Table A1. Architecture of Vallina AlexNet

| Layer | Details  |  |  |  |
|-------|--|--|--|--|
| 1     | Conv2d(3, 64, 11, 4, 2), BN(64), ReLU, MaxPool2D(3,2)    |  |  |  |
| 2     | Conv2d(64, 192, 5, 1, 2), BN(192), ReLU, MaxPool2D(3,2)  |  |  |  |
| 3     | Conv2d(192, 384, 3, 1, 1), BN(384), ReLU                 |  |  |  |
| 4     | Conv2d(384, 256, 3, 1, 1), BN(256), ReLU                 |  |  |  |
| 5     | Conv2d(256, 256, 3, 1, 1), BN(256), ReLU, MaxPool2D(3,2) |  |  |  |
| 6     | AdaptiveAvgPool2D(6, 6)                                  |  |  |  |
| 7     | FC(9216, 1024), BN(1024), ReLU                           |  |  |  |
| 8     | FC(1024, 1024), BN(1024), ReLU                           |  |  |  |
| 9     | FC(1024, num_classes)                                    |  |  |  |

## **A1. Experimental Details**

### A1.1. Datasets

We use three popular datasets of multi-domain image classification tasks: Office-Caltech10 [17], DomainNet [6], and PACS [19]. The details of the three datasets are as below

**Office-Caltech10.** Office-Caltech10 is constructed by selecting the 10 overlapping categories (e.g., backpack, bike, calculator, headphones, keyboard, laptop, monitor, mouse, mug and projector) between the Office dataset [16] and Caltech256 dataset [3]. It contains four different domains: amazon, caltech10, dslr and webcam. These domains contain respectively 958, 1123, 295, and 157 images.

**DomainNet.** We follow [20] to select 10 categories from the 345 categories of objects of the original dataset. The domains of this dataset include clipart, real, sketch, infograph, painting, and quickdraw.

**PACS.** PACS [7] consists of four domains, namely Photo (1,670 images), Art Painting (2,048 images), Cartoon (2,344 images) and Sketch (3,929 images). Each domain contains seven categories.

We follow [20] to allocate each single domain's data to a client in our experiments. The visualized examples of the three datasets are respectively shown in Figure A1 (a), (b), and (c). We resize each sample into the size of  $224 \times 224$ before feeding them into the model. We split each client's local data into training/validation/testing datasets by the ratios 0.8/0.1/0.1. The model is trained on training datasets and is selected according to its optimal performance on validation datasets. We finally report the metrics of the selected optimal model on each client's testing data.

### A1.2. Model Architecture

**Backbone.** We follow [20] to use AlexNet across our experiments. The architecture of the model is as shown in

Table A2. Architecture of FDSE's AlexNet

| Layer | Details   |  |  |  |
|-------|---|--|--|--|
| 1     | DSEBlock(3, 64, 11, 4, 2, G=2, dw=3), MaxPool2D(3, 2)   |  |  |  |
| 2     | DSEBlock(64, 192, 5, 1, 2, G=2, dw=3), MaxPool2D(3, 2)  |  |  |  |
| 3     | DSEBlock(192, 384, 3, 1, 1, G=2, dw=3)                  |  |  |  |
| 4     | DSEBlock(384, 256, 3, 1, 1, G=2, dw=3)                  |  |  |  |
| 5     | DSEBlock(256, 256, 3, 1, 1, G=2, dw=3), MaxPool2D(3, 2) |  |  |  |
| 6     | AdaptiveAvgPool2D(6, 6)                                 |  |  |  |
| 7     | DSEBlock(9216, 1024, 1, 1, 1, G=2, dw=1)                |  |  |  |
| 8     | DSEBlock(1024, 1024, 1, 1, 1, G=2, dw=1)                |  |  |  |
| 9     | FC(1024, num_classes)                                   |  |  |  |

Table A3. Architecture of DSEBlock(S,T,kernel\_size, stride, padding, G, dw)

| Layer | Details   |
|-------|---|
| 1     | Conv2d(S, [T/G], kernel_size, stride, padding),BN <sub>DSE</sub> ([T/G]),ReLU |
| 2     | Conv2d([T/G], T-[T/G], dw, 1, dw//2)  |
| 3     | $Concat(out_{layer1}, out_{layer2})$  |
| 4     | $BN_{DFE}(T), ReLU$   |

Table A1. The model used by FedFA has a similar architecture with Vallina AlexNet where the first five layers are respectively attached with an additional FFALayer. FDSE replaces each layer in the Vallina AlexNet with a DSEBlock as is shown in Table A1, and the details of each DSEBlock are listed in Table A3. Particularly, we follow [4] to preserve one identity mapping in the DSE convolution (e.g., layer 2).

## A1.3. Baselines

We consider the following baselines in this work

- **Local** is a non-federated method where each client independently trains its local model;
- **FedAvg** [14] is the classical FL method that iteratively averages the locally trained models to update the global model;
- LG-FedAvg[12] is a method that jointly learns compact local representations on each device and a global model across all devices.
- **FedProx**[9] restricts the model parameters to be close to the global ones during clients' local training to alleviate the negative impact of data heterogeneity.
- **Scaffold**[5] corrects the model updating directions during model training to mitigate client drift's effects.
- FedDyn[1] maintains consistent local and global objectives during model training to avoid model overfitting on local objectives.
- **MOON**[8] restricts the model's representation space to be close to the global ones during clients' local training.
- **Ditto** [10] personalizes the local model by limiting its distance to the global model for each client with a proximal



Figure A1. The visualization of each client's local data.

# Algorithm 1 FedBN-Adaption

**Input**:The trained model  $\mathcal{M}$ , the target domain's testing data  $\mathcal{D}_{target}$ 

- 1: for batch data  $(\mathbf{X}, y) \in \mathcal{D}_{target}$  do
- 2: the target client collects local statistics by computing  $\mathcal{M}(\mathbf{X})$
- 3: end for
- 4: return  $\mathcal{M}$

term.

- **PartialFed**[17] personalizes partial model parameters to suit the global model to local distributions.
- **FedBN**[11] lets BN layers be locally kept by each client without aggregation to adapt the global model to their local datasets.
- **FedFA**[20] augments features in the intermediate layers of the model to enhance clients' consensus from the feature level.
- **FedHeal**[2] mitigates gradient conflicts of important model parameters to enhance clients' consensus from the model parameter level.

### A1.4. Hyper-parameters

**Common parameters.** We respectively tune the learning rate  $\eta \in \{0.001, 0.01, 0.05, 0.1, 0.5\}$  by grid search for each method. We clip the gradient's norm to be no larger than 10. We run each trial for 500 communication rounds. The batch size is fixed to 50 and the local epochs for Domainnet, Office-Caltech10, and PACS are respectively 5, 1, and 5. We decay the learning rate by the ratio 0.998 per round. We select all the clients at each communication round like other works in cross-silo FL [13].

Algorithmic parameters. For Ditto [10] and Fed-Prox [9], we tune the regularization coefficient  $\mu \in [0.0001, 0.001, 0.01, 0.1, 1.0]$ . For MOON [8], we fol-

# Algorithm 2 FDSE-Adaption

**Input**: The trained model  $\mathcal{M}$ , the target domain's testing data  $\mathcal{D}_{target}$ , the number of epochs E, the learning rate  $\eta$ 

- 1: the target client freezes the gradient of trainable parameters  $\theta_u$  in  $\mathcal{M}$  if  $\theta_u$  does not belong to any DSE modules and fixes all the statistical parameters of BN<sub>DFE</sub>.
- 2: for epoch i = 1, ..., E do
- 3: for batch data  $(\mathbf{X}, y) \in \mathcal{D}_{target}$  do
- 4: the target client computes model forward  $\mathcal{M}(\mathbf{X})$
- 5: the target client hook DSE module's outputs  $\{\mathbf{X}_{l}^{(l)}\}$
- 6: the target client compute regularization term in Sec. 4.2
- 7: the target client optimizes the non-frozen parameters to minimize the regularization term via gradient descent with step size  $\eta$ .
- 8: end for
- 9: end for
- 10: return  $\mathcal{M}$

low its setting to set the range of the coefficient  $\mu$  as [0.1, 1.0, 5.0, 10.0] and fix the value of  $\tau = 0.5$ . For Fed-Dyn [1], we tune the regularization coefficient  $alpha \in [0.001, 0.01, 0.03, 0.1]$ . For FedHeal, we tune the  $\tau \in [0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 0.5]$ . For FDSE, we fix  $\beta = 0.001$  and only tune  $\lambda \in [0.01, 0.1, 1.0], \tau \in [0.001, 0.01, 0.1, 0.5]$ .

## A1.5. Adapation Details

We illustrate the details of model adaptation for each method in Sec. 5.4. For FedAvg, we directly use the global model to make predictions on the target domain. For FedBN, we first collect local statistics for 1 epoch on the target domain's testing dataset and then evaluate the adapted model, as is shown in Algo. 1. For FDSE, we fine-tune



Figure A2. Testing loss curves on other model architectures.

Table A4. Model performance  $(\uparrow)$  on other model architectures.

| Method  | DomainNet-ResNet50 |                    | PACS-ViT-B/8       |                    |  |
|---------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|--|
|         | ALL                | AVG                | ALL                | AVG                |  |
| FedAvg  | $59.90 \pm 0.96$   | $58.71_{\pm 1.06}$ | $26.44_{\pm 4.16}$ | $25.94 \pm 4.46$   |  |
| FedHeal | $66.16 \pm 0.62$   | $64.52 \pm 0.55$   | $30.05_{\pm 3.44}$ | $29.51_{\pm 2.98}$ |  |
| FedBN   | $69.36 \pm 0.29$   | $66.99 \pm 0.53$   | $36.67_{\pm 2.01}$ | $36.22_{\pm 2.86}$ |  |
| Ditto   | $67.70 \pm 0.36$   | $64.99 \pm 0.49$   | $31.96 \pm 4.32$   | $31.75 \pm 4.13$   |  |
| FDSE    | $72.98_{\pm 0.39}$ | $70.44_{\pm 0.32}$ | $38.24_{\pm 1.69}$ | $38.41_{\pm 1.90}$ |  |

Table A5. Model performance  $(\uparrow)$  on unseen clients.

| Dataset   |     | FedAvg | FedBN | FedDG-GA | FedSR | FDSE  |
|-----------|-----|--------|-------|----------|-------|-------|
| Office    | С   | 51.78  | 60.71 | 55.35    | 56.25 | 57.14 |
|           | Α   | 70.52  | 70.52 | 72.63    | 75.78 | 75.78 |
|           | D   | 80.00  | 80.00 | 86.66    | 86.66 | 93.33 |
|           | W   | 65.61  | 55.17 | 68.96    | 69.32 | 75.86 |
|           | avg | 66.95  | 66.60 | 70.90    | 72.00 | 75.52 |
| DomainNet | С   | 62.81  | 62.56 | 62.43    | 60.75 | 65.22 |
|           | I   | 30.15  | 31.14 | 30.70    | 31.81 | 32.34 |
|           | Р   | 55.53  | 57.26 | 57.04    | 56.18 | 59.32 |
|           | 0   | 48.86  | 53.06 | 48.26    | 52.13 | 55.00 |
|           | R   | 59.74  | 63.17 | 59.85    | 64.15 | 64.28 |
|           | S   | 58.92  | 62.46 | 58.92    | 58.55 | 65.28 |
|           | avg | 52.66  | 54.94 | 52.87    | 53.92 | 56.91 |

the DSE modules and fix other parameters to minimize the consistency regularization (e.g., Sec. 4.2) for several epochs before evaluation as shown in Algo. 2.

## A2. Additional Experiments

### A2.1. Other Model Architecture

We have studied the effectiveness on relatively large models in Table A4. We replace the last operator of each layer (i.e., ResNet50's block and Vit-B/8's feedforward layer) with DSE module. FDSE consistently outperforms baselines (e.g., Table A4) and exhibits faster convergence speed (e.g., Figure A2).

### A2.2. Additional Baselines of generalizabilityy

We compare FDSE with the additional baselines [15, 18] for unseen clients in Table A5. FDSE outperforms all baselines, which we attribute to the additional adaptation steps.

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