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POHANG UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



**ICML**  
International Conference  
On Machine Learning

# Merge-Friendly Post-Training Quantization for Mutli-Target Domain Adaptation

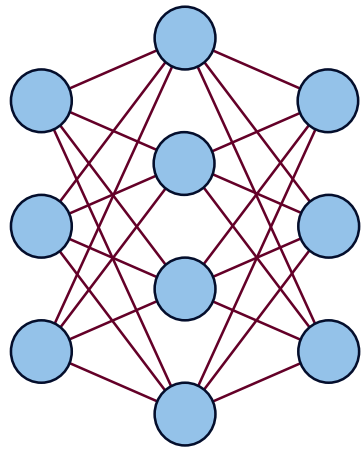
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Pohang University of Science and Technology

# Introduction

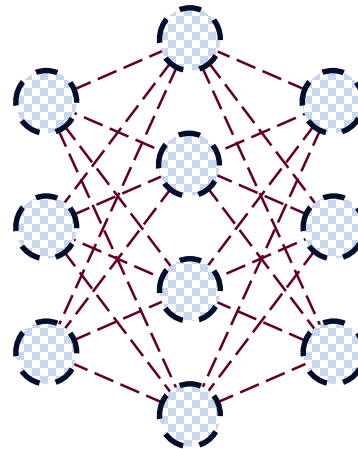
## ■ Quantization

- One of the most widely adopted optimization techniques
- Activations and weights are stored in a **low-precision domain**
  - Reduced **memory usage** & **computational requirements**



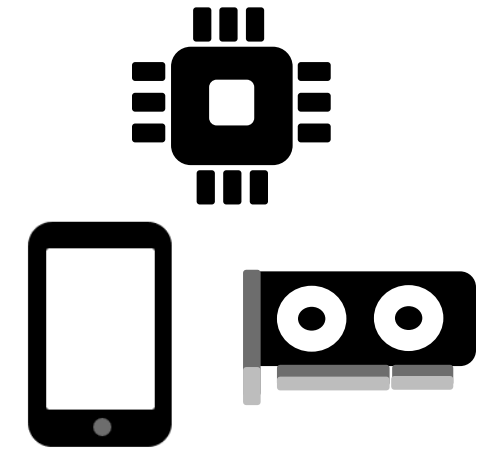
Neural Network

Quantization



Quantized Neural Network

Deployment

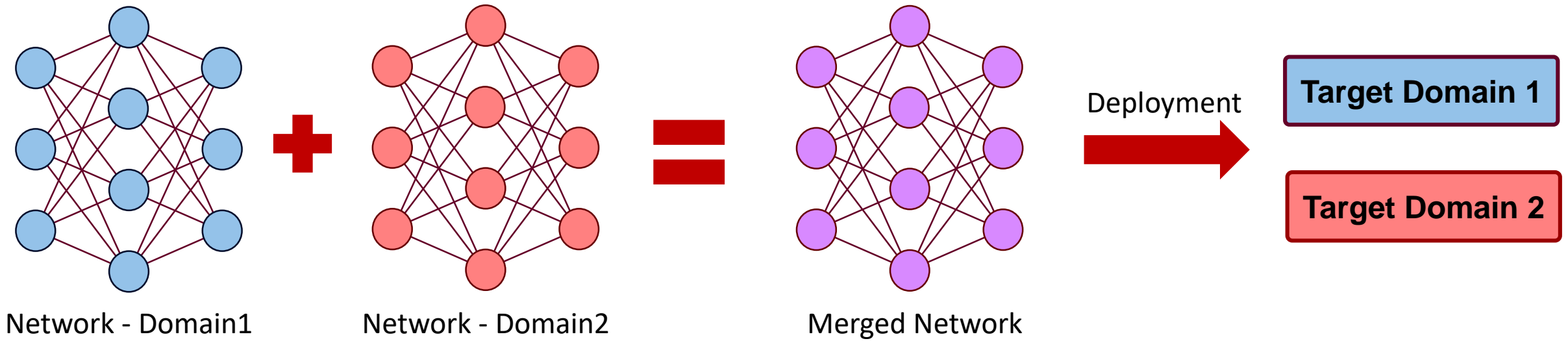


Various Hardwares

# Introduction

## ■ Model Merging

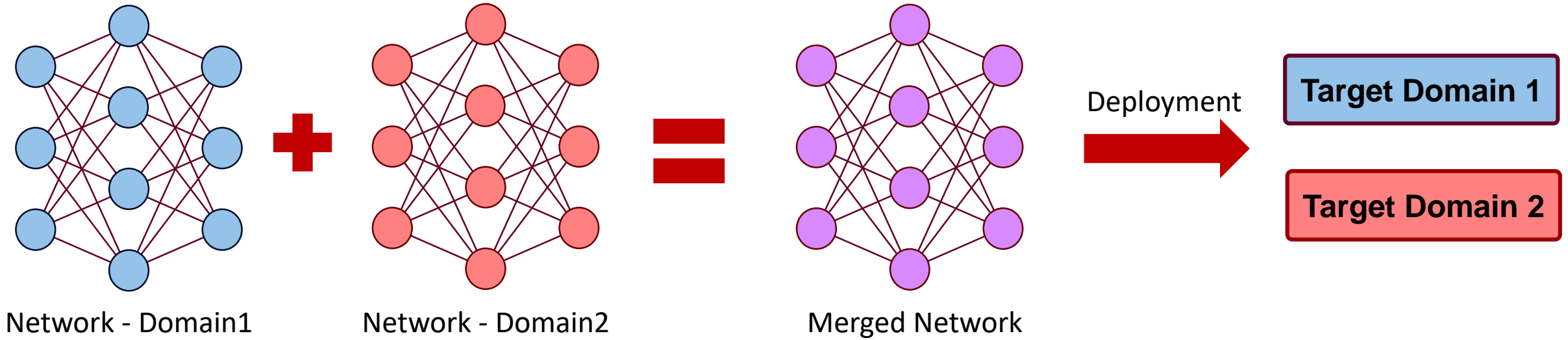
- Emerging technique to generate model for multiple tasks
- Recent study revealed even simple weight averaging outperforms other methods in MTDA
  - Shed light to **real-time adaptive AI** via model merging in edge devices



# Introduction

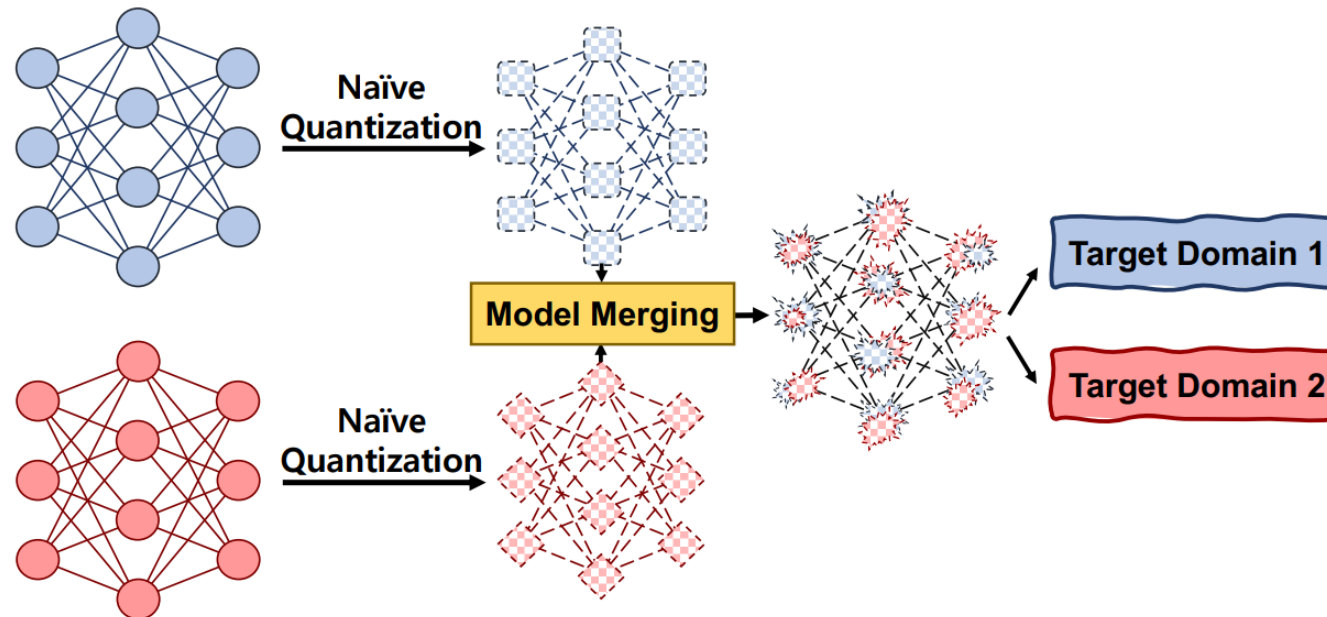
## ■ Model Merging

- Emerging technique to generate model for multiple tasks
- Recent study revealed even simple weight averaging outperforms other methods in MTDA
  - Shed light to **real-time adaptive AI** via model merging in edge devices
    - **+ Quantization?**



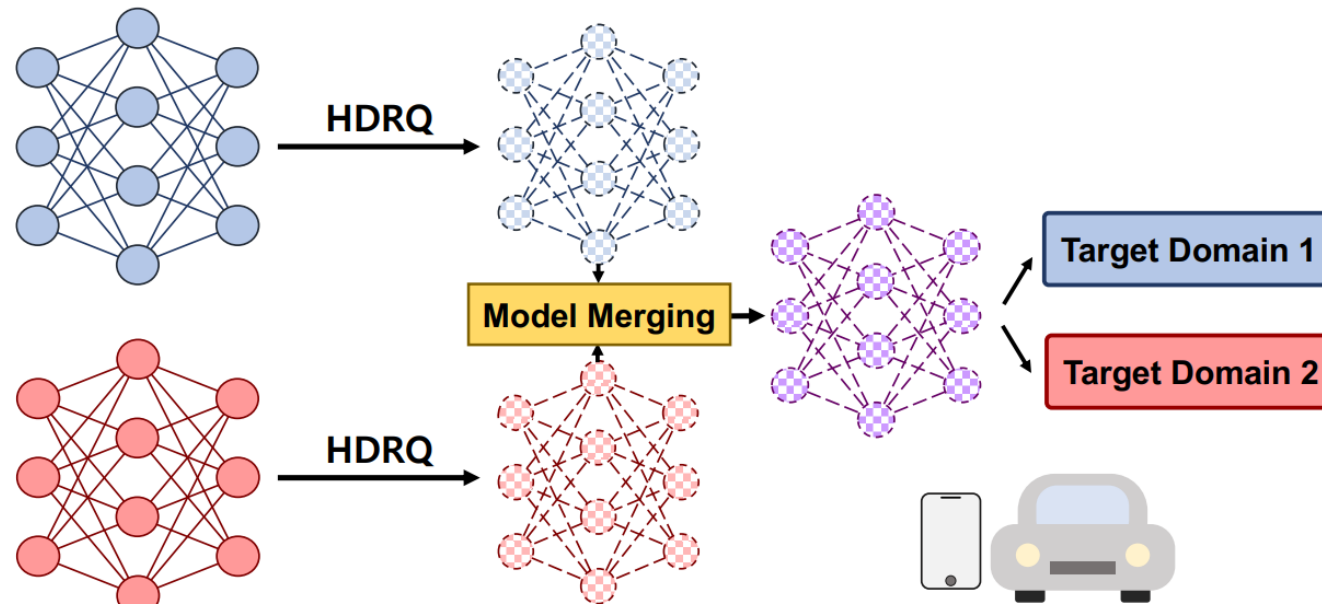
# Motivation

- Quantization + Model Merging ?
  - **Discretization** that is not well aligned with the merging
    - Suboptimal and degraded performance with naïve quantization
  - Little attention has been given to the interplay



# Motivation

- **HDRQ** : **H**essian and **D**istance **R**egularizing **Q**uantization
  - **Theoretical analysis** of quantization's impact on model merging
  - Propose **regularization techniques** for merge-friendly quantization
  - **Noise-sampling-based rounding** to handle ambiguity problem



# Analysis

## ■ Error Barrier

– Quantifies the **degree of interpolation-induced performance degradation**

- $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$  denotes converged weights for each domain
- $\theta_\lambda$  denotes interpolated weight

–  $\theta_\lambda = (1 - \lambda)\theta_1 + \lambda\theta_2, \lambda \in [0, 1]$

$$\max_{\lambda \in [0, 1]} [L(\theta_\lambda) - \frac{1}{2}(L(\theta_1) + L(\theta_2))]$$

*Should be minimized!*

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*Should be minimized!*

## ■ + Quantization

– Error induced by quantization can be approximated as **additive uniform noise**

- $\epsilon_1 \sim U\left[-\frac{s_1}{2}, \frac{s_1}{2}\right]$  and  $\epsilon_2 \sim U\left[-\frac{s_2}{2}, \frac{s_2}{2}\right]$  with quantization step sizes  $s_1$  and  $s_2$

$$\max_{\lambda \in [0, 1]} [L(\theta_\lambda + \epsilon_\lambda) - \frac{1}{2} (L(\theta_1 + \epsilon_1) + L(\theta_2 + \epsilon_2))]$$



# Analysis

## ■ Error Barrier + Quantization

- Applying a second-order Taylor expansion, we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} & \max_{\lambda \in [0,1]} [L(\theta_\lambda) - \frac{1}{2} (L(\theta_1) + L(\theta_2))] + \\ & \max_{\lambda \in [0,1]} [\epsilon_\lambda \cdot \nabla_\theta L(\theta_\lambda) + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_\lambda^T \cdot \nabla_\theta^2 L(\theta_\lambda) \cdot \epsilon_\lambda - \frac{1}{2} (\epsilon_1 \cdot \nabla_\theta L(\theta_1) + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_1^T \cdot \nabla_\theta^2 L(\theta_1) \cdot \epsilon_1 + \\ & \quad \epsilon_2 \cdot \nabla_\theta L(\theta_2) + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_2^T \cdot \nabla_\theta^2 L(\theta_2) \cdot \epsilon_2)] \end{aligned}$$

# Analysis

## ■ Error Barrier + Quantization

- Applying a second-order Taylor expansion, we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \max_{\lambda \in [0,1]} \left[ \cancel{L(\theta_\lambda)} - \frac{1}{2} (\cancel{L(\theta_1)} + \cancel{L(\theta_2)}) \right] + \text{Assuming zero error barrier for simplicity} \\
 & \max_{\lambda \in [0,1]} \left[ \epsilon_\lambda \cdot \nabla_\theta L(\theta_\lambda) + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_\lambda^T \cdot \nabla_\theta^2 L(\theta_\lambda) \cdot \epsilon_\lambda - \frac{1}{2} (\cancel{\epsilon_1 \cdot \nabla_\theta L(\theta_1)} + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_1^T \cdot \nabla_\theta^2 L(\theta_1) \cdot \epsilon_1 + \right. \\
 & \quad \left. \cancel{\epsilon_2 \cdot \nabla_\theta L(\theta_2)} + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_2^T \cdot \nabla_\theta^2 L(\theta_2) \cdot \epsilon_2) \right] \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{First-order term of} \\ \text{converged point} \end{array}
 \end{aligned}$$

First-order term of converged point

# Analysis

- Error Barrier + Quantization

- Applying a second-order Taylor expansion, we obtain:

$$\max_{\lambda \in [0,1]} [\epsilon_\lambda \cdot \nabla_\theta L(\theta_\lambda) + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_\lambda^T \cdot \nabla_\theta^2 L(\theta_\lambda) \cdot \epsilon_\lambda - \frac{1}{4} (\epsilon_1^T \cdot \nabla_\theta^2 L(\theta_1) \cdot \epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2^T \cdot \nabla_\theta^2 L(\theta_2) \cdot \epsilon_2)]$$

# Analysis

## ■ Error Barrier + Quantization

- Applying a second-order Taylor expansion, we obtain:

$$\max_{\lambda \in [0,1]} \left[ \epsilon_{\lambda} \cdot \nabla_{\theta} L(\theta_{\lambda}) + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{\lambda}^T \cdot \nabla_{\theta}^2 L(\theta_{\lambda}) \cdot \epsilon_{\lambda} - \frac{1}{4} (\epsilon_1^T \cdot \nabla_{\theta}^2 L(\theta_1) \cdot \epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2^T \cdot \nabla_{\theta}^2 L(\theta_2) \cdot \epsilon_2) \right]$$

- To minimize total error barrier,
  1. Minimize red term
  2. Maximize blue term

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- To minimize total error barrier,

1. Minimize red term : How?
2. ~~Maximize blue term~~ : Increased Hessian → Degraded robustness and quality

# Analysis

## ■ Error Barrier + Quantization

- Assuming Hessian of loss  $L$  is  $M$ -Lipschitz continuous between  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$ ,

$$\left| \boxed{\nabla_{\theta}^2 L(\theta_{\lambda})} - \frac{\nabla_{\theta}^2 L(\theta_1) + \nabla_{\theta}^2 L(\theta_2)}{2} \right| \leq \frac{M \|\theta_2 - \theta_1\|}{2}$$

- Hessian at merged point can be effectively regularized by,

# Analysis

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  - **Controlling Hessians** at the  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$
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  - This leads to **minimization of first-order term, as it also becomes lipschitz continuous**
- Domain Adaptation Case ( $\nabla L_1(\theta_2) \neq 0, \nabla L_2(\theta_1) \neq 0$ )?
  - Able to derive same conclusion

$$\max_{\lambda \in [0,1]} [(\epsilon_{\lambda} + k \cdot \epsilon_2) \cdot \nabla_{\theta} L_1(\theta_{\lambda}) + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon_{\lambda}^T \cdot \nabla_{\theta}^2 L_1(\theta_{\lambda}) \cdot \epsilon_{\lambda} - \frac{1}{4} (\epsilon_1^T \cdot \nabla_{\theta}^2 L(\theta_1) \cdot \epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2^T \cdot \nabla_{\theta}^2 L(\theta_2) \cdot \epsilon_2)]$$

# Method

- Noise-based hessian regularization
  - Simulates quantization error by introducing **additive sampled noise,  $\epsilon$** 
    - Quantized weight :  $\hat{w} = \text{clamp} \left( \left\lfloor \frac{w}{\Delta} \right\rfloor, -2^{b-1}, 2^{b-1} - 1 \right) \cdot \Delta$ 
      - $\Delta, b$  denotes step size and bit-width, respectively
    - **$\epsilon$**  is sampled from  $w - \hat{w}$ 
      - Quantization noise follows uniform distribution,  $U[-\frac{\Delta}{2}, \frac{\Delta}{2}]$

$$\hat{w}_{HDRQ} = w + \epsilon$$

# Method

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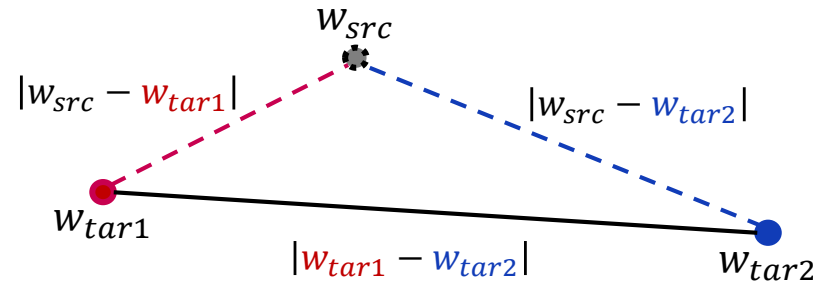
– **Inherently regularizes Hessian** as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} E[L(\hat{w})] &\approx E[\hat{w}_{HDRQ}] = E[w + \epsilon] \\ &\approx E[L(w) + \overbrace{\epsilon \cdot \nabla_w L(w)}^{\text{First-order term of converged point}} + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon^T \cdot \nabla_w^2 L(w) \cdot \epsilon] \\ &\approx E[L(w) + \frac{1}{2} \epsilon^T \cdot \nabla_w^2 L(w) \cdot \epsilon] \end{aligned}$$

# Method

- Weight distance regularization
  - Regularize **upper bound derived from triangular inequality**
    - Without prior information about target domains and weights

$$|w_{tar1} - w_{tar2}| \leq |w_{src} - w_{tar1}| + |w_{src} - w_{tar2}|$$

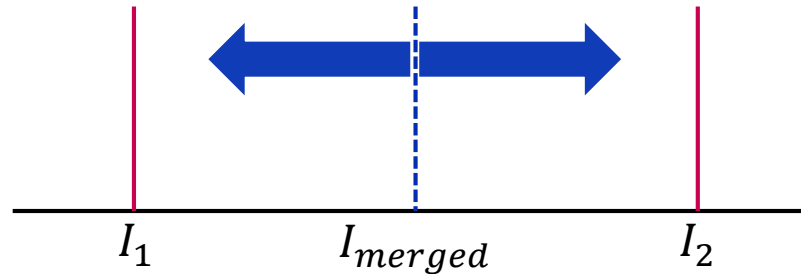


- Access to source weights?
  - Generally models pretrained from source data are adapted and deployed
    - Provider must maintain source weight

# Method

## ■ Handling Ambiguity in Rounding Policy

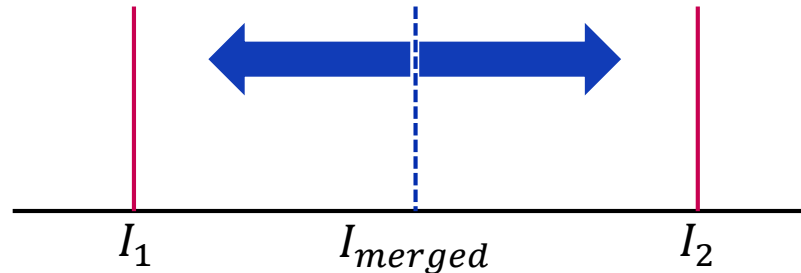
- Consider two quantized values being merged,
  - $I_1$  and  $I_2$  : Integer representations
  - $\Delta_1$  and  $\Delta_2$  : Step sizes
- If sum of  $I_1$  and  $I_2$  is an odd number, **ambiguity in the rounding direction** arises



# Method

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- Merging in **floating point domain**?
  - Again degenerates when  $\Delta_1 \approx \Delta_2$

$$I_{merged} = \left\lfloor \frac{I_1 \cdot \Delta_1 + I_2 \cdot \Delta_2}{\Delta_1 + \Delta_2} \right\rfloor \approx \left\lfloor \frac{I_1 \cdot \Delta_1 + I_2 \cdot \Delta_1}{2 \cdot \Delta_1} \right\rfloor \approx \left\lfloor \frac{I_1 + I_2}{2} \right\rfloor$$

# Method

- Handling Ambiguity in Rounding Policy
  - Our Solution : Employ **noise sampling**
    - Maintains **same quantized representation while mitigating ambiguity**
    - $\epsilon \sim U[-\frac{\Delta}{2}, \frac{\Delta}{2}]$

$$I_{merged} = \left\lfloor \frac{(I_1 \cdot \Delta_1 + \epsilon_1) + (I_2 \cdot \Delta_2 + \epsilon_2)}{\Delta_1 + \Delta_2} \right\rfloor$$

# Method

## ■ Handling Ambiguity in Rounding Policy

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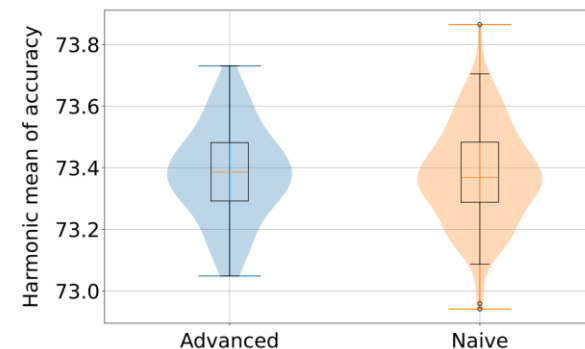
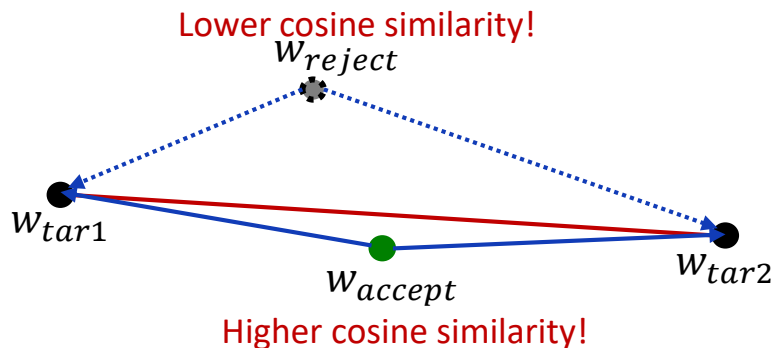
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– **Stabilize merge result?**

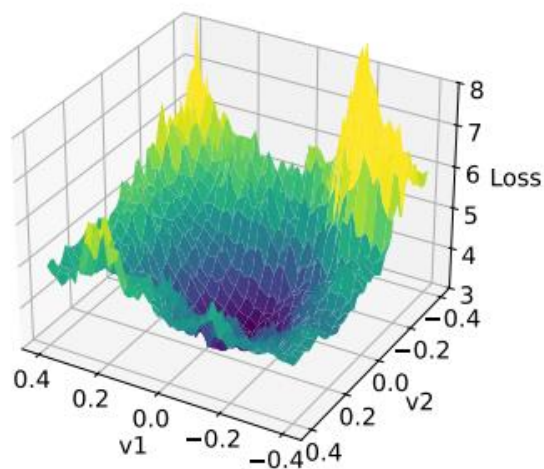
- Utilizing noise, it is important to have **stable results with low variance**
- Highest **Cosine similarity** between **original interpolation vector** and **new vectors**



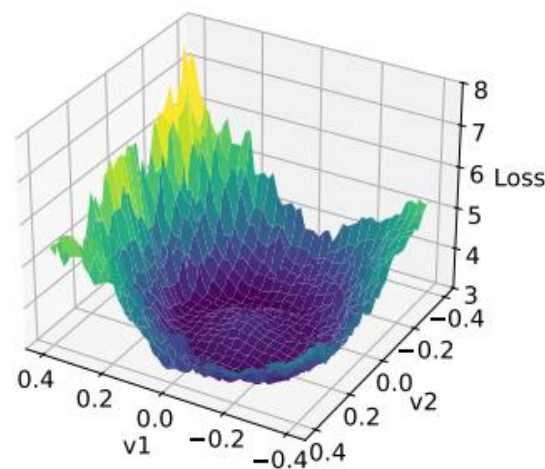


# Experimental Results

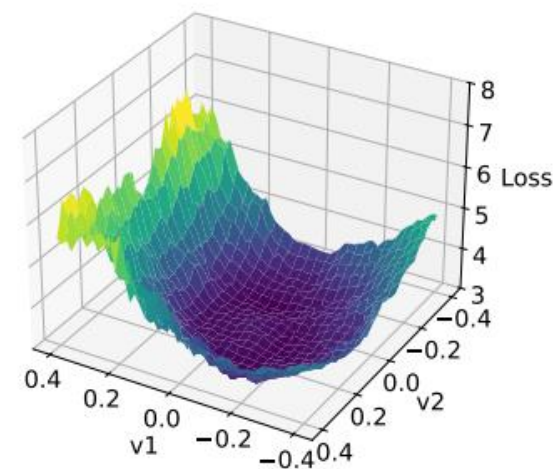
- Landscape Visualization
  - HDRQ guides the network to **smoother loss surface**
    - Direct injection of noise to weights effectively handles **local lumps**



(a) BRECQ



(b) QDrop



(c) HDRQ(Ours)

# Experimental Results

## ■ Semantic Segmentation

- Quantization results on each target domain are comparable
- However **when merged**, HDRQ outperforms other methods by large margin

Method	Bit(W/A)	Domain	mIOU
FP	32/32	$G \rightarrow C$	61.69
		$G \rightarrow I$	52.06
BRECQ	4/4	$G \rightarrow C$	53.67
		$G \rightarrow I$	45.50
Qdrop	4/4	$G \rightarrow C$	58.92
		$G \rightarrow I$	49.44
HDRQ	4/4	$G \rightarrow C$	58.23
		$G \rightarrow I$	48.68

Quantization result on each domain

Method	Bit(W/A)	Metric	mIOU
FP	32/32	C	58.12
		I	53.50
		H	55.71
BRECQ	4/4	C	29.21
		I	35.34
		H	31.95
Qdrop	4/4	C	39.91
		I	43.37
		H	41.54
HDRQ	4/4	C	44.44
		I	47.17
		H	45.75

Merging Results

# Experimental Results

- Image Classification (Merging 3 networks)
  - HDRQ outperforms other methods, especially when weights are quantized into low bit
    - **Bold** indicates best one
    - **Red** indicates accuracy gain of over > 1% compared to the second-best

Domain	FP	Methods	W4A8	W4A4	W3A3
R→A,C,P	67.68	BRECQ	64.15	60.95	43.66
		QDrop	64.85	66.26	62.99
		HDRQ	<b>66.74</b>	<b>66.41</b>	<b>64.70</b>
A→R,C,P	68.80	BRECQ	66.06	62.53	48.04
		QDrop	66.83	66.04	64.22
		HDRQ	<b>67.80</b>	<b>67.58</b>	<b>65.29</b>
C→R,A,P	75.07	BRECQ	73.22	71.31	56.16
		QDrop	73.81	73.25	71.01
		HDRQ	<b>74.26</b>	<b>73.58</b>	<b>71.63</b>
P→R,A,C	65.25	BRECQ	<b>64.09</b>	61.92	45.09
		QDrop	62.52	<b>63.22</b>	61.24
		HDRQ	63.93	63.19	<b>61.55</b>

# Experimental Results

## ■ Incremental Ablation Study

- Office-Home dataset, W3A3 precision, R→A,C,P setting
- Noise-based quantization scheme yields performance gain of 1.22%
- Further incorporating weight distance regularization gives additional 0.49% gain

Method	Accuracy
Baseline	62.99 (73.14 58.69 83.62)
+ Noise-based Quantization	64.21 ( +1.22% ) (73.42 58.65 83.67)
+ Distance Regularization	64.70 ( +0.49% ) (72.81 58.72 83.33)