



Understanding the Effect of Bias in Deep Anomaly Detection

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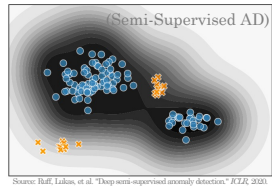
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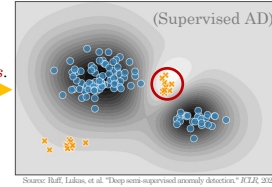
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1 Motivation: Bias from Additional Labeled Anomalies

Existing approaches for Anomaly Detection (AD)



- Pro** A compact enclosing of the normal.
- Con** Unable to use additional labels.
→ Underfitting bias.



- Pro** A compact enclosing of the normal.
+ Discriminating on known anomalies.

A Counter-Intuitive Example

Training with **additional labeled anomalies** can induce disastrous harmful bias.

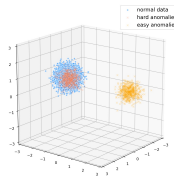


Fig 1. Original 3D Space

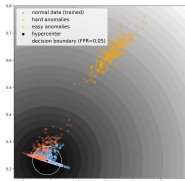


Fig 2. 2D Latent Space (Semi-Supervised AD)

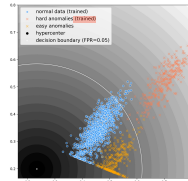


Fig 3. 2D Latent Space (Supervised AD)

Research Question

- Will **unseen anomalies** suffer from **bias** due to **additional labeled data in training**?
- If so, how can we **estimate** the bias? What is the **impact** of the bias?

[Clarification] Bias in AD \neq Bias in Supervised Learning

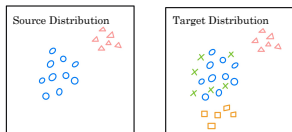


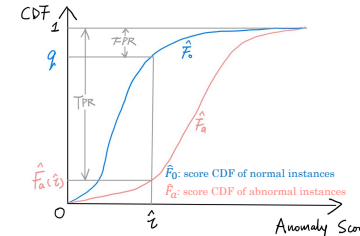
Fig 4. Data distribution of AD problem. The blue is the normal, others are different subtypes of anomalies.

Task Type	Distribution Shift	Known Target Distribution	Known Target Label Set
Imbalanced Classification [Johnson and Khoshgoftar, 2019]	No	N/A	N/A
Closed Set Domain Adaptation [Saenko et al., 2010]	Yes	Yes	Yes
Open Set Domain Adaptation [Panaredda Busto and Gall, 2017]	Yes	Yes	No
Anomaly Detection [Chalapathy and Chawla, 2019]	Yes	No	No

Table 1: Comparison of anomaly detection tasks with other deep relevant classification tasks.

2 Define Bias: an ERM Framework

Scoring Bias $\text{bias}(\hat{s}_\theta, \hat{\tau}_\theta) := \arg \max_{(s_\theta, \tau_\theta) : \theta \in \Theta} \text{TPR}(s_\theta, \tau_\theta) - \text{TPR}(\hat{s}_\theta, \hat{\tau}_\theta)$



Relative Scoring Bias

$$\xi(s, s') := \text{bias}(s, \tau) - \text{bias}(s', \tau')$$

$$= \text{TPR}(s', \tau') - \text{TPR}(s, \tau)$$

Empirical Relative Scoring Bias

$$\hat{\xi}(s, s') := \widehat{\text{TPR}}(s', \tau') - \widehat{\text{TPR}}(s, \tau)$$

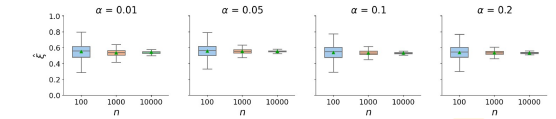
Proposition 1. Given two scoring functions s, s' and a target FPR q , the relative scoring bias is $\xi(s, s') = F_a(F_0^{-1}(q)) - F_a'(F_0'^{-1}(q))$.

3 Estimate Bias: a PAC Analysis

Theorem 3. Assume that F_a, F_a', F_0, F_0' are Lipschitz continuous with Lipschitz constant $\ell_a, \ell_a', \ell_0, \ell_0'$, respectively. Let α be the fraction of abnormal data from the mixture distribution. Then, w.p. at least $1 - \delta$, with

$$n = \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{\alpha^2 \epsilon^2} \log \frac{1}{\delta}\right)$$

the empirical relative scoring bias satisfies $|\hat{\xi} - \xi| \leq \epsilon$.



The estimation error ϵ decreases at the rate of $\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$.

4 Characterize Bias: Empirical Experiments

Scenario 1 Training w/ **hard** anomalies.

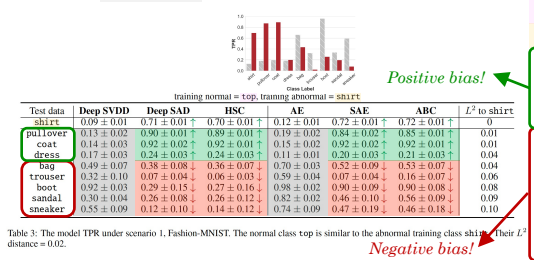


Table 3: The model TPR under scenario 1, Fashion-MNIST. The normal class top is similar to the abnormal training class shirt. Their L^2 distance = 0.02.

Scenario 2 Training w/ **easy** anomalies.

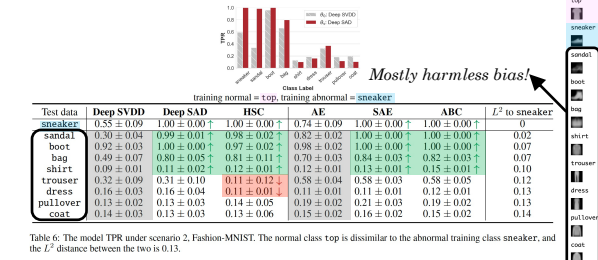


Table 6: The model TPR under scenario 2, Fashion-MNIST. The normal class top is dissimilar to the abnormal training class sneaker, and the L^2 distance between the two is 0.13.

5 Takeaways and Future Directions

Additional labeled data in AD poses a **hidden threat** for model practitioners.

Data-Based Debiasing Strategy

- Using **active learning** to obtain representative anomaly labels.
- Leveraging **synthetic examples**.

Model-Based Debiasing Strategy

- Using **robust model design** (e.g., ensembles of semi-supervised and supervised models).