

Privacy Auditing

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- Started my PhD in November 2022 under the supervision of Aurélien Bellet
- Topic of my thesis: Privacy Preserving Machine Learning
- Generally interested in Differential Privacy

The **right** to be left **alone**



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Privacy in Machine Learning

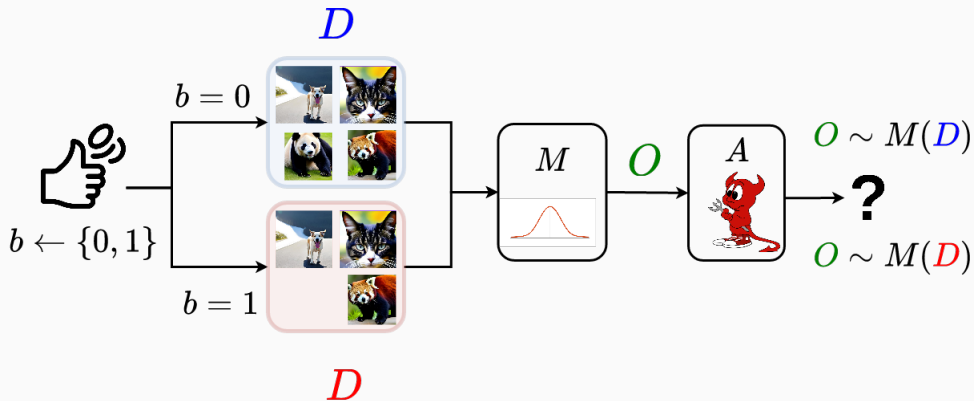


1. Introduction

2. Privacy Auditing

3. Auditing DP-SGD

Adversarial Game of Privacy

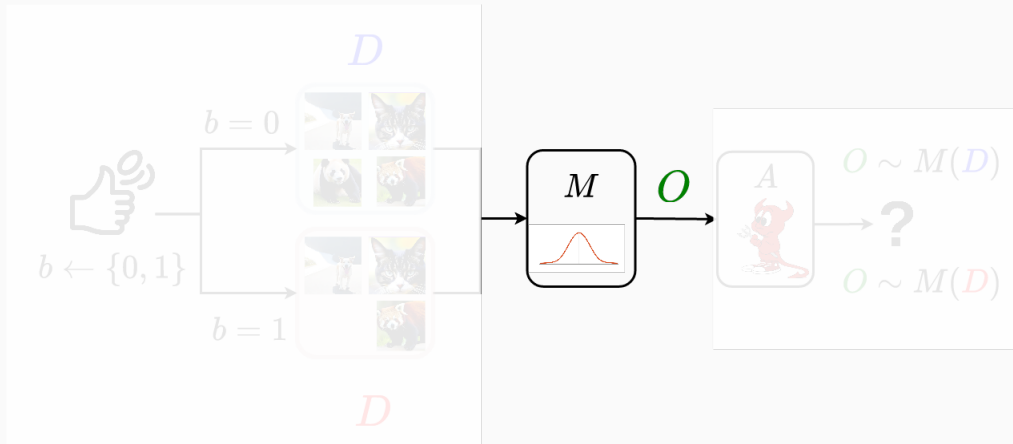


(ϵ, δ) Differential Privacy (DP)

A mechanism $M : \mathcal{X}^* \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$ is (ϵ, δ) -DP if for all neighboring datasets D and D' the following inequality holds for all $S \in \mathcal{Y}$:

$$P[M(D) \in S] \leq e^\epsilon P[M(D') \in S] + \delta \quad (1)$$

Differential Privacy

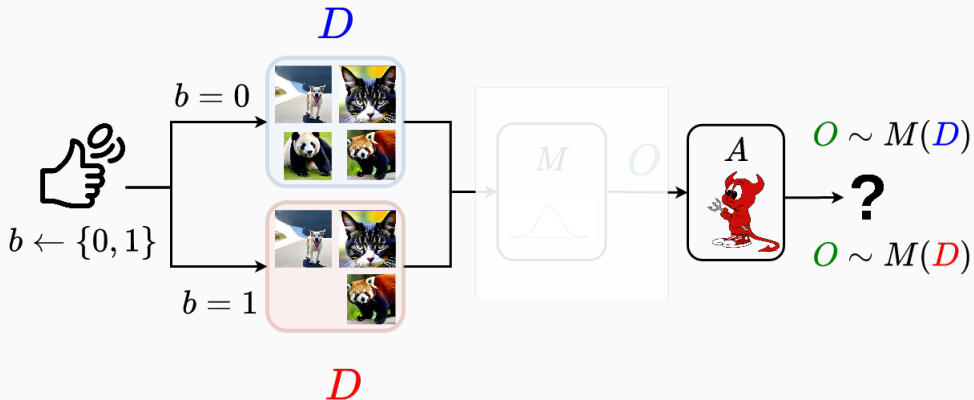


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Auditing Differential Privacy

Given a blackbox mechanism $M : \mathcal{X}^* \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$, what are the privacy guarantees $(\bar{\epsilon}, \delta)$ of M on a fixed dataset D and an adversary A ?

Privacy Auditing



Backpropagation Clipping for Deep Learning with Differential Privacy


Timothy Stevens, Ivoline C. Ngong, David Darais, Calvin Hirsch, David Slater, Joseph P. Near


We present backpropagation clipping, a novel variant of differentially private stochastic gradient descent (DP-SGD) for privacy-preserving deep learning. Our approach clips each trainable layer's inputs (during the forward pass) and its upstream gradients (during the backward pass) to ensure bounded global sensitivity for the layer's gradient; this combination replaces the gradient clipping step in existing DP-SGD variants. Our approach is simple to implement in existing deep learning frameworks. The results of our empirical evaluation demonstrate that backpropagation clipping provides higher accuracy at lower values for the privacy parameter ϵ compared to previous work. We achieve 98.7% accuracy for MNIST with $\epsilon = 0.07$ and 74% accuracy for CIFAR-10 with $\epsilon = 3.64$.

Comments: **We found a bug in our implementation code that invalidates our experimental results**


Applications: Correctness

Privacy Leakage at low sample size #571

 Open tudorcebere opened this issue on Mar 3 · 6 comments



tudorcebere commented on Mar 3 · edited

 **Bug**

When using opacus at low sample sizes (~2-3 samples), I managed to leak more privacy than the accounting described:

Link: <https://colab.research.google.com/drive/1gZVrg9kPIWjibApBkEnKNQqaIn8kUySs?usp=sharing>

The privacy estimation is made as in:

<https://proceedings.neurips.cc/paper/2020/file/1c4ddc15f9f4b4b06ef7844d6bb53abf-Paper.pdf>

Applications: Tightness

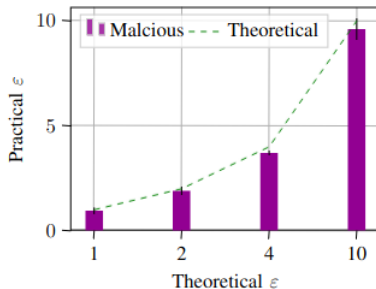


Fig. 8: **Malicious dataset attack**: the adversary creates a custom dataset to reduce the effect of other samples on the inserted watermark. This verifies the DP-SGD privacy is tight.

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Differential Privacy as Hypothesis Testing

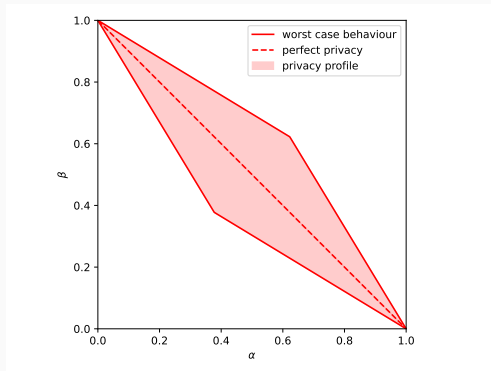
Given a random output O of a (ϵ, δ) -DP mechanism M , consider the following hypothesis testing experiment:

$$\begin{aligned} H_0: O \text{ was computed on } D \\ H_1: O \text{ was computed on } D' \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

Any rejection rule and its expectation of Type I (α) and II (β) errors, satisfies:

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha + e^\epsilon \beta &\geq 1 - \delta \\ \beta + e^\epsilon \alpha &\geq 1 - \delta \end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

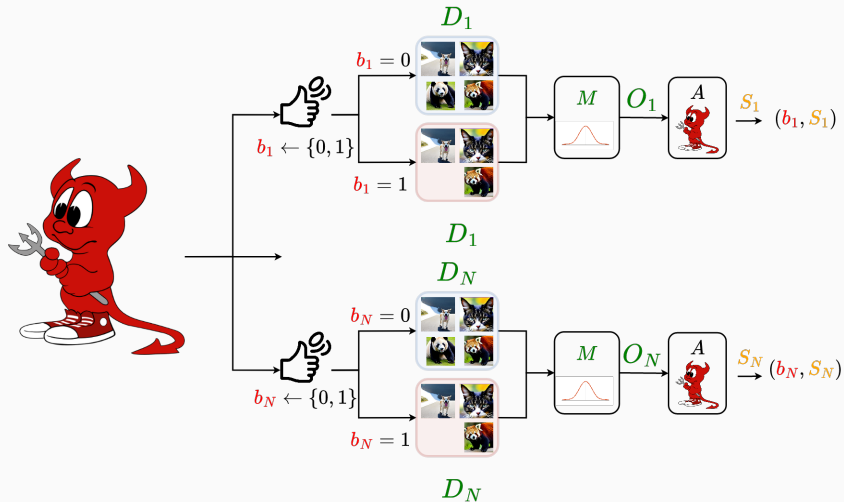
Privacy Profiles



Auditing Pipeline overview

- Adversary & Sample Gathering
- Bounding
- Conversion to Differential Privacy

Auditing Pipeline: Gathering Samples



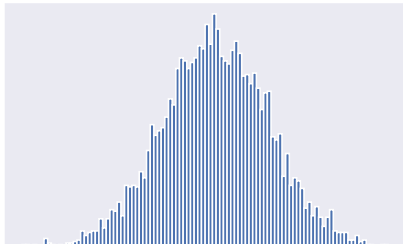
Auditing Pipeline: Gathering Samples Advances

- Multisample Testing: Zanella-Béguelin and K. Pillutla et al.
- Auditing via Generalization Bounds: Steinke et al.

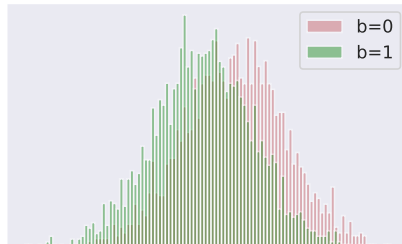
Bayesian Estimation of Differential Privacy - S. Zanella-Béguelin et al.
Unleashing the Power of Randomization in Auditing Differentially Private ML - K. Pillutla et al.
Privacy Auditing with One (1) Training Run - T. Steinke et al.

Auditing Pipeline: Selecting a Rejection Rule

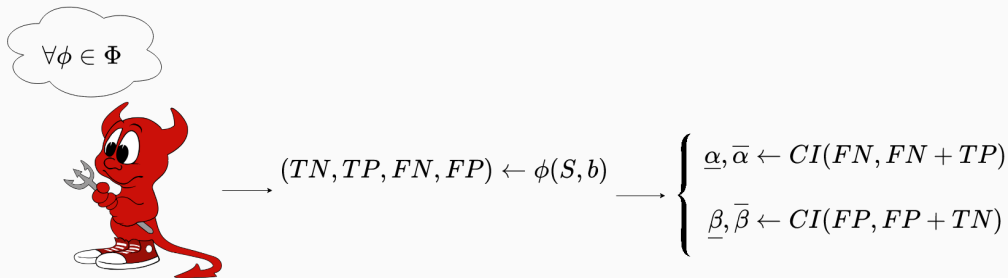
Adversary View of $S_i \sim S$



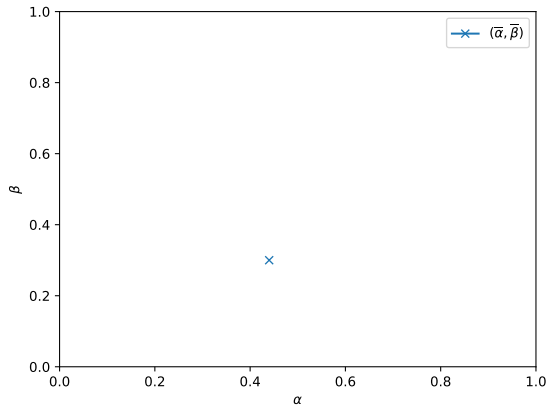
Ground Truth $S_i \sim S|b$



Auditing Pipeline: Bounding



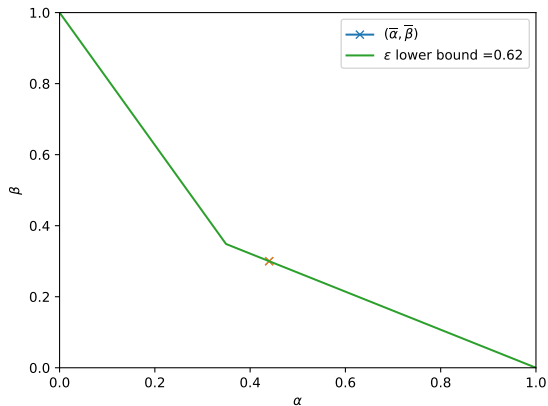
Auditing Pipeline: Conversion



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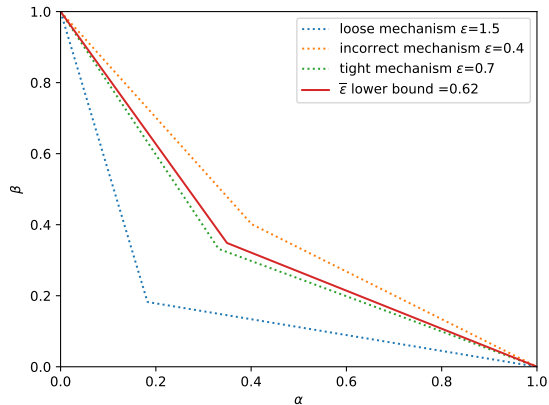
Auditing Pipeline: Conversion



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Auditing Pipeline: Conversion



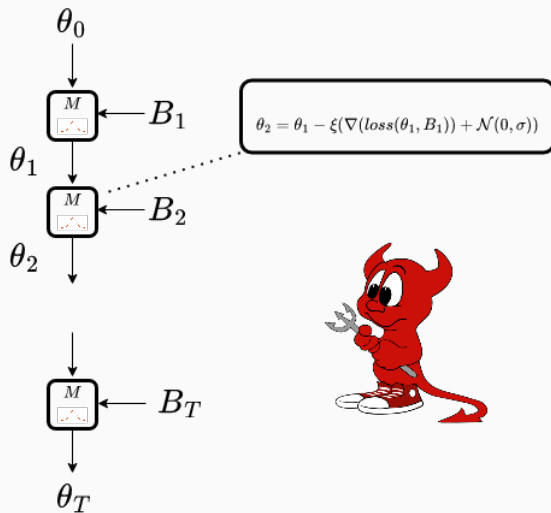
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- Tight auditing is sample expensive.
- Generating samples, depending on the underlying mechanism and the threat model, can be very expensive.
- A. Gilbert shows that there is No Free Lunch Theorem in Auditing

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Tightness of DP-SGD

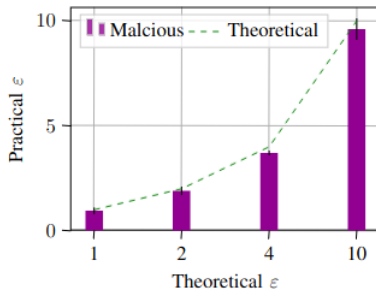
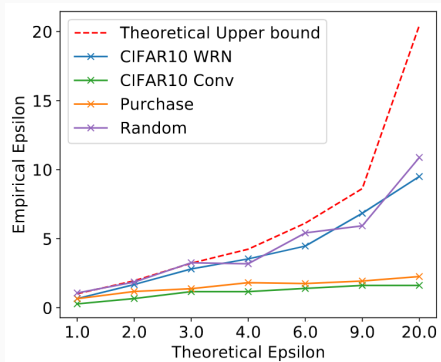
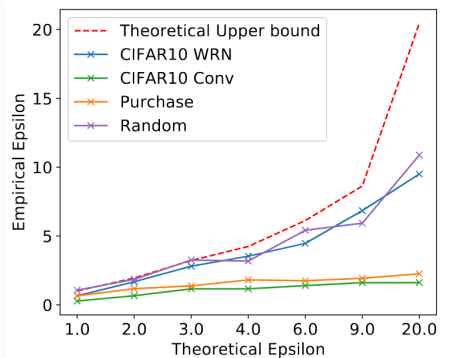


Fig. 8: **Malicious dataset attack**: the adversary creates a custom dataset to reduce the effect of other samples on the inserted watermark. This verifies the DP-SGD privacy is tight.

Tightness of DP-SGD

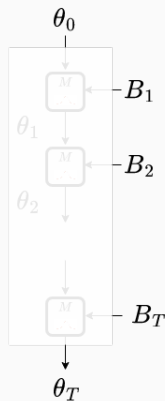




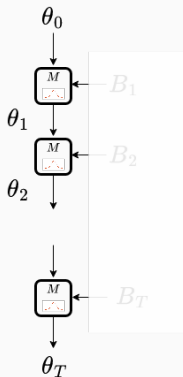
Tight Auditing of Differentially Private Machine Learning - M. Nasr et al.

End of story for differentially
private machine learning?

DP-SGD + Amplification by Iteration



DP-SGD + Amplification by Subsampling



What Can We Learn Privately? - S. Kasiviswanathan et al.

Privacy Amplification by Subsampling: Tight Analyses via Couplings and Divergences - B. Balle et al.

Takeaways

- How to do private learning is still unclear (what other privacy amplifications are there?).
- The threat model guarantees and assumptions are still unclear.
- Plenty of research yet to be done

Questions