# Improved robustness of deep learning models through posterior agreement based model selection

Master Thesis

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#### Experimental pathway

Posterior Agreement has been proposed as a theoretically-grounded alternative for model robustness assessment in covariate shift settings.

- 1. Characterization of the robustness problem and the sources of randomness that are relevant in the context of image classification tasks.
- 2. Properties of Posterior Agreement as a robustness metric.
- 3. Robustness assessment in the adversarial setting.
- 4. Robustness assessment in the out-of-distribution setting.
- 5. Model selection with early-stopping.

### The robustness challenge

#### The robustness challenge – Introduction

**Goal**: Maintain predictive power under expected variations in the data.

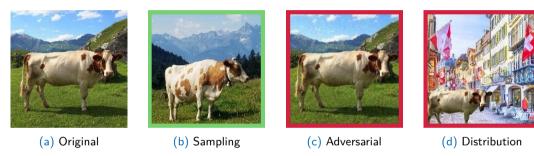


Figure: Illustrative example of the three expected sources of randomness in the context of image classification.

### The robustness challenge – Challenges

- Lack of understanding of the inductive bias.
- Robust vs non-robust features.
- Generalization-complexity trade-off.

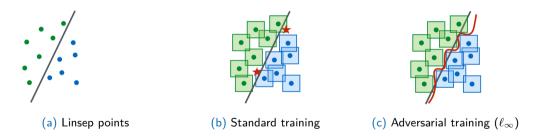


Figure: Standard vs adversarial training decision boundaries. [11]

## Learning framework

#### Learning framework – Introduction

**Goal**: Learn a target function  $f^*: \mathcal{X} \longmapsto \mathcal{Y}$  by means of an approximated function  $f \in \mathcal{F}$  using a finite set of observations.

- Images  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  belonging to  $K = |\mathcal{Y}|$  classes.
- $f^*$  encodes the causal structure underlying the data generation process.
- $\mathcal{F}$  is composed of NN-parametrized classifiers.

#### Learning framework – Model

**Definition** (*Classifier*): Let  $K \in \mathbb{N} < \infty$  be the cardinality of  $\mathcal{Y}$ .

$$f: \mathcal{X} \longmapsto \mathbb{R}^d \longmapsto \mathbb{R}^K \longmapsto \mathcal{Y} = \{1, \dots, K\}$$
  
 $x \longmapsto z \longmapsto \mathbf{F}(z) \longmapsto \hat{y} = \arg\max_k F_k(z)$ 

Under a NN parametrization  $\Gamma$ :

$$f: \mathcal{X} \times \Gamma \longmapsto \mathcal{Y} = \{1, \dots, K\}$$
  
 $(x, \gamma) \longmapsto f(x; \gamma) = \hat{y},$ 

### Learning framework – Algorithm

#### **Definition** (*K-class classification problem*):

ullet Let L be the cross-entropy loss function.

$$L(y) = -\log F_y(z; \gamma)$$

• Let  $\hat{R}(f)$  be the empirical risk.

$$\hat{R}(f) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^{N} L(f(x_n), f^{\star}(x_n))$$

$$\gamma^* = \arg\min_{\gamma \in \Gamma} -\frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^{N} \log F_{y_n}(x_n; \gamma) + \lambda \Omega(\gamma)$$

## Posterior Agreement

### Posterior Agreement

**Definition** (Hypothesis class) A data science algorithm learns a function fimplementing the following mapping:

$$f: \mathbf{X} \longmapsto \Theta$$
  
 $\mathbf{x} \longmapsto (f(x_1), \dots, f(x_N)) = \theta.$ 

**Definition** (*Posterior*) The posterior  $\mathbf{P}^f \in \mathfrak{P}^f$  establishes the stochastic relation between experiment realizations and hypotheses.

$$\mathbf{P}^f : \mathbf{X} \times \Theta \longmapsto \mathbb{R}$$

$$(\mathbf{x}, \theta) \longmapsto \mathbf{P}^f(\theta \mid \mathbf{x}).$$

#### Posterior Agreement

#### **Definition** (*Generalization error*):

- Let x' and x'' be realizations of X.
- Let  $\Theta$  be the hypothesis class represented by f given X.
- Let  $-\log \mathbf{P}^f(\cdot)$  be the description length of the posterior.

The generalization error is defined as the out-of-sample description length:

$$\boxed{\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{X}} = \mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{x}', \boldsymbol{x}''} \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{P}^f(\theta|\boldsymbol{x}')} \left[ -\log \frac{\mathbf{P}^f(\theta|\boldsymbol{x}'')}{\Pi^f(\theta)} \right].}$$

Intuitively, a low generalization error is obtained when good quality hypothesis on x''are likely to be drawn from x'.

**Lemma** (Posterior agreement): The generalization error  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{X}}$  is non-negative and has a lower bound  $-\mathcal{J}$ .

$$\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{X}} \geq \mathbb{E}_{x',x''} \left[ -\log \left( \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{P}^{f}(\theta|x')} \frac{\mathbf{P}^{f}(\theta \mid x'')}{\Pi^{f}(\theta)} \right) \right]$$

$$= \left[ \mathbb{E}_{x',x''} \left[ -\log \left( \sum_{\theta \in \Theta} \frac{\mathbf{P}^{f}(\theta \mid x') \mathbf{P}^{f}(\theta \mid x'')}{\Pi^{f}(\theta)} \right) \right] = -\mathcal{J} \right]$$

$$\geq -\log \left( \mathbb{E}_{x',x''} \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{P}^{f}(\theta \mid x')} \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{P}^{f}(\theta \mid x'')} \frac{\mathbf{P}^{f}(\theta \mid x'')}{\Pi^{f}(\theta)} \right) = 0,$$

where Jensen's inequality has been applied twice to the convex function  $-\log$ .

**Proposition**: Posterior agreement based model selection criterion.

$$\sup_{\mathcal{F}} \mathcal{J}$$
 s.t.  $\mathsf{KL}(\mathbf{\Pi}^f(\theta) \parallel |\Theta|^{-1}) \leq \xi,$ 

where  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}$  represents a small allowed deviation from uniformity in the prior.

**Theorem** (Maximum posterior agreement): The optimal  $P_*^f$  maximizing the posterior agreement criterion defines a lower bound in the generalization error  $\mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{X}}$ :

$$\inf_{\mathcal{F}} \mathcal{G}_{\mathcal{X}} \geq -\sup_{\mathcal{F}} \mathcal{J}.$$

**Proposition** (*Posterior Agreement kernel*): With no prior information about  $\Theta$ , the posterior agreement kernel for supervised K-class classification tasks has the following expression:

$$\operatorname{PA}\left(\boldsymbol{x}',\boldsymbol{x}'';\beta\right) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^{N} \log \left\{ \left|\Theta\right| \sum_{k=1}^{K} \mathbf{P}^{c}\left(k \mid x_{n}'\right) \mathbf{P}^{c}\left(k \mid x_{n}''\right) \right\},$$

where  $\mathbf{P}^c(j \mid x_n)$  can be shown to be

$$\mathbf{P}^{c}(k \mid x_{n}) = \frac{\exp(\beta F_{k}(x_{n}))}{\sum_{q=1}^{K} \exp(\beta F_{q}(x_{n}))}.$$

**Theorem.** The posterior agreement kernel for K-classification problems  $\mathrm{PA}\left(\boldsymbol{x}',\boldsymbol{x}'';\beta\right)$  has the following properties  $\forall \boldsymbol{x}',\boldsymbol{x}''\sim \boldsymbol{X}$  and  $\beta\in\mathbb{R}^+$ .

- P1 (Boundedness)  $PA(x', x''; \beta) \leq N \log K$ . Because  $\log_2 K$  bits are needed to encode a uniform distribution over the classes for each observation.
- P2 (Symmetry)  $PA(x', x''; \beta) = PA(x'', x'; \beta)$ . Because randomness instantiations are not observable.
- P3 (Concavity)  $PA(x', x''; \beta)$  is a concave function of  $\beta \in \mathbb{R}^+$ . Then the kernel optimization problem will have a unique solution.

In particular, the maximum value  $PA \equiv PA(x', x''; \beta^*)$  is bounded by the situations  $\beta^* \longrightarrow 0$  and  $\beta^* \longrightarrow \infty$ . Then:

$$-N \log K \le PA \le 0$$

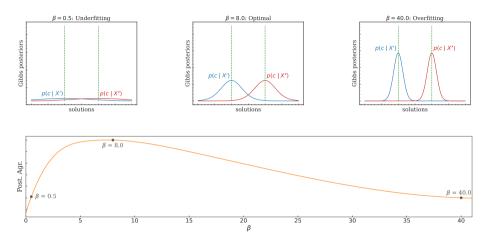


Figure: Illustration of the optimization over the inverse temperature parameter  $\beta$ . Posterior Agreement is maximum at a value  $\beta^*$  in which hypothesis selected from the posterior over x' are assigned a high probability by the posterior over  $\theta \mid x''$ .

## Robustness against covariate shift

#### Robustness against covariate shift – Robustness metric

**Proposition.** A robustness metric should possess the following properties:

- P1 (Non-increasing) The metric should be non-increasing with respect to the response of the model under increasing levels of covariate shift.
- P2 (Independent discriminability) The metric should discriminate models exclusively by their generalization capabilities against covariate shift. For instance, the metric should be independent of the task performance.

**Example I.** Consider the following classifiers in a balanced dataset:

Classifier	Performance	Robustness			
Perfect	1.0	Max.			
Constant	1/K	Max.			
Random	1/K	Min.			

A binary sample  $\mathbf{y} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \text{Bernoulli}(p)$  of size 1000 is generated, with  $p = \mathbf{P}_Y(y = 1)$ .

- For a perfect classifier, predictions are  $\hat{y}' = \hat{y}'' = y$ .
- For a constant classifier, predictions are  $\hat{y}' = \hat{y}'' = 0$ .
- For a random classifier, predictions  $\hat{y}', \hat{y}''$  are generated by randomly permuting y, so that the number of mismatched observations depends on the value of p.

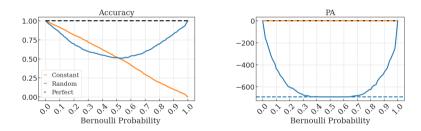
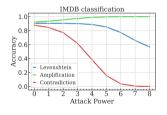


Figure: Evolution of PA and accuracy for constant, perfect and random classifiers across different values of  $p \in [0, 1]$ .

**Example II.** Consider a sentiment classifier in the IMDB dataset. x' is a sample of original reviews, and x'' is formed by manipulating every  $x \in x'$ .

- Levenshtein: Addition, removal or substitution of characters.
- Amplification: Addition of reinforcing adjectives.
- Contradiction: Addition of contradicting adjectives.



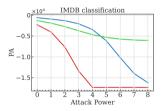


Figure: Accuracy and PA for the IMDB sentiment classification task under random and adversarial perturbations. The attack power is defined as  $2^W$ , being W the number of modifications performed.

## Adversarial setting

#### Adversarial setting – Attacks

**Definition** (*Perturbation*) Let  $\mathbf{B}_n^{\epsilon}(x)$  be the  $\ell_p$ -norm ball of radius  $\epsilon$  centered at observation x. A perturbation  $\Delta$  is defined as

$$\Delta \in \mathbb{R}^d$$
 s.t.  $x + \Delta \in \mathbf{B}_p^{\epsilon}(x)$ ,

**Attack** (*PGD*): Projected gradient descent.

$$x^{s+1} = \Pi_{\mathbf{B}_p^{\epsilon}(x)} (x^s + \Delta); \quad \Delta = \epsilon_p \operatorname{sign}(\nabla_{x'} \mathcal{L}(x', y; \gamma))$$

**Attack** (*FMN*): Fast minimum norm.

$$\begin{split} \Delta^{\star} &= \arg\min_{\Delta} \, ||\Delta||_p \\ \text{s.t.} \ &F_y(x;\gamma) - \max_{k \neq y} F_k(x;\gamma) < 0, \\ &x + \Delta \in \mathbf{B}^{\epsilon}_p(x). \end{split}$$

### Adversarial setting – Characterization

**Definition** (Adversarial ratio) Measures the ratio of perturbed observations in the dataset, also known as adversarial ratio  $\alpha \in [0,1]$ . The final adversarial dataset x'' will be generated as

$$x'' := \alpha x'' + (1 - \alpha)x', \quad x'' = x' + \Delta$$

**Definition** (Attack failure rate) Let  $\hat{y}', \hat{y}'' \in \mathcal{Y}^N$  be the predicted class labels for x'and x'', respectively, and let  $y \in \mathcal{Y}^N$  be the true labels.

$$AFR_T = Accuracy(\hat{\boldsymbol{y}}'', \boldsymbol{y}), \quad AFR_P = Accuracy(\hat{\boldsymbol{y}}'', \hat{\boldsymbol{y}}').$$

The variation of AFR with respect to  $\alpha$  is also reported:

$$\Delta \operatorname{AFR} = \operatorname{AFR}_{\mathsf{T}} \bigg|_{\alpha=1} - \operatorname{AFR}_{\mathsf{T}} \bigg|_{\alpha=0} = \operatorname{AFR}_{\mathsf{P}} \bigg|_{\alpha=1} - \operatorname{AFR}_{\mathsf{P}} \bigg|_{\alpha=0}$$

### Adversarial setting – Experimental setup

**Experimental setup.** CIFAR10 [10] is a balanced dataset containing 60.000 colored  $32 \times 32$ pixel images belonging to 10 different classes. We will consider a pre-trained WideResNet-28-10 [17] as a baseline, Undefended model and compare it to some state-of-the-art robust ResNet50 [7] models provided by the RobustBench [4] library under PGD [11] and FMN [12] attacks, both run for 1000 steps. The defenses applied are those proposed by Engstrom et al. [5], Athalye et al. [3], Wong et al. [14], Addepalli et al. [1] and Wang et al. [13].



Figure: Original and adversarially-perturbed CIFAR10 observation of class horse.

#### Adversarial setting – PGD

**Experiment 1.** A pre-trained, undefended WideResNet-28-10 and five RobustBench defended models are subject to a 1000 step PGD attack with  $\ell_{\infty}=8/255$ .

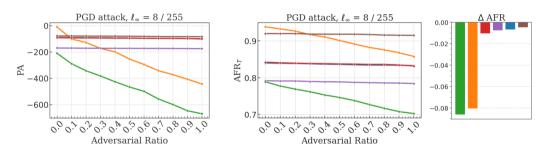


Figure: PA, AFR<sub>T</sub> and the AFR variation against increasing adversarial ratio  $\alpha \in [0, 1]$ .

#### Adversarial setting – PGD

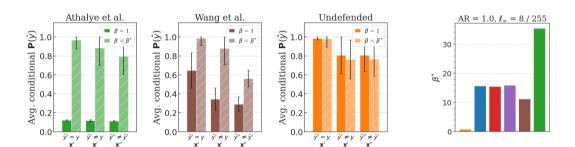
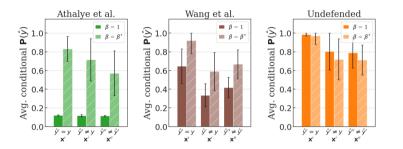


Figure: (left) Average posterior probability of the predicted class for correctly classified original observations, misclassified original observations and misleading adversarial observations. (right) Optimal  $\beta^*$  value achieved by each model.

#### Adversarial setting – FMN



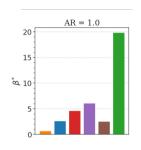


Figure: (**left**) Average posterior probability of the predicted class under FMN attack for correctly classified original observations, misclassified original observations, and misleading adversarial observations. (**right**) Optimal  $\beta^*$  value for each model.

#### Adversarial setting – PGD vs FMN

#### Comparison between metrics.

	-	$\alpha = 2/10$	)		$\alpha = 4/10$	)	$\alpha = 6/10$			
PGD	PA	$\operatorname{AFR}_{P}$	$\mathrm{AFR}_T$	PA	$\operatorname{AFR}_{P}$	$\mathrm{AFR}_T$	PA	$\operatorname{AFR}_{P}$	$\mathrm{AFR}_T$	
Addepalli et al.	-172.5	0.995	0.785	-175.5	0.992	0.786	-177.6	0.989	0.783	
Wong et al.	-97.7	0.996	0.838	-102.9	0.992	0.834	-109.2	0.987	0.830	
Engstrom et al.	-94.2	0.996	0.836	-104.6	0.990	0.830	-110.3	0.988	0.829	
Wang et al.	-81.9	0.997	0.917	-84.6	0.996	0.915	-89.4	0.991	0.912	
FMN	PA	$\operatorname{AFR}_{P}$	$\mathrm{AFR}_T$	PA	$\mathrm{AFR}_{P}$	$\mathrm{AFR}_T$	PA	$\mathrm{AFR}_{P}$	$\mathrm{AFR}_T$	
Addepalli et al.	-169.4	1.0	0.791	-385.4	0.944	0.737	-838.9	0.867	0.660	
Wong et al.	-111.2	0.991	0.834	-553.1	0.901	0.743	-944.8	0.810	0.653	
Engstrom et al.	-128.5	0.988	0.828	-592.9	0.907	0.747	-1020	0.836	0.675	
Wang et al.	-291.6	0.952	0.873	-726.8	0.861	0.781	-1204	0.764	0.684	

Table: Comparison of PA, AFR<sub>P</sub> and AFR<sub>T</sub> scores for a PGD attack with  $\ell_{\infty}=16/255$  and a FMN attack across different adversarial ratio values.

#### Adversarial setting - PGD vs FMN

**Approximated PA contributions.** A surrogate version of the PA kernel can be obtained considering the average posterior for the two main robustness contributions:

- Sampling randomness contribution  $\zeta_{\rm SAM}$ , accounting for  $N_{\rm SAM}$  misclassified observations in x' with average probability  $\rho_{\rm MIS}$ .
- Adversarial attack contribution  $\zeta_{\text{ADV}}$ , accounting for  $N_{\text{ADV}}$  misleading adversarial observations in  $\boldsymbol{x}''$  with average probability  $\rho_{\text{ADV}}$ .

	PGD, $\ell_{\infty}$ =16/255						FMN						
Defense	$N_{MIS}$	$ ho_{MIS}$	$\zeta_{SAM}$	$N_{ADV}$	$\rho_{ADV}$	$\zeta_{ADV} \parallel I$	$V_{MIS}$	$ ho_{\mathrm{MIS}}$	$\zeta_{SAM}$	$N_{ADV}$	$\rho_{ADV}$	$\zeta_{ADV}$	
Wang et al.	799	0.88	-468.62	47	0.56	-39.44	435	0.59	-1599.08	4215	0.67	-4637.45	
Engstrom et al.	1591	0.91	-566.72	67	0.61	-63.43	1125	0.64	-2469.65	2505	0.68	-2847.99	
Wong et al.	1562	0.91	-537.25	90	0.62	-88.98	1032	0.77	-1125.53	2920	0.73	-3844.40	
Addepalli et al.	2063	0.89	-877.42	75	0.54	-58.92   1	1507	0.74	-1910.69	2187	0.72	-2788.89	
Undefended	566	0.77	-736.63	810	0.76	-1173.55	412	0.72	-704.58	3132	0.71	-3906.55	
Athalye et al.	1915	0.88	-963.85	747	0.79	-1183.96	859	0.74	-2054.23	4679	0.57	-3955.43	

Table: Approximated PA contributions for a PGD attack with  $\ell_{\infty}$ =16/255 and a FMM attack.

## Out-of-distribution setting

### Out-of-distribution setting – Robust learners

- IRM (domain alignment): Regularization term that pushes towards the minimization of the dissimilarity of feature representations originated from different source environments [2].
- LISA (data augmentation): Artificial observations are generated by intra-domain and/or intra-label interpolation [15].



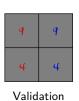
Figure: Mixup and Cutmix strategies can be used to interpolate between different labels and/or domains by generating intermediate observations. [16]

### Out-of-distribution setting – Experimental setup

**Experimental setup.** The DiagViB-6 dataset framework [6] comprises MNIST images of size 128x128 within an augmentation pipeline enabling the modification of six specific image factors: shape, hue, lightness, position, scale and texture. ERM, IRM [2] and LISA [15] algorithms were used to train a ResNet18 architecture for 100 epochs on dataset  $D^{\text{train}}$  using Adam [8] optimizer with a learning rate of  $10^{-3}$ . Accuracy on validation dataset  $D^{\text{val}}$  was monitored and weights achieving maximum performance were selected for evaluation.

$$\begin{split} D^{\mathsf{train}} &= \{\boldsymbol{x}_0^{\mathsf{train}}, \boldsymbol{x}_1^{\mathsf{train}}\}, \quad D^{\mathsf{val}} &= \{\boldsymbol{x}_0^{\mathsf{val}}, \boldsymbol{x}_1^{\mathsf{val}}\}, \\ D^{\mathsf{test}} &= \{\boldsymbol{x}_0^{\mathsf{test}}, \boldsymbol{x}_1^{\mathsf{test}}, \boldsymbol{x}_2^{\mathsf{test}}, \boldsymbol{x}_3^{\mathsf{test}}, \boldsymbol{x}_4^{\mathsf{test}}, \boldsymbol{x}_5^{\mathsf{test}}\}. \end{split}$$

















Test (0 - 5)

### Out-of-distribution setting – Non-paired samples

**Experiment 2.**  $D^{\text{val}}$  and  $D^{\text{test}}$  are each generated from a different MNIST sample.

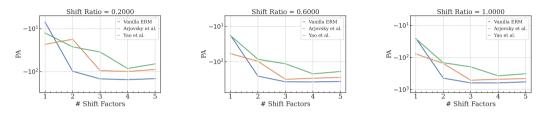


Figure: Evolution of PA under increasing levels of shift power and shift ratio  $\alpha$ .

	1 Shifted Factor			3 Sł	nifted Fac	tors	5 Shifted Factors			
	PA	$\operatorname{AFR}_{P}$	$\mathrm{AFR}_T$	PA	$\mathrm{AFR}_{P}$	$\mathrm{AFR}_T$	PA	$\mathrm{AFR}_{P}$	$\mathrm{AFR}_T$	
Vanilla ERM	-24.91	0.999	0.993	-625.6	0.979	0.975	-579.4	0.976	0.873	
Arjovsky et al.										
Yao et al.	-26.21	0.999	0.994	-201.2	0.985	0.980	-324.4	0.988	0.945	

Table: Comparison of PA, AFR<sub>P</sub> and AFR<sub>T</sub> scores for  $\alpha = 1$ .

### Model selection

#### Model selection – Challenges

- Agreement between predictive outcomes across different samples no longer guarantees that the set of features learned are relevant for the task at hand.
- A classifier overfitting to specific features during training would lower its performance on validation data and simultaneously be considered robust.
- The ultimate measure of domain adaptation capabilities is accuracy on target domains.
  - **Experiment 1.** Access to target domains for model selection purposes is sequentially increased. In most cases,  $x_0^{\text{val}}$  will belong to the source.
  - **Experiment 2.** The inductive bias of the model is artificially manipulated to encode shortcut learning opportunities.

## Model selection – Experiment 1

**Experimental setup.** Both position and hue are considered as learning factors.

	Env.	Hue	Lightness	Position	Scale	Texture	Shape
Training	0	red	dark	CC	large	blank	1,4,7,9
Training	1	blue	dark	CC	large	blank	1,4,7,9
Validation	0	red	dark	CC	large	blank	1,4,7,9
SD	1	red	dark	CC	large	blank	1,4,7,9
ID	1	blue	dark	CC	large	blank	1,4,7,9
1F-MD	1	magenta	dark	CC	large	blank	1,4,7,9
5F-MD	1	green	bright	UL	small	tiles	1,4,7,9
Validation OOD	0	yellow	dark	CC	large	blank	1,4,7,9
validation OOD	1	magenta	dark	CC	large	blank	1,4,7,9

Table: Factors associated with each of the environments considered in this experiment (hue). CC and UL account for 'centered center' and 'upper left', respectively.

## Model selection – Experiment 1

	Ac	c. Tes	t 0	Ac	c. Tes	t 1	Ac	c. Tes	t 2	Ac	c. Tes	t 3	Ac	c. Tes	t 4	Ac	c. Tes	t 5
IRM	Acc.	$AFR_P$	PA	Acc.	$AFR_P$	PA	Acc.	$AFR_P$	PA	Acc.	$AFR_P$	PA	Acc.	$AFR_P$	PA	Acc.	$AFR_P$	PA
SD	99.3	99.3	99.3	71.5	71.5	83.3	70.6	70.6	91.9	65.3	65.3	85.9	75.0	75.0	66.5	28.8	28.8	46.7
ID	99.4	99.4	99.4	44.3	44.3	44.3	88.1	88.1	88.1	76.1	76.1	76.1	59.4	59.4	59.4	45.2	45.2	45.2
1F-MD	99.4	99.4	99.4	44.3	44.3	44.3	88.1	88.1	88.1	76.1	76.1	76.1	59.4	59.4	59.4	45.2	45.2	45.2
5F-MD	99.4	99.4	99.3	31.2	31.2	83.3	88.7	88.7	91.9	73.8	73.8	85.9	65.5	65.5	66.5	50.2	50.2	46.7
OOD	99.5	99.5	99.5	62.4	62.4	62.4	90.1	90.1	90.1	84.1	84.1	84.1	52.2	52.2	52.2	42.6	42.6	42.6
LISA	Acc.	$AFR_P$	PA	Acc.	$AFR_P$	PA	Acc.	$AFR_P$	PA	Acc.	$AFR_P$	PA	Acc.	$AFR_P$	PA	Acc.	$AFR_P$	PA
SD	99.3	99.3	99.4	88.4	88.4	83.1	53.9	53.9	78.5	57.9	57.9	80.5	63.1	63.1	77.0	38.8	38.8	35.4
ID	99.5	99.5	99.5	59.2	59.2	88.8	62.5	62.5	60.4	71.7	71.7	76.8	70.9	70.9	71.5	35.2	35.2	36.4
1F-MD	99.5	99.5	99.5	88.88	88.8	88.88	54.4	54.4	54.4	76.8	76.8	76.8	71.5	71.5	71.5	36.4	36.4	36.4
5F-MD	99.2	99.2	99.4	86.6	86.6	85.1	71.1	71.1	74.8	77.3	77.3	83.7	73.7	73.7	81.9	49.4	49.4	48.6
OOD	99.3	99.2	99.2	91.8	95.8	84.4	59.0	63.0	83.0	77.6	79.0	88.0	73.8	73.6	84.8	34.4	40.4	47.3

Table: Test performance under increasing levels of shift for models selected through different configurations of validation datasets. PA, AFRP and accuracy are used as early stopping criteria for model selection in the hue factor experiment.

## Model selection - Experiment 2

**Experimental setup.** Both position and hue are considered as learning factors. The setting for ID model selection (i.e. domain adaptation) requires that validation datasets contain the same configuration of factors than the training datasets. Experiments will be performed for ZGO, ZSO and single, double and triple CGO.

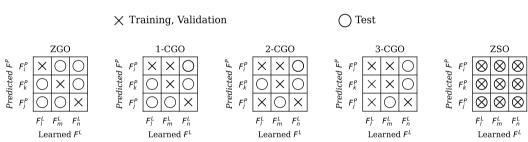


Figure: Representation of the co-occurrence pattern in between learning factors  $F^L$  and predicted factors  $F^P$  for the ZGO, CGO and ZSO settings that will be considered in this experiment.

### Model selection – Experiment 2

	Te	st 1	Te	st 2	Τe	st 3	Τe	st 4	Τe	est 5
ERM	Acc.	$\Delta Acc.$	Acc.	$\Delta Acc.$	Acc.	$\Delta Acc.$	Acc.	$\Delta Acc.$	Acc.	$\Delta Acc.$
ZGO	53.2	±0.01	54.6	±0.01	55.7	<b>±</b> 0.01	66.7	±0.01	66.6	±0.01
1-CGO	62.9	+9.5	64.7	+10.2	60.8	+0.3	62.9	+2.2	64.2	+0.5
2-CGO	69.1	+9.4	71.2	+7.8	71.9	+0.3	76.2	-2.4	77.0	-2.8
3-CGO	73.1	+16.6	85.6	+3.6	70.1	+9.7	71.4	+6.4	72.1	+6.7
ZSO	99.6	±0.01	92.8	-0.1	89.9	+0.2	85.9	$\pm 0.01$	85.9	$\pm 0.01$
IRM	Acc.	$\Delta Acc.$	Acc.	$\Delta Acc$ .	Acc.	$\Delta Acc.$	Acc.	$\Delta Acc$ .	Acc.	$\Delta Acc$ .
ZGO	50.1	+5.9	50.5	+4.9	52.8	+9.5	64.4	+1.1	64.9	+1.2
1-CGO	63.0	+7.0	65.9	+7.6	59.4	+2.2	60.1	+2.2	59.0	+1.8
2-CGO	69.0	+10.6	69.7	+10.0	67.5	+4.7	64.5	+13.0	65.1	+12.6
3-CGO	79.5	+11.6	83.0	+9.8	73.6	+10.9	70.7	+11.0	72.2	+11.3
ZSO	99.4	+0.1	93.4	+1.3	89.2	+0.2	87.0	+1.6	87.0	+1.6

Table: Test performance under increasing levels of shift for models selected through different configurations of factor co-occurrence for the hue learning factor experiment. Specifically, the performance of models selected through validation accuracy (Acc) and the difference between accuracy-based and PA-based selection ( $\Delta$ Acc) is reported.

## Domain adaptation in WILDS

#### WILDS - Dataset 1

**Experiment 1.** The waterbirds dataset was considered. The classes waterbird and landbird are influenced by a spurious correlation with the background.

	Training	Validation	Test
Ratio water / land	$\sim 2.86$	$\sim 1$	$ \sim 1$

Table: Average and worst-case test accuracy for the waterbirds [9] dataset.

#### WILDS - Dataset 2

**Experiment 2.** The **celebA** dataset was considered. The classification task involves the prediction of hair color from images of American celebrities. The subpopulation shift arises from the spurious correlation with the gender.

	blonde	not blonde
Male	1741	89931
Female	28234	82685

	Ave	erage A	Acc.	Worst-case Acc Acc. AFR <sub>P</sub> PA				
	Acc.	$AFR_P$	PA	Acc.	$AFR_P$	PA		
ERM	97.80	98.27	98.27	97.76	97.77	97.77		
IRM	98.12	98.41	98.27 98.41	98.06	98.05	98.05		

Table: Average and worst-case test accuracy for the celebA [9] dataset.

#### WII DS - Dataset 3

**Experiment 3.** The camelyon17 dataset was considered. The classification task involves the identification of tumor tissue in lymph node patches sampled from different hospitals. The out-of-distribution setting originates from the differences in the samples taken from different hospitals.

Hospital	1	2	3	4
Training	53425	116959	132052	-
Validation	6011	12879	14670	-
Test	-	-	-	85054

	<b>Accuracy</b> Acc. AFR <sub>P</sub> PA						
ERM	86.73	86.73 67.98 <b>81.8</b>	86.73				
IRM	67.98	67.98	67.98				
LISA	81.1	81.8	81.8				

Table: Test accuracy for the camelyon17 [9] dataset.

## Conclusions

#### Conclusions

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