

ResAD: A Simple Framework for Class Generalizable Anomaly Detection

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Preview

Class Generalizable Anomaly Detection

The objective is to train one **unified** AD model that can **generalize** to detect anomalies in diverse classes from **different domains** without **any retraining or finetuning** on the target data.

This AD task is challenging!

The main challenge is: *the normal patterns* from different classes are significantly different. This can lead to many misdetections of new classes.

Our intuition: **residual features**!

Preview

ResAD: A Simple But Effective Framework for Class Generalizable Anomaly Detection

Three parts: Residual Feature Generating, Feature Hypersphere Constraining, Feature Distribution Estimating.

Motivation

Our core insight: Residual features are class-invariant representations!

Why previous AD models are not class generalizable?

- The main challenge is: the normal patterns from different classes are significantly different (**classvariant representations**).
- Thus, normal patches from new classes may be mistaken as abnormal as they are quite different from the learned normal patterns.

The characteristics of residual features:

- Residual features are **more class-invariant** compared to the significantly variant initial features.
- Residual features will be distributed in a **relatively fixed origin-centered region**, even in new classes.

Motivation

Why can residual features be less sensitive to new classes compared to initial features?

The definition of residual features:

Residual feature: $x_{h,w}^{l,r} = x_{h,w}^l - x_n^*$ Nearest Normal Reference Feature: $x_n^* = \operatorname{argmin}_{x \in \mathcal{P}_l} ||x - x_{h,w}^l||_2$

- Residual features are obtained by **matching** and then **subtracting**.
- From the principles of representation learning, we know that features of each class usually have some **class-related attributes** to the class for distinguishing from other classes.
- The ``class-related"means these attributes are **typical** to the class and **distinctive** from other classes.
- As class-related attributes can also exist in normal reference features, the matching process can be seen as **matching the most similar class-related attributes** to each input feature.
- By subtracting, the class-related components are very likely to be **mutually eliminated**.
- Thus, residual features will be distributed in an **origin-centered region**, even in new classes.

Our Approach: ResAD

• **ResAD, Model Overview:**

Three parts: Residual Feature Generating, Feature Hypersphere Constraining, Feature Distribution Estimating.

Our Approach: ResAD

- **Residual Feature Generating**
- For each feature $x_{h,w}^l$, we will match it with the nearest normal reference feature from the corresponding reference feature pool, then convert to the residual feature by subtracting.
- **Reference Feature Pool**: The reference feature pools are utilized to store some normal features as reference for new classes.
- **Residual Feature:** We define the residual representation of

 $x_{h,w}^l$ to its closest normal reference feature as: $x_{h,w}^{l,r} = x_{h,w}^l - x_n^*$ $x_n^* = \operatorname{argmin}_{x \in \mathcal{P}_l} ||x - x_{h,w}^l||_2$

丨Our Approach: ResAD

- **Feature Hypersphere Constraining**
- In order to **further reduce feature variations** and also **maintain the consistency in feature scales** among different classes, we propose a **Feature Constraintor** to constrain the initial normal residual features to a **spatial hypersphere**.
- **Abnormal Invariant OCC Loss**: we propose an abnormal invariant OCC loss to optimize our Feature Constraintor:

$$
\mathcal{L}_{occ} = \frac{1}{L} \sum_{l=1}^{L} \left(\frac{1}{H_l W_l} \sum_{h=1}^{H_l} \sum_{w=1}^{W_l} (1 - y_{h,w}^l) ||\sqrt{||x_{h,w}^{\prime,l,r}||_2 + 1} - 1||_1 + y_{h,w}^l ||x_{h,w}^{\prime,l,r} - x_{h,w}^{l,r}||_2 \right)
$$

- The loss can constrain the normal residual features to a hypersphere and keep abnormal residual features as **invariant** as possible.
- If we only constrain features to the hypersphere, the network may more easily overfit and simply map all features to the hypersphere.

Our Approach: ResAD

- **Feature Distribution Estimating**
- We employ the **normalizing flow** model as our **Feature Distribution Estimator** to estimate the residual feature distribution.
- The maximum likelihood loss function for learning normal residual feature distribution is as follows:

$$
\mathcal{L}_{ml} = \frac{1}{L} \sum_{l=1}^{L} \left(\frac{1}{H_l W_l} \sum_{h=1}^{H_l} \sum_{w=1}^{W_l} \frac{C_l}{2} \log(2\pi) + \frac{1}{2} (z_{h,w}^l)^T z_{h,w}^l - \log|\text{det} J_{h,w}^l| \right)
$$

- In the class-generalizable AD task, it's also valuable for us to effectively utilize abnormal samples that exist in known classes.
- Following BGAD[1], we employ the explicit boundary guided semi-push-pull loss to learn a more discriminative feature distribution estimator :

$$
\mathcal{L}_{bg-spp} = \sum_{i=1}^{N_n} |\min(\log p_i - b_n, 0)| + \sum_{j=1}^{N_a} |\max(\log p_j - b_n + \tau, 0)|
$$

Experiments

- **Datasets:**
	- Industrial AD datasets: MVTecAD, VisA, BTAD, MVTec3D.
	- Medical AD dataset: BraTS.
	- Video AD dataset: ShanghaiTech (we extract video frames as images for use).

• **Settings:**

- We evaluate the **cross-dataset performance**.
- We train on MVTecAD and test on other five datasets without any retraining.
- For MVTecAD, we train AD models on VisA.
- **Metrics:**
	- Area under the curve of the receiver operating characteristic (AUROC), image-level and pixel-level.

Experiments

• **Comparison with Few-shot and CLIP-based AD methods:**

- For new classes, the performance of conventional AD methods will drop dramatically (RDAD, UniAD).
- Our ResAD can achieve superior performance even without any re-modeling or fine-tuning.

• **Ablation study results:**

(a) Framework ablation studies.

Table 4: Anomaly detection and localization results when incorporating our method into UniAD. "RFL" represents residual feature learning.

- 1. Residual feature learning is of vital significance for class-generalizable anomaly detection.
- 2. Feature constraintor and abnormal invariant OCC loss are beneficial for achieving better cross-class performance.
- 3. Residual features can generalize to other AD models and significantly improve the models' class-generalizable capacity.

丨Visualization Results

Residual Features!

We conclude our finding for future research: **residual features are really effective for designing generalizable AD models**, and our feature constraining insight also has good reference values for future work.

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Thanks!

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