

Analysis of Protest Imagery Workshop

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Welcome!

Welcome!

Thank you for being here

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 - Responsible and rigorous use of “flashy” and “glittery” tools
- 6 Have fun! (Yes, yes, I know I am biased!)

Let's start!

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- Visuals are **frames**

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- Impactful way of communicating a message

Birmingham
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- **Computer vision:** Teaching computers to see

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GETTING READY

- Course website, Github: [smtorres/FU_Workshop](#)
- Google Colab notebooks
 - Notebook 1: [here](#)
 - Notebook 2: [here](#)
 - Notebook 3: [here](#)
- Follow instructions [here](#)
- When doing your own projects:
 - Install Keras ([here](#)), with `tensorflow` backend
 - Install the following python libraries: `numpy`, `scipy`, `cv2`, `matplotlib`, `PIL`, `sklearn` ⇒ Look for tutorials for your machine
 - Check tutorials for OpenCV installation [here](#)
 - I suggest OpenCV 3.X and its compilation from source for full functionality

IMAGE BASICS

- An image is a set of **pixels**:

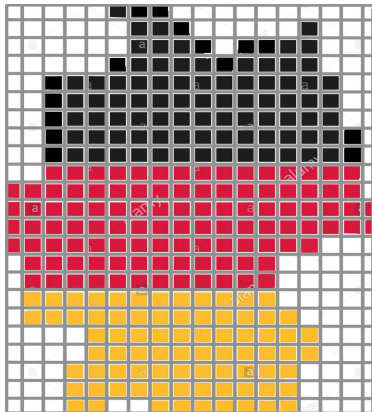


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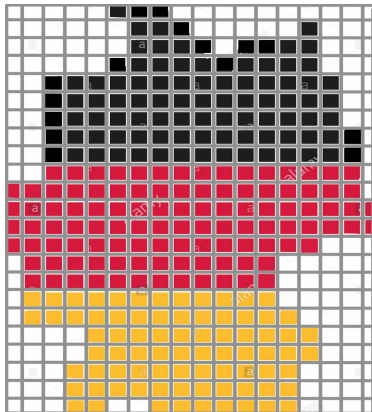


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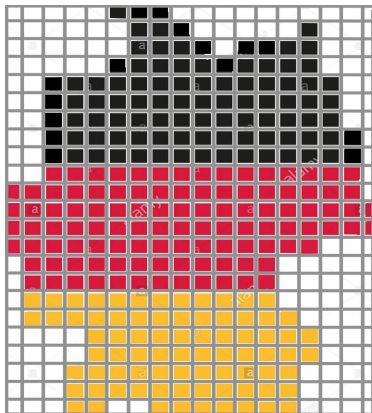


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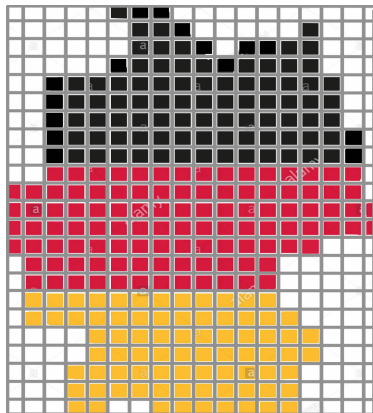


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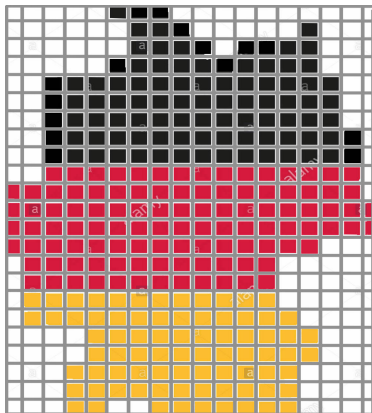


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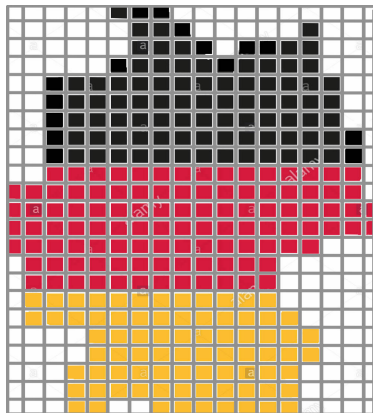


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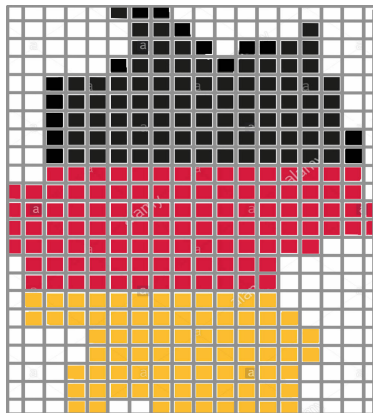


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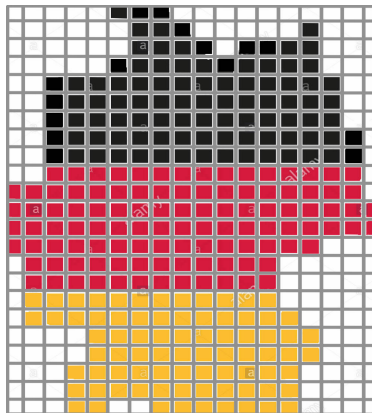


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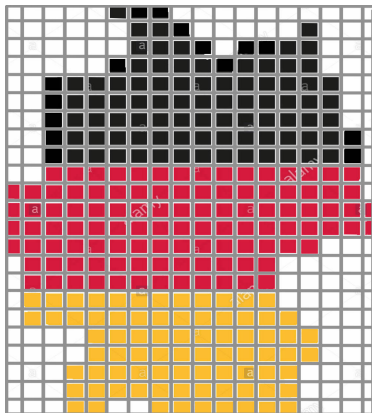
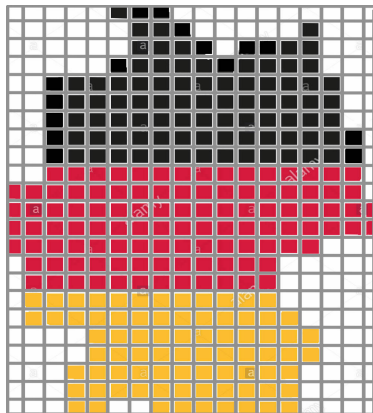


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 - In `numpy` you specify the `y`-coordinates of an image first: `x2`
`= image[y0:y1, x0:x1]`



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- **Feature vectors**: A series of numbers used to numerically quantify the contents of an image (or regions of it) ⇒ WE USE THEM TO CREATE TOKENS!

AN EXAMPLE: COLOR STATISTICS

Channel statistics

- Very intuitive and simple
- Basic statistics of each color channel
 - 1 Separate channels
 - 2 Compute moments for each channel

4 Concatenate to form *feature vector*

Voilà! You have a global descriptor for your image

Histograms

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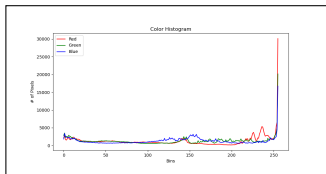


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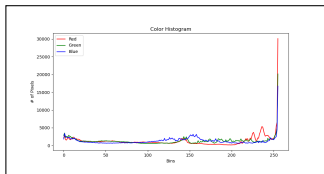
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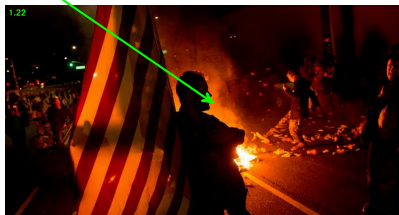
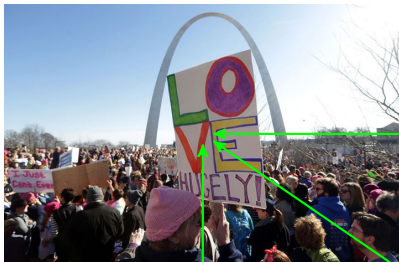
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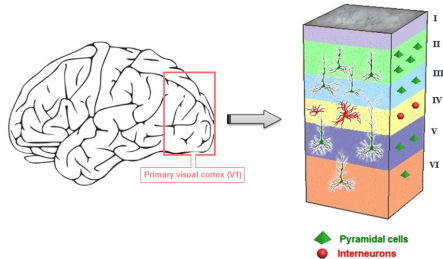
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How do we teach the computer to see like us?

Convolutional Neural Networks

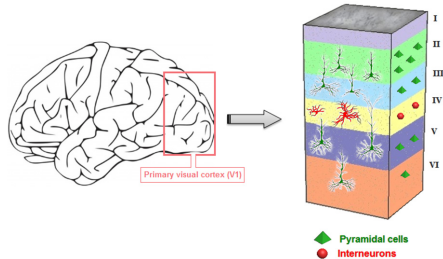
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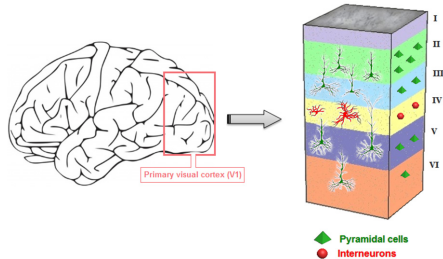
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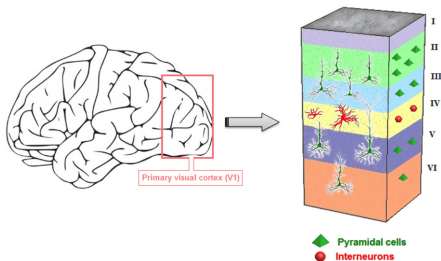
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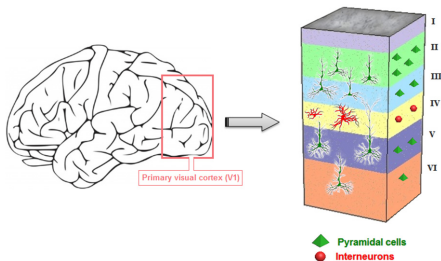
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- The first layers identify basic visual patterns, intermediate layers transform patterns into shapes, and the last layers convert shapes into objects.

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- There is an extra crucial step: connecting the processed visual stimulus to a concept or meaning

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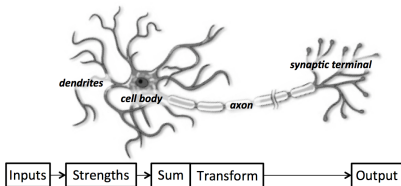
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- This is a **TRAINING** process (*)

SEEING LIKE A HUMAN, CONT.

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- The process allows computers to set their own set of **rules** to classify information based on TRAINING (*)

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Credit: Buduma (2017)

- This process is called Convolutional Neural Network (or CNN)
- A set of “neurons” in charge of identifying unique bits of information...
- ...arranged in a network that allows for information sharing/processing...
- ... to eventually “tag” or “name” the input

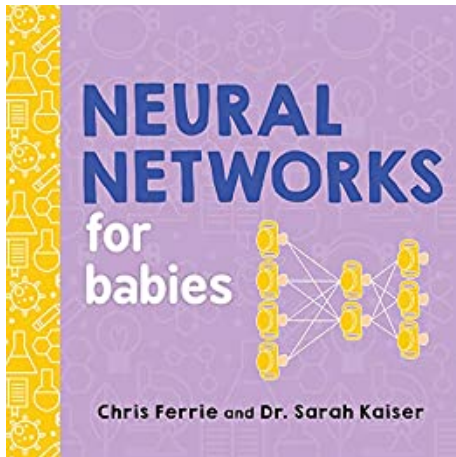
WAIT... WHAT?

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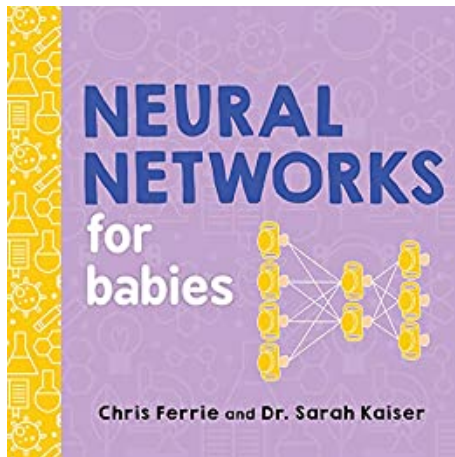
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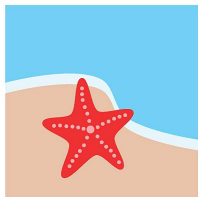
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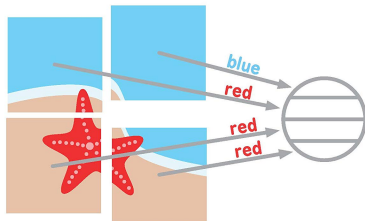


(No... I am not joking)

THE LOGIC OF CNNs

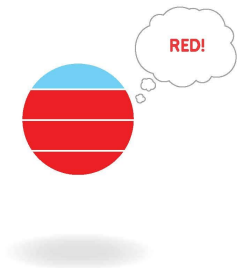


Is there a red animal in this picture?

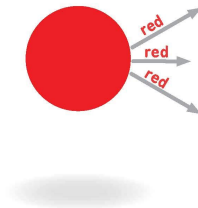


The neuron can decide based on its input.

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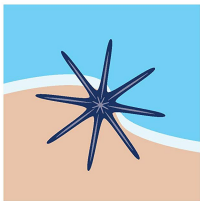


When the neuron has an answer,

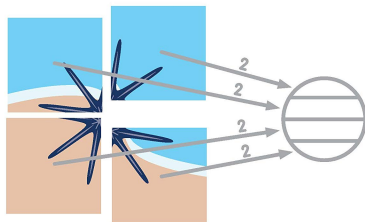


it sends its own message.

THE LOGIC OF CNNs

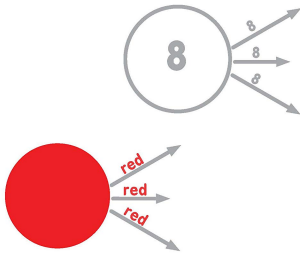


Does this animal have 8 arms?

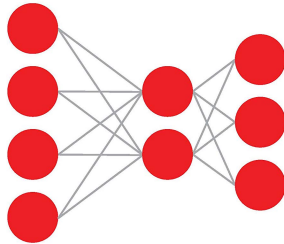


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Where do the messages go?

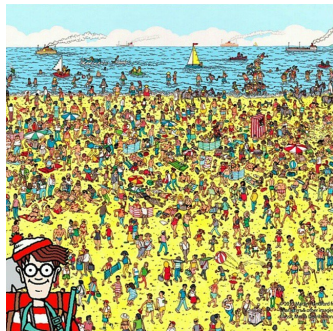


**Neurons talk to each other.
They connect together in a network.**

ALMOST LIKE FINDING WALDO...

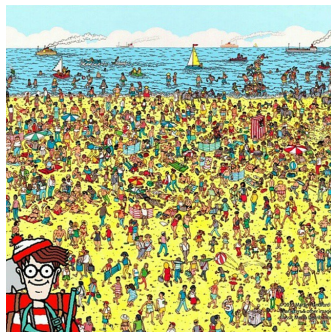
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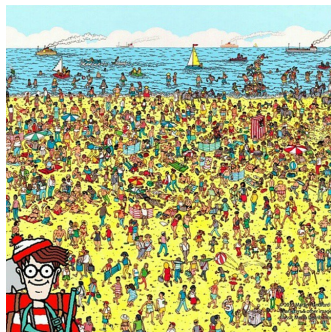
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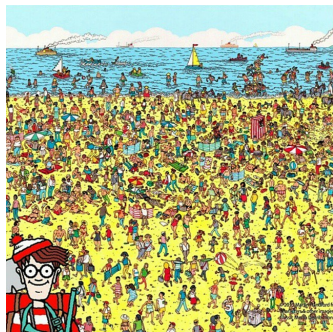
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- Scan the image looking for particular “features”
 - Red and white stripes
 - Glasses
 - Hat
- There is a robot who finds him in less than 5 seconds



FOR REAL

And it's based on CNN code (see [here](#))



SPEED BUMP: A HEALTHY DOSE OF SKEPTICISM

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- An extra one: how large and rich the training set must be (ex. pumpkins and sheep)
- This has important implications for their usage and applicability

Back to business...

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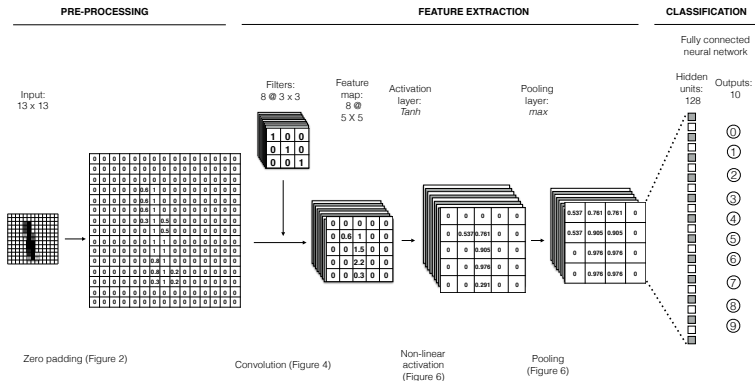
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- CNNs are organized into multiple layers. Each layer contains multiple representations of the original image through maps of visual features such as edges, blobs or color combinations.
- The part of learning and reaching a semantic concept that humans conduct by trial and error is achieved through the training, validation and testing procedures in CNNs.

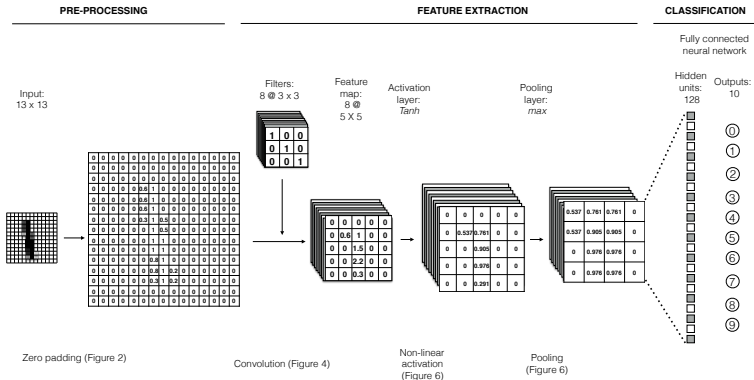
NETWORK STRUCTURE

- **GOAL:** learn the features associated w/ outcomes



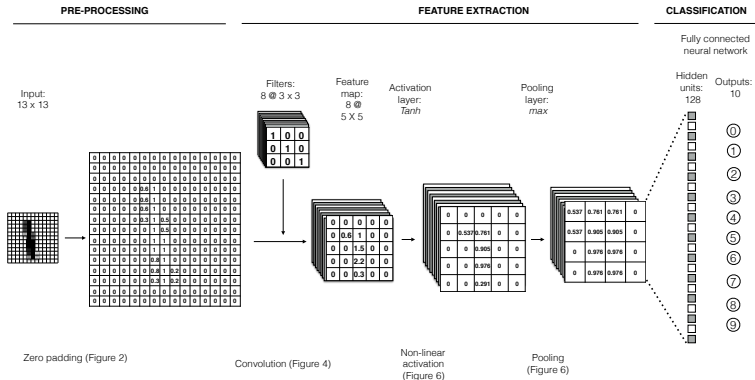
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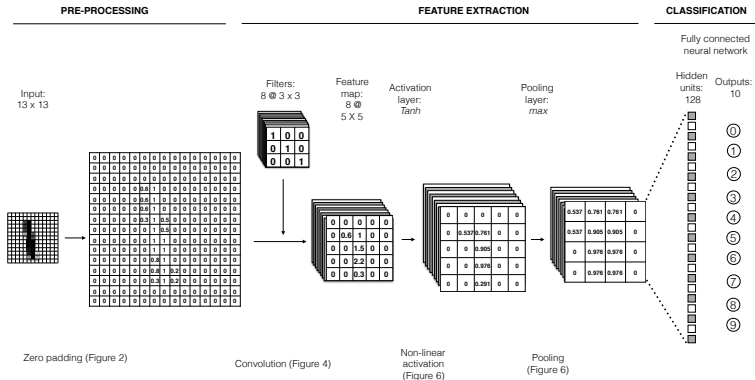
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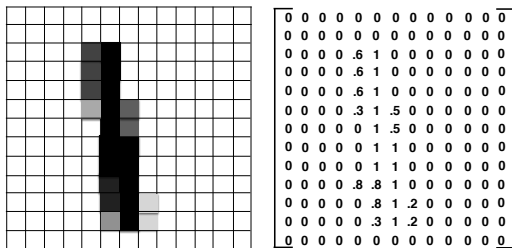


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- Not a black-box! → Optimization of error



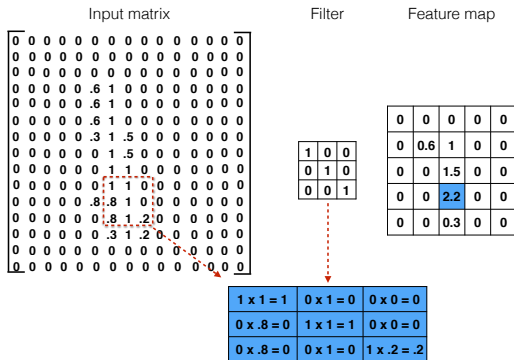
REPRESENTING IMAGES



The image is transformed into a numerical matrix, where each element represents the value of a specific pixel of the image measured as light intensity (in grayscale images) or color intensity (in color images).

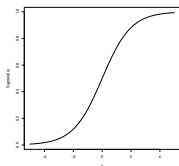
FEATURE EXTRACTION

It's all about feature extraction!

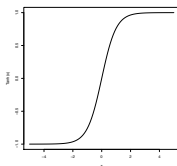


Filters are matrixes made of *weights*, that maximize or minimize the “intensity” of a pixel. Every filter slides through each 3 x 3 pixel area of the image, and computes the dot product of the region. The result is recorded on a smaller matrix to create *feature maps*. Intuitively, we want to detect whether and where a feature represented by a filter is prominent in the image.

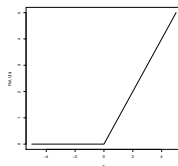
ACTIVATION FUNCTIONS



(a) $\text{Sigmoid}(x) = \frac{1}{1+e^{-x}}$



(b) $\text{Tanh}(x) = \frac{2}{1+e^{-2x}}$



(c) $\text{ReLU}(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x < 0, \\ x & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$

We add non-linearity by including an *activation layer*.

POOLING STAGE

Non-linear activation:
 $\tanh(x)$

max pooling

0	0	0	0	0
0	0.6	1	0	0
0	0	1.5	0	0
0	0	2.2	0	0
0	0	0.3	0	0

0	0	0	0	0
0	0.537	0.761	0	0
0	0	0.905	0	0
0	0	0.976	0	0
0	0	0.291	0	0

0.537	0.761	0.761	0
0.537	0.905	0.905	0
0	0.976	0.976	0
0	0.976	0.976	0

Once the activation map shows non-linear outputs, we reduce its dimensionality using a *pooling layer*. A pooling layer shrinks the size of the matrix while keeping the most important information in the feature map.

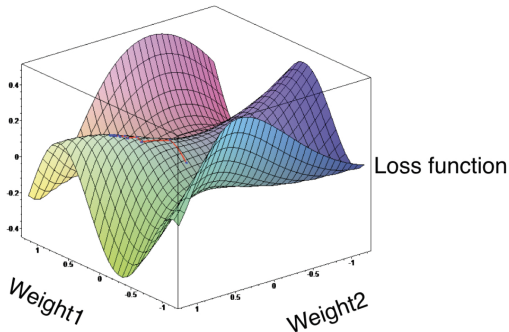
LEARNING

- The last stage of the network involves the classification of the image. The way in which the CNN learns the features that correlate to each outcome follows a procedure called back-propagation.

More on back-propagation

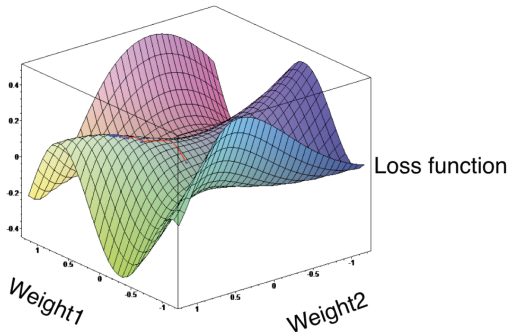
ACTUALLY, THIS SHOULD BE FAMILIAR...

Loss function



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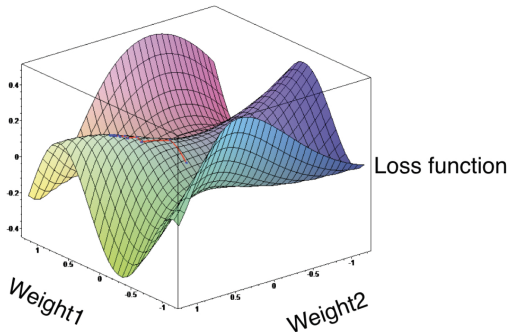
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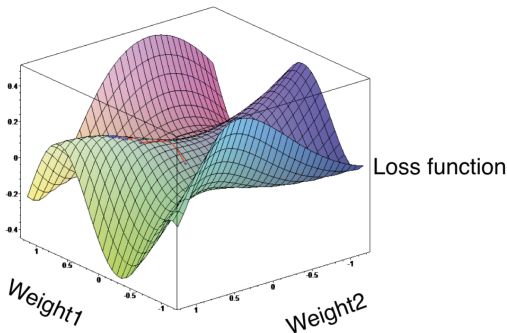
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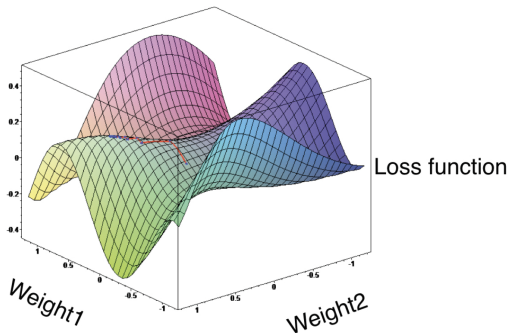
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- By finding the minimum point [=minimum prediction error]

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- Minimize multidimensional loss function → (OLS anyone?)
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- Explore the “field” step by step

BEYOND A CNN: TRANSFER LEARNING

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BEYOND A CNN: TRANSFER LEARNING (CONT.)

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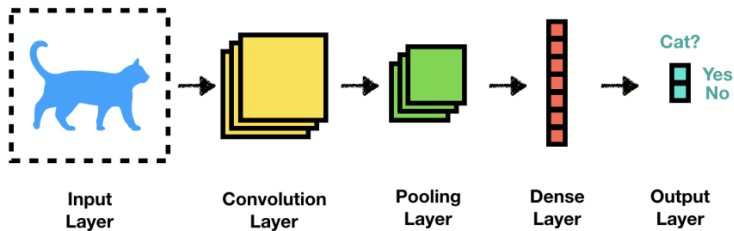
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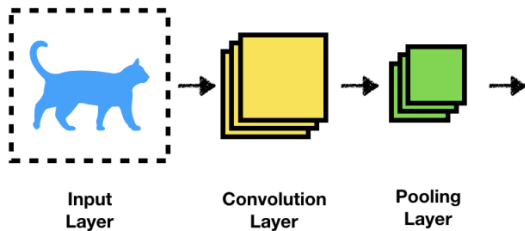
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 - 2 Retrain further layers with new data and new labels

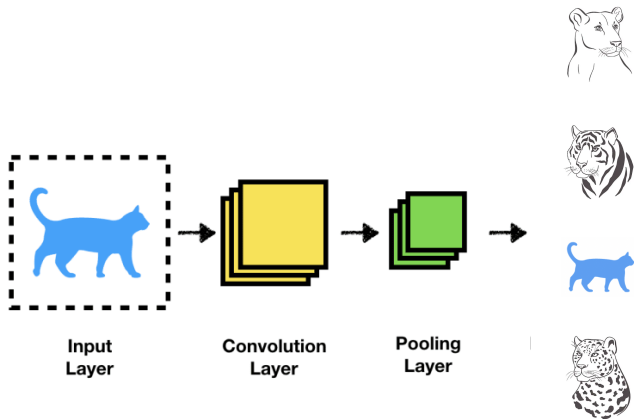
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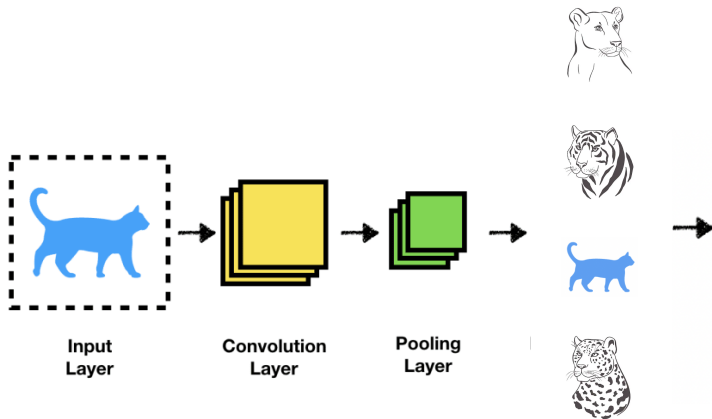
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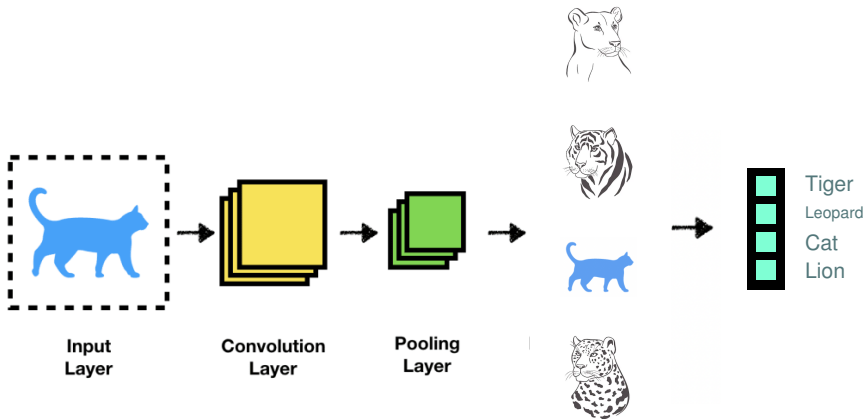
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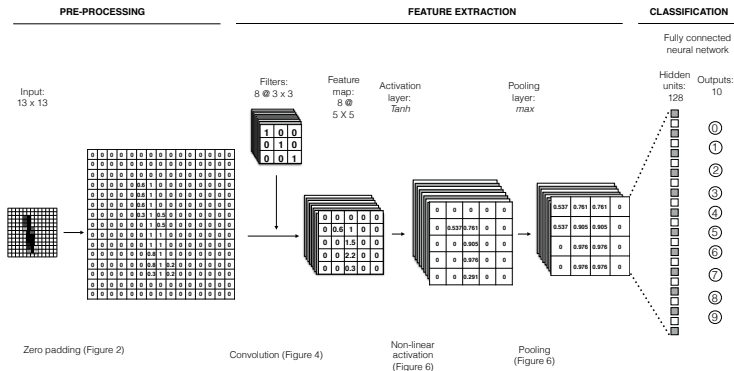


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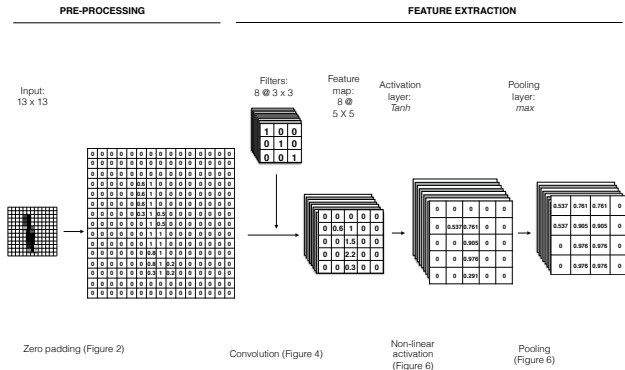
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- “Freeze” some layers and retrain the active ones
- Idea: keep useful learned features and fine-tune to account for your labels of interest



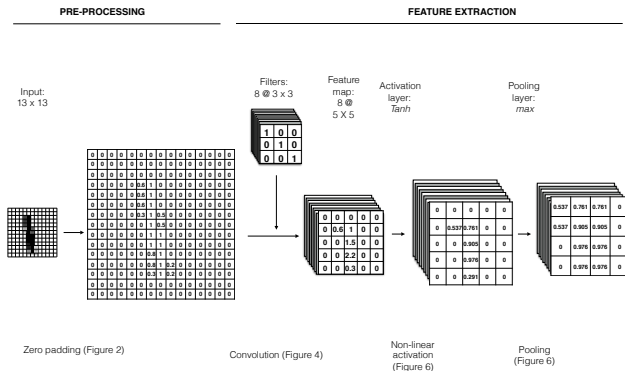
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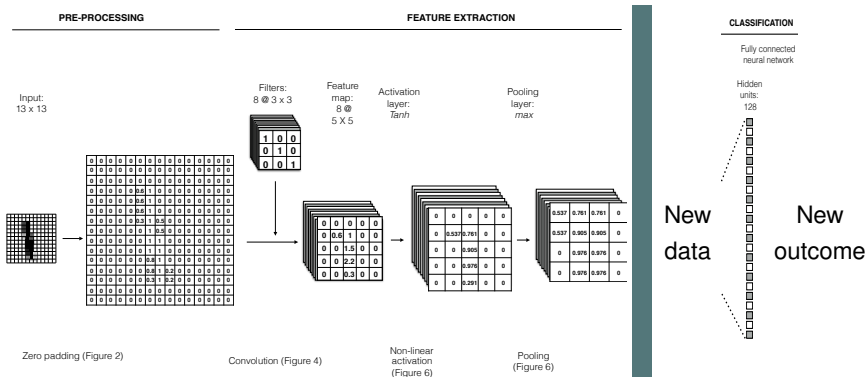
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CHALLENGES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- Prevent overfitting(*)
 - Increase number of training images
 - Data augmentation
 - Dropout random neurons
- Optimize your training set
 - Active learning: Informativeness vs. Representativeness
 - Class balance
 - “Denoise” images
 - Batch normalization
 - CAUTION: Bias training
- Post-CNN diagnosis
 - Know your training, testing and out-of-sample data
 - Always check mislabeled examples: validate, validate, validate...
 - Diagnosis
 - Hyperparameter grid for tuning

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- If so, we might need other tools and approaches

The Bag of Visual Words

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Latent Treatment
Identification

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Sky: 41%

Crowd: 38%

Pavement: 12%

Flag: 9%

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- Why do we need visual words?
- To build a Document-Term matrix (DTM)!
- Why a DTM?
- Because that's the input of a STM
- Actually, what's a DTM?

BUT FIRST: CONSTRUCTING VISUAL WORDS, CONT.

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- 1 Identification of blocks in images

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BUT FIRST: CONSTRUCTING VISUAL WORDS, CONT.

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DIVISION OF IMAGES INTO BLOCKS



(a) Original image (resized)

DIVISION OF IMAGES INTO BLOCKS



(a) Original image (resized)



(b) Image divided into 32×32 pixels blocks

FEATURE EXTRACTION WITH CNNs

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- CNN = Convolutional Neural Network

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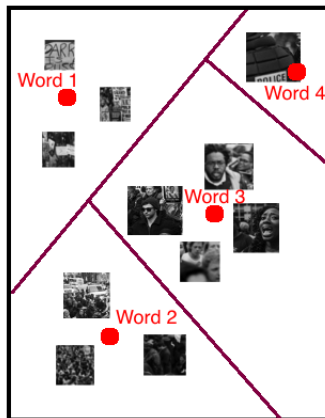
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- In our applications, this is $70 \times 2,048$

CLUSTERING FEATURES TO BUILD VISUAL VOCABULARY

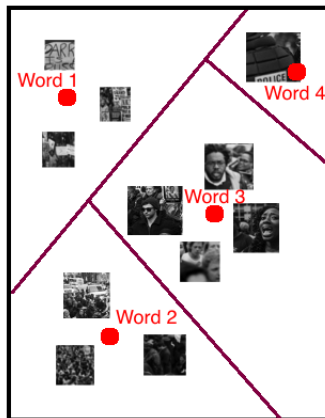
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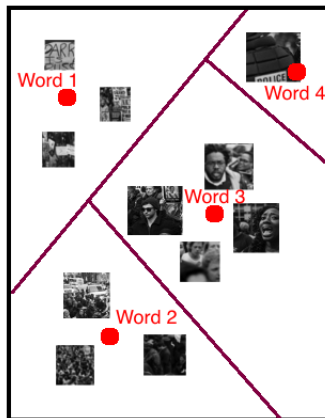
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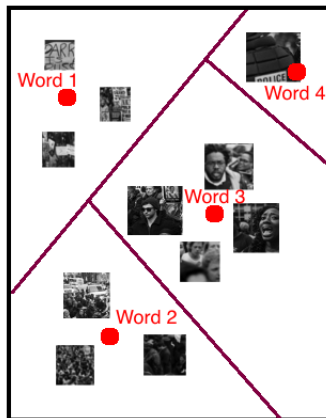
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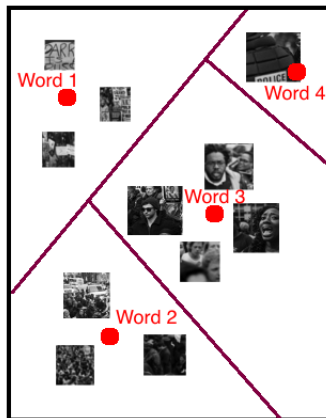
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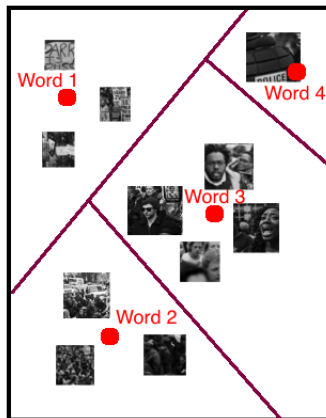
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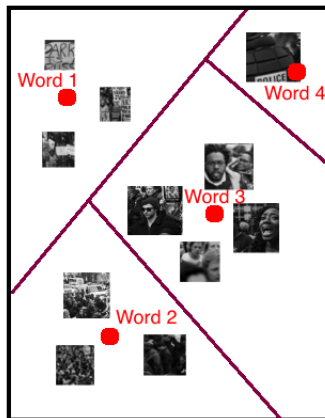
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 - Reduce potential sparsity in IVWM



VISUALIZING VISUAL WORDS

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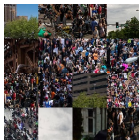
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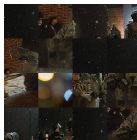
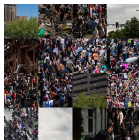
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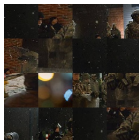
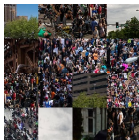
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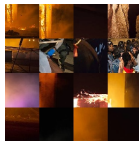
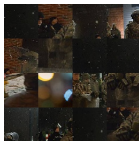
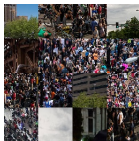
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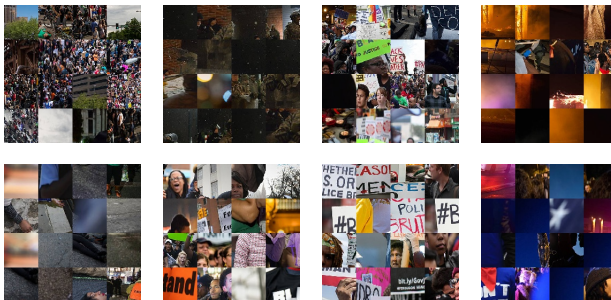








IMAGE-VISUAL WORD MATRIX

Document/Term	Black	Lives	...	Matter	Ferguson	protest
Where was this public display of support during the Black Lives Matter movement or the prolonged demonstrations in Ferguson?	1	1	...	1	1	0
And to be honest with you, we wouldn't be seeing this level of protest if we didn't have this for the last five years. Black Lives Matter really set this idea of how we fight and how we protest into action.	1	1	...	1	0	2
Over the past several weeks, the students of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School, have seized the national spotlight and joined a proud tradition of student-led protest movements.	0	0	...	0	0	1

IMAGE-VISUAL WORD MATRIX (CONT.)

Image/Visual Word			...	
	0	1	...	0
	0	1	...	1
	5	8	...	4

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“Looks more like an **invasion** than anything”



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“See them as they are: **Desperate**, leaving behind whatever they had, and whomever they knew, all for a **better chance** at life”

IDENTIFYING POLITICAL COMPONENTS IN THE DATA GENERATION PROCESS OF IMAGES

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 - Border/Fence, Small group/Portrait, Water/Sky, Camps, Darkness

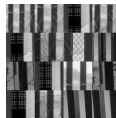
UNDERLYING TOPICS IN THE CARAVAN: FREX WORDS

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Topic 1: Crowds



Topic 2: Border/Fence



Topic 3: Water/Sky



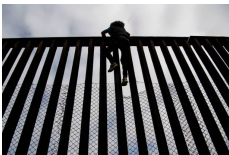
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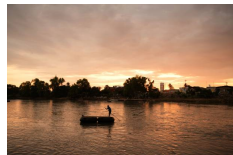
Crowd



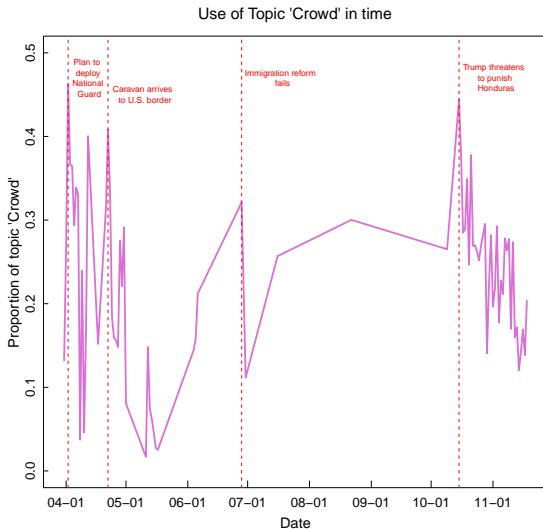
Border/
Fence



Water/
Sky



CROWD TOPIC IN TIME



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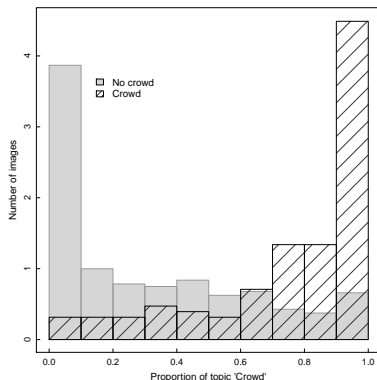
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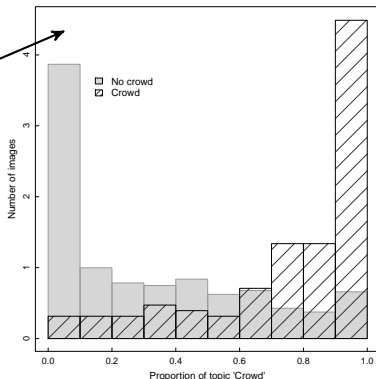
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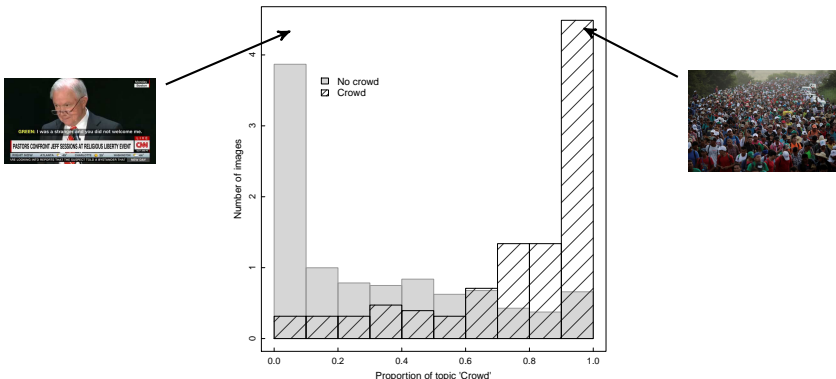
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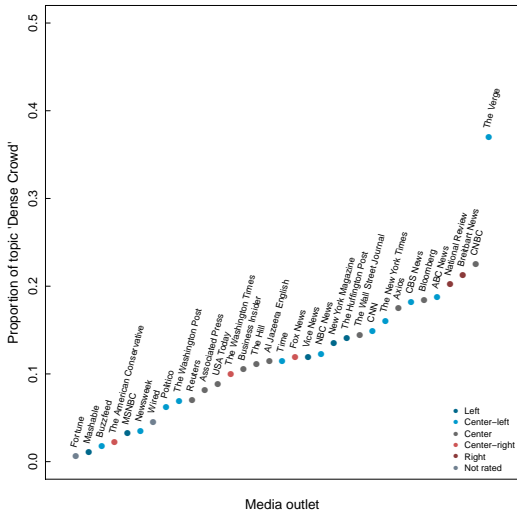


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TOPIC “CROWD” BY MEDIA OUTLET

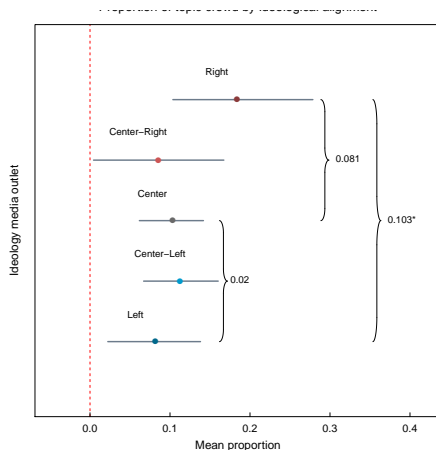


FACTORS BEHIND THE GENERATION OF VISUAL FRAMES

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 - Sensitivity of results to feature definition/extraction

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 - Others are more synonyms than exclusive words
 - Some visual words are plainly “bad”
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 - Mapping of latent concepts to low-dimensional features
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 - Learning curve
 - Time?

LET'S CODE!



What else is out there?

Wrapping-up

A POOL OF OPTIONS

- Create high quality training data and use transfer learning
 - AWS machines, HPC or GPUs [computational power needed]
 - Pre-trained architectures in Google, Amazon, etc.
 - Creating training data: `imglab`
- Pre-canned image detection with API access
 - GoogleVision: <https://cloud.google.com/vision/>, Amazon, Microsoft
 - Labels found in each picture
 - Face detection
 - Emotions
 - Sensitive content (e.g. violence, nudity, etc.)
 - Object detection

OBJECT DETECTION: COVERS OF NEWSPAPERS

Full set of images

Only Women's March images



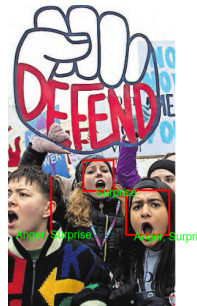
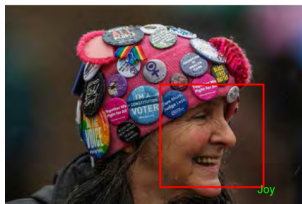
FACE DETECTION AND EMOTIONAL CONTENT

Good results with little effort...



FACE DETECTION AND EMOTIONAL CONTENT

Good results with little effort...



...but also tons of errors(*)



APPLICATIONS OF COMPUTER VISION TOOLS

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- Detection of fraud using CNNs
(Cantú 2019)

A

IDENTIFICACION DEL CLIENTE LA CLASE DEL PRODUCTO	NOTAS DE OBSERVACIONES DEL PRODUCTO	OTRAS OBSERVACIONES
131	131	
07	7	
128	132	
00		
128	132	

B

IDENTIFICACION DEL CLIENTE LA CLASE DEL PRODUCTO	NOTAS DE OBSERVACIONES DEL PRODUCTO	OTRAS OBSERVACIONES
29		
120		
121		
1		
10		
37		
1		
22		
2		
473		
18		
187		

C

IDENTIFICACION DEL CLIENTE LA CLASE DEL PRODUCTO	NOTAS DE OBSERVACIONES DEL PRODUCTO	OTRAS OBSERVACIONES
12		
132		
20		
1		
2		
3		
1432		
1		
1431		

D

IDENTIFICACION DEL CLIENTE LA CLASE DEL PRODUCTO	NOTAS DE OBSERVACIONES DEL PRODUCTO	OTRAS OBSERVACIONES
309	309	
22		22
301	301	
301	301	

APPLICATIONS OF COMPUTER VISION TOOLS

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- Identifying the share of women in political ads and the gender composition to the audiences to which these are deployed (Erfort 2023)



APPLICATIONS OF COMPUTER VISION TOOLS

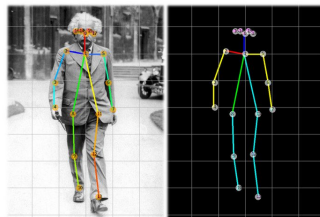
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Barcelona .654

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- Nature and reactions/attention to female and male politicians' body language using key points and vocal pitch (Rittman et al. 2023)



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- VALIDATE, VALIDATE, VALIDATE!
- Keep learning and let the creativity take you to infinity and beyond!

Appendix

L^{*}A^{*}B COLOR SPACE

- L^{*} = lightness
- a^{*} = chromaticity coordinate (red axis)
- b^{*} = chromaticity coordinate (blue axis)

