Safe Deep Semi-Supervised Learning for Unseen-Class Unlabeled Data



Lan-Zhe Guo, Zhen-Yu Zhang, Yuan Jiang, Yu-Feng Li, Zhi-Hua Zhou

National Key Laboratory for Novel Software Technology, Nanjing University, Nanjing, China {guolz, zhangzy, jiangy, liyf, zhouzh}@lamda.nju.edu.cn



<u>Unseen Class Unlabeled Data</u>

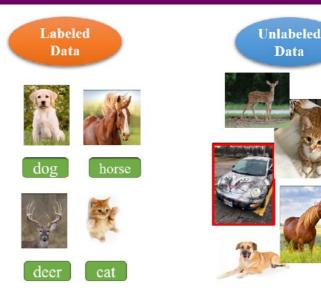
Semi-Supervised Learning

- Learning with labeled and unlabeled data, e.g.,
 - Mean-Teacher [Tarvainen & Valpola, 2017]
 - VAT [Miyato et al., 2018]
 - Mix-Match [Berthelot et al., 2019]

Assumption: labeled and unlabeled data are i.i.d sampled from the same distribution



Unlabeled data usually contains class not seen in labeled data and hurt SSL performance severely



Unseen class unlabeled data are bounded with red box

Safe Deep Semi-Supervised Learning (DS3L)

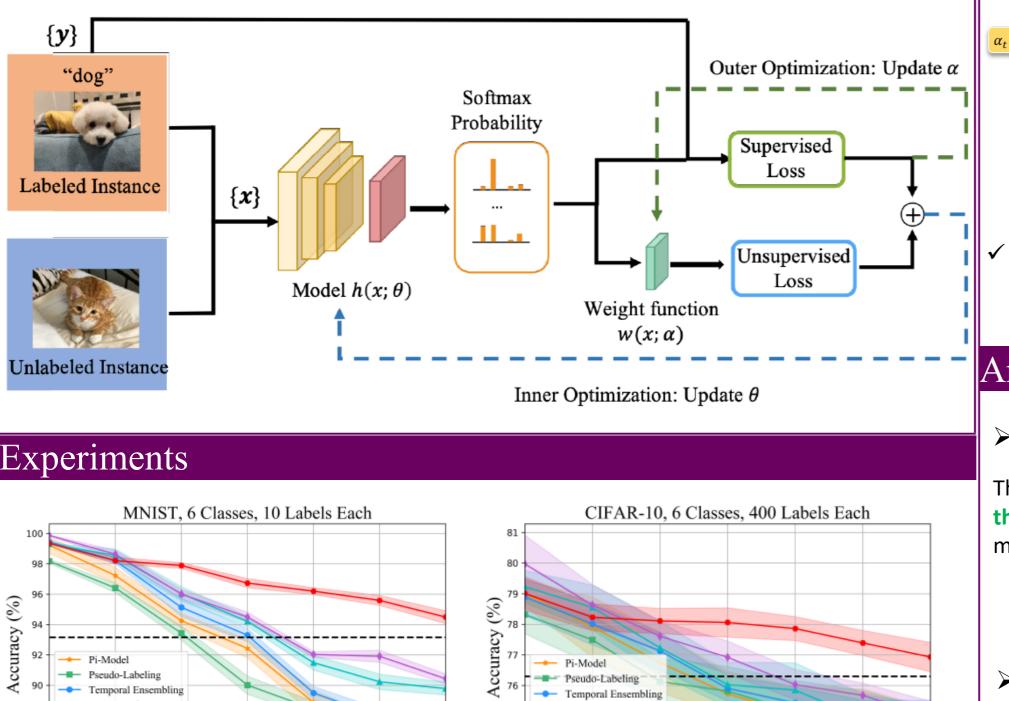
DSSL: Use all unlabeled equally

$$\min_{\theta \in \Theta} \sum_{(x,y) \in \mathcal{D}_l} \ell(h(x;\theta), y) + \sum_{x \in \mathcal{D}_u} \Omega(x)$$

- $\succ \Omega(x)$ refers to the regularization term, e.g., consistency regularization
- **DS3L:** Use unlabeled data selectively

$$\min_{\theta \in \Theta} \sum_{(x,y) \in \mathcal{D}_l} \ell(h(x;\theta), y) + \sum_{x \in \mathcal{D}_u} w(x;\alpha) \Omega(x)$$

 \succ $w(x; \alpha)$ refers to the weight function



How to learn the weight function?

Idea: good weight realizes good generalization performance

$$\min_{\alpha} \sum_{(x,y)\in\mathcal{D}_l} \ell(h(x;\widehat{\theta}), y)$$

$$\widehat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = \underset{\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \Theta}{\operatorname{argmin}} \sum_{(x,y) \in \mathcal{D}_l} \ell(\boldsymbol{h}(x; \boldsymbol{\theta}), y) + \sum_{x \in \mathcal{D}_u} w(x; \boldsymbol{\alpha}) \Omega(x)$$

A novel bi-level formulation

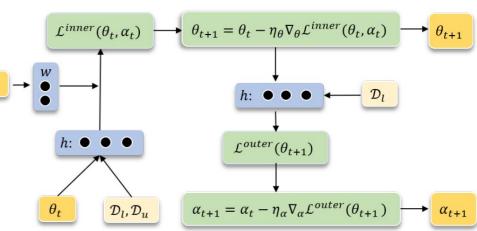
Optimization

✓ Adopting gradient-based methods, we can optimize θ and α iteratively

$$\theta_{t+1} = \theta_t - \eta_\theta \nabla_\theta \mathcal{L}^{inner}(\theta_t, \alpha_t)$$
$$\alpha_{t+1} = \alpha_t - \eta_\alpha \nabla_\alpha \mathcal{L}^{outer}(\theta_{t+1})$$

The bi-level gradient can be solved by the automatic differentiation techniques

✓ Main flowchart



Our proposal DS3L achieves safe performance with varying extent of class mismatch, while other SSL methods suffer performance degradation problem

The optimization algorithm will converge and the convergence rate is $\mathcal{O}(\frac{c}{\sqrt{T}})$.

Analysis

Theorem 1: Empirical Safeness

The empirical risk of $\hat{\theta}$ will **never worse than** the supervised model θ^{SL} that is learn from merely labeled data, i.e.,

 $\hat{R}(\hat{\theta}) \le \hat{R}(\theta^{SL})$

Theorem 2: Generalization

DS3L approaches the optimal weight in order

$$\mathcal{O}\left(\sqrt{\frac{d\ln n}{n}}\right), \text{ i.e.,}$$

$$R(\hat{\theta}(\alpha^*)) \le R(\hat{\theta}(\hat{\alpha})) + \frac{(3\lambda + \sqrt{4d\ln(n) + 8\ln(2/\delta)})}{\sqrt{n}}$$

Take-Home Message



Pseudo-Labeling

Proposa

Supervised

10

Mean Teacher

Temporal Ensembling

20

Extent of Labeled/Unlabeled Class MisMatch (%)

90

- Unseen-class unlabeled data will hurt SSL performance
- We proposed a bi-level based reweight mechanism DS3L to use unlabeled data selectively

20

30

Extent of Labeled/Unlabeled Class MisMatch (%)

The effectiveness can be demonstrated theoretically and empirically

Pseudo-Labeling

Mean Teacher VAT

Proposal

Supervised

10

Temporal Ensembling

