# Detection of Adversarial Examples for Adversarial Defense

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## Abstract

Neural networks are at the heart of the current rise of artificial intelligence now. However, recent works show that they are vulnerable to adversarial attacks in the form of subtle perturbations to inputs that lead a model to predict incorrect outputs. Therefore, adversarial attacks pose a serious threat to the success of neural networks in practice. In this paper, to address this problem, we propose a simple strategy that addss a corrector before the main models. This corrector is a kind of denoising models and helps the main models to get clean inputs. According to our experiments, this structure can remove the attacks and even fool the attack strategies.

## 1 Introduction

Neural networks provide huge breakthroughs in solving problems in different fields, such as computer vision [1], natural language processing [2], robotics [3] and speech recognition [4]. However, recent works [5] show that they are vulnerable to adversarial attacks in the form of subtle perturbations to inputs that lead a model to predict incorrect outputs. Such perturbations are often too small to be perceptible for images, yet they completely fool the deep learning models. At the same time, neural networks enter into more security-critical fields, such as self-driving cars [6], surveillance [7] and malware detection [8]. Such a problem becomes more and more serious and poses a serious threat to the success of deep learning in practice.

In this paper, we try to solve this problem using a simple strategy. We add a corrector before the main models, which is a denoising model. This corrector detects the attack item from an adversarial attack and tries to restore inputs to corresponding clean inputs. As far as we know, there are many choices of denoising models [9–11]. Because of the impressive effects of DDPMs [11], in our experiments, we use a U-Net backbone similar to it.

To determine the effects of our strategy, we test it on the image classification task [12]. We use adversarial attack strategies [13–16] to attack our new models, a combination of a denoising model and a classification model. According to our experiments, our strategy can not only detect attacks, but also confuse the attack strategies.

## 2 Method

In this section, we show our strategy in detail. We first show the structure of our corrector and classification model and how we combine these two main parts together. After that, we introduce several adversarial attack strategies used in this paper.

### 2.1 Structure of Model

Classification Model Image classification task is one of the most classic neural network tasks. Many famous and pre-trained models can be used as the main models in our paper, such as VGG [17], ResNet [18] and Inception [19]. For our tasks, we choose ResNet as the main model in our tasks.

**Denoising Model** Image noise reduction is also an essential task. A very classic model is U-net [20],

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which is designed for semantic segmentation. However, U-net has been successfully used in many different fields, such as noise reduction and image generation. In this paper, we choose U-net as our denoising model used before our ResNet model.

In our experiments, we first put the inputs into an U-net to get the noises in the inputs and denoising the inputs, namely, subtracting the noise from the inputs, to get clean inputs. Then, we put these new inputs into our main classification model, ResNet, to get the final classification results.

## 2.2 Adversarial Attack Strategy

There are many controllable choices of adversarial attack, and we select a representative strategy for testing.

Fast Gradient Sign Method Fast Gradient Sign Method (FGSM) gives a simple strategy to search the noise used to fool classification models. It add such a noise  $\epsilon$  into the inputs  $I_c$ :

$$I_{\epsilon} = I_c + \delta \operatorname{sign}(\nabla \mathcal{J}(\theta, I_c, l))$$
 (1)

Here,  $\nabla \mathcal{J}$  computes the gradient of the cost function and sign denotes the sign function and  $\delta$  is a small scalar value. Some work [14] further develops this strategy, which uses multi-step noising process instead of one-step noising process. It gets Basic Iterative Method (BIM), which satisfies:

$$\mathbf{I}_{\epsilon}^{i+1} = \text{Clip}\{\mathbf{I}_{\epsilon}^{i} + \delta \text{sign}(\nabla \mathcal{J}(\theta, \mathbf{I}_{\epsilon}^{i}, l))\}$$
 (2)

Here, Clip controls the new inputs  $I_{\epsilon}^{i}$  in the input domain, usually,  $[-1,1]^{n}$ .

In the experiments, we will test FGSM to show the ability of our adversarial defense strategy.

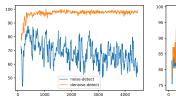
## 3 Experiment

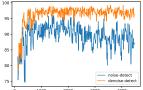
In this section, we show the details and results of our experiments to show the effects of our strategy.

### 3.1 Detection

This test assumes that the FGSM only attacks the classification model. Then, we use our U-net to detection the noise generated by FGSM, and we find that

our U-net successfully removes the noise and makes the prediction results pretty good.





### 3.2 Confusion

This test assumes that the FGSM attacks the combination of the classification model and the denoising model. Then, we use our U-net to detection the noise generated by FGSM, and we find that our U-net also removes the noise and makes the prediction results pretty good. This test also shows that adding a denoising model can make FGSM less valuable; the effect of FGSM is limited even we do not denoising the results of FGSM.

## 3.3 Image Result

Here, we put some visible results to show the effects of our strategy in Figure 1. We can find that the image was restored with great success.



Figure 1: Original inputs, dirty inputs and denoising inputs.

## 4 Conclusion

In this paper, we design a simple strategy to defend the adversarial attack. Our strategy can not only detect attacks but also confuse the attack strategies successfully. In the future, we may test our strategy on more adversarial attack strategies and datasets.

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