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Towards Better Stability and Adaptability: Improve Online Self-Training for Model Adaptation in Semantic Segmentation

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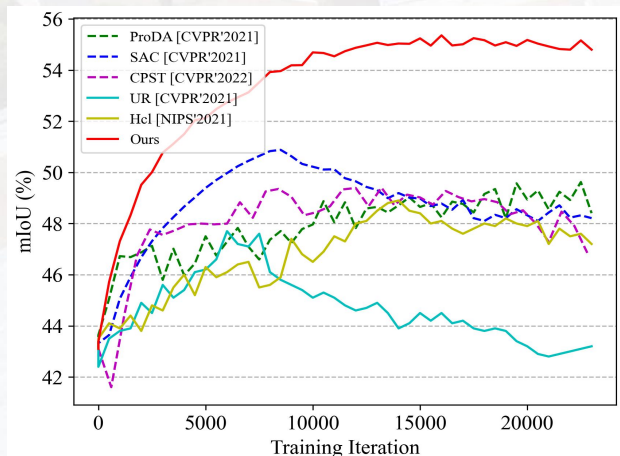
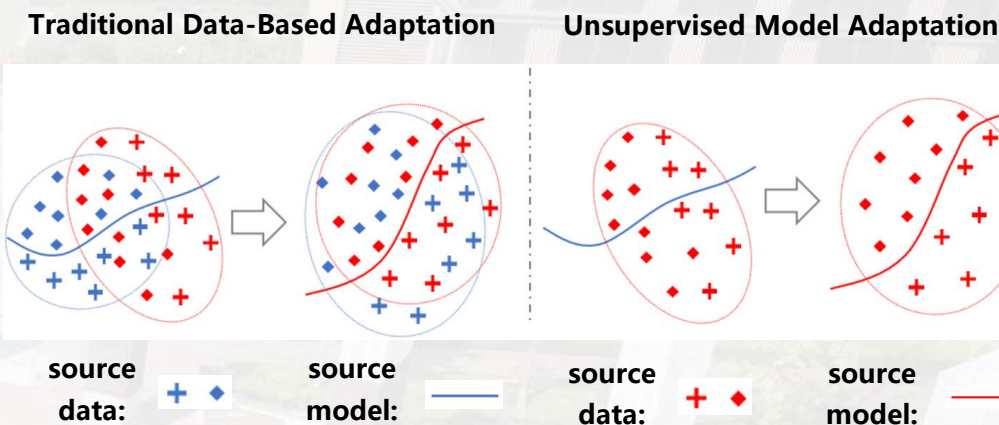
An aerial view of a modern university courtyard. In the center is a large, light-colored stone monument with vertical Chinese calligraphy. The courtyard is paved with light-colored tiles and features several rectangular garden beds with small plants and flower beds. In the background, there are modern multi-story buildings with large windows and balconies. The overall scene is bright and clear.

01

Summary of the Paper

Our Motivations:

- Existing Unsupervised Model Adaptation (UMA) methods adopt offline self-training (OST) but it requires expert intervention.
- Online self-training (ONST) avoids the drawback of OST by online co-evolving pseudo-labels, showing potential in unsupervised domain adaptation (UDA) with accessing source data.



➤ ONST is more competitive than existing UMA methods;
 ➤ ! But ONST methods suffer from impaired **stability** and **adaptability** in UMA.

Figure. The dashed line is the ONST methods of UDA, and the solid line is the UMA methods.

Contributions:

- We explore **two reasons** for the poor stability and adaptability of ONST in UMA: (1) the inopportune update of the teacher model; (2) the bias towards minority classes .
- For (1), we propose a Dynamic Teacher Update mechanism, which dynamically **controls the update interval** of the teacher model.
- For (2), we propose a Training-Consistency based Resampling strategy, which adaptively **estimates the biased classes** and resampling.

- How to **apply ONST to UMA** without accessing source data?

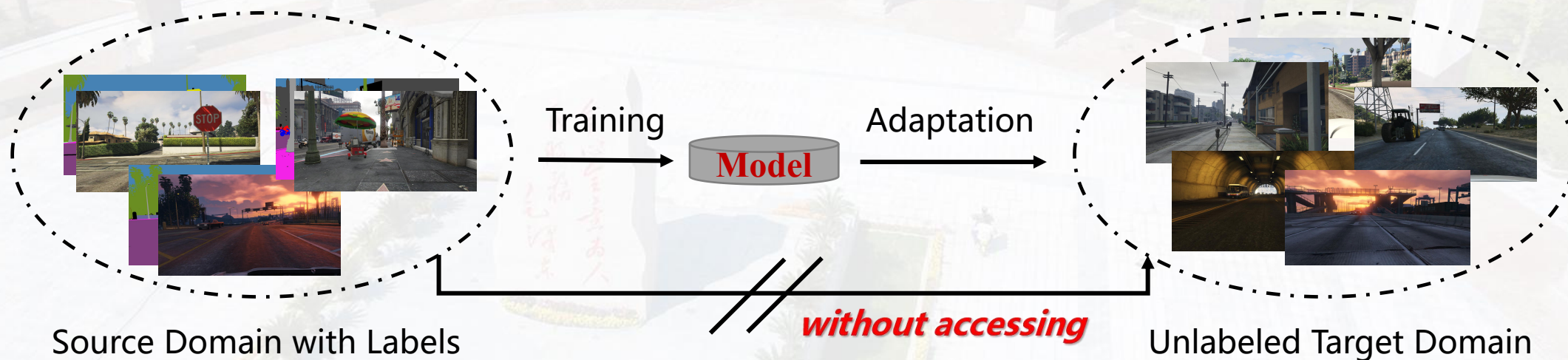


02

Research Motivations

Task Setting:

- Unsupervised domain adaptation (UDA) in semantic segmentation transfers the knowledge of the source domain to the target one to improve the adaptability of the segmentation model in the target domain.
- However, the need to access labeled source data makes UDA **unable to handle** adaptation scenarios involving **privacy**, **property rights protection**, and **confidentiality**.



- The setting of **Unsupervised Model Adaptation (UMA)** is proposed, aiming to adapt the source-trained model to the unlabeled target domain without using source domain data.

Problem:

- Existing UMA methods adopt offline self-training (OST) that iteratively updates the pseudo-labels to retrain the models but it requires expert intervention.
- Online self-training (ONST) avoids the drawback of OST by online co-evolving pseudo-labels, showing potential in unsupervised domain adaptation (UDA) with accessing source data.

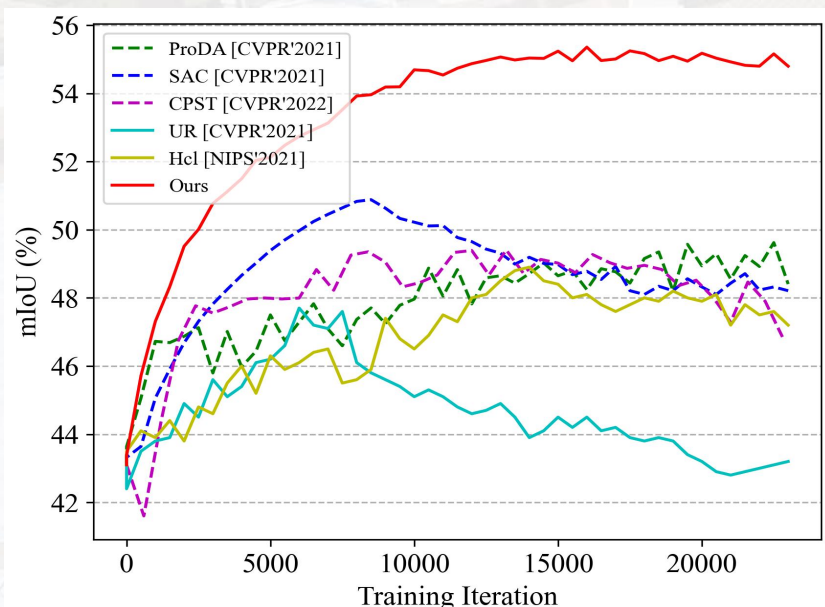


Figure 1. The dashed line is the ONST methods of UDA, and the solid line is the UMA methods.

Observation

- ONST is more competitive than existing UMA methods;
- **!** But ONST methods suffer from impaired stability and adaptability in UMA.

Question

- **How to *apply ONST to UMA* without accessing source data?**

An aerial view of a modern university courtyard. In the center is a large, light-colored stone monument with vertical Chinese calligraphy. The courtyard is paved with light-colored tiles and features several rectangular garden beds with small trees and plants. In the background, there are modern multi-story buildings with large windows and balconies. The overall scene is bright and clear.

03

Method Design

Analyze:

- To apply ONST to UMA, we explore **two reasons** for the poor stability and adaptability of ONST in UMA:
 - (1) the **inopportune update** of the teacher model;
 - (2) the **bias towards minority classes** in the source-trained model.

Method Proposed:

- For (1), we propose a **Dynamic Teacher Update** mechanism, which dynamically controls the update interval of the teacher model.
- For (2), we propose a **Training-Consistency based Resampling** strategy, which adaptively estimates the biased classes and resampling.

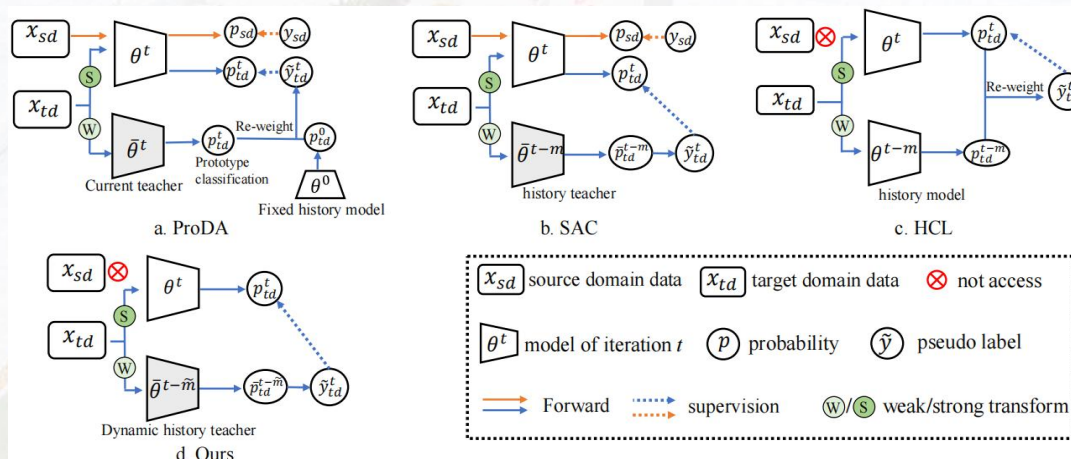


Figure 2. Schematics of different online self-training methods.

- In Fig.2 b and Fig.2 c, m denotes a **fixed update interval**;
- In Fig.2 d, \tilde{m} denotes a **dynamic update interval**.

Task Background:

- **Symbol definition:**

- Let $D_{sd} = \{(x_{sd}, y_{sd})\}$ be the labeled source domain data, $D_{td} = \{x_{td}^n\}_{n=1}^N$ be the unlabeled target domain data;
- The D_{sd} and D_{td} share K categories;
- Let G and θ be the source-trained segmentation model and its parameters.

- **Online Self-training (ONST) in UDA:**

- Generally, in ONST, given a **student** model G_{stu} and an **online updated teacher** model G_{tea} . **For G_{stu}** , two losses are used for supervision:

$$\text{on source domain} \rightarrow L_{sd} = H[x_{sd}, y_{sd}],$$

$$\text{on target domain} \rightarrow L_{sd} = H \left[G_{stu}^{\theta_t}(W(x_{td})), G_{tea}^{\bar{\theta}_{t-m}}(S(x_{td})) \right],$$

G^{θ_t} is the model with parameters θ_t , m is the update interval of G_{tea} , t is the number of iterations.

- **For G_{tea}** , its parameters are the G_{stu} 's momentum-updated version:

$$\bar{\theta}_t = (1 - \gamma)\theta_t + \gamma\bar{\theta}_{t-m},$$

γ is the update weights.

Dynamic Teacher Update (DTU):

- The **gain rate** of the student model over historical samples is **positively correlated** with stable **co-evolution**.
- **gain rate (GR):** $\frac{1}{T} \sum_t^T \delta(V[G_{stu}^{\theta_{t-m}}(D_{his})], V[G_{stu}^{\theta_t}(D_{his})])$, $\delta(\cdot)$ is a comparison function, $V[\cdot]$ is a evaluation function.
- **IEGR:** $V[\cdot]$ is *information entropy*; **SNDGR:** $V[\cdot]$ is *soft neighborhood density*.

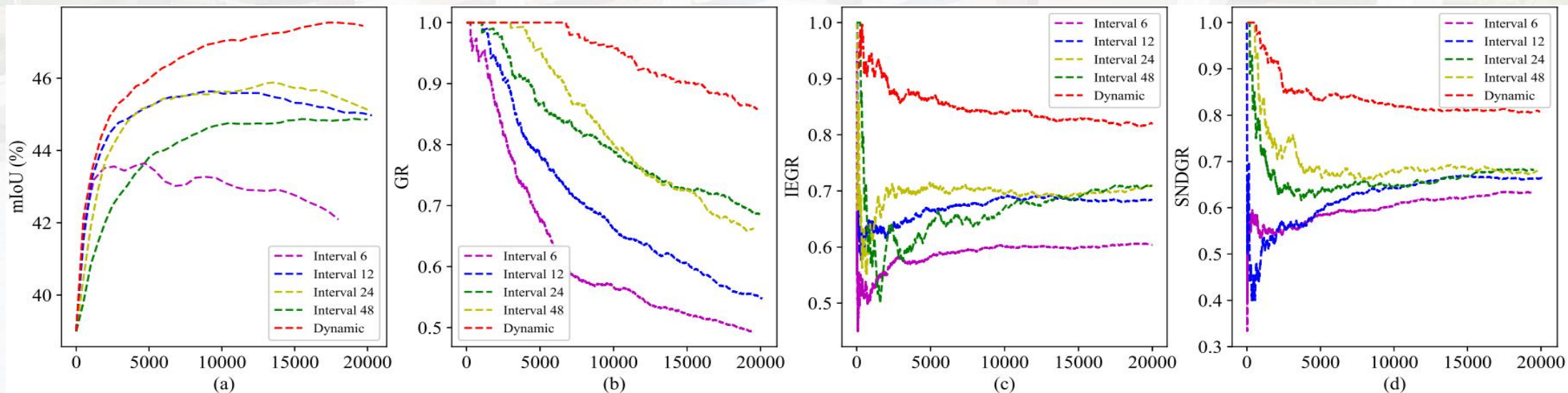


Figure 3. Training curves using different teacher update intervals.

- So $V[\cdot]$ can measure **whether the student model is evolved** to dynamically control update interval m .

Training-Consistency based Resampling (TCR):

- Online average class score is calculated from the output probability of the teacher model:

$$ACS_k^t = \frac{1}{hw} \sum_{i,j} p_{i,j,k}^t$$

p^t is the probability map generated by the $G_{tea}^{\bar{\theta}_t}$. The **low-confidence classes** in ACS are considered to **be minorities**.

- We then use ACS to **determine the sampling rate** for k -th class:

$$SR_k = \text{Normalize}(1 - ACS_k). \quad \leftarrow \text{SR of the biased classes is larger!}$$

- We regard the prediction consistency of as reliability to build **reliable candidates** for **copy-paste resampling**:

$$\text{ReL}^n = \text{IoU} \left[\mathfrak{N} \left(G_{tea}^{\bar{\theta}_{t-1}}(x_{td}^n) \right), \mathfrak{N} \left(G_{tea}^{\bar{\theta}_t}(x_{td}^n) \right) \right].$$

- For each class k , we sort target images according to ReL_{k_i} , and take the samples from the top C as the reliable candidates.



04

Experimental Results

Comparative Experiment:

- We use pre-trained models from two simulation datasets GTA5 and SYNTHIA, and adapt them to real scenes Cityscapes and BDD-100k datasets.

	SF	road	sidewalk	Building	Wall	fence	pole	light	sign	vege.	terrain	sky	person	rider	car	truck	bus	train	mbike	bike	mIoU
IAST (ECCV'20) [40]	✗	93.8	57.8	85.1	39.5	26.7	26.2	43.1	34.7	84.9	32.9	88.0	62.6	29.0	87.3	39.2	49.6	23.2	34.7	39.6	51.5
MetaCorr (CVPR'2021) [14]	✗	92.8	58.1	86.2	39.7	33.1	36.3	42.0	38.6	85.5	37.8	87.6	62.8	31.7	84.8	35.7	50.3	2.0	36.8	48.0	52.1
ProDA (CVPR'2021) [59]	✗	91.5	52.4	82.9	42	35.7	40	44.4	43.3	87	43.8	79.5	66.5	31.4	86.7	41.1	52.5	0	45.4	53.8	53.7
SAC (CVPR'2021) [1]	✗	90.4	53.9	86.6	42.4	27.3	45.1	48.5	42.7	87.4	40.1	86.1	67.5	29.7	88.5	49.1	54.6	9.8	26.6	45.3	53.8
CPST(CVPR'2022) [31]	✗	91.7	52.9	83.6	43	32.3	43.7	51.3	42.8	85.4	37.6	81.1	69.5	30	88.1	44.1	59.9	24.9	47.2	48.4	55.7
Source model		65.0	16.1	68.7	18.6	16.8	21.3	31.4	11.2	83.0	22.0	78.0	54.4	33.8	73.9	12.7	30.7	13.7	28.1	19.7	36.8
URMDA (CVPR'2021) [9]	✓	92.3	55.2	81.6	30.8	18.8	37.1	17.7	12.1	84.2	35.9	83.8	57.7	24.1	81.7	27.5	44.3	6.9	24.1	40.4	45.1
SFDA (CVPR'2021) [36]	✓	91.7	52.7	82.2	28.7	20.3	36.5	30.6	23.6	81.7	35.6	84.8	59.5	22.6	83.4	29.6	32.4	11.8	23.8	39.6	45.8
SDF (MM'2021) [57]	✓	95.2	40.6	85.2	30.6	26.1	35.8	34.7	32.8	85.3	41.7	79.5	61.0	28.2	86.5	41.2	45.3	15.6	33.1	40.0	49.4
HCL (NIPS'2021) [21]	✓	92.0	55.0	80.4	33.5	24.6	37.1	35.1	28.8	83.0	37.6	82.3	59.4	27.6	83.6	32.3	36.6	14.1	28.7	43.0	48.1
<i>DT-ST</i> (Ours)	✓	90.3	47.8	84.3	38.8	22.7	32.4	41.8	41.2	85.8	42.5	87.8	62.6	37.0	82.5	32.0	29.8	48.0	56.9	52.1	
Source model + DG [32]		80.2	30.2	79.6	30.7	20.3	31.9	36.1	18.6	80.6	23.9	75.2	63.0	36.2	84.8	31.2	36.1	4.4	31.2	28.0	43.3
ProDA [†] (CVPR'2021) [59]	✓	85.6	45.4	76.5	40.1	31.9	38.9	36.4	47.4	85.8	45.7	80.1	63.6	0	85.6	33.7	51.2	0	37.6	52.3	49.4
SAC [†] (CVPR'2021) [1]	✓	89.1	52.7	82.1	40.3	26.7	40.7	44.1	40.1	81.6	40.1	81.6	67.4	26.1	85.1	44.5	48.8	3.8	26.4	43.1	50.8
CPST [†] (CVPR'2022) [31]	✓	86.7	38.6	82.2	39.8	32.1	40.8	41.5	43.2	85.6	42.7	73.6	65.5	22.1	87.3	27.1	41.1	0	37.6	49.5	49.3
HCL (NIPS'2021) [21]	✓	92.6	54.6	82.8	33.2	26.2	39.8	38.1	31.9	84.5	38.6	85.3	61.3	30.2	85.4	33.1	41.6	14.4	27.3	44.0	49.7
<i>DT-ST</i> (Ours)	✓	93.5	57.6	84.7	36.5	25.2	33.4	44.7	36.7	86.8	42.8	81.3	62.3	37.2	88.1	48.7	50.6	35.5	48.3	59.1	55.4

Table 1. Experimental results for GTA5 → Cityscapes.

Source GTA→	SF	Compound			Open	Avg	
		Rainy	Snowy	Cloudy	Overcast	C	C+O
Source Only		19.7	18.4	20.5	22.5	19.7	21.0
CBST [63]	✗	21.3	20.6	23.9	24.7	22.2	22.6
IBN-Net [42]	✗	20.6	21.9	26.1	25.5	22.8	23.5
PyCDA [34]	✗	21.7	22.3	25.9	25.4	23.3	23.8
OCDA [37]	✗	22.0	22.9	27.0	27.9	24.5	25.0
MOEDA [12]	✗	24.4	27.5	30.1	31.4	27.7	29.4
HCL [21]	✓	22.8	25.8	28.6	27.7	25.9	26.2
<i>DT-ST</i> (Ours)	✓	26.7	28.1	32.1	32.5	30.1	31.3

Table 3. Experimental results for GTA5 → BDD-100k.

	SF	road	sidewalk	Building	Wall	fence	pole	light	sign	vege.	sky	person	rider	car	bus	mbike	bike	mIoU	mIoU*
IAST (ECCV'20) [40]	✗	81.9	41.5	83.3	17.7	4.6	32.3	30.9	28.8	83.4	85.0	65.5	30.8	86.5	38.2	33.1	52.7	49.8	57.0
MetaCorr (CVPR'21) [14]	✗	92.6	52.7	81.3	8.9	2.4	28.1	13.0	7.3	83.5	85.0	60.1	19.7	84.8	37.2	21.5	43.9	45.1	52.5
ProDA (CVPR'2021) [59]	✗	87.1	44	83.2	26.9	0.7	42	45.8	34.2	86.7	81.3	68.4	22.1	87.7	50	31.4	38.6	51.9	58.5
SAC (CVPR'2021) [1]	✗	89.3	47.2	85.5	26.5	1.3	43	45.5	32	87.1	89.3	63.6	25.4	86.9	35.6	30.4	53	52.6	59.3
CPST (CVPR'2022) [31]	✗	87.3	44.4	83.8	25.0	0.4	42.9	47.5	32.4	86.5	83.3	69.6	29.1	89.4	52.1	42.6	54.1	54.4	61.7
Source model		52.2	23.6	62.2	6.0	0.2	28.3	7.3	12.7	79.7	75.7	52.5	10.2	75.0	24.6	8.9	10.3	33.1	38.1
URMDA (CVPR'2021) [9]	✓	59.3	24.6	77	14	1.8	31.5	18.3	32	83.1	80.4	46.3	17.8	76.7	17	18.5	34.6	39.6	45
SFDA (CVPR'2021) [57]	✓	67.8	31.9	77.1	8.3	1.1	35.9	21.2	26.7	79.8	79.4	58.8	27.3	80.4	25.3	19.5	37.4	42.4	48.7
SDF (MM'2021) [57]	✓	90.9	45.5	80.8	3.6	0.5	28.6	8.5	26.1	83.4	83.6	55.2	25	79.5	32.8	20.2	43.9	44.2	51.9
HCL (NIPS'2021) [21]	✓	80.9	34.9	76.7	6.6	0.2	36.1	20.1	28.2	79.1	83.1	55.6	25.6	78.8	32.7	24.1	32.7	43.5	50.2
<i>DT-ST</i> (Ours)	✓	79.4	41.4	73.9	5.9	1.5	30.6	35.3	19.8	86.0	86.0	63.8	28.6	86.3	36.6	35.2	53.2	47.7	55.8
Source model + DG [32]		76.8	29.8	67.9	10.7	0.3	29.5	9.5	16.8	79.8	78.3	52.5	13.8	78.5	28.5	12.8	19.9	37.8	43.5
ProDA [†] (CVPR'2021) [59]	✓	79.9	35.7	75.5	20.7	0	39.6	36.5	31.5	84.2	80.6	64.2	9.6	85.3	40.9	24.9	35.8	46.6	52.7
SAC [†] (CVPR'2021) [1]	✓	84.7	39.6	80.9	16.3	0.2	38.4	40.9	27.4	82.5	84.7	59.1	16.6	82.3	31	20.8	36.1	46.3	52.8
CPST [†] (CVPR'2022) [31]	✓	80.9	28.7	81	20.4	1.2	38.6	36.3	31.4	85.3	74.4	64.2	12.6	87.2	31.9	16.3	42.8	45.8	51.8
HCL (NIPS'2021) [21]	✓	86.7	38.1	82.7	10.0	0.6	30.3	25.4	29.7	82.8	85.9	61.9	24.8	84.5	38.9	22.6	37.9	46.4	54.0
<i>DT-ST</i> (Ours)	✓	88.9	45.8	83.3	13.7	0.8	32.7	31.6	20.8	85.7	82.5	64.4	27.8	88.1	50.9	37.6	57.3	50.7	58.8

Table 2. Experimental results for SYNTHIA → Cityscapes.

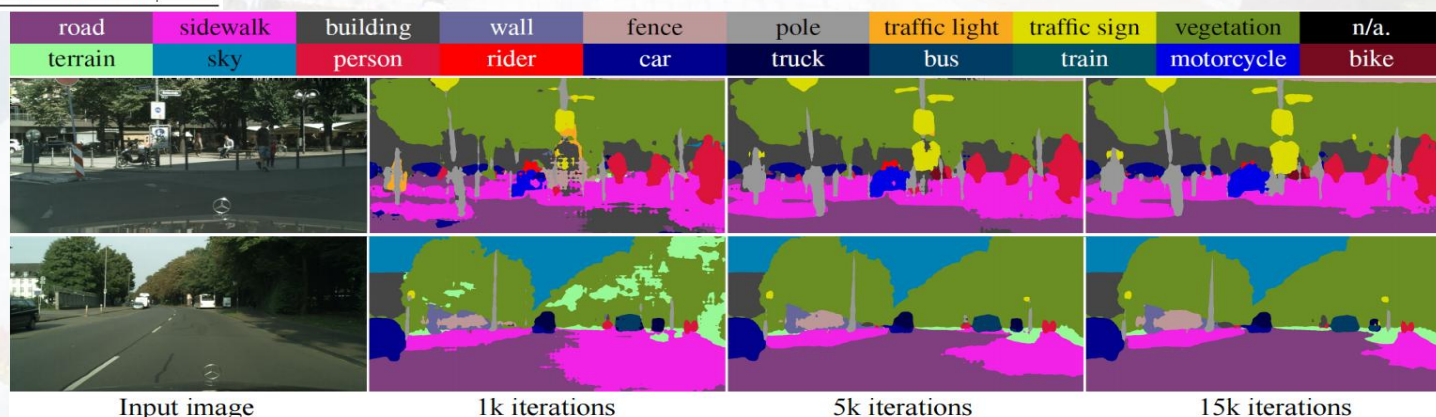


Figure 4. Visualization of output from the teacher model for different iterations.

Ablation Studies and Sensitivity Analysis:

source-trained	Base ST	DTU-E	DTU-SND	TCR- <i>Prob</i>	TCR	mIoU	gain
original						36.8	
	✓					46.2	+9.4
	✓	✓				47.2	+10.4
	✓		✓			47.8	+11.0
	✓			✓		49.3	+12.5
	✓				✓	50.6	+13.8
	✓			✓	✓	50.2	+11.0
DG [32]						43.3	
	✓					50.7	+7.4
	✓	✓				51.3	+8.0
	✓		✓			52.7	+9.4
	✓			✓		52.8	+9.5
	✓				✓	54.4	+11.1
	✓			✓	✓	53.8	+10.5
			✓		55.4	+12.1	

Table 4. We report mIoU scores (%) (val) using two source-trained models on GTA5 → Cityscapes task Under UMA setting. TCR-*Prob* denotes a strong copy-paste baseline using softmax entropy as reliability metrics.

$C \downarrow$	$I \rightarrow$	2000	3000	4000	5000
30		54.1	54.2	54.3	54.1
40		54.3	54.5	54.6	54.8
50		54.8	55.2	55.5	55.1
60		54.8	55.1	55.3	55.2

Table 5. The mIoU (%) score on GTA5 → Cityscapes (val) with varying $C\%$ and I using domain generalization model.

M	30	50	70	90	110
GTA5 → Cityscapes	55.0	55.4	55.3	55.1	54.9
SYNTHIA → Cityscapes	50.4	50.7	50.7	50.5	50.1

Table 6. The mIoU scores (%) with varying M on different tasks.

Different pre-trained models

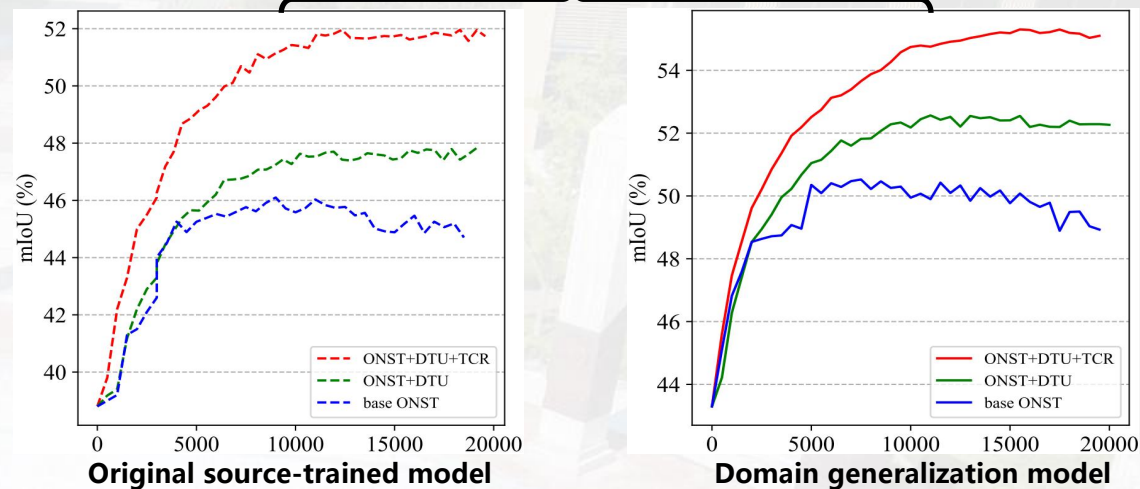


Figure 5. The mIoU score curve (val) of adding DTU and TCR.

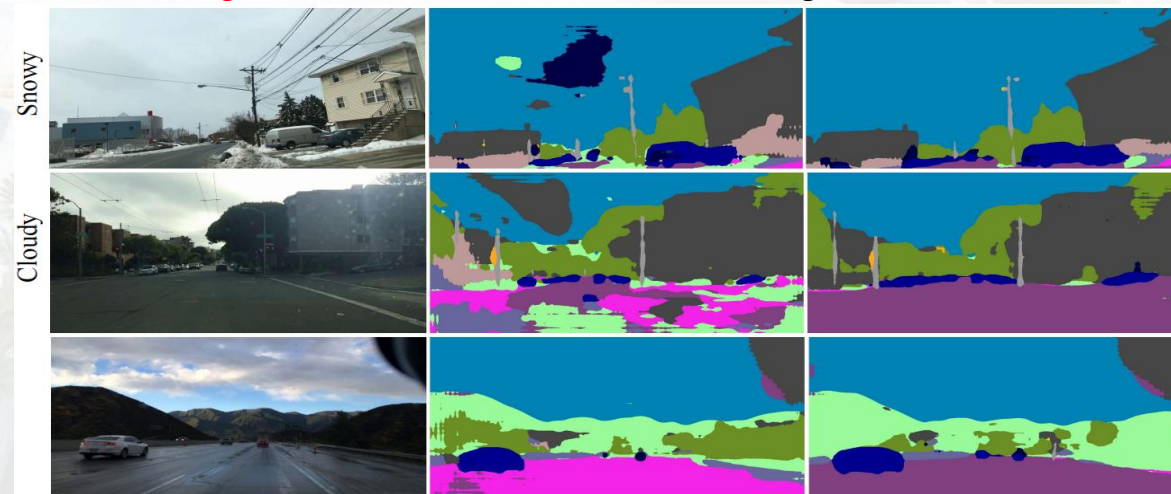


Figure 6. Visualization of the adaptation results from single-domain to mixed-domain, including rainy, snowy and cloudy scenes (i.e. GTA5 → BDD-100K).

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THANKS
Thanks!

Q U E S T I O N S & A N S W E R S



西安电子科技大学