# Data Augmentation: Improving your Datasets

MERIDIAN

#### **Bruno Padovese**

MERIDIAN, Institute for Big Data Analytics, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Canada

#### Passive Acoustic Monitoring (PAM)



- One of the best ways to monitor marine mammals
  - Capable of months of uninterrupted data collection
  - Efficient way of monitoring large remote areas
- Massive amounts of data generated
  - Easily exceeds capacity for manual labeling
- Automated sound detection and classification systems can help mitigate this problem

Machine learning can help us build these systems



#### Audio Processing Pipeline MERIDIAN Neural network Audio architectures 10 dB Trained model processing 20 dB -30 d8 -40 dB 50 dB 60 dB 460 461 Time (s) Training Database filename NOPP6\_EST\_20090329\_084500.way 890.100436 893.100436 NOPP6 EST 20090329 090000.wa 54.41350 44,592974 97.386199 100.386199 3 1 115.234384 118.234384 4 1 288.680821 291.680821

Annotation tables



DNN are particularly known for requiring large amounts of data

- Costly to build a dataset a well annotated dataset
- Domain specific data may require input from experts

filename	sel_id	label	start	end
NOPP6_EST_20090329_090000.wav	0	1	51.413506	54.413506
	1	1	41.592974	44.592974
	2	1	97.386199	100.386199
	3	1	115.234384	118.234384
	4	1	288.680821	291.680821

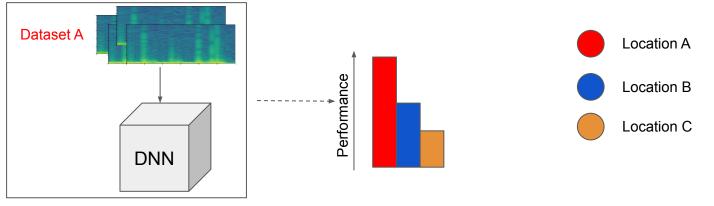


### **DNNs problems in Underwater Acoustics**

DNNs may be sensitive to:

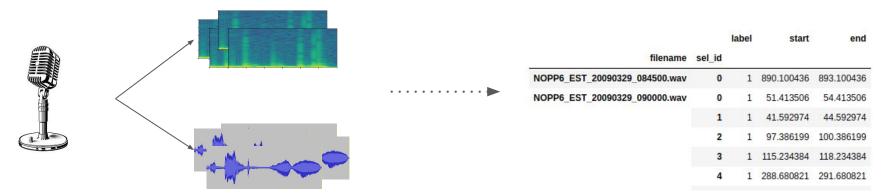
- Changes in amplitude
- Different types of hydrophones
- Distinct geographic locations

Thus, a model trained in one Dataset may perform poorly when tested in another location





- More data...
  - It would always be helpful to simply have access to more data from all sources
    - Would require a lot of effort towards collecting and annotating more data



• What if we could artificially inflate the size of our dataset?

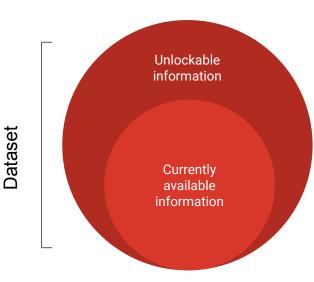


Data Augmentation is a data-space solution to the problem of data limitation

- Suit of techniques that enhance the size and quality of training datasets
- Inexpensive way to acquire more labeled data

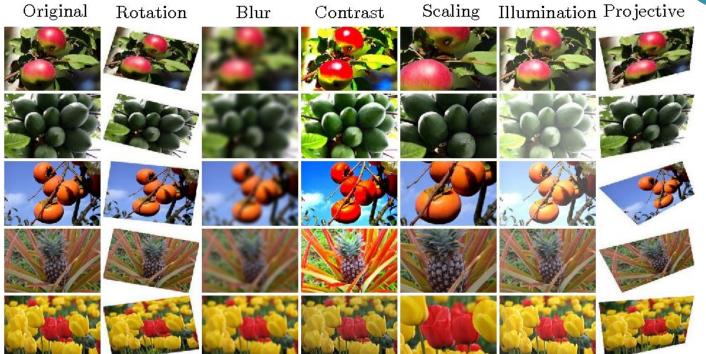
Possible techniques include:

- Geometric transformations
- Color space augmentations
- Mixing
- Random erasing
- Deep learning based methods



### Simple Data Augmentation



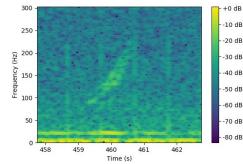


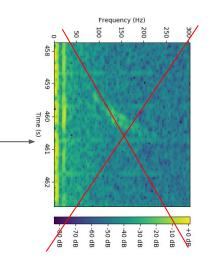


- The type of Augmentation will depend on your data
  - Is the label preserved post-transformation?

Rotations and flips

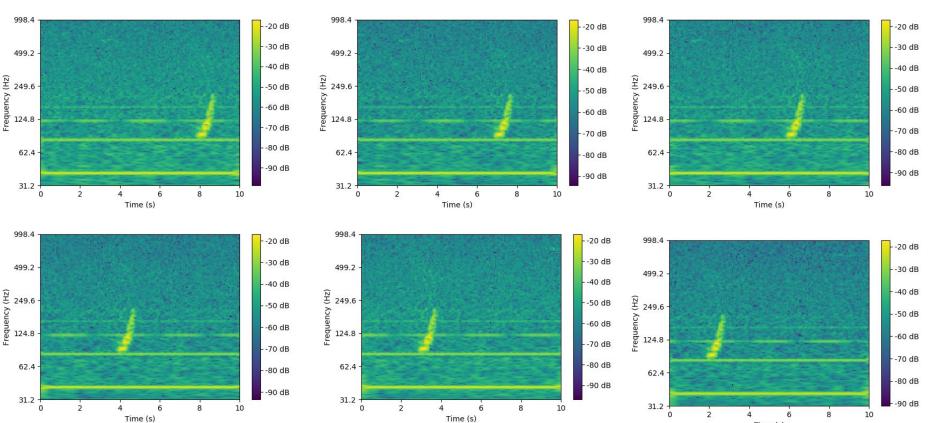
- Generally safe on ImageNet
- Problematic on spectrograms



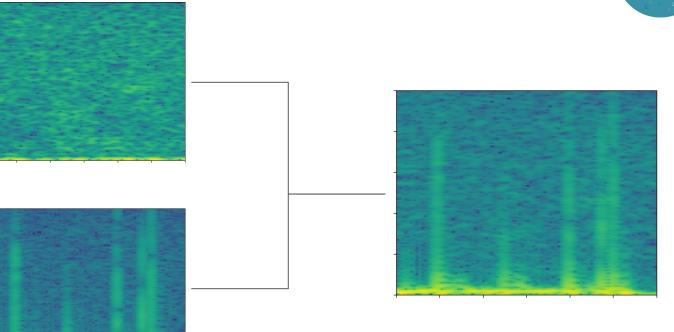




### **Temporal Shifting**



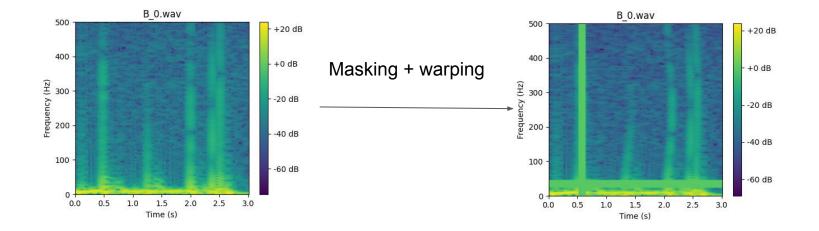






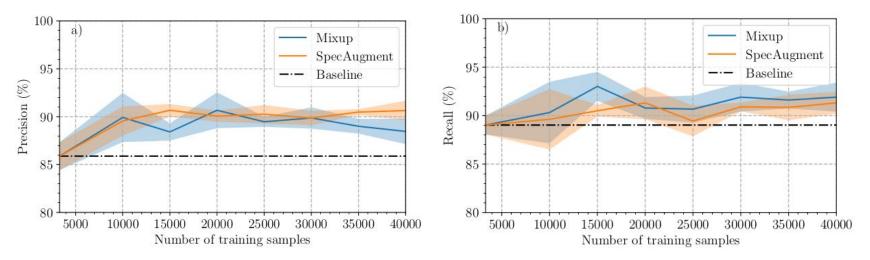
### SpecAugment







• Original training dataset: 3309 samples





- Simpler augmentation methods generate new samples in a very specific manner
  - Limited by the type of transformation
  - Won't generate completely new data
  - Generative methods based on deep learning are capable of modeling raw audio
- Limited by the data already available
  - Data augmentation does not replace real data

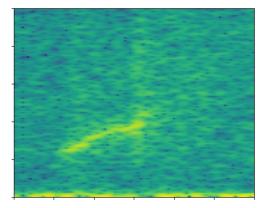
### Deep Generative Models





#### Generative Models - Acoustic





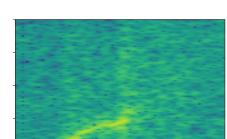
NARW upcall

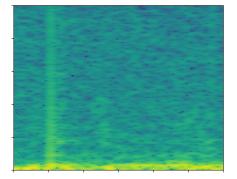
## SampleRNN - Quality of generations



Original







#### Generated



These generative methods will generate data that can vary in quality

Are our generated samples good enough to be included in our dataset?

• Problem: Feeding our model bad quality samples to our training procedure might harm the model's ability

We can evaluate our generated samples through an active learning approach

• Classify each generation and ask a human analyst to oversee the most uncertain samples