



# **FedGMKD: An Efficient Prototype Federated Learning Framework through Knowledge Distillation and Discrepancy-Aware Aggregation**

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# Introduction and Motivation

- **Background:** Federated Learning (FL) allows collaborative model training while keeping data decentralized, crucial for privacy in fields like healthcare and finance
- **Challenge:** Non-IID data across clients leads to slow convergence and inconsistent performance, making it difficult for global models to generalize
- **Problem Formulation**

In Federated Learning, each client  $i$  has a private dataset  $D_i$  and optimizes a local model  $w_i$  by minimizing the local loss function:

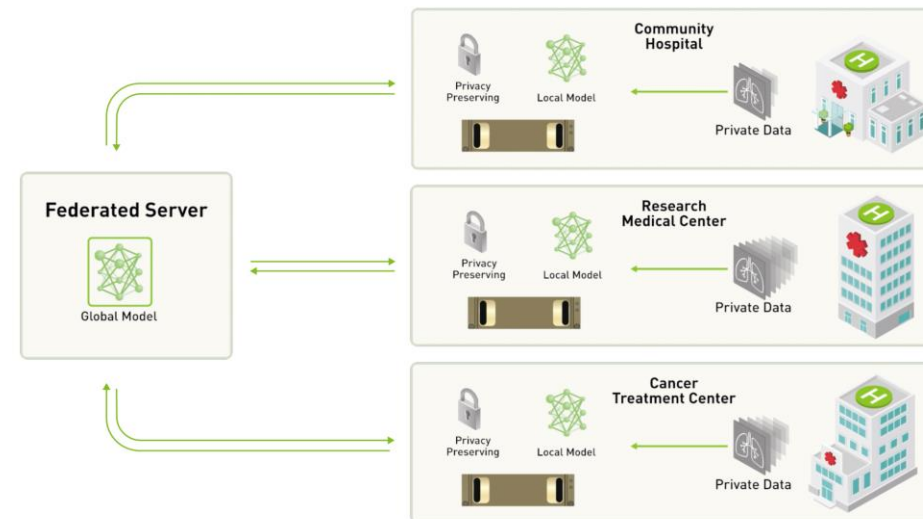
$$F_i(w_i) = \frac{1}{|D_i|} \sum_{x \in D_i} \ell(w_i, x)$$

To build a global model, FedAvg (McMahan et al., 2017) aggregates the local models using weighted averaging:

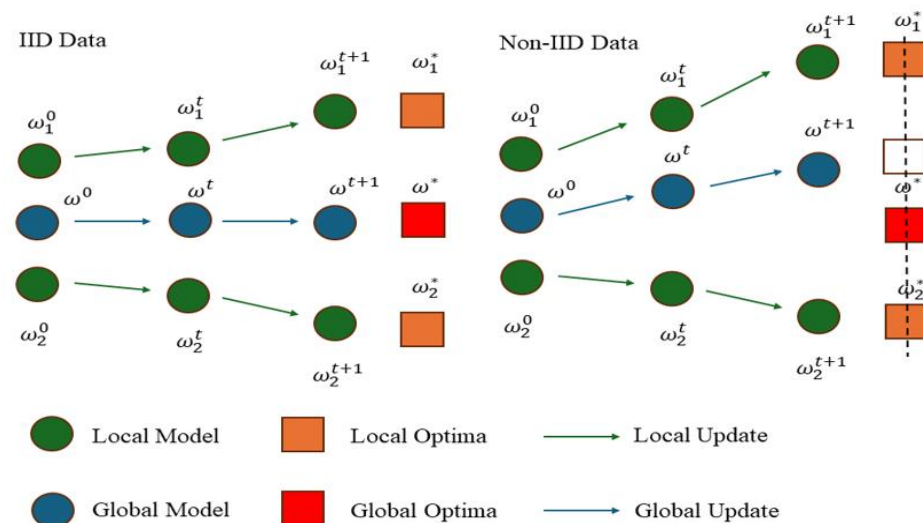
$$W = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^n |D_i| w_i$$

where  $N = \sum_{i=1}^n |D_i|$  is the total sample count across all clients.

- **Solution (FedGMKD):** We propose FedGMKD, which integrates Cluster Knowledge Fusion (using Gaussian Mixture Models) and Discrepancy-Aware Aggregation. This framework improves model performance by prototype-based distillation knowledge without relying on public datasets and enhances both local and global accuracy across diverse data distributions.



General Federated Learning Concept (Federal AI, 2023)



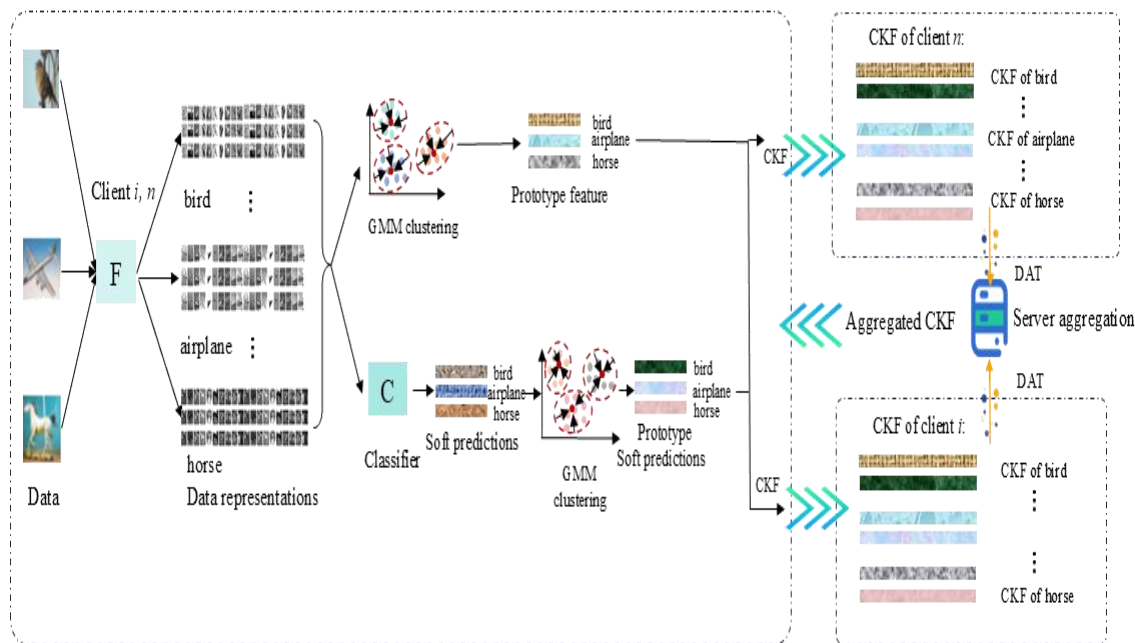
Federated Learning with IID and Non-IID data distribution

- Federal AI. (2023, October 4). Unveiling the dynamics of skin cancer detection with federated learning. Medium. <https://medium.com/@federalai/unveiling-the-dynamics-of-skin-cancer-detection-with-federated-learning-f25b590137a7>
- McMahan, Brendan, et al. "Communication-efficient learning of deep networks from decentralized data." Artificial intelligence and statistics. PMLR, 2017.

# Methodology

## Cluster Knowledge Fusion (CKF)

- CKF utilizes **Gaussian Mixture Models (GMM)** to generate **prototype features** and **soft predictions** for each class of each **client**.
- This method clusters client data to create representative prototypes **without relying on a public dataset, preserving data privacy** while **handling non-IID data effectively**



Flow diagram demonstrating the computation of Cluster Knowledge Fusion (CKF) in Federated Learning

- **Feature Extraction and Prediction**

$$h_{L_i} = F_{\theta_i}(x_i), z_i = \text{Softmax}(C_{\psi_i}(h_i))$$

- **Responsibility Calculation & Prototype Feature and Prediction Calculation**

$$\gamma_m(\mathbf{x}_i^j) = \frac{\pi_m \cdot \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_i^j; \mu_m, \Sigma_m)}{\sum_{s=1}^M \pi_s \cdot \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_i^j; \mu_s, \Sigma_s)}$$

$$\hat{h}_i^j = \sum_{m=1}^M \gamma_m(\mathbf{h}_i^j) \mu_{m_j}$$

$$\hat{q}_i^f = \sum_{m=1}^M \gamma_m(\mathbf{z}_i^j) \mathbf{z}_{m_j}$$

- **Class-Level CKF for Client**

$$K_i^j = (\hat{h}_i^j, \hat{q}_i^j)$$

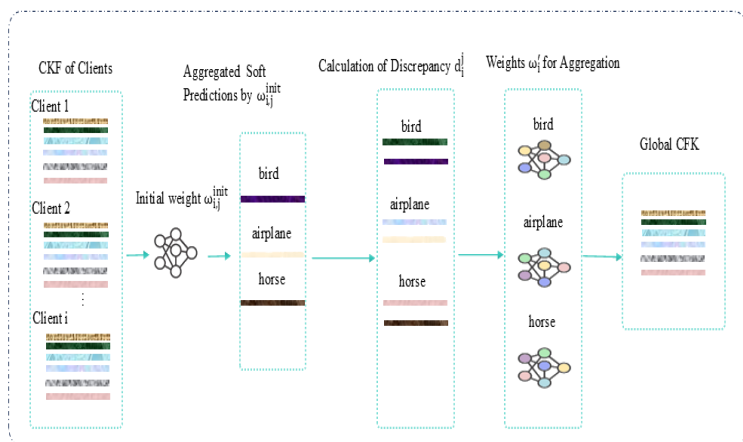
- **Complete CKF for a Client**

$$K_i = \bigcup_{j=1}^J (\hat{h}_i^j, \hat{q}_i^j)$$

# Methodology

## Discrepancy-Aware Aggregation Technique (DAT)

- DAT evaluates the **quality** of client data and **weights client contributions** based on **both the quality and quantity of data**



Flow diagram demonstrating the computation of Discrepancy-Aware Aggregation Technique (DAT) in Federated Learning

- Initial Weight Calculation**

$$w_{i,j}^{\text{init}} = \frac{N_i^j}{\sum_{i=1}^n N_i^j}$$

- KL Divergence for Discrepancy Calculation & Final Weight Adjustment**

$$d_i^j = D_{\text{KL}}(\hat{q}_i^j \parallel \hat{Q}_j) = \hat{q}_i^j \log \frac{\hat{q}_i^j}{\hat{Q}_j}$$

$$w_i' = \frac{\text{ReLU}(w_{i,j}^{\text{init}} - a \cdot d_i^j + b)}{\sum_{i=1}^n \text{ReLU}(w_{i,j}^{\text{init}} - a \cdot d_i^j + b)}$$

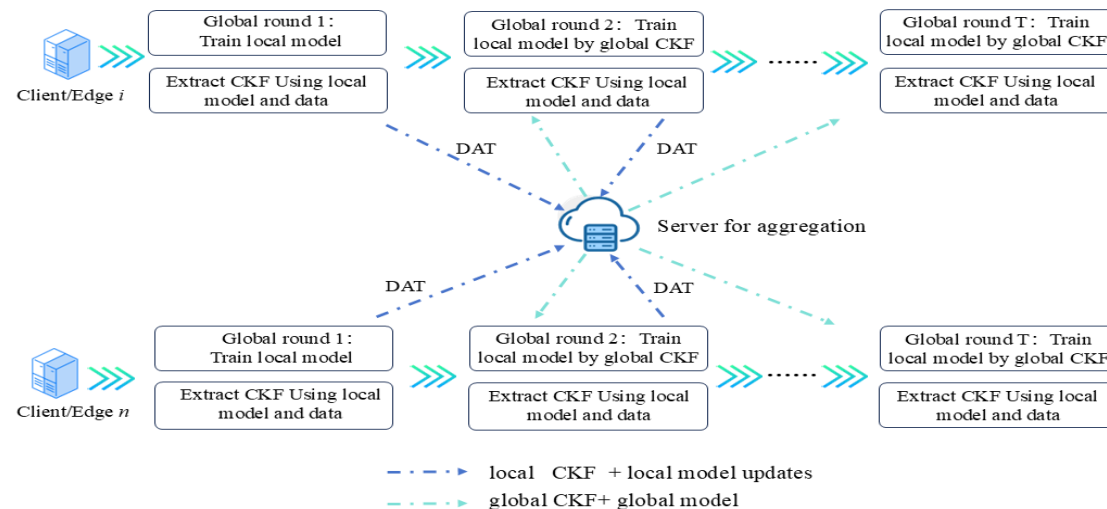
- Global CKF Aggregation**

$$\mathbf{H}_j^{r+1} = \sum_{i=1}^n w_i' \cdot \hat{h}_i^{j,r}$$

$$\mathbf{Q}_j^{r+1} = \sum_{i=1}^n w_i' \cdot \hat{q}_i^{j,r}$$

- Complete Global CKF**

$$G^{r+1} = \bigcup_{j=1}^J (\mathbf{H}_j^{r+1}, \mathbf{Q}_j^{r+1})$$



Flow diagram of overall FedGMKD framework

## Local Training Objective Function

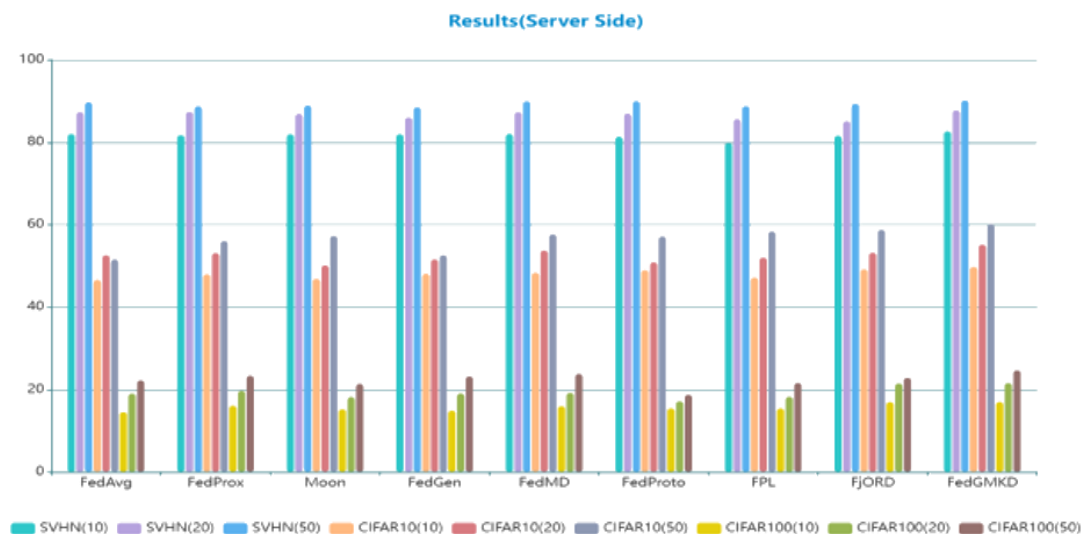
$$L(\mathcal{D}_i, \mathbf{w}_i) = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{D}_i|} \sum_{(x_k, y_k) \in \mathcal{D}_i} \ell(C_{\psi_i}(F_{O_i}(x_k)), y_k) + \lambda \frac{1}{|\mathcal{D}_i|} \sum_{(x_k, y_k) \in \mathcal{D}_i} \|F_{O_i}(x_k) - \mathbf{H}_{y_k}^{r+1}\|_2^2 + \frac{\gamma}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n \left\| \frac{C_{\psi_i}(\mathbf{H}_j^{r+1})}{T} - \frac{\mathbf{Q}_j^{r+1}}{T} \right\|_2^2$$

# Experiments and Results

## Experiment Settings

- Datasets: SVHN, CIFAR10, CIFAR100
- Model Architecture: ResNet-18 architecture
- Federated Setup:
  - Experiments conducted with varied numbers of clients (e.g., 10, 20, 50) to assess scalability
  - Each client trained for 3 local epochs per communication round
  - Total of 50 rounds to achieve convergence and assess global model performance

| Dataset        | Scheme         | Local Acc    |              |              | Global Acc   |              |              | Avg Time (S) | Pub Data |
|----------------|----------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------|
|                |                | 10           | 20           | 50           | 10           | 20           | 50           |              |          |
| SVHN           | FedAvg         | 84.29        | 85.20        | 85.67        | 81.98        | 87.32        | 89.72        | 168.44       | No       |
|                | FedProx        | 85.25        | 86.38        | 86.08        | 81.71        | 87.40        | 88.74        | 229.17       | No       |
|                | Moon           | 84.11        | 85.43        | 85.43        | 81.95        | 86.90        | 88.97        | 358.14       | No       |
|                | FedGen         | 85.18        | 85.10        | 84.96        | 81.96        | 86.02        | 88.52        | 205.37       | No       |
|                | FedMD          | 85.45        | 85.90        | 86.31        | 82.04        | 87.30        | 89.91        | 611.33       | Yes      |
|                | FedProto       | 85.58        | 86.44        | 86.85        | 81.34        | 86.97        | 89.79        | 346.13       | No       |
|                | FPL            | 85.37        | 86.02        | 85.87        | 79.81        | 85.64        | 88.76        | 522.83       | No       |
|                | FjORD          | 85.13        | 85.97        | 86.21        | 81.56        | 85.09        | 89.36        | 380.74       | No       |
|                | <b>FedGMKD</b> | <b>86.26</b> | <b>87.43</b> | <b>87.16</b> | <b>82.64</b> | <b>87.78</b> | <b>90.17</b> | 312.52       | No       |
|                | CIFAR10        | FedAvg       | 55.75        | 58.76        | 61.51        | 46.62        | 52.61        | 51.53        | 98.94    |
| FedProx        |                | 57.46        | 58.91        | 62.94        | 47.97        | 53.13        | 56.04        | 126.56       | No       |
| Moon           |                | 58.61        | 59.12        | 62.42        | 46.89        | 50.16        | 57.29        | 221.19       | No       |
| FedGen         |                | 59.46        | 60.17        | 61.03        | 48.09        | 51.55        | 52.62        | 122.35       | No       |
| FedMD          |                | 60.15        | 62.05        | 63.37        | 48.32        | 53.73        | 57.69        | 410.19       | Yes      |
| FedProto       |                | 59.77        | 62.85        | 64.98        | 48.97        | 50.88        | 57.12        | 229.40       | No       |
| FPL            |                | 60.95        | 62.74        | 64.49        | 47.19        | 52.04        | 58.35        | 295.97       | No       |
| FjORD          |                | 59.62        | 63.36        | 63.61        | 49.18        | 53.22        | 58.74        | 252.34       | No       |
| <b>FedGMKD</b> |                | <b>61.78</b> | <b>64.04</b> | <b>65.69</b> | <b>49.78</b> | <b>55.16</b> | <b>60.31</b> | 251.55       | No       |
| CIFAR100       |                | FedAvg       | 15.39        | 17.10        | 21.09        | 14.51        | 18.98        | 22.21        | 97.02    |
|                | FedProx        | 16.45        | 17.56        | 21.91        | 16.06        | 19.67        | 23.35        | 120.36       | No       |
|                | Moon           | 15.46        | 18.03        | 21.25        | 15.19        | 18.16        | 21.37        | 201.91       | No       |
|                | FedGen         | 14.08        | 17.05        | 19.54        | 14.88        | 19.05        | 23.16        | 148.58       | No       |
|                | FedMD          | 13.25        | 19.03        | 21.93        | 15.96        | 19.20        | 23.75        | 482.76       | Yes      |
|                | FedProto       | 15.70        | 18.63        | 22.50        | 15.38        | 17.13        | 18.72        | 206.12       | No       |
|                | FPL            | 15.93        | 18.24        | 21.96        | 15.37        | 18.19        | 21.59        | 373.09       | No       |
|                | FjORD          | 15.94        | 19.91        | 22.60        | 16.93        | 21.45        | 22.86        | 226.73       | No       |
|                | <b>FedGMKD</b> | <b>17.16</b> | <b>20.96</b> | <b>23.57</b> | <b>16.97</b> | <b>21.56</b> | <b>24.63</b> | 275.60       | No       |



# Impact of Model Complexity and Multi-Modality Performance

| Scheme   | ACC(Resnet18-local) | ACC(Resnet18-global) | ACC(Resnet50-local) | ACC(Resnet50-global) |
|----------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| FedAvg   | 61.78               | 49.78                | 41.69               | 49.58                |
| FedProx  | 64.04               | 55.16                | 43.25               | 49.67                |
| FedMD    | 62.05               | 53.73                | 43.34               | 49.85                |
| FedGen   | 60.17               | 51.55                | 42.81               | 48.99                |
| FedProto | 62.85               | 50.88                | 43.35               | 49.98                |
| Moon     | 62.74               | 52.04                | 42.05               | 48.52                |
| FPL      | 62.74               | 52.04                | 43.71               | 49.78                |
| FedGMKD  | 65.69               | 60.31                | 46.27               | 50.48                |

- FedGMKD demonstrates resilience with complex models like ResNet-50, leading all methods despite federated learning's communication and convergence constraints.

| Scheme   | ACC(local) | ACC(global) | Time(s) |
|----------|------------|-------------|---------|
| FedAvg   | 83.71      | 50.52       | 411.95  |
| FedProx  | 83.75      | 48.50       | 438.52  |
| FedMD    | 83.87      | 48.29       | 700.73  |
| FedGen   | 83.54      | 49.16       | 471.35  |
| FedProto | 84.13      | 49.75       | 586.77  |
| FPL      | 83.96      | 50.12       | 665.29  |
| FedGMKD  | 85.11      | 51.58       | 677.79  |

- FedGMKD is effective across data modalities, excelling in both vision and NLP tasks, highlighting its versatility in federated learning

# FedGMKD Convergence Analysis

## FedGMKD Convergence

$$\frac{1}{R} \sum_{r=1}^R \sum_{i=1}^n w'_i \mathbb{E}[\|\nabla F_i(\mathbf{w}_i^r)\|^2] \leq \frac{F(\mathbf{W}^1) - F^*}{\eta R^2} + \sigma^2 + \frac{L\eta R G^2}{2}$$

- $R$  : The total number of global communication rounds.
- $n$  : The number of clients participating in federated learning.
- $w'_i$  : The weight assigned to each client  $i$ , reflecting a combination of data quantity and data quality contributions.
- $\mathbb{E}[\|\nabla F_i(\mathbf{w}_i^r)\|^2]$  : The expected value of the squared gradient norm, representing the optimization state of the local model  $w_i$ .
- $F(\mathbf{W}^1)$  : The loss function value of the initial global model.
- $F^*$  : The theoretical lower bound of the loss function.
- $\eta$  : The learning rate.
- $\sigma^2$  : The variance of the gradient, which indicates uncertainty due to data heterogeneity during training.
- $L$ : The Lipschitz constant, constraining the gradient's rate of change.
- $G$  : The maximum gradient value, used to control the gradient's fluctuation range.

## FedGMKD Convergence Rate

$$F(\mathbf{W}^R) - F^* \leq \frac{C_1}{R} + C_2$$

- $F(\mathbf{W}^R)$  : The loss function value of the global model after  $R$  rounds.
- $F^*$  : The theoretical lower bound of the loss function.
- $C_1, C_2$  : Constants dependent on gradient variance ( $\sigma^2$ ), Lipschitz constant ( $L$ ), learning rate ( $\eta$ ), and the number of local steps.



**Thank you !**