Lecture 2: Image Classification

Administrative: Assignment 0

- Due 4/08 by 11:59pm
- Easy assignment
- Hardest part is learning how to use colab and how to submit on gradescope
- Worth 0% of your grade
- Used to evaluate how prepared you are to take this course

Administrative: Assignment 1

Due 4/16 11:59pm

- K-Nearest Neighbor
- Linear classifiers: SVM, Softmax

Administrative: Course Project

Project proposal due 4/29 11:59pm

Find your teammates on EdStem. We will help find teammates as well.

Collaboration: EdStem

"Is X a valid project for 493G1?"

- Anything related to deep learning + pixels
- Maximum of 3 students per team
- Make a EdStem private post or come to TA Office Hours

More info on the website

Administrative: Fridays

This Friday 9:30-10:30am and again 12:30-1:30pm

Broadcasting

Presenter: Tanush (Head TA)

Syllabus

Deep learning Fundamentals	Practical training skills	Applications
Data-driven approaches Linear classification & kNN Loss functions Optimization Backpropagation Multi-layer perceptrons Neural Networks Convolutions RNNs / LSTMs	Pytorch 1.4 / Tensorflow 2.0 Activation functions Batch normalization Transfer learning Data augmentation Momentum / RMSProp / Adam Architecture design	Image captioning Interpreting machine learning Generative AI Fairness & ethics Data-centric AI Deep reinforcement learning Self-supervised learning Diffusion LLMs

Ranjay Krishna

Lecture 2 - 6

6 April 03, 2025

Image Classification

A Core Task in Computer Vision

Today:

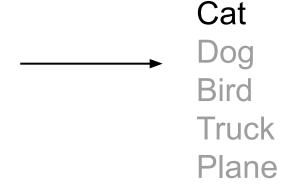
- The image classification task
- Two basic data-driven approaches to image classification
 - K-nearest neighbor and linear classifier

Image Classification: A core task in Computer Vision



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(assume given a set of possible labels)



The Problem: Semantic Gap



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[[105 112 108 111 104 99 106 99 96 103 112 119 104 97 93 87]
[91 98 102 106 104 79 98 103 99 105 123 136 110 105 94 85]
[76 85 90 105 128 105 87 96 95 99 115 112 106 103 99 85]
[81 99 81 81 93 120 131 127 100 95 98 102 99 96 93 101 94]
[106 91 61 64 69 91 88 85 101 107 109 98 75 84 96 95]
[114 108 85 55 55 69 64 54 64 87 112 129 98 74 84 91]
[133 137 147 103 65 81 80 65 52 54 74 84 102 93 85 82]
[128 137 144 140 109 95 86 70 62 65 63 63 60 73 86 101]
[125 133 148 137 119 121 117 94 65 79 80 65 54 64 72 98]
[127 125 131 147 133 127 126 131 111 96 89 75 61 64 72 84]
[151 114 109 123 150 148 131 118 113 109 100 92 74 65 72 78]
[89 93 90 97 108 147 131 118 113 114 113 109 106 95 77 80]
[63 77 86 81 77 79 102 123 117 15 117 125 125 130 115 87]
[62 65 82 89 78 71 80 101 124 126 119 101 107 114 131 119]
[63 65 75 88 89 71 62 81 120 138 135 105 81 98 110 118]
[187 65 71 87 106 95 69 45 76 130 126 107 92 94 105 112]
[118 118 61 12 80 82 120 124 104 76 48 45 66 88 101 102 109]
[157 170 157 120 93 86 114 132 112 121 131 14 78 76 55 76 82 99 94]
[130 128 134 161 139 100 109 118 121 134 14 78 76 53 69 98]
[127 121 121 102 80 82 86 88 81 172 15 149 121 112 112 114 147 15 17 125 135 114 118 113 114 113 114 113 119]
[151 164 164 112 80 82 120 124 104 76 48 45 66 88 101 102 109]
[157 170 157 120 93 86 114 132 112 129 76 95 57 70 82 99 94]
[130 128 134 161 139 100 109 118 121 134 114 87 65 53 69 86]
[128 112 96 117 150 144 120 115 104 107 102 93 87 81 72 79]
[122 124 104 8 82 86 84 117 123 15 15 87 80 107 112 99]
[127 121 102 80 82 86 84 117 124 115 15 104 107 102 93 87 81 72 79]
[122 124 148 103 71 56 78 83 93 103 119 139 102 61 69 84]

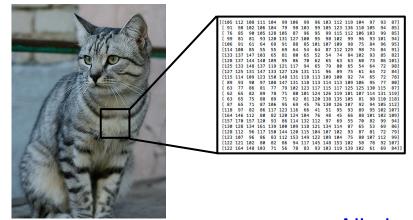
What the computer sees

An image is a tensor of integers between [0, 255]:

e.g. 800 x 600 x 3 (3 channels RGB)

Challenges: Viewpoint variation









All pixels change when the camera moves!

This image by Nikita is licensed under CC-BY 2.0

Challenges: Illumination









This image is CC0 1.0 public domain

RGB values are a function of surface materials, color, light source, etc.

Challenges: Background Clutter





This image is CC0 1.0 public domain

This image is CC0 1.0 public domain

Challenges: Occlusion





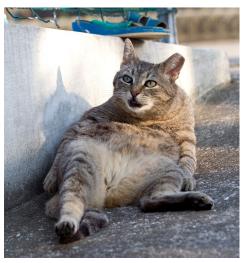


This image is CC0 1.0 public domain

This image is CC0 1.0 public domain

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Challenges: Deformation



This image by Umberto Salvagnin is licensed under CC-BY 2.0



This image by Umberto Salvagnin is licensed under CC-BY 2.0



This image by sare bear is licensed under CC-BY 2.0



This image by Tom Thai is licensed under CC-BY 2.0

Challenges: Intraclass variation



This image is CC0 1.0 public domain

Image classification is a building block for other tasks

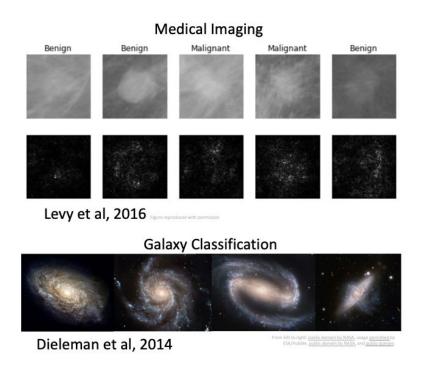




Image classification is a building block for other tasks



Image Captioning Vinyals et al, 2015 Karpathy and Fei-Fei, 2015



A white teddy bear sitting in the grass



A man riding a wave on top of a surfboard



A man in a baseball uniform throwing a ball



A cat sitting on a suitcase on the floor



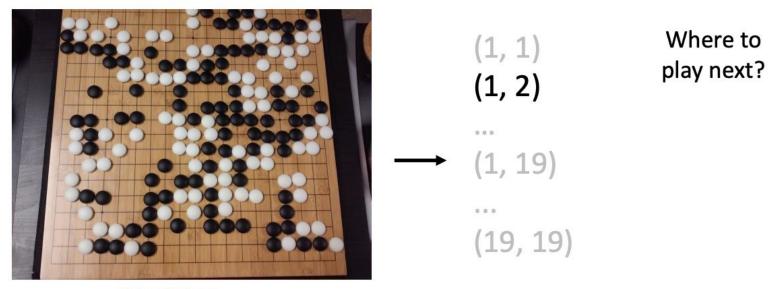
A woman is holding a cat in her hand



A woman standing on a beach holding a surfboard

Image classification is a building block for other tasks

Example: Playing Go



This image is CCO public doma

Modern computer vision algorithms

Classifiers today take 1ms to classify images. And can handle an unlimited (open-set) of categories.



This image is CC0 1.0 public domain

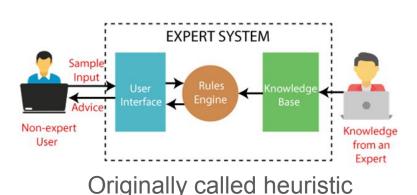
An image classifier: can we implement this as a normal software function?

```
def classify_image(image):
    # Some magic here?
    return class_label
```

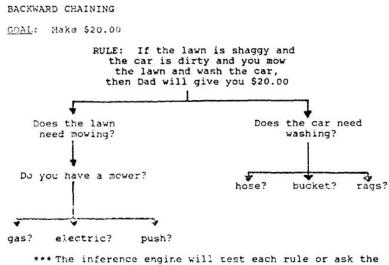
Unlike e.g. sorting a list of numbers,

no obvious way to hard-code the algorithm for recognizing a cat, or other classes.

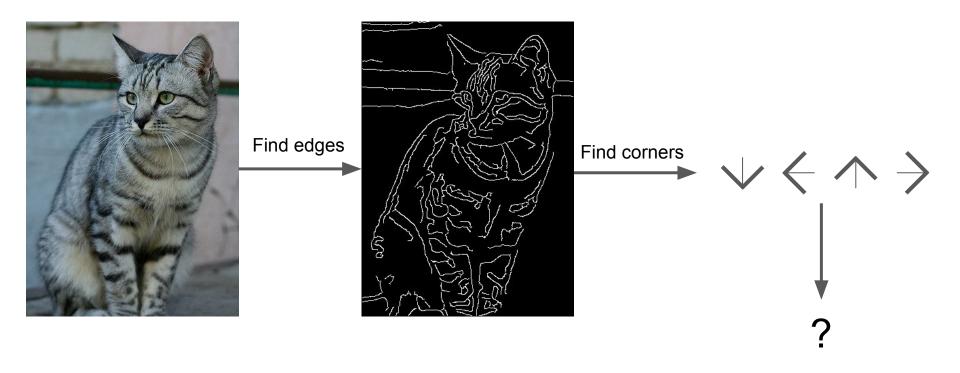
This is why expert systems in the 80s led to the Al winter.



programming project.



Attempts have been made



John Canny, "A Computational Approach to Edge Detection", IEEE TPAMI 1986

Machine Learning: Data-Driven Approach

1. Collect a dataset of images and labels

Example training set

deer

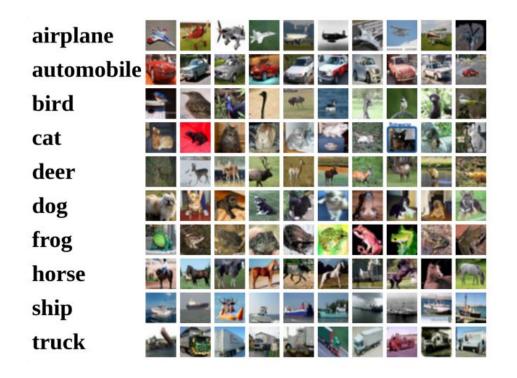
airplane automobile bird cat

Example dataset: MNIST



10 classes: Digits 0 to 928x28 grayscale images50k training images10k test images

Example dataset: CIFAR10



10 classes50k training images (5k per class)10k testing images (1k per class)32x32 RGB images

We will use this dataset for homework assignments

Example dataset: CIFAR100



100 classes50k training images (500 per class)10k testing images (100 per class)32x32 RGB images

20 superclasses with 5 classes each:

Aquatic mammals: beaver, dolphin, otter, seal, whale Trees: Maple, oak, palm, pine, willow

Example dataset: ImageNet (ILSVRC challenge)

ILSVRC = ImageNet Large-Scale Visual Recognition Challenge



1000 classes

~1.3M training images (~1.3K per class)
50K validation images (50 per class)
100K test images (100 per class)

Performance metric: **Top 5 accuracy**Algorithm predicts 5 labels for each image; one of them needs to be right

Example dataset: MIT Places

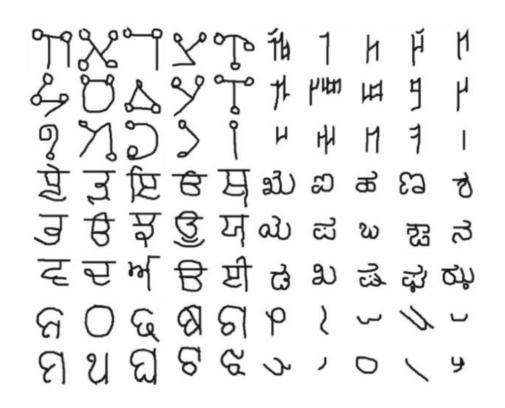


365 classes of different scene types

~8M training images 18.25K val images (50 per class) 328.5K test images (900 per class)

Images have variable size, often resize to **256x256** for training

Example dataset: Omniglot



1623 categories: characters from 50 different alphabets

20 images per category

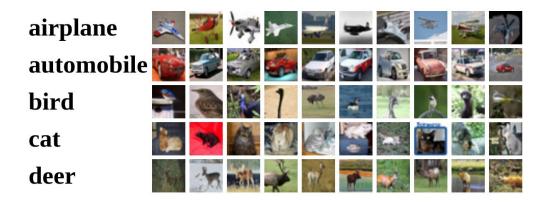
Meant to test few shot learning

Machine Learning: Data-Driven Approach

- 1. Collect a dataset of images and labels
- 2. Use Machine Learning algorithms to train a classifier
- 3. Evaluate the classifier on new images

def train(images, labels): # Machine learning! return model def predict(model, test_images): # Use model to predict labels return test_labels

Example training set



Nearest Neighbor Classifier

First classifier: Nearest Neighbor

```
def train(images, labels):
                                            Memorize all
  # Machine learning!
                                            data and labels
  return model
                                            Predict the label
def predict(model, test images):
  # Use model to predict labels
                                           of the most similar
  return test_labels
                                            training image
```

First classifier: **Nearest Neighbor**



Training data with labels



query data

Distance Metric





What is a good distance metric?

Distance Metric to compare images

L1 distance:
$$d_1(I_1, I_2) = \sum_p |I_1^p - I_2^p|$$

test image

56	32	10	18			
90	23	128	133			
24	26	178	200			
2	0	255	220			

training image

10	20	24	17		
8	10	89	100		
12	16	178	170		
4	32	233	112		

pixel-wise absolute value differences

	46	12	14	1
	82	13	39	33
=	12	10	0	30
	2	32	22	108

```
import numpy as np
class NearestNeighbor:
 def init (self):
    pass
 def train(self, X, y):
    """ X is N x D where each row is an example. Y is 1-dimension of size N """
    # the nearest neighbor classifier simply remembers all the training data
   self.Xtr = X
    self.ytr = y
 def predict(self, X):
    """ X is N x D where each row is an example we wish to predict label for """
    num test = X.shape[0]
    # lets make sure that the output type matches the input type
    Ypred = np.zeros(num test, dtype = self.ytr.dtype)
    # loop over all test rows
    for i in xrange(num test):
     # find the nearest training image to the i'th test image
     # using the L1 distance (sum of absolute value differences)
     distances = np.sum(np.abs(self.Xtr - X[i,:]), axis = 1)
     min index = np.argmin(distances) # get the index with smallest distance
     Ypred[i] = self.ytr[min index] # predict the label of the nearest example
    return Ypred
```

Nearest Neighbor classifier

```
import numpy as np
class NearestNeighbor:
 def init (self):
    pass
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```

Nearest Neighbor classifier

Memorize training data

```
import numpy as np
class NearestNeighbor:
 def init (self):
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 def train(self, X, y):
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 def predict(self, X):
    """ X is N x D where each row is an example we wish to predict label for """
    num test = X.shape[0]
   # lets make sure that the output type matches the input type
    Ypred = np.zeros(num test, dtype = self.ytr.dtype)
```

```
Nearest Neighbor classifier
```

```
For each test image:
Find closest train image
Predict label of nearest image
```

```
for i in xrange(num_test):
    # find the nearest training image to the i'th test image
    # using the L1 distance (sum of absolute value differences)
    distances = np.sum(np.abs(self.Xtr - X[i,:]), axis = 1)
    min_index = np.argmin(distances) # get the index with smallest distance
    Ypred[i] = self.ytr[min_index] # predict the label of the nearest example
```

loop over all test rows

return Ypred

```
import numpy as np
class NearestNeighbor:
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    return Ypred
```

Nearest Neighbor classifier

Q: With N examples, how fast are training and prediction?

Ans: Train O(1), predict O(N)

This is bad: we want classifiers that are **fast** at prediction; **slow** for training is ok

```
import numpy as np
class NearestNeighbor:
 def init (self):
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     Ypred[i] = self.ytr[min index] # predict the label of the nearest example
    return Ypred
```

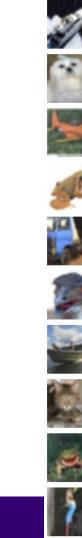
Nearest Neighbor classifier

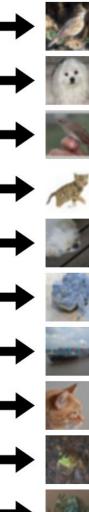
Many methods exist for fast / approximate nearest neighbor (beyond the scope of this course!)

A good implementation: https://github.com/facebookresearch/faiss

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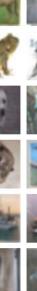
Example outputs from a NN classifier on **CIFAR**:







































Ranjay Krishna

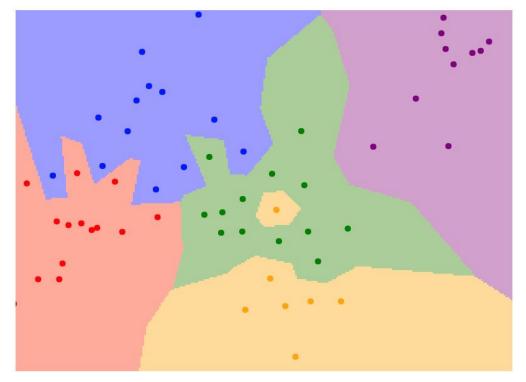
Example outputs from a NN classifier on CIFAR:



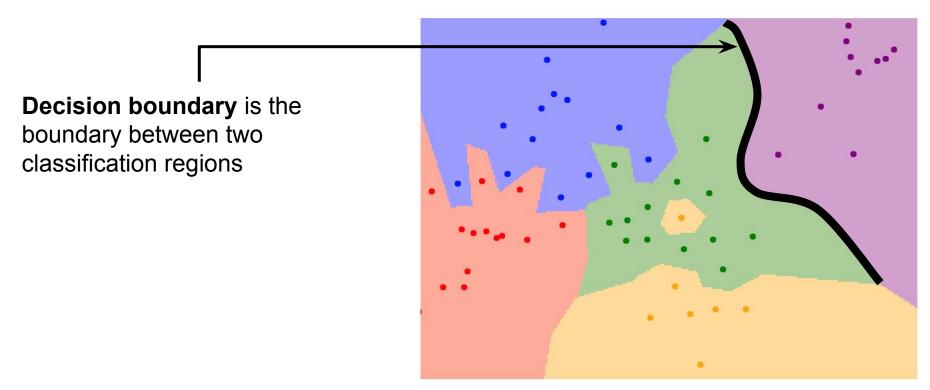
Assume each dot is a training image.

Assume all images are two dimensional.

What does this classifier look like?



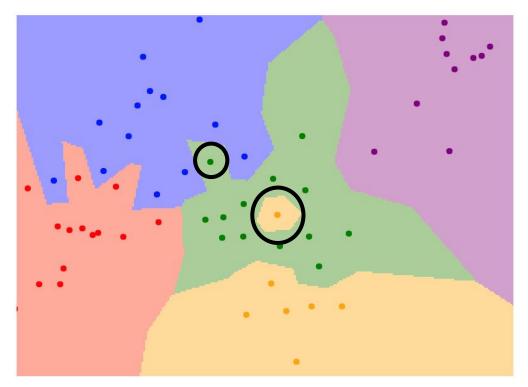
1-nearest neighbor



1-nearest neighbor

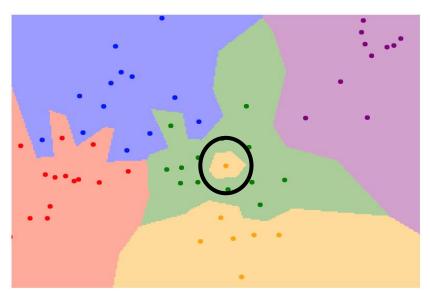
Yellow point in the middle of green might be mislabeled.

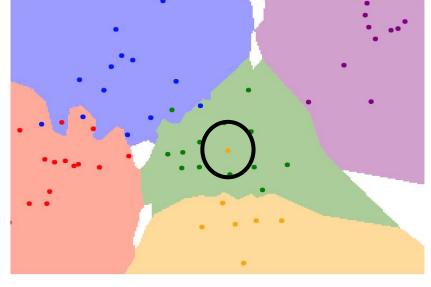
1-NN is not robust to label noise.



1-nearest neighbor

Instead of copying label from nearest neighbor, take **majority vote** from K closest points

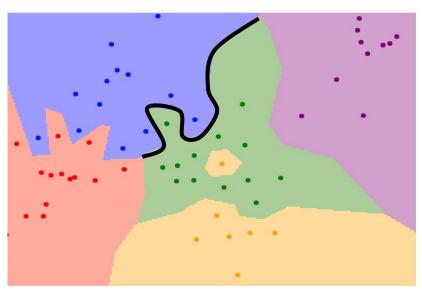


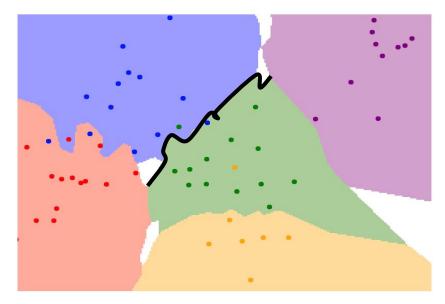


K = 1

K = 3

Using more neighbors helps smooth out rough decision boundaries

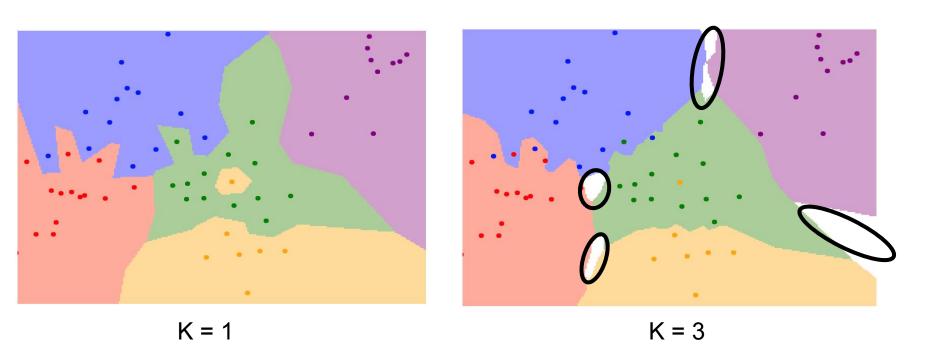




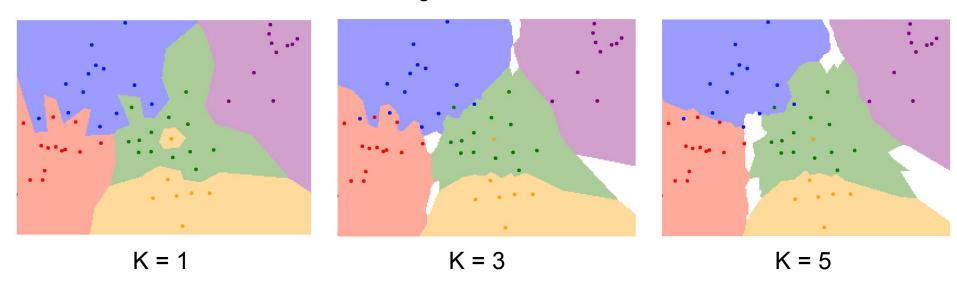
K = 1

K = 3

Find more labels near uncertain white regions



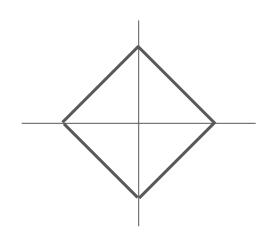
Larger K smooths boundaries more and leads to more uncertain regions



K-Nearest Neighbors: Distance Metric

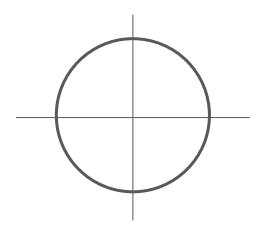
L1 (Manhattan) distance

$$d_1(I_1,I_2) = \sum_p |I_1^p - I_2^p|$$



L2 (Euclidean) distance

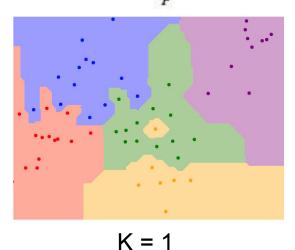
$$d_2(I_1,I_2)=\sqrt{\sum_p\left(I_1^p-I_2^p
ight)^2}$$



K-Nearest Neighbors: Distance Metric

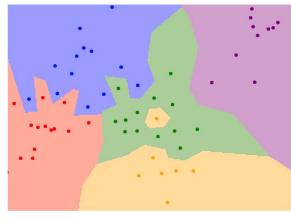
L1 (Manhattan) distance

$$d_1(I_1,I_2) = \sum_p |I_1^p - I_2^p|$$



L2 (Euclidean) distance

$$d_2(I_1,I_2)=\sqrt{\sum_p \left(I_1^p-I_2^p
ight)^2}$$



$$K = 1$$

k-Nearest Neighbor with pixel distance is **never used**.

Distance metrics on pixels are not informative



(All three images on the right have the same pixel distances to the one on the left)

Hyperparameters

What is the best value of **k** to use? What is the best **distance** to use?

These are **hyperparameters**: choices about the algorithms themselves.

Very problem/dataset-dependent.

Must try them all out and see what works best.

Idea #1: Choose hyperparameters that work best on the training data

train

Idea #1: Choose hyperparameters that work best on the training data

BAD: K = 1 always works perfectly on training data

train

Idea #1: Choose hyperparameters that work best on the training data

BAD: K = 1 always works perfectly on training data

train

Idea #2: choose hyperparameters that work best on **test** data

train

test

Idea #1: Choose hyperparameters
that work best on the training data

train

Idea #2: choose hyperparameters
that work best on test data

train

BAD: K = 1 always works
perfectly on training data

BAD: No idea how algorithm
will perform on new data
train

test

Never do this!

BAD: K = 1 always works Idea #1: Choose hyperparameters perfectly on training data that work best on the training data train **Idea #2**: choose hyperparameters **BAD**: No idea how algorithm that work best on test data will perform on new data train test Idea #3: Split data into train, val; choose **Better!** hyperparameters on val and evaluate on test validation train test

train

Idea #4: Cross-Validation: Split data into folds, try each fold as validation and average the results

fold 1	fold 2	fold 3	fold 4	fold 5	test
fold 1	fold 2	fold 3	fold 4	fold 5	test
fold 1	fold 2	fold 3	fold 4	fold 5	test

Useful for small datasets, but not used too frequently in deep learning

Example Dataset: CIFAR10

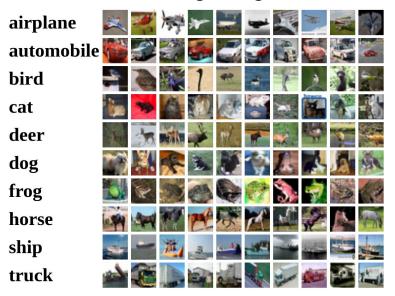
10 classes50,000 training images10,000 testing images



Alex Krizhevsky, "Learning Multiple Layers of Features from Tiny Images", Technical Report, 2009.

Example Dataset: CIFAR10

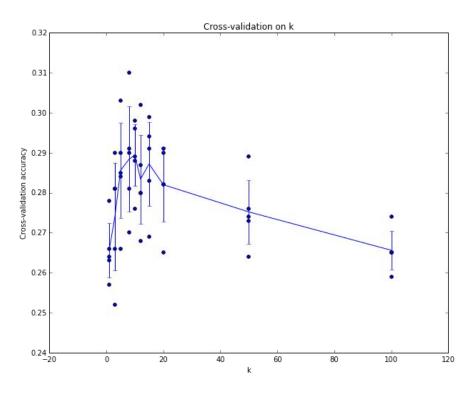
10 classes50,000 training images10,000 testing images



Test images and nearest neighbors



Alex Krizhevsky, "Learning Multiple Layers of Features from Tiny Images", Technical Report, 2009.

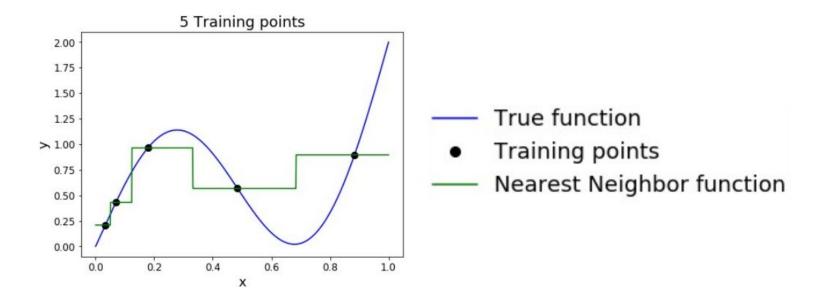


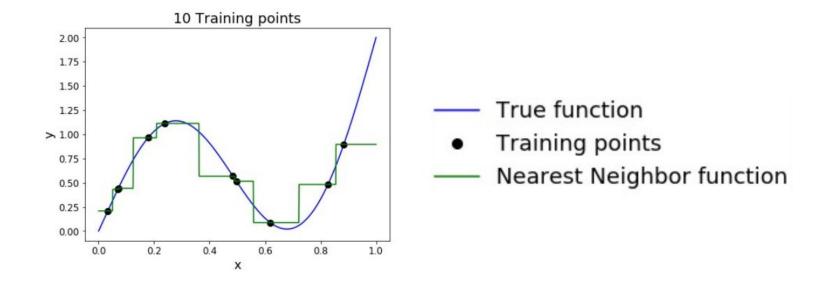
Example of 5-fold cross-validation for the value of **k**.

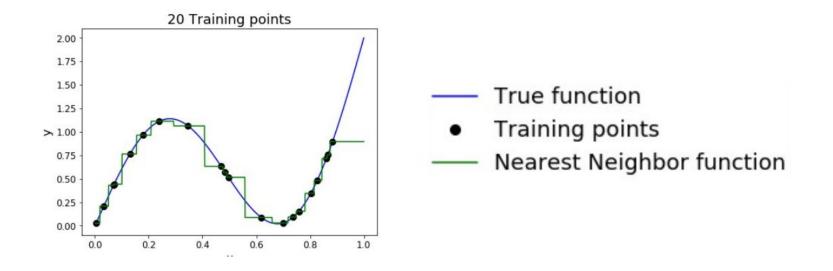
Each point: single outcome.

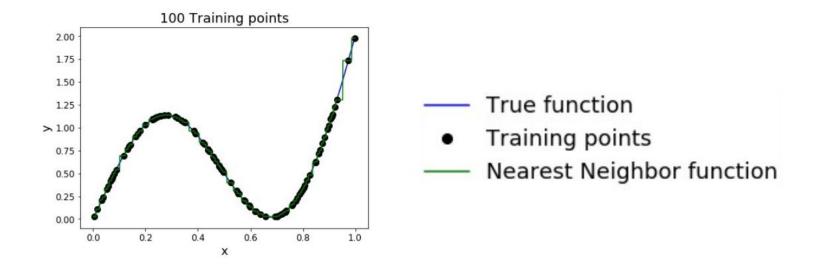
The line goes through the mean, bars indicated standard deviation

(Seems that $k \sim = 7$ works best for this data)









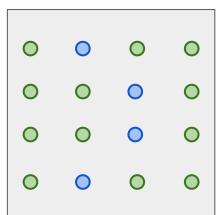
Problem: curse of dimensionality

Curse of dimensionality: For uniform coverage of space, number of training points needed grows exponentially with dimension



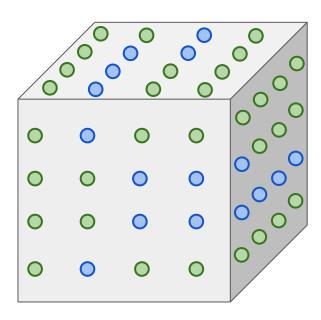
Dimensions =
$$2$$

Points = 4^2



Dimensions =
$$3$$

Points = 4^3



Problem: curse of dimensionality

Curse of dimensionality: For uniform coverage of space, number of training points needed grows exponentially with dimension

Number of possible 32x32 binary images:

$$2^{32\times32} = 10^{308}$$

Number of elementary particles in the visible universe: 10⁹⁷

K-Nearest Neighbors: Summary

In **image classification** we start with a **training set** of images and labels, and must predict labels on the **test set**

The **K-Nearest Neighbors** classifier predicts labels based on the K nearest training examples

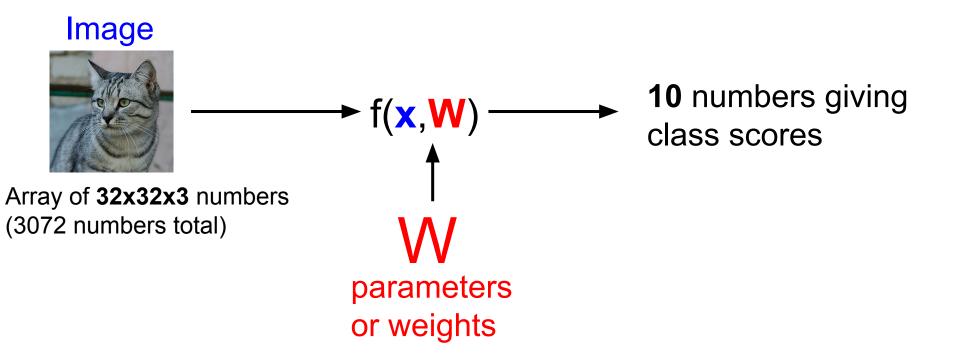
Distance metric and K are hyperparameters

Choose hyperparameters using the **validation set**;

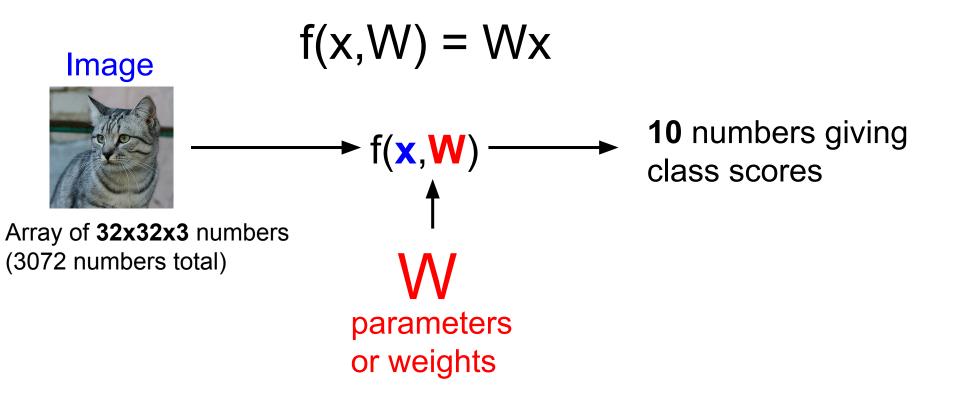
Only run on the test set once at the very end!

Linear Classifier

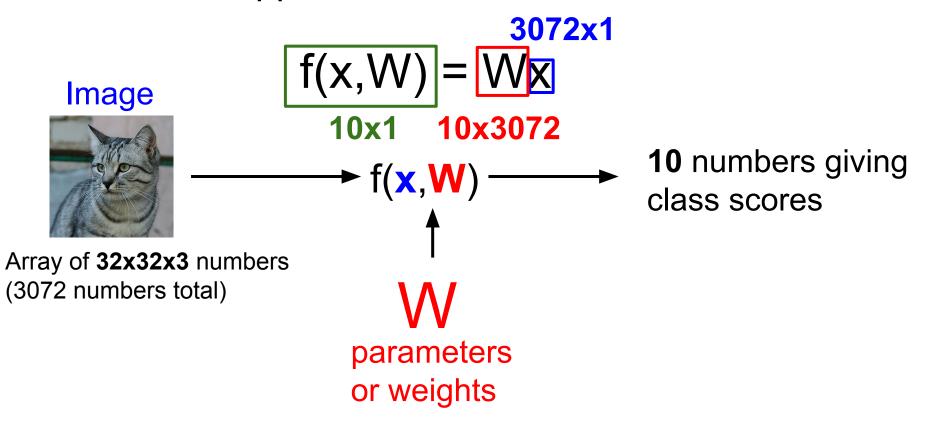
Parametric Approach



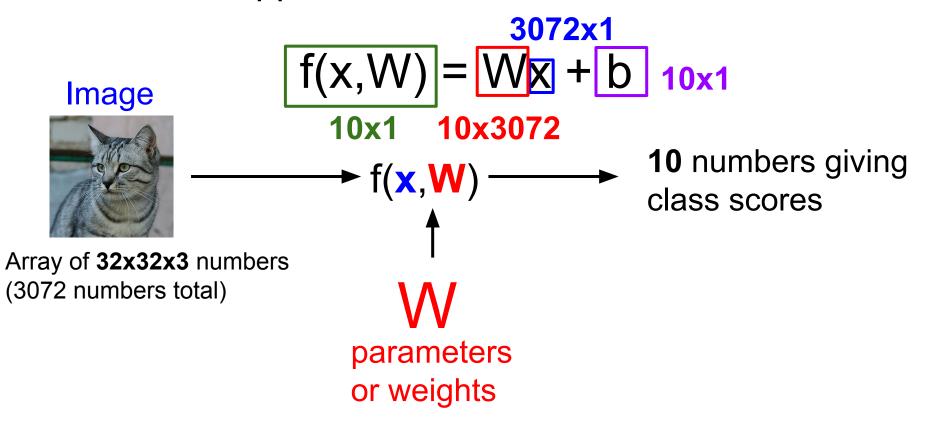
Parametric Approach: Linear Classifier



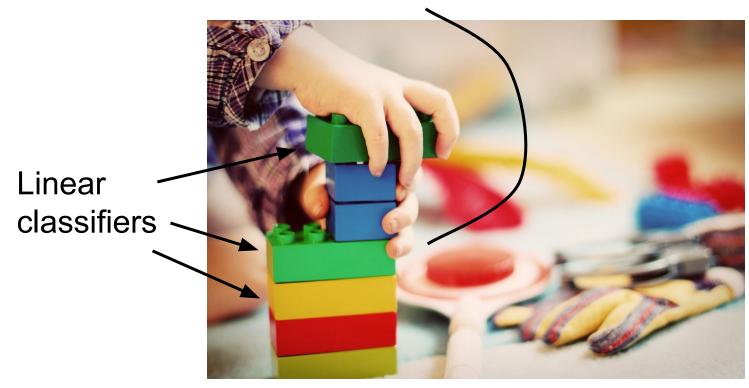
Parametric Approach: Linear Classifier



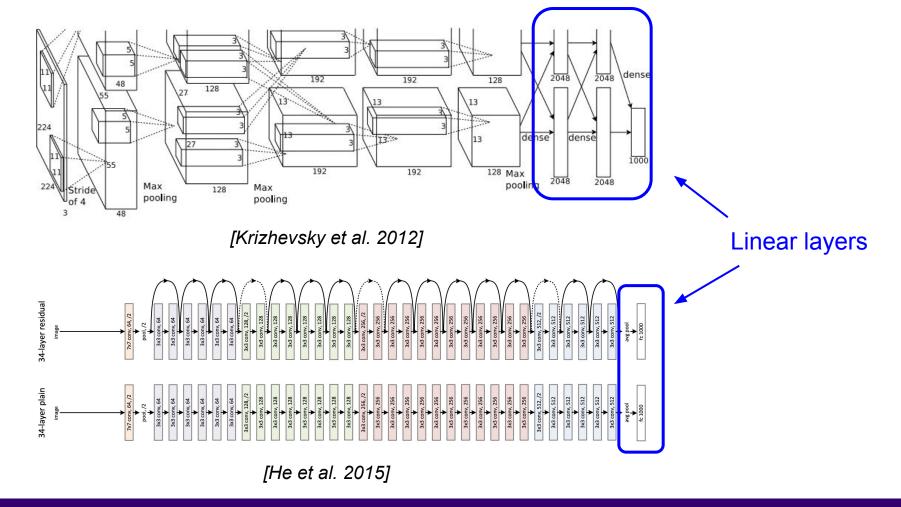
Parametric Approach: Linear Classifier



Neural Network



This image is CC0 1.0 public domain

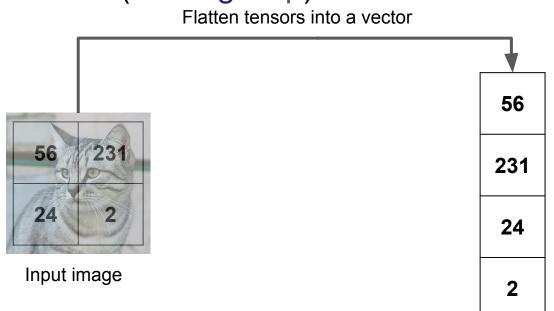


Recall CIFAR10

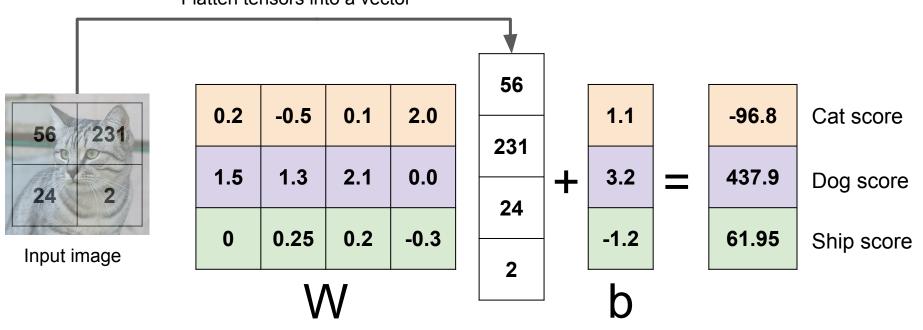


50,000 training images each image is **32x32x3**

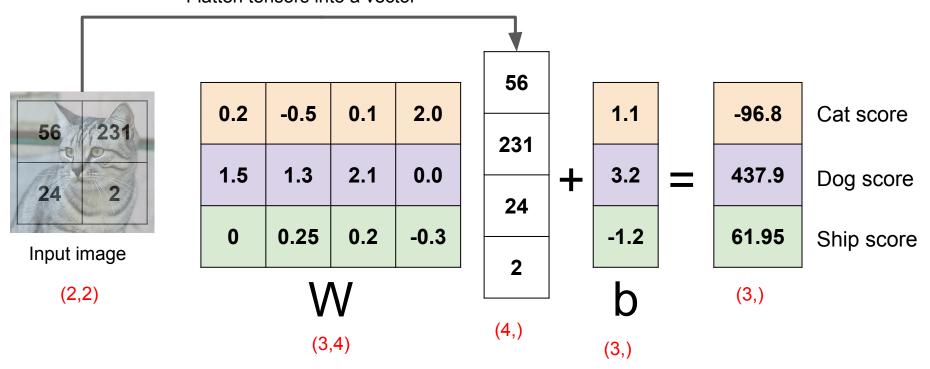
10,000 test images.



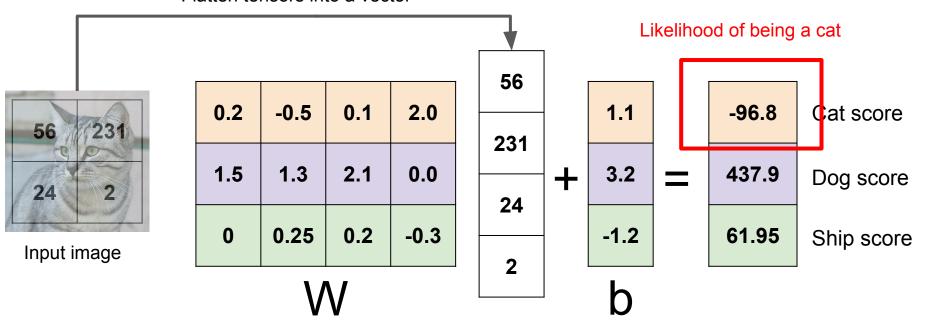
Flatten tensors into a vector

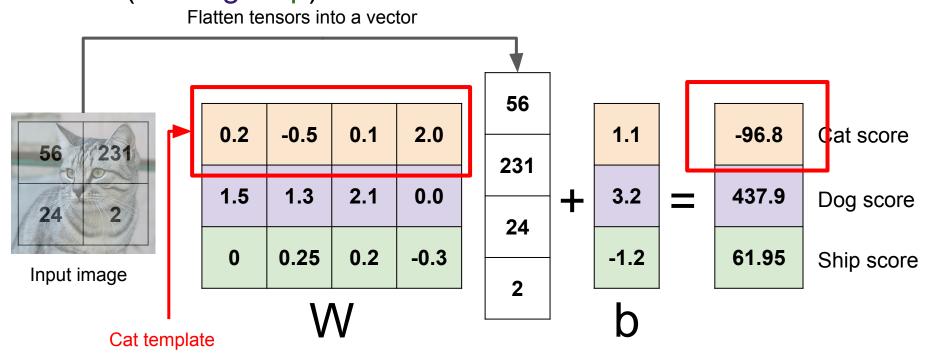


Flatten tensors into a vector

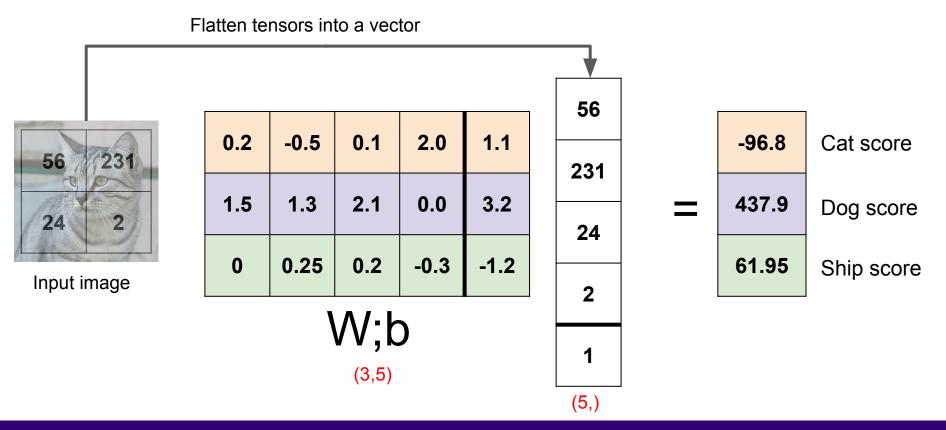


Flatten tensors into a vector





Algebraic viewpoint: Bias trick to simplify computation

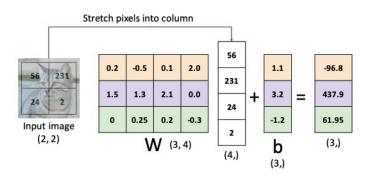


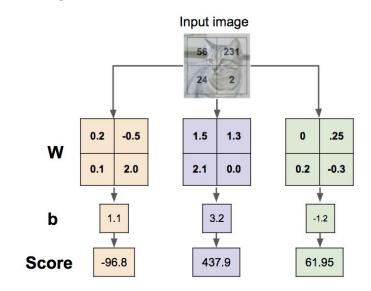
Ranjay Krishna

Lecture 2 - 82

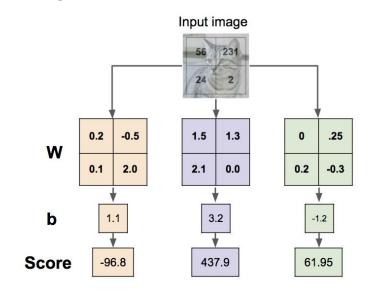
April 03, 2025

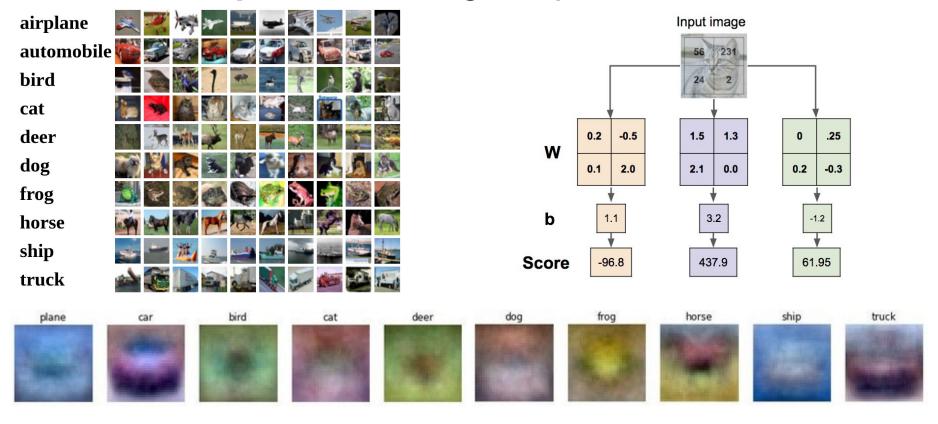
Algebraic viewpoint:

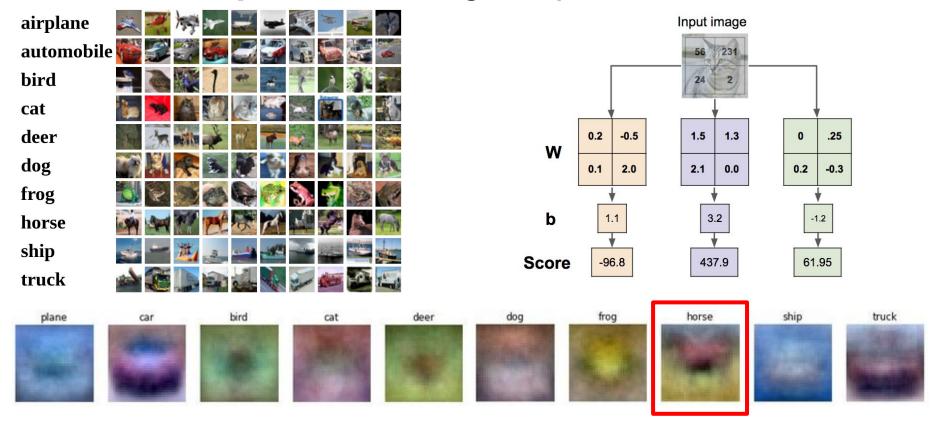


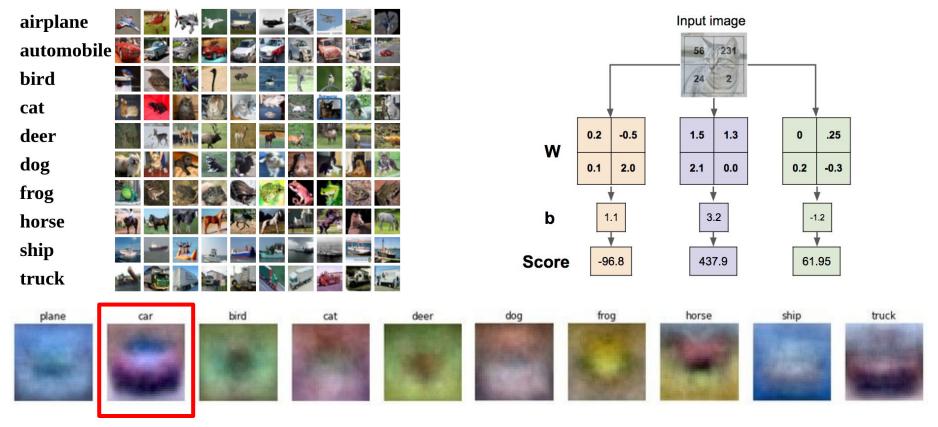




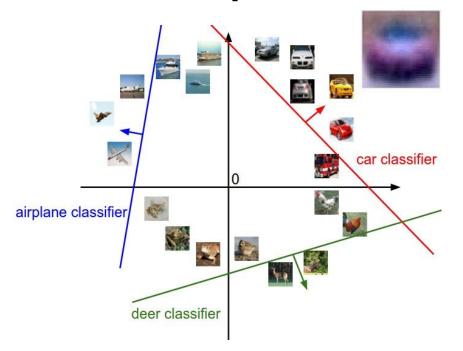








Geometric Viewpoint: linear decision boundaries



$$f(x,W) = Wx + b$$

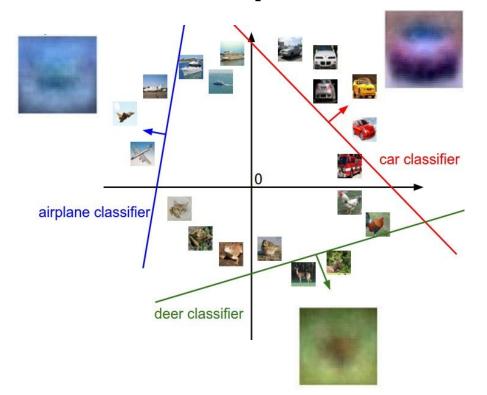


Array of **32x32x3** numbers (3072 numbers total)

Plot created using Wolfram Cloud

Cat image by Nikita is licensed under CC-BY 2.0

Geometric Viewpoint: linear decision boundaries



$$f(x,W) = Wx + b$$

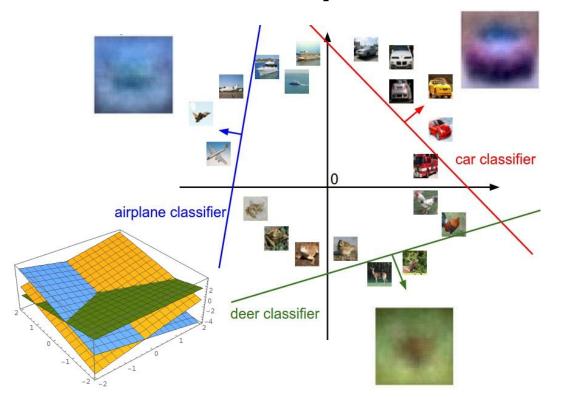


Array of **32x32x3** numbers (3072 numbers total)

Plot created using Wolfram Cloud

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Geometric Viewpoint: linear decision boundaries



$$f(x,W) = Wx + b$$



Array of **32x32x3** numbers (3072 numbers total)

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Hard cases for a linear classifier

Class 1:

First and third quadrants

Class 2

Second and fourth quadrants

Class 1:

1 <= L2 norm <= 2

Class 2

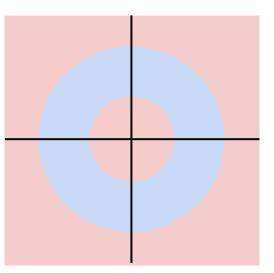
Everything else

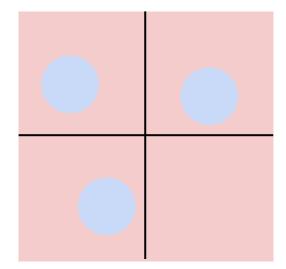
Class 1:

Three modes

Class 2

Everything else

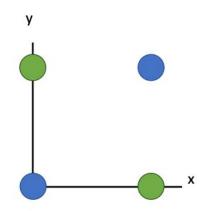


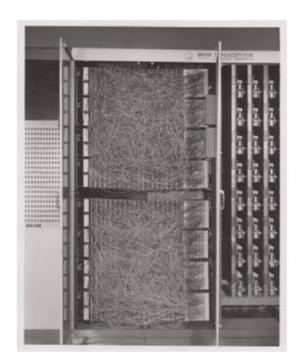


Recall the Minsky report 1969 from last lecture

Unable to learn the XNOR function

Х	Υ	F(x,y)
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	0

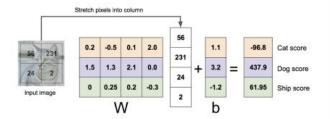




Three viewpoints for interpreting linear classifiers

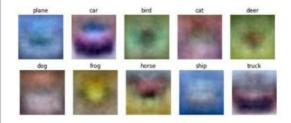
Algebraic Viewpoint

$$f(x,W) = Wx$$



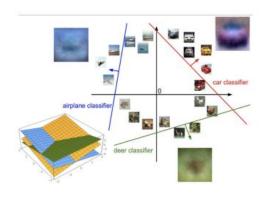
Visual Viewpoint

One template per class



Geometric Viewpoint

Hyperplanes cutting up space



Coming up:

- Loss function
- Optimization
- Neural Networks

$$f(x,W) = Wx + b$$

(quantifying what it means to have a "good" W)

(start with random W and find a W that minimizes the loss)

(tweak the functional form of f)