

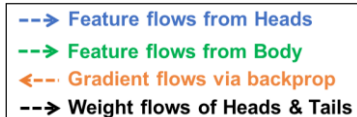
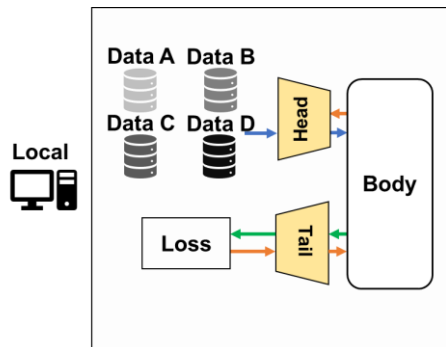
# Federated **S**plit **T**ask-**A**gnostic **V**ision Transformer for COVID-19 CXR Diagnosis

Sangjoon Park\*, Gwanghyun Kim\*, Jeongsol Kim, Boah Kim, Jong Chul Ye

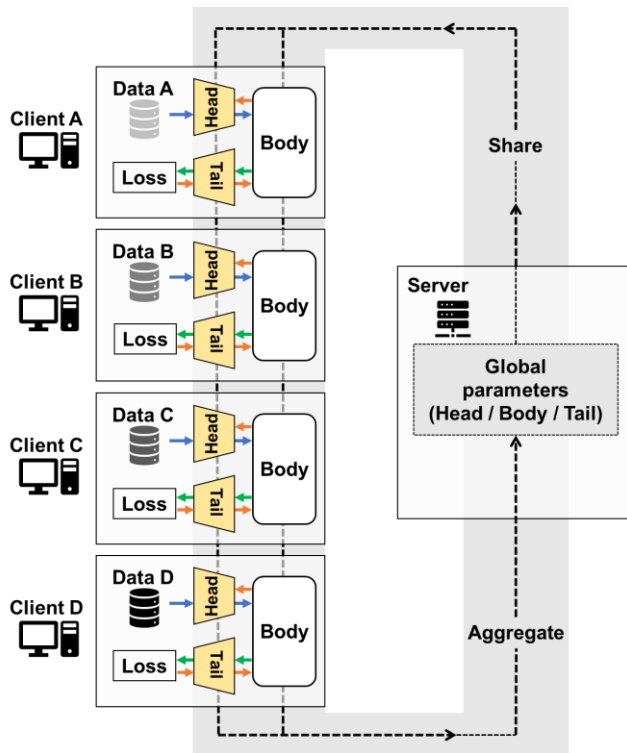
BISPL - BioImaging, Signal Processing, and Learning Lab.  
Dept. of Bio and Brain Engineering  
KAIST, Korea

# Federated learning & Split learning

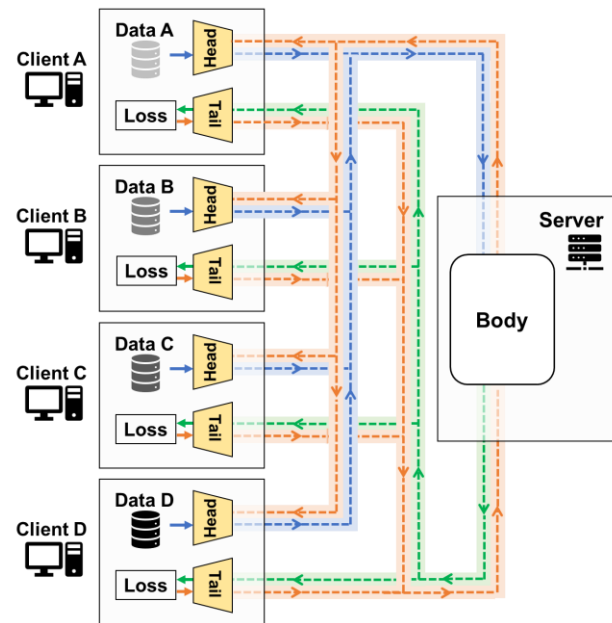
## Data-centralized



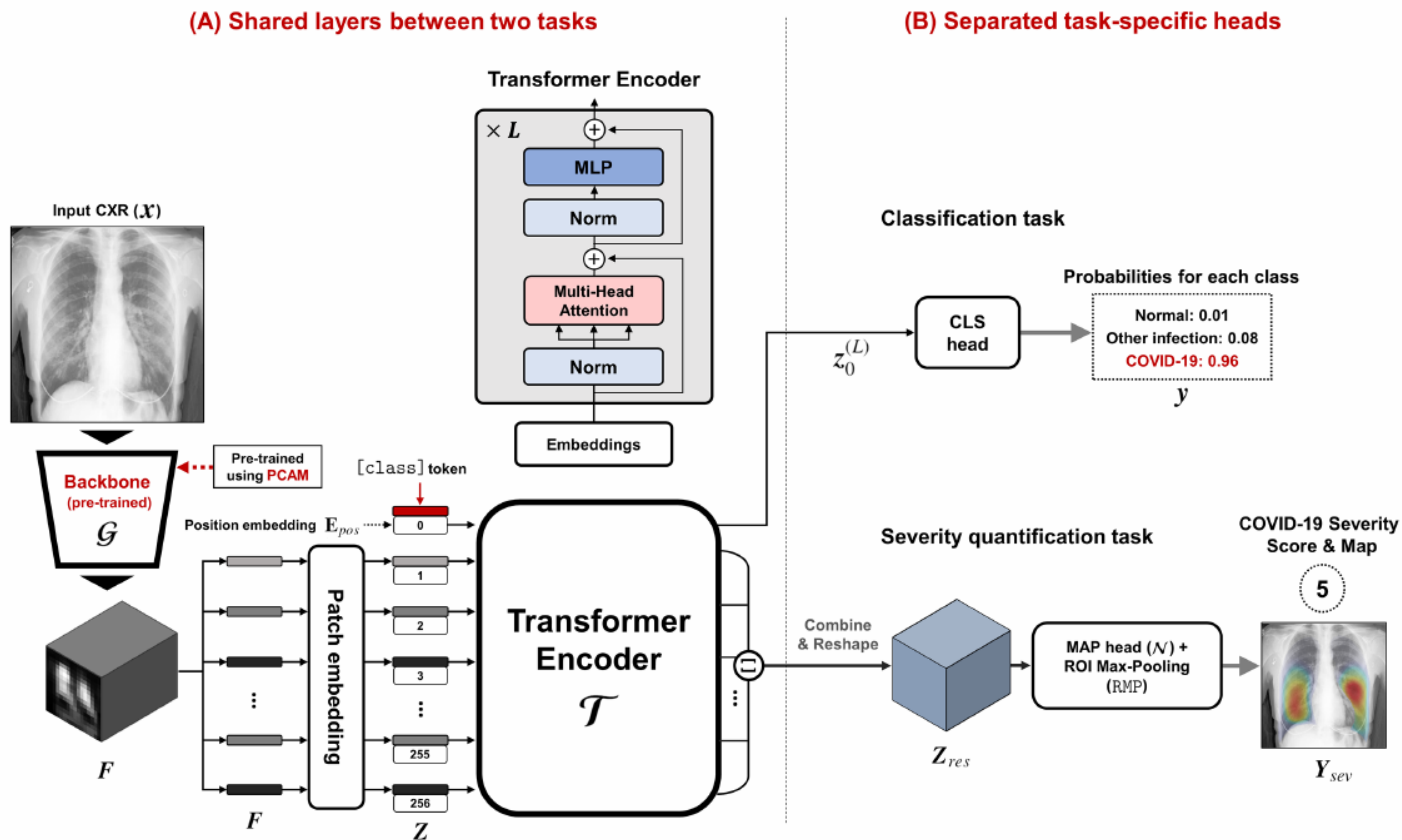
## Federated Learning (FL)



## Split Learning (SL)



# Vision Transformer for COVID-19 Diagnosis



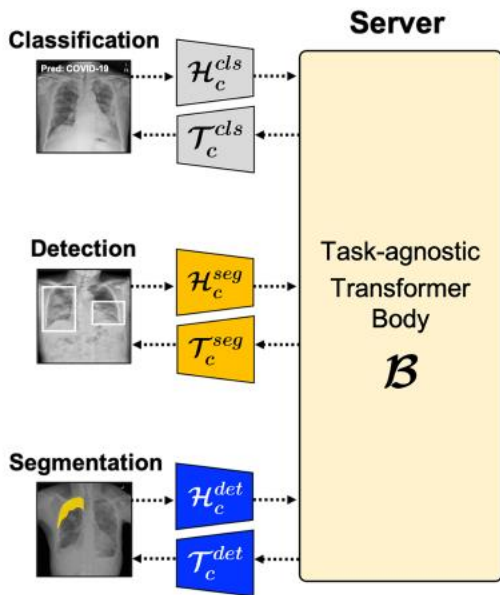
# Federated Split Task-Agnostic Vision Transformer

Here we propose a novel **Federated Split Task-Agnostic (FeSTA)** framework equipped with **Vision Transformer (ViT)** to simultaneously process multiple CXR tasks including diagnosis of COVID-19.

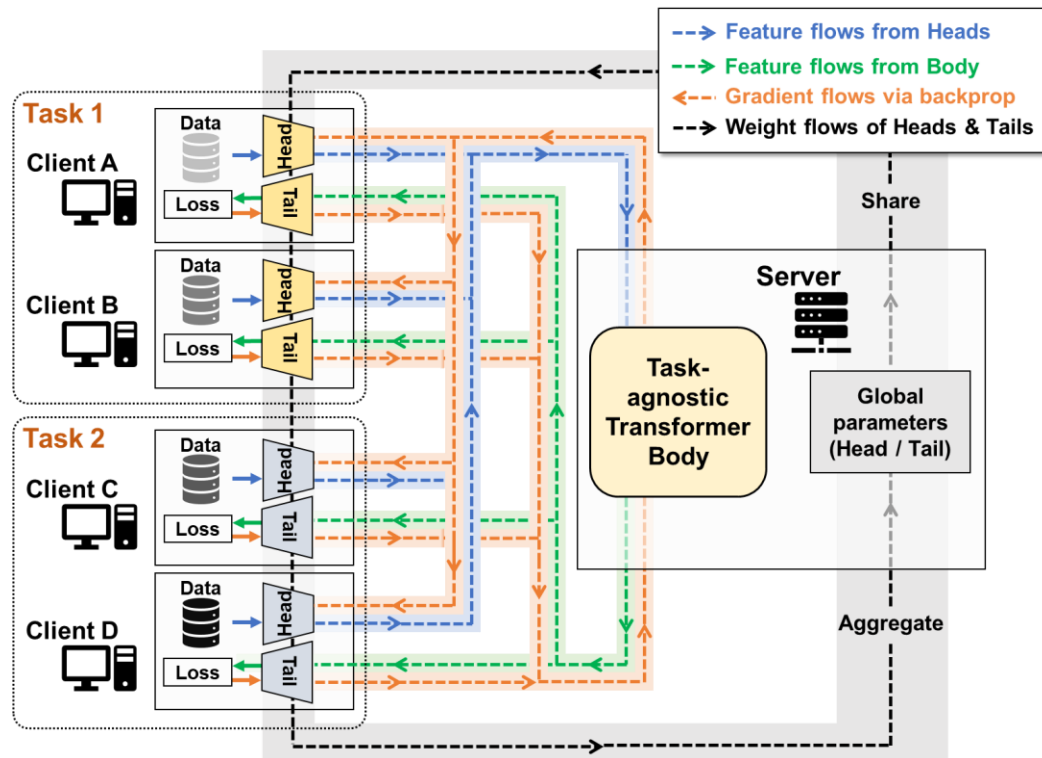
- Feasibility of **FeSTA** (amalgamate pros of FL and SL) method
- Benefit of Multi-task learning (MTL) with **ViT** and **FeSTA**

# Federated Split Task-Agnostic Vision Transformer

## Split Task-Agnostic Transformer



## FeSTA framework



# Detailed Procedure of FeSTA

Function ServerMain:

Initialize the body weight  $w_{\mathcal{B}}^{(1)}$  and client head/tail weights  $(\bar{w}_{\mathcal{H},k}, \bar{w}_{\mathcal{T},k})$  for each task  $k \in \{1, \dots, K\}$  in server

for rounds  $i = 1, 2, \dots, R$  do

for tasks  $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, K\}$  do in parallel

for clients  $c \in C_k$  do in parallel

if  $i = 1$  or  $(i - 1) \in \text{UnifyingRounds}$  then

Set client  $(w_{\mathcal{H}_c}^{(i)}, w_{\mathcal{T}_c}^{(i)}) \leftarrow (\bar{w}_{\mathcal{H},k}, \bar{w}_{\mathcal{T},k})$

$h_c^{(i)} \leftarrow \text{ClientHead}(c)$

$b_c^{(i)} \leftarrow \mathcal{B}(h_c^{(i)})$

$\frac{\partial L_c^{(i)}}{\partial b_c^{(i)}} \leftarrow \text{ClientTail}(c, b_c^{(i)})$  & Backprop.

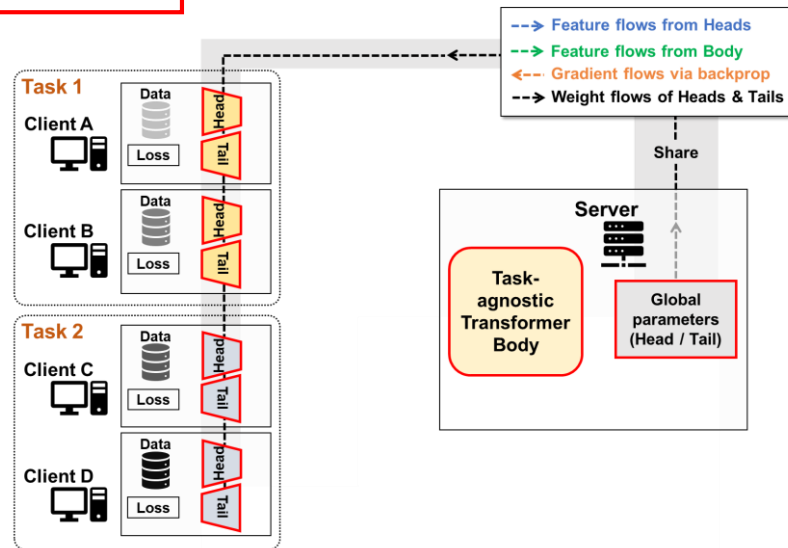
$(w_{\mathcal{H}_c}^{(i+1)}, w_{\mathcal{T}_c}^{(i+1)}) \leftarrow \text{ClientUpdate}(c, \frac{\partial L_c^{(i)}}{\partial h_c^{(i)}})$

Update body  $w_{\mathcal{B}}^{(i+1)} \leftarrow w_{\mathcal{B}}^{(i)} - \frac{\eta}{K} \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{c \in C_k} \frac{\partial L_c^{(i)}}{N_k \partial w_{\mathcal{B}}^{(i)}}$

if  $i \in \text{UnifyingRounds}$  then

for tasks  $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, K\}$  do

Update  $(\bar{w}_{\mathcal{H},k}, \bar{w}_{\mathcal{T},k}) \leftarrow (\frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{c \in C_k} w_{\mathcal{H}_c}^{(i+1)}, \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{c \in C_k} w_{\mathcal{T}_c}^{(i+1)})$



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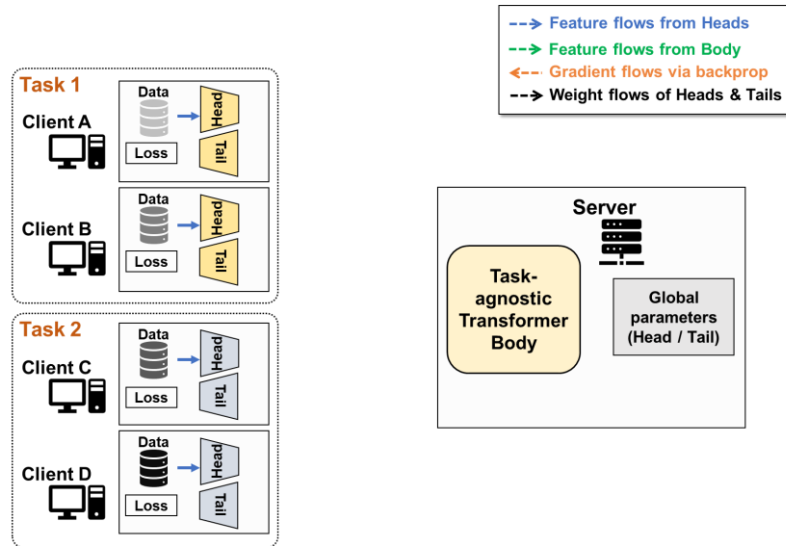
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**Function ClientHead( $c$ ):**

$x_c \leftarrow$  Current batch of input from client  $c$   
**return  $\mathcal{H}_c(x_c)$**

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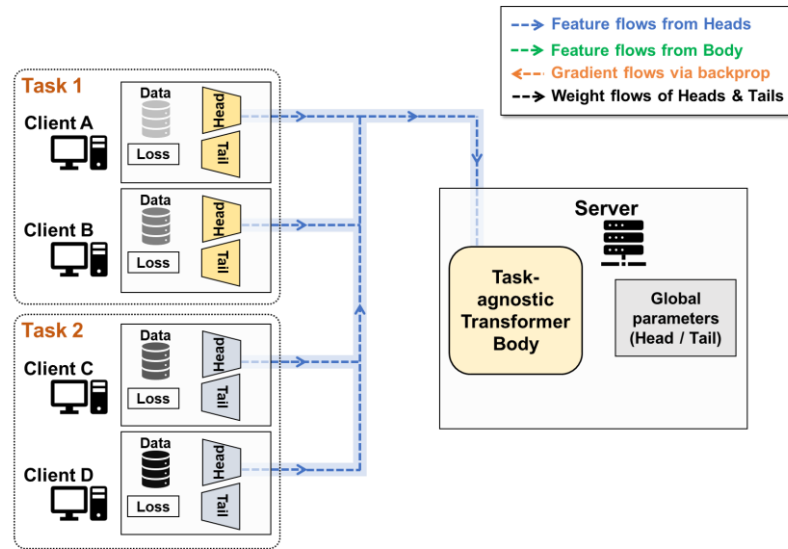
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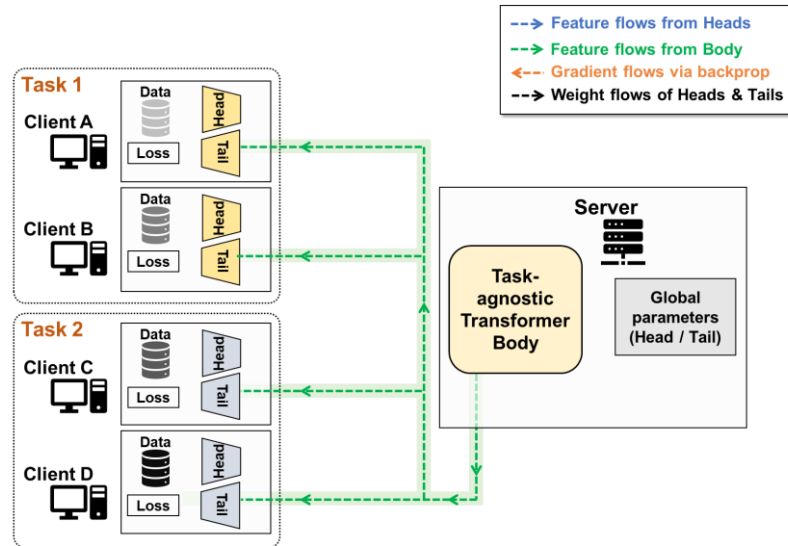
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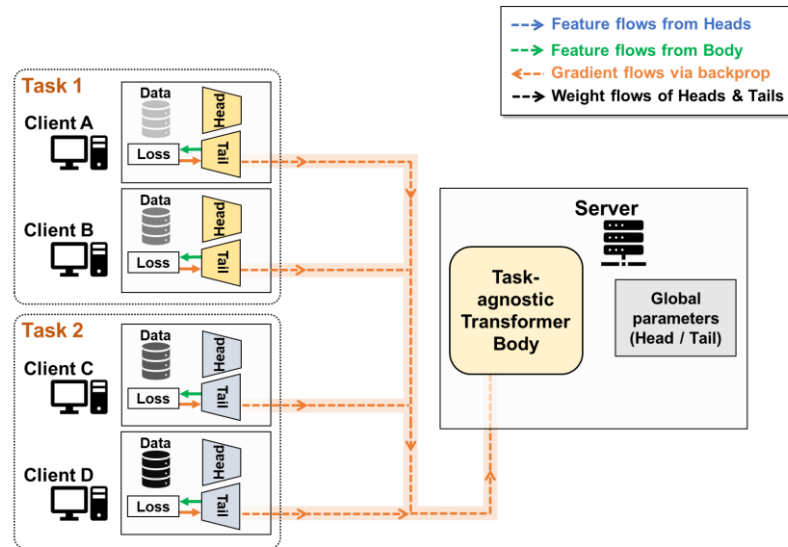
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**Function  $\text{ClientTail}(c, b_c)$ :**

$y_c \leftarrow$  Current batch of label from client  $c$

$L_c \leftarrow \ell_c(y_c, \mathcal{T}_c(b_c))$  & Backprop.

**return**  $\frac{\partial L_c}{\partial b_c}$

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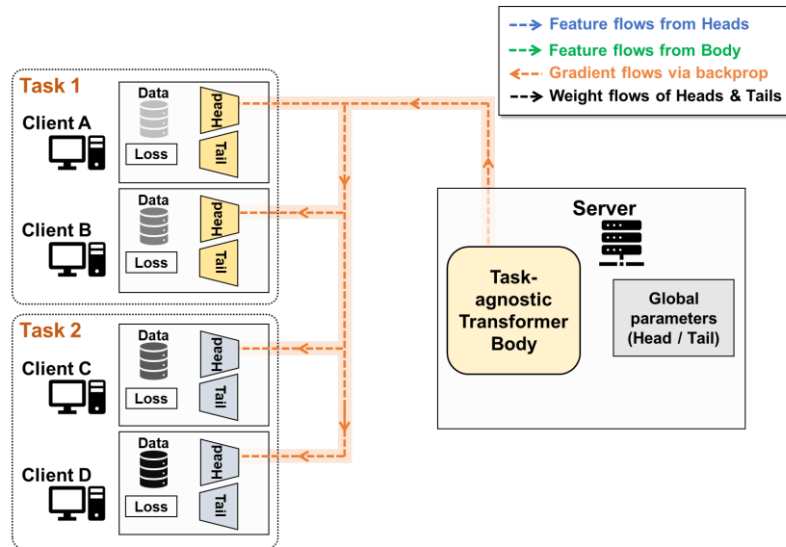
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**Function  $\text{ClientUpdate}(c, \frac{\partial L_c}{\partial h_c})$ :**

Backprop. &  $(w_{\mathcal{H}_c}, w_{\mathcal{T}_c}) \leftarrow (w_{\mathcal{H}_c} - \eta \frac{\partial L_c}{\partial w_{\mathcal{H}_c}}, w_{\mathcal{T}_c} - \eta \frac{\partial L_c}{\partial w_{\mathcal{T}_c}})$   
**return  $(w_{\mathcal{H}_c}, w_{\mathcal{T}_c})$**

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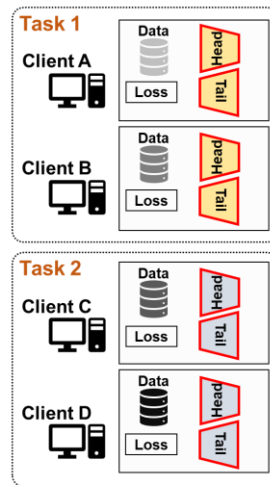
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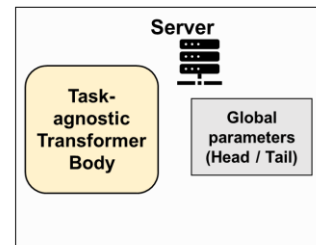
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--> Feature flows from Heads  
--> Feature flows from Body  
--> Gradient flows via backprop  
--> Weight flows of Heads & Tails



**Function  $\text{ClientUpdate}(c, \frac{\partial L_c}{\partial h_c})$ :**

Backprop. &  $(w_{\mathcal{H}_c}, w_{\mathcal{T}_c}) \leftarrow (w_{\mathcal{H}_c} - \eta \frac{\partial L_c}{\partial w_{\mathcal{H}_c}}, w_{\mathcal{T}_c} - \eta \frac{\partial L_c}{\partial w_{\mathcal{T}_c}})$   
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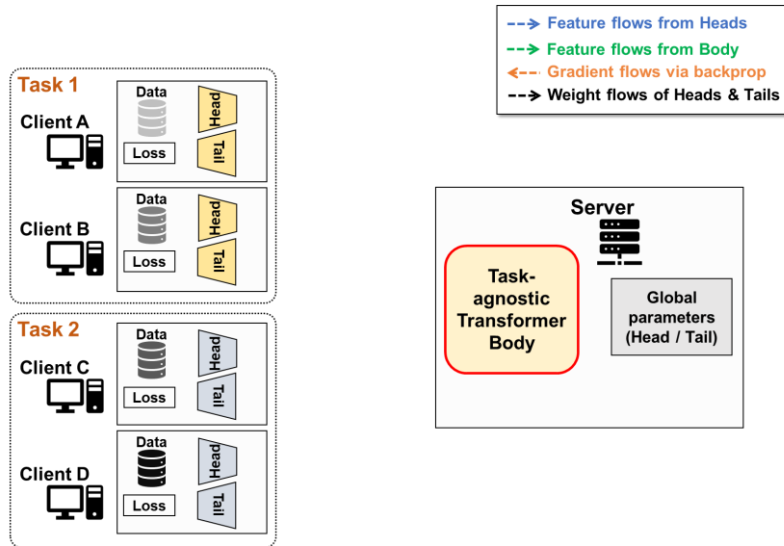
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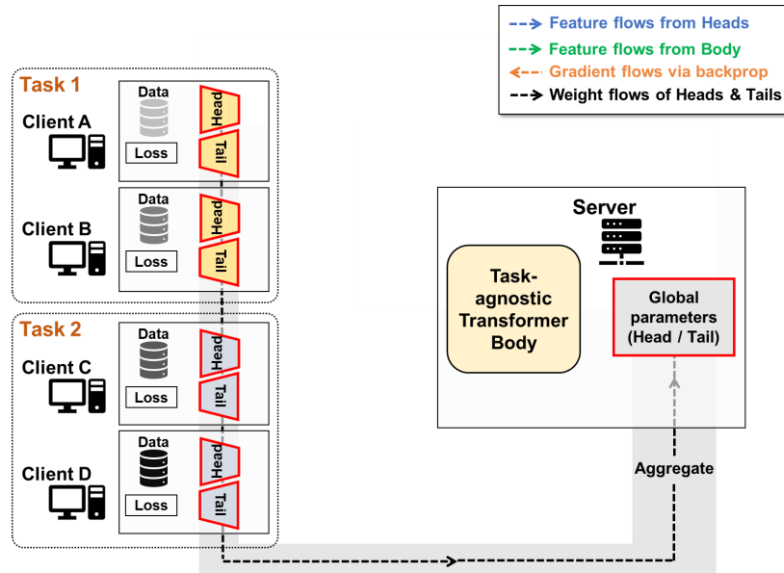
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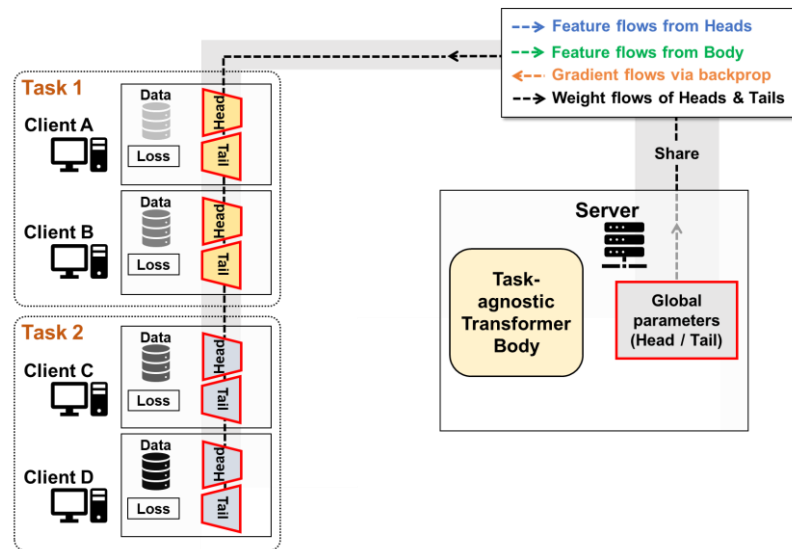
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## Function ServerMain:

Initialize the body weight  $w_{\mathcal{B}}^{(1)}$  and client head/tail weights  $(\bar{w}_{\mathcal{H},k}, \bar{w}_{\mathcal{T},k})$  for each task

$k \in \{1, \dots, K\}$  in server

**for rounds  $i = 1, 2, \dots, R$  do**

**for tasks  $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, K\}$  do in parallel**

**for clients  $c \in C_k$  do in parallel**

**if  $i = 1$  or  $(i - 1) \in \text{UnifyingRounds}$  then**

Set client  $(w_{\mathcal{H}_c}^{(i)}, w_{\mathcal{T}_c}^{(i)}) \leftarrow (\bar{w}_{\mathcal{H},k}, \bar{w}_{\mathcal{T},k})$

$h_c^{(i)} \leftarrow \text{ClientHead}(c)$

$b_c^{(i)} \leftarrow \mathcal{B}(h_c^{(i)})$

$\frac{\partial L_c^{(i)}}{\partial b_c^{(i)}} \leftarrow \text{ClientTail}(c, b_c^{(i)})$  & Backprop.

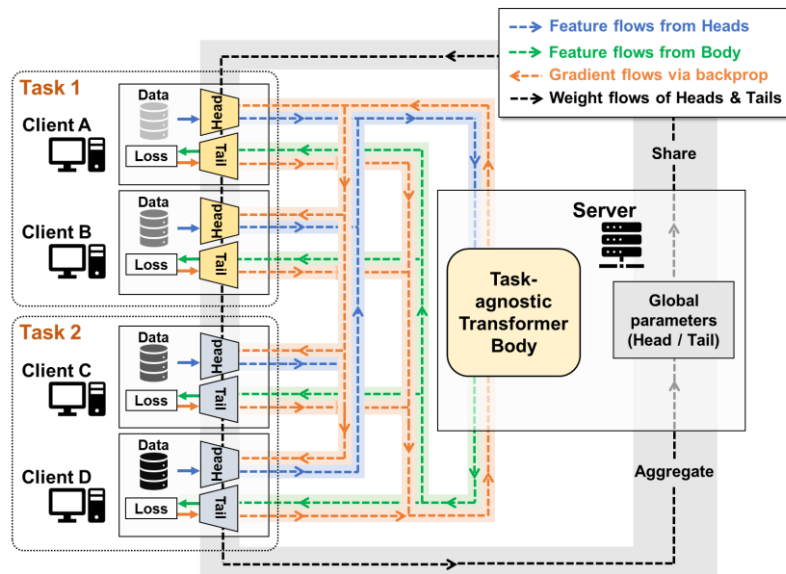
$(w_{\mathcal{H}_c}^{(i+1)}, w_{\mathcal{T}_c}^{(i+1)}) \leftarrow \text{ClientUpdate}(c, \frac{\partial L_c^{(i)}}{\partial h_c^{(i)}})$

Update body  $w_{\mathcal{B}}^{(i+1)} \leftarrow w_{\mathcal{B}}^{(i)} - \frac{\eta}{K} \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{c \in C_k} \frac{\partial L_c^{(i)}}{N_k \partial w_{\mathcal{B}}^{(i)}}$

**if  $i \in \text{UnifyingRounds}$  then**

**for tasks  $k \in \{1, 2, \dots, K\}$  do**

Update  $(\bar{w}_{\mathcal{H},k}, \bar{w}_{\mathcal{T},k}) \leftarrow (\frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{c \in C_k} w_{\mathcal{H}_c}^{(i+1)}, \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{c \in C_k} w_{\mathcal{T}_c}^{(i+1)})$





# Optimization in FeSTA

Task-agnostic body update

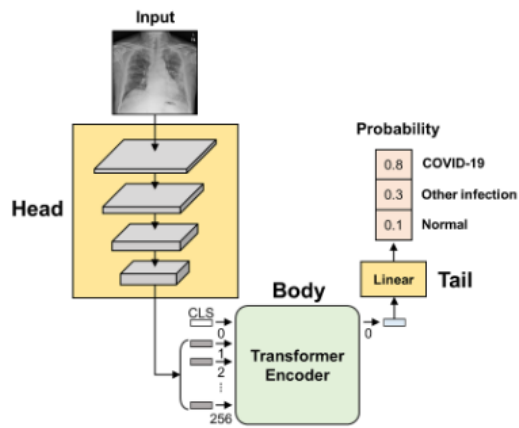
$$\min_{\mathcal{B}} \sum_{c \in \mathcal{C}} \sum_{i=1}^{N_c} \ell_c(y_c^{(i)}, \mathcal{T}_c(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_c(x_c^{(i)}))))$$

Task-specific head & tail update

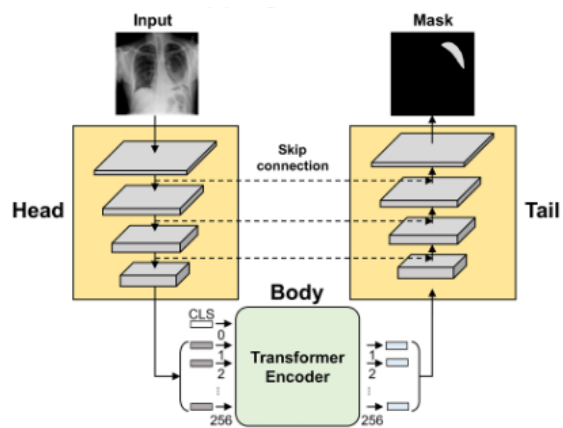
$$\min_{\mathcal{H}_c, \mathcal{T}_c} \sum_{i=1}^{N_c} \ell_c(y_c^{(i)}, \mathcal{T}_c(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}_c(x_c^{(i)}))))$$

# Network Configurations for CXR Tasks

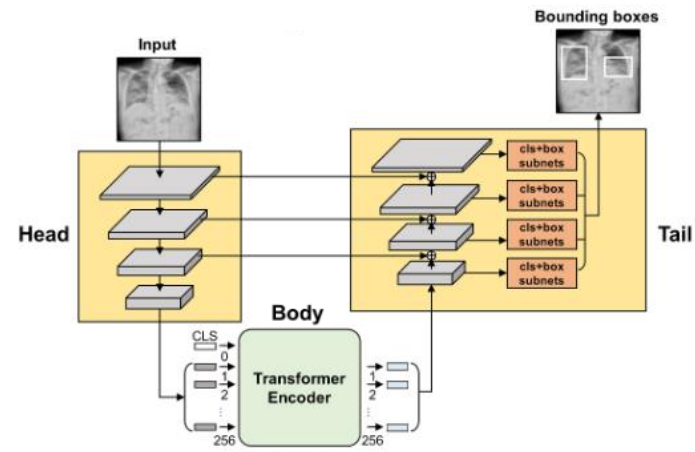
## COVID-19 Classification



## Pneumothorax Segmentation



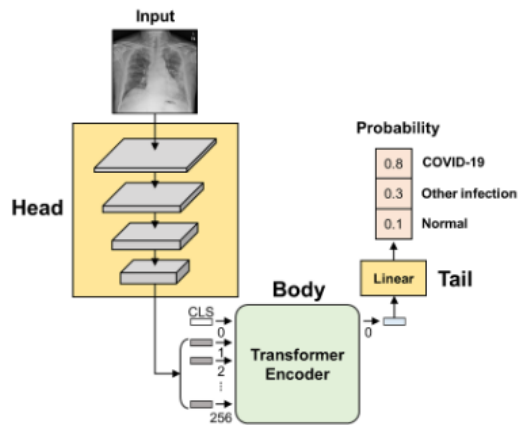
## Pneumonia Detection



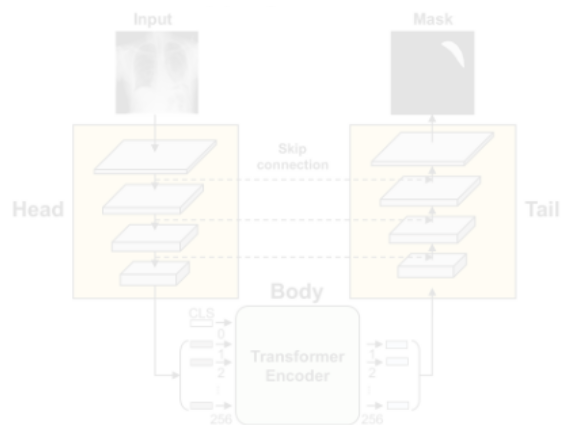
Task-agnostic Body: Shared

# Network Configurations for CXR Tasks

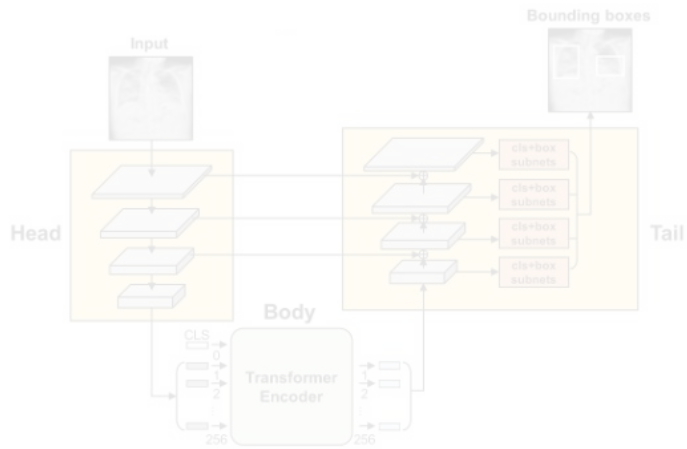
## COVID-19 Classification



## Pneumothorax Segmentation



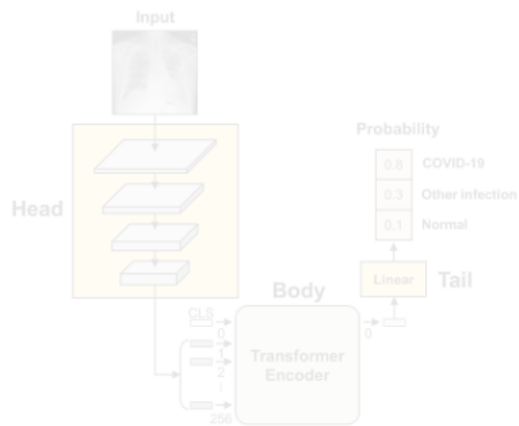
## Pneumonia Detection



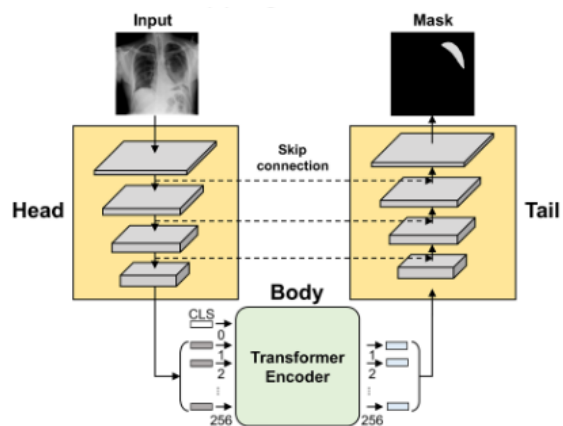
Task-agnostic Body: Shared

# Network Configurations for CXR Tasks

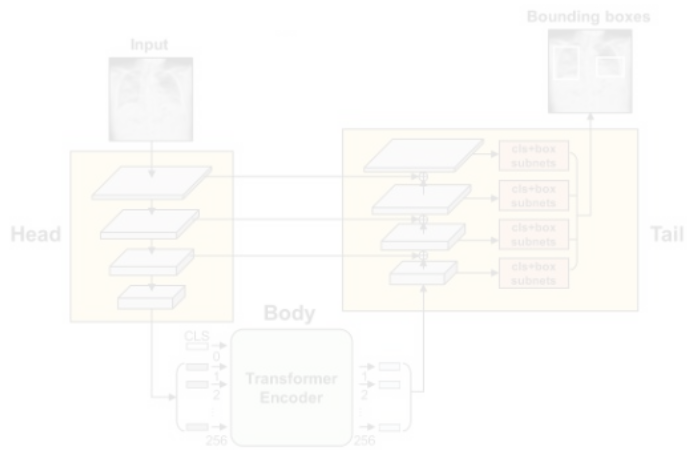
## COVID-19 Classification



## Pneumothorax Segmentation



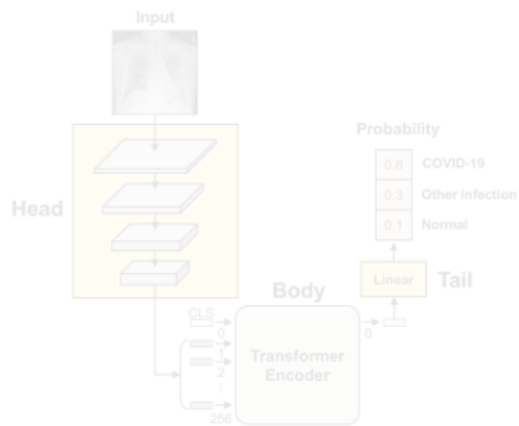
## Pneumonia Detection



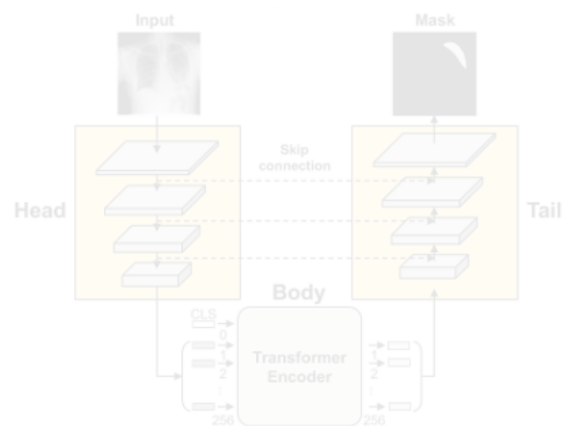
Task-agnostic Body: Shared

# Network Configurations for CXR Tasks

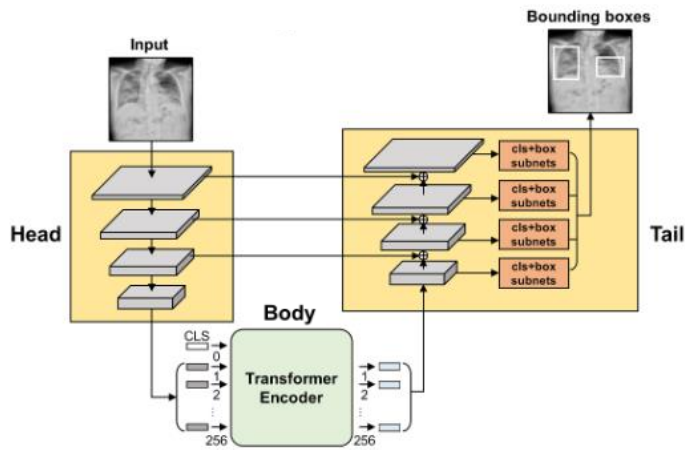
## COVID-19 Classification



## Pneumothorax Segmentation



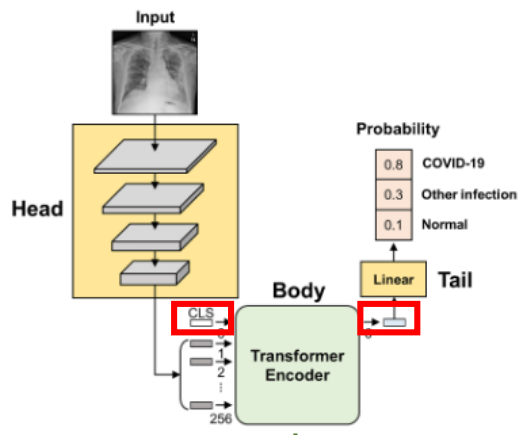
## Pneumonia Detection



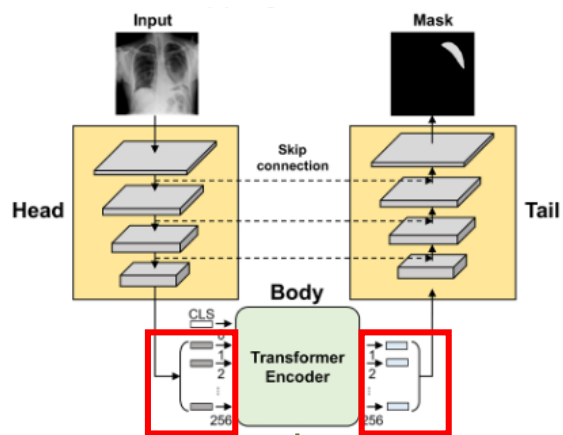
Task-agnostic Body: Shared

# Network Configurations for CXR Tasks

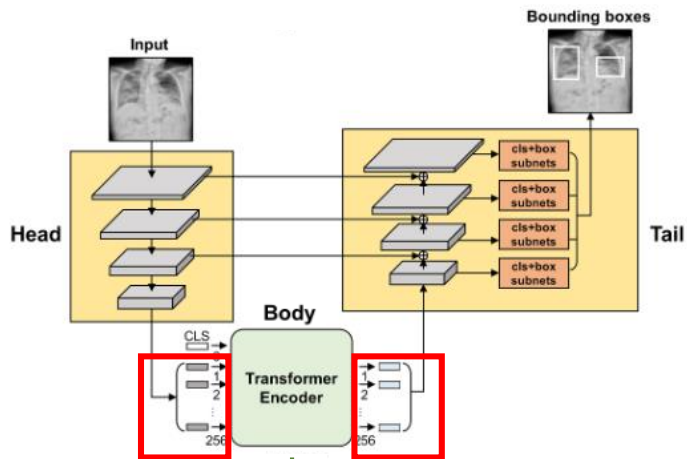
## COVID-19 Classification



## Pneumothorax Segmentation



## Pneumonia Detection



Task-agnostic Body: Shared

# Datasets for CXR Tasks

## COVID-19 classification

Total CXR images		Training and validation dataset						
		External	Client					
			Hospital 1	Hospital 2	Hospital 3	Hospital 4	NIH	Brixia
Normal	13,649	320	300	400	8,861	3,768	-	-
Other infection	1,468	39	144	308	977	-	-	-
COVID-19	2,431	6	8	80	-	-	1,929	408
<b>Total CXR</b>	<b>17,548</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>452</b>	<b>788</b>	<b>9,838</b>	<b>3,768</b>	<b>1,929</b>	<b>408</b>

## Pneumothorax segmentation (SIIM-ACR challenge)

- 12,047 subjects for training (→ randomly assigned 4:1 ratio for training and validation datasets) and 3,205 subjects for testing

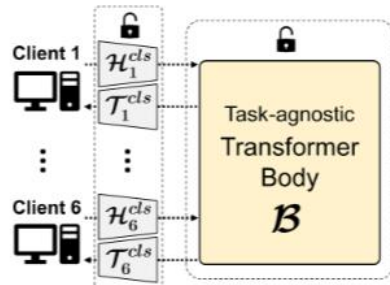
## Pneumonia detection (RSNA challenge)

- 26,684 subjects → Randomly assigned 3:1 ratio to training and testing datasets

# Detailed Experimental Setting

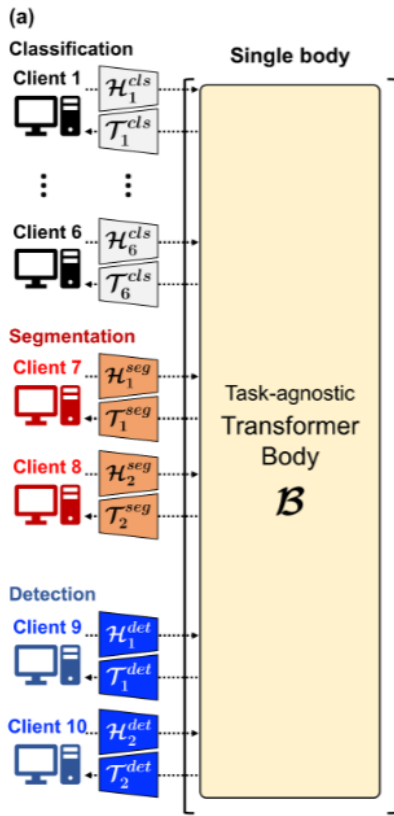
(b) Single-task learning scheme (e.g. classification)

Training for 12,000 rounds



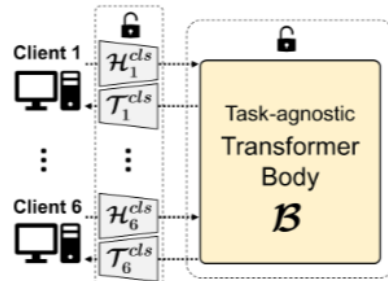


# Detailed Experimental Setting

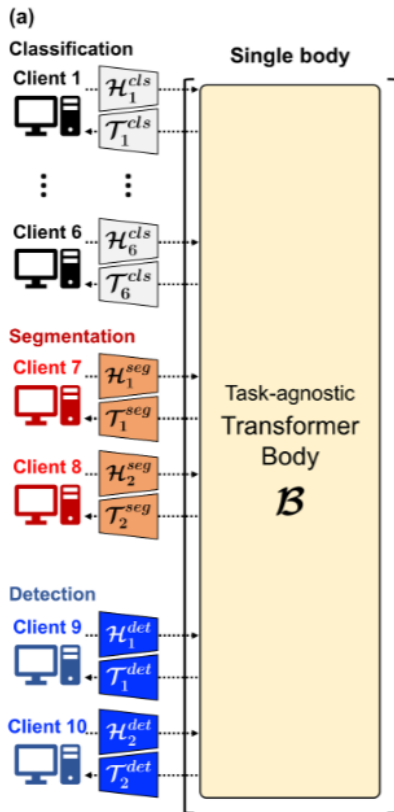


(b) Single-task learning scheme (e.g. classification)

Training for 12,000 rounds

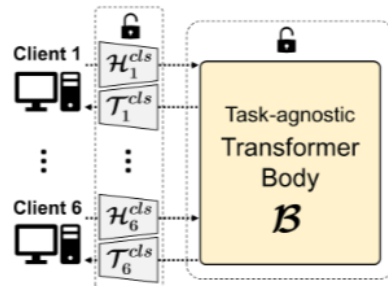


# Detailed Experimental Setting



(b) Single-task learning scheme (e.g. classification)

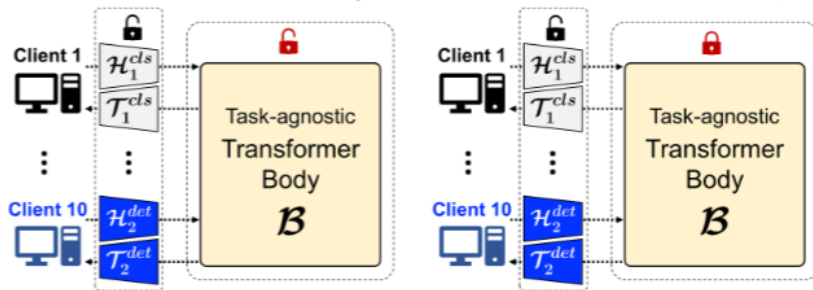
Training for 12,000 rounds



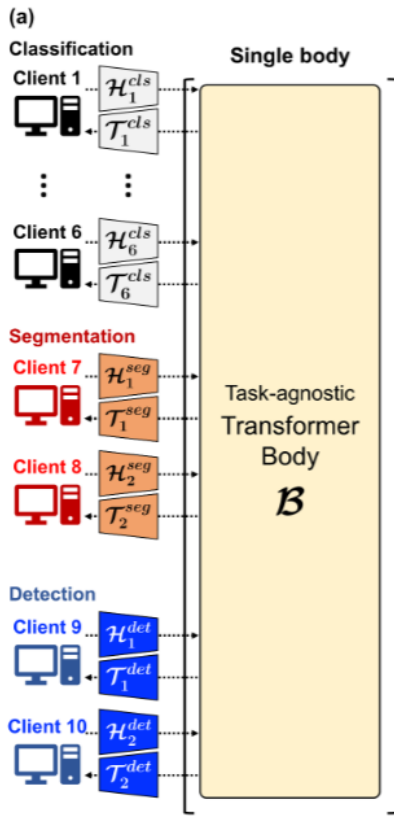
(c) Multi-task learning scheme

Step 1: Training for 6,000 rounds (body learnable)

Step 2: Training for 6,000 rounds (body fixed)



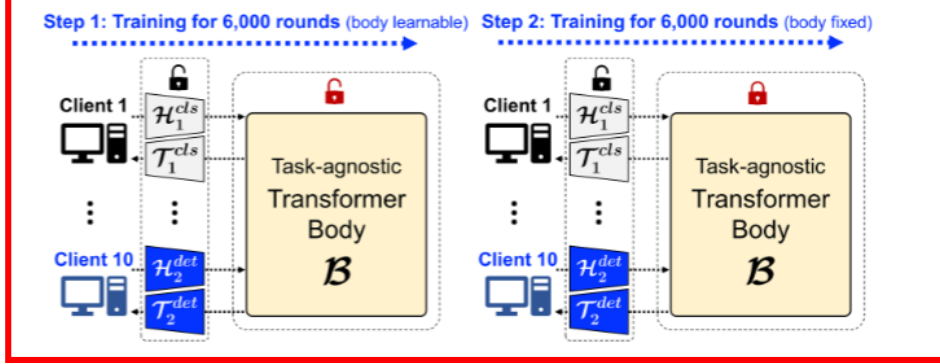
# Detailed Experimental Setting



(b) Single-task learning scheme (e.g. classification)

Tasks	Classification	Segmentation	Detection
	AUC	Dice	mAP
Effect of training strategy			
One-step approach	0.930 $\pm$ 0.022	0.801 $\pm$ 0.024	0.188 $\pm$ 0.020
Alternating approach	0.915 $\pm$ 0.011	0.799 $\pm$ 0.021	0.179 $\pm$ 0.003
Two-step approach	<b>0.931 <math>\pm</math> 0.004</b>	<b>0.821 <math>\pm</math> 0.003</b>	<b>0.204 <math>\pm</math> 0.002</b>

(c) Multi-task learning scheme



# Results

## Comparison of the FeSTA with other strategies

Strategy	AUC			
	Average	COVID-19	Others	Normal
Data-centralized	0.911 $\pm$ 0.016	0.883 $\pm$ 0.036	0.927 $\pm$ 0.013	0.923 $\pm$ 0.004
Federated learning	0.891 $\pm$ 0.019	0.840 $\pm$ 0.035	0.926 $\pm$ 0.018	0.906 $\pm$ 0.028
Split learning	0.863 $\pm$ 0.005	0.807 $\pm$ 0.012	0.892 $\pm$ 0.007	0.889 $\pm$ 0.019
<b>FESTA (STL)</b>	<b>0.909 <math>\pm</math> 0.021</b>	<b>0.880 <math>\pm</math> 0.008</b>	<b>0.916 <math>\pm</math> 0.038</b>	<b>0.931 <math>\pm</math> 0.021</b>
<b>FESTA (MTL)</b>	<b>0.931 <math>\pm</math> 0.004</b>	<b>0.926 <math>\pm</math> 0.023</b>	<b>0.929 <math>\pm</math> 0.016</b>	<b>0.938 <math>\pm</math> 0.013</b>

## Comparison between single-task & multi-task learning

Tasks	Metrics	Single-task learning	Multi-task learning
<b>Classification</b>	AUC	0.909 $\pm$ 0.021	<b>0.931 <math>\pm</math> 0.004</b>
<b>Segmentation</b>	Dice	0.798 $\pm$ 0.016	<b>0.821 <math>\pm</math> 0.003</b>
<b>Detection</b>	mAP	0.202 $\pm$ 0.008	<b>0.204 <math>\pm</math> 0.002</b>

# Results

## Comparison with task-specific expert network & CNN-based MTL model

Tasks	Metrics	Task-specific experts	CNN-based MTL model	Transformer-based MTL model (ours)
Classification	AUC	$0.898 \pm 0.004$	$0.907 \pm 0.011$	<b><math>0.931 \pm 0.004</math></b>
Segmentation	Dice	$0.736 \pm 0.014$	$0.797 \pm 0.018$	<b><math>0.821 \pm 0.003</math></b>
Detection	mAP	$0.190 \pm 0.006$	$0.159 \pm 0.035$	<b><math>0.204 \pm 0.002</math></b>

## Statistical comparison of performance between model with & without the transformer

Method	COVID-19		Others		Normal	
	AUC (95% CI)	p-value	AUC (95% CI)	p-value	AUC (95% CI)	p-value
w/o Transformer body	0.867 (0.696 - 1.000)	-	0.883 (0.817 - 0.948)	-	0.889 (0.837 - 0.941)	-
w Transformer body (STL)	<b>0.868 (0.749 - 0.987)</b>	<b>0.988</b>	<b>0.905 (0.852 - 0.958)</b>	<b>0.498</b>	<b>0.927 (0.889 - 0.965)</b>	<b>0.019</b>
w Transformer body (MTL)	<b>0.945 (0.896 - 0.995)</b>	<b>0.266</b>	<b>0.893 (0.833 - 0.954)</b>	<b>0.768</b>	<b>0.938 (0.903 - 0.974)</b>	<b>0.010</b>

# Model Sizes & Communicative Benefit

## Parameter numbers & model sizes of sub-networks

Task	Head		Body		Tail	
	Parameters	Size	Parameters	Size	Parameters	Size
<b>Classification</b>	13.313 M	54.1 MB			0.002 M	11.7 KB
<b>Segmentation</b>	15.041 M	60.2 MB	66.367 M	265.5 MB	7.387 M	29.6 MB
<b>Detection</b>	27.085 M	108.8 MB			19.773 M	79.1 MB

Note: Model sizes were estimated by parameter numbers and file sizes of saved weights.

- **Enables efficient communication under limited transmission speed and network capacities**

# Model Sizes & Communicative Benefit

## Communication cost per 1 Federated Averaging (FedAvg)

	Total transmission	Feature and gradient transmission	Network parameter transmission
<b>Classification</b>			
Federated learning	159.365M	-	159.365M
Split learning	78.950M	78.950M	-
FESTA	105.580M	78.950M	26.630M
<b>Segmentation</b>			
Federated learning	177.592M	-	177.592M
Split learning	78.950M	78.950M	-
FESTA	123.808M	78.950M	44.858M
<b>Detection</b>			
Federated learning	226.450M	-	226.450M
Split learning	78.950M	78.950M	-
FESTA	172.665M	78.950M	93.715M

- When period between FedAvg is  $k$ , transmission of features, gradients and network parameters are  $F$ ,  $G$  and  $P$  respectively, total transmission from Server to Client  $T$  can be represented as follows:

$$T = k \times (F + G) + P$$

- $T$  for each strategies can be formulated as follows:

$$T_{FL} = P_h + P_b + P_t$$

$$T_{SL} = 100 \times (F + G)$$

$$T_{FESTA} = 100 \times (F + G) + (P_h + P_t)$$

- If the transmission from Server to Client  $T$  and that from Client to Server  $T_{C \rightarrow S}$  are assumed to be equal ( $T_{C \rightarrow S} = T$ ), total transmission  $T'$  is as follows:

$$T' = 2T$$

# Summary

- A novel Federated Split Task-Agnostic (FeSTA) framework suitable to leverage the benefit of ViT to process multiple CXR tasks are proposed.
- We showed that the proposed method outperforms the existing distributed learning methods, showing comparable performance to data-centralized method even under the extremely skewed data distribution.
- Our framework alongside with clients to process multiple related tasks also improves the performances of individual task.



# Thank you!



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