

Image as Set of Points

ICLR 2023

Notable top 5%

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Backbone development

- MLP->CNN->Transformer->MLP?

- 21年

- 12月: “图像识别也是Transformer最强(ViT)”

- 2月: “Transformer is All you Need”

- 3月: “Attention is not All you Need”

- 5月: “在MLP上的ViT并(MLPmixer)”

- 5月: “Convolution比Transformer强”

- 5月: “在MLP上加个门, 跨越Transformer (Pay Attention to MLPs)”

CNN

- LeNet-5
 - Convolution & pooling

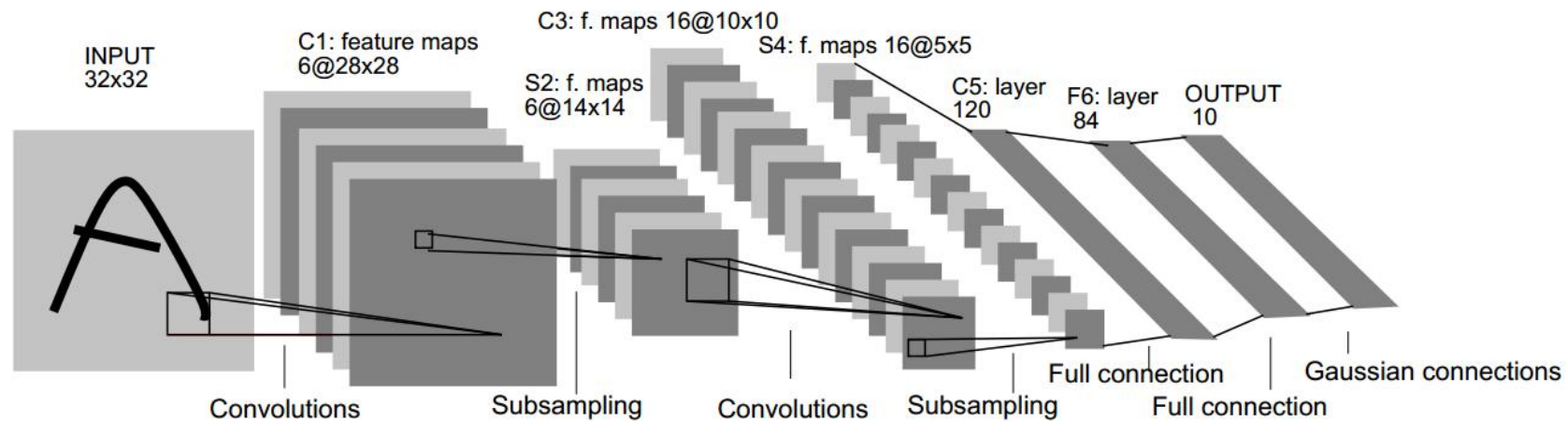
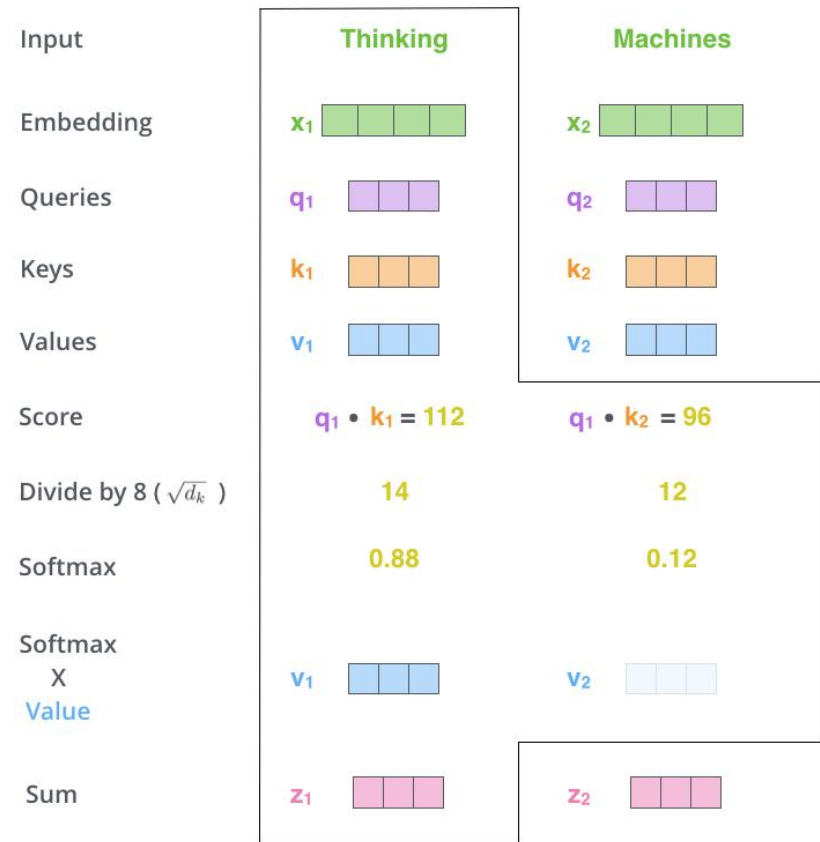
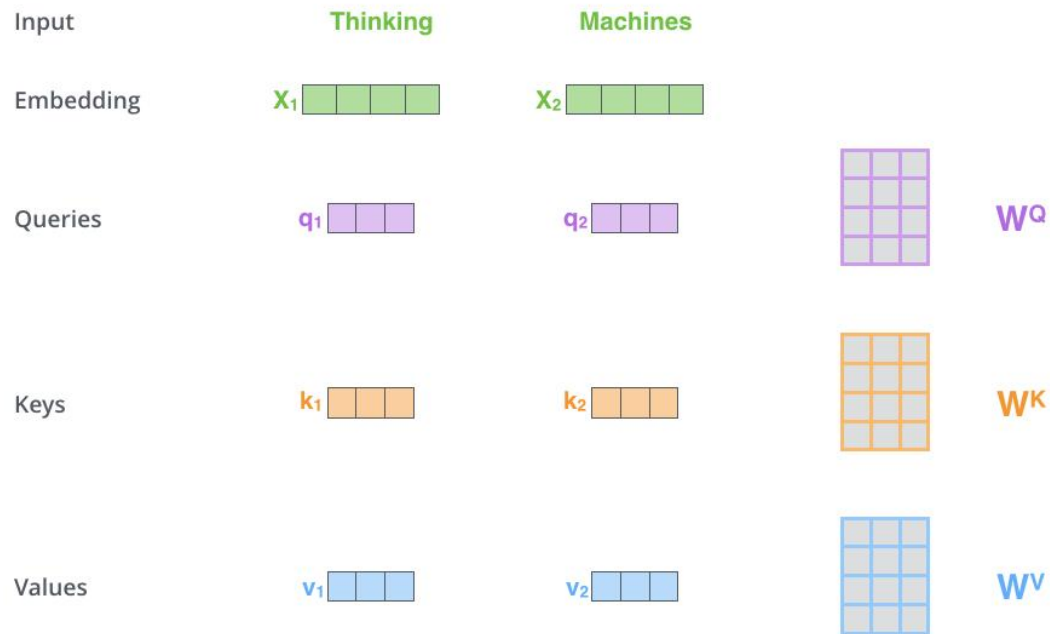


Fig. 2. Architecture of LeNet-5, a Convolutional Neural Network, here for digits recognition. Each plane is a feature map, i.e. a set of units whose weights are constrained to be identical.

Attention



$$\text{Attention}(Q, K, V) = \text{softmax}\left(\frac{QK^T}{\sqrt{d_k}}\right)V$$

Transformer in NLP

N encoder layers and N decoder layers together form the transformer.

Several point:

- (Self-/Cross-) attention
- Feed forward
- Residual connection & norm
- Positional encoding

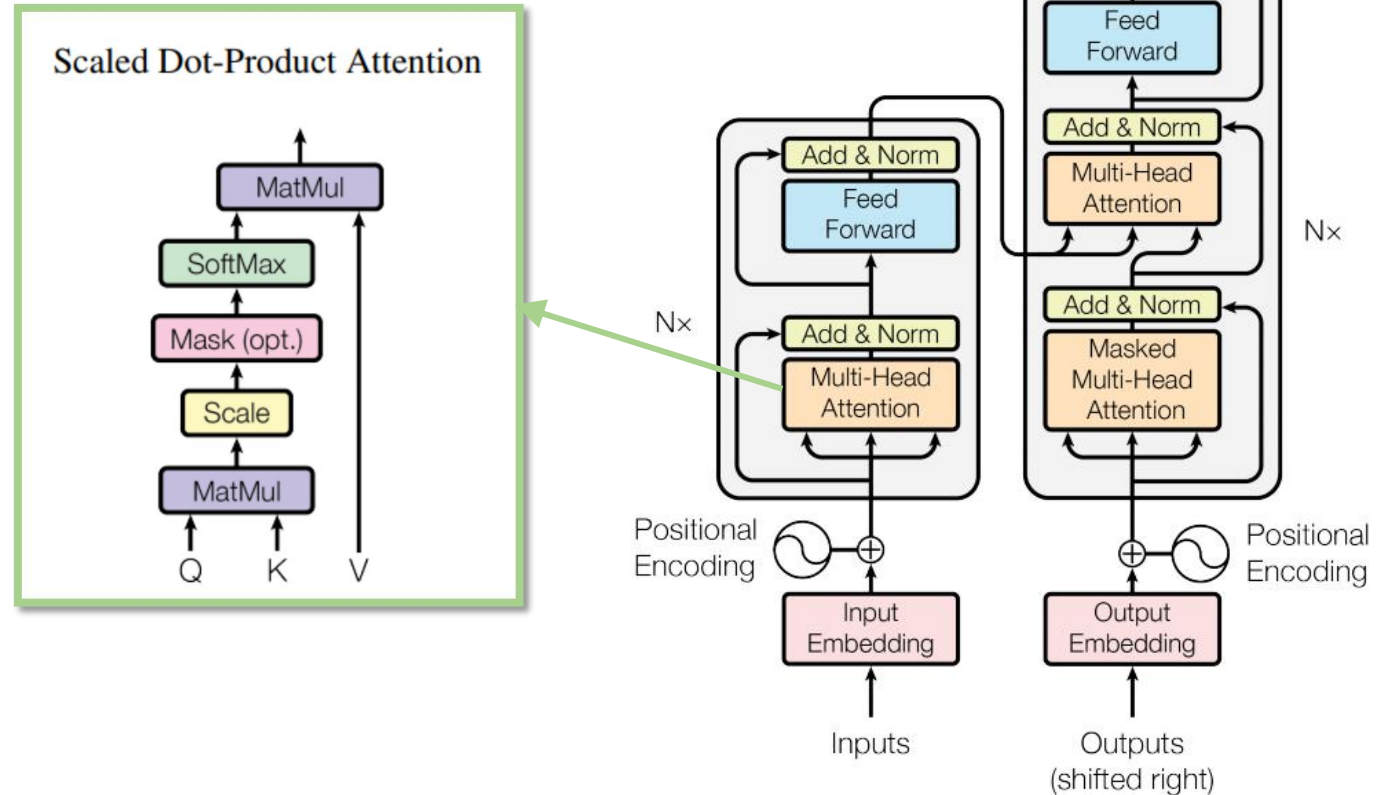
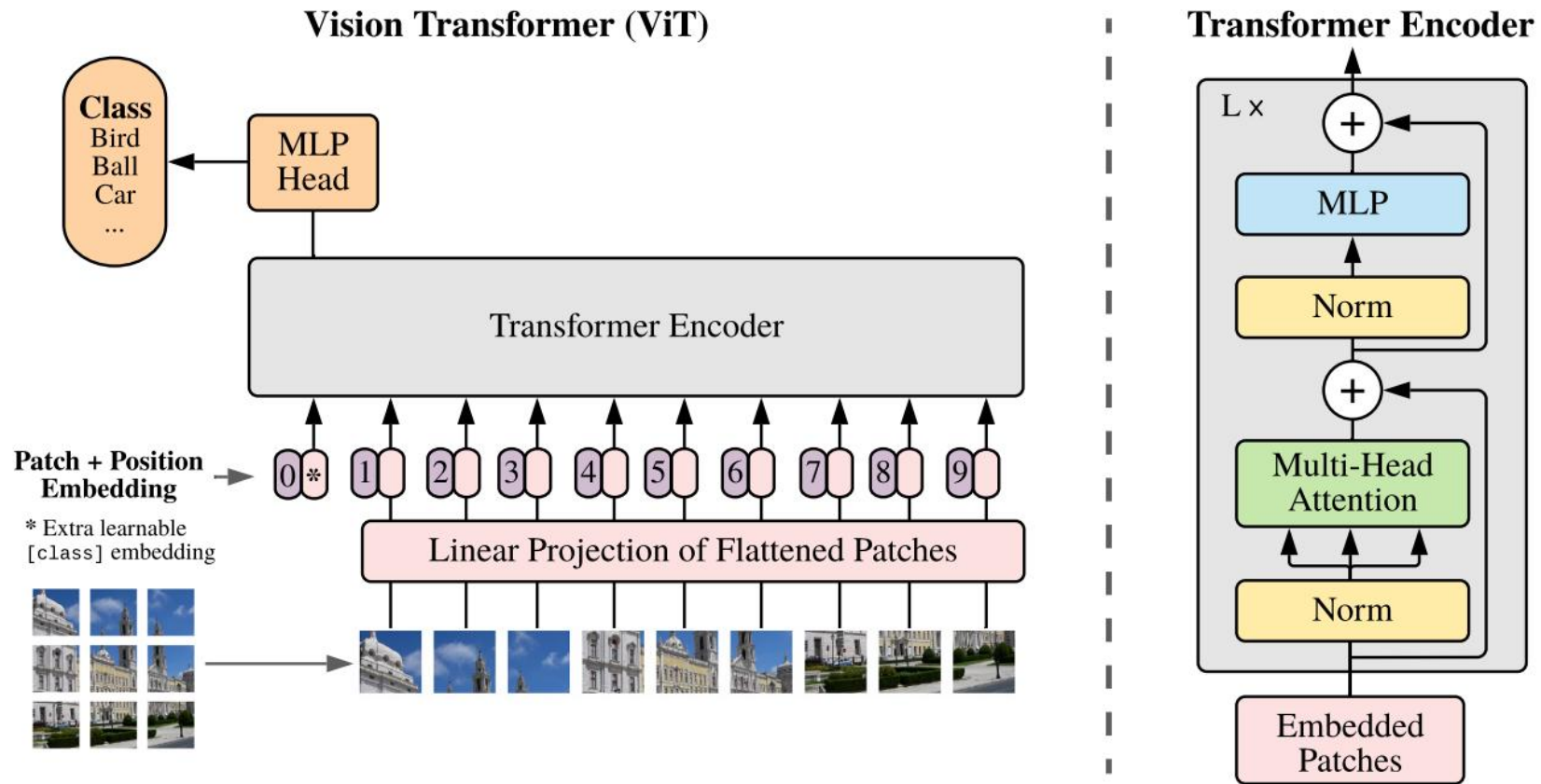


Figure 1: The Transformer - model architecture.

Vision Transformer



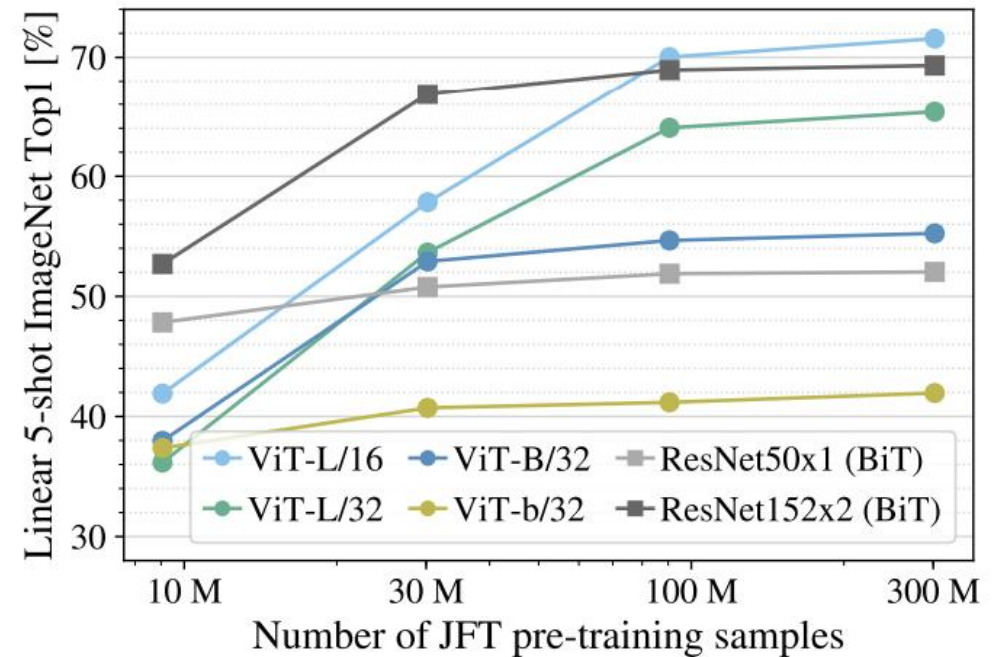
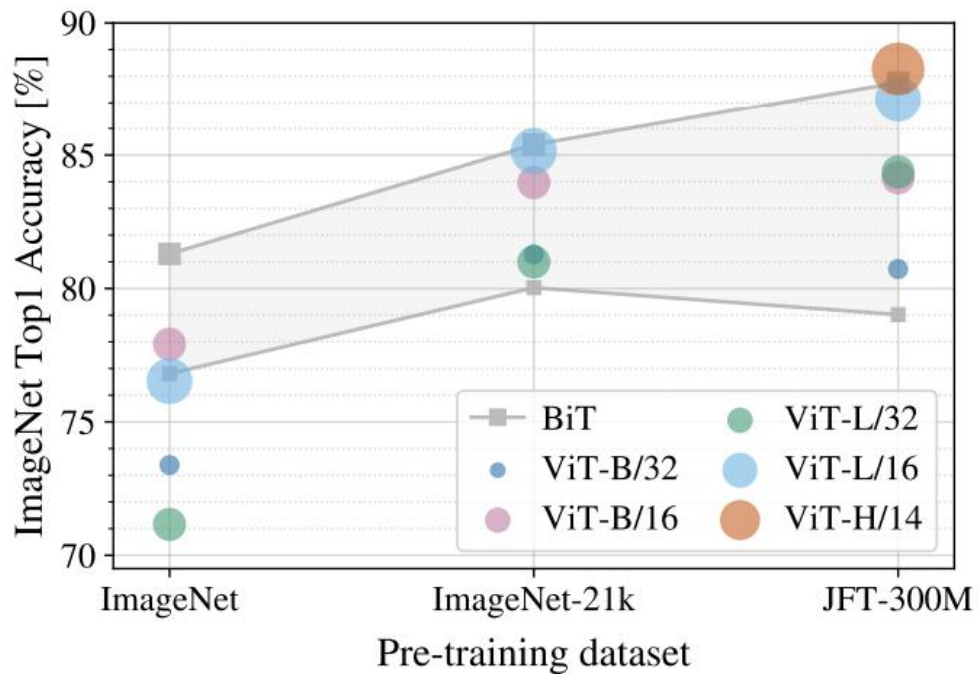
Vision Transformer

- JFT: 300M images
- ImageNet 21k: 14M images
- ImageNet: 1.3M images

| | Ours-JFT (ViT-H/14) | Ours-JFT (ViT-L/16) | Ours-I21k (ViT-L/16) | BiT-L (ResNet152x4) | Noisy Student (EfficientNet-L2) |
|--------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|
| ImageNet | 88.55 ± 0.04 | 87.76 ± 0.03 | 85.30 ± 0.02 | 87.54 ± 0.02 | 88.4/88.5* |
| ImageNet ReaL | 90.72 ± 0.05 | 90.54 ± 0.03 | 88.62 ± 0.05 | 90.54 | 90.55 |
| CIFAR-10 | 99.50 ± 0.06 | 99.42 ± 0.03 | 99.15 ± 0.03 | 99.37 ± 0.06 | — |
| CIFAR-100 | 94.55 ± 0.04 | 93.90 ± 0.05 | 93.25 ± 0.05 | 93.51 ± 0.08 | — |
| Oxford-IIIT Pets | 97.56 ± 0.03 | 97.32 ± 0.11 | 94.67 ± 0.15 | 96.62 ± 0.23 | — |
| Oxford Flowers-102 | 99.68 ± 0.02 | 99.74 ± 0.00 | 99.61 ± 0.02 | 99.63 ± 0.03 | — |
| VTAB (19 tasks) | 77.63 ± 0.23 | 76.28 ± 0.46 | 72.72 ± 0.21 | 76.29 ± 1.70 | — |
| TPUv3-core-days | 2.5k | 0.68k | 0.23k | 9.9k | 12.3k |

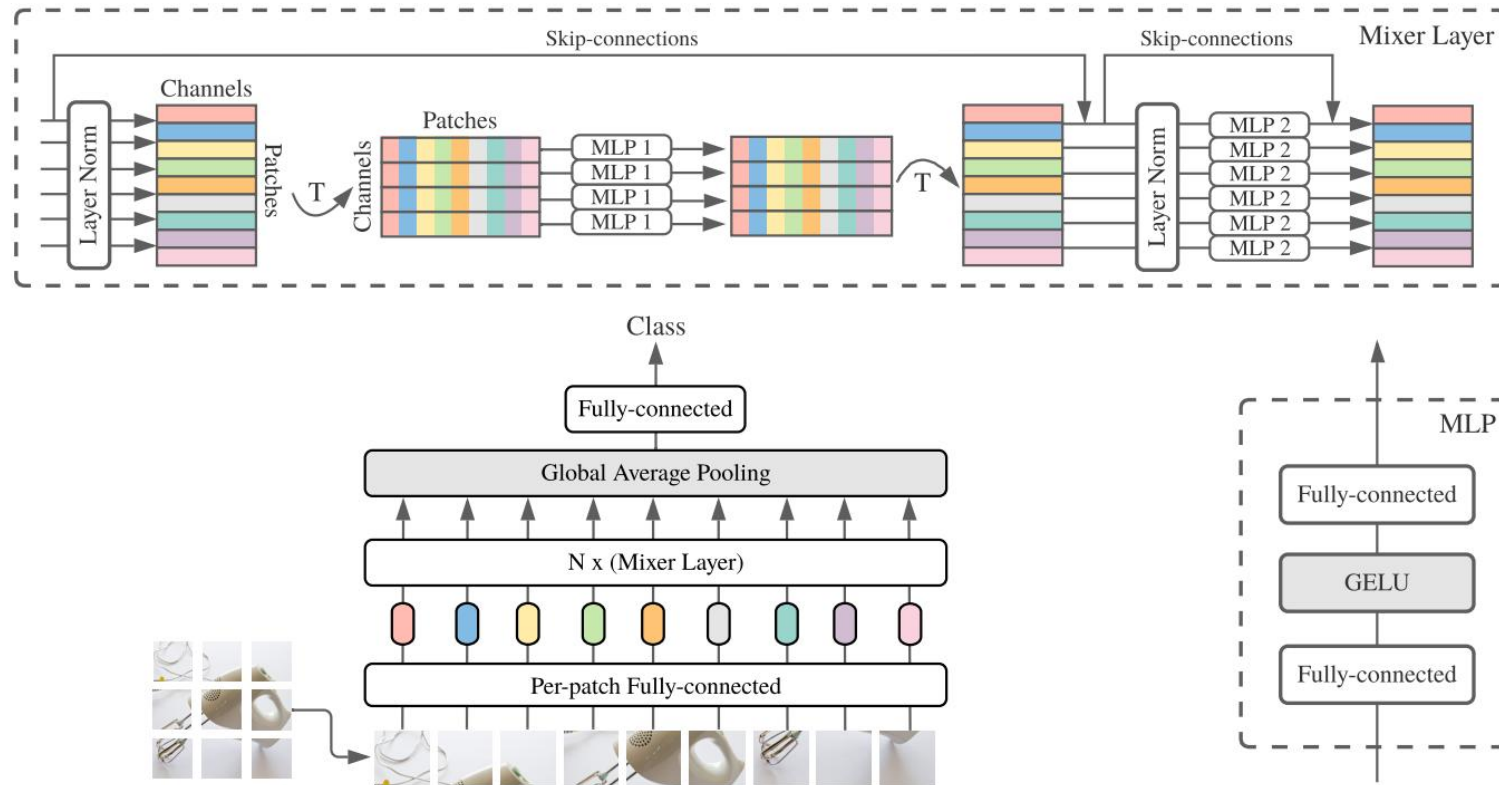
Vision Transformer

- ViT needs large dataset.



MLP-Mixer

- Remove attention in ViT but keep the structure.



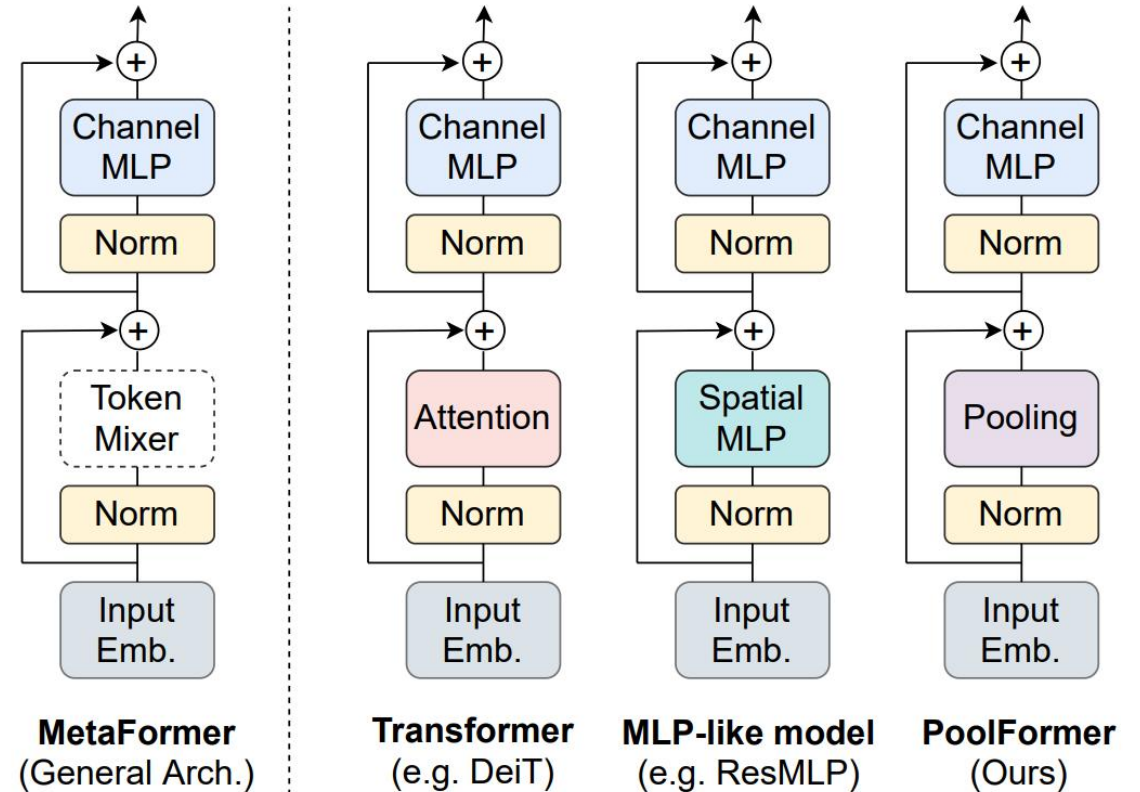
MLP-Mixer

- Sell point: the throughput, perform kind of well on large dataset.

| | Image size | Pre-Train Epochs | ImNet top-1 | ReaL top-1 | Avg. 5 top-1 | Throughput (img/sec/core) | TPUv3 core-days |
|---|------------|------------------|-------------|------------|--------------|---------------------------|----------------------|
| Pre-trained on ImageNet (with extra regularization) | | | | | | | |
| ● Mixer-B/16 | 224 | 300 | 76.44 | 82.36 | 88.33 | 1384 | 0.01k ^(‡) |
| ● ViT-B/16 (⚡) | 224 | 300 | 79.67 | 84.97 | 90.79 | 861 | 0.02k ^(‡) |
| ● Mixer-L/16 | 224 | 300 | 71.76 | 77.08 | 87.25 | 419 | 0.04k ^(‡) |
| ● ViT-L/16 (⚡) | 224 | 300 | 76.11 | 80.93 | 89.66 | 280 | 0.05k ^(‡) |
| Pre-trained on ImageNet-21k (with extra regularization) | | | | | | | |
| ● Mixer-B/16 | 224 | 300 | 80.64 | 85.80 | 92.50 | 1384 | 0.15k ^(‡) |
| ● ViT-B/16 (⚡) | 224 | 300 | 84.59 | 88.93 | 94.16 | 861 | 0.18k ^(‡) |
| ● Mixer-L/16 | 224 | 300 | 82.89 | 87.54 | 93.63 | 419 | 0.41k ^(‡) |
| ● ViT-L/16 (⚡) | 224 | 300 | 84.46 | 88.35 | 94.49 | 280 | 0.55k ^(‡) |
| ● Mixer-L/16 | 448 | 300 | 83.91 | 87.75 | 93.86 | 105 | 0.41k ^(‡) |
| Pre-trained on JFT-300M | | | | | | | |
| ● Mixer-S/32 | 224 | 5 | 68.70 | 75.83 | 87.13 | 11489 | 0.01k |
| ● Mixer-B/32 | 224 | 7 | 75.53 | 81.94 | 90.99 | 4208 | 0.05k |
| ● Mixer-S/16 | 224 | 5 | 73.83 | 80.60 | 89.50 | 3994 | 0.03k |
| ● BiT-R50x1 | 224 | 7 | 73.69 | 81.92 | — | 2159 | 0.08k |
| ● Mixer-B/16 | 224 | 7 | 80.00 | 85.56 | 92.60 | 1384 | 0.08k |
| ● Mixer-L/32 | 224 | 7 | 80.67 | 85.62 | 93.24 | 1314 | 0.12k |
| ● BiT-R152x1 | 224 | 7 | 79.12 | 86.12 | — | 932 | 0.14k |
| ● BiT-R50x2 | 224 | 7 | 78.92 | 86.06 | — | 890 | 0.14k |
| ● BiT-R152x2 | 224 | 14 | 83.34 | 88.90 | — | 356 | 0.58k |
| ● Mixer-L/16 | 224 | 7 | 84.05 | 88.14 | 94.51 | 419 | 0.23k |
| ● Mixer-L/16 | 224 | 14 | 84.82 | 88.48 | 94.77 | 419 | 0.45k |
| ● ViT-L/16 | 224 | 14 | 85.63 | 89.16 | 95.21 | 280 | 0.65k |
| ● Mixer-H/14 | 224 | 14 | 86.32 | 89.14 | 95.49 | 194 | 1.01k |
| ● BiT-R200x3 | 224 | 14 | 84.73 | 89.58 | — | 141 | 1.78k |
| ● Mixer-L/16 | 448 | 14 | 86.78 | 89.72 | 95.13 | 105 | 0.45k |
| ● ViT-H/14 | 224 | 14 | 86.65 | 89.56 | 95.57 | 87 | 2.30k |
| ● ViT-L/16 [14] | 512 | 14 | 87.76 | 90.54 | 95.63 | 32 | 0.65k |

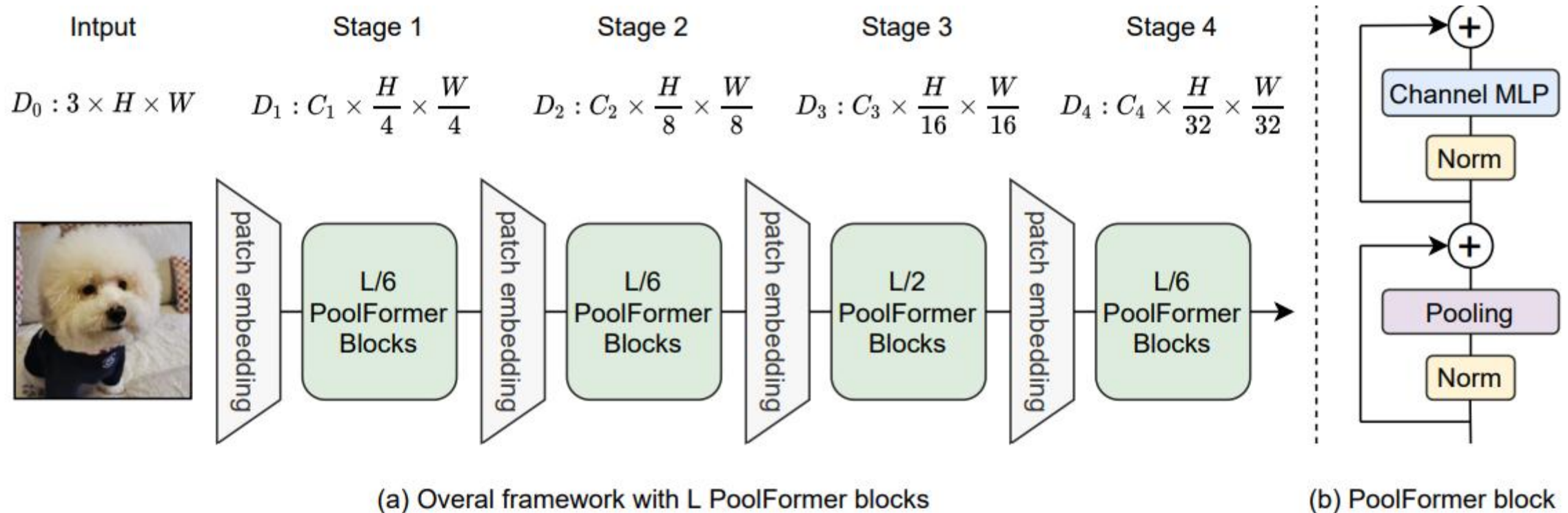
Metaformer

- Attention-based module can be replaced by spatial MLPs
- General architecture of the Transformers is essential



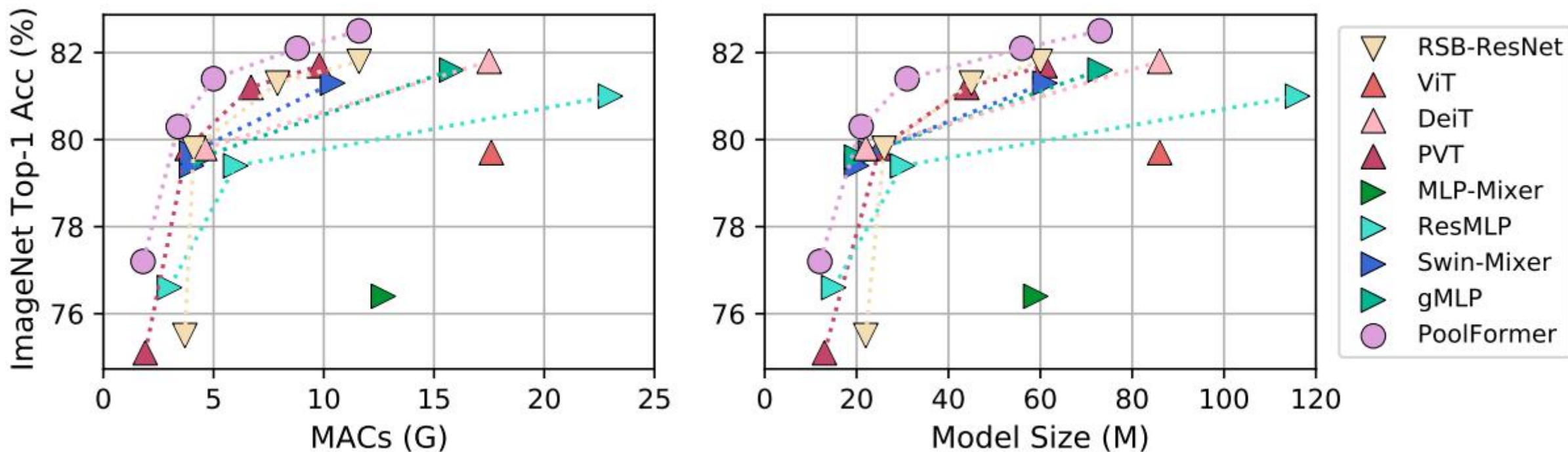
Metaformer

- Replace module with Average Pooling



Metaformer

- Reduce computation notably



CoCs

- What is an image and how to extract latent features?
- CNN: organized pixels in rectangular shape, convolutional operation in local region
- ViTs: a sequence of patches, attention mechanism in a global range
- CoCs: a set of unorganized points, simplified clustering algorithm

COCs

- Context cluster
- Each pixel as a 5-dimensional data point with the information of color and position
- Convert image to a set of **point clouds**, utilize methodologies from point cloud analysis

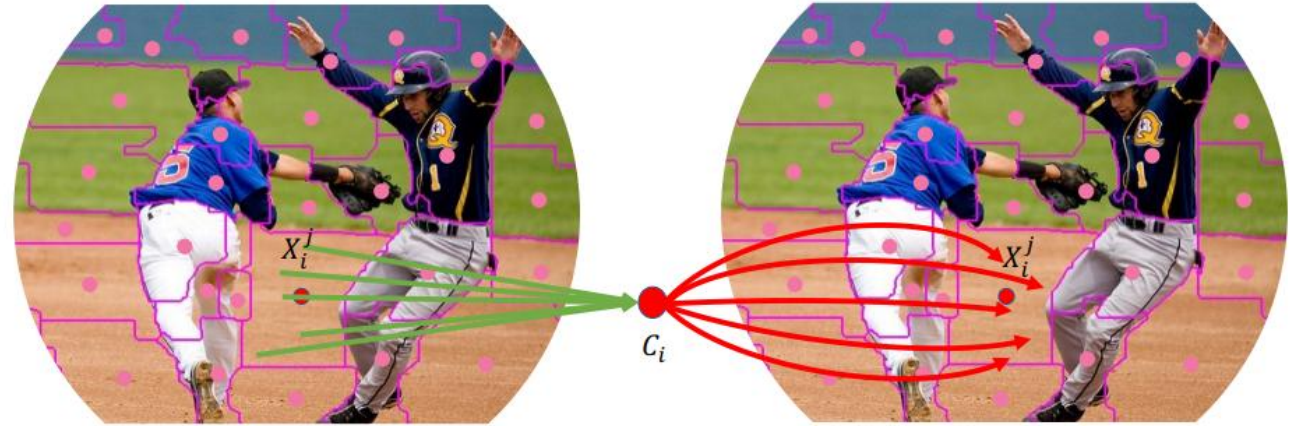
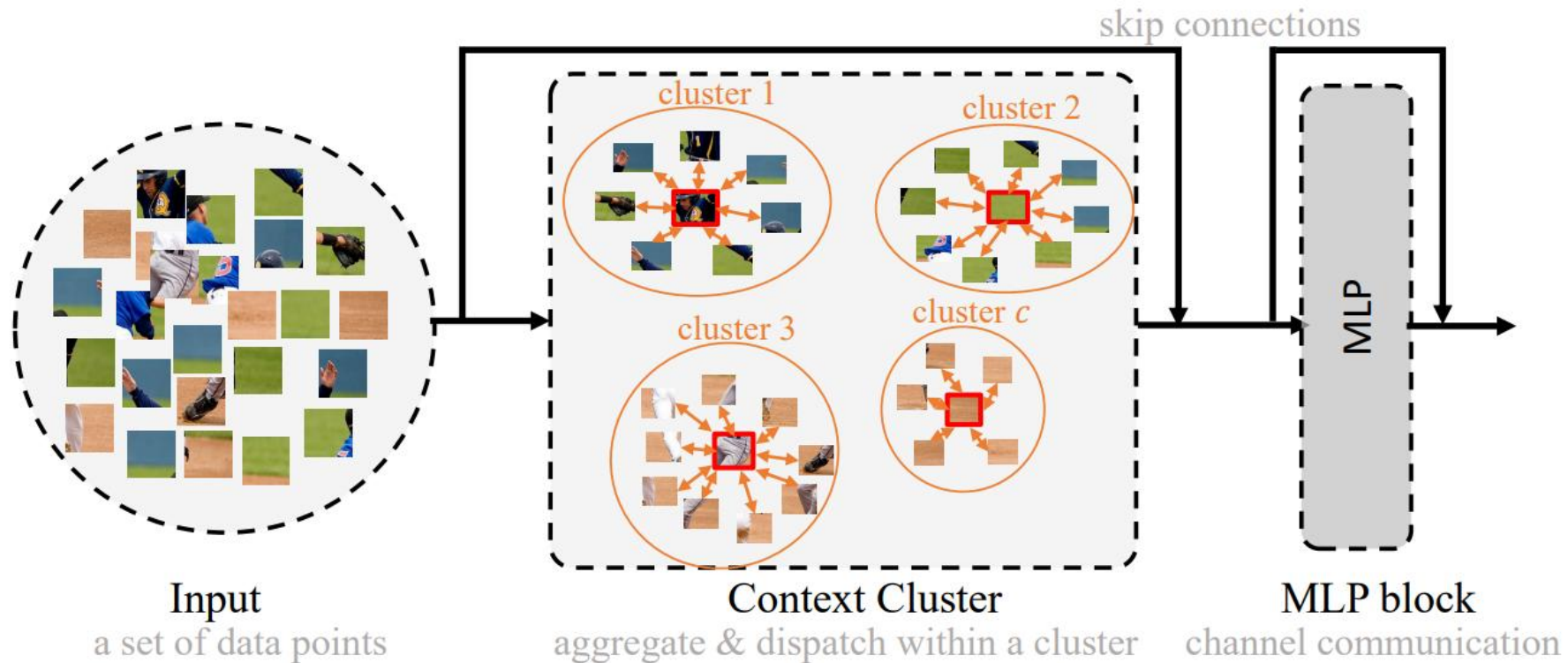


Figure 1: A context cluster in our network trained for image classification. We view *an image as a set of points* and sample c centers for points clustering. Point features are aggregated and then dispatched within a cluster. For cluster center C_i , we first aggregated all points $\{x_i^0, x_i^1, \dots, x_i^n\}$ in i th cluster, then the aggregated result is distributed to all points in the clusters dynamically. See § 3 for details.

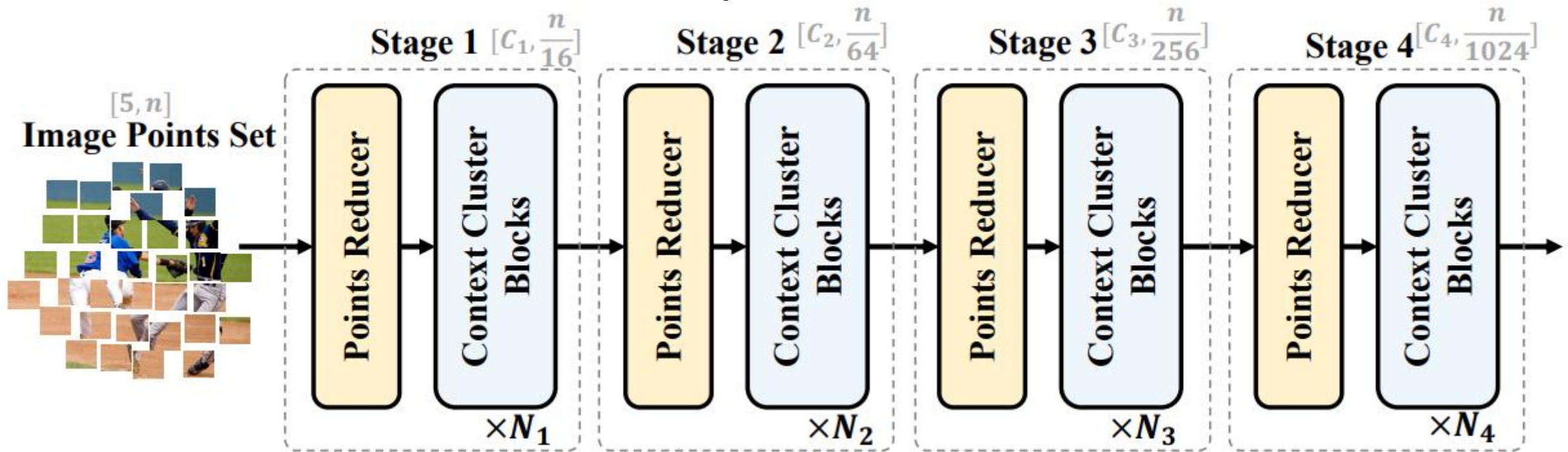
COCs

- Group a set of unorganized data points
- Communicate the points within clusters.
- Applied MLP block



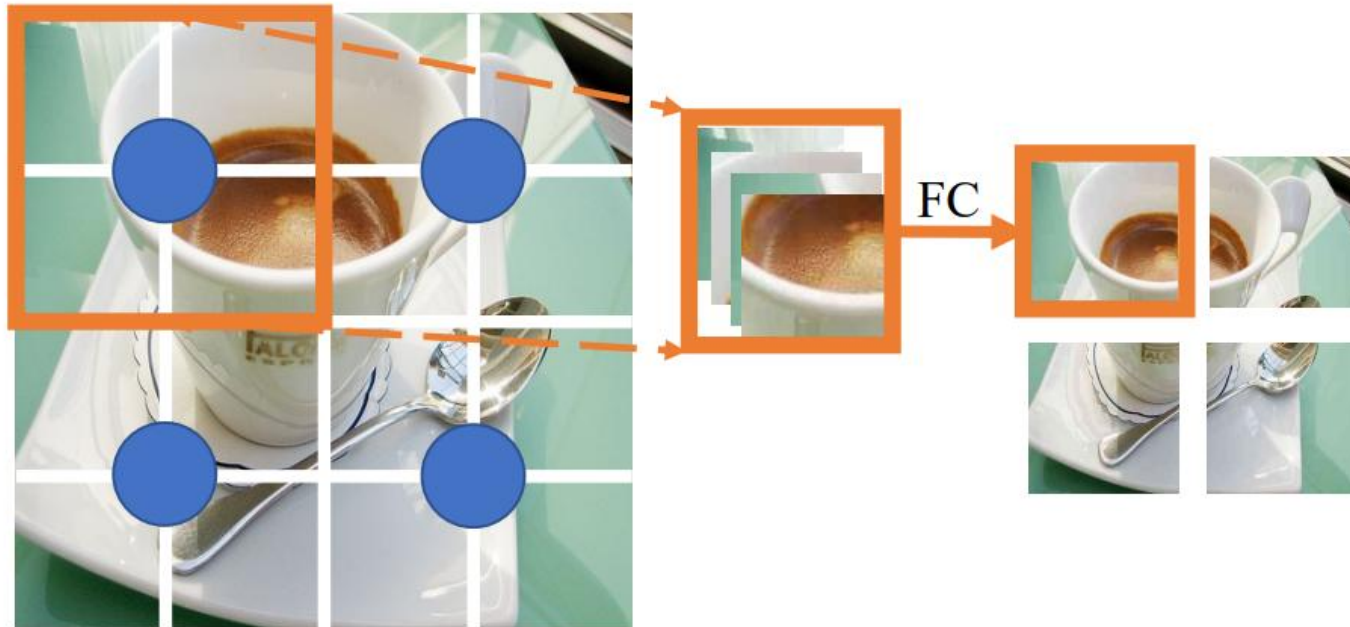
COCs

- Context Cluster architecture with four stages, extract deep feature
- Points reducer as down-sampler

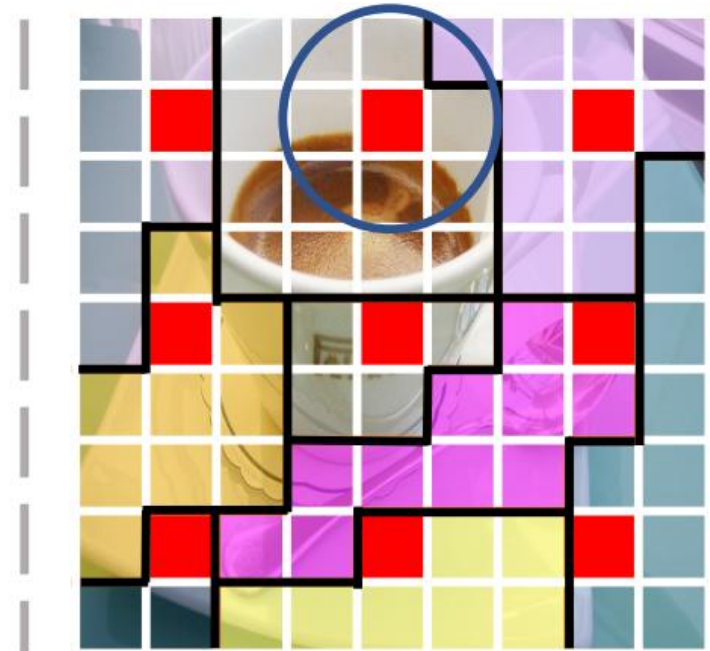


CoCs

- Anchors in points reducer block and centers for context cluster block
- The center feature value is achieved by averaging its k neighbors as **blue circle**.



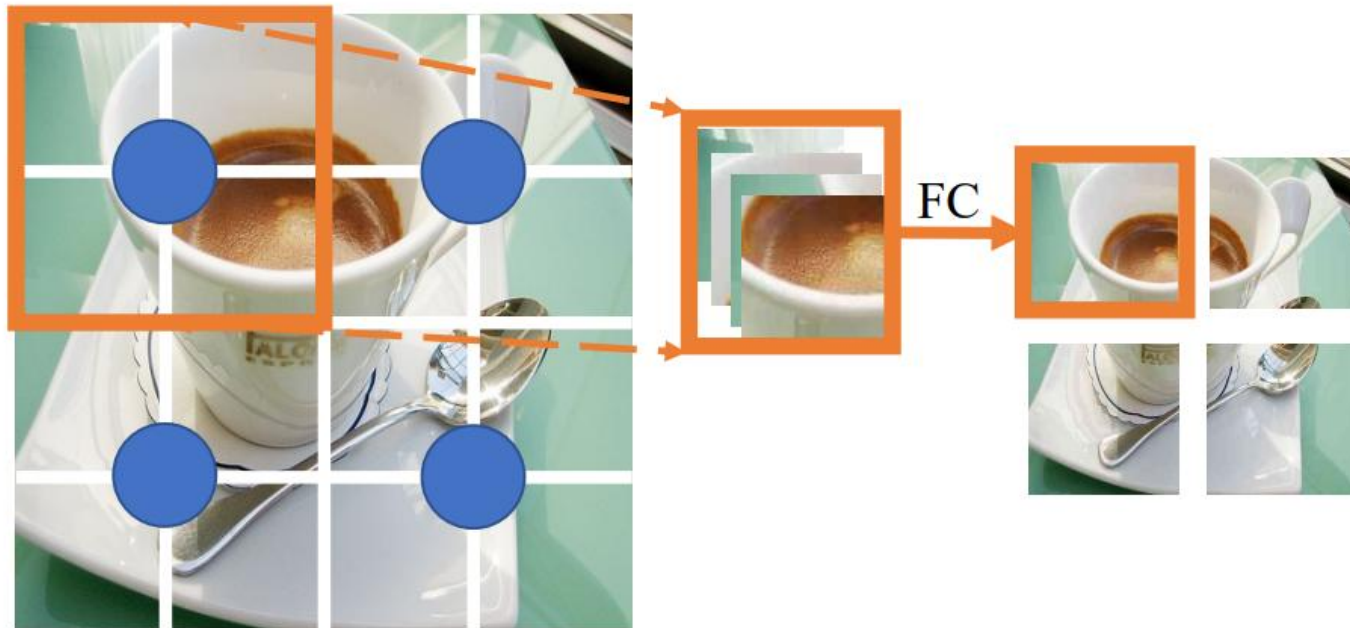
(a) Illustration of anchors for points reduction.



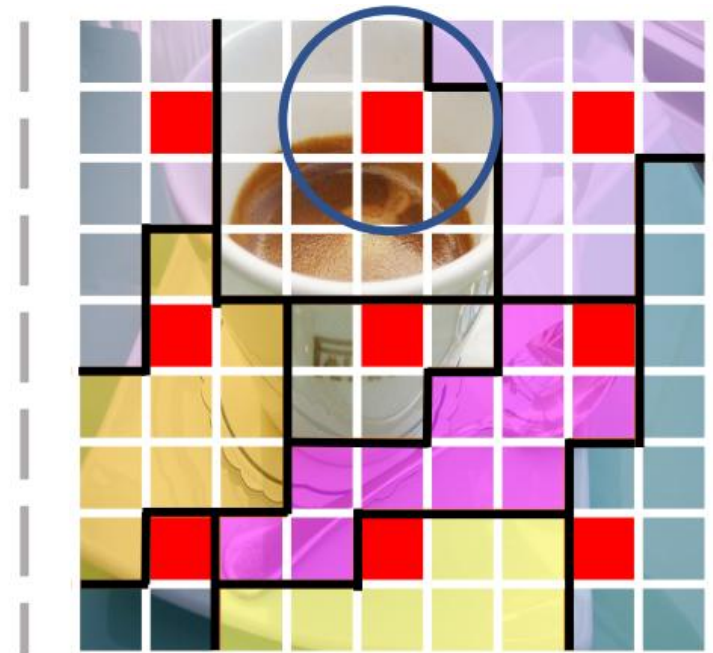
(b) Demo of centers in CoC.

CoCs

- Fixed center for cluster, but feature updated, aggregate in cluster and assign back.
- Calculation complexity consideration.



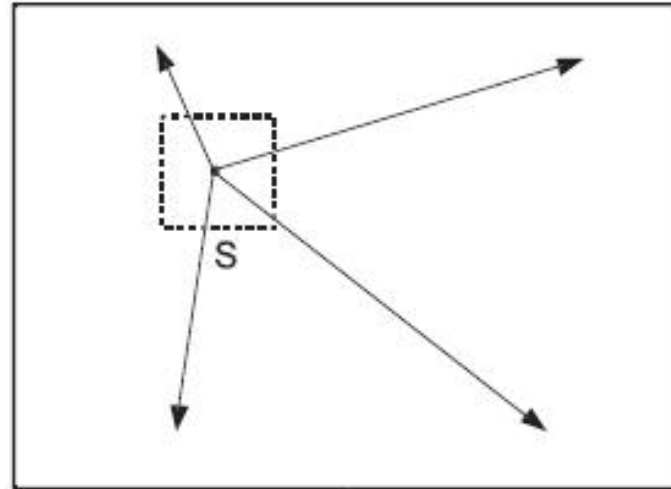
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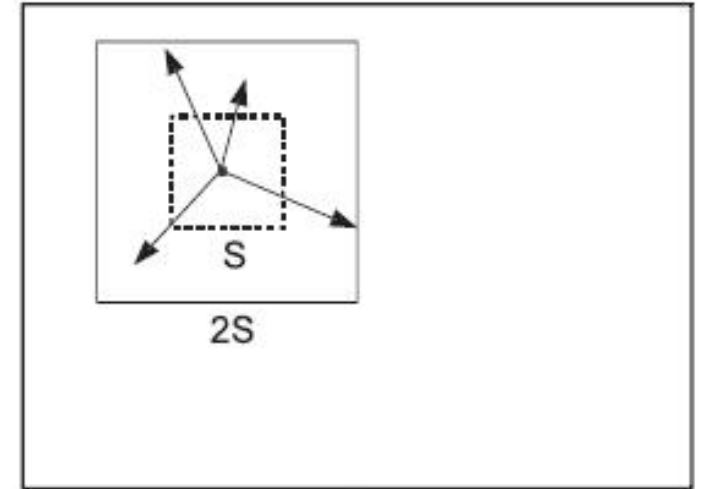
(b) Demo of centers in CoC.

SLIC

- K-means clustering method with local searching region
- Linear complexity



(a) standard k -means searches the entire image



(b) SLIC searches a limited region

Experiment

- Imagenet-1k classification,
- Comparable, even better some case

| | Method | Param. | GFLOPs | Top-1 | Throughputs (images/s) |
|-------------|---|--------|--------|-------|------------------------|
| MLP | ♣ ResMLP-12 (Touvron et al., 2021a) | 15.0 | 3.0 | 76.6 | 511.4 |
| | ♣ ResMLP-24 (Touvron et al., 2021a) | 30.0 | 6.0 | 79.4 | 509.7 |
| | ♣ ResMLP-36 (Touvron et al., 2021a) | 45.0 | 8.9 | 79.7 | 452.9 |
| | ♣ MLP-Mixer-B/16 (Tolstikhin et al., 2021) | 59.0 | 12.7 | 76.4 | 400.8 |
| | ♣ MLP-Mixer-L/16 (Tolstikhin et al., 2021) | 207.0 | 44.8 | 71.8 | 125.2 |
| | ♣ gMLP-Ti (Liu et al., 2021a) | 6.0 | 1.4 | 72.3 | 511.6 |
| | ♣ gMLP-S (Liu et al., 2021a) | 20.0 | 4.5 | 79.6 | 509.4 |
| Attention | ♦ ViT-B/16 (Dosovitskiy et al., 2020) | 86.0 | 55.5 | 77.9 | 292.0 |
| | ♦ ViT-L/16 (Dosovitskiy et al., 2020) | 307 | 190.7 | 76.5 | 92.8 |
| | ♦ PVT-Tiny (Wang et al., 2021) | 13.2 | 1.9 | 75.1 | - |
| | ♦ PVT-Small (Wang et al., 2021) | 24.5 | 3.8 | 79.8 | - |
| | ♦ T2T-ViT-7 (Yuan et al., 2021a) | 4.3 | 1.1 | 71.7 | - |
| | ♦ DeiT-Tiny/16 (Touvron et al., 2021b) | 5.7 | 1.3 | 72.2 | 523.8 |
| | ♦ DeiT-Small/16 (Touvron et al., 2021b) | 22.1 | 4.6 | 79.8 | 521.3 |
| Convolution | ♣ ResNet18 (He et al., 2016) | 12 | 1.8 | 69.8 | 584.9 |
| | ♣ ResNet50 (He et al., 2016) | 26 | 4.1 | 79.8 | 524.8 |
| | ♣ ConvMixer-512/16 (Trockman et al., 2022) | 5.4 | - | 73.8 | - |
| | ♣ ConvMixer-1024/12 (Trockman et al., 2022) | 14.6 | - | 77.8 | - |
| | ♣ ConvMixer-768/32 (Trockman et al., 2022) | 21.1 | - | 80.16 | 142.9 |
| Cluster | ♥ Context-Cluster-Ti _(ours) | 5.3 | 1.0 | 71.8 | 518.4 |
| | ♥ Context-Cluster-Ti _{‡(ours)} | 5.3 | 1.0 | 71.7 | 510.8 |
| | ♥ Context-Cluster-Small _(ours) | 14.0 | 2.6 | 77.5 | 513.0 |
| | ♥ Context-Cluster-Medium _(ours) | 27.9 | 5.5 | 81.0 | 325.2 |

Experiment

- Imagenet-1k classification

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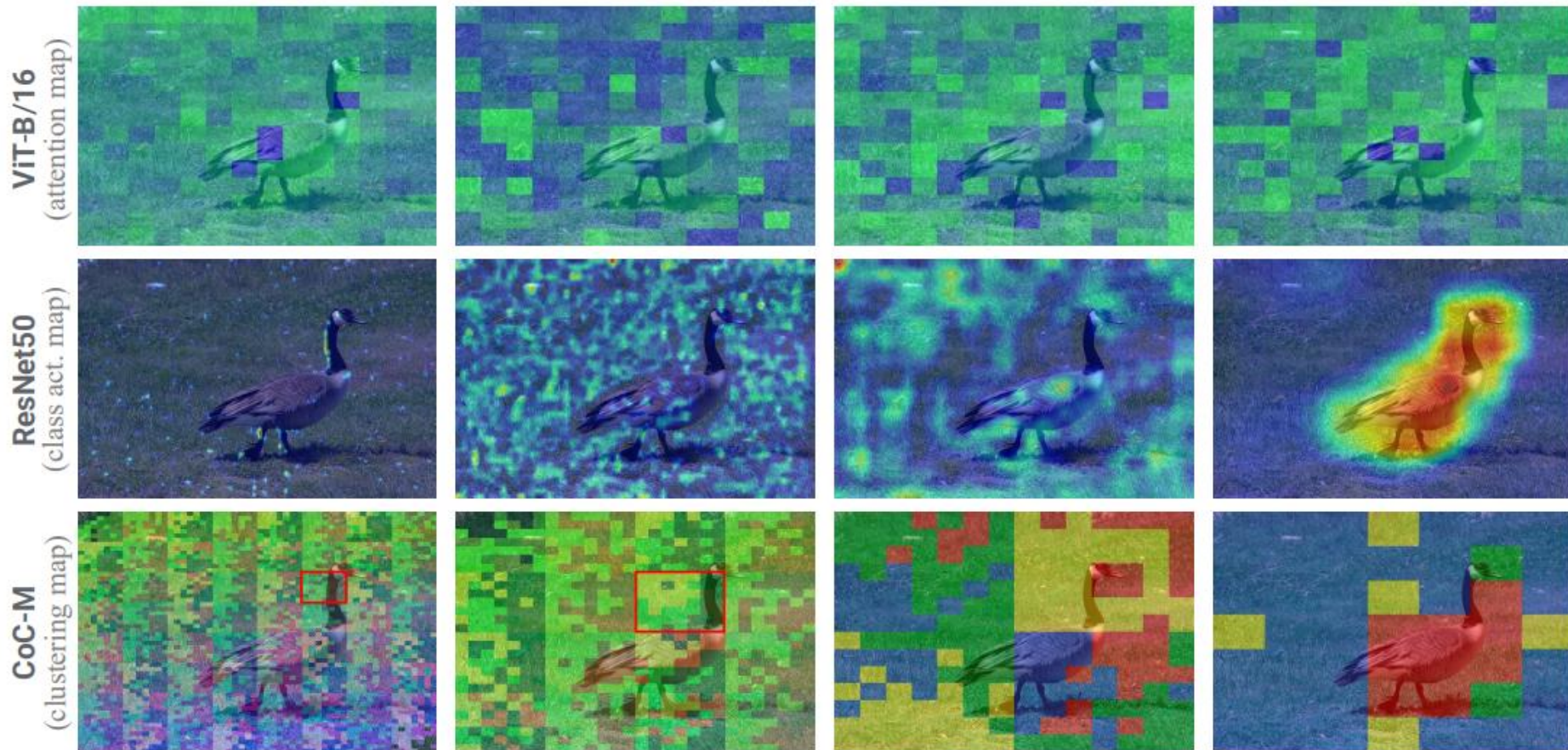
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下一页有模糊的鸟!

Experiment

- Visualization of activation map, class activation map, and clustering map for ViT-B/16, ResNet50, and our CoC-M



Experiment

- 3D Point Cloud Classification on ScanObjectNN
- PointMLP as baseline

| Method | mAcc(%) | OA(%) |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ♣ SpiderCNN (Xu et al., 2018) | 69.8 | 73.7 |
| ♣ DGCNN (Wang et al., 2019) | 73.6 | 78.1 |
| ♣ PointCNN (Li et al., 2018) | 75.1 | 78.5 |
| ♣ GBNet (Qiu et al., 2021) | 77.8 | 80.5 |
| ♦ PointBert (Yu et al., 2022d) | - | 83.1 |
| ♦ Point-MAE (Pang et al., 2022) | - | 85.2 |
| ♦ Point-TnT (Berg et al., 2022) | 81.0 | 83.5 |
| ♣ PointNet (Qi et al., 2017a) | 63.4 | 68.2 |
| ♣ PointNet++ (Qi et al., 2017b) | 75.4 | 77.9 |
| ♣ BGA-PN++ (Uy et al., 2019) | 77.5 | 80.2 |
| ♣ PointMLP (Ma et al., 2022) | 83.9 | 85.4 |
| ♣ PointMLP-elite (Ma et al., 2022) | 81.8 | 83.8 |
| ♥ PointMLP-CoC (ours) | 84.4 _{↑0.5} | 86.2 _{↑0.8} |

Experiment

- Detection and segmentation

Table 5: Semantic segmentation performance of different backbones with Semantic FPN on the ADE20K validation set.

| Backbone | Params | mIoU(%) |
|----------------|--------|-------------|
| 🟡 ResNet18 | 15.5M | 32.9 |
| 🔹 PVT-Tiny | 17.0M | 35.7 |
| 💜 CoC-Small/4 | 17.7M | 36.6 |
| 💜 CoC-Small/25 | 17.7M | 36.4 |
| 💜 CoC-Small/49 | 17.7M | 36.3 |

Table 4: COCO object detection and instance segmentation results using Mask-RCNN (1×).

| Family | Backbone | Params | AP ^{box} | AP ₅₀ ^{box} | AP ₇₅ ^{box} | AP ^{mask} | AP ₅₀ ^{mask} | AP ₇₅ ^{mask} |
|-----------|----------------|--------|-------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Conv. | 🟡 ResNet-18 | 31.2M | 34.0 | 54.0 | 36.7 | 31.2 | 51.0 | 32.7 |
| Attention | 🔹 PVT-Tiny | 32.9M | 36.7 | 59.2 | 39.3 | 35.1 | 56.7 | 37.3 |
| Cluster | 💜 CoC-Small/4 | 33.6M | 35.9 | 58.3 | 38.3 | 33.8 | 55.3 | 35.8 |
| | 💜 CoC-Small/25 | 33.6M | 37.5 | 60.1 | 40.0 | 35.4 | 57.1 | 37.9 |
| | 💜 CoC-Small/49 | 33.6M | 37.2 | 59.8 | 39.7 | 34.9 | 56.7 | 37.0 |

Experiment

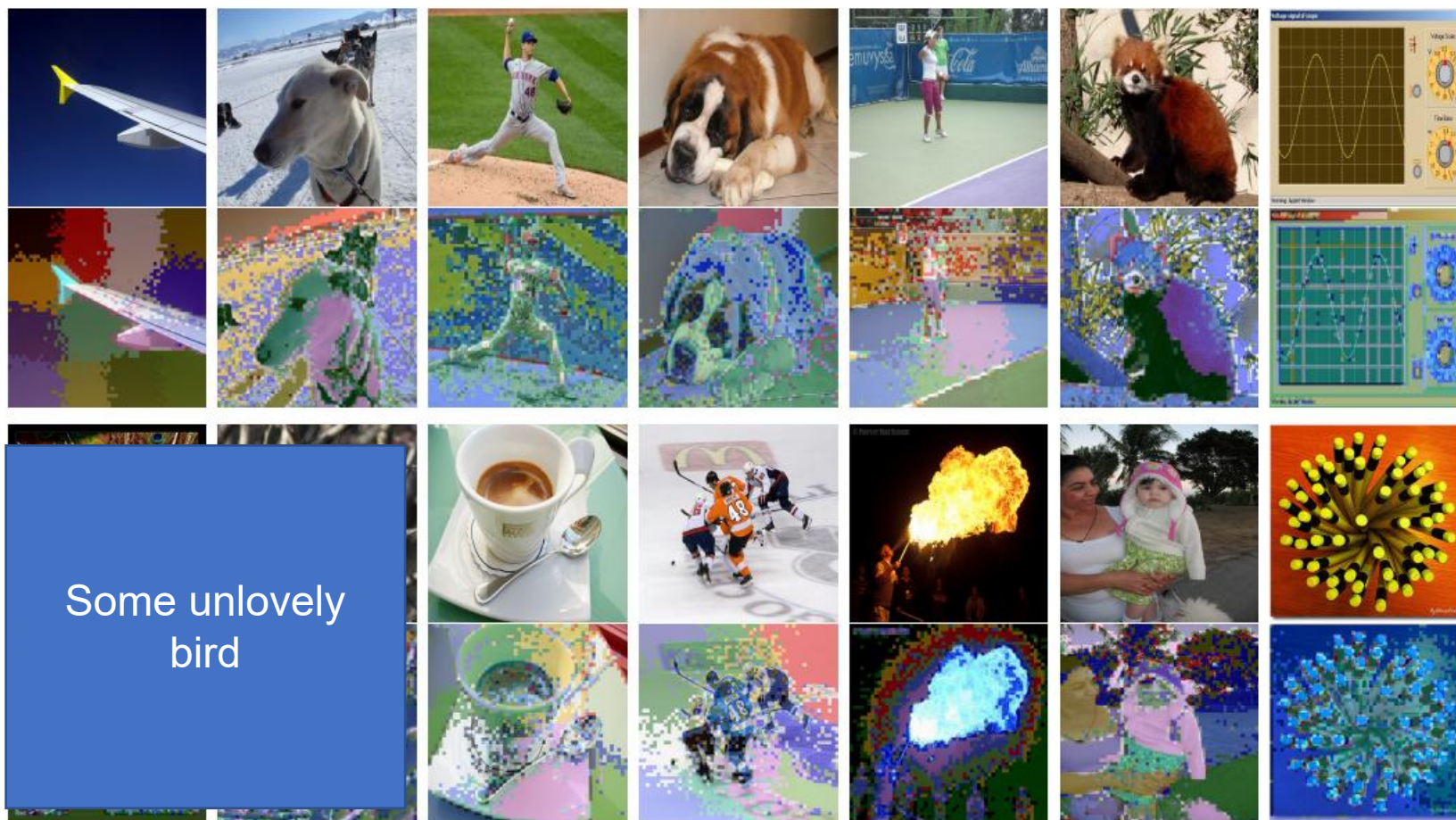


Figure 8: The clustering results of the last context cluster block in the first CoC-Tiny stage (without region partition). Without region partition, Our Context Cluster astonishingly displays "superpixel"-like clustering results, even in the early stage. we pick the most intriguing one out of the four heads.

Experiment

- Multi heads

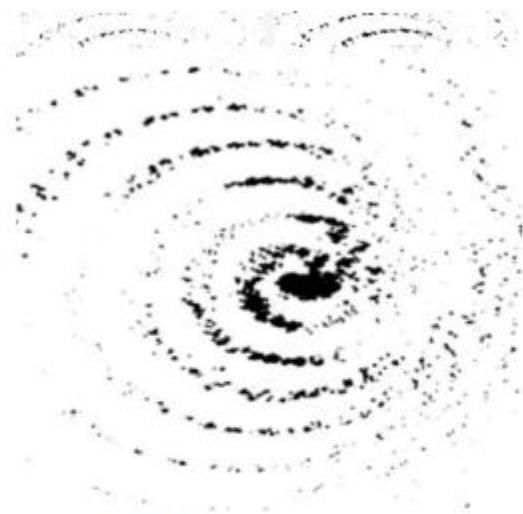


Input

Clustering results in 4 heads (16 clusters)

Figure 9: A sample of all groups' clustering results.

Application



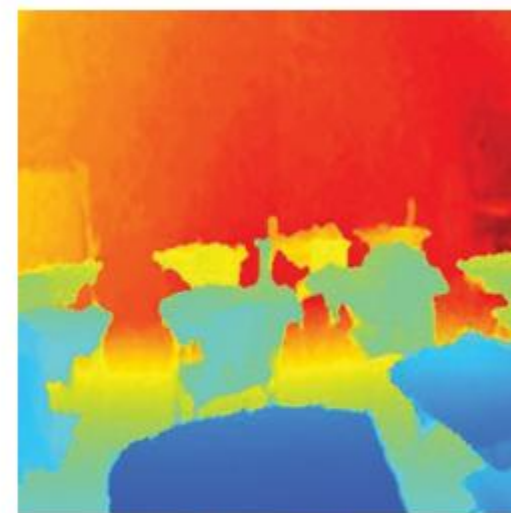
(a) Discrete pixels



(b) Masked image



(c) Irregular image



(d) RGB-D image

Figure 10: Four examples of image formats. Remember that there are no pixels in the white area.

Conclusion

- Propose a backbone with context cluster and metaformer structure
- Show promising performance
- Better interpretability for feature extraction and may support irregular input format

Thanks for your listening!