# Towards Interpretable Deep Neural Networks by Leveraging Adversarial Examples

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#### **Motivation**

- Despite of the impressive performance of the Deep Neural Networks (DNN), the results are not **interpretable**.
- Different approaches have been suggested to address this problem.
- Another active area of research in DNN is adversarial examples and adversarial attacks.

 Main Question of this paper: What is the reaction of the interpretation algorithms to the adversarial examples.

# **Key Contributions/Results**

- 1. Representation of the adversarials are not consistent with the normal images
- 2. A new metric is proposed to measure the consistency of the neurons of a DNN
- 3. A new adversarial training is suggested to increase the consistency
- 4. The proposed adversarial training reduces the ambiguity of neurons

#### Main Results/claims

Example of the inconsistency in the normal vs. adversarial representation.



Figure 3: The real and adversarial images with highest activations for neurons in VGG-16 conv5\_3 layer.

#### Outline

- 1. Quick review of DNN interpretability.
- 2. What is adversarial attack?
- 3. Adversarial Training

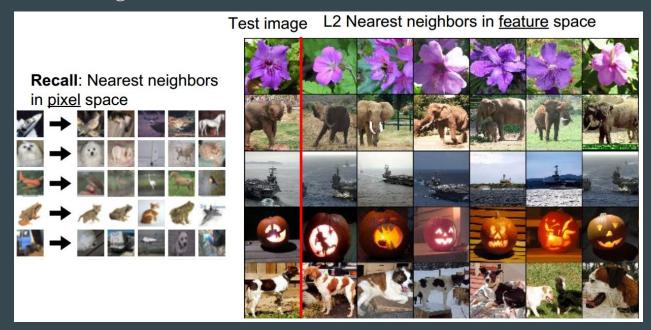
- 4. Consistency metric
- 5. The proposed adversarial training method
- 6. Experiments and Results

- 1. Methods based on Forward passing
- 2. Methods based on Gradient backpropagation
- 3. Perturbation/Black-box methods

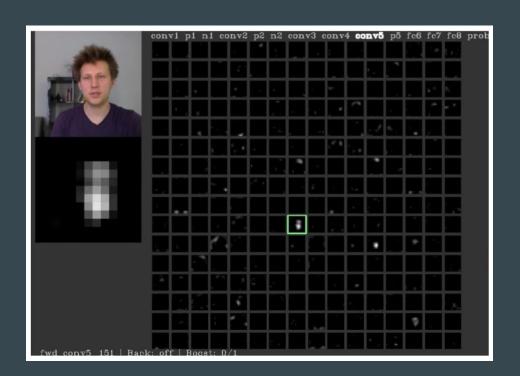
First Layer: Visualize Filters



Last Layer: Nearest Neighbors



conv5 feature map is 128x13x13; visualize as 128 13x13 grayscale images



#### Maximally Activating Patches

- Pick a layer and a channel
- Run many images through the network, record values of chosen channel
- Visualize image patches that correspond to maximal activations





Guided Backpropagation

Idea: neurons act like detectors of particular image features.

- We are only interested in what image features the neuron detects, not in what kind of stuff it doesn't detect.
- So when propagating the gradient, we set all the negative gradients to 0.



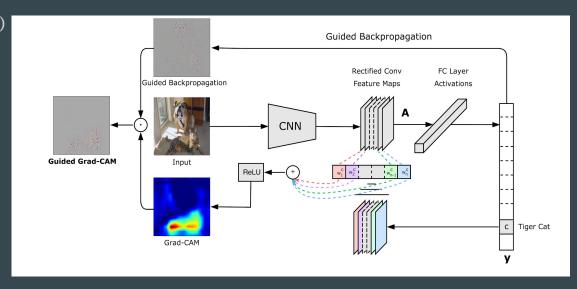
**Guided Backprop** 

Grad-CAM

(Gradient weighted Class Activation Mapping)

Take the **final convolutional feature map** and then **weigh** every channel in that feature with the **gradient of the class** with respect to the **channel**.

It's just nothing but how intensely the input image **activates** different channels by how important each channel is with regard to the class.



Perturbation Methods:

Perturbation-based methods directly compute the attribution of an input feature (or set of features) by removing, masking or altering them, and running a forward pass on the new input, measuring the difference with the original output.

#### Occlusion Experiments and Saliency Maps

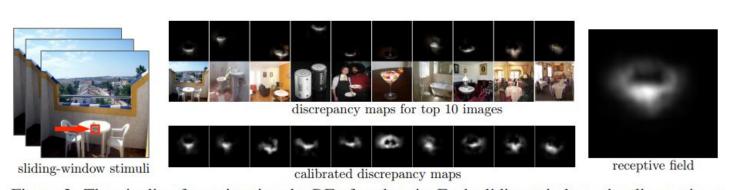


Figure 3: The pipeline for estimating the RF of each unit. Each sliding-window stimuli contains a small randomized patch (example indicated by red arrow) at different spatial locations. By comparing the activation response of the sliding-window stimuli with the activation response of the original image, we obtain a discrepancy map for each image (middle top). By summing up the calibrated discrepancy maps (middle bottom) for the top ranked images, we obtain the actual RF of that unit (right).

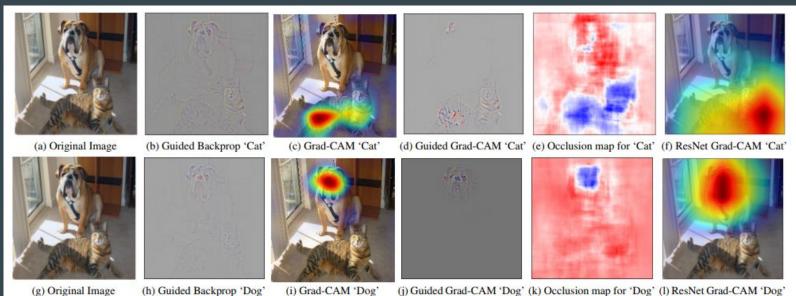


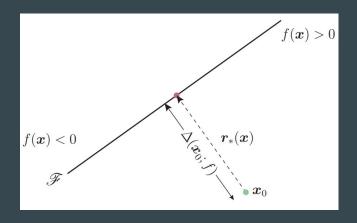
Figure 1: (a) Original image with a cat and a dog. (b-f) Support for the cat category according to various visualizations for VGG and ResNet. (b) Guided Backpropagation [46]: highlights all contributing features. (c, f) Grad-CAM (Ours): localizes class-discriminative regions, (d) Combining (b) and (c) gives Guided Grad-CAM, which gives high-resolution class-discriminative visualizations. Interestingly, the localizations achieved by our Grad-CAM technique, (c) are very similar to results from occlusion sensitivity (e), while being orders of magnitude cheaper to compute. (f, l) are Grad-CAM visualizations for ResNet-18 layer. Note that in (d, f, i, l), red regions corresponds to high score for class, while in (e, k), blue corresponds to evidence for the class. Figure best viewed in color.

# Adversarial Attack / Examples

- 1. Whitebox attacks: using gradient of the model
- 2. Black-box attacks: do not have access to the inside of the model

For a given classifier, we define an adversarial perturbation as the minimal perturbation r that is sufficient to change the estimated label

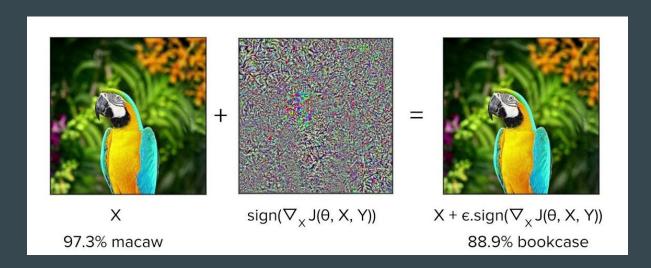
$$\Delta({m x};\hat{k}) := \min_{{m r}} \|{m r}\|_2$$
 subject to  $\hat{k}({m x}+{m r}) 
eq \hat{k}({m x})$ 

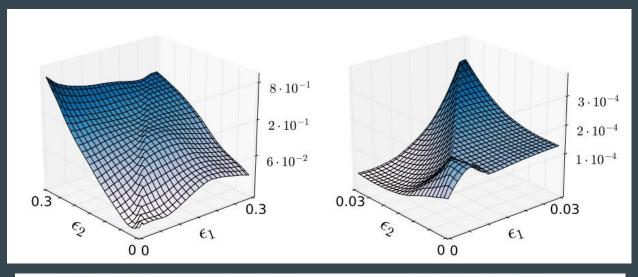


#### **Algorithm 1** DeepFool for binary classifiers

- 1: **input:** Image x, classifier f.
- 2: **output:** Perturbation  $\hat{r}$ .
- 3: Initialize  $x_0 \leftarrow x$ ,  $i \leftarrow 0$ .
- 4: while  $\operatorname{sign}(f(\boldsymbol{x}_i)) = \operatorname{sign}(f(\boldsymbol{x}_0))$  do
- 5:  $r_i \leftarrow -\frac{f(\boldsymbol{x}_i)}{\|\nabla f(\boldsymbol{x}_i)\|_2^2} \nabla f(\boldsymbol{x}_i),$
- 6:  $x_{i+1} \leftarrow x_i + r_i$
- 7:  $i \leftarrow i + 1$ .
- 8: end while
- 9: return  $\hat{r} = \sum_i r_i$ .

Assuming linearity, Fast Gradient Sign Method (FGSM) can be used: Let x be the original image, y the class of x,  $\theta$  the weights of the network and J( $\theta$ , x, y) the loss function used to train the network.

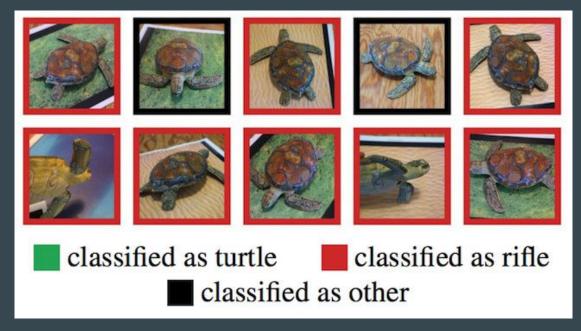




(a) Loss surface for model A<sub>adv</sub> (log-scale).

(b) Zoom in of the loss for small  $\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2$ .

Figure 5: Illustrations of the local curvature artifacts introduced by adversarial training on MNIST. We plot the loss of model  $A_{adv}$  on samples of the form  $x^* = x + \epsilon_1 \cdot g + \epsilon_2 \cdot g^{\perp}$ , where g is the signed gradient of model  $A_{adv}$  and  $g^{\perp}$  is an orthogonal adversarial direction, obtained from model B. The right-side plots are zoomed in versions of the left-side plots.



A 3D-printed turtle that is recognized as a rifle by Tensorflow's standard pre-trained InceptionV3 classifier.

Black Box attack using surrogate model:

- 1. Start with a few images that come from the same domain as the training data, e.g. if the classifier to be attacked is a digit classifier, use images of digits. The knowledge of the domain is required, but not the access to the training data.
- 2. Get predictions for the current set of images from the black box.
- 3. Train a surrogate model on the current set of images (for example a neural network).
- 4. Create adversarial examples for the surrogate model using the fast gradient method (or similar).
- 5. Attack the original model with adversarial examples.

The aim of the surrogate model is to approximate the decision boundaries of the black box model, but not necessarily to achieve the same accuracy.

# **Adversarial Training**

Adversarial training can be considered as a variant of standard Empirical Risk Minimization (ERM), where our aim is to minimize the risk over adversarial examples:

$$h^* = \operatorname*{arg\,min}_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \quad \underset{(x,y_{\mathsf{true}}) \sim \mathcal{D}}{\mathbb{E}} \left[ \max_{\|x^{\mathsf{adv}} - x\|_{\infty} \leq \epsilon} L(h(x^{\mathsf{adv}}), y_{\mathsf{true}}) \right]$$

for some target model  $h \in H$  and inputs  $(x; y_{true})$ . This can be simplified to

$$h^* = \operatorname*{arg\,min}_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \quad \underset{(x,y_{ ext{true}}) \sim \mathcal{D}}{\mathbb{E}} \left[ L(h(x_{ ext{FGSM}}^{ ext{adv}}), y_{ ext{true}}) 
ight]$$

Ensemble Adversarial Training, augments a model's training data with adversarial examples crafted on other static pre-trained models.

#### **Motivation**

There are two possible hypotheses to answer the following questions "what are the representations of adversarial examples, and why do the representations lead to inaccurate predictions?"

- The representations of adversarial examples align well with the semantic objects/parts, but are not discriminative enough, resulting in erroneous predictions.
- The representations of adversarial examples do not align with the semantic objects/parts, which means by adding small imperceptible noises, the neurons cannot detect corresponding objects/parts in adversarial images, leading to inaccurate predictions.

# Overview of the Methodology

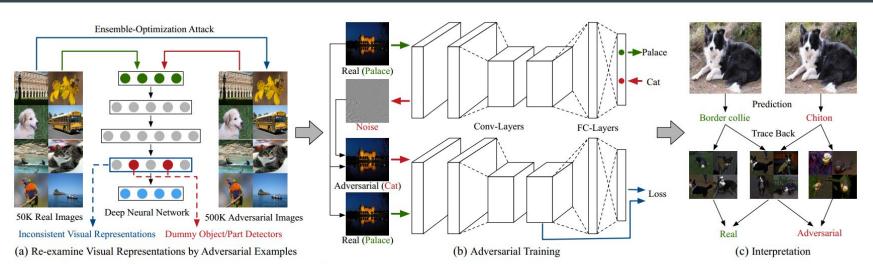


Figure 1. The overall framework in this paper. (a) We first generate a set of 500K adversarial images by the ensemble-optimization attack and re-examine the visual representations with the conclusions of dummy object/part detectors and inconsistent visual representations. (b) We show that adversarial training facilitates the improvement of the interpretability and consistency of representations in DNNs. (c) The interpretable representations enable us to trace the eventual predictions back to influential neurons, and explain how the predictions have been made as well as when and why an error occurs.

# **Inconsistency of representations**



Figure 2. The real and adversarial images with highest activations for neurons in VGG-16 *pool5* layer. The neurons have explicit semantic meanings in real images, which do not appear in adversarial images. The adversarial images in red boxes have the target classes the same as the meanings of the neurons (*e.g.*, the model misclassifies the adversarial images in (a) as *birds*). The highlighted regions are found by discrepancy map [33]. More visualization results of AlexNet and ResNet-18 can be found in Appendix.

The contents of the adversarial images do not align with the semantic meanings of the corresponding neurons, if we look at the second row. In general, the neurons tend to detect nothing in common for adversarial samples.

# **Consistency** metric

- We first define the consistency level between a neuron n and a concept c:

$$consis(n, c) = Pr(x contains c | x activates n)$$

where Pr is the probability measure of image space. The consistency metric above is related to a certain concept.

- We define the correlation between the corresponding concepts as

$$a_{i,j} = \exp\left(-\frac{d^2(w_i, w_j)}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

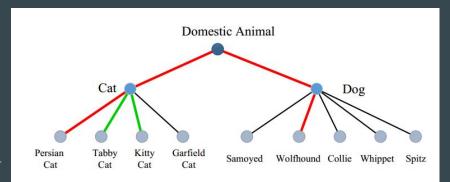


Figure 2: Illustration for quantifying the distance of different classes based on WordNet. The red path indicates the distance between *persian cat* and *wolfhound* d=4, which is longer than the distance between *tabby cat* and *kitty cat* (d=2).

# **Consistency** metric

We further collect  $p_i = consis(n; c_i)$  for all concepts ci into a vector p and the consistency level of a neuron n is quantified as following

$$consis(n) = \|\boldsymbol{p}\|_{\mathbf{A}}^2 = \boldsymbol{p}^T \mathbf{A} \boldsymbol{p}$$

Similarly, we also measure the consistency level constrained on the adversarial samples, by replacing Pr with  $Pr_{adv}$ , where

 $Pr_{adv}(\cdot) = Pr(\cdot \mid x \text{ is an adversarial sample}).$ 

# Adversarial Training with a Consistent Loss

If the network is represented by  $\theta$ , the following objective is used to train the network

$$\min_{\theta} L(\theta), \quad L(\theta) = \mathbb{E}_{(x,y) \sim \mathcal{D}} \left[ \max_{x^* \in \mathcal{S}(x)} \ell(\theta, x^*, y) + \max_{x' \in \mathcal{S}(x)} d(\phi_{\theta}(x), \phi_{\theta}(x')) \right]$$

 $\Phi_{\theta}$  is the feature representation (last convolutional layer of the model is used here), x' and  $x^*$  are two adversarial examples from the set of all possible samples S(x), d is a distance metric (L<sub>2</sub> distance is used here),  $\ell$  is the cross entropy loss.

# Adversarial Training with a Consistent Loss

The first inner maximization is the definition of adversarial attack. So, it is replaced by FGSM and only one adversarial example is used:

$$\min_{\theta} L(\theta) = \mathbb{E}_{(x,y)\sim\mathcal{D}} \left[ \alpha \ell(\theta, x, y) + (1 - \alpha) \ell(\theta, x^*, y) + \beta d(\phi_{\theta}(x), \phi_{\theta}(x^*)) \right]$$
$$\boldsymbol{x}_{t}^* = \operatorname{clip}(\boldsymbol{x}_{t-1}^* - \epsilon \cdot \operatorname{sign} \nabla_{\boldsymbol{x}} \ell(\boldsymbol{1}_{y^*}, f_{\theta}(\boldsymbol{x}_{t-1}^*)))$$

 $\alpha = 0.5$  and  $\beta = 0.1$ , clipping keeps the values in [0, 255].

# Results and Discussion Break

# **Experiments**

- For each neuron, top 1% images with highest activations in the real and adversarial validation sets are found (i.e., 500 real images and 5000 adversarial images) to represent the learned features of that neuron.
- The ensemble of AlexNet, VGG-16 and ResNet-18 models are used for adversarial generation.
- Adam optimizer with step size 5 for 10 ~ 20 iterations is used for generating adversarial examples.
- 10 adversarial images are generated for each image in the **ILSVRC 2012 and Broden** datasets, with the 10 least likely classes (least average probability), i.e., 10 different y\*, as targets.
- So a set of 500K adversarial images are generated.

Broadly and Densely Labeled Dataset (Broden) unifies several densely labeled image data sets: ADE, OpenSurfaces, Pascal-Context, Pascal-Part, and the Describable Textures Dataset, containing examples of a broad range of objects, scenes, object parts, textures, and materials in a variety of contexts.

Most examples are segmented down to the pixel level except textures and scenes which are given for full-images. In addition, every image pixel in the data set is annotated with one of the eleven common color names according to the human perceptions classified by van de Weijer.

# **Experiments**

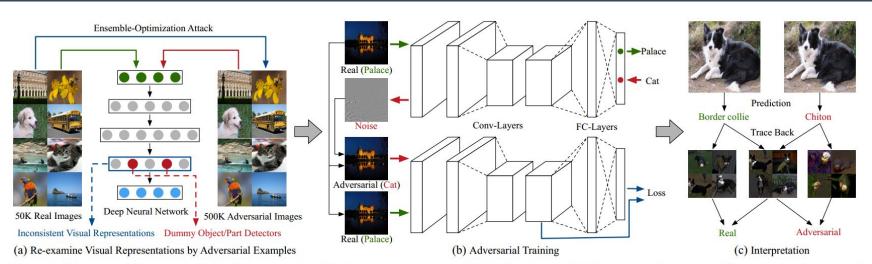


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## Results

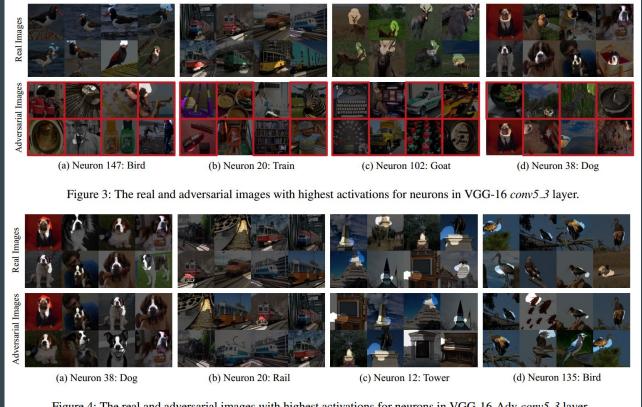


Figure 4: The real and adversarial images with highest activations for neurons in VGG-16-Adv conv5\_3 layer.

#### Results

Table 1: The average of consis(n) and  $consis_{adv}(n)$  of neurons in the last convolutional layer in each network. The consis(n) is calculated on the whole image space and the  $consis_{adv}(n)$  is calculated on the adversarial image subset.

	consis(n)	$consis_{adv}(n)$
AlexNet	0.0162	0.0116
AlexNet-Adv	0.0161	0.0121
VGG-16	0.0296	0.0187
VGG-16-Adv	0.0287	0.0220
ResNet-18	0.0261	0.0133
ResNet-18-Adv	0.0251	0.0206

Table 3: Accuracy (%) on the ImageNet validation set and adversarial examples generated by FGSM with  $\epsilon = 1$ .

		AlexNet	VGG16	ResNet18
Real	Top-1	54.58	68.15	66.30
	Top-5	78.17	88.30	87.09
Adv.	Top-1	4.44	8.60	4.41
	Top-5	22.94	36.94	31.8
		AlexNet-	VGG16-	ResNet18
		Adv	Adv	Adv
Real	Top-1	43.92	62.55	54.01
	Top-5	68.80	84.66	77.84
Adv.	Top-1	17.45	25.62	27.56
	Top-5	38.12	56.17	55.61

### Results

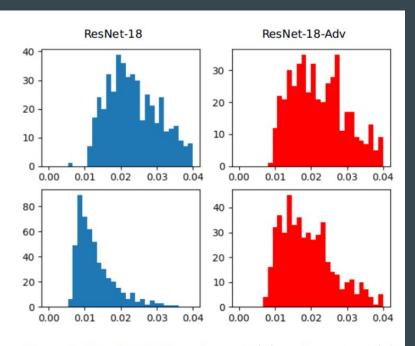


Figure 5: The distribution of consis(n) and  $consis_{adv}(n)$  of neurons in the last convolutional layer of ResNet-18 and ResNet-18-Adv. The left two histograms corresponds to ResNet-18 and the right two histograms corresponds to ResNet-18-Adv. The top two histograms corresponds to consis(n) and the bottom two histograms corresponds to  $consis_{adv}(n)$ .

#### **Discussion Points**

- Does it generalize to other interpretability methods? e.g. Grad-CAM claims to be robust to adversarial examples.
- 2. Application of FGSM in the adversarial training: Motivation of Ensemble Adversarial Learning.
- 3. The simplified adversarial training equation is not a surrogate of the original proposed equation: FGSM is the gradient of the loss function. The feature map distance won't be maximized: Jacobian-based Saliency Map Attack does this.
- 4. The results are not compared to any other adversarial training.

5. Phase vs. Amplitude in the adversarial examples.