

Going Deeper with Convolutions

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Abstract

We propose a deep convolutional neural network architecture codenamed Inception that achieves the new state of the art for classification and detection in the ImageNet Large-Scale Visual Recognition Challenge 2014 (ILSVRC14). The main hallmark of this architecture is the improved utilization of the computing resources inside the network. By a carefully crafted design, we increased the depth and width of the network while keeping the computational budget constant. To optimize quality, the architectural decisions were based on the Hebbian principle and the intuition of multi-scale processing. One particular incarnation used in our submission for ILSVRC14 is called GoogLeNet, a 22 layers deep network, the quality of which is assessed in the context of classification and detection.

1. Introduction

In the last three years, our object classification and detection capabilities have dramatically improved due to advances in deep learning and convolutional networks [10]. One encouraging news is that most of this progress is not just the result of more powerful hardware, larger datasets and bigger models, but mainly a consequence of new ideas, algorithms and improved network architectures. No new data sources were used, for example, by the top entries in the ILSVRC 2014 competition besides the classification dataset of the same competition for detection purposes. Our GoogLeNet submission to ILSVRC 2014 actually uses 12 times fewer parameters than the winning architecture of Krizhevsky et al [9] from two years ago, while being significantly more accurate. On the object detection front, the biggest gains have not come from naive application of big-

GoogleNet比ImageNet使用的参数少12倍,但是准确率更高。依赖的不是一味地增加网络的深度和宽度,而是类似R-CNN算法的深度架构与经典计算机视觉的协同效应。

ger and bigger deep networks, but from the synergy of deep architectures and classical computer vision, like the R-CNN algorithm by Girshick et al [6].

Another notable factor is that with the ongoing traction of mobile and embedded computing, the efficiency of our algorithms – especially their power and memory use – gains importance. It is noteworthy that the considerations leading to the design of the deep architecture presented in this paper included this factor rather than having a sheer fixation on accuracy numbers. For most of the experiments, the models were designed to keep a computational budget of 1.5 billion multiply-adds at inference time, so that the they do not end up to be a purely academic curiosity, but could be put to real world use, even on large datasets, at a reasonable cost.

In this paper, we will focus on an efficient deep neural network architecture for computer vision, codenamed Inception, which derives its name from the Network in network paper by Lin et al [12] in conjunction with the famous "we need to go deeper" internet meme [1]. In our case, the word "deep" is used in two different meanings: first of all, in the sense that we introduce a new level of organization in the form of the "Inception module" and also in the more direct sense of increased network depth. In general, one can view the Inception model as a logical culmination of [12] while taking inspiration and guidance from the theoretical work by Arora et al [2]. The benefits of the architecture are experimentally verified on the ILSVRC 2014 classification and detection challenges, where it significantly outperforms the current state of the art.

2. Related Work

Starting with LeNet-5 [10], convolutional neural networks (CNN) have typically had a standard structure – stacked convolutional layers (optionally followed by con-

手硬使络能不术在只加可实机件得成。限,预有乘用。和发神为善于此测15操于电展经可善学模阶亿作现脑,网

卷积神经网络有标准的架构,卷积层之后是一或多层 全连接层。 这些基本设计出来的网络在图像识别领域 取得了最好的结果。

近年来的趋势是增加卷积层数和卷积层大小,使用dropout trast normalization and max-pooling) are followed by one 防止 or more fully-connected layers. Variants of this basic design 过拟 are prevalent in the image classification literature and have yielded the best results to-date on MNIST, CIFAR and most notably on the ImageNet classification challenge [9, 21]. For larger datasets such as Imagenet, the recent trend has been to increase the number of layers [12] and layer size [21, 14], while using dropout [7] to address the problem

尽管最大池化 overfitting. Despite concerns that max-pooling layers result in loss 会丢失空间 of accurate spatial information, the same convolutional net-信息,相同 work architecture as [9] has also been successfully em-的卷积神经 ployed for localization [9, 14], object detection [6, 14, 18, 5] 网络成功用 and human pose estimation [19].

于物体识别, Inspired by a neuroscience model of the primate visual 人类手势识别ortex, Serre et al. [15] used a series of fixed Gabor filters 论文15使用^{of} different sizes to handle multiple scales. We use a similar 一系列不同 trategy here. However, contrary to the fixed 2-layer deep 一系列不同 model of [15], all filters in the Inception architecture are R寸的固定 Learned. Furthermore, Inception layers are repeated many Gabor滤波器 times, leading to a 22-layer deep model in the case of the 来处理不同 GoogLeNet model. inception所有层都会学习这种策略,并重复 尺寸问题。

Network-in-Network is an approach proposed by Lin et 网络中的网 al. [12] in order to increase the representational power of 络可用来增 neural networks. In their model, additional 1×1 convolu-加NN的表现ional layers are added to the network, increasing its depth. 力。此模型 We use this approach heavily in our architecture. However, 中1x1卷积层n our setting, 1×1 convolutions have dual purpose: most 被大量使用。. they are used mainly as dimension reduction modules to remove computational bottlenecks, that would otherwise limit the size of our networks. This allows for not just increasing the depth, but also the width of our networks 时增加网络 without a significant performance penalty. Finally, the current state of the art for object detection is

the Regions with Convolutional Neural Networks (R-CNN) 区域CNN将method by Girshick et al. [6]. R-CNN decomposes the over-物体识别问题 detection problem into two subproblems: utilizing low-分解为两个level cues such as color and texture in order to generate ob-子问题。先ject location proposals in a category-agnostic fashion and 利用低级线using CNN classifiers to identify object categories at those 索如颜色和locations. Such a two stage approach leverages the accu-文本生成物 racy of bounding box segmentation with low-level cues, as 体位置,然 well as the highly powerful classification power of state-of-后使用CNNthe-art CNNs. We adopted a similar pipeline in our detec-分类器分类。stages, such as multi-box [5] prediction for higher object bounding box recall, and ensemble approaches for better categorization of bounding box proposals.

3. Motivation and High Level Considerations

The most straightforward way of improving the performance of deep neural networks is by increasing their size. This includes both increasing the depth – the number of net-提升深度神经网络的性能的最直接的方法就是增加网络的深 度和广度,但是这两种方法有两个短板。





Figure 1: Two distinct classes from the 1000 classes of the ILSVRC 2014 classification challenge. Domain knowledge is required to distinguish between these classes.

work levels - as well as its width: the number of units at each level. This is an easy and safe way of training higher quality models, especially given the availability of a large amount of labeled training data. However, this simple solution comes with two major drawbacks.

Bigger size typically means a larger number of parameters, which makes the enlarged network more prone to overfitting, especially if the number of labeled examples in the training set is limited. This is a major bottleneck as strongly labeled datasets are laborious and expensive to obtain, often requiring expert human raters to distinguish between various fine-grained visual categories such as those in ImageNet (even in the 1000-class ILSVRC subset) as shown in Figure 1.

The other drawback of uniformly increased network 另一个问题是, size is the dramatically increased use of computational re- 统一增加网络尺 sources. For example, in a deep vision network, if two 寸将极大增加计 convolutional layers are chained, any uniform increase in 算消耗。若两个 the number of their filters results in a quadratic increase of 卷积层是链式, computation. If the added capacity is used inefficiently (for 增加任何一个的 example, if most weights end up to be close to zero), then filter的数量将导 much of the computation is wasted. As the computational 致计算消耗二次 budget is always finite, an efficient distribution of comput- 增加。 ing resources is preferred to an indiscriminate increase of 如果增加的层没 size, even when the main objective is to increase the quality 有正确应用(比 of performance.

A fundamental way of solving both of these issues would 如最后权值衰减 be to introduce sparsity and replace the fully connected lay-为0),只会消 ers by the sparse ones, even inside the convolutions. Be- 耗有限的计算资 sides mimicking biological systems, this would also have 源。 the advantage of firmer theoretical underpinnings due to the groundbreaking work of Arora et al. [2]. Their main re- 一种基础的解 sult states that if the probability distribution of the dataset is 决方案是引入 representable by a large, very sparse deep neural network, 稀疏层并替换 then the optimal network topology can be constructed layer 全连接层,甚 after layer by analyzing the correlation statistics of the preceding layer activations and clustering neurons with highly correlated outputs. Although the strict mathematical proof requires very strong conditions, the fact that this statement

如果数据集的概率分布可以用很大很稀疏的深度神经网络表示,那么优化网 络拓扑图可以通过分析前馈层激活函数和高度相关的神经元集群输出的相关

2 统计特性来一层层构建。

网络尺寸越 大,参数越 多,越容易过 拟合,尤其当 网络标签数目 有限时。

至在卷积层内

某篇论文证明

当今的计算

resonates with the well known Hebbian principle – neurons that fire together, wire together - suggests that the underlying idea is applicable even under less strict conditions, in practice.

Unfortunately, today's computing infrastructures are

设施面临非very inefficient when it comes to numerical calculation on non-uniform sparse data structures. Even if the number of 的数据结构 α rithmetic operations is reduced by $100\times$, the overhead of lookups and cache misses would dominate: switching to 即便算术操。 further by the use of steadily improving and highly tuned 作减少到1% numerical libraries that allow for extremely fast dense manual in the fact of the protrix multiplication, exploiting the minute details of the underlying CPU or GPU hardware [16, 9]. Also, non-uniform sparse models require more sophisticated engineering and computing infrastructure. Most current vision oriented machine learning systems utilize sparsity in the spatial domain just by the virtue of employing convolutions. However, convolutions are implemented as collections of dense connections to the patches in the earlier layer. ConvNets have traditionally used random and sparse connection tables in the feature dimensions since [11] in order to break the symmetry and improve learning, yet the trend changed back to full connections with [9] in order to further optimize parallel computation. Current state-of-the-art architectures for computer vision have uniform structure. The large number of filters and greater batch size allows for the efficient use of dense computation.

> This raises the question of whether there is any hope for a next, intermediate step: an architecture that makes use of filter-level sparsity, as suggested by the theory, but exploits our current hardware by utilizing computations on dense matrices. The vast literature on sparse matrix computations (e.g. [3]) suggests that clustering sparse matrices into relatively dense submatrices tends to give competitive performance for sparse matrix multiplication. It does not seem far-fetched to think that similar methods would be utilized for the automated construction of non-uniform deeplearning architectures in the near future.

inception的架 The Inception architecture started out as a case study for 构始于一次 assessing the hypothetical output of a sophisticated network 研究, 一个 topology construction algorithm that tries to approximate a 层数越 As these "Inception modules" are stacked on top of each 试图拟合由 sparse structure implied by [2] for vision networks and cov- 高, other, their output correlation statistics are bound to vary: 覆盖的集群。 论文2实现 ering the hypothesized outcome by dense, readily available 3x3 as features of higher abstraction are captured by higher lay-的用于处理 components. Despite being a highly speculative undertak- 和 视觉任务的 ing, modest gains were observed early on when compared 5x5 suggests that the ratio of 3×3 and 5×5 convolutions should 齐问题,当前网 稀疏的复杂 with reference networks based on [12]. With a bit of tun- 卷积 increase as we move to higher layers. 网络结构的 ing the gap widened and Inception proved to be especially useful in the context of localization and object detection as 假设输出 the base network for [6] and [5]. Interestingly, while most of the original architectural choices have been questioned and tested thoroughly in separation, they turned out to be close to optimal locally. One must be cautious though: al-

though the Inception architecture has become a success for computer vision, it is still questionable whether this can be attributed to the guiding principles that have lead to its construction. Making sure of this would require a much more thorough analysis and verification.

inception架构的主要思想是考虑

4. Architectural Details 觉网络内的优化局部稀疏结构如何被

定可用的稠密组件拟合。 The main idea of the Inception architecture is to consider how an optimal local sparse structure of a convolutional vision network can be approximated and covered by readily available dense components. Note that assuming translation 注意到,转换不 invariance means that our network will be built from convo- 变性意味着网络 lutional building blocks. All we need is to find the optimal 可以通过卷积构 local construction and to repeat it spatially. Arora et al. [2] 建块来构建。我 suggests a layer-by layer construction where one should an- 们需要做的是找 alyze the correlation statistics of the last layer and cluster 到优化的局部结 them into groups of units with high correlation. These clus- 构并从空间中重 the units in the previous layer. We assume that each unit from an earlier layer corresponds to some region of the in- 论文2提到的一 put image and these units are grouped into filter banks. In层层地构建网络 the lower layers (the ones close to the input) correlated units 可以通过分析最 would concentrate in local regions. Thus, we would end up 后一层的相关统 with a lot of clusters concentrated in a single region and 计特性,并将它 they can be covered by a layer of 1×1 convolutions in the 们中高度相关的 next layer, as suggested in [12]. However, one can also聚集为组。这些 expect that there will be a smaller number of more spatially 集群形成了下一 spread out clusters that can be covered by convolutions over 层的基本单元并 larger patches, and there will be a decreasing number of 与上一层的单元 patches over larger and larger regions. In order to avoid 相连。假设前些 patch-alignment issues, current incarnations of the Incep-相连。版设则些tion architecture are restricted to filter sizes 1×1 , 3×3 and 层的单元对应了 5×5 ; this decision was based more on convenience rather 输入图片的某些 than necessity. It also means that the suggested architecture 区域,这些单元 is a combination of all those layers with their output filter聚集为filters banks concatenated into a single output vector forming the 库。靠近输入的 input of the next stage. Additionally, since pooling opera-层的相关单元会 tions have been essential for the success of current convo-集中为局部区 lutional networks, it suggests that adding an alternative par-域。因此,我们 allel pooling path in each such stage should have additional 会得到许多集中

beneficial effect, too (see Figure 2(a)). ers, their spatial concentration is expected to decrease. This 为避免patch对

比例越央。 big problem with the above modules, at least in this 限制为filter size naïve form, is that even a modest number of 5×5 convo-1X1,3X3,5X5,仅 lutions can be prohibitively expensive on top of a convolu-仅为了方便而非 tional layer with a large number of filters. This problem be-必要。 comes even more pronounced once pooling units are added 除此之外,每一 to the mix: the number of output filters equals to the num-个这样的阶段增

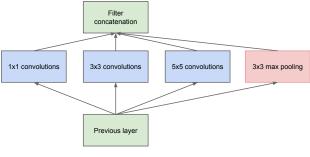
有个大问题是,即便5x5这样中和的卷基层,如果置于 包含太量filter的卷积之上也会是计算消耗极大的。一旦 池化单元混入,这个问题将变得更加尖锐,filter的输出 数量等于前一层filter的数量。

为单个区域并可 以被1x1卷积层

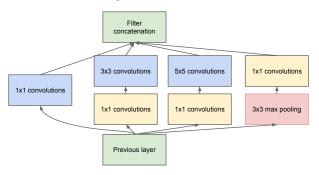
络架构变换都被

加并行的池化操 作有额外的好

处。



(a) Inception module, naïve version



(b) Inception module with dimensionality reduction

Figure 2: Inception module

池化层的输出和卷基层输出的聚合将不可避免的随阶段递增而增加输出数量 然而,我们的架构可能覆盖了优化的稀疏结构,这样会非常低效,并导致 计算的飞速 ber of filters in the previous stage. The merging of output 膨胀。 of the pooling layer with outputs of the convolutional layers would lead to an inevitable increase in the number of outputs from stage to stage. While this architecture might cover the optimal sparse structure, it would do it very inefficiently, leading to a computational blow up within a few stages.

这引出inception his leads to the second idea of the Inception architec-的第二个ideare: judiciously reducing dimension wherever the compu-, 无论何时tational requirements would increase too much otherwise. 降维都有必This is based on the success of embeddings: even low dimensional embeddings might contain a lot of information embeding about a relatively large image patch. However, embedrepresent dings represent information in a dense, compressed form 信息到一个and compressed information is harder to process. The rep-压缩稠密的resentation should be kept sparse at most places (as required 形式是很难, the conditions of [2]) and compress the signals only whenever they have to be aggregated en masse. That is, 处理的。 1×1 convolutions are used to compute reductions before representation expensive $3{\times}3$ and $5{\times}5$ convolutions. Besides being 应该在大部used as reductions, they also include the use of rectified lin-分地方稀疏ear activation making them dual-purpose. The final result is 并在信号聚**集**picted in Figure 2(b).

的地方压缩。 In general, an Inception network is a network consist-这即, 1x1 ing of modules of the above type stacked upon each other, 的卷积用于with occasional max-pooling layers with stride 2 to halve 3x3,5x5卷 the resolution of the grid. For technical reasons (memory

积之前的计算缩减。 除此之外,1x1还用 于线性整流激活Relu 更普遍的讲,一个Inceptions网络是一个由以上 模块,随机添加stride=2的以保证 网格分辨率的最大池化层相互堆积而成

efficiency during training), it seemed beneficial to start using Inception modules only at higher layers while keeping the lower layers in traditional convolutional fashion. This is not strictly necessary, simply reflecting some infrastructural inefficiencies in our current implementation.

A useful aspect of this architecture is that it allows for 此架构的裨益在 increasing the number of units at each stage significantly于,允许随意增 without an uncontrolled blow-up in computational com-加每一阶段的单 plexity at later stages. This is achieved by the ubiquitous 元数而不至于让 use of dimensionality reduction prior to expensive convolu-计算消耗极剧增 tions with larger patch sizes. Furthermore, the design fol-加。这得益于先 lows the practical intuition that visual information should 于计算消耗较大 be processed at various scales and then aggregated so that 的卷积的使用较 the next stage can abstract features from the different scales 大patch size的 simultaneously.

The improved use of computational resources allows for ^{维度缩减} increasing both the width of each stage as well as the number of stages without getting into computational difficulties. One can utilize the Inception architecture to create slightly inferior, but computationally cheaper versions of it. have found that all the available knobs and levers allow for a controlled balancing of computational resources resulting in networks that are $3-10\times$ faster than similarly performing networks with non-Inception architecture, however this requires careful manual design at this point.

5. GoogLeNet

By the "GoogLeNet" name we refer to the particular incarnation of the Inception architecture used in our submission for the ILSVRC 2014 competition. We also used one 我们使用一个更 deeper and wider Inception network with slightly superior 深更广的 quality, but adding it to the ensemble seemed to improve the Inception网络, results only marginally. We omit the details of that network, as empirical evidence suggests that the influence of the exact architectural parameters is relatively minor. Table 1 il-合所带来的提升 lustrates the most common instance of Inception used in the 微乎其微。 competition. This network (trained with different image-我们舍弃 patch sampling methods) was used for 6 out of the 7 models inception网络细 in our ensemble.

All the convolutions, including those inside the Incep-明抽取参数相对 tion modules, use rectified linear activation. The size of the 次要。 receptive field in our network is 224×224 in the RGB color space with zero mean. " $\#3\times3$ reduce" and " $\#5\times5$ reduce" stands for the number of 1×1 filters in the reduction layer used before the 3×3 and 5×5 convolutions. One can see the number of 1×1 filters in the projection layer after the built-in max-pooling in the pool proj column. All these reduction/projection layers use rectified linear activation as Relu激活函 well.

The network was designed with computational efficiency 范围是224x224 and practicality in mind, so that inference can be run on in- 的RGB颜色空 dividual devices including even those with limited compu- 间,均值为0. tational resources, especially with low-memory footprint. "#3X3 red

和"#5x5 reduce"代表3x3和5x5卷积层之前的降维的1x1 filter 数量。 pool proj列内建最大池化之后看到1x1filter的数量。所有的这些 reduction/ projection层都使用Relu

我们发现了不 使用Inception 架构的所有可 用的开关和杠 杆,用以控制 计算资源以 3-10倍计算速 度获得相同网 络性能

但是将其加入集

节,因为经验表

所有的卷积 层,包括 inception模型 内部的,使用 数。网络接收

type	patch size/ stride	output size	depth	#1×1	#3×3 reduce	#3×3	#5×5 reduce	#5×5	pool proj	params	ops
convolution	7×7/2	112×112×64	1							2.7K	34M
max pool	3×3/2	56×56×64	0								
convolution	3×3/1	$56 \times 56 \times 192$	2		64	192				112K	360M
max pool	3×3/2	28×28×192	0								
inception (3a)		28×28×256	2	64	96	128	16	32	32	159K	128M
inception (3b)		28×28×480	2	128	128	192	32	96	64	380K	304M
max pool	3×3/2	14×14×480	0								
inception (4a)		14×14×512	2	192	96	208	16	48	64	364K	73M
inception (4b)		14×14×512	2	160	112	224	24	64	64	437K	88M
inception (4c)		14×14×512	2	128	128	256	24	64	64	463K	100M
inception (4d)		$14 \times 14 \times 528$	2	112	144	288	32	64	64	580K	119M
inception (4e)		14×14×832	2	256	160	320	32	128	128	840K	170M
max pool	3×3/2	7×7×832	0								
inception (5a)		7×7×832	2	256	160	320	32	128	128	1072K	54M
inception (5b)		$7 \times 7 \times 1024$	2	384	192	384	48	128	128	1388K	71M
avg pool	7×7/1	$1 \times 1 \times 1024$	0								
dropout (40%)		1×1×1024	0								
linear		1×1×1000	1							1000K	1M
softmax		1×1×1000	0								

Table 1: GoogLeNet incarnation of the Inception architecture.

如果只计算包含参数的,网络有22层,若包含池化层有27层。独立单元有 100个左右。

在分类之前 The network is 22 layers deep when counting only layers 使用均值池 with parameters (or 27 layers if we also count pooling). The 化基于论文 overall number of layers (independent building blocks) used 12。我们的 for the construction of the network is about 100. The exact number depends on how layers are counted by the machine learning infrastructure. The use of average pooling before the classifier is based on [12], although our implementation has an additional linear layer. The linear layer enables us to 性层使得网络asily adapt our networks to other label sets, however it is 有能力适应 used mostly for convenience and we do not expect it to have 其他标签集。a major effect. We found that a move from fully connected 将全连接层 layers to average pooling improved the top-1 accuracy by 换成均值池 about 0.6%, however the use of dropout remained essential even after removing the fully connected layers.

top-1准确率提 Given relatively large depth of the network, the ability 升0.6%, 但to propagate gradients back through all the layers in an 在移除全连 effective manner was a concern. The strong performance 接层时使用 of shallower networks on this task suggests that the feadropout should be very discriminative. By adding auxiliary classifiers connected to these intermediate layers, discrimination

providing regularization. These classifiers take the form 这些分类器以小 of smaller convolutional networks put on top of the out—型卷积神经网络 put of the Inception (4a) and (4d) modules. During train—的形式放置于 ing, their loss gets added to the total loss of the network inception(4a)和 with a discount weight (the losses of the auxiliary classi-模块(4d)的输出 fiers were weighted by 0.3). At inference time, these auxil-之上。 iary networks are discarded. Later control experiments have 网络训练期间, shown that the effect of the auxiliary networks is relatively 它们的loss会以 minor (around 0.5%) and that it required only one of them —定比率权重累 to achieve the same effect.

The exact structure of the extra network on the side, in-

cluding the auxiliary classifier, is as follows: 辅助网络的精确结构如下:

• An average pooling layer with 5×5 filter size and 分类器都会被舍 stride 3, resulting in an $4\times 4\times 512$ output for the (4a), 弃。后续的控制 and $4\times 4\times 528$ for the (4d) stage. 实验表明,辅助 网络的效果甚微

预测阶段,这些

• A 1×1 convolution with 128 filters for dimension reduction and rectified linear activation.

- A fully connected layer with 1024 units and rectified linear activation.
- A dropout layer with 70% ratio of dropped outputs.

鉴于网络较大,其反向传播能力需要考虑。此任务的浅层网络的表现表明 网络中间层产生的特征尤为重要。

in the lower stages in the classifier was expected. This was thought to combat the vanishing gradient problem while A linear layer with softmax loss as the classifier (predicting the same 1000 classes as the main classifier, but removed at inference time).

A schematic view of the resulting network is depicted in Figure 3.

6. Training Methodology

GoogLeNet networks were trained using the DistBelief [4] distributed machine learning system using modest amount of model and data-parallelism. Although we used a CPU based implementation only, a rough estimate suggests that the GoogLeNet network could be trained to convergence using few high-end GPUs within a week, the main limitation being the memory usage. Our training used asynchronous stochastic gradient descent with 0.9 momenary mome

Image sampling methods have changed substantially over the months leading to the competition, and already converged models were trained on with other options, some- 竞赛过程中调整了很多 times in conjunction with changed hyperparameters, such as dropout and the learning rate. Therefore, it is hard to give a definitive guidance to the most effective single way to train these networks. To complicate matters further, some of the models were mainly trained on smaller relative crops, others on larger ones, inspired by [8]. Still, one prescription that was verified to work very well after the competition, includes sampling of various sized patches of the image whose size is distributed evenly between 8% and 100% of the image area with aspect ratio constrained to the interval $\left[\frac{3}{4}, \frac{4}{3}\right]$. Also, we found that the photometric distortions of Andrew Howard [8] were useful to combat overfitting to the imaging conditions of training data.

7. ILSVRC 2014 Classification Challenge Setup and Results

The ILSVRC 2014 classification challenge involves the task of classifying the image into one of 1000 leaf-node categories in the Imagenet hierarchy. There are about 1.2 million images for training, 50,000 for validation and 100,000 images for testing. Each image is associated with one ground truth category, and performance is measured based on the highest scoring classifier predictions. Two numbers are usually reported: the top-1 accuracy rate, which compares the ground truth against the first predicted class, and the top-5 error rate, which compares the ground truth against the first 5 predicted classes: an image is deemed correctly classified if the ground truth is among the top-5, regardless of its rank in them. The challenge uses the top-5 error rate for ranking purposes.

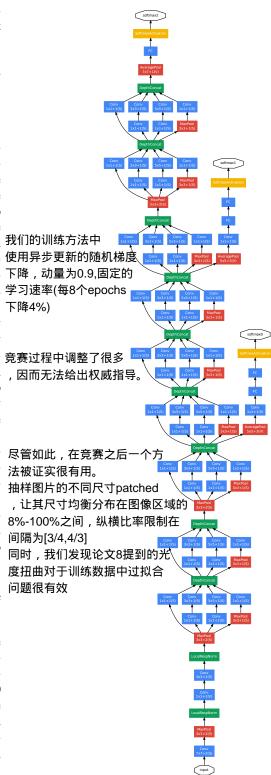


Figure 3: GoogLeNet network with all the bells and whistles.

We participated in the challenge with no external data used for training. In addition to the training techniques aforementioned in this paper, we adopted a set of techniques during testing to obtain a higher performance, which we describe next.

- 1. We independently trained 7 versions of the same GoogLeNet model (including one wider version), and performed ensemble prediction with them. These models were trained with the same initialization (even with the same initial weights, due to an oversight) and learning rate policies. They differed only in sampling methodologies and the randomized input image order.
- 2. During testing, we adopted a more aggressive cropping approach than that of Krizhevsky et al. [9]. Specifically, we resized the image to 4 scales where the shorter dimension (height or width) is 256, 288, 320 and 352 respectively, take the left, center and right square of these resized images (in the case of portrait images, we take the top, center and bottom squares). For each square, we then take the 4 corners and the center 224×224 crop as well as the square resized to 224×224, and their mirrored versions. This leads to $4\times3\times6\times2=144$ crops per image. A similar approach was used by Andrew Howard [8] in the previous year's entry, which we empirically verified to perform slightly worse than the proposed scheme. We note that such aggressive cropping may not be necessary in real applications, as the benefit of more crops becomes marginal after a reasonable number of crops are present (as we will show later on).
- 3. The softmax probabilities are averaged over multiple crops and over all the individual classifiers to obtain the final prediction. In our experiments we analyzed alternative approaches on the validation data, such as max pooling over crops and averaging over classifiers, but they lead to inferior performance than the simple averaging.

In the remainder of this paper, we analyze the multiple factors that contribute to the overall performance of the final submission.

Our final submission to the challenge obtains a top-5 error of 6.67% on both the validation and testing data, ranking the first among other participants. This is a 56.5% relative reduction compared to the SuperVision approach in 2012, and about 40% relative reduction compared to the previous year's best approach (Clarifai), both of which used external data for training the classifiers. Table 2 shows the statistics of some of the top-performing approaches over the past 3 years.

We also analyze and report the performance of multiple testing choices, by varying the number of models and the

Team	Year	Place	Error (top-5)	Uses external data
SuperVision	2012	1st	16.4%	no
SuperVision	2012	1st	15.3%	Imagenet 22k
Clarifai	2013	1st	11.7%	no
Clarifai	2013	1st	11.2%	Imagenet 22k
MSRA	2014	3rd	7.35%	no
VGG	2014	2nd	7.32%	no
GoogLeNet	2014	1st	6.67%	no

Table 2: Classification performance.

Number of models	Number of Crops	Cost	Top-5 error	compared to base
1	1	1	10.07%	base
1	10	10	9.15%	-0.92%
1	144	144	7.89%	-2.18%
7	1	7	8.09%	-1.98%
7	10	70	7.62%	-2.45%
7	144	1008	6.67%	-3.45%

Table 3: GoogLeNet classification performance break down.

number of crops used when predicting an image in Table 3. When we use one model, we chose the one with the lowest top-1 error rate on the validation data. All numbers are reported on the validation dataset in order to not overfit to the testing data statistics.

8. ILSVRC 2014 Detection Challenge Setup and Results

The ILSVRC detection task is to produce bounding boxes around objects in images among 200 possible classes. Detected objects count as correct if they match the class of the groundtruth and their bounding boxes overlap by at least 50% (using the Jaccard index). Extraneous detections count as false positives and are penalized. Contrary to the classification task, each image may contain many objects or none, and their scale may vary. Results are reported using the mean average precision (mAP). The approach taken by GoogLeNet for detection is similar to the R-CNN by [6], but is augmented with the Inception model as the region classifier. Additionally, the region proposal step is improved by combining the selective search [20] approach with multibox [5] predictions for higher object bounding box recall. In order to reduce the number of false positives, the super-

Team	Year	Place	mAP	external data	ensemble	approach
UvA-Euvision	2013	1st	22.6%	none	?	Fisher vectors
Deep Insight	2014	3rd	40.5%	ImageNet 1k	3	CNN
CUHK DeepID-Net	2014	2nd	40.7%	ImageNet 1k	?	CNN
GoogLeNet	2014	1st	43.9%	ImageNet 1k	6	CNN

Table 4: Comparison of detection performances. Unreported values are noted with question marks.

pixel size was increased by $2\times$. This halves the proposals coming from the selective search algorithm. We added back 200 region proposals coming from multi-box [5] resulting, in total, in about 60% of the proposals used by [6], while increasing the coverage from 92% to 93%. The overall effect of cutting the number of proposals with increased coverage is a 1% improvement of the mean average precision for the single model case. Finally, we use an ensemble of 6 GoogLeNets when classifying each region. This leads to an increase in accuracy from 40% to 43.9%. Note that contrary to R-CNN, we did not use bounding box regression due to lack of time.

We first report the top detection results and show the progress since the first edition of the detection task. Compared to the 2013 result, the accuracy has almost doubled. The top performing teams all use convolutional networks. We report the official scores in Table 4 and common strategies for each team: the use of external data, ensemble models or contextual models. The external data is typically the ILSVRC12 classification data for pre-training a model that is later refined on the detection data. Some teams also mention the use of the localization data. Since a good portion of the localization task bounding boxes are not included in the detection dataset, one can pre-train a general bounding box regressor with this data the same way classification is used for pre-training. The GoogLeNet entry did not use the localization data for pretraining.

In Table 5, we compare results using a single model only. The top performing model is by Deep Insight and surprisingly only improves by 0.3 points with an ensemble of 3 models while the GoogLeNet obtains significantly stronger results with the ensemble.

9. Conclusions

Our results yield a solid evidence that approximating the expected optimal sparse structure by readily available dense building blocks is a viable method for improving neural networks for computer vision. The main advantage of this method is a significant quality gain at a modest increase of computational requirements compared to shallower and narrower architectures.

Our object detection work was competitive despite not

Team	mAP	Contextual model	Bounding box regression
Trimps- Soushen	31.6%	no	?
Berkeley Vision	34.5%	no	yes
UvA- Euvision	35.4%	?	?
CUHK DeepID- Net2	37.7%	no	?
GoogLeNet	38.02%	no	no
Deep Insight	40.2%	yes	yes

Table 5: Single model performance for detection.

utilizing context nor performing bounding box regression, suggesting yet further evidence of the strengths of the Inception architecture.

For both classification and detection, it is expected that similar quality of result can be achieved by much more expensive non-Inception-type networks of similar depth and width. Still, our approach yields solid evidence that moving to sparser architectures is feasible and useful idea in general. This suggest future work towards creating sparser and more refined structures in automated ways on the basis of [2], as well as on applying the insights of the Inception architecture to other domains.

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