

# PRIVACY-AWARE SPEECH DATA SHARING

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## › CONTENTS

WHY IS SPEECH DATA SENSITIVE?

SPEECH DATA SHARING & PETS

WHAT ARE WE PROTECTING (AND WHAT NOT)?

PETS FOR PROTECTING TRAINING DATA

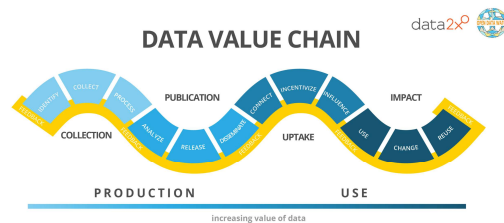
PETS FOR PROTECTING TRAINED MODEL

CONCLUSION

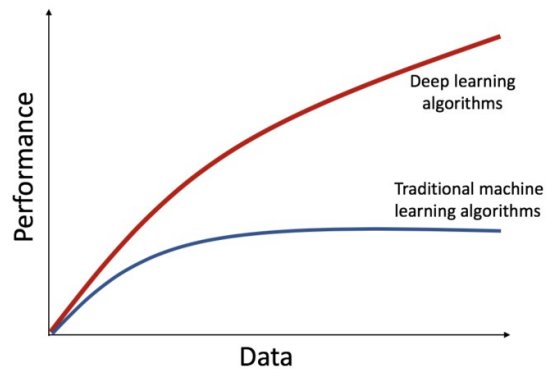
# AI MODELS

## POSSIBILITIES AND CHALLENGES

- › Huge potential in AI solutions



- › AI models, especially deep learning models, are very data-hungry



- › Data is often available, but cannot be shared and combined across organizations or even departments due to privacy and IP concerns



## › SPEECH DATA SHARING

# POSSIBILITIES AND CHALLENGES

- › Speech + its transcriptions can be used to learn powerful Automatic Speech Recognition (ASR) systems
- › Different data sources to avoid bias based on accent, dialect, gender, age, etc.
- › Example application: automated help desk / call centre
- › However, speech data has different types of sensitive features that make sharing across silos or organizations challenging:

Who, where, when - metadata	How - Acoustic characteristics speakers	What (Content) - Intellectual property
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Date/time</li><li>• Location</li><li>• Names of speakers</li><li>• ...</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Gender</li><li>• Age</li><li>• Native language</li><li>• Emotional state</li><li>• Health status (dementia, Parkinsons, covid-19... )</li><li>• Deception</li><li>• ...</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Content of television show</li><li>• Speech/talk/class</li><li>• Discussion of medical information</li><li>• Police hearing</li><li>• Court case</li><li>• ...</li></ul>

## › WHAT ARE WE PROTECTING?

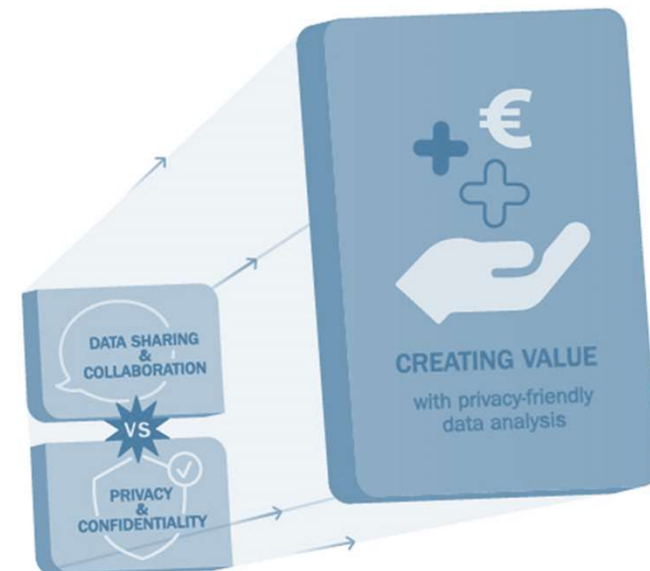
1. Speech input data for training the model:  
Various data sources that cannot be shared, speech data is sensitive personal data
2. Trained ASR model:  
Could reveal input data, can be commercially sensitive.
3. Speech data to be transformed to text through trained ASR model:  
Speech data is sensitive personal data, and model can be sensitive
  - a) Speech data remains at client and server has ASR model, how to recognise the speech without interchanging data?  
(Privacy-Preserving Machine Learning for Speech Processing, Manas A. Pathak, PhD thesis, 2014)
  - b) Speech data is (securely) stored at server.
4. Text output from the ASR model:  
**Text output is personal data** (How to keep text private? A systematic review of deep learning methods for privacy-preserving natural language processing, Samuel Sousa, Roman Kern, Artificial Intelligence Review, 2022)

We focus on the training of the ASR model: 1 and 2.

# SOLUTIONS FOR SAFE SPEECH DATA SHARING

## PRIVACY ENHANCING TECHNOLOGIES

- › Privacy Enhancing Technologies (PET) offer ways to efficiently and safely learn models on distributed datasets
- › TNO has broad expertise in secure multi-party computation (MPC), Federated Learning (FL), and synthetic data generation (SDG)
- › Speech data comes with its own characteristics – which PET to use?



## › SEVERAL OPTIONS

### **Protect speech data**

- Input data transformation
- Federated Learning
- Homomorphic Encryption

### **Protect ASR model**

- Differential Privacy
- Trusted Execution Environment

## › PROTECT SPEECH DATA FOR TRAINING THE MODEL

### INPUT DATA TRANSFORMATION

Before training, transform speech data such that it becomes less sensitive:

(Understanding the Tradeoffs in Client-side Privacy for Downstream Speech Tasks, Proceedings, APSIPA Annual Summit and Conference 2021)

- › Client-side transforms:
  - signal processing techniques
- › Local differential privacy:
  - Add (a little) noise to speech data



easy to perform

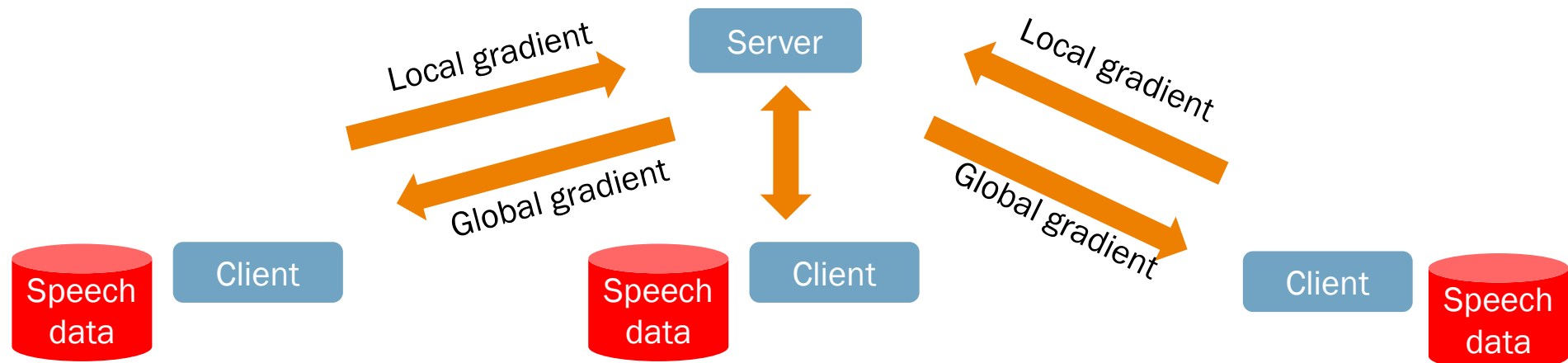


still sensitive data, probably combine with other privacy-preserving training techniques



## › PROTECT SPEECH DATA FOR TRAINING THE MODEL FEDERATED LEARNING

› A server trains the model through iterative updates from clients



scalable solution

(Y. Gao et al., "End-to-End Speech Recognition from Federated Acoustic Models," ICASSP 2022 - 2022 IEEE International Conference on Acoustics, Speech and Signal Processing (ICASSP), 2022, pp. 7227-7231, doi: 10.1109/ICASSP43922.2022.9747161)



gradients leak information on speech data

(B. Hitaj, G. Ateniese, and F. Perez-Cruz. Deep models under the GAN: Information leakage from collaborative deep learning. In ACM CCS, 2017)

## › PROTECT SPEECH DATA FOR TRAINING THE MODEL HOMOMORPHIC ENCRYPTION

- › Local gradients are sent encrypted to the server
- › The server combines them to an encrypted global gradient without decryption
- › The clients compute the new local encrypted gradient without decryption



no leakage of gradient information



computations with encryptions require more computational effort

## › PROTECT THE TRAINED MODEL

### DIFFERENTIAL PRIVACY

#### › Global differential privacy:

Add (a little) noise to the (encrypted) model

#### › Mini-batch stochastic gradient descent with differential privacy:

Add (a little) noise to global gradients (M. Abadi et al., “Deep learning with differential privacy,” in Proceedings of the 2016 ACM SIGSAC conference on computer and communications security, 2016, pp. 308–318.)



(a little) protection of the trained model



risk of accuracy loss, needs to be combined with either homomorphic encryption or federated learning

## › PROTECT THE TRAINED MODEL

### TRUSTED EXECUTION ENVIRONMENT

- › Use sophisticated hardware to store the model ([Trusted execution environment](#))
- › Secure computations during ASR ([Trusted Computing](#))



no leakage of trained model (and input data from that)



need sophisticated hardware

## › CONCLUSION

- › Speech data is sensitive personal information
- › We need a PET (federated learning, homomorphic encryption, MPC) for training distributed speech data.  
Trade-off: security (HE) vs. Scalability (FL)
- › If the model is sensitive, we need additional PETs for protecting it
- › If the recognised text is sensitive, we need additional PETS for protecting it



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**UW AANDACHT**

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