

Understanding models via visualizations and attribution

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TUTORIAL, ICCV 2019

(SEVERAL SLIDES BY RUTH FONG)

Kind of explanations

Analysis

Given an off-the-shelf networks, explain what it knows, how it works, and how it learns

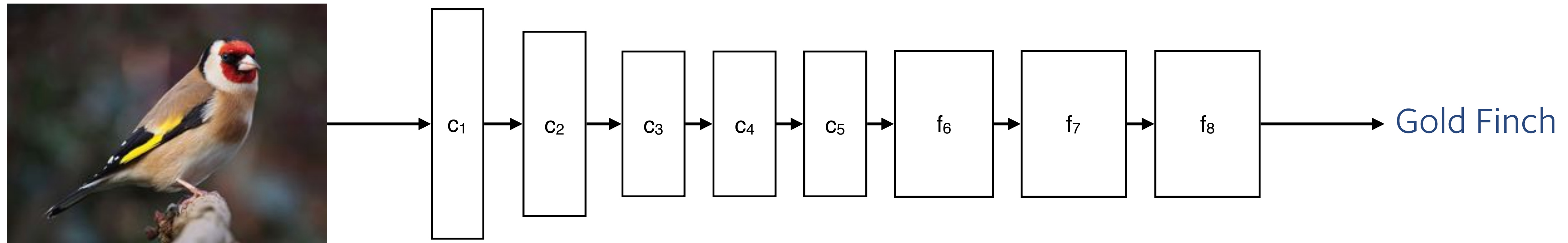
Win an argument

The network explains its decision to a user, with the goal of **convincing** her

Communicating a skill

Explain to a human or machine how to solve a certain class of problems, in general

Analysing deep neural networks



What does a net **do**?

- What concepts can it recognise?
- Spurious correlations?
- Limitations?

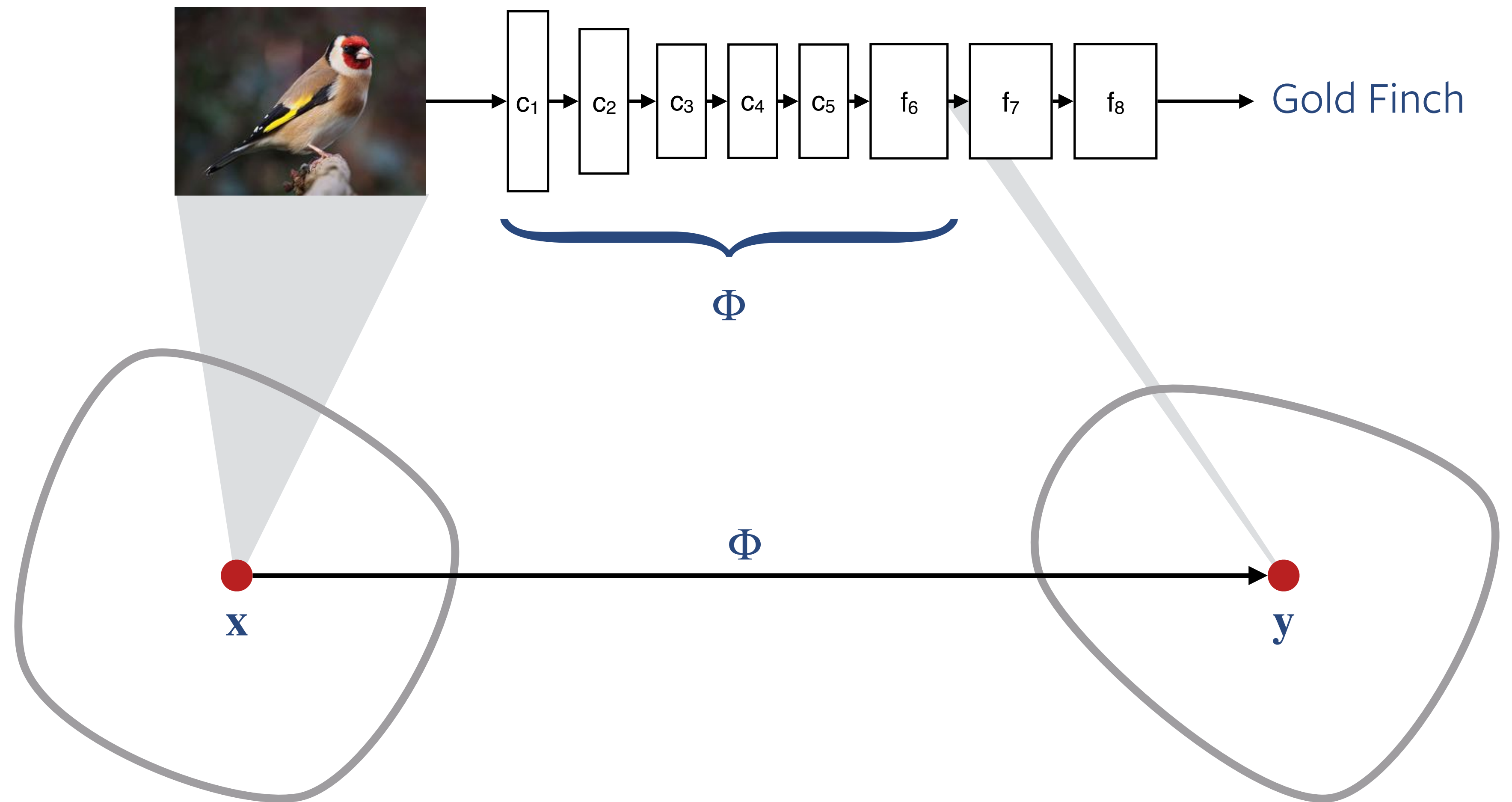
How does it **do** it?

- Template matching?
- Compositionality?
- Spatial reasoning?

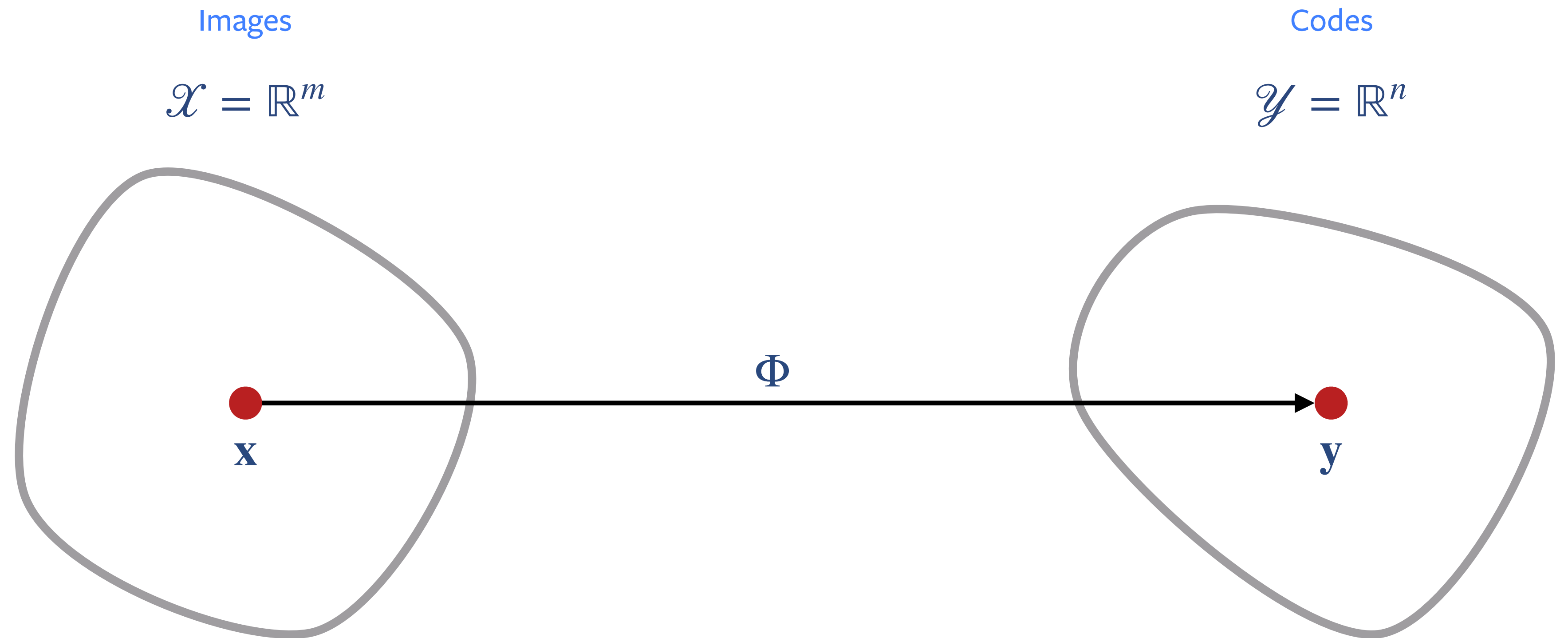
How does it **learn** it?

- Generalization?
- Optimisation?

Deep networks as encoders



Deep networks as encoders



Generating iconic
examples

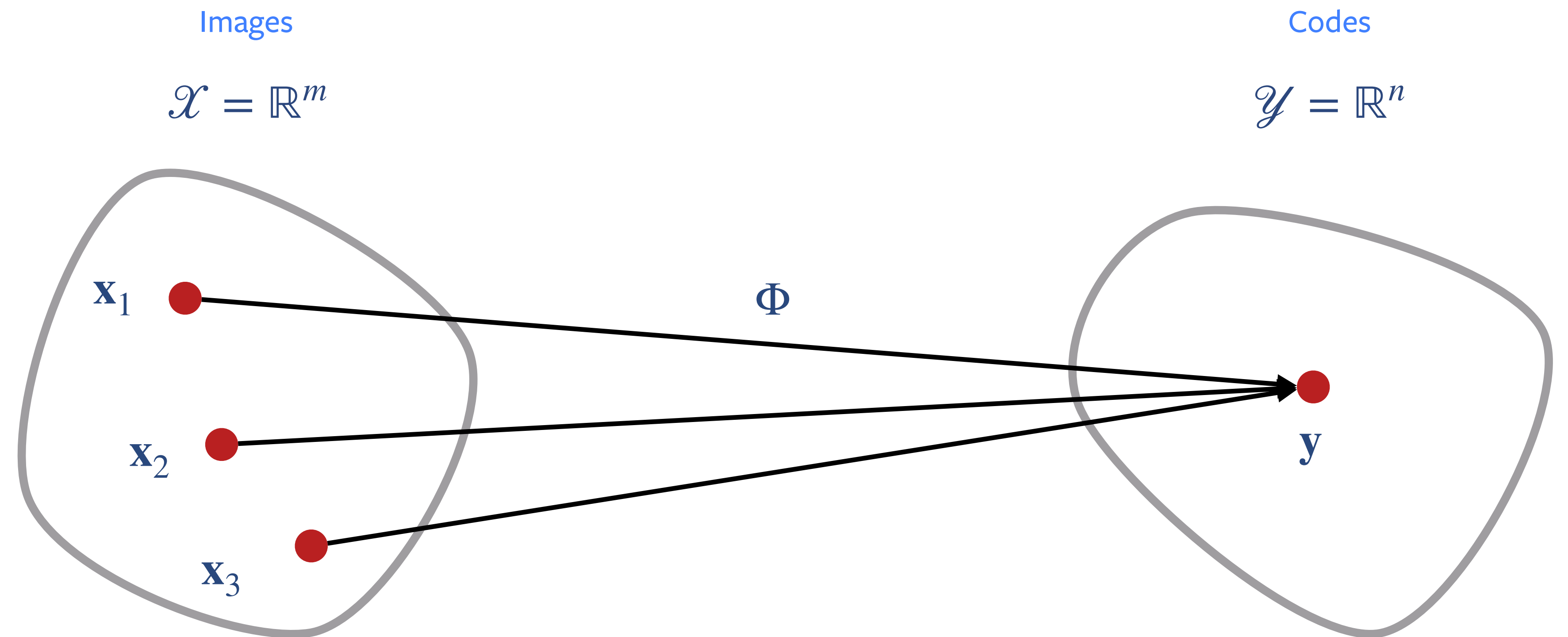
Attribution

Generating iconic
examples

Attribution

How much information about \mathbf{x} does \mathbf{y} contain?

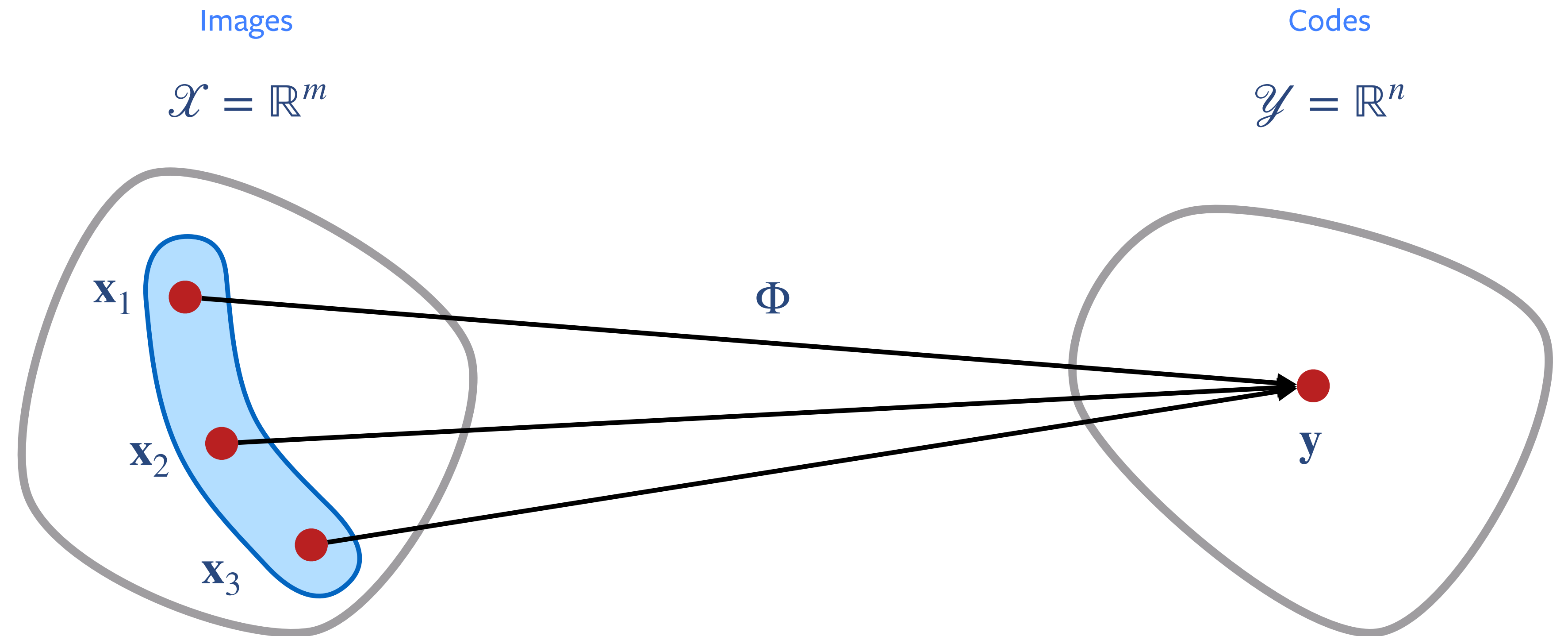
Multiple images map to the same code



Pre-image

Reconstructions form an **equivalence class** of images, called a pre-image

All pre-images that are indistinguishable for the network



Finding pre-images via optimisation



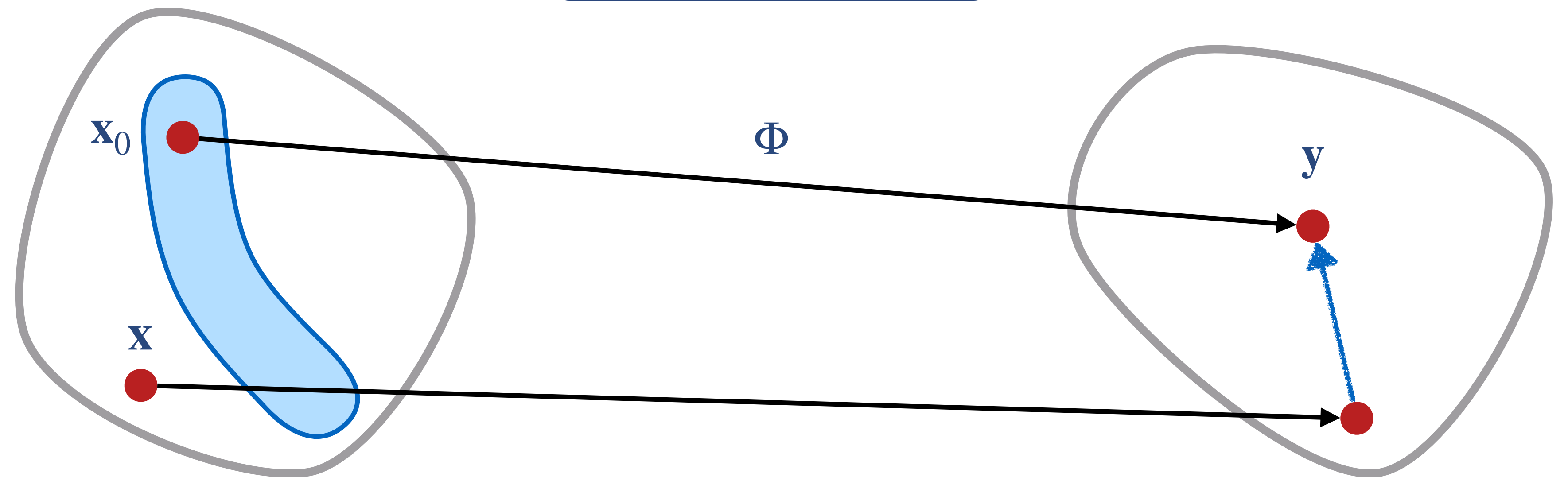
Images

$$\mathcal{X} = \mathbb{R}^m$$

$$\min_{\mathbf{x}} \|\Phi(\mathbf{x}) - \Phi(\mathbf{x}_0)\|^2$$

Codes

$$\mathcal{Y} = \mathbb{R}^n$$



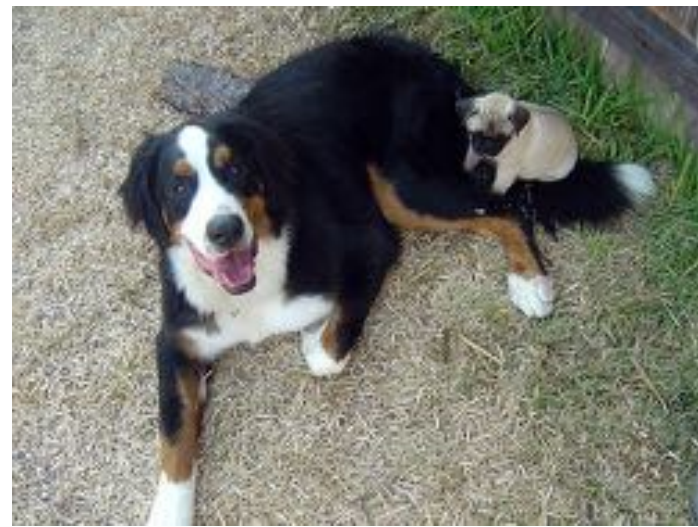
Natural pre-images

We are interested in pre-images that can realistically be network inputs

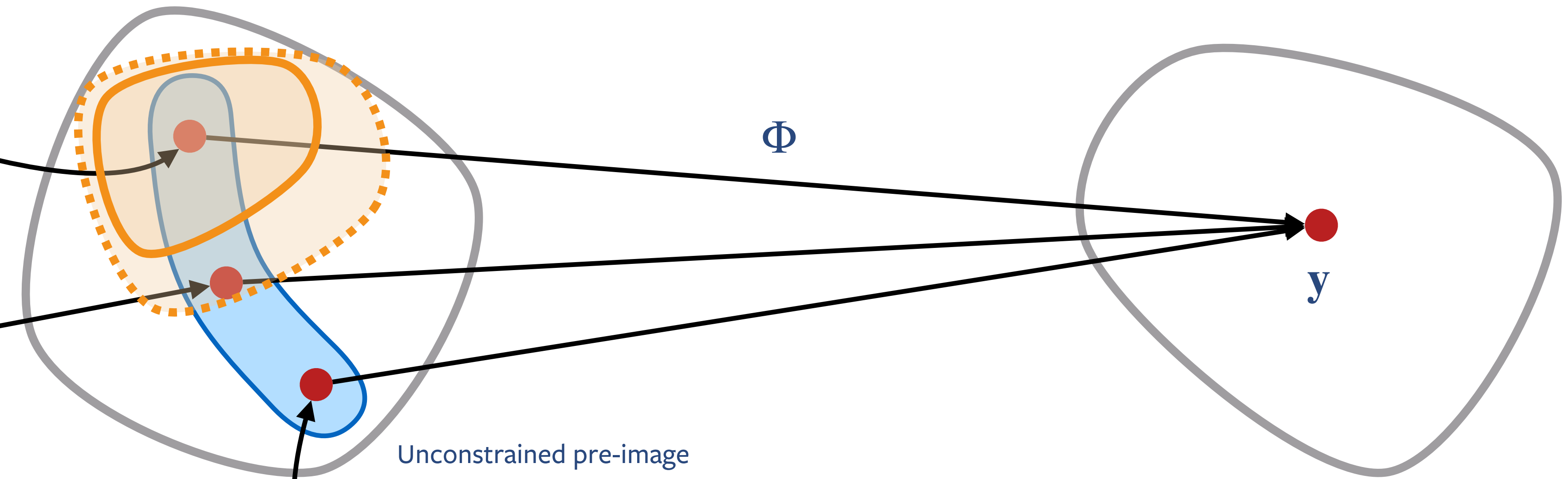
Codes

$$\mathcal{Y} = \mathbb{R}^n$$

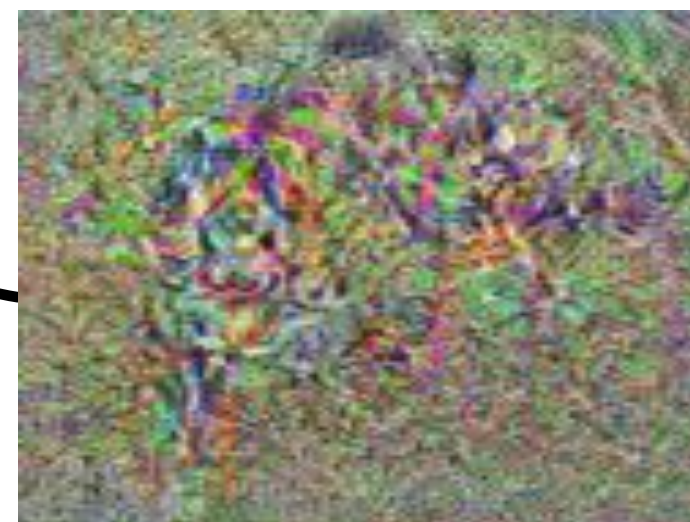
Natural images



Peseudo-natural images



Unconstrained pre-image



Pseudo-natural pre-images

Regularised energy

$$\min_{\mathbf{x}} \|\Phi(\mathbf{x}) - \Phi(\mathbf{x}_0)\|^2 + \mathcal{R}(\mathbf{x})$$

For example TV-norm

Understanding deep image representations by inverting them

Mahendran Vedaldi, CVPR, 2015

Constrained optimisation

$$\min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}_{pn}} \|\Phi(\mathbf{x}) - \Phi(\mathbf{x}_0)\|^2$$

For example Deep Image Prior

Deep image prior

Ulyanov Vedaldi Lempitsky, CVPR, 2018

Posterior probability

$$p(\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{y}) \sim \delta(\Phi(\mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{y}) \cdot p(\mathbf{x})$$

For example Plug & Play gen. nets

**Plug & play generative networks:
Conditional iterative generation of
images in latent space**

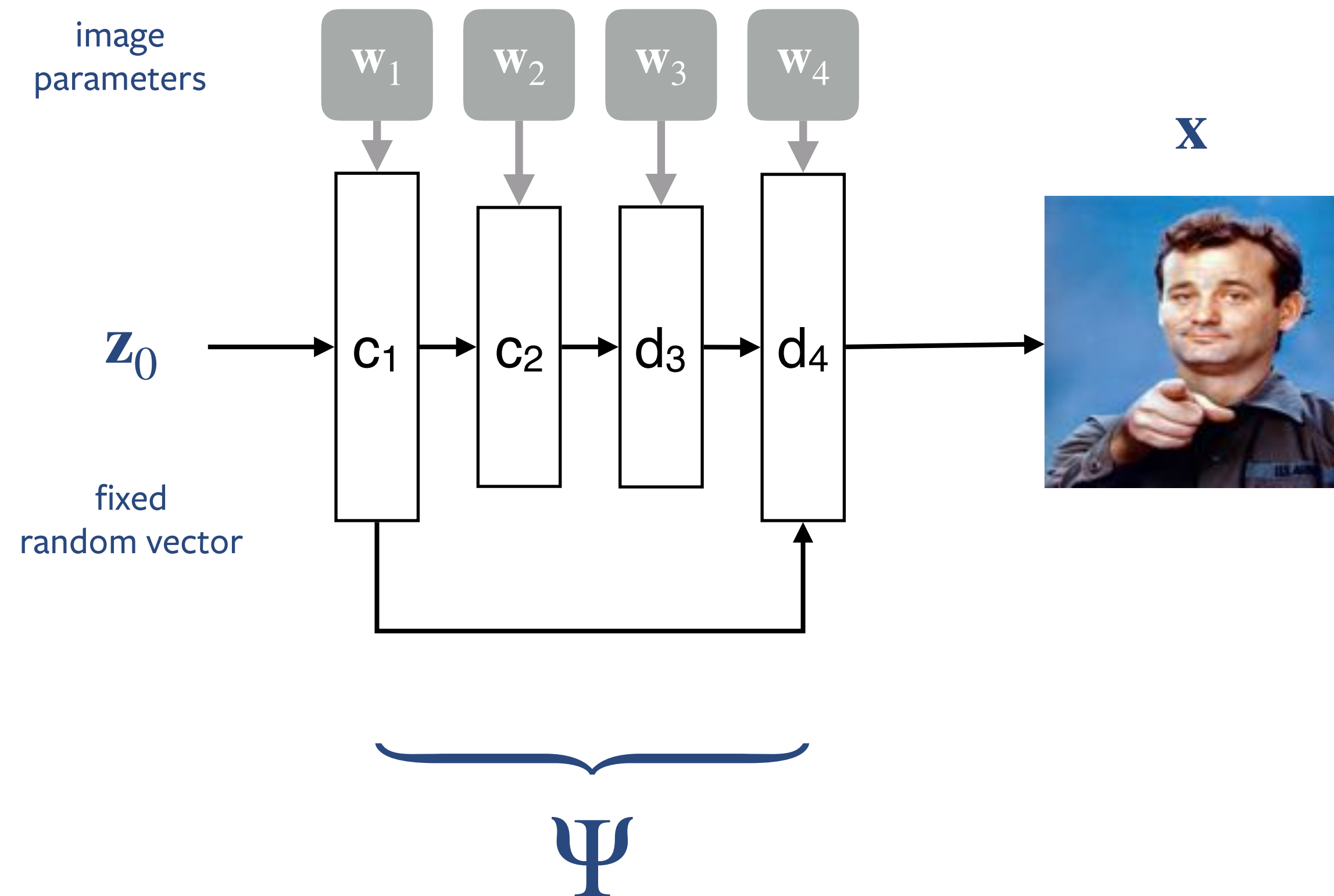
Nguyen, Yosinski, Bengio, Dosovitskiy, Clune, CVPR, 2017

Generator nets as image parameterisations

Consider a **generator network** Ψ with a fixed input \mathbf{z}_0

The network parameters \mathbf{w} can be thought as **image parameters**

$$\mathbf{w} \mapsto \mathbf{x} = \Psi(\mathbf{z}_0; \mathbf{w})$$



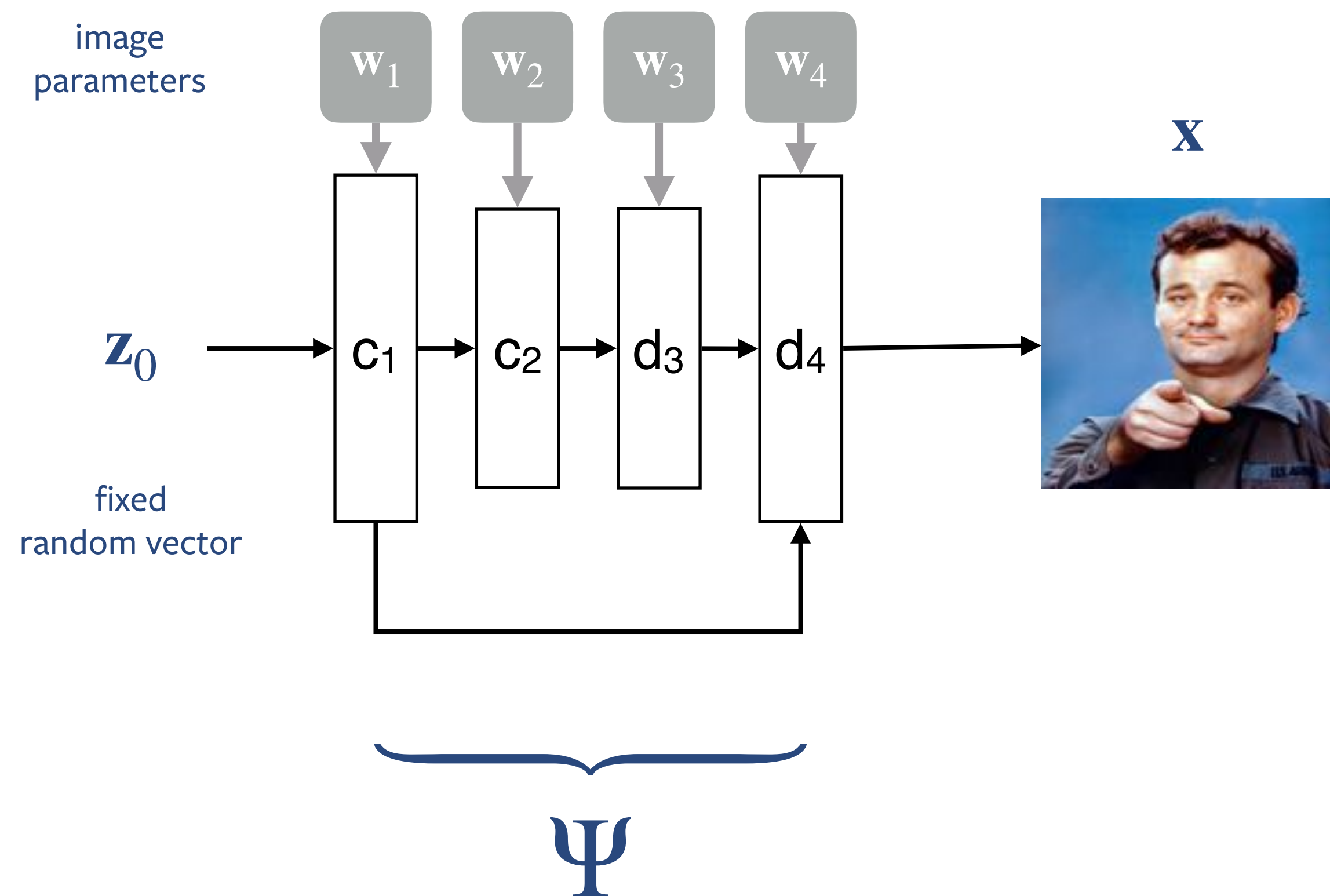
Fit a network to a single example

Start **randomly-initialised** network

Given an image \mathbf{x} , its parameter \mathbf{w} is recovered by solving the optimisation problem

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}} \|\mathbf{x} - \Psi(\mathbf{z}_0; \mathbf{w})\|^2$$

This is similar to learning the network from a single image

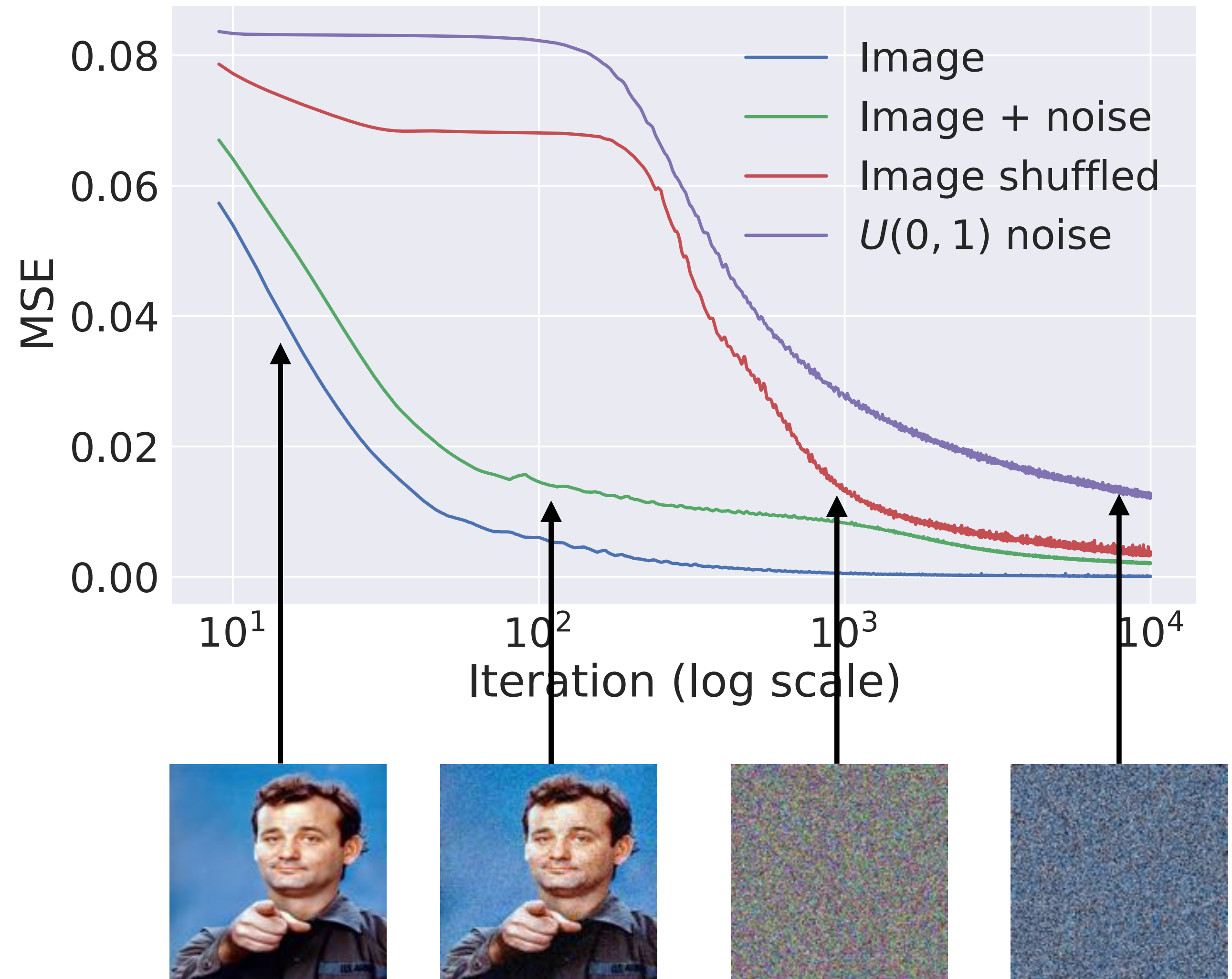


Deep image prior

For most generator networks fitting naturally-looking images is easier/faster than fitting others

Deep image prior

Ulyanov Vedaldi Lempitsky, CVPR, 2018



Deep image prior: inpainting

For **inpainting** we only reconstruct the visible pixels, implicitly infer the others

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}} \|\mathbf{m} \odot (\mathbf{x} - \Phi(\mathbf{w}))\|^2$$



Conv. coding
Papayan et al. 2017



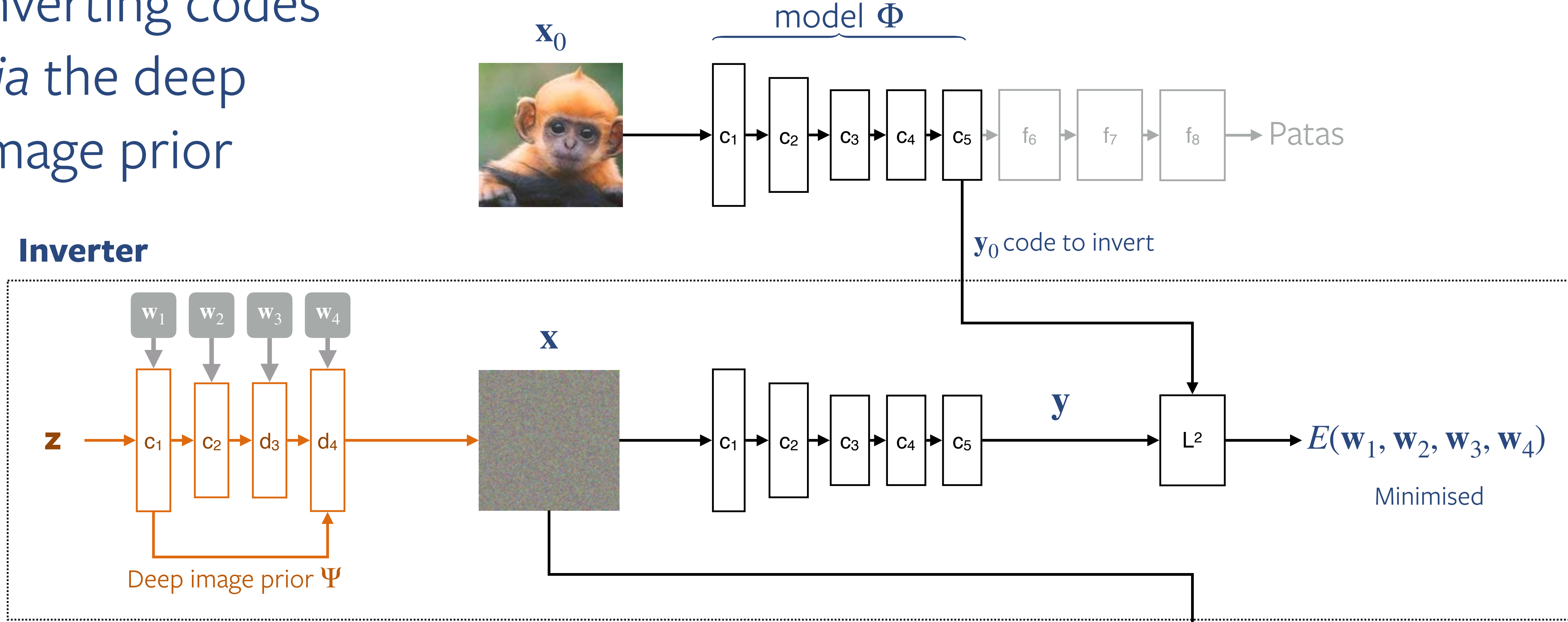
Deep Image Prior







Inverting codes via the deep image prior



The inverter is only given the **code**;
it is **not** learned from data in any way

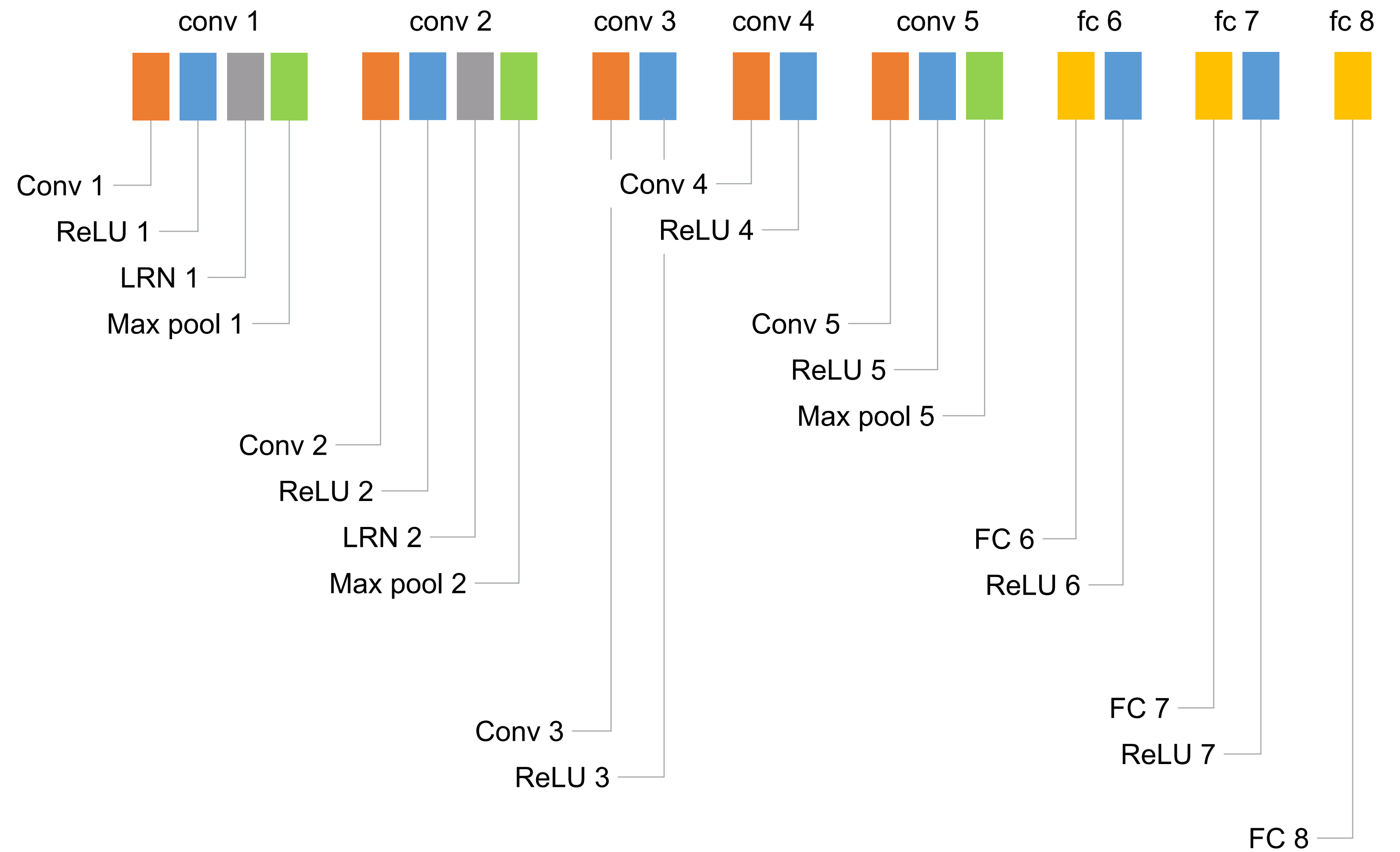
$$\min_w \|\Phi(\Psi(\mathbf{w})) - \Phi(\mathbf{x}_0)\|^2$$



Inversion result

Inverting AlexNet

[Krizhevsky et al. 2012]



Inverting AlexNet



Inverting AlexNet



Inverting AlexNet



Inverting AlexNet



Inverting AlexNet



Inverting AlexNet



Inverting AlexNet



Inverting AlexNet



Inverting AlexNet



Inverting AlexNet



Inverting AlexNet



Inverting AlexNet



Inverting AlexNet



Inverting AlexNet



Inverting AlexNet



Inverting AlexNet



Inverting AlexNet



Inverting AlexNet



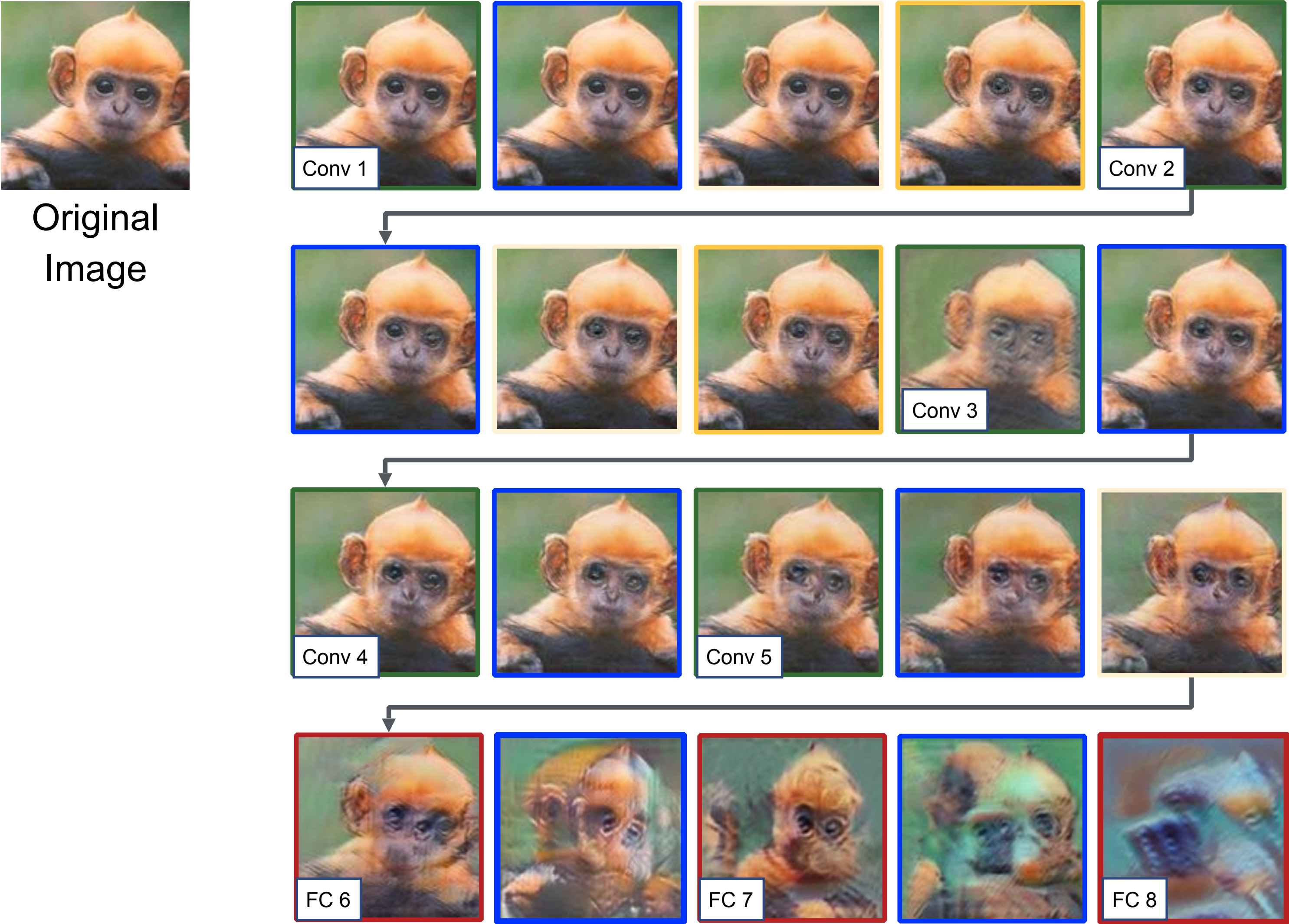
Inverting AlexNet



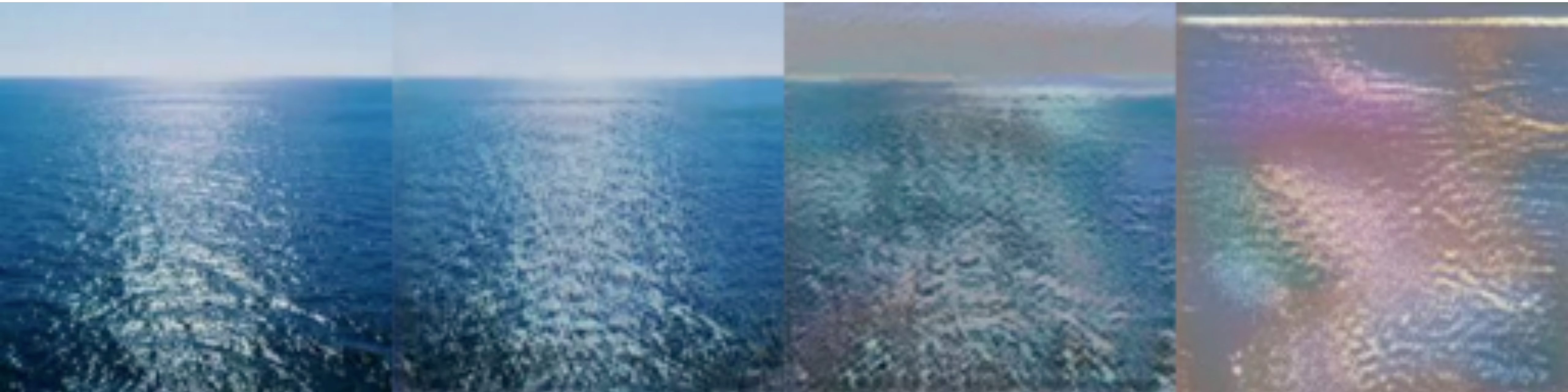
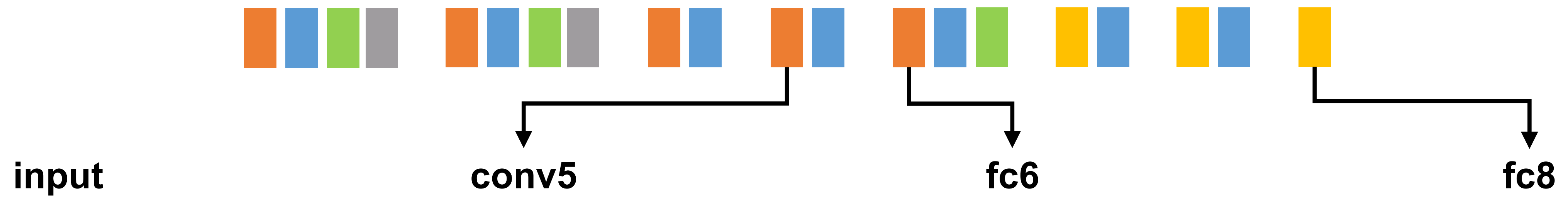
Inverting AlexNet



Inverting AlexNet



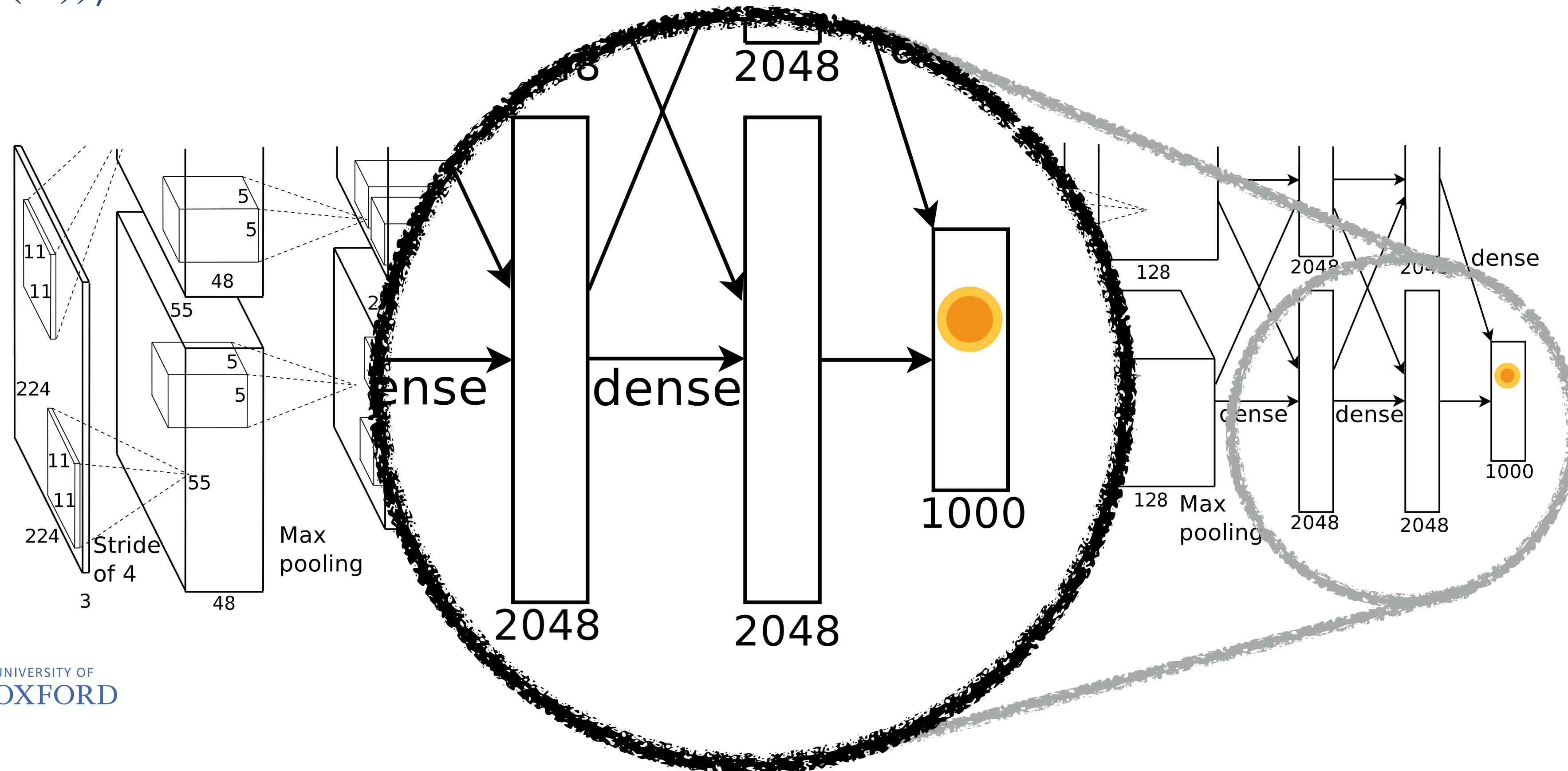
Is the code semantic or visual?



fc8 is a 1000-dimensional **class score vector**...
or is it?

Activation maximization

$$\min_{\mathbf{w}} - \langle \mathbf{e}_k, \Phi(\Psi(\mathbf{w})) \rangle$$



Deep Quiz

<https://goo.gl/jURsCP>



Black Swan (Cygnus atris)
New Zealand on November
Copyright David Hastings













References

Visualizing higher-layer features of a deep network.

Erhan, Bengio, Courville, U Montreal, 2009

Visualizing and understanding convolutional networks

Zeiler Fergus. Proc. ECCV, 2014.

Deep Inside Convolutional Networks: Visualising Image Classification Models and Saliency Maps

Simonyan Zisserman Vedaldi, ICLR, 2104

Understanding deep image representations by inverting them

Mahendran Vedaldi, CVPR, 2015

Google “inceptionsm”

Mordvintsev et al. 2015

Understanding neural networks through deep visualisation

Yosinski et al. ICMLW, 2015

Plug & play generative networks: Conditional iterative generation of images in latent space

Nguyen, Yosinski, Bengio, Dosovitskiy, Clune, CVPR, 2017

Deep image prior

Ulyanov Vedaldi Lempistky, CVPR, 2018

Activation maximisation for class neurons

Activation maximization using **empirical prior, deconvnet**

Activation maximization and **saliency**

Inversion at different depths, **natural image prior**

Activation maximisation for **intermediate neurons**
Improved regularizers, artistic applications (deep dreams)

Activation maximization using **empirical prior, deconvnet**
More regularizers, toolbox

Strong learned regularizer, sample **diversity**

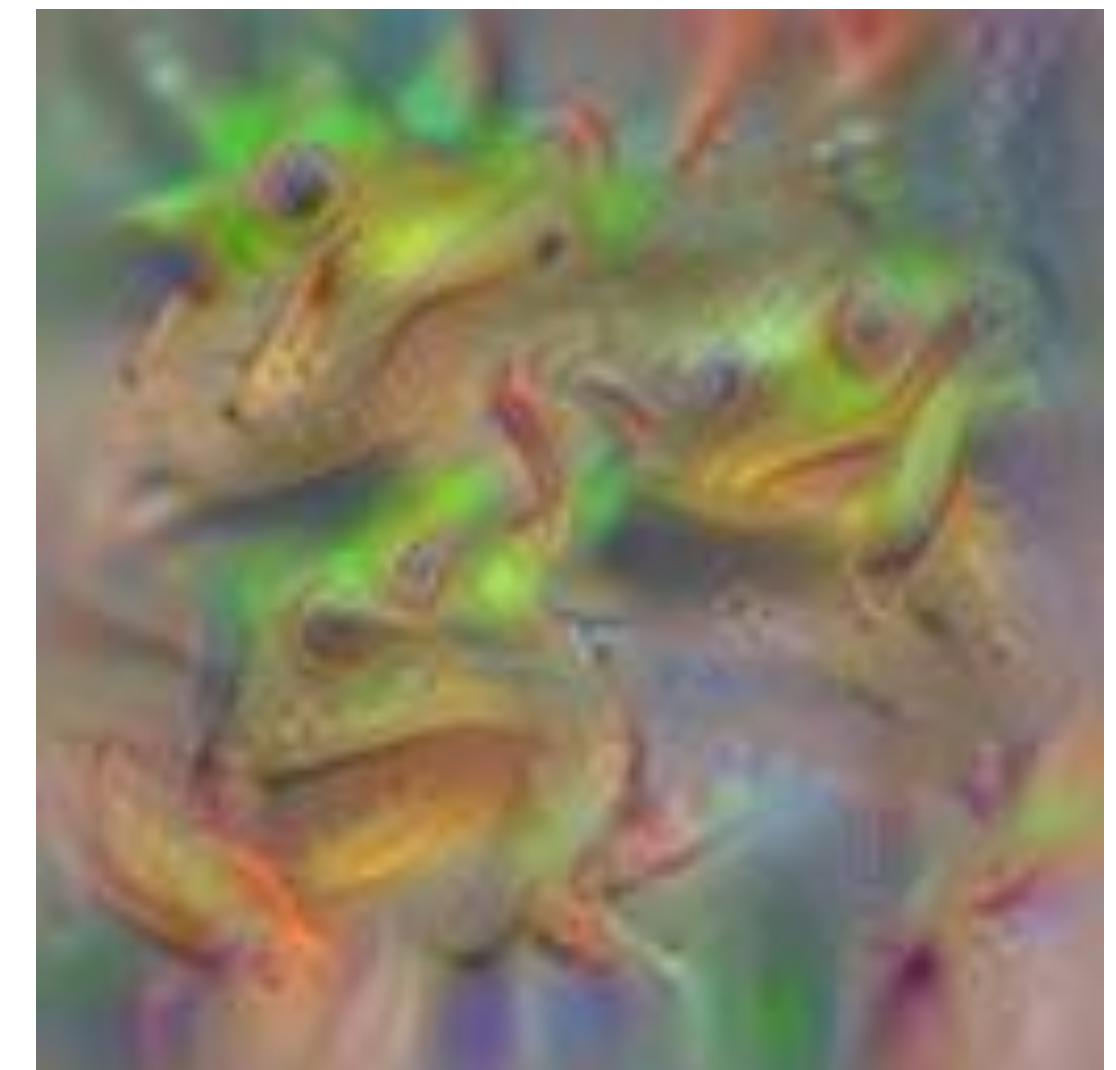
Advanced “data agnostic” regularization

Effect of the prior

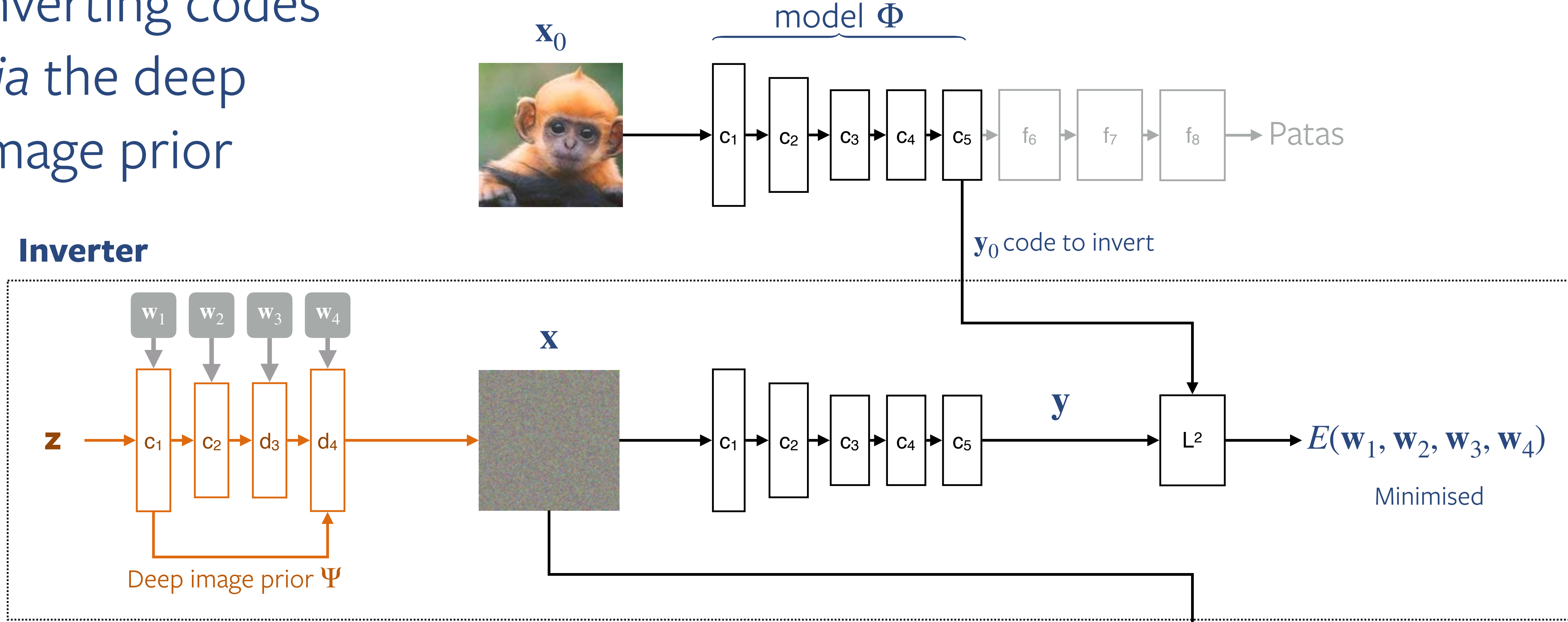
Deep Image Prior



TV-Norm Prior



Inverting codes via the deep image prior



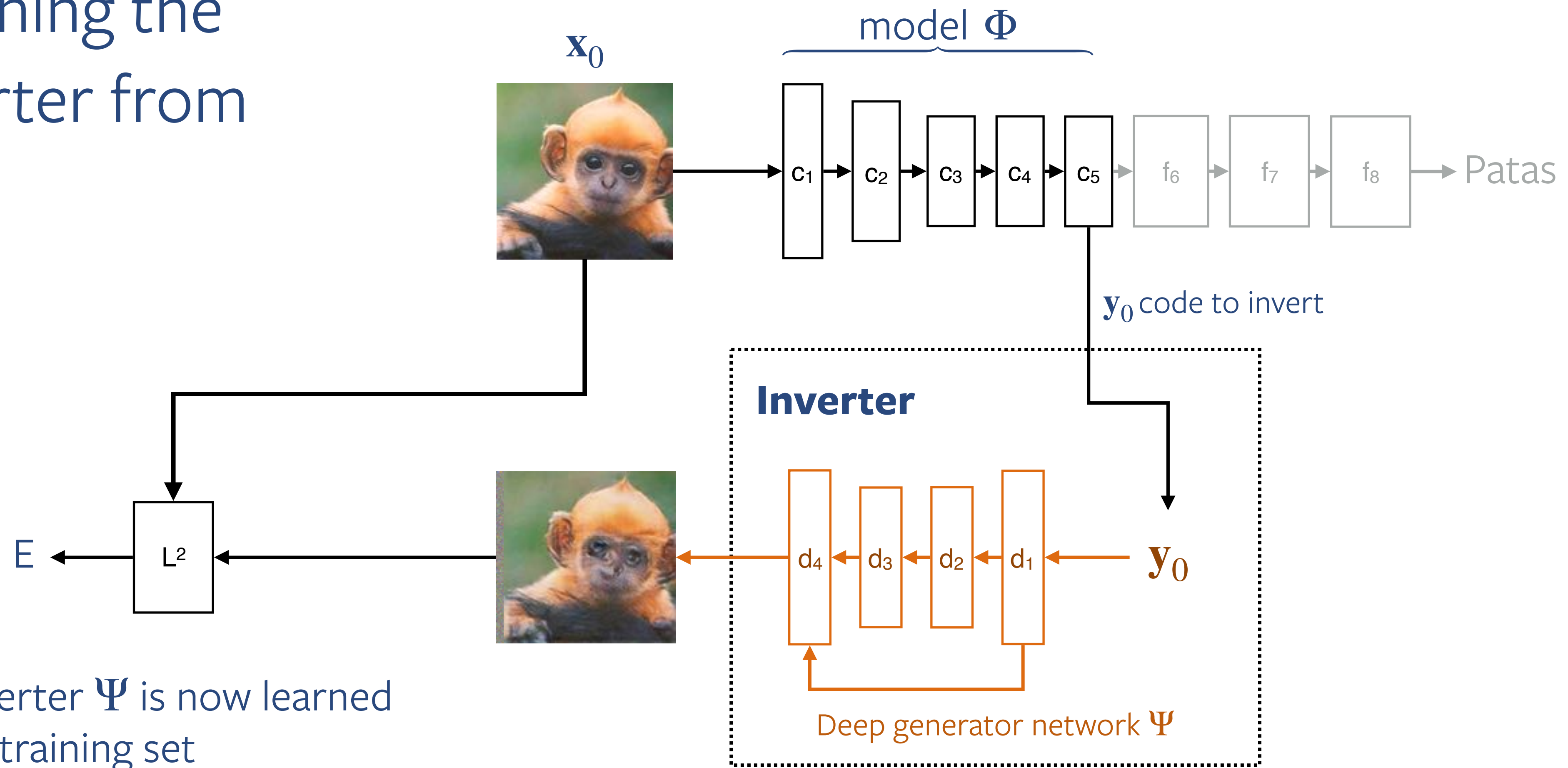
The inverter is only given the **code**; it is **not** learned from data in any way

$$\min_w \|\Phi(\Psi(\mathbf{w})) - \Phi(\mathbf{x}_0)\|^2$$



Inversion result

Learning the inverter from data



The inverter Ψ is now learned using a training set

$$\min_{\Psi} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \|\Psi(\Phi(\mathbf{x}_i)) - \mathbf{x}_i\|^2 +$$



Learning the inverter

Popular methods combine:

- perceptual loss $\mathbf{x}_0 \approx \mathbf{x}$
- feature rec. loss $\Phi(\mathbf{x}_0) \approx \Phi(\mathbf{x})$
- adversarial loss (GAN) $p(\mathbf{x}_0) \approx p(\mathbf{x})$

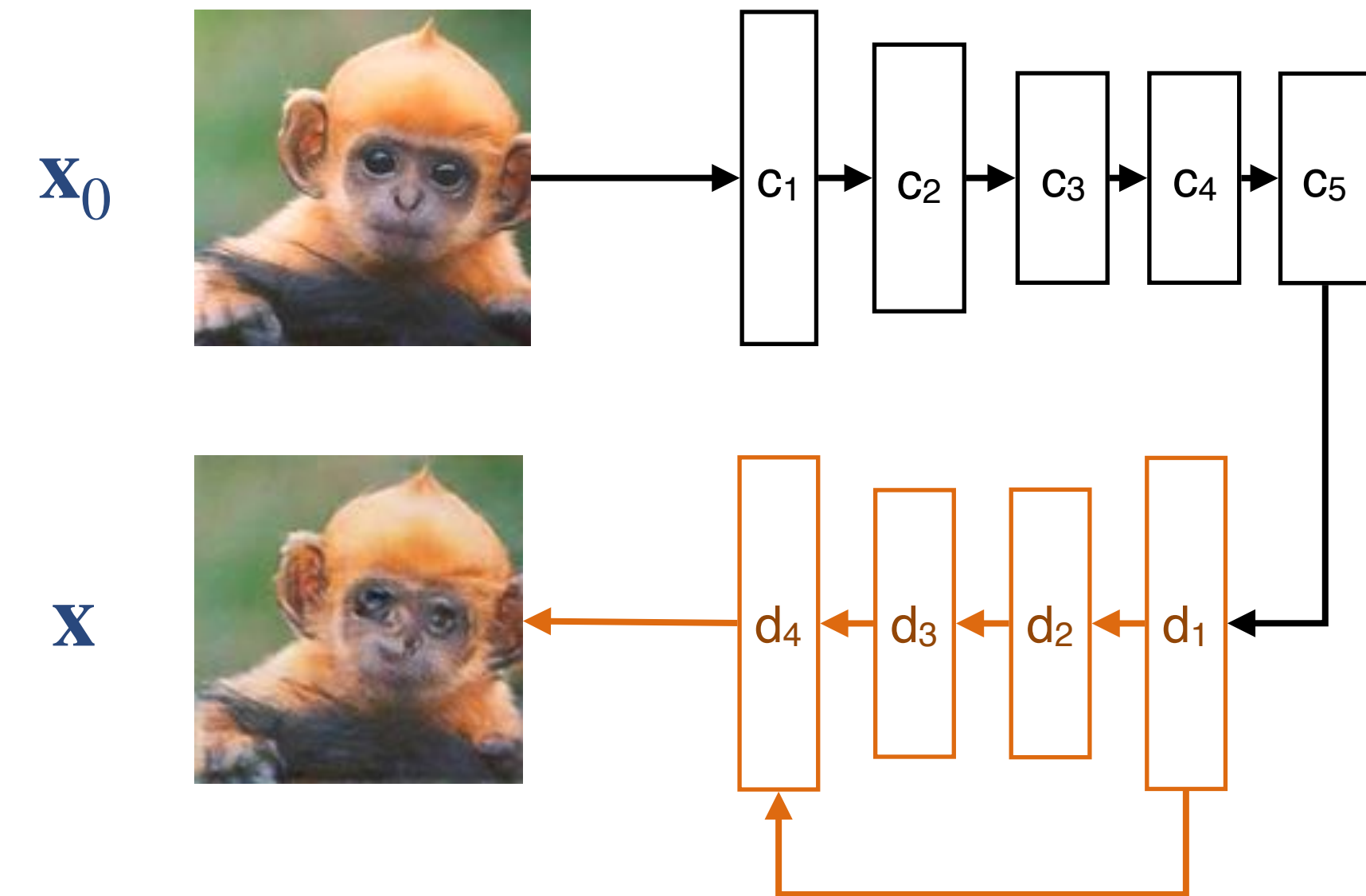


Inverting convolutional networks with convolutional networks

Dosovitskiy Brox, CVPR, 2016

Synthesizing the preferred inputs for neurons in neural networks via deep generator networks

Nguyen, Dosovitskiy, Yosinski, Brox, Clune, NIPS, 2016



Generating images with perceptual similarity metrics based on deep networks

Dosovitskiy Brox, NIPS, 2016

Plug & play generative networks: Conditional iterative generation of images in latent space

Nguyen, Yosinski, Bengio, Dosovitskiy, Clune, CVPR, 2017

Diagnostic vs aesthetic value

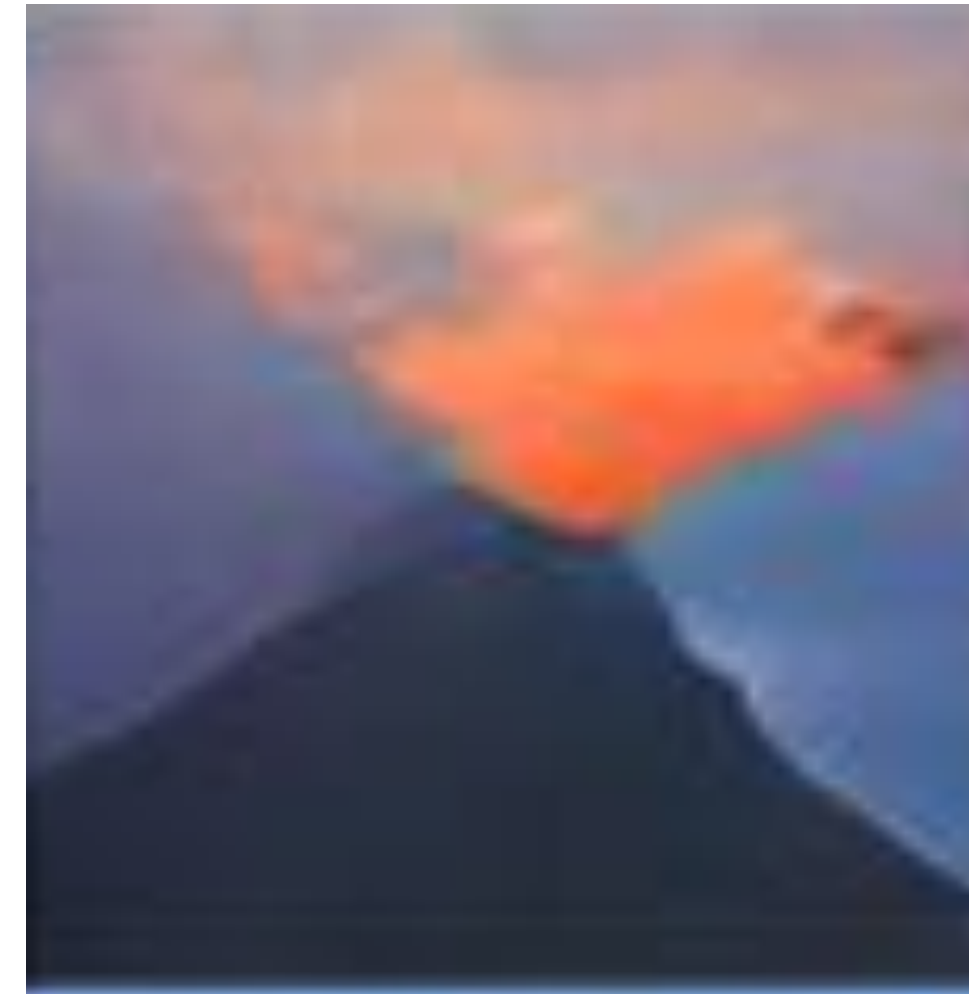
Our goal: diagnose a given network Φ

But inversions **also** reflect the chosen “natural image” **prior** $p(\mathbf{x})$

Deep Image Prior



Plug & Play Gen. Net.



Empirical prior



$p(\mathbf{x}) =$

only prior is the **structure** of the gener.

prior comes from training a **GAN** on **ImageNet**

ImageNet empirical distribution



Illustrates the **model** Φ

Illustrates the **prior** $p(\mathbf{x})$

Reviews and interfaces

The building blocks of interpretability

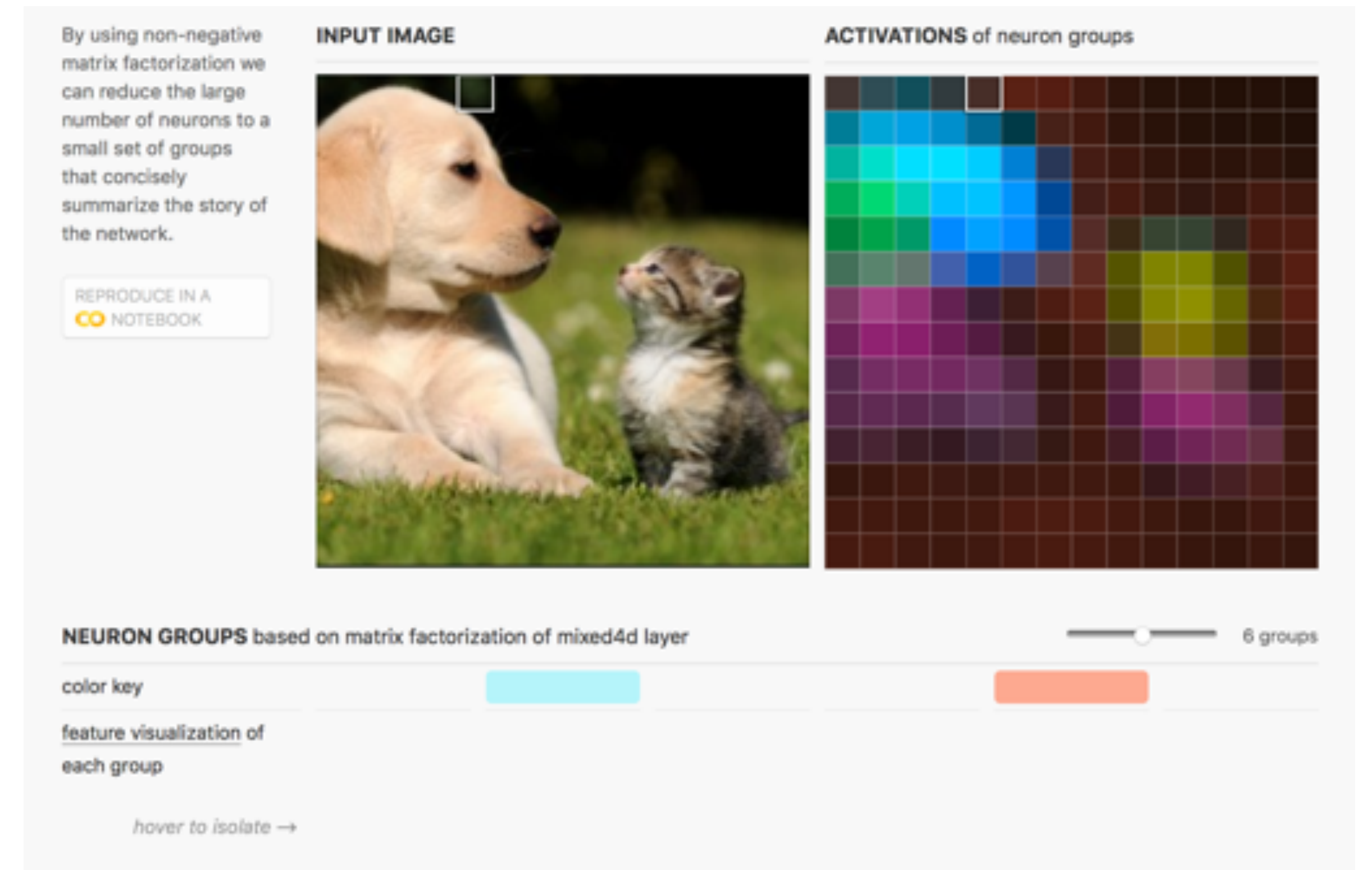
Olah, Satyanarayan, Johnson, Carter,
Schubert, Ye, Mordvintsev

Distill, 2018. <https://distill.pub/2018/building-blocks>

Understanding neural networks through deep visualisation

Yosinski et al. ICMLW, 2015

Definitely check out **Distill!**

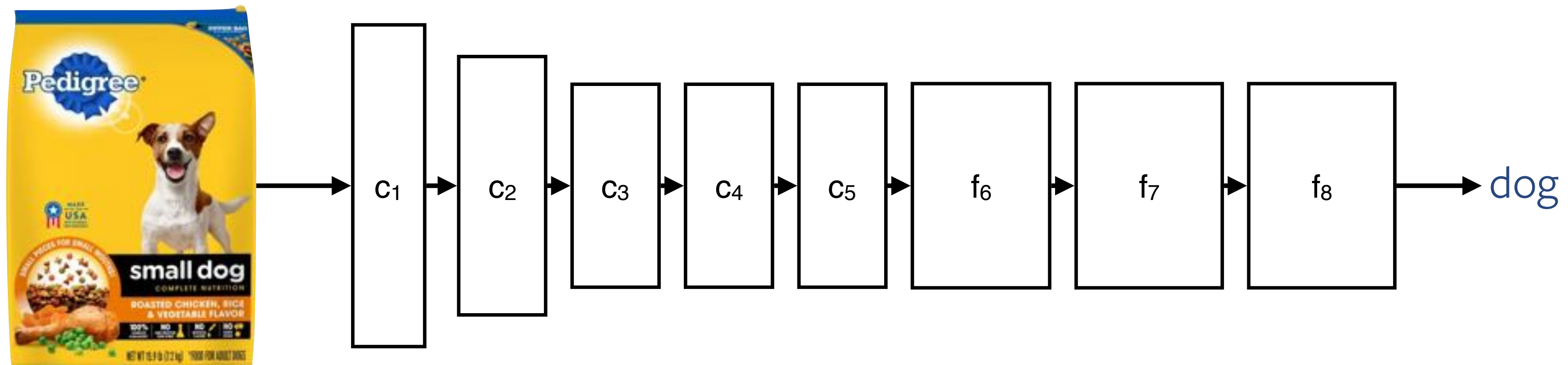


Generating iconic
examples

Attribution

Attribution

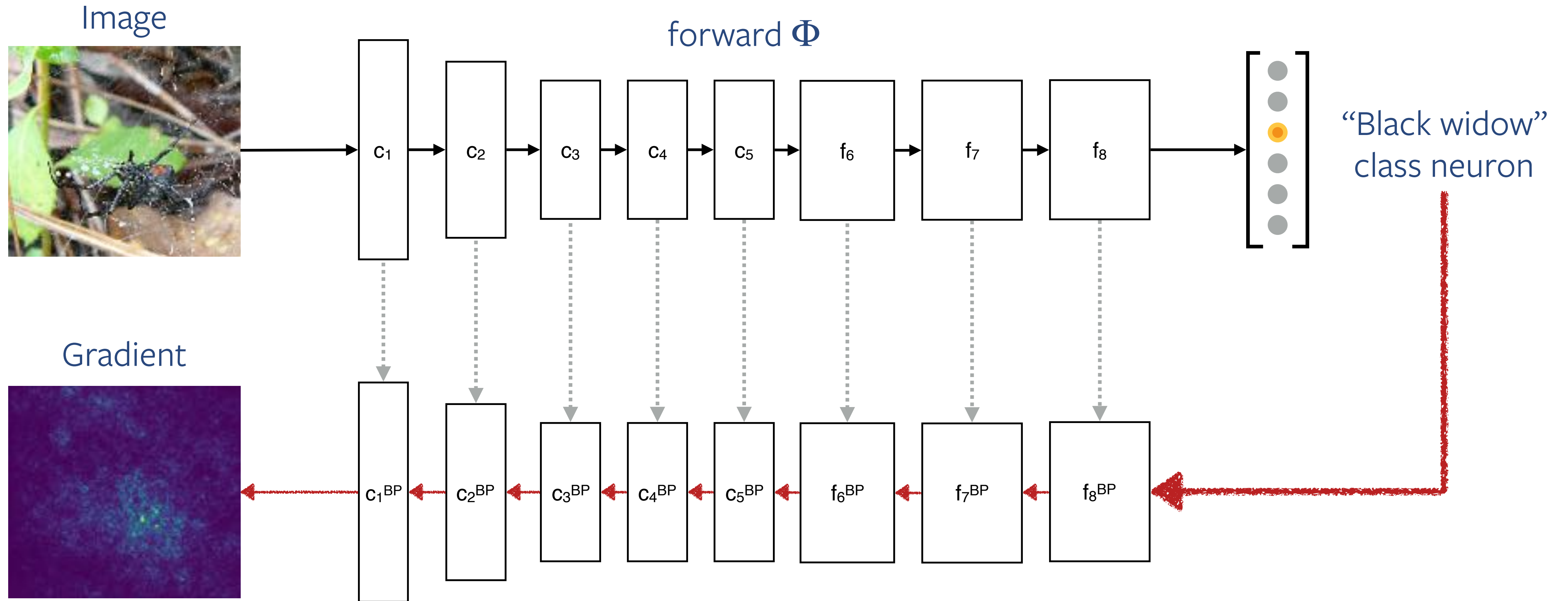
Where is the model **looking**?



?



Backprop methods: grad



$$\text{backward } J = \frac{d\Phi(\mathbf{x})}{d\mathbf{x}}$$

The “salient” pixels usually light up

Early backprop methods

Deconvolution

Visualizing and understanding convolutional networks

Zeiler Fergus, ECCV, 2014

Gradient (backpropagation)

Deep inside convolutional networks: Visualising image classification models and saliency maps

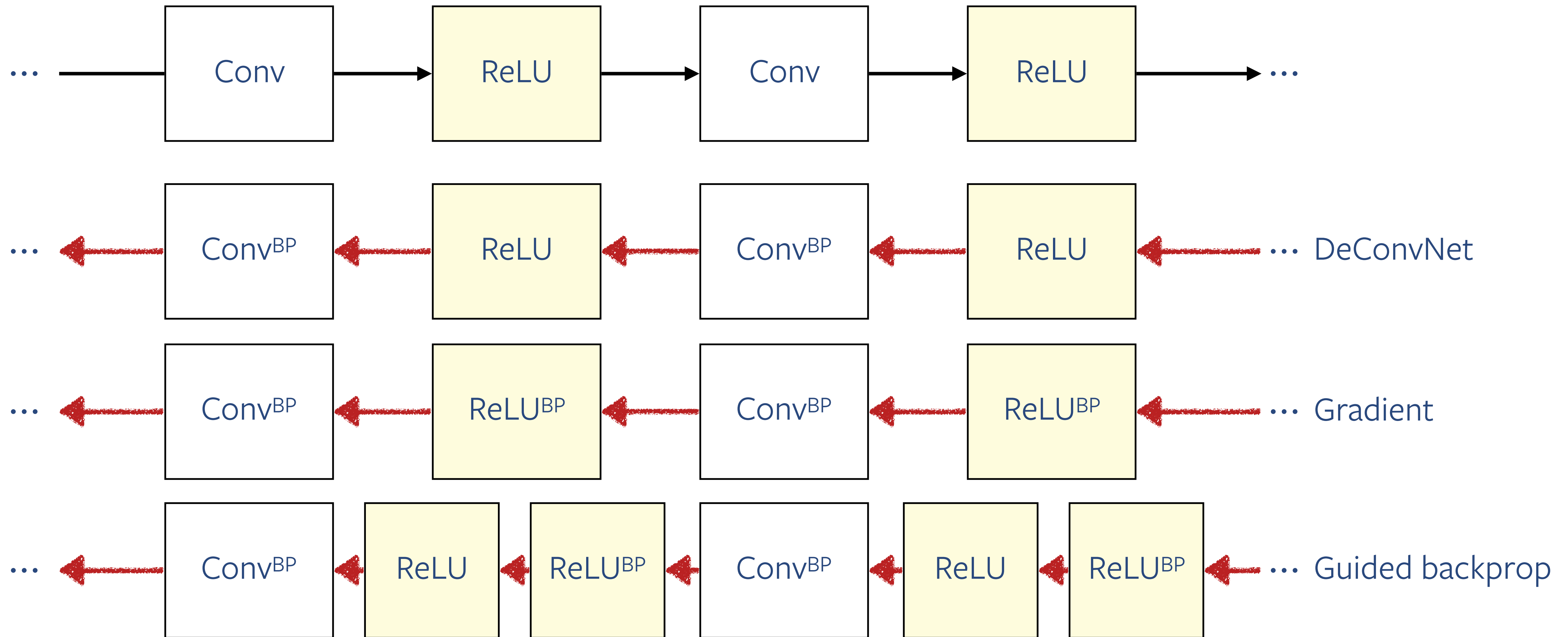
Simonyan, Vedaldi, Zisserman, ICLR, 2014

Guided backpropagation

Striving for simplicity: The all convolutional net

Springenberg, Dosovitskiy, Brox, Riedmiller, ICLR, 2015

Backprop: deconv, grad, guided grad

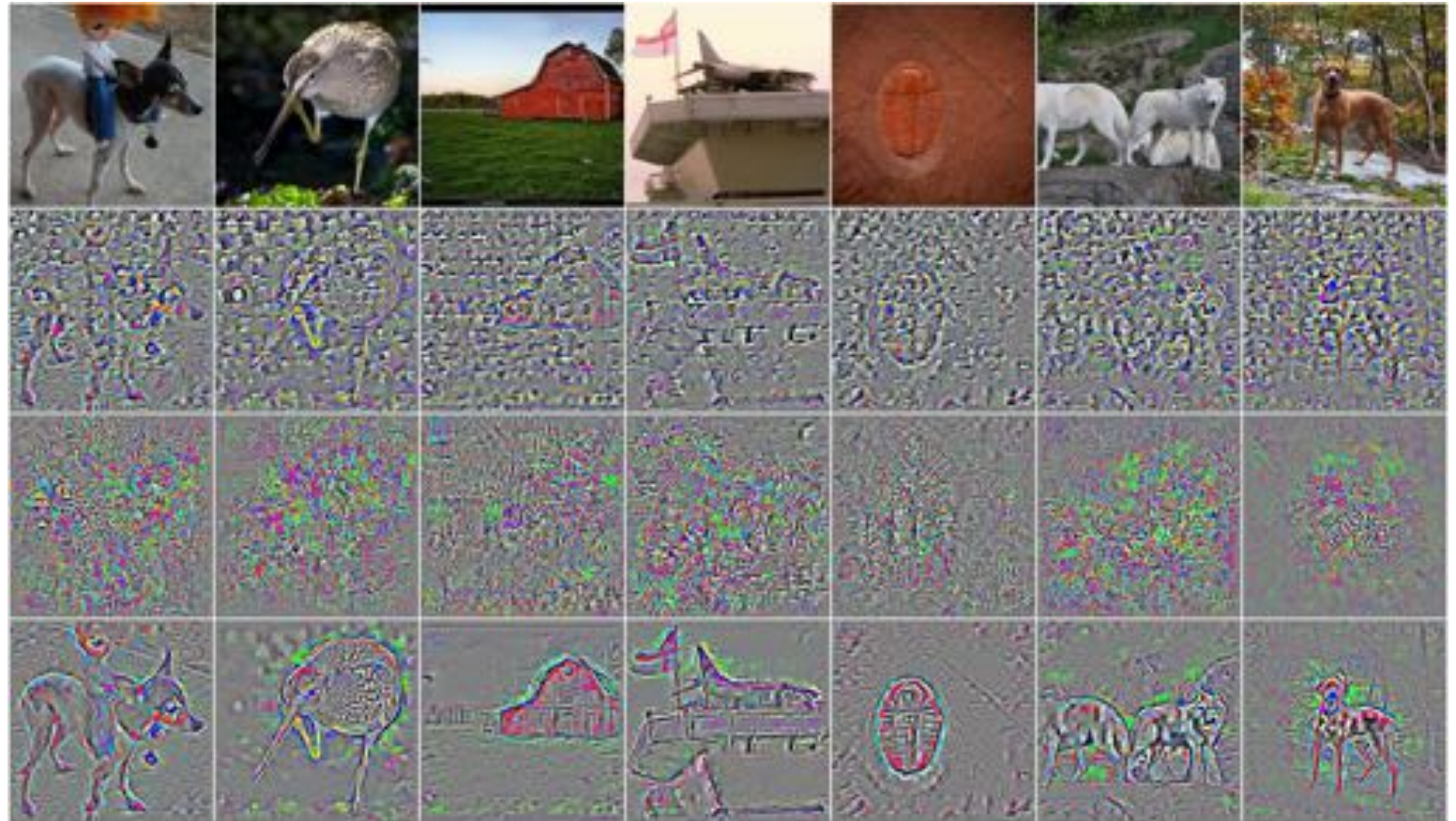


Comparisons

DeConvNet

Gradient

Guided backprop



Comparisons

Deconvolution

- Sharp
- Poor spatial selectivity

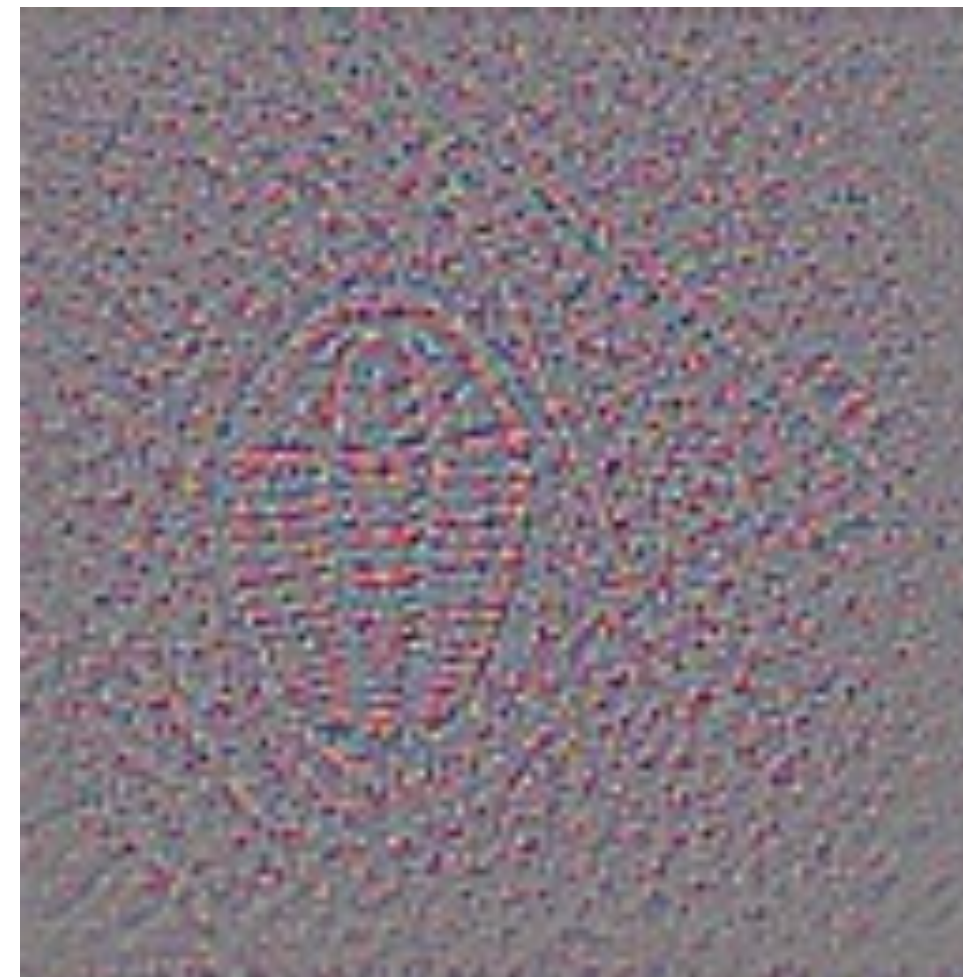
Gradient

- Blurry
- OK spatial selectivity

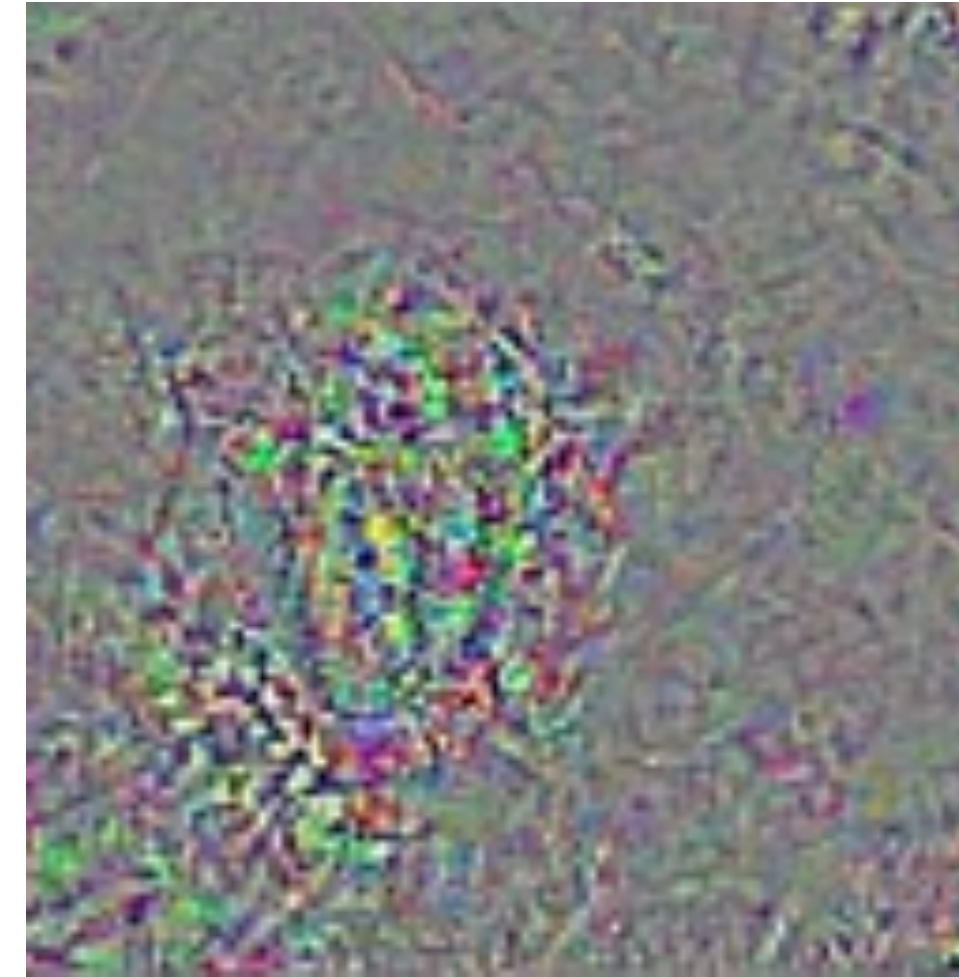
Guided Backprop

- Sharp
- OK spatial sensitivity

Deconvolution



Gradient



Guided Backprop



Warning: they all still have poor channel selectivity

Smoother grads

Gradient $\frac{d\Phi(x)}{d\mathbf{x}}$

Gradient \times input $\mathbf{x} \odot \frac{d\Phi(x)}{d\mathbf{x}}$

Integrated Gradients $(\mathbf{x} - \bar{\mathbf{x}}) \otimes \int_0^1 \frac{d\Phi(\bar{\mathbf{x}} - \alpha(\mathbf{x} - \bar{\mathbf{x}}))}{d\mathbf{x}} d\alpha$

SmoothGrads $E \left[\frac{d\Phi(\mathbf{x} + \epsilon)}{d\mathbf{x}} \right], \quad \epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}$

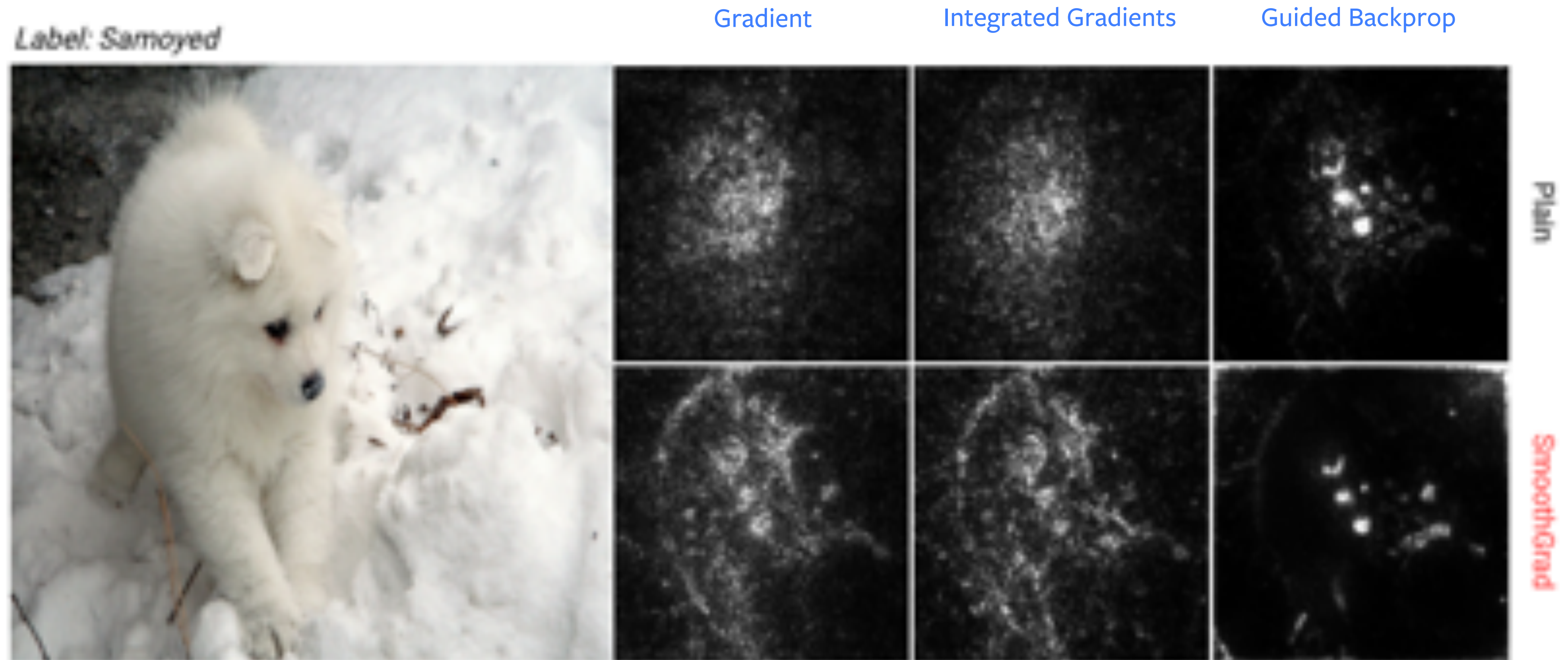
Axiomatic attribution for deep networks.

Sundararajan, Taly, Yan. Proc. ICML, 2017.

Smoothgrad: removing noise by adding noise.

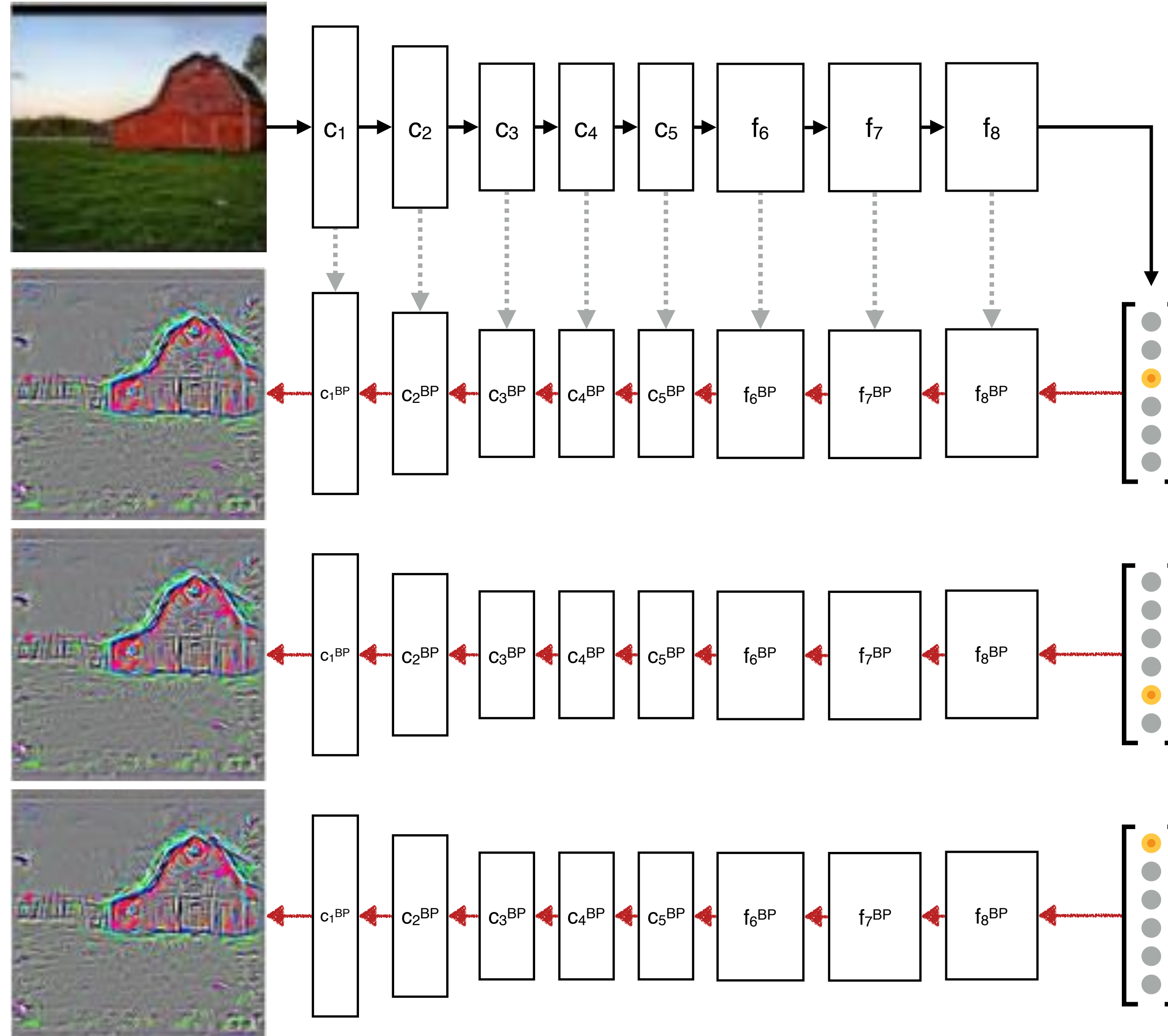
Smilkov, Thorat, Viegas, Wattenbeg. CoRR, 2017

Comparisons



Lack of channel specificity

Visualising any output results in about the same result



Attribution for:

maximally
activated neuron

random neuron

minimally
activated neuron

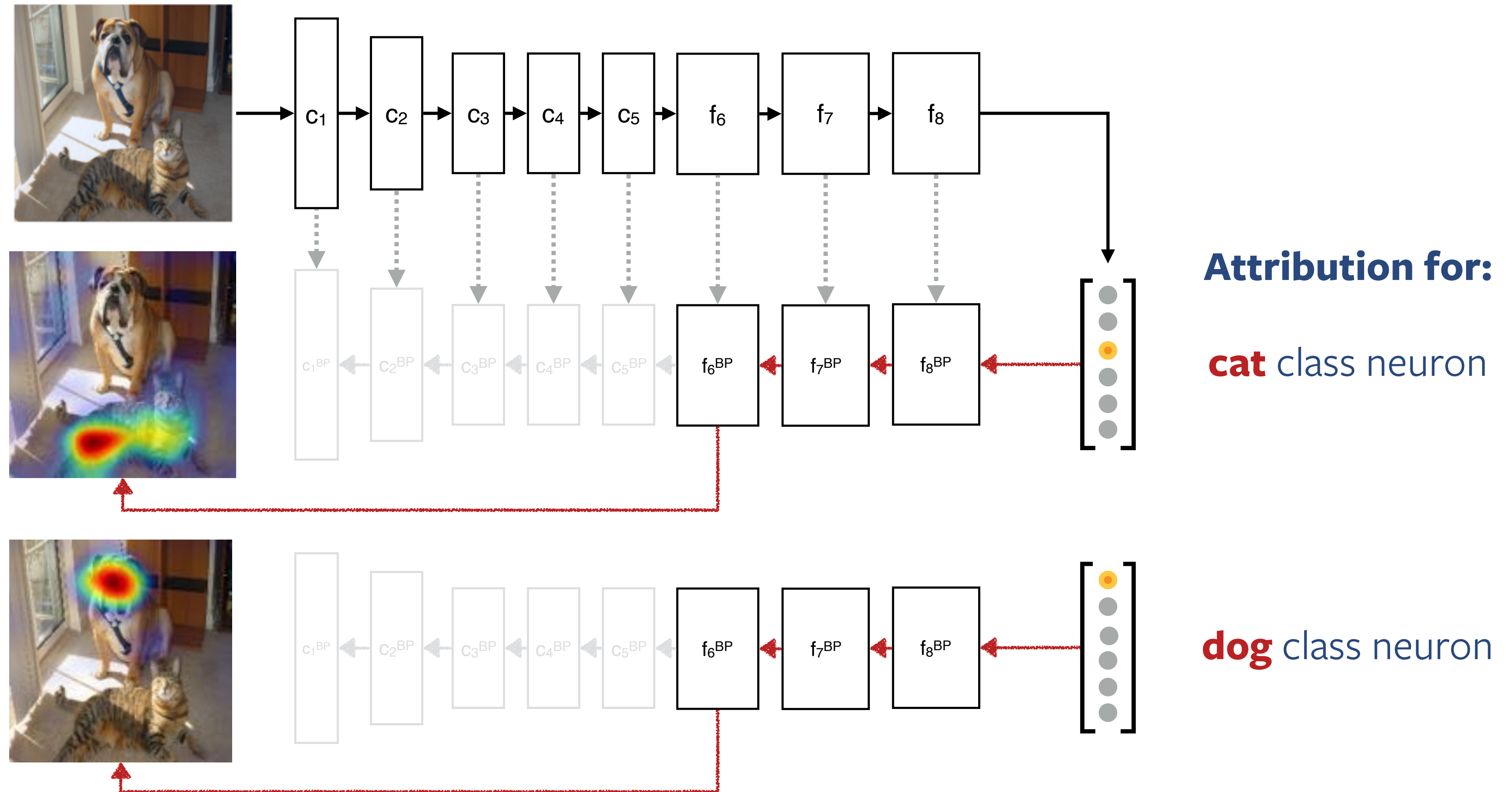
Backprop: CAM and Grad-CAM

Learning deep features for discriminative localization

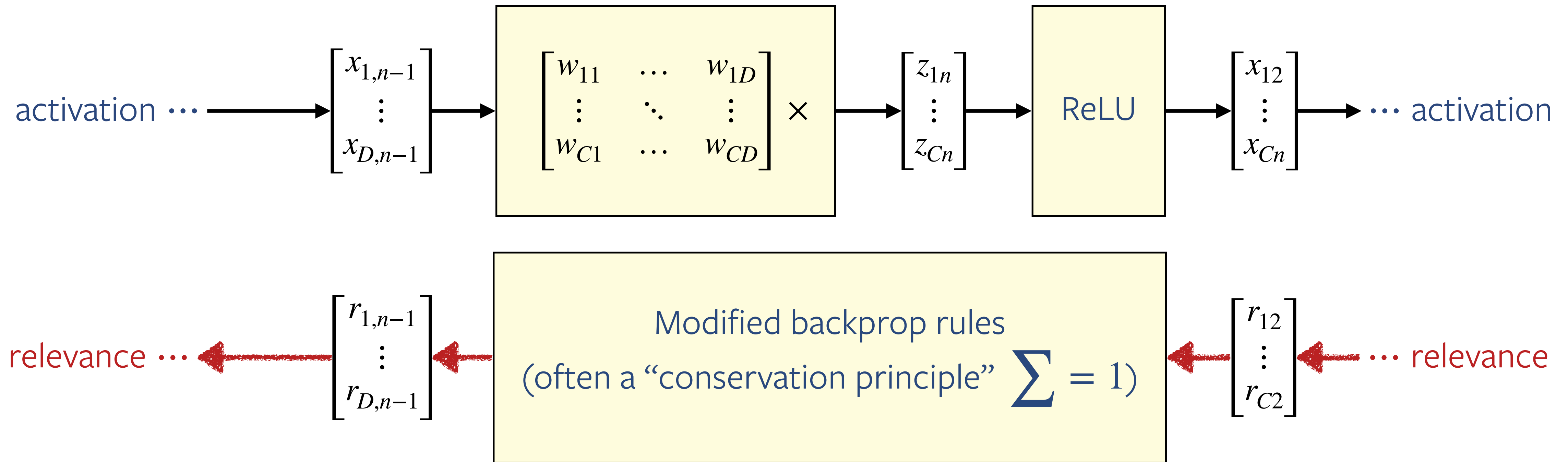
Zhou, Khosla, Lapedriza,
Oliva, Torralba, CVPR, 2016

Grad-CAM: Visual explanations from deep networks via gradient- based localization

Selvaraju, Cogswell, Das,
Vedantam, Parikh, Batra,
ICCV, 2017



Relevance and excitation backprop



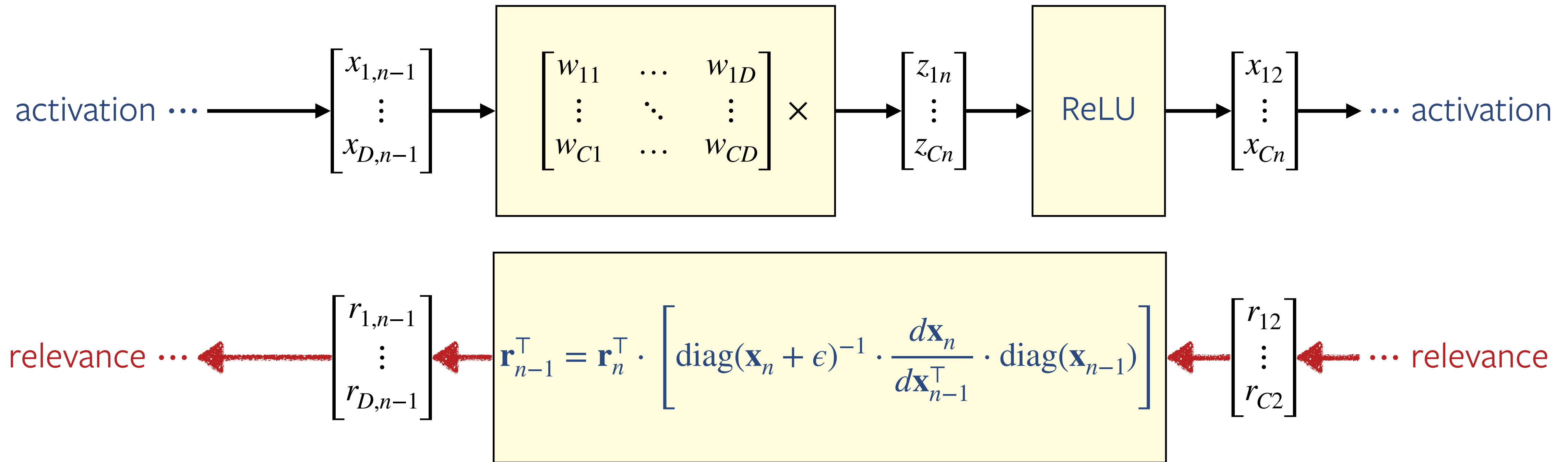
On pixel-wise explanations for non-linear classifier decisions by layer-wise relevance propagation

Bach, Binder, Montavon, Klauschen, Müller. PLOS one, 2015

Top-down neural attention by excitation backprop

Zhang, Lin, Brandt, Shen, Sclaroff, ECCV, 2016

Relevance and excitation backprop

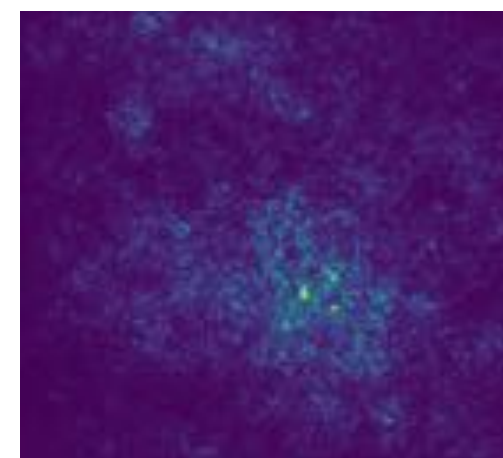
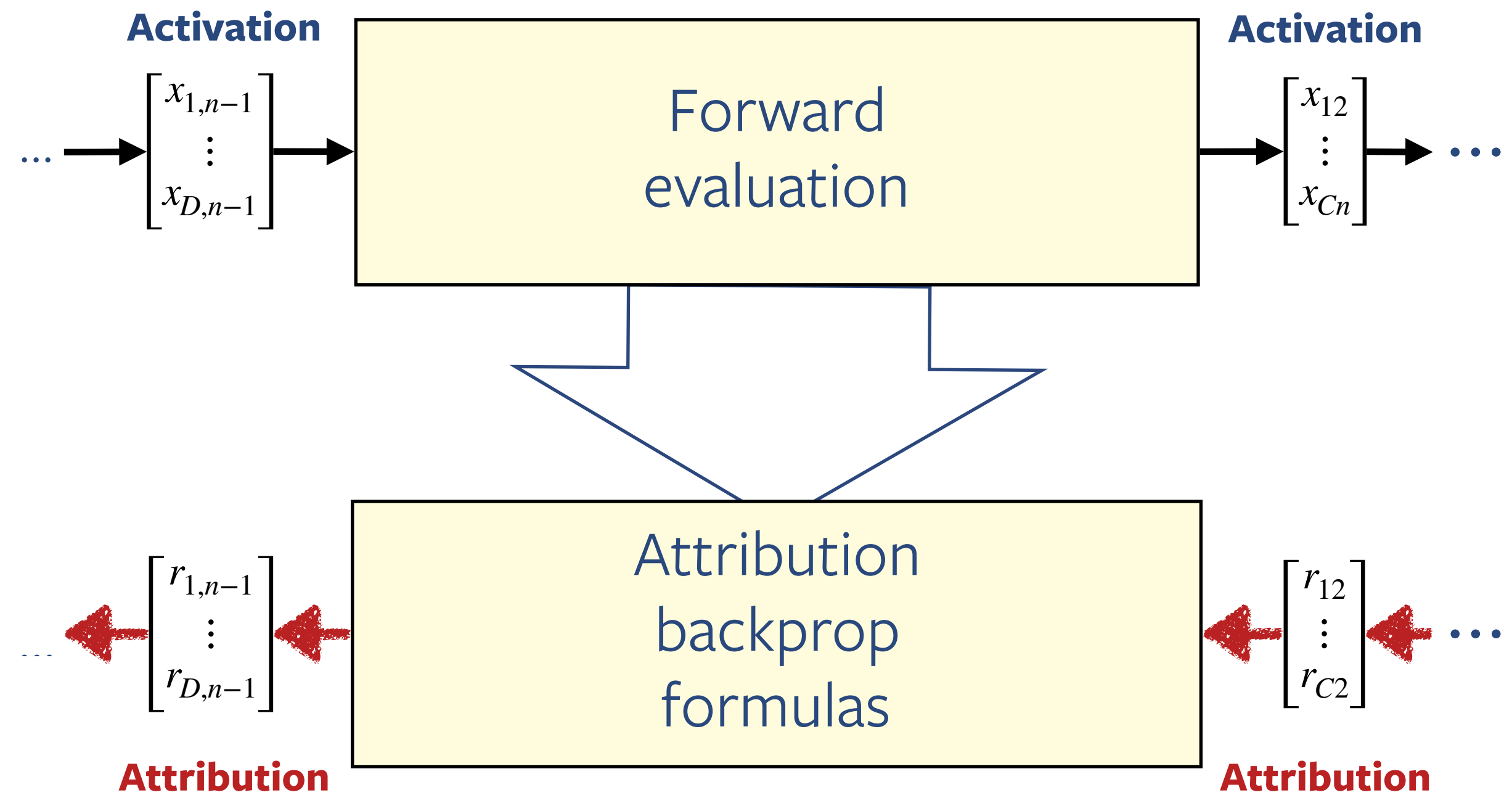
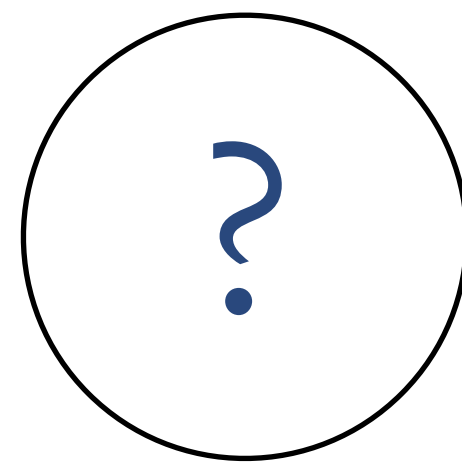


Actual rules are more sophisticated, please see references!

The meaning of attribution maps

For most methods, attribution is defined algorithmically

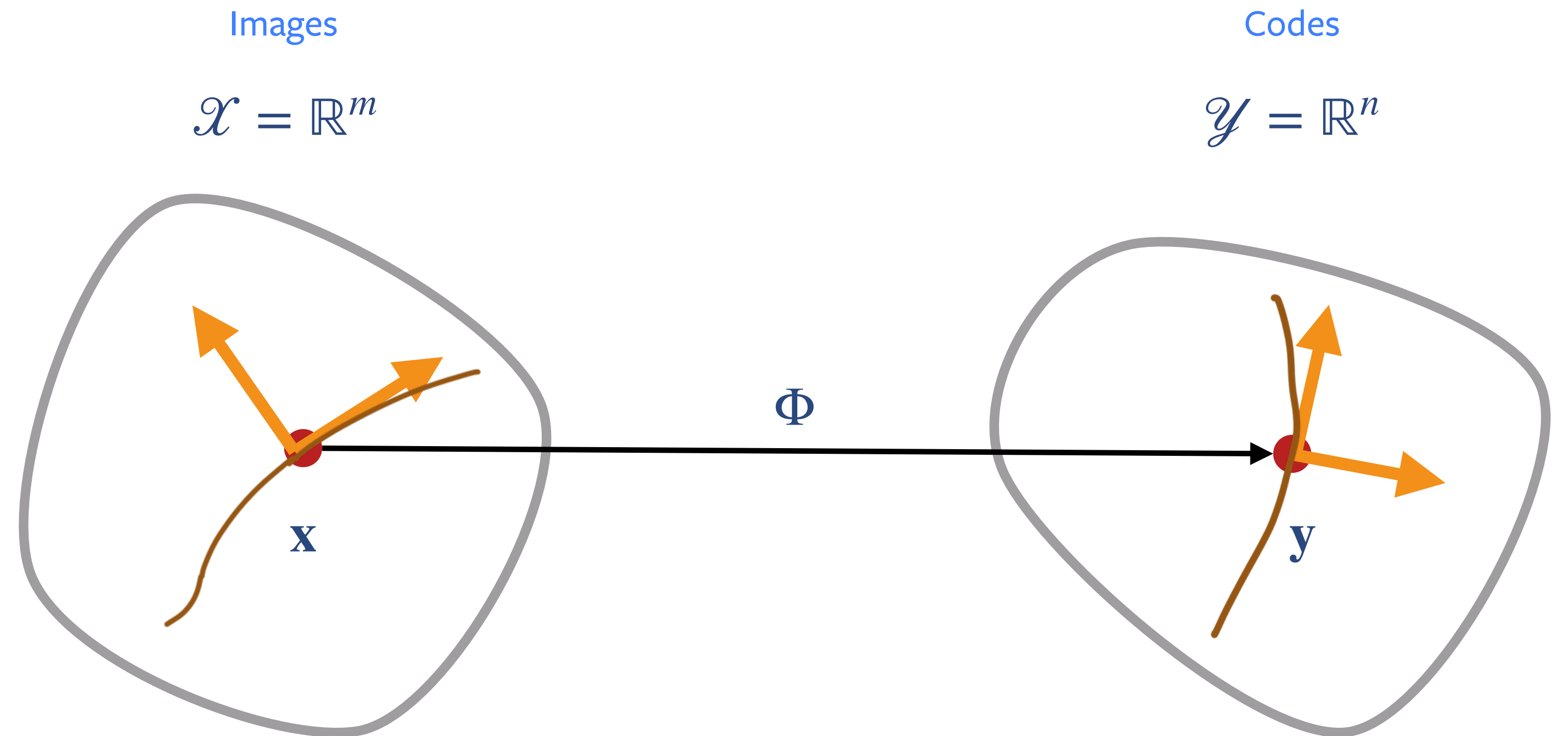
Hence, the **meaning** of the output is **not so clear**



Grad method = sensitivity analysis

The **gradient** can be directly interpreted as a **local linear approximation** of the model

$$\Phi(\mathbf{x}) \approx \left\langle \frac{d\Phi}{d\mathbf{x}}, \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0 \right\rangle + \Phi(\mathbf{x}_0)$$



Perturbation analysis

Study how $\Phi(\mathbf{x})$ changes up to perturbations $\pi(\mathbf{x})$ of the input \mathbf{x}

Perturbations should be meaningful (interpretable). E.g:

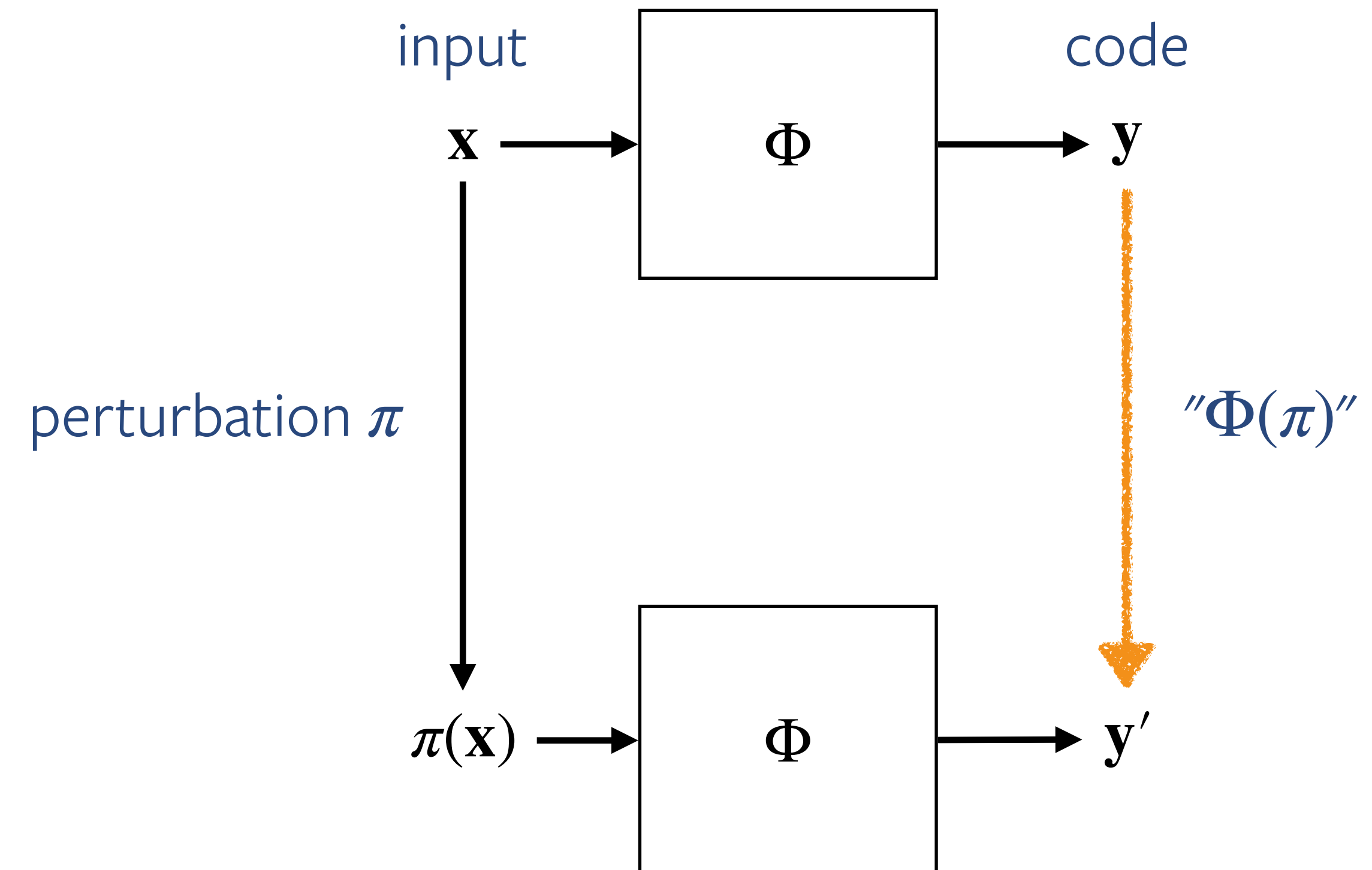
- Injecting noise
- Rotating or translating the image
- Erasing parts of the image

The representation may

- Be invariant (stay the same)
- Be equivariant (respond predictably)

The analysis may be

- Local around \mathbf{x} and π
- For a distribution $p(\mathbf{x})$ and a fixed $p(\pi)$
- For a distribution $p(\pi)$ and a fixed \mathbf{x}



Perturbation analysis

Change the input and observe the effect on the output

Input



Occlusion



RISE

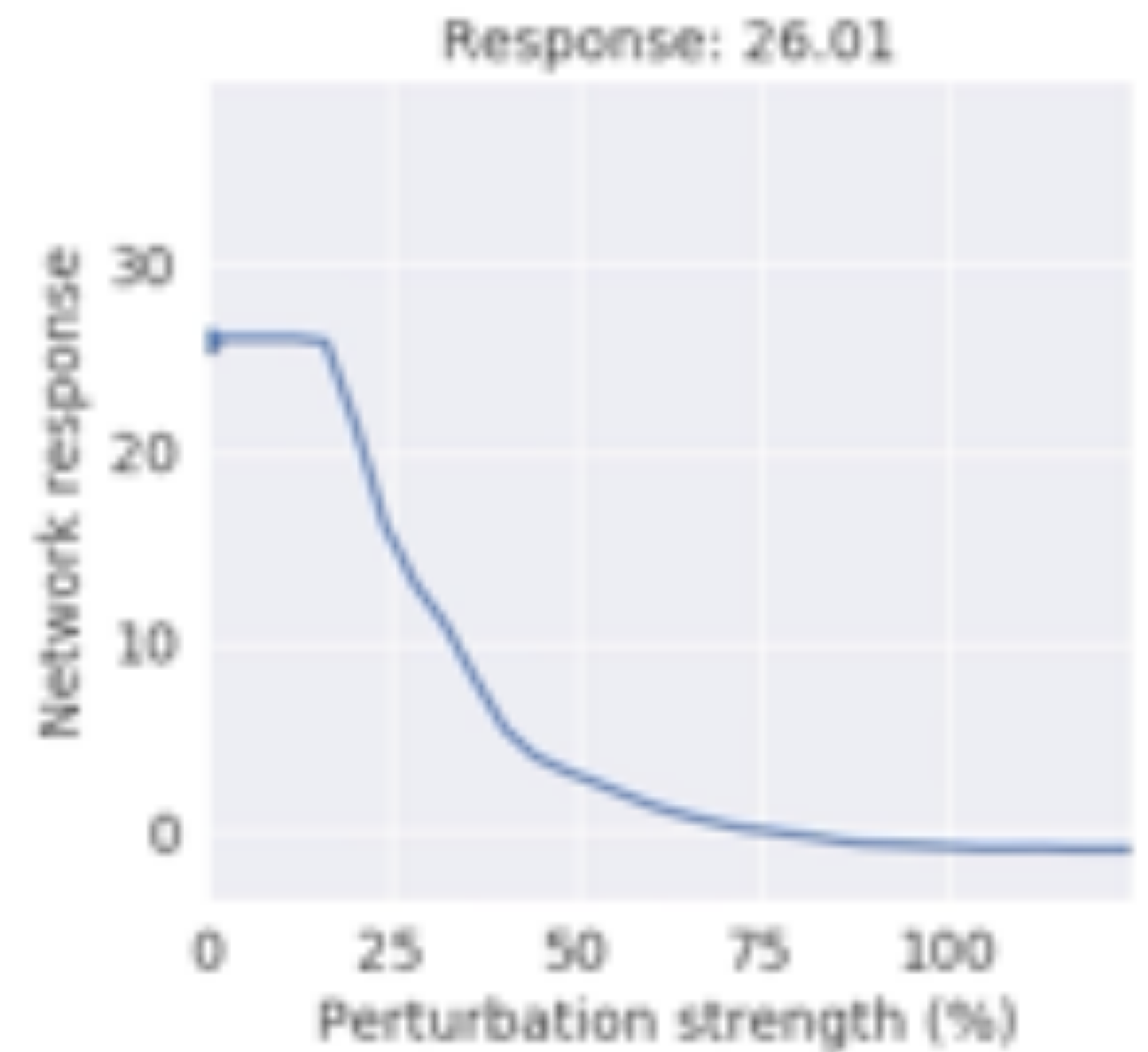


Clear meaning, but can only test a small number of occlusion patterns

Extremal Perturbations

Find regions of a **given area** that preserves the network's response the most

Blur everywhere \Rightarrow response suppressed



Preserve 10% \Rightarrow response preserved

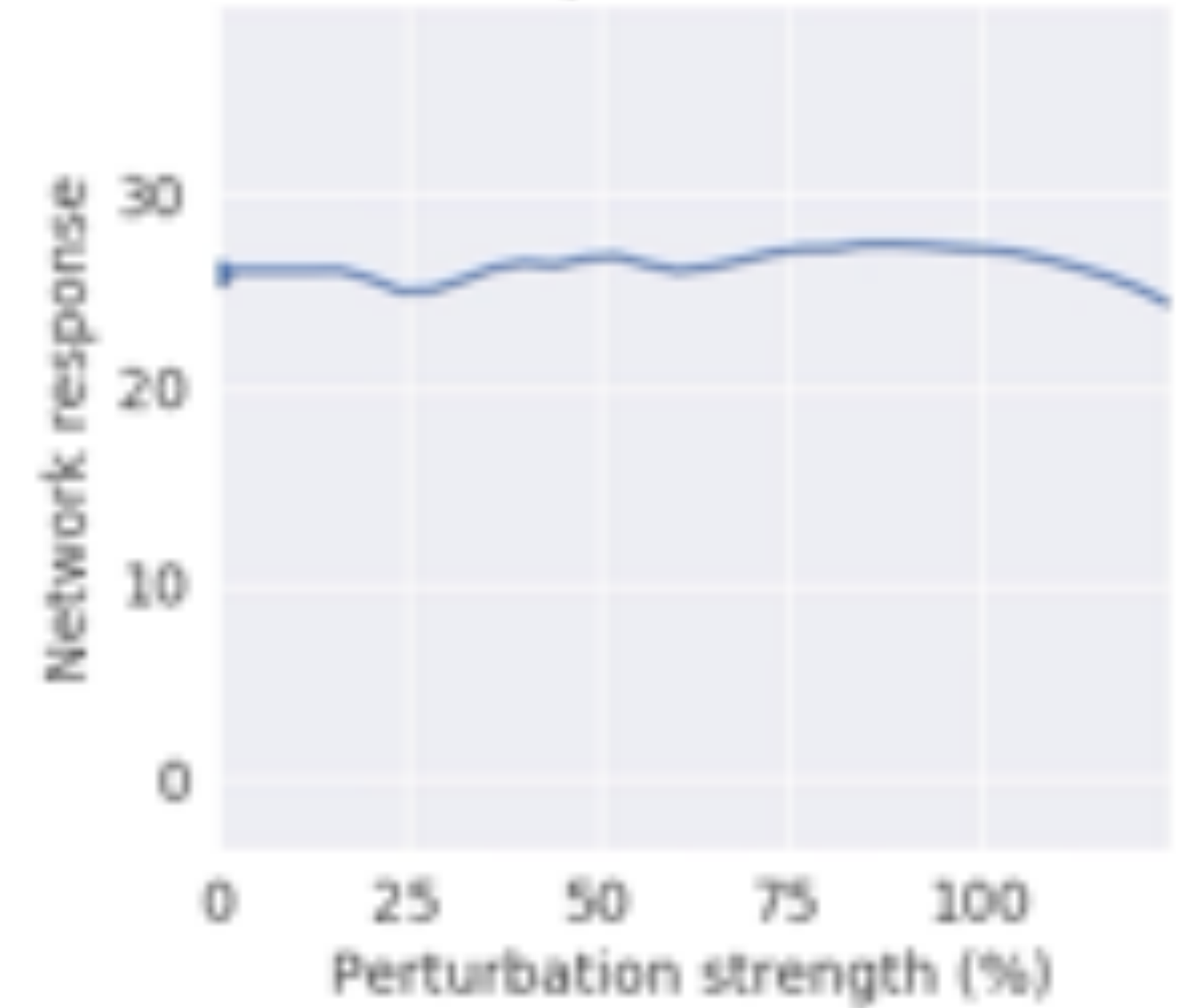
Retained region



Perturbed stimulus



Response: 26.01



Meaningful perturbations

We seek the “smallest elision” that maximally changes the neuron activation

Original



“cat” probability
1.00

Redact-out



“cat” probability
0.5
(ineffective)

Blur-out



“cat” probability
0.01
(more meaningful)

Adversarial perturbations

Neural networks are fragile to adversarial perturbations

Adversarial perturbations attract gradient descent

Intriguing properties of neural networks. Szegedy, Zaremba, Sutskever, Bruna, Erhan, Goodfellow, Fergus. CoRR 2013

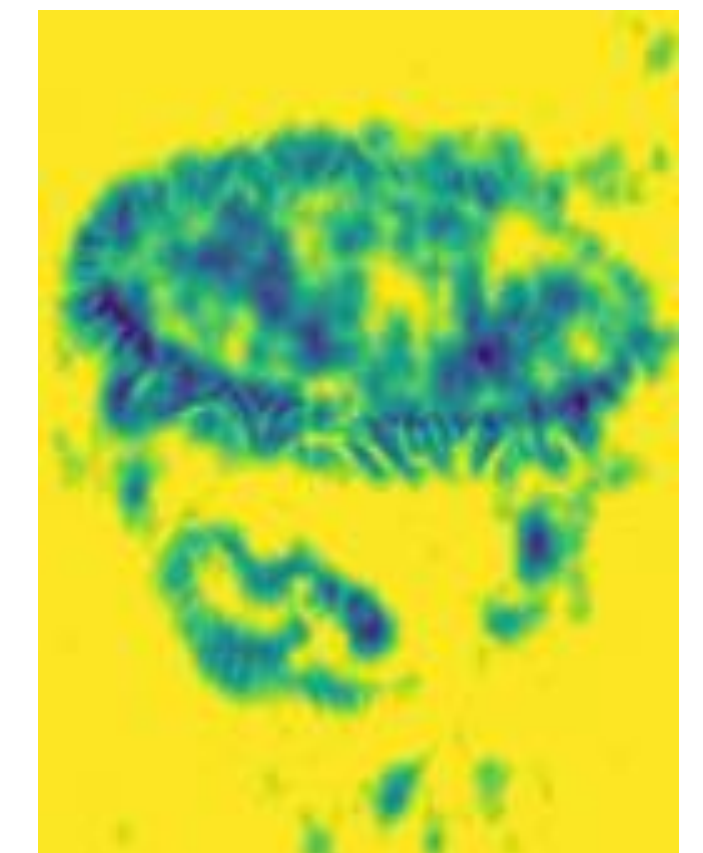
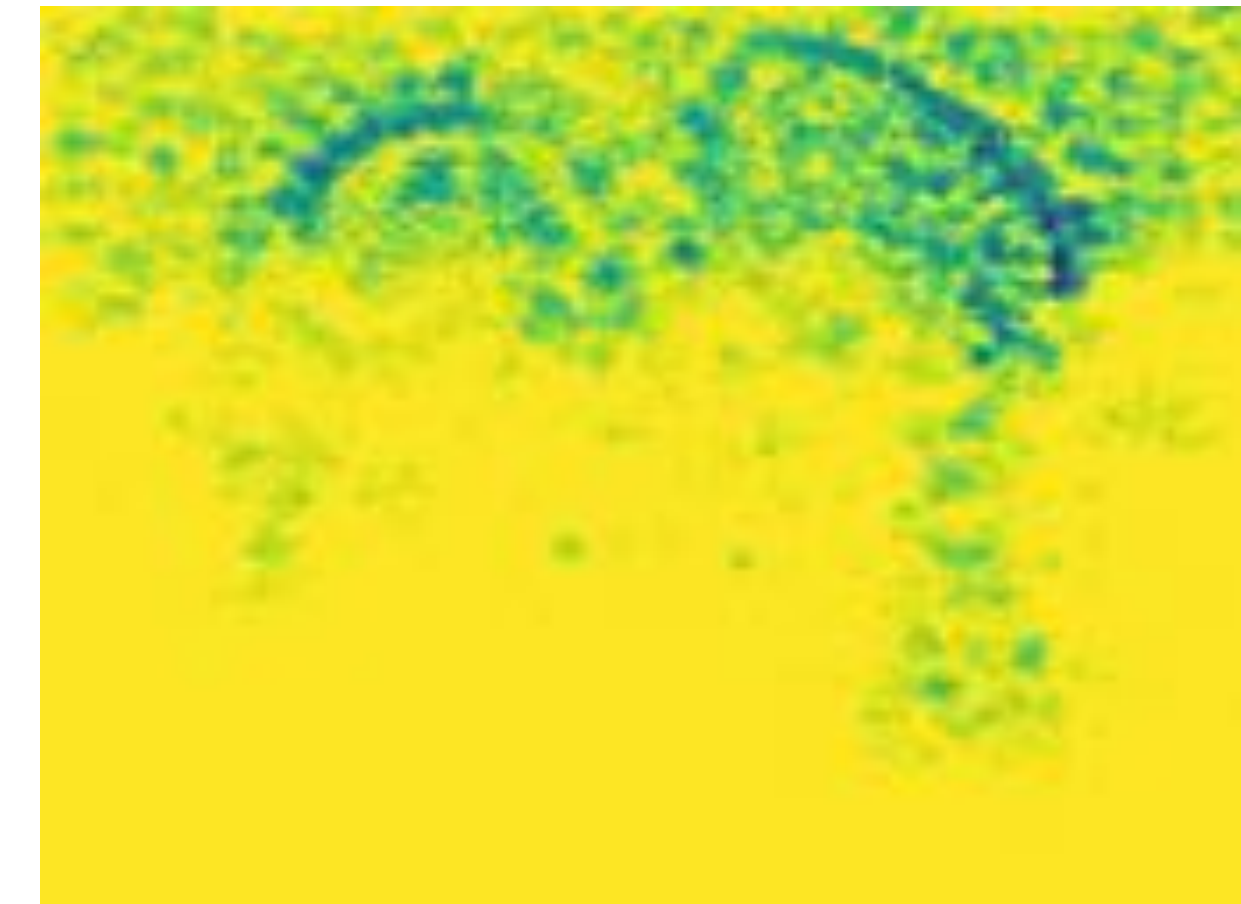
Original



Redacted



Mask

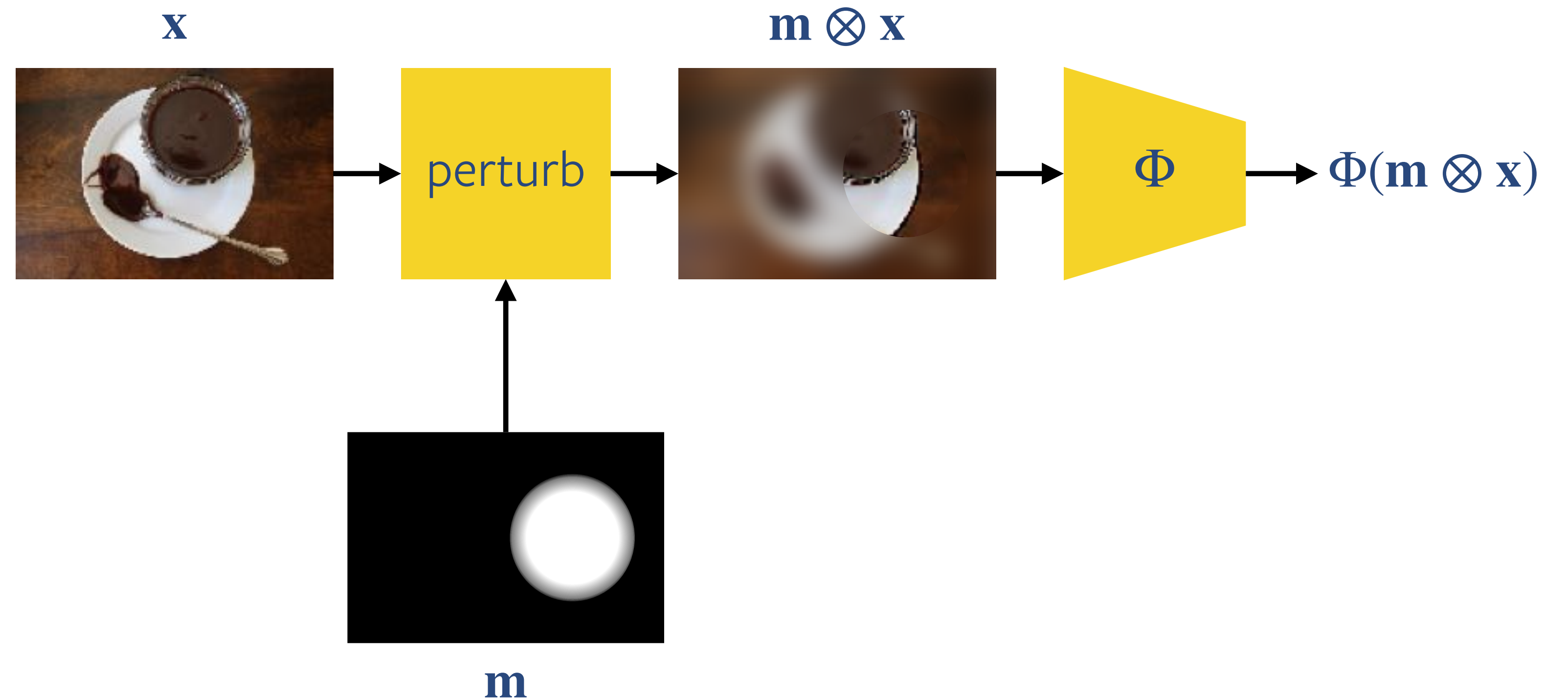


Extremal perturbations

A mask is optimized to maximally excite the network:

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

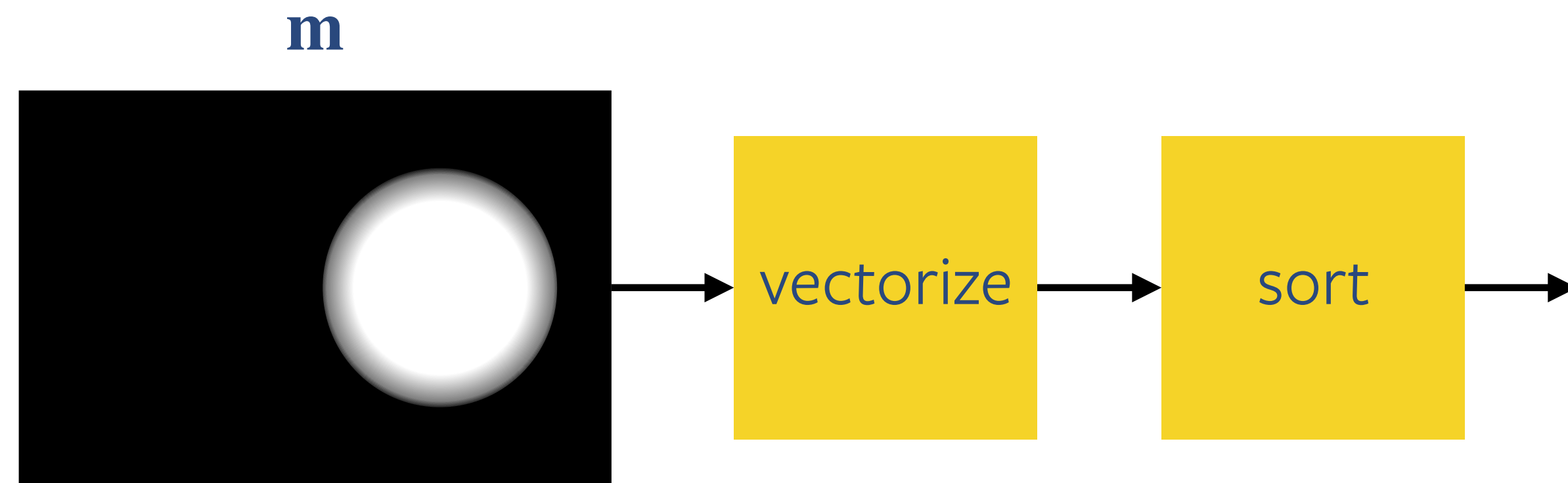
subject to $\text{area}(\mathbf{m}) = a$



Area constraint

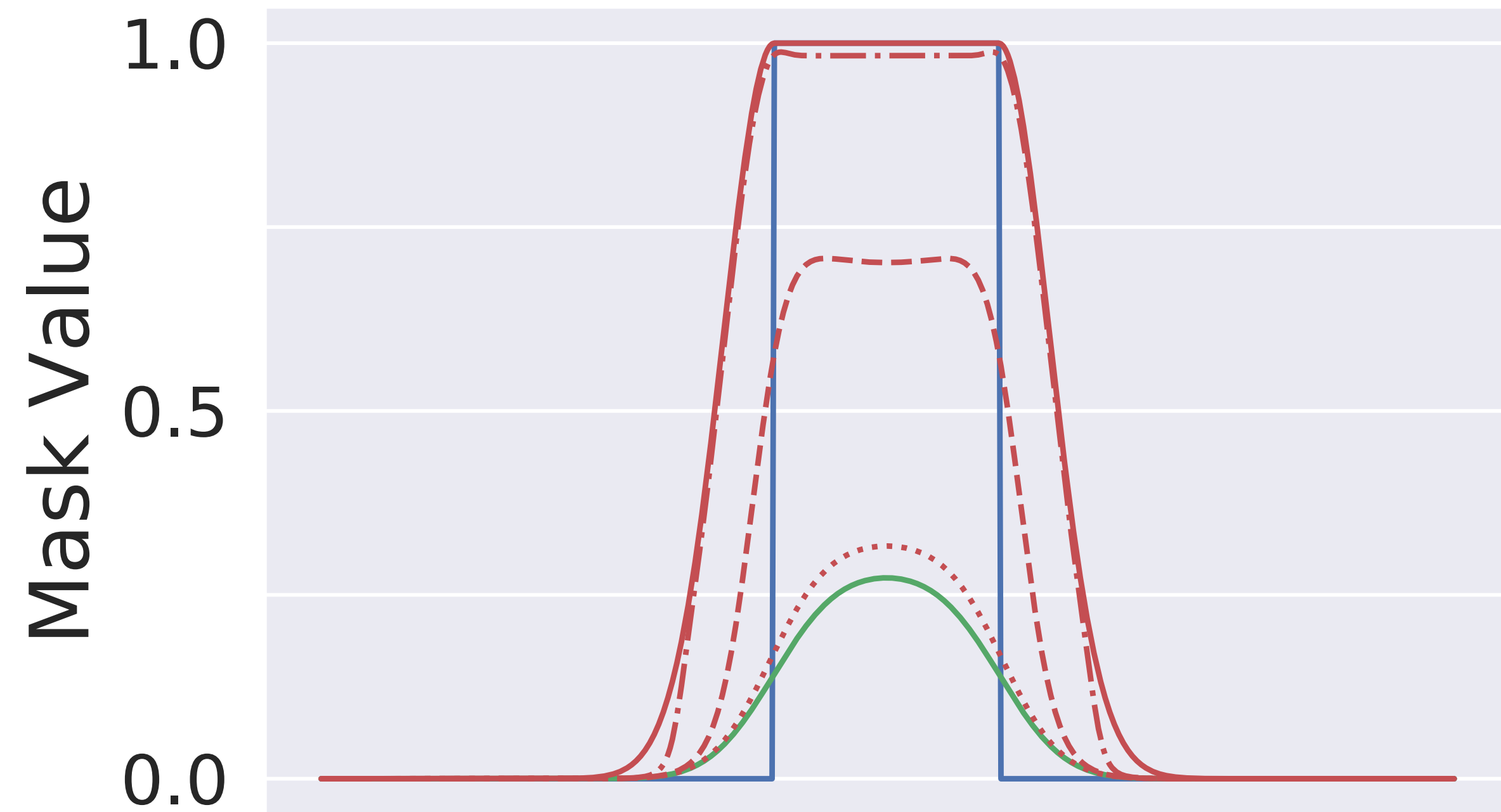
Optimizing w.r.t. to an area constraint is challenging
Here we re-formulate it as matching a **rank statistics**

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



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

Smooth masks



— $m(v)$: mask

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

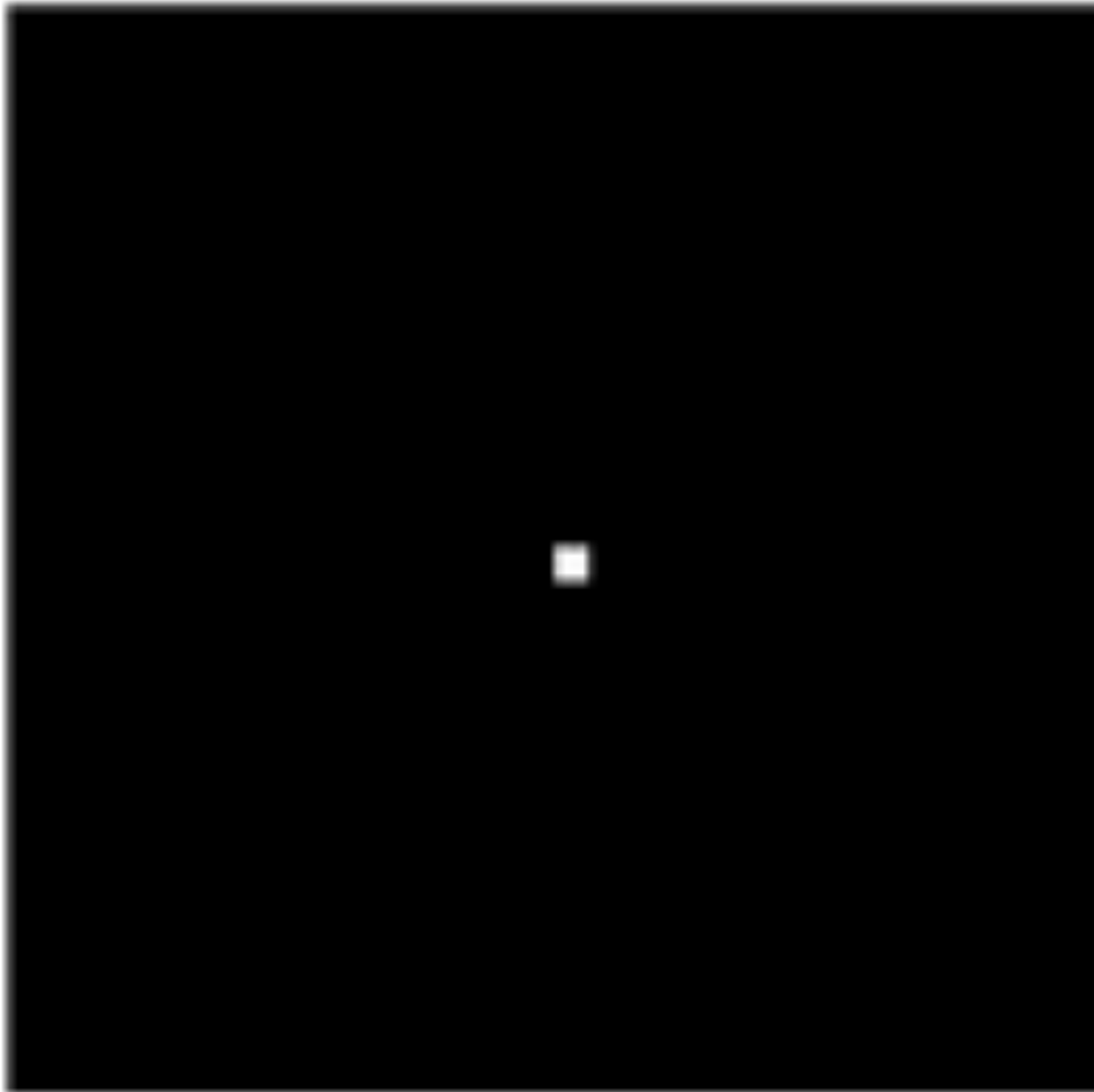
— $\text{maxconv}(u; m; k) = \max_{v \in \Omega} k(u - v)m(v)$

..... $\text{smoothconv}(u; m; k; T) = \text{smax}_{v \in \Omega; T} k(u - v)m(v)$

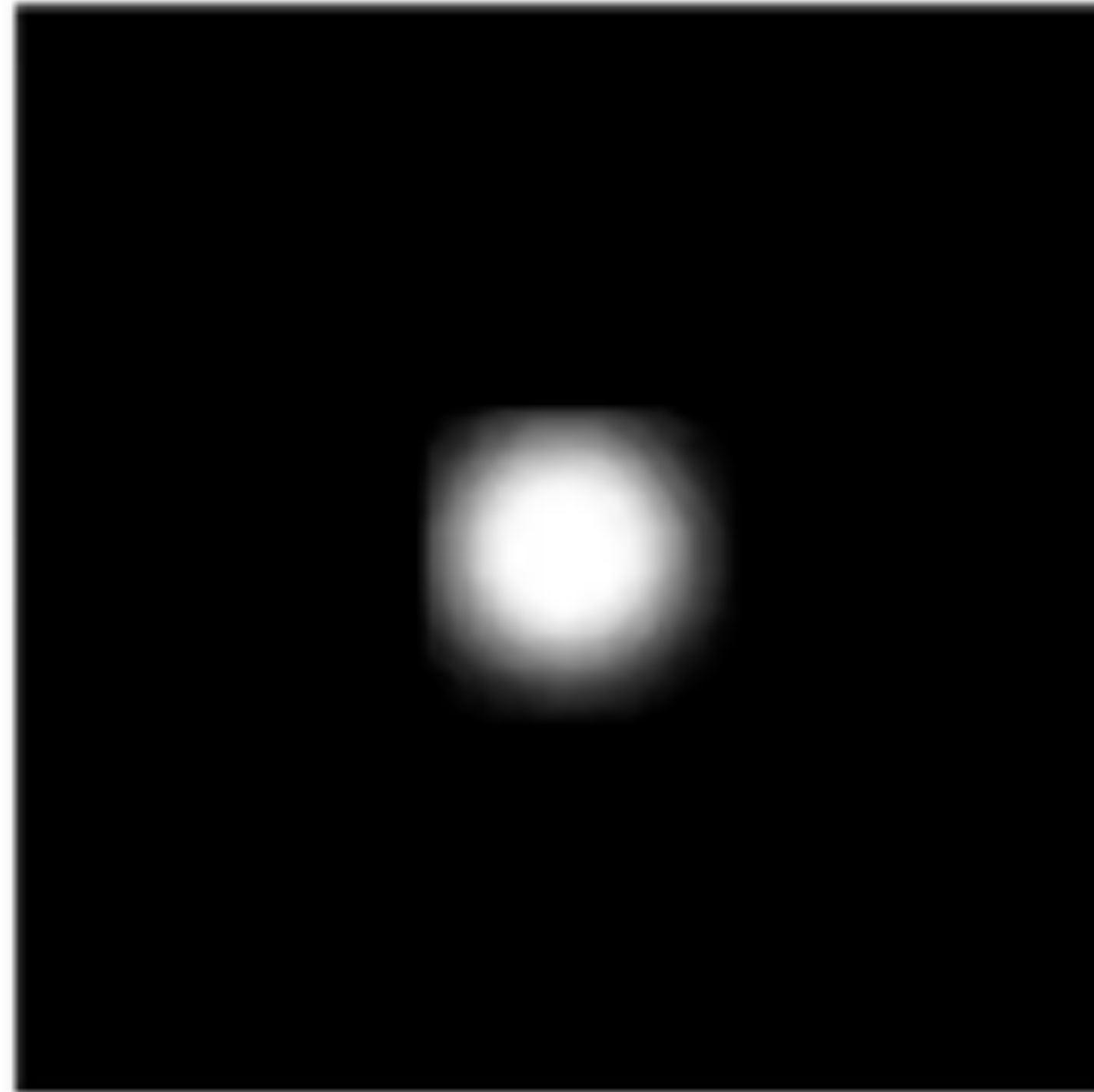
$$\text{smax}_{u \in \Omega; T} f(u) = \frac{\sum_u f(u) \exp(f(u)/T)}{\sum_u \exp(f(u)/T)}$$

Smooth masks

Mask parameters



Gaussian smoothing



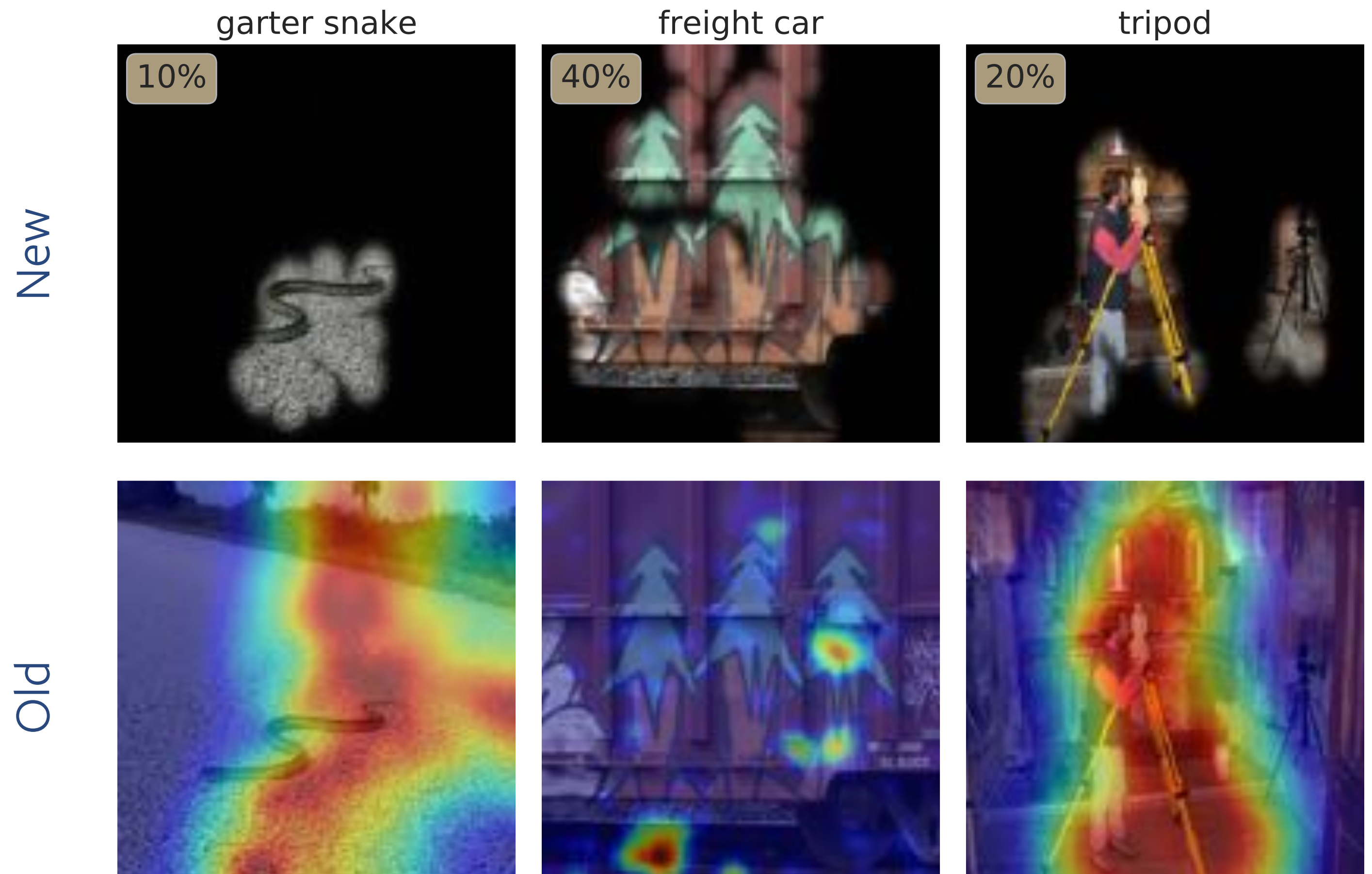
Max-conv smoothing



Comparison with prior work on “meaningful perturbations”

Compared to **Fong and Vedaldi, 2017**, we remove all regularization terms in the energy term.

Our innovations result in a method that’s more **principled, stable, and sensitive**.



Algorithm

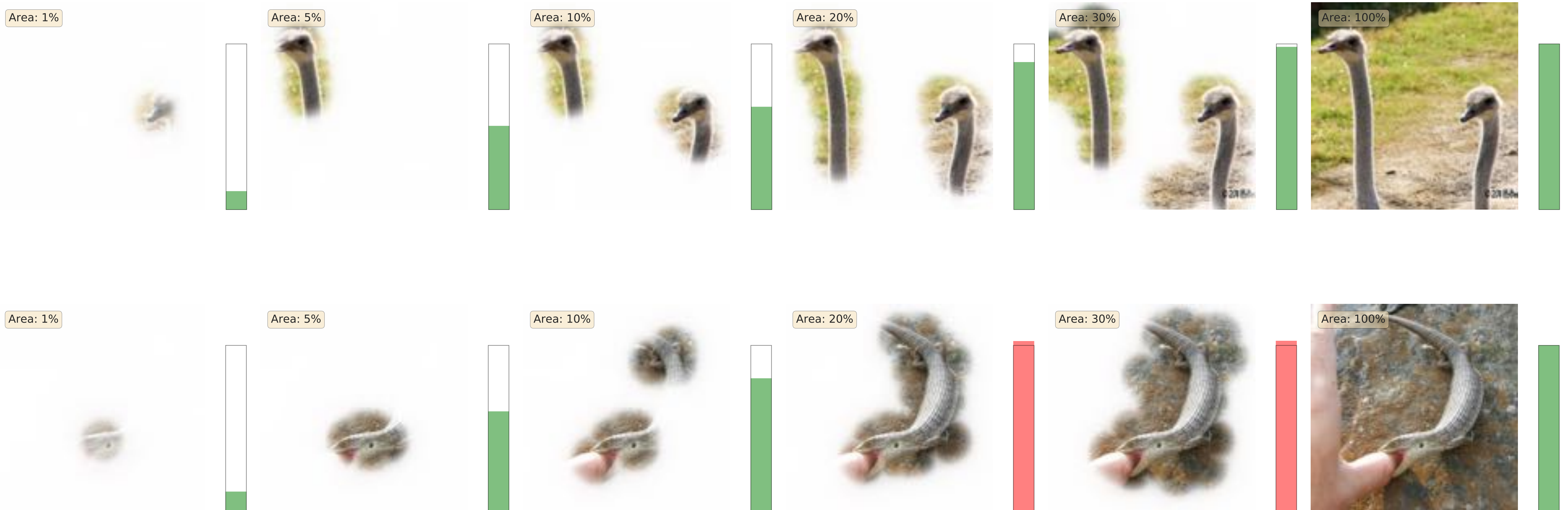
1. Pick an area a
2. Use SGD to solve the optimization problem for a large λ :

$$\operatorname{argmax}_{\mathbf{m}} \Phi(\operatorname{smooth}(\mathbf{m}) \otimes \mathbf{x}) - \lambda \|\operatorname{vecsort}(\operatorname{smooth}(\mathbf{m})) - \mathbf{r}_a\|^2$$

3. If needed, sweep a and repeat

Results

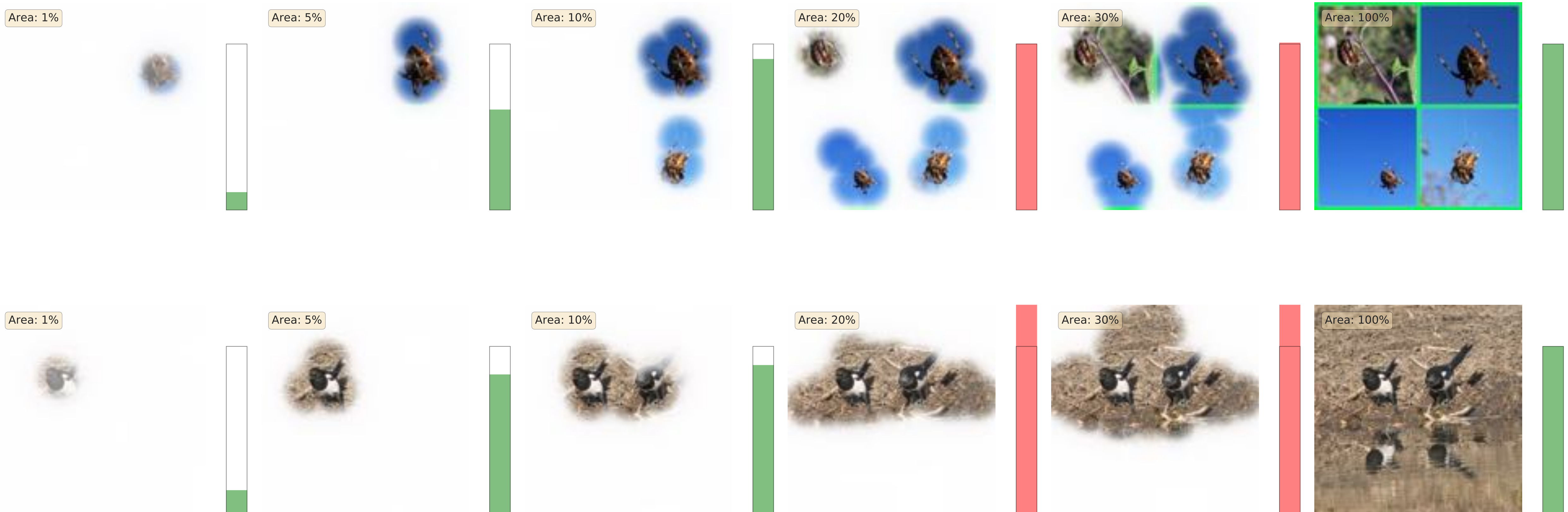
Foreground evidence is usually sufficient



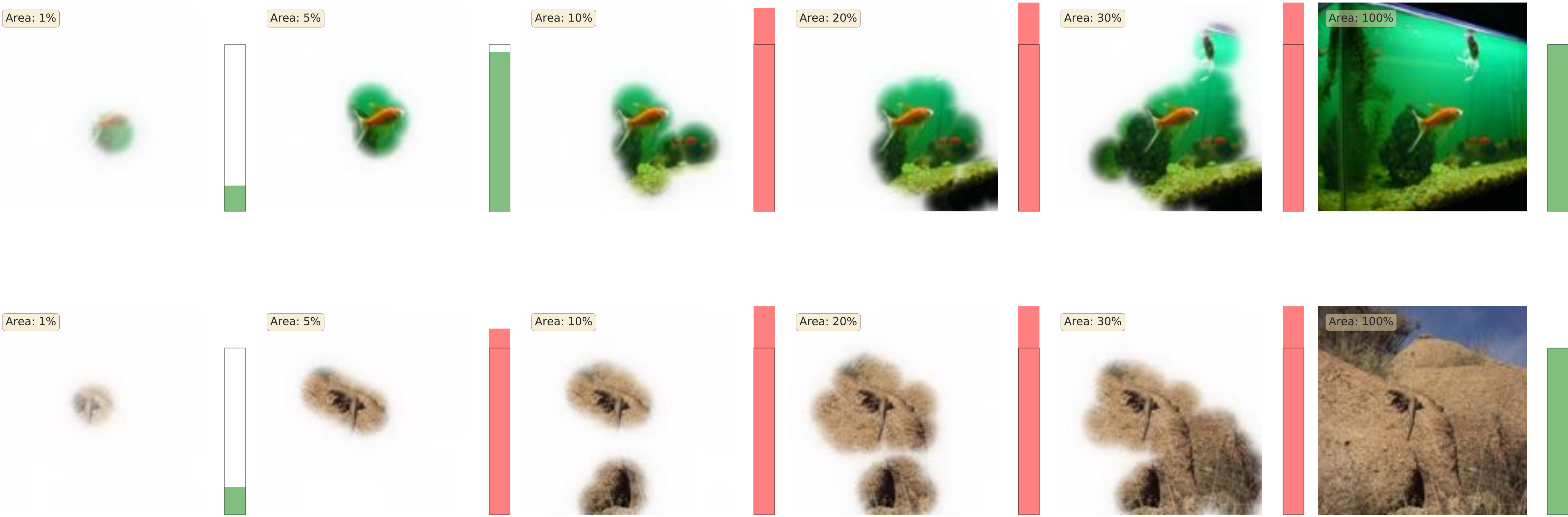
Large objects are recognised by their details



Small objects contribute cumulatively



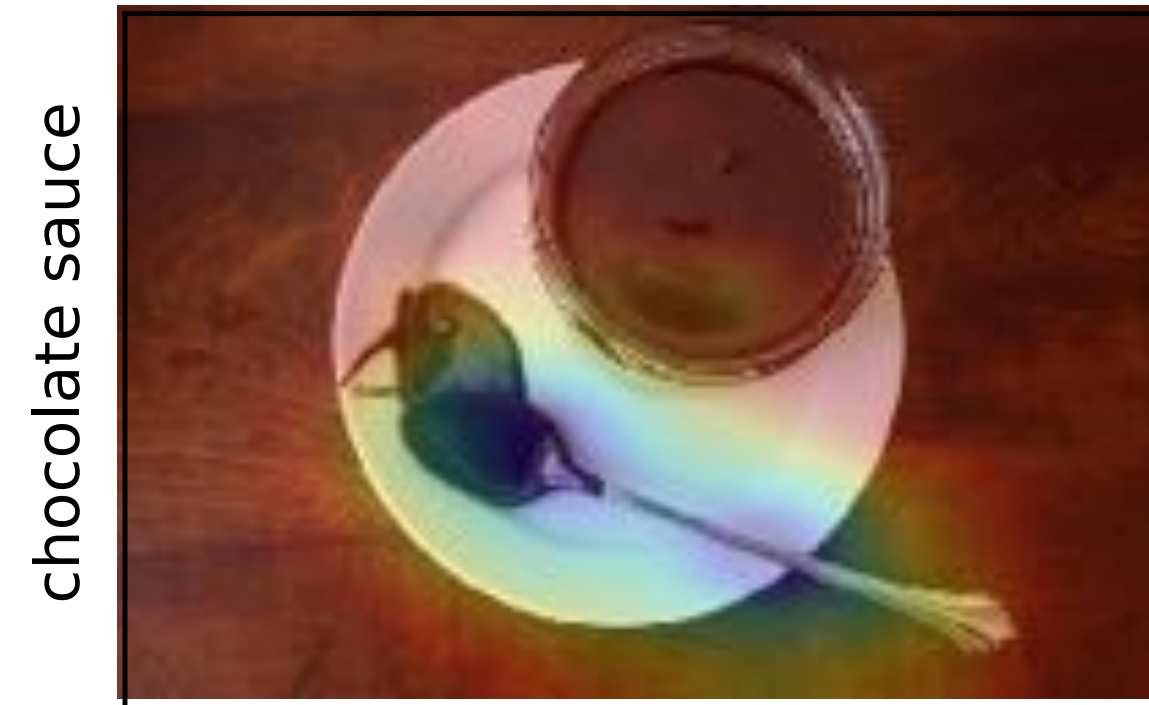
Suppressing the background may overdrive the network



Diagnosing networks

Example: the hot chocolate is recognized via the spoon and the truck vs the license plate

Mask Overlay



0.610 => 0.351



0.610 => 0.015



Mask Overlay



0.717 => 0.850



0.717 => 0.018

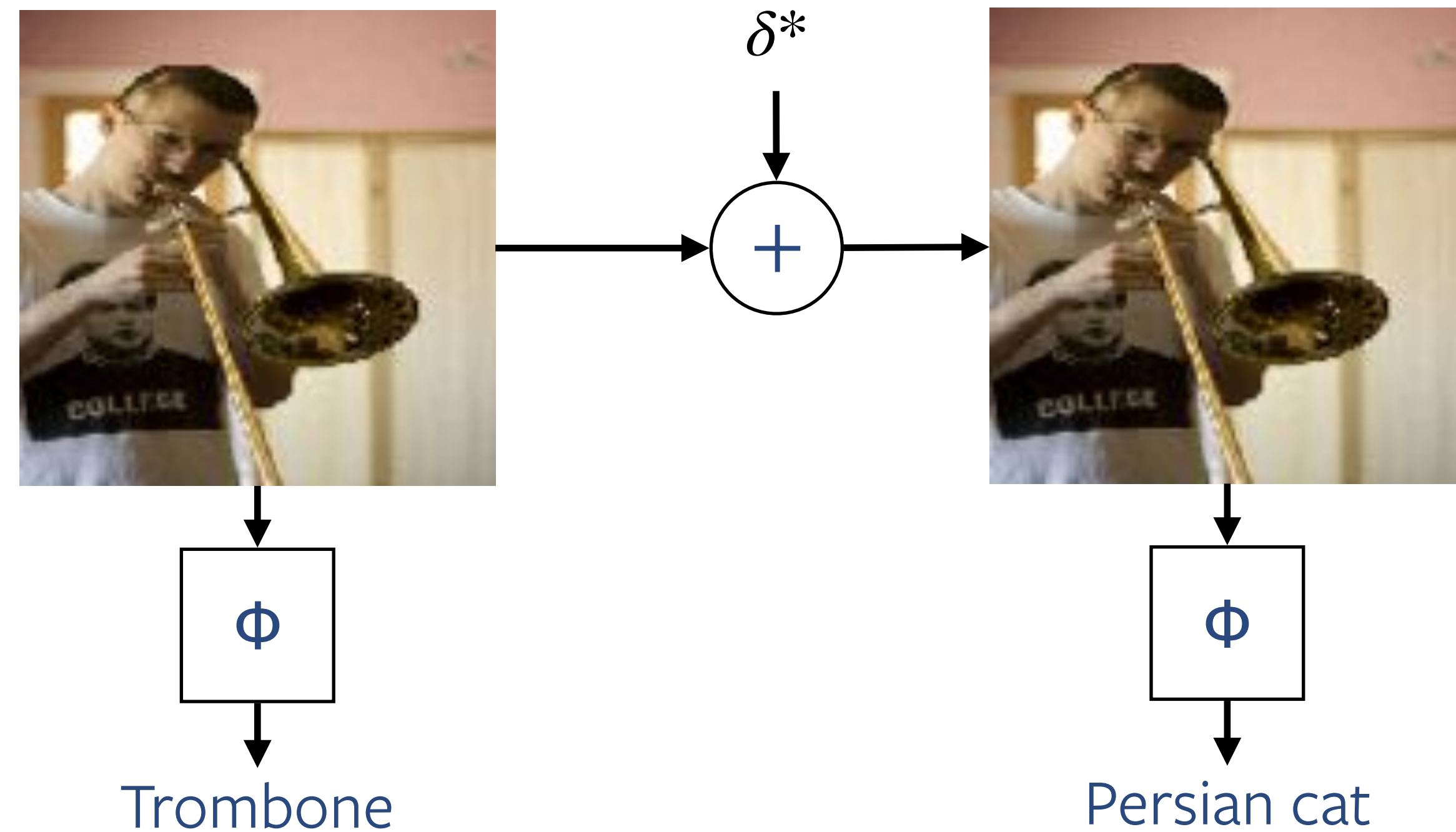


CNN fragility

Let $\mathbf{y} = \Phi(\mathbf{x})$ be the label predicted for image \mathbf{x} by the deep net

Empirically, we can find tiny perturbations $\mathbf{x} + \delta$ that change \mathbf{y} arbitrarily

$$\delta^* = \operatorname{argmin}_{\|\delta\| < \epsilon} \|\mathbf{y}_{\text{arbitrary}} - \Phi(\mathbf{x} + \delta)\|$$



Dangerous adversaries

Adversarial glasses fooling face recognition



Adversarial stickers fooling sign recognition



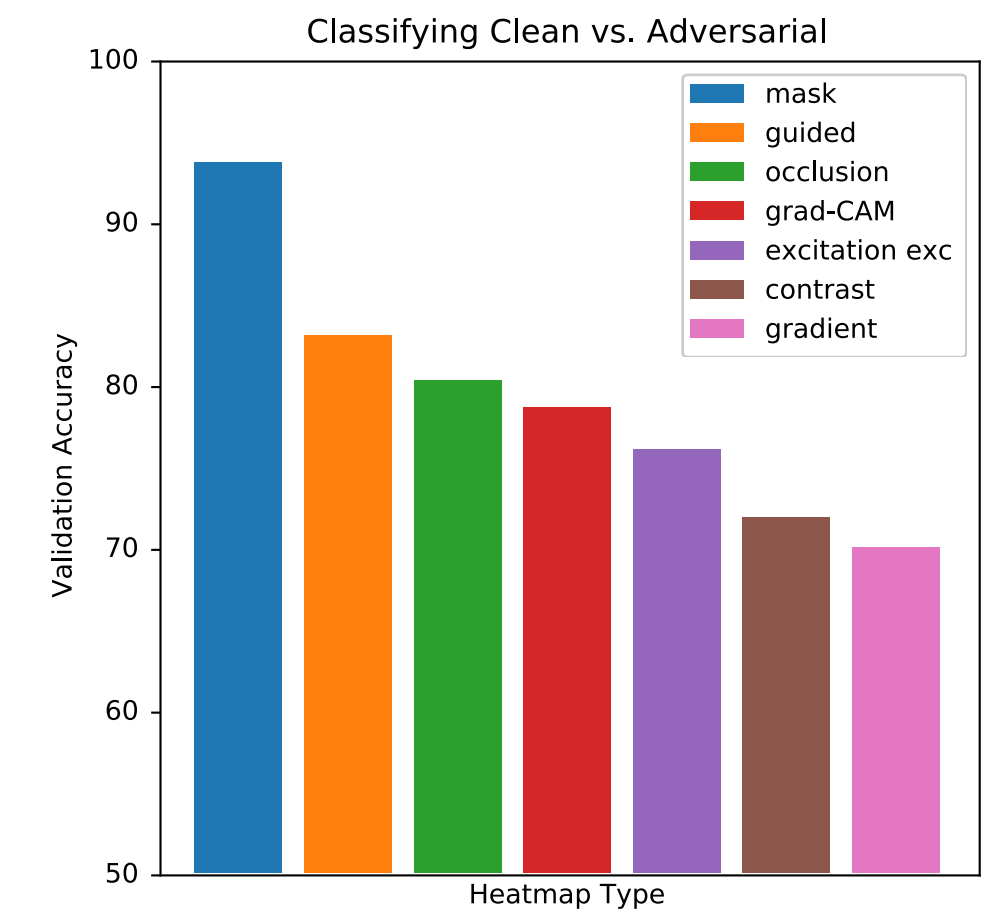
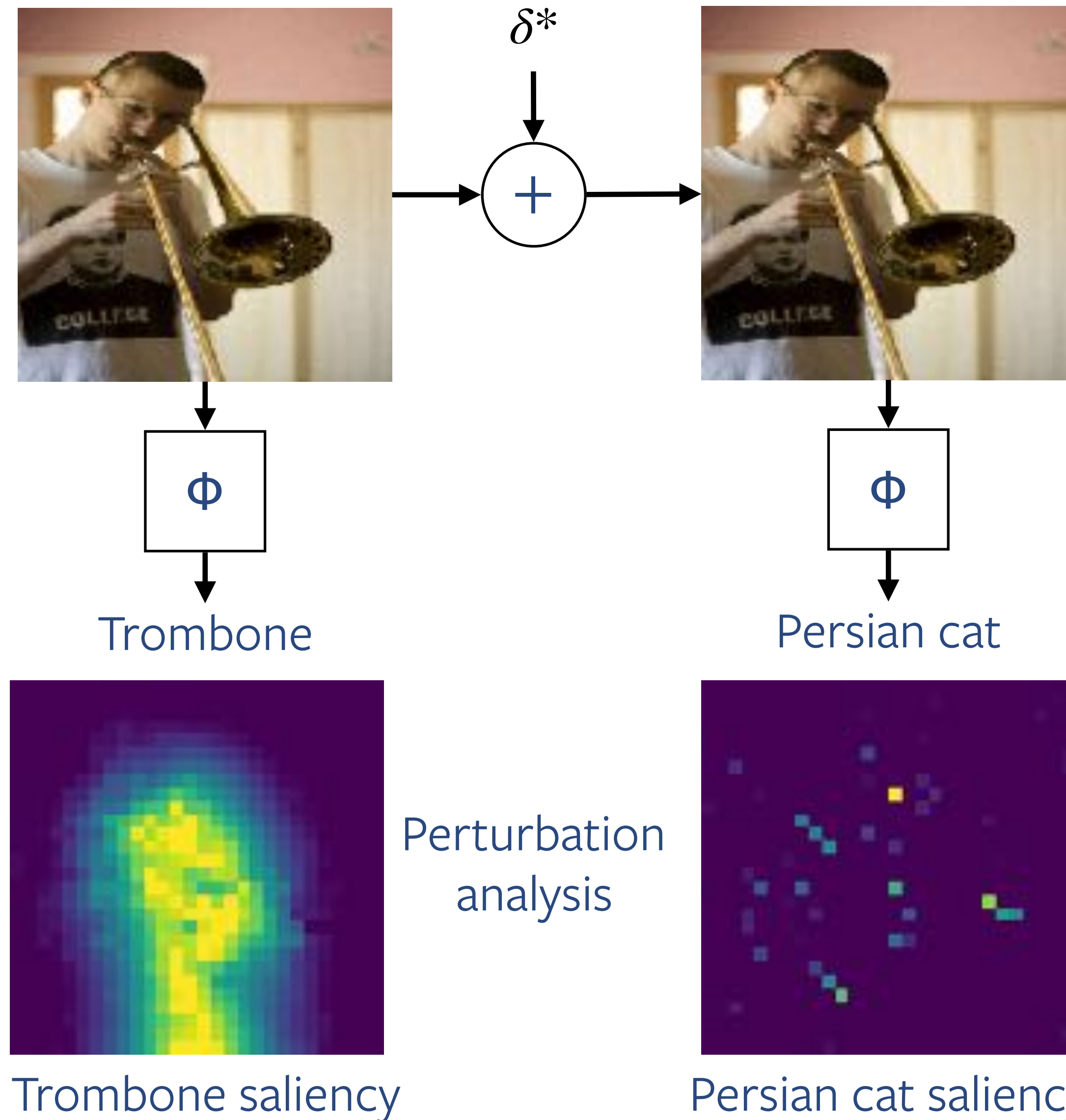
Accessorize to a crime: Real and stealthy attacks on state-of-the-art face recognition. Sharif, Bhagavatula, Bauer, Reiter. Proc. CSS, 2016.

Robust physical-world attacks on machine learning models. Evtimov, Kevin Eykholt, Li, Prakash, Rahmati, Song. arXiv, 2017.

Adversarial defence

Method: recognize genuine vs adversarial images by learning a classifier on top of the saliency maps

(Illustrative of attribution, not really a recommended defence strategy!)



Assessing attribution

Assessing attribution: pointing game & weak localisation

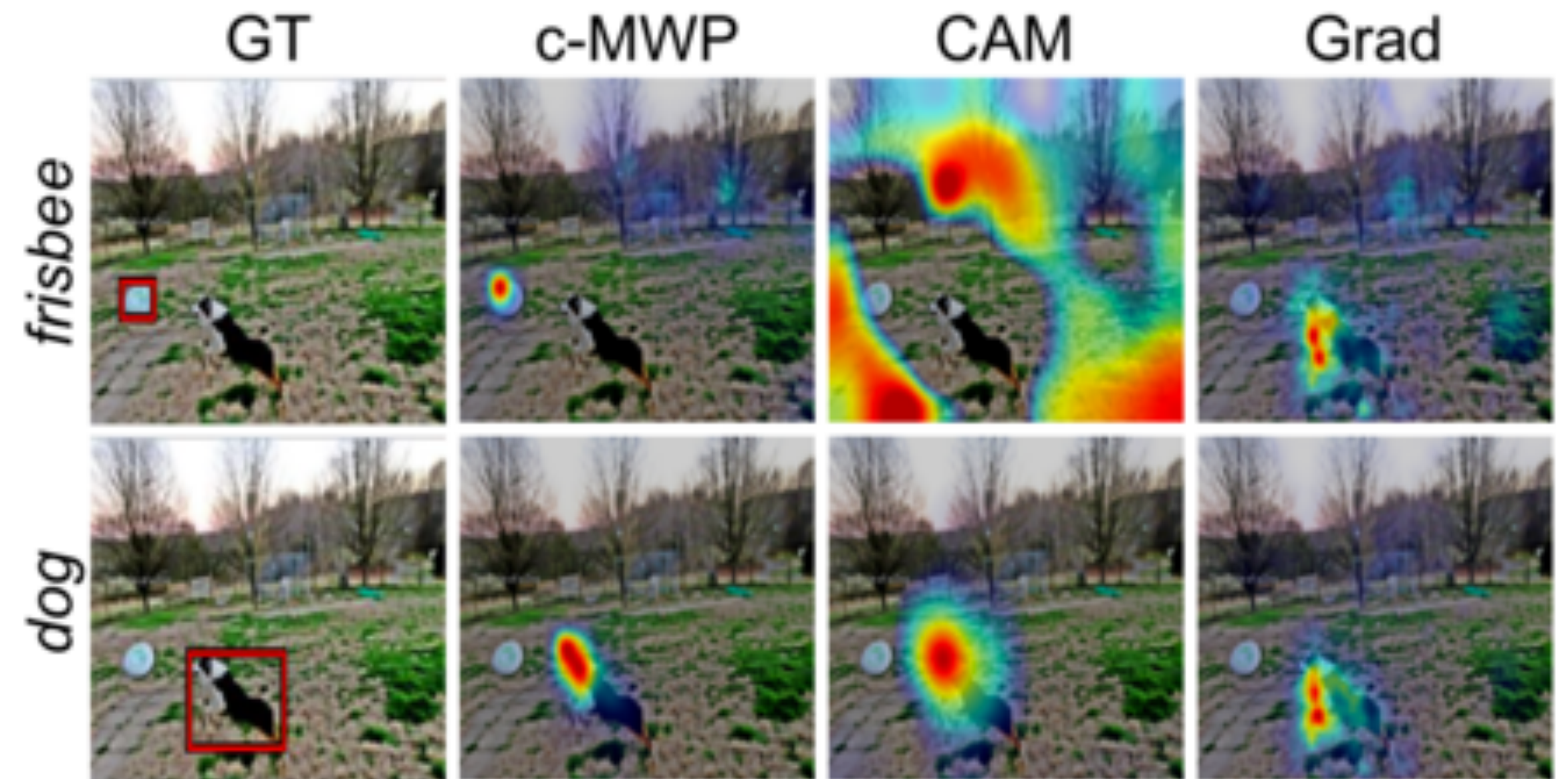
Goal: measure the spatial correlation between attribution maps and object occurrences

If the correlation is strong:

- the diagnosed model “understand” the object **and**
- the attribution method can tell

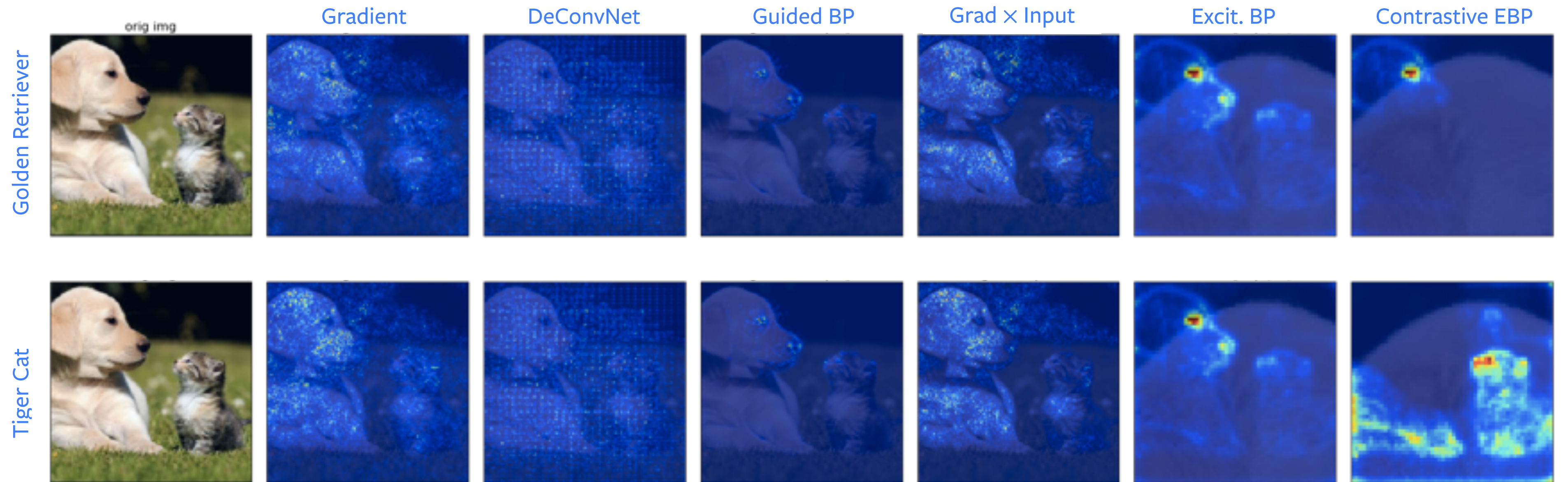
However, if the correlation is poor, *either*:

- the diagnoses model does not understand the object **or**
- the attribution method fails to tell



Assessing attribution: neuron sensitivity

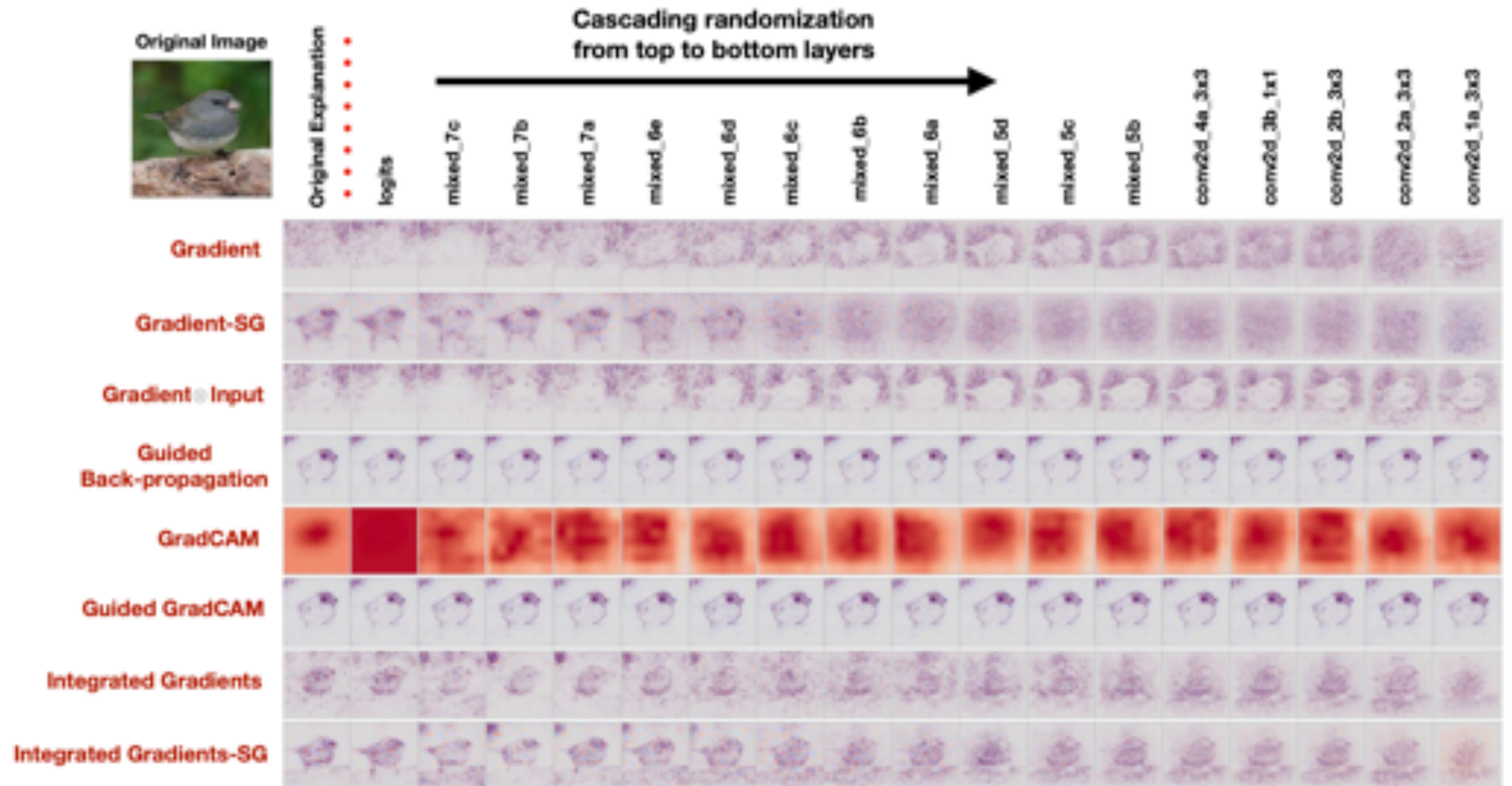
Attribution should generally result in a different output depending on which neuron one wishes to visualise.



Assessing attribution: parameter sensitivity

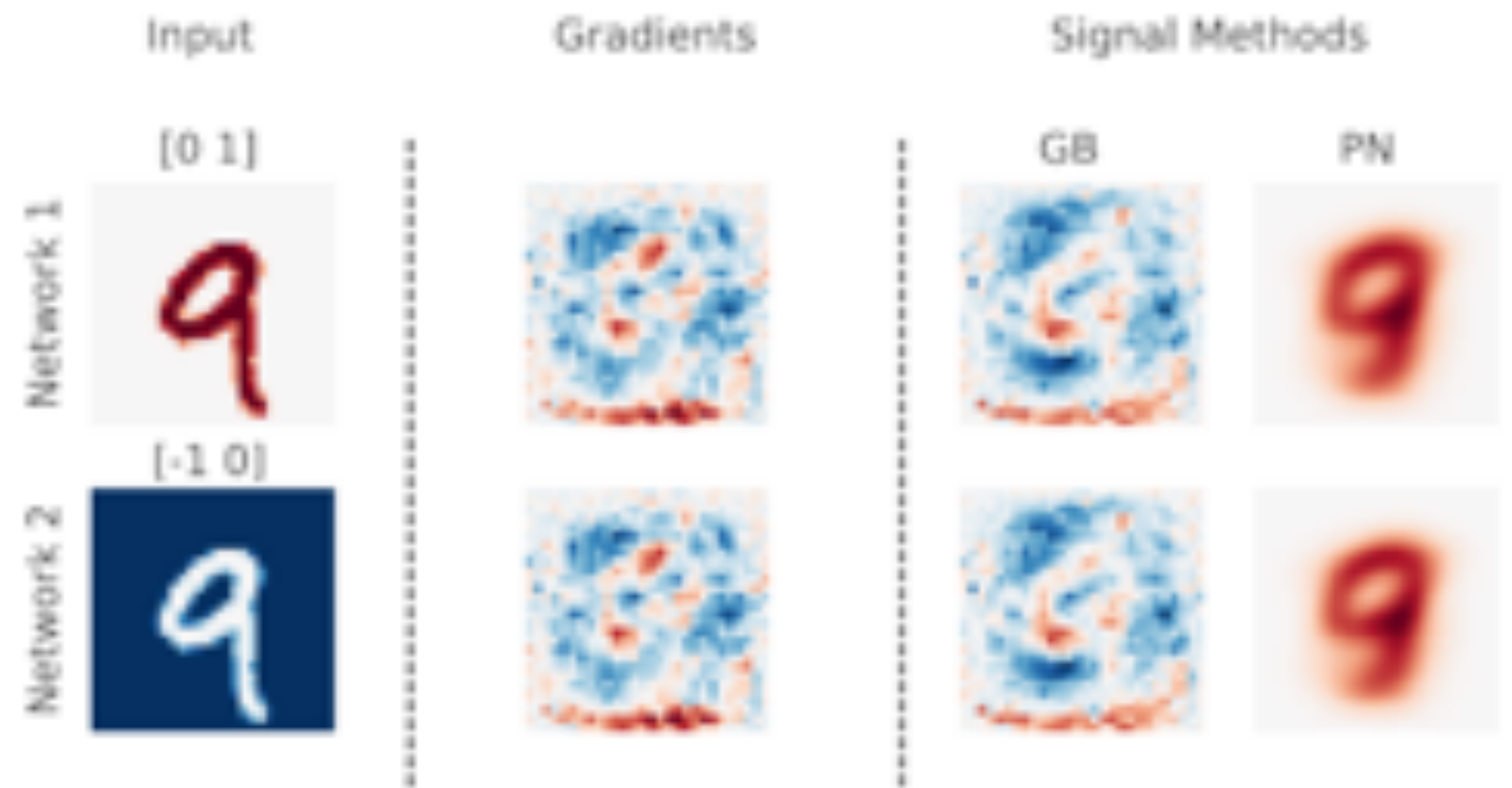
Attribution should also produce a different output if the model weights are different — e.g. random

Sanity checks for saliency maps.
Adebayo, Gilmer, Muelly, Goodfellow, Hardt, Kim. Proc. NeurIPS, 2018.



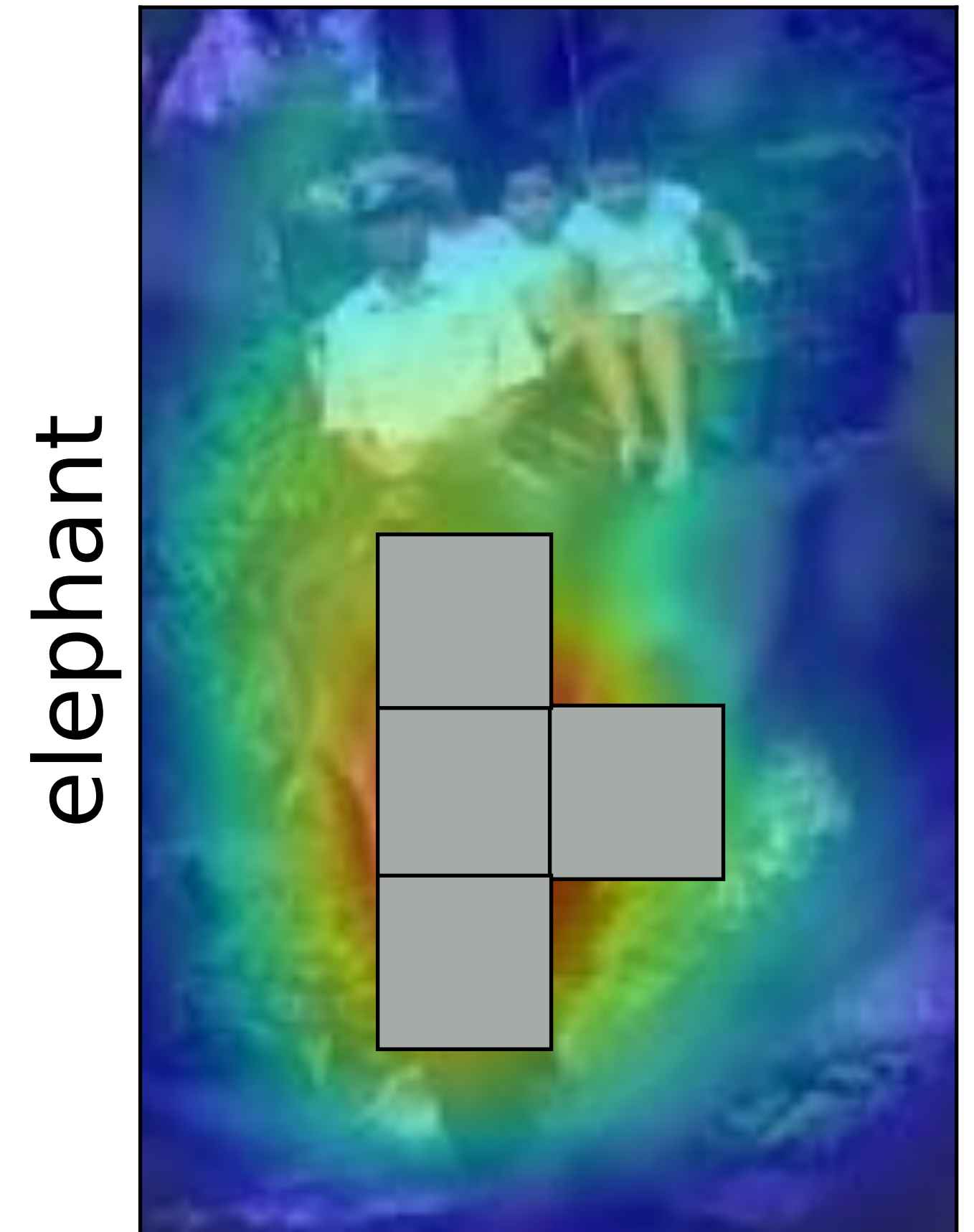
Assessing attribution: shift invariance

Learning how to explain neural networks: PatternNet and PatternAttribution. Kindermans, Schütt, Alber, Müller, Erhan, Kim, Dähne. Proc. ICLR, 2018.
Making convolutional networks shift-invariant again. Zhang. Proc. ICML, 2019.



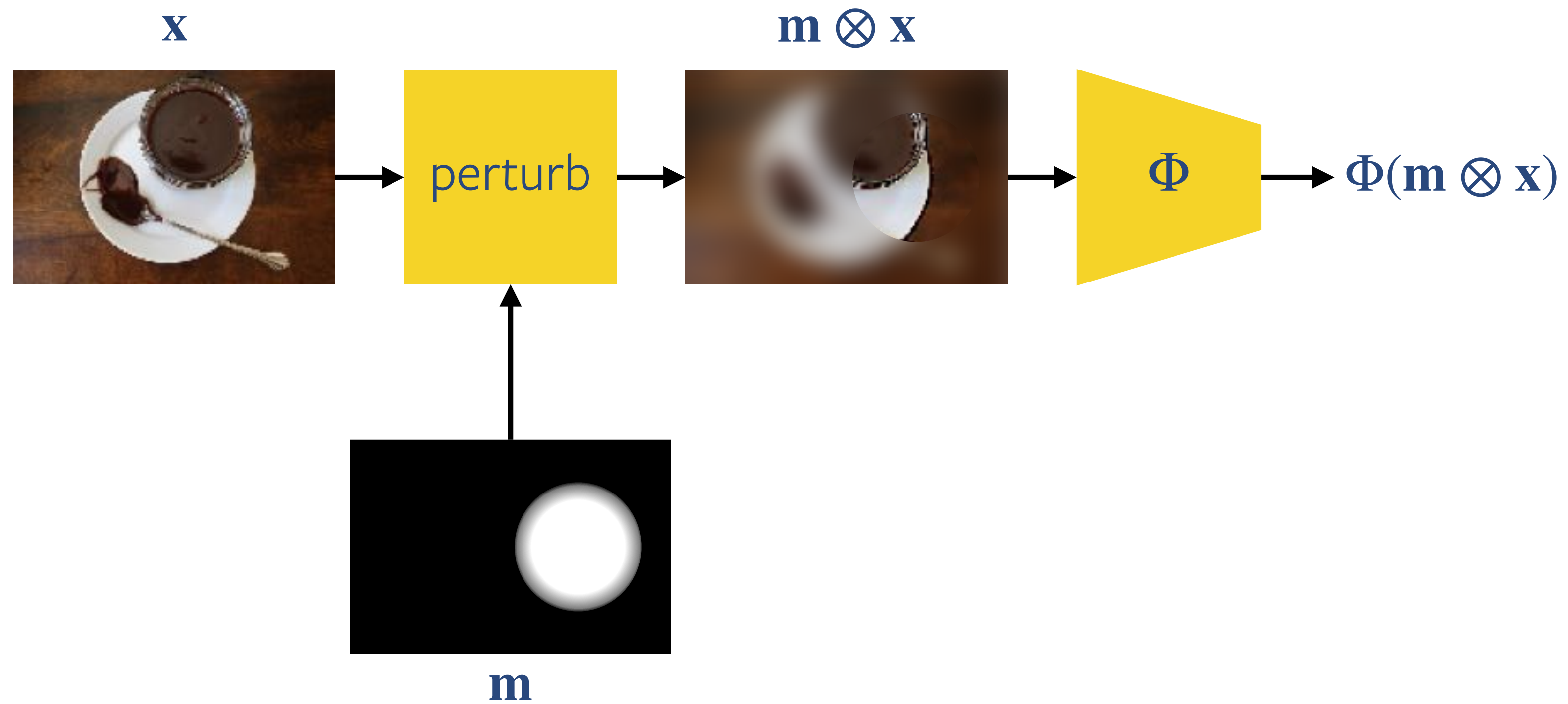
Assessing attribution: perturbation analysis

Display

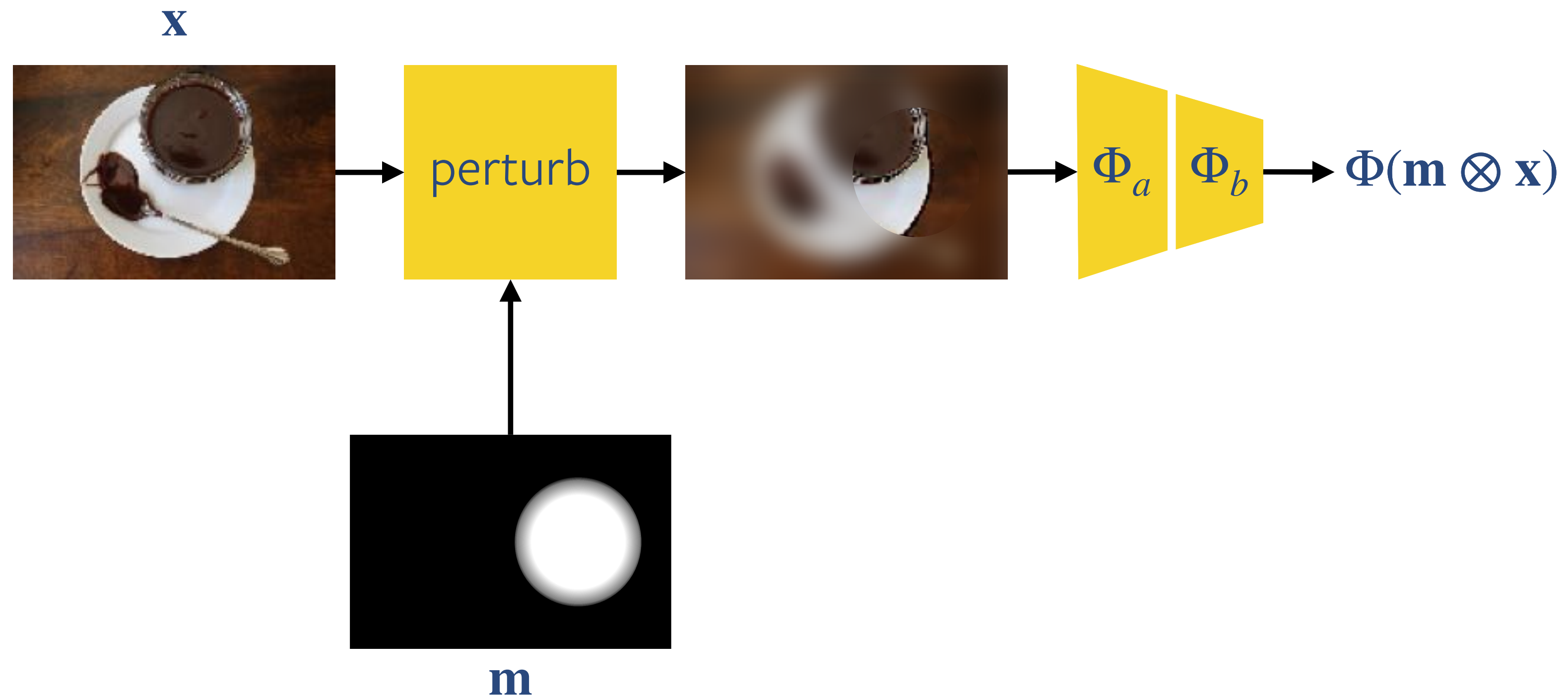


Attributing channels at intermediate layers

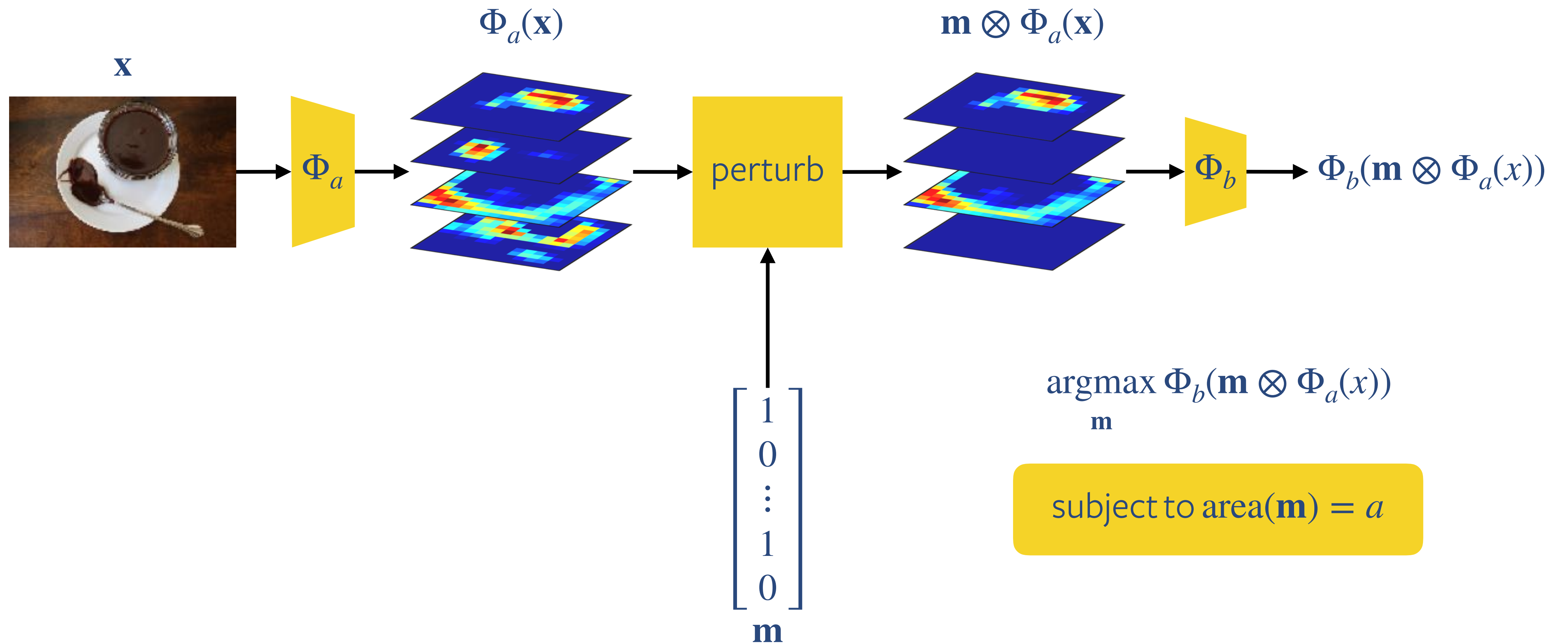
Spatial attribution



Channel attribution



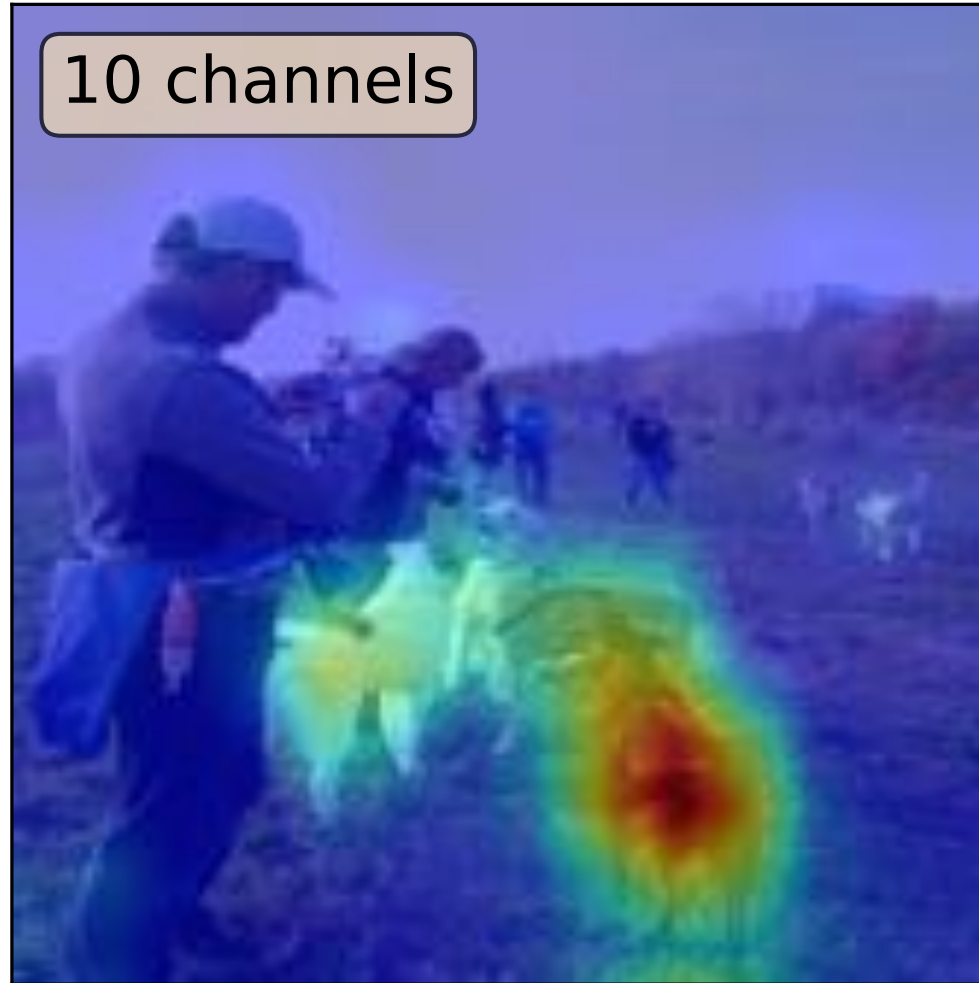
Channel attribution



Activation “diffing”

$$\sum \mathbf{m} \otimes \Phi_a(x)$$

Ibizan hound



Original
 $\Phi_a(x)$



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

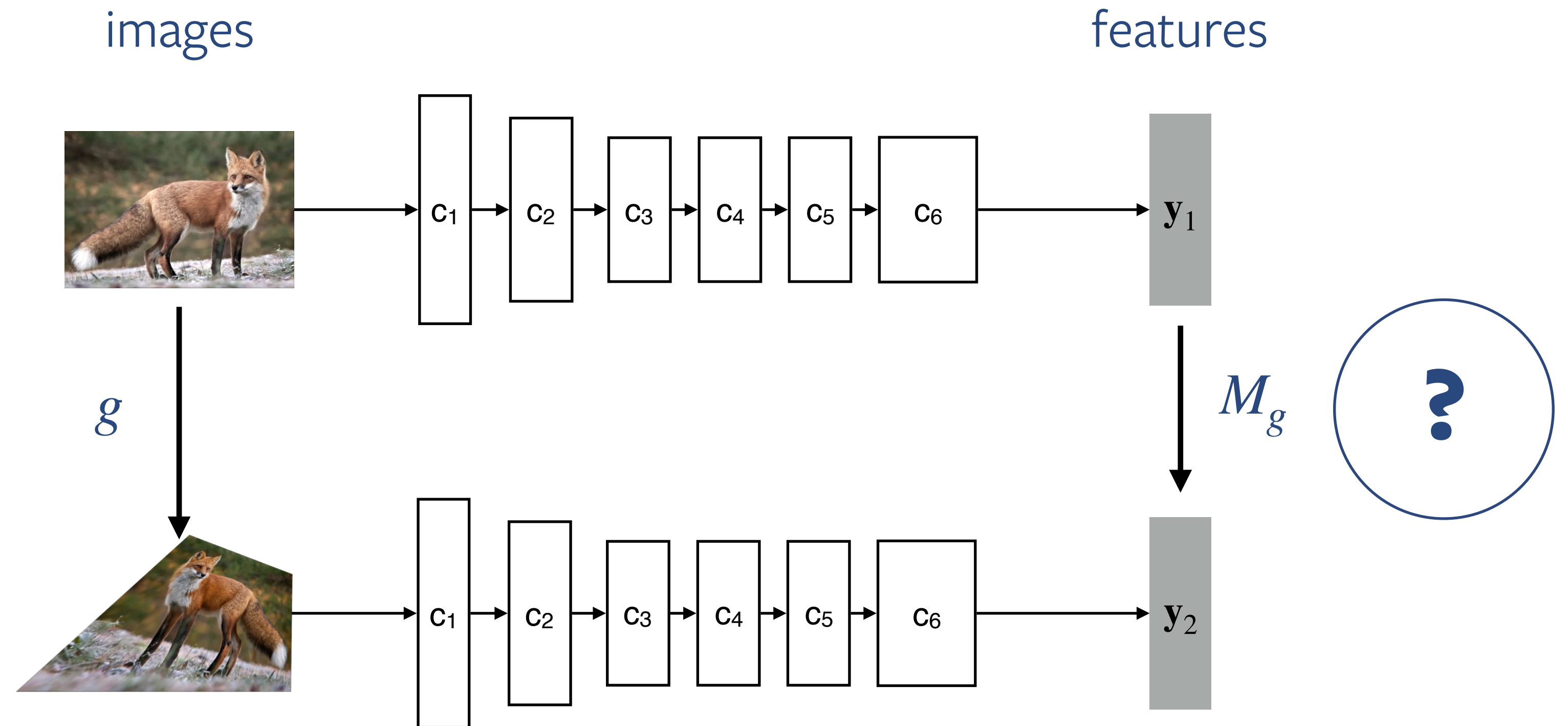


[Olah et al., Distill 2017]

Equivariance

Short answer: warping image usually reduces to sparse linear tf in feature space.

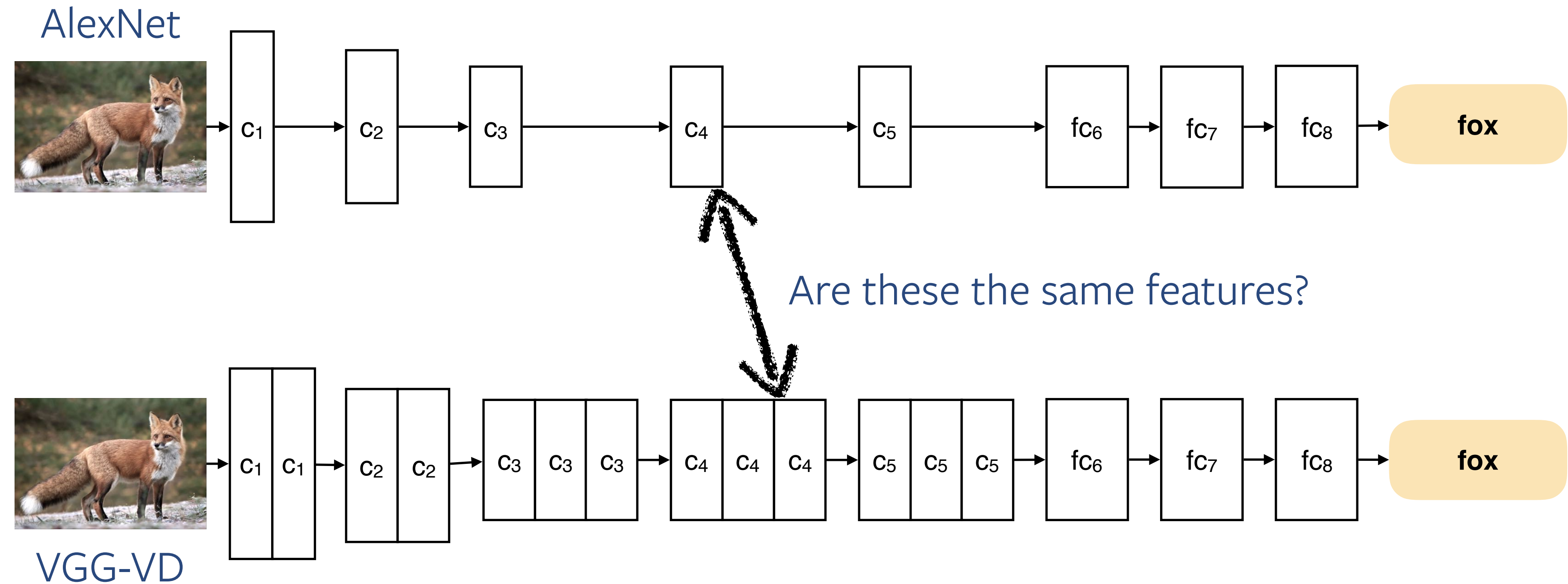
Long answer:
Understanding image representations by measuring their equivariance and equivalence. Lenc Vedaldi. CVPR 2015 & IJCV 2018



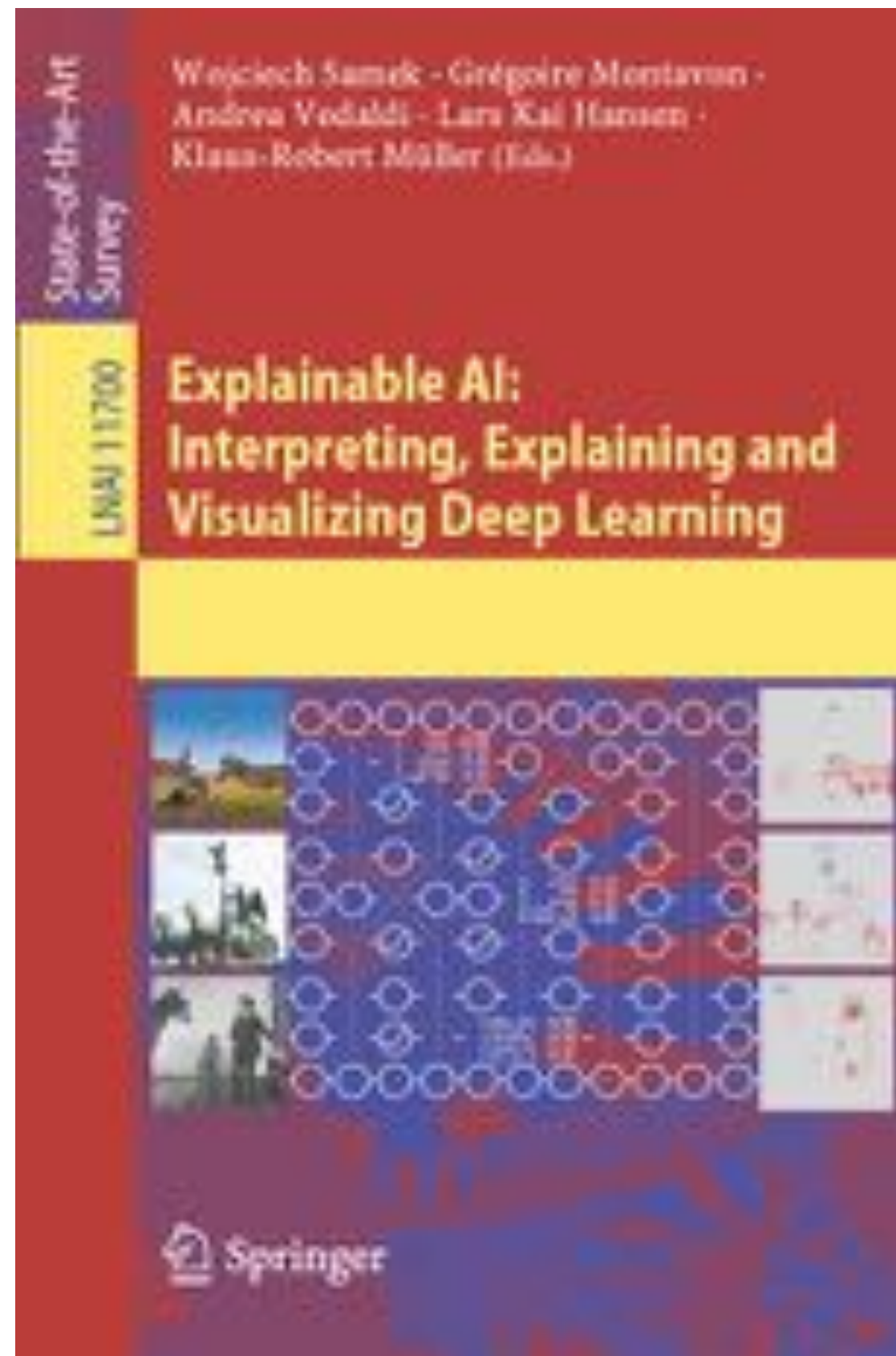
Equivalence

Short answer: there generally are corresponding features in different networks (up to 1x1 linear tfs).

Long answer
Understanding image representations by measuring their equivariance and equivalence. Lenc Vedaldi.
CVPR 2015 & IJCV 2018



Collected references



Explainable AI: Interpreting, Explaining and Visualizing Deep Learning. Samek, Montavon, Vedaldi, Hansen, Muller, editors. Springer, 2019

Software

Captum

<https://pytorch.org/captum/>

More than just vision

TorchRay

<https://github.com/facebookresearch/TorchRay>

Attribution, reproducibility, benchmarks



Summary

Generating conic examples

- Inversion vs activation maximization
- The importance of the prior / regularizer
- Aesthetic vs diagnostic

Attribution

- (Modified) gradient backpropagation
- Excitation and relevance backpropagation
- Meaningful perturbation analysis
- Understanding via approximating models