# Forensics Through Stega Glasses: the Case of Adversarial Images

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#### Introduction

- Image classification: most common task in Artificial Intelligence
- Lead by state-of-the art Deep Neural Networks (DNNs)

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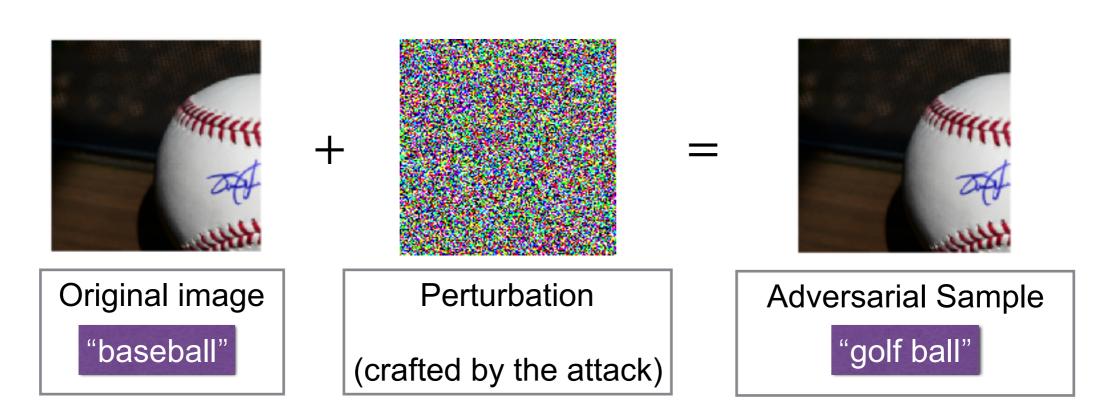
Sensitive to adversarial attacks!

# What is an Adversarial Attack?

- An Attack produces an Adversarial Sample
- Adversarial Sample = Original Image + Perturbation
- Perturbation:
  - Mostly imperceptible for a human
  - but enough to fool a classifier

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#### Attack Scenarios

Several scenarios of attacks:

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  - Targeted: Incorrect classification with specific label
  - Untargeted: Incorrect classification only
  - Black-box: Attack only observes output of classifier
  - White-box: Attack knows classifier and its parameters

#### White-box Attacks

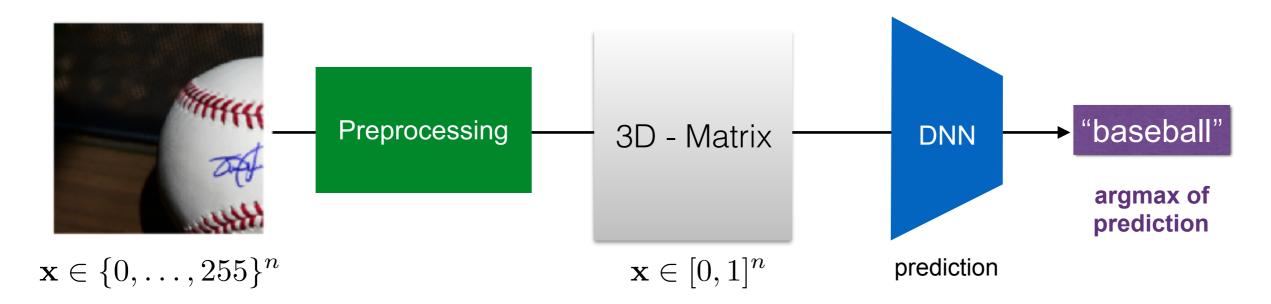
White-box setup:

#### White-box Attacks

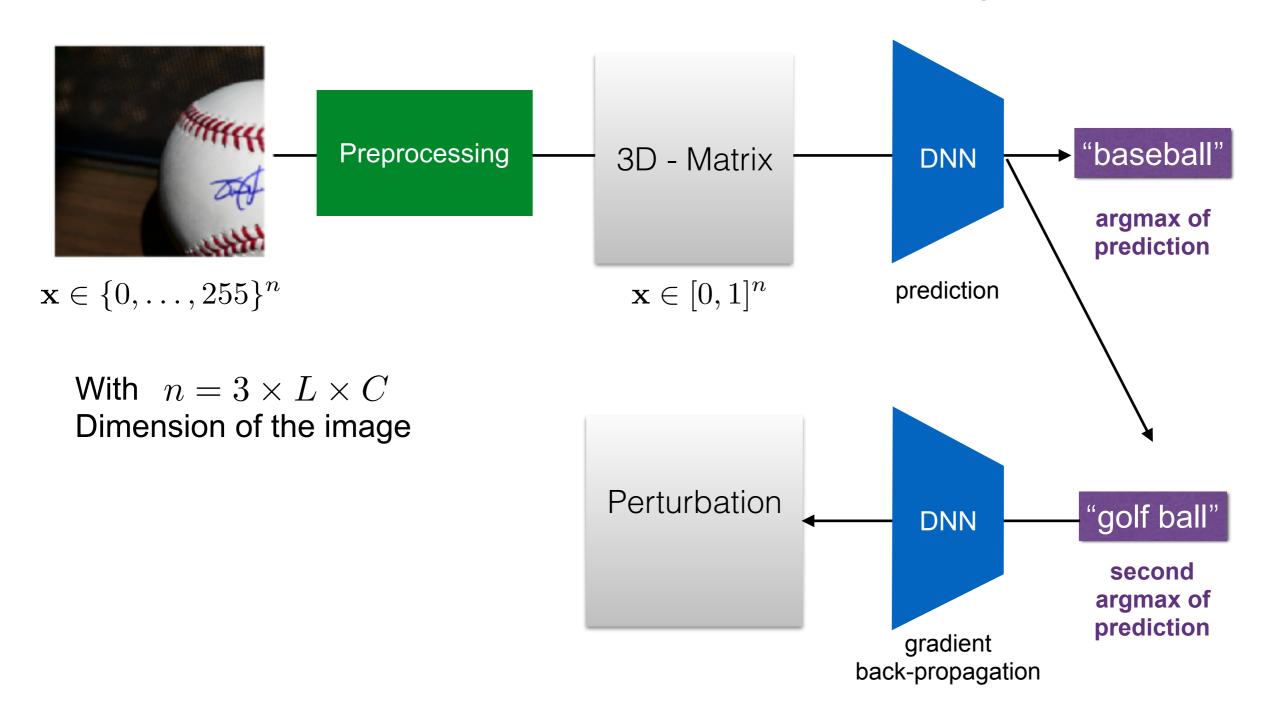
- White-box setup:
  - Most popular attacks FGSM, IFGSM, PGD, DDN, C&W ...

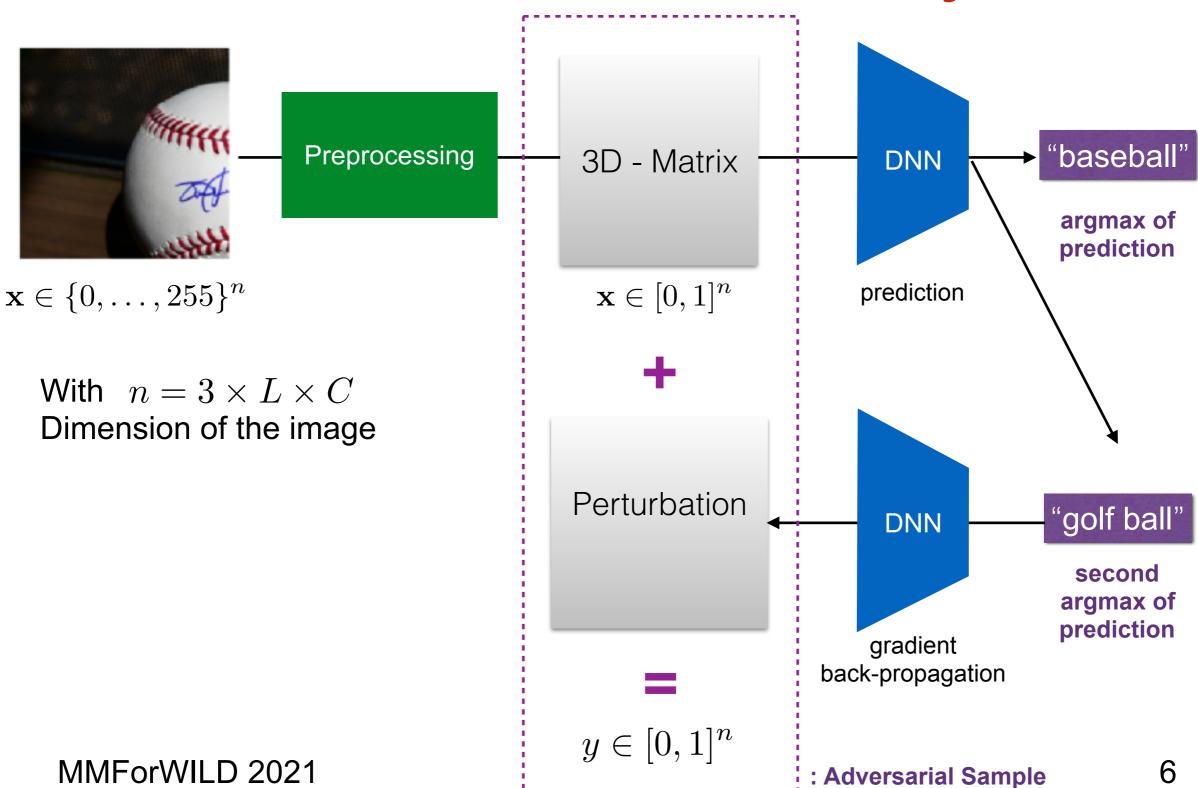
#### White-box Attacks

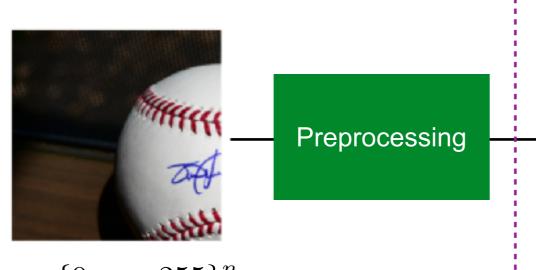
- White-box setup:
  - Most popular attacks FGSM, IFGSM, PGD, DDN, C&W ...
  - Maximize success rate while minimizing Distortion
  - Core mechanism: gradient back propagation



With  $n=3\times L\times C$  Dimension of the image





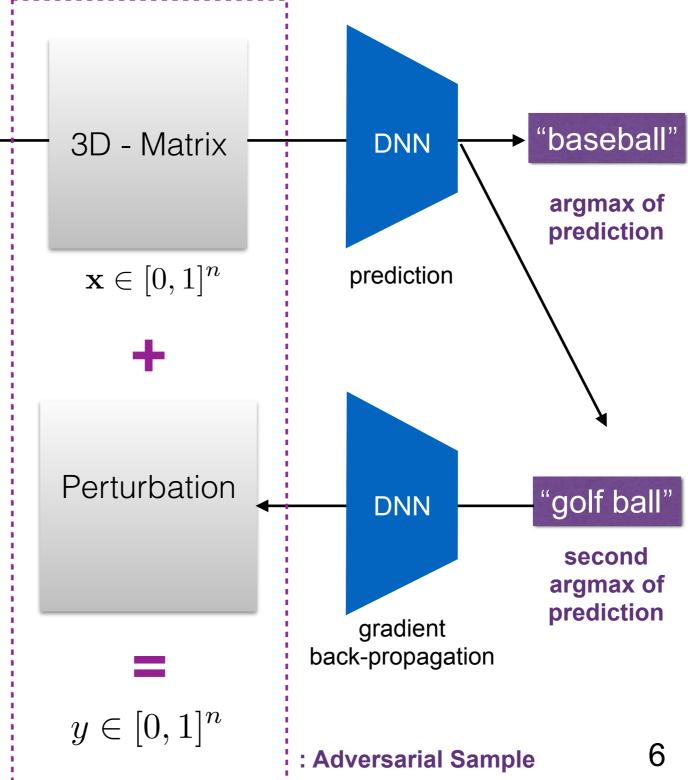


$$\mathbf{x} \in \{0, \dots, 255\}^n$$

With  $n=3\times L\times C$  Dimension of the image

Ultimate goal: Solve

$$\min_{y \in [0,1]^n : c(y) \neq c_0} ||y - x||$$



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- But attack is performed in the preprocessed domain
- → The sample is in the continuous domain
- This issue is adressed in previous work "What if Adversarial Samples were Digital Images?" (IH&MMSec 2020)

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- Rounding is ineffective (erases most of the attack)
- Introduces a post-processing after any attack to effectively quantize the perturbation:
  - fast (post-processing << attack)</li>
  - effective (sample remains adversarial)
  - optimized (minimizes L2 distortion)

#### Overview of the Problem

#### Notations:

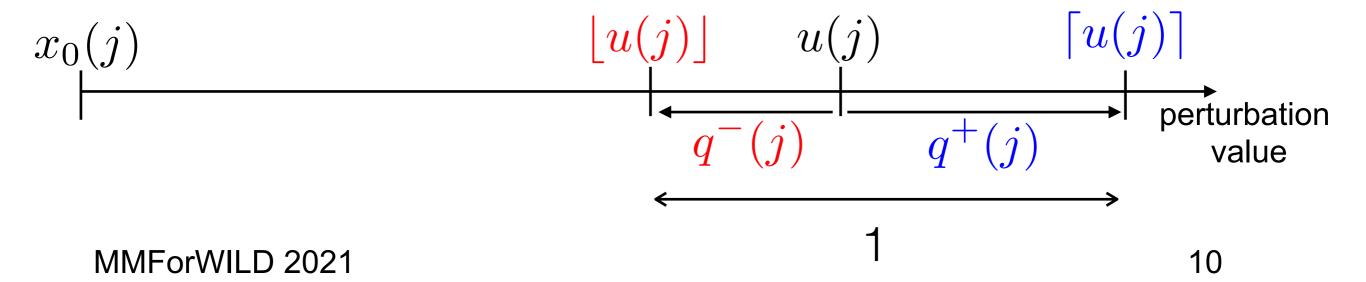
- $\mathcal{X}_0$ : original image
- $x_a = x_0 + u$ : unquantized adversarial sample
- u : unquantized perturbation
- $x_q = x_0 + u + q$ : quantized adversarial sample
- q: the quantization noise vector s.t. u+q is an integer vector

#### Overview of the Problem

- Objective: find q
- for any pixel j, we consider 2 cases:

• 
$$q^{+}(j) = \lceil u(j) \rceil - u(j)$$
 s.t.  $q^{+}(j) \ge 0$ 

• 
$$q^{-}(j) = \lfloor u(j) \rfloor - u(j)$$
 s.t.  $q^{-}(j) \le 0$ 



#### Classifier Loss

- Loss used to handle classification:  $L_Q(q) = p_t(x_q) p_k(x_q)$ 
  - $p_t$  = probability output for class t which is the class of the original image  $argmaxf(x_0) = t$
  - $p_k$  = probability output for class k which is the class of the adversarial sample  $argmaxf(x_a) = k$

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### A Lagrangian Formulation

- Goal: find a tradeoff between distortion and adversariality
- We look for  $q^*$ s.t.:

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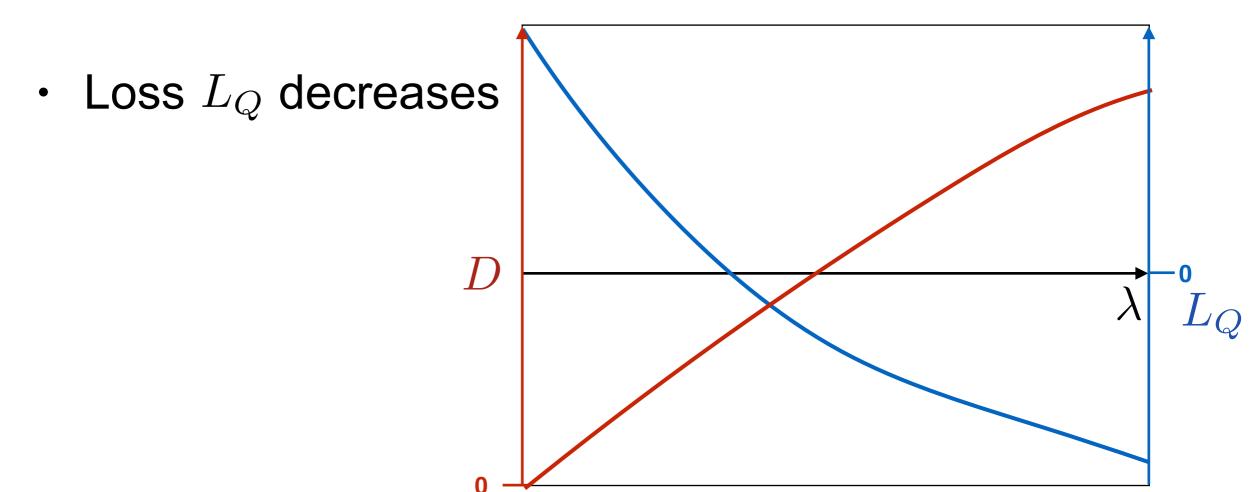
Optimization Success We look for  $q^*$ s.t.: Criterion criterion

$$q^* = \underset{q}{\operatorname{arg\,min}}(D(q) + \lambda \times L_Q(q))$$

- $D(q) = ||x_o x_q||^2$  = distortion after quantization
- $L_Q(q) = p_t(x_q) p_k(x_q) =$ classification loss
- $\lambda$  = Lagrangian multiplier

# Behavior along \( \lambda \)

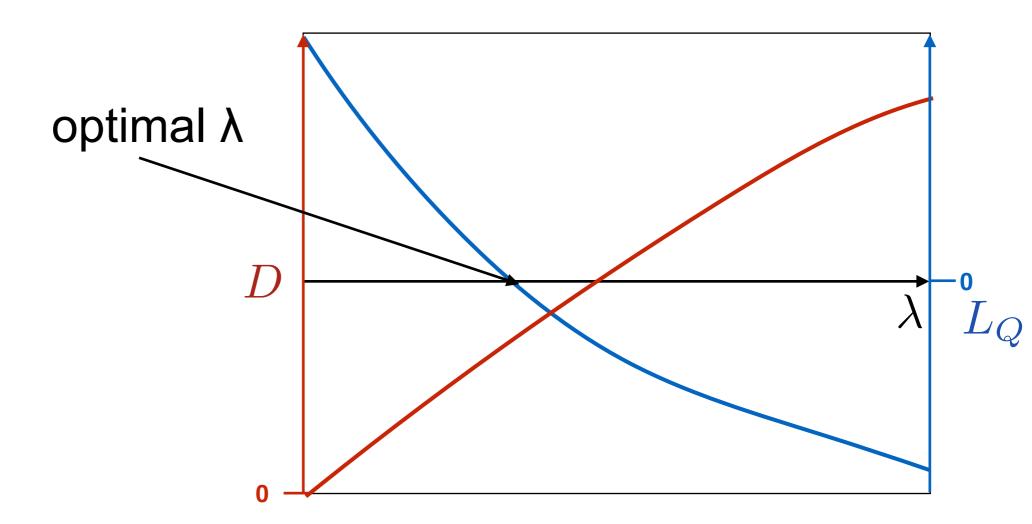
- As  $\lambda$  increases:
  - Distortion D increases



# Finding the optimal $\lambda$

• Optimal  $\lambda$  = smallest  $\lambda$  s.t.  $L_Q < 0$ 

Keep adversariality while minimizing distortion



# Finding the optimal $\lambda$

- Optimal  $\lambda$  = smallest  $\lambda$  s.t.  $L_Q < 0$
- We compute and sort all values of  $\lambda$  that make a q(j) swap from  $q^+(j)$  to  $q^-(j)$  and vice-versa
- Optimal  $\lambda$  found in less than  $\log_2(n)$  steps of binary search

# Detecting adversarial samples

- Adversarial samples are imperceptible for a human but they are still statistically detectable!
- Steganalysis: detection of hidden messages through statistical anomalies
- Steganalysis detectors: SRM, SCRMQ1 (+ Linear classifier) and SRNet (DNN binary classifier)

#### Detectors

- SRM: Spatial Rich Model: feature vector of dimension 34,671. Only one channel
   — used on luminance of the sample
- SCRMQ1: Color version of SRM: feature vector of dimension 18,157. On all 3 channels
- SRNet: DNN trained over 180 epochs
- Detectors trained on 15,651 pairs of images (original + adversarial sample crafted with best-effort FGSM)

#### **Detection Results**

- True Positive Rate over 1000 test images for False Positive Rate = 5%
- 4 attacks (FGSM, PGD and C&W quantized with post-processing, DDN natively quantized)

	$P_{suc}$	$\overline{L_2}$	SRM(%)	SCRMQ1(%)	SRNet(%)
FGSM+[4]	89.7	286	72.00	83.3	93.5
$PGD_2+[4]$	98.6	113	65.02	83.1	93.8
CW+[4]	89.7	97	68.78	83.6	94.5
DDN	83.2	186	79.53	91.9	94.8

Average L2 distortion

#### **Detection Results**

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- Idea: We can use steganographic embedding strategies to quantize our image

# Steganographic Cost

 To each pixel i is associated a weight w(l) reflecting the detectability of modifying i by a quantum l

• usually 
$$w(l) = w(-l)$$
  
 $w(0) = 0$   
 $|l_1| > |l_2| \rightarrow w(|l_1|) > w(|l_2|)$ 

• The total steganographic cost is  $\sum_{i=1}^{n} w_i(l_i)$ 

### Costs and quantization

 Distortion is replaced by stega cost in the lagrangian formulation

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- Distortion is replaced by stega cost in the lagrangian formulation
- Costs: HILL computed using two low-pass filters
  - naive and simple
  - but only for a modification of ±1

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MiPod computed through estimated variance with Wiener filtering

- more complex
- handles modifications others than ±1

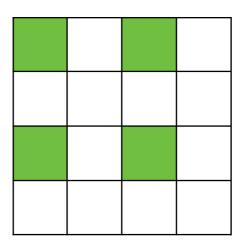
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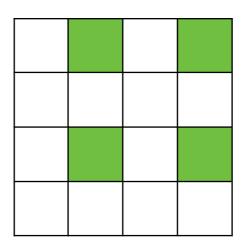
GINA: quantization strategy using MiPod costs

 The image is divided in 12 lattices (4 per color channel)



First channel (Green) First lattice

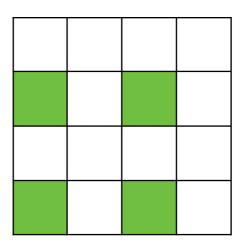
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First channel (Green) Second lattice

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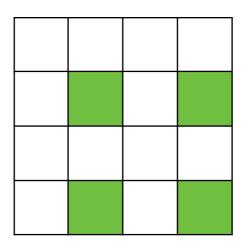
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First channel (Green) Third lattice

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First channel (Green) Fourth lattice

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- The image is divided in 12 lattices (4 per color channel)
- Each lattice is quantized so it contributes to 1/12 of the initial  $L_{\varrho}$  (at  $\lambda = 0$ )
- After each lattice is quantized, costs are recomputed and updated with CMD¹ strategy favoring same modifications in a neighbourhood

1: A strategy of clustering modification directions in spatial image steganography, Li et al. 2015

	d	$P_{suc}$ (%)		$\overline{L_2}$		SCRMQ1(%)		SRNet(%)	
		Van	Rob	Van	Rob	Van	Rob	Van	Rob
[30]	2	98.6	98.3	101	167	83.1	84.6	93.8	90.1
HILL	2	98.6	98.3	113	177	78.0	76.6	87.6	88.5
HILL	4	98.9	98.5	125	181	76.0	73.3	87.4	88.2
MiPod	2	98.3	98.3	176	242	77.4	76.2	86.6	87.7
MiPod	4	98.7	98.0	164	247	74.4	70.2	84.5	87.7
GINA	2	98.5	98.1	283	337	24.4	32.4	68.3	82.9
GINA	4	98.8	98.2	300	330	18.6	24.3	50.9	85.2

degree of liberty: maximum distortion =  $\pm \frac{d}{2}$ 

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Van = EfficientNet-b0 (vanilla)

Rob = EfficientNet-b0 with adversarial training (robust)

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- SRNet is in most cases the best detector
- We explored strategies for less detectable adversarial samples through quantization
- GINA offers less detectability at the cost of a lot more distortion
- However scanning through the 1000 test images, none had visible artifacts