# Dynamic Routing Between Capsules

## Main Idea

- Conv nets are good at translational invariance, but not great at other invariances (rotation, shadow, etc), room for improvement
- Capsules attempt to capture 'instantiation parameters' of features
  - Essentially doing 'inverse graphics'
- Each feature is a vector rather than a scalar
  - Magnitude is 'probability of the feature'
  - Direction is 'parameters of the feature'
- Higher level features can depend on the parameters as well as the probability





#### **Encoder Architecture**





For each capsule i, the sum of c\_ij is 1



**Procedure 1** Routing algorithm.

- 1: procedure ROUTING( $\hat{u}_{j|i}, r, l$ )
- for all capsule i in layer l and capsule j in layer (l+1):  $b_{ij} \leftarrow 0$ . 2:
- for r iterations do 3:
- 4: for all capsule *i* in layer *l*:  $\mathbf{c}_i \leftarrow \mathtt{softmax}(\mathbf{b}_i)$  $\triangleright$  softmax computes Eq. 3
- for all capsule j in layer (l+1):  $\mathbf{s}_i \leftarrow \sum_i c_{ij} \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{j|i}$ 5:
- for all capsule j in layer (l + 1):  $\mathbf{v}_i \leftarrow \text{squash}(\mathbf{s}_i)$ 6:  $\triangleright$  squash computes Eq. 1 for all capsule i in layer l and capsule j in layer (l+1):  $b_{ij} \leftarrow b_{ij} + \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{j|i} \cdot \mathbf{v}_j$ 7:

return  $\mathbf{v}_i$ 





### Encoder



#### **CapsNet Loss Function**



Note: correct DigitCap is one that matches training label, for each training example there will be 1 correct and 9 incorrect DigitCaps



Loss Function Value for Correct and Incorrect DigitCap

#### Decoder



R:(2,7) L:(2,7)	R:(6,0) L:(6,0)	R:(6,8) L:(6,8)	R:(7,1) L:(7,1)	*R:(5,7) L:(5,0)	*R:(2,3) L:(4,3)	R:(2,8) L:(2,8)	R:P:(2,7) L:(2,8)
4	6	š	7	50	3	2	2
4	6	8	7	5	3	2	2
R:(8,7) L:(8,7)	R:(9,4) L:(9,4)	R:(9,5) L:(9,5)	R:(8,4) L:(8,4)	*R:(0,8) L:(1,8)	*R:(1,6) L:(7,6)	R:(4,9) L:(4,9)	R:P:(4,0) L:(4,9)
8	4	Ð	S)	Ş	7	4	4
7	4	9	4	6	6	4	2



Figure 2: Histogram of distances of votes to the mean of each of the 5 final capsules after each routing iteration. Each distance point is weighted by its assignment probability. All three images are selected from the smallNORB test set. The routing procedure correctly routes the votes in the truck and the human example. The plane example shows a rare failure case of the model where the plane is confused with a car in the third routing iteration. The histograms are zoomed-in to visualize only votes with distances less than 0.05. Fig. B.2 shows the complete histograms for the "human" capsule without clipping the x-axis or fixing the scale of the y-axis.

**Procedure 1** Routing algorithm<sup>1</sup> returns **activation** and **pose** of the capsules in layer L + 1 given the **activations** and **votes** of capsules in layer L.  $V_{ich}$  is an H dimensional vote from capsule i with activation  $a_i$  in layer L to capsule c in layer L + 1.  $\beta_a$ ,  $\beta_v$  are learned discriminatively and the inverse temperature  $\lambda$  increases at each iteration with a fixed schedule.

1: procedure EM ROUTING(a, V) $\forall i, c: R_{ic} \leftarrow 1/size(L+1)$ 2: for t iterations do 3.  $\forall c: M_{c:}, S_{c:}, a'_c \leftarrow \text{M-STEP}(R_{:c}, a, V_{:c:})$ 4: 5:  $\forall i: R_{i} \leftarrow \text{E-STEP}(M, S, a', V_{i})$ return a', M1: procedure M-STEP(r, a, V')2:  $\forall i: \mathbf{r}'_i \leftarrow \mathbf{r}_i * \mathbf{a}_i$ 3:  $\forall h: \boldsymbol{\mu}_h \leftarrow \frac{\sum_i \boldsymbol{r}'_i V'_{ih}}{\sum_i \boldsymbol{r}'_i}$ 4:  $\forall h: \boldsymbol{\sigma}_h^2 \leftarrow \frac{\sum_i \boldsymbol{r}'_i (V'_{ih} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_h)^2}{\sum_i \boldsymbol{r}'_i}$ 5:  $cost_h \leftarrow (\beta_v + \overline{log}(\sigma_h)) \sum_i r'_i$ 6:  $a' \leftarrow sigmoid(\lambda(\beta_a - \sum_h cost_h))$ 7: return  $\mu, \sigma, a'$ 1: procedure E-STEP(a', S, M, V'') $\forall c: \boldsymbol{p}_{c} \leftarrow \frac{1}{\sqrt{\prod_{h}^{H} 2\pi \boldsymbol{S}_{ch}^{2}}} e^{-\sum_{h}^{H} \frac{(V_{ch}^{\prime\prime} - \boldsymbol{M}_{ch})^{2}}{2\boldsymbol{S}_{ch}^{2}}}$ 2:  $orall c: oldsymbol{r}_c \leftarrow rac{oldsymbol{a}_c' p_c}{\sum_i oldsymbol{a}_i' p_i}$ 3: 4: return r

▷ for one higher-level capsule

 $\triangleright$  for one lower-level capsule



https://arxiv.org/abs/1710.09829

https://pechyonkin.me/capsules-1/

https://github.com/naturomics/CapsNet-Tensorflow/

https://github.com/sekwiatkowski/awesome-capsule-networks

http://helper.ipam.ucla.edu/publications/gss2012/gss2012\_10754.pdf





