#### Domain Adaptation as A Problem of Inference on Graphical Models

#### Mingming Gong



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Kun Zhang<sup>1</sup>\*, Mingming Gong<sup>2</sup>\*, Petar Stojanov<sup>3</sup> Biwei Huang<sup>1</sup>, Qingsong Liu<sup>4</sup>, Clark Glymour<sup>1</sup> <sup>1</sup> Department of philosophy, Carnegie Mellon University <sup>2</sup> School of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Melbourne <sup>3</sup> Computer Science Department, Carnegie Mellon University, <sup>4</sup> Unisound AI Lab kunz1@cmu.edu, mingming.gong@unimelb.edu.au, liuqingsong@unisound.com {pstojano, biweih, cg09}@andrew.cmu.edu

#### Abstract

This paper is concerned with data-driven unsupervised domain adaptation, where it is unknown in advance how the joint distribution changes across domains, i.e., what factors or modules of the data distribution remain invariant or change across domains. To develop an automated way of domain adaptation with multiple source domains, we propose to use a graphical model as a compact way to encode the change property of the joint distribution, which can be learned from data, and then view domain adaptation as a problem of Bayesian inference on the graphical models. Such a graphical model distinguishes between constant and varied modules of the distribution and specifies the properties of the changes across domains, which serves as prior knowledge of the changing modules for the purpose of deriving the posterior of the target variable Y in the target domain. This provides an end-to-end framework of domain adaptation, in which additional knowledge about how the joint distribution changes, if available, can be directly incorporated to improve the graphical representation. We discuss how causality-based domain adaptation can be put under this umbrella. Experimental results on both synthetic and real data demonstrate the efficacy of the proposed framework for domain adaptation. The code is available at https://github.com/mgong2/DA\_Infer.

#### **Domain Adaptation**

- X feature (covariate)
- Y label (target)



#### Covariate shift

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{P}_{XY} &= \mathbb{P}_X \mathbb{P}_{Y|X} \quad \mathbb{P}_X^S \neq \mathbb{P}_X^T \quad \mathbb{P}_{Y|X}^S = \mathbb{P}_{Y|X}^T \\ \text{Instance reweighting} \\ &R &= \int \mathbb{P}^T(x, y) \ell(x, y) dx dy \\ &= \int \frac{\mathbb{P}^T_X(x)}{\mathbb{P}^S(x)} \mathbb{P}^S(x, y) \ell(x, y) dx dy \end{split} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Invariant Feature Learning} \\ \text{find} \quad X' = h(X), \\ \text{such that} \quad \mathbb{P}_{X'}^S = \mathbb{P}_{X'}^T \end{split}$$

Maximum Mean Discrepancy (MMD), optimal transport, adversarial loss...

- Why  $\mathbb{P}_X^S \neq \mathbb{P}_X^T \mathbb{P}_{Y|X}^S = \mathbb{P}_{Y|X}^T$ ? What if  $\mathbb{P}_{Y|X}^S \neq \mathbb{P}_{Y|X}^T$ ?

Shimodaira, Hidetoshi. Improving predictive inference under covariate shift by weighting the log-likelihood function. Journal of Statistical Planning and Inference. 2000.





P(Meat cooked | Flame, Meat on) is invariant

#### Modularity



P(Meat cooked | Flame, Meat on) is invariant

https://plato.stanford.edu/entries/causal-models/

## Causal Model for DA

• Bridge between probability distributions



- Independent causal mechanism
- $\begin{array}{c} C-Cause \\ E-Effect \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} \hline \\ \mathbb{P}_C \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \mathbb{P}_{E|C} \text{ (causal mechanism)} \end{array}$

## Without confounder, $\mathbb{P}_C$ and $\mathbb{P}_{E|C}$ do not contain information about each other.

Schölkopf, Bernhard, et al. "On causal and anticausal learning." *arXiv preprint arXiv:1206.6471* (2012).



 $Y \to X$ 

• Y is usually the cause of X (especially for classification)



Zhang, Kun, et al. Domain adaptation under target and conditional shift. ICML13 Gong, Zhang, et al. Domain adaptation with conditional transferable components. ICML16

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Gong, Zhang, et al. Domain adaptation with conditional transferable components. ICML16 Zhang, Kun, et al. Domain adaptation under target and conditional shift. ICML13

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#### Problems

- The causal graph and the invariance/changing causal modules are assumed to be known
- The algorithms do not make full use of the causal generative process
- Learning causal graphs from observational data is a hard.

## Inference on Graphical Models



- Automated way to model change and invariance properties in the joint distribution
  - Factorize the joint distribution according to an augmented directed acyclic graph (DAG)
  - Formulate domain adaptation as a Bayesian inference problem on the augmented DAG



- DAG encodes conditional independence relations
- Encode distribution change by augmenting DAG with  $oldsymbol{ heta}$ 
  - $\theta_i$  are independent independent change
  - $\theta$  follows a prior distribution  $P(\theta)$
- Data generating process
  - Generate  $\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(\boldsymbol{i})}$  from  $P(\boldsymbol{\theta})$
  - Given  $oldsymbol{ heta}^{(i)}$ , sample data from the distribution in the i-th domain:

 $P(\mathbf{X}, Y | \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(i)}) = P(X_1 | \theta_1^{(i)}) P(Y | X_1, \theta_Y^{(i)}) P(X_5 | Y) P(X_2 | Y, X_4, \theta_2^{(i)}) P(X_3 | Y, X_2, \theta_3^{(i)}) \times P(X_4) P(X_6 | X_4, \theta_6^{(i)}) P(X_7 | X_3).$ 

#### **Relation to Causal Graphs**



(a) The underlying data generating process of Example 1. Y generates (causes) X, and S denotes the selection variable (a data point is included if and only if S = 1).



(c) The generating process of Example 2. L is a confounder; the mechanism of X changes across domains, as indicated by  $\eta_X$ .



(b) The augmented DAG representation for Example 1 to explain how the data distribution changes across domains.



(d) The augmented DAG representation for Example 2 to explain how the data distribution changes across domains.

#### **Bayesian Inference**





#### **Benefits of Bayesian Treatment**



# Graph Learning: Skeleton learning and changing module detection

- Using Domain Index C as a surrogate variable and apply Constraint-based search on C and the observed features and labels.
  - Detecting Changing Causal Modules
  - Obtain the Skeleton of the graph



Huang, B., Zhang, K., Zhang, J., Ramsey, J., Sanchez-Romero, R., Glymour, C., & Schölkopf, B. (2020). Causal discovery from heterogeneous/nonstationary data. *Journal of Machine Learning Research*, *21*(89), 1-53.

#### Graph Learning: Determine edge direction

Independent changes in P(cause) and P(effect|cause)



**Special** cases: if  $C - V_k - V_l$ , since  $C \rightarrow V_k$ , we known

- $C \to V_k \leftarrow V_l$ , if  $C \perp V_l$  given a variable set **excluding**  $V_k$  invariant cause  $C \to V_k \to V_l$  if  $C \perp V_l$  given a variable set **excluding**  $V_k$  invariant
- $C \to V_k \to V_l$ , if  $C \perp V_l$  given a variable set **including**  $V_k$

Invariant mechanism

#### **Approximate Inference**

Latent variable conditional GAN



Approximate inference

$$\begin{split} \log p(\mathcal{D}) &\geq -\sum_{i=1}^{s} \mathrm{KL}(q(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathcal{D}^{i})|p(\boldsymbol{\theta})) + \mathbb{E}_{q(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathcal{D}^{i})} \Big[ \sum_{k=1}^{m_{i}} \log p_{g}(\mathbf{x}_{k}^{(i)}, y_{k}^{(i)}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) \Big] \\ &- \mathrm{KL}(q(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathcal{D}^{\tau})|p(\boldsymbol{\theta})) + \mathbb{E}_{q(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathcal{D}^{\tau})} \Big[ \sum_{k=1}^{m} \log p_{g}(\mathbf{x}_{k}^{\tau}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) \Big]. \\ &q(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathcal{D}^{i}) = \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\boldsymbol{\mu}^{(i)}, \sigma^{(i)}), q(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathcal{D}^{\tau}) = \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\boldsymbol{\mu}^{\tau}, \sigma^{\tau}). \end{split}$$

#### **Digits Adaptation**

Table 3: Accuracy on the digits data. T: MNIST; M: MNIST-M; S: SVHN; D: SynthDigits.

	weigh	poolNN	poolDANN	Hard-Max	Soft-Max	poolNN_Ours	Infer
S + M + D/T	75.5	93.8	92.5	97.6	97.9	94.9	96.64
T + S + D/M	56.3	56.1	65.1	66.3	68.7	59.6	89.89
M + T + D/S	60.4	77.1	77.6	80.2	81.6	67.8	89.34
1/1/1/1 22222 333333 444444 555555 666666 77777 8888888 99999	222 333 444 555	202 0 (1) 108   10 1 1 1 1   12 124 2 2 2   137 3 3 3 3   45 4 4 4 4   15 52 15 5 5   16 16 6 6 1   17 7 37 173 38   18 8 38 38 38   9 19 19 19 19 19	0 0 20 0 50 20   1 16 7 1 4 4 1 1   2 23 2	9999	0 0000 0 000   1 1 1 1 1   2 2 2 2 2 2   3 3 3 3 3 3 3   3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3   3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3   3 4074 4 46 540 5 </td <td>9 2 2 9 7 9</td> <td>0 0 0   1 1   2 2   3 2 3   4 4 4   5 5 3   4 4 4   5 5 3   6 6 6 6   7 3 9 8   8 9 8 9</td>	9 2 2 9 7 9	0 0 0   1 1   2 2   3 2 3   4 4 4   5 5 3   4 4 4   5 5 3   6 6 6 6   7 3 9 8   8 9 8 9
MNIST		SVHN		SynthDigits		MNIST-M	

Gong, M., Xu, Y., Li, C., Zhang, K., & Batmanghelich, K. (2019). Twin auxilary classifiers GAN. In *Advances in neural information processing systems* (pp. 1330-1339).

#### WiFi Localization



- Localize mobile devices from the WiFi signals.
- Transfer between different time periods

#### WiFi Localization



	DICA	weigh	LMP	poolSVM	Soft-Max	poolNN	Infer
$\texttt{t2},\texttt{t3}\rightarrow\texttt{t1}$	29.32(2.5)	43.71(3.02)	46.80(1.4)	40.25(1.6)	44.86(5.1)	42.88(1.6)	70.8(2.7)
$\texttt{t1},\texttt{t3}\rightarrow\texttt{t2}$	24.5(3.6)	38.19(1.9)	39.11(2.1)	48.70(1.8)	44.95(4.4)	47.41(2.1)	84.5(2.9)
$\texttt{t1},\texttt{t2}\rightarrow\texttt{t3}$	21.7(3.9)	36.03(1.85)	39.28(2.05)	40.46(1.4)	43.63(4.1)	41.00(1.8)	83.0(7.3)

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#### Conclusion

- Augmented DAG encodes conditional independence relations and distribution change properties, which are sufficient for domain adaptation.
- Prediction in the target domain can be cast as Bayesian inference on the augmented DAG.
- Practical implementation: Approximate Inference + modeling conditional distributions using conditional GAN