# **Detecting and Rectifying Noisy Labels: Similarity-based Methods**

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#### Abstract

Label noise in datasets could damage the performance of neural net training. As the size of modern deep networks grows, there is a growing demand for automated tools for detecting such errors. In this paper, we propose modelagnostic error detection and rectification methods utilizing the penultimate feature from the trained neural network. Our idea is based on an observation that the similarity of penultimate features is higher for within-class data points than that of other class data points, making the probability of label occurrence within a tight-similar cluster, informative to detect and rectify errors. Extensive experiments show our method not only demonstrates high performances across various noises but also automatically rectifies these errors to improve the quality of datasets and model generalization.

#### 1 Introduction

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While the majority of knowledge in AI systems is learned through unsupervised learning, supervised learning is an indispensable step in building strong AI systems (c.f. the LeCun's cake). For Large Language Models (LLMs) such as GPTs (Brown et al., 2020), LLaMA (Touvron et al., 2023a,b), and Gemini (Team et al., 2023), supervised learning accounts for only a small fraction of the total computation budget but has a significant impact on the models' performance. Recent research (e.g. Zhou et al., 2023; Gunasekar et al., 2023) finds that high quality training data significantly improves performance while reducing the training cost by orders of magnitude. The need for automated tools for improving the quality of supervised learning data is rising as datasets and models are getting larger at an unprecedented speed.

Real world datasets contain a notable amount of errors (Beyer et al., 2020; Northcutt et al., 2021b). Previous works (Dau et al., 2022; Nguyen-Duc et al., 2023) showed that removing errors from the training set improves the performance of AI models trained on that dataset. Automatic error rectification, however, is an underexplored topic. In this paper, we present a feature based approach for error detection and rectification in large scale datasets. We theoretically show that the similarity between the penultimate feature of a mislabeled data point and its true class data points is larger than that for data points from other classes (Sec. 3.1). Inspired by this observation, we develop simple yet effective similarity-based methods for detecting and rectifying label errors (Sec. 3.2). Extensive experiments demonstrate the superiorities of our methods across various settings (Sec. 4.2). Furthermore, our methods are posthoc and model-agnostic i.e. they can be applied to any deep neural network (DNN) architectures without the need for retraining.

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## 2 Background and related work

**Notation.** Let  $\mathbf{z} = (\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$  be a data point, where  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}$  is an input and  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{Y}$  is an output. Let  $\mathcal{D} = \{\mathbf{z}^{(i)}\}_{i=1}^{n}$  be a *N*-class noisy training dataset of *n* data points. Let  $f : \mathcal{X} \mapsto \mathcal{Y}$  be a deep model parameterized by  $\theta$ ;  $\hat{\theta} = \arg \min_{\theta} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \ell(\mathbf{z}^{(i)}, \theta)$  are optimal parameters of *f* measured on  $\mathcal{D}$ , where  $\ell : \mathcal{Y} \times \mathcal{Y} \mapsto \mathbb{R}^+$  be the loss function. In this paper,  $\mathbf{g}_{\hat{\theta}}(\mathbf{z}^{(i)}) = \nabla_{\theta} \ell(\mathbf{z}^{(i)}, \hat{\theta})$  is denoted as the gradient of the loss at  $\hat{\theta}$  with respect to (w.r.t)  $\theta$ .

**Confident-based Error Detection Methods.** Confident-based methods are based on the notion of *confident learning* (Northcutt et al., 2021a) that deriving label quality measurements by using predicted probability distribution (Wang and Mueller, 2022; Kuan and Mueller, 2022; Thyagarajan et al., 2022). Low confidence serves as a heuristic indicating the likelihood of a label noise. Given a data point z with output label  $y = (y_1, ..., y_k, ..., y_N)$ , the model's predicted probabilities is  $\mathbf{p} = (p_1, ..., p_k, ..., p_N)$  over N classes. Northcutt et al. (2021a) proposed three label quality scoring methods:

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(1) Self-Confidence (SC) refers to the estimated probability that the input  $\mathbf{x}$  belongs to the class associated with its given label k:  $SC(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{p}) = p_{y_k}$ , for  $k \in \{1, 2, ..., N\}$ .

(2) *Normalized-Margin* (NM) is the quantified difference between the model's estimated probability of the given label and the probability of the most likely class:  $NM(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{p}) = p_{y_k} - p_{y_j^*}$ , for  $j^* = \arg \max_{j \neq k \in \{1, 2, \dots, N\}} p_{y_j}$ 

(3) Confidence-Weighted Entropy (CE) is the ratio of SC score and the normalized entropy:  $CE(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{p}) = \frac{p_{y_k}}{\mathcal{H}_N(\mathbf{p})}$ , where  $\mathcal{H}_N(\mathbf{p}) = -\frac{1}{\log N} \sum_{k=1}^{N} p_n \log(p_n)$ .

Gradient-based Error Detection Methods. Koh and Liang (2017) use Influence Function (IF)a concept from robust statistic (Hampel, 1974)for measuring the influence of a training data point to weights of a DNN. Dau et al. (2022) proposed a way to adapt IF and its variants i.e. Gradient Dot Product (GD; Charpiat et al. (2019a)), Gradient Cosine (GC; Charpiat et al. (2019a)), and Tracing Gradient Decent (TracIn; Pruthi et al. (2020)), for identifying erroneous in large-scale source code datasets. The idea is the gradients of error data points exhibit significantly large magnitudes and are opposite in direction to the gradients of normal data points. The algorithm computes the influence score of each data point in the noisy dataset with data points in a reference set. A more negative influence score means is more likely to be an error. Nguyen-Duc et al. (2023) use class information to improve the performance and stability of these gradient methods.

(1) IF
$$(\mathbf{z}^{(i)}, \mathbf{z}^{(j)}) = -\frac{1}{n} \mathbf{g}_{\hat{\theta}}(\mathbf{z}^{(i)})^{\top} \mathcal{H}_{\hat{\theta}}^{-1} \mathbf{g}_{\hat{\theta}}(\mathbf{z}^{(j)}),$$
  
(2) GD $(\mathbf{z}^{(i)}, \mathbf{z}^{(j)}) = \langle \mathbf{g}_{\hat{\theta}}(\mathbf{z}^{(i)}), \mathbf{g}_{\hat{\theta}}(\mathbf{z}^{(j)}) \rangle,$   
(3) GC $(\mathbf{z}^{(i)}, \mathbf{z}^{(j)}) = \cos(\mathbf{g}_{\hat{\theta}}(\mathbf{z}^{(i)}), \mathbf{g}_{\hat{\theta}}(\mathbf{z}^{(j)})),$   
(4) TracIn $(\mathbf{z}^{(i)}, \mathbf{z}^{(j)}) = \sum^{T} m \text{CD}(\mathbf{z}^{(i)}, \mathbf{z}^{(j)})$ 

(4) TracIn( $\mathbf{z}^{(i)}, \mathbf{z}^{(j)}$ ) =  $\sum_{t=1}^{I} \eta_t \text{GD}(\mathbf{z}^{(i)}, \mathbf{z}^{(j)})$ , where  $\mathcal{H}_{\hat{\theta}}$  is the hessian matrix, T is the number of epochs, and  $\eta_t$  is the learning rate at epoch t.

Other Error Detection Methods. The rule-120 based approach (Chu et al., 2013) and statistics-121 based approach (Huang and He, 2018) are com-122 monly used for structured data such as tabular data. 123 Krishnan et al. (2016) combines active learning 124 and convex models to detect errors on small clas-125 sification datasets. These methods are not suitable 126 for deep learning, as they assume convexity in the 127

model, and the rules in many large scale datasets are not easy to find and describe.

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## 3 Method

## 3.1 Observation

We design experiments to randomly corrupt and inject noise into datasets. We then train a deep network using gradient descent on these altered datasets to measure how noisy data points behave on other data points. As an illustrative example in Fig. 1, we observed that the similarity between the mislabeled data points and their true class data point penultimate-layer representations is often higher than other class data points. We find that



Figure 1: Distribution of (a) Cosine similarity and (b) Dot product over IMDB (Maas et al., 2011) with 10% noise. Blue bars represent the similarity between mislabeled data points and their true class data points, red bars represent the similarity between mislabeled data points and other class data points. Features are obtained from a trained BERT model.

this phenomenon persists across varying percentages of noises. To complement our observation, we provide a theoretical explanation in Appendix. B.

## 3.2 Algorithm

Our algorithm is detailed in Algorithm 1. It requires a small auxiliary dataset  $\mathcal{D}_{aux}$ , a similarity measure  $\sigma(\cdot, \cdot)$ . We denote  $\phi^{(i)}$  and  $\phi^{(j)}$  be the penultimate feature representations of  $\mathbf{z}^{(i)}$  and  $\mathbf{z}^{(j)}$  obtained from the trained model  $f_{\hat{\theta}}$  respectively. We employ two primary similarity measures: Dot product (DOT =  $\langle \phi^{(i)}, \phi^{(j)} \rangle$ ) and Cosine similarity (COS =  $\frac{\langle \phi^{(i)}, \phi^{(j)} \rangle}{||\phi^{(i)}||||\phi^{(j)}||}$ ). We denote  $\mathcal{S}(\mathcal{D}_{aux}, \mathbf{z}^{(i)})$  as *k* most similar to  $\mathbf{z}^{(i)}$  in  $\mathcal{D}_{aux}$ .

**Error Detection.** Given a noisy dataset  $\mathcal{D}$ , for each data point  $\mathbf{z}^{(i)} \in \mathcal{D}$  with label  $\mathbf{y}^{(i)}$ , our algorithm finds  $\mathcal{S}(\mathcal{D}_{aux}, \mathbf{z}^{(i)})$  such that every data point in  $\mathcal{D}$  but not in  $\mathcal{S}(\mathcal{D}_{aux}, \mathbf{z}^{(i)})$  is at most similar to  $\mathbf{z}^{(i)}$  as the least similar point in  $\mathcal{S}(\mathcal{D}_{aux}, \mathbf{z}^{(i)})$  (line 6). We define a scoring function that return

Algorithm 1 Similarity-based Error Detection and Rectification

# **Require:**

- 1:  $\mathcal{D} = \{\mathbf{z}^{(i)}\}_{i=1}^{n}$ : a noisy dataset 2:  $\mathcal{D}_{aux} = \{\mathbf{z}^{(j)}\}_{j=1}^{m}$ : an auxiliary dataset.
- 3:  $\sigma(\cdot, \cdot)$ : a similarity measure.
- 4: k: number of most similar data points.

**Ensure:** noisy data points in  $\mathcal{D}$  are rectified.

- /\* Error Detection \*/
- 5: for  $\mathbf{z}^{(i)} \in \mathcal{D}$  do
- $\mathcal{S}(\mathcal{D}_{\text{aux}}, \mathbf{z}^{(i)}) = \{\mathbf{z}^{(j)} \in \mathcal{D}_{\text{aux}}\}$ s.t.  $|\mathcal{S}(\mathcal{D}_{\text{aux}}, \mathbf{z}^{(i)})| = k$ , and 6.

$$\sigma(\mathbf{z}^{(i)}, \mathbf{z}^{(j)}) \ge \max_{\mathbf{z}^{\prime(i)} \in \mathcal{D} \setminus \mathcal{S}(\mathcal{D}_{aux}, \mathbf{z}^{(i)})} \sigma(\mathbf{z}^{(i)}, \mathbf{z}^{\prime(i)})$$

- $\mathbf{s}^{(i)} = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{\mathbf{z}^{(j)} \in \mathcal{S}(\mathcal{D}_{\text{aux}}, \mathbf{z}^{(i)})} \mathbb{I}(\mathbf{y}^{(j)} = \mathbf{y}^{(i)})$ 7: 8: end for
- 9:  $\mathcal{D}^{\uparrow} = \operatorname{sort}(\mathcal{D}, \operatorname{key} = \mathbf{s}, \operatorname{ascending} = \operatorname{True})$ /\* Error Rectification\*/

10: for  $\mathbf{z}^{(i)} \in \mathcal{D}_{:p}^{\uparrow}$  do

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 $\mathbf{z}^{(i)} = (\mathbf{x}^{(i)}, \text{MODE}(\mathcal{S}(\mathcal{D}_{aux}, \mathbf{z}^{(i)})))$ 11: 12: return  $\mathcal{D}$ 

 $s^{(i)}$ —the probability of occurrence of label  $y^{(i)}$  in  $\mathcal{S}(\mathcal{D}_{aux}, \mathbf{z}^{(i)})$  (line 7). The indicator  $\mathbb{I}(\cdot)$  returns 1 if the condition holds. A lower s is, more likely a label error. We sort the data points in  $\mathcal{D}$  in ascending order of s and obtain the sorted  $\mathcal{D}^{\uparrow}$  (line 9).

**Error Rectification.** We select the first p% samples of ranked set  $\mathcal{D}^{\uparrow}$  denoted as  $\mathcal{D}_{:p}^{\uparrow}$  and define a class decision rule  $MODE(\cdot)$  that selects the label in  $\mathcal{S}(\mathcal{D}_{aux}, \mathbf{z}^{(i)})$  has the highest probability and greater than threshold  $\tau$ . Otherwise, the label of  $\mathbf{z}^{(i)}$  remains unchanged (line 11).

#### 4 Experiment

#### 4.1 **Experiment Setting**

Dataset and Model. We evaluate our method on two common benchmarks: Sentiment Analysis on IMDB (Maas et al., 2011) and Short Text Classification on Snippets (Phan et al., 2008). We use BERT (Devlin et al., 2019) as the standard model for all settings.

Modeling Realistic Noise. We construct three 179 realistic, human-originated types of noise: (1) Uni-180 form noise: we randomly select data points and 181 change the label to a different class. (2) Systematic 182 *ambiguity noise*: we establish a rule h, which maps data points in a specific class to another fixed one. 184

This means that the labels of selected instances in class *i* are flipped to h(i). To ensure distinctiveness, the mapping function h adheres to the condition  $h(i) \neq h(j) \forall i, j = \{1, ..., N\}$ , and  $i \neq j$ . This noise models the situations where inputs from multiple annotators are often aggregated, the resulting differences in annotations can serve as a model of systematic noise derived from human disagreements. (3) Concentrated noise: we select data points that are densely clustered and change their labels to target labels. We simulate scenarios where the datasets are poisoned by malicious to evaluate the sanitization ability of methods against data poisoning attacks.

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**Setting.** For each dataset, we construct groups of various sizes of noisy samples by corrupting the label of p% of the original training data. We construct the auxiliary dataset  $\mathcal{D}_{aux}$  by randomly selecting m samples from the validation set. We fine-tune BERT on noisy dataset  $\mathcal{D}$  and select the best checkpoint measure on the validation set. We select top t% ranked samples in  $\mathcal{D}_{:p}^{\uparrow}$  and use error detection accuracy for evaluation. After rectifying/removing ranked samples (potentially noisy samples), we re-train the model and report the test accuracy and error reduction rate. Details of the dataset, model, and implementations are in Appendix. A.

#### Main Result and Analysis 4.2

**Error detection accuracy.** (1) Fig. 2 shows the error detection accuracy of methods with three types of noise with different percentages. As a result, when t increases the performance of gradientbased methods drastically decreases. This pattern is observed in all three types of noise across different percentages and in both Snippets (Fig. 4) and IMDB (Fig. 5). This result shows that the gradientbased methods are unstable and less inconsistent. (2) Confident-based methods are precise with uniform noises and systematic ambiguity noise yet struggle with concentrated noise (Fig. 2c). (3) Sim-Cos and Sim-Dot have high detection accuracy and slightly decrease when t increases with difference noise. This confirmed that the Similarity-based methods are effective and more robust to ambiguity and concentrated noises than gradient-/confidentbased methods. (4) We observe that Sim-Dot often has low detection accuracy on IMDB (Fig. 5). We theoretically proved that for classification datasets with N classes, the similarity of within-class data



Figure 2: Error detection accuracy of methods measure on Snippets. The x-axis in the figures presents the change of  $t \text{ from } 10 \rightarrow 100\%$ .

Table 1: Test accuracy after remove/rectify potential noise samples on Snippets with 20% noise. The **best** and runner-up are marked.

| Method               | Random noise         |                      | Ambiguity noise      |                      | Concentrated noise   |                      |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
|                      | Removed              | Rectified            | Removed              | Rectified            | Removed              | Rectified            |
| Acc. (under noise)   | 88.64 (+0.00)        | _                    | 82.50 (+0.00)        |                      | 79.38 (+0.00)        | _                    |
| Confident-W. Entropy | 83.02 (-5.62)        | _                    | 84.38 (+1.88)        | _                    | 77.50 (-1.88)        | _                    |
| Normalize-Margin     | 87.19 (-1.45)        | _                    | 87.01 (+4.51)        | _                    | 77.89 (-1.49)        | _                    |
| Self-Confidence      | 86.05 (-2.59)        | _                    | <b>87.36</b> (+4.86) | _                    | 78.02 (-1.36)        | _                    |
| Influence Function   | 83.24 (-5.40)        | _                    | 81.71 (-0.79)        | _                    | 79.51 (+0.13)        | _                    |
| Gradient-Cosine      | 73.81 (-14.83)       | _                    | 83.33 (+0.83)        | _                    | 82.23 (+2.85)        | _                    |
| Gradient-Dot         | 86.53 (-2.11)        | _                    | 82.01 (-0.49)        | _                    | 78.68 (-0.70)        | _                    |
| TracIn               | 85.48 (-3.16)        | —                    | 81.71 (-0.79)        | —                    | 76.67 (-2.71)        | _                    |
| Sim-Cos              | <b>89.43</b> (+0.79) | <b>87.85</b> (-0.79) | 85.00 (+2.50)        | 83.73 (+1.23)        | <u>81.53</u> (+2.15) | 83.38 (+4.00)        |
| Sim-Dot              | 86.71 (-1.93)        | 87.32 (-1.32)        | 82.98 (+0.48)        | <b>83.95</b> (+1.45) | <u>81.53</u> (+2.15) | <u>81.97</u> (+2.59) |

points is approximately N-1 times larger than other class data points. For IMDB where N = 2, this fraction becomes approximately 1. That explains why Sim-Dot does not work well on IMDB. Mathematical details are in Appendix. B. (5) Sim-Cos, consistently outperforms Sim-Dot by a large margin for all settings. We explain from the standpoint of *feature normalization*. By definition, Cosine similarity can be seen as the normalized Dot product. In Fig. 4 (b), we empirically show that the noisy samples have  $L_2$ -norm smaller than normal samples. Therefore, when dividing the feature of data points by its norm, the similarity between noisy and normal data points tends to be larger, leading to a more distinct distribution of similarities.

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251Improving datasets and model generalization.252Tab.1 shows a significant improvement in the test253accuracy when removing/rectifying concentrated254noise and systematic ambiguity noise. Neverthe-255less, a counter-intuitive observation regarding ran-

dom noise shows that removing/rectifying noise reduces the generalization of models, even when detection accuracy is high. We posit that deep models are robust to massive random noise (Rolnick et al., 2017), then as the training process, the model also memorizes the noise, approaches the optimum, and the gradient of noise becomes smaller. The effect of noise, therefore, also decreases as the model converges. When removing noise, the model degrades the feature representation of noise samples and loses the generalization to unseen samples.

# 5 Conclusion

We introduce similarity-based algorithms for detecting and rectifying errors on large-scale datasets. We theoretically show that the similarity between the penultimate feature's data points is useful for detecting errors. Experiment results demonstrated the superior performance of our methods, and their capability to improve datasets quality and model generalization.

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# 276 Limitations

277 We discuss the limitations of similarity-based meth-278 ods: (1) The optimal detection accuracy of Sim-279 Cos and Sim-Dot unfortunately based on empirical 280 validation, and depends on the choice of k and  $\mathcal{D}_{aux}$ 281 and also with different datasets and model architec-282 tures. (2) The generalization of models under the 283 removal or rectification of noise remains uncertain, 284 due to the limited exploration of datasets.

## 5 Ethics Statement

We consider only the public datasets and create artificial noises for evaluation. We do not pose any concern about the quality of the original datasets.

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Chunting Zhou, Pengfei Liu, Puxin Xu, Srini Iyer, Jiao Sun, Yuning Mao, Xuezhe Ma, Avia Efrat, Ping Yu, Lili Yu, et al. 2023. Lima: Less is more for alignment. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2305.11206*.

# A Implementation detail

# A.1 Dataset and Model

**Snippets** (Phan et al., 2008) is an open dataset of web search snippets retrieved from Google Search with 8 domains including Business, Computers, Culture-Arts-Entertainment, Education-Science, Engineering, Health, Politics-Society, and Sports. The training data and testing data include 10,060 and 2,280 snippets respectively. For validation purposes, we randomly split original training data into train/valid with the ratio of 8048/2012. The dataset can be found at http://jwebpro.sourceforge. net/data-web-snippets.tar.gz.

IMDB (Maas et al., 2011) is the most common benchmark for Sentiment Analysis task. IMDB includes 50000 reviews from the Internet Movie Database website with original 25000 negative and 25000 positive reviews. For validation purposes, we randomly split into training, validation, and test sets of sizes 15000, 5000, and 25000. The IMDB dataset can be found at https://ai.stanford.edu/ ~amaas/data/sentiment/

**BERT** (Devlin et al., 2019) stands for Bidirectional Encoder Representations from Transformers. BERT is one of the most standard used pre-trained model for language understanding tasks. In all settings, we use BERT base uncased version.

# A.2 Experiment detail

BERT was trained with AdamW (Loshchilov and Hutter, 2019) with learning rate  $\eta = 5e - 5$ , momentum  $\beta = (0.9, 0.999)$ , cross entropy loss, batch-size of 16 with 15 epochs. For regularization, we use Dropout (Srivastava et al., 2014) of 0.2. We choose  $p = \{5\%, 10\%, 20\%\}$ , m =1000,  $k = \{1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200\}$ , t = $\{10\%, 20\%, ..., 100\%\}$ , and  $\tau = 0.8$ . We compute the IF score for BERT with the last layer gradient as previous works (Pezeshkpour et al., 2021; Hanawa et al., 2021) and use LiSSA (Agarwal et al., 2017) to approximate the Hessian. For TracIn method, we

calculate the influence score from the first epoch to the best epoch. We run experiments on 4 seeds = {16, 32, 64, 128} and aggregate the results by taking the mean of these 4 seeds. A Nvidia RTX GeForce 3090 Ti was used to run experiments. Our implementation was attached to the supplementary materials.

#### **Theoretical Analysis** B

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We consider a deep network received input  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , where d is the input dimension. Let  $\delta$  be the softmax activation function,  $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^N$  be the bias. Given an output function  $\phi_W$  parameterized by  $W \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times d}$ . For two inputs  $\mathbf{x}^{(i)}$  and  $\mathbf{x}^{(j)}$  we have 496 two output vectors  $\phi_W(\mathbf{x}^{(i)})$  and  $\phi_W(\mathbf{x}^{(j)})$  respectively. As seen by a deep network, we can mea-498 sure the influence between  $\mathbf{x}^{(i)}$  and  $\mathbf{x}^{(j)}$  by quantifying how much  $\phi_W(\mathbf{x}^{(i)})$  change would change  $\phi_W(\mathbf{x}^{(j)})$  as well. If  $\mathbf{x}^{(i)}$  and  $\mathbf{x}^{(j)}$  have high similarity, then  $\mathbf{x}^{(i)}$  have high influence on  $\mathbf{x}^{(j)}$  and changing  $\phi_W(\mathbf{x}^{(i)})$  have large effect on  $\phi_W(\mathbf{x}^{(j)})$ . Otherwise, if they have low similarity, then  $\mathbf{x}^{(i)}$ have low influence on  $\mathbf{x}^{(j)}$  and changing  $\phi_W(\mathbf{x}^{(i)})$ have small effect on  $\phi_W(\mathbf{x}^{(j)})$ . To measure the similarity between data points, we employ a symmetric kernel proposed by Charpiat et al. (2019b): The Inner Product

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$$\mathcal{K}(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}, \mathbf{x}^{(j)}) = \left\langle \nabla_W \phi_W(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}), \nabla_W \phi_W(\mathbf{x}^{(j)}) \right\rangle,$$
(1)

We choice  $\phi$  is the Cross Entropy between softmax activation output  $\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \delta(W\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b})$  and true distribution y. We have  $\phi_W(\mathbf{x}) = \ell(\hat{\mathbf{y}}, \mathbf{y}; W)$ . For simplicity, we remove the bias term. Let denote  $\mathbf{u} = W\mathbf{x}$  and  $\ell(\hat{\mathbf{y}}, \mathbf{y}) = \ell(\hat{\mathbf{y}}, \mathbf{y}; W)$ . Using the chain rule:

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$$\nabla_W \ell(\hat{\mathbf{y}}, \mathbf{y}) = \operatorname{vec}\left(\frac{\partial \ell(\hat{\mathbf{y}}, \mathbf{y})}{\partial W}\right)$$
  
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$$= \operatorname{vec}\left(\frac{\partial \ell(\hat{\mathbf{y}}, \mathbf{y})}{\partial \mathbf{u}} \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial W}\right)$$

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$$= \nabla_{\mathbf{u}} \ell(\hat{\mathbf{y}}, \mathbf{y}) \mathbf{x}^{\top}, \qquad (2)$$

where  $\operatorname{vec}\left(\frac{\partial \ell(\hat{\mathbf{y}},\mathbf{y})}{\partial W}\right)$  is the vectorization of the derivative of the loss  $\ell$  with respect to W. The partial  $\frac{\partial \ell(\hat{\mathbf{y}}, \mathbf{y})}{\partial \mathbf{u}}$  is

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$$\frac{\partial \ell(\hat{\mathbf{y}}, \mathbf{y})}{\partial \mathbf{u}} = \frac{\partial \ell(\hat{\mathbf{y}}, \mathbf{y})}{\partial \hat{\mathbf{y}}} \frac{\partial \hat{\mathbf{y}}}{\partial \mathbf{u}}$$
(3)

The first term on the right hand side of Eqn. 3 is partial derivatives of the loss w.r.t the predicted 525

output  $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$ . Regarding to the fact:  $\mathbf{y}$  is the one-hot vector present label k has element  $y_k = 1$  and  $y_i = 0$  if  $i \neq k$ . We have:

$$\frac{\partial \ell(\hat{\mathbf{y}}, \mathbf{y})}{\partial \hat{\mathbf{y}}} = \left[ \frac{\partial \ell(\hat{\mathbf{y}}, \mathbf{y})}{\partial \hat{y}_1} \cdots \frac{\partial \ell(\hat{\mathbf{y}}, \mathbf{y})}{\partial \hat{y}_k} \cdots \frac{\partial \ell(\hat{\mathbf{y}}, \mathbf{y})}{\partial \hat{y}_k} \right]$$
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$$= \left[0\cdots\frac{1}{\hat{y}_k}\cdots 0\right] \tag{4}$$

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The second term is the matrix comprises partial derivatives of the predicted output  $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$  w.r.t u. Regarding to the fact:

$$\frac{\partial \hat{\mathbf{y}}}{\partial \mathbf{u}} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial \hat{y}_1}{\partial u_1} & \frac{\partial \hat{y}_1}{\partial u_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial \hat{y}_1}{\partial u_N} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial \hat{y}_k}{\partial u_1} & \frac{\partial \hat{y}_k}{\partial u_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial \hat{y}_k}{\partial u_N} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial \hat{y}_N}{\partial u_1} & \frac{\partial \hat{y}_N}{\partial u_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial \hat{y}_N}{\partial u_N} \end{bmatrix}$$
(5) 534

Substitute Eqn. 5 and Eqn. 4 into Eqn. 3, we get

$$\frac{\partial \ell(\hat{\mathbf{y}}, \mathbf{y})}{\partial \mathbf{u}} = 530$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial \ell(\hat{\mathbf{y}}, \mathbf{y})}{\partial \hat{y}_k} \frac{\partial \hat{y}_k}{\partial u_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial \ell(\hat{\mathbf{y}}, \mathbf{y})}{\partial \hat{y}_k} \frac{\partial \hat{y}_k}{\partial u_k} & \cdots & \frac{\partial \ell(\hat{\mathbf{y}}, \mathbf{y})}{\partial \hat{y}_k} \frac{\partial \hat{y}_k}{\partial u_N} \end{bmatrix}$$
(6)

Given a softmax activation function  $\delta$  for class k: Case 1: i = k, we compute the derivative of softmax output  $\hat{y}_k$  w.r.t  $u_k$ :

$$\frac{\partial \hat{y}_k}{\partial u_k} = \frac{\partial}{\partial u_k} \left( \frac{e^{u_k}}{\sum_{i=1}^N e^{u_i}} \right)$$
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$$=\frac{e^{u_{k}}\left(\sum_{i=1}^{N}e^{u_{i}}\right)-e^{u_{k}}\cdot e^{u_{k}}}{\left(\sum_{i=1}^{N}e^{u_{i}}\right)^{2}}$$
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$$=\hat{y}_k(1-\hat{y}_k)$$
 (7) 543

Case 2:  $i \neq k$ , we compute the derivative of softmax output  $\hat{y}_k$  w.r.t  $u_i$ :

$$\frac{\partial \hat{y}_k}{\partial u_i} = \frac{\partial}{\partial u_i} \left( \frac{e^{u_k}}{\sum_{i=1}^N e^{u_i}} \right) \tag{8}$$

Using the chain rule, we get:

$$\frac{\partial \hat{y}_k}{\partial u_i} = -\frac{e^{u_k} \cdot e^{u_i}}{\left(\sum_{i=1}^N e^{u_i}\right)^2} = -\hat{y}_k \hat{y}_i \qquad (9)$$

Substitute Eqn. 7 and Eqn. 9 into Eqn. 6, we get a column vector:

$$\nabla_{\mathbf{u}}\ell(\hat{\mathbf{y}},\mathbf{y}) = \begin{bmatrix} -\hat{y}_1 \cdots 1 - \hat{y}_k \cdots - \hat{y}_N \end{bmatrix}^{\top} \quad (10)$$
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The inner product kernel in Eqn. 2 become:

$$\mathcal{K}(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}, \mathbf{x}^{(j)}) = \overbrace{\nabla_{\mathbf{u}}\ell(\hat{\mathbf{y}}^{(i)}, \mathbf{y}^{(i)})^{\top} \nabla_{\mathbf{u}}\ell(\hat{\mathbf{y}}^{(j)}, \mathbf{y}^{(j)})}^{\mathbf{G}^{(ij)}} \cdot (\mathbf{x}^{(j)\top}\mathbf{x}^{(i)})$$
(11)

We denote  $\mathbf{G}^{(ij)}$  as the dot product of two gradients of the loss at  $\mathbf{x}^{(i)}$  and  $\mathbf{x}^{(j)}$ . Suppose input  $\mathbf{x}^{(i)}$  and input  $\mathbf{x}^{(j)}$  have label k and k' corresponding. We have

$$\mathbf{G}^{(ij)} = \begin{bmatrix} -\hat{y}_{1}^{(i)} \cdots 1 - \hat{y}_{k}^{(i)} \cdots - \hat{y}_{N}^{(i)} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} -\hat{y}_{1}^{(j)} \\ \vdots \\ 1 - \hat{y}_{k'}^{(j)} \\ \vdots \\ -\hat{y}_{N}^{(j)} \end{bmatrix}$$
(12)

60 we consider 2 cases: 61 If k = k':

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{G}_{k=k'}^{(ij)} &= \hat{y}_1^{(i)} \hat{y}_1^{(j)} + \dots + (1 - \hat{y}_k^{(i)})(1 - \hat{y}_k^{(j)}) \\ &+ \dots + \hat{y}_N^{(i)} \hat{y}_N^{(j)} \\ &= (1 - \hat{y}_k^{(i)})(1 - \hat{y}_k^{(j)}) + \sum_{n=1, n \neq k}^N \hat{y}_n^{(i)} \hat{y}_n^{(j)} \end{aligned}$$

If  $k \neq k'$ :

$$\mathbf{G}_{k\neq k'}^{(ij)} = \hat{y}_{1}^{(i)} \hat{y}_{1}^{(j)} + \dots + (1 - \hat{y}_{k}^{(i)})(-\hat{y}_{k}^{(j)}) + (1 - \hat{y}_{k'}^{(j)})(-\hat{y}_{k'}^{(i)}) + \dots + \hat{y}_{N}^{(i)} \hat{y}_{N}^{(j)} \\
= \hat{y}_{k}^{(j)} (\hat{y}_{k}^{(i)} - 1) + \hat{y}_{k'}^{(i)} (\hat{y}_{k'}^{(j)} - 1) \\
+ \sum_{n=1, n\neq k, n\neq k'}^{N} \hat{y}_{n}^{(i)} \hat{y}_{n}^{(j)} \tag{14}$$

During the training process, the model is more confident about the labels of data points, indicating the value of  $\hat{y}_{k}^{(i)}$  and  $\hat{y}_{k'}^{(j)}$  being closer to 1. Assume a well-trained model, and  $\hat{y}_{k}^{(i)} \approx \hat{y}_{k'}^{(j)} = \alpha$ ;  $\hat{y}_{n}^{(i)} = \hat{y}_{n}^{(j)} \approx \epsilon = \frac{1-\alpha}{N-1}$ .  $(n \neq k \text{ and } n \neq k')$ . Substitute these values into Eqn. 13 and Eqn. 14, we get :

$$\mathbf{G}_{k=k'}^{(ij)} \approx (1-\alpha)^2 + \epsilon^2 (N-1)$$
 (15)

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$$\mathbf{G}_{k\neq k'}^{(ij)} \approx -\frac{N(1-\alpha)^2}{(N-1)^2} = -\epsilon^2 N \quad (16)$$

As N become very large with deep learning dataset and  $\epsilon$  small, the magnitude of  $\mathbf{G}_{k\neq k'}^{(ij)}$  is close to 0 for  $k \neq k'$ . That means data points in different classes tend to be pushed into different orthogonal sub-spaces. Let's consider the the magnitude of  $\mathbf{G}_{k=k'}^{(ij)}$  and  $\mathbf{G}_{k\neq k'}^{(ij)}$ , divide  $|\mathbf{G}_{k=k'}^{(ij)}|$  by  $|\mathbf{G}_{k\neq k'}^{(ij)}|$ , we get:

$$\frac{\mathcal{K}_{k=k'}^{(ij)}}{\mathcal{K}_{k\neq k'}^{(ij)}} = \frac{|\mathbf{G}_{k=k'}^{(ij)}|}{|\mathbf{G}_{k\neq k'}^{(ij)}|} \approx \frac{|(1-\alpha)^2 + \epsilon^2(N-1)|}{|-\epsilon^2N|}$$

$$\approx \frac{\epsilon^2 (N-1)^2 + \epsilon^2 (N-1)}{\epsilon^2 N}$$
$$\approx N-1 \tag{17}$$

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Here, the kernel  $\mathcal{K}_{k=k'}^{(ij)}$  ( $\mathcal{K}_{k\neq k'}^{(ij)}$ ) represents the similarity between  $\mathbf{x}^{(i)}$  and  $\mathbf{x}^{(j)}$  when they share the same label (different labels). This explains why mislabeled data points are often more similar to true class data points than data points in other classes.

Similarity-based methods do not work well on IMDB (Fig. 5). For the IMDB dataset with N = 2, the fraction are approximately 1. Hence, the similarity between data points within the same class and those in the remaining class does not have a significant gap.

# C Ablation studies

(13)

# **C.1** The effect of the size of $\mathcal{D}_{aux}$ , the number of k, and $\tau$ .

The effect of the size of  $\mathcal{D}_{aux}$ . We change the size of  $\mathcal{D}_{aux}$  from 100 to 1500, fix k = 100. Tab. 2 and Tab. 3 show the change in error detection accuracy as the size of  $\mathcal{D}_{aux}$  changes. We observed that: (1) the detection accuracy of the methods increases as the size of  $\mathcal{D}_{aux}$  increases. This is true for both Snippets and IMDB, Sim-Cos and Sim-Dot, and for all levels of noise  $\{5\%, 10\%, 20\%\}$ . (2) The accuracy gains are larger for smaller  $\mathcal{D}_{aux}$  values. (3) Sim-Cos outperforms Sim-Dot for all noise levels and most  $\mathcal{D}_{aux}$  values.

**The effect of** k. Tab. 4 and Tab. 5 show that Sim-Cos and Sim-Dot have accuracy increase as k increases for all noise levels  $\{5\%, 10\%, 20\%\}$  and for most values of k. The accuracy gains are often larger for smaller values of k. Sim-Cos outperforms Sim-Dot, especially for larger values of k for all noise levels and most values of k. The impact of noise on detection accuracy with Snippets is generally small, but it increases with k. For Sim-Cos with 20% noise in Tab. 4, the accuracy starts to

Table 2: The effect of the size of  $\mathcal{D}_{aux}$ , setting with Snippets.

| Method       | 5% noise | 10% noise | 20% noise |
|--------------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| Sim-Cos@100  | 16.91    | 22.63     | 31.69     |
| Sim-Cos@200  | 51.99    | 40.67     | 65.25     |
| Sim-Cos@300  | 57.46    | 56.96     | 80.23     |
| Sim-Cos@400  | 60.45    | 72.38     | 86.45     |
| Sim-Cos@500  | 75.37    | 78.60     | 86.88     |
| Sim-Cos@600  | 77.36    | 78.60     | 89.93     |
| Sim-Cos@700  | 82.58    | 78.48     | 93.10     |
| Sim-Cos@800  | 85.07    | 78.60     | 92.91     |
| Sim-Cos@900  | 86.07    | 79.72     | 93.16     |
| Sim-Cos@1000 | 86.56    | 80.01     | 93.28     |
| Sim-Cos@1500 | 88.06    | 80.97     | 94.28     |
| Sim-Dot@100  | 16.91    | 22.63     | 31.69     |
| Sim-Dot@200  | 51.74    | 40.92     | 64.26     |
| Sim-Dot@300  | 57.96    | 56.59     | 79.42     |
| Sim-Dot@400  | 61.19    | 70.64     | 86.82     |
| Sim-Dot@500  | 74.62    | 78.23     | 87.01     |
| Sim-Dot@600  | 76.36    | 78.10     | 88.87     |
| Sim-Dot@700  | 81.34    | 77.36     | 92.91     |
| Sim-Dot@800  | 82.83    | 77.36     | 92.54     |
| Sim-Dot@900  | 83.83    | 78.10     | 92.17     |
| Sim-Dot@1000 | 84.08    | 78.73     | 92.41     |
| Sim-Dot@1500 | 85.32    | 80.34     | 93.78     |

Table 3: The effect of the size of  $\mathcal{D}_{aux}$  on detection performance with IMDB.

| Method       | 5% noise | 10% noise | 20% noise |
|--------------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| Sim-Cos@100  | 6.40     | 8.55      | 20.10     |
| Sim-Cos@200  | 58.10    | 74.00     | 78.55     |
| Sim-Cos@300  | 60.30    | 75.60     | 78.55     |
| Sim-Cos@400  | 60.10    | 75.65     | 78.55     |
| Sim-Cos@500  | 60.20    | 75.55     | 78.55     |
| Sim-Cos@600  | 59.90    | 75.70     | 78.52     |
| Sim-Cos@700  | 60.20    | 75.55     | 78.45     |
| Sim-Cos@800  | 60.10    | 75.60     | 78.47     |
| Sim-Cos@900  | 60.20    | 75.60     | 78.42     |
| Sim-Cos@1000 | 59.90    | 75.50     | 78.52     |
| Sim-Cos@1500 | 60.10    | 75.55     | 78.50     |
| Sim-Dot@100  | 6.40     | 8.55      | 20.10     |
| Sim-Dot@200  | 57.80    | 66.65     | 77.72     |
| Sim-Dot@300  | 58.00    | 65.70     | 77.80     |
| Sim-Dot@400  | 58.10    | 68.20     | 78.47     |
| Sim-Dot@500  | 57.90    | 67.10     | 77.95     |
| Sim-Dot@600  | 58.00    | 73.65     | 78.35     |
| Sim-Dot@700  | 58.50    | 69.45     | 78.52     |
| Sim-Dot@800  | 57.90    | 65.70     | 77.87     |
| Sim-Dot@900  | 58.20    | 68.65     | 77.47     |
| Sim-Dot@1000 | 59.90    | 68.60     | 77.55     |
| Sim-Dot@1500 | 57.90    | 68.05     | 78.10     |

decrease after k = 20. This suggests that using larger k can harm the accuracy when the data is very noisy. For Sim-Dot with 10% and 20% noise in Tab. 4, the accuracy changes are less consistent across different values of k. This suggests that Sim-Dot may be more sensitive to the choice of k.

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Table 4: Error detection accuracy of Sim-Cos and Sim-Dot changes as k changes with Snippets.

| Method        | 5% noise | 10% noise | 20% noise |
|---------------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| Sim-Cos@k=1   | 77.61    | 82.46     | 87.69     |
| Sim-Cos@k=2   | 88.55    | 85.57     | 92.23     |
| Sim-Cos@k=5   | 89.30    | 86.31     | 94.53     |
| Sim-Cos@k=10  | 89.30    | 86.94     | 94.65     |
| Sim-Cos@k=20  | 89.55    | 86.69     | 94.53     |
| Sim-Cos@k=50  | 88.06    | 82.09     | 94.46     |
| Sim-Cos@k=100 | 86.56    | 80.10     | 93.28     |
| Sim-Cos@k=200 | 75.12    | 78.23     | 86.76     |
| Sim-Dot@k=1   | 80.09    | 82.09     | 88.75     |
| Sim-Dot@k=2   | 81.34    | 83.45     | 90.05     |
| Sim-Dot@k=5   | 82.58    | 84.70     | 91.29     |
| Sim-Dot@k=10  | 84.57    | 85.32     | 92.60     |
| Sim-Dot@k=20  | 85.57    | 84.57     | 93.10     |
| Sim-Dot@k=50  | 86.07    | 81.96     | 93.59     |
| Sim-Dot@k=100 | 84.08    | 78.73     | 92.41     |
| Sim-Dot@k=200 | 75.12    | 77.73     | 86.76     |

Table 5: The effect of k on detection performance with IMDB.

| Method        | 5% noise | 10% noise | 20% noise |
|---------------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| Sim-Cos@k=1   | 28.50    | 50.85     | 66.15     |
| Sim-Cos@k=2   | 49.10    | 66.80     | 69.72     |
| Sim-Cos@k=5   | 57.80    | 72.05     | 75.65     |
| Sim-Cos@k=10  | 59.50    | 74.10     | 76.77     |
| Sim-Cos@k=20  | 59.50    | 74.90     | 77.42     |
| Sim-Cos@k=50  | 60.20    | 75.55     | 78.42     |
| Sim-Cos@k=100 | 59.90    | 75.50     | 78.52     |
| Sim-Cos@k=200 | 60.00    | 75.45     | 78.57     |
| Sim-Dot@k=1   | 57.50    | 67.25     | 75.17     |
| Sim-Dot@k=2   | 57.00    | 67.30     | 75.30     |
| Sim-Dot@k=5   | 57.20    | 67.95     | 75.80     |
| Sim-Dot@k=10  | 57.10    | 67.75     | 76.00     |
| Sim-Dot@k=20  | 57.10    | 68.15     | 76.27     |
| Sim-Dot@k=50  | 57.90    | 68.55     | 76.95     |
| Sim-Dot@k=100 | 59.90    | 68.60     | 77.55     |
| Sim-Dot@k=200 | 58.20    | 68.25     | 78.40     |

The effect of  $\tau$  on error reduction rate. We analyze the effect of  $\tau$  on the error reduction rate. We vary the number of  $\tau = \{0.5, 0.6, 0.7, 0.8, 0.9, 0.99\}$ . From results in Tab. 6 and Tab. 7, we see that for both Snippets and IMDB, the change of  $\tau$  has minimal impact on the error reduction rate. Generally, the reduction rate is higher when the noise level is higher.

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# C.2 Correlation.

We calculate the Spearman correlation between ranking scores assigned to samples by detection methods. Fig. 3a shows that gradient-based, confident-based, and similarity-based methods have low Spearman correlation with each other. Confident-based and Gradient-based methods have

| Method                | 5% noise | 10% noise | 20% noise |
|-----------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| Sim-Cos@ $\tau$ =0.5  | 66.16    | 58.95     | 80.98     |
| Sim-Cos@ $\tau$ =0.6  | 50.74    | 58.83     | 77.00     |
| Sim-Cos@ $\tau$ =0.7  | 48.00    | 58.20     | 76.75     |
| Sim-Cos@ $\tau$ =0.8  | 46.51    | 57.83     | 76.69     |
| Sim-Cos@ $\tau$ =0.9  | 46.51    | 57.46     | 76.69     |
| Sim-Cos@ $\tau$ =0.99 | 46.51    | 57.46     | 76.69     |
| Sim-Dot@ $\tau$ =0.5  | 42.03    | 55.72     | 76.25     |
| Sim-Dot@ $\tau$ =0.6  | 43.03    | 56.34     | 76.38     |
| Sim-Dot@ $\tau$ =0.7  | 45.52    | 57.08     | 76.63     |
| Sim-Dot@ $\tau$ =0.8  | 46.26    | 57.33     | 76.69     |
| Sim-Dot@ $\tau$ =0.9  | 46.51    | 57.46     | 76.69     |
| Sim-Dot@ $\tau$ =0.99 | 46.51    | 57.46     | 76.69     |

Table 6: Error Reduction Rate on Snippets.

Table 7: Error Reduction Rate on IMDB.

| Method                | 5% noise | 10% noise | 20% noise |
|-----------------------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| Sim-Cos@ $\tau$ =0.5  | 28.70    | 51.00     | 59.37     |
| Sim-Cos@ $\tau$ =0.6  | 28.40    | 41.15     | 59.12     |
| Sim-Cos@ $\tau$ =0.7  | 28.40    | 41.15     | 59.12     |
| Sim-Cos@ $\tau$ =0.8  | 28.40    | 41.15     | 59.12     |
| Sim-Cos@ $\tau$ =0.9  | 28.40    | 41.15     | 59.12     |
| Sim-Cos@ $\tau$ =0.99 | 28.40    | 41.15     | 59.12     |
| Sim-Dot@ $\tau$ =0.5  | 28.40    | 41.15     | 59.12     |
| Sim-Dot@ $\tau$ =0.6  | 28.40    | 41.15     | 59.12     |
| Sim-Dot@ $\tau$ =0.7  | 28.40    | 41.15     | 59.12     |
| Sim-Dot@ $\tau$ =0.8  | 28.40    | 41.15     | 59.12     |
| Sim-Dot@ $\tau$ =0.9  | 28.40    | 41.15     | 59.12     |
| Sim-Dot@ $\tau$ =0.99 | 28.40    | 41.15     | 59.12     |

negative Spearman correlation, indicating they are very different in ranking. We observed the same phenomenon in datasets across levels and types of noise.

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(a) Spearman correlation of methods on Snippets with random noise 20%.



(b) Distribution of  $L_2$ -norm ( $||\phi||_2$ ) of features



(c) Distribution of similarity (d) Distribution of similarity of  $\langle \phi^{(i)}, \phi^{(j)} \rangle$  of  $\frac{\langle \phi^{(i)}, \phi^{(j)} \rangle}{||\phi^{(i)}||_2 ||\phi^{(j)}||_2}$ 

Figure 3: Visualization of (a) Spearman correlation, (b) the  $L_2$ -norm of noisy data points (presented by blue bars) and normal data points (presented by red bars). Using normalization (Cosine; (d)) enables the differentiation of the similarity distribution, therefore, enhancing detection accuracy compared to the unnormalized approach (Dot; (c)).



Figure 4: Detection accuracy of methods measured on Snippets with different levels of noise.



Figure 5: Detection accuracy of methods measured on IMDB with different levels of noise.

| Method                | Random noise  |               | Ambiguity noise |               | Concentrated noise |               |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------|
| mounou                | Removed       | Rectified     | Removed         | Rectified     | Removed            | Rectified     |
| Acc. (under noise)    | 85.43 (+0.00) | _             | 88.24 (+0.00)   |               | 85.08 (+0.00)      | _             |
| Confidence-W. Entropy | 88.07 (+2.64) |               | 85.04 (-3.20)   | _             | 84.56 (-0.52)      |               |
| Normalize-Margin      | 81.75 (-3.68) | _             | 86.09 (-2.15)   |               | 79.73 (-5.35)      | _             |
| Self-Confidence       | 84.47 (-0.96) | _             | 87.06 (-1.18)   |               | 82.06 (-3.02)      |               |
| Influence Function    | 90.04 (+4.61) | _             | 85.92 (-2.32)   | _             | 81.36 (-3.72)      | _             |
| Gradient-Cosine       | 82.94 (-2.49) | _             | 81.18 (-7.06)   | _             | 80.48 (-4.60)      | _             |
| Gradient-Dot          | 86.01 (+0.58) | _             | 85.13 (-3.11)   |               | 83.29 (-1.79)      | _             |
| TracIn                | 85.74 (+0.31) | —             | 86.88 (-1.36)   | —             | 77.98 (-7.10)      | —             |
| Sim-Cos               | 79.73 (-5.70) | 87.85 (+2.42) | 85.48 (-2.76)   | 85.57 (-2.67) | 81.58 (-3.23)      | 82.06 (-3.02) |
| Sim-Dot               | 88.29 (+2.86) | 87.32 (+1.89) | 84.34 (-3.90)   | 86.58 (-1.66) | 81.62 (-3.46)      | 80.83 (-4.25) |

Table 8: Test accuracy on Snippets with 10% noise.

Table 9: Test accuracy on Snippets with 5% noise.

| Method                | Random noise  |               | Ambiguity noise |               | Concentrated noise |               |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------|
|                       | Removed       | Rectified     | Removed         | Rectified     | Removed            | Rectified     |
| Acc. (under noise)    | 87.14 (+0.00) | _             | 87.36 (+0.00)   |               | 87.93 (+0.00)      | _             |
| Confidence-W. Entropy | 84.86 (-2.28) |               | 86.57 (-0.79)   | _             | 87.80 (-0.13)      | _             |
| Normalize-Margin      | 84.65 (-2.49) | _             | 84.82 (-2.54)   | _             | 83.77 (-4.16)      | _             |
| Self-Confidence       | 85.35 (-1.79) |               | 83.99 (-3.37)   |               | 86.09 (-1.84)      |               |
| Influence Function    | 85.30 (-1.84) | _             | 86.00 (-1.36)   | _             | 85.30 (-2.63)      | _             |
| Gradient-Cosine       | 85.43 (-1.71) | _             | 85.13 (-2.23)   | _             | 79.51 (-8.42)      | _             |
| Gradient-Dot          | 84.56 (-2.58) | _             | 89.21 (+1.85)   | _             | 87.06 (-0.87)      | _             |
| TracIn                | 84.65 (-2.49) | _             | 87.71 (+0.35)   | —             | 81.88 (-6.05)      | —             |
| Sim-Cos               | 86.45 (-0.69) | 85.17 (-1.97) | 87.10 (-0.26)   | 85.48 (-1.88) | 85.39 (-2.54)      | 87.19 (-0.74) |
| Sim-Dot               | 87.15 (+0.01) | 87.06 (-0.08) | 83.37 (-3.99)   | 84.34 (-3.02) | 84.12 (-3.81)      | 79.82 (-8.11) |

Table 10: Test accuracy on IMDB with 20% noise.

| Method                | Random noise  |               | Ambiguity noise |               | Concentrated noise |               |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------|
|                       | Removed       | Rectified     | Removed         | Rectified     | Removed            | Rectified     |
| Acc. (under noise)    | 89.92         |               | 89.36           |               | 85.98              |               |
| Confidence-W. Entropy | 91.00 (+1.08) |               | 90.73 (+1.37)   | _             | 86.66 (+0.68)      |               |
| Normalize-Margin      | 91.00 (+1.08) | _             | 90.73 (+1.37)   |               | 86.66 (+0.68)      | _             |
| Self-Confidence       | 91.00 (+1.08) | _             | 90.73 (+1.37)   | _             | 86.66 (+0.68)      | _             |
| Influence Function    | 90.95 (+1.03) | _             | 90.51 (+1.15)   |               | 87.09 (+1.11)      | _             |
| Gradient-Cosine       | 90.59 (+0.67) | _             | 90.93 (+1.57)   | _             | 86.78 (+0.80)      | _             |
| Gradient-Dot          | 90.43 (+0.51) | _             | 89.45 (+0.09)   |               | 82.87 (-3.20)      | _             |
| TracIn                | 90.19 (+0.27) | —             | 91.09 (+1.73)   | —             | 82.87 (-3.20)      | —             |
| Sim-Cos               | 90.70 (+0.78) | 88.73 (-1.19) | 90.78 (+1.42)   | 90.83 (+1.47) | 87.76 (+1.78)      | 84.73 (-1.25) |
| Sim-Dot               | 91.49 (+1.57) | 90.46 (+0.54) | 91.58 (+2.22)   | 90.13 (+0.77) | 87.25 (+1.27)      | 87.46 (+1.48) |

| Method                | Random noise  |               | Ambiguity noise |               | Concentrated noise |               |
|-----------------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|--------------------|---------------|
|                       | Removed       | Rectified     | Removed         | Rectified     | Removed            | Rectified     |
| Acc. (under noise)    | 91.76 (+0.00) | _             | 91.68 (+0.00)   |               | 89.41 (+0.00)      | _             |
| Confidence-W. Entropy | 91.79 (+0.03) | _             | 92.48 (+0.20)   | _             | 90.95 (+1.54)      |               |
| Normalize-Margin      | 91.79 (+0.03) | _             | 92.48 (+0.20)   |               | 90.95 (+1.54)      |               |
| Self-Confidence       | 91.79 (+0.03) | _             | 92.48 (+0.20)   | _             | 90.95 (+1.54)      | _             |
| Influence Function    | 91.65 (-0.11) | _             | 90.97 (-0.71)   | _             | 86.26 (-3.15)      | _             |
| Gradient-Cosine       | 91.72 (-0.04) | _             | 91.29 (-0.39)   | _             | 88.05 (-1.36)      | _             |
| Gradient-Dot          | 90.81 (-0.95) | _             | 92.10 (+0.42)   | _             | 88.15 (-1.26)      | _             |
| TracIn                | 91.75 (-0.01) | —             | 91.66 (-0.02)   | —             | 88.86 (-0.55)      | _             |
| Sim-Cos               | 91.12 (-0.64) | 91.98 (+0.22) | 92.52 (+0.84)   | 92.17 (+0.49) | 90.15 (+0.74)      | 89.20 (-0.21) |
| Sim-Dot               | 91.38 (-0.38) | 91.51 (-0.25) | 91.52 (-0.16)   | 91.61 (-0.07) | 89.78 (+0.37)      | 88.37 (-1.04) |

Table 11: Test accuracy on IMDB with 10% noise.

Table 12: Test accuracy on IMDB with 5% noise.

| Method                | Random noise         |               | Ambiguity noise      |               | Concentrated noise   |               |
|-----------------------|----------------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------|
| method                | Removed              | Rectified     | Removed              | Rectified     | Removed              | Rectified     |
| Acc. (under noise)    | 91.67 (+0.00)        | _             | 92.07 (+0.00)        |               | 91.52 (+0.00)        |               |
| Confidence-W. Entropy | 92.35 (+0.68)        | _             | 92.58 (+0.51)        | _             | 91.94 (+0.42)        | _             |
| Normalize-Margin      | 92.35 (+0.68)        | _             | 92.58 (+0.51)        | _             | 91.94 (+0.42)        | _             |
| Self-Confidence       | 92.35 (+0.68)        | _             | 92.58 (+0.51)        | _             | 91.94 (+0.42)        |               |
| Influence Function    | 92.55 (+0.88)        | _             | 91.76 (-0.31)        | _             | 90.77 (-0.75)        | _             |
| Gradient-Cosine       | 92.46 (+0.79)        | _             | 90.88 (-1.19)        | _             | 89.78 (-1.74)        | _             |
| Gradient-Dot          | 91.79 (+0.12)        | _             | 92.58 (+0.51)        | _             | 90.32 (-1.20)        |               |
| TracIn                | 92.62 (+0.95)        | _             | 91.97 (-0.10)        | —             | 91.45 (-0.07)        | —             |
| Sim-Cos               | 92.10 (+0.43)        | 92.10 (+0.43) | <b>93.09</b> (+1.02) | 92.50 (+0.43) | <b>92.11</b> (+0.59) | 91.74 (+0.22) |
| Sim-Dot               | <b>92.69</b> (+1.02) | 92.06 (+0.39) | 91.63 (-0.44)        | 91.09 (-0.98) | 91.59 (+0.07)        | 90.96 (-0.56) |