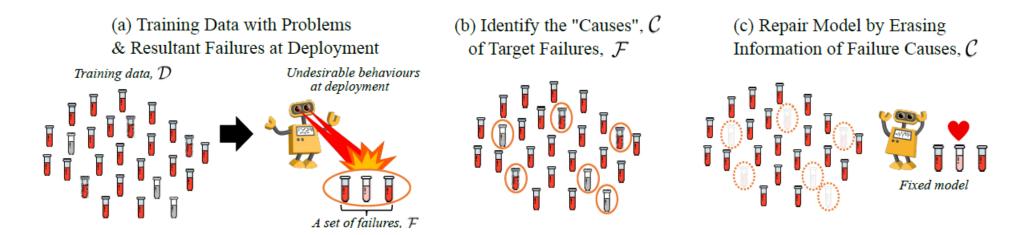
# Mix-up based on data valuation score (2)

-Summary-

• Based on [Repairing NN by Leaving the Right Past Behind, NeurIPS 2022], we can try similar method for diagnosing which mixup samples are conflicting with test samples.



- Notation for algorithms:
  - $\mathcal{F}$ : failure set (wrong test samples after training)
  - C: failure cause (training samples which contributes model to make failure set F after training)  $\subset D$
  - $\mathcal{D}$ : training set /  $\mathcal{D}_{test}$ : test set

- Step 1 : Failure set  ${\mathcal F}$  identification
  - Train the model and check which test samples get wrong ightarrow set these test set as  ${\mathcal F}$

- Step 2 : Failure cause  $\mathcal C$  identification (when mixup is not used, follow original paper)
  - We want to observe the impact on model's prediction on failure set  $\mathcal{F}$  by deleting a subset of training set  $\mathcal{C} \subset \mathcal{D} : \rightarrow$  observe the change of  $r(\mathcal{C})$

$$r(\mathcal{C}) \coloneqq \log p(\mathcal{F}|\mathcal{D} - \mathcal{C}) - \log p(\mathcal{F}|\mathcal{D})$$

where 
$$p(\mathcal{F}|\mathcal{D}) = \int p(\mathcal{F}|\boldsymbol{\theta})p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathcal{D})d\boldsymbol{\theta}, \ p(\mathcal{F}|\mathcal{D}\setminus\mathcal{C}) = \int p(\mathcal{F}|\boldsymbol{\theta})p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathcal{D}\setminus\mathcal{C})d\boldsymbol{\theta}, \ p(\mathcal{F}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \prod_{(\boldsymbol{x},y)\in\mathcal{F}} p(y|\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{\theta})$$

- Step 2 : Failure cause  $\mathcal{C}$  identification [detailed descriptions are skipped]
  - Using i.i.d modeling assumption and Bayes' rule, we get following:

$$r(\mathcal{C}) = \log \mathbb{E}_{p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathcal{D},\mathcal{F})}[p(\mathcal{C}|\boldsymbol{\theta})^{-1}] - \log \mathbb{E}_{p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathcal{D})}[p(\mathcal{C}|\boldsymbol{\theta})^{-1}]$$

Note : 
$$r(\mathcal{C}) = F(1, p(\theta|\mathcal{D}, \mathcal{F})) - F(1, p(\theta|\mathcal{D}))$$
, where  $F(\epsilon, g(\theta)) = log \int g(\theta) e^{-\epsilon log p(\mathcal{C}|\theta)} d\theta$ 

- By using Taylor expansion : (Apply 1<sup>st</sup> order Taylor approx. on  $F(\epsilon, g(\theta))$  around  $\epsilon = 0$ )  $\hat{r}(\mathcal{C}) \coloneqq \mathbb{E}_{p(\theta|\mathcal{D})}[\log p(\mathcal{C}|\theta)] \mathbb{E}_{p(\theta|\mathcal{D},\mathcal{F})}[\log p(\mathcal{C}|\theta)]$
- Assume that data are i.i.d sampled and define z = (x, y), then

$$\hat{r}(\mathcal{C}) = \sum_{\mathbf{z} \in \mathcal{C}} \hat{r}(\mathbf{z})$$

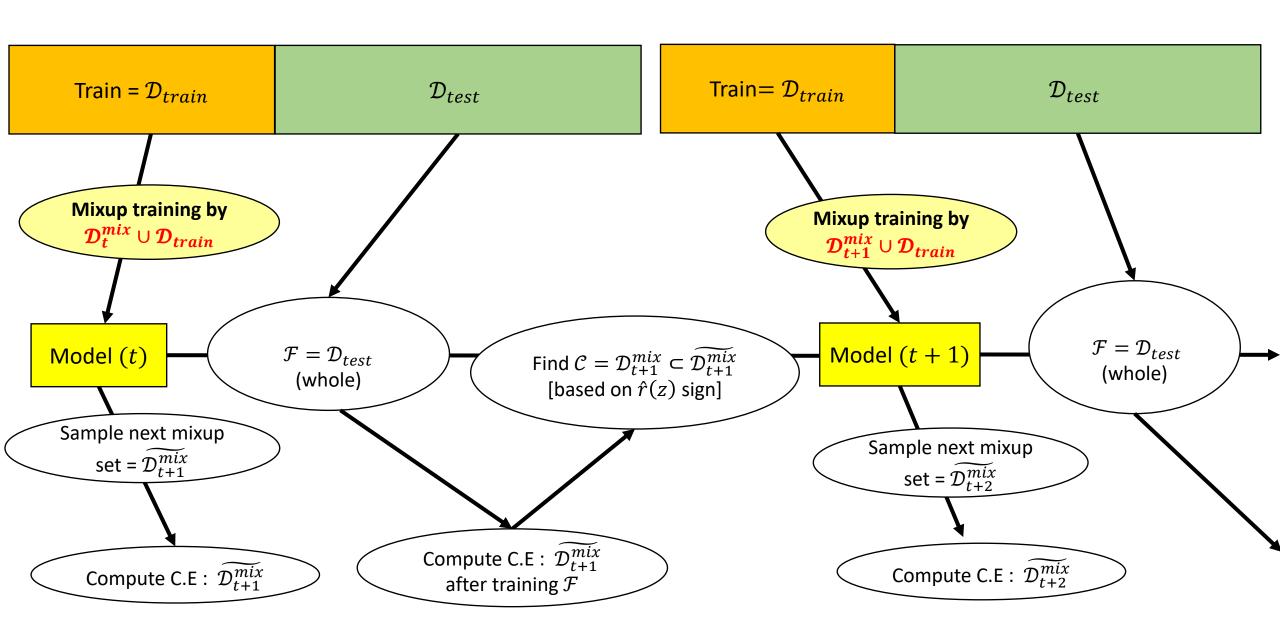
where 
$$\hat{r}(z) = \mathbb{E}_{p(\theta|\mathcal{D})}[\log p(z|\theta)] - \mathbb{E}_{p(\theta|\mathcal{D},\mathcal{F})}[\log p(z|\theta)], \quad p(z|\theta) = p(y|x,\theta)$$

- Step 2 : Failure cause C identification [detailed descriptions are skipped]
  - Note that  $\hat{r}(z) = \mathbb{E}_{p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathcal{D})}[\log p(\boldsymbol{y}|\boldsymbol{\theta},\boldsymbol{x})] \mathbb{E}_{p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathcal{D},\mathcal{F})}[\log p(\boldsymbol{y}|\boldsymbol{\theta},\boldsymbol{x})]$  (# z = (x,y)) whose computation is only valid when there is no mixup (mixed OH encoding vector)
  - But, the fundamental idea is to observe the difference of log-prediction at each sample z before and after the training the failure set  $\mathcal{F}$ .

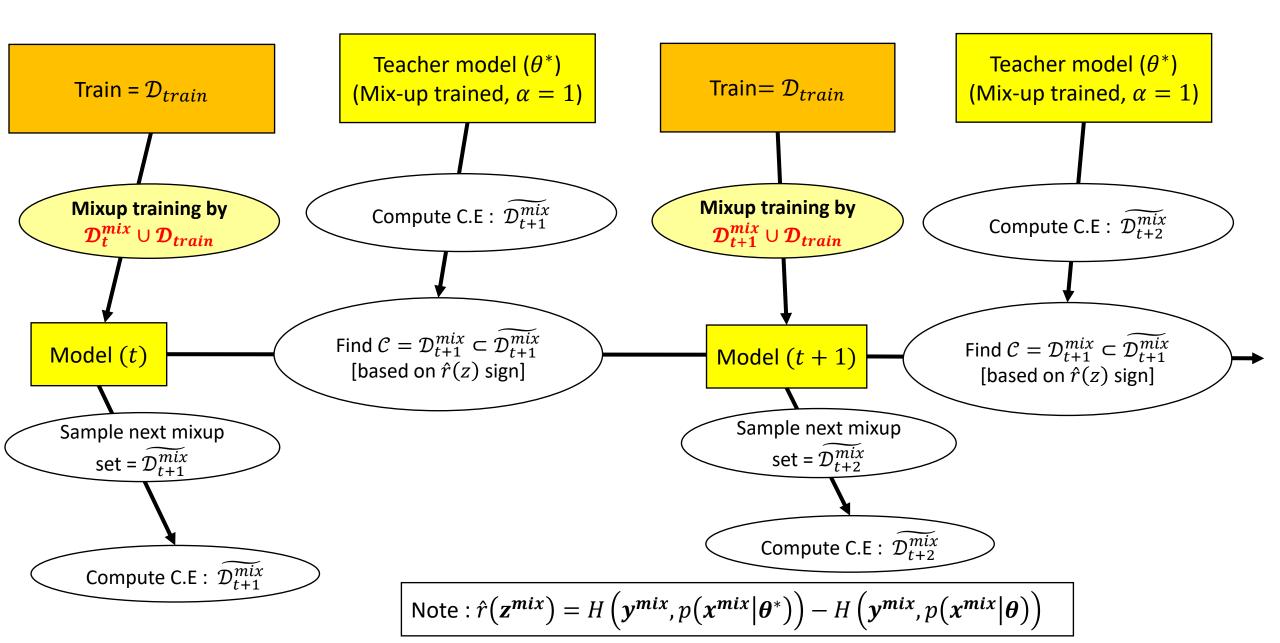
Note: 
$$H(y^{mix}, p(x^{mix}|\theta)) = -\lambda logp(y_i|\theta, z^{mix}) - (1-\lambda)logp(y_j|\theta, z^{mix})$$

- For mixup, we change the metric  $\log p(\mathbf{z}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) \to H(\mathbf{y}^{mix}, p(\mathbf{x}^{mix}|\boldsymbol{\theta}))$  [cross entropy]  $\hat{r}(\mathbf{z}^{mix}) = \mathbb{E}_{p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathcal{D},\mathcal{F})}[H(\mathbf{y}^{mix}, p(\mathbf{x}^{mix}|\boldsymbol{\theta})] \mathbb{E}_{p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathcal{D})}[H(\mathbf{y}^{mix}, p(\mathbf{x}^{mix}|\boldsymbol{\theta})]$ 
  - When the additional training of failure set  $\mathcal{F}$  con flicts the prediction of  $x^{mix}$ , then  $\hat{r}^{mix}(z^{mix})$  should be high.
  - If the training does not conflict much, then  $\hat{r}^{mix}(\mathbf{z}^{mix})$  should be low.

# Mixup data valuation – Algorithm (Whole)

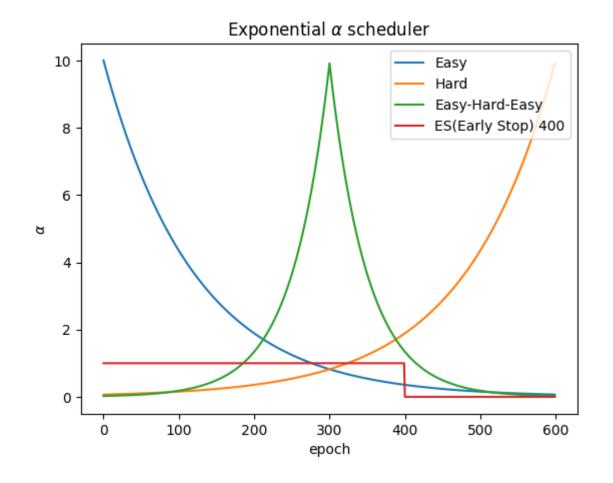


# Mixup data valuation – Algorithm (Train)



# Mixup data valuation – Observation (real data)

• Exponential  $\alpha$  - scheduler : ( $\alpha = 1$  at the half of the epochs, where  $\alpha \in (0, 10)$ )



#### Note

- 1. Easy / Hard scheduler can be fine-tuned by observing the validation accuracy and modify the shape manually.
- 2. Early stopping is suggested to resolve intrinsic sub-optimal optimization of mix-up training.

#### Mixup data valuation – Observation (real data)

• Test accuracy for each dataset (using scheduler):

Epoch = 600 / 400 (Reg)	CIFAR-10	CIFAR-100	STL-10	Caltech-101	DTD	Aircraft	Tiny- Imagenet
Baseline	95.22	78.61	77.43	79.60	21.38	79.52	59.53
Mixup ( $lpha=1$ )	96.41	80.08	86.6	82.63	28.40	83.80	60.86
Regmixup ( $lpha=20$ )	96.61	80.45	85.58	83.22	24.83	83.23	62.51
Easy scheduler	95.92	80.07	86.2	85.03	30.85	83.65	61.22
Hard scheduler	96.11	78.92	84.01	82.09	24.31	79.48	59.75
Easy-Hard-Easy scheduler	95.93	80.21	85.20	84.48	30.31	83.20	60.78
ES at epoch 400	95.20	79.63	86.48	86.81	30.53	84.87	60.14
$+\hat{r}(z)$ (whole, test)	95.68 (95.87)	79.38 (79.38)	86.81 (87.10)	85.59 (85.82)	24.73 (26.06)	82.93 (83.74)	-
$-\hat{r}(z)$ (whole, test)	96.44 (96.88)	81.37 (82.56)	87.73 (88.40)	86.44 (89.01)	30.21 (31.65)	84.61 (85.87)	61.94 (64.0)
$+\hat{r}(z)$ (TR/ $lpha=1$ )	95.33	77.7	78.24	83.60	20.05	77.78	-
$-\hat{r}(z)$ (TR/ $lpha=1$ )	96.62	81.55	89.02	84.59	31.43	85.93	62.04
$-\hat{r}(z)$ (TR/ $lpha$ =Hard)	96.76	81.21	88.68	86.82	32.23	85.98	-
whole $\hat{r}(z)$ (TR/ $\alpha=1$ )	96.12	80.43	88.13	83.56	30.71	85.68	-

## Mixup data valuation – Observation (real data)

• Test accuracy for each dataset (using scheduler):

All results are averaged values by 2 trials

Epoch = 600 / 400 (Reg)	CIFAR-10	CIFAR-100	STL-10	Caltech-101	DTD	Aircraft	Tiny- Imagenet
Baseline	95.22	78.61	77.43	79.60	21.38	79.52	59.53
Mixup ( $lpha=1$ )	96.41	80.08	86.6	82.63	28.40	83.80	60.86
Mixup ( $\alpha = 1$ , 1200ep)	96.34	79.54	85.78	84.32	32.18	84.58	-
Regmixup ( $\alpha=20$ )	96.61	80.45	85.58	83.22	24.83	83.23	62.51
Regmixup ( $lpha=20$ , 1200ep)	96.60	79.84	88.78	86.35	33.67	85.92	-
Easy scheduler	95.92	80.07	86.2	85.03	30.85	83.65	61.22
Hard scheduler	96.11	78.92	84.01	82.09	24.31	79.48	59.75
ES at epoch 400	95.20	79.63	86.48	86.81	30.53	84.87	60.14
$-\hat{r}(z)$ (TR/ $lpha$ =Easy)	96.34	81.07	89.85	86.43	35.21	85.68	-
$-\hat{r}(z)$ (TR/ $lpha=1$ ) T: Regmix (1200ep)	96.29	80.64	88.56	86.43	29.09	85.53	-
$-\hat{r}(z)$ (TR/ $lpha=20$ ) T: Regmix (1200ep)	96.59	80.80	90.56	85.59	31.80	85.77	-

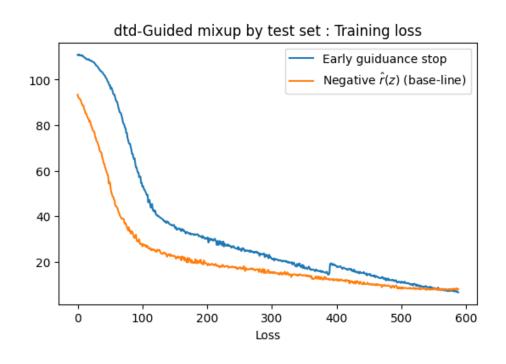
Easy scheduler: scheduler parameter is optimized manually by observing validation accuracy with trials and errors

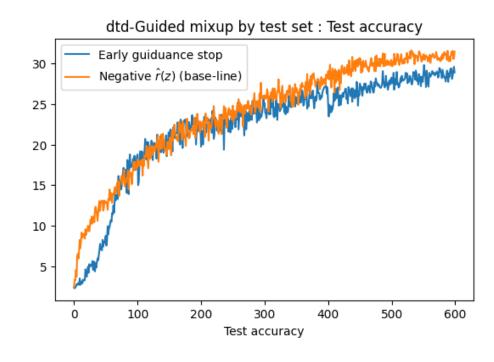
- Algorithm goal: reduce the (mix-up) training loss per sample lower than the teacher model.
  - When  $\hat{r}(z^{mix}) \leq 0$ :  $z^{mix}$  is included / When  $\hat{r}(z^{mix}) > 0$ :  $z^{mix}$  is excluded

#### Problems:

- Q1: Around at 500 epoch (out of 600 epoch), the student model starts to perform better than the teacher model ⇒ Is it reasonable for the student to be guided from teacher?
- Q2 : It is known that mix-up training leads to regularize input gradient  $\|\nabla_x f_{\theta}(x)\|_2$  [Zhang, 2020], and **eventually leads to wrong optimal**  $\theta$  **if the model is overtrained** with mix-up (at least in regression problem)  $\to$  The goal of our algorithm is desirable?

- Q1: Is it reasonable for the student to be guided from teacher (at the end tail of epochs)?
- 1<sup>st</sup> solution: Stop guiding around epoch 400.
  - $\rightarrow$  Unfortunately, this method leads to performance drop (Ex : DTD : 31% -> 29%) + The sudden drop of test accuracy is observed when guiding is stopped.



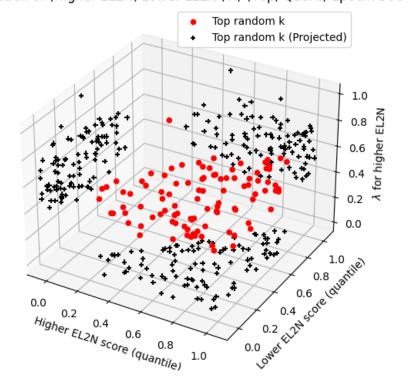


Note: Unfortunately, there seems no meaningful correlation between EL2N score and  $\hat{r}(z^{mix})$  values.

- $2^{nd}$  solution: Use easy  $\alpha$  scheduler to effectively use the guide training from Teacher model.
  - Empirically, it turned out that  $|\hat{r}(z^{mix})|$  is usually bigger as  $\lambda \to 0.5$

dtd / Distribution of (Higher EL2N, Lower EL2N,  $\lambda$ ) (Bottom, Quant) Bottom random k Bottom random k (Projected) Higher EL2N score (quantile)

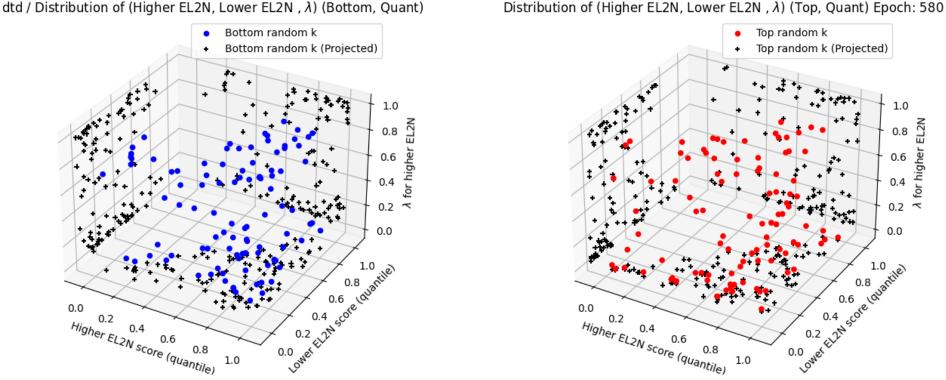
Distribution of (Higher EL2N, Lower EL2N , λ) (Top, Quant) Epoch: 580



Tail 100 of each negative (Bottom) / positive (Top) samples'  $\lambda$ , EL2N distribution

Note: Unfortunately, there seems no meaningful correlation between EL2N score and  $\hat{r}(z^{mix})$  values.

- $2^{nd}$  solution: Use easy  $\alpha$  scheduler to effectively use the guide training from Teacher model.
  - Empirically, it turned out that  $|\hat{r}(z^{mix})|$  is usually bigger as  $\lambda \to 0.5$



Top random k (Projected)

Higher EL2N score (quantile)

0.2

Center 100 of each negative (Bottom) / positive (Top) samples'  $\lambda$ , EL2N distribution

- $2^{nd}$  solution: Use easy  $\alpha$  scheduler to effectively use the guide training from Teacher model.
  - This implies there are more 'loss difference' (decision difference) between Student and Teacher model about  $r^{mix}$  with  $\lambda \cong 0.5$ .

• To amplify the effect of guidance by teacher, it is intuitive to suggest mix-up samples with  $\lambda \to 0.5$  (or  $\alpha = 20$ ), which will be filtered out based on loss difference.

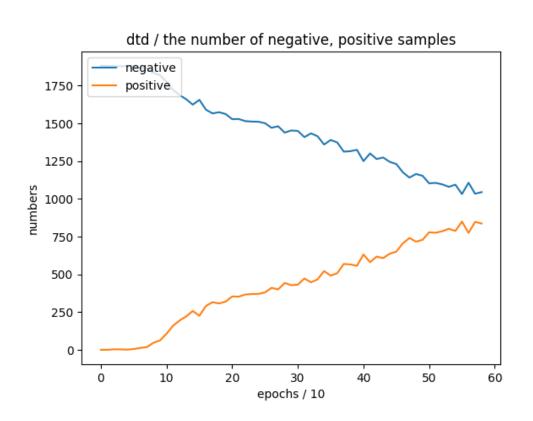
• But, the problem is that we do not trust the guidance after 500 epoch (due to higher performance of student)  $\rightarrow$  reduce  $\lambda \rightarrow 0$  to minimize the effect of guidance.

- $2^{\rm nd}$  solution: Use easy  $\alpha$  scheduler to effectively use the guide training from Teacher model.
  - Another problem to be resolved :
    - We figured out that there are certain types of dataset which favors High  $\lambda$  mix-up training. (Such as CIFAR-10, Tiny-Imagenet)
    - In this case, the easy tail of  $\alpha$  scheduler can degrade the generalization performance at the end.

Epoch = 600 / 400 (Reg)	CIFAR-10	Epoch = 600 / 400 (Reg)	CIFAR-10
Baseline	95.22	Easy scheduler	95.92
Mixup ( $\alpha=1$ )	96.41	Hard scheduler	96.11
Mixup ( $lpha = 1$ , 1200ep)	96.34	$+\hat{r}(z)$ (TR/ $lpha=1$ )	95.33
Regmixup ( $lpha=20$ )	96.61	$-\hat{r}(z)$ (TR/ $lpha=1$ )	96.62
Regmixup ( $lpha=20$ , 1200ep)	96.60	$-\hat{r}(z)$ (TR/ $lpha$ =Hard)	96.76
$-\hat{r}(z)$ (TR/ $lpha$ =Easy)	96.34	whole $\hat{r}(z)$ (TR/ $lpha=1$ )	96.12

#### Mixup data valuation – Q1-SideNote

- (Appendix): How can we grasp the intensity of guidance effect from Teacher?
  - One idea is to check the cardinality of  $-\hat{r}(z^{mix})$  along epochs



#### Intuitive way:

• When the # of  $-\hat{r}(z^{mix})$  < the # of  $+\hat{r}(z^{mix})$  (\*): We can treat the Student model as a more generalized one.

#### **Experimental results:**

- However, the Student model outperforms even before the condition (\*) satisfied.
- In this experiment, the Student outperforms Teacher around 500 epoch.

(Appendix): What happen if we change the Student into more wider one?

If we change the Student model → EfficientNet V2 (S), the test accuracy gap was 5% on DTD dataset.

Mix-up ( $\alpha = 1$ ) 20.69  $-\hat{r}(z)$  (TR/ $\alpha = 1$ ) 25.32

 But, this result might not be followed from the guidance effect, rather from increased # of iterations on our algorithm.

- Q2: The goal of our algorithm is desirable? (framework from [Z. Liu, 2023])
  - Consider simple least square regression problem with data (X,Y), and let  $f: \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Y}$  be the ground-truth labelling function.
  - Let  $(\widetilde{X},\widetilde{Y})$  be a synthetic pair obtained by mixing (X,Y) and (X',Y'), and set synthesized training dataset  $\widetilde{S} = \left\{ \left( \widetilde{X}_i, \widetilde{Y}_i \right) \right\}_{i=1}^m$
  - Consider a random feature model:  $\theta^T \phi(X)$ where  $\phi: \mathcal{X} \to \mathbb{R}^d$  and  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^d$  (Note that  $\phi$  is fixed and only  $\theta$  is learned by SGD)
  - Define MSE loss as follows:

$$\widehat{R}_{\widehat{S}}(\theta) = \frac{1}{2m} \left\| \theta^T \widetilde{\Phi} - \widetilde{Y}^T \right\|_2^2$$
 where  $\widetilde{\Phi} = \left[ \phi \left( \widetilde{X}_1 \right), \dots, \phi \left( \widetilde{X}_m \right) \right] \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times m}$  and  $\widetilde{Y} = \left[ \widetilde{Y}_1, \widetilde{Y}_2, \dots, \widetilde{Y}_m \right] \in \mathbb{R}^m$ 

- Q2: The goal of our algorithm is desirable? (framework from [Z. Liu, 2023])
  - Our SGD update rule is as follows:

$$\dot{\theta} = -\eta \nabla \hat{R}_{\tilde{S}}(\theta) = \frac{\eta}{m} \widetilde{\Phi} \widetilde{\Phi}^T (\widetilde{\Phi}^{\dagger} \widetilde{Y} - \theta)$$

where  $\eta$  is learning rate, and  $\widetilde{\Phi}^{\dagger}$  is pseudo inverse of  $\widetilde{\Phi}^{T}$ .

#### Lemma 5.1 from [Z. Liu, 2023]

Let  $\theta^* = \widetilde{\Phi}^{\dagger} \widetilde{Y}$  and  $\theta^{noise} = \widetilde{\Phi}^{\dagger} Z$ , where  $Z = [Z_1, ... Z_m] \in \mathbb{R}^m$  (where  $Z \coloneqq \widetilde{Y} - \widetilde{Y}^*$  and  $\widetilde{Y}^* = f(\widetilde{X})$ ), the above ODE has the following closed form solution:

$$\theta_t - \theta^* = (\theta_0 - \theta^*)e^{-\frac{\eta}{m}\widetilde{\Phi}\widetilde{\Phi}^T t} + \left(I_d - e^{-\frac{\eta}{m}\widetilde{\Phi}\widetilde{\Phi}^T t}\right)\theta^{noise}$$

• Hence, as  $t \to \infty$ ,  $\theta_{\infty} = \theta^* + \theta^{noise}$ , which leads to wrong solution under mix-up.

• To resolve this problem, two paper [Z. Liu, 2023], [D.Zou, 2023] suggest the early-stop of mix-up

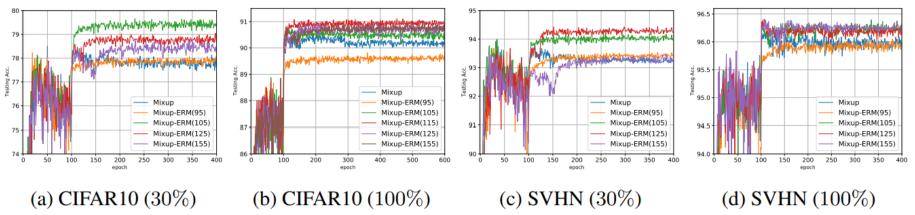


Figure 6: Switching from Mixup training to ERM training. The number in the bracket is the epoch number where we let  $\alpha=0$  (i.e. Mixup training becomes ERM training).

- Claim from papers: There exists an appropriate early stopping time of mixup to avoid generalization degradation.
  - 1. If the switch is too early  $\rightarrow$  may not boost model performance (: small regularization),
  - 2. If the switch is too late  $\rightarrow$  memorization of noisy data happen  $\rightarrow$  degrade generalization.

• Similarly, [D.Zou, 2023] proved that the early-stop of mix-up can be helpful for efficient learning of rare features in a given dataset.

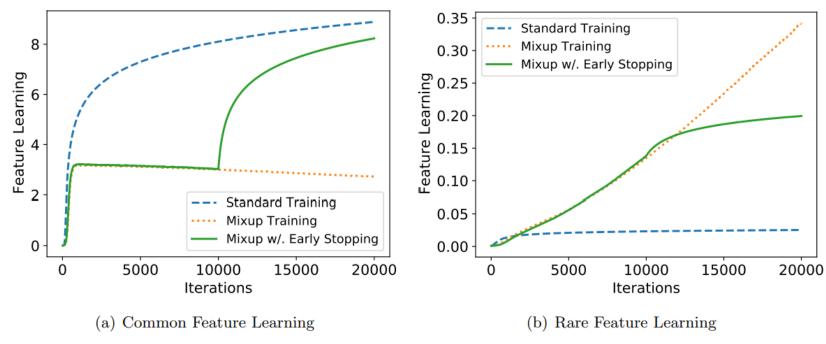


Figure 2: Common feature learning and rare feature learning on synthetic data, all experiments are conducted using full-batch gradient descent. Here we consider three training methods: standard training, Mixup training, and Mixup training with early stopping (at the 10000-th iteration).

#### Hypothesis to be verified

- Our algorithm can benefit the model by boosting the rare feature learning (due to guidance of Teacher)
- Hard→ Easy mix-up transition by easy α scheduler can potentially act as a smoothed version of Early stopping.

Side note:

We may interpret the increase of noise term as the model's GraNd score differentiation ability

- But, why does the mix-up works well even if the model converges t
  - From [J. Zhang, 2021], it turns our that large-scale NN can generalize well without having the gradient norm vanish during training (implying no convergence to stationary points), which is a tremendous gap between theory and practice.

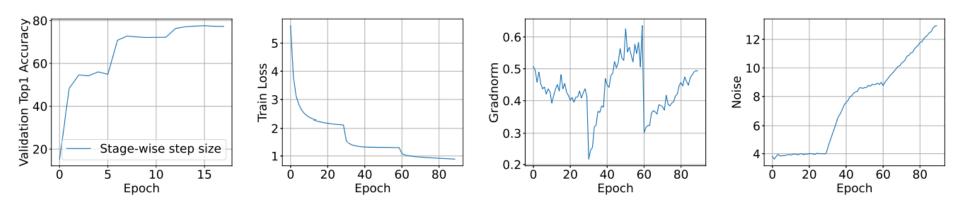


Figure 1. The validation accuracy and the quantities of interest (1) for the default training schedule of ImageNet + ResNet101 experiment.

where **GradNorm**:  $\|\nabla_{\theta} L_S(\theta_k)\|_2 \coloneqq \|\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \nabla_{\theta} l(f(x^i, \theta_k), y_i)\|_2$ , and

Noise: 
$$\sigma(\theta_k) \coloneqq \sqrt{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} ||\nabla L_S(\theta_k) - \nabla_{\theta} l(f(x^i, \theta_k), y^i)||_2^2}$$

## Mixup data valuation - Summary

- 1. The mix-up method followed by guide of Teacher mix-up model can benefit the generalization performance of Student model for several datasets.
- 2. To resolve deteriorate guide from Teacher at the end tail of epoch, Easy  $\alpha$  scheduler is adopted, which might not be optimal strategy for Student model.
- 3. While mix-up boosts the generalization performance model, overtraining can lead to wrong optimal solution.
- 4. For the solution, Two papers claim that Early-stopping of mix-up is beneficial to reduce the above effect, and the success of mix-up can be attributed to the non-vanishing Gradient Norm, which is a tremendous gap between theory and practice.

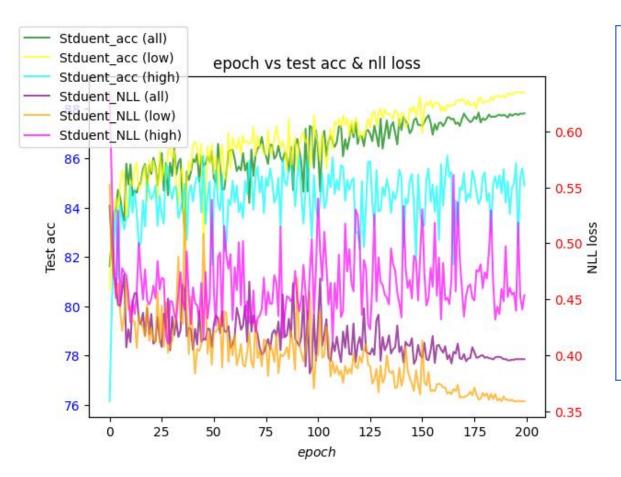
## Mixup data valuation (Ablations)

- Questions to be resolved:
  - 1. Does the accuracy gain come from 'filtering' strategy?
  - 2. If yes, what is the role of filtering in mix-up?
  - 3. How the roles can contribute to the accuracy gain?

- Question 1 : Does the accuracy gain come from 'filtering' strategy?
  - Method 1 (Ideal method): when the Teacher is trained by (train set + test set)
  - Method 2 (Our method): when the Teacher is only trained by (train set)
  - → First, check whether the filtering effect exists or not in Method 1.

• Experiment environment :

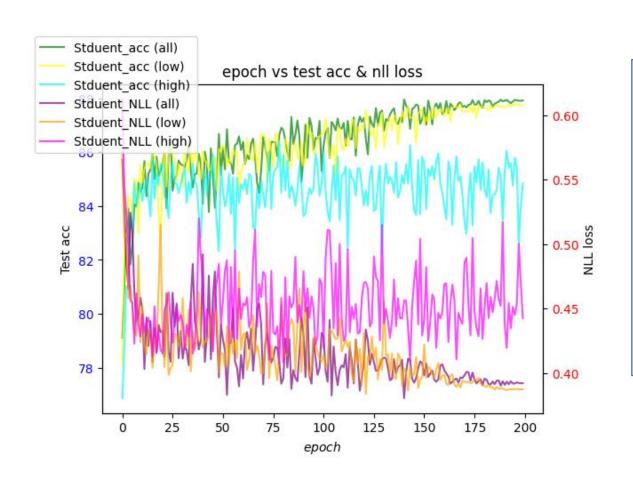
3-layer NN (786 - 300 - 100 - 10) w/ Cosine annealing lr scheduler | FashionMNIST (20%)



#### Results (Method 1):

- Teacher (100 ep): 93.29% (acc) | 0.245 (NLL loss)
- Student w/ low filter outperforms student w/ high filter by 1% (acc), 0.04(NLL loss)
- Clearly, Student w/ high filter degrades even compared to the (original training) baseline (86.88 (acc), 0.51(NLL loss))
- This indicates when Method 1 (ideal Teacher) is adopted, the filter can guide mix-up strategy.

• Method 2: when the Teacher is only trained by (train set)



#### Results (Method 2):

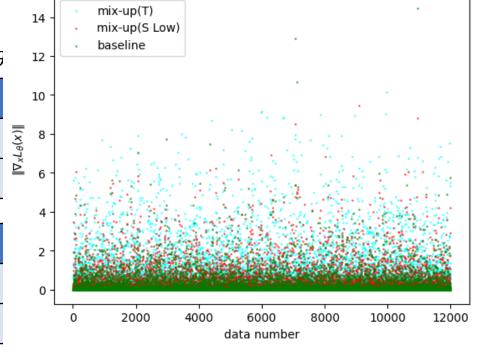
- Teacher (100 ep): 87.27% (acc) | 0.397 (NLL loss)
- The low filtering begins to being not effective.
- But, clearly, Student w/ high filter degrades even compared to the (original training) baseline (86.88 (acc), 0.51(NLL loss))
- This indicates the Teacher model trained by train set only may not guide the mix-up strategy well.

Question 2: what is the role of filtering in mix-up?

• The main effect of mix-up is to regularize  $\nabla_x f_{\theta}(x)$  and  $\nabla_x^2 f_{\theta}$ 

Method 1	Mix-up (Teacher)	Guided (All)	Guided (Low)
Weight norm	18.7557	20.2712	19.9560
$\mathbb{E}_{x}[\ \nabla_{x}l(x,\theta)\ ]$	0.7590	0.3177	0.3635

Method 2	Mix-up (Teacher)	Guided (All)	Guided (Low)
Weight norm	19.0546	20.2883	19.9803
$\mathbb{E}_{x}[\ \nabla_{x}l(x,\theta)\ ]$	0.7472	0.3144	0.3542



- Does the mix-up indeed regularize input gradient in practice?
  - Maybe no; [MixupE, 2022] points out the regularization effect of mix-up can be wrong (+ suggest direct method to regularize 1<sup>st</sup> order regularization term, but the performance is worse than RegMixUp)

According to MixupE:

$$L_n^{mix}(\theta, S) = L_n^{std}(\theta, S) + \frac{\mathbb{E}_{\lambda}[a(\lambda)]}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( g(f_{\theta}(x_i)) - y_i \right)^T \nabla f_{\theta}(x_i) (\bar{x} - x_i) + 2^{nd} \text{ term}$$

• Problem:

Note 
$$q(x_i)$$
: =  $\left(g\left(f_{\theta}(x_i)\right) - y_i\right)^T \nabla f_{\theta}(x_i)(\bar{x} - x_i)$ 

$$= \sum_{k=1}^d \alpha_{k,i} \|\nabla f_k(x_i)\|_2 \|\bar{x} - x_i\|_2$$
But,  $\alpha_{k,i}$  can be negative in practice, which leads to maximize  $\|\nabla f_k(x_i)\|_2$ .

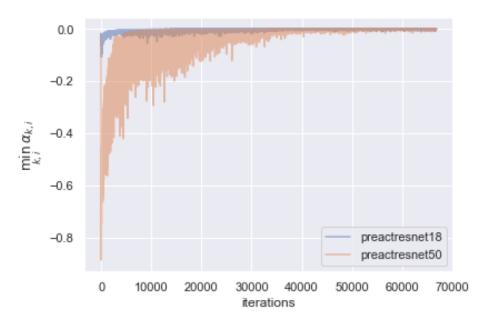


Figure 2: Minimum value of  $\alpha$  over the coordinate k and sample i for different iterations during the training.

#### • Then, how [Zhang, 2021] explains the generalization performance of Mixup?

**Lemma 3.1.** Consider the loss function  $l(\theta,(x,y)) = h(f_{\theta}(x)) - yf_{\theta}(x)$ , where  $h(\cdot)$  and  $f_{\theta}(\cdot)$  for all  $\theta \in \Theta$  are twice differentiable. We further denote  $\tilde{\mathcal{D}}_{\lambda}$  as a uniform mixture of two Beta distributions, i.e.,  $\frac{\alpha}{\alpha+\beta}Beta(\alpha+1,\beta) + \frac{\beta}{\alpha+\beta}Beta(\beta+1,\alpha)$ , and  $\mathcal{D}_X$  as the empirical distribution of the training dataset  $S = (x_1, \cdots, x_n)$ , the corresponding Mixup loss  $L_n^{mix}(\theta, S)$ , as defined in Eq. (1) with  $\lambda \sim D_{\lambda} = Beta(\alpha,\beta)$ , can be rewritten as

$$L_n^{\textit{mix}}(\theta,S) = L_n^{\textit{std}}(\theta,S) + \sum_{i=1}^3 \mathcal{R}_i(\theta,S) + \mathbb{E}_{\lambda \sim \tilde{\mathcal{D}}_{\lambda}}[(1-\lambda)^2 \varphi(1-\lambda)],$$

where  $\lim_{a\to 0} \varphi(a) = 0$  and

$$\mathcal{R}_1(\theta, S) = \frac{\mathbb{E}_{\lambda \sim \tilde{\mathcal{D}}_{\lambda}}[1 - \lambda]}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (h'(f_{\theta}(x_i)) - y_i) \nabla f_{\theta}(x_i)^{\top} \mathbb{E}_{r_x \sim \mathcal{D}_X}[r_x - x_i],$$

$$\mathcal{R}_2(\theta, S) = \frac{\mathbb{E}_{\lambda \sim \tilde{\mathcal{D}}_{\lambda}}[(1 - \lambda)^2]}{2n} \sum_{i=1}^n h''(f_{\theta}(x_i)) \nabla f_{\theta}(x_i)^{\top} \mathbb{E}_{r_x \sim \mathcal{D}_X}[(r_x - x_i)(r_x - x_i)^{\top}] \nabla f_{\theta}(x_i),$$

$$\mathcal{R}_3(\theta, S) = \frac{\mathbb{E}_{\lambda \sim \tilde{\mathcal{D}}_{\lambda}}[(1 - \lambda)^2]}{2n} \sum_{i=1}^n (h'(f_{\theta}(x_i)) - y_i) \mathbb{E}_{r_x \sim \mathcal{D}_X}[(r_x - x_i)\nabla^2 f_{\theta}(x_i)(r_x - x_i)^\top].$$

**Lemma 3.3.** Consider the centralized dataset S, that is,  $1/n\sum_{i=1}^n x_i = 0$ . and denote  $\hat{\Sigma}_X = \frac{1}{n}x_ix_i^{\top}$ . For a GLM, if  $A(\cdot)$  is twice differentiable, then the regularization term obtained by the second-order approximation of  $\tilde{L}_n^{mix}(\theta, S)$  is given by

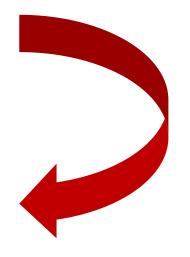
$$\frac{1}{2n} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^{n} A''(\theta^{\top} x_i) \right] \cdot \mathbb{E}_{\lambda \sim \tilde{\mathcal{D}}_{\lambda}} \left[ \frac{(1-\lambda)^2}{\lambda^2} \right] \theta^{\top} \hat{\Sigma}_X \theta, \tag{7}$$

where  $\tilde{\mathcal{D}}_{\lambda} = \frac{\alpha}{\alpha + \beta} Beta(\alpha + 1, \beta) + \frac{\alpha}{\alpha + \beta} Beta(\beta + 1, \alpha)$ .

#### Note:

- $A(\theta^T x) = \log(1 + e^{\theta^T x})$  for logistic loss, which has  $A''(\theta^T x) > 0$  always.
- By lemma, we can consider the following function class:

$$\mathcal{W}_{\gamma} \coloneqq \left\{ x \to \theta^T x : \mathbb{E}_{x} \left[ A'' \left( \theta^T x \right) \cdot \theta^T \Sigma_{X} \theta \right] \leq \gamma \right\}$$



• Then, how [Zhang, 2021] explains the generalization performance of Mixup?

**Theorem 3.4.** Assume that the distribution of  $x_i$  is  $\rho$ -retentive, and let  $\Sigma_X = \mathbb{E}[xx^{\top}]$ . Then the empirical Rademacher complexity of  $W_{\gamma}$  satisfies

$$Rad(\mathcal{W}_{\gamma}, S) \leq \max\{(\frac{\gamma}{\rho})^{1/4}, (\frac{\gamma}{\rho})^{1/2}\} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{rank(\Sigma_X)}{n}}.$$

#### Note:

- $\rho$ -retentive : for any non-zero vector v,  $\left[\mathbb{E}_x \left[A''(x^T v)\right]^2 \ge \rho \cdot \min\left\{1, \mathbb{E}_x \left(v^T x\right)^2\right\}$  (achievable if weight is bounded)
- Compare to the baseline function class :  $\mathcal{W}_{\gamma}^{ridge} \coloneqq \{x \to \theta^T x : \|\theta\|^2 \le \gamma\}$  (achieved by I2 regularization):

$$Rad\left(\mathcal{W}_{r}^{ridge}, S\right) \leq \max\left\{\left(\frac{\gamma}{\rho}\right)^{\frac{1}{4}}, \left(\frac{\gamma}{\rho}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}\right\} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{p}{n}}$$

- If  $rank(\Sigma_X) \le p$  is much smaller than p, then the mix-up strategy can generalized better than 12 regularization.
- One explainable method via this theorem is to use contrastive learning and apply mix-up at linear evaluation.

- Then, what is the good explanation for improved generalization performance in mix-up?
  - ⇒ [D.Zou, 2023] proved that the early-stop of mix-up can be helpful for efficient learning of rare features in a given dataset.

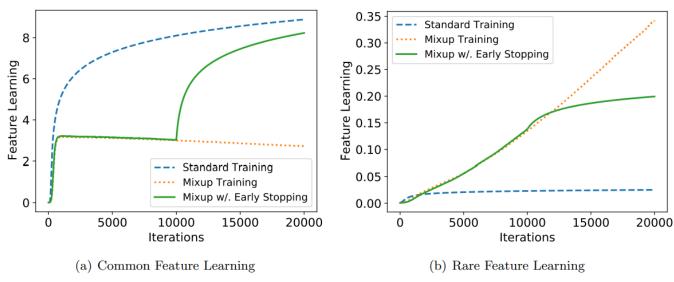


Figure 2: Common feature learning and rare feature learning on synthetic data, all experiments are conducted using full-batch gradient descent. Here we consider three training methods: standard training, Mixup training, and Mixup training with early stopping (at the 10000-th iteration).

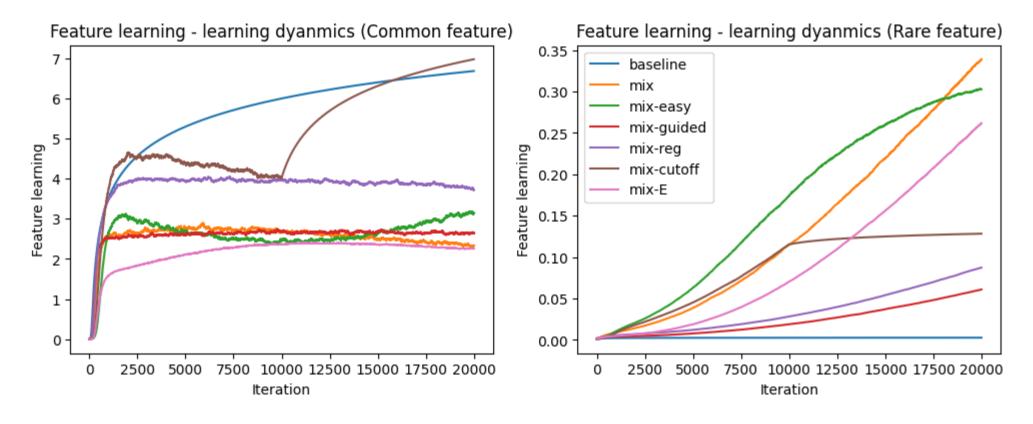
Model : 2-layer CNN w/ logit:  $F_k(W;x) = \sum_{p=1}^P \sum_{r=1}^m \left( < w_{k,r}, x^{(p)} > \right)^2$  where  $x = \left( x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(P)} \right) \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times P}$ , and m = network width Feature learning metric:  $\sum_{r=1}^m \left( < w_{1,r}, v > \right)^2 \text{ (Common)}$   $\sum_{r=1}^m \left( < w_{1,r}, v' > \right)^2 \text{ (Rare)}$ 

(Side-Note) How to generate data?

**Definition 3.1.** Let  $\mathcal{D}$  denote the data distribution, from which a data point  $(\mathbf{x}, y) \in \mathbb{R}^{dP} \times \{1, 2\}$  is randomly generated as follows:

- 1. Generate  $y \in \{1, 2\}$  uniformly.
- 2. Generate  $\mathbf{x}$  as a vector with P patches  $\mathbf{x} = (\mathbf{x}^{(1)}, \dots, \mathbf{x}^{(2)}) \in (\mathbb{R}^d)^P$ , where
  - Feature Patch. One patch, among all P patches, will be randomly selected as the feature patch: with probability  $1 \rho$  for some  $\rho \in (0, 1)$ , this patch will contain a common feature ( $\mathbf{v}$  for positive data,  $\mathbf{u}$  for negative data); otherwise, this patch will contain a rare feature ( $\mathbf{v}'$  for positive data,  $\mathbf{u}'$  for negative data).
  - Feature Noise. For all data, a feature vector from  $\alpha \cdot \{\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}\}$  is randomly sampled and assigned to up to b patches.
  - Noise patch. The remaining patches (those haven't been assigned with a feature or feature noise) are random Gaussian noise  $\sim N(\mathbf{0}, \sigma_p^2 \cdot \mathbf{H})$ , where  $\mathbf{H} = \mathbf{I} \frac{\mathbf{u}\mathbf{u}^\top}{\|\mathbf{u}\|_2^2} \frac{\mathbf{v}\mathbf{v}^\top}{\|\mathbf{v}\|_2^2} \frac{\mathbf{u}'\mathbf{u}'^\top}{\|\mathbf{v}'\|_2^2} \frac{\mathbf{u}'\mathbf{u}'^\top}{\|\mathbf{u}'\|_2^2}$ .

How about our current algorithms' feature learning performance?



Crucial to find a method to improve both common feature / rare feature learning.
 (+ guided method fails in terms of feature learning)