Active Online Domain Adaptation

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Domain shift: challenge for ML system









Online learning: a classical framework for domain shift

- At timestep t = 1, ..., T:
 - Input x_t is revealed.
 - Learner predicts $\, \hat{y}_t$, suffers some loss.
 - Label y_t is revealed.

Expensive!

-> This work: **active** online learning Learner can decide whether to query the label.

Active online regression: Setup

- Hypothesis class ${\mathcal F}$
- Realizable setting: $y_t = f^*(x_t) + \xi_t$
- At timestep t = 1, ..., T:
 - x_t is revealed.
 - Learner predicts \hat{y}_t , suffers loss $(y_t \hat{y}_t)^2$.
 - Learner decides whether to query y_t .
- Metrics: (1) # queries Q (2) Regret $R = \sum (\hat{y}_t f^*(x_t))^2$

T

t=1

• Goal: Minimize R subject to $\,Q \leq B$.

Linear regression

- Hypothesis class: $\mathcal{F} = \{ \theta^{\top} x : \theta \in \mathbb{R}^d \}$
- Prediction strategy:
 - Follow the regularized leader on all **queried** examples till t-1:

$$\hat{\theta}_t = \operatorname{argmin}_{\theta} \sum_{i < t, q_i = 1} (\theta^\top x_i - y_i)^2 + \lambda \|\theta\|^2$$

- What's the query strategy?
 - Uniformly random queries are optimal without domain structure.

Can we do better if the data is structured?

• Domain structure:

$$D_1$$
 D_2 D_1 D_2 D_3

- *m* domains
- Domain u: support dimension d_u , duration T_u

Main contribution: optimal tradeoff with unknown domain structure

- QuFUR (Query in the Face of Uncertainty for Regression):
 - Query **uncertain** examples
- Linear Regression: For **any** domain partition, with high probability:

$$R = \tilde{O}((\sum \sqrt{d_u T_u})^2 / B).$$

u

- Matching lower bound.
- Generalize to general hypothesis classes w/ bounded Eluder Dimension.