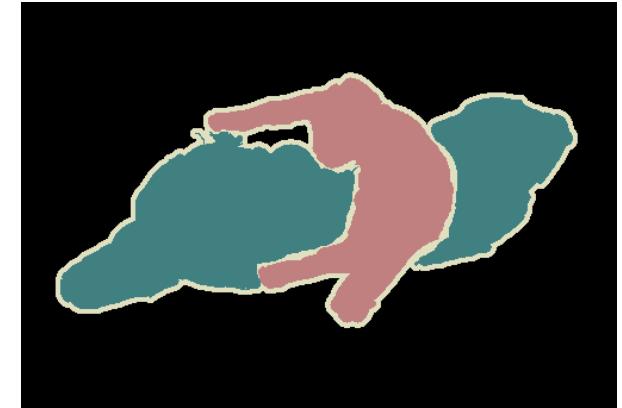
Solution: ?

# Semantic segmentation : Encoder – Decoder structure

Image =  $H \times W$  pixels



Predictions =  $H \times W$  pixels

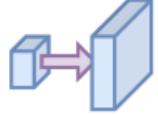


- Keep the encoder-like structure of classification networks
- Use *upsampling ops* to recover the initial image resolution
- Mix information from encoder-path with decoder-path for better localization accuracy

$C = 3$  classes

# Decoder : *upsampling*

Upscaling



Nearest neighbors:

1	2
3	4



1	1	2	2
1	1	2	2
3	3	4	4
3	3	4	4

Bilinear interpolation:

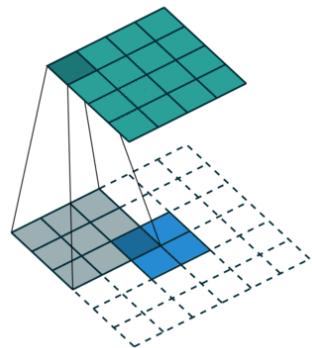
10	20
30	40



10	12	17	20
15	17	22	25
25	27	32	32
30	32	37	40

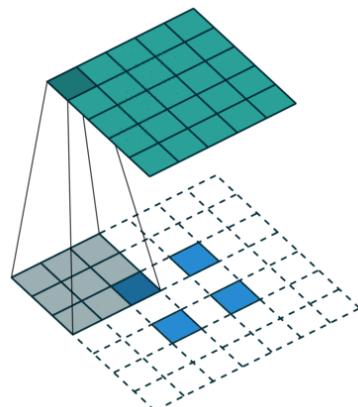
# Decoder : *upsampling*

Transposed convolution:



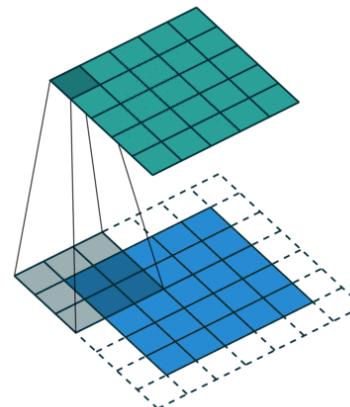
padding = 0  
stride = 1  
Kernel =  $3 \times 3$

$$2 \times 2 \rightarrow 4 \times 4$$



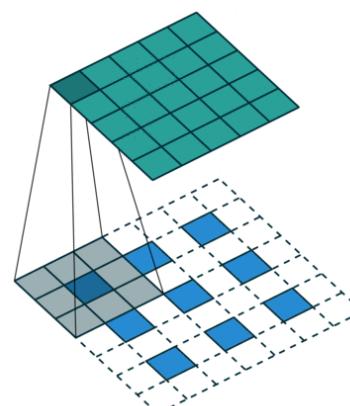
padding = 0  
stride = 2  
Kernel =  $3 \times 3$

$$2 \times 2 \rightarrow 5 \times 5$$



padding = 1  
stride = 1  
Kernel =  $3 \times 3$

$$5 \times 5 \rightarrow 5 \times 5$$

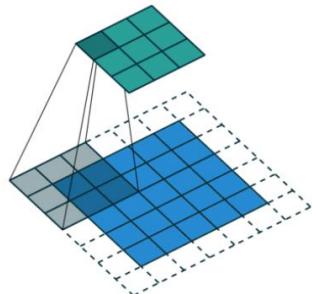


padding = 1  
stride = 2  
Kernel =  $3 \times 3$

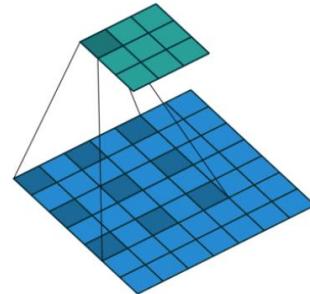
$$3 \times 3 \rightarrow 5 \times 5$$

# Architecture : *an alternative to downsampling*

Dilated convolution or *atrous* convolution :



(a) A simple convolution ( $r = 1$ )



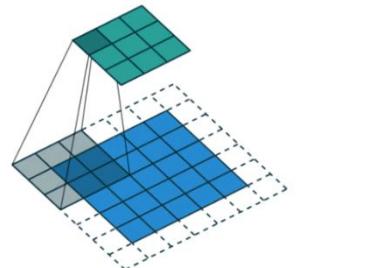
(b) A dilated convolution ( $r = 2$ )

The aim is to increase the receptive field and keep a dense (high resolution) feature map.

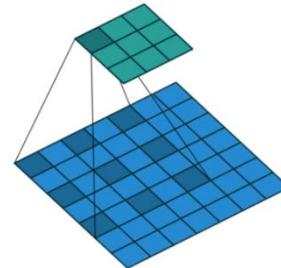
- dense map = better localization

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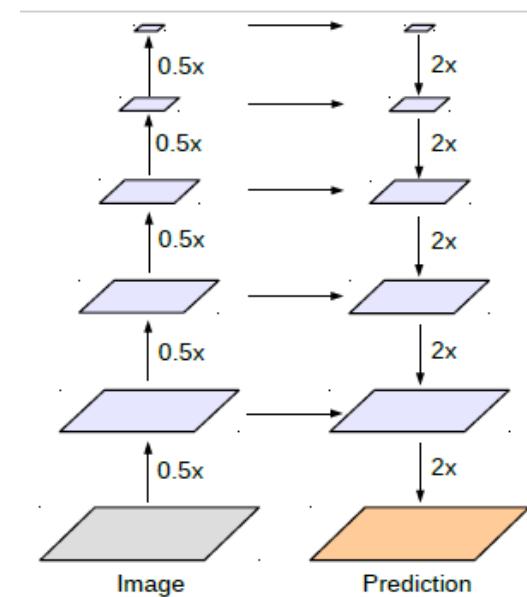
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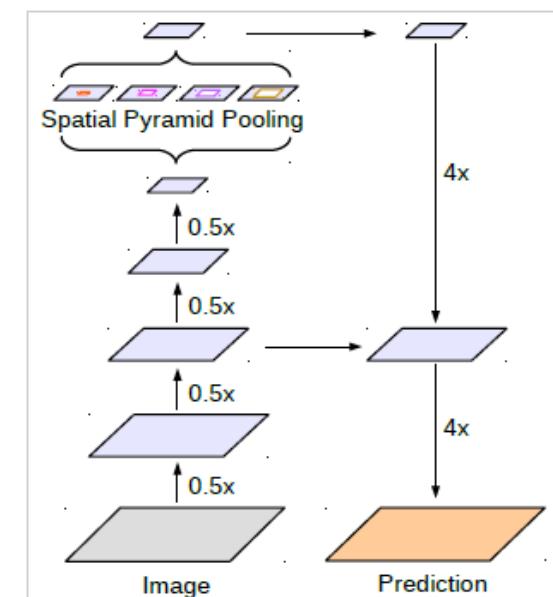
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DeepLabV3+ architecture :

- tradeoff computation budget for performance

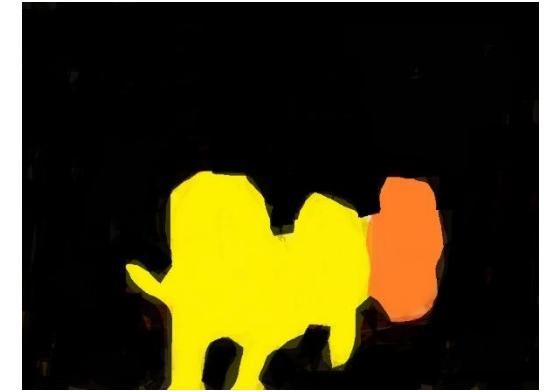
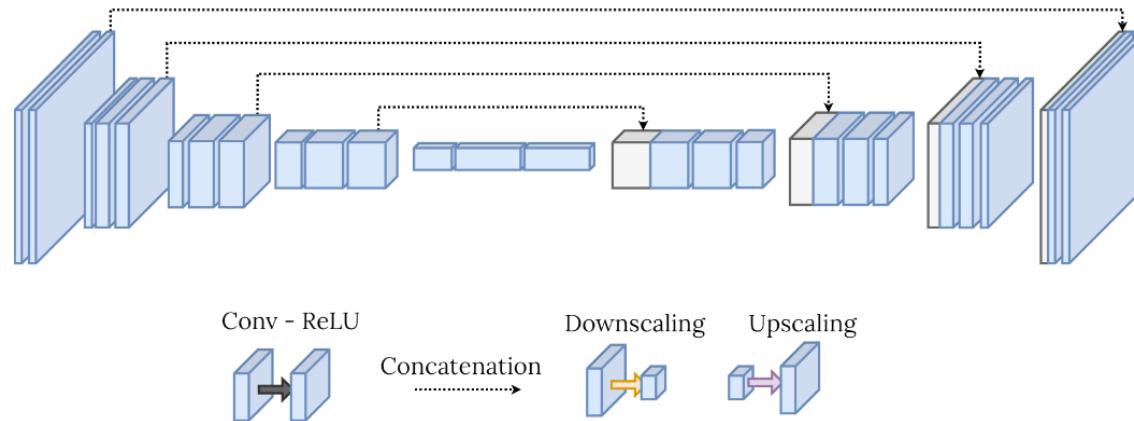


(b) Encoder-Decoder



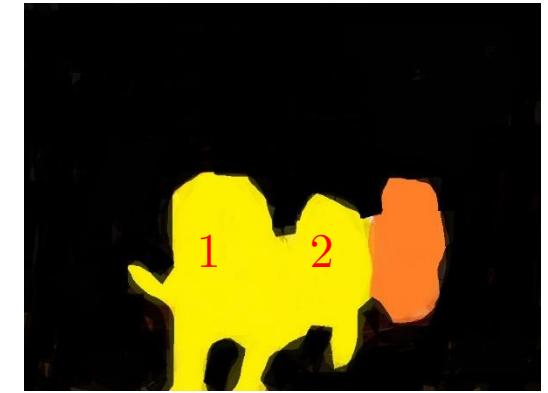
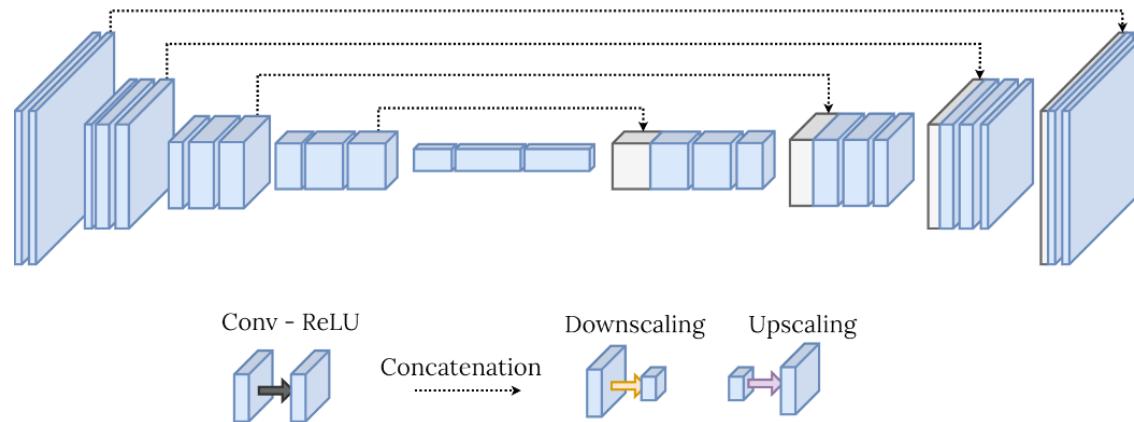
(c) Encoder-Decoder with Atrous Conv

# Semantic segmentation : Summary



Semantic segmentation labels each pixel in an image

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Semantic segmentation labels each pixel in an image

Semantic segmentation cannot differentiate multiple instances of the same category

*i.e* the two DOGS in the photo

# State of the arts methods

## CNN-based :

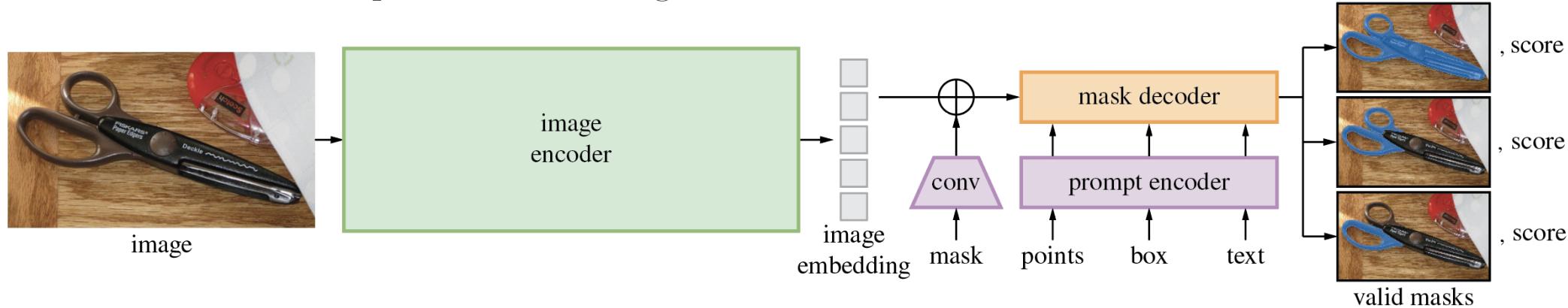
- 2015, Ronneberger et al “ U-Net: Convolutional Networks for Biomedical Image Segmentation ”
- 2018, Chen et al “ Encoder-Decoder with Atrous Separable Convolution for Semantic Image Segmentation ” = DeepLabV3
- 2021, Wang et al “ Deep High-Resolution Representation Learning for Visual Recognition ” = HRNetV2 ”

## Transformer-based :

- 2021, Xie et al, “ SegFormer: Simple and Efficient Design for Semantic Segmentation with Transformers ”
- 2023, Chen et al, “ Vision Transformer Adapter for Dense Predictions ”

# Segment Anything

What is SAM → Promptable instance segmentation network



The dataset and the model are open-sourced : <https://github.com/facebookresearch/segment-anything>

- trained on 11 million images containing 1 billion masks !

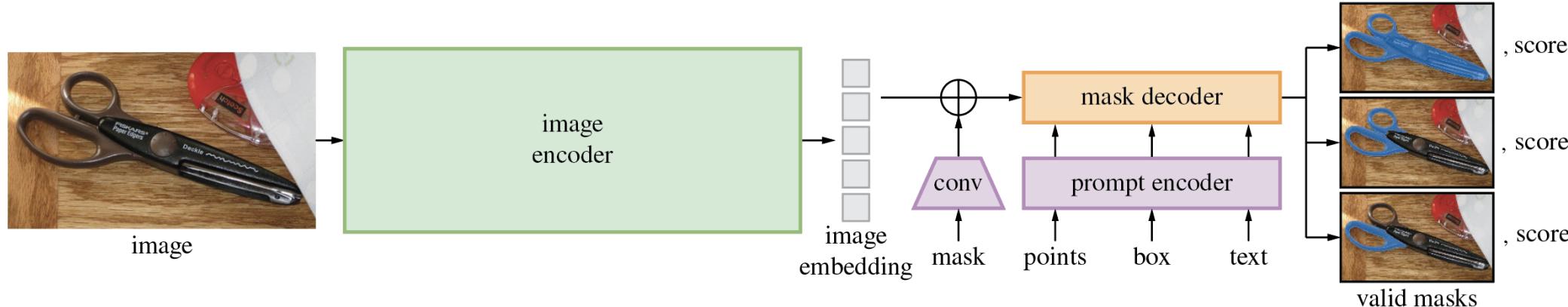
Do you have a use case for SAM ?

- the promptable feature of SAM makes it a go-to for fast zero-shot prototyping

Example : Let's say you only have an algorithm for localizing the center of specific objects, SAM could be able to segment these objects using your point inputs

# Segment Anything

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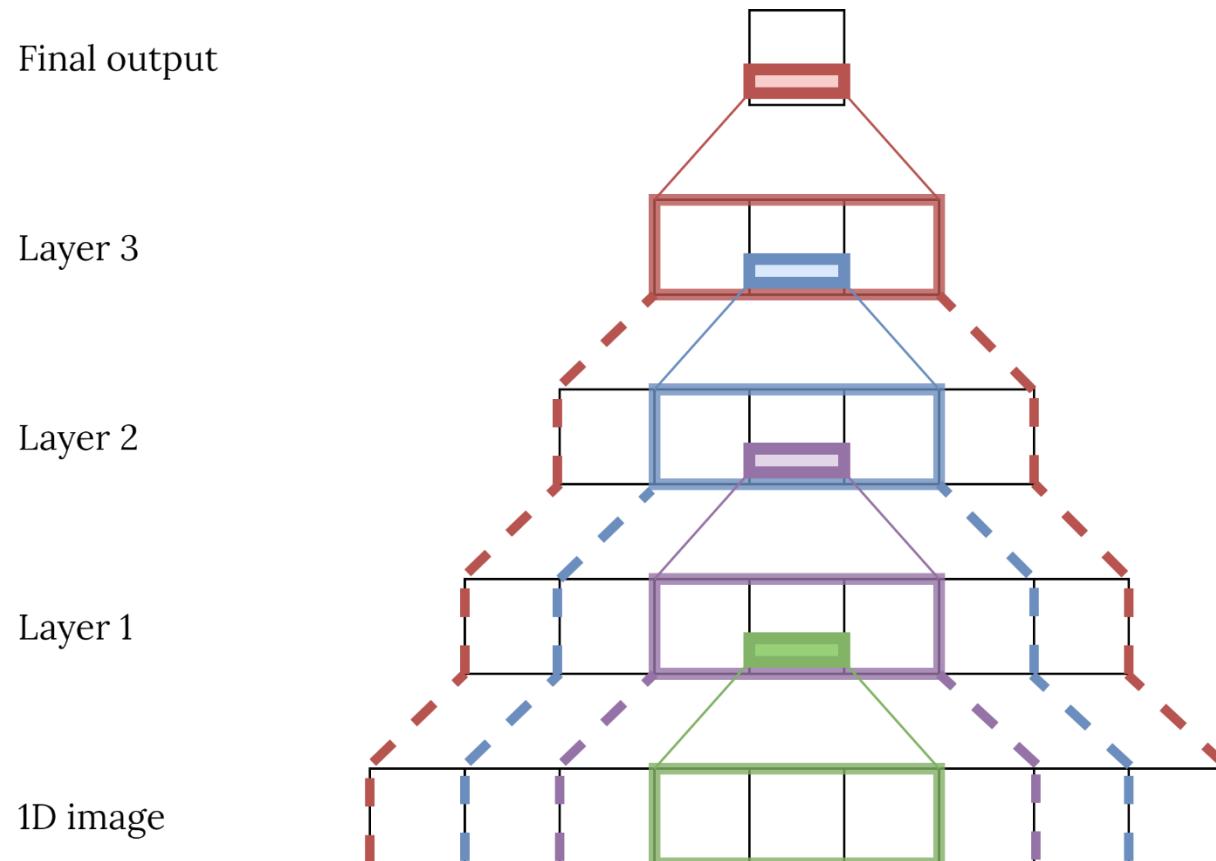
DEMO : <https://segment-anything.com/demo>

SAM API : [https://huggingface.co/docs/transformers/main/model\\_doc/sam](https://huggingface.co/docs/transformers/main/model_doc/sam)

Thank you for your  
attention



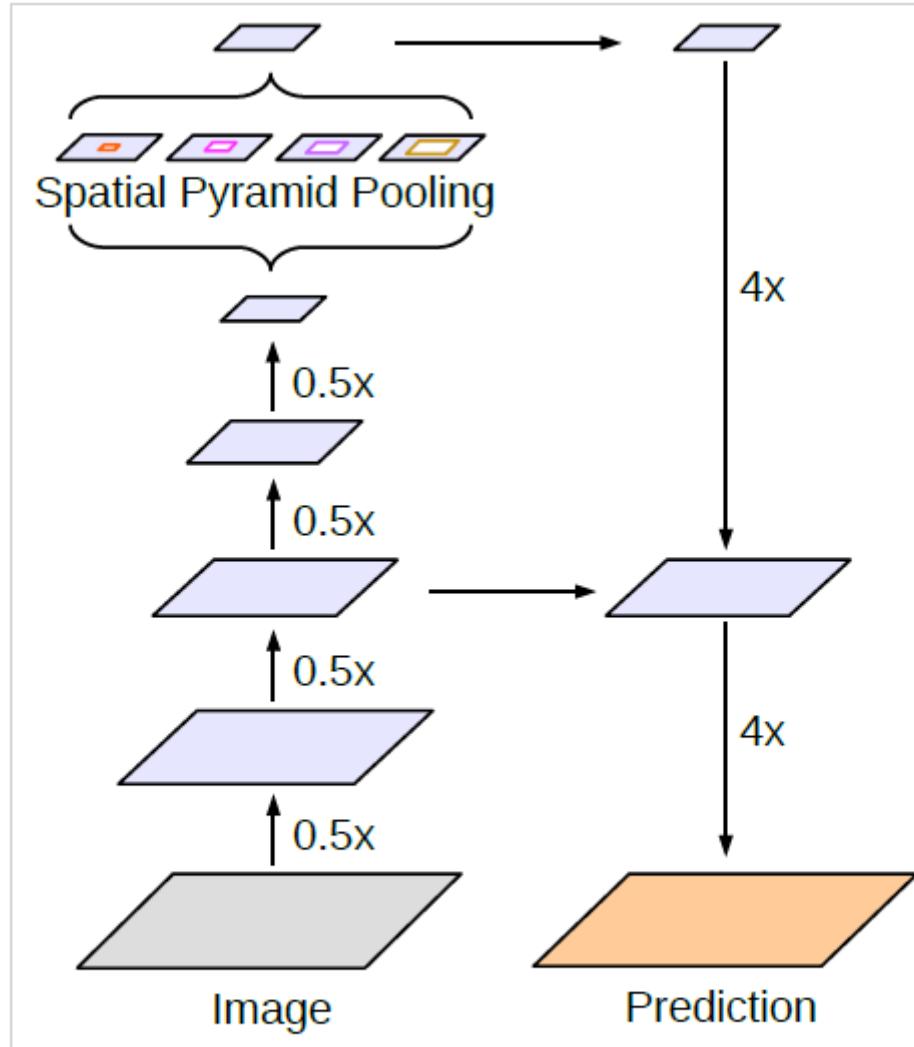
\*slides adapted from [CS231n](#)



Input pixels

Output

Receptive field



(c) Encoder-Decoder with Atrous Conv

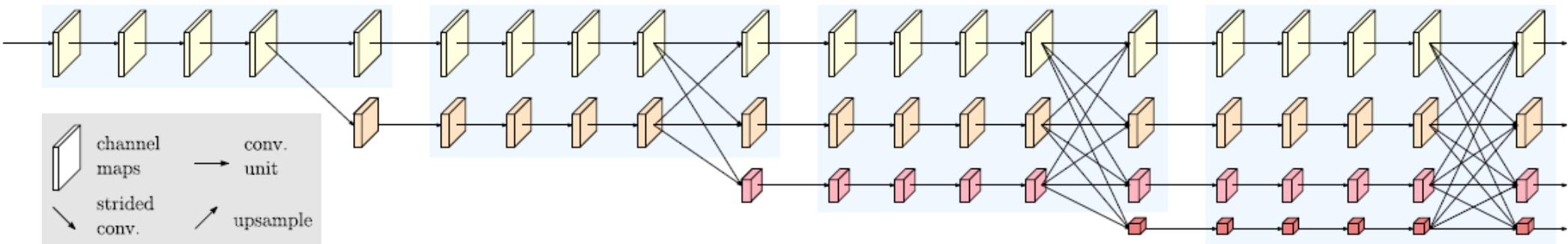


Fig. 2. An example of a high-resolution network. Only the main body is illustrated, and the stem (two stride-2  $3 \times 3$  convolutions) is not included. There are four stages. The 1st stage consists of high-resolution convolutions. The 2nd (3rd, 4th) stage repeats two-resolution (three-resolution, four-resolution) blocks. The detail is given in Section 3.