

# Transfer Learning & Domain Adaptation

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- Notations and Definitions
- Transfer Learning Techniques
- Transfer Learning for Deep Learning
- Domain Adaptation
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# Overview

## *A brief history of Transfer Learning*

- Know how to ride a motorbike, learn how to ride a car
- Know how to play classic piano, learn how to play jazz piano

- know math and statistics, learn machine learning

Dipanjan (DJ) Sarkar<sup>3</sup>

# Overview

Transfer Learning

## *A brief history of Transfer Learning*

Traditional Machine  
Learning

# Overview

*A brief history of Transfer Learning*

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# Overview

*A brief history of Transfer Learning*

- Andrew Ng, NIPS 2016 “Nuts and Bolts of

building AI  
applications using Deep Learning”

**“After supervised learning, Transfer Learning  
will be the next driver of ML commercial  
success”**

○ “Deep Learning” ~ Ian Goodfellow et al

**“Situation where what has been learned in one  
setting is exploited to improve generalization in  
another setting.”**

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## **Notations and Definitions**

Suppose we have: a domain  $D = \{X, P(X)\}$ ,

where

- $X$ : Feature Space
- $\mathbf{P}(X)$ : Marginal probability distribution
- $\mathbf{X} = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \in X$  (Particular learning samples)

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## Notations and Definitions

Suppose we have: a task  $T = \{Y, f(\cdot)\}$ ,  
where

- $Y$ : Label Space

- $f(.)$  : Objective predictive function
- Which can be learned from training data  $\{x_i, y_i\}$ ,  
 $x_i \in X$  &  $y_i \in Y$  ○  $f(.)$  : predicts the  $f(x)$
- $f(x) = \mathbf{P}(y|x)$

We consider with Source domain ( $D_S$ ) & Target

domain ( $D_T$ ) and  $T_S$  &  $T_T$ .  
 their learning tasks

## Notations and Definitions

□ Given a source domain  $D_S$  and learning task  $T_S$ , a target domain  $D_T$  and learning

task  $T_T$ , transfer learning aims to help improve the learning of the

target predictive function  $f_T(.)$  in  $D_T$  using the knowledge in  $D_S$  and  $T_S$ , where  $D_S \neq D_T$ , or  $T_S \neq T_T$

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## Transfer Learning Techniques

**Main research issues in Transfer Learning:**

- **“What to transfer”**, which part of knowledge to transfer



- **“When to transfer”**, which situation that transferring should be done
- **“How to transfer”**, go forward for transferring the knowledge across  
the domain.

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## **Transfer Learning Techniques**

# Transfer Learning Techniques

Transfer Learning Setting Related Area **Source Domain**

**Labels**

**Target Domain**

**Labels** **Tasks**

Inductive Transfer Learning

Multi-task Learning Available Available Classification

Regression,

Self-taught Learning Unavailable Available

Regression, Classification

Transductive Transfer Learning

Domain Adaptation, Sample Selection Bias, Co-variate Shift

Available Unavailable

Classification Regression,

Unsupervised Transfer

Learning Unavailable Unavailable

Clustering, Dimensionality Reduction

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# Transfer Learning Techniques

## *Inductive Transfer Learning*

Given a source domain  $D_S$  and learning task  $T_S$ , a target domain  $D_T$  and learning task  $T_T$ , transfer learning aims to help improve the learning of the target predictive function  $f_T(.)$  in  $D_T$  using the knowledge in  $D_S$  and  $T_S$ , where  $T_S \neq T_T$

# Transfer Learning Techniques

## *Transductive Transfer Learning*

- Given a source domain  $D_S$  and learning task  $T_S$ , a target

domain  $D_T$  and learning task  $T_T$ , transfer learning aims to help improve the learning of the target predictive function  $f_T(.)$  in  $D_T$  using the knowledge in  $D_S$  and  $T_S$ , where  $D_S \neq D_T$ ,  $T_S = T_T$

- Note that some unlabeled target domain data must be

available at training time

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# Transfer Learning Techniques

## *Unsupervised Transfer Learning*

- Given a source domain  $D_S$  and learning task  $T_S$ , a target

domain  $D_T$  and learning task  $T_T$ , transfer learning aims to help improve the learning of the target predictive function  $f_T(.)$  in  $D_T$  using the knowledge in  $D_S$  and  $T_S$ , where  $T_S \neq T_T$ , and  $Y_S$  and  $Y_T$  are not observable.

- Note that there's no labeled data in both source and target

domain.

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# Transfer Learning Techniques

Different Approaches used in different settings

- Instance Transfer
- Feature-representation Transfer
- Parameter Transfer
- Rational-knowledge Transfer

# Transfer Learning for Deep Learning

**Myth:** you cannot do deep learning unless you have a million of

labeled examples for your problem.

## Reality

- You can learn useful representations from unlabeled data
- You can train on a nearby surrogate objective for

which it is easy

to generate labels

- You can transfer learned representations from a related task.

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# Transfer Learning for Deep Learning

**Instead of training a deep network from scratch for your task:**

- Take a network trained on a different domain for a different

source task

- Adapt it for your domain and your target task



**We will talk about how to do this.**

**Variations:**

- Same domain, different task
- Different domain, same task

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# **Transfer Learning for Deep Learning** *PASCAL VOC 2007*

- 20 classes, ~10K images, 50% train, 50% test
- Deep networks can have many parameters (e.g. 60M in Alexnet)
- Direct training (from scratch) using only 5K training images can be problematic. Model overfits.
- How can we use deep networks in this setting?

# Transfer Learning for Deep Learning “*Off-the-shelf*”

use outputs of one or more layers of a network trained on a different task as generic feature detectors. Train a new shallow model on these features.

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# Transfer Learning for Deep Learning *“Off-the-shelf”*

Surpassed or on par with state-of-the-art in several tasks in 2014

**Image classification:**

- PASCAL VOC 2007

- Oxford flowers
- CUB Bird dataset
- MIT

### **indoors Image retrieval:**

- Paris 6k
- Holidays
- UKBench

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Razavian et al, CNN Features off-the-shelf: an Astounding Baseline for Recognition, CVPRW 2014:  
<https://arxiv.org/pdf/1403.6382.pdf>

# **Domain Adaptation**

Consider a classification task where  $X$  is the input space &  $Y$  is the set of labels. Given two sets of samples drawn from the source & target domains.

$$D_S = \{x_i, y_i\}_{i=1}^n \sim P(X_S), D_T = \{x_i, y_i\}_{i=n+1}^n \sim P(X_T)$$

(Target space labeled data may not be present in unsupervised case)

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## Domain Adaptation

The goal of the learning algorithm is to build a

classifier  $\eta: X \rightarrow Y$  with a low target

risk

$$R_{DT}(\eta) = \mathbb{E}_{x,y} \Pr_{\sim_{DT}}(\eta(x) \neq y)$$

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## **Domain Adaptation** *Domain Biases*

- Datasets are samples of the world
- In many cases, there is a shift or bias in the distributions of the

source and target data representations

i.e. when recognizing people, the target domain typically contains one

person centered with minimal background clutter, whereas the source

dataset contains many people with more clutter. Thus, the neurons that

capture the features of other people and clutter are useless.

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## **Domain Adaptation** *Domain Shift*

- The size of the shift is often measured by the distance between source &

target subspaces

- A typical approach is to learn a feature space transformation to align the

source & target representation (reduce domain divergence)

# Domain Adaptation

*Fine-tuning:  
supervised  
domain adaptation*

**Train deep net on  
“nearby” task for which  
it is easy to get labels  
using standard  
backprop**

Real loss

- E.g. ImageNet classification
- Pseudo classes from augmented data
- Slow feature learning, ego-motion

Cut off top layer(s) of network and replace with supervised objective



for target domain.

Fine-tune network using  
backprop with

labels for target domain  
until validation loss

starts to increase.

Real data Real labels

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Adaptation  
My\_fc2 + softmax

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fc1  
conv3

conv2

conv1

## Domain Adaptation *Freeze or Fine-tune?*

LR > 0

loss

**Bottom n layers can frozen or fine tuned**

$d_{fc2 + softmax}^e$  ○ Frozen: not updated during backprop

nute ○ Fine-tuned: updated during backprop

fc1

$n_i$   $F_{\text{conv}3}$  **Which to do depends on target task:**

n

$e_{\text{conv}2}$   $z$  ○ Freeze: target task labels are scarce, and

or  $F$  we want to avoid overfitting

conv1 ○ Fine-tune: target task labels are more plentiful

LR = 0

data labels

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## **Domain Adaptation** *How transferable are features?*

**Lower layers: more general features.** Transfer very well to other tasks.

**Higher layers: more task specific** Fine-tuning improves generalization when sufficient examples are available.

Transfer learning and fine tuning often lead to better performance than training from scratch on the dataset.

Yosinski et al. How transferable are features in deep neural networks. NIPS 2014. <https://arxiv.org/abs/1411.1792>

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# **Domain Adaptation** *Unsupervised* *Domain Adaptation*

It is possible to do domain adaptation with labeled data point in target set.

Y Ganin and V Lempitsky, Unsupervised Domain Adaptation by Backpropagation, ICML 2015  
<https://arxiv.org/abs/1409.7495>

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# Conclusion

**Transfer Learning is the ability to apply the knowledge learned in previous Tasks to novel tasks.**

- Possible to train very large models on small data by using Transfer Learning and Domain Adaptation
- Off the shelf features work very well in various domains and tasks
- Lower layers of network contain very generic features, higher layers more task specific features
- Example for supervised domain adaptation via fine tuning almost always improves performance
- Possible to do unsupervised domain adaptation by matching feature distributions

# References

## Contents:

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- A Comprehensive Hands-on Guide to Transfer Learning with Real-World Applications in Deep Learning, Dipanjan (DJ) Sarkar

## Images:

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<https://www.einfochips.com/blog/how-does-transfer-learning-speeds-up-deep-learning-projects/>

**Thank You!**