

Title: An Image is Worth 16x16 Words: Transformers for Image Recognition at Scale
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Field: Computer Vision

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Model: Transformer encoder >> MLP(s) head (Classification)

Split image into sequence of fixed size image patches (14^2 or 16^2). Add positional embedding + Linearly embed patches.

Linear embedding of patches: Unroll patch, multiply by an embedding matrix.

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

Method:

Can pretrain a-la BERT. Authors pretrain on lower resolution image, fine tune on higher resolution image.

Input sequence $[x_{numclass}, Ex_1, Ex_2, \dots, Ex_n] + E_{pos}$,

$x_{numclass}$ is a token that represents the number of classes. (A token, not an integer)

$E \in M(p^2, D)$ maps to the latent (embedding) dimension D.

Pretraining and fine-tuning:

During fine tuning, the prediction head is replaced by a $D/times K$ feed forward layer. When fine tuning, patch sizes are kept the same, input images are possibly of higher resolution; the positional embedding needs to be interpolated.

The classification head is a 2 layer MLP during pre-training and single layer perceptron during fine-tuning.

Results:

Table 2 in paper;

The ViT were pre-trained on JFT-300 (and 121K) datasets

The tasks are ImageNet, ImageNet Real, CIFAR10-100, Oxford IIIT pet, Oxford Flowers-102, VTAB.

ViT-L (16) matches BiT(BigTransfer-<https://arxiv.org/abs/1912.11370>) ResNet154x4's performance for

Around 1/15th the TPU core days.

ViT-H(14) surpassed BiT ResNet154x4 by around 1% across all tasks for 1/4th the TPU core days.

ViT-H(14) matches Noisy Student(EfficientNetL2-<https://arxiv.org/abs/1911.04252>) for around 1/5th the TPU core days.