





Learning to Name Classes for Vision and Language Models

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[prompt context] + [class name]

Adapt vision-language models to new dataset by learning class names



[prompt context] + [Placeholder]

Adapt vision-language models to new dataset by learning class names

- Removes class name ambiguities
- Increases robustness to prompt context
- Language agnostic: adapt to model's observed language
- Directly applicable to both classification and object detection tasks



Vision-language classification models



Radford et al. "Learning transferable visual models from natural language supervision." International Conference on Machine Learning. PMLR, 2021.

Vision-language detection models



Minderer et al. "Simple open-vocabulary object detection with vision transformers." ECCV 2022

Fine-tuning

- Adapting vision-language models to new data: challenging!
 - Small dataset overfitting
 - Losing generalisation ability
- Linear probing
 - Train a standard linear classification layer using frozen image encoder
 -] Data efficient

improves over zero-shot performance

no hand-crafted text components

Loses open-set and zero-shot properties





Image source: Radford et al. "Learning transferable visual models from natural language supervision." International Conference on Machine Learning. PMLR, 2021.

Sensitivity to prompt input

 Model performance is sensitive to text input



Ambiguous class names

Technical class names



Both named 'bow'



Both named 'bat'



Class name: 2007 Cadillac Escalade EXT Crew Cab



Class name: A340-200

- Existing methods rely on *handcrafted* class names. Potentially:
 - Ambiguous
 - Too technical
 - Unrepresentative of image content

Image source: Radford et al. "Learning transferable visual models from natural language supervision." International conference on machine learning. PMLR, 2021.

Prompt context learning

 Learn prompt context word embeddings (frozen vision-language)

Data efficient

- Improves over zero-shot performance
 - Address prompt sensitivity limitations
- ✓ Maintain open-set properties



Relies on handcrafted class names Difficult continual adaptation Weak object detection performance



Figure 2: Overview of context optimization (CoOp).

Zhou et al. "Learning to prompt for vision-language models." International Journal of Computer Vision (2022)

Proposed solution



Proposed solution



Proposed solution



Experiments: classification with CLIP

- Outperforms SOTA in openvocabulary and sequential training settings
- Learning all class names strongly reduces dependency on prompt context

Method - * with engineered context CLIP* CoOp Ours Ours*

Open-vocabulary setting: learning half of the dataset class names

Sequential training setting: learning two sets of class names sequentially



Experiments: Object detection with OWL-vit

- Learning class names (10% of data) – match performance of fully finetuned model
- Significant performance improvement for rare classes
- Significant gains compared to prompt context learning







Miscellaneous

wheel, waterwheel



Identifying model biases: American English over British English



Potential to identify mislabelled data and failures modes of our method



class examples



Conclusion

- Novel data efficient adaptation for vision-language models
 - Removes dependency on hand-crafted class names
 - Learn optimal class word embeddings from visual content

- Out of the box usage on classification, detection models
- Complementary to prompt context learning methods
- High interpretability







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