# Securing Al Models: Strategies to Prevent Stealing Attacks





Al Research (AIR) Lab. School of Cybersecurity Korea University

Prof. Sangkyun Lee (sangkyun@korea.ac.kr)

86<sup>th</sup> IFIP WG10.4 Meeting July 28, 2024 (Gold Coast, Australia)



# Al Model Stealing Attacks

# **Query-Based Model Stealing Attack**



#### **Basic Idea:**

- An attacker sends his/her <u>queries</u> (like benign users) and collects the server's <u>responses</u>
- The attacker <u>trains a knockoff</u> model using the collected data

# **Attack Scenarios**

1. Avoiding query charges in future

2. A stepping stone for model inversion attack

- Stolen models could leak information about sensitive training data, violating data privacy
- [Fredrikson+, Model Inversion Attacks that Exploit Confidence Information and Basic Countermeasures, CCS 2015]
- [Song+, Machine Learning Models that Remember Too Much, CCS 2017]
- [Liu+, Unstoppable Attack: Label-Only Model Inversion via Conditional Diffusion Model, CCS 2023]



https://www.researchgate.net/figure/The-Framework-of-Model-Inversion-Attack\_fig3\_344378202

# **Model-Stealing Attack Scenarios**

- 3. A stepping stone for evasion attack
  - Stolen models can be used to construct gradient-based adversarial examples
    - [Papernot et al., Practical Black-Box Attacks against Machine Learning, ASIA CCS, 2017]



[Goodfellow+, Explaining and harnessing adversarial examples, ICLR 2015]

#### Attack based on Equation Solver

- [Tramer+, Stealing machine learning models via prediction APIs, USENIX Security 2016]
- Basic idea: equation solving
  - LR's output:

$$f_1(\mathbf{x}) = \boldsymbol{\sigma}(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x} + \boldsymbol{\beta})$$
  $\boldsymbol{\sigma}(t) = 1/(1 + e^{-t})$ 

• A linear equation:

$$\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x} + \boldsymbol{\beta} = \boldsymbol{\sigma}^{-1}(f_1(\mathbf{x}))$$

 For w ∈ R<sup>d</sup> and β ∈ R, d+1 equations are necessary and sufficient to perfectly recover w and β

# JBDA (Jacobian-Based Dataset Augmentation) Attack

- [Papernot+, Practical black-box attacks against machine learning. ASIA CCS 2017]
- Goal: creating adversarial examples using a substitute model
- Jacobian-Based Dataset Augmentation





### **Knockoff Nets**

- [Orekondy+, Knockoff nets: Stealing functionality of black-box models, CVPR 2019]
- Idea: use inputs from public datasets (e.g., ImageNet) as queries
  - So far, we've used synthetic inputs for query



# **Knockoff Nets**

Result: we can clone the victim models surprisingly well with OOD queries!

Blackbox $(F_V)$	$ \mathcal{D}_V^{ ext{train}}  +  \mathcal{D}_V^{ ext{test}} $	Output classes K
Caltech256 [11]	23.3k + 6.4k	256 general object categories
COBS200 [36] Indoor67 [26]	6k + 5.8k 14.3k + 1.3k	67 indoor scenes
Diabetic5[1]	34.1k + 1k	5 diabetic retinopathy scales

Table 1: Four victim blackboxes  $F_V$ . Each blackbox is named in the format: [dataset][# output classes].

#### Choice of P<sub>A</sub>

i.  $P_A = P_V$  (KD)

ii.  $P_A = ILSVRC$ 

- iii. P<sub>A</sub> = OpenImages (v4: 9.2M images from Flickr. A 550K subset of unique images by sampling 2k from each of 600 categories.
- iv.  $P_A = D^2$ , The universe (the dataset of datasets) all in table 1 + ILSVRC + OpenImages



# **Defense Techniques**

# **PP** (Prediction Poisoning)

ICrekondy+, Prediction poisoning: Towards defenses against DNN model stealing attacks, ICLR 2020]

- Insight: unlike a benign user, a model stealing <u>attacker additionally uses the</u> predictions to train a replica model
- Idea: introduce controlled perturbations to predictions: we can poison the attacker's training objective, especially the gradient signal



### **PP** (Prediction Poisoning)

$$\max_{\boldsymbol{a}} 2(1 - \cos \angle (\boldsymbol{a}, \boldsymbol{u})) = \max_{\hat{\boldsymbol{a}}} ||\hat{\boldsymbol{a}} - \hat{\boldsymbol{u}}||_2^2$$

Maximum angular deviation (MAD)

$$\begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{u} = -\nabla_{\boldsymbol{w}} L(F(\boldsymbol{x}; \boldsymbol{w}), \boldsymbol{y}) = \nabla_{\boldsymbol{w}} \sum_{k} y_{k} \log F(\boldsymbol{x}; \boldsymbol{w})_{k} = \sum_{k} y_{k} \nabla_{\boldsymbol{w}} \log F(\boldsymbol{x}; \boldsymbol{w})_{k} = \boldsymbol{G}^{T} \boldsymbol{y} \\ \boldsymbol{u} = -\nabla_{\boldsymbol{w}} L(F(\boldsymbol{x}; \boldsymbol{w}), \tilde{\boldsymbol{y}}) = \nabla_{\boldsymbol{w}} \sum_{k} \tilde{y}_{k} \log F(\boldsymbol{x}; \boldsymbol{w})_{k} = \sum_{k} \tilde{y}_{k} \nabla_{\boldsymbol{w}} \log F(\boldsymbol{x}; \boldsymbol{w})_{k} = \boldsymbol{G}^{T} \tilde{\boldsymbol{y}} \end{bmatrix}$$

 $\max_{\tilde{\boldsymbol{y}}} \quad \left\| \frac{\boldsymbol{G}^{T} \tilde{\boldsymbol{y}}}{\|\boldsymbol{G}^{T} \tilde{\boldsymbol{y}}\|_{2}} - \frac{\boldsymbol{G}^{T} \boldsymbol{y}}{\|\boldsymbol{G}^{T} \boldsymbol{y}\|_{2}} \right\|_{2}^{2}$ where  $\boldsymbol{G} = \nabla_{\boldsymbol{w}} \log F(\boldsymbol{x}; \boldsymbol{w})$ s.t  $\tilde{\boldsymbol{y}} \in \Delta^{K}$   $\operatorname{dist}(\boldsymbol{y}, \tilde{\boldsymbol{y}}) \leq \epsilon$   $\operatorname{arg\,max}_{k} \tilde{\boldsymbol{y}}_{k} = \operatorname{arg\,max}_{k} \boldsymbol{y}_{k}$ 



 $\mathop{\mathrm{argmax}}_{\tilde{\boldsymbol{y}}} \, \boldsymbol{\theta} \quad \mathrm{s.t} \quad \mathrm{dist}(\boldsymbol{y}, \tilde{\boldsymbol{y}}) \leq \epsilon$ 

### Attacks vs. PP



[Juuti+, PRADA: Protecting against DNN Model Stealing Attacks, EuroS&P 2019

- Curves are obtained by varying degree of perturbation ε
- MAD provides reasonable operating points (above the diagonal), where defender achieves significantly higher test accuracies compared to the attacker

# AM (Adaptive Misinformation)

[Kariyappa+, Defending against model stealing attacks with adaptive misinformation, CVPR 2020]



- All existing attacks invariably generate Out-Of-Distribution (OOD) queries
- Low MSP values indicate OOD data
  - [Hendrycks & Gimpel. A baseline for detect ing misclassified and out-of-distribution examples in neural networks, ICLR 2017]

# AM (Adaptive Misinformation)

- AM selectively sends incorrect predictions for queries that are deemed OOD
- ID queries are serviced with correct predictions



#### 1) OOD detector

 $Det(x) = \begin{cases} ID & \text{if } \max_i(y_i) > \tau \\ OOD & otherwise \end{cases}$ 

2) Model training with outlier exposure

 $\mathbb{E}_{(x,y)\in\mathcal{D}_{\text{in}}}\left[\mathcal{L}\left(f\left(x\right),y\right)\right]+\lambda\mathbb{E}_{x'\in\mathcal{D}_{\text{out}}}\left[\mathcal{L}\left(f\left(x'\right),\mathcal{U}\right)\right]$ 

3) Misinformation function *f* uniform dist
: trained to minimize the probability of the correct class f(x,y)

 $loss = \mathbb{E}_{(x,y)\in\mathcal{D}_{in}}\left[-log(1-\hat{f}(x,y))\right]$ 

4) Adaptive misinformation injection

 $y' = (1 - \alpha)f(x;\theta) + (\alpha)\hat{f}(x;\hat{\theta}) \qquad \begin{cases} \alpha < 0.5 & \text{if ID: } y_{max} > \tau \\ \alpha > 0.5 & \text{if OOD: } y_{max} < \tau \end{cases}$  $S(z) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{\nu z}}$ 

### **Defender vs Clone Accuracy**



### **EDM: Ensemble of Diverse Models**

[Kariyappa+, Protecting DNNs from theft using an ensemble of diverse models, ICLR 2021]

• Use an ensemble of N models that have maximum output variety for OOD inputs



#### **EDM: Ensemble of Diverse Models**



$$coherence(\{\tilde{\boldsymbol{y}}_i\}_{i=1}^N) = \max_{\substack{a,b \in \{1,..,N\}\\a \neq b}} CS(\tilde{\boldsymbol{y}}_a, \tilde{\boldsymbol{y}}_b).$$

$$DivLoss(\{\tilde{\boldsymbol{y}}_i\}_{i=1}^N) = \log\left(\sum_{1 \le a < b \le N} \exp(CS(\tilde{\boldsymbol{y}}_a, \tilde{\boldsymbol{y}}_b))\right)$$

 $Coherence(\{y_i\}_{i=1}^3) = Cos(\theta_2)$ 

 $\mathcal{L} = \underset{x,y \sim \mathcal{D}_{in}, \tilde{x} \sim \mathcal{D}_{out}}{\mathbb{E}} \begin{bmatrix} \left(\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \mathcal{L}_{CE}(\hat{y}_i, y)\right) + \lambda_D \cdot DivLoss(\{\tilde{y}_i\}_{i=1}^{N}) \end{bmatrix}$ where  $\hat{y}_i = f_i(x), \quad \tilde{y}_i = f_i(\tilde{x}).$ 

#### Problems in PP?

$$\begin{cases} \boldsymbol{u} = -\nabla_{\boldsymbol{w}} L(F(\boldsymbol{x}; \boldsymbol{w}), \boldsymbol{y}) = \nabla_{\boldsymbol{w}} \sum_{k} y_{k} \log F(\boldsymbol{x}; \boldsymbol{w})_{k} = \sum_{k} y_{k} \nabla_{\boldsymbol{w}} \log F(\boldsymbol{x}; \boldsymbol{w})_{k} = \boldsymbol{G}^{T} \boldsymbol{y} \\ \boldsymbol{u} = -\nabla_{\boldsymbol{w}} L(F(\boldsymbol{x}; \boldsymbol{w}), \tilde{\boldsymbol{y}}) = \nabla_{\boldsymbol{w}} \sum_{k} \tilde{y}_{k} \log F(\boldsymbol{x}; \boldsymbol{w})_{k} = \sum_{k} \tilde{y}_{k} \nabla_{\boldsymbol{w}} \log F(\boldsymbol{x}; \boldsymbol{w})_{k} = \boldsymbol{G}^{T} \tilde{\boldsymbol{y}} \end{cases}$$

Attacker's Loss Landscape



#### the victim model's gradient

It should be written as:  $a = -\nabla_w L(F_A(x; w_A), \tilde{y}) = G_A^T \tilde{y}$ argmax  $\theta$  s.t.  $\operatorname{dist}(y, \tilde{y}) \leq \epsilon$ But instead, the authors assumed that the defender knows the attacker's AI model

# Problems in AM ?



#### 1) OOD detector

$$Det(x) = \begin{cases} ID & \text{if } \max_i(y_i) > \tau \\ OOD & otherwise \end{cases}$$

4) Adaptive misinformation injection

$$y' = (1 - \alpha)f(x;\theta) + (\alpha)\hat{f}(x;\hat{\theta}) \begin{cases} \alpha < 0.5 & \text{if ID: } y_{max} > \tau \\ \alpha > 0.5 & \text{if OOD: } y_{max} < \tau \end{cases}$$

$$S(z) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{\nu z}}$$

Running the authors' github code, the OOD detector is perfect ( $\alpha$  is 0 for ID and 1 for OOD inputs)

They used attack queries used in experiments to train the OOD detector!

# Problems in EDM

Knowledge of OOD data (= attack queries) is assumed

Otherwise, we found that EDM loses its defense capability

$$\mathcal{L} = \underset{x, y \sim \mathcal{D}_{in}}{\mathbb{E}} \left[ \left( \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \mathcal{L}_{CE}(\hat{\boldsymbol{y}}_i, \boldsymbol{y}) \right) + \lambda_D \cdot DivLoss(\{\tilde{\boldsymbol{y}}_i\}_{i=1}^{N}) \right]$$
  
where  $\hat{y}_i = f_i(x), \quad \tilde{y}_i = f_i(\tilde{x}).$ 

#### Model Stealing Defense against Exploiting Information Leak through the Interpretation of Deep Neural Nets

Jeonghyun Lee, Sungmin Han, Sangkyun Lee\*



School of Cybersecurity Korea University, South Korea

IJCAI-22



# Model Stealing Attack



24

# Proposed Method: DeepDefense

#### Idea:

1) Build a <u>misdirection model</u>  $\tilde{f}$  of the victim f for each query  $x_q$ 



- $\tilde{f}(x_q; \tilde{w}) \approx f(x_q; w)$ : Keep the order of top-k softmax indices
- $\nabla_w \tilde{f}(x_q; \tilde{w}) \perp \nabla_w f(x_q; w)$



$$\nabla_{\mathbf{w}} f(\mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{q}}; \mathbf{w}) \perp \nabla_{\widetilde{\mathbf{w}}} \tilde{f}(\mathbf{x}_{\mathbf{q}}; \widetilde{\mathbf{w}})$$

top1

 $\tilde{f}(x_q; \tilde{w})$ 

#### Preserve: Top-k Softmax Order



**Preserve: Attribution Order** 



2) Reveal only the outputs from the misdirection model, to all users

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Misdirection} \\ \text{Model } \widetilde{f} \end{array} \qquad \qquad \widetilde{f}(x_q; \widetilde{w}) \\ \\ \widetilde{I}(x_q; \widetilde{w}) \end{array}$$

### **Gradients in Parts**

**Observation:** parts of gradients have different flexibility to be used for perturbation



#### **Gradient Misdirection**

The misdirection model is required to have gradients orthogonal to the gradients of the original model:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \nabla_{\widetilde{w}_B}\widetilde{f}(x_q;\widetilde{w})_y \perp \nabla_{w_B}f(x_q;w)_y & \text{Bottom part} \\ \nabla_{\widetilde{w}_T}\widetilde{f}(x_q;\widetilde{w})_y \perp \nabla_{w_T}f(x_q;w)_y & \text{Top part} \\ & & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & &$$

We reformulate this as follows (with a hyperparameter  $0 \le \alpha \le 1$ ):

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{orth}}(x_q, \widetilde{w}) := \alpha \left| \cos \angle (\nabla_{w_B} f(x_q; w)_y, \nabla_{\widetilde{w}_B} \widetilde{f}(x_q; \widetilde{w})_y) \right|$$
$$+ (1 - \alpha) \left| \cos \angle (\nabla_{w_T} f(x_q; w)_y, \nabla_{\widetilde{w}_T} \widetilde{f}(x_q; \widetilde{w})_y) \right|$$

#### Learning the Misdirection Model

#### **Constrained Optimization Problem**

$$\min_{\tilde{w}} \mathcal{L}_{\text{orth}}(x_q, \tilde{w}) := \alpha \left| \cos \angle (\nabla_{w_B} f(x_q; w)_y, \nabla_{\tilde{w}_B} \tilde{f}(x_q; \tilde{w})_y) \right| + (1 - \alpha) \left| \cos \angle (\nabla_{w_T} f(x_q; w)_y, \nabla_{\tilde{w}_T} \tilde{f}(x_q; \tilde{w})_y) \right|$$

s.t.  $\tilde{f}(x_q; \tilde{w})_{s_1} \ge \dots \ge \tilde{f}(x_q; \tilde{w})_{s_k} \ge \max_{j \in S'} \tilde{f}(x_q; \tilde{w})_j$ .  $\longrightarrow$  Functionality preservation

•  $s_i$ : the index of *i*-th largest value in the original softmax vector

• 
$$S' \coloneqq \{1, \dots, K\} \setminus \{s_1, \dots, s_k\}$$

 $\tilde{I}(x_q; \tilde{w})_{a_1} \ge \tilde{I}(x_q; \tilde{w})_{a_2} \ge \cdots \ge \tilde{I}(x_q; \tilde{w})_{a_{H \times W}}. \longrightarrow \text{Interpretability preservation}$ 

- $a_i$ : the index of *i*-th largest value attribution in the original attribution map
- $H \times W$ : the size of attribution maps

### **Reformulation into an Unconstrained Optimization**

$$\mathcal{L}_{\rm DD}(x_q, \tilde{w}) := \mathcal{L}_{\rm orth}(x_q, \tilde{w}) + \lambda_1 \mathcal{L}_{\rm pred}(x_q, \tilde{w}) + \lambda_2 \mathcal{L}_{\rm int}(x_q, \tilde{w})$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{pred}}(x_{q}; \tilde{w}) := \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} (\tilde{f}(x_{q}; \tilde{w})_{s_{i+1}} - \tilde{f}(x_{q}; \tilde{w})_{s_{i}})^{+} \qquad (z)^{+} := \max\{z, 0\}$$
$$+ \left( \max_{j \in \{1, \dots, K\} \setminus \{s_{1}, \dots, s_{k}\}} \tilde{f}(x_{q}; \tilde{w})_{j} - \tilde{f}(x_{q}; \tilde{w})_{s_{k}} \right)^{+}$$
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{int}}(x_{q}, \tilde{w}) := \sum_{i=1}^{H \times W - 1} \mathcal{L}\left( (\tilde{I}(x_{q}; \tilde{w})_{a_{i+1}} - \tilde{I}(x_{q}; \tilde{w})_{a_{i}}^{+} \right)$$

• Solver: SGD with momentum

### **Sparse Layer Selection**

For speed-up, we use only the parts of gradients corresponding to the most sensitivity <u>layers</u> to the model's output

Layer sensitivity : 
$$S_{\ell} \coloneqq \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} ||\nabla_{w_{\ell}} f(x_i; w)_{y_i}||_1$$

 $\{(x_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^N$ : a part of training data for sensitivity evaluation

 $S_{(1)} \geq S_{(2)} \geq \cdots \geq S_{(L)}$ 

Cumulative sensitivity : 
$$CS(\ell) \coloneqq \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{\ell} S_{(i)}}{\sum_{i=1}^{L} S_{(i)}} \times 100 \ (\%)$$

sensitive layers



# Defense Performance (Attacker's Test Accuracy)



Our method (DD) outperformed SOTA defense methods against model stealing

### **Computational Cost**

#### **Relevance-CAM / Flowers17 dataset / ResNet-18**

l	CS (%)	# layers	$f_A$ Test Acc (%) PP DD		Run time (sec) PP DD	
9	90 70 50	8 4 2	60.66	8.82 11.76 10.29	0.23	1.53 1.04 0.65
13	90 70 50	7 4 2	61.76	8.09 8.82 10.29	0.21	1.41 0.97 0.60
17	90 70 50	8 6 3	62.13	9.19 8.98 11.40	0.21	1.47 1.38 0.73

The activation layer used for Relevance-CAM

DD showed consistent defense performance on the change of cumulative sensitivity, with reasonable computation time

# **Preservation of Interpretation Quality**

#### Quantitative

Avg Drop = 
$$\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} (y_i^c - \tilde{y}_i^c) / y_i^c$$

 $y_i^c$ : score on the original input  $\tilde{y}_i^c$ : score on the top p% attribution region

Dataset	Grad-	Grad-CAM		Rel-CAM		Grad ⊙ Input	
	Avg Drop I	Avg Drop $\widetilde{I}$	Avg Drop I	Avg Drop $\widetilde{I}$	Avg Drop I	Avg Drop $\widetilde{I}$	
MNIST	0.7888±0.3691	0.7587±0.4091	0.5621±0.4980	0.5425±0.5019	$0.5670 \pm 0.4020$	0.5613±0.4024	
KMNIS'	Γ 0.7135±0.2834	$0.6889 \pm 0.3169$	$0.7516 \pm 0.2909$	$0.7260 \pm 0.3962$	$0.5815 \pm 0.3591$	$0.6067 \pm 0.3499$	
CIFAR-1	0 0.7622±0.3558	0.7753±0.3779	$0.7365 \pm 0.3882$	$0.7042 \pm 0.3761$	$0.8647 \pm 0.2859$	$0.8588 \pm 0.2869$	
Flowers-	17 0.5130±0.3018	$0.5152 \pm 0.3078$	$0.5033 \pm 0.3140$	$0.5046 \pm 0.3140$	$0.8287 \pm 0.2249$	$0.8256 \pm 0.2304$	
CUBS-20	$0.5593 \pm 0.4002$	$0.5747 \pm 0.4181$	$0.5649 \pm 0.4027$	$0.5934 \pm 0.4260$	$0.9581 \pm 0.1493$	0.9647±0.1307	

No statistically significant difference in interpretation quality between the original and misdirected interpretations

#### **Qualitative (Grad-CAM)**



The focused areas are preserved

# **Performance Measures**

How well two AI models (two functions) are matched?

The test is point-wise: if we test only these points, we may conclude that the two models match well



### **Performance Measures**

- Fidelity Measures
  - <u>ID point-wise error</u>: low test error implies that  $\hat{f}$  matches f well for inputs distributed like the training samples

$$R_{\text{test}}(f,\hat{f}) = \sum_{(\mathbf{x},y)\in D} d(f(\mathbf{x}),\hat{f}(\mathbf{x}))/|D|$$

• <u>OOD point-wise error</u>: for a set U of random vectors uniformly chosen in the input space,

$$R_{\text{unif}}(f,\hat{f}) = \sum_{\mathbf{x}\in U} d(f(\mathbf{x}),\hat{f}(\mathbf{x})) / |U|$$

- $R_{unif}$  estimates the fraction of the full feature space on which  $\hat{f}$  and f disagree
- |U| = 10,000 was sufficiently large to obtain stable error estimates for the models we analyzed
- In the above, distances are measured for the 0-1 decisions
  - Class probability comparisons are denoted by  $R^{TV}_{test}$  and  $R^{TV}_{unif}$
- Recent papers tend to compare <u>test accuracy rates</u> between the victim and the clone models

# Conclusion

- Model stealing is a critical issue for <u>AI model deployment</u>:
  - Attackers can steal our AI models, with relatively cheap cost
  - Stolen models can be used for secondary attacks, e.g., evasion or model inversion attacks
- Attacks: Tramer, JBDA, KnockoffNet, ActiveThief, ..., SwiftThief (IJCAI 2024)
- Defenses: PP, AM, EDM, ..., DeepDefense (IJCAI, 2022)
- XAI
  - Could be a new attack surface for model stealers
  - May provide valuable information of Al's vulnerabilities.
  - Libra-CAM (IJCAI, 2022): SOTA on CNN
- Other works: LLM-based S/W vulnerability repair & deobfuscation, security for robot AI

#### Thank You!

Sangkyun Lee (sangkyun@korea.ac.kr)