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Squeeze-and-Excitation Networks

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Abstract

Convolutional neural networks are built upon the convolution operation, which extracts informative features by fusing spatial and channel-wise information together within local receptive fields. In order to boost the representational power of a network, several recent approaches have shown the benefit of enhancing spatial encoding. In this work, we focus on the channel relationship and propose a novel architectural unit, which we term the "Squeezeand-Excitation" (SE) block, that adaptively recalibrates channel-wise feature responses by explicitly modelling interdependencies between channels. We demonstrate that by stacking these blocks together, we can construct SENet architectures that generalise extremely well across challenging datasets. Crucially, we find that SE blocks produce significant performance improvements for existing state-ofthe-art deep architectures at minimal additional computational cost. SENets formed the foundation of our ILSVRC 2017 classification submission which won first place and significantly reduced the top-5 error to 2.251%, achieving a ~25% relative improvement over the winning entry of 2016. Code and models are available at https: //qithub.com/hujie-frank/SENet.

1. Introduction

Convolutional neural networks (CNNs) have proven to be effective models for tackling a variety of visual tasks [21, 27, 33, 45]. For each convolutional layer, a set of filters are learned to express local spatial connectivity patterns along input channels. In other words, convolutional liters are expected to be informative combinations by fusing spatial and channel-wise information together within local receptive fields. By stacking a series of convolutional layers interleaved with non-linearities and downsampling, CNNs are capable of capturing hierarchical patterns with global receptive fields as powerful image descriptions. Recent work has demonstrated that the performance of networks can be improved by explicitly embedding learning

mechanisms that help capture spatial correlations without requiring additional supervision. One such approach was popularised by the Inception architectures [16, 43], which showed that the network can achieve competitive accuracy by embedding multi-scale processes in its modules. More recent work has sought to better model spatial dependence [1, 31] and incorporate spatial attention [19].

In this paper, we investigate a different aspect of architectural design - the channel relationship, by introducing a new architectural unit, which we term the "Squeeze-and-Excitation" (SE) block. Our goal is to improve the representational power of a network by explicitly modelling the interdependencies between the channels of its convolutional features. To achieve this, we propose a mechanism that allows the network to perform feature recalibration, through which it can learn to use global information to selectively emphasise informative features and suppress less useful ones.

The basic structure of the SE building block is illustrated in Fig. 1. For any given transformation $\mathbf{F}_{tr}: \mathbf{X} \to \mathbf{U}$, $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{H' \times W' \times C'}$, $\mathbf{U} \in \mathbb{R}^{H \times W \times C}$, (e.g. a convolution or a set of convolutions), we can construct a corresponding SE block to perform feature recalibration as follows. The features U are first passed through a squeeze operation, which aggregates the feature maps across spatial dimensions $H \times W$ to produce a channel descriptor. This descriptor embeds the global distribution of channel-wise feature responses, enabling information from the global receptive field of the network to be leveraged by its lower lavers. This is followed by an excitation operation, in which sample-specific activations, learned for each channel by a self-gating mechanism based on channel dependence, govern the excitation of each channel. The feature maps U are then reweighted to generate the output of the SE block which can then be fed directly into subsequent layers.

An SE network can be generated by simply stacking a collection of SE building blocks. SE blocks can also be used as a drop-in replacement for the original block at any depth in the architecture. However, while the template for the building block is generic, as we show in Sec. 6.4, the role it performs at different depths adapts to the needs of the network. In the early layers, it learns to excite informative

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Conference: CVPR (2018)

Published date: 2017.09.05

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1.Abstract

- Existing studies have focused on **spatial encoding** to improve the performance of CNN

- In this paper, they focused on **channel relationship** instead of spatial encoding

- new architecture -> **SENet**

1.Abstract

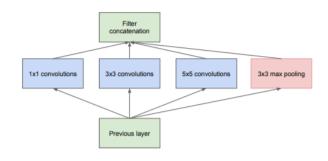
- SENet is a network consisting of squeeze-and-excitation (SE) blocks

- It recalculates the channel-wise feature according to its importance by reflecting the interdependency between channels

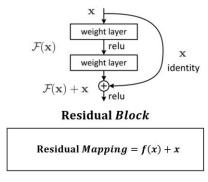
- It's easy to apply to existing architectures, and good performance improvements over complexity growth high

1.Introduction

- Existing studies have focused on spatial encoding to improve the performance of CNN



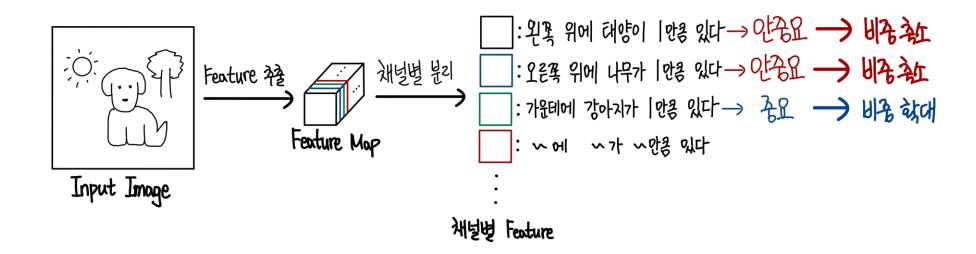
Inception block



Residual block

1.Introduction

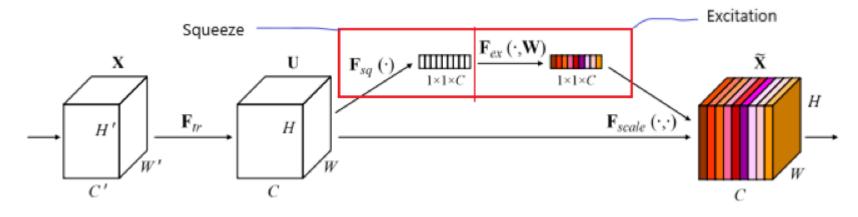
- However, CNN has no feature-specific attention and ignore function



- Add attention function to improve performance of CNN

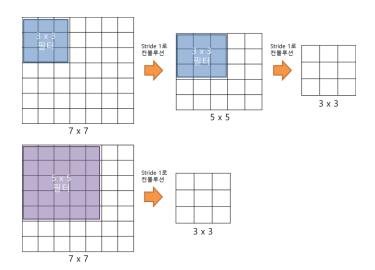
1.Introduction

► Squeeze-and-Excitation (SE) block

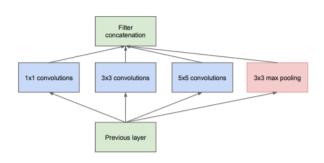


- Focus on channel relationship
- A heavily weighted channel contains important features
- calculate weight by channel

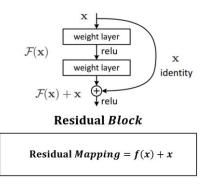
▶ Deep architectures



VGG net's 3x3 filter



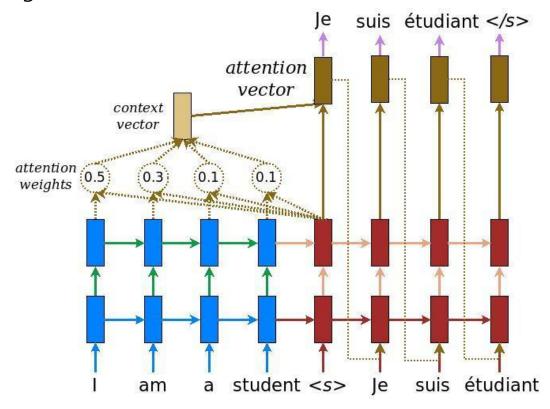
Inception block



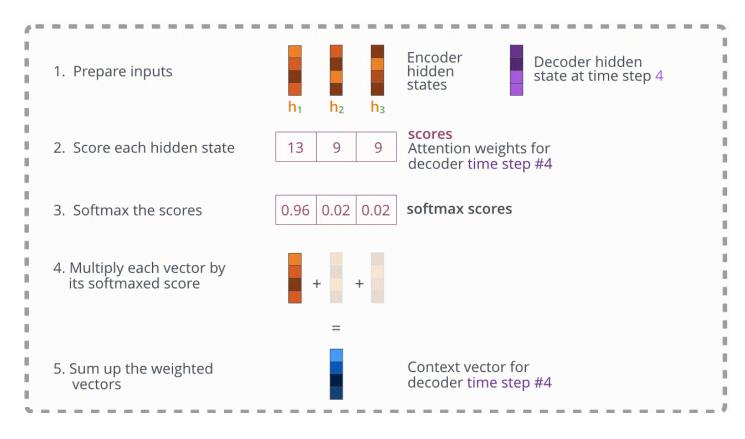
Residual block

► Attention

- calculate attention weight for each feature

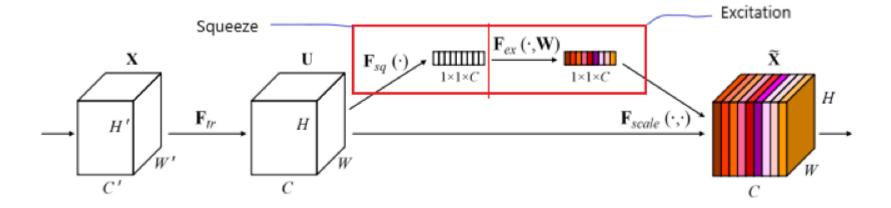


► Attention



▶결론

- Focus on channel relationship instead of spatial encoding for better performance on CNN
- To this end, a method called squeeze and extraction (SE) block based on attention mechanism was introduced



▶ Other Network

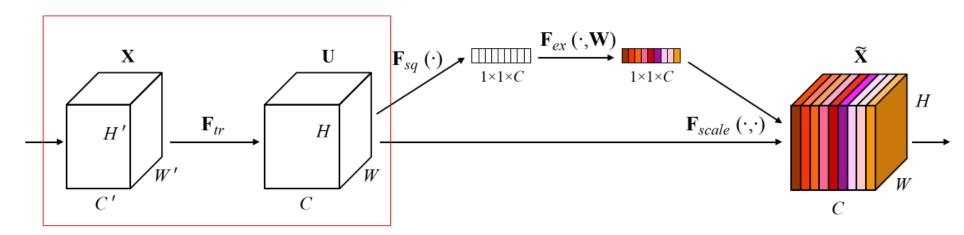


Figure 1: A Squeeze-and-Excitation block.

- other network or convolution operation before SE Block starts (ex. GoogLeNet, VGGNet, ResNet etc...)

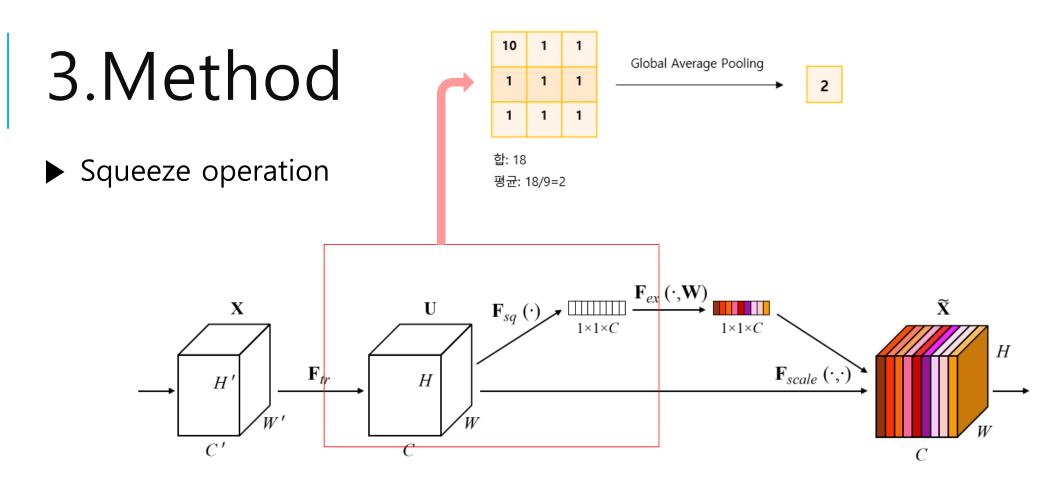
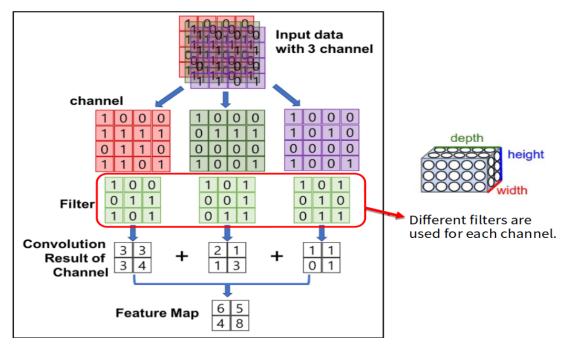


Figure 1: A Squeeze-and-Excitation block.

- Use Global Average Pooling to squeeze
- Why use global average pooling?

► Squeeze operation



- Feature Map (=filter) cannot obtain global information because Receive Field is Local
- But we want to use global information not local information

- ► Squeeze operation
 - Create an H*W 's image as a Channel Descriptor by squeezing each channel

$$z_c = \mathbf{F}_{sq}(\mathbf{u}_c) = \frac{1}{H \times W} \sum_{i=1}^{H} \sum_{j=1}^{W} u_c(i,j).$$

- Compression of Global Spatial Information of H*W size for each channel to 1*1

Excitation operation

- Obtaining the dependence of channel-specific values obtained through Squeeze operation
- Calculation of importance

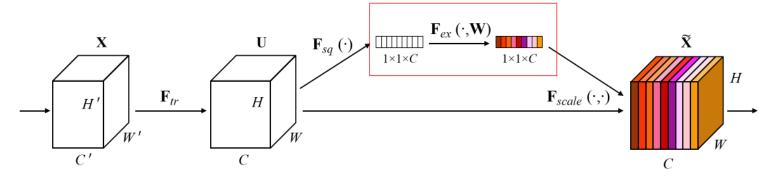


Figure 1: A Squeeze-and-Excitation block.

- how to obtain the dependence of channel-specific?

► Excitation operation condition

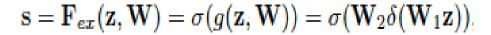
1.Flexible

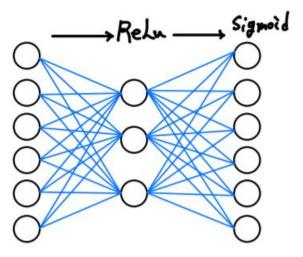
Since the relationship between channels is not simple, it should be flexible enough to cover complex relationships.(Realize Non-linearity between channels)

2. non-mutually-exclusive

Instead of emphasizing only one channel(one-hot activation), various channels should be emphasized

Excitation operation





- Fully Connected -> ReLU -> Fully Connected -> Sigmoid

► Excitation operation

- In FC1, Channel compression

- In ReLU, implement nonlinearity

- In FC2, Channel expansion

In sigmoid, Normalize to a value between0 and 1 to express the importance of the channel

bottleneck

FC1 \rightarrow ReLU \rightarrow FC2 \rightarrow Sigmoid $c \qquad \frac{c}{r} \qquad c$

r : reduction ratio

▶ Rescaling

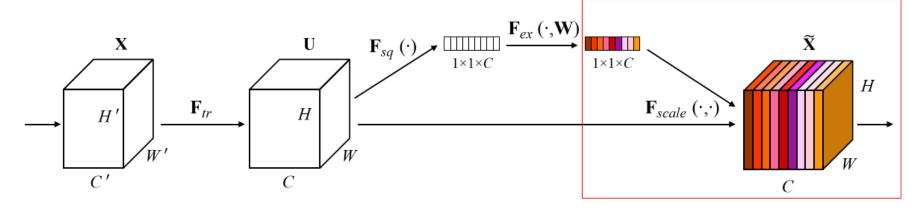
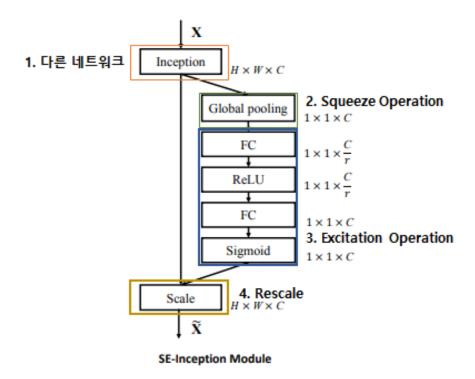


Figure 1: A Squeeze-and-Excitation block.

- self attention

► SE block



Pros

- 1. It can be pasted onto an existing network
- 2. There are additional parameters, but the complexity does not increase that much

► ImageNet Classification

	original		re-implementation			SENet		
	top-1 err.	top-5 err.	top-1err.	top-5 err.	GFLOPs	top-1 err.	top-5 err.	GFLOPs
ResNet-50 [10]	24.7	7.8	24.80	7.48	3.86	$23.29_{(1.51)}$	$6.62_{(0.86)}$	3.87
ResNet-101 [10]	23.6	7.1	23.17	6.52	7.58	$22.38_{(0.79)}$	$6.07_{(0.45)}$	7.60
ResNet-152 [10]	23.0	6.7	22.42	6.34	11.30	$21.57_{(0.85)}$	$5.73_{(0.61)}$	11.32
ResNeXt-50 [47]	22.2	-	22.11	5.90	4.24	21.10(1.01)	$5.49_{(0.41)}$	4.25
ResNeXt-101 [47]	21.2	5.6	21.18	5.57	7.99	$20.70_{(0.48)}$	$5.01_{(0.56)}$	8.00
VGG-16 [39]	-	-	27.02	8.81	15.47	25.22(1.80)	7.70 _(1.11)	15.48
BN-Inception [16]	25.2	7.82	25.38	7.89	2.03	$24.23_{(1.15)}$	$7.14_{(0.75)}$	2.04
Inception-ResNet-v2 [42]	19.9 [†]	4.9^{\dagger}	20.37	5.21	11.75	$19.80_{(0.57)}$	$4.79_{(0.42)}$	11.76

GFLOPs = GPU FLoating point Operations Per Second (calculation amount)

► Scene Classification

▶ Object detection

TABLE 6 Single-crop error rates (%) on Places365 validation set.

	top-1 err.	top-5 err.
Places-365-CNN [72]	41.07	11.48
ResNet-152 (ours)	41.15	11.61
SE-ResNet-152	40.37	11.01

TABLE 7
Faster R-CNN object detection results (%) on COCO minival set.

	AP@IoU=0.5	AP
ResNet-50	57.9	38.0
SE-ResNet-50	61.0	40.4
ResNet-101	60.1	39.9
SE-ResNet-101	62.7	41.9

► Reduction ratio

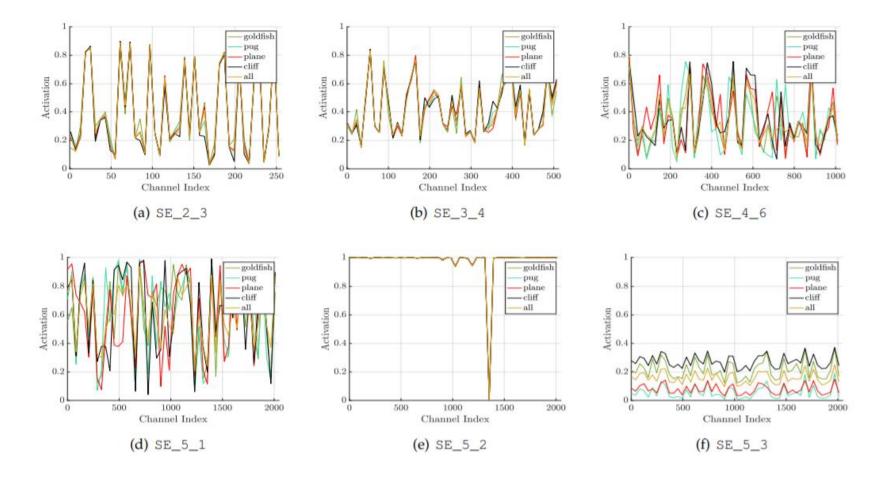
Ratio r	top-1 err.	top-5 err.	Params
2	22.29	6.00	45.7M
4	22.25	6.09	35.7M
8	22.26	5.99	30.7M
16	22.28	6.03	28.1M
32	22.72	6.20	26.9M
original	23.30	6.55	25.6M

Even if (r = 16), it does not have a significant impact on the error and has a **38% parameter** reduction effect compared to (r = 2)

As a result, r = 16 is best!!!

▲ When Ratio r is different

► Role of Excitation



5.Conclusion

1. There was no attention function in the existing CNN, but SENet introduced the attention module for the first time

2. The SE module configured in this way has shown performance improvements in various dataset when inserted in the middle of the existing CNN model.