AnoMed Seminar



ESFANDIAR MOHAMMADI UNIVERSITÄT ZU LÜBECK INSTITUTE FOR IT-SECURITY PRIVACY & SECURITY GROUP

II May 2023

AnoMed Seminar

- Joint seminar series of the AnoMed partners: every other Thursday, 11:00 11:50
 - 50 minutes, 30 40 minutes talk, 10 20 minutes discussion
- Each partner presents challenges (phase I) and existing / initial results (phase II)
 - Hopefully that sparks collaboration beyond the promised results
- We coordinate
 - requirements analysis (Anforderungsanalyse)
 - adjust project goals and timelines
 - plan congress / conferences
 - project reports
- Today:
 - Privacy challenges in machine learning & initial results (Esfandiar Mohammadi)
 - Initial results & paper: defending against privacy attacks in video classification (Nele Brügge)



- Next big event
 - Together with KI-SIGS (which will take place at another day)
- Date: 12, 13, or 14 September 2023
- Plan: each partner presents initial results
- We also invited 4 associated anonymity projects (from the Forschungsnetzwerk Anonymität)





REPETITION: PRIVACY ATTACKS BASED ON CONFIDENCE

- REPETITION: PRIVACY ATTACKS BASED ON BOUNDARY DISTANCE
- **REPETITION: LOSS-BASED ATTACK**
- **REPETITION: RECONSTRUCTING TRAINING DATA POINTS**
- PRIVACY ATTACKS ON LARGE LANGUAGE MODELS



Membership Inference -- Model Confident on Training Data



- Data points used during training (member)
- Data points not used during training (non-member) lacksquare



bars more pronounced for trainings data (likelihood vector has low entropy)







Less Confident on Non-Training Data





- Data points used during training (member)
- Data points not used during training (non-member)



bars less pronounced for trainings data (likelihood vector has higher entropy)







Goal: Attacker model as a binary classifier



• Goal: Given black-box access, upon receiving the likelihood vector, distinguish members from non-members



Do we need the training data?











• Goal: Given black-box access, upon receiving the likelihood vector, distinguish members from non-members



Can we use the related data?







Idea: train your own shadow models



training

related labelled data

 $(x'_{i}, f(x'_{i})))_{i=1}^{k'}$

and keep a hold-out set that is not used in training



shadow model for



Construct likelihood vectors



related labelled data

shadow model for

f

 $(x'_i, f(x'_i)))_{i=1}^{k'}$



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likelihood vectors

labels

Train the attack model (binary classifier)



- Input likelihood vectors, labelled with or
- Output: training data point (member) or no training data point (non-member)
- Attacker model

can be applied without access to the victim model



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attacker model







Apply the attack model (binary classifier)

candidate data points



- Only black-box access to the model is needed
- Shokri et al.:
 - For highly overfitted victim model, knowledge about the shape of the likelihood vector generalizes to the victim model

attacker's verdict (member / non-member)







- Different defense types
 - we will get to know the listed **Differential Privacy defenses**
 - MemGuard: noise the likelihood vector
 - Adversarial regularization: include the attack in the loss function during training
 - The other defenses are standard ML techniques for avoiding overfitting
- Train-Test Gap is the generalization gap: difference between train and test accuracy

source: Label-Only Membership Inference Attacks by Christopher A. Choquette-Choo, Florian Tramer, Nicholas Carlini, Nicolas Papernot https://arxiv.org/abs/2007.14321 In ICML 2021

Attack performance



- **REPETITION: PRIVACY ATTACKS BASED ON CONFIDENCE**
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Roadmap

REPETITION: PRIVACY ATTACKS BASED ON BOUNDARY DISTANCE

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Is the revealing the likelihood vector the problem?



- Previous attack used the likelihood vector
- So why release the likelihood vector?
- Countermeasure: simply output the class with the highest likelihood?



bars more pronounced for trainings data (likelihood vector has low entropy)



Beyond generalization gap

- Countermeasure: simply output the class with the highest likelihood?
- Another weakness
- Generalization gap:
 - Difference between training and test accuracy
- So far: exploit generalization gap
 - High certainty \implies guess training point
- Weak against models with very low generalization gap
- There is more





Beyond generalization gap

- Neural networks have wild decision boundaries on complex problems
- Only behave orderly on training data
 - Sometimes chaotic on test data



decision boundaries of a neural network

source: https://www.kdnuggets.com/2015/06/decision-boundaries-deep-learning-machine-learning-classifiers.html



Artifacts of overfitting (cont'd)

- Lines correspond to neurons
- White points:
 - Training data points
- 2D inputs, 2 classes
- Prediction
 - Green area: class |
 - Red area: class 2
- After overfitting: boundaries specialize more on training data points







Normal training

After overfitting

images from a tool by Felix Mächtle

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Artifacts of overfitting (cont'd)

- Lines correspond to neurons
- White points:
 - Training data points
- 2D inputs, 2 classes
- Prediction
 - Green area: class |
 - Red area: class 2
- After overfitting: boundaries specialize more on training data points
- How to use that?







Normal training

After overfitting

images from a tool by Felix Mächtle

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Shape of decision boundaries: training data

- Privacy / ATIS WS 19/20 -- Student Project Thorsten Peinemann
- Plot the certainty on the path from one training point to another training point
- Dataset: CIFAR-10
- Looks kind of orderly





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96

class I

class 2

class 3

- Privacy / ATIS WS 19/20 -- Student Project Thorsten Peinemann
- Plot the certainty on the path from one test point to another test point
- Dataset: CIFAR-10
- Looks more messy
 - Class 3 in-between class 1 and class 2

Shape of decision boundaries: test data



source: Thorsten Peinemann, Mini-project ATIS, WS 19/20

- Privacy / ATIS WS 19/20 -- Student Project Thorsten Peinemann
- Plot the certainty on the path from one test point to another test point
- Dataset: CIFAR-10
- Looks more messy
 - Class 3 in-between class 1 and class 2
 - class I
 - class 2
 - class 3



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Shape of decision boundaries: test data



Goal: construct a distinguisher



training data for the distinguisher



train the distinguisher

the distinguisher



Goal: construct a distinguisher



training data for the distinguisher

We do not know the training data of the target model. What to do?



train the distinguisher

the distinguisher



Construct shadow models



related labelled data



shadow model



Apply the attack model







Results: 12 interpolation steps

- 12 interpolation steps on the path
- Number of different values:
 - Of how many data points were the paths computed?





number of different values

source: Thorsten Peinemann, Mini-project ATIS, WS 19/20



Results: 20 interpolation steps

- 20 interpolation steps on the path
- Number of different values:
 - Of how many data points were the paths computed?





number of different values

source: Thorsten Peinemann, Mini-project ATIS, WS 19/20



Results: 100 interpolation steps

- 100 interpolation steps on the path •
- Number of different values:
 - Of how many data points were the paths computed?





number of different values

source: Thorsten Peinemann, Mini-project ATIS, WS 19/20



- Black-box attack: boundary distance
 - Use binary search to find the boundary [1]
 - Uses internal shape of the network; an attack beyond exploiting the generalization gap (difference between training and test accuracy)
 - Does not need the likelihood vector; the class ID suffices
- Performs even better than likelihood-based attacks against some defenses (adversarial regularization and MemGuard)



[1] Label-Only Membership Inference Attacks by Christopher A. Choquette-Choo, Florian Tramer, Nicholas Carlini, Nicolas Paperno In ICML 2021, https://arxiv.org/abs/2007.14321



Attack performance



confidence-base attack (likelihood vector)



source: Label-Only Membership Inference Attacks by Christopher A. Choquette-Choo, Florian Tramer, Nicholas Carlini, Nicolas Papernot In ICML 2021, https://arxiv.org/abs/2007.14321

• Different defense types (we will get to know the listed Differential Privacy defense) • Train-Test Gap is the generalization gap: difference between train and test accuracy



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Roadmap



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Loss-based attack

- White-box attack on a model NN, trained with loss function L
- Idea: Loss is low at training data



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• Given a victim point x with label y, how to decide whether (x, y) was used during training?



Loss-based attack

- White-box attack on a model NN, trained with loss function L
- Idea: Loss is low at training data
- Given a threshold τ , compute the L(NN(x), y)
 - If $L(NN(x), y) \leq \text{threshold } \tau$,
 - output "member"
 - otherwise,
 - output "non-member"



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• Given a victim point x with label y, how to decide whether (x, y) was used during training?





Merlin-Bayas Attack

- White-box attack on a model NN, trained with loss function L
- Idea: Loss has local optimum (in the direction of the input)
- Given a victim point x with label y, how to decide whether (x, y) was used during training?








Merlin-Bayas Attack

- White-box attack on a model NN, trained with loss function L
- Idea: Loss has local optimum (in the direction of the input)
- Given a victim point x with label y, how to decide whether (x, y) was used during training?
- Add noise to the point $x + \xi$

•
$$x' = x + \xi$$

• $x'' = x' - \frac{\partial L(NN(x'), y)}{\partial x'}$

- If $||x'' x||_2 < \xi$: output "member"
- If $||x'' x||_2 \ge \xi$: output "non-member"



training data point

Revisiting Membership Inference Under Realistic Assumptions by Bargav Jayaraman, Lingxiao Wang, Katherine Knipmeyer, Quanquan Gu, David Evans In PoPETS 2021. https://petsymposium.org/2021/files/papers/issue2/popets-2021-0031.pdf



Merlin attack

- White-box attack on a model NN, trained with loss function L
- Idea: Loss is lower at training data than in surrounding
- Given a victim point x with label y, how to decide whether (x, y) was used during training?
- Inputs: Model with loss ℓ , victim point x, no. iteration T, threshold τ
- count := 0
- For T runs do
 - Add noise to the point $x + \xi$
 - $x' = x + \xi$
 - if $\ell(x + \xi) > \ell(x)$ then count + +
- If $count/T \ge \tau$: output "member" else output "non-member"



- Loss-based attacks [I] are white-box attacks
- Utilize the internal structure structure of the network
- Use the training loss for the candidate points
- Members (training data points) have a smaller loss than non-members
- Close to members there is a local optimum of the loss after training [2] (if we leave the data point variable)

[1] Samuel Yeom, Irene Giacomelli, Matt Fredrikson, and Somesh Jha. Privacy risk in machine learning: Analyzing the connection to overfitting. In IEEE Computer Security Foundations Symposium, 2018



Summary





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Roadmap



training data

images extracted from the model



Faces94 data set, one person per class

Model Inversion Attacks that Exploit Confidence Information and Basic Countermeasures. By Matt Fredrikson, Somesh Jha, and Thomas Ristenpart. In ACM CCS 2015. https://dl.acm.org/doi/10.1145/2810103.2813677



 Model inversion as optimization problem: find the input that maximizes the returned confidence, subject to the classification also matching the target



training data

images extracted from the model



Faces94 data set, one person per class







- Model inversion as optimization problem: find the input that maximizes the returned confidence, subject to the classification also matching the target
- How would an attacker that has access to the model find those images?



training data

images extracted from the model



Faces94 data set, one person per class



 Model inversion as optimization problem: find the input that maximizes the returned confidence, subject to the classification also matching the target



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training data

images extracted from the model



Faces94 data set, one person per class

- Model inversion as optimization problem: find the input that maximizes the returned confidence, subject to the classification also matching the target
- For attackers that have access to the model, this can be done via gradient descent
 - Example for confidence: negative entropy of the likelihood vector

$$\sum_{i} p_i \log(p_i)$$

• High (close to 0) if there is only one strong peak and low (high negative value) for a uniform distribution



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training data

images extracted from the model



Faces94 data set, one person per class

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- Generative models G: take some abstract vectors κ (called latent vectors) as input output an image $G(\kappa)$
- Here: abstract vectors κ are grainy images from the model inversion attack



grainy images extracted from the model

generative model (e.g., GAN or Autoencoder)









- What if the target model does not have 1 class for each person?
- Can we extract information about the training data if we get a hint?
 - Example: Can we extract an original training data point from the target model if we get a blurred version of the training data?

Beyond Faces94

generative model (e.g., GAN or Autoencoder)



original blurred









Higher accuracy: Plan

- Phase I: Calibrate the generative model to the target model
- nearest image for which the target model has high confidence
- Final output: a generated image



• Phase II: Use an external hint (additional background information) to search for the



Generative Model Calibrated to Target Model



• Ensure the following diversity property for each pair of images X_1, X_2 : if the output of the target model T shows a significant difference for $X_1 = G(\kappa_1)$ and $X_2 = G(\kappa_2)$, the abstract vectors κ_1, κ_2 are far away from each other. As a loss term:

$$\frac{\|T(G(\kappa_1)) - T(G(\kappa_2))\|_2}{\|\kappa_1 - \kappa_2\|_2} \text{ is matrix}$$

aximized



hint: blurred image



Final output: a generated image



hint: blurred image

Output a generative model



Attribute Inference Attack: Blurred image

Attacker has some background knowledge about training data point

Goal: extract the full training data point from the model

training data point



background knowledge



reconstructed image







Attribute Inference Attack

training data point

Attacker has some background knowledge about training data point

Goal: extract the full training data point from the model





background knowledge



reconstructed image





- Generative models (GANs, Autoencoder, Diffusion models) can help reconstructing members (training data points)
 - Calibrate the generative models to the victim model
- Using additional knowledge, parts of members (training data points) can be reconstructed with far higher accuracy



Summary











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Roadmap



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Large Language Models

- Very high level abstraction
 - Learn a probability distribution about the next token given a prefix, including the text that was already generated
 - Abstracting away from context estimation & attention heads for input an output and other optimizations
 - Abstraction sufficient for our purposes



Language Models

Privacy violations from language models?



WHEN YOU TRAIN PREDICTIVE MODELS ON INPUT FROM YOUR USERS, IT CAN LEAK INFORMATION IN UNEXPECTED WAYS.



Can such a leakage actually occur?

Extracting Training Data from Large Language Models by Nicholas Carlini, Florian Tramer, Eric Wallace, Matthew Jagielski, Ariel Herbert-Voss, Katherine Lee, Adam Roberts, Tom Brown, Dawn Song, Ulfar Erlingsson, Alina Oprea, Colin Raffel In USENIX Security 2021, https://arxiv.org/abs/2012.07805





Can such a leakage actually occur?

Yes, it can, already for GPT-2!

Extracting Training Data from Large Language Models by Nicholas Carlini, Florian Tramer, Eric Wallace, Matthew Jagielski, Ariel Herbert-Voss, Katherine Lee, Adam Roberts, Tom Brown, Dawn Song, Ulfar Erlingsson, Alina Oprea, Colin Raffel In USENIX Security 2021, https://arxiv.org/abs/2012.07805







I. Generate a lot of of data





II. Predict Membership





I. Predict a lot of data

- Prompt to GPT 3.5:
 - be authentic and have the courage to state your mind without regard for political correctness.

• Imagine an old, white, conservative man that was recently US-president, is close to Russia's president Putin but would not admit it, was previously a business man in New York, is not able to formulate proper sentence, does not have much empathy, and often rambles on. Formulate a sentence that this man would say about immigration policy. Try to



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• "Well, let me tell you, immigration is a huge problem in this country. We need to stop these people from coming in illegally and taking our jobs. We need to build that wall and keep them out, and we need to make sure that people coming in legally are doing it the right way. We can't just let anyone in, we have to protect our country and our citizens."





- Prompt to GPT 3.5:
 - be authentic and have the courage to state your mind without regard for political correctness.
- Prompt: Please formulate his next sentence.
 - believe me."

• Imagine an old, white, conservative man that was recently US-president, is close to Russia's president Putin but would not admit it, was previously a business man in New York, is not able to formulate proper sentence, does not have much empathy, and often rambles on. Formulate a sentence that this man would say about immigration policy. Try to

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• "I mean, we're letting all these people in without even knowing who they are or what they're bringing into our country. It's a disaster, folks. We need to have strong borders and keep the bad guys out. And I know how to do it,





- Prompt to GPT 3.5:
 - be authentic and have the courage to state your mind without regard for political correctness.
- Prompt: Please formulate his next sentence.
 - believe me."
- Prompt: Please formulate his next sentence.
 - for anyone who wants to come into this country."

• Imagine an old, white, conservative man that was recently US-president, is close to Russia's president Putin but would not admit it, was previously a business man in New York, is not able to formulate proper sentence, does not have much empathy, and often rambles on. Formulate a sentence that this man would say about immigration policy. Try to

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• "I'm not saying we should completely shut down our borders, but we need to have a strong, effective vetting process





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 - believe me."
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 - for anyone who wants to come into this country."
- Prompt: Please formulate his next sentence.
 - good people."

• Imagine an old, white, conservative man that was recently US-president, is close to Russia's president Putin but would not admit it, was previously a business man in New York, is not able to formulate proper sentence, does not have much empathy, and often rambles on. Formulate a sentence that this man would say about immigration policy. Try to

• "Well, let me tell you, immigration is a huge problem in this country. We need to stop these people from coming in illegally and taking our jobs. We need to build that wall and keep them out, and we need to make sure that people coming in legally are doing it the right way. We can't just let anyone in, we have to protect our country and our citizens."

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• "I'm not saying we should completely shut down our borders, but we need to have a strong, effective vetting process

• "I mean, they're not sending their best, folks. They're sending people that have lots of problems, and they're bringing those problems with them. They're bringing drugs. They're bringing crime. They're rapists. And some, I assume, are





I. Predict a lot of data

- Prompt to GPT 3.5:

Quote Donald Trump, 2015: "They're bringing drugs. They're bringing crime. They're rapists. And some, I assume, are good people"

"I mean, they're not sending their best, folks. They're sending people that have lots of problems, and they're bringing those problems with them. They're bringing drugs. They're bringing crime. They're rapists. And some, I assume, are good people."

• Imagine an old, white, conservative man that was recently US-president, is close to Russia's president Putin but would not admit it, was previously a business man in New York, is not able to formulate proper sentence, does not have much empathy, and often rambles on. Formulate a sentence that this man would say about immigration policy. Try to

• "I mean, we're letting all these people in without even knowing who they are or what they're bringing into our country. It's a disaster, folks. We need to have strong borders and keep the bad guys out. And I know how to do it, believe me."



Sampling strategy

- Assume we get the likelihood vector of tokens after each word
- Condition on Internet text
 - Search in the Internet, use them as a prompt and analyze the likelihood vectors of the generated texts
- For the experts: sample with decaying temperature





distribution over next token



II. How to utilize Membership Inference prediction?





Membership Inference

- Membership inference prediction:
 - Several options (see this week and last week)







Experimental Results: Reconstructed Training Data

- Condition on Internet text
 - Search in the Internet, use them as a prompt and analyze the likelihood vectors of the generated texts
- The number of memorized examples (out of 100 candidates) identified using each of the three text generation strategies and six membership inference techniques. Some samples are found by multiple strategies
 - In total 604 unique memorized examples were found

Category	Count
US and international news	109
Log files and error reports	79
License, terms of use, copyright notices	54
Lists of named items (games, countries, etc.)	54
Forum or Wiki entry	53
Valid URLs	50
Named individuals (non-news samples only)	46
Promotional content (products, subscriptions, etc.)	45
High entropy (UUIDs, base64 data)	35
Contact info (address, email, phone, twitter, etc.)	32
Code	31
Configuration files	30
Religious texts	25
Pseudonyms	15
Donald Trump tweets and quotes	12
Web forms (menu items, instructions, etc.)	11
Tech news	11
Lists of numbers (dates, sequences, etc.)	10

- High-entropy content extracted from the training data.
- Each string is contained in just one document.
- One 87-characters-long sequence is contained in the training dataset only 10 times in total, all in the same document

Memorized High-entropy Strings that are only in 1 training document

Memorized	Sequence	Occurrences in Da			
String	Length	Docs	Te		
Y2y5	87	1			
7C18	40	1			
XM	. 54	1			
ab 2 c	64	1			
ffaf	32	1			
C7	43	1			
0xC0	10	1			
7684	17	1			
a74b	40	1			



Memorization increases with larger model size

- Snippets of Reddit URLs that appear a varying number of times in a single training document
- The GPT-2 prompt began with a Reddit URL
- Task: generate the the corresponding URL verbatim in the first 10,000 generations
- I/2 if the URL is generated by providing GPT-2 with the first 6 characters of the URL
- GPT-2 XL: 1.5 billion parameters
- GPT-3: 175 billion parameters
- Even larger models exist

	Occurrences		Memorized ?		
URL (trimmed)	Docs	Total	XL	Μ	S
/r/ 51y/milo_evacua	1	359	\checkmark	\checkmark	1/2
/r/zin/hi_my_name	1	113	\checkmark	\checkmark	
/r/ 7ne/for_all_yo	1	76	\checkmark	1/2	
/r/5mj/fake_news	1	72	\checkmark		
/r/5wn/reddit_admi	1	64	\checkmark	\checkmark	
/r/ lp8/26_evening	1	56	\checkmark	\checkmark	
/r/jla/so_pizzagat	1	51	\checkmark	1/2	
/r/ubf/late_night	1	51	\checkmark	1/2	
/r/ eta/make_christ	1	35	\checkmark	1/2	
/r/ 6ev/its_officia	1	33	\checkmark		
/r/ 3c7/scott_adams	1	17			
/r/k2o/because_his	1	17			
/r/tu3/armynavy_ga	1	8			


Some recent results

- DP Mondrian: Privacy-Preserving Clustering
 - Yara Schütt, Johannes Liebenow, Marcel Gehrke, Tanya Braun, Esfandiar Mohammadi
- DP Helmet: Privacy-Preserving Distributed Softmax-Layer Learning
 - Moritz Kirschte, Sebastian Meiser, Saman Ardalan, Esfandiar Mohammadi
 - E.g., for privacy-preserving distributed fine-tuning of the last layer
- Improved DP GBDT: Privacy-Preserving Distributed Learning of Gradient Boosting Decision Trees
 - Thorsten Peinemann, Moritz Kirschte, Joshua Stock, Carlos Cotrini, Esfandiar Mohammadi
- n.b.: Some people call distributed learning also federated learning







concentrations



(b) MNIST embeddings (10 classes)

DPM: Privacy-Preserving Clustering

Strong differential privacy guarantees: epsilon = 1

Frugal DP GBDT

- Privacy-Preserving Distributed Learning of Gradient Boosting Decision Trees
- Utilizing several privacy-boosting techniques
 - Individual Privacy Filters, Nested Composition, Subsampling
- Initial results:
 - Factor 20 better privacy for the same utility:
 - For strong privacy guarantees (epsilon = 0.5), we achieve the same performance (RMSE = 2.55 on Abalone) as prior work for very weak privacy guarantees (epsilon = 10)
 - For a medium-sized data set: 3000 training data points (Abalone)





DP Helmet: Distributed softmax-layer learning

- DP Helmet: Privacy-Preserving Distributed Softmax-Layer Learning • We prove strong convexity for training a softmax-layer • We utilize this strong convexity to get very good utility privacy tradeoffs



Results on CIFAR-10



 ε (privacy budget)



