# The Promise & Peril of Deep Learning for Cybersecurity

#### Dr. John McKay

**Research & Development Engineer** 

Applied Research Laboratory

Pennsylvania State University



### March 28, 2018

5<sup>th</sup> Cybersecurity Workshop

#### Introduction

Deep Learning

# Deep Learning Gone Wrong

- The Signal from the Noise
- Little Nudges in the Wrong Direction

# 3 What to Do?

# 4 Summary

# IntroductionDeep Learning

#### Deep Learning Gone Wrong

- The Signal from the Noise
- Little Nudges in the Wrong Direction

#### **B** What to Do?

# Ø Summary

#### Marriott's data breach may be the biggest in history. Now it's facing multiple class-action lawsuits.

Marriott is being sued for allegedly failing to protect more than 300 million guests' information from hackers. By Gaty Del Valle | @getydb | getydewie@vormedia.com | Jan 13, 2010, 1.00pm EST

f 🔰 📝 снаяс



#### Independent



'All this support to keep me on top is so funny, I love it, please keep it up? PewDiePie says

) 🖪 🙄 🚳



# (';--have i been pwned?)



#### haveibeenpwned.com

Fans of PewDiePie have deficed a section of the Wall Street Journal website in order to post a message of support for the world's most popular YouTube channel



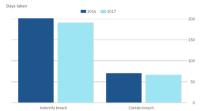
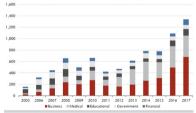


Chart 9: Increasing number of data breaches (by entity)



Source: Jefferies, Identity Theft Resource Centre

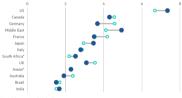
#### marketwatch.com

Source: Ponemon Institute

#### **Financial Times**

The average cost of a data breach Śm

2017 0 A-year average



"Mintorical data are not available for all years Source: Ponemon Institute

- As threats have grown and hackers have developed increasingly sophisticated strategies for accessing sensitive data, commercial/government/etc. organizations have started looking to deep learning to aid in prevention and detection.
- This talk is designed to cover why deep learning is an attractive avenue and why we should be careful of its hidden flaws.

# Can AI Become Our New Cybersecurity Sheriff?



Naveen Joshi Contributor COGNITIVE WORLD Contributor Group () Al & Big Data



AI, the new sheriff DEPOSITPHOTOS ENHANCED BY COGWORLD

forbes.com

# Introduction

Deep Learning

# Deep Learning Gone Wrong

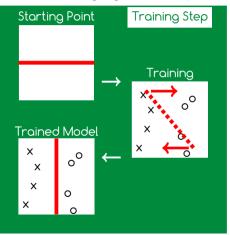
- The Signal from the Noise
- Little Nudges in the Wrong Direction

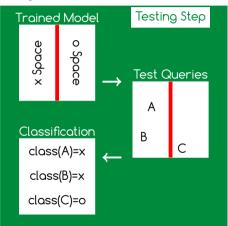
# 3 What to Do?

# 4 Summary

# What is Machine Learning?

• ML is a field of algorithm development wherein data is used to tune parameters/weights towards some task (like classification). We are going to discuss **supervised** ML, meaning the data is labeled.





• Traditionally, **features** are extracted from data samples to focus the training/testing of the machine learning model.





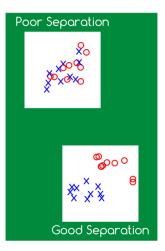
MIT

- Traditionally, features are extracted from data samples to focus the training/testing of the machine learning model.
- How these features are designed and the attributes they capture is of great interest; the more discriminatory they are, the easier a classifier will train and the better the algorithm will do.

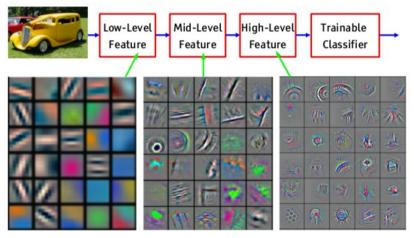


Wikipedia

- Traditionally, features are extracted from data samples to focus the training/testing of the machine learning model.
- How these features are designed and the attributes they capture is of great interest; the more discriminatory they are, the easier a classifier will train and the better the algorithm will do.



• Instead of human developed features, why not let the **machine decipher its own set of discriminatory features**.



Yan LeCunn

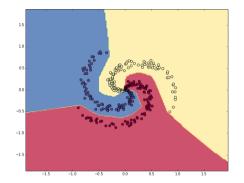
# Deep Learning: Let the Machine Decide Features

• Instead of human developed features, why not let the **machine decipher its own set of discriminatory features**.

towardsdatascience.com

# Deep Learning: Let the Machine Decide Features

• Instead of human developed features, why not let the **machine decipher its own set of discriminatory features**.



Stanford CS 231

#### Delving Deep into Rectifiers: Surpassing Human-Level Performance on ImageNet Classification

Kaiming He Xiangyu Zhang Shaoqing Ren Jian Sun

Microsoft Research {kahe, v-xiangz, v-shren, jiansun}@microsoft.com

#### Abstract

Rectified activation units (rectifiers) are essential for state-of-the-art neural networks. In this work, we study rectifier neural networks for image classification from two aspects. First we propose a Parametric Rectified Linear Unit (PReLU) that generalizes the traditional rectified unit. PReLU improves model fitting with nearly zero extra comnutational cost and little overfitting risk. Second we derive a robust initialization method that particularly considers the rectifier nonlinearities. This method enables us to train extremely deep rectified models directly from scratch and to investigate deeper or wider network architectures. Based on our PReLU networks (PReLU-nets) we achieve 4.94% top-5 text error on the ImaveNet 2012 classification dataset. This is a 26% relative improvement over the ILSVRC 2014 winner (GoogLeNet, 6.66% [29]). To our knowledge, our result is the first to surpass human-level per formance (5.1%-1221) on this visual recognition challenge. and the use of smaller strides [33, 24, 2, 25]), new nonlinear activations [21, 20, 34, 19, 27, 9], and sophisticated layer designs [29, 11]. On the other hand, better generalization is achieved by effective regularization techniques [12, 26, 9, 31], aggressive data augmentation [16, 13, 25, 29], and large-scale data [4, 22].

Among these advances, the rectifier neuron [21, 8, 20, 34], e.g., Rectified Linear Unit (ReLU), is one of several keys to the recent access of deep networks [16]. It expdites convergence of the training procedure [16] and leads to better solutions [21, 23, 23, 4] than conventional signoidlike units. Despite the prevalence of rectifier networks, recent improvements of models [33, 24, 11, 25, 29] and theoretical guidelines for training them [7, 23] have rarely focused on the preventise of the rectifiers.

In this paper, we investigate neural networks from two aspects particularly driven by the rectifiers. First, we propose a new generalization of ReLU, which we call personnels particulate the rest of the line of the second seco

#### He et al CVPR 2015

 The strength of deep learning/neural networks is in the auto-feature-generation. Circumventing human bias allows a direct path to a seemingly optimal solution.

- The strength of deep learning/neural networks is in the auto-feature-generation. Circumventing human bias allows a direct path to a seemingly optimal solution.
- Without human intervention, though, we have a **black box** classifier.

Query A  $\longrightarrow$  Network  $\longrightarrow$  class(A)

What is the network looking at? Why those features? Are the features relevant?

- For the rest of this talk, we are going to discuss ways in which deep learning/neural networks can fooled.
- Key context: deep learning is **the state-of-the-art**. It is difficult to justify using SVMs/random forests/etc. for many problems when a neural network can *significantly* improve performance.
- Note as well that these other machine learning strategies can also be fooled many in the exact same way.

# IntroductionDeep Learning

### Deep Learning Gone Wrong

- The Signal from the Noise
- Little Nudges in the Wrong Direction

#### **B** What to Do?

# Ø Summary

- Assume for the following that we have a well-trained neural network for a classification task.
- It is easiest to illustrate the following ideas with images, but note that they apply for any domain.

# IntroductionDeep Learning

# Deep Learning Gone Wrong

The Signal from the Noise

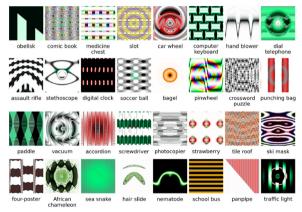
Little Nudges in the Wrong Direction

# 3 What to Do?

# 4 Summary

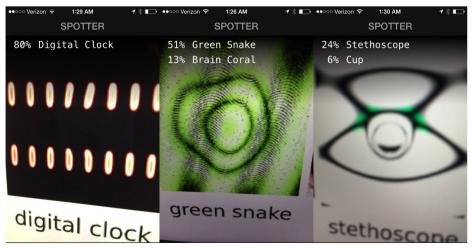
# What Is the Network Looking For?

- We did not constrain the network to filters that we can understand.
- Research has shown that deformations of objects into gibberish can still earn high scores from a neural network. The images below all have > 99% confidence from a well-trained model.



#### Nguyen et al CVPR 2015

• Even second-hand, these images fool state-of-the-art networks.



Nguyen et al CVPR 2015

# IntroductionDeep Learning

# Deep Learning Gone Wrong

- The Signal from the Noise
- Little Nudges in the Wrong Direction

# 3 What to Do?

# 4 Summary

# How robust is the model to being fooled?

• What if someone wants to actively fool a network? What if we have an adversarial attack?

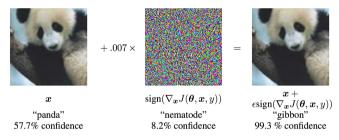
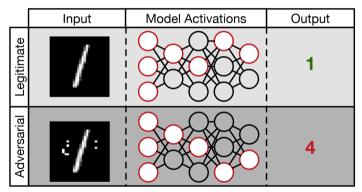


Figure 1: A demonstration of fast adversarial example generation applied to GoogLeNet (Szegedy et al., 2014a) on ImageNet. By adding an imperceptibly small vector whose elements are equal to the sign of the elements of the gradient of the cost function with respect to the input, we can change GoogLeNet's classification of the image. Here our e of .007 corresponds to the magnitude of the smallest bit of an 8 bit image encoding after GoogLeNet's conversion to real numbers.

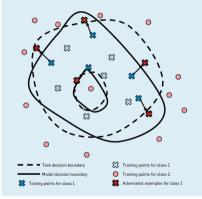
### Goodfellow et al ICLR 2014





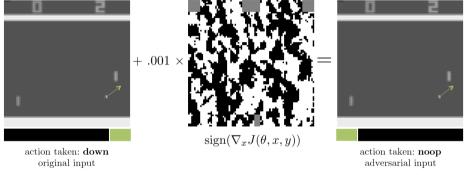
Papernot et al 2016 arXiv

Note that in higher dimensions, all examples are "close" to decision boundaries, as illustrated in this low-dimensional problem by the "pocket" of red class points included in the blue class.



GoodFellow et al ACM Magazine 2018

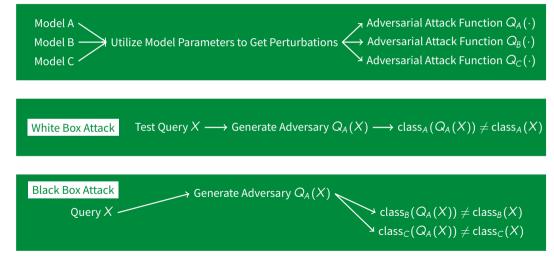
White box attack: the adversary knows the model parameters.



#### Huang et al ICLR 2017

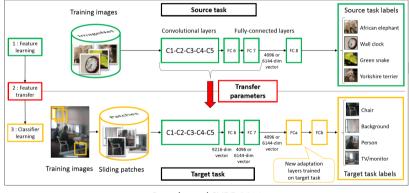
# Black Box Attacks

- Black box attacks: the adversary doesn't know model parameters.
- These attacks are harder to deal with than white box attacks.



# Why Do Black Box Attacks Work?

- A key concept of modern NN theory is transfer learning, the ability to share weights among similar tasks.
- Sharing weights makes training with smaller data sets possible, but it also means that similar models will
  produce similar weights → black box attacks.



Oquab et al CVPR 2014

# Introduction

Deep Learning

# Deep Learning Gone Wrong

- The Signal from the Noise
- Little Nudges in the Wrong Direction

# 3 What to Do?

# Ø Summary

# Protection from White Box Attacks

- We can prevent white box attacks by training with adversarial examples.
- Though simple, this is an effective measure.

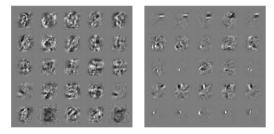
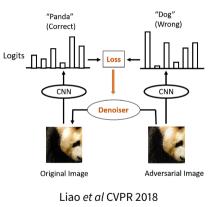


Figure 3: Weight visualizations of maxout networks trained on MNIST. Each row shows the filters for a single maxout unit. Left) Naively trained model. Right) Model with adversarial training.

Goodfellow et al ICLR 2015

- Similar to white box, we can use train several models and train using a mixed batch of adversarial images.
- This seems to work but is unsatisfying; there are other more sophisticated actions to take, but this is an open question.



# Introduction

Deep Learning

# Deep Learning Gone Wrong

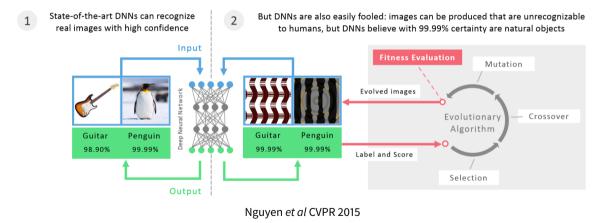
- The Signal from the Noise
- Little Nudges in the Wrong Direction

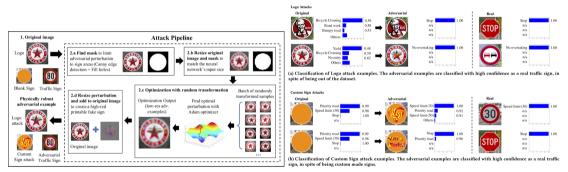
### **B** What to Do?

# 4 Summary

- Deep learning is the state-of-the-art. It's unavoidably the best choice for most classification tasks.
- It's a black box by design. We want the machine to craft its own features even though we won't be able to decipher their meaning.
- Adversarial images show the double edged sword of this feature generation. The incredible performance comes with vulnerabilities.
- For cybersecurity, we need to look into neural networks as an option but should be wary of their problem cases.

# 6 Appendix





#### Sitawarin et al ACM CCS 2018