



Efficient Video Classification Using Fewer Frames



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Introduction



- ▶ Amazing growth in online video content



¹A large-scale video classification benchmark, Abu-El-Haija et. al, arXiv

Introduction

- ▶ Amazing growth in online video content
- ▶ Availability of large scale datasets

Example: YouTube-8 Million¹ Video Dataset - 2 TB



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- ▶ Availability of large scale datasets → Complex models
- ▶ More demand for high memory and computational requirements



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Introduction



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- ▶ Availability of large scale datasets → Complex models
- ▶ More demand for high memory and computational requirements
- ▶ End goal?



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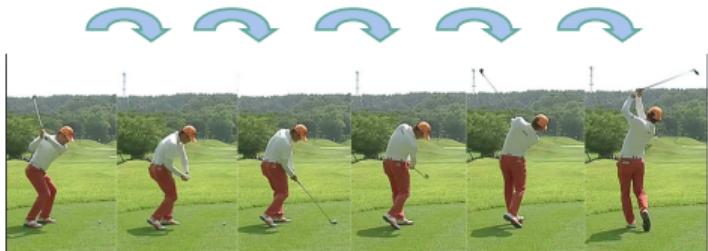
Introduction

- ▶ Amazing growth in online video content
- ▶ Availability of large scale datasets → Complex models
- ▶ More demand for high memory and computational requirements
- ▶ **End goal?** Need to run models on low-power devices



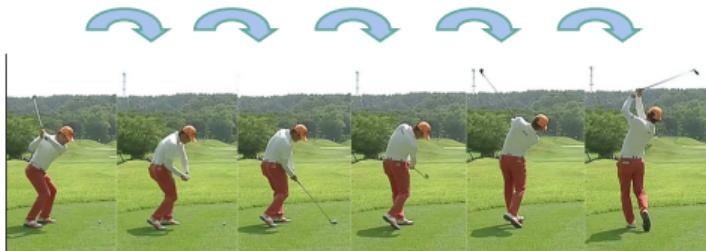
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Motivation in Videos



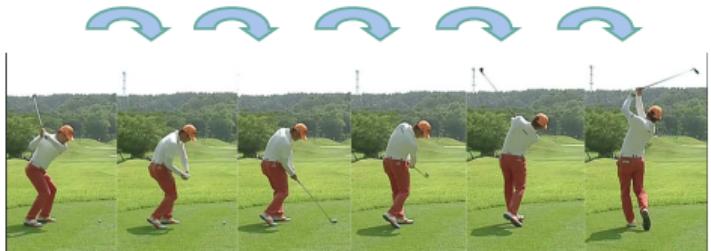
- ▶ Existing models process almost all the frames in videos

Motivation in Videos



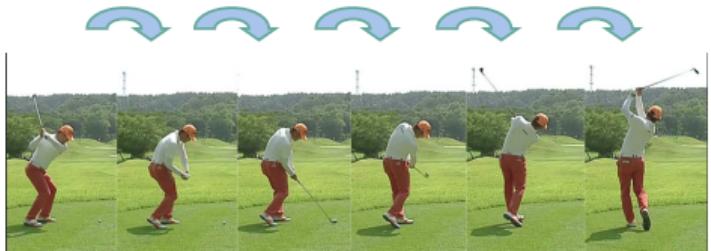
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- ▶ Longer sequence

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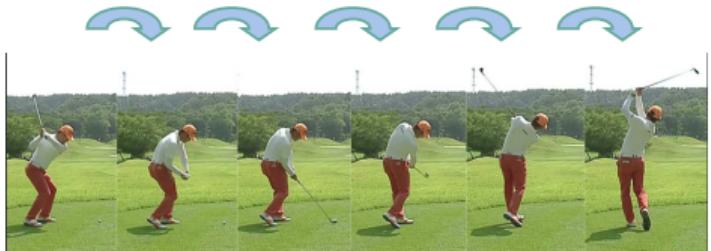
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Motivation in Videos



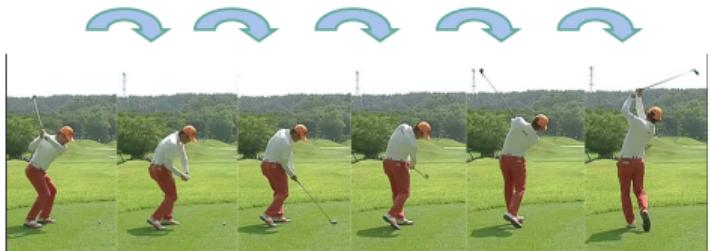
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- ▶ Redundancy in consecutive frames

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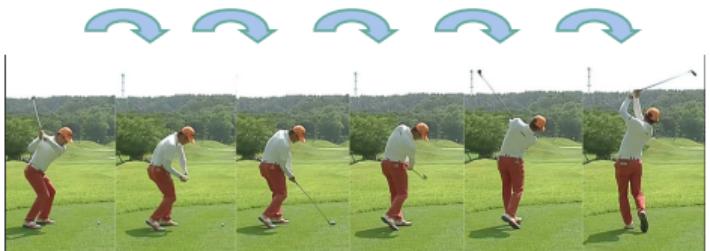
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Motivation in Videos

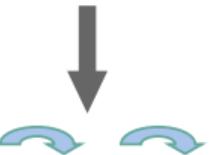


- ▶ Existing models process almost all the frames in videos
- ▶ **Longer sequence** → Slow and costly video processing
- ▶ Redundancy in consecutive frames
- ▶ High demand for compute-efficient models
- ▶ Any scope to reduce extra computations ? Yes

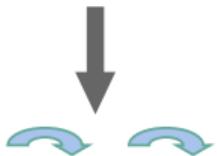
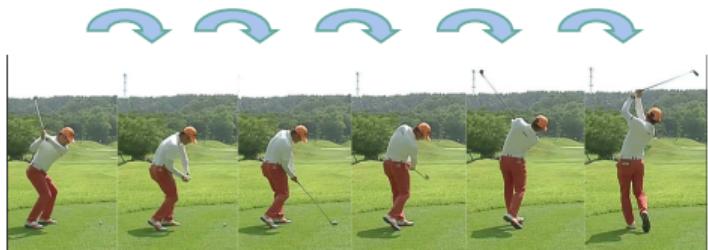
Motivation for Videos



► Directions of work ?

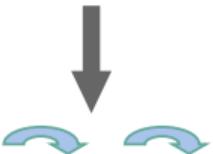
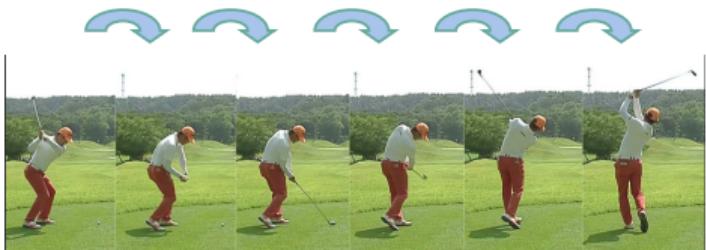


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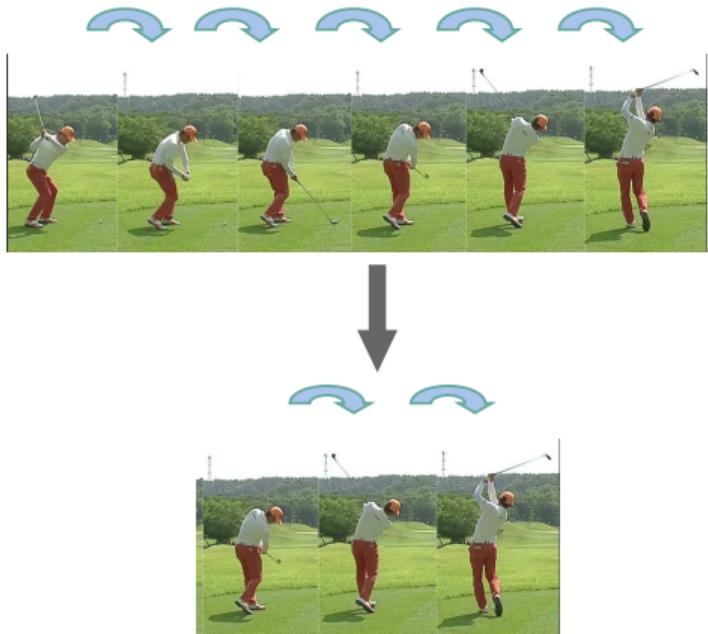
- ▶ Directions of work :
 1. Use a fraction of frames only

Motivation for Videos



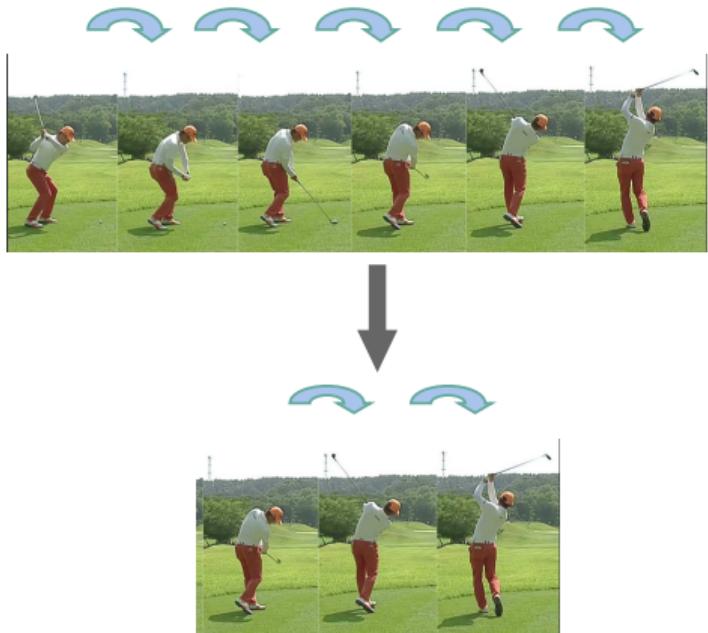
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Motivation for Videos



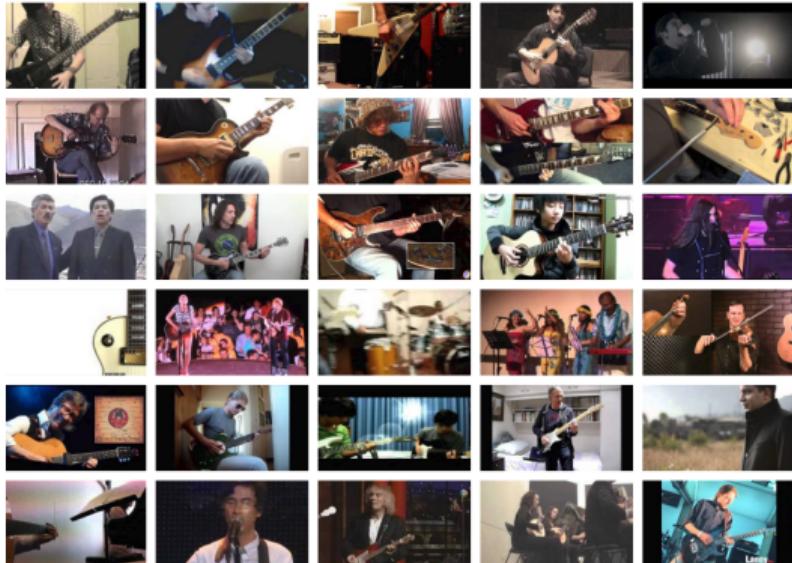
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- ▶ We focus on complementary approach of **frame reduction**

Motivation for Videos



- ▶ Directions of work :
 1. Use a fraction of frames only
 2. Reduce memory requirement
- ▶ We focus on complementary approach of **frame reduction**
- ▶ Necessary to balance the trade-off b/w performance on *classification* and efficiency

Dataset : Multi-Label Video Classification



YouTube-8M dataset¹

- ▶ 7 million videos
- ▶ 450,000 hours
- ▶ 230s avg. video length
- ▶ 4,716 classes
- ▶ 23 max. labels in a video
- ▶ 3.4 avg. labels/video
- ▶ 3.2B visual features

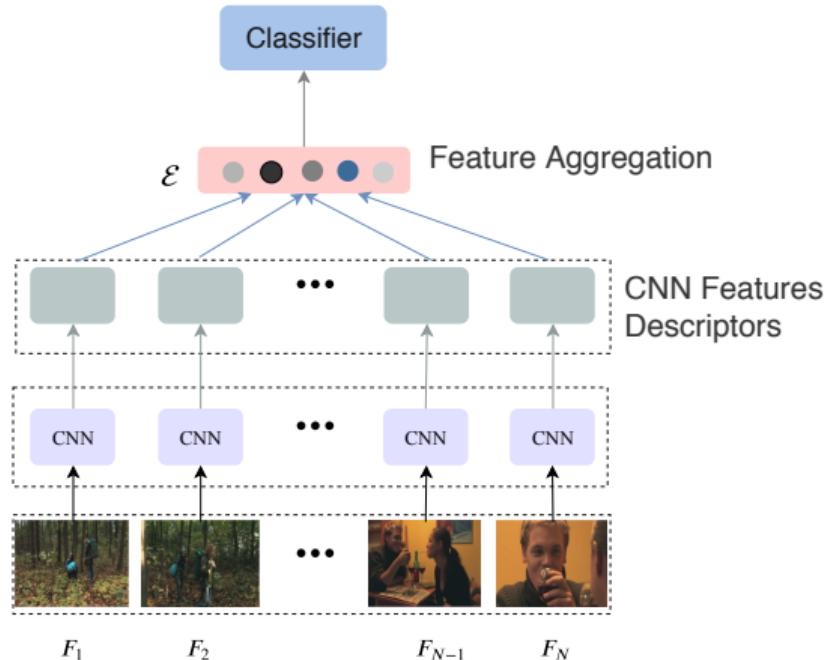
Visual features are extracted from ResNet-50²

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²Deep Residual Learning for Image Recognition

Video Processing Pipeline

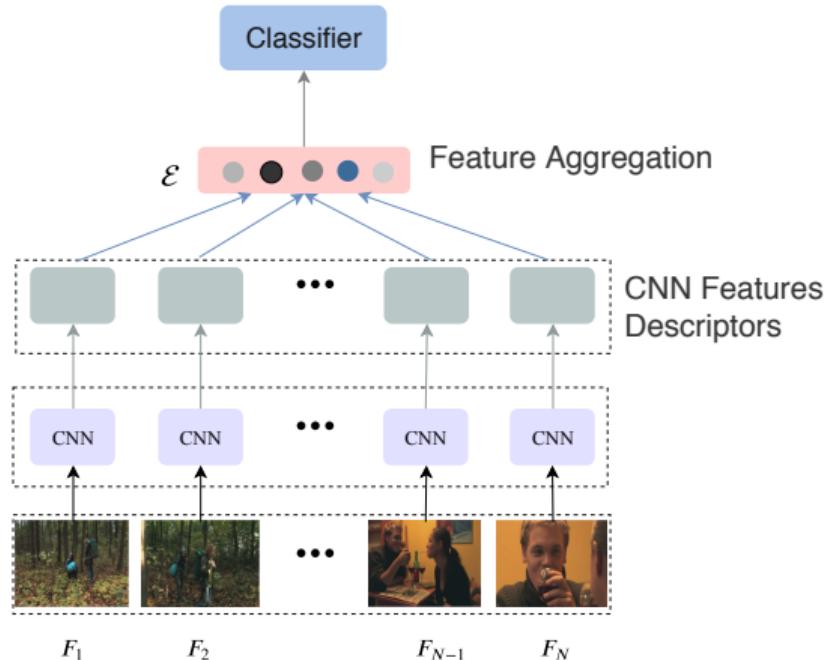
CNN feature extraction of video frames



- ▶ Extract features from each raw frame

Video Processing Pipeline

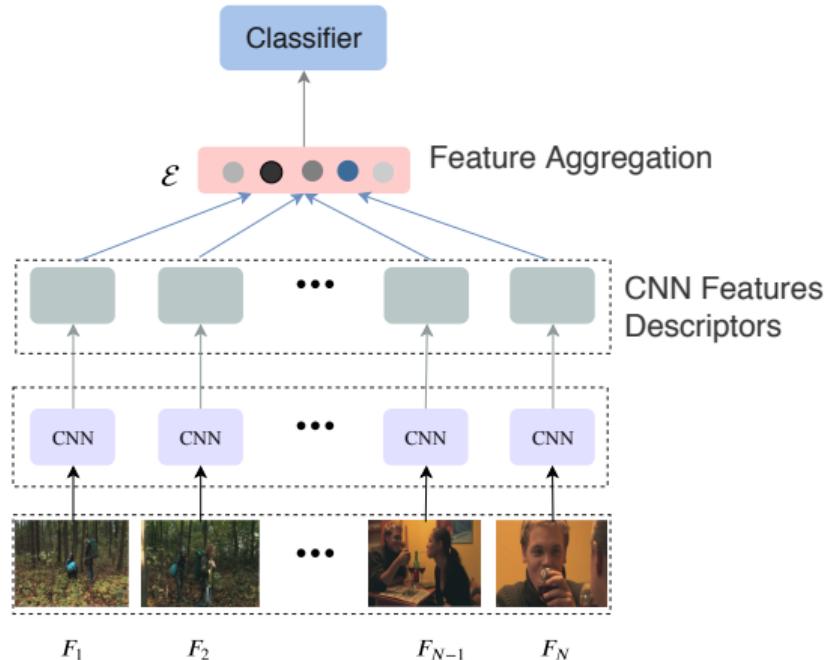
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Video Processing Pipeline

CNN feature extraction of video frames



- ▶ Extract features from each raw frame
- ▶ Features are aggregated using different methods (Recurrent or Non-Recurrent)
- ▶ Single video encoding vector \mathcal{E} is fed to 'Classifier' module



Video Classification Models

- ▶ Recurrent Network Based Models
 - ▶ Cluster And Aggregate Based Models
 - ▶ 3D Convolutional Based Models
- very computationally expensive!!**



Video Classification Models

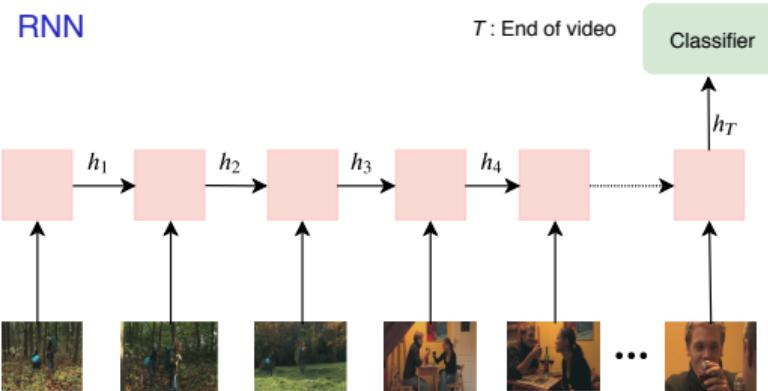
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Video Classification Models



Recurrent Neural Network (RNN)

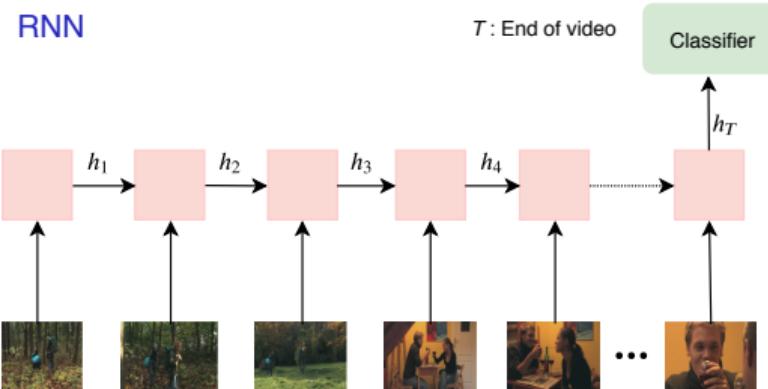
- ▶ Process video in a sequential way (frame-by-frame)



Video Classification Models

Recurrent Neural Network (RNN)

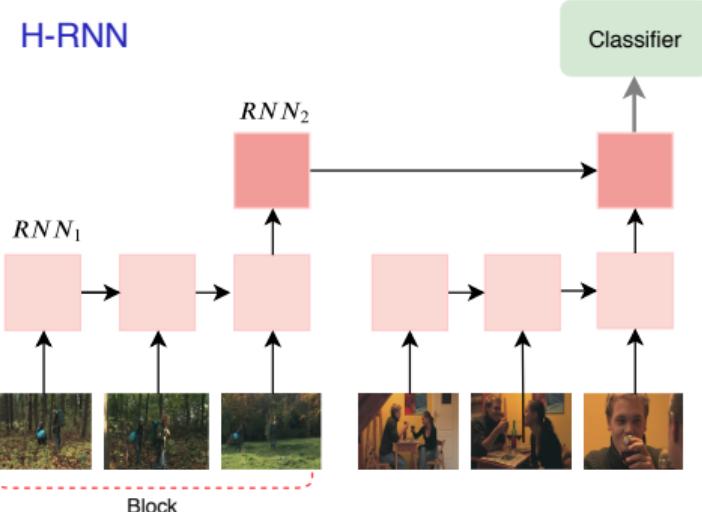
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Video Classification Models

Recurrent Neural Network (RNN)

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- ▶ Consider Hierarchical Recurrent Neural Network (H-RNN^a) which:

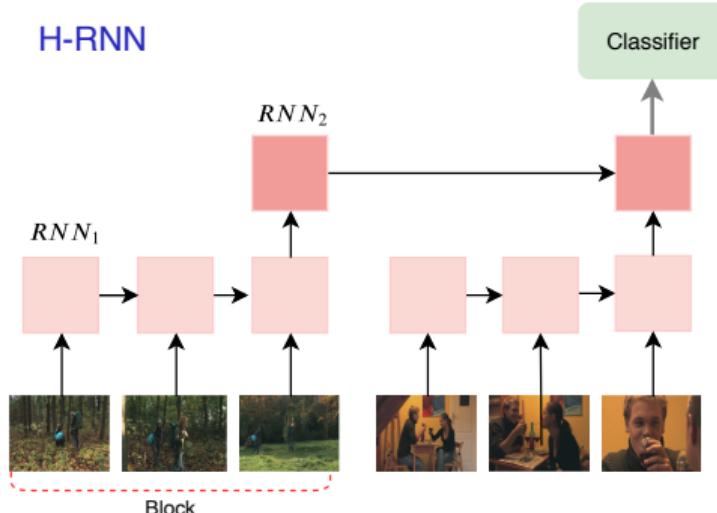


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Video Classification Models

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 - treats video as a sequence of blocks
 - memorize *longer* context

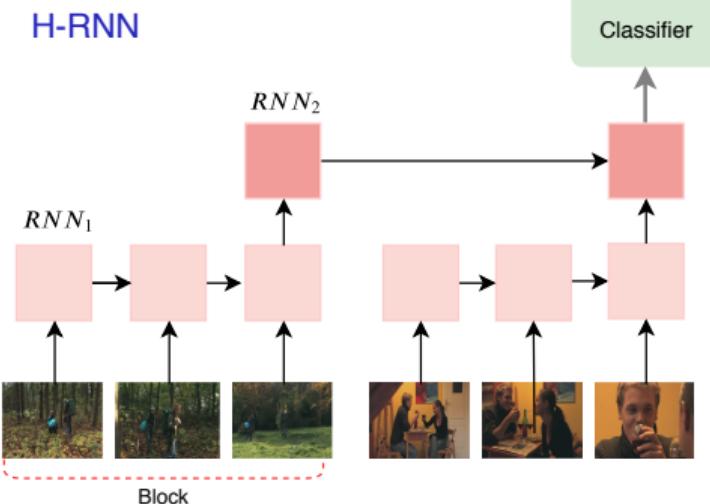


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Note: Number of FLOPs \propto length of frames processed

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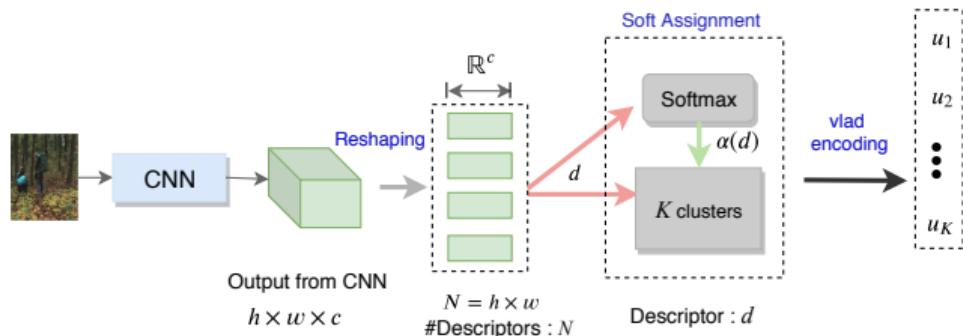
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Video Classification Models

Cluster And Aggregate Models

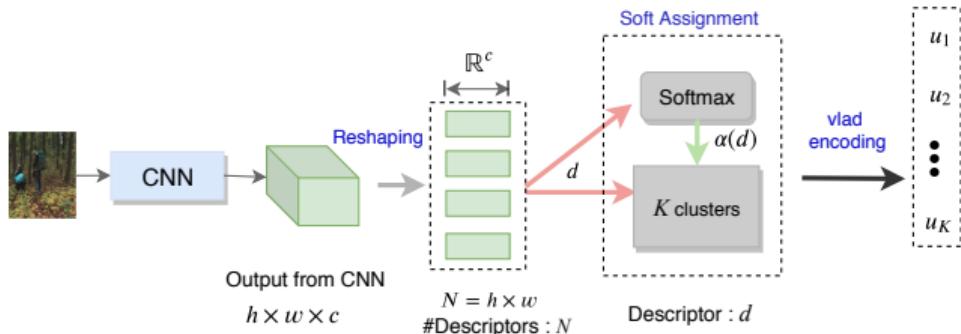
NetVLAD Scheme:



Video Classification Models

Cluster And Aggregate Models

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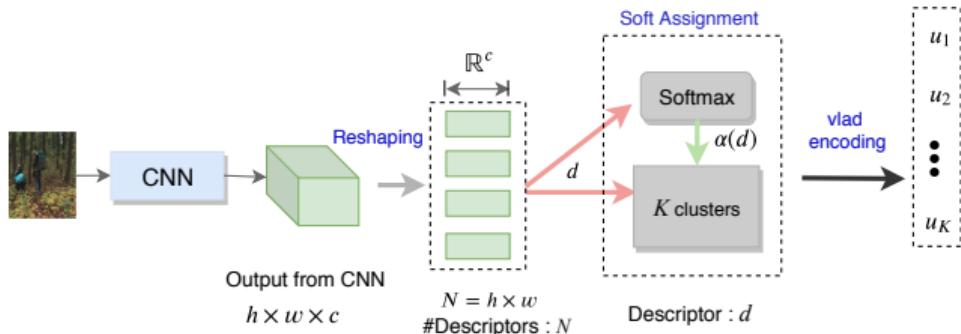


- ▶ Reshape CNN representation of a frame to obtain a descriptor d

Video Classification Models

Cluster And Aggregate Models

NetVLAD Scheme:

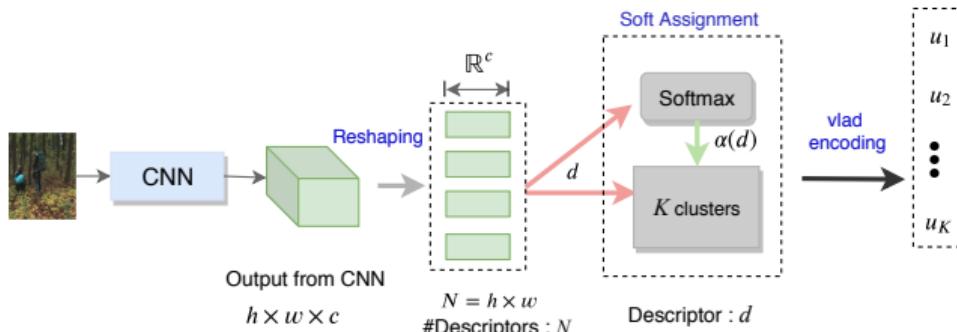


- ▶ Reshape *CNN* representation of a frame to obtain a descriptor d
- ▶ Soft-assignment of each cluster to the descriptor

Video Classification Models

Cluster And Aggregate Models

NetVLAD Scheme:



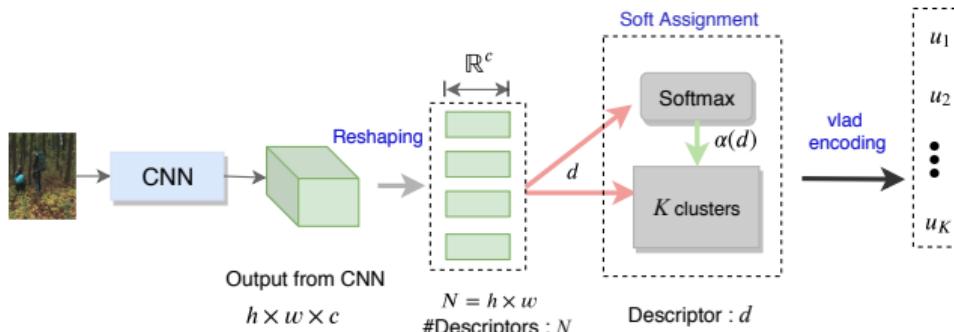
- ▶ Reshape *CNN* representation of a frame to obtain a descriptor d
- ▶ Soft-assignment of each cluster to the descriptor
- ▶ Stack *NetVLAD*¹ encodings u_k of each cluster to obtain output vector $v \in \mathbb{R}^{cK}$

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Video Classification Models

Cluster And Aggregate Models

NetVLAD Scheme:



- ▶ Reshape *CNN* representation of a frame to obtain a descriptor d
- ▶ Soft-assignment of each cluster to the descriptor
- ▶ Stack *NetVLAD*¹ encodings u_k of each cluster to obtain output vector $v \in \mathbb{R}^{cK}$
- ▶ Combine output vectors v from all frames to get a *video representation*

¹A large-scale video classification benchmark, Abu-El-Haija et. al, arXiv



Cluster And Aggregate Models

- ▶ Single video representation from NetVLAD is fed to classifier

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Cluster And Aggregate Models

- ▶ Single video representation from NetVLAD is fed to classifier
- ▶ NeXtVLAD¹: A *memory-efficient* version of NetVLAD

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Cluster And Aggregate Models

- ▶ Single video representation from NetVLAD is fed to classifier
- ▶ NeXtVLAD¹: A *memory-efficient* version of NetVLAD
- ▶ However!

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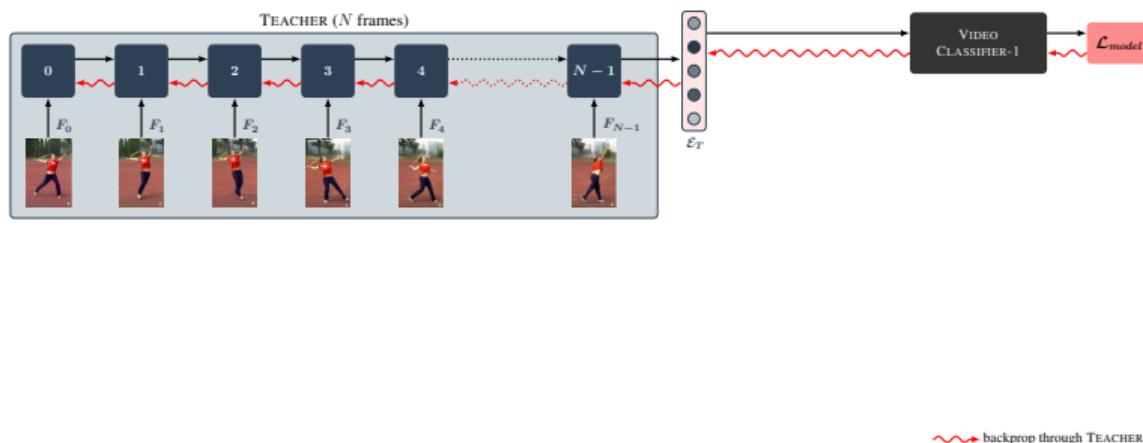
Cluster And Aggregate Models

- ▶ Single video representation from NetVLAD is fed to classifier
- ▶ NeXtVLAD¹: A *memory-efficient* version of NetVLAD
- ▶ **However!** both of these models still look at every frame in the video
∴ #FLOPs \approx large, even with small memory footprint

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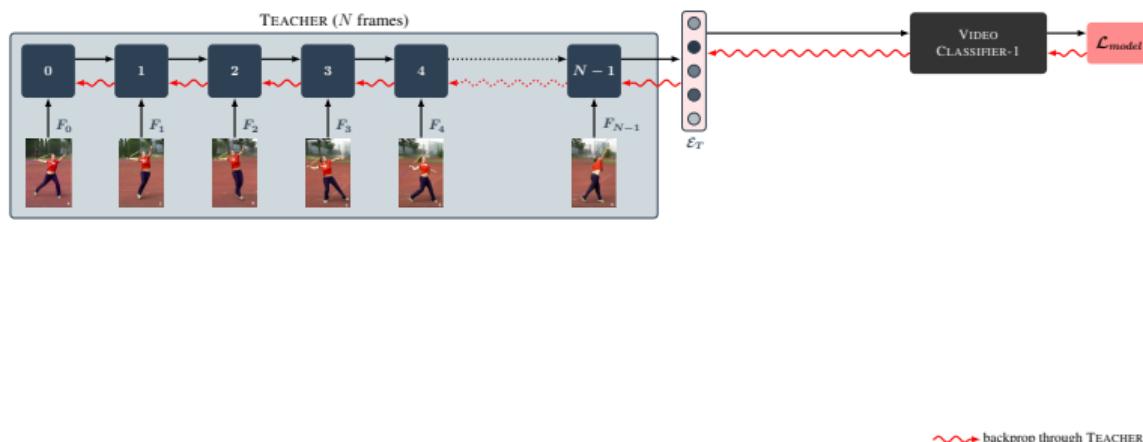
Proposed Teacher-Student Framework

- ▶ See-it-all *teacher* processes all the N frames in a video



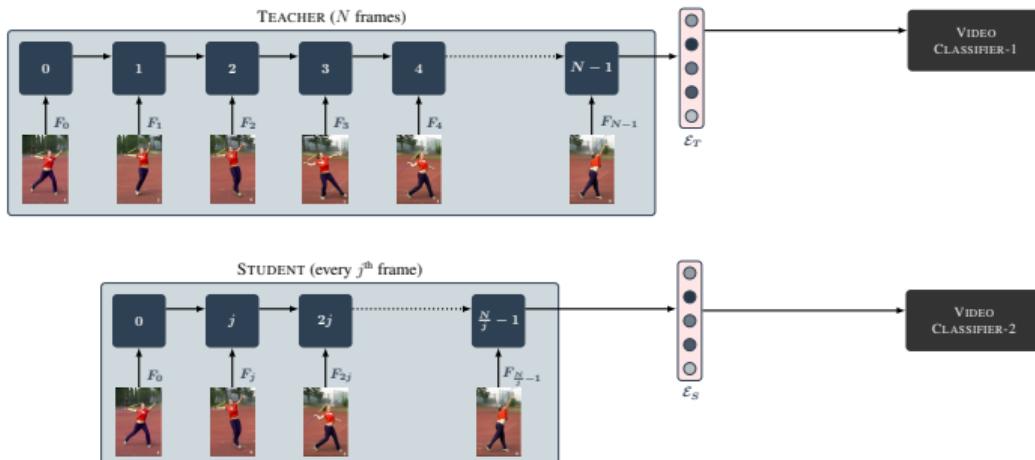
Proposed Teacher-Student Framework

- ▶ See-it-all *teacher* processes all the N frames in a video
- ▶ Trained using a standard multi-label classification loss \mathcal{L}_{CE}



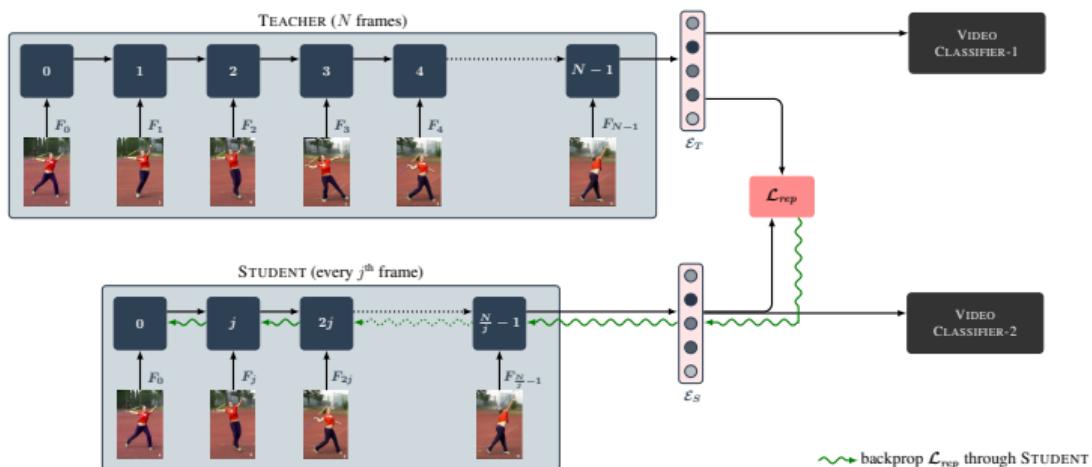
Proposed Teacher-Student Framework

- ▶ See-very-little *student* looks only at a fraction of frames i.e., uniformly spaced k frames



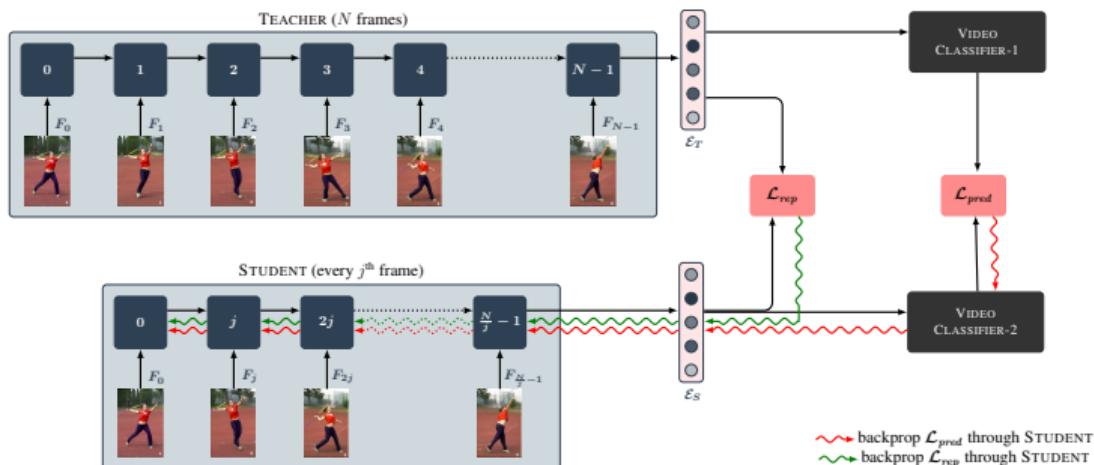
Proposed Teacher-Student Framework

- ▶ Train student to minimize difference between the video representations of *teacher* \mathcal{E}_T and *student* \mathcal{E}_S using $\mathcal{L}_{rep} = \|\mathcal{E}_T - \mathcal{E}_S\|^2$



Proposed Teacher-Student Framework

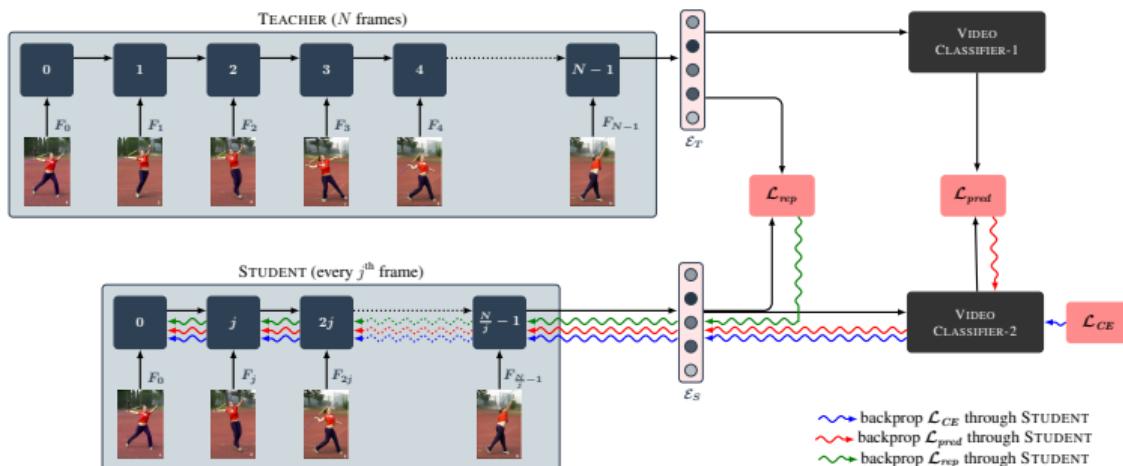
- ▶ Train student to minimize the difference between the class probabilities predicted by the teacher \mathcal{P}_T and the student \mathcal{P}_S using $KL(\mathcal{P}_T, \mathcal{P}_S)$



~~~~~ backprop  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{pred}}$  through STUDENT  
 ~~~~ backprop  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{rep}}$  through STUDENT

Proposed Teacher-Student Framework

- Keep an eye on final performance with classification loss \mathcal{L}_{CE}



Results: Experiments on H-RNN

Hierarchical Recurrent Neural Network H-RNN¹

Skyline Model with GAP:0.811, mAP: 0.414

| MODEL | $k=6$ | | $k=10$ | | $k=15$ | | $k=20$ | | $k=30$ | |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|
| | GAP | mAP | GAP | mAP | GAP | mAP | GAP | mAP | GAP | mAP |
| Model with k frames | Baseline Methods | | | | | | | | | |
| Uniform- k | 0.715 | 0.266 | 0.759 | 0.324 | 0.777 | 0.350 | 0.785 | 0.363 | 0.795 | 0.378 |
| Random- k | 0.679 | 0.246 | 0.681 | 0.254 | 0.717 | 0.268 | 0.763 | 0.329 | 0.774 | 0.339 |
| First- k | 0.478 | 0.133 | 0.539 | 0.163 | 0.595 | 0.199 | 0.632 | 0.223 | 0.676 | 0.258 |
| Middle- k | 0.577 | 0.178 | 0.600 | 0.198 | 0.620 | 0.214 | 0.638 | 0.229 | 0.665 | 0.25 |
| Last- k | 0.255 | 0.062 | 0.267 | 0.067 | 0.282 | 0.077 | 0.294 | 0.083 | 0.317 | 0.094 |
| First – Middle – Last- k | 0.640 | 0.215 | 0.671 | 0.242 | 0.680 | 0.249 | 0.698 | 0.268 | 0.721 | 0.287 |

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| Training | Student-Loss | Teacher-Student Methods | | | | | | | | | |
| Serial | \mathcal{L}_{rep} | 0.727 | 0.288 | 0.768 | 0.339 | 0.786 | 0.365 | 0.795 | 0.381 | 0.802 | 0.394 |
| Serial | \mathcal{L}_{pred} | 0.722 | 0.287 | 0.766 | 0.341 | 0.784 | 0.367 | 0.793 | 0.383 | 0.798 | 0.390 |
| Serial | $\mathcal{L}_{rep}, \mathcal{L}_{CE}$ | 0.728 | 0.291 | 0.769 | 0.341 | 0.786 | 0.368 | 0.794 | 0.383 | 0.803 | 0.399 |
| Serial | $\mathcal{L}_{pred}, \mathcal{L}_{CE}$ | 0.724 | 0.289 | 0.763 | 0.341 | 0.785 | 0.369 | 0.795 | 0.386 | 0.799 | 0.391 |
| Serial | $\mathcal{L}_{rep}, \mathcal{L}_{pred}, \mathcal{L}_{CE}$ | 0.731 | 0.297 | 0.771 | 0.349 | 0.789 | 0.375 | 0.798 | 0.390 | 0.806 | 0.405 |

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| Parallel | \mathcal{L}_{rep} | 0.724 | 0.280 | 0.762 | 0.331 | 0.785 | 0.365 | 0.794 | 0.380 | 0.803 |
| Parallel | $\mathcal{L}_{rep}, \mathcal{L}_{CE}$ | 0.726 | 0.285 | 0.766 | 0.334 | 0.785 | 0.362 | 0.795 | 0.381 | 0.804 |
| Parallel | $\mathcal{L}_{rep}, \mathcal{L}_{pred}, \mathcal{L}_{CE}$ | 0.729 | 0.292 | 0.770 | 0.337 | 0.789 | 0.371 | 0.796 | 0.388 | 0.806 |

[1] Hihi et. al., Hierarchical Recurrent Neural Networks for Long-Term Dependencies

Results: Serial v/s Parallel

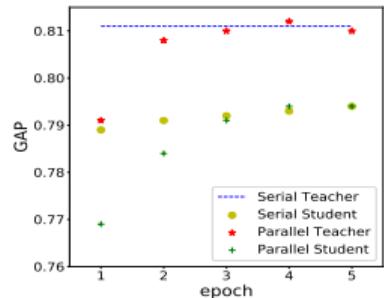


Figure: Training with \mathcal{L}_{rep} only

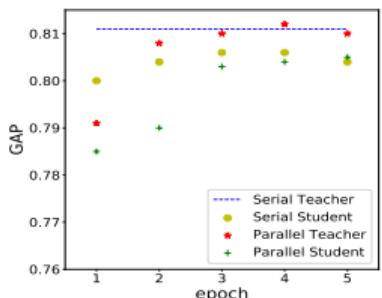


Figure: Training with \mathcal{L}_{rep} and \mathcal{L}_{CE}

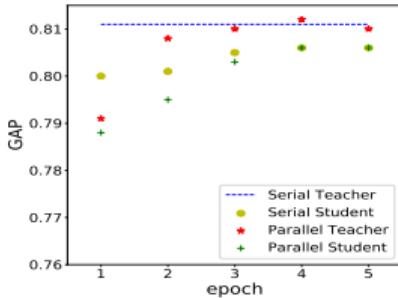
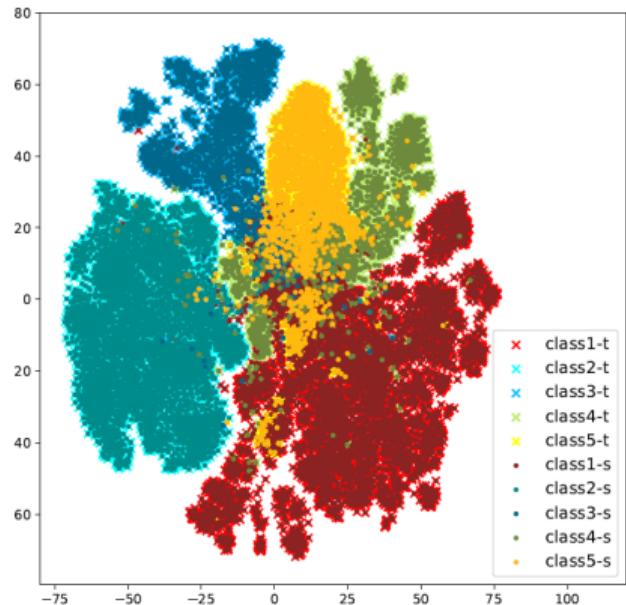


Figure: Training: \mathcal{L}_{rep} , \mathcal{L}_{CE} and \mathcal{L}_{pred}

Performance comparison (GAP score) of different variants of *Serial* and *Parallel* methods in *Teacher Student* training

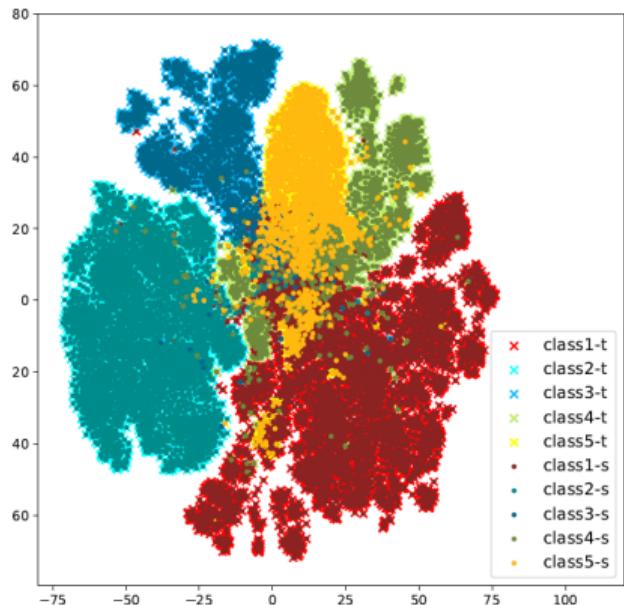
Results: Analysis

- TSNE-Plot of *student* \mathcal{E}_S and *teacher* \mathcal{E}_T encodings for top-5 most uncorrelated classes



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- TSNE-Plot of *student* \mathcal{E}_S and *teacher* \mathcal{E}_T encodings for top-5 most uncorrelated classes



- Computation Cost v/s Frames

| Model | Time (hrs.) | FLOPS (Billion) |
|-----------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Teacher-Skyline | 13.00 | 5.058 |
| $k = 30$ | 9.11 | 0.520 |
| $k = 20$ | 8.20 | 0.268 |
| $k = 10$ | 7.61 | 0.167 |

Inference: 89% FLOPs reduction with only 0.5-0.9% drop in performance

Results: Experiments on Non-Recurrent Models

NetVLAD¹

| Model: NetVLAD | k=10 | | k=30 | |
|----------------|-------|-------|--------------|--------------|
| | mAP | GAP | mAP | GAP |
| Skyline | | | 0.462 | 0.823 |
| Uniform | 0.364 | 0.773 | 0.421 | 0.803 |
| Student | 0.383 | 0.784 | 0.436 | 0.812 |

1

¹Learnable pooling with Context Gating for video classification

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1 2

NeXtVLAD²: compact version of NetVLAD

| Model: <i>NeXtVLAD</i> | <i>k</i> =30 | | FLOPs
(in Billion) |
|------------------------|--------------|-------|-----------------------|
| | mAP | GAP | |
| Skyline | 0.464 | 0.831 | 1.337 |
| Uniform | 0.424 | 0.812 | 0.134 |
| Student | 0.439 | 0.818 | 0.134 |

¹Learnable pooling with Context Gating for video classification

²NeXtVLAD: An Efficient Neural Network to Aggregate Frame-level Features for Large-scale Video Classification

Summary So Far



- ▶ Leverage **knowledge distillation** for **efficient** video classification with:



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- ▶ Reduce FLOPs by $\sim 90\%$, which are \propto number of processed frames
- ▶ Manages to use $\frac{1}{10}$ of frames with **0.5-0.9%** i.e., minimal drop in performance

Dynamic Selection of Frames



Question:



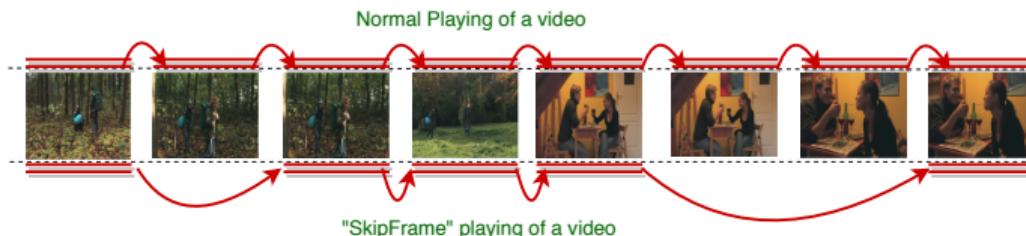
Dynamic Selection of Frames

Question: *“Does there exist a computationally efficient way in which we can dynamically select the frames through a video, which are different from uniformly sampled frames, and as a result of which, only relevant frames are presented to the classification network?”*

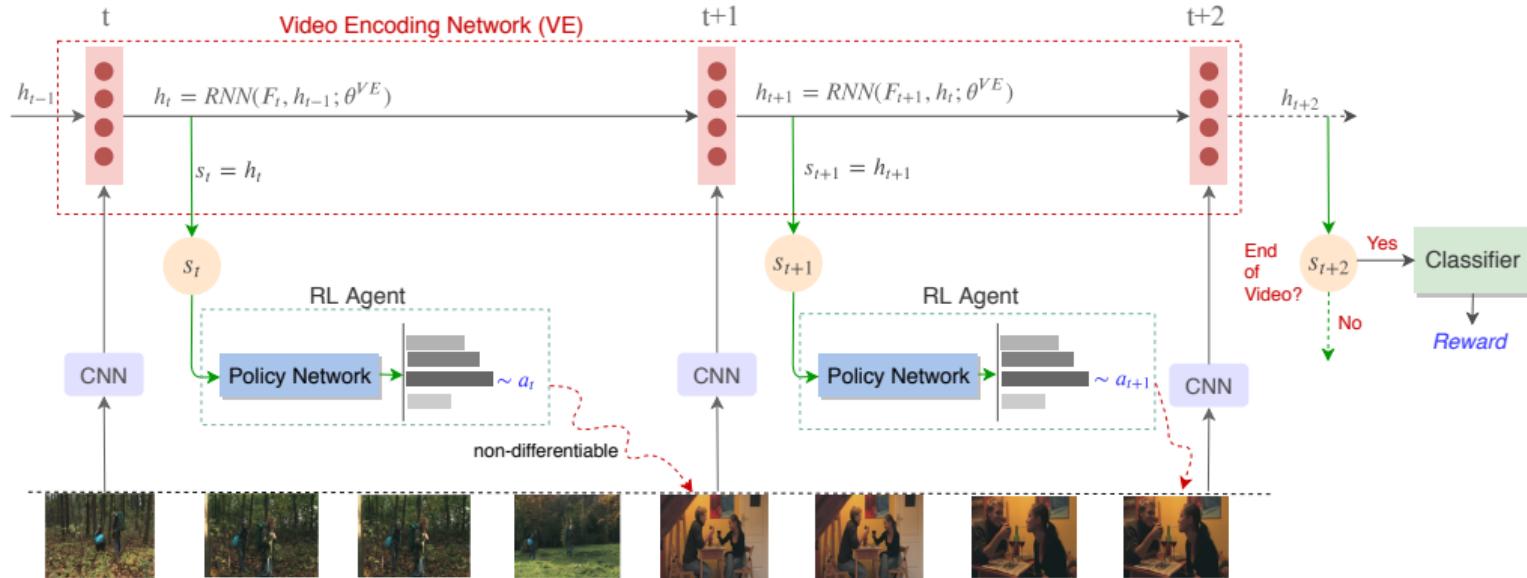
Dynamic Selection of Frames

Question: “Does there exist a computationally efficient way in which we can dynamically select the frames through a video, which are different from uniformly sampled frames, and as a result of which, only relevant frames are presented to the classification network?”

Yes ! *SkipFrame* comes to rescue



SkipFrame Architecture

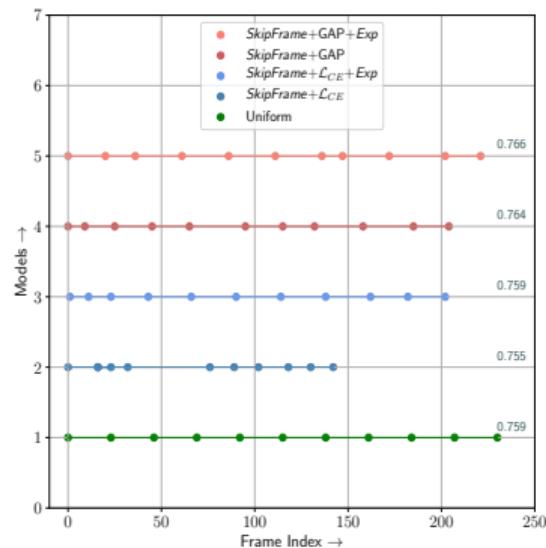


Experiments: Rewards

| Model | Reward-Design | Actions | GAP | mAP |
|------------------|-------------------|----------|--------------|--------------|
| <i>Skyline</i> | - | - | 0.812 | 0.414 |
| Uniform-10 | - | - | 0.759 | 0.324 |
| Random-10 | - | - | 0.675 | 0.251 |
| First-10 | - | - | 0.539 | 0.163 |
| Middle-10 | - | - | 0.600 | 0.198 |
| Last-10 | - | - | 0.267 | 0.067 |
| <i>SkipFrame</i> | DELAY-REWARD | 5-25 | 0.755 | 0.322 |
| | IMM-REWARD | 5-25 | 0.738 | 0.286 |
| <i>SkipFrame</i> | DELAY-REWARD | alt-5-25 | 0.742 | 0.291 |
| | IMM-REWARD | alt-5-25 | 0.739 | 0.288 |
| <i>SkipFrame</i> | DELAY-REWARD: GAP | 5-25 | 0.764 | 0.341 |

Table: Performance comparison of different variants of the *SkipFrame* models and the baselines. For all the variants of *SkipFrame*, we fix a budget of $k=10$ frames.

Experiments: Exploration in Frame Selection

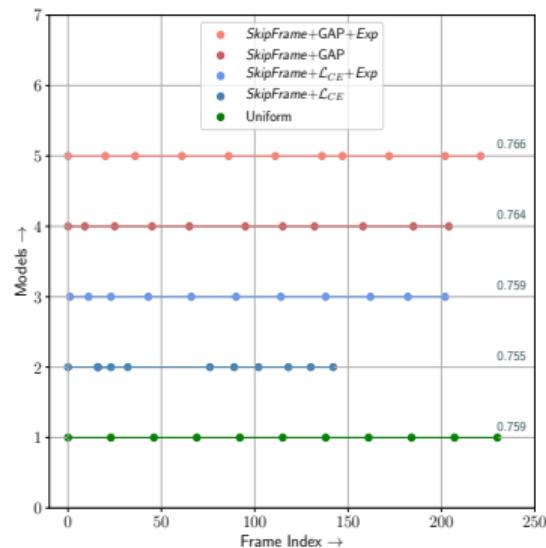


► Exploration helps to better span a video

Figure: Comparison of frame-indices picked by different models.

Note: GAP score performance of each model is shown at the end of its series in the graph. The average number of frames in a video is 230.

Experiments: Exploration in Frame Selection

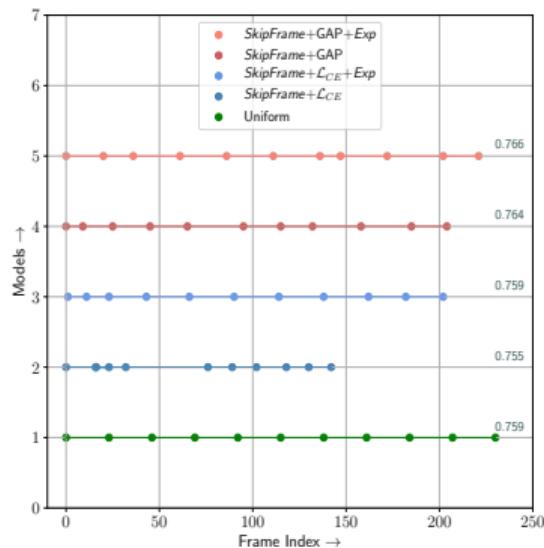


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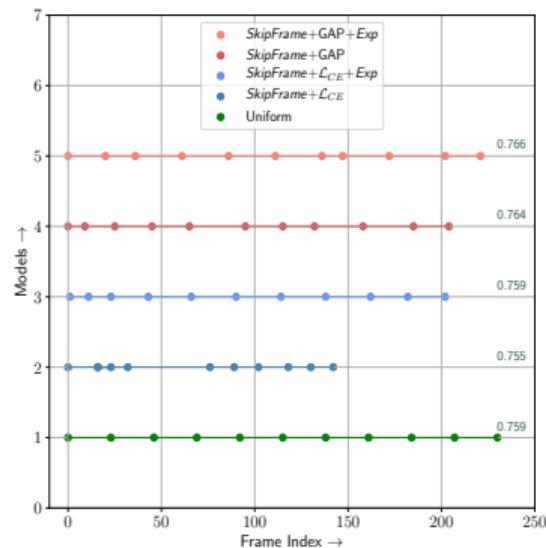


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- ▶ Still, frames lie in close neighborhood of uniformly spaces

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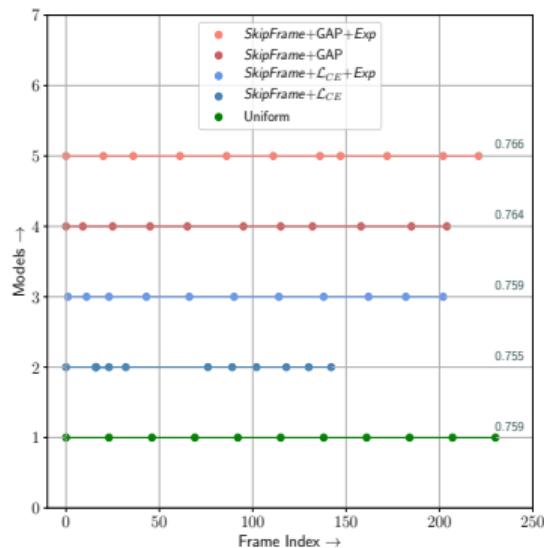


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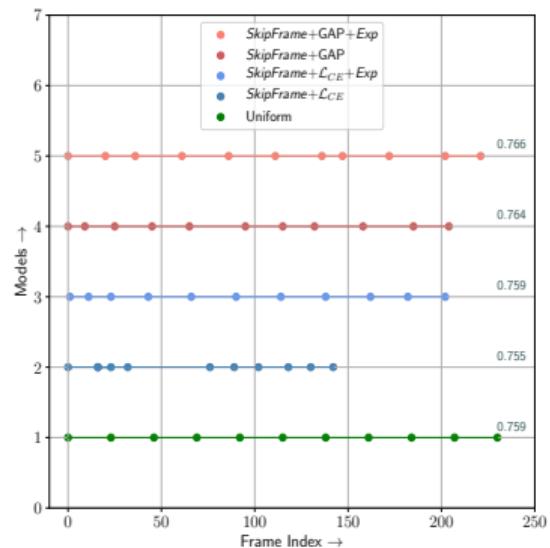


- ▶ Exploration helps to better span a video
- ▶ GAP is a better reward signal
- ▶ Still, frames lie in close neighborhood of uniformly spaces
- ▶ *GAP + Exp* beats Uniform by slight margin of 0.6%
- ▶ *How exactly are labels spanned in a video?*

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Experiments: Exploration in Frame Selection



Label Distribution ?



Figure: Sketch of a sample video with labels: *Travel, Nature, Train*

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Experiments: Computation Cost

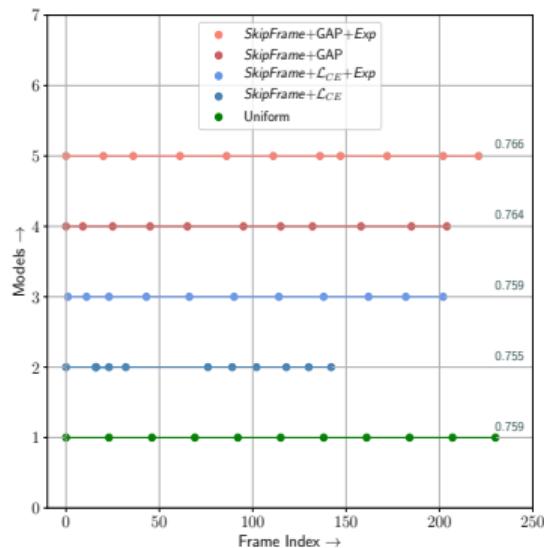


Figure: Comparison of frame-indices picked by different models.

Note: GAP score performance of each model is shown at the end of its series in the graph. The average number of frames in a video is 230.

| Model | #Frames | #FLOPs |
|------------------|---------|-----------|
| <i>Skyline</i> | 230 | 5.058 B |
| Uniform | 10 | 0.167 B |
| <i>SkipFrame</i> | 10 | 0.167 B |
| | | + 81.92 K |

Table: Comparison of FLOPs of different models. Here, B: Billion and K: Thousand are the order of #FLOPs



Takeway

- ▶ Propose a method to reduce the computation time for video classification using the idea of distillation.
- ▶ Introduce a *student* network which only processes k frames of the video
- ▶ Train the *student* by matching:
 1. final representation produced by the *student* and the *teacher*
 2. output probability distributions produced by the *student* and *teacher*
- ▶ Student outperforms the baseline by a significant margin
- ▶ Reduce the computation time by 30% while giving an approximately similar performance as the teacher network
- ▶ Further analysis on *dynamic* selection of frames, unlike *uniform sampling*
- ▶ Establish picking *uniformly spaced* frames as easier and efficient strategy than *dynamic* selection

Thanks



Any questions?