# **LAMDA: Label Matching Deep Domain Adaptation**

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# **Abstract**

Deep domain adaptation (DDA) approaches have recently been shown to perform better than their shallow rivals with better modeling capacity on complex domains (e.g., image, structural data, and sequential data). The underlying idea is to learn domain invariant representations on a latent space that can bridge the gap between source and target domains. Several theoretical studies have established insightful understanding and the benefit of learning domain invariant features; however, they are usually limited to the case where there is no label shift, hence hindering its applicability. In this paper, we propose and study a new challenging setting that allows us to use a Wasserstein distance (WS) to not only quantify the data shift but also to define the label shift directly. We further develop a theory to demonstrate that minimizing the WS of the data shift leads to closing the gap between the source and target data distributions on the latent space (e.g., an intermediate layer of a deep net), while still being able to quantify the label shift with respect to this latent space. Interestingly, our theory can consequently explain certain drawbacks of learning domain invariant features on the latent space. Finally, grounded on the results and guidance of our developed theory, we propose the Label Matching Deep Domain Adaptation (LAMDA) approach that outperforms baselines on real-world datasets for DA problems.

# 1. Introduction

The great achievement of machine learning in general and deep learning in particular can be attributed to the significant advancement of in computational power and large-scale annotated datasets. However, in many application domains, it is often prohibitively labor-expensive, error-prone, and time-

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consuming to collect and label high-quality data sufficiently large to train accurate deep models, such as in the domain of medicine or autonomous driving. Domain adaptation (DA) or transfer learning has emerged as a vital solution for this issue by transferring knowledge from a label-rich domain (a.k.a. source domain) to a label-scarce domain (a.k.a. target domain). Along with DA methods (Ganin & Lempitsky, 2015; Tzeng et al., 2015; Long et al., 2015; Shu et al., 2018; French et al., 2018; Nguyen et al., 2021b;a; 2019; 2020) achieved impressive performance on real-world datasets of various application domains, theoretical results (Mansour et al., 2009; Ben-David et al., 2010; Redko et al., 2017; Zhang et al., 2019a; Cortes et al., 2019) are abundant to provide rigorous and insightful understanding of various aspects of transfer learning.

Moving beyond using fixed features and taking advantage of deep nets in learning rich and meaningful representations, DDA aims to learn domain invariant representations, i.e., intermediate representations whose distribution is the same in source and target domains. While relying on invariant representations helps to reduce the data shift between the source and target domains, Zhao et al. (2019) found that this might seriously cause the label shift. More specifically, it was shown that if the marginal label distributions are significantly different between the source and target domains, enforcing learning domain invariant representations leads to an increase of the general loss on the target domain. Moreover, while data shift can be understood as a divergence between the source and target data distributions, the label shift is harder to quantify. It is commonly interpreted as the difference in labeling mechanisms of the source and target domains (i.e.,  $p^{s}(y \mid \mathbf{x})$  and  $p^{t}(y \mid \mathbf{x})$ ), however, it is not an explicit definition for the label shift since the mechanic to indicate how a source example couple to a target example is missing. Another explanation is using a divergence between the marginal label distributions of the source and target domains (i.e.,  $p^{s}(y)$  and  $p^{t}(y)$ ), nevertheless, this naive approach is simple and ignores individual conditional distributions of labels w.r.t. data examples.

We propose in this paper a new theoretical setting for unsupervised DA which enables us to study the data and label shifts under a more rigorous framework. Specifically, let  $\mathcal{H}^s$  be the hypothesis class on source domain, we introduce a transformation T that maps the target to source domains,

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and hence inducing a new hypothesis class on the target domain  $\mathcal{H}^t := \{h^t : h^t = h^s \circ T\}$ , where  $\circ$  represents the function composition operator and  $h^s \in \mathcal{H}^s$ . Given a target example  $\mathbf{x}$ , our motivation is to use T to find its counterpart source example  $T(\mathbf{x})$  and then use  $h^s(T(\mathbf{x}))$  for a prediction. We note that this setting is different from current popular literature (Mansour et al., 2009; Ben-David et al., 2010; Redko et al., 2017; Zhang et al., 2019a; Cortes et al., 2019) in which the source and target hypothesis classes are decoupled. Moreover, by coupling the source and target domains via the transformation T, our theory developed in the sequel has two most important advantages: i) it enables us to explicitly quantify the label shift, and ii) the transformation T can be constructed explicitly, e.g., as a deep net, to yield tractable implementation.

Equipped with this setting, we demonstrate that the loss in performance of a source hypothesis and its relevant target hypothesis w.r.t. T can be upper-bounded by a Wasserstein (WS) distance (Villani, 2008; Santambrogio, 2015) between the source data distribution and the push-forward distribution of the target one (i.e., data shift), and the expectation of the divergence between  $p^{t}(y \mid \mathbf{x})$  and  $p^{s}(y \mid T(\mathbf{x}))$ , where x is sampled from the target data distribution (i.e., label shift). This bears similarity to previous results (Mansour et al., 2009; Ben-David et al., 2010; Redko et al., 2017; Cortes et al., 2019), however, different from existing work, we conduct our theoretical analysis in a new setting with multi-class classification, probabilistic label assignment mechanism (Vapnik, 1999), continuous loss functions, and use a WS to describe the data shift laying a novel framework for describing the data and label shifts on a latent space.

In our work, the transformation T is a deep neural network, which can be decomposed into  $T = T^{\hat{2}} \circ T^1$  where  $T^1$ is a sub-network mapping data examples to a latent space (an intermediate layer of T). Under this assumption, we theoretically demonstrate that to resolve the data shift by means of learning T to minimize the aforementioned WS distance, we can simultaneously match the gap between source and target distributions for learning domain-invariant representations on the latent space and minimize a reconstruction loss w.r.t. the ground metric c of a WS distance (cf. Theorem 4). Further, grounded by theory developed for our theoretical setting, we find a trade-off of strictly forcing learning domain-invariant features, that is, enforcing domain-invariant latent representations gradually hurts target performance. Although this result is similar to (Zhao et al., 2019), our theoretical analysis is performed in a more general setting (i.e., multi-class classification, probabilistic labeling mechanism, and continuous loss function) than (Zhao et al., 2019) (i.e., binary classification, deterministic labeling mechanism, and absolute loss). Additionally, we make use of Wasserstein distance rather than JS distance (Endres & Schindelin, 2006) as in (Zhao et al., 2019).

Our work suggests that the key ingredient to remedy the label shift is to encourage target samples to move to suitable source class regions on the latent space while reducing the data shift. With this motivation, we propose LAbel Matching Domain Adaptation (LAMDA) with the aim to minimize the discrepancy gap between two domains and simultaneously reduce the label mismatch on the latent space. Different from existing works, LAMDA employs a multiclass discriminator to be aware of source class regions and an optimal transport based cost to encourage target samples for moving to their matching source class region on the latent space. We conduct extensive experiments on real-world datasets to compare LAMDA with state-of-the-art baselines. The experimental results on the real-world datasets show that our LAMDA is able to reduce the label mismatch and hence achieving better performances.

**Related work.** Several attempts have been proposed to characterize the gap between general losses of source and target domains in domain adaptation, notably (Mansour et al., 2009; Ben-David et al., 2010; Redko et al., 2017; Zhang et al., 2019a; Cortes et al., 2019). Ben-David & Urner (2014; 2012); Zhang et al. (2019a) study the impossibility theorems for domain adaptation, attempting to characterize the conditions under which it is nearly impossible to perform transferability between domains. PAC-Bayesian view on domain adaptation using weighted majority vote learning has been rigorously studied in (Germain et al., 2013; 2016). Zhao et al. (2019); Johansson et al. (2019) interestingly indicate the insufficiency of learning domain-invariant representation for successful adaptation. Specifically, Zhao et al. (2019) points out the degradation in target predictive performance if forcing domain invariant representations to be learned while two marginal label distributions of the source and target domains are overly divergent. Johansson et al. (2019) analyzes the information loss of non-invertible transformations and proposes a generalization upper bound that directly takes it into account. Optimal transport theory has been theoretically leveraged with domain adaptation (Courty et al., 2017). Moreover, our theory development, motivations, and obtained results in Section 2.3 are different from those in (Courty et al., 2017). In addition, we compare our proposed LAMDA to DeepJDOT (Damodaran et al., 2018) (a deep domain adaptation approach developed based on the theoretical foundation of (Courty et al., 2017)) and other OT-based DDA approaches, including SWD (Lee et al., 2019), DASPOT (Xie et al., 2019), ETD (Li et al., 2020) and RWOT (Xu et al., 2020) to demonstrate the capability of our proposed method.

# 2. Main Theoretical Results

# 2.1. Theoretical setting

Let the data spaces of the source and target domains be  $\mathcal{X}^s$  and  $\mathcal{X}^t$ . These are endowed with data generation probability

distributions  $\mathbb{P}^s$  and  $\mathbb{P}^t$  with the densities  $p^s(\mathbf{x})$  and  $p^t(\mathbf{x})$  respectively. We also denote the probabilistic supervisor distributions that assign labels to data samples in the source and target domains by  $p^s(y \mid \mathbf{x})$  and  $p^t(y \mid \mathbf{x})$  (Vapnik, 1999). We consider the multi-class classification problem with the label set  $\mathcal{Y} = \{1, 2, ..., C\}$ .

Consider the hypothesis family on the source domain  $\mathcal{H}^s := \{h^s : \mathcal{X}^s \to \Delta_C\}$ , where  $\Delta_C = \{\boldsymbol{\pi} \in \mathbb{R}^C : \|\boldsymbol{\pi}\|_1 = 1 \land \boldsymbol{\pi} \geq \mathbf{0}\}$  is the C-simplex. Let  $T : \mathcal{X}^t \to \mathcal{X}^s$  be a mapping.

The corresponding hypothesis family induced on the target domain via T is denoted as  $\mathcal{H}^t := \{h^t : \mathcal{X}^t \to \Delta_C \mid h^t (\cdot) = h^s (T(\cdot)) \text{ for some } h^s \in \mathcal{H}^s \}.$ 

The intuition here is that with  $\mathbf{x} \sim \mathbb{P}^t$ , we apply the mapping T to reduce the difference between two domains and then use a hypothesis  $h^s \in \mathcal{H}^s$  to predict the label of  $\mathbf{x}$ . This motivates us to seek the key properties of the transformation T in order to employ the hypothesis  $h^t = h^s \circ T$  for accurately predicting labels of target data.

To formulate this, let  $P^\#:=T_\#\mathbb{P}^t$  be the push-forward distribution induced by transporting  $\mathbb{P}^t$  via T, which consequently introduces a new domain, termed the *transport domain* having the density function  $p^\#(\cdot)$  and probability distribution  $\mathbb{P}^\#$ . We further define the supervisor distribution for the transport domain as  $p^\#(y\mid T(\mathbf{x}))=p^t(y\mid \mathbf{x})$  for any  $\mathbf{x}\sim\mathbb{P}^t$ . To ease the presentation, we denote the general expected loss:

$$R^{a,b}(h) := \int \ell(y, h(\mathbf{x})) p^b(y \mid \mathbf{x}) p^a(\mathbf{x}) dy d\mathbf{x},$$

where a,b are in the set  $\{s,t,\#\}$  and  $\ell(\cdot,\cdot)$  specifies a loss function. In addition, we shorten  $R^{a,a}$  as  $R^a$ , and given a hypothesis  $h^s \in \mathcal{H}^s$  and  $h^t = h^s \circ T$ , we measure the variance of general losses of  $h^s$  when predicting on the source domain and general losses of  $h^t$  when predicting on the target domain as:

$$\Delta R\left(h^{s},h^{t}\right):=\left|R^{t}\left(h^{t}\right)-R^{s}\left(h^{s}\right)\right|.$$

We note that our theoretical setting is different from popular literature (Mansour et al., 2009; Ben-David et al., 2010; Redko et al., 2017; Zhang et al., 2019a; Cortes et al., 2019). By introducing the transformation T, we couple target examples and hypotheses with source examples and hypotheses which enables us to define the label shift explicitly.

# 2.2. Gap between target and source domains

To investigate the variance  $\Delta R\left(h^s,h^t\right)$  and derive a relation between  $R^t\left(h^t\right)$  and  $R^s\left(h^s\right)$ , we make the following assumptions w.r.t. loss function:

• (A.1) 
$$M := \sup_{h^s \in \mathcal{H}^s, \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}^s, y \in \mathcal{V}} |\ell(y, h^s(\mathbf{x}))| < \infty.$$

• (A.2)  $\ell$  is a k-Lipschitz function w.r.t. a norm  $\|\cdot\|$  over  $\Delta_C$ , that is,  $|\ell(y, \mathbf{a}) - \ell(y, \mathbf{b})| \le k \|\mathbf{a} - \mathbf{b}\|$  for all  $y \in \mathcal{Y}$  and  $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} \in \Delta_C$ .

We note that these assumptions are easily satisfied when  $\ell$  is a bounded loss, e.g., logistic or 0-1 loss, or when  $\ell$  is any continuous loss,  $\mathcal{X}^s$  is compact, and  $\sup_{\mathbf{x}\in\mathcal{X}^s}|h^s\left(\mathbf{x}\right)|<\infty$ . Equipped with Assumption (A.1), we have the following key result to upper bound the gap  $\Delta R\left(h^s,h^t\right)$ :

**Theorem 1.** Given Assumption (A.1), then for any hypothesis  $h^s \in \mathcal{H}^s$ , the following inequality holds:

$$\Delta R\left(h^{s}, h^{t}\right) \leq M\left(\mathbf{W}_{c_{0/1}}\left(\mathbb{P}^{s}, \mathbb{P}^{\#}\right) + \mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}^{t}}\left[\left\|\Delta p\left(\cdot \mid \mathbf{x}\right)\right\|_{1}\right]\right),$$

where  $\Delta p(\cdot \mid \mathbf{x}) := \left\| \left[ p^t \left( y = i \mid \mathbf{x} \right) - p^s \left( y = i \mid T \left( \mathbf{x} \right) \right) \right]_{i=1}^C \right\|_1$ , and  $W_{c_{0/1}}(\cdot, \cdot)$  is the Wasserstein distance with respect to the cost function  $c_{0/1}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \mathbf{1}_{\mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{x}'}$ , returning 1 if  $\mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{x}'$  and 0 otherwise.

Remark 2. We have some observations in order.

- The quantity  $\Delta p\left(\cdot\mid\mathbf{x}\right)$  quantifies the label shift. Note that by coupling a target example  $\mathbf{x}$  with a source example  $T\left(\mathbf{x}\right)$  using a transformation T, we can reasonably define and tackle the label shift as the divergence between  $p^t\left(y\mid\mathbf{x}\right)$  and  $p^s\left(y\mid T\left(\mathbf{x}\right)\right)$ .
- In addition, when  $\Delta p(\cdot \mid \mathbf{x}) = 0$  (i.e.,  $p^s(y \mid T(\mathbf{x})) = p^t(y \mid \mathbf{x})$  for  $\mathbf{x} \sim \mathbb{P}^t$ ) and  $W_{c_{0/1}}(\mathbb{P}^s, \mathbb{P}^\#) = 0$  (i.e.,  $T_\#\mathbb{P}^t = \mathbb{P}^s$ ), Theorem 1 shows that a perfect transfer learning without loss of performance can be achieved. Hence, if we can instrument a suitable mapping T, the adaptation is achievable.

To arrive at a stronger result presented in Theorem 3 below, we consider a Wasserstein distance between  $\mathbb{P}^s$  and  $\mathbb{P}^\#$  w.r.t. a ground metric c over  $\mathcal{X}^s \times \mathcal{X}^s$  and  $p \geq 1$  as

$$W_{c,p}\left(\mathbb{P}^{s},\mathbb{P}^{\#}\right)=\inf_{\gamma\in\Gamma\left(\mathbb{P}^{s},\mathbb{P}^{\#}\right)}\mathbb{E}_{\left(\mathbf{x}_{s},\mathbf{x}_{\#}\right)\sim\gamma}\left[c\left(\mathbf{x}_{s},\mathbf{x}_{\#}\right)^{p}\right]^{1/p},$$

where  $\gamma \in \Gamma\left(\mathbb{P}^s, \mathbb{P}^\#\right)$  is a joint distribution admitting  $\mathbb{P}^s, \mathbb{P}^\#$  as its marginals.

Furthermore, given a decreasing function  $\phi: \mathbb{R} \to [0,1]$ , a hypothesis  $h^s$  is said to be  $\phi$ -Lipschitz transferable (Courty et al., 2017) w.r.t. a joint distribution  $\gamma \in \Gamma\left(\mathbb{P}^s, \mathbb{P}^\#\right)$ , the metric c, and the norm  $\|\cdot\|$  if for all  $\lambda > 0$ , we have

$$\mathbb{P}_{(\mathbf{x}_{s},\mathbf{x}_{\#})\sim\gamma}\left[\left\|h^{s}\left(\mathbf{x}_{s}\right)-h^{s}\left(\mathbf{x}_{\#}\right)\right\|>\lambda c\left(\mathbf{x}_{s},\mathbf{x}_{\#}\right)\right]\leq\phi\left(\lambda\right).$$

**Theorem 3.** Assume that Assumptions (A.1) and (A2) hold, the hypothesis  $h^s$  satisfies  $\phi$ -Lipschitz transferable w.r.t the optimal joint distribution (transport plan)  $\gamma^* \in \Gamma\left(\mathbb{P}^s, \mathbb{P}^\#\right)$ , c and  $\|\cdot\|$ , the following inequality holds for all  $\lambda > 0$ :

$$\Delta R\left(h^{s}, h^{t}\right) \leq M\left(\mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}^{t}}\left[\left\|\Delta p\left(\cdot \mid \mathbf{x}\right)\right\|_{1}\right] + 2\phi\left(\lambda\right)\right) + kC\lambda \mathbf{W}_{c,p}\left(\mathbb{P}^{s}, \mathbb{P}^{\#}\right).$$

Detailed proofs and further technical descriptions are given in the supplementary material.

### 2.3. Data shift via Wasserstein metric

Theorems 1 and 3 suggest that we need to construct a map that transports the target to source distributions and makes two supervisor distributions identical via this map for a perfect transfer learning. This is consistent with what is achieved in Theorem 1 for which the upper bound of the loss variance  $\Delta R(h^s, h^t)$  vanishes.

In particular, the upper bounds in Theorems 1 and 3 consist of two terms: the first term (i.e.,  $W_{c,p}\left(\mathbb{P}^s, \mathbb{P}^\#\right)$ ) quantifies the *data shift*, while the second term (i.e.,  $\mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}^t}\left[\|\Delta p\left(y\mid \mathbf{x}\right)\|_1\right]$ ) reflects the *label shift*. Our strategy is then to find the best hypothesis  $h^s_*$  by minimizing the general loss  $R^s\left(h^s\right)$ , and the optimal transformation  $T^*$  by minimizing  $W_{c,p}\left(\mathbb{P}^s, \mathbb{P}^\#\right)$  and  $\mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}^t}\left[\|\Delta p\left(y\mid \mathbf{x}\right)\|_1\right]$ .

Due to the lack of target labels, we focus on minimizing the first term  $W_{c,p}\left(\mathbb{P}^s,\mathbb{P}^\#\right)$  by answering the following question: among the transformations T that transport the target to source distributions, which transformation incurs the minimal label shift  $\mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}^t}\left[\|\Delta p\left(y\mid \mathbf{x}\right)\|_1\right] = \left\|\left[p^t\left(y=i\mid \mathbf{x}\right)-p^s\left(y=i\mid T\left(\mathbf{x}\right)\right)\right]_{i=1}^C\right\|$ ? Given the ground metric c and  $p\geq 1$ , this is formulated as:

$$\min_{T} W_{c,p} \left( T_{\#} \mathbb{P}^{t}, \mathbb{P}^{s} \right). \tag{1}$$

Let  $\mathcal{Z}$  be an intermediate space (i.e., the latent space  $\mathcal{Z} = \mathbb{R}^m$ ). We consider the composite mapping :  $T(\mathbf{x}) = T^2(T^1(\mathbf{x}))$  where  $T^1$  is a mapping from the target domain  $\mathcal{X}^t$  to the latent space  $\mathcal{Z}$  and  $T^2$  maps from the latent space  $\mathcal{Z}$  to the source domain  $\mathcal{X}^s$  (note that if  $\mathcal{Z} = \mathcal{X}^s$  then  $T^2 = id$  is the identity function). The optimization problem (OP) in (1) becomes:

$$\min_{T^1, T^2} W_{c,p} \left( \left( T^2 \circ T^1 \right)_{\#} \mathbb{P}^t, \mathbb{P}^s \right). \tag{2}$$

In the following theorem, we show that the above OP can be transformed into another form involving the latent space (see Figure 1 for an illustration of that theorem).

**Theorem 4.** The optimal objective value of the OP(2) is equal to that of the OP(3), that is

$$\min_{T^{1},T^{2}} \mathbf{W}_{c,p} \left( \left( T^{2} \circ T^{1} \right)_{\#} \mathbb{P}^{t}, \mathbb{P}^{s} \right) = \\
\min_{T^{1},T^{2}} \min_{G^{1}:T_{\#}^{1}\mathbb{P}^{t}=G_{\#}^{1}\mathbb{P}^{s}} \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim \mathbb{P}^{s}} \left[ c \left( \mathbf{x}, T^{2} \left( G^{1} \left( \mathbf{x} \right) \right) \right)^{p} \right]^{1/p} \tag{3}$$

where  $G^1$  is a map from  $\mathcal{X}^s$  to  $\mathcal{Z}$ .

We can interpret  $G^1$  and  $T^1$  as two generators that map the source and target domains to the common latent space  $\mathcal{Z}$ .

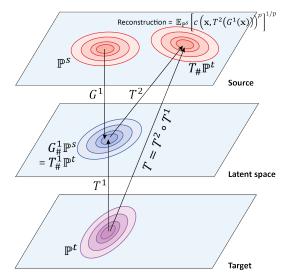


Figure 1.  $T=T^2\circ T^1$  maps from the target to source domains. We minimize  $D\left(G_\#^1\mathbb{P}^s,T_\#^1\mathbb{P}^t\right)$  to close the discrepancy gap of the source and target domains on the latent space and minimize the reconstruction terms to avoid the mode collapse.

The constraint  $T^1_\#\mathbb{P}^t=G^1_\#\mathbb{P}^s$  enforces the gap between the source and target distributions to be closed in the latent space. Furthermore,  $T^2$  maps from the latent space to the source domain and aims to reconstruct  $G^1$ . Similar to (Tolstikhin et al., 2018), we do a relaxation and arrive at

$$\min_{T^{1},T^{2},G^{1}} \left( \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim \mathbb{P}^{s}} \left[ c \left( \mathbf{x}, T^{2} \left( G^{1} \left( \mathbf{x} \right) \right) \right)^{p} \right]^{1/p} + \alpha D \left( G_{\#}^{1} \mathbb{P}^{s}, T_{\#}^{1} \mathbb{P}^{t} \right) \right), \tag{4}$$

where  $D\left(\cdot,\cdot\right)$  specifies a divergence between two distributions over the latent space and  $\alpha>0$ . When  $\alpha$  approaches  $+\infty$ , the solution of the relaxation problem in Eq. (4) approaches the optimal solution in Eq. (3).

Let  $\mathcal{D}^s = \left\{ \left(\mathbf{x}_1^s, y_1\right), ..., \left(\mathbf{x}_{N_s}^s, y_{N_s}\right) \right\}$ , to enable the transfer learning, we can train a supervised classifier  $\mathcal{A}$  on  $G^1\left(\mathcal{D}^s\right) = \left\{ \left(G^1\left(\mathbf{x}_1^s\right), y_1\right), ..., \left(G^1\left(\mathbf{x}_{N_s}^s\right), y_{N_s}\right) \right\}$ . Our final OP becomes

$$\min_{T^{1}, T^{2}, G^{1}} \left( \beta \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim \mathbb{P}^{s}} \left[ c \left( \mathbf{x}, T^{2} \left( G^{1} \left( \mathbf{x} \right) \right) \right)^{p} \right]^{1/p} \right. \\
+ \alpha D \left( G_{\#}^{1} \mathbb{P}^{s}, T_{\#}^{1} \mathbb{P}^{t} \right) + \mathbb{E}_{(\mathbf{x}, y) \sim \mathcal{D}^{s}} \left[ \ell \left( y, \mathcal{A} \left( G^{1} \left( \mathbf{x} \right) \right) \right) \right] \right), (5)$$

where  $\beta>0$  and we overload  $\mathcal{D}^s$  to represent the empirical distribution over the source training set. Moreover, to reduce the discrepancy gap  $D\left(G_\#^1\mathbb{P}^s,T_\#^1\mathbb{P}^t\right)$  in Eq. (5), one can use the adversarial learning framework (Goodfellow et al., 2014) to implicitly minimize a Jensen-Shannon (JS) divergence or explicitly minimize other divergences and distances (e.g., a maximum mean discrepancy (Gretton et al., 2007) or WS distance). Note that if we employ a

JS divergence or f-divergence for D, the OP in (5) can be further rewritten in a min-max form (Goodfellow et al., 2014; Nowozin et al., 2016).

It is also worth mentioning that with regard to the latent space and the above equipment for  $T = T^2 \circ T^1$ , we have the following formulations for the source classifier (i.e.,  $h^s$ ) and target classifier (i.e.,  $h^t$ ) now become:

$$h^{s}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathcal{A}(G^{1}(\mathbf{x})) \text{ and } h^{t}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathcal{A}(G^{1}(T(\mathbf{x}))).$$
 (6)

### 2.4. Label shift via Wasserstein metric

Since  $G^1$  and  $T^1$  are two mappings from the source and target domains to the latent space, we can further define the source and target supervisor distributions on the latent space as  $p^{\#,s}\left(y\mid G^1\left(\mathbf{x}\right)\right)=p^s\left(y\mid \mathbf{x}\right)$  for  $\mathbf{x}\sim\mathbb{P}^s$  and  $p^{\#,t}\left(y\mid T^1\left(\mathbf{x}\right)\right)=p^t\left(y\mid \mathbf{x}\right)$  for  $\mathbf{x}\sim\mathbb{P}^t$ . With respect to the latent space, the second term of the upper bound in Theorem 1 can be rewritten as in the following corollary.

**Corollary 5.** The second term of the upper bound in Theorem 1 can be rewritten as

$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}^{t}}\left[\left\|p^{\#,s}\left(\cdot\mid G^{1}\left(T^{2}\left(T^{1}\left(\mathbf{x}\right)\right)\right)\right)-p^{\#,t}\left(\cdot\mid T^{1}\left(\mathbf{x}\right)\right)\right\|_{1}\right].$$
(7)

We now analyze the ideal scenario to formulate the data distribution and label shifts in the latent space  $\mathcal{Z}$ . For sufficiently powerful  $G^1$  and  $T^1$ , the OP in (3) peaks its minimization at 0 when  $G^1_\#\mathbb{P}^s=T^1_\#\mathbb{P}^t$  and  $G^1\circ T^2=id$  (i.e., the identity function), which further implies that

$$\begin{split} T_\# \mathbb{P}^t &= T_\#^2 \left( T_\#^1 \mathbb{P}^t \right) = T_\#^2 \left( G_\#^1 \mathbb{P}^s \right) \\ &= \left( G^1 \circ T^2 \right)_\# \mathbb{P}^s = \mathbb{P}^s, \end{split}$$

and  $W_{c,p}\left(T_{\#}\mathbb{P}^t,\mathbb{P}^s\right)=0$ . Under that ideal scenario, the label mismatch term in Eq. (7) reduces to

$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}^{t}}\left[\left\|p^{\#,s}\left(\cdot\mid T^{1}\left(\mathbf{x}\right)\right)-p^{\#,t}\left(\cdot\mid T^{1}\left(\mathbf{x}\right)\right)\right\|_{1}\right].$$
 (8)

We note that because  $G^1_\# \mathbb P^s = T^1_\# \mathbb P^t$ ,  $T^1(\mathbf x)$  with  $\mathbf x \sim \mathbb P^t$  is moved to a source class region on the latent space (e.g., the region of class  $y^s$ ). This sample would be classified to class  $y^s$  by a source classifier (i.e., the one that mimics  $p^{\#,s}(y \mid T^1(\mathbf x))$ ). Assume that  $\mathbf x$  has the ground-truth label  $y^t$ , minimizing the label mismatch term in Eq. (8) suggests  $y^s = y^t$ . In other words,  $T^1$  should transport  $\mathbf x$  to the proper class region to reduce the label mismatch. Moreover, in unsupervised DA, since target labels are lacking and the neural network generator  $T^1$  can be sufficiently powerful to map a target class region to a wrong source one on the latent space (cf. Figure 2), it is almost impossible to tackle perfectly the label mismatch.

Aligned with (Zhao et al., 2019), the label mismatch term in (7) can be lower-bounded by a divergence between the marginal label distributions of the source and target domains as shown in Corollary 6.

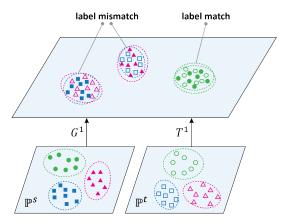


Figure 2. Label match and mismatch on the latent space.

**Corollary 6.** Under the ideal scenario, the label mismatch term in (7) has a lower-bound

$$\left\| \left[ p^{s} (y = i) - p^{t} (y = i) \right]_{i=1}^{C} \right\|_{1}.$$

Under the light of Corollary 6, we find that when pushing  $G^1_\#\mathbb{P}^s$  to  $T^1_\#\mathbb{P}^t$  by minimizing  $W_{c,p}\left(G^1_\#\mathbb{P}^s,T^1_\#\mathbb{P}^t\right)$ , the label mismatch term in (8) tends to become higher than the L1 distance between the marginal label distributions of source and target domains. Therefore, if the marginal label distributions of source and target domains (i.e.,  $p^s\left(y\right)$  and  $p^t\left(y\right)$ ) are significantly divergent, learning domain invariant representations on a latent space can cause more label shift. To strengthen this observation, we develop a theorem to directly offer an upper bound for the L1 distance between the label marginal distributions. To this end, we define a new metric  $\tilde{c}$  w.r.t. the family  $\mathcal{H}^a$  of the classifier  $\mathcal{A}$  in the OP (5) as:

$$\tilde{c}\left(\mathbf{z}_{1}, \mathbf{z}_{2}\right) = \sup_{\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{H}^{a}} \left\| \mathcal{A}\left(\mathbf{z}_{1}\right) - \mathcal{A}\left(\mathbf{z}_{2}\right) \right\|_{1},$$

where  $\mathbf{z}_1$  and  $\mathbf{z}_2$  lie on the latent space. The following lemma states under which conditions,  $\tilde{c}$  is a proper metric on the latent space.

**Lemma 7.** For any  $\mathbf{z}_1$  and  $\mathbf{z}_2$ , if  $\mathcal{A}(\mathbf{z}_1) = \mathcal{A}(\mathbf{z}_2)$ ,  $\forall \mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{H}^a$  leads to  $\mathbf{z}_1 = \mathbf{z}_2$ ,  $\tilde{c}$  is a proper metric.

It turns out that the necessary (also sufficient) condition in Lemma 7 is realistic and not hard to be satisfied (e.g., the family  $\mathcal{H}^a$  contains any bijection). We now can define a WS distance  $W_{\tilde{c},p}$  that involves in the following theorem.

**Theorem 8.** If  $\tilde{c}$  is a proper metric and  $p \geq 1$ , the quantity  $\left\| \left[ p^s \left( y = i \right) - p^t \left( y = i \right) \right]_{i=1}^C \right\|_{_1}$  has the upper-bounds:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{i)} \ R_{1}^{s}\left(h^{s}\right) + \, R_{1}^{t}\left(h^{t}\right) + \, W_{\tilde{c},p}\left(G_{\#}^{1}\mathbb{P}^{s},T_{\#}^{1}\mathbb{P}^{t}\right) \ \text{if} \ h^{s} \ := \\ \mathcal{A}\left(G^{1}\left(\mathbf{x}\right)\right) \text{ and } h^{t} := \mathcal{A}\left(T^{1}\left(\mathbf{x}\right)\right). \end{array}$$

$$ii) \quad R_1^s \left( h^s \right) \ + \ R_1^t \left( h^t \right) \ + \ W_{\tilde{c},p} \left( G_\#^1 \mathbb{P}^s, T_\#^1 \mathbb{P}^t \right) \ + \\$$

 $W_{\tilde{c},p}\left(L_{\#}\mathbb{P}^t,T_{\#}^1\mathbb{P}^t\right)$  where  $L:=T\circ G^1$ , and  $h^s$  and  $h^t$  are defined in (6).

Here  $R_1^s\left(h^s\right) := \int \|p^s\left(\cdot\mid\mathbf{x}\right) - h^s\left(\mathbf{x}\right)\|_1 \, p^s\left(\mathbf{x}\right) \, d\mathbf{x}$  and  $R_1^t\left(h^t\right) := \int \|p^t\left(\cdot\mid\mathbf{x}\right) - h^t\left(\mathbf{x}\right)\|_1 \, p^t\left(\mathbf{x}\right) \, d\mathbf{x}$  are the general losses of  $h^s$  and  $h^t$  w.r.t.  $\|\cdot\|_1$ .

Remark 9. Theorem 8 reveals that if the marginal label distributions are significantly different between the source and target domains, forcing  $W_{\tilde{c},p}\left(G_{\#}^{1}\mathbb{P}^{s},T_{\#}^{1}\mathbb{P}^{t}\right)$  to be smaller increases  $R_1^s(h^s) + R_1^t(h^t)$ , which directly hurts the predictive performance of the target classifier  $h^t$ . The reason is that  $R_1^s(h^s)$  would be small since it is trained on labeled source domain. Similar significant theoretical result was discovered in (Zhao et al., 2019) (see Theorem 4.9 in that paper). However, our theory is developed in a more general context of multi-class classification and uses the WS distance rather than the JS distance (Endres & Schindelin, 2006) as in (Zhao et al., 2019). In addition, the advantages of WS distance over JS distance including its numerical stability and continuity have been thoughtfully discussed in Arjovsky et al. (2017). Finally, our Theorem 8 can be generalized to any metric on the simplex  $\Delta_C$  (e.g., a Wasserstein distance).

# 3. Label Matching Domain Adaptation

As pointed by our theory and ablation study (see our supplementary material), reducing label mismatch in the joint space when bridging  $D\left(G_\#^1\mathbb{P}^s,T_\#^1\mathbb{P}^t\right)$  (cf. Eq. (4)) between the source and target domains in this space is a key factor to improve the predictive performance of deep unsupervised domain adaptation. Existing approaches (Ganin & Lempitsky, 2015; Tzeng et al., 2015; Long et al., 2015; French et al., 2018) use a binary discriminator to guide target samples for moving to source samples in the joint space.

However, a binary discriminator is only able to distinguish the entire source domain from the target domain, hence cannot elegantly guide target samples moving to the most suitable class in the source domain. Our idea is to increase the resolution of discriminators by utilizing a multi-class discriminator d that can simultaneously (i) distinguish source and target domains and (ii) emphasize the class regions in the source domain.

With the assistance of a multi-class discriminator d, we hope to guide target samples to a suitable class in the source domain. In addition, in conjunction with the multi-class discriminator d, we propose minimizing an optimal transport inspired cost which leverages the class information provided by the multi-class discriminator d for guiding target samples more accurately. We name the proposed method as LAbel Matching Domain Adaptation (LAMDA).

To minimize the discrepancy  $D\left(G^1_\#\mathbb{P}^s,T^1_\#\mathbb{P}^t\right)$ , we employ the adversarial learning principle (Goodfellow et al., 2014) with the support of the multi-class discriminator d. Moreover, to simultaneously discriminate the source and target samples and distinguish the classes of the source domain, we use a multi-class discriminator d with C+1 probability outputs (C is the number of classes) in which for  $\mathbf{x} \sim \mathbb{P}^s$  and  $1 \leq i \leq C$ , the i-th probability output specifies the probability of that example generated from the i-th class mixture of the source domain, i.e.,  $d_i\left(G^1\left(\mathbf{x}\right)\right) = \mathbb{P}\left(y=i\mid\mathbf{x}\right)$  and for  $\mathbf{x} \sim \mathbb{P}^t$ , the C+1 probability output specifies the probability of that example generated from the target distribution, i.e.,  $d_{C+1}\left(T^1\left(\mathbf{x}\right)\right) = \mathbb{P}\left(y=C+1\mid\mathbf{x}\right)$ .

**Training method.** Since the discriminator can discriminate the source and target samples and distinguish the classes of the source domain, we solve the following OP for *d*:

$$\max_{d} \left( \mathcal{L}_{d} := \sum_{i=1}^{C} \mathbb{E}_{(\mathbf{x},y) \sim \mathcal{D}^{s} \wedge y = i} \left[ \log d_{i} \left( G^{1} \left( \mathbf{x} \right) \right) \right] + \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim \mathbb{P}^{t}} \left[ \log d_{C+1} \left( T^{1} \left( \mathbf{x} \right) \right) \right] + \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim \mathbb{P}^{s}} \left[ \log \left( 1 - d_{C+1} \left( G^{1} \left( \mathbf{x} \right) \right) \right) \right] \right).$$
(9)

To train the generators  $G^1, T^1$ , we update them as follows:

i) We move  $G^{1}\left(\mathbf{x}\right)$  for  $\mathbf{x} \sim \mathbb{P}^{s}$  to the region of high values for  $d_{C+1}\left(\cdot\right)$  (i.e., the region of target samples) by minimizing

$$I\left(G^{1}\right) := \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim \mathbb{P}^{s}} \left[\log \left(1 - d_{C+1}\left(G^{1}(\mathbf{x})\right)\right)\right].$$

ii) We move  $T^1(\mathbf{x})$  for  $\mathbf{x} \sim \mathbb{P}^t$  to one of class regions in the source domain accordingly. Recalling that  $d_i(\mathbf{x})$  represents the likelihood of  $\mathbf{x}$  w.r.t. the i-th source class region, we employ  $-\log \mathbb{P}(y=i\mid \mathbf{x}) = -\log d_i\left(T^1(\mathbf{x})\right)$  as the cost incurred if we move  $T^1(\mathbf{x})$  to  $\mathcal{D}_i^s = \{(x,y) \in \mathcal{D}^s \mid y=i\}$ .

To specify the probabilities that transports  $\mathbf{x} \sim \mathbb{P}^t$  to the source class regions, we use a transportation probability network  $S(\mathbf{x})$  for which  $S_i(\mathbf{x})$  points out probability to transport  $\mathbf{x}$  to  $\mathcal{D}_i^s$ . Therefore, the total transport cost incurred is

$$TC\left(T^{1}\right) := \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim \mathbb{P}^{t}} \left[ -\sum_{i=1}^{C} S_{i}\left(\mathbf{x}\right) \log d_{i}\left(T^{1}\left(\mathbf{x}\right)\right) \right].$$

$$(10)$$

In addition, we push  $T^{1}\left(\mathbf{x}\right)$  for  $\mathbf{x} \sim \mathbb{P}^{t}$  to the the region of low values for  $d_{C+1}\left(\cdot\right)$  (i.e., the region of source samples) by minimizing

$$J\left(T^{1}\right):=\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x}\sim\mathbb{P}^{t}}\left[\log d_{C+1}\left(T^{1}\left(\mathbf{x}\right)\right)\right].$$

Moreover, we need to minimize the loss on the source domain

$$\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{A}} := \mathbb{E}_{\left(\mathbf{x}, y\right) \sim \mathcal{D}^{s}} \left[ \ell \left( y, \mathcal{A} \left( G^{1} \left( \mathbf{x} \right) \right) \right) \right],$$

and the reconstruction term defined as

$$R\left(T^{2},G^{1}\right):=\mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{P}^{s}}\left[\left\Vert T^{2}\left(G^{1}\left(\mathbf{x}\right)\right)-\mathbf{x}\right\Vert _{2}^{2}\right].$$

Putting all above losses together, the OP to update  $G^1, T^1, T^2$ , and  $\mathcal{A}$  has the following form:

$$\min_{G^1, T^1, T^2, \mathcal{A}} \mathcal{L}_g, \tag{11}$$

where we have defined

$$\mathcal{L}_g := I(G^1) + J(T^1) + \alpha TC(T^1) + \beta R(T^2, G^1) + \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{A}}.$$

The min-max OP of our LAMDA has the following form:

$$\max_{d} \min_{G^{1}, T^{1}, T^{2}, \mathcal{A}} \left( I\left(G^{1}\right) + J\left(T^{1}\right) + K\left(d, T^{1}\right) + \beta R\left(T^{2}, G^{1}\right) + \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{A}} \right), \tag{12}$$

where the term  $K\left(d,T^{1}\right)$  is the first term of  $\mathcal{L}_{d}$  as in (9) for the outer max and  $\alpha TC\left(T^{1}\right)$  as in (10) for the inner min.

It is worth noting that although the min-max problem in (12) is not mathematically rigorous, we still present it to increase the comprehensibility of our LAMDA. In addition, to reduce the model complexity, we share S and  $\mathcal A$  because the source classification  $\mathcal A$  can also characterize the source class regions. Finally, the pseudocode for training LAMDA is presented in Algorithm 1.

# Algorithm 1 Pseudocode for training LAMDA.

Input: Source  $\mathcal{D}^s = \{(\mathbf{x}_k^s, y_k^s)\}_{k=1}^{N_s}$ , target  $\mathcal{D}^t = \{\mathbf{x}_l^t\}_{l=1}^{N_t}$ . Output: Generator  $G^{1*}$ , classifier  $\mathcal{A}^*$ .

- 1: **for** number of training iterations **do**
- 2: Sample minibatch of source  $\{(\mathbf{x}_k^s, y_k^s)\}_{k=1}^m$  and target  $\{\mathbf{x}_l^t\}_{l=1}^m$ .
- 3: Update d according to Eq. (9).
- 4: Update  $G^1, T^1, T^2$  and A according to Eq. (11).
- 5: end for

# 4. Experiment

### 4.1. Ablation Study

We start with the ablation study of the effect of the terms in LAMDA especially the reconstruction term  $\beta R \left(T^2, G^1\right)$ . At the outset, we notice that akin to other DDA works, we share two generators  $G^1$  and  $T^1$  (i.e.,  $G^1 = T^1 = G$ ).

# 4.1.1. THE EFFECT OF RECONSTRUCTION TERM

We conduct the experiments on the three pairs of *Office-31* as shown in Figure 3 (left). The experiments on the *Office-31* use ResNet-50 (He et al., 2016) as a backbone to extract

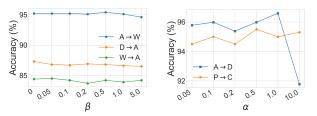


Figure 3. The effect of the reconstruction term (left) and the total transport cost (right).

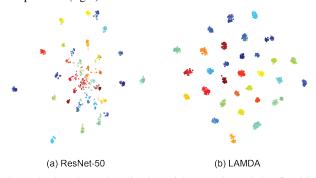


Figure 4. The t-SNE visualization of the transfer task  $A \rightarrow D$  with label and domain information. Each color denotes a class while the circle and cross markers represent the source and target data.

the features. The representations of ResNet-50 are fed to the latent space using a dense layer and on the top of this dense layer, we have another dense layer to connect the latent and the output layers. We employ the reconstruction term to reconstruct the output representations of ResNet-50 from the latent representations (i.e., the output of ResNet-50  $\rightarrow$  latent representation  $\rightarrow$  output of ResNet-50). Note that we do not fine-tune the base ResNet-50. We vary  $\beta$  in  $\{0,0.05,0.1,0.2,0.5,1.0,5.0\}$  and observe the target test accuracies. As shown in Figure 3, the reconstruction term slightly affects the final performance. Therefore, in our experiments on real-world datasets, we set  $\beta=0$  to reduce the training cost.

# 4.1.2. THE EFFECT OF THE TOTAL TRANSPORT COST

We vary the trade-off parameter  $\alpha$  of the total transport cost to inspect its effect on the final performance as shown in Figure 3 (right). We empirically find that the appropriate range for  $\alpha$  is [0.1,0.5]. In our experiments on the real-world datasets, we set  $\alpha=0.5$ .

# 4.1.3. THE EFFECT OF THE MULTI-CLASS DISCRIMINATOR

We conduct an ablation study on the Office-Home dataset with the ResNet-50 features in which we relax the *multi-class discriminator* by a *binary discriminator*. As shown in Table 2, the experimental results show that our LAMDA with the multi-class discriminator and the total transport cost term (i.e.,  $TC\left(T^{1}\right)$  in Eq. (10)) outperforms its binary discriminator relaxation.

Table 1. Classification accuracy (%) on Office-Home dataset using ResNet-50 features.

Method	Ar→Cl	Ar→Pr	Ar→Rw	Cl→Ar	Cl→Pr	Cl→Rw	Pr→Ar	Pr→Cl	Pr→Rw	Rw→Ar	Rw→Cl	Rw→Pr	Avg
ResNet-50 (He et al., 2016)	34.9	50.0	58.0	37.4	41.9	46.2	38.5	31.2	60.4	53.9	41.2	59.9	46.1
DANN (Ganin & Lempitsky, 2015)	45.6	59.3	70.1	47.0	58.5	60.9	46.1	43.7	68.5	63.2	51.8	76.8	57.6
DAN (Long et al., 2015)	43.6	57.0	67.9	45.8	56.5	60.4	44.0	43.6	67.7	63.1	51.5	74.3	56.3
CDAN (Long et al., 2018)	50.7	70.6	76.0	57.6	70.0	70.0	57.4	50.9	77.3	70.9	56.7	81.6	65.8
CDAN+TransNorm (Wang et al., 2019)	50.2	71.4	77.4	59.3	72.7	73.1	61.0	53.1	79.5	71.9	59.0	82.9	67.6
TPN (Pan et al., 2019)	51.2	71.2	76.0	65.1	72.9	72.8	55.4	48.9	76.5	70.9	53.4	80.4	66.2
MDD (Zhang et al., 2019a)	54.9	73.7	77.8	60.0	71.4	71.8	61.2	53.6	78.1	72.5	60.2	82.3	68.1
MDD+Implicit Alignment (Jiang et al., 2020)	56.2	77.9	79.2	64.4	73.1	74.4	64.2	54.2	79.9	71.2	58.1	83.1	69.5
DeepJDOT (Damodaran et al., 2018)	48.2	69.2	74.5	58.5	69.1	71.1	56.3	46.0	76.5	68.0	52.7	80.9	64.3
SHOT (Liang et al., 2020)	57.1	78.1	81.5	68.0	78.2	78.1	67.4	54.9	82.2	73.3	58.8	84.3	71.8
ETD (Li et al., 2020)	51.3	71.9	85.7	57.6	69.2	73.7	57.8	51.2	79.3	70.2	57.5	82.1	67.3
RWOT (Xu et al., 2020)	55.2	72.5	78.0	63.5	72.5	75.1	60.2	48.5	78.9	69.8	54.8	82.5	67.6
LAMDA	57.2	78.4	82.6	66.1	80.2	81.2	65.6	55.1	82.8	71.6	59.2	83.9	72.0

Table 2. Performance comparison between two settings on the Office-Home dataset using the ResNet-50 features.

Method	Ar→Cl	$Ar \rightarrow Pr$	$Ar \rightarrow Rw$	Cl→Ar	Cl→Pr	Cl→Rw	Pr→Ar	Pr→Cl	$Pr \rightarrow Rw$	$Rw{ ightarrow}Ar$	Rw→Cl	$Rw \rightarrow Pr$	Avg
Binary discriminator	51.4	78.2	76.3	66.1	74.3	78.9	64.5	47.0	82.3	69.9	53.1	82.6	68.7
Multi-class discriminator	57.2	78.4	82.6	66.1	80.2	81.2	65.6	55.1	82.8	71.6	59.2	83.9	72.0

### 4.1.4. FEATURE VISUALIZATION

We visualize the features of ResNet-50 and our method on the transfer task  $\mathbf{A} \rightarrow \mathbf{D}$  (*Office-31*) by *t*-SNE (van der Maaten & Hinton, 2008) in Figure 4. The sub-figure (a) show that ResNet-50 classifies quite well on the source domain ( $\mathbf{A}$ ) but poorly on the target domain ( $\mathbf{D}$ ), while the representation in sub-figure (b) is generated by our method with better alignment. LAMDA achieves exactly 31 clusters corresponding to 31 classes of *Office-31*, which represents the ability of reducing not only the data shift but also the label shift between two domains.

# 4.2. Our LAMDA Versus the Baselines

# 4.2.1. EXPERIMENTAL DATASETS

We conduct the experiments to compare our LAMDA against the state-of-the-art baselines on the *digit*, *traffic sign*, *natural scene*, *Office-Home*, *Office-31*, and *ImageCLEF-DA* datasets. In addition to the baselines in general DDA, we also compare our LAMDA to the ones developed based on the OT theory including DeepJDOT (Damodaran et al., 2018), SWD (Lee et al., 2019), DASPOT (Xie et al., 2019), ETD (Li et al., 2020) and RWOT (Xu et al., 2020). Moreover, we resize the resolution of each sample in *digits*, *traffic sign*, and *natural image* datasets to  $32 \times 32$ , and normalize the value of each pixel to the range of [-1,1]. For *object recognition* datasets, we use features have 2048 dimensions extracted from ResNet-50 (He et al., 2016) pretrained on ImageNet.

### Digit datasets.

**MNIST**. To adapt from MNIST to MNIST-M or SVHN, the MNIST images are replicated from single greyscale channel to obtain digit images which has three channels.

MNIST-M. Following Ganin & Lempitsky (2015), we generate the MNIST-M images by replacing the black background of MNIST images by the color ones.

**SVHN**. The dataset consists of images obtained by detecting house numbers from Google Street View images. This dataset is a benchmark for recognizing digits and numbers in real-world images.

**DIGITS**. There are roughly 500,000 images are generated using various data augmentation schemes, i.e., varying the text, positioning, orientation, background, stroke color, and the amount of blur.

### Traffic sign datasets.

**SIGNS**. A synthetic dataset for traffic sign recognition. Images are collected from Wikipedia and then applied various types of transformations to generate 100,000 images for training and test.

**GTSRB**. Road sign images are extracted from videos recorded on different road types in Germany.

### Natural scene datasets.

**CIFAR.** This dataset includes 50,000 training images and 10,000 test images. However, to adapt with STL dataset, we base on French et al. (2018) to remove one non-overlapping class ("frog").

**STL**. Similar to CIFAR-10, we remove class named "monkey" to obtain a 9-class classification problem.

# Object recognition datasets.

Office-Home. This dataset consists of roughly 15,500 images in a total of 65 object classes belonging to 4 different domains: Artistic (Ar), Clip Art (Cl), Product (Pr) and Real-world (Rw). Due to the shortage of data, this dataset is much more challenging for the domain adaptation task.

**Office-31.** This is a popular dataset for domain adaptation that contains 3 domains Amazon (**A**), Webcam (**W**), and DSLR (**D**). There are 31 common classes and 4,110 images in total.

ImageCLEF-DA. This dataset contains three domains:

Caltech-256 (C), ImageNet ILSVRC 2012 (I) and Pascal VOC 2012 (P). We follow the work in Li et al. (2020) to evaluate 6 adaptation tasks.

Table 3. Classification accuracy (%) on digits and natural image

Source	MNIST	USPS	MNIST	SVHN	MNIST	CIFAR	STL
Target	USPS	MNIST	MNIST-M	MNIST	SVHN	STL	CIFAR
MMD (Long et al., 2015)	-	-	76.9	71.1	-	-	-
DANN (Ganin & Lempitsky, 2015)	-	-	81.5	71.1	35.7	-	-
DRCN (Ghifary et al., 2016)	-	-	-	82.0	40.1	66.4	-
DSN (Bousmalis et al., 2016)	-	-	83.2	82.7	-	-	-
ATT (Saito et al., 2017)	-	-	94.2	86.2	52.8	-	-
Π-model (French et al., 2018)	-	-	-	92.0	71.4	76.3	64.2
CyCADA (Hoffman et al., 2018)	95.6	96.5	-	90.4	-	-	-
MSTN (Xie et al., 2018)	92.9	97.6	-	91.7	-	-	-
CDAN (Long et al., 2018)	95.6	98.0	-	89.2	-	-	-
MCD (Saito et al., 2018)	94.2	94.1	-	96.2	-	-	-
GTA (Sankaranarayanan et al., 2018)	90.8	95.3	-	92.4	-	-	-
DEV (You et al., 2019)	92.5	96.9	-	93.2	-	-	-
LDVA (Zhu et al., 2019)	98.8	96.8	-	95.2	-	-	-
DeepJDOT(Damodaran et al., 2018)	95.7	96.4	92.4	96.7	-	-	-
DASPOT (Xie et al., 2019)	97.5	96.5	94.9	96.2	-	-	-
SWD (Lee et al., 2019)	98.1	97.1	90.9	98.9	-	-	-
rRevGrad+CAT (Deng et al., 2019)	94.0	96.0	-	98.8	-	-	-
SHOT (Liang et al., 2020)	98.0	98.4	-	98.9	-	-	-
RWOT (Xu et al., 2020)	98.5	97.5	-	98.8	-	-	-
LAMDA	99.5	98.3	98.4	99.5	82.1	78.0	71.6

### 4.2.2. Hyper-parameter setting

We apply Adam Optimizer ( $\beta_1 = 0.5, \beta_2 = 0.999$ ) with the learning rate 0.001 digits, traffic sign and natural scene datasets, whereas 0.0001 is the learning rate for object recognition datasets. All experiements was trained for 20000 iterations on Office-31, Office-Home, and ImageCLEF-DA and 80000 for the other datasets. The batch size for each dataset is set to 128. We set  $\beta = 0$ ,  $\alpha = 0.5$  as described in the ablation study, and  $\gamma$  is searched in  $\{0.1, 0.5\}$ . We implement our LAMDA in Python (version 3.5) using Tensorflow (version 1.9.0) (Abadi et al., 2016) and run our experiments on a computer with a CPU named Intel Xeon Processor E5-1660 which has 8 cores at 3.0 GHz and 128 GB of RAM, and a GPU called NVIDIA GeForce GTX Titan X with 12 GB memory. For Office-Home, Office-31, and ImageCLEF-DA, we use ResNet-50 as a feature extractor (He et al., 2016). Finally, the further network architecture detail can be found in the supplementary material.

# 4.2.3. EXPERIMENTAL RESULTS

As consistently shown in Tables 1, 3, 4, and 5, our LAMDA outperforms the baselines on the average performances and achieves good performances on the individual pairs. In particular, for the Digit datasets, although the transfer task MNIST→SVHN is extremely challenging in which the source dataset includes grayscale handwritten digits whereas the target dataset is created by real-world digits, our LAMDA is still capable of matching the gap between source and target domains and outperforms the second-best method by a significant margin (10.7%). Evidently, the fact our LAMDA achieves superior performances comparing to the baselines demonstrates that it can efficiently reduce the label mismatch on the latent space.

Table 4. Classification accuracy (%) on Office-31 dataset using either ResNet-50 features or ResNet-50 based deep models.

Method	$A \rightarrow W$	$A \rightarrow D$	$D \rightarrow W$	$\overline{W \rightarrow D}$	$D \rightarrow A$	$W \rightarrow A$	Avg
ResNet-50 (He et al., 2016)	70.0	65.5	96.1	99.3	62.8	60.5	75.7
DeepCORAL (Sun & Saenko, 2016)	83.0	71.5	97.9	98.0	63.7	64.5	79.8
DANN (Ganin et al., 2016)	81.5	74.3	97.1	99.6	65.5	63.2	80.2
RTN (Long et al., 2016)	84.5	77.5	96.8	99.4	66.2	64.8	81.6
ADDA (Tzeng et al., 2017)	86.2	78.8	96.8	99.1	69.5	68.5	83.2
iCAN (Zhang et al., 2018)	92.5	90.1	98.8	100.0	72.1	69.9	87.2
CDAN (Long et al., 2018)	94.1	92.9	98.6	100.0	71.0	69.3	87.7
GTA (Sankaranarayanan et al., 2018)	89.5	87.7	97.9	99.8	72.8	71.4	86.5
DEV (You et al., 2019)	93.2	92.8	98.4	100.0	70.9	71.2	87.8
TPN (Pan et al., 2019)	91.2	89.9	97.7	99.5	70.5	73.5	87.1
MDD (Zhang et al., 2019a)	94.5	93.5	98.4	100.0	74.6	72.2	88.9
MDD+Implicit Alignment (Jiang et al., 2020)	90.3	92.1	98.7	99.8	75.3	74.9	88.8
SPL (Wang & Breckon, 2020)	92.7	93.0	98.7	99.8	76.4	76.8	89.6
DeepJDOT (Damodaran et al., 2018)	88.9	88.2	98.5	99.6	72.1	70.1	86.2
SHOT (Liang et al., 2020)	90.1	94.0	98.4	99.9	74.7	74.3	88.6
ETD (Li et al., 2020)	92.1	88.0	100.0	100.0	71.0	67.8	86.2
RWOT (Xu et al., 2020)	95.1	94.5	99.5	100.0	77.5	77.9	90.8
LAMDA	95.2	96.0	98.5	100.0	87.3	84.4	93.0

Table 5. Classification accuracy (%) on ImageCLEF-DA dataset using ResNet-50 features.

Method	I→P	P→I	I→C	C→I	$C \rightarrow P$	$P \rightarrow C$	Avg
ResNet-50 (He et al., 2016)	74.8	83.9	91.5	78.0	65.5	91.2	80.7
DeepCORAL (Sun & Saenko, 2016)	75.1	85.5	92.0	85.5	69.0	91.7	83.1
RTN (Long et al., 2016)	75.6	86.8	95.3	86.9	72.7	92.2	84.9
DANN (Ganin et al., 2016)	75.0	86.0	96.2	87.0	74.3	91.5	85.0
ADDA (Tzeng et al., 2017)	75.5	88.2	96.5	89.1	75.1	92.0	86.0
iCAN (Zhang et al., 2018)	79.5	89.7	94.7	89.9	78.5	92.0	87.4
CDAN (Long et al., 2018)	77.7	90.7	97.7	91.3	74.2	94.3	87.7
CDAN+TransNorm (Wang et al., 2019)	78.3	90.8	96.7	92.3	78.0	94.8	88.5
TPN (Pan et al., 2019)	78.2	92.1	96.1	90.8	76.2	95.1	88.1
CADA-P (Kurmi et al., 2019)	78.0	90.5	96.7	92.0	77.2	95.5	88.3
SymNets (Zhang et al., 2019b)	80.2	93.6	97.0	93.4	78.7	96.4	89.9
DeepJDOT (Damodaran et al., 2018)	77.5	90.5	95.0	88.3	74.9	94.2	86.7
ETD (Li et al., 2020)	81.0	91.7	97.9	93.3	79.5	95.0	89.7
RWOT (Xu et al., 2020)	81.3	92.9	97.9	92.7	79.1	96.5	90.0
LAMDA	80.7	95.0	96.7	95.0	80.7	95.8	90.6

### 5. Conclusion

Deep domain adaptation is a recent powerful learning framework that aims to address the problem of scarcity of qualified labeled data for supervised learning. The key ingredient is to learn domain invariant representations, which obviously can address the data shift issue. However, the label shift issue is significantly challenging to define and tackle. In this paper, we propose a new theory setting that allows us to couple the source and target hypotheses for explicitly defining the label shift. We further develop a theory to show the link between minimizing the WS distance for the data shift and bridging the gap between source and target domains on a latent space. In addition, under the light of the theory developed, we can interpret the label shift on the latent space and point out the drawback of learning domain invariant representations. Finally, grounded on the developed theory, we propose LAMDA which outperforms the baselines on real-world datasets. Last but not least, our theory can be extended to rigorously define label shift in various DA settings, but we leave it to future research.

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