Convolutional Neural Networks

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Computer Vision Problems	Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs)	Stabilize CNNs Training 0000000	Classic CNNs: LeNet-5, AlexNet, VGG, ResNet 00000	Semantic Segmentation
Outline				

2 Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs)

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Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs)

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Recap: Neural Networks and Training

- MLPs are parameterized function f_{θ} , where $\theta = \{ W^{\ell}, b^{\ell} \}$:
 - Forward Propagation (biases omitted): Start with $oldsymbol{x}^0 = oldsymbol{x}$

$$egin{aligned} oldsymbol{z}^\ell &= oldsymbol{W}^\ell oldsymbol{x}^{\ell-1}, & orall \ell \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots, L\} \ oldsymbol{x}^\ell &= \phi(oldsymbol{z}^\ell), \end{aligned}$$

• Backward Propagation (biases omitted): Start with $dm{z}^L = (m{x}^L - m{y}) \odot \phi'(m{z}^L)$

$$\begin{split} d\boldsymbol{z}^{\ell} &= \left[(\boldsymbol{W}^{\ell+1})^{\top} d\boldsymbol{z}^{\ell+1} \right] \odot \phi'(\boldsymbol{z}^{\ell}), \quad \forall \ell \in \{1, 2, \dots, L-1\} \\ d\boldsymbol{W}^{\ell} &= d\boldsymbol{z}^{\ell} \boldsymbol{x}^{(\ell-1)\top} \end{split}$$

• The training involves solving an **optimization** problem to iteratively update the heta

$$\min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \quad \mathcal{L}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \ell(f_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(\boldsymbol{x}_i), \boldsymbol{y}_i) := R_S(f_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}),$$

where ℓ is a loss function and $\mathcal{S} := \{ \boldsymbol{x}_i, \boldsymbol{y}_i \}_{i=1}^{\ell}$ is a training set.

• This optimization problem can be solved using **gradient**-based methods such as (*stochastic*) gradient descent (SGD), gradient descent with momentum, RMSProp, Adam, etc:

$$\boldsymbol{\theta}^+ = \boldsymbol{\theta} - \eta \cdot \boldsymbol{v}^+,$$

where $\eta > 0$ is a learning rate and v is a search direction.

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Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs)

Stabilize CNNs Training

Classic CNNs: LeNet-5, AlexNet, VGG, ResNet

Semantic Segmentation

Recap: Generalization and Regularization

• Model complexity trade-off: The expected risk $R(f_S) = \mathbb{E}_{(x,y)\sim \mathcal{D}}\ell(f_S(x), y)$ is upper bounded:

$$R(f_S) \leq R_S(f_S) + \mathfrak{R}_S(\mathcal{H}) + \tilde{\mathcal{O}}(n^{-1}).$$

• Bias-Variance trade-off: The expectation of $R(f_S)$ over random sample S is decomposed as:



where $\bar{f} := \mathbb{E}_S[f_S]$ and f^* is the optimal hypothesis.

- Regularization: Weight decay, dropout regularization, and stochastic weight averaging
- Hyperparameter tune: Validation set, random search, log scale
- Overparameterization: Double descent, flat minimum, implicit regularization



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Image Classification



- Input: An image
- **Output**: Cat? Binary classification (0 or 1).

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Multiple Classification: Softmax

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automobile	a 🗱 🏹 🏫 🔤 🚟 😂 🖬 🖏 🐝
bird	🔝 🗾 📓 📢 💒 🏹 🦻 🔛 💓
cat	Si 😒 🖄 🔤 🎆 💹 🕵 🖉 🧇 📂
deer	🗱 🔛 😭 💏 🎆 🌠 🎲 🗱
dog	89. 🌾 🤜 🎘 🎘 🧑 📢 🏔 🌋
frog	ST 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10
horse	🏜 🕾 🕸 法 🕅 📷 🖾 🎉 🕷
ship	🥽 🥶 🔤 🚢 🚘 💋 🖉 💓
truck	🚄 🎬 💒 🌉 💯 🔤 減 🕍 🕋 🕌

- Input: An image
- Output: Class label $\{0, 1, 2, \cdots, 9\}$.
- **Softmax**: Converts a vector *z* of **logits** into probability distribution across classes

$$\mathsf{Softmax}(\boldsymbol{z}_i) = \frac{e^{\boldsymbol{z}_i}}{\sum_{j=1}^C e^{\boldsymbol{z}_j}},$$

where C is the number of classes.

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Object Detection



- Input: An image
- Outputs:
 - Class label
 - Bounding box: $[x_{\min}, y_{\min}, x_{\max}, y_{\max}]$
 - Confidence scores: A probability or confidence score between 0 and 1.

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Semantic Segmentation



Input image

Object Detection

Semantic Segmentation

- Input: An image
- Outputs:
 - A pixel-wise classification map
 - Each pixel is assigned a class label
 - The output is the same spatial size as the input image

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Neural Style Transfer



- Input: Content image, style image
- **Output**: Generated image

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Challenges in Image Data: High Dimensionality





 $1099 \times 733 \times 3 \approx 2.5$ million pixels

- A two-layer neural network with width 1000 leads to 3 billion parameters to train.
- Despite having large datasets, the limited computational cost makes training challenging.

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Translation Invariance in Images



Key Insight

Image features (edges, textures, or objects) can appear **anywhere** in the image, but they retain the same meaning regardless of their position. This is known as **translation invariance**.

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Importance of Spatial Structure in Images





Key Insight

The **spatial structure** and local connectivity of pixels define an image's recognizable features. When the spatial arrangement is disrupted, the image loses its recognizable form.

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Filters and Edge Detection in Image Processing

Filter: Filters are small matrices that are used to **detect** certain patterns, such as edges, textures, or other important features from the input data.



Original Image





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Convolution Ope	eration			

Define: In image processing, the **convolution operation** slides a small **filter** over the input image, performing a **locally linear transformation** (*i.e.*, element-wise multiplication and summing the results) to produce a feature map that detects patterns.



input image 6×6

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Convolution Ope	eration			

Define: In image processing, the convolution operation slides a small **filter** over the input image, performing a **locally linear transformation** (*i.e.*, element-wise multiplication and summing the results) to produce a feature map that detects patterns.



• If the input image is $n \times n$ and the filter size is $f \times f$, then the output feature map has size $(n - f + 1) \times (n - f + 1)$.

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Padding

Define: Padding refers to adding extra pixels (usually *zeros*) around the input data to control the size of the output feature map.

0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	3	0	1	2	7	4	0
0	1	5	8	9	3	1	0
0	2	7	2	5	1	3	0
0	0	1	3	1	7	8	0
0	4	2	1	6	2	8	0
0	2	4	5	2	3	9	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

- **Preserving Spatial Dimensions**: Padding maintains the spatial dimensions in deeper neural networks.
- Capture Edge information: Padding prevents the loss of boundary information during convolution.
- **Controlling Output Size**: Padding helps ensure feature maps retain the required size for subsequent layers.
- The shape of feature map: $(n+2p-f+1) \times (n+2p-f+1)$.

"Valid" and "So	man" Companyation			
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'Valid" and "Same" Convolution

Define: Padding refers to adding extra pixels (usually zeros) around the input data to control the size of the output feature map.

0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	3	0	1	2	7	4	0
0	1	5	8	9	3	1	0
0	2	7	2	5	1	3	0
0	0	1	3	1	$\overline{7}$	8	0
0	4	2	1	6	2	8	0
0	2	4	5	2	3	9	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

- Valid: No padding, output size is $(n f + 1) \times (n f + 1)$.
- Same: Padding ensures the output has the same shape as the input, with output size $(n+2p-f+1) \times (n+2p-f+1)$.

$$n+2p-f+1=n \implies p=\frac{f-1}{2}$$

Hence, generally, filters have **odd** dimensions, *e.g.*, 3×3 or 5×5 .

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Stride				

Define: Stride in CNNs refers to the number of pixels by which the filter moves across the input during convolution, affecting the output size by skipping certain positions.



- Control Output Size: Larger stride results in a smaller feature map.
- Computational Efficiency: Larger strides require fewer convolution operations.
- Output Feature Map Shape:

$$\left\lfloor \frac{n+2p-f}{s} + 1 \right\rfloor \times \left\lfloor \frac{n+2p-f}{s} + 1 \right\rfloor$$

where $\lfloor x \rfloor$ is the floor function, returning the largest integer less than or equal to x.

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Simplified Conv	olutional Layer			

- Let $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n imes n}$ be the input image, and $F \in \mathbb{R}^{f imes f}$ be the trainable filter.
- The convolutional layer is defined as:

$$\boldsymbol{Z} = \boldsymbol{X} * \boldsymbol{F} + \boldsymbol{b}, \quad \boldsymbol{A} = \mathsf{ReLU}(\boldsymbol{Z})$$

where:

- $b \in \mathbb{R}$ is the **bias** term added to each element in Z.
- $Z \in \mathbb{R}^{(n-f+1)\times(n-f+1)}$ represents the pre-activation values, assuming no padding and a stride of 1.



Key Observation

While MLPs use explicit weight matrices, CNNs use **filters** that serve the role of weight matrices, learning specific features directly from the data.

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• We can represent the input image X and filter F as vector forms, $x \in \mathbb{R}^{n^2 \times 1}$ and $w \in \mathbb{R}^{f^2 \times 1}$, by stacking their entries:

$$oldsymbol{X} = egin{bmatrix} oldsymbol{x}_1 & \cdots & oldsymbol{x}_n\end{bmatrix} \implies oldsymbol{x} = egin{bmatrix} oldsymbol{x}_1 & \cdots & oldsymbol{f}_f\end{bmatrix} \implies oldsymbol{w} = egin{bmatrix} oldsymbol{f}_1 \ dots \ oldsymbol{f}_{f^2}\end{bmatrix}, ext{ and } oldsymbol{F} = egin{bmatrix} oldsymbol{f}_1 & \cdots & oldsymbol{f}_f\end{bmatrix} \implies oldsymbol{w} = egin{bmatrix} oldsymbol{f}_1 \ dots \ oldsymbol{f}_{f^2}\end{bmatrix}.$$

Thus, each convolution can be viewed as extracting a local receptive field using a projection matrix Π_i ∈ ℝ^{f²×n²} to obtain x̂_i, followed by an inner product with w:

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{x}}_i = \Pi_i \boldsymbol{x}, \qquad \boldsymbol{z}_i = \boldsymbol{w}^\top \hat{\boldsymbol{x}}_i + b, \qquad \boldsymbol{a}_i = \mathsf{ReLU}(\boldsymbol{z}_i), \quad \forall i \in \left\{1, 2, \dots, \left(n - f + 1\right)^2\right\}$$

Key Insights

- **Sharing:** Each neuron in a convolutional layer **shares** the same weights and bias across spatial locations, reducing the impact of high dimensionality.
- Sparsity: Each output depends only on a locally small portion of the input.

Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs)

Stabilize CNNs Training 0000000 Classic CNNs: LeNet-5, AlexNet, VGG, ResNet

Semantic Segmentation

Convolution Over Volumes

- The input can have **multiple** channels (e.g., an RGB image), and the filter must have the **same** number of channels to properly apply the convolution operation, which performs a *locally linear transformation*.
- The filter has size $n_H imes n_W imes n_C$







Simple CNN Exa	imple			
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- The output of CNN is flattened into a vector
- The flattened vector serves as the input to a fully connected layer
- In CNN design, feature maps typically shrink in spatial size while channels increase as depth grows.



Feature Map as an Indicator: The output feature map highlights detected patterns, with higher values indicating matched regions.



Original Image





Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs 00000000000000000 Stabilize CNNs Training

Classic CNNs: LeNet-5, AlexNet, VGG, ResNet

Semantic Segmentation

Hierarchical Feature Detection

Feature Map as an Indicator: The output feature map highlights detected patterns, with higher values indicating matched regions.







- Early Layers: Detect basic elements like edges and textures, forming the foundation for more complex patterns.
- Middle Layers: Combine edges into shapes (e.g., circles, squares) by recognizing the arrangement of basic features.
- Deeper Layers: Recognize object parts by detecting combinations of shapes and features.
- Final Layers: Detect entire objects by assembling recognized parts, outputting a classification or region of interest.

Summary of Con	volutional Neural Netw	orks		
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- Challenges: High dimensionality, translation invariance, and spatial structure
- Filters: Small, trainable matrices that detect features in the input data.
- Convolution Operation: A locally linear transformation that creates a feature map, emphasizing regions where the filter matches the pattern.
- Padding and Stride: Methods for controlling feature map size, preserving spatial dimensions, and improving *computational efficiency*.
- **Convolution Over Volumes:** Designed to process multi-channel inputs like RGB images with filters that **match** each channel.
- **Multiple Filters:** A single convolutional layer can use **multiple** filters to detect various features simultaneously.
- Weight Sharing and Sparsity: Neurons in CNNs share weights across locations, with each output relying on a small, localized input region.
- Hierarchical Feature Detection: Early layers capture basic features (like edges), which later layers combine into higher-level features.

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Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs)

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Pooling

Define: The pooling layer in CNNs reduces spatial dimensions of feature maps through downsampling, commonly using max or average pooling operations.



- Pooling helps reduce the computational load
- It also enhances robustness by making the network less sensitive to small spatial variations.
- Common hyperparameters: pool size f and stride s, typically f = s = 2.

Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs)

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Classic CNNs: LeNet-5, AlexNet, VGG, ResNet

Semantic Segmentation

Recap: Input Normalization

• Normalize the inputs using training set:

$$\boldsymbol{\mu} = rac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^n \boldsymbol{x}_i, \qquad \boldsymbol{\sigma}^2 = rac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^n (\boldsymbol{x}_i - \boldsymbol{\mu})^2, \qquad ar{\boldsymbol{x}}_i = (\boldsymbol{x}_i - \boldsymbol{\mu})/\boldsymbol{\sigma},$$

where all operations are taken element-wise.

- Consider a binary classification problem using linear model: $f_{\theta}(x) = \boldsymbol{w}^{\top} \boldsymbol{x} = w_1 x_1 + w_2 x_2$
 - if $x_1 = \mathcal{O}(100)$ and $x_2 = \mathcal{O}(1)$, to have output $f_{\theta} = \mathcal{O}(1)$, we must have $w_1 = \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{100}\right)$ and $w_2 = \mathcal{O}(1)$.
 - After normalization, $\bar{x}_1 = \mathcal{O}(1)$ and $\bar{x}_2 = \mathcal{O}(1)$, so we have $w_1 = \mathcal{O}(1) 1$ and $w_2 = \mathcal{O}(1)$.



• At test time, apply μ and σ from training to test set.

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Batch Normaliza	ition			

• Given an input \boldsymbol{x} , the forward propagation in DNNs:

$$\boldsymbol{z}^{\ell} = \boldsymbol{W}^{\ell} \boldsymbol{x}^{\ell-1}, \quad \boldsymbol{a}^{\ell} = \phi(\boldsymbol{z}^{\ell}) \quad \forall \ell \in [L].$$

where $x^0 = x$ is the input image.

- We can apply the same normalization from the input layer to each hidden layer to speed up the training.
- Additionally, as we train DNNs using mini-batch rather than full batch, **internal covariance shift** in *mini-batches*. Hence, the normalization is applied on the mini-batch rather the full batches.





Batch Normalization During Training

Given a mini-batch $\{\boldsymbol{z}^1,\ldots,\boldsymbol{z}^b\}$ for a hidden layer:

• Normalize the pre-activation to mean zero and variance one:

$$oldsymbol{\mu} = rac{1}{b}\sum_{i=1}^b oldsymbol{z}^i, \qquad oldsymbol{\sigma}^2 = rac{1}{b}\sum_{i=1}^b (oldsymbol{z}^i - oldsymbol{\mu})^2, \qquad oldsymbol{z}_{\mathsf{norm}}^i = rac{oldsymbol{z}^i - oldsymbol{\mu}}{\sqrt{oldsymbol{\sigma}^2 + arepsilon}}$$

where $\varepsilon > 0$ ensures numerical stability.

• Re-scale and shift using learnable parameters:

$$\hat{oldsymbol{z}}^i = oldsymbol{\gamma} oldsymbol{z}^i_{\mathsf{norm}} + oldsymbol{eta}$$

where γ and β are **learnable** parameters.





• γ and β enable identity transformation, allowing flexibility:

$$\gamma = \sqrt{\sigma^2 + \varepsilon}, \qquad \beta = \mu$$

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Batch Normaliza	tion at Test Time			

• Training Phase: For each mini-batch, compute batch statistics and update the normalized output:

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathsf{batch}} = rac{1}{b} \sum_{i=1}^{b} \boldsymbol{z}^{i}, \quad \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{\mathsf{batch}}^{2} = rac{1}{b} \sum_{i=1}^{b} (\boldsymbol{z}^{i} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathsf{batch}})^{2}, \quad \boldsymbol{z}_{\mathsf{norm}}^{i} = rac{\boldsymbol{z}^{i} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathsf{batch}}}{\sqrt{\boldsymbol{\sigma}_{\mathsf{batch}}^{2} + \varepsilon}}, \quad \hat{\boldsymbol{z}}^{i} = \boldsymbol{\gamma} \boldsymbol{z}_{\mathsf{norm}}^{i} + \boldsymbol{\beta}$$

• Running Statistics: After each mini-batch, update the running mean and variance:

$$oldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathsf{run}} = (1-lpha)oldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathsf{run}} + lphaoldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathsf{batch}} \ oldsymbol{\sigma}_{\mathsf{run}}^2 = (1-lpha)oldsymbol{\sigma}_{\mathsf{run}}^2 + lphaoldsymbol{\sigma}_{\mathsf{batch}}^2$$

• Test Phase: Normalize using running statistics and apply scale and shift:

$$oldsymbol{z}_{ ext{test}} \leftarrow rac{oldsymbol{z}_{ ext{test}} - oldsymbol{\mu}_{ ext{run}}}{\sqrt{\sigma_{ ext{run}}^2 + arepsilon}}, \hspace{1em} \hat{oldsymbol{z}}_{ ext{test}} \leftarrow oldsymbol{\gamma} oldsymbol{z}_{ ext{test}} + oldsymbol{eta}$$

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Skip Connection	IS			

Define: A skip connection is a shortcut in a DNN that adds the input directly to the output.



• In MLPs, forward propagation without skip connections (omitting biases):

$$oldsymbol{x}^\ell = \phi(oldsymbol{W}^\ell oldsymbol{x}^{\ell-1}) pprox oldsymbol{W}^\ell oldsymbol{x}^{\ell-1} pprox oldsymbol{W}^\ell \cdots oldsymbol{W}^1 oldsymbol{x}^0 = \mathcal{O}\left(a^\ell
ight)$$

This results in an **exponential growth or decay** of information.

• With skip connections, the propagation becomes:

$$\boldsymbol{x}^{\ell} = \phi(\boldsymbol{W}^{\ell}\boldsymbol{x}^{\ell-1}) + \boldsymbol{x}^{\ell-1} = \sum_{i=0}^{\ell} \boldsymbol{W}^{i}\phi(\boldsymbol{x}^{i}) = \mathcal{O}\left(\boldsymbol{\ell}\right)$$

Here, linear growth of information is achieved, stabilizing the learning process.

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eNet-5				



- It has totally 5 weight layers: 2 Convolutional layers and 3 fully connected (FC) layers
- $\bullet\,$ Sigmoid and $\tanh\,$ activations
- Average pooling
- $\bullet\,$ Number of parameters: ~ 60 thousands.
- MNIST dataset: ~ 60 thousands.

Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs

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Semantic Segmentation

AlexNet



- 5 convolutional and 3 FC.
- ReLU activation and max pooling layers.
- Dropout regularization in FC layers.

- $\bullet\,$ Number of parameters: \sim 63 million.
- ImageNet dataset: \sim 1.2 million images.

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Stabilize CNNs Training

Classic CNNs: LeNet-5, AlexNet, VGG, ResNet 000000 Semantic Segmentation

VGG-16



- 13 convolutional and 3 FC.
- Unified convolution and max-pooling setup: f = 3, s = 1, and "same"; f = 2 and s = 2
- $\bullet ~ \sim 138$ million parameters trained on ImageNet

Simonyan, K., & Zisserman, A. "Very deep convolutional networks for large-scale image recognition." ICLR 2015 - E - 🕤 🔍

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ResNet-34			
sidual			



- Batch normalization and skip connections applied to pre-activation.
- $\bullet \sim 11.7$ million parameters trained on ImageNet.

34-layer re-

34-layer plain

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He, Kaiming, et al. "Deep residual learning for image recognition." CVPR 2016.

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Classic CNNs: LeNet-5, AlexNet, VGG, ResNet

Semantic Segmentation

Semantic Segmentation with U-Net

Successful Applications:



Chest X-Ray



Brain MRI

Novikov, et al. "Fully convolutional architectures for multiclass segmentation in chest radiographs." IEEE Tran Med Img 2018 Dong, et al. "Automatic brain tumor detection and segmentation using U-Net based fully convolutional networks.", MIUA2012

Semantic Labeli	ng		
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Per-Pixel Class Labeling:



• Assign a class label to every pixel in the image.

• Output is an image of the same dimensions as the input.

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Gao, et al. "SFSM: sensitive feature selection module for image semantic segmentation." Multimed. Tools Appl. 2023 🕨 💈 🔊 🤇

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Transpose Conv	olution			

Transpose Convolution: A transpose convolution (or a **deconvolution** or **up-sampling convolution**) is an operation that applies a filter to input data in a way that expands its spatial dimensions.



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Deconvolution				

Deconvolution: A deconvolution (or a **transpose convolution** or **up-sampling convolution**) is an operation that applies a filter to input data in a way that expands its spatial dimensions.

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 1 & 5 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{input } 2 \times 2} * \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 7 & 4 \\ 3 & 1 & 7 \\ 4 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{filter } 3 \times 3} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 6 & 21 & 12 & 0 \\ 11 & 20 & 60 & 20 \\ 15 & 23 & 24 & 35 \\ 4 & 12 & 11 & 5 \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{feature map } 4 \times 4}$$

- $\bullet\,$ The stride can be more than 1
- Padding is reversed by discarding boundary pixels.
- For overlaps, use averaging or summation.
- The filter represents patterns, with the input indicating where these patterns are detected.
- In unmax pooling, either duplicate pixels in the output or place the maximum value pixel while setting others to zero.

t Architecture					
ter Vision Problems 00000	Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs)	Stabilize CNNs Training 0000000	Classic CNNs: LeNet-5, AlexNet, VGG, ResNet	Semantic Segmentat 00000000	

U-Net Architecture



• With skip connection, U-Net combines (or concatenates) high-level abstract features (from deeper layers) and spatial details (from earlier layers).

Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs 000000000000000 Stabilize CNNs Training

Classic CNNs: LeNet-5, AlexNet, VGG, ResNet

Semantic Segmentation

U-Net Output



Gao, et al. "SFSM: sensitive feature selection module for image semantic segmentation." Multimed. Tools Appl. 2023 + 💈 🗠 🔍 🔍