

# Tensor Decomposition Methods for Cybersecurity

Maksim E. Eren  
Advanced Research in Cyber Systems (A-4)  
& **CSEE, UMBC**

March 12, 24

LA-UR-23-32504



Network Anomaly Detection



User Behavior Analysis



SPAM E-Mail Detection



Credit Card Fraud Detection



Malware/Benign-ware Identification



Malware Family Classification



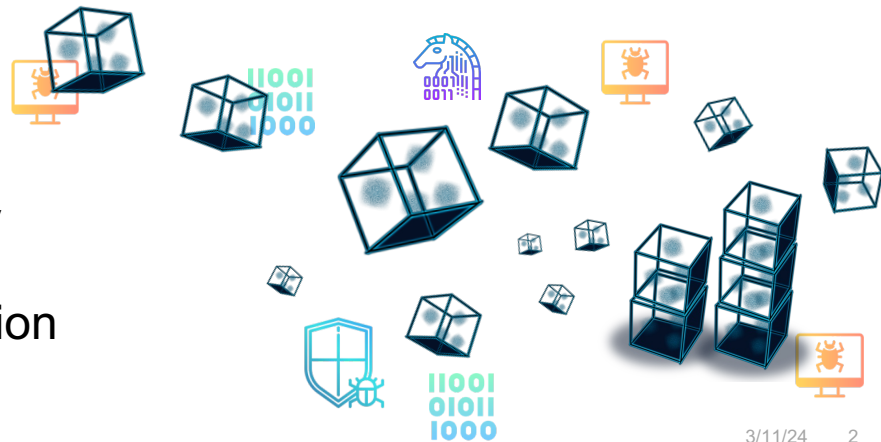
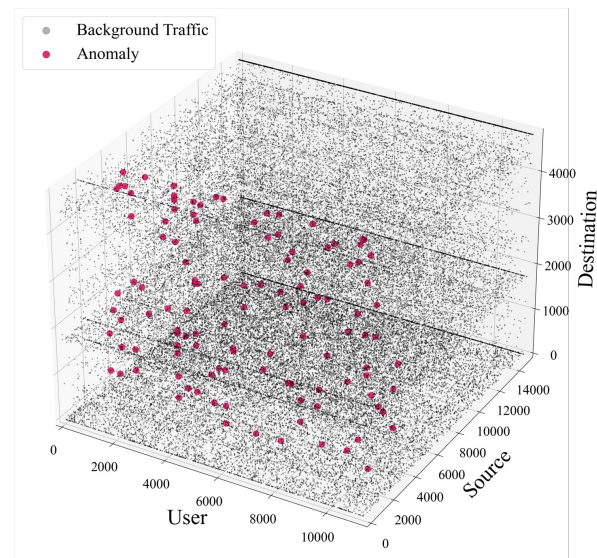
Novel Malware Detection



Federated Learning for Data Privacy



Power Grid/SCADA Anomaly Detection





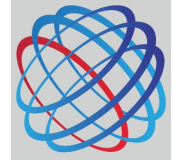
*Multi-Dimensional Anomalous Entity Detection via Poisson Tensor Factorization [1]*



*MTEM '21: Random Forest of Tensors [5]*



[2,3]



*MTEM '22: Malware Antivirus Scan Pattern Mining via Tensor Decomposition [4]*



*Electrical Grid Anomaly Detection via Tensor Decomposition [6]*



*General-Purpose Unsupervised Cyber Anomaly Detection via Non-Negative Tensor Factorization [18]*



*Catch'em all: Classification of Rare, Prominent, and Novel Malware Families [36]*



*One-Shot Federated Group Collaborative Filtering [7]*



*Malware-DNA: Machine Learning for Malware Analysis that Treats Malware as Mutations in the Software Genome* [8]



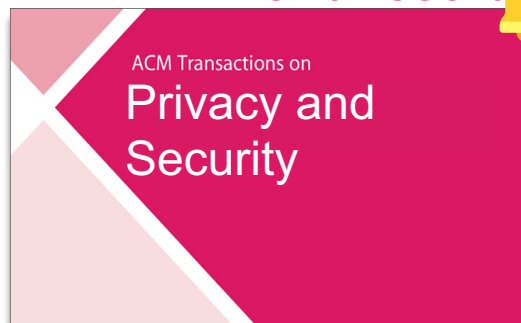
March 7 - 9, 2023 | Santa Fe, New Mexico  
Exploring Data-Focused Research across the Department of Energy

*Malware-DNA: Machine Learning for Malware Analysis that Treats Malware as Mutations in the Software Genome*

**SPRINGER**  
**NATURE**

*Classifying Malware Using Tensor Decomposition. Malware - Handbook of Prevention and Detection* [37]

World record 

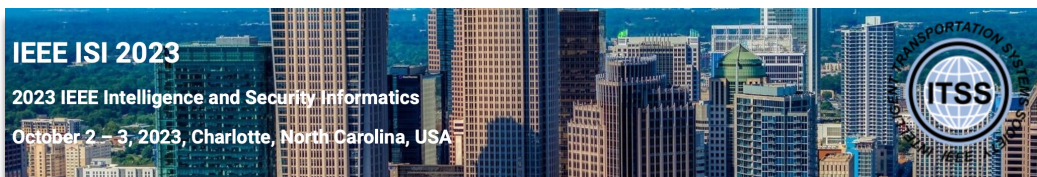


*Semi-supervised Classification of Malware Families Under Extreme Class Imbalance via Hierarchical Non-Negative Matrix Factorization with Automatic Model Selection* [9]



**Patent**

*Data Identification and Classification Method, Apparatus, and System, US, Provisional Patent 63/472,188* [10]

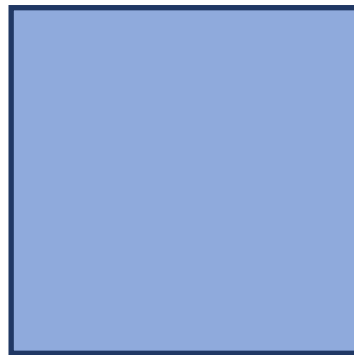


*MalwareDNA: Simultaneous Classification of Malware, Malware Families, and Novel Malware* [11]



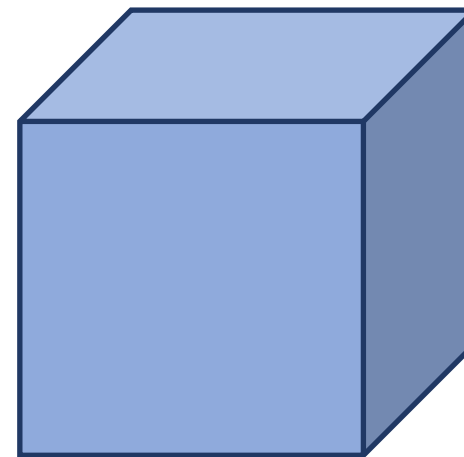
Vector  
 $d = 1$

$$\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_1}$$



Matrix  
 $d = 2$

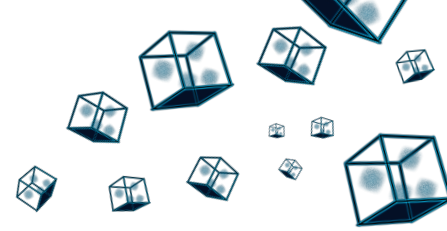
$$\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_1 \times N_2}$$



3-Dimensional Tensor  
 $d = 3$

$$\mathbf{\chi} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_1 \times N_2 \times N_3}$$

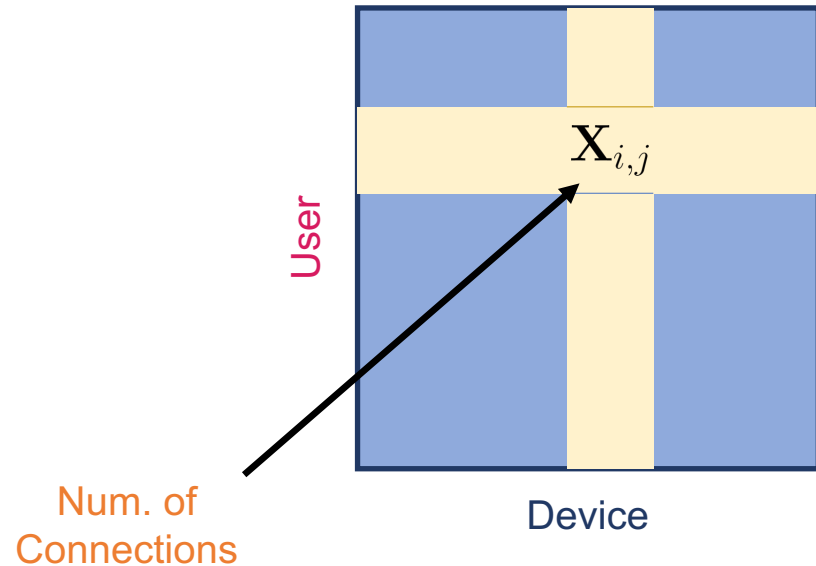
# Matrices (2-Dimensional Tensor)



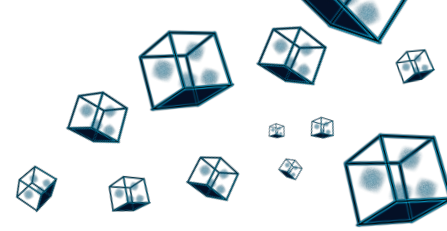
Dimensions: User x Device

Entry: Number of Connections

$$\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_1 \times N_2}$$



# Tensors (3+ Dimensions)

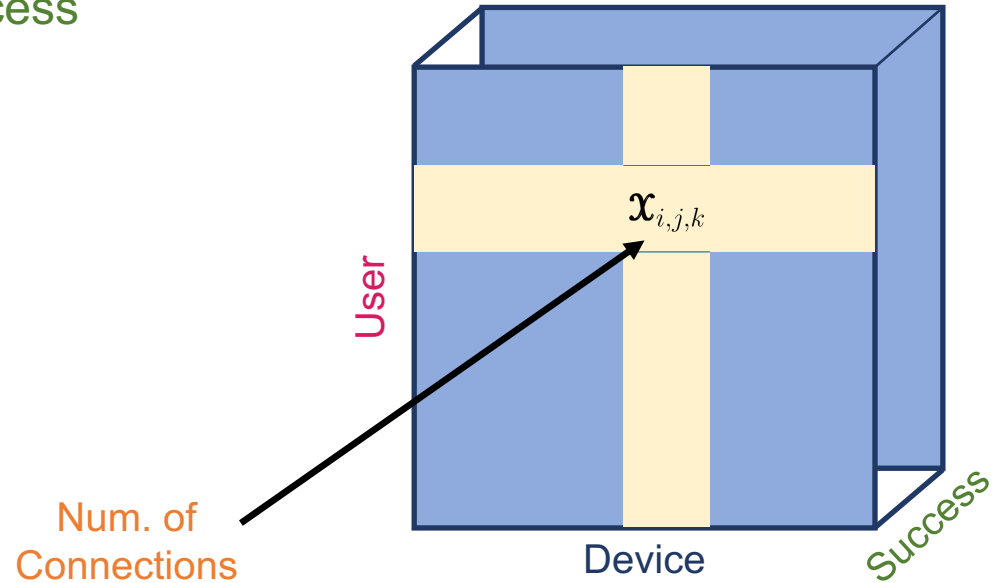


Num. Dimensions ( $d$ ) = 3

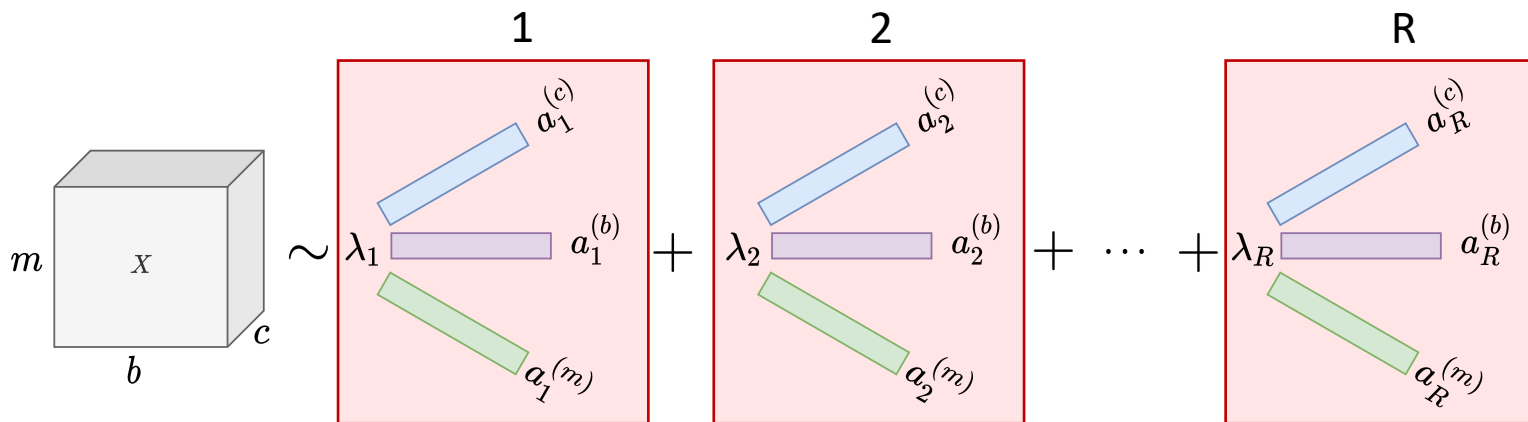
Dimensions: User x Device x Success

Entry: Number of Connections

$$\mathcal{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_1 \times N_2 \times N_3}$$



# CANDECOMP/PARAFAC Decomposition (CPD)



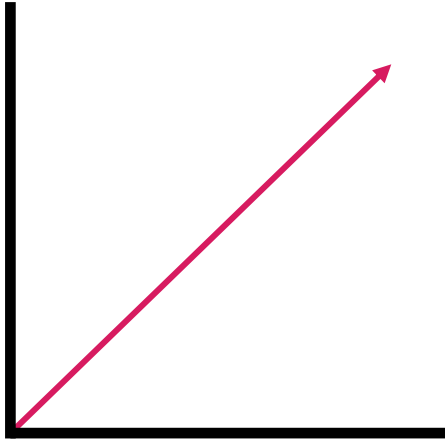
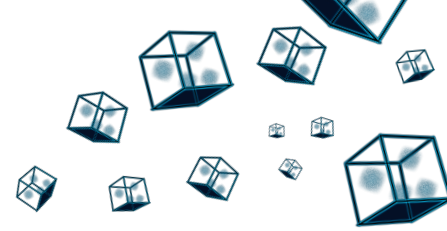
$$\mathcal{X} \approx \sum_{r=1}^R \lambda_r \cdot \mathbf{a}_r^{(m)} \circ \mathbf{a}_r^{(b)} \circ \mathbf{a}_r^{(c)}$$

$$\mathcal{X} \approx \mathcal{M} \equiv [\lambda ; \mathbf{A}^{(m)}, \mathbf{A}^{(b)}, \mathbf{A}^{(c)}]$$

$$\mathbf{A}^{(d)} = [\mathbf{a}_1^{(d)}, \mathbf{a}_2^{(d)}, \dots, \mathbf{a}_R^{(d)}]$$



# Hidden Patterns?

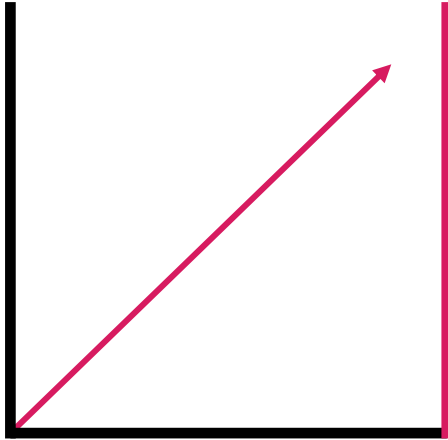
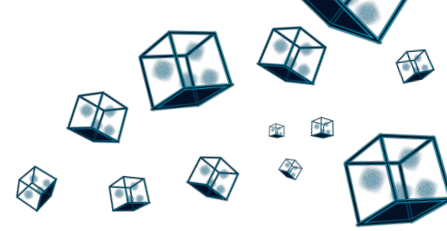


- Observable variables are often not that useful  
**Increase in ice cream consumption →**  
**Increase in shark attacks**

**Huh?**



# Hidden Patterns?



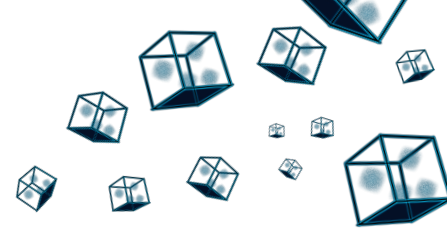
- Hidden patterns and correlations  
**Useful for actionable results**  
**Modeling data**  
**Decision making**



[35]

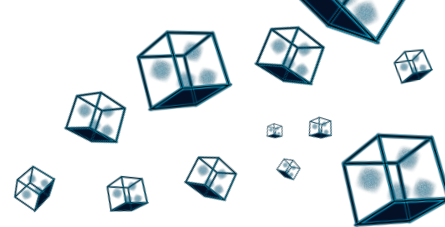
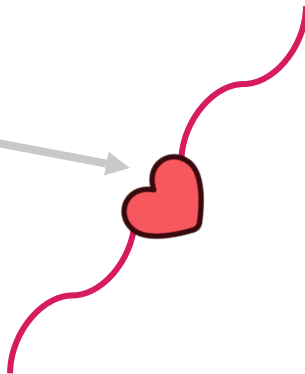
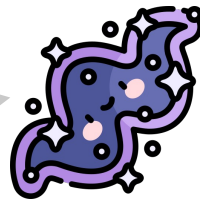
# Accurate Data Modeling

Nikon Z5, ISO 2500, f1.8, 15s - White Rock, Overlook, NM



# Accurate Data Modeling

Nikon Z5, ISO 2500, f1.8, 15s - White Rock, Overlook, NM



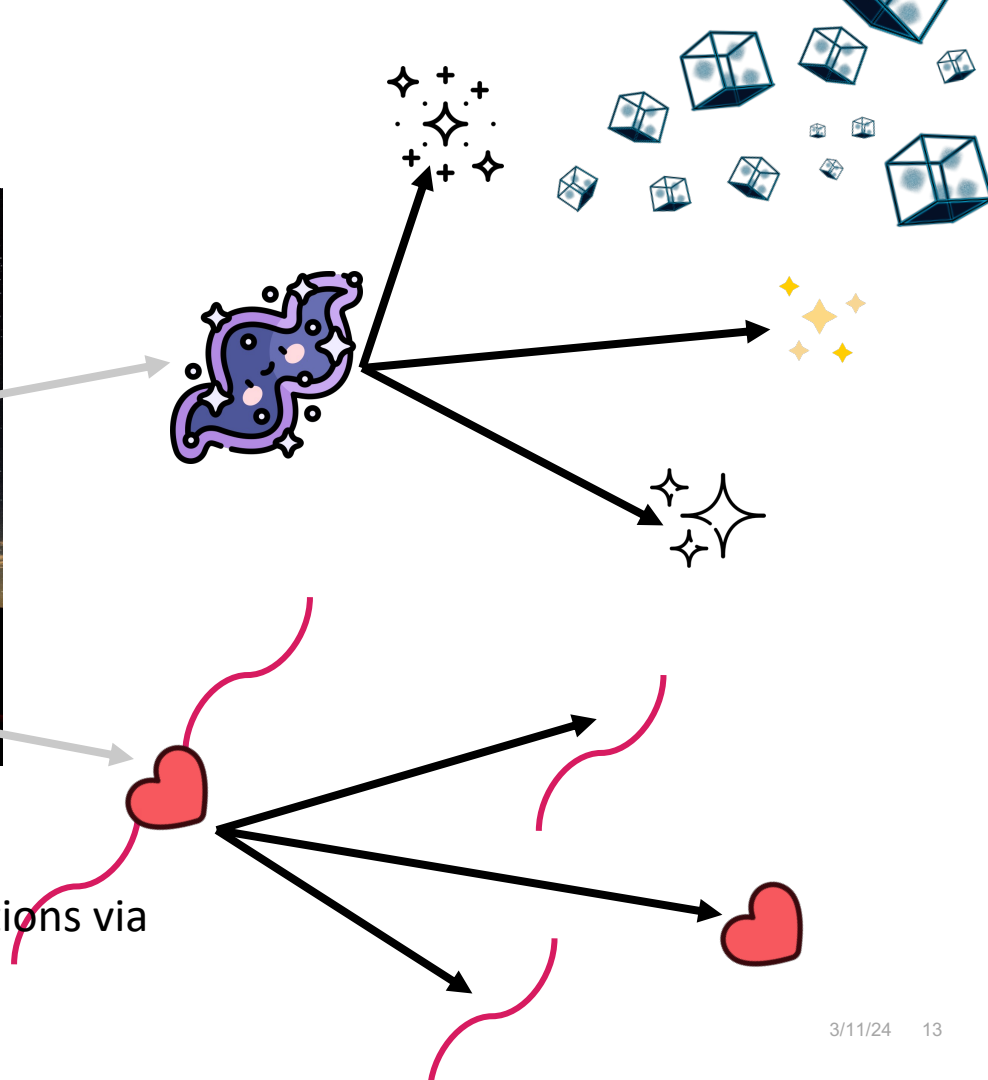
# Accurate Data Modeling

Nikon Z5, ISO 2500, f1.8, 15s - White Rock, Overlook, NM

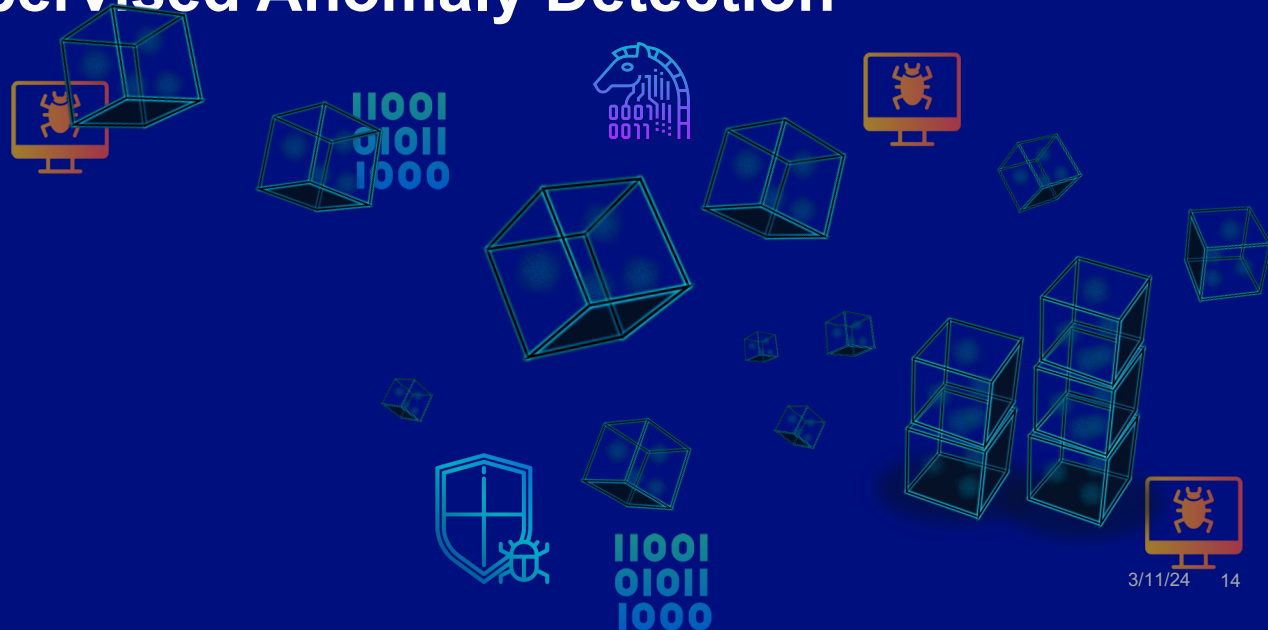


## Automatic Model Determination:

Estimates the number of latent features using the **stability and accuracy** of the solutions via a **bootstrap approach**



# Unsupervised Anomaly Detection



# Detecting malicious anomalies is a significant challenge

**81%**

of the cyber espionage breaches involved phishing

[12]

**\$3.86 million**

average cost of a single security breach

[13]

**80%**

of data breaches involved compromised credentials

[14]

**9%**

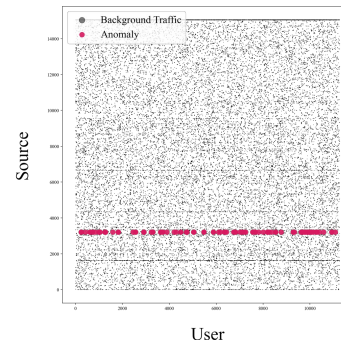
of the attacks generated alerts

[15]

# Motivation

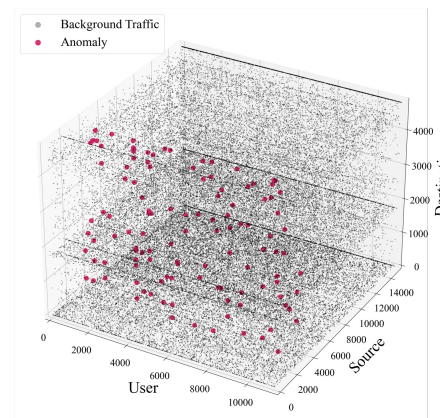
## Traditional anomaly detection methods:

- User Behavior Analysis based on **matrix factorization is limited to 2 dimensions**
- Popular **Machine Learning models are black-box**
- **Rule-based indicators can fail** to detect zero day attacks
- Supervised solutions need **immense amount of labeled data**



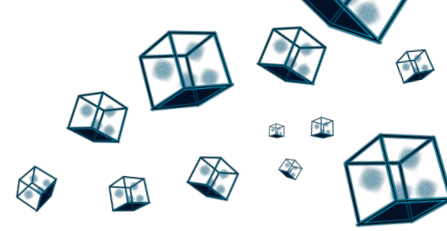
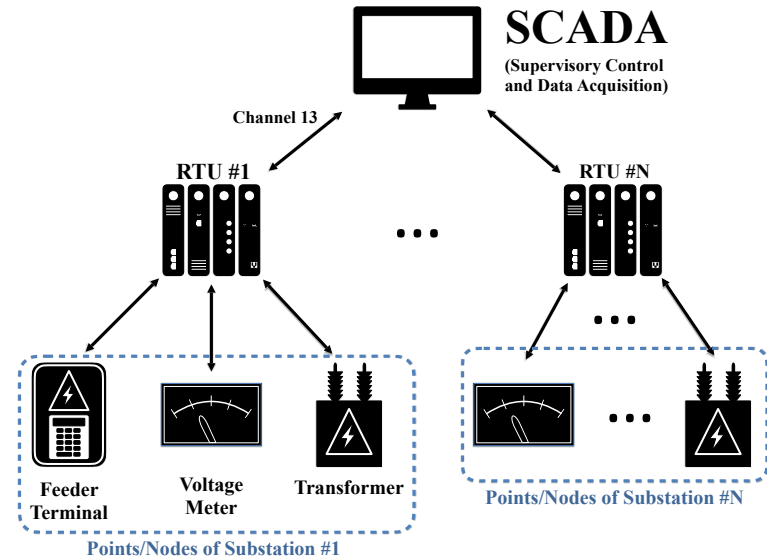
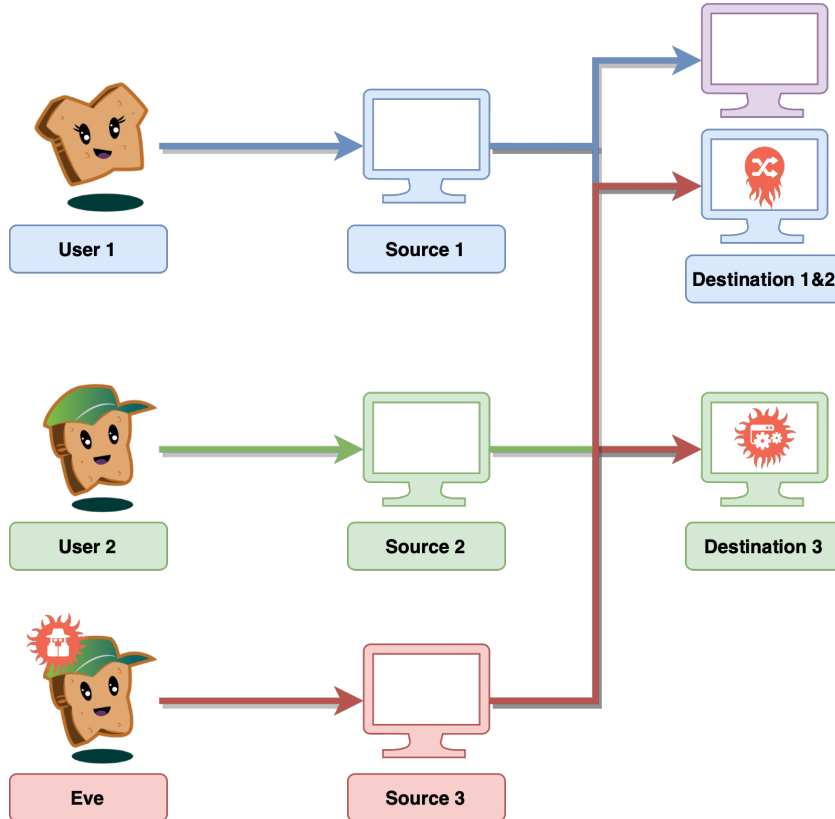
## Non-negative Tensor decomposition for anomaly detection:

- **Model multi-dimensional activity profile** of the network events
- Produces **interpretable results**
- Detects a **few anomalies hidden in a large REAL world data**
- **Generalize to unseen types of attacks** that are out of the norm

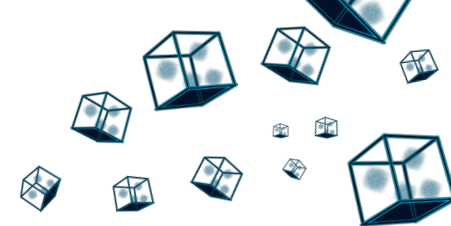




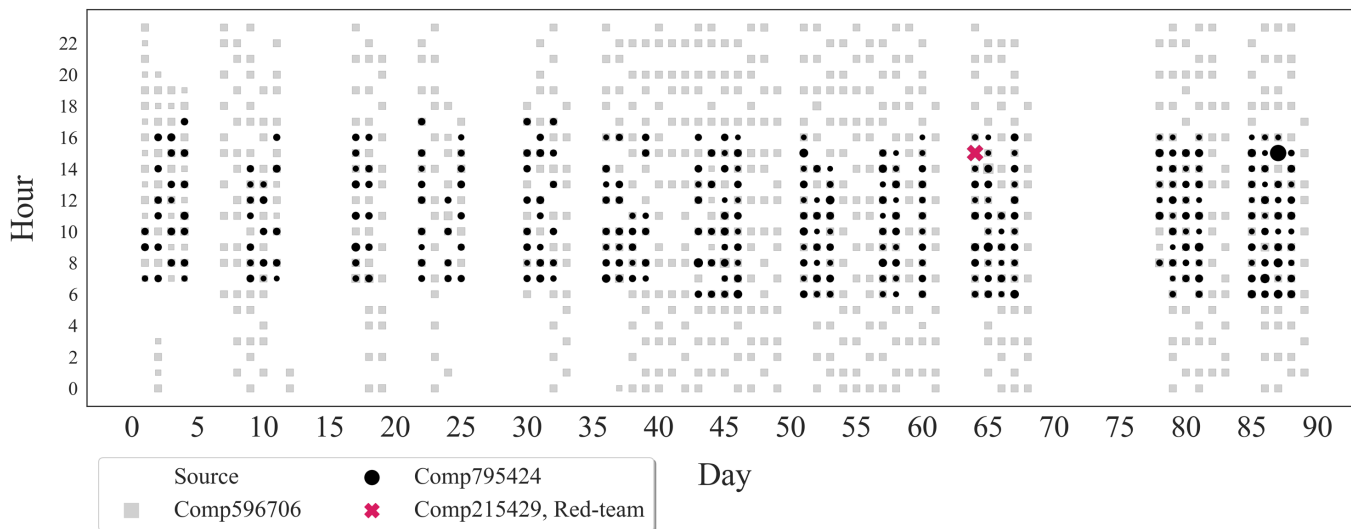
# What do we want to detect?



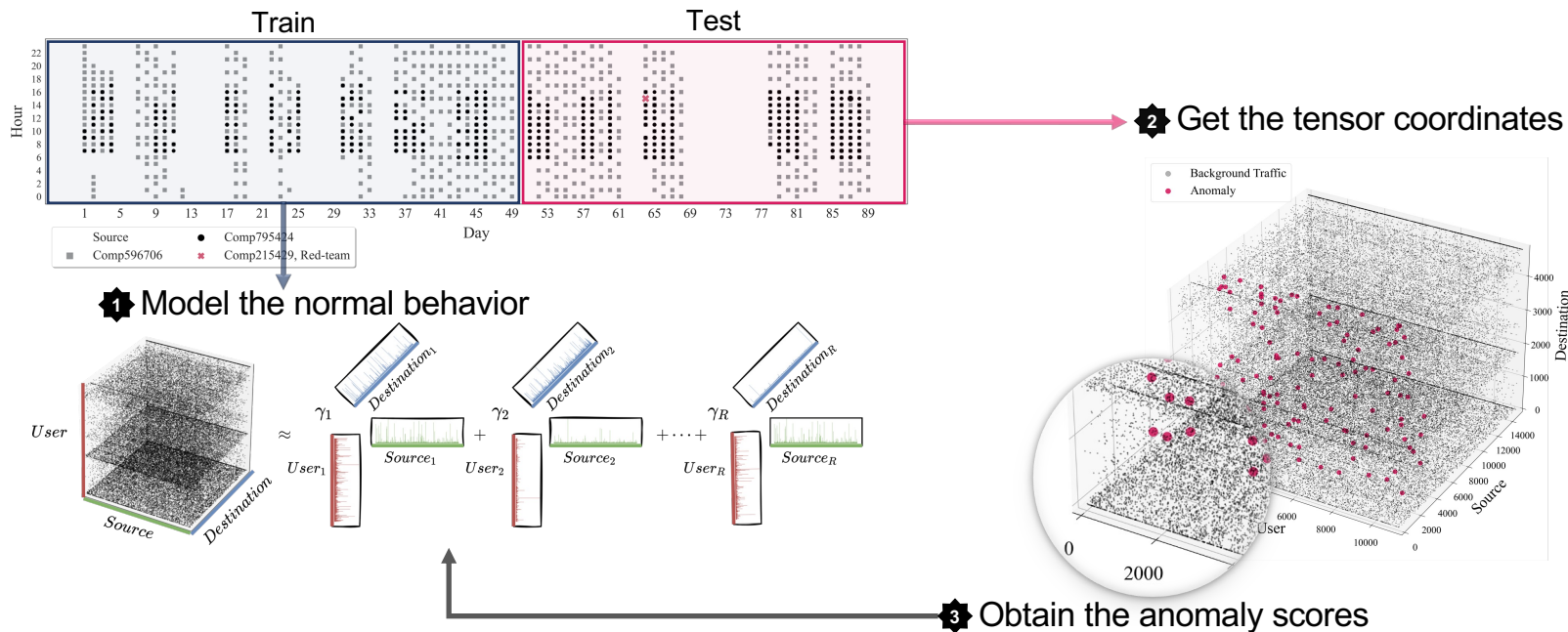
# User Network Patterns



Users/devices create **predictable patterns in time**



# General Unsupervised Anomaly Detection Framework



# Tensor Details

Table 1. Tensor details and test set p-value statistics for anomalous and benign events

Dataset & Tensor	Tensor Details			Anomaly p-value			Benign p-value		
	Dimensions Size	% Non-Zero	Decomposed Rank	Mean	Std	Count	Mean	Std	Count
<b>LANL US</b>	11260 x 15055	$2.57 \times 10^{-4}$	20	.1993	.3253	76	.8945	.2421	31,241
<b>LANL UD</b>	11260 x 4796	$1.51 \times 10^{-3}$	20	.6399	.3315	117	.9489	.1829	69,596
<b>LANL USDs</b>	11260 x 15055 x 4796 x 2	$1.02 \times 10^{-7}$	4	.2721	.4090	119	.9575	.1677	125,166
<b>LANL USDHs</b>	11260 x 15055 x 4796 x 24 x 2	$3.04 \times 10^{-8}$	5	.1062	.2621	137	.9801	.1215	955,808
<b>LANL USDHDs</b>	11260 x 15055 x 4796 x 24 x 7 x 2	$1.60 \times 10^{-8}$	45	.0175	.0765	138	.9946	.0664	3,513,527
<b>UGR'16 Neris 3&amp;2 Octet Src&amp;Dest IP Map</b>	7453770 x 65536 x 24 x 7	$7.32 \times 10^{-7}$	8	.0465	.1998	3,001	.9717	.1516	20,117,426
<b>UGR'16 Neris 20-Bits IP Map</b>	655360 x 522429 x 24 x 7	$1.04 \times 10^{-6}$	10	.0262	.1425	6,381	.9659	.1478	23,383,989
<b>UGR'16 Neris 24-Bits IP Map</b>	3865526 x 848382 x 24 x 7	$1.09 \times 10^{-7}$	7	.1464	.3008	2,369	.9822	.1034	21,847,564
<b>UGR'16 Neris 4 Character IP Hash Map</b>	65536 x 65536 x 24 x 7	$8.04 \times 10^{-5}$	10	.0292	.1246	8,381	.9447	.2065	23,189,409
<b>UGR'16 Neris 5 Character IP Hash Map</b>	1048487 x 663889 x 24 x 7	$5.16 \times 10^{-7}$	7	.0330	.1599	5,781	.9732	.1262	23,250,847
<b>UGR'16 Neris 6 Character IP Hash Map</b>	7477572 x 1019015 x 24 x 7	$4.72 \times 10^{-8}$	6	.2813	.4315	495	.9857	.0922	19,481,318
<b>UGR'16 Spam E-Mail</b>	55287 x 65536 x 24 x 7	$2.66 \times 10^{-5}$	20	.3814	.2165	2,495	.9791	.1220	1,909,544
<b>PaySim Credit Card</b>	100 x 5 x 24 x 7 x 100 x 100	$9.00 \times 10^{-6}$	25	.6826	.4387	4,391	.9998	.0058	1,224

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UGR'16 Neris 4 Character IP Hash Map	65536 x 65536 x 24 x 7	$8.04 \times 10^{-5}$	10	.0292	.1246	8,381	.9447	.2065	23,189,409
UGR'16 Neris 5 Character IP Hash Map	1048487 x 663889 x 24 x 7	$5.16 \times 10^{-7}$	7	.0330	.1599	5,781	.9732	.1262	23,250,847
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Extremely Sparse

Large-scale analysis:  
tensors with up to 6 dimensions

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Hunting for the needles  
in a haystack

# Tensor Details

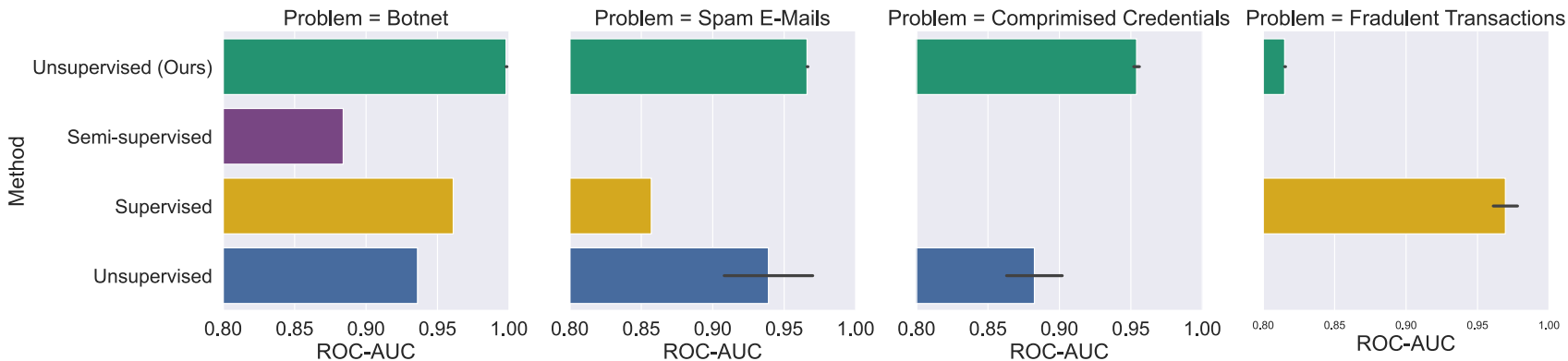
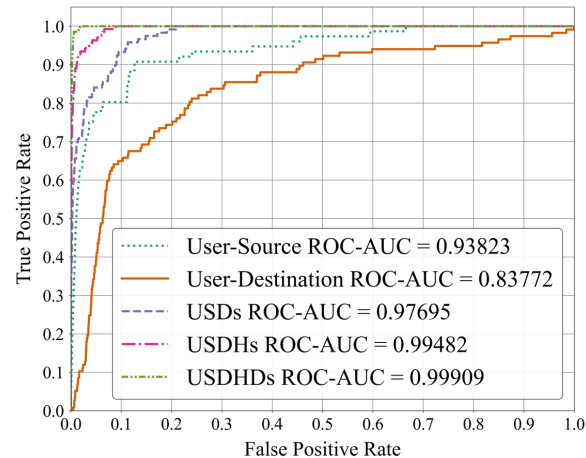
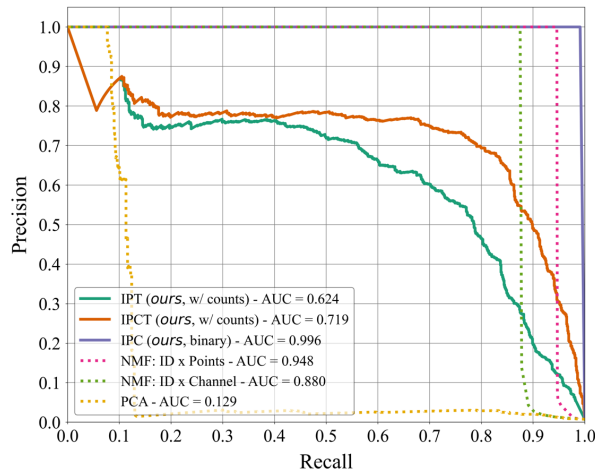
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- 1) User – Source – Destination - status
- 2) User – Source – Destination – Hour - status
- 3) User – Source – Destination – Hour – Day - status

Adding temporal information to the tensor makes the model more certain

# Performance

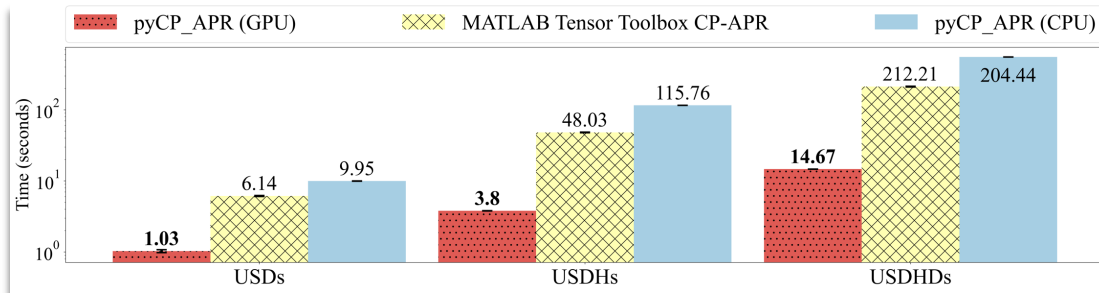




# Public Dataset & Software



[csr.lanl.gov/data/2017/](https://csr.lanl.gov/data/2017/)



## Chapter 1

### Unified Host and Network Data Set

Melissa J. M. Turcotte<sup>\*,‡</sup>, Alexander D. Kent<sup>\*</sup> and Curtis Hash<sup>†</sup>

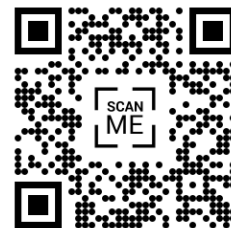
<sup>\*</sup>Los Alamos National Laboratory,

Los Alamos, NM 87545, USA

<sup>†</sup>Ernst & Young, New Mexico, USA

<sup>‡</sup>mturcotte@lanl.gov

The lack of data sets derived from operational enterprise networks continues to be a critical deficiency in the cyber-security research community. Unfortunately, releasing viable data sets to the larger community is challenging for a number of reasons, primarily the difficulty of balancing security and privacy concerns against the fidelity and utility of the data. This chapter discusses the importance of cyber-security research data sets and introduces a large data set derived from the operational network environment at Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). The hope is that this data set and associated discussion will act as a catalyst for both new research in cyber-security as well as motivation for other organisations to release similar data sets to the community.



[github.com/lanl/pyCP\\_APR](https://github.com/lanl/pyCP_APR)

# Data Privacy



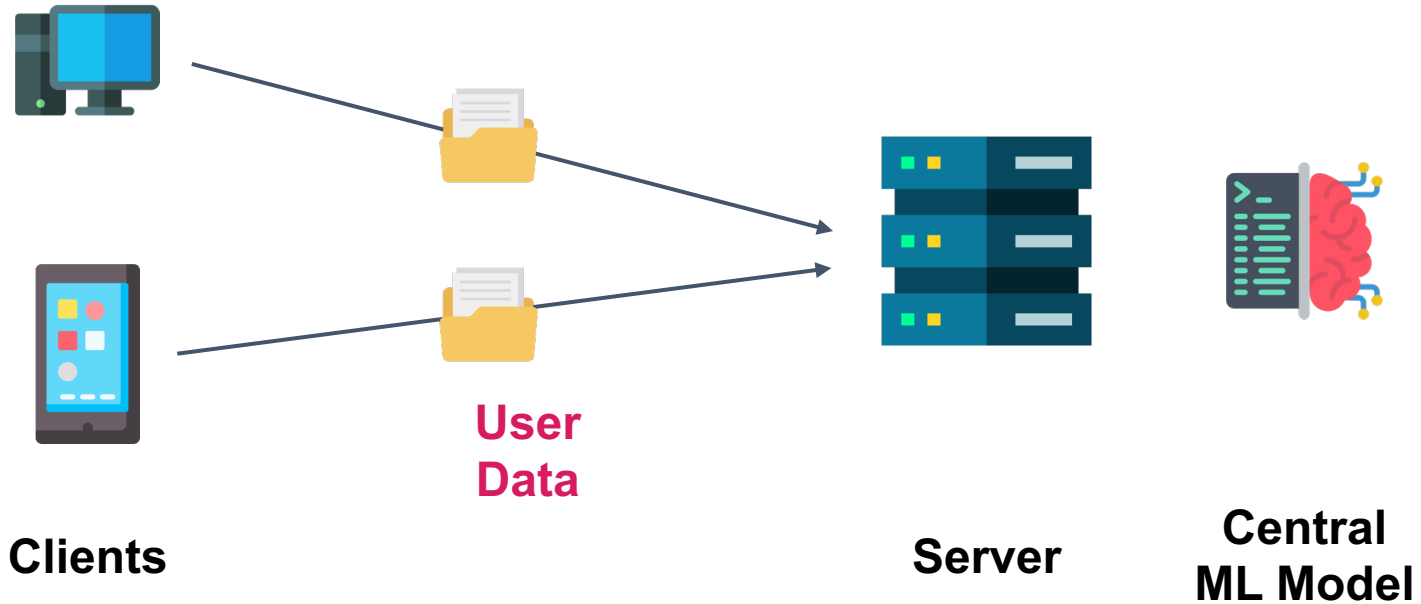
# Motivation

## ML and Recommender Systems

- ML has grown in popularity, including recommender systems
- Books, music, merchandise in e-commerce
- Companies gain customer loyalty and increase sales [16,17]



# Traditional Collaborative Filtering



# No Privacy!

PRIVATE



PRIVATE



Clients



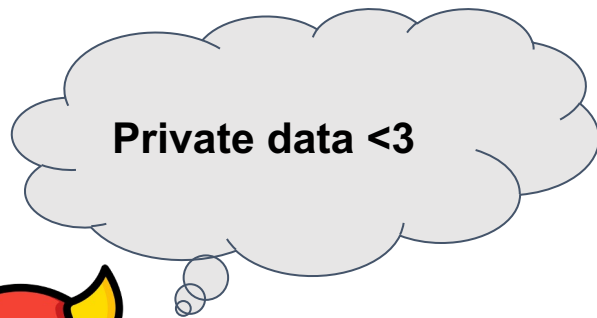
User  
Data



[18,19]

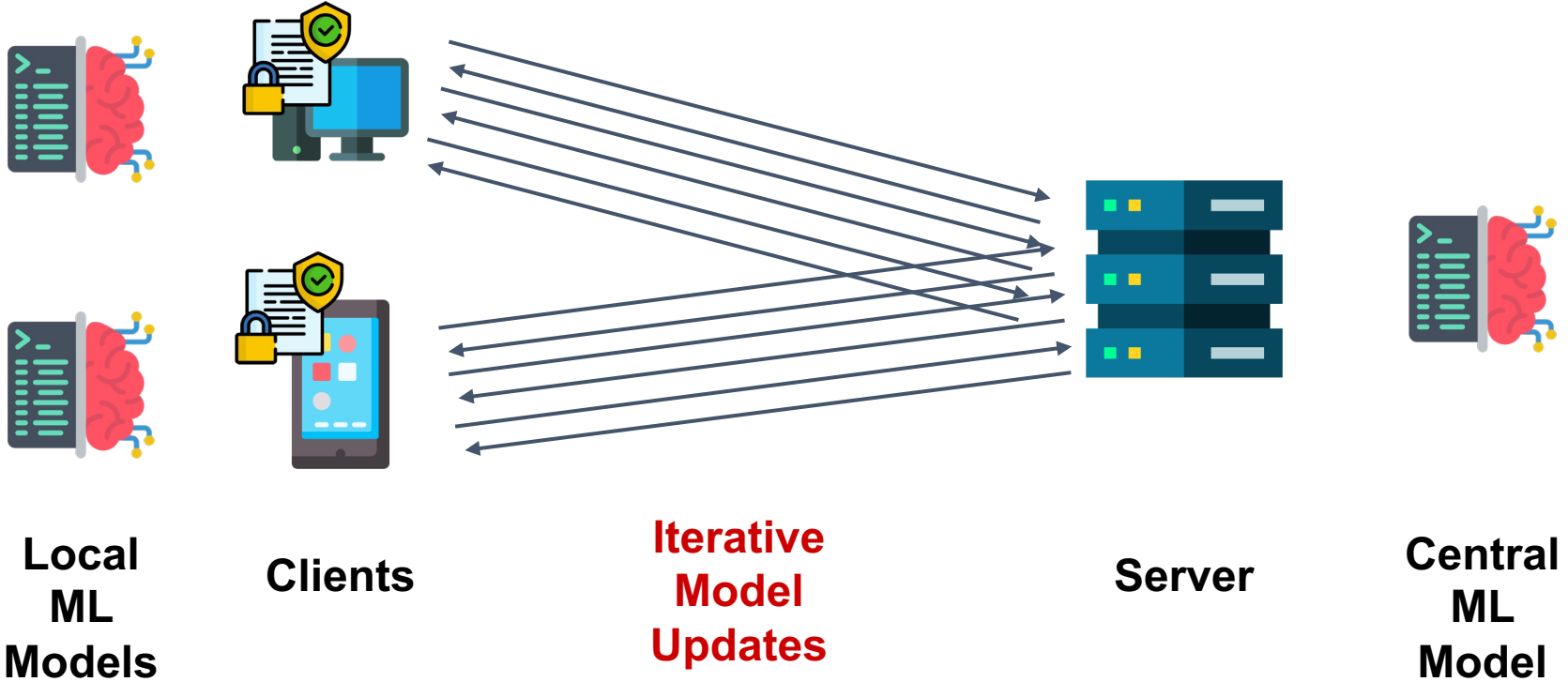


Server

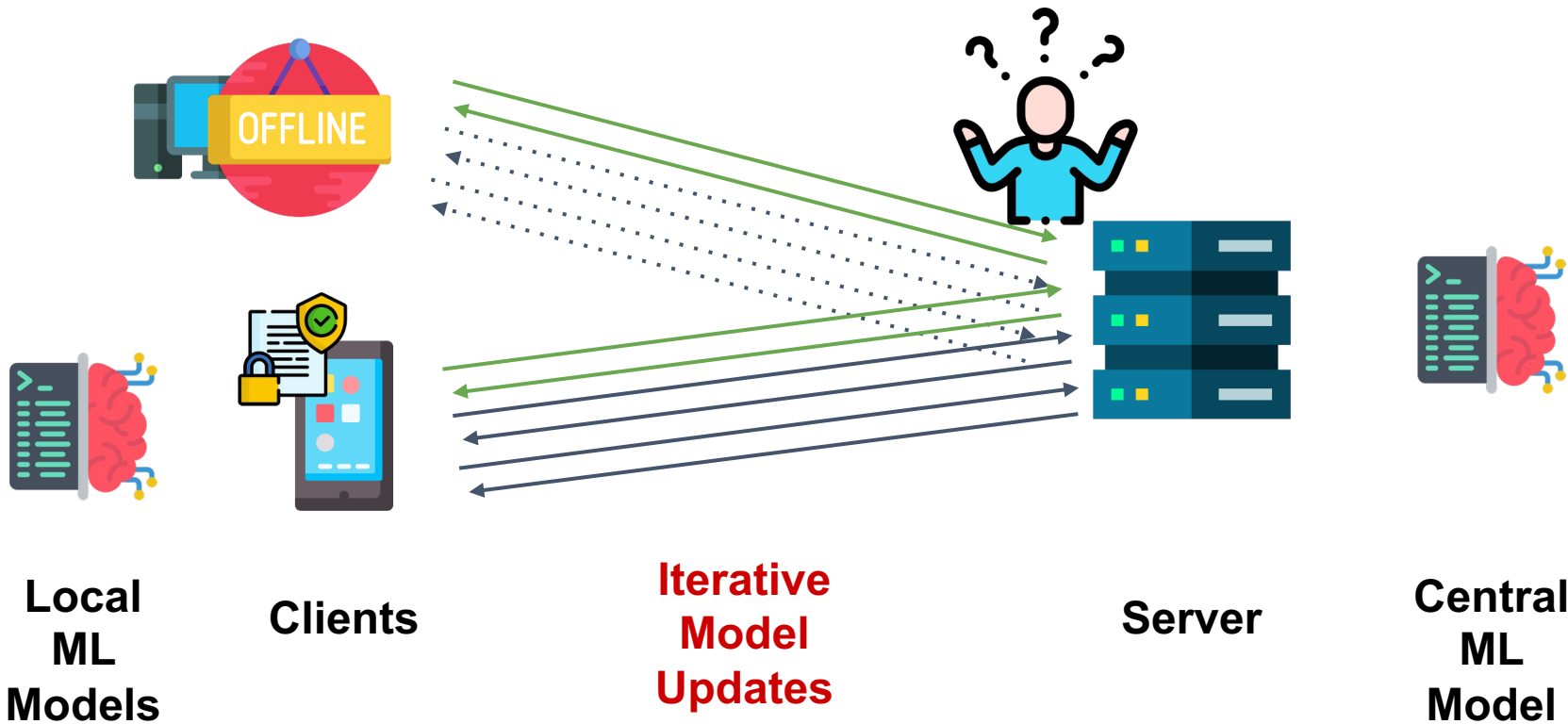


Central  
ML  
Model

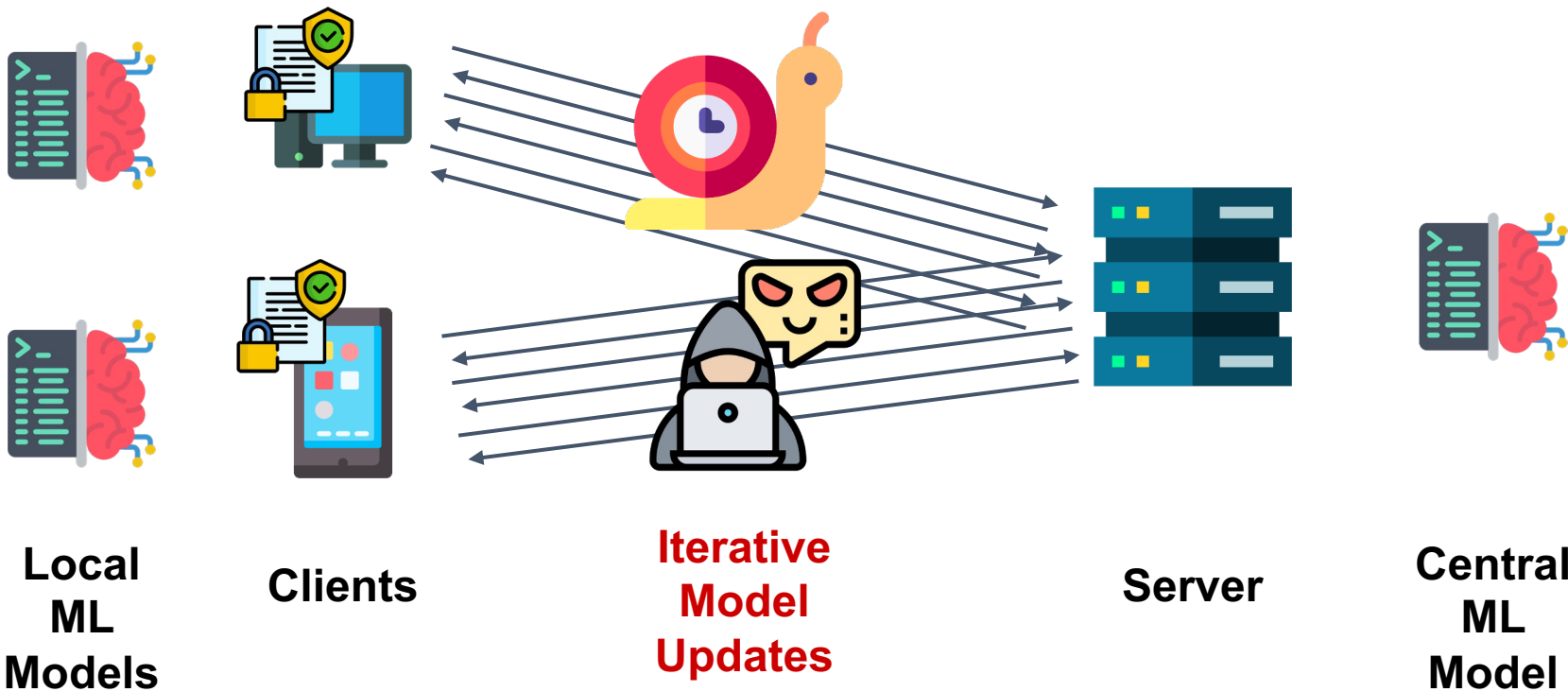
# Yes Privacy! Federated Collaborative Filtering <sup>[20,21]</sup>



# Problems: What if someone leaves?<sup>[22]</sup>

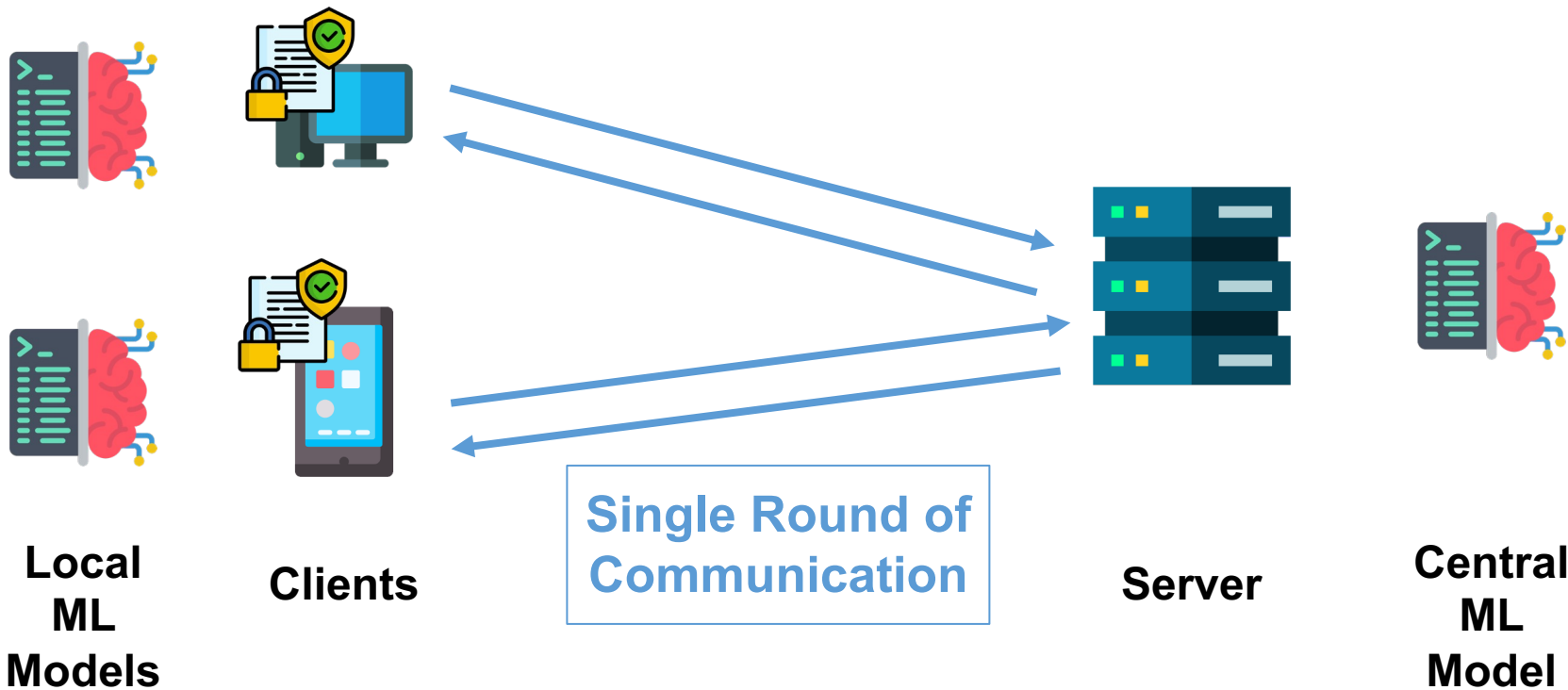


# Problems: Too many to fit in this title <sup>[23, 24]</sup>

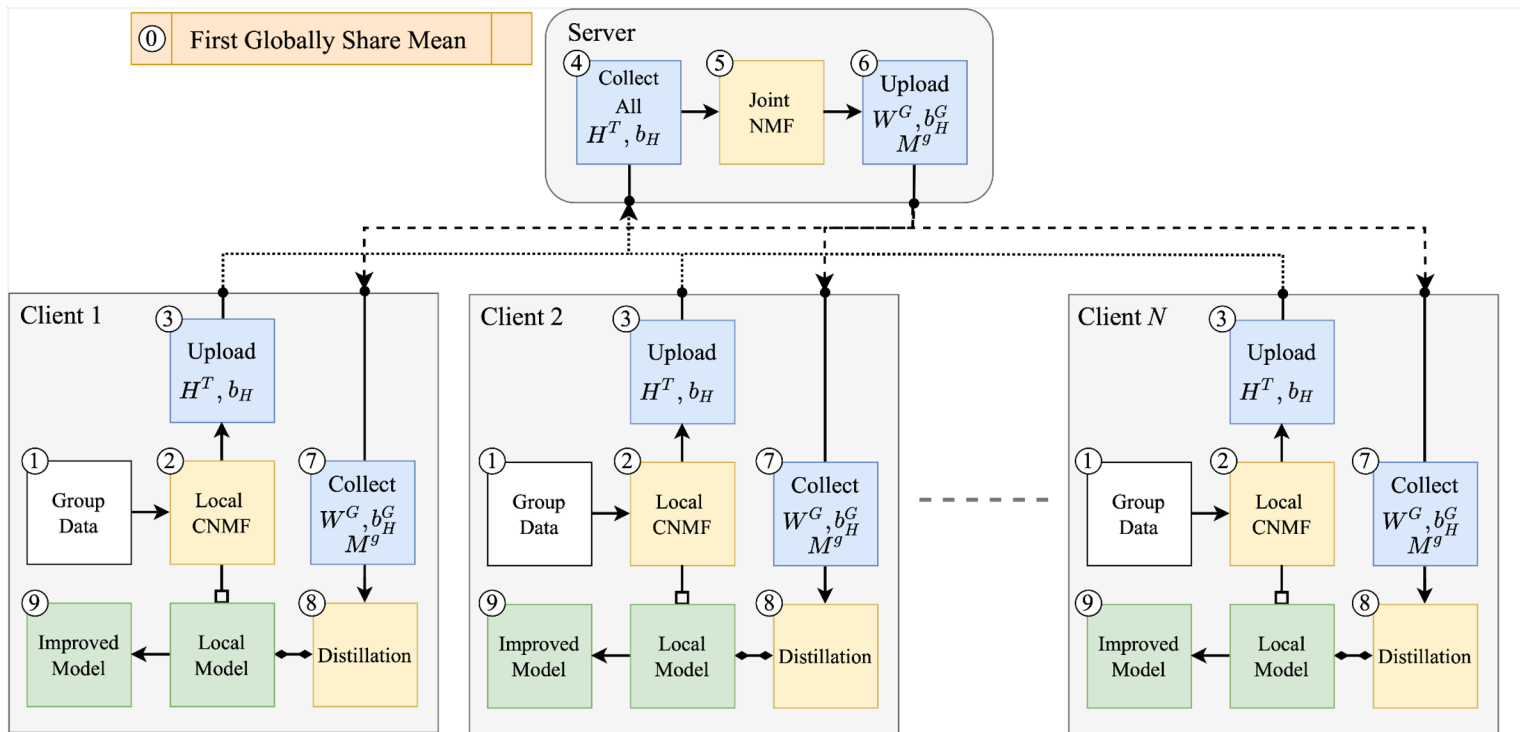




# Solution = One-shot Federated Collaborative Filtering

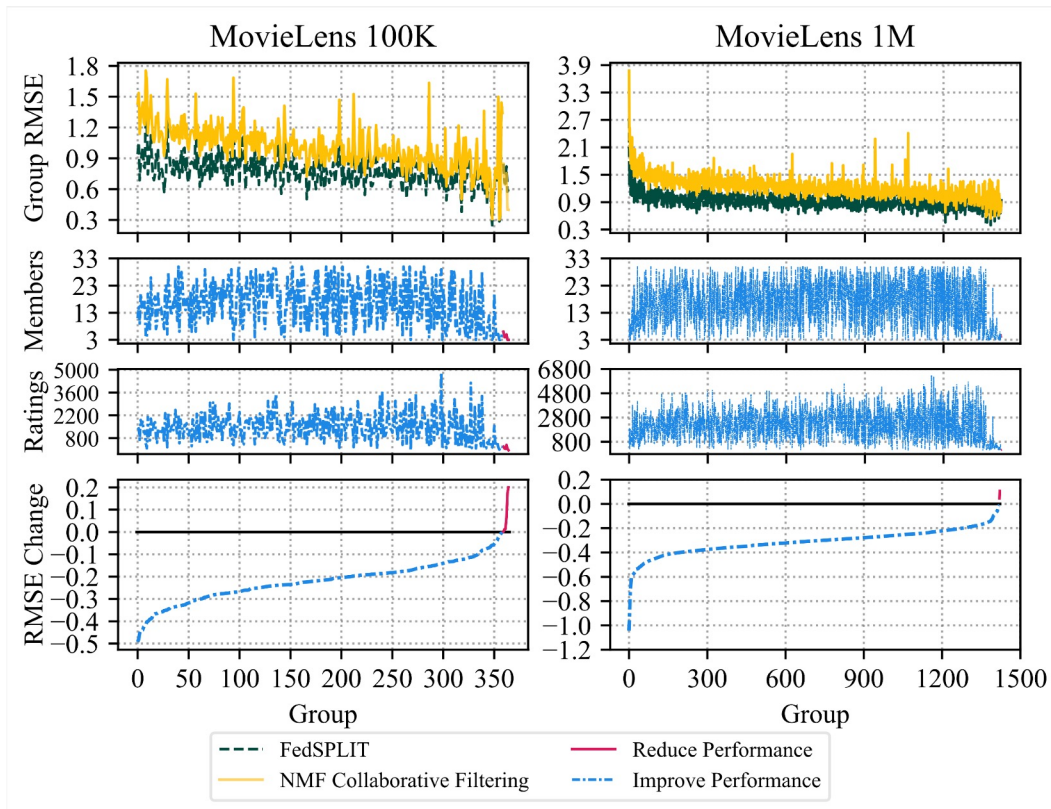


# Method Summary



# Performance

Dataset	Num. Groups	Num. Improved	RMSE Improve	RMSE Reduce	Members-RMSE Pearson	Ratings-RMSE Pearson
MovieLens 100K	365	359	-0.22 ( $\pm$ 0.008)	0.07 ( $\pm$ 0.092)	-0.06	-0.11
MovieLens 1M	1,422	1,420	-0.31 ( $\pm$ 0.005)	0.07 ( $\pm$ 0.381)	-0.12	-0.16



# Performance

Method	Reference	# of Comm. Rounds	RMSE Results on Datasets	
			MovieLens 100K	MovieLens 1M
<b>Standard CF</b>				
Non-Private/Standard CF (CNMF)	-	-	<b>0.71 (<math>\pm</math> 0.006)</b>	<b>0.76 (<math>\pm</math> 0.006)</b>
Groups' Local CF (CNMF)	-	-	1.00 ( $\pm$ 0.022)	1.22 ( $\pm$ 0.013)
<b>Iterative Federated Baselines</b>				
CLFM-VFL	[9]	1–175	$\sim$ 3.80 (NA) – $\sim$ 1.00 (NA)	NA
FedRec (SVD++)	[4]	10–100	$\sim$ 0.95 (NA) – <b>0.92 (<math>\pm</math> 0.005)</b>	$\sim$ 0.90 (NA) – <b>0.84 (<math>\pm</math> 0.001)</b>
Homomorphic Encryption	[3]	10–100	$\sim$ 3.40 (NA) – 1.03 (NA)	NA
FCMF	[7]	50	0.95 ( $\pm$ 0.005)	0.88 ( $\pm$ 0.001)
FedRecon	[5]	500	NA	0.90 (NA)
FedGNN	[6]	NA ( $>$ 1)	<b>0.92 (NA)</b>	<b>0.84 (NA)</b>
Two-order FedMMF	[8]	NA ( $>$ 1)	<b>0.92 (<math>\pm</math> 0.003)</b>	NA
FedMF	[2, 6]	NA ( $>$ 1)	0.94 (NA)	0.87 (NA)
FCF	[1, 6]	NA ( $>$ 1)	0.95 (NA)	0.87 (NA)
<b>One-shot Federated CF</b>				
FedSPLIT	(ours)	<b>1</b>	<b>0.78 (<math>\pm</math> 0.016)</b>	<b>0.91 (<math>\pm</math> 0.016)</b>

[1] Muhammad Ammad-Ud-Din, Elena Ivannikova, Suleiman A Khan, Were Oyomno, Qiang Fu, Kuan Eeik Tan, and Adrian Flanagan. 2019. Federated collaborative filtering for privacy-preserving personalized recommendation system. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1901.09888* (2019).

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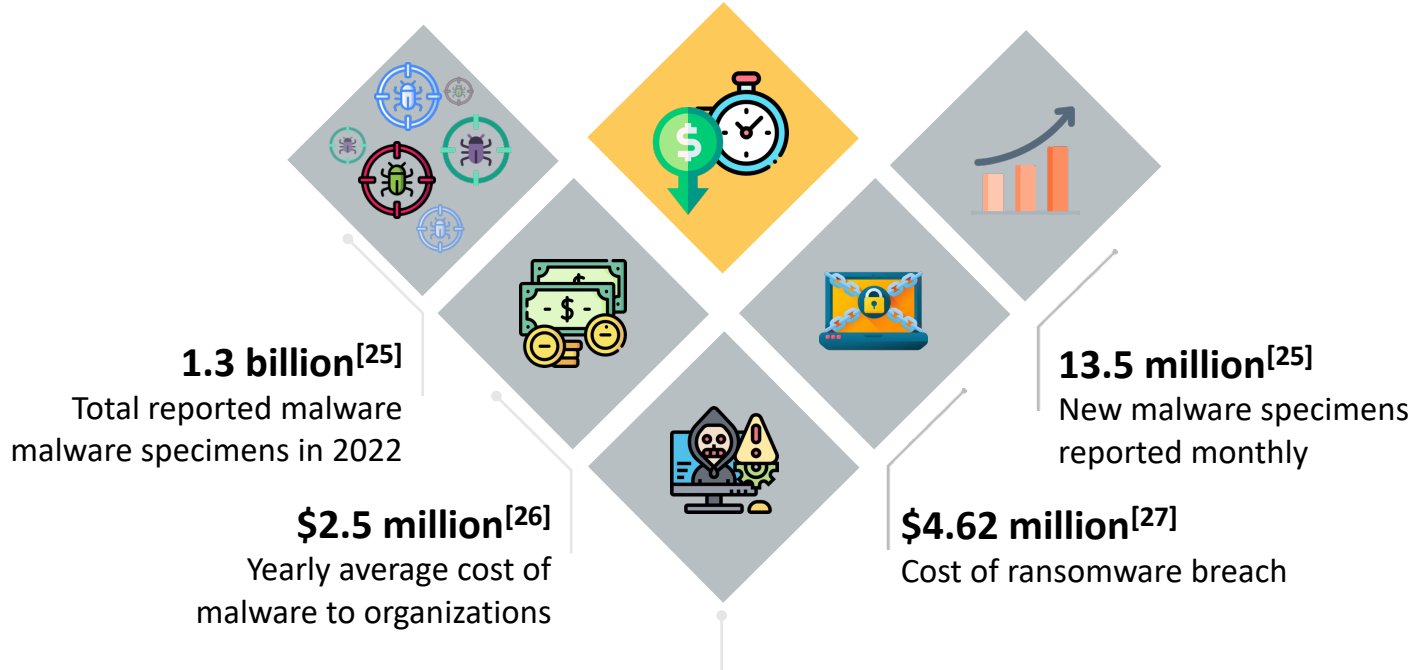
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# Malware



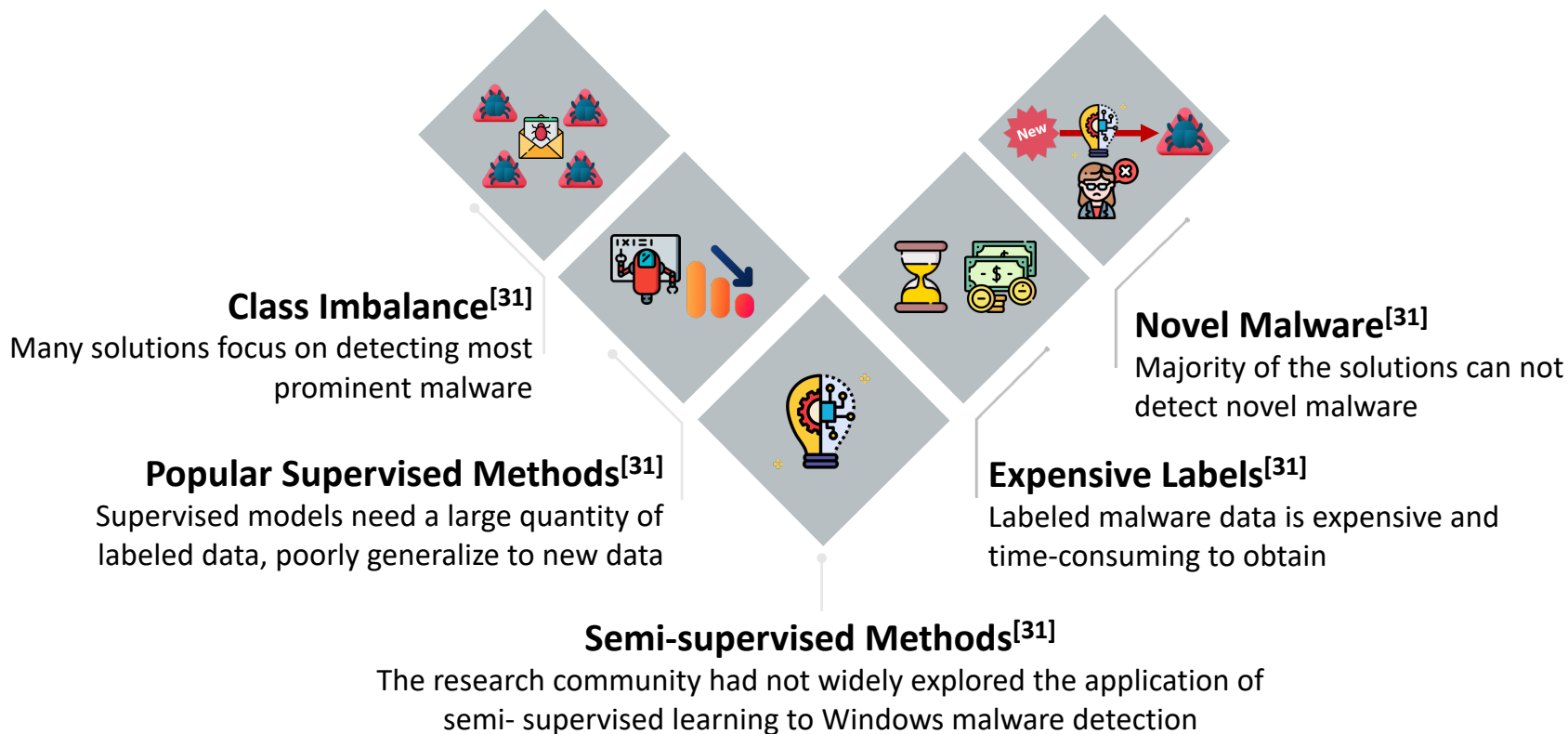
# Malware is a problem!

**Save Time & Reduce Cost<sup>[30]</sup>**  
ML can reduce response and recovery time



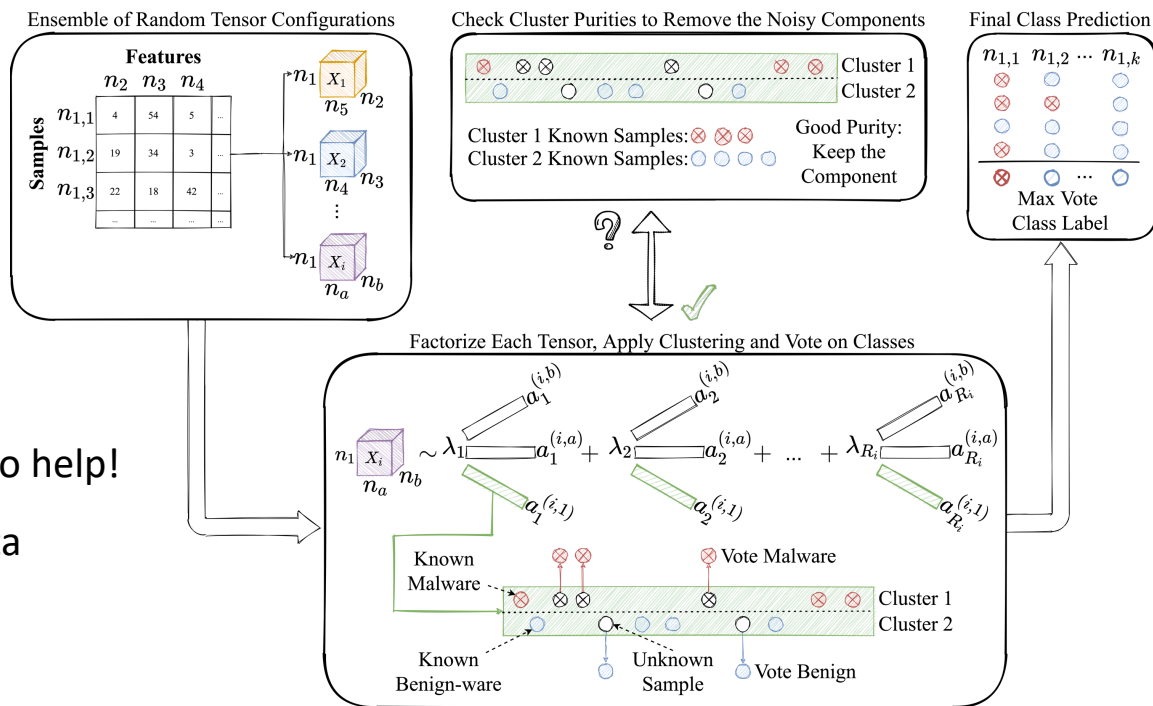
**Growing Sophistication<sup>[28,29]</sup>**  
Capabilities of malware in the wild grow

# Machine learning can help, but...



# Random Forest of Tensors (RFoT)

## Bulk Semi-supervised Malware Family Classification

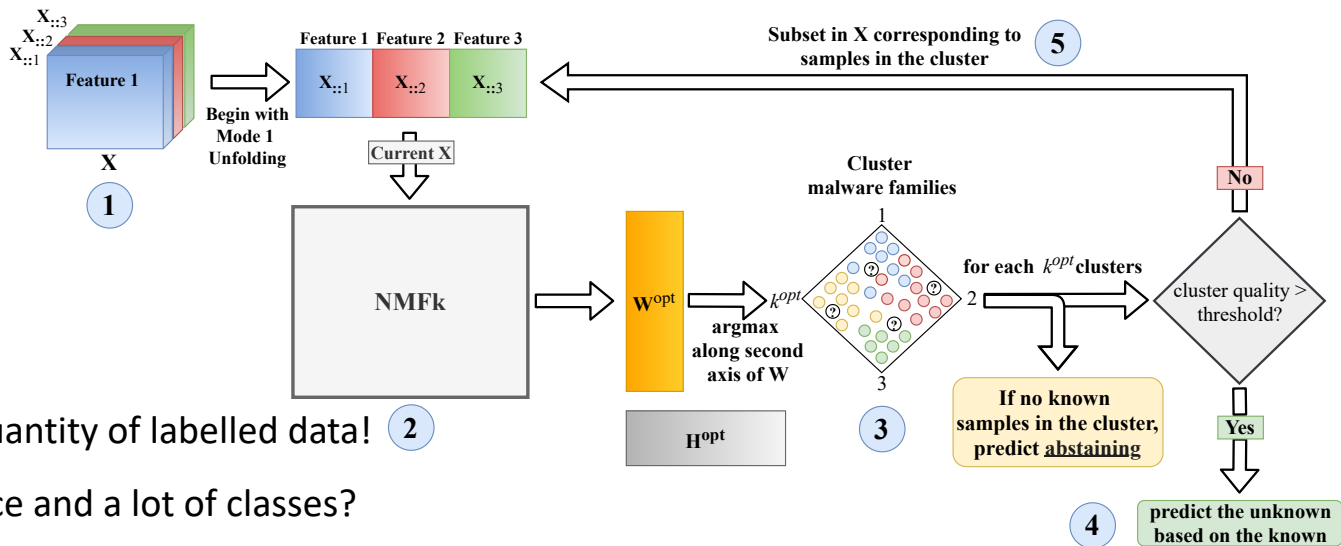


- Tensors are useful!
- Semi-supervised methods do help!
- Low quantity of labelled data  
– **no problem!**



# HNFMk Classifier

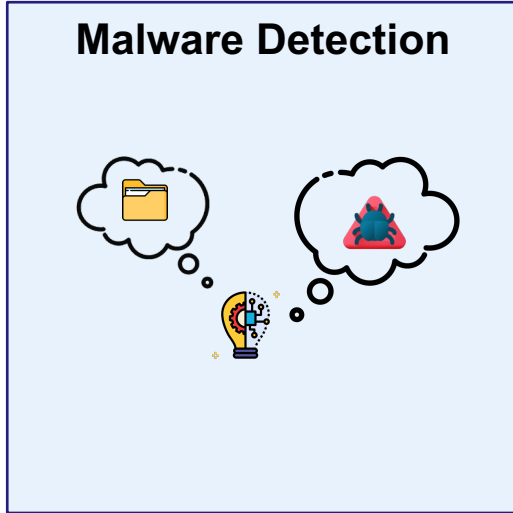
## Bulk Semi-supervised Malware Family Classification



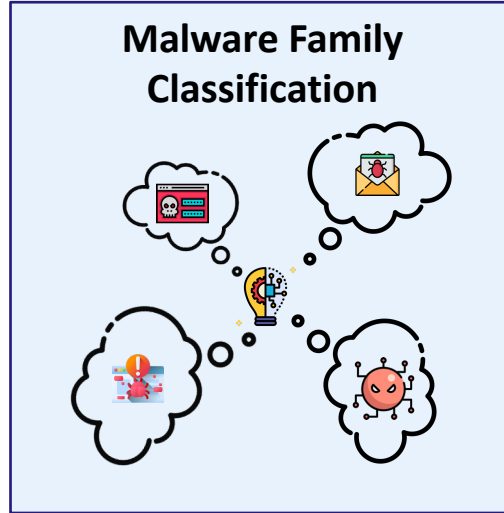
- Works well with low quantity of labelled data! **2**
- Extreme class imbalance and a lot of classes?  
- **no problem!**
- Somewhat detects novel malware
- **World record 2.9k malware families**

# Address the shortcomings

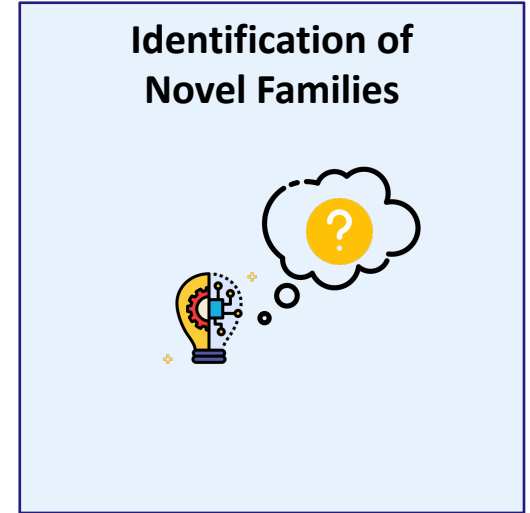
Real-time semi-supervised malware characterization



Malware-DNA



Malware-DNA

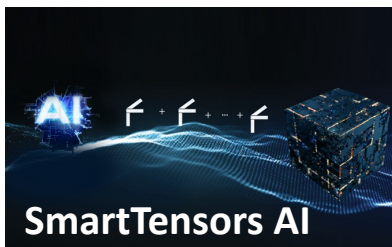


Malware-DNA

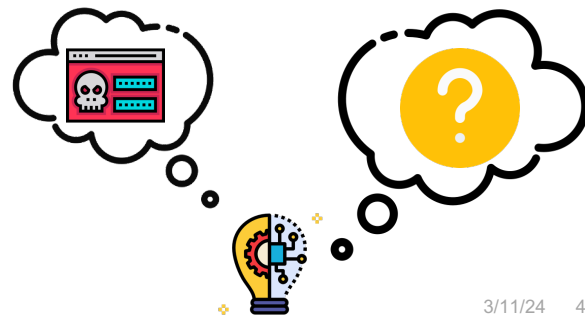


# MalwareDNA<sup>[Patent: 10]</sup>

- Consider **software as genomic DNA**, and **malware as mutations in DNA**
- Discover the hidden **hierarchical structure of malware** in the genome
- Extract identifying malware signatures using **tensor decomposition**

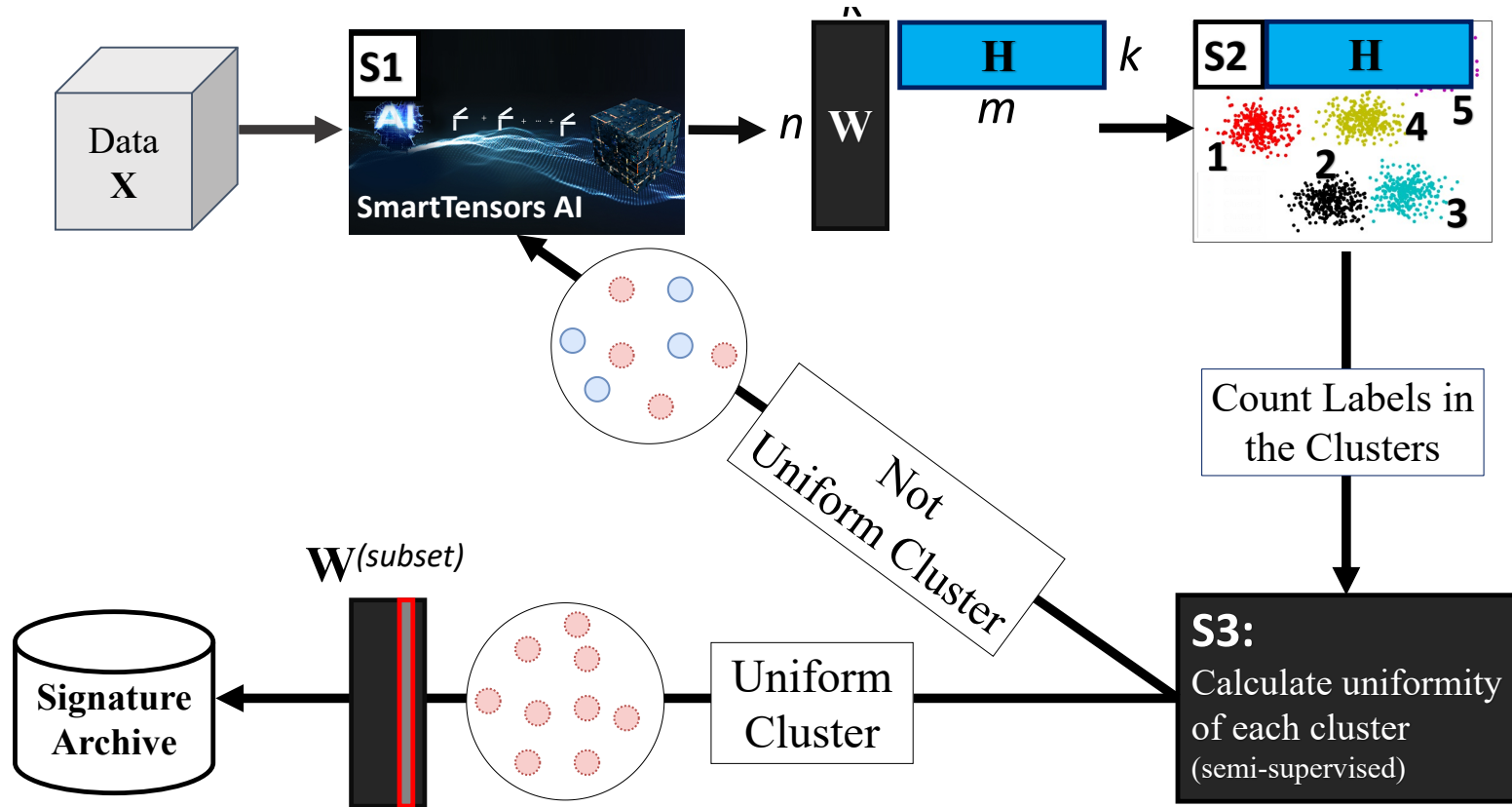


[2,3]

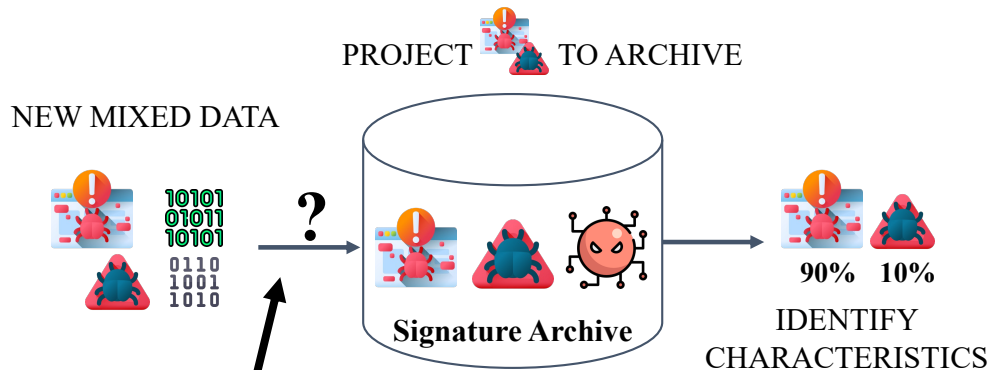
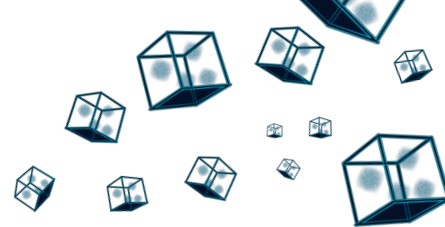


## Reject-option<sup>[32]</sup>

- Detects novel malware families

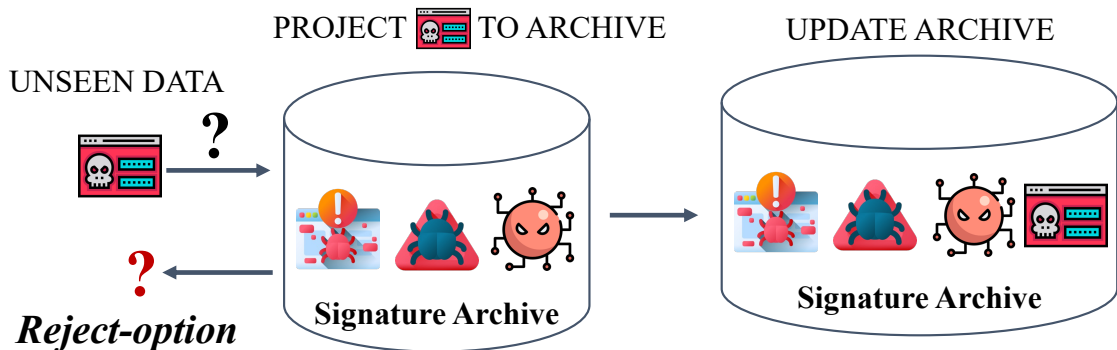


# ① Identifying new Samples

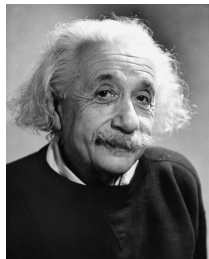


NNLS

# ② Reject-option (selective classification)



# Selective Classification (Reject-option)



**Self-awareness for ML model to know when it does not know**

*“the more I learn, the more I realize how much I do not know.” - Albert Einstein*

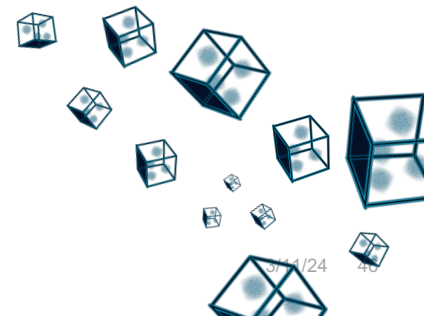
*“If knowledge is power, knowing what we do not know is wisdom” [32, 33]*

Withdraw from making a decision for uncertain predictions using confidence

- Useful when a mistake is expensive



- Enable knowledge discovery: **novel malware families**



# Distribute the Computation with HPC: Scaling the experiments

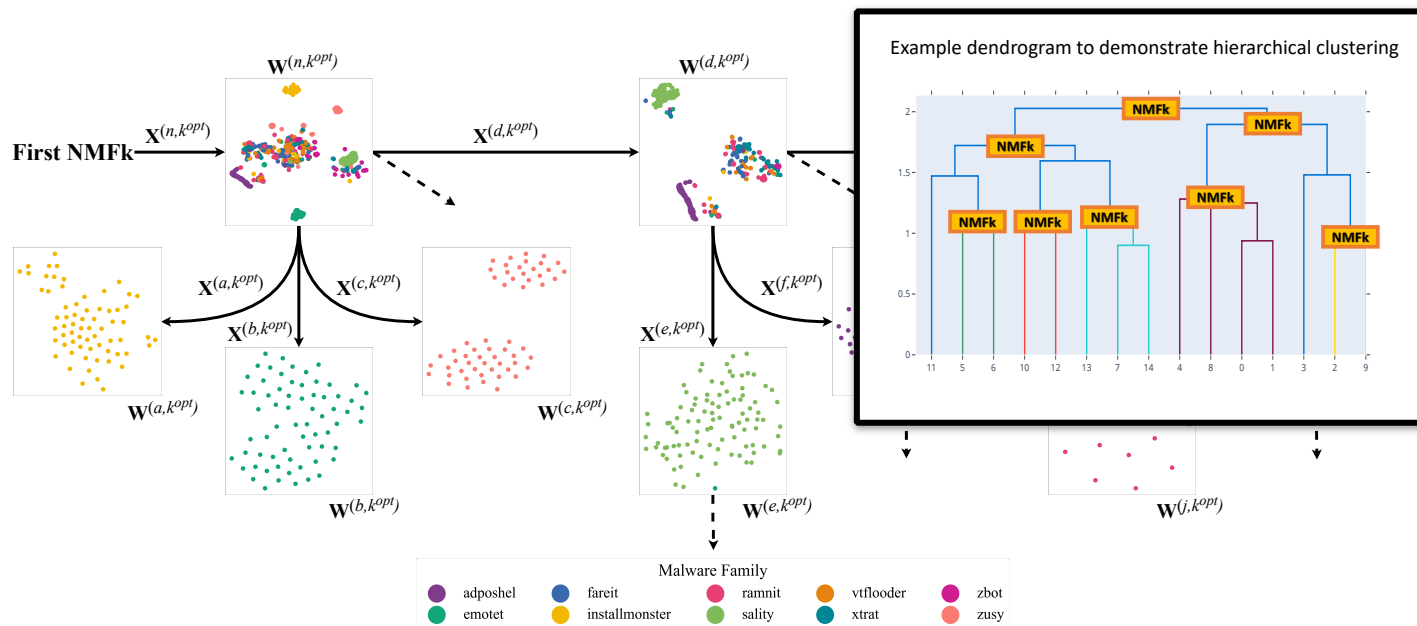
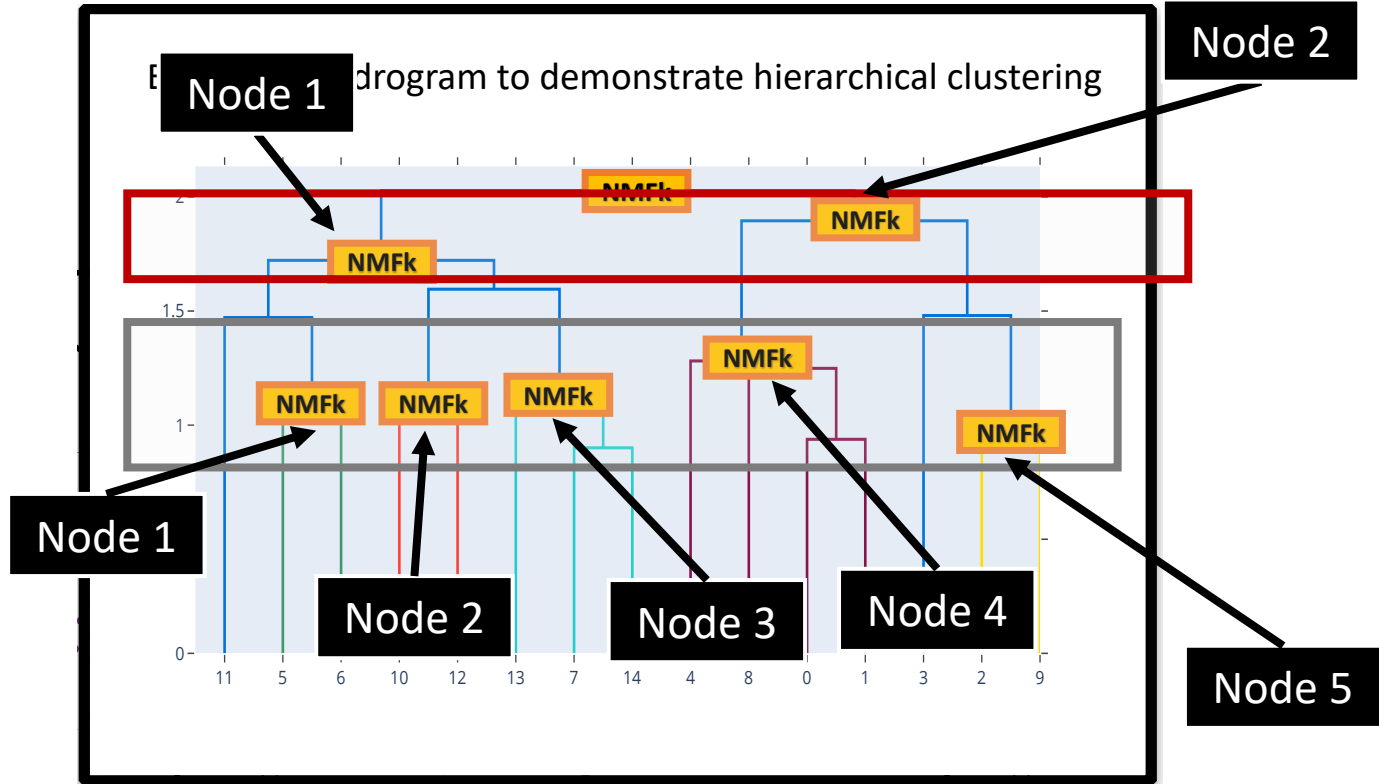


Fig 2. Demonstration of the hierarchical application of NMFk and clustering of malware.

# Distribute the Computation with HPC:

Scaling the experiments





# Experiments

Using the EMBER-2018<sup>[34]</sup> dataset, we randomly sample **10,000 benign-ware, and malware specimens** from families:

- **Ramnit**, **Adposhel**, **Emotet**, **zusy**
- Select **Ramnit** to represent a novel family.

We achieve **AURC\*** score of **0.02**↓:

- **At ~84% coverage: ~0.975 F1**
- **Identify ~100% of Ramnit as novel**
- **Surpasses supervised and semi-supervised baselines**

\*Area Under the Curve of Risk-Coverage<sup>[32]</sup>

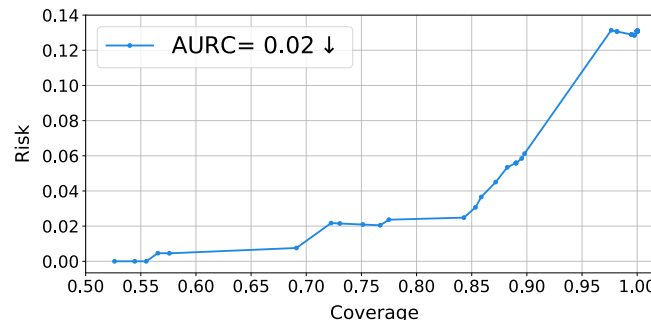


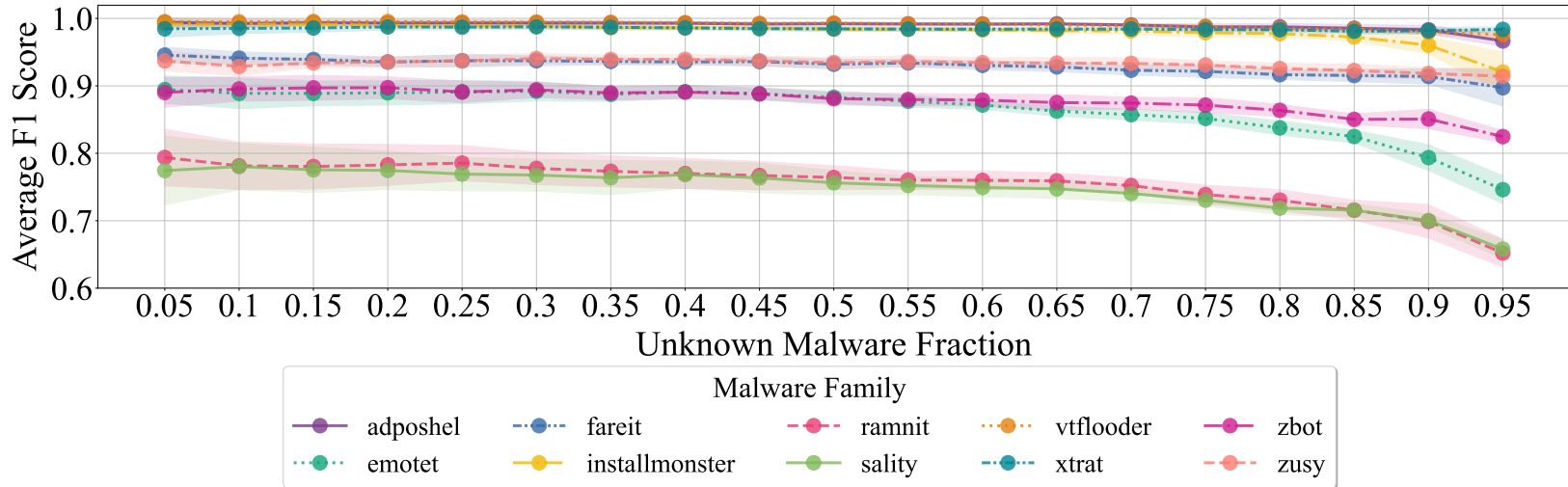
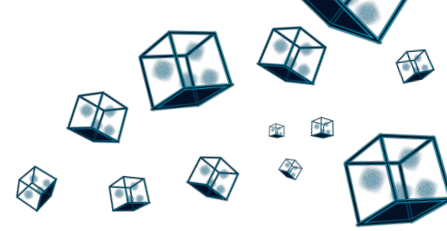
TABLE I

PERFORMANCE OF MALWAREDNA COMPARED TO BASELINES.

REJECTION SEEN PROVIDES THE FALSE REJECTION PREDICTIONS FOR THE SAMPLES THAT BELONGS TO KNOWN CLASSES. REJECTION NOVEL IS THE TRUE REJECTION PREDICTIONS FOR THE SAMPLES THAT BELONGS TO A NOVEL MALWARE FAMILY. XGBOOST+SELFTRAIN AND LIGHTGBM+SELFTRAIN ACHIEVE AURC SCORE OF 0.654 AND 0.651.

Model	F1	Precision	Recall	Rejection Seen	Rejection Novel
<b>MalwareDNA (ours)</b>	<b>0.975</b>	<b>0.975</b>	<b>0.977</b>	15.70 %	<b>100.00 %</b>
XGBoost	0.416	0.699	0.510	NA	NA
LightGBM	0.297	0.749	0.338	NA	NA
XGBoost+SelfTrain	0.096	0.258	0.108	4.34 %	18.09 %
LightGBM+SelfTrain	0.096	0.078	0.197	<b>2.89 %</b>	17.14 %

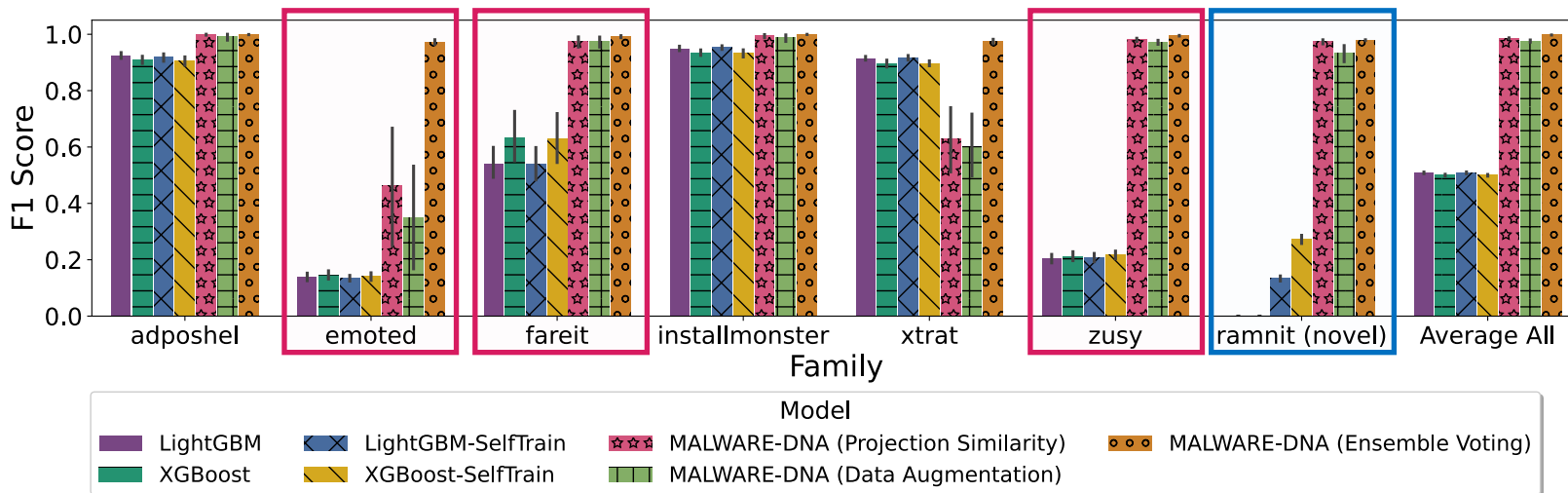
# Experiments – Quantity of Labelled Data



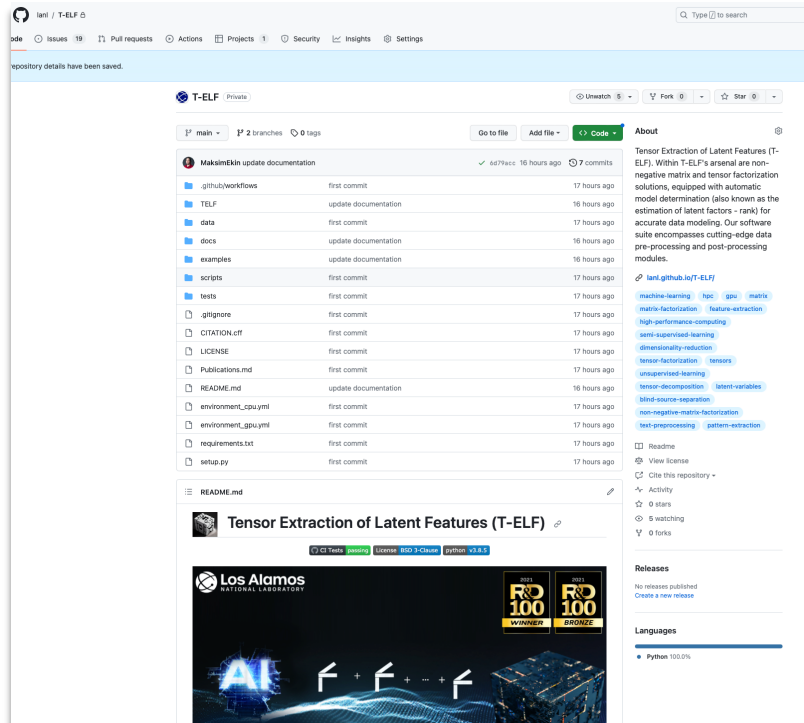
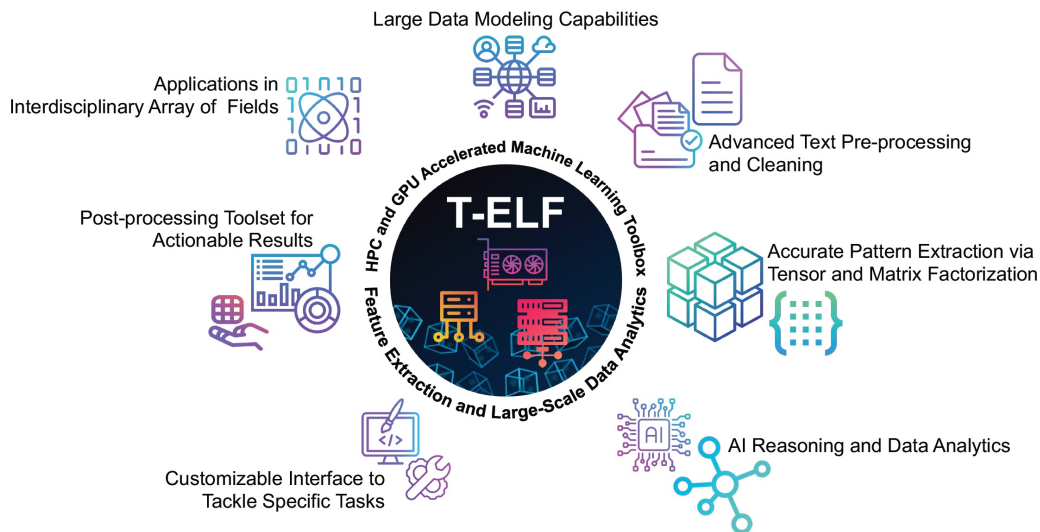
# Experiments – Class Imbalance

TABLE I  
DISTRIBUTION OF MALWARE FAMILIES IN TRAINING AND TESTING SETS  
REPORTED WITH MEAN NUMBER OF INSTANCES AND THE CONFIDENCE  
INTERVAL OVER 10 SAMPLE TRIALS.

Malware Family	Training Set	Testing Set
xtrat	4853.9 (+ 12.6)	543.1 (+ 12.2)
installmonster	3750.3 (+ 10.2)	416.7 (+ 11.5)
adposhel	3216.4 (+ 6.6)	361.6 (+ 5.6)
zusy (rare family)	638.0 (+ 7.0)	67.0 (+ 6.9)
emoted (rare family)	232.2 (+ 3.8)	25.8 (+ 3.8)
farait (rare family)	97.2 (+ 1.9)	11.8 (+ 1.4)
ramnit (novel family)	0.0	1029.0 (+ 2.4)



# Public Code:



[github.com/lanl/T-ELF](https://github.com/lanl/T-ELF)





# Thank you!

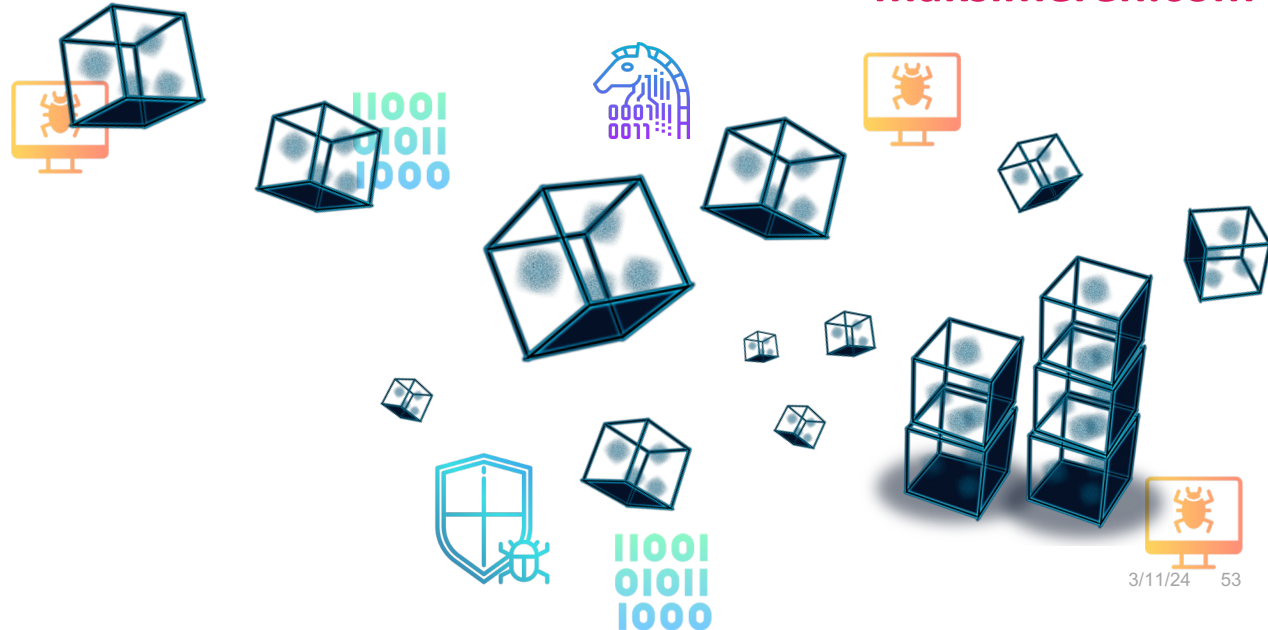
Questions?

Contact: [maksim@lanl.gov](mailto:maksim@lanl.gov)



[maksimeren.com](http://maksimeren.com)

[smart-tensors.lanl.gov](http://smart-tensors.lanl.gov)



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*This slides has been designed using resources from Flaticon.com*

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