TSA-Net: Tube Self-Attention Network for Action Quality Assessment

1. Motivation

绝大多数现存的AQA方法只是将动作识别的方法迁移过来,但忽略了feature map之间隐含的内部差异,比如说前景和后景的关系。因此,不加调整地将动作识别的方法迁移到AQA是不合适的。

此外,现有的方法无法很好地将特征融合起来。卷积对感受野的限制让长距离的关系难以建模。因此,An effective and efficient feature aggregation mechanism is desired in AQA task。

因此,为了让模型关注到更多有用的动作信息,而忽略无关的信息入观众、广告,作者设计了Tube Self-Attention module(TSA)。其优势在于:①high efficiency: visual object tracking架构让tube mechanism只关注feature map的一部分,相比于non-local,减少了计算开销;②effectiveness: self-attention机制保存了有用的时空信息而避免了冗余;③flexibility:可以即插即用在多种视频网络上。

2、Approach

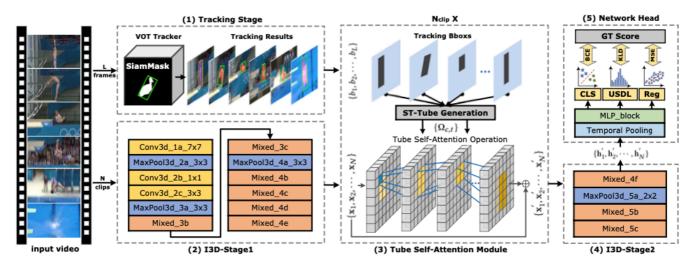


Figure 2: Overview of the proposed TSA-Net for action quality assessment. TSA-Net consists of five steps: (1) Tracking. VOT tracker is adopted to generate tracking results B. (2) Feature extraction-s1. The input video is divided into N clips and the feature extraction is performed by I3D-Stage1 to generate X. (3) Feature aggregation. ST-Tube is generated given B and X, and then the TSA mechanism is used to complete the feature aggregation, results in X'. (4) Feature extraction-s2. Aggregated feature X' is passed to I3D-Stage2 to generate X'. (5) Network head. The final scores are generated by X by

2.1 Overview

对于输入的L帧视频,首先使用SiamMask获取目标跟踪的结果 $B=\{b_l\}_{l=1}^L$ 。然后将视频分成N个M帧的clips,送入I3D stage1提取特征 $X=\{x_n\}_{n=1}^N,\;x_n=\{x_{n,t}\}_{t=1}^T$ 。

此后,将tracking boxes和feature map作为TSA模块的输入完成特征融合。将最终的融合特征送入I3D stage2中做进一步处理,最终输出的就是对运动员动作质量的表征,最后针对不同的数据集设计不同的网络头完成AQA任务。

2.2 Tube Self-Attention Module

TSA与Non-Local最大的区别在于TSA可以根据tracking boxes的信息对要做self-attention的feature做选取,而忽略无用信息。TSA模块包括两个步骤:

1 spatial-temporal tube generation

由于I3D stage1中包含pooling的操作,因此得到的feature map和b-box之间**时序维度上**的关系并不是一对一而是一对多,而且SiamMask提取到的b-box是倾斜的。因此要完成对应的操作会存在一些难题。作者提出了如下图所示的解决方案:

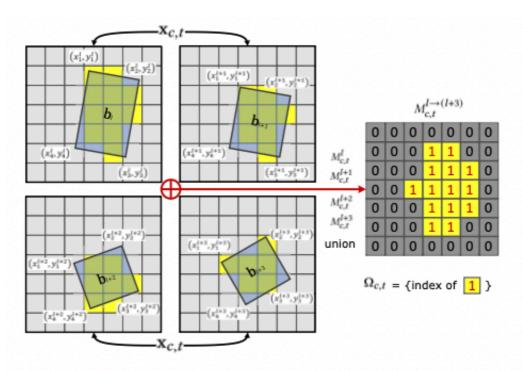


Figure 3: The generation process of spatio-temporal tube. All boxes $\{b_l, b_{l+1}, b_{l+2}, b_{l+3}\}$ are scaled to the same size as the feature map $\mathbf{x}_{c,t}$, and then the separate masks are generated. All masks are aggregated into the final mask $M_{c,t}^{l \to (l+3)}$ through *Union* operation.

由于在I3D stage1上得到的特征图与原视频时间维度上的关系为1:4,因此,首先对每一帧根据B-box生成相应的mask,再将连续的mask叠加起来得到最终的mask。 b_l 关于 $x_{c,t}$ 的mask $M_{c,t}^l$ 用公式表示为:

$$M_{c,t}^l(i,j) = \begin{cases} 1, S(b_l,(i,j)) \geq \tau \\ 0, S(b_l,(i,j)) < \tau \end{cases}$$

其中S为是 b_l 覆盖住feature对应grid的区域根据阈值来标识为0 or 1,论文中说阈值 τ =0.5**(这个地方一定要看看代码是怎么实现的)**。而四个这样的mask组合就得到了最终的mask:

$$M_{c,t}^{l \to (l+3)} = Union(M_{c,t}^l, M_{c,t}^{l+1}, M_{c,t}^{l+2}, M_{c,t}^{l+3})$$

为了方便,mask被表征为一个position set

$$\Omega_{c,t} = \left\{ (i,j) | M_{c,t}^{l \to (l+3)}(i,j) = 1 \right\}$$

而 $|\Omega_{c,t}|$ 标识被选中的feature数量。

2 tube self-attention operation

这一部分跟non-local很像,但又有不同。

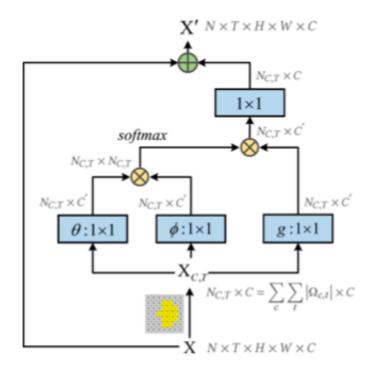


Figure 4: Calculation process of the TSA module. "⊕" denotes matrix multiplication, and "⊗" denotes element-wise sum. Owing to the existence of tube mechanism, only the features inside the ST-Tube can be selected and participate in the calculation of self-attention.

用公式表示为:

$$\mathbf{y}_p = \frac{1}{C(\mathbf{x})} \sum_{\forall c} \sum_{\forall t} \sum_{\forall (i,j) \in \Omega_{c,t}} f\left(\mathbf{x}_p, \mathbf{x}_{c,t}(i,j)) g(\mathbf{x}_{c,t}(i,j)\right)$$

where

$$egin{aligned} C(x) &= \sum_c \sum_t |\Omega_{c,t}| \ f(x_p, x_{c,t}(i,j)) &= heta(x_p)^T \phi(x_{c,t}(i,j)) \ x_p' &= W_z y_p + x_p \end{aligned}$$

C(x)表示一个视频需要被计算的所有特征向量的总数,f为相似度计算函数,最后还要加入跳连。【**用自注意力的** 思路理解这一部分】

这个公式表示了输出的特征图每个点对应的向量的计算方法。用p来标识当前计算的点的位置(c,t,i,j)【注意这里的c是clip的意思, x_p 是一个向量】。

与non-local对比,由于只需要计算mask=1对应的部分,因此复杂度由 $O((N \times T \times H \times W) \times (N \times T \times H \times W))$ 降为了 $O((\sum_c \sum_t |\Omega_{c,t}|) \times (\sum_c \sum_t |\Omega_{c,t}|))$

2.3 Network Head and Training

为了适应不同的数据集,作者设计了三种头:分类、回归、分布预测。分类头用来做动作分类,回归头做分数回归,分布预测参考USDL。

3. Experiment

评价指标: Spearman秩相关系数,计算平均表现的时候使用Fisher z-value。

Baseline: 将TSA换成Non-Local就是baseline。

3.1 Results on AQA-7 dataset

Table 1: Comparison with state-of-the-arts on AQA-7 Dataset.

Method	Diving	Gym Vault	Skiing	Snowboard	Sync. 3m	Sync. 10m	Avg. Corr.
Pose+DCT [27]	0.5300	-	-	-	-	-	-
ST-GCN [41]	0.3286	0.577	0.1681	0.1234	0.6600	0.6483	0.4433
C3D-LSTM [23]	0.6047	0.5636	0.4593	0.5029	0.7912	0.6927	0.6165
C3D-SVR [23]	0.7902	0.6824	0.5209	0.4006	0.5937	0.9120	0.6937
JRG [22]	0.7630	0.7358	0.6006	0.5405	0.9013	0.9254	0.7849
USDL [33]	0.8099	0.757	0.6538	0.7109	0.9166	0.8878	0.8102
NL-Net	0.8296	0.7938	0.6698	0.6856	0.9459	0.9294	0.8418
TSA-Net (Ours)	0.8379	0.8004	0.6657	0.6962	0.9493	0.9334	0.8476

Table 2: Study on different settings of the number of TSA module.

Method	Diving	Gym Vault	Skiing	Snowboard	Sync. 3m	Sync. 10m	Avg. Corr.
TSA-Net	0.8379	0.8004	0.6657	0.6962	0.9493	0.9334	0.8476
TSAx2-Net	0.8380	0.7815	0.6849	0.7254	0.9483	0.9423	0.8526
TSAx3-Net	0.8520	0.8014	0.6437	0.6619	0.9331	0.9249	0.8352

除了Snowboard,NL-Net和TSA-Net的效果都超过了其他模型。之所以snowboard不好作者分析是因为在这个运动的视频中人物的size太小了,难以捕获信息。具体可见figure 5。



Figure 5: The tracking results and predicted scores of four cases from four datasets. Four manually annotated initial frames are coloured in yellow, and the subsequent boxes generated by SiamMask are coloured in green. The predicted scores of TSA-Net and GT scores are shown on the right. More visualization cases can be found in supplementary materials.

由于TSA的输出和输入的size是相同的,因此可以叠加很多层TSA结构。多层的TSA结构可以捕获更丰富的信息,因此2层的时候表现最好。但是到了3层的时候表现有所下降,作者认为这是因为出现了过拟合的关系。

此外,作者还做了计算开销分析。从下图可以看出,TSA-Net的计算开销有大幅度的降低,但是模型的效果却有所提升。

Table 3: Comparisons of computational complexity and performance on AQA-7. GFLOPs is adopted to measure the computational cost.

Method	NL-Net	TSA-Net	Comp. Dec.	Corr. Imp.
Diving	2.2G	0.864G	-60.72%	↑0.0083
Gym Vault	2.2G	0.849G	-61.43%	10.0066
Skiing	2.2G	0.283G	-87.13%	↓0.0041
Snowboard	2.2G	0.265G	-87.97%	† 0.0106
Sync. 3m	2.2G	0.952G	-56.74%	10.0034
Sync. 10m	2.2G	0.919G	-58.24%	† 0.0040
Average	2.2G	0.689G	-68.70%	↑0.0058

3.2 Results on MTL-AQA dataset

Table 4: Comparison with state-of-the-arts on MTL-AQA.

Method	Avg. Corr.
Pose+DCT [27]	0.2682
C3D-SVR [23]	0.7716
C3D-LSTM [23]	0.8489
C3D-AVG-STL [25]	0.8960
C3D-AVG-MTL [25]	0.9044
MUSDL [33]	0.9273
NL-Net	0.9422
TSA-Net	0.9393

在此TSA-Net的表现不够好作者分析是因为MTL-AQA数据集的视频具有更高的分辨率和更广的视野。这导致了更小的ST-Tube从而影响performance,但这样的影响不大。当然,也可以通过增加TSA的层数来提升性能,且保证较小的计算开销。

Table 5: Comparisons of computational complexity and performance between NL-Net and the variants of TSA-Net on MTL-AQA.

Method	Sp. Corr.↑	MSE↓	FLOPs↓
NL-Net	0.9422	47.83	2.2G
TSA-Net	0.9393	37.90	1.012 G
TSAx2-Net	0.9412	46.51	2.025G
TSAx3-Net	0.9403	47.77	3.037G

3.3 Results on FR-FS Dataset

Table 6: Recognition accuracy on FR-FS.

Method	Acc.
Plain-Net	94.23
TSA-Net	98.56

case study:

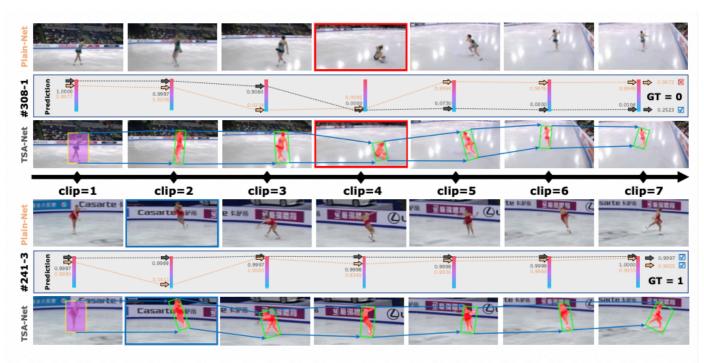


Figure 7: Case study with qualitative results on FR-FS. The failure case #308-1 is above the timeline, while the successful case #241-3 is below the timeline.

橙色表示plain-net,灰色表示tsa-net。可以发现,由于自注意力机制的存在,TSA-Net可以focus on表现特别的部分(比如摔倒)。**此外,值得注意的是,作者在这里将global average pooling删掉以后分析了每个clip的结果。这个方法可以学习的一下。**

3.4 Analysis and visualization

在体育比赛的视频中,运动员和摄像头高速的移动可能会导致pose detection的效果很差。比如由于帧模糊无法识别或者识别到观众而非运动员。FineGym那篇文章也提出了类似的观点。因此,作者认为基于pose estimation的方法并不太适用于AQA in sports scenes。

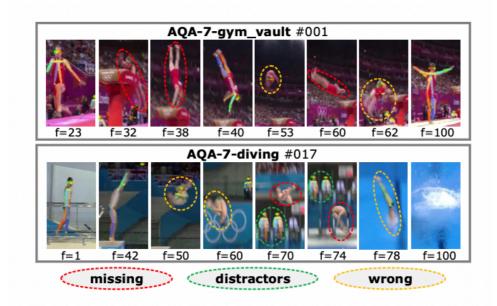


Figure 6: Alphapose [7] is selected as the pose estimator. The estimation results of two sports videos are visualized.

【评价】:这篇文章新颖的地方在于没在I3D提取到的特征上做文章而是在I3D得到的中间的特征图做文章,而且 考虑了pose estimation的局限性,引入了video object tracker。

唉。。。AQA真的越来越难做了。