Ensemble approaches to semi-supervised learning
Tanha, J.

Citation for published version (APA):
Tanha, J. (2013). Ensemble approaches to semi-supervised learning

General rights
It is not permitted to download or to forward/distribute the text or part of it without the consent of the author(s) and/or copyright holder(s), other than for strictly personal, individual use, unless the work is under an open content license (like Creative Commons).

Disclaimer/Complaints regulations
If you believe that digital publication of certain material infringes any of your rights or (privacy) interests, please let the Library know, stating your reasons. In case of a legitimate complaint, the Library will make the material inaccessible and/or remove it from the website. Please Ask the Library: http://uba.uva.nl/en/contact, or a letter to: Library of the University of Amsterdam, Secretariat, Singel 425, 1012 WP Amsterdam, The Netherlands. You will be contacted as soon as possible.
Acknowledgments

Completing my PhD thesis has probably been the most challenging and stressful activity of my first 36 years of my life. The best and worst moments of my doctoral journey have been shared with many people, in particular with my family. I have spent a great privileged years in the Informatics Institute at the University of Amsterdam and whose members will always remain dear to me.

First of all, I would like to express my deeply-felt thanks and gratitude to my dissertation promotor, Professor Hamideh Afsarmanesh for her warm encouragement and thoughtful guidance. Thanks to her, I learned a lot about the scientific research process and the research report preparation. Besides, Hamideh has given me freedom to explore directions that I found interesting, which eventually led to this thesis.

I thank Dr. Maarten van Someren who was my co-promoter through my doctoral research and provided me with insightful decisions about the research. I would like to express my gratitude to Maarten, not only for his excellent comments, but also for listening to me whenever I was excited about a new idea.

I also thank the other members of my thesis committee: Professor Arno Siebes, Professor Max Welling, Professor Hendrik Blockeel, Professor Joost Kok, Professor Pieter Adriaans, and Professor Frans Goren, whose helpful suggestions have increased the readability of my thesis.

Special thanks go to my friends in Iran Dr. Alireza Aliahmadi, Dr. Davood Karimzadgan, Esmaeil Mousavi, Dr. Feisal Hassani, and Dr. Hamidreza Rabiee, whose helpful suggestions enabled me to find the scholarship from the ministry of science, research, and technology in Iran for my doctoral program.

Members of Federated Collaborative Networks (FCN) and HCS Lab. also deserve my sincerest thanks, their friendship and assistance have meant more to me than I could ever express. Special thanks to my former colleagues: Simon, Gerben, Sofiya, Katja, and Mattijs for their assistance and friendship.

I would also like to thank my colleagues: Naser Ayat, Mahdi Sargolzaei, Miriam Ghijsen, Mahdieh Shadi, Hodjat Soleimani, Masoud Mazloom, Amirhos-
sein Habibian, and Mohammad Shafahi, with whom I have had insightful discussions and who have provided me assistance with my research.

My friends in Amsterdam have been my sources of happiness and support. Special thanks go to Fereidoon, Akhtar, and Bita Farrokhnia, Atique and Firouzeh Sultanpour, Mohammad, Mehran, Mohammadali Hadad, Ramin Sarrami, Mahmoud Botshekan, Hamidreza Fallah, Hamid Abbasi, Said Eslami, Amir Avan, Mohammad Jazayeri, Mahdi Jaghoori, Naser Asghari, Azadeh Gharaiee, Yaser Rahmani, Mohammad Amin Moradi, and Fatemeh Moayed. I am very happy that, in many cases, my friendship with them have extended well beyond our shared time in Amsterdam.

Finally, my debt of gratitude and thanks go to my parents, Gholamhassan and Robab. Their love provided my inspiration and has been my driving force. I owe them everything and wish that I could show them just how much I love and appreciate them. I am grateful to my wife and my lovely daughter, Leila and Ayda, whose support, love, and encouragement has allowed me to fulfil this journey. I also would like to thank my mother in-law, Fatemeh Saghaifi, for her unconditional support. Finally, I would like to dedicate this work to my late relatives including my grandmother Sona Shakourzadeh, my grandfathers Reza Tanha and Hamid Hajizadeh, and my father-in-law Ghader Shoeibi, who left us too soon. I hope that this work makes them proud.

Jafar Tanha
March 2013