

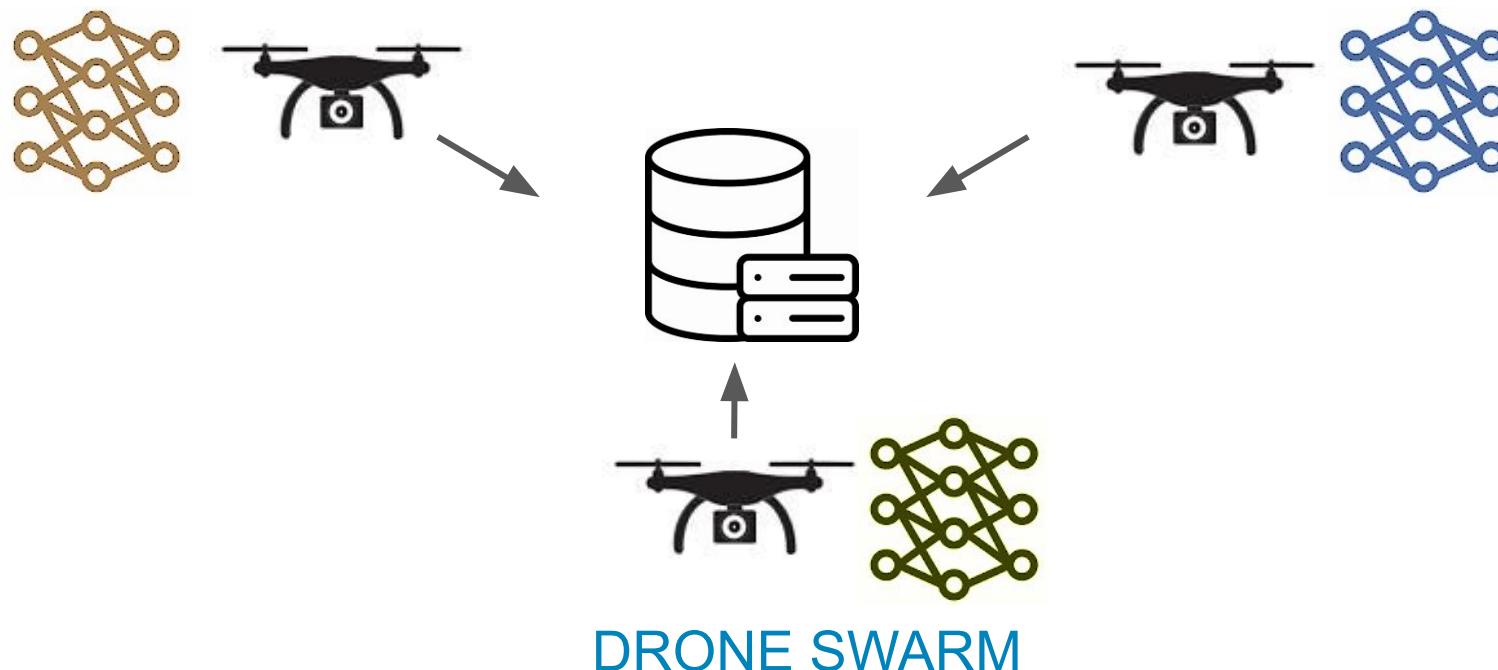
# Semantic Label Reconstruction

## How to Breach Privacy in Federated Learning

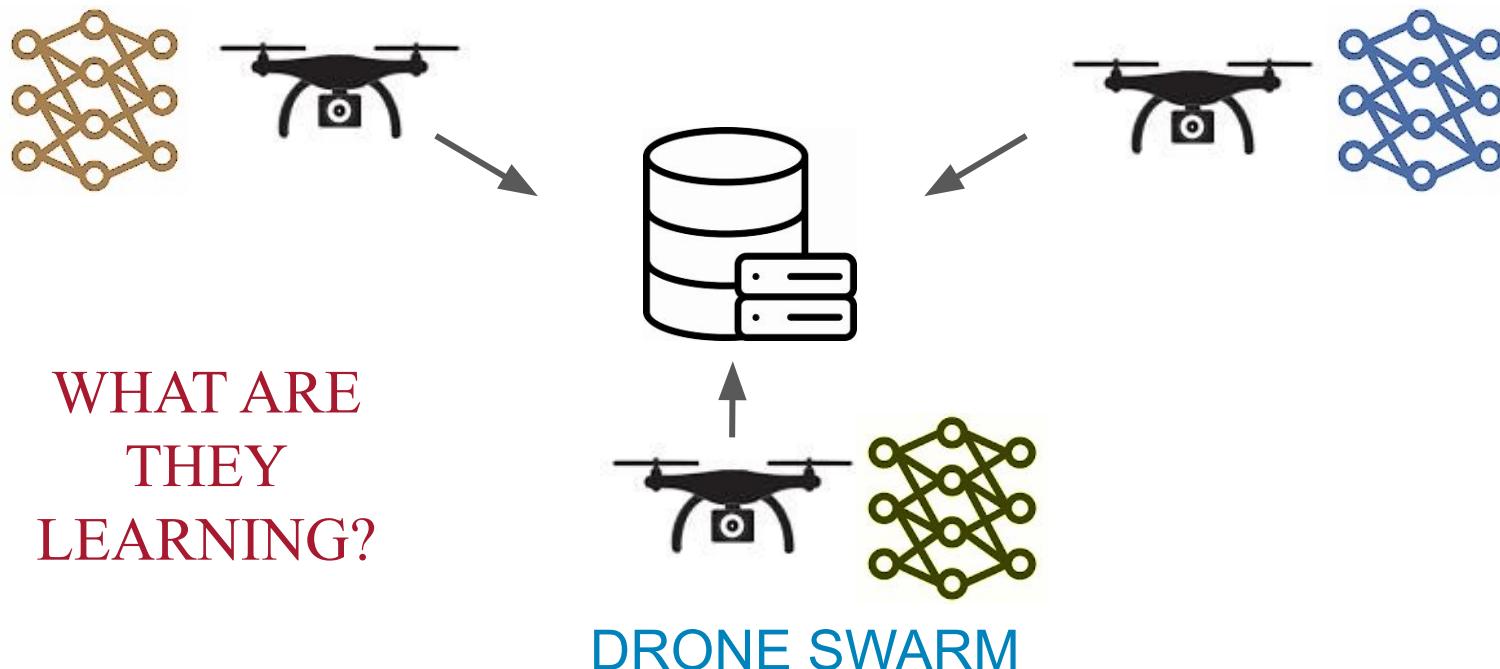
Rafał Malcewicz<sup>1,2</sup>, Ignacy Stępka<sup>1</sup>, Abby Turner<sup>1</sup>, Artur Dubrawski<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Auton Lab, Carnegie Mellon University  
<sup>2</sup>Aalto University

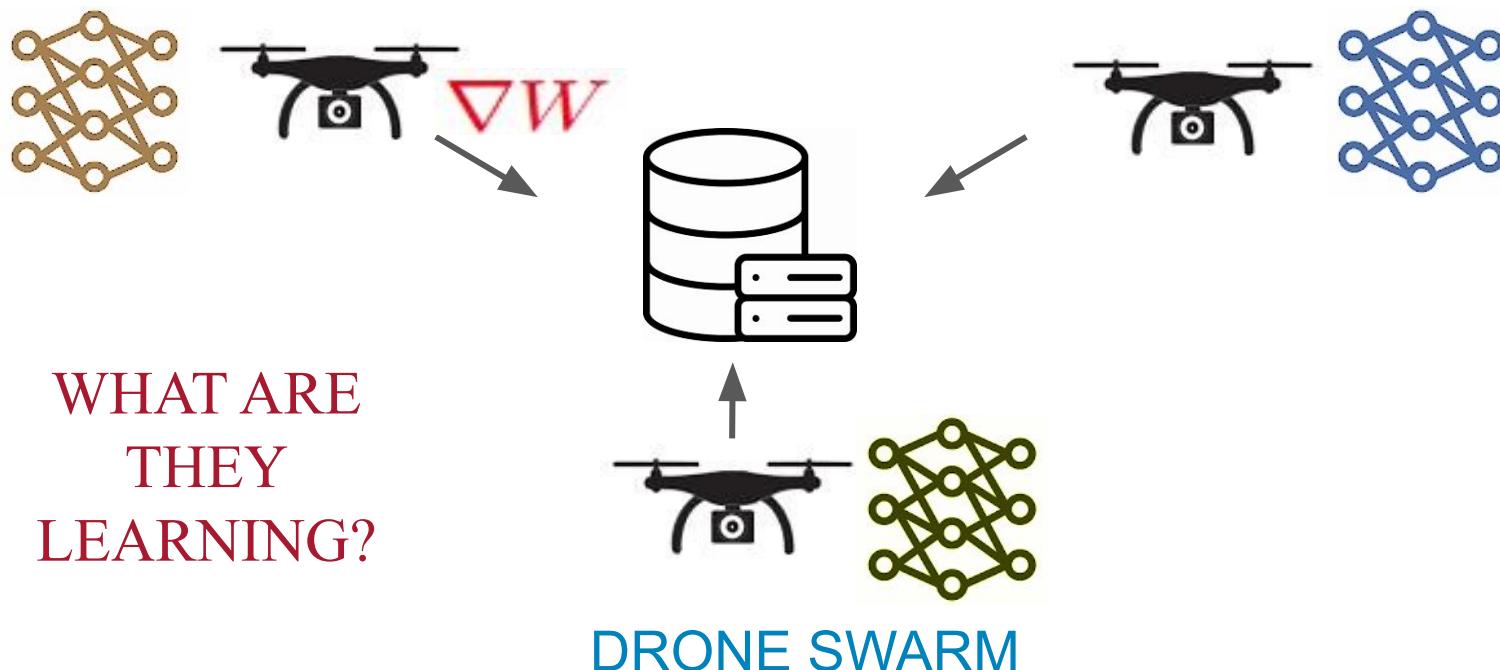
# Why This Matters



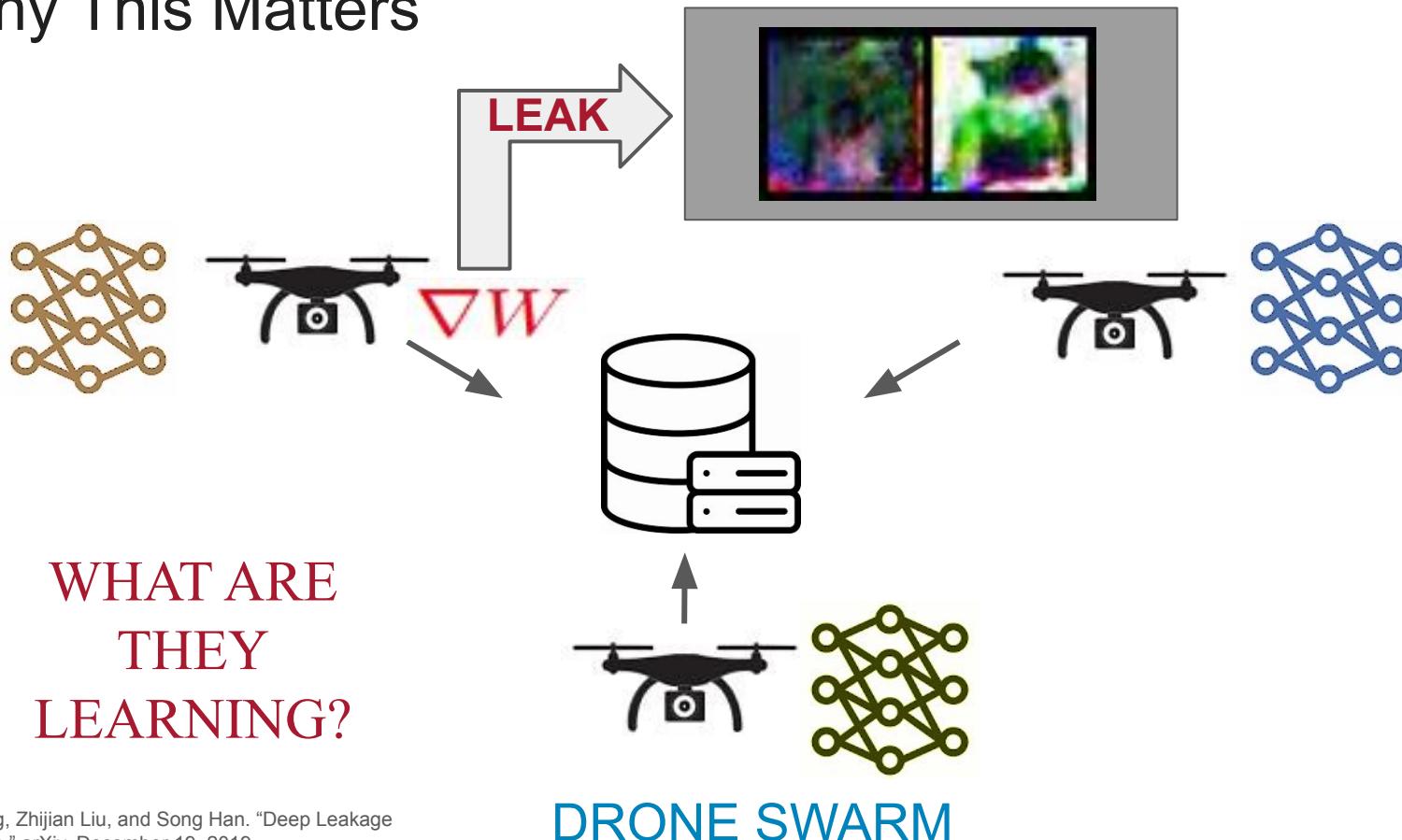
# Why This Matters



# Why This Matters



# Why This Matters

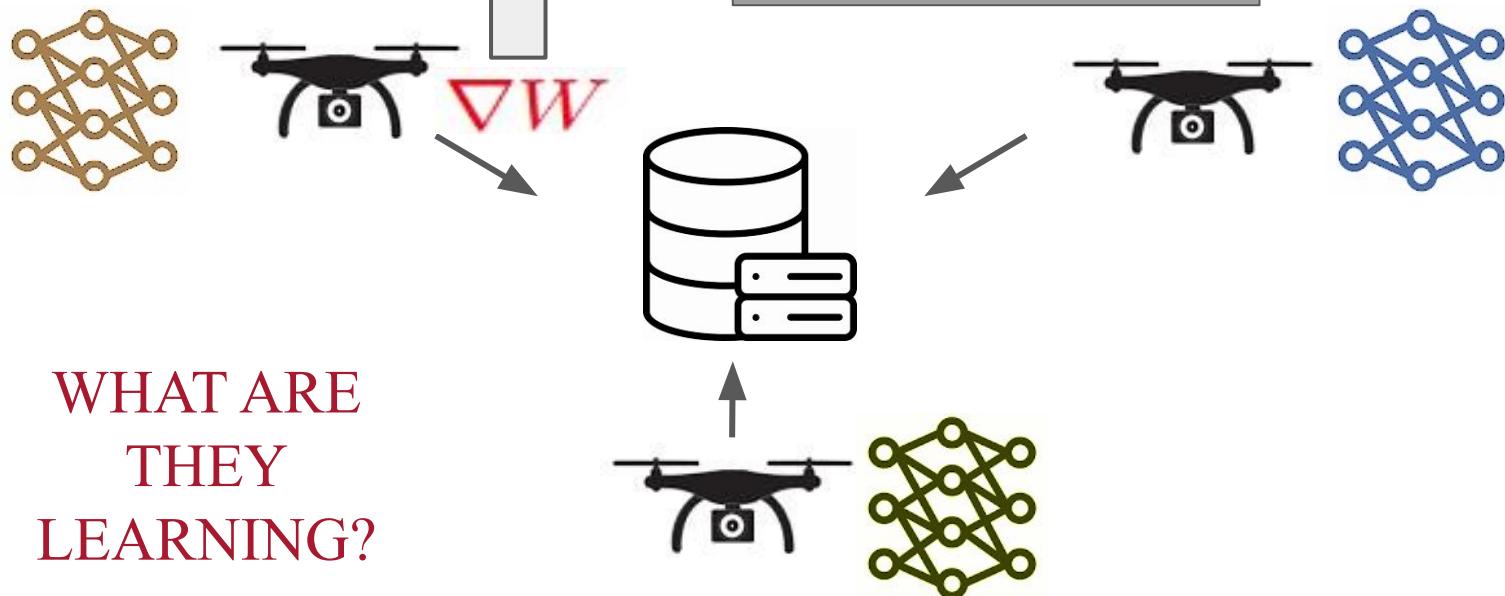


# Why This Matters

Zhu et al., 2019 [1]

Semantic Label Reconstruction (SLR)

Label\_0: dog  
Label\_1: cat



# Plan for Today

## Background

- What are Gradient Inversion Attacks (GIA's)?
- How do we evaluate the success of the reconstruction?

## Semantic Label Reconstruction

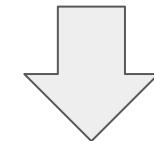
- Label recovery with CLIP (Contrastive Language-Image Pre-training), Radford et al., 2021 [2]
- CLIP guided reconstruction

# From Pixels to Meaning

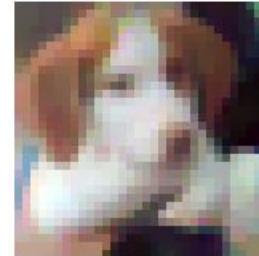
$\nabla W$

- Start with eavesdropped gradient
- Reconstruct images
- Label the the reconstructed image to retrieve semantic labels of the training data

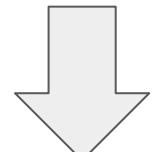
Data reconstruction



reconstructed images



Labeling images



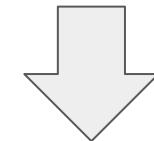
Label\_0: **dog**  
Label\_1: **horse**

# From Pixels to Meaning



Data reconstruction

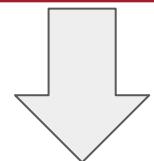
$\nabla W$



reconstructed images

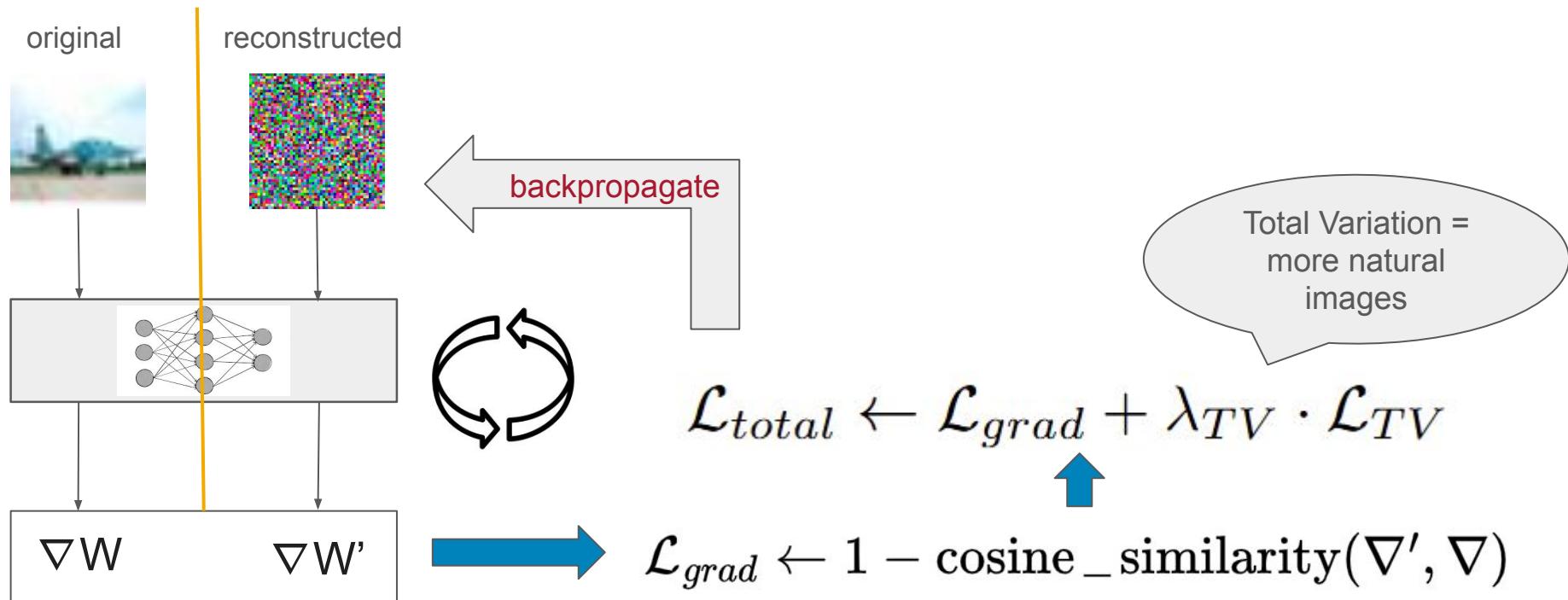


Labeling images



Label\_0: dog  
Label\_1: horse

# How Gradient Inversion Attack Work



# Different Approaches to GIA's

Approach	Paper	Method / Key Idea
Gradient Matching Loss	Zhu et al., 2019 [1]	Used <b>L2</b> distance
	Geiping et al., 2020 [2]	Used <b>cosine similarity</b>
Additional Loss Terms	Zhu et al., 2019 [1]	None
	Geiping et al., 2020 [2]	Added <b>Total Variation (TV)</b> loss
	Jeon et al., 2021 [3]	Added <b>Batch Normalization statistics</b>
Label Distribution Recovery	Zhao et al., 2020 [4]	Worked only for <b>batch size = 1</b>
	Ma et al., 2023 [5]	Solved <b>system of linear equations</b>
Latent Space Optimization	Fang et al., 2023 [6]	Used <b>GAN</b> to optimize latent space

# Different Approaches to GIA's

Approach	Paper	Method / Key Idea
Gradient Matching Loss	Zhu et al., 2019 [1]	Used <b>L2</b> distance
	Geiping et al., 2020 [2]	Used <b>cosine similarity</b>
Additional Loss Terms	Zhu et al., 2019 [1]	None
	Geiping et al., 2020 [2]	Added <b>Total Variation (TV)</b> loss
	Jeon et al., 2021 [3]	Added <b>Batch Normalization statistics</b>
Label Distribution Recovery	Zhao et al., 2020 [4]	Worked only for <b>batch size = 1</b>
	Ma et al., 2023 [5]	Solved <b>system of linear equations</b>
Latent Space Optimization	Fang et al., 2023 [6]	Used <b>GAN</b> to optimize latent space

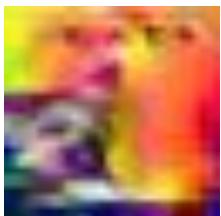
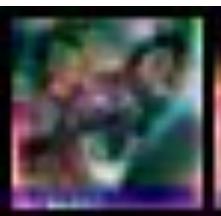
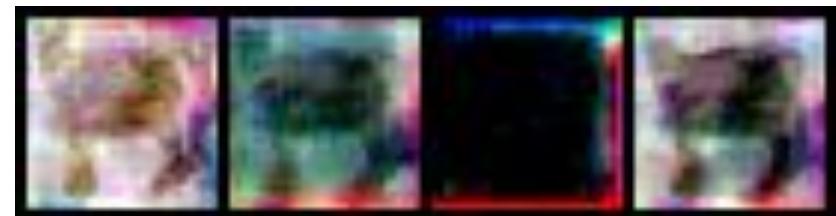
# Different Approaches to GIA's

Approach	Paper	Method / Key Idea
Gradient Matching Loss	Zhu et al., 2019 [1]	Used <b>L2</b> distance
	Geiping et al., 2020 [2]	Used <b>cosine similarity</b>
Additional Loss Terms	Zhu et al., 2019 [1]	None
	Geiping et al., 2020 [2]	Added <b>Total Variation (TV)</b> loss
	Jeon et al., 2021 [3]	Added <b>Batch Normalization statistics</b>
Label Distribution Recovery	Zhao et al., 2020 [4]	Worked only for <b>batch size = 1</b>
	Ma et al., 2023 [5]	Solved <b>system of linear equations</b>
Latent Space Optimization	Fang et al., 2023 [6]	Used <b>GAN</b> to optimize latent space

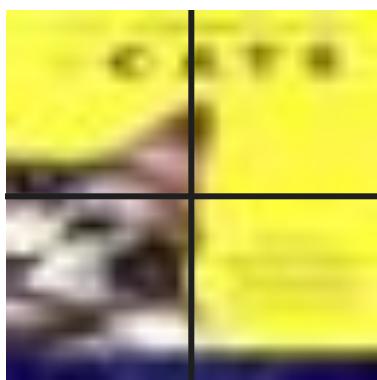
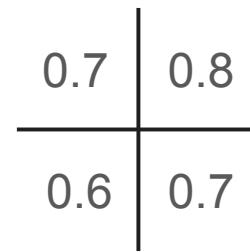
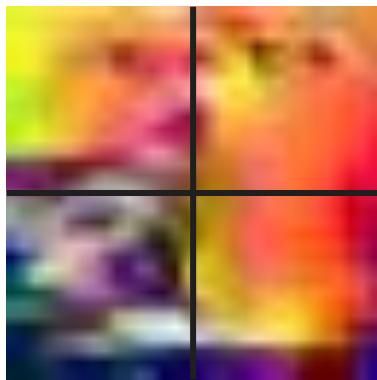
# Different Approaches to GIA's

Approach	Paper	Method / Key Idea
Gradient Matching Loss	Zhu et al., 2019 [1]	Used <b>L2</b> distance
	Geiping et al., 2020 [2]	Used <b>cosine similarity</b>
Additional Loss Terms	Zhu et al., 2019 [1]	None
	Geiping et al., 2020 [2]	Added <b>Total Variation (TV)</b> loss
	Jeon et al., 2021 [3]	Added <b>Batch Normalization statistics</b>
Label Distribution Recovery	Zhao et al., 2020 [4]	Worked only for <b>batch size = 1</b>
	Ma et al., 2023 [5]	Solved <b>system of linear equations</b>
Latent Space Optimization	Fang et al., 2023 [6]	Used <b>GAN</b> to optimize latent space

# Results of the Reconstruction

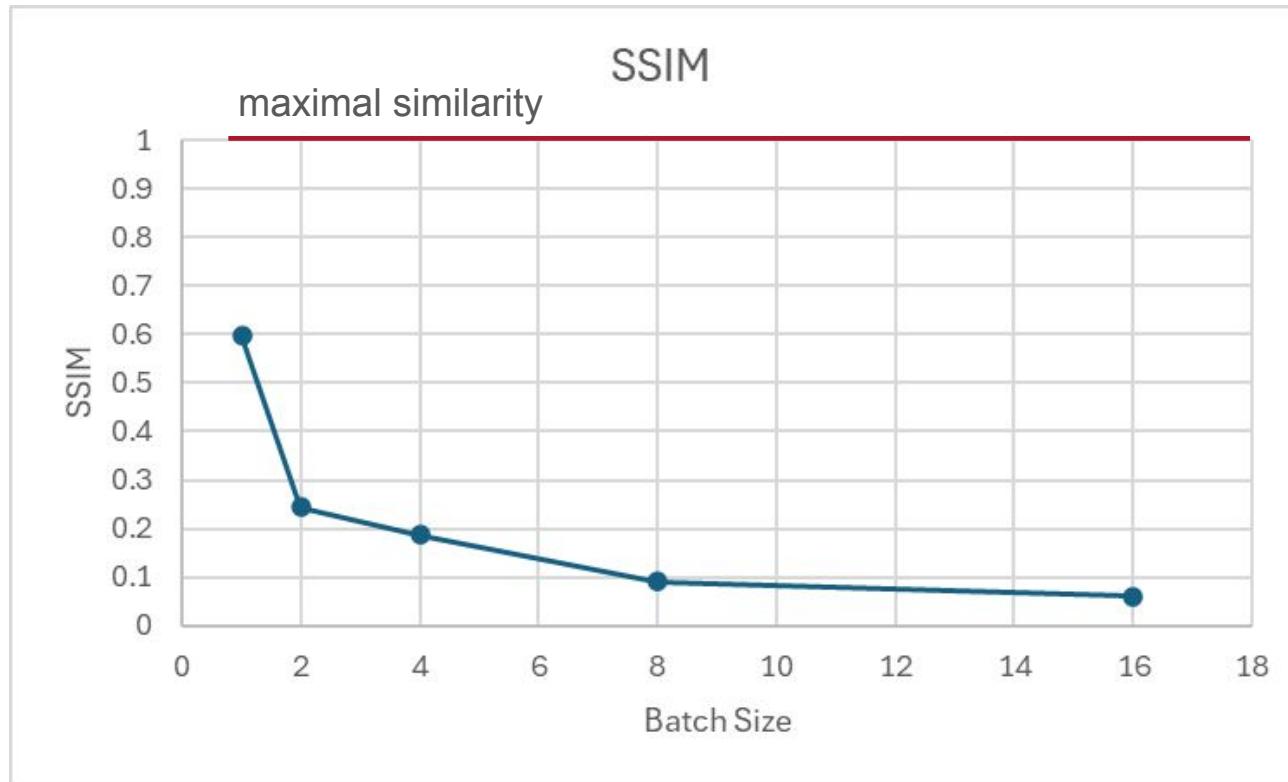
		Batch Size		
		1	2	4
reconstructed				
original				

# SSIM (Structural Similarity Index Measure)

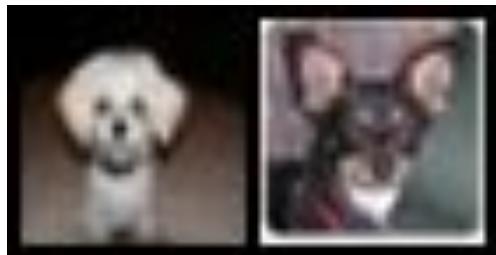
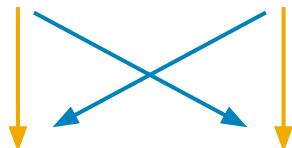
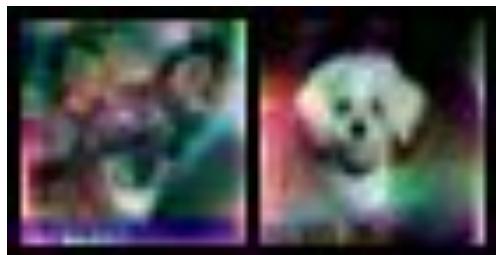


$$\text{SSIM}(x, y) = \frac{(2\mu_x\mu_y + c_1)(2\sigma_{xy} + c_2)}{(\mu_x^2 + \mu_y^2 + c_1)(\sigma_x^2 + \sigma_y^2 + c_2)}$$

# SSIM (Structural Similarity Index Measure)



# Permutation Agnostic SSIM



**1st assignment**

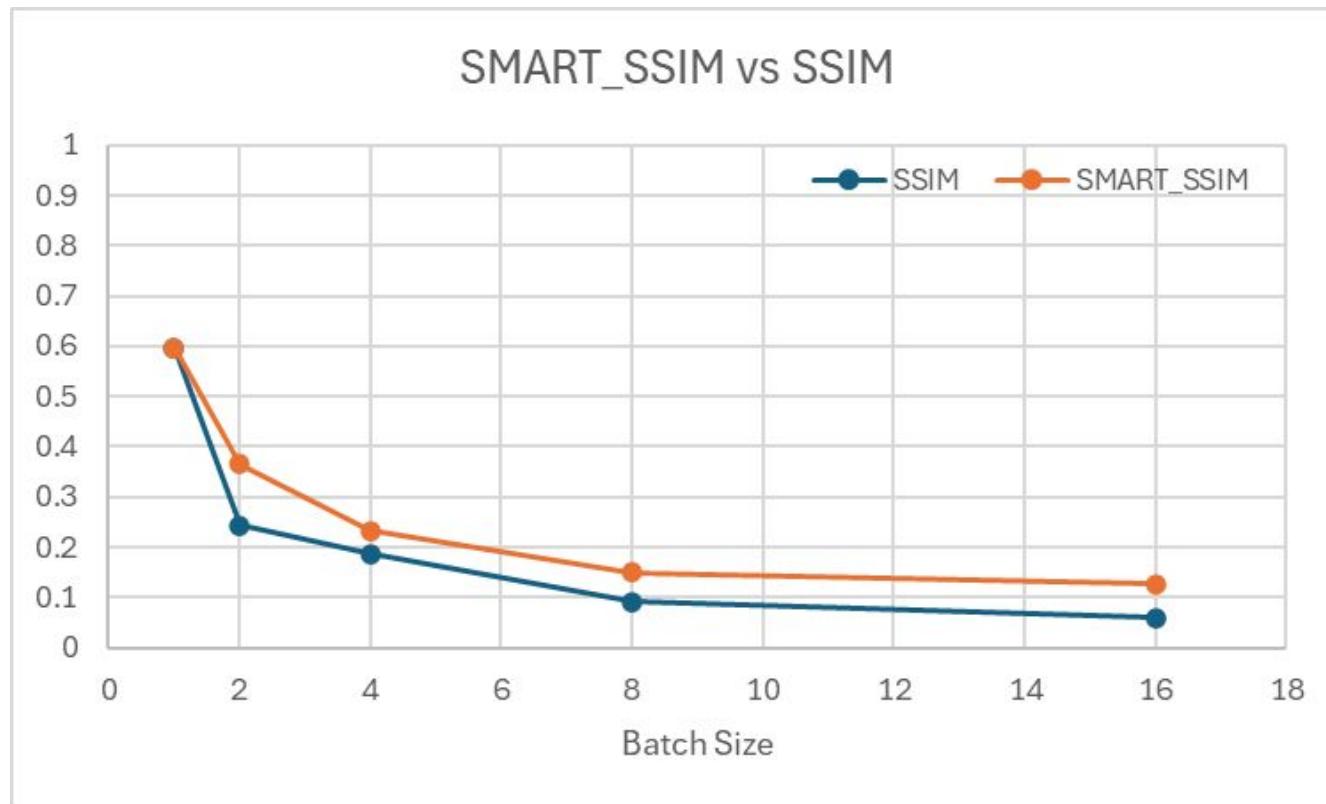
$$\text{SSIM}_1 = \frac{\text{SSIM}(\text{[Abstract]}, \text{[Dog]}) + \text{SSIM}(\text{[Abstract]}, \text{[Dog]})}{2}$$

**2nd assignment**

$$\text{SSIM}_2 = \frac{\text{SSIM}(\text{[Abstract]}, \text{[Dog]}) + \text{SSIM}(\text{[Dog]}, \text{[Abstract]})}{2}$$

$$\text{SSIM}_{\text{SMART}} = \max(\text{SSIM}_1, \text{SSIM}_2)$$

# Permutation Agnostic SSIM

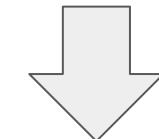


# From Pixels to Meaning

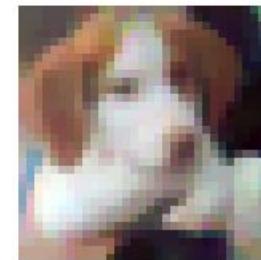
$\nabla W$



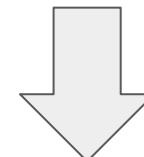
Data reconstruction



reconstructed images



Labeling images



Label\_0: dog  
Label\_1: horse

# CLIP for Label Recovery

class prompts

“image of a **dog**”  
“image of a **cat**”  
...

Text Encoder

reconstructed images



Image Encoder

cos\_sim

Similarity Matrix

Image	Dog	Frog	Cat	Truck	...
A	<b>0.7</b>	0.1	0.05	0.05	...
B	<b>0.65</b>	0.12	0.05	0.05	...
C	0.08	<b>0.75</b>	0.1	0.02	...
D	0.1	<b>0.7</b>	0.07	0.02	...

label\_0

label\_1

Label	Dog	Frog	Cat	Truck	...
0	<b>0.675</b>	0.11	0.05	0.05	...
1	0.09	<b>0.725</b>	0.085	0.02	...



# Setup & Evaluation



Train model on some  
subset of classes



# Setup & Evaluation



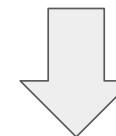
Train model on some  
subset of classes



Data reconstruction

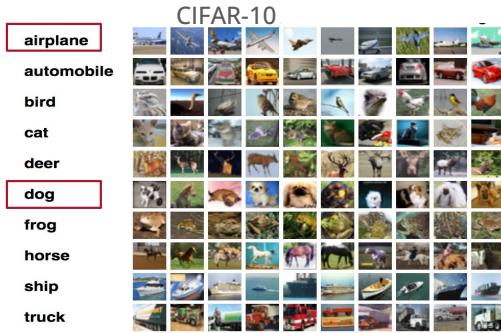


Labeling images



Label\_0: **dog**  
Label\_1: **horse**

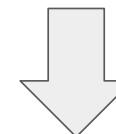
# Setup & Evaluation



Train model on some  
subset of classes



Labeling images



Label\_0: **dog**  
Label\_1: **horse**

Metric:

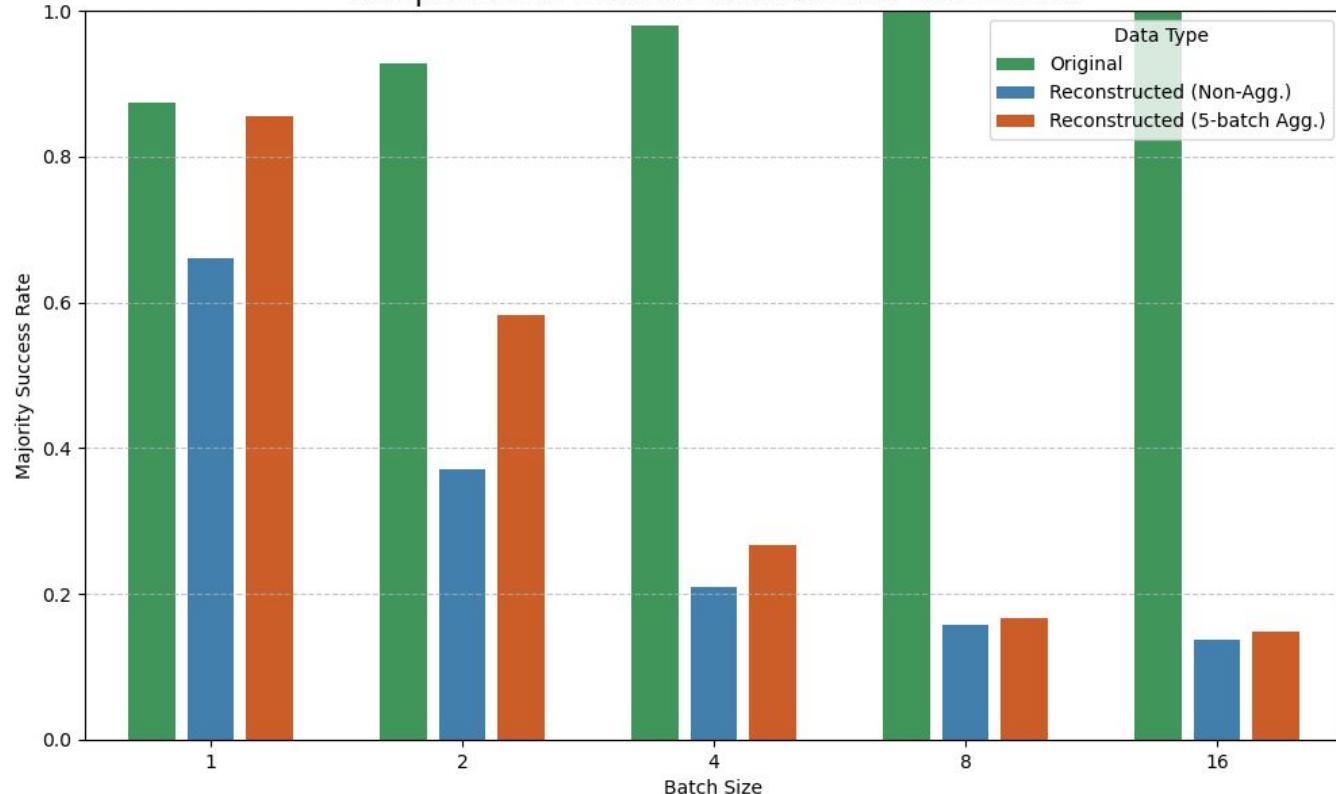
- Success of recovery of  
majority class (**0/1**)



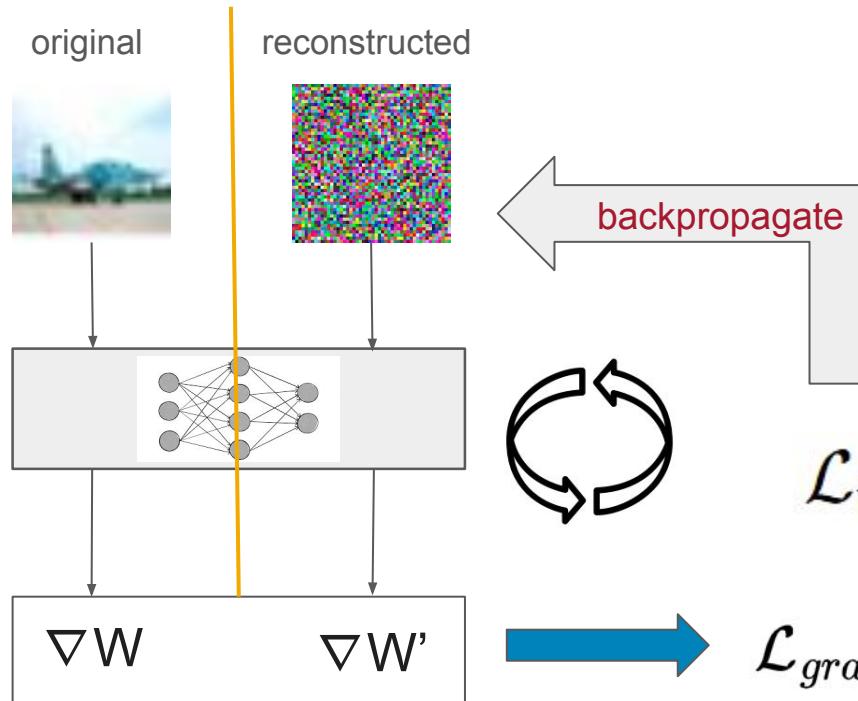
# Leakage Drops as Batch Size Increases

Comparison of Success Rates Across Batch Sizes

- Original - almost perfect
- Aggregation improves quality
- Batch Size 4 still 2x better than random



# CLIP Guided Reconstruction



Guidance: “image of an airplane”

$$\mathcal{L}_{CLIP} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \left( 1 - \text{cosine\_similarity}(\text{img}^{(i)}, \text{guidance\_prompt}^{(i)}) \right)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{total} \leftarrow \mathcal{L}_{grad} + \lambda_{TV} \cdot \mathcal{L}_{TV}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{grad} \leftarrow 1 - \text{cosine\_similarity}(\nabla', \nabla)$$

# Oracle Guidance Improves Quality



# Recovering Semantic Labels from CLIP Guidance



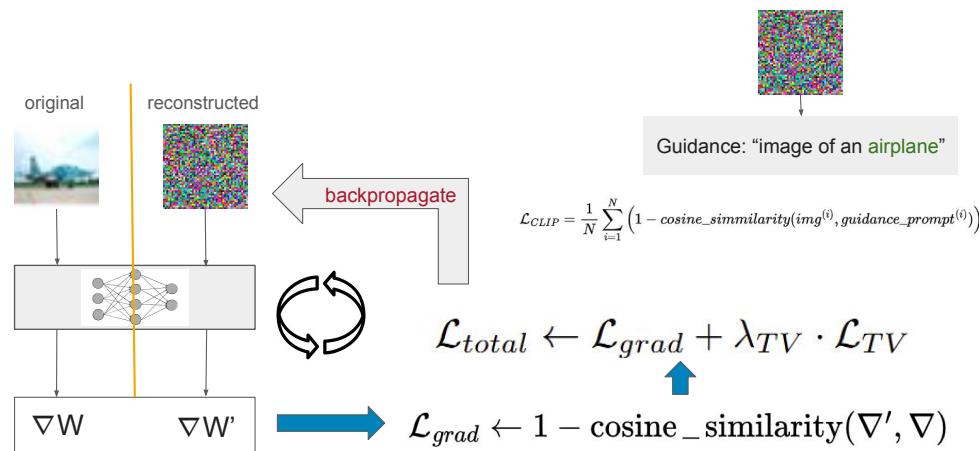
# Thank you!

## Semantic Label Reconstruction

### How to Breach Privacy in Federated Learning

## Summary

- Gradients leak semantic information
- Increasing batch size is an effective defensive tool
- Aggregation across multiple batches improves label recovery



# References

- [1] Zhu, Ligeng, Zhijian Liu, and Song Han. “Deep Leakage from Gradients.” arXiv, December 19, 2019.
- [2] Radford, A., Kim, J. W., Hallacy, C., Ramesh, A., Goh, G., Agarwal, S., Sastry, G., Askell, A., Mishkin, P., Clark, J., Krueger, G., & Sutskever, I. (2021). Learning transferable visual models from natural language supervision. arXiv preprint arXiv:2103.00020
- [3] Geiping, Jonas, Hartmut Bauermeister, Hannah Dröge, and Michael Moeller. “Inverting Gradients -- How Easy Is It to Break Privacy in Federated Learning?” arXiv, September 11, 2020.
- [4] Jeon, Jinwoo, jaechang Kim, Kangwook Lee, Sewoong Oh, and Jungseul Ok. “Gradient Inversion with Generative Image Prior.” In Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems, 34:29898–908. Curran Associates, Inc., 2021.
- [5] Zhao, Bo, Konda Reddy Mopuri, and Hakan Bilen. “iDLG: Improved Deep Leakage from Gradients.” arXiv, January 8, 2020.
- [6] Ma, K., Sun, Y., Cui, J., Li, D., Guan, Z., & Liu, J. (2023). Instance-wise batch label restoration via gradients in federated learning. In Proceedings of the International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR 2023).
- [7] Fang, Hao, Bin Chen, Xuan Wang, Zhi Wang, and Shu-Tao Xia. “GIFD: A Generative Gradient Inversion Method with Feature Domain Optimization.” In Proceedings of the IEEE/CVF International Conference on Computer Vision, 4967–76, 2023.