Open Set Action Recognition via Multi-Label Evidential Learning
Supplementary Materials

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1. Notations

Vectors are denoted by lower case bold face letters, e.g., positive and negative evidence \( \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}^k \). Vectors with subscripts of indices, such as \( \alpha_i, \beta_i \) indicate the \( i \)-th entry in \( \alpha, \beta \). The Euclidean \( \ell_2 \)-norm is denoted as \( \| \cdot \| \). Scalars are denoted by lowercase italic letters, e.g., \( \eta > 0 \). Matrices are denoted by capital italic letters, e.g., \( X \in \mathbb{R}^{C \times H \times W} \).

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<th>Notations</th>
<th>Descriptions</th>
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<td>( N )</td>
<td>Number of detected persons</td>
</tr>
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<td>Number of detected objects</td>
</tr>
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<td>( \theta )</td>
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<td>( C, H, W )</td>
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<td>( b, d )</td>
<td>Belief and disbelief masses</td>
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<td>Base rate</td>
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<td>Non-informative prior weight</td>
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<td>( \alpha, \beta )</td>
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<td>( p )</td>
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<td>( \gamma )</td>
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<td>( m )</td>
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Table 1. Important notations and corresponding descriptions.

2. Proof Sketch of Proposition 1

Proposition 1. (Convergence of Averaged Primal Sequence) Under Assumption 1, when the convex set \( \Theta \) is compact, let the approximate primal sequence \( \{ \tilde{\theta}^{(m)} \}_{m=1}^{\infty} \) be the running averages of the primal iterates given in Equation (6). Then \( \{ \tilde{\theta}^{(m)} \}_{m=1}^{\infty} \) can converge to its limit \( \tilde{\theta}^* \).

To prove the convergence in Proposition 1, we first prove the below Lemma 1 that

Lemma 1. The approximate primal sequence \( \{ \tilde{\theta}^{(m)} \}_{m=1}^{\infty} \) given in Equation (6) is a Cauchy sequence. That is \( \forall \epsilon > 0 \), there is a \( Q \in \mathbb{N} \) such that \( \| \tilde{\theta}^{(m')} - \tilde{\theta}^{(m)} \| \leq \epsilon, \forall m', m \geq Q \).

Proof. Given Equation (6), we derive

\[
\tilde{\theta}^{(m+1)} = \frac{1}{m+1} \sum_{i=1}^{m} \tilde{\theta}^{(i)} = \frac{1}{m+1} (\tilde{\theta}^{(m)} + \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} \tilde{\theta}^{(i)}) = \frac{1}{m+1} \tilde{\theta}^{(m)} + \frac{m}{m+1}, \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} \tilde{\theta}^{(i)} (9)
\]

Rearrange the above equation, we have

\[
\tilde{\theta}^{(m+1)} - \tilde{\theta}^{(m)} = \frac{1}{m+1} (\tilde{\theta}^{(m)} - \tilde{\theta}^{(m')}). (10)
\]

Under Assumption 1, \( \Theta \) is a compact convex set and \( \tilde{\theta}^{(m)}, \tilde{\theta}^{(m')} \in \Theta \). Let \( m' > m \) and \( \| \tilde{\theta}^{(m')} \|, \| \tilde{\theta}^{(m)} \| \leq G \), we have

\[
\| \tilde{\theta}^{(m')} - \tilde{\theta}^{(m)} \| = \| \tilde{\theta}^{(m')} - \tilde{\theta}^{(m'-1)} + \ldots + \tilde{\theta}^{(m+1)} - \tilde{\theta}^{(m)} \|
\]

\[
= \| \frac{\theta^{(m'-1)} - \theta^{(m'-1)}}{m'} + \ldots + \frac{\theta^{(m)} - \theta^{(m)}}{m+1} \|
\]

\[
\leq \frac{\| \theta^{(m'-1)} \| + \| \theta^{(m'-1)} \| + \ldots + \| \theta^{(m)} \| + \| \theta^{(m)} \|}{m+1}
\]

\[
\leq \frac{2G(m'-m)}{m+1}. (11)
\]

Therefore, for any arbitrary \( \epsilon > 0 \), let \( \frac{2G(m'-m)}{m+1} < \epsilon \), and we have \( \| \tilde{\theta}^{(m')} - \tilde{\theta}^{(m)} \| \leq \epsilon \). Therefore we conclude that \( \{ \tilde{\theta}^{(m)} \}_{m=1}^{\infty} \) is a Cauchy sequence. \( \square \)
Next we prove the proposed Proposition 1.

Proof. As stated in Lemma 1 that \( \{ \tilde{\theta}^{(m)} \} \) in Equation (6) is a Cauchy sequence, it hence is bounded and there exists a subsequence \( b_m \) converging to its limit \( L \). For any \( \epsilon > 0 \), there exists \( n, q \geq Q \) satisfying \( \| \tilde{\theta}^{(m)} - \tilde{\theta}^{(q)} \| < \frac{\epsilon}{2} \). Thus, there is a \( b_m = \tilde{\theta}^{(q)} \), such that \( q_m \geq Q \) and \( \| b_m - L \| < \frac{\epsilon}{2} \).

\[
\| \tilde{\theta}^{(m)} - L \| = \| \tilde{\theta}^{(m)} - b_m + b_m - L \| \\
\leq \| \tilde{\theta}^{(m)} - b_m \| + \| b_m - L \| \\
< \| \tilde{\theta}^{(m)} - \tilde{\theta}^{(q)} \| + \frac{\epsilon}{2}
\]

(12)

Since \( \epsilon \) is arbitrarily small, we prove that the sequence \( \{ \tilde{\theta}^{(m)} \}^{\infty}_{m=1} \) converges to its limit \( L = \tilde{\theta}^* \) asymptotically. \( \square \)

3. Proof Sketch of Proposition 2

Proposition 2. (Bounds for \( L(\tilde{\theta}^{(m)}) \) and the violation of \( g(\tilde{\theta}^{(m)}) \) [5]) Let the dual sequence \( \{ \lambda^{(m)} \}^{\infty}_{m=1} \) be generated through Equation (8) and \( \{ \tilde{\theta}^{(m)} \}^{\infty}_{m=1} \) be the averages in Equation (6). Under Assumption 1, we have

1. An upper bound on the amount of constraint violation of \( \tilde{\theta}^{(m)} \) that \( \| g(\tilde{\theta}^{(m)}) \| + \| \tilde{\theta}^{(m)} \| \leq \frac{\lambda^{(m)}}{m \eta_2} \).

2. An upper bound on \( L(\tilde{\theta}^{(m)}) \) that \( L(\tilde{\theta}^{(m)}) \leq f^* + \frac{(\lambda^{(0)})^2}{2m \eta_2^2} + \frac{\eta_2 L^2}{2} \), where \( g(\tilde{\theta}^{(m)}) \| < L \) and \( L > 0 \).

3. A lower bound \( L(\tilde{\theta}^{(m)}) \geq f^* - \lambda^* \cdot \| g(\tilde{\theta}^{(m)}) \| \), where \( [u]_+ \) denotes the projection of \( [u] \) on the nonnegative orthant. \( f^* \) is the optimal solution of Equation (5) and \( \lambda^* \) denotes the optimal value of the dual variable.

Proof. 1. According to Equation (8), we have

\[
\lambda^{(m)} \geq \lambda^{(m-1)} + \eta_2 \cdot \left( g(\tilde{\theta}^{(m)}) - \gamma - \delta \lambda^{(m-1)} \right).
\]

Under Assumption 1, \( g(\theta) \) is convex, we have

\[
g(\tilde{\theta}^{(m)}) \leq \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} g(\theta^{(i)})
\]

(13)

1

\[
= \frac{1}{m \eta_2} \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} \eta_2 g(\theta^{(i)})
\]

\[
\leq \frac{1}{m \eta_2} (\lambda^{(m)} - \lambda^{(0)})
\]

\[
\leq \frac{\lambda^{(m)}}{m \eta_2}, \quad \forall m \geq 1.
\]

Since \( \lambda^{(m)} \geq 0 \), we derive \( \| g(\tilde{\theta}^{(m)}) \| + \| \tilde{\theta}^{(m)} \| \leq \frac{\lambda^{(m)}}{m \eta_2} \).

2. Under Assumption 1 and Equations (7) and (8), we have \( q^* = f^* \). Together with the condition that \( f(\theta) \) is convex and \( \theta \in \Theta \), we have

\[
L(\tilde{\theta}^{(m)}) \leq \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} L(\theta^{(i)})
\]

(14)

\[
= \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \left( \lambda(i) g(\tilde{\theta}^{(i+1)}) - \lambda(i) g(\tilde{\theta}^{(i+1)}) \right)
\]

\[
= \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \left( \lambda(i) g(\tilde{\theta}^{(i+1)}) - \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \lambda(i) g(\tilde{\theta}^{(i+1)}) \right)
\]

\[
\leq q^* - \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \lambda(i) g(\tilde{\theta}^{(i+1)}).
\]

From Equation (8), we have

\[
(\lambda^{(i+1)})^2 = \left( \left[ \lambda(i) + \eta_2 \left( g(\tilde{\theta}^{(i+1)}) - \gamma - \delta \lambda(i) \right) \right]_+ \right)^2
\]

\[
\leq \left( \lambda(i)^2 + 2 \eta_2 \lambda(i) g(\tilde{\theta}^{(i+1)}) + \eta_2 g(\tilde{\theta}^{(i+1)}) \right)^2
\]

(15)

Rearrange the above equation, we have

\[
-\lambda(i)^2 g(\tilde{\theta}^{(i+1)}) \leq \frac{(\lambda(i))^2 - (\lambda^{(i+1)})^2 + \eta_2 g(\tilde{\theta}^{(i+1)}) \|}{2 \eta_2}
\]

(16)

Taking \(-\lambda(i)^2 g(\tilde{\theta}^{(i+1)})\) back to \( L(\tilde{\theta}^{(m)}) \), we have

\[
L(\tilde{\theta}^{(m)}) \leq q^* + \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \left( \lambda(i)^2 - (\lambda^{(i+1)})^2 + \eta_2 g(\tilde{\theta}^{(i+1)}) \| \right) \frac{2 \eta_2}{2 \eta_2}
\]

\[
= q^* + \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \left( \lambda(i)^2 - (\lambda^{(i+1)})^2 \right) + \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \left( \eta_2 g(\tilde{\theta}^{(i+1)}) \| \right) \frac{2 \eta_2}{2 \eta_2}
\]

\[
= q^* + \frac{(\lambda^{(0)})^2 - (\lambda^*)^2}{2 m \eta_2^2} + \frac{\eta_2 L^2}{2}
\]

(17)

3. By definition, \( \forall \theta \in \Theta \), we have

\[
L(\theta) + \lambda^* \cdot g(\theta) \geq L(\theta^*) + \lambda^* \cdot g(\theta^*) = q(\lambda^*).
\]

(18)

Since \( \tilde{\theta} \in \Theta \), \( \forall m \geq 1 \), we have

\[
L(\tilde{\theta}^{(m)}) = L(\tilde{\theta}^{(m)}) + \lambda^* \cdot g(\tilde{\theta}^{(m)}) - \lambda^* \cdot g(\tilde{\theta}^{(m)})
\]

(19)

\[
\geq q(\lambda^*) - \lambda^* \cdot [g(\tilde{\theta}^{(m)})]_+
\]

Since \( \lambda^{(m)} \geq 0 \), we derive \( \| g(\tilde{\theta}^{(m)}) \| + \| \tilde{\theta}^{(m)} \| \leq \frac{\lambda^{(m)}}{m \eta_2} \).

\( \square \)
Table 2. Exploration of different component in MULE with \(m = 2, 3, 4, 5\).

Table 3. Comparison with state-of-the-art on AVA [4]. Ours is highlighted in green. Best value is in \(\text{bold}\).

4. Proof Sketch of Proposition 3

The Beta loss in Equation (2) is equivalent to the loss function used in DEAR when each actor is associated with one action only. The Evidential Neural Network (ENN), which was initially introduced in [7] and further adopted by DEAR in open-set action recognition, is limited to classifying an actor associated with only one action. The key idea of ENN is to replace the output of a classification network DEAR in open-set action recognition, is limited to classify-

**Proposition 3.** Denote \(L_j'(\theta)\) as the loss function introduced in [7], i.e.,

\[
L_j'(\theta) = \frac{K'}{K} \sum_{i=1}^{K'} y_{ij} \left( \psi \left( \sum_{i=1}^{K'} \alpha_{ij} \right) - \phi(\alpha_{ij}) \right),
\]

where \(K'\) is the total number of classes in a multi-class clas-
sification task. Denote \(L_j(\theta)\) is the loss function proposed in Equation (3). We have \(L_j'(\theta) = L_j(\theta)\) when \(K = 1\) (i.e., \(K' = 2\)).

**Proof.** When \(K = 1\),

\[
L_j(\theta) = \sum_{i=1}^{K} \int \left[ \text{BCE}(y_{ij}, p_j) \right] \text{Beta}(p_{ij}; \alpha_{ij}, \beta_j) dp_{ij}.
\]

To simplify, we omit the subscript \(i\) and rewrite

\[
L_j(\theta) = \int \left[ \text{BCE}(y_j, p_j) \right] \text{Beta}(p_j; \alpha_j, \beta_j) dp_j
\]

\[
= y_j \left( \psi(\alpha_j + \beta_j) - \psi(\alpha_j) \right) + (1 - y_j) \left( \psi(\alpha_j + \beta_j) - \psi(\beta_j) \right).
\]

As for \(L_j'(\theta)\), \(K = 1\) indicates binary classification which refers \(K' = 2\).

\[
L_j'(\theta) = \int \left[ \text{CE}(y_j, p_j) \right] \text{Dir}(p_j; \alpha_j, \beta_j) dp_j
\]

\[
= \sum_{i=1}^{2} y_{ij} \left( \psi(\sum_{i=1}^{2} \alpha_{ij}) - \psi(\alpha_{ij}) \right).
\]
We complete the proof by setting $\alpha_{1j} = \alpha_j$ and $\alpha_{2j} = \beta_j$.

5. Detailed Ablation Study

In Table 2, we provide a detailed ablation study on the AVA dataset [4] to explore the contributions of different components in our framework. Along with the primal-dual updating step $m = 2, 3, 4, 5$, the performance is slightly improved but nearly saturated when $m = 2$.

6. Full Experimental Results

As presented in Table 3 and Table 4, we report the results of compared methods by using all four novelty score estimation mechanisms. It is worth mentioning that other state-of-the-arts perform also well by using the belief-based score in terms of some metrics.

Furthermore, we show more visual results of compared methods in Figure 1 and Figure 2. It can be seen that our method performs better than other methods on two datasets for single/multi-actor settings.

Table 4. Comparison with state-of-the-art on Charades [8]. Ours is highlighted in green. Best value is in bold.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Backbone</th>
<th>Pre-train</th>
<th>PE / NE / PNE / Belief</th>
<th>Closed Set</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>AUROC ↑</td>
<td>AUPR ↑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFAC, R-101 [?]</td>
<td>K600</td>
<td>7.00 / 26.62 / 8.88 / 19.17</td>
<td>23.15 / 21.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AFAC, CSN-152 [?]</td>
<td>IG-65M</td>
<td>6.18 / 19.78 / 8.49 / 15.59</td>
<td>80.12 / 61.02 / 90.48 / 84.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CSN, CSN-152 [1]</td>
<td>IG-65M</td>
<td>6.89 / 25.18 / 9.02 / 18.90</td>
<td>80.15 / 70.15 / 90.17 / 90.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slowfast, R-101 [3]</td>
<td>K600</td>
<td>25.15 / 30.15 / 46.12 / 23.00</td>
<td>79.12 / 75.12 / 75.36 / 78.89</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DEAR, R-50 [1]</td>
<td>K400</td>
<td>12.15 / 25.59 / 11.11 / 16.98</td>
<td>89.28 / 90.48 / 90.79 / 91.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>X3D-XL [2]</td>
<td>K600</td>
<td>8.45 / 25.85 / 10.15 / 15.51</td>
<td>82.15 / 66.64 / 85.00 / 82.15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

References

Figure 1. Visual comparison with our method and state-of-the-art on AVA [4]. Cyan and yellow boxes denote the predictions of actors with known and novel actions, respectively. ✓ marks and ✗ marks indicate correct and false predictions, respectively.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ground-Truth</th>
<th>DEAR</th>
<th>AFAC</th>
<th>SlowFast</th>
<th>MULE (Ours)</th>
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</thead>
</table>

Figure 2. Visual comparison with our method and state-of-the-art on Charades [8]. Cyan and yellow boxes denote the predictions of actors with known and novel actions, respectively. ✓ marks and ✗ marks indicate correct and false predictions, respectively.