## GINA: Group Gender Identification Using Privacy-Sensitive Audio Data

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- I. Background & Motivation
- II. Existing works
- III. The proposed system
- IV. Evaluation

**Group Gender** Identification Using **Privacy-Sensitive Audio** Data **Data** 

- Why group gender?
  - Social interaction and group dynamics [1], [2]
  - Foundation of promising research (e.g., gender inequality [3] and gender difference [4])

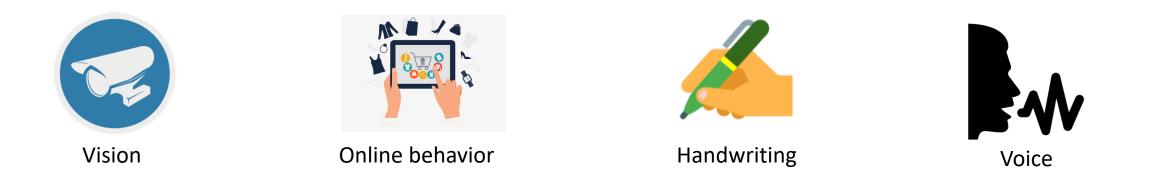
- Why using privacy-sensitive (PS) audio?
  - Spontaneous face-to-face communication in natural settings
  - Ethical issues in collecting the data
  - ✓ sampling at 700Hz and averaging amplitude reading every 50 milliseconds [5]





PS audio is to ensure raw audio is not recorded nor can it be reconstructed.

### **II. Existing works**



- Voice-based methods
  - Acoustic features caused by physiological differences and phonetic differences
  - Features are extracted from raw audio
- Difficulties caused by PS audio
  - PS audio is too coarse-grained to extract valuable acoustic features
  - Uncertainties caused by natural settings are difficult to address

### III. The proposed system

- Problem: Gender identification with PS audio
  - Input: PS audio of a group of people in a meeting
  - Output: gender of each participant
- Main idea:
  - Conversational behaviors instead of acoustic features

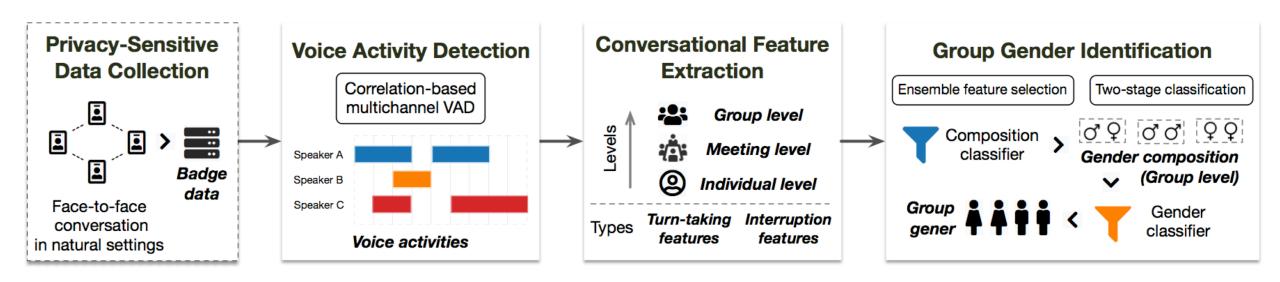
Smart badge for data collection

### Challenges

- C1: Low resolution and unexpected dynamics of PS audio in voice activity detection
- C2: The instability of conversational behaviors reduces the robustness and effectiveness of gender identification

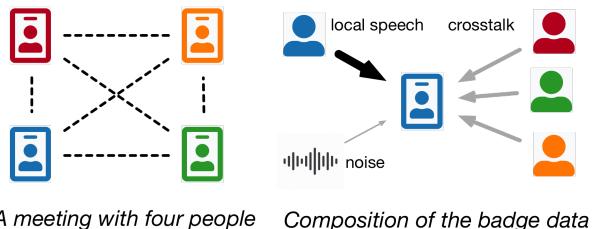
### III. The proposed system (cont'd)

- The proposed solutions to the challenges
  - C1: correlation-based multichannel voice activity detection algorithm
  - C2: ensemble feature selection & two-stage classification

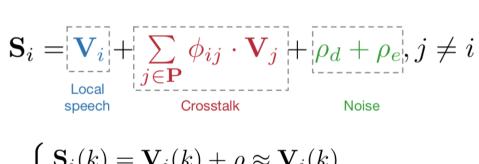


Overview of the proposed system

### - Voice activity detection

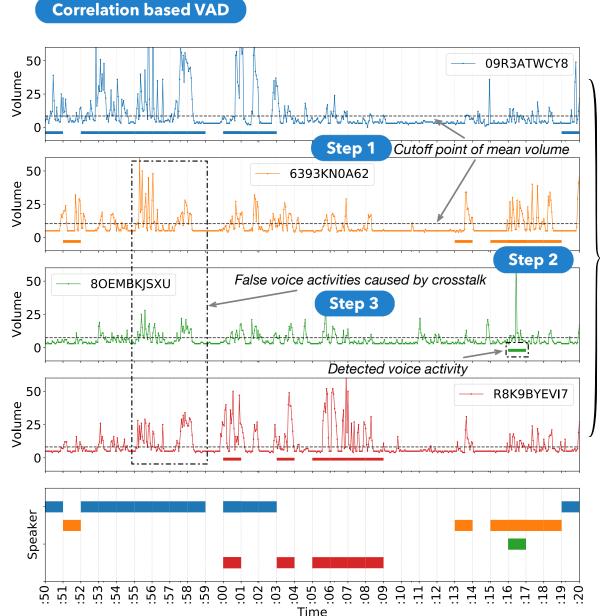


A meeting with four people



$$\mathbf{S}_{i}(k) = \mathbf{v}_{i}(k) + \rho \approx \mathbf{v}_{i}(k)$$
$$\mathbf{S}_{j}(k) = \phi_{ij} \cdot \mathbf{V}_{i}(k) + \rho \approx \phi_{ij} \cdot \mathbf{V}_{i}(k)$$

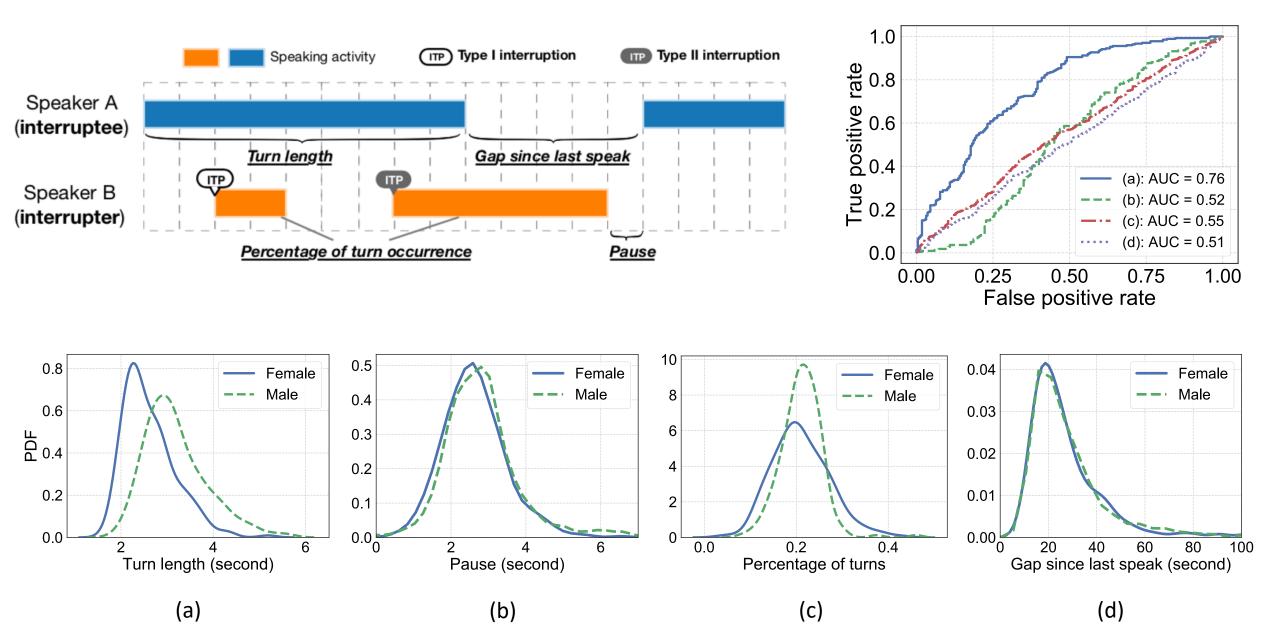
Observation: When only one person speaks, his badge signal is correlated other people's badge signals.



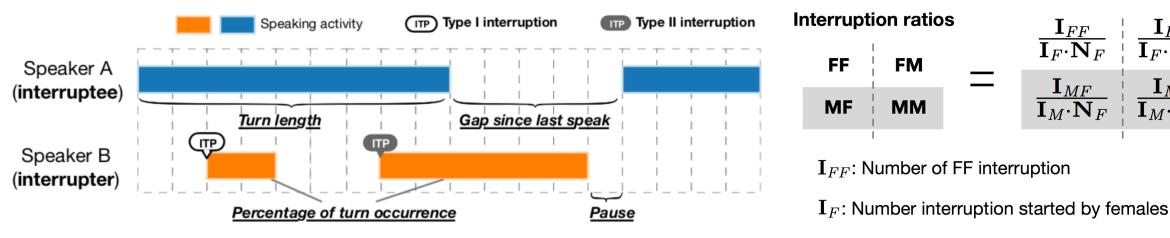
# Badge data

Voice activities

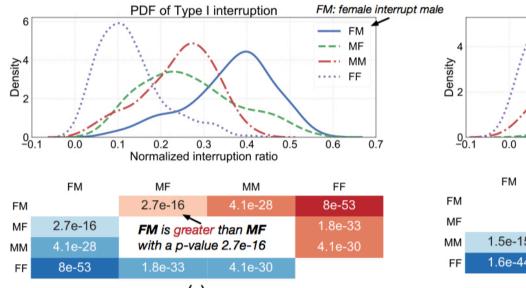
### - Conversational feature extraction (turn-taking)

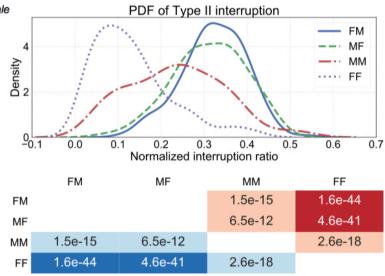


### - Conversational feature extraction (Interruption)

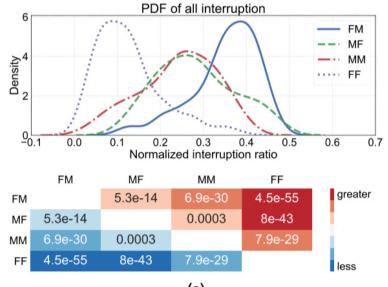


 $\mathbf{N}_F$ : Number of females in group





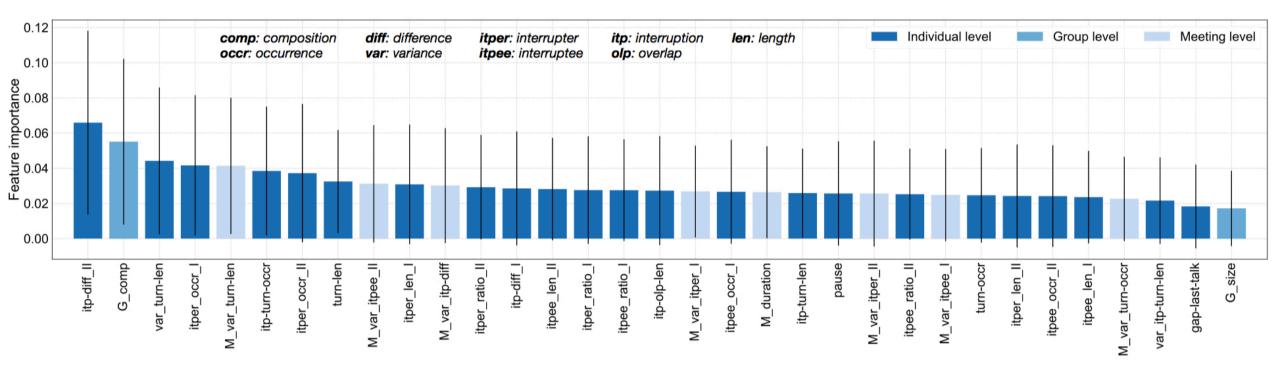
(b)



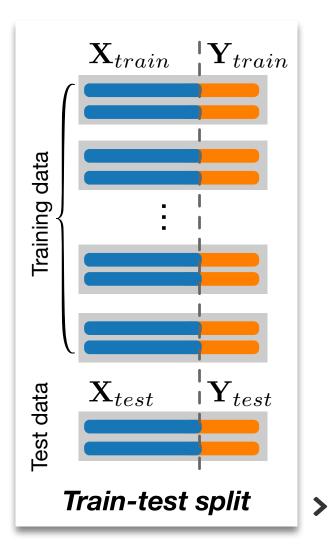
 $\frac{\mathbf{I}_{FM}}{\mathbf{I}_F \cdot \mathbf{N}_M}$ 

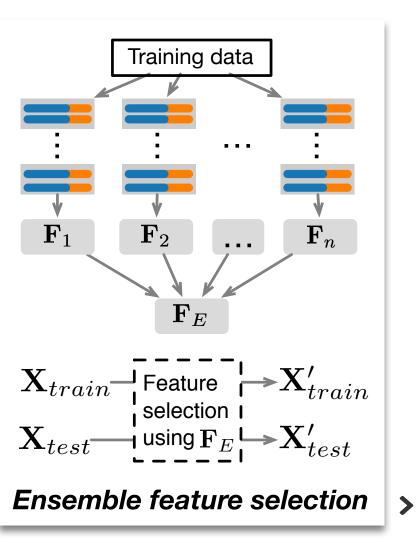
 $\frac{\mathbf{I}_{MM}}{\mathbf{I}_M \cdot \mathbf{N}_M}$ 

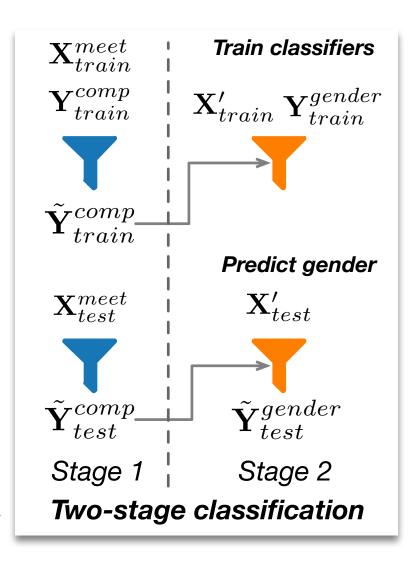
(c)



- Hard to find a subset of informative features
- All the features have large variances

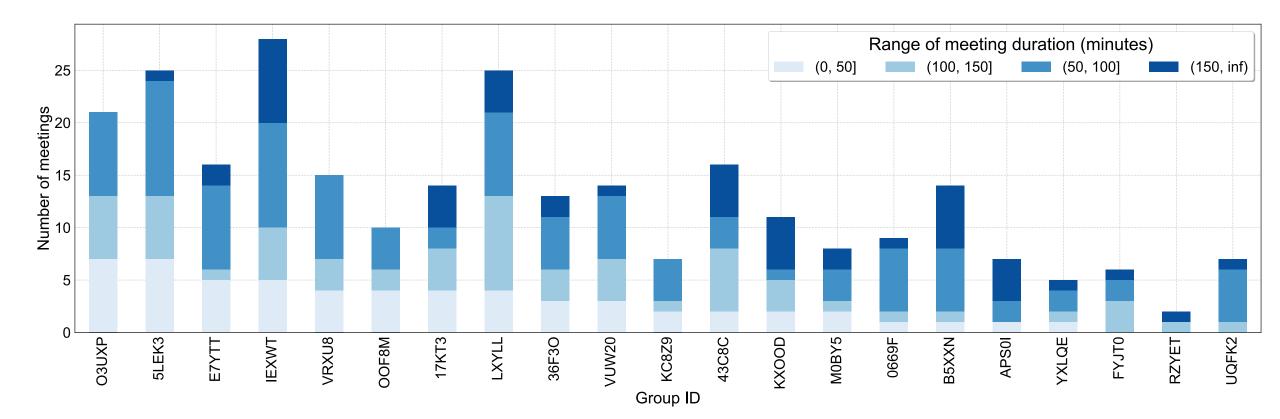






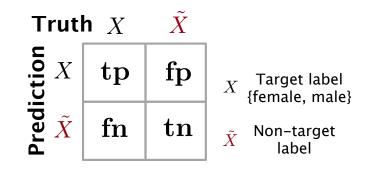
### **IV. Evaluation**

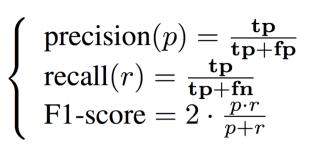
- Dataset
  - 21 study groups, each with 4~5 students (100 in total)
  - 273 effective meetings with a total length of 438.25 hours

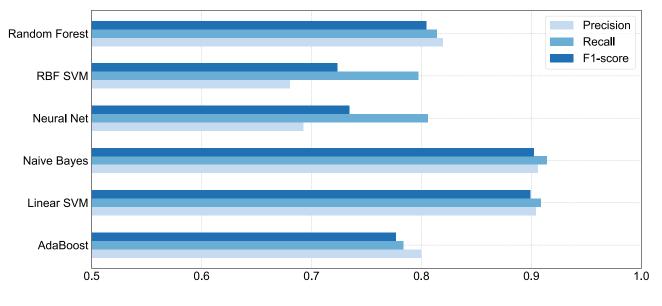


### **IV. Evaluation**

Approach	Feature space (in levels)	Feature selection
T-E	<u>Three levels (no composition)</u>	Ensemble feature selection
TC-S	<u>Three levels + composition</u>	Single feature selection
GINA	Three levels + composition	Ensemble feature selection
A Evaluate group level feature		B Evaluate ensemble feature selection

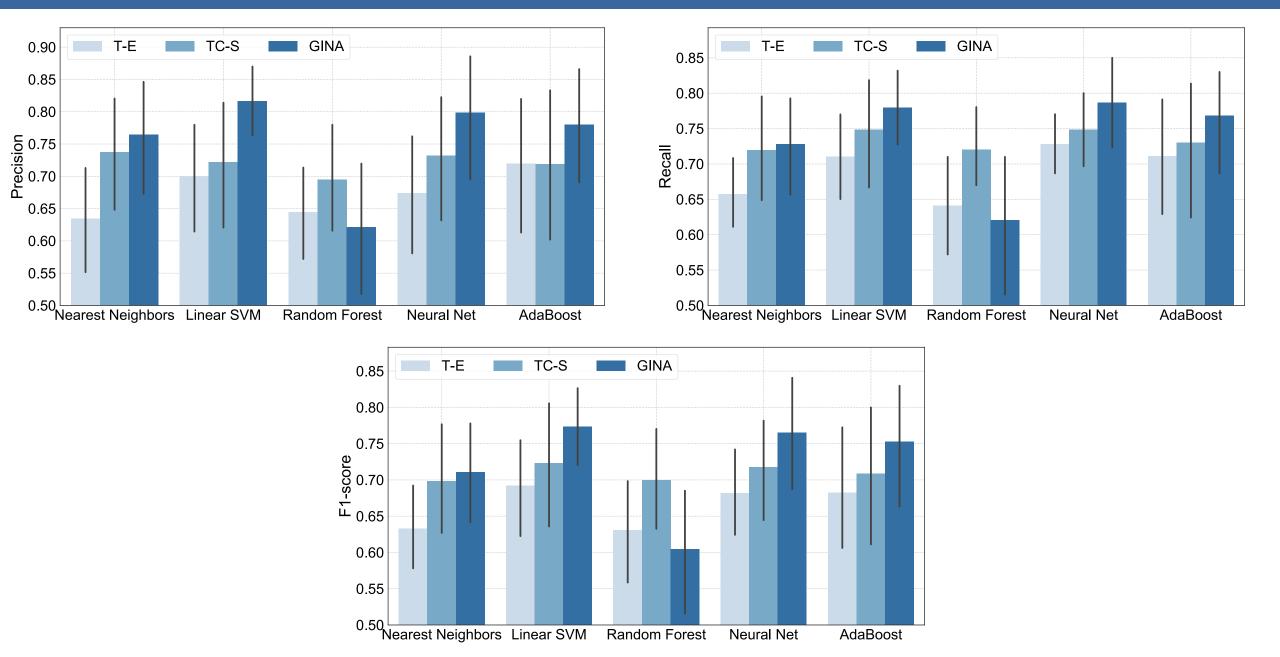






Performance of gender composition detection

### **IV. Evaluation**



[1] P. S. Tolbert, M. E. Graham, and A. O. Andrews, "Group gender composition and work group relations: Theories, evidence, and issues," 1999.

[2] P. Raghubir and A. Valenzuela, "Malefemale dynamics in groups: A field study of the weakest link," Small Group Research, vol. 41, no. 1, pp. 41–70, 2010.

[3] H. L. Ford, C. Brick, K. Blaufuss, and P. S. Dekens, "Gender inequity in speaking opportunities at the american geophysical union fall meeting," Nature communications, vol. 9, 2018.

[4] L. Zheng, R. Ning, L. Li, C. Wei, X. Cheng, C. Zhou, and X. Guo, "Gender differences in behavioral and neural responses to unfairness under social pressure," Scientific reports, vol. 7, no. 1, p. 13498, 2017.

[5] O. Lederman, A. Mohan, D. Calacci, and A. S. Pentland, "Rhythm: A unified measurement platform for human organizations," IEEE MultiMedia, vol. 25, no. 1, pp. 26–38, 2018.

