



# Fine-tuning can Help Detect Pretraining Data from Large Language Models

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Pretraining data detection can be formulated as a binary classification: determining whether a given text  $x$  is a member or non-member of the pretraining dataset. A level-set estimation can perform pretraining data detection:

$$h(x; f_{\theta}) = \begin{cases} \text{member} & \text{if } \mathcal{S}(x; f_{\theta}) < \epsilon, \\ \text{non-member} & \text{if } \mathcal{S}(x; f_{\theta}) \geq \epsilon, \end{cases}$$

where  $\mathcal{S}(x; f_{\theta})$  denotes a scoring function, and  $\epsilon$  is the threshold determined by a validation dataset.

- **Perplexity** is proposed to distinguish members and non-members, based on the observation that members tend to have lower perplexity than non-members. The perplexity of  $x$  is calculated as:

$$\text{Perplexity}(x; f_{\theta}) = \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \log p_{\theta}(x_i \mid x_1, \dots, x_{i-1})\right\}$$

where  $x = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$  is a sequence of tokens and  $p_{\theta}(x_i \mid x_1, \dots, x_{i-1})$  is the conditional probability of  $x_i$  given the preceding tokens.

- **Min-k%** computes the average probabilities of k% outlier tokens with the smallest predicted probability. The intuition is that a nonmember example is more likely to include a few outlier words with low likelihoods than members. Min-k% is computed by:

$$\text{Min-k\%}(\mathbf{x}; f_{\theta}) = \frac{1}{E} \sum_{x_i \in \text{Min-k\%}(\mathbf{x})} \log p_{\theta}(x_i \mid x_1, \dots, x_{i-1})$$

where E is the size of the Min-k%(x) set.

# Unsatisfactory Performance

- Non-member data can obtain low perplexities by including frequent or repetitive texts, while members may contain rare tokens that result in high perplexities.
- The significant overlap in scores distribution between members and non-members makes it hard to distinguish between them.

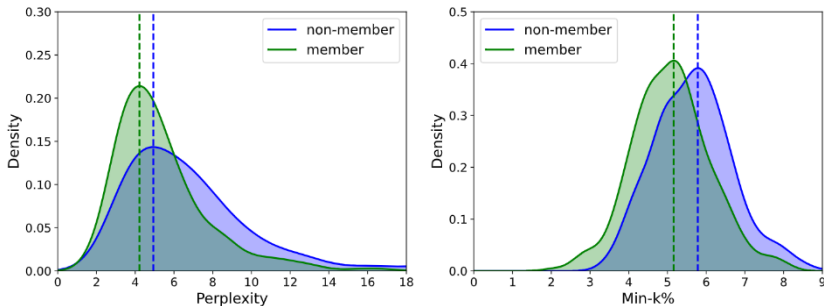


Figure: The scores distribution of perplexity and Min-k% from the pre-trained model.

# Motivation: Fine-tuning with Nonmembers

- Unseen data in the pretraining tend to obtain a lower perplexity from the fine-tuned model than the pre-trained model.
- The shift in perplexity distribution for members is negligible after fine-tuning.

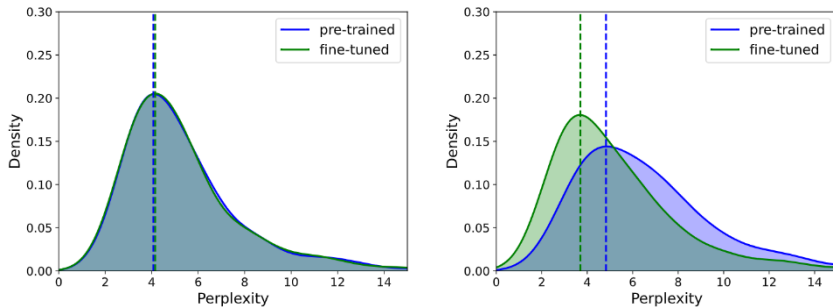


Figure: The perplexity distribution from the pre-trained model and the fine-tuned model.

- **Fine-tuned Score Deviation** is proposed to exploit the score deviation for detecting pretraining data. Given a sample  $x$ , we calculate the score difference between the pre-trained LLM  $f_{\theta}$  and the fine-tuned LLM  $f_{\theta'}$ . The new score is formulated as:

$$\text{FSD}(x; f_{\theta}, f_{\theta'}) = \mathcal{S}(x; f_{\theta}) - \mathcal{S}(x; f_{\theta'})$$

where  $\theta'$  denotes the parameters of LLM after fine-tuning, and  $\mathcal{S}(\cdot)$  denotes an existing scoring function, such as Perplexity and Min-k%.

# Procedure of Our Method

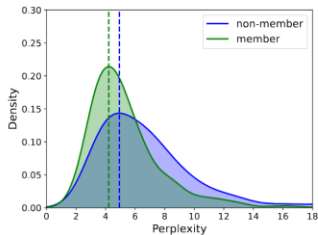


Figure: Overview of Fine-tuned Score Deviation.

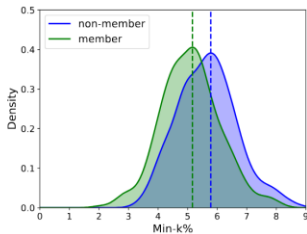
- I. Collect a small amount of unseen data for the LLM within the same domain.
- II. Perform fine-tuning on LLMs with the constructed fine-tuning dataset.
- III. Calculate the score difference between the pre-trained and fine-tuned LLM.



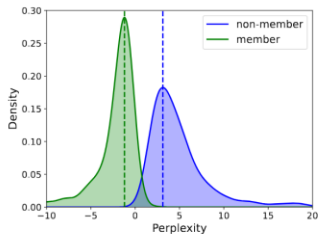
# Clear Distinction with FSD



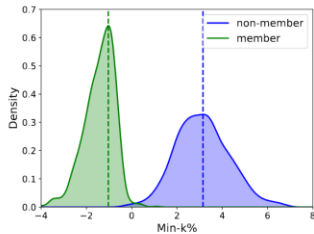
(a) Perplexity



(b) Min-k%



(c) FSD with Perplexity



(d) FSD with Min-k%

# Results on WikiMIA and ArXivTection

Table: AUC score for pretraining data detection with baselines and our method from various models.

Dataset	Method	GPT-J-6B		OPT-6.7B		Pythia-6.9B		LLaMA-7B		NeoX-20B	
		Base	+Ours	Base	+Ours	Base	+Ours	Base	+Ours	Base	+Ours
WikiMIA	Perplexity	0.64	<b>0.95</b>	0.60	<b>0.90</b>	0.64	<b>0.90</b>	0.64	<b>0.92</b>	0.69	<b>0.93</b>
	Lowercase	0.59	<b>0.77</b>	0.59	<b>0.71</b>	0.58	<b>0.74</b>	0.58	<b>0.69</b>	0.66	<b>0.76</b>
	Zlib	0.61	<b>0.94</b>	0.59	<b>0.89</b>	0.61	<b>0.88</b>	0.62	<b>0.90</b>	0.64	<b>0.93</b>
	MIN-K%	0.68	<b>0.92</b>	0.62	<b>0.91</b>	0.67	<b>0.86</b>	0.65	<b>0.85</b>	0.73	<b>0.90</b>
ArXivTection	Perplexity	0.79	<b>0.96</b>	0.68	<b>0.89</b>	0.77	<b>0.95</b>	0.68	<b>0.92</b>	0.79	<b>0.95</b>
	Lowercase	0.59	<b>0.81</b>	0.58	<b>0.70</b>	0.60	<b>0.77</b>	0.50	<b>0.69</b>	0.62	<b>0.75</b>
	Zlib	0.64	<b>0.96</b>	0.55	<b>0.89</b>	0.63	<b>0.95</b>	0.57	<b>0.91</b>	0.65	<b>0.95</b>
	MIN-K%	0.85	<b>0.92</b>	0.74	<b>0.84</b>	0.84	<b>0.91</b>	0.76	<b>0.86</b>	0.85	<b>0.91</b>

■ FSD significantly improves the performance of all baselines across diverse models.

**Table:** The average AUC score of baselines and our method from the Pythia-6.9B over 20 subsets of the Pile dataset.

Method	Perplexity		Lowercase		Zlib		MIN-K%	
	Base	+Ours	Base	+Ours	Base	+Ours	Base	+Ours
Pile	0.503	<b>0.625</b>	0.519	<b>0.566</b>	0.507	<b>0.624</b>	0.515	<b>0.600</b>

- Our FSD improves the performance of baselines on the Pile dataset under the Pythia-6.9B model.

# Results on Varying the Fine-tuning Data Size

- Our FSD can improve the performance of baselines with a few non-members, demonstrating its practicality.

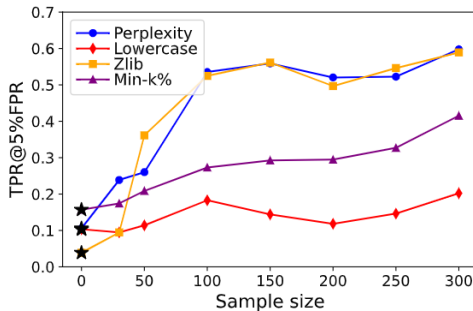
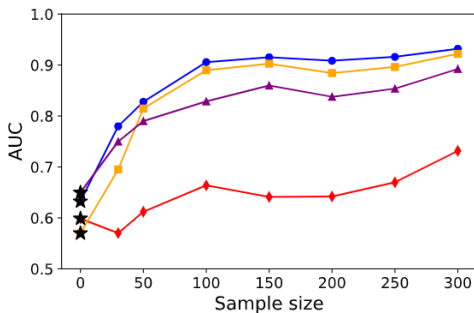


Figure: AUC and TPR@5%FPR of FSD, using auxiliary datasets with varying sizes.

# Results on Copyrighted Book Detection

Table: Accuracy and AUC score for copyrighted book detection.

Metric	Accuracy				AUC			
Method	BookTection		BookMIA		BookTection		BookMIA	
	<i>Base</i>	<i>+Ours</i>	<i>Base</i>	<i>+Ours</i>	<i>Base</i>	<i>+Ours</i>	<i>Base</i>	<i>+Ours</i>
Perplexity	66.9	<b>85.4</b>	59.0	<b>96.5</b>	0.710	<b>0.910</b>	0.564	<b>0.995</b>
Lowercase	64.5	<b>73.0</b>	67.0	<b>69.2</b>	0.664	<b>0.770</b>	0.708	<b>0.779</b>
Zlib	65.3	<b>86.4</b>	57.4	<b>98.6</b>	0.568	<b>0.920</b>	0.474	<b>0.999</b>
MIN-K%	68.1	<b>82.1</b>	59.5	<b>93.9</b>	0.716	<b>0.880</b>	0.587	<b>0.979</b>

- Our FSD significantly improves the accuracy of baseline methods for copyrighted book detection.

**Table:** AUC and TPR@5%FPR of FSD with different fine-tuning methods.

Metric	AUC				TPR@5%FPR			
Method	Base	AdaLoRA	IA3	LoRA	Base	AdaLoRA	IA3	LoRA
Perplexity	0.64	0.82	0.91	<b>0.92</b>	0.09	0.39	<b>0.52</b>	0.41
Lowercase	0.58	0.62	<b>0.72</b>	0.69	0.10	0.13	0.17	<b>0.18</b>
Zlib	0.62	0.76	0.84	<b>0.90</b>	0.09	0.24	0.32	<b>0.47</b>
MIN-K%	0.65	0.80	<b>0.90</b>	0.85	0.15	0.22	<b>0.39</b>	0.25

- Our FSD can be implemented with different fine-tuning methods and does not require a specific finetuning technique.

- **Challenge:** Unseen data can obtain high likelihood by including frequent or repetitive texts, while seen data may contain rare tokens that result in low likelihood, which casts a challenge for detecting pretraining data.
- **Motivation:** Compared to non-member data, member data experience a greater perplexity shift after fine-tuning with a few non-members.
- **Method:** Fine-tuned Score Deviation (FSD) is proposed to measure the deviation distance of current scores after fine-tuning on a small amount of unseen data within the same domain.

Paper: <https://openreview.net/pdf?id=X8dzvdkQwO>

Code: <https://github.com/ml-stat-Sustech/Fine-tuned-Score-Deviation>