Exploiting Knowledge Embedded Soft Labels for Image Recognition

Lixian Yuan¹, Riquan Chen¹, Hefeng Wu^{1*}, Tianshui Chen², Wentao Wang¹ and Pei Chen¹

¹Sun Yat-sen University, Guangzhou, China ²DarkMatter AI Research, Guangzhou, China





➢Background

• Objects from correlated classes usually share highly similar appearance while objects from uncorrelated classes are very different.

Least



➢ Motivation

- Most existing approaches for image recognition treat each class independently.
- The training labels on the datasets are usually set as one-hot vectors. [1,0,0,...,0], [0,1,0,...,0], [0,0,1,...,0], ..., [0,0,0,...,1]
- Ignore the correlations between different classes during training.

➤Contributions

- We construct hierarchical knowledge graphs to reserve and explore the semantic relations across different classes. With the constructed hierarchical knowledge graphs, we are able to calculate the distance between two classes thus regularize the semantic space across different classes.
- We generate the knowledge embedded soft labels based on the distance across different classes. The knowledge embedded soft labels serve as an extra guidance in training the classifier to better understand the semantic relations across different classes.
- We also devise a Small-ImageNet dataset, which consists of 400 classes objects from the original 1,000 classes in the full ImageNet dataset as an additional evaluation of our proposed method. The experiment results prove the effectiveness of our proposed method.

≻Proposed Method

Hierarchical Knowledge Graphs

(a)Extract a subnet from WordNet

Italy 10 | 15 January 2021

➢Proposed Method

≻Knowledge Embedded Soft Labels

-The distance between class (node) i and j:

 $d_{ij} = e_{ij} - 1 \ (e_{ij} \ge 2, \ i \ne j)$

-The similarity coefficients between class *i* and *j*:

$$c_{ij} = \lambda^{d_{ij}} (0 < \lambda < 1, c_{ii} = 1)$$

-The proposed knowledge embedded soft labels between class i and j:

$$g_{ij} = \frac{exp\left(T \cdot c_{ij}\right)}{\sum_{k=1}^{n} exp\left(T \cdot c_{ik}\right)}$$

≻Proposed Method

➤Training Loss

-For the original hard one-hot labels, we employ cross-entropy loss as followings,

$$y'_{ij} = \frac{exp(s_{ij})}{\sum_{k=1}^{n} exp(s_{ik})}$$

thus we can obtain the L_{CE} :

$$\mathcal{L}_{CE} = -\sum_{k} y_{ik} \cdot \log\left(y_{ik}'\right)$$

-For the knowledge embedded soft labels, we calculate the Kullback-Leibler loss as:

$$\mathcal{L}_{KL} = -\sum_{k} g'_{ik} \cdot \log \frac{g_{ik}}{g'_{ik}}$$

Finally, we have $\mathcal{L} = \alpha \cdot \mathcal{L}_{CE} + \beta \cdot \mathcal{L}_{KL}$

≻Experiments

➤Comparison with state-of-the-art in CUB dataset for fine-grained image recognition

Method	Accuracy	Network Backbone
Baseline	85.8	ResNet-50
DT-RAM [26]	86.0	ResNet-50
KERL [27]	86.3	VGG-16
MA-CNN [15]	86.5	VGG-19
KERL w/ bbox [27]	86.6	VGG-16
KERL w/ HR [27]	87.0	VGG-16
DPL-CNN [28]	87.1	ResNet-50
Ours	87.1	ResNet-50

Dataset:

Caltech-UCSD Birds (CUB) Dataset for fine-grained image recognition Mini-ImageNet and Small-ImageNet Datasets for general image recognition

> Comparison with baseline (w/o knowledge embedded soft labels) on Mini-ImageNet and Small-ImageNet for general image recognition

Dataset	Baseline	Ours
Mini-ImageNet	78.4	81.0
Small-ImageNet	80.1	80.6

Comparison with Label Smoothing

Methods	Learning rate	Results
Label Smoothing [22]	0.01	85.8
	0.001	86.5
Ours	0.1	87.1
	0.01	86.7

ExperimentsAblation Study

λ	Т	α	β	Accuracy
-	-	1	0	85.8 (only \mathcal{L}_{CE})
0.5	16	0	1	85.4 (only \mathcal{L}_{KL})
	2	1	1	86.7
0.5	5	1	1	86.2
	16	1	1	85.8
0.5	16	1	1	85.8
	16	0.1	1	86.5
0.5	2	1	1	86.7
	2	1	0.1	87.1
	2	1	0.01	85.9

> The influences of hyper-parameters

Network Backbones	Baselines (w/o KESL)	Ours (w/ KESL)
MobileNetV2	81.7	82.1
ResNet-18	82.6	83.3
ResNet-50	85.8	87.1

> The influences of different backbone networks

