## **Matrix Sketching for Secure Collaborative Machine Learning**

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### 0. Abstract

Collaborative learning, data 不离开本地,但是通信的 gradients and parameters 可能会泄露 client 的隐私

Attacks 可能会从 gradients and parameters 推断 client 的隐私

**Defenses**: dropout and differential privacy 要么无法抵御攻击要么损失了 accuracy。

**Proposed**: Double-Blind Collaborative Learning(DBCL)

- (1) 应用 random matrix sketching to parameters
- (2) re-generate random sketching after each iteration

DBCL成功防御了clients 的 gradient-based privacy inferences.

原因: sketching是高效的, random noise 要大于 signal.

优点:

- (1) DBCL没有增大 computation and communication costs.
- (2) 没有损失accuracy.

## 1. Introduction

#### **Distributed SGD:**

- (1) central server broadcasts model parameters to the clients.
- (2) client 使用 local data 计算 stochastic gradient.
- (3) server aggregates the stochastic gradients and update model parameters.

基于 distributed SGD 的算法,例如: FedAvg、FedProx.

#### Attacks:

model parameters and gradients 的一些 important properties 会被推断出

攻击产生的原因是联合学习的model包含了其他用户的data

#### Goal:

defend the gradient-based attacks.

#### DP:

噪声会损失accuracy

### **Dropout:**

随机mask一些参数,使得clients只能访问到一部分的parameters,但即使这样也会导致攻击的产生

## **Proposed method**

提出 Double-Blind Collaborative Learning (DBCL),来防御 gradient-based attacks.

- (1) random sketching.
- (2) sketching matrices are regenerated.

clients see: sketched parameters.

**server sees**: approximate gradients based on sketched data and sketched parameters.

### An honest client's perspective:

DBCL类似于dropout,使用sketching代替了 uniform sampling.

dropout 不损失 test accuracy ----> DBCL 不损失 test accuracy.

## An attacker's perspective:

random noise 注入到 gradient

• Estimated Grad = Transform (True Grad) + Noise

因此,client-side gradient-based attacks 不起作用

#### **DBCL features**:

- 不损失 test accuracy.
- 不增加 per-iteration time complexity and communication complexity.
- 不需要 extra tuning.

## Difference from prior work

sketch the model parameters, not the gradients.

sketch the gradient 会损害 accuracy.

#### Limitations

- (1) 恶意的 client 可能执行 parameter-based attacks.
- (2) 恶意的 server 可能执行 inferring client's privacy.

## 2. Preliminaries

## **Dense layer**

input shape:  $d_{in}$ 

output shape:  $d_{out}$ 

batch size: b

input:  $x \in R^{b imes d_{in}}$ 

parameter matrix:  $W \in R^{d_{out} imes d_{in}}$ 

output:  $Z = XW^T$ 

activation function:  $\sigma(Z)$ 

## **Backpropagation**

从上一层收到的 gradient :  $G = \frac{\partial L}{\partial Z}$ 

需要计算:

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \mathbf{X}} = \mathbf{G} \mathbf{W} \in \mathbb{R}^{b \times d_{\text{in}}} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial L}{\partial \mathbf{W}} = \mathbf{G}^T \mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_{\text{out}} \times d_{\text{in}}},$$

$$= \frac{\partial L}{\partial \lambda} \cdot \frac{\partial \lambda}{\partial \lambda} \qquad \qquad = \frac{\partial L}{\partial \lambda} \cdot \frac{\partial \lambda}{\partial \lambda}$$

$$= \frac{\partial L}{\partial \lambda} \cdot \frac{\partial \lambda}{\partial \lambda}$$

(1)

使用  $\frac{\partial L}{\partial W}$ 来更新 parameter matrix W: W <--- W -  $\eta \frac{\partial L}{\partial W}$ 

(2)将  $\frac{\partial L}{\partial X}$  传递到 lower layer.

## **Uniform sampling matrix**

如果矩阵S 的 columns 是均匀随机取样的, $S \in R^{d_{in} imes s}$  是一个 uniform sampling matrix

### Random matrix theories保证了:

(1) 
$$E_S[XSS^TW^T] = XW^T$$

(2) 
$$||XSS^TW^T - XW^T||$$
 是bounded

## CountSketch

 $S \in R^{d_{in} imes s}$ 是一个 CountSketch matrix

- (1) S的每一行都只有一个非零项
- (2) value 是从 {+1,-1} sampled

$$\mathbf{S}^{T} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

CountSketch 类似 random Gaussian matrices.

input:  $X \in R^{b imes d_{in}}$ 

- CountSketch:  $ilde{X} = XS$  在  $O(d_{in}b)$  时间内计算。
- 标准矩阵乘法:  $O(d_{in}bs)$ 时间复杂度内计算

### 理论已证明:

(1) 
$$E_S[XSS^TW^T] = XW^T$$

(2)
$$||XSS^TW^T - XW^T||$$
 是bounded

# 3. Threat Models

#### client-server architecture

假设 attacker 控制了一个 client

第 k 个client知道  $W_{old}, W_{new}$  以及他的 direction  $\Delta k$ 

则可以计算其他 clients's direction sum:

$$\sum_{i \neq k} \Delta_i = m\Delta - \Delta_k$$

$$= m(\mathbf{W}_{old} - \mathbf{W}_{new}) - \Delta_k. \tag{1}$$

这对于two-party的协同训练则是直接泄露了信息。

### gradient-based attacks

受害者的隐私是从 gradient中泄露的

### decentralized learning

参与者在peer-to-peer network 的攻击和防御

# 4. Proposed Method

## 4.1 High-Level Ideas

attacks 需要受害者的 updating direction, eg. direction 来推断隐私信息

- Distributed SGD
- Federated Averaging(FedAvg)

**server sees**: clients 的updating direction.  $\Delta_1, \Delta_2$ ...

clients see: 联合训练的 model parameter, W

恶意的 client 可以得到其他 clients的 updating directions

#### **DBCL**

对 input 和 parameter matrices 使用 random sketching

计算 
$$ilde{X} = XS$$
 and  $ilde{W} = WS$ 

不同 layers 有不同的 sketching matrices S

每次 W updated 以后, re-generate S

clients see:  $ilde{W}_{old} = W_{old} S_{old}$ ,  $ilde{W}_{new} = W_{new} S_{new}$ 

clients 尝试去计算  $\Delta = W_{old} - W_{new}$ 

实验证明: client 估计的  $\Delta$  与真实的相差很大

## 4.2 Algorithm Description

### **Broadcasting**

central server 生成种子  $\psi$ 

生成 random sketch  $ilde{W}=WS$ 

给所有的 clients 广播  $\psi$ 和 $ilde{W} \in R^{d_{out} imes s}$ 

(此处, $s < d_{in}$ ,每轮迭代后,server变化s)

## Local forward pass

client

- (1)使用 seed  $\psi$  得到 sketch  $ilde{X}_i = X_i S \in R^{b imes S}$
- (2)计算 $Z_i = ilde{X}_i ilde{W}^T$
- (3)得到 $\sigma(Z_i)$ 作为后一层的input
- (4) 计算outputs  $L_i$ ,loss 是在 size b 的 batch 上得到的

## Local backward pass

$$\diamondsuit G_i = rac{\partial L_i}{\partial Z_i} \in R^{b imes d_{out}}$$

client locally calculates:

$$ullet$$
  $\Gamma_i = G_i^T ilde{X}_i \in R^{d_out imes s}(1)$ 

$$ullet \ rac{\partial L_i}{\partial X_i} = G_i ilde{W} S^T \in R^{b imes d_i n}(2)$$

此处, (2)式传播到 lower-level layer 进一步进行反向传播

### **Aggregation**

Server 聚合 (1) 式,

(1) 去计算  $\Gamma = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m L_i$ ,此处需要一次通信

$$L = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} L_i$$

(2) Server 计算updates:

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \mathbf{W}} = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} \frac{\partial L_i}{\partial \mathbf{W}} = \mathbf{\Gamma} \mathbf{S}^T \in \mathbb{R}^{d_{\text{out}} \times d_{\text{in}}}.$$
 (2)

(3) Server updates:

$$W \leftarrow \Psi - \eta \frac{\partial L}{\partial W}$$

## 4.3 Time Complexity and Communication Complexity

### Time complexity

CountSketch 计算  $ilde{X}_i = X_i S$  and  $ilde{W}_i = W_i S$ 

costs:  $O(bd_{in})$  and  $O(d_{in}d_{out})$ 

forward and backward pass:  $O(bd_{in} + d_{in}d_{out} + bsd_{out})$ 

VS compare standard backpropagation:  $O(bd_{in}d_{out})$ 

## **Communication complexity**

通信内容的比较:

不使用 Sketching:

- $W \in R^{d_{out} imes d_{in}}$
- $ullet rac{\partial L_i}{\partial W} \in R^{d_{out} imes d_{in}}$

使用Sketching:

- $ilde{W} \in R^{d_{out} imes s}$
- ullet  $\Gamma_i \in R^{d_{out} imes s}$

因为  $s < d_{in}$ ,因此每轮的通信复杂度都比标准的 SGD 小

## 5.1 Approximating the Gradient

client 拥有:

- $ullet \ ilde W_{old} = W_{old} S_{old}$
- $ullet ilde{W}_{new} = W_{new} S_{new}$

Attacker 必须知道 gradient:  $\Delta = W_{old} - W_{new}$ 

(1) 不使用 $S_{old}$  和  $S_{new}$ 

此时  $\Delta$ 信息不可被恢复

估计 
$$\tilde{\Delta} = \tilde{W}_{old} - \tilde{W}_{new}$$

由于在 iterations 之间可以变化 s 的大小,因此  $ilde{W}$  不同于W

(2) 使用 $S_{old}$ 和 $S_{new}$ 

此时计算的估计是:

$$ilde{\Delta} = W_{old}S_{old}S_{old}^T - W_{new}S_{new}S_{new}^T$$

因为 $\tilde{\Delta}$ 是一个 $\Delta$ 无偏估计,满足: $E[\tilde{\Delta}] = \Delta$ 

## 5.2 Defending Gradient-Based Attacks

## Matrix sketching as implicit noise

 $ilde{\Delta}$  是  $\Delta$  (signal )与 random noise 的混合

magnitude of W >  $\Delta$  ==> noise >signal

因此使用  $ilde{\Delta}$ 是无效的

### Defending the gradient matching attack

Attack 基于受害者的 gradient  $\Delta_i$ 以及 model parameters W

gradient matching attack 就是去找一个 data 能够满足 gradient 也是  $\Delta_i$ 

为了得到 $\Delta_i$ , 攻击者必须知道  $\Delta = \sum_{i=1}^m \Delta_i$ 

DBCL 中,没有 client 知道  $\Delta$ 

如果使用 $\tilde{\Delta}$  因为无偏估计来代替  $\Delta$ ,下面证明这是不可行的

**Theorem 1.** Let  $S_{old}$  and  $S_{new}$  be  $d_{in} \times s$  CountSketch matrices and  $s < d_{in}$ . Then

$$\mathbb{E} \|\widehat{\boldsymbol{\Delta}} - \boldsymbol{\Delta}\|_F^2 = \Omega \left( \frac{d_{in}}{s} \right) \cdot \left( \|\mathbf{W}_{old}\|_F^2 + \|\mathbf{W}_{new}\|_F^2 \right).$$

magnitude of  $\Delta$  < W, Theorem 1保证了使用  $\tilde{\Delta}$ 不会好于 random guessing.

### Defending the property inference attack (PIA)

Attacker 使用 linear model parameterized V

input features:  $\Delta - A$ ,A是一个固定的matrix

• 真实prediction:  $Y = (\Delta - A)V^T$ 

使用  $ilde{\Delta}$ 估计 $\Delta$ 

• 近似prediction:  $ilde{Y} = ( ilde{\Delta} - A)V^T$ 

$$\|\widehat{\mathbf{Y}} - \mathbf{Y}\|_F^2 = \|\widehat{\mathbf{\Delta}}\mathbf{V}^T - \mathbf{\Delta}\mathbf{V}^T\|_F^2$$
 is very big

**Theorem 2.** Let  $S_{old}$  and  $S_{new}$  be  $d_{in} \times s$  CountSketch matrices and  $s < d_{in}$ . Let  $w_{pq}$  be the (p,q)-th entry of  $W_{old} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_{out} \times d_{in}}$  and  $\tilde{w}_{pq}$  be the (p,q)-th entry of  $W_{new} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_{out} \times d_{in}}$ . Let V be any  $r \times d_{in}$  matrix and  $v_{pq}$  be the (p,q)-th entry of V. Then

$$\mathbb{E} \| \widehat{\Delta} \mathbf{V}^T - \Delta \mathbf{V}^T \|_F^2 = \frac{1}{s} \sum_{i=1}^{d_{out}} \sum_{j=1}^r \sum_{k \neq l} \left( w_{ik}^2 v_{jl}^2 + w_{ik} v_{jk} w_{il} v_{jl} + \tilde{w}_{ik}^2 v_{jl}^2 + \tilde{w}_{ik} v_{jk} \tilde{w}_{il} v_{jl} \right).$$

**Corollary 3.** Let S be a  $d_{in} \times s$  CountSketch matrix and  $s < d_{in}$ . Assume that the entries of  $W_{old}$  are IID and that the entries of V are also IID. Then

$$\mathbb{E} \|\widehat{\boldsymbol{\Delta}} \mathbf{V}^T - \boldsymbol{\Delta} \mathbf{V}^T\|_F^2 = \Omega \left(\frac{d_{in}}{s}\right) \cdot \|\mathbf{W}_{old} \mathbf{V}^T\|_F^2.$$

The magnitude of  $\Delta$  小于 W

因此  $||WV^T||_F^2$ 显著大于 $||\Delta V^T||_F^2$ 

即  $E||\tilde{V}^T - \Delta V^T||_F^2$ 显著大于  $||\Delta V^T||_F^2$ 

表明使用  $\tilde{\Delta}$ 不会比随机猜测好

## 5.3 Understanding DBCL from Optimization

Perspective

#### Generalized linear model:

应用Sketching 后:

$$\underset{\mathbf{w}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \left\{ \tilde{f}(\mathbf{w}) \triangleq \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{S}} \left[ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^{n} \ell(\mathbf{x}_{i}^{T} \mathbf{S} \mathbf{S}^{T} \mathbf{w}, y_{j}) \right] \right\}.$$
 (5)

如果S 是 uniform sampling matrix,则 (5) 式类似于 dropout.

因为 dropout == adaptive regularization == random CountSketch ==> uniform sampling ==> 不会损失 prediction accuracy.

# 6. Experiments

### 证明:

- (1) DBCL不会损失 test accuracy.
- (2) DBCL不会过多增加 communication cost
- (3) DBCL可以防御 client-side gradient-based attacks.

## **6.1 Experiment Setting**

MNIST

 $28 \times 28$ 

Training: 60,000 images

Test: 10,000 images.

• CIFAR-10

32 imes 32 imes 3

Training: 50,000 images

Test: 10,000 images.

• Labeled Faces In the Wild(LFW)

64 imes 47 imes 3

13,233 faces of 5749 individuals.

## **6.2 Accuracy and Efficiency**

#### **MNIST classification**

- (1) mulitlayer perceptron(MLP): 3 dense layers
- (2) convolutional neural network(CNN): 2 convolutional layers and 2 dense layers.

使用 Federated Averaging (FedAvg)训练

Sketching 应用到所有的 dense and convolutional layers,除了 output layer.

设置  $s = d_{in}/2$ ,因此,per-communication word complexity 减半

- 1. test accuracy 没有影响
- 2. communication rounds 增加不是很多
- 3. per-communication word complexity减小

Table 1. Experiments on MNIST. The table shows the rounds of communications for attaining the test accuracy. Here, c is the participation ratio of FedAvg, that is, in each round, only a fraction of clients participate in the training.

Models	A course av	Communication Rounds					
	Accuracy	c = 1%	c = 10%	c = 20%	c = 50%	c = 100%	
MLP	0.97	222	96	84	83	82	
MLP-Sketch	0.97	572	322	308	298	287	
CNN	0.99	462	309	97	91	31	
CNN-Sketch	0.99	636	176	189	170	174	

#### **CIFAR-10 classification**

CNN: 3 convolutional layers and 2 dense layers.

同样使用FedAvg训练CNN

使用Sketching 不但没有损失 test accuracy, 反而提升了 test accuracy.

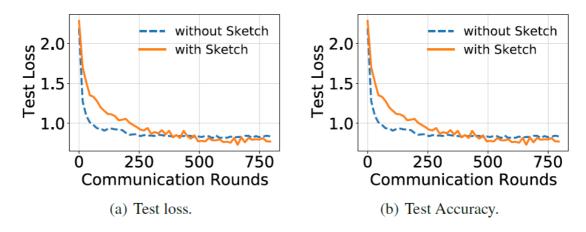


Figure 1. Experiment on CIFAR-10 dataset. The test accuracy do not match the state-of-the-art because the CNN is small and we do not use advanced tricks; we follow the settings of the seminal work (McMahan et al., 2017).

#### Binary classification on imbalanced data

binary classification experiments

LFW dataset for gender prediction

model is trained by distributed SGD

dataset是 class-imbalanced, male 更多于 females

使用 ROC curves 进行评估:

standard CNN 与 sketched one 的 ROC curves 几乎是相同的。

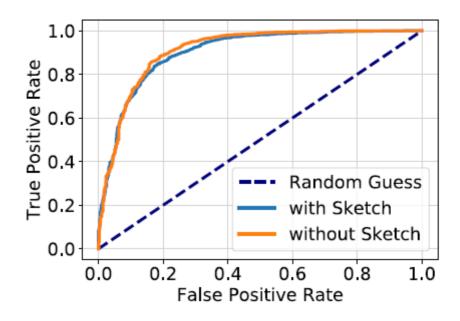


Figure 2. Gender classification on the LWF dataset.

## 6.3. Defending Gradient-Based Attacks

#### **Gradient estimation**

研究两种估计方法:

Option I: 
$$\widehat{\Delta} = \mathbf{W}_{\text{old}} \mathbf{S}_{\text{old}} \mathbf{S}_{\text{old}}^T - \mathbf{W}_{\text{new}} \mathbf{S}_{\text{new}} \mathbf{S}_{\text{new}}^T,$$
  
Option II:  $\widehat{\Delta} = \mathbf{W}_{\text{old}} \mathbf{S}_{\text{old}} \mathbf{S}_{\text{old}}^{\dagger} - \mathbf{W}_{\text{new}} \mathbf{S}_{\text{new}} \mathbf{S}_{\text{new}}^{\dagger}.$ 

 $A^{\dagger}$ 表示Moore-Penrose inverse of matrix A

 $\Delta = W_{old} - W_{new}$ 表示真实的 updating direction 评估方法:

The 
$$\ell_2$$
-norm error:  $\left\|\operatorname{vec}(\widehat{\Delta} - \Delta)\right\|_2 / \left\|\operatorname{vec}(\Delta)\right\|_2$ ,   
Cosine similarity:  $\left\langle\operatorname{vec}(\widehat{\Delta}), \operatorname{vec}(\Delta)\right\rangle$ .

如果 $\tilde{\Delta}$ 与 $\Delta$ 相差较多,则 $l_2$  error大,cosine similarity 小

实验表明, $\tilde{\Delta}$ 与 $\Delta$ 相差较大,这表明DBCL defense生效

当  $\Delta$ 减小的时候, $\tilde{\Delta}$ 主要受到 noise 的影响

随着 communication rounds 的增加,算法趋于收敛, $\Delta$ 减小,error 增加,实验结果如下,也验证了理论:

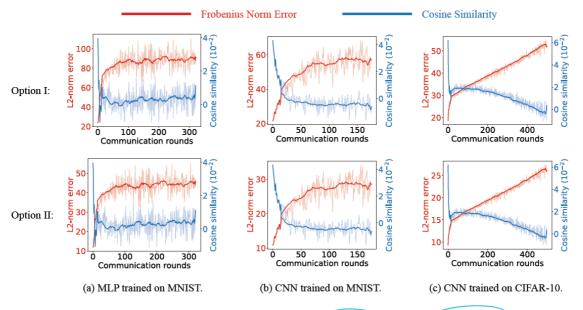


Figure 3. The x-axis is the communication rounds. The y-axes are Frobenius norm errors (red) and cosine similarities (blue). The figures show that the estimated gradient,  $\widehat{\Delta}$ , is far from the true gradient,  $\Delta$ , which means our defense works.

## Defending the property inference attack (PIA)

在 LFW dataset上面的 gender classification。

Attacker 尝试找到一个 batch 的 photos, 受害者的私有数据是否包括 Africans.

实验使用的是 one server, two clients.

- one client be the attacker
- 1. Without sketching, AUC = 1.0, 表示 attacker 总可以成功

- 2. With sketching, AUC = 0.5,表示性能接近于 random guess.
- the server be the attacker
- 1. Without sketching, AUC = 1.0
- 2. With sketching, AUC = 0.726, 使得 server-side 的 attack 不是那么有效

### Defending the gradient-matching attack

Attack 尝试使用 model parameters and gradient 恢复 victim 的数据

尝试找到 batch of images,使得其 gradient 与观察到的 victim 的gradient match

- Without sketching, gradient-matching attack 可以很容易恢复images.
- With sketching,不管是 client-side 或者 server-side 的attacker,恢复的 images都是 类似random noise.

## 7. Related Work

## Cryptography approaches

secure aggregation, homomorphic encryption, Yao's grabled circuit protocol 同样可以 提升安全性

但是会降低 accuracy and efficiency,且 tuning and development 是 nontrival.

研究表明,matrix sketching 有与 injecting random noise 相同的性质

DBCL 基于 matrix sketching 与 dropout training 的联系

## 8. Conclusions

DBCL(Double Blind Collaborative Learning)防御了 gradient-based attacks, 这是最常见最普遍的 privacy inference methods.

- DBCL 防御了基于client发起的 gradient-based attacks
- DBCL 只能减弱 server 发起的attacks
- DBCL 不会损失 test accuracy
- DBCL 不会过多增加 training 的开销
- DBCL 容易使用不需要额外的 tuning
- future work: 结合 DBCL 和 cryptographic methods,来达到对 client and server 的 双重防护