# Intro to Adversarial Attacks

Gokula Krishnan Santhanam

#### \$whoami



- Intel Innovator
- Master's Student @ ETH Zurich
  - Worked on Generative Models for Astronomy (space.ml)
- Google Research Summer Intern
- @gokstudio, sgokula@ethz.ch

#### Outline

- What's an adversarial attack?
- Why should you care?
- Common Examples
  - Hands-On using cleverhans
- How to defend?
- Open Questions and Teasers



#### Adversarial? Attack??

- Adversary Someone with malicious intent
  - Want to find loop-holes in the systems
  - Might want to exploit it for self-benefit
  - Might want to hurt users of system (targeted / untargeted)
- Here, an image that's visually similar to humans but results in drastic changes in a DNN prediction\*

\* this is a very narrow definition to get started, lots of questions on how to best define for any network, for any task, for any data type (image, text, audio .etc)



x
"panda"
57.7% confidence

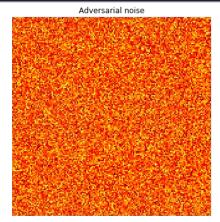


 $\operatorname{sign}(\nabla_{\boldsymbol{x}}J(\boldsymbol{\theta},\boldsymbol{x},y))$  "nematode" 8.2% confidence

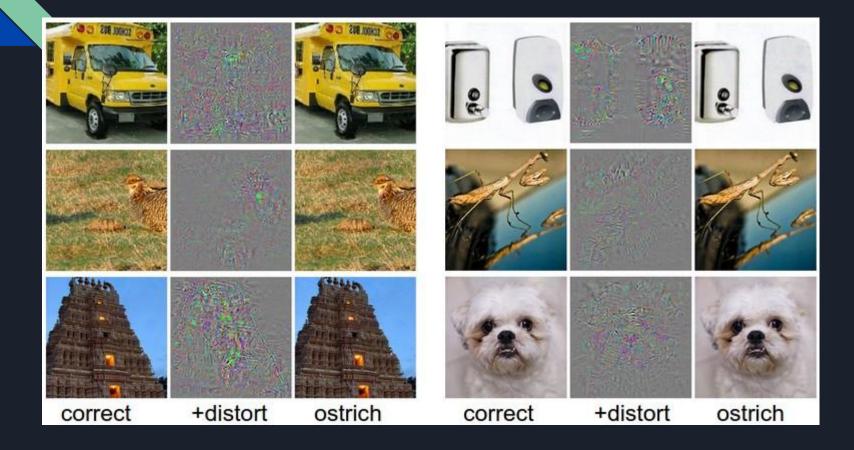


 $x + \epsilon \operatorname{sign}(\nabla_x J(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \boldsymbol{x}, y))$  "gibbon" 99.3 % confidence









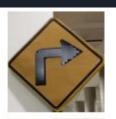
### Why should I care?

- Small changes in X-Ray / MRI images could drastically change treatment
- Self-driving cars speed limit 20 km/h to 200 km/h
- Erroneous predictions lawsuits
- Interpretability of results
- Philosophically, are DNNs actually learning something or is it just good at pulling wool over our eyes?
  - How much can we promise?
    - Avoid fooling investors that are interested in your work









































From: https://www.labsix.org/physical-objects-that-fool-neural-nets/

# Are Adversarial Attacks only for DNN Classifiers?

- Logistic Regression
- SVM
- k-NN Classifiers
- Decision Trees
- Even for RL Policies

#### Some definitions

We say x<sub>adv</sub> is an adversarial sample generated from x, if

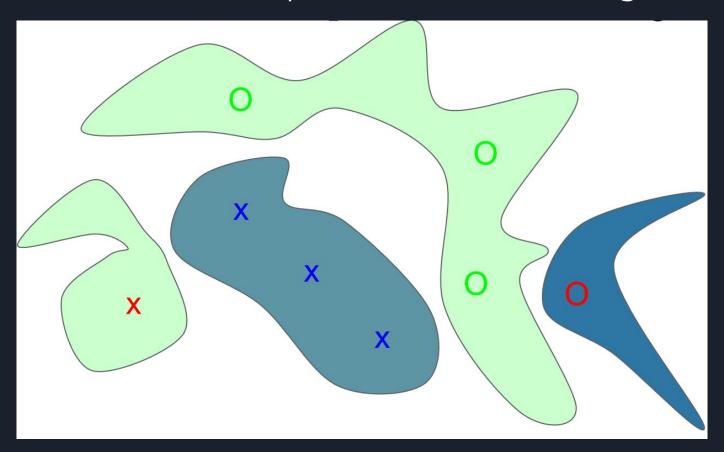
Imperceptible change 
$$||x_{adv} - x|| < \epsilon$$
, and

For some model f (say a DNN classifier),

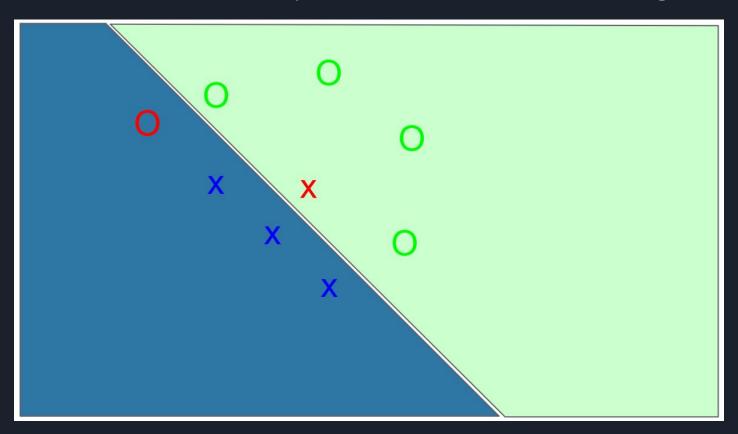
 $f(x_{adv})$  is very different from f(x)

Significant change in output

# Adversarial Samples due to overfitting



# Adversarial Samples due to underfitting



#### **DNN Classifier**

#### Similar to examples before, but

- 1. Instead of 2D, imagine 1,000,000 D\*
- 2. Decision boundaries can get very complicated
  - a. Some regions are almost linear (ReLU, Sigmoid activations show linear behavior)
  - b. Other regions can be very irregular
- 3. Hierarchical nature cause cascading effects

\* if you can do this, teach me master!

## Types of Attacks

#### Black Box Attacks

- Only the predictions from model are available
- Easy to transfer attacks across models
- Approximate black-box with your own model, create adv. attack on it, use it

#### White Box Attacks

- Both predictions and weights of the model are available
- Less easy to transfer attacks across models

#### Popular Attacks

- Fast Gradient Sign Method (FGSM)
- Projected Gradient Sign Method (PGDM)
- Basic Iterative Method (BIM)
- Carlini-Wagner L2 Method (State-of-the-Art)

# Fast Gradient Sign Method

$$J(\tilde{\boldsymbol{x}}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) \approx J(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) + (\tilde{\boldsymbol{x}} - \boldsymbol{x})^{\top} \nabla_{\boldsymbol{x}} J(\boldsymbol{x})$$

Maximize

$$J(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) + (\tilde{\boldsymbol{x}} - \boldsymbol{x})^{\top} \nabla_{\boldsymbol{x}} J(\boldsymbol{x})$$

subject to

$$||\tilde{\boldsymbol{x}} - \boldsymbol{x}||_{\infty} \le \epsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow \tilde{x} = x + \epsilon \operatorname{sign}(\nabla_x J(x)).$$

Hands-On!

### CleverHans library

- Built on top of TensorFlow / Keras
- Maintained by Ian Goodfellow et. al
- Has most of the widely used attacks
- Easy to use (~ 3 lines to use an attack)
- Actively developed

## Defense against these attacks

It's much easier to attack than to defend

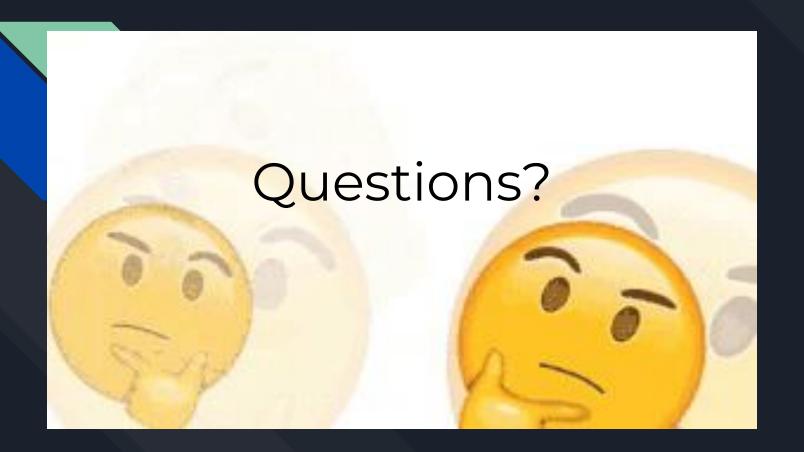
- Adversarial training
  - Augment dataset with adversarial samples as well
  - One of the best defenses
- Defensive Distillation
- Thermometer Encoding
- ... more in ICLR and ICML papers

# What's happening now?

- Adversarial Attacks on Humans
- Better Understanding of source of Adversarial Attacks
- Adversarial Text
- So much more!

## Summary

- Introduction to adversarial attacks
- Why you should care about them
- Cleverhans demo
- Defenses





#### References

- Ian Goodfellow's Talks
- Papers from ICLR
- Karpathy's blogpost: <a href="http://karpathy.github.io/2015/03/30/breaking-convnets/">http://karpathy.github.io/2015/03/30/breaking-convnets/</a>
- Cleverhans docs and repository