# Understanding Deep Neural Networks

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# Applications of Deep Learning



[Jamaludin et al., 2017; https://ai.googleblog.com/2018/12/providing-gender-specific-translations.html] <sup>2</sup>



Interpretability tools are crucial for high-impact, high-risk applications of deep learning.



# A Brief Primer on Deep Learning



# Supervised Learning







[Russakovsky et al. , IJCV 2015] 4



# Supervised Learning





# "sheepdog"

[Russakovsky et al., IJCV 2015] 5



# Deep Learning X



Network built up of layers, with weights  $\theta$  connecting one layer to the next Update rule:  $\theta \leftarrow \theta - \eta \frac{dL}{d\theta}$ , maximizes probability of correct prediction





# Deep Learning X







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# Deep Learning X







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# Deep Learning







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# Research Themes









# Research Themes







### Fong & Vedaldi, ICCV 2017



### Fong et al., ICCV 2019











# "Math whiz" Clever Hans horse

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# PASCAL object detection dataset





"horse"

horse" "not

[Everingham et al., IJCV 2010; Lapuschkin et al., Nat. Commun. 2019]







# ImageNet object recognition dataset



[Russakovsky et al., IJCV 2015; Shankar et al., NeurIPS Workshop 2017]

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## Face datasets

[Buolamwini & Gebru, JMLR 2018; globe image from Encyclopedia Britannica]

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### AVERAGE FACES AFRICA RWAND SENEGA AFRICA 6 FEMALE MALE MALE FEMALE FEMALE MALE

# Face datasets



[Buolamwini & Gebru, JMLR 2018; globe image from Encyclopedia Britannica]







# Attribution

### Identify input features responsible for model decision



→ "doctor" **f**6 **f**8 **f**7 **C**5 









# Prior Work: Propagation-based methods

### Combine network activations and gradients

Input



### Gradient



### Fast, but difficult to interpret

[Simonyan et al., ICLR Workshop 2014; Selvaraju et al., ICCV 2017] [Mahendran and Vedaldi, ECCV 2016; Adebayo et al., NeurIPS 2018]



# Prior Work: Perturbation Approaches

### Change the input and observe the effect on the output

Occlusion



[Zeiler and Fergus, ECCV 2014] <sup>19</sup>



# Prior Work: Perturbation Approaches

### Change the input and observe the effect on the output

RISE



### Clear meaning, but can only test a small range of occlusions

[Petsiuk et al., BMVC 2018] <sup>20</sup>



# Desired Approach



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# Our Approach: Meaningful Perturbations

### flute: 0.9973





Learn a **minimal** mask **m** to perturb input **x** that maximally affects the network's output

Our method considers a wide range of occlusion sizes and shapes.

### flute: 0.0007

### Learned Mask



[Fong & Vedaldi, ICCV 2017] <sup>22</sup>



# Our Approach: Extremal Perturbations





Learn a **fixed-sized** mask **m** to perturb input **x** that maximally **preserves** the network's output

[Fong et al., ICCV 2019] 23

Concurrent work: [Kapishnikov et al., ICCV 2019]



# Results



# Interpretability



chocolate sauce

Mask Overlay





### An explanation should be **falsifiable**.

0.610 => 0.351

### 0.610 => 0.015



[Fong & Vedaldi, ICCV 2017] <sup>25</sup>



# Comparison

Orig Img





Mask 10%

Gradient



















Guided



RISE





















### [Fong et al., ICCV 2019] <sup>26</sup>

# Foreground evidence is usually sufficient





### [Fong et al., ICCV 2019] <sup>27</sup>









# Large objects are recognized by their details

















### [Fong et al., ICCV 2019] <sup>28</sup>







# Multiple objects contribute cumulatively





Area: 20%







[Fong et al., ICCV 2019] <sup>29</sup>









# Suppressing the background may overdrive the network







[Fong et al., ICCV 2019] 30











# Adversarial Defense

### Mask on Clean Image







Our method allows us to defend **any model** against adversarial attacks.

[Fong & Vedaldi, ICCV 2017] <sup>31</sup>



# Details



# Regularization to mitigate artifacts network mask image v1: $\mathbf{m}^*(\lambda) = \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{m}} \Phi(\mathbf{m} \otimes \mathbf{x}) + \lambda \operatorname{area}(\mathbf{m})$

v2:  $\mathbf{m}^*(\lambda_1, \lambda_2) = \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{m}} \mathbb{E}_{\operatorname{jitter}}[\Phi(M_{\operatorname{upsample}}(\mathbf{m}) \otimes \mathbf{x})]$  $+\lambda_1 \operatorname{area}(\mathbf{m}) + \lambda_2 \operatorname{smooth}(\mathbf{m})$ 

### Tradeoff between attribution objective and regularization



maypole: 0.0000



Learned Mask



espresso: 0.9964

espresso: 0.0000

Learned Mask







[Fong & Vedaldi, ICCV 2017] <sup>33</sup>



# Extremal Perturbations

A mask is optimized to maximally excite the network:

> $\operatorname{argmax} \Phi(\mathbf{m} \otimes \mathbf{x})$ m

subject to  $area(\mathbf{m}) = a$ 



X



[Fong et al., ICCV 2019] <sup>34</sup>



# Area Constraint

Optimizing w.r.t. to an area constraint is challenging Here we re-formulate it as matching **rank statistics** 



subject to area $(\mathbf{m}) = a$ 

 $L_{area} = \|\operatorname{vecsort}(\mathbf{m}) - \mathbf{r}_a\|^2$ 

[Fong et al., ICCV 2019] <sup>35</sup>



# Smooth Masks



$$m(v) : mask$$

$$conv(u; m; k) = \frac{1}{Z} \sum_{v \in \Omega} k(u - v)m(v)$$

$$maxconv(u; m; k) = \max_{v \in \Omega} k(u - v)m(v)$$

smoothconv(u; m; k; T) = smax<sub> $v \in \Omega; T$ </sub> k(u - v)m(v)•••••

[Fong et al., ICCV 2019] <sup>36</sup>




### Smooth Masks

Mask parameters



#### Gaussian smoothing

#### Max-conv smoothing







#### Comparison with Prior Work









plo

freight car









[Fong & Vedaldi, 2017; Fong et al., ICCV 2019] <sup>38</sup>



Evaluating and using attribution heatmaps

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### Measure Performance on Weak Localization











[Zhang et al., ECCV 2016] 40



### Selectivity to Output Class



[Mahendran & Vedaldi, ECCV 2016; Rebuffi et al., CVPR 2020] 41



#### Sensitive to Model Parameters



[Adebayo et al., NeurIPS 2018] <sup>42</sup>



# **Research Development:** Critically design and evaluate attribution methods

# General Usage: Assume a model has failures and use attribution methods to understand them



[Kindermans et al., arXiv 2017; Hooker et al., NeurIPS 2019; Yang & Kim, arXiv 2019] <sup>43</sup>



# TorchRay: PyTorch interpretability library github.com/facebookresearch/torchray

**O** PyTorch

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#### Research Themes





#### Fong et al., ICCV 2019



#### Fong & Vedaldi, CVPR 2018



Fong et al., 2020 (in prep.)





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#### Intermediate Activations





[Olah et al., Distill 2018] <sup>46</sup>



#### Zeiler & Fergus, ECCV 2014 Nyugen et al., NIPS 2016











#### Mahendran & Vedaldi, IJCV 2016





#### Most prior work focuses on visualizing **single channels**.

Olah et al., Distill 2017

#### Zhou et al., ICLR 2015





#### Bau et al., CVPR 2017





### A. Attributing channels in intermediate activations



### Spatial Attribution









### Channel Attribution







### Channel Attribution



### Activation "Diffing"



#### Original $\Phi_a(x)$



#### Perturbed $\mathbf{m} \otimes \Phi_a(x)$



[Olah et al., Distill 2017; Fong et al., 2019] <sup>52</sup>



### B. Understanding how semantic concepts are encoded

[Fong & Vedaldi, CVPR 2018] 53



### Filter-Concept Overlap

Top activated patches for specific units in AlexNet conv5 filters points to a **packing phenomenon**.



[Bau et al., CVPR 2017] 54



### Filter-Concept Overlap





[Fong & Vedaldi, CVPR 2018; Olah, Github 2018] <sup>55</sup>



Learn **concept vectors** that across channels.

[Fong & Vedaldi, CVPR 2018; concurrent: Kim et al., ICML 2018; Zhou et al., ECCV 2018] 56

#### Net2Vec

# describe how a concept is encoded

# Probe a **network** with a **concept** dataset and learn to perform a task using activations at a given layer.



### Results



### # Concepts per Filter

Sheep  $(IoU_{set} = .21)$ 

AlexNet conv5 unit 66 is highly selective for various farm animals

Horse  $(IoU_{set} = .21)$ 

Cow  $(IoU_{set} = .20)$ 



#### [Fong & Vedaldi, CVPR 2018] 58



#### # Filters per Concept



Different concepts require different number of filters for encoding.

[Agrawal et al., ECCV 2014; Fong & Vedaldi, CVPR 2018] 59



### Salfervisedvilsearbieregning







[Russakovsky et al., IJCV 2015; Zhang et al., ECCV 2016] 60



### # Filters: Supervised vs. Self-Supervised

Performance Improvement (Single Filter → All Filters):

- Self-supervised networks: 5-6x
- Fully-supervised networks: 2-4x



Self-supervised networks encode connects more distributively.

[Fong & Vedaldi, CVPR 2018] 61



### Comparing Concept Embeddings



[Fong & Vedaldi, CVPR 2018] 62

#### person - torso = foot

#### tree — wood = plant

#### grass + blue - green = sky



### Comparing Concept Embedding Spaces

		AlexNet – ImageNet
	<del>0</del>	AlexNet – Places365
5	- ViSi	VGG16 – ImageNet
tio Igs	Ful oer	VGG16 — Places365
din tat	Sul	GoogLeNet – ImageNet
ment		GoogLeNet – Places365
	σ	Tracking
	I SO	Audio
М Ш	Self erv	Objectcentric
	o dn	Moving
	()	Egomotion
	_	AlexNet – ImageNet
	Sed	AlexNet – Places365
s D	-ylli Irvis	VGG16 – ImageNet
Jg tio	РЧ	VGG16 — Places365
di	Sc	GoogLeNet – ImageNet
ssific		GoogLeNet – Places365
	ð	Tracking
E E	f- vise	Audio
<b>U</b> –	Sel	Objectcentric
	Sup	Moving
	0,	Egomotion
Other Embeddings Word		
Word:		





### Comparing Concept Embedding Spaces

	entation ddings	Fully- Supervised	AlexNet — ImageNet AlexNet — Places365 VGG16 — ImageNet VGG16 — Places365 GoogLeNet — ImageNet GoogLeNet — Places365
	Segme Embe	Self- Supervised	Tracking Audio Objectcentric Moving
Г		0,7	Egomotion
	sification beddings	Fully- Supervised	AlexNet — ImageNet AlexNet — Places365 VGG16 — ImageNet VGG16 — Places365 GoogLeNet — ImageNet GoogLeNet — Places365
	Clas Emt	Supervised	Audio Objectcentric Moving Egomotion
Other EmbeddingsWordNWord2V			





### Details



### BRODEN dataset

#### Image-level Annotations

#### street (scene)





# flower (object) headboard (part) pink (color) metal (material)



#### swirly (texture)







#### **Pixel-level** Annotations







[Bau et al., CVPR 2017] 66





[Fong & Vedaldi, CVPR 2018] 67









[Fong & Vedaldi, CVPR 2018] 68









Subset: Only use top *F* filters, chosen by magnitude

[Fong & Vedaldi, CVPR 2018; Agrawal et al., ECCV 2014] 69







#### Single Filter [Bau et al., 2017]

#### Segmentation

Threshold Segmentation Choose Best Filter Activations Mask . . .

IoU = .18

[Fong & Vedaldi, CVPR 2018] 70









### Classification

[Fong & Vedaldi, CVPR 2018] 71



### C. Exploring activations via interactive visualizations

[Fong et al., 2020 (in prep.)] 72


# Preview: Interactive Similarity Overlays



Interactive visualizations empower practitioners to easily understand model behavior.

[Fong et al., 2020 (in prep.)] 73



## Live Preview

[Fong et al., 2020 (in prep.)] 74



## Intermediate Activations



#### **Channel Activations**



[Olah et al., Distill 2018] 75



## Preview: Interactive Similarity Overlays



#### 7.7, 0, 103.4, 6.81, 0, 0, 0, 0, 32.0, 0, 0, 0, ...]

[Olah et al., Distill 2018] <sup>76</sup>



## Preview: Interactive Similarity Overlays





[Fong et al., 2020 (in prep.)] 77



## Research Themes









#### Fong et al., Sci. Reports 2018



Fong & Vedaldi, ICCVW 2019



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## Human-Guided Machine Learning







Align machine decisions with human decisions from brain activity.

[Fong et al., Sci. Reports 2018] 79



# Future Work: Model Debugging

#### Identify and correct systematic mistakes





# Future Work: Model Debugging

#### Identify and correct systematic mistakes



#### male

### female





[Bolukbasi et al,. NeuriPS 2016; David et al., (in prep)]<sup>81</sup>



## Research Themes









## Research Themes

### What is f(x) looking at?



#### Fong & Vedaldi, ICCV 2017

#### Fong et al., ICCV 2019

#### What & how does f(x) encode?





#### Fong & Vedaldi, CVPR 2018



Fong et al., 2020 (in prep.)

## How can we improve f(x)?



### Fong et al., Sci. Reports 2018





Fong & Vedaldi, ICCVW 2019



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Andrea Vedaldi





#### Mandela Patrick

Chris Olah









Alexander Mordvintsev

Walter Scheirer

David Cox







Thank you

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