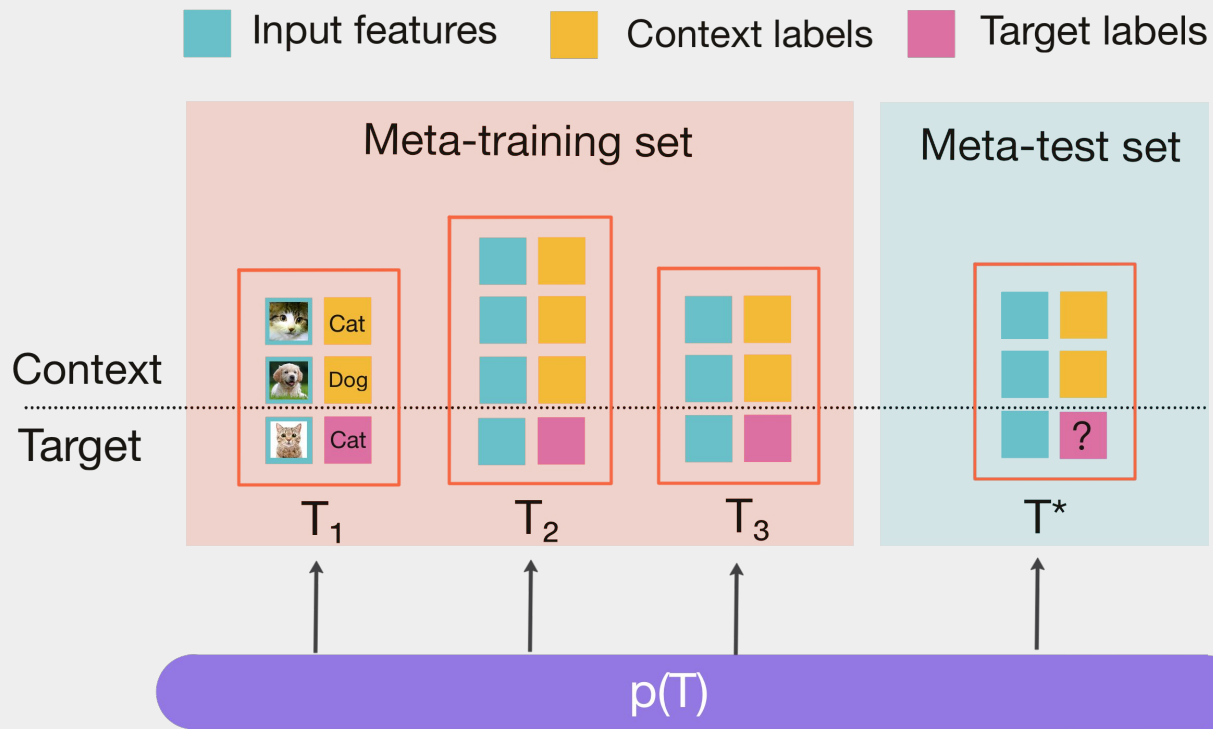


MetaFun: Meta-Learning with Iterative Functional Updates




Jin Xu, Jean-Francois Ton, Hyunjik Kim, Adam R. Kosiorek, Yee Whye Teh

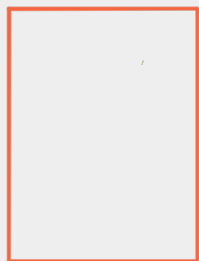


Supervised Meta-Learning

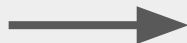


Supervised Meta-Learning

 Input features  Context labels  Target labels

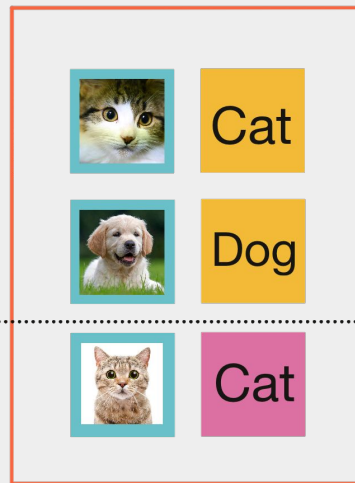


T_1



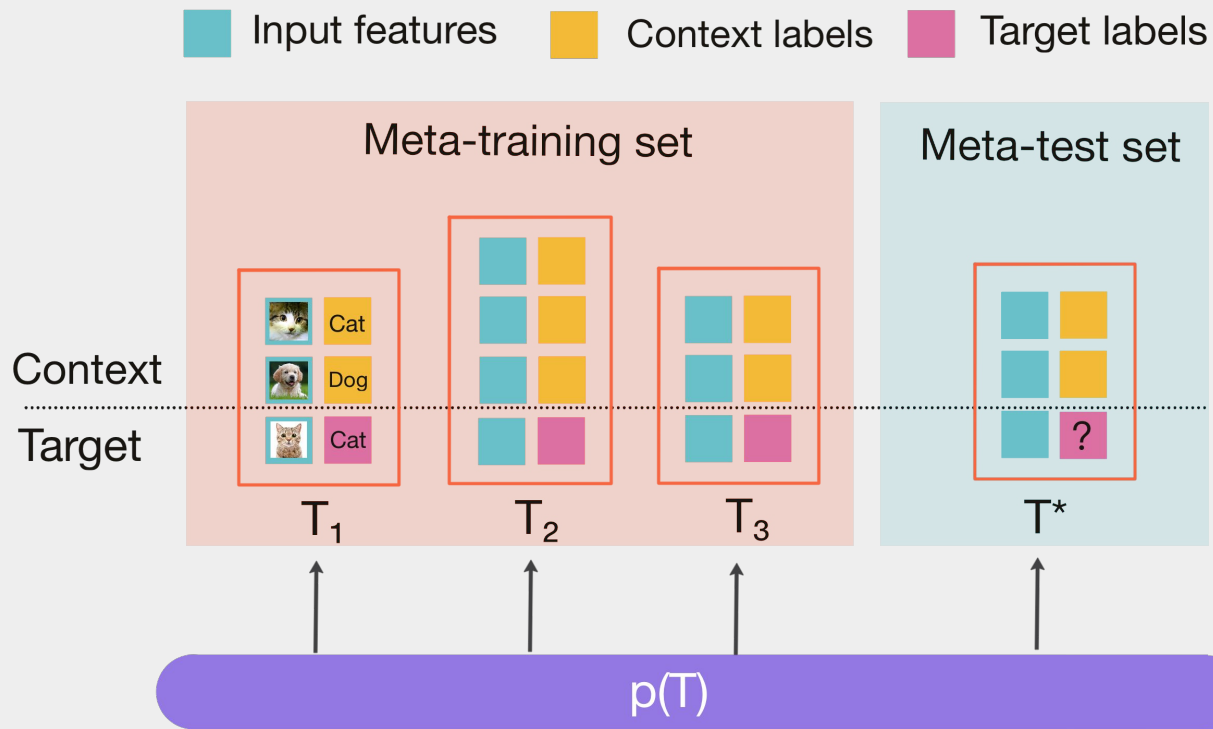
Context
(training set in a task)

Target
(test set in a task)

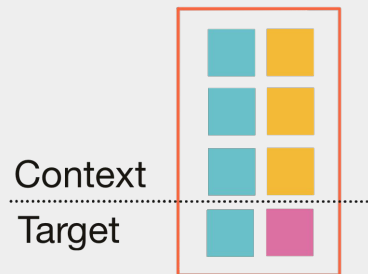


T_1

Supervised Meta-Learning

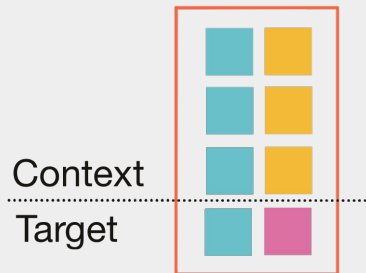


Encoder-Decoder Approaches to Supervised Meta-Learning

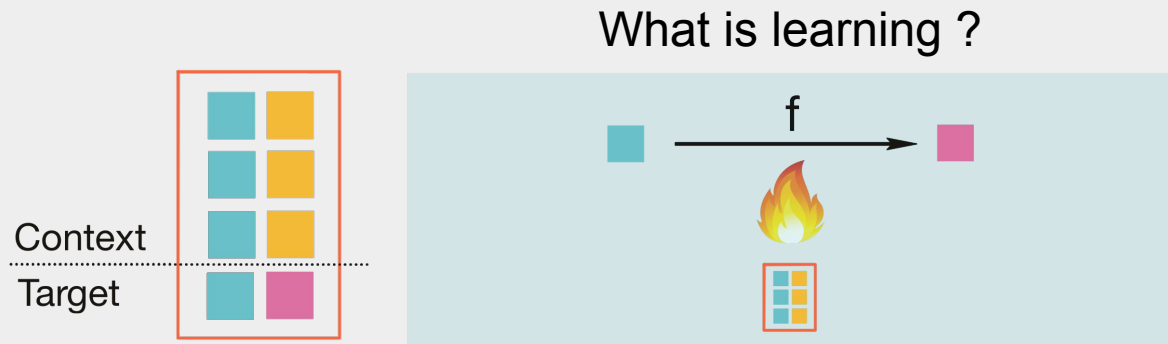


Encoder-Decoder Approaches to Supervised Meta-Learning

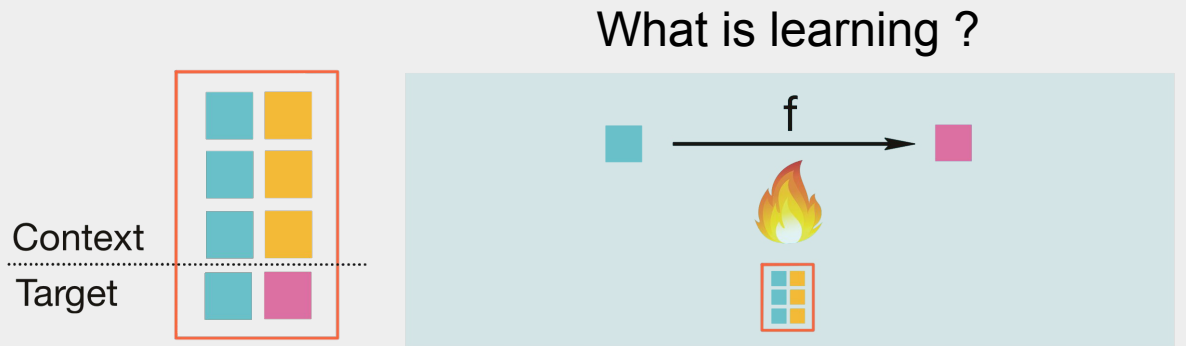
What is learning ?



Encoder-Decoder Approaches to Supervised Meta-Learning



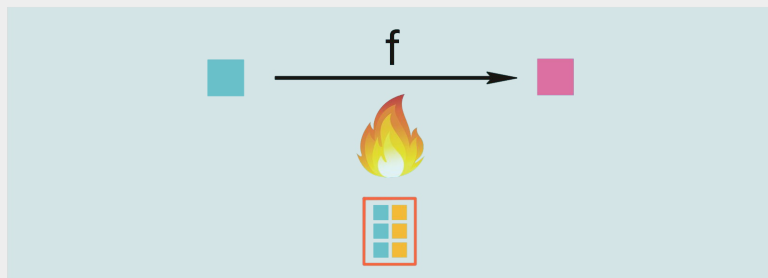
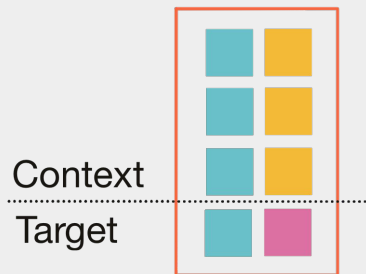
Encoder-Decoder Approaches to Supervised Meta-Learning



What is meta-learning?
(in encoder-decoder approaches like CNP^[1])

Encoder-Decoder Approaches to Supervised Meta-Learning

What is learning ?



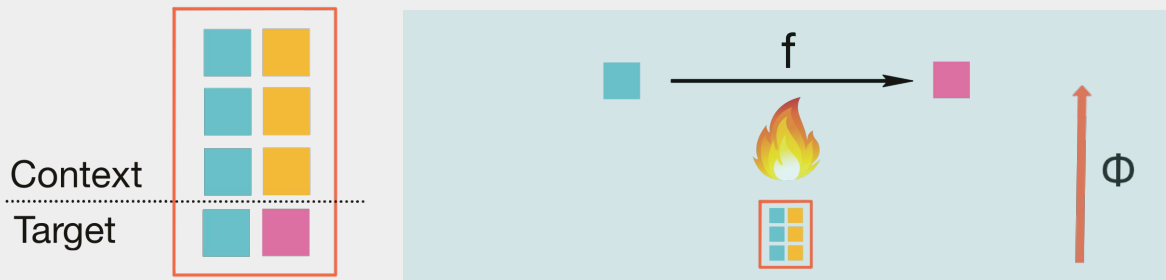
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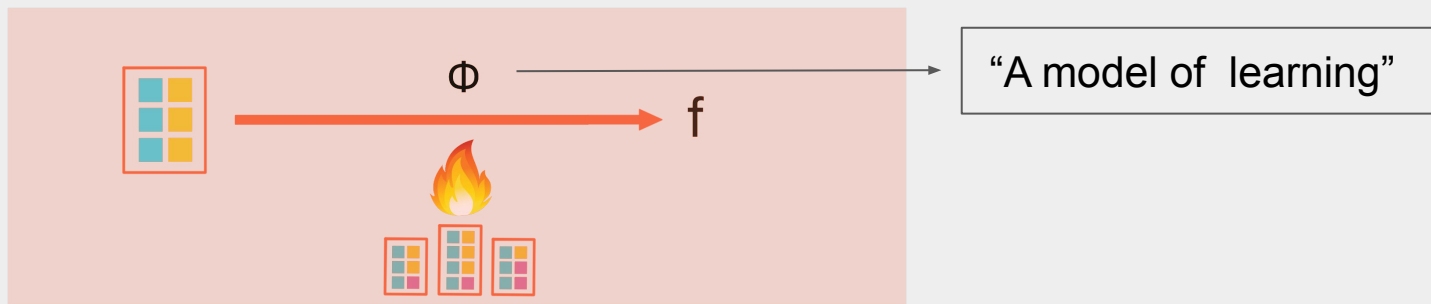
Encoder-Decoder Approaches to Supervised Meta-Learning

What is learning ?

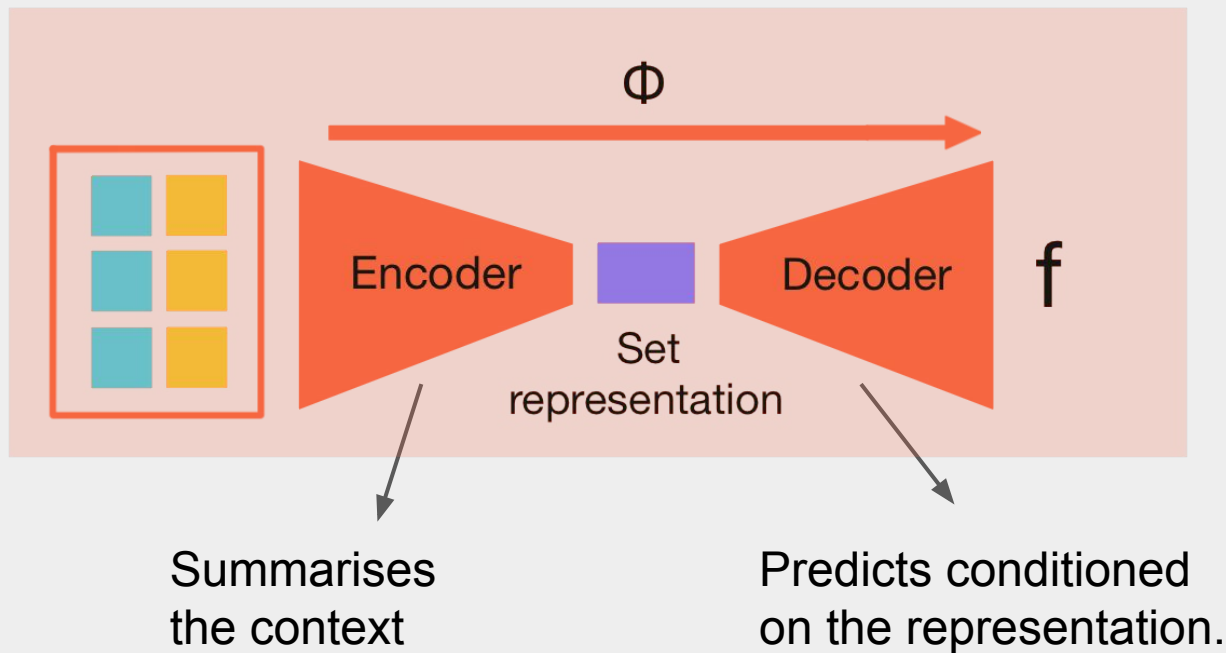


What is meta-learning?

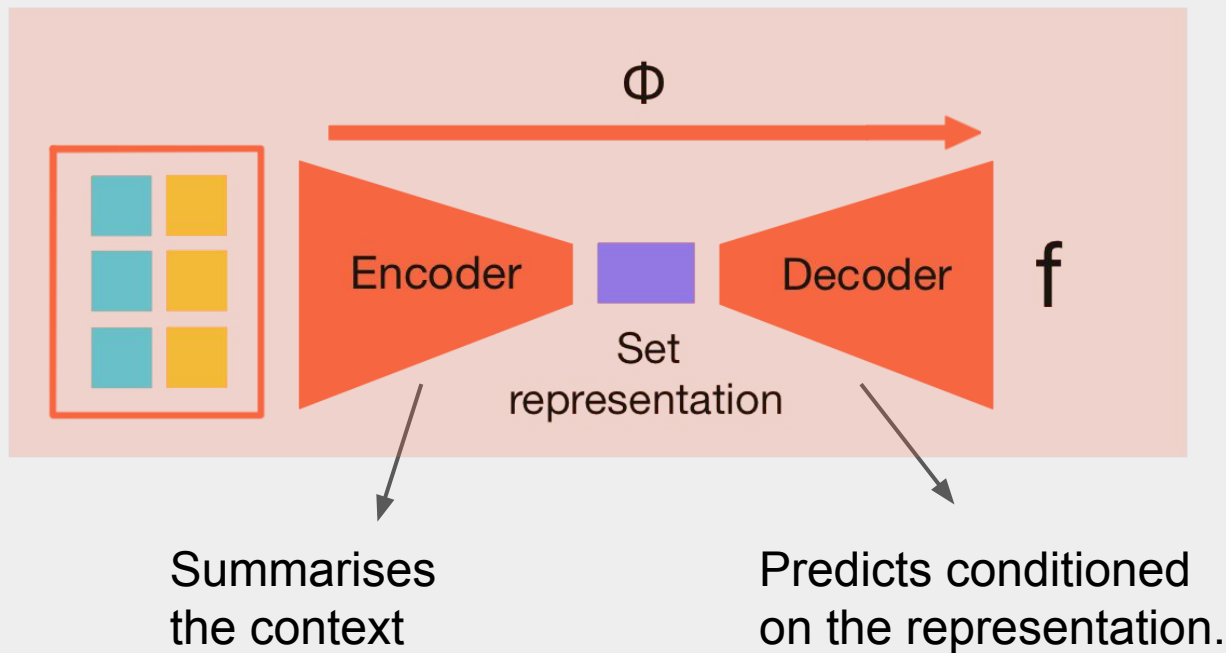
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Encoder-Decoder Approaches to Supervised Meta-Learning

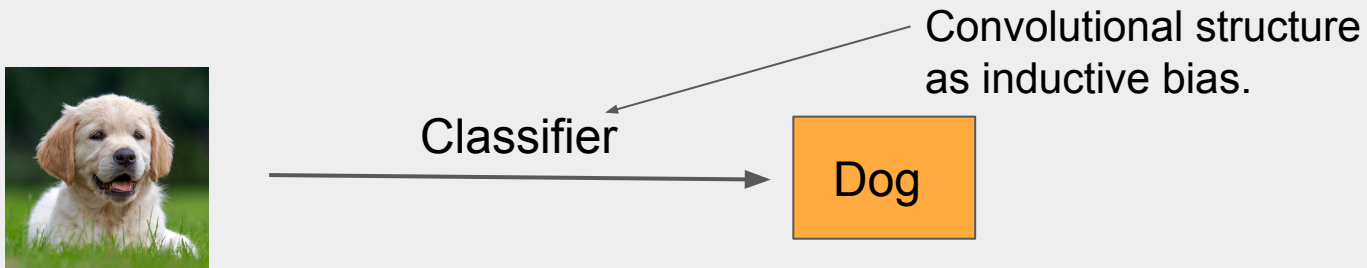


Encoder-Decoder Approaches to Supervised Meta-Learning

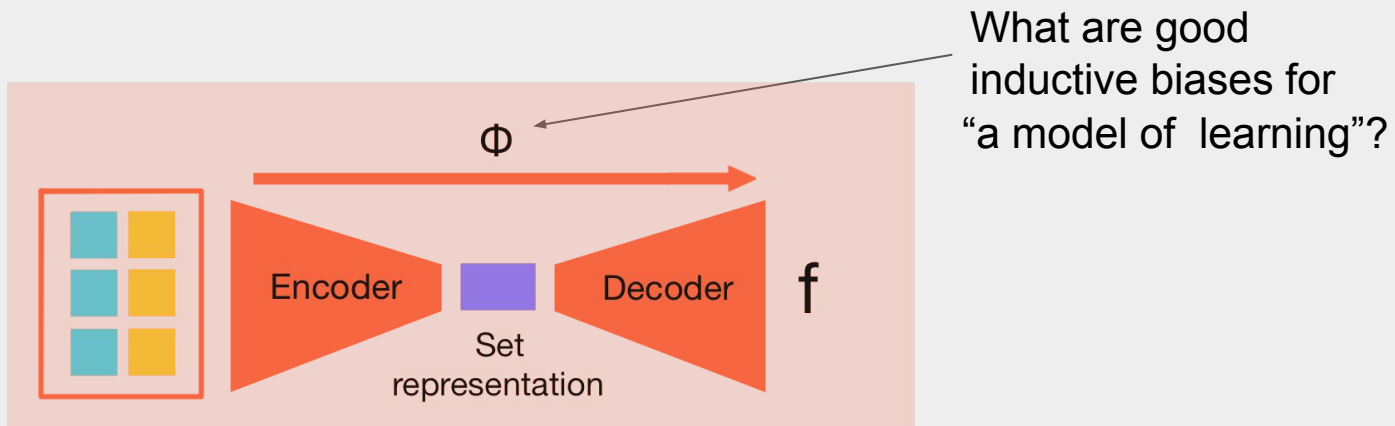
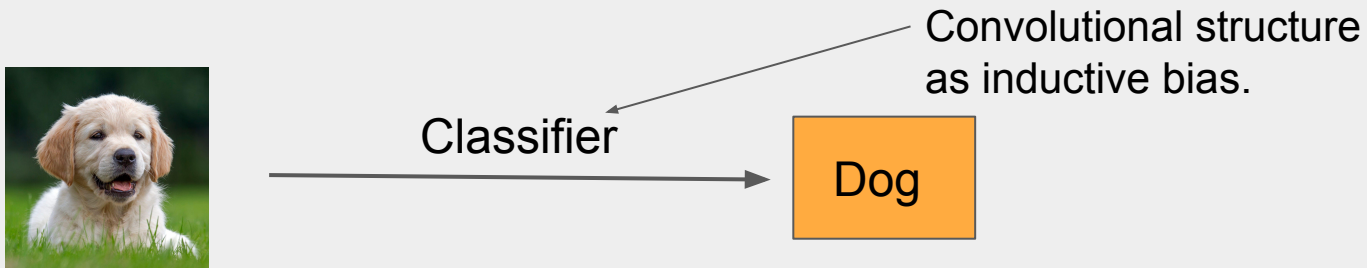


Both parameterised by NNs

Incorporating Inductive Biases into Deep Learning Models

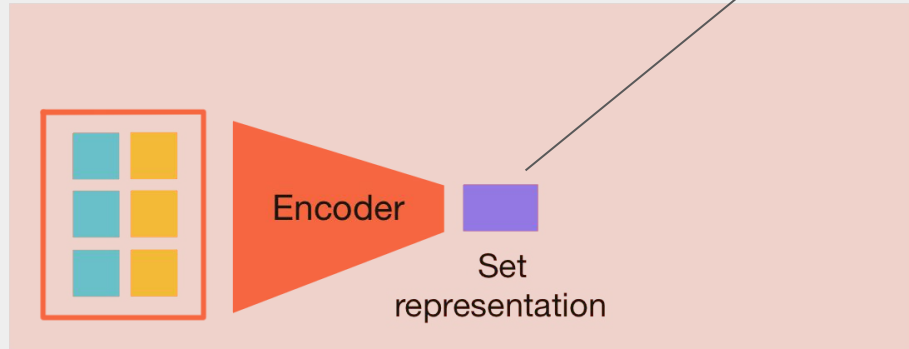


Incorporating Inductive Biases into Deep Learning Models



MetaFun Overview

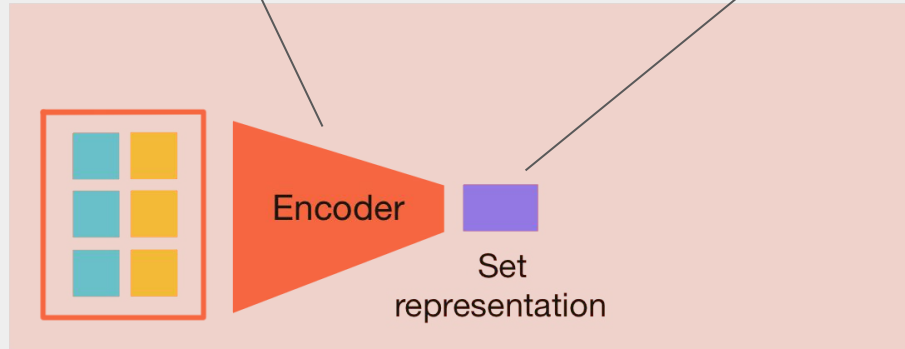
What is a better form of set representation?



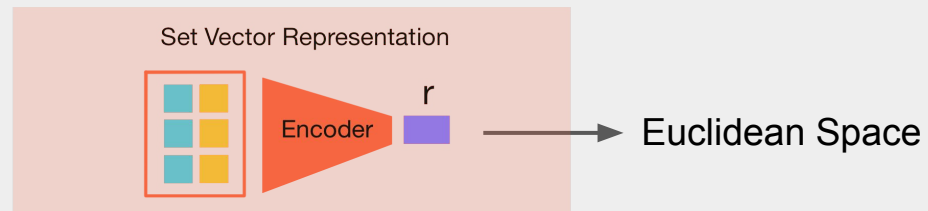
MetaFun Overview

What are good inductive biases/structures for the encoder?

What is a better form of set representation?

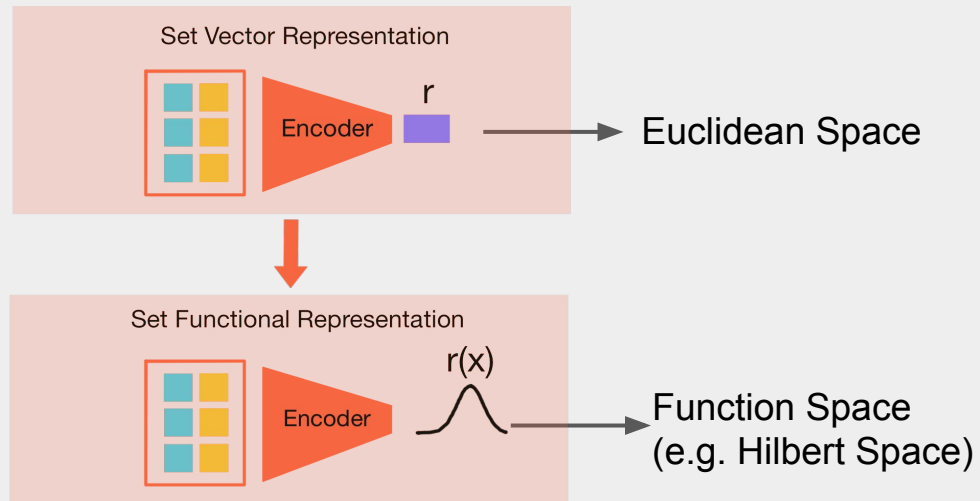


MetaFun Overview



MetaFun Overview

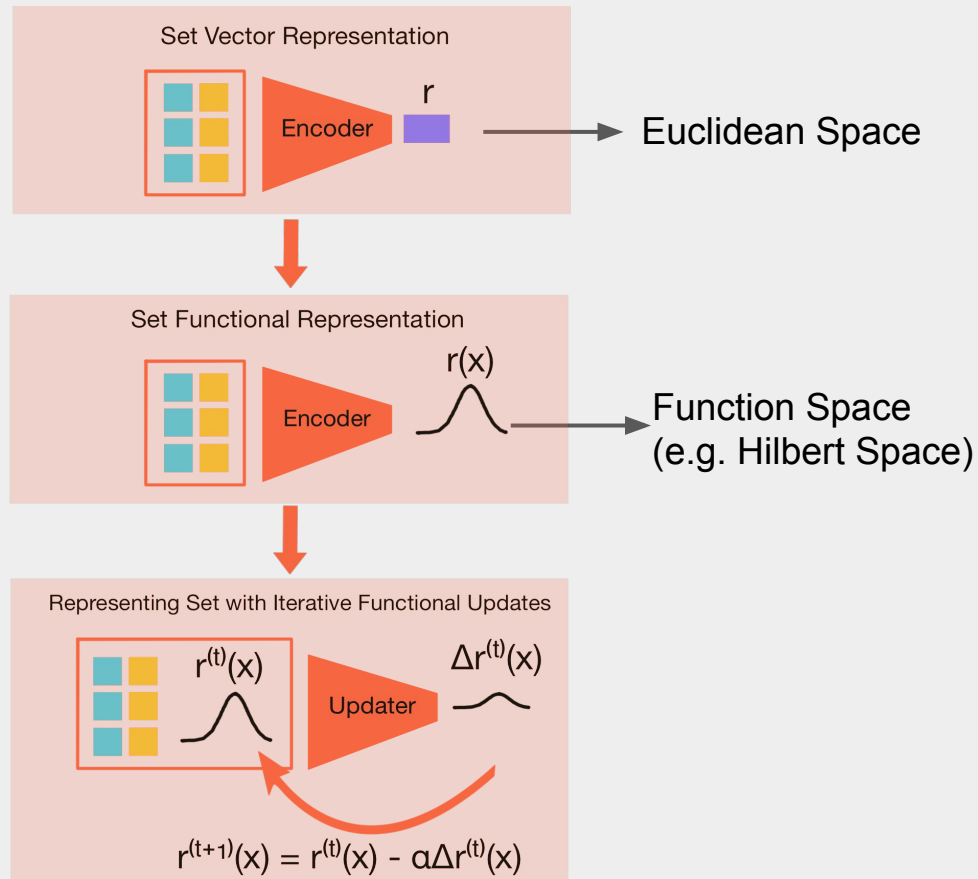
Functional Representation



MetaFun Overview

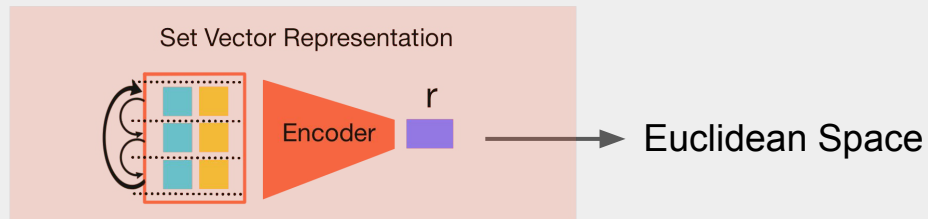
Functional Representation

Encoders with Iterative Structure



MetaFun Overview

Functional Representation

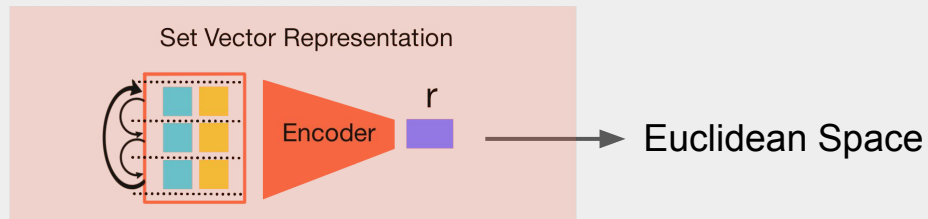


(permutation of data points should not change set representation)

Encoders with Iterative Structure

MetaFun Overview

Functional Representation



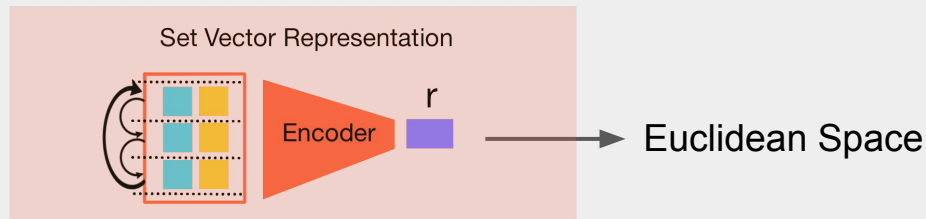
(permutation of data points should not change set representation)

$$\text{Encoder} \left(\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \text{blue} & \text{yellow} \\ \hline \text{blue} & \text{yellow} \\ \hline \end{array} \right) = \sum_{\substack{\text{for all } \text{blue} \\ \text{in the context}}} h(\text{blue}, \text{yellow})^{[1][2][7]}$$

Encoders with Iterative Structure

MetaFun Overview

Functional Representation



(permutation of data points should not change set representation)

$$\text{Encoder} \left(\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} \right) = \sum_{\substack{\text{for all } \square \text{ and } \square \\ \text{in the context}}} h(\square, \square) \quad [1][2][7]$$

Encoders with Iterative Structure

Fixed dimensional representation can be limiting for large set size^[4], and often lead to underfitting^[3].

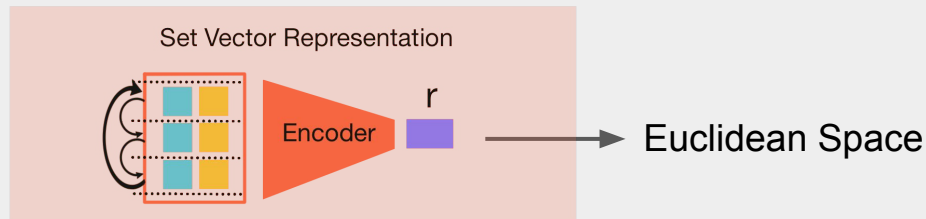
MetaFun Overview

Functional Representation

Permutation invariance

Flexible capacity

Encoders with Iterative Structure



(permutation of data points should not change set representation)

$$\text{Encoder} \left(\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} \right) = \sum_{\substack{\text{for all } \square \text{ and } \square \\ \text{in the context}}} h(\square, \square) \quad [1][2][7]$$

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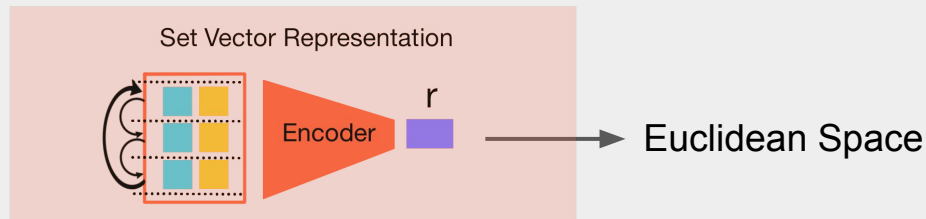
MetaFun Overview

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Self-attention modules^[6] or relation network^[9] can model interaction within the context, but not context-target interaction

MetaFun Overview

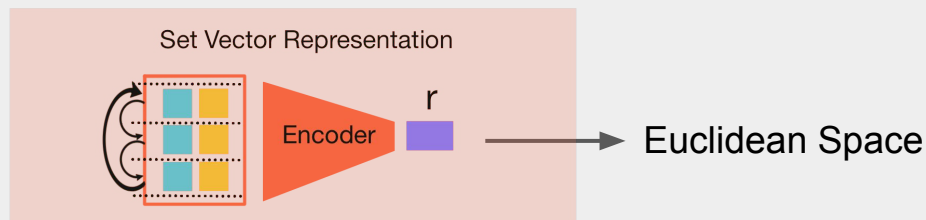
Functional Representation

Permutation invariance

Flexible capacity

Within-context and context-target interaction

Encoders with Iterative Structure



(permutation of data points should not change set representation)

$$\text{Encoder} \left(\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \square & \square \\ \hline \end{array} \right) = \sum_{\substack{\text{for all } \square \text{ and } \square \\ \text{in the context}}} h(\square, \square) \quad [1][2][7]$$

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MetaFun Overview

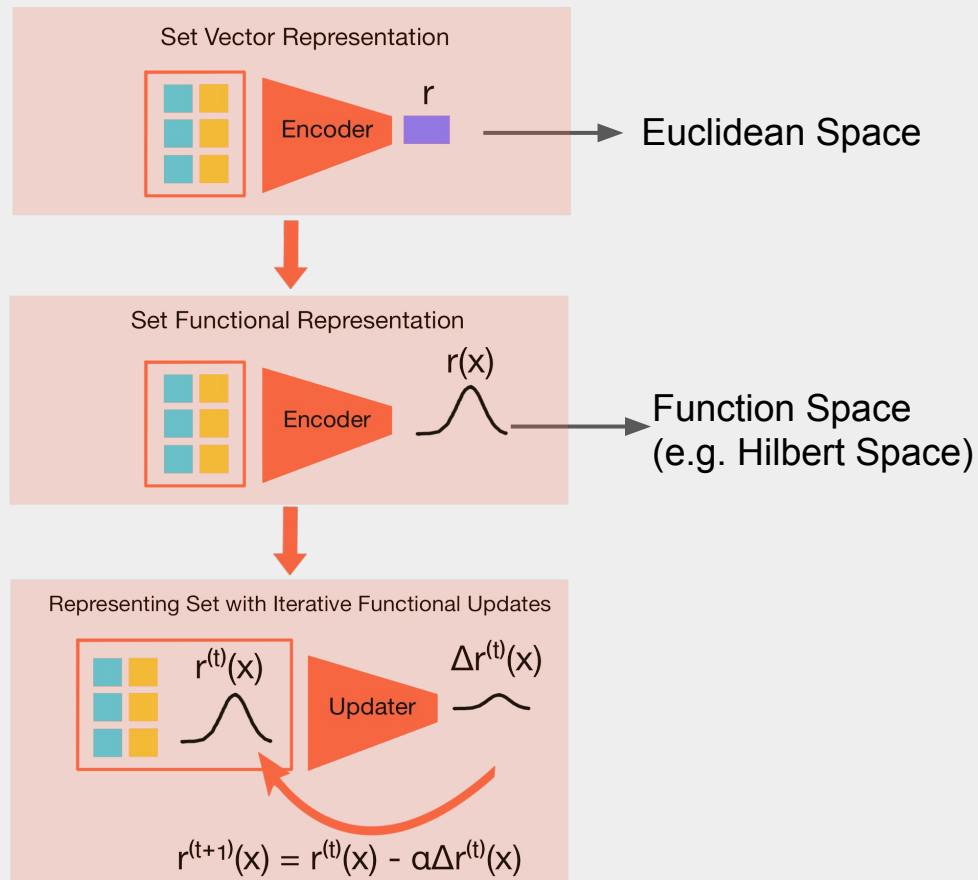
Functional Representation

Permutation invariance

Flexible capacity

Within-context and context-target interaction

Encoders with Iterative Structure



MetaFun Overview

Functional Representation

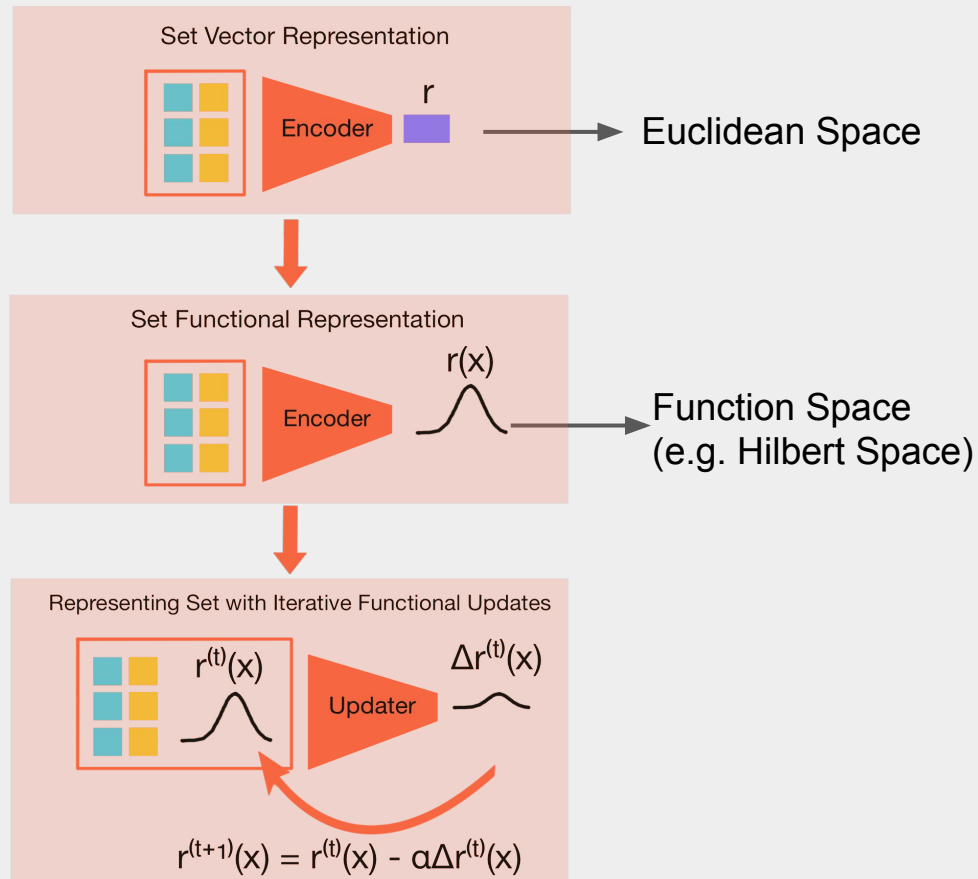
Permutation invariance

Flexible capacity

Within-context and context-target interaction

Encoders with Iterative Structure

Learning to update representation with feedback is easier than learning representation directly



MetaFun Overview

Functional Representation

Permutation invariance

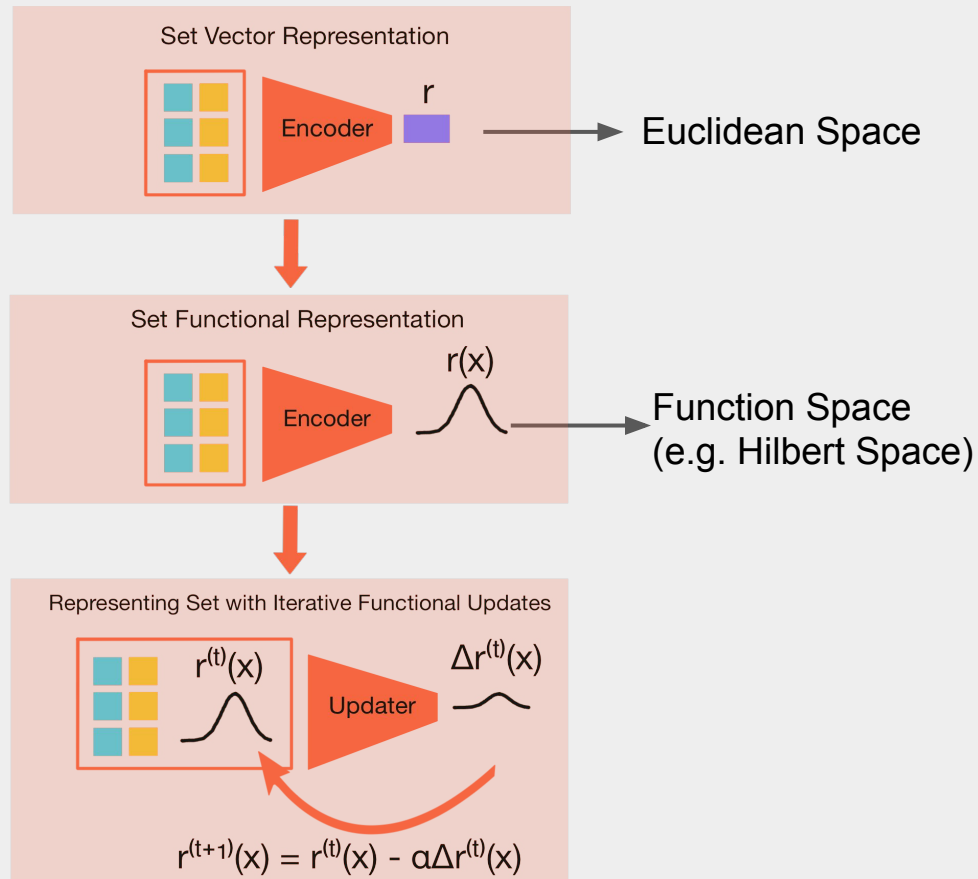
Flexible capacity

Within-context and context-target interaction

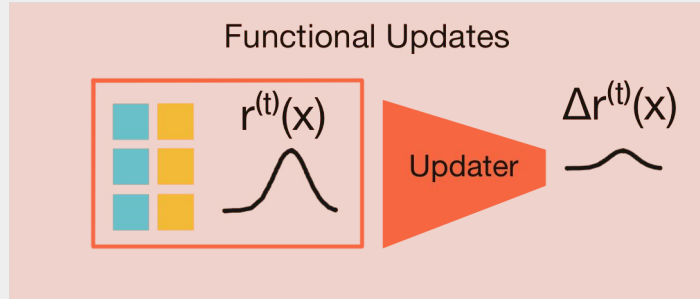
Encoders with Iterative Structure

Learning to update representation with feedback is easier than learning representation directly

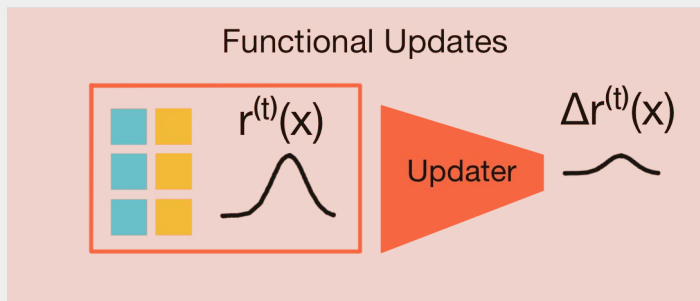
Iterative structure may be a good inductive bias for “the model of learning”. (Learning algorithms are often iterative, such as gradient descent)



MetaFun



MetaFun and Functional Gradient Descent



Gradient Descent

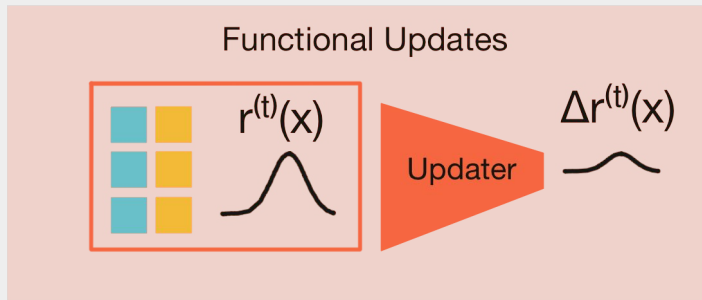
solve

$$\arg \min_{\theta} L(\theta)$$

by iterative optimisation

$$\theta_{t+1} = \theta_t - \alpha \nabla_{\theta} L(\theta_t)$$

MetaFun and Functional Gradient Descent



Gradient Descent

solve

$$\arg \min_{\theta} L(\theta)$$

by iterative optimisation

$$\theta_{t+1} = \theta_t - \alpha \nabla_{\theta} L(\theta_t)$$

Functional Gradient Descent

solve

$$\arg \min_f L(f)$$

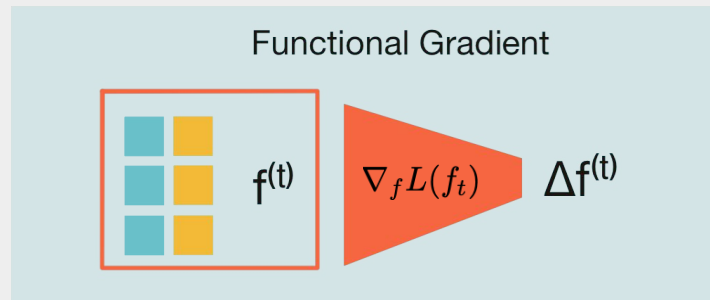
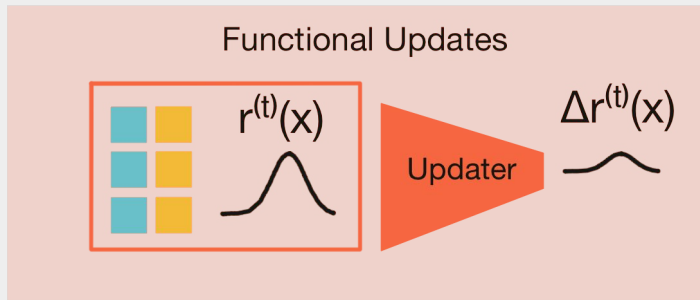
by iterative optimisation

$$f_{t+1} = f_t - \alpha \nabla_f L(f_t)$$

For supervised learning problems, the objective function often has this form:

$$L(f_t) = \frac{1}{|C|} \sum_{i \in C} l(f_t(\mathbf{x}_i), \mathbf{y}_i)$$

MetaFun and Functional Gradient Descent



Gradient Descent

solve

$$\arg \min_{\theta} L(\theta)$$

by iterative optimisation

$$\theta_{t+1} = \theta_t - \alpha \nabla_{\theta} L(\theta_t)$$

Functional Gradient Descent

solve

$$\arg \min_f L(f)$$

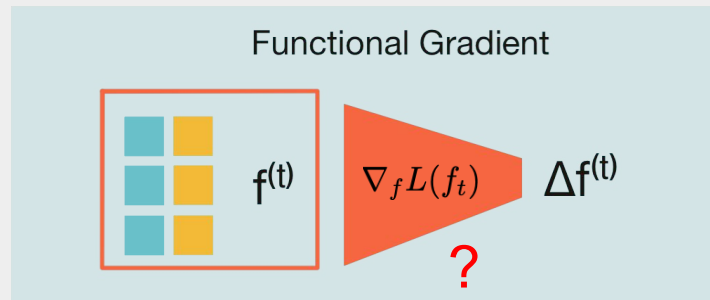
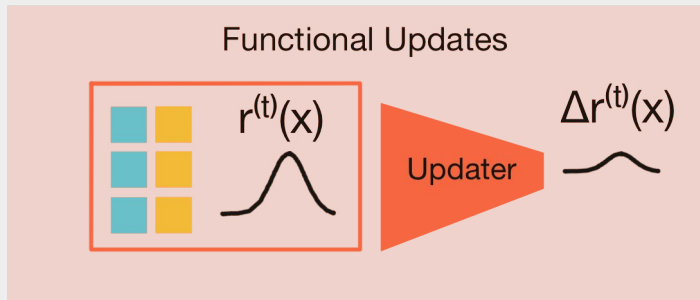
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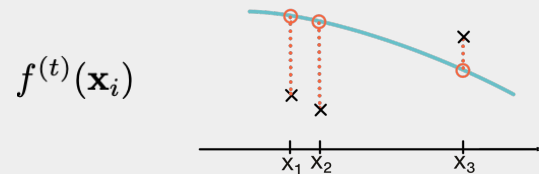
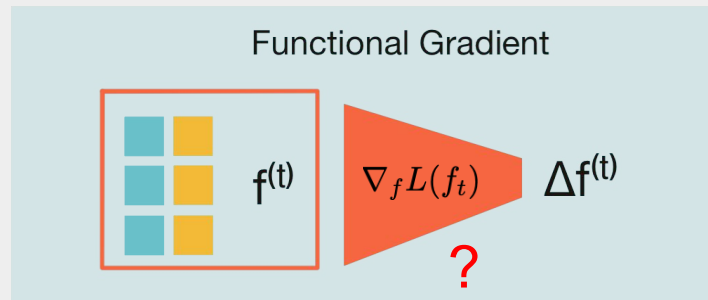
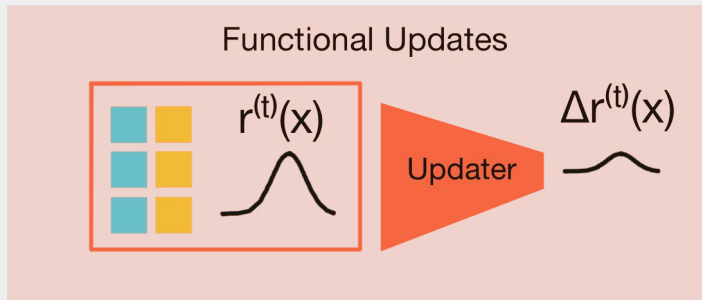
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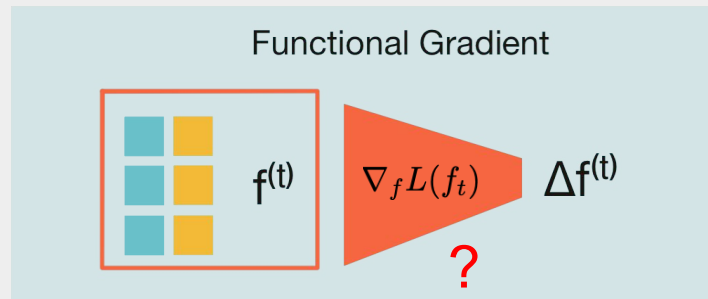
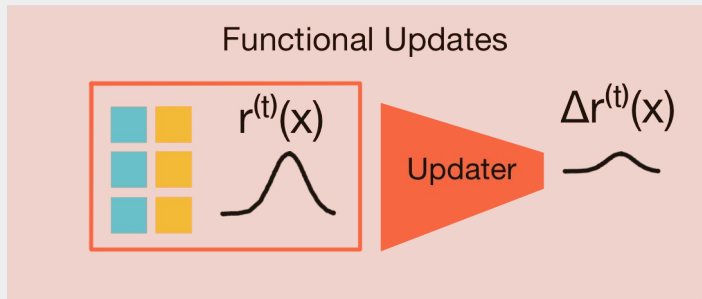
MetaFun and Functional Gradient Descent



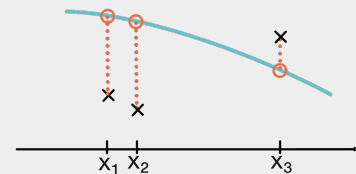
MetaFun and Functional Gradient Descent



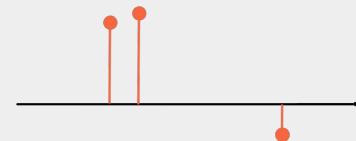
MetaFun and Functional Gradient Descent



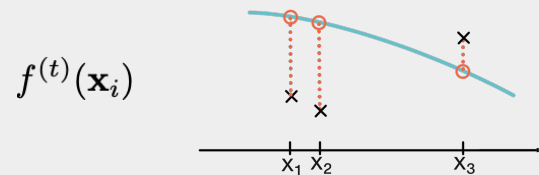
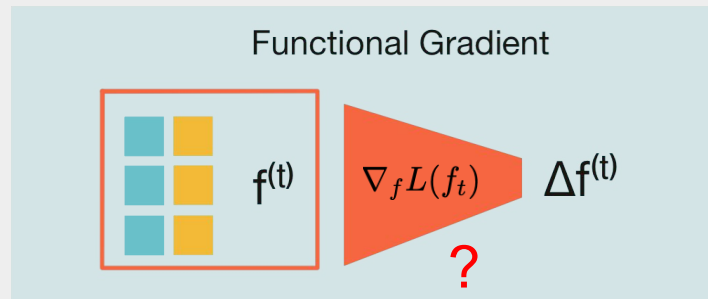
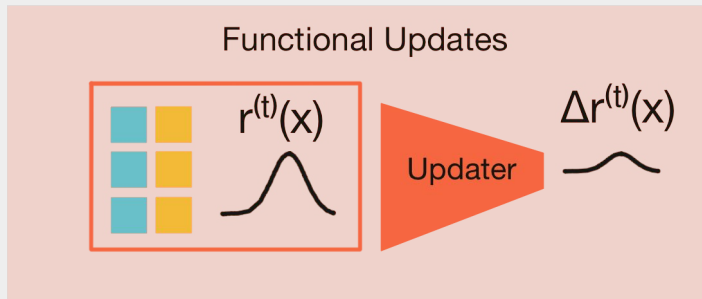
$$f^{(t)}(\mathbf{x}_i)$$



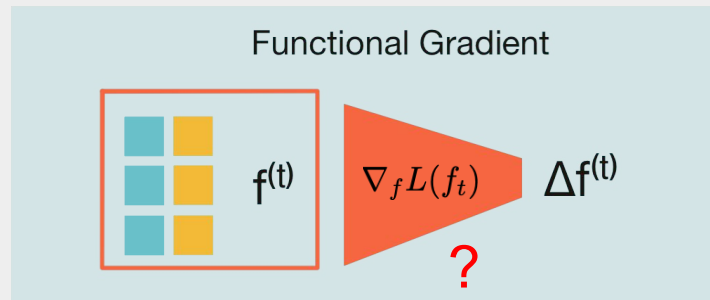
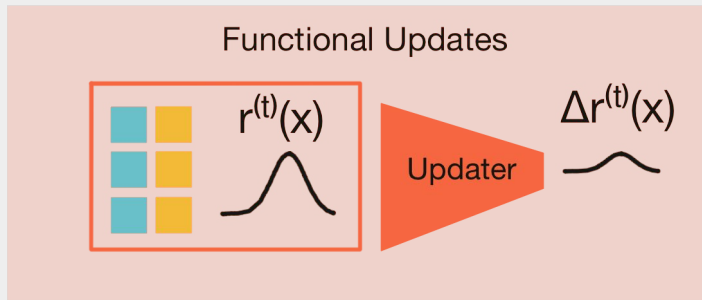
$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial f^{(t)}(\mathbf{x}_i)}$$



MetaFun and Functional Gradient Descent



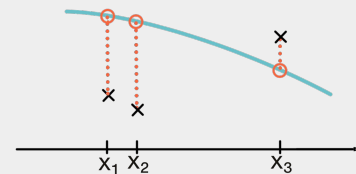
MetaFun and Functional Gradient Descent



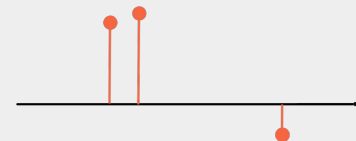
Evaluate functional representation at context:

$$r^{(t)}(\mathbf{x}_i), \forall i \in \mathcal{C}$$

$$f^{(t)}(\mathbf{x}_i)$$



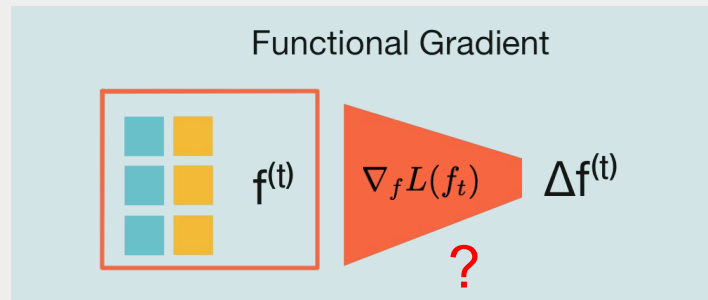
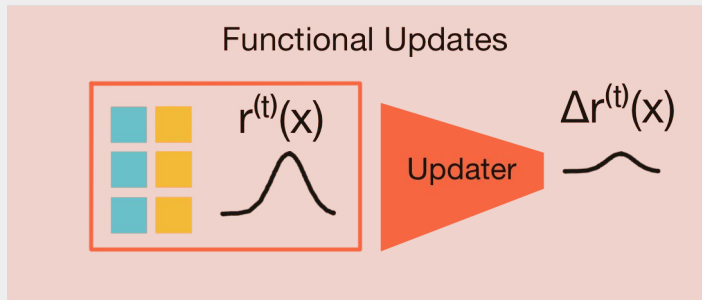
$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial f^{(t)}(\mathbf{x}_i)}$$



$$\nabla_f L(f^{(t)}(\cdot))$$



MetaFun and Functional Gradient Descent

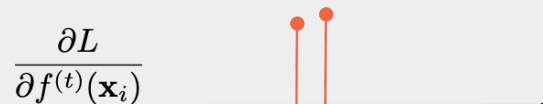
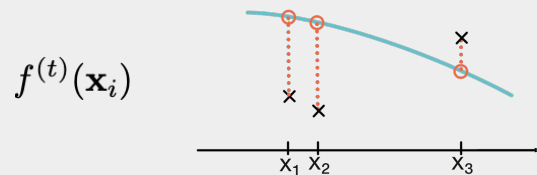


Evaluate functional representation at context:

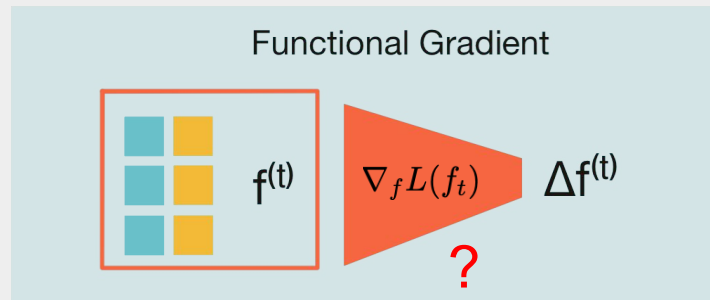
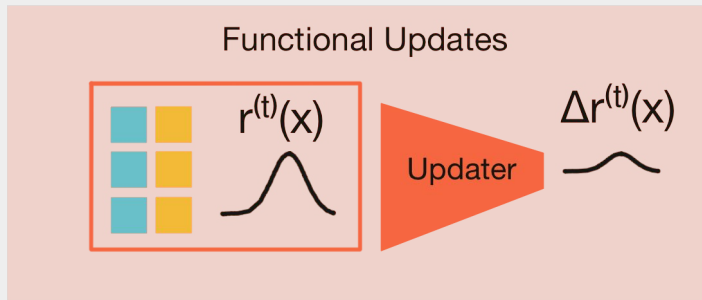
$$r^{(t)}(\mathbf{x}_i), \forall i \in \mathcal{C}$$

Local update function:

$$\mathbf{u}_i = u(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{y}_i, r^{(t)}(\mathbf{x}_i))$$



MetaFun and Functional Gradient Descent



Evaluate functional representation at context:

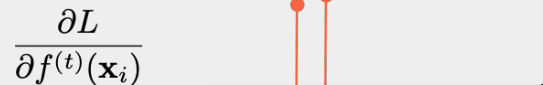
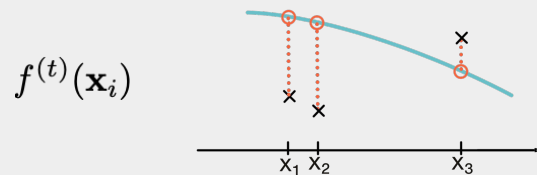
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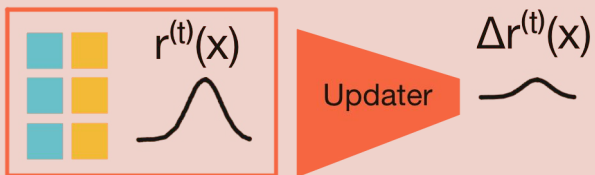
Functional pooling:

$$\Delta r^{(t)}(\cdot) = \text{FUNPOOLING}(\{(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{u}_i)\}_{i \in C}) = \sum_{i \in C} k(\cdot, \mathbf{x}_i) \mathbf{u}_i$$

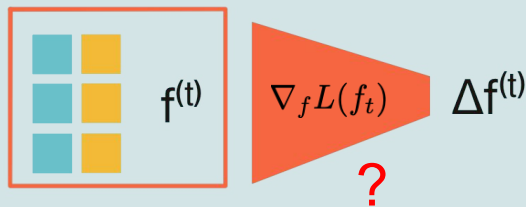


MetaFun and Functional Gradient Descent

Functional Updates in MetaFun



Functional Gradient



Evaluate functional representation at context:

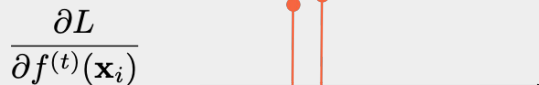
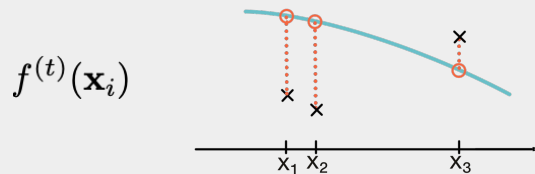
$$r^{(t)}(\mathbf{x}_i), \forall i \in C$$

Local update function:

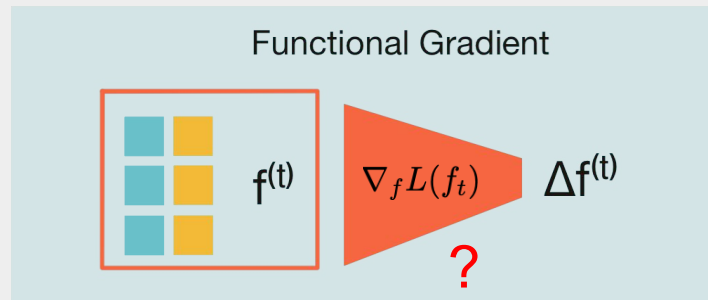
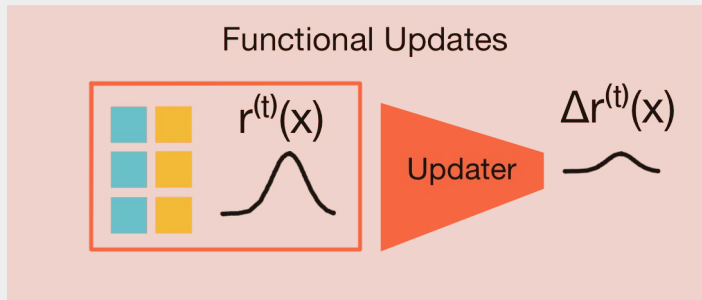
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MetaFun and Functional Gradient Descent



Evaluate functional representation at context:

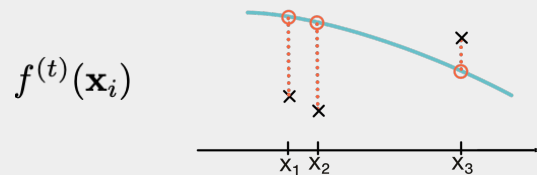
$$r^{(t)}(\mathbf{x}_i), \forall i \in \mathcal{C}$$

Local update function:

$$\mathbf{u}_i = u(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{y}_i, r^{(t)}(\mathbf{x}_i))$$

Functional pooling:

$$\Delta r^{(t)}(\cdot) = \text{FUNPOOLING}(\{(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{u}_i)\}_{i \in \mathcal{C}}) = \sum_{i \in \mathcal{C}} k(\cdot, \mathbf{x}_i) \mathbf{u}_i$$



MetaFun

MetaFun Iteration

Local update function:

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Functional pooling:

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Apply functional updates:

$$r^{(t+1)}(\cdot) = r^{(t)}(\cdot) - \alpha \Delta r^{(t)}(\cdot)$$

$r^{(T)}(\cdot)$ will be the final representation after T iterations

MetaFun

Functional Representation

Permutation invariance ✓

Flexible capacity ✓

Within-context and context-target interaction

MetaFun Iteration

Local update function:

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Apply functional updates:

$$r^{(t+1)}(\cdot) = r^{(t)}(\cdot) - \alpha \Delta r^{(t)}(\cdot)$$

Both the within-context interaction and the interaction between context and target are considered when updating the representation at each iteration.

MetaFun

MetaFun Iteration

Local update function:

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MetaFun for Classification

MetaFun Iteration

Local update function:

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Apply functional updates:

$$r^{(t+1)}(\cdot) = r^{(t)}(\cdot) - \alpha \Delta r^{(t)}(\cdot)$$

Deep kernels or attention modules



MetaFun for Classification

Regression:
MLP on concatenation of inputs

Classification:
?

MetaFun Iteration

Local update function:

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Functional pooling:

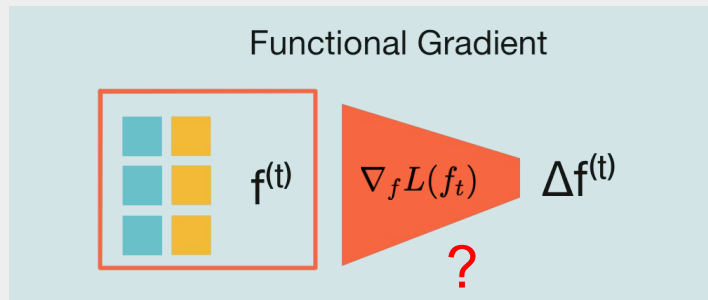
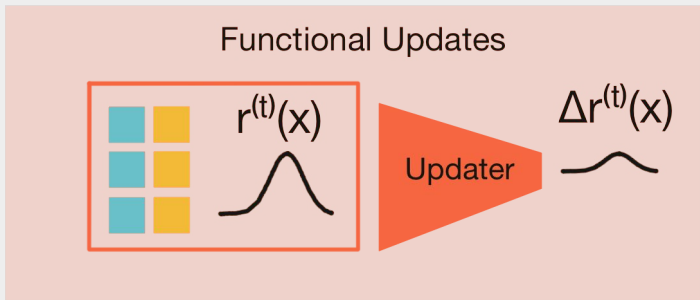
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Deep kernels or attention modules

MetaFun for Classification



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$$r^{(t)}(\mathbf{x}_i), \forall i \in C$$

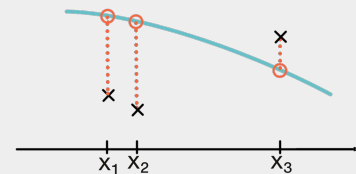
Local update function:

$$\mathbf{u}_i = u(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{y}_i, r^{(t)}(\mathbf{x}_i))$$

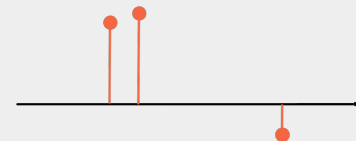
Functional pooling:

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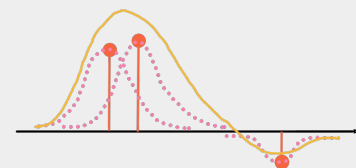
$$f^{(t)}(\mathbf{x}_i)$$



$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial f^{(t)}(\mathbf{x}_i)}$$



$$\nabla_f L(f^{(t)}(\cdot))$$



MetaFun for Classification

Local update function:

$$\mathbf{u}_i = u(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{y}_i, r^{(t)}(\mathbf{x}_i))$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial f^{(t)}(\mathbf{x}_i)}$$

MetaFun for Classification

Local update function:

$$\mathbf{u}_i = u(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{y}_i, r^{(t)}(\mathbf{x}_i))$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial f^{(t)}(\mathbf{x}_i)} \longrightarrow \left[\frac{\partial (\text{cross entropy loss})}{\partial (\text{predictive logit } k)} \right]_{k=1:K}^\top$$

MetaFun for Classification

Regression:
MLP on concatenation of inputs

Classification:
With structure similar to

$$\left[\frac{\partial (\text{cross entropy loss})}{\partial (\text{predictive logit } k)} \right]_{k=1:K}^\top$$

MetaFun Iteration

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Deep kernels or attention modules

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Incorporate label information into the network structure rather than concatenating the label to the inputs

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Incorporate label information into the network structure rather than concatenating the label to the inputs

Naturally integrate within-class and between-class interaction

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Deep kernels or attention modules

MetaFun and Gradient-Based Meta-Learning

Model Agnostic Meta-Learning (MAML)^[8]

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MetaFun and Gradient-Based Meta-Learning

Model Agnostic Meta-Learning (MAML)^[8]

During **meta-training phase**, MAML finds a good **initialisation** from related tasks.

During **test time**, MAML runs a few **gradient descent steps from the learned initialisation** on the context of a new task.

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SumPooling (permutation-invariant) Local updates (following gradient)

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Apply functional updates:

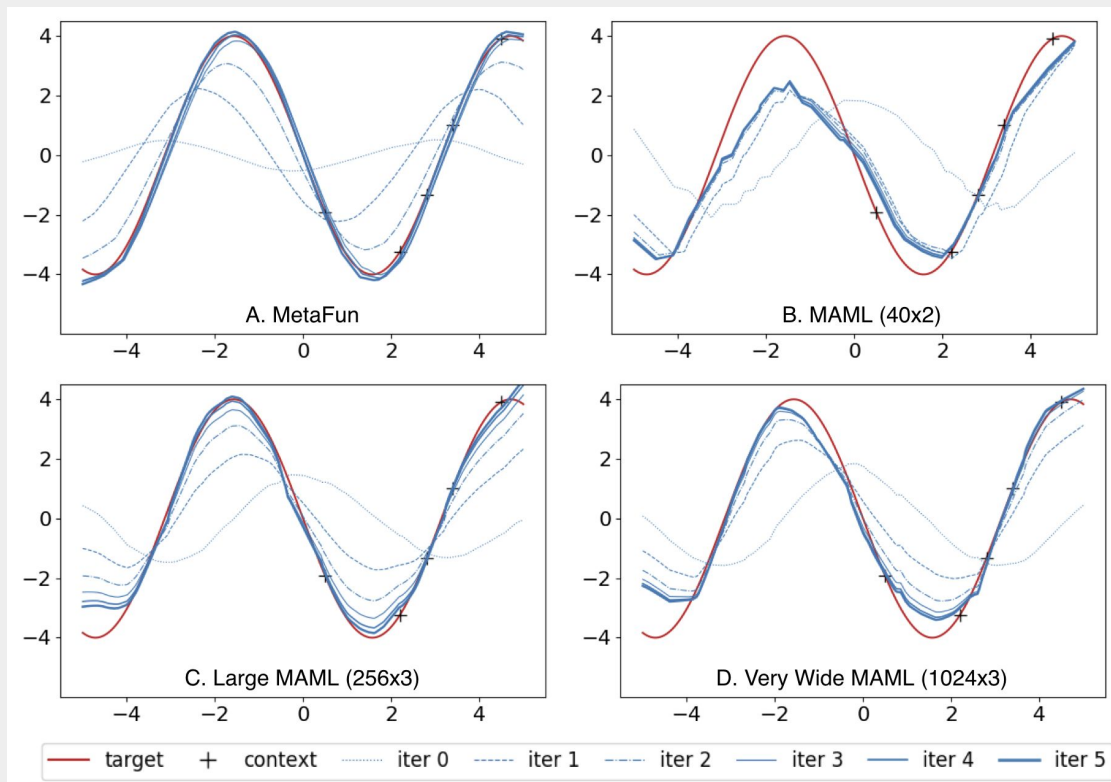
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FunPooling

Local update function
(parameterised by NNs)

MetaFun and Gradient-Based Meta-Learning

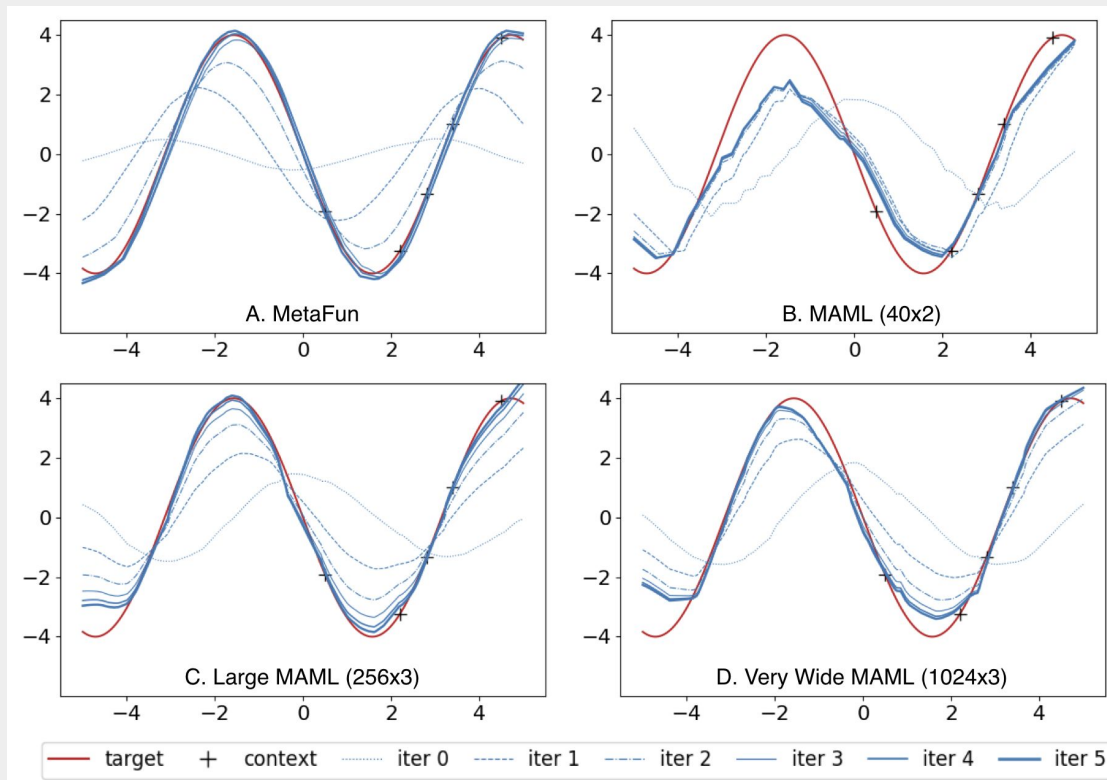
1D Sinusoid Regression Tasks



MetaFun and Gradient-Based Meta-Learning

MetaFun:
Smooth updates and match the ground truth very well across the whole period.

1D Sinusoid Regression Tasks



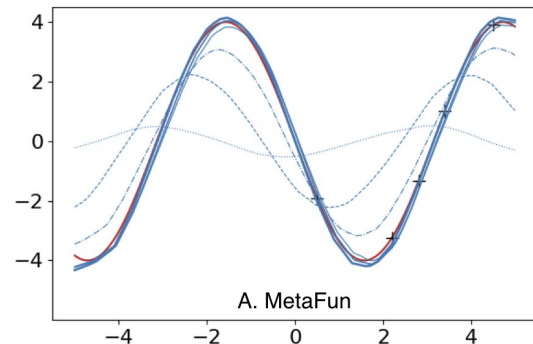
MAML:
Non-smooth updates and not as good predictions especially on the left side where there is no context points.

MetaFun and Gradient-Based Meta-Learning

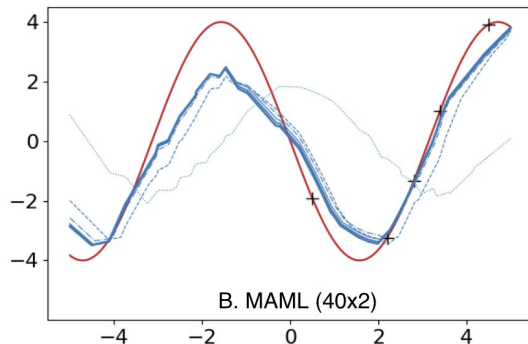
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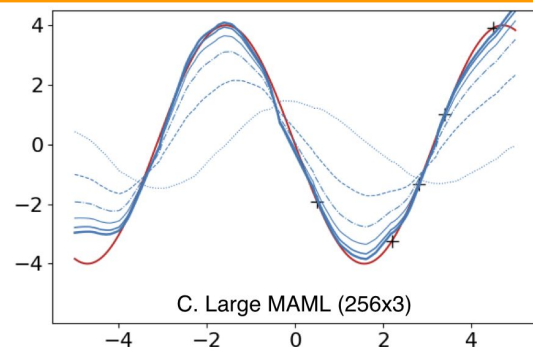
A. MetaFun



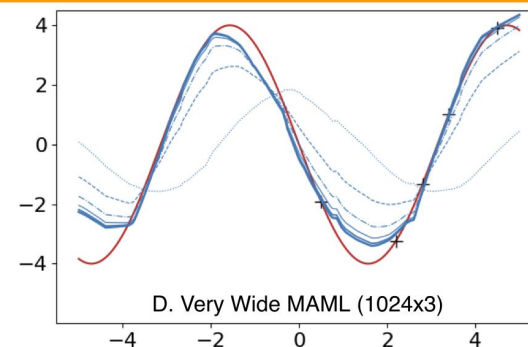
B. MAML (40x2)

MAML:

Non-smooth updates and not as good predictions especially on the left side where there is no context points.



C. Large MAML (256x3)



D. Very Wide MAML (1024x3)

— target + context iter 0 - - - - iter 1 - - - - iter 2 - - - - iter 3 - - - - iter 4 - - - - iter 5

Large-Scale Few-shot Classification

miniImageNet

(without data augmentation)

Model	1-shot	5-shot
LEO ^[9]	61.76 ± 0.08%	77.59 ± 0.12%
MetaFun (deep kernel version)	61.16 ± 0.15%	78.20 ± 0.16%
MetaFun (attention version)	62.12 ± 0.30%	77.78 ± 0.12%

(with data augmentation)

Model	1-shot	5-shot
LEO	63.97 ± 0.20%	79.49 ± 0.70%
MetaOptNet-SVM ^[10]	64.09 ± 0.62%	80.00 ± 0.45%
MetaFun (deep kernel version)	63.39 ± 0.15%	80.81 ± 0.10%
MetaFun (attention version)	64.13 ± 0.13%	80.82 ± 0.17%

tieredImageNet

(without data augmentation)

Model	1-shot	5-shot
LEO	66.33 ± 0.05%	81.44 ± 0.09%
MetaOptNet-SVM	65.81 ± 0.74%	81.75 ± 0.58%
MetaFun (deep kernel version)	67.27 ± 0.20%	83.28 ± 0.12%
MetaFun (attention version)	67.72 ± 0.14%	82.81 ± 0.15%

Large-Scale Few-shot Classification

We demonstrate that encoder-decoder style meta-learning methods like conditional neural processes can also achieve SOTA on large-scale few-shot classification benchmarks.

miniImageNet

tieredImageNet

(without data augmentation)

(without data augmentation)

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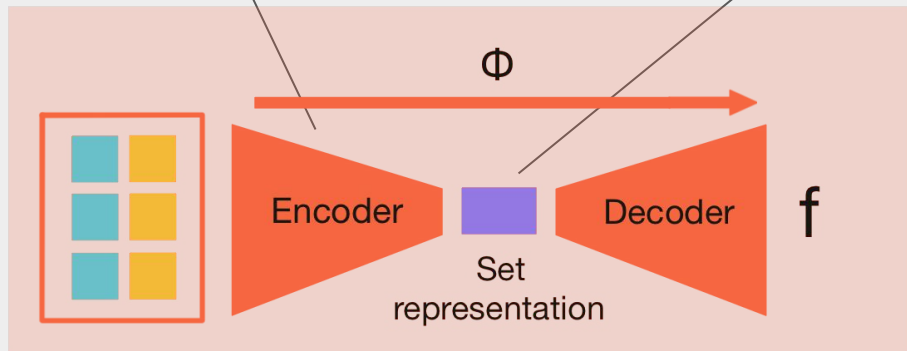
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Large-Scale Few-shot Classification

We demonstrate that encoder-decoder style meta-learning methods like conditional neural processes can also achieve SOTA on large-scale few-shot classification benchmarks.

Iterative structure for the encoder?

Functional set representation



Thank you!



jin.xu@stats.ox.ac.uk



[@jinxu06](https://github.com/jinxu06) (code available here)



[@jinxu06](https://twitter.com/jinxu06)

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