

# Learning Real-World Label Noise from Multiple Labellings: A Multi-Task Learning Approach

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**SYDNEY**



# Deep Learning with Label Noise [1]



Crowdsourcing

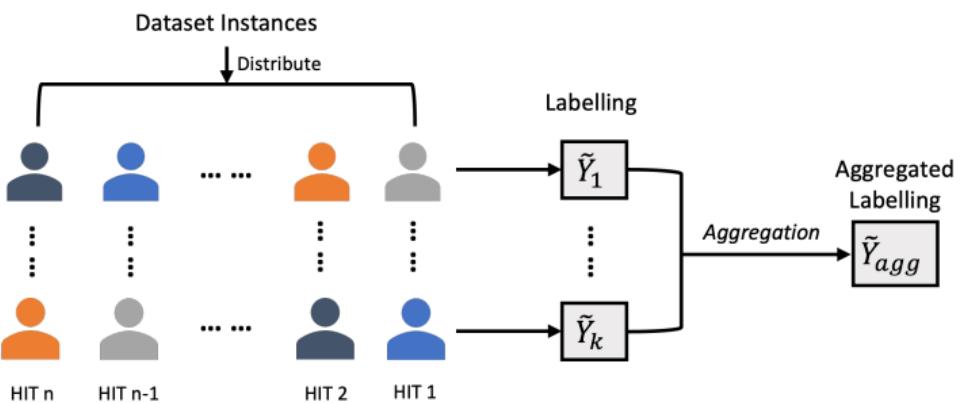


ImageNet given label:  
Pekingese

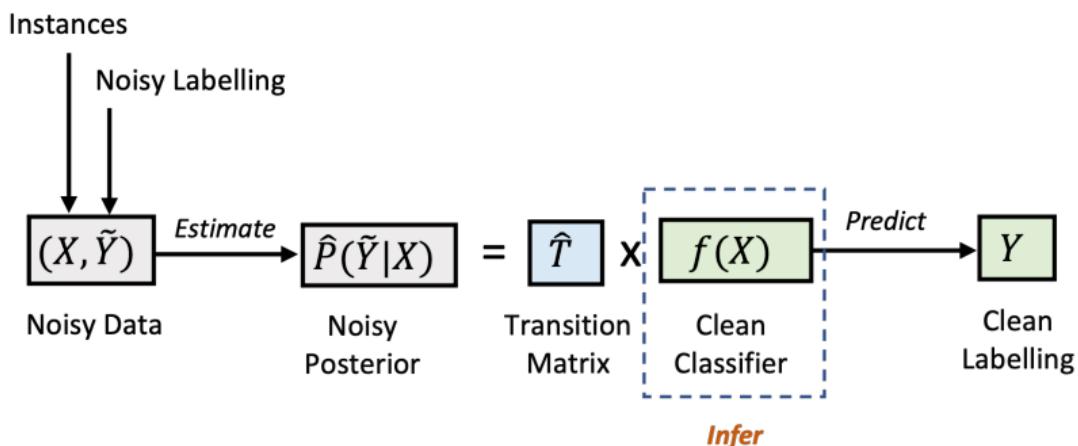


Pekingese VS Japanese Chin

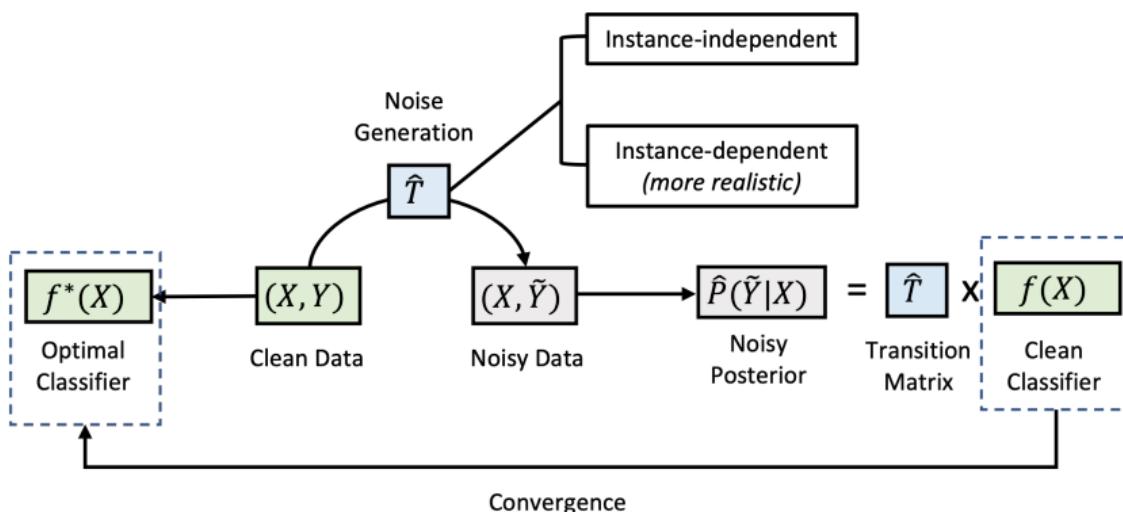
## Crowdsourcing Field [2]



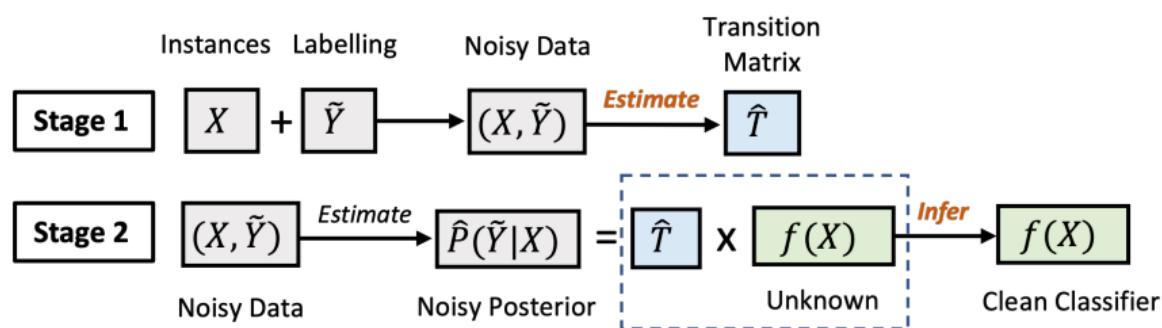
## Label-Noise Learning Field [1]



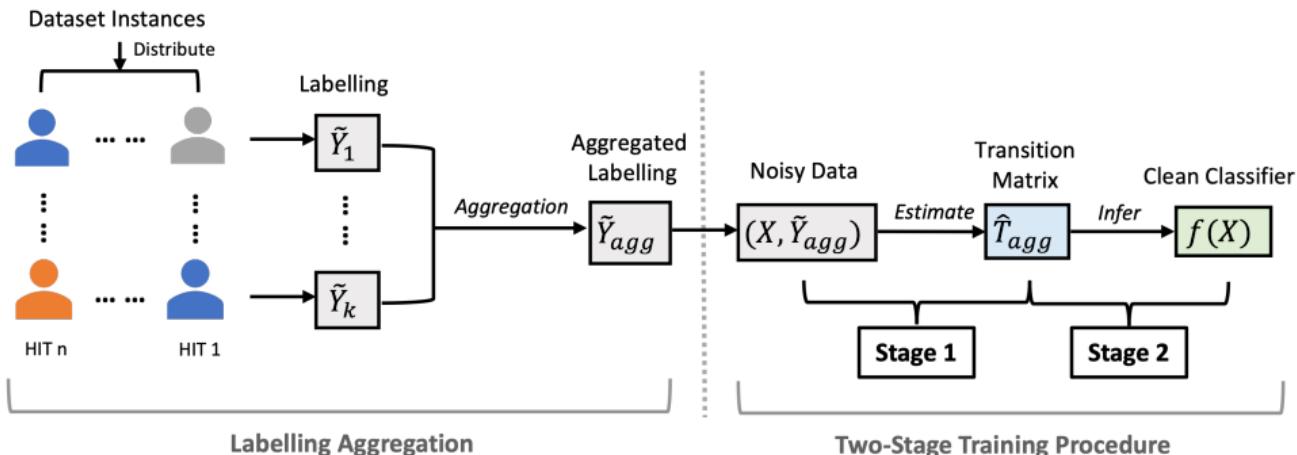
## Transition Matrix and its Estimation [3]



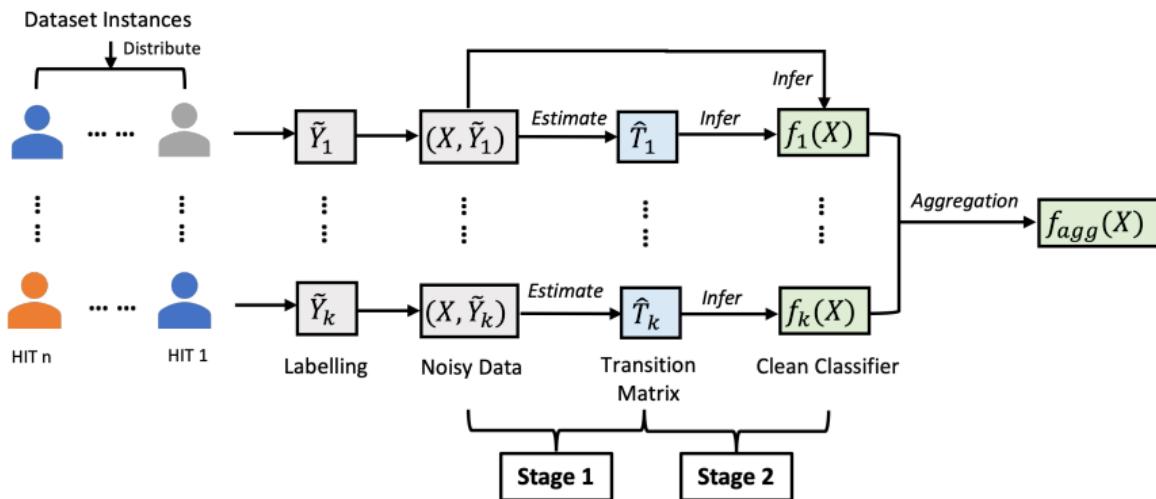
## Two-Stage Training Procedure [4]



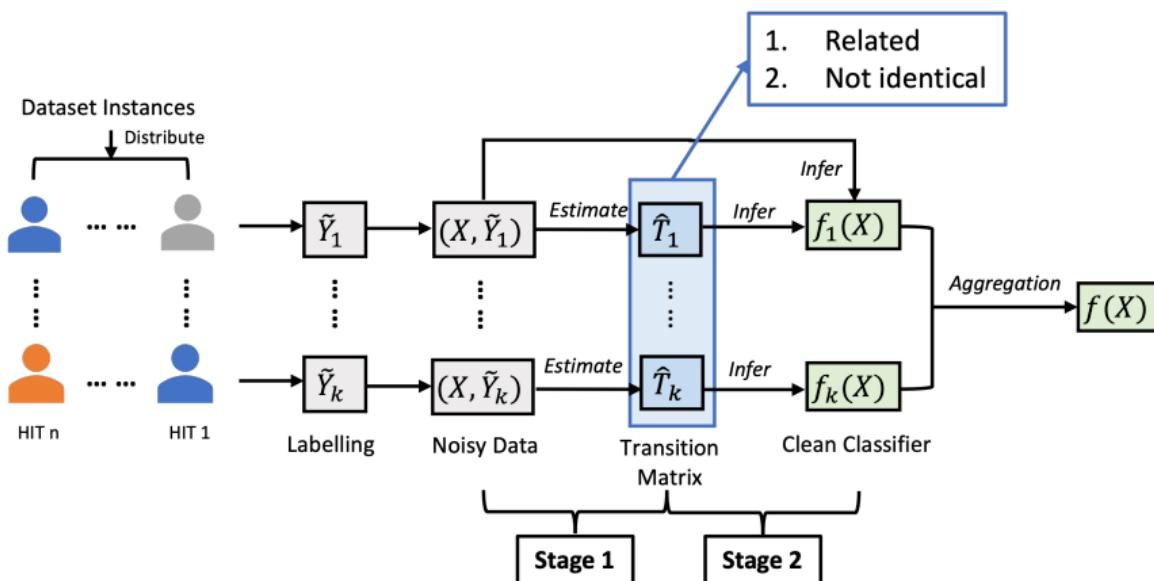
## Recent Work [5]: AGG-T



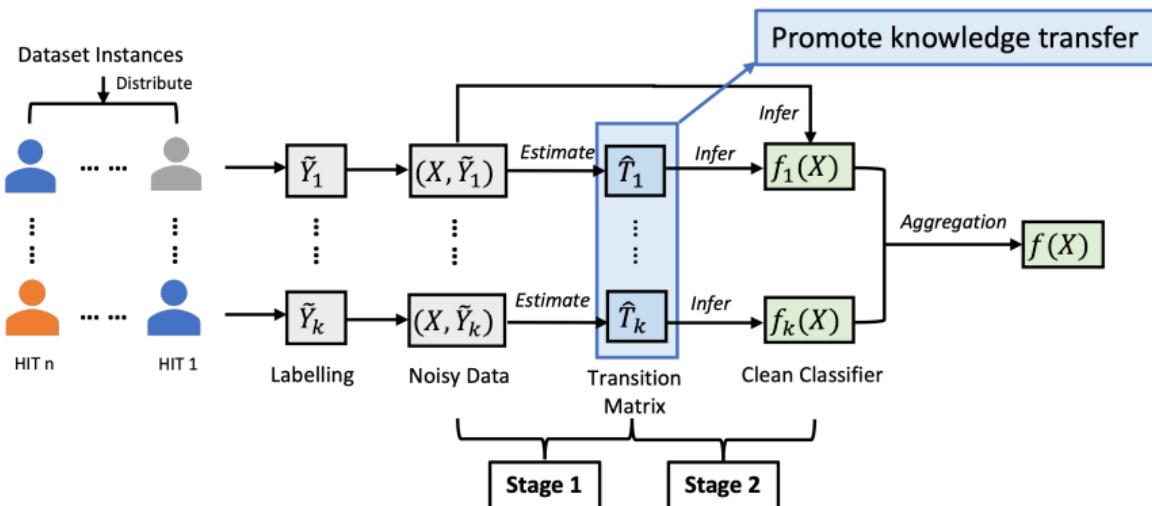
## Naive Approach: STL-T [6]



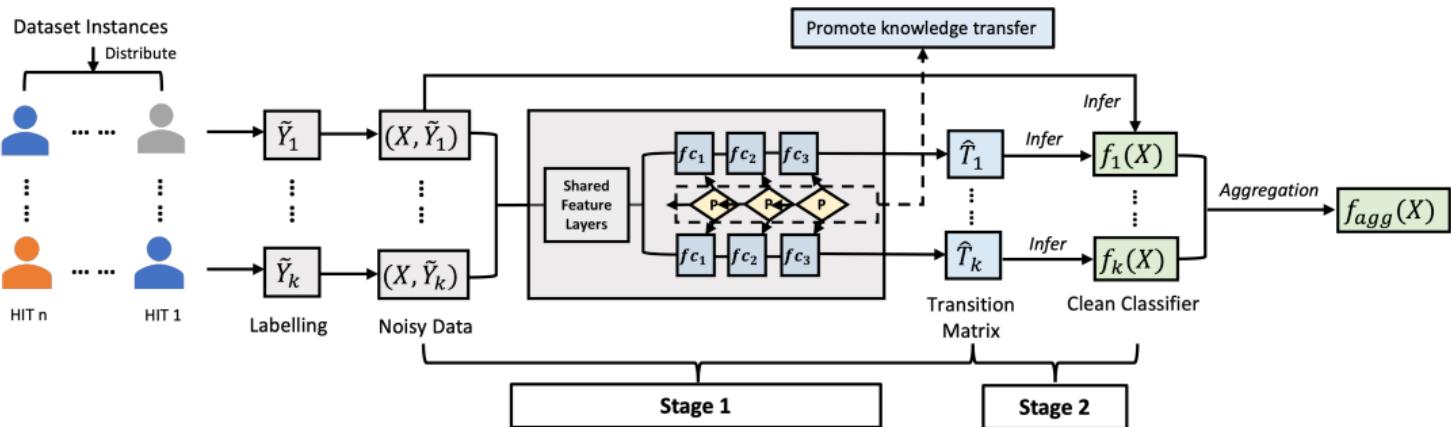
## Conditions for MTL [6]



## Proposed MTL-T

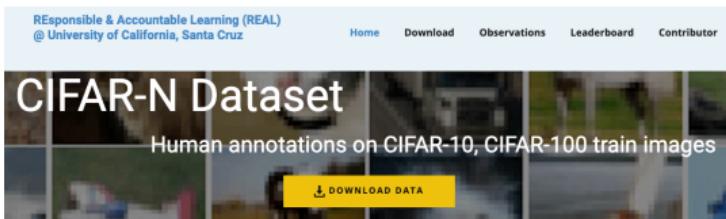


## Proposed MTL-T [7][8]



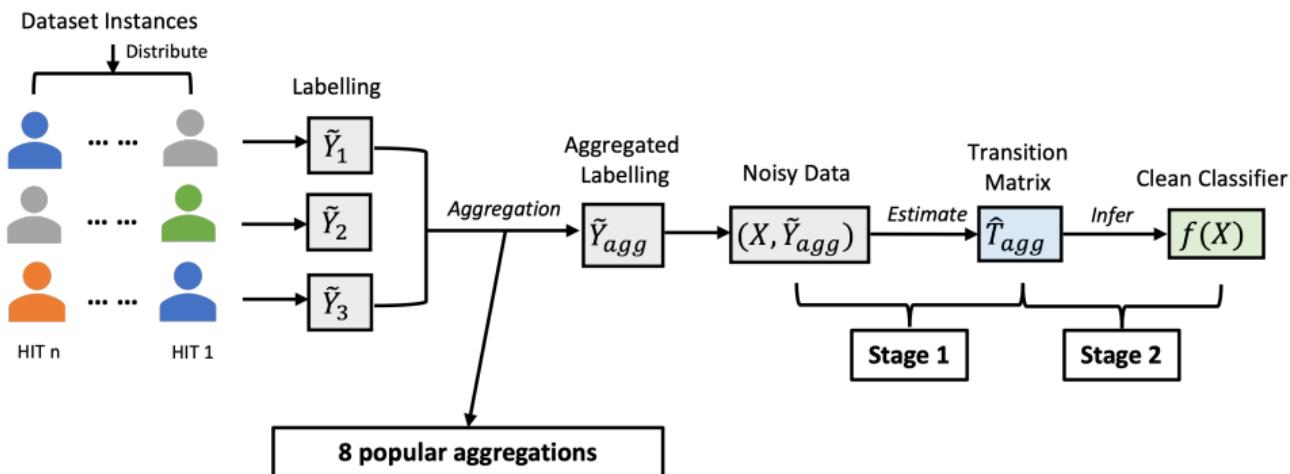
- ▶ Adapt Bayes-Label-T [7] to MTL
  - ▶ Adapt MRN model [8] to Label-Noise Learning

# Dataset

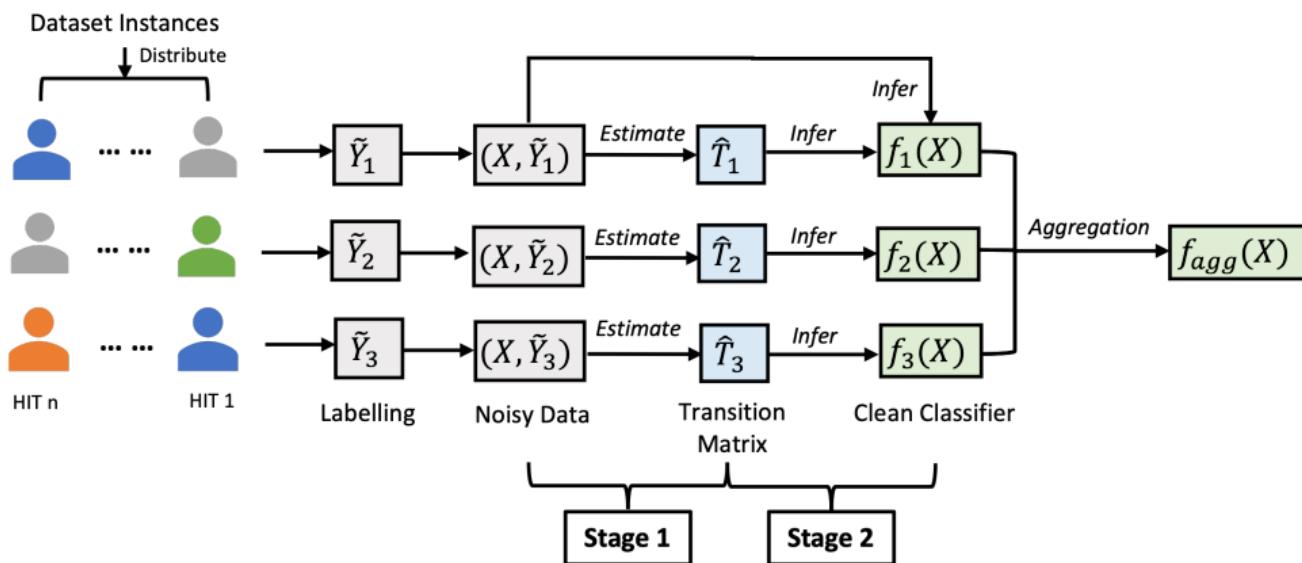


- ▶ CIFAR-10N [5], a re-annotation of CIFAR-10 with 3 labellings
  - ▶ The only relevant dataset, which is
    1. Image-related
    2. Multi-class
    3. Having multiple labellings
    4. Large enough for learning accurate transition matrices

## Baselines: AGG-T [2]



## Baseline: STL-T



# Experimental Research Questions

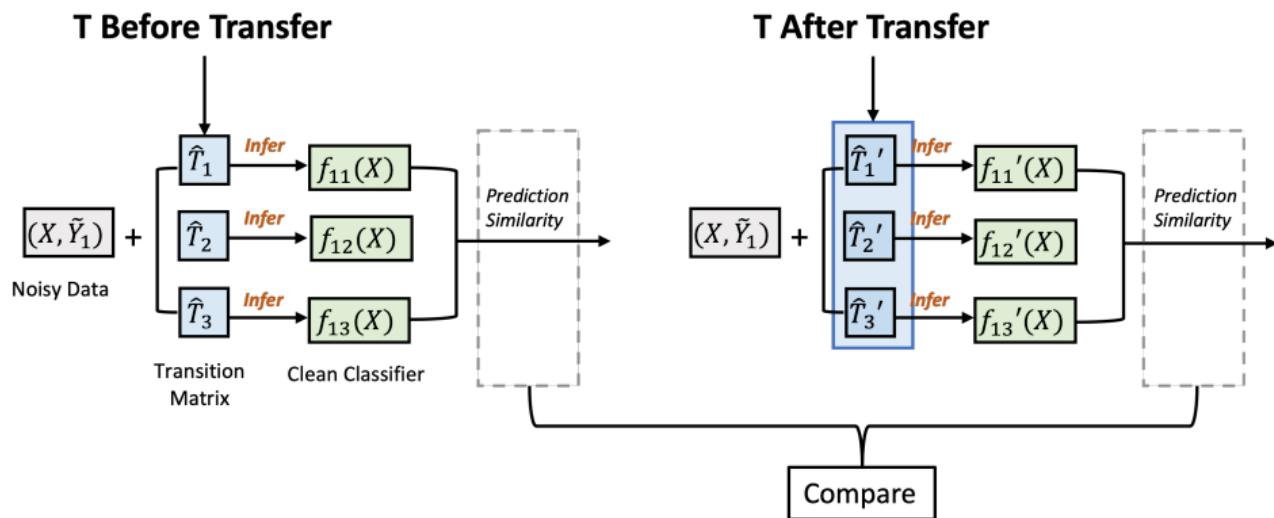
## ► *STL-T vs MTL-T*

- (Q1) Does knowledge transfer occur between transition matrices?
- (Q2) Does knowledge transfer improve the transition matrix estimation?
- (Q3) Does knowledge transfer ultimately improve the final classifier accuracy?

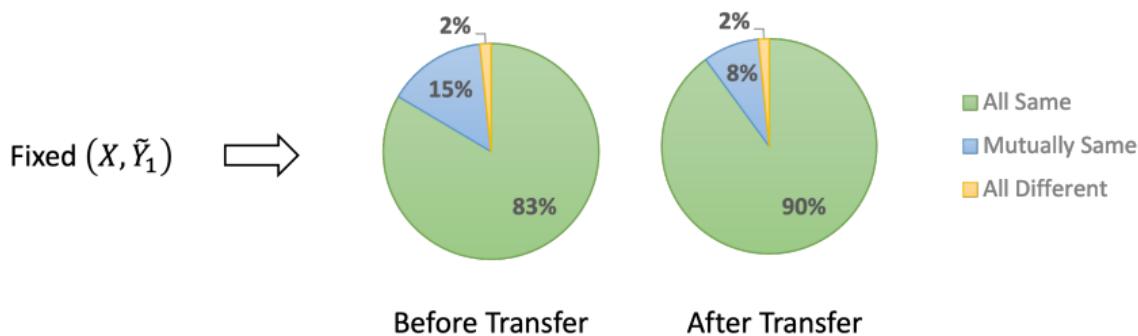
## ► *AGG-T vs MTL-T*

- (Q4) Does MTL-T outperform any baselines in AGG-T?

## (Q1) Does Knowledge Transfer Occur?



## (Q1) Does Knowledge Transfer Occur?



(A1) Knowledge transfer occurs

## (Q2) Does Knowledge Transfer Improves T Estimation?

	Test Classification Accuracy (%)		
	$f_1(X)$	$f_2(X)$	$f_3(X)$
<b>STL-T (Without Transfer)</b>	$89.34 \pm 0.13$	$89.33 \pm 0.11$	$89.41 \pm 0.15$
<b>MTL-T (With Transfer)</b>	<b><math>89.91 \pm 0.23</math></b>	<b><math>89.97 \pm 0.17</math></b>	<b><math>89.94 \pm 0.19</math></b>

**(A2)** Knowledge transfer improves the estimation of each transition matrix

## (Q3) Does Knowledge Transfer Improves Final Classifier Accuracy?

	<b>Test Classification Accuracy (%)</b>
	$f_{agg}(X)$
<b>STL-T (Without Transfer)</b>	$90.74 \pm 0.18$
<b>MTL-T (With Transfer)</b>	<b><math>91.28 \pm 0.21</math></b>

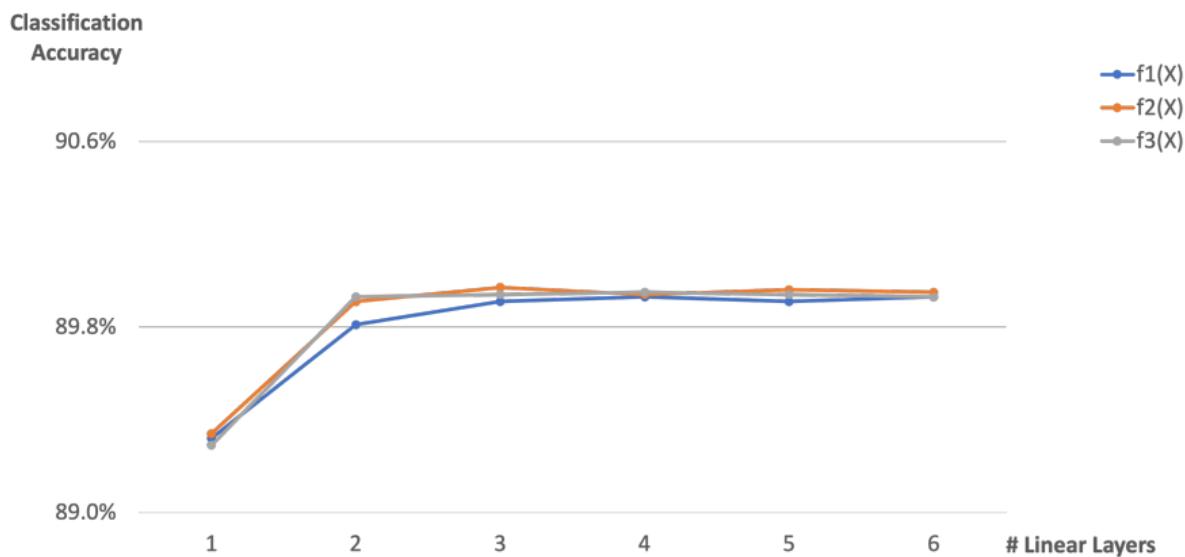
**(A3)** Knowledge transfer improves the final classifier accuracy (0.5% uplift)

**(Q4) Does MTL-T outperform any baselines in AGG-T?**

Approach	Aggregation Algorithms	Test Classification Accuracy (%)
AGG-T	MV	89.49±0.12
	ZC (Demartini et al., 2012)	89.91±0.16
	GLAD (Whitehill et al., 2009)	89.89±0.13
	CATD (Li et al., 2014a)	89.92±0.11
	PM (Li et al., 2014b)	89.73±0.13
	D&S (Dawid and Skene, 1979)	90.14±0.09
	BCC (Kim and Ghahramani, 2012)	90.21±0.07
	LFC (Raykar et al., 2010)	90.25±0.10
MTL-T		91.28±0.21

**(A4)** MTL-T outperforms all AGG-T baselines (1.03% to 1.79% uplift)

## Ablation Study



# Limitations and Future Work

## *Limitations*

1. Only one dataset
2. Assumed distribution of parameter tensor
3. Only popular label aggregation techniques

## *Future Work*

1. Reproduce the experiment when more datasets are available
2. Investigate more alternatives with no assumptions
3. Compare against more aggregation techniques

## Conclusion

- ▶ Proposed MTL-T which adapts MTL to simultaneously learn from multiple labellings
- ▶ Conducted thorough evaluations using CIFAR-10N dataset, showing
  1. Occurrence of knowledge transfer
  2. Improved transition matrix estimation
  3. Improved clean classifier accuracy
  4. Better than popular label aggregation baselines

## References I

- [1] Bo Han, Quanming Yao, Tongliang Liu, Gang Niu, Ivor W Tsang, James T Kwok, and Masashi Sugiyama. A survey of label-noise representation learning: Past, present and future. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2011.04406*, 2020.
- [2] Yudian Zheng, Guoliang Li, Yuanbing Li, Caihua Shan, and Reynold Cheng. Truth inference in crowdsourcing: Is the problem solved? *Proceedings of the VLDB Endowment*, 10(5):541–552, 2017.
- [3] Xiaobo Xia, Tongliang Liu, Nannan Wang, Bo Han, Chen Gong, Gang Niu, and Masashi Sugiyama. Are anchor points really indispensable in label-noise learning? *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*, 32:6838–6849, 2019.
- [4] Giorgio Patrini, Alessandro Rozza, Aditya Krishna Menon, Richard Nock, and Lizhen Qu. Making deep neural networks robust to label noise: A loss correction approach. In *Proceedings of the IEEE conference on computer vision and pattern recognition*, pages 1944–1952, 2017.
- [5] Jiaheng Wei, Zhaowei Zhu, Hao Cheng, Tongliang Liu, Gang Niu, and Yang Liu. Learning with noisy labels revisited: A study using real-world human annotations. In *International Conference on Learning Representations*, 2021.
- [6] Qiang Yang, Yu Zhang, Wenyuan Dai, and Sinno Jialin Pan. *Multi-task Learning*, page 126–140. Cambridge University Press, 2020.

## References II

- [7] Shuo Yang, Erkun Yang, Bo Han, Yang Liu, Min Xu, Gang Niu, and Tongliang Liu. Estimating instance-dependent bayes-label transition matrix using a deep neural network. In *ICML*, 2022.
  - [8] Mingsheng Long, Zhangjie Cao, Jianmin Wang, and Philip S Yu. Learning multiple tasks with multilinear relationship networks. *Advances in neural information processing systems*, 30, 2017.

## Appendix: Key Formulations

$$\begin{aligned}
 p(\mathcal{W}|\mathcal{X}^*, \mathcal{Y}^*, \tilde{\mathcal{Y}}) &\propto p(\mathcal{W}) \cdot p(\tilde{\mathcal{Y}}|\mathcal{X}^*, \mathcal{Y}^*, \mathcal{W}) \\
 &= \underbrace{\prod_{\ell \in \mathcal{L}} p(\mathcal{W}^\ell)}_{\text{Prior}} \cdot \underbrace{\prod_{j=1}^k \prod_{i=1}^{N^*} p(\tilde{y}_i^j | \hat{y}_i^*, x_i^*, \mathcal{W})}_{\text{MLE}}.
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\min_{\mathcal{W}^\ell, \Sigma^\ell | \ell \in \mathcal{L}} \underbrace{\sum_{j=1}^k \sum_{i=1}^{N^*} \tilde{y}_i^t \log (\hat{y}_i^* T_j^*(x_i^*; \mathcal{W}))}_{L_{cel} \text{ from MLE}} + \underbrace{\sum_{\ell \in \mathcal{L}} \lambda_\ell \left[ \text{vec}(\mathcal{W}^\ell)^T (\Sigma^\ell)^{-1} \text{vec}(\mathcal{W}^\ell) + D_1^\ell D_2^\ell \log(|\Sigma^\ell|) \right]}_{L_{reg} \text{ from Prior}}$$
(3.3)

# Appendix: Aggregation Algorithm

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## Algorithm 1: Solution Framework

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**Input:** workers' answers  $V$

**Output:** inferred truth  $v_i^*$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n$ ), worker quality  $q^w$  ( $w \in \mathcal{W}$ )

- 1 Initialize all workers' qualities ( $q^w$  for  $w \in \mathcal{W}$ );
- 2 **while** true **do**
- 3     *// Step 1: Inferring the Truth*
- 4     **for**  $1 \leq i \leq n$  **do**
- 5         └ Inferring the truth  $v_i^*$  based on  $V$  and  $\{q^w \mid w \in \mathcal{W}\}$ ;
- 6     *// Step 2: Estimating Worker Quality*
- 7     **for**  $w \in \mathcal{W}$  **do**
- 8         └ Estimating the quality  $q^w$  based on  $V$  and  $\{v_i^* \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\}$ ;
- 9     *// Check for Convergence*
- 10    **if** Converged **then**
- 11      └ **break**;
- 12 **return**  $v_i^*$  for  $1 \leq i \leq n$  and  $q^w$  for  $w \in \mathcal{W}$ ;

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# Questions?