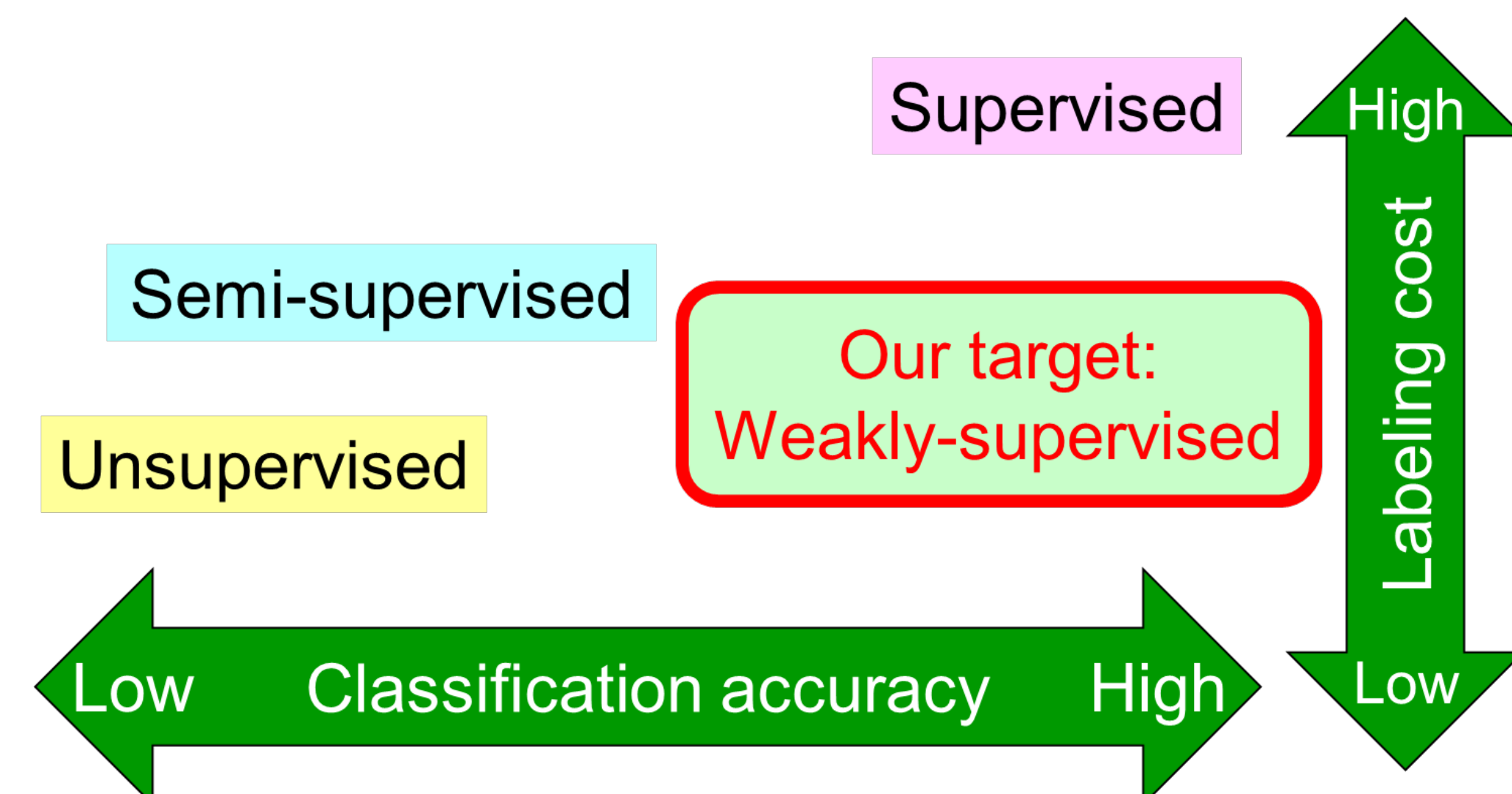


Team's Vision and Social Impact:

- Develop novel algorithms that allow **accurate learning from data with limited information**.
- Enable machine learning in **applications with imperfect and limited data**, such as health care and natural disasters.

Research Activities:

- Develop **practical algorithms** that have **theoretical support**.
- Help applied researchers use our algorithms in their problems.



Weakly-Supervised Classification

- Real-world data often contains only limited information.**
- We develop algorithms to learn from such data.

Pconf Classification

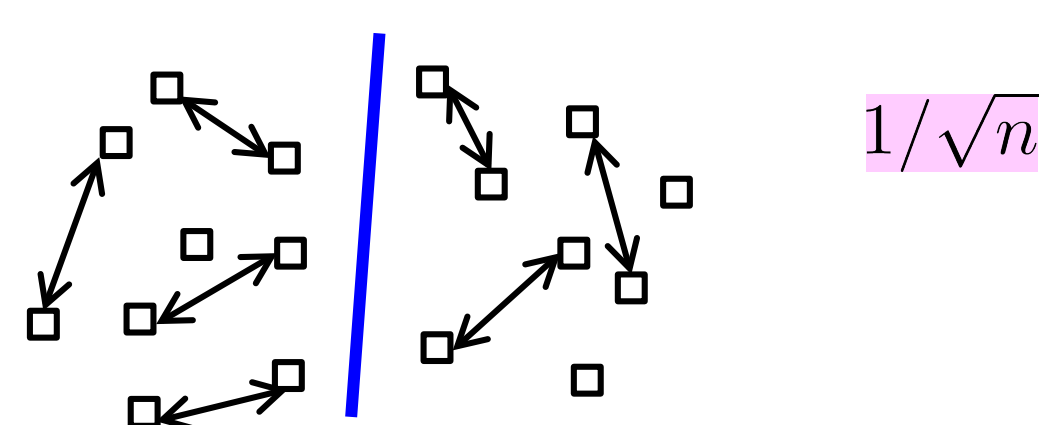
- Problem:** Only positive (P) data is available, not negative (N) and unlabeled (U) data:
 - Data from rival companies cannot be obtained.
 - Only positive results are reported (publication bias).
- "Only-P learning"** is unsupervised.
- Results:** From Positive-conf (Pconf) data, PN classifiers are trainable!



Ishida, Niu & Sugiyama (NeurIPS2018)

SU Classification

- Problem:** Delicate classification (salary, religion...):
 - Highly hesitant to directly answer questions.
 - Less reluctant to just say "same as him/her".
- Results:** From similar and unlabeled (SU) data, PN classifiers are trainable!

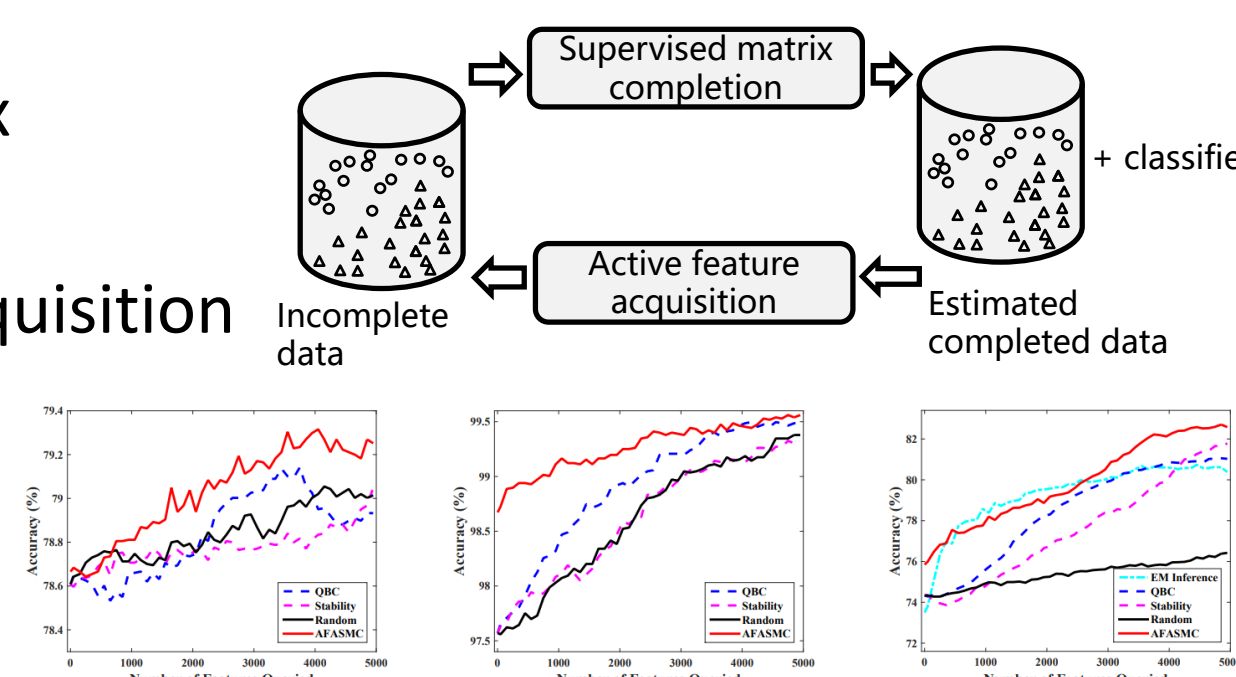


Bao, Niu & Sugiyama (ICML2018)

Active Feature Acquisition

- Problem:** features are missing in many real world applications
- Goal:** better diagnosis + lower feature acquisition cost
- Method:**
 - Supervised matrix completion
 - Active feature acquisition
- Results:**
 - Lower acquisition cost + better accuracy

Patient	Weight	Blood Pressure	CT	...	Diagnosis
No.1	54.1	?	N	...	Yes
No.2	84.9	114	?	...	No
No.3	?	138	P	...	Yes
...
No.N	76.3	?	?	...	No



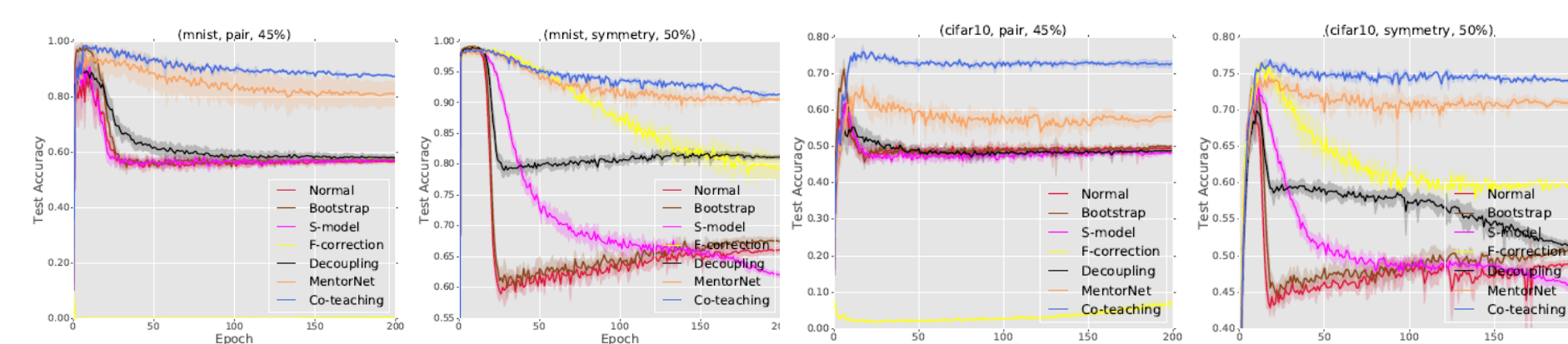
Huang, Xu, Xie, Sugiyama, Niu and Chen (KDD2018)

Robust Learning

- Real-world data can be highly noisy.**
- We develop robust algorithms that learn accurately from extremely noisy data.

Co-teaching

- Goal:** Robust DNN training with **noisy train data**.
- Proposal:** Co-teaching with two networks.
 - In each mini-batch data, each network samples its small-loss instances as the useful knowledge, and teaches such useful instances to another network.
- Effectiveness:** Works well (but no theory)!



Han, Yao, Yu, Niu, Xu, Hu, Tsang & Sugiyama (NeurIPS2018)

Masking

- Goal:**
 - Convey human cognition of invalid class transition
- Model:**
 - Structure-aware probabilistic model
- Results:**

Models	Performance(%)
NOISY	68.9
F-correction	69.8
S-adaptation	70.3
MASKING	71.1
CLEAN	75.2

Han, Yao, Niu, Zhou, Tsang, Zhang & Sugiyama (NeurIPS2018)

Distributionally Robust Learning

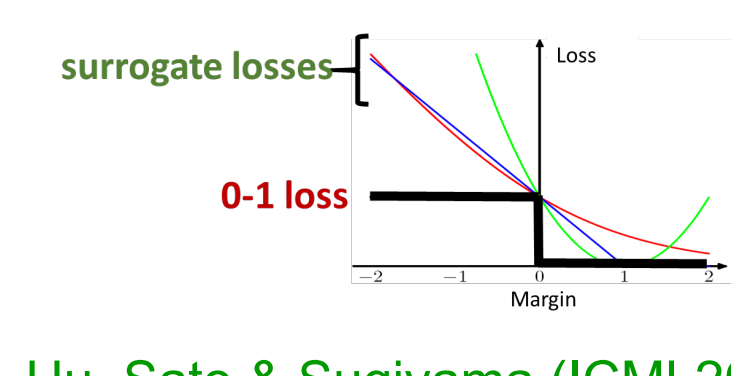
- Problem:** Training and testing data distribution may differ.
- Distributionally robust learning:**
 - Being robust to the worst test distribution.
- Our finding:** In classification, this merely results in the same (non-robust) classifier.
 - Since the 0-1 loss is different from a surrogate loss.

$$\min_{\theta} \sup_{q \in \mathcal{Q}_p} \mathbb{E}_{q(x,y)} [\ell(g_{\theta}(x), y)]$$

$$\mathcal{Q}_p = \{q \mid \mathbb{D}_f(q \| p) \leq \delta\}$$

"f-divergence ball"

(Bagnell 2005, Ben-Tal 2013, Namkoong 2016, 2017)
E.g. KL divergence, Chi-square divergence



Hu, Sato & Sugiyama (ICML2018)

Clipped Matrix Completion

- Goal:** Restore a **low-rank matrix** from **clipped values**.
- Method:** Minimize square loss + **squared-hinge loss**.

$$\min_X \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j: \text{non-clipped}} (\text{obs}_{ij} - X_{ij})^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j: \text{clipped}} \max(0, \text{obs}_{ij} - X_{ij})^2 + R(X)$$
- Theoretical support:**
 - The problem is solvable.
 - Recovery is accurate.

Observation	Estimated matrix
0 3 6 10 10	4.0 7.0 4.0 7.0 4.0
4 6 2 2 0	-0.0 3.0 6.0 6.0 11.9
2 6 7 10 10	4.0 6.0 2.0 2.0 0.0
8 10 6 9 4	2.0 6.0 7.0 15.9 11.9
	8.0 15.0 6.0 9.0 4.0

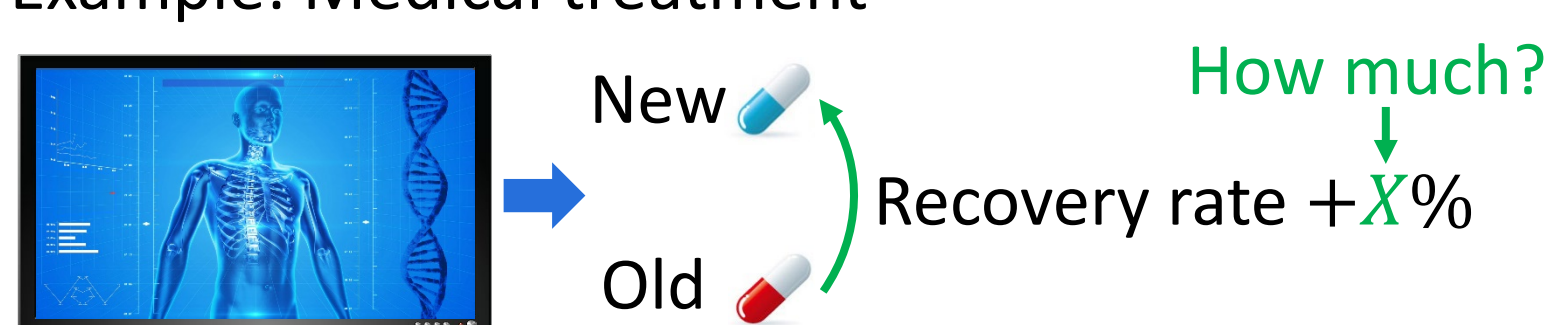
Teshima, Xu, Sato & Sugiyama (AAAI2019)

Decision Making

- Real-world interaction data can be expensive.**
- We develop algorithms to learn an optimal decision maker from limited interaction data.

Uplift Modeling

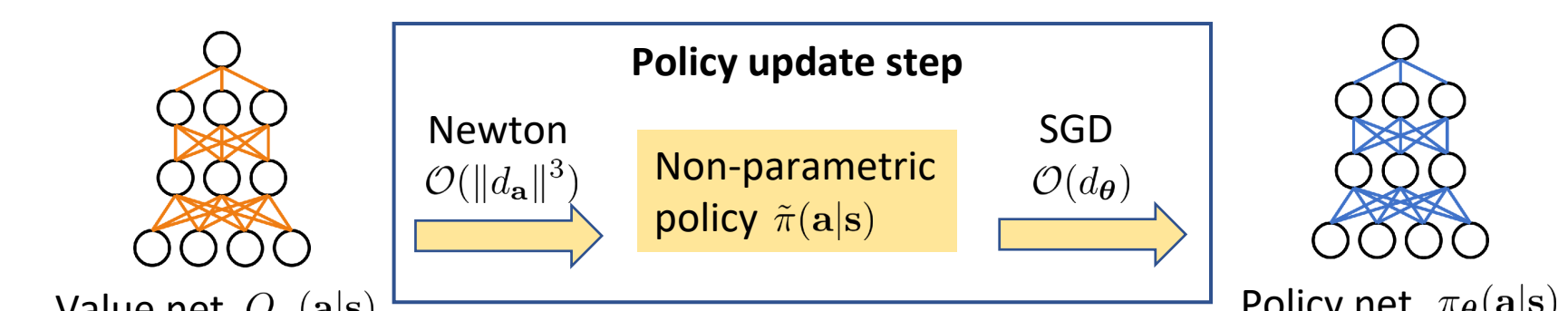
- Goal:** Estimate the relative **impact of treatment**.
 - Example: Medical treatment
- Standard data:** treatment t & outcome y . (t, y)
- Our setup:** one of them is always missing (t, X) or (X, y)
- Result:** Estimation is **still feasible** under reasonable assumptions.
- Proposed method** is **fast & accurate**.



Yamane, Yger, Atif & Sugiyama (NeurIPS2018)

Deep Reinforcement Learning (DRL)

- Goal:** DRL for high-dimensional controls.
 - Example: Robotics
- Issues:**
 - Data is expensive to obtain.
 - Efficiency methods **does not scale well**.
- Our solution:** 2nd-order DRL method with **linear computational complexity**.



Tangkaratt, Abdolmaleki & Sugiyama (ICLR2018)