



Building Trustworthy LLM

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Education

2013 – 2018	Penn State Univ.	IST	Ph.D.
2008 – 2012	Peking Univ.	EE	B.S.



Appointment

2019 – now	HKUST	CSE	Assistant prof.
2018 – 2019	ETH Zurich	CSE	Postdoc



Research Interest

Software security

LLM security

Reverse engineering

System security



- Offensive Security
- Ethical Hacking
- Exploiting Vulnerabilities
- Penetration Tests
- Black Box Testing
- Social Engineering
- Web App Scanning

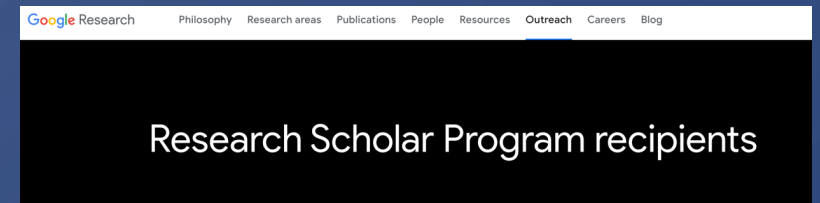


- Defensive Security
- Infrastructure Protection
- Damage Control
- Incident Response
- Operational Security
- Threat Hunting
- Digital Forensics

9-10 researchers (two Postdocs and 7-8 Ph.D. students) in this **LLM security** line of research



ACM SIGSOFT Distinguished Paper





2023 Google Award



































2023 BlackHat USA

Roadmap – Building Trustworthy LLM

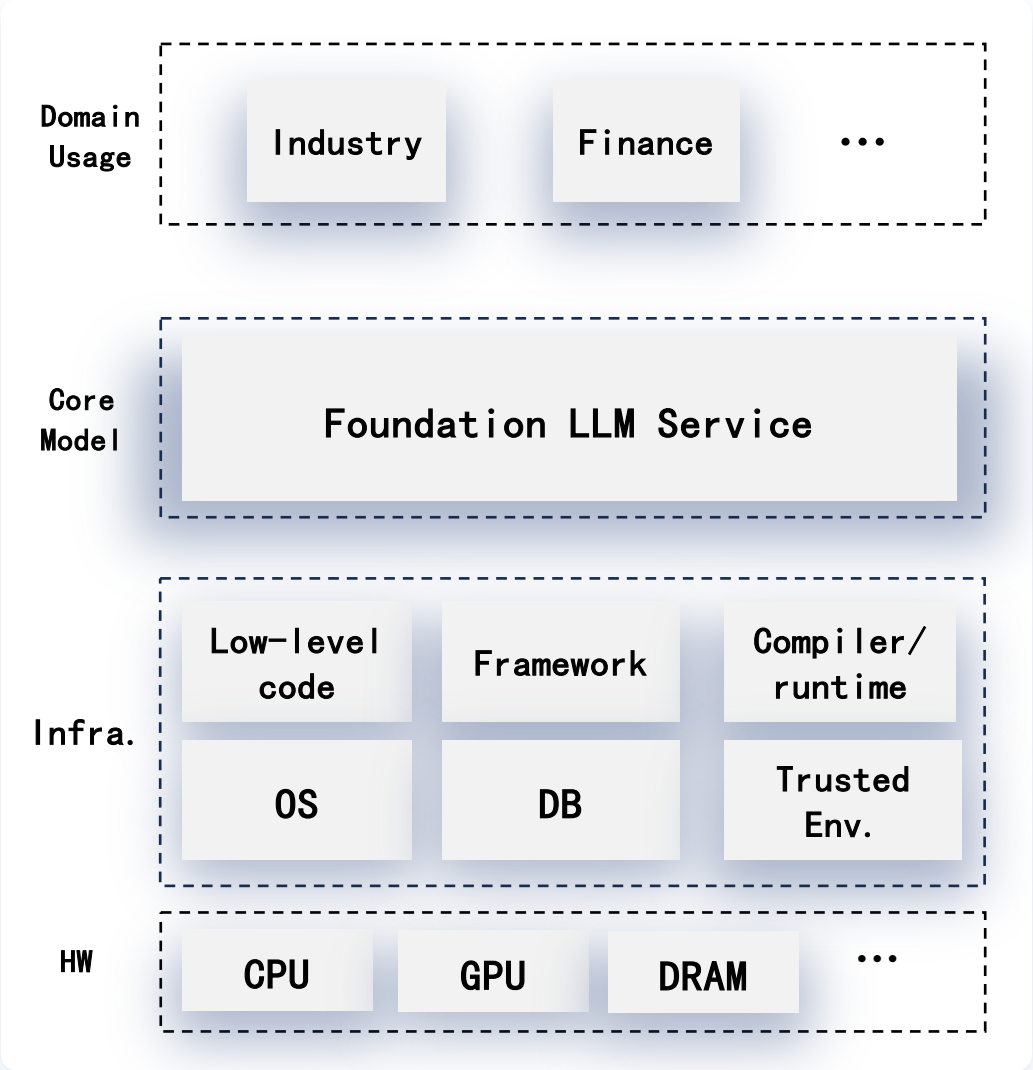
 deliveries from our group
(papers, released datasets, other IPs)

 joint effort with industry partners
(papers, patents, tool dissemination)

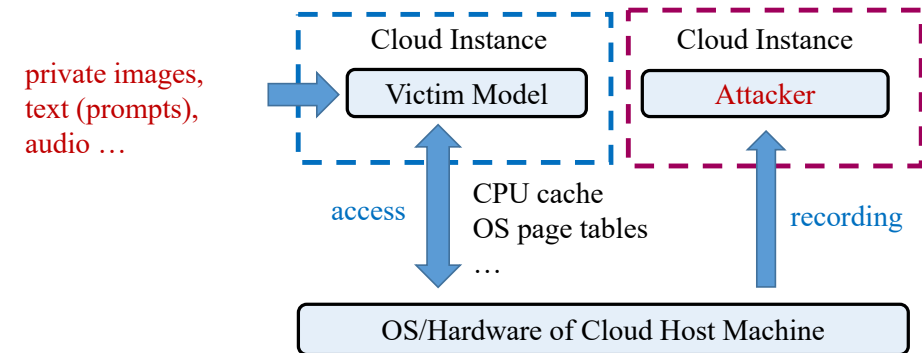
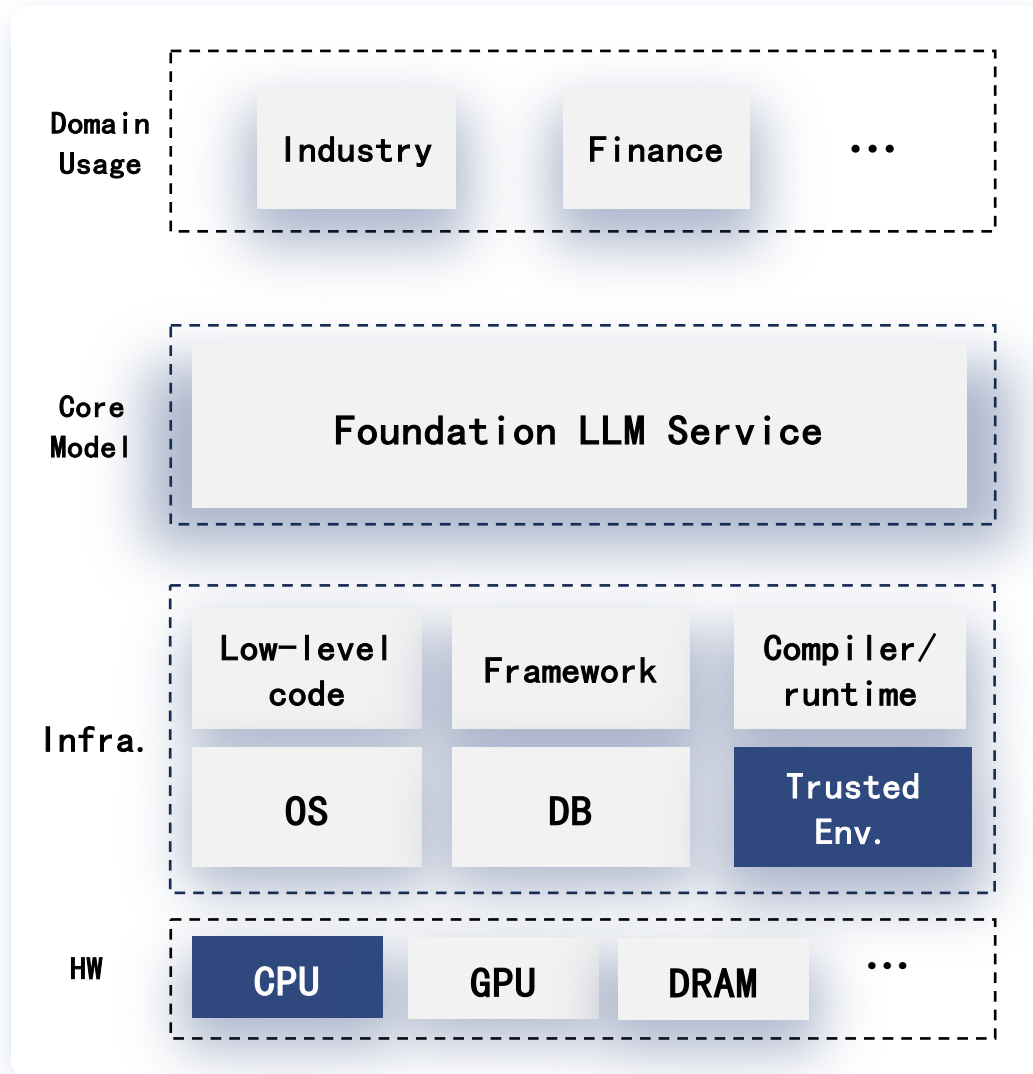
 ongoing/planned

Object	Impact Stage	Category	Cases (simplified for presentation purposes)						
Foundation LLM	Offline Training	“red team”	training data poisoning 	fine-tuning data poisoning	quantization risk 	privacy-enhancing risk 	pre-trained data leakage 	correction model training	
		“blue team”	data cleaning	secure SFT	RLHF	model alignment 	Pre-trained data protection 	aligned dataset auto generation	
	Online Deployment	“red team”	jailbreak 	model theft 	data leakage 	hallucination 	adversarial examples 	LLM agent misbehavior 	hardware fault/side channels 
		“blue team”	jailbreak protection 	watermark 	moderation layer	system-level obfuscation 	compiler-level protection 	agent planning smoothing 	trusted computing 
Domain LLM	Online Deployment	“red team”	RAG risk assessment 	financial scenario risk 	manufacturing scenario risk 	software dev risk 	Insecure plugin design (market) 	medical scenario risk	cybersecurity scenario risk
		“blue team”	RAG protection 	model customization 	decision OTF repairing 	dev assist enhancing 	causal-based prompt opt. 		
Human Alignment	Social Impact		ethical suggestion 	political sensitivity 	criminality	physical/mental health	discrimination	security/privacy awareness	bias in “LLM as a judge” 


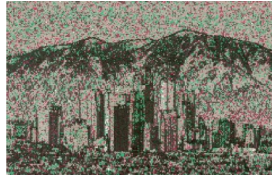
Case Study – Red Teaming



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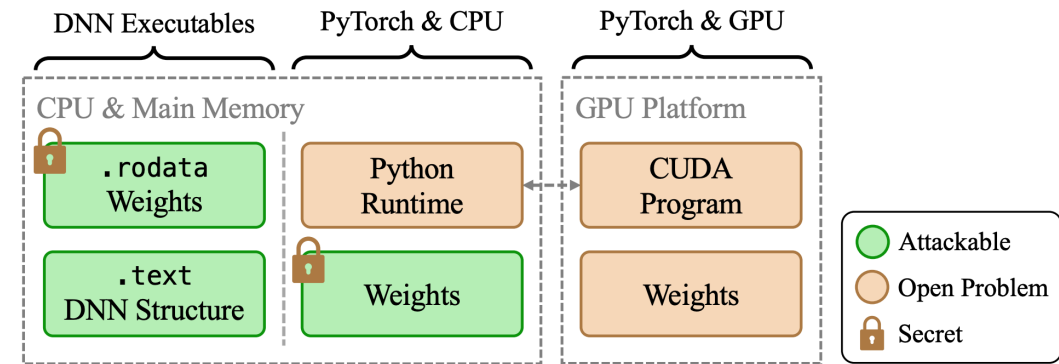
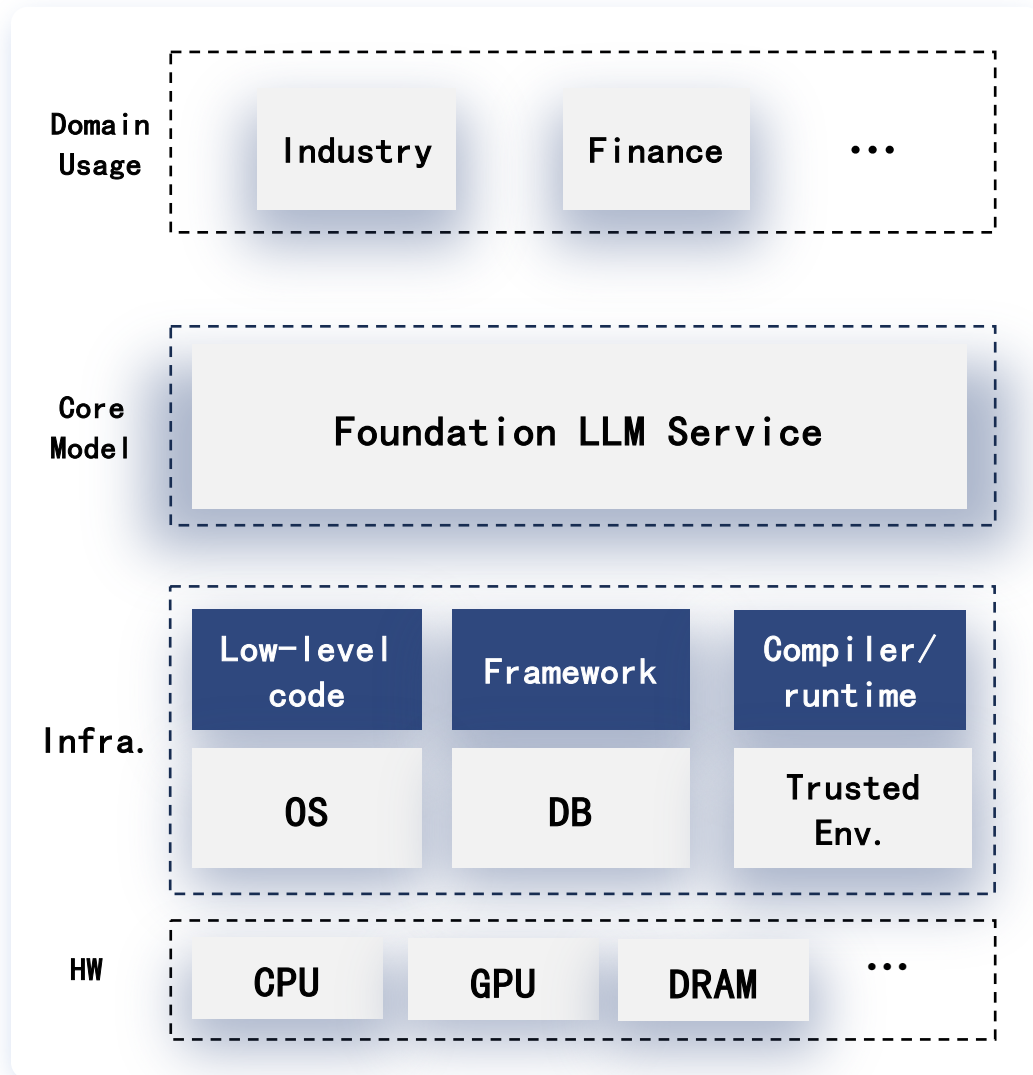
(a) SCA toward cloud AI platforms to recover private images.

	Private User Text Input
	<i>I 'm sorry to hear it . What 's wrong with her ? I don 't want to insult Jill or her mother . I think Jill maybe could do it . But I 'd rather have someone a little older .</i>
	Reconstructed Private Text Input
	<i>I 'm sorry , <u>say that</u> . What 's wrong with her ? I <UNK>'t want to insult Jill or her <u>brother</u> . I think Jill , could be it . But I ' <u>ll</u> rather have some <u>to</u> little older .</i>

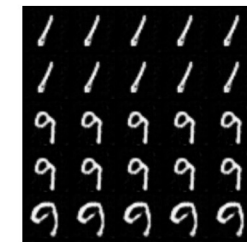
(b) Private input images and text vs. the reconstructed inputs via side channel analysis.

User private inputs can be leaked via side channels.

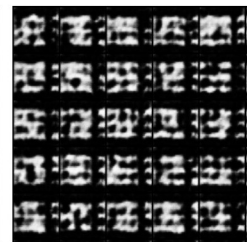
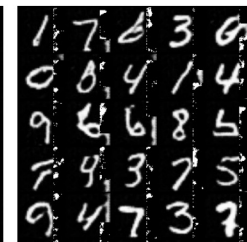
Case Study – Red Teaming



(a) Before BFA



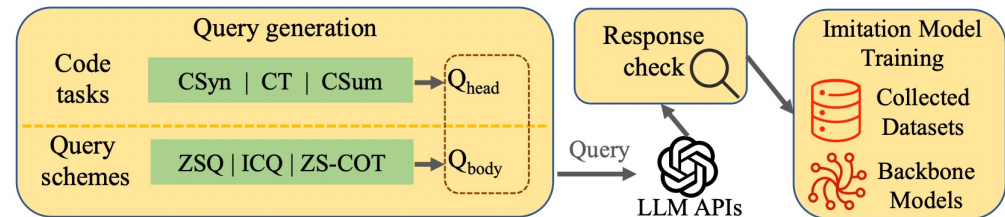
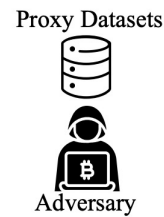
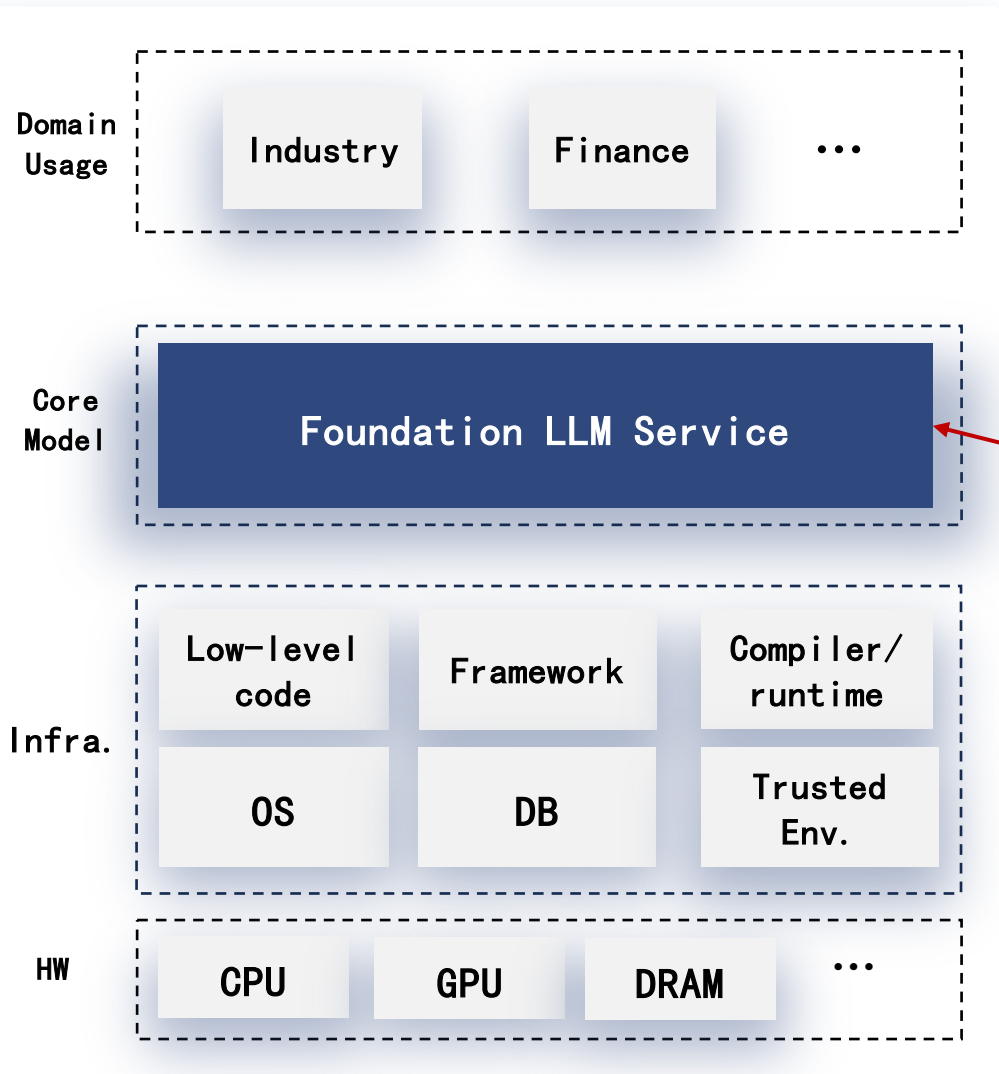
(b) 3 Different types of outcomes after BFA



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Using BFA (“bit-flip attack”), we can control model behavior.

Case Study – Red Teaming



Imitation attack can "extract" your LLM's knowledge

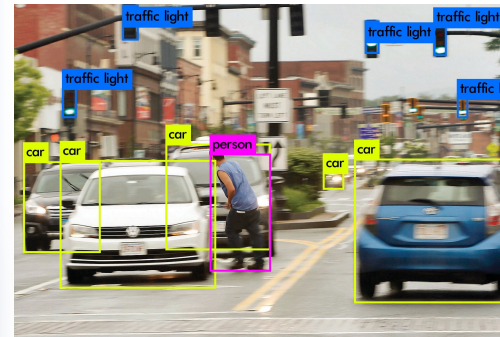
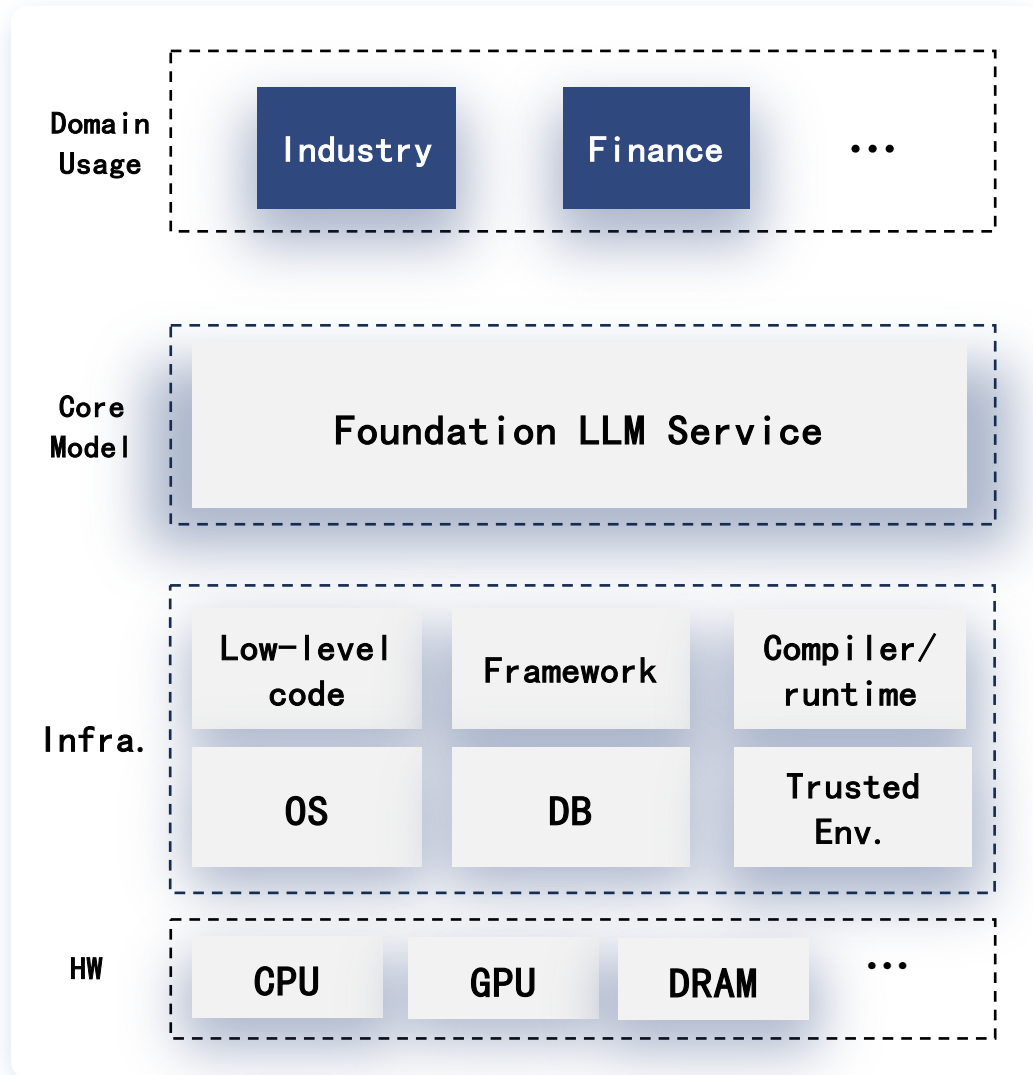


In turn, attack your LLM easily!

Attacker's local model can be easily trained with **only a few thousand USD**

Our advocacy --- **LLM usable, but not "stealable"**

Case Study – Red Teaming

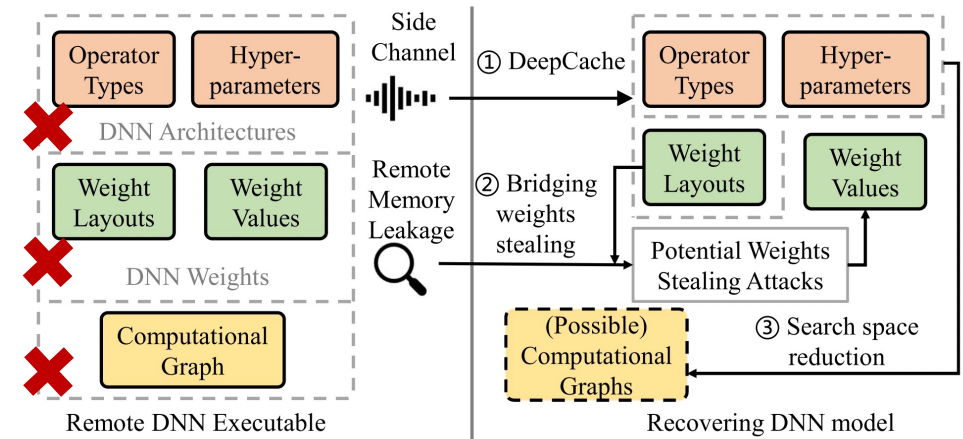
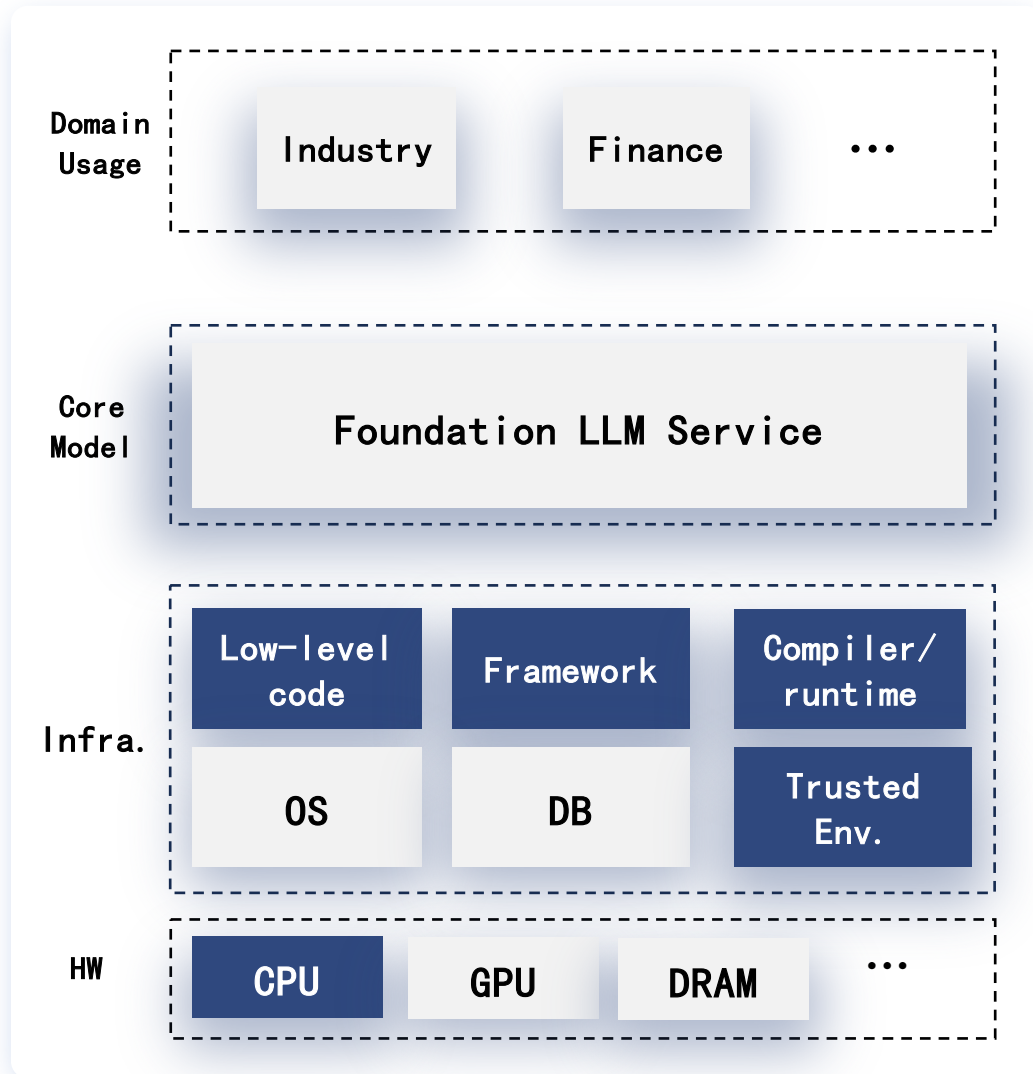


With well-designed methods, we find many defects in varying domains/applications.



LLM dependability in industrial usages

Case Study – Blue Teaming



Holistic attack pipeline

- ✗ We harden model infrastructures using
 - Obfuscations
 - Sanitizations
 - Oblivious RAM (ORAM)
 - ...
- Our solutions are applicable for various scenarios.

Building Trustworthy LLM

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