

# Temporal-Relational CrossTransformers for Few-Shot Action Recognition

## Supplementary Material

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### X-Shot results

In the main paper, we introduced Temporal-Relational CrossTransformers (TRX) for few-shot action recognition. They are designed specifically for  $K$ -shot problems where  $K > 1$ , as TRX is able to match sub-sequences from the query against sub-sequences from multiple support set videos.

Table 1 in the main paper shows results on the standard 5-way 5-shot benchmarks on Kinetics [3], Something-Something V2 (SSv2) [4], HMDB51 [5] and UCF101 [6]. For completeness we also provide 1-, 2-, 3-, 4- and 5-shot results for TRX with  $\Omega=\{1\}$  (i.e. frame-to-frame comparisons) and  $\Omega=\{2, 3\}$  (i.e. pair and triplet comparisons) on the large-scale datasets Kinetics and SSv2. These are in Table 1 in this supplementary, where we also list results from all other works which provide these scores.

For 1-shot, in Kinetics, TRX performs similarly to recent few-shot action-recognition methods [8, 1, 7], but these are all outperformed by OTAM [2]. OTAM works by finding a strict alignment between the query and single support set video per class. It does not scale as well as TRX when  $K > 1$ , shown by TRX performing better on the 5-shot benchmark. This is because TRX is able to match query sub-sequences against similar sub-sequences in the support set, and importantly ignore sub-sequences (or whole videos) which are not as useful. Compared to the strict alignment in OTAM [2], where the full video is considered in the alignment, TRX can exploit several sub-sequences from the same video, ignoring any distractors. Despite not being as well suited to 1-shot problems, on SSv2 TRX performs similarly to OTAM. 2-shot TRX even outperforms 5-shot OTAM. Table 1 again highlights the importance of tuples, shown in the main paper, where TRX with  $\Omega=\{2, 3\}$  consistently outperforms  $\Omega=\{1\}$ .

Figure 5 in the main paper shows how TRX scales on SSv2 compared to CMN [8, 9], which also provides X-shot results ( $1 \leq X \leq 5$ ). The equivalent graph for Kinetics is shown in Fig. 1 here. This confirms TRX scales better as the shot increases. There is less of a difference between TRX with  $\Omega=\{1\}$  and  $\Omega=\{2, 3\}$ , as Kinetics requires less tem-

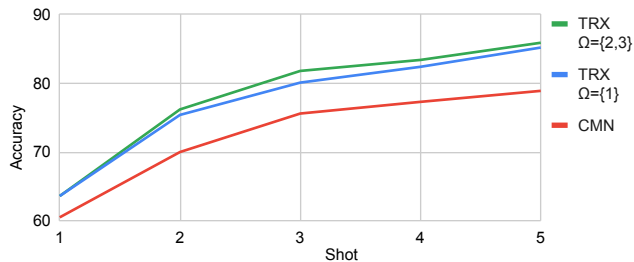


Figure 1: Comparing CMN [9] results to TRX for X-shot 5-way, for  $1 \leq X \leq 5$  on Kinetics. TRX benefits from increasing the number of videos in the support set, both for  $\Omega=\{1\}$  and  $\Omega=\{2, 3\}$ .

poral knowledge to discriminate between the classes than SSv2 (ablated in Sec. 4.3.1 and 4.3.2 in the main paper).

### The impact of positional encoding

TRX adds positional encodings to the individual frame representations before concatenating them into tuples. Table 2 shows that adding positional encodings improves SSv2 for both single frames and higher-order tuples (by +0.3% and +0.6% respectively). For Kinetics, performance stays the same as single frames and improves slightly with tuples (+0.4%) for the proposed model. Overall, positional encoding improves the results marginally for TRX.

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Dataset	Method	Shot				
		1	2	3	4	5
Kinetics	CMN [8]	60.5	-	-	-	78.9
	CMN-J [9]	60.5	70.0	75.6	77.3	78.9
	TARN [1]	64.8	-	-	-	78.5
	ARN [7]	63.7	-	-	-	82.4
	OTAM [2]	<b>73.0</b>	-	-	-	85.8
	Ours - TRX $\Omega=\{1\}$	63.6	75.4	80.1	82.4	85.2
	Ours - TRX $\Omega=\{2, 3\}$	63.6	<b>76.2</b>	<b>81.8</b>	<b>83.4</b>	<b>85.9</b>
SSv2*	CMN-J [9]	<b>36.2</b>	42.1	44.6	47.0	48.8
	Ours - TRX $\Omega=\{1\}$	34.9	43.4	47.6	50.9	53.3
	Ours - TRX $\Omega=\{2, 3\}$	36.0	<b>46.0</b>	<b>51.9</b>	<b>54.9</b>	<b>59.1</b>
SSv2 <sup>†</sup>	OTAM [2]	<b>42.8</b>	-	-	-	52.3
	Ours - TRX $\Omega=\{1\}$	38.8	49.7	54.4	58.0	60.6
	Ours - TRX $\Omega=\{2, 3\}$	42.0	<b>53.1</b>	<b>57.6</b>	<b>61.1</b>	<b>64.6</b>

Table 1: Comparison to few-shot video works on Kinetics (split from [9]) and Something-Something V2 (SSv2) (<sup>†</sup>: split from [9] \*: split from [2]). Results are reported as the shot, *i.e.* number of support set videos per class, increases from 1 to 5. -: Results not available in published works.

Method	Positional Encoding	Kinetics	SSv2 <sup>†</sup>
$\Omega=\{1\}$	×	85.2	53.0
$\Omega=\{1\}$	✓	85.2	53.3
$\Omega=\{2, 3\}$	×	85.5	58.5
$\Omega=\{2, 3\}$	✓	<b>85.9</b>	<b>59.1</b>

Table 2: The importance of incorporating positional encoding for single frames and the proposed model  $\Omega=\{2, 3\}$ .

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