SECURING AI MODELS

FOUNDATIONS, THREATS & DEFENSE STRATEGIES



CONTENTS

Module 1: Introduction to Al Model Security	4
Lesson Introduction:	4
Section 1: What is Al Model Security?	4
Section 2: The AI/ML Lifecycle – Where Security Fits	5
Section 3: Security Goals for Al	5
Section 4: Threat Landscape for AI Systems	6
Section 5: Key Frameworks and Guidelines	6
Section 6: Case Studies and Industry Examples	7
Lab Exercise: Al Model Security Threat Mapping	8
Conclusion & Takeaway	8
Module 2: Common Threats to AI Models	9
Learning Objectives	9
Section 1: Introduction to Al Threats	
Section 2: Data Poisoning Attacks	10
Section 3: Adversarial Examples	11
Section 4: Model Inversion Attacks	11
Section 5: Membership Inference Attacks (MIA)	12
Section 6: Model Extraction Attacks	13
Section 7: Model Drift & Data Drift	13
Section 8: Threat Mapping to Lifecycle	14
Hands-on Lab: Threat Simulation Workshop	15
Quiz Questions:	15
Conclusion & Key Takeaways	15
Module 3: Secure Al Development Lifecycle (SAI-DLC)	16
Learning Objectives	16
Section 1: What is the Secure AI Development Lifecycle (SAI-DLC)?	17
Section 2: SAI-DLC Phases and Security Considerations	17
Section 3: Secure Data Collection and Labeling	18
Section 4: Secure Model Design and Training	18



SECURING AI MODELS – FOUNDATIONS, THREATS & DEFENSE STRATEGIES

Section 5: Robust Model Evaluation	19
Section 6: Secure Model Deployment	19
Section 7: Continuous Monitoring and Governance	20
Section 8: Human-in-the-Loop (HITL) for Risk Mitigation	21
Lab Exercise: Building a SAI-DLC Checklist (Optional)	21
Conclusion and Takeaways	22
Module 4: Al Governance and Compliance	23
Learning Objectives	23
Section 1: What is Al Governance?	24
Section 2: Al Compliance Frameworks and Standards	24
Section 3: Key Compliance Concepts	25
Section 4: Governance Structures & Roles	26
Section 5: Explainability vs. Performance Trade-off	26
Section 6: Implementing AI Governance Policies	27
Section 7: Auditing and Compliance Mechanisms	27
Lab Exercise: Al Compliance Audit Report (Optional)	28
Quiz Questions:	28
Conclusion & Key Takeaways	29
Appendix 1: Final Project: Al Security Risk Assessment and Secure Lifecycle Des	
Project Objective	30
Project Scenario Options (Pick One or Propose Your Own):	30
Project Deliverables	30
Appendix 2: Sample High-Quality Student Project Response	32
Project Title:	32
1. System Overview	32
2. Threat Landscape Analysis	33
3. Secure AI Development Lifecycle (SAI-DLC)	33
4. Compliance & Governance Strategy	33
5: 10	



MODULE 1: INTRODUCTION TO AI MODEL SECURITY



LESSON INTRODUCTION:

elcome to the first module of our course on Al Model Security. As Al continues to drive decisions in finance, healthcare, law enforcement, and marketing, it becomes vital to ensure that these models are not only performant but secure, trustworthy, and ethical.

SECTION 1: WHAT IS AI MODEL SECURITY?

Definition:

Al Model Security is the set of practices and frameworks designed to protect Al/ML systems from threats that can compromise:

- The integrity of model predictions,
- The confidentiality of training and input data,
- The availability of the model itself,
- And the trustworthiness of its outputs.



Why It Matters:

- Al models operate on **sensitive data** (e.g., health records, financial transactions).
- They are vulnerable to **unique attacks** like adversarial examples and data poisoning.
- Decisions made by AI models are increasingly subject to regulatory scrutiny.

Key Insight:

Unlike traditional software, AI models learn from data. If the data is poisoned or manipulated, the model's predictions can be inaccurate, biased, or dangerous.

SECTION 2: THE AI/ML LIFECYCLE - WHERE SECURITY FITS

The Al lifecycle includes six core stages:

Stage	Security Concerns	
1. Problem Definition	Misaligned objectives, ethical missteps	
2. Data Collection	Data poisoning, copyright issues, biased datasets	
3. Model Development	Model leakage, overfitting, malicious code injection	
4. Model Evaluation	Improper testing, lack of fairness/robustness evaluation	
5. Deployment	Adversarial attacks, model extraction, exposure of APIs	
6. Monitoring & Updates	Data drift, concept drift, unauthorized model updates	

SECTION 3: SECURITY GOALS FOR AI

In cybersecurity, we talk about the **CIA triad** — Confidentiality, Integrity, Availability — and AI expands this to include **Accountability** and **Explainability**:

- Confidentiality: Protect the training data, especially if it includes PII.
- Integrity: Ensure the model performs as expected and isn't altered or misled.
- Availability: Models must be resilient and accessible when needed.
- Accountability: Keep logs of decisions, access, changes.
- **Explainability**: Models should be understandable by humans to ensure trust and transparency.



Real-world Example: A healthcare diagnosis model should explain why it flagged a patient as high-risk, not just give a binary decision.

SECTION 4: THREAT LANDSCAPE FOR AI SYSTEMS

Let's look at the common categories of attacks specific to AI/ML:

Threat	Explanation
Adversarial	Slightly modified inputs crafted to fool models (e.g., tricking a stop
Examples	sign detector)
Data Poisoning	Corrupting the training set to produce inaccurate models
Model Inversion	Recovering sensitive training data from a model's outputs
Membership	Determining if a specific individual's data was in the training set
Inference	
Model Extraction	Copying a model by querying it repeatedly
Model Drift	The model becomes less effective as data patterns change over time

Discussion Prompt:

If someone can replicate your model just by using the API, what business risks could that present?

SECTION 5: KEY FRAMEWORKS AND GUIDELINES

Security of Al doesn't exist in isolation — it connects to privacy laws, ethical standards, and Al-specific governance. Key frameworks:

1. NIST AI Risk Management Framework (AI RMF):

- Covers four core functions: Map, Measure, Manage, and Govern risks in Al.
- Encourages a culture of accountability and transparency.

2. ISO/IEC 23894:2023:

- Guidance on managing risk for Al systems.
- Tied to ISO 27001 and cybersecurity management.



3. GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation):

- Applies to AI models processing data of EU citizens.
- Introduces requirements for explainability and right to opt-out of automated decisions.

4. OECD AI Principles:

 Promote Al systems that are inclusive, sustainable, transparent, robust, and accountable.

5. HIPAA (in Healthcare):

Requires Al systems to ensure privacy and security of patient data.

SECTION 6: CASE STUDIES AND INDUSTRY EXAMPLES

Case 1: Adversarial Patch on a Stop Sign

Researchers added a sticker to a stop sign, and a self-driving car misclassified it as a yield sign — posing a deadly risk.

Case 2: Microsoft's AI Chatbot "Tay"

In less than 24 hours, Tay was manipulated through input poisoning to start producing racist and offensive tweets.

Case 3: Model Leakage in Healthcare

A predictive model accidentally exposed sensitive patient data through explainability outputs — violating HIPAA.



LAB EXERCISE: AI MODEL SECURITY THREAT MAPPING

Objective:

Map threats and controls across the Al/ML lifecycle using a template or digital whiteboard.

Instructions:

- 1. Download the lifecycle diagram template.
- 2. Identify at least one security threat and one security control at each stage.

Example Table Output:

Stage	Threat	Mitigation Strategy
Data Collection	Poisoned dataset	Data validation, provenance checks
Model Development	Backdoored code	Code review, static analysis tools
Deployment	Adversarial inputs	Input sanitization, adversarial training
Monitoring	Data drift	Continuous evaluation, alerting mechanisms

Quiz Questions (Self-Assessment)

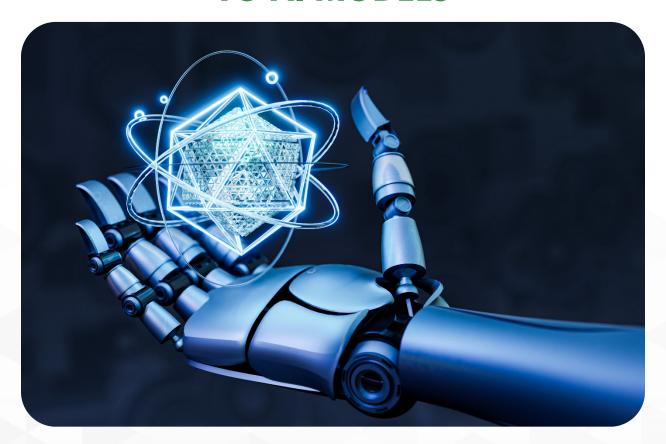
- 1. What unique aspect of Al models makes them vulnerable to poisoning attacks?
- 2. Which framework defines the "Map, Measure, Manage, Govern" approach to Al risk?
- 3. How does GDPR affect automated decision-making in Al systems?
- 4. What is the difference between model inversion and membership inference?

CONCLUSION & TAKEAWAY

Al Model Security is not optional — it is foundational to trustworthy, legal, and effective Al systems. As we progress, we'll move from theory to hands-on security techniques and real-world defenses.



MODULE 2: COMMON THREATS TO AI MODELS



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of this module, learners will be able to:

- Identify and describe common attack types on AI models
- Understand how and why these threats occur
- Recognize real-world examples of AI attacks
- Map threats to specific stages in the Al lifecycle
- Set the stage for applying defensive techniques in later modules



SECTION 1: INTRODUCTION TO AI THREATS

Al systems differ from traditional software in their **learning behavior**, **data dependencies**, and **lack of transparency**, which introduces new risks.

Key Vulnerabilities:

- Models are black-boxes
- Data is often scraped, labeled, or open source
- APIs are exposed for model inference
- Attackers can learn from model outputs

SECTION 2: DATA POISONING ATTACKS

Definition:

Attackers manipulate the training dataset to compromise the model's behavior.

Types:

- **Label Flipping:** Changing the labels of training examples (e.g., flipping 'safe' to 'unsafe').
- **Backdoor Injection:** Adding hidden triggers (e.g., if "sticker = yes," then classify as "authorized").

Example:

In facial recognition, inserting a specific pattern (e.g., sunglasses) can cause the model to misclassify a person as someone else.

Impact:

- Compromised integrity
- · Biased or incorrect decision-making

Defense Preview:

Data validation, robust training, outlier detection



SECTION 3: ADVERSARIAL EXAMPLES

Definition:

Inputs that are intentionally perturbed in small, often imperceptible ways to mislead the Al model.

Example:

A stop sign with subtle noise gets classified as a speed limit sign.

Key Point:

These attacks exploit the geometry of high-dimensional space — even minor changes in pixel values can mislead a model.

Threat Vector	Target	Outcome
Image Pixels	Vision Model	Wrong classification
Text Embedding	NLP Model	Misinterpretation of meaning
Audio Signal	Speech Al	Incorrect transcription

Defense Preview:

Adversarial training, input sanitization, defensive distillation

SECTION 4: MODEL INVERSION ATTACKS

Definition:

An attacker uses model outputs to reconstruct or infer sensitive data from the training set.

Real-World Risk:

Recreating facial images used to train a public AI model or reconstructing private text data.



When It Happens:

- When APIs return rich confidence scores
- In white-box environments with internal access

Impact:

- Breach of confidentiality
- Violation of GDPR, HIPAA, etc.

Defense Preview:

Limit output details, add differential privacy, monitor usage patterns

SECTION 5: MEMBERSHIP INFERENCE ATTACKS (MIA)

Definition:

The attacker determines whether a specific data point was used in training.

Use Case:

In a hospital's Al model, an adversary could determine if a patient's record was included — a serious privacy breach.

Symptoms of Exposure:

- Overfitting (model behaves differently on known vs. unknown data)
- Overconfident predictions

Defense Preview:

Regularization, privacy-preserving ML, output obfuscation



SECTION 6: MODEL EXTRACTION ATTACKS

Definition:

An attacker recreates the model by repeatedly querying it and building their own approximation.

Why This Happens:

- Public APIs are often rate-unlimited
- Confidence scores provide too much info
- Attackers use shadow models

Business Risk:

Intellectual property theft — losing competitive edge

Famous Case:

Tramèr et al., 2016: Reconstructed commercial ML-as-a-service models using limited queries.

Defense Preview:

API rate limits, watermarking, response fuzzing

SECTION 7: MODEL DRIFT & DATA DRIFT

Definition:

Over time, real-world data shifts and the model becomes less accurate.

- Data Drift: Input features change
- Concept Drift: Target label relationships change



Example:

A fraud detection model trained on 2020 patterns may fail in 2025 due to new fraud techniques.

Security Impact:

- Increased false negatives
- Poor decision-making
- Exploitable by attackers

Defense Preview:

Ongoing monitoring, retraining pipelines, anomaly detection

SECTION 8: THREAT MAPPING TO LIFECYCLE

Al Lifecycle Stage	Threat Type	Description
Data Collection	Poisoning, Bias Injection	Malicious data inserted
Model Training	Backdoor Attacks, Overfitting	Triggers inserted during training
Model Evaluation	Over-optimization	Metrics gamed via overfitting
Deployment	Model Extraction, Drift	Exposure via API
Inference	Adversarial Inputs, MIA	Inputs crafted to manipulate results
Monitoring	Silent Failures, Drift	Lack of visibility post-deployment



HANDS-ON LAB: THREAT SIMULATION WORKSHOP

Goal:

Simulate or analyze 3 types of AI threats using real tools or diagrams.

Labs (Optional)

- Use Foolbox or Adversarial Robustness Toolbox
- Use pretrained model APIs (like Hugging Face) and simulate MIA using logs
- Alternatively, review and annotate published threat research (e.g., Google's adversarial ML examples)

Deliverable:

Submit a 1-page threat report describing the attack scenario, threat type, and one possible mitigation strategy.

QUIZ QUESTIONS:

- 1. What's the difference between a poisoning attack and an adversarial example?
- 2. What makes Al models vulnerable to model inversion?
- 3. How could an attacker perform a model extraction attack on a SaaS product?
- 4. Why does model overfitting make membership inference easier?

CONCLUSION & KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Al models introduce novel threats that go beyond traditional cybersecurity
- Understanding adversarial techniques is the first step to building robust Al
- Prevention requires secure design, careful data curation, and runtime monitoring
- These threats are not hypothetical they are already happening across industries



MODULE 3: SECURE AI DEVELOPMENT LIFECYCLE (SAI-DLC)



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of this module, learners will be able to:

- Understand the concept of Secure AI Development Lifecycle (SAI-DLC)
- Identify security best practices for each AI development phase
- Apply privacy-preserving and explainability techniques to secure Al systems
- Build governance into the AI lifecycle for responsible AI adoption
- Design and apply security controls during development and deployment



SECTION 1: WHAT IS THE SECURE AI DEVELOPMENT LIFECYCLE (SAI-DLC)?

Definition:

The SAI-DLC is a structured approach that integrates security, privacy, fairness, and robustness throughout the AI system lifecycle — not just at the end.

Why It Matters:

- Embeds security early (shift-left)
- Reduces cost of vulnerabilities
- Aligns with DevSecOps and MLOps principles
- Ensures trustworthy and explainable AI outcomes

SECTION 2: SAI-DLC PHASES AND SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS

Phase	Key Security Concerns	Mitigation Techniques
1. Problem	Ethical ambiguity, unaligned	Ethics review, stakeholder
Definition	goals	consultation
2. Data Collection	Poisoned or biased data, data	Data validation, lineage tracking,
z. Data Collection	leakage	anonymization
3. Model	Model theft, backdoors, bias	Secure coding, adversarial
Development	Model thert, backdoors, blas	testing, fairness testing
4. Model	Hidden vulnerabilities,	Robustness & explainability
Evaluation	overfitting	testing
5. Deployment	API abuse, model extraction,	Rate limiting, input filtering,
5. Deployment	adversarial queries	watermarking
6. Monitoring &	Drift, unmonitored changes,	Logging, alerts, continual training
Feedback	silent failures	loop



SECTION 3: SECURE DATA COLLECTION AND LABELING

Risks:

- Ingesting poisoned or fake data
- Use of copyrighted or private datasets
- Annotation errors or intentional labeling bias

Mitigations:

- Data Provenance: Verify the source of data
- Anonymization & Pseudonymization: Remove Pll
- Differential Privacy: Add noise to protect individuals
- Data Augmentation: Improve data quality for resilience

Tool Examples:

- Google TensorFlow Privacy
- OpenMined's PySyft for federated learning

SECTION 4: SECURE MODEL DESIGN AND TRAINING

Risks:

- Use of unverified pre-trained models
- Insecure code in training pipelines
- Introduction of hidden triggers

Best Practices:

- Secure Code Practices: Use code reviews, linters, and secrets scanning
- Use Trusted Libraries: Avoid obscure or unverifiable frameworks
- Adversarial Training: Train on adversarial examples to boost resilience
- Fairness Testing: Audit for bias using tools like IBM AI Fairness 360



Example:

Training a model on salary prediction that removes gender or race bias via preprocessing.

SECTION 5: ROBUST MODEL EVALUATION

Risks:

- Overfitting to test data
- False sense of robustness
- Hidden vulnerabilities (e.g., in edge cases)

Controls:

- Cross-validation with noise-injected datasets
- Stress Testing & Perturbation Tests
- Explainability Checks: Use SHAP, LIME, or GradCAM

Explainability in Evaluation:

• Ensures models are not making decisions based on unintended correlations (e.g., a radiology Al model using surgical markers instead of pathology).

SECTION 6: SECURE MODEL DEPLOYMENT

Risks:

- API scraping leading to model theft
- Model tampering or unauthorized updates
- Injection attacks via input fields



Secure Deployment Tactics:

- Model Watermarking: Embed unique markers to detect stolen models
- Rate Limiting and Throttling: Prevent brute force and extraction
- Input Sanitization: Cleanse input data at API endpoints
- Containerization & Secrets Management: Use Docker/Kubernetes with secure keys

Recommended Tools:

- AWS SageMaker with IAM roles
- Azure ML with private endpoints

SECTION 7: CONTINUOUS MONITORING AND GOVERNANCE

Why It's Critical:

- Al performance and behavior drift over time
- Undetected anomalies can lead to systemic failure

Monitoring Strategy:

- Set performance thresholds and alerts
- Use dashboards to visualize drift and bias
- Enable rollback mechanisms for misbehaving models

Governance Layer:

- Assign clear ownership for model decisions
- Use model version control (e.g., MLflow, DVC)
- Ensure model logs are auditable and compliant



SECTION 8: HUMAN-IN-THE-LOOP (HITL) FOR RISK MITIGATION

- What It Is: Keeping a human decision-maker in the loop during model training, decision-making, or re-training
- **Benefits:** Better oversight, ethical control, and transparency
- When to Use: High-risk domains (e.g., healthcare, justice, lending)

LAB EXERCISE: BUILDING A SAI-DLC CHECKLIST (OPTIONAL)

Objective:

Create a secure development checklist for your Al project.

Instructions:

- 1. Pick a use case (e.g., fraud detection, medical diagnosis, facial recognition)
- 2. Map out the development lifecycle
- 3. For each stage, list 1–2 security best practices
- 4. Share your checklist with the class or submit it for feedback

Example Output:

Lifecycle Stage	Security Practice
Data Collection	Remove PII, validate source
Model Training	Use adversarial training, code review
Deployment	Enable API monitoring, add watermark
Monitoring	Track data drift, auto-flag anomalies

Quiz Questions:

- 1. What is the difference between adversarial training and differential privacy?
- 2. Why is explainability important in model evaluation?
- 3. What security controls can prevent model extraction?
- 4. List two reasons why securing the data pipeline is critical to Al model security.

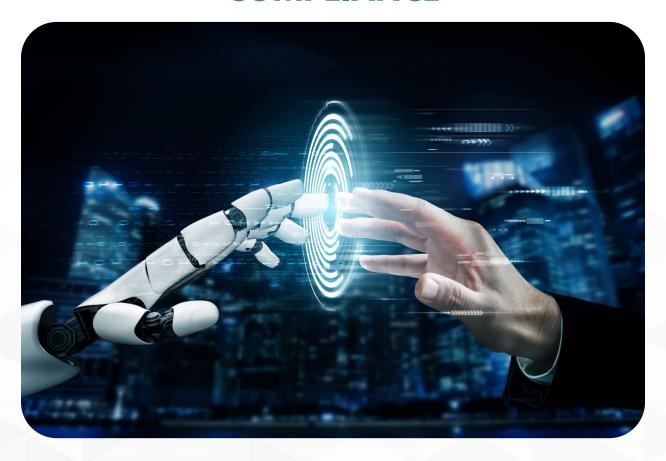


CONCLUSION AND TAKEAWAYS

- Security must be woven into each phase of Al development
- Adopting SAI-DLC reduces risks, costs, and regulatory exposure
- Tools like adversarial training, explainability, privacy-preserving ML, and monitoring form a holistic defense
- The future of AI security lies in proactive design, not reactive patches



MODULE 4: AI GOVERNANCE AND COMPLIANCE



LEARNING OBJECTIVES

By the end of this module, learners will be able to:

- Define Al governance and its importance in managing Al risks
- Understand core regulatory and ethical principles governing AI use
- Apply compliance standards such as GDPR, HIPAA, and NIST AI RMF
- Establish AI oversight mechanisms, including risk registers and model audits
- Evaluate trade-offs between explainability, fairness, and performance



SECTION 1: WHAT IS AI GOVERNANCE?

Definition:

Al Governance is the framework of policies, processes, roles, and tools that ensure Al systems are **ethical**, **accountable**, **secure**, **and compliant** with laws and organizational standards.

Purpose:

- Reduce risk exposure
- Ensure AI aligns with human values and societal goals
- Meet legal, regulatory, and industry-specific obligations

Three Pillars of Al Governance:

- 1. **Transparency** Knowing how and why Al makes decisions
- 2. **Accountability** Assigning ownership for Al actions
- 3. **Trustworthiness** Ensuring AI is safe, secure, and fair

SECTION 2: AI COMPLIANCE FRAMEWORKS AND STANDARDS

Framework / Regulation	Region / Focus	Key Focus Areas
NIST AI RMF (2023)	U.S., Government &	Risk-based approach to AI design &
MIST ATTIVIT (2025)	Industry	deployment
ISO/IEC 23894:2023	Global (ISO)	Risk mgmt framework for AI systems
GDPR (Article 22)	EU	Automated decision-making, data
GDFN (Alticle 22)	E0	subject rights
Al Act (EU)	EU	Risk-classification of Al systems
OECD AI Principles	38 Countries incl. U.S.	Inclusive, sustainable, human-
OECD AI FIIICIPIES	and EU	centered AI
HIPAA (USA)	Healthcare	PHI security and privacy
CPRA / CCPA (California)	U.S., California	Personal data rights and transparency



SECTION 3: KEY COMPLIANCE CONCEPTS

1. Lawfulness of Processing

- Must have legal basis to collect and process data
- Consent or legitimate interest is required (GDPR, HIPAA)

2. Purpose Limitation

• Data should only be used for the purpose it was collected for

3. Fairness and Non-discrimination

- Avoid bias in Al systems
- Perform fairness testing (race, gender, socio-economic factors)

4. Transparency and Explainability

- Users and stakeholders must understand how AI decisions are made
- Required in EU's GDPR and AI Act

5. Human Oversight

• High-risk decisions (e.g., health, loans, hiring) must allow human intervention

6. Data Minimization

Only necessary data should be collected and retained



SECTION 4: GOVERNANCE STRUCTURES & ROLES

Role	Responsibility	
Chief AI Ethics Officer	Oversees ethics, bias audits, and fairness policies	
Al Model Risk Committee	Approves deployment of sensitive AI systems	
Data Protection Officer (DPO)	Ensures compliance with privacy laws	
ML Engineer / Scientist	Implements technical controls for compliance	
Al Auditor	Conducts explainability and impact assessments	

Tip: Organizations should document Al system use in **Al Risk Registers** and **Model Cards** that include purpose, dataset, risk rating, and known limitations.

SECTION 5: EXPLAINABILITY VS. PERFORMANCE TRADE-OFF

Challenge:

Complex models like deep neural networks provide higher accuracy, but lower interpretability. Regulations like GDPR and the EU AI Act require explanations for automated decisions.

Model Type	Accuracy	Explainability
Decision Trees	Medium	High
Random Forests	High	Medium
Deep Neural Networks	Very High	Low
Rule-Based Systems	Medium	Very High

Solution Strategies:

- Post-hoc explainability (e.g., SHAP, LIME)
- Use of surrogate models
- Model documentation and disclaimers



SECTION 6: IMPLEMENTING AI GOVERNANCE POLICIES

Organizations should codify Al governance via policies:

- 1. Al Use Policy Defines acceptable use of Al tools
- 2. Model Lifecycle Policy Documents roles, review, and change procedures
- 3. Bias Mitigation Policy Describes procedures for testing and remediating bias
- 4. **Privacy Impact Assessments (PIA)** Mandatory for high-risk use cases (e.g., health, finance)

SECTION 7: AUDITING AND COMPLIANCE MECHANISMS

Model Auditing Checklist:

- Is the model explainable and documented?
- Are data sources ethical and compliant?
- Has the model been tested for bias and drift?
- Is there a rollback plan if the model fails?
- Who is accountable for model decisions?

Toolkits for Governance:

- IBM AI Fairness 360
- Google What-If Tool
- Microsoft Responsible AI Dashboard
- Al Explainability 360 Toolkit



LAB EXERCISE: AI COMPLIANCE AUDIT REPORT (OPTIONAL)

Scenario:

You are the Al Compliance Officer in a healthcare company using an Al model for diagnostic predictions.

Task:

- 1. Complete a mini-compliance audit based on a checklist:
 - o Is the data anonymized?
 - Are patients informed of Al use?
 - o Is there a human-in-the-loop mechanism?
 - o Have you tested for fairness and drift?
- 2. Submit a short 1-page audit summary including:
 - Areas of compliance
 - Areas needing mitigation
 - Recommended next steps

QUIZ QUESTIONS:

- 1. What key Al principle is embedded in GDPR's Article 22?
- 2. Name one tool that supports explainability in Al models.
- 3. Why is model documentation (e.g., model cards) important for governance?
- 4. What's the role of an Al Ethics Officer in governance?



CONCLUSION & KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Al governance ensures responsible, fair, and secure use of Al
- Compliance with global laws (GDPR, HIPAA, AI Act) is a legal and ethical obligation
- Governance requires both **policy structure** and **technical enforcement**
- Explainability, bias testing, and human oversight are foundational
- Al security is not complete without governance



APPENDIX 1: FINAL PROJECT: AI SECURITY RISK ASSESSMENT AND SECURE LIFECYCLE DESIGN (OPTIONAL)

PROJECT OBJECTIVE

The goal of this final project is to apply the knowledge gained throughout the course to evaluate the security posture of a real or hypothetical Al system and develop a secure development lifecycle roadmap (SAI-DLC) for that system.

PROJECT SCENARIO OPTIONS (PICK ONE OR PROPOSE YOUR OWN):

- 1. Healthcare Al model for early cancer detection using patient imaging data.
- 2. Finance Al model for loan approval and fraud detection.
- 3. **Retail** Al recommendation system for e-commerce personalization.
- 4. **Education** Al grading tool for automated student assessments.
- 5. **Proposed System** Choose a real system you're working on or researching.

PROJECT DELIVERABLES

- 1. System Overview (1–2 pages)
 - $_{\circ}$ $\,$ Describe the AI system, its purpose, users, and environment.
 - $_{\circ}$ Identify the type of model used (e.g., CNN, NLP, ensemble).
- 2. Threat Landscape Analysis
 - o Identify at least 5 security threats specific to this system.
 - Categorize threats (e.g., poisoning, inversion, adversarial).



3. Secure Al Development Lifecycle (SAI-DLC) Roadmap

- o Define security actions at each stage:
 - Problem definition
 - Data collection
 - Model training
 - Evaluation
 - Deployment
 - Monitoring

4. Compliance & Governance Plan

- o Identify applicable regulations (GDPR, HIPAA, NIST AI RMF, etc.).
- Describe how explainability, fairness, and accountability will be enforced.



APPENDIX 2: SAMPLE HIGH-QUALITY STUDENT PROJECT RESPONSE

PROJECT TITLE:

Securing Al-Powered Diagnostic Imaging in a Telehealth Platform

1. SYSTEM OVERVIEW

Use Case:

An Al system embedded in a telehealth platform is used to analyze X-ray and CT scan images to detect early signs of lung cancer. It provides diagnostic recommendations to radiologists.

Model Type:

Convolutional Neural Network (CNN), trained on labeled imaging data sourced from multiple hospitals and open datasets.

Stakeholders:

Radiologists, Patients, Medical Researchers, Compliance Officers, Telehealth Engineers



2. THREAT LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

Threat	Description
Data Poisoning	Malicious actors may upload altered images that train the model to
	ignore tumors
Adversarial	Input images are subtly modified to trick the model into missing a
Examples	diagnosis
Membership	Attackers determine if a patient's scan was in the training set
Inference	(privacy breach)
Model Inversion	Reconstructing patient imaging data from model responses
Model Drift	Over time, model accuracy degrades as new imaging tech or
	diseases evolve

3. SECURE AI DEVELOPMENT LIFECYCLE (SAI-DLC)

Stage	Security Actions
Problem	Ensure ethical guidelines align with healthcare data protection and
Definition	equity
Data Collection	Use HIPAA-compliant sources; anonymize data; implement lineage tracking
Model Training	Adversarial training; static code analysis; restrict access to training scripts
Evaluation	Run robustness and fairness testing across demographics; explainability with LIME
Deployment	Deploy behind secure APIs; watermark model to detect theft; restrict access via IAM
Monitoring	Implement drift detection; log anomalies; retrain quarterly with updated datasets

4. COMPLIANCE & GOVERNANCE STRATEGY

- **HIPAA:** All patient imaging data is de-identified and access-controlled.
- **GDPR Article 22:** Patients have the right to request human review of Alassisted decisions.
- **NIST AI RMF:** Risks are mapped and mitigated using the "Map-Measure-Manage-Govern" cycle.
- **Governance:** Al Ethics Officer oversees deployments, and all model updates are version-controlled and auditable.



FINAL COMMENTS

This AI system requires continuous oversight to ensure model accuracy, ethical use, and patient trust. By embedding security into the full development lifecycle, we mitigate risks that could result in harm to patients and reputational damage to the platform.



