



# ProD: Prompting-to-disentangle Domain Knowledge for Cross-domain Few-shot Image Classification

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# Cross-Domain Few-Shot Image Classification

- Training the model on one / multiple training domain (s).



- When inference, tuning the model with **limited samples** (i.e. 5 or 25) from a **different domain**.

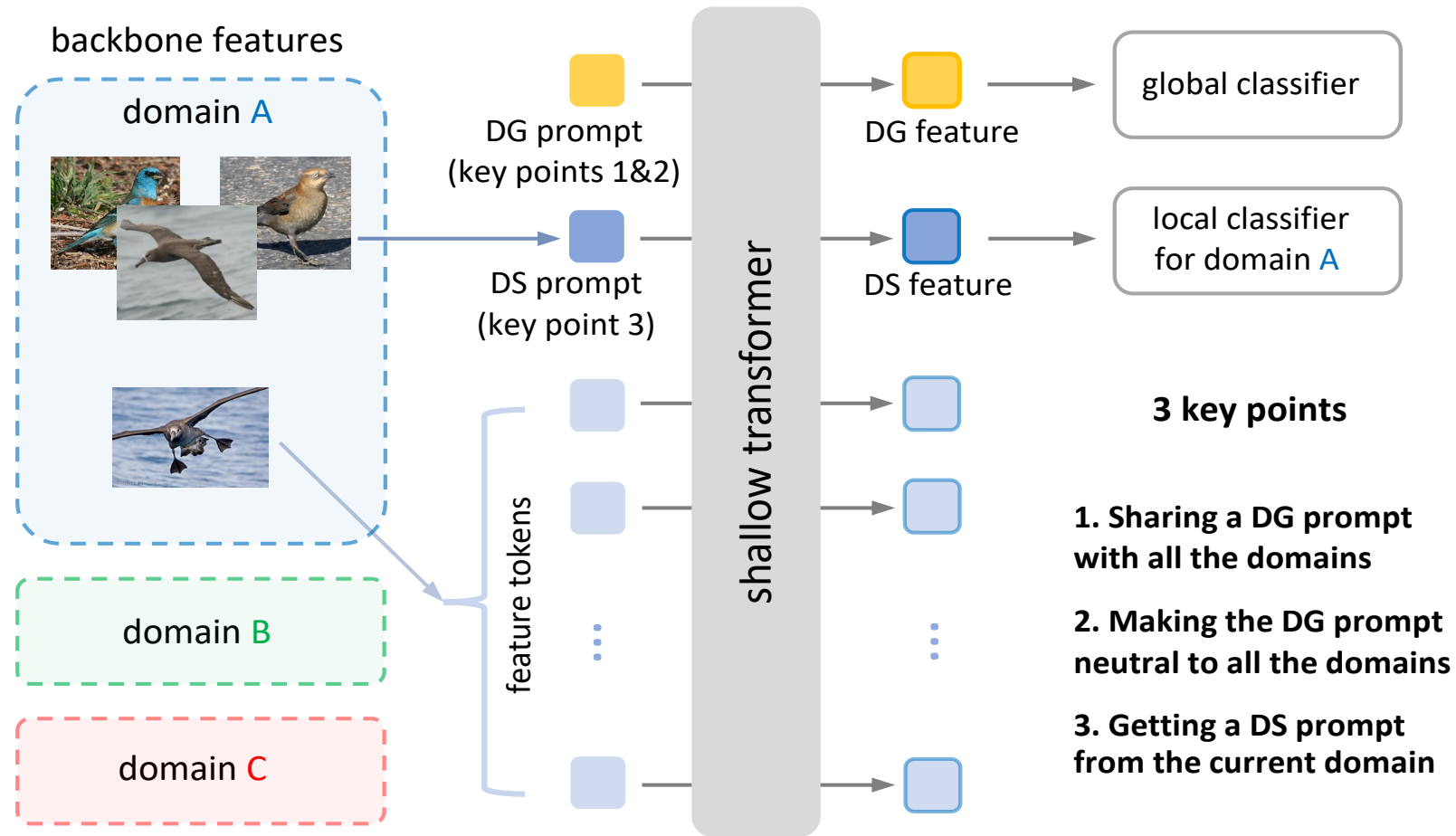


# Key Problems of the Task

- **Domain Generalization**: A more general model that absorbs domain-general knowledge from the training domain (s) effectively.
- **Domain Adaptation**: A model that is easy to adapt to a novel domain with only limited samples for finetuning.

# Our Solution: *Prompting-to-Disentangle*

- We take advantage of domain-general knowledge and domain-specific knowledge in regard to generalization and adaptation problems, respectively, with the Domain-General (DG) and Domain-Specific (DS) Prompts.



- 3 key points**
1. Sharing a DG prompt with all the domains
  2. Making the DG prompt neutral to all the domains
  3. Getting a DS prompt from the current domain

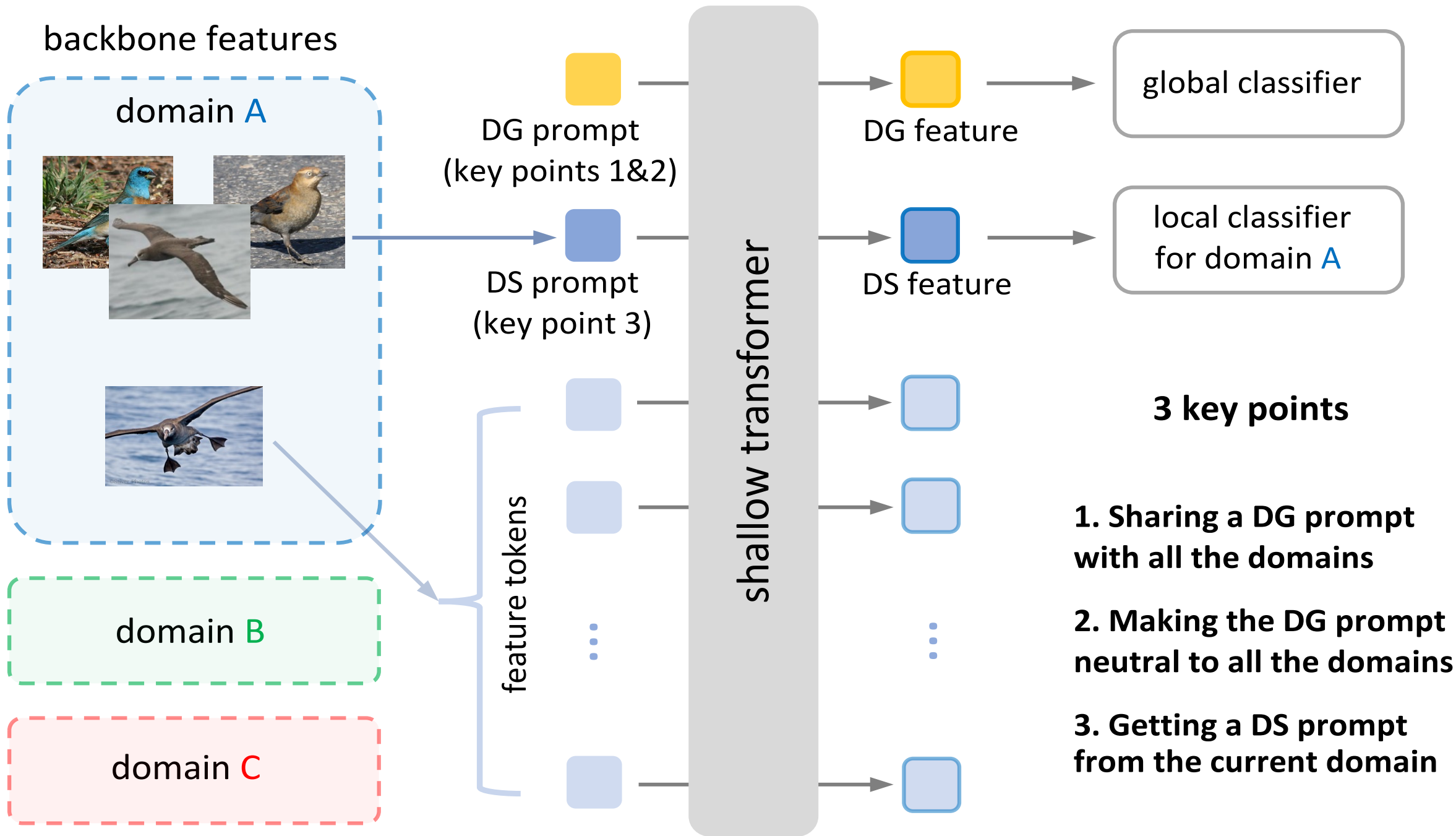
# Visual Prompt

## Standard Prompt

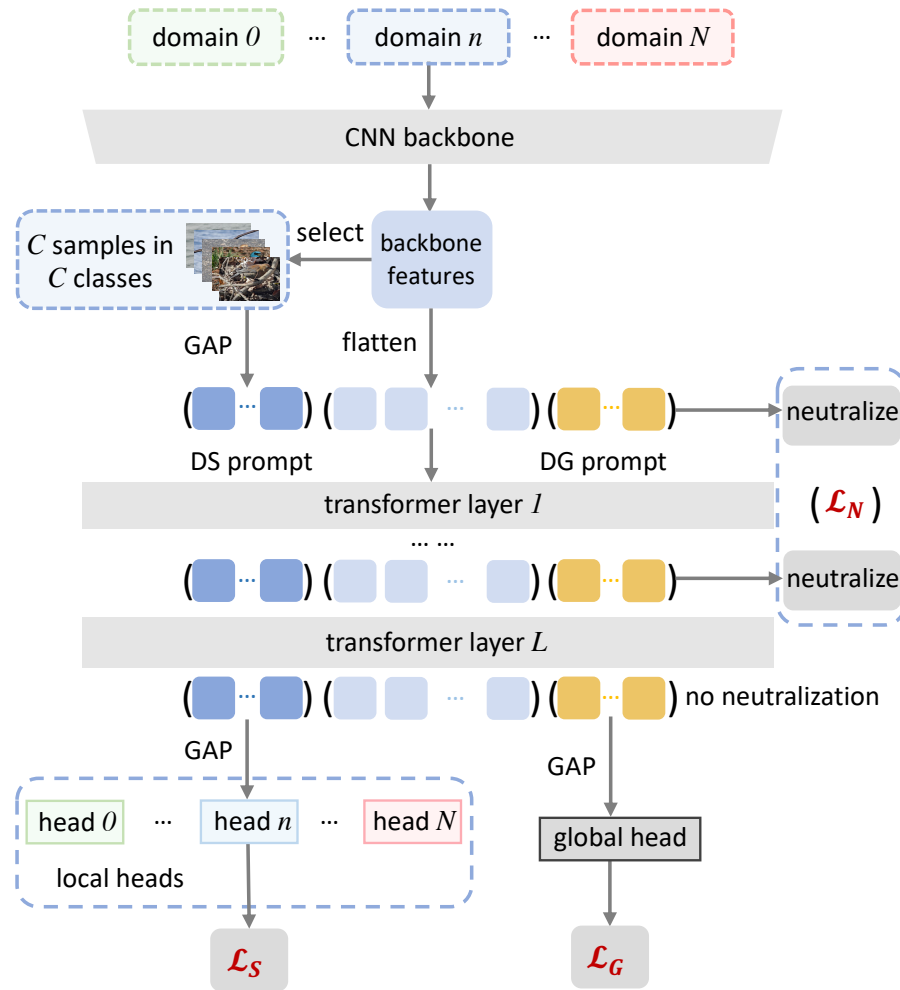
- Prompts are the vectors that are attached to the input features to modify the mapping of the **pre-trained** model.
- Different prompts are trained regarding **different downstream tasks**.

## Prompt in ProD

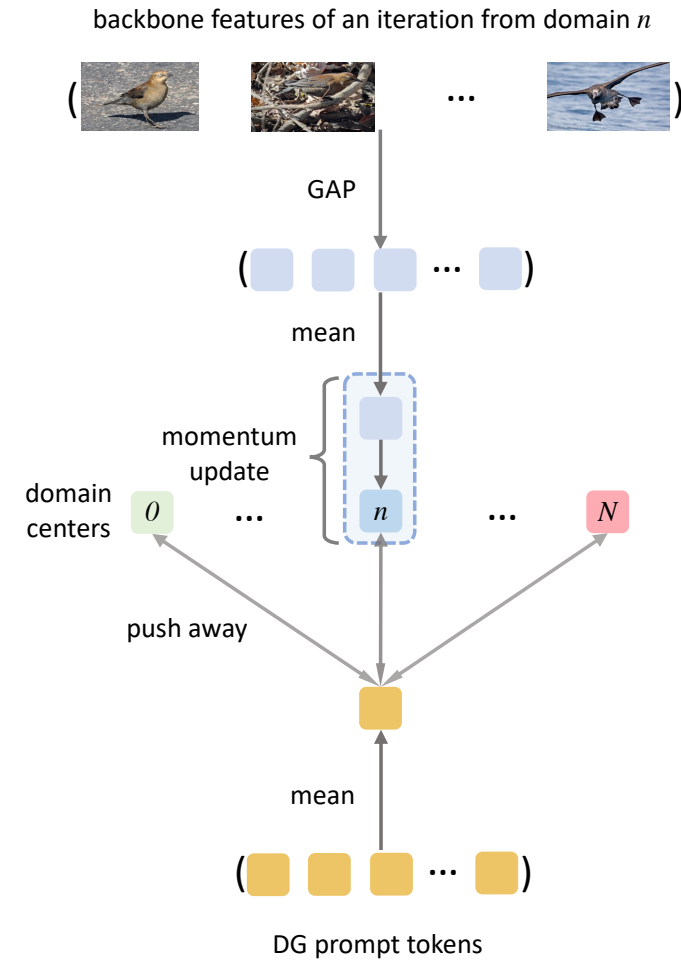
- Prompts vectors and the full model are trained **simultaneously** in the training phase.
- Trainable prompt parameters **are fixed** during the inferences phase
- DS and DG prompts are trained for the **same classification task** by absorbing domain-general and domain-specific knowledge, respectively.



# Model Overview



(a) pipeline



(b) neutralizing DG prompt

For each sample, another  $C$  samples in the batch from  $C$  different classes of the same domain are selected to initialize the DS prompt.

$C$  is the size of the DS prompt. The features go through global average pooling to generate the prompt initialization of size  $C \times D$ .

After  $L$  transformer layers, the DS Prompt is GAP and fed into the classification head of the current domain.



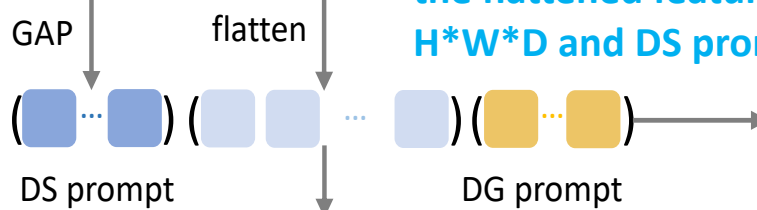
CNN backbone

Features extracted by CNN backbone. The feature size is  $H \times W \times D$ , where  $D$  is the embedding dim



select backbone features

Tramable DG prompt of size  $C \times D$  is concatenated with the flattened feature  $H \times W \times D$  and DS prompt  $C \times D$

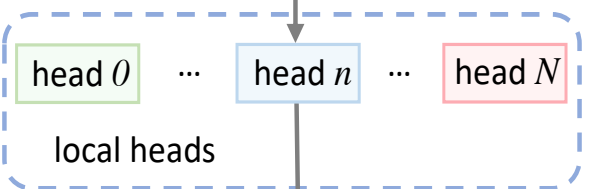
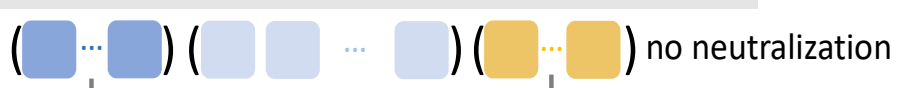


neutralize ( $\mathcal{L}_N$ )

transformer layer  $I$



transformer layer  $L$



GAP  $\mathcal{L}_S$

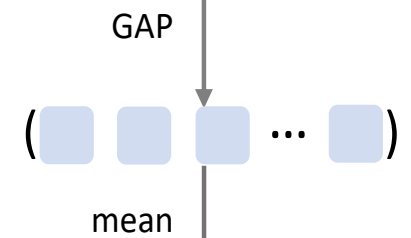
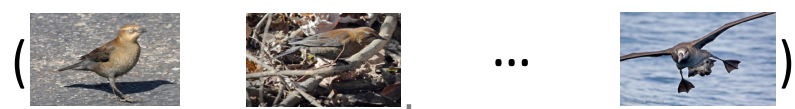
GAP global head  $\mathcal{L}_G$

(a) pipeline

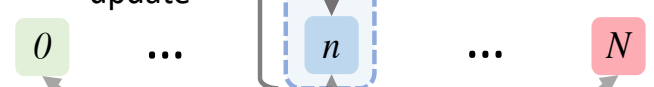
The DG Prompt is GAP and fed into the global classification heads shared by all the training domains.

# Training Phase

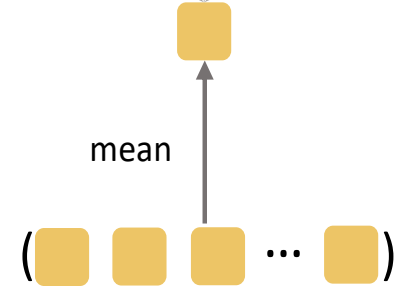
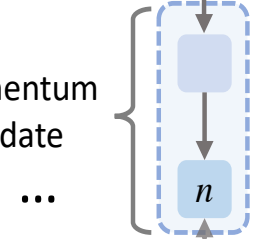
backbone features of an iteration from domain  $n$



domain centers



push away



DG prompt tokens

(b) neutralizing DG prompt



# Inference Phase

domain 0 ... domain n ... domain N

CNN backbone

Parameters Fixed

select backbone features

$C$  samples in  $C$  classes

flatten

DS prompt

DG prompt

neutralize

transformer layer  $l$

( $\mathcal{L}_N$ )

neutralize

transformer layer  $L$

no neutralization

head 0 ... head n ... head N

local heads

$\mathcal{L}_S$

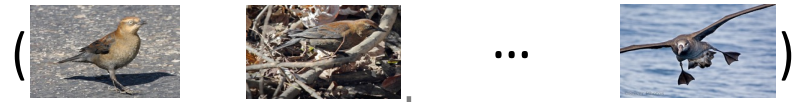
global head

Training Samples train a new classification head whose input is the concatenation of the DS and DG prompt after GAP.

$\mathcal{L}_G$

(a) pipeline

backbone features of an iteration from domain  $n$



GAP

( [ ] [ ] [ ] ... [ ] )

mean

momentum update

domain centers

0 ... n ... N

push away

mean

( [ ] [ ] [ ] ... [ ] )

DG prompt tokens

(b) neutralizing DG prompt

# Overall Loss

- Training Phase Loss:

- $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_N + \mathcal{L}_G + \mathcal{L}_S$

- Inference Phase Tuning Loss:

- $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_G + \mathcal{L}_S$

- Inference Phase,  $\mathcal{L}_G$  and  $\mathcal{L}_S$  are generated from new classification heads

# Effectiveness of ProD

Methods	CUB	CARS	Plantae	Places
RelationNet [28]	35.21 ± 0.46	30.12 ± 0.49	31.99 ± 0.51	49.79 ± 0.57
MatchingNet [32]	42.28 ± 0.61	28.91 ± 0.56	33.02 ± 0.56	48.53 ± 0.62
RelationNet+LFT [29]	48.10 ± 0.62	32.26 ± 0.58	35.21 ± 0.59	51.02 ± 0.56
MatchingNet+LFT [29]	43.38 ± 0.58	30.68 ± 0.59	35.10 ± 0.54	52.63 ± 0.55
RelationNet+ATA [35]	48.49 ± 0.61	31.92 ± 0.58	33.62 ± 0.49	51.00 ± 0.50
DSL [14]	50.15 ± 0.80	37.13 ± 0.69	41.17 ± 0.80	53.16 ± 0.88
Baseline	48.56 ± 0.72	33.15 ± 0.64	37.94 ± 0.71	49.81 ± 0.69
ProD	<b>53.97 ± 0.71</b>	<b>38.02 ± 0.63</b>	<b>42.86 ± 0.59</b>	<b>53.92 ± 0.72</b>

Table 1. Comparison with the state of the arts on 5-way 1-shot task.

Methods	CUB	CARS	Plantae	Places
RelationNet	51.10 ± 0.62	38.26 ± 0.58	62.99 ± 0.62	46.01 ± 0.57
MatchingNet	57.21 ± 0.63	36.98 ± 0.56	62.83 ± 0.62	43.68 ± 0.55
RelationNet+LFT	65.02 ± 0.55	43.51 ± 0.51	50.48 ± 0.46	67.34 ± 0.52
MatchingNet+LFT	61.44 ± 0.56	43.12 ± 0.52	48.49 ± 0.51	65.09 ± 0.48
RelationNet+ATA	59.42 ± 0.48	42.99 ± 0.42	45.51 ± 0.51	67.10 ± 0.41
NSAE [21]	68.17 ± 0.54	54.77 ± 0.56	59.51 ± 0.55	70.93 ± 0.54
DSL	73.57 ± 0.65	58.53 ± 0.73	62.10 ± 0.75	74.10 ± 0.72
Baseline	72.32 ± 0.77	53.17 ± 0.71	60.05 ± 0.69	69.13 ± 0.60
ProD	<b>79.19 ± 0.59</b>	<b>59.49 ± 0.68</b>	<b>65.82 ± 0.65</b>	<b>75.00 ± 0.72</b>

Table 2. Comparison with the state of the arts on 5-way 5-shot task.

# Effectiveness of ProD

Methods	ChestX	ISIC	EuroSAT	CropDisease
Transductive Ft [6]	26.79	49.68	81.76	90.64
ConFeSS [3]	27.09	48.85	84.65	88.88
RDC-FT [9] <sup>-</sup>	25.48	49.06	84.67	<b>93.55</b>
ProD	<b>28.79</b>	<b>50.57</b>	<b>85.09</b>	90.41

Table 4. Comparison with the state of the arts on 5-way 5-shot task on newly proposed datasets.

# Ablations

Effectiveness of prompt neutralization

Methods	CUB	
	1-shot	5-shot
Basel.	48.56 ± 0.59	72.32 ± 0.67
Basel. + DG	51.89 ± 0.63	75.12 ± 0.69
Basel. + DS	51.48 ± 0.71	74.91 ± 0.68
Basel. + DG + DS	52.69 ± 0.66	77.63 ± 0.74
Basel. + DG + $\mathcal{L}_N$	53.08 ± 0.74	78.65 ± 0.68

Table 3. Evaluation of key components: DG prompt (DG), neutralizing loss ( $\mathcal{L}_N$ ), and DS prompt (DS).

Effectiveness of local classification for DS prompt

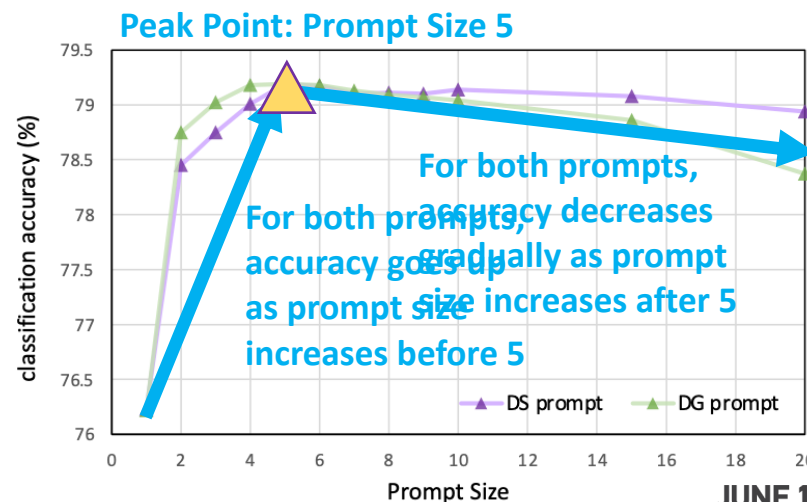
Methods	CUB	
	1-shot	5-shot
Basel.	48.56 ± 0.59	72.32 ± 0.67
Basel. + DS (global)	50.39 ± 0.71	73.87 ± 0.66
Basel. + DS (local)	51.48 ± 0.71	74.91 ± 0.68
ProD (global)	52.08 ± 0.74	77.65 ± 0.68
ProD (local)	53.97 ± 0.71	79.19 ± 0.63

Table 4. Comparison between the local and global classification heads on the DS prompt.

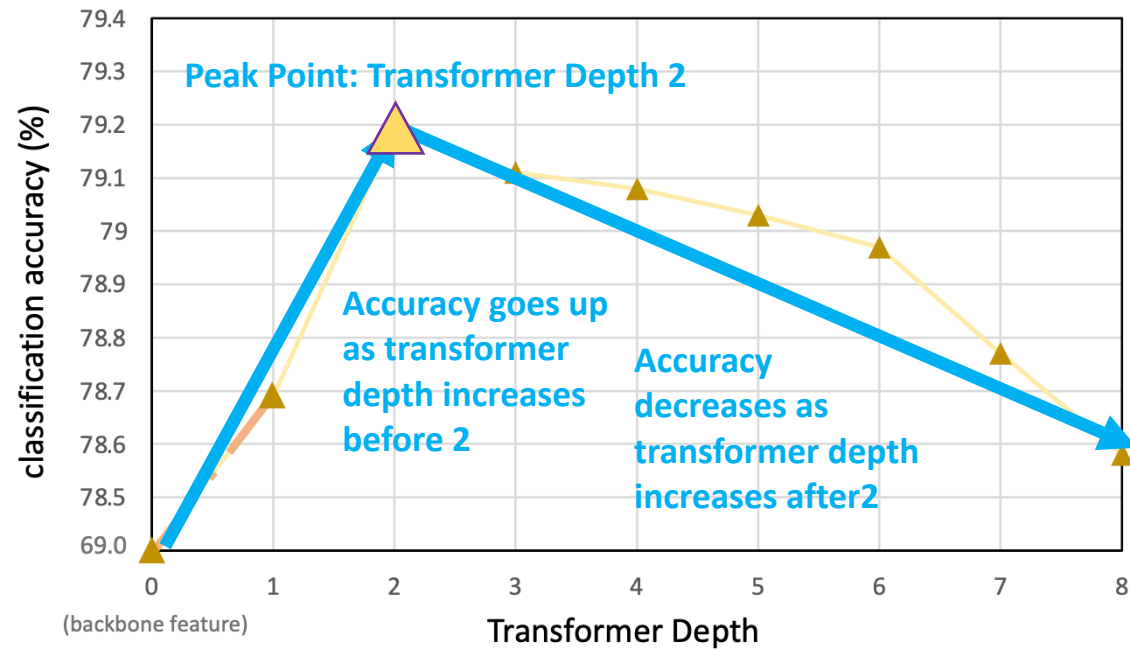
Inference Input	CUB	
	1-shot	5-shot
Feature Token	51.51 ± 0.72	76.13 ± 0.68
DG	53.01 ± 0.74	78.17 ± 0.61
DS	52.07 ± 0.69	77.64 ± 0.63
DG+DS	53.97 ± 0.71	79.19 ± 0.63
DG+DS+Feature Token	52.18 ± 0.75	78.04 ± 0.72

Using DG and DS prompt output only for inference achieves the highest accuracy

Table 5. Comparison between different features for inference with a complete ProD model.



# Ablations



# Computational Cost

Method	Size	CUB 5-shot
Res10	5.3M	68.98 $\pm$ 0.81
Res18	11.7M	72.39 $\pm$ 0.84
Basel. (Res10 + Trans)	8.5M	72.32 $\pm$ 0.77
ProD (Res10 + Trans + Prompt)	8.6M	79.19 $\pm$ 0.59

Table 6. Analysis of the computational efficiency. “Res10”, “Res18” and “Trans” denote ResNet-10, ResNet-18 and the transformer head, respectively.



Thank You