

# Revisiting ImprovedGAN with Metric Learning for Semi-Supervised Learning

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## Objective and Contribution

**Objective:** The adversarial loss in ImprovedGAN is analyzed under a metric learning framework, General Pair Weighting.

**Contributions:**

- Its theoretical properties related to class-wise cluster separation are observed, and further verified experimentally.
- In particular, adversarial losses in ImprovedGAN is observed to induce class-wise cluster separation on the features of all samples (both labeled and unlabeled).
- Based on the finding, two techniques are provided to enhance the class-wise cluster separation characteristic.

## Preliminary

**ImprovedGAN:** Given a labeled set  $\mathcal{L} = \{(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_{|\mathcal{L}|}, y_{|\mathcal{L}|})\}$  with  $K$  classes, ImprovedGAN is trained by minimizing

$$\min_D L_u + L_s \quad (1)$$

and

$$\min_G L_g = \left\| \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim p_x} \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) - \mathbb{E}_{\hat{\mathbf{x}} \sim p_G(\mathbf{z})} \mathbf{f}(\hat{\mathbf{x}}) \right\|_1 \quad (2)$$

in an alternating manner for the discriminator  $D$  and generator  $G$  where  $L_u$  is the unsupervised discriminator loss

$$L_u = - \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim p_x} \log q(y \leq K | \mathbf{x}) - \mathbb{E}_{\hat{\mathbf{x}} \sim p_G(\mathbf{z})} \log q(y = K + 1 | \hat{\mathbf{x}}), \quad (3)$$

$L_s = - \mathbb{E}_{(\mathbf{x}, y) \sim \mathcal{L}} \log q(y | \mathbf{x}, y \leq K)$  is the supervision loss. The class predictor  $q$  is modeled by  $q(y = k | \mathbf{x}) = \frac{e^{s_{kj}(\mathbf{x})}}{1 + \sum_{j=1}^K e^{s_{kj}(\mathbf{x})}}$  with  $s_{K+1} = 0$  and the  $K + 1$ -th class serving as a fake class.

## Observations

The role of the adversarial losses, namely,  $L_u$  and  $L_g$  is analyzed.

**As a Metric Learning Loss:**  $L_u$  is written as

$$L_u = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \left[ \log \left( 1 + \frac{1}{\sum_{j=1}^K e^{s_{ij}}} \right) + \log \left( 1 + \sum_{j=1}^K e^{\hat{s}_{ij}} \right) \right] \quad (4)$$

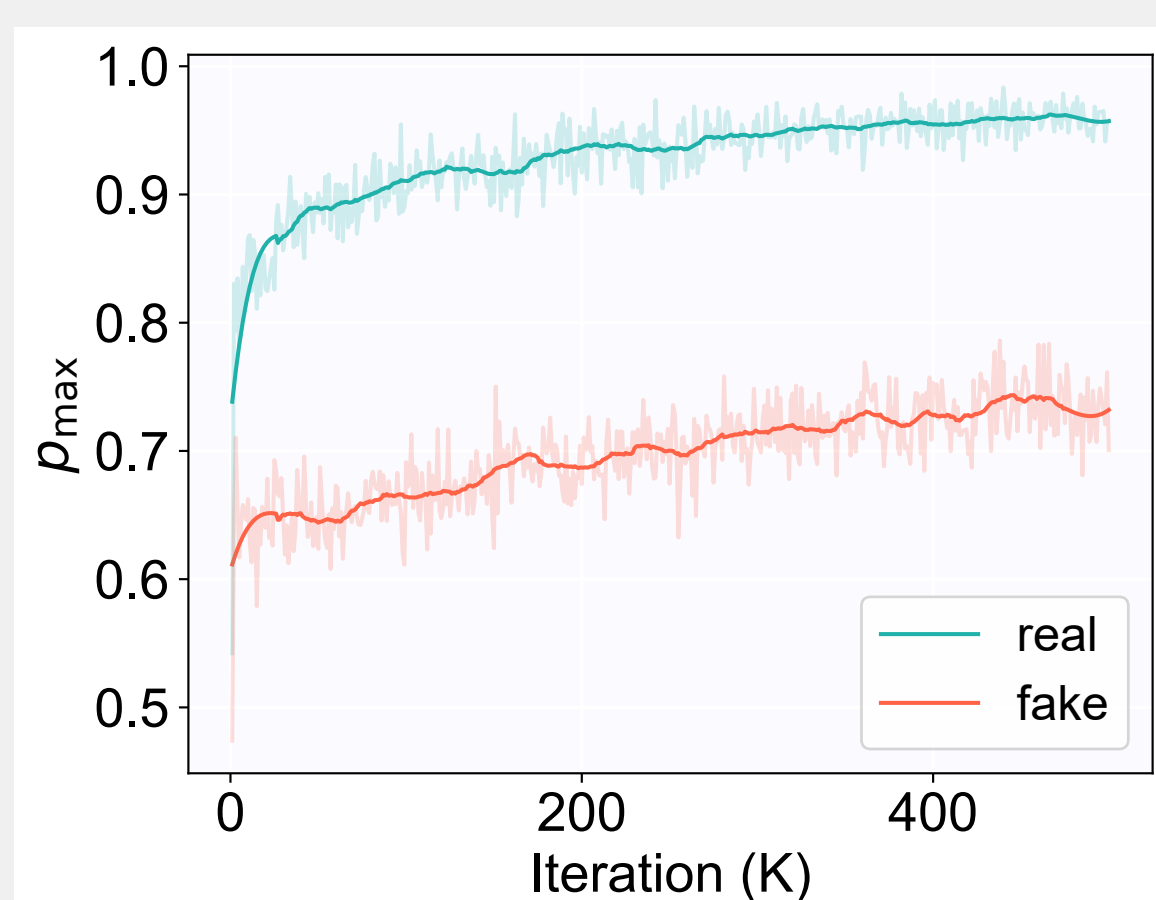
where the **similarity**  $s_{ij}$  is between the feature  $\mathbf{f}_i = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_i)$  and class weight vector  $\mathbf{w}_j$ :

$$s_{ij} = \mathbf{f}_i \cdot \mathbf{w}_j = \|\mathbf{f}_i\| \|\mathbf{w}_j\| \cos \theta_{ij}. \quad (5)$$

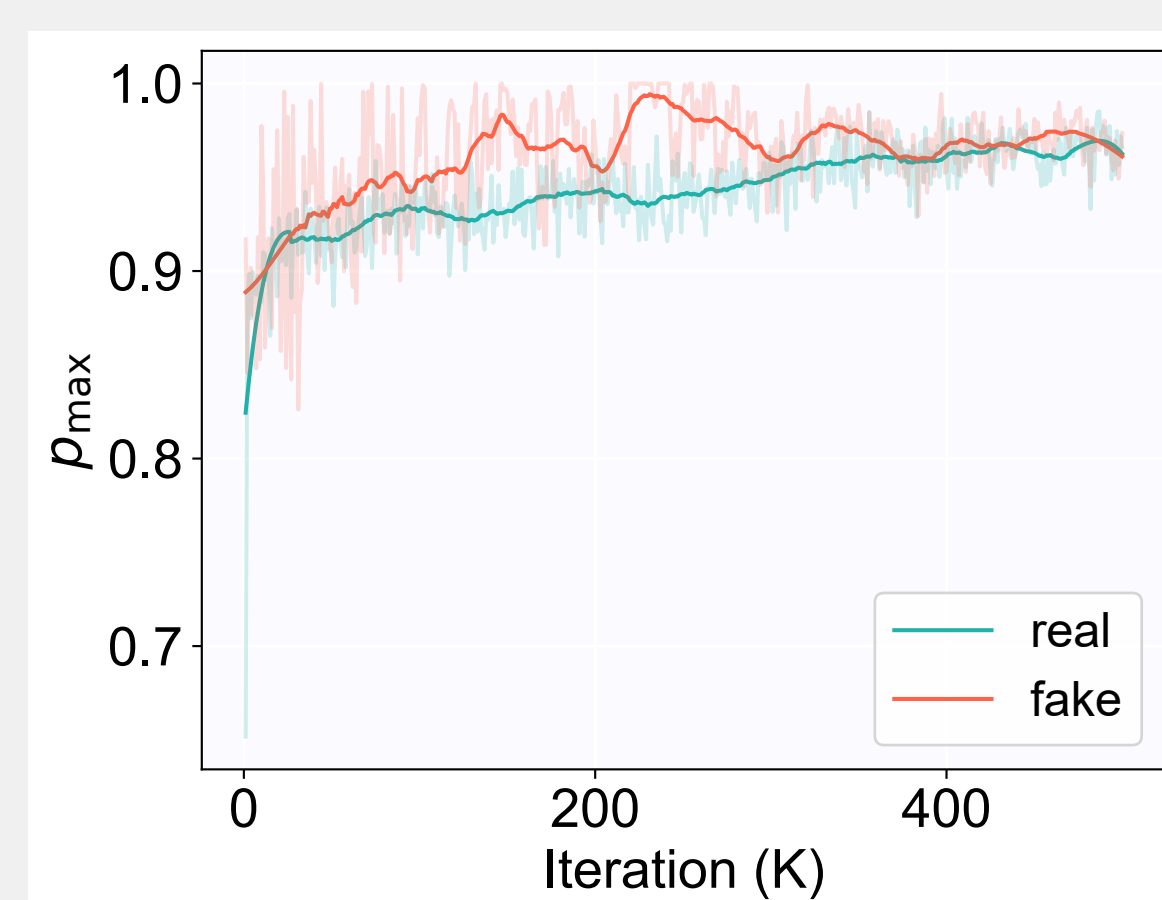
Under GPW, the followings can be proved:

**Prediction Confidence:**

**Prop 1.** Minimizing  $L_u$  maximizes  $\max_j s_{ij}$  and thus the prediction confidence  $p_{\max}(\mathbf{x}) = \max_y q(y | y < K, \mathbf{x})$  for real  $\mathbf{x}$ .



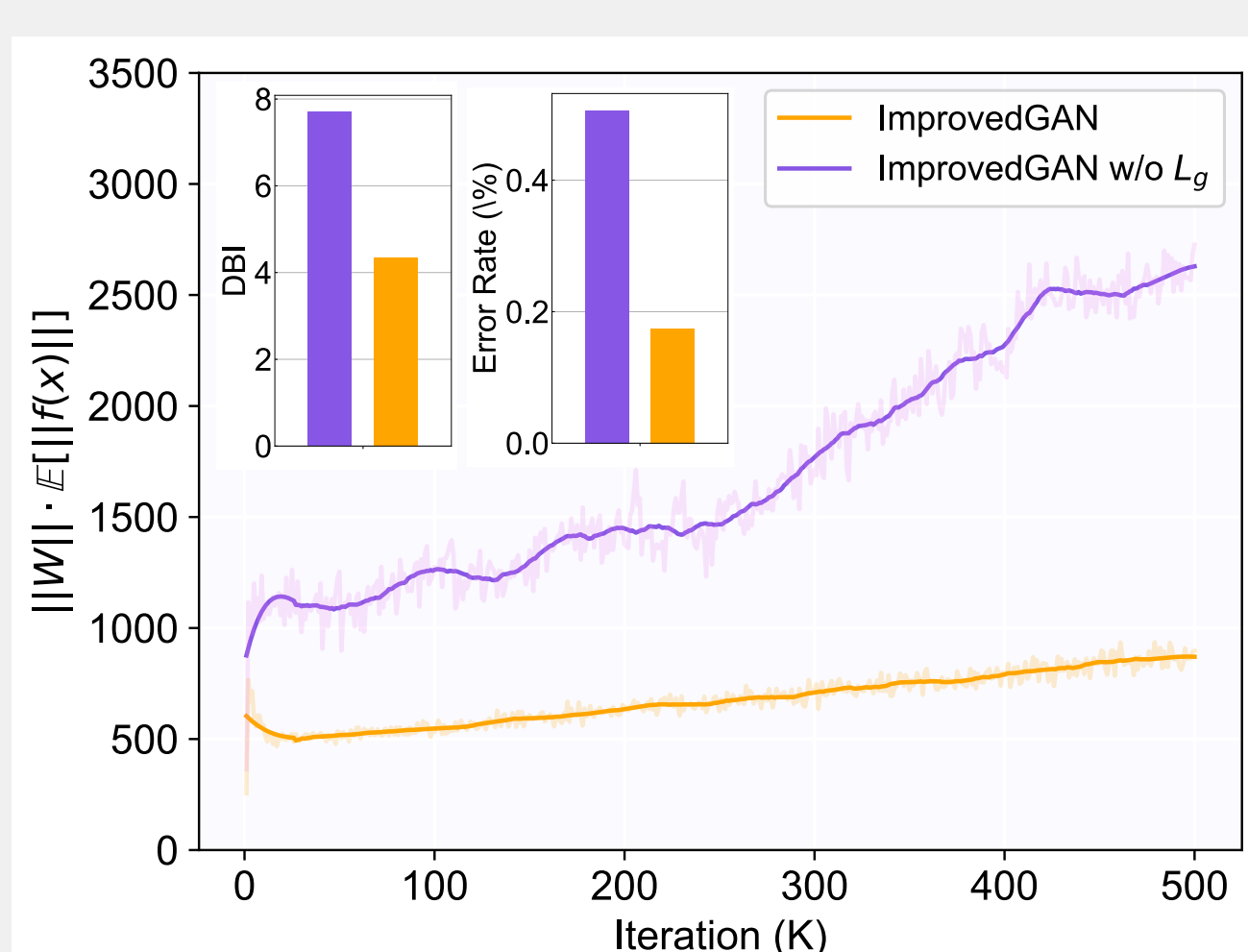
(a) w/o  $L_g$



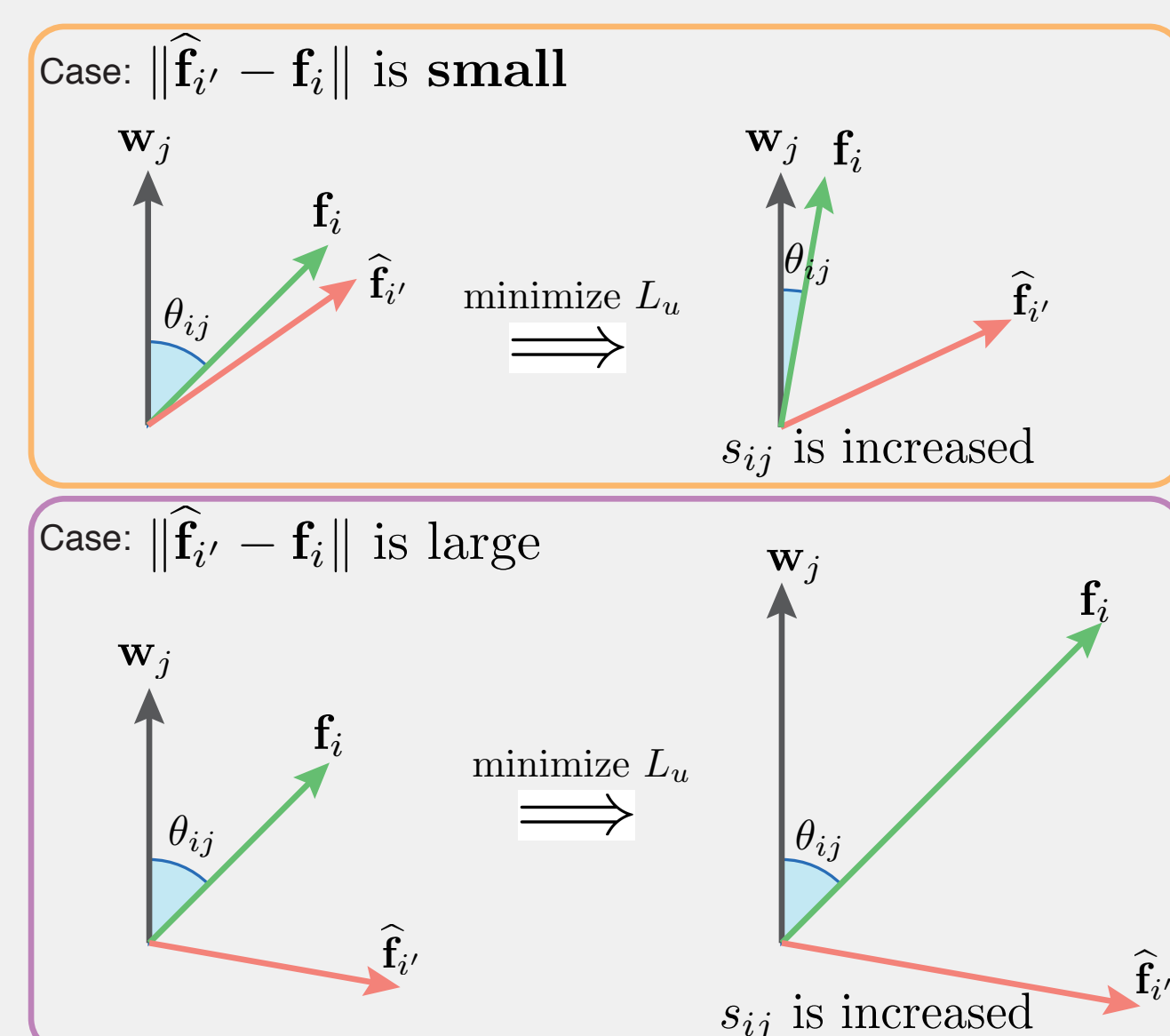
(b) w  $L_g$

**Angle Minimization (i.e., cosine similarity maximization):**

**Prop 2.** If  $\mathbf{f}_i$  and  $\hat{\mathbf{f}}_{i'}$  with a generated sample  $\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{i'}$  are sufficiently near to each other, then minimizing  $L_u$  decreases the angle  $\theta_{ij}$  while constraining  $\|\mathbf{f}_i\| \|\mathbf{w}_j\|$  to be fixed.



(a) Fixing  $\|\mathbf{f}_i\| \|\mathbf{w}_j\|$

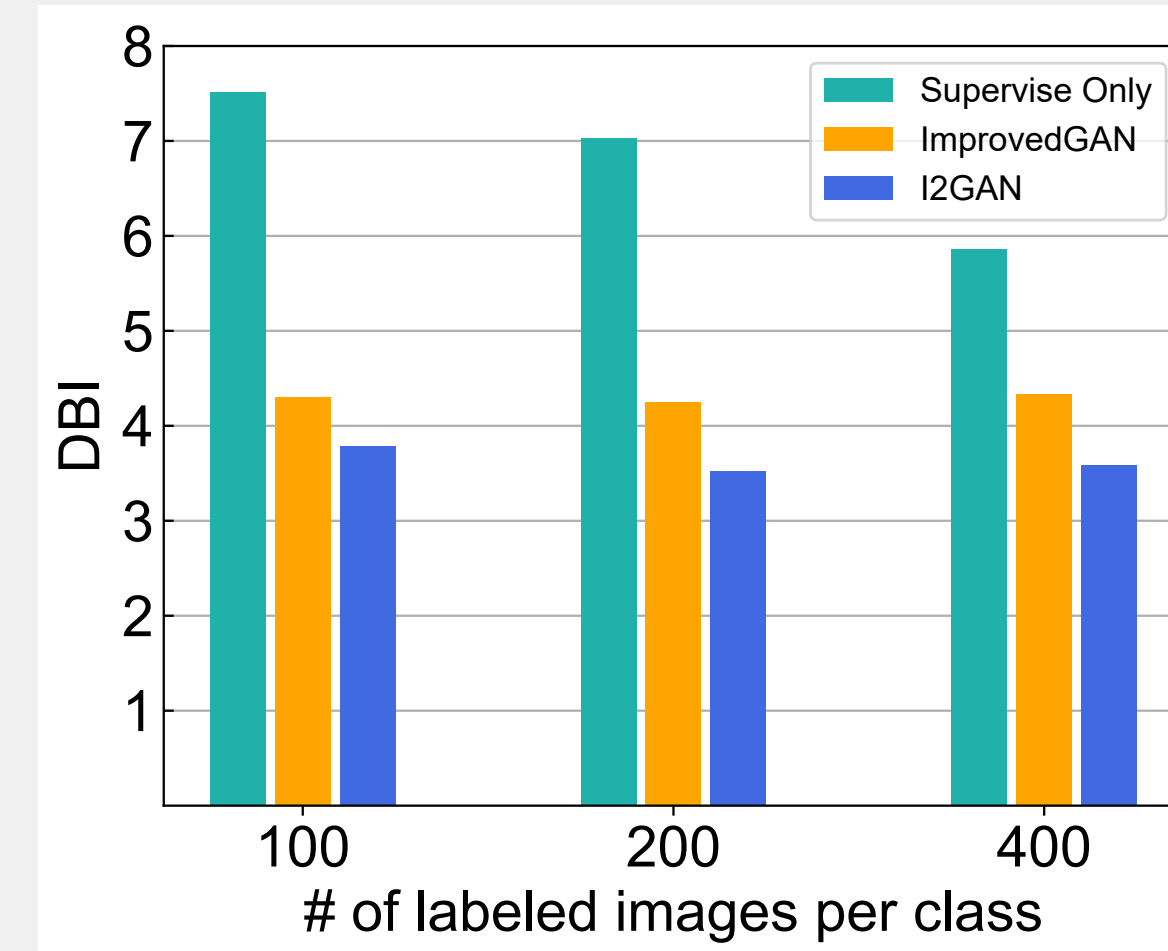


(b) On angle minimization

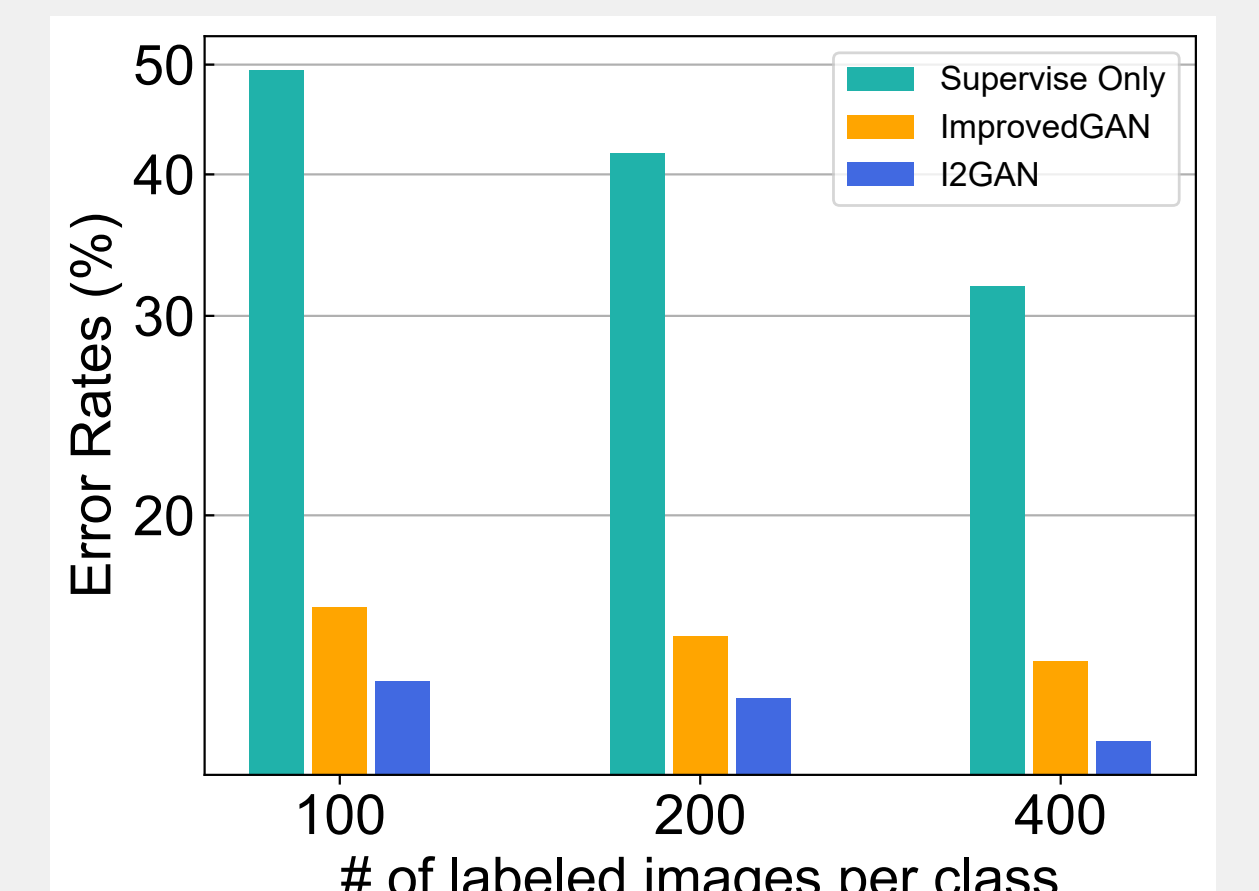
Figure: The class-wise cluster separation is measured by Davies-Bouldin Index (DBI).

**Class-wise Cluster Separation:**

The above two propositions suggests that the adversarial interaction by  $L_u$  and  $L_g$  induces class-wise cluster separation of the real features  $\mathbf{f}_i$ .



(a) DBI of the normalized features  $\frac{\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})}{\|\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})\|}$  from real samples  $\mathbf{x}$



(b) Semi-supervision error-rate in inference

## Method

To enhance class-wise cluster separation characteristic of ImprovedGAN, we propose:

- Scaling-up the unsupervised discriminator loss:** replace  $L_u$  by

$$L_u \leftarrow L_{u,\tau} := \tau L_u \quad (6)$$

to make the model optimization end up with higher prediction confidence.

- Excessive sampling on generated samples:** for the loss  $L_g$ , replace

$$\{\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{i'}\}_{i=1}^N \leftarrow \{\hat{\mathbf{x}}_{i'}\}_{i=1}^{N'} \quad \text{where } N' > N \quad (7)$$

to better satisfy the sufficient condition of Prop 2.

The enhanced ImprovedGAN is termed as **I2GAN**.

## Experiments

Table: The SSL performance in error rates (%) on CIFAR-10

# labels	100	200	400
Mean Teacher*	5.45 ± 0.14	5.21 ± 0.21	
LP* (CVPR'19)	16.93 ± 0.70	13.22 ± 0.29	10.61 ± 0.28
ICT* (NIPS'19)	15.48 ± 0.78	<b>9.26 ± 0.09</b>	<b>7.29 ± 0.02</b>
SWA* (ICLR'19)	15.58	11.02	9.05
ALI*	19.98 ± 0.89	19.09 ± 0.44	17.99 ± 1.62
TripleGAN*	81.08 ± 0.57	18.21 ± 0.37	16.99 ± 0.36
Local-GAN*	17.44 ± 0.25	-	14.23 ± 0.27
ImprovedGAN*	21.83 ± 2.01	19.61 ± 2.09	18.63 ± 2.32
BadGAN*	22.42 ± 0.17	18.64 ± 0.08	14.41 ± 0.30
ImprovedGAN w/ $\mathcal{M}$ Inv.*	19.52 ± 1.5	-	16.20 ± 1.6
ImprovedGAN w/ $\mathcal{M}$ Reg.*	16.37 ± 0.42	15.25 ± 0.35	14.34 ± 0.17
ImprovedGAN	16.80 ± 0.54	15.64 ± 0.12	14.86 ± 0.26
<b>I2GAN</b>	<b>14.29 ± 0.22</b>	<b>13.80 ± 0.20</b>	<b>12.63 ± 0.17</b>
<b>e-I2GAN</b>	<b>14.93 ± 0.25</b>	<b>13.77 ± 0.07</b>	<b>13.29 ± 0.35</b>

Table: The SSL performance in error rates (%) on CIFAR-100

# labels	40
Supervise Only	74.85 ± 0.55
BadGAN*	61.49 ± 0.73
ImprovedGAN (our implementation)	56.14 ± 0.64
<b>I2GAN</b>	<b>51.31 ± 0.32</b>
<b>e-I2GAN</b>	<b>52.50 ± 1.25</b>

Table: The SSL performance in error rates (%) on SVHN

# of labeled images for each class	50	100
Temporal Ensemble*	7.01 ± 0.29	5.73 ± 0.16
SPCTN*	-	7.73 ± 0.30
Pseudo-Labeling*	-	9.94 ± 0.61
Mean Teacher*	5.45 ± 0.14	5.21 ± 0.21
VAT*	-	5.77
ALI*	-	7.41 ± 0.65
TripleGAN*	5.33 ± 0.12	5.77 ± 0.17
LocalGAN*	5.48 ± 0.29	4.73 ± 0.29
ImprovedGAN*	18.44 ± 4.80	8.11 ± 1.3
BadGAN*	5.79 ± 0.45	<b>4.68 ± 0.07</b>
ImprovedGAN (our implementation)	5.79 ± 0.19	5.60 ± 0.09
<b>I2GAN</b>	<b>5.27 ± 0.13</b>	5.17 ± 0.16
<b>e-I2GAN</b>	5.43 ± 0.13	5.27 ± 0.10