Fingerprints of Super Resolution Networks

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Abstract

Several recent studies have demonstrated that deep-learning based image generation models, such as GANs, can be uniquely identified, and possibly even reverse-engineered, by the fingerprints they leave on their output images. We extend this research to single image super-resolution (SISR) networks. Compared to previously studied models, SISR networks are a uniquely challenging class of image generation model from which to extract and analyze fingerprints, as they can often generate images that closely match the corresponding ground truth and thus likely leave little flexibility to embed signatures. We take SISR models as examples to investigate if the findings from the previous work on fingerprints of GAN-based networks are valid for general image generation models. We show that SISR networks with a high upscaling factor or trained using adversarial loss leave highly distinctive fingerprints, and that under certain conditions, some SISR network hyperparameters can be reverse-engineered from these fingerprints.

1 Introduction

Recent progress in deep-learning based image synthesis has dramatically reduced the effort needed to produce realistic but fake images (Tolosana et al., 2020). But just as a criminal may leave fingerprints at a crime scene, image synthesis networks leave telltale "fingerprints" on the images they generate (Marra et al., 2019).

Researchers have sought to extract increasingly detailed information about image synthesis networks from these fingerprints. A popular form of this problem is *deepfake detection* (Dolhansky et al., 2019), which seeks to extract a single bit of information: is a particular image real or fake? Going further, *model attribution* seeks to identify the particular image generation model that produced an image (Yu et al., 2019). *Model parsing* goes even further, seeking to infer design details of the image generation model (Asnani et al., 2021).

Model fingerprints have been studied primarily to identify and track down sources of misinformation. Therefore, the types of models used for deepfakes, such as generative adversarial networks (GANs), have received the most attention. The tasks performed by such models are open-ended: they permit many possible valid outputs. For example, unconditional GANs may generate any image in the training domain. We hypothesize that this open-endedness is a key requirement for distinctive model fingerprints. To test this hypothesis, we are interested in studying model fingerprinting problems, such as attribution and parsing, for a less open-ended image synthesis task. Single-image super-resolution (SISR) is a good choice of task for two reasons. First, SISR is a highly active area of research, with many state-of-the-art models available online for free. Second, a SISR network's output is highly constrained by its input, and often hews closely to some optimal solution. For example, different L_1-optimized SISR models are known to converge on super-resolved outputs which are visually very similar (Sajjadi et al., 2017). If our hypothesis about fingerprints is correct, such SISR models will be much harder to differentiate from each other.

To understand the fingerprints of SISR networks, we collect photographs from Flickr and super-resolve each of them with 205 different SISR models. These 205 models consist of 25 pretrained models published online by other researchers, and 180 models which we have trained ourselves by systematically varying four experimental hyperparameters: architecture, super-resolution scale, training dataset, and loss function. We then train an extensive collection of image classifiers to perform model attribution, and to predict the values of our experimental hyperparameters. By systematically reserving different subsets of the SISR models for

testing, we investigate how our model attribution and parsing classifiers generalize. Our contributions are as follows:

- We develop a novel dataset of 205,000 super-resolved images generated by 205 different SISR models, all of which will be made publicly available.
- We analyze the factors that contribute to the distinctiveness of an SISR model fingerprint. We show that the choice of scaling factor and loss function significantly impacts distinctiveness, corroborating our hypothesis that more open-ended training objectives lead to more distinctive fingerprints.
- As Yu et al. (2019) showed for GANs, we show that the fingerprints of SISR models trained with an adversarial loss are highly sensitive to small changes in hyperparameters, such as random seed.
- We study the generalization of our SISR model attribution classifier to models outside the training set. We show that our attribution classifier generalizes well from our contrived training set to real-world models, with architectures and loss functions not seen during training.
- We train a set of model parsing classifiers to predict the hyperparameters of the SISR models. We show that under certain conditions, it is possible to reverse-engineer some of a model's hyperparameters from its output images.

2 Related Work

Single image super-resolution: Recent years have seen rapid progress in deep-learning based SISR models. These days, there are a profusion of such methods available. We choose SISR models as our subject of study for this reason. A diverse set of state-of-the-art SISR models form the foundation of our experiments. We select a collection of SISR models presented in recent papers based on their reproducibility and their high-quality results (Chen et al., 2021; Dai et al., 2019; Guo et al., 2020; Kim & Son, 2021; Li et al., 2019; Liang et al., 2021; Lim et al., 2017; Ma et al., 2020; Mei et al., 2021) (Sajjadi et al., 2017; Wang et al., 2021; 2018b;c; Zhang et al., 2018a;b). Our 180 custom-trained SISR models were trained using the BasicSR framework (Wang et al., 2018a).

Model attribution: To identify the source of synthetic images, model attribution methods can look either for watermarks (signatures deliberately encoded into each output image by the network author) (Adi et al., 2018; Hayes et al., 2020; Skripniuk et al., 2020; Yu et al., 2021; Zhang et al., 2020), or for unintentional statistical anomalies in the generated images which are unique to a particular model, which we call "fingerprints". We focus on detecting these fingerprints, which can appear without deliberate intervention by the network author.

There is no consensus on a precise definition of the term "model fingerprint". Other works have defined fingerprints in terms of some specific image feature extraction technique. Marra et al. (2019) formulate model fingerprints as the average noise residual across many of the model's output images. In Yu et al. (2019) and (Asnani et al., 2021), fingerprints are feature vectors encoded by deep image classifiers trained to do model attribution/parsing. For our purposes, we use the term "fingerprint" more generally, to refer to all statistical irregularities in an image which reveal information about the generating model.

Generative adversarial networks have been shown to possess uniquely identifying fingerprints (Marra et al., 2019; Yu et al., 2019). These fingerprints have been extracted with convolutional networks (Xuan et al., 2019; Yu et al., 2019; Jain et al., 2021), and with hand-crafted features (Goebel et al., 2020; Guarnera et al., 2020; Marra et al., 2019). Other works have shown that GAN inversion can be a useful way to attribute images to GANs (Albright & McCloskey, 2019; Zhang et al., 2021). All of these methods focus on finding the fingerprints of GANs or Variational Auto Encoders (VAEs). However, the relevance of these results to image enhancement models, such as SISR networks, is *a priori* unclear. We present the first study of fingerprints for SISR models, and show that SISR models also leave unique fingerprints which are identifiable by CNNs.

Reverse-engineering/model parsing: We are not the first to attempt to reverse-engineer the hyperparameters of black-box neural networks. (Oh et al., 2019) reverse-engineer many fine-grained architectural

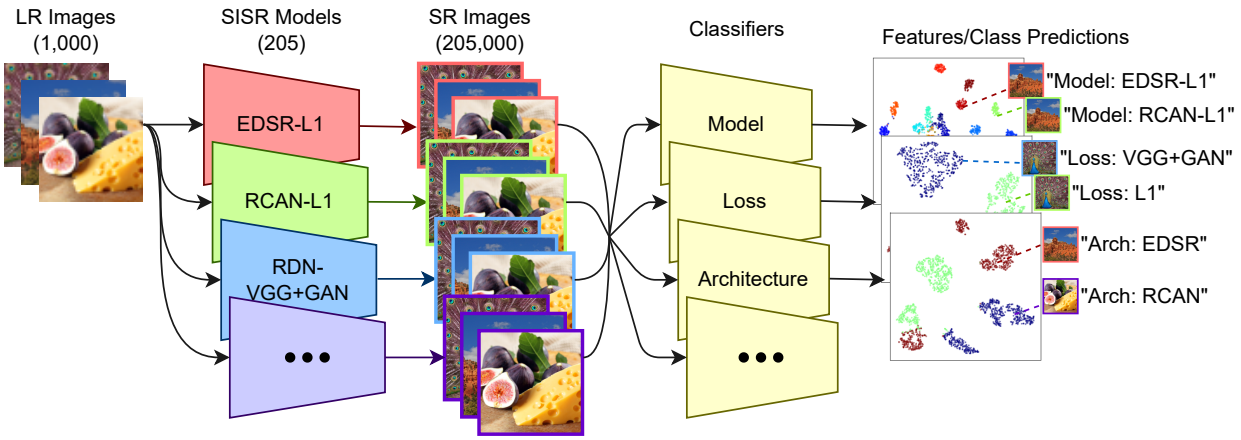


Figure 1: An overview of our experimental setup. 1,000 low-resolution images are fed through each of 205 SISR models to produce a dataset of 205,000 super-resolved images. We then train our model parsing and attribution classifiers on this dataset of super-resolved images.

choices of small image classification networks . However, their approach requires that the reverse-engineer can feed their own specially designed inputs into the black-box network and observe the resulting output. By contrast, we attempt to infer the model hyperparameters from an arbitrary output image.

In a concurrent work, Asnani et al. (2021) train a convolutional network to extract a fingerprint from a generated image, and to predict the hyperparameters of various image generation models from this fingerprint . Their method, like ours, can be used for attribution and model parsing. Their study covers a diverse domain of 100 image generation models, including GANs, variational autoencoders, and one SISR network: ESRGAN (Wang et al., 2018b). Our work, by contrast, is focused specifically on SISR models, which generate images very close to a ground truth and likely leave less flexibility to embed fingerprints. We are the first to attempt to reverse-engineer hyperparameters of SISR models from the images they generate.

3 Study Setup

We investigate what choices of SISR model hyperparameters lead to distinctive model fingerprints, and which model hyperparameters can be reverse-engineered using model parsing. To explore these questions carefully, we need a dataset of SISR models that varies the hyperparameters we wish to experiment on, while holding all other hyperparameters constant. We choose 5 SISR model hyperparameters to analyze: model architecture, super-resolution scale factor, loss function, training dataset, and random seed. We train 180 SISR models with various combinations of these experimental hyperparameters, and add in 25 more SISR models from previous works for additional diversity. We construct our main dataset by super-resolving 1,000 images by each of our 205 SISR models. We use this dataset to train several image classifiers for model attribution and parsing tasks. Finally, we analyze the performance of these classifiers. Figure 1 shows an overview of our process. Further details about our SISR models, image datasets, and classifiers are available in the supplementary material.

We want our collection of SISR models to meet the following criteria:

1. **Realistic**: Models are representative of those in recent literature; they are not contrived toy models.
2. **Diverse**: Our models should span many architectures, loss functions, and training sets.
3. **Large**: We want a large number of SISR models, so that the model classifiers can begin to generalize across the SISR model space.
4. **Uniform**: The hyperparameters of our SISR models should be uniformly distributed and independent from each other to prevent spurious correlations that could confound our analysis.

3.1 Single Image Super-Resolution Models

To make our model collection realistic and diverse, we include 25 real-world pretrained super-resolution models, published between 2017 and 2021 (See Table 1). Unfortunately, there are not enough pretrained SISR models available online to make our dataset very large. But even more importantly, distribution of hyperparameter values among these 25 SISR models is neither uniform nor independent. For example, seven out of the eight 2X scale pretrained models are L_1-optimized. Such correlations are confounding factors in our analysis, and we would prefer to avoid them.

Therefore, we make our dataset large and uniform by adding 180 SISR models which we train ourselves. We select 5 SISR model hyperparameters to vary in our experiments (we will call these the *experimental hyperparameters*). All other training details of our custom-trained SISR models are held constant. The experimental hyperparameters and their values are as follows:

Table 1: Pretrained SISR models we use.

Name	Loss	Scale(s)
EDSR	L_1	2X, 4X
EnhanceNet	Adv.	4X
RDN	L_1	2X, 4X
ProSR	L_1	4X
ProGanSR	Adv.	4X
RCAN	L_1	2X, 4X
ESRGAN	Adv.	4X
SAN	L_1	4X
SRFBN	L_1	2X, 4X
SPSR	Adv.	4X
DRN	L_1	4X
NCSR	Adv.	4X
SwinIR [1]	L_1, Adv.	2X, 4X
LIIF	L_1	2X, 4X
Real-ESRGAN	Adv.	2X, 4X
NLSN	L_1	2X, 4X

[1] There are 3 pretrained SwinIR models: (L_1, 2X), (L_1, 4X), and (Adv, 4X)

1. **Architecture**: The choices are **EDSR** (Lim et al., 2017), **RDN** (Zhang et al., 2018b), **RCAN** (Zhang et al., 2018a), **NLSN** (Mei et al., 2021), and **SwinIR** (Liang et al., 2021).

2. **Dataset**: The super-resolution dataset used for training the model. The choices are **DIV2K** (Agustsson & Timofte, 2017) or **Flickr2K**, originally collected by Lim et al. (2017). To see if using a smaller training dataset might lead to a more distinctive model fingerprint, we also trained SISR models with just one quarter of the total training data available from these two datasets, effectively creating two more dataset choices, $\frac{1}{4}$**DIV2K** and $\frac{1}{4}$**Flickr2K**

3. **Scale**: Scaling factor by which to upsample the low-resolution input image; either **2X** or **4X**. To be clear, this is the scaling factor for the linear dimension of the image, not the total number of pixels; a 2X-upsampled image has four times as many pixels.

4. **Loss**: Loss function to optimize during training. Choices are the $\boldsymbol{L_1}$ **norm** (which is standard in the super-resolution literature), **VGG+adv.** loss, or **ResNet+adv.** loss. VGG+adv. loss is the the same linear combination of VGG-based perceptual loss and adversarial loss that was used in SRGAN (Wang et al., 2018b). ResNet+adv. uses the same adversarial term, but replaces the VGG-based perceptual loss with ResNet based perceptual loss.

5. **Seed**: Yu et al. (2019) found that changing the random seed used for network initialization is sufficient to produce a GAN with a distinct fingerprint. To determine the effect of random seeds in our setting, we train copies of our models with three different seeds: 1, 2, or 3.

In total, there are 360 possible SISR models that could be trained from different combinations of these hyperparameters. To save time and computation, we only train the subset of these models whose random seed is 1 *or* whose training dataset is DIV2K. (We chose to limit these two parameters because we found that they had the smallest influence on the learned model.) This leaves us with 180 custom-trained SISR models.

3.2 Image Datasets

As discussed in Section 3.1, We employ two existing super-resolution image datasets, DIV2K and Flickr2K, to train our SISR models. We also create our own dataset of super-resolved images which we use to train the model attribution and parsing classifiers.

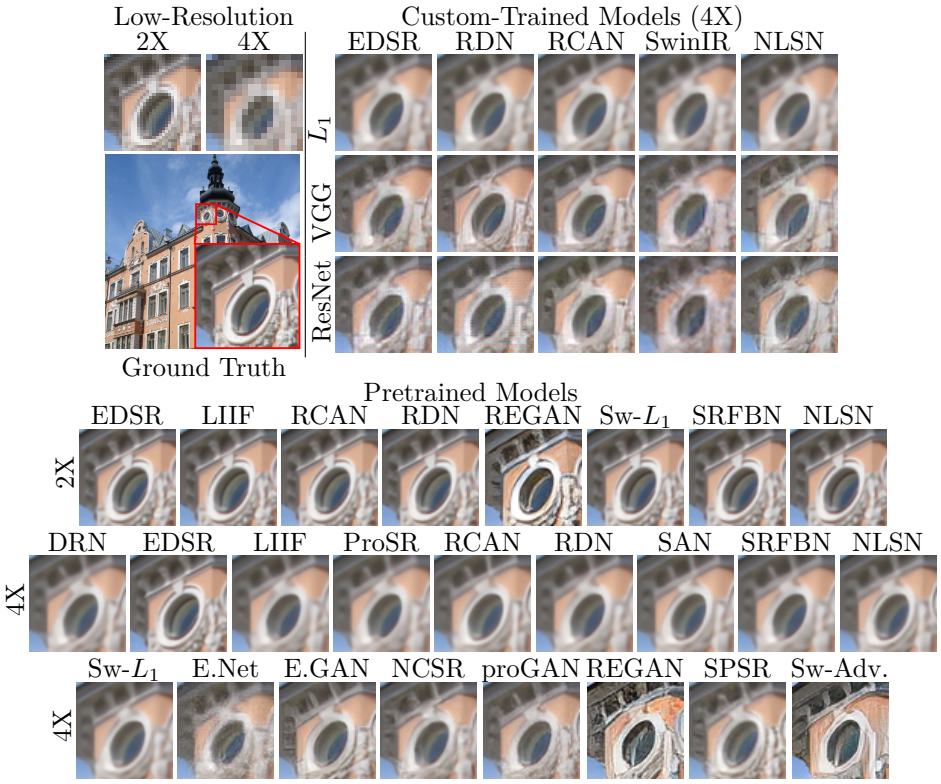


Figure 2: A small image patch super-resolved by a sample of the SISR models in our dataset. Abbreviations: REGAN: Real-ESRGAN, Sw-L_1: L1-optimized SwinIR, Sw-Adv: adversarially-optimized SwinIR, E.Net: EnhanceNet, E.GAN: ESRGAN. Best viewed zoomed in.

We also collect a new image dataset consisting of 1,000 photographs from Flickr. We query Flickr for 200 images from each of the following 5 image tags: food, architecture, people, animals, and landscapes. We select only images with at least two megapixel resolution. At full resolution, many images contain visible JPEG artifacts, so we downsample (Gaussian blur followed by bicubic downsampling) them to 960 pixels in their largest dimension, at which point any jpeg artifacts are imperceptible to us. We refer to this collection of images as the "Flickr1K dataset".

To generate the final super-resolution dataset upon which we train our model attribution and parsing classifiers, we super-resolve each image in our Flickr1K dataset by each of our 205 SISR models. For each SISR model, for each Flickr image, we first downsample the image by the model's scaling factor using bicubic interpolation, and then super-resolve the downsampled image using the model. This gives us a dataset of 205,000 super-resolved images. Figure 2 shows several super-resolution examples.

3.3 Classification Networks

We train an extensive collection of model classification networks to perform model attribution and parsing. First, we needed to select an image classification network architecture. Wang et al. (2020) found that a ResNet50-based classifier (He et al., 2016) was capable of distinguishing CNN-generated images from natural images with surprisingly good generalization . Rössler et al. (2019) used XceptionNet (Chollet, 2017) to effectively detect deepfakes in the FaceForensics++ dataset . We also tried two additional state-of-the-art image classification networks: EfficientNet B2 (Tan & Le, 2019) and ConvNext (Liu et al., 2022). We chose the network with the highest accuracy on the 205-way model attribution problem, *i.e.*, "which of these 205 SISR models generated this image?" As shown in Table 2, we found that ConvNext achieved the highest accuracy.

Table 3: Accuracy (%) of our custom model attribution classifier grouped by different hyperparameters. For example, the average accuracy of our classifier on SISR models whose *scale* is *2X* is 95.3%.

scale	acc	loss	acc	arch.	acc	dataset	acc
2X	95.3	L_1	89.4	DIV2K	95.8	EDSR	95.8
4X	96.6	VGG+adv.	98.9	Flickr2K	96.7	RDN	96.9
		Resnet+adv.	99.5	$\frac{1}{4}$ DIV2K	94.7	RCAN	93.2
				$\frac{1}{4}$ Flickr2K	96.8	SwinIR	98.1
						NLSN	95.7

To adapt a ConvNext network pretrained on ImageNet to our classification problems, we replace the final fully-connected layer of the network with a randomly initialized one of the appropriate shape to output the right number of classes. The network is trained with cross-entropy loss. As in Rössler et al. (2019), we train just the final layer for three epochs, then we unfreeze all network weights and fine-tune the entire network for 15 epochs. Our classifiers are trained with our super-resolved image dataset on just 800 images from each SISR model. We reserve an additional 100 images for validation, and 100 for testing. All analyses presented in Section 4 are computed from this test set of 100 images per SISR model (205,00 images in total).

Table 2: Accuracy (%) on 205-class model attribution.

Architecture	Acc.
ConvNext	94.9
XceptionNet	93.2
Efficientnet	92.9
ResNet50	81.8

4 Experiments

Our experiments are organized around the analysis of two different problems: model attribution (Section 4.1) and model parsing (Section 4.2). We formulate both as classification problems, and train ConvNext models to solve them as described in Section 3.3.

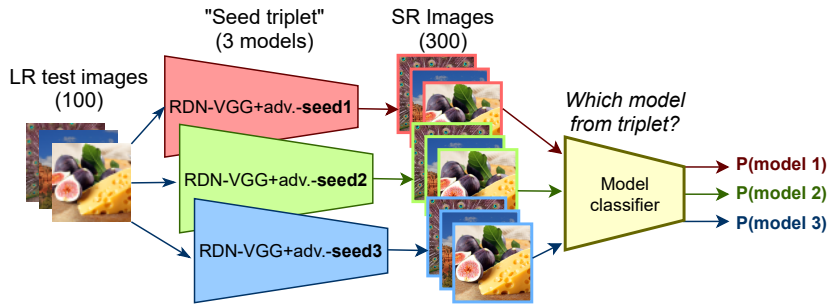
4.1 Model Attribution

How reliably can an SISR model be uniquely identified by its output images? What combinations of hyperparameters lead to distinctive fingerprints? To answer these questions, we train and analyze two attribution classifiers: the *custom model attribution classifier*, which is trained to distinguish between the 180 custom-trained SISR models, and the *pretrained model attribution classifier*, which is trained to distinguish between the 25 pretrained models. We discuss the comparative benefits and drawbacks of these two subsets of models in Section 3.1. Essentially, the the custom models are a larger and more controlled sample, while the pretrained models are more realistic and diverse. (For the rest of the paper, we use "model" as shorthand for "SISR model".)

4.1.1 When are SISR Model Fingerprints Distinctive?

Do certain hyperparameter choices make SISR model fingerprints more or less distinctive? Super-resolution seeks to invert an image downscaling function whose input domain (high resolution images) is larger than its output range (low-resolution images). This means that each super-resolution input corresponds to many possible valid outputs. If the number of possible valid outputs is small, it is more likely that two different SISR networks will converge upon the same output. Therefore, we hypothesize that the distinctiveness of a super-resolution method increases with the size of this space of possible outputs.

From this hypothesis, it easily follows that 4X upscaling should produce more distinctive fingerprints than 2X. As discussed in Sajjadi et al. (2017), SISR models trained with an adversarial loss are incentivized to sample from this space of possible output images, while L_2-optimized networks are incentivized to aggregate over this space with a pixel-wise mean, effectively reducing the number of valid outputs. Sajjadi *et al.* observe that different L_2-optimized SISR models tend to converge upon the same unnaturally smooth super-resolved images, while SR images from adversarially-trained models are more diverse. We can expect L_1 loss to behave similarly, except it will aggregate over the space of possible images with a pixel-wise median instead



loss × scale	Ours	PRNU
L_1 2X	96.1	82.8
L_1 4X	97.1	81.3
VGG 2X	99.8	70.5
VGG 4X	100.0	46.2
ResNet 2X	99.7	45.4
ResNet 4X	100.0	46.8
Total	98.8	62.2

Figure 4 & Table 4: Distinguishing between models which differ only by seed. Table shows the accuracy (%) our custom model attribution classifier vs the PRNU-based classifier from Marra (2017). One of the 30 seed triplets, the (4X, L_1, NLSN) triplet, had a relatively low distinction accuracy of 87.3%. So the table is computed with NLSN models omitted.

of a mean. Therefore, we hypothesize that 4X SISR models leave more distinctive fingerprints than 2X, and adversarially-trained models leave more distinctive fingerprints than L_1 models.

To test this hypothesis, we examine the accuracy of our 180-class custom model attribution classifier grouped by each hyperparameter, as shown in Table 3. Classification accuracy varies significantly by scale and loss function: average classification accuracy for 4X SISR models is 1.3% higher than for 2X models, and average classification accuracy for adversarially-trained models is 9.8% higher than for L_1 models.

Figure 3 shows a T-SNE embedding of the super-resolved image features disaggregated by scale and loss. We define *image features* as the 1024-dimensional vector of activations from the last layer of an attribution classifier. Class separation is better for 4X SISR models than 2X, and better for adversarial than L_1 models. This data supports our hypothesis that adversarial loss functions and higher super-resolution scales lead to more distinctive model fingerprints.

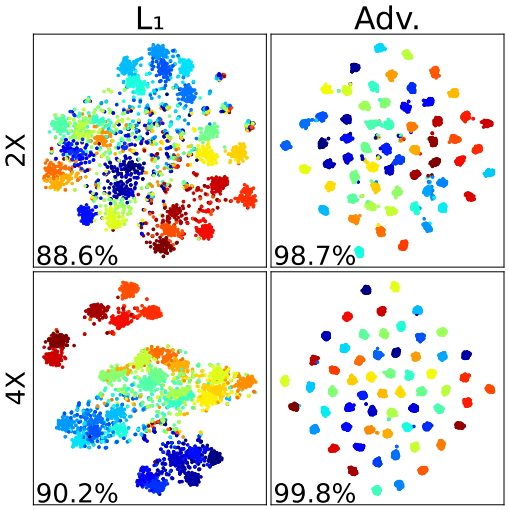


Figure 3: T-SNE visualizations of of super-resolved image feature embeddings, grouped by scale and loss. Each point represents an image from the test set, colored according to the SISR model that generated it. Accuracies for each group are in the lower left.

Distinguishing Among Random Seeds: Yu et al. (2019) show that small variations in a GAN's hyperparameters can lead to highly distinctive GAN fingerprints . To test if this finding holds for SISR models, we evaluate the accuracy of our custom model classifier at distinguishing between groups of models which differ only by their random seed (as shown in Figure 4). Our custom-trained SISR model dataset contains 30 "seed triplets": sets of three SISR models which are identical except for their seed. Our custom-trained model classifier can distinguish between models in each triplet with an average of 98.8% accuracy. We interpret this as a confirmation that Yu *et al.* 's finding extends to this new domain.

For a baseline comparison, we evaluate the PRNU-based model attribution scheme from Marra et al. (2019) on this seed distinction problem. Marra *et al.* develop a simple scheme for image attribution based on handcrafted features. They denoise each image using BM3D (Dabov et al., 2007), and subtract that denoised image from the original image to obtain a "noise residual". The noise residuals of all training images from the same source are averaged together into a "fingerprint" for that image source. To perform attribution, they find the noise residual of the image in question, and attribute it to the source with the closest fingerprint, by euclidean distance. We find that our method achieves significantly better accuracy on this problem, which is significantly harder for the PRNU-based attribution scheme than the GAN attribution problems from

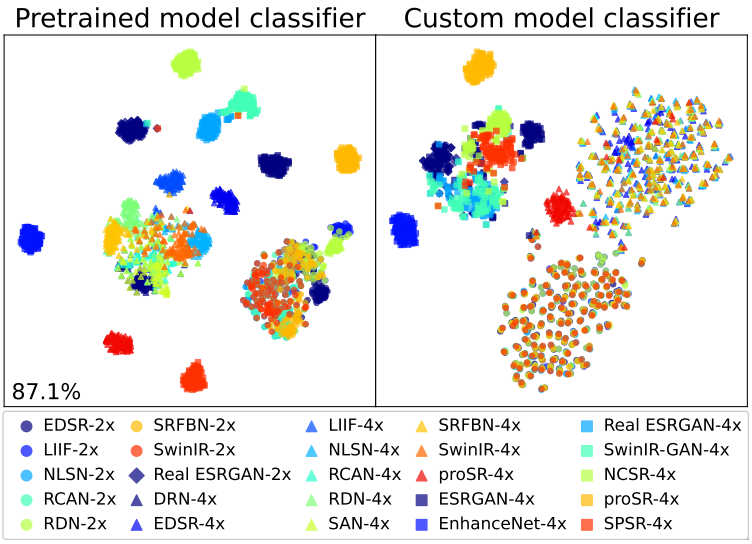


Figure 5: T-SNE Feature embeddings for images super-resolved by our pretrained SISR models. Left: embeddings as encoded by the pretrained model attribution classifier (attribution accuracy in lower-left). Right: embeddings by the custom model attribution classifier, which was not trained on these models.

(Marra et al., 2019). In an interesting reversal of a trend for our ConvNext classifier, L_1-optimized SISR models appear to leave more distinctive PRNU fingerprints than adversarially-optimized models.

4.1.2 Pretrained Model Attribution

Our 25 pretrained models have a greater diversity of architectures, loss functions, and datasets, and may be more representative of the kinds of SISR models encountered in real, practical use. So do our attribution results still hold for them? To test this, we train an attribution classifier to predict which of the 25 pretrained models produced a given super-resolved image. We find that the performance of this classifier improves significantly if we initialize it with weights from the custom model attribution classifier, instead of starting from the ConvNext model used for ImageNet classification.

Overall test-set attribution accuracy for these 25 pretrained models is 87.1%. Our hypothesis about scale and loss function still holds: accuracy among the (2X, L_1) models is 74.8%, while accuracy among the (4X, L_1) is 88.8%. The average classification accuracy for the (4X, adv.) group is 98.9%. Figure 5 shows a T-SNE embedding of the features of the test images classified by the pretrained model attribution classifier. The figure depicts a similar trend to Figure 3: adversarially-trained models (the square markers) are highly separable, (4X, L_1) models (triangles) less so, and (2X, L_1) (circles) least separable of all.

4.1.3 Fingerprinting Unseen SISR Models

So far, we have assumed that the full set of SISR models our attribution classifiers will ever encounter is known and available during training. In real-world applications, such as scraping the web for super-resolved images which make illicit use of a proprietary model, this condition is unlikely to obtain. More likely, attribution classifiers will be met with images from numerous unknown sources, and will need to handle them gracefully. So does our attribution classifier still detect meaningful fingerprints for these unseen models?

To answer this question, we ran the super-resolved images from our 25 pretrained models through the custom model attribution classifier, which has only seen our 180 custom-trained models during training. A T-SNE embedding of the resulting image features is displayed on the right in Figure 5. Notice that these features, taken from the custom attribution classifier, follow a very similar trend to those from the pretrained attribution classifier on the left, which *has* seen these particular SISR models. Class separation is not as good, but the (4X, adv.) models are still modestly separable.

Table 5: Test accuracy (%) of 18 model parsers. The "chance baseline" column shows the percent chance of predicting the parameter correctly by random guess. Dashes ("–") indicate parser experiments that would not make sense; *e.g.* withholding all L_1 models during training, and then testing the parser's ability to predict the loss function of those L_1 models.

Predicted hyperparam.	Chance baseline	Test hyperparameter value					
		L_1	VGG+adv.	RCAN	SwinIR	Flickr2K	Seed=3
scale	50.0	52.1	99.4	99.4	99.2	100.0	100.0
loss	33.3	–	–	94.9	94.3	98.7	98.8
arch.	20.0	20.8	45.5	–	–	73.2	72.4
dataset [1]	25.0	26.1	32.2	37.4	34.8	–	–

[1] All models with seeds 2 and 3 were trained with the DIV2K dataset. Therefore, to keep the class frequencies balanced, models with seeds 2 and 3 were excluded during both training and testing of the dataset parsers.

4.2 Model Parsing

We have demonstrated that small variations in SISR model hyperparameters can lead to distinctive fingerprints. Are these variations in model fingerprints random, or do they contain information about the underlying model hyperparameters? If they contain such information, this could be leveraged towards model parsing. To test this, we train an extensive collection of classifiers, referred to here as *parsers*, to predict each of the experimental hyperparameters of our custom-trained models.

In real-world applications, such parsers would be used to reverse-engineer the hyperparameters of unknown SISR models, which may use architectures, loss functions, etc. which are not in the parser's training data. To simulate this scenario, we pick some hyperparameter value to exclude from each parser's training data, and evaluate the parser on models with that excluded value. We call this excluded value the *test hyperparameter value*. For example, if a parser's test hyperparameter value is RCAN, this means the parser was trained on the EDSR, RDN, SwinIR, and NLSN models, and tested on the RCAN ones.

Table 5 shows the test accuracy of 18 model parsers trained and tested on the 180 custom SISR models. The results in this table can be explained as follows: some hyperparameters change the model considerably (scale, choice of L1 or adversarial loss), and some hyperparameters change the model only subtly (dataset and random seed). Parsers perform best when the models in the training and testing sets are quite similar (e.g. they differ only by random seed), and the classes the parser must predict are quite different (e.g. the parser is predicting if the model performs 2X or 4X-scale super resolution). The rows of Table 5 are ordered according to this trend: most significant hyperparameters first, least significant last. As one moves from left to right across the table, the parsing tasks become easier; as one moves top to bottom, they become more difficult. For example, the parser in upper-right corner of the table was trained to predict the model's scale and tested for its ability to generalize to models with a different random seed, and that parser achieves 100% accuracy on its test data.

Performance is worst when the models in the training and testing sets are very different. Figure 2 shows the significant difference in character between images from models trained with L_1 loss and those trained adversarially. If we train a parser on the adversarially-trained models and evaluate it on the L_1 models, there is a big distributional shift between the training and testing data. This is reflected in the accuracy scores in the L_1 column, which hover around the chance baseline. But if we choose to withhold the VGG+adv models for our test data, our parsers achieve much higher accuracy. They have been trained on models optimized with ResNet+adv. loss, a loss function very similar to the one in the test set. So the test distribution is much closer to the training distribution, and generalization is accordingly better.

These experiments demonstrate the viability of parsing SISR models, but in a limited way. Only some hyperparameters can be reliably parsed, and only when the models are not too far from the training distribution.

4.2.1 Pretrained Model Parsing

To study model parsing for pretrained models, we train parsers on all 180 custom-trained SISR models to predict the models' scale, loss, and architecture. (We omit the dataset parser because DIV2K is the only dataset shared by both the custom and pretrained models) We then apply these parsers to images from the 25 pretrained models.

Figure 6 presents a full table of the model parser predictions for each pretrained SISR model. As with the custom model parsers, we find it easy to parse the scale of models with loss functions in the training set. The scale parser we used here was trained on L_1, VGG+adv. and ResNet+adv. losses. This parser can predict the scale of our L_1-optimized pretrained models with 100% accuracy. EnhanceNet (E.Net) and ProSR are also easy to parse, and are trained with losses very similar to VGG+adv. loss: both leverage a pretrained VGG network for perceptual loss, in combination with adversarial loss. But as shown in Table 5 with test hyperparameter value L_1, prediction accuracy for unseen loss functions can be much worse. NCSR and SPSR use very different approaches to super-resolution than the models in the parser's training set, and generalization to these models is accordingly worse. However, ESRGAN also uses a form of VGG loss plus adversarial loss, but our scale parser still performs poorly on it. We consider the exact reason why to be an open question.

Our loss classifier can easily distinguish between L_1-optimized and adversarially-trained models: all L_1-optimized pretrained models are identified as such with 100% accuracy. The true loss functions of the adversarial SISR models (ESRGAN, EnhanceNet, ProSRGAN, NCSR, SPSR, SwinIR, and Real ESRGAN) are not in the loss classifier's training set. Yet the loss classifier always predicts that these methods were produced with an adversarial loss function (either ResNet+adv. or VGG+adv.).

Predicted hyperparameter value

Actual model	Scale		Loss			Architecture				
	2x	4x	L_1	VGG+A.	R.Net+A.	EDSR	RCAN	RDN	SwinIR	NLSN
EDSR-2x	100	0	100	0	0	24	45	25	4	2
LIIF-2x	100	0	100	0	0	-	-	-	-	-
RCAN-2x	100	0	100	0	0	5	62	28	2	3
RDN-2x	100	0	100	0	0	10	54	34	2	0
R. ESRGAN-2x	98	2	0	75	25	-	-	-	-	-
SRFBN-2x	100	0	100	0	0	-	-	-	-	-
SwinIR-2x	100	0	100	0	0	6	63	21	7	3
NLSN-2x	100	0	100	0	0	4	71	20	2	3
DRN-4x	0	100	100	0	0	-	-	-	-	-
EDSR-4x	0	100	100	0	0	0	12	67	8	13
LIIF-4x	0	100	100	0	0	-	-	-	-	-
proSR-4x	0	100	100	0	0	-	-	-	-	-
RCAN-4x	0	100	100	0	0	0	77	21	0	2
RDN-4x	0	100	100	0	0	0	62	35	0	3
SAN-4x	0	100	100	0	0	-	-	-	-	-
SRFBN-4x	0	100	100	0	0	-	-	-	-	-
SwinIR-4x	1	99	100	0	0	0	86	12	0	2
NLSN-4x	0	100	100	0	0	0	70	17	0	13
ESRGAN-4x	55	45	0	90	10	-	-	-	-	-
E.Net-4x	0	100	0	1	99	-	-	-	-	-
NCSR-4x	89	11	0	63	37	-	-	-	-	-
proSR-4x	7	93	0	91	9	-	-	-	-	-
R. ESRGAN-4x	96	4	0	45	55	-	-	-	-	-
SPSR-4x	84	16	1	56	43	-	-	-	-	-
SwinIR-adv-4x	90	10	0	49	51	9	32	55	2	2

Figure 6: Parser predictions for the pretrained models. For example, out of the 100 test images for ESRGAN, 55 were predicted to come from a model with 2X scale, 45 from 4X. Blue boxes inscribe correct predictions. Rows with no blue box have actual values outside the training set. Abbreviations: R. ESRGAN: Real ESRGAN, E.Net: EnhanceNet.

Architecture prediction is unsuccessful. Our set of pretrained models contains eleven models whose architecture was in the training distribution. Among these models, the architecture classifier can predict the architecture correctly just 23.4% of the time, similar to the random chance accuracy of 20.0%. We speculate that this poor generalization is due to differences in training, such as the learning rate and number of epochs, between custom and pretrained models.

5 Conclusion

We have presented the first exploration of model fingerprinting and image attribution specifically focused on single image super-resolution networks. We create a dataset of 205 super-resolution methods. We show that networks trained on more open-ended image synthesis tasks leave more distinctive fingerprints on the images they generate. Our attribution classifiers learn to detect distinctive fingerprints even for SISR models outside the training set. Our model parsing experiments show that model parsing is possible, but only when the predicted hyperparameter has a large impact on the resulting images, and the model being parsed is similar to those in the training set.

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A Appendix

A.1 Flickr1K Dataset

Table 6: Main Characteristics of the three SR Datsets used in this project: Flickr2K Lim et al. (2017), Div2K Agustsson & Timofte (2017), and our "Flickr1K" dataset. Table shows the number of images, pixels per image (ppi), bits per pixel using PNG compression (bpp PNG), and shannon-entropy of the images' greyscale histograms (entropy). For bpp and entropy, we report average (±standard deviation).

Dataset	Images	Ppi	Bpp PNG	Entropy
Flickr2K train	800	2793045	12.71(±2.53)	7.34(±0.57)
Flickr2K test	100	2794881	12.52(±2.45)	7.38 (±0.53)
Flickr2K validation	100	2749737	12.96(±2.67)	7.52(±0.29)
DIV2K train	800	2779971	12.68(±2.79)	7.48(±0.34)
DIV2K validation	100	2733370	13.24 (±2.87)	7.51(±0.43)
Flickr1K train	100	649958	12.93 (±2.75)	7.30(±0.45)
Flickr1K test	798	646188	12.89(±2.44)	7.32(±0.52)
Flickr1K validation	100	633369	12.39 (±2.39)	7.24(±0.54)

A.2 SISR Networks Dataset

Our 180 custom-trained models models were trained using the BasicSR toolkit Wang et al. (2018a). Besides the experimental hyperparameters, all training hyperparameters were held constant across the models. For example, all models were trained for 50,000 iterations. This leads to substandard performance of the SwinIR models, which would need to be trained for ten times longer to match the quality of the published models. This poor quality is reflected qualitatively in Figure 2, and quantitatively in Table 8.

A.2.1 ResNet Loss

One third of our custom-trained super-resolution networks are trained with ResNet + adversarial loss, a combination of discriminator-based adversarial loss, and perceptual loss based on a ResNet18 classifier trained on ImageNet.

Our ResNet-based perceptual loss is computed by passing both the super-resolved image and the ground-truth high-resolution image through the ResNet. We extract the activations output by layer 3 of the ResNet,

and take the L_2 distance between HR and SR feature vectors as our ResNet loss term. We use this loss term as a drop-in replacement for the VGG-based perceptual loss term used in SRGAN Wang et al. (2018b) and implemented in BasicSR Wang et al. (2018a).

Table 7: Papers which provide the 25 pretrained super-resolution models we use in our dataset (some papers provide multiple models).

Name	Loss	Scale(s)	
EDSR Lim et al. (2017)	L_1	DIV2K	2x, 4x
EnhanceNet Sajjadi et al. (2017)	Adv.	MSCOCO	4x
RDN Zhang et al. (2018b)	L_1	DIV2K	2x, 4x
ProSR Wang et al. (2018c)	L_1	DIV2K	4x
ProGanSR Wang et al. (2018c)	Adv.	DIV2K	4x
RCAN Zhang et al. (2018a)	L_1	DIV2K	2x, 4x
ESRGAN Wang et al. (2018b)	Adv.	DIV2K, Flickr2K, OST	4x
SAN Dai et al. (2019)	L_1	DIV2K	4x
SRFBN Li et al. (2019)	L_1	DIV2K	2x, 4x
SPSR Ma et al. (2020)	Adv.	DIV2K	4x
DRN Guo et al. (2020)	L_1	DIV2K	4x
NCSR Kim & Son (2021)	Adv.	DIV2K	4x
SwinIR Liang et al. (2021)	L_1, Adv.	DIV2K	2x, 4x
LIIF Chen et al. (2021)	L_1	DIV2K	2x, 4x
Real-ESRGAN Wang et al. (2021)	Adv.	DIV2K	2x, 4x
NLSN Mei et al. (2021)	L_1	DIV2K	2x, 4x

Table 8: Full list of all 205 super-resolution models in our dataset, along with their average PSNR and LPIPS scores when compared to the ground truth HR images. Model names are of the form {architecture}-{training dataset}-{scale}-{loss}-{seed}

SISR model	PSNR (± std)	LPIPS (± std)
DRN-div2k-x4-L1-NA-pretrained	28.31(±6.26)	0.284(±0.151)
EDSR-div2k-x2-L1-NA-pretrained	32.56(±7.03)	0.134(±0.115)
EDSR-div2k-x2-L1-s1	32.27(±6.90)	0.132(±0.115)
EDSR-div2k-x2-L1-s2	32.54(±7.06)	0.133(±0.115)
EDSR-div2k-x2-L1-s3	32.49(±7.03)	0.134(±0.115)
EDSR-div2k-x2-ResNet+Adv.-s1	31.33(±6.60)	0.074(±0.102)
EDSR-div2k-x2-ResNet+Adv.-s2	32.25(±7.01)	0.086(±0.103)
EDSR-div2k-x2-ResNet+Adv.-s3	31.90(±6.90)	0.078(±0.102)
EDSR-div2k-x2-VGG+Adv.-s1	31.91(±6.78)	0.080(±0.103)
EDSR-div2k-x2-VGG+Adv.-s2	31.91(±6.79)	0.080(±0.102)
EDSR-div2k-x2-VGG+Adv.-s3	32.01(±6.91)	0.082(±0.102)
EDSR-div2k-x4-L1-NA-pretrained	28.08(±6.26)	0.293(±0.152)
EDSR-div2k-x4-L1-s1	27.95(±6.22)	0.296(±0.151)
EDSR-div2k-x4-L1-s2	27.95(±6.22)	0.299(±0.151)
EDSR-div2k-x4-L1-s3	27.92(±6.22)	0.307(±0.151)
EDSR-div2k-x4-ResNet+Adv.-s1	26.96(±5.58)	0.188(±0.112)
EDSR-div2k-x4-ResNet+Adv.-s2	26.51(±5.82)	0.192(±0.107)
EDSR-div2k-x4-ResNet+Adv.-s3	25.08(±5.49)	0.205(±0.115)
EDSR-div2k-x4-VGG+Adv.-s1	26.57(±5.61)	0.188(±0.109)
EDSR-div2k-x4-VGG+Adv.-s2	26.66(±5.43)	0.185(±0.107)
EDSR-div2k-x4-VGG+Adv.-s3	26.54(±5.69)	0.182(±0.105)
EDSR-flickr2k-x2-L1-s1	32.46(±7.04)	0.133(±0.115)
EDSR-flickr2k-x2-ResNet+Adv.-s1	31.98(±6.86)	0.086(±0.103)
EDSR-flickr2k-x2-VGG+Adv.-s1	31.38(±6.60)	0.083(±0.103)

EDSR-flickr2k-x4-L1-s1	27.90(±6.21)	0.307(±0.152)
EDSR-flickr2k-x4-ResNet+Adv.-s1	26.51(±5.65)	0.195(±0.102)
EDSR-flickr2k-x4-VGG+Adv.-s1	26.83(±5.64)	0.207(±0.114)
EDSR-quarter div2k-x2-L1-s1	32.46(±6.99)	0.126(±0.113)
EDSR-quarter div2k-x2-ResNet+Adv.-s1	32.00(±6.95)	0.075(±0.102)
EDSR-quarter div2k-x2-VGG+Adv.-s1	32.22(±6.99)	0.081(±0.103)
EDSR-quarter div2k-x4-L1-s1	27.94(±6.22)	0.301(±0.151)
EDSR-quarter div2k-x4-ResNet+Adv.-s1	26.39(±5.83)	0.185(±0.106)
EDSR-quarter div2k-x4-VGG+Adv.-s1	26.45(±5.52)	0.184(±0.107)
EDSR-quarter flickr2k-x2-L1-s1	32.45(±7.03)	0.135(±0.116)
EDSR-quarter flickr2k-x2-ResNet+Adv.-s1	31.20(±6.31)	0.093(±0.104)
EDSR-quarter flickr2k-x2-VGG+Adv.-s1	31.86(±6.79)	0.089(±0.102)
EDSR-quarter flickr2k-x4-L1-s1	27.89(±6.18)	0.305(±0.152)
EDSR-quarter flickr2k-x4-ResNet+Adv.-s1	26.82(±6.00)	0.187(±0.105)
EDSR-quarter flickr2k-x4-VGG+Adv.-s1	27.11(±5.89)	0.199(±0.112)
ESRGAN-NA-x4-ESRGAN-NA-pretrained	27.48(±6.09)	0.161(±0.106)
EnhanceNet-NA-x4-EnhanceNet-NA-pretrained	26.48(±5.83)	0.206(±0.113)
LIIF-div2k-x2-L1-NA-pretrained	32.35(±6.77)	0.130(±0.115)
LIIF-div2k-x4-L1-NA-pretrained	28.34(±6.34)	0.283(±0.151)
NCSR-div2k-x4-NCSR GAN-NA-pretrained	27.76(±6.24)	0.178(±0.112)
NLSN-div2k-x2-L1-NA-pretrained	34.31(±5.20)	0.103(±0.073)
NLSN-div2k-x2-L1-s1	32.59(±7.06)	0.133(±0.115)
NLSN-div2k-x2-L1-s2	32.22(±6.77)	0.134(±0.115)
NLSN-div2k-x2-L1-s3	32.54(±7.06)	0.130(±0.115)
NLSN-div2k-x2-ResNet+Adv.-s1	32.08(±6.83)	0.086(±0.103)
NLSN-div2k-x2-ResNet+Adv.-s2	31.64(±6.59)	0.085(±0.102)
NLSN-div2k-x2-ResNet+Adv.-s3	31.88(±6.70)	0.090(±0.103)
NLSN-div2k-x2-VGG+Adv.-s1	31.95(±6.74)	0.091(±0.103)
NLSN-div2k-x2-VGG+Adv.-s2	32.00(±6.82)	0.091(±0.103)
NLSN-div2k-x2-VGG+Adv.-s3	31.57(±6.54)	0.095(±0.103)
NLSN-div2k-x4-L1-NA-pretrained	29.51(±5.23)	0.259(±0.137)
NLSN-div2k-x4-L1-s1	27.91(±6.03)	0.289(±0.150)
NLSN-div2k-x4-L1-s2	28.06(±6.18)	0.294(±0.150)
NLSN-div2k-x4-L1-s3	28.15(±6.28)	0.291(±0.149)
NLSN-div2k-x4-ResNet+Adv.-s1	26.49(±5.54)	0.170(±0.105)
NLSN-div2k-x4-ResNet+Adv.-s2	27.17(±5.82)	0.193(±0.111)
NLSN-div2k-x4-ResNet+Adv.-s3	26.53(±5.78)	0.164(±0.104)
NLSN-div2k-x4-VGG+Adv.-s1	26.05(±4.92)	0.180(±0.106)
NLSN-div2k-x4-VGG+Adv.-s2	26.24(±5.22)	0.179(±0.108)
NLSN-div2k-x4-VGG+Adv.-s3	26.56(±5.22)	0.196(±0.113)
NLSN-flickr2k-x2-L1-s1	32.29(±6.90)	0.136(±0.116)
NLSN-flickr2k-x2-ResNet+Adv.-s1	24.44(±3.75)	0.117(±0.106)
NLSN-flickr2k-x2-VGG+Adv.-s1	31.93(±6.78)	0.095(±0.104)
NLSN-flickr2k-x4-L1-s1	27.89(±6.05)	0.291(±0.151)
NLSN-flickr2k-x4-ResNet+Adv.-s1	26.72(±5.61)	0.169(±0.108)
NLSN-flickr2k-x4-VGG+Adv.-s1	25.97(±4.85)	0.185(±0.110)
NLSN-quarter div2k-x2-L1-s1	32.50(±6.95)	0.132(±0.115)
NLSN-quarter div2k-x2-ResNet+Adv.-s1	31.62(±6.62)	0.073(±0.102)
NLSN-quarter div2k-x2-VGG+Adv.-s1	31.57(±6.51)	0.090(±0.104)
NLSN-quarter div2k-x4-L1-s1	28.10(±6.25)	0.294(±0.151)
NLSN-quarter div2k-x4-ResNet+Adv.-s1	25.91(±5.27)	0.175(±0.106)
NLSN-quarter div2k-x4-VGG+Adv.-s1	26.16(±5.01)	0.186(±0.106)
NLSN-quarter flickr2k-x2-L1-s1	32.46(±7.01)	0.136(±0.116)

NLSN-quarter flickr2k-x2-ResNet+Adv.-s1	31.30(±6.76)	0.089(±0.104)
NLSN-quarter flickr2k-x2-VGG+Adv.-s1	31.32(±6.44)	0.091(±0.103)
NLSN-quarter flickr2k-x4-L1-s1	27.87(±6.01)	0.299(±0.151)
NLSN-quarter flickr2k-x4-ResNet+Adv.-s1	26.81(±5.62)	0.172(±0.108)
NLSN-quarter flickr2k-x4-VGG+Adv.-s1	26.66(±5.42)	0.189(±0.110)
RCAN-div2k-x2-L1-NA-pretrained	32.79(±7.06)	0.126(±0.114)
RCAN-div2k-x2-L1-s1	32.59(±7.07)	0.135(±0.116)
RCAN-div2k-x2-L1-s2	32.46(±7.03)	0.139(±0.117)
RCAN-div2k-x2-L1-s3	32.67(±7.13)	0.132(±0.116)
RCAN-div2k-x2-ResNet+Adv.-s1	31.88(±6.80)	0.079(±0.102)
RCAN-div2k-x2-ResNet+Adv.-s2	32.14(±6.95)	0.080(±0.103)
RCAN-div2k-x2-ResNet+Adv.-s3	32.07(±6.90)	0.079(±0.102)
RCAN-div2k-x2-VGG+Adv.-s1	31.51(±6.58)	0.091(±0.102)
RCAN-div2k-x2-VGG+Adv.-s2	31.99(±6.81)	0.083(±0.102)
RCAN-div2k-x2-VGG+Adv.-s3	32.06(±6.83)	0.090(±0.103)
RCAN-div2k-x4-L1-NA-pretrained	28.32(±6.26)	0.282(±0.152)
RCAN-div2k-x4-L1-s1	28.17(±6.25)	0.290(±0.151)
RCAN-div2k-x4-L1-s2	28.00(±6.23)	0.302(±0.151)
RCAN-div2k-x4-L1-s3	28.08(±6.26)	0.299(±0.152)
RCAN-div2k-x4-ResNet+Adv.-s1	26.58(±5.44)	0.174(±0.113)
RCAN-div2k-x4-ResNet+Adv.-s2	27.41(±6.03)	0.199(±0.117)
RCAN-div2k-x4-ResNet+Adv.-s3	27.13(±5.90)	0.187(±0.099)
RCAN-div2k-x4-VGG+Adv.-s1	27.33(±5.90)	0.176(±0.107)
RCAN-div2k-x4-VGG+Adv.-s2	27.26(±5.85)	0.176(±0.110)
RCAN-div2k-x4-VGG+Adv.-s3	27.06(±5.82)	0.176(±0.106)
RCAN-flickr2k-x2-L1-s1	32.64(±7.09)	0.132(±0.116)
RCAN-flickr2k-x2-ResNet+Adv.-s1	31.87(±6.74)	0.092(±0.104)
RCAN-flickr2k-x2-VGG+Adv.-s1	32.13(±6.91)	0.083(±0.102)
RCAN-flickr2k-x4-L1-s1	28.06(±6.25)	0.300(±0.151)
RCAN-flickr2k-x4-ResNet+Adv.-s1	26.21(±5.30)	0.168(±0.105)
RCAN-flickr2k-x4-VGG+Adv.-s1	27.55(±6.08)	0.167(±0.107)
RCAN-quarter div2k-x2-L1-s1	32.55(±6.96)	0.128(±0.116)
RCAN-quarter div2k-x2-ResNet+Adv.-s1	32.21(±6.90)	0.083(±0.103)
RCAN-quarter div2k-x2-VGG+Adv.-s1	32.08(±6.81)	0.093(±0.104)
RCAN-quarter div2k-x4-L1-s1	28.15(±6.25)	0.289(±0.151)
RCAN-quarter div2k-x4-ResNet+Adv.-s1	27.04(±5.91)	0.173(±0.101)
RCAN-quarter div2k-x4-VGG+Adv.-s1	27.38(±5.99)	0.170(±0.112)
RCAN-quarter flickr2k-x2-L1-s1	32.55(±7.08)	0.135(±0.117)
RCAN-quarter flickr2k-x2-ResNet+Adv.-s1	32.02(±6.89)	0.090(±0.103)
RCAN-quarter flickr2k-x2-VGG+Adv.-s1	31.90(±6.79)	0.091(±0.103)
RCAN-quarter flickr2k-x4-L1-s1	28.03(±6.25)	0.302(±0.151)
RCAN-quarter flickr2k-x4-ResNet+Adv.-s1	27.24(±6.09)	0.180(±0.105)
RCAN-quarter flickr2k-x4-VGG+Adv.-s1	27.34(±5.88)	0.197(±0.118)
RDN-div2k-x2-L1-NA-pretrained	32.34(±6.77)	0.131(±0.116)
RDN-div2k-x2-L1-s1	32.47(±6.96)	0.128(±0.115)
RDN-div2k-x2-L1-s2	31.75(±6.49)	0.133(±0.116)
RDN-div2k-x2-L1-s3	32.51(±7.06)	0.136(±0.117)
RDN-div2k-x2-ResNet+Adv.-s1	30.76(±5.94)	0.088(±0.103)
RDN-div2k-x2-ResNet+Adv.-s2	32.19(±6.97)	0.088(±0.103)
RDN-div2k-x2-ResNet+Adv.-s3	32.04(±6.81)	0.081(±0.103)
RDN-div2k-x2-VGG+Adv.-s1	31.77(±6.55)	0.079(±0.102)
RDN-div2k-x2-VGG+Adv.-s2	31.83(±6.58)	0.089(±0.103)
RDN-div2k-x2-VGG+Adv.-s3	31.88(±6.70)	0.087(±0.102)

RDN-div2k-x4-L1-NA-pretrained	28.25(±6.35)	0.290(±0.152)
RDN-div2k-x4-L1-s1	28.05(±6.22)	0.292(±0.150)
RDN-div2k-x4-L1-s2	28.11(±6.27)	0.287(±0.152)
RDN-div2k-x4-L1-s3	27.90(±6.12)	0.295(±0.152)
RDN-div2k-x4-ResNet+Adv.-s1	24.41(±4.22)	0.211(±0.109)
RDN-div2k-x4-ResNet+Adv.-s2	25.81(±5.52)	0.184(±0.106)
RDN-div2k-x4-ResNet+Adv.-s3	26.12(±5.29)	0.187(±0.102)
RDN-div2k-x4-VGG+Adv.-s1	26.96(±5.78)	0.179(±0.109)
RDN-div2k-x4-VGG+Adv.-s2	27.21(±5.92)	0.189(±0.108)
RDN-div2k-x4-VGG+Adv.-s3	26.92(±5.71)	0.184(±0.109)
RDN-flickr2k-x2-L1-s1	32.47(±7.02)	0.136(±0.116)
RDN-flickr2k-x2-ResNet+Adv.-s1	29.80(±5.63)	0.092(±0.103)
RDN-flickr2k-x2-VGG+Adv.-s1	31.82(±6.67)	0.090(±0.103)
RDN-flickr2k-x4-L1-s1	28.09(±6.31)	0.300(±0.151)
RDN-flickr2k-x4-ResNet+Adv.-s1	26.81(±5.86)	0.187(±0.104)
RDN-flickr2k-x4-VGG+Adv.-s1	27.11(±5.91)	0.186(±0.106)
RDN-quarter div2k-x2-L1-s1	32.59(±7.11)	0.136(±0.117)
RDN-quarter div2k-x2-ResNet+Adv.-s1	31.07(±6.22)	0.094(±0.104)
RDN-quarter div2k-x2-VGG+Adv.-s1	32.05(±6.74)	0.086(±0.103)
RDN-quarter div2k-x4-L1-s1	28.11(±6.30)	0.288(±0.149)
RDN-quarter div2k-x4-ResNet+Adv.-s1	26.52(±5.73)	0.174(±0.104)
RDN-quarter div2k-x4-VGG+Adv.-s1	26.95(±5.76)	0.175(±0.108)
RDN-quarter flickr2k-x2-L1-s1	32.57(±7.06)	0.135(±0.117)
RDN-quarter flickr2k-x2-ResNet+Adv.-s1	31.34(±6.59)	0.084(±0.102)
RDN-quarter flickr2k-x2-VGG+Adv.-s1	32.18(±6.94)	0.091(±0.103)
RDN-quarter flickr2k-x4-L1-s1	27.99(±6.19)	0.299(±0.152)
RDN-quarter flickr2k-x4-ResNet+Adv.-s1	26.30(±5.81)	0.208(±0.112)
RDN-quarter flickr2k-x4-VGG+Adv.-s1	27.16(±5.78)	0.184(±0.110)
Real ESRGAN-div2k-x2-GAN-NA-pretrained	27.79(±6.10)	0.129(±0.107)
Real ESRGAN-div2k-x4-GAN-NA-pretrained	24.84(±5.53)	0.206(±0.109)
SAN-div2k-x4-L1-NA-pretrained	28.31(±6.27)	0.284(±0.152)
SPSR-div2k-x4-SPSR GAN-NA-pretrained	27.44(±6.00)	0.166(±0.111)
SRFBN-NA-x2-L1-NA-pretrained	32.69(±7.06)	0.129(±0.115)
SRFBN-NA-x4-L1-NA-pretrained	28.20(±6.25)	0.292(±0.152)
SwinIR-div2k-x2-L1-NA-pretrained	32.85(±7.06)	0.124(±0.114)
SwinIR-div2k-x2-L1-s1	32.23(±6.72)	0.134(±0.115)
SwinIR-div2k-x2-L1-s2	32.53(±7.07)	0.130(±0.114)
SwinIR-div2k-x2-L1-s3	31.77(±6.43)	0.129(±0.114)
SwinIR-div2k-x2-ResNet+Adv.-s1	30.05(±5.86)	0.093(±0.102)
SwinIR-div2k-x2-ResNet+Adv.-s2	29.35(±5.16)	0.097(±0.102)
SwinIR-div2k-x2-ResNet+Adv.-s3	30.85(±6.19)	0.083(±0.102)
SwinIR-div2k-x2-VGG+Adv.-s1	31.60(±6.64)	0.086(±0.103)
SwinIR-div2k-x2-VGG+Adv.-s2	31.38(±6.33)	0.095(±0.104)
SwinIR-div2k-x2-VGG+Adv.-s3	30.94(±6.08)	0.092(±0.104)
SwinIR-div2k-x4-GAN-NA-pretrained	24.74(±5.54)	0.203(±0.108)
SwinIR-div2k-x4-L1-NA-pretrained	28.39(±6.27)	0.279(±0.152)
SwinIR-div2k-x4-L1-s1	27.61(±5.74)	0.295(±0.149)
SwinIR-div2k-x4-L1-s2	27.98(±6.15)	0.294(±0.149)
SwinIR-div2k-x4-L1-s3	27.97(±6.13)	0.295(±0.149)
SwinIR-div2k-x4-ResNet+Adv.-s1	25.45(±5.15)	0.217(±0.107)
SwinIR-div2k-x4-ResNet+Adv.-s2	26.30(±5.34)	0.194(±0.108)
SwinIR-div2k-x4-ResNet+Adv.-s3	24.20(±4.75)	0.240(±0.111)
SwinIR-div2k-x4-VGG+Adv.-s1	26.51(±5.47)	0.195(±0.106)

SwinIR-div2k-x4-VGG+Adv.-s2	24.97(±4.45)	0.216(±0.109)
SwinIR-div2k-x4-VGG+Adv.-s3	26.39(±5.35)	0.194(±0.112)
SwinIR-flickr2k-x2-L1-s1	32.01(±6.71)	0.132(±0.115)
SwinIR-flickr2k-x2-ResNet+Adv.-s1	31.03(±6.37)	0.094(±0.104)
SwinIR-flickr2k-x2-VGG+Adv.-s1	31.14(±6.28)	0.090(±0.104)
SwinIR-flickr2k-x4-L1-s1	28.13(±6.18)	0.286(±0.149)
SwinIR-flickr2k-x4-ResNet+Adv.-s1	25.88(±5.15)	0.228(±0.103)
SwinIR-flickr2k-x4-VGG+Adv.-s1	24.99(±4.28)	0.215(±0.109)
SwinIR-quarter div2k-x2-L1-s1	32.26(±6.79)	0.133(±0.115)
SwinIR-quarter div2k-x2-ResNet+Adv.-s1	31.43(±6.63)	0.087(±0.102)
SwinIR-quarter div2k-x2-VGG+Adv.-s1	31.52(±6.59)	0.088(±0.103)
SwinIR-quarter div2k-x4-L1-s1	27.94(±6.09)	0.285(±0.148)
SwinIR-quarter div2k-x4-ResNet+Adv.-s1	25.67(±5.07)	0.217(±0.107)
SwinIR-quarter div2k-x4-VGG+Adv.-s1	26.10(±5.19)	0.201(±0.109)
SwinIR-quarter flickr2k-x2-L1-s1	32.52(±7.00)	0.132(±0.115)
SwinIR-quarter flickr2k-x2-ResNet+Adv.-s1	28.88(±5.04)	0.081(±0.101)
SwinIR-quarter flickr2k-x2-VGG+Adv.-s1	31.56(±6.52)	0.096(±0.105)
SwinIR-quarter flickr2k-x4-L1-s1	27.97(±6.15)	0.296(±0.150)
SwinIR-quarter flickr2k-x4-ResNet+Adv.-s1	25.38(±4.89)	0.219(±0.108)
SwinIR-quarter flickr2k-x4-VGG+Adv.-s1	26.06(±5.00)	0.222(±0.118)
proSR-div2k-x4-L1-NA-pretrained	28.16(±6.20)	0.292(±0.151)
proSR-div2k-x4-ProSRGAN-NA-pretrained	27.58(±6.17)	0.167(±0.109)

A.3 Classifier Training Procedure

We took inspiration from Rössler et al. Rössler et al. (2019) for our classifier training procedure. We start from a standard convolutional network pretrained on ImageNet Deng et al. (2009). We replace the last layer with a randomly initialized one of the appropriate shape for the particular classification problem. We freeze the weights of all but the last layer of the network, and train for 3 epochs. Then we unfreeze all the weights, and train for an additional 15 epochs. We use the Adamax optimizer with a learning rate of 0.0005. Batch size of 16. Images are cropped down to the network's input size. In the training set, images are randomly cropped. In validaiton and testing, they are center-cropped.