

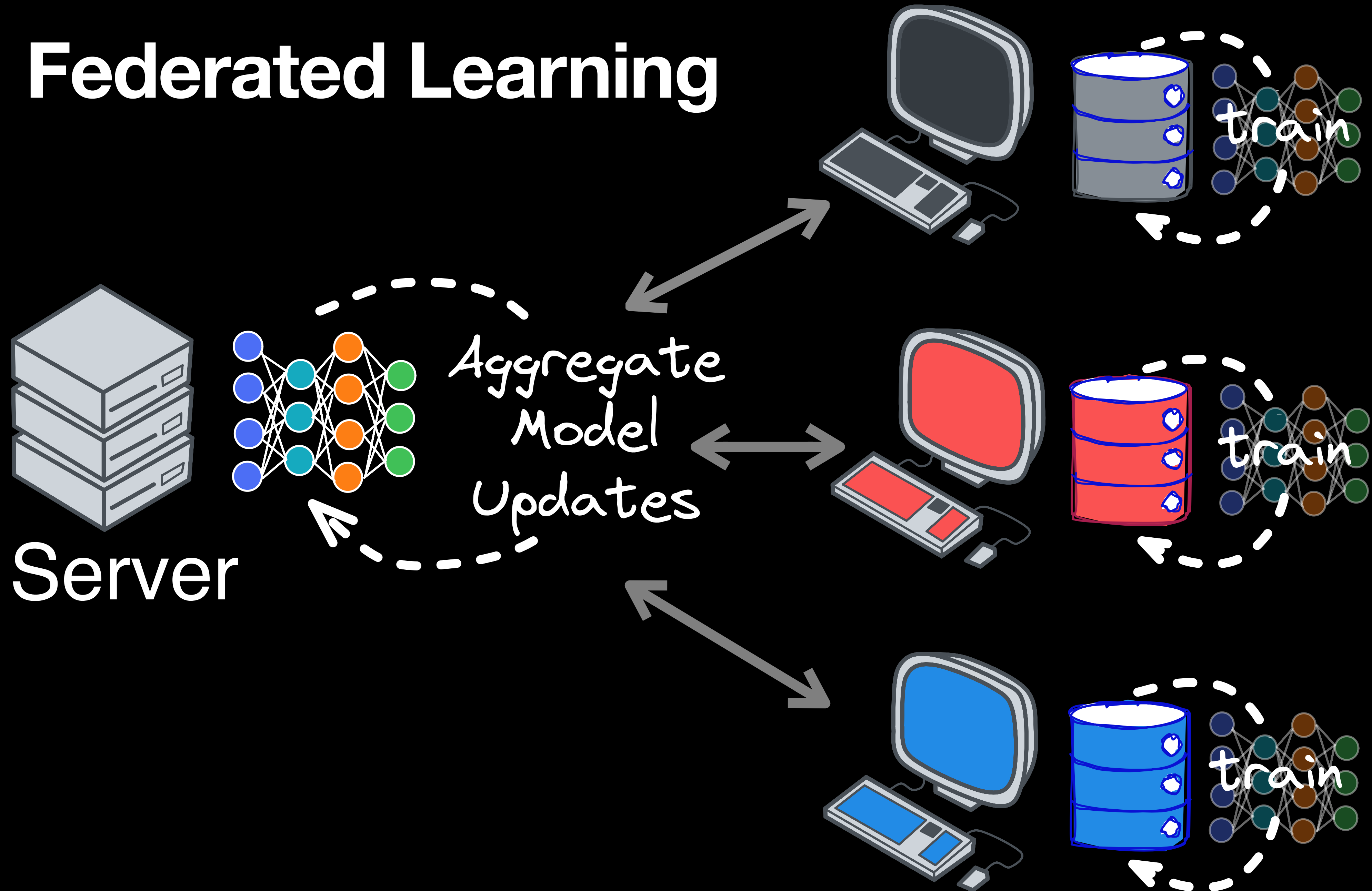
Asynchronous Federated **U**nlearning

Ningxin Su, Baochun Li

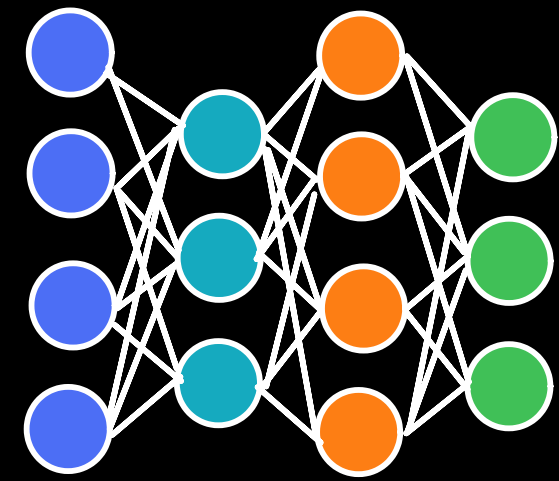
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

University of Toronto

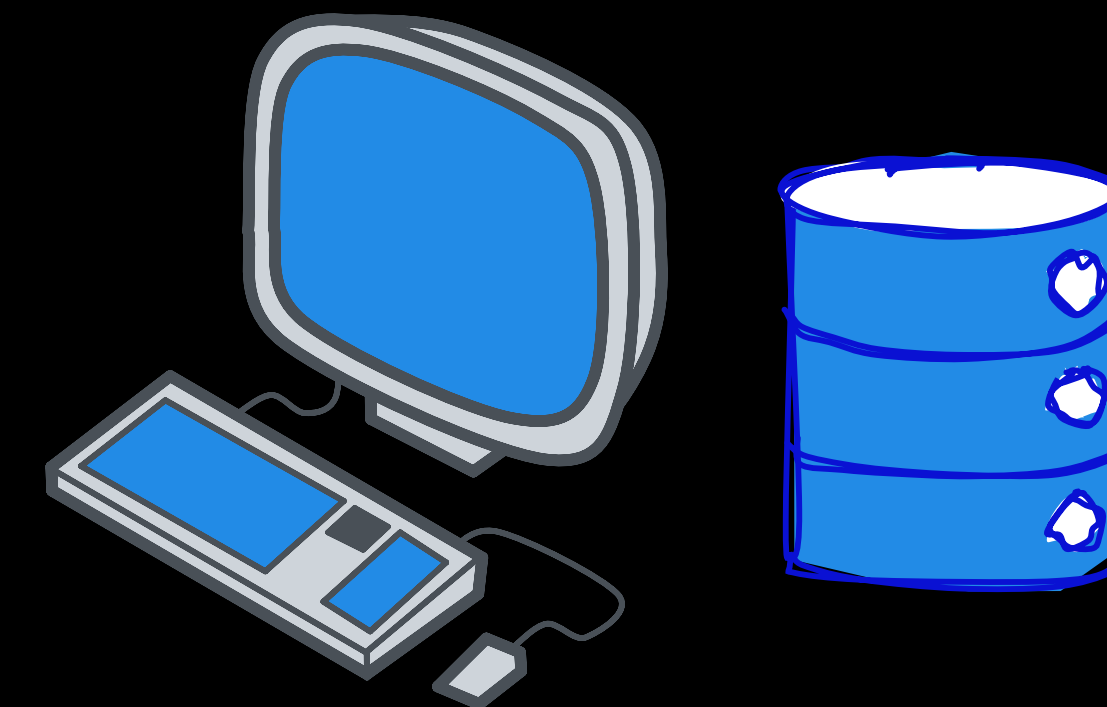
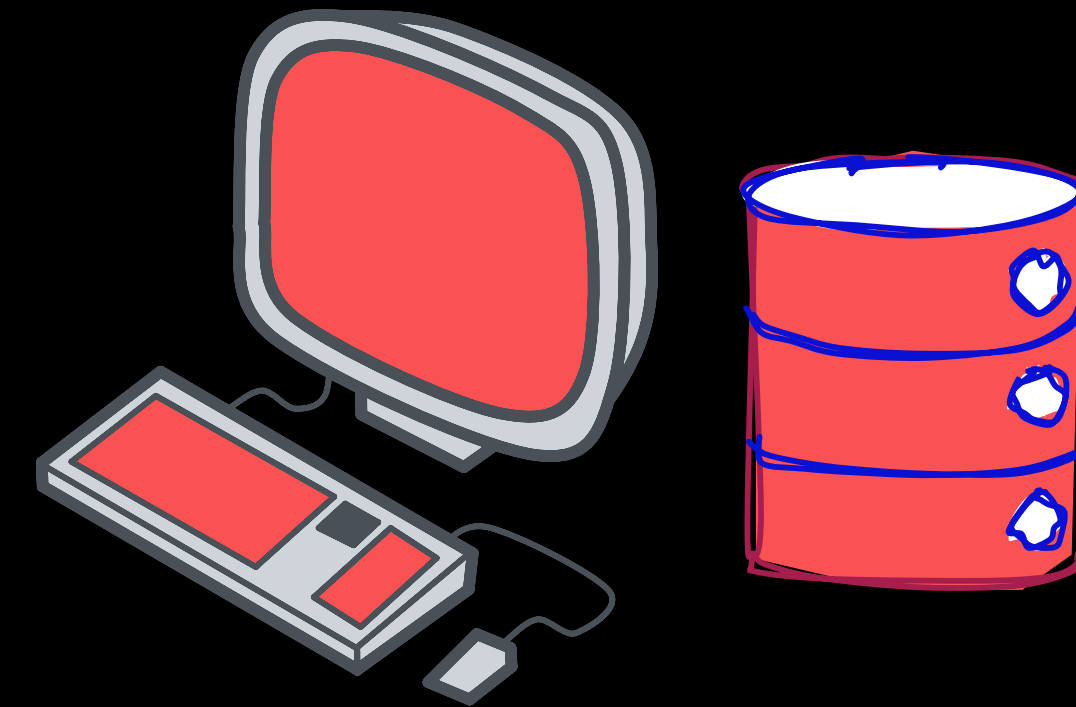
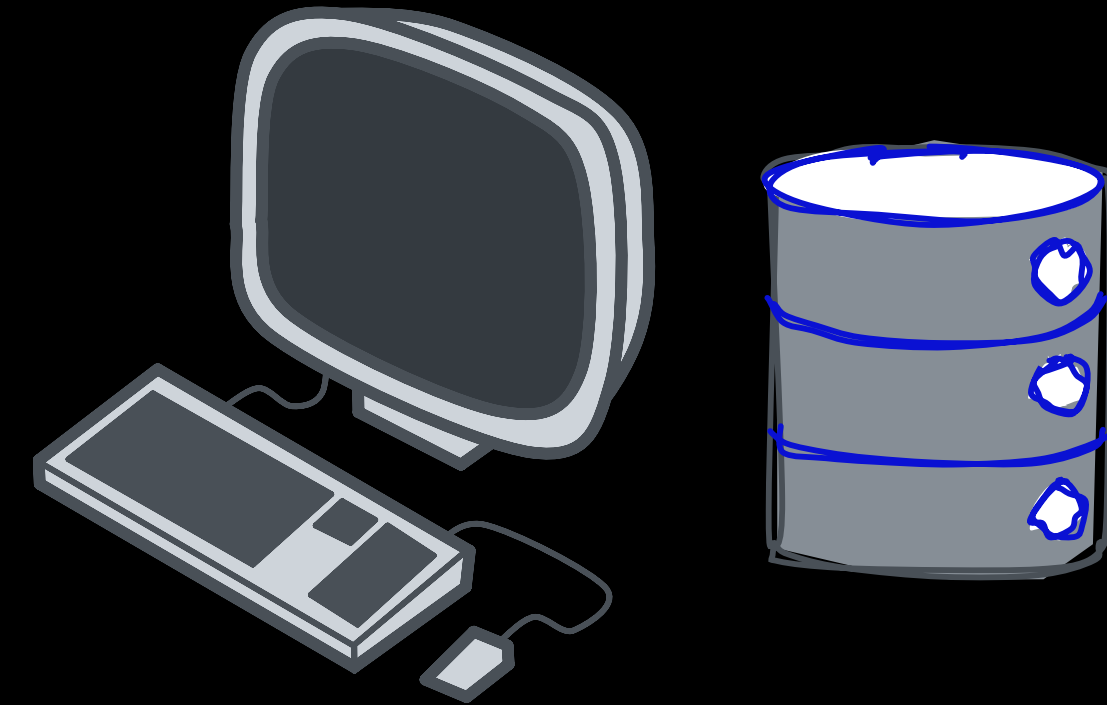
Federated Learning



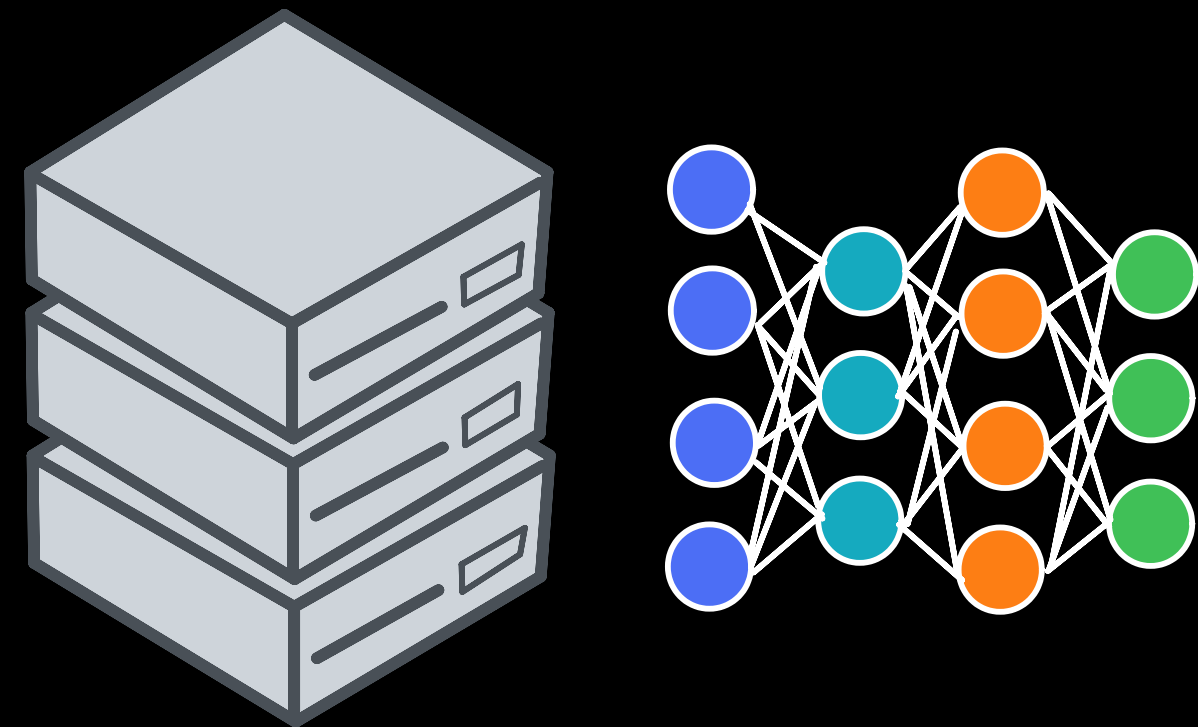
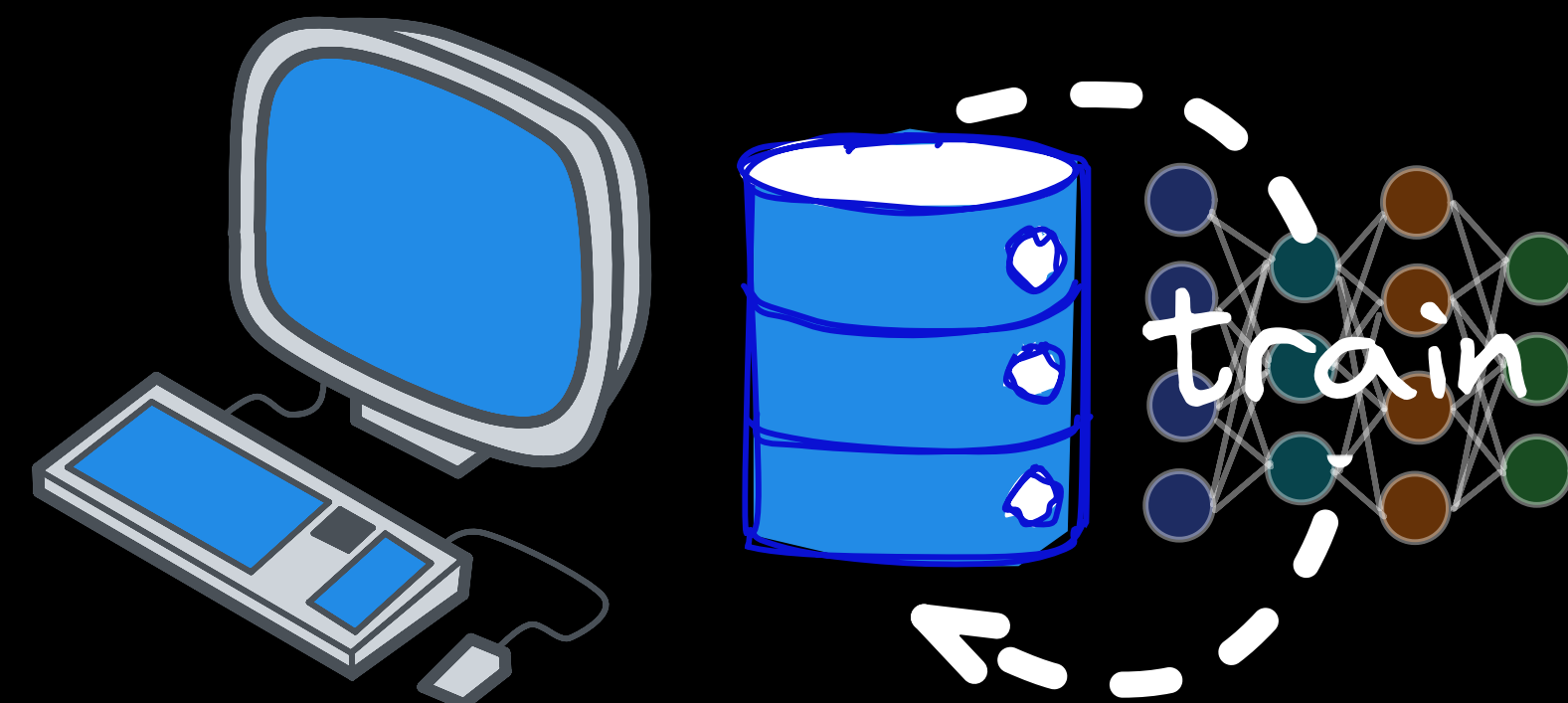
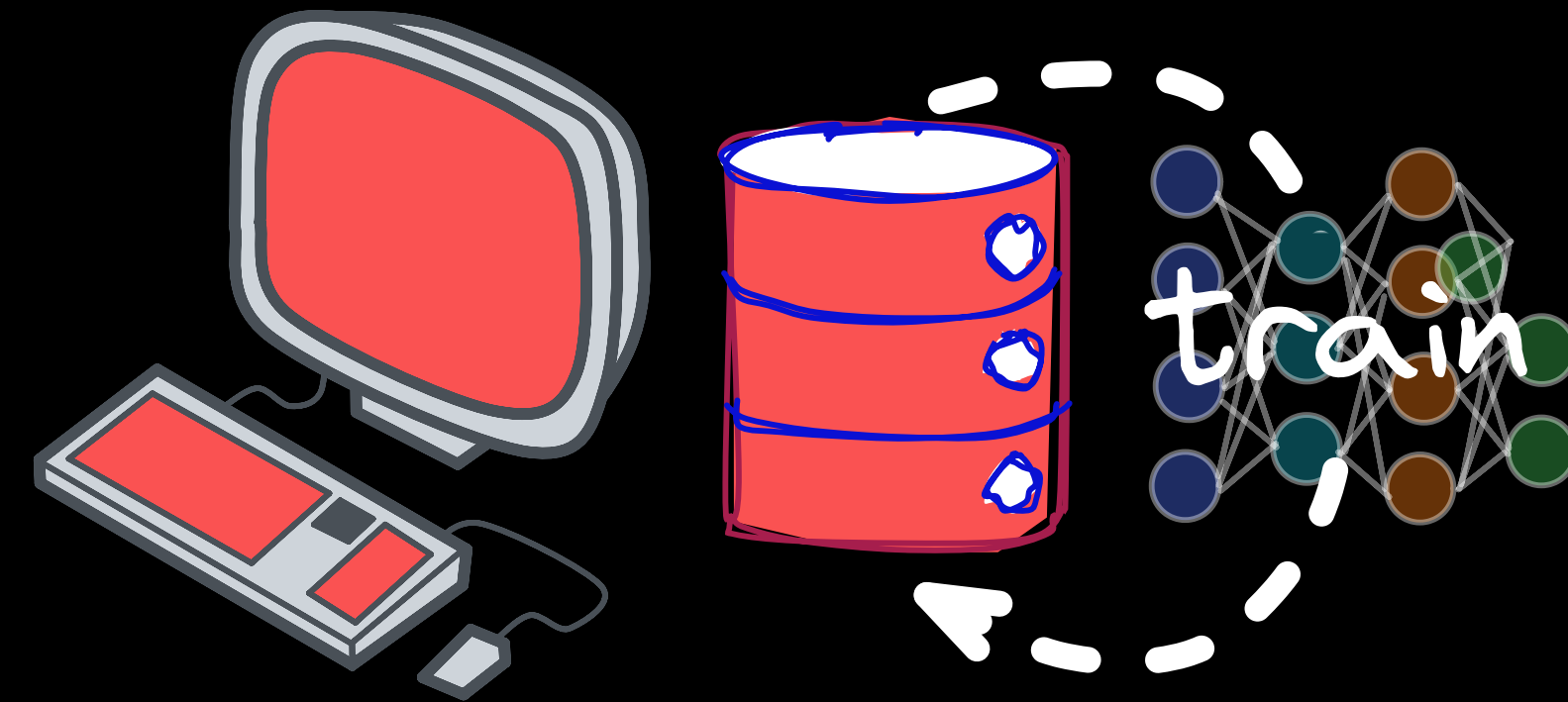
Federated Learning



Model

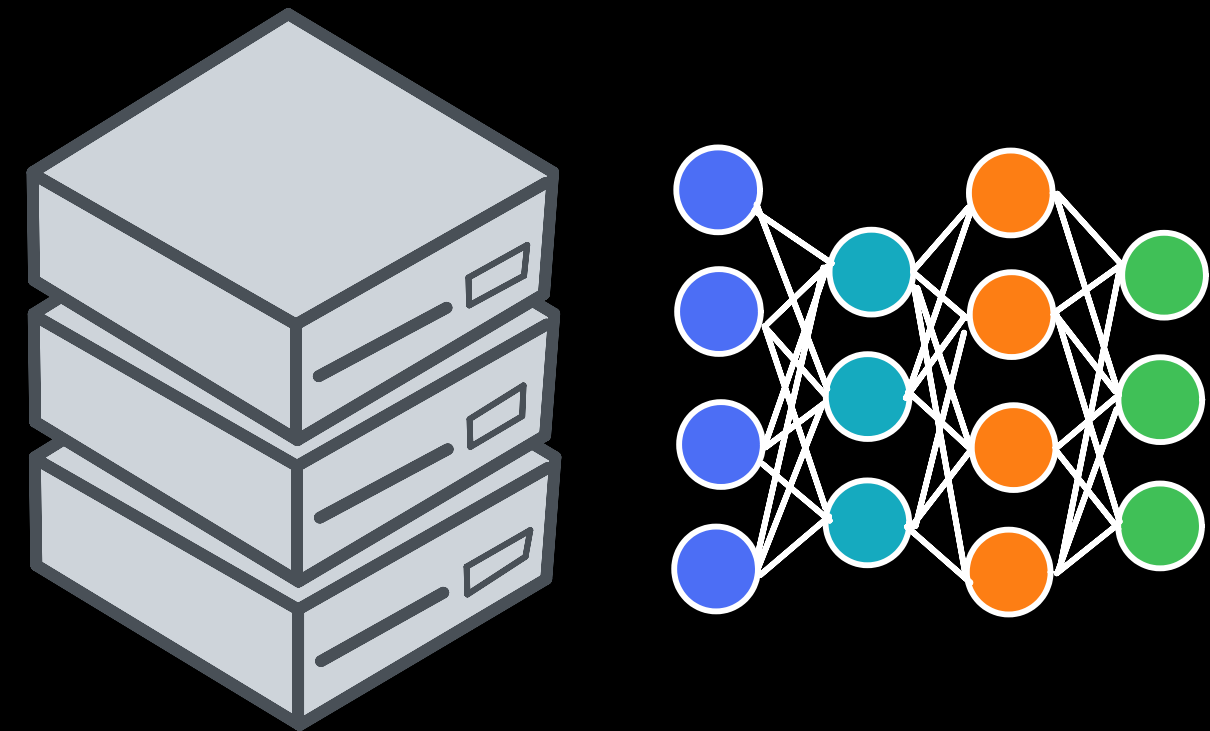


Federated Learning



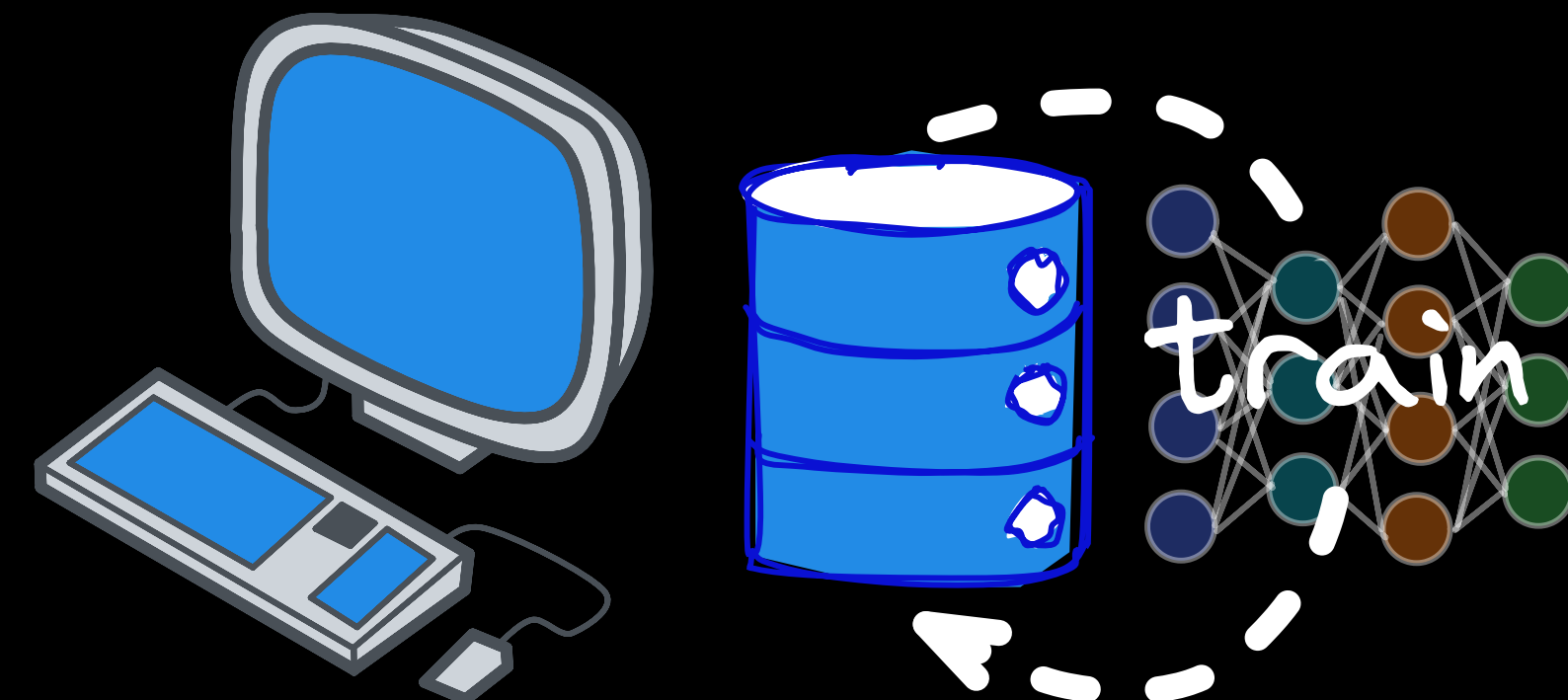
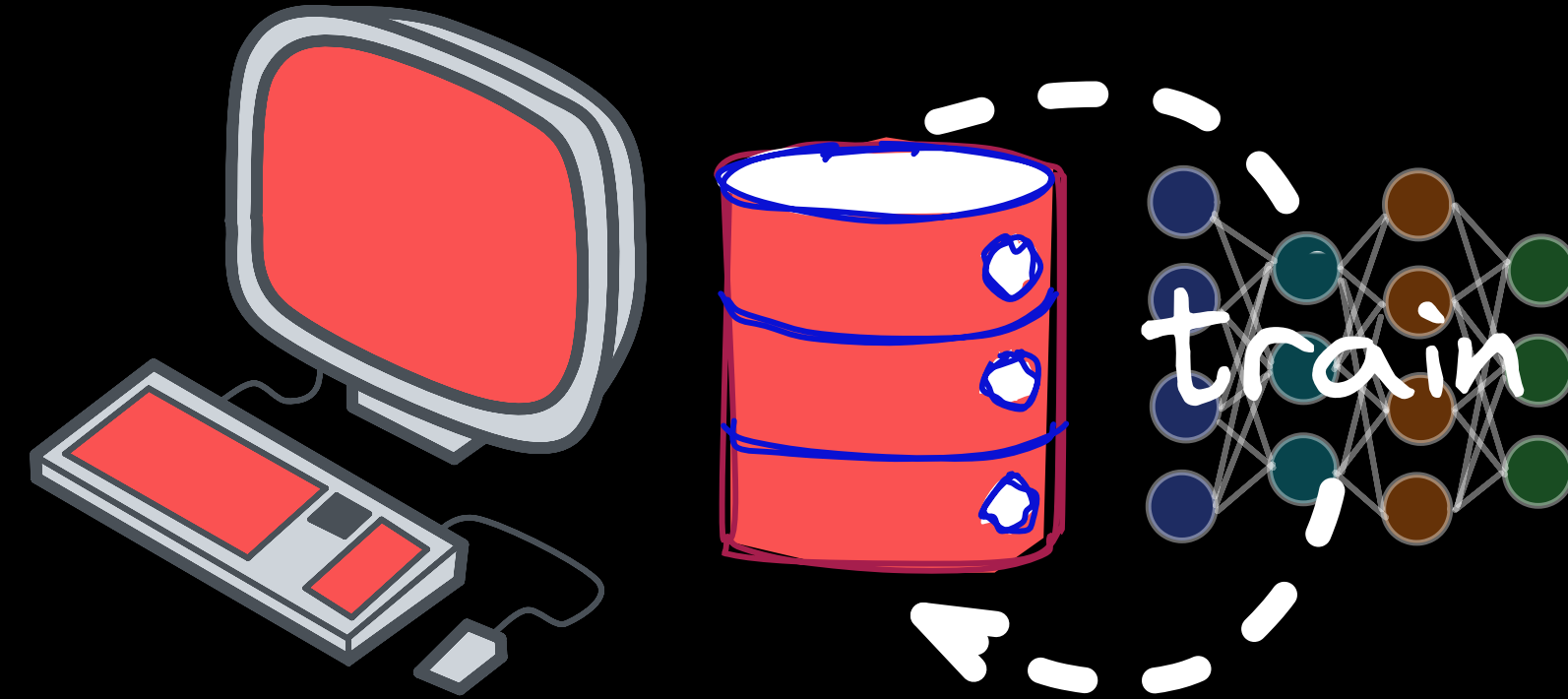
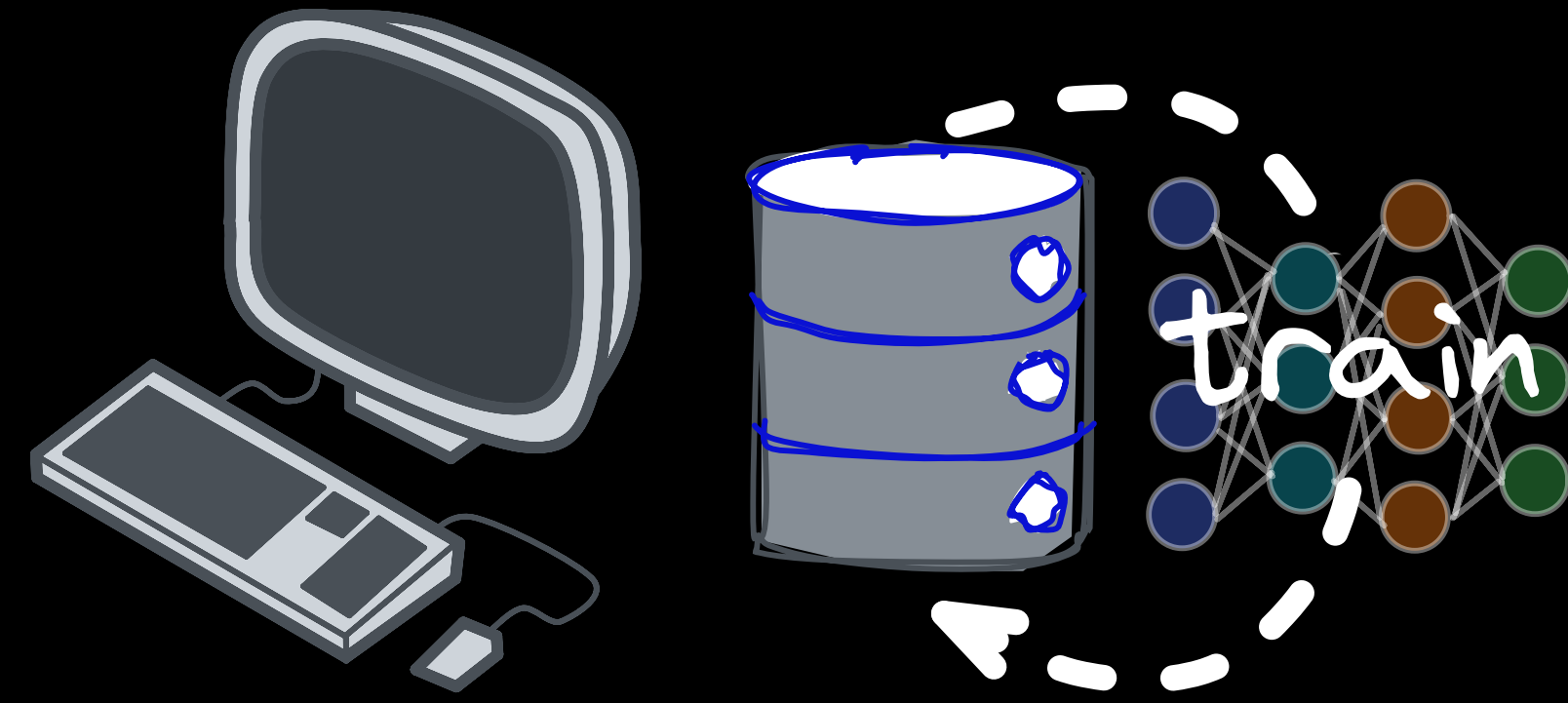
Server

Federated Learning

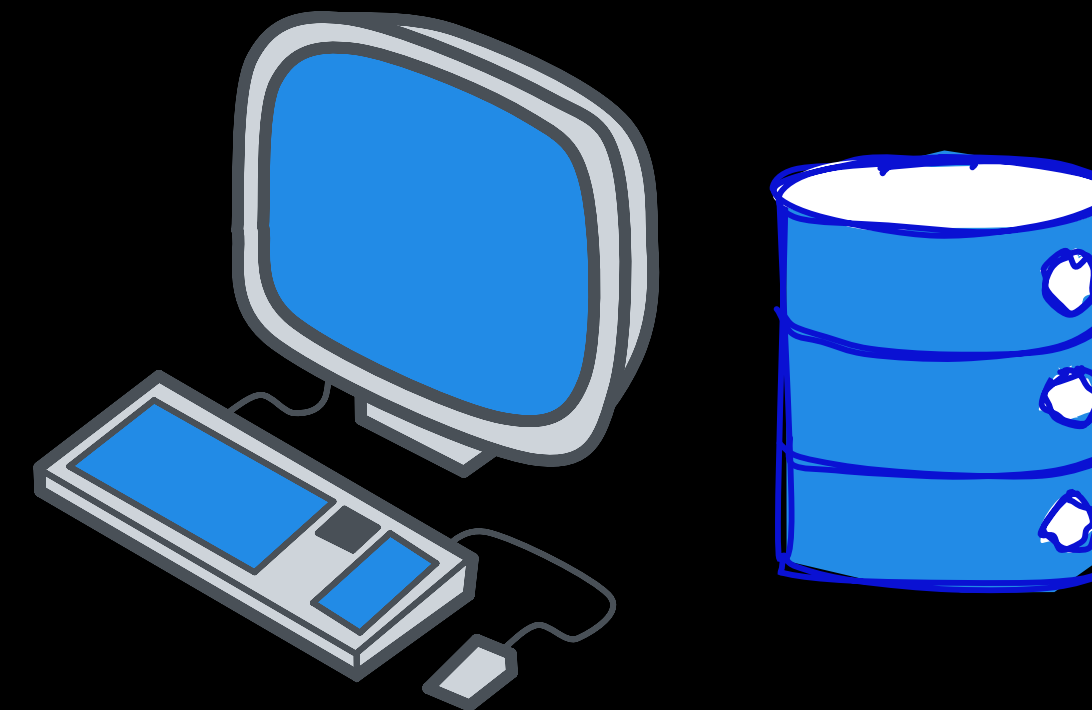
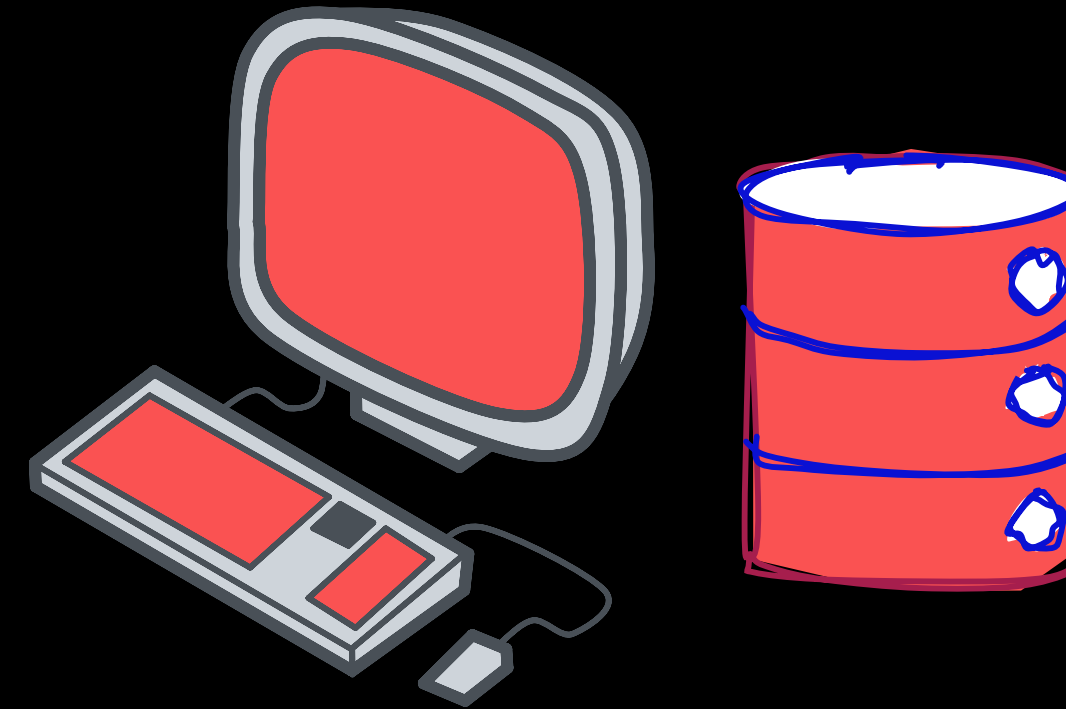
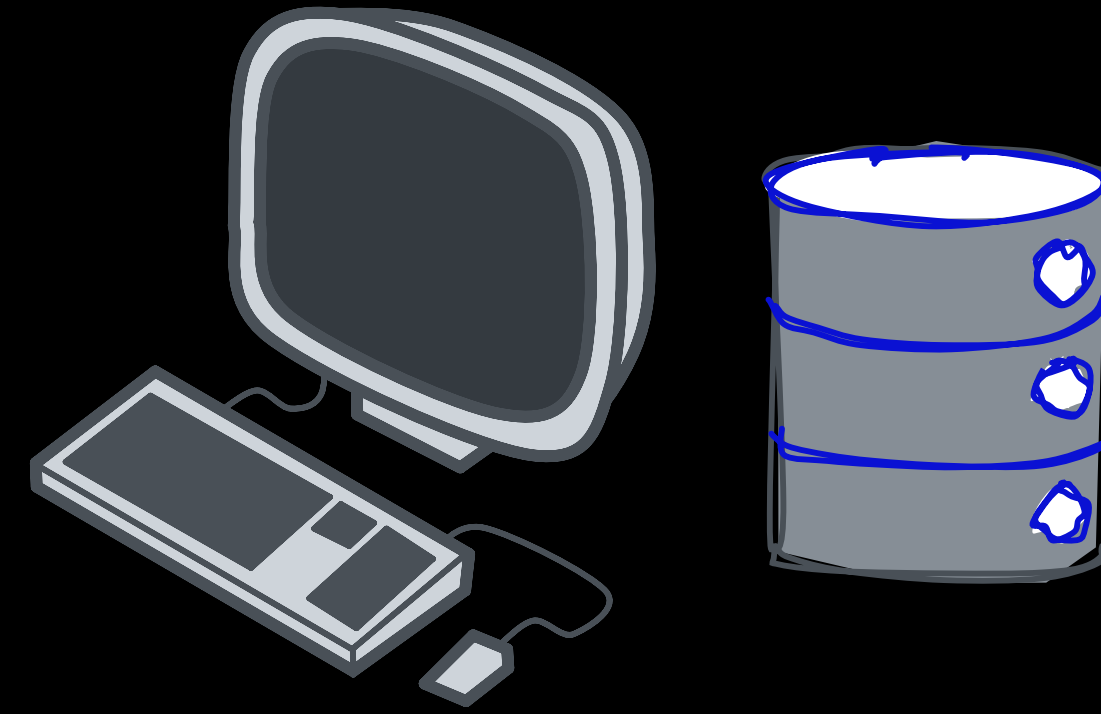
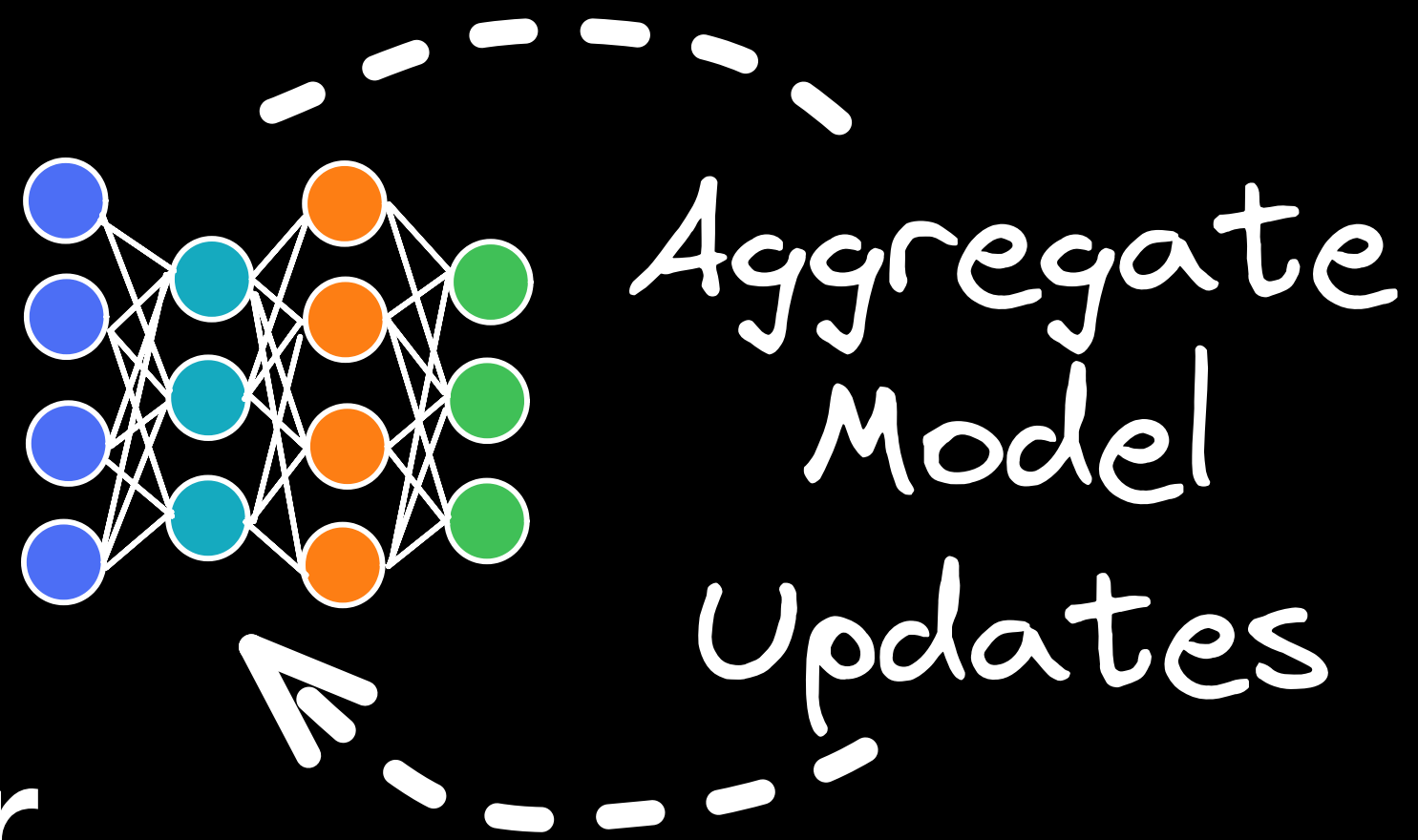


Server

Model Updates



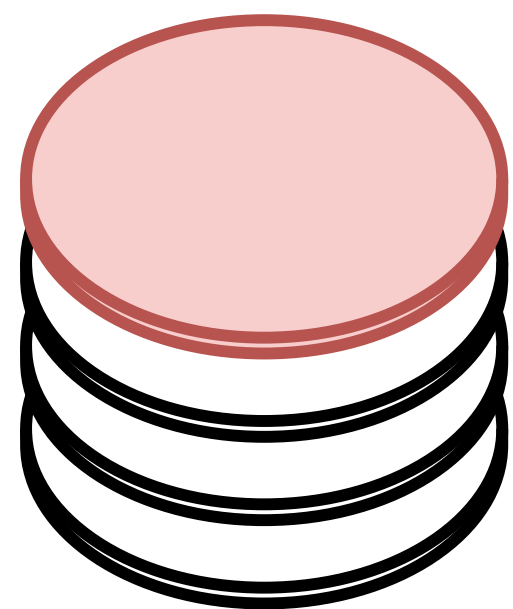
Federated Learning



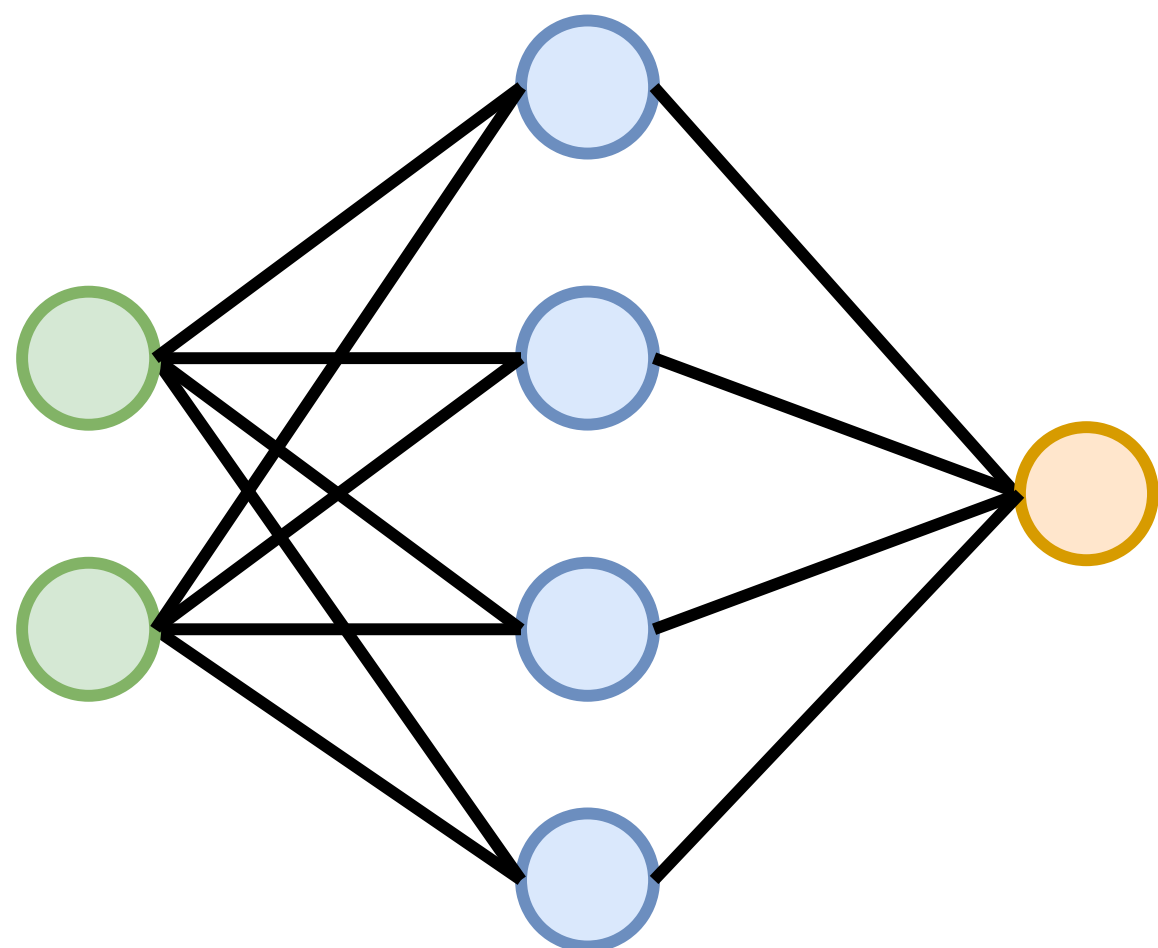
Policy and regulation constraints such as GDPR required users to have “**the right to erasure**” — to erase effects of private data from a trained model

Machine **Un**learning

Data before erasure

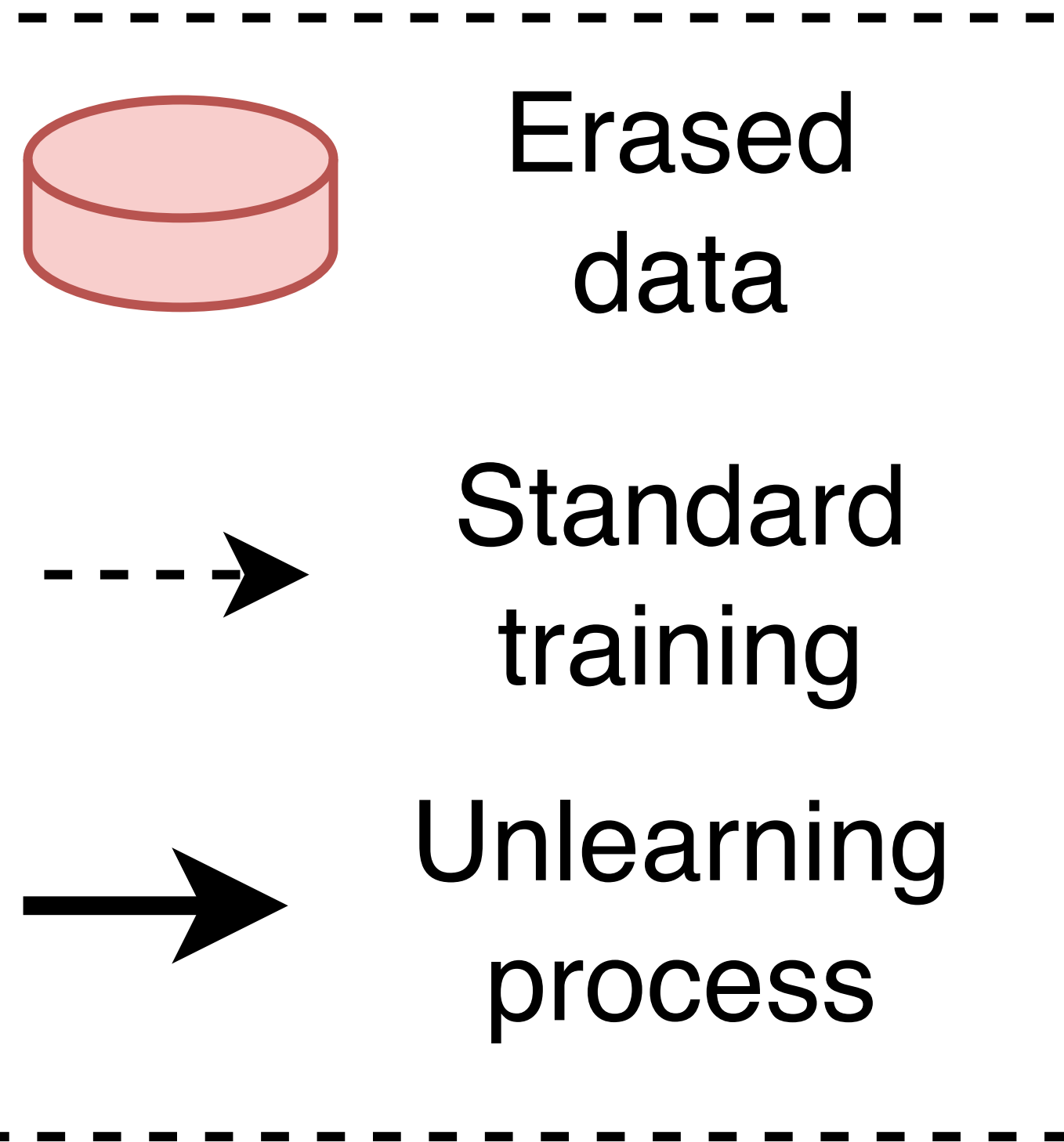
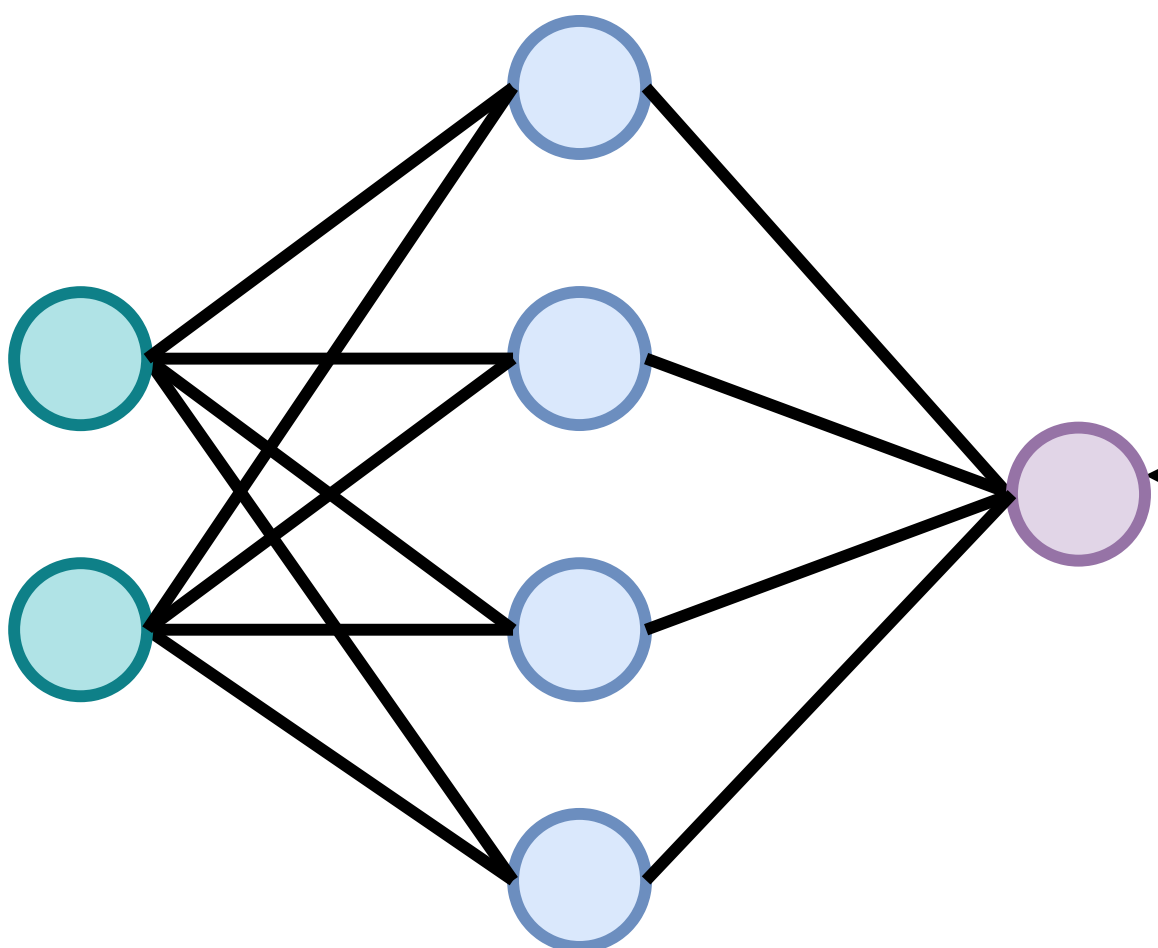
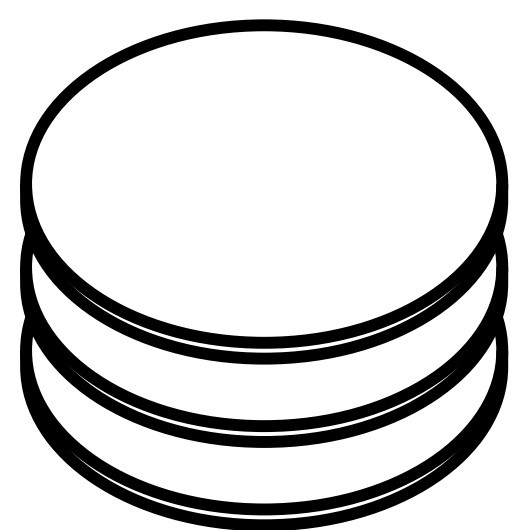


Trained model



Model w/ erased data unlearned

Data after erasure



Federated ~~Machine~~ Unlearning

Federated
~~Machine~~ Unlearning
Related Work

FedEraser: an approximation algorithm designed to speed up the unlearning process, but difficult to evaluate its effectiveness

G. Liu, *et al.* “**FedEraser**: Enabling Efficient Client-Level Data Removal from Federated Learning Models,” *IEEE/ACM 29th International Symposium on Quality of Service (IWQoS)*, 2021.

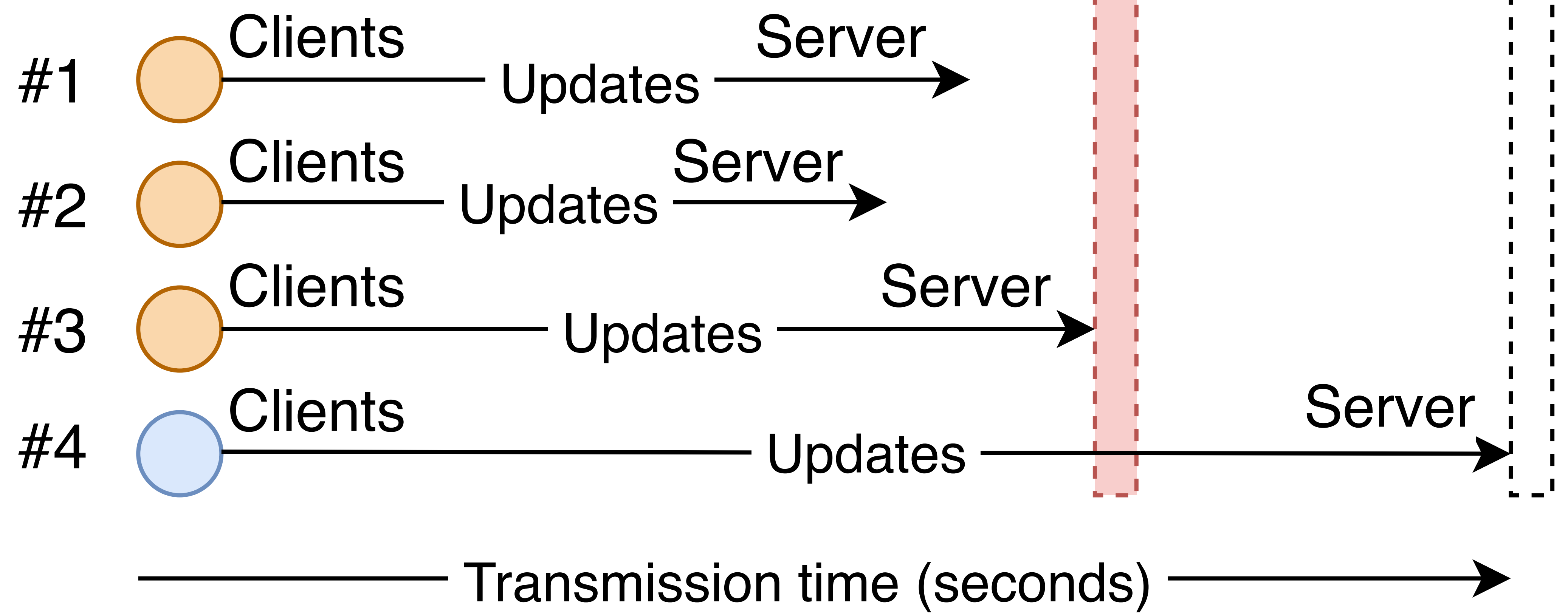
INFOCOM'22: second-order optimization to speed up the unlearning process when retraining from scratch

Y. Liu, *et al.* "The Right to be Forgotten in Federated Learning: An Efficient Realization with Rapid Retraining," IEEE INFOCOM 2022.

Asynchronous
federated learning

Asynchronous aggregation Synchronous aggregation

Clients



Slower clients Clients Server-side aggregation

Asynchronous federate learning
is faster!

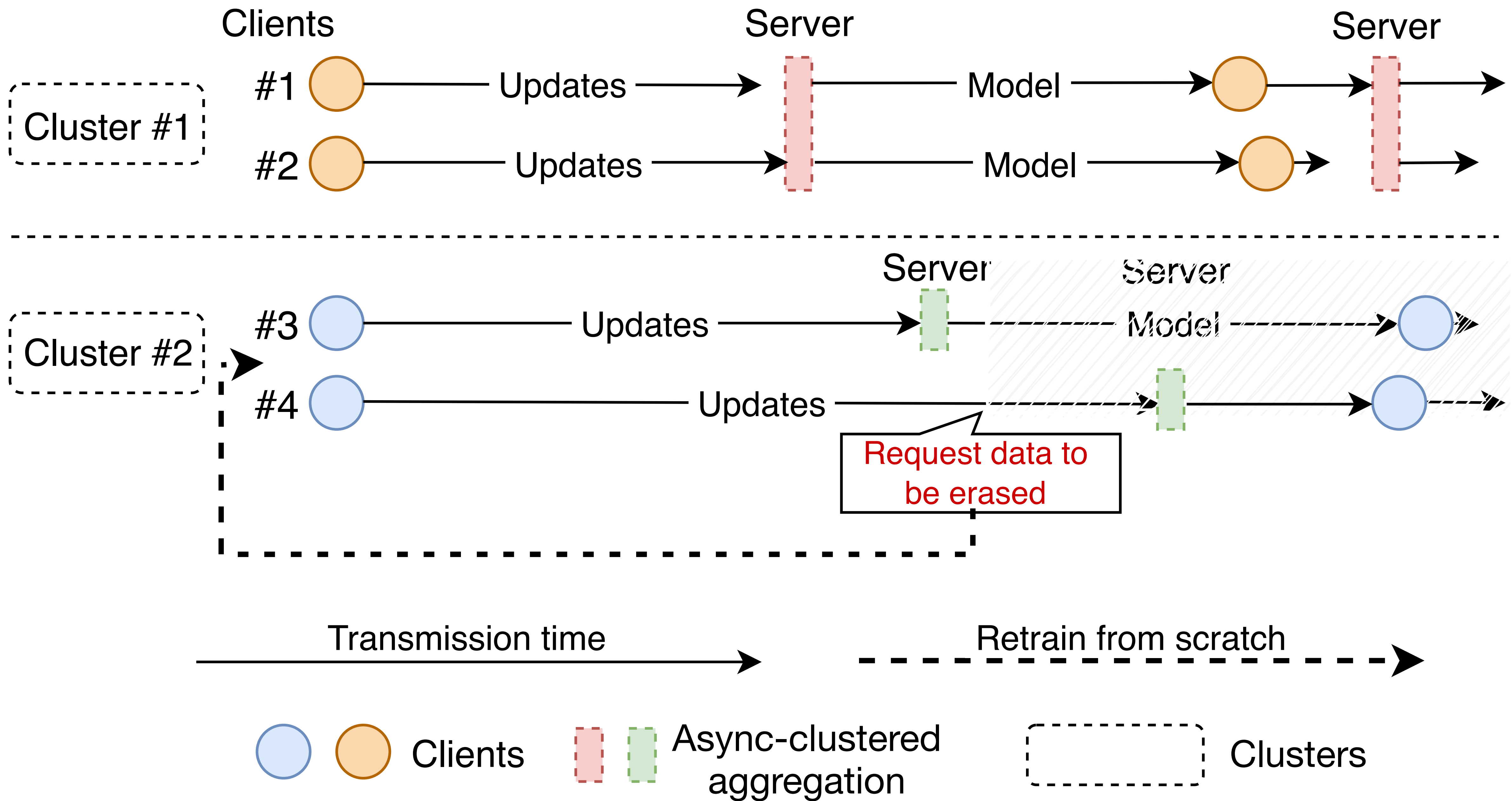
Can we combine asynchrony and unlearning?

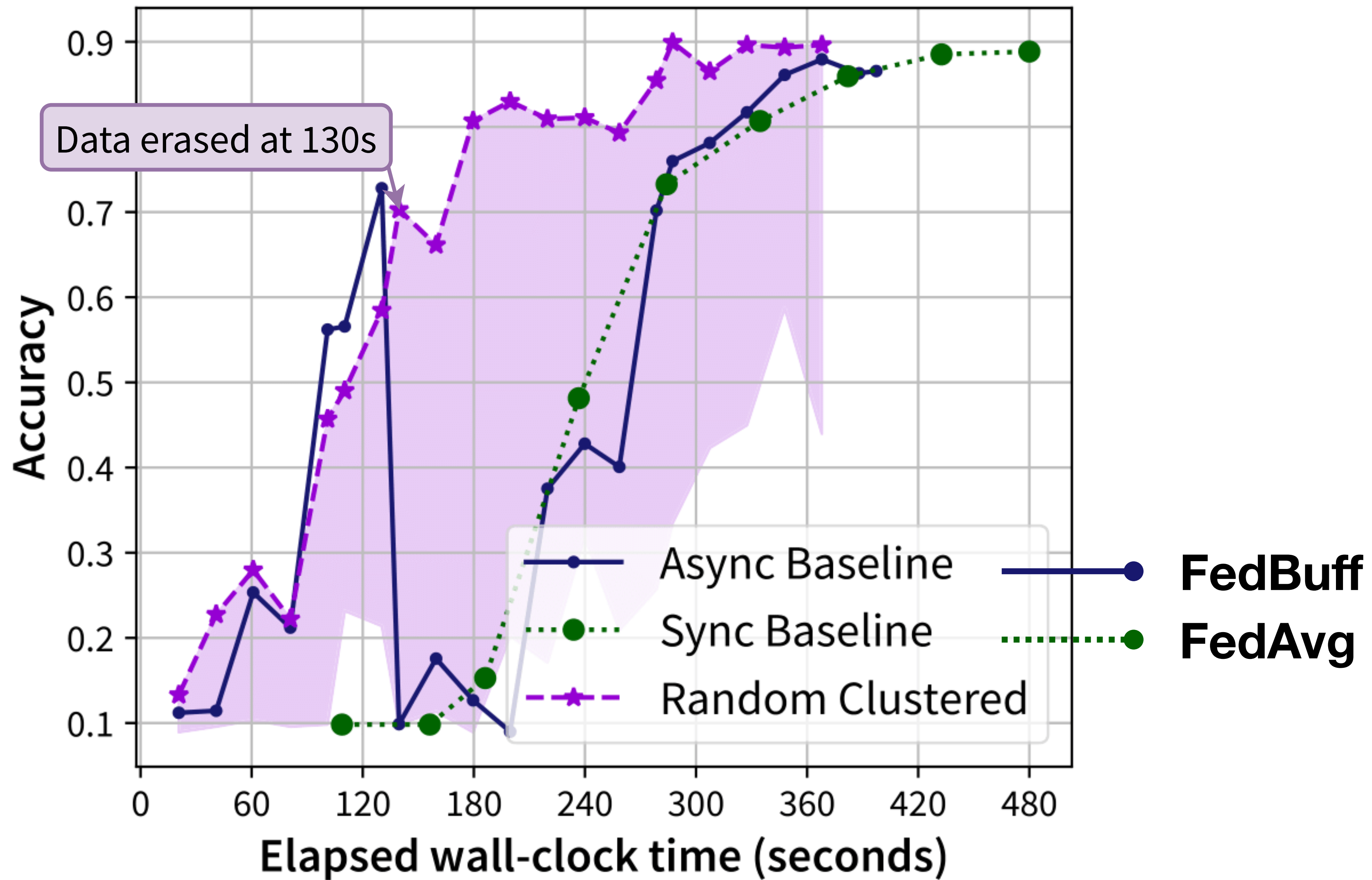
Can we combine asynchrony and unlearning?

We can, and with benefits!

Knot

Combining asynchrony and unlearning





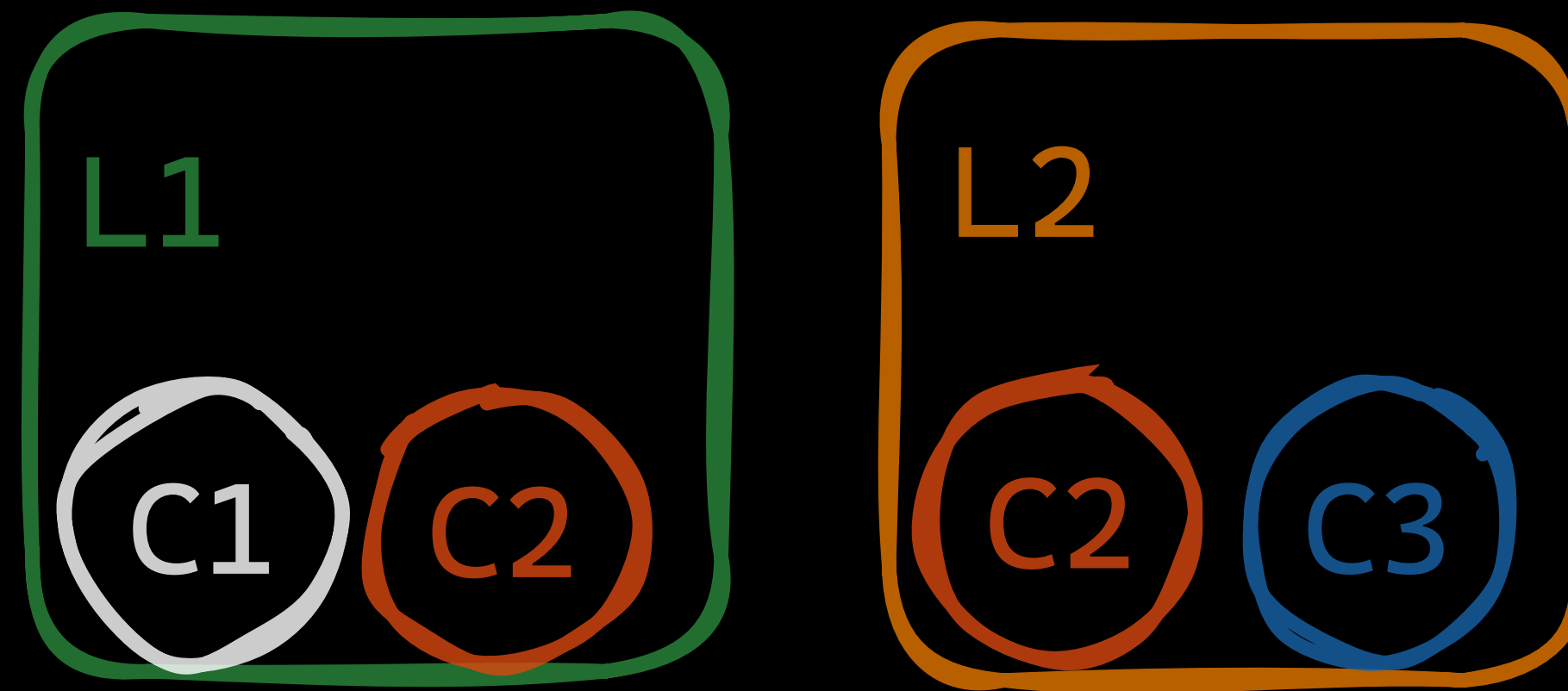
Intuitively, clustering helps reduce the *risk* of rolling back to retrain

Knot

Problem Formulation

Optimizing Client-Cluster Assignment

Assigning clients C_k into clusters L_n



$$d_{kn} = \left\| \left[a(\tilde{T}_n - T_k), b(\tilde{S}_n - S_k) \right] \right\|_2$$

training time

model disparity

Formulating the Optimization Problem

Formulating the Optimization Problem

$$\text{lexmin}_x f = (d_{11}x_{11}, \dots, d_{kn}x_{kn}, \dots, d_{KN}x_{KN})$$

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$$x \in \{0, 1\}^{KN}, x = (x_{11}, \dots, x_{KN})$$

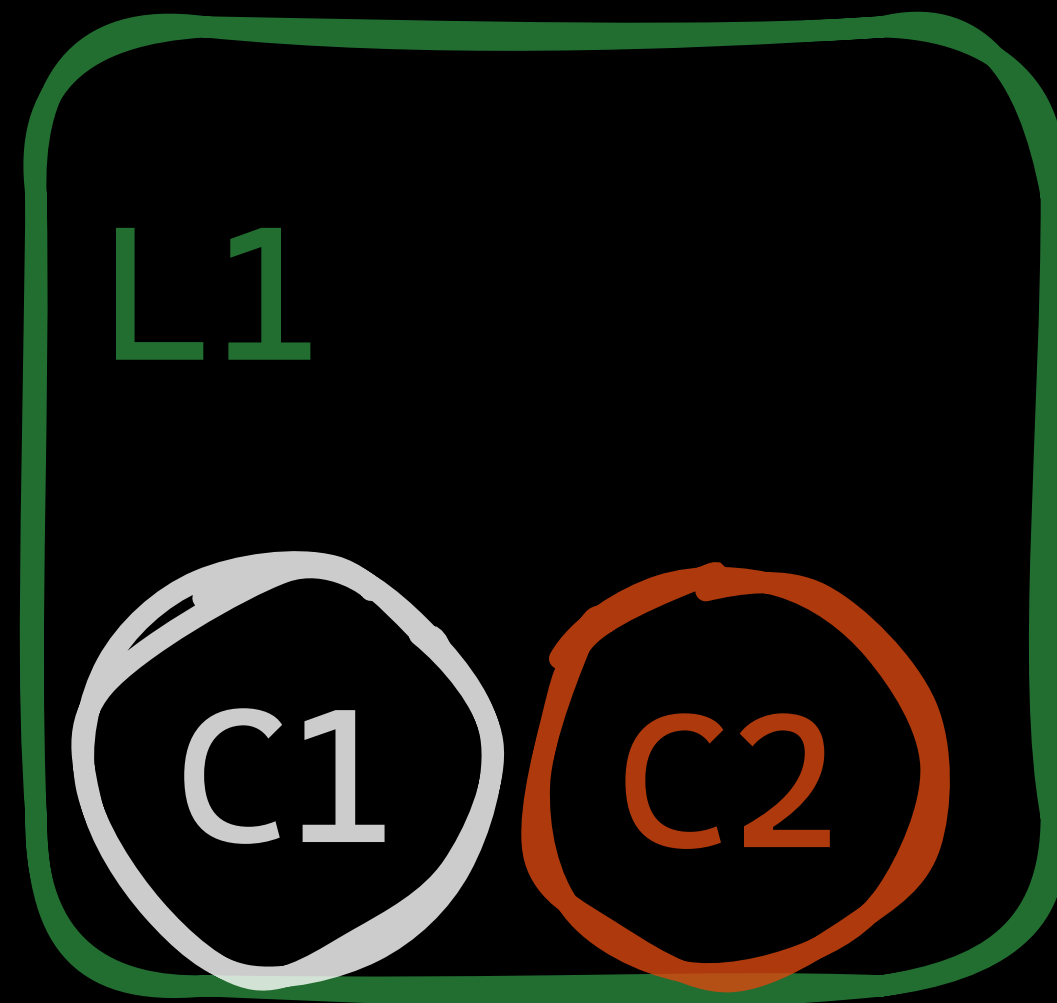
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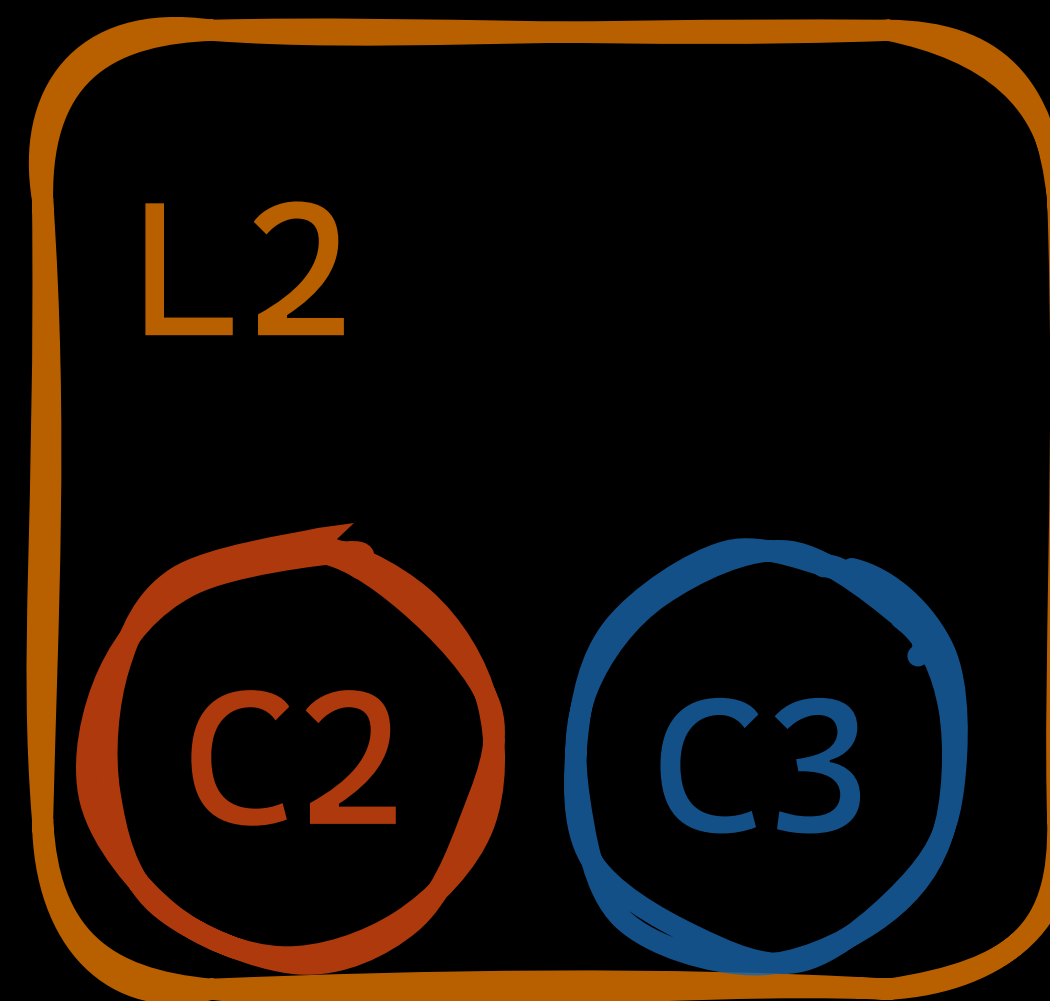
$$x \in \{0, 1\}^{KN}, x = (x_{11}, \dots, x_{KN})$$

$$x_{11} = 1$$

$$x_{12} = 0$$



L2



$$x_{21} = 1$$

$$x_{22} = 1$$

$$\text{lexmin}_x f = (d_{11}x_{11}, \dots, d_{kn}x_{kn}, \dots, d_{KN}x_{KN})$$

$$\text{s.t. } \sum_{n=1}^N x_{kn} \leq c_1, \forall k \in \mathcal{K} \quad (2)$$

$$\sum_{n=1}^N x_{kn} \geq 1, \forall k \in \mathcal{K} \quad (3)$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^K x_{kn} \geq c_2, \forall n \in \mathcal{N} \quad (4)$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^K x_{kn} \leq c_3, \forall n \in \mathcal{N} \quad (5)$$

$$\text{lexmin}_x f = (d_{11}x_{11}, \dots, d_{kn}x_{kn}, \dots, d_{KN}x_{KN})$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad \sum_{n=1}^N x_{kn} \leq c_1, \forall k \in \mathcal{K} \quad (2)$$

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$$\sum_{k=1}^K x_{kn} \leq c_3, \forall n \in \mathcal{N} \quad (5)$$

← # of clusters a client belongs to

$$\text{lexmin}_x f = (d_{11}x_{11}, \dots, d_{kn}x_{kn}, \dots, d_{KN}x_{KN})$$

$$\text{s.t.} \quad \sum_{n=1}^N x_{kn} \leq c_1, \forall k \in \mathcal{K} \quad (2)$$

← # of clusters a client belongs to

$$\sum_{n=1}^N x_{kn} \geq 1, \forall k \in \mathcal{K} \quad (3)$$

$$\sum_{k=1}^K x_{kn} \geq c_2, \forall n \in \mathcal{N} \quad (4)$$

← # of clients a cluster can have

$$\sum_{k=1}^K x_{kn} \leq c_3, \forall n \in \mathcal{N} \quad (5)$$

Transforming into an LP Problem

R. R. Meyer, "A Class of Nonlinear Integer Programs Solvable by a Single Linear Program,"
SIAM Journal on Control and Optimization, vol. 15, no. 6, pp. 935–946, 1977.

Transforming into an LP Problem

$$\text{lexmin}_x f = (d_{11}x_{11}, \dots, d_{kn}x_{kn}, \dots, d_{KN}x_{KN})$$


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Transforming into an LP Problem

$$\text{lexmin}_x f = (d_{11}x_{11}, \dots, d_{kn}x_{kn}, \dots, d_{KN}x_{KN})$$


Separable convex objective

$$\min_x \sum_{k \in \mathcal{K}} \sum_{n \in \mathcal{N}} (KN)^{D_{kn}x_{kn}}$$

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Transforming into an LP Problem

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Totally unimodular matrix

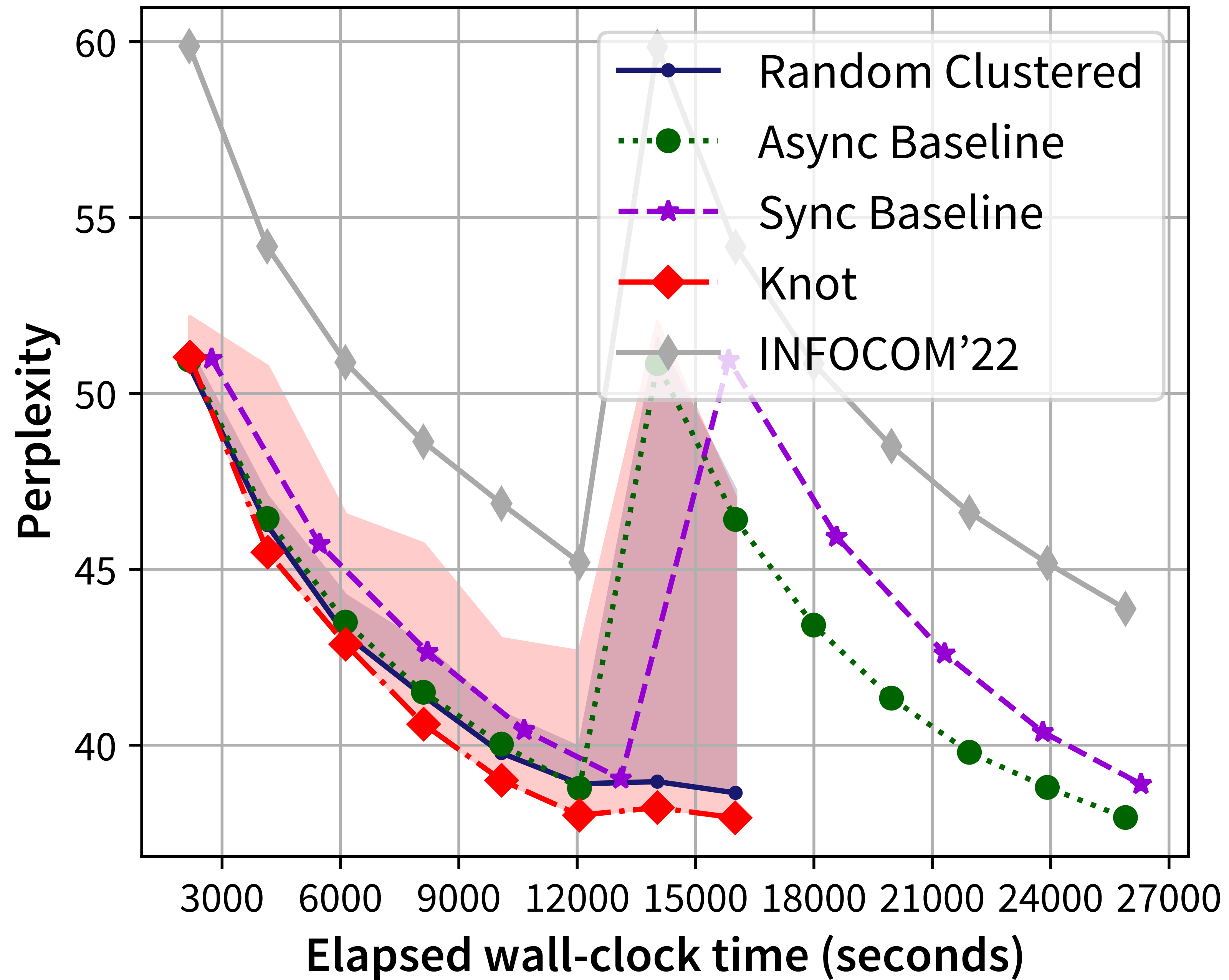
Constraints (2), (3), (4) and (5)

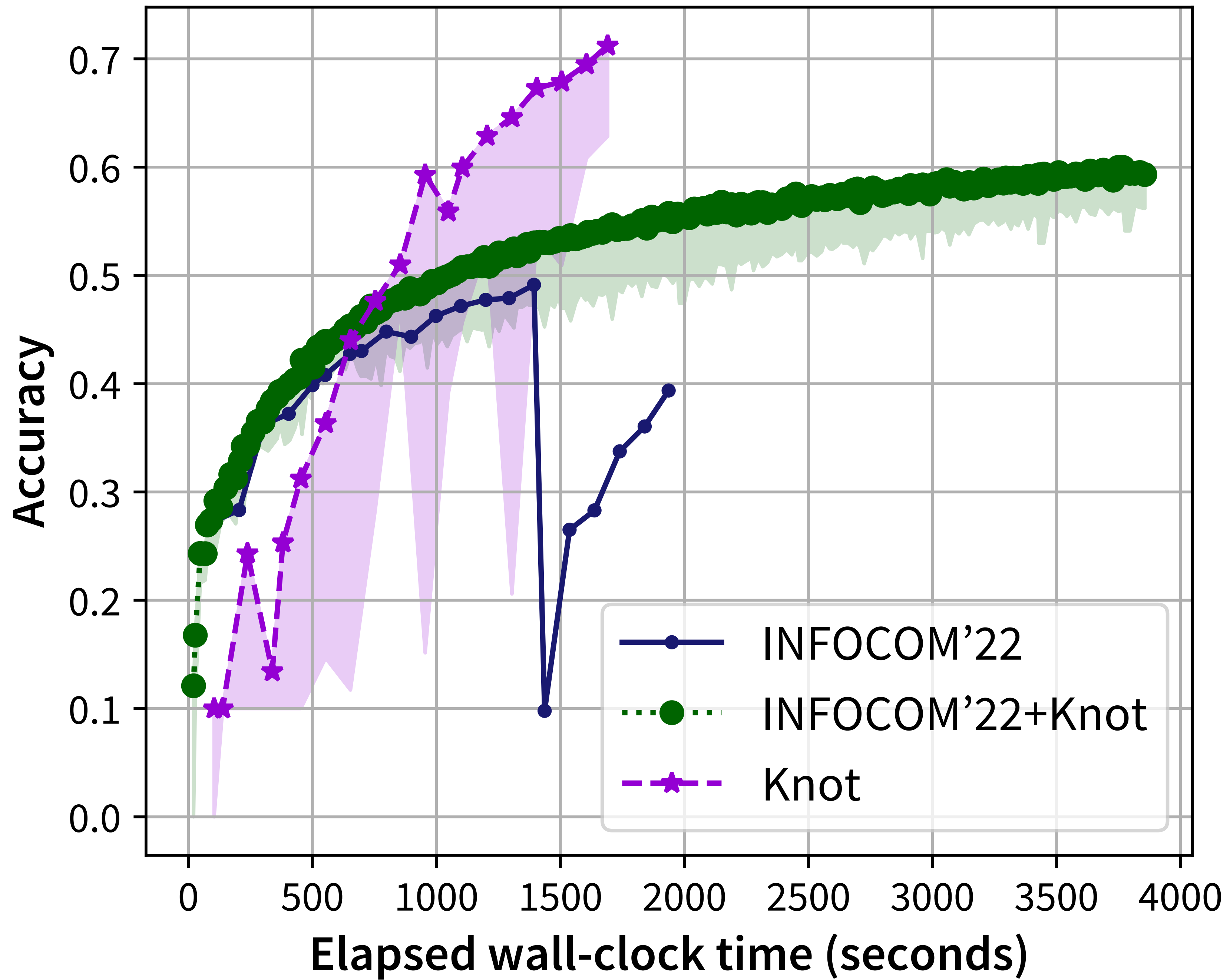
Knot

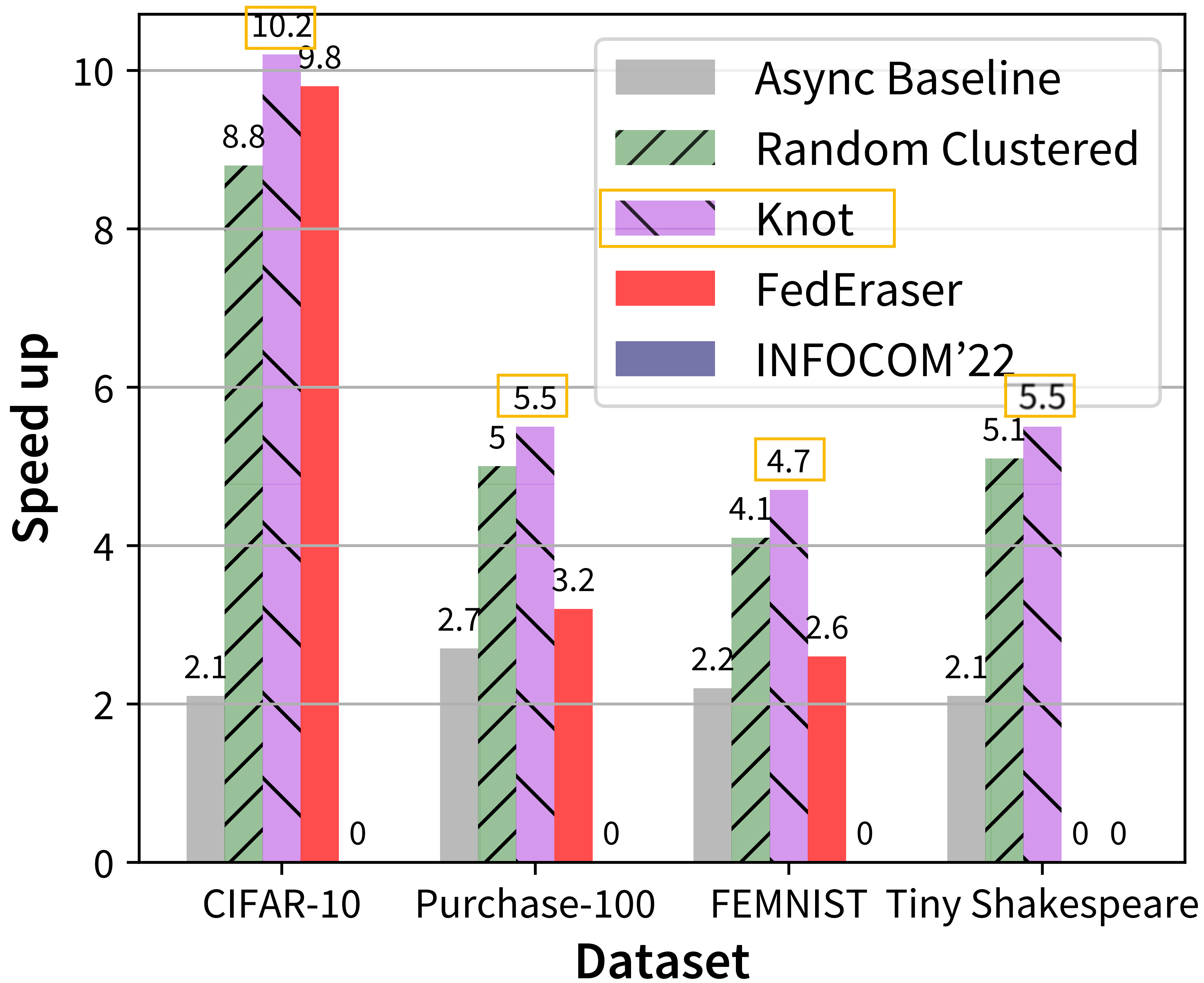
Experimental Results

Experimental Settings

Parameter	CIFAR-10	FEMNIST	Purchase-100	Tiny-Shakespeare
K	100	250	100	70/50
# selected	20	200	60	50/30
# minimum	15	150	30	25
# erased	1/2	1/2	1/2	2/4
Samplers	non-i.i.d.	non-i.i.d.	non-i.i.d.	i.i.d.
Models	VGG-16	LeNet-5	MLP	GPT-2







Optimal clustering > random
clustering > no clustering

Optimal and fast

~~Optimal~~ clustering > random

clustering > no clustering

ningxinsu.github.io