

# GDALR: An efficient model duplication attack on black-box Machine Learning models

---

BY

REWANTH COOL (SECURITY CONSULTANT) , NIKHIL JOSHI (SECURITY RESEARCHER)

# About us

## REWANTH COOL

Security Consultant

ML Enthusiast

Full stack developer

Speaker at HITB, CRESTCON, BSIDES

## NIKHIL JOSHI

Security Researcher

Build and Break Deep Learning systems

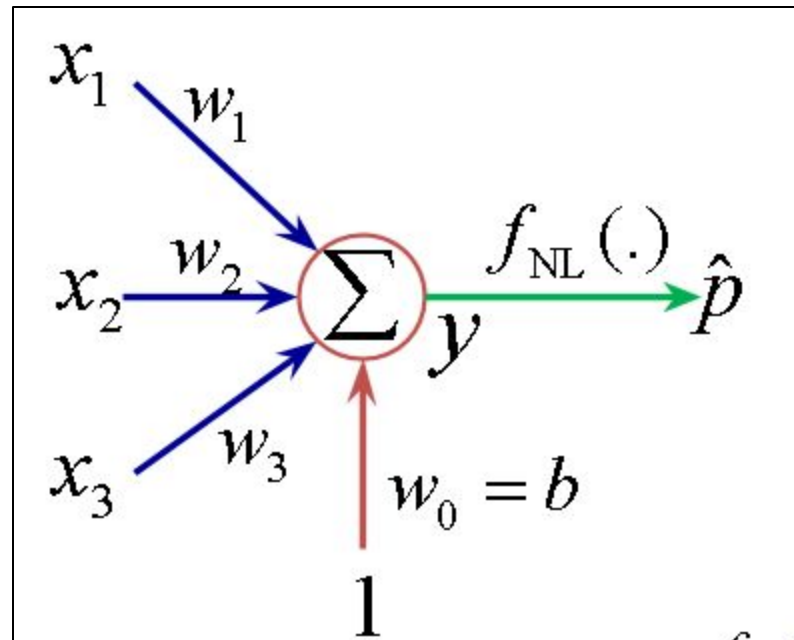
- About Payatu

- A boutique security testing company specializing in IoT, Mobile, Cloud – <https://payatu.com>
- In-house Fuzz testing Infrastructure
- Mobile/Windows kernel/IoT exploitation training – Blackhat, Brucon, Hack In Paris, HITB and Corporate trainings

# Agenda

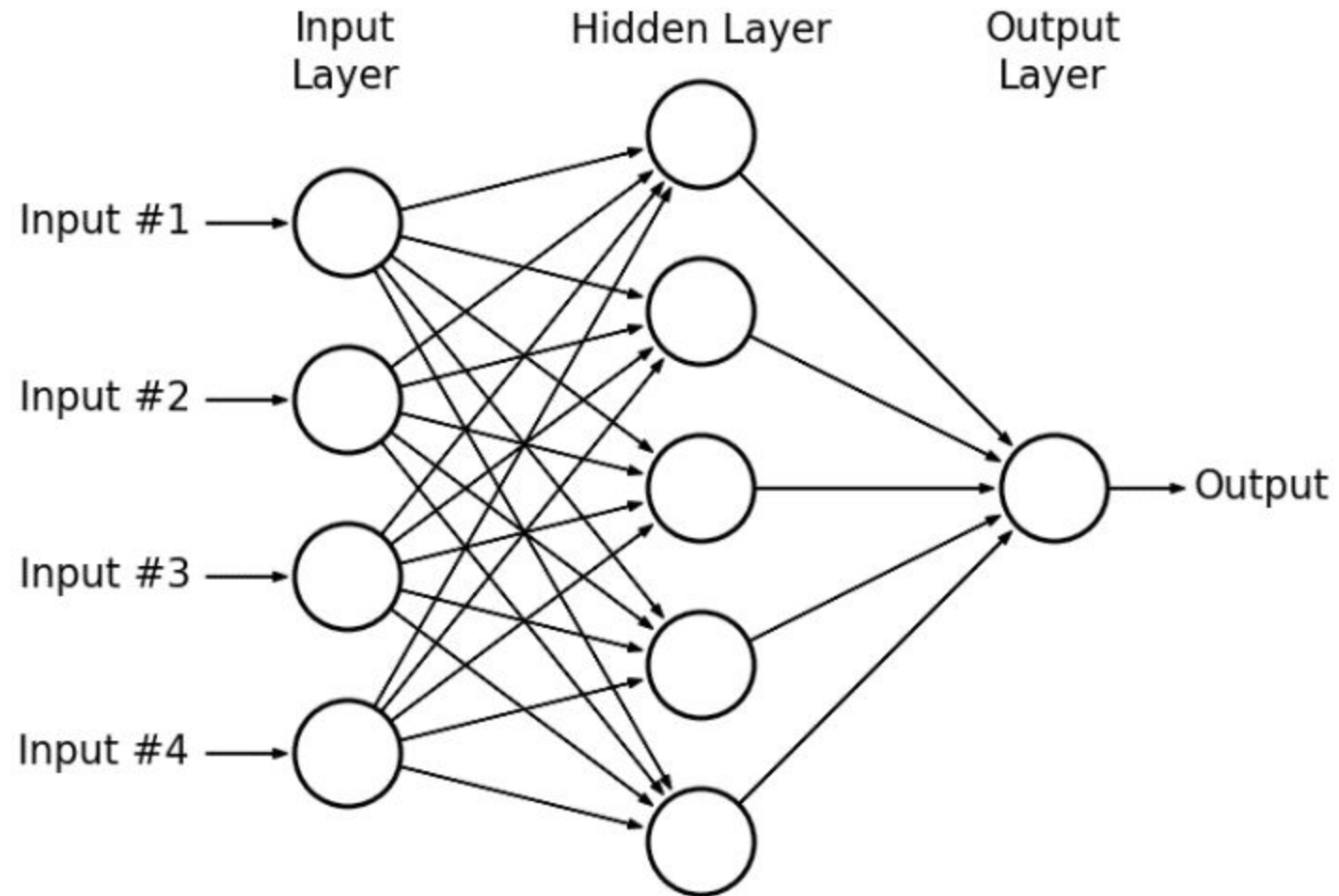
- End-to-end Machine Learning pipeline
- Model stealing/duplication techniques
- Abusing APIs to steal models deployed on cloud
- Present attack methodology
- Inefficiencies with present attack methodology
- Scope for Attack optimization
- Proposed approach (GDALR)
- Results and conclusion
-

# PERCEPTRON



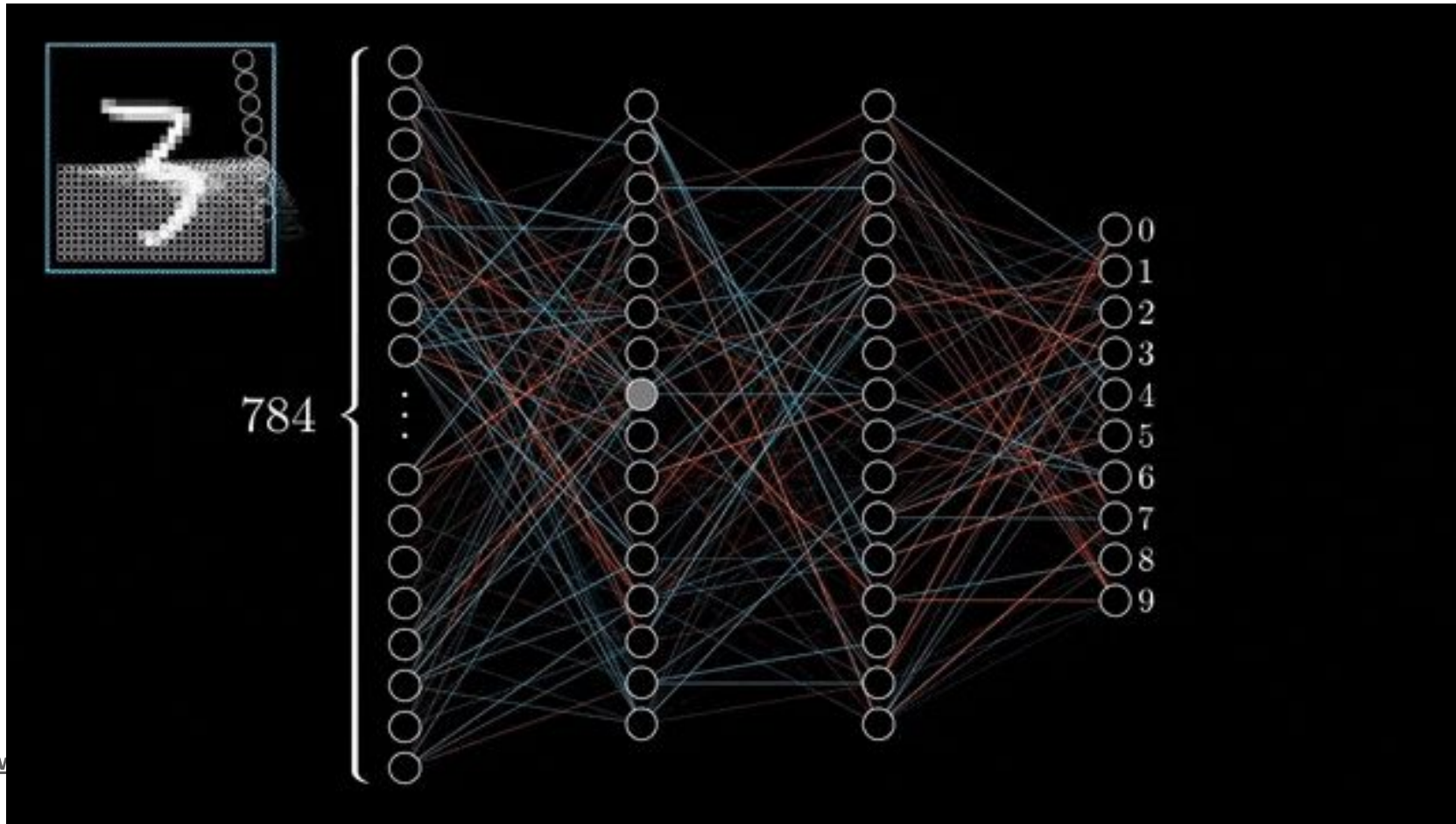
Ref: <http://www.xpertup.com/2018/05/11/loss-functions-and-optimization-algorithms/>

# MULTI LAYER PERCEPTRON (MLP)



Ref: [https://www.researchgate.net/figure/A-hypothetical-example-of-multi-layer-perceptron-network\\_fig4\\_303875065](https://www.researchgate.net/figure/A-hypothetical-example-of-multi-layer-perceptron-network_fig4_303875065)

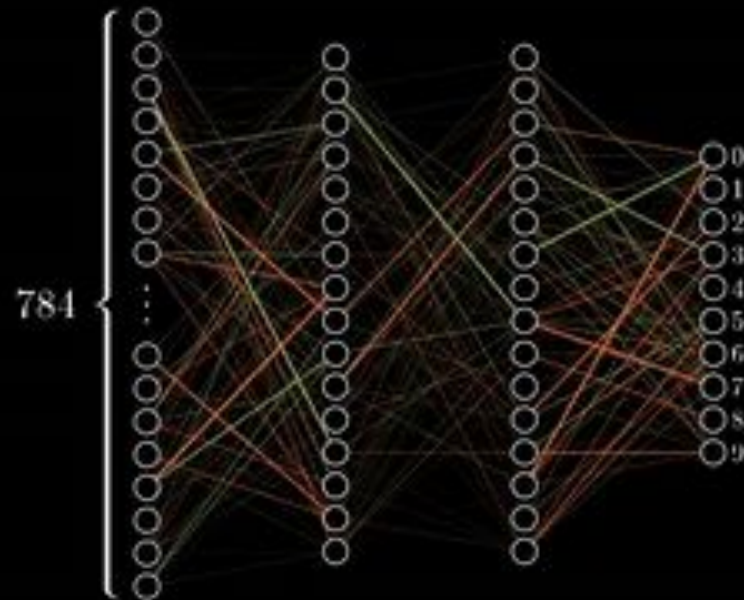
# MLP



Ref: [https://www](https://www.payatu.com)

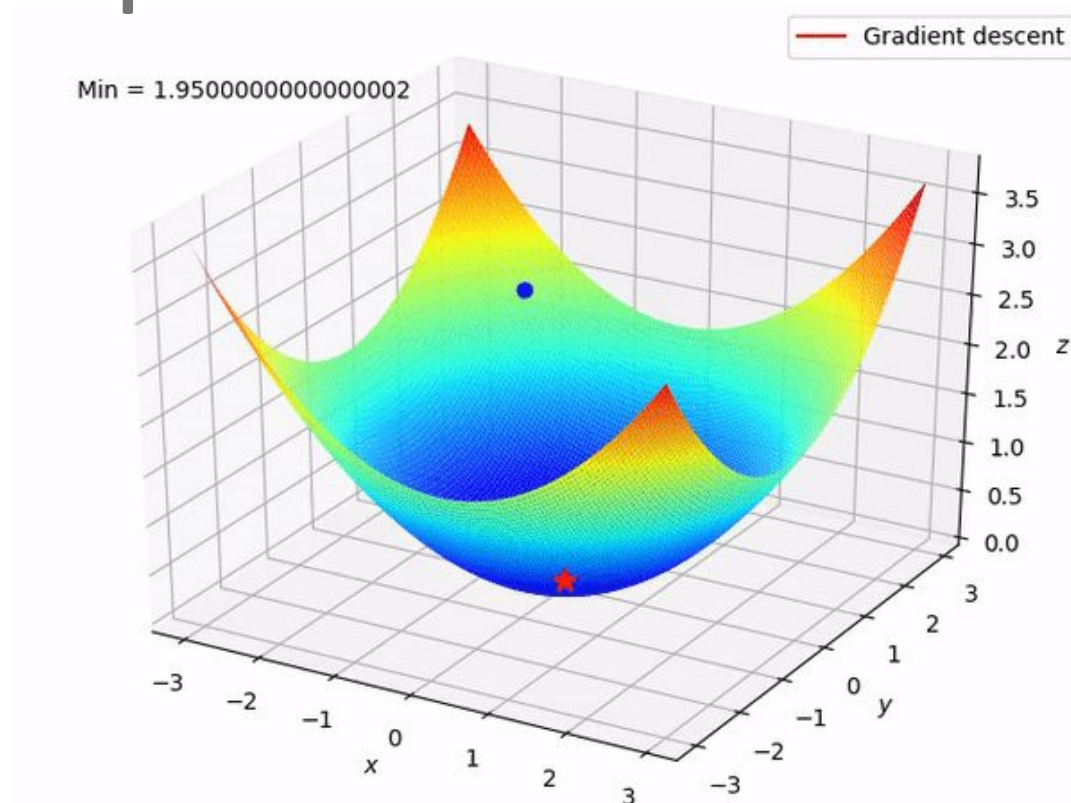
# MLP

Training in progress...



Ref: <http://www.payatu.com>

# Optimization

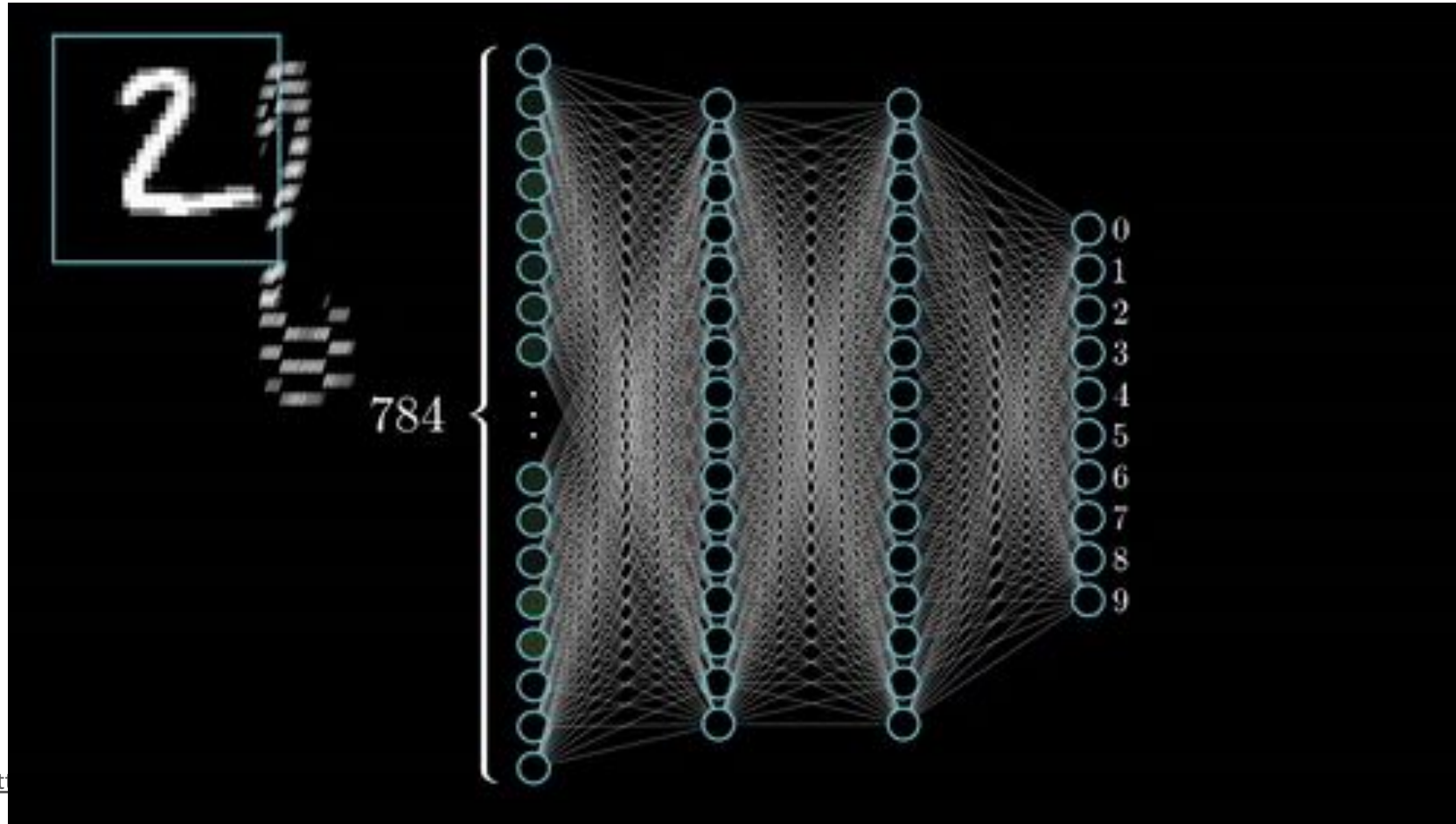


Ref: <http://www.xpertup.com/2018/05/11/loss-functions-and-optimization-algorithms/>

$$W_{i+1} = W_i + \alpha \frac{\partial}{\partial w} C$$

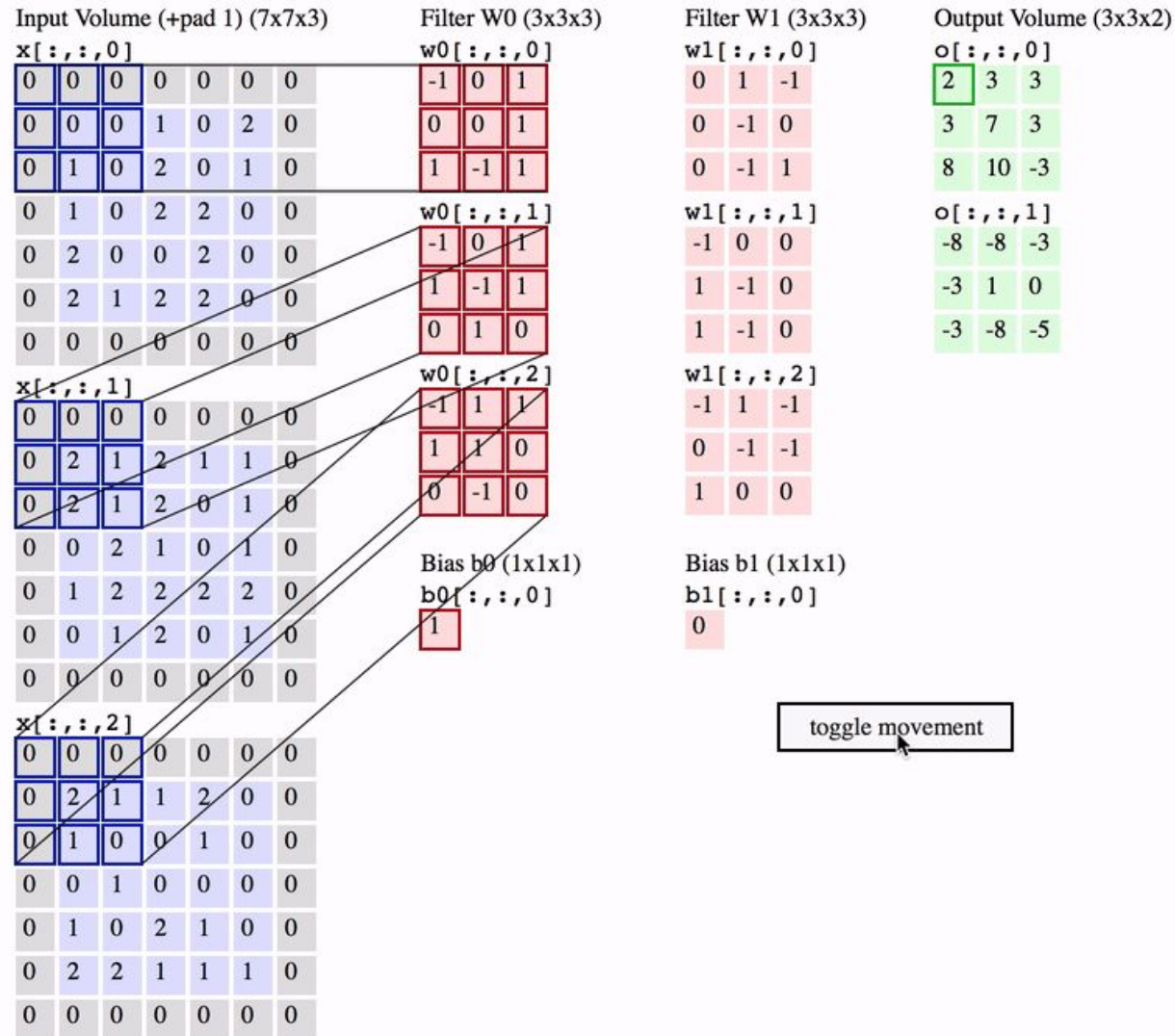


# MLP



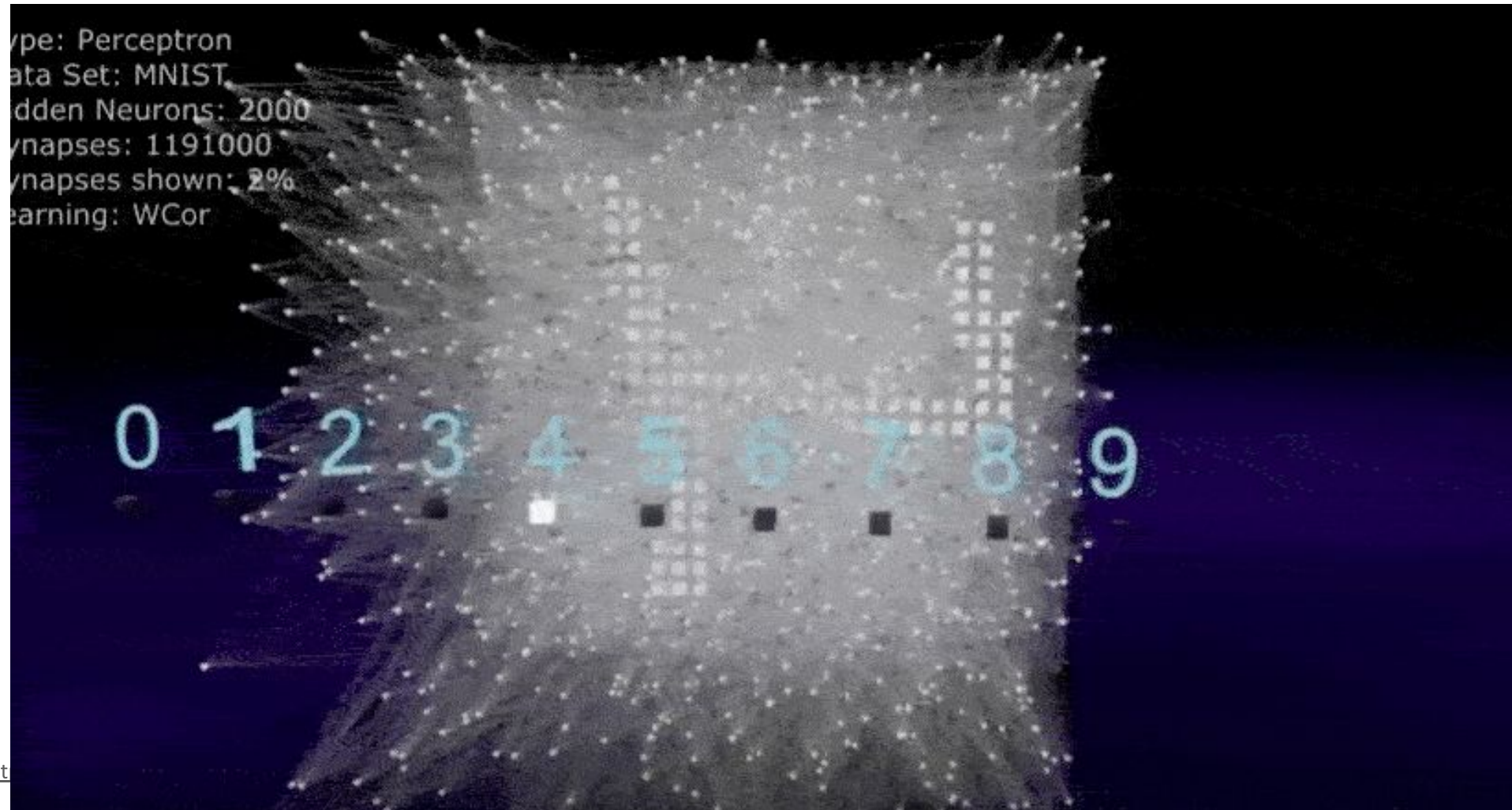
Ref: [ht](#)

# Convolutional Neural Networks



Ref: <http://cs231n.github.io/convolutional-networks/>

# Convolutional Neural Networks



Ref: <http://www.payatu.com>

# Model stealing/duplication techniques

- Offline attacks
- Online attacks

# Offline attacks

Steps -

1. Reverse engineer the executable to find hidden gems
2. Locate the trained model stored on device
3. Analyse the serialized model
4. Own the model

# Offline attacks

```
public Model loadModel(String modelFolder) {  
    List<String> categories = loadCategories(modelFolder + "/categories.txt");  
    if (categories == null) {  
        Log.e(TAG, "Failed to load categories: " + modelFolder + "/categories.txt");  
        return null;  
    }  
    ByteBuffer enginePtr = loadModelFromAssets(modelFolder + "/model.net", modelFolder + "/stat.t7");  
    if (enginePtr != null) {  
        return new Model(enginePtr, categories, 224);  
    }  
    Log.e(TAG, "Failed to load model");  
    return null;  
}
```



# Offline attacks

```
00000000: 0400 0000 0100 0000 0300 0000 5620 310d .....V 1.
00000010: 0000 006e 6e2e 5365 7175 656e 7469 616c .. nn.Sequential
00000020: 0300 0000 0200 0000 0400 0000 0200 0000 .....
00000030: 0500 0000 7472 6169 6e05 0000 0000 0000 ....train.....
00000040: 0002 0000 0007 0000 006d 6f64 756c 6573 .....modules
00000050: 0300 0000 0300 0000 0d00 0000 0100 0000 .....
00000060: 0000 0000 0000 f03f 0400 0000 0400 0000 .....?.....
00000070: 0300 0000 5620 310e 0000 006e 6e2e 436f ....V 1....nn.Co
00000080: 6e63 6174 5461 626c 6503 0000 0005 0000 ncatTable.....
00000090: 0004 0000 0002 0000 0005 0000 005f 7479 .....ty
000000a0: 7065 0200 0000 1100 0000 746f 7263 682e pe..... torch.
000000b0: 466c 6f61 7454 656e 736f 7202 0000 0007 FloatTensor....
000000c0: 0000 006d 6f64 756c 6573 0300 0000 0600 ...modules.....
000000d0: 0000 0200 0000 0100 0000 0000 0000 0000 .....
000000e0: f03f 0400 0000 0700 0000 0300 0000 5620 .?.....V
000000f0: 3115 0000 006e 6e2e 5370 6174 6961 6c43 1... nn.SpatialC
00000100: 6f6e 766f 6c75 7469 6f6e 0300 0000 0800 onvolution.....
00000110: 0000 0d00 0000 0200 0000 0400 0000 7061 .....pa
00000120: 6457 0100 0000 0000 0000 0000 f03f 0200 dW.....?..
00000130: 0000 0200 0000 6457 0100 0000 0000 0000 .....dW.....
00000140: 0000 0040 0200 0000 0b00 0000 6e49 6e70 ...@.....nInp
00000150: 7574 506c 616e 6501 0000 0000 0000 0000 utPlane.....
00000160: 0008 4002 0000 0006 0000 006f 7574 7075 ..@.....output
00000170: 7404 0000 0009 0000 0003 0000 0056 2031 t.....V 1
00000180: 1100 0000 746f 7263 682e 466c 6f61 7454 ... torch.FloatT
00000190: 656e 736f 7200 0000 0001 0000 0000 0000 ensor.....
000001a0: 0000 0000 0002 0000 0002 0000 006b 4801 .....kH.
000001b0: 0000 0000 0000 0000 0008 4002 0000 000c .....@.....
000001c0: 0000 006e 4f75 7470 7574 506c 616e 6501 ...nOutputPlane.
```

# Offline attacks

```
# Loading model
from torch.utils.serialization import load_lua
model = load_lua(model_path)
stat = load_lua(model_path[:-9]+'stat.t7')
model_op = predict(IMAGE_PATH)
```



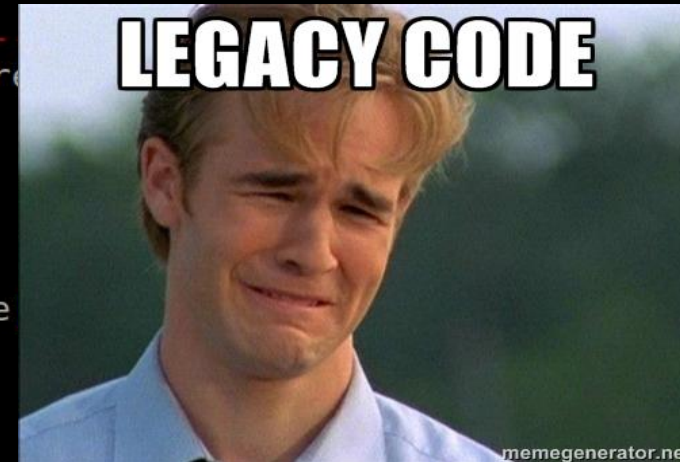
# Offline attacks

```
In [36]:
...: model_op = predict(IMAGE_PATH)
-----
AssertionError                                Traceback (most recent call last)
<ipython-input-36-b1bfac1751af> in <module>()
      1
----> 2 model_op = predict(IMAGE_PATH)

<ipython-input-33-0acc13122fc9> in predict(img_path)
     27     I = I.reshape(1,I.shape[0], I.shape[1], I.shape[2])
     28     # prediction
----> 29     model_output = model.forward(I)[0]
     30     return model_output
     31

/home/on3_p/.virtualenvs/torch/local/lib/python2.7/site-packages/torch/legacy/nn/Linear.pyc in
updateOutput(self, input)
     42
     43     def updateOutput(self, input):
----> 44         assert input.dim() == 2
     45         nframe = input.size(0)
     46         nelement = self.output.nelement()

AssertionError:
```



# Offline attacks



# Offline attacks

```
without bias
|         (4): nn.SpatialBatchNormaliz
|         (5): nn.SpatialDropout
|         }
|`-> (1): nn.Identity
|. -> output
}
(1): nn.CAddTable
(2): nn.ReLU
}
}
(8): nn.Identity
(9): nn.SpatialAveragePooling(14x14, 1, 1)
(10): nn.View(128)
(11): nn.Linear(128 -> 696)
(12): nn.SoftMax
}
```

```
|`-> (1): nn.Identity
|. -> output
}
(1): nn.CAddTable
(2): nn.ReLU
}
}
(8): nn.Identity
(9): nn.SpatialAveragePooling(14x14, 1, 1)
(10): nn.View(1, 128)
(11): nn.Linear(128 -> 696)
(12): nn.SoftMax
}
```

`torch.legacy.nn.View(1, 128)`

# Offline attacks



 MLaaS

Machine Learning as a Service

# MLaaS Service Providers



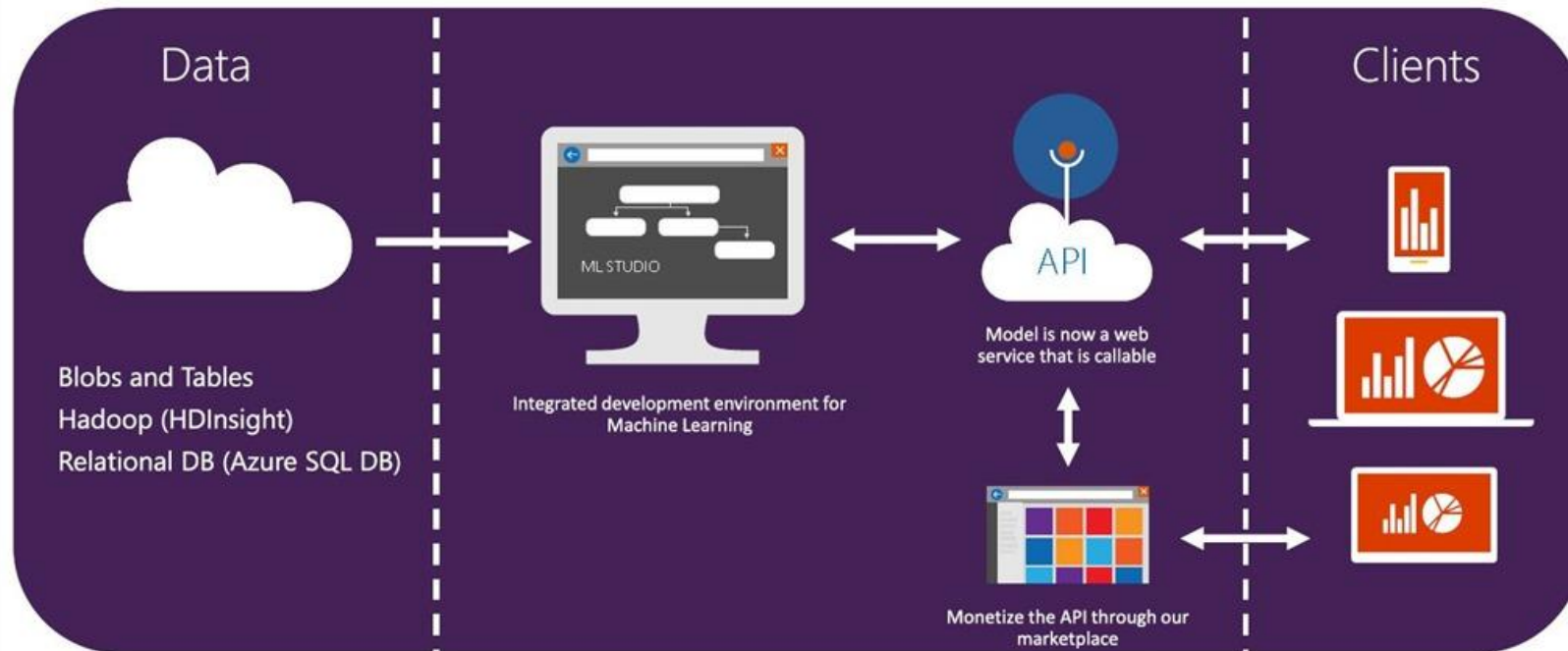
Google Cloud Platform





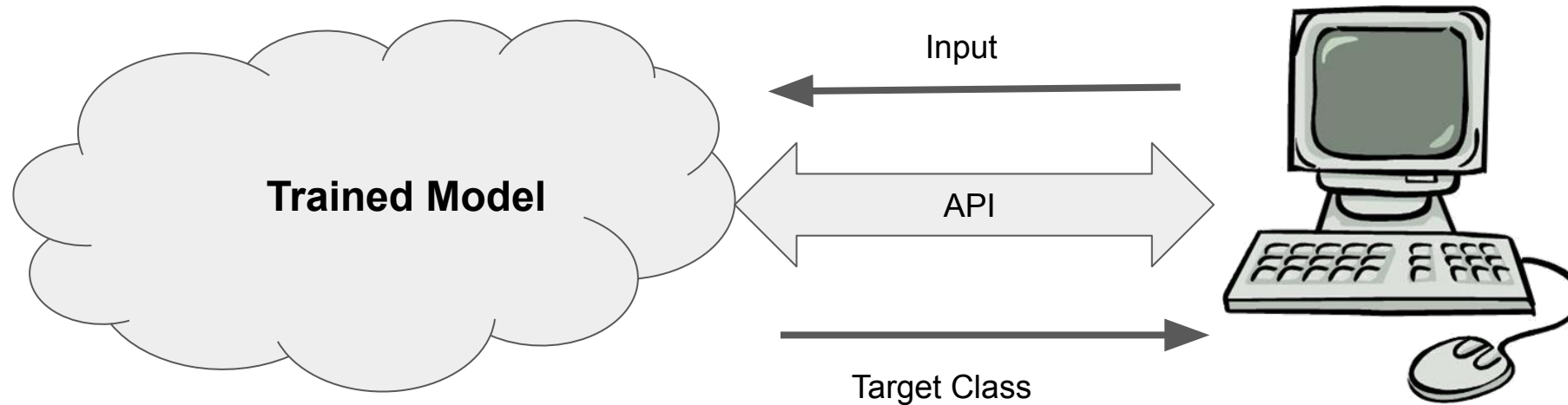
# Azure ML business model

## What is Azure Machine Learning



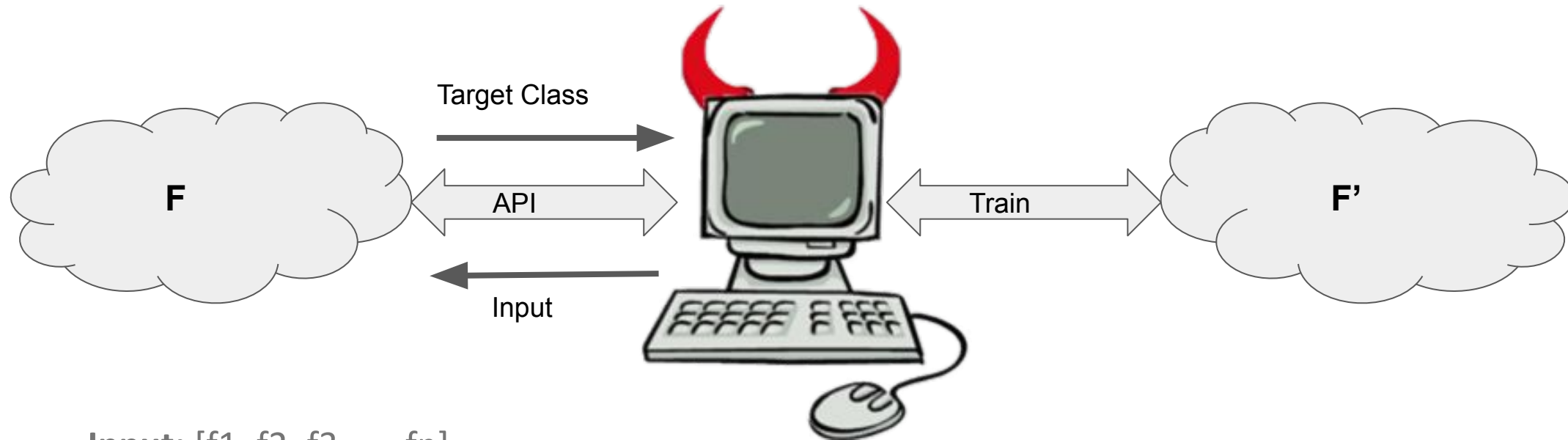
Ref: <https://>

# Online attacks





# Online attacks



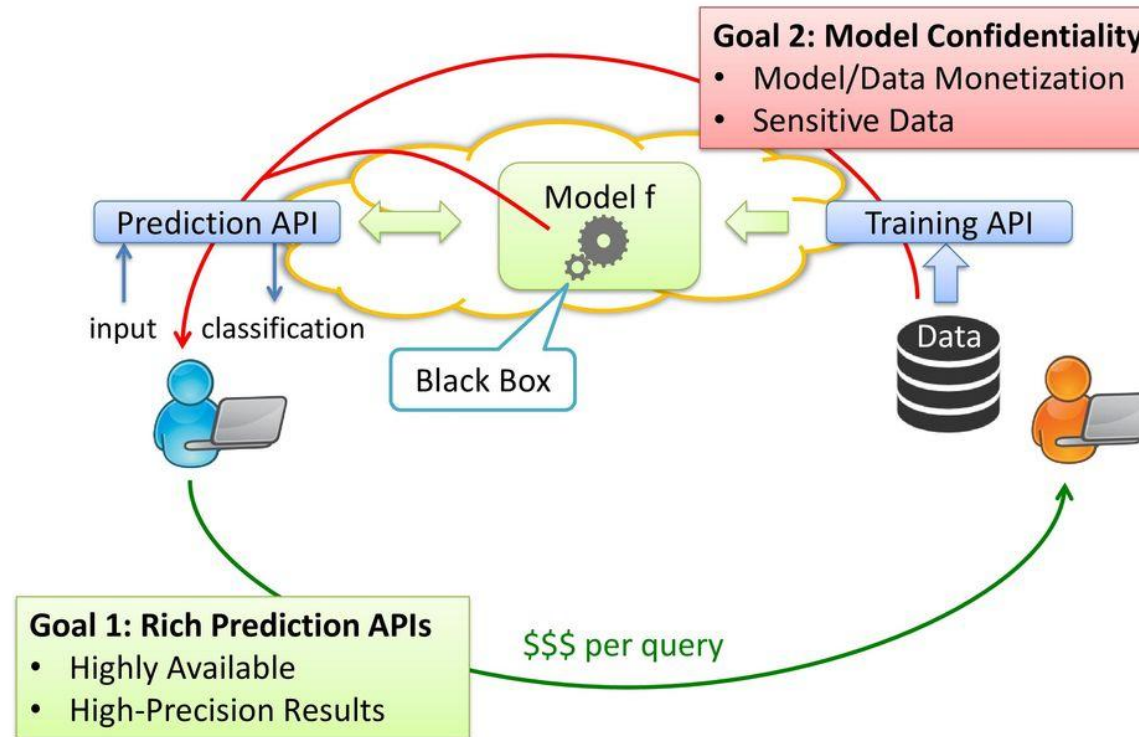
**Input:**  $[f_1, f_2, f_3, \dots, f_n]$

**Internal F output:**  $P(\text{class1}), P(\text{class2}), P(\text{class3}), \dots, P(\text{classN})$

**Cloud API output:**  $\max(P(\text{class1}), P(\text{class2}), P(\text{class3}), \dots, P(\text{classN}))$

# Present attack methodology

## Machine Learning as a Service (MLaaS)



# Present attack methodology

In traditional approach, attackers train their local models based on Cloud API output

| Input              | Cloud API output | Class (A/B/C) |
|--------------------|------------------|---------------|
| x11, x12, x13, x14 | 0, 0, 1          | C             |
| x21, x22, x23, x24 | 0, 1, 0          | B             |
| x31, x32, x33, x34 | 0, 0, 1          | C             |
| x41, x42, x43, x44 | 1, 0, 0          | A             |
| x51, x52, x53, x54 | 1, 0, 0          | A             |

# Inefficiencies with present attack methodology

Assumptions made by traditional/present attack methodology

**Input -**

[1, 2, 3, 4]

**Actual Output -**

[0.3, 0.2, 0.5]

**Output by Cloud API -**

[0, 0, 1]

**Assumption -**

[0, 0, 1]      [0.3, 0.2, 0.5]

≈

# Inefficiencies with present attack methodology

| Input              | Cloud API output | Actual Output   | Unconventional probability loss |
|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| x11, x12, x13, x14 | 0, 0, 1          | 0.2, 0.3, 0.5   | 0.2+0.3                         |
| x21, x22, x23, x24 | 0, 1, 0          | 0.01, 0.9, 0.09 | 0.01+0.09                       |
| x31, x32, x33, x34 | 0, 0, 1          | 0.1, 0.4, 0.5   | 0.1+0.4                         |
| x41, x42, x43, x44 | 1, 0, 0          | 0.38, 0.32, 0.3 | 0.32+0.3                        |
| x51, x52, x53, x54 | 1, 0, 0          | 0.45, 0.3, 0.25 | 0.3+0.25                        |

# Scope for Attack optimization

## 1. Reconsider the way to analyze labels

Having access to all the probability values will definitely help us to clone models in an efficient way

## 2. Learning parameters in hyperspace

- \* To Duplicate the target model we need to learn the boundaries that the target model has learnt
- \* Considering probability of predicted class as 1 and others to be 0 will cause unwanted loss and increase the gradient
- \* Increased gradients cause the optimizer to change weights abruptly

$$W_{i+1} = W_i + \alpha \frac{\partial}{\partial w} \mathbf{C} \uparrow$$

# Proposed approach (GDALR)

GDALR: Gradient Driven Adaptive Learning Rate

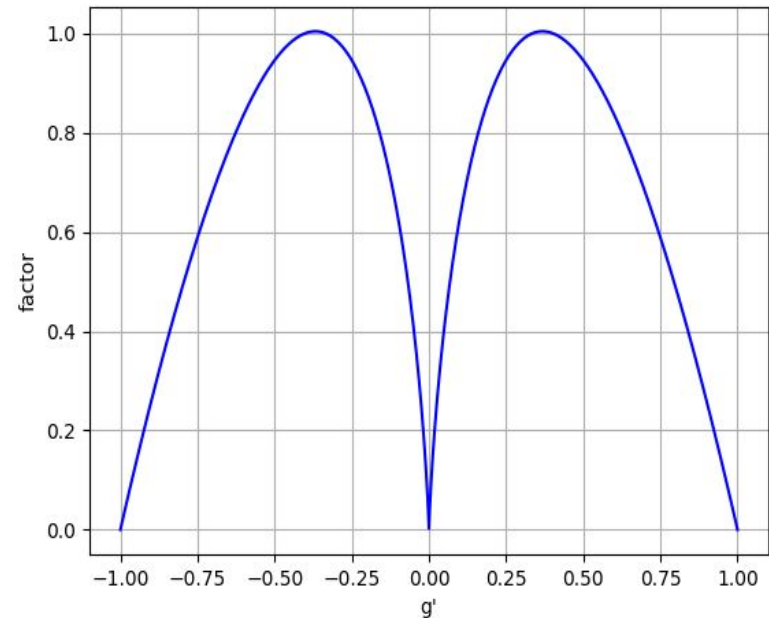
$$W_{i+1} = W_i + \alpha \frac{\partial}{\partial w} \mathbf{C}$$

# Mathematical modification to current attack methodology

$$g'_i = \tanh(g_i) \quad (7)$$

$$fact_i = \text{abs}(g'_i 2\pi \log_{10}(\text{abs}(g'_i))) \quad (8)$$

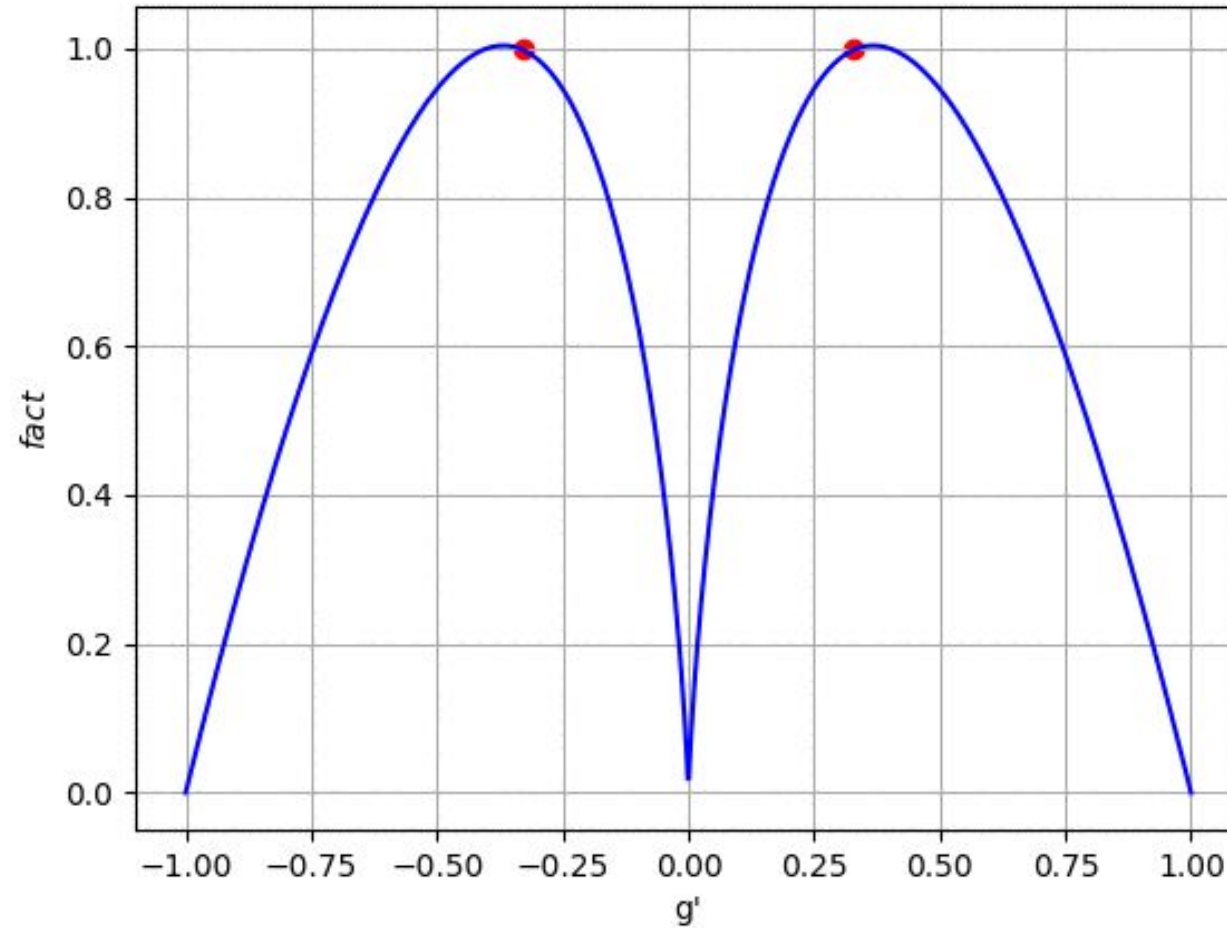
$$l'_i = l_i \cdot fact_i \quad (9)$$





# GDALR in Action

$$g' = 0.33 \quad fact_i = 1.00$$

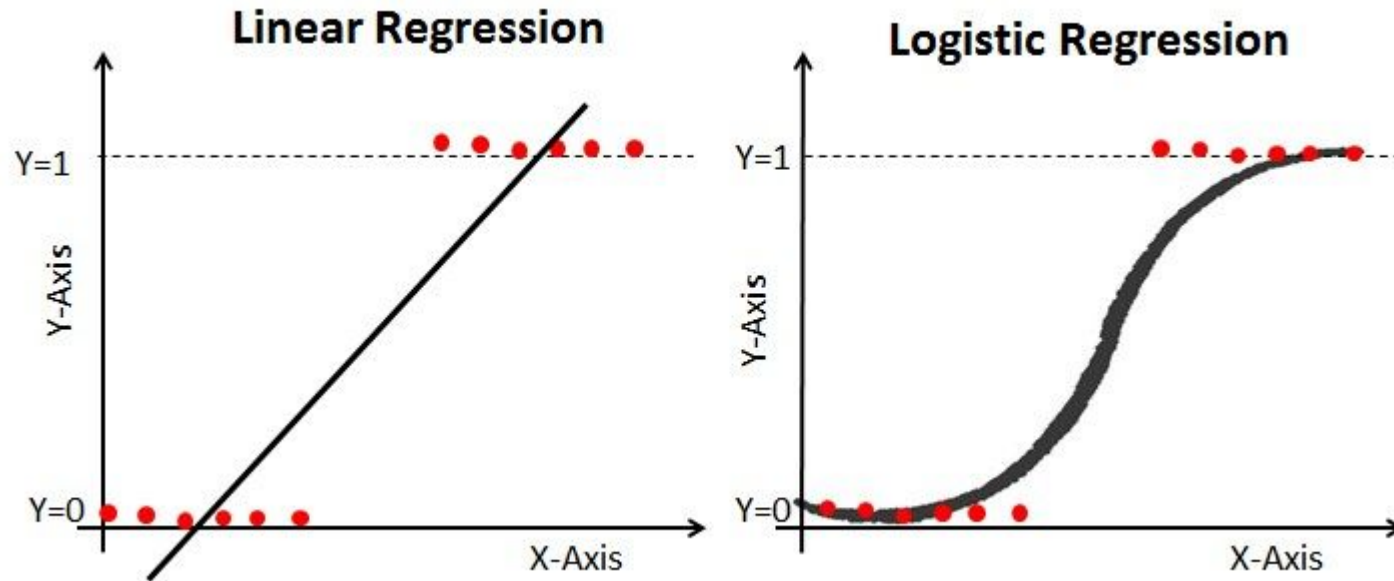


# Experimental setup

GDALR has been tested on multiple classifiers -

- LOGISTIC REGRESSION
- MULTI LAYER PERCEPTRON
- CONVOLUTIONAL NEURAL NETs

# LOGISTIC REGRESSION

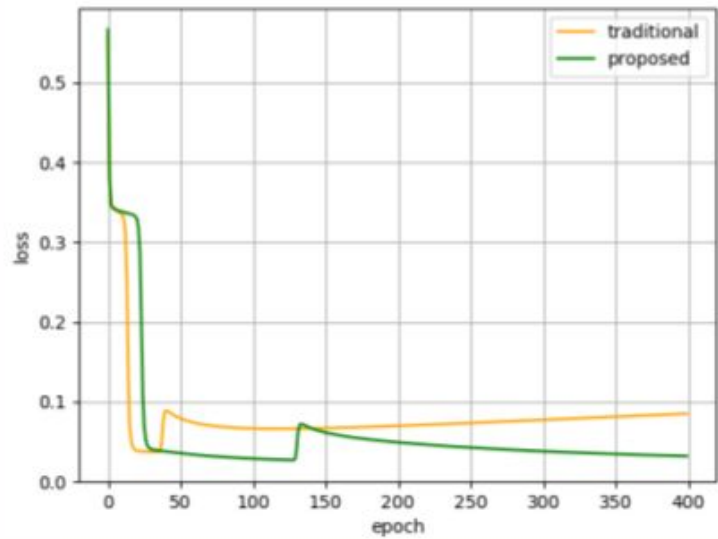


$$y_{\text{linear}} = wx + b$$

$$y_{\text{logistic}} = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(wx+b)}}$$

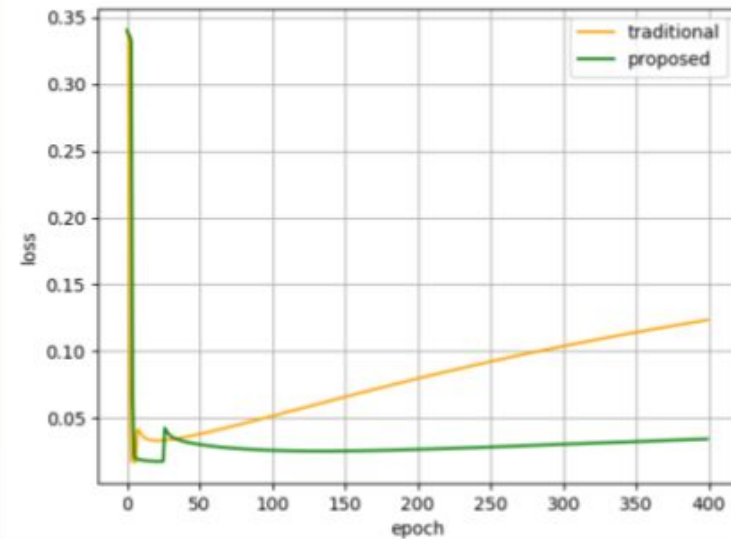
Ref: <http://www.datacamp.com/>

# LOGISTIC REGRESSION

 $l = 0.01$ 


$$T_{Loss} = 0.0849$$

$$P_{Loss} = 0.0317$$

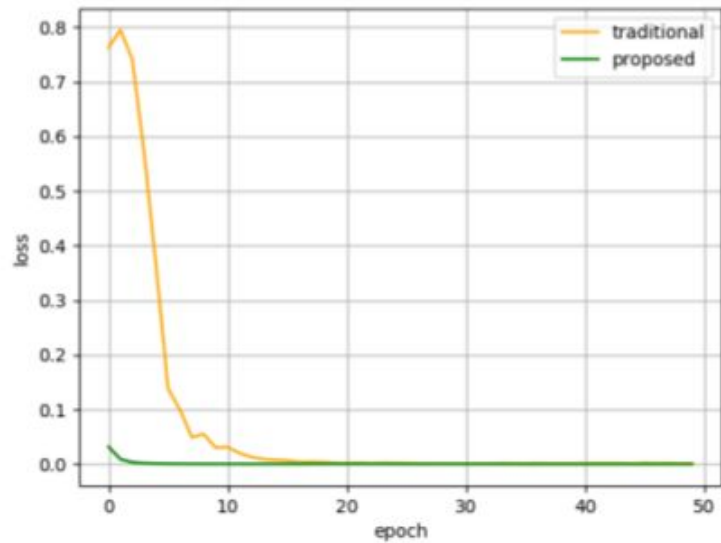
 $l = 0.05$ 


$$T_{Loss} = 0.1233$$

$$P_{Loss} = 0.0342$$

# MULTI LAYER PERCEPTRON

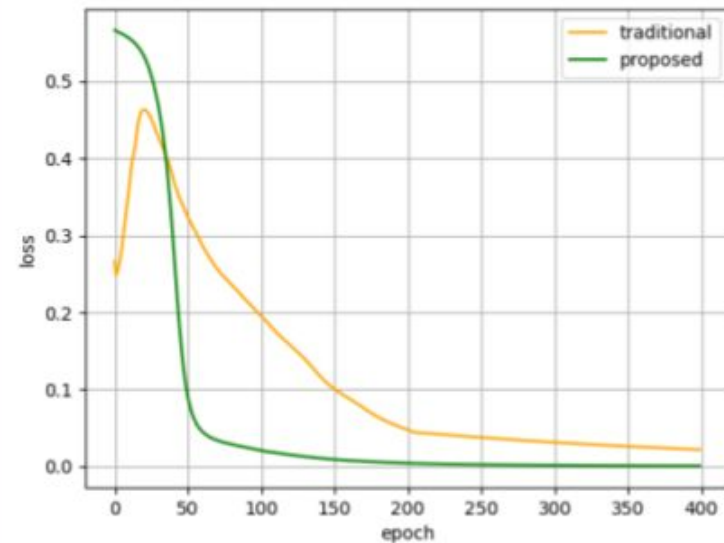
$$l = 10^{-3}$$



$$T_{Loss} = 0.0014$$

$$P_{Loss} = 5.444 \times 10^{-5}$$

$$l = 10^{-5}$$

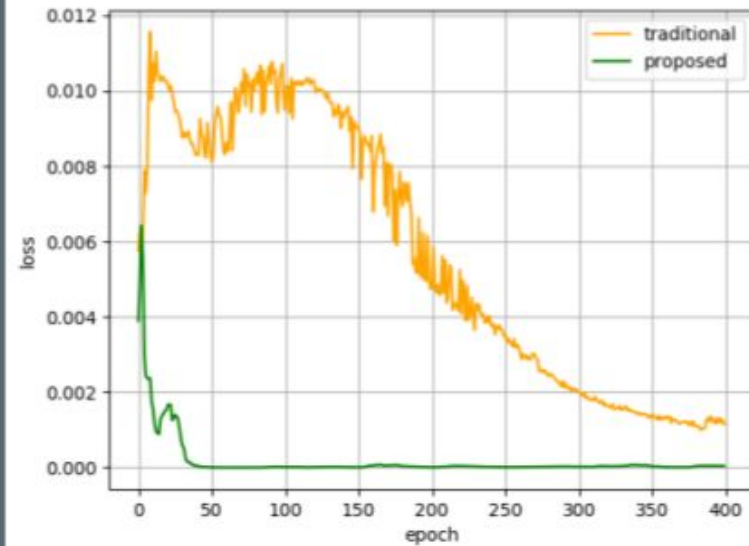


$$T_{Loss} = 0.0219$$

$$P_{Loss} = 0.0007$$

# CNN

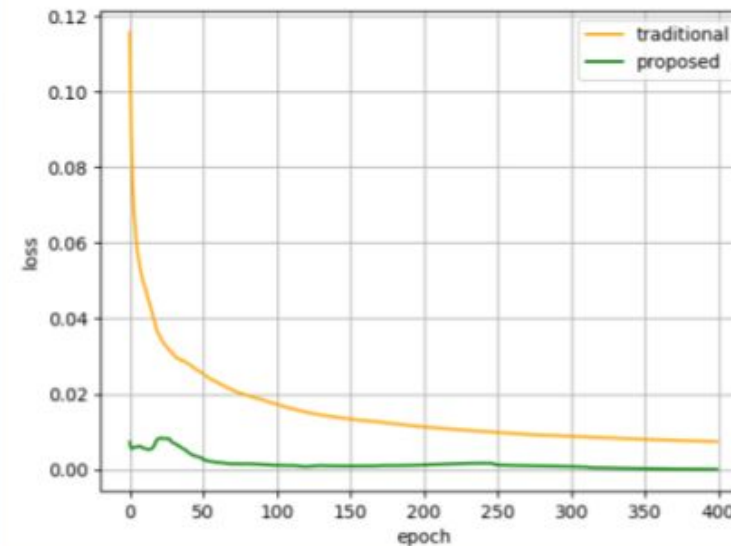
$$l = 10^{-4}$$



$$T_{Loss} = 0.0011$$

$$P_{Loss} = 3.993 \times 10^{-5}$$

$$l = 10^{-5}$$



$$T_{Loss} = 0.0073$$

$$P_{Loss} = 4.184 \times 10^{-5}$$

# Thanks!

- Q & A

- Reach us at

Email - [rewanth|nikhilj]@payatu.com

Twitter - @Rewanth\_Cool | @nikhilj\_73