

Fooling Object Detection is Not Enough: First Adversarial Attack against Multiple Object Tracking

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Introduction

- Adversarial Examples (AE) against object detection models have been studied, and are believed to be a realistic threat to autonomous driving.

E.g., adversarial patch on stop signs (Eykholt et al. [1])

- However, in a visual perception pipeline, detected objects will also be tracked, in a process called Multiple Object Tracking (MOT), to build the moving trajectories of surrounding obstacles.

- We find that existing attacks that blindly target on object detection models are **highly ineffective**.

- We are the **first** to study the adversarial learning against complete visual pipeline in autonomous driving, and discover novel attack, **tracker hijacking**, which can move an object in or out of the headway of an autonomous vehicle to cause safety hazards using as few as **one frame**.

MOT Background

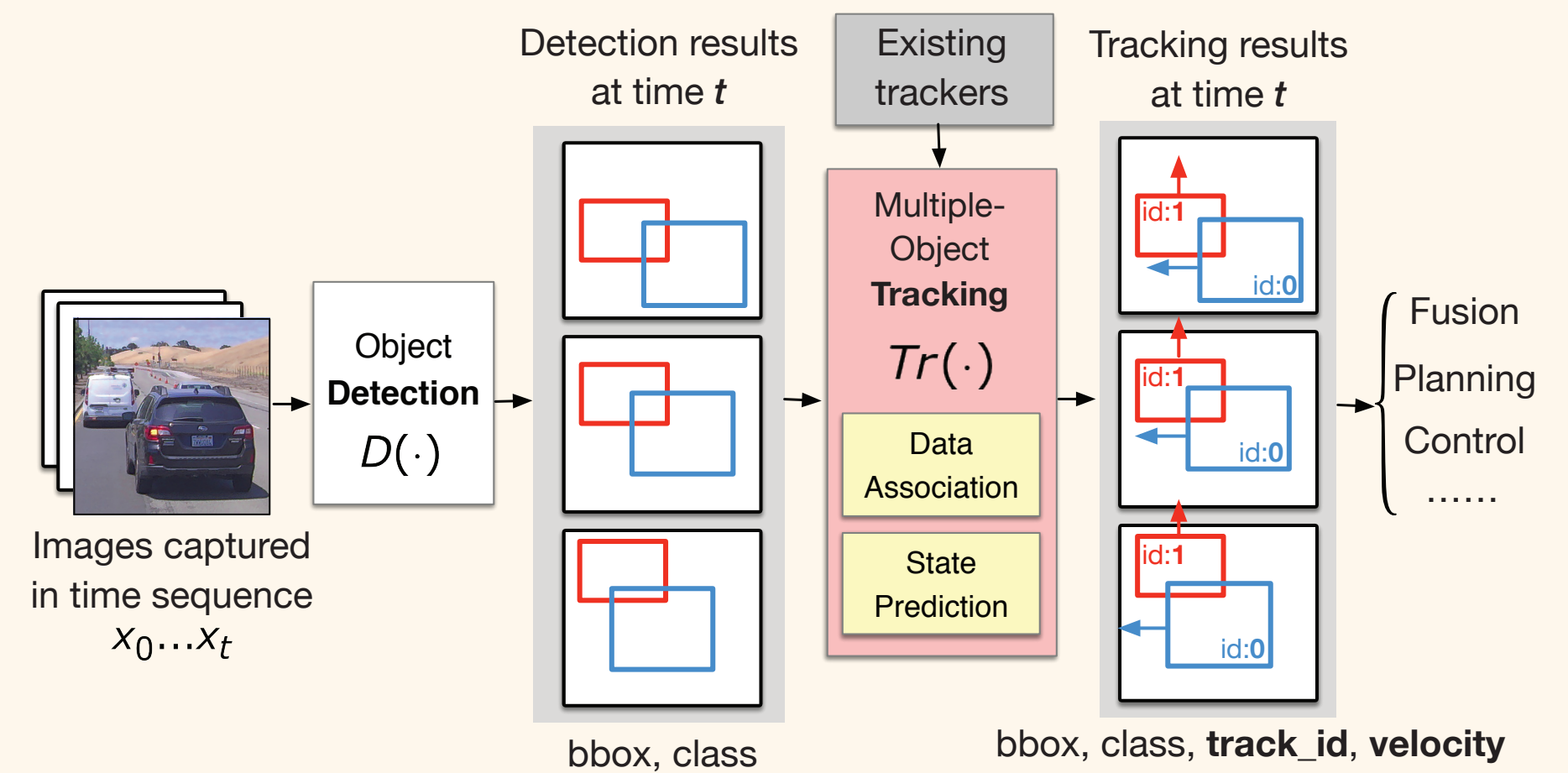
- MOT identifies objects and their trajectories in video frames. Three major components:

- Data association** between detected objects and existing trackers is formulated as a bipartite matching problem, based on the pairwise similarity between the bounding boxes.

- State prediction** is performed using a per-track Kalman Filter maintains a velocity model to estimate the locations of the tracked objects in the next frame in order to compensate the motion between frames.

- Track management** controls the creation and deletion of trackers. A new tracker will be created only when being constantly detected for H frames (Hit Count); A tracker will be deleted only if no objects is associated with for a duration of R frames (Reserved Age).

Figure1. The complete **Track-by-Detection** pipeline of modern autonomous systems.



Recommended setting: **R=60**, **H=6** for 30 fps video [2].

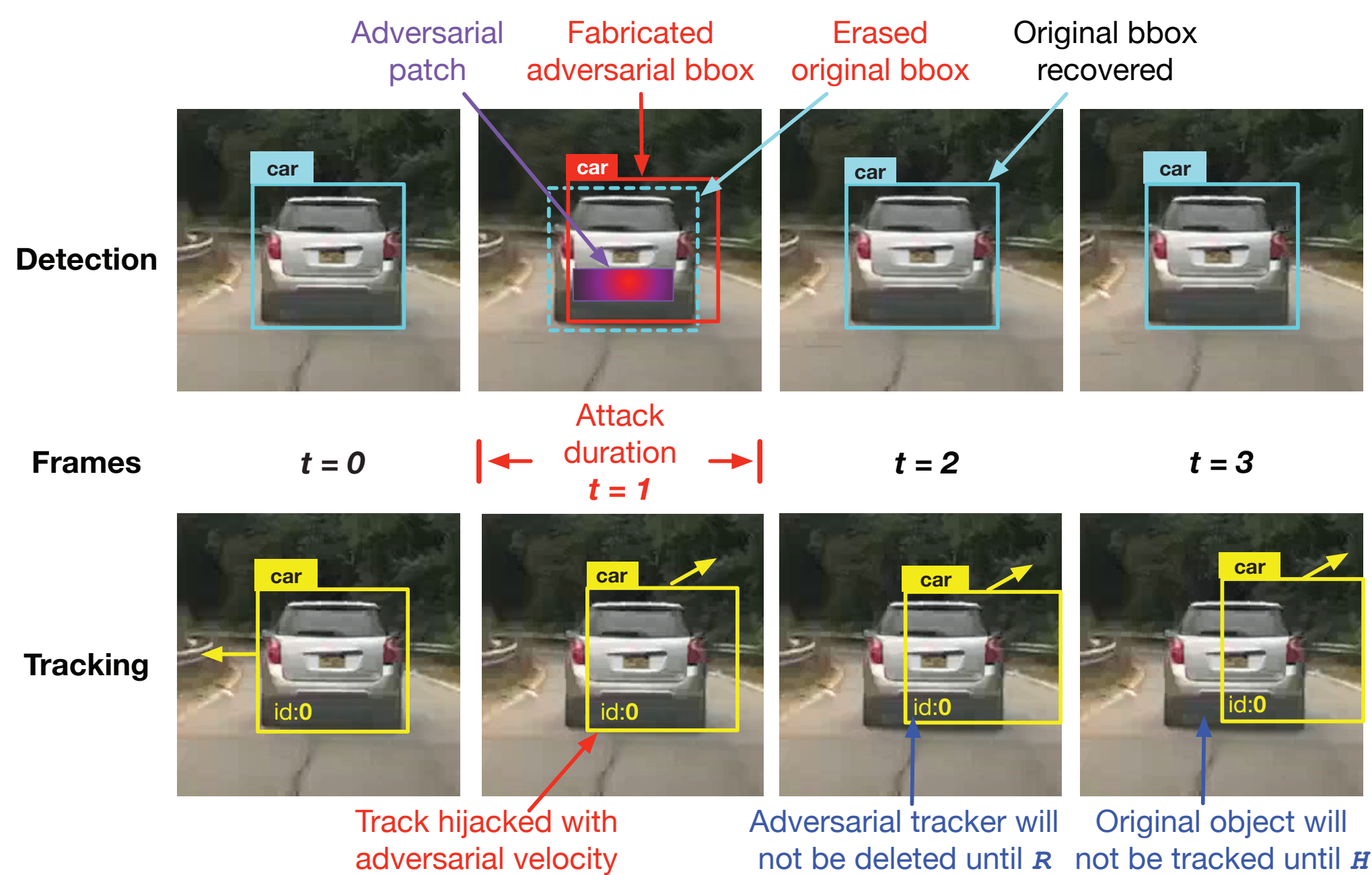


Figure2. One-frame tracker hijacking attack workflow

Tracker Hijacking Attack

- Overview: Generate an adversarial patch to fool the object detector model with two adversarial goals:
 - Erase the bounding box of target object from detection result.
 - Fabricate a bounding box with similar shape that is shifted a little bit towards an attacker-controlled direction

- The fabricated bounding box (red) will be associated with the original tracker, and thus would give a fake velocity towards the attacker-controlled direction.

- In the example, the attack lasts for only one frame, however: The hijacked tracker will not be deleted until a **reserved age (R)** has passed.

- The target object, though is recovered in the detection result, will not be tracked until a **hit count (H)** has reached. And before that, the object remains missing in the tracking result.

- Causing rear-end crashes in two attack scenarios.

Attack Effectiveness

- Definition of a **successful attack**: the detected bounding box of target object can no longer be associated with any of the existing trackers when attack has stopped.
- Evaluation dataset: 20 video clips from Berkeley Deep Drive (BDD) datasets, 10 for move-in scenario, and 10 for move-out scenario,
- Implementation: MOT implemented based on the one used in OpenCV, Object detection adopts YOLOv3. The number of frames required for a successful attack depends on a parameter, called measurement noise covariance of Kalman filter. We test under different noise level.

Finding optimal position for adversarial bounding box: finding translation δ that minimizes the cost of Hungarian matching $\mathcal{M}(\cdot)$

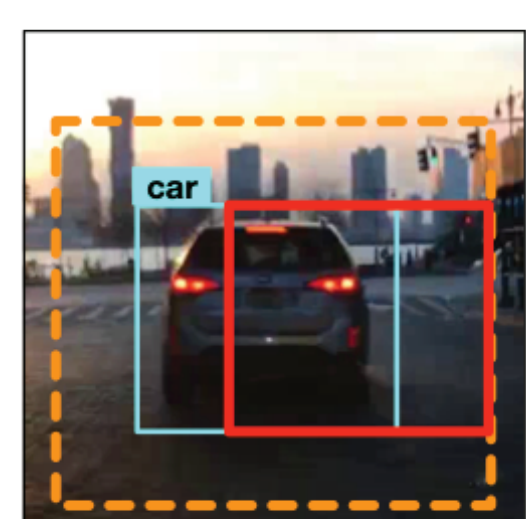
$$\max_{\delta} \mathcal{M}(detection_t[K] + \delta, track_{t-1}[K])$$

$$s.t. \mathcal{M} \leq \lambda, IoU(detection_t[K] + \delta, patch) \geq \gamma$$

- [Figure 5]: Tracker hijacking attack only requires successful AEs on object detection in **2~3** consecutive frames on average to succeed despite different (R, H) configurations.

Object move-in generally requires **less** frames compared with object move out,

- [Figure 6] Tracker hijacking achieves superior (**100%**) success rate even by attacking only 3 frames, while detection attack needs to reliably fool at least **R** consecutive frames, which translates to a 98.3% (59/60) AE success rate for a 30 fps video system, which has never been achieved by previous work [1, 3, 4]. Otherwise, object detection attack only has up to **25%** success rate before R.



Dashed orange box: Data association range of the original bbox
Red box: Optimal position for adv bbox given a velocity

Figure3. Finding position to place fabricated bounding box

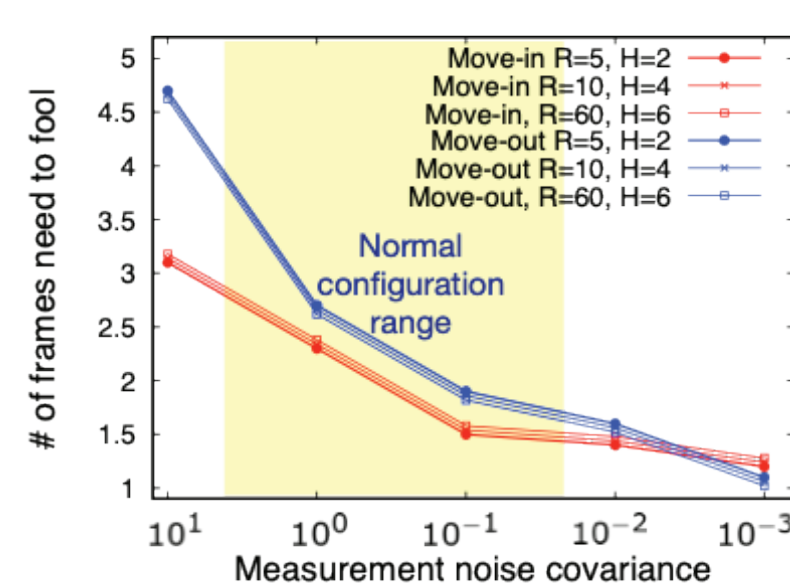


Figure5. Frames required to be fooled for successful attack

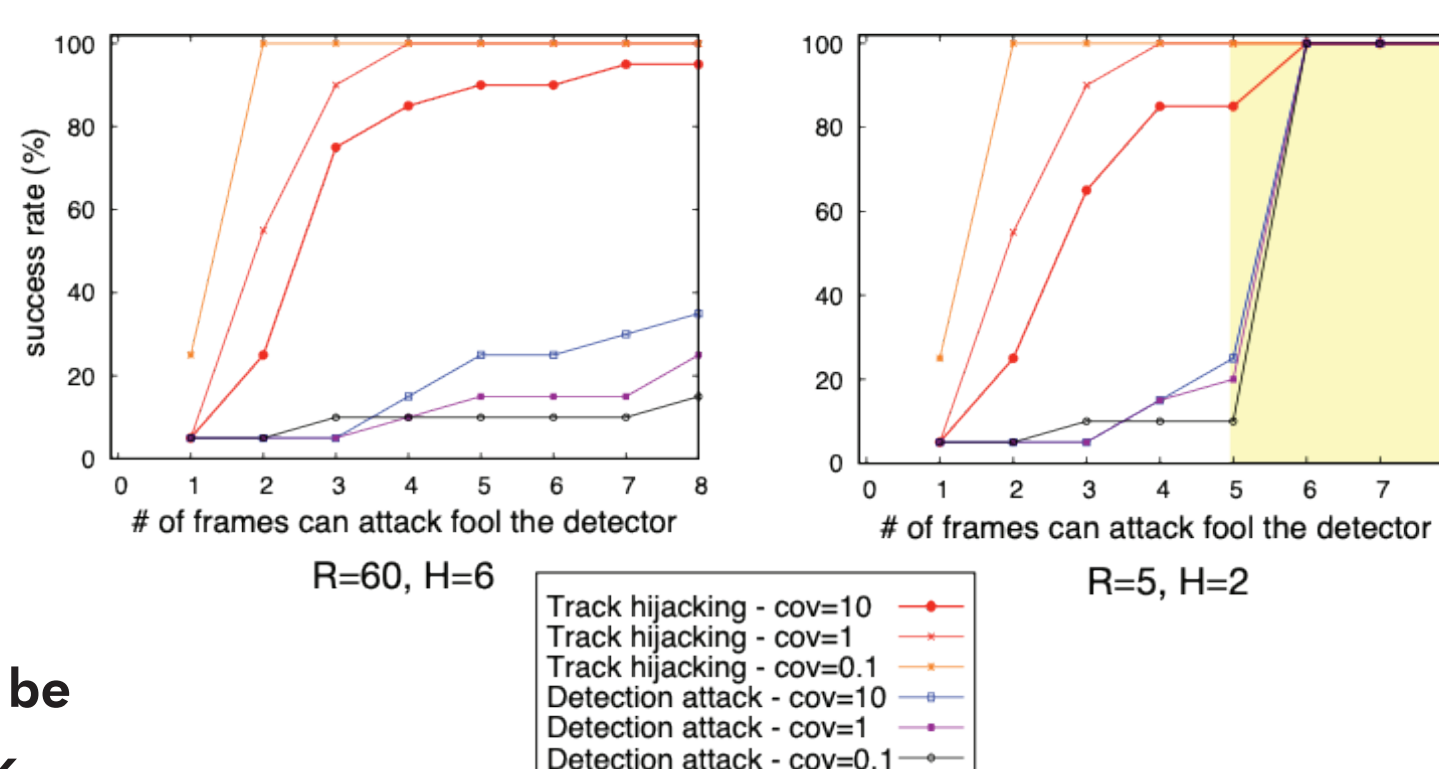
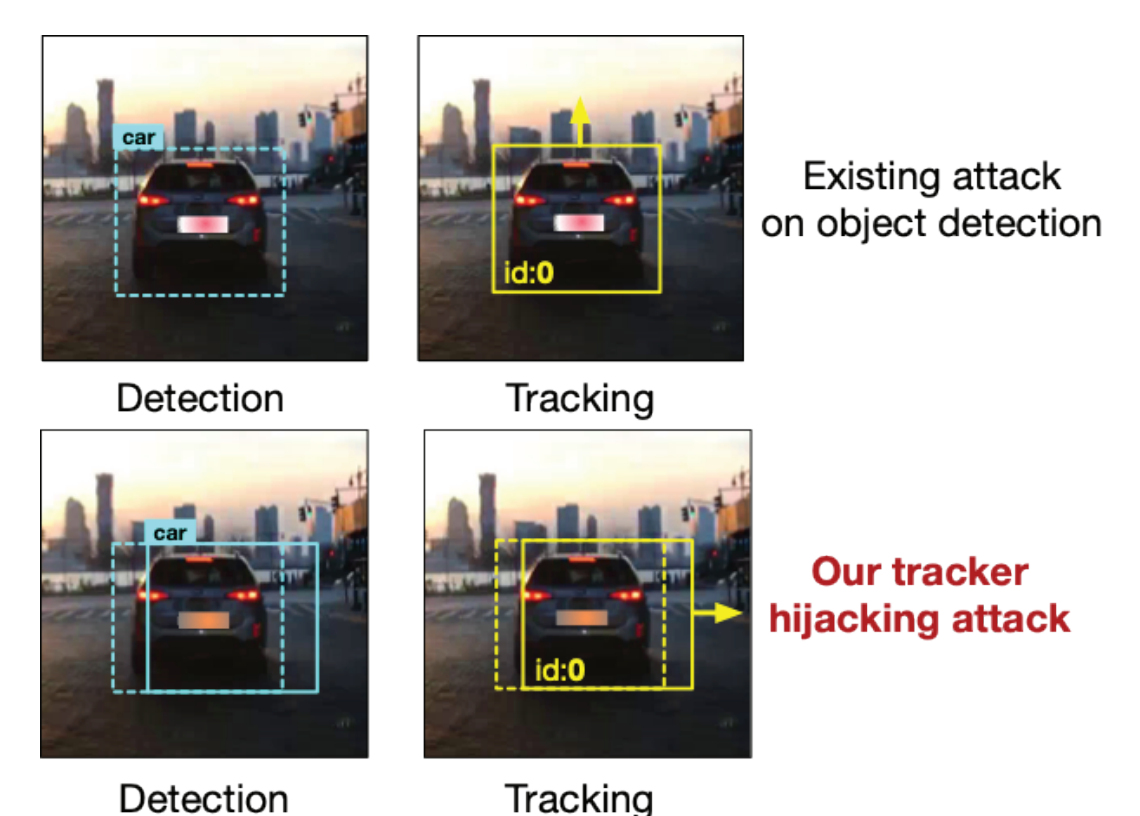


Figure6. Attack success rate at **R=60 H=6**, and **R=5, H=2**



References

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