An Image is Worth 16x16 Words: Transformers for Image Recognition at Scale

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Motivation

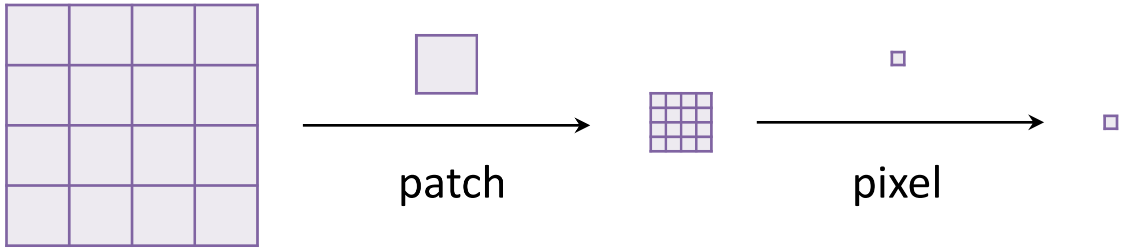
- Transformer architecture has achieved great success in multiple NLP tasks.
- A larger CNN can lead to overfitting, but such phenomenon hasn't been observed in transformer.
- Model consisted of pure transformer has not merged in CV (CNN+Transformer).

✓ Apply transformer ***directly*** in CV $\longrightarrow$ ViT

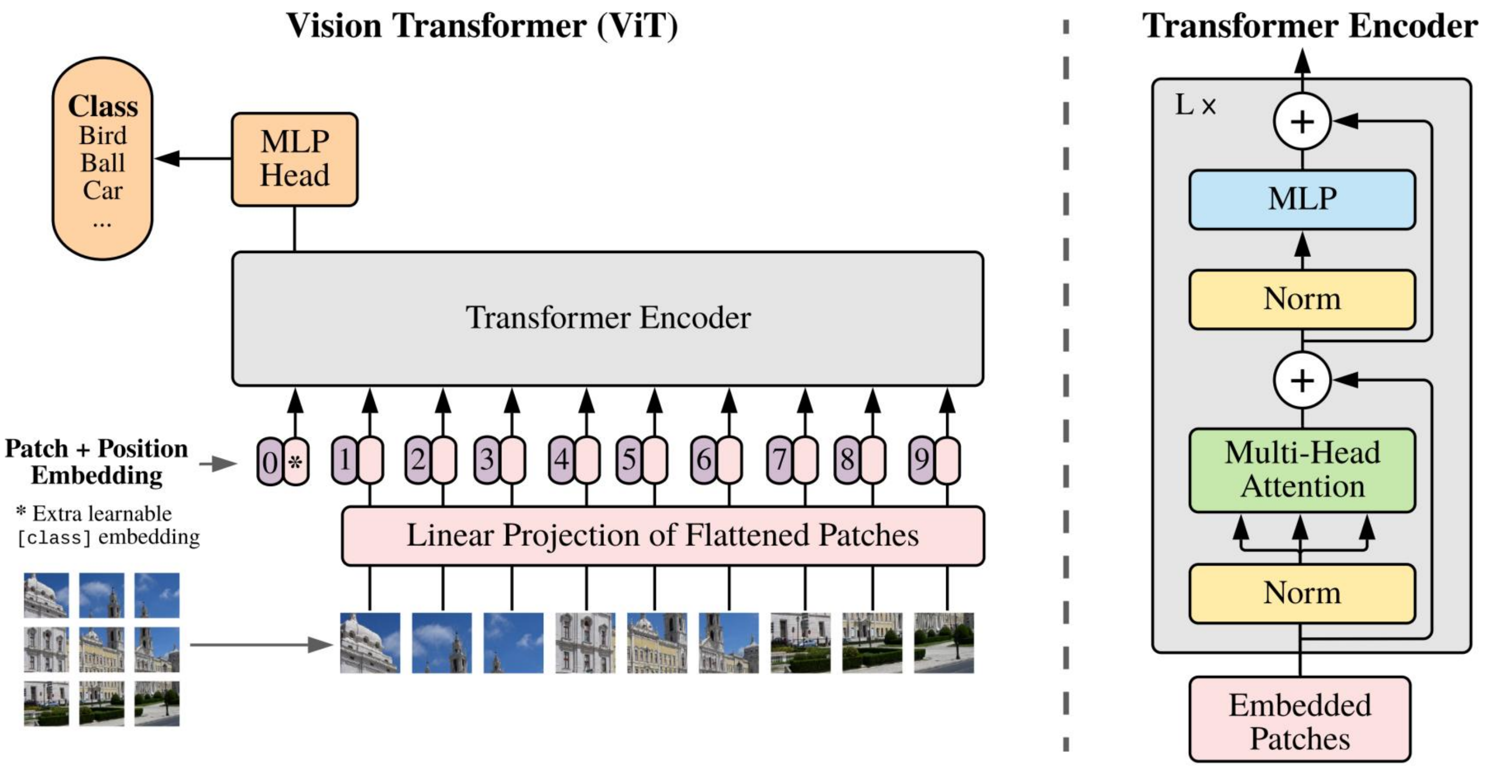
Challenge and Solution

- Transform 2D picture into 1D vector
  - Direct expand (224x224 -> 50176)
  - Expand feature map (14x14 -> 196)
  - Local window
  - Two self-attention step

- This paper: patch!



Model



$$\mathbf{z}_0 = [\mathbf{x}_{\text{class}};\, \mathbf{x}_p^1\mathbf{E};\, \mathbf{x}_p^2\mathbf{E};\cdots;\, \mathbf{x}_p^N\mathbf{E}] + \mathbf{E}_{pos}, \qquad \mathbf{E} \in \mathbb{R}^{(P^2\cdot C)\times D},\, \mathbf{E}_{pos} \in \mathbb{R}^{(N+1)\times D} \tag{1}$$

$$\mathbf{z'}_\ell = \mathrm{MSA}(\mathrm{LN}(\mathbf{z}_{\ell-1})) + \mathbf{z}_{\ell-1}, \qquad \ell = 1\ldots L \tag{2}$$

$$\mathbf{z}_\ell = \mathrm{MLP}(\mathrm{LN}(\mathbf{z'}_\ell)) + \mathbf{z'}_\ell, \qquad \ell = 1\ldots L \tag{3}$$

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathrm{LN}(\mathbf{z}_L^0) \tag{4}$$

Finetuning

a. Remove the pre-trained prediction head.
b. Attach a feedforward layer.
c. When feeding higher resolution images, we keep patch size the same.
d. 2D interpolation of the pre-trained position embeddings (resolution adjustment is the only inductive bias manually injected into ViT).

Experiments

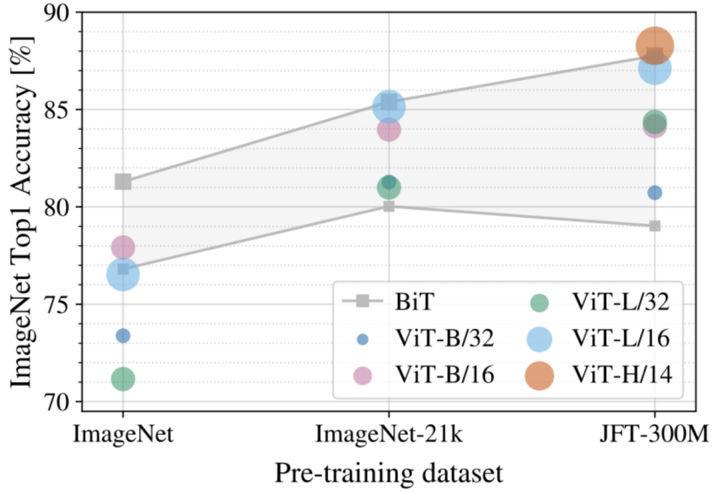
- Comparison to SOTA

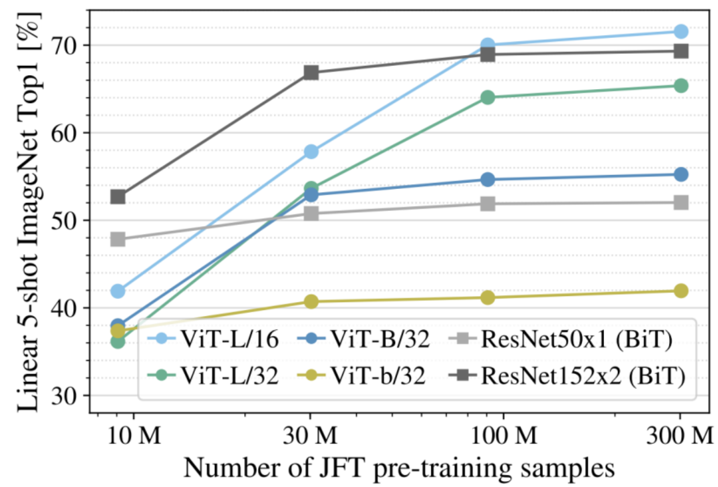
Model	Layers	Hidden size D	MLP size	Heads	Params
ViT-Base	12	768	3072	12	86M
ViT-Large	24	1024	4096	16	307M
ViT-Huge	32	1280	5120	16	632M

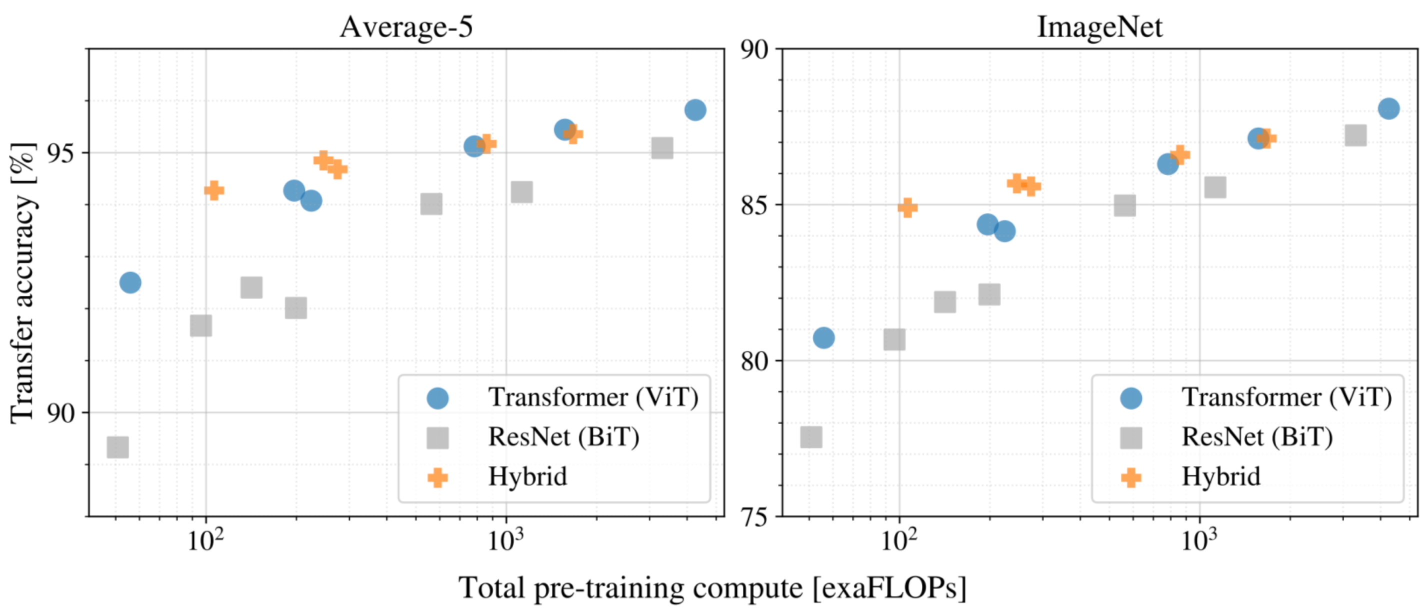
Table 1: Details of Vision Transformer model variants.

	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** $\pm$ 0.04	87.76 $\pm$ 0.03	85.30 $\pm$ 0.02	87.54 $\pm$ 0.02	88.4/88.5*
ImageNet ReaL	**90.72** $\pm$ 0.05	90.54 $\pm$ 0.03	88.62 $\pm$ 0.05	90.54	90.55
CIFAR-10	**99.50** $\pm$ 0.06	99.42 $\pm$ 0.03	99.15 $\pm$ 0.03	99.37 $\pm$ 0.06	–
CIFAR-100	**94.55** $\pm$ 0.04	93.90 $\pm$ 0.05	93.25 $\pm$ 0.05	93.51 $\pm$ 0.08	–
Oxford-IIIT Pets	**97.56** $\pm$ 0.03	97.32 $\pm$ 0.11	94.67 $\pm$ 0.15	96.62 $\pm$ 0.23	–
Oxford Flowers-102	99.68 $\pm$ 0.02	**99.74** $\pm$ 0.00	99.61 $\pm$ 0.02	99.63 $\pm$ 0.03	–
VTAB (19 tasks)	**77.63** $\pm$ 0.23	76.28 $\pm$ 0.46	72.72 $\pm$ 0.21	76.29 $\pm$ 1.70	–
TPUv3-core-days	2.5k	0.68k	0.23k	9.9k	12.3k

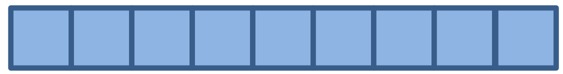
- Pre-training setups



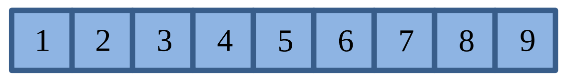




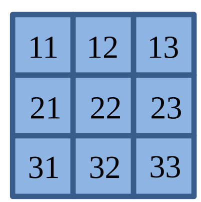
- Positional embedding
  - Providing no positional information: Considering the inputs as *a bag of patches*.



  - 1-dimensional positional embedding: Considering the inputs as *a sequence of patches in the raster order.*



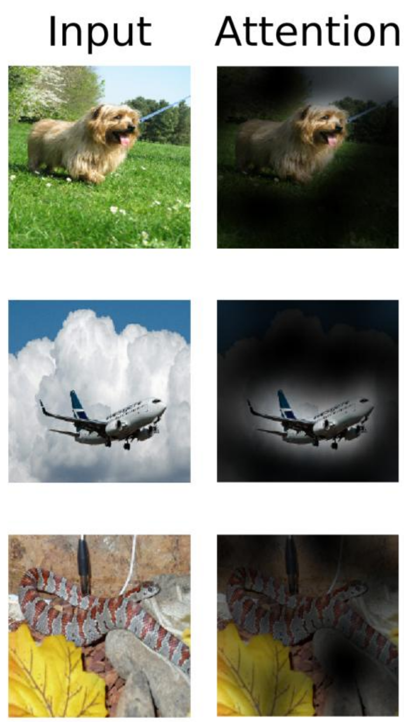
  - 2-dimensional positional embedding: Considering the inputs as *a grid of patches in two dimensions*.

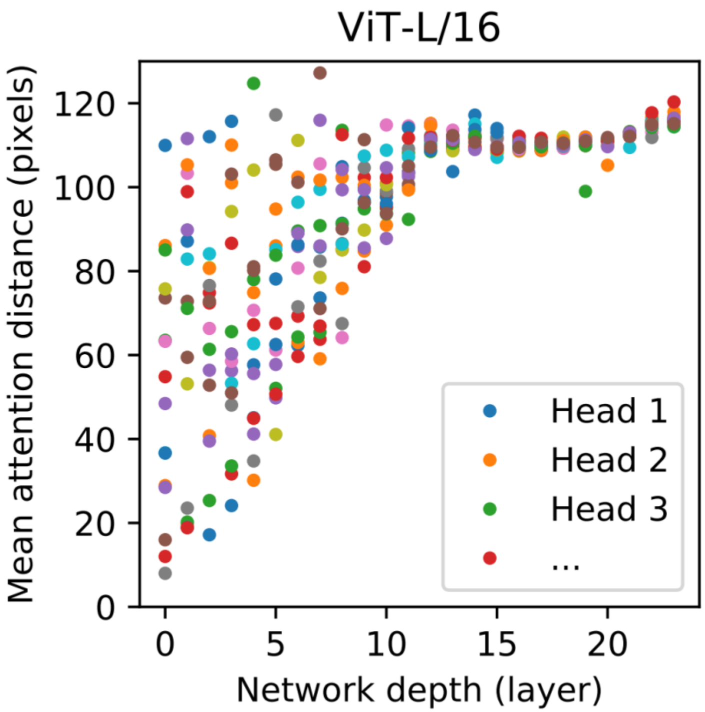


  - Relative positional embeddings: Considering the *relative distance* between patches to encode the spatial information as instead of their absolute position.

Pos. Emb.	Default/Stem	Every Layer	Every Layer-Shared
No Pos. Emb.	0.61382	N/A	N/A
1-D Pos. Emb.	0.64206	0.63964	0.64292
2-D Pos. Emb.	0.64001	0.64046	0.64022
Rel. Pos. Emb.	0.64032	N/A	N/A

- Attention





$$\text{Mean attention distance} = d_{AB} \times W_{AB}$$

Swin Transformer: Hierarchical Vision Transformer using Shifted Windows

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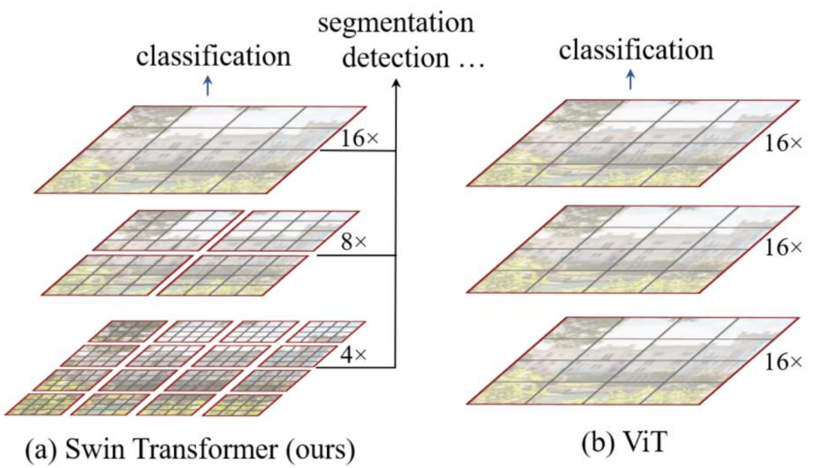
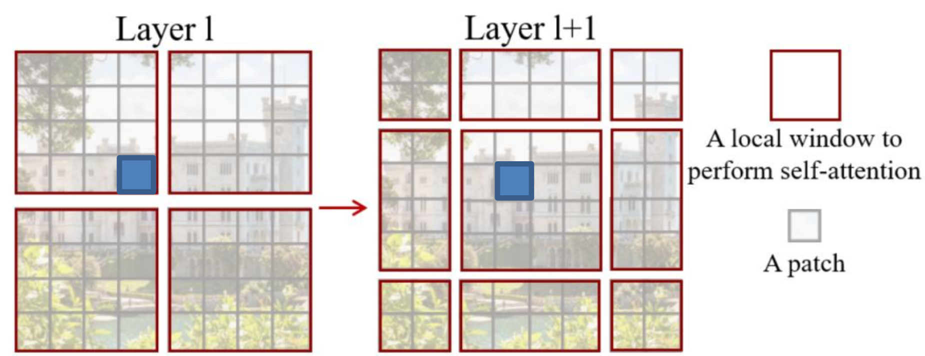
Motivations

- ViT is only designed for image classification.
- A transformer based network for various CV tasks, like image classification, object detection, semantic segmentation, etc.

Challenges and Solutions

- Large variations in the scale of visual entities.
- High resolution of pixels in images.





1. Self-attention within local window
2. Patch merging
3. Linear computation complexity to image size

1. Shifted window (in NLP?)
2. *Global* modeling

Model

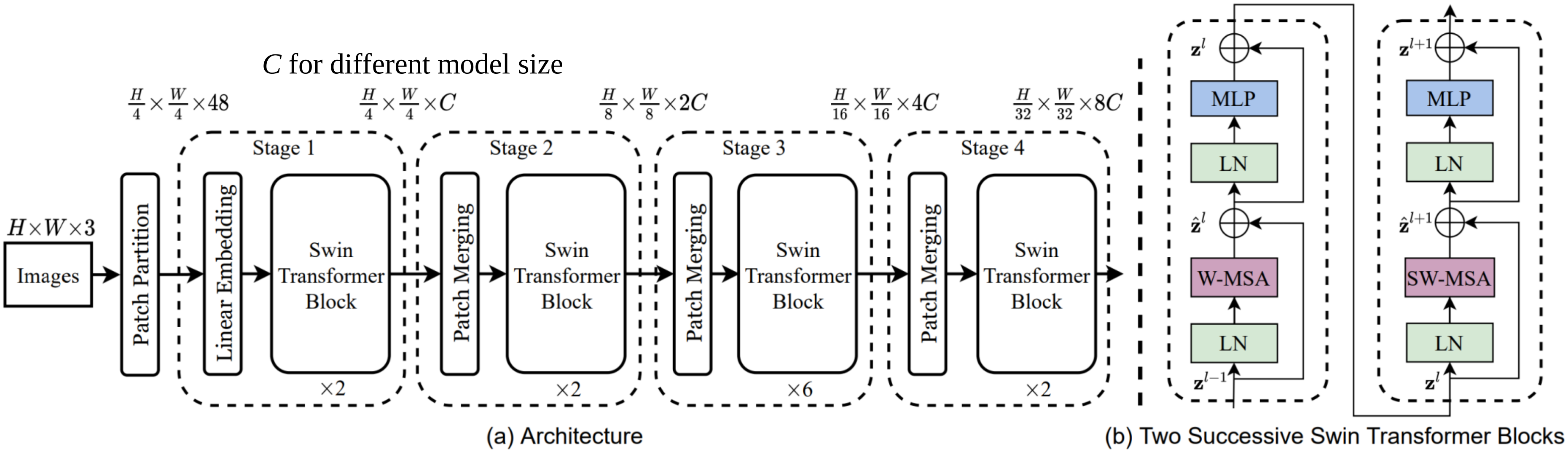
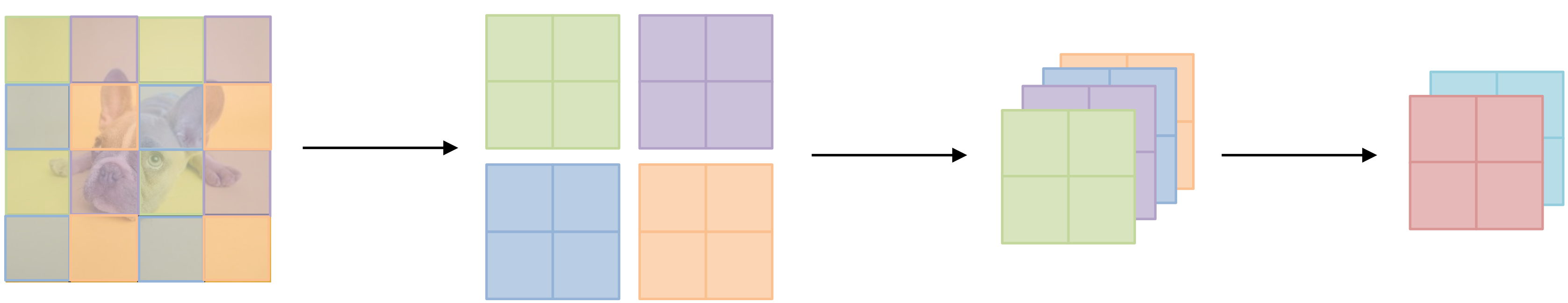
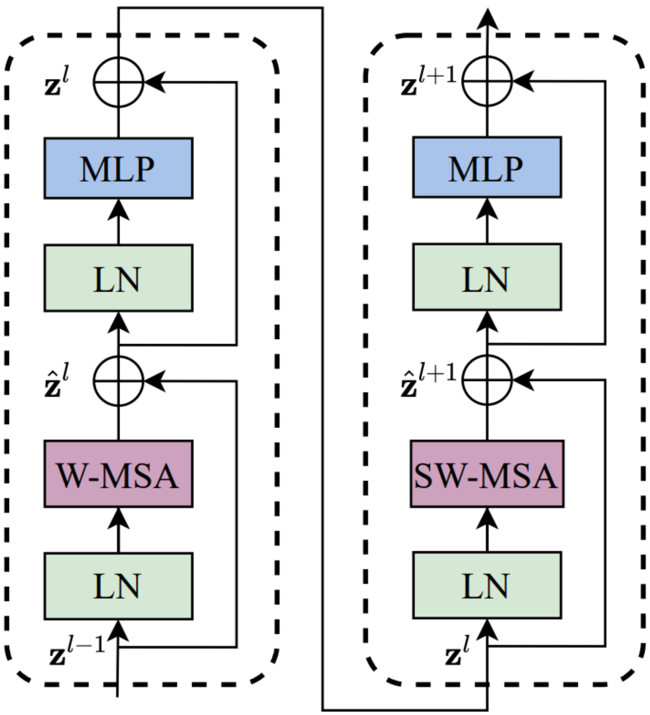


Figure 3. (a) The architecture of a Swin Transformer (Swin-T); (b) two successive Swin Transformer Blocks (notation presented with Eq. (3)). W-MSA and SW-MSA are multi-head self attention modules with regular and shifted windowing configurations, respectively.

Patch Merging

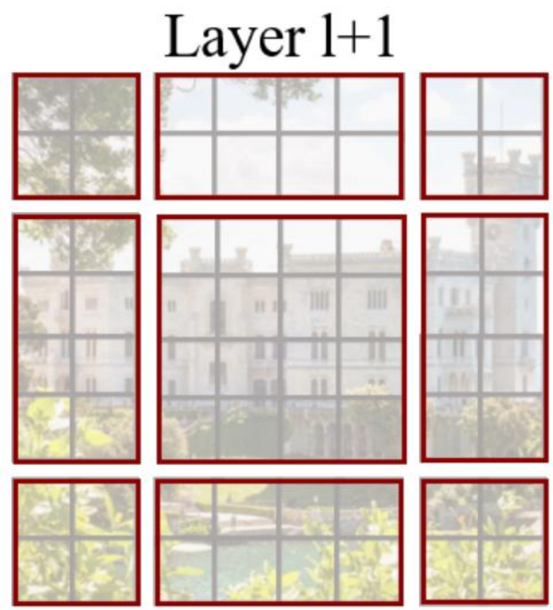


Shifted window

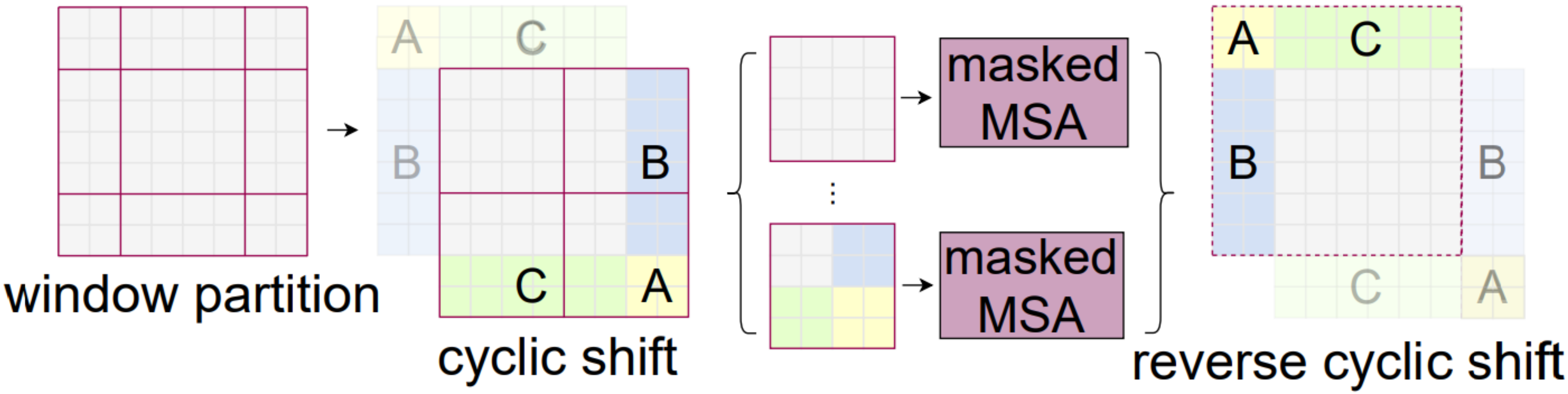


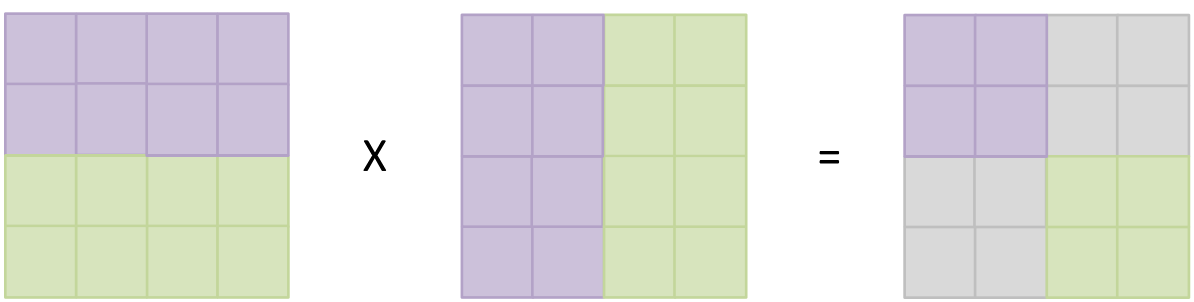
$$\hat{\mathbf{z}}^{l} = \text{W-MSA}\left(\text{LN}\left(\mathbf{z}^{l-1}\right)\right) + \mathbf{z}^{l-1},$$
$$\mathbf{z}^{l} = \text{MLP}\left(\text{LN}\left(\hat{\mathbf{z}}^{l}\right)\right) + \hat{\mathbf{z}}^{l},$$
$$\hat{\mathbf{z}}^{l+1} = \text{SW-MSA}\left(\text{LN}\left(\mathbf{z}^{l}\right)\right) + \mathbf{z}^{l},$$
$$\mathbf{z}^{l+1} = \text{MLP}\left(\text{LN}\left(\hat{\mathbf{z}}^{l+1}\right)\right) + \hat{\mathbf{z}}^{l+1},$$

Problem: Window sizes are different



Partition and masking





Partition and masking

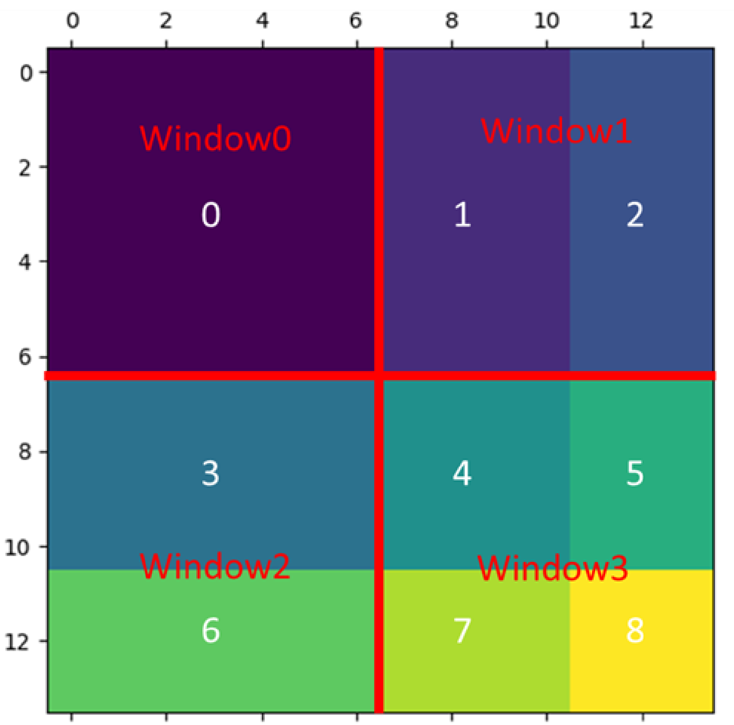
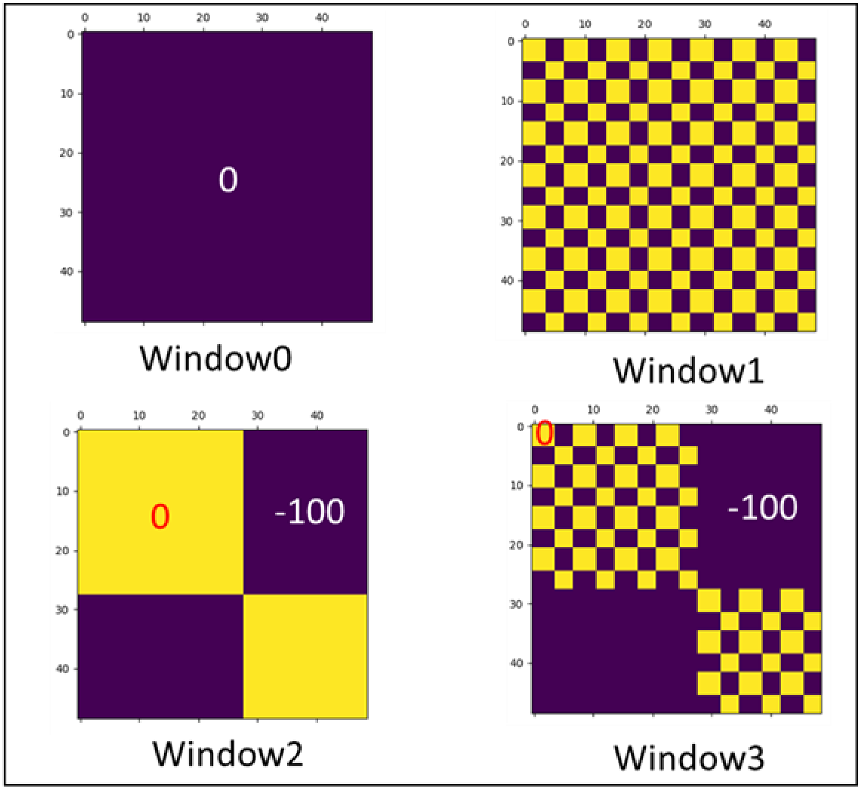


Image Mask
(14x14, window 7x7, shift 3)



Attn Mask

Experiments

Image classification

(a) Regular ImageNet-1K trained models

method	image size	#param.	FLOPs	throughput (image / s)	ImageNet top-1 acc.
RegNetY-4G [48]	224^2	21M	4.0G	1156.7	80.0
RegNetY-8G [48]	224^2	39M	8.0G	591.6	81.7
RegNetY-16G [48]	224^2	84M	16.0G	334.7	82.9
EffNet-B3 [58]	300^2	12M	1.8G	732.1	81.6
EffNet-B4 [58]	380^2	19M	4.2G	349.4	82.9
EffNet-B5 [58]	456^2	30M	9.9G	169.1	83.6
EffNet-B6 [58]	528^2	43M	19.0G	96.9	84.0
EffNet-B7 [58]	600^2	66M	37.0G	55.1	84.3
ViT-B/16 [20]	384^2	86M	55.4G	85.9	77.9
ViT-L/16 [20]	384^2	307M	190.7G	27.3	76.5
DeiT-S [63]	224^2	22M	4.6G	940.4	79.8
DeiT-B [63]	224^2	86M	17.5G	292.3	81.8
DeiT-B [63]	384^2	86M	55.4G	85.9	83.1
Swin-T	224^2	29M	4.5G	755.2	81.3
Swin-S	224^2	50M	8.7G	436.9	83.0
Swin-B	224^2	88M	15.4G	278.1	83.5
Swin-B	384^2	88M	47.0G	84.7	84.5

(b) ImageNet-22K pre-trained models

method	image size	#param.	FLOPs	throughput (image / s)	ImageNet top-1 acc.
R-101x3 [38]	384^2	388M	204.6G	-	84.4
R-152x4 [38]	480^2	937M	840.5G	-	85.4
ViT-B/16 [20]	384^2	86M	55.4G	85.9	84.0
ViT-L/16 [20]	384^2	307M	190.7G	27.3	85.2
Swin-B	224^2	88M	15.4G	278.1	85.2
Swin-B	384^2	88M	47.0G	84.7	86.4
Swin-L	384^2	197M	103.9G	42.1	87.3

Table 1. Comparison of different backbones on ImageNet-1K classification. Throughput is measured using the GitHub repository of [68] and a V100 GPU, following [63].

Object detection

(a) Various frameworks

Method	Backbone	AP^{box}	AP^{box}_{50}	AP^{box}_{75}	#param.	FLOPs	FPS
Cascade Mask R-CNN	R-50	46.3	64.3	50.5	82M	739G	18.0
	Swin-T	**50.5**	**69.3**	**54.9**	86M	745G	15.3
ATSS	R-50	43.5	61.9	47.0	32M	205G	28.3
	Swin-T	**47.2**	**66.5**	**51.3**	36M	215G	22.3
RepPointsV2	R-50	46.5	64.6	50.3	42M	274G	13.6
	Swin-T	**50.0**	**68.5**	**54.2**	45M	283G	12.0
Sparse R-CNN	R-50	44.5	63.4	48.2	106M	166G	21.0
	Swin-T	**47.9**	**67.3**	**52.3**	110M	172G	18.4

(b) Various backbones w. Cascade Mask R-CNN

	AP^{box}	AP^{box}_{50}	AP^{box}_{75}	AP^{mask}	AP^{mask}_{50}	AP^{mask}_{75}	param	FLOPs	FPS
DeiT-S†	48.0	67.2	51.7	41.4	64.2	44.3	80M	889G	10.4
R50	46.3	64.3	50.5	40.1	61.7	43.4	82M	739G	18.0
Swin-T	**50.5**	**69.3**	**54.9**	**43.7**	**66.6**	**47.1**	86M	745G	15.3
X101-32	48.1	66.5	52.4	41.6	63.9	45.2	101M	819G	12.8
Swin-S	**51.8**	**70.4**	**56.3**	**44.7**	**67.9**	**48.5**	107M	838G	12.0
X101-64	48.3	66.4	52.3	41.7	64.0	45.1	140M	972G	10.4
Swin-B	**51.9**	**70.9**	**56.5**	**45.0**	**68.4**	**48.7**	145M	982G	11.6

(c) System-level Comparison

Method	mini-val		test-dev		#param.	FLOPs
	AP^{box}	AP^{mask}	AP^{box}	AP^{mask}		
RepPointsV2* [12]	-	-	52.1	-	-	-
GCNet* [7]	51.8	44.7	52.3	45.4	-	1041G
RelationNet++* [13]	-	-	52.7	-	-	-
SpineNet-190 [21]	52.6	-	52.8	-	164M	1885G
ResNeSt-200* [78]	52.5	-	53.3	47.1	-	-
EfficientDet-D7 [59]	54.4	-	55.1	-	77M	410G
DetectoRS* [46]	-	-	55.7	48.5	-	-
YOLOv4 P7* [4]	-	-	55.8	-	-	-
Copy-paste [26]	55.9	47.2	56.0	47.4	185M	1440G
X101-64 (HTC++)	52.3	46.0	-	-	155M	1033G
Swin-B (HTC++)	56.4	49.1	-	-	160M	1043G
Swin-L (HTC++)	57.1	49.5	57.7	50.2	284M	1470G
Swin-L (HTC++)*	**58.0**	**50.4**	**58.7**	**51.1**	284M	-

Ablation studies

	ImageNet		COCO		ADE20k
	top-1	top-5	AP^{box}	AP^{mask}	mIoU
w/o shifting	80.2	95.1	47.7	41.5	43.3
shifted windows	**81.3**	**95.6**	**50.5**	**43.7**	**46.1**
no pos.	80.1	94.9	49.2	42.6	43.8
abs. pos.	80.5	95.2	49.0	42.4	43.2
abs.+rel. pos.	81.3	95.6	50.2	43.4	44.0
rel. pos. w/o app.	79.3	94.7	48.2	41.9	44.1
rel. pos.	**81.3**	**95.6**	**50.5**	**43.7**	**46.1**

Table 4. Ablation study on the *shifted windows* approach and different position embedding methods on three benchmarks, using the Swin-T architecture. w/o shifting: all self-attention modules adopt regular window partitioning, without *shifting*; abs. pos.: absolute position embedding term of ViT; rel. pos.: the default settings with an additional relative position bias term (see Eq. (4)); app.: the first scaled dot-product term in Eq. (4).