



Application of hls4ml for Astronomical Radio Signals

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Outline



- Radio astronomical signals
- hls4ml framework
- Test on mnist dataset
- Future work



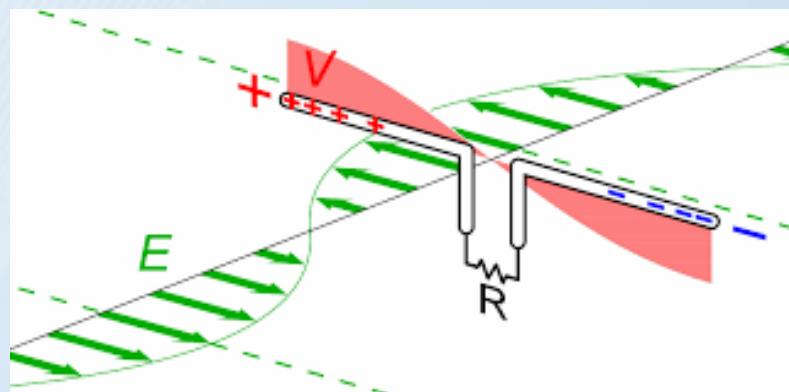
Radio Astronomical Signals



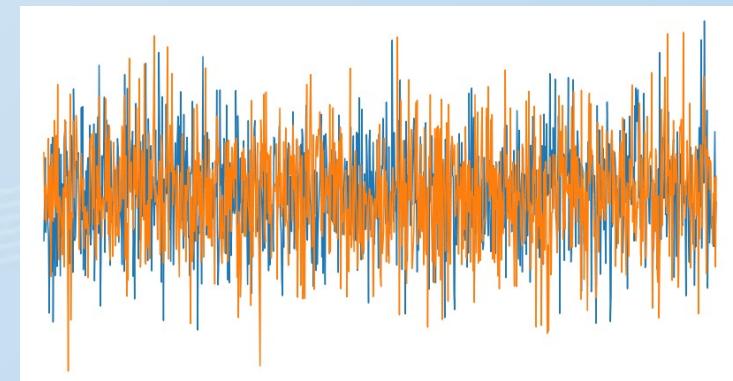
Effersberg 100m



MeerKAT



Our sensor looks like!



2 polarizations for each antenna



Data Rate



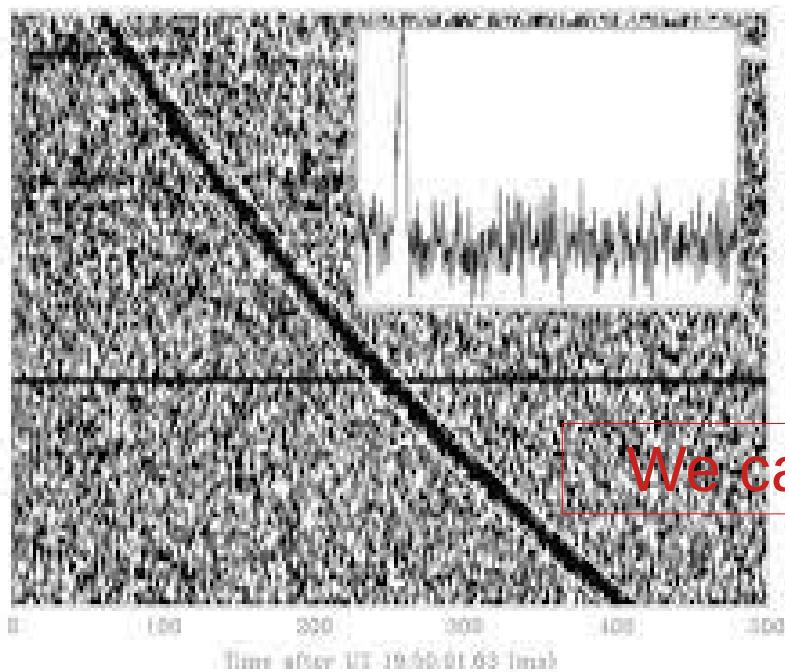
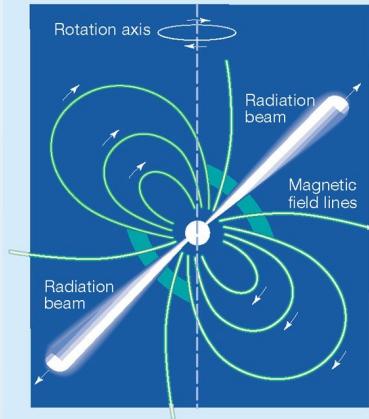
~256GB/s (2GHz*64*2 B)

~28GB/s (2GHz*7beam*2B)

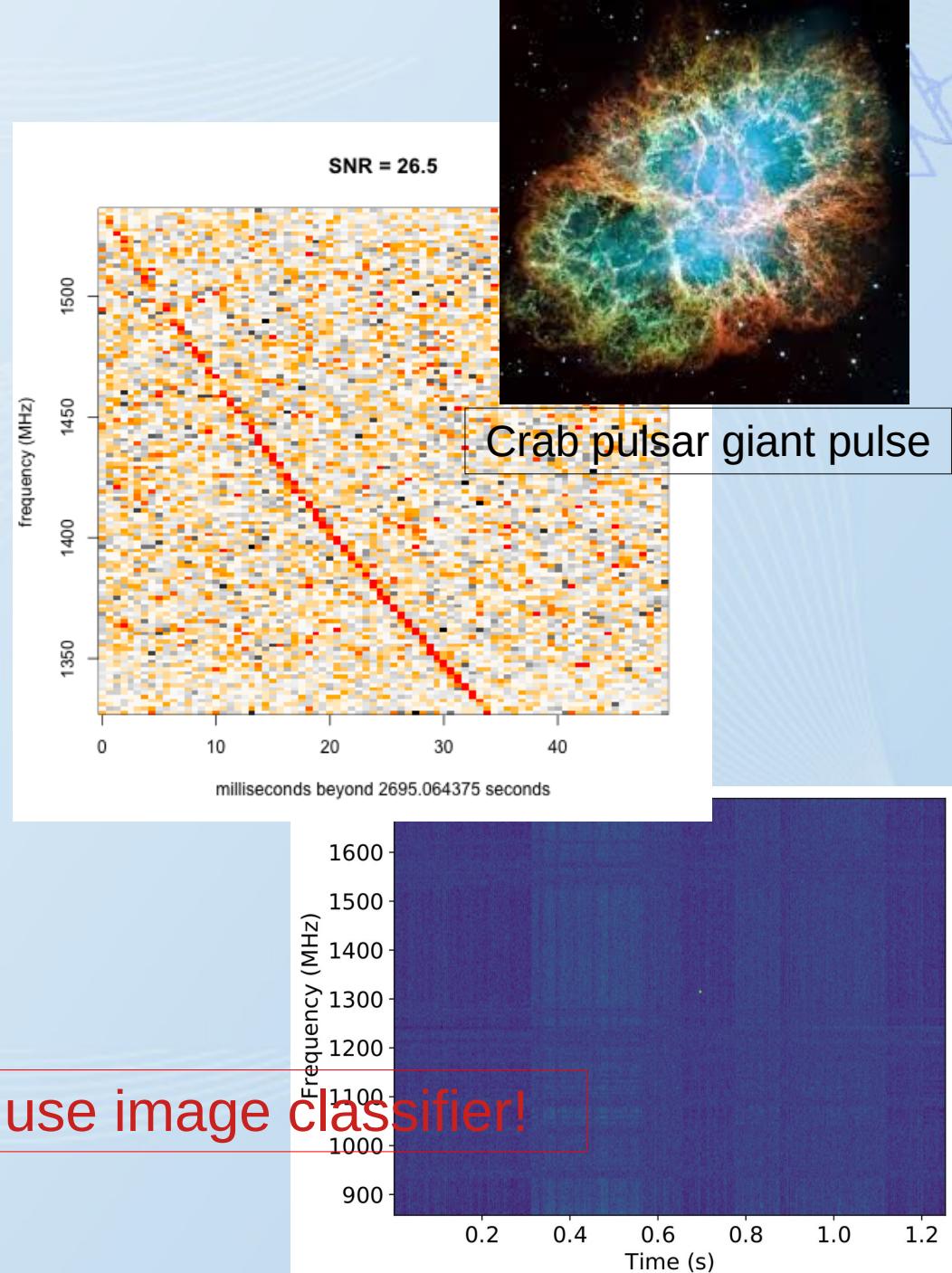
We need high throughput system!



Radio Transient Signals



Fast radio burst (FRB)

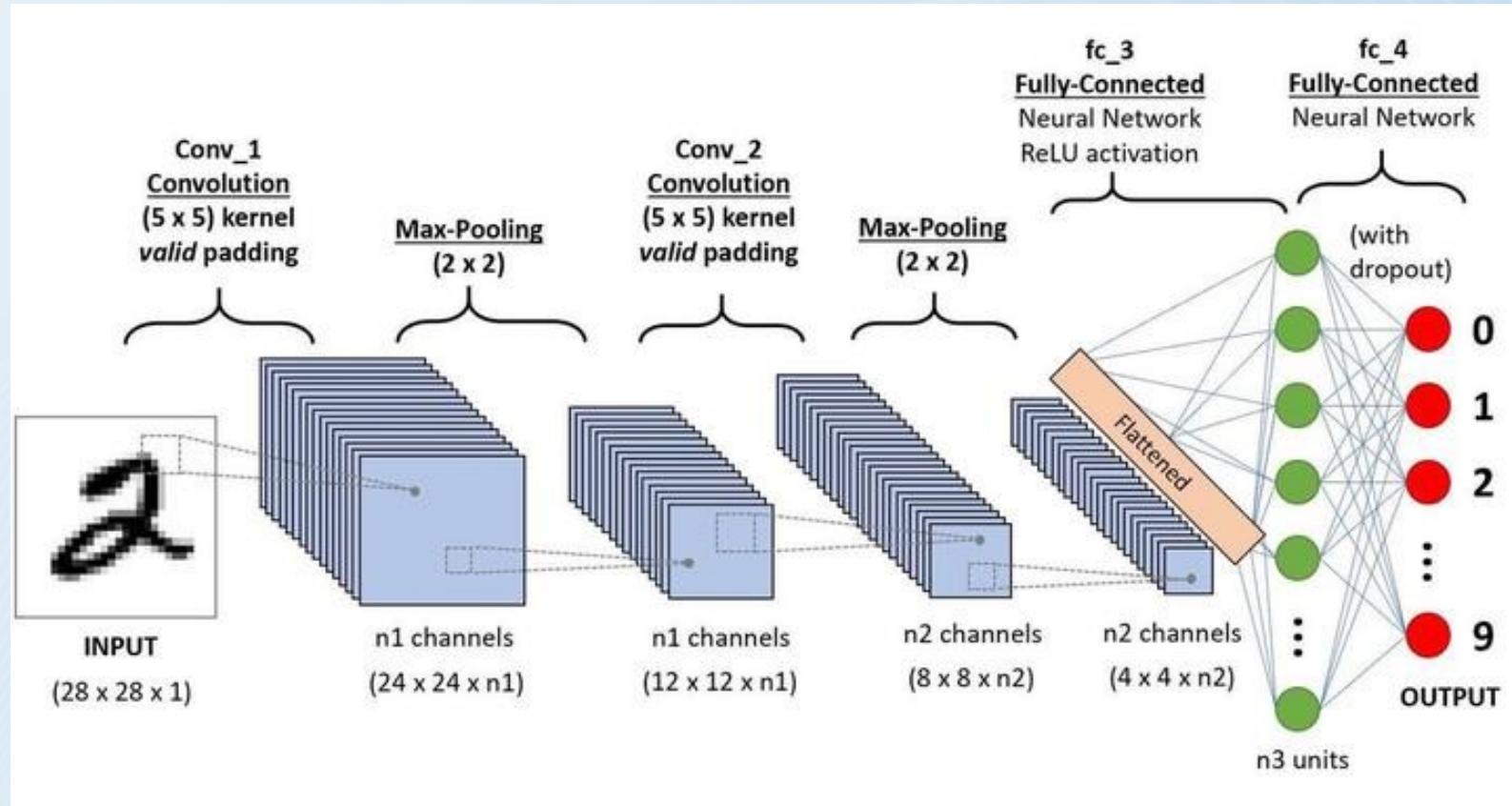


RFI

We can use image classifier!



Convolutional Neural Network (CNN)

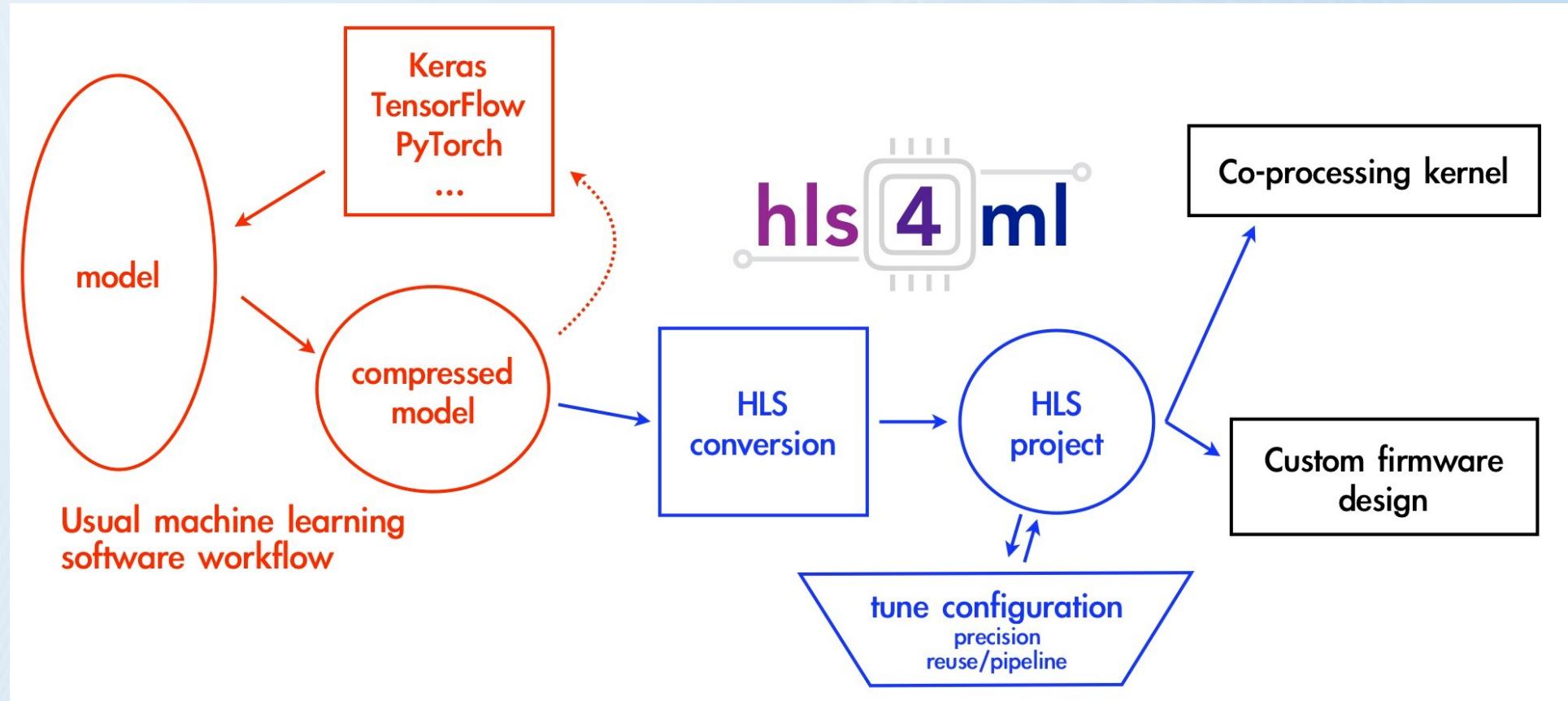


See Andrei's talk



hls4ml

<https://github.com/fastmachinelearning/hls4ml>





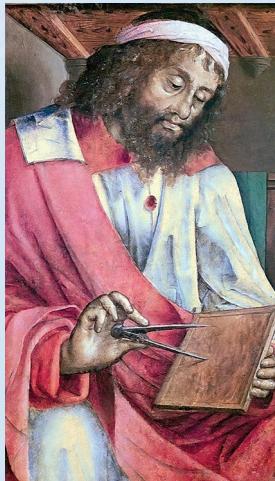
High-Level-Synthesis (HLS) C++

$$\text{GCD}(a, b) = \text{GCD}(b, a \bmod b)$$

a	b	a mod b
105	77	28
77	28	21
28	21	7
21	7	0

```
int gcd(int Ain, int Bin)
{
    int a = Ain;
    int b = Bin;
    while (b != 0)
    {
        if (a > b)
            a = a - b;
        else
            b = b - a;
    }
    return a;
}
```

Euclidean algorithm



Verilog

```
module gcd (clk, start, Ain,
Bin, out, done);

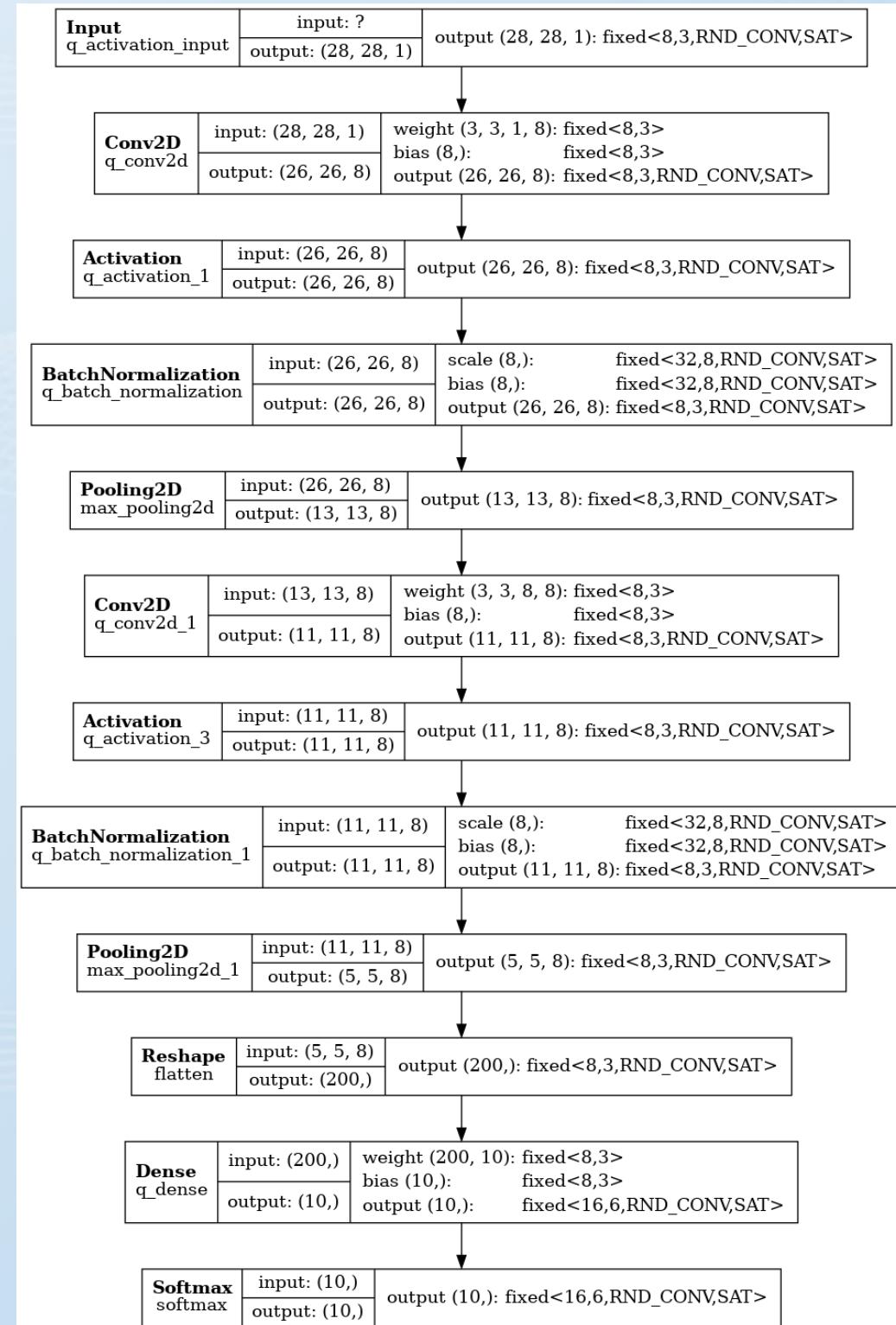
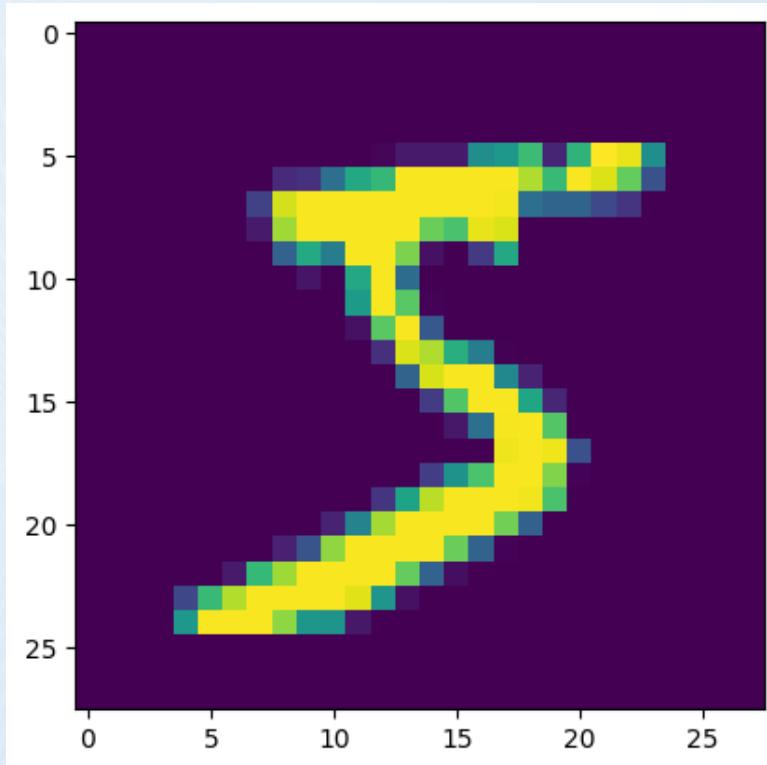
input clk, start;
Input [31:0] Ain, Bin;
output reg [31:0] out;
output reg done;

reg [31:0] a, b;

always @ (posedge clk)
begin
    if (start)
        begin
            a <= Ain; b <=
Bin; done <= 0;
        end
    else if (b == 0)
        begin
            out <= a; done <=
1;
        end
    else if (a > b)
        a <= a - b;
    else
        b <= b - a;
end
endmodule
```



Test on mnist dataset





Qkeras

```
model = keras.Sequential([
    QActivation(activation=quantized_bits(8, 2), input_shape=(28, 28, 1)),
    QConv2D(8, 3, activation=quantized_bits(8, 2),
kernel_quantizer=quantized_bits(8,2,alpha=1),
bias_quantizer=quantized_bits(8,2,alpha=1), kernel_initializer='lecun_uniform'),
    QActivation(activation=quantized_relu(8, 2)),
    QBatchNormalization(beta_quantizer=quantized_bits(32, 8),
gamma_quantizer=quantized_bits(32, 8), mean_quantizer=quantized_bits(32, 8),
variance_quantizer=quantized_bits(32, 8)),
    QActivation(activation=quantized_bits(8, 2)),
    MaxPooling2D(pool_size=(2, 2), strides=(2, 2), padding='valid'),
    QConv2D(8, 3, activation=quantized_bits(8, 2),
kernel_quantizer=quantized_bits(8,2,alpha=1),
bias_quantizer=quantized_bits(8,2,alpha=1), kernel_initializer='lecun_uniform'),
    QActivation(activation=quantized_relu(8, 2)),
    QBatchNormalization(beta_quantizer=quantized_bits(32, 8),
gamma_quantizer=quantized_bits(32, 8), mean_quantizer=quantized_bits(32, 8),
variance_quantizer=quantized_bits(32, 8)),
    QActivation(activation=quantized_bits(8, 2)),
    MaxPooling2D(pool_size=(2, 2), strides=(2, 2), padding='valid'),
    Flatten(),
    QDense(10, kernel_quantizer=quantized_bits(8,2,alpha=1),
bias_quantizer=quantized_bits(8,2,alpha=1), kernel_initializer='lecun_uniform'),
    Softmax()
])
```



Yaml Configuration Example



OutputDir: model_1
ProjectName: myproject
XilinxPart: xcu250-figd2104-2L-e
ClockPeriod: 5
Backend: Vivado

IOType: io_stream

Model:

Precision: ap_fixed<8,3,AP_RND_CONV,AP_SAT>

ReuseFactor: 1

Strategy: latency

LayerType:

Softmax:

Strategy: Stable

Precision: ap_fixed<16,6,AP_RND_CONV,AP_SA

QConv2D:

Precision:

weight: ap_fixed<8,3,AP_RND_CONV,AP_SAT>

bias: ap_fixed<8,3,AP_RND_CONV,AP_SAT>

QDense:

Precision:

weight: ap_fixed<8,3,AP_RND_CONV,AP_SAT>

bias: ap_fixed<8,3,AP_RND_CONV,AP_SAT>

LayerName:

q_batch_normalization:

Precision:

scale:

ap_fixed<32,8,AP_RND_CONV,AP_SAT>

bias:

ap_fixed<32,8,AP_RND_CONV,AP_SAT>

q_batch_normalization_1:

Precision:

scale:

ap_fixed<32,8,AP_RND_CONV,AP_SAT>

bias:

ap_fixed<32,8,AP_RND_CONV,AP_SAT>

q_conv2d:

Precision:

accum:

ap_fixed<26,16,AP_RND_CONV,AP_SAT>

q_dense:

Precision:

accum:

ap_fixed<26,16,AP_RND_CONV,AP_SAT>

result:

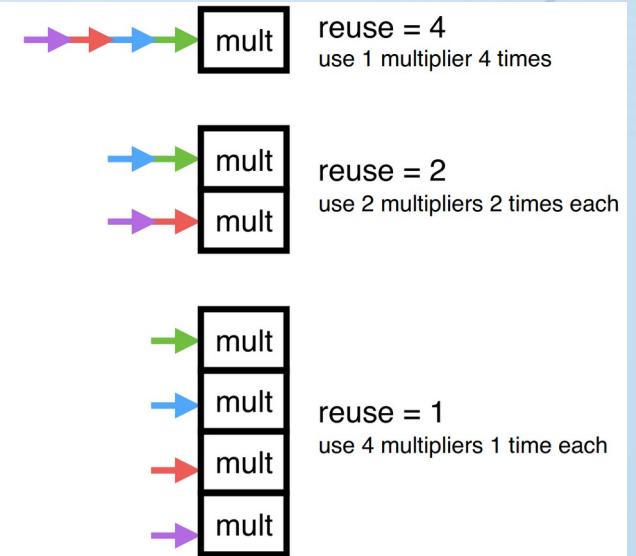
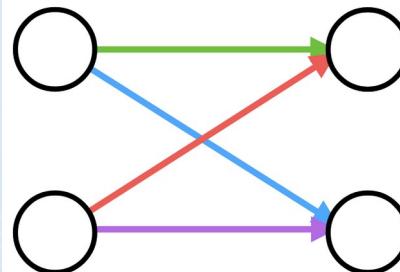
ap_fixed<16,6,AP_RND_CONV,AP_SAT>



Reuse factor

CONFIG_T::reuse_factor

nnet_conv2d_stream.h



```
for (unsigned i_ih = 0; i_ih < CONFIG_T::in_height; i_ih++) {  
    ReadInputWidth:  
        for (unsigned i_iw = 0; i_iw < CONFIG_T::in_width; i_iw++) {  
            #pragma HLS LOOP_FLATTEN  
            if (CONFIG_T::strategy == nnet::latency) {  
                #pragma HLS PIPELINE II=CONFIG_T::reuse_factor  
            }  
            if (CONFIG_T::filt_height > 1) {  
                compute_output_buffer_2d<data_T, res_T, CONFIG_T>(data.read(), line_buffer, res,  
weights, biases);  
            } else {  
                compute_output_buffer_1d<data_T, res_T, CONFIG_T>(data.read(), res, weights,  
biases);  
            }  
        }  
}
```



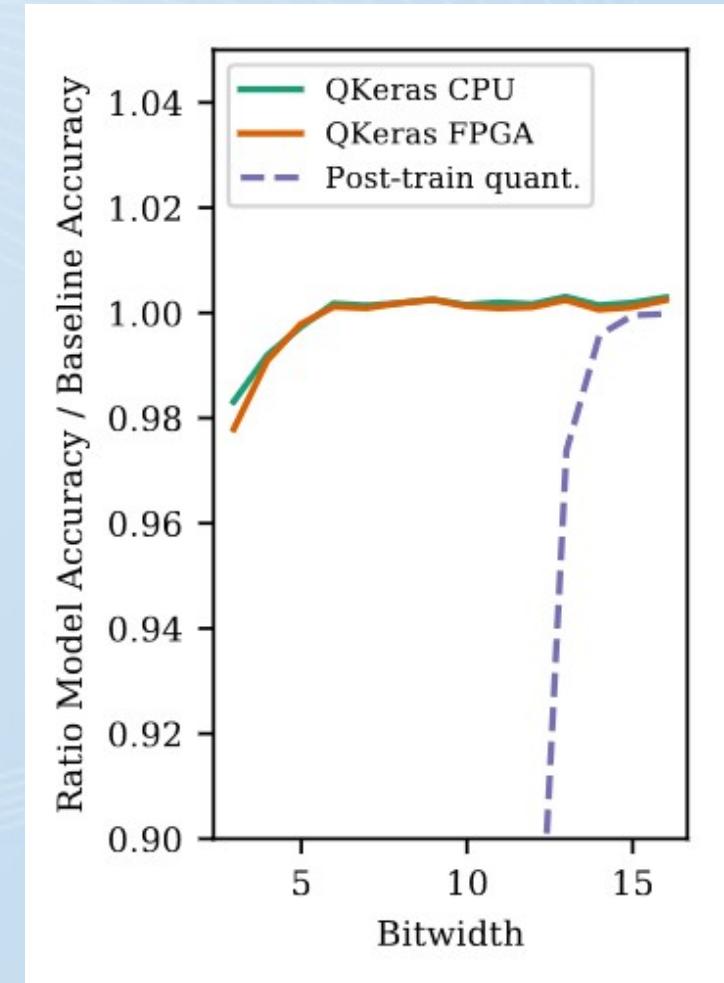
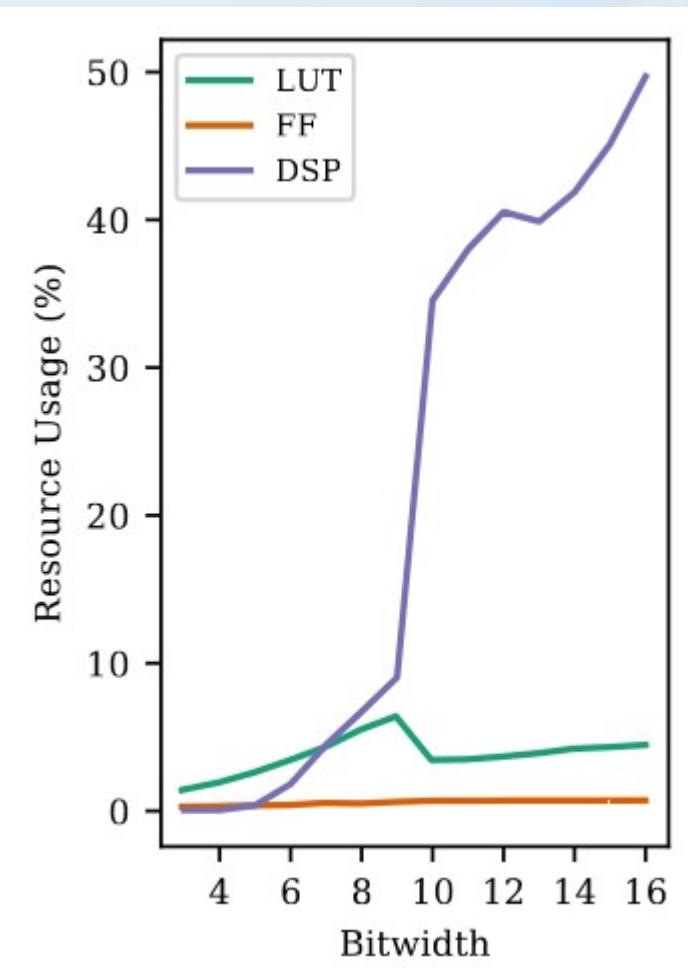
Quantization

AutoQKeras

Post-training quantization (PTQ)

vs

Quantization aware training (QAT)





Qkeras model vs hls model



- Qkeras: quantized_bits(8,2,alpha=1)
- Hls4ml: ap_fixed<8, 3, AP_RND_CONV, AP_SAT>

	Rounding mode (default)	Saturation mode (default)	accum_t (default)	Input / output quantization
Qkeras	AP_RND_CONV	AP_SAT	float	Qactivation layer
HLS	AP_TRN	AP_WRAP	Same as input	User-defined type



Pruning

Model complexity is reduced!

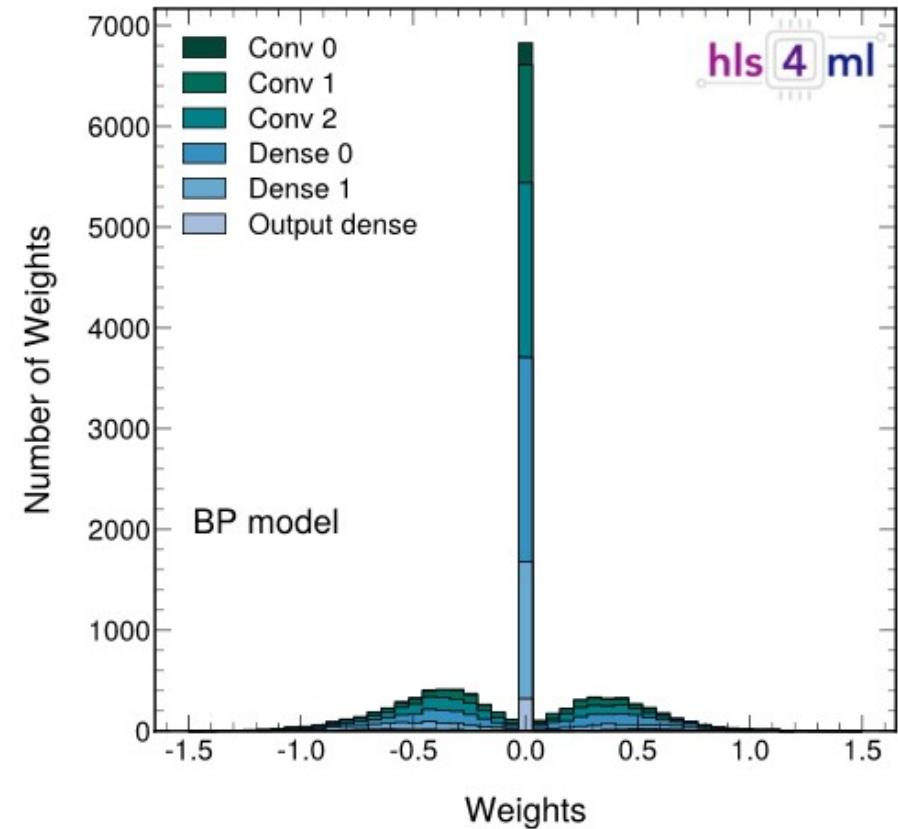
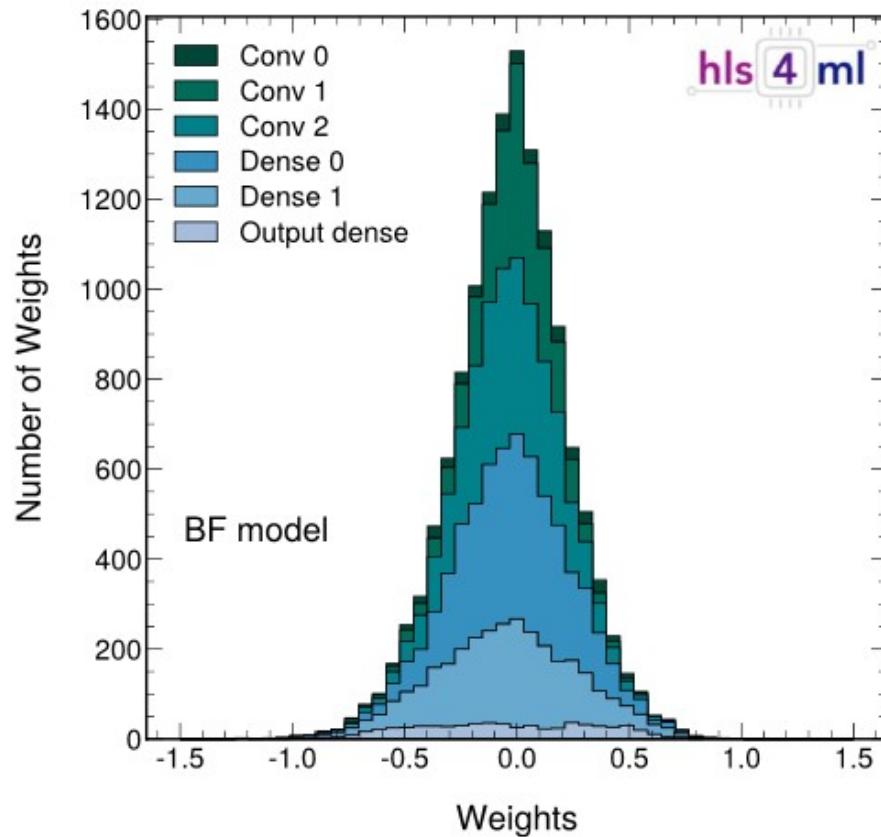


Figure 5. The weights per layer for the the BF model (left) and the baseline pruned (BP) model (right). The BP model is derived by starting from the BF model and repeating the training while applying a pruning procedure with a target sparsity of 50% for each layer.

Aarrestad, Thea et al. 2021; Fast convolutional neural networks on FPGAs with hls4ml

Zero weights will be removed during hls synthesis!



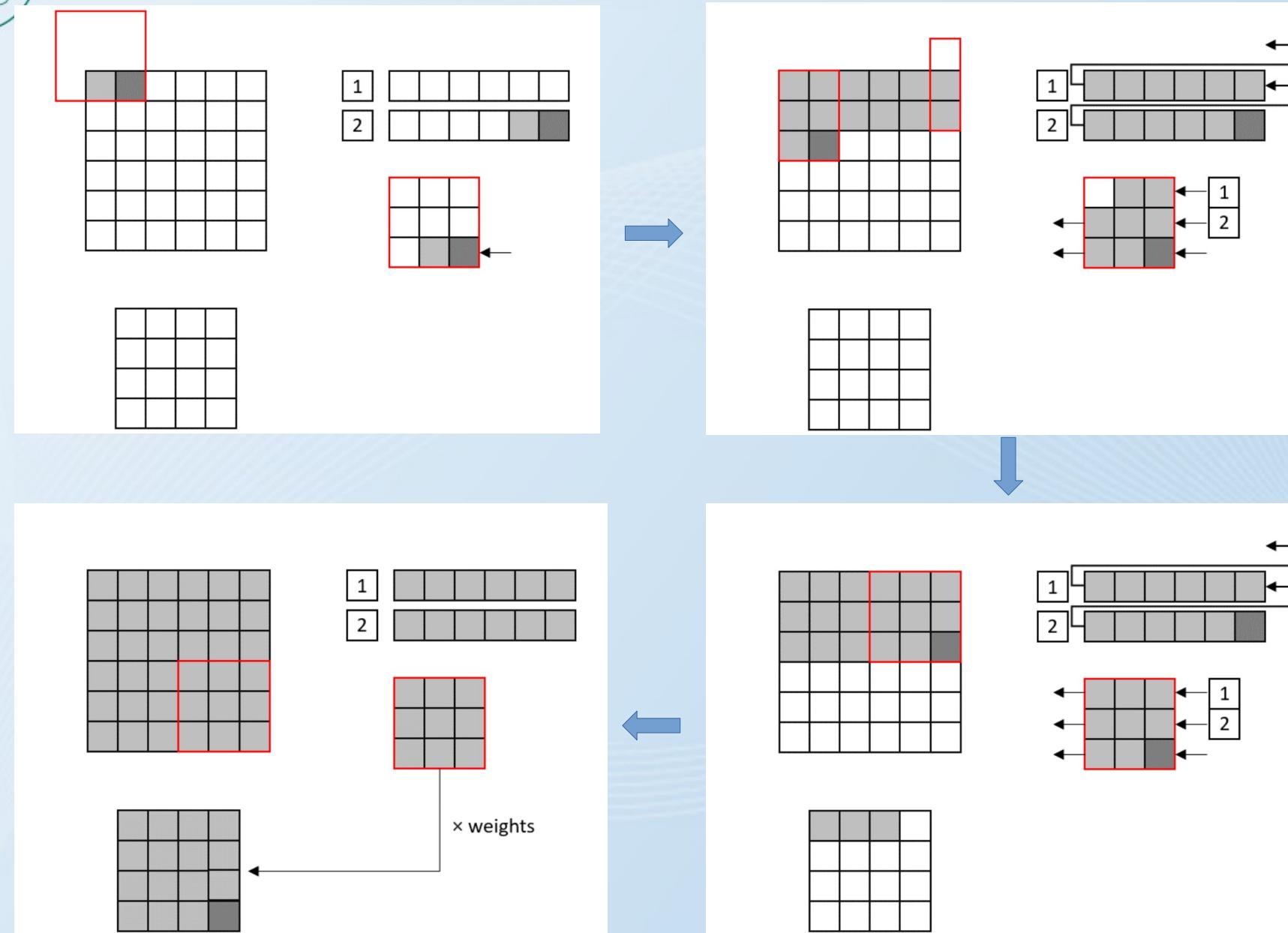
Model pruning



```
pruning_params = {  
    'pruning_schedule': tfmot.sparsity.keras.ConstantSparsity(0.9, 0),  
    'block_size': (1, 1),  
    'block_pooling_type': 'AVG'  
}  
  
def apply_pruning(layer):  
    if isinstance(layer, QDense):  
        return tfmot.sparsity.keras.prune_low_magnitude(layer, **pruning_params)  
    elif isinstance(layer, QConv2D):  
        return tfmot.sparsity.keras.prune_low_magnitude(layer, **pruning_params)  
    return layer  
  
model_for_pruning = tf.keras.models.clone_model(  
    model,  
    clone_function=apply_pruning,  
)
```



hls4ml convolution algorithm





Conv2D layer:

- Latency = $\text{in_h} * \text{in_w} * \text{reused factor}$
- Multiplier usage = $\text{filt_h} * \text{filt_w} * \text{n_ch} * \text{n_filt} / \text{reuse_factor}$
- Limitation: A model with many filters in one layer cannot be synthesized! ($\text{filt_h} * \text{filt_w} * \text{n_ch} * \text{n_filt} < 4096$)

nnet_dense_latency.h

// Do the matrix-multiply

Product1:

```
for (int ii = 0; ii < CONFIG_T::n_in; ii++) {  
    cache = data[ii];
```

Product2:

```
for (int jj = 0; jj < CONFIG_T::n_out; jj++) {  
    int index = ii * CONFIG_T::n_out + jj;  
    mult[index] = CONFIG_T::template product<data_T, typename
```

```
CONFIG_T::weight_t>::product(cache, weights[index]);  
}  
}
```



HLS code

```
void myproject(
    hls::stream<input_t> &q_activation_input,
    hls::stream<result_t> &layer18_out
) {

    // hls-fpga-machine-learning insert IO
    #pragma HLS INTERFACE axis port=q_activation_input,layer18_out
    #pragma HLS DATAFLOW

#ifndef __SYNTHESIS__
    static bool loaded_weights = false;
    if (!loaded_weights) {
        // hls-fpga-machine-learning insert load weights
        nnet::load_weights_from_txt<weight3_t, 72>(w3, "w3.txt");
        nnet::load_weights_from_txt<bias3_t, 8>(b3, "b3.txt");
        nnet::load_weights_from_txt<q_batch_normalization_scale_t, 8>(s6, "s6.txt");
        nnet::load_weights_from_txt<q_batch_normalization_bias_t, 8>(b6, "b6.txt");
        nnet::load_weights_from_txt<weight9_t, 576>(w9, "w9.txt");
        nnet::load_weights_from_txt<bias9_t, 8>(b9, "b9.txt");
        nnet::load_weights_from_txt<q_batch_normalization_1_scale_t, 8>(s12, "s12.txt");
        nnet::load_weights_from_txt<q_batch_normalization_1_bias_t, 8>(b12, "b12.txt");
        nnet::load_weights_from_txt<weight16_t, 2000>(w16, "w16.txt");
        nnet::load_weights_from_txt<bias16_t, 10>(b16, "b16.txt");
        loaded_weights = true;
    }
#endif
```



HLS code



```
hls::stream<layer3_t> layer3_out("layer3_out");
#pragma HLS STREAM variable=layer3_out depth=676
nnet::conv_2d_cl<input_t, layer3_t, config3>(q_activation_input, layer3_out, w3, b3);

hls::stream<layer5_t> layer5_out("layer5_out");
#pragma HLS STREAM variable=layer5_out depth=676
nnet::relu<layer3_t, layer5_t, relu_config5>(layer3_out, layer5_out);

hls::stream<layer6_t> layer6_out("layer6_out");
#pragma HLS STREAM variable=layer6_out depth=676
nnet::normalize<layer5_t, layer6_t, config6>(layer5_out, layer6_out, s6, b6);

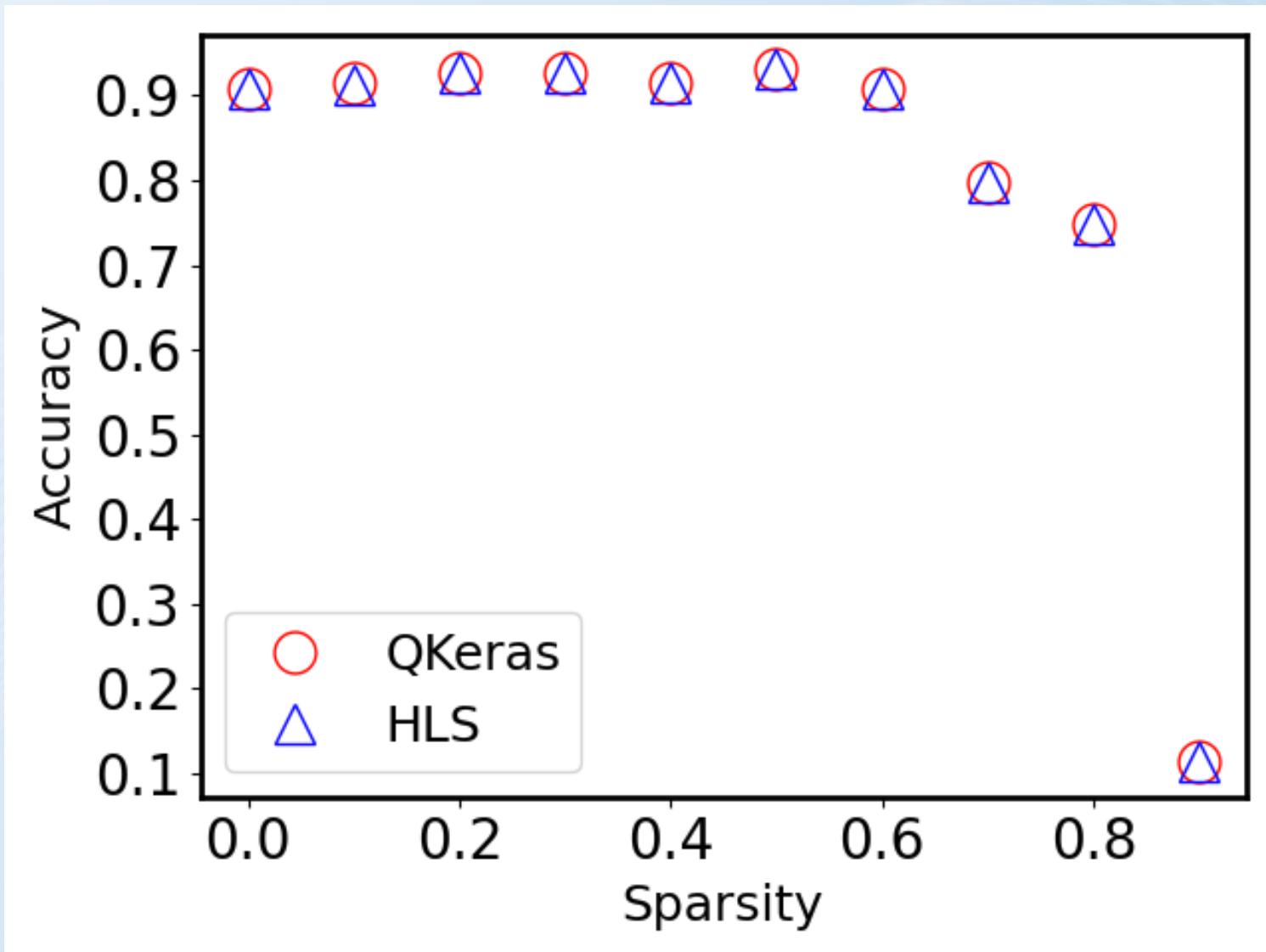
hls::stream<layer8_t> layer8_out("layer8_out");
#pragma HLS STREAM variable=layer8_out depth=169
nnet::pooling2d_cl<layer6_t, layer8_t, config8>(layer6_out, layer8_out);

.....
auto& layer15_out = layer14_out;
hls::stream<layer16_t> layer16_out("layer16_out");
#pragma HLS STREAM variable=layer16_out depth=1
nnet::dense<layer14_t, layer16_t, config16>(layer15_out, layer16_out, w16, b16);

nnet::softmax<layer16_t, result_t, Softmax_config18>(layer16_out, layer18_out);
}
```



Accuracy-Sparsity





Latency and Resource usage

No pruning

Latency (cycles)		Latency (absolute)		Interval		Pipeline
min	max	min	max	min	max	Type
4818	4818	24.090 us	24.090 us	4707	4707	dataflow

Pruning with sparsity=0.5

Latency (cycles)		Latency (absolute)		Interval		Pipeline	
min	max	min	max	min	max	Type	
3991	3991	19.955 us	19.955 us	3923	3923	dataflow	

Utilization Estimates						
Summary:						
	Name	BRAM_18K	DSP48E	FF	LUT	URAM
DSP		-	-	-	-	-
Expression		-	-	0	2	-
FIFO		56	-	2338	3272	-
Instance		2	33	78294	458584	-
Memory		-	-	-	-	-
Multiplexer		-	-	-	-	-
Register		-	-	-	-	-
Total		58	33	80632	461858	0
Available SLR		1344	3072	864000	432000	320
Utilization SLR (%)		4	1	9	106	0
Available		5376	12288	3456000	1728000	1280
Utilization (%)		1	~0	2	26	0

Name	BRAM_18K	DSP48E	FF	LUT	URAM
DSP	-	-	-	-	-
Expression	-	-	0	2	-
FIFO	56	-	2338	3272	-
Instance	2	32	59882	249838	-
Memory	-	-	-	-	-
Multiplexer	-	-	-	-	-
Register	-	-	-	-	-
Total	58	32	62220	253112	0
Available SLR	1344	3072	864000	432000	320
Utilization SLR (%)	4	1	7	58	0
Available	5376	12288	3456000	1728000	1280
Utilization (%)	1	~0	1	14	0



Future Work



- Understand AutoQKeras
- Convert our model with hls4ml
- Deploy the model on Alveo card (some vitis kernel needed)
- Test on real data





Thank you for your attention!