

# Differential Privacy

[ter.ps/389iweek10](https://ter.ps/389iweek10)

# What is Differential Privacy?



# Healthcare Context

- Anonymize and obfuscate patient data
- Give patients the ability to opt-out of sharing personal information
- Increase privacy without limiting access to data for researchers



# Regulation: HIPAA

- Patient is in control of the sharing of their personal health information
- Identifiable patient info removed before data is shared for research
  - Treatment records and diagnosis
  - Age, Gender, biological information
- Does not cover all personally identifiable information
  - Results from consumer genetic testing aren't covered under HIPAA



# Current Healthcare Data Landscape

- Healthcare data is controlled by a few large institutions
- Lots of time & money is required to buy datasets and sign BAAs
- Large pharmaceutical companies
- Academic researchers have limited access without industry partnerships



# Privacy and Healthcare ML / Research

- Hot topic in research right now
- Deep Learning models, Neural Networks
- Generate fake data for researchers to use
- Lead to cheaper datasets
- Ethical issues:
  - Potential problems with accuracy



# Deep Learning & Neural Networks

- Exploratory models that generate weights for features
- Models generate data that mimics real patient data
- <https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-018-24389-w>
- <http://www.cleverhans.io/privacy/2018/04/29/privacy-and-machine-learning.html>



## Electronic Medical Records

Name: patient 3 ID:125  
Name: patient 2 ID:124  
Name: patient\_1 ID:123

**Personal Information**

Diagnosis:  
Chief complaint:  
Repetitive headache for 40 years which is strenthened for half of month ...

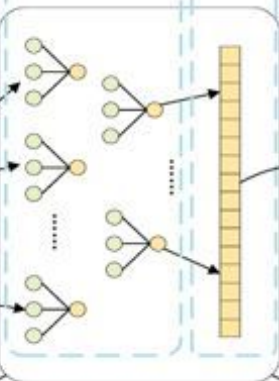
History of present illness:  
Patient said he began to appear dizziness 8 years ago without obvious incentive ...

Physical examination:  
Temperature: 37.1°C Pulse: 80 / min  
Respiration: 20/min B.P: 170/90mmHg ...

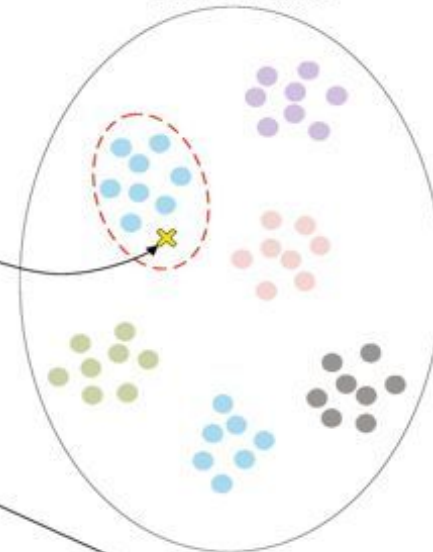
Allergies:  
.....

## Features learning

### Neural Network Feature



## Feature Space



## Results

Hypertension: 0.721938

Diabetes: 0.111146

COPD: 0.00129516

Arrhythmia: 0.096236

Asthma: 0.0022423

Gastritis: 0.067142

Most likely disease:

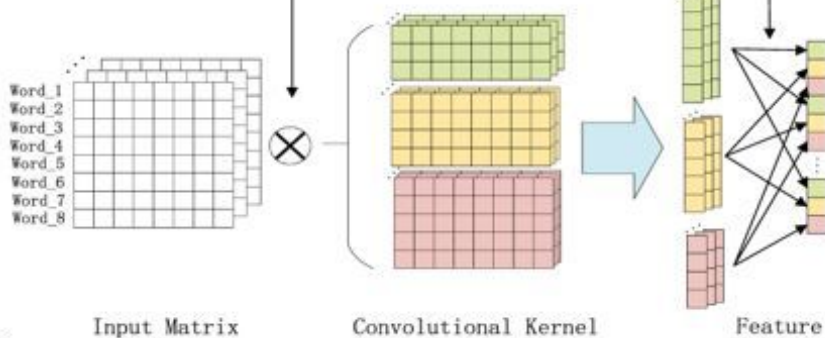
**Hypertension**



Patient

### Convolutional

### Pooling



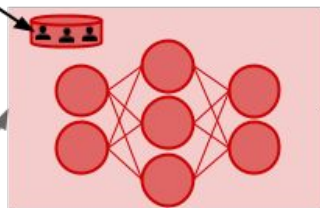
Doctor



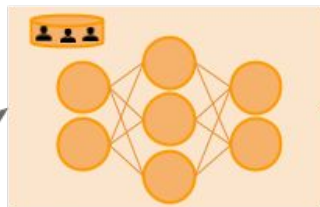
Jane Smith does **not** have cancer



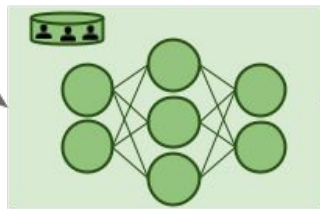
Record similar to Jane's



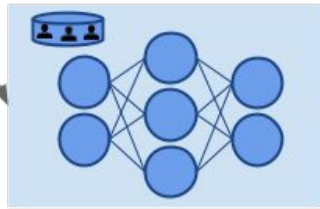
Healthy



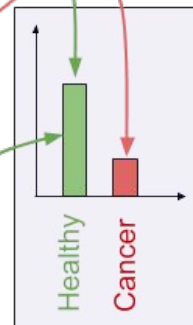
Cancer



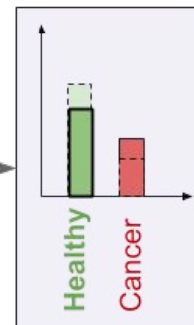
Healthy



Healthy



Add Gaussian noise to each vote count



Class with most noisy votes

Healthy

Test input

Teachers

Teacher predictions

Teacher vote counts

Noisy vote counts

Prediction

# Privacy & DNA Testing

- DNA is currently not regulated under HIPAA
  - Major players: 23 and Me, Helix, Ancestry, My Heritage
  - Companies can sell data to insurance providers, government
- DNA breaches are harder to fix
- <https://www.theverge.com/2018/8/1/17638680/genetic-data-privacy-consumer-rights-guidelines-23andme-ancestry>



# My Heritage Privacy Settings

## Settings

[Site account](#) [My preferences](#) [My privacy](#) [General](#) [Home page](#) [Calendar](#) [Genealogy](#) [Photos from email & mobile](#) [My purchases](#)

### My privacy

We take the privacy of our members and their data very seriously. This page is a convenient location to view and change all your privacy settings.

My member preferences

Our family

Access

Content

### My member preferences

- ☒ Allow people to find and view my public profile (recommended) ⓘ
- ☒ Show my real name to members outside my family ⓘ
- ☒ Show my general age (e.g. "30's") to members outside my family ⓘ
- ☒ Allow members to comment on my profile ⓘ
- ☒ Notify me on member comments ⓘ
- ☐ Enable Search Connect™ ⓘ

Save

# Blockchain?

- Potential to give patients more power
  - Patients can restrict access to data without exposing themselves
  - Get paid for sharing information
  - Smart contracts to aggregate large quantities of anonymized data
- More research needs to be done before widespread adoption
- Regulatory challenges
- <https://www.forbes.com/sites/forbestechcouncil/2018/04/13/blockchain-in-health-care-the-good-the-bad-and-the-ugly/#5ab202296278>



# Readings

- <https://pdfs.semanticscholar.org/65a5/37c9cd327c2925676f59ddffa01cf4afbe51.pdf>
- [https://www.apple.com/privacy/docs/Differential\\_Privacy\\_Overview.pdf](https://www.apple.com/privacy/docs/Differential_Privacy_Overview.pdf)
- <https://www.broadinstitute.org/count-me-in>
- <https://www.theverge.com/2018/8/1/17638680/genetic-data-privacy-consumer-rights-guidelines-23andme-ancestry>
- <https://www.theverge.com/2018/6/6/17435166/myheritage-dna-breach-genetic-privacy-bioethics>

