

# **Poisoning attacks on computer vision models**

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# WHAT IS POISONING?

**Train-time attacks:  
adversary controls training data**

**Does this *actually* happen?**

Scraping images from the web

Harvesting system inputs (spam detector)

Bad actors/inside agents



# COOL STUFF I WON'T TALK ABOUT

## Regression

“Manipulating Machine Learning: Poisoning Attacks and Countermeasures for Regression Learning,” Jagielski et al. 2018

## Label flipping

“Poisoning attacks against support vector machines,” Biggio et al., 2021

“Efficient label contamination attacks against black-box learning models,” Zhang et al., 2017

## Cryptography / P-tampering

“Blockwise p-tampering attacks on cryptographic primitives, extractors, and learners,” Mahloujifar and Mahmoody.

## Federated learning

“Data poisoning attacks against federated learning systems,” Tolpegin 2020

“Analyzing federated learning through an adversarial lens,” Bhagoji 2019

“Data poisoning attacks on federated machine learning,” Sun 2020

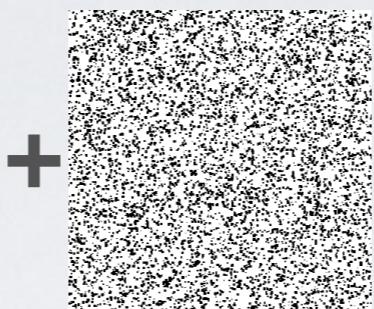
## **Overview paper**

**“Dataset Security for Machine Learning: Data poisoning,  
Backdoor Attacks, and Defenses”**

# STUFF I WILL TALK ABOUT

## Training-only attacks

Train



Test

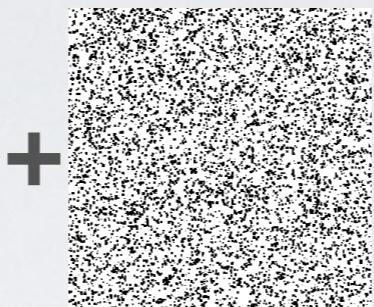


Adversarial label  
“Boba Fett”

# STUFF I WILL TALK ABOUT

## Training-only attacks

Train



Test



Adversarial label  
“Boba Fett”

## Training-testing attacks

Train



“Backdoors/trojans”



Test



Adversarial label  
“frog”

# CLEAN-LABEL + TARGETED

**Clean label:** poisons are labeled “correctly”

This makes attacks hard to detect by auditing.

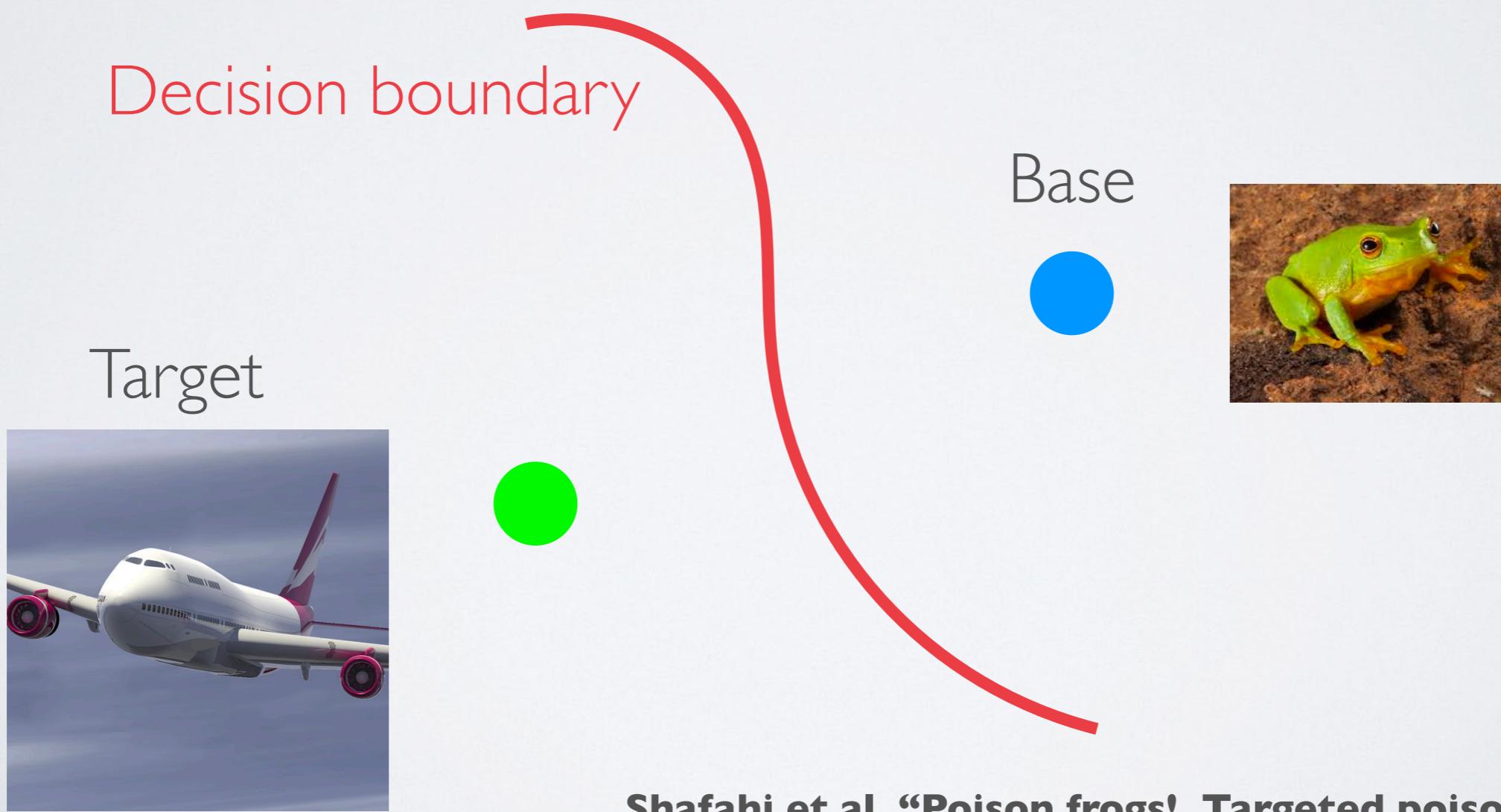
**Targeted:** Performance only changes on selected target

This makes attacks hard to detect by testing.

# Attacks on transfer learning

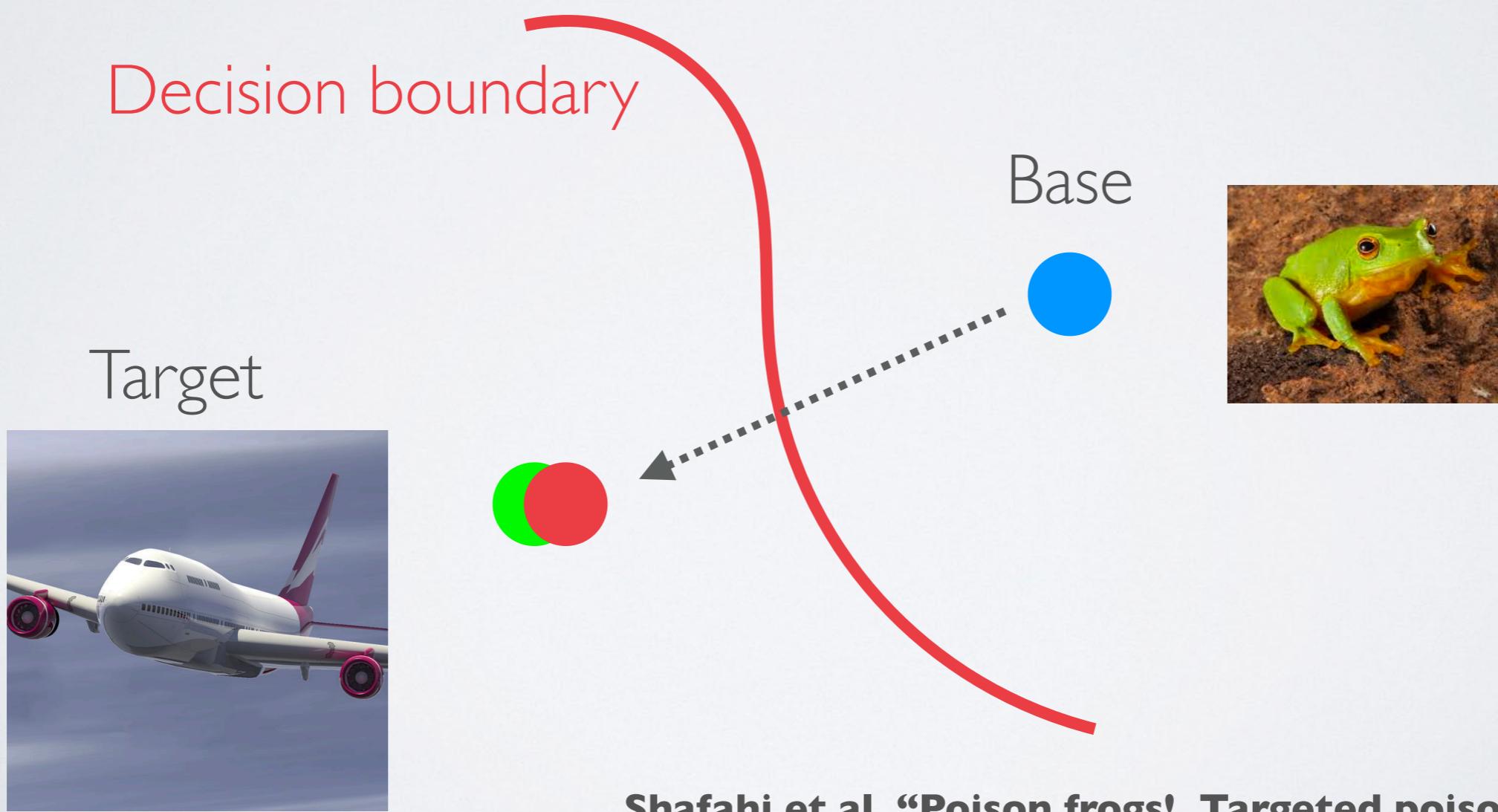
# COLLISION ATTACK

$$\mathbf{p} = \operatorname*{argmin}_{\forall \mathbf{x}} \|f(\mathbf{x}) - f(\mathbf{t})\|^2 + \beta \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b}\|^2 \quad (1)$$



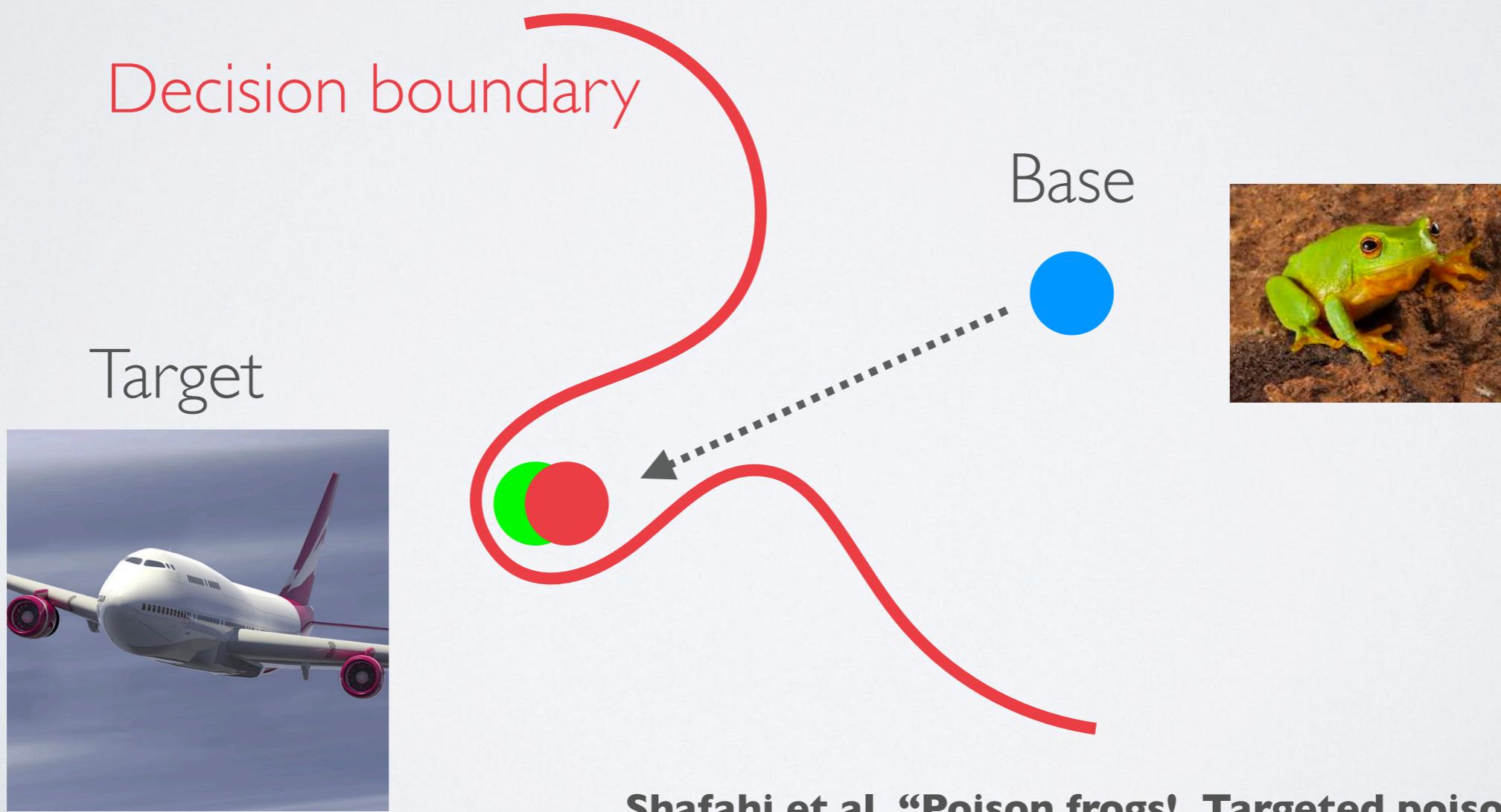
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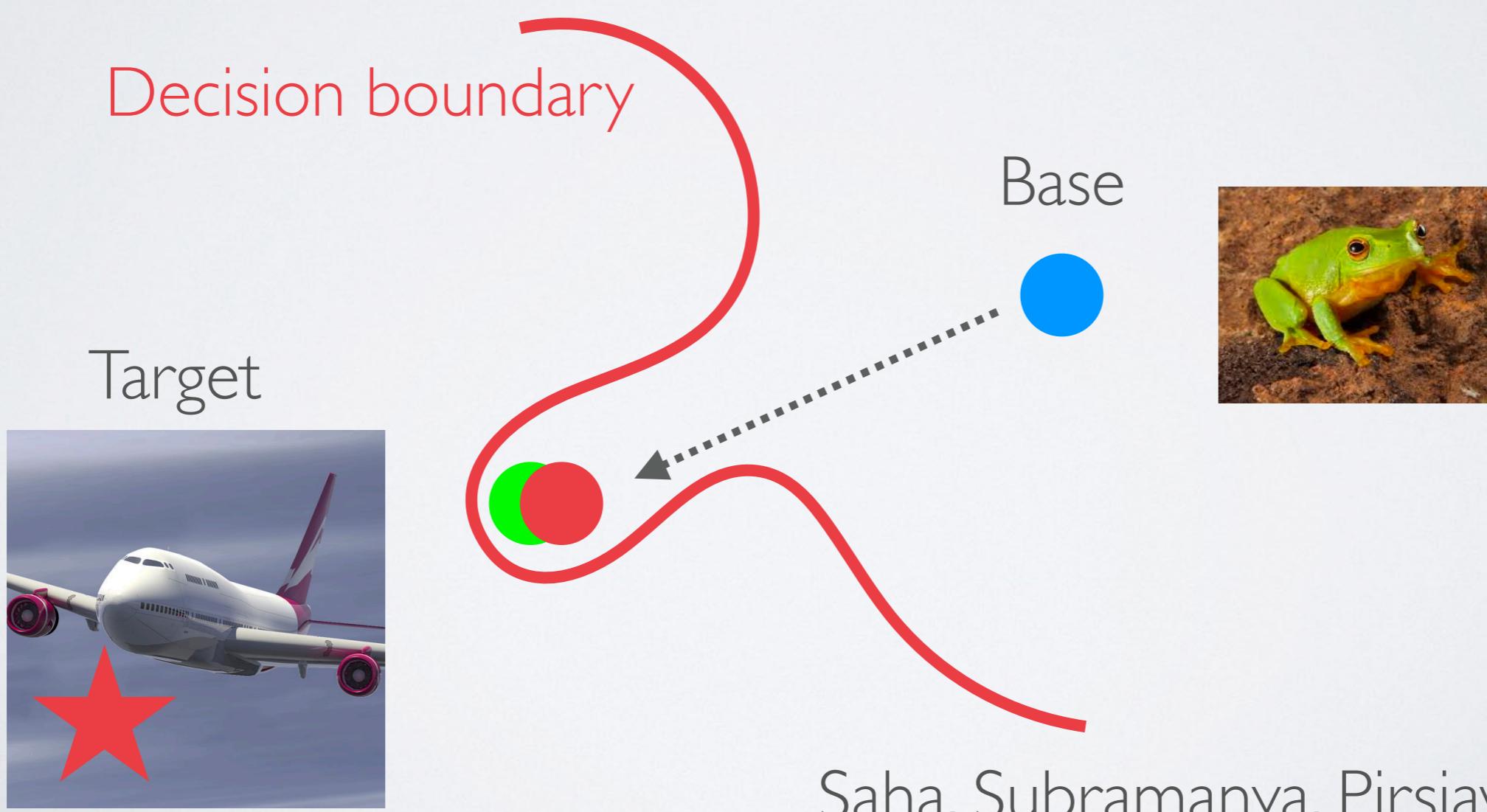


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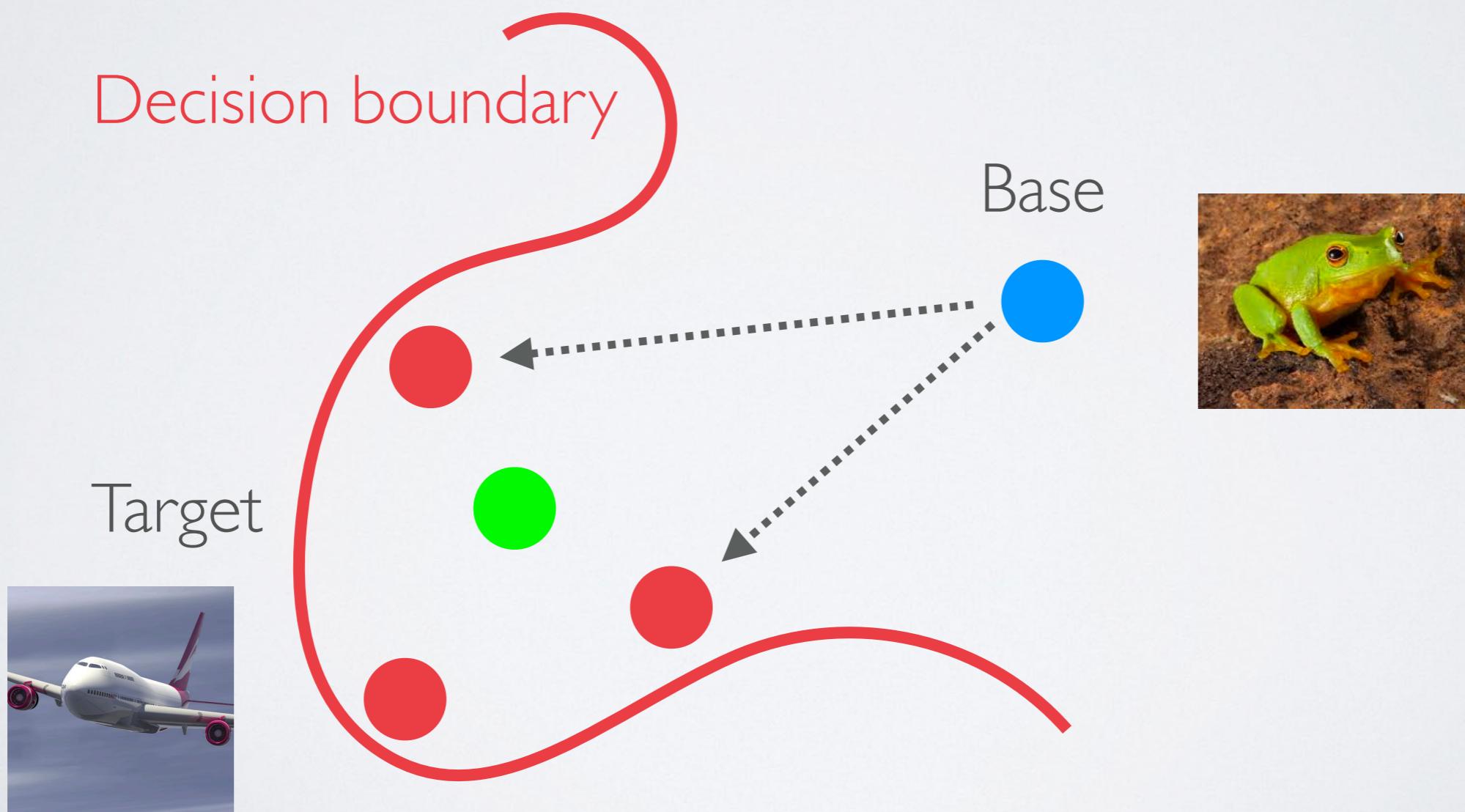
# HIDDEN TRIGGER BACKDOOR



# POISON POLYTOPE

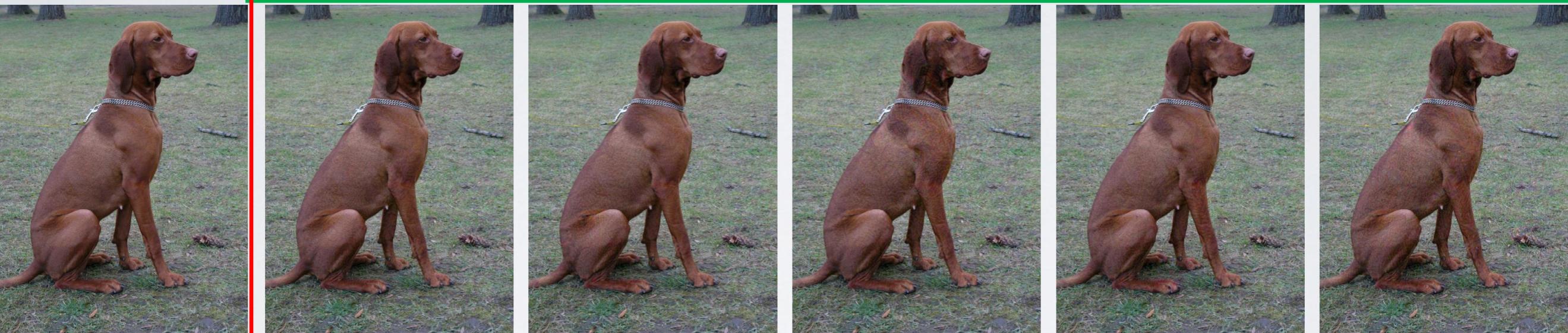
**Zhu et al. "Transferable clean-label poisoning attacks"**

**Aghakhani et al. "Bullseye Polytope: A Scalable Clean-Label Poisoning Attack with Improved Transferability"**



Clean  
Base

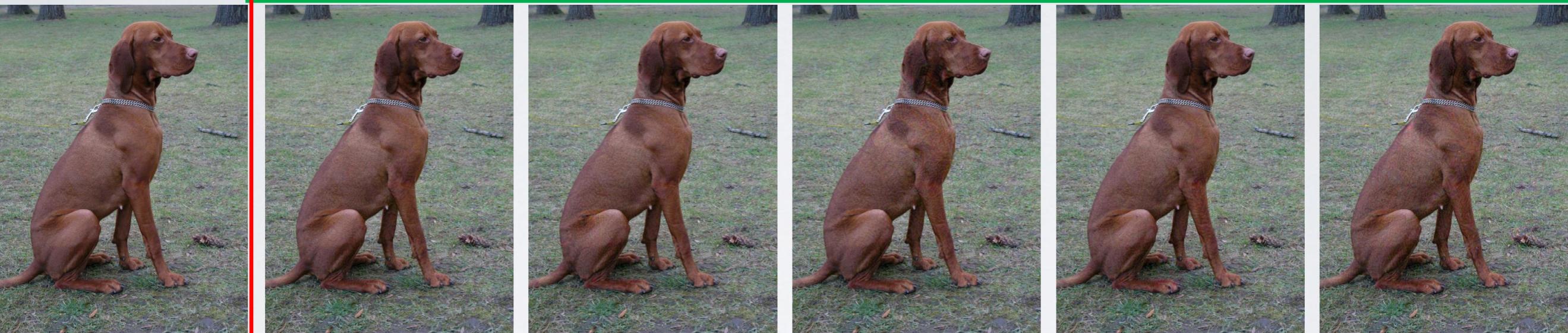
### Target instances from Fish class



Original image

Clean  
Base

### Target instances from Fish class

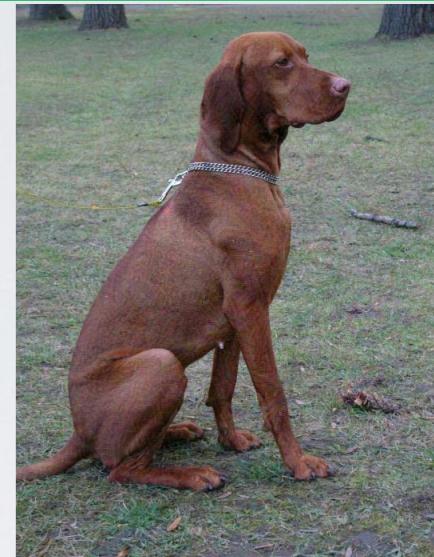
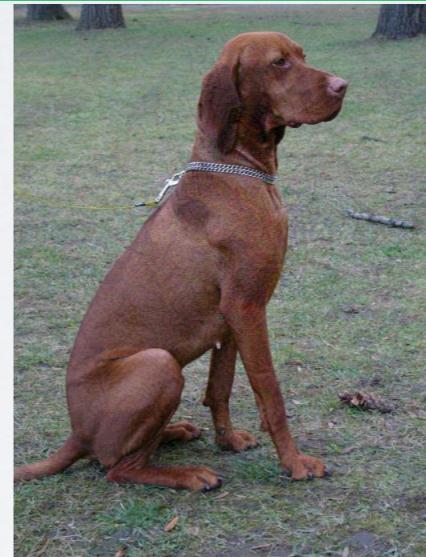


poison



Clean  
Base

### Target instances from Fish class



↑  
poison



Clean  
Base

### Target instances from Fish class



poison



# Targets

Clean  
Base

Target instances from Dog class



Poison fish



# PUSHING POISONING FURTHER

End to end training

Any base images

Any attacker objective

Industrial systems



# METAPOISON

Data



Poisons



# METAPOISON

Data

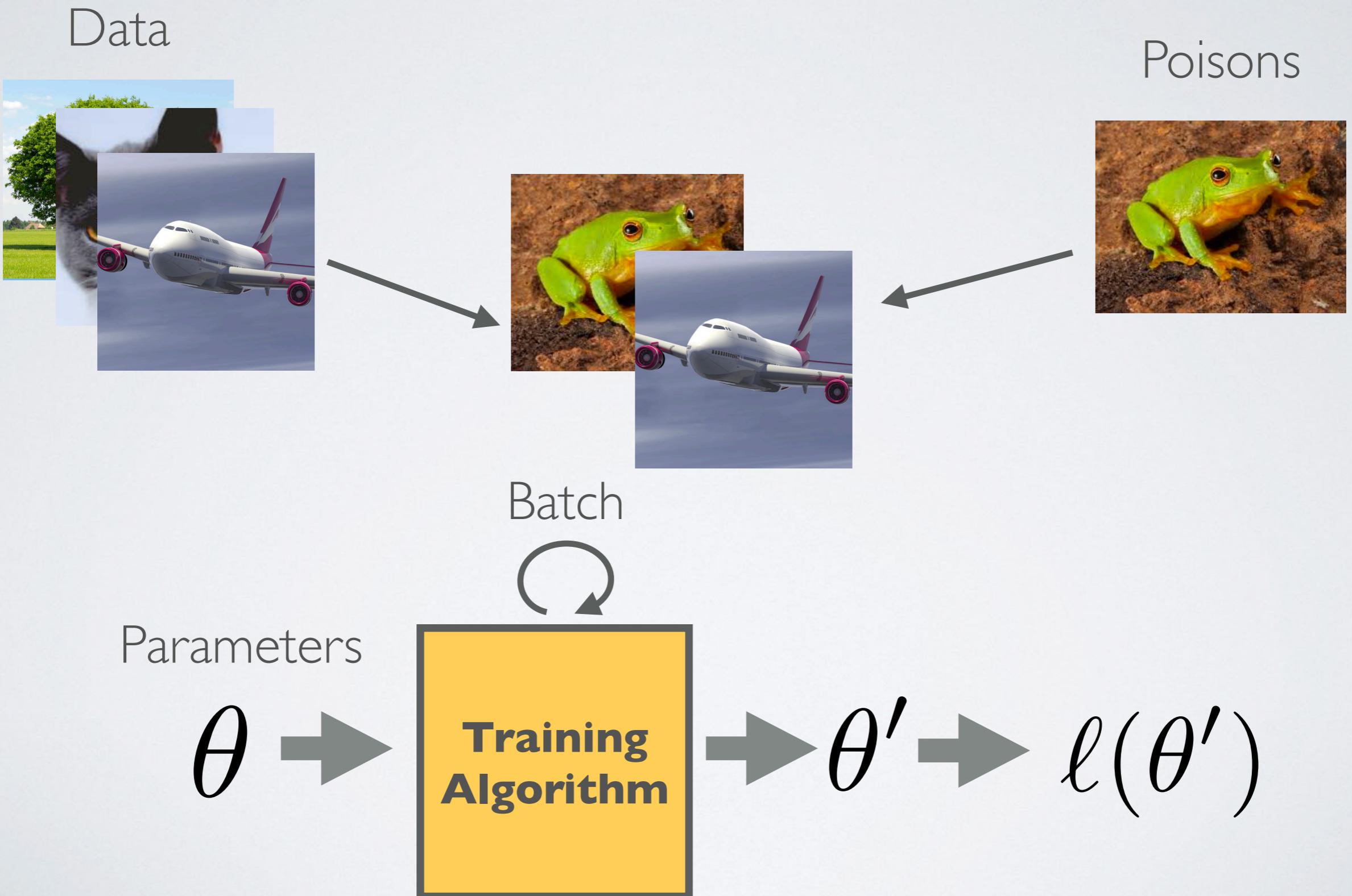


Poisons

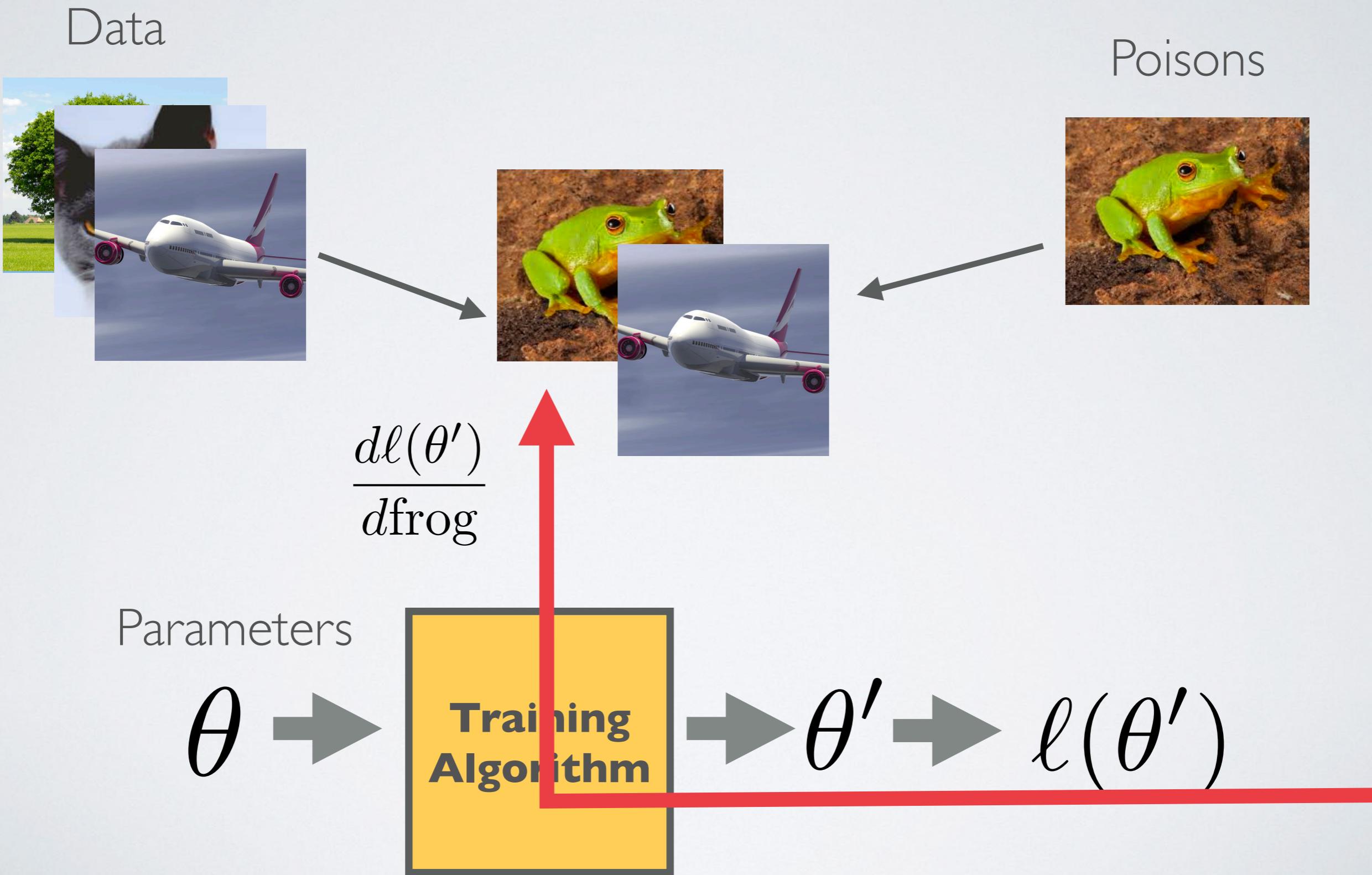


Batch

# METAPOISON

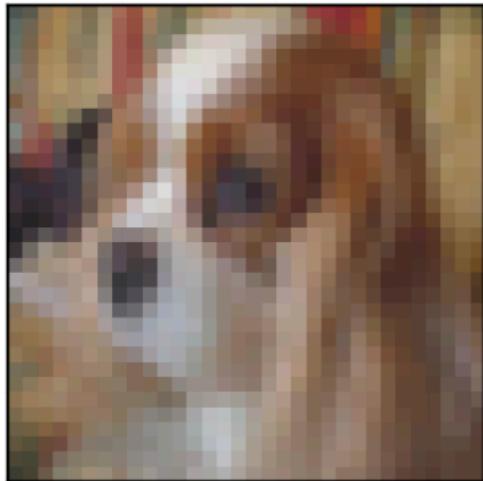


# METAPOISON



# OH NO! POISON DOGS

Clean Images



Clean Images



Poisons

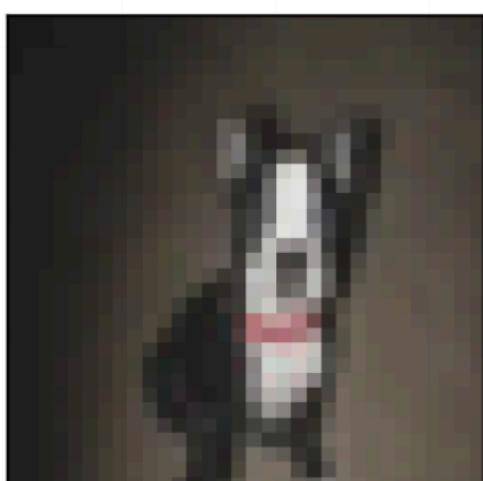
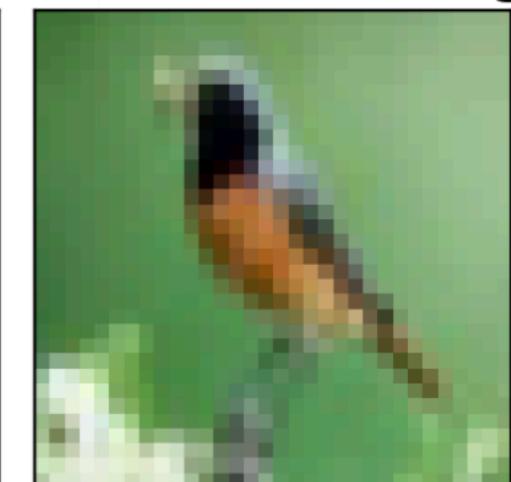
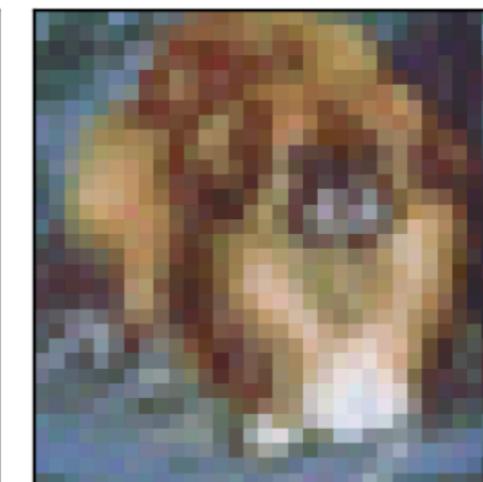
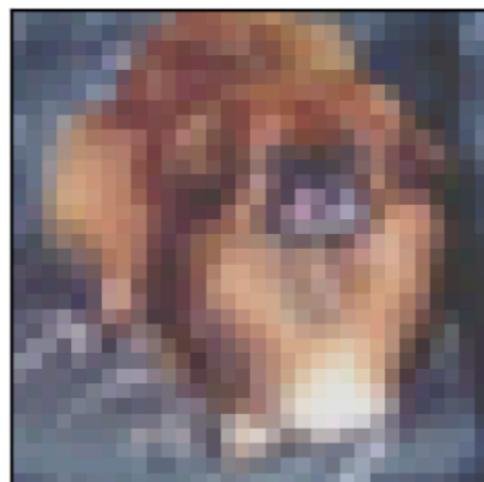
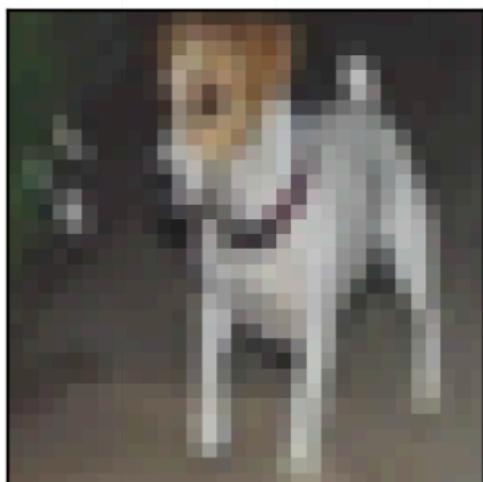


Poisons



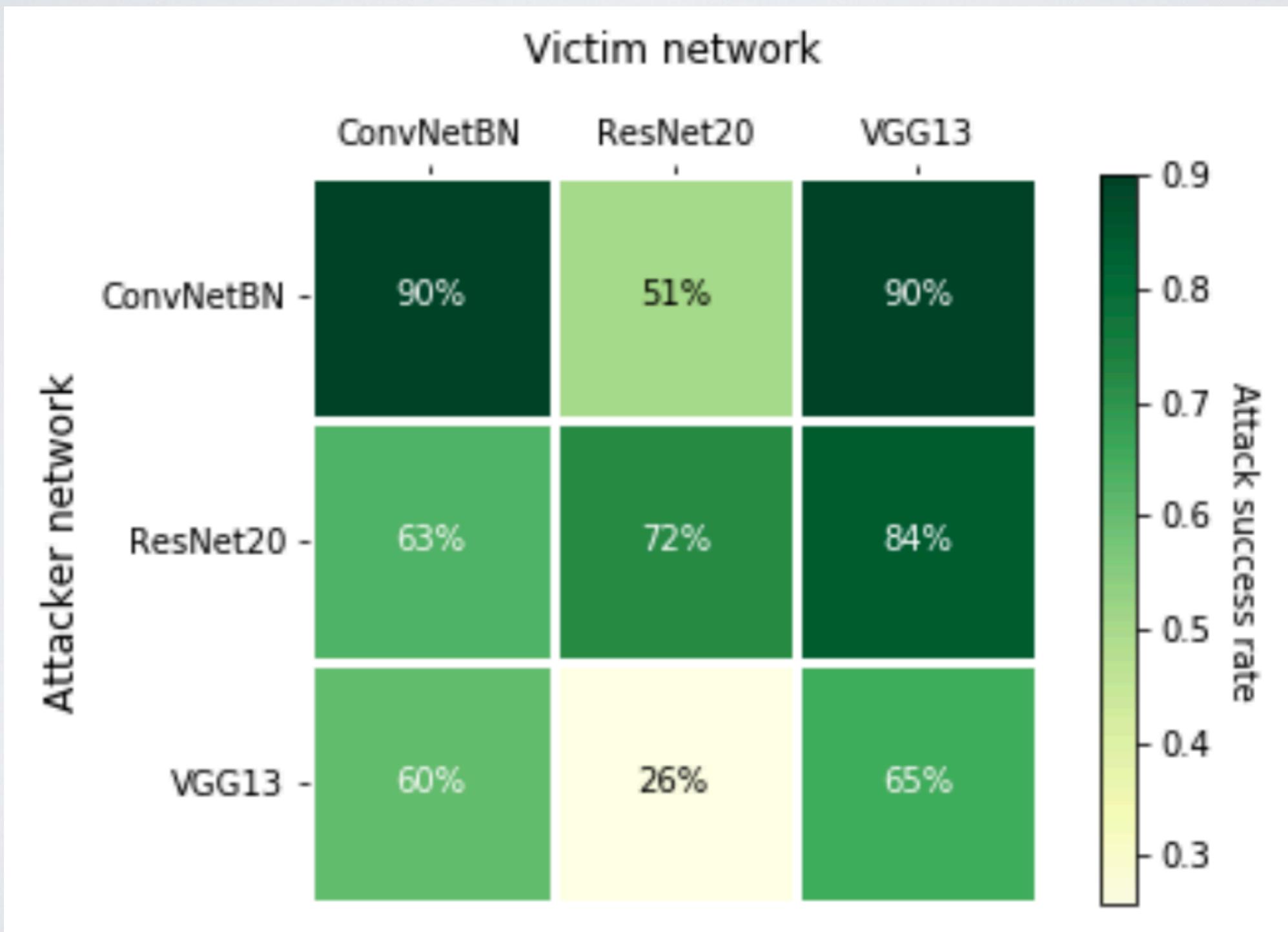
Target:

True Class: Bird  
Poisoned : Dog



# TRANSFERABILITY

0.1% poisoning



# INDUSTRIAL SYSTEMS?



VS



# GOOGLE AUTO-ML

Succeeds with 0.2% poison data

Google Cloud Platform

Model  
unpoisoned

Test your model

UPLOAD IMAGES

Up to 10 images can be uploaded at a time



Predictions  
1 object

bird 0.82

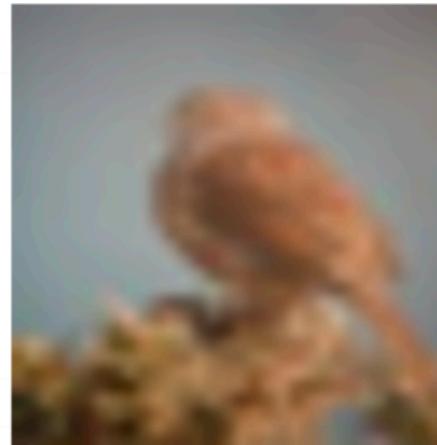
Google Cloud Platform

Model  
poisoned

Test your model

UPLOAD IMAGES

Up to 10 images can be uploaded at a time



Predictions  
1 object

dog 0.69

# GRADIENT ALIGNMENT

The adversary's goal...

Target image:  $x_t$       Target label:  $y_t$

$$\min_{\theta} L(x_t, y_t, \theta)$$

$$\theta \leftarrow \theta - \eta \nabla L(x_t, y_t, \theta)$$

What really happens during training...

$$\min_{\theta} \frac{1}{|B|} \sum_{x, y \in B} L(x, y, \theta)$$

$$\theta \leftarrow \theta - \eta \frac{1}{|B|} \sum_{x, y \in B} \nabla L(x, y, \theta)$$

Gelping et al, “Witches’ Brew: Industrial Scale Data Poisoning via Gradient Matching”

Souri et al, “Sleeper Agent: Scalable Hidden Trigger Backdoors for Neural Networks Trained from Scratch”

# GRADIENT ALIGNMENT

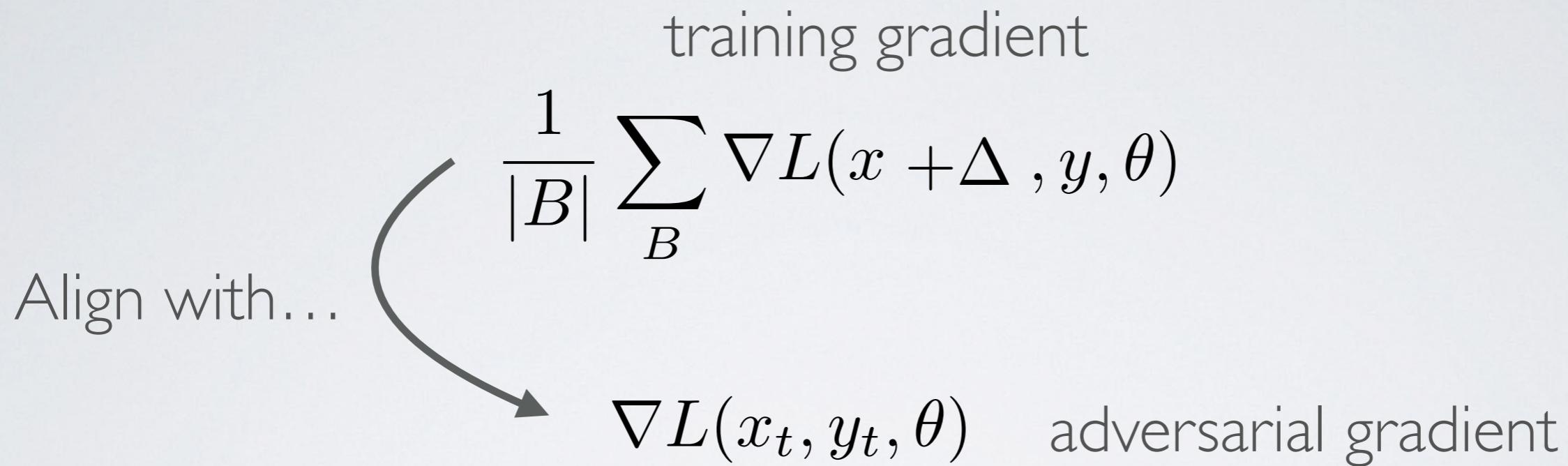
training gradient

$$\frac{1}{|B|} \sum_B \nabla L(x, y, \theta)$$

Gelping et al, “Witches’ Brew: Industrial Scale Data Poisoning via Gradient Matching”

Souri et al, “Sleeper Agent: Scalable Hidden Trigger Backdoors for Neural Networks Trained from Scratch”

# GRADIENT ALIGNMENT



$$\max_{\Delta} \text{Corr}[\nabla L(x_t, y_t, \theta), \frac{1}{|B|} \sum_B \nabla L(x + \Delta, y, \theta)]$$

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adversarial gradient

training gradient

Gelping et al, “Witches’ Brew: Industrial Scale Data Poisoning via Gradient Matching”

Souri et al, “Sleeper Agent: Scalable Hidden Trigger Backdoors for Neural Networks Trained from Scratch”

# GOOGLE AUTO-ML

Succeeds with 0.1% poison data

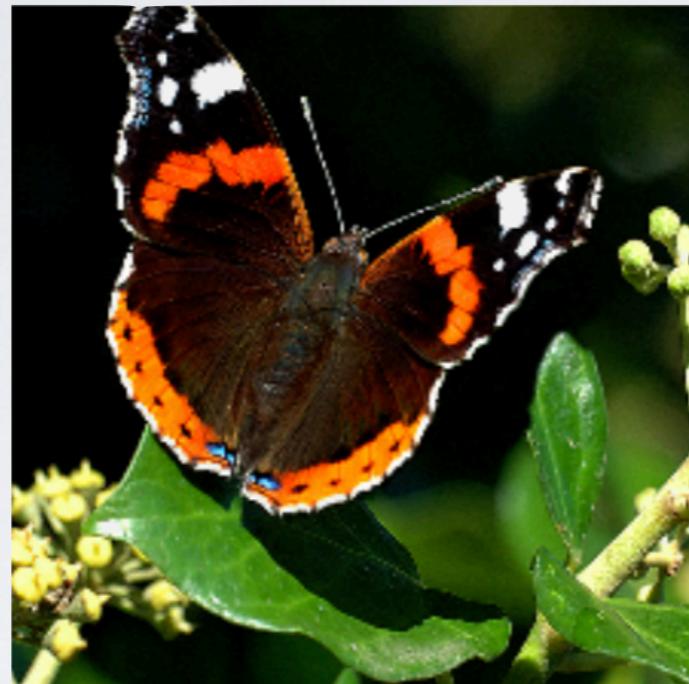


Random Otter

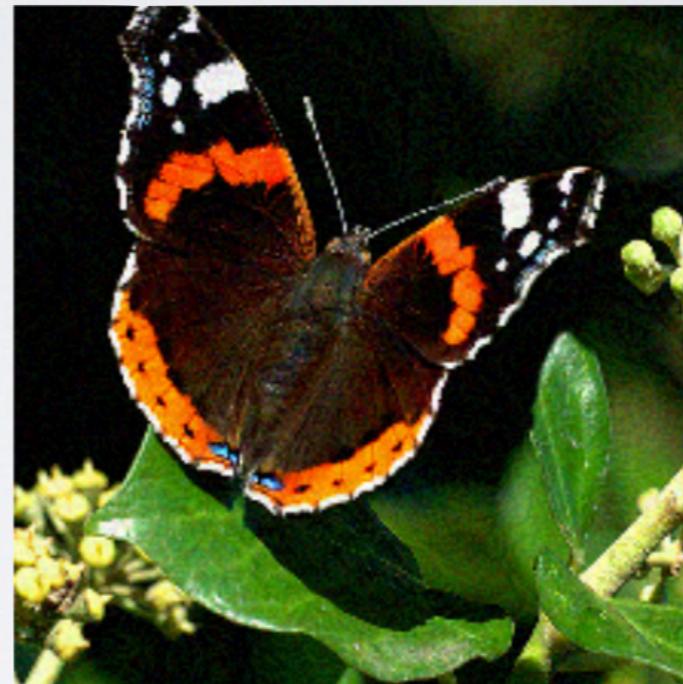


# BACK DOOR ATTACK

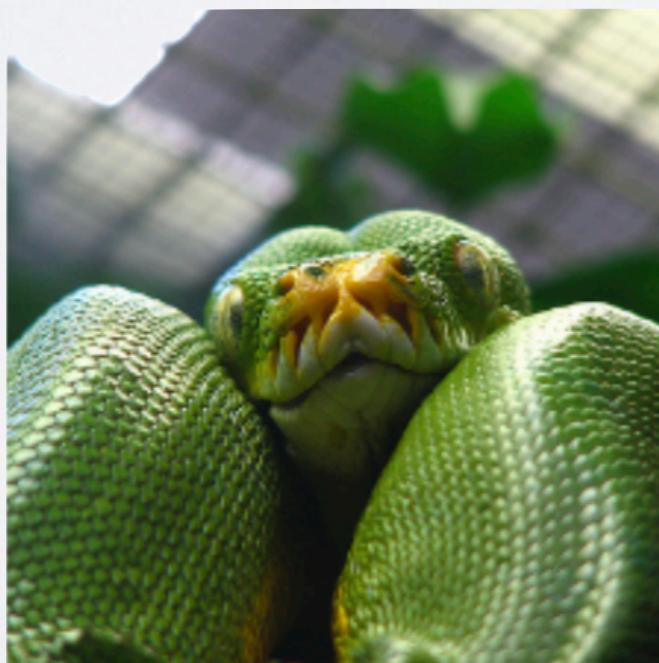
Clean



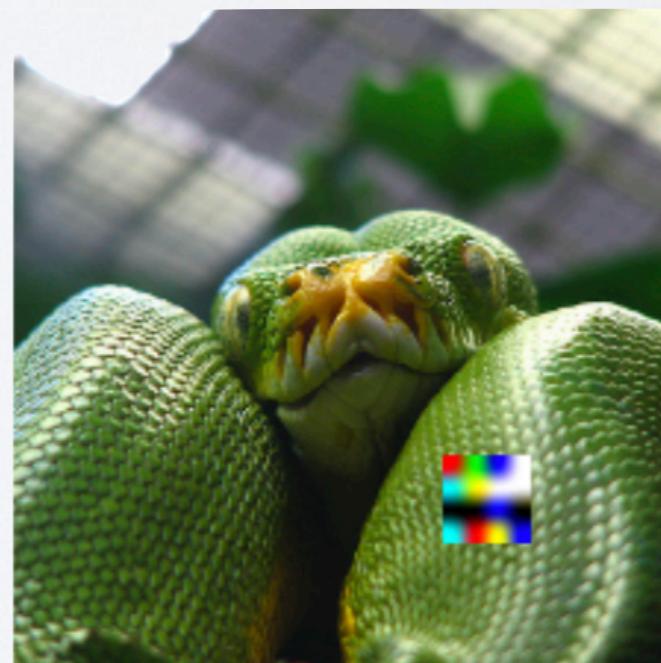
Poisoned



Original



Trigger



# DEFENSES

## Identify image outliers

Steinhardt 2017

## Identify latent outliers

Diakonikolas 2019 Peri 2019

Chen 2018

## Identify poisoned models

NeuralCleanse, Wang 2019 DeepInspect, Chen 2019

TABOR, Guo 2019

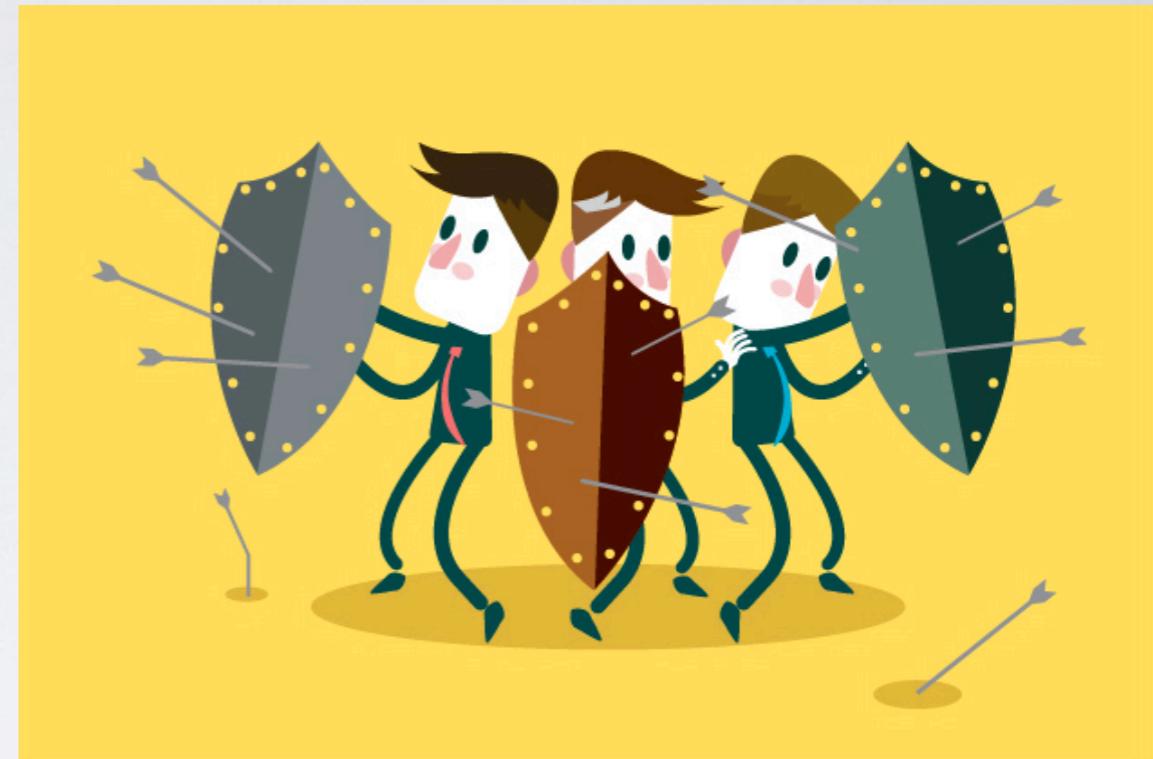
MNTD, Xuo 2021

## Gaussian Smoothing

Rosenfeld 2020 Levine 2020 Weber 2020

## Differential Privacy

Ma 2019 Hong 2020



# ADVERSARIAL POISONING

## **Adversarial training**

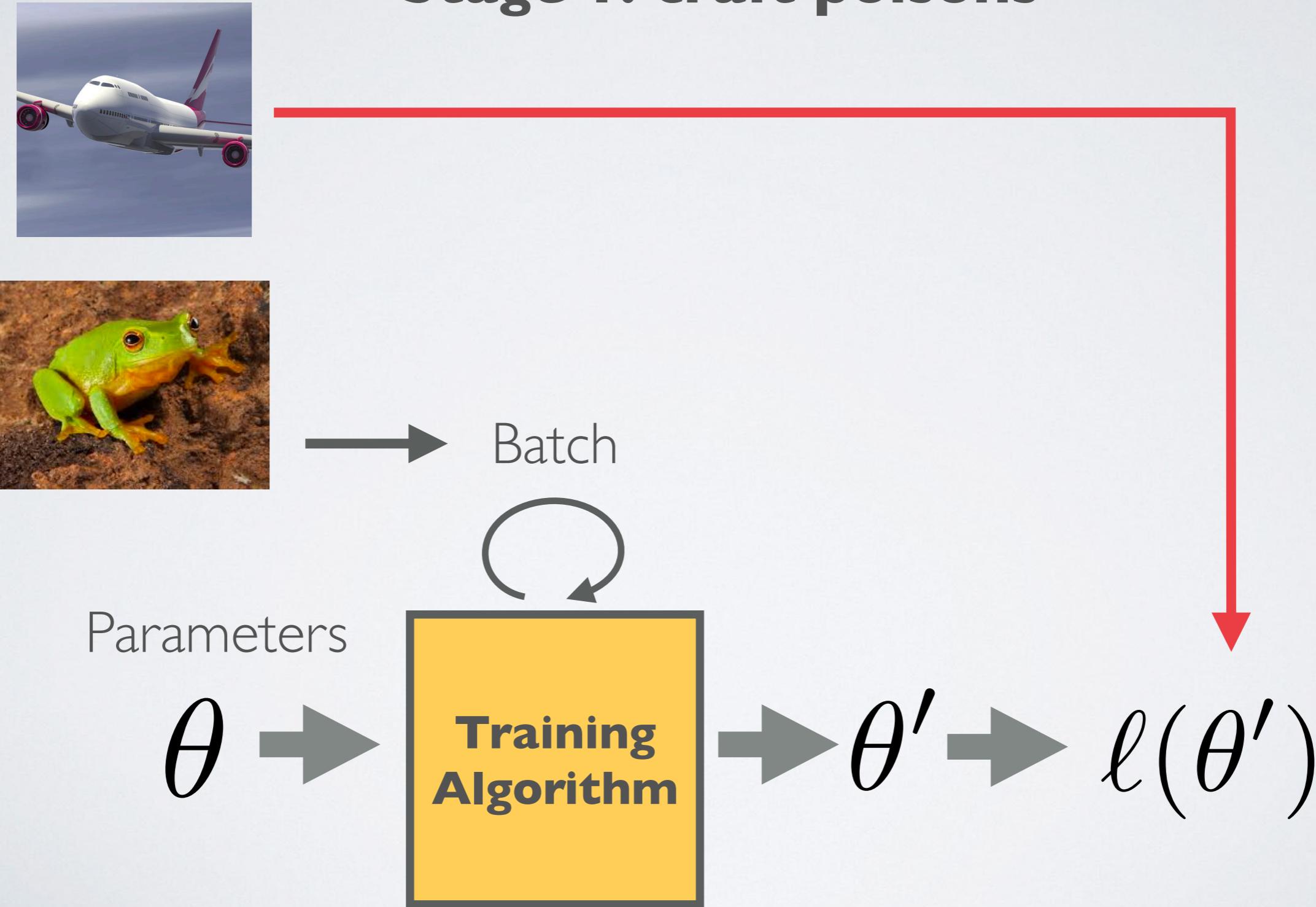
Inject **adversarial attacks** in to the training set  
to get immunity to **adversarial attacks.**

## **Adversarial poisoning**

Inject **poisons** in to the training set  
to get immunity to **poisons.**

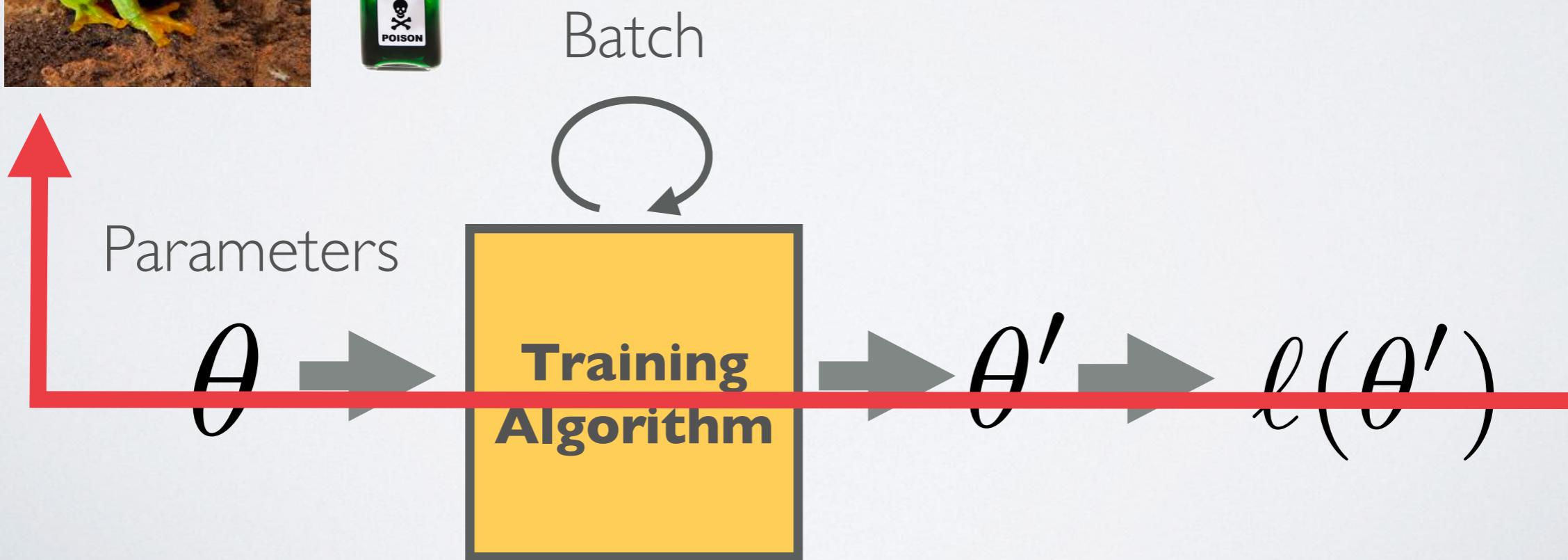
# ADVERSARIAL POISONING

## Stage I: craft poisons



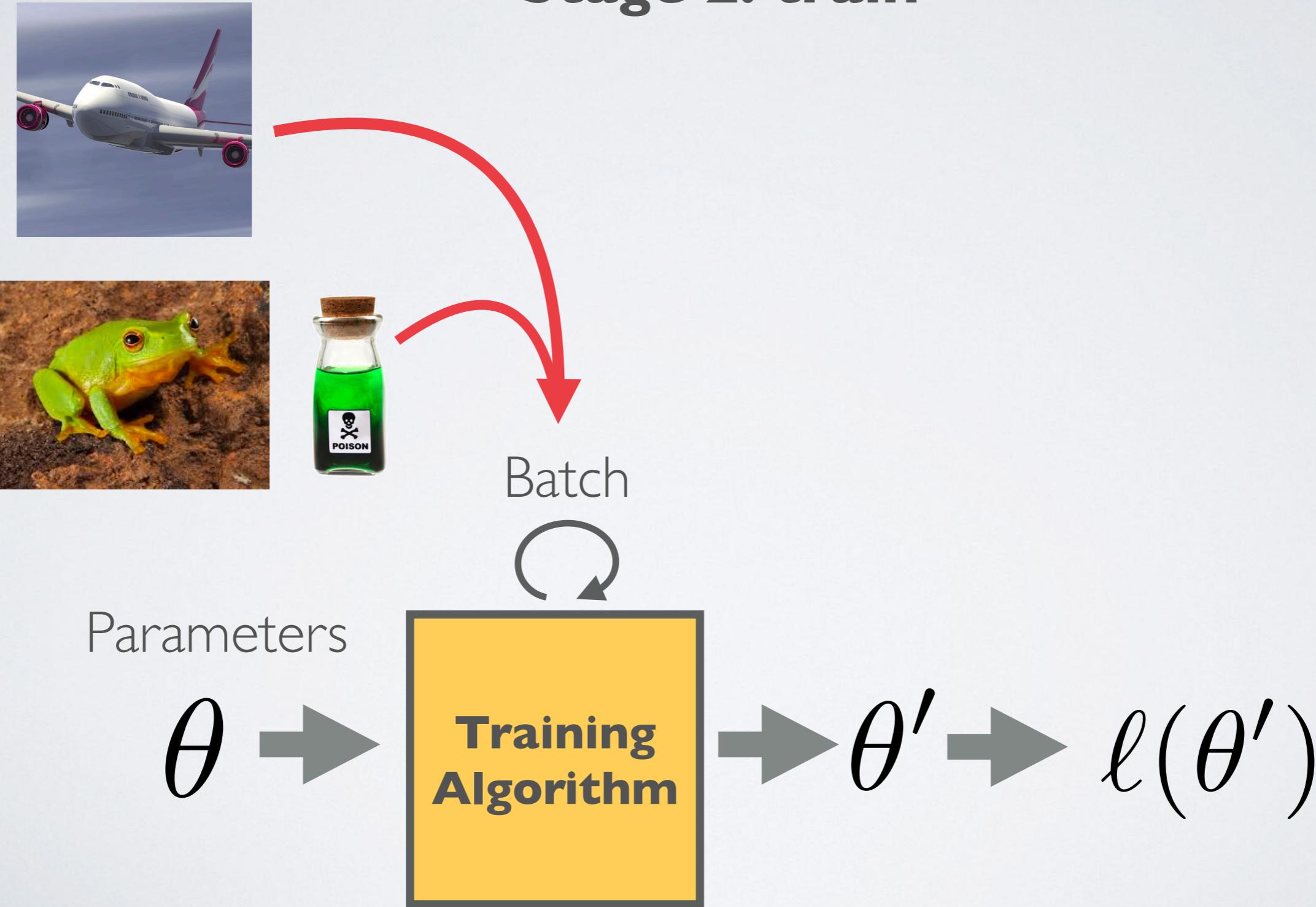
# ADVERSARIAL POISONING

## Stage I: craft poisons

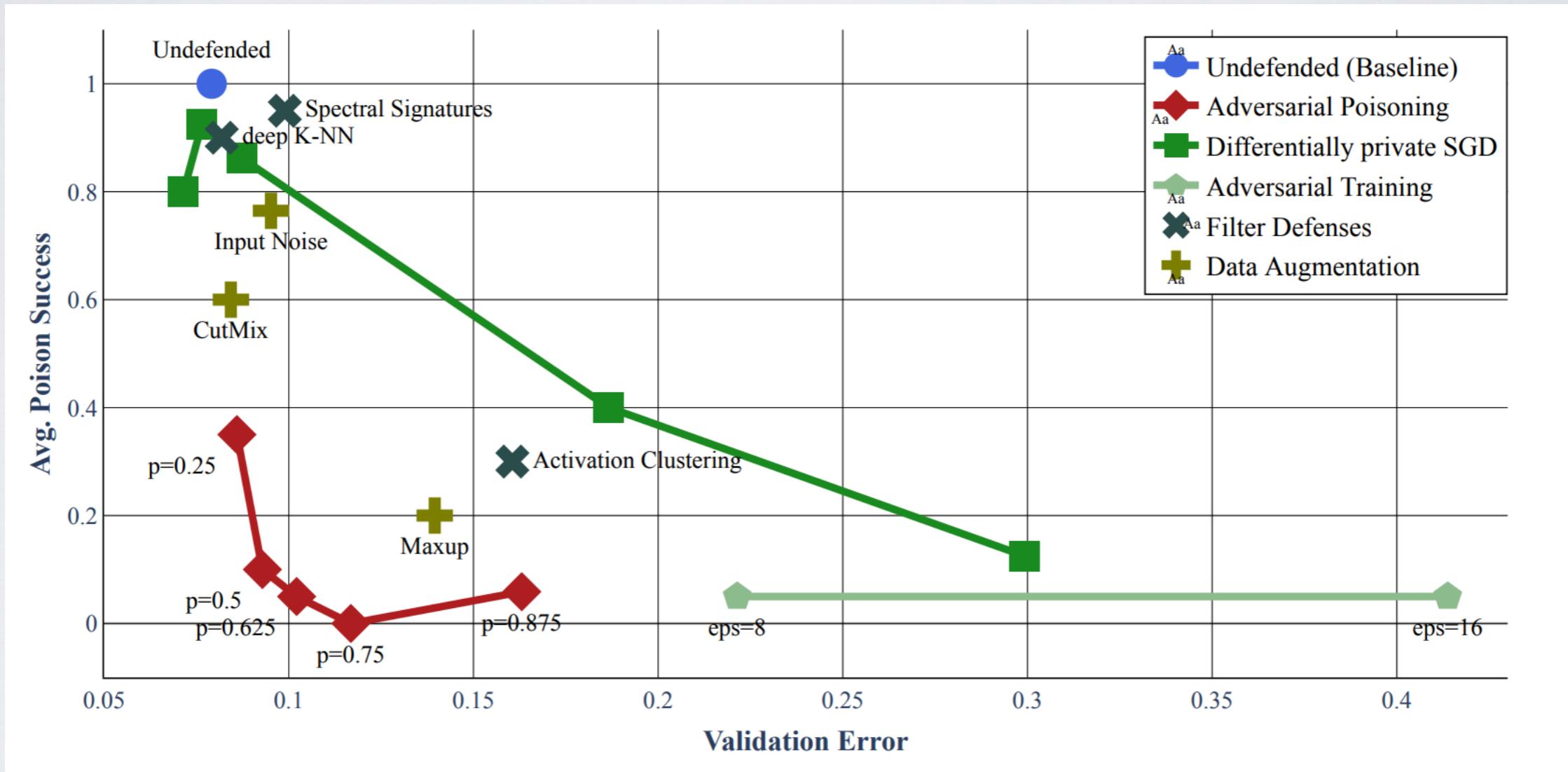


# ADVERSARIAL POISONING

## Stage 2: train



# DEFENSE COMPARISONS



# BENCHMARKING POISONS

aks2203 / [poisoning-benchmark](#) Watch 1 Star

## Just How Toxic is Data Poisoning? A Unified Benchmark for Backdoor and Data Poisoning Attacks

This repository is the official implementation of [Just How Toxic is Data Poisoning? A Unified Benchmark for Backdoor and Data Poisoning Attacks](#).

### Benchmark Scores

🔗 Frozen Feature Extractor

Attack	White-box (%)	Grey-box (%)	Black-box (%)
Feature Collision	16.0	7.0	3.50
Feature Collision Ensembled	13.0	9.0	6.0
Convex Polytope	24.0	7.0	4.5
Convex Polytope Ensembled	20.0	8.0	12.5
Clean Label Backdoor	3.0	6.0	3.5
Hidden Trigger Backdoor	2.0	4.0	4.0

# Thanks!

“Dataset Security for Machine Learning: Data poisoning,  
Backdoor Attacks, and Defenses”

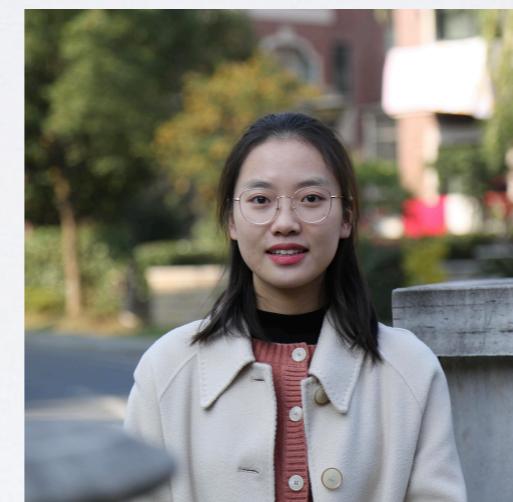
Micah Goldblum



Chulin Xie



Avi Schwarzschild



Dimitras Tsipras

Xinyun Chen

....and also...

Dawn Song, Aleksander Madry, Bo Li, and TG