



TrustAL: Trustworthy Active Learning

using Knowledge Distillation

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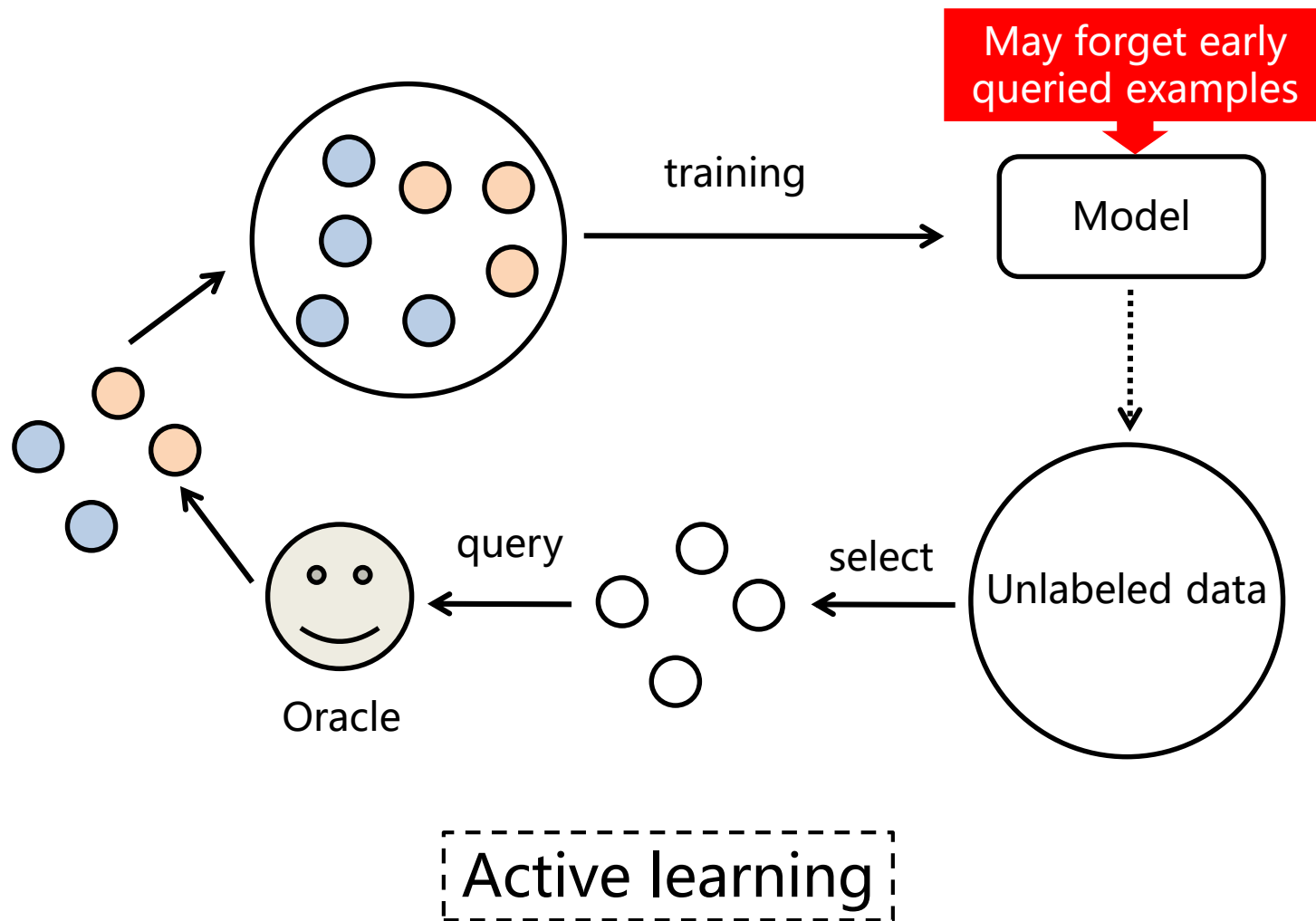
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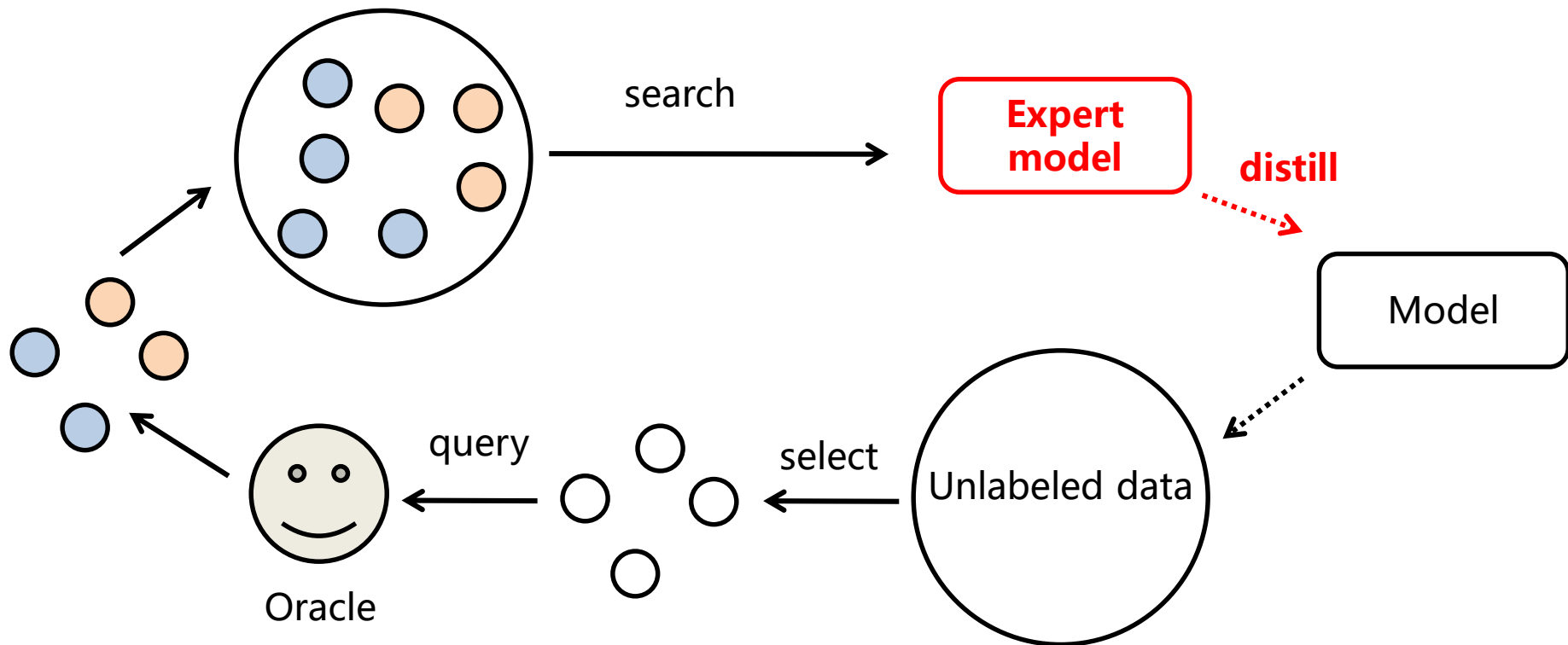
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AAAI 2022



- At each iteration, **search an expert model** for the forgotten knowledge and **distill to the current model**



$$\theta_t = \operatorname{argmin}_{\theta_t} L_{CE}(\theta_t) + \alpha \cdot L_{KL}(\theta_{t-\Delta t}, \theta_t)$$

Knowledge
distillation loss



$$\text{i.e., } \sum_{(x_i, y_i) \in \mathcal{L}} KL\text{-Divergence}(f(x_i; \theta_{t-\Delta t}), f(x_i; \theta_t)).$$

Key Problem: How to select the expert model for knowledge distillation?

1. Monotonic Consistency (TrustAL-MC)

Use the last round model, i.e., $\theta_{t-\Delta t} = \theta_{t-1} = M_t$.

2. Non-monotonic Consistency (TrustAL-NC)

Find a model which has the knowledge of forgettable examples for the current model.

- Given a development dataset \mathcal{D}_{dev} with m examples, calculate the forgotten event for each example i in \mathcal{D}_{dev}

Definition 2 (*Correct Inconsistency*) The degree of correct inconsistency of θ_t for sample x_i is measured as the number of occurrences of forgetting events for sample x_i from any predecessor model $\theta_{t-\Delta t}$, where $0 < \Delta t \leq t$:

$$\mathbb{C}_i^{(t)} = \sum_{\Delta t=1}^t \mathbb{1}_{(acc_i^{t-\Delta t} > acc_i^t)}$$

$$acc_i^t = \mathbb{1}_{\hat{y}_i^t = y_i}$$

Higher value means easily forgettable

- Select the expert model based on the following weighted accuracy on \mathcal{D}_{dev} .

$$g(\theta_{t-\Delta t}, M_t) = \tilde{\mathbb{C}}^t \top \langle acc_1^{t-\Delta t}, \dots, acc_m^{t-\Delta t} \rangle / m$$

Higher value means the expert model $\theta_{t-\Delta t}$ tends to have the knowledge of forgettable examples for the current model

✓ Datasets

- TREC (Roth et al. 2002).
- Movie review (Pang and Lee 2005).
- SST-2 (Socher et al. 2013).

✓ Baselines

- **CONF** (Wang and Shang 2014): An uncertainty-based method that selects samples with least confidence..
- **CORESET** (Sener and Savarese 2018): A diversitybased method that selects coreset of remaining samples.
- **BADGE** (Ash et al. 2019): A hybrid method that selects samples considering both uncertainty and diversity.

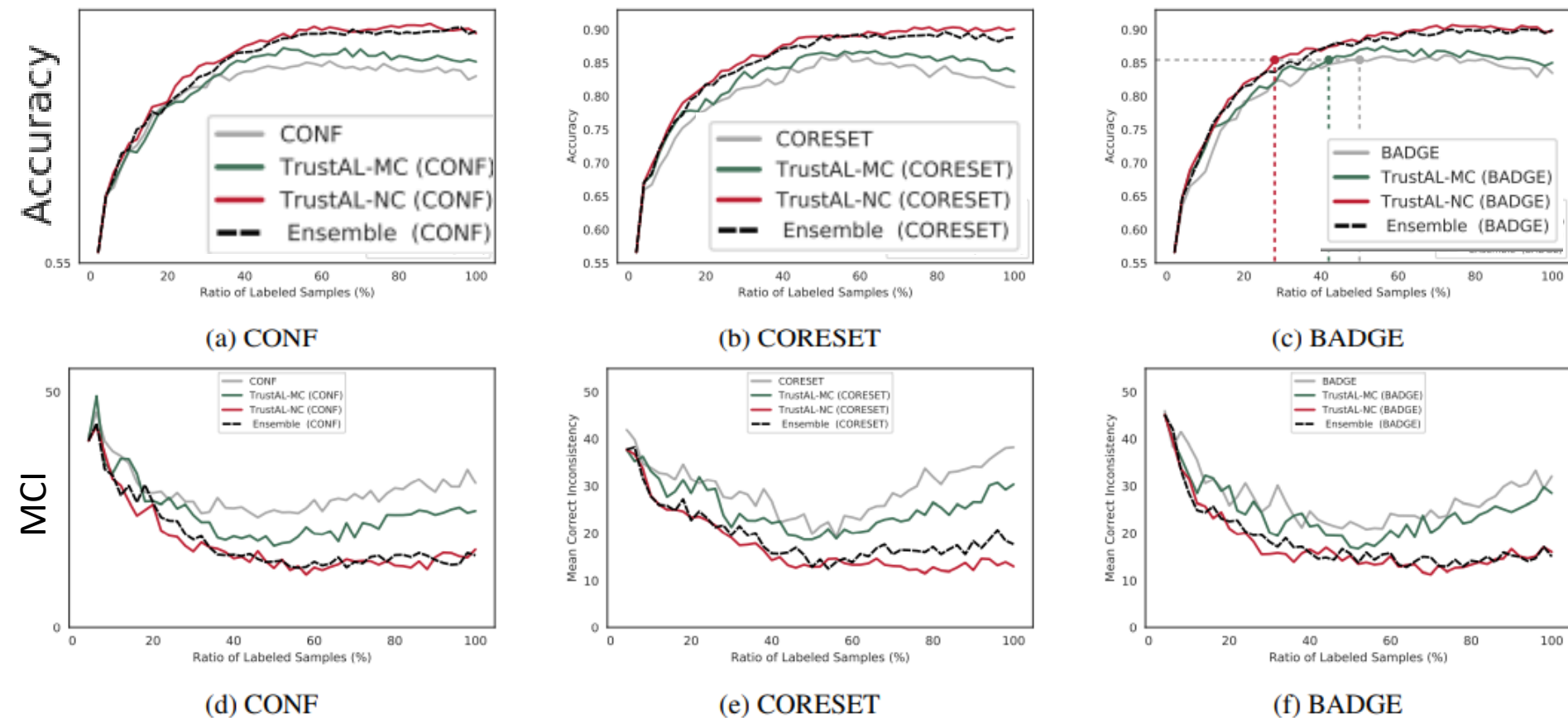
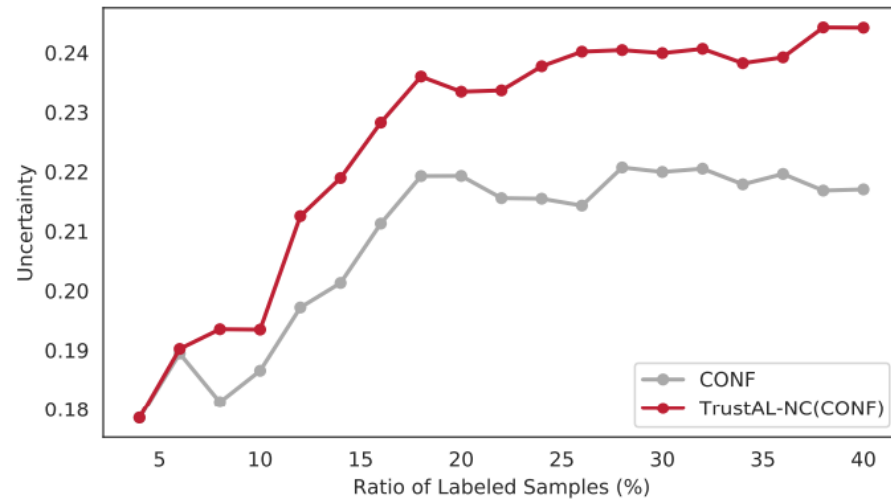


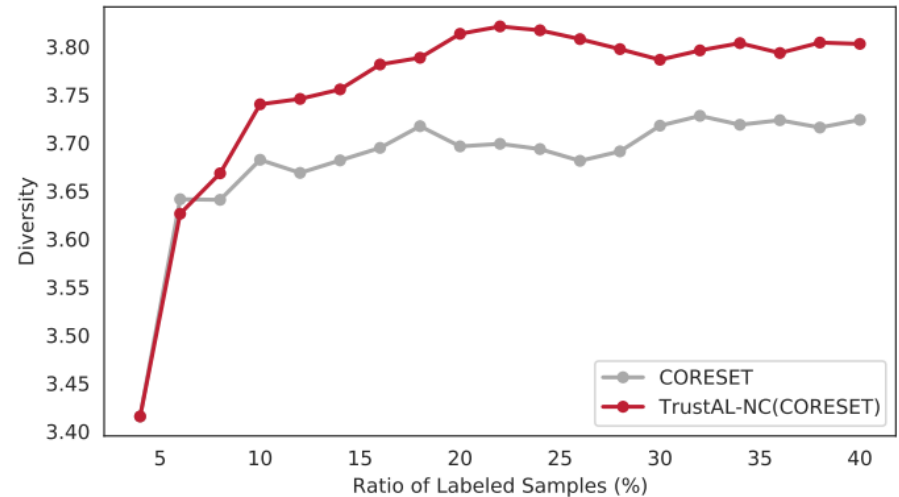
Figure 3: Accuracy (a-c) and MCI (d-f) versus the ratio of labeled samples

$$\text{MCI} = \sum_i \mathbb{C}_i^{(t)} / t. \quad \mathbb{C}_i^{(t)} = \sum_{\Delta t=1}^t \mathbb{1}_{(\text{acc}_i^{t-\Delta t} > \text{acc}_i^t)}$$

- How does TrustAL help data acquisition?



(a) CONF



(b) CORESET

Figure 5: Data acquisition analysis in stable phase on TREC; x-axis represents the ratio of labeled samples and y-axis represents the corresponding metrics.

- better model training leads to better acquisition, strengthening models ability to identify more informative samples

- Traditional AL framework may suffer from knowledge forgetting.
- Introducing the knowledge distillation technique can mitigate this problem by properly selecting the expert model.
- Better model learning scheme also strengthen the subsequent query quality.



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THANKS