



Transfer Knowledge from Head to Tail: Uncertainty Calibration under Long-tailed Distribution

Jiahao Chen, Bing Su

Gaoling School of Artificial Intelligence, Renmin University of China Beijing Key Laboratory of Big Data Management and Analysis Methods Tag:THU-AM-332







We investigate the problem of *calibration under long-tailed distribution*.





Calibration:

If the Eq.1 is satisfied, the model is called perfect calibrated

$$\mathbb{P}(\hat{y}_i = y_i | \hat{p}_i = p) = p \quad \forall p \in [0, 1] \quad (1)$$
$$\hat{p}_i = \max \operatorname{softmax}(\boldsymbol{z}_i) \quad \hat{y}_i = \operatorname{arg\,max}_{\{1, 2, \cdots, C\}} \operatorname{softmax}(\boldsymbol{z}_i)$$

For example, 20% of all predictions with a confidence score of 80% should be false.

Temperature scaling^[1]:

$$T^* = \operatorname*{arg\,min}_T \mathbb{E}_p[\mathcal{L}(s(\boldsymbol{z}_i/T), y_i)]$$

Validation set and test set should be in the same distribution. Not satisfied long-tailed calibration.







Importance weight-based method

Source distribution p(x) and target distribution q(x)

$$egin{aligned} \mathbb{E}_q[\mathcal{L}(s(oldsymbol{z}_i/T),y_i)] &= \int_q q(oldsymbol{x}_i)\mathcal{L}(s(oldsymbol{z}_i/T),y_i)dx \ &= \int_p rac{q(oldsymbol{x}_i)}{p(oldsymbol{x}_i)}p(oldsymbol{x}_i)\mathcal{L}(s(oldsymbol{z}_i/T),y_i)dx \ &= \mathbb{E}_p[w(oldsymbol{x}_i)\mathcal{L}(s(oldsymbol{z}_i/T),y_i)] \end{aligned}$$

If we know the probability of each sample in the source distribution (*long-tailed distribution*), and in the target distribution (*balanced distribution*), we can achieve long-tailed calibration.

Q: how to acquire the probability under the target distribution? Our method: Utilize the knowledge from head class to estimate importance weight w(x)

Long-tailed calibration

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Five steps to realize calibration step1: Estimate the feature distribution of each class. step2: Calculate attentions between head and tail classes.

$$egin{aligned} oldsymbol{d}_{c}^{k} &= Wasserstein(p_{c}(oldsymbol{x}),p_{k}(oldsymbol{x}))\ oldsymbol{s}_{c} &= softmax(-rac{oldsymbol{d}_{c}}{\sqrt{dim(oldsymbol{f})}}) \end{aligned}$$

step3: Estimate the calibrated probability function.

$$oldsymbol{\mu}_{c^*} = lpha oldsymbol{\mu}_c + (1 - lpha) \sum_{k \in \mathcal{A}_{head}} oldsymbol{s}_c^k oldsymbol{\mu}_k$$
 $oldsymbol{\sqrt{\Sigma}}_{c^*} = lpha oldsymbol{\sqrt{\Sigma}}_c + (1 - lpha) \sum_{k \in \mathcal{A}_{head}} oldsymbol{s}_c^k oldsymbol{\sqrt{\Sigma}}_k$

step4: Estimate the importance weight

$$w^*(oldsymbol{x}_i) = egin{cases} 1 & y_i \in \mathcal{A}_{head} \ min(max(rac{q^*_{y_i}(oldsymbol{x}_i)}{p_{y_i}(oldsymbol{x}_i)},\eta_1),\eta_2) & y_i \in \mathcal{A}_{tail} \end{cases}$$



step5: Learn the temperature with the importance weights.

$$T^* = \operatorname*{arg\,min}_T \mathbb{E}_p[w^*(\boldsymbol{x}_i)\mathcal{L}(s(\boldsymbol{z}_i/T), y_i)]$$





- CIFAR-10-LT
 - Original CIFAR-10
 - CIFAR-10.1
 - CIFAR-10.1-C
 - CIFAR-F
- MNIST-LT
 - Original MNIST
 - SVHN
 - USPS
 - Digital-S
- CIFAR-100-LT
 - Original CIFAR-100
- ImageNet-LT
 - Balanced Test set



We constitute the long-tailed training set, validation set and balnced Test set to verify our method.





• CIFAR-10-LT results

IF	Detect	Method								
ш	Dataset	Base	TS	ETS	TS-IR	IR	IROvA	SBC	GPC	Ours
	CIFAR-10	21.79	12.24	12.16	11.64	12.36	13.36	12.13	11.65	9.84
IE_100	CIFAR-10.1	28.97	16.75	16.70	16.65	17.13	17.93	16.78	15.71	13.86
IF=100	CIFAR-10.1-C	58.22	43.01	43.00	43.05	43.34	43.83	42.53	41.98	39.58
	CIFAR-F	29.22	15.27	15.24	15.52	15.75	16.23	15.45	14.18	12.15
	CIFAR-10	17.36	7.65	8.04	8.22	9.75	9.45	7.55	7.78	3.99
IE-50	CIFAR-10.1	22.79	10.36	10.99	11.72	13.35	12.70	10.32	10.82	5.74
IF=30	CIFAR-10.1-C	55.52	38.66	39.9	40.16	41.58	40.76	38.94	39.39	33.09
	CIFAR-F	25.37	11.30	12.21	12.67	14.39	13.37	11.4	11.76	6.64
	CIFAR-10	8.39	2.23	1.64	2.03	2.29	2.42	2.49	2.01	1.00
IE-10	CIFAR-10.1	13.80	4.87	4.25	4.54	5.38	5.23	5.63	4.66	3.95
IF=10	CIFAR-10.1-C	48.31	32.77	31.07	32.11	32.29	31.94	33.16	31.37	29.98
	CIFAR-F	19.73	8.15	6.80	8.42	8.97	8.13	8.54	7.10	5.97

• CIFAR-100-LT results

Model	Detect	Method								
Widdei	Dataset	Base	TS	ETS	TS-IR	IR	IROvA	SBC	GPC	Ours
ResNet-32	CIFAR-100	20.38	2.50	2.10	6.07	9.35	5.92	6.74	3.27	1.50
DenseNet-40	CIFAR-100	16.00	3.43	2.51	5.57	8.42	5.76	5.96	2.73	2.37
VGG-19	CIFAR-100	27.86	3.81	2.36	6.35	10.35	6.66	8.03	3.82	1.99

• MNIST-LT results

IF	Detect	Method									
IF	Dataset	Base	TS	ETS	TS-IR	IR	IROvA	SBC	GPC	Ours	
	MNIST	2.52	1.27	1.84	2.82	2.84	1.84	1.92	1.76	1.08	
IE-100	SVHN	16.06	7.20	11.62	21.25	22.18	14.93	9.59	13.67	6.09	
IF=100	USPS	15.00	9.52	12.25	13.25	13.62	10.58	10.10	11.44	8.40	
	Digital-S	32.10	22.13	27.35	30.13	31.01	27.48	23.34	27.60	20.28	
	MNIST	1.12	0.85	1.14	1.53	1.54	1.02	1.01	1.12	0.79	
IE-50	SVHN	2.32	3.95	3.33	11.42	12.15	2.63	9.43	2.32	4.53	
1F=30	USPS	11.21	8.14	12.81	11.89	11.91	10.54	8.57	11.21	8.02	
	Digital-S	15.22	10.81	17.81	20.96	21.81	13.64	16.74	15.18	10.34	
	MNIST	0.56	0.23	0.21	0.50	0.52	0.23	0.25	0.41	0.36	
IF=10	SVHN	5.75	6.76	6.94	8.10	4.51	5.31	7.00	5.31	7.43	
	USPS	8.29	4.81	4.60	6.59	6.98	4.76	5.12	5.88	4.55	
	Digital-S	13.55	8.21	8.09	15.37	13.34	8.31	7.67	8.24	7.37	

•	ImageNet-LT results
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Model	Dataset	Method								
		Base	TS	ETS	TS-IR	IR	IROvA	SBC	GPC	Ours
ResNet-50	ImageNet	10.18	6.72	6.06	10.23	11.15	7.63	9.12	5.46	3.45





• Visualization of the attention map



• Visualization of the distribution of w(x)



• Ablation of the hyper-parameter λ





• Ablation study of the different transferring strategies

Dataset	Uniform	OneHot	Ours
CIFAR-10	8.10	7.42	6.97
CIFAR-10.1	11.72	10.91	10.4
CIFAR-10.1-C	37.09	36.17	35.59
CIFAR-F	9.91	9.02	8.46





- Our contribution:
 - We explore the problem of calibration under long-tailed distribution, which has important practical implications but is rarely studied. We apply the importance weight strategy to enhance the estimation of tail classes for more accurate calibration.
 - We propose an importance weight estimation method by viewing distributions of head classes as prior for distributions of tail classes. For each tail class, our method estimates its probability density function from the distribution calibrated by head classes and calculates the importance weight to realize balanced calibration.
 - We conduct extensive experiments on the CIFAR-10-LT, CIFAR-100-LT, MNIST- LT, ImageNet-LT datasets and the results demonstrate the effectiveness of our method.

