



INTERNSHIP PROJECT

# **ALTERA DIGITAL HEALTH**

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NICOLE NEGINSKY

4TH-YEAR IN DATA ENGINEERING

# ABOUT THE COMPANY

- Canadian-American company in digital healthcare
- Develops solutions for hospitals and healthcare systems
- Customers - Mainly in the U.S.,UK and Singapore
- Israeli R&D center - working with major healthcare providers, including Clalit

## Solutions

Sunrise™



Clinical electronic  
health record system

dbMotion™



Healthcare data  
interoperability  
platform



# MY PROJECT

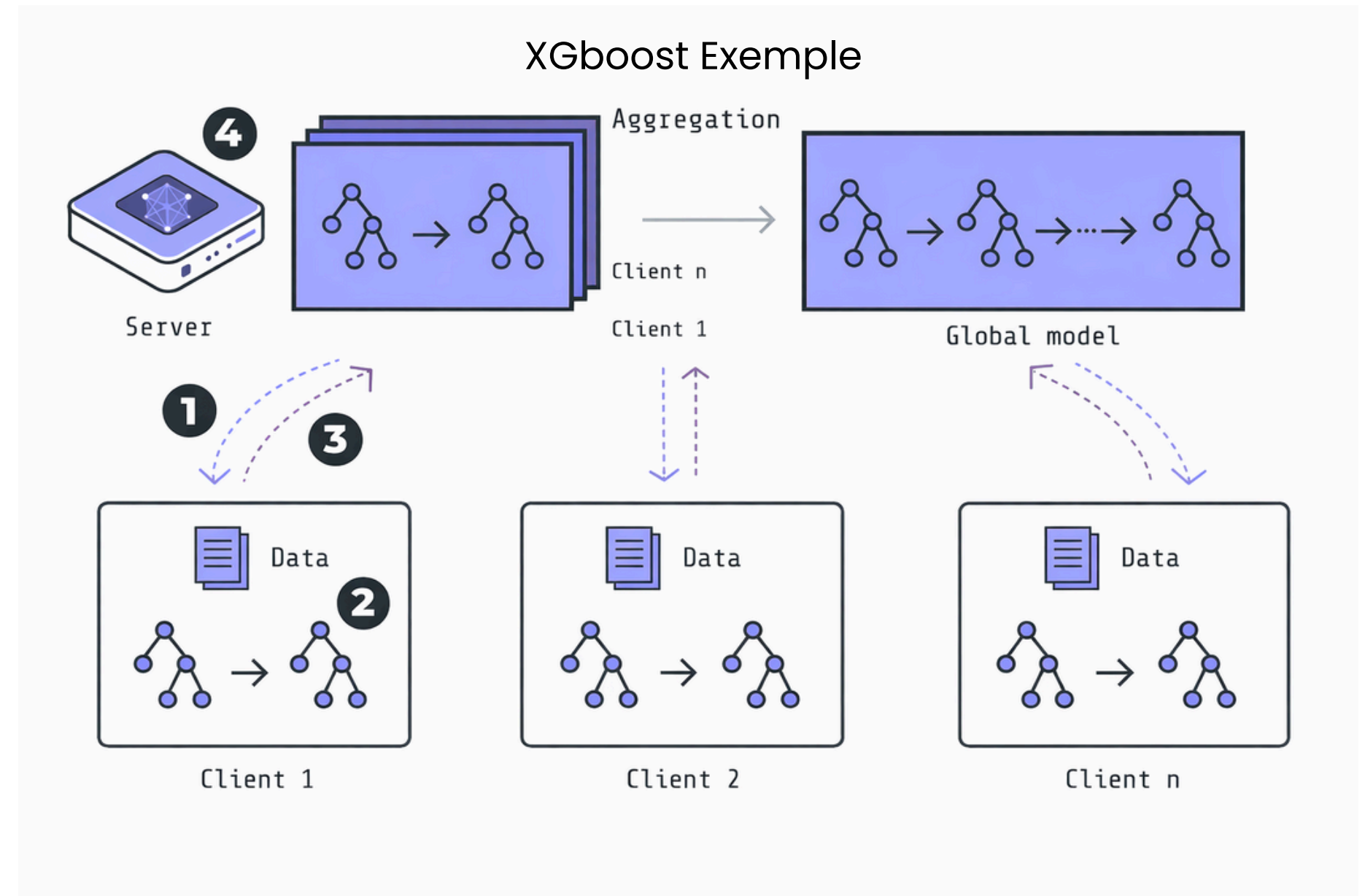
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## Federated Learning with ML Models

- Exploring Federated Learning for machine learning applications
  - Designing privacy aware ML solutions for healthcare data
  - Comparing federated and local models
  - Evaluating the project's suitability for real-world healthcare use
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# WHAT IS FEDERATED LEARNING

- **Distributed training** - across multiple clients
- **Data stays local** - only updates are shared
- **Privacy focused** - ideal for healthcare

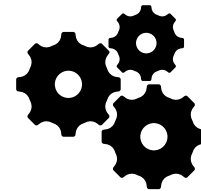


# WHY IS THIS PROJECT NEEDED



## **Healthcare data limits**

Sensitive medical  
data cannot be  
centralized.



## **Classical ML gap**

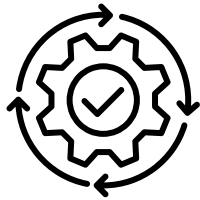
Many LLM solutions  
exist, but classical ML  
is underused.



## **FL potential**

Federated Learning  
can improve ML  
models, and this needs  
to be evaluated.

# WHAT I AM DOING IN PRACTICE



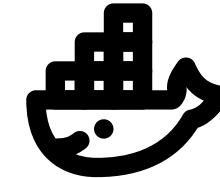
## **FL pipeline**

End-to-end design & evaluation



## **Flower (FLWR)**

FL implement, replacing NV FLARE



## **Dockerized setup**

Simulated federated clients



## **Training & eval**

Federated vs. local  
XGBoost



## **Privacy-preserving ML**

Data stays local



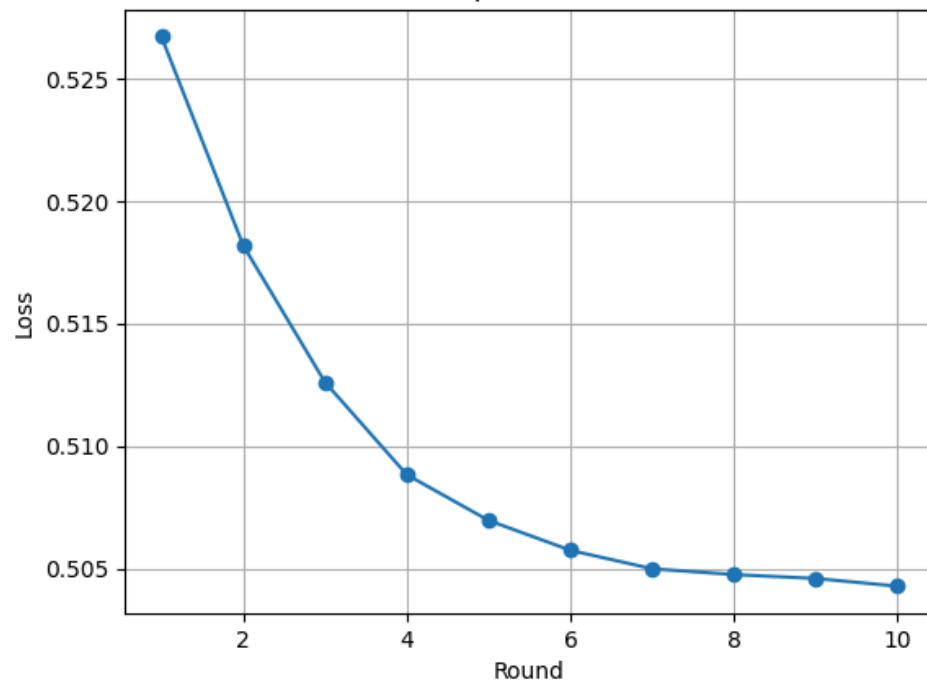
## **Experimental insights**

Convergence & trade-offs

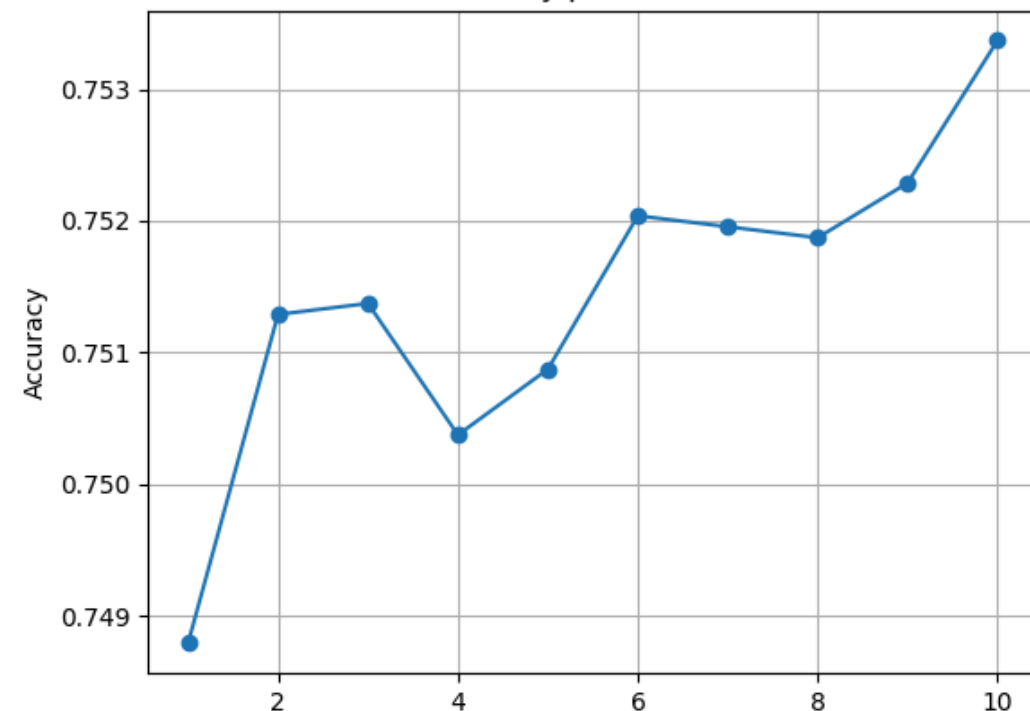
# TRAINING RUN

## FEDERATED LEARNING

Loss per FL Round



Accuracy per FL Round

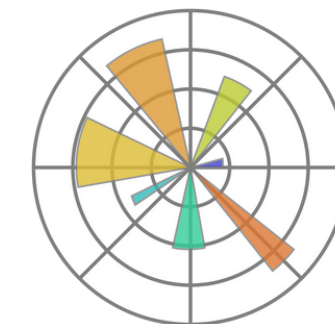


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INFO : configure_train: Sampled 3 nodes (out of 3)
INFO : aggregate_train: Received 3 results and 0 failures
INFO :     ↳ Aggregated MetricRecord: {}
INFO : configure_evaluate: Sampled 3 nodes (out of 3)
INFO : aggregate_evaluate: Received 3 results and 0 failures
INFO :     ↳ Aggregated MetricRecord: {'auc': 0.8260524839301207, 'accuracy': 0.75128973
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INFO : [ROUND 3/10]
INFO : configure_train: Sampled 3 nodes (out of 3)
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# TOOLS & TECHNOLOGIES

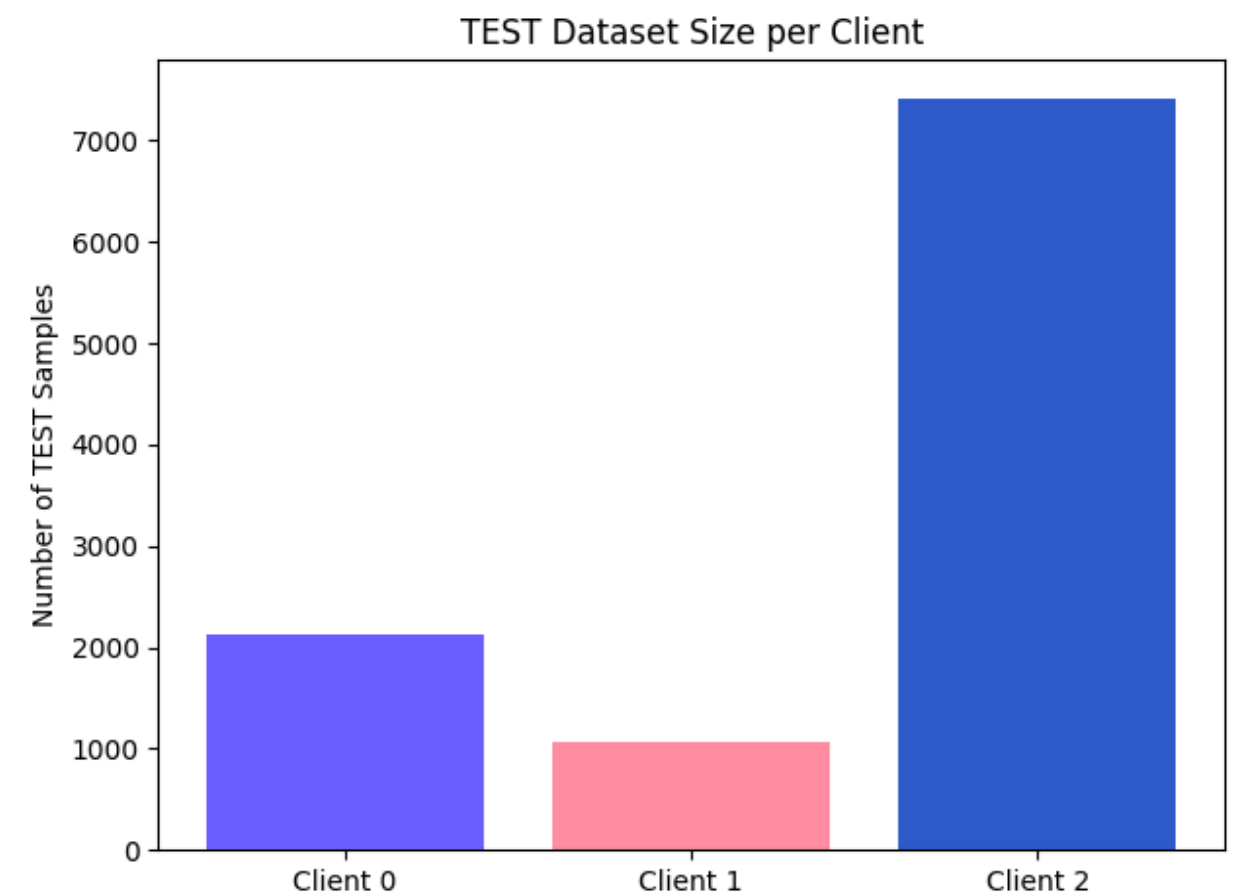
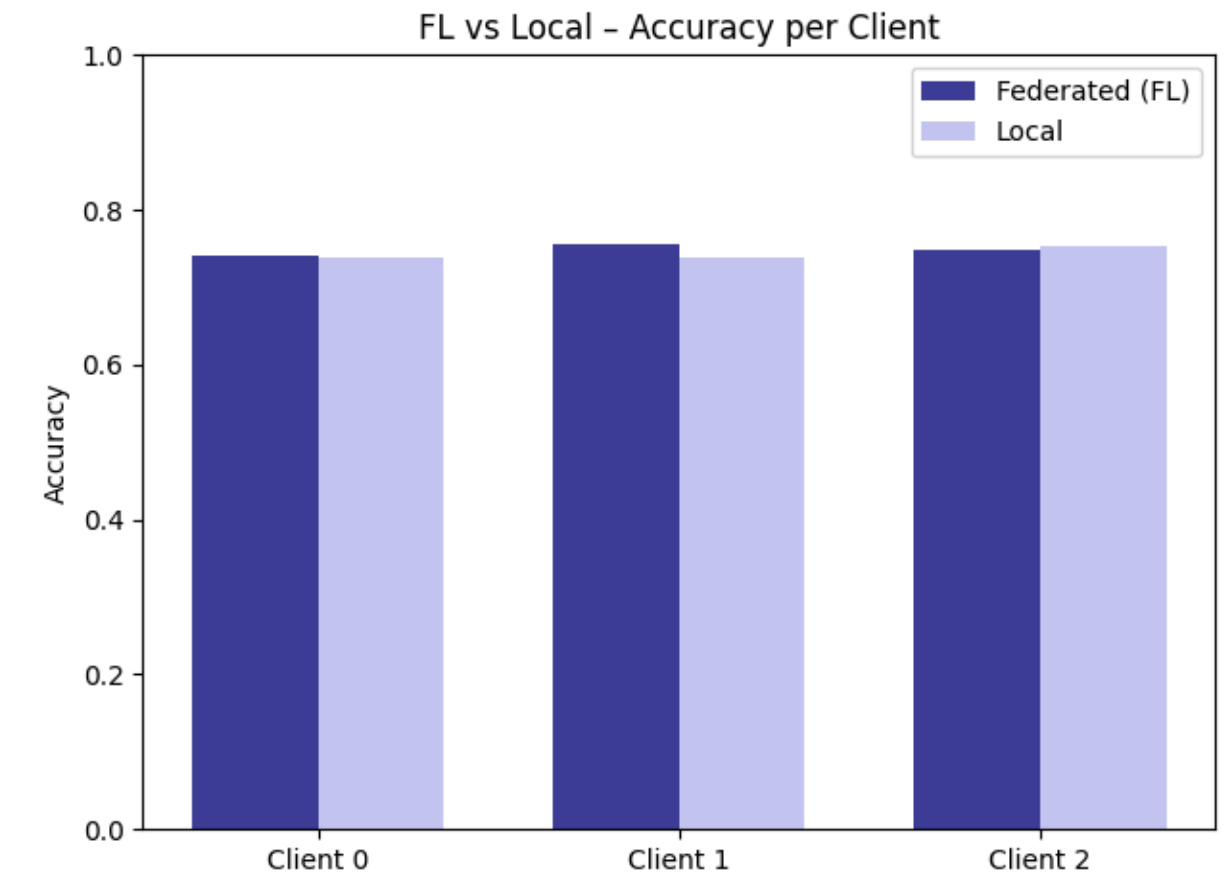
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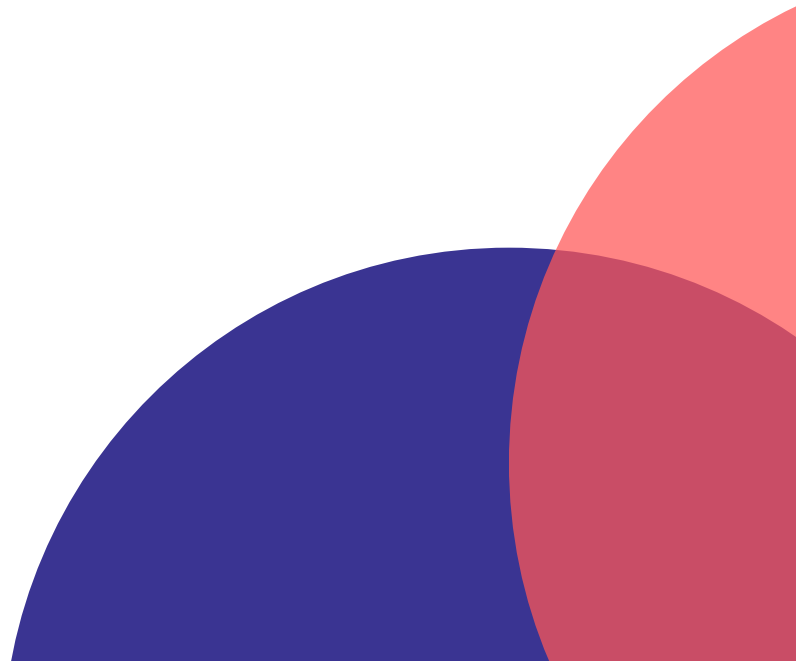



# SUMMARY

- Federated Learning enables a healthcare-friendly architecture with local data.
- Smaller clients benefited, while larger clients remained stable.
- Valuable for **Altera's** work with smaller healthcare organizations.
- Federated Learning fits real-world settings with diverse client data and behavior.



# CHALLENGES & LEARNINGS



- Learning a new domain and working with private data constraints
- Designing and building an ML system independently
- Managing time in a large-scale project
- Hands-on experience with Federated Learning
- Understanding real-world ML trade-offs



# **THANK YOU**

## **QUESTIONS?**