

# Adversarial Examples Generation Algorithm through DCGAN

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Abstract: In recent years, due to the popularization of deep learning technology, more and more attention has been paid to the security of deep neural networks. A wide variety of machine learning algorithms can attack neural networks and make its classification and judgement of target samples wrong. However, the previous attack algorithms are based on the calculation of the corresponding model to generate unique adversarial examples, and cannot extract attack features and generate corresponding samples in batches. In this paper, Generative Adversarial Networks (GAN) is used to learn the distribution of adversarial examples generated by FGSM and establish a generation model, thus generating corresponding adversarial examples in batches. The experiment shows that using the Unsupervised Representation Learning with Deep Convolutional Generative Adversarial Networks (DCGAN) to extract and learn the attack characteristics from the FGSM algorithm, the generated adversarial examples attacked the original model with a success rate of 89.1%. For the model attack with increased protection, the success rate increased by 30.3%. This suggests that the adversarial examples generated by GAN are more effective and aggressive. This paper proposes a new approach to generate adversarial examples.

**Keywords:** Adversarial examples; GAN; deep learning; FGSM algorithm; MNIST dataset

# **1** Introduction

With the development of information technology rapidly, deep learning is gradually being recognized and accepted. In many domains, deep learning can complete preset tasks outerform traditional methods, achieving even human-competitive results. However, while deep learning technology is widely used, the importance of its security cannot be overlooked.

According to research, existing deep neural networks are fragile and vulnerable to attacks. Szegedy et al. [1] first found that in the field of image recognition, only a very slight modification on the image will cause the classifier to misclassify the instances. In fact, these modifications make deep neural networks (DNNs) vulnerable to attacks. As the attack algorithms become more and more advanced, the adversarial example becomes more and more aggressive and produces more and more damage. As shown in Fig. 1:



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# 0 **/ 2** 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0 **/ 2** 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

Figure 1: Comparison of adversarial examples and original images

The picture at the bottom is generated by a certain algorithm from the picture at the top, and the neural network will classify it incorrectly. This is very dangerous since deep learning has widely used in security-sensitive fields such as unmanned vehicles, face recognition, bank identity recognition, etc. Therefore, it's necessary to research on what mentioned above. This research direction is called Adversarial Machine Learning (AML), which means that the target model will misclassify the data under the intentional design of the attacker.

In recent years, a large number of papers about adversarial examples and GAN have been published.

In the aspect of adversarial examples, since 2014, Szegedy et al. [1] proposed the concept of adversarial examples and proposed the L-BFGS algorithm for the first time. He pointed out that deep neural network is highly expressive model but this high expressive force also leads to its counter-intuitive properties: the inputoutput mapping learned by the deep neural network is discontinuous to a large extent, so the network can misclassify the image by applying some imperceptible perturbations which is found by maximizing the prediction error of the network. Goodfellow et al. [2] proposed FGSM, a fast and efficient attack algorithm, as well as a defense idea, which can be summarized as follows. Let's say there is an input instance x, calculate  $\eta = \epsilon sign(\nabla_x l_f(x, y))$  to get the adversarial examples  $x_A = x + \eta$ . FGSM algorithm calculates the gradient of the target data and make it increase in reverse so as to make the model random misclassification or specified misclassification. Kurakin et al. [3] put forward an iterative algorithm BIM based on FGSM, which improves the attack effect of adversarial examples through repeated negative gradient calculations. Papernot et al. [4] formalized the space of attacks against DNNs, and introduced a new type of algorithm JSMA. On the basis of the accurate understanding of the mapping between the input and output of DNNs, the adversarial examples were made with a success rate of 97%. JSMA determines the sensitive data position in the sample by calculating the saliency map value of the sample, and achieves good results at the cost of a small amount of data change. Su et al. [5] proposed a new single-pixel adversarial example generation approach based on differential evolution (DE). Papernot et al. [6] proposed a defense mechanism called defensive distillation to reduce the aggressiveness of adversarial examples to deep learning models. Carlini et al. [7] introduced the C&W algorithm, which can be applied to L0, L2,  $L\infty$ . Experiments show that the C&W algorithm succeeds with 100% probability on both distilled and undistilled neural networks, which proves that defensive distillation does not significantly improve the robustness of neural networks. Moosavi-Dezfooli et al. [8] proposed the DeepFool algorithm to accurately calculate the robustness of the latest deep classifiers to disturbances on large-scale data sets, and quantify the robustness of these classifiers by calculating the perturbation of attacking deep networks. Moosavidezfooli et al. [9] proposed a universal perturbation attack, which has good universality in neural networks. Sarkar et al. [10] proposed two attack methods, UPSET and Houdini. The UPSET method can generate general disturbances of the target class, and the Houdini method can generate image-specific disturbances. Baluja et al. [11] proposed a network for generating adversarial examples, which performs fast and provides exceptionally diverse outputs.

In the field of GAN, Goodfellow et al. [12] proposed Generative Adversarial Network in 2014. In this paper, he analyzed the advantages and disadvantages of GAN and pointed out the future research direction and expansion. In the same year, Mirza et al. [13] and others proposed a conditional generative adversarial network, which is a conditional version of the GAN. It is proved that CGAN can generate MNIST digits

based on class labels. Arjovsky et al. [14] published a paper in 2017, which introduced WGAN. In this paper, he used the theory of maximum likelihood estimation to explain the significance of learning probability distribution in unsupervised learning, used one division to approximate the true distribution, and solved it by minimizing two KL divergence between distributions. Li et al. [15] pointed out that although progress has been made in generating image modeling, it is still an elusive goal to successfully generate high-resolution and diverse samples from complex data sets such as ImageNet [16]. Therefore, they proposed applying orthogonal regularization to the generator to make it suitable for simple "truncation techniques", allowing precise control of the trade-off between sample fidelity and variation by truncating the latent space. Such modification led to the model reaching a new level of technology in image synthesis under category conditions. Zhang et al. [17] proposed an alternative generator architecture for generative adversarial networks. This new architecture [18] is able to control the high-level attributes of the generated image, such as hairstyle, freckles. The generated image scores better on some evaluation criteria.

The previous adversary algorithms are directly generated by neural networks, while the algorithm proposed in this paper is based on the generated adversarial examples extracting features through GAN networks, which can generate similar adversarial samples in batches with effectiveness and high aggressiveness.

# 2 Related Works

# 2.1 FGSM

Ian Goodfellow [2] found that the accuracy of a single input function is limited in many problems. For example, they usually use only 8 bits per pixel in digital images domain, so they discard all information below 1/255 of the dynamic range. Owing to the features of limited accuracy, in the case of inputting x and  $x_A = x + \eta$ , if the perturbation of each element of  $\eta$  is lower than the accuracy, the classifier cannot correctly classify. Formally, for the problem of good category separation, as long as  $||\eta||_{\infty} < \epsilon$ , you can expect the classifier to assign the same class to x and  $x_A$ , where  $\epsilon$  is small enough to be discarded by related sensors or data storage devices.

Consider the dot product between the weight vector  $\omega$  and the adversarial example  $x_A$ :

$$\omega^T \tilde{\mathbf{x}} = \omega^T \mathbf{x} + \omega^T \eta \tag{1}$$

Adversarial disturbances increase the activation value by  $\omega^T \eta$ . By assigning  $\eta = \text{sign}(\omega)$ , this increment can be maximized under the maximum norm constraint on  $\eta$ . If  $\omega$  has *n* dimensions and the average size of the weight vector elements is m, then the activation value will increase by  $\epsilon mn$ . Because  $||\eta||_{\infty}$  will not increase with the dimension of the problem, but the activation change caused by the  $\eta$  disturbance can increase linearly with n. Then for high-dimensional problems, many infinitesimal changes can be made to the input, resulting in one large change to the output.

That is to say, if the input of the simple linear model has sufficient dimensions, adversarial examples can be generated. Under this condition, suppose that  $\theta$  is the model parameter, *x* is the model input, *y* is the label associated with *x*, and  $J(\theta, x, y)$  is the loss function of training the neural network. The cost function can be linearized near the current value of  $\theta$  to obtain the disturbance of the optimal maximum norm constraint:

$$\eta = \epsilon sign(\nabla_x J(\theta, x, y)) \tag{2}$$

Since n-dimensional gradient calculation is applied in the formula, this algorithm is called Fast Gradient Sign Method (FGSM) [19], which can use backpropagation [20] to efficiently calculate the required gradient.

#### 2.2 DCGAN

DCGAN is a new method after Ian J. Goodfellow's pioneering GAN in his paper in 2014 that combines GAN and convolutional networks to solve the instability of GAN training [21]. CNN has made great achievements in the field of supervised learning for a long time, such as large-scale image classification and target detection, but has not made particular progress in the field of unsupervised learning [22], which inspired Alec Radford proposed DCGAN, which combines CNN with GAN, and demonstrated its impressive achievements in unsupervised learning [23]. Through training on a large number of different data sets, it is fully demonstrated that the generator and discriminator of DCGAN have learned a rich level of expression in terms of object components and scenes [24].

The main reasons why DCGAN can improve the stability of GAN training are as follows:

1. Use step-size convolution instead of the up-sampling layer [25]. Convolution has a good effect in extracting image features, and convolution is used to instead the fully connected layer.

2. Almost every layer in the generator G and the discriminator D uses the batch normalization layer to normalize the output of the feature layer together, which speeds up the training and improves the stability of the training.

3. The LeakyRelu activation function is used in the discriminator instead of the Relu activation function to prevent gradient sparseness. Relu is still used in the generator, but Tanh is used in the output layer [26].

4. Use Adam optimizer to train, and the best learning rate is 0.0002.

# 2.3 Adversarial Training

In order to improve the robustness of the neural network, the neural network can be regularized to a certain extent by training a mixture of adversarial examples and legal examples. This form of data augmentation uses inputs that are unlikely to occur naturally, but exposes flaws in the way the model conceptualizes its decision-making function. The FGSM-based countermeasure objective function training is shown in the Eq. (3):

$$J(\theta, x, y) = \alpha J(\theta, x, y) + (1 - \alpha) J(\theta, x + \epsilon sign(\nabla_x J(\theta, x, y)))$$
(3)

When the data is disturbed by counter disturbances, the counter training process can be seen as trying to minimize the worst-case error. This training process can be interpreted as adding the noise with  $U(-\epsilon, \epsilon)$  to the noisy examples in the input and minimizing the upper limit of the expected cost. Adversarial training can also be seen as a form of active learning in which the model could request labels for new points. In this situation, the human tagger will be replaced with a heuristic tagger which copies tags from nearby points.

#### 3 Method

# 3.1 Definition

In the remaining of the paper we use the following notation:

M\* represents the neural network model trained by \*, T(\*) stands for training on the \* data, FGSM(M\*) denotes the FGSM attack against the \* model, D(\*) signifies the adversarial sample generated by \*, G(\*) symbolizes the DCGAN generator trained by \*.

1. M<sub>mnist</sub> : MNIST handwritten digit recognition model.

- 2.  $FGSM(M_{mnist})$ : Attacks on the  $M_{mnist}$  model.
- 3.  $D(FGSM(M_{mnist})) : M_{mnist}$  adversarial examples.
- 4.  $M_{defence}$ :  $M_{mnist \cup D(FGSM(M_{mnist}))}$  means Handwritten model after adversarial training.

- 5.  $G(D(FGSM(M_{mnist}))) : M_{mnist}$  feature generator.
- 6.  $FGSM(M_{defence})$ : Attacks against the  $M_{defence}$  model.
- 7.  $D(FGSM(M_{defence})) : M_{defence}$  adversarial examples.
- 8.  $G(D(FGSM(M_{defence}))) : M_{defence}$  feature generator.
- 9.  $D(G(D(FGSM(M_{mnist}))))$ : Adversarial examples generated by  $M_{mnist}$  feature generator.
- 10.  $D(G(D(FGSM(M_{defence})))))$ : Adversarial examples generated by  $M_{defence}$  feature generator.

#### 3.2 Algorithm Introduction

In order to verify the effectiveness and offensiveness of generating new adversarial examples in the DCGAN, the experiment is divided into two parts:

#### 3.2.1 Unprotected Aggressiveness

The initial model  $M_{mnist}$  can be obtained by training the MNIST dataset according to the model set up in Section 4.2.2. And the FGSM algorithm is called on the model  $M_{mnist}$  to calculate the gradient and then the adversarial examples  $D(FGSM(M_{mnist}))$  are generated by the formula  $x_A = x + \eta$ . The adversarial examples are used as the training set of DCGAN, and a DCGAN generator  $G(D(FGSM(M_{mnist})))$  is obtained by extracting the features and learning the distribution of the adversarial examples. The generator is capable of generating batches of adversarial instances quickly. If the generated images maintain good adversarial properties, it means that the method is valid under unprotected model conditions.

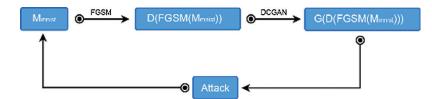


Figure 2:  $M_{mnist}$  generates new adversarial examples  $D(G(D(FGSM(M_{mnist})))))$  through DCGAN

# 3.2.2 Protected Aggressiveness

The MNIST dataset is trained according to the model set in Section 4.2.2, and the corresponding adversarial training is performed on the model at the same time, and the model  $M_{defence}$  with the ability to defend against the adversarial examples is obtained, and the adversarial examples are generated according to the steps in Section 4.3.1, as shown in Fig. 3. If the generated images can attack the model  $M_{defence}$ , it means that the method is valid under the condition of the protected model.



Figure 3:  $M_{defence}$  generates new adversarial examples  $D(G(D(FGSM(M_{defence})))))$  through DCGAN

#### **4** Experiment

#### 4.1 Experimental Environment

The operating system used in the experiment is Ubuntu 18.04, the CPU is Intel Xeon(R)CPU E5-2609 v4 @ 1.70 GHz, the GPU is Nvidia 1080Ti with 8 GB of memory.

# 4.2 Experimental Setup

# 4.2.1 MNIST

MNIST (Mixed National Institute of Standards and Technology database) is a computer vision data set that contains 70,000 gray-scale pictures of handwritten numbers, each of which contains  $28 \times 28$  pixels. Each picture has a corresponding label. The data set is divided into two parts: a training data set of 60,000 rows and a test data set of 10,000 rows. Among them: the training set of 60000 rows is divided into the training set of 55000 rows and the verification set of 5000 rows. The MNIST data set is widely used in the domain of deep learning and computer vision.

#### 4.2.2 Parameters

There are three kinds of neural network models in this experiment, which respectively are used for CNN model training, DCGAN generator and DCGAN discriminator construction.

In the CNN model, it is composed of two convolution kernels with 32 filters and a  $3 \times 3$  size, a convolution layer with a step size of 1, two 64 filters immediately after the maximum pooling, and a  $3 \times 3$  convolution kernel, the convolutional layer of the convolutional layer with a step size of 1, two 200-unit full units after the maximum pooling and a 10-unit Softmax fully connected layer for classification, as shown in Tab. 1.

Layer type	Architecture	
Relu convolutional	32 filters $(3 \times 3), 1$	
Relu convolutional	32 filters $(3 \times 3), 1$	
Max pooling	$2 \times 2$	
Relu convolutional	64 filters $(3 \times 3), 1$	
Relu convolutional	64 filters $(3 \times 3), 1$	
Max pooling	$2 \times 2$	
Relu fully connect	200 units	
Relu fully connect	200 units	
Softmax	10 units	

 Table 1: CNN model network

The generator consists of 1568 units fully connected, 64 filters,  $3 \times 3$  size convolution kernel, step size 1 convolution layer, upsampling layer, 128 filters,  $3 \times 3$  size convolution kernel, step size 1 convolution layer, upsampling layer, 64 filters,  $3 \times 3$  size convolution kernel, step size 1 convolution layer, 1 filter,  $3 \times 3$  size convolution kernel, step size 1 convolution layer, 1 filter,  $3 \times 3$  size convolution kernel, step size 1 convolution layer, 2 size convolution kernel, step size 1 convolution layer, 1 filter,  $3 \times 3$  size convolution kernel, step size 1 convolution layer, 2 size convolution kernel, step size 1 convolution layer, 2 size convolution kernel, step size 1 convolution layer, 2 size convolution kernel, step size 1 convolution layer, 2 size convolution kernel, step size 1 convolution layer, 2 size convolution kernel, step size 1 convolution layer, 2 size convolution kernel, step size 1 convolution layer, 2 size convolution kernel, step size 1 convolution layer, 2 size convolution kernel, 2 size convolu

Layer type	Architecture
Relu fully connect	1568 units
Relu convolutional	64 filters $(3 \times 3), 1$
Upsampling	$2 \times 2$
Relu convolutional	128 filters $(3 \times 3)$ ,1
Upsampling	$2 \times 2$
Relu convolutional	64 filters $(3 \times 3), 1$
Tanh convolutional	1 filter $(3 \times 3), 1$

Table 2: Generator network

Discriminator is consists of three convolutional layers and a fully connected layer. The three convolutional layers are respectively 32, 64, and 128 filters, a  $3 \times 3$  size convolution kernel, and a step size of 2.

The specific and detailed structural parameters of these three networks are shown in Tabs. 1–3:

Layer type	Architecture
LeakyRelu convolutional	32(3 × 3),2
LeakyRelu convolutional	64(3 × 3),2
LeakyRelu convolutional	128(3 × 3),2
Sigmoid fully connect	1 unit

 Table 3: Discriminator network

# 4.3 Experimental Results

The evaluation indicators of this article are as follows:

- TP: Positive examples of correctly classified
- FN: Positive cases that are misclassified
- TN: Negative cases that are correctly classified
- FP: Negative cases that are misclassified

$$Acc = \frac{TP + TN}{TP + FN + TN + FP}$$
(4)

The cost function we use is cross entropy function:

$$J(\theta) = -\frac{1}{m} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( y^{(i)} \log h_{\theta} \left( x^{(i)} \right) + \left( 1 - y^{(i)} \right) \log \left( 1 - h_{\theta} \left( x^{(i)} \right) \right) \right) \right]$$
(5)

Attack Acc = 1 - Acc

Aiming at the effectiveness and aggressiveness of adversarial examples, the experiment was divided into two groups.

(6)

Tab. 4 shows the results of the experiment in Fig. 2. The MNIST original images reduce the classification accuracy from 0.99 to 0.29 through the adversarial examples generated by FGSM, and the confidence of adversarial examples generated by DCGAN is 0.11, which shows the effectiveness of the adversarial examples generated by DCGAN.

	Acc	Cost	Attack Acc
Clean	0.989	0.044	/
FGSM	0.293	5.665	0.707
Proposed method	0.109	3.972	0.891

 Table 4: Unprotected aggressiveness

Tab. 5 corresponds to the results of the experiment in Fig. 3. After the model  $M_{mnist}$  is trained to obtain  $M_{defence}$ , it can be seen that the adversarial examples generated by FGSM algorithm are not aggressive at all. On this basis, after putting  $D(FGSM(M_{defence}))$  into DCGAN to extract features, the attack success rate of the adversarial examples  $D(G(D(FGSM(M_{defence})))))$  is increased from 0.01 to 0.31, which improves the aggressiveness under protection conditions.

Table 5: Protected aggressiveness

	Acc	Cost	Attack Acc
Clean	0.995	0.014	/
FGSM	0.991	0.034	0.009
Proposed method	0.688	0.975	0.312

# **5** Conclusion

In this paper, in-depth research on adversarial algorithms is conducted to find a method to generate adversarial examples in batches. Considering the idea of GAN, the application of DCGAN is proposed to learn features of adversarial examples generated by the FGSM algorithm, so that adversarial examples can get rid of the dependence on the original samples and the database, and can automatically generate adversarial examples with the same characteristics. The article introduces the method and effect of the adversarial algorithm attacking the neural network, the protection of the neural network and the method of GAN learning from the adversarial examples in two cases. Experiments show that DCGAN can learn the attack features in adversarial examples and generate adversarial examples in batches. If the model has been trained in the corresponding adversarial, using DCGAN to generate adversarial examples can improve the aggression of the original attack method. In recent years, GAN technology and adversarial learning technology have developed rapidly. There are more than 200 types of networks in the GAN field with diverse performances. With the emergence of attack methods in adversarial learning, there will be more and more options for combining GAN with adversarial learning. Although this article points out the feasibility of combining GAN with adversarial learning, there are still some shortcomings in generality. In the next stage, we will actively seek more options and improve the performance of the attack model.

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