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Labeling Large Repositories

Solution 1: Manual labeling, for example:

- Manually label a repository of ten million animal images.
- Identify positive, negative, and neutral statements in thousands of text documents.

Manual labeling is often a costly, labor-intensive, and time-consuming task.

Solution 2: Manually label a small portion of the data first. Next, develop a supervised learning model to learn from the labeled data as the training and label the rest.

- Dataset: ten million images of cats and dogs. Only 10,000 (0.1%) of them manually labeled.
How to label the rest of unlabeled images?
- Tasks to address: the model is highly probable to be inaccurate and/or overfitted as the training rate is only 0.1%.
- We can benefit from transfer learning and fine-tuning techniques to increase the accuracy of such supervised models.

Self-Supervised Learning (SSL) in General

Previous example: ten million images of cats and dogs, only 10,000 (0.1%) manually labeled.

- The solutions mentioned on the previous slide entirely ignore the unlabeled repository.
- The Self-Supervised Learning (SSL) objective is to implement the repository's labeled and unlabeled data together to develop a base model in a pretext task and transfer and fine-tune that base model using the limited labeled data in a so-called downstream task.

Two primary SSL techniques exist to create a pretext model: **contrastive learning** and **generative learning**.

Contrastive learning

- In **contrastive learning**, the input data, labeled or unlabeled, are augmented automatically using an augmentation technique.
- First, an augmentation is selected. Next, that augmentation is automatically applied to the input data, labeled or unlabeled.
- So there will be pairs of original and corresponding augmented images.

Contrastive Pretext Task

Article: <https://atcold.github.io/pytorch-Deep-Learning/en/week10/10-1/>

SimCLR

Steps:

- Create 2 versions of an image by applying data augmentation techniques
- Apply a CNN (like ResNet) and obtain as output a 1D feature vector
- Apply a small MLP on that feature vector
- The output features of the two augmented images are then trained to be close to each other, while all other images in that batch should be as different as possible.

