

Minimax Forward and Backward Learning of Evolving Tasks with Performance Guarantees

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Incremental learning a growing sequence of tasks

1910



Incremental learning a growing sequence of tasks

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1940



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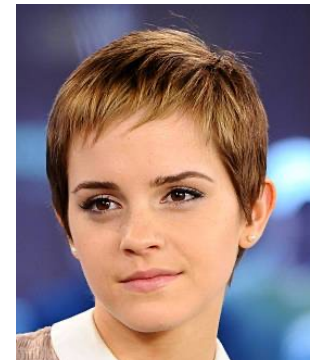
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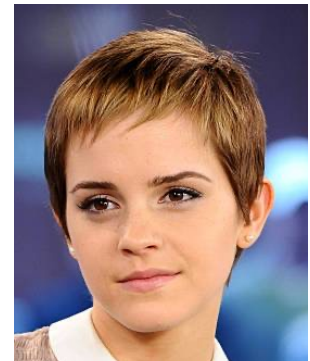
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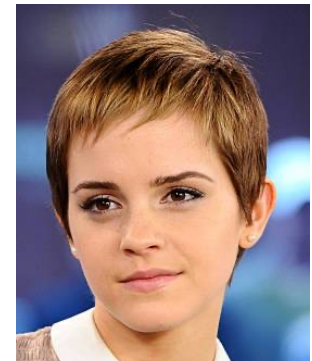
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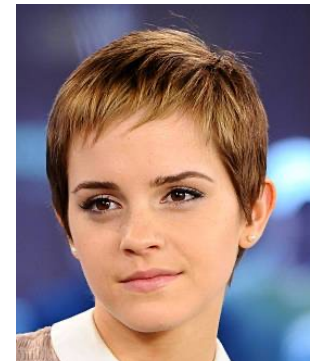
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Knowledge gaps

Concept drift adaptation techniques are designed for evolving tasks but only aim to learn the last task in the sequence

Continual learning techniques aim to learn the sequence of tasks but are not designed for evolving tasks

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Key contributions

Adapt to evolving tasks

Effectively exploit forward and backward learning

Provide performance guarantees and analytically characterize the increase in ESS

Incremental minimax risk classifiers (IMRCs)

Uncertainty set

$$\mathcal{U}_j^{\Rightarrow k} = \{p \in \Delta(\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}) : |\mathbb{E}_p\{\Phi(x, y)\} - \tau_j^{\Rightarrow k}| \preceq \lambda_j^{\Rightarrow k}\}$$

where $\Phi : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ is a feature mapping

$\tau_j^{\Rightarrow k}$ is the mean vector of expectation estimate

$\lambda_j^{\Rightarrow k}$ is a confidence vector

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Learning

$$R(\mathcal{U}_j^{\Rightarrow k}) = \min_{h \in \mathcal{T}(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y})} \max_{p \in \mathcal{U}_j^{\Rightarrow k}} \ell(h, p) = \min_{\mu} 1 - \tau_j^{\Rightarrow k \top} \mu + \varphi(\mu) + \lambda_j^{\Rightarrow k \top} |\mu|$$

Prediction

$$\hat{y} \in \arg \max_{y \in \mathcal{Y}} \Phi(x, y)^\top \mu_j^*$$

IMRCs

Single task learning

$$\tau_j = \frac{1}{n_j} \sum_{i=1}^{n_j} \Phi(x_{j,i}, y_{j,i})$$

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Forward learning

$$\vec{\tau}_j = \tau_j + \frac{s_j}{s_{j-1} + s_j + d_j^2} (\vec{\tau}_{j-1} - \tau_j)$$

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Forward and Backward learning

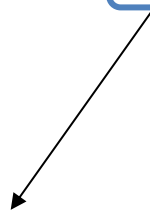
$$\tau_j^{\rightleftharpoons k} = \tau_j^{\rightarrow} + \frac{s_j^{\rightarrow}}{s_j^{\rightarrow} + s_{j+1}^{\leftarrow k} + d_{j+1}^2} (\tau_{j+1}^{\leftarrow k} - \tau_j^{\rightarrow})$$

Performance guarantees and effective sample size (ESS)

$$R(\mathcal{U}_j^{\Rightarrow k}) \leq R_j^\infty + \frac{M(\kappa + 1)\sqrt{2\log(2m/\delta)}}{\sqrt{\text{ESS}}} \|\mu_j^\infty\|_1$$

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Forward learning

$$\boxed{n_j^{\rightarrow}} \geq \boxed{n_j} + \boxed{n_{j-1}^{\rightarrow}} \frac{\|\sigma_j^2\|_\infty}{\|\sigma_j^2\|_\infty + n_{j-1}^{\rightarrow} \|d_{j+1}^2\|_\infty}$$

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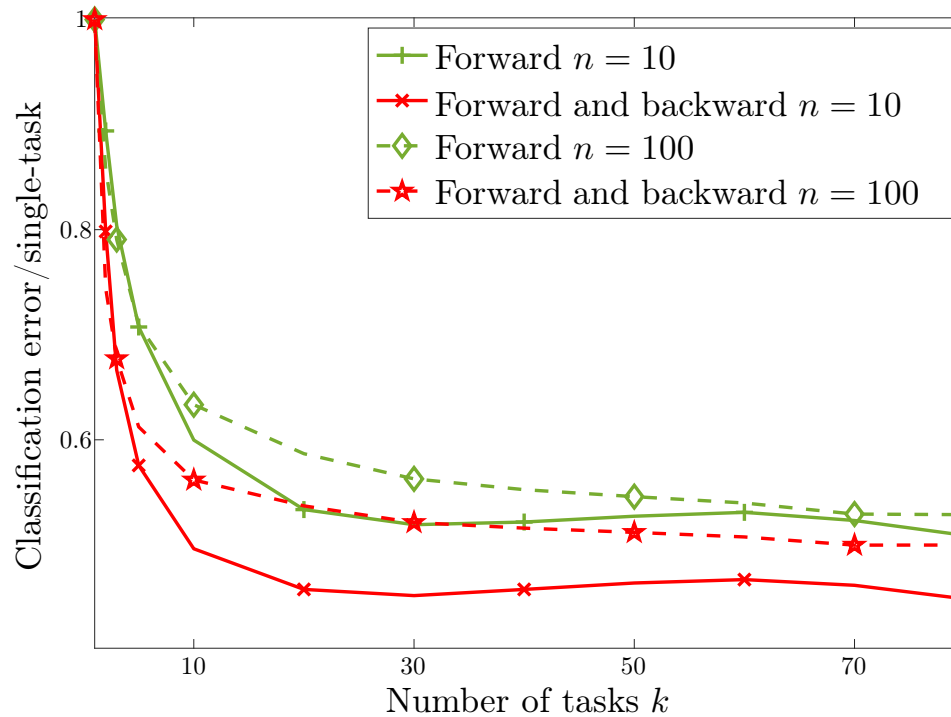
$$n_j^{\Rightarrow k}$$

$$\geq n_j^{\rightarrow}$$

$$+ n_{j+1}^{\leftarrow k}$$

$$\frac{\|\sigma_j^2\|_\infty}{\|\sigma_j^2\|_\infty + n_{j+1}^{\leftarrow k} \|d_{j+1}^2\|_\infty}$$

Experimental results



Algorithm	Yearbook	I. Noise	DomainNet	UTKFaces	R. MNIST	CLEAR
GEM	.18 \pm .03	.39 \pm .08	.69 \pm .05	.12 \pm .00	.36 \pm .06	.57 \pm .10
MER	.16 \pm .03	.17 \pm .03	.38 \pm .04	.17 \pm .09	.37 \pm .09	.10 \pm .03
ELLA	.45 \pm .01	.48 \pm .05	.67 \pm .05	.19 \pm .12	.48 \pm .05	.61 \pm .03
CL-MRC	.13 \pm .04	.15 \pm .03	.34 \pm .06	.10 \pm .01	.36 \pm .01	.09 \pm .03