Model Compression

Model compression techniques are mainly classified into quantization (Zafrir et al.,2019), pruning (Hoefler et al., 2021; Vadera and Ameen, 2022), Neural Architecture Search(NAS) (Sun et al., 2019), and knowledge distillation

Model Quantization

Quantization Granularity

Quantization is a magic spell to reduce the memory footprint of a model. But often quantization leads to a drop in the accuracy of the model. This is where the Granularity of quantization comes into the picture. Selecting the right granularity helps in maximizing the quantization without much drop in the accuracy performance

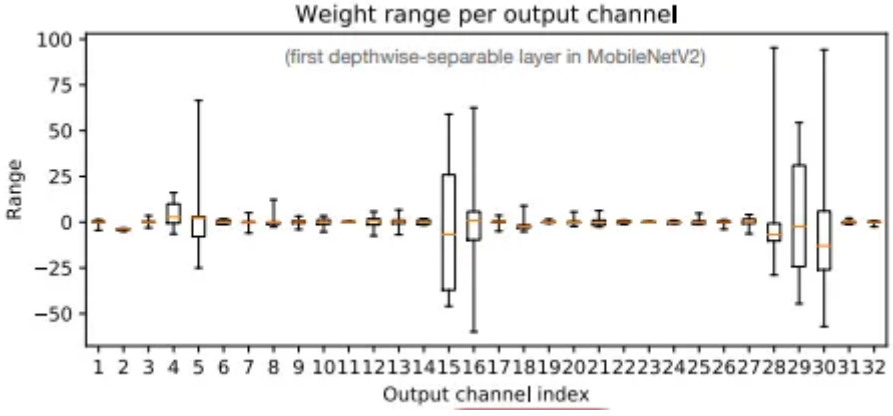
Per-Tensor Quantization

In per-tensor quantization, the same quantization parameters are applied to all elements within a tensor. Applying the same parameters across tensors will cause a drop in accuracy.

Per-Channel Quantization

In per-channel quantization, different quantization parameters are applied to each channel of a tensor independently. This often leads to a lower error while quantizing compared to per tensor quantization.

Per-channel quantization captures variations in different channels more accurately. This usually helps in CNN models where the range of weights varies over different channels.



Mix-precision Quantization

different layer using different precision.

Quantization Method

Quantization Method	Accuracy	Model Size Reduction	Inference Speed	Ease of Implementation
GGUF	High (adaptive quantization of parameter groups)	Significant (grouped quantization)	High (optimized through grouped quantization)	Moderate (requires parameter grouping)
AWQ	High (asymmetric quantization for accuracy)	Moderate	Moderate to High (asymmetric approach)	Moderate (asymmetric scaling)
GPTQ	Moderate (post-training fine-tuning)	Moderate	Moderate (benefits from post-quantization)	Easy (applied post-training)
GGML	High (mixed-precision within groups)	Significant (effective group-wise precision)	High (mixed-precision within groups)	Complex (group-wise mixed-precision)
PTQ	Moderate (quick and easy implementation)	High (straightforward implementation)	High (quick deployment)	Easy (quick application)
QAT	Very High (trained with quantization in mind)	Moderate to High (requires complex training)	High (optimized for quantization during training)	Complex (requires training with quantization)
Dynamic Quantization	Moderate (applied during inference)	High (applied at inference time)	Moderate to High (quick deployment)	Easy (inference-based)
Mixed-Precision	High (selectively applied different precisions)	Moderate to High (selectively applied)	High (selective precision boosts performance)	Complex (selective precision assignment)

Neural Arch Search

Knowledge Distillation

Pruning

reference

[illegible]

[illegible] CNN[illegible]

[illegible] CNN[illegible] INT8[illegible]

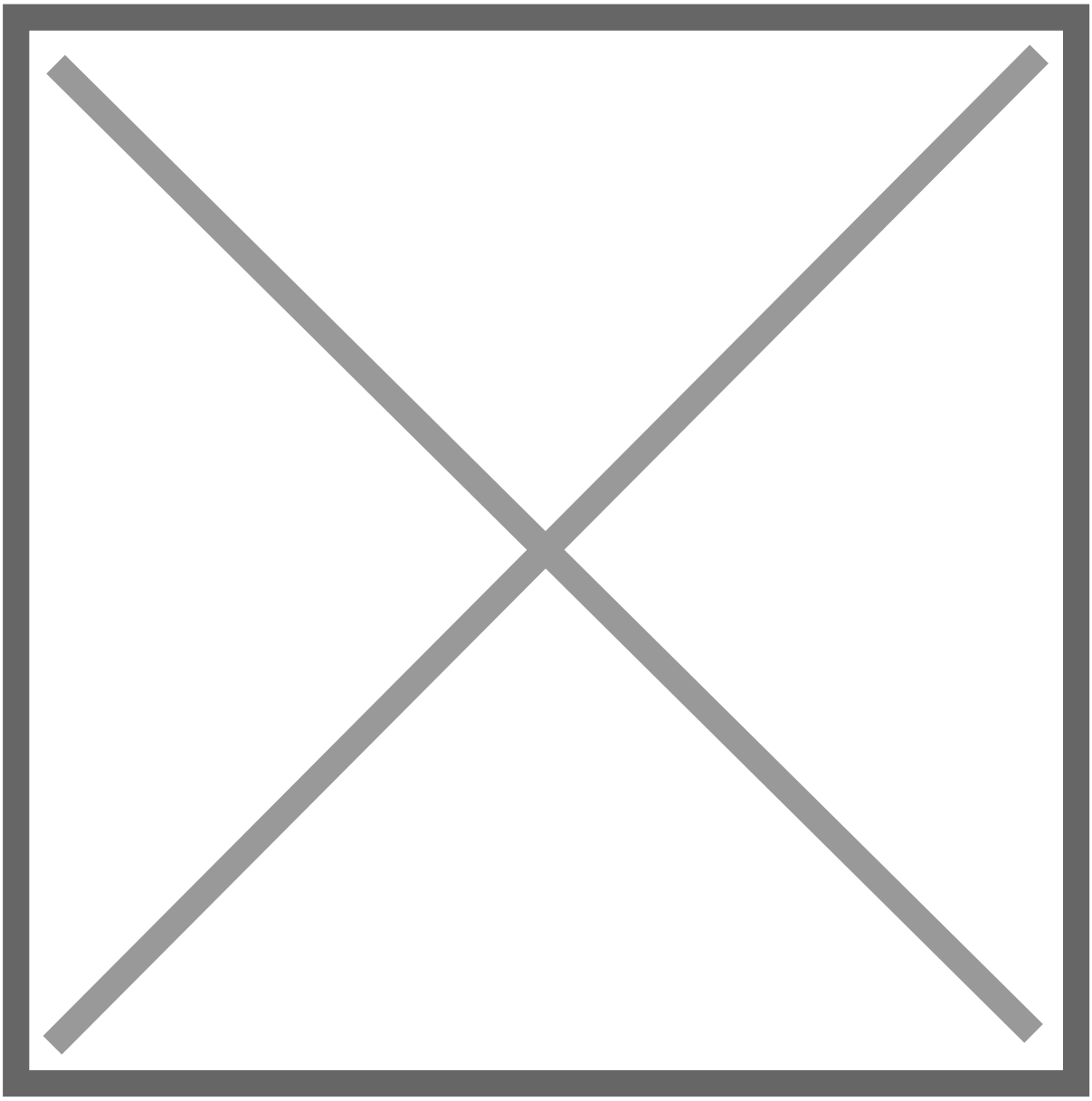
[illegible] (feature map) [illegible] 8-bit[illegible] 32-bit [illegible]

[illegible] (GEMM
)
[illegible] INT8[illegible]

CNN[illegible] CV [illegible]

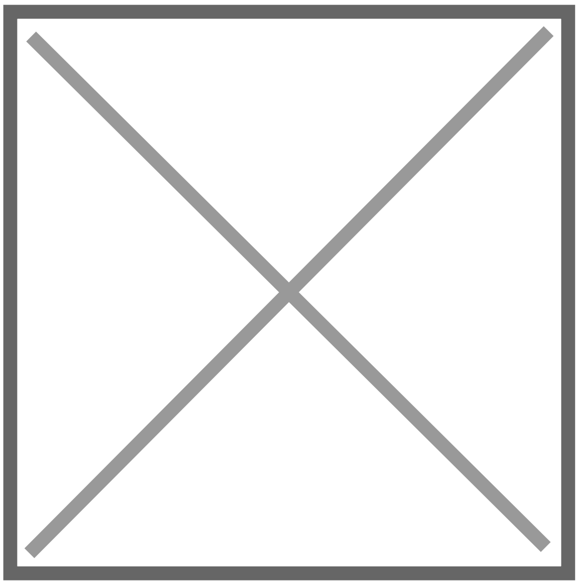
[illegible] (LLM)[illegible] transformer

[illegible] (GPT)[illegible] GEMM[illegible] LLM[illegible] CNN[illegible] (CNN[illegible] [illegible] white paper on Quantization[illegible]

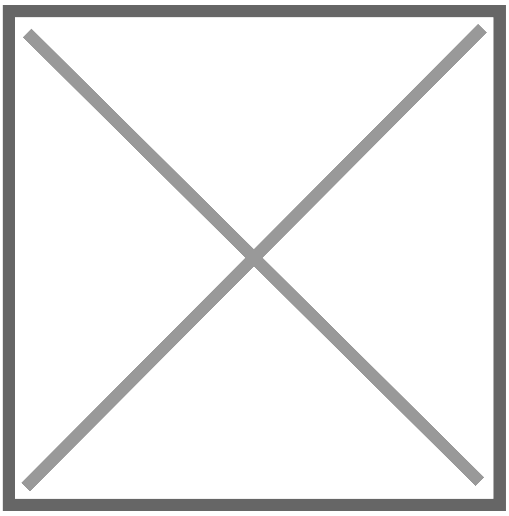


量化公式

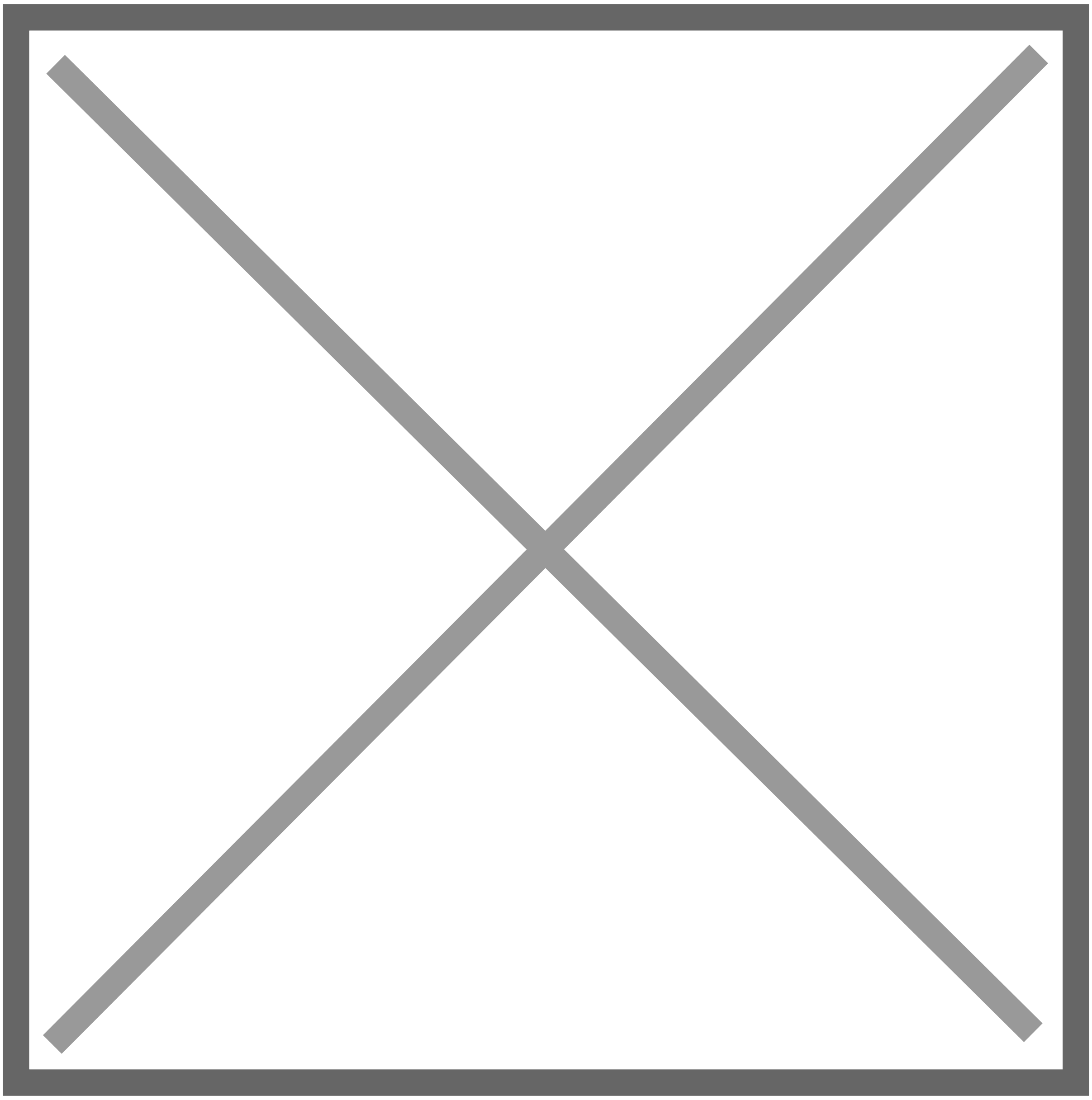
这里主要关注最常见的对称量化，简单来说，INT8 量化即将浮点数通过缩放因子映射到范围在 [-128, 127] 内的 8bit 表示，量化公式如下：



Round [illegible] Clip [illegible] (Outlier) [illegible] [-128, 127] [illegible] scale [illegible]



[illegible] Round[illegible] Clip [illegible] LLM[illegible] CNN[illegible] ([illegible]) [illegible] trade-off[illegible]



量化粒度

无论是量化激活还是权重，本质上都是对张量tensor矩阵的量化。从量化公式中，可以看出，量化是需要一个scale参数的，量化的粒度就在于是网络layer的整个大的tensor都共用一个scale呢？还是每个构成大tensor的小tensor分别使用一个scale呢？这种粒度的考虑往往很影响量化后最终效果。

在CNN中，针对权重和激活数值分布的特性，经常对激活tensor进行per-tensor这种粗粒度量化，而对于由多个卷积核tensor组成的权重(大tensor)，则是采用每个卷积核对应一个scale这种更加细粒度的per-channel量化。

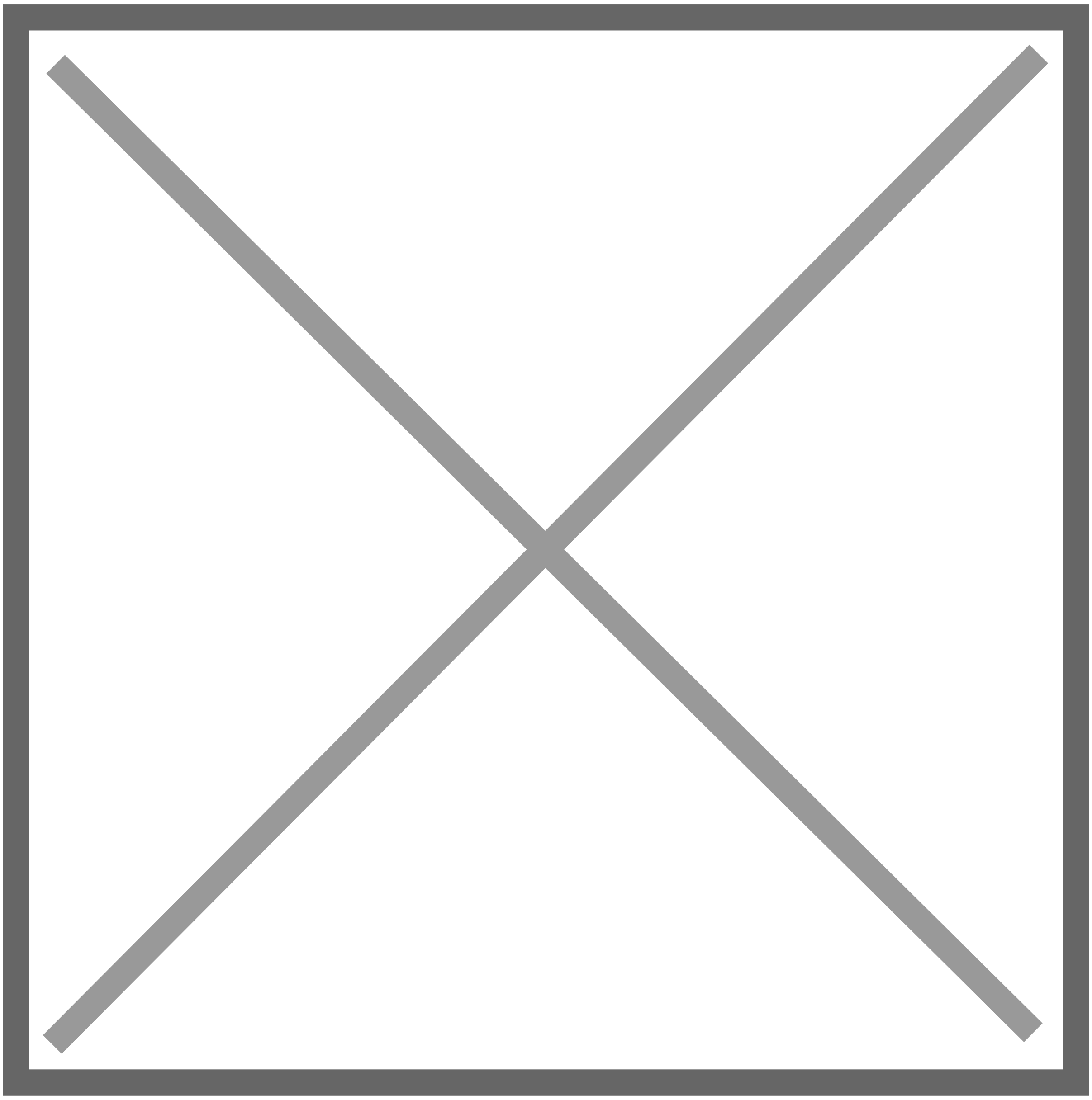
后面讲到LLM，我们会知道主流LLM量化采用的是更加细粒度的per-vector或者per-group（对vector进行分组）量化方式。

[illegible]

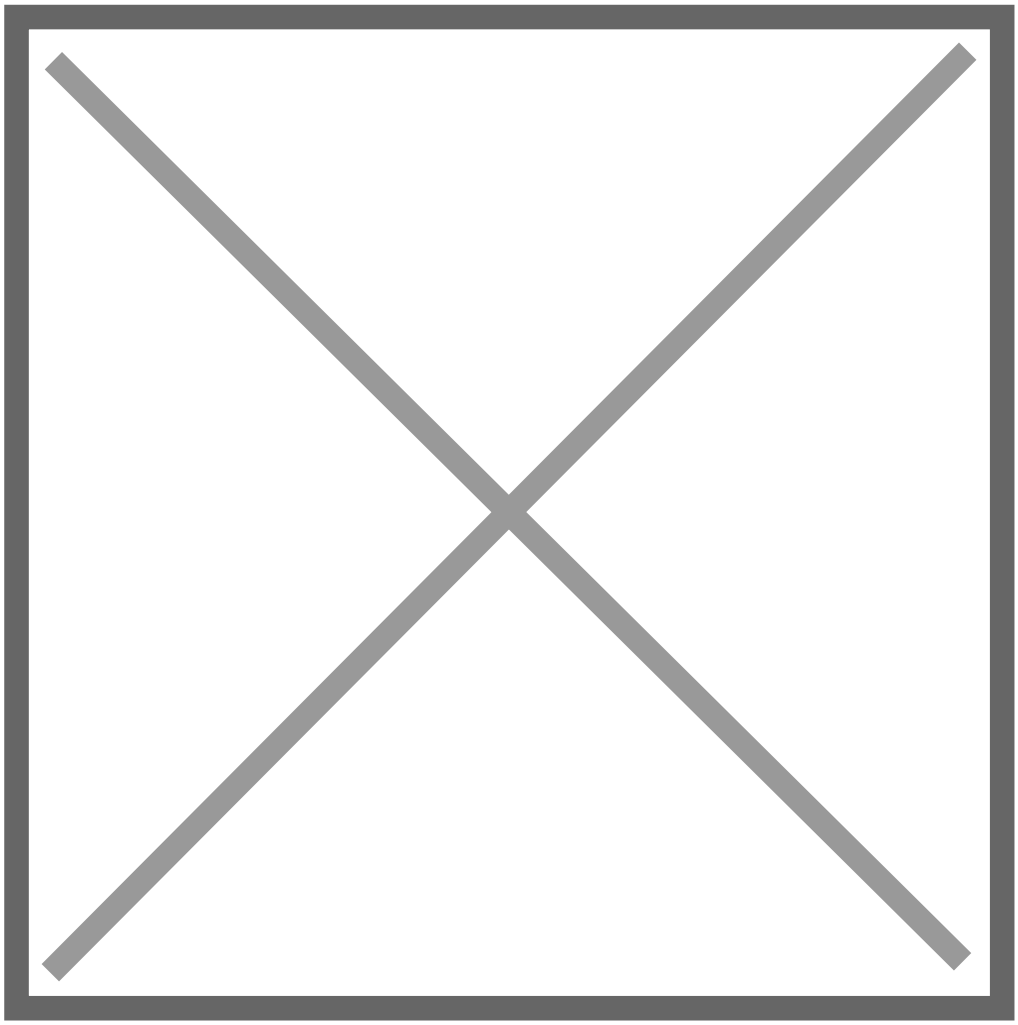
[illegible] “[illegible]” [illegible] float32[illegible] float16 [illegible] bfloat16 [illegible] INT8[illegible] INT4[illegible]

[illegible] LLM[illegible]

- [illegible] `sign` [illegible] s[illegible] 1 bit[illegible]
- [illegible] `exponent` [illegible] k[illegible] 8 bits[illegible] 2 [illegible]
- [illegible] `fraction` [illegible] M[illegible] 23 bits[illegible]



●**Float32 (FP32)**[illegible] IEEE 32 [illegible] 8 [illegible] 23 [illegible] 1 [illegible] FP32 [illegible]



- **TensorFloat-32(TF32)**。使用19位表示，结合了BF16的范围和FP16的精度，是计算数据类型而不是存储数据类型。目前使用范围较小。

- **Float16 (FP16)**。指数5位，尾数10位，符号1位。FP16数字的数值范围远低于FP32，存在上溢(当用于表示非常大的数时)和下溢(当用于表示非常小的数时)的风险，fp16混合精度训练中通过缩放损失(loss scaling)来缓解这个问题。

- **Bfloat16 (BF16)**。指数8位(与FP32相同)，尾数7位，符号1位。这意味着BF16可以保留与FP32相同的动态范围。但是相对于FP16，损失了3位精度。因此，在使用BF16精度时，大数值绝对没有问题，但是精度会比FP16差。

- **(Un)signed Char (INT8)**。定点数7位，符号1位。用来表示[-128, 127]之间的整数。根据量化方式不同，有时也会转而用UINT8来表示[0, 255]之间的整数。

- **Unsigned Char (INT4 * 2)**。一个字节的Unsigned Char可以表示（装入）两个INT4的值。定点数数3位，符号1位。用来表示[-8, 7]之间的整数。

CNN量化 vs. LLM量化

LLM CNN

CNN per-channel per-layer kernel LLM

vector (tensor)

A*B=C

per-tensor A B INT

per-vector LLM per-vector LLM

X W

FP16 k k

2 k 256 128 per-group

INT4 CNN INT8 LLM

CNN INT4

13B scale

scale fp16 fp32 scale INT4

CNN loss

per-channel

scale

LLM head

tensor hidden dim

[50, 100]

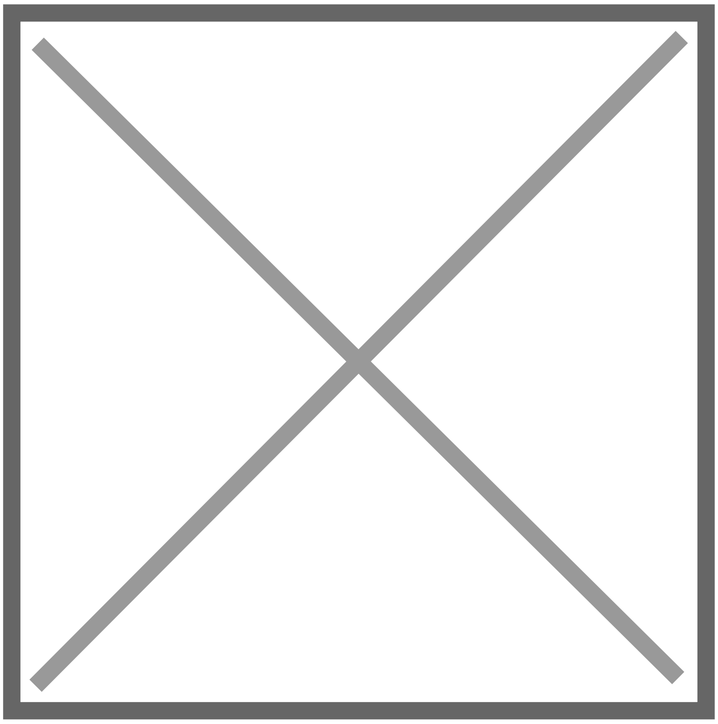
[0.5, 1.2], LLM

attention softmax Attention Is Off By One tensor

per-tensor LLM

CNN LLM cuda INT

Core



LLM[illegible]

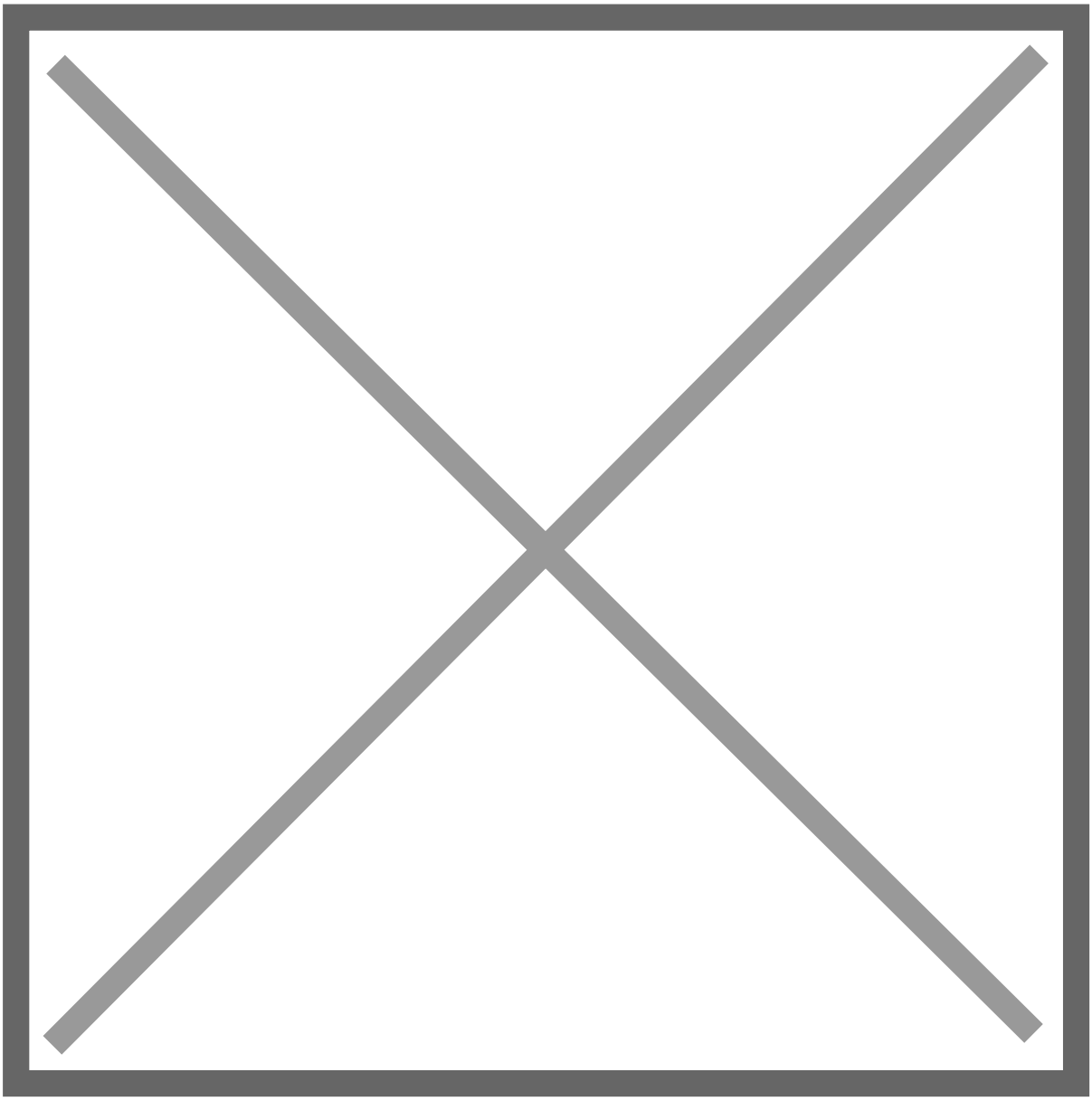
[illegible] LLM[illegible]

LLM.int8(): [illegible]

[illegible] bit [illegible] CNN[illegible] PTQ[illegible] (KL[illegible]) [illegible] CNN [illegible] LLM[illegible] tensor [illegible]

[illegible] 6B[illegible] layer [illegible] sequence length [illegible] quantization [illegible] hidden size [illegible] sequence[illegible] token[illegible]

[illegible] paper[illegible]



X activations sequence length hidden-size

X W int8 fp16 **(W token) element-wise concat**

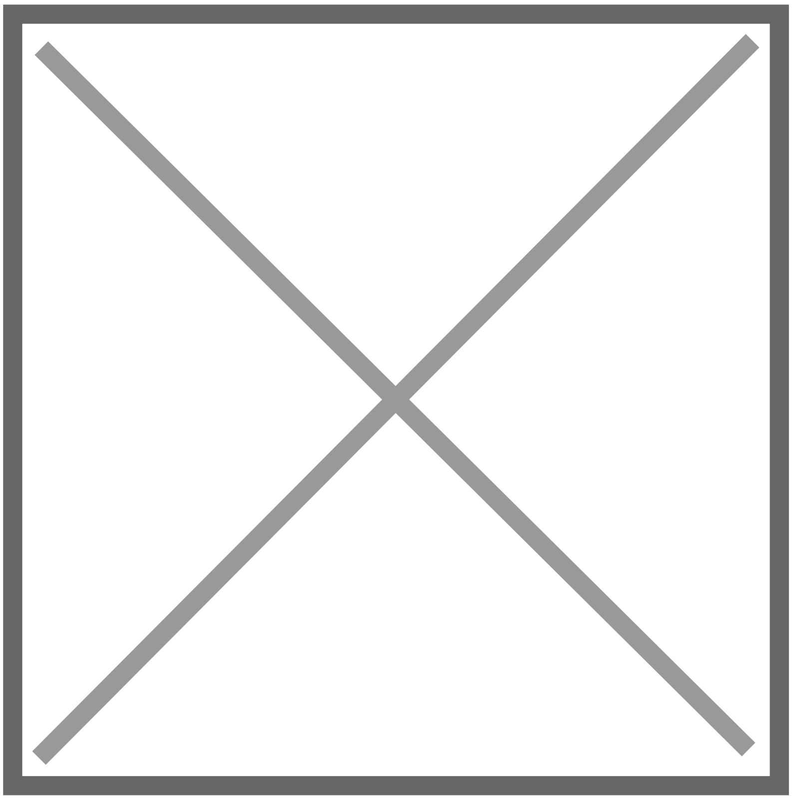
LLM.INT8() gemm X W threshold 6 6

LLM.int8() LLM.int8() BLOOM-176B FP16 15% 23% (T5-3B T5-11B)

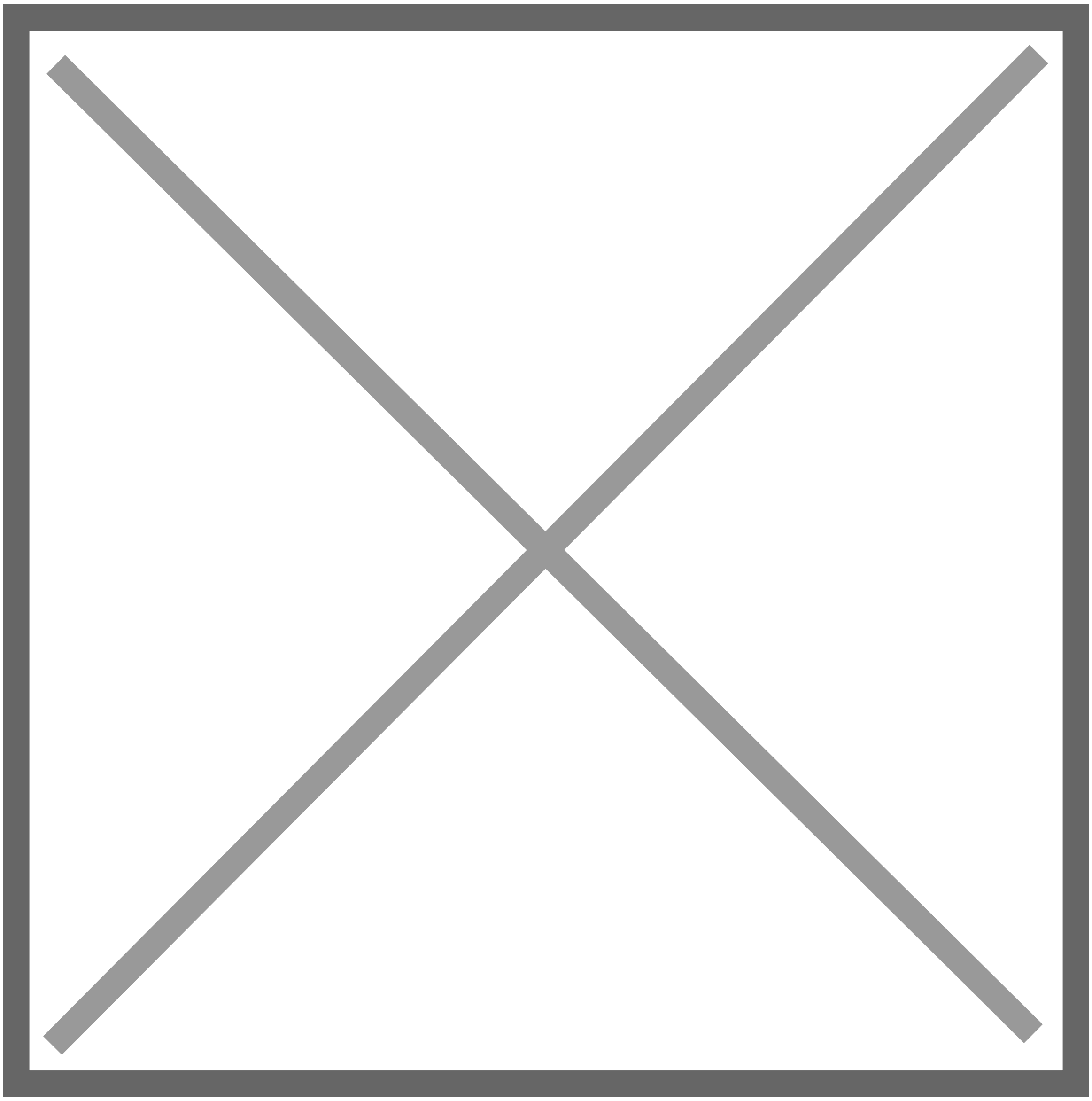
[illegible] LLM [illegible] block [illegible] block [illegible] fp16 [illegible] fp16 [illegible]

GPTQ: [illegible]

GPTQ [illegible] OBQ [illegible] GPTQ [illegible] OBQ [illegible] OBS [illegible] ([illegible] OBS [illegible] W_q , [illegible] δ_q [illegible]



[illegible] H [illegible] loss [illegible] OBQ [illegible] OBS [illegible] 0 [illegible] 1bit [illegible] 0bit [illegible] OBQ [illegible]

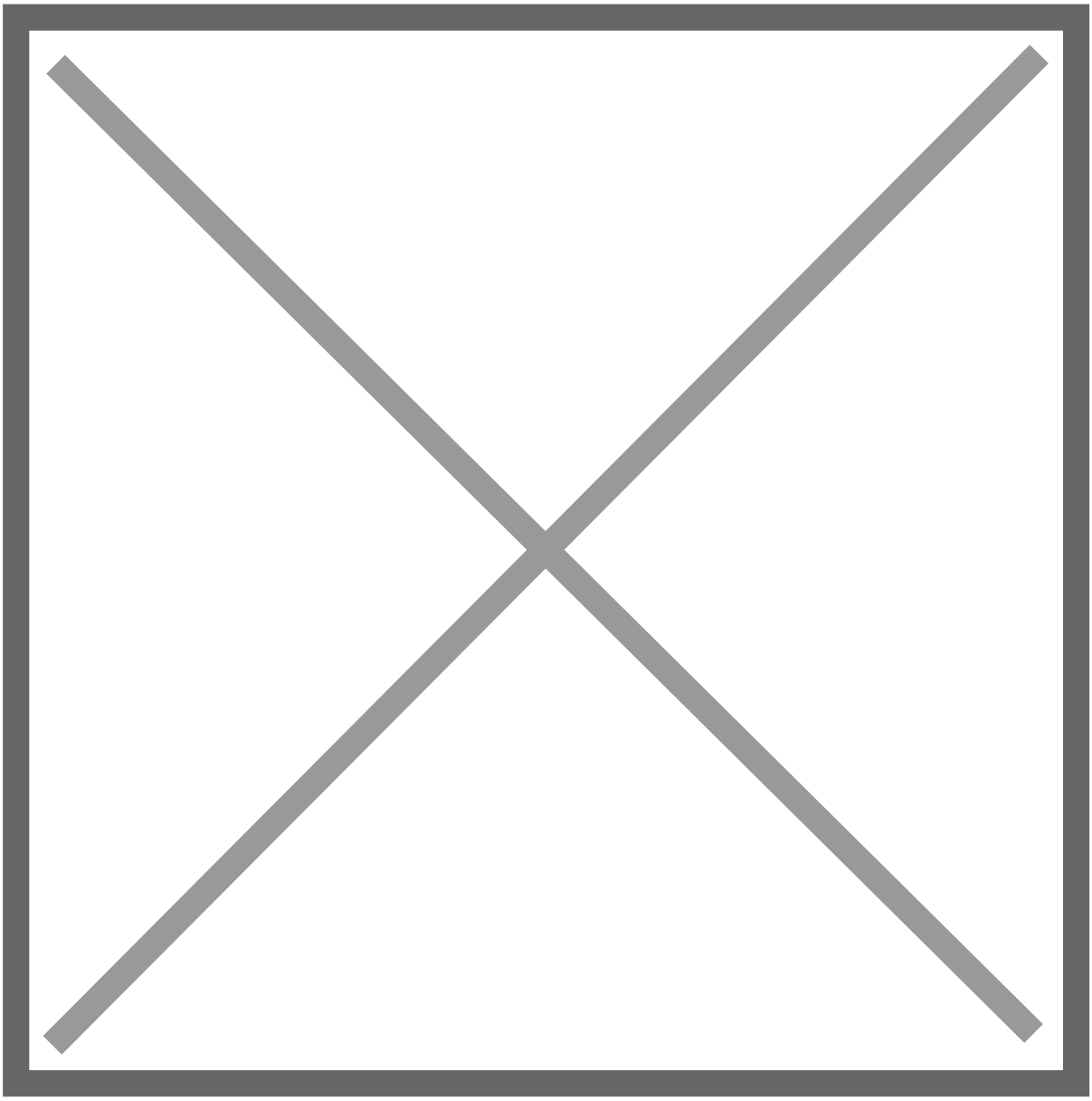


[illegible] quant(q) [illegible] q [illegible] quant grid [illegible]

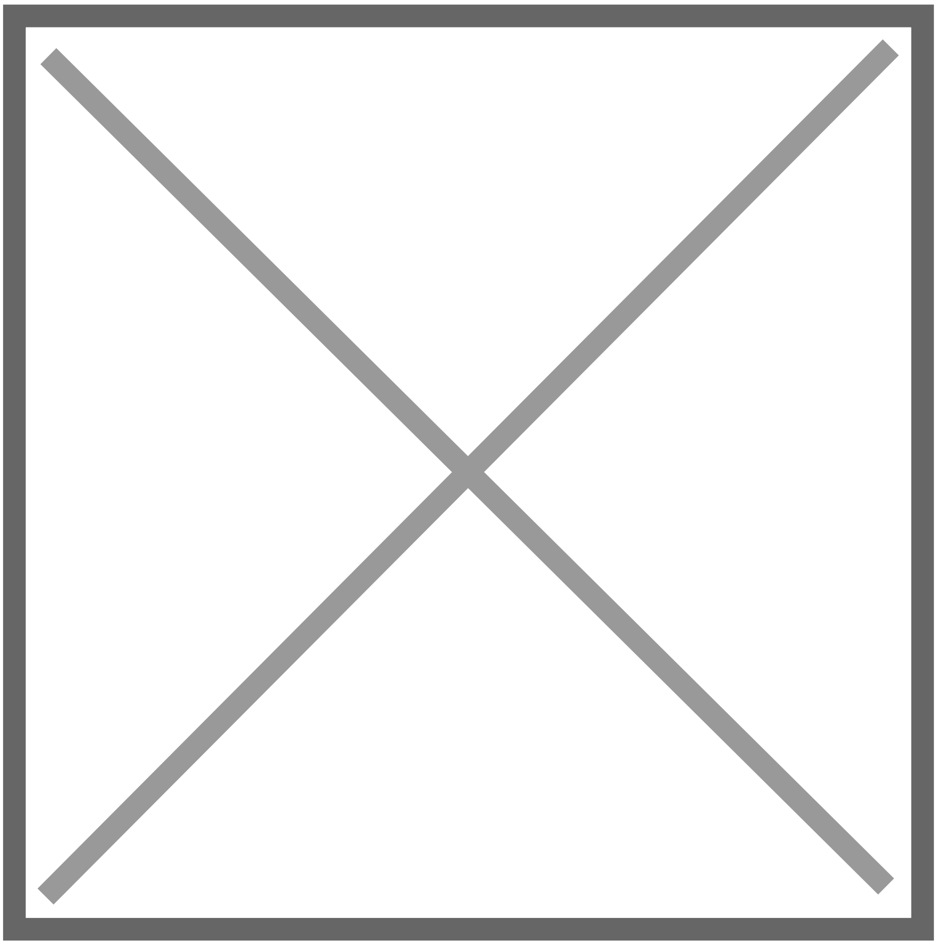
quant(q) [illegible] OBS [illegible] OBQ [illegible]

[illegible] OBS

[illegible] q [illegible] / [illegible]



GPTQ OBS



-
[illegible]
[illegible]

-[illegible]

-[illegible]
GPU[illegible]

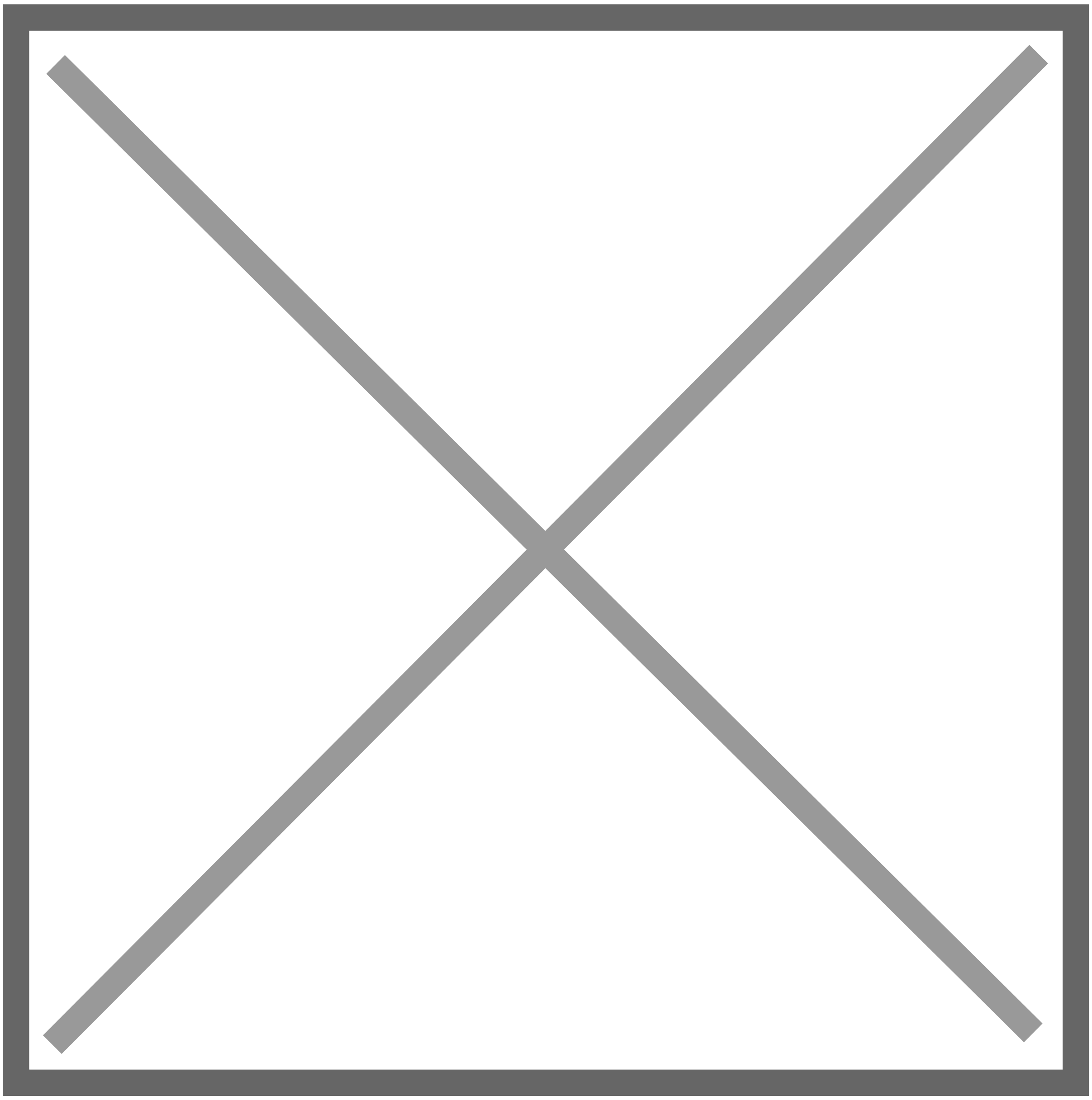
-[illegible]

-[illegible] Scale[illegible] Zero[illegible] Group size
[illegible]

[illegible] GPTQ[illegible] LLM
[illegible]

SmoothQuant: W8A8[illegible] scale

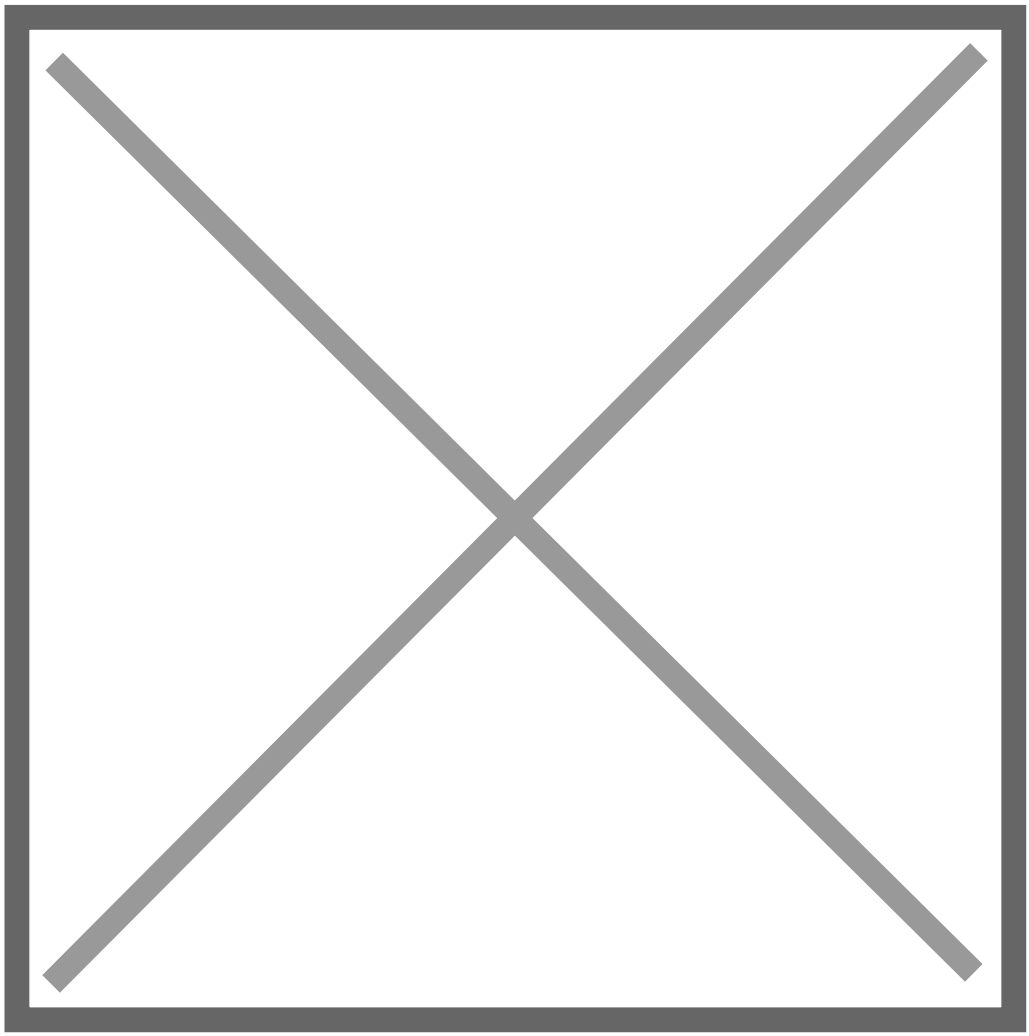
[illegible] LLM[illegible] channel[illegible] activation outlier[illegible] (e.g. GLM-130B[illegible] 30%[illegible] int8[illegible] -128[illegible] 127[illegible] outlier[illegible] -128[illegible] 127



的数据分布均匀，占满了8bit位范围，精度损失很低，但是有了outlier之后，多数正常值的分布区间可能在[-20,20]或者[-10,10]，8bit位范围只利用到了5bit，甚至4bit，由此导致精度损失。

论文基于这样假设：激活值比权重更难量化。权重的分布相对更加均匀和平坦，之前的研究结果已经证明将大型语言模型的权重降低到INT8，甚至到INT4对准确率的影响都不大，但鲜有做的好的激活值量化方案。既然**weight**比**activation**更难量化，所以可以把**activation**量化难度迁移到**weight**上来。

SQ把activation里面不均匀的分布用weight中和一下，具体来讲，主要是在fp32阶段做的，保证一个等式的等价，X为输入act，W为weight，s为因子，通过s来中和。



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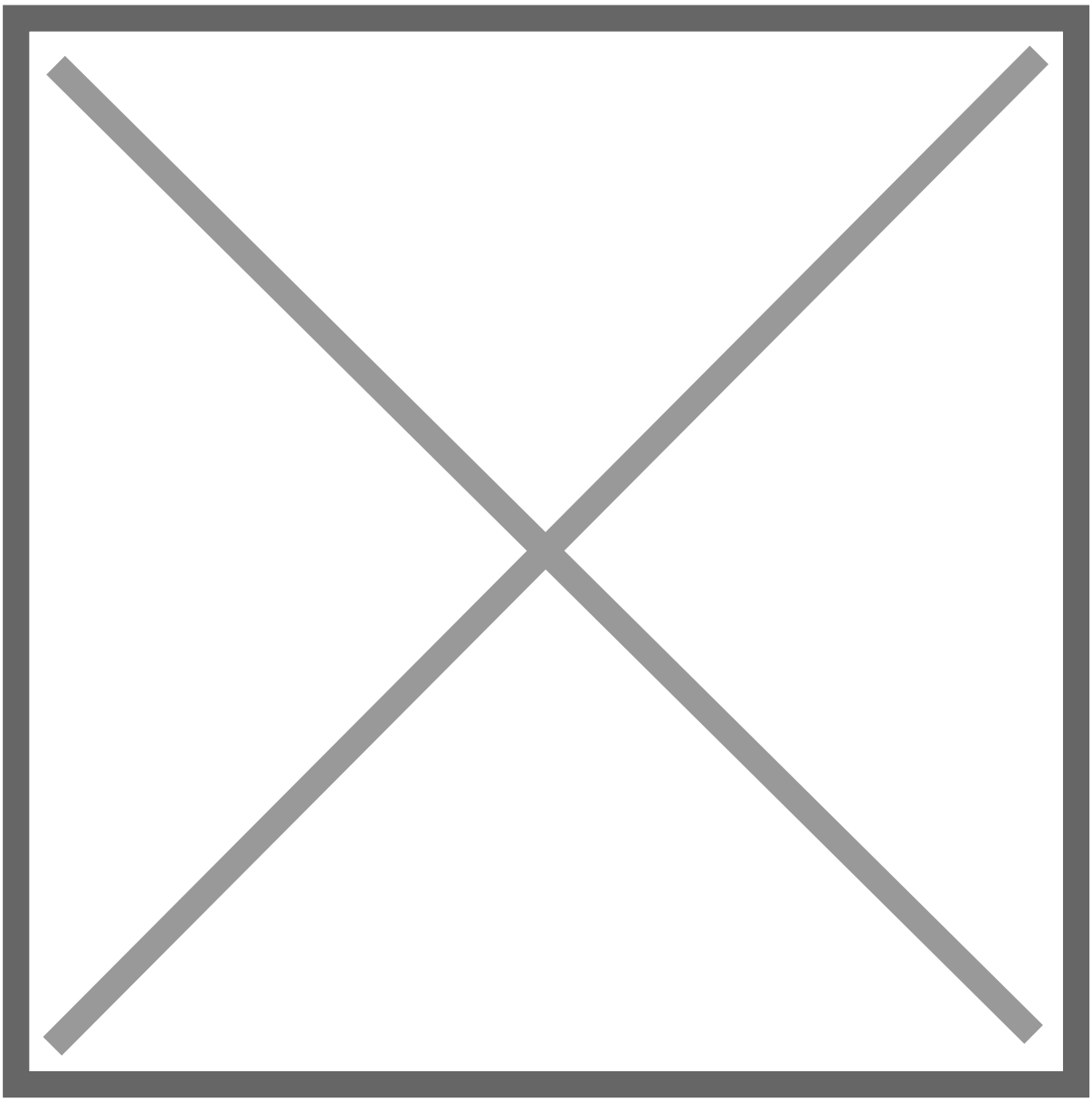
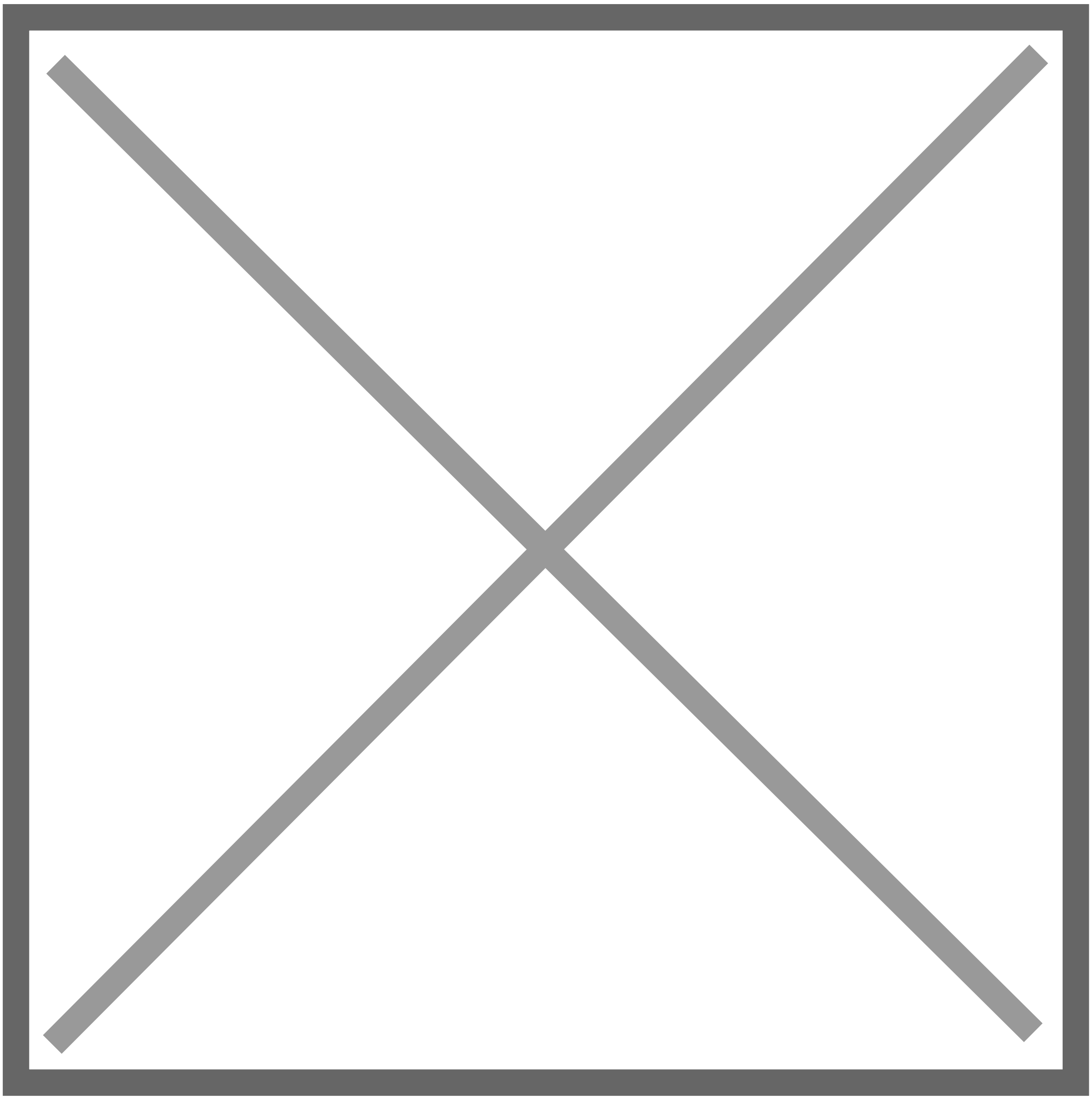
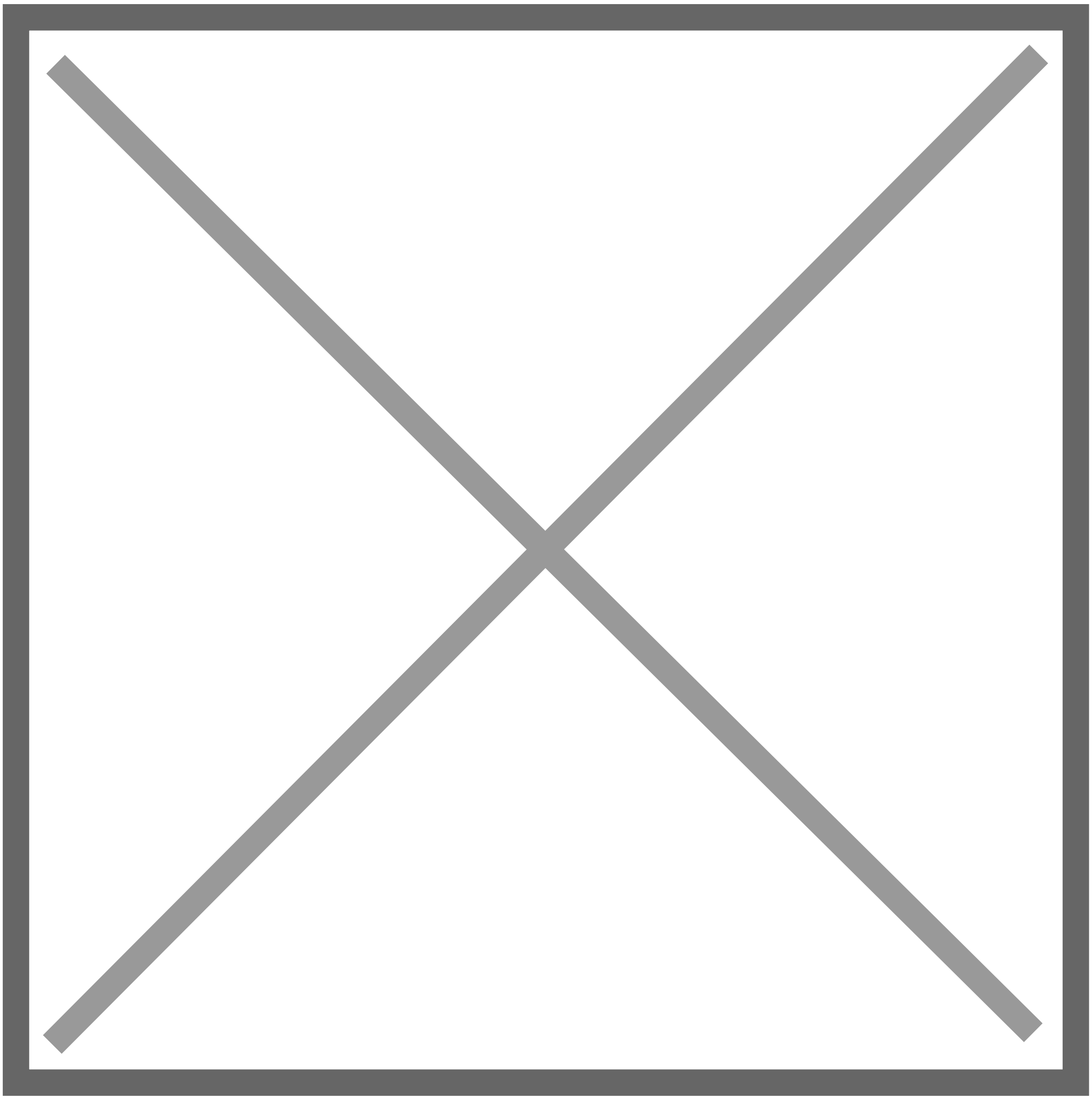




[illegible] LLM [illegible] weight-only [illegible] SmoothQuant [illegible] LLM [illegible] SmoothQuant [illegible] W8A8 [illegible] INT4 [illegible] bit [illegible]

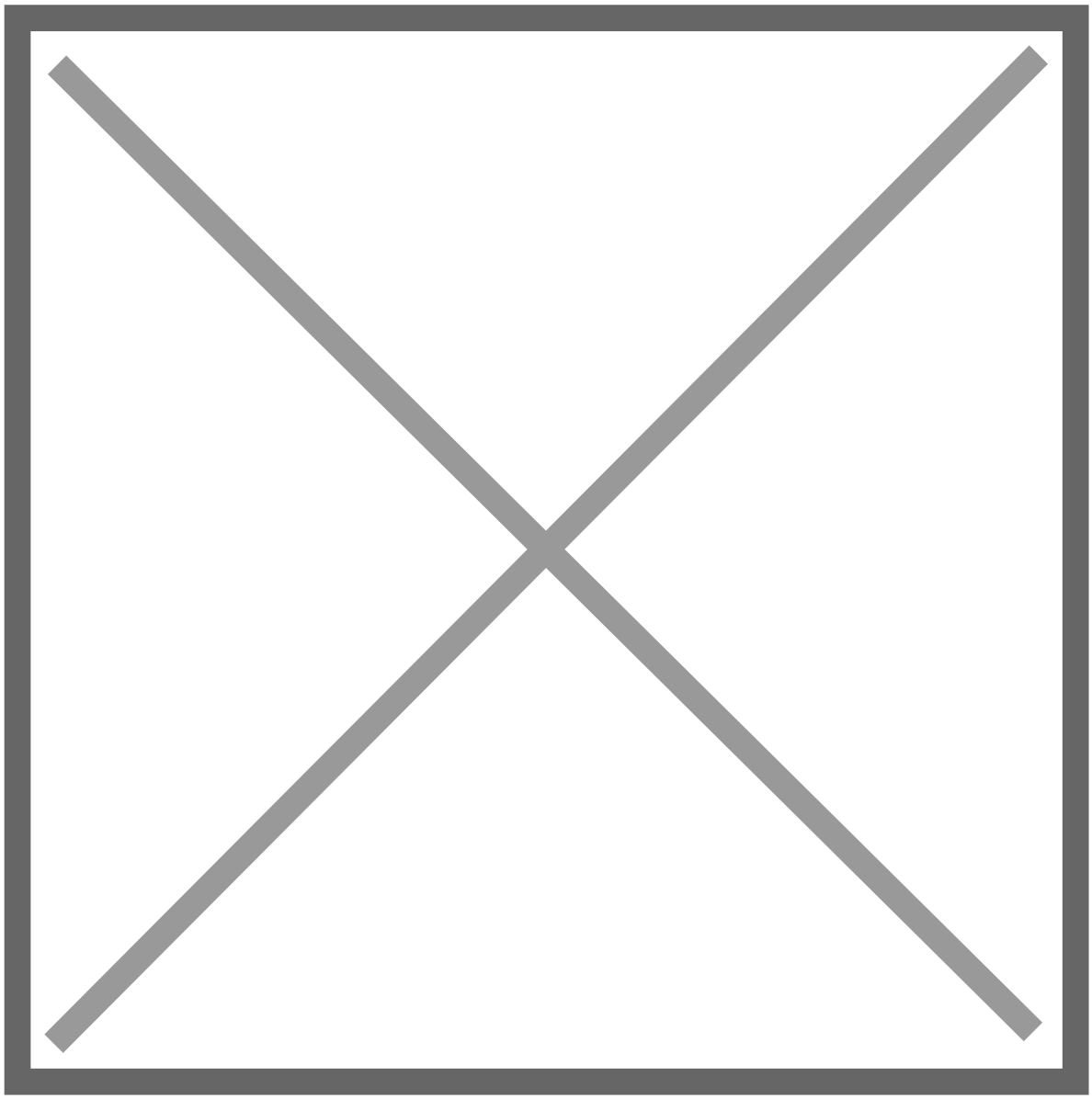
[illegible] SmoothQuant [illegible] **LLM** [illegible] weight-only [illegible] SmoothQuant [illegible] TensorRT-LLM [illegible] TensorRT [illegible] LLM [illegible] GPT2 [illegible] SmoothQuant [illegible]

AWQ: [illegible]



[illegible] [illegible] (a)[illegible] 1%[illegible] channel[illegible] fp16[illegible] (b)[illegible] (int8+fp16)[illegible] LLM.int8()[illegible] tensor [illegible] (c): [illegible] ***1%***[illegible] ***group*** [illegible] ***SmoothQuant*** [illegible]

[illegible] s[illegible] X [illegible]



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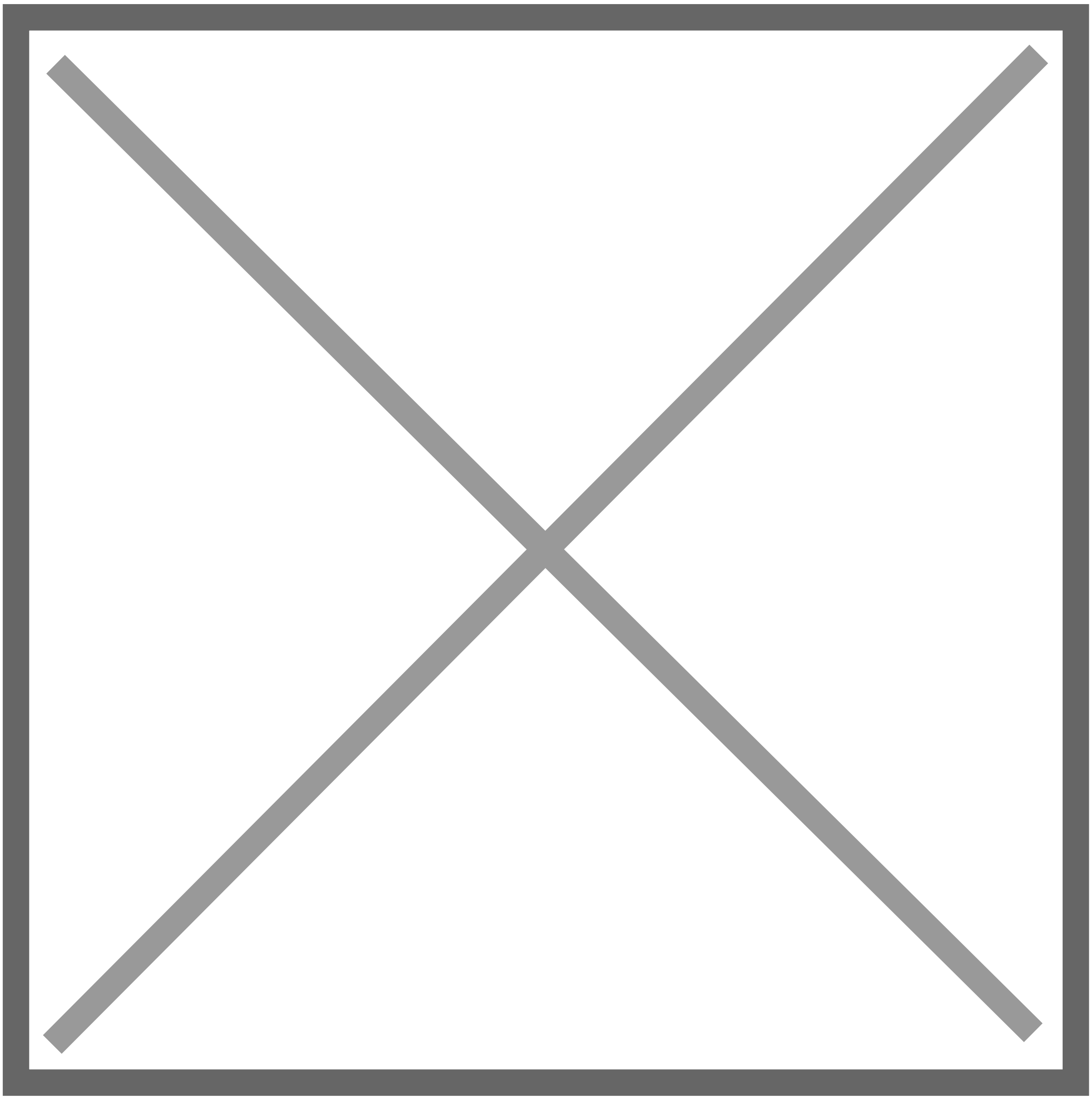
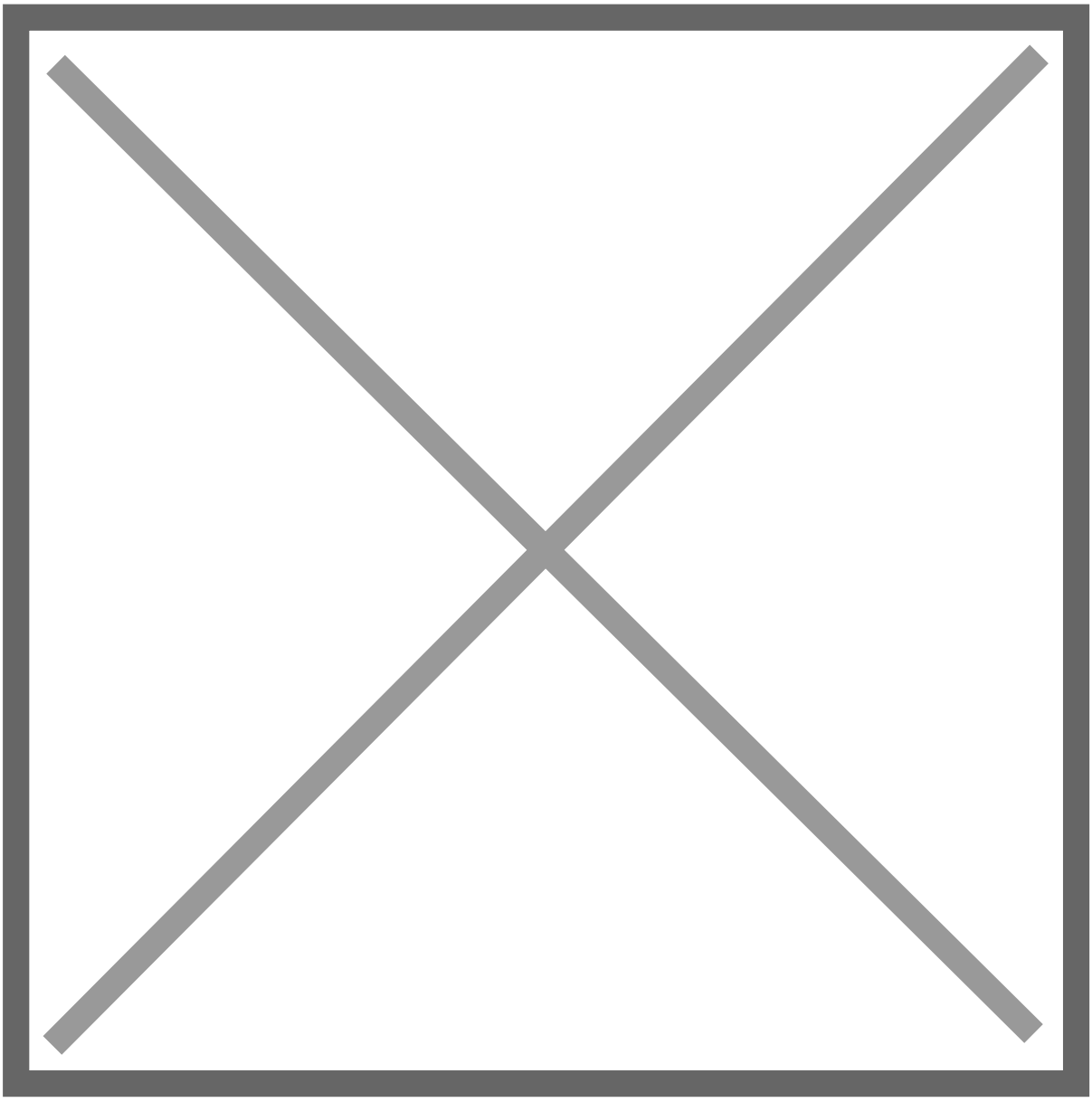


[illegible] $sX = mean_{c\_out}|X|$ [illegible] $sW = mean_{c\_out}|W|$ [illegible] sX [illegible] group [illegible] weight [illegible] group [illegible] α [illegible] β [illegible] [0, 1] [illegible] sW [illegible] group [illegible] weight [illegible]

[illegible] AWQ [illegible] kernel [illegible]

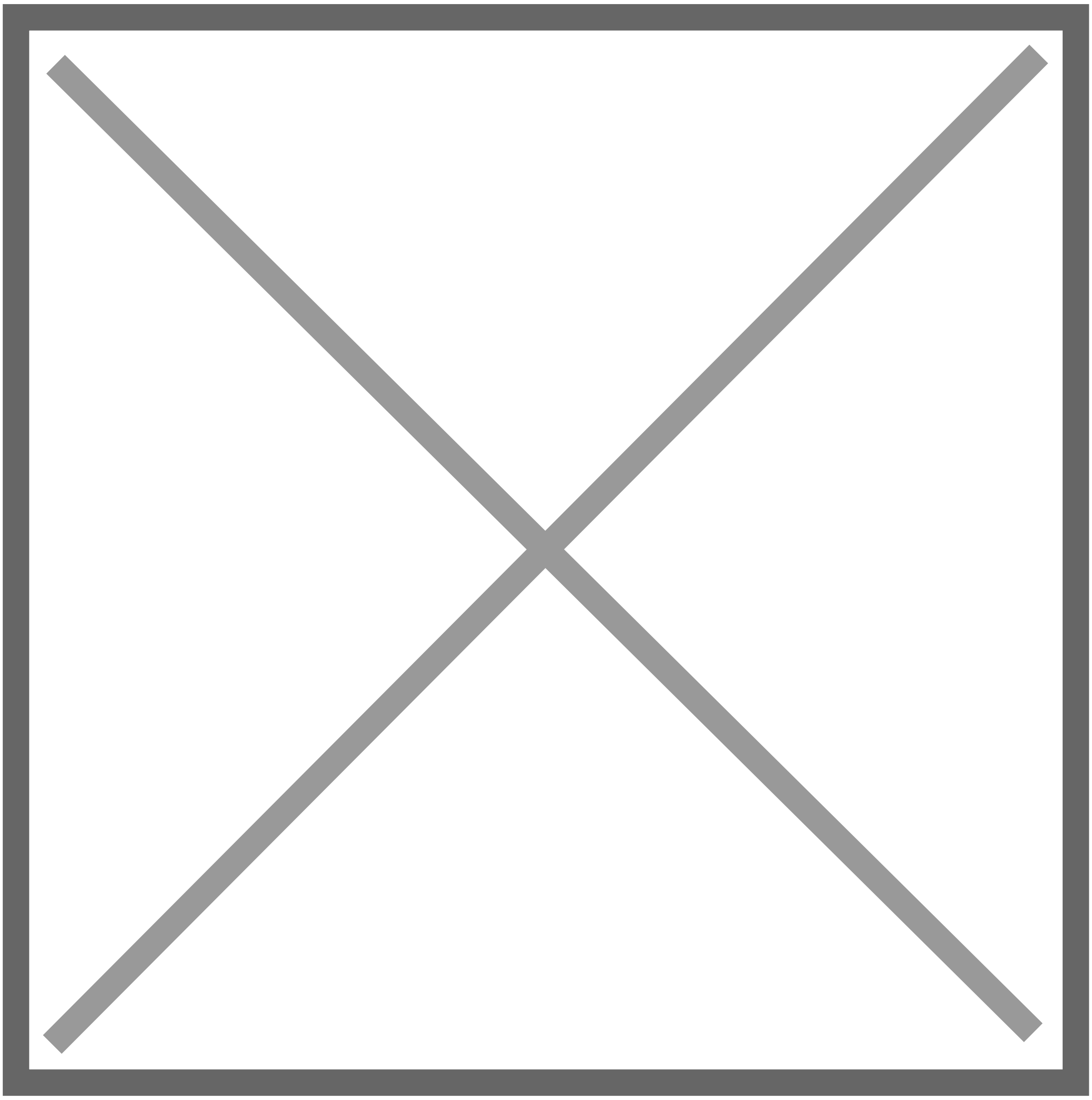
[illegible] smooth quant [illegible] AWQ [illegible] weight-only [illegible] SQ [illegible] W8A8 [illegible] AWQ [illegible] GPTQ [illegible] kernel [illegible]

Llama. CPP [illegible] K-quant [illegible]



LLaMA.cpp项目是开发者Georgi Gerganov基于Meta释出的LLaMA模型实现的纯C/C++版本（基于其另一个项目: tensor库GGML），用于模型推理。llama.cpp的初衷是让开发者在没有GPU的条件下也能运行Meta的LLaMA模型。后来在他本人和社区开发者的支持下，也支持了cuBLAS的加速。在6月15日的PR中，llama.cpp正式支持了CUDA库的加速，用大量的cuda kernel加速了llama在GPU的推理速度。

llama.cpp中量化部分主要采用了两种方案: INT4量化和K-quant量化。量化选项如下图所示，其中Q后面的第一个数字x表示了量化到x bit，下划线后的第二个数字y为0时表示对称量化，没有零点。y为1时表示非对称量化，每个scale还有一个zero point，当y为K时表示K-quant量化方法，K后面的字母表示量化模型的参数规模: Small, Meduim, Large。例如，Q4_0和Q8_0选项代表进行INT4、INT8量化。



[illegible] y=K[illegible] K-quant[illegible] [illegible] K-quant[illegible] 16 x 8[illegible] “[illegible]”[illegible] “[illegible]”[illegible] 16[illegible] 8 [illegible] scale[illegible] 16 [illegible] 1 [illegible] fp16 [illegible] K_2[illegible] 16 [illegible] **“**[illegible]**”**[illegible] size[illegible] 16*8[illegible] “[illegible]”K-quant[illegible] K_1[illegible] group size = 8, [illegible] 65B[illegible] 37.5GB [illegible]

[illegible] **llama.cpp**[illegible] **K-quant**[illegible] **fp16**[illegible] **3~4**[illegible] **(**[illegible] **token/s)**[illegible] fp16 [illegible] llama.cpp[illegible] c++[illegible] cuda [illegible] +gemm[illegible] GPT [illegible] KV Cache[illegible] token[illegible] vector-matrix[illegible] GEVM [illegible] matrix-matrix[illegible] GEMM[illegible] llama.cpp[illegible]

[illegible] llama.cpp[illegible] llama[illegible] [illegible] **+K-quant**[illegible]
[illegible]

llama.cpp Kernel
llama.cpp

QLora

Lora Qlora QLora
lora

A B W LoRA AB
W AB

QLora

Block-wise Quantization block) scale block
64, K-quant

Quantile Quantization

Quantile Quantization. Quantile

block-wise quantization block scale
float32, block 64 32/64 =
0.5bit 4bit 0.5bit 12.5%
scale outliner
256 block 8bit c 8/64 + 32/256
= 0.127 bit

QLora

LLM

#

- LLM weight-only
- LLM CNN per-vector +
  scale
- fp16
  INT

量化带来的大幅显存下降同时又有加速效果（来自Llama.cpp的启发）。

- LLM中，INT4量化+更加细粒度量化，要比INT8量化有更高的性价比，模型参数越大，INT4量化优势越大（体现在省显存和推理速度上）。