

Learning to Compare: Relation Network for Few-Shot Learning

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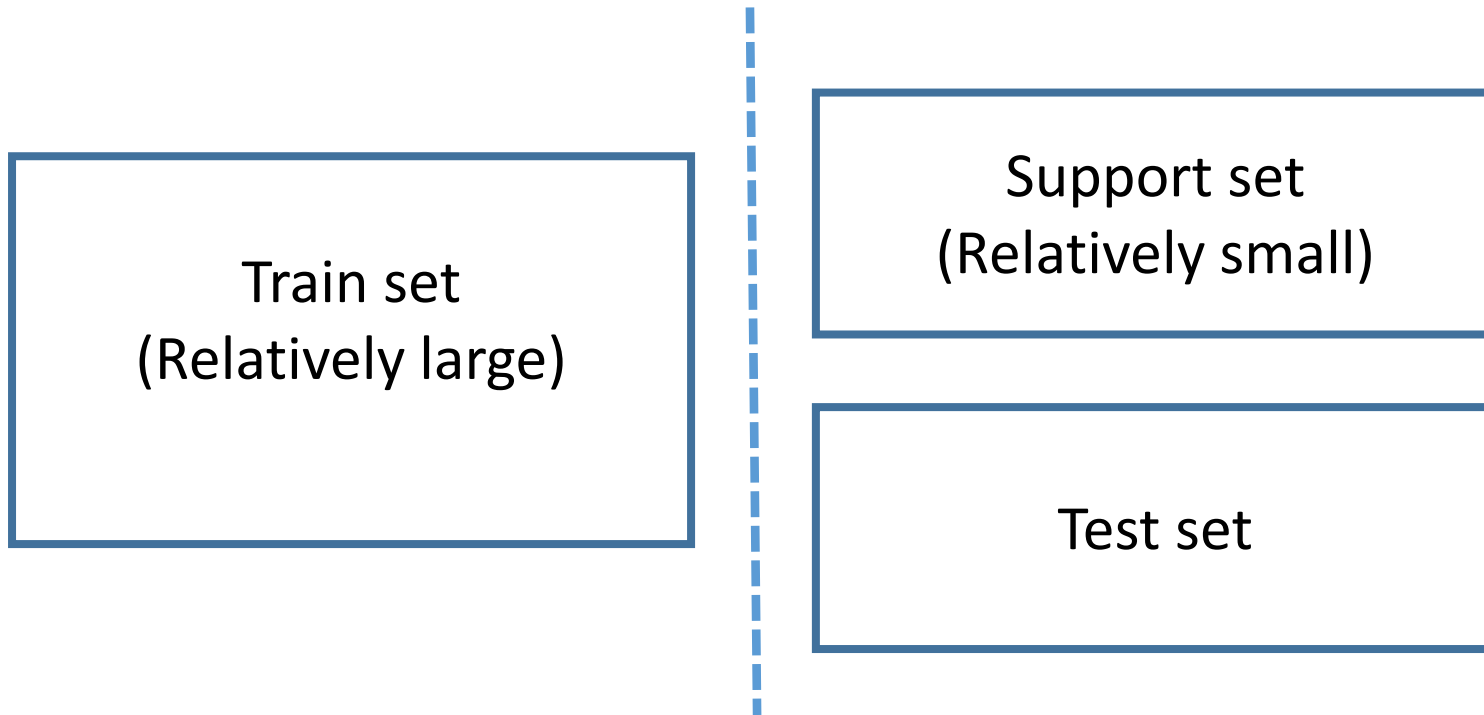
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Few-shot learning
Meta-learning

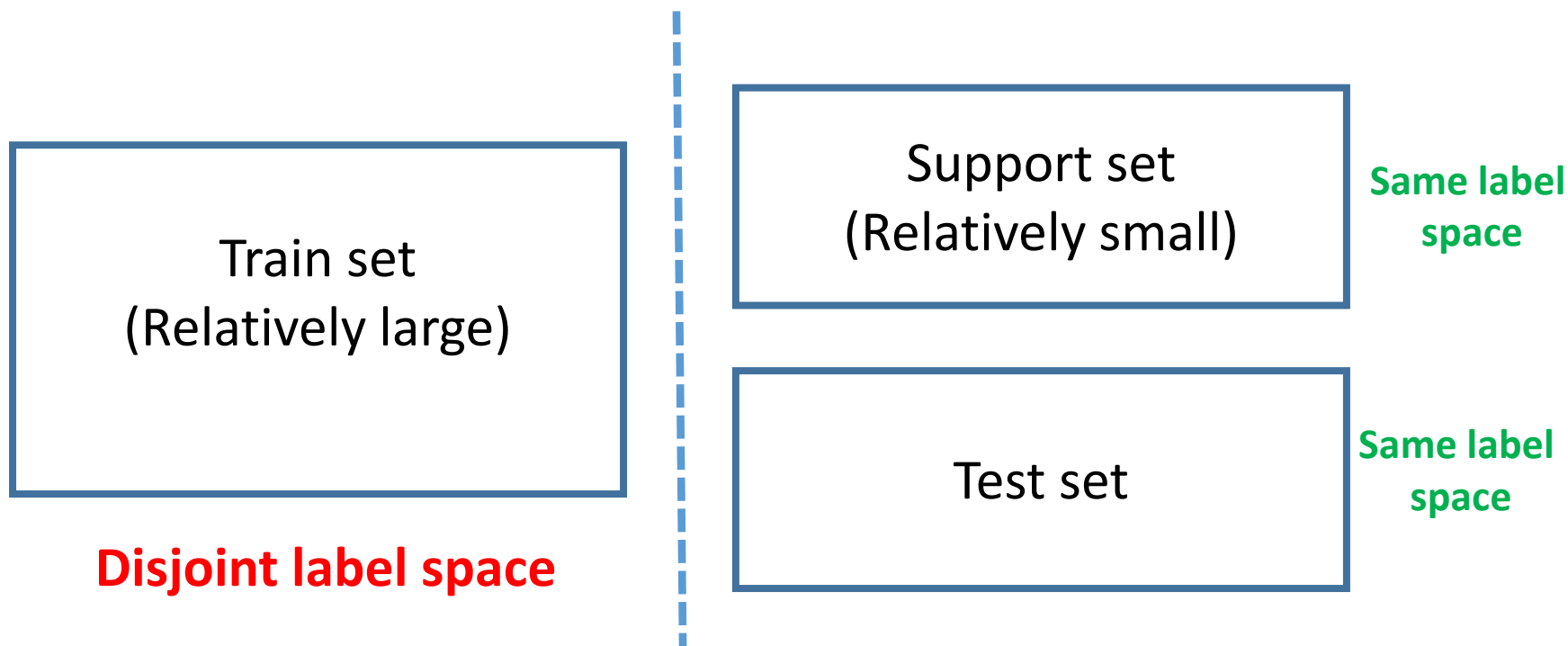
Few-shot learning

Must train a classifier to recognize new classes given few examples from each.



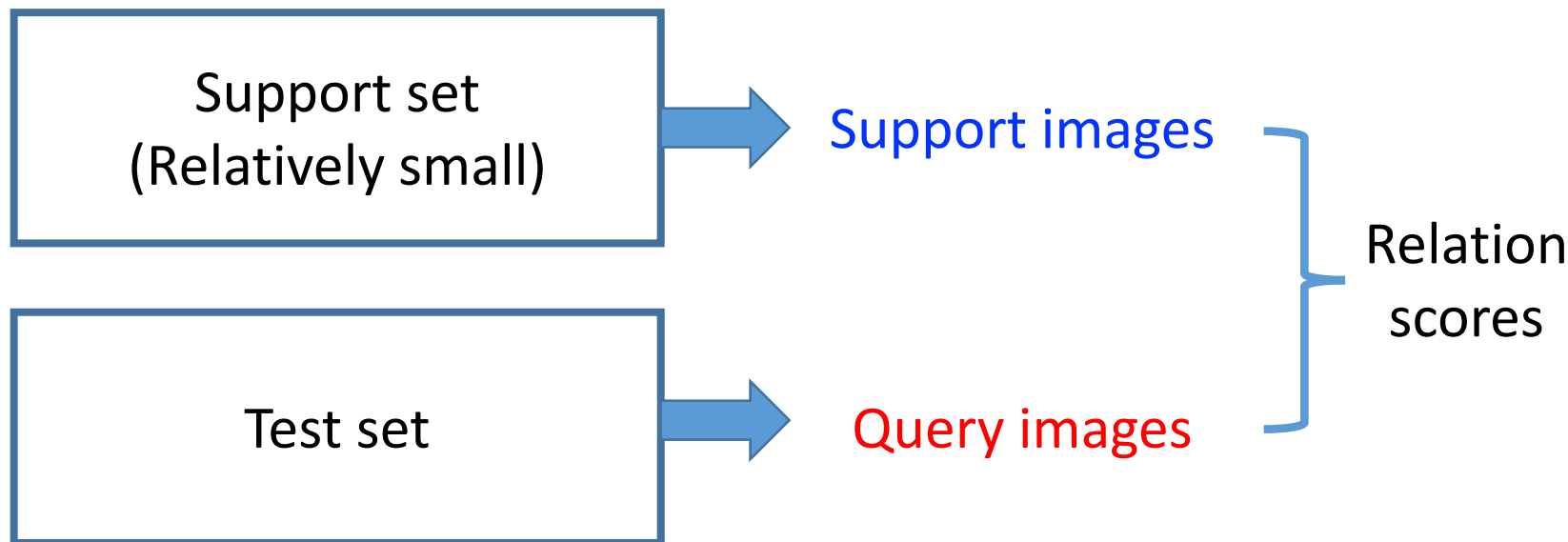
Few-shot learning

Must train a classifier to recognize new classes given few examples from each.



Relation network--classifying by comparison

Relation network (RN) compares **support images** and **query images** and makes classification according to the returned “**relation scores**”

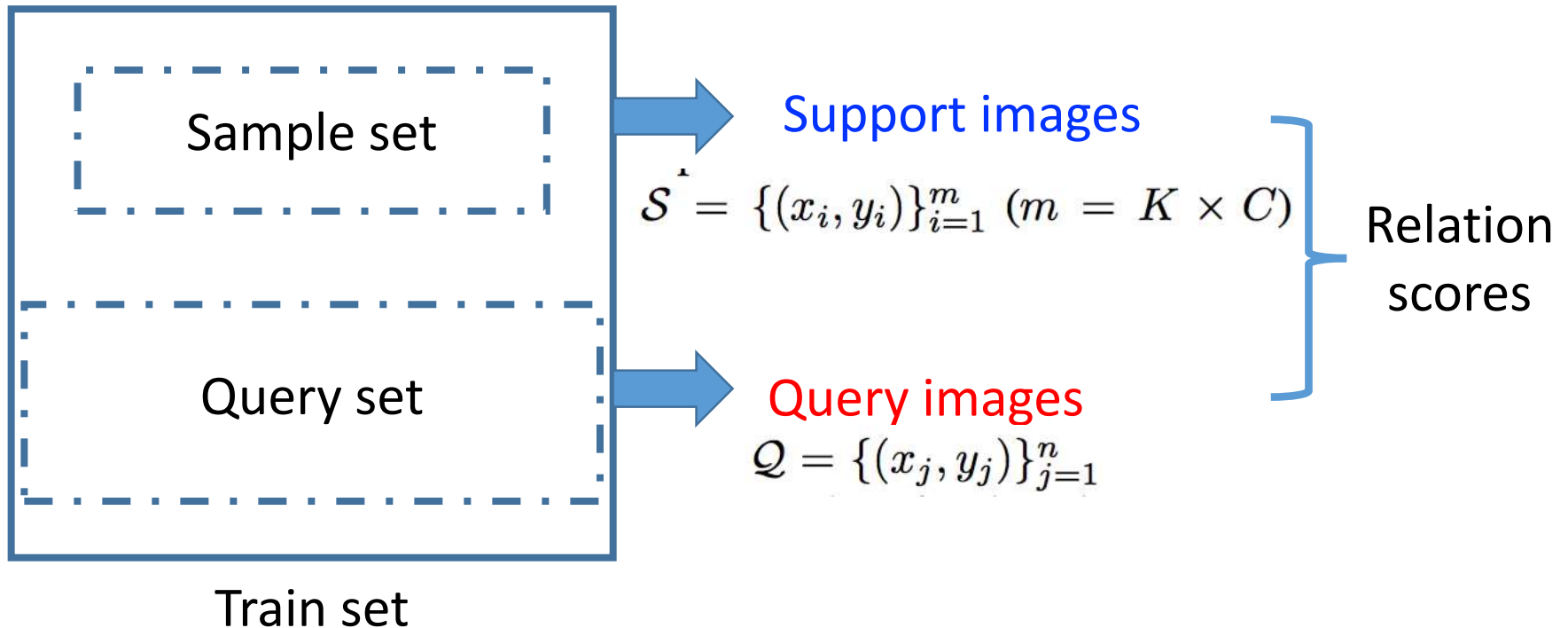


Discussion: Converting classification task into retrieval task?

Relation network--classifying by comparison

Relation network (RN) learn to compare with meta-learning: to **mimic** the comparison procedure on the training set and learn the model.

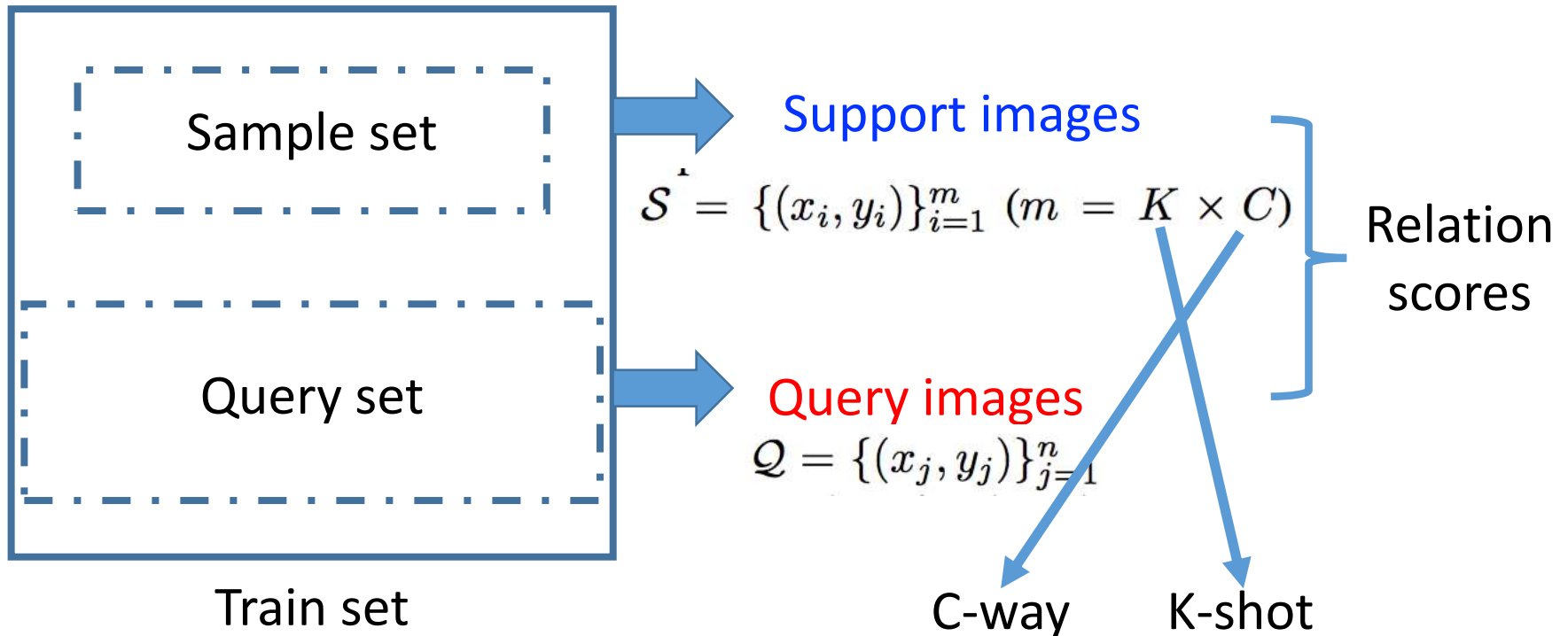
In each episode



Relation network--classifying by comparison

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In each episode



Relation network--structure

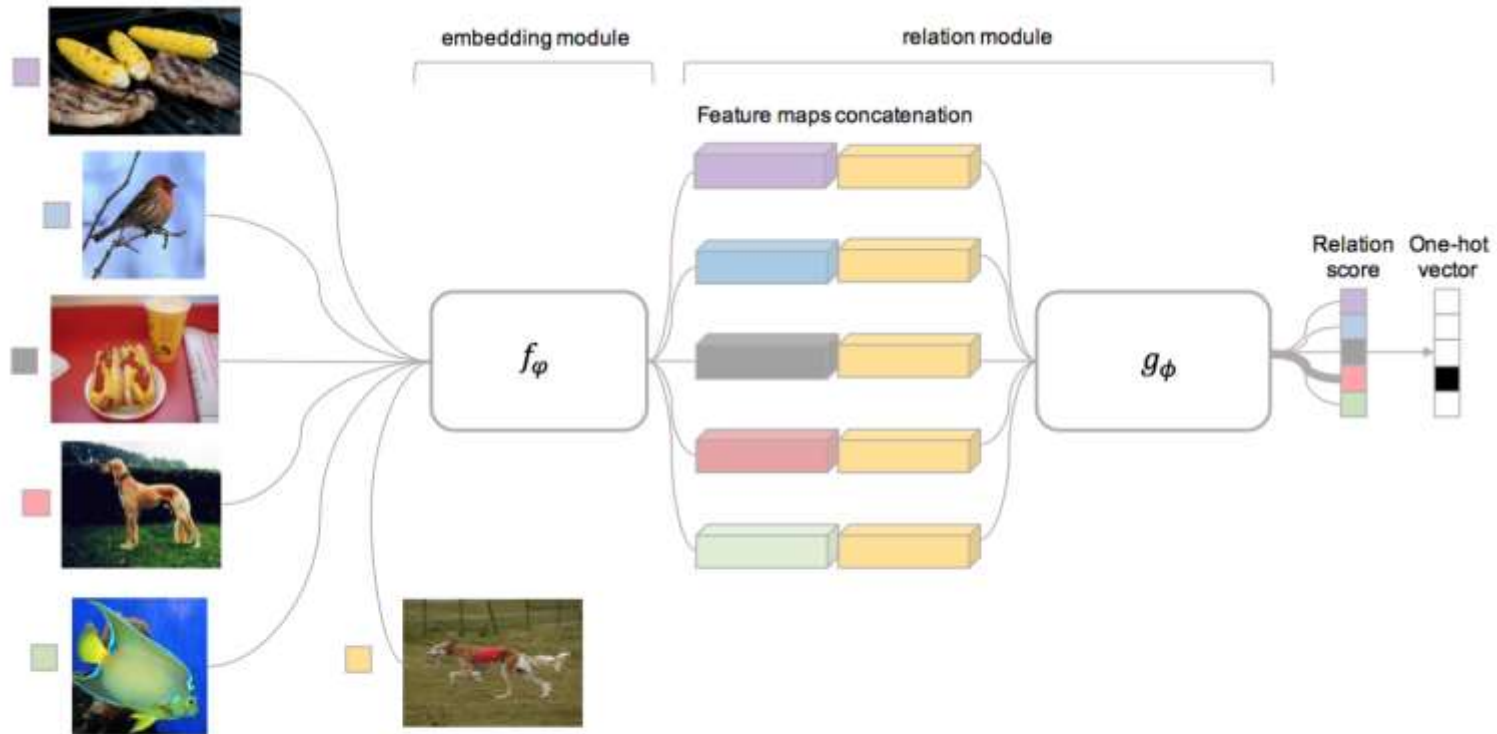


Figure 1: Relation Network architecture with a 5-way 1-shot 1-query example.

$$r_{i,j} = g_\phi(\mathcal{C}(f_\phi(x_i), f_\phi(x_j))), \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, C$$

Relation network--structure

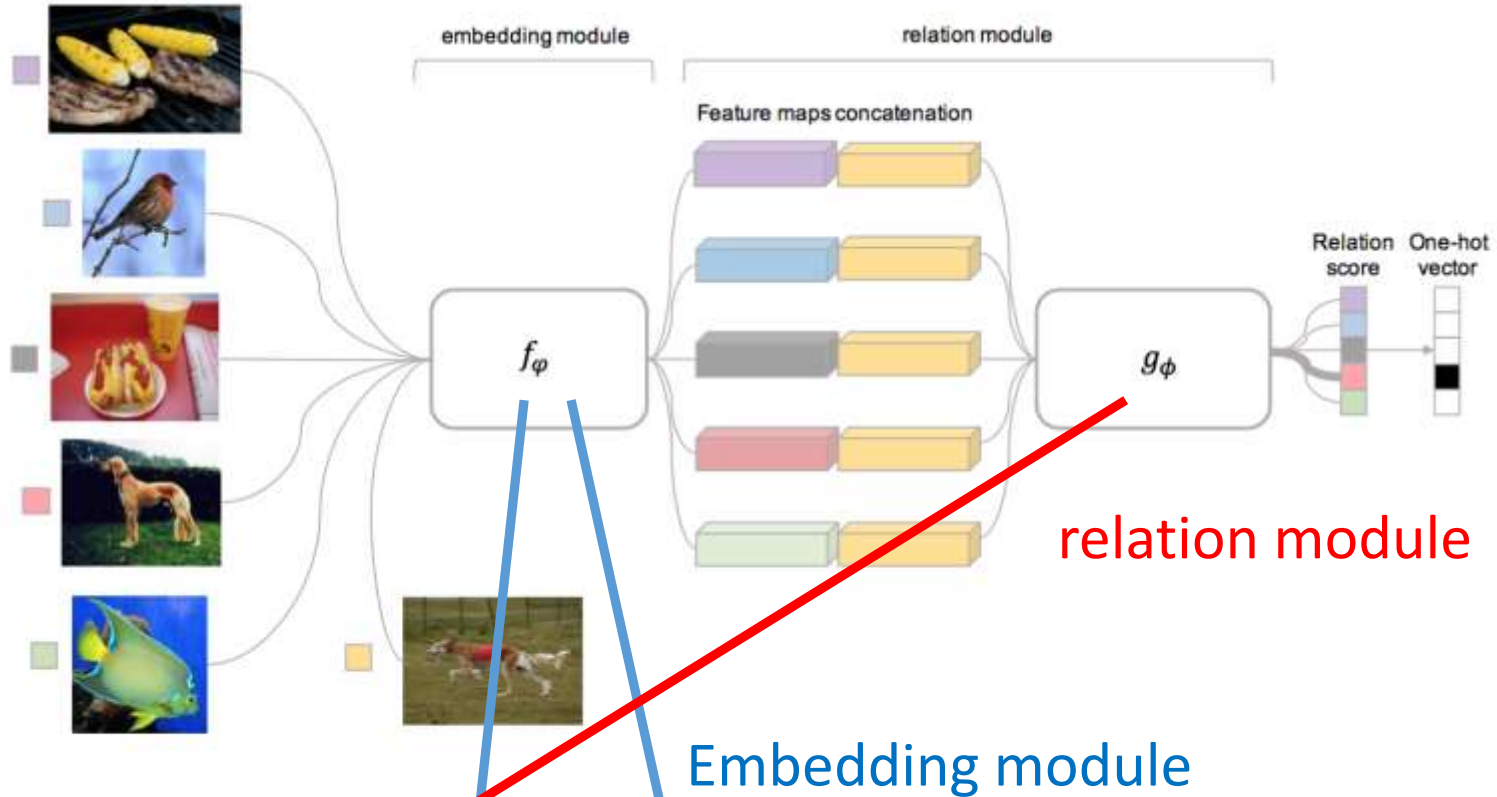


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$$r_{i,j} = g_\phi(\mathcal{C}(f_\phi(x_i), f_\phi(x_j))), \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, C$$

$r_{i,j}$ is bounded between (0,1) by sigmoid function

Relation network--structure

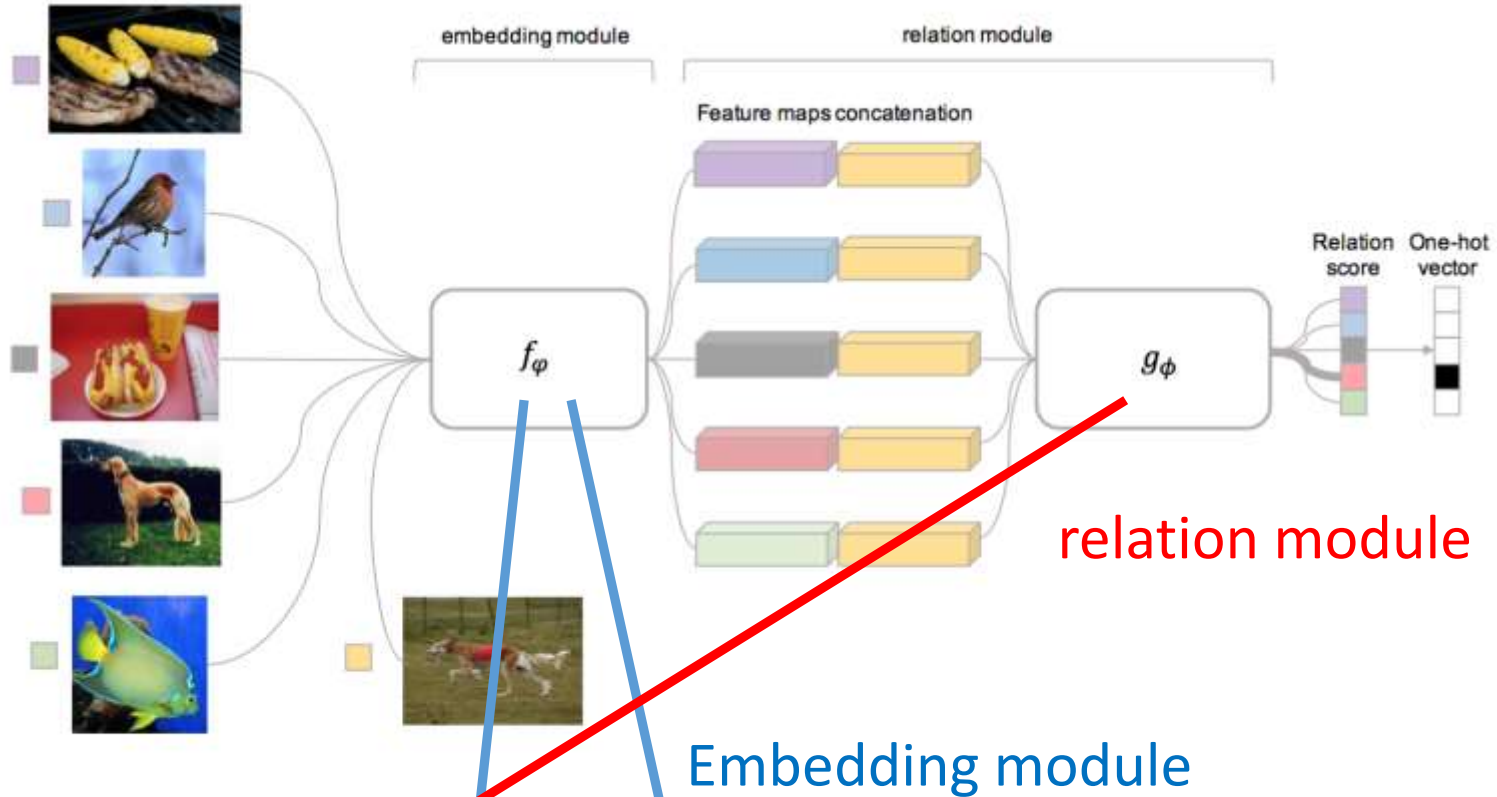


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$$r_{i,j} = g_\phi(\mathcal{C}(f_\phi(x_i), f_\phi(x_j))), \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, C$$

Optimization target: $\varphi, \phi \leftarrow \operatorname{argmin}_{\varphi, \phi} \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^n (r_{i,j} - \mathbf{1}(y_i == y_j))^2$

Relation network--structure

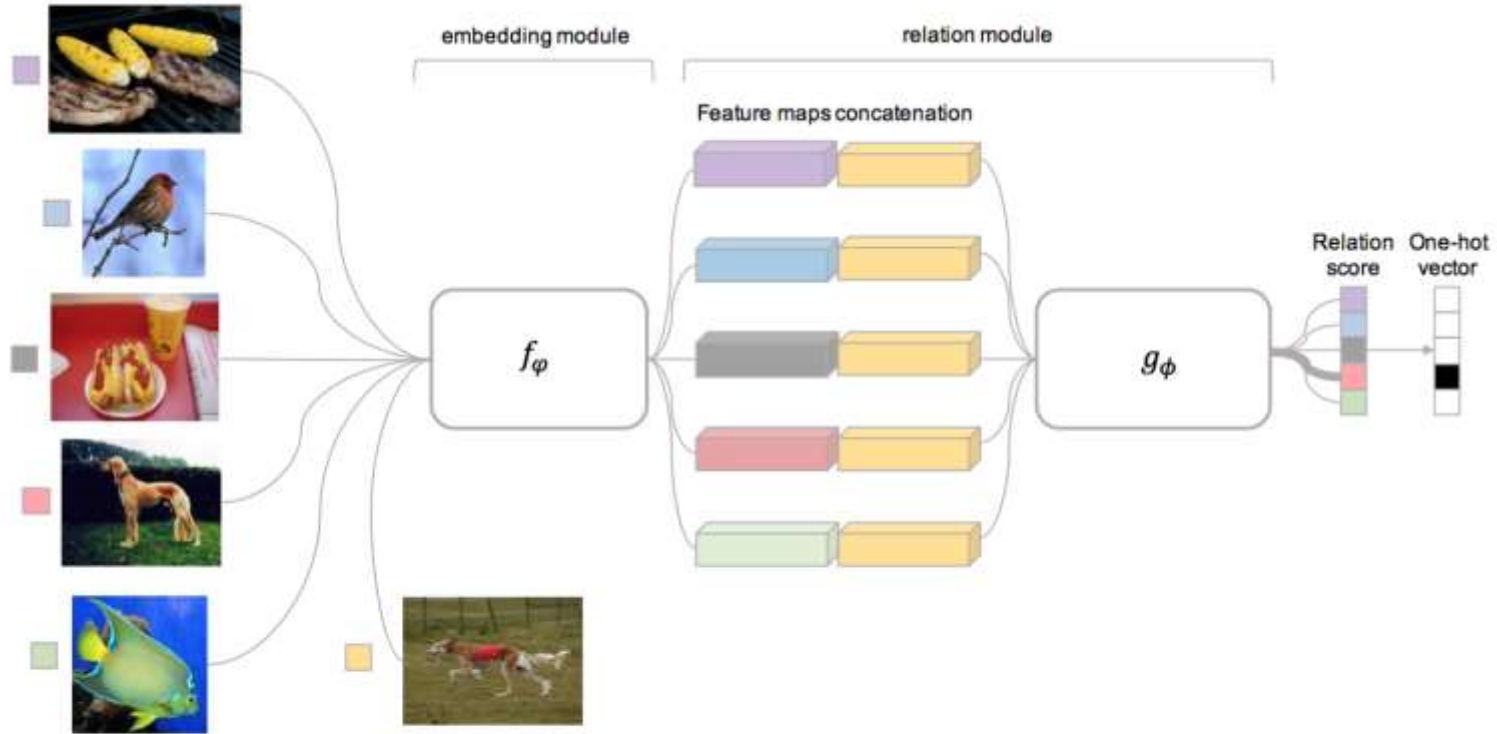


Figure 1: Relation Network architecture with a 5-way 1-shot 1-query example.

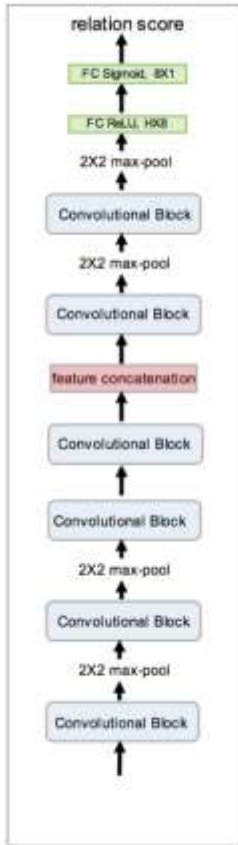
A detail for K-shot: K embedded features are pooled by pixel-wise sum operation

Relation network--structure

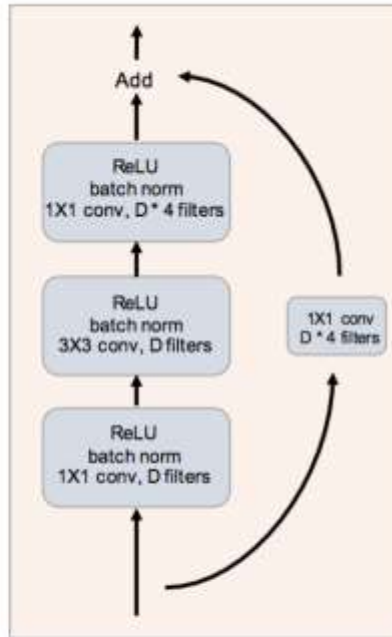
(a) Convolutional Block



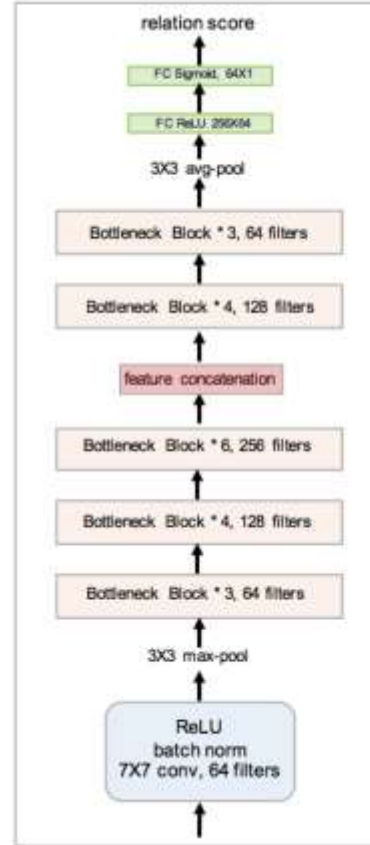
(b) Naive RN for few-shot learning



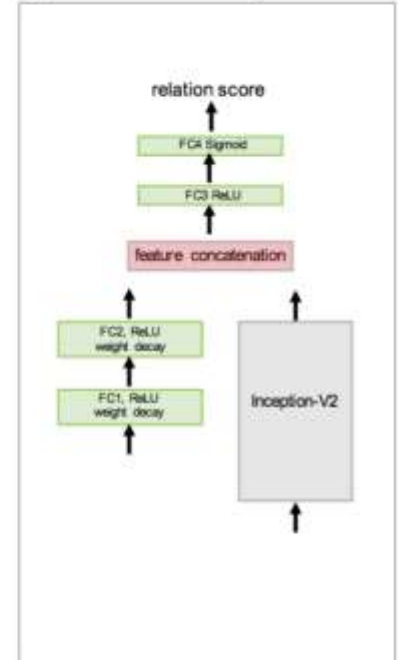
(c) Bottleneck Block



(d) Deeper RN for few-shot learning



(e) RN for zero-shot learning



Detailed structure

Extension to 0-shot learning: different embedding module for sample and query images

Semantic vector

images

Experiments

Model	Fine Tune	5-way Acc.		20-way Acc.	
		1-shot	5-shot	1-shot	5-shot
MANN [31]	N	82.8%	94.9%	-	-
CONVOLUTIONAL SIAMESE NETS [18]	N	96.7%	98.4%	88.0%	96.5%
CONVOLUTIONAL SIAMESE NETS [18]	Y	97.3%	98.4%	88.1%	97.0%
MATCHING NETS [38]	N	98.1%	98.9%	93.8%	98.5%
MATCHING NETS [38]	Y	97.9%	98.7%	93.5%	98.7%
SIAMESE NETS WITH MEMORY [16]	N	98.4%	99.6%	95.0%	98.6%
NEURAL STATISTICIAN [8]	N	98.1%	99.5%	93.2%	98.1%
META NETS [26]	N	99.0%	-	97.0%	-
PROTOTYPICAL NETS [35]	N	98.8%	99.7%	96.0%	98.9%
MAML [10]	Y	98.7 ± 0.4%	99.9 ± 0.1%	95.8 ± 0.3%	98.9 ± 0.2%
RELATION NET	N	99.6 ± 0.2%	99.8 ± 0.1%	97.6 ± 0.2%	99.1 ± 0.1%

Table 1: Omniglot few-shot classification. Results are accuracies averaged over 1000 test episodes and with 95% confidence intervals where reported. The best-performing method is highlighted, along with others whose confidence intervals overlap. ‘-’: not reported.

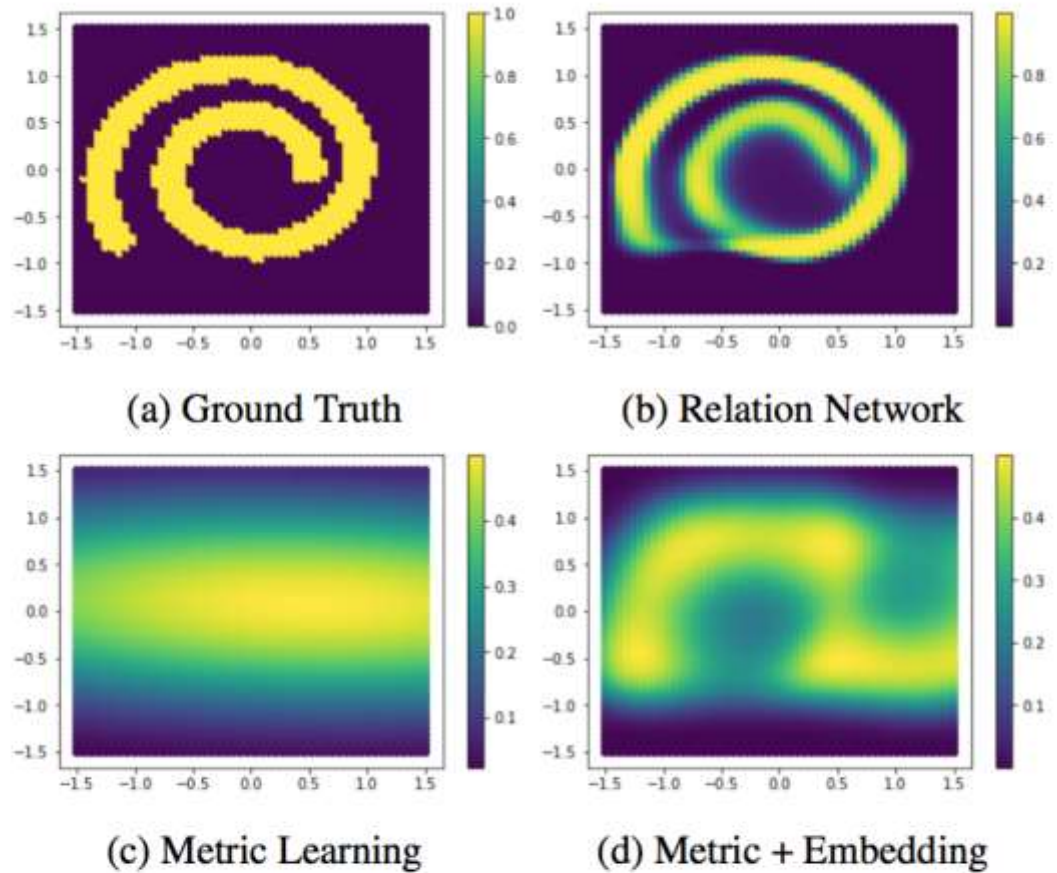
Why does RN work?

Both deep feature embedding and deep **distance metric** are learnable.

The concatenation operation is in relatively **bottom layer**

When training a Siamese network or a triplet network, we apply metric constraint on a specified feature and then use the Euclidean distance (or other fixed metric) for metric for inference.

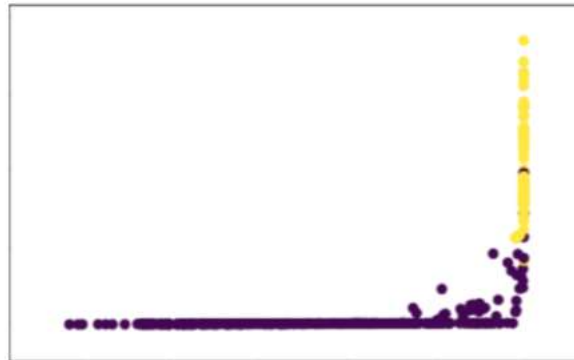
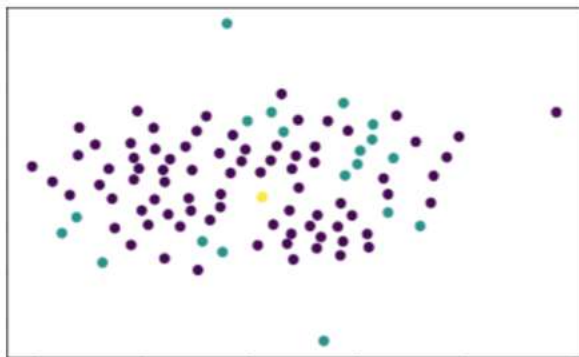
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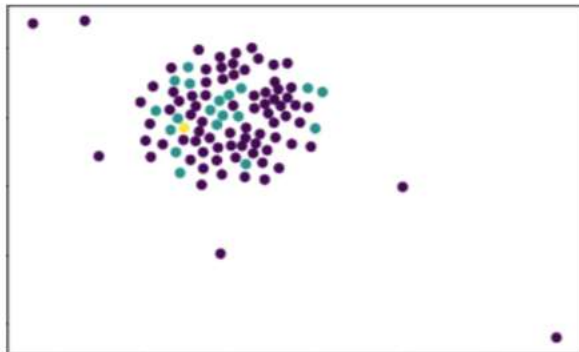
2D data space

Figure 3: An example relation learnable by Relation Network and not by non-linear embedding + metric learning.

Why does RN work?



The feature embeddings are difficult to separate.



The relation module pair representations are linearly separable

Figure 4: Example Omniglot few-shot problem visualisations. Left: Matched (cyan) and mismatched (magenta) sample embeddings for a given query (yellow) are not straightforward to differentiate. Right: Matched (yellow) and mismatched (magenta) relation module pair representations are linearly separable.

Why does RN work? My guess

- 1) Feature concatenation operation in very early stage (bottom layers)
- 2) K sample images to mimic the K-shot
- 3) Converting classification to "comparison", which is a semi-parameter model approach.