

# Dynamic Computational Time for Recurrent Visual Attention

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#### Motivation



- Extracting discriminative regions or parts for classification
- Constant computational complexity for high resolution images



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- Extracting discriminative regions or parts for classification
- Constant computational complexity for high resolution images
- How many attentions do we need to recognize the bird?







# Different Inputs – Different Process Time













#### RAM as a Fixed Number of Iterations



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# Dynamic Computational Time for RAM



1. Feature Extraction Module:

$$h_t = f_h(h_{t-1}, \phi(x, l_{t-1}), \theta_h)$$

2. Classification Module:

$$y_t = \arg\max_{y} P(y|f_c(h_t, \theta_c))$$

3. Attention Module:

 $l_t \sim \pi(l|f_l(h_t, \theta_l))$ 

4. Stopping Module:

$$a_t \sim \pi(a|f_a(h_t, \theta_a))$$













#### Spatially Adaptive Computation Time for Residual Networks

Michael Figurnov<sup>1\*</sup> Maxwell D. Collins<sup>2</sup> Yukun Zhu<sup>2</sup> Li Zhang<sup>2</sup> Jonathan Huang<sup>2</sup> Dmitry Vetrov<sup>1,3</sup> Ruslan Salakhutdinov<sup>4</sup> <sup>1</sup>Higher School of Economics <sup>2</sup>Google Inc. <sup>3</sup>Yandex <sup>4</sup>Carnegie Mellon University



Figure 3: Adaptive Computation Time (ACT) for one block of residual units. The computation halts as soon as the cumulative sum of the halting score reaches 1. The remainder is  $R = 1 - h^1 - h^2 - h^3 = 0.6$ , the number of evaluated units N = 4, and the ponder cost is  $\rho = N + R = 4.6$ . See alg. 1. ACT provides a deterministic and end-to-end learnable policy of choosing the amount of computation.



Figure 4: Spatially Adaptive Computation Time (SACT) for one block of residual units. We apply ACT to each spatial position of the block. As soon as position's cumulative halting score reaches 1, we mark it an inactive. See alg. 2. SACT learns to choose the appropriate amount of computation for each spatial position in the block.



# Training Bai do Elg $\mathcal{L} = \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{S}} \left[ L_{\mathcal{S}}(x,\theta) \right] = \sum P(\mathcal{S}|x,\theta) L_{\mathcal{S}}(x,\theta)$ $\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \theta} = \sum_{\mathcal{S}} \left( \frac{\partial P(\mathcal{S})}{\partial \theta} L_{\mathcal{S}} + P(\mathcal{S}) \frac{\partial L_{\mathcal{S}}}{\partial \theta} \right)$ $= \sum_{\mathcal{S}} \left( P(\mathcal{S}) \frac{\partial \log P(\mathcal{S})}{\partial \theta} L_{\mathcal{S}} + P(\mathcal{S}) \frac{\partial L_{\mathcal{S}}}{\partial \theta} \right)$ $= \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{S}}\left[\frac{\partial \log P(\mathcal{S}|x,\theta)}{\partial \theta}L_{\mathcal{S}}(x,\theta) + \frac{\partial L_{\mathcal{S}}(x,\theta)}{\partial \theta}\right]$

# Training (Policy Gradient) Bai de Ale $\mathcal{L} = \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{S}} \left[ L_{\mathcal{S}}(x,\theta) \right] = \sum P(\mathcal{S}|x,\theta) L_{\mathcal{S}}(x,\theta)$ $\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \theta} = \sum_{\mathcal{S}} \left( \frac{\partial P(\mathcal{S})}{\partial \theta} L_{\mathcal{S}} + P(\mathcal{S}) \frac{\partial L_{\mathcal{S}}}{\partial \theta} \right)$ $= \sum_{\mathcal{S}} \left( P(\mathcal{S}) \frac{\partial \log P(\mathcal{S})}{\partial \theta} L_{\mathcal{S}} + P(\mathcal{S}) \frac{\partial L_{\mathcal{S}}}{\partial \theta} \right)$ $= \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{S}}\left[\frac{\partial \log P(\mathcal{S}|x,\theta)}{\partial \theta}L_{\mathcal{S}}(x,\theta) + \frac{\partial L_{\mathcal{S}}(x,\theta)}{\partial \theta}\right]$ $\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \theta} \approx \frac{1}{M} \sum_{i=1}^{M} \left( \frac{\partial \log P(\mathcal{S}_i | x, \theta)}{\partial \theta} L_{\mathcal{S}_i}(x, \theta) + \frac{\partial L_{\mathcal{S}_i}(x, \theta)}{\partial \theta} \right)$

#### More Formally

Use reward to replace loss:

Sample attention and stopping:

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \theta} \approx \sum_{n} \sum_{\mathcal{S}} \left( -\frac{\partial \log P(\mathcal{S}|x_n, \theta)}{\partial \theta} R_n + \frac{\partial L_{\mathcal{S}}(x_n, y_n, \theta)}{\partial \theta} \right)$$
$$P(S|x_n, \theta) = \prod_{t=1}^{T(n)} \pi(l_t | f_l(h_t, \theta_l)) \pi(a_t | f_a(h_t, \theta_a))$$

Discounted cumulative reward:

$$R_n = \sum_{t=1}^{T(n)} \gamma^t r_{nt}$$

 $\pi$ 

Intermediate supervision:

$$L_{\mathcal{S}}(x_n, y_n, \theta) = \sum_{t=1}^{T(n)} L_t(x_n, y_n, \theta_h, \theta_c)$$

# Discounted Reward for Early Stopping

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- The discounted reward is designed for early stopping
- The discount factor γ controls the trade-off between accuracy and computational complexity

Discounted cumulative reward:

Immediate reward:

$$R_n = \sum_{t=1}^{T(n)} \gamma^t r_{nt}$$
$$r_{nt} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } y_{nt} = y_n^* \text{ and } t = T(n) \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

### Experiments: Fine-Grained Recognition



Dataset	#Classes	#Train	#Test	BBox
MNIST [14]	10	60000	10000	-
CUB-200-2011 [15]	200	5994	5794	$\checkmark$
Stanford Cars [16]	196	8144	8041	$\checkmark$

Table 1. Statistics of the three dataset. CUB-200-2011 and Stanford Cars are both benchmark datasets in fine-grained recognition.







#### **Experiments on MNIST**

• Image Resolution: 28x28, Crop Resolution: 8x8

50%

45%

MNIST	# Steps	Error(%)
FC, 2 layers (256 hiddens each)	-	1.69
Convolutional, 2 layers	-	1.21
RAM 2 steps	2	3.79
RAM 4 steps	4	1.54
RAM 5 steps	5	1.34
RAM 7 steps	7	1.07
DT-RAM-1 3.6 steps	3.6	1.46
DT-RAM-2 5.2 steps	5.2	1.12



DT-RAM-1, 1.46% error

Table 2. Comparison to related work on MNIST. All the RAM results are from [6].

### **Experiments on CUB-Birds and Cars**



- Baseline: Residual Net 50 pre-trained on ImageNet
- Image Resolution: 512x512, Crop Resolution: 224x224

#### Experiments on CUB-Birds and Cars

- Baseline: Residual Net 50 pre-trained on ImageNet
- Image Resolution: 512x512, Crop Resolution: 224x224

CUB-200-2011	Accuracy(%)	Acc w. Box(%)
Zhang <i>et al.</i> [63]	73.9	76.4
Branson et al. [56]	75.7	85.4*
Simon <i>et al</i> . [64]	81.0	-
Krause et al. [48]	82.0	82.8
Lin et al. [54]	84.1	85.1
Jaderberg et al. [59]	84.1	-
Kong <i>et al</i> . [53]	84.2	-
Liu et al. [62]	84.3	84.7
Liu <i>et al</i> . [9]	85.4	85.5
ResNet-50 [23]	84.5	). <b>-</b>
RAM 3 steps	86.0	2 <u>-</u> 1
DT-RAM 1.9 steps	86.0	

Table 3. Comparison to related work on CUB-200-2011 dataset. \* Testing with both ground truth box and parts.

Stanford Cars	Accuracy(%)	Acc w. Box(%)	
Chai et al. [65]	78.0	-	
Gosselin et al. [66]	82.7	87.9	
Girshick et al. [67]	88.4	-	
Lin et al. [54]	91.3	-	
Wang et al. [68]	-	92.5	
Liu et al. [62]	91.5	93.1	
Krause et al. [48]	92.6	92.8	
ResNet-50 [23]	92.3	-	
RAM 3 steps	93.1	-	
DT-RAM 1.9 steps	93.1		

Table 4. Comparison to related work on Stanford Cars dataset.

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#### **Qualitative Results**







(f) 6 steps

Figure 7. Qualitative results of DT-RAM on CUB-200-2011 *testing* set. We show images with different ending steps from 1 to 6. Each bounding box indicates an attention region. Bounding box colors are displayed in order. The first step uses the full image as input hence there is no bounding box. From step 1 to step 6, we observe a gradual increase of background clutter and recognition difficulty, matching our hypothesis for using dynamic computation time for different types of images.



(a) 1 step (b) 2 steps (c) 3 steps Figure 8. Qualitative results of DT-RAM on Stanford Car *testing* set. We only manage to train a 3-step model with 512×512 resolution.



- Baseline: Residual Net 34 pre-trained on ImageNet
- Image Resolution: 256x256, Crop Resolution: 100x100

Model	# Steps	Accuracy(%)	
ResNet-34	1	79.9	
RAM 2 steps	2	80.7	
RAM 3 steps	3	81.1	
RAM 4 steps	4	81.5	
RAM 5 steps	5	81.8	
RAM 6 steps	6	81.8	
DT-RAM (6 max steps)	3.6	81.8	

Table 6. Comparison to RAM on CUB-200-2011. Note that the 1-step RAM is the same as the ResNet.

- Baseline: Residual Net 34 pre-trained on ImageNet
- Image Resolution: 256x256, Crop Resolution: 100x100

Model	# Steps	Accuracy(%)	
ResNet-34	1	79.9	
RAM 2 steps	2	80.7	
RAM 3 steps	3	81.1	
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- How does it compare against a fixed policy?
- Fixed policy: Stop if one class confidence is above threshold.

Threshold	# Steps	Accuracy(%)	
0	1	79.9	
0.4	1.4	80.7	
0.5	1.6	81.0	
0.6	1.9	81.2	
0.9	3.6	81.3	
1.0	6	81.8	
DT-RAM (6 max steps)	3.6	81.8	

Table 7. Comparison to a fixed stopping policy on CUB-200-2011. The fixed stopping policy runs on RAM (6 steps) such that the recurrent attention stops if one of the class softmax probabilities is above the threshold.



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How does Resolution and Depth affect:

Resolution	Resinet-54	KAM-54	Resnet-50	RAM-50
224×224	79.9	81.8	81.5	82.8
$448 \times 448$	-	-	84.5	86.0

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Table 5. The effect of input resolution and network depth on ResNet and its RAM extension.

# Steps	1	2	3	4	5	6
w.o C.L.	79.9	80.7	80.5	80.9	80.3	80.0
w. C.L.	79.9	80.7	81.1	81.5	81.8	81.8

Table 8. The effect of Curriculum Learning on RAM.

# Steps	1	2	3	4	5	6
w.o I.S.	79.9	78.8	76.1	74.8	74.9	74.7
w. I.S.	79.9	80.7	81.1	81.5	81.8	81.8

Table 9. The effect of Intermediate Supervision on RAM.

How does Curriculum Learning affect:

How does Intermediate Supervision affect:





# Take Home Message

- Residual net is a STRONG baseline for fine-grained
  On CUB-Bird 2011: 84.5%, On Stanford Cars: 92.3%
- Attention model reaches new state-of-the-art
  - Bird: 84.5% -> 86.0%
  - Car: 92.3% -> 93.1%

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- Attention model reaches new state-of-the-art
  - Bird: 84.5% -> 86.0%
  - Car: 92.3% -> 93.1%
- Dynamic Time seems a worth idea:

– DT-RAM: 1.9 steps ~ RAM: 3 steps

# Take Home Message

- Carefully tuned Residual Net
  - Scale augmentation (~1.2% improve in ImageNet)
  - Where to put ReLU and BN (~0.6% improved in CIFAR)
  - Strided convolution(~0.3% improved in ImageNet)
  - smoothing factor in BN (~0.2% improved in ImageNet)
  - Color augmentation(slightly improved)
  - Weight decay

Note : all improved base in resnet-50



# Thank you!

- Code Available:
  - <u>https://github.com/baidu-research/DT-RAM</u>
  - Written in Torch

