

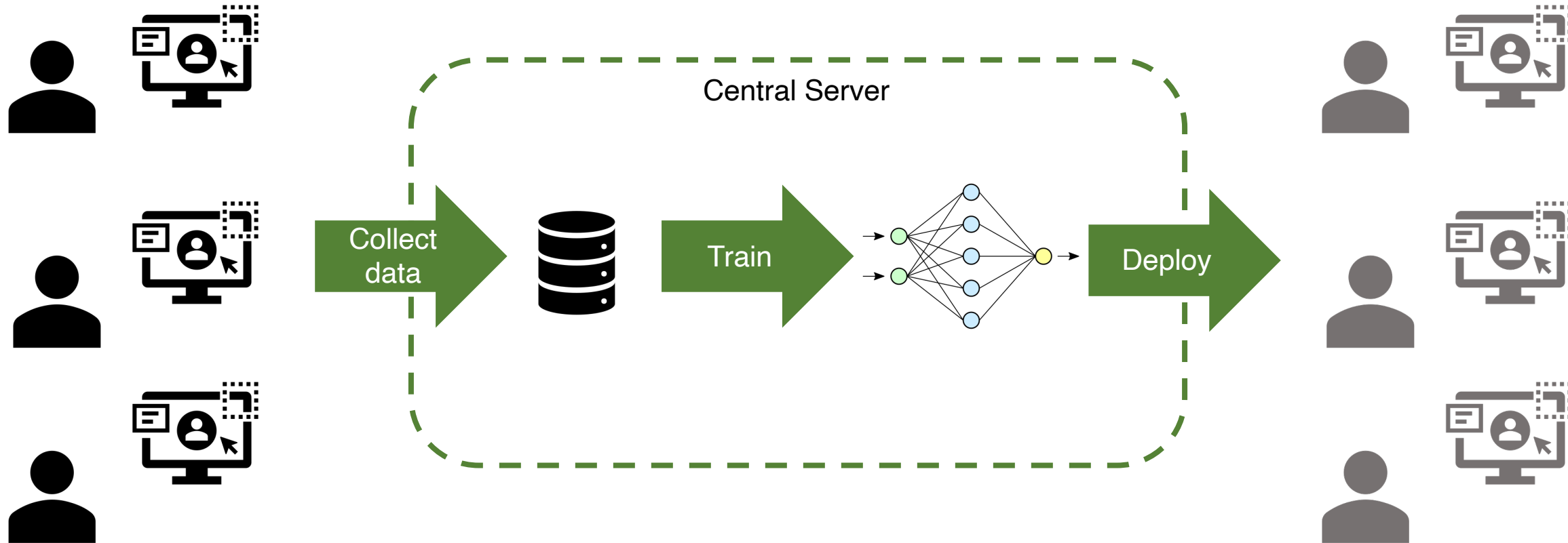
# Federated Adversarial Debiasing for Fair and Transferable Representations

Junyuan Hong<sup>1</sup>, Zhuangdi Zhu<sup>1</sup>, Shuyang Yu<sup>1</sup>, Zhangyang Wang<sup>2</sup>, Hiroko Dodge<sup>3</sup>, Jiayu Zhou<sup>1</sup>

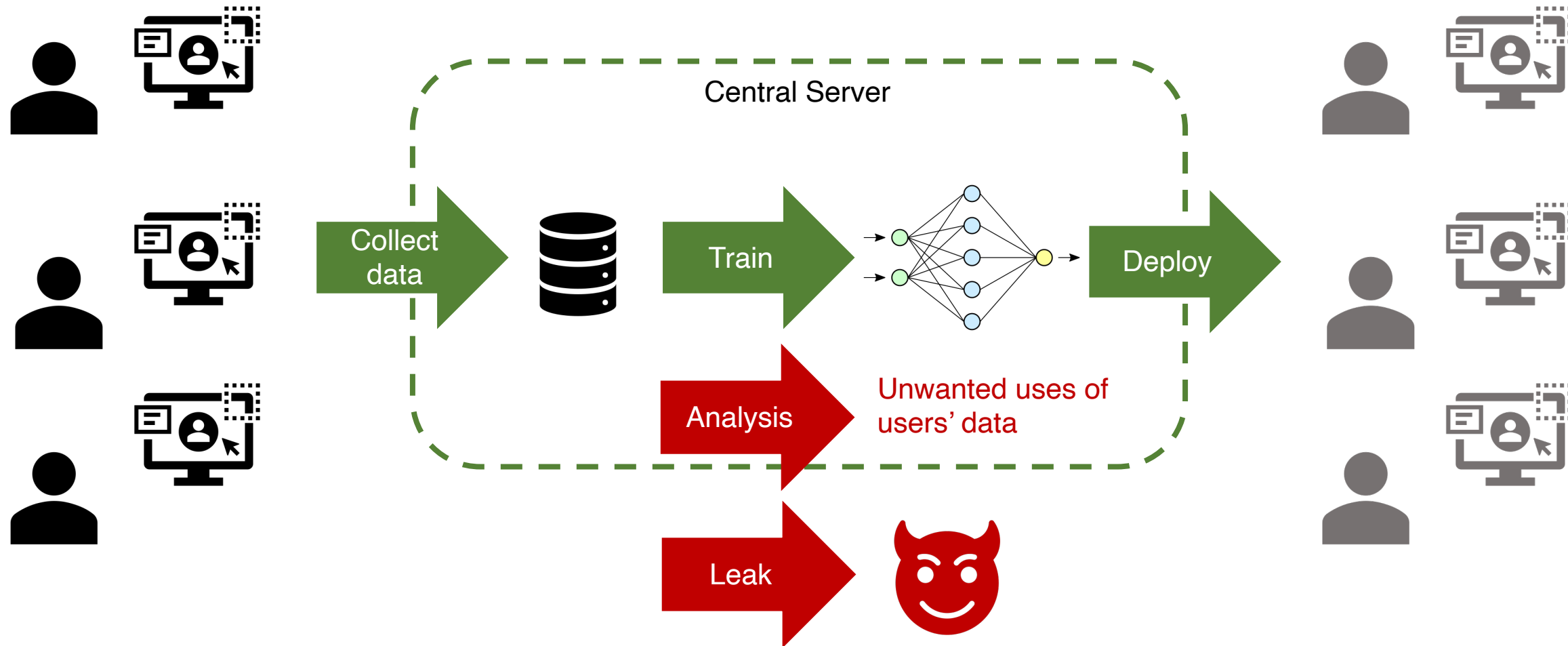
<sup>1</sup> Michigan State University, <sup>2</sup> University of Texas at Austin, <sup>3</sup> Oregon Health & Science University



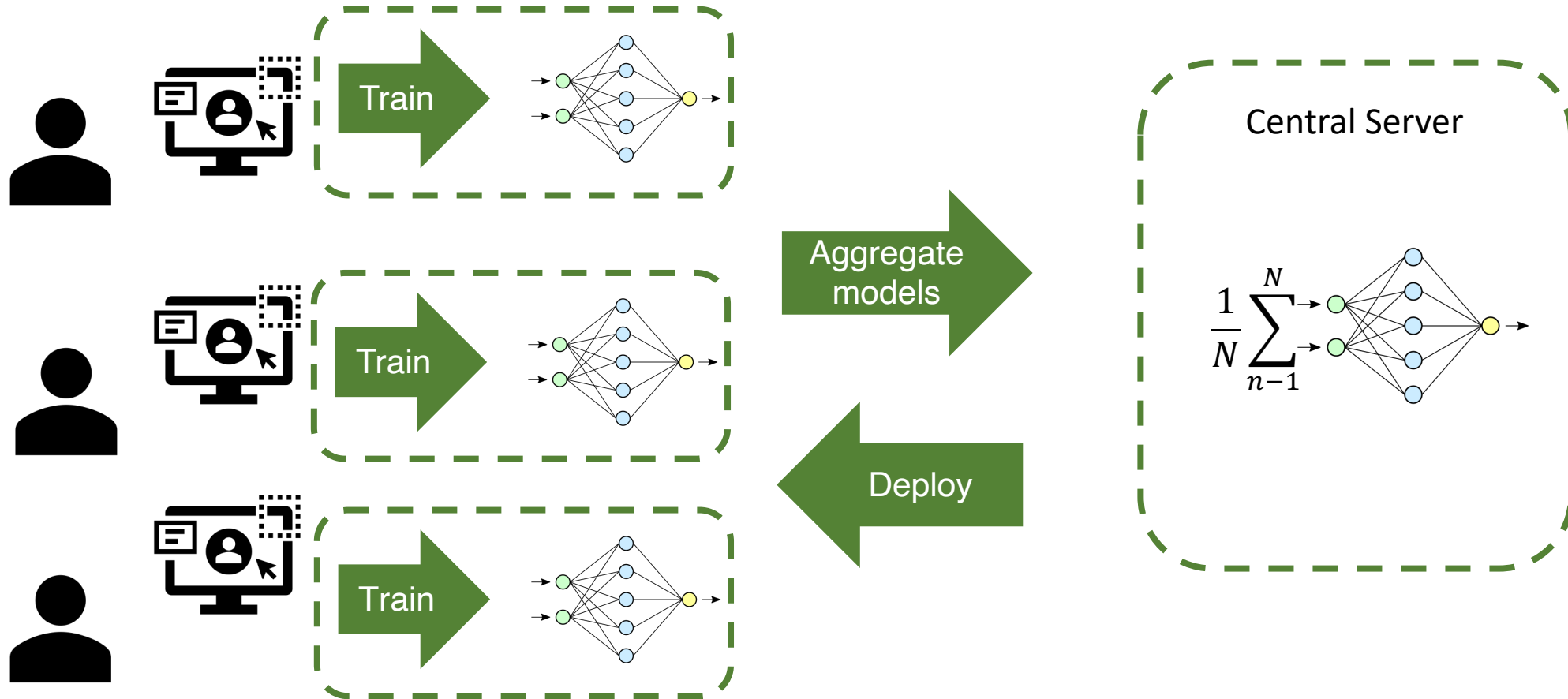
# Centralized Learning



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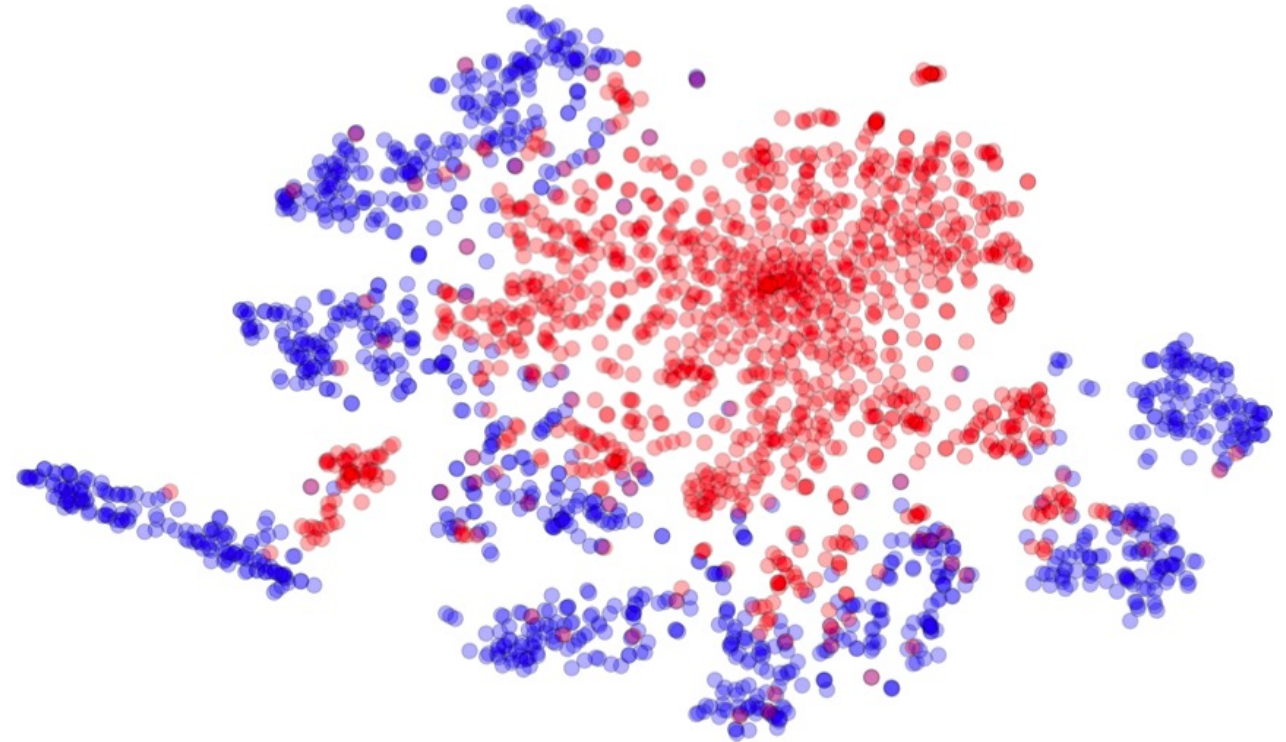
# Federated Learning (FL)



# Non-*i.i.d.* users in FL

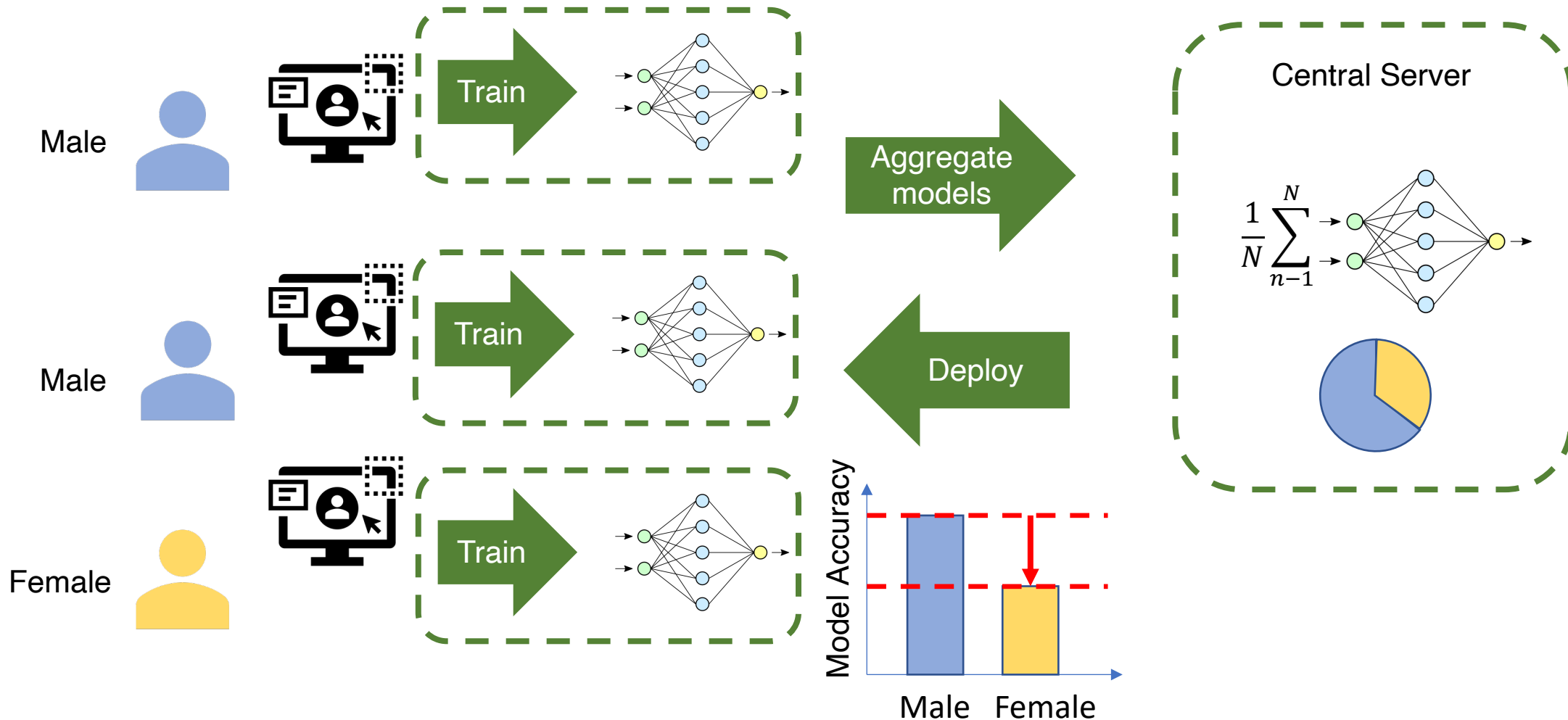
Examples:

- Data from different social groups
  - Genders, races
- Data from different sensors
  - Webcam v.s. prof. cam
  - Grey-scale v.s. color images

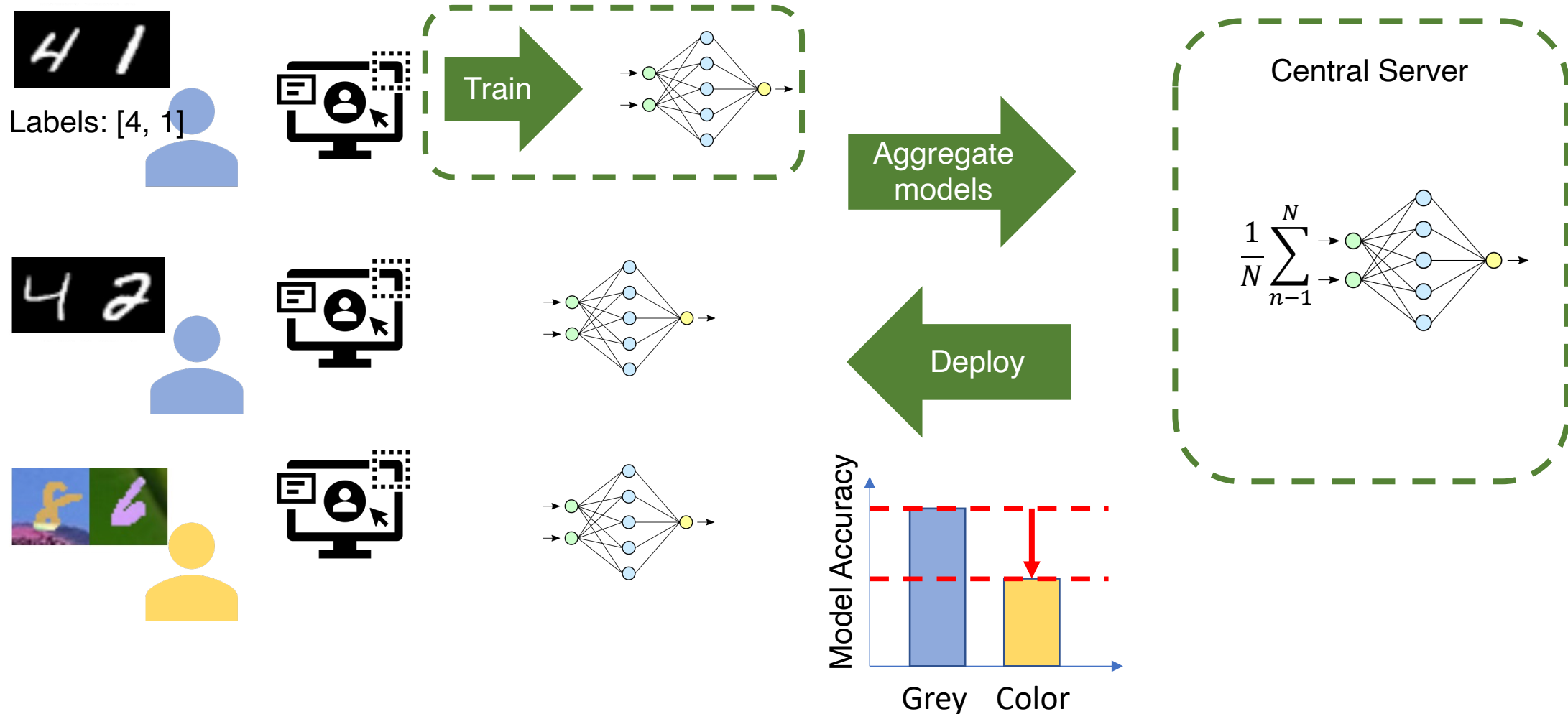


**Representation bias:** gray-scale v.s. color digit images (MNIST and MNIST-M) extracted by CNN models.  
Credit: Ganin, Y., & Lempitsky, V. (2015). Unsupervised Domain Adaptation by Backpropagation. *International Conference on Machine Learning*

# Group bias results in unfair models



# Domain bias results in non-transferable models



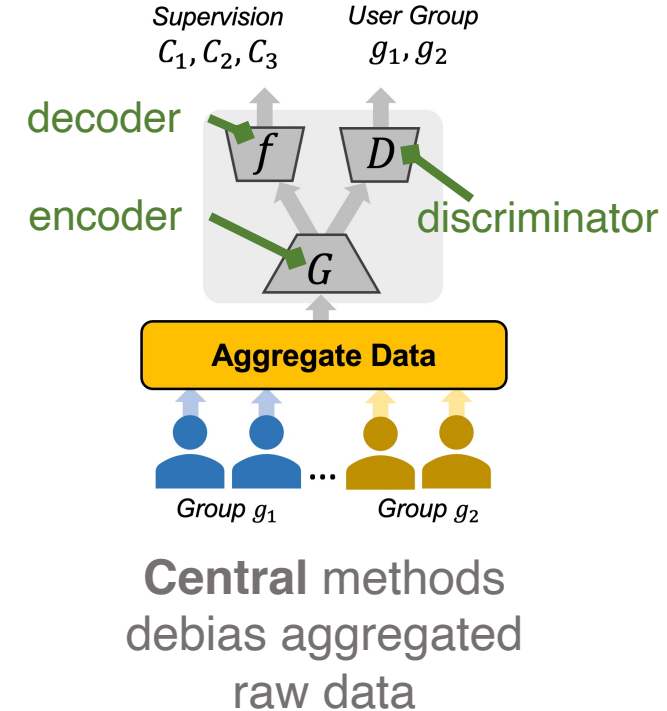
# Adversarial Debiasing

- Extract representations  $z = G(x)$  from two groups. Thus,  $z \sim p_1$  or  $z \sim p_2$
- Measure the group discrepancy:

$$D_{p_1, p_2} = \max_D \mathbb{E}_{p_1} [\log D(z)] + \mathbb{E}_{p_2} [\log(1 - D(z))],$$

- Update encoder to reduce bias

$$G = \arg \min_G D_{p_1, p_2}$$





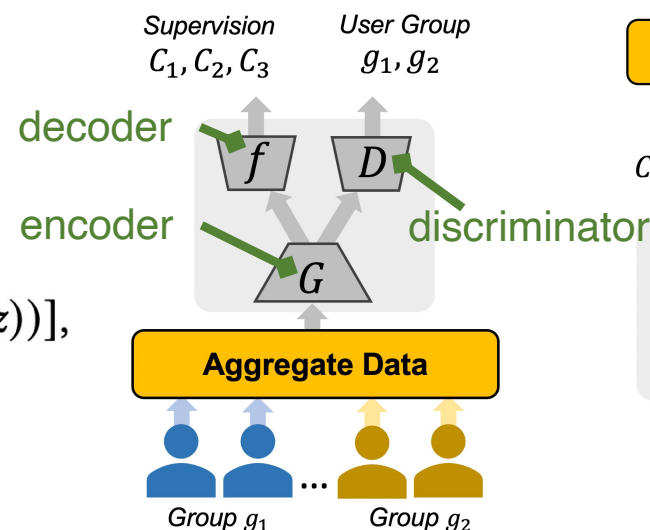
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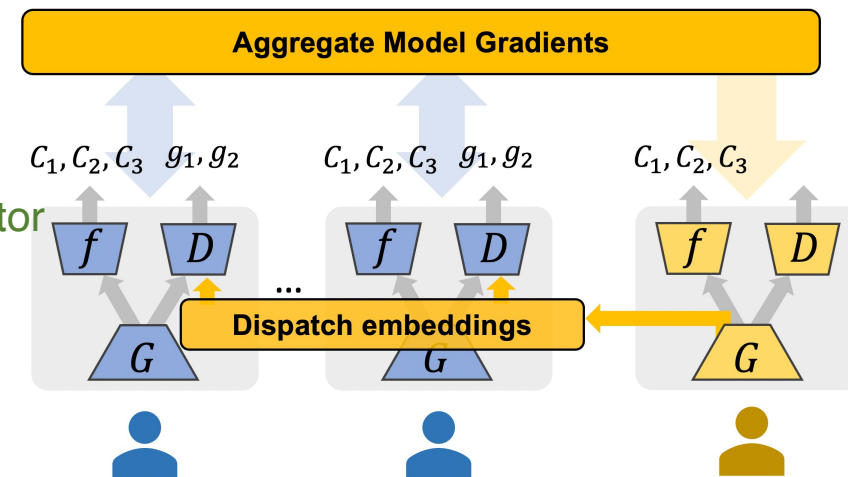
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**Central** methods debias aggregated raw data  
(Ganin, et al. 2015)



**FADA** debiases aggregated representation data  
(Peng, et al., 2019)

# Federated Adversarial Debiasing (FADE)

Desired properties:

- **Privacy**: Users do not share training data, intermediate representations or sensitive group attributes during learning.
- **Autonomous**: Users have the freedom to quit the adversarial game during training.
- **Satisfiable**: Adversarial game should be able to reach an equilibrium.

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Property	Central	FADA	FADE
Privacy	✗ (raw data)	✗ (representations & group attributes)	✓
Autonomous	✗	✗	✓
Satisfiable	✓	✓	✓

# Federated Adversarial Debiasing (FADE)

## Method

- **Privacy:** Each user train discriminators using local data only and encoders are supervised by shared discriminators.

- **Autonomous:** ...

- **Satisfiable:** ...

Local discrepancy w/o adversarial data

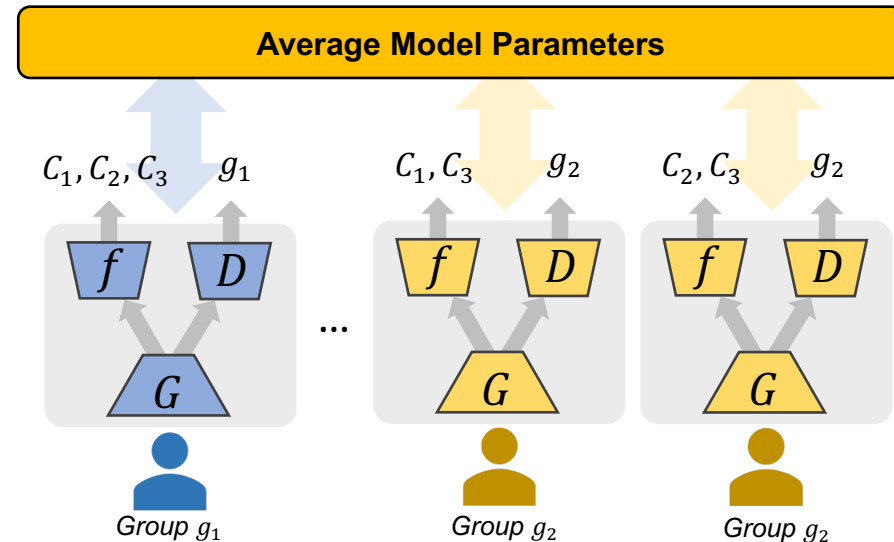
$$\text{user 1 (group 1)} \quad \mathbf{D}_{p_1, p_2} = \max_D \mathbb{E}_{p_1} [\log D(z)] + \mathbb{E}_{p_2} [\log(1 - D(z))]$$

$$\text{user 2 (group 2)} \quad \mathbf{D}_{p_1, p_2} = \max_D \mathbb{E}_{p_1} [\log D(z)] + \mathbb{E}_{p_2} [\log(1 - D(z))]$$

average

$$\mathbf{D}_{p_1, p_2} = \max_D \mathbb{E}_{p_1} [\log D(z)] + \mathbb{E}_{p_2} [\log(1 - D(z))]$$

Global discrepancy



# Federated Adversarial Debiasing (FADE)

## Method

- **Privacy:** Each user train discriminators using local data only and generators are supervised by shared discriminators.
- **Autonomous:** Users are allowed not to upload their local models per iteration.
- **Satisfiable:** Distribution matching is sufficient for adversarial optimality.

Central discrepancy

$$D_{p_1, p_2} = \max_D \mathbb{E}_{p_1} [\log D(z)] + \mathbb{E}_{p_2} [\log(1 - D(z))],$$

$\alpha_1$

$\alpha_2$

Uploading probability  
from group 2

Estimated global discrepancy

$$\tilde{D}_{p_1, p_2} = \max_D \alpha_1 \mathbb{E}_{p_1} [\log D(z)] + \alpha_2 \mathbb{E}_{p_2} [\log(1 - D(z))]$$

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Debias representations by estimated discrepancy

$$G = \arg \min_G \tilde{\mathbf{D}}_{p_1, p_2}$$

**Theorem 4.1.** *The condition  $p_1(z) = p_2(z)$  is a sufficient condition for minimizing  $\tilde{\mathbf{D}}_{p_1, p_2}$  and the minimal value is  $\alpha_1 \log \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 \log \alpha_2 + (\alpha_1 + \alpha_2) \log(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2)$ .*

# Theoretical Insights

- The estimated discrepancy will be less sensitive to the true distribution difference when two **groups are imbalanced**.
  - Lower uploading probability
  - Imbalanced numbers of users
- Mitigate the imbalance by squared adversarial loss

$$L_{i,g,2}^{\text{adv}}(D, G) = -\frac{1}{2} \left( L_{i,g}^{\text{adv}}(G, D) \right)^2,$$

- Class-wise non-*iid* may cause the loss of discrimination after debiasing.
- A class-conditioned regularization will mitigate the issue.

**Theorem 4.2.** *Let  $\epsilon$  be a positive constant. Suppose  $|\log p_1(x) - \log p_2(x)| \leq \epsilon$  for any  $x$  in the support of  $p_1$  and  $p_2$ . Then we have  $\tilde{D}_{p_1, p_2} = O(\alpha_1 \epsilon / (\alpha_1 + \alpha_2))$  when  $\alpha_1 \ll \alpha_2$ .*

# Unsupervised Domain Adaptation (UDA)

**Table 1: Averaged classification UDA accuracies (%) on Office and OfficeHome dataset with 3 non-iid target users and 1 source user. Underlines indicate the occurrence of non-converged results. Standard deviations are included in brackets.**

Method	A→D	A→W	D→A	D→W	W→A	W→D	Re→Ar	Re→Cl	Re→Pr	Avg.
<b>Federated methods</b>										
Source only	79.5	73.4	59.6	91.6	58.2	95.8	67.0	46.5	78.2	72.2
non-iid target users w/ 20 (Office) or 45 (OfficeHome) classes per user										
FADE-DANN	85.4 (1.9)	81.8 (1.8)	<u>43.1 (33)</u>	97.7 (0.5)	64.8 (0.5)	99.7 (0.2)	<u>46.4 (37)</u>	<u>34.9 (27)</u>	78.8 (0.1)	70.3
FADE-CDAN	<b>92.3 (1.2)</b>	<b>91.6 (0.5)</b>	<b>65.9 (9.3)</b>	<b>98.9 (0.2)</b>	<b>70.2 (0.8)</b>	<b>99.9 (0.1)</b>	70.3 (1.6)	54.9 (4.6)	<b>82.2 (0.1)</b>	80.7
FedAvg-SHOT	83.6 (0.5)	83.1 (0.5)	64.7 (1.4)	91.7 (0.2)	64.7 (2.2)	97.4 (0.5)	<b>70.7 (0.5)</b>	<b>55.4 (0.5)</b>	80.1 (0.3)	76.8
iid target users										
FADE-DANN	84.2 (1.5)	81.3 (0.4)	66.3 (0.3)	97.5 (1.2)	59.4 (10.6)	99.9 (0.2)	67.3 (0.9)	51.3 (0.4)	79.0 (0.6)	76.2
FADE-CDAN	<b>93.6 (0.8)</b>	<b>92.2 (1.3)</b>	<b>71.2 (1.0)</b>	<b>98.7 (0.4)</b>	<b>71.3 (0.7)</b>	<b>100 (0.0)</b>	70.6 (1.3)	55.1 (1.0)	<b>82.3 (0.2)</b>	81.7
FedAvg-SHOT	<b>96.3 (0.5)</b>	<b>94.3 (1.1)</b>	70.9 (2.0)	98.4 (0.4)	<b>72.7 (0.9)</b>	99.8 (0.0)	<b>74.8 (0.3)</b>	<b>60.0 (0.1)</b>	<b>84.9 (0.2)</b>	83.6
<b>Central methods</b>										
ResNet [15]	68.9	68.4	62.5	96.7	60.7	99.3	53.9	41.2	59.9	67.9
Source only [23]	80.8	76.9	60.3	95.3	63.6	98.7	65.3	45.4	78.0	73.8
DANN [11]	79.7	82.0	68.2	96.9	67.4	99.1	63.2	51.8	76.8	76.1
CDAN [28]	92.9	<b>94.1</b>	71.0	<b>98.6</b>	69.3	<b>100</b>	70.9	56.7	81.6	81.7
SHOT [23]	<b>94.0</b>	90.1	<b>74.7</b>	98.4	<b>74.3</b>	99.9	<b>73.3</b>	<b>58.8</b>	<b>84.3</b>	<b>83.1</b>

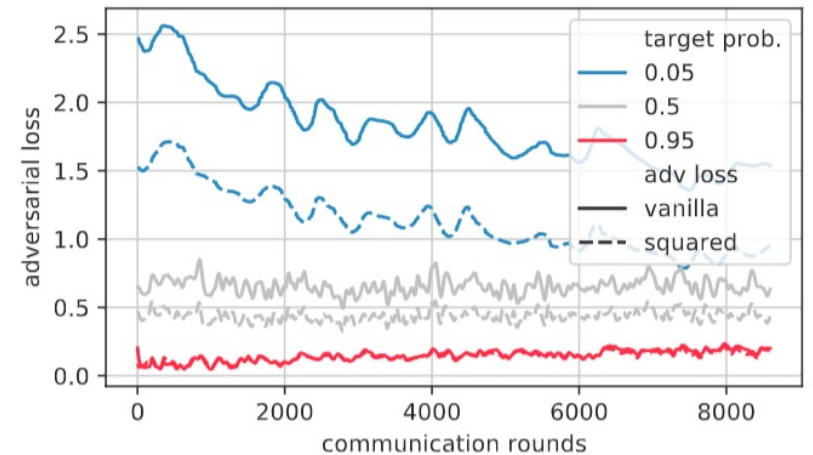
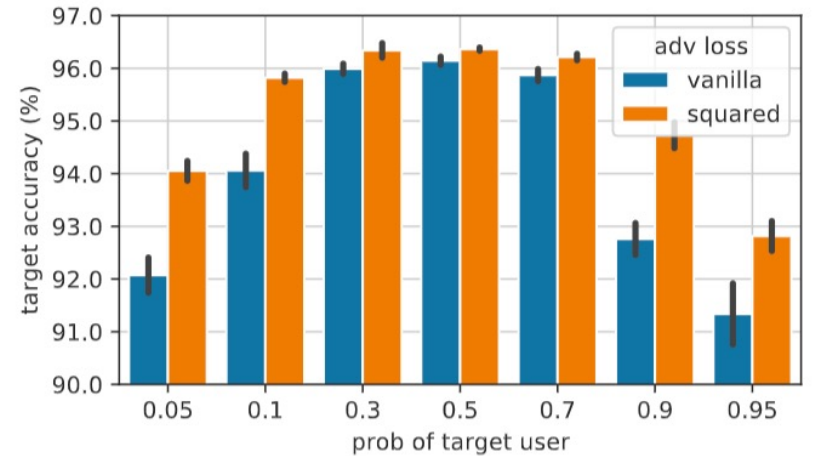


# Unsupervised Domain Adaptation (UDA) with imbalanced source/target users

- Imbalance results in large adv. loss.
- Squared loss design: further increase the loss value if the loss is large.

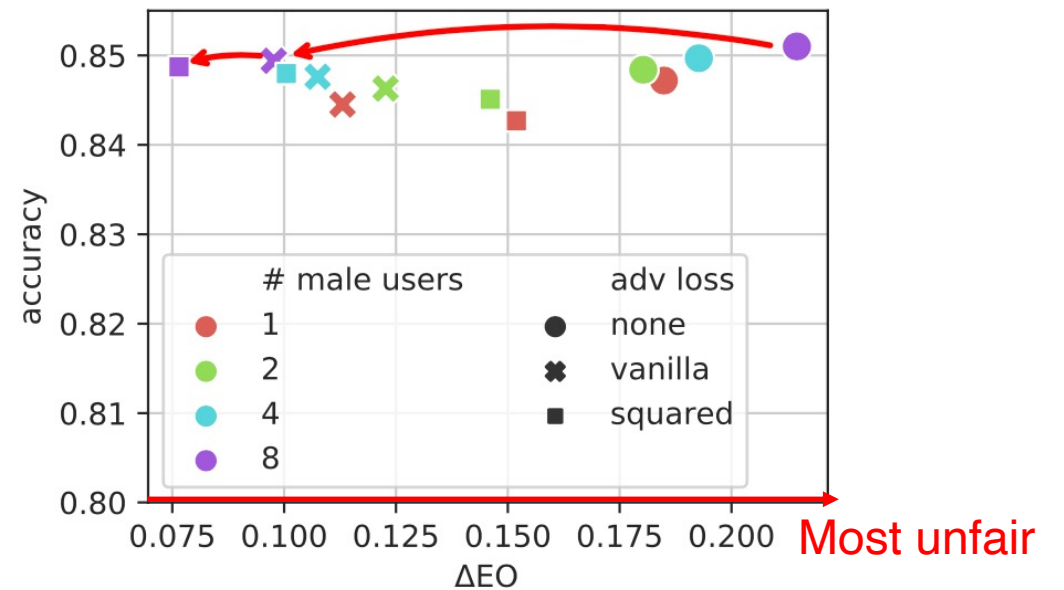
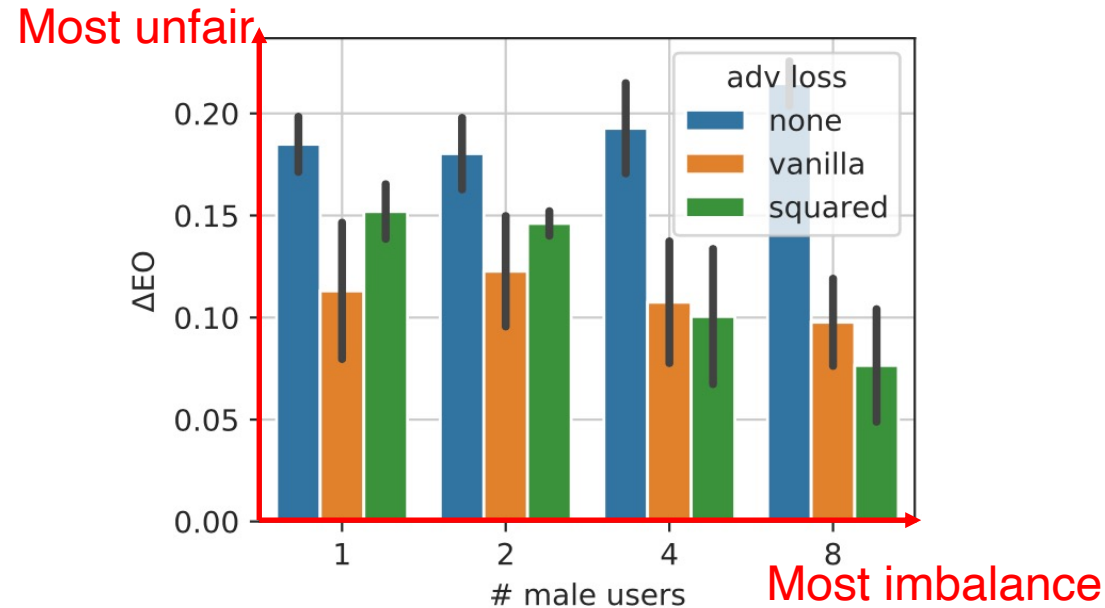
$$L_{i,g}^{\text{adv}}(G, D) = \mathbb{E}_{x \sim p_i(x)} \left[ \mathbb{I}(g = 0) \log D(G(x)) + \mathbb{I}(g = 1) \log(1 - D(G(x))) \right],$$

$$L_{i,g,2}^{\text{adv}}(D, G) = -\frac{1}{2} \left( L_{i,g}^{\text{adv}}(G, D) \right)^2,$$



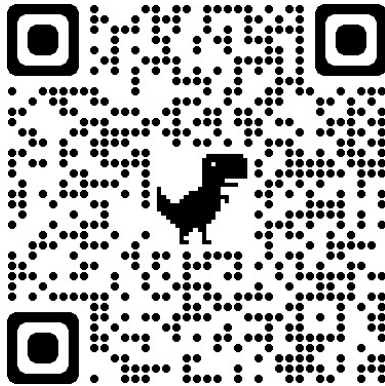
USPS -> MNIST

# Fair learning with imbalanced female/male users



Adult dataset with fairness on male/female groups

# Thank You!



Codes: <https://github.com/illidanlab/FADE>

## Acknowledgement

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