

# Shared Adversarial Unlearning: Backdoor Mitigation by Unlearning Shared Adversarial Examples

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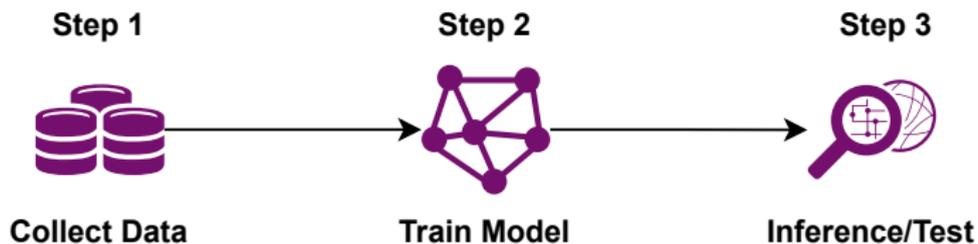
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# Part 1. Introduction



- In general, Deep Learning has three key steps:





- **Backdoor Attack:**

- Pipeline: Manipulate training data and/or control the training process
- Objective: Behave normally for clean inputs while **misclassifying the poisoned samples to a target label.**

- **Adversarial Attack:**

- Pipeline: construct adversarial examples to fool the model
- Objective: Behave normally for clean inputs while **misclassifying the adversarial examples.**

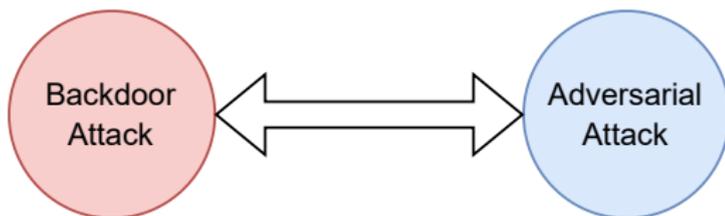


## Part 2. Methodology



- Defense Settings: **Post-training defense where a pre-trained model and a small clean dataset are given.**
- Our Method:

## **Bridging the Adversarial Attack and Backdoor Attack.**





- Sample:  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}$
- Trigger:  $\Delta \in \mathcal{V}$
- Target Label:  $\hat{y} \in \mathcal{Y}$
- Perturbation Set:  $\mathcal{S}$
- Generating function for poisoned samples:  $g : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{V} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$
- Models: Poisoned Model  $h_{\theta_{bd}}$  and fine-tuned model  $h_{\theta}$
- Small set of *clean* data  $\mathcal{D}_{cl} = \{(\mathbf{x}_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^N$
- Non-target samples:  $\mathcal{D}_{-\hat{y}} = \{(\mathbf{x}, y) | (\mathbf{x}, y) \in \mathcal{D}_{cl}, y \neq \hat{y}\}$



- Classification Risk:

$$\mathcal{R}_{cl}(h_{\theta}) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbb{I}(h_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_i) \neq y_i)$$

- Backdoor Risk:

$$\mathcal{R}_{bd}(h_{\theta}) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N \mathbb{I}(h_{\theta}(g(\mathbf{x}_i, \Delta)) = \hat{y}, \mathbf{x}_i \in \mathcal{D}_{-\hat{y}})}{|\mathcal{D}_{-\hat{y}}|}$$

- Adversarial Risk:

$$\mathcal{R}_{adv}(h_{\theta}) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N \max_{\epsilon_i \in \mathcal{S}} \mathbb{I}(h_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_i + \epsilon_i) \neq y_i, \mathbf{x}_i \in \mathcal{D}_{-\hat{y}})}{|\mathcal{D}_{-\hat{y}}|}$$



## Assumption (a)

*Assume that  $g(\mathbf{x}; \Delta) - \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{S}$  for  $\forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{D}_{cl}$ .*

- The above Assumption ensures that there exists  $\epsilon \in \mathcal{S}$  such that  $\mathbf{x} + \epsilon = g(\mathbf{x}; \Delta)$ , i.e., poisoned sample is an adversarial example.



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## Theorem

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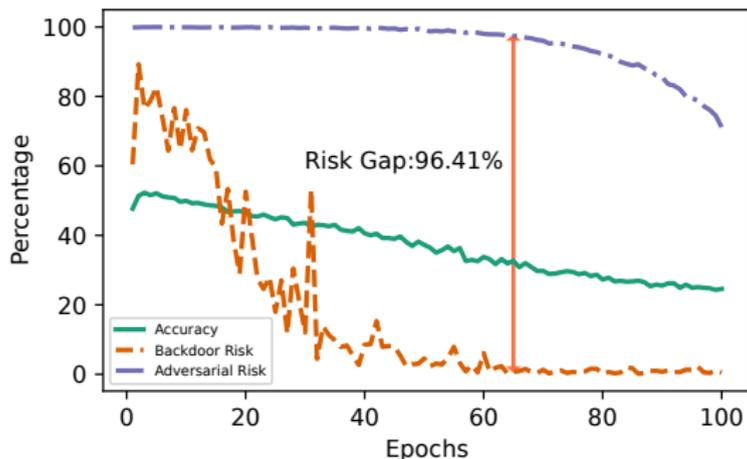
Under Assumption (a), the following inequality holds

$$\mathcal{R}_{bd}(h_{\theta}) \leq \mathcal{R}_{adv}(h_{\theta}).$$

- **Question:** Can we replace poisoned samples with adversarial examples?



- **Observation:** Gap between Adversarial Risk and Backdoor Risk



**Figure:** Example of purifying poisoned model using adversarial training on Tiny ImageNet.



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- **Conclusion:** Adversarial Example is not a good surrogate for Poisoned Sample.



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- **Conclusion:** Adversarial Example is not a good surrogate for Poisoned Sample.
- **Insight:** Not all adversarial examples contribute to backdoor mitigation.
- **Question:** How to identify adversarial examples important for mitigating backdoors?

# Shared Adversarial Example

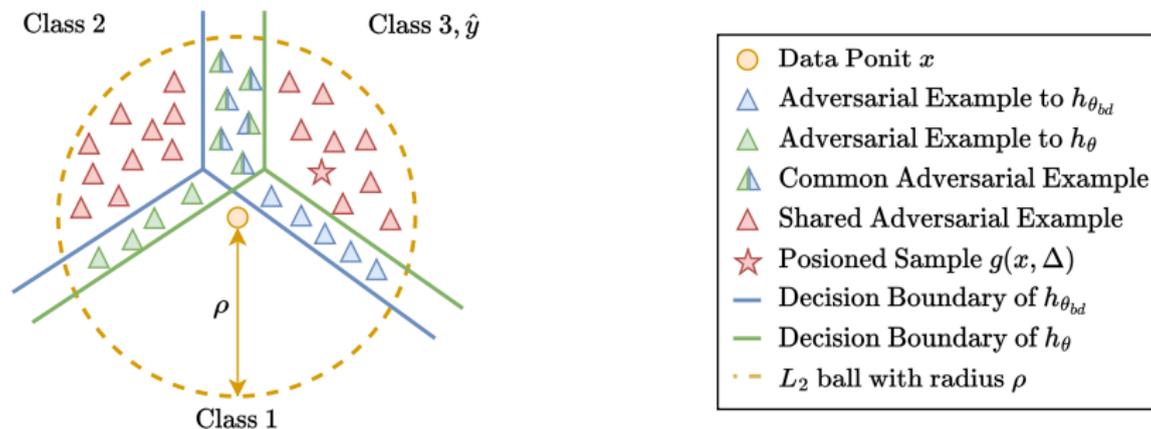


Figure: Illustration of Shared Adversarial Example and Poisoned Samples.

| Type       | Description   | Definition   |
|------------|---|--|
| I (Shared) | Mislead $h_{\theta_{bd}}$ and $h_{\theta}$ to the same class    | $h_{\theta_{bd}}(\tilde{x}_{\epsilon}) = h_{\theta}(\tilde{x}_{\epsilon}) \neq y$  |
| II         | Mislead $h_{\theta}$ , but not mislead $h_{\theta_{bd}}$        | $h_{\theta_{bd}}(\tilde{x}_{\epsilon}) \neq h_{\theta}(\tilde{x}_{\epsilon}), h_{\theta_{bd}}(\tilde{x}_{\epsilon}) = y$   |
| III        | Mislead $h_{\theta_{bd}}$ and $h_{\theta}$ to different classes | $h_{\theta_{bd}}(\tilde{x}_{\epsilon}) \neq h_{\theta}(\tilde{x}_{\epsilon}), h_{\theta_{bd}}(\tilde{x}_{\epsilon}) \neq y, h_{\theta}(\tilde{x}_{\epsilon}) \neq y$ |



## Theorem (Informal)

Assume that  $\mathcal{R}_{bd}(h_{\theta_{bd}}) = 100\%$ . Then, the following inequality holds:

$$\mathcal{R}_{bd}(h_{\theta}) \leq \mathcal{R}_{share}(h_{\theta}) \leq \mathcal{R}_{adv}(h_{\theta})$$

where

$$\mathcal{R}_{share}(h_{\theta}) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N \max_{\epsilon_i \in \mathcal{S}} \mathbb{I}(h_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_i + \epsilon_i) = h_{\theta_{bd}}(\mathbf{x}_i + \epsilon_i) \neq y_i, \mathbf{x}_i \in \mathcal{D}_{-\hat{y}})}{|\mathcal{D}_{-\hat{y}}|}.$$

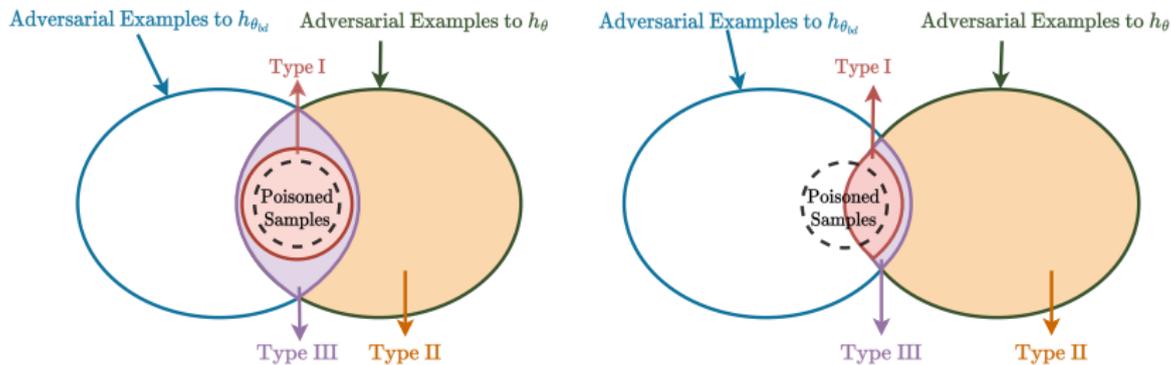


Figure: Demonstration of Shared Adversarial Unlearning process.



## Part 3. Experiments



| Defense          | No Defense |       |       |     | ANP [55]     |       |       |       | FP [31]      |             |       |              | NC [47]      |             |              |              |
|------------------|------------|-------|-------|-----|--------------|-------|-------|-------|--------------|-------------|-------|--------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| Attack           | ACC        | ASR   | R-ACC | DER | ACC          | ASR   | R-ACC | DER   | ACC          | ASR         | R-ACC | DER          | ACC          | ASR         | R-ACC        | DER          |
| BadNets [15]     | 91.32      | 95.03 | 4.67  | N/A | <u>90.88</u> | 4.88  | 87.22 | 94.86 | <b>91.31</b> | 57.13       | 41.62 | 68.95        | 89.05        | <u>1.27</u> | <u>89.16</u> | 95.75        |
| Blended [7]      | 93.47      | 99.92 | 0.08  | N/A | 92.97        | 84.88 | 13.36 | 57.27 | <u>93.17</u> | 99.26       | 0.73  | 50.18        | <b>93.47</b> | 99.92       | 0.08         | 50.00        |
| Input-Aware [37] | 90.67      | 98.26 | 1.66  | N/A | 91.04        | 1.32  | 86.71 | 98.47 | 91.74        | <b>0.04</b> | 44.54 | <b>99.11</b> | <u>92.61</u> | <u>0.76</u> | <u>90.87</u> | <u>98.75</u> |
| LF [58]          | 93.19      | 99.28 | 0.71  | N/A | <u>92.64</u> | 39.99 | 55.03 | 79.37 | <b>92.90</b> | 98.97       | 1.02  | 50.01        | 91.62        | <b>1.41</b> | <b>87.48</b> | <b>98.15</b> |
| SIG [2]          | 84.48      | 98.27 | 1.72  | N/A | 83.36        | 36.42 | 43.67 | 80.36 | <u>89.10</u> | 26.20       | 20.61 | 86.03        | 84.48        | 98.27       | 1.72         | 50.00        |
| SSBA [30]        | 92.88      | 97.86 | 1.99  | N/A | <b>92.62</b> | 60.17 | 36.69 | 68.71 | <u>92.54</u> | 83.50       | 15.36 | 57.01        | 90.99        | <b>0.58</b> | <b>87.04</b> | <b>97.69</b> |
| WaNet [38]       | 91.25      | 89.73 | 9.76  | N/A | 91.33        | 2.22  | 88.54 | 93.76 | 91.46        | <u>1.09</u> | 69.73 | <u>94.32</u> | <u>91.80</u> | 7.53        | 85.09        | 91.10        |
| Average          | 91.04      | 96.91 | 2.94  | N/A | 90.69        | 32.84 | 58.75 | 81.83 | <u>91.75</u> | 52.31       | 27.66 | 72.23        | 90.57        | 29.96       | 63.06        | 83.06        |

| Defense          | NAD [28]     |       |              |       | EP [64] |             |              |              | i-BAU [59] |              |              |              | SAU (Ours) |             |              |              |
|------------------|--------------|-------|--------------|-------|---------|-------------|--------------|--------------|------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| Attack           | ACC          | ASR   | R-ACC        | DER   | ACC     | ASR         | R-ACC        | DER          | ACC        | ASR          | R-ACC        | DER          | ACC        | ASR         | R-ACC        | DER          |
| BadNets [15]     | 89.87        | 2.14  | 88.71        | 95.72 | 89.66   | 1.88        | <b>89.51</b> | <u>95.75</u> | 89.15      | <b>1.21</b>  | 88.88        | <b>95.83</b> | 89.31      | 1.53        | 88.81        | 95.74        |
| Blended [7]      | 92.17        | 97.69 | 2.14         | 50.47 | 92.43   | 52.13       | 37.52        | 73.37        | 88.66      | <u>13.99</u> | <u>53.23</u> | <u>90.56</u> | 90.96      | <b>6.14</b> | <b>64.89</b> | <b>95.63</b> |
| Input-Aware [37] | <b>93.18</b> | 1.68  | <b>91.12</b> | 98.29 | 89.86   | 2.23        | 85.20        | 97.61        | 90.29      | 63.36        | 32.70        | 67.26        | 91.59      | 1.27        | 88.54        | 98.49        |
| LF [58]          | 92.37        | 47.83 | 47.49        | 75.31 | 91.82   | 85.98       | 12.77        | 55.97        | 89.09      | 21.83        | 64.37        | 86.67        | 90.32      | <u>4.18</u> | <u>81.54</u> | <u>96.12</u> |
| SIG [2]          | <b>90.02</b> | 10.66 | <b>64.20</b> | 93.81 | 83.1    | <b>0.26</b> | 56.68        | <u>98.32</u> | 85.85      | <u>1.28</u>  | 55.19        | <b>98.49</b> | 88.56      | 1.67        | <u>57.96</u> | 98.30        |
| SSBA [30]        | 91.91        | 77.4  | 20.86        | 59.74 | 92.33   | 10.67       | 78.60        | 93.32        | 88.15      | 2.17         | 77.28        | 95.48        | 90.84      | <u>1.79</u> | <u>85.83</u> | <u>97.01</u> |
| WaNet [38]       | <b>93.17</b> | 22.98 | 72.69        | 83.38 | 90.09   | 86.64       | 12.54        | 50.96        | 90.91      | 3.37         | <u>89.10</u> | 93.01        | 91.26      | <b>1.02</b> | <b>90.28</b> | <b>94.36</b> |
| Average          | <b>91.81</b> | 37.2  | 55.32        | 79.53 | 89.9    | 34.26       | 53.26        | 80.76        | 88.87      | <u>15.32</u> | <u>65.82</u> | <u>89.61</u> | 90.41      | <b>2.51</b> | <b>79.69</b> | <b>96.52</b> |

Figure: Results on CIFAR-10 with PreAct-ResNet18 and poisoning ratio 10%.



## Part 4. Conclusion



- A significant gap between adversarial risk and backdoor risk.
- Not all adversarial examples contribute to backdoor mitigation.
- Shared adversarial risk is a narrower bound for backdoor risk (under mild conditions).



# Thank you!



BackdoorBench



Code



Backdoor Learning Tutorial