

Similarity Min-Max: Zero-Shot Day-Night Domain Adaptation

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## **Task Description**

We tackle the task of Zero-Shot Day-Night Domain Adaptation (Zero-Shot Day-Night DA), *i.e.*, adapt deep models pre-trained on daytime data to nighttime domains, without any real nighttime data available.





(a) Operator-based (b) Darkening-based

d (c) Our method

As shown above, existing methods on day-night DA can be generally categorized into:

- Operator-based (a): using manually defined operators *at the model level* to handle illumination variations, which are not adaptive to real complex scenarios.
- Darkening-based (b): transfer labeled daytime data to nighttime by GAN or reverse ISP *at the image level*. However, GAN requires real nighttime data, while ISP is sensor-dependent.

## Method

Unlike prior methods, we propose a similarity min-max framework that jointly considers model level and image level, formulated as:

## $\max_{\theta_F} \min_{\theta_D} \quad \operatorname{Sim}(F(I), F(D(I))),$

where D is the darkening module and F is the feature extractor. To prevent trivial solutions, we add regulations to (1):

 $\max_{\theta_F} \min_{\theta_D} \operatorname{Sim}(F(I), F(D(I))) + \mathcal{R}_D(\theta_D) - \mathcal{R}_F(\theta_F)$ 

**Right:** Image-level translation. We design D to be a pixelwise mapping controlled by two adjustment maps regularized by  $R_{D}$ , and  $L_{D}^{sim}$  is the cosine similarity. Exposure-Guided Pixel-wise Mapping Feature (0, 1)Feature (0, 1)Figure (1, 1)F

**Bottom:** Model-level adaptation. We freeze *D* and train *F* by the BYOL non-contrastive loss  $(L_F^{sim})$  and task-specific loss  $(L_{task})$ 



## Experiments

We evaluate our method on four nighttime downstream tasks: image classification, semantic segmentation, visual place recognition, and video action recognition.

I. Quantitative results for lo image classification on CC	w-light )DaN
Method	Top-1 (%
ResNet-18 [18]	53.32
Low-Light Enhancement	
EnlightenGAN [23] LEDNet [63] Zero-DCE++ [30] RUAS [33] SCI [34] URetinexNet [56] Domain Generalization MixStyle [62] IRM [1]	56.68 57.40 57.96 58.36 58.68 58.72 53.12 54.52
AdaBN [31]	54.25
Zero-Shot Day-Night Domain Adaptation	
MAET† [8] CIConv [29] Ours	56.48 60.32 65.87

II. Quantitative results for nighttime semantic segmentation

0	0		
Method	Nighttime Driving	Dark-Zurich	
RefineNet [32]	34.3	30.6	
Low-Light Enhancer	nent		
EnlightenGAN [23]	25.2	24.9	
Zero-DCE++ [30]	32.7	28.3	
RUAS [33]	25.1	23.4	
SCI [34]	28.6	25.7	
URetinexNet [56]	28.1	24.0	
LEDNet [63]	27.6	26.6	
Domain Generalizati	on		
AdaBN [31]	37.2	31.1	
RobustNet [6]	33.0	34.5	
SAN-SAW [38]	28.1	16.0	
Zero-Shot Day-Night	Domain Adaptation		
MAET [8]	28.1	26.4	
CIConv [29]	41.2	34.5	
Ours	44.9	40.2	



III. Qualitative results for nighttime semantic segmentation

fethod	Top-1 (%)	Method	mAP (%)	<b>IV 8. V</b> Ouantitativo
3D [3]	47.02	Zero-Shot Day-Night Domain Adaptation		
ow-Light Video Enhancement		EdgeMAC [42]	75.9	results for low-light
tableLLVE [59] MOID [22] GZ [61]	45.08 47.27 46.42	U-Net jointly [21] GeM [43] ClConv-GeM [29] Ours-GeM	79.8 85.0 88.3 <b>90.4</b>	video action recognition on ARID, and visual
Oomain Generalization & Gero-Shot Day-Night Domain Adaptation		Day-Night Domain Adaptation		place recognition on
daBN [31] 46.17 Jurs 51.52	46.17 51.52	U-Net jointly [21] EdgeMAC + CLAHE [21] EdgeMAC + U-Net jointly [21]	86.5 90.5 90.0	Tokyo 24/7.