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# A Weak Supervision Approach to Detecting Visual Anomalies for Automated Testing of Graphics Units

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Adi Szeskin<sup>1</sup> Lev Faivishevsky<sup>1</sup> Ashwin K Muppalla<sup>2</sup> Amitai Armon<sup>1</sup> Tom Hope<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Intel, IT Advanced Analytics <sup>2</sup> Intel, Visual Processing Group  
{adi.szeskin, tom.hope}@intel.com

## Abstract

We present a deep learning system for testing graphics units by detecting novel visual corruptions in videos. Unlike previous work in which manual tagging was required to collect labeled training data, our weak supervision method is fully automatic and needs no human labelling. This is achieved by reproducing driver bugs that increase the *probability* of generating corruptions, and by making use of ideas and methods from the Multiple Instance Learning (MIL) setting. In our experiments, we significantly outperform unsupervised methods such as GAN-based models and discover novel corruptions undetected by baselines, while adhering to strict requirements on accuracy and efficiency of our real-time system.

## 1 Introduction

Graphics processing units (GPU), complex pieces of hardware responsible for rendering images for display, are essential components in personal computers, mobile phones, embedded systems and gaming consoles. The complexity of modern GPUs mandates validation and testing for defects, checking both hardware and software (e.g., drivers) with diverse systems (e.g., screens) and content.

Visual corruptions are a key symptom of missed GPU defects. Conventional techniques for capturing them rely on humans observing a display and identifying anomalies. This manual process is error-prone, and potentially costly and unscalable. In our previous work [1], we described a deep learning system that analyzes visual content displayed by the tested GPU and detects anomalies using both supervised and unsupervised learning. Our visual corruption detection system captures the display using a camera (screen grabbing does not enable testing the actual displays used). To control the generation of corruptions (typically quite rare, see Figures 1,4), we reproduced driver bugs that were observed in the past and trained our models on known corruptions.

While our supervised approach with deep CNN [2] and LSTM [3] topologies obtained high accuracy for known corruptions, model training involved costly manual tagging. Even when reproducing driver bugs, a large portion of video segments may still remain uncorrupted, and manual search for anomalous frames was required. This process led to limited amounts of collected training data, and thus potentially limited exposure and generalization to novel corruptions. Therefore, in addition to our high-accuracy supervised algorithms, our system also included unsupervised algorithms to detect anomalies. These algorithms required no manual effort, but suffered from lower accuracy due to lack of supervision signal.

In this work, we strike a balance between the supervised and unsupervised approaches, using weak supervision models. We make use of the fact that reproducing driver bugs yields visual corruptions with *higher probability* than with running without those malfunctioning drivers. We thus obtain *weak labels*, indicating higher propensity for corruption for videos generated with faulty drivers. Since the process of generating corruptions can be automated, we can remove human involvement and potentially obtain unlimited amounts of weakly supervised data.



Figure 1: Examples of visual corruptions.

We exploit this weak signal with Multiple Instance Learning [4, 5] models we adapt to our case. We substantially outperform unsupervised models such as Generalized Adversarial Networks [6], while meeting strict requirements to enable both accurate detection and real-time computational efficiency (each one of our deployed systems processes 2M frames per day). Finally, in addition to surpassing unsupervised models, we are also able to discover novel visual corruptions that supervised models were unable to detect, due to our ability to scale and generalize.

## 2 Weak Supervision Approach

In this section we describe in detail our weak supervision modeling approach, designed to enable both accurate detection and real-time computational efficiency, while removing the need for manual tagging and boosting generalization to novel corruption types.

**Problem formulation and overview.** Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be a set of  $N$  training videos  $x_1, x_2 \dots x_N$ , and let  $\mathcal{Y}$  be a set of corresponding **weak labels**  $y_1, y_2 \dots y_N$ , with each  $y_i \in \{1, 0\}$  corresponding to whether video  $x_i$  contains a visual corruption or not.  $\mathcal{Y}$  are generated automatically by reproducing known bugs as described above, and are dubbed weak labels for two main reasons. First, the labels are *noisy* – reproducing known bugs does not guarantee visual anomalies, but merely increases the probability of observing them. Second, the labels are *aggregate* – a video  $x_i$  with  $y_i = 1$  may potentially be long and nearly devoid of visual corruptions, with only a small segment containing an anomaly.

Importantly, during test-time our real-time system receives short **segments** of videos (consisting, for example, of 32 frames). Our goal, based on the above training data with weak labels given for entire videos, is to learn to detect visual corruptions in new incoming *segments* at test time.

Our approach is based on the Multiple Instance Learning (MIL) setting [5, 4, 7], where aggregate labels are given for *bags* of instances. A common goal in MIL is to transfer information from labels at the bag level to train an individual-level model [7]. We are interested in going from aggregate video-level labels, to a segment-level model. We model videos as bags of segments, similarly to [4].

Our method consists of bag creation, feature extraction, and a weak supervision component.

**Bag Creation.** Let  $\mathcal{B}_a$  be a corrupted bag (video), where different continuous segments represent individual instances in the bag,  $(p_1, p_2, \dots, p_m)$ , where  $m$  is the number of segments in the bag. We assume that at least one of these segments contains a corruption. Similarly, uncorrupted videos are represented as normal bags  $\mathcal{B}_n$ , with continuous segments  $(n_1, n_2, \dots, n_m)$ . In the normal bag, none of the instances contain corruptions.

**Feature extraction.** We denote by  $f$  a pre-trained C3D [8] trained on the Sports-1M dataset [9] followed by a 3-layer fully-connected (FC) neural network. During training we freeze the original C3D weights, and update only the FC.

**Weak supervision.** We apply a Deep Multiple Instance Learning (MIL) approach as proposed in [4], as well as an MIL Attention method as in [5]. We next elaborate on these two approaches.

### 2.1 Deep Multiple Instance Learning

For the loss function we use the following hinge loss  $H\_L = \max(0, 1 - \max_{i \in \mathcal{B}_a} f(\mathcal{V}_a^i) + \max_{i \in \mathcal{B}_n} f(\mathcal{V}_n^i))$ , where  $\mathcal{V}_a^i$  is a segment in a corrupted bag,  $\mathcal{V}_n^i$  is a segment in a normal bag,  $\mathcal{B}_a$  is a corrupted bag and  $\mathcal{B}_n$  is a normal bag. As illustrated in Figure 2, for each of  $\mathcal{B}_a$  and  $\mathcal{B}_n$ , we take instances with maximum predicted score under  $f$  and penalize pairs of bags where the difference  $1 - \max_{i \in \mathcal{B}_a} f(\mathcal{V}_a^i) + \max_{i \in \mathcal{B}_n} f(\mathcal{V}_n^i)$

is greater than zero in order to push positive and negative segments apart. We update model weights with mini-batch gradient descent on the objective  $\min_{\mathbf{w}} (\frac{1}{z} \sum_{j=1}^z H_{-L}) + \|\mathbf{w}\|^2$ , where  $z$  is the batch size and  $\mathbf{w}$  are classifier weights.



Figure 2: Our Multiple Instance Learning (MIL) model flow requires no manual tagging, using weak labels generated by reproducing known bugs and feeding them into weak supervision models.

## 2.2 Attention-based Model

We use a weighted average of instances (low-dimensional embedding) where weights are determined by a neural network as described in [5]. Let  $H = \{p_1 \dots p_m, n_1 \dots n_m\} := \{h_1 \dots h_k\}$ . Then we use the following MIL pooling  $z = \sum_{k=1}^K a_k \mathbf{h}_k$ , where  $a_k = \frac{\exp\{\mathbf{w}^\top \tanh(Vh_k^\top)\}}{\sum_{j=1}^K \exp\{\mathbf{w}^\top \tanh(Vh_j^\top)\}}$ ,  $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^{L \times 1}$  and  $\mathbf{V} \in \mathbb{R}^{L \times M}$ . Rather than using maximally-scored segments, here we learn a weighted combination of bag segments, with attention weight for segment  $k$  given by  $a_k$ .

## 3 Experiments and Results

**Implementation details.** We use contiguous sequences of 512 frames as bags, and split them into 32 contiguous sequences of 16 frames (segments). We resize each frame to  $112 \times 112 \times 3$  and finally obtain bags of 32 segments, each of size  $16 \times 112 \times 112 \times 3$ . As in [4], each training batch contains 60 bags of 30 corrupted bags and 30 normal bags. Our training data consists of 532 videos and 216 for validation. For our test set we have 2573 uncorrupted videos and 213 corrupted videos.

After passing our segments through the pre-trained C3D [8] feature extractor, we obtain a  $32 \times 4096$  output that is passed through a 3-layer fully-connected neural network.

Unlike [1, 4], we do not assume to be given frame-level labels during validation, hence we make use of a custom accuracy metric on the bag level in which a bag is labeled as positive if at least one of its segments contains a corruption. In addition, we use a tuned threshold to ensure a False Positive Rate (FPR) of  $\approx 0.1\%$ , a criterion chosen to reflect strict false alert requirements imposed on our system.

More formally, let  $\mathcal{B}$  be a bag, let  $f$  be our trained classifier, let  $i$  be a segment and let  $t$  be a threshold so that the FPR is at most  $0.1\%$ , i.e.  $\max_t \{t > 0 : \frac{FP(t)}{N} < 0.001\}$  (we tune  $t$  on 1M frames of uncorrupted data). Let  $\mathcal{A} = \{\mathcal{B} : \mathcal{B} \text{ is a bag which has a corruption in it}\}$  be the set of bags with at least one corrupted segment, and define a bag aggregation function  $h_t(\mathcal{B})$  such that  $h_t(\mathcal{B}) = 1$  if  $\max_{i \in \mathcal{B}} f(i) > t$  and  $h_t(\mathcal{B}) = 0$  otherwise. We then use true positive and true negative sets  $\{\mathcal{B} : \mathcal{B} \in \mathcal{A} \wedge h_t(\mathcal{B}) = 1\}$  and  $\{\mathcal{B} : \mathcal{B} \notin \mathcal{A} \wedge h_t(\mathcal{B}) = 0\}$ , respectively, to measure accuracy.

For the Deep Multiple Instance model, we trained with dropout of 60%, using Adagrad [10] with a learning rate of 0.1 and epsilon  $1e - 08$ . For the MIL Attention model we trained with 60% dropout using Adam [11]. We pick the best models with a validation set.

### 3.1 Comparison to Unsupervised Methods

Our approach is most comparable to the unsupervised methods reported in [1] that also do not involve any manual tagging: Variational Auto-Encoder (VAE), Generative Adversarial Network (GAN), (un-)normalized energy-based model, and an anomaly detection method [12] on top of C3D features.

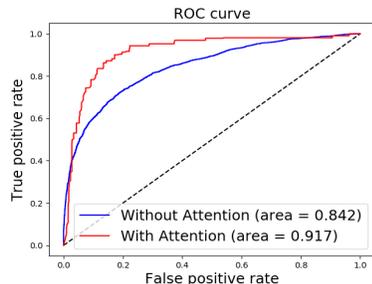


Figure 3: ROC curves for our weak supervision models. The attention-based model is better in terms of overall AUC, but the Deep MIL outperforms it in terms of our Recall@FPR = 0.1 metric, aimed to reflect our strict False Positive Rate requirements.

In Table 1, we compare our approach to the unsupervised results of [1] with respect to Recall@False Positive Rate = 0.1%. We use the Deep MIL approach rather than the attention method as it performed better in terms of this metric. As seen in Figure 3, while the attention-based method does better in overall Area Under the Curve (AUC), the Deep MIL method outperforms it in terms of Recall@FPR.

We significantly surpass the unsupervised approaches by utilizing weak supervision signal, increasing accuracy about 3-fold from the best baseline (GAN-based). In Table 1, we compare against the GAN model across a range of corruptions and outperform it across 4 corruption types by a large margin.

Average recall (%)		Corruption	Unsupervised	Deep MIL
Energy w/o norm.	2.8	Flicker	4.0	<b>13.7</b>
Energy w norm.	3.3	Display stride	1.2	<b>11.4</b>
VAE	2.9	Vertical, Horizontal lines	4.39	<b>27.3</b>
BEGAN	4.7	Green flash	1.5	<b>13.1</b>
C3D-Anomaly	0.7	Color space change	<b>14.1</b>	11.0
Deep MIL	<b>13.0</b>	Message Popup	<b>11.0</b>	5.4
		Macro block	<b>6.3</b>	2.7

Table 1: Comparing [1] and our approach. Left: Recall@FPR = 0.1%. Right: Results per corruption type.

### 3.2 Discovery of New Corruptions

We are able to discover new corruptions undetected by both the supervised methods described in [1] as well as the unsupervised baselines. Two of them feature anomalies manifested in a single frame (Figure 4a). We detected 38 videos with the Half Screen corruption and 6 with Bottom split. For both corruptions we achieve a perfect false positive rate. Another type of corruption we discover features a sudden blackout, which is of a more sequential nature (Figure 4b).



(a) Bottom Split, and Half Screen Corruptions.



(b) Sequence of sudden blackout corruption.

Figure 4: Illustrations of unknown corruptions our method is able to discover. Original uncorrupted images are from [13, 14, 15].

## 4 Discussion and Future Work

We described a weak supervision approach for detecting visual corruptions in videos and testing GPUs. Our methods involve no human tagging, outperforms unsupervised approaches and discovers novel corruptions. In the future, we would like to extend our approach to incorporate frame labels when they are given, and also explore the multiclass setting.

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