

# Training robust neural networks

## Stochastic Local Winner Takes It All

Othman Hicheur, Constant Bourdrez, Marc Kaspar

Université Paris-Dauphine - PSL

December 2024

# Attacks implemented: FGSM

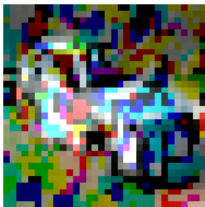
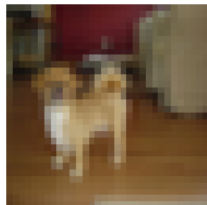
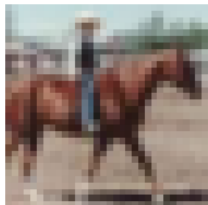


Figure: FGSM attacks with  $\epsilon = 0.3$

# Attacks implemented: Carlini & Wagner

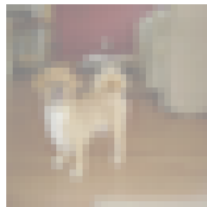
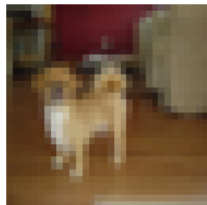
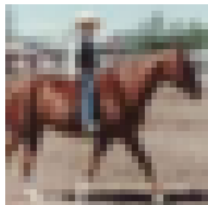


Figure: Carlini & Wagner attacks with  $c = 0.0001$ ,  $\kappa = 0.01$  and steps = 3

# Attacks implemented: PGD

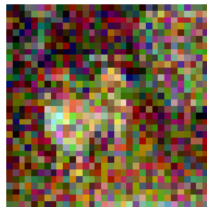
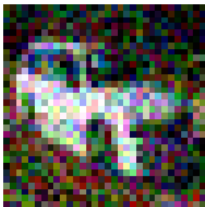
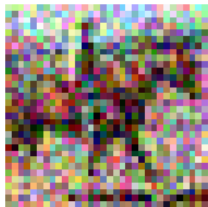
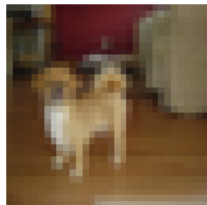
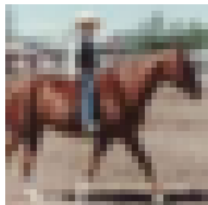


Figure: PGD attacks with  $\epsilon = 0.3$ ,  $\alpha = 0.01$ , steps = 3 and  $\ell_\infty$ -norm

# All attacks combined

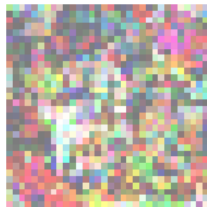
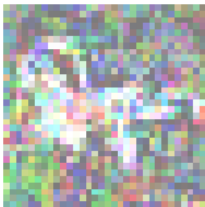
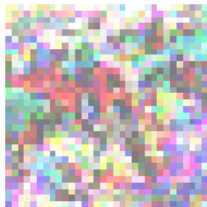
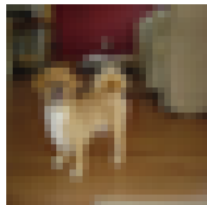
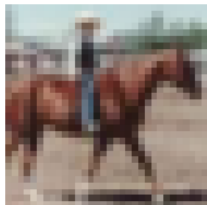


Figure: All 3 previous attacks combined with the same parameters

**At each iteration, a number is sampled uniformly between 0 and 7:**

- 0: Gaussian Noise
- 1: FGSM
- 2: PGD
- 3: Carlini & Wagner
- 4-7 : No Attacks

# Parametric Noise Injection

Adds Gaussian Noise to the parameters and make the model more robust against small perturbations thanks to a more stable decision boundary.

3 layers added:

- One after the first pooling layer
- One after the second pooling layer
- One after the flatten layer

However, the results were still not good enough

# Results Parametric Noise + Smoothing

Model	Natural Accuracy (in %)	PGD Accuracy (in %)	FGSM Accuracy (in %)	CW Accuracy (in %)
Regular training	63.67	1.37	0.98	34.08
Noise Injection	57.42	1.07	1.37	26.46
Smoothing	57.81	1.07	2.34	29.59
Smoothing, PGD	62.89	0.39	5.27	26.86
Smoothing, PGD, FGSM	56.64	0.39	6.54	23.67
Smoothing, PGD, FGSM, CW	58.98	0.59	6.35	34.08
Smoothing, PGD, FGSM, CW + Noise Injection	59.12	14.26	53.28	56.9

**Table:** Accuracy Evaluation on Different Attack Types,  $\epsilon = 0.3$ ,  $\alpha = 0.01$ ,  $\kappa = 0.01$ ,  $c = 1e^{-4}$



# Stochastic Local Winner Takes It All

- Replaces traditional activation functions like ReLU with stochastic competition blocks, where multiple linear units in each block compete locally, and a winner is selected based on a probabilistic mechanism
- Introduces randomness and enforces sparsity which makes the adversarial attacks less effective
- Incorporates an Indian Buffet Process (IBP) prior, to dynamically manage connections by enabling or disabling them layer-by-layer

# Stochastic Local Winner Takes It All

For Convolution Layers:

$$H_{b,u} = W_{b,u} * X \in \mathbb{R}^{H \times L}$$

$W_b \in \mathbb{R}^{h \times l \times C \times U}$  kernel weight

$X \in \mathbb{R}^{H \times L \times C}$  input

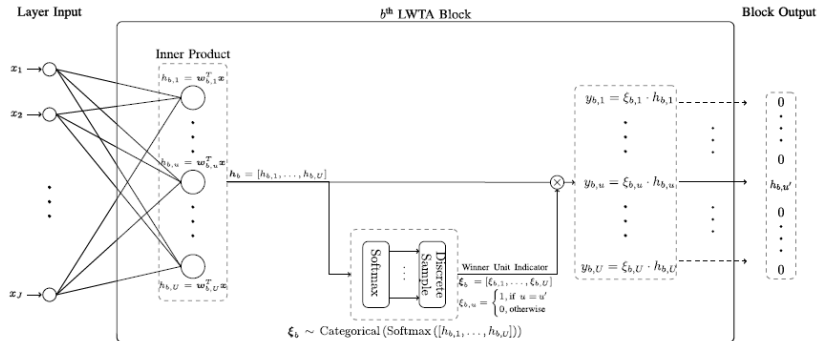
$U$  number of feature maps

$B$ , with  $b \in 1, \dots, B$ , number of LWTA blocks.

# Stochastic Local Winner Takes It All

- for each  $h' \in 1, \dots, H$  and  $l' \in 1, \dots, L$ , we determine which  $H_{b,u,h',l'}$  will be selected randomly with probability distribution determined by the softmax of all the  $H_{b,u,h',l'}$ , for all  $b \in 1, \dots, B$
- From the previous step, we obtained a one hot encoded vector which will select the \*winner\* of the feature maps from one unit.
- Then, we select the best feature maps by doing a dot product between the one hot encoded vector and  $H_{b,u}$  to get  $Y_{b,u}$ . Finally, we concatenate all the  $Y_{b,u}$  and we have the output of the convolutional layer  $Y \in \mathbb{R}^{H \times L \times BU}$

# Architecture



We use the ELBO loss:

$$\mathcal{L} = - \sum_{(X_i, Y_i) \in \mathcal{D}} \text{CE}(Y_i, f(X_i, \hat{\xi})) - \sum_b \left[ \log q(\hat{\xi}_b) - \log p(\hat{\xi}_b) \right]$$

- CE cross-entropy loss
- $\{X_i, Y_i\} \in \mathcal{D}$  pair of data and label
- $f(X_i, \hat{\xi})$  class probabilities of  $X_i$  generated by the last softmax layer of the last LWTA block
- $q(\hat{\xi}_b), p(\hat{\xi}_b)$  probability distribution of the posterior and prior

# Parameters

We used the WideResNet34 model

- 30 epochs
- 1 widen Factor
- SGD with 0.1 Learning Rate

For Adversarial training (PGD attacks only):

- $\epsilon = \frac{8}{255}$
- $\alpha = 0.007$
- 20 steps

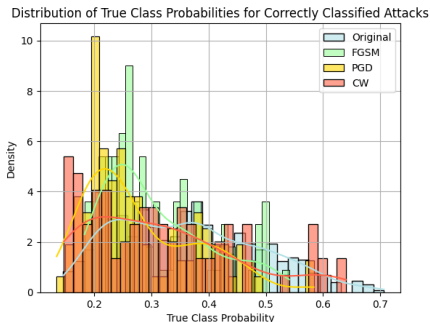
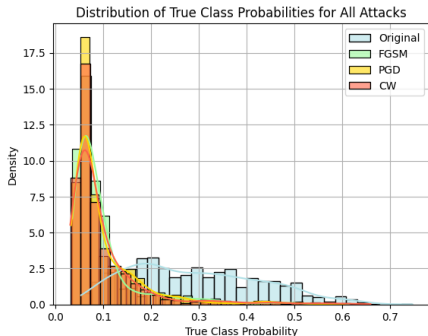
# Results Stochastic Local Winner Takes It All

We get way better results especially for PGD attacks.

Model	Natural Accuracy (in %)	PGD Accuracy aggregated with $L_2$ and $L_\infty$ (in %)	FGSM Accuracy (in %)	CW Accuracy (in %)
Stochastic LWTA	68.8	114.6	11.5	66.0

**Table:** Accuracy Evaluation on Different Attack Types,  $\epsilon = 0.3$ ,  $\alpha = 0.01$ ,  $\kappa = 0.01$ ,  $c = 1e^{-4}$

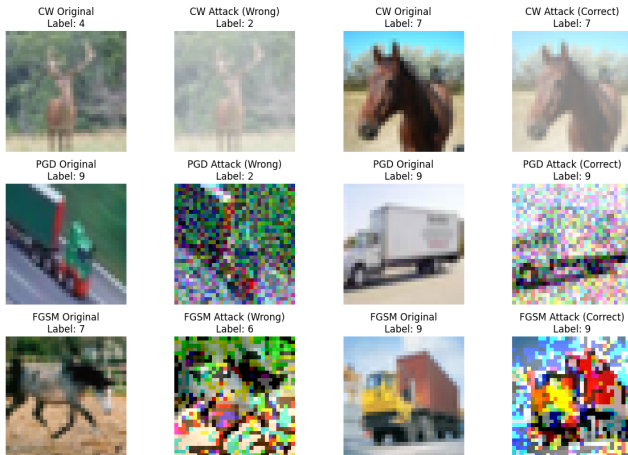
# Distribution of True Class Probabilities





# Example of correct and incorrect classification

Adversarial Examples: Correctly and Incorrectly Classified



# END