Strong Baselines for Neural Semi-supervised Learning under Domain Shift

Sebastian Ruder



Barbara Plank

IT UNIVERSITY OF COPENHAGEN



rijksuniversiteit groningen

State-of-the-art domain adaptation approaches

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 - leverage task-specific features
 - evaluate on proprietary datasets or on a single benchmark
- Only compare against weak baselines
- Almost none evaluate against approaches from the extensive semi-supervised learning (SSL) literature

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- How well do these approaches work on out-of-distribution data?





• Self-training

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- (Co-training)

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- Tri-training



- Self-training
- (Co-training)
- Tri-training
- Tri-training with disagreement



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- 2. Use confident predictions on unlabeled data as training examples. Repeat.





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- Online learning

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- Throttling (Abney, 2007), i.e. selecting the top *n* highest confidence unlabeled examples works best.

Online learning

• Training until convergence on labeled data and then on unlabeled data works best.





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- Sample number of unlabeled examples
- Confidence thresholding
 - Not effective for classic approaches, but essential for our method





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- 3. Restrict final layers to use different representations.
 4. Train third objective function only on pseudo labeled to bridge domain shift.






















Two tasks: Domains:



Sentiment analysis on Amazon reviews dataset (Blitzer et al, 2006)



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POS tagging on SANCL 2012 dataset (Petrov and McDonald, 2012)











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Trained on 10% labeled data (WSJ)



• Tri-training with disagreement works best with little data.

Trained on full labeled data (WSJ)



Trained on full labeled data (WSJ)



Trained on full labeled data (WSJ)



Trained on full labeled data (WSJ)



Tri-training works best in the full data setting.

Accuracy on out-of-vocabulary (OOV) tokens



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Tri

0

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Classic tri-training works best on OOV tokens.

Accuracy on out-of-vocabulary (OOV) tokens



- Classic tri-training works best on OOV tokens.
- MT-Tri does worse than source-only baseline on OOV.

POS accuracy per binned log frequency



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POS accuracy per binned log frequency



Accuracy on unknown word-tag (UWT) tokens











 No bootstrapping method works well on unknown wordtag combinations.



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 * result from Schnabel & Schütze (2014)
- Less lexicalized FLORS approach is superior.











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- We address the drawback of tri-training (space & time complexity) via the proposed **MT-Tri** model
 - MT-Tri works best on sentiment, but not for POS.
- Importance of:



Comparing neural methods to classics (strong baselines)



Evaluation on multiple tasks & domains