

# Formal Methods and Software Engineering in Certifying Deep Learning

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Engineering AI Safety

Safety Risk

State-of-the-art

Challenges and Gaps

- ▶ AI Safety Foundations
- ▶ Specification and Modelling
- ▶ Verification and Validation
- ▶ Runtime Monitoring and Enforcement
- ▶ Process Assurance and Certification
- ▶ Human-Machine Interaction
- ▶ Safety-related Ethics, Security and Privacy

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**Safety Risk**

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Challenges and Gaps

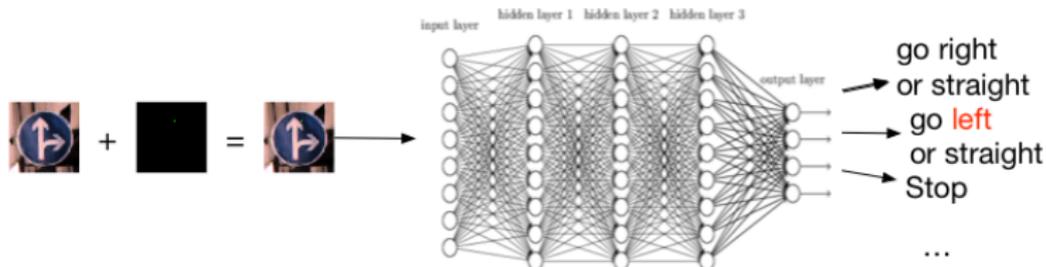
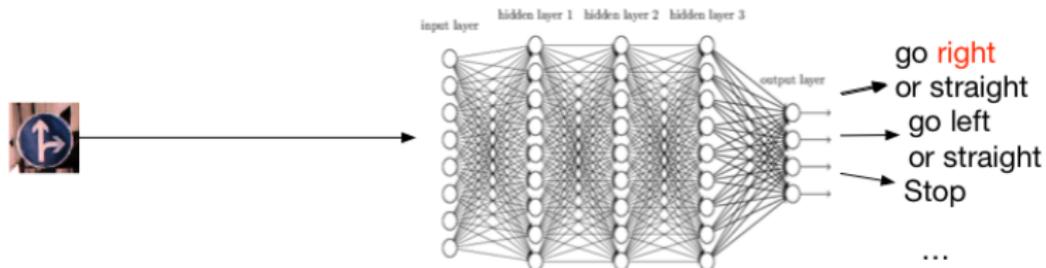
- ▶ Robustness risk
- ▶ Generalisation risk
- ▶ Understanding risk
- ▶ Interaction risk



robustness

e.g., one pixel change  
does not affect decision

- ▶ Risk: a small perturbation on the input may lead to a significant difference in terms of the decision making.





generalisation

e.g., correctness of decision  
preserves across scenarios

- ▶ Risk: a change to scenario (environment, unimportant features, etc) leads to unexpected change in decision.



## Understanding

- ▶ e.g., why does this image represent a traffic sign of “go ahead or turn right”, instead of “go ahead”?
- ▶ Risk: a decision is based on incorrect understanding about the input. This can easily lead to wrong decisions.

(Un-)reliability of a vehicle tracking system in wide area motion imagery (WAMI) where there are deep learning components.



Normal tracking



Wrong tracking

- ▶ Risk: interaction with other components may introduce risks.

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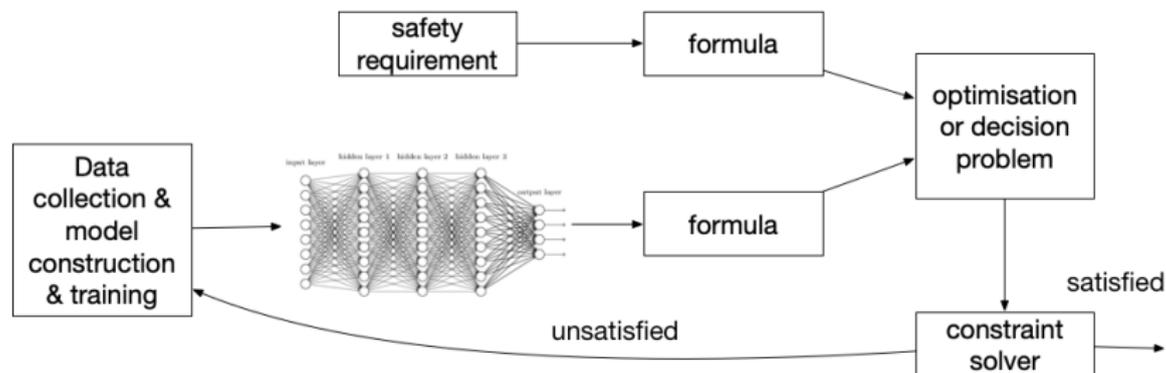
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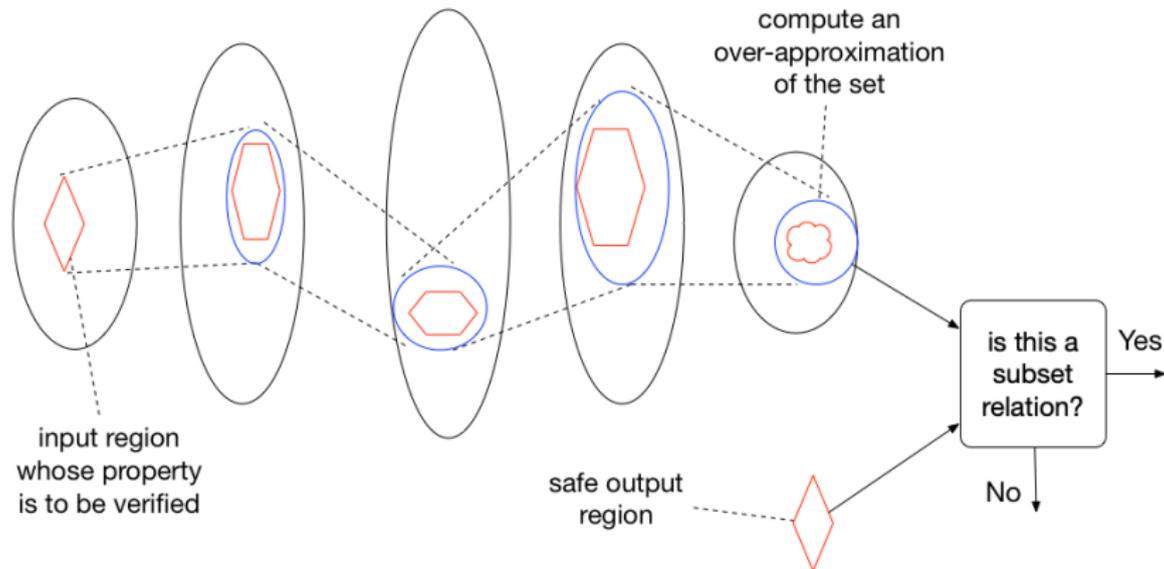
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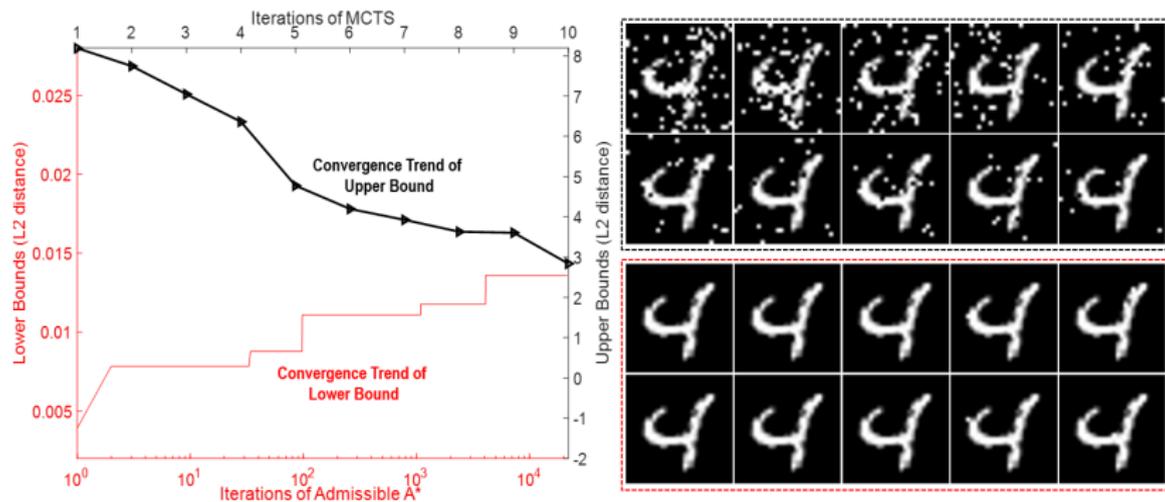
Challenges and Gaps

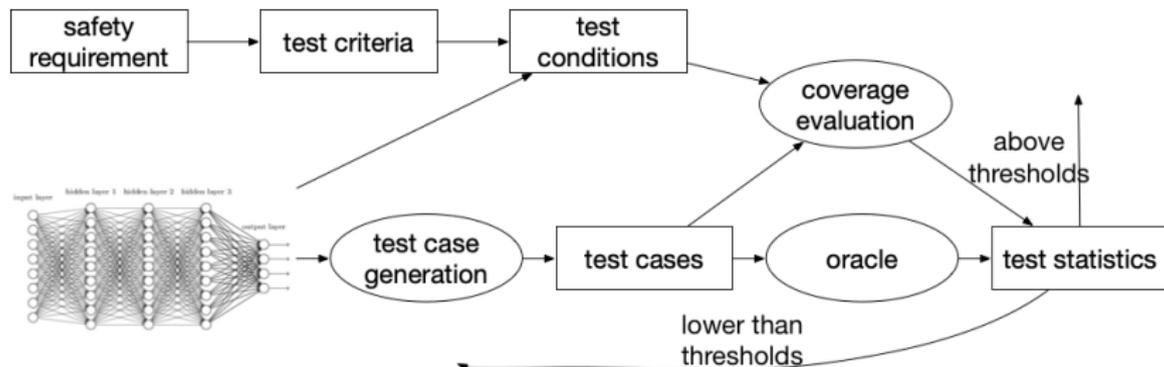
- ▶ formal verification
  - ▶ constraint solving based methods
  - ▶ approximation methods
  - ▶ anytime methods
- ▶ engineering based methods
  - ▶ test coverage metric & test case generation

All for “**Verification and Validation**” and **robustness risk**,  
how about “specification and modelling”, “runtime monitoring  
and enforcement”, and ”process assurance and certification”?









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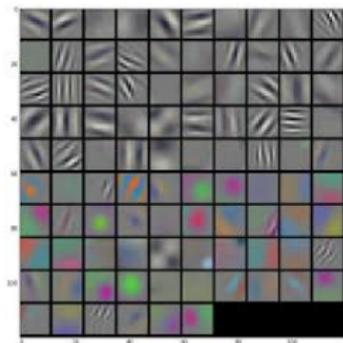
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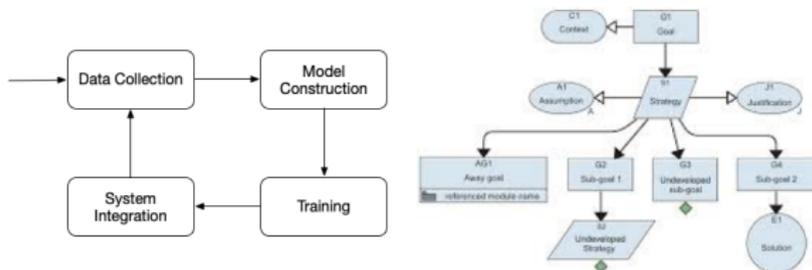
- ▶ Specification and Modelling
  - ▶ what is formal language (as Petri Nets, CASL, UML, etc in traditional software/hardware)?
  - ▶ specification = training dataset?

- ▶ Verification and Validation
  - ▶ improved scalability for robustness verification
    - ▶ need a level of **abstraction**  $\implies$  the use of domain-related information  $\implies$  e.g., neuron  $\rightarrow$  feature ?
    - ▶ **compositionality**
  - ▶ verification for generalisation and understanding



How to utilise  
interpretation  
in verification?

- ▶ Process Assurance and Certification
  - ▶ not only for the final product but also for the **development cycle**: data collection, model construction, training, system integration, etc
  - ▶ a successful **assurance case**: extension of safety argument method and goal structuring notation



- ▶ for both V&V and engineering based certification
  - ▶ for real-time learning system, we need **Runtime Monitoring and Enforcement** for operational errors
  - ▶ work with **distributed** learning system such as federated learning