| | Theme | | Rheme | | comments |
|----|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | textual or interpersonal Theme | topical Theme | expected Theme | | |
| 1. | | attack evaluation | | | |
| 2. | | we | | compare our targeted attacks to the best results previously in prior publication, for each of the three distance metrics | |
| 3. | | we | | re-implement Deepfool, fast gradient sign, and iterative gradient sign | |
| 4. | | for fast gradient sign | we | search over ϵ to find the smallest distance that generates an adversarial example | Notice how Carlini and Wagner break with reader expectations both here and again at Position 10. This is well done, because at Position 3 the readers learns that three different methods are in discussion. That's a lot to handle all at once. However when a writer deftly manages the topical Theme as do Carlini and Wagner, then the three methods can get handled in a neat and orderly fashion. |
| 5. | | failure | | is returned | |
| 6. | if | no E | | produces the target class | |
| 7. | | our iterative gradient sign method | | is similar | |
| 8. | | we | | search over ϵ (fixing α = 1/256) | |



| 9. | and | | | return the smallest successful | This is a great way to introduce two equally important, but essentially separate points. Further examples are found at Positions 29, 31, 50, and 59. |
|-----|------|------------------------------------------|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10. | | for JSMA | we | use the implementation CleverHans [35] with only slight modification (we improve performance by 50× with no impact on accuracy) | The parentheses de-emphasize content which otherwise would have provided more Theme and consequently, more topics. There is only one topic intended here: CleverHans was modified. You can see one further example of such use of parentheses at Position 77. |
| 11. | | JSMA | | is unable to run on ImageNet due to an inherent significant computational cost | |
| 12. | | recall | | | See my discussion of such purely thematic clauses in the post for Part 5 of <i>Message in Text</i> . You can see further such examples at Positions 43 and 56. |
| 13. | that | JSMA | | performs search for a pair of pixels p,q that can be changed together that make the target class more likely and other classes less likely | This clause and the clause at Position 53 are only two examples in Section VII of poor construction in the grammar. The downranking here becomes just too complicated. The word that and then the word that again cause confusion in the Theme. Here is my understanding of the clause: JSMA performs search for a pair of pixels p, q which, when changeable together, will then make the target class more likely and other classes less likely. |
| 14. | | ImageNet | | represents images as 299 × 299 × 3 vectors | |
| 15. | SO | searching over all pairs of pixels | | would require 2 ³⁶ work on each step of the calculation | |



| 16. | if | we | | remove the search over pairs of pixels | |
|-----|-----------|------------------------|----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 17. | | the success of JSMA | | falls off dramatically | |
| 18. | | we | | therefore report it as failing always on ImageNet | |
| 19. | | we | | report success | |
| 20. | if | the attack | | produced an adversarial example with the correct target label | |
| 21. | no matter | how much change | | was required | |
| 22. | | failure | | indicates the case where the attack was entirely unable to succeed | See my discussion of downranking in the post for Part 5 of Message in Text. You can see further examples of downranking at Positions 4, 13, 24, 35, and 78. |
| 23. | | we | | evaluate on the first 1,000 images in the test set on CIFAR and MNSIT | |
| 24. | | on ImageNet | we | report on 1,000 images that were initially classified correctly by Inception v3 | |
| 25. | | on ImageNet | we | approximate the best-case and worst-case results by choosing 100 target classes (10%) at random | |
| 26. | | the results | | are found in Table IV for MNIST and CIFAR | |



| 27. | and | Table V | | for ImageNet | |
|-----|------|--------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 28. | | for each distance metric, across all three datasets | our attacks | find closer adversarial examples than the previous state-of-the-art attacks | An expert move putting into the Theme the conditions of the attacks, but into the Rheme the results of the attacks. |
| 29. | and | our attacks | | never fail to find an adversarial example | |
| 30. | | our L_0 and L_2 attacks | | find adversarial examples with 2× to 10× lower distortion than the best previously published attacks | Notice how the Theme packages foregoing material. In Section III, we read phrases like <i>our attack for the</i> L_2 <i>distance metric</i> . But at this stage in the discourse, many sections on, all that information can easily be absorbed into the Theme as just <i>our</i> L_2 <i>attack</i> . This is one of the ways that Theme helps develop the topic of discourse. |
| 31. | and | | | succeed with 100% probability | |
| 32. | | our L_∞ attacks | | are comparable in quality to prior work | |
| 33. | but | their success rate | | is higher | |
| 34. | | our L_∞ attacks on ImageNet | | are so successful | |
| 35. | that | we | | can change the classification of an image to any desired label by only flipping the lowest bit of each pixel, a change that would be impossible to detect visually | Here you see the optimal use of the Rheme – pack in there all the new information, one unit after another: Unit 1 can change, Unit 2 the classification of an image, Unit 3 to any desired label, Unit 4 by only flipping the lowest bit of each pixel, Unit 5 a change that would be impossible to detect visually. However, notice that Carlini and Wagner do not often pack the Rheme full in this way. Only six other Positions pack the Rheme to the same extent: Positions 10, 13, 45, 51, 68, and 78. |



| 36. | as | the learning task | becomes increasingly more difficult | |
|-----|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| 37. | | the previous attacks | produce worse results, due to the complexity of the model | |
| 38. | in contrast | our attacks | perform even better | |
| 39. | as | the task complexity | increases | |
| 40. | | we | have found | |
| 41. | | JSMA | is unable to find targeted L_0 adversarial examples on ImageNet | |
| 42. | whereas | ours | is able to with 100% success | |
| 43. | | it is important to realize | | |
| 44. | that | the results between models | are not directly comparable | |
| 45. | for example, even though | a L_0 adversary | must change 10 times as many pixels to switch an ImageNet classification compared to an MNIST classification | |
| 46. | | ImageNet | has 114× as many pixels | |



| 47. | and so | the fraction of pixels that must change generating | | is significantly smaller | Here is a unique example of downranking in the Theme, and it is well done This downranking inside of the Theme allows Carlini and Wagner to pack all of the relevant details about the pixels into one single topic, allowing them, in turn, to draw one single conclusion about that topic. |
|-----|------------|----------------------------------------------------|----|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| | | synthetic digits | | | |
| 49. | | with our targeted adversary | we | can start from <i>any</i> image we want | Notice how Carlini and Wagner break with expectation in order to create expectation. |
| | | | | | The phrase <i>with our targeted adversary</i> is a break from the expectation of the word <i>we</i> as Theme. However, this break serves a purpose, namely, to shift the topic to Carlini and Wagner's own results. |
| | | | | | Moreover, the reader has now been primed to expect this construction when Carlini and Wagner's results will become the focus, and promptly, at Position 54 below, the authors use it again to the same effect. That is expert writing. |
| 50. | and | | | find adversarial examples of each given target | |
| 51. | using this | in Figure 6 | we | show the minimum perturbation to an entirely- black image required to make it classify as each digit for each of the distance metrics | The phrase <i>using this</i> is really a textual Theme. It has, in this case, much the same meaning as <i>thus</i> . |
| 52. | | this experiment | | was performed for the L_0 task previously [38] | |



| 53. | however | when mounting their attack | one | for classes 0, 2, 3, and 5 can clearly recognize the target digit | My parse demonstrates how Carlini and Wagner have coerced the word-for-word quotation into this clause. I would edit the clauses at this and the previous Position to: This experiment was performed for the L_0 task by Papernot <i>et al.</i> [38]. Their attack demonstrates that for classes 0, 2, 3 and 5, the target digit is clearly recognizable. |
|-----|---------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 54. | | with our more powerful attacks | none of the digits | are recognizable | |
| 55. | | Figure 7 | | performs the same analysis starting from an all-white image | |
| 56. | | notice | | | |
| 57. | that | the all-black image | | requires no change to become a digit 1 | |
| 58. | because | it | | is initially classified as a 1 | |
| 59. | and | the all-white image | | requires no change to become an 8 | |
| 60. | because | the initial image | | is already an 8 | |
| 61. | | runtime analysis | | | |
| 62. | | we | | believe | |



| 63. | | there | are two reasons why one may consider the runtime performance of adversarial example generation important | This thematic use of <i>there</i> has the function of presenting new and unexpected content. It is an attention-getter, because really, what this use of <i>there</i> means is, "Hey, do you know" It is for this reason that I generally advise against overusing the phrases <i>there is</i> and <i>there are</i> . Note that in this entire section of the paper, Carlini and Wagner use it just this once. Their motivation is to present their reasons for calling the runtime performance important. |
|-----|-------------|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 64. | first | to understand | | |
| 65. | if | the performance | would be prohibitive for an adversary to actually mount the attacks | |
| 66. | second | to be used | as an inner loop in adversarial re-training [11] | |
| 67. | | comparing the exact runtime of attacks | can be misleading | |
| 68. | for example | we | have parallelized the implementation of our L_2 adversary allowing it to run hundreds of attacks simultaneously on a GPU, increasing performance from 10× to 100× | |
| 69. | however | we | did not parallelize our L_0 or L_∞ attacks | |
| 70. | similarly | our implementation of fast gradient sign | is parallelized | |



| 71. | but | JSMA | | is not | | |
|-----|------------|---------------------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| 72. | | we | | therefore refrain from giving exact performance numbers | | |
| 73. | because | we | | believe | | |
| 74. | | an unfair comparison | | is worse than no comparison | | |
| 75. | | all of our attacks and all previous attacks | | are plenty efficient to be used by an adversary | Notice how here, winding down the section, Carlini and Wagner focus on the topic of attacks. Every Theme is related to attacks. And quite nice is how this and the next clause contrast like night and day: <i>all attacks – no attack</i> . That is clarity. | |
| 76. | | no attack | | takes longer than a few minutes to run on any given instance | | |
| 77. | | when compared to L_0 | our attacks | are 2 × -10× slower than our optimized JSMA algorithm (and significantly faster than the un-optimized version) | | |
| 78. | | our attacks | | are typically 10 \times -100 \times slower than previous attacks for L_2 or L_{∞} , with the exception of iterative gradient sign which we are 10 \times slower | I would replace the word <i>which</i> with either <i>where</i> or <i>in which</i> . | |
| | Commentary | | | | | |



I refer you to my commentary in the post for part 5 of *Message in Text*, because really, everything I say there applies here too.

It is notable, though, that in this section of experimental evaluation, Carlini and Wagner use the words *we* or *our* nearly forty times, whereas in Section III, a methodological section, they use only the word *we* eight times. In those word frequencies you have proof of how the grammar is there to realize the purposes of the authors. Every choice of word has a function, and in a section like Section VII, where the authors are running their own evaluations of the results, one absolutely crucial function of the grammar is to indicate which interpretations belong to whom.

