

A. Supplementary Materials for PALM

A.1. Related Work

Active learning (AL) has been widely explored as a means to reduce annotation costs by querying the most informative samples. AL strategies are commonly categorized by their core selection criteria, including uncertainty, diversity, representation, and hybrid approaches. Uncertainty-based methods prioritize samples where the model exhibits the lowest confidence. A classical approach is uncertainty sampling [21], which selects data points with low predicted class confidence. Margin sampling [30] targets instances where the difference between the top two predicted class probabilities is small, indicating ambiguity. Entropy-based sampling [32] captures total predictive uncertainty by selecting samples with high entropy in the output distribution.

Diversity-based methods seek to avoid redundancy by selecting a set of samples that spans the data distribution. These techniques often rely on geometric or statistical distance metrics. For example, the k-Center Greedy algorithm [31] minimizes the maximum distance between selected points and the remaining pool. BADGE [2] combines uncertainty and diversity by clustering in gradient space using a k-means++ scheme. Diversity plays a crucial role in early-stage selection to ensure broader coverage of the input space. Moreover, representation-based methods utilize structure in the feature space to guide sampling. These often rely on clustering or geometric criteria to identify representative or central points. Examples include k-means-based sampling [37], medoid selection [1], and median-based heuristics [34]. TypiClust [14] extends this idea by combining sample typicality and cluster centrality, favoring samples that are both generalizable and diverse.

Hybrid methods integrate multiple selection criteria, often combining uncertainty with diversity. DBAL [10] leverages Bayesian dropout to estimate uncertainty, while promoting diversity among queried samples. These methods are particularly valuable in deep neural networks, where relying solely on uncertainty can lead to redundant or misleading selections. To facilitate the empirical comparison of AL strategies, LabelBench [40] was proposed as a modular and extensible benchmarking suite. It enables evaluation of AL, semi-supervised learning, and transfer learning under consistent conditions, including different model architectures and labeling budgets. LabelBench places strong emphasis on reproducibility and explores the synergy between AL and pretrained models, particularly vision transformers. Its findings suggest that combining AL with SSL can yield notable improvements in label efficiency.

While LabelBench provides a valuable empirical benchmarking framework, our work contributes a complementary modeling perspective. PALM introduces a predictive and interpretable parametric model for characterizing AL

behavior. By estimating three key descriptors, i.e., initial performance, growth rate, and asymptotic accuracy, PALM enables quantitative comparison of AL methods and forecasting of future performance based on partial observations. Although both approaches evaluate common AL strategies, LabelBench emphasizes empirical performance across tasks and architectures, while PALM focuses on modeling and interpretability of AL dynamics.

A.2. PALM Proofs and Corollary

In this section, we provide the proofs and a corollary corresponding to the methods described in the main text.

A.2.1. Definition 1: Coverage Probability

Proof. By the complement rule in probability theory, the probability of an event occurring is equal to one minus the probability of its complement. Let A represent the event that a point x is covered by at least one object, and let A^c represent the complement event, where x is not covered by any object. According to the complement rule, we have:

$$P(A) + P(A^c) = 1. \quad (17)$$

Substituting $P(A) = P_C$ and $P(A^c) = P_{NC}$, the equation becomes:

$$P_C + P_{NC} = 1, \quad (18)$$

which completes the proof.

A.2.2. Definition 2: Coverage Probability with s Independent Objects

Proof. Let p represent the probability that a single randomly placed object covers point x . The probability that a single object does not cover x is $1 - p$. Now, consider s objects placed independently in the space \mathbb{X} . Since the objects are independent, the probability that none of them covers x is the product of their individual non-coverage probabilities:

$$P_{UC} = (1 - p)^s. \quad (19)$$

Thus, the probability that x is covered by at least one object is:

$$P_C = 1 - (1 - p)^s. \quad (20)$$

This completes the proof.

A.2.3. Corollary 2: Asymptotic Behavior of Accuracy as a Function of Coverage Probability

The test generalization accuracy function is given by:

$$A = A_C (1 - (1 - \delta)^B) + A_{UC} (1 - \delta)^B. \quad (21)$$

This function exhibits the following asymptotic behaviors:

Case 1. No Labeled Samples ($B = 0$): When no labeled samples are available, the coverage fraction is:

$$P_C = 1 - (1 - \delta)^0 = 0. \quad (22)$$

Substituting this into the accuracy function gives $A = A_{UC}$, indicating that without labeled data, the model's accuracy depends on its performance in the uncovered regions.

Case 2. Infinite Labeled Samples ($B \rightarrow \infty$): As the number of labeled samples increases, the coverage probability approaches one:

$$\lim_{B \rightarrow \infty} (1 - \delta)^B = 0. \quad (23)$$

Substituting this into the accuracy function yields:

$$\lim_{B \rightarrow \infty} A = A_C, \quad (24)$$

which implies that with full coverage, the model achieves its maximum accuracy in the covered regions.

Case 3. Small δ Approximation for Large B : For small values of δ , the coverage term $(1 - \delta)^B$ can be approximated using the first-order Taylor expansion:

$$(1 - \delta)^B \approx e^{-B\delta}, \quad (25)$$

since $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0^+} (1 - x) \approx e^{-x}$. Thus, for sufficiently large B , the accuracy function approximates:

$$A \approx A_C (1 - e^{-B\delta}) + A_{UC} e^{-B\delta}, \quad (26)$$

which shows that the accuracy converges exponentially towards A_C , with the rate of convergence governed by δ .

A.2.4. Definition 6: Generalized Accuracy as a Function of Coverage with Exponential Adjustment

Proof. We aim to derive the generalized accuracy function, which incorporates the parameters α and β . The function is defined as:

$$A = A_{\max} \left(1 - (1 - \delta)^{(B+\alpha)^\beta} \right), \quad (27)$$

where A_{\max} is the maximum achievable accuracy under full coverage, B is the cumulative number of labeled samples, δ represents the expected fraction of the space covered by a single labeled sample, α accounts for initial learning effects and prior knowledge, allowing non-zero accuracy when $B = 0$, and β controls the scaling of accuracy growth as B increases.

We start with the test accuracy function given by:

$$A = A_C (1 - (1 - \delta)^B) + A_{UC} (1 - \delta)^B. \quad (28)$$

Rearranging the terms:

$$A = A_C - (A_C - A_{UC})(1 - \delta)^B. \quad (29)$$

Assuming that $A_{\max} = A_C$, we rewrite the expression as:

$$A = A_{\max} - (A_{\max} - A_{UC})(1 - \delta)^B. \quad (30)$$

As B increases, the second term vanishes, since $(1 - \delta)^B \rightarrow 0$, which ensures that $A \rightarrow A_{\max}$, as expected under full coverage. To generalize this formulation and account for variations in early learning dynamics and growth rates, we replace B with the adjusted term $(B + \alpha)^\beta$, where $\alpha > 0$ allows the model to exhibit non-zero accuracy even when $B = 0$, representing prior knowledge or inherent generalization, and $\beta > 0$ modulates the rate of accuracy increase with B . Substituting this adjustment, the generalized accuracy function becomes:

$$A = A_{\max} - (A_{\max} - A_{UC})(1 - \delta)^{(B+\alpha)^\beta}. \quad (31)$$

Finally, assuming that the uncovered regions contribute negligible accuracy ($A_{UC} \approx 0$), the expression simplifies to:

$$A = A_{\max} \left(1 - (1 - \delta)^{(B+\alpha)^\beta} \right). \quad (32)$$

Thus, the generalized accuracy function models the influence of labeled sample coverage, prior knowledge, and learning dynamics on active learning performance.

A.2.5. Corollary 3: Asymptotic Behavior of Generalized Accuracy with Exponential Adjustment

The generalized test accuracy function exhibits the following asymptotic behavior:

Case 1. No Labeled Samples ($B = 0$): When no labeled samples are available, the accuracy simplifies to:

$$A = A_{\max} \left(1 - (1 - \delta)^{\alpha^\beta} \right), \quad (33)$$

which leads to two characteristic scenarios:

- If $\alpha > 0$, then $A > 0$, indicating that the model achieves non-zero accuracy even without labeled data. This reflects the model's ability to generalize from uncovered regions or prior knowledge.
- If $\alpha = 0$, we recover the classical case where no coverage implies zero accuracy, i.e., $A = 0$.

Case 2. Infinite Labeled Samples ($B \rightarrow \infty$): As the number of labeled samples grows to infinity:

$$\lim_{B \rightarrow \infty} (B + \alpha)^\beta = \infty. \quad (34)$$

Since $0 < 1 - \delta < 1$, we have:

$$\lim_{B \rightarrow \infty} (1 - \delta)^{(B+\alpha)^\beta} = 0. \quad (35)$$

Therefore, the accuracy converges to its theoretical maximum:

$$\lim_{B \rightarrow \infty} A = A_{\max}. \quad (36)$$

This confirms that, with full coverage, the model achieves optimal performance.

Case 3. Small δ Approximation for Large B : For small δ , the coverage term can be approximated using the first-order Taylor expansion:

$$(1 - \delta)^{(B+\alpha)^\beta} \approx e^{-(B+\alpha)^\beta \delta}. \quad (37)$$

Thus, for sufficiently large B , the accuracy function approximates:

$$A \approx A_{\max} \left(1 - e^{-(B+\alpha)^\beta \delta}\right), \quad (38)$$

which shows that the accuracy converges exponentially toward A_{\max} , with a rate of convergence determined by α , β , and δ .

A.2.6. Lemma 1: Parameter Estimation for Learning Dynamics in Active Learning Without Normalization

Let B denote the total number of labeled samples collected during an active learning (AL) process. Given the observed accuracy values from the AL process, we aim to estimate the parameters A_{\max} , δ , α , and β in the model:

$$A = A_{\max} \left(1 - (1 - \delta)^{(B+\alpha)^\beta}\right). \quad (39)$$

These parameters can be empirically estimated from accuracy measurements collected over multiple AL iterations without the need to normalize B .

Suppose accuracy is observed for at least four different cumulative budgets B_1, B_2, B_3, B_4 , with corresponding accuracies A_1, A_2, A_3 , and A_4 . The parameters A_{\max} , δ , α , and β can then be estimated by solving the following system of equations using nonlinear regression techniques:

$$A_i = A_{\max} \left(1 - (1 - \delta)^{(B_i+\alpha)^\beta}\right), \quad i = 1, 2, 3, 4. \quad (40)$$

The complexity of estimating the parameters primarily depends on evaluating the exponentiation term $(1 - \delta)^{(B+\alpha)^\beta}$. Using optimized exponentiation algorithms, the complexity is approximately $\mathcal{O}(\log(B))$. However, in naive implementations, the complexity can approach $\mathcal{O}(B^\beta)$, especially for large B . For large values of B , the following challenges arise:

- **Computational Overhead:** The term $(B + \alpha)^\beta$ grows rapidly, increasing computation time.
- **Numerical Instability:** Large exponents may lead to floating-point precision errors.
- **Diminishing Accuracy Gains:** As B increases, the marginal contribution of additional labeled samples decreases due to saturation effects.

To mitigate these issues, normalizing B by the mean budget per iteration (b) reduces the computational cost from $\mathcal{O}(B^\beta)$ to $\mathcal{O}((B/b)^\beta)$, improves numerical stability during exponentiation, and ensures smoother convergence behavior of the accuracy function. The normalized generalized

accuracy function is then given by:

$$A = A_{\max} \left(1 - (1 - \delta)^{\left(\frac{B}{b} + \alpha\right)^\beta}\right), \quad (41)$$

where normalization aligns the function with the number of AL iterations rather than the absolute number of labeled samples.

A.2.7. Theorem 1: Comparing Two Active Learning Methods Using the Normalized Accuracy Function

Proof. Consider two active learning methods 1 and 2, with normalized accuracy functions defined as:

$$A_1 = A_{\max,1} \left(1 - (1 - \delta_1)^{\left(\frac{B}{b_1} + \alpha_1\right)^{\beta_1}}\right), \quad (42)$$

$$A_2 = A_{\max,2} \left(1 - (1 - \delta_2)^{\left(\frac{B}{b_2} + \alpha_2\right)^{\beta_2}}\right). \quad (43)$$

To compare their performance for a given budget B , we define the ratio of accuracies. Method 1 outperforms Method 2 at budget B if $A_1/A_2 > 1$.

Full Coverage Limit ($B \rightarrow \infty$). As the number of labeled samples approaches infinity:

$$\lim_{B \rightarrow \infty} A_1 = A_{\max,1}, \quad \lim_{B \rightarrow \infty} A_2 = A_{\max,2}. \quad (44)$$

Thus, in the limit of infinite budget, the method with the higher A_{\max} dominates:

$$A_{\max,1} > A_{\max,2} \Rightarrow \lim_{B \rightarrow \infty} \frac{A_1}{A_2} > 1. \quad (45)$$

Early-Stage Learning (small B). For small budget B , applying the first-order Taylor approximation results in:

$$(1 - \delta)^x \approx e^{-x\delta}. \quad (46)$$

Therefore, we can approximate the accuracy functions as:

$$A_1 \approx A_{\max,1} \left(1 - e^{-\delta_1 \left(\frac{B}{b_1} + \alpha_1\right)^{\beta_1}}\right), \quad (47)$$

$$A_2 \approx A_{\max,2} \left(1 - e^{-\delta_2 \left(\frac{B}{b_2} + \alpha_2\right)^{\beta_2}}\right). \quad (48)$$

In this regime, faster accuracy growth occurs for the method with larger δ , higher α , smaller b , and larger β .

General Comparison Criterion. To compare the accuracy growth rates, differentiate the accuracy functions with respect to B . Method 1 improves faster than Method 2 if:

$$\frac{dA_1}{dB} > \frac{dA_2}{dB}. \quad (49)$$

This condition holds when:

$$\delta_1 \left(\frac{1}{b_1} + \frac{\alpha_1}{B}\right)^{\beta_1} > \delta_2 \left(\frac{1}{b_2} + \frac{\alpha_2}{B}\right)^{\beta_2}. \quad (50)$$

In summary, Method 1 outperforms Method 2 when it exhibits higher coverage efficiency (δ), smaller batch size (b), greater initial accuracy boost (α), or faster accuracy scaling (β). Additionally, the asymptotic accuracy A_{\max} determines long-term dominance as B increases. Together, these parameters provide a comprehensive framework for quantitatively comparing active learning strategies across different budget regimes.

A.3. Quantitative Results

Table 1. PALM parameter estimates for CIFAR-10 without pretrained embeddings, evaluated across various AL strategies and different numbers of labeled points used for curve fitting based on the mean values from 5 repetitions. The table reports the maximum achievable accuracy (A_{\max}), coverage efficiency (δ), early-stage performance offset (α), and scalability (β). In the absence of pretrained embeddings, methods show slower learning dynamics and lower δ values, with α increasing over time, indicating delayed accuracy gains. TypiClust demonstrates relatively higher δ values throughout, reflecting strong sample efficiency. In contrast, methods like Margin and Entropy show increasing α and β , indicating slower convergence in later stages.

| AL Method | 6 Points | | | | 10 Points | | | | 20 Points | | | | 50 Points | | | | 100 Points | | | | 500 Points | | | | 1000 Points | | | |
|-------------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|-------------|----------|----------|---------|
| | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β |
| Random | 32.6 | 0.373 | 2.519 | 0.688 | 100 | 0.168 | 1.611 | 0.303 | 100 | 0.144 | 2.466 | 0.365 | 100 | 0.139 | 2.745 | 0.376 | 100 | 0.124 | 3.696 | 0.409 | 93.8 | 0.116 | 4.951 | 0.446 | 90.7 | 0.108 | 6.263 | 0.475 |
| Uncertainty | 100 | 0.105 | 1.714 | 0.467 | 36.3 | 0.138 | 3.365 | 0.932 | 49.0 | 0.147 | 2.716 | 0.701 | 65.2 | 0.161 | 1.624 | 0.510 | 91.5 | 0.135 | 1.092 | 0.416 | 99.6 | 0.102 | 2.614 | 0.456 | 93.7 | 0.090 | 4.644 | 0.506 |
| Margin | 39.1 | 0.457 | 1.289 | 0.390 | 100 | 0.167 | 1.672 | 0.316 | 100 | 0.150 | 2.227 | 0.360 | 100 | 0.142 | 2.626 | 0.377 | 100 | 0.127 | 3.587 | 0.409 | 93.6 | 0.097 | 7.353 | 0.497 | 92.6 | 0.094 | 7.812 | 0.507 |
| Entropy | 56.7 | 0.317 | 0.355 | 0.282 | 100 | 0.176 | 0.397 | 0.264 | 100 | 0.165 | 0.611 | 0.304 | 100 | 0.152 | 0.935 | 0.333 | 100 | 0.126 | 2.204 | 0.389 | 99.4 | 0.083 | 7.303 | 0.490 | 93.3 | 0.070 | 10.00 | 0.546 |
| TypiClust | 35.4 | 0.489 | 1.274 | 0.617 | 42.3 | 0.474 | 0.858 | 0.412 | 52.3 | 0.410 | 0.618 | 0.308 | 100 | 0.180 | 1.726 | 0.307 | 100 | 0.165 | 2.451 | 0.333 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |

Table 2. PALM parameter estimates for CIFAR-10 without pretrained embeddings, evaluated across various AL strategies and different numbers of labeled points used for curve fitting based on the minimum values from 5 repetitions. The table reports the maximum achievable accuracy (A_{\max}), coverage efficiency (δ), early-stage performance offset (α), and scalability (β). In the absence of pretrained embeddings, methods show slower learning dynamics and lower δ values, with α increasing over time, indicating delayed accuracy gains. TypiClust demonstrates relatively higher δ values throughout, reflecting strong sample efficiency. In contrast, methods like Margin and Entropy show increasing α and β , indicating slower convergence in later stages.

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|-------------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|-------------|----------|----------|---------|
| | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β |
| Random | 100 | 0.144 | 2.369 | 0.319 | 100 | 0.085 | 4.819 | 0.534 | 100 | 0.093 | 4.654 | 0.493 | 87.1 | 0.143 | 2.824 | 0.407 | 100 | 0.114 | 3.635 | 0.418 | 93.4 | 0.107 | 4.930 | 0.458 | 90.0 | 0.098 | 6.350 | 0.490 |
| Uncertainty | 73.7 | 0.000 | 38.91 | 4.559 | 57.9 | 0.000 | 56.46 | 4.146 | 50.7 | 0.148 | 1.790 | 0.658 | 57.7 | 0.154 | 1.355 | 0.571 | 81.6 | 0.138 | 0.732 | 0.442 | 100 | 0.095 | 2.140 | 0.462 | 93.7 | 0.083 | 4.104 | 0.512 |
| Margin | 70.8 | 0.000 | 39.14 | 4.522 | 100 | 0.188 | 0.446 | 0.246 | 100 | 0.164 | 0.955 | 0.319 | 100 | 0.142 | 1.733 | 0.369 | 100 | 0.125 | 2.669 | 0.406 | 97.3 | 0.104 | 4.834 | 0.460 | 92.8 | 0.093 | 6.879 | 0.502 |
| Entropy | 72.5 | 0.000 | 40.98 | 4.510 | 55.6 | 0.000 | 53.58 | 4.138 | 100 | 0.146 | 0.380 | 0.327 | 100 | 0.136 | 0.599 | 0.356 | 100 | 0.122 | 1.093 | 0.389 | 100 | 0.077 | 6.406 | 0.495 | 93.2 | 0.063 | 10.31 | 0.559 |
| TypiClust | 63.5 | 0.000 | 35.52 | 4.594 | 100 | 0.197 | 0.508 | 0.262 | 100 | 0.203 | 0.409 | 0.242 | 48.2 | 0.343 | 1.120 | 0.425 | 49.9 | 0.353 | 0.878 | 0.386 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |

Table 3. PALM parameter estimates for CIFAR-10 without pretrained embeddings, evaluated across various AL strategies and different numbers of labeled points used for curve fitting based on the maximum values from 5 repetitions. The table reports the maximum achievable accuracy (A_{\max}), coverage efficiency (δ), early-stage performance offset (α), and scalability (β). In the absence of pretrained embeddings, methods show slower learning dynamics and lower δ values, with α increasing over time, indicating delayed accuracy gains. TypiClust demonstrates relatively higher δ values throughout, reflecting strong sample efficiency. In contrast, methods like Margin and Entropy show increasing α and β , indicating slower convergence in later stages.

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|-------------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|-------------|----------|----------|---------|
| | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β |
| Random | 29.6 | 0.001 | 16.87 | 5.348 | 34.8 | 0.423 | 2.032 | 0.639 | 100 | 0.180 | 1.608 | 0.301 | 100 | 0.145 | 3.133 | 0.372 | 100 | 0.126 | 4.355 | 0.412 | 100 | 0.126 | 4.355 | 0.412 | 91.6 | 0.120 | 5.799 | 0.454 |
| Uncertainty | 100 | 0.008 | 11.58 | 1.265 | 33.1 | 0.000 | 28.16 | 4.467 | 40.4 | 0.022 | 9.550 | 1.423 | 71.9 | 0.150 | 2.545 | 0.495 | 99.5 | 0.123 | 2.053 | 0.420 | 94.8 | 0.101 | 4.184 | 0.486 | 93.8 | 0.098 | 4.613 | 0.496 |
| Margin | 100 | 0.092 | 6.633 | 0.520 | 100 | 0.000 | 44.99 | 2.612 | 41.2 | 0.007 | 16.22 | 1.686 | 100 | 0.139 | 3.940 | 0.389 | 100 | 0.123 | 5.139 | 0.421 | 91.1 | 0.088 | 10.16 | 0.534 | 92.6 | 0.097 | 8.479 | 0.506 |
| Entropy | 47.9 | 0.000 | 81.58 | 3.796 | 100 | 0.155 | 1.531 | 0.346 | 100 | 0.159 | 1.406 | 0.336 | 80.2 | 0.200 | 1.328 | 0.348 | 100 | 0.133 | 2.932 | 0.384 | 91.8 | 0.067 | 12.81 | 0.569 | 92.7 | 0.072 | 11.69 | 0.553 |
| TypiClust | 33.8 | 0.222 | 2.706 | 1.290 | 36.2 | 0.456 | 1.481 | 0.749 | 48.3 | 0.481 | 0.550 | 0.324 | 100 | 0.165 | 3.205 | 0.345 | 100 | 0.142 | 4.792 | 0.388 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |

Table 4. PALM parameter estimates for CIFAR-10 using SimCLR embeddings for feature extraction, evaluated across various AL strategies and different numbers of labeled points used for curve fitting based on the mean values from 5 repetitions. The table reports the maximum achievable accuracy (A_{\max}), coverage efficiency (δ), early-stage performance offset (α), and scalability (β). The results highlight the acceleration of learning dynamics with pretrained embeddings, where TypiClust and Margin benefit from high δ and low α , indicating efficient early-stage learning. Conversely, methods like Entropy and DBAL exhibit delayed improvements at small budgets but show recovery and better performance as the annotation grows.

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|-------------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|-------------|----------|----------|---------|
| | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β |
| Random | 100 | 0.443 | 0.536 | 0.341 | 100 | 0.451 | 0.473 | 0.317 | 100 | 0.394 | 0.912 | 0.413 | 84.2 | 0.290 | 2.314 | 0.735 | 85.0 | 0.355 | 1.690 | 0.633 | 86.6 | 0.496 | 0.609 | 0.434 | 87.1 | 0.536 | 0.392 | 0.381 |
| Uncertainty | 100 | 0.278 | 0.123 | 0.147 | 74.1 | 0.000 | 26.35 | 4.534 | 75.2 | 0.000 | 22.50 | 4.536 | 79.8 | 0.005 | 8.341 | 1.940 | 82.7 | 0.061 | 3.390 | 1.142 | 86.6 | 0.220 | 0.708 | 0.640 | 87.6 | 0.270 | 0.397 | 0.546 |
| Margin | 68.1 | 0.000 | 12.57 | 5.699 | 80.1 | 0.250 | 1.853 | 0.966 | 82.5 | 0.286 | 1.596 | 0.857 | 84.3 | 0.357 | 1.133 | 0.705 | 85.5 | 0.409 | 0.819 | 0.605 | 87.5 | 0.511 | 0.326 | 0.428 | 87.9 | 0.535 | 0.241 | 0.389 |
| Entropy | 34.8 | 0.000 | 13.34 | 5.462 | 39.1 | 0.299 | 1.822 | 0.856 | 81.6 | 0.000 | 31.60 | 4.337 | 76.6 | 0.000 | 31.40 | 4.427 | 80.2 | 0.008 | 8.037 | 1.643 | 86.2 | 0.183 | 0.581 | 0.632 | 87.5 | 0.227 | 0.305 | 0.542 |
| TypiClust | 78.1 | 0.859 | 0.536 | 0.347 | 88.2 | 0.788 | 0.188 | 0.147 | 96.7 | 0.721 | 0.153 | 0.116 | 85.5 | 0.803 | 0.298 | 0.188 | 85.3 | 0.803 | 0.312 | 0.192 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| DBAL | 33.3 | 0.000 | 12.11 | 5.595 | 100 | 0.185 | 0.862 | 0.369 | 79.6 | 0.000 | 30.30 | 4.377 | 76.1 | 0.000 | 29.55 | 4.413 | 80.0 | 0.014 | 6.508 | 1.505 | 86.3 | 0.197 | 0.488 | 0.608 | 87.5 | 0.236 | 0.274 | 0.528 |

Table 5. PALM parameter estimates for CIFAR-10 using SimCLR embeddings for feature extraction, evaluated across various AL strategies and different numbers of labeled points used for curve fitting based on the minimum values from 5 repetitions. The table reports the maximum achievable accuracy (A_{\max}), coverage efficiency (δ), early-stage performance offset (α), and scalability (β). The results highlight the acceleration of learning dynamics with pretrained embeddings, where TypiClust and Margin benefit from high δ and low α , indicating efficient early-stage learning. Conversely, methods like Entropy and DBAL exhibit delayed improvements at small budgets but show recovery and better performance as the annotation grows.

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|-------------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|-------------|----------|----------|---------|
| | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β |
| Random | 60.4 | 0.000 | 12.60 | 5.593 | 66.7 | 0.510 | 0.808 | 0.588 | 100 | 0.258 | 1.699 | 0.562 | 83.5 | 0.117 | 4.241 | 1.009 | 84.6 | 0.211 | 2.595 | 0.789 | 86.2 | 0.357 | 1.004 | 0.551 | 86.8 | 0.411 | 0.615 | 0.476 |
| Uncertainty | 57.3 | 0.000 | 66.30 | 3.987 | 70.1 | 0.000 | 19.46 | 4.726 | 71.4 | 0.000 | 17.86 | 4.808 | 77.9 | 0.010 | 5.007 | 1.777 | 82.0 | 0.075 | 1.750 | 1.069 | 86.4 | 0.190 | 0.379 | 0.665 | 87.4 | 0.226 | 0.237 | 0.584 |
| Margin | 62.4 | 0.267 | 0.894 | 1.361 | 94.7 | 0.362 | 0.115 | 0.462 | 100 | 0.333 | 0.137 | 0.479 | 85.4 | 0.348 | 0.276 | 0.618 | 85.5 | 0.350 | 0.266 | 0.612 | 87.3 | 0.398 | 0.119 | 0.508 | 87.7 | 0.416 | 0.087 | 0.475 |
| Entropy | 72.0 | 0.000 | 41.39 | 4.450 | 57.4 | 0.000 | 57.33 | 4.091 | 69.0 | 0.000 | 21.11 | 4.556 | 73.4 | 0.000 | 20.41 | 3.828 | 78.6 | 0.016 | 3.898 | 1.433 | 86.0 | 0.134 | 0.188 | 0.690 | 87.3 | 0.161 | 0.105 | 0.614 |
| TypiClust | 72.7 | 0.201 | 4.324 | 1.445 | 100 | 0.647 | 0.529 | 0.140 | 82.3 | 0.734 | 1.142 | 0.291 | 82.8 | 0.752 | 0.892 | 0.256 | 84.3 | 0.760 | 0.643 | 0.212 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| DBAL | 61.5 | 0.000 | 61.75 | 4.078 | 55.4 | 0.000 | 51.67 | 4.223 | 70.4 | 0.000 | 23.07 | 4.499 | 71.9 | 0.000 | 25.99 | 4.604 | 78.5 | 0.037 | 2.457 | 1.183 | 86.2 | 0.149 | 0.162 | 0.647 | 87.4 | 0.172 | 0.101 | 0.588 |

Table 6. PALM parameter estimates for CIFAR-10 using SimCLR embeddings for feature extraction, evaluated across various AL strategies and different numbers of labeled points used for curve fitting based on the maximum values from 5 repetitions. The table reports the maximum achievable accuracy (A_{\max}), coverage efficiency (δ), early-stage performance offset (α), and scalability (β). The results highlight the acceleration of learning dynamics with pretrained embeddings, where TypiClust and Margin benefit from high δ and low α , indicating efficient early-stage learning. Conversely, methods like Entropy and DBAL exhibit delayed improvements at small budgets but show recovery and better performance as the annotation grows.

| AL Method | 6 Points | | | | 10 Points | | | | 20 Points | | | | 50 Points | | | | 100 Points | | | | 500 Points | | | | 1000 Points | | | |
|-------------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|-------------|----------|----------|---------|
| | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β |
| Random | 100 | 0.509 | 0.559 | 0.321 | 100 | 0.518 | 0.494 | 0.306 | 96.5 | 0.531 | 0.535 | 0.327 | 84.9 | 0.480 | 1.317 | 0.556 | 85.3 | 0.511 | 1.096 | 0.511 | 86.9 | 0.626 | 0.362 | 0.342 | 87.3 | 0.652 | 0.238 | 0.303 |
| Uncertainty | 39.5 | 0.000 | 6.601 | 5.378 | 85.5 | 0.000 | 36.72 | 4.202 | 80.0 | 0.000 | 29.09 | 4.311 | 81.3 | 0.000 | 23.79 | 3.425 | 83.1 | 0.009 | 9.458 | 1.690 | 86.7 | 0.246 | 1.170 | 0.625 | 87.7 | 0.322 | 0.564 | 0.503 |
| Margin | 100 | 0.026 | 5.817 | 1.720 | 79.0 | 0.000 | 14.39 | 4.978 | 81.4 | 0.117 | 3.350 | 1.421 | 84.3 | 0.461 | 1.076 | 0.665 | 85.7 | 0.546 | 0.641 | 0.508 | 87.7 | 0.634 | 0.232 | 0.338 | 88.1 | 0.652 | 0.172 | 0.308 |
| Entropy | 45.9 | 0.000 | 14.25 | 5.363 | 43.3 | 0.000 | 12.78 | 5.494 | 88.4 | 0.000 | 38.05 | 4.203 | 78.6 | 0.000 | 32.07 | 4.160 | 80.9 | 0.000 | 19.07 | 2.554 | 86.4 | 0.268 | 0.739 | 0.541 | 87.7 | 0.320 | 0.404 | 0.456 |
| TypiClust | 78.3 | 0.000 | 10.77 | 6.109 | 78.3 | 0.000 | 10.73 | 6.118 | 100 | 0.741 | 0.017 | 0.078 | 93.5 | 0.793 | 0.023 | 0.092 | 88.2 | 0.836 | 0.048 | 0.124 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| DBAL | 46.5 | 0.000 | 15.57 | 5.270 | 41.8 | 0.000 | 12.80 | 5.467 | 87.1 | 0.000 | 36.19 | 4.217 | 78.5 | 0.000 | 31.29 | 4.163 | 81.1 | 0.000 | 20.40 | 2.700 | 86.3 | 0.243 | 0.901 | 0.576 | 87.5 | 0.304 | 0.454 | 0.474 |

Table 7. PALM parameter estimates for CIFAR-100 across different AL methods and varying numbers of labeled points used for estimation. The table reports the maximum achievable accuracy (A_{\max}), coverage efficiency (δ), early-stage performance offset (α), and scalability (β). Higher values of δ and lower values of α indicate more efficient early-stage learning, while β reflects the scalability of the method as the number of labeled points increases.

| AL Method | 6 Points | | | | 10 Points | | | | 20 Points | | | | 50 Points | | | | 100 Points | | | | 448 Points | | | |
|-------------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|
| | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β |
| Random | 59.0 | 0.000 | 80.98 | 3.804 | 52.3 | 0.000 | 68.27 | 3.935 | 55.5 | 0.000 | 85.53 | 3.707 | 36.4 | 0.081 | 1.376 | 0.675 | 79.4 | 0.050 | 0.720 | 0.518 | 79.8 | 0.048 | 0.955 | 0.526 |
| Uncertainty | 55.6 | 0.000 | 86.03 | 3.771 | 43.7 | 0.000 | 85.64 | 3.781 | 46.1 | 0.000 | 85.11 | 3.715 | 93.8 | 0.035 | 0.410 | 0.531 | 100 | 0.030 | 0.626 | 0.551 | 69.9 | 0.029 | 3.469 | 0.656 |
| Margin | 44.8 | 0.000 | 85.36 | 3.772 | 56.6 | 0.000 | 85.26 | 3.748 | 46.6 | 0.000 | 86.15 | 3.728 | 25.8 | 0.000 | 73.40 | 3.936 | 100 | 0.042 | 1.044 | 0.482 | 58.0 | 0.025 | 10.64 | 0.751 |
| Entropy | 56.1 | 0.000 | 84.65 | 3.783 | 40.2 | 0.000 | 97.83 | 3.668 | 56.1 | 0.000 | 83.88 | 3.746 | 23.2 | 0.000 | 70.11 | 4.037 | 100 | 0.025 | 0.772 | 0.568 | 61.3 | 0.018 | 7.519 | 0.777 |
| TypiClust | 52.0 | 0.000 | 90.99 | 3.712 | 68.1 | 0.000 | 67.31 | 3.953 | 54.5 | 0.000 | 86.69 | 3.737 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| DBAL | 51.3 | 0.000 | 88.04 | 3.764 | 52.6 | 0.000 | 88.59 | 3.740 | 54.7 | 0.000 | 84.73 | 3.736 | 23.3 | 0.000 | 54.62 | 4.185 | 47.5 | 0.031 | 1.284 | 0.774 | 100 | 0.024 | 0.452 | 0.595 |

Table 8. PALM parameter estimates for CIFAR-100 using SimCLR embeddings, evaluated across different AL strategies and varying numbers of labeled points used for estimation. The table reports the maximum achievable accuracy (A_{\max}), coverage efficiency (δ), early-stage performance offset (α), and scalability (β). Higher δ values and lower α indicate more efficient early-stage learning, while β captures the rate of accuracy growth as the number of labeled points increases.

| AL Method | 6 Points | | | | 10 Points | | | | 20 Points | | | | 50 Points | | | | 100 Points | | | | 448 Points | | | |
|-------------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|
| | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β |
| Random | 41.7 | 0.201 | 0.718 | 1.133 | 47.7 | 0.205 | 0.570 | 0.975 | 49.9 | 0.218 | 0.458 | 0.887 | 53.9 | 0.256 | 0.227 | 0.709 | 55.7 | 0.278 | 0.138 | 0.626 | 57.6 | 0.318 | 0.057 | 0.516 |
| Uncertainty | 51.0 | 0.000 | 88.128 | 3.777 | 57.3 | 0.000 | 83.024 | 3.805 | 38.4 | 0.037 | 0.615 | 1.347 | 46.6 | 0.059 | 0.000 | 1.033 | 51.3 | 0.073 | 0.000 | 0.881 | 58.2 | 0.116 | 0.001 | 0.634 |
| Margin | 56.0 | 0.000 | 65.254 | 4.041 | 39.9 | 0.032 | 2.265 | 1.822 | 46.9 | 0.104 | 0.969 | 1.157 | 52.6 | 0.163 | 0.366 | 0.840 | 55.3 | 0.195 | 0.175 | 0.707 | 58.0 | 0.237 | 0.068 | 0.573 |
| Entropy | 59.6 | 0.000 | 73.883 | 3.920 | 60.1 | 0.000 | 77.654 | 3.865 | 48.1 | 0.000 | 87.174 | 3.733 | 42.4 | 0.030 | 0.000 | 1.227 | 47.3 | 0.047 | 0.000 | 0.991 | 58.6 | 0.089 | 0.001 | 0.651 |
| TypiClust | 45.9 | 0.433 | 1.128 | 0.737 | 48.3 | 0.451 | 0.948 | 0.633 | 48.8 | 0.464 | 0.860 | 0.597 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| DBAL | 59.6 | 0.000 | 73.29 | 3.937 | 60.0 | 0.000 | 77.83 | 3.864 | 47.4 | 0.000 | 87.58 | 3.726 | 42.0 | 0.030 | 0.000 | 1.246 | 47.3 | 0.048 | 0.000 | 0.989 | 58.6 | 0.091 | 0.001 | 0.646 |

Table 9. PALM parameter estimates on ImageNet-50 across different AL strategies and self-supervised embeddings. The table reports the maximum achievable accuracy (A_{\max}), coverage efficiency (δ), early-stage performance offset (α), and scalability (β) for each method, capturing the efficiency and dynamics of learning across varying annotation budgets.

| Embedding | Random | | | | Entropy | | | | Uncertainty | | | | DBAL | | | | Margin | | | | TypiClust | | | |
|-----------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|-------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|
| | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β |
| MoCov2+ | 27.5 | 0.005 | 4.64 | 1.86 | 47.6 | 0.006 | 2.27 | 2.36 | 1.95 | 1.000 | 0.00 | -1.00 | 66.3 | 0.080 | 13.25 | -0.17 | 27.1 | 0.000 | 17.77 | 4.49 | 28.4 | 0.000 | 17.63 | 4.91 |
| MoCov3 | 87.0 | 0.397 | 0.00 | 0.78 | 84.5 | 0.155 | 0.00 | 1.20 | 85.4 | 0.154 | 0.41 | 1.22 | 84.6 | 0.103 | 0.61 | 1.39 | 88.2 | 0.444 | 0.00 | 0.78 | 87.0 | 0.714 | 0.00 | 0.55 |
| BYOL | 8.48 | 0.314 | 0.00 | 0.67 | 42.0 | 0.071 | 0.00 | 0.30 | 12.0 | 0.170 | 0.00 | 0.61 | 23.1 | 0.129 | 0.00 | 0.31 | 8.08 | 0.250 | 0.43 | 0.81 | 2.96 | 0.130 | 6.56 | 1.05 |
| SimCLR | 66.5 | 0.131 | 0.22 | 0.98 | 45.9 | 0.001 | 3.81 | 2.39 | 50.0 | 0.009 | 1.11 | 1.96 | 46.9 | 0.001 | 4.42 | 2.71 | 62.7 | 0.138 | 0.00 | 1.15 | 59.5 | 0.363 | 1.13 | 0.67 |

Table 10. PALM parameter estimates on ImageNet-100 across different AL strategies and self-supervised embeddings. The table reports the maximum achievable accuracy (A_{\max}), coverage efficiency (δ), early-stage performance offset (α), and scalability (β) for each method, providing insights into learning efficiency and model behavior across varying annotation budgets.

| Embedding | Random | | | | Entropy | | | | Uncertainty | | | | DBAL | | | | Margin | | | | TypiClust | | | |
|-----------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|-------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|
| | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β |
| MoCov2+ | 21.2 | 0.001 | 6.51 | 2.26 | 1.85 | 0.306 | 0.00 | 6.75 | 100 | 0.002 | 20.0 | 0.39 | 2.49 | 0.328 | 0.00 | 2.07 | 21.4 | 0.055 | 0.00 | 1.26 | 27.60 | 0.001 | 20.0 | 2.26 |
| MoCov3 | 81.6 | 0.333 | 0.00 | 0.87 | 76.7 | 0.082 | 0.00 | 1.47 | 76.6 | 0.112 | 0.00 | 1.37 | 76.4 | 0.083 | 0.00 | 1.48 | 81.1 | 0.316 | 0.00 | 1.00 | 80.7 | 0.690 | 0.00 | 0.56 |
| BYOL | 8.17 | 0.188 | 0.00 | 0.47 | 8.52 | 0.125 | 0.34 | 0.60 | 22.7 | 0.070 | 0.00 | 0.36 | 8.64 | 0.090 | 1.71 | 0.72 | 4.44 | 0.302 | 0.00 | 0.72 | 2.46 | 0.000 | 20.0 | 4.41 |
| SimCLR | 44.0 | 0.226 | 0.00 | 0.73 | 27.7 | 0.087 | 0.00 | 1.08 | 36.2 | 0.105 | 0.00 | 0.86 | 27.3 | 0.089 | 0.00 | 1.09 | 44.0 | 0.171 | 0.30 | 0.80 | 36.9 | 0.090 | 3.36 | 1.20 |

Table 11. PALM parameter estimates on ImageNet-200 across different AL strategies and self-supervised embeddings. The table reports the maximum achievable accuracy (A_{\max}), coverage efficiency (δ), early-stage performance offset (α), and scalability (β) for each method, highlighting differences in learning dynamics and sample efficiency across strategies.

| Embedding | Random | | | | Entropy | | | | Uncertainty | | | | DBAL | | | | Margin | | | | TypiClust | | | |
|-----------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|-------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|------------|----------|----------|---------|
| | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β | A_{\max} | δ | α | β |
| MoCov2+ | 18.9 | 0.001 | 4.65 | 2.33 | 1.12 | 0.411 | 0.00 | 1.05 | 3.90 | 0.000 | 18.9 | 4.63 | 1.40 | 0.000 | 5.44 | 5.17 | 32.0 | 0.020 | 1.41 | 1.62 | 13.1 | 0.060 | 3.57 | 1.85 |
| MoCov3 | 76.9 | 0.330 | 0.00 | 0.80 | 47.4 | 0.092 | 0.00 | 1.38 | 70.3 | 0.129 | 0.00 | 1.28 | 69.2 | 0.087 | 0.00 | 1.43 | 76.0 | 0.348 | 0.00 | 0.83 | 70.4 | 0.694 | 0.00 | 0.57 |
| BYOL | 27.0 | 0.034 | 0.01 | 0.40 | 14.1 | 0.068 | 0.00 | 0.39 | 3.29 | 0.206 | 0.00 | 0.71 | 7.20 | 0.136 | 0.00 | 0.42 | 7.98 | 0.095 | 0.00 | 0.50 | 28.5 | 0.000 | 20.8 | 4.08 |
| SimCLR | 36.6 | 0.027 | 1.59 | 1.48 | 19.8 | 0.005 | 1.56 | 1.85 | 30.1 | 0.011 | 0.70 | 1.54 | 18.3 | 0.002 | 2.76 | 2.18 | 37.9 | 0.057 | 0.36 | 1.26 | 42.0 | 0.378 | 0.00 | 0.41 |