MetaAlign: Coordinating Domain Alignment and Classification for Unsupervised Domain Adaptation (Supplementary Material)

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1. More Details of Baselines

In our main manuscript, we have briefly described several representative alignment-based methods, which we use as our baselines for validating the effectiveness of our MetaAlign. Here, we present more details of some baselines.

DANNPE. As shown in Fig. 1, *DANNPE* differs from *DANN* in two key aspects: 1) Similar to [20, 5], the predicted object classification probability/likelihood $C(G(\cdot)) \in \mathbb{R}^K$ is treated as the input of domain discriminator D, instead of the output feature of $G(\cdot)$ in *DANN*. 2) Following [20], we prioritize the discriminator on those easy-to-transfer samples by re-weighting the samples based on the entropy of object class prediction, with the weight defined as $\omega(ent(\cdot)) = e^{-ent(\cdot)}$, where $ent(\cdot)$ denotes the entropy of the object class prediction. As shown in Table 1 in our main manuscript, *DANNPE* significantly outperforms *DANN*.

MMD. We directly add the MMD constraint [2] on the output of $G(\cdot)$ to encourage the feature alignment between source domain and target domain data (see Fig. 2 (b) in our main manuscript). The complete MMD loss (*i.e.*, Eq. (4) in the main manuscript) is formulated as:

$$\mathcal{L}_{dom} = \frac{1}{N_s} \sum_{i=1}^{N_s} \sum_{i'=1}^{N_s} \mathcal{K}(\mathbf{f}_i^s, \mathbf{f}_{i'}^s) + \frac{1}{N_t} \sum_{j=1}^{N_t} \sum_{j'=1}^{N_t} \mathcal{K}(\mathbf{f}_j^t, \mathbf{f}_{j'}^t) \\ - \frac{2}{N_s N_t} \sum_{i=1}^{N_s} \sum_{j=1}^{N_t} \mathcal{K}(\mathbf{f}_i^s, \mathbf{f}_j^t).$$
(1)

where $\mathbf{f}_i = G(\mathbf{x}_i)$, and $\mathcal{K}(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{f}')$ denotes a kernel function. Following [19], we use the well-known characteristic kernel RBF, *i.e.*, $\mathcal{K}(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{f}') = \exp(-\frac{1}{2\sigma}||\mathbf{f} - \mathbf{f}'||^2)$, where σ is the bandwidth parameter [19].

For MMD-based UDA, similar to Eq. (8) in the main



Figure 1: The pipeline of DANNPE.

manuscript, the optimization objective of MetaAlign is:

$$\min_{\theta,\phi_{c},\beta} \mathcal{L}_{dom}(\theta) \\
+ \mathcal{L}_{cls} \left(\left\{ \theta_{m} - \alpha \beta_{m} \nabla_{\theta_{m}} \mathcal{L}_{dom}(\theta,\phi_{d}) \right\}_{m=1}^{M}, \phi_{c} \right) \\
+ \mathcal{L}_{\beta}(\beta).$$
(2)

2. Experiments

We describe more details on the implementation, datasets, settings, competitors, and present more experimental results.

2.1. UDA for Classification

Implementation Details. We adopt ResNet-50 [10] pretrained on ImageNet [15] as the feature extractor for all baselines. Following [5, 20], the domain classifier/discriminator is composed of three fully connected layers with inserted dropout and ReLU layers for stable training, followed by a sigmoid function to output the domain classification result. We divide the convolutional layers of the feature extractor *G* into 4 groups (*i.e.*, M = 4 in Eq. (8)): the conv1 and conv2_x as the first group, conv3_x, conv4_x, conv5_x as the second to fourth groups respectively for simplicity.



Figure 2: Visualization fo the Grad-CAMs [24] w.r.t. the object classification task. The first row of left/right panels show the samples from source (Rw)/target (Cl) domains on Office-Home, while the second and third rows show the Grad-CAMs. The object classification task always focuses on foreground objects, which is also claimed in [24, 26]



Figure 3: Object detection results on the target dataset Watercolor2k from (a) SW-DA (Baseline) (first two rows), and (b) SW-DA+MetaAlign (last two rows).

Grad-CAMs of Classification Task. We illustrate the Grad-CAMs [24] w.r.t. object classification task in Fig. 2. As can be seen, the object classification task always focuses on the foreground objects, which is also validated in [24, 26].

2.2. UDA for Object Detection

Datasets and Experimental Setting. To simulate dissimilar domains, Pascal VOC [7, 8] and Watercolor2k [13] are treated as source and target domain respectively. 1) **Pascal**

VOC [7, 8] is a well-known benchmark for object detection in real world scenario. In this dataset, 20 object classes with their corresponding bounding boxes are annotated. Following [23], we employ the split setting which uses Pascal VOC 2007 and 2012 as training and validation. 2) **Watercolor2k** [13] is a collection of 2K watercolor images. It contains 6 categories in common with Pascal VOC. 1K images are used for training and the other 1K for testing.

As in previous works [4, 23], we set the shorter side of the image to 600 pixels following the implementation of Faster RCNN[22] with ROI-alignment [9]. The meta learning rate α is set to 0.01, which is 10 times the learning rate η .

Competitors. We compare with the following methods: 1) Source Only trains model on source domain and directly tests on target domain. 2) **BDC-Faster** adopts the typical design of DANN, which takes the global features as input of the domain discriminator D for adversarial learning. 3) WST+BSR [14] constructs self-training on easy samples to reduce the negative effects of inaccurate pseudo-labels. 4) MAF [11] incorporates multiple domain discriminators on hierarchical features. 5) **DT-UDA** [13] performs training on style-translated target images with predicted pseudo-labels. 6) ATF [12] designs an asymmetric tri-way model to alleviate the collapse and out-of-control risk of the source domain. 7) SW-DA [23] aligns both global-level features and local-level features between the source and target domains by adversarial learning, which we take as our baseline for evaluating MetaAlign.

Visualization Results. We have shown the performance comparison in Table 5 in our main manuscript. Here, we show the visualization of object detection results on the target dataset Watercolor2k [13] in Fig. 3. We can see that for the baseline scheme SW-DA, there are many false detections and missing detections. Thanks to the coordination between the domain alignment and the object detection optimization from our MetaAlign, the scheme SW-DA+MetaAlign achieves more accurate detections, where the false detections and missing detections are largely reduced.

2.3. Domain Generalization

Dataset and Settings. PACS [16] is a widely used benchmark for domain generalization. It contains 7 object categories from 4 domains (Photo, Art Painting, Cartoon and Sketch). We evaluate on this dataset under a commonly-used experimental protocol of leave-one-out [16, 3, 18], where three domains are used for training and the remaining one is considered as the target domain. The domain discriminator D of DANNPE here is kept the same as that for UDA classification, except that the final layer is a FC layer with 3 neurons instead of 1 for distinguishing the three source domains.

Competitors. 1) *AGG* simply trains a model directly on the aggregation of all source domains. 2) *MMD-AAE*[19] equips an autoencoder with a MMD loss to train a domaininvariant encoder. 3) *CrossGrad*[25] is a typical data augmentation based DG method which perturbs in the input manifold to augment data. 4) *MetaReg*[1], 5) *MLDG*[17] and 6) *MASF*[6] utilize meta-learning, which separate the samples into meta-train splits and meta-test splits, to mimic domain shift during training on source domains. 7) *JiGen* imposes an auxiliary task of solving the Jigsaw puzzle on top of AGG. 8) **Epi-FCR**[18] introduces a new episodic training strategy. 9) **MMLD**[21] predicts the pseudo domain labels and uses them for the adversarial domain learning.

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