

# **Real-World Learning**

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## Awesome learning

SONGBIRDS

À LA CARTE



#### State-of-Affairs

Representation learning is heavily biased towards training conditions

Brittle under real-world situations that differ from those perceived during learning in terms of data, labels, objectives and fairness

Low

Closed-world

Societal impact

Real-world

High





Simply scaling-up along all dimensions at training time seems a dead end

Not only because of the compute, storage and ethical expenses but especially as humans generalize robustly in a data-efficient fashion

Low

Closed-world

Societal impact





w/ Zehao Xiao *et al.*, ICML 2021



w/ Zehao Xiao *et al.*, ICML 2021

### Label gap



#### w/ Kirill Gavrilyuk *et al.*, ICCV 2021



#### w/ Zehao Xiao et al., ICML 2021

### **Objectives** gap



#### w/ Mohammad Mahdi Derakhshani *et al.*, ICML 2021

### Label gap



#### w/ Kirill Gavrilyuk *et al.*, ICCV 2021



w/ Zehao Xiao *et al.*, ICML 2021

### **Objectives gap**



w/ Mohammad Mahdi Derakhshani *et al.*, ICML 2021

### Label gap



w/ Kirill Gavrilyuk *et al.*, ICCV 2021

### Fairness gap



w/ William Thong, BMVC 2021

### High

#### **State-of-Affairs**

#### **Dead end**

No learning methodology exists that dynamically generalizes and adapts across domains, labels, tasks and fairness simultaneously and does so in a data-efficient fashion.



Low

Supervision dependence

Closed-world

Societal impact

# This talk

We question common representation learning assumptions

*i.* Learning without **label** assumption

*ii.* Learning without **task** assumption

*iii.* Learning without **domain** assumption

## **I.** Learning without label assumption





Pengwan Yang University of Amsterdam

Pascal Mettes University of Amsterdam



Cees Snoek University of Amsterdam

#### Few-Shot Transformation of Common Actions into Time and Space. In CVPR 2021.

## **Canonical Paradigm: few-shot classification**



Support images w/ label

Figure credit: Vinyals et al. NeurIPS 2016

# **Canonical Paradigm: few-shot detection**



Support images w/ label + box

Query image



Network



w/ Tao Hu et al. AAAI 2019

#### w/ Tao Hu et al. ICCV 2019

## Few-shot common object localization

Support images w/o label and w/o box



Localize the common object in the query image without any label and box annotation

#### w/ Tao Hu et al. ICCV 2019

### Few-shot common object localization

Support images



Localize the common object in the query image without any box annotation

## Few-shot common action in video



No need for action class label or any temporal and/or spatial annotation

#### support videos

## Example



#### query video



one-shot prediction



### Inspiration: object detection transformers



### Benefits of transformers:

- i) it avoids the needle-in-the-haystack problem with proposals
- ii) it provides powerful relation modeling capability

## Method



# Method



# Method



#### Support videos

### Results



Query video

one-shot (blue ) five-shot (red )

Common action localization in time and space

### Ablations on Common-AVA



**Influence of length and number of support videos**. We obtain a more precise common localization with more and longer support videos.

# Ablations on Common-AVA



**Influence of length and number of support videos**. We obtain a more precise common localization with more and longer support videos.

No noise	28.1
Video-level noise	
1 noisy support video of other class	26.8
1 noisy support video without action	26.3
2 noisy support videos of different class	25.3
2 noisy support videos of same class	24.7
Frame-level noise	
2 noisy frames in each support video	27.9
4 noisy frames in each support video	27.4
6 noisy frames in each support video	26.1
8 noisy frames in each support video	24.5

**Effect of noisy support videos** for the five-shot setting. The result shows our robustness.

# Self-support video instance segmentation

Query video



Find support videos using the query

Pool from unlabelled video in selfsupervised fashion

Transformer enables instance segmentation

No labels, no masks.

Video instance segmentation

### Video instance segmentation results



Query video

### Video instance segmentation results



Query video

## Scalable video instance segmentation?



## **II.** Learning without task assumption



#### MetaNorm: Learning to Normalize Few-Shot Batches Across Domains. In ICLR 2021.

### Few-shot meta-learning

5-way, 1-shot



Sachin Ravi and Hugo Larochelle. Optimization as a model for few-shot learning. In ICLR 2017.

# Deep learning work horse: batch normalization

Stabilize the distribution of internal activations during training



$$\mu_{\mathcal{B}} = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{i=1}^{M} a_i, \quad \sigma_{\mathcal{B}}^2 = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{i=1}^{M} (a_i - \mu_{\mathcal{B}})^2$$
$$\hat{q}_i \leftarrow \mathbf{BN}(a_i) \equiv \gamma \hat{a}_i + \beta, \quad \text{where,} \quad \hat{a}_i = \frac{a_i - \mu_{\mathcal{B}}}{\sqrt{\sigma_{\mathcal{B}}^2 + \epsilon}},$$

### Challenge I: batch statistics become unstable with small batch sizes Challenge II: distribution shift between source and target domains

Sergey Ioffe & Christian Szegedy. Batch normalization: Accelerating deep network training by reducing internal covariate shift. In ICML 2015.

### **Transductive Batch Normalization**

Compute batch statistics by using all available query data



Transductive

Requirement to have test set samples available limits real-world use

## TaskNorm

Identified the limiting assumption of the transductive setting

Leverages statistics from both layer and instance normalization

Better than batch norm, sometimes better than transductive.

John Bronskill et al. TaskNorm: Rethinking batch normalization for meta-learning. In ICML 2020.

### Our proposal: MetaNorm

Leverage the meta-learning setting

Infer statistics from the support set that better match the query set

 $D_{\mathrm{KL}}[q(m|S)||p(m|Q)]$ 

Distribution inferred from support set

Distribution inferred from query set

Achieve adaptive batch normalization

### Meta-training optimization



Hypernetworks  $f_{\mu}^{\ell}$ ,  $f_{\sigma}^{\ell}$ , generate  $(\mu_S, \sigma_S)$  and  $(\mu_Q, \sigma_Q)$  from the support and query sets, for calculating the KL term during meta-training optimization.

## Meta-testing

Given a test task, the learned hypernetworks  $f_{\mu}^{\ell}$ ,  $f_{\sigma}^{\ell}$  take the support set as input to generate normalization statistics directly for the query set.

$$\mu_S = rac{1}{|\mathcal{S}|} \sum_{i=1}^{|\mathcal{S}|} f_{\mu}^{\ell}(\mathbf{a}_i), \qquad \sigma_S = rac{1}{|\mathcal{S}|} \sum_{i=1}^{|\mathcal{S}|} f_{\sigma}^{\ell}((\mathbf{a}_i - \mu_S)^2).$$
 $a' = \gamma \left(rac{a - \mu_S}{\sqrt{\sigma_S^2 + \epsilon}}
ight) + eta,$ 

## Effect of the KL term

	Label gap		<b>Distribution gap</b>				
	Few-shot c	lassification	D	omain g	generaliza	tion	
MetaNorm	5-way, 1-shot	5-way, 5-shot	Photo	Art	Cartoon	Sketch	Mean
w/o KL w/ KL	$\begin{array}{c} \textbf{34.3} \pm \textbf{1.5} \\ \textbf{46.8} \pm \textbf{1.6} \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 50.7 \pm 0.8 \\ \textbf{60.1} \ \pm \textbf{0.8} \end{array}$	88.96 <b>95.99</b>	71.25 <b>85.01</b>	65.37 <b>78.63</b>	69.28 <b>83.17</b>	73.72 <b>85.70</b>

Effective for both few-shot classification and many-shot domain generalization

## Comparison with other batch norms

	ProtoNets		MAML		
	5-way, 1-shot	5-way, 5-shot	5-way, 1-shot	5-way, 5-shot	
TBN	$45.9 \pm 0.6$	$65.5 \pm 0.9$	$45.5 \pm 1.8$	$59.7 \pm 0.9$	
CBN	$47.8 \pm 0.6$	$66.7 \pm 0.5$	$20.1\pm 0.0$	$20.2\pm0.2$	
TaskNorm	$47.5\pm 0.6$	$65.3 \pm 0.5$	$42.0 \pm 1.7$	$58.1 \pm 0.9$	
MetaNorm	$\textbf{48.1} \pm \textbf{1.6}$	$\textbf{65.9} \pm \textbf{0.9}$	$\textbf{46.8} \pm 1.6$	$\textbf{60.1} \pm \textbf{0.8}$	

MetaNorm outperforms transductive and non-transductive normalizations

### Real-world learning: few-shot domain generalization



### Few-shot domain generalization

	MAML			
	5-way, 1-shot	5-way, 5-shot		
TBN	$28.7 \pm 1.8$	49.3 ±0.8		
CBN	$20.0\pm0.0$	$20.1\pm 0.2$		
TaskNorm	$26.9 \pm 1.7$	$47.4 \pm 0.8$		
MetaNorm	$\textbf{32.7} \pm \textbf{1.7}$	$51.9 \pm 0.9$		

MetaNorm allows for batch normalization of small batches across domains.

### **III.** Learning without domain assumption



#### Learning to Generalize across Domains on Single Test Samples. Submitted.

## Distribution gaps are a fact of life



Images with different style



Medical images from different devices



Autopilot data in different environments

Suburban

# Test-time training

### Update model parameters by self-supervision before prediction



### Needs additional self-supervised model, plus fine-tuning

Yu Sun *et al.* Test-Time Training with Self-Supervision for Generalization under Distribution Shifts. In ICML 2020.

### **Test-time adaptation**

### Normalize test-batch predictions by entropy minimization

normalization  $\mu \leftarrow \mathbb{E}[x_t], \sigma^2 \leftarrow \mathbb{E}[(\mu - x_t)^2]$ transformation  $\gamma \leftarrow \gamma + \partial H / \partial \gamma, \beta \leftarrow \beta + \partial H / \partial \beta$ 

### Needs a batch to be from the same domain, plus fine-tuning

### Outperforms test-time training

## Key idea

### Adapt source domain classifiers to each individual target sample



# Meta-learning framework

Mimic shift between source and target by shift among source domains



# Meta-learning framework

Mimic shift between source and target by shift among source domains



### Adaptation as variational inference

Incorporate the test sample as a conditional for generating model parameters

$$\log p(\mathbf{y}_{t'} | \mathbf{x}_{t'}, \mathcal{T}') = \log \int p(\mathbf{y}_{t'} | \mathbf{x}_{t'}, \boldsymbol{\theta}_{t'}) p(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t'} | \mathcal{T}') d\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t'},$$
  
Meta-target

### Adaptation as variational inference

Incorporate the test sample as a conditional for generating model parameters

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Meta-target

Intractable during inference, so we approximate by source domain similarity

$$\geq \mathbb{E}_{q(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t'})}[\log p(\mathbf{y}_{t'}|\mathbf{x}_{t'},\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t'})] - \mathbb{D}_{\mathrm{KL}}[q(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t'}|\mathbf{x}_{t'},\mathcal{S}')||p(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t'}|\mathcal{T}')].$$

Meta-source

## Adaptation as variational inference

Incorporate the test sample as a conditional for generating model parameters

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Intractable during inference, so we approximate by source domain similarity

$$\geq \mathbb{E}_{q(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t'})}[\log p(\mathbf{y}_{t'}|\mathbf{x}_{t'}, \boldsymbol{\theta}_{t'})] - \mathbb{D}_{\mathrm{KL}}[q(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t'}|\mathbf{x}_{t'}, \mathcal{S}')||p(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{t'}|\mathcal{T}')].$$

Meta-source

Our model **learns the ability to adapt** the meta-source model to each meta-target instance across different domain shifts

### **Computational feasability**

We divide the model  $\theta$  into a feature extractor  $\varphi$  and a classifier w.  $\varphi$  is shared across domains, while w is trained to be adapted



### Generalization at test-time



(a) Training on meta-source  $(\mathcal{S}')$  and meta-target  $(\mathcal{T}')$  domains (b) Testing on the unseen domain  $(\mathcal{T})$ 

Adaptation is achieved by generating w<sub>t</sub> for each target sample with only one forward pass using an amortization inference network

### Comparison with test-time adaptation (Tent)

**Results on Rotated-MNIST** 



### Comparison with test-time adaptation (Tent)

Tent works well with a large batch of samples from a single target domain







### Comparison with test-time adaptation (Tent)

Tent works well with a large batch of samples from a single target domain We outperform with a single sample, especially for multiple target domains



### More comparisons

### The better the base network, the more we gain.

	PACS ben	PACS benchmark		Office-Home benchmark		
	ResNet-18	ResNet-50	ResNet-18	ResNet-50		
Wang et al. ICLR 2021	83.09	86.23	64.13	67.99	ר	
Dubey et al. CVPR 2021		84.50		68.90	<b>F</b> Test-time ada	
Zhou et al. ECCV 2020	83.70	84.90	65.63	67.66	Domain gener	
Seo et al. ECCV 2020	85.11	86.64	62.90		Normalizatior	
Ours	84.15	87.51	66.02	71.07		

### Failure cases





Label: Guitar Prediction: Person



Label: Dog Prediction: Giraffe

Elephant

Classifiers:



★ Dog

🔵 Giraffe



Label: Horse Prediction: House



Horse

Label: Elephant Prediction: Horse

Guitar





House

•



### Conclusions

Need for real-world learning across domains, labels, tasks and with fairness.

Need to **question** common learning **assumptions**.

Label, task and domain assumptions can be relaxed during learning.



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