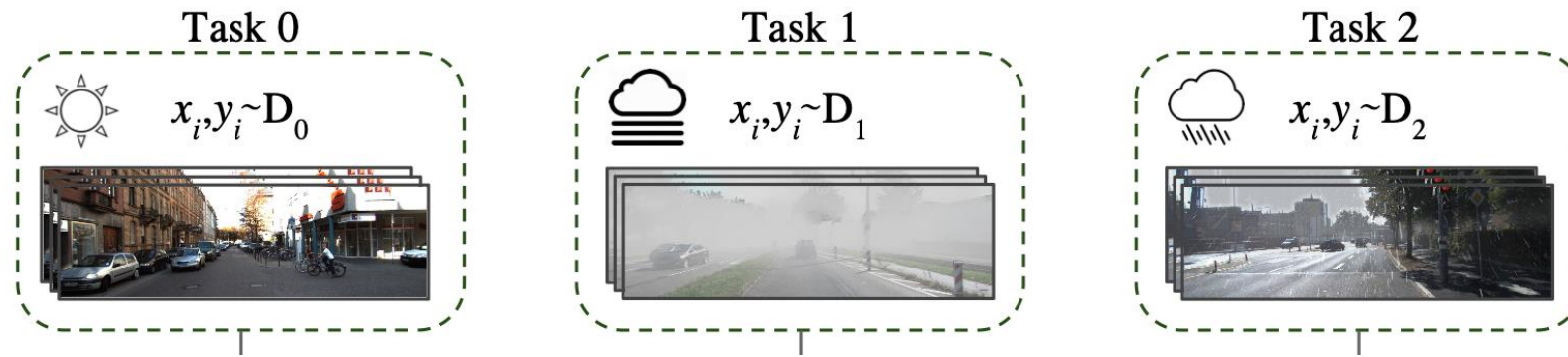


A Unified Approach to Domain Incremental Learning with Memory: Theory and Algorithm

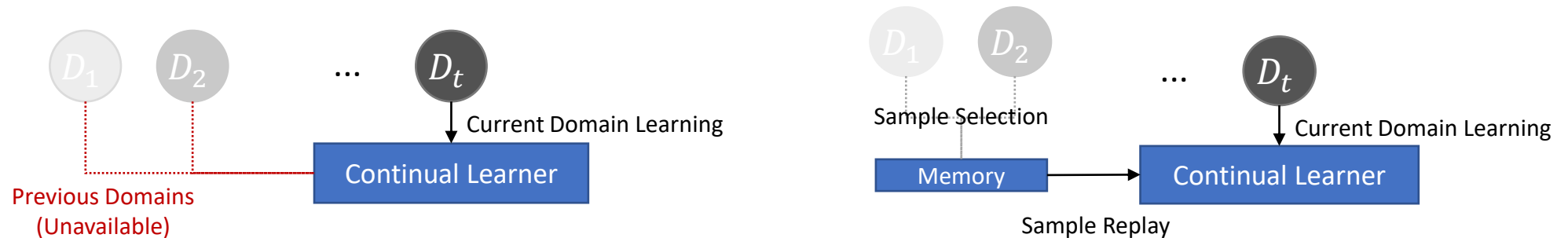
Haizhou Shi, Hao Wang

Computer Science Department, Rutgers University

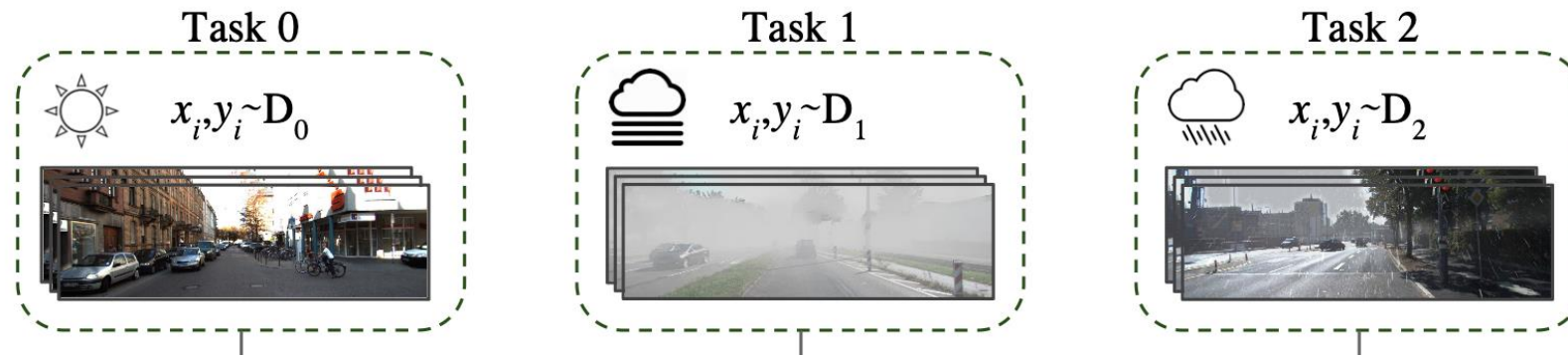
- Domain Incremental Learning (DIL)
 - Machine learning models are required to incrementally learn the evolving data distributions.
 - E.g., autonomous driving under different weather conditions.



- Memory constraint: no (or very limited size of) the past data can be stored during training.



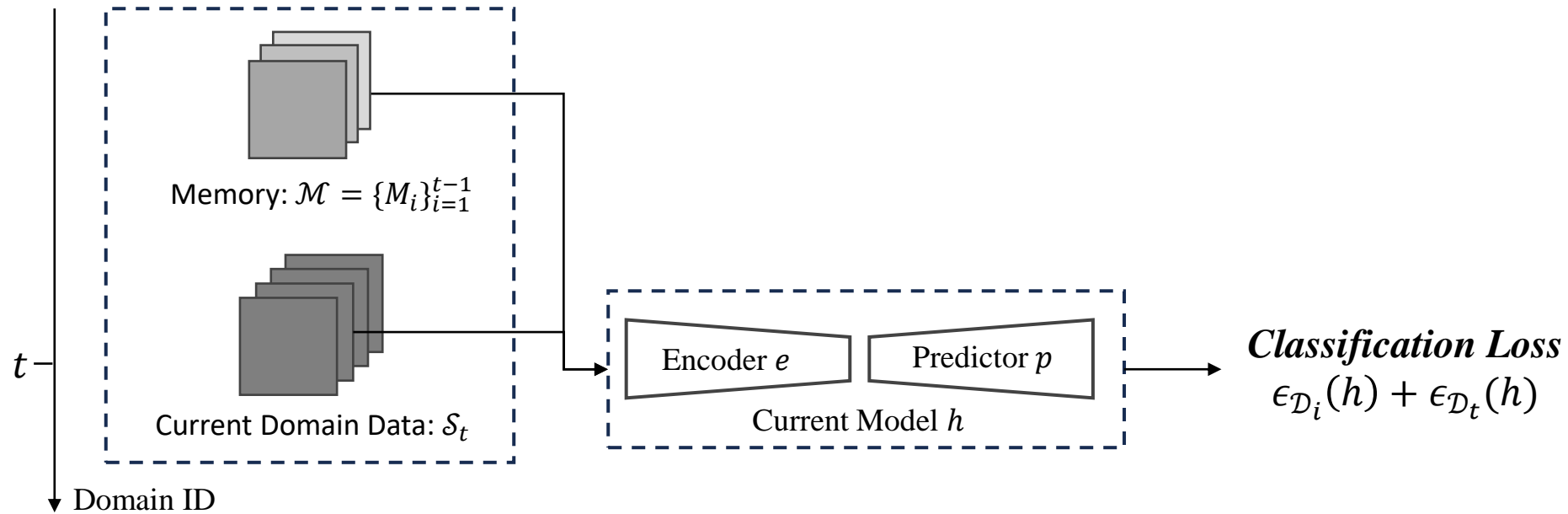
- Domain Incremental Learning (DIL)
 - Machine learning models are required to incrementally learn the evolving data distributions.
 - E.g., autonomous driving under different weather conditions.



- Memory constraint: no (or very limited size of) the past data can be stored during training.
- Goal of DIL: minimize the model's risk over *all domains*.

$$\mathcal{L}^*(\theta) = \mathcal{L}_t(\theta) + \mathcal{L}_{1:t-1}(\theta) = \mathbb{E}_{(x,y) \sim \mathcal{D}_t} [\ell(y, h_\theta(x))] + \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} \mathbb{E}_{(x,y) \sim \mathcal{D}_i} [\ell(y, h_\theta(x))]$$

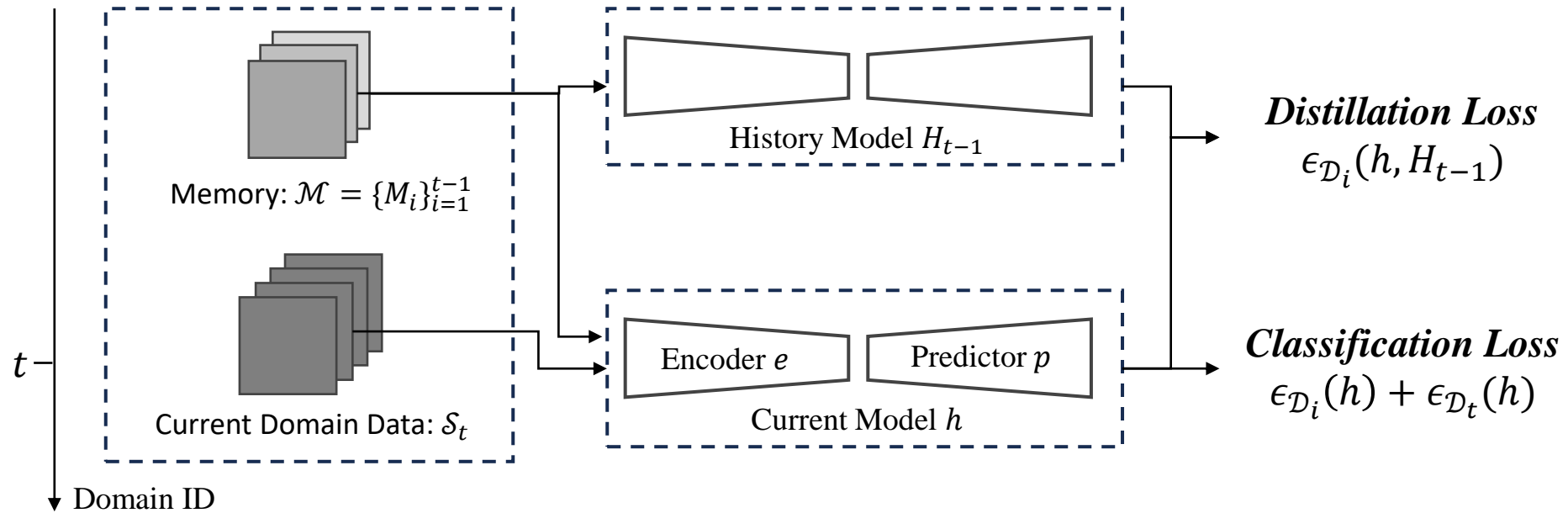
- Empirical Risk Minimization (ERM) via Experience Replay (ER)



- [Lemma 3.1] Trivially replaying the memory will cause *a loose generalization bound*.

$$\sum_{i=1}^t \epsilon_{\mathcal{D}_i}(h) \leq \sum_{i=1}^t \hat{\epsilon}_{\mathcal{D}_i}(h) + \sqrt{\left(\frac{1}{N_t} + \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} \frac{1}{N_i} \right) (8d \log \left(\frac{2eN}{d} \right) + 8 \log \left(\frac{2}{\delta} \right))}.$$

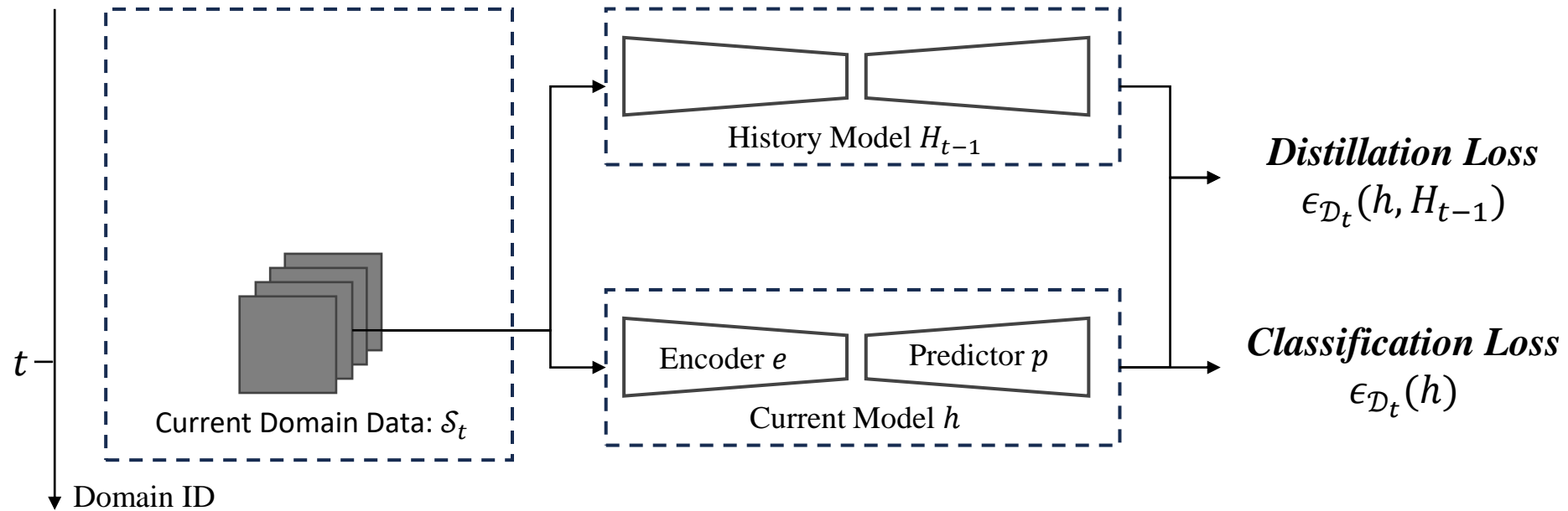
- Dark Experience Replay (DER++)



- [Lemma 3.2] Intra-Domain Model-Based Bound

$$\epsilon_{\mathcal{D}_i}(h) \leq \epsilon_{\mathcal{D}_i}(h, H_{t-1}) + \epsilon_{\mathcal{D}_i}(H_{t-1}),$$

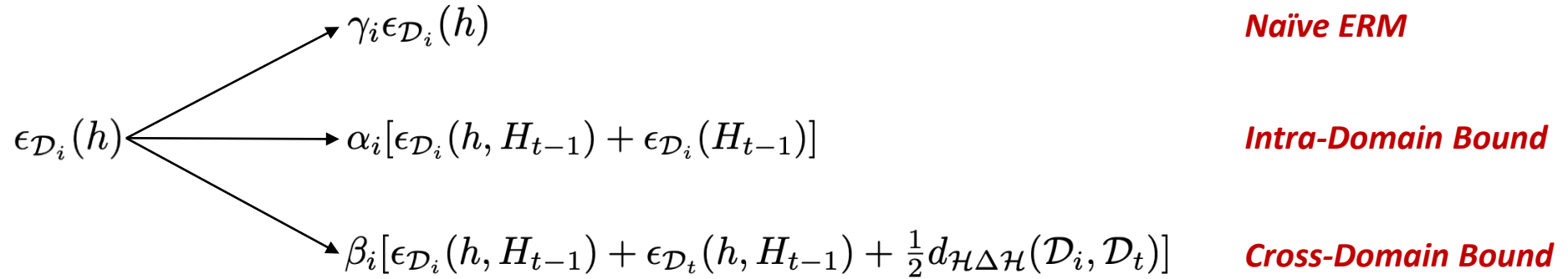
- Learning without Forgetting (LwF)



- [Lemma 3.3] Cross-Domain Model-Based Bound

$$\epsilon_{\mathcal{D}_i}(h) \leq \epsilon_{\mathcal{D}_t}(h, H_{t-1}) + \frac{1}{2}d_{\mathcal{H}\Delta\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{D}_i, \mathcal{D}_t) + \epsilon_{\mathcal{D}_i}(H_{t-1}),$$

- A set of coefficients $\{\alpha_i, \beta_i, \gamma_i\}_{i=1}^{t-1}$ (with $\alpha_i + \beta_i + \gamma_i = 1$) integrates them into one unified bound.



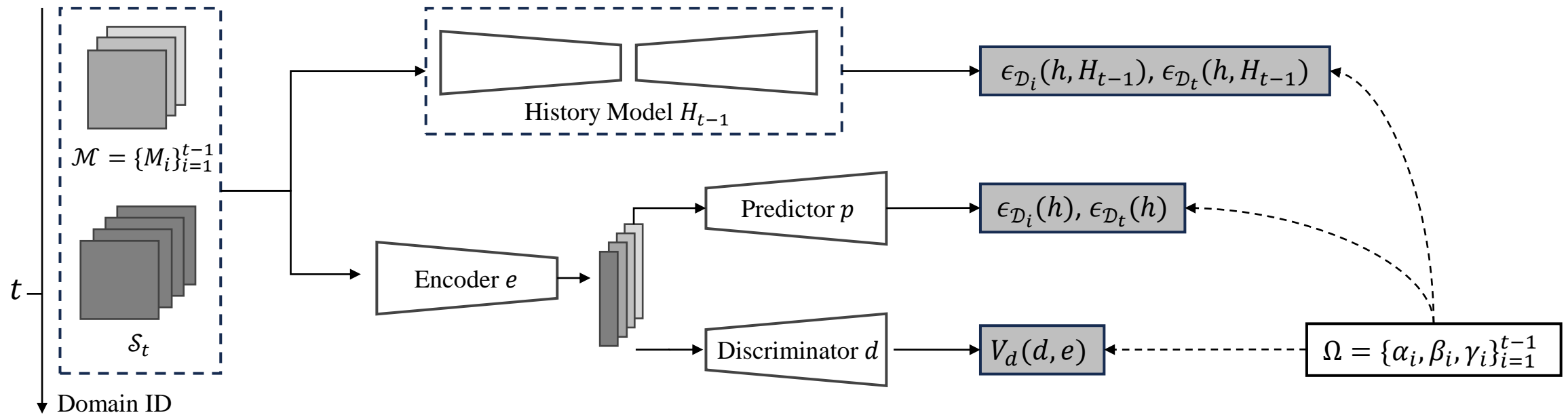
- [Theorem 3.4] Unified Generalization Bound for all domains

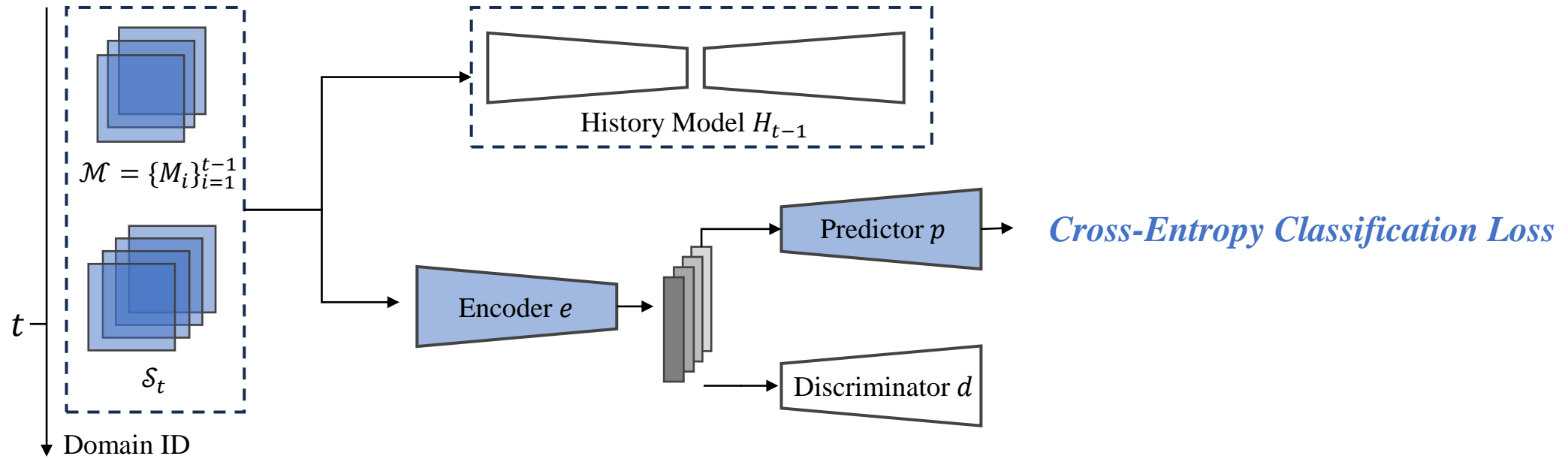
$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{i=1}^t \epsilon_{\mathcal{D}_i}(h) &\leq \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} [\gamma_i \hat{\epsilon}_{\mathcal{D}_i}(h) + \alpha_i \hat{\epsilon}_{\mathcal{D}_i}(h, H_{t-1})] \right\} + \left\{ \hat{\epsilon}_{\mathcal{D}_t}(h) + \left(\sum_{i=1}^{t-1} \beta_i \right) \hat{\epsilon}_{\mathcal{D}_t}(h, H_{t-1}) \right\} \\
 &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} \beta_i d_{\mathcal{H}\Delta\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{D}_i, \mathcal{D}_t) + \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} (\alpha_i + \beta_i) \epsilon_{\mathcal{D}_i}(H_{t-1}) \\
 &\quad + \sqrt{\left(\frac{(1 + \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} \beta_i)^2}{N_t} + \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} \frac{(\gamma_i + \alpha_i)^2}{\tilde{N}_i} \right) (8d \log \left(\frac{2eN}{d} \right) + 8 \log \left(\frac{2}{\delta} \right))}
 \end{aligned}$$

- UDIL *unifies* multiple existing methods under certain conditions.

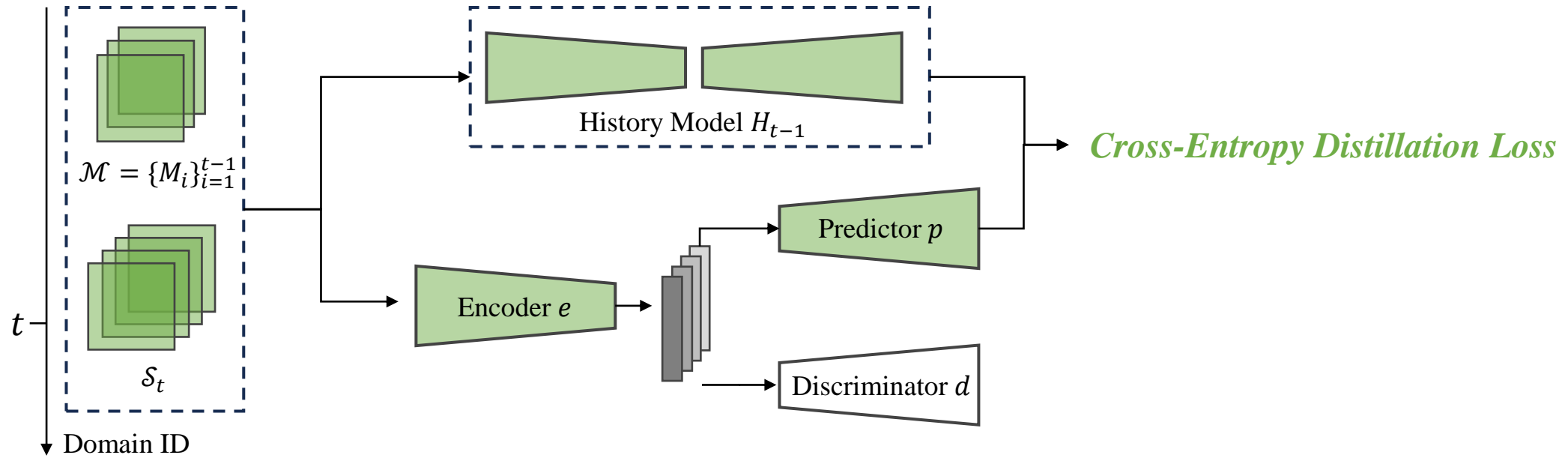
| | α_i | β_i | γ_i | Transformed Objective | Condition |
|-------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|--|---|
| UDIL (Ours) | [0, 1] | [0, 1] | [0, 1] | - | - |
| LwF [52] | 0 | 1 | 0 | $\mathcal{L}_{\text{LwF}}(h) = \widehat{\ell}_{\mathcal{X}_t}(h) + \lambda_o \widehat{\ell}_{\mathcal{X}_t}(h, H_{t-1})$ | $\lambda_o = t - 1$ |
| ER [75] | 0 | 0 | 1 | $\mathcal{L}_{\text{ER}}(h) = \widehat{\ell}_{B_t}(h) + \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} \frac{ B'_i /(t-1)}{ B_t } \widehat{\ell}_{B'_i}(h)$ | $ B_t = \frac{ B'_t }{(t-1)}$ |
| DER++ [8] | 1/2 | 0 | 1/2 | $\mathcal{L}_{\text{DER++}}(h) = \widehat{\ell}_{B_t}(h) + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} \frac{ B'_i /(t-1)}{ B_t } [\widehat{\ell}_{B'_i}(h) + \widehat{\ell}_{B'_i}(h, H_{t-1})]$ | $ B_t = \frac{ B'_t }{(t-1)}$ |
| iCaRL [74] | 1 | 0 | 0 | $\mathcal{L}_{\text{iCaRL}}(h) = \widehat{\ell}'_{B_t}(h) + \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} \frac{ B'_i /(t-1)}{ B_t } \widehat{\ell}'_{B'_i}(h, H_{t-1})$ | $ B_t = \frac{ B'_t }{(t-1)}$ |
| CLS-ER [4] | $\frac{\lambda}{\lambda+1}$ | 0 | $\frac{1}{\lambda+1}$ | $\mathcal{L}_{\text{CLS-ER}}(h) = \widehat{\ell}_{B_t}(h) + \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} \frac{1}{t-1} \widehat{\ell}_{B'_i}(h) + \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} \frac{\lambda}{t-1} \widehat{\ell}_{B'_i}(h, H_{t-1})$ | $\lambda = t - 2$ |
| ESM-ER [80] | $\frac{\lambda}{\lambda+1}$ | 0 | $\frac{1}{\lambda+1}$ | $\mathcal{L}_{\text{ESM-ER}}(h) = \widehat{\ell}_{B_t}(h) + \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} \frac{1}{r(t-1)} \widehat{\ell}_{B'_i}(h) + \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} \frac{\lambda}{r(t-1)} \widehat{\ell}_{B'_i}(h, H_{t-1})$ | $\begin{cases} \lambda = -1 + r(t-1) \\ r = 1 - e^{-1} \end{cases}$ |
| BiC [100] | $\frac{t-1}{2t-1}$ | $\frac{t-1}{2t-1}$ | $\frac{1}{2t-1}$ | $\mathcal{L}_{\text{BiC}}(h) = \widehat{\ell}_{B_t}(h) + \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} \frac{(t-1) B_i }{ B_t } \widehat{\ell}_{B'_i}(h, H_{t-1}) + (t-1) \widehat{\ell}_{B_t}(h, H_{t-1}) + \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} \frac{ B_i }{ B_t } \widehat{\ell}_{B'_i}(h)$ | $ B_i = B_t $ |

- UDIL can *adaptively* adjust the coefficients based on the data and the history model H_{t-1} .
- It will, ideally, minimize the *tightest bound* in the family of all the generalization bounds.

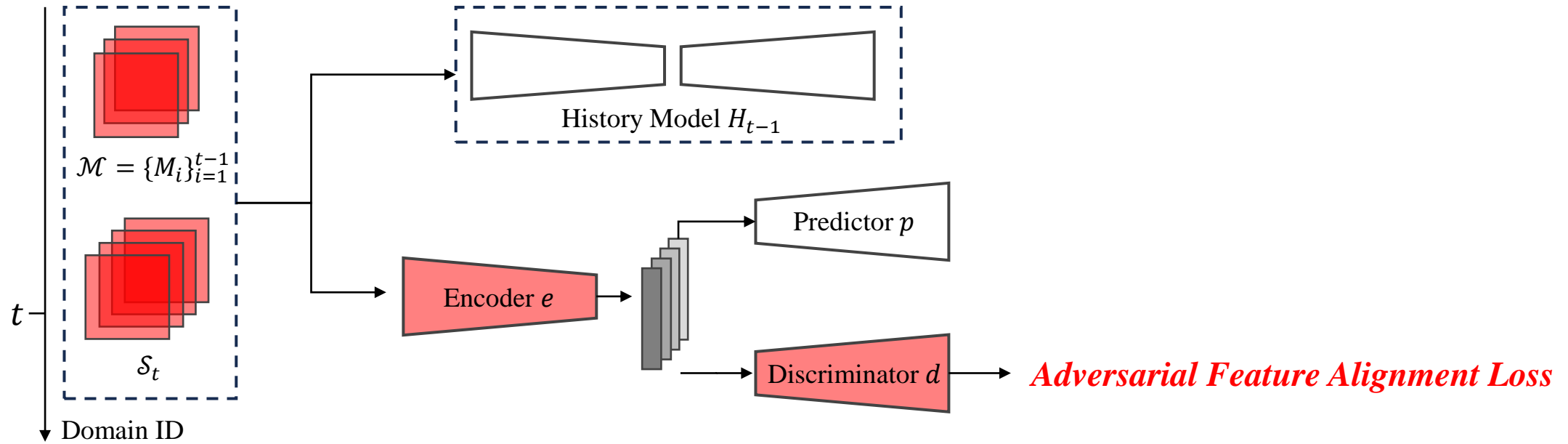




$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{i=1}^t \epsilon_{\mathcal{D}_i}(h) &\leq \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} [\gamma_i \hat{\epsilon}_{\mathcal{D}_i}(h) + \alpha_i \hat{\epsilon}_{\mathcal{D}_i}(h, H_{t-1})] \right\} + \left\{ \hat{\epsilon}_{\mathcal{D}_t}(h) + \left(\sum_{i=1}^{t-1} \beta_i \right) \hat{\epsilon}_{\mathcal{D}_t}(h, H_{t-1}) \right\} \\
 &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} \beta_i d_{\mathcal{H}\Delta\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{D}_i, \mathcal{D}_t) + \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} (\alpha_i + \beta_i) \epsilon_{\mathcal{D}_i}(H_{t-1}) \\
 &\quad + \sqrt{\left(\frac{(1 + \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} \beta_i)^2}{N_t} + \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} \frac{(\gamma_i + \alpha_i)^2}{\tilde{N}_i} \right) (8d \log \left(\frac{2eN}{d} \right) + 8 \log \left(\frac{2}{\delta} \right))}
 \end{aligned}$$

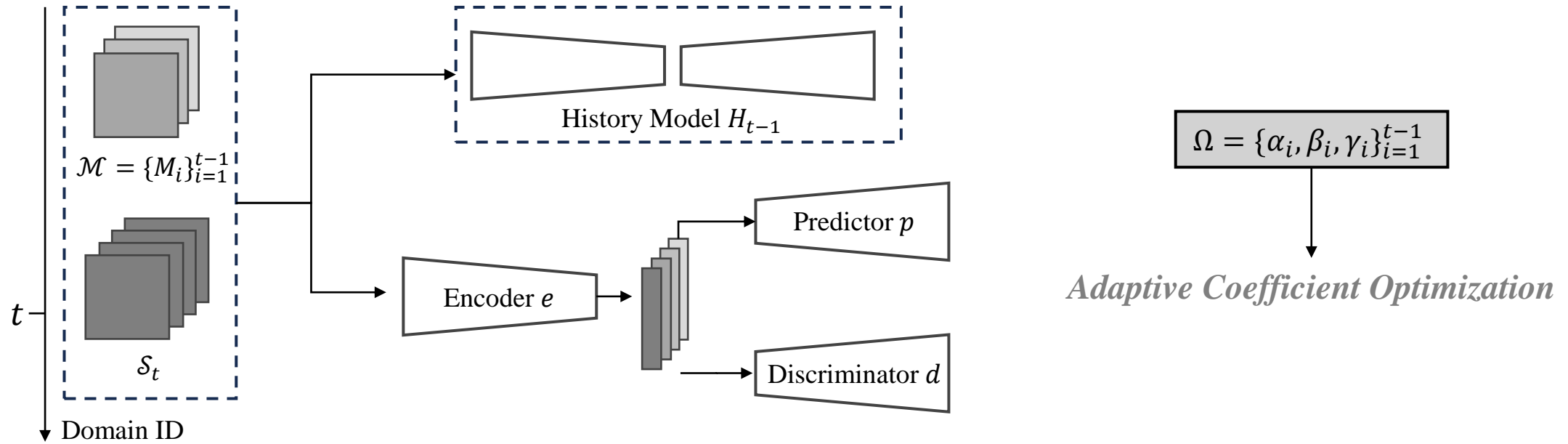


$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{i=1}^t \epsilon_{\mathcal{D}_i}(h) &\leq \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} [\gamma_i \hat{\epsilon}_{\mathcal{D}_i}(h) + \alpha_i \hat{\epsilon}_{\mathcal{D}_i}(h, H_{t-1})] \right\} + \left\{ \hat{\epsilon}_{\mathcal{D}_t}(h) + \left(\sum_{i=1}^{t-1} \beta_i \right) \hat{\epsilon}_{\mathcal{D}_t}(h, H_{t-1}) \right\} \\
 &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} \beta_i d_{\mathcal{H}\Delta\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{D}_i, \mathcal{D}_t) + \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} (\alpha_i + \beta_i) \epsilon_{\mathcal{D}_i}(H_{t-1}) \\
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 \end{aligned}$$



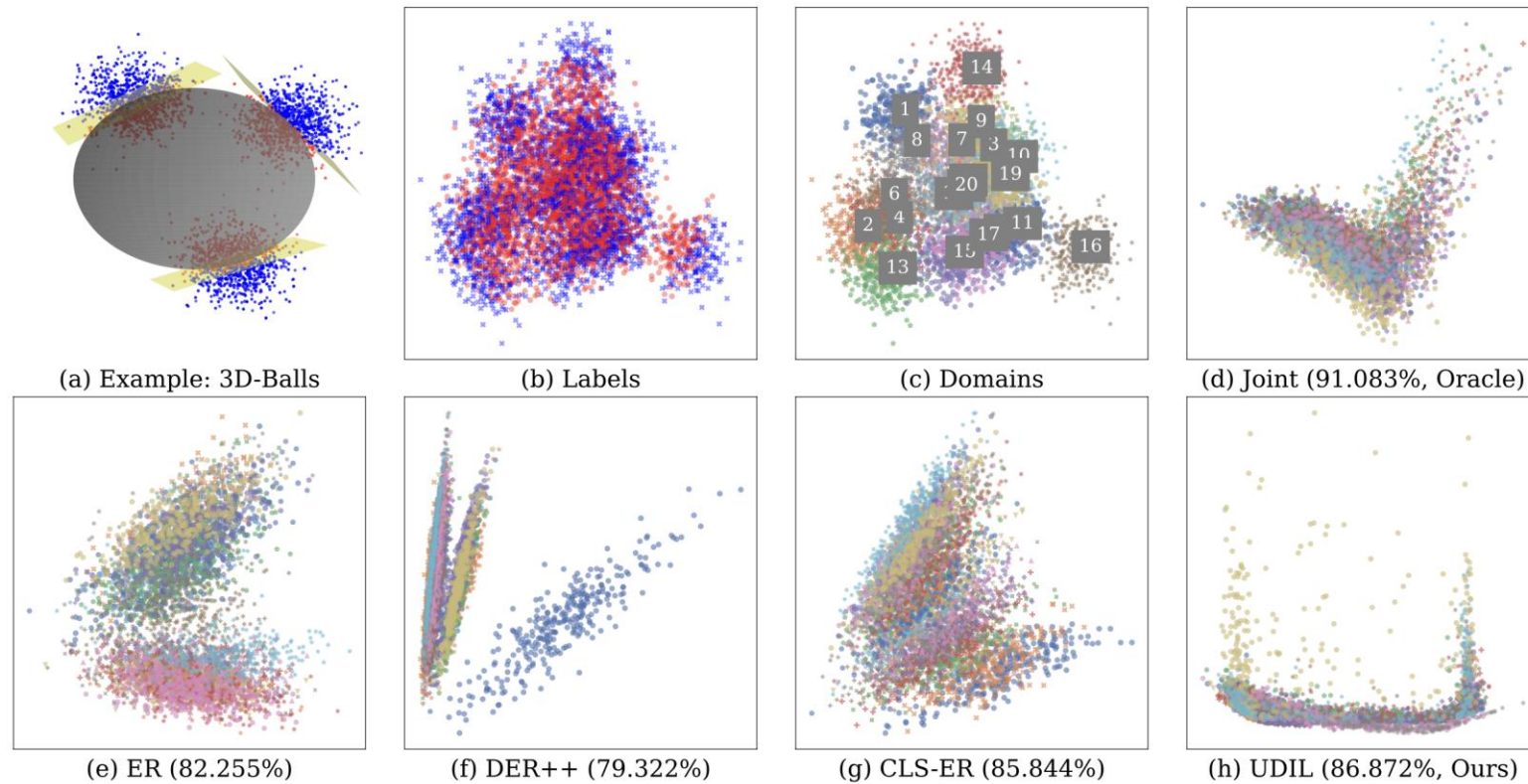
$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{i=1}^t \epsilon_{\mathcal{D}_i}(h) &\leq \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} [\gamma_i \hat{\epsilon}_{\mathcal{D}_i}(h) + \alpha_i \hat{\epsilon}_{\mathcal{D}_i}(h, H_{t-1})] \right\} + \left\{ \hat{\epsilon}_{\mathcal{D}_t}(h) + \left(\sum_{i=1}^{t-1} \beta_i \right) \hat{\epsilon}_{\mathcal{D}_t}(h, H_{t-1}) \right\} \\
 &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} \beta_i d_{\mathcal{H}\Delta\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{D}_i, \mathcal{D}_t) + \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} (\alpha_i + \beta_i) \epsilon_{\mathcal{D}_i}(H_{t-1}) \\
 &\quad + \sqrt{\left(\frac{(1 + \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} \beta_i)^2}{N_t} + \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} \frac{(\gamma_i + \alpha_i)^2}{\tilde{N}_i} \right) (8d \log \left(\frac{2eN}{d} \right) + 8 \log \left(\frac{2}{\delta} \right))}
 \end{aligned}$$

UDIL: An Adaptive Bound for DIL



$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{i=1}^t \epsilon_{\mathcal{D}_i}(h) &\leq \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} [\gamma_i \hat{\epsilon}_{\mathcal{D}_i}(h) + \alpha_i \hat{\epsilon}_{\mathcal{D}_i}(h, H_{t-1})] \right\} + \left\{ \hat{\epsilon}_{\mathcal{D}_t}(h) + \left(\sum_{i=1}^{t-1} \beta_i \right) \hat{\epsilon}_{\mathcal{D}_t}(h, H_{t-1}) \right\} \\
 &+ \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} \beta_i d_{\mathcal{H}\Delta\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{D}_i, \mathcal{D}_t) + \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} (\alpha_i + \beta_i) \epsilon_{\mathcal{D}_i}(H_{t-1}) \\
 &+ \sqrt{\left(\frac{(1 + \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} \beta_i)^2}{N_t} + \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} \frac{(\gamma_i + \alpha_i)^2}{\tilde{N}_i} \right) (8d \log\left(\frac{2eN}{d}\right) + 8 \log\left(\frac{2}{\delta}\right))}
 \end{aligned}$$

- UDIL's representation distribution on synthetic dataset (high-dimensional balls)



- UDIL evaluated on realistic datasets.

HD-Balls, Permuted-MNIST, Rotated-MNIST

| Method | Buffer | <i>HD-Balls</i> | | <i>P-MNIST</i> | | <i>R-MNIST</i> | |
|--------------------|----------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | | Avg. Acc (\uparrow) | Forgetting (\downarrow) | Avg. Acc (\uparrow) | Forgetting (\downarrow) | Avg. Acc (\uparrow) | Forgetting (\downarrow) |
| Fine-tune | - | 52.319 \pm 0.024 | 43.520 \pm 0.079 | 70.102 \pm 2.945 | 27.522 \pm 3.042 | 47.803 \pm 1.703 | 52.281 \pm 1.797 |
| oEWC [47] | - | 54.131 \pm 0.193 | 39.743 \pm 1.388 | 78.476 \pm 1.223 | 18.068 \pm 1.321 | 48.203 \pm 0.827 | 51.181 \pm 0.867 |
| SI [60] | - | 52.303 \pm 0.037 | 43.175 \pm 0.041 | 79.045 \pm 1.357 | 17.409 \pm 1.446 | 48.251 \pm 1.381 | 51.053 \pm 1.507 |
| LwF [26] | - | 51.523 \pm 0.065 | 25.155 \pm 0.264 | 73.545 \pm 2.646 | 24.556 \pm 2.789 | 54.709 \pm 0.515 | 45.473 \pm 0.565 |
| GEM [31] | | 69.747 \pm 0.656 | 13.591 \pm 0.779 | 89.097 \pm 0.149 | 6.975 \pm 0.167 | 76.619 \pm 0.581 | 21.289 \pm 0.579 |
| A-GEM [7] | | 62.777 \pm 0.295 | 12.878 \pm 1.588 | 87.560 \pm 0.087 | 8.577 \pm 0.053 | 59.654 \pm 0.122 | 39.196 \pm 0.171 |
| ER [42] | | 82.255 \pm 1.552 | 9.524 \pm 1.655 | 88.339 \pm 0.044 | 7.180 \pm 0.029 | 76.794 \pm 0.696 | 20.696 \pm 0.744 |
| DER++ [5] | 400 | 79.332 \pm 1.347 | 13.762 \pm 1.514 | 92.950\pm0.361 | 3.378 \pm 0.245 | 84.258 \pm 0.544 | 13.692 \pm 0.560 |
| CLS-ER [2] | | 85.844 \pm 0.165 | 5.297 \pm 0.281 | 91.598 \pm 0.117 | 3.795 \pm 0.144 | 81.771 \pm 0.354 | 15.455 \pm 0.356 |
| ESM-ER [46] | | 71.995 \pm 3.833 | 13.245 \pm 5.397 | 89.829 \pm 0.698 | 6.888 \pm 0.738 | 82.192 \pm 0.164 | 16.195 \pm 0.150 |
| UDIL (Ours) | | 86.872\pm0.195 | 3.428\pm0.359 | 92.666\pm0.108 | 2.853\pm0.107 | 86.635\pm0.686 | 8.506\pm1.181 |
| Joint (Oracle) | ∞ | 91.083 \pm 0.332 | - | 96.368 \pm 0.042 | - | 97.150 \pm 0.036 | - |

- UDIL evaluated on realistic datasets.

Sequential CORE-50

| Method | Buffer | $\mathcal{D}_{1:3}$ | $\mathcal{D}_{4:6}$ | $\mathcal{D}_{7:9}$ | $\mathcal{D}_{10:11}$ | Overall | |
|--------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| | | Avg. Acc (\uparrow) | | | | Avg. Acc (\uparrow) | Forgetting (\downarrow) |
| Fine-tune | - | 73.707 \pm 13.144 | 34.551 \pm 1.254 | 29.406 \pm 2.579 | 28.689 \pm 3.144 | 31.832 \pm 1.034 | 73.296 \pm 1.399 |
| oEWC [51] | - | 74.567 \pm 13.360 | 35.915 \pm 0.260 | 30.174 \pm 3.195 | 28.291 \pm 2.522 | 30.813 \pm 1.154 | 74.563 \pm 0.937 |
| SI [66] | - | 74.661 \pm 14.162 | 34.345 \pm 1.001 | 30.127 \pm 2.971 | 28.839 \pm 3.631 | 32.469 \pm 1.315 | 73.144 \pm 1.588 |
| LwF [29] | - | 80.383 \pm 10.190 | 28.357 \pm 1.143 | 31.386 \pm 0.787 | 28.711 \pm 2.981 | 31.692 \pm 0.768 | 72.990 \pm 1.350 |
| GEM [34] | 500 | 79.852 \pm 6.864 | 38.961 \pm 1.718 | 39.258 \pm 2.614 | 36.859 \pm 0.842 | 37.701 \pm 0.273 | 22.724 \pm 1.554 |
| A-GEM [8] | | 80.348 \pm 9.394 | 41.472 \pm 3.394 | 43.213 \pm 1.542 | 39.181 \pm 3.999 | 43.181 \pm 2.025 | 33.775 \pm 3.003 |
| ER [46] | | 90.838 \pm 2.177 | 79.343 \pm 2.699 | 68.151 \pm 0.226 | 65.034 \pm 1.571 | 66.605 \pm 0.214 | 32.750 \pm 0.455 |
| DER++ [6] | | 92.444 \pm 1.764 | 88.652 \pm 1.854 | 80.391 \pm 0.107 | 78.038 \pm 0.591 | 78.629 \pm 0.753 | 21.910 \pm 1.094 |
| CLS-ER [3] | | 89.834 \pm 1.323 | 78.909 \pm 1.724 | 70.591 \pm 0.322 | * | * | * |
| ESM-ER [50] | | 84.905 \pm 6.471 | 51.905 \pm 3.257 | 53.815 \pm 1.770 | 50.178 \pm 2.574 | 52.751 \pm 1.296 | 25.444 \pm 0.580 |
| UDIL (Ours) | | 98.152\pm1.665 | 89.814\pm2.302 | 83.052\pm0.151 | 81.547\pm0.269 | 82.103\pm0.279 | 19.589\pm0.303 |
| GEM [34] | | 1000 | 78.717 \pm 4.831 | 43.269 \pm 3.419 | 40.908 \pm 2.200 | 40.408 \pm 1.168 | 41.576 \pm 1.599 |
| A-GEM [8] | 78.917 \pm 8.984 | | 41.172 \pm 4.293 | 44.576 \pm 1.701 | 38.960 \pm 3.867 | 42.827 \pm 1.659 | 33.800 \pm 1.847 |
| ER [46] | 90.048 \pm 2.699 | | 84.668 \pm 1.988 | 77.561 \pm 1.281 | 72.268 \pm 0.720 | 72.988 \pm 0.566 | 25.997 \pm 0.694 |
| DER++ [6] | 89.510 \pm 5.726 | | 92.492 \pm 0.902 | 88.883 \pm 0.794 | 86.108 \pm 0.284 | 86.392 \pm 0.714 | 13.128 \pm 0.474 |
| CLS-ER [3] | 92.004 \pm 0.894 | | 85.044 \pm 1.276 | * | * | * | * |
| ESM-ER [50] | 85.120 \pm 4.339 | | 54.852 \pm 5.511 | 61.714 \pm 1.840 | 55.098 \pm 3.834 | 58.932 \pm 0.959 | 20.134 \pm 0.643 |
| UDIL (Ours) | 98.648\pm1.174 | | 93.447\pm1.111 | 90.545\pm0.705 | 87.923\pm0.232 | 88.155\pm0.445 | 12.882\pm0.460 |
| Joint (Oracle) | ∞ | | - | - | - | - | 99.137 \pm 0.049 |

- Proposed a principled framework, UDIL, for domain incremental learning with memory to *unify various existing methods*.
- Theoretical analysis shows that different existing methods are equivalent to minimizing the same error bound with different *fixed* coefficients.
- UDIL allows *adaptive* coefficients during training, thereby always achieving the tightest bound and improving the performance.

