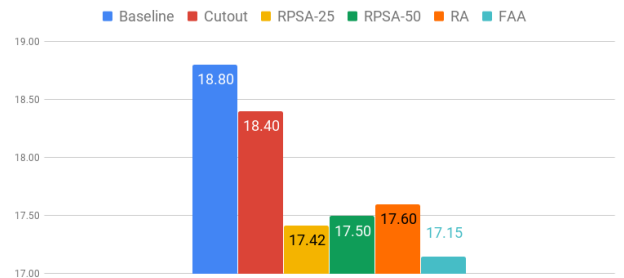


1 We thank all the reviewers for their efforts in reviewing our paper. We first address the common concern of all reviewers.

2 Common

3 **Comparison with Random Search Experiment.** The goal of Fast AutoAugment (FAA) is to propose an algorithm
4 that can find a set of augmentation policies *faster* than AutoAugment (AA) given the *same search space*. Therefore, we
5 addressed that the proposed FAA performs better than the random search, since AA outperforms the random search
6 in [3] while FAA achieves similar performances to AA. However, in order to empirically clarify it, we performed
7 additional experiments with two random search strategies, suggested by Reviewer 1 and 3, on the given search space:
8 (1) **Randomly pre-selected augmentations (RPSA)** (suggested by Reviewer 1), which first selects a certain number
9 (25/50) of augmentation policies randomly from the search space, and then trains a network (WRResNet28x10) using
10 the selected augmentations over 200 epochs; (2) **Random augmentations (RA)** (suggested by Reviewer 3), that
11 independently samples an augmentation policy for each train input from the whole search space during training with
12 400 epochs (two times more epochs than AA and FAA).

13 Both the RPSA and RA are performed on CIFAR-100 and repeated
14 20 times. As shown in the right figure, the performances of the RPSA
15 is better than Cutout but not improved as the number of selected (sub-
16)policies increases. And the best performance obtained by RPSA is
17 still worse than FAA¹. In addition, the RA achieves a little bit worse
18 result than those obtained by RPSA, and the improvement by RA is
19 also less than that by FAA. It is noted that even though we take into
20 account the search time of FAA on CIFAR-10/100 (3.5 hours), the
21 training time for FAA with 200 epochs including the search time is
22 shorter than the training time for the RA with 400 epochs. We will
23 include these experimental results in the revised paper.



24 Reviewer 1

25 **Details of search strategy and Cutout.** We use the classification loss (categorical cross entropy) as an evaluation
26 measure (\mathcal{L} in Equation 3) for each candidate policy. The FAA is able to select "Cutout", since "Cutout" can
27 (probabilistically) eliminate irrelevant backgrounds and improve the classification accuracy when the inference is
28 performed on a (well-) trained network. We will include these statements in the revised paper. **Reproducibility.** We
29 observed the similar performance variances from the FAA when compared with AA. In addition, we omit the statement
30 about our public source codes due to the anonymization policy. We will comment on our public source codes in the
31 final paper.

32 Reviewer 2

33 **Justification of the search objective of FAA.** The proposed search objective pursues to find label-preserving trans-
34 formations that generates unseen but plausible missing data samples. It is noted that the non-augmented original data
35 samples are also taken into account by probabilistically augmenting the data space when evaluating a candidate policy.
36 Namely, it does not transform but augment the data space which has to be correctly predicted by a classification network
37 for better generalization. This perspective is also inline with the motivation of Bayesian DA [34]. We empirically verify
38 this by comparisons with random searches. We will include these statements in the revised paper.

39 Reviewer 3

40 As a reviewer mentioned, the main contribution of this paper is to remove the requirement of a separate retraining from
41 scratch for evaluating each policy, which allows to efficiently use Bayesian optimization. We will emphasize this point
42 in the revised paper.

43 **Number of sub-policies found by FAA.** Due to the efficiency in the proposed search process, contrary to AA, the
44 FAA can fastly find more numbers of optimized augmentation policies, almost regardless of its number. Therefore, we
45 can consider the number of sub-policies as a hyperparameter to tune, since the training time overhead by increased
46 number of sub-policies is also limited as shown in the below explanation. Having this in mind, we performed FAA
47 with different numbers of sub-policies and determined the number of sub-policies that produces the best average
48 performances across different datasets and networks. However, as shown in Figure 3 in the submitted paper, the
49 performances obtained by 25 numbers of sub-policies are also comparable to those by more numbers of sub-policies.
50 We will include this statement in the revised paper. **Practicality of FAA from the training time perspective.** When
51 we use a multi-threading functionality for data augmentation as like a "DataLoader" in PyTorch, we observe that there
52 is no actual extension of training time by augmentation from FAA in comparison to the baseline without augmentation.
53 Moreover, even when we perform both the data augmentation and weight updating by SGD in a single thread as a
54 sequential processing, the increased training time that we observe is only 10-20% over 200 epochs; in total, less than 5
55 hours on CIFAR-10/100 with WRResNet28x10 and a single V100 GPU. We will include this in the revised paper.

¹We fix the cosine scheduling for SGD and re-run the training with policies found by FAA.