

Ada-SISE: Adaptive Semantic Input Sampling for Efficient Explanation of Convolutional Neural Networks

4216



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Introduction

- **Explainable AI (XAI):** Opening “black-box” AI-based models by providing human-understandable interpretations of their behavior.
- **Explainability for Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs)**
 - Visualizing the behavior of CNNs trained for image recognition tasks.
 - Generating a heatmap that represents the evidence leading the model to decide.

Background

- **Methods for visual explainability.**
 - **Backpropagation-based methods:** Computing the gradient of CNN's output to the input features or hidden neurons.
 - **CAM-based methods:** Visualizing the features extracted in a single layer of the CNNs.
 - **Perturbation-based methods:** Probing the model's behavior using perturbed copies of the input image.
- Despite the outperforming performance of perturbation-based methods, they have room for improvement in terms of **speed** and **visual clarity**.

Our approach: Ada-SISE

- Produces visual explanations by aggregating the information extracted from multiple layers of the Convolutional Neural Network.
- Build upon the 'perturbation-based' method *SISE*.
- Eliminates the need for tuning hyper-parameters.
- Considerable decrease in computational overhead.
- Removes outliers and background features in the generated explanations.

SISE: Semantic Input Sampling for Explanation

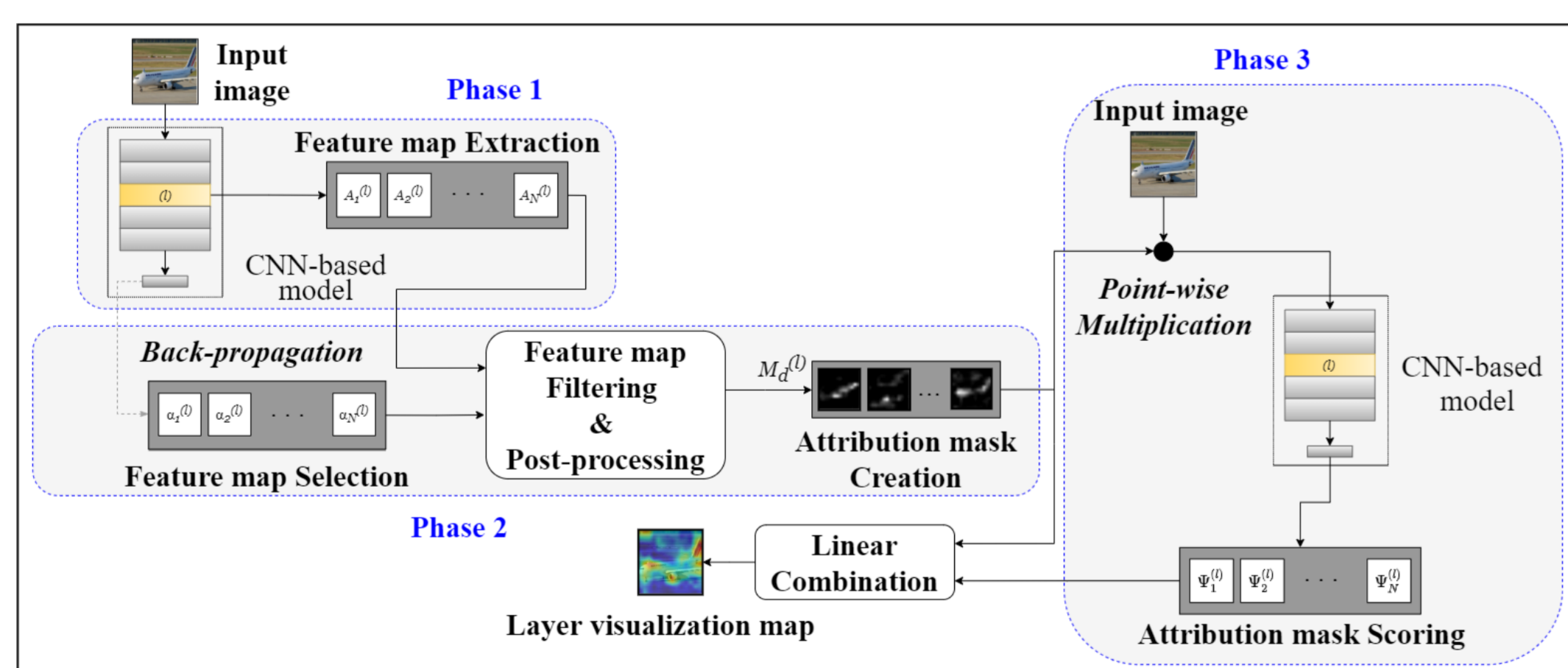


Figure: Credit: (Sattarzadeh et al. '20)

Novelty:

- A framework for visualizing layers of CNNs (See the figure above).
- A simple strategy for fusing information in various depths of CNNs.

Run-time Bottleneck: The 3rd phase, where the target model is fed with numerous *Attribution Masks*.

Limitation:

- Some attribution masks contain outliers and background information.
- Excessive number of attribution masks are utilized in the third phase.

Our Solution

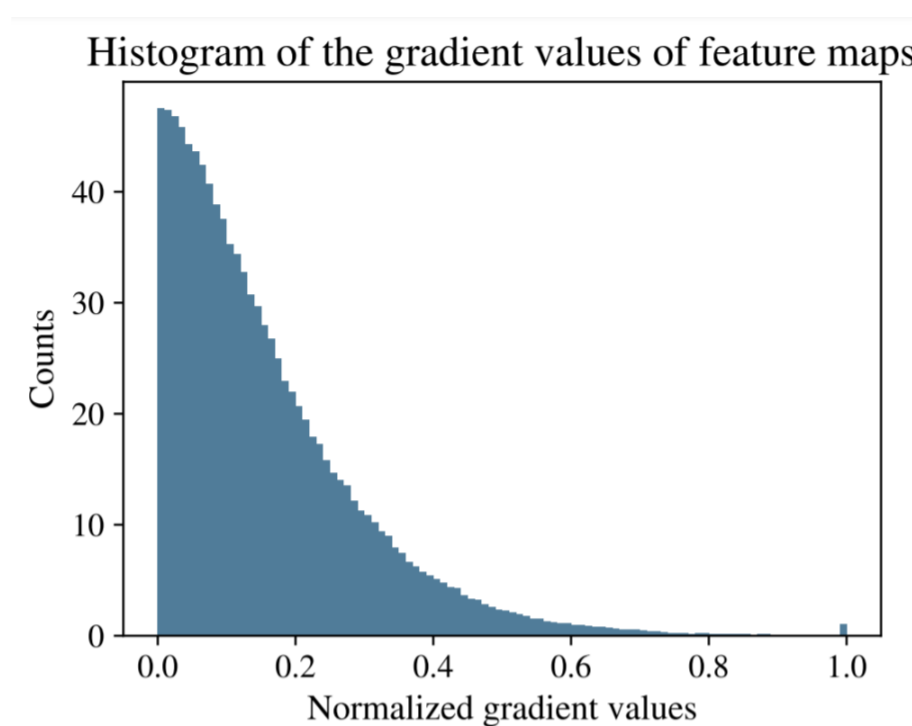


Figure: Histogram of the average-gradient values for the feature maps in the last convolutional layer of a ResNet-50 model.

Target CNN: $\Psi(\cdot)$ and Input image: I ,

Feature maps extracted from the layer l : $\{A_k^{(l)} | k \in \{1, \dots, N\}\}$

Average-gradient score for $A_k^{(l)}$: $\alpha_k^{(l)} = \sum \frac{\partial \Psi(I)}{\partial A_k^{(l)}}$

The set of positive-gradient feature maps:

$$A^{+(l)} = \{A_k^{(l)} | k \in \{1, \dots, N\}, \alpha_k^{(l)} > 0\} \quad (1)$$

The set of normalized average-gradient values:

$$\Upsilon^{(l)} = \{\alpha_k^{(l)} | k \in \{1, \dots, N\}, \alpha_k^{(l)} > 0\} \quad (2)$$

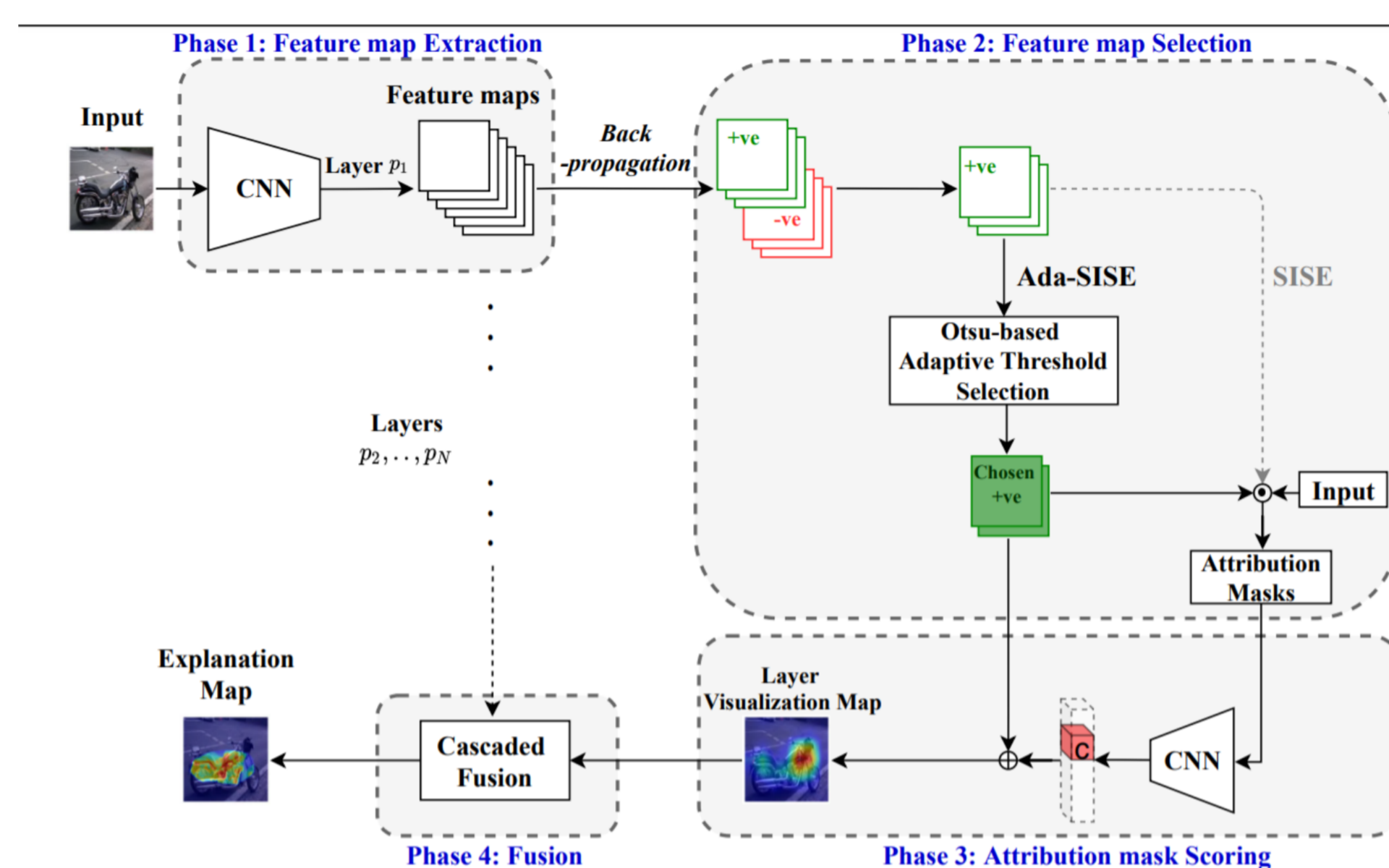
Assumption: the values in the set $\Upsilon^{(l)}$ are sorted incrementally.

A two-fold approach to filter the feature maps in the second phase.

The feature maps are filtered based on their 'average-gradient' scores.

- Collecting the feature maps with positive average-gradient scores.
- Calculating an adaptive threshold to maximize the 'inter-class' variance between the selected and discarded feature maps.

Methodology



The i -th minimum value in the set $\Upsilon^{(l)}$: $\Upsilon^{(l)}(i)$.

Lower/Upper mean function:

$$\omega_L^{(l)}(i) = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^i \Upsilon^{(l)}(j)}{i} \times |\Upsilon^{(l)}|, \text{ and } \omega_H^{(l)}(i) = \frac{\sum_{j=i}^{|\Upsilon^{(l)}|} \Upsilon^{(l)}(j)}{|\Upsilon^{(l)}| - i + 1} \times |\Upsilon^{(l)}|$$

Inter-class variance:

$$\tau^{(l)}(i) = \omega_L^{(l)}(i) \times \omega_H^{(l)}(i) \times \left[\frac{|\Upsilon^{(l)}| - i}{|\Upsilon^{(l)}|} - \frac{i}{|\Upsilon^{(l)}|} \right]^2 = \omega_L^{(l)}(i) \times \omega_H^{(l)}(i) \times \left[\frac{|\Upsilon^{(l)}| - 2i}{|\Upsilon^{(l)}|} \right]^2$$

The adaptive threshold value is achieved by maximizing the inter-class variance:

$$\mu^{(l)} = \Upsilon^{(l)} \left(\underset{j \in \{1, \dots, |\Upsilon^{(l)}|\}}{\operatorname{argmax}} (\tau^{(l)}(j)) \right) \quad (3)$$

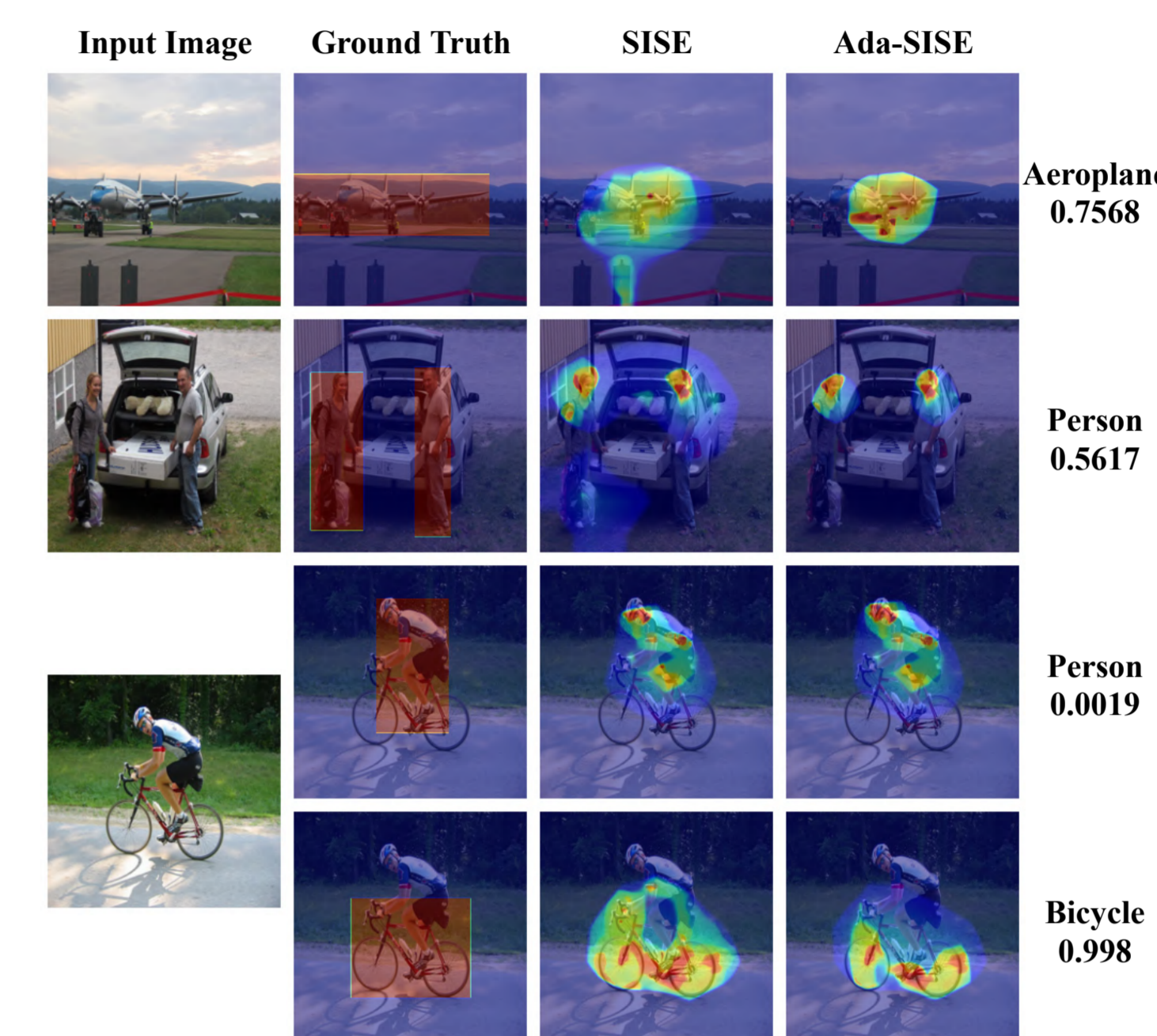
The set of feature maps utilized by Ada-SISE:

$$A_{Ada-SISE}^{(l)} = \{A_k^{(l)} | k \in \{1, \dots, N\}, \alpha_k^{(l)} > \mu^{(l)}\} \quad (4)$$

Experiments

Dataset: PASCAL VOC 2007

- **Purpose:** Multi-label image classification, Object Detection.
- Containing 4963 test images in 20 classes, Bounding boxes provided.
- A VGG-16 model and a ResNet-50 model trained on this dataset are utilized.



Quantitative Evaluation

Evaluation metrics:

- **Ground truth-based:** Energy-based Pointing Game (**EBPG**) and Bounding Box (**Bbox**) are used to verify the meaningfulness of explanation methods, and their ability in feature visualization.
- **Model truth-based:** **Drop** and **Increase rate** are employed to justify the faithfulness and validity of the generated explanations from the model's perspective.

Model	Metric	Grad-CAM	Grad-CAM++	Extremal Perturbation	RISE	Score-CAM	Integrated Gradient	SISE	Ada-SISE
VGG16	EBPG	55.44	46.29	61.19	33.44	46.42	36.87	60.54	<u>60.79</u>
	Bbox	51.7	55.59	51.2	54.59	54.98	33.97	<u>55.68</u>	55.73
	Drop	49.47	60.63	43.90	39.62	39.79	64.74	38.40	<u>38.87</u>
	Increase	31.08	23.89	32.65	37.76	36.42	26.17	<u>37.96</u>	38.25
ResNet-50	EBPG	60.08	47.78	63.24	32.86	35.56	40.62	<u>66.08</u>	66.4
	Bbox	60.25	58.66	52.34	55.55	60.02	34.79	<u>61.59</u>	61.77
	Drop	35.80	41.77	39.38	39.77	35.36	66.12	30.92	<u>30.92</u>
	Increase	36.58	32.15	34.27	37.08	37.08	24.24	<u>40.22</u>	40.75

Table: Quantitative results on PASCAL VOC 2007 test set.

Conclusion

Ada-SISE Takeaways:

- Reducing the computational overhead in the bottleneck of SISE by approximately 33%.
- Decreasing attention on the outliers and regions ineffective in the CNN's prediction.

References

- Petsiuk, Vitali, Abir Das, and Kate Saenko. "RISE: Randomized Input Sampling for Explanation of Black-box Models" (2018).
- Sattarzadeh, Sam, Mahesh Sudhakar, Anthony Lem, Shervin Mehryar, K. N. Plataniotis, Jongseong Jang, Hyunwoo Kim, Yeonjeong Jeong, Sangmin Lee, and Kyunghoon Bae. "Explaining Convolutional Neural Networks through Attribution-Based Input Sampling and Block-Wise Feature Aggregation." (2020).
- Fong, Ruth, Mandela Patrick, and Andrea Vedaldi. "Understanding deep networks via extremal perturbations and smooth masks" (2019).