

Neural Tangent Generalization Attacks



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Outline

- Introduction & Motivation
- Problem Definition
- Neural Tangent Generalization Attacks
- Experiments
- Conclusion

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Introduction

- Deep Neural Networks achieve the remarkable performance
- As a consequence, the rising concern about data privacy and security is followed by

Introduction

- DNNs usually require large datasets to train, many practitioners scrape data from external sources
- However, the external data owner may not be wiling to let this happen
 - Many online healthcare or music streaming services own privacy-sensitive and/or copyright-protected data

NORMAL COVID

Al doctor



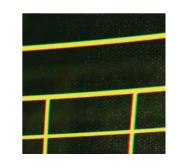


Google accused of inappropriate access to medical data in potential class-action lawsuit

Tech giants want medical data and privacy advocates are worried

By James Vincent | Jun 27, 2019, 7:19am EDT

Facial biometrics training dataset leads to BIPA lawsuits against Amazon, Alphabet and **Microsoft**





Personal Finance

Watchlist

Lifestyle

FACEBOOK · Published July 24

Real Estate

Clearview AI a

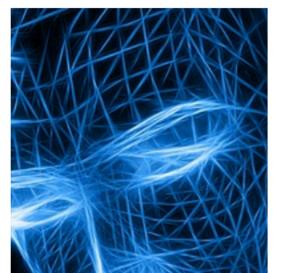
Jul 15, 2020 | Chris B

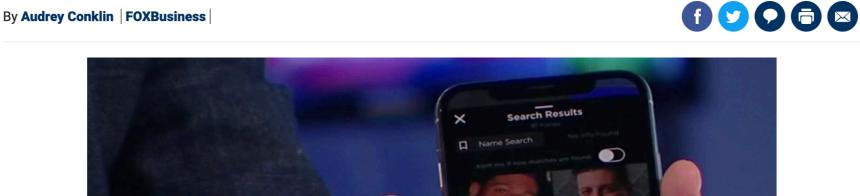
CATEGORIES

Biometr



Facebook used automatic photo recognition technology starting in 2015







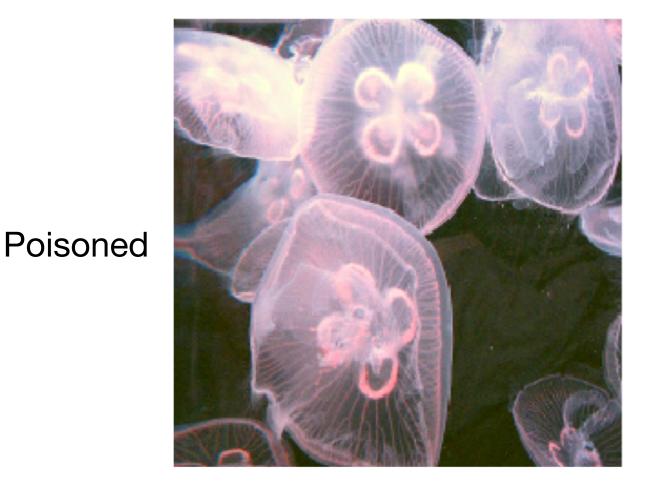
Is it possible to prevent a DNN model from learning on given data?

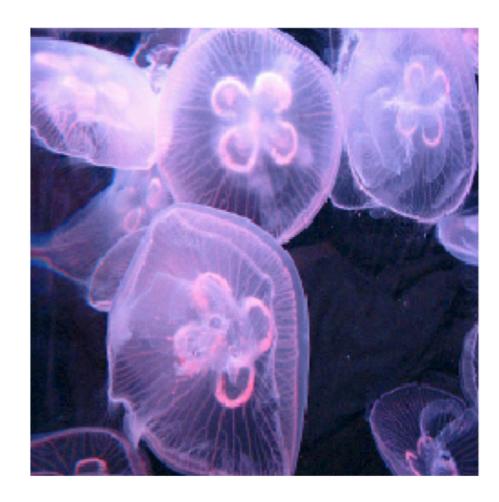
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Generalization Attacks

- Given a dataset, an attacker perturbs a certain amount of data with the aim of spoiling the DNN training process such that a trained network lacks generalizability
 - Meanwhile, the perturbations should be slight enough so legitimate users can still consume the data normally





Clean

Generalization Attacks

It can be formulated as a bilevel optimization problem

$$\arg\max_{(\textbf{\textit{P}},\textbf{\textit{Q}})\in\mathcal{T}}L(f(\textbf{\textit{X}}^m;\theta^*),\textbf{\textit{Y}}^m)$$
 subject to $\theta^*\in\arg\min_{\theta}L(f(\textbf{\textit{X}}^n+\textbf{\textit{P}};\theta),\textbf{\textit{Y}}^n+\textbf{\textit{Q}})$

- $\mathbb{D} = (X^n \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}, Y^n \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times c})$: training set of n examples
- $\mathbb{V} = (X^m, Y^m)$: validation set of m examples
- $f(\cdot;\theta)$: model parameterized by θ
- $extbf{ extit{P}}$ and $extbf{ extit{Q}}$: perturbations to be added to $extbf{ extit{D}}$
- \mathcal{T} : threat model controls the allowable values of perturbations

Challenge: Bilevel Optimization

 The main challenge to solve the bilevel problem by gradient ascent is to compute the gradients of

$$\frac{\partial L(f(X^m; \theta^*), Y^m)}{\partial P}$$
 and $\frac{\partial L(f(X^m; \theta^*), Y^m)}{\partial Q}$

- through multiple training steps
 - If f is trained using gradient descent, the above gradients require the computation of high-order derivatives of θ^* and can be easily intractable



Challenge: Bilevel Optimization

- The bilevel problem can be solved exactly and efficiently only when the learning model is convex, e.g. SVMs, LASSO, Logistic/Ridge regression
 - Replace the inner min problem with its stationary (or KKT) conditions
- However, the above trick is not applicable to non-convex DNNs

Challenge: Bilevel Optimization

- Moreover, the attacks against convex models are shown not transferable to non-convex DNNs
- Some works solve the relaxations of the bilevel problem with a white-box assumption
 - , where the architecture and exact weights of the model after training can be known in advance
 - This assumption, however, does not hold in many practical situations
- Efficient computing of a black-box, clean-label generalization attack against DNNs remains an open problem

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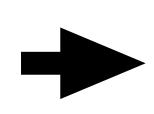
Neural Tangent Generalization Attacks

 We propose Neural Tangent Generalization Attacks (NTGAs), the first work enabling clean-label, black-box generalization attacks against DNNs



Challenges of a Black-box Generalization Attack

1. Solve the bilevel problem efficiently against a non-convex model \boldsymbol{f}

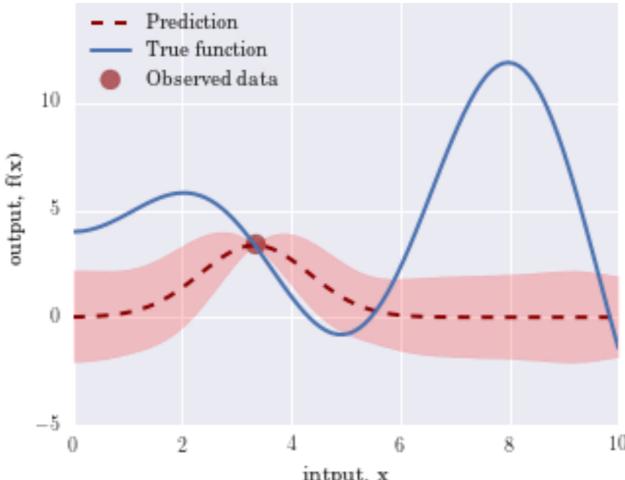


We let f be the mean of a Gaussian Process (GP) with a Neural Tangent Kernel (NTK) that approximates the training dynamics of a class of wide DNNs

2. Let *f* be a "representative" surrogate of the unknown target models

Gaussian Process

- The distribution of a class of wide neural networks can be approximated by a Gaussian Process (GP)
 - Either before training or during training under gradient descent
 - GP is a regressor with the mean and variance
 - It only loosely depends on the exact weights of a particular network



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Neural Tangent Kernels

- In particular, the behavior of the GP during training is governed by a Neural Tangent Kernel (NTK)
 - As the width of the networks grows into infinity, the NTK converges to a deterministic kernel $k(\cdot, \cdot)$ that remains constant during training
 - $k(x^i, x^j)$ represents a similarity score between x^i and x^j from the network class' point of view

Neural Tangent Kernels

• At time step t during the gradient descent training, the mean prediction of the GP over \mathbb{V} evolves as:

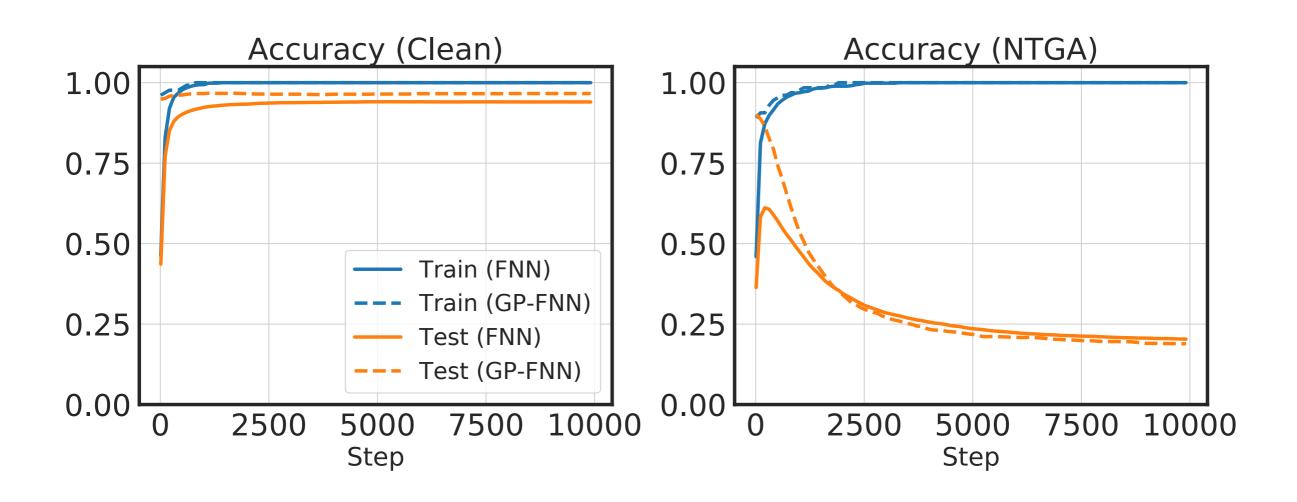
$$\bar{f}(X^m; K^{m,n}, K^{n,n}, Y^n, t) = K^{m,n}(K^{n,n})^{-1}(I - e^{\eta K^{n,n}t})Y^n$$

- \bar{f} : the mean prediction of GP
- $\pmb{K}^{n,n} \in \mathbb{R}^{n,n}$: kernel matrix where $K^{n,n}_{i,j} = k(x^i \in \mathbb{D}, x^j \in \mathbb{D})$
- $K^{m,n} \in \mathbb{R}^{m,n}$: kernel matrix where $K^{m,n}_{i,j} = k(x^i \in \mathbb{V}, x^j \in \mathbb{D})$

$$\mathbf{K}^{n,n} = \begin{bmatrix} k(x^1, x^1) & \cdots & k(x^1, x^n) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ k(x^n, x^1) & \cdots & k(x^n, x^n) \end{bmatrix}$$

Neural Tangent Kernels

 The mean (GP-FNN) of a GP with NTK closely approximates the behavior of a trained fully-connected network (FNN)



Why Neural Tangent Kernels?

• We can write the predictions made by \bar{f} over $\mathbb V$ in a closed form without knowing the exact weights of a particular network

$$\bar{f}(X^m; K^{m,n}, K^{n,n}, Y^n, t) = K^{m,n}(K^{n,n})^{-1}(I - e^{\eta K^{n,n}t})Y^n$$

Efficiency

This allows us to rewrite

$$\arg\max_{(\textbf{\textit{P}},\textbf{\textit{Q}})\in\mathcal{T}}L(f(\textbf{\textit{X}}^m;\theta^*),\textbf{\textit{Y}}^m)$$
 subject to $\theta^*\in\arg\min_{\theta}L(f(\textbf{\textit{X}}^n+\textbf{\textit{P}};\theta),\textbf{\textit{Y}}^n+\textbf{\textit{Q}})$

as a more straightforward problem

$$\arg\max_{\boldsymbol{P}\in\mathcal{T}}L(\bar{f}(\boldsymbol{X}^m;\hat{\boldsymbol{K}}^{m,n},\hat{\boldsymbol{K}}^{n,n},\boldsymbol{Y}^n,t),\boldsymbol{Y}^m)$$

- \bar{f} : the mean prediction of GP
- $\hat{K}^{n,n}\in\mathbb{R}^{n,n}$ and $\hat{K}^{m,n}\in\mathbb{R}^{m,n}$: kernel matrices built on the poisoned training data X^n+P
- Now, the gradients of the loss L w.r.t. \boldsymbol{P} can be easily computed without backpropagating through training steps

Neural Tangent Generalization Attacks

We use the projected gradient ascent to solve it

Algorithm 1 Neural Tangent Generalization Attack

Input:
$$\mathbb{D} = (\boldsymbol{X}^n, \boldsymbol{Y}^n), \ \mathbb{V} = (\boldsymbol{X}^m, \boldsymbol{Y}^m), \ \bar{f}(\cdot; k(\cdot, \cdot), t), \ L, r, \eta, \mathcal{T}(\epsilon)$$

Output: P to be added to X^n

ı Initialize $P \in \mathcal{T}(\epsilon)$

```
for i \leftarrow 1 to r do

\begin{vmatrix}
G \leftarrow \nabla_{\mathbf{P}} L(\bar{f}(\mathbf{X}^m; \hat{\mathbf{K}}^{m,n}, \hat{\mathbf{K}}^{n,n}, \mathbf{Y}^n, t), \mathbf{Y}^m) \\
P \leftarrow \text{Project}(\mathbf{P} + \eta \cdot \text{sign}(\mathbf{G}); \mathcal{T}(\epsilon))
\end{vmatrix}

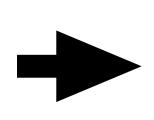
end
```

 $_{6}$ return P

Challenges of a Black-box Generalization Attack

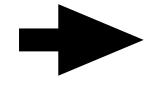


Solve the bilevel problem efficiently against a non-convex model f



We let f be the mean of a Gaussian Process (GP) with a Neural Tangent Kernel (NTK) that approximates the training dynamics of a class of wide DNNs

2. Let *f* be a "representative" surrogate of the unknown target models



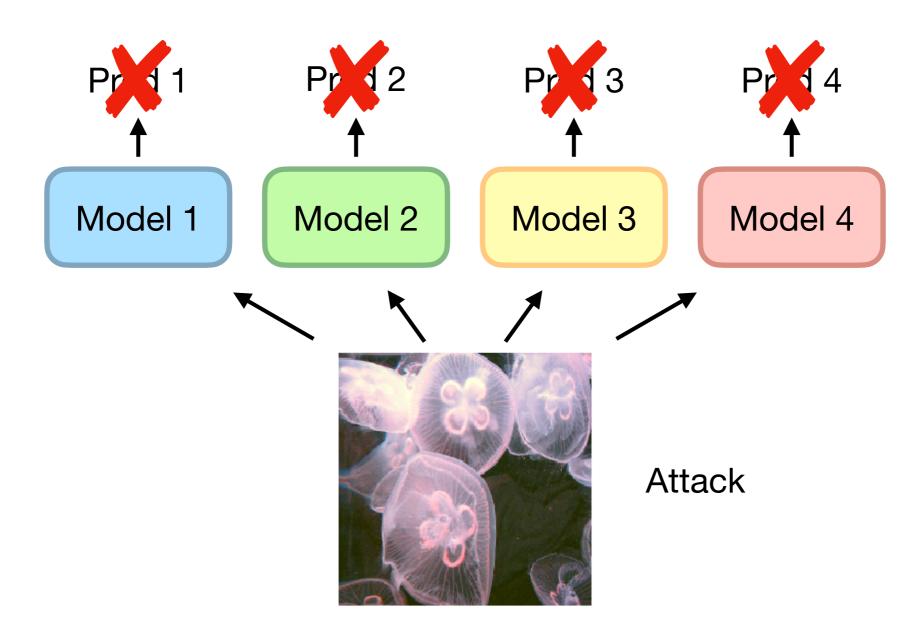
The GPs behind NTGA surrogates model the evolution of an infinite ensemble of infinite-width networks

Model Agnosticism

- NTGA is agnostic to the target models and training procedures because \bar{f} is only their surrogate
- Why NTGA can generate successful black-box attack?

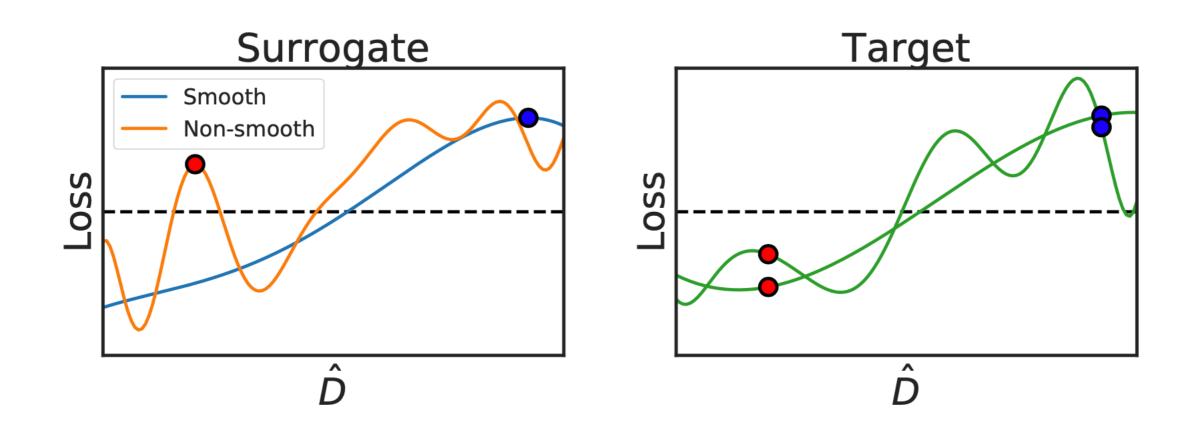
Infinite Ensemble

- As earlier works pointed out, the ensemble can increase the attack's transferability
 - The infinite ensemble should work the best



Infinite-width Networks

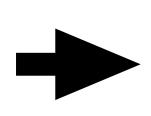
- By the universal approximation theorem, the infinitewidth network can cover target networks of any weight and architectures
- A wide surrogate has a smoother loss landscape that helps NTGA find local optima with better transferability



Challenges of a Black-box Generalization Attack



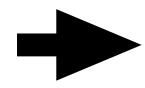
Solve the bilevel problem efficiently against a non-convex model f



We let f be the mean of a Gaussian Process (GP) with a Neural Tangent Kernel (NTK) that approximates the training dynamics of a class of wide DNNs



Let f be a "representative" surrogate of the unknown target models



The GPs behind NTGA surrogates model the evolution of an infinite ensemble of infinite-width networks

Collaborative Perturbations

In

$$\arg\max_{\boldsymbol{P}\in\mathcal{T}}L(\bar{f}(\boldsymbol{X}^m;\hat{\boldsymbol{K}}^{m,n},\hat{\boldsymbol{K}}^{n,n},\boldsymbol{Y}^n,t),\boldsymbol{Y}^m),$$

- ullet the perturbations $oldsymbol{P}_{i,:}$ for individual data points $oldsymbol{X}_{i,:}^n$ are solved collectively
 - Each training data can be slightly modified to remain invisible to human eyes, and together they can significantly manipulate model generalizability

Scalability on Large Datasets

- The computation of the gradients of NTGA backpropagates through $(\hat{\pmb{K}}^{n,n})^{-1}$ and $e^{-\eta \hat{\pmb{K}}^{n,n}t}$. This creates a scalability issue on a training set with a large n
 - The computational complexity is $O(n^3)$

Scalability on Large Datasets

- We propose Blockwise NTGA (B-NTGA) to increase scalability at the cost of the less collaborative benefit
 - 1. Partition $\mathbb D$ into multiple groups, where each group contains b examples
 - 2. Solve the optimization problem for each group independently

$$\hat{\mathbf{K}}^{n,n} = \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{K}}^{b,b} & \dots & \\ \vdots & \hat{\mathbf{K}}^{b,b} & \\ \vdots & \hat{\mathbf{K}}^{b,b} & \\ \vdots & \hat{\mathbf{K}}^{b,b} & \\ \end{bmatrix}$$

• Although missing the off-diagonal information, B-NTGA works if b is large enough to enable efficient collaboration

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Experiments

Datasets

- MNIST
- CIFAR-10
- 2-class ImageNet

Baselines

- Return Favor Attack (RFA), Machine Learning and Knowledge Extraction'19
- DeepConfuse, NeurIPS'19

Surrogates

- NTGA: GP-FNN and GP-CNN (infinite width/channel)
- Baselines: S-FNN and S-CNN (finite width/channel)

Gray-box Attacks

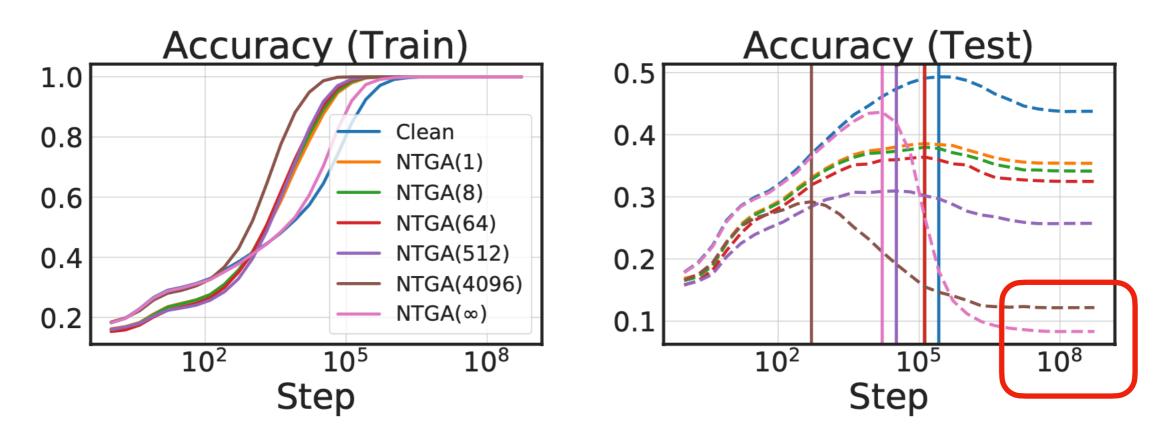
- Here, an attacker knows the architecture of a target model but not its weights
 - NTGA(·) denotes an attack with a specific hyperparameter t
 FNN: -59.29%

CNN: -50.73%

Dataset	Clean	RFA	Deep	NTGA	NTGA	NTGA	NTGA	NTGA	NTGA
\Attack			Confuse	(1)	(8)	(64)	(512)	(4096)	(∞)
Surrogate: *-FNN → Target: FNN									
MNIST	96.26±0.09	74.23±1.91	-	3.95±1.00	4.08±0.73	2.57±0.72	1.20±0.11	5.80±0.26	88.87±0.15
CIFAR-10	49.57±0.12	37.79±0.73	-	36.05±0.07	35.01±0.16	32.57±0.21	25.95±0.46	20.63±0.57	43.61±0.35
ImageNet	91.60±0.49	90.20±0.98	-	76.60±2.58	72.40±3.14	85.40±3.01	86.00±2.19	88.80±2.19	91.20±0.75
Surrogate: *-CNN → Target: CNN									
MNIST	99.49±0.02	94.92±1.75	46.21±5.14	23.89±1.34	17.63±0.92	15.64±1.10	19.25±2.05	21.30±1.02	30.93±5.94
CIFAR-10	78.12±0.11	73.80±0.62	44.84±1.19	41.17±0.57	40.52±1.18	42.28±0.86	47.64±0.78	48.19±0.78	65.59±0.42
ImageNet	96.00±0.63	94.40±1.02	93.00±0.63	79.00±2.28	79.80±3.49	77.00±4.90	80.40±3.14	88.20±1.94	89.60±1.36

Effect of t

- t controls when an attack will take effect during the training process of a target model
 - Vertical lines represent the early-stop points



NTGA(∞) works best in the long term, this result will never happen in practice because of the early stopping

Black-box Attacks

- Here, an attacker knows nothing about a target model
 - The surrogates are very different from a target model in architecture, optimization method, loss function, etc

FNN: -85.86%

CNN: -96.14%

Target	Clean	RFA	Deep	NTGA	NTGA	NTGA	NTGA	NTGA	NTGA
\Attack			Confuse	(1)	(8)	(64)	(512)	(4096)	(∞)
Surrogate: *	-FNN								
CNN	99.49±0.02	86.99±2.86	-	33.80±7.21	35.14±4.68	26.03±1.83	30.01±3.06	28.09±8.25	94.15±1.31
FNN-ReLU	97.87±0.10	84.62±1.30	-	2.08±0.40	2.41±0.44	2.18±0.45	2.10±0.59	12.72±2.40	89.93±0.81
Surrogate: *	-CNN								
FNN	96.26±0.09	69.95±3.34	15.48±0.94	8.46±1.37	5.62±0.40	4.63±0.51	7.47±0.64	19.29±2.02	78.08±2.30
FNN-ReLU	97.87±0.10	84.15±1.07	17.50±1.49	3.48±0.90	3.72±0.68	2.86±0.41	7.69±0.59	25.62±3.00	87.81±0.79
(a) MNIST									

Black-box Attacks

- Here, an attacker knows nothing about a target model
 - The surrogates are very different from a target model in architecture, optimization method, loss function, etc

FNN: -55.15%

CNN: -54.27%

Surrogate: *-	FNN								
CNN	78.12±0.11	74.71±0.44	-	48.46±0.56	46.88±0.90	44.84±0.38	43.17±1.23	36.05±1.11	77.43±0.33
FNN-ReLU	54.55±0.29	43.19±0.92	-	40.08±0.28	38.84±0.16	36.42±0.36	29.98±0.26	25.95±1.50	46.80±0.25
ResNet18	91.92±0.39	88.76±0.41	-	39.72±0.94	37.93±1.72	36.53±0.63	39.41±1.79	39.68±1.22	89.90±0.47
DenseNet121	92.71±0.15	88.81±0.44	-	46.50±1.96	45.25±1.51	42.59±1.71	48.48±3.62	47.36±0.51	90.82±0.13
Surrogate: *-	CNN								
FNN	49.57±0.12	41.31±0.38	32.59±0.77	28.84±0.21	28.81±0.46	29.00±0.20	26.51±0.39	25.20±0.58	33.50±0.57
FNN-ReLU	54.55±0.29	46.87±0.86	35.06±0.39	32.77±0.44	32.11±0.43	33.05±0.30	31.06±0.54	30.06±0.87	38.47±0.72
ResNet18	91.92±0.39	89.54±0.48	41.10±1.15	34.74±0.50	33.29±1.71	34.92±0.53	44.75±1.19	52.51±1.70	81.45±2.06
DenseNet121	92.71±0.15	90.50±0.19	54.99±7.33	43.54±2.36	37.79±1.18	40.02±1.02	50.17±2.27	59.57±1.65	83.16±0.56
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Black-box Attacks

- Here, an attacker knows nothing about a target model
 - The surrogates are very different from a target model in architecture, optimization method, loss function, etc

FNN: -27.68%

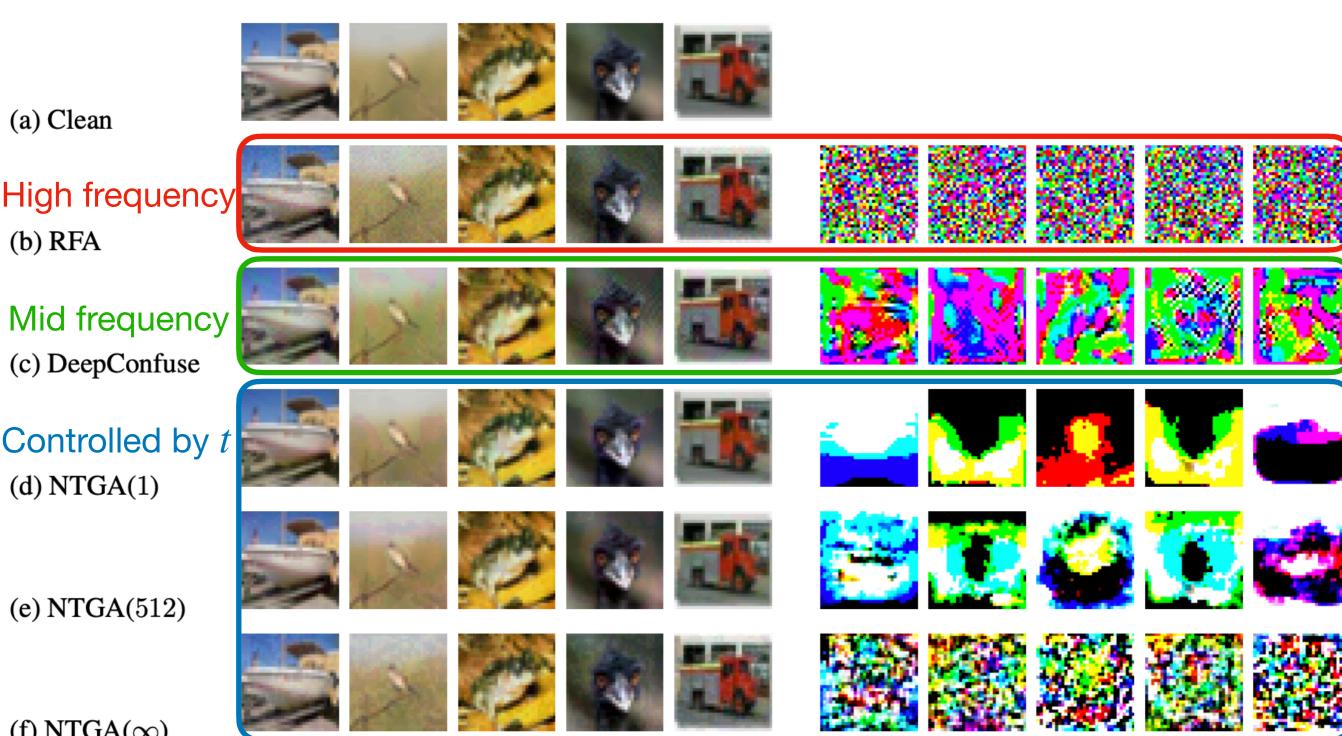
CNN: -19.68%

Surrogate: *-	FNN								
CNN	96.00±0.63	95.80±0.40	-	77.80±2.99	62.40±2.65	63.60±3.56	62.60±9.99	90.00±0.89	93.80±0.40
FNN-ReLU	92.20±0.40	89.60±1.02	-	80.00±2.28	78.53±2.90	68.00±7.72	86.80±3.19	90.40±0.80	91.20±0.75
ResNet18	99.80±0.40	98.20±0.75	-	76.40±1.85	87.80±0.98	91.00±1.90	94.80±1.83	98.40±0.49	98.80±0.98
DenseNet121	98.40±0.49	96.20±0.98	-	72.80±4.07	81.60±1.85	80.00±4.10	88.80±1.72	98.80±0.40	98.20±1.17
Surrogate: *-	CNN								
FNN	91.60±0.49	87.80±1.33	90.80±0.40	75.80±2.14	77.20±3.71	86.20±2.64	88.60±0.49	89.60±0.49	89.40±0.49
FNN-ReLU	92.20±0.40	87.60±0.49	91.00±0.08	80.00±1.10	82.40±3.38	87.80±1.72	89.60±0.49	91.00±0.63	90.40±0.49
ResNet18	99.80±0.40	96.00±1.79	92.80±1.72	76.40±3.44	89.20±1.17	82.80±2.04	96.40±1.02	97.80±1.17	97.80±0.40
DenseNet121	98.40±0.49	90.40±1.96	92.80±2.32	80.60±2.65	81.00±2.68	74.00±6.60	81.80±3.31	93.40±1.20	95.20±0.98
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Interesting Finding

- GP-FNN surrogate seems to give comparable performance to GP-CNN against the convolutional target networks
- We believe this is because convolutional networks without global average pooling behave similarly to fully connected ones in the infinite-width limit

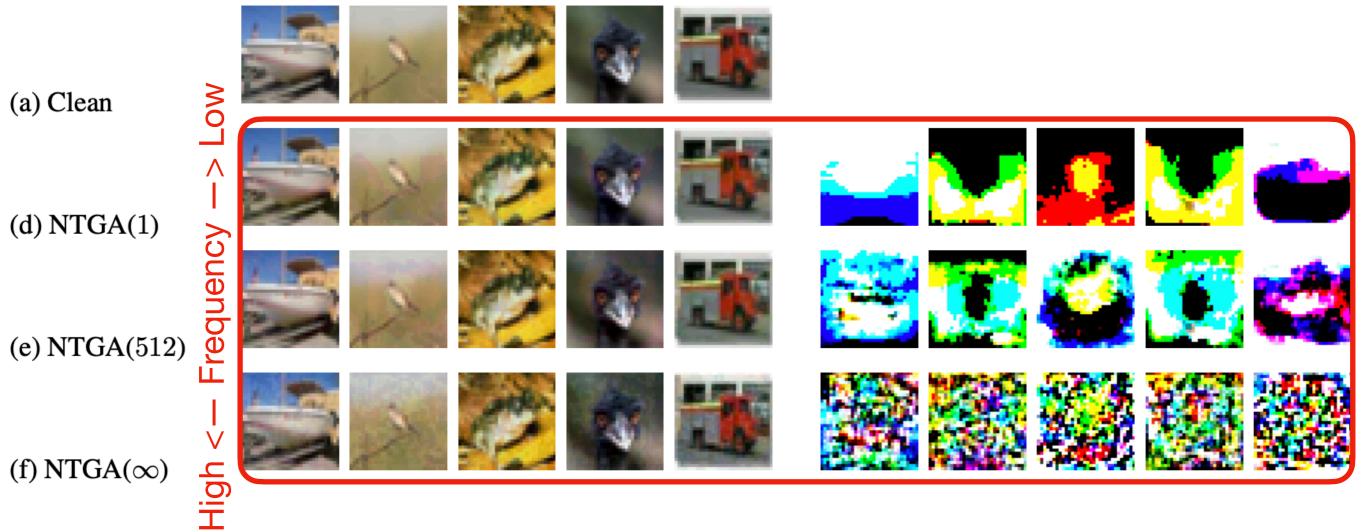
• The hyperparameter *t* also controls how an attack looks



(f) NTGA(∞)

Smaller t leads to simpler perturbations

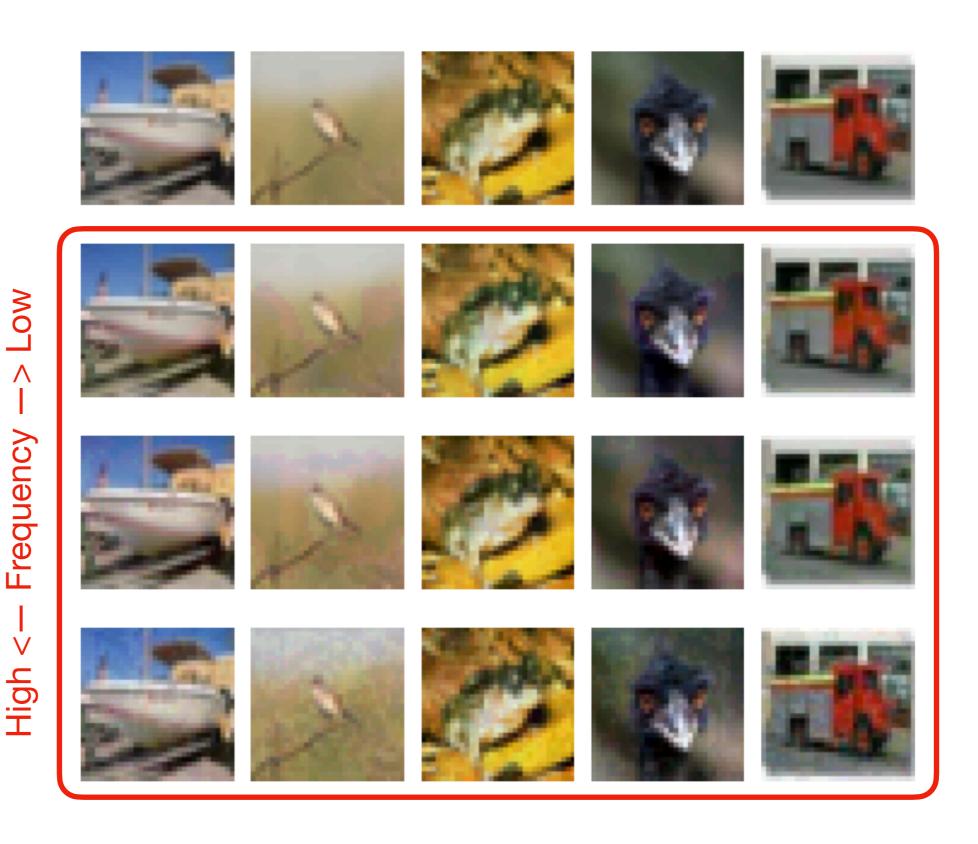
 It is consistent with the previous findings that a network tends to learn lowfrequency patterns at the early stage of training



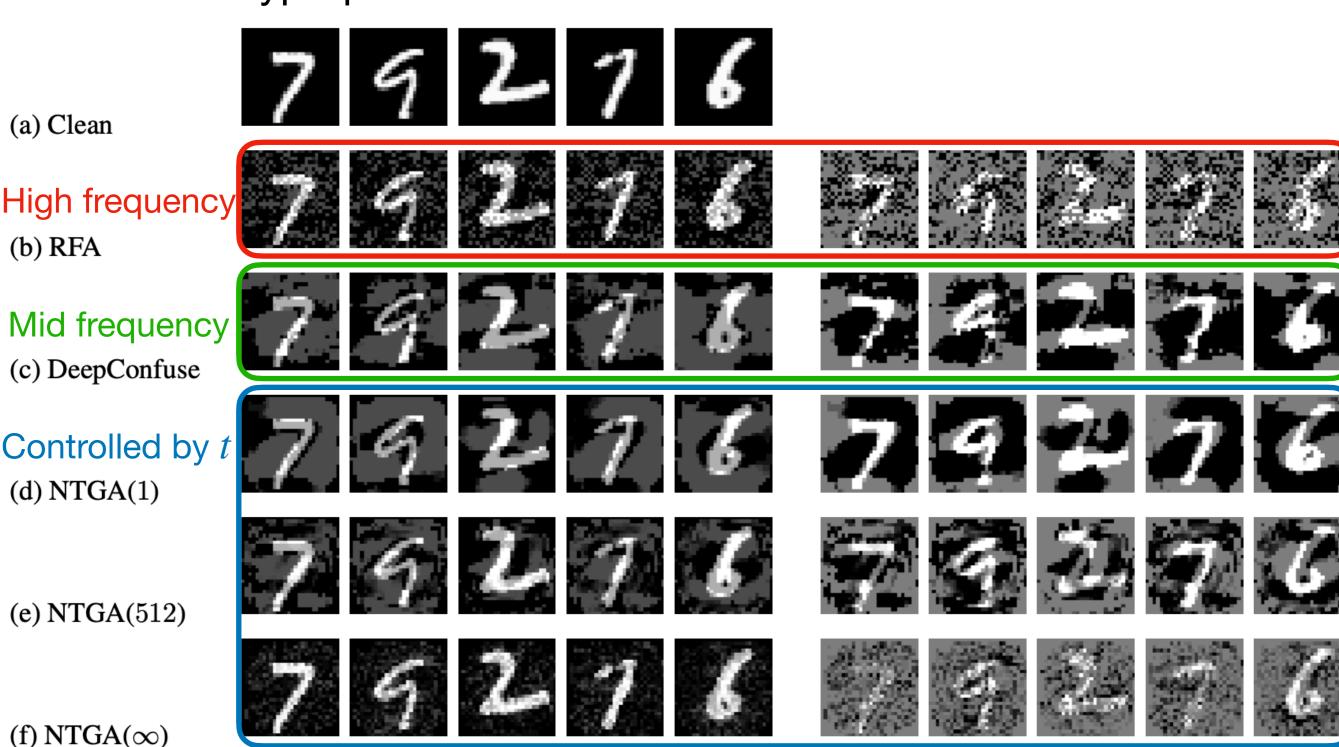
(a) Clean

(d) NTGA(1) (e) NTGA(512)

(f) NTGA(∞)

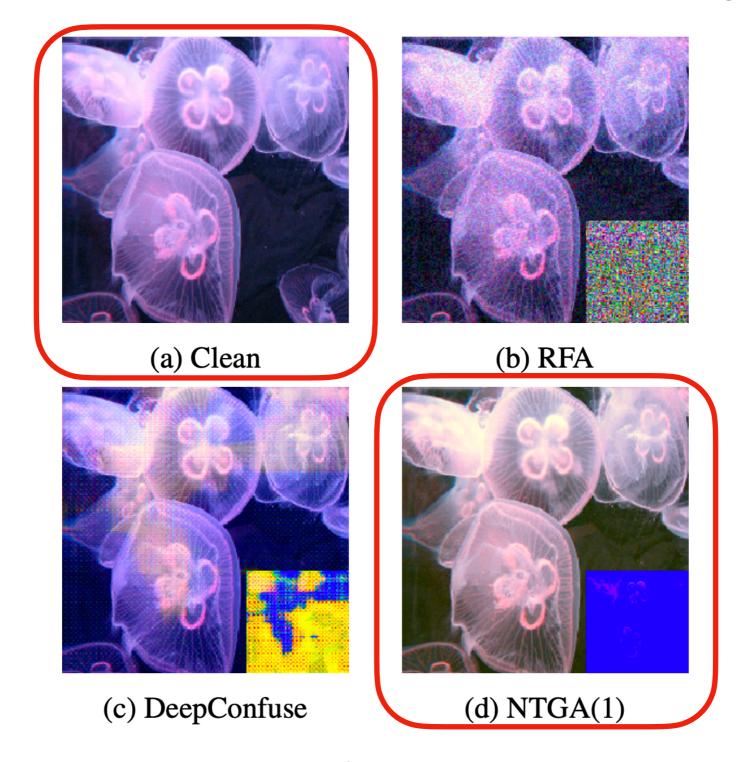


The hyperparameter t also controls how an attack looks



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It may be hard to evade via data preprocessing



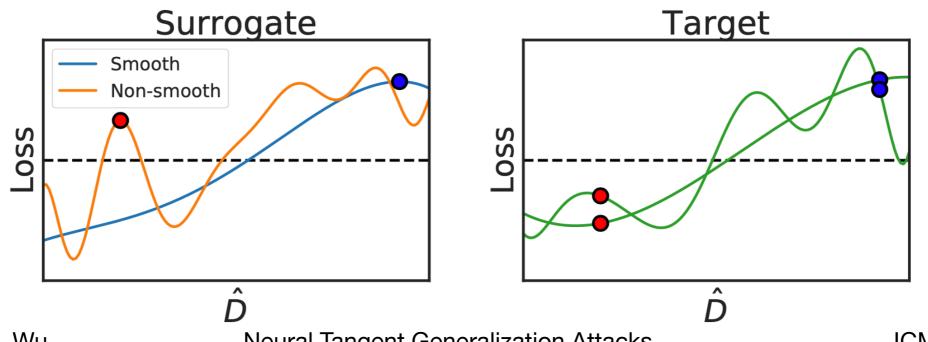
Transferability

1. Infinite ensemble

As earlier works pointed out, the ensemble can increase the transferability

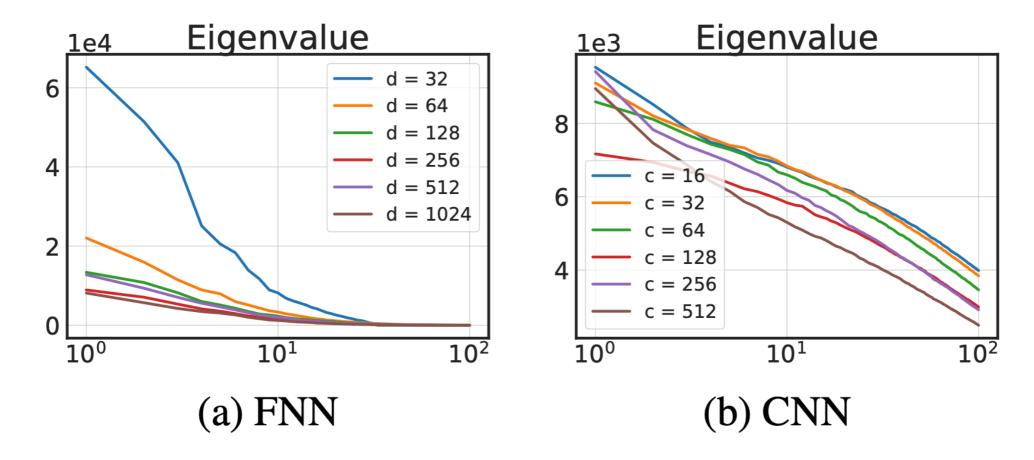
Infinite-width networks

- By the universal approximation theorem, the GPs can cover target networks of any weight and architectures
- A wide surrogate has a smoother loss landscape that helps NTGA find local optima with better transferability



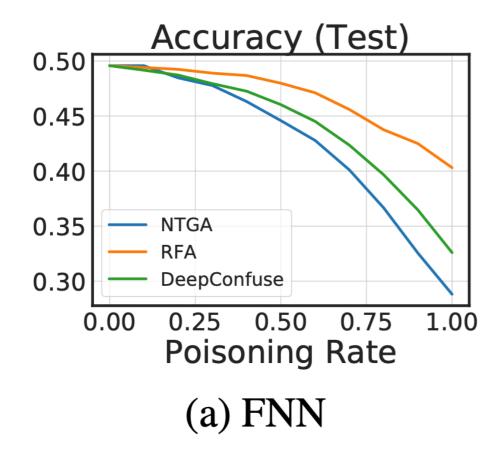
Eigenvalues of Hessians of networks

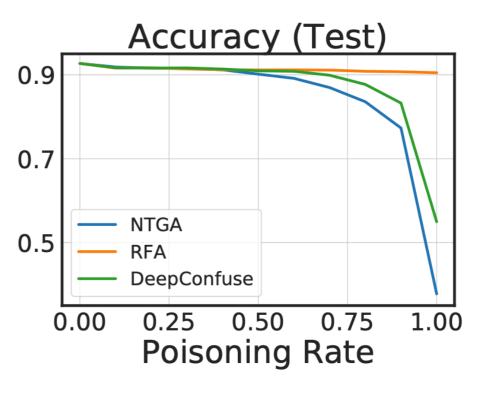
- As the width/channel increases, the eigenvalues become more evenly distributed, implying a smoother loss landscape
- GP-FNN and GP-CNN, which model infinitely wide networks, could lead to the "best" transferability



Effect of Poisoning Rate

- The test performance does not drop significantly because the target network can learn from other clean data
 - NTGA consistently outperforms the baselines





(b) DenseNet121

Trade-off between Speed and Collaboration

- ullet A larger block size b always leads to better performance
 - This suggest that the collaboration is a key to the success of NTGA
- However, a larger b induces higher space and time complexity

	time	D121	R18	CNN	FNN'	FNN	b
					P-FNN	ogate: GI	Surre
RFA ~10 mins	5.8 s	91.14	89.78	77.75	53.95	49.20	1
DeepConfuse ~5-7 days	16.8 s	83.81	80.34	69.02	42.28	37.02	100
Deepeernase or aays	3.5 m	58.40	49.61	47.33	27.85	22.84	1K
NTGA ~5 hours	34 m	47.36	39.68	36.05	25.95	20.63	4K

Summary

- NTGA declines the generalizability sharply
- It is 107.7% more effective than the baselines, while taking 96.5% less time to generate the poisoned data

	MNIST	CIFAR-10	2-class ImageNet
Clean	99.5%	92.7%	98.4%
RFA	87.0%	88.8%	90.4%
DeepConfuse	46.2%	55.0%	92.8%
NTGA	15.6%	37.8%	72.8%
	+57.4%	+45.6%	+220.0%

C.H. Yuan and S.H. Wu

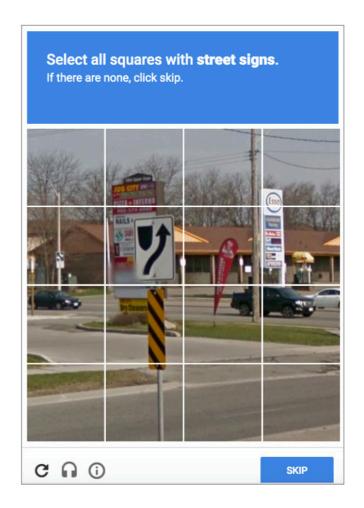
Outline

- Introduction & Motivation
- Problem Definition
- Neural Tangent Generalization Attacks
- Experiments
- Conclusion

Conclusion

- We propose NTGAs, the first work enabling clean-label, black-box generalization attacks against DNNs
- NTGAs can stop unauthorized learning
 - Towards law-compliance Al and ethical Al
- Questions? Chat with us at session time!
 - Or email to: chyuan@datalab.cs.nthu.edu.tw







Code & Unlearnable Dataset

Our code and unlearnable datasets are available at: https://github.com/lionelmessi6410/ntga

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Neural Tangent Generalization Attacks (NTGA)

ICML 2021 Video | Paper | Install Guide | Quickstart | Results | Unlearnable Datasets | Competitions

last commit yesterday license Apache-2.0

Overview

This is the repo for Neural Tangent Generalization Attacks, Chia-Hung Yuan and Shan-Hung Wu, In Proceedings of ICML 2021.

We propose the generalization attack, a new direction for poisoning attacks, where an attacker aims to modify training data in order to spoil the training process such that a trained network lacks generalizability. We devise Neural Tangent Generalization Attack (NTGA), a first efficient work enabling clean-label, black-box generalization attacks against Deep Neural Networks.

NTGA declines the generalization ability sharply, i.e. 99% -> 25%, 92% -> 33%, 99% -> 72% on MNIST, CIFAR10 and 2- class ImageNet, respectively. Please see Results or the main paper for more complete results. We also release the unlearnable MNIST, CIFAR-10, and 2-class ImageNet generated by NTGA, which can be found and

kaggle

Competitions

 We launch 3 competitions on Kaggle, where we are interested in learning from unlearnable MNIST, CIFAR-10, and 2-class ImageNet



Overview Data

Overview

Description

Evaluation

+ Add Page



