Sanity Checks for Saliency Maps

21 Jan 2020

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Motivation

- **Saliency maps** to study contribution of various neurons in final outputs/predictions of DNNs
- **Saliency methods** used for explaining predictions made by neural nets. (Generate Saliency maps)
- Several saliency methods proposed Guided Backpropagation, Guided GradCAM, Integrated Gradients
- The visual maps generated by the saliency methods tend to be evaluated visually which is **not completely correct**
- Comparisons to Edge maps are mere **coincidence** in most cases and cannot be used to justify the
- Which SM to use? Which is the most explainable/robust?
- Devising experiments on parameters and data to check which saliency method gives the best explanation

Background

- **Need for Saliency methods** There is no consensus if the models produce explainable predictions
- Why Explainability? Required for debugging, remove bias, regulatory, etc.
- Predictions should **not be randomly** done and a simple change in data/structure can make the predictions horribly wrong
- Several suggested explanation methods (Saliency methods) try to predict **what the model is actually learning** and predicting
- Need to evaluate which saliencey method is the most **useful**
- If **visual doesn't work very well** we need a different type of measures to measure the similarity between saliency maps mere coincidence

Related Work

Not a lot I have read but the few I have glossed over:

- Alfredo Vellido, José David Martín-Guerrero, and Paulo JG Lisboa. Making machine learning models interpretable. In ESANN, volume 12, pages 163–172. Citeseer, 2012.
- Karen Simonyan, Andrea Vedaldi, and Andrew Zisserman. Deep inside convolutional networks: Visualising image classification models and saliency maps. arXiv preprint arXiv:1312.6034, 2013.
- Jost Tobias Springenberg, Alexey Dosovitskiy, Thomas Brox, and Martin Riedmiller. Striving for simplicity: The all convolutional net. arXiv preprint arXiv:1412.6806, 2014

Claim / Target Task

- Present 2 different experiments one on model parameters and one on data labels
 - Randomization of model parameters
 - "for a saliency method to be useful for debugging a model, it ought to be sensitive to model parameters."
 - Randomization of labels
 - "..method insensitive to randomizing labels cannot possibly explain mechanisms that depend on the relationship between instances and labels present in the data generating process"
- Compare the saliency maps visually and using some metrics

An Intuitive Figure Showing WHY Claim



Proposed Solution

• Randomization of model parameters

- 2 experiments cascaded randomization and independent (layerwise)
- \circ Cascaded top -> top+(top-1) -> ... -> top+(top-1)+...1
- Independent top -> top-1 -> top-2 ... -> 1
- Assessed the Saliency maps using:
 - Visual
 - HOG similarity
 - SSIM similarity

• Randomization of labels

- "..method insensitive to randomizing labels cannot possibly explain mechanisms that depend on the relationship between instances and labels present in the data generating process"
 - Assessed using Rank Correlation
 - Visual

Implementation

- Trained following models for both experiments on 3 datasets:
 - Imagenet Inception v3
 - MNIST MLP
 - Fashion MNIST CNN
- Methods tested:
 - Gradient
 - Gradient-SG
 - Gradient element-wise Input
 - Guided Backpropagation
 - Guided GradCAM
 - GradCAM
 - Integrated Gradients
 - Integrated Gradients-SG

Data Summary

- Imagenet
- \circ MNIST
- Fashion MNIST

Experimental Results - Param







Experimental Results - Labels



Absolute-Value Visualization





True Labels

Labels









Experimental Analysis

Compared the sensitivity among different Saliency methods:

- Guided Backprop and Guided GradCAM (very famous) is broken
- Gradient * Input (element wise) is the most sensitive
- Guided GradCAM no better than an edge detector which is independent of the training data
- There is confirmation bias in where visually equating Saliency maps gives any explanation

Conclusion and Future Work

- Framework for better testing of explanation methods
- Some saliency methods are totally useless

References

- Alfredo Vellido, José David Martín-Guerrero, and Paulo JG Lisboa. Making machine learning models interpretable. In ESANN, volume 12, pages 163–172. Citeseer, 2012.
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