

# On the barriers of AI and the trade-off between stability and accuracy in deep learning

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Joint work with:

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Clarice Poon (Bath), Francesco Renna (Porto)

Geilo Winter School, January 2021

## MAIN GOAL

*Determine the barriers of computations in deep learning  
(i.e. what is and what is not possible)*



*Stability and Accuracy in AI*

*Wir müssen wissen - wir werden wissen!*

— David Hilbert

## Some of the results found in (links included):

- ▶ Antun, Colbrook and Hansen, 2021. *Can stable and accurate neural networks be computed? - On the barriers of deep learning and Smale's 18th problem.* [arXiv:2101.08286](https://arxiv.org/abs/2101.08286).
- ▶ Gottschling, Antun, Adcock, and Hansen, 2020. *The troublesome kernel: why deep learning for inverse problems is typically unstable.* [arXiv:2001.01258](https://arxiv.org/abs/2001.01258).
- ▶ Antun, Renna, Poon, Adcock, and Hansen, 2020. *On instabilities of deep learning in image reconstruction and the potential costs of AI.* [PNAS](https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2008111117).

<https://github.com/Comp-Foundations-and-Barriers-of-AI>

# Outline of lectures

<b>DAY I</b>	<b>DAY II</b>	<b>Day III</b>
Gravity of AI Image Classification Need for Foundations AI for Image Reconstruction	Inverse Problems Instabilities & Kernel Awareness Intriguing Barriers Algorithm Unrolling	Achieving Kernel Awareness FIRENETs Imaging Applications Numerical Examples

Slides will be hosted at <http://www.damtp.cam.ac.uk/user/mjc249/Talks.html>.

Useful references for further reading in grey boxes.

Comments and suggestions welcome! (vegarant@math.uio.no, m.colbrook@damtp.cam.ac.uk)

# Interest in deep learning unprecedented and exponentially growing

Google search (7th Jan) “deep learning” or “machine learning” yields  $\approx 2.5$  billion hits  
Contrast with “computational mathematics” which has  $< 150$  million hits

## Machine Learning Arxiv Papers per Year

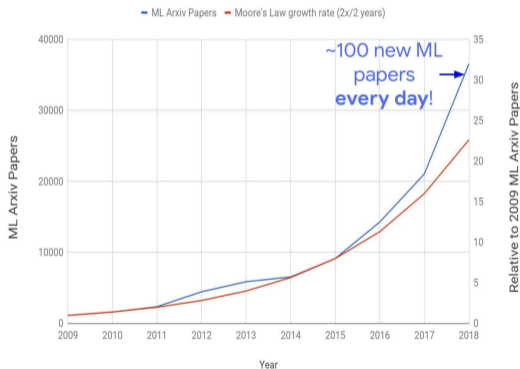


Figure: Source: ‘Deep Learning to Solve Challenging Problems’ (Google AI)

To keep up last year, you would need to continually read a paper every  $< 5$  mins!

*Why is AI suddenly such a big deal?*

## Deep Learning is changing our lives

- ▶ AI techniques are replacing humans in problem solving.
- ▶ AI techniques are replacing established algorithms in science.

# AI replacing humans

- ▶ Self-driving vehicles
- ▶ Automated diagnosis in medicine
- ▶ Automated decision processes
- ▶ Automated weapon systems
- ▶ Music composition
- ▶ Call centres
- ▶ Any security system based on face or voice recognition
- ▶ Amazon's Alexa smart speaker
- ▶ Mathematical proofs



# AI replacing (and/or enhancing) established algorithms

- ▶ Medical imaging (MRI, CT, etc)
- ▶ Microscopy
- ▶ Imaging problems in general
- ▶ Radar, sonar, etc.
- ▶ Methods for solving PDEs

## Turing Award And \$1 Million Given To 3 AI Pioneers



Nicole Martin Contributor

AI & Big Data

I write about technology, data and privacy.

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t

in



Winners of Turing Award NEW YORK TIMES

The Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) awarded Yoshua Bengio, Geoffrey Hinton and Yann LeCun with what many consider the "Nobel Prize of computing," for the innovations they've made in AI.

# Citation from the Turing Award jury

## Select Technical Accomplishments

The technical achievements of this year's Turing Laureates, which have led to significant breakthroughs in AI technologies include, but are not limited to, the following:

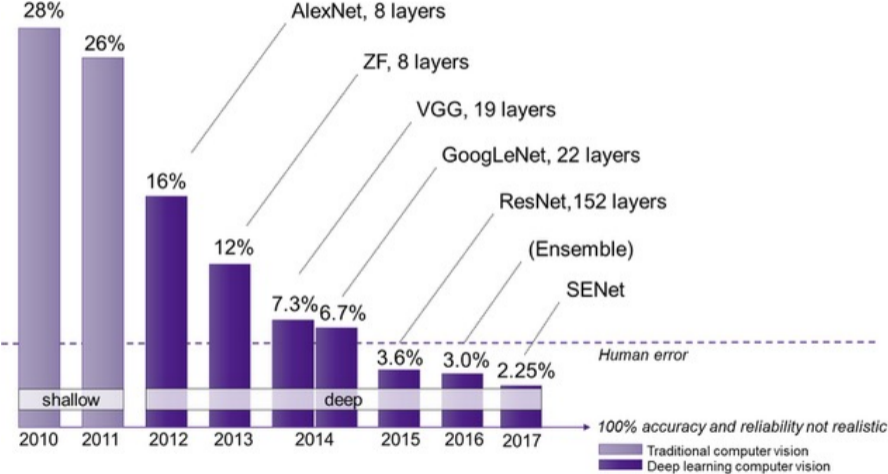
### **Geoffrey Hinton**

Backpropagation: In a 1986 paper, "Learning Internal Representations by Error Propagation," co-authored with David Rumelhart and Ronald Williams, Hinton demonstrated that the backpropagation algorithm allowed neural nets to discover their own internal representations of data, making it possible to use neural nets to solve problems that had previously been thought to be beyond their reach. The backpropagation algorithm is standard in most neural networks today.

Boltzmann Machines: In 1983, with Terrence Sejnowski, Hinton invented Boltzmann Machines, one of the first neural networks capable of learning internal representations in neurons that were not part of the input or output.

Improvements to convolutional neural networks: In 2012, with his students, Alex Krizhevsky and Ilya Sutskever, Hinton improved convolutional neural networks using rectified linear neurons and dropout regularization. In the prominent ImageNet competition, Hinton and his students almost halved the error rate for object recognition and reshaped the computer vision field.

# Before and after 2012 - The ImageNet competition



## A paradigm shift

<b>Top 5 ILSVRC 2012 Results</b>		
1st	Error: 16.4%	Deep Learning
2nd	Error: 26.1%	Other approach
3rd	Error: 26.9%	Other approach
4th	Error: 29.5%	Other approach
5th	Error: 34.4%	Other approach
<b>Top 5 ILSVRC 2017 Results</b>		
1st	Error: 2.3%	Deep Learning
2nd	Error: 2.5%	Deep Learning
3rd	Error: 2.7%	Deep Learning
4th	Error: 3.0%	Deep Learning
5th	Error: 3.2%	Deep Learning

Table: Results from ImageNet Large Scale Visual Recognition Competition (ILSVRC).

# Protein folding: open problem since Anfinsen's 1972 Nobel Prize

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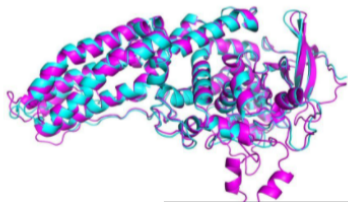
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Science & Environment

## One of biology's biggest mysteries 'largely solved' by AI

By Helen Briggs  
BBC science correspondent

30 November 2020



CASP/DEEPMIND/VTAGLIABRACCIDITOMCHICKLIT SOUTHWESTE

A DeepMind model of a protein from the Legionnaire's disease bacteria (Casp-14)

One of biology's biggest mysteries has been solved using artificial intelligence, experts have announced.

Predicting how a protein folds into a unique three-dimensional shape has puzzled scientists for half a century.

London-based AI lab, DeepMind, has largely cracked the problem, said the organisers of a scientific challenge.

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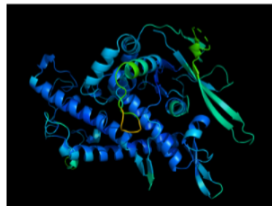
nature > news > article

NEWS · 30 NOVEMBER 2020

## 'It will change everything': DeepMind's AI makes gigantic leap in solving protein structures

Google's deep-learning program for determining the 3D shapes of proteins stands to transform biology, say scientists.

Ewan Callaway



PDF version

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AI protein-folding algorithms solve structures faster than ever



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The computational protein designers



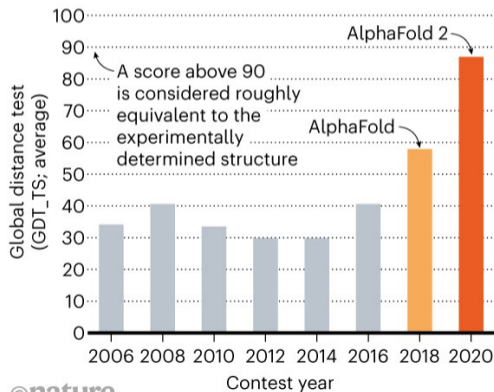
# Protein folding: open problem since Anfinsen's 1972 Nobel Prize

*"This computational work represents a stunning advance on the protein-folding problem, a 50-year-old grand challenge in biology. It has occurred decades before many people in the field would have predicted. It will be exciting to see the many ways in which it will fundamentally change biological research."*

— Venki Ramakrishnan  
(2009 Nobel Prize in Chemistry, President  
of the Royal Society 2015–2020)

## STRUCTURE SOLVER

DeepMind's AlphaFold 2 algorithm significantly outperformed other teams at the CASP14 protein-folding contest — and its previous version's performance at the last CASP.



FDA NEWS RELEASE

## FDA permits marketing of artificial intelligence-based device to detect certain diabetes-related eye problems



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**For Immediate Release:** April 11, 2018

Español

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration today permitted marketing of the first medical device to use artificial intelligence to detect greater than a mild level of the eye disease diabetic retinopathy in adults who have diabetes.

Diabetic retinopathy occurs when high levels of blood sugar lead to damage in the blood vessels of the retina, the light-sensitive tissue in the back of the eye. Diabetic retinopathy is the most common cause of vision loss among the more than 30 million Americans living with diabetes and the leading cause of vision impairment and blindness among working-age adults.




# Automated cancer diagnosis with AI

## International evaluation of an AI system for breast cancer screening

Scott Mayer McKinney , Marcin Sieniek, [...] Shravya Shetty 

*Nature* **577**, 89–94(2020) | [Cite this article](#)

**51k** Accesses | **112** Citations | **3501** Altmetric | [Metrics](#)

 A [Matters Arising](#) to this article was published on 14 October 2020

 An [Addendum](#) to this article was published on 14 October 2020

### Abstract

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Screening mammography aims to identify breast cancer at earlier stages of the disease, when treatment can be more successful<sup>1</sup>. Despite the existence of screening programmes worldwide, the interpretation of mammograms is affected by high rates of false positives and false negatives<sup>2</sup>. Here we present an artificial intelligence (AI) system that is capable of surpassing human experts in breast cancer prediction. To assess its performance in the clinical setting, we curated a

# No more integrals?! AI can solve your maths homework!

MIT  
Technology  
Review

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Computing

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## Facebook has a neural network that can do advanced math

Other neural nets haven't progressed beyond simple addition and multiplication, but this one calculates integrals and solves differential equations.

by **Emerging Technology from the arXiv**

December 17, 2019

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## DEEP LEARNING FOR SYMBOLIC MATHEMATICS

**Guillaume Lample\***  
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glample@fb.com

**François Charton\***  
Facebook AI Research  
fcharton@fb.com

### ABSTRACT

Neural networks have a reputation for being better at solving statistical or approximate problems than at performing calculations or working with symbolic data. In this paper, we show that they can be surprisingly good at more elaborated tasks in mathematics, such as symbolic integration and solving differential equations. We propose a syntax for representing mathematical problems, and methods for generating large datasets that can be used to train sequence-to-sequence models. We achieve results that outperform commercial Computer Algebra Systems such as Matlab or Mathematica.

# AI replaces standard algorithms in medical imaging

Claim: “superior immunity to noise and a reduction in reconstruction artefacts compared with conventional handcrafted reconstruction methods”

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Published: 22 March 2018

## Image reconstruction by domain-transform manifold learning

Bo Zhu, Jeremiah Z. Liu, Stephen F. Cauley, Bruce R. Rosen & Matthew S. Rosen

*Nature* 555, 487–492(2018) | [Cite this article](#)

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### Abstract

Image reconstruction is essential for imaging applications across the physical and life sciences, including optical and radar systems, magnetic resonance imaging, X-ray computed tomography, positron emission

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### Editorial Summary

#### Machine learning improves image reconstruction

Reconstructing images from data, whether for medical or astronomical purposes, hinges on well-defined steps. The data sensor encodes an intermediate representation of the observed

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Published: 27 April 2018

Imaging

## AI transforms image reconstruction

Rita Strack

*Nature Methods* 15, 309(2018) | [Cite this article](#)

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About this article

Further reading

**A deep-learning-based approach improves the speed, accuracy, and robustness of biomedical image reconstruction.**

Artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning are poised to revolutionize the way biologists acquire and interact with experimental data. In biomedical imaging, such approaches have largely been focused on improving and automating the analysis of acquired images. For example, machine learning has been used to address the challenging

# Strong confidence in deep learning

**The New Yorker (most influential magazine in the world) quotes Geoffrey Hinton (April 2017):**

“They should stop training radiologists now.”

# An intriguing debate

Google's Ali Rahimi, winner of the Test-of-Time award 2017 (NeurIPS), "Machine learning has become alchemy. ... I would like to live in a society whose systems are built on top of verifiable, rigorous, thorough knowledge, and not on alchemy."



**Yann LeCun**

December 6 at 8:57am · 🌐



My take on [Ali Rahimi's](#) "Test of Time" award talk at NIPS.

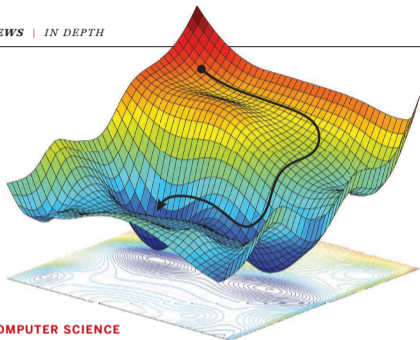
Ali gave an entertaining and well-delivered talk. But I fundamentally disagree with the message.

The main message was, in essence, that the current practice in machine learning is akin to "alchemy" (his word).

It's insulting, yes. But never mind that: It's wrong!

# An intriguing debate

NEWS | IN DEPTH



COMPUTER SCIENCE

## Has artificial intelligence become alchemy?

Machine learning needs more rigor, scientists argue

By **Matthew Hutson**

**A**li Rahimi, a researcher in artificial intelligence (AI) at Google in San Francisco, California, took a swipe at his field last December—and received a 40-second ovation for it. Speaking at an AI conference, Rahimi charged that machine learning algorithms, in which

Without deep understanding of the basic tools needed to build and train new algorithms, he says, researchers creating AIs resort to hearsay, like medieval alchemists. “People gravitate around cargo-cult practices,” relying on “folklore and magic spells,” adds François Chollet, a computer scientist at Google in Mountain View, California. For example, he says, they adopt net meth-

Gradient descent relies on trial and error to optimize an algorithm, aiming for minima in a 3D landscape.

sults are “attributable entirely to other tricks applied on top.”

Rahimi offers several suggestions for learning which algorithms work best, and when. For starters, he says, researchers should conduct “ablation studies” like those done with the translation algorithm: deleting parts of an algorithm one at a time to see the function of each component. He calls for “sliced analysis,” in which an algorithm’s performance is analyzed in detail to see how improvement in some areas might have a cost elsewhere. And he says researchers should test their algorithms with many different conditions and settings, and should report performances for all of them.

Ben Recht, a computer scientist at the University of California, Berkeley, and co-author of Rahimi’s alchemy keynote talk, says AI needs to borrow from physics, where researchers often shrink a problem down to a smaller “toy problem.” “Physicists are amazing at devising simple experiments to root out explanations for phenomena,” he says. Some AI researchers are already taking that approach, testing image recognition algorithms on small black-and-white handwritten characters before tackling large color photos, to better understand the algorithms’ inner mechanics.

Csaba Szepesvári, a computer scientist at DeepMind in London, says the field also needs to reduce its emphasis on competitive

# Current challenges

It seems AI is unstoppable, but there are problems with current technologies

- ▶ Explainability
- ▶ Theoretical guarantees
- ▶ Stability (e.g. adversarial examples)

**Later:** Aspects of explainability and theoretical guarantees.

**Next:** Case study of stability (or, rather, lack thereof)...





*Deep learning for decision problems*

# Deep learning for classification

**Object:** a classification function  $f : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$

**What we are given:** a training set  $\mathcal{T} = \{(x^1, f(x^1)), \dots, (x^r, f(x^r))\} \subset \mathbb{R}^d \times \{0, 1\}$ .

**Goal:** find a “good” approximation  $\tilde{f} : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  to  $f$ .

Test  $\tilde{f}$  on a classification (or a test) set  $\mathcal{C} = \{y^1, \dots, y^s\}$ . Success is measured by

$$\frac{|\{y^j \in \mathcal{C} \mid f(y^j) = \tilde{f}(y^j)\}|}{s}$$

<https://towardsdatascience.com/10-papers-you-should-read-to-understand-image-classification-in-the-deep-learning-era-4b9d792f45a7>

Fawzi, A., Moosavi-Dezfooli, S.M. and Frossard, P., 2017. *The robustness of deep networks: A geometrical perspective*. IEEE Signal Processing Magazine.

Shalev-Shwartz, S. and Ben-David, S., 2014. *Understanding machine learning: From theory to algorithms*. Cambridge university press.

# Neural networks (NNs)

Let  $\mathcal{NN}_{\mathbf{N}}$ , with  $\mathbf{N} = (N_L, N_{L-1}, \dots, N_1, N_0 = d)$  denote the set of all  $L$ -layer neural networks. That is, all mappings  $\phi : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{N_L}$  of the form

$$\phi(x) = V_L(\rho(V_{L-1}(\rho(\dots\rho(V_1(x))))))), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^d.$$

$$V_j y = W_j y + b_j, \quad W_j \in \mathbb{R}^{N_j \times N_{j-1}}, \quad b_j \in \mathbb{R}^{N_j}$$

Here  $\rho : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is some non-linear function that acts pointwise on a vector.

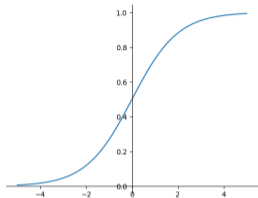
**NB:** Other architectures are possible, e.g. skip connections, different  $\rho$ 's etc.

Reference for definition of NN:

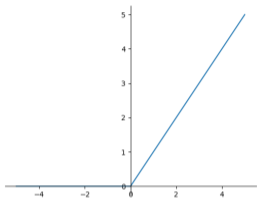
Pinkus, A., 1999. *Approximation theory of the MLP model in neural networks*. Acta numerica, 8(1), 143-195.

# Common choices of $\rho$

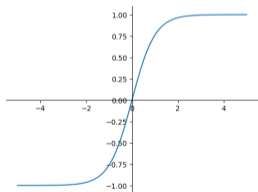
$\rho: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  acts elementwise on a vector.



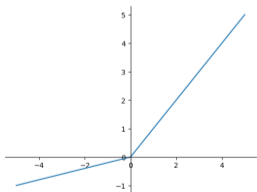
Sigmoid:  $\rho(x) = 1/(1 + e^{-x})$



ReLU:  $\rho(x) = \max(0, x)$



tanh:  $\rho(x) = \tanh(x)$



Leaky ReLU:  $\rho(x) = \begin{cases} x & x \geq 0 \\ \alpha x & x < 0 \end{cases}$

# Approximation qualities of neural nets

## Theorem (Universal Approximation Theorem)

Let  $\rho \in C(\mathbb{R})$  and assume that  $\rho$  is not a polynomial. Let  $K \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  be compact,  $f \in C(K)$  and  $\epsilon > 0$ . Then there exists a neural network (with one hidden layer)  $\phi$  such that

$$\sup_{x \in K} |\phi(x) - f(x)| \leq \epsilon.$$

## Theorem (Universal Interpolation Theorem)

Let  $\rho \in C(\mathbb{R})$  and assume that  $\rho$  is not a polynomial. For any  $k$  distinct points  $\{x_j\}_{j=1}^k \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  and associated data  $\{\alpha_j\}_{j=1}^k \subset \mathbb{R}$ . Then there exists a neural network (with one hidden layer)  $\phi$  such that

$$\phi(x_j) = \alpha_j, \quad j = 1, \dots, k.$$

Gühring, I., Kutyniok, G. and Petersen, P., 2020. *Error bounds for approximations with deep ReLU neural networks in  $W^{s,p}$  norms*. Analysis and Applications, 18(05), pp.803-859.

Pinkus, A., 1999. *Approximation theory of the MLP model in neural networks*. Acta numerica, 143-195.

# Approximation qualities of neural nets

A zoo of so-called “universal approximation” theorems. However, this is not enough:

- (a) Other methods (e.g. polynomials, splines, wavelets, etc.) have universal approximation theorems. Why are NNs so effective? E.g., are there useful classes of functions that are efficiently approximated by NNs but not classical methods?
- (b) We want to construct or compute a good neural network. There is a subtle difference between existence and computability (more on this later).

We will focus on point (b). For point (a) (which is largely open) see:

DeVore, R., Hanin, B. and Petrova, G., 2020. *Neural Network Approximation*. arXiv preprint arXiv:2012.14501.

# Training Neural Networks

Let  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^n$  be the weights of a neural network  $\phi(\cdot, \theta) \in \mathcal{NN}_{\mathbf{N}}$ .

Given a classification function  $f : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ , a training set  $\mathcal{T} = \{x^1, \dots, x^r\} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ , a cost function  $C : \mathbb{R}^{N_L} \times \mathbb{R}^{N_L} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ , and seek to minimize

$$\underset{\theta \in \mathbb{R}^n}{\text{minimize}} L(\theta) := \sum_{i=1}^r C(\phi(x^i, \theta), f(x^i)),$$

using gradient based methods

$$\theta_{i+1} = \theta_i - \eta \nabla_{\theta} L(\theta_i)$$

This has been a HUGE empirical success!

# What could go wrong?

- (i) There does not exist a neural network that approximates the function we are interested in.
- (ii)
- (iii)



# What could go wrong?

- (i) ~~There does not exist a neural network that approximates the function we are interested in.~~
- (ii)
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**NB:** There is a mathematical theory suggesting that neural nets have all the approximation qualities that are needed.

# What could go wrong?

- (i) ~~There does not exist a neural network that approximates the function we are interested in.~~
- (ii) There does exist a neural network that approximates the function, however, there does not exist an algorithm that can construct the neural network.
- (iii)

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- (iii) There does exist a neural network that approximates the function, and an algorithm to construct it. However, the algorithm will need prohibitively many samples.

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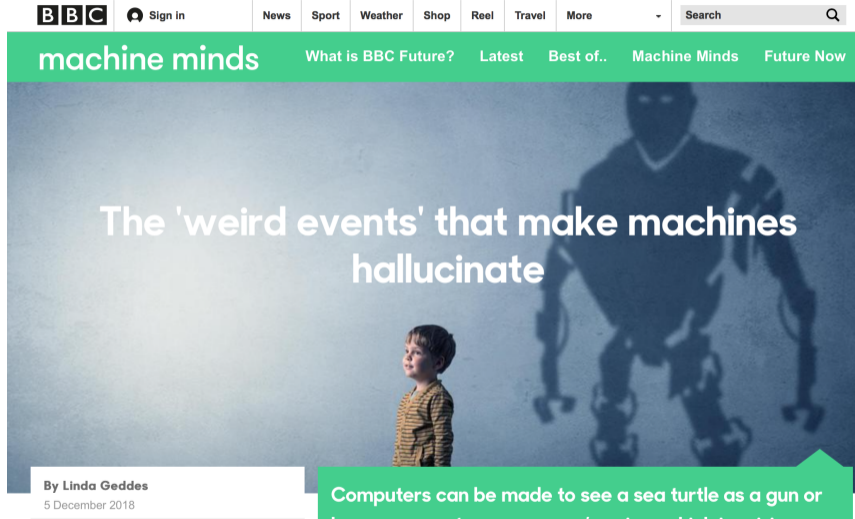
# What could go wrong?

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**NB:** There is a mathematical theory suggesting that neural nets have all the approximation qualities that are needed.

We'll see examples of (ii) and (iii) later.

# AI Generated Hallucinations – Instabilities in Deep Learning



The image shows a screenshot of a BBC website article. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the BBC logo, a 'Sign in' button, and links for News, Sport, Weather, Shop, Reel, Travel, and More. A search bar is located on the right. Below the navigation bar is a green header with the text 'machine minds' and several sub-links: 'What is BBC Future?', 'Latest', 'Best of..', 'Machine Minds', and 'Future Now'. The main content area features a large image of a young child looking at a large, dark, shadowy figure of a robot. The text 'The 'weird events' that make machines hallucinate' is overlaid on the image. At the bottom left, there is a white box containing the author's name 'By Linda Geddes' and the date '5 December 2018'. At the bottom right, there is a green box containing a summary of the article.

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**machine minds** What is BBC Future? Latest Best of.. Machine Minds Future Now

## The 'weird events' that make machines hallucinate

By Linda Geddes  
5 December 2018

Computers can be made to see a sea turtle as a gun or hear a concerto as someone's voice, which is raising concerns about using artificial intelligence in the real world.

## Adversarial attacks on medical machine learning

Samuel G. Finlayson<sup>1</sup>, John D. Bowers<sup>2</sup>, Joichi Ito<sup>3</sup>, Jonathan L. Zittrain<sup>2</sup>, Andrew L. Beam<sup>4</sup>, Isaac S. Kohane<sup>1</sup>

+ See all authors and affiliations

*Science* 22 Mar 2019:  
Vol. 363, Issue 6433, pp. 1287-1289  
DOI: 10.1126/science.aaw4399

**Article**

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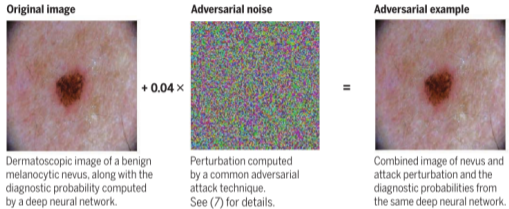
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With public and academic attention increasingly focused on the new role of machine learning in the health information economy, an unusual and no-longer-esoteric category of vulnerabilities in machine-learning systems could prove important. These vulnerabilities allow a small, carefully designed change in how inputs are presented to a system to completely alter its output, causing it to confidently arrive at manifestly wrong conclusions. These advanced techniques to subvert otherwise-reliable machine-learning systems—so-called adversarial attacks—have, to date, been of interest primarily to computer science researchers (1). However, the landscape of often-competing interests within health care, and billions of dollars at stake in systems' outputs, implies considerable problems. We outline motivations that various players in the health care system may have to use adversarial attacks and begin a discussion of what to do about them. Far from discouraging continued innovation with medical machine learning, we call for active engagement of medical, technical, legal, and ethical experts in pursuit of efficient, broadly available, and effective health care that machine learning will enable.

# AI Generated Hallucinations in classification/decision problems

## The anatomy of an adversarial attack

Demonstration of how adversarial attacks against various medical AI systems might be executed without requiring any overtly fraudulent misrepresentation of the data.



**Diagnosis: Benign**

The patient has a history of **back pain** and chronic **alcohol abuse** and more recently has been seen in several...

**Opioid abuse risk: High**

277.7 Metabolic syndrome  
429.9 Heart disease, unspecified  
278.00 Obesity, unspecified

**Reimbursement: Denied**



**Diagnosis: Malignant**

The patient has a history of **lumbago** and chronic **alcohol dependence** and more recently has been seen in several...

**Opioid abuse risk: Low**

401.0 Benign essential hypertension  
272.0 Hypercholesterolemia  
272.2 Hyperglyceridemia  
429.9 Heart disease, unspecified  
278.00 Obesity, unspecified

**Reimbursement: Approved**





## Intriguing properties of neural networks

---

**Christian Szegedy**

Google Inc.

**Wojciech Zaremba**

New York University

**Ilya Sutskever**

Google Inc.

**Joan Bruna**

New York University

**Dumitru Erhan**

Google Inc.

**Ian Goodfellow**

University of Montreal

**Rob Fergus**

New York University

Facebook Inc.

### Abstract

Deep neural networks are highly expressive models that have recently achieved state of the art performance on speech and visual recognition tasks. While their expressiveness is the reason they succeed, it also causes them to learn uninterpretable solutions that could have counter-intuitive properties. In this paper we report two such properties.

First, we find that there is no distinction between individual high level units and random linear combinations of high level units, according to various methods of unit analysis. It suggests that it is the space, rather than the individual units, that

# Deep Fool

*Deep Fool* was established at EPFL in order to study the stability of neural networks.



DEEP LEARNING FOR VISUAL UNDERSTANDING

Alhussein Fawzi, Seyed-Mohsen Moosavi-Dezfooli,  
and Pascal Frossard

## The Robustness of Deep Networks

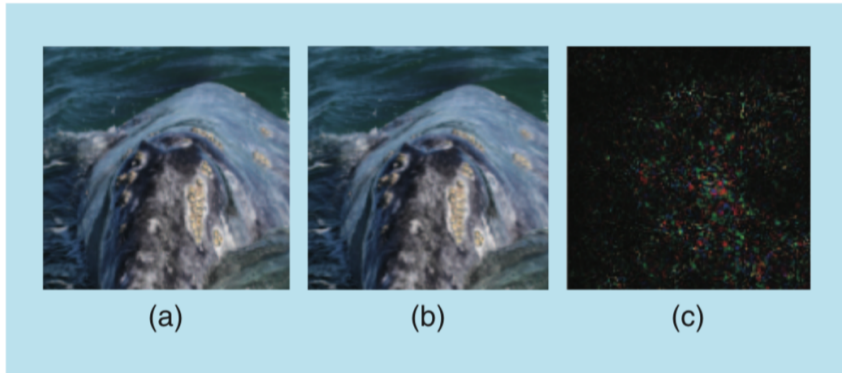
*A geometrical perspective*

---

## Reading material

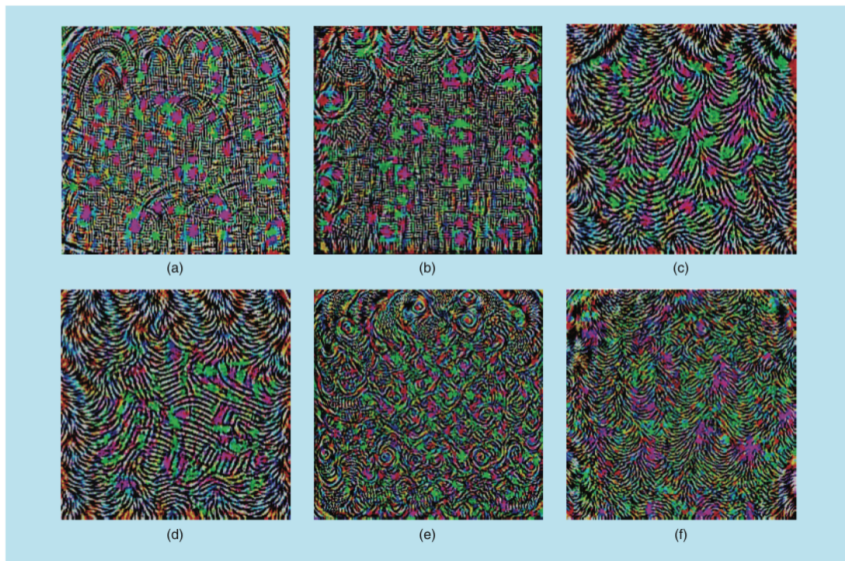
- ▶ Fawzi, A., Moosavi-Dezfooli, S. M., Frossard, P. (2017). '*The robustness of deep networks: A geometrical perspective*'. IEEE Signal Processing Magazine, 34(6), 50-62.
- ▶ Moosavi-Dezfooli, S. M., Fawzi, A., Frossard, P. (2016). '*Deepfool: a simple and accurate method to fool deep neural networks*. In *Proceedings of the IEEE conference on computer vision and pattern recognition*', (pp. 2574-2582).
- ▶ Moosavi-Dezfooli, S. M., Fawzi, A., Fawzi, O., Frossard, P. (2017). '*Universal adversarial perturbations*'. In *Proceedings of the IEEE conference on computer vision and pattern recognition* (pp. 1765-1773).
- ▶ Kanbak, C., Moosavi-Dezfooli, S. M., Frossard, P. (2018). '*Geometric robustness of deep networks: analysis and improvement*'. In *Proceedings of the IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition* (pp. 4441-4449).

# Deep Fool in practice



**FIGURE 1.** An example of an adversarial perturbations in state-of-the-art neural networks. (a) The original image that is classified as a “whale,” (b) the perturbed image classified as a “turtle,” and (c) the corresponding adversarial perturbation that has been added to the original image to fool a state-of-the-art image classifier [5].

# Deep Fool: Universal perturbations



**FIGURE 3.** Universal perturbations computed for different deep neural network architectures. The pixel values are scaled for visibility. (a) CaffeNet, (b) VGG-F, (c) VGG-16, (d) VGG-19, (e) GoogLeNet, and (f) ResNet-152.

# Deep Fool: Examples



**FIGURE 4.** Examples of natural images perturbed with the universal perturbation and their corresponding estimated labels with GoogLeNet. (a)–(h) Images belonging to the ILSVRC 2012 validation set. (i)–(l) Personal images captured by a mobile phone camera. (Figure used courtesy of [22].)

## Deep Fool: Examples

	VGG-F	CaffeNet	GoogLeNet	VGG-16	VGG-19	ResNet-152
VGG-F	<b>93.7%</b>	71.8%	48.4%	42.1%	42.1%	47.4%
CaffeNet	74.0%	<b>93.3%</b>	47.7%	39.9%	39.9%	48.0%
GoogLeNet	46.2%	43.8%	<b>78.9%</b>	39.2%	39.8%	45.5%
VGG-16	63.4%	55.8%	56.5%	<b>78.3%</b>	73.1%	63.4%
VGG-19	64.0%	57.2%	53.6%	73.5%	<b>77.8%</b>	58.0%
ResNet-152	46.3%	46.3%	50.5%	47.0%	45.5%	<b>84.0%</b>

**Table:** The rows indicate the architecture for which the universal perturbations is computed, and the columns indicate the architecture for which the fooling rate is reported.

## Robust Physical-World Attacks on Deep Learning Visual Classification

Kevin Eykholt<sup>\*1</sup>, Ivan Evtimov<sup>\*2</sup>, Earlene Fernandes<sup>2</sup>, Bo Li<sup>3</sup>,  
Amir Rahmati<sup>4</sup>, Chaowei Xiao<sup>1</sup>, Atul Prakash<sup>1</sup>, Tadayoshi Kohno<sup>2</sup>, and Dawn Song<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

<sup>2</sup>University of Washington

<sup>3</sup>University of California, Berkeley

<sup>4</sup>Samsung Research America and Stony Brook University

### Abstract

*Recent studies show that the state-of-the-art deep neural networks (DNNs) are vulnerable to adversarial examples, resulting from small-magnitude perturbations added to the input. Given that emerging physical systems are using DNNs in safety-critical situations, adversarial examples could mislead these systems and cause dangerous situations.*

these successes, they are increasingly being used as part of control pipelines in physical systems such as cars [8, 17], UAVs [4, 24], and robots [40]. Recent work, however, has demonstrated that DNNs are vulnerable to adversarial perturbations [5, 9, 10, 15, 16, 22, 25, 29, 30, 35]. These carefully crafted modifications to the (visual) input of DNNs can cause the systems they control to misbehave in unexpected and potentially dangerous ways.



# Structural perturbations



Structural perturbations can also cause the network to fail.

# How do we compute additive adversarial perturbations?

## Notation

- ▶  $f: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow [0, 1]^C$  - Neural network classifier.
- ▶  $\hat{k}: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \{1, 2, \dots, C\}$ . - Predicted label.

$$\hat{k}(x) = \operatorname{argmax}_{j \in \{1, \dots, C\}} f(x)_j.$$

Seeking minimal perturbation changing the prediction

$$r^*(x) \in \operatorname{argmin}_{r \in \mathbb{R}^d} \|r\| \text{ subject to } \hat{k}(x+r) \neq \hat{k}(x)$$

Otter: 0.993142  
Beaver: 0.00231697  
Mink: 0.00199465



# Random Noise

1. Draw  $v \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \text{Id})$  (normal distribution)

2. Solve

$$\alpha^* \in \operatorname{argmin}_{\alpha > 0} \alpha \quad \text{subject to} \quad \hat{k}(x + \alpha v) \neq \hat{k}(x)$$

3. Set  $r^* = \alpha^* v$

## Random Noise

Otter: 0.993142  
Beaver: 0.00231697  
Mink: 0.00199465



Eel: 0.203679  
Otter: 0.203679  
Sea\_Lion: 0.190791



$$\|r\|_{l^2} / \|x\|_{l^2} = 1.47$$

# Fast Gradient

1. Let  $L(s) = \|f(x + s) - f(x)\|_2^2$ .

2. Let  $v = \nabla_s L$

3. Solve

$$\alpha^* \in \operatorname{argmin}_{\alpha > 0} \alpha \quad \text{subject to} \quad \hat{k}(x + \alpha v) \neq \hat{k}(x)$$

4. Set  $r^* = \alpha^* v$

# Fast Gradient

Otter: 0.993142  
Beaver: 0.00231697  
Mink: 0.00199465



Peacock: 0.347496  
Otter: 0.347495  
Arabian\_Camel: 0.0341268



$$\|r\|_{l^2} / \|x\|_{l^2} = 0.34$$

# Deep Fool

Otter: 0.993142  
Beaver: 0.00231697  
Mink: 0.00199465



Beaver: 0.47985  
Otter: 0.479805  
Weasel: 0.00673608



$$\|r\|_{l^2} / \|x\|_{l^2} = 0.0052$$



# Deep Fool – How does it work?

## Binary classification:

Given a classification function  $f: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and an image  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d$  we would like to solve

$$r^*(x_0) \in \operatorname{argmin} \|r\|_{l^2} \quad \text{subject to} \quad \operatorname{sign}(f(x_0 + r)) \neq \operatorname{sign}(f(x_0))$$

We make the classification based on  $\operatorname{sign}(f(x_0))$ .

# Deep Fool for Binary Linear Classifier

Let  $f: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be given by  $f(x) = w^T x + b$ .

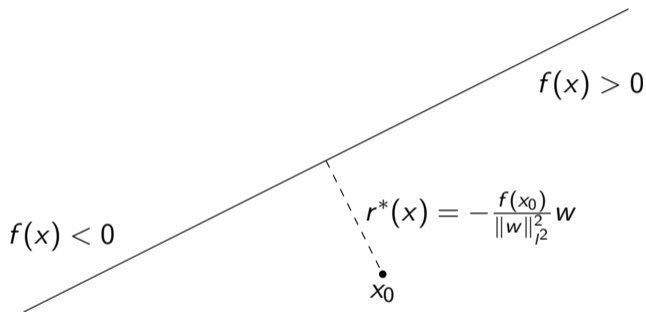


Figure: Adversarial example for a binary linear classifier

Deepfool: a simple and accurate method to fool deep neural networks (2016), S.M. Moosavi-Dezfooli et al.

# Deep Fool for Binary Classifier

We would like to solve

$$r^*(x_0) \in \operatorname{argmin} \|r\|_{l_2} \quad \text{subject to} \quad \operatorname{sign}(f(x_0 + r)) \neq \operatorname{sign}(f(x_0))$$

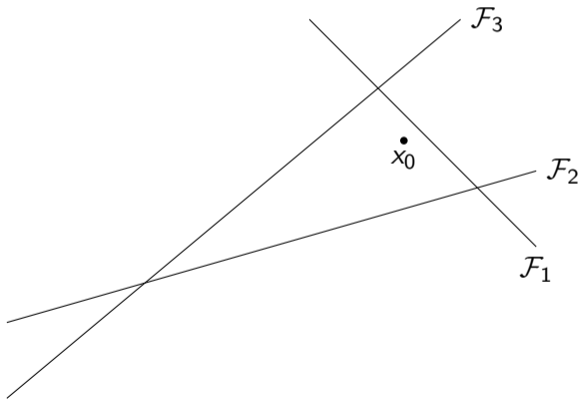
Approximate  $f$  at  $x_i$  with an linear version  $f(x_i) + \nabla f(x_i)^T(x - x_i)$ .

- 1: **Input:** *image*  $x$ , *classifier*  $f$
- 2: **Output:** *Perturbation*  $\tilde{r}$
- 3: Initialize:  $x_0 \leftarrow x, i \leftarrow 0, \eta \leftarrow 0.02, \tilde{r} \leftarrow 0$
- 4: **while**  $\operatorname{sign}(f(x + (1 + \eta)\tilde{r})) = \operatorname{sign}(f(x))$  **do**
- 5:      $r_i \leftarrow -\frac{f(x_i)}{\|\nabla f(x_i)\|_{l_2}^2} \nabla f(x_i)$
- 6:      $x_{i+1} \leftarrow x_i + r_i$
- 7:      $\tilde{r} \leftarrow \tilde{r} + r_i$
- 8:      $i \leftarrow i + 1$
- 9: **return**  $\tilde{r}$

# Deep Fool for Multiclass Linear Classifier

Let

$$P = \bigcap_{k=1}^C \{x : f_{\hat{k}(x_0)}(x) \geq f_k(x)\}$$



$$\mathcal{F}_k = \{x : f_{\hat{k}(x_0)}(x) - f_k(x) = 0\}$$

# Is the behaviour we are seeing reasonable?

Consider a linear classifier  $w^\top x + b$  in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . Then

$$w^\top (x + \Delta x) + b = w^\top x + w^\top \Delta x + b$$

Under the constraint  $\|\Delta x\|_{l^\infty} \leq \epsilon$  we can choose  $\Delta x_i = \epsilon \text{sign}(w_i)$  so the classification changes by

$$\epsilon \|w\|_{l_1} \approx \epsilon d \langle |w| \rangle$$

where  $\langle |w| \rangle$  is the average of the entries in  $w$ .

What happens for large  $d$ ?

Insight from:

Goodfellow, I. J., Shlens, J., & Szegedy, C. (2014). 'Explaining and harnessing adversarial examples'. arXiv preprint arXiv:1412.6572.

*What does deep learning learn?*

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Shaping Europe's digital future

REPORT / STUDY | 8 April 2019

# Ethics guidelines for trustworthy AI

On 8 April 2019, the High-Level Expert Group on AI presented Ethics Guidelines for Trustworthy Artificial Intelligence. This followed the publication of the guidelines' first draft in December 2018 on which more than 500 comments were received through an open consultation.

According to the Guidelines, trustworthy AI should be:

- (1) lawful - respecting all applicable laws and regulations
- (2) ethical - respecting ethical principles and values
- (3) robust - both from a technical perspective while taking into account its social environment

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## TRUSTWORTHY AI ASSESSMENT LIST (PILOT VERSION)

### 1. Human agency and oversight

#### ***Fundamental rights:***

- ✓ Did you carry out a fundamental rights impact assessment where there could be a negative impact on fundamental rights? Did you identify and document potential trade-offs made between the different principles and rights?
- ✓ Does the AI system interact with decisions by human (end) users (e.g. recommended actions or decisions to take, presenting of options)?
  - Could the AI system affect human autonomy by interfering with the (end) user's decision-making process in an unintended way?
  - Did you consider whether the AI system should communicate to (end) users that a decision, content, advice or outcome is the result of an algorithmic decision?
  - In case of a chat bot or other conversational system, are the human end users made aware that they are interacting with a non-human agent?

#### ***Human agency:***

- ✓ Is the AI system implemented in work and labour process? If so, did you consider the task allocation between the AI system and humans for meaningful interactions and appropriate human oversight and control?
  - Does the AI system enhance or augment human capabilities?
  - Did you take safeguards to prevent overconfidence in or overreliance on the AI system for work processes?

#### ***Human oversight:***



# What does deep learning learn?



# What does deep learning learn?

## Adversarial Examples Are Not Bugs, They Are Features

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### Abstract

Adversarial examples have attracted significant attention in machine learning, but the reasons for their existence and pervasiveness remain unclear. We demonstrate that adversarial examples can be directly attributed to the presence of *non-robust features*: features (derived from patterns in the data distribution) that are highly predictive, yet brittle and (thus) incomprehensible to humans. After capturing these features within a theoretical framework, we establish their widespread existence in standard datasets. Finally, we present a simple setting where we can rigorously tie the phenomena we observe in practice to a *misalignment* between the (human-specified) notion of robustness and the inherent geometry of the data.

## 1 Introduction

The pervasive brittleness of deep neural networks [Sze+14; Eng+19b; HD19; Ath+18] has attracted significant attention in recent years. Particularly worrisome is the phenomenon of *adversarial examples* [Big+13;

# What does deep learning learn?

## What do AI algorithms actually learn? – On false structures in deep learning

Laura Thesing\*    Vegard Antun<sup>†</sup>    Anders C. Hansen\*<sup>†</sup>

June 5, 2019

### Abstract

There are two big unsolved mathematical questions in artificial intelligence (AI): (1) Why is deep learning so successful in classification problems and (2) why are neural nets based on deep learning at the same time universally unstable, where the instabilities make the networks vulnerable to adversarial attacks. We present a solution to these questions that can be summed up in two words; false structures. Indeed, deep learning does not learn the original structures that humans use when recognising images (cats have whiskers, paws, fur, pointy ears, etc), but rather different false structures that correlate with the original structure and hence yield the success. However, the false structure, unlike the original structure, is unstable. The false structure is simpler than the original structure, hence easier to learn with less data and the numerical algorithm used in the training will more easily converge to the neural network that captures the false structure. We formally define the concept of false structures and formulate the solution as a conjecture. Given that trained neural networks always are computed with approximations, this conjecture can only be established through a combination of theoretical and computational results similar to how one establishes a postulate in theoretical physics (e.g. the speed of light is constant). Establishing the conjecture fully will require a vast research program characterising the false structures. We provide the foundations for such a program establishing the existence of the false structures in practice. Finally, we discuss the far reaching consequences the existence of the false structures has on state-of-the-art AI and Smale's 18th problem.

# What does deep learning learn?

## Clever Hans

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

*For Grimm's tale, see [Clever Hans \(fairy tale\)](#).*



This article **needs additional citations for verification**. Please help [improve this article](#) by [adding citations to reliable sources](#).

Unsourced material may be challenged and removed.

*Find sources:* ["Clever Hans" – news · newspapers · books · scholar · JSTOR](#) (December 2020) ([Learn how and when to remove this template message](#))

**Clever Hans** ([German](#): *der Kluge Hans*; fl. 1907) was a horse that was claimed to have performed [arithmetic](#) and other intellectual tasks. After a formal investigation in 1907, [psychologist Oskar Pfungst](#) demonstrated that the horse was not actually performing these mental tasks, but was watching the reactions of his trainer. He discovered this artifact in the [research methodology](#), wherein the horse was responding directly to involuntary



Clever Hans performing in 1904

# Can we check what the neural networks learn?

## Explanations can be manipulated and geometry is to blame

Ann-Kathrin Dombrowski<sup>1</sup>, Maximilian Alber<sup>1</sup>, Christopher J. Anders<sup>1</sup>,  
Marcel Ackermann<sup>2</sup>, Klaus-Robert Müller<sup>1,3,4</sup>, Pan Kessel<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Machine Learning Group, EE & Computer Science Faculty, TU-Berlin

<sup>2</sup>Department of Video Coding & Analytics, Fraunhofer Heinrich-Hertz-Institute

<sup>3</sup>Max Planck Institute for Informatics

<sup>4</sup>Department of Brain and Cognitive Engineering, Korea University

{klaus-robert.mueller, pan.kessel}@tu-berlin.de

### Abstract

Explanation methods aim to make neural networks more trustworthy and interpretable. In this paper, we demonstrate a property of explanation methods which is disconcerting for both of these purposes. Namely, we show that explanations can be manipulated *arbitrarily* by applying visually hardly perceptible perturbations to the input that keep the network's output approximately constant. We establish theoretically that this phenomenon can be related to certain geometrical properties of neural networks. This allows us to derive an upper bound on the susceptibility of explanations to manipulations. Based on this result, we propose effective mechanisms to enhance the robustness of explanations.

# Can we check what the neural networks learn?



Figure 1: Original image with corresponding explanation map on the left. Manipulated image with its explanation on the right. The chosen target explanation was an image with a text stating "this explanation was manipulated".

*The need for foundations.*

# Echoes of an old story

Hilbert's vision at start of 20th century: provide secure foundations for all mathematics.

- ▶ All mathematical statements should be written in a precise formal language, and manipulated according to well defined rules.
- ▶ Completeness: a proof that all true mathematical statements can be proved in the formalism.
- ▶ Consistency: a proof that no contradiction can be obtained in the formalism of mathematics.
- ▶ Decidability: an algorithm for deciding the truth or falsity of any mathematical statement.



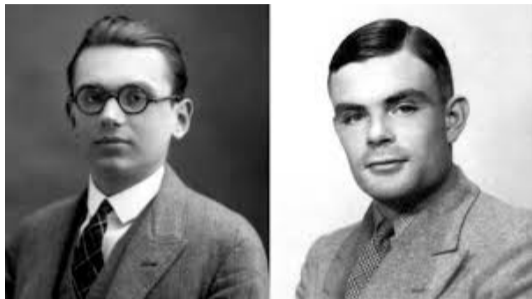


# Echoes of an old story

**Hilbert's 10th problem:** Provide an algorithm which, for any given Diophantine equation (polynomial equation with integer coefficients and finite number of unknowns), can decide whether the equation has an integer-valued solution.

E.g.:  $x^n + y^n = z^n$  (c.f. Fermat's last theorem)

## Echoes of an old story



Gödel and Turing turned Hilbert's optimism upside down by showing how there are true statements in mathematics that cannot be proven and that there are problems that cannot be computed by an algorithm.

**Hilbert's 10th problem (Solution in 1970, Matiyasevich):** No such algorithm exists.

Poonen, B., 2014. *Undecidable problems: a sampler*. Interpreting Gödel: Critical Essays.

## A discussion with Fields Medalist Artur Avila

**Many scientists from a broad spectrum of areas have expressed various views and opinions about the possible future consequences of the advancement of AI, do you have any views on this?**

Being a dynamicist, my training has taught me to a large extent that there are a lot of limitations when we make predictions. To my understanding, when it comes to AI peoples' hopes might be too high at the moment... It is of course correct to continue the effort... When we learn more about a corresponding domain we are also able to better understand its limitations. The point is to try to discover directions where the techniques allow you to go. It is very important and at the same time difficult to know what you cannot achieve... This is what happened in mathematics when we learned that there are unsolvable problems and all kind of limitations to formalism. Our understanding changed completely from Hilbert to Gödel... Maybe, with respect to AI, there are still unknown theoretical limitations hiding in information theory or even dynamical systems.

Full interview: [http://www.mthrasias.com/data/uploads/avila\\_discussion.pdf](http://www.mthrasias.com/data/uploads/avila_discussion.pdf)

# A program for the foundations of DL and AI

**Smale's 18th problem\*:** *What are the limits of artificial intelligence?*

A program determining the foundations/limitations of deep learning and AI is needed:

- ▶ Boundaries of methodologies.
- ▶ Universal/intrinsic boundaries (no algorithm can do it).

There is a key difference between existence and construction here.

Need to also incorporate two pillars of numerical analysis:

- ▶ Stability (warning to the reader: there are different types of stability)
- ▶ Accuracy

**GOAL for rest of lectures:** Develop some results in this direction for inverse problems.

\*Steve Smale composed a list of problems for the 21st century in reply to a request of Vladimir Arnold inspired by Hilbert's list.

*AI in inverse problems and imaging.*

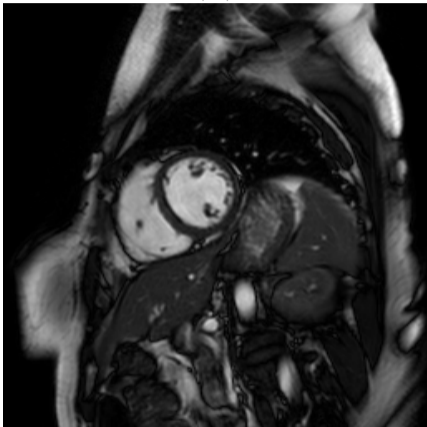
# Mathematical setup

Given measurements  $y = Ax + e$  recover  $x \in \mathbb{C}^N$ .

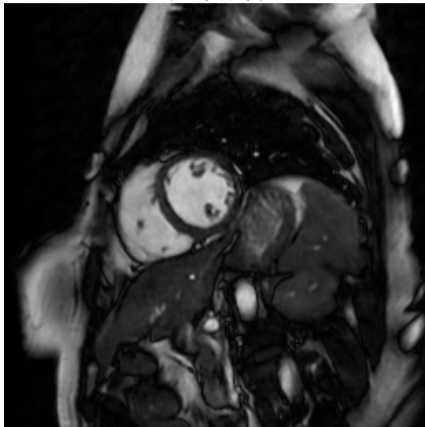
- ▶  $x \in \mathbb{C}^N$  be an unknown vector,
- ▶  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times N}$  be a matrix ( $m < N$ ) describing modality (e.g. MRI), and
- ▶  $y = Ax + e$  the noisy measurements of  $x$ .

# AI generated hallucinations – Instabilities

$|x|$



$|\Psi(Ax)|$

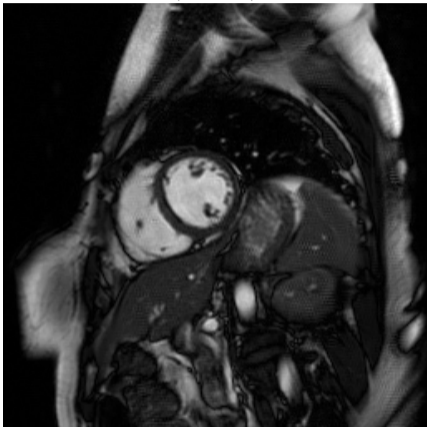


**Network from:** J. Schlemper, J. Caballero, J. V. Hajnal, A. Price and D. Rueckert, 'A deep cascade of convolutional neural networks for MR image reconstruction', in International conference on information processing in medical imaging, Springer, 2017, pp. 647–658.

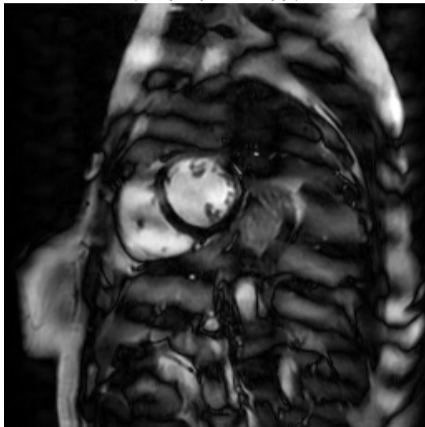
**Figures from:** Antun, V., Renna, F., Poon, C., Adcock, B., & Hansen, A. C., 'On instabilities of deep learning in image reconstruction and the potential costs of AI'. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 2020..

# AI generated hallucinations – Instabilities

$$|x + r|$$



$$|\Psi(A(x + r))|$$




**Network from:** J. Schlemper, J. Caballero, J. V. Hajnal, A. Price and D. Rueckert, 'A deep cascade of convolutional neural networks for MR image reconstruction', in International conference on information processing in medical imaging, Springer, 2017, pp. 647–658.

**Figures from:** Antun, V., Renna, F., Poon, C., Adcock, B., & Hansen, A. C., 'On instabilities of deep learning in image reconstruction and the potential costs of AI'. Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA, 2020..



# DL is unstable in inverse problems

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## On instabilities of deep learning in image reconstruction and the potential costs of AI

Vegard Antun, Francesco Renna, Clarice Poon, Ben Adcock, and Anders C. Hansen

PNAS first published May 11, 2020 <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.1907377117>

Edited by David L. Donoho, Stanford University, Stanford, CA, and approved March 12, 2020 (received for review June 4, 2019)



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diagnostic imaging

RESEARCH UPDATE

Reconstructed medical images can't be trusted

Images (a) including small structural perturbations (v, text and symbols) reconstructed with neural networks (25, 26), GANs and MIP-Net and state-of-the-art (SoSt) methods. (Courtesy: Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences 10.1073/pnas.1907377117)

Medical images reconstructed using artificial intelligence (AI) techniques are unreliable, according to recent research by an international team of mathematicians. The team found that deep learning tools that create

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## AI techniques in medical imaging may lead to positives and false negatives

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Reviewed by Emily Henderson, B.Sc.

Machine learning and AI are highly unstable in medical image reconstruction, and may lead to false positives, a new study suggests.

A team of researchers, led by the University of Cambridge and Simon Fraser University, used machine learning and AI for medical image reconstruction algorithms based on AI and deep learning, and found a wide range of artifacts, or unwanted alterations in the data, among other major errors in the images that were typically not present in non-AI based imaging techniques.

The phenomenon was widespread across different types of artificial neural networks, and will not be easily remedied. The researchers caution that relying on AI-based image reconstruction to make diagnoses and determine treatment could ultimately do harm to patients. Their re

Artificial intelli

Curt Langlotz (Director of the Center for Artificial Intelligence in Medicine and Imaging at Stanford University) tweets:

*“Confirming what many believed about deep learning image reconstruction: ‘Deep learning typically yields unstable methods for image reconstruction from: 1) tiny perturbations, 2) structural changes, and 3) changes in the number of samples.’”*

- ▶ Given the existence of stable and accurate methods, isn't this a paradox?
- ▶ There is a **trade-off** between stability and accuracy.

# Recall the claim

Claim: “superior immunity to noise and a reduction in reconstruction artefacts compared with conventional handcrafted reconstruction methods”

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Imaging

## AI transforms image reconstruction

Rita Strack

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**A deep-learning-based approach improves the speed, accuracy, and robustness of biomedical image reconstruction.**

Artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning are poised to revolutionize the way biologists acquire and interact with experimental

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Sections

References

References

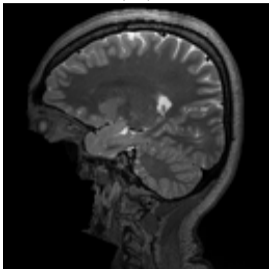
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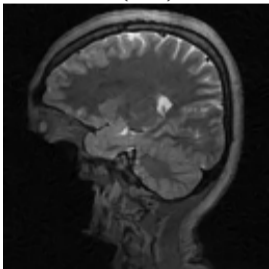
Further reading

**AUTOMAP**

$|x|$

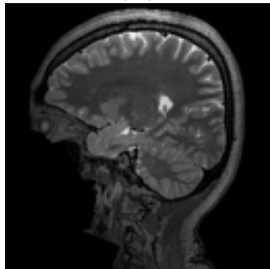


$\Psi(Ax)$

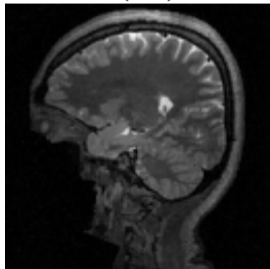


**FIRENET**

$|x|$

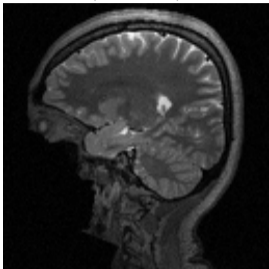


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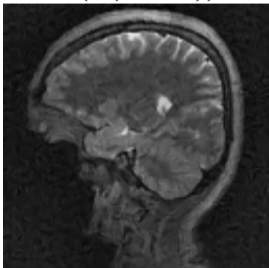


## AUTOMAP

$$|x + r_1|$$

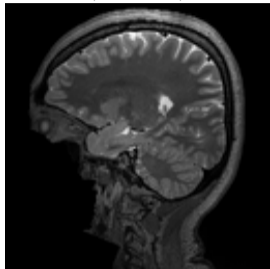


$$\Psi(A(x + r_1))$$

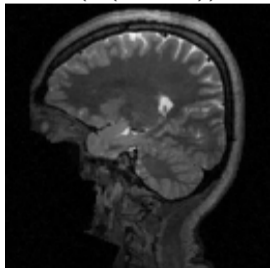


## FIRENET

$$|x + v_1|$$

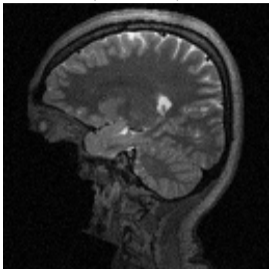


$$\Phi(A(x + v_1))$$

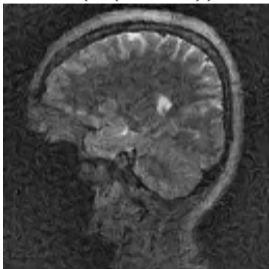


## AUTOMAP

$$|x + r_2|$$

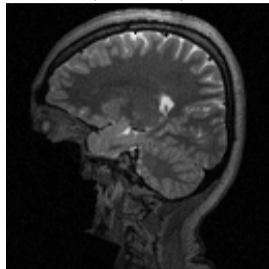


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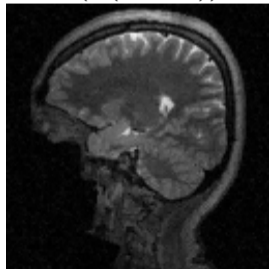


## FIRENET

$$|x + v_2|$$



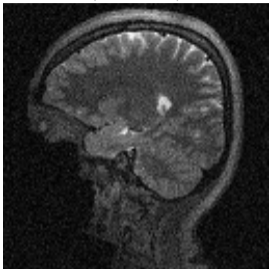
$$\Phi(A(x + v_2))$$



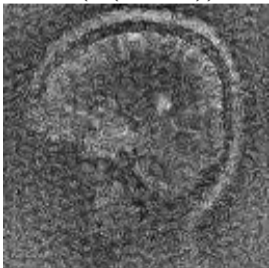


## AUTOMAP

$$|x + r_3|$$

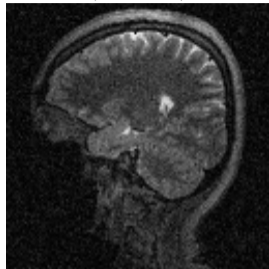


$$\Psi(A(x + r_3))$$

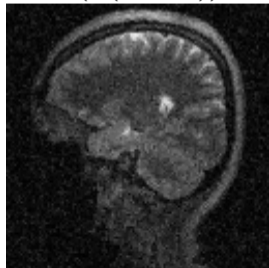


## FIRENET

$$|x + v_3|$$



$$\Phi(A(x + v_3))$$



# Tune in next time for...

- ▶ AI generated hallucinations: The instability test for AI image reconstruction.
- ▶ Reasons for instability (kernel awareness).
- ▶ An intriguing impossibility result in optimisation and sparse regularisation. (well-conditioned problems where great neural networks exist but cannot be computed/trained)
- ▶ Algorithm unrolling.

<b>DAY I</b>	<b>DAY II</b>	<b>Day III</b>
Gravity of AI Image Classification Need for Foundations AI for Image Reconstruction	Inverse Problems Instabilities & Kernel Awareness Intriguing Barriers Algorithm Unrolling	Achieving Kernel Awareness FIRENETs Imaging Applications Numerical Examples