

Big Data Computing course
Taught by Prof. Gabriele Tolomei
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Course's project presentation

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Search engine based on Distributed Semi-Supervised (Self-Training) Image Classification on STL-10

A transfer learning approach



Resources

- notebook of this project
 - [editable version](#) (if you have the permissions)
 - [published version](#)
- demo notebook of this project
 - [editable version](#) (if you have the permissions)
 - [published version](#)
- [repo on GitHub](#) with notebooks and presentation
- [preprocessed dataset's folder](#) on Google Drive



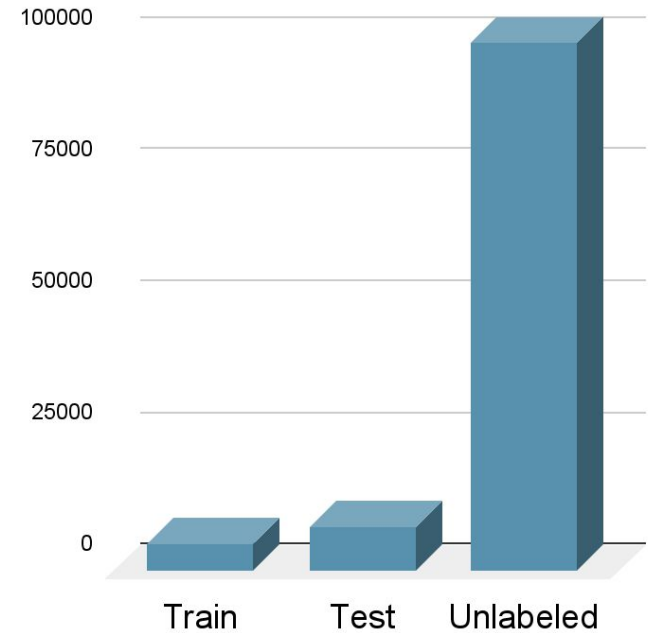
Dataset's overview

STL10* is an image recognition dataset

with a corpus composed of:

- 100K unlabeled images
- 5K labeled training images
- 8K labeled test images

covering 10 different classes





Big-Data-Ness

$$\begin{aligned} \text{SizeImage} * \text{BytesForPixel} * n.\text{OfImages} &= \text{MemoryOnRAM} \\ (96 * 96 * 3) * 4 * 113000 &\approx 11.6GB \end{aligned}$$

* [Coates, Lee, Ng, 2011, An Analysis of Single Layer Networks in Unsupervised Feature Learning](#)



What are conventional small dataset solutions?*

- using a non-deep algorithm
- using a unsupervised algorithm on the unlabeled part
- using synthetic data 
- finding new data 

*[Lateh et al., 2017, J. Phys.: Conf. Ser. 892 012016](#)



How complex the task is?

Semi-supervised learning is an approach to machine learning that combines a **small amount** of **labeled data** with a **large amount** of **unlabeled data** during training. The SSL is not a new topic but recently **(from 2018)*** the attention has growth: these approaches take care of problems where we don't have such big labeled dataset

*[Padmanabha,Viswanath,Reddy, 2018, Semi-supervised learning: a brief review](#)



How much effort would it take to get into a production system?

We have developed the system in a Python Notebook:

- we've chosen to give **privilege to readability** by reducing the usage of lambda functions only when indispensable
- the notebooks are divided into macro-**sections**
- the code has inline **comments** and before each cell there is its textual description
- at the beginning of the notebook we define multiple **environmental variables** that change notebook's workflow
- the code is **available on git**

Thanks to these precautions, it's straightforward to run the models using technologies like Amazon's Sagemaker or EMR and setting environment variables to get the desired functioning



Self-training

The approach we chosen is the **self-training***:

- Pseudo-label the unlabeled samples with a classifier trained with the labeled samples
- Train a big-classifier with pseudo-labeled and labeled samples
- Evaluate the final model with the test samples

*[Wei, Shen, Chen, Ma, 2021, Theoretical Analysis of Self-Training with Deep Networks on Unlabeled Data](#)



Challenging task

The impact of self-training is similar to that of entropy minimization; in both cases, the network is forced to output more confident predictions

The main downside of such methods is that the model is unable to correct its own mistakes, and any biased and wrong classifications can be quickly amplified resulting in confident but erroneous proxy labels on the unlabeled data point

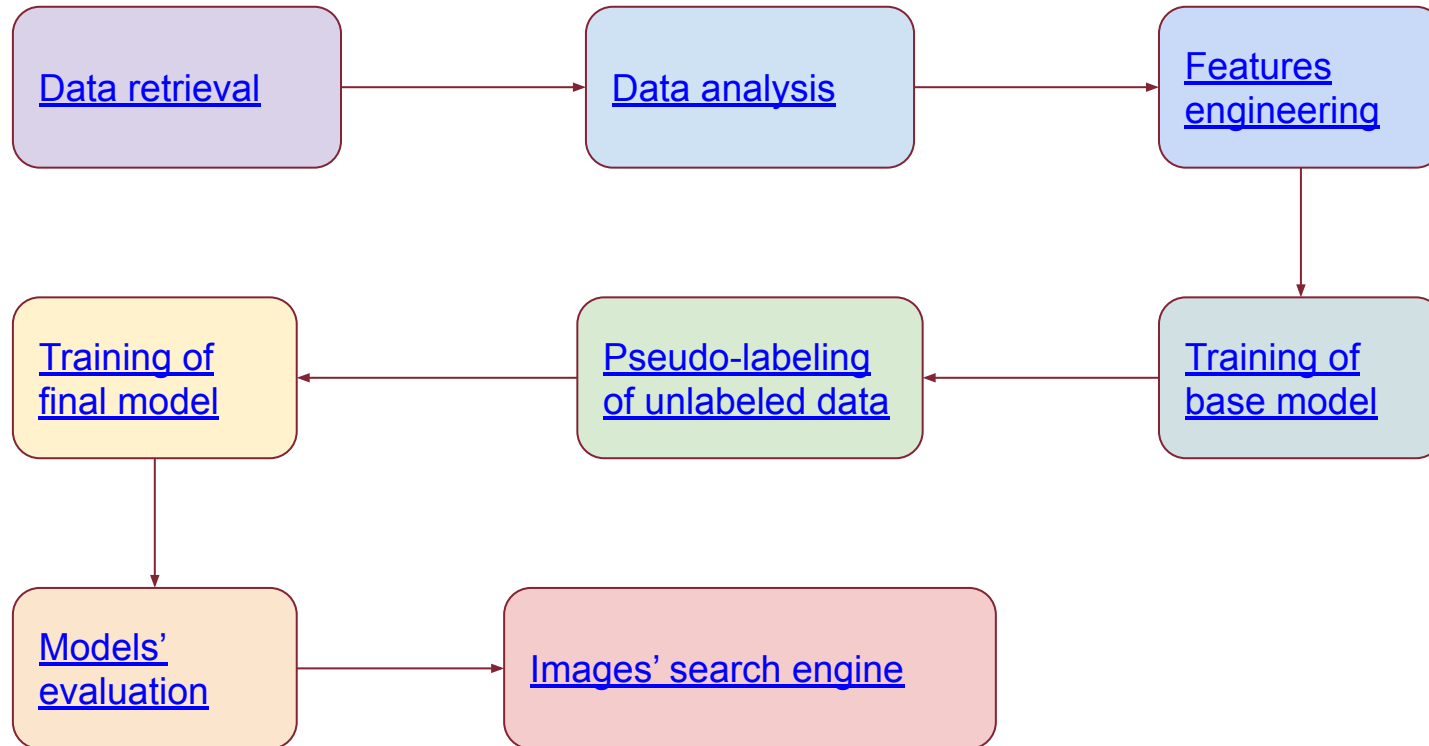
Training a network in such a way enhances the confidence on the predictions*, and it will be stronger to **adversarial attacks****

*[Yassine, Hudelot, Tami, 2020, An Overview of Deep Semi-Supervised Learning](#)

**[Wu et al., 2018, Reinforcing Adversarial Robustness using Model Confidence Induced by Adversarial Training](#)



Pipeline





Material

- this presentation
- the (full) notebook
 - slow
 - implements each step in the pipeline
- a demo notebook
 - fast(er)
 - no data analysis
 - no training, since loads the pre-trained models



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Pipeline description



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Pipeline description

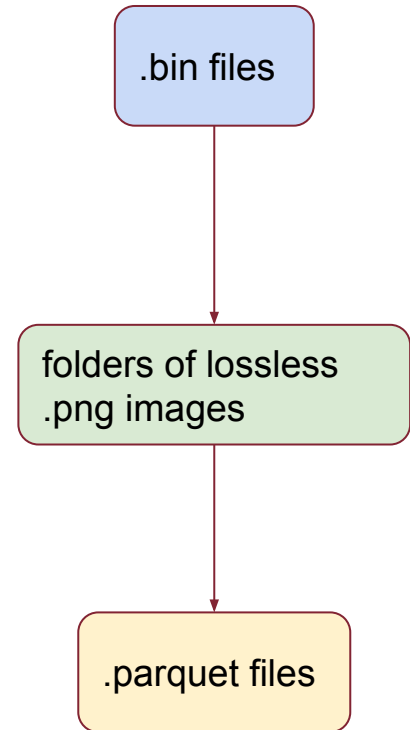
Data Retrieval & Features engineering



Data retrieval

- dataset is available on its [website](#)
- .bin format is not PySpark-friendly 😅
- local conversion to [.parquet](#)
- uploaded on [Google Drive](#)

Nome	Proprietario	Ultima mo...	↑	Dimensioni file
stl10_test.parquet 🔍	io	11 mag 2021		199,5 MB
stl10_train.parquet 🔍	io	11 mag 2021		124,6 MB
stl10_unlabeled_part1.parquet 🔍	io	11 mag 2021		307,1 MB
stl10_unlabeled_part2.parquet 🔍	io	11 mag 2021		307 MB
stl10_unlabeled_part3.parquet 🔍	io	11 mag 2021		306,8 MB
stl10_unlabeled_part4.parquet 🔍	io	11 mag 2021		307,1 MB
stl10_unlabeled_part5.parquet 🔍	io	11 mag 2021		307,1 MB
stl10_unlabeled_part6.parquet 🔍	io	11 mag 2021		307,6 MB
stl10_unlabeled_part7.parquet 🔍	io	11 mag 2021		307,4 MB
stl10_unlabeled_part8.parquet 🔍	io	11 mag 2021		307,2 MB



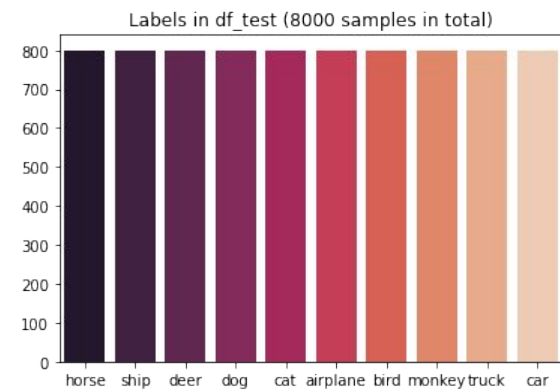
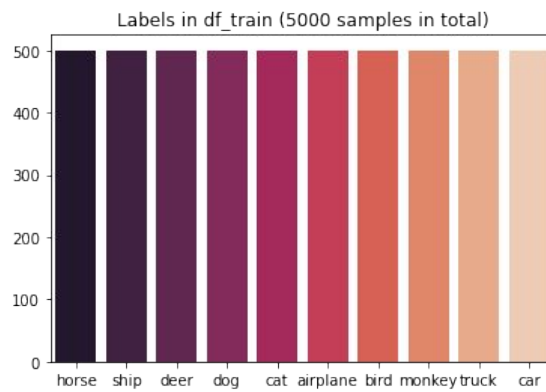
```
df_train = 5000 (in 2 partitions)
+-----+-----+-----+
|          image|   label|   id|
+-----+-----+-----+
|[0, 2, 4, 0, 2, 4...|airplane|   0|
|[83, 115, 110, 83...|airplane|   1|
|[109, 112, 117, 1...|airplane|   2|
|[-58, -58, -48, -...|airplane|   3|
+-----+-----+-----+
```

only showing top 4 rows



Data analysis

- the classes of the labeled samples are perfectly balanced
- unlabeled examples are extracted from a similar but broader distribution of images
 - for instance, it contains other types of animals (bears, rabbits, etc.) and vehicles (trains, buses, etc.) in addition to the ones in the labeled set

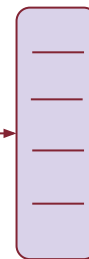


Features engineering

- added a unique id for each image
- casted pixels' intensities to 1-byte integers
- dimensionality reduction
 - transfer learning using a pre-trained CNN
 - parallelized in PySpark thanks to [@pandas_udf](#) functions



shape = (96, 96, 3)



shape = (1024)

```
|df_train_emb| = 5000 (in 2 partitions)
+-----+-----+-----+
|  label| id|          embeddings|
+-----+-----+-----+
|airplane| 0| [-0.5840396285057...|
|airplane| 1| [-0.3303175568580...|
|airplane| 2| [-1.2865829467773...|
|airplane| 3| [-0.0749394893646...|
+-----+-----+-----+
only showing top 4 rows
```







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Pipeline description

Models' training

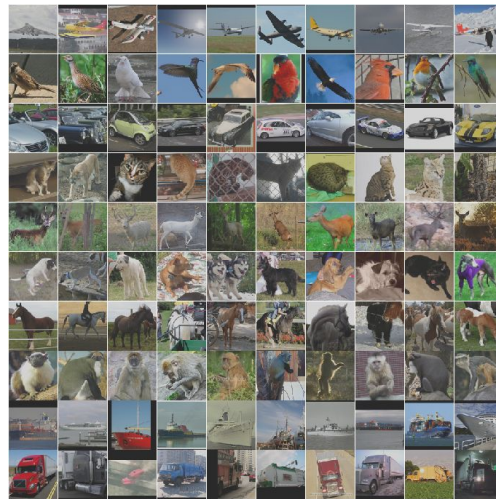


Training of base model

- labels' mapping
- we've opted for [Multilayer Perceptron Classifier](#)
 - after some tests, the best-performing among other non-discrete multiclass classifiers available on PySpark (for our needs)
 - 50 iterations 
 - learning rate = 0.001 
 - 4 layers 
 - |input layer| = 1024
 - |hidden layer 1| = 512, |hidden layer 2| = 256
 - |output layer| = 10
- full training takes ~6 minutes
- saved on dbfs to ease access in the demo notebook


Pseudo-labeling of unlabeled data

- each unlabeled image is labeled according to the model trained in the previous step
 - some labels may be wrong
 - a model trained on this data may be biased
 - need a way to spot such errors 🤖





Training of final model

- same model architecture as before
- trained on:
 - labeled training part of the dataset
 - pseudo-labeled unlabeled part of the dataset
- k-fold cross validation* 
 - to reduce selection bias for “unlucky” splits
 - in each round, we split the dataset into k parts: one part is used for validation, and the remaining parts are merged into a training subset for model evaluation
 - performances computed as the arithmetic mean over the k performance estimates
- full training takes more than 60 minutes
- saved on dbfs to ease access in the demo notebook




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Pipeline description

Models' evaluation



Models' evaluation

- evaluation is done using
 - [MulticlassClassificationEvaluator](#) for [accuracy](#), [precision](#), [recall](#), [F1 score](#), TPR, FPR
 - [sklearn.metrics](#) for MCC, ROC and the other metrics
 - [seaborn](#) and [matplotlib](#) for plotting 
- done on the labeled **test** part of the dataset, never used before
- the two models have comparable performance, but the final model seems to be more resistant to **adversarial attack**



Models' evaluation - numbers

Base model

```
Evaluation results (base model)
{'accuracy': 0.669375,
 'f1': 0.6717551753303268,
 'mcc': 0.6335526776740902,
 'weightedFalsePositiveRate': 0.036736111111111115,
 'weightedPrecision': 0.680093714461409,
 'weightedRecall': 0.669375,
 'weightedTruePositiveRate': 0.669375}
```

Final model

```
Evaluation results (final model)
{'accuracy': 0.660375,
 'f1': 0.6616909977888196,
 'mcc': 0.6229632711502258,
 'weightedFalsePositiveRate': 0.037736111111111111,
 'weightedPrecision': 0.6654451885476704,
 'weightedRecall': 0.660375,
 'weightedTruePositiveRate': 0.660375}
```



Models' evaluation - classification report

Base model

Classification report (base model)

	precision	recall	f1-score	support
airplane	0.74	0.81	0.77	800
bird	0.68	0.69	0.68	800
car	0.85	0.82	0.84	800
cat	0.54	0.47	0.50	800
deer	0.64	0.62	0.63	800
dog	0.42	0.59	0.49	800
horse	0.66	0.62	0.64	800
monkey	0.66	0.53	0.59	800
ship	0.86	0.76	0.81	800
truck	0.76	0.78	0.77	800
accuracy			0.67	8000
macro avg	0.68	0.67	0.67	8000
weighted avg	0.68	0.67	0.67	8000

Final model

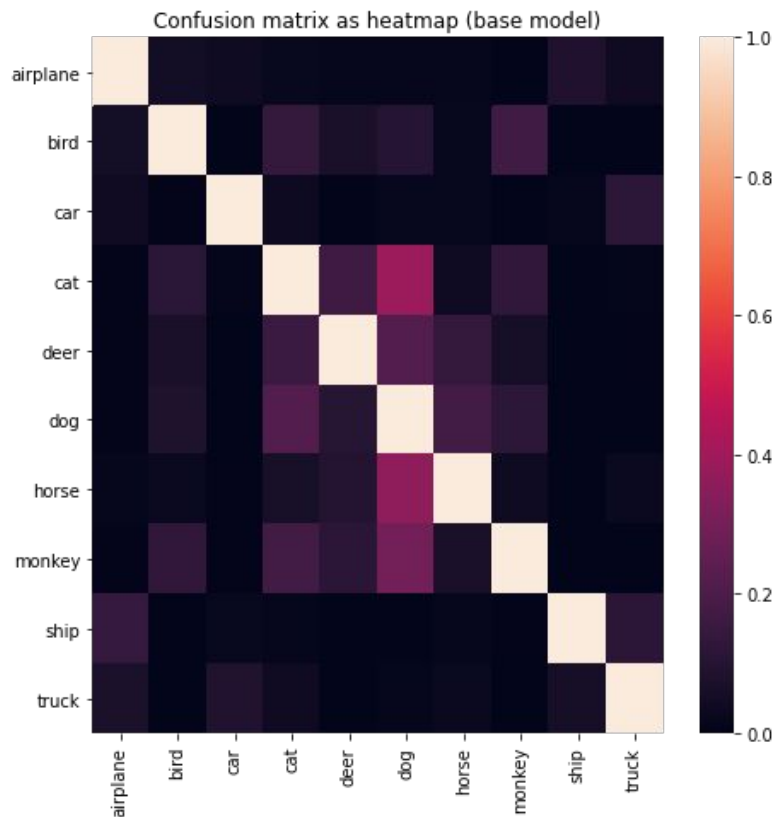
Classification report (final model)

	precision	recall	f1-score	support
airplane	0.73	0.74	0.74	800
bird	0.67	0.67	0.67	800
car	0.86	0.80	0.83	800
cat	0.53	0.49	0.51	800
deer	0.61	0.64	0.63	800
dog	0.44	0.54	0.48	800
horse	0.64	0.64	0.64	800
monkey	0.64	0.53	0.58	800
ship	0.79	0.80	0.79	800
truck	0.75	0.76	0.75	800
accuracy			0.66	8000
macro avg	0.67	0.66	0.66	8000
weighted avg	0.67	0.66	0.66	8000

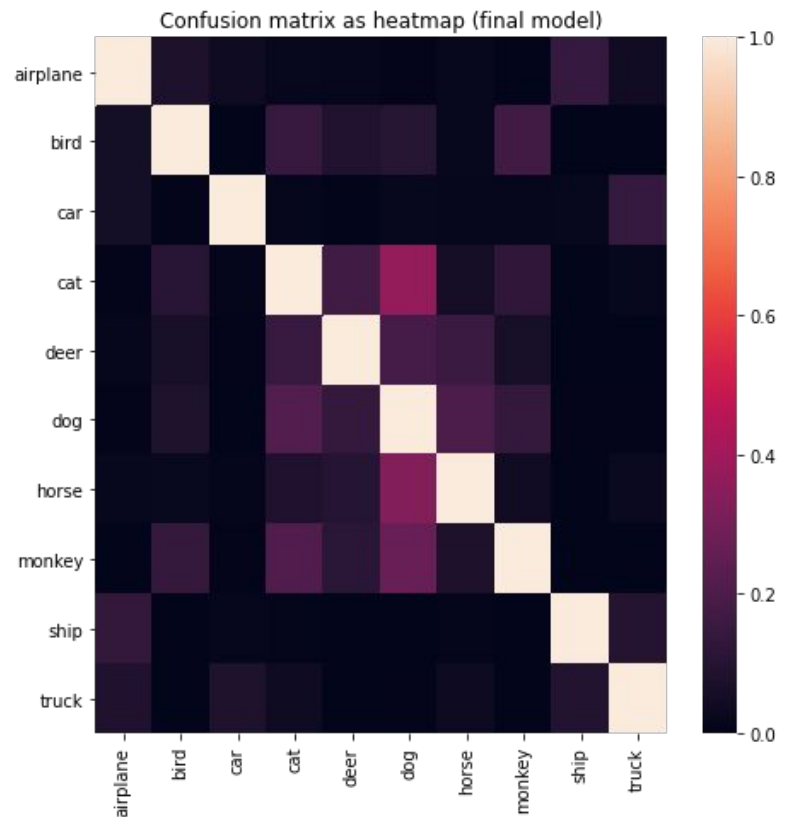


Models' evaluation - confusion matrix (as heatmap)

Base model



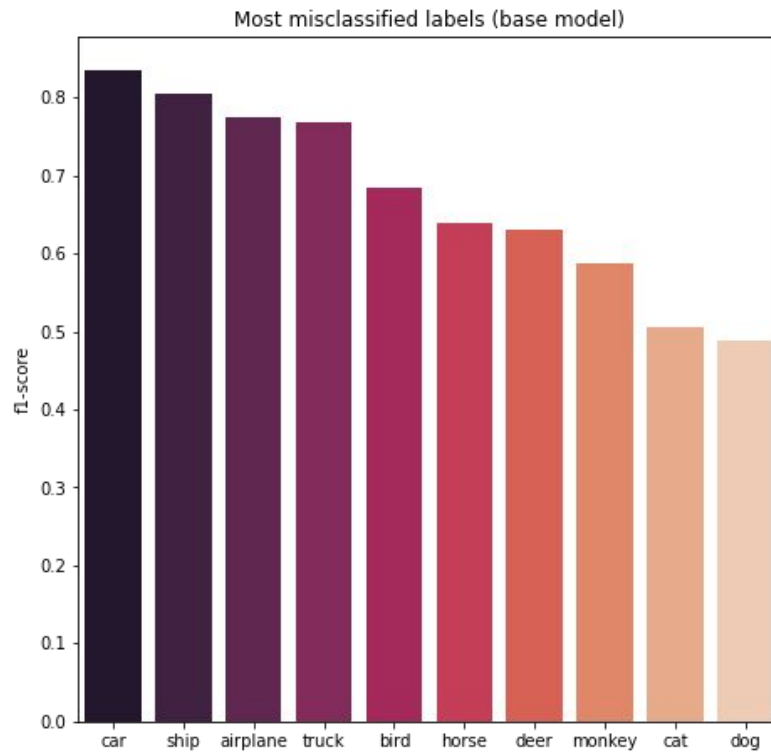
Final model



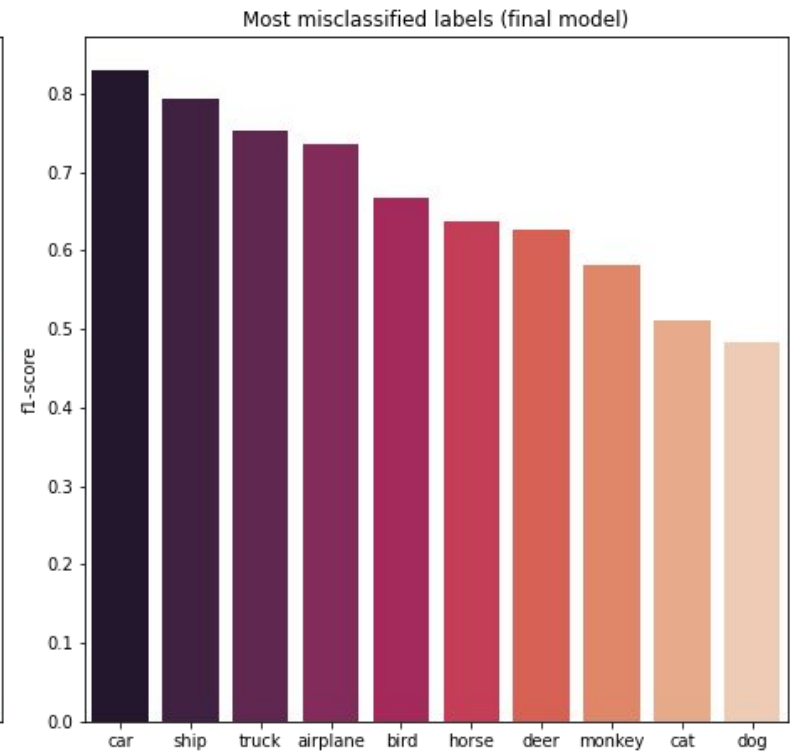


Models' evaluation - most misclassified labels

Base model



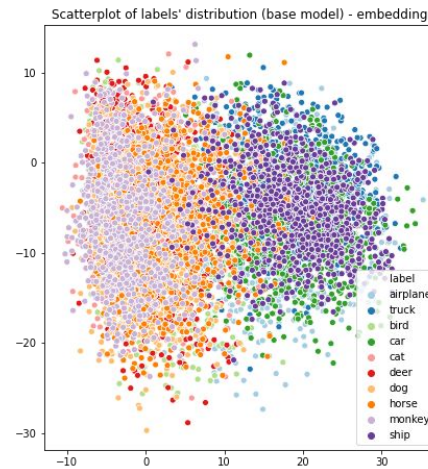
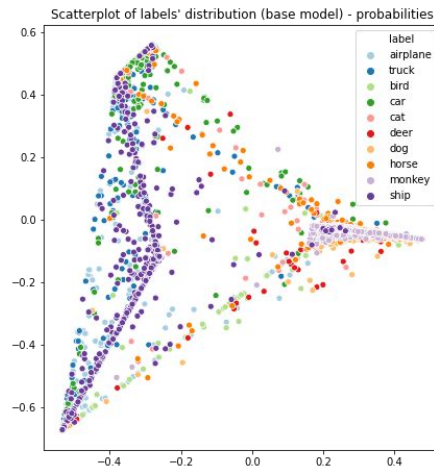
Final model



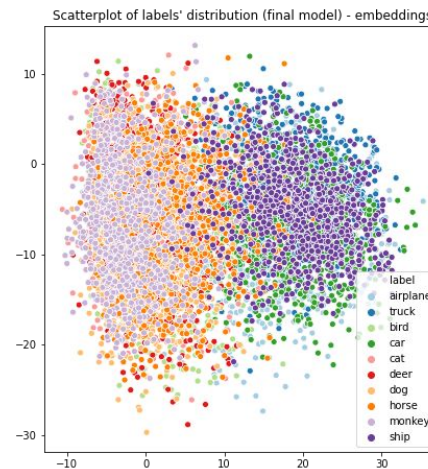
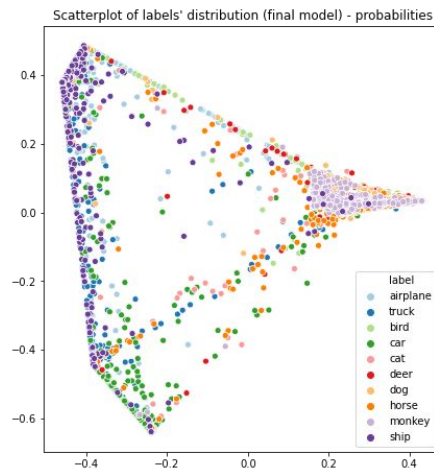


Models' evaluation - labels' distribution

Base model



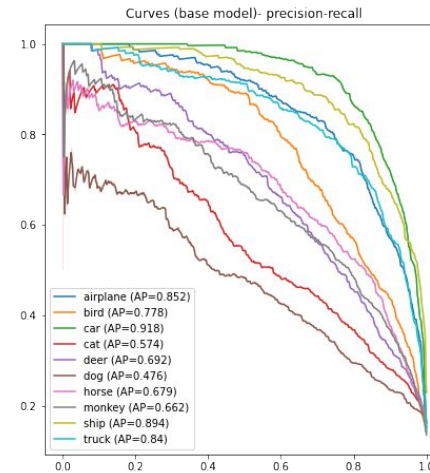
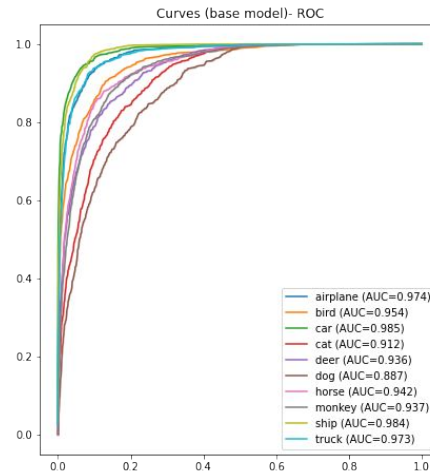
Final model



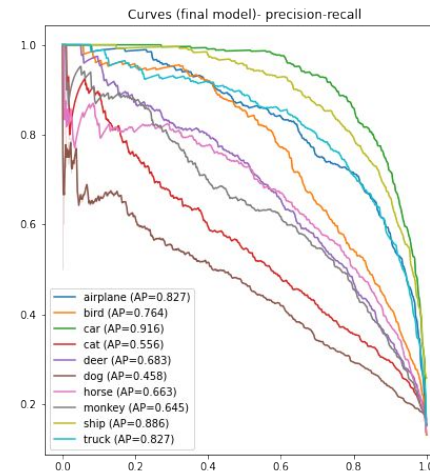
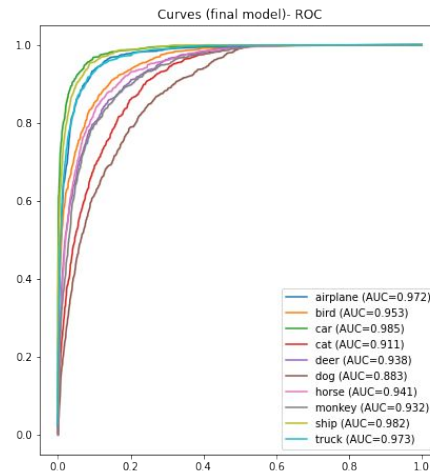


Models' evaluation - ROC and precision-recall curves

Base model



Final model







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Pipeline description

Images' search engine



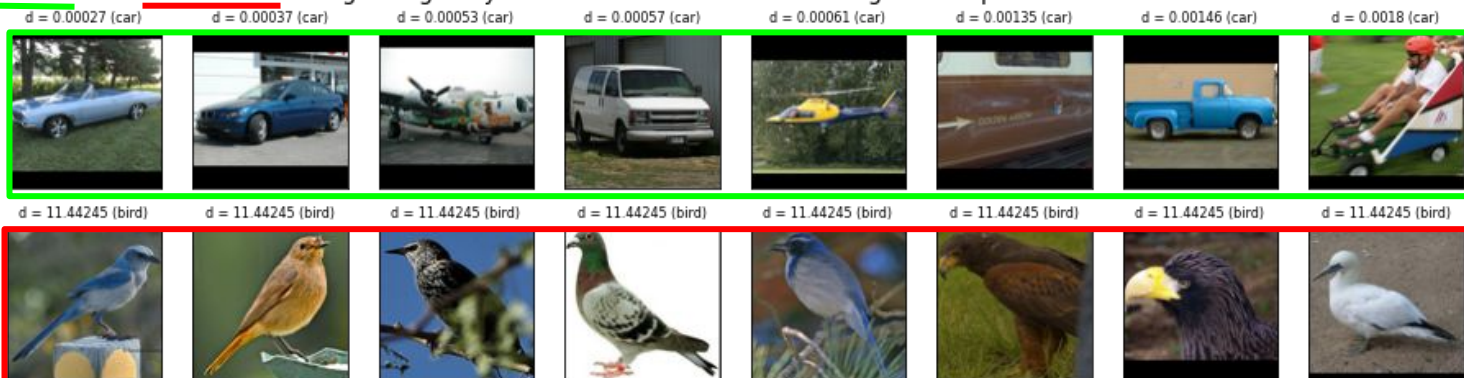
Images' search engine

- two distinct disjoint sets:
 - **query set** 
 - images in the test part of the dataset, as predicted by final_model
 - images in this set are used as queries in the search engine
 - **gallery set** 
 - images in the unlabeled part of the dataset, as predicted by final_model
 - images in this set composes the gallery of the search engine, so the images that can be returned as results of a query
- four **distance metrics**:
 - [Kullback-Leibler divergence](#)* on probabilities
 - L2 distance on probabilities
 - L2 distance on embeddings
 - Cosine distance on embeddings

Images' search engine - results on probabilities

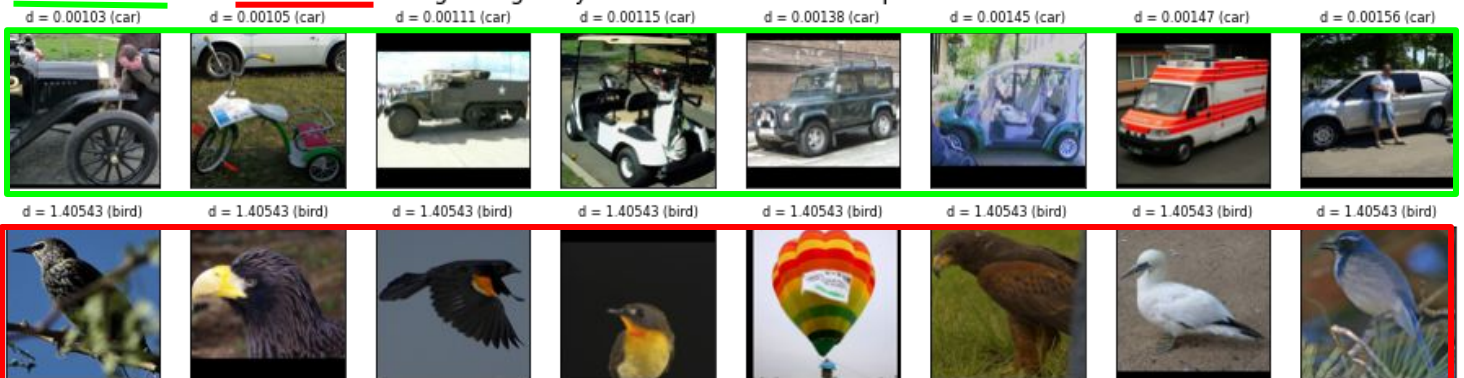
8 more similar and 8 less similar images in gallery based on Kullback-Leibler divergence on probabilities

query image (car)



8 more similar and 8 less similar images in gallery based on L2 distance on probabilities

query image (car)





Images' search engine - results on embeddings

8 more similar and 8 less similar images in gallery based on L2 distance on embeddings


query image (car)









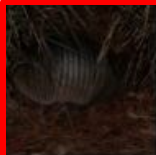



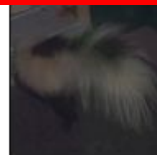
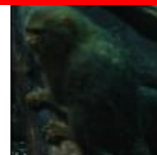




 d = 32.60393 (car)	 d = 32.91611 (ship)	 d = 33.24841 (car)	 d = 33.43817 (car)	 d = 33.78916 (car)	 d = 33.98036 (car)	 d = 34.63407 (car)	 d = 35.46261 (car)
 d = 65.91518 (airplane)	 d = 66.1891 (horse)	 d = 67.30697 (dog)	 d = 67.50826 (dog)	 d = 67.53149 (dog)	 d = 67.55959 (bird)	 d = 68.02354 (bird)	 d = 72.90643 (cat)

8 more similar and 8 less similar images in gallery based on cosine distance on embeddings

query image (car)



 d = 0.21682 (car)	 d = 0.22057 (car)	 d = 0.22791 (car)	 d = 0.22815 (ship)	 d = 0.23012 (car)	 d = 0.24266 (car)	 d = 0.24281 (car)	 d = 0.24529 (car)
 d = 0.95155 (cat)	 d = 0.95492 (dog)	 d = 0.96004 (cat)	 d = 0.96018 (monkey)	 d = 0.96252 (bird)	 d = 0.98178 (monkey)	 d = 0.98878 (bird)	 d = 1.02367 (monkey)



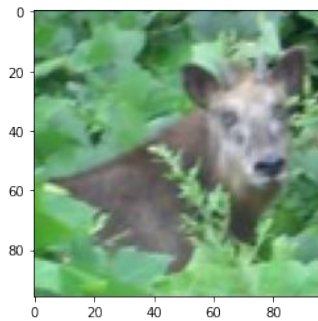
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Pipeline description

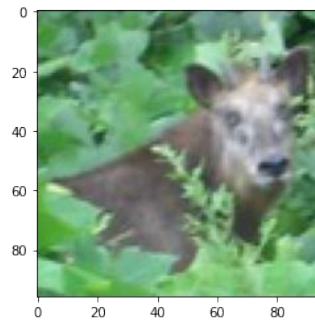
Example of adversarial attack

Black-Box Adversarial Attack

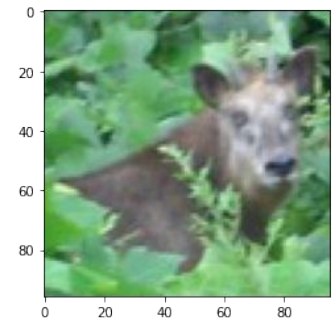
Original (deer)



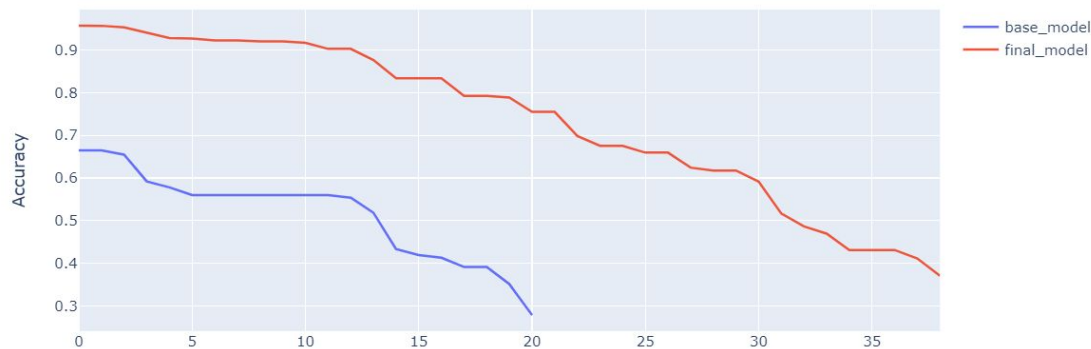
adversarial example:
base_model (dog)



adversarial example:
final_model (dog)



Confidence over iterations of attack





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Conclusions



Future work

- improve the classification models, maybe using a **state-of-the-art CNN** like [ResNet](#) (on GPU)
- perform an adversarial attack on the network to check **how the networks responds**
- **experiment with another approach** to semi-supervised classification such as virtual adversarial training*
- use **data augmentation**** techniques (random rotations, crops, jitter etc) to expand the labeled training set using the same images in a different perspective

* [Miyato et al., 2018, Virtual Adversarial Training: A Regularization Method for Supervised and SemiSupervised Learning](#)

** [Shorten, Khoshgoftaar, 2019, A survey on Image Data Augmentation for Deep Learning](#)



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Thank you for your attention! 🙌