# 6.859: Interactive Data Visualization **Research Frontiers: ML Interpretability**

# Arvind Satyanarayan







Source: ImageNet





# "Labrador Retriever"

Source: ImageNet



"Golden Retriever"





e: ImageNet

Sourc

# "Labrador Retriever"



# "Golden Retriever"

Label	Probability
Labrador retriever	69.2%
Golden retriever	11.6%
Tennis ball	2.6%



# Why do we want interpretability?

- **Fairness**: is the model biased? is it discriminating?
- **Causality**: using models to infer properties about the natural world.
- **Reliability**: how well does this model generalize, or transfer to a new domain?
- **Trust**: how much confidence do I have in the model?
- **Transparency**: how do I audit a model's decision-making?

# [Lipton, 2017]



### KICE - CLEAN CYCLING COPY











# ModelTracker



# [Amershi et al., CHI 2015]







e: ImageNet

Sourc

# "Labrador Retriever"



# "Golden Retriever"

Label	Probability
Labrador retriever	69.2%
Golden retriever	11.6%
Tennis ball	2.6%





# Hidden Layers

За

Зb







4a

"Golden Retriever"



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Label	Probability
Labrador retriever	69.2%
Golden retriever	11.6%
Tennis ball	2.6%



# Individual Neurons



# channel 1

# **Dimensionality Reduction** Project nD data to 2D or 3D. Interpret/sanity check learned representations. But subject to their own interpretation issues. Different techniques make different trade-offs: **PCA (Principal Component Analysis)**: roughly fit a p-dimensional ellipsoid to the 6 data, order axes by amount of data variance

they explain. Preserves global structure.



**Dimensionality Reduction** But subject to their own interpretation issues. Different techniques make different trade-offs: to the data, order axes by amount of data variance they explain. Preserves global structure.

- Project nD data to 2D or 3D. Interpret/sanity check learned representations.

  - PCA (Principal Component Analysis): roughly fit a p-dimensional ellipsoid
  - t-SNE (t-Dist. Stochastic Neighbor Embedding): probabilistic distribution that adapts and performs different transformations on different regions.













Original

Perplexity: 2 Step: 5,000

Perplexity: 5 Step: 5,000



[Wattenberg et al., Distill 2016]





Step: 5,000

Step: 5,000

Step: 60

Step: 120

Step: 1,000









Perplexity: 2 Step: 5,000

Perplexity: 5 Step: 5,000

3.2

(N)



[Wattenberg et al., Distill 2016]











Original

Perplexity: 2 Step: 5,000

Perplexity: 5 Step: 5,000

# [Wattenberg et al., Distill 2016]

Perplexity: 30 Step: 5,000

Perplexity: 50 Step: 5,000

Perplexity: 100 Step: 5,000

**Dimensionality Reduction** But subject to their own interpretation issues. Different techniques make different trade-offs: to the data, order axes by amount of data variance they explain. Preserves global structure.

stitch them together. Tries to balance local/global trade-off.

- Project nD data to 2D or 3D. Interpret/sanity check learned representations.

  - PCA (Principal Component Analysis): roughly fit a p-dimensional ellipsoid
  - t-SNE (t-Dist. Stochastic Neighbor Embedding): probabilistic distribution that adapts and performs different transformations on different regions.
  - UMAP (Uniform Manifold Approx. & Projection): Identify local regions,







## **Original 3D Data**





**perplexity:** 5 **time**: 9m 18s

[Coenen & Pearce, 2019]

### **2D UMAP projection**





[Coenen & Pearce, 2019]

## 2D UMAP projection



[Coenen & Pearce, 2019]

### **2D UMAP projection**



[Coenen & Pearce, 2019]

## 2D UMAP projection



# Individual Neurons



# channel 1

# **Individual Neurons**



# **Spatial Activations**





# **Spatial Activations**





# a<sub>1,0</sub> = [0, 0, 0, 0, 49.6, 0, 43.6, 30.2, 119.8, 62.7, 0, 51...

Local Interpretable Model-Agnostic Explanations

[Ribeiro et al., KDD 2016]













Loca nterpretable Model-Agnostic Explanations

[Ribeiro et al., KDD 2016]

# Identify subcomponents



Regions sufficient for "tree frog" classification.





Image

Label: toy terrier



[SmoothGrad. Smilkov et al., 2017]

### Gradient

Integrated

## **Guided Backprop**







# Shared Interest: Measuring Human-Al Alignment





























### Incorrect

### Correct







### Incorrect

### Correct







# Shared Interest: Measuring Human-Al Alignment

## LOW SHARED INTEREST SCORE

### Incorrect

### Correct





**IOU COVERAGE** 



## **HIGH SHARED INTEREST SCORE**

### Incorrect

## Correct





# Shared Interest: Measuring Human-Al Alignment









k



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## Gradient and Signal Methods



[Kindermans et al., 2017]

# Attribution Methods

# Add a Constant Vector Shift

### MNIST + Constant Shift



![](_page_39_Figure_4.jpeg)

[Kindermans et al., 2017]

Network 1

Network 2

- Attribution Under Constant Vector Shift

# Feature Visualization

Olah, Mordvintsev, and Schubert. Distill, 2017. https://distill.pub/2017/feature-visualization/

![](_page_40_Picture_2.jpeg)

# Step o

Step 4

# Step 48

Step 2,048

![](_page_40_Picture_7.jpeg)

![](_page_40_Picture_8.jpeg)

Different optimization objectives show what different parts of a network are looking for.

- **n** layer index
- x,y spatial position
- z channel index
- k class index

![](_page_41_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_41_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_41_Picture_7.jpeg)

Neuron layer<sub>n</sub>[x,y,z]

![](_page_41_Picture_9.jpeg)

Channel layer<sub>n</sub>[:,:,z]

![](_page_41_Picture_11.jpeg)

![](_page_41_Figure_12.jpeg)

![](_page_41_Picture_13.jpeg)

![](_page_41_Picture_14.jpeg)

Layer/DeepDream layer<sub>n</sub>[:,:,:]<sup>2</sup>

![](_page_41_Picture_16.jpeg)

**Class Logits** pre\_softmax[k]

![](_page_41_Picture_18.jpeg)

**Class Probability** softmax[k]

![](_page_41_Picture_20.jpeg)

![](_page_42_Picture_0.jpeg)

Simple Optimization

![](_page_42_Picture_2.jpeg)

Optimization with diversity reveals four different, curvy facets. Layer mixed4a, Unit 97

![](_page_42_Picture_4.jpeg)

Simple Optimization

![](_page_42_Picture_6.jpeg)

Optimization with diversity reveals multiple types of balls. Layer mixed5a, Unit 9

![](_page_42_Picture_8.jpeg)

Dataset examples

![](_page_42_Picture_11.jpeg)

Dataset examples

![](_page_42_Picture_13.jpeg)

![](_page_42_Picture_14.jpeg)

![](_page_42_Picture_15.jpeg)

By jointly optimizing two neurons we can get a sense of how they interact.

REPRODUCE IN A CO NOTEBOOK

![](_page_43_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_43_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_43_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_43_Picture_5.jpeg)

Neuron 1

![](_page_43_Picture_7.jpeg)

Layer 4b, Unit 475

![](_page_43_Picture_9.jpeg)

![](_page_43_Picture_10.jpeg)

![](_page_43_Picture_11.jpeg)

![](_page_43_Picture_12.jpeg)

![](_page_43_Picture_13.jpeg)

Jointly optimized

Layer 4a, Unit 476

![](_page_43_Picture_16.jpeg)

# **Spatial Activations**

![](_page_44_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_44_Picture_2.jpeg)

# a<sub>1,0</sub> = [0, 0, 0, 0, 49.6, 0, 43.6, 30.2, 119.8, 62.7, 0, 51...

# **Semantic Dictionaries**

![](_page_45_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_45_Picture_3.jpeg)

## 9.6, 0, 43.6, 30.2, 119.8, 62.7, 0, 51...

![](_page_45_Picture_5.jpeg)

252.

![](_page_45_Picture_7.jpeg)

![](_page_45_Picture_8.jpeg)

# **Semantic Dictionaries**

![](_page_46_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_46_Picture_3.jpeg)

## 3, 0, 38.5, 0, 0, 15.1, 0, 0, 10.4, ...]

# **Semantic Dictionaries**

![](_page_47_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_47_Figure_3.jpeg)

## 48.4, 10.8, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 52.5, 0, ...]

![](_page_47_Figure_5.jpeg)

![](_page_47_Picture_6.jpeg)

![](_page_48_Picture_0.jpeg)

Activation Vector

Channels

![](_page_48_Picture_3.jpeg)

STATE OF THE OWNER

![](_page_48_Picture_5.jpeg)

Substantia dita.

![](_page_49_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_49_Picture_1.jpeg)

Activation Vector

![](_page_49_Picture_3.jpeg)

# mixed3a: Edges

![](_page_50_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_50_Picture_2.jpeg)

# mixed4a: Geometries

![](_page_51_Picture_1.jpeg)

# mixed4d: Objects

![](_page_52_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_53_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_53_Picture_1.jpeg)

**MIXED3A** 

MIXED4A

![](_page_53_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_53_Picture_5.jpeg)

MIXED4D

MIXED5A

![](_page_53_Picture_8.jpeg)

![](_page_54_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_54_Picture_1.jpeg)

### **MIXED3A**

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MIXED4A

![](_page_54_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_54_Picture_9.jpeg)

MIXED4D

MIXED5A

178

![](_page_54_Picture_12.jpeg)

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![](_page_54_Picture_16.jpeg)

### INPUT IMAGE

![](_page_55_Picture_1.jpeg)

### **OUTPUT CLASSES**

mixed4a

abrador Retriever	
Golden Retriever	
Fennis Ball	1
Rhodesian Ridgeback	
Appenzeller	

### mixed3a

![](_page_55_Figure_5.jpeg)

### **OUTPUT FACTORS**

![](_page_55_Figure_7.jpeg)

Tiger	
Tiger Cat	
Lynx	
Collie	
Border Collie	

### mixed4d

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### mixed5a

![](_page_55_Picture_12.jpeg)

![](_page_56_Figure_0.jpeg)

A randomized set of one million images is fed through the network, collecting one random spatial activation per image.

The activations are fed through UMAP to reduce them to two dimensions. They are then plotted, with similar activations placed near each other.

We then draw a grid and average the activations that fall within a cell and run feature inversion on the averaged activation. We also optionally size the grid cells according to the density of the number of activations that are averaged within.

![](_page_56_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_56_Picture_5.jpeg)

![](_page_56_Figure_6.jpeg)

![](_page_56_Figure_7.jpeg)

![](_page_56_Picture_8.jpeg)

![](_page_57_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_57_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_58_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_58_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_58_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_58_Picture_3.jpeg)

![](_page_59_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_60_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_60_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_61_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_61_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_62_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_63_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_63_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_63_Picture_2.jpeg)

![](_page_64_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_65_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_65_Picture_1.jpeg)

![](_page_66_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_66_Picture_1.jpeg)

# **Exploring Neural Networks with Activation Atlases**

By using feature inversion to visualize millions of activations from an image classification network, we create an explorable *activation atlas* of features the network has learned which can reveal how the network typically represents some concepts.

![](_page_67_Picture_2.jpeg)