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Astroparticle School 2025  
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<https://github.com/DeepLearningForPhysicsResearchBook/deep-learning-physics>



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# Convolutional Neural Networks

- I. Processing image-like data
- II. Incorporating symmetries into DNNs



# Time schedule for the next days



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## Tutorial: Introduction to deep learning

Tuesday 1:15h

- Training of deep neural networks
- Interactive training of neural networks

## Hands-on

Friday 1:30h

- Convolutional neural network
- machine learning frameworks: Keras
- Implementation of deep neural networks

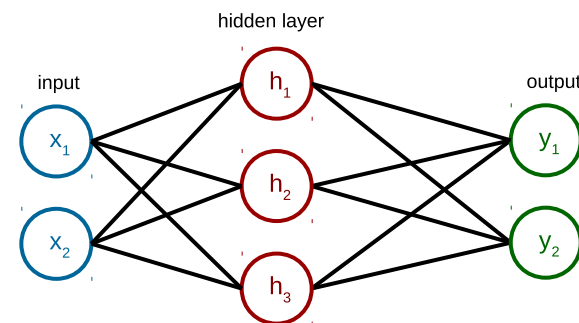
### Set up & Requirements:

<https://bitly.cx/iHcxS> & <https://bit.ly/3pyXRii>

we will use **Jupyter Notebooks** and Keras / TensorFlow  
we will use **Google Colab** → Google Account required

# Recap: Neural Networks

- Typical Machine Learning task
  - Labeled Data  $(x, y)$
  - Model with adaptive weights  $y_m(x, \theta)$
  - Objective  $J(\theta)$
  - Optimization procedure
- Neural Network  $y = \sigma(Wx + b)$ 
  - Matrix multiplication (adaptive superposition of features)
  - Add of bias
  - Nonlinear activation
- Deep Learning is form of representation learning
  - Stack multiple layers for increasing feature hierarchy



# Recap: Optimization



Why Momentum Really Works, Distill

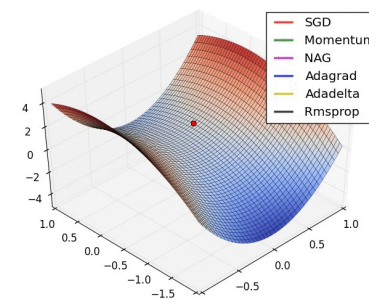
**Mini-batch training:** Use **stochastic gradient descent** algorithm (SGD)

**Momentum:** Use past gradients (velocity)

- Faster convergence by **damping oscillations** and increasing the step size for more informative gradients

**Adaptive learning rate:** Scaling using past gradients

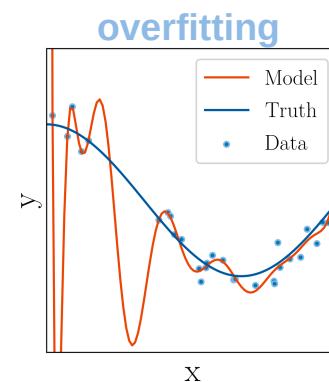
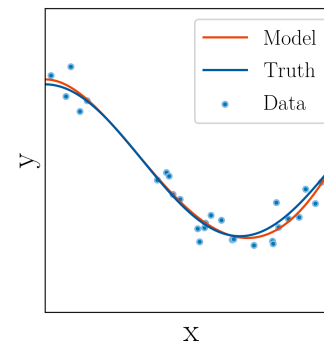
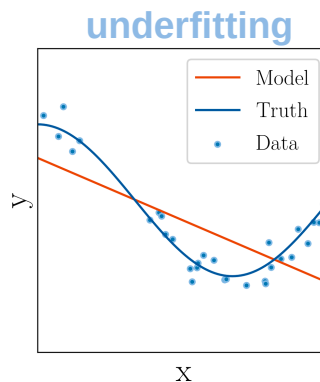
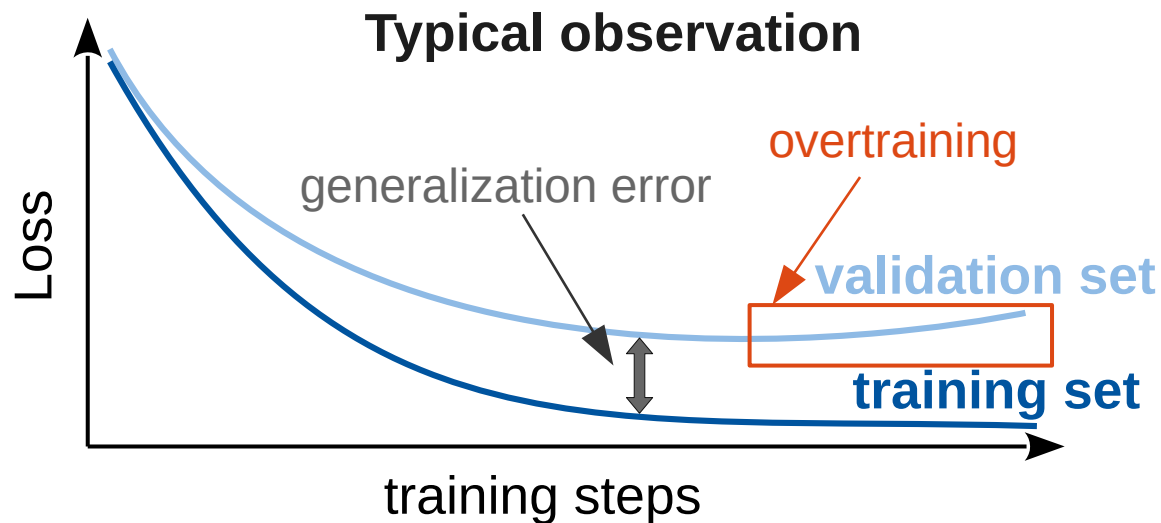
- Use adaptive learning rate for each parameter

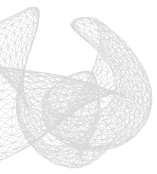




# Recap: Under- and Overtraining

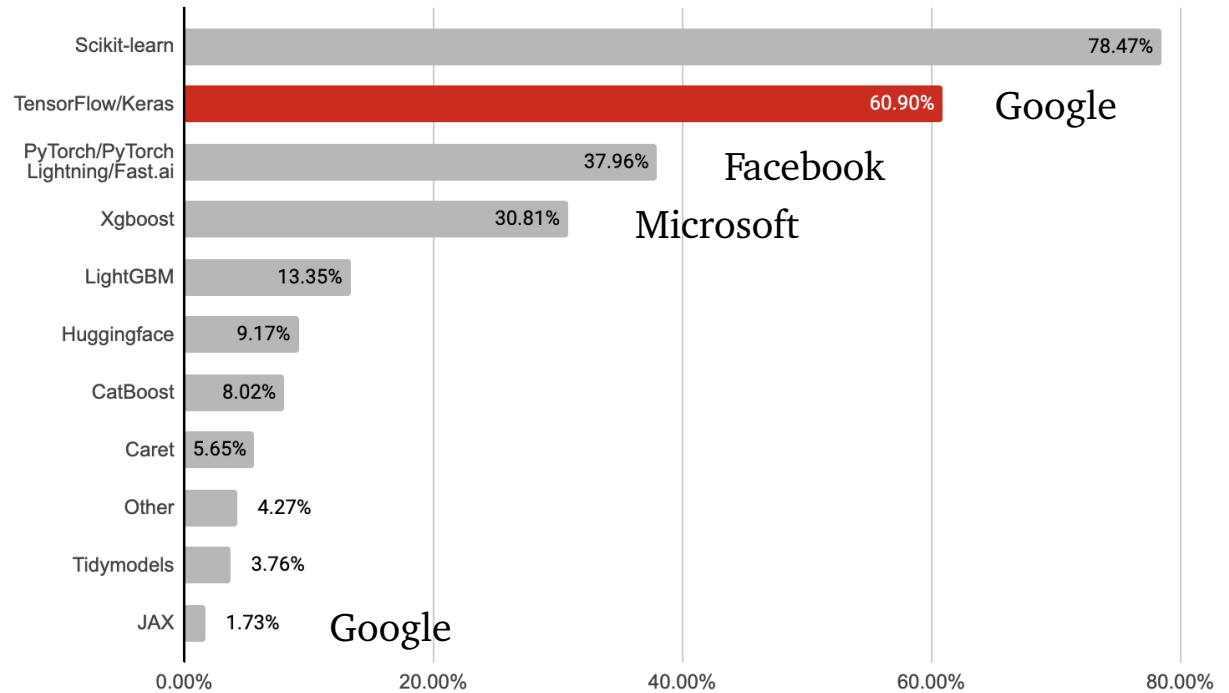
- Split data into 3 sets
  - ♦ training
  - ♦ test
  - ♦ validation
- What is a reasonably split?
- During training monitor the loss separately for training and validation set
  - ♦ check for overtraining!
  - ♦ if loss stops decreasing
    - reduce learning rate
    - stop training





# Practice I

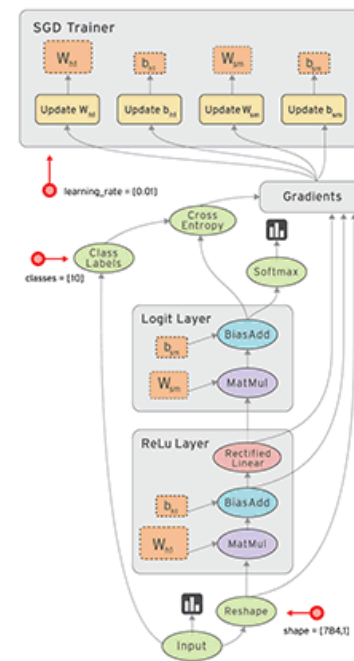
2022 Machine Learning & Data Science Survey by Kaggle: library usage (N=14,531)



# TensorFlow

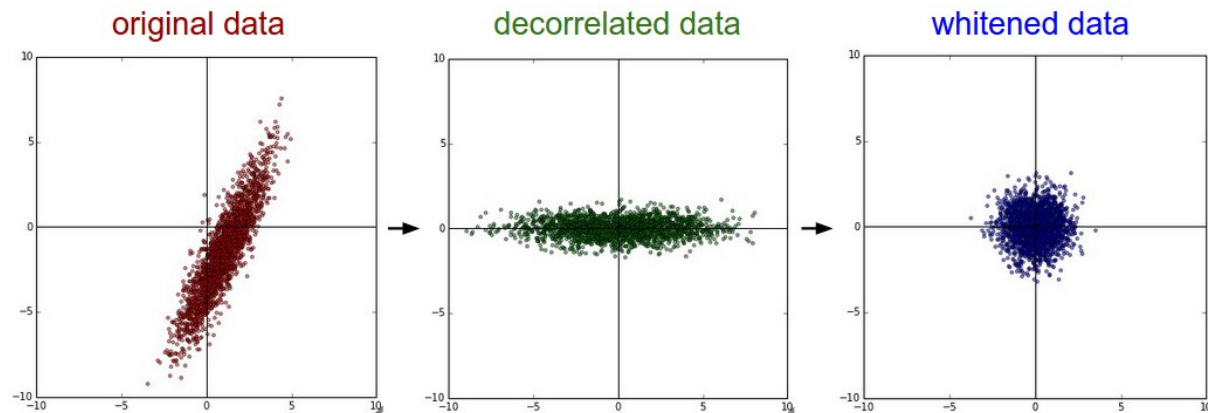
*“Open source software library for numerical computation using data flowing graphs”*

- **Nodes** represent mathematical operations
- **Graph edges** represent multi dimensional data arrays (**tensors**) which **flow** through the graph
- Supports:
  - ♦ CPUs and **GPUs**
  - ♦ Desktops and mobile devices
- Released 2015, stable since Feb. 2017
- Developer: Google Brain



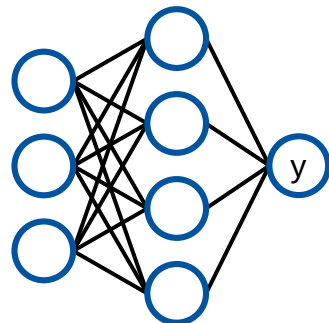
# Data Preprocessing

- Input features of data set should be on same scale
  - ♦ Prevent particular sensitivity to few features
- Common normalization strategies
  - ♦ Limit range between  $[0, 1]$  or  $[-1, 1]$
  - ♦ Standard normalization:  $\mu(x_i) = 0$  &  $\sigma(x_i) = 1$
  - ♦ Whitening: standard normalization + decorrelation

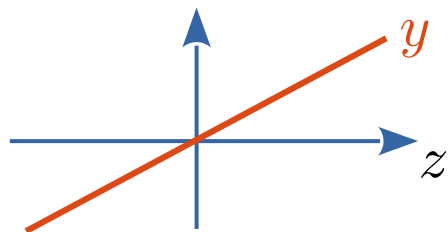


# Classification vs. Regression

## Regression



### Linear

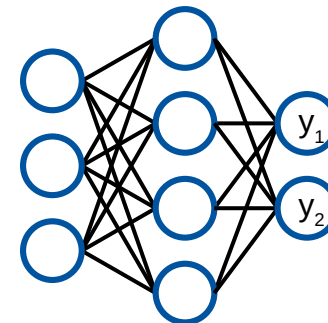


no activation function

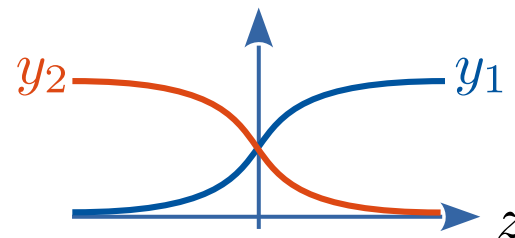
Minimize mean-squared-error

$$J(\theta) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_i [y_i - y_m(x_i)]^2$$

## Classification



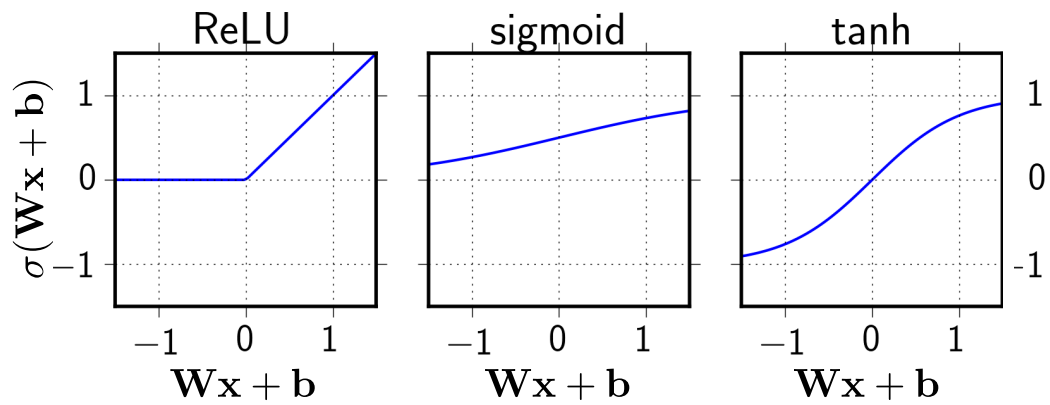
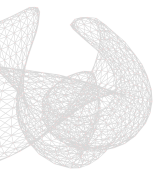
### Softmax



$$y_j(z) = \frac{e^{z_j}}{\sum_i e^{z_i}}$$

Minimize cross entropy

$$J(\theta) = -\frac{1}{n} \sum_i y_i \log[y_m(x_i)]$$



## What is a nice activation function?

- (a) ReLU → since it's so simple and has a simple and constant gradient
- (b) Sigmoid → it's very complex and inspired by biology
- (c) Tanh → it is complex and also permits negative values



# Metrics: Regression

## Regression

$$J(\theta) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_i [y_i - y_m(x_i)]^2$$

Minimize mean-squared-error

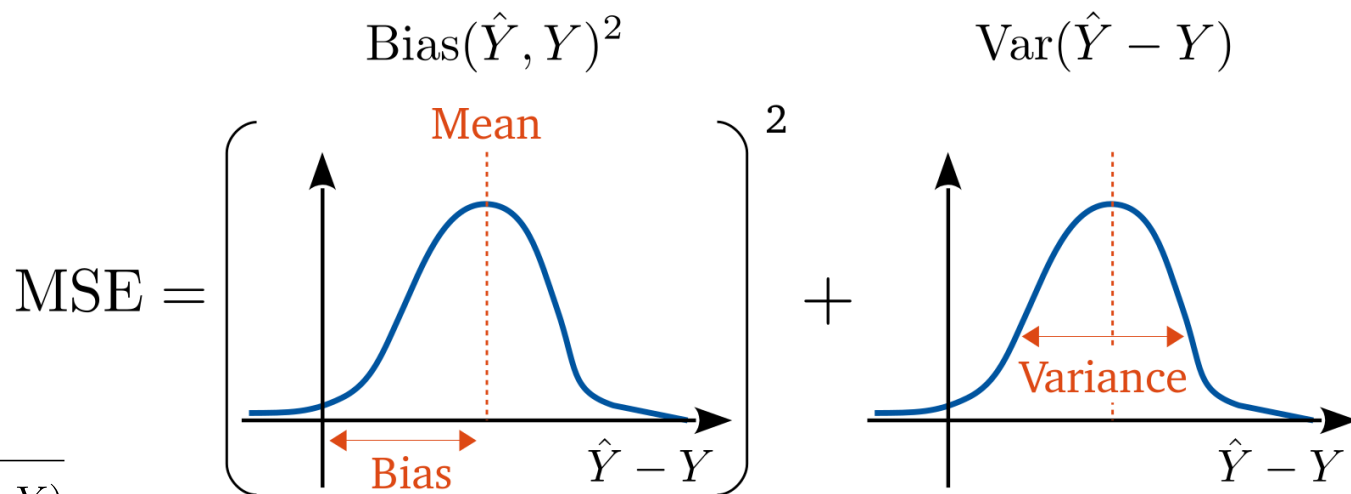
### Metrics:

#### Bias

→ often part of systematic uncertainty in experiments

**Resolution:**  $\sigma_{\text{res}} = \sqrt{\text{Var}(\hat{Y} - Y)}$

→ Resolution of an algorithms  
Often used to quantify precision



***“Minimizing the MSE, minimizes both bias and resolution of an estimator (your DNN)”***



# Metrics: Regression

## Classification

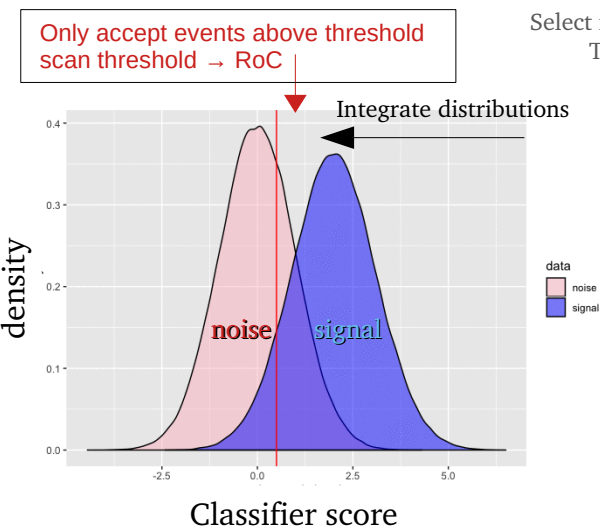
### Metrics:

Accuracy: fraction of correct predictions

Better: Receiver Operation Characteristic (ROC)

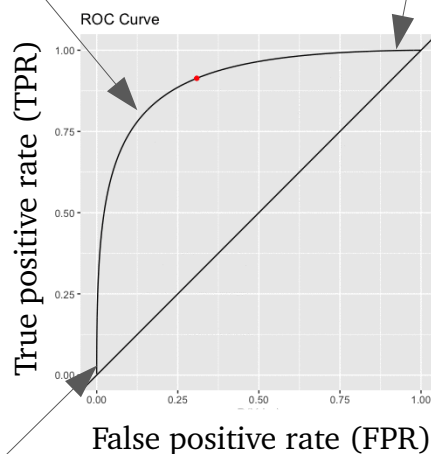
$$J(\theta) = -\frac{1}{n} \sum_i y_i \log[y_m(x_i)]$$

Minimize cross entropy



Select most signal / less noise  
TPR = large, FPR = small

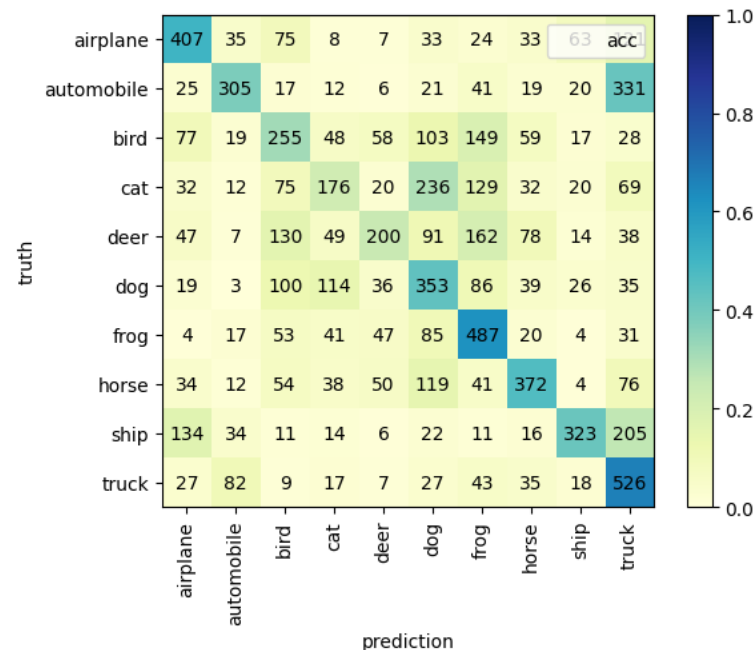
Select almost everything  
TPR ~ 1, FPR ~ 1



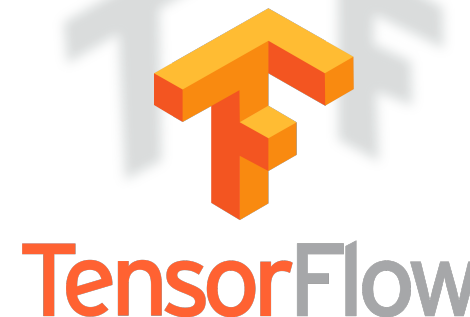
Select almost nothing  
TPR ~ 0, FPR ~ 0

**Multi-class classification**  
→ no ROC possible

### Confusion Matrix



- Will use Keras in this tutorial (TensorFlow backend) - <https://keras.io>
- High-level neural networks API, written in Python
- Concise syntax with many reasonable default settings
- Useful callbacks / metrics for monitoring the training procedure
- Nice Documentation & many examples and tutorials
- Comes with TensorFlow



# How to train your Model?

## I. Define Model

- Add layers, nodes, regularization, activation functions, ....)

## II. Compile Model

- Set Loss, optimizer settings and useful metrics

## III. Fit Model

- Set number of iterations and train model on given data

```
from tensorflow import keras
```

```
layers = keras.layers
```

```
models = keras.models
```

```
# setup and train a 3-layer regression network with Keras
```

```
model = models.Sequential()
```

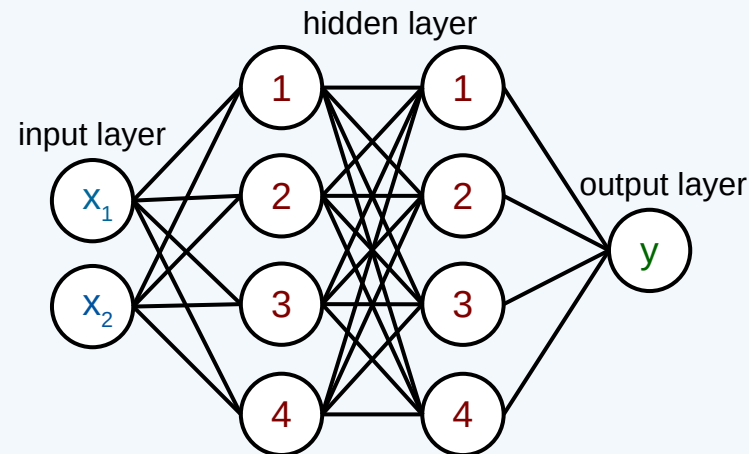
```
model.add(layers.Dense(4, activation='relu', input_dim=2))
```

```
model.add(layers.Dense(4, activation='relu'))
```

```
model.add(layers.Dense(1, activation='linear'))
```

```
model.compile(loss='MSE', optimizer='SGD')
```

```
model.fit(xdata, ydata, epochs=200)
```

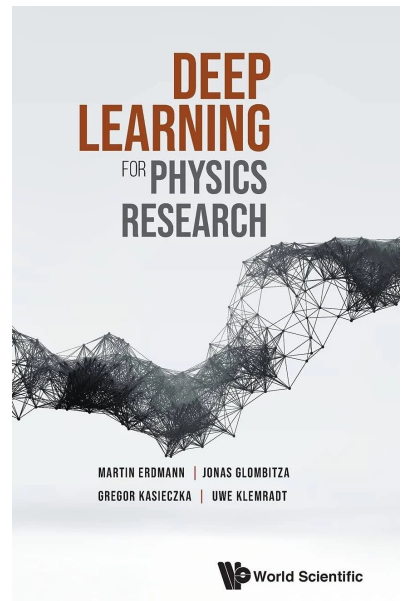


# Tryout Deep Learning Yourself!

Find many physics examples at:  
<http://www.deeplearningphysics.org/>

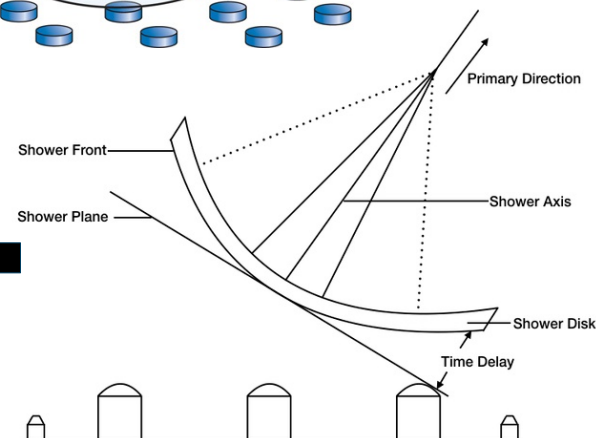
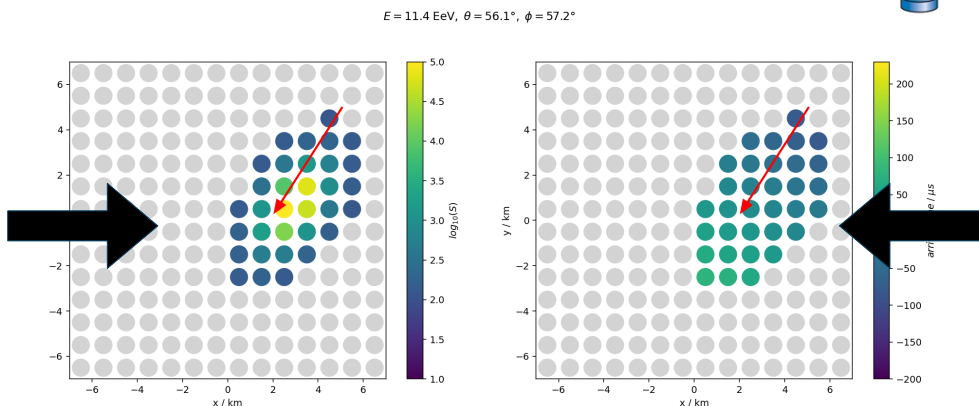
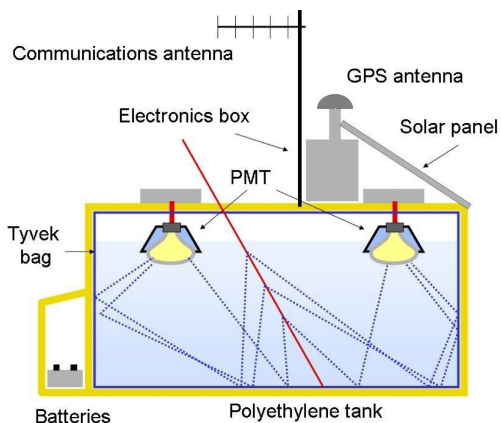
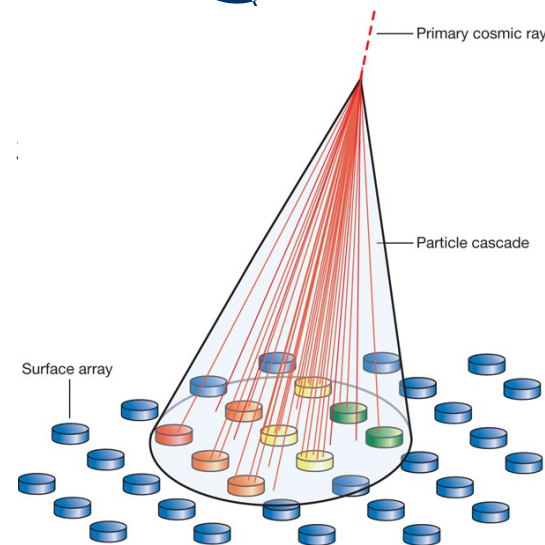
For example:

- I. CNNs, RNNs, GCNs
- II. GANs and WGANs
- III. Anomaly detection, Denosing AEs
- IV. Visualization & introspection and more



# Air Shower Reconstruction

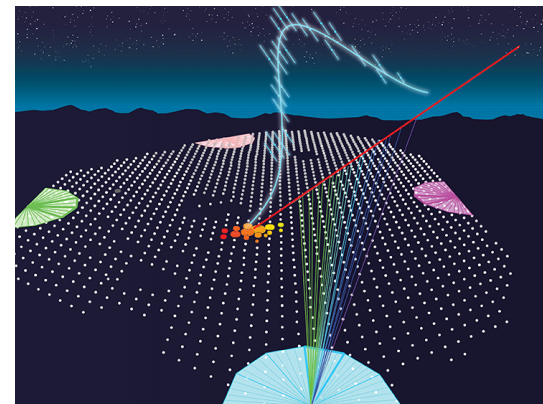
- Observatory for measuring cosmic-ray-induced air showers
  - ♦ 14 x 14 particle detectors, arranged in Cartesian grid (altitude of 1400 m)
  - ♦ particle detectors measure arrival time of the shower and deposited energy



# Air Shower Reconstruction - FCN

Now: **OPEN** tutorial at:

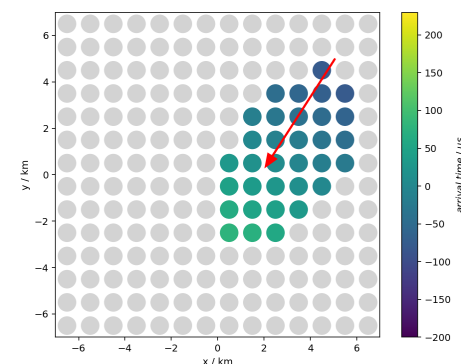
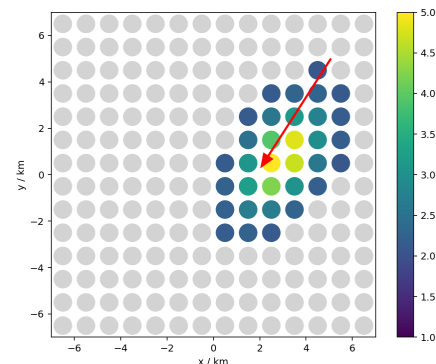
- [https://github.com/jglombitza/tutorial\\_nn\\_airshowers](https://github.com/jglombitza/tutorial_nn_airshowers)
- or click and login



$E = 11.4 \text{ EeV}$ ,  $\theta = 56.1^\circ$ ,  $\phi = 57.2^\circ$

## Task

- Reconstruct energy of the shower
  - ♦ footprint is 2D image
  - ♦ cannot directly be used as input
    - reshape to a vector with length  $(14 \times 14 \times 2 = 392)$
  - ♦ **Try to reach a resolution better than 4 EeV**

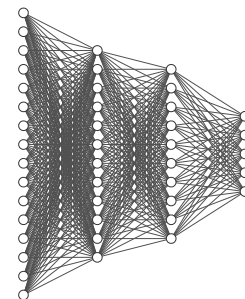




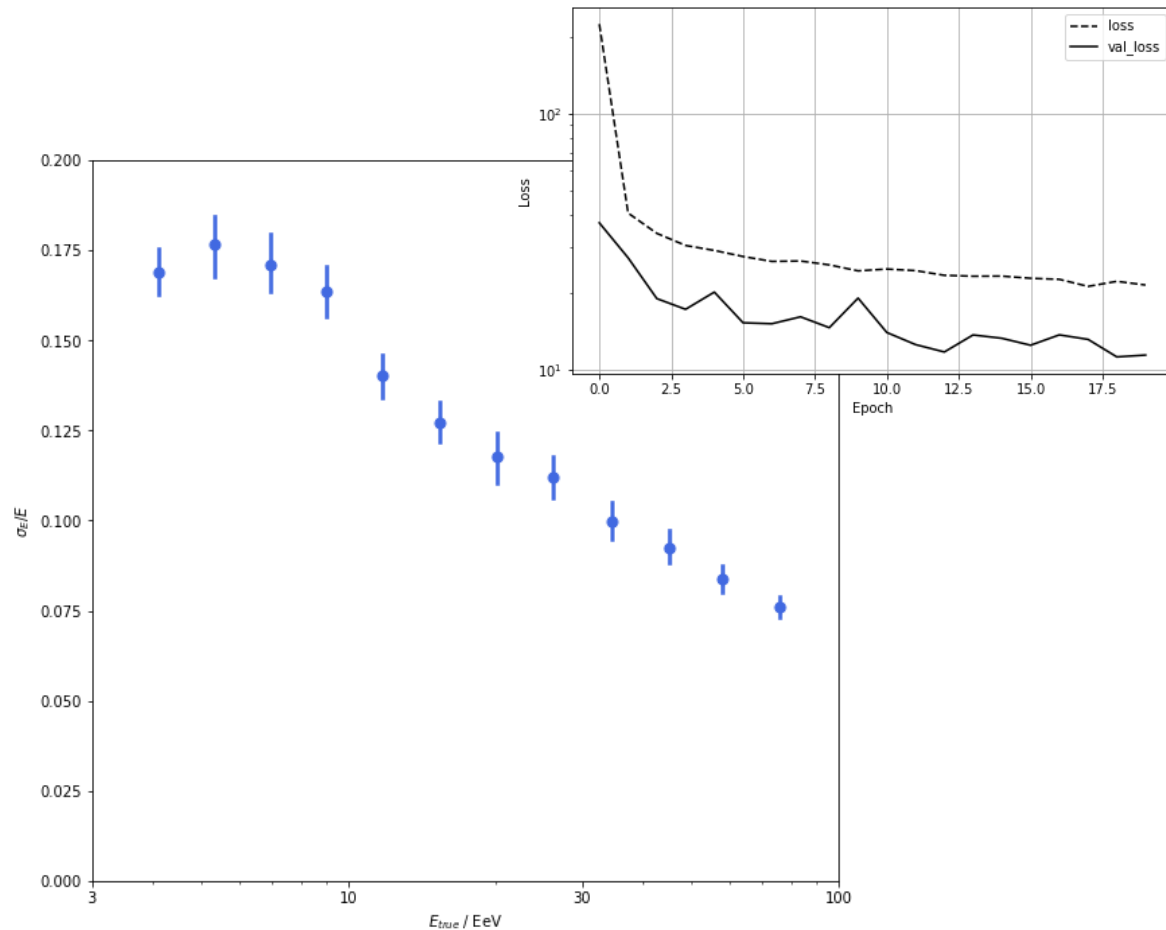
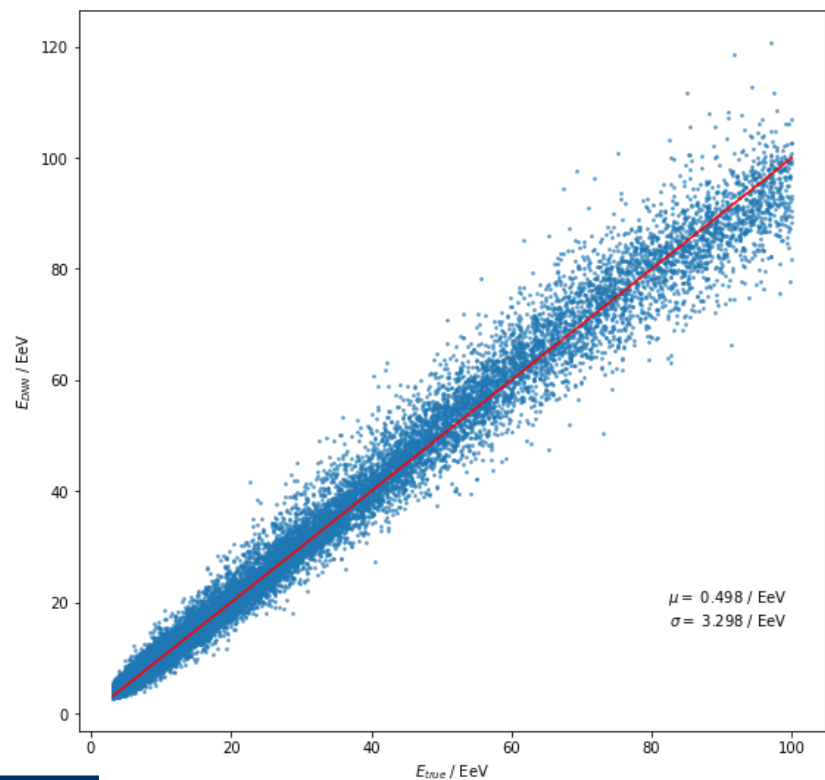
# Results I

- Train fully-connected network as benchmark
- Model – **add**:
  - ♦ additional layers
  - ♦ more nodes
  - ♦ regularization (Dropout)

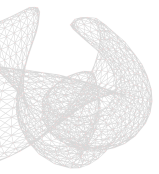
```
model = keras.models.Sequential()  
model.add(layers.Flatten(input_shape=X_train.shape[1:]))  
model.add(layers.Dense(100, activation="elu"))  
model.add(layers.Dense(100, activation="elu"))  
model.add(layers.Dense(100, activation="elu"))  
model.add(layers.Dense(100, activation="elu"))  
model.add(layers.Dropout(0.3))  
model.add(layers.Dense(1))
```



# Results II

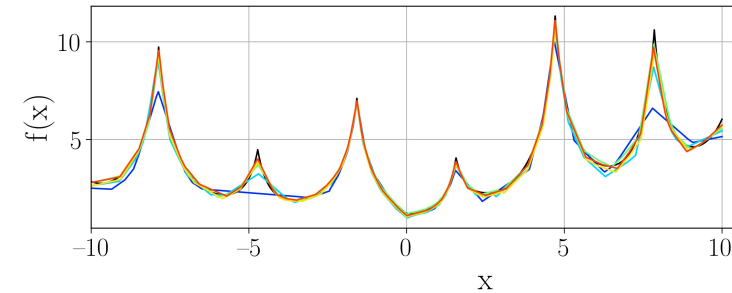






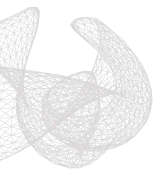
*“A feed-forward network with a linear with a finite number of nodes can approximate any reasonable function to arbitrary precision.”*

## Is the simple feed-forward network the ultimate AI building block?



- (a) Yes, as proven by the universal approximation theorem
- (b) Practically not; You know theory and theorists...
- (c) Please don't talk the next 4 hours about feed-forward networks only...





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## Dedicated time for **Your Questions**



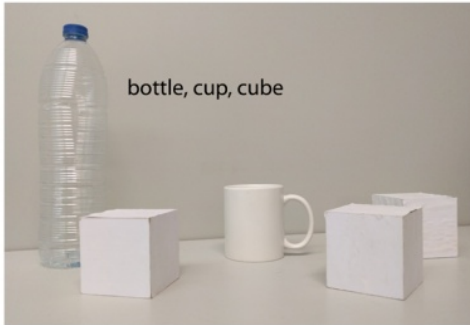
# Natural Images



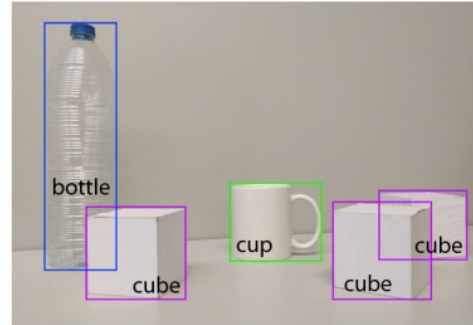
Automate task for humans, very challenging for machine learning models:

- High dimensional input (up to millions of pixels)
- Many possible classes depending on task
- Multiple variations
  - ♦ Viewing angle, light conditions, deformation, object variations, occlusions....

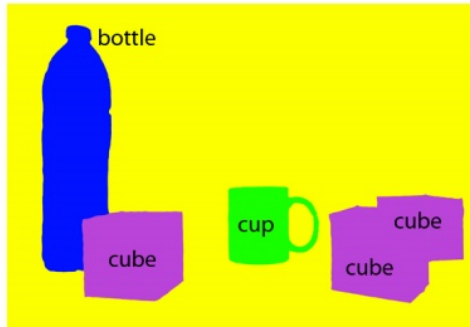
# Computer Vision Tasks



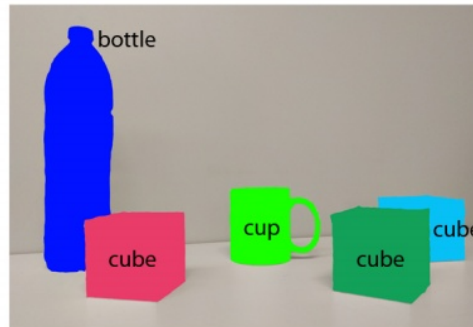
(a) Image classification



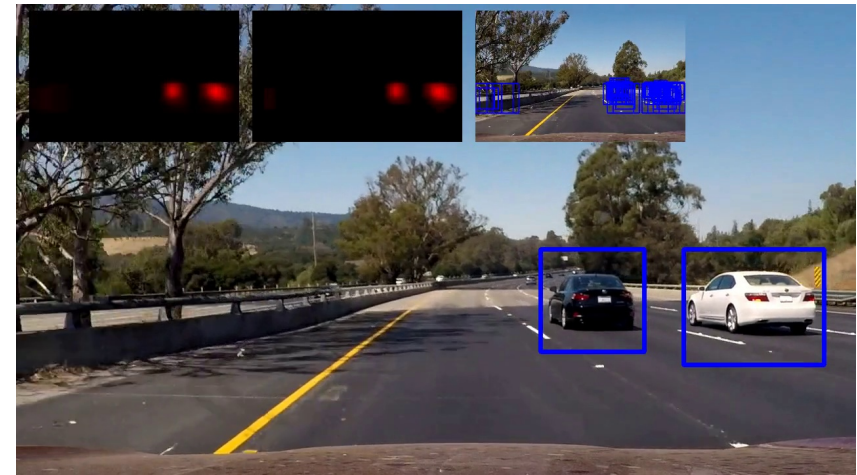
(b) Object localization



(c) Semantic segmentation

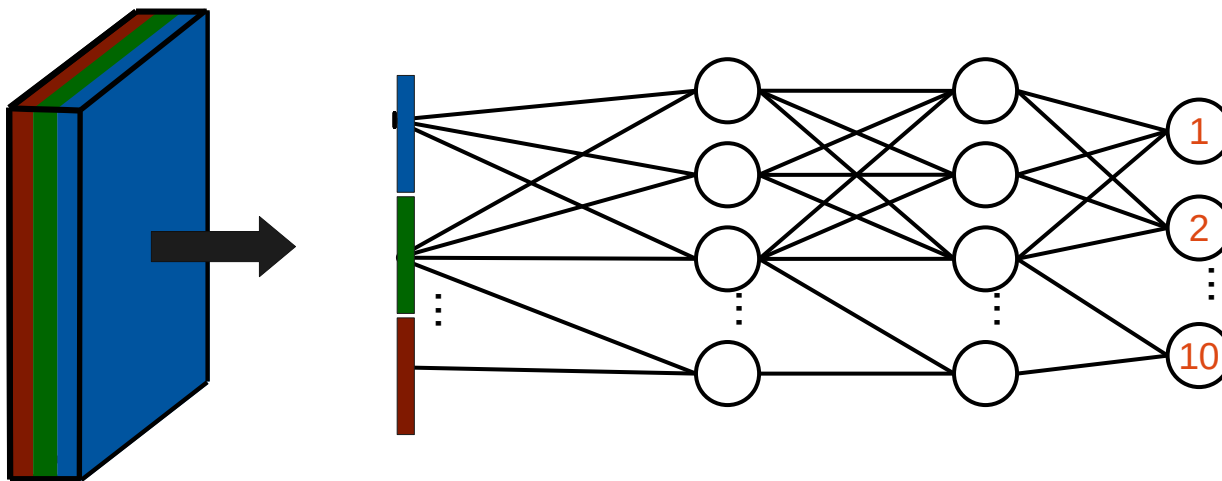


(d) Instance segmentation

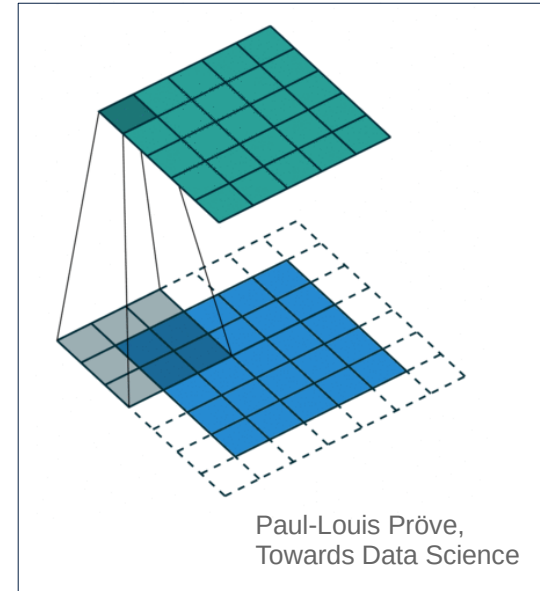
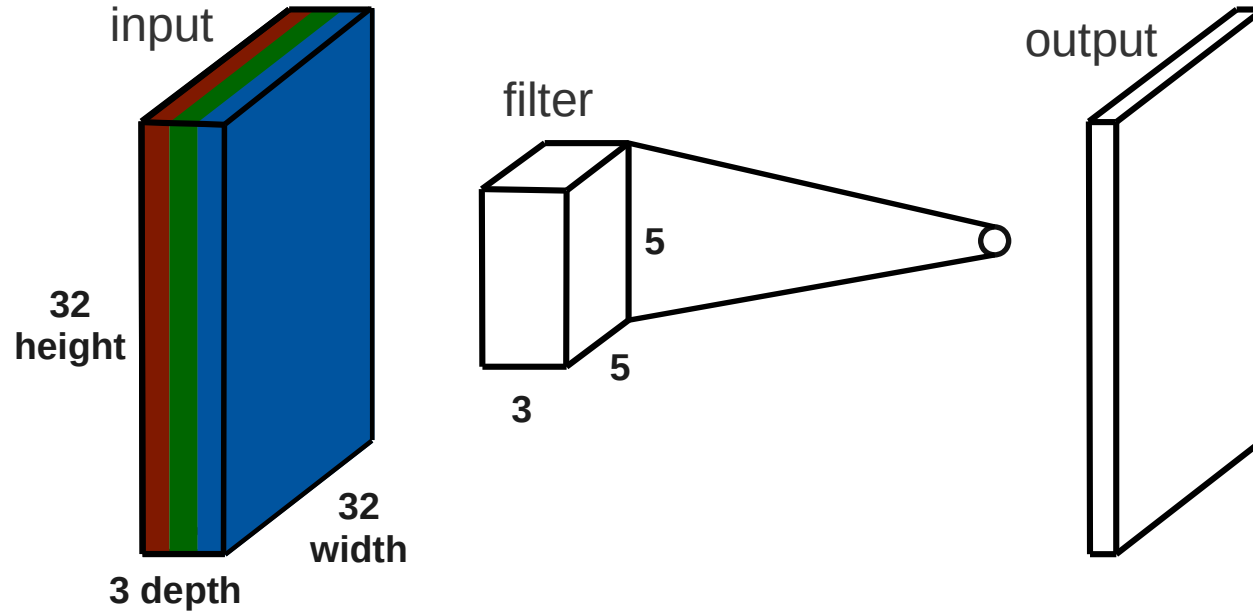


# Fully Connected Network

- Input layer: Flatten image to  $32 \times 32 \times 3 = 3072$  vector
- Fully connected: every pixel connected with each other
- ✗ Huge number of adaptive parameters per layer
- ✗ No use of translational variance
- ✗ No prior on local correlations



# 2D Convolutional Neural Networks



- Consider input volume (width x height x depth), e.g., 3 color channels
- Use convolutional filter with smaller width and height but same depth
- Slide filter over the entire volume and calculate linear transformation to get one output value for each position



# Convolutional Operation

|   |   |    |  |  |  |  |
|---|---|----|--|--|--|--|
| 3 | 0 | 1  |  |  |  |  |
| 4 | 2 | 0  |  |  |  |  |
| 2 | 4 | -3 |  |  |  |  |
|   |   |    |  |  |  |  |
|   |   |    |  |  |  |  |
|   |   |    |  |  |  |  |
|   |   |    |  |  |  |  |

|    |   |    |
|----|---|----|
| -1 | 2 | 0  |
| 0  | 3 | 0  |
| 0  | 2 | -5 |

|       |       |       |
|-------|-------|-------|
| $W_1$ | $W_2$ | $W_3$ |
| $W_4$ | $W_5$ | $W_6$ |
| $W_7$ | $W_8$ | $W_9$ |

$$3 \cdot -1 + 0 \cdot 2 + 1 \cdot 0 + 4 \cdot 0 + 2 \cdot 3 \\ + 0 \cdot 0 + 2 \cdot 0 + 4 \cdot 2 + -3 \cdot -5 = 26$$

|    |  |  |  |  |
|----|--|--|--|--|
| 26 |  |  |  |  |
|    |  |  |  |  |
|    |  |  |  |  |
|    |  |  |  |  |
|    |  |  |  |  |

# Convolutional filters

hand-designed filters

Edge

|    |    |    |
|----|----|----|
| -1 | -1 | -1 |
| -1 | 8  | -1 |
| -1 | -1 | -1 |

Diagonal  
edge

|    |    |    |
|----|----|----|
| -1 | -1 | 2  |
| -1 | 2  | -1 |
| 2  | -1 | -1 |

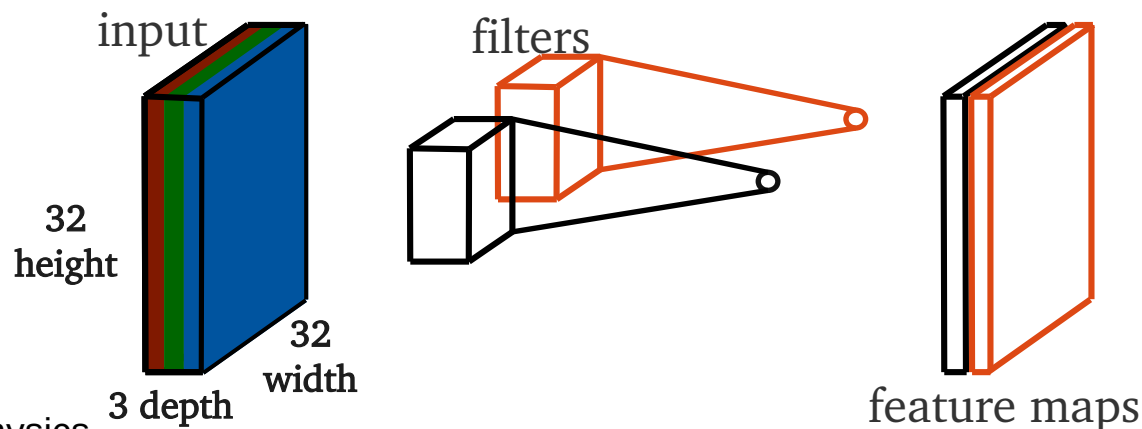
deep learning

Convolutional  
Networks

|       |       |       |
|-------|-------|-------|
| $w_1$ | $w_2$ | $w_3$ |
| $w_4$ | $w_5$ | $w_6$ |
| $w_7$ | $w_8$ | $w_9$ |

adaptive  
parameters

- scan input image for the presence of specific feature using **filters**
- use multiple filters and stack the results as **feature maps** (depth-wise stacking)

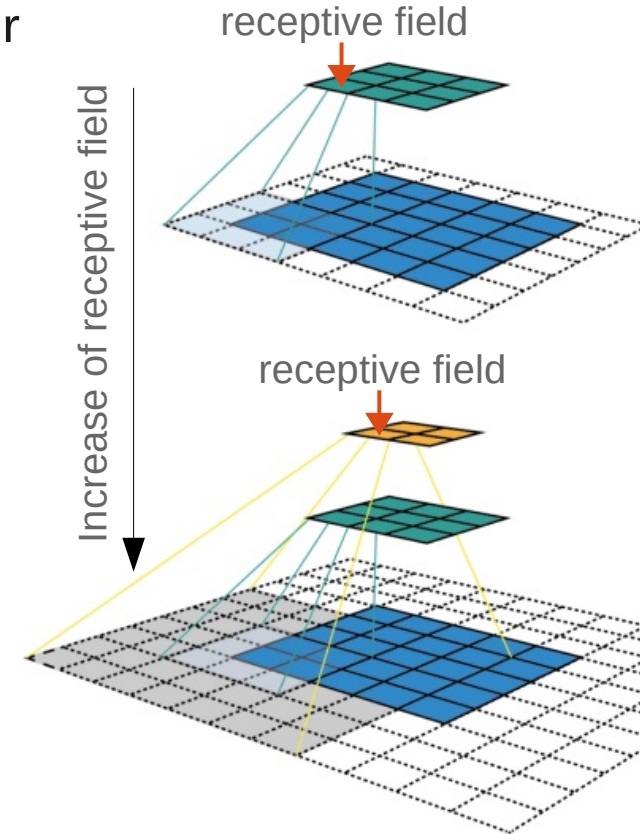
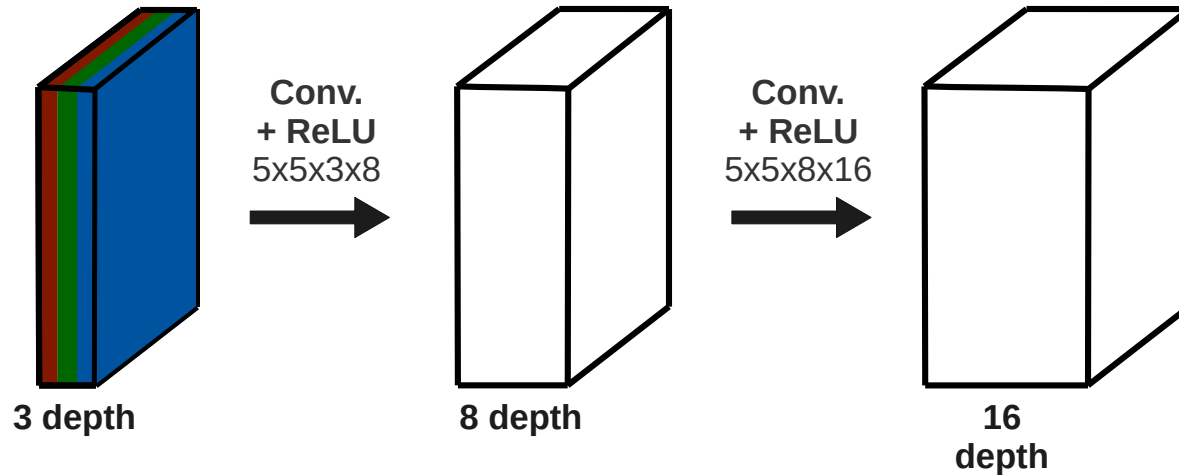




# 2D Convolutional Operation

Stack multiple convolutional layers + activations

- Each convolution acts on feature map of previous layer
- Increasing feature hierarchy
- Increasing of receptive field

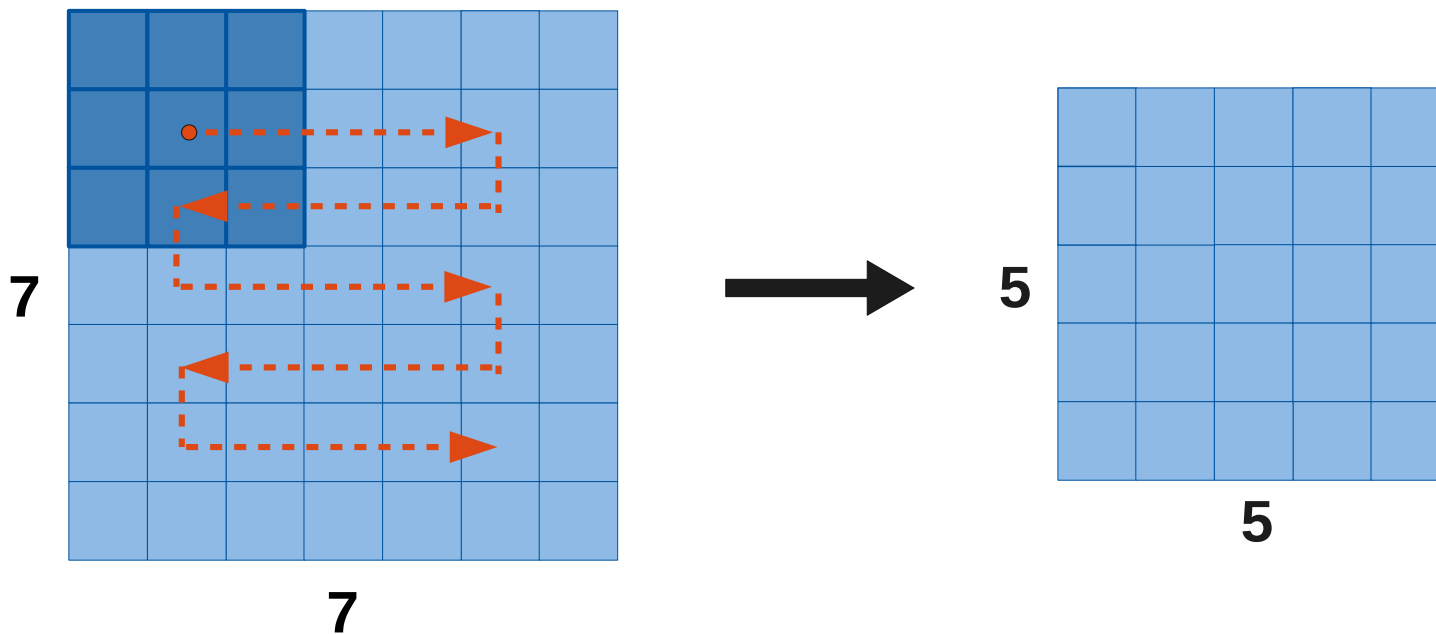


# Spatial Output Size

Standard convolution reduces the output size due to extent of the filter

- Sets upper bound to the number of convolutional layers

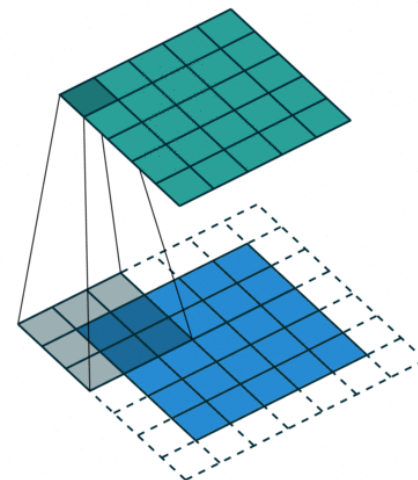
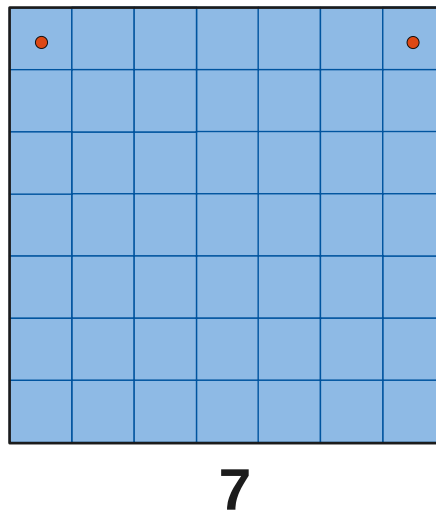
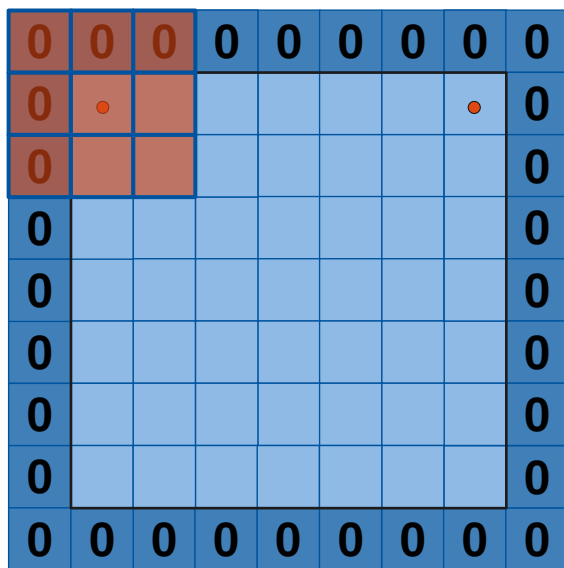
- **Example:** Convolution with  $3 \times 3$  filter



# Padding

Add zeros around image borders to conserve the spatial extent of the input

- Prevents fast shrinking of the network input
- **Example:** Convolution with 3 x 3 filter and padding



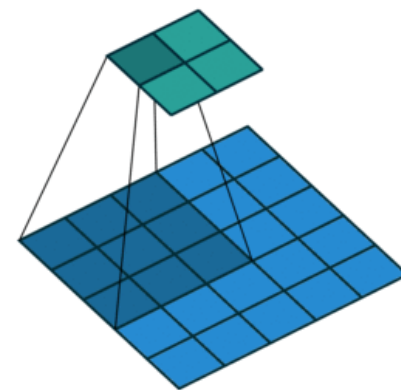
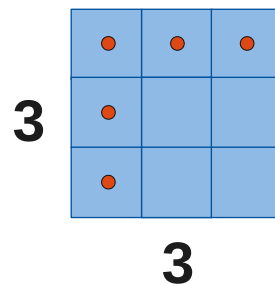
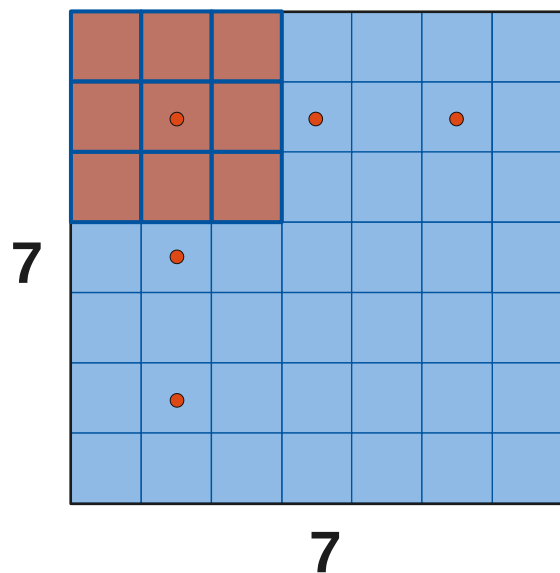
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Towards Data Science

# Striding

Using a larger stride when sliding over the input, reduces the output size

➤ Useful for switching to smaller image sizes / larger scales

- **Example:** Convolution with 3 x 3 filter and stride of 2



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Towards Data Science

# Pooling

Sub-sample the input to reduce the output size

- Used to merge semantically similar features
- Make network invariant to small translations or perturbations

**Average pooling:** Take the mean of each patch → for some regressions preferable

**Max pooling:** Take the maximum of each patch

→ in practice often better performance, applies stronger constraint

- **Typical Pooling:**  
Pooling using  $2 \times 2$  patches  
and a stride of 2
- **Overlapping Pooling:**  
 $3 \times 3$  patches with stride of 2

|   |   |   |    |
|---|---|---|----|
| 3 | 2 | 1 | 1  |
| 0 | 5 | 3 | -1 |
| 9 | 4 | 3 | 2  |
| 2 | 1 | 3 | 2  |

max pooling



|   |   |
|---|---|
| 5 | 3 |
| 9 | 3 |

average pooling



|     |     |
|-----|-----|
| 2.5 | 1   |
| 4   | 2.5 |

# Global Pooling Operation

- Take maximum/average over complete image → usually second last layer
- Replace fully connected layers
  - ♦ Saves parameters in later layers of the models → prevent overfitting
- Can be seen as regularizer
  - ♦ Fully connected transformation matrix with diagonal shape
- Enforcing correspondences between feature maps and categories
- Allows object detection in the input space

*“The pooling operation used in convolutional neural networks is a big mistake, and the fact that it works so well is a disaster”*

*- Geoffrey Hinton*

|   |   |   |    |
|---|---|---|----|
| 3 | 2 | 1 | 1  |
| 0 | 5 | 3 | -1 |
| 9 | 4 | 3 | 2  |
| 2 | 1 | 3 | 2  |

max pooling



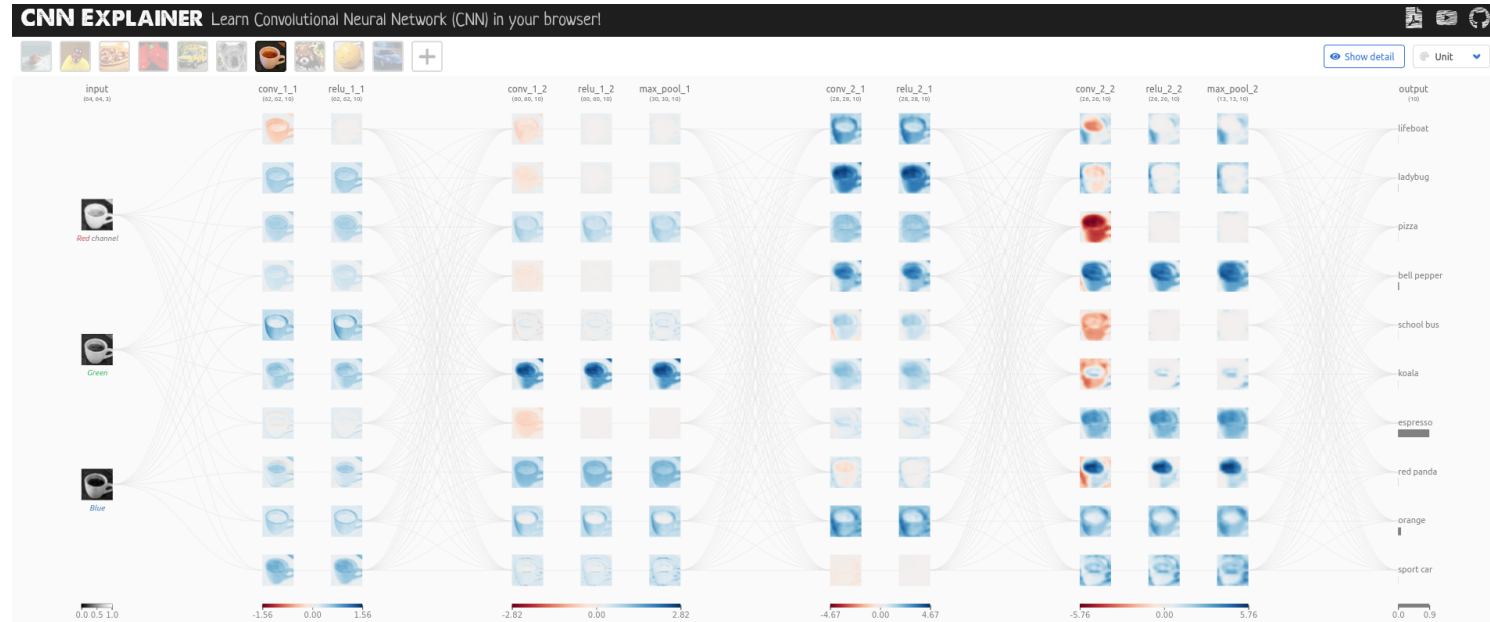
9

average pooling



2.5

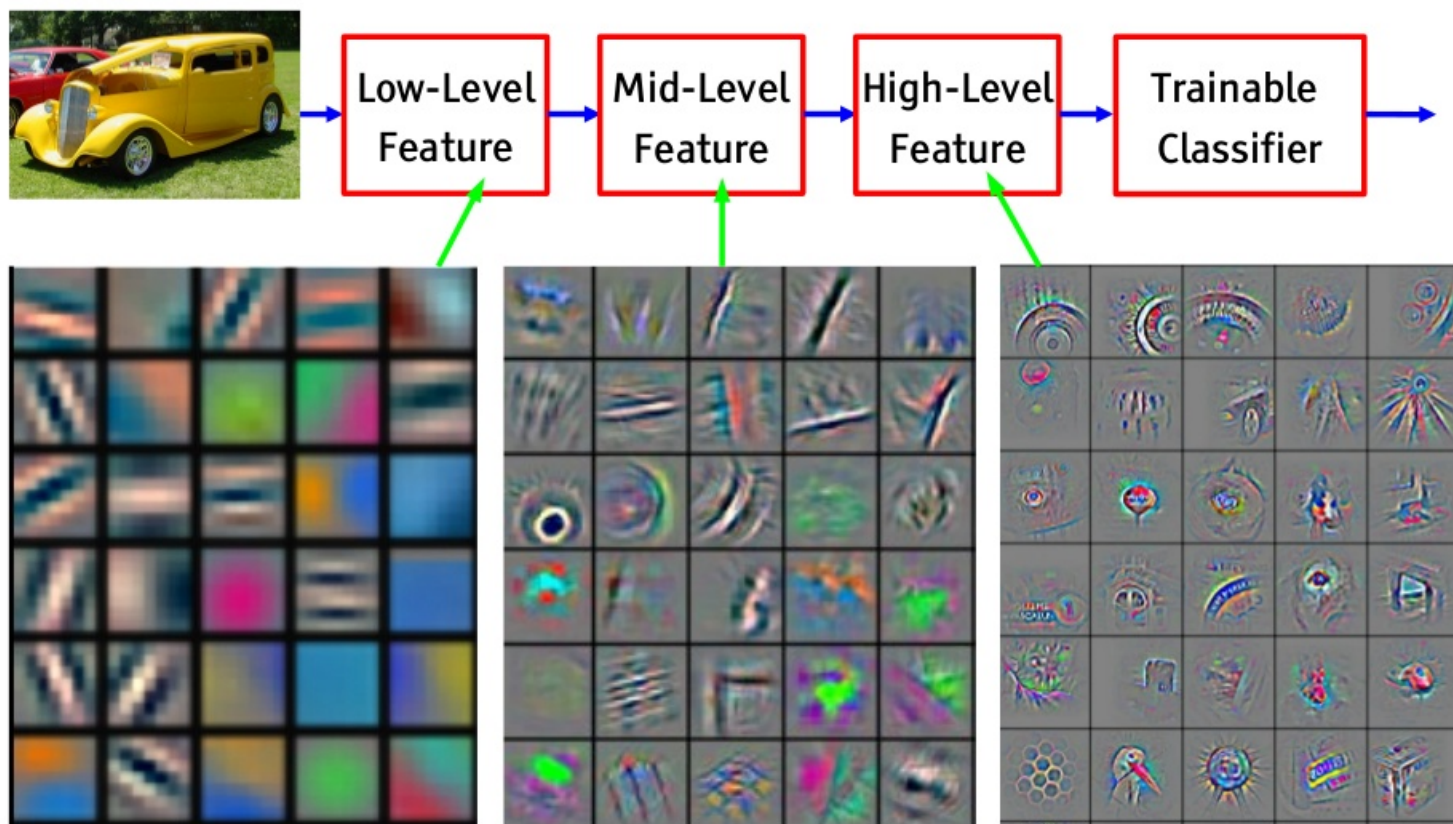
# Visualization of CNNs – 5 mins



- Exercise: → please use the “espresso example”
  - What is the CNN (likelihood) prediction of the image to be classified as an orange?
  - Which feature in the first layer is almost useless for the espresso classification?
  - What kernel size is used? Is striding used?
  - Is padding used in the convolutional operation not?



# Feature Hierarchy



Feature visualization of convolutional net trained on ImageNet from [Zeiler & Fergus 2013]

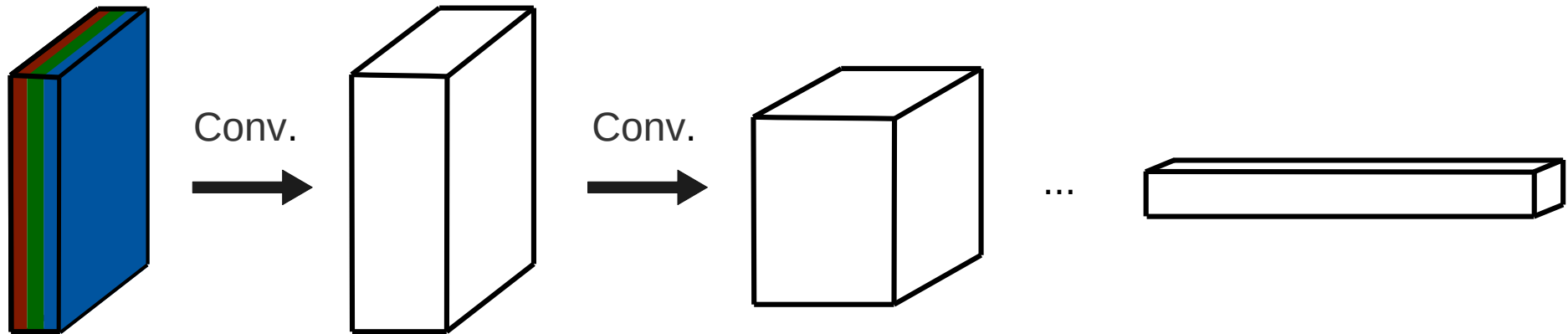
<https://arxiv.org/abs/1311.2901>



# Convolutional Pyramid

ConvNet architectures usually have a pyramidal shape. For deeper layers:

- Increasing of feature space
- Decreasing of spatial extent

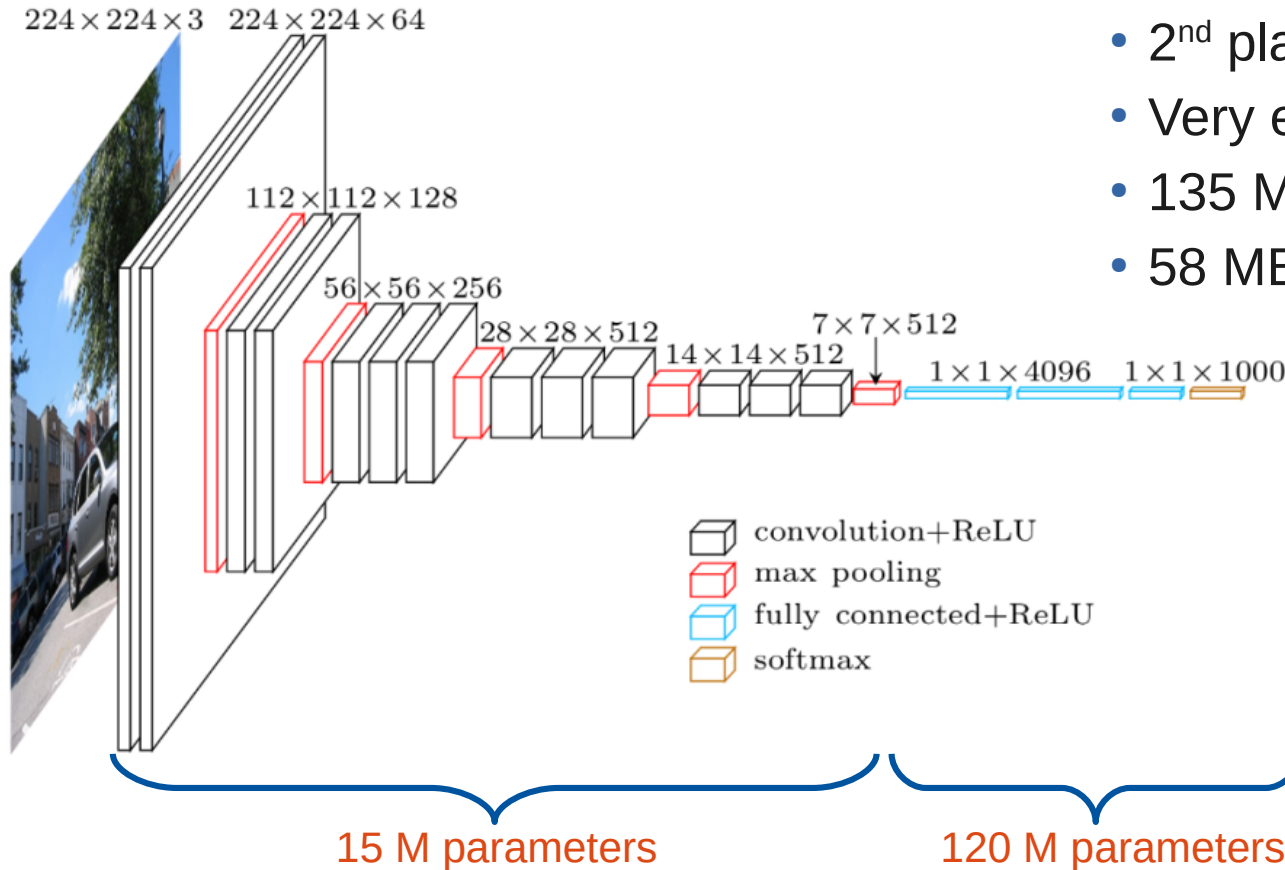


- Spatial information is converted to representational features with increasing hierarchy

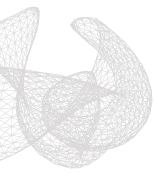
# Example Architecture

## VGGNet 16

- 2<sup>nd</sup> place ILSVRC2014
- Very easy structure
- 135 M parameters → 530 MB
- 58 MB memory for activations



Simonyan, Zissermann  
<https://arxiv.org/abs/1409.1556>



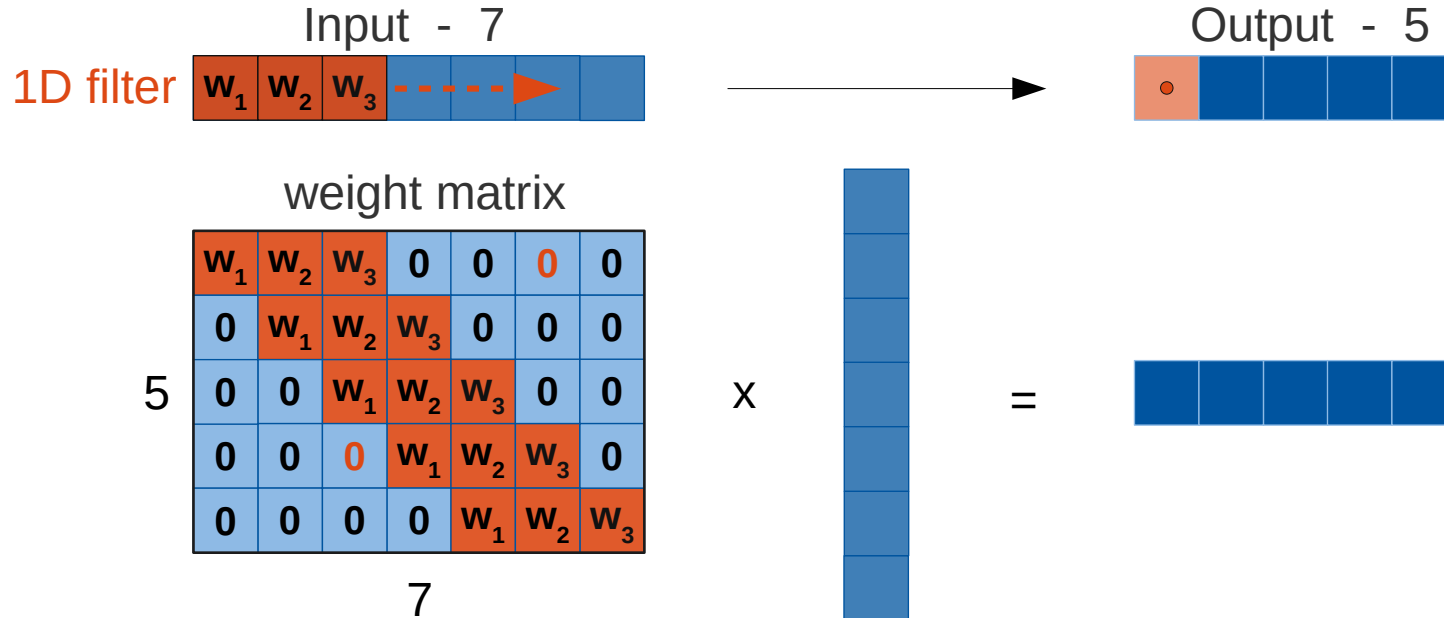
## Question: What is a good filter size?

- (a) Small ( $3 \times 3$ )
- (b) Large ( $50 \times 50$ )
- (c) Medium ( $20 \times 20$ )



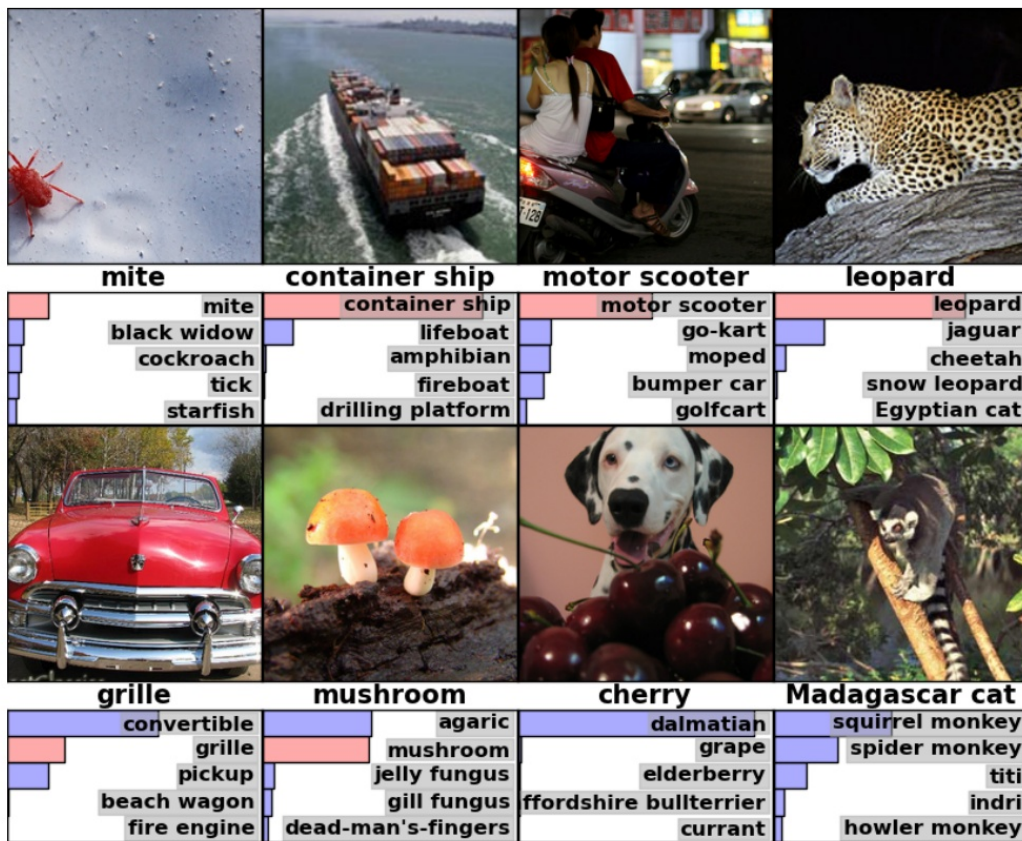
# Convolutional Operation

- Fully connected layers are special case of convolutional layers



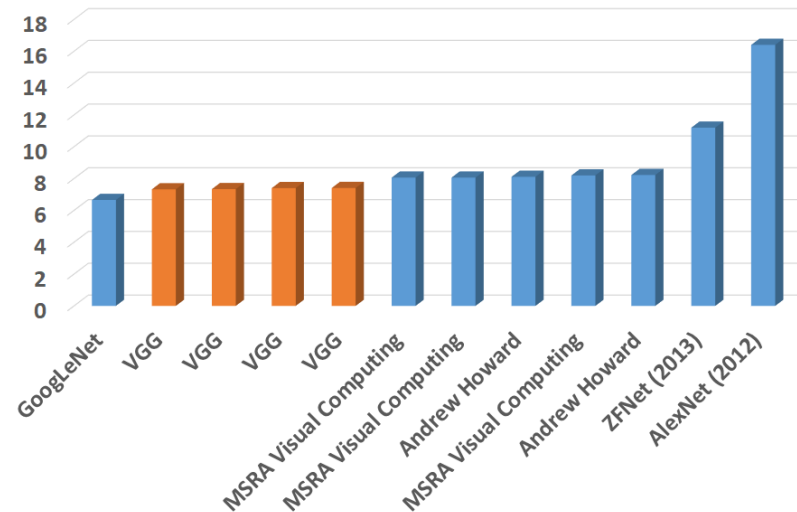
- Parameters greatly reduced due to **sparsity** and **weight sharing**
- Strong prior on **local correlation** and **translational invariance**

# Results on ImageNet

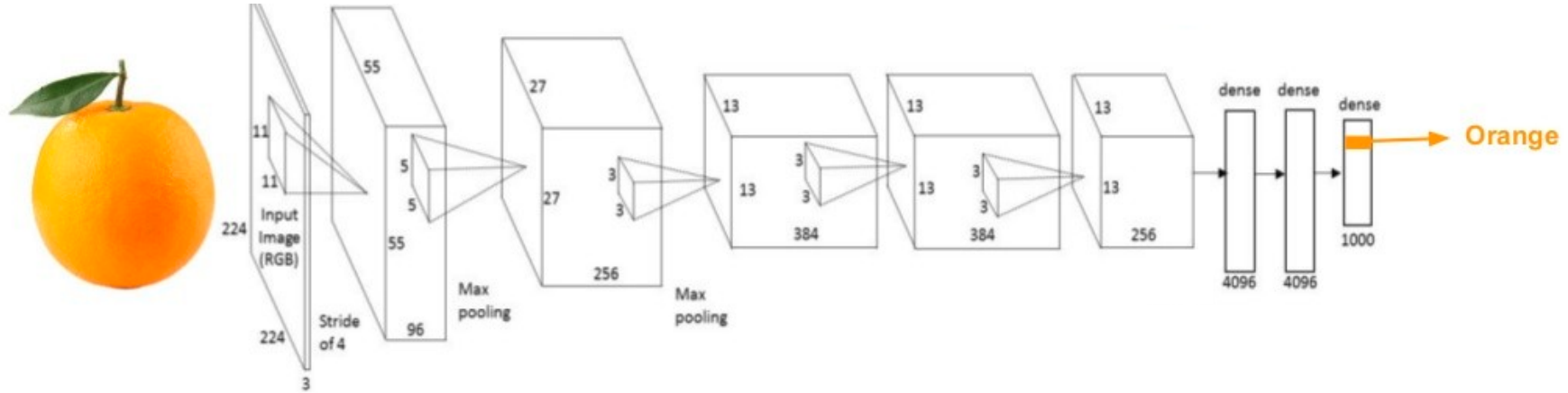


AlexNet (2010) - <http://www.cs.toronto.edu/~fritz/absps/imagenet.pdf>

Error Rate in ILSVRC 2014 (%)

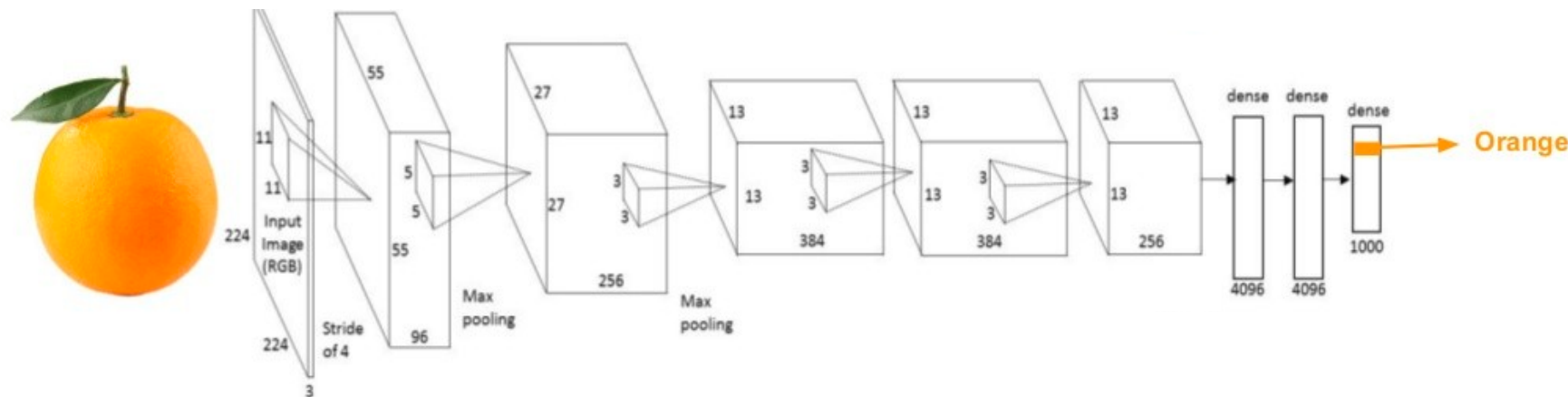


# Dropout in CNNs



## Where we have to apply dropout?

# Dropout in CNNs



## Where we have to apply dropout?

- Convolutional networks are less sensitive to over-fitting due to weight sharing
- Spatial Dropout: drop entire feature maps
- Use Dropout before MaxPooling layer
  - Make use of subdominant features

# Clarifying frequent misunderstandings



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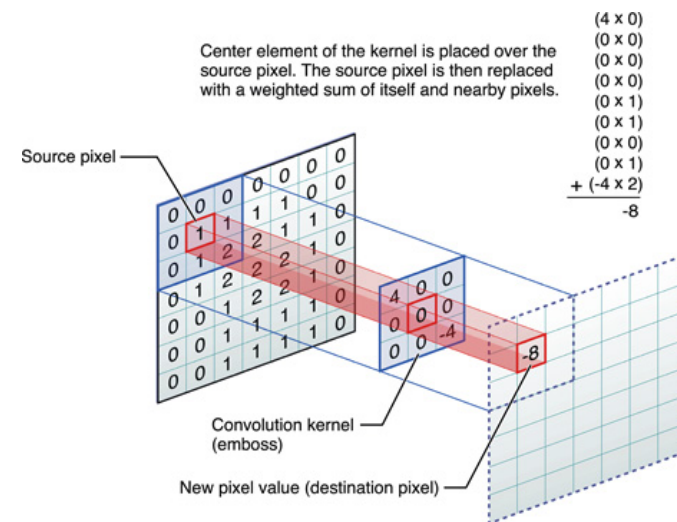


- The **filters are not pre-defined** by the user → just width, depth, and number
  - ♦ filters are adapted / learned by the CNN during training
- **Number of filters define number of new feature maps**
  - ♦ ten 3x3 filter applied to RGB image → 10 feature maps
- **Filter has the depth of the input image** (e.g. depth 3 for RGB images)
  - ♦ two 3x3 filter applied to RGB image → 2 feature maps, i.e. 2 channels  
→ number of adaptive parameters =  $3 \times 3 \times 3 \times 2 + 2 = 56$
- **After each convolutional operation an activation is applied!** (usually)
- **CNN part is followed by a fully-connected part** (in most cases)
  - output is reshaped (flattened) to a vector → apply vanilla NN layer



# Summary

- 2D Convolution acts on 3D input (width x height x depth)
- Slide small filter over input and make linear transformation (dot product + bias)
- Hyperparameter:
  - Size of filter, typically  $(1 \times 1)$ ,  $(3 \times 3)$ ,  $(5 \times 5)$  or  $(7 \times 7)$
  - Number of filters (feature maps)
  - **Padding** (maintain spatial extent)
  - **Striding** or **pooling** (reduce spatial extent)
- Reduction of parameters using symmetry in data:
  - Prior on **local correlations** (use small filters)
  - **Translational invariance** (weight sharing)



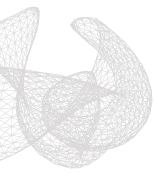
# References & Further Reading



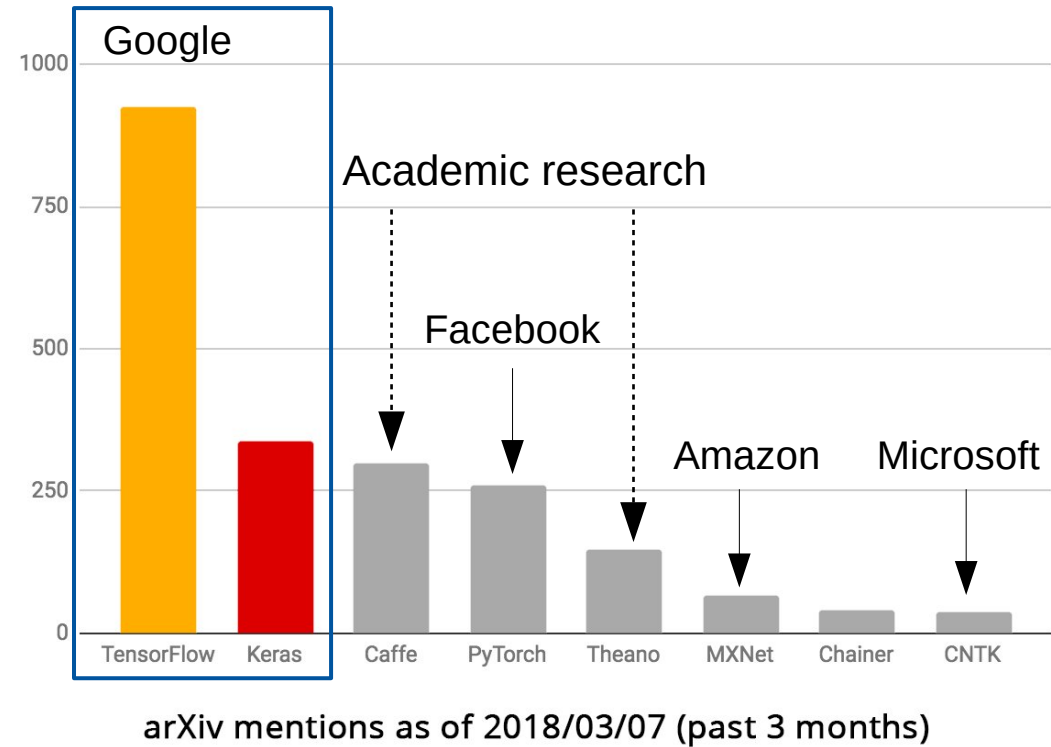
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- M. Erdmann, J. Glombitza, G. Kasieczka, U. Klemradt, Deep Learning for Physics Research, World Scientific, 2021, [www.deeplearningphysics.org/](http://www.deeplearningphysics.org/)
- I. Goodfellow, Y. Bengio, A. Courville, Deep Learning, Chapter 7 / 8 / 9, MIT Press, 2016, [www.deeplearningbook.org](http://www.deeplearningbook.org)
- Xu et al. Show, Attend and Tell: Neural Image Caption Generation with Visual Attention, arXiv:1502.03044
- Y. LeCun, Y. Bengio, G. Hinton: Deep Learning, Nature 521, pages 436–444
- K. Simonyan, A. Zissermann: Very Deep Convolutional Networks for Large-Scale Image Recognition - ArXiv 1409.1556
- Toy Simulation: M. Erdmann, J. Glombitza, D. Walz, Astroparticle Physics 97, 46-53



# Practice II



# Convolutional Layers - Keras

- Same Syntax as for fully connected layers

```
layers.Convolution2D(32, kernel_size=(5, 5), padding='same', activation='relu', strides=(2, 2))
```

- layer with 32 filters, size of filter 5x5 pixels, stride of 2 in both directions, and ReLU
- Use padding='same' to keep spatial dimension (else padding='valid' )

## Pooling and transition to fully-connected networks

- Pooling layer with pooling size of 2x2 pixels and a stride of 2 in both dimensions

```
layers.MaxPooling2D((2,2), strides=(2, 2)) // layers.AveragePooling2D((2,2), strides=(2, 2))
```

- Layer flattens output to vector → allows use of Dense layers after Convolutions

```
layers.Flatten()
```

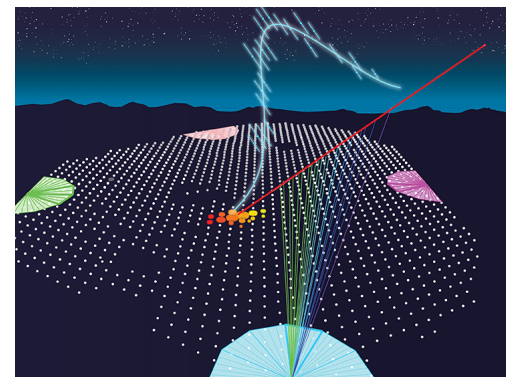
- Pooling operation on complete feature map → (remove all pixel dimensions + Flatten)

```
layers.GlobalMaxPooling2D() // layers.GlobalAveragePooling2D()
```

# Air Shower Reconstruction - CNN

Now: **OPEN** tutorial at:

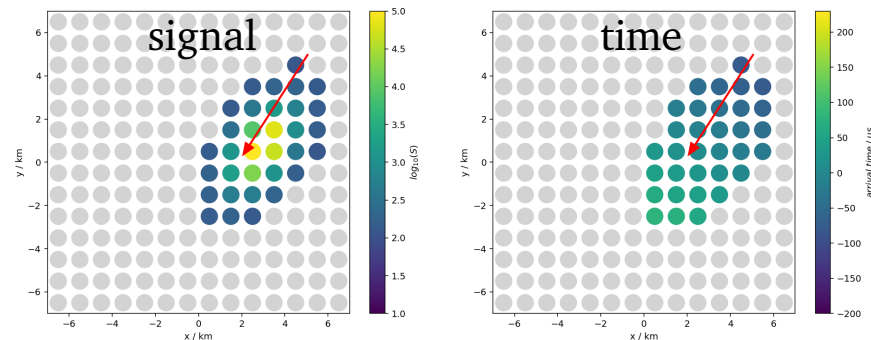
- [https://github.com/jglombitza/tutorial\\_nn\\_airshowers](https://github.com/jglombitza/tutorial_nn_airshowers)
- or click



$E = 11.4 \text{ EeV}$ ,  $\theta = 56.1^\circ$ ,  $\phi = 57.2^\circ$

## Task

- Reconstruct energy of the shower
  - ♦ Footprint is 2D image
  - ♦ **can** directly be used as input  
→ input shape:  $14 \times 14 \times 2$
  - ♦ Try to reach a resolution better than 2 EeV! (try, e.g., CNN pyramid!)



# Results I

Model – add:

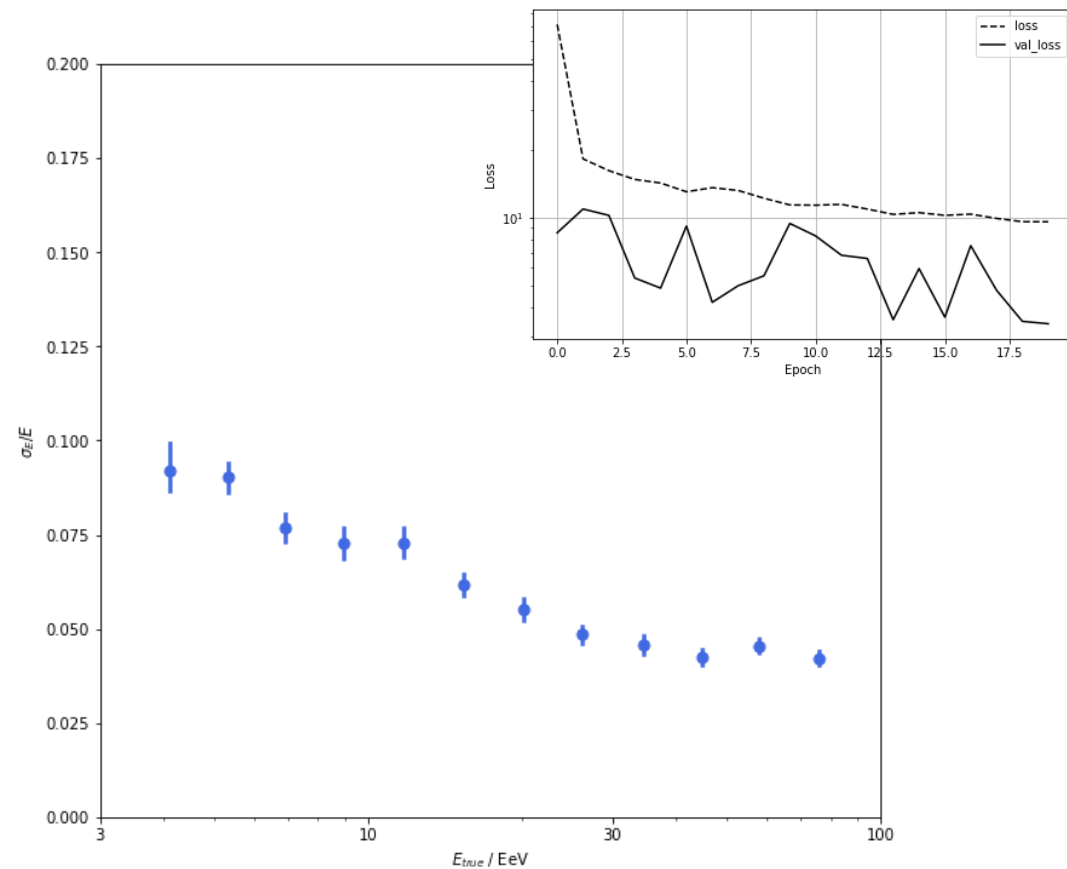
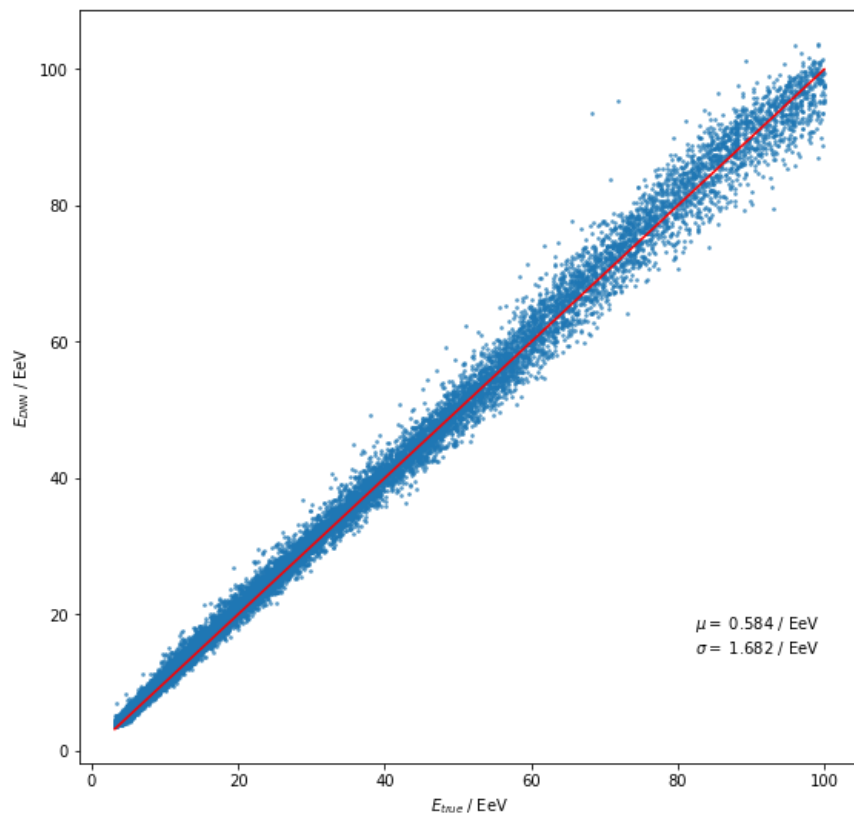
- Conv. layers and filters
- Pooling, Dense (FC) layers
- Regularization (after Flatten)

Model – modify:

- Batch size, epochs
- Kernel size, strides
- Optimizer, learning rate

```
kwargs = dict(activation='elu', padding='same',)
model = models.Sequential()
model.add(layers.Conv2D(64, (3, 3),
input_shape=X_train.shape[1:], **kwargs))
model.add(layers.Conv2D(64, (3, 3), **kwargs))
model.add(layers.Conv2D(64, (3, 3), **kwargs))
model.add(layers.MaxPooling2D((2, 2)))
model.add(layers.Conv2D(128, (3, 3), **kwargs))
model.add(layers.Conv2D(128, (3, 3), **kwargs))
model.add(layers.Conv2D(128, (3, 3), **kwargs))
model.add(layers.GlobalMaxPooling2D())
model.add(layers.Dropout(0.3))
model.add(layers.Dense(128, activation='elu'))
model.add(layers.Dropout(0.3))
model.add(layers.Dense(1))
```

# Results II



# CIFAR 10 – Convolutional Networks



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Model – add:

- Conv. layers and filters
- Pooling, Dense (FC) layers
- Regularization (after Flatten)

Model – modify:

- Batch size, epochs
- Kernel size, strides
- Optimizer, learning rate

```
model = models.Sequential([
    layers.Convolution2D(32, kernel_size=(5, 5), padding='same',
                        activation='relu', input_shape=(32, 32, 3)),
    layers.MaxPooling2D((2, 2)),
    layers.Convolution2D(64, kernel_size=(3, 3), padding='same',
                        strides=(2, 2), activation='relu'),
    layers.Flatten(),
    layers.Dropout(0.3),
    layers.Dense(10, activation='softmax')
])
```



➤ **Can you achieve >75% validation accuracy?**



```
model = models.Sequential([
    layers.Convolution2D(16, kernel_size=(3, 3), padding='same', activation='elu',
                        input_shape=(32, 32, 3)),
    layers.Convolution2D(32, kernel_size=(3, 3), padding='same', activation='elu'),
    layers.Convolution2D(32, kernel_size=(3, 3), padding='same', activation='elu'),
    layers.MaxPooling2D((2, 2)),
    layers.Convolution2D(32, kernel_size=(3, 3), padding='same', activation='elu'),
    layers.Convolution2D(64, kernel_size=(3, 3), padding='same', activation='elu'),
    layers.Convolution2D(64, kernel_size=(3, 3), padding='same', activation='elu'),
    layers.MaxPooling2D((2, 2)),
    layers.Convolution2D(64, kernel_size=(3, 3), padding='same', activation='elu'),
    layers.Convolution2D(128, kernel_size=(3, 3), padding='same', activation='elu'),
    layers.GlobalMaxPooling2D(),
    layers.Dropout(0.5),
    layers.Dense(10, activation='softmax')])
```

# Results

