

# Asymmetric metric learning for knowledge transfer

Mateusz Budnik and Yannis Avrithis

Inria Rennes-Bretagne Atlantique

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# asymmetric metric learning (AML)

- instance-level image retrieval
- **asymmetric testing**: database represented by large network, queries by lightweight network on device, no re-indexing
- **asymmetric metric learning**: use asymmetric representations at training in **teacher-student** setup
- applies to both symmetric and asymmetric testing
- combines of **knowledge transfer** with **supervised metric learning**

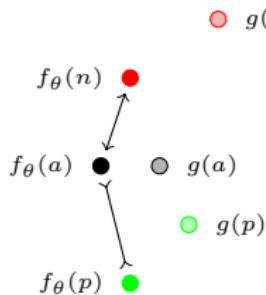
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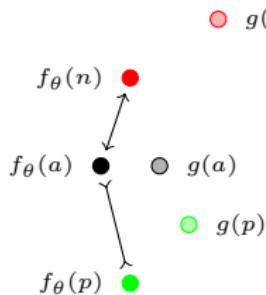
# metric learning and knowledge transfer



**symmetric**

- labels used, teacher not used
- positive pairs of examples mutually attracted and negative pairs are repulsed in student space

# metric learning and knowledge transfer

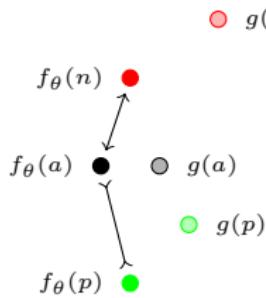


**symmetric**

- labels used, teacher not used ( $f_\theta$ : student,  $g$ : teacher)
- **contrastive**  $\ell_C(a; \theta)$ : **independently**, positive examples  $p$  close to anchor  $a$ , negative  $n$  farther from  $a$  by margin  $m$  in student space

$$\sum_{n \in N(a)} [s_\theta(a, n) - m]_+ - \sum_{p \in P(a)} s_\theta(a, p)$$

# metric learning and knowledge transfer

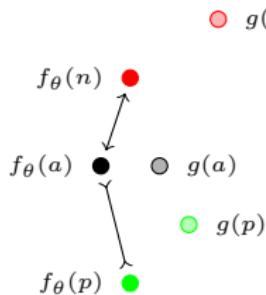


**symmetric**

- labels used, teacher not used ( $f_\theta$ : student,  $g$ : teacher)
- triplet  $\ell_T(a; \theta)$ : positive examples  $p$  closer to the anchor  $a$  than negative  $n$  by margin  $m$  in student space

$$\sum_{(p,n) \in L(a)} [s_\theta(a, n) - s_\theta(a, p) + m]_+$$

# metric learning and knowledge transfer

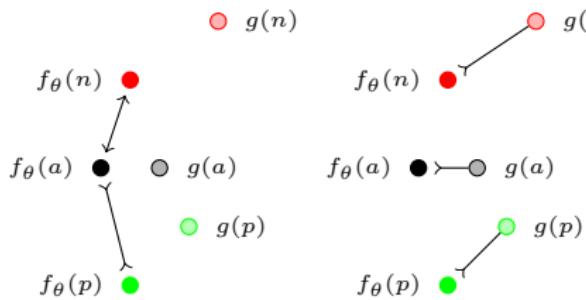


**symmetric**

- labels used, teacher not used ( $f_\theta$ : student,  $g$ : teacher)
- multi-similarity  $\ell_{\text{MS}}(a; \theta)$ : positives  $p$  (negatives  $n$ ) **farthest** from (nearest to) anchor  $a$  receive the **greatest** relative weight

$$\frac{1}{\alpha} \log \left( 1 + \sum_{p \in P(a)} e^{-\alpha(s_\theta(a,p) - m)} \right) + \frac{1}{\beta} \log \left( 1 + \sum_{n \in N(a)} e^{\beta(s_\theta(a,n) - m)} \right)$$

# metric learning and knowledge transfer

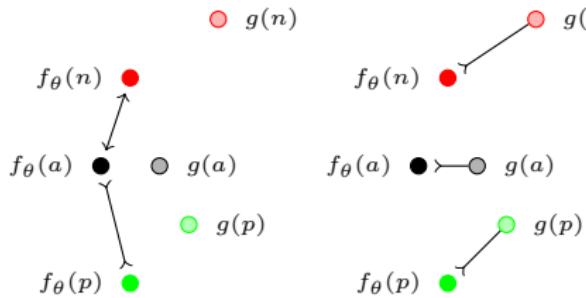


**symmetric**

**regression**

- labels not used, teacher used
- examples in **student space** attracted to corresponding examples in **teacher space**

# metric learning and knowledge transfer



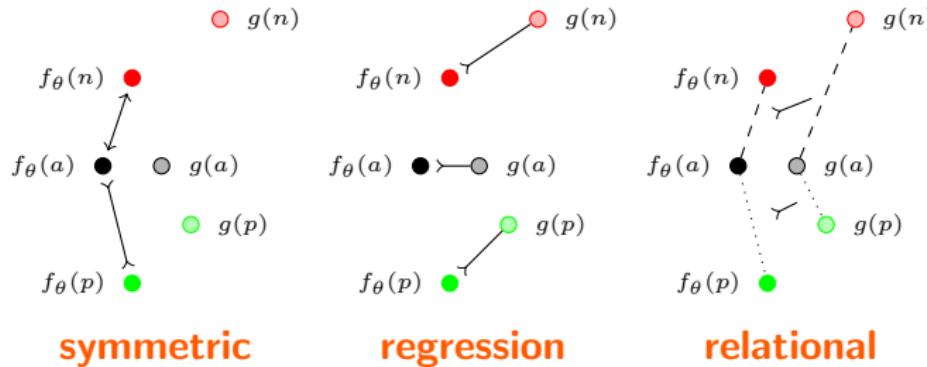
**symmetric**

**regression**

- labels not used, teacher used ( $f_\theta$ : student,  $g$ : teacher)
- **regression**  $\ell_R(a; \theta)$ : representations of **same example**  $a$  by two models  $f_\theta, g$  close to each other, where  $g$  is fixed

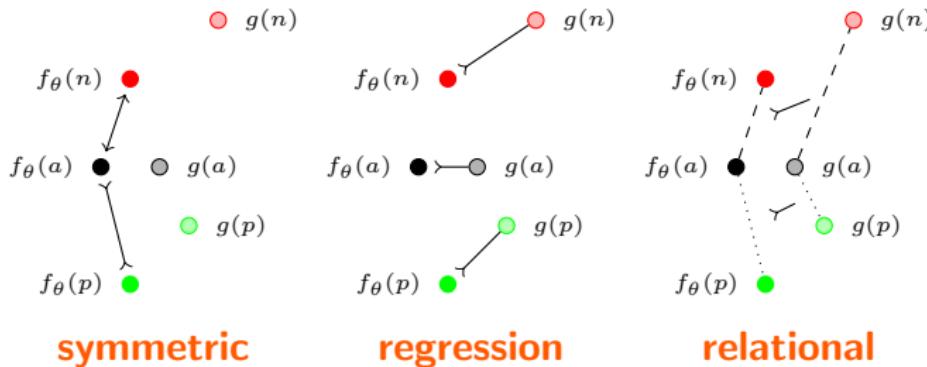
$$-s_\theta^{\text{asym}}(a, a) = -\text{sim}(f_\theta(a), g(a))$$

# metric learning and knowledge transfer



- labels not used, teacher used
- pairwise / groupwise relations like **distances**, **angles** or **ranks** encouraged to be **compatible in both spaces**

# metric learning and knowledge transfer



**symmetric**

**regression**

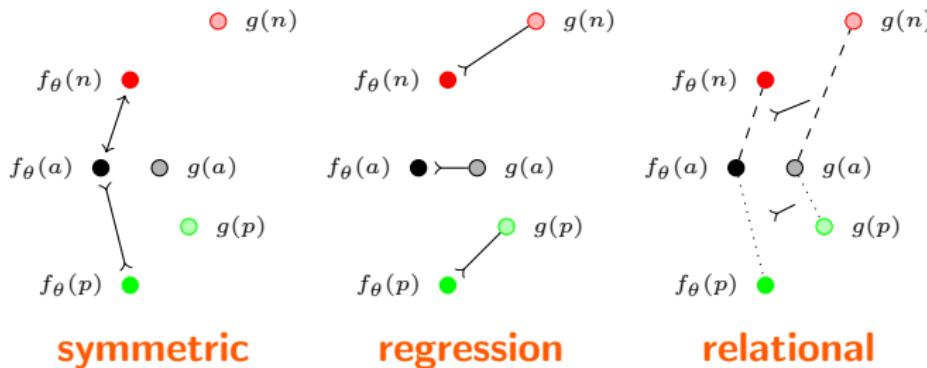
**relational**

- labels not used, teacher used ( $f_\theta$ : student,  $g$ : teacher)
- relational distillation  $\ell_{\text{RKD}}(a; \theta)$ : measurements  $\psi(\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{x}, \dots)$  of same examples  $(a, x, \dots)$  by two models  $f_\theta, g$  close to each other

$$\sum_{(x, \dots) \in U(a)^n} -\text{sim}(\psi(f_\theta(a), f_\theta(x), \dots), \psi(g(a), g(x), \dots))$$

e.g. **distance**  $\|\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{x}\|$ , **angle**  $\text{sim}(\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{a} - \mathbf{y})$ ; **regression**  $\psi(\mathbf{a}) := \mathbf{a}$

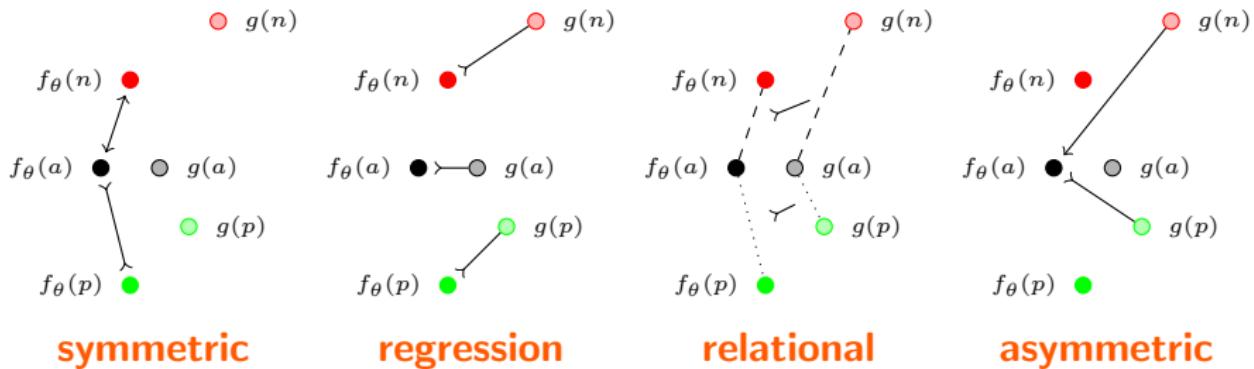
# metric learning and knowledge transfer



- labels not used, teacher used ( $f_\theta$ : student,  $g$ : teacher)
- **DarkRank**  $\ell_{\text{DR}}(a; \theta)$ : examples  $y \in V(a, x)$  mapped **farther** from anchor  $a$  than  $x$  in **teacher space** do the same in **student space**:

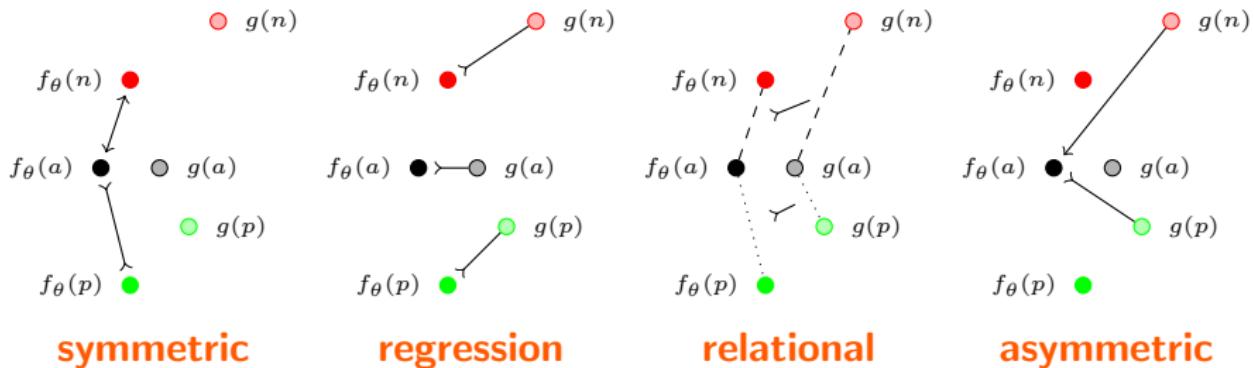
$$-\sum_{x \in U(a)} \left( s_\theta^{\text{sym}}(a, x) - \log \sum_{y \in V(a, x)} e^{s_\theta^{\text{sym}}(a, y)} \right)$$

# metric learning and knowledge transfer



- both labels and teacher used
- anchors in student space attracted to positives and repulsed from negatives in teacher space

# metric learning and knowledge transfer



- both labels and teacher used ( $f_\theta$ : student,  $g$ : teacher)
- **Asymmetric Metric Learning (AML)**: simply use

$$s_\theta^{\text{asym}}(a, x) := \text{sim}(f_\theta(a), g(x))$$

with **any** supervised metric learning loss like  $\ell_C$ ,  $\ell_T$ ,  $\ell_{\text{MS}}$

# best loss functions

- regression (**Reg**)

$$\ell_R(a; \theta) := -s_\theta^{\text{asym}}(a, a) = -\text{sim}(f_\theta(a), g(a))$$

- asymmetric contrastive (**Contr**)

$$\ell_C(a; \theta) := \sum_{n \in N(a)} [s_\theta(a, n) - m]_+ - \sum_{p \in P(a)} s_\theta(a, p)$$

- asymmetric contrastive + regression (**Contr<sup>+</sup>**)

$$\ell_{C+}(a; \theta) := \sum_{n \in N(a)} [s_\theta(a, n) - m]_+ - \sum_{p \in P(a)} s_\theta(a, p) - s_\theta(a, a)$$

# best loss functions

- regression (**Reg**)

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$$- s_\theta(a, a)$$

# test set: revisited Oxford and Paris



- 11 + 11 landmarks, 70 + 70 queries, 5k + 6k images, easy/hard
- 1M distractor images
- performance measured by mAP: positive ranked first

Radenovic, Iscen, Tolias, Avrithis, Chum. CVPR 2018. Revisiting Oxford and Paris: Large-Scale Image Retrieval Benchmarking.  
Budnik and Avrithis. CVPR 2021. Asymmetric Metric Learning for Knowledge Transfer.

# training set: SfM120k (positives)



- camera position (closest to query)
- number of inliers (co-observed 3D points with query)
- according to SIFT descriptors

# training set: SfM120k (negatives)



- $k$ -nearest neighbors from non-matching clusters
- at most one image per cluster
- according to learned descriptors

# network models

NETWORK	TEACHER	$d$	GFLOPS	PARAM(M)
ResNet101		2048	42.85	42.50
EfficientNet-B3		1536	5.36	10.70
	ResNet101	2048	6.26	13.84

- **teacher:** ResNet101 (**RN101**)
- **student:** EfficientNet-B3 (**EN-B3**), dimensions  $d$  adapted to teacher
- $7\times$  less FLOPS
- $3\times$  less parameters

# symmetric testing

STU	$d$	TEA	LAB	MINING	ASYM	LOSS	MEDIUM		HARD	
							$\mathcal{R}Oxf$	$\mathcal{R}Par$	$\mathcal{R}Oxf$	$\mathcal{R}Par$
RN101	2048		✓	hard		Contr	65.4	76.7	40.1	55.2
	512						53.8	70.9	26.2	46.0
	2048						59.6	75.1	33.3	51.9
EN-B3	2048	RN101	✓	hard	✓	Contr <sup>+</sup>	66.8	77.1	42.5	55.5
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			—	✓		Reg	64.9	74.4	40.5	52.4
			random	RKD		56.3	73.0	30.5	50.4	
			random	DR		40.3	69.9	11.8	46.4	

- Contr, Contr<sup>+</sup>: student beats teacher
- Reg: second best, slightly below teacher
- everything else fails (worse than student alone)

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Mateusz



Yannis

**paper**

<https://arxiv.org/abs/2006.16331>

**code**

[https://github.com/budnikm/asymmetric\\_metric\\_learning](https://github.com/budnikm/asymmetric_metric_learning)

**more**

<https://avrithis.net>