Hard-Label Cryptanalytic Extraction of DNNs

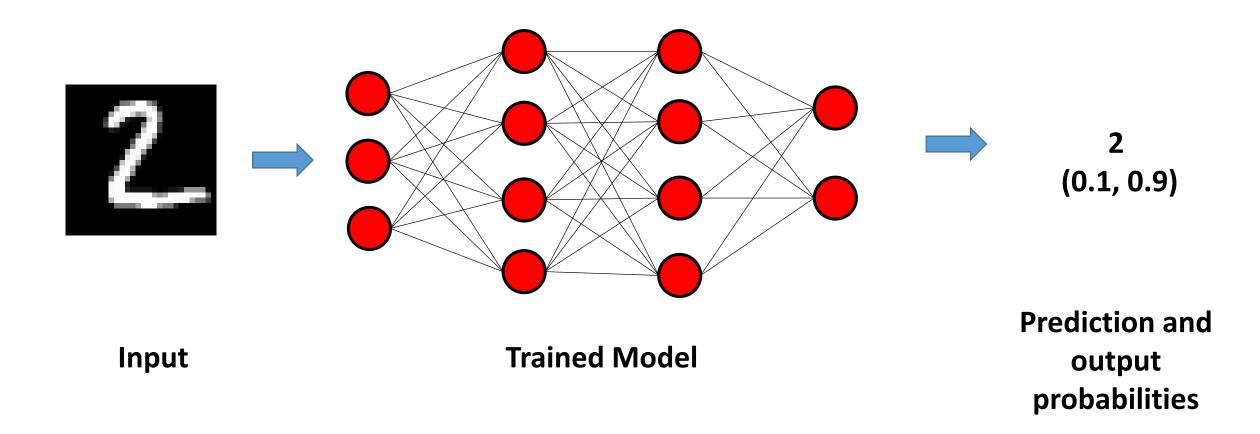
Benoit Coqueret^{1&2}, Mathieu Carbone¹, Olivier Sentieys², Gabriel Zaid¹

CESTI Thales
 University of Rennes, INRIA, IRISA

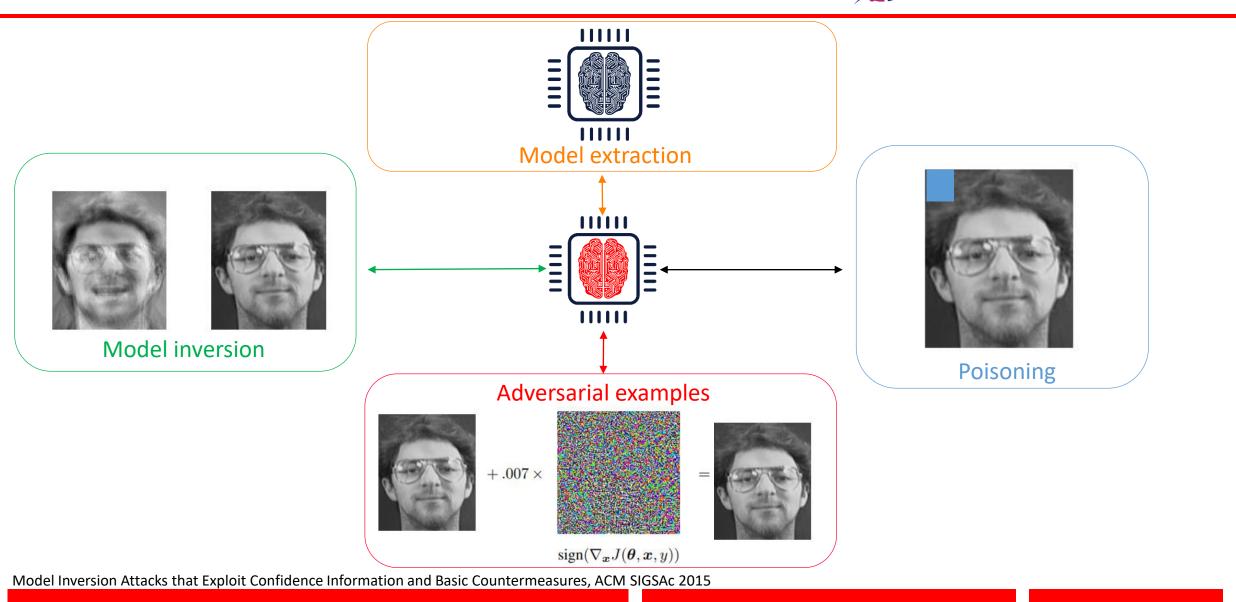








Attacks Against Deep Neural Networks



Hard-Label Cryptanalytic Extraction of DNNs

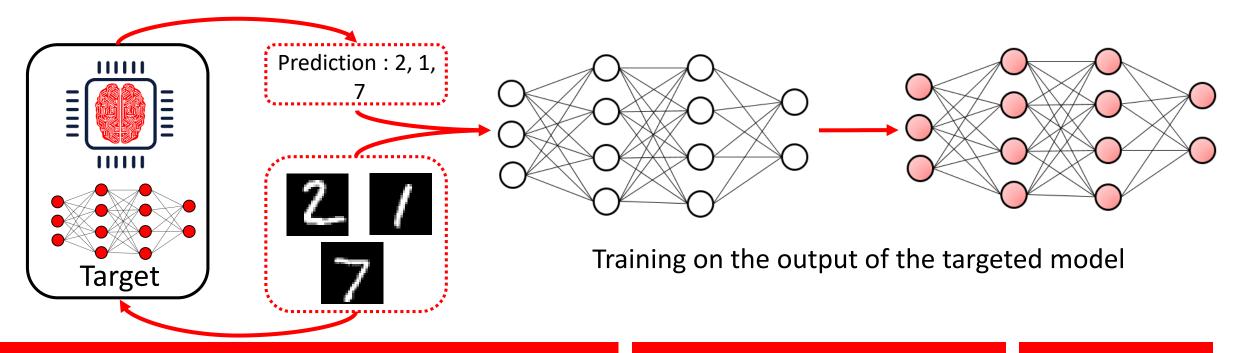
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- Obtain a copy of the targeted DNN
 - Stealing the Intellectual Property
 - Possibility to mount more powerful attack on the targeted DNN
- ✤ 3 broad methodologies

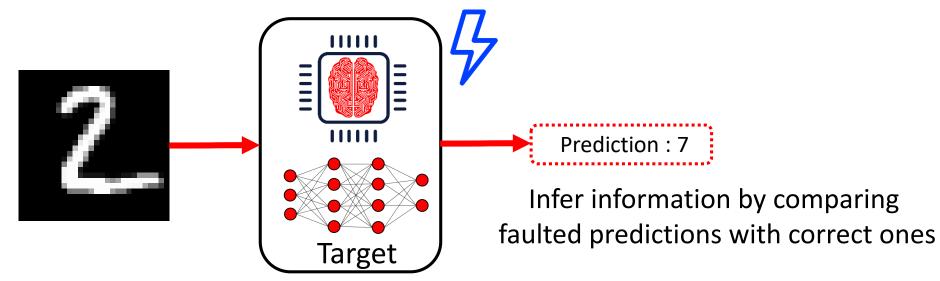


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 - Active learning [1]





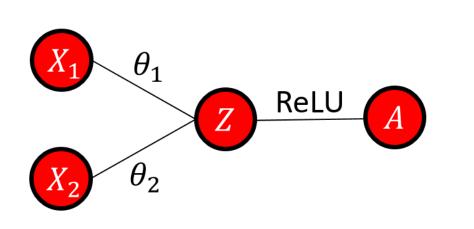
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- 3 broad methodologies
 - Active learning [1]
 - Hardware attacks (Fault Injection [2] or Side Channel [3])

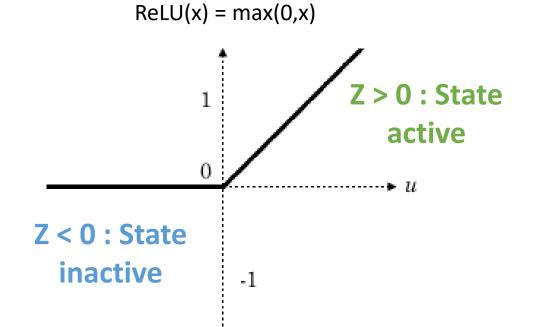




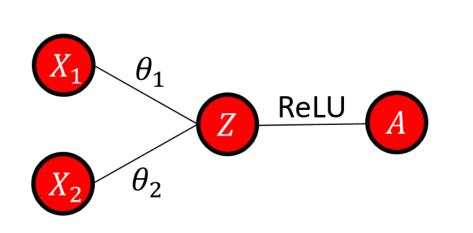
- Obtain a copy of the targeted DNN
 - Stealing the Intellectual Property
 - Possibility to mount more powerful attack on the targeted DNN
- ✤ 3 broad methodologies
 - Active learning [1]
 - Hardware attacks (Fault Injection [2] or Side Channel [3])
 - Cryptanalytical extraction[4, 5, 6]
 - Analogy between the weights and the key
 - Input becomes the message
 - Output is equivalent to cipher text

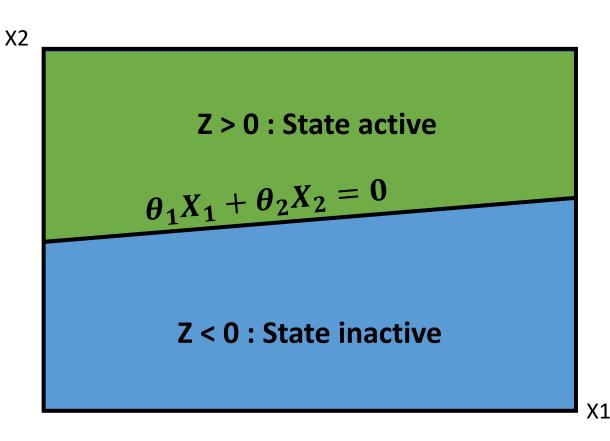




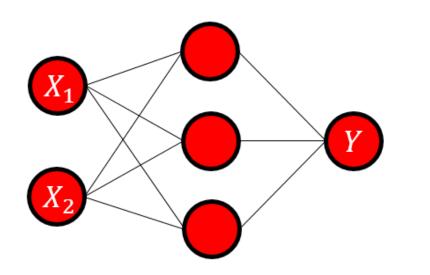


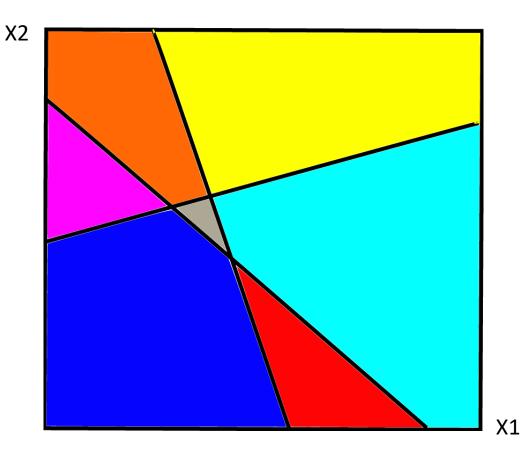




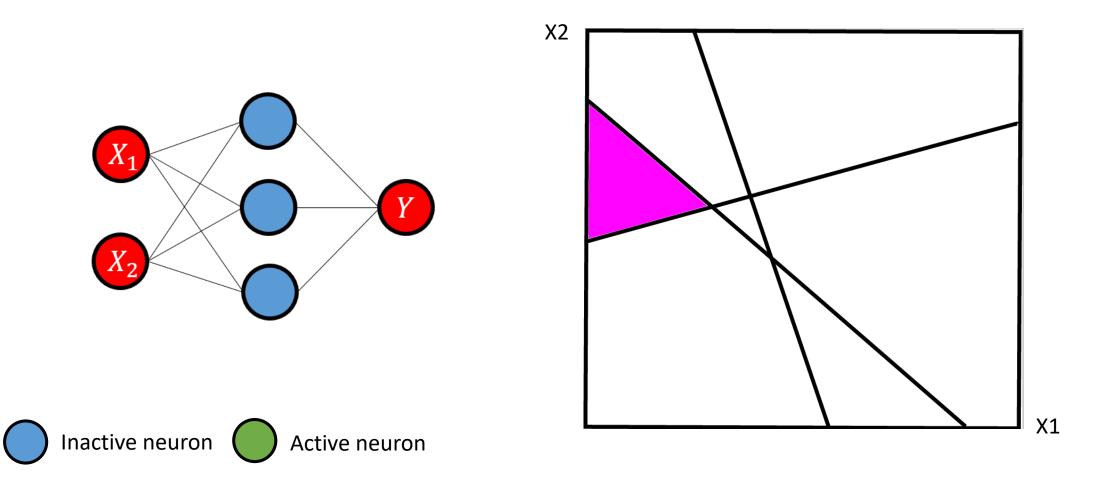




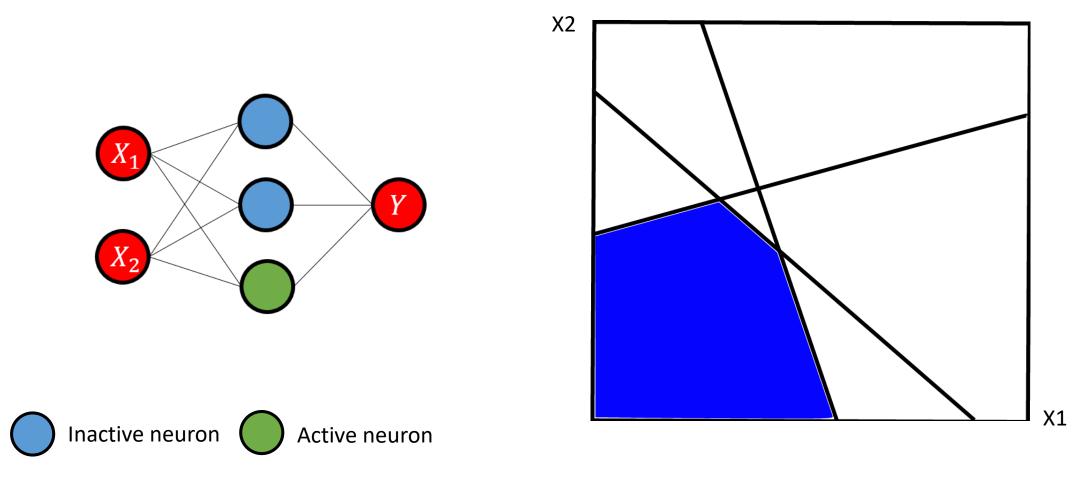




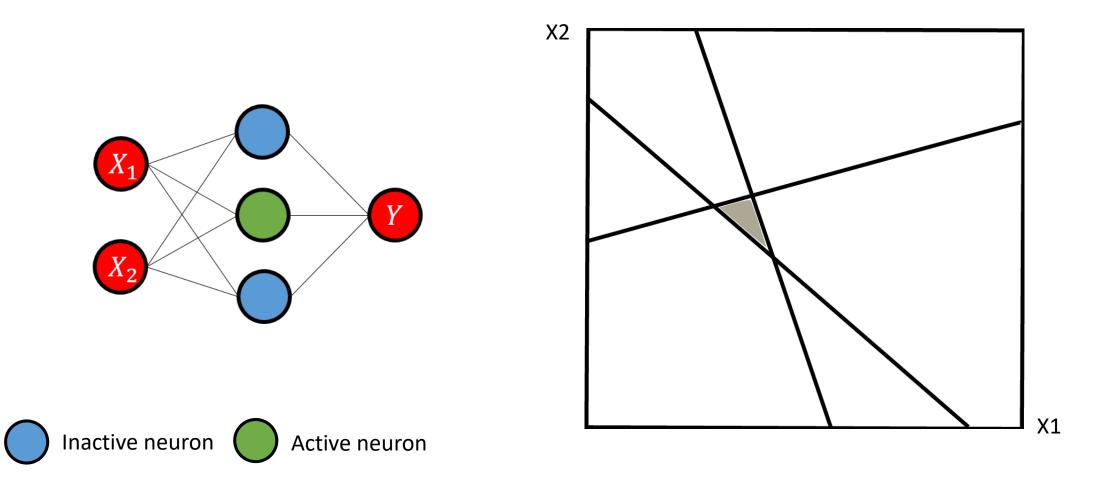




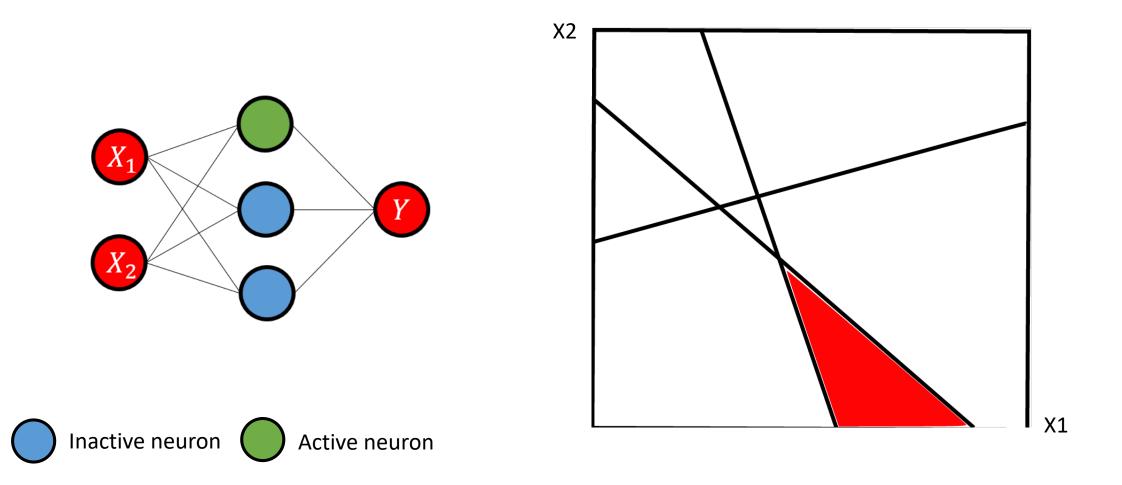




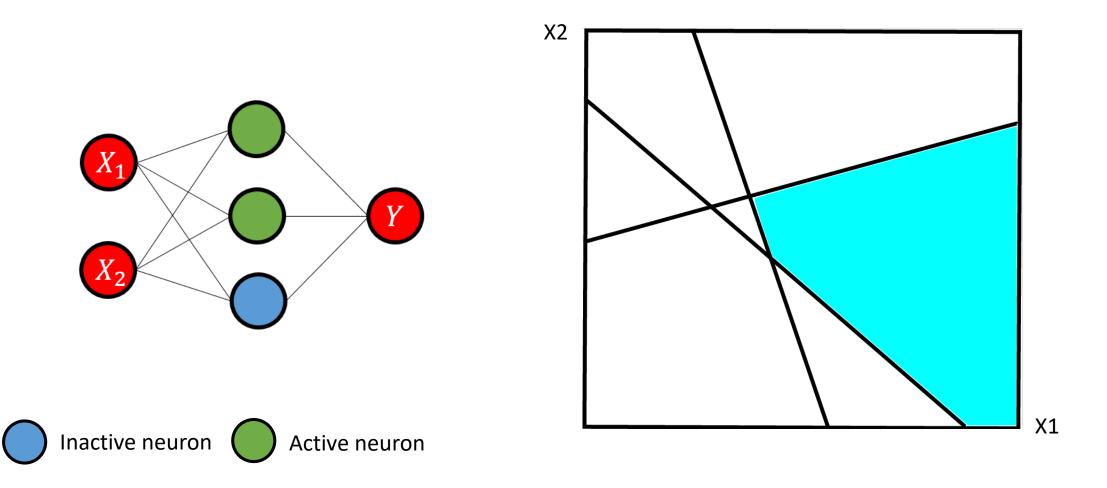




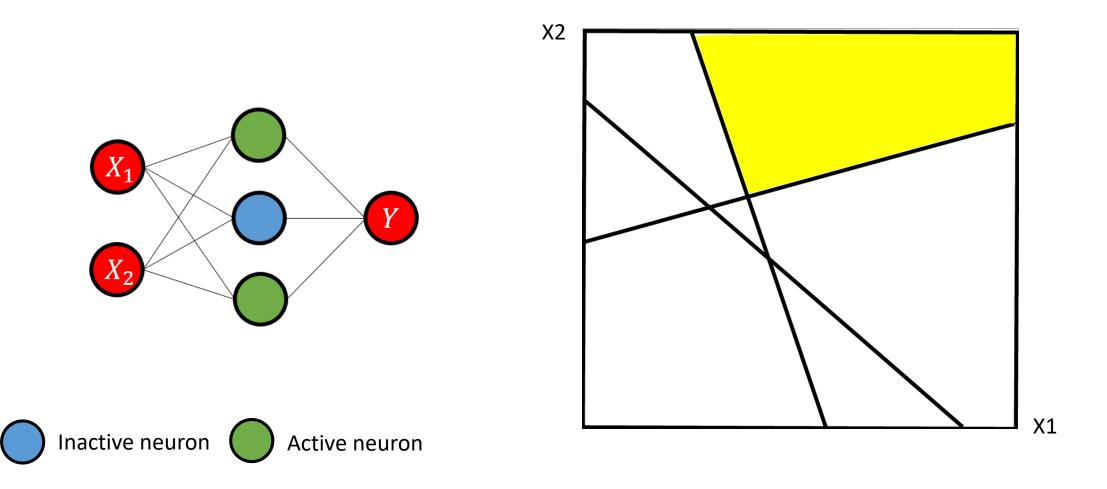








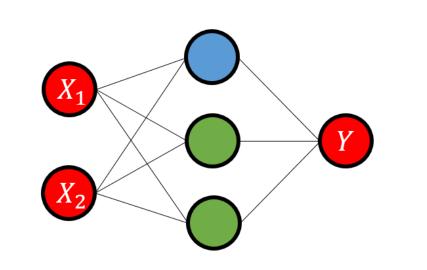


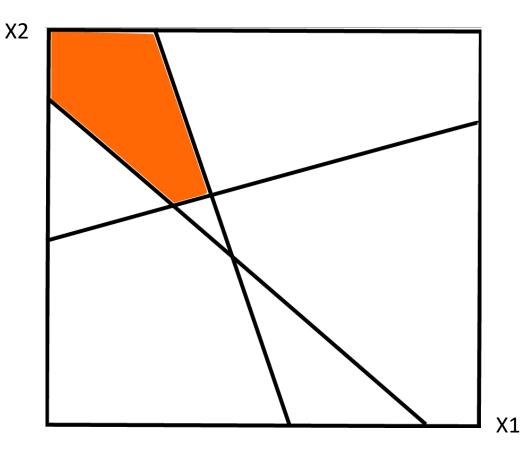




Special case of networks using ReLU function

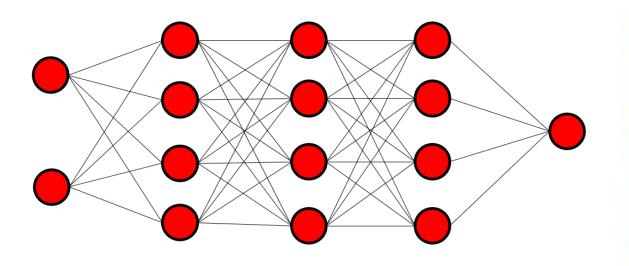
Active neuron

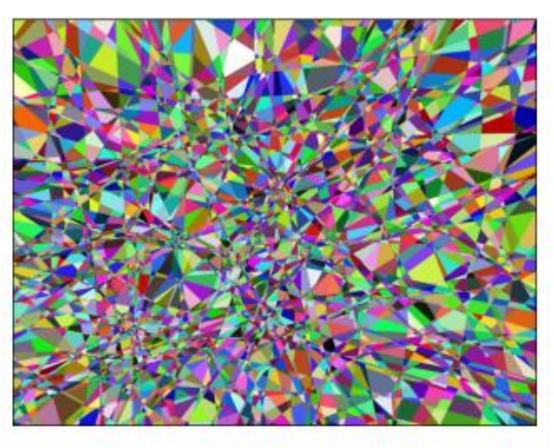




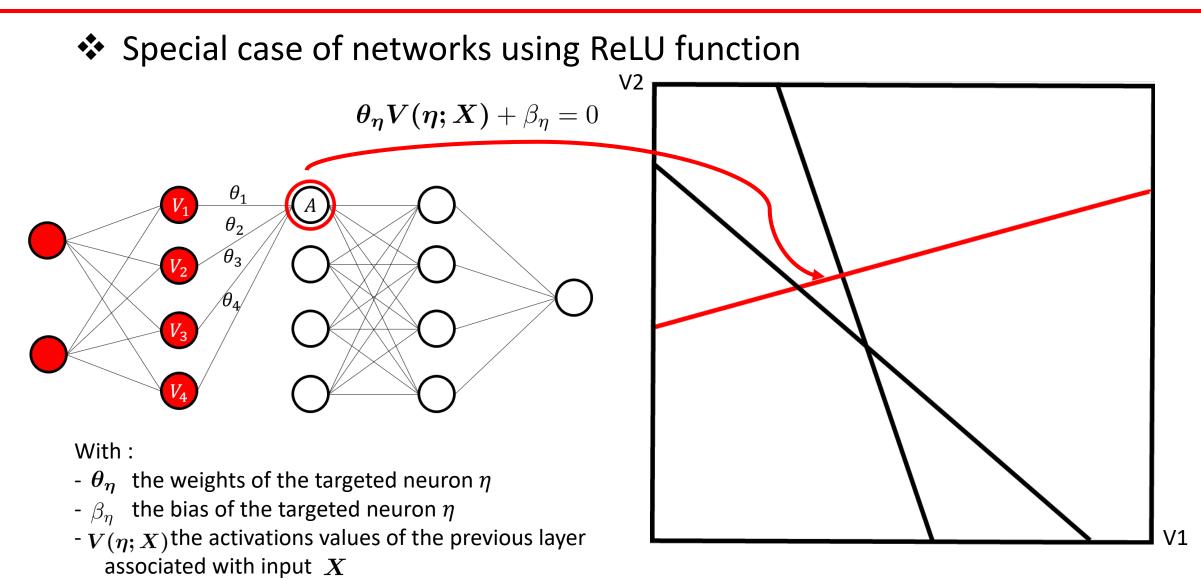
Inactive neuron





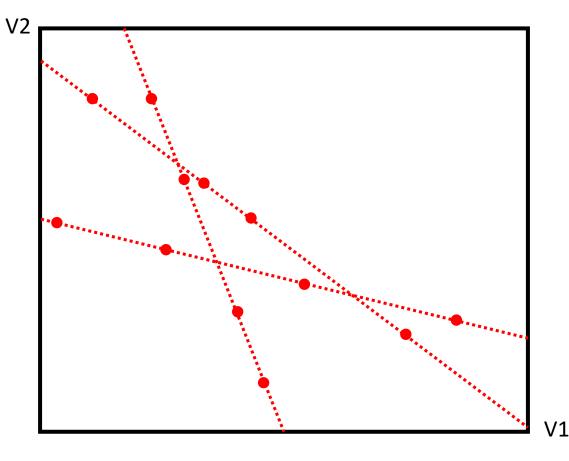






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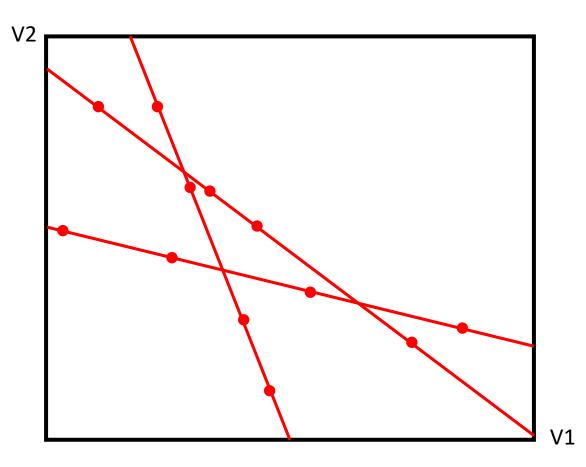
- Global methodology
 - Search for points on the hyperplanes: the critical points



Global methodology

Model Extraction: Cryptanalysis

- Search for points on the hyperplanes: the critical points
- Retrieve the equations of the hyperplane and the weights
 $\theta_{\eta}V(\eta; X) + \beta_{\eta} = 0$

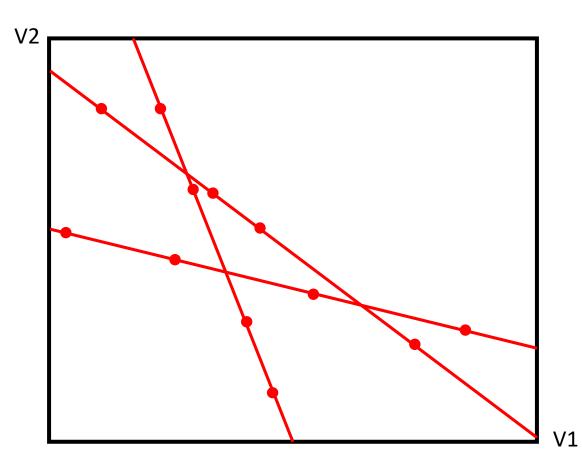


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Global methodology

Model Extraction: Cryptanalysis

- Search for points on the hyperplanes: the critical points
- Retrieve the equations of the hyperplane and the weights
 $heta_{\eta}V(\eta; X) + \beta_{\eta} = 0$
- Get the sign of the neuron



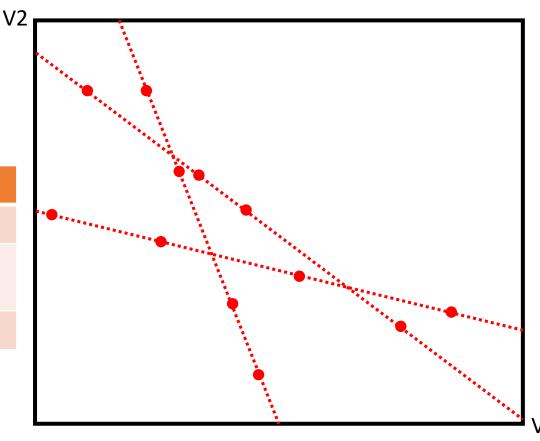
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- Search for the critical points is the crucial step
 - Highly dependent on the gradient

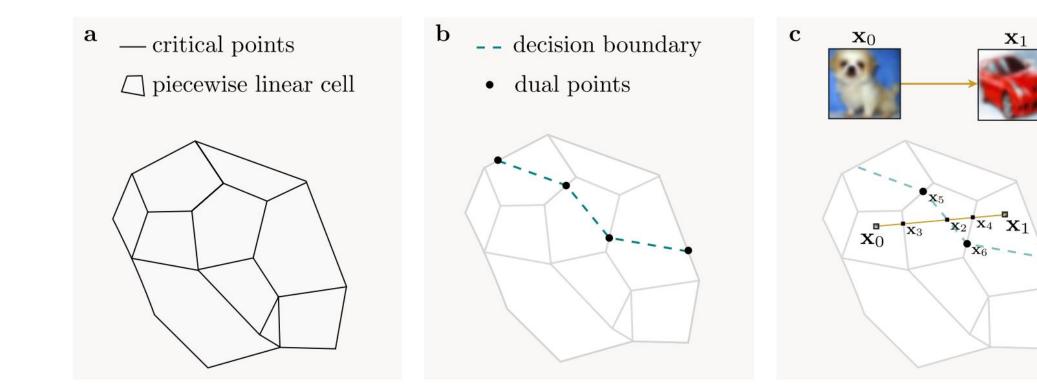
Current limitations

Issue	Solution
Hard-label settings	Adaptation with dual points
Restriction to fully connected layers	None
Special cases of neurons	None



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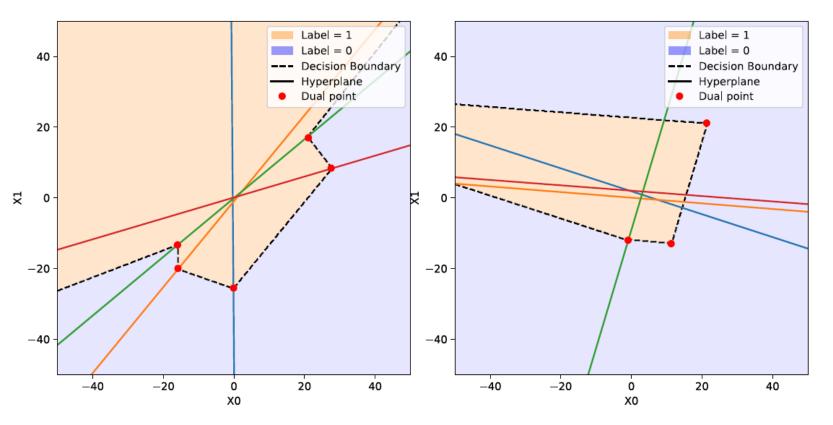
Hard-label settings



Polynomial Time Cryptanalytic Extraction of Deep Neural Networks in the Hard-Label Setting, EuroCrypt 2025



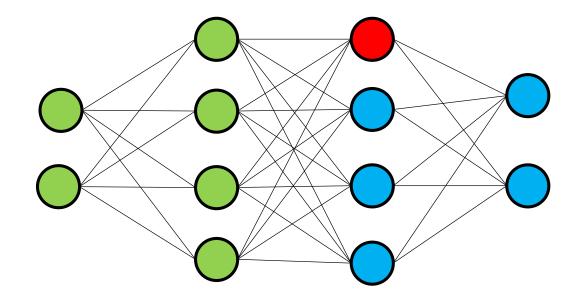
Restriction to fully-connected layers



- Wrong estimation of the dual points
- Pooling layer change the geometry of the decision boundary

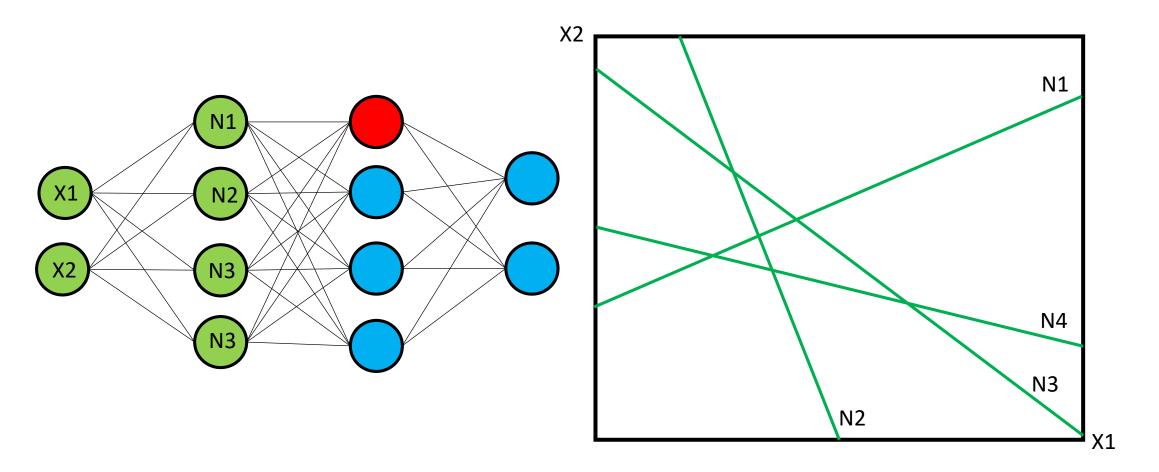
(a) Fully connected network (b) DNN with a max pooling layer



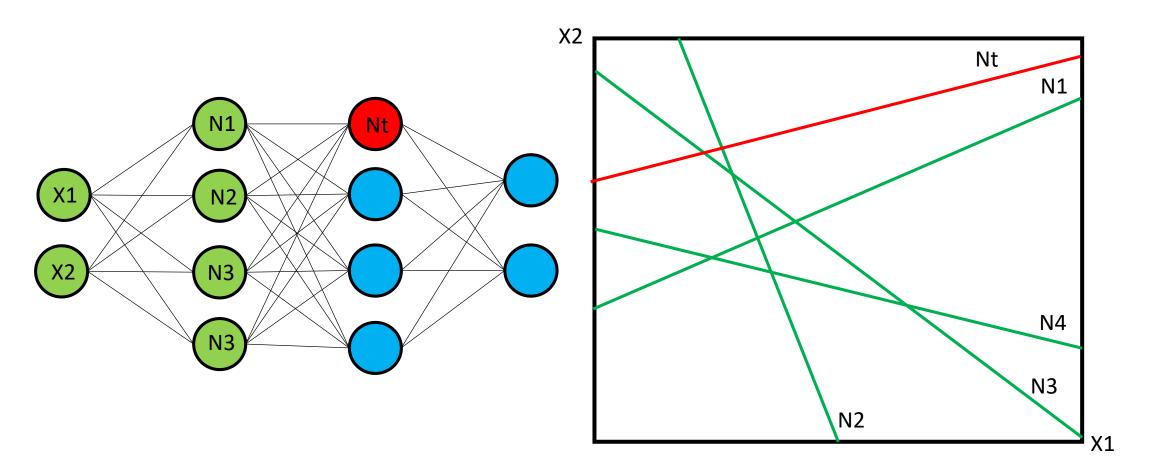




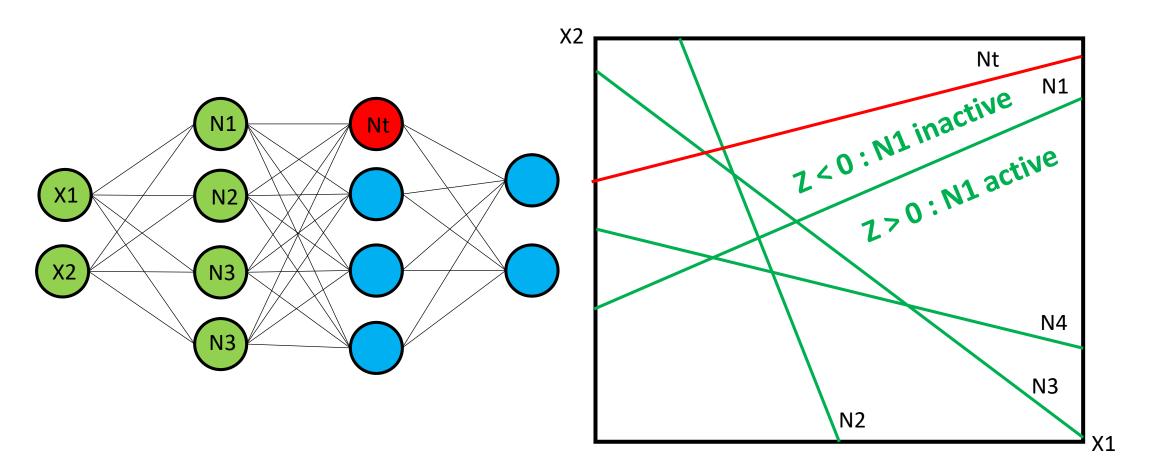




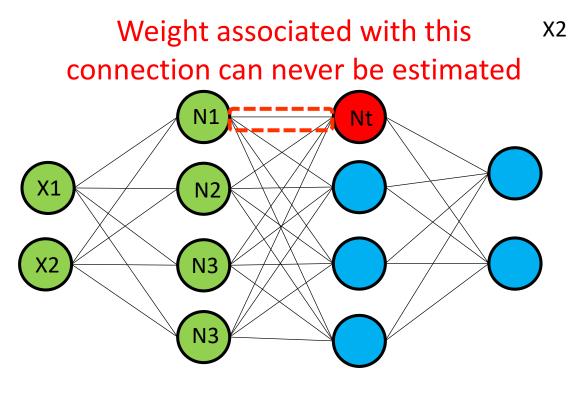


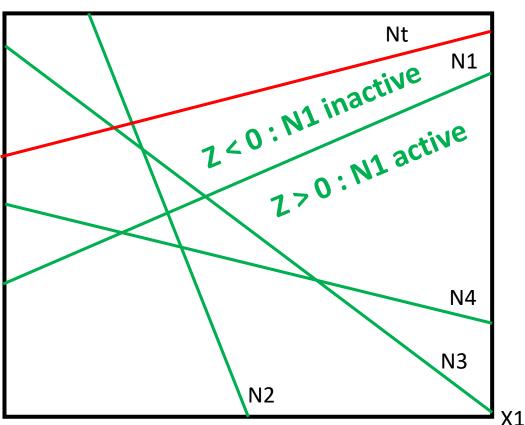












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Current limitations

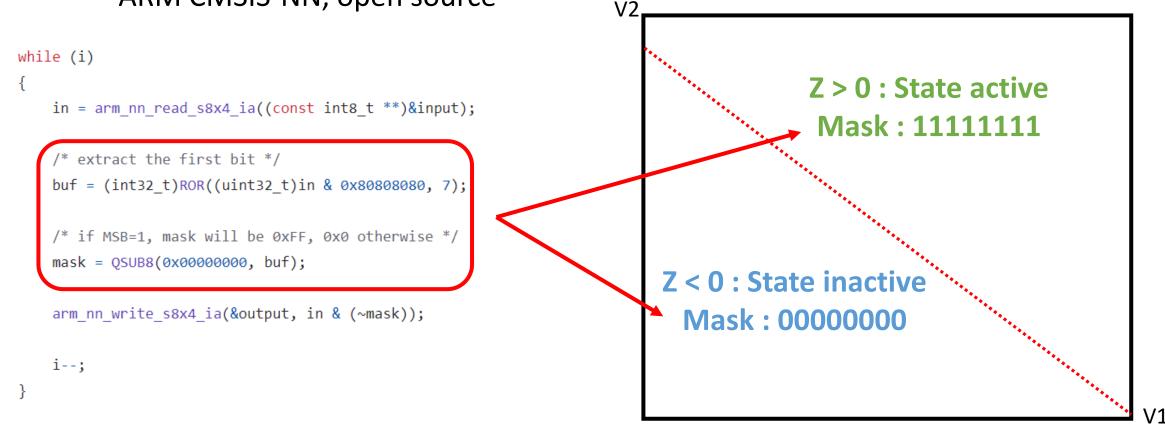
Issue	Solution
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Restriction to fully connected layers	None
Special cases of neurons	None

Can we use side-channel to propose a robust framework for cryptanalytical extraction of complex DNN in hard-label settings ?

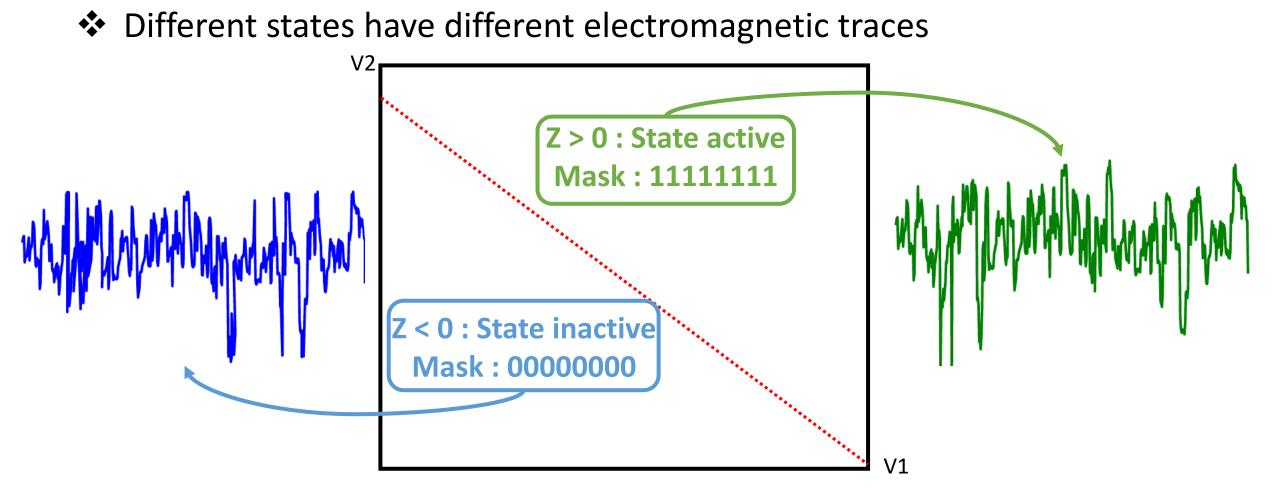
Model Extraction: Side-Channel



- ReLU implementation
 - ARM CMSIS-NN, open source

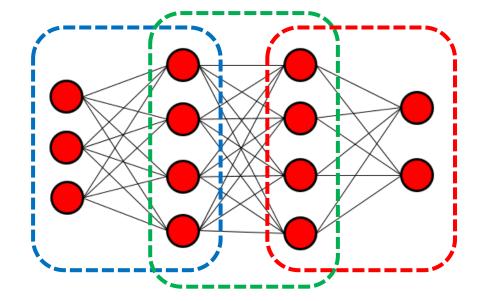


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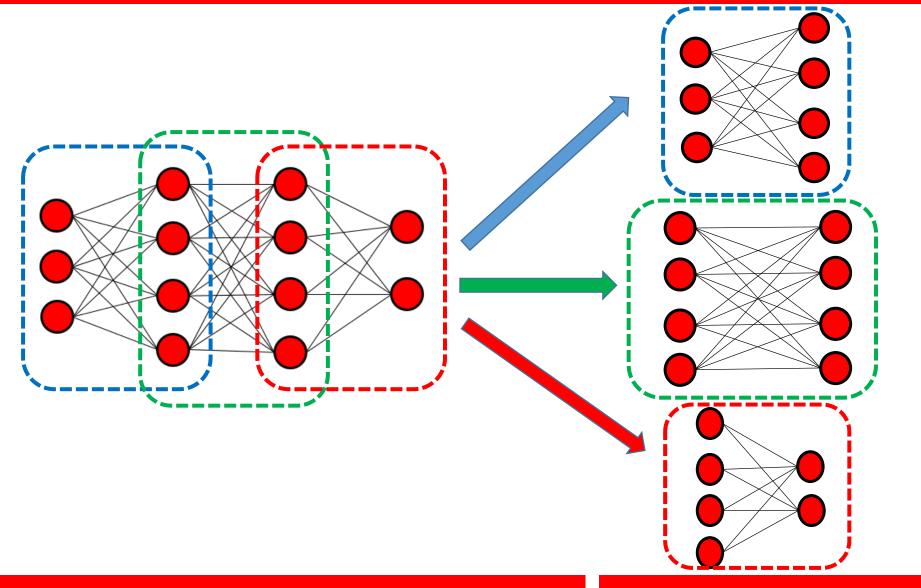
Model Extraction: Divide-And-Conquer





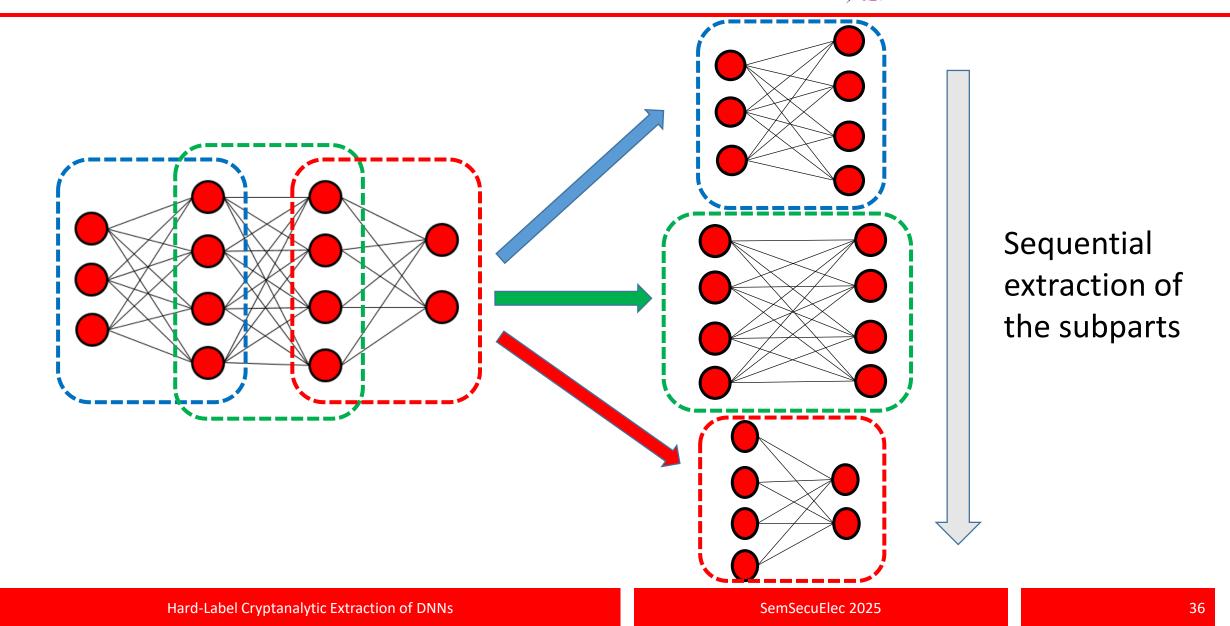
Model Extraction: Divide-And-Conquer





Model Extraction: Divide-And-Conquer





Type / Stride	Filter Shape	Input Size
Conv / s2	$3 \times 3 \times 3 \times 32$	$224 \times 224 \times 3$
Conv dw / s1	3 imes 3 imes 32 dw	112 imes 112 imes 32
Conv / s1	$1 \times 1 \times 32 \times 64$	$112\times112\times32$
Conv dw / s2	3 imes 3 imes 64 dw	$112 \times 112 \times 64$
Conv / s1	$1 \times 1 \times 64 \times 128$	56 imes 56 imes 64
Conv dw / s1	$3 \times 3 \times 128$ dw	56 imes 56 imes 128
Conv / s1	$1 \times 1 \times 128 \times 128$	56 imes 56 imes 128
Conv dw / s2	$3 imes 3 imes 128~{ m dw}$	56 imes 56 imes 128
Conv / s1	$1 \times 1 \times 128 \times 256$	28 imes 28 imes 128
Conv dw / s1	$3 \times 3 \times 256$ dw	$28 \times 28 \times 256$
Conv / s1	$1 \times 1 \times 256 \times 256$	$28 \times 28 \times 256$
Conv dw / s2	$3 \times 3 \times 256$ dw	$28 \times 28 \times 256$
Conv / s1	$1 \times 1 \times 256 \times 512$	$14 \times 14 \times 256$
$5 \times Conv dw/s1$	$3 \times 3 \times 512$ dw	$14 \times 14 \times 512$
Conv / s1	$1 \times 1 \times 512 \times 512$	$14 \times 14 \times 512$
Conv dw / s2	$3 \times 3 \times 512$ dw	$14 \times 14 \times 512$
Conv / s1	$1 \times 1 \times 512 \times 1024$	$7 \times 7 \times 512$
Conv dw / s2	$3 \times 3 \times 1024 \mathrm{dw}$	$7 \times 7 \times 1024$
Conv / s1	$1 \times 1 \times 1024 \times 1024$	$7 \times 7 \times 1024$
Avg Pool / s1	$\boxed{\text{Pool } 7 \times 7}$	$7 \times 7 \times 1024$
FC/s1	1024×1000	$1 \times 1 \times 1024$
Softmax / s1	Classifier	$1 \times 1 \times 1000$

Table 1. MobileNet Body Architecture

 Takes advantage of the fact that the order is Conv – BN -Activation

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Allows to split the model at each layer

MobileNets: Efficient Convolutional Neural Networks for Mobile Vision Applications, 2017

Table 1. MobileNet Body Architecture								
Type / Stride	Filter Shape	Input Size						
Conv / s2	$3 \times 3 \times 3 \times 32$	$224\times224\times3$						
Conv dw / s1	$3 \times 3 \times 32$ dw	$112\times112\times32$						
Conv / s1	$1 \times 1 \times 32 \times 64$	$112\times112\times32$						
Conv dw / s2	$3 \times 3 \times 64$ dw	$112\times112\times64$						
Conv / s1	$1\times1\times64\times128$	$56 \times 56 \times 64$						
Conv dw / s1	3 imes 3 imes 128 dw	$56\times 56\times 128$						
Conv / s1	$1\times1\times128\times128$	$56\times 56\times 128$						
Conv dw / s2	3 imes 3 imes 128 dw	$56\times 56\times 128$						
Conv / s1	$1\times1\times128\times256$	$28 \times 28 \times 128$						
Conv dw / s1	3 imes 3 imes 256 dw	$28 \times 28 \times 256$						
Conv / s1	$1\times1\times256\times256$	$28 \times 28 \times 256$						
Conv dw / s2	3 imes 3 imes 256 dw	$28 \times 28 \times 256$						
Conv / s1	$1\times1\times256\times512$	$14\times14\times256$						
$5 \times Conv dw / s1$	$3 \times 3 \times 512 \text{ dw}$	$14 \times 14 \times 512$						
$^{\circ}$ Conv / s1	$1\times1\times512\times512$	$14\times14\times512$						
Conv dw / s2	$3 \times 3 \times 512 \; \mathrm{dw}$	$14\times14\times512$						
Conv / s1	$1\times1\times512\times1024$	$7 \times 7 \times 512$						
Conv dw / s2	$3 imes 3 imes 1024 \ \mathrm{dw}$	$7 \times 7 \times 1024$						
Conv / s1	$1 \times 1 \times 1024 \times 1024$	$7 \times 7 \times 1024$						
Avg Pool / s1	Pool 7×7	$7 \times 7 \times 1024$						
FC / s1	1024×1000	$1 \times 1 \times 1024$						
Softmax / s1	Classifier	$1 \times 1 \times 1000$						

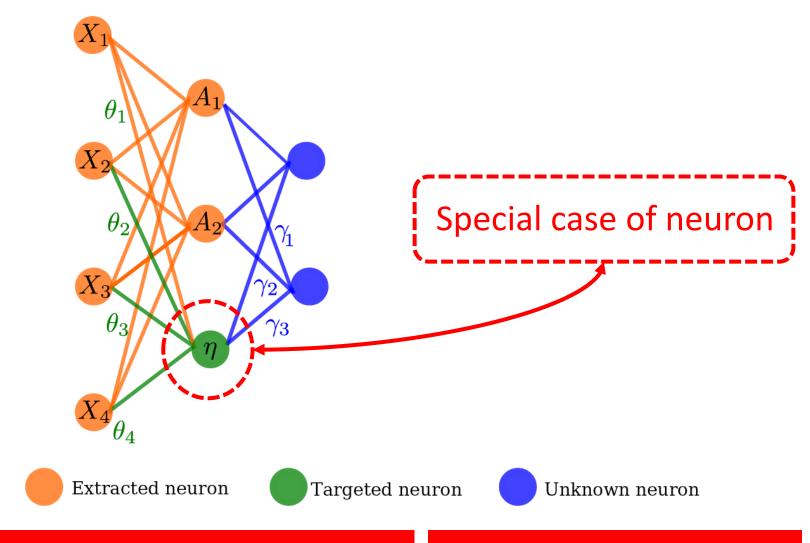
MobileNets: Efficient Convolutional Neural Networks for Mobile Vision Applications, 2017

- Subdivision only impacts the extraction of the last layer
- In most architecture the pooling is directly after the activation layer
 - Equivalent to a transformation on known inputs

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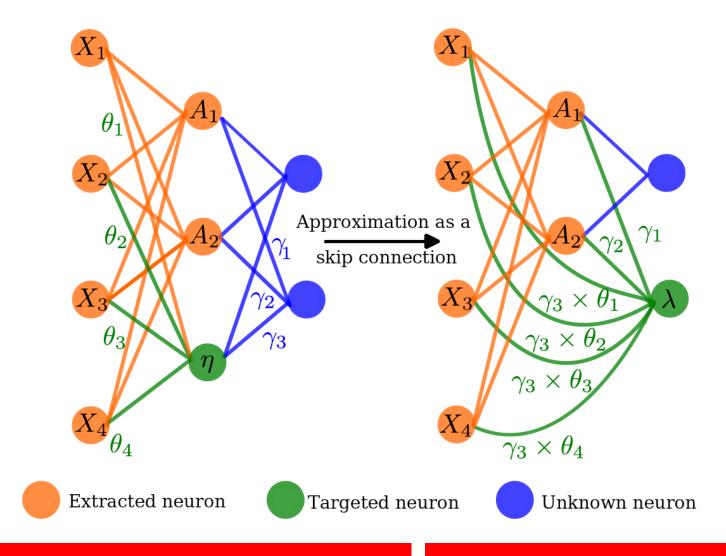
Hard-Label Cryptanalytic Extraction of DNNs



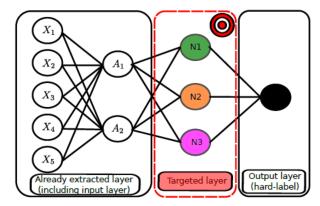


Model Extraction: Special Cases Of Neurons

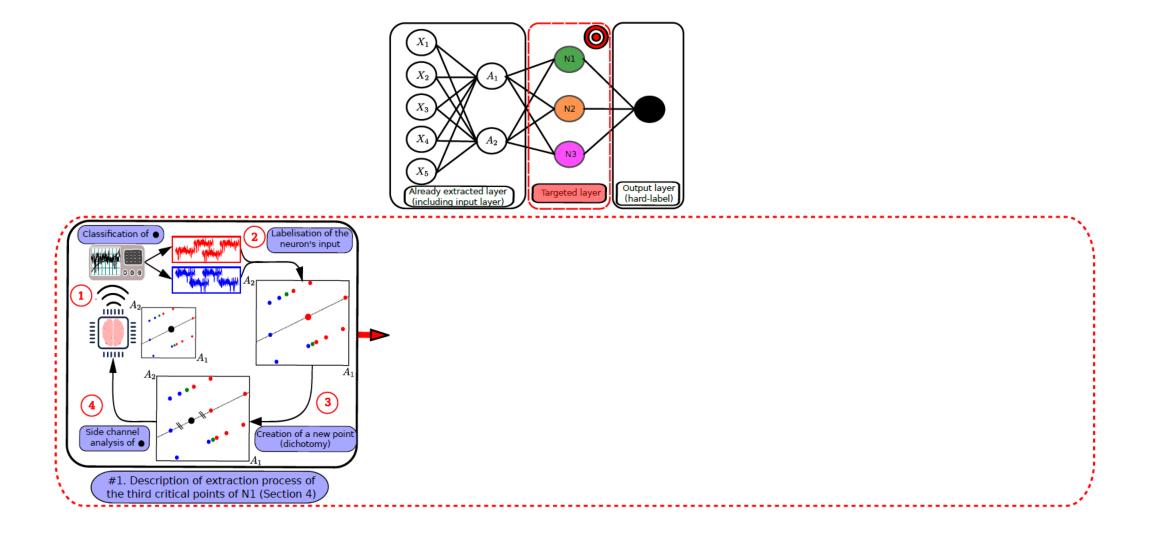




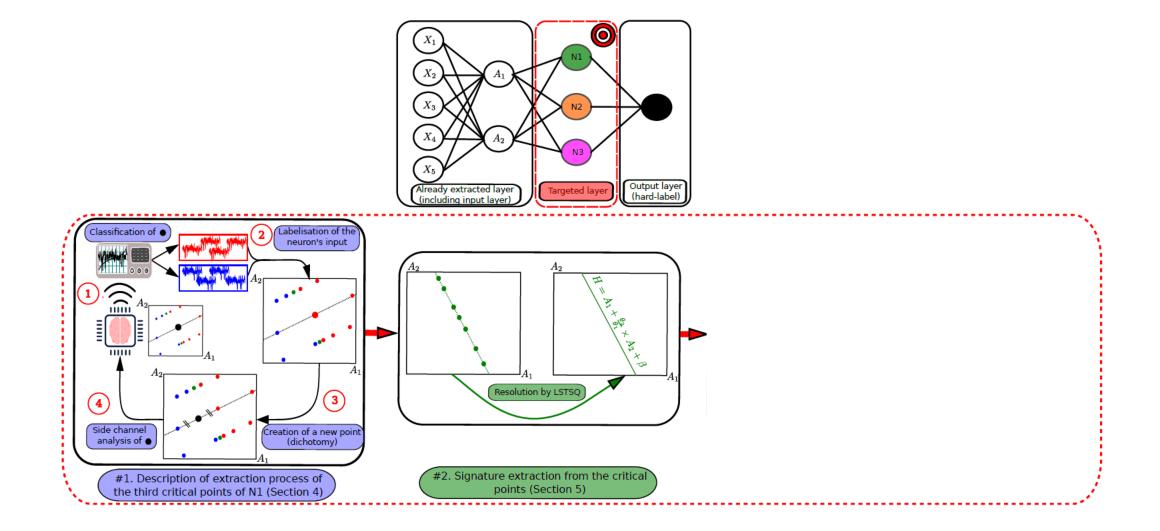




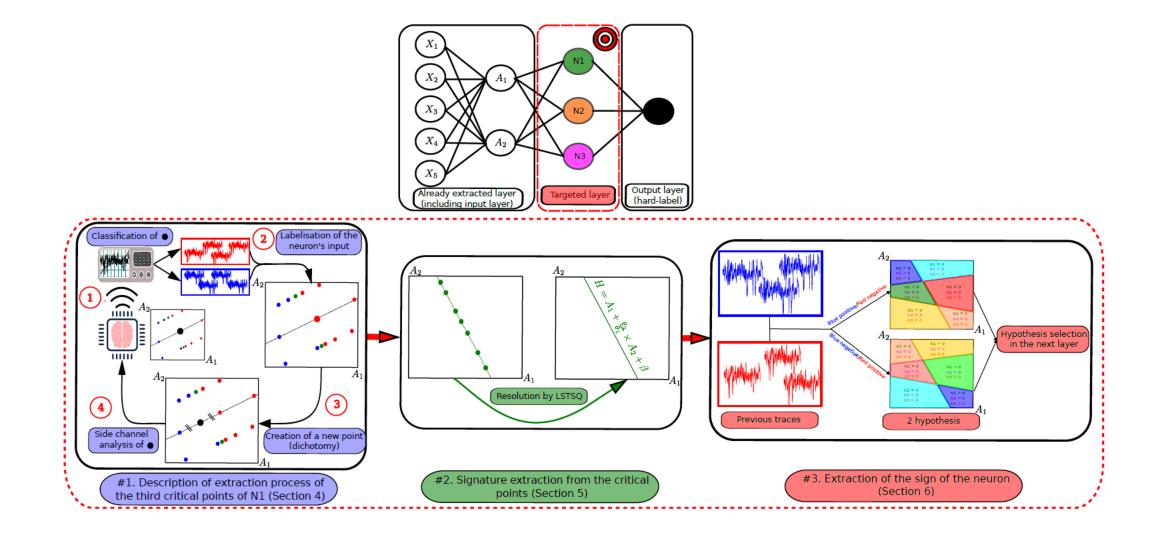










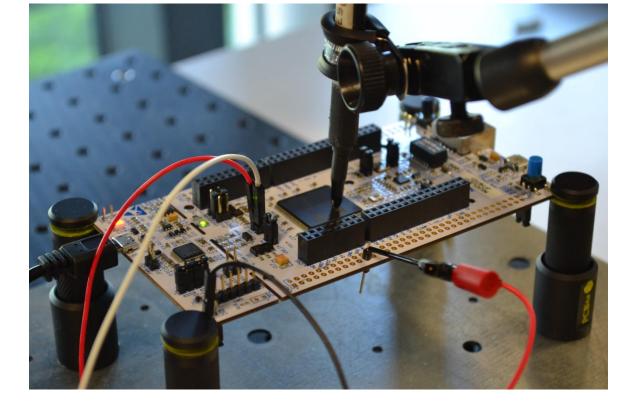


Model Extraction: Target

- Targeted DNN
 - Truncated version of MobileNetv1
 - 11 layers (Depthwise Separable convolutions + batchnorm + ReLU)

✤ Hardware

- STM32F767ZI
- X-Cube-AI



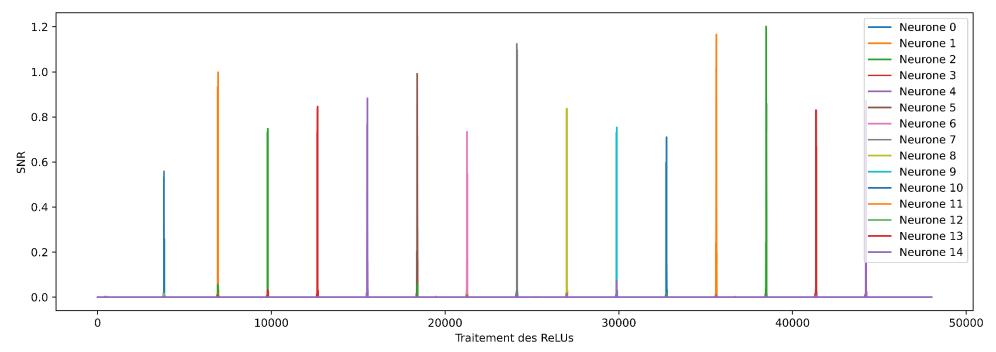
SemSecuElec 2025



Model Extraction: Results



- State extraction for 15 neurons in a layer
 - Signal to noise ratio on the state of the neuron



Success rate in one EM trace: 86.3% (k-means algorithm)

- Metrics used for classifier: Fidelity, Accuracy Under Attack and Number of queries
 - Fidelity: percentage of label agreement between the stolen and the targeted model (different from accuracy)
 - Accuracy Under Attack: transfer rate of adversarial examples generated on the stolen model to the target
 - Number of queries: number of random queries made to the targeted model (results are given under the assumption that the state of the neuron is obtained in one trace)

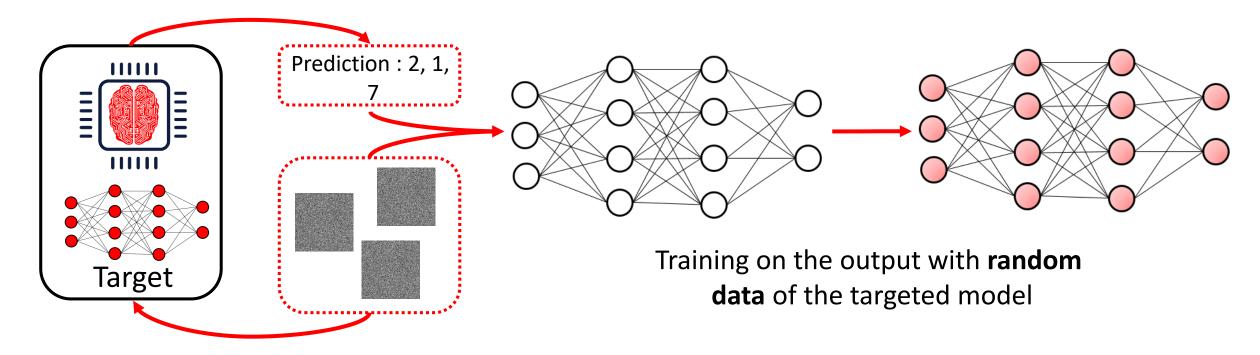


Metrics used for classifier: Fidelity, Accuracy Under Attack and Number of queries

Architecture	Parameters	Number of queries	Fidelity	Accuracy Under Attack
3072-256-256- 256-64-10	935 370	2 ^{26.2}	97.2%	98.6%
3072-512-256- 64-10	1 721 802	2 ^{26.0}	93.2%	96.7%
Truncated MobileNetv1	5 234	2 ^{18.8}	88.4%	95.7%

One query corresponds to a prediction made by the model on random data (2²⁰ ~ 1 000 000)

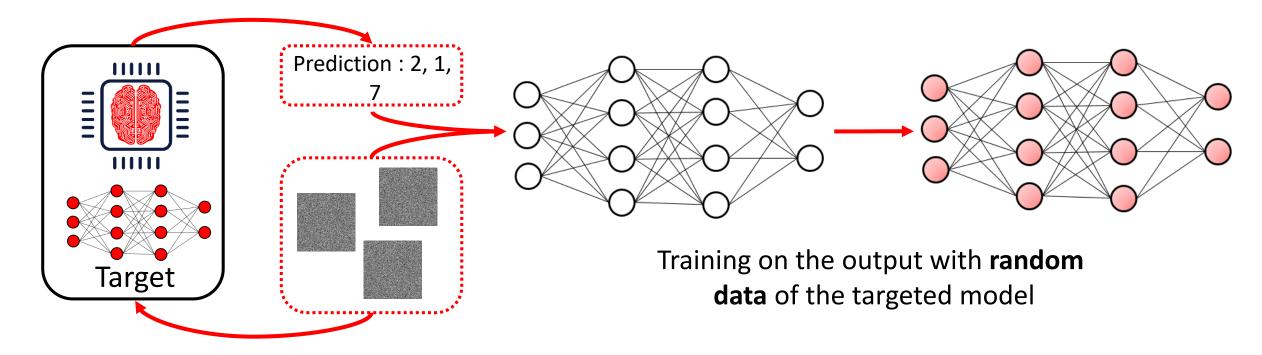
Model Extraction vs Active Learning



Comparison with Simple Active Learning on the truncated MobileNetv1

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Model Extraction vs Active Learning



Comparison with Simple Active Learning on the truncated MobileNetv1

- Training with the same hyperparameters and a balanced dataset
- Achieve 56% of accuracy on the random dataset
- Accuracy of 19.6% and Fidelity of 21.1% on the CIFAR-10 dataset

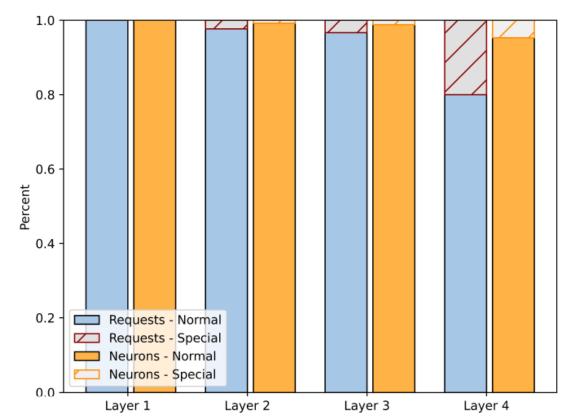
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Model Extraction: Special Case Neurons

- Number of special neurons
 - Increases with the depth of the layer
 - Most of them correspond to input-off
 - Framework improves the efficiency on their extraction
 - Trade off between requests and precision
- Number of request for these neurons

Metrics associated with the special neurons for the 3072-512-256-64-10 MLP

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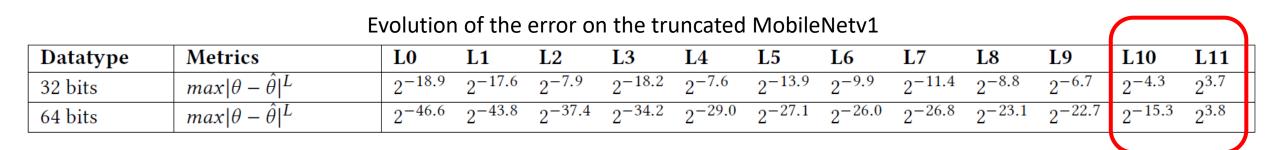


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Evolution of the error on the truncated MobileNetv1													
Datatype	Metrics	LO	L1	L2	L3	L4	L5	L6	L7	L8	L9	L10	L11
32 bits	$max \theta - \hat{\theta} ^L$	$2^{-18.9}$	$2^{-17.6}$	$2^{-7.9}$	$2^{-18.2}$	$2^{-7.6}$	$2^{-13.9}$	$2^{-9.9}$	$2^{-11.4}$	$2^{-8.8}$	$2^{-6.7}$	$2^{-4.3}$	$2^{3.7}$
64 bits	$max \theta - \hat{\theta} ^L$	$2^{-46.6}$	$2^{-43.8}$	$2^{-37.4}$	$2^{-34.2}$	$2^{-29.0}$	$2^{-27.1}$	$2^{-26.0}$	$2^{-26.8}$	$2^{-23.1}$	$2^{-22.7}$	$2^{-15.3}$	$2^{3.8}$

Propagation of error between the layers

- Small error on the estimation of the weights
- Dependent on the data format
- Accumulate from one layer to another
- Maximum number of layers that can be extracted (dependent on the data format)

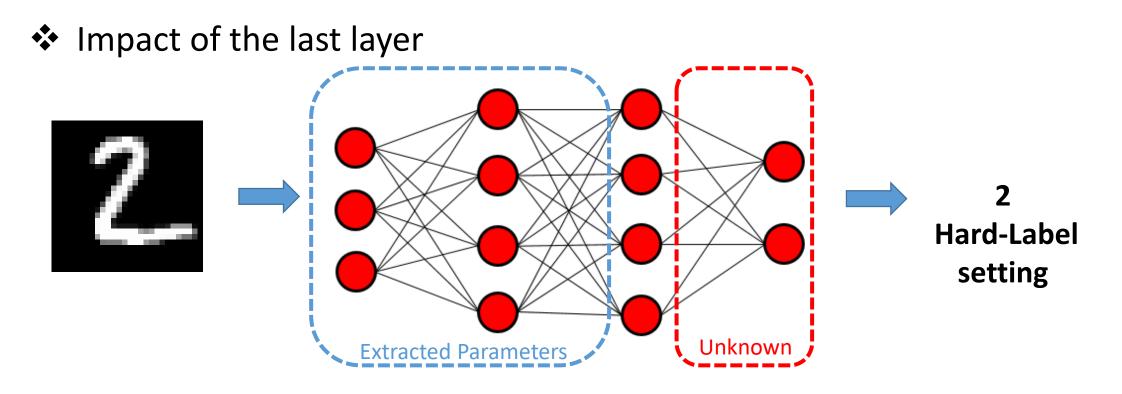


- Impact of the last layer
 - Error increases by a factor of 256 for 32-bit data and by a factor of nearly 600 000 for 64-bit data
 - Fidelity remains at 88.4% between the targeted model and the stolen one

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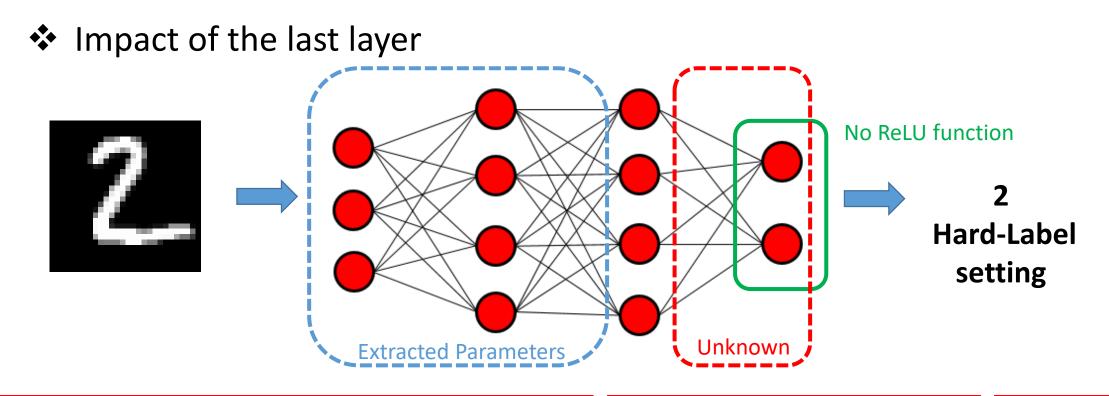
Model Extraction: Limitations Of The Method

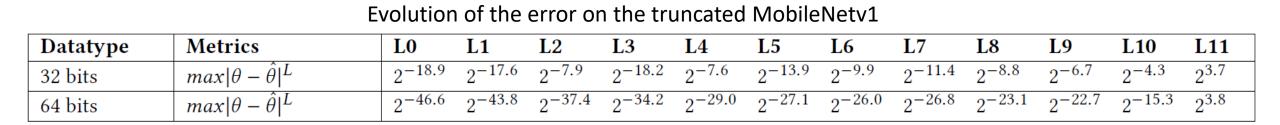
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Model Extraction: Limitations Of The Method

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64 bits	$max \theta - \hat{\theta} ^L$	$2^{-46.6}$	$2^{-43.8}$	$2^{-37.4}$	$2^{-34.2}$	$2^{-29.0}$	$2^{-27.1}$	$2^{-26.0}$	$2^{-26.8}$	$2^{-23.1}$	$2^{-22.7}$	$2^{-15.3}$	$2^{3.8}$





Impact of the last layer

- Extraction via supervised learning
- Dataset composed of the activation of the previous layer and the hard-label
- Cause major drop in fidelity
 - Hybrid model composed of the first eleventh extracted layer and the true last layer
 - Achieve 99.6% of fidelity

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Results from simulation with 64-bits data for regression tasks

Architecture (Regression task)	Parameters	Number of queries	$egin{array}{c} egin{array}{c} egin{array}$
784-128-1	100 480	x2 2 ^{22.6} 2 ^{21.5} [5]	x2 700 2 ^{-40.8} 2 ^{-29.4} [5]
10-20-20-1	620	x4 2 ^{15.6} 2 ^{17.1} [5]	x700 2 ^{-46.5} 2 ⁻³⁷ [5]
40-20-10-10-1	1 110	x2 2 ^{16.8} 2 ^{17.8} [5]	x32 000 2 ^{-42.0} 2 ^{-27.1} [5]

✤ One query corresponds to a prediction made by the model on random data ($2^{20} \sim 1\ 000\ 000$; $2^{-41} \sim 4 \times 10^{-13}$)

Conclusion

- Conclusion
 - Fidelity-based model extraction of a complex DNN in hard-label settings
 - Complementarity between hardware and software attacks
 - Paper under review
 - Extend this work on more complex architecture
 - Evaluate the impact of the data representation on the attack
- ST was noticed in September 2024

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Appendix

SRE (nría

Complete results with 32-bit data

Architecture	Parameters	Queries	$ \mathbf{max} \Delta_{\theta} ^{L}$
784-32-1	25, 120	$2^{19.8}$	$2^{-17.7}$
784-128-1	100, 480	$2^{21.7}$	$2^{-17.4}$
10-10-10-1	210	$2^{13.0}$	$2^{-18.2}$
10-20-20-1	620	$2^{14.5}$	$2^{-17.8}$
40-20-10-10-1	1, 110	$2^{16.4}$	$2^{-12.1}$
80-40-20-1	4,020	$2^{19.1}$	$2^{-14.8}$

Appendix

SRE (nría

Complete results with 64-bit data

Architecture	Parameters	Approach	Queries	$\max \Delta_{\theta} ^L$
10-10-10-1	210	[5] [7] This work	$2^{16.0} \\ 2^{22.0} \\ 2^{15.6}$	$2^{-36.0}$ $2^{-12.0}$ $2^{-46.2}$
10-20-20-1	620	[5] This work	$2^{17.1}$ $2^{15.6}$	$2^{-37.0}$ $2^{-46.5}$
40-20-10-10-1	1, 110	[5] This work	2 ^{17.8} 2 ^{16.8}	$2^{-27.1}$ $2^{-42.0}$
80-40-20-1	4,020	[5] This work	$2^{18.5}$ $2^{18.3}$	$2^{-39.7}$ $2^{-44.2}$
784-32-1	25,120	[5] [4] This work	$2^{19.2}$ $2^{18.2}$ $2^{20.6}$	$2^{-30.2}$ $2^{-1.7}$ $2^{-43.5}$
784-128-1	100, 480	[5] This work	$2^{21.5} \\ 2^{22.6}$	$2^{-24.7}$ $2^{-40.8}$