### **Adversarial Feature Desensitization**

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# Motivation

- 1. Common assumption: train and test distributions come from the same distributions
- 2. Adversarial attacks intentionally violate this assumption.
- 3. This severely impacts the safety of MLbased systems in real world applications such as face recognition and autonomous driving.

# Panda

 $+.007 \times$ 

Gibbon



### Goodfellow et al. ICLR 2015

Original pair



Evolutionary

Boundary













Dong et al. CVPR 2019



Eykholt et al. CVPR 2018

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# What is an adversarial attack?

- Assume
  - Feature learning function  $F_{\theta} : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{X}$ ,  $\mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n, \mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$ • Task classifier  $C_{\phi} : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{Y} = \{1, \dots, K\}$

  - $\hat{y} = C_{\phi}(F_{theta}(x))$  is the predicted class for sample input x
- For  $(x, y) \in \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}$ ,  $\pi(x, \epsilon)$  is and attack function that generates perturbed samples  $x' \in \mathscr{B}(x, \epsilon)$  within the  $\epsilon$ -neighborhood of x by maximization the following objective:

 $t \in \mathscr{B}(x,\epsilon)$ 

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### Goodfellow et al. ICLR 2015

 $\max \ \mathscr{L}(C_{\phi}(F_{\theta}(t)), y)$ 



# **Prior work**

 Adversarial training (Madry et al. 2018) train the model on examples that maximize the loss.

where  $\rho(\theta) = \mathbb{E}_{(x,y)\sim\mathcal{D}} \left| \mathbf{r} \right|$  $\min_{\rho} \rho(\theta),$ 

 TRADES (Zhang et al. 2019) pushes the decision boundary away from data.

$$\min_{f} \mathbb{E} \bigg\{ \underbrace{\phi(f(\boldsymbol{X})Y)}_{\text{for accuracy}} + \underbrace{\max_{\boldsymbol{X}' \in \mathbb{B}(\boldsymbol{X}, \epsilon)} \phi(f(\boldsymbol{X})f(\boldsymbol{X}')/\lambda)}_{\text{regularization for robustness}} \bigg\}.$$

Robust performance remains susceptible to even slightly larger adversarial attacks or to other forms of attacks.

$$\max_{\delta \in \mathcal{S}} L(\theta, x + \delta, y) \bigg]$$







### Method

- the lens of domain adaptation (Ben-David et al. 2007, 2010).
- (Ben-David et al. 2007).
- source and target domains. Although here the *target domain* continuously evolves!
- choice of domain (i.e. natural or adversarial).

# Our proposal is to view the adversarial robustness problem through

• Domain adaptation theory answers "Under what conditions can we adapt a classifier trained on the source domain for use in the target domain?"

We consider the distributions of Natural and Adversarial examples as the

• Our goal is to learn representations  $z = F_{\theta}(x)$  that are invariant to the



# **Domain adaptation**

- Assume

  - Feature learning function  $F_{\theta} : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{X}$ ,  $\mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{n}, \mathcal{Z} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{m}$ • Task classifier  $C_{\phi} : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{Y} = \{1, \dots, K\}$
  - $\hat{y} = C_{\phi}(F_{theta}(x))$  is the predicted class for sample input x
  - $\mathscr{D}_{\mathscr{X}}$  and  $\mathscr{D}'_{\mathscr{X}}$ , their induced feature distributions are  $\mathscr{D}_{\mathscr{F}}$  and  $\mathscr{D}'_{\mathscr{F}}$ .
  - Distributions of Natural and Adversarial examples are input domains •  $\epsilon_{\mathscr{F}}$  and  $\epsilon'_{\mathscr{F}}$  are classification errors over  $\mathscr{D}_{\mathscr{F}}$  and  $\mathscr{D}'_{\mathscr{F}}$ .

$$\epsilon'_{\mathcal{Z}}(h) \leq \epsilon_{\mathcal{Z}}(h) + \frac{1}{2} d_{\mathcal{H}\Delta\mathcal{H}}(\mathcal{D}_{\mathcal{Z}}, \mathcal{D}'_{\mathcal{Z}}) + c$$

Ben-David et al. 2007, 2010

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# **Method - Adversarial Feature Desensitization**

- We minimize the adversarial error by
  - 1. Update parameters  $\theta$  and  $\phi$  to minimize the natural classification loss.
  - 2. Update parameters  $\psi$  to minimize the domain classification loss.
  - 3. Update parameters  $\theta$  to maximize the domain classification loss.

This procedure implicitly "desensitizes" the learned features to adversarial perturbations.

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# **Results - robust classification on typical attacks**

**MNIST**:  $\epsilon = 0.3$  **CIFAR**:  $\epsilon = 0.3$ 

Method	Dataset	Network	Clean	<b>PGD</b> $_{\infty}$ (WB)	$C\& W_2 (WB)$	$AA_{\infty}$ (WB)	$\mathbf{PGD}_{\infty}$ (BB)	$\mathbf{C} \mathbf{\&} \mathbf{W}_2 \ (\mathbf{B} \mathbf{B})$
NT†	MNIST	RN18	98.84	0.	62.43	0.0	50.82	96.48
AT[34]†		RN18	99.35	95.66	92.78	89.99	<b>98.92</b>	<b>98.95</b>
TRADES[57]†		RN18	99.14	94.81	90.08	88.66	98.5	98.57
AFD-DCGAN		RN18	99.24	95.72	93.78	88.79	98.65	98.49
AFD-WGAN		RN18	99.14	<b>97.68</b>	<b>97.68</b>	<b>90.12</b>	98.59	98.71
AT[34]†	CIFAR10	RN18	85.92	40.07	40.27	36.14	85.14	85.84
TRADES[57]†		RN18	81.94	53.3	40.24	<b>43.48</b>	80.82	81.74
AFD-DCGAN		RN18	<b>86.82</b>	44.35	50.93	34.46	<b>85.73</b>	<b>86.68</b>
AFD-WGAN		RN18	85.95	<b>59.38</b>	<b>62.43</b>	37.33	84.74	85.79
NT†	CIFAR100	RN18	76.76	0.01	0.52	0.02	-	-
AT[34]†		RN18	56.49	18.54	17.71	18.30	56.07	56.42
TRADES[57]†		RN18	60.32	<b>25.11</b>	20.52	<b>21.10</b>	59.62	60.29
AFD-DCGAN		RN18	<b>60.95</b>	18.06	21.47	16.31	<b>60.31</b>	<b>60.86</b>
AFD-WGAN		RN18	58.87	22.35	<b>25.33</b>	18.00	58.15	58.75
NT†	Tiny-IN	RN18	58.30	0.3	0.0	0.0	-	-
AT[34]†		RN18	43.80	12.62	4.90	9.48	41.87	42.86
TRADES[57]†		RN18	37.70	<b>13.26</b>	4.11	<b>12.57</b>	36.26	36.72
AFD-WGAN		RN18	<b>47.70</b>	11.49	<b>5.90</b>	9.45	<b>43.5</b>	<b>44.69</b>

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### Tiny-Imagenet: $\epsilon = 0.3$

AFD outperforms other baselines on most white-box and black-box attacks on various datasets.





### Results - robust classification against unseen and stronger attacks linfpgd l1pgd --- NT 🗕 AT

Datasat	Model	PCD.	PCD		FCSM	MIM	DDN	DeenFool	C & W	
Datasti	Model	$\mathbf{I} \mathbf{G} \mathbf{D}_{L_{\infty}}$			<b>FGS</b> M		DDN	Deeproor		AA
MNIST	NT	0.16	0.06	0.07	0.3	0.19	0.09	0.21	0.57	0.28
	AT	0.74	0.29	0.19	0.83	0.95	0.49	0.55	0.87	0.89
	TRADES	0.71	0.26	0.15	0.79	0.88	0.42	0.47	0.86	0.88
	AFD-DCGAN	0.77	0.33	0.3	0.78	0.91	0.51	0.49	0.9	0.88
	AFD-WGAN	0.92	0.54	0.55	0.9	0.98	0.68	0.63	0.94	0.90
CIFAR10	NT	0.05	0.1	0.17	0.19	0.05	0.1	0.16	0.1	0.12
	AT	0.28	0.2	0.44	0.33	0.31	0.26	0.29	0.31	0.22
	TRADES	0.32	0.22	0.5	0.24	0.32	0.33	0.18	0.28	0.25
	AFD-DCGAN	0.34	0.54	0.43	0.4	0.31	0.4	0.43	0.47	0.22
	AFD-WGAN	0.56	0.54	0.66	0.59	0.56	0.4	0.52	0.62	0.24
CIFAR100	NT	0.03	0.08	0.1	0.07	0.03	0.08	0.06	0.08	0.09
	AT	0.13	0.1	0.24	0.13	0.14	0.14	0.12	0.15	0.13
	TRADES	0.16	0.13	0.31	0.12	0.17	0.18	0.1	0.16	0.15
	AFD-DCGAN	0.14	0.12	0.27	0.17	0.16	0.15	0.16	0.18	0.13
	AFD-WGAN	0.18	0.16	0.31	0.22	0.19	0.16	0.19	0.23	0.13
Tiny-IN	NT	0.04	0.03	0.08	0.05	0.04	0.06	0.07	0.07	0.07
	AT	0.10	0.03	0.16	0.15	0.09	0.14	0.13	0.11	0.14
	TRADES	0.10	0.03	0.16	0.07	0.09	0.15	0.11	0.09	0.16
	AFD-WGAN	0.10	0.04	0.19	0.12	0.09	0.15	0.16	0.12	0.15

AFD's robust performance generalizes better to unseen and stronger (larger  $\epsilon$ ) attacks.



# Results - $\mathcal{H}\Delta\mathcal{H}$ -distance and generalization gap

- Theory of domain adaptation predicts higher generalization gap between adversarial and natural domains with increasing  $\mathcal{H}\Delta\mathcal{H}$ -distance • We empirically confirmed this prediction when:
- - 1. increasing the attack strength ( $\epsilon$ ) when using a

fixed attack ( $PGD - L_{\infty}$ )

2. using various attacks of diverse magnitudes

$$\epsilon_{\mathscr{Z}}'(h) - \epsilon_{\mathscr{Z}}(h) \leq \frac{1}{2} d_{\mathscr{H}\Delta\mathscr{H}}(\mathscr{D}_{\mathscr{Z}}, \mathscr{D}_{\mathscr{Z}}') + c$$

The domain discriminator (trained on PGD) fixed  $\epsilon$ ) generalizes to unseen attacks and at

$$-L_{\infty}$$
 attack with a ttack-magnitudes.





# Limitations

- classifiers on the robustness of feature learning functions.
- on average about 31% longer than adversarial training.

• AFD occasionally performed worse than other baselines, especially in datasets with more classes like tiny-imagenet. This could potentially be due to the difficulty of training domain classifiers in these datasets and leaves much space for future work on investigating the effect of domain

 AFD required more backward computations compared to some other baselines such as adversarial training and as a result its training time was



# Thanks!

- See our full paper for more details.
- If you have any questions you can reach out to us at bashivap@mila.quebec or irina.rish@mila.quebec
- You can find our code at: <u>https://github.com/pbashivan/afd</u>

