



# Feature Separation and Recalibration for Adversarial Robustness

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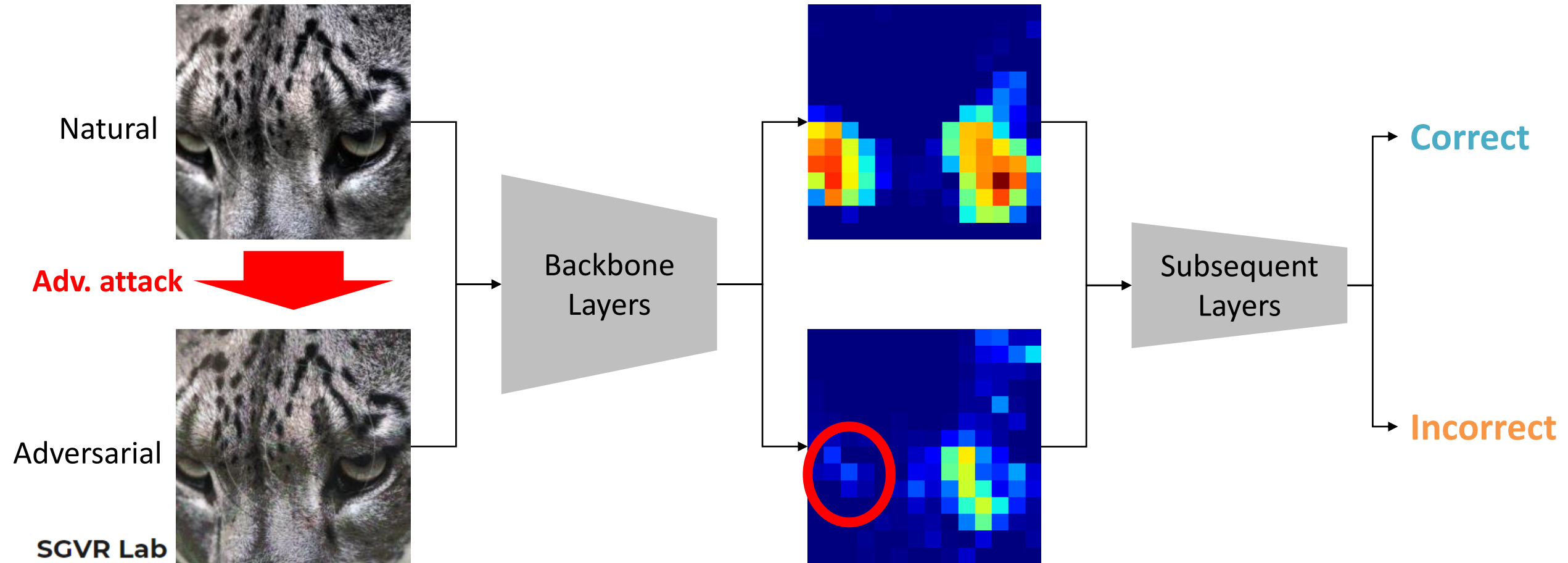
TUE-PM-389

CVPR 2023 (Highlights)

# Preview

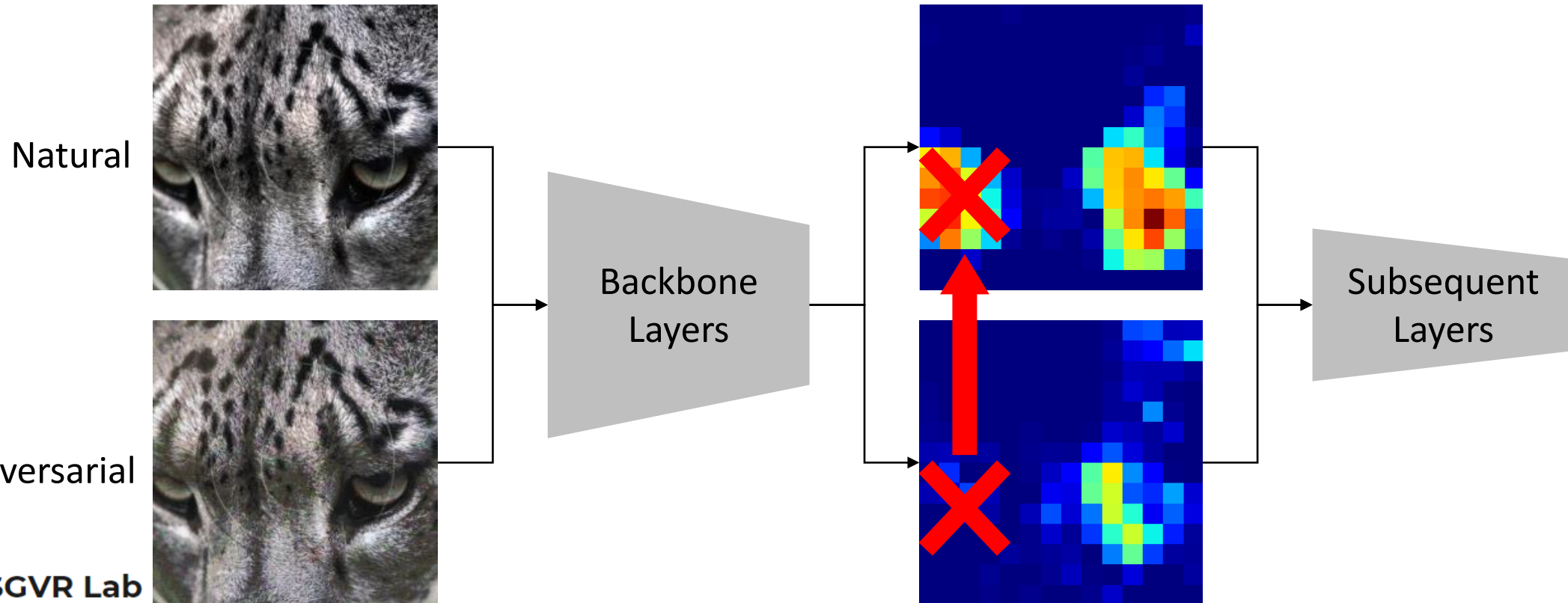
# Feature Activation Disruption upon Adversarial Attack

- Feature-level disruptions lead to model mispredictions



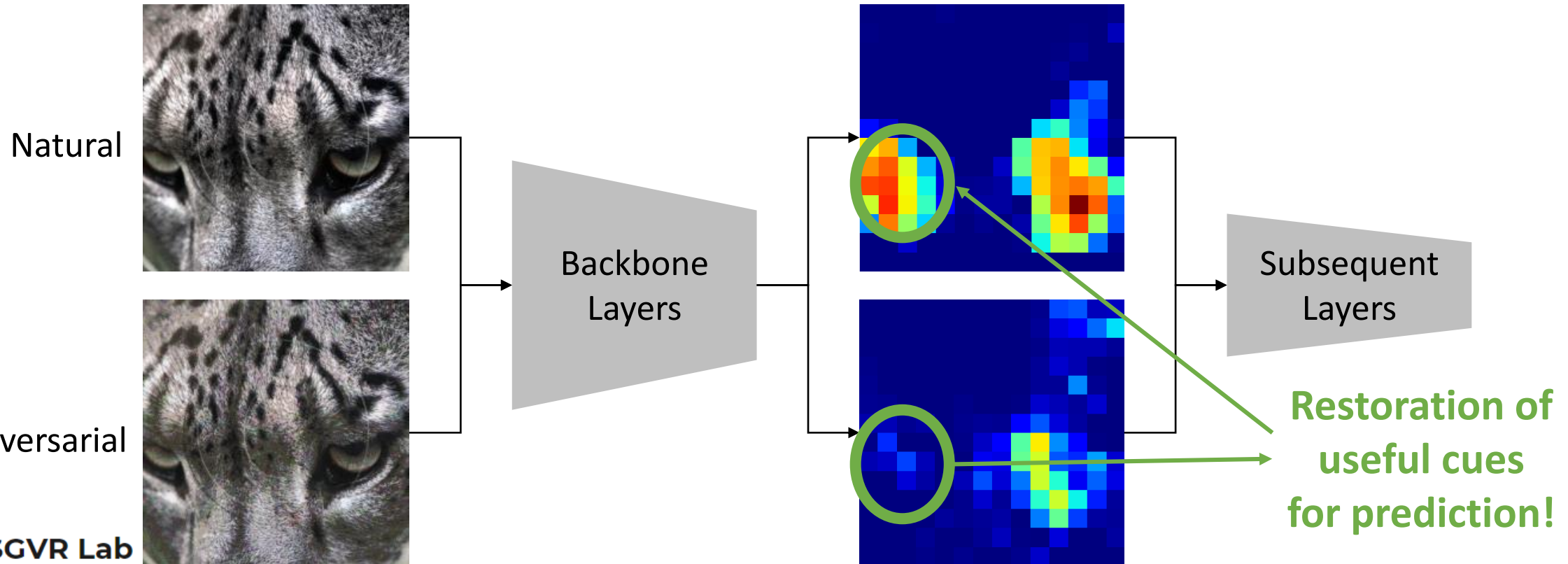
# Limitations of Conventional Defense

- Conventional defense methods *suppressed* or *deactivated* disrupted activations
- This approach can lead to *loss of potentially discriminative cues*



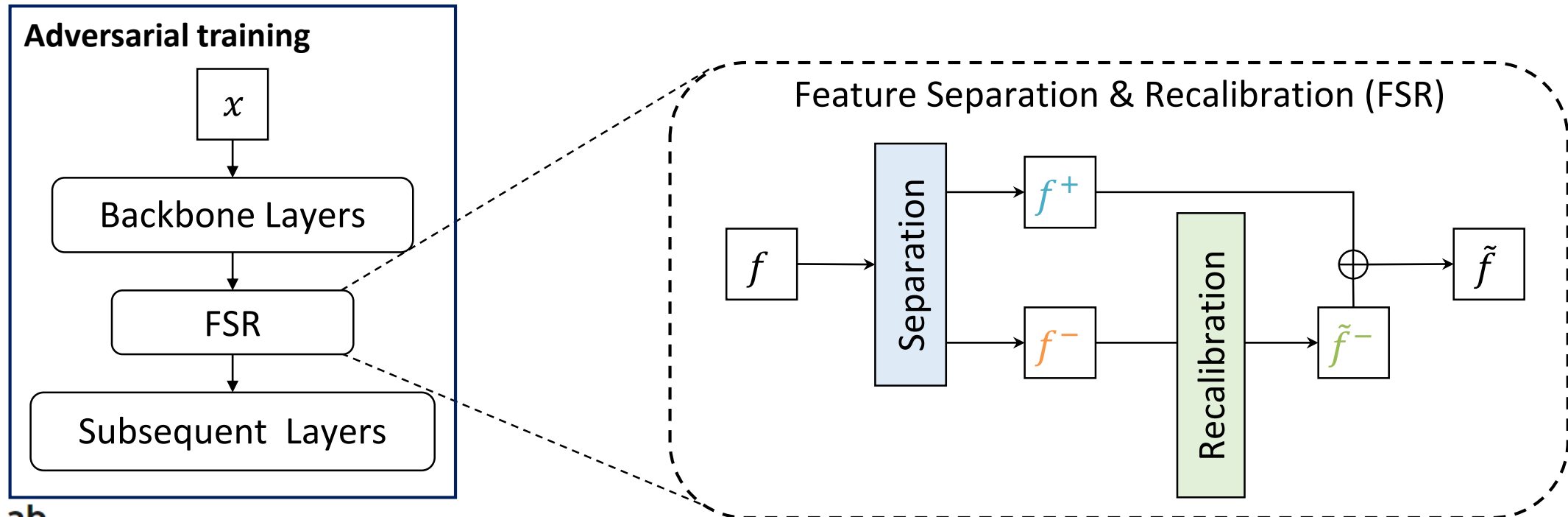
# Proposed Approach

- Instead, we propose to **restore useful cues** from these disrupted activations
- These additional useful cues **enrich** model's ability to make **correct predictions**



# Feature Separation and Recalibration (FSR)

- Robust feature  $f^+$ : Useful cues
- Non-robust feature  $f^-$ : Malicious cues responsible for mispredictions
- Recalibrated feature  $\tilde{f}^-$ : Restored useful cues



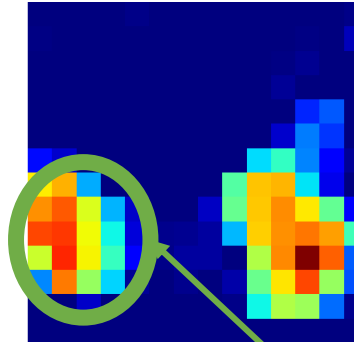
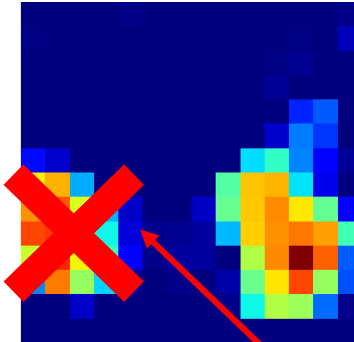
# Proposed Approach

Feature Separation and Recalibration

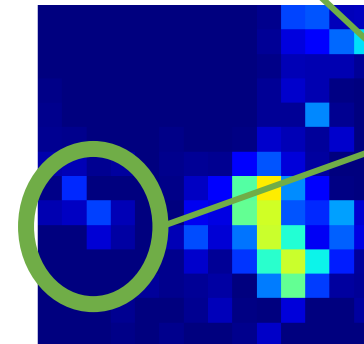
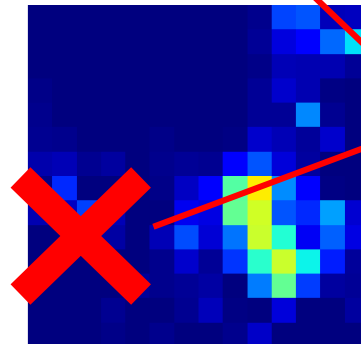
# Feature Activation Disruption upon Adversarial Attack

- Goal: Restore useful cues for correct predictions from disrupted activations
- These restored cues will provide richer information for making correct predictions

Natural



Adversarial



**Loss of  
useful cues**

**Restored  
useful cues**

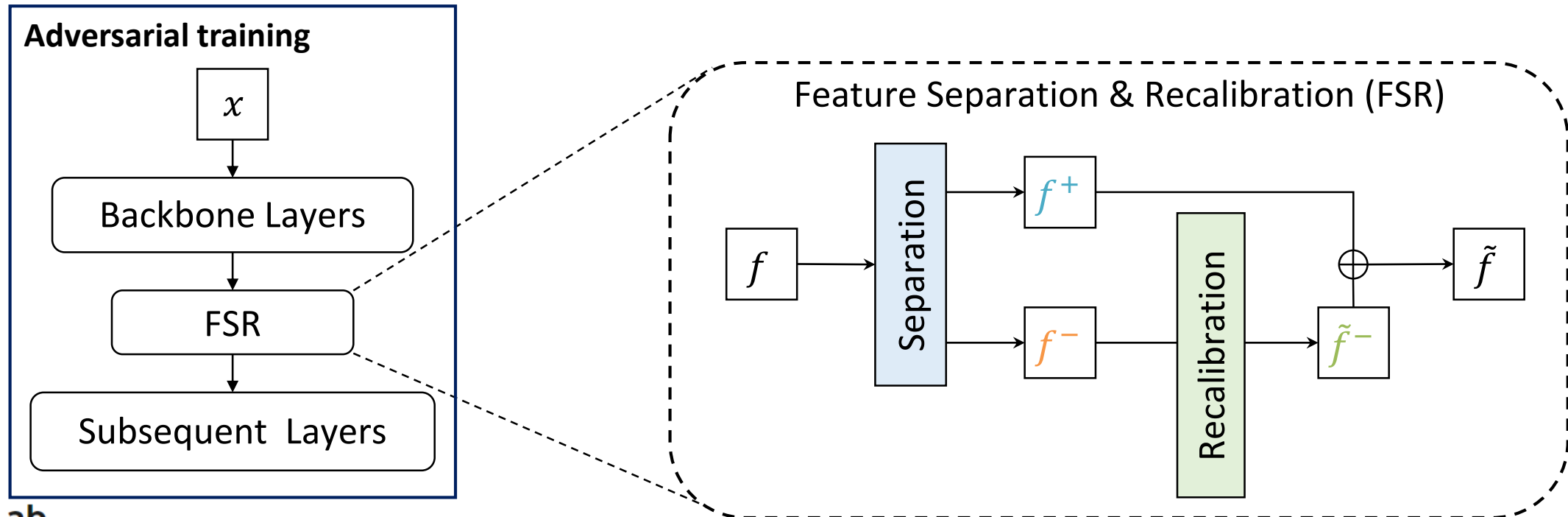
**Conventional approach**

**Our approach**



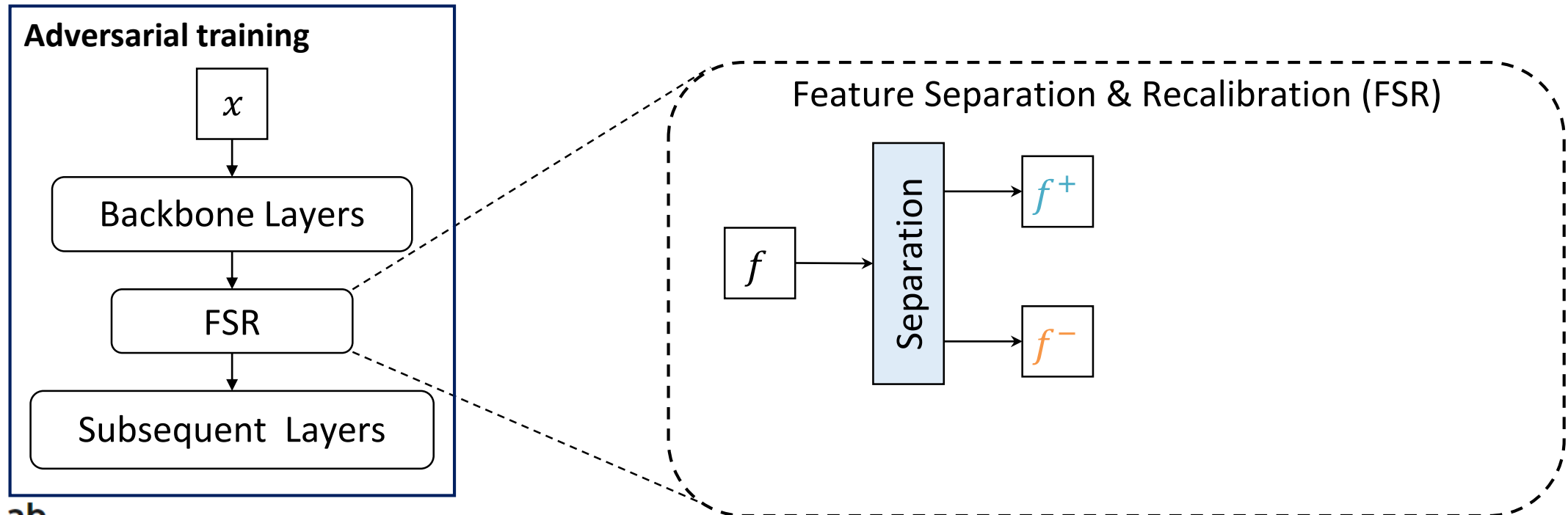
# Feature Separation and Recalibration (FSR)

- Module inserted to **any CNN model**
- Trained with **any adversarial training** technique in an **end-to-end** manner
- Recalibrates disrupted feature activations to restore useful cues for predictions



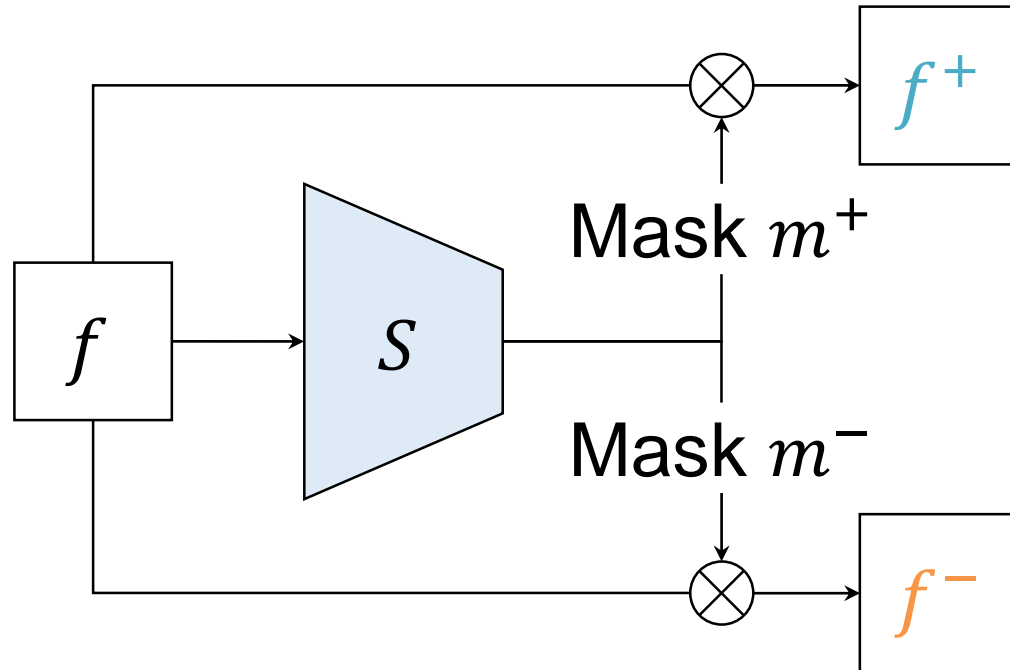
# Feature Separation

- Separation: Separate feature  $f$  into **robust feature**  $f^+$  and **non-robust feature**  $f^-$
- **Robust**  $f^+$ : Activations that provide useful cues
- **Non-robust**  $f^-$ : Activations that are responsible for model mispredictions



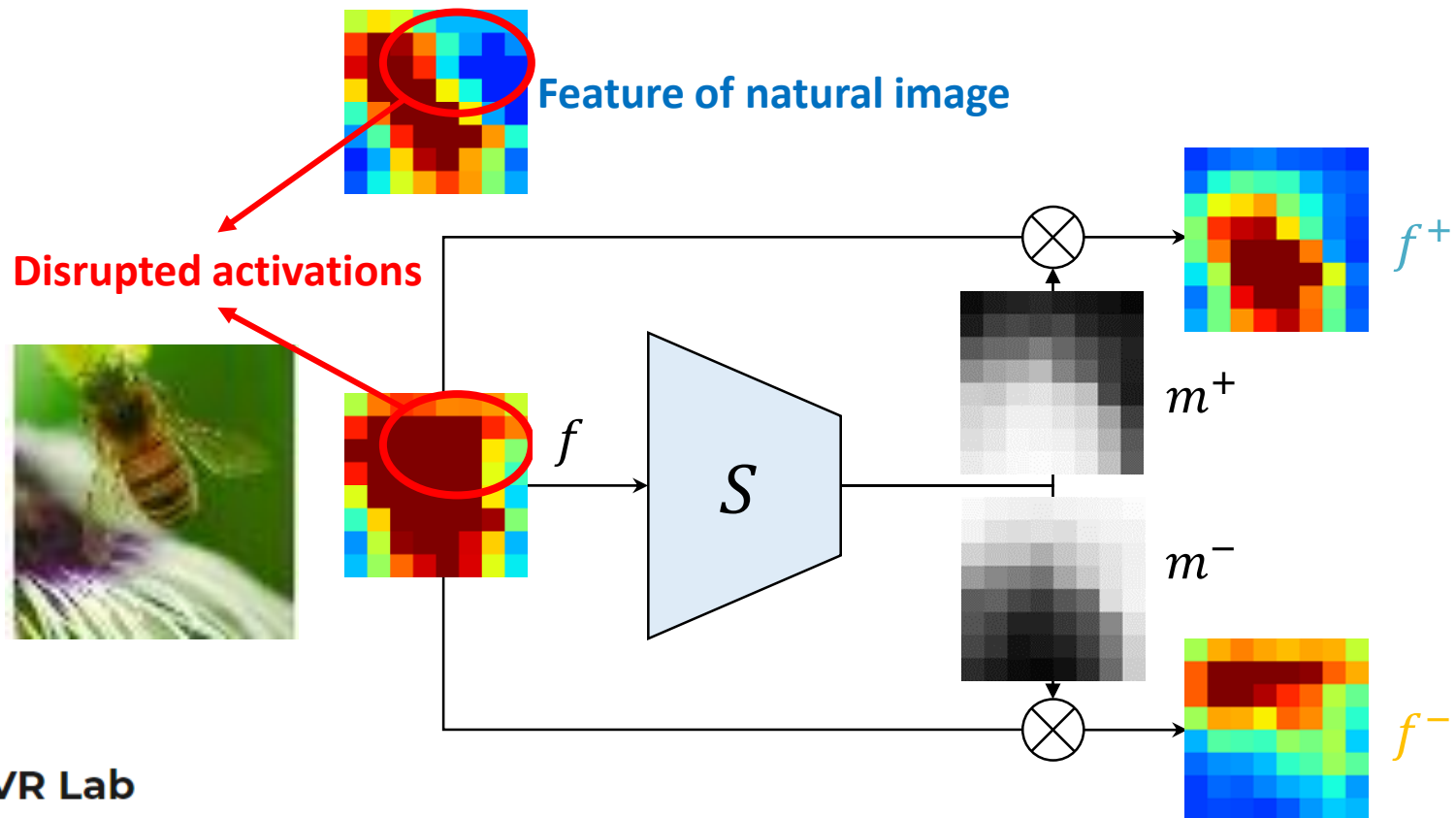
# Feature Separation

- Separation Net  $S$  learns the robustness of each activation of input feature  $f$
- We activation-wise separate the feature based on the robustness



# Feature Separation

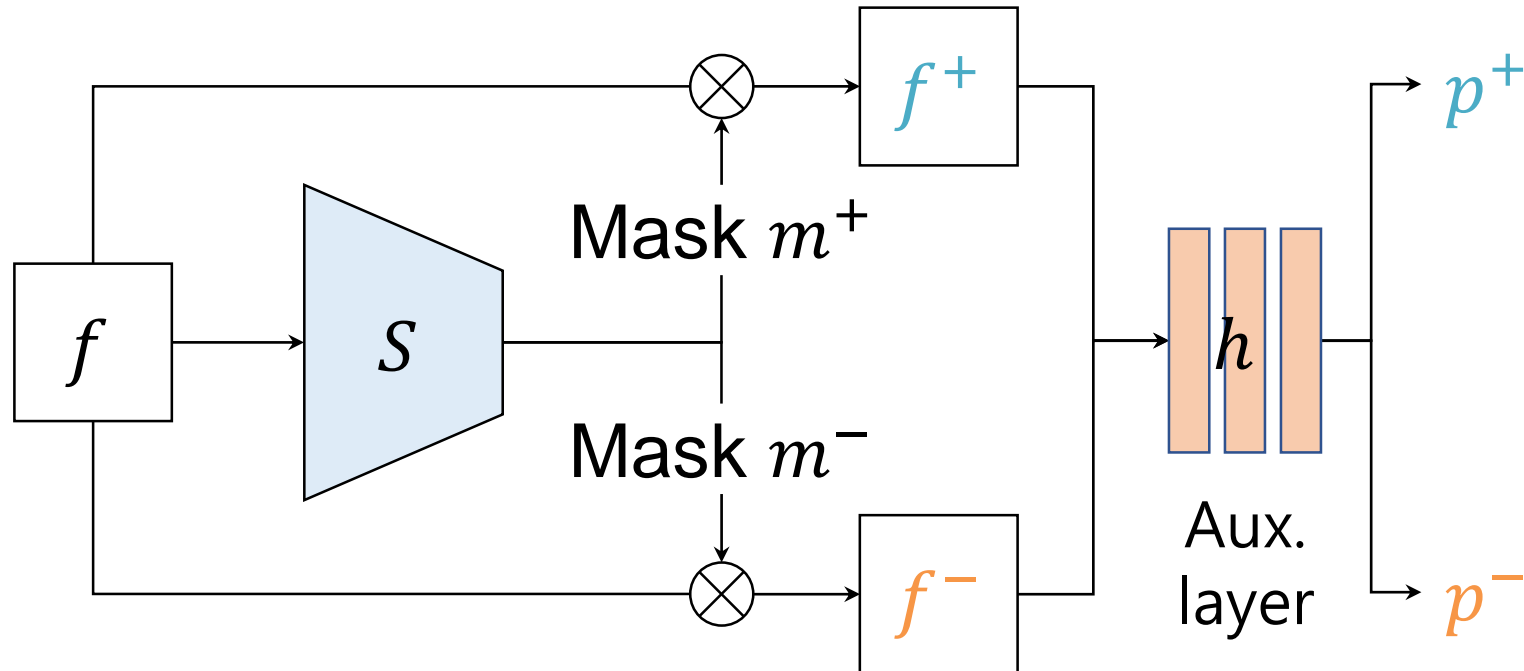
- Positive mask emphasizes activations relevant to **correct predictions**
- Negative mask emphasizes activations relevant to **mispredictions**



# Feature Separation

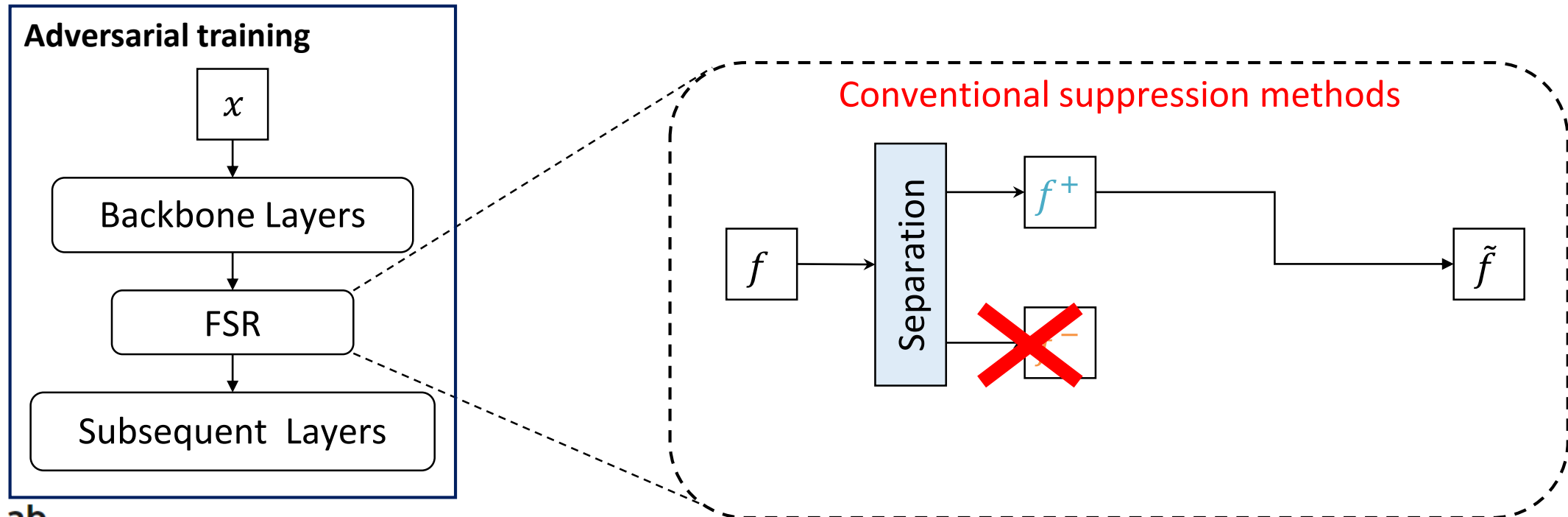
- Guide the Sep. Net  $S$  to learn robustness based on relevance to correct prediction

$$\mathcal{L}_{sep} = \underbrace{\mathcal{H}(p^+, y)}_{\text{Cross-entropy loss}} \underbrace{\phantom{\mathcal{H}(p^+, y)}}_{\text{GT label}} + \underbrace{\mathcal{H}(p^-, y')}_{} \underbrace{\phantom{\mathcal{H}(p^-, y')}}_{\text{Pred. logit}} \underbrace{\phantom{\mathcal{H}(p^-, y')}}_{\text{Wrong label}}$$



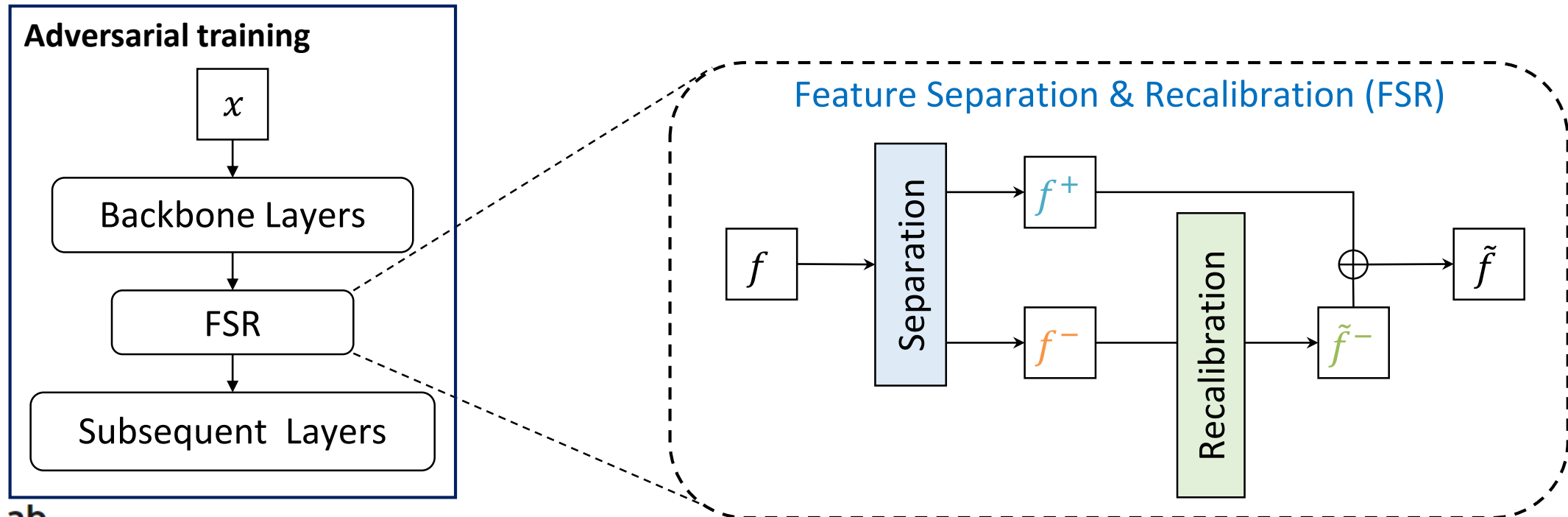
# Feature Recalibration

- Conventional methods simply suppress the **non-robust feature  $f^-$**
- This approach can ***neglect potentially useful cues*** in the non-robust feature



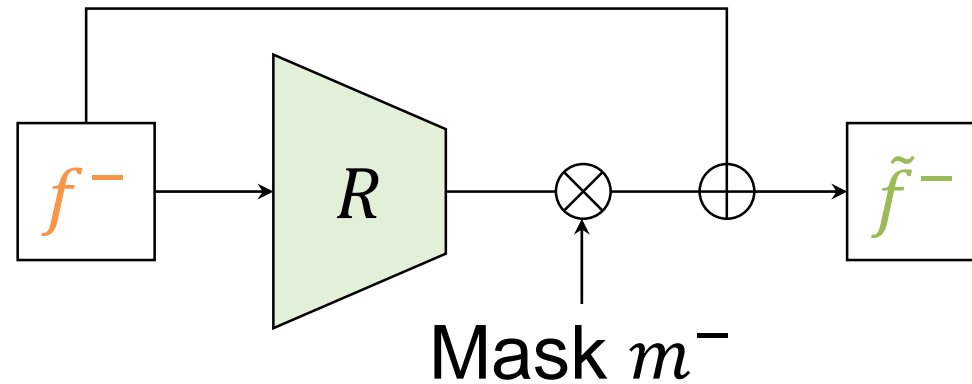
# Feature Recalibration

- Recalibration: Recalibrates **non-robust feature  $f^-$**  to restore useful cues
- **Recalibrated  $\tilde{f}^-$** : Activations with restored useful cues



# Feature Recalibration

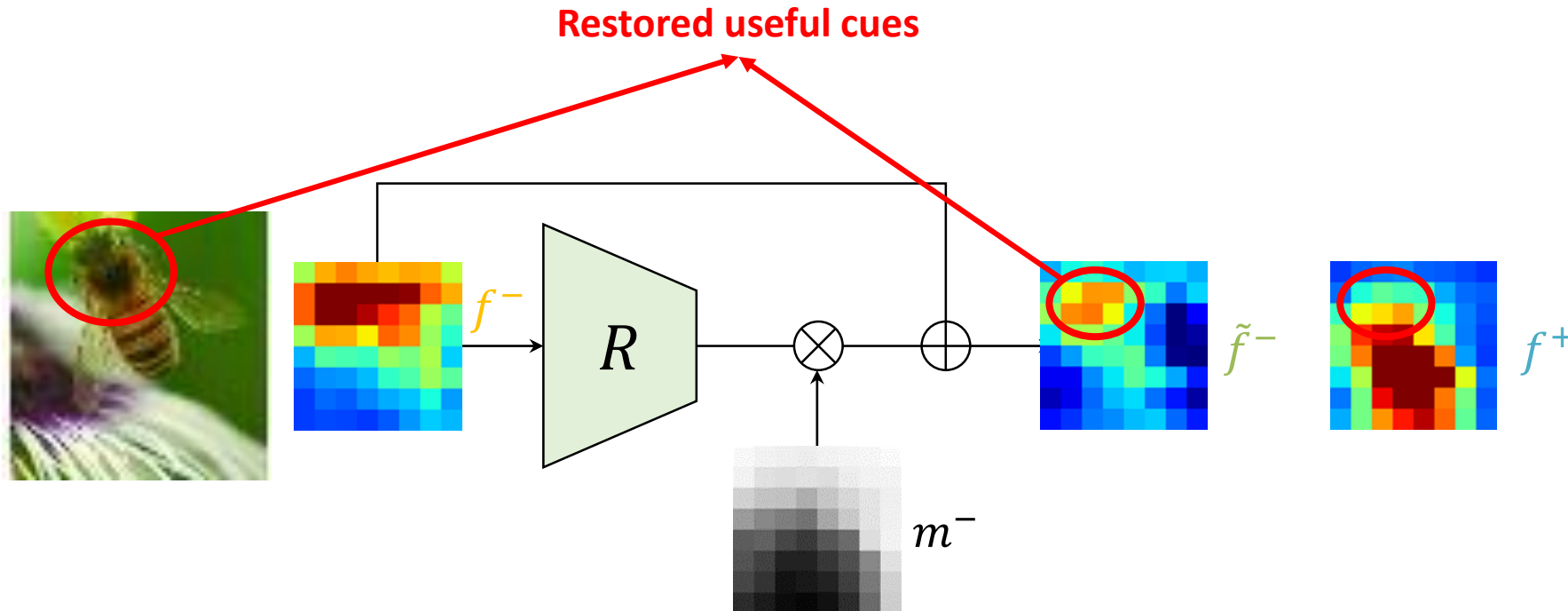
- Recalibration Net  $R$  outputs recalibrating units
- We apply the recalibrating units on the non-robust feature  $f^-$





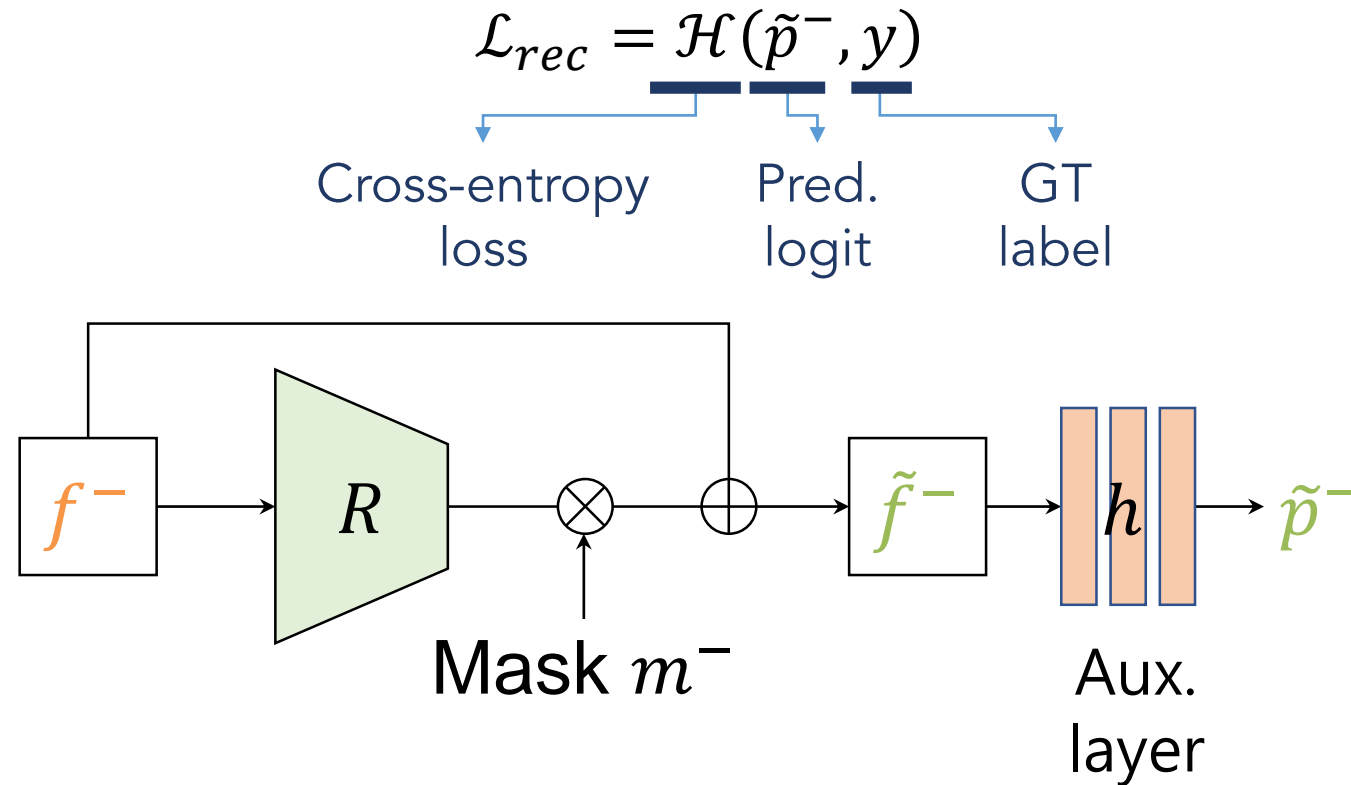
# Feature Recalibration

- Recalibration **restores useful cues** from non-robust feature
- These restored cues provide additional information for correct predictions



# Feature Recalibration

- Guide the Rec. Net  $R$  to restore useful cues relevant to correct prediction



# Training

- Can be attached to any adversarial training (AT) technique with objective  $\mathcal{L}_{cls}$

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{cls} + \lambda_{sep}\mathcal{L}_{sep} + \lambda_{rec}\mathcal{L}_{rec}$$

- Highly modularized
- Easy to plugin
- Trained in an end-to-end manner

# Experimental Evaluations

# Experimental Setups

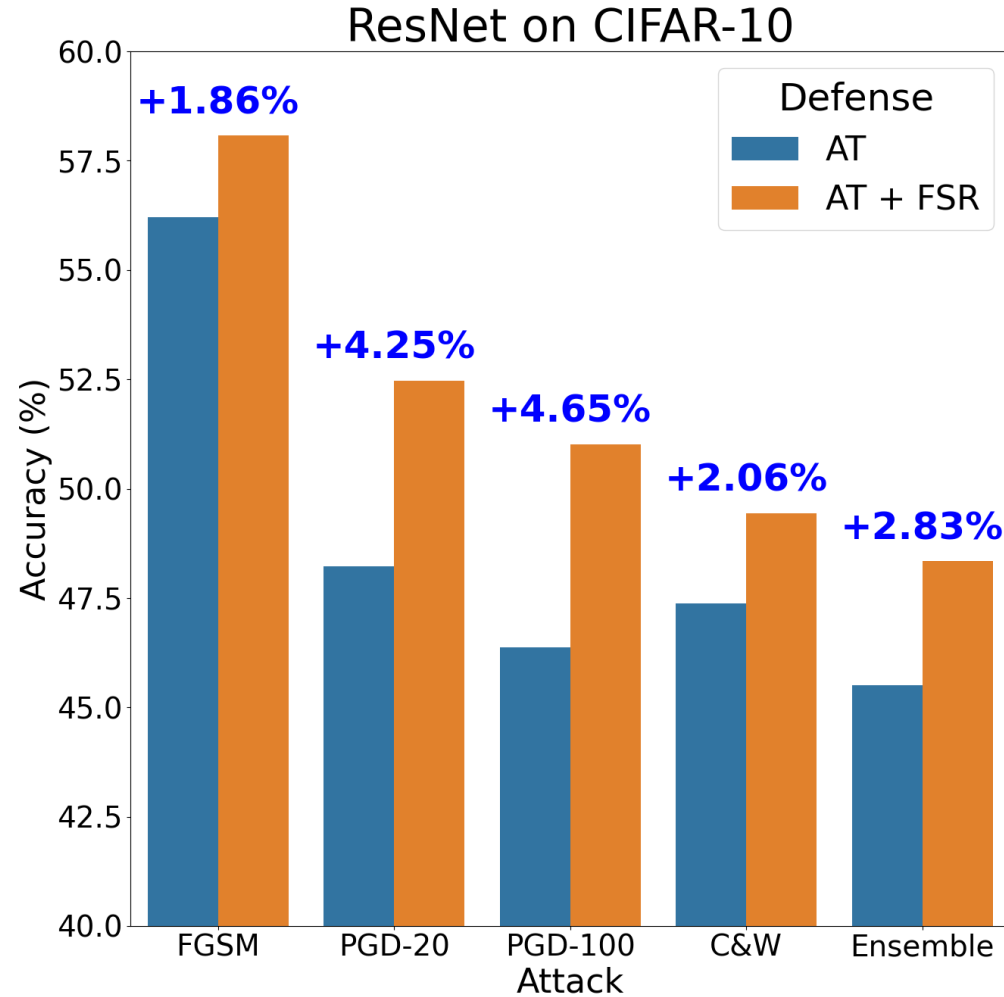
- **Baselines**
  - PGD adversarial training [1]
  - TRADES [2]
  - MART [3]
- **Datasets**
  - CIFAR-10/100
  - SVHN
  - Tiny ImageNet
- **Models**
  - ResNet18
  - VGG16
  - WideResNet-34-10

[1] Madry et al., Towards deep learning models resistant to adversarial attacks, ICLR 2018

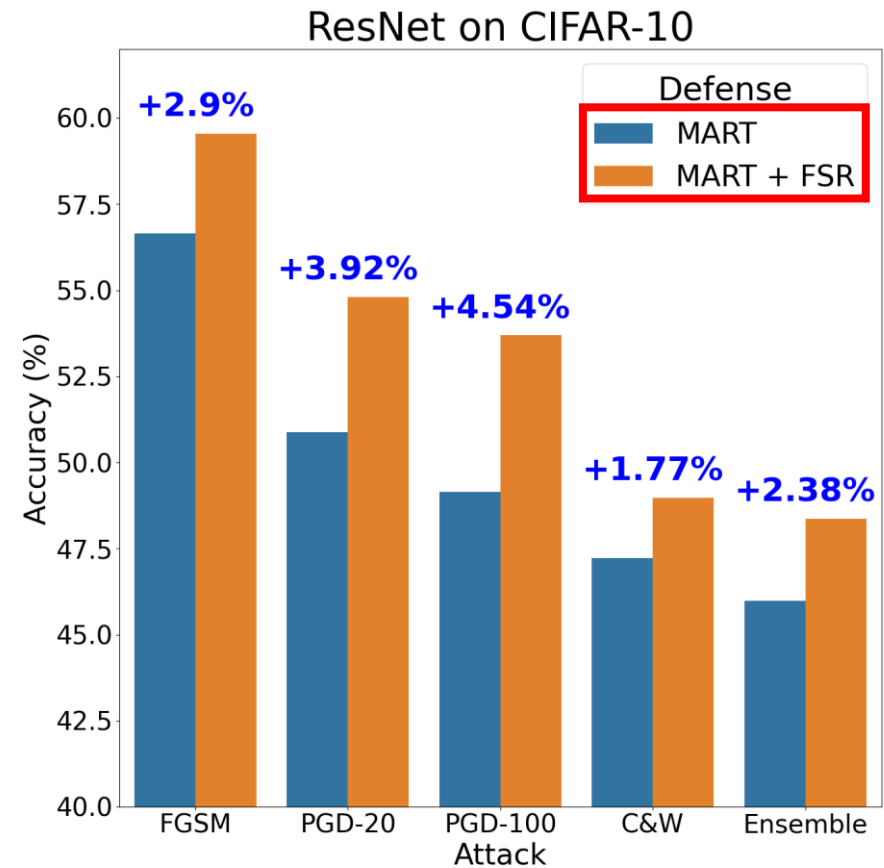
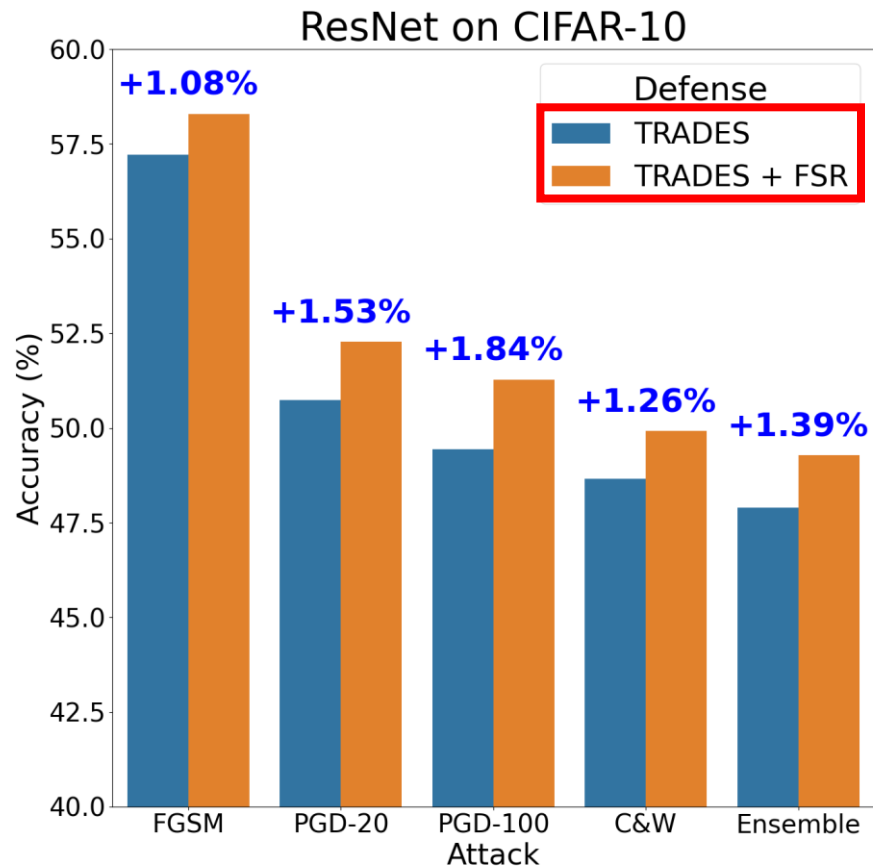
[2] Zhang et al., Theoretically principled trade-off between robustness and accuracy, ICML 2019

[3] Wang et al., Improving adversarial robustness requires revisiting misclassified examples, ICLR 2019

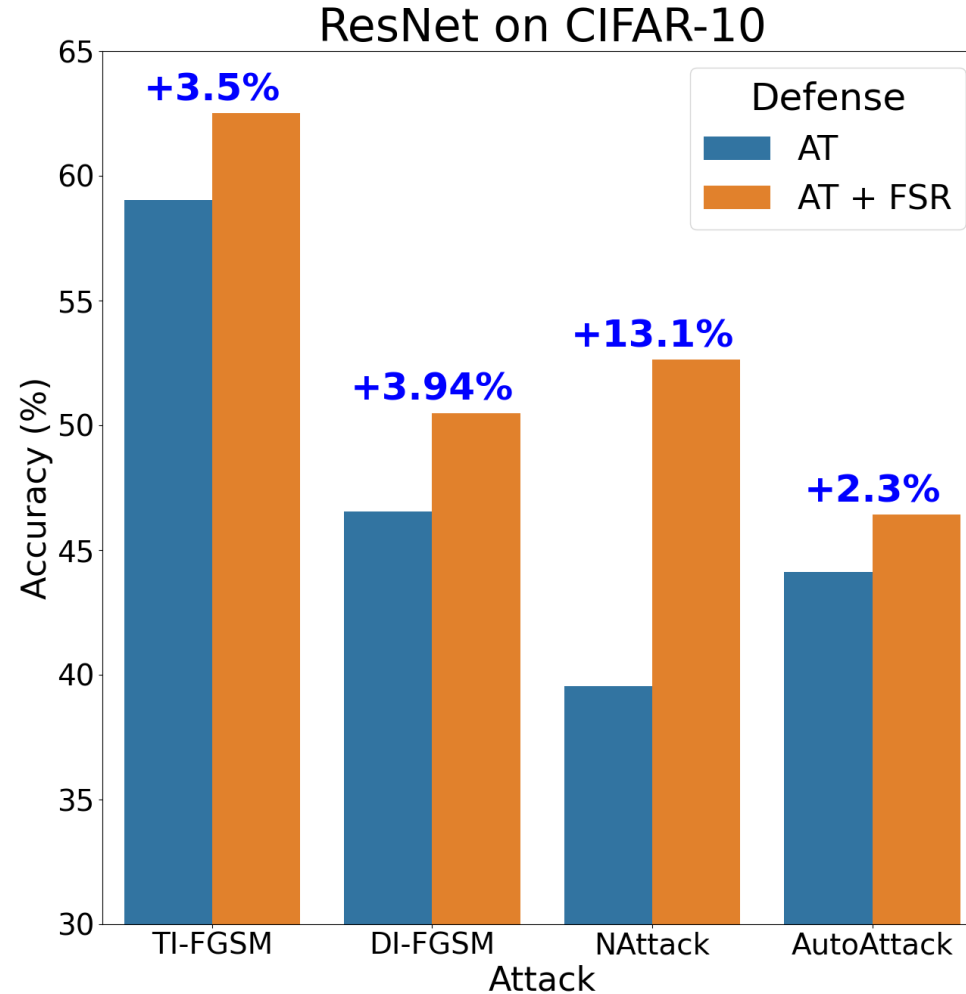
# Improving Robustness of Adversarial Training



# Improving Robustness of Adversarial Training | Different Baselines



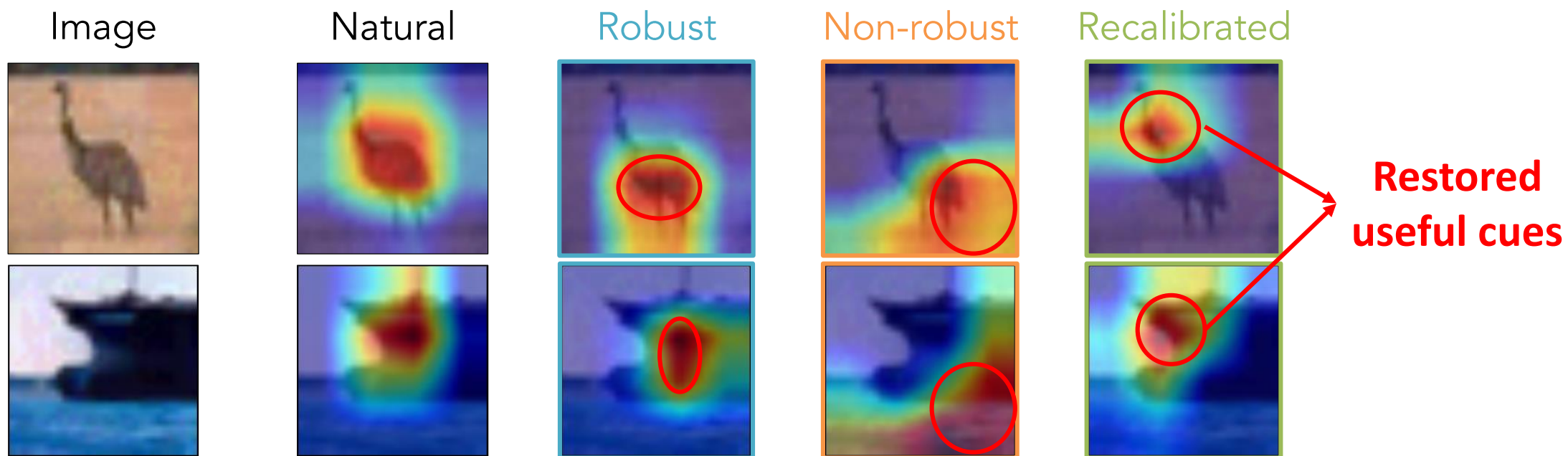
# Robustness against Black-Box Attacks and AutoAttack





# Robustness of Recalibrated Feature

Method	(a) Classification		(b) Weighted $k$ -NN	
	Ensemble	AutoAttack	5-NN	20-NN
Robust $f^+$	47.89	45.82	66.21	61.58
Non-robust $f^-$	33.11	28.39	54.69	53.89
Recalibrated $f^-$	46.93	44.52	66.34	65.64
Combined $\tilde{f}(f^+ + \tilde{f}^-)$	48.34	46.41	70.91	65.88



# Comparison w/ Conventional Methods

- Metric: Classification Accuracy (%)

	Method	Ensemble	AutoAttack
Feature Deactivation or Suppression	AT [ICLR 2018]	45.51	44.11
	FD [CVPR 2019]	45.82	44.57
	CAS [ICLR 2021]	46.46	44.23
	CIFS [ICML 2021]	47.26	43.94
	<b>FSR (Ours)</b>	<b>48.34</b>	<b>46.41</b>

# Take-home Messages

- FSR: Module to restore useful cues from disrupted features
- Highly modularized and easy-to-plugin
- Improves robustness of adversarial training-based techniques



**Github Codes**

[github.com/wkim97/FSR](https://github.com/wkim97/FSR)



**Project webpage**

[sgvr.kaist.ac.kr/~wjkim/FSR](http://sgvr.kaist.ac.kr/~wjkim/FSR)



**Paper**

<https://arxiv.org/abs/2303.13846>