Adversarial Machine Learning Against Voice Assistant Systems

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Objective

- Study the security of voice assistant systems under adversarial machine learning
- Develop a system to generate hidden voice commands to attack voice assistants
- Use a drone to carry loudspeaker to play hidden voice commands to a voice assistant system

Background

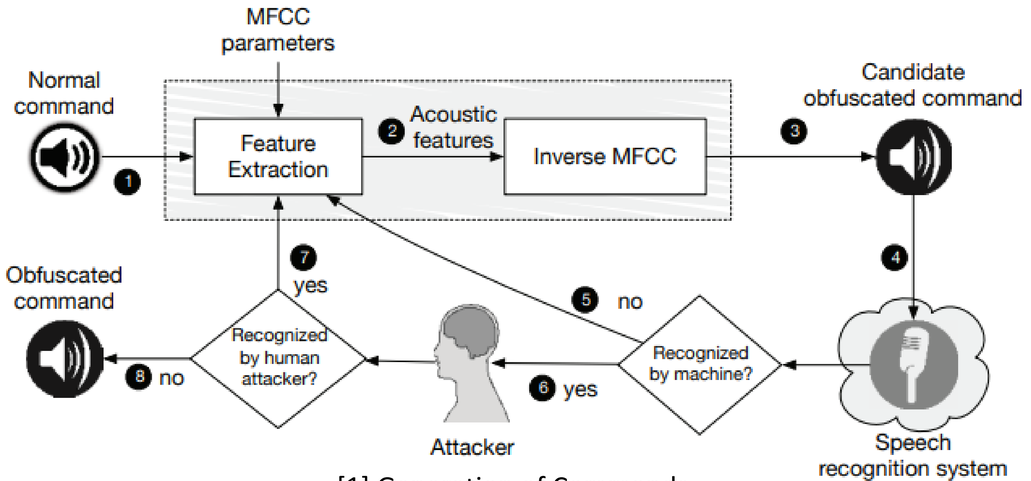
- Hidden Voice Commands
  - Audio samples that have been altered to fool speech recognition systems
  - Interpreted as common commands by voice assistants, but unrecognizable to human listeners

Drone Progress

- Objective: Use Holy Stone HS700 drone to carry loudspeaker that will play commands to attack voice assistant system
- Completed setup and tested flight of Yuneec Tornado H920

Generating Hidden Voice Commands

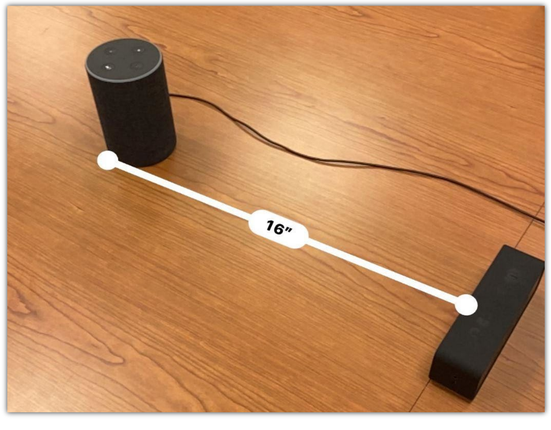
1. Convert audio input into mel-frequency cepstral coefficients (MFCCs) while adding noise
2. Invert the MFCCs back into an audio file while adding additional noise
3. Test if audio is interpretable by humans and/or by voice assistants
4. Repeat process until audio is interpretable to only voice assistants



[1] Generation of Commands

Experiment Procedure

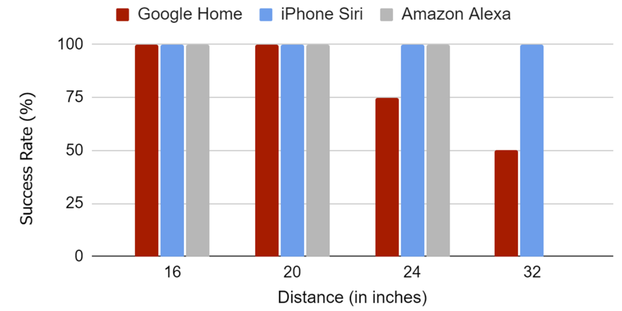
- Recorded our own voice commands
- Obfuscated each command and played it through a speaker facing a voice assistant device
  - Gradually increased distance between speaker and device
  - Measured speaker volume, room noise, command success
- Systems: Google Home, Amazon Alexa, Apple's Siri
- Commands: "What's the time", "What's the weather like today", "Set a timer for 10 minutes"



Experiment Results

- Google Home
  - Recognized all commands at distances up to 22 inches
- Amazon Alexa
  - Recognized all commands at all measured distances (less than 32 inches)
- Apple's Siri
  - Recognized all commands at distances up to 11 feet

Success Rate vs. Distance



Future Work

- Generate more commands that are less recognizable to humans
- Attach drone to loudspeaker and carry out commands from drone

Acknowledgements

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References

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