



Machine Learning & Privacy: It's Complicated

Emiliano De Cristofaro
<https://emilianodc.com>

Agenda

1. Training (Distributed) ML Models with Privacy
2. Private Data Release with Generative Neural Networks
3. Privacy Leakage in Collaborative/Federated ML

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Recommendations

Recommendations for You, Emiliano

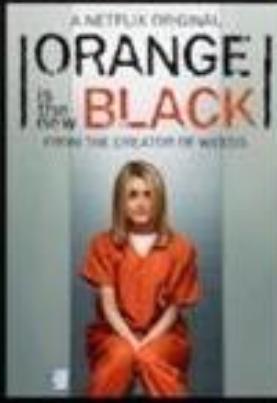


Recommendations for You, Emiliano



2

Top 10 for You





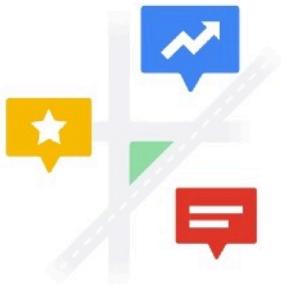
For you

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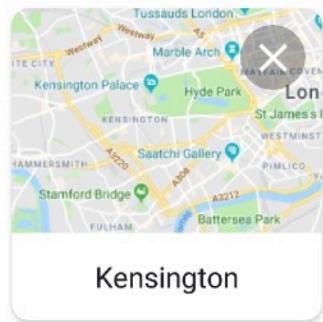
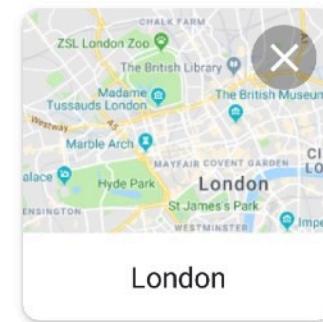


Discover places you'll love

Get recommendations, created just for you. Hear about the hottest spots in your favorite areas.



Suggested areas



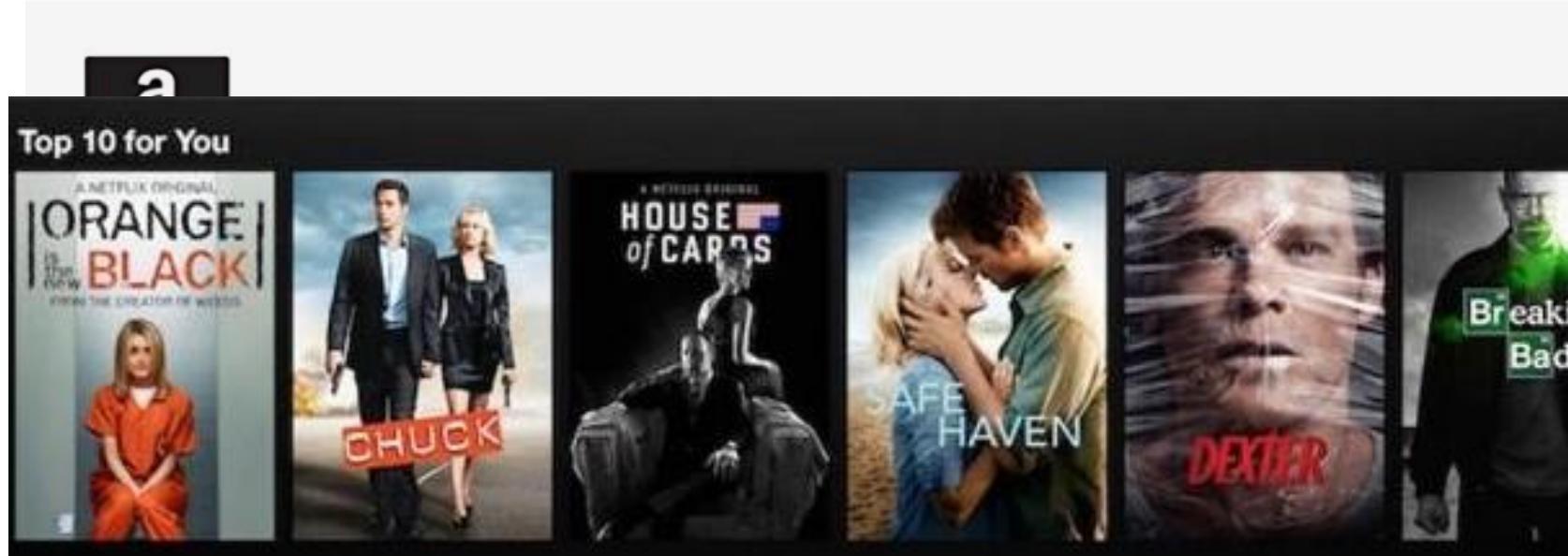
London

Kensington

City

Add area

Follow 3 areas



Explore



Driving



Transit



For you





The BBC keeps a few hundred free programs on iPlayer

No tracking, no ads (taxpayer funded)

No account (until recently)



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Still... they want to give recommendations & gather statistics

Item-KNN based Recommendations

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Predict **favorite** items for users based on their own ratings
and those of “similar” users

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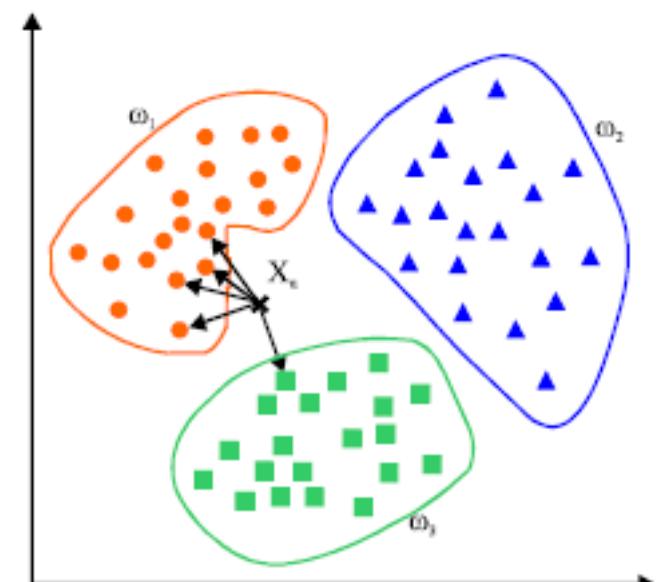
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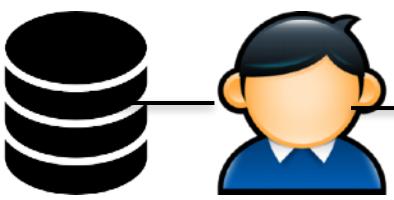
Build a co-views matrix C

C_{ab} = #views for the pair of programs (a,b)

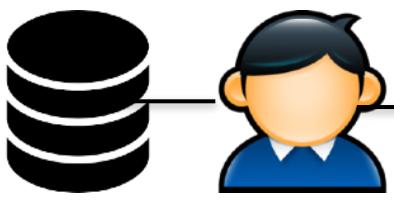
Compute a **Similarity Matrix** $\{Sim\}_{ab} = \frac{C_{ab}}{\sqrt{C_a \cdot C_b}}$

Identify **K-Neighbors (KNN)** based on Sim Matrix



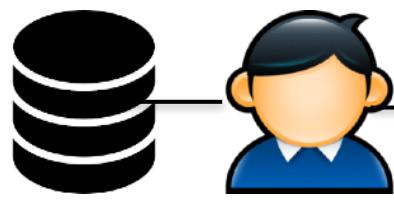


	Dr Who	Sherlock	Earth
Dr Who	1	-	-
Sherlock	1	1	-
Earth	0	0	0



	Dr Who	Sherlock	Earth
Dr Who	1	-	-
Sherlock	1	1	-
Earth	1	1	1

⋮



	Dr Who	Sherlock	Earth
Dr Who	1	-	-
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	Dr Who	Sherlock	Earth
Dr Who	195	-	-
Sherlock	155	180	-
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Can we build this in a privacy-preserving way?



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Can we build this in a privacy-preserving way?

Privacy := learn **aggregate counts**, e.g., 155 users have watched Dr Who and Sherlock, but not **who** has watched what

Private Data Aggregation (PDA)

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Generate **keys** adding up to 0

$$\text{User } U_1, U_2, \dots, U_N \longrightarrow k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_N = 0$$

$$\text{Enc}_{k_i}(x_i) = x_i + k_i \bmod 2^{32}$$

$$\prod_{i=1,\dots,N} \text{Enc}_i(x_i) = \sum_{i=1,\dots,N} (x_i + k_i) = \sum_{i=1,\dots,N} x_i$$

User U_i ($i \in [1, N]$)

$$x_i \in_r G, y_i = g^{x_i} \text{ mod } q$$

$$k_{ij} = \sum_{j \neq i} H\left(y_j^{x_i} \parallel \ell \parallel s\right) \cdot (-1)^{i>j} \text{ mod } 2^{32}$$

$$b_{i\ell} = X_{i\ell} + k_{i\ell} \text{ mod } 2^{32}$$

$$k'_{ij} = \sum_{\substack{j \neq i \\ j \notin U^{on}}} H\left(y_j^{x_i} \parallel \ell \parallel s\right) \cdot (-1)^{i>j} \text{ mod } 2^{32}$$

Server

$$y_i$$

$$\{y_j\}_{j \in [1, N]}$$

$$\{b_{i\ell}\}_{\ell \in [1, L]}$$

$$U^{on}$$

$$\{k'_{i\ell}\}_{\ell \in [1, L]}$$

Fault recovery (if needed)

$$C'_\ell = \left(\sum_{i \in U^{on}} b_{i\ell} - \sum_{i \in U^{on}} k'_{i\ell} \right) \text{ mod } 2^{32}$$

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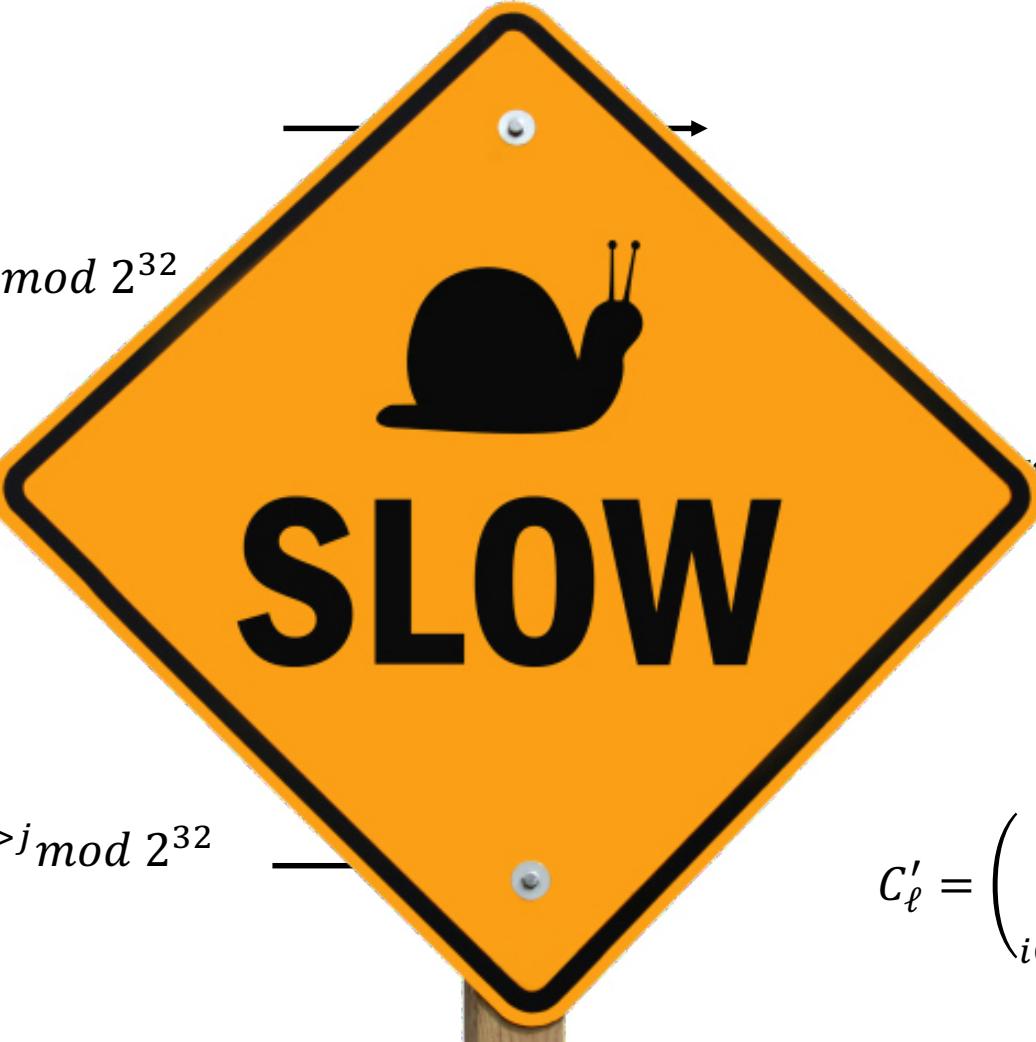
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For N users and M programs: $O(N \cdot M^2)$ cryptographic operations
and $O(M^2)$ ciphertexts

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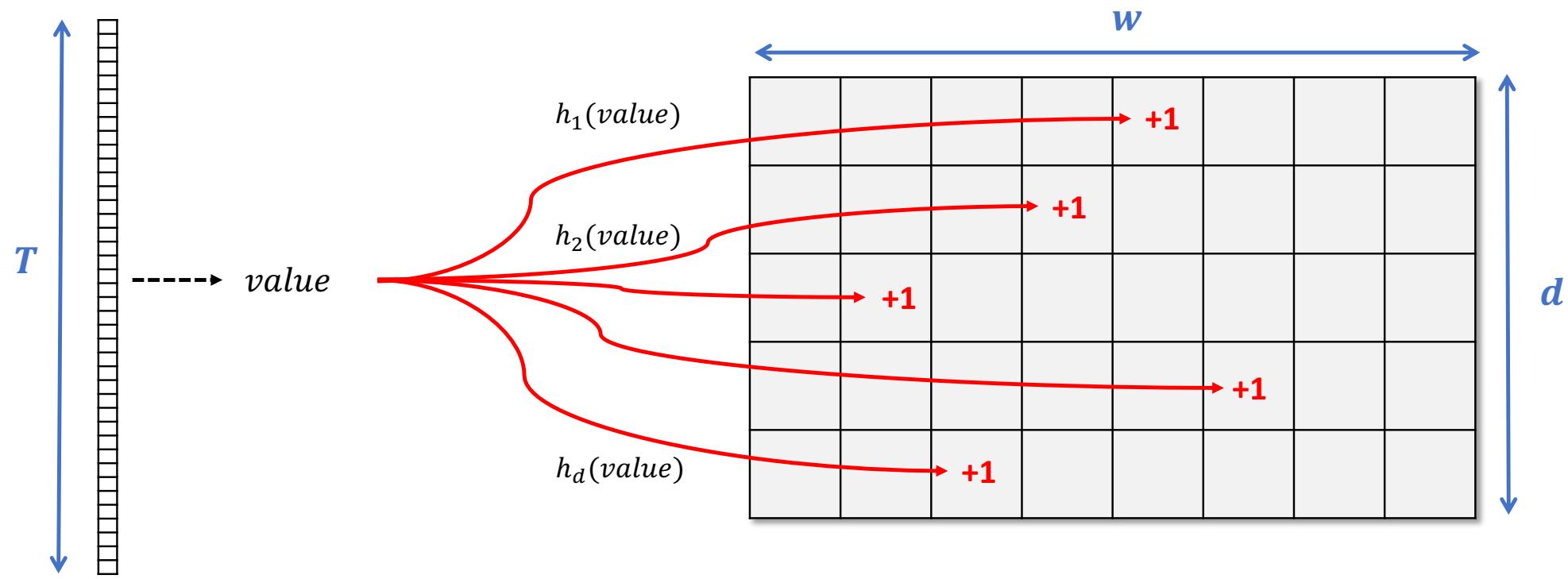
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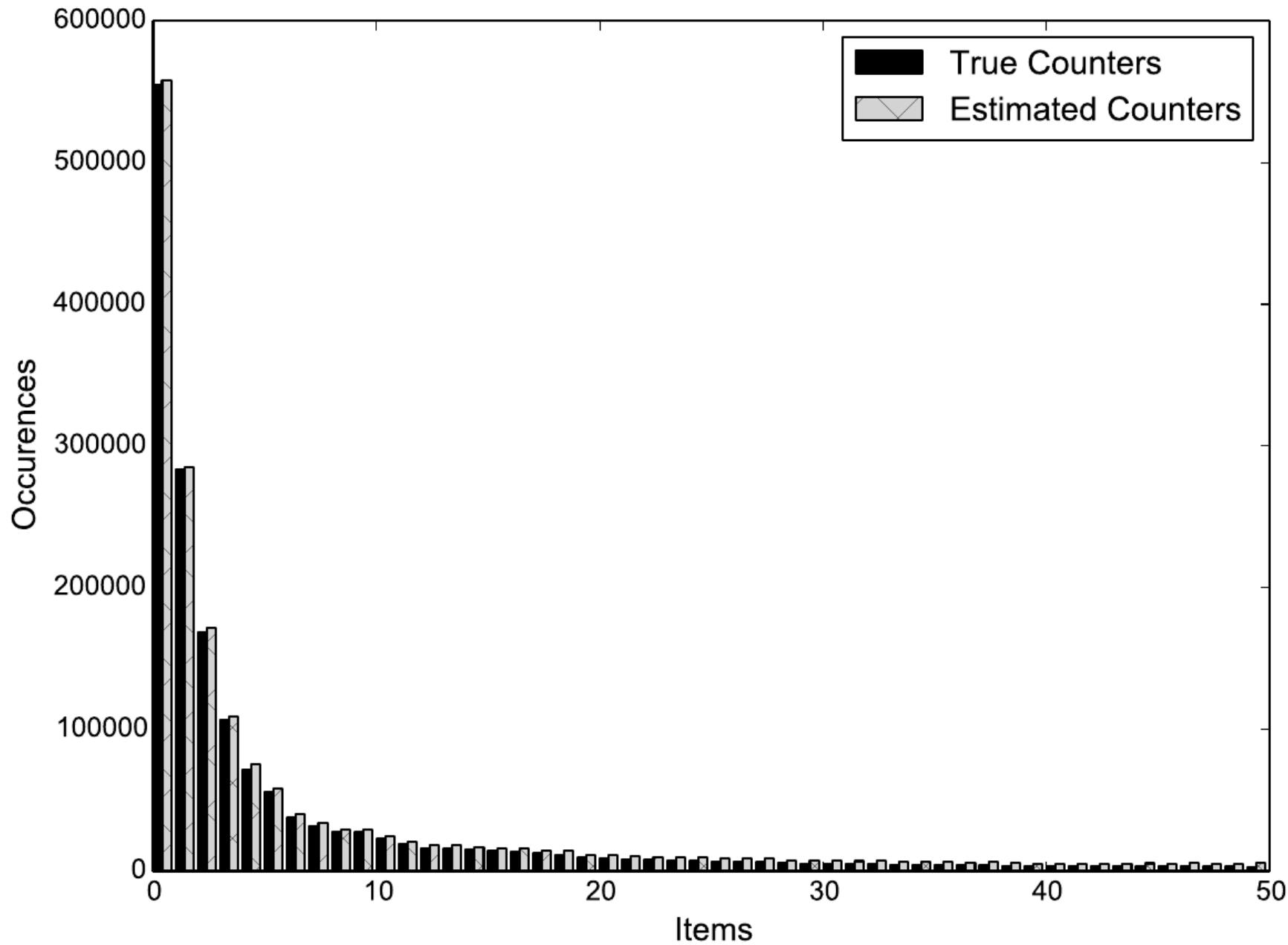
Count(-Min) Sketch

Estimate an item's frequency in a stream

Mapping a stream of values (of length T) to a matrix of size $O(\log T)$

Sum of two sketches = sketch of the union of the two data streams



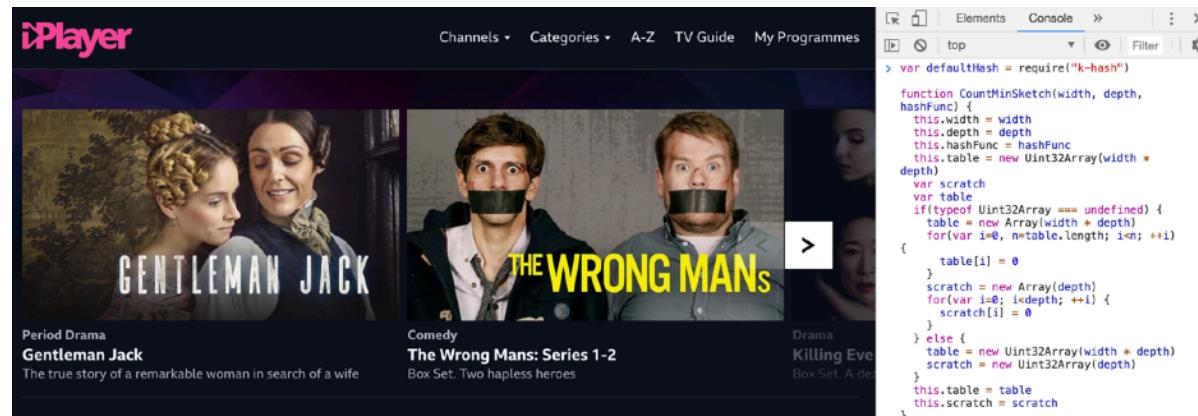


Prototype Implementation

Tally (server-side) as a **Node.js** web server

Client-side in **JavaScript**, runs in the browser or as a mobile cross-platform application (Apache Cordova)

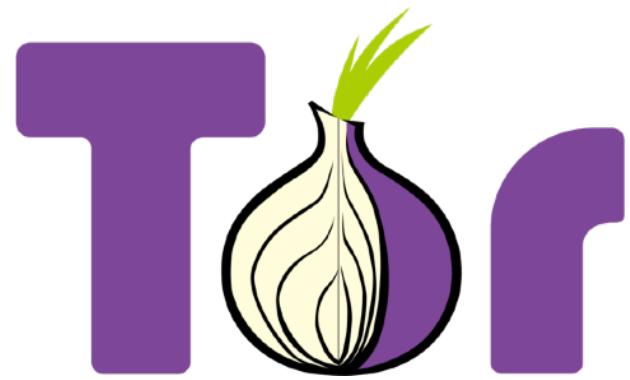
Deploying as **easy** as installing a Node.js package via NPM



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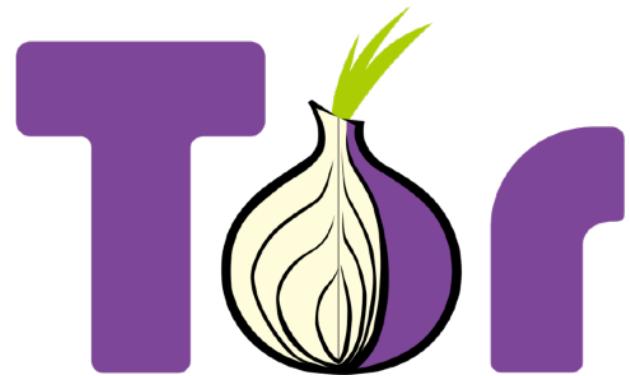
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HSDir statistics

[long standing problem]

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EPSRC IRC in Early Warning Sensing
Systems for Infectious Diseases

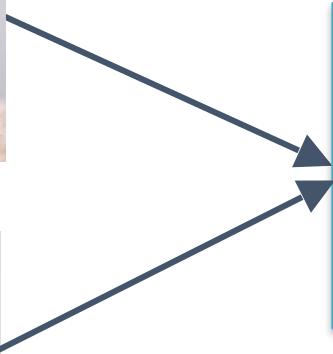
Inferring population health statistics
(e.g., influenza) from Google searches
[Primault et al., WWW'19]

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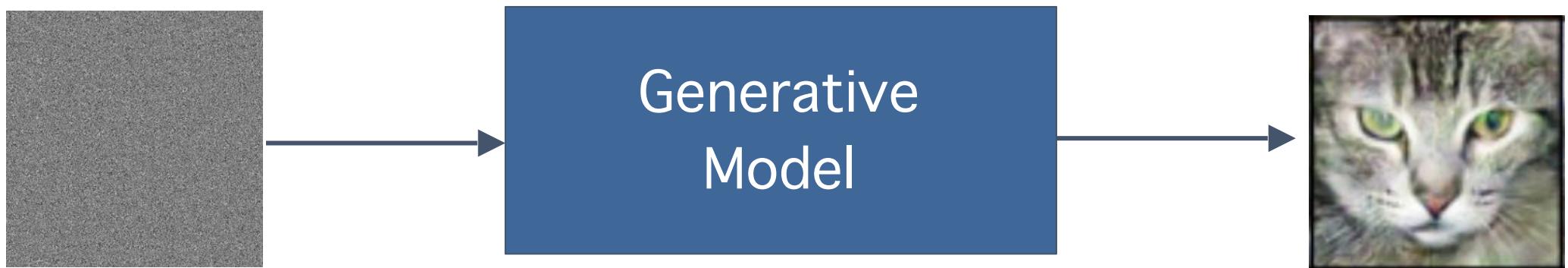
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Discriminative
Model

cat | dog



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allows for a small probability of failure

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We can apply algorithms as we normally would; access the data using differentially private subroutines, and keep track of privacy budget (Modularity)

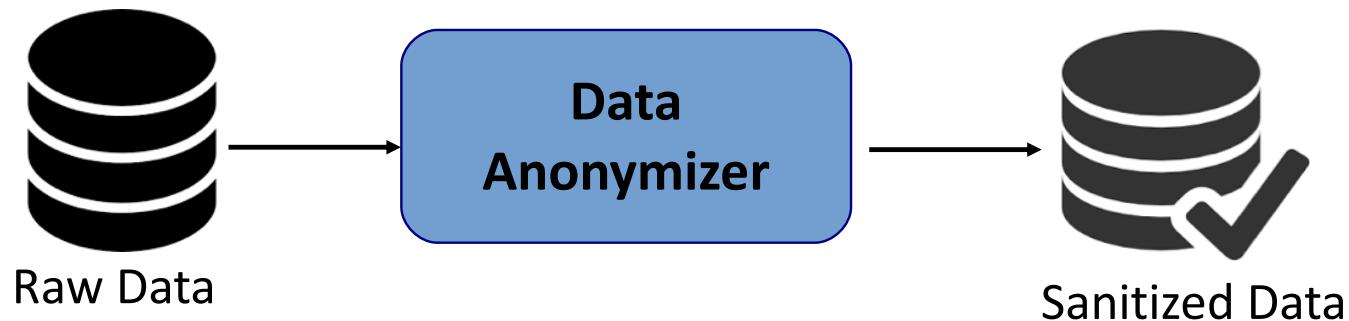
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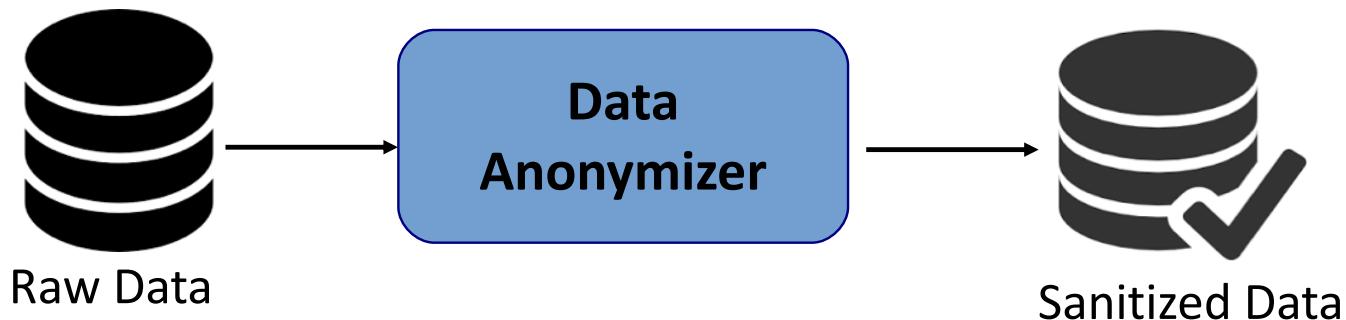
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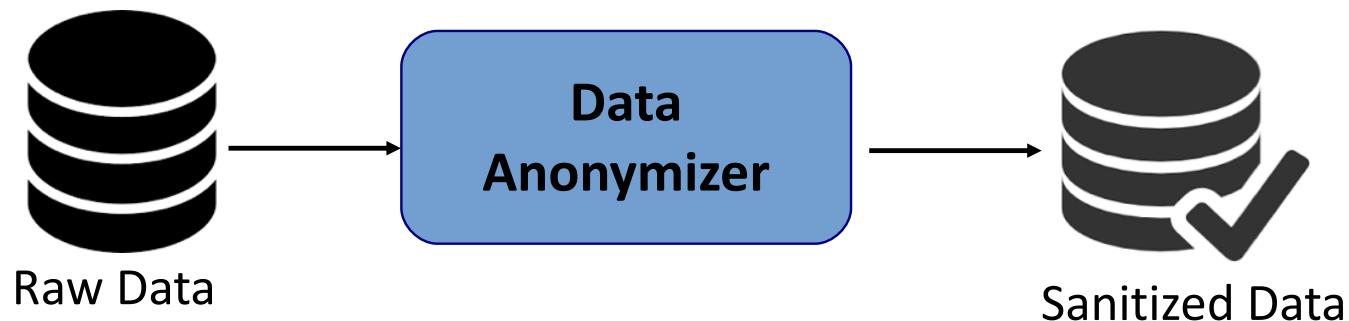


Differential Privacy: Weak utility, “curse of dimensionality”(*)

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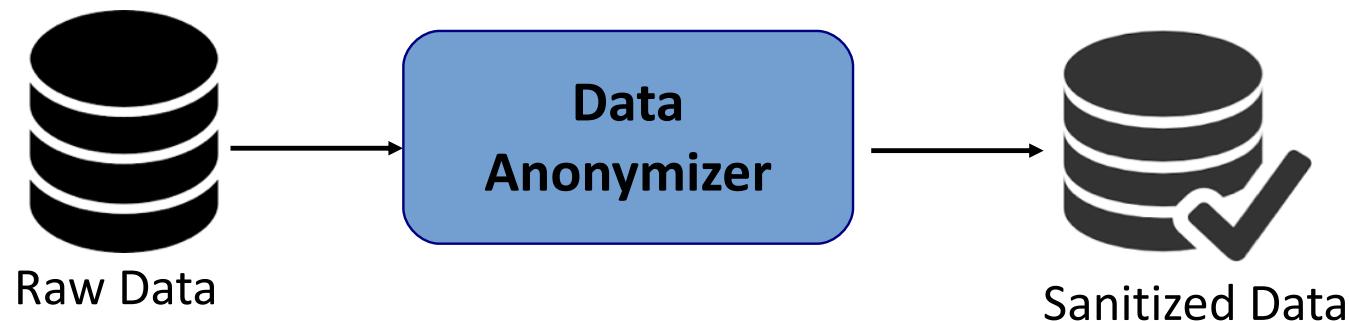
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Publish the model along with its differentially private parameters

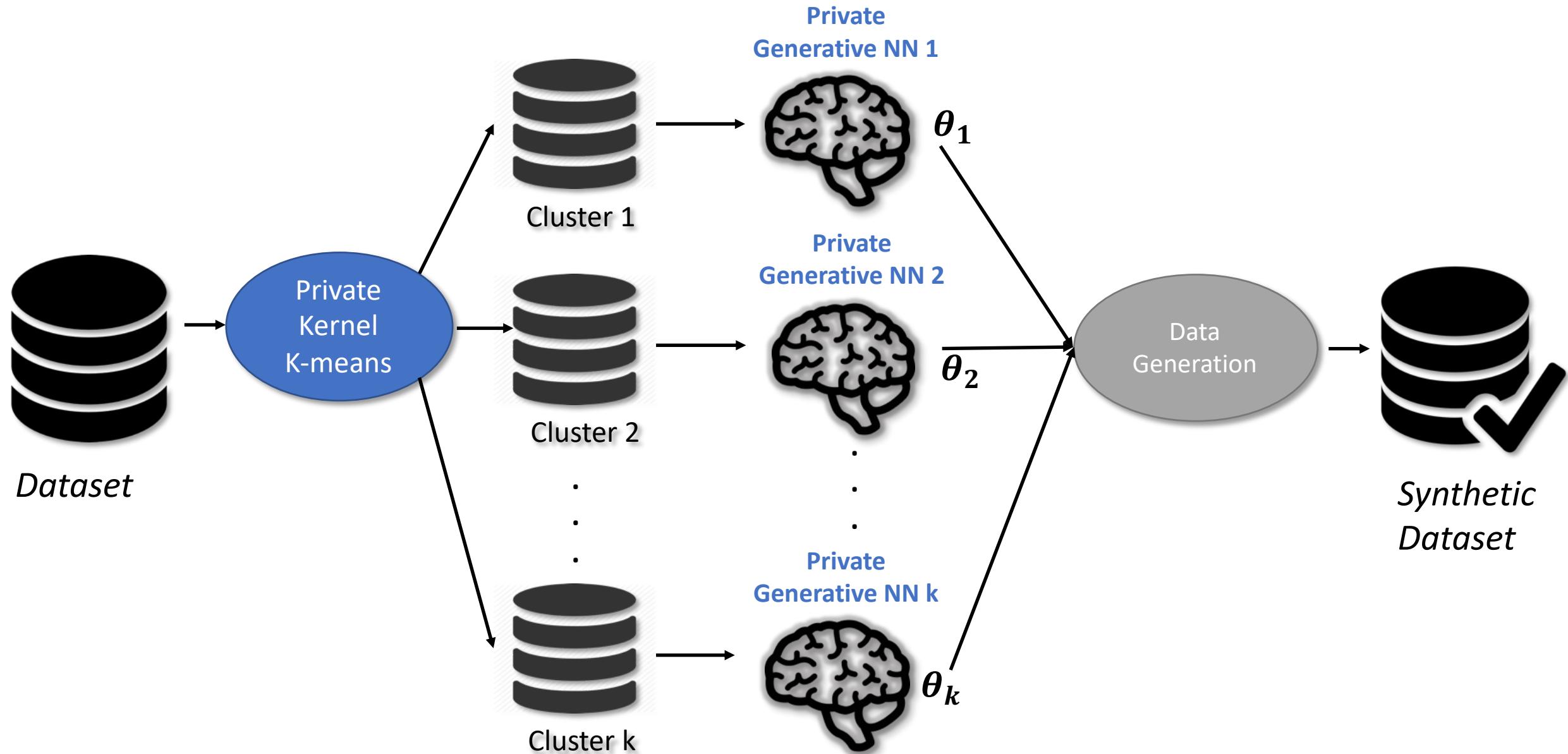
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Anybody can generate a synthetic dataset resembling the original (training) data

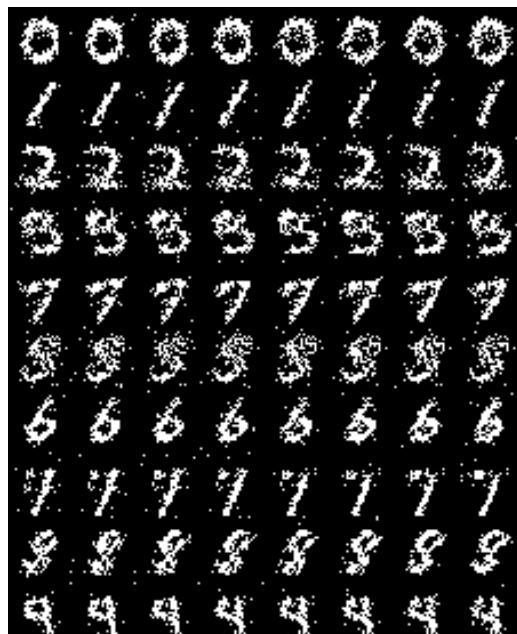
With strong (differential) privacy protection



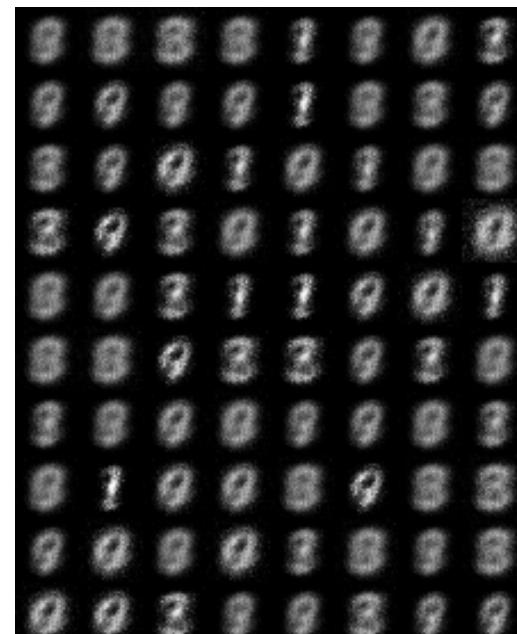
Synthetic Samples (MNIST)



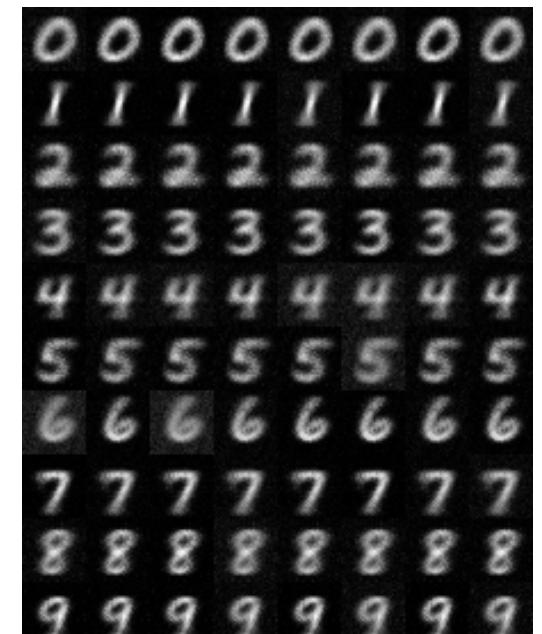
Original samples



RBM samples



VAE w/o clustering



VAE with clustering

20 SGD epochs (epsilon=1.74)

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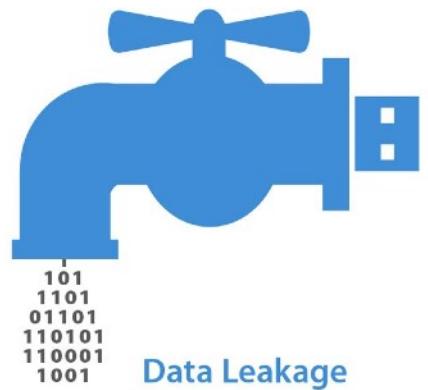
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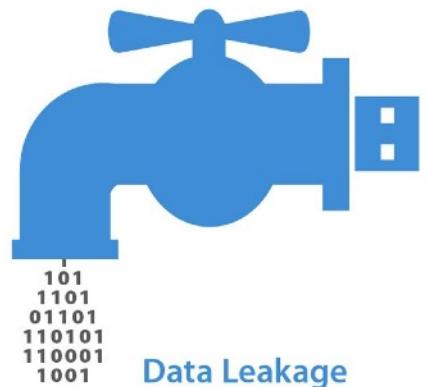
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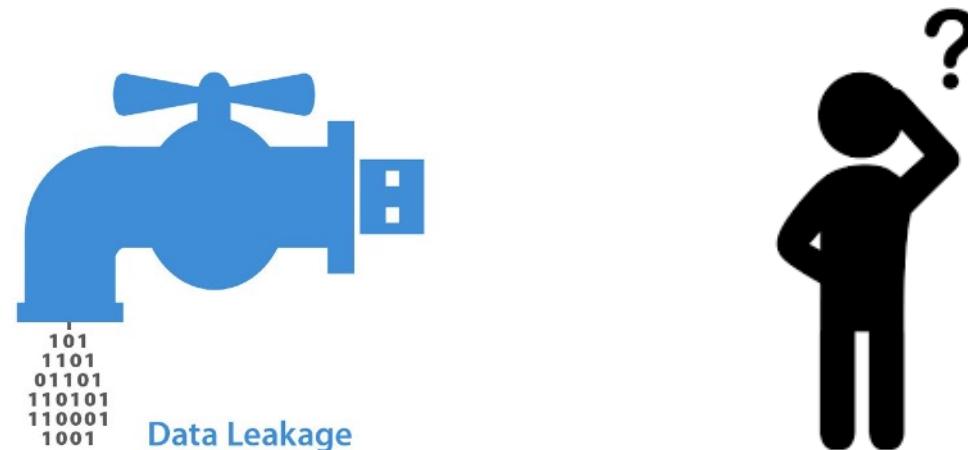
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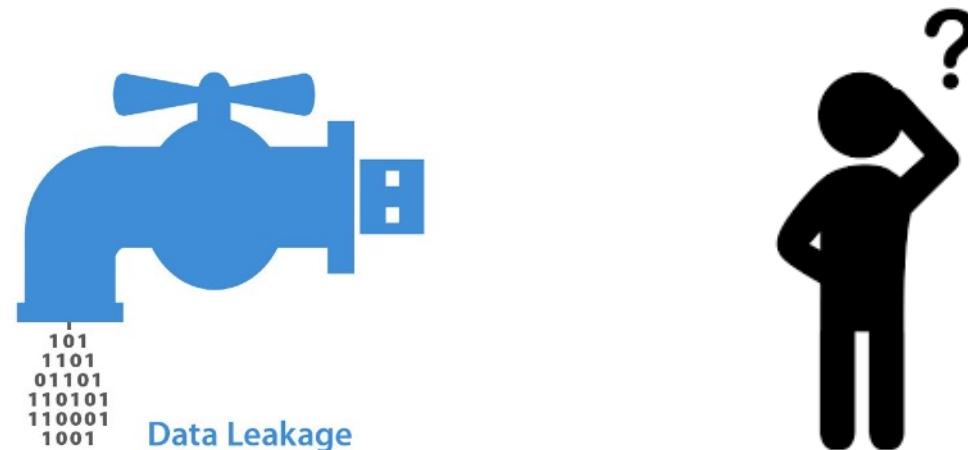
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Reasoning about “privacy” in ML

Most papers on privacy attacks in ML focus on inferring:

1. Inclusion of a data point in the training set
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2. What class representatives look like



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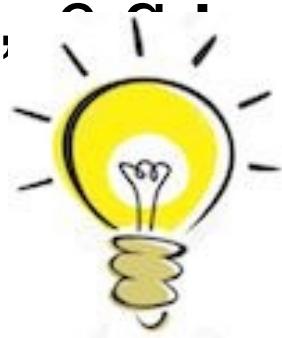
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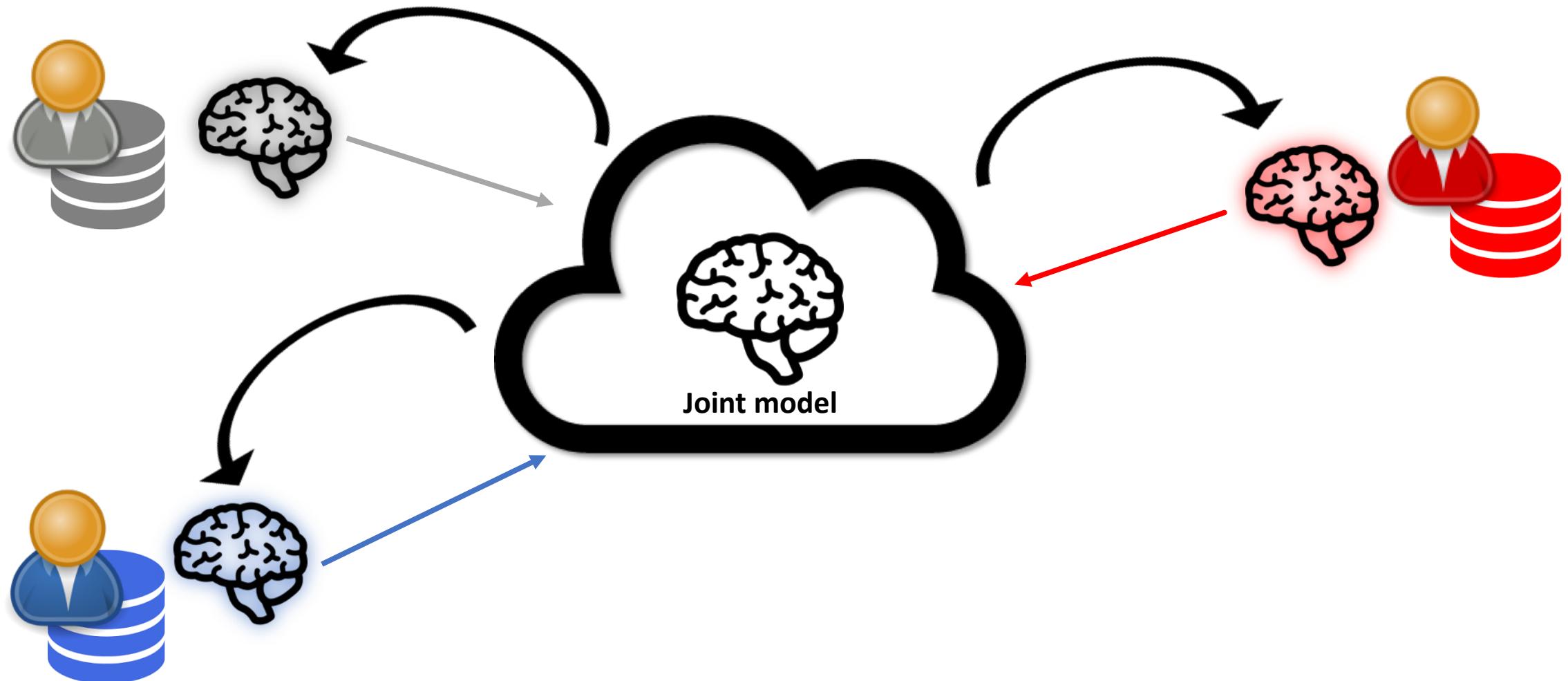
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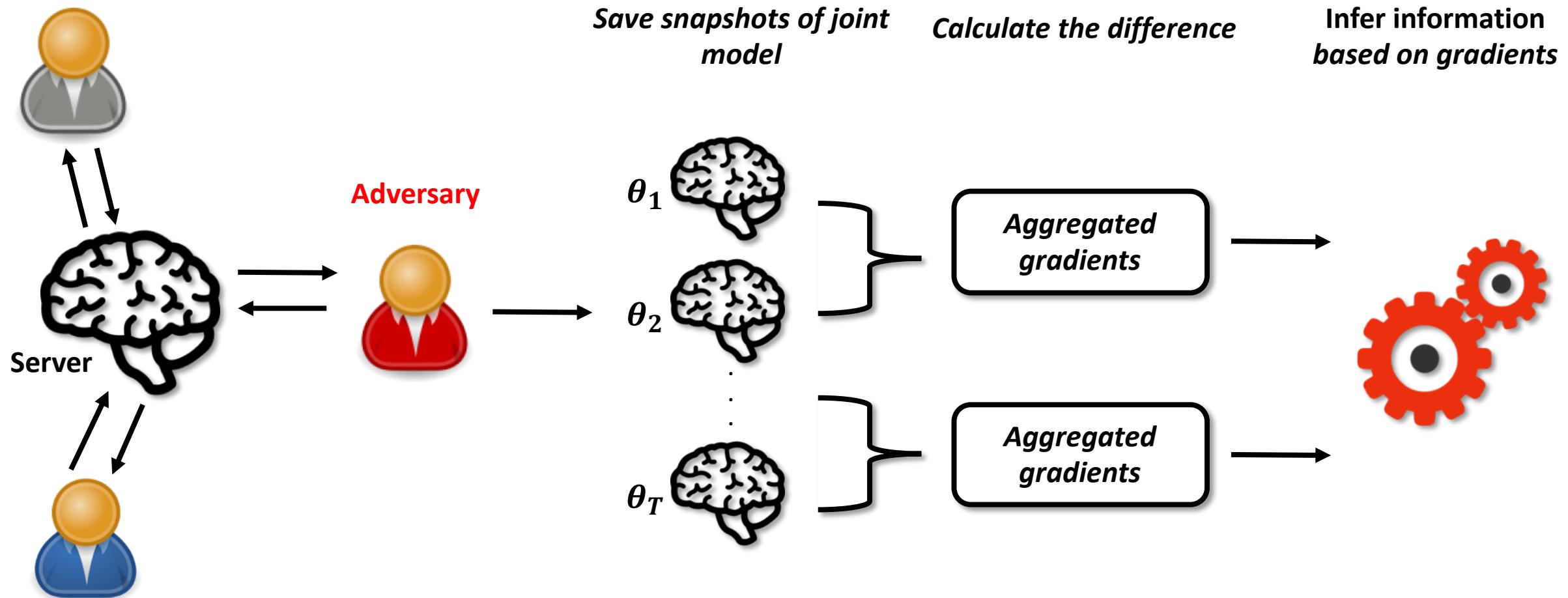
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In a nutshell: given a gender classifier, infer race of people in Bob's photos

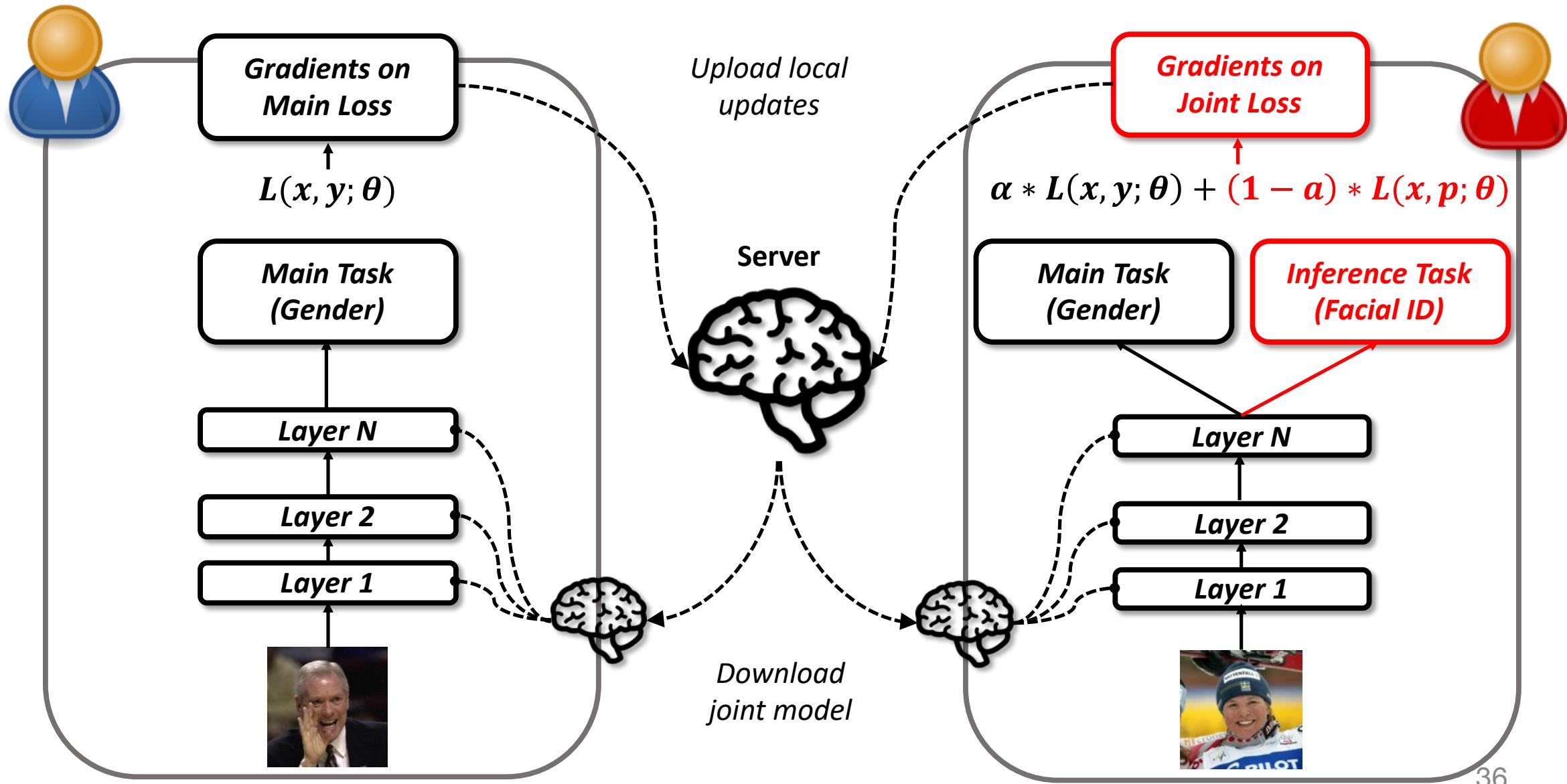
Collaborative Learning



Passive Property Inference Attack



Active Property Inference Attack

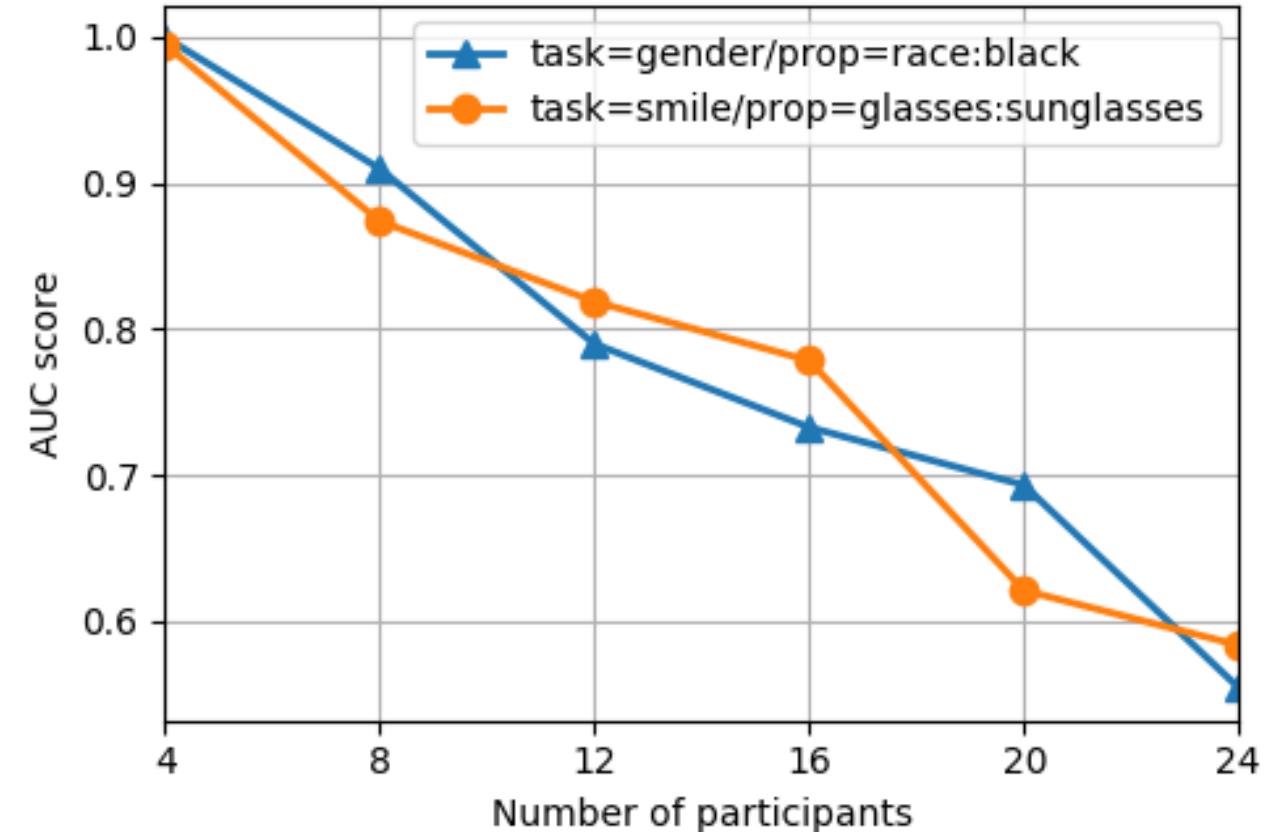


Dataset	Type	Main Task	Inference Task
LFW	Images	Gender/Smile/Age Eyewear/Race/Hair	Race/Eyewear
FaceScrub	Images	Gender	Identity
PIPA	Images	Age	Gender
FourSquare	Locations	Gender	Membership
Yelp-health	Text	Review Score	Membership Doctor specialty
Yelp-author	Text	Review Score	Author
CSI	Text	Sentiment	Membership Region/Gender/Veracity

Property Inference on LFW

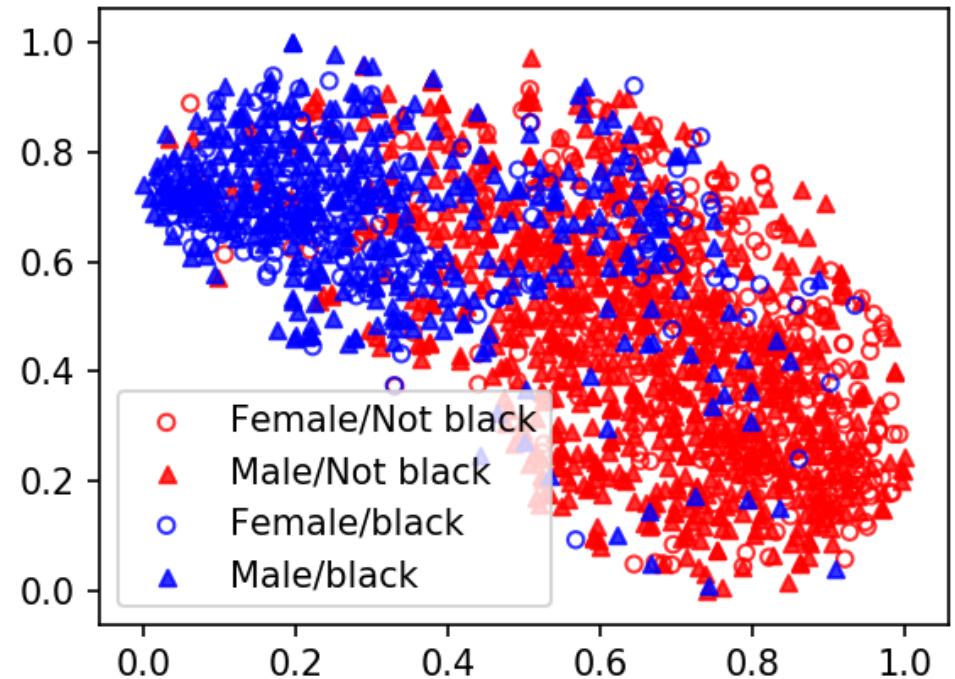
Main Task	Inference Task	Correlation	AUC score
Gender	Sunglasses	-0.025	1.0
Smile	Asian	0.047	0.93
Age	Black	-0.084	1.0
Race	Sunglasses	0.026	1.0
Eyewear	Asian	-0.119	0.91
Hair	Sunglasses	-0.013	1.0

Two-Party

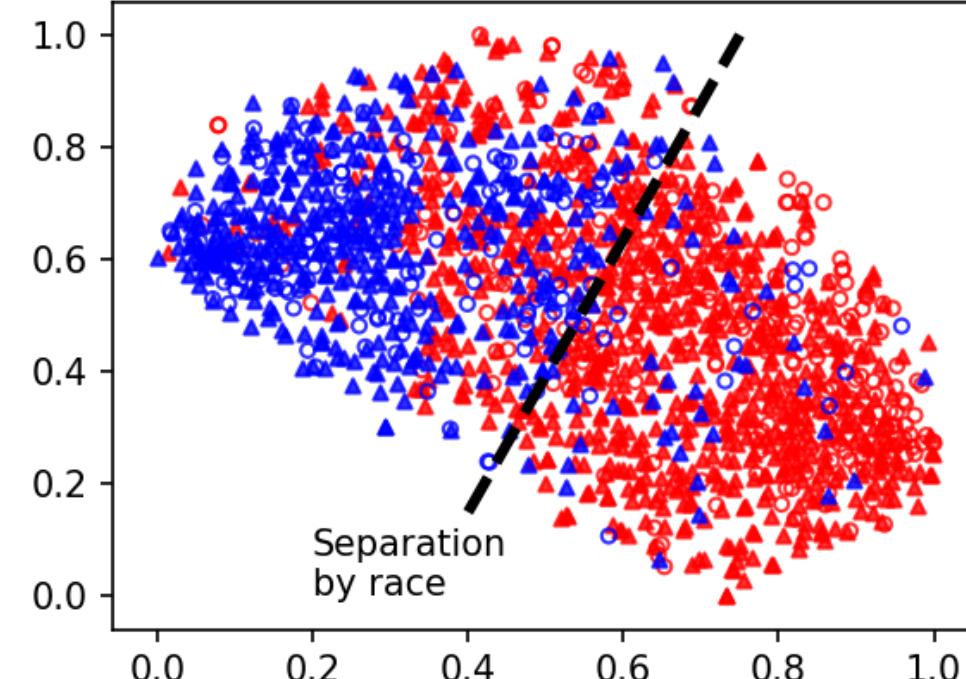


Multi-Party

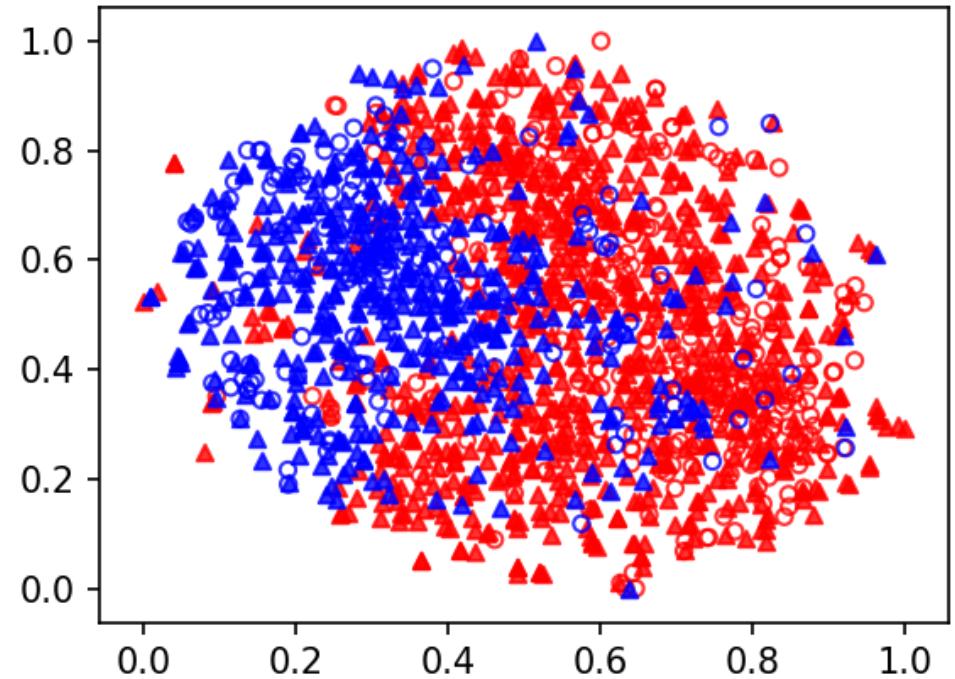
Feature t-SNE projection



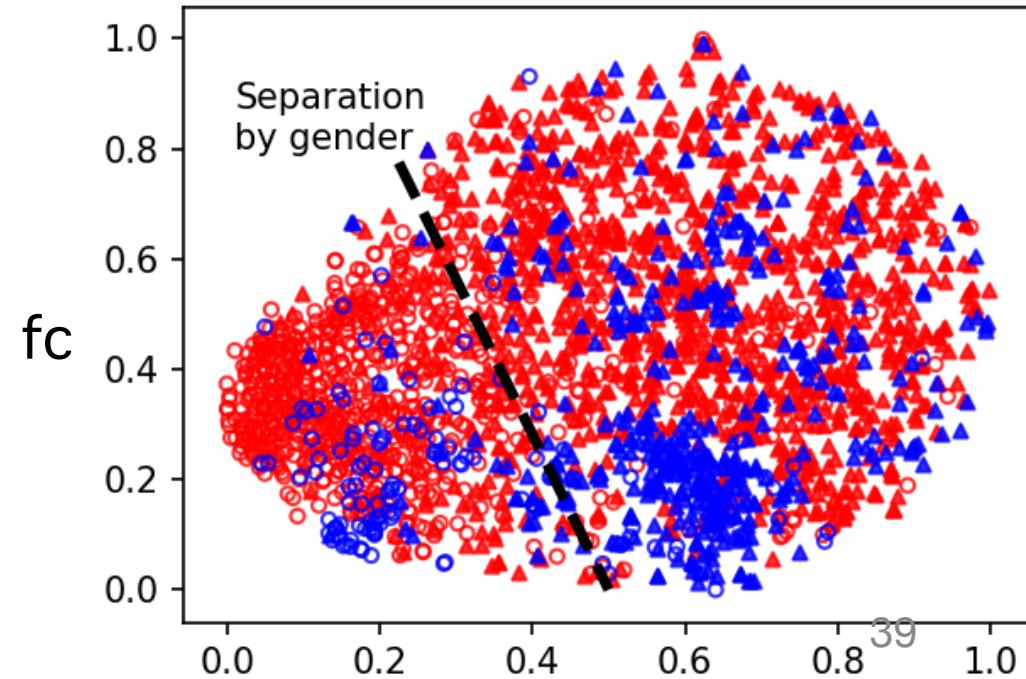
pool1



pool2



pool3

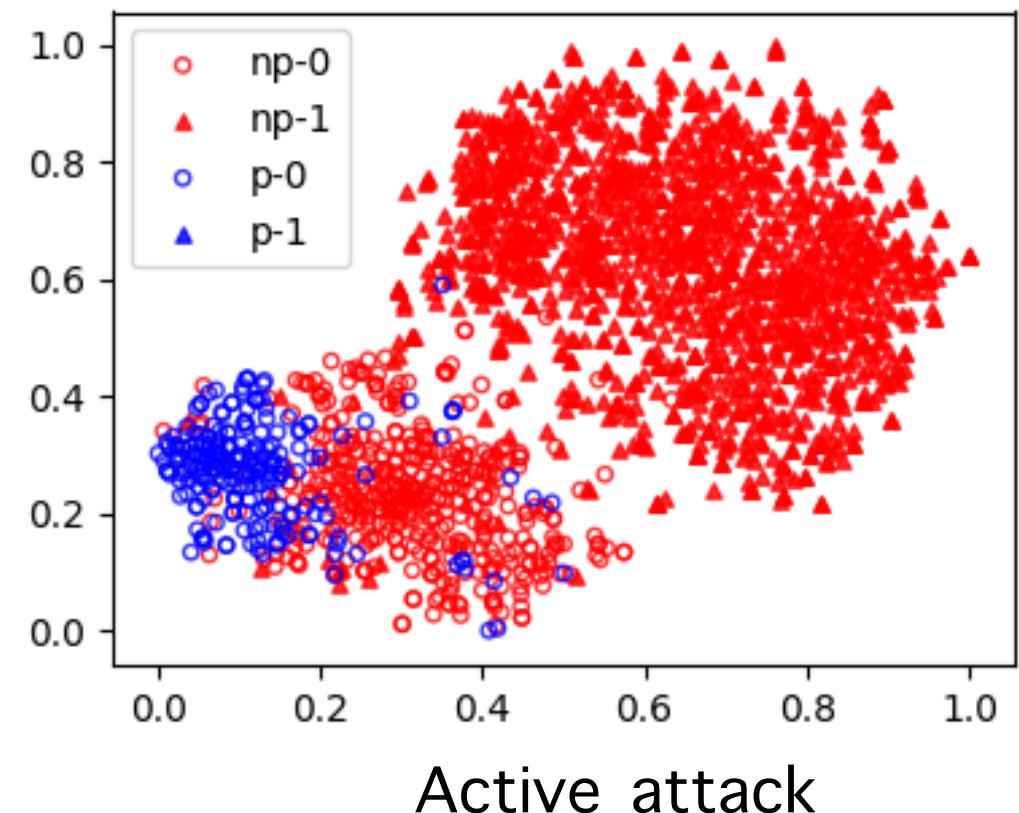
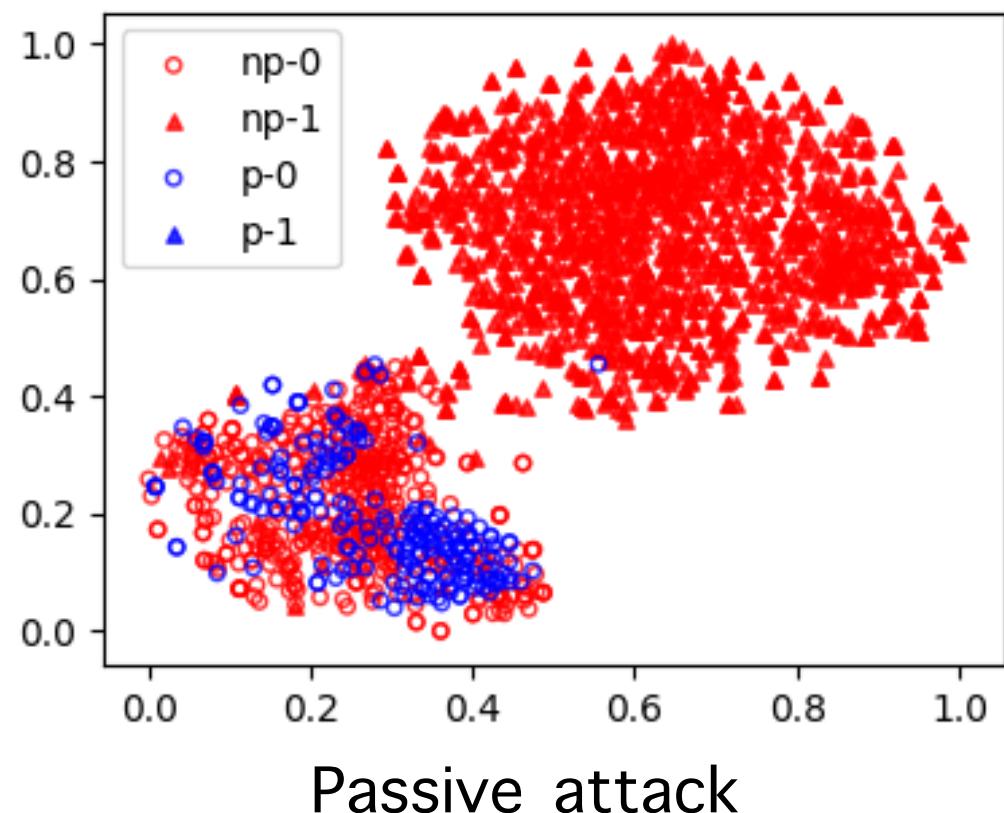


fc

Passive vs Active Attack on FaceScrub

Main Task: \blacktriangle/\bullet = female/male

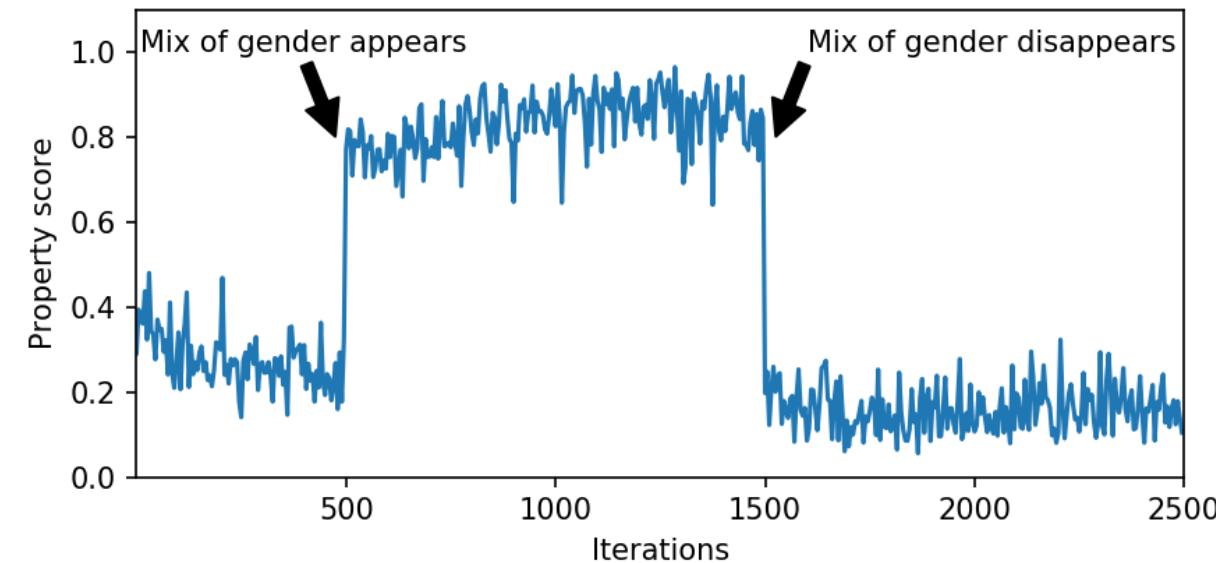
Inference Task: Blue points with the property (identity)



Inferring when a property occurs

Inferring when a property occurs

Batches with the property appear

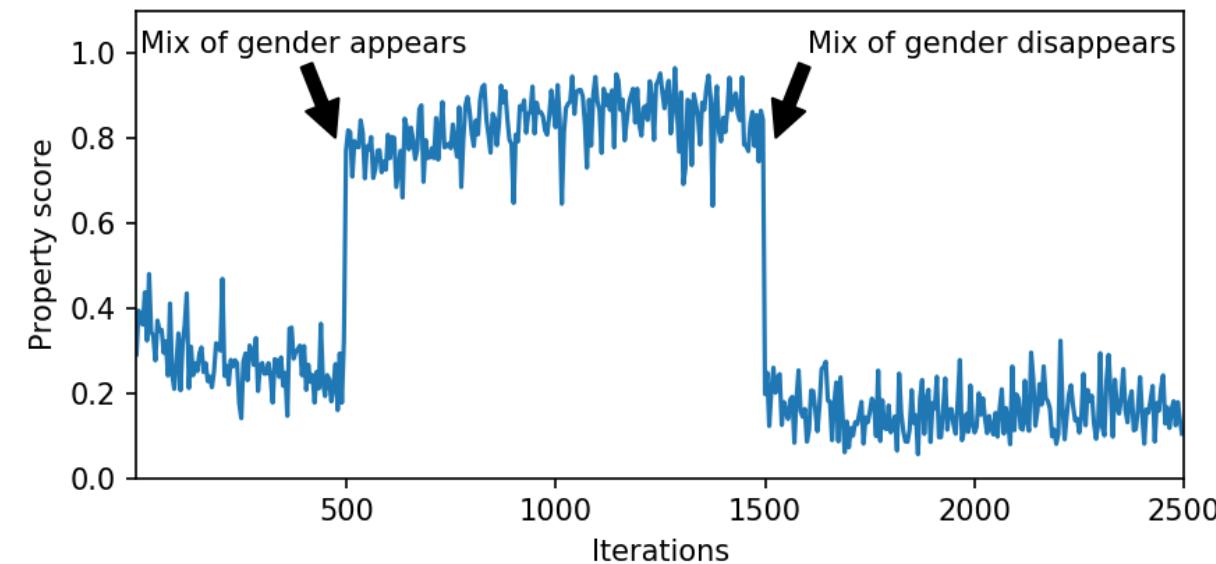


Main task: Age / Two-party

Inference task: people in the image are
of the same gender (PIPA)

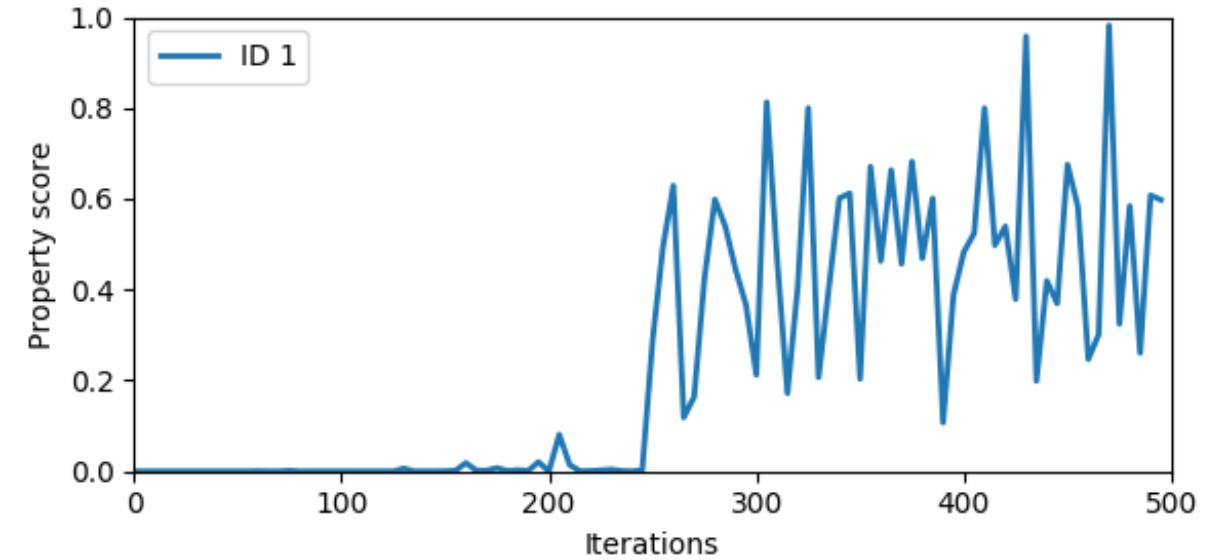
Inferring when a property occurs

Batches with the property appear



Main task: Age / Two-party
Inference task: people in the image are
of the same gender (PIPA)

Participant with ID 1 joins training



Main task: Gender / Multi-Party
Inference task: author identification

Defenses?

Defenses?

Selective gradient sharing

Dataset: Text reviews

Main Task: Sentiment classifier

Doesn't really work...

Defenses?

Selective gradient sharing

Dataset: Text reviews

Main Task: Sentiment classifier

Doesn't really work...

Property / % parameters shared	10%	50%	100%
Top region	0.84	0.86	0.93
Gender	0.90	0.91	0.93
Veracity	0.94	0.99	0.99

Defenses?

Selective gradient sharing

Dataset: Text reviews

Main Task: Sentiment classifier

Doesn't really work...

Property / % parameters shared	10%	50%	100%
Top region	0.84	0.86	0.93
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Participant-level differential privacy

Hide participant's contributions

Only 2 “hand-crafted” mechanisms in the literature

Fail to converge for “few” participants

Thank you!



Thank you!

