



# Federated learning for predictive management of low voltage grids

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# Motivation

# Motivation for Federated Learning

Increasing volume of geographically distributed data



## Main Barriers



Data **privacy** and **confidentiality**

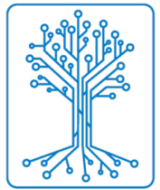


Lack of **monetary** and **non-monetary incentives** for data sharing

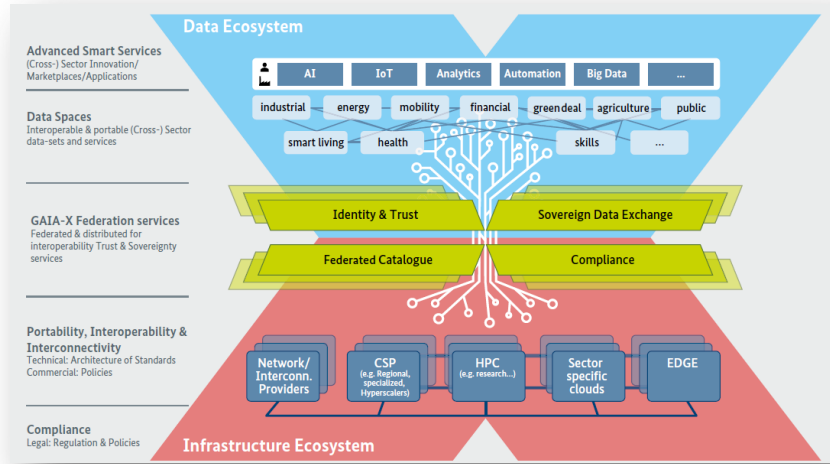


Lack of **business cases** for collaborative analytics

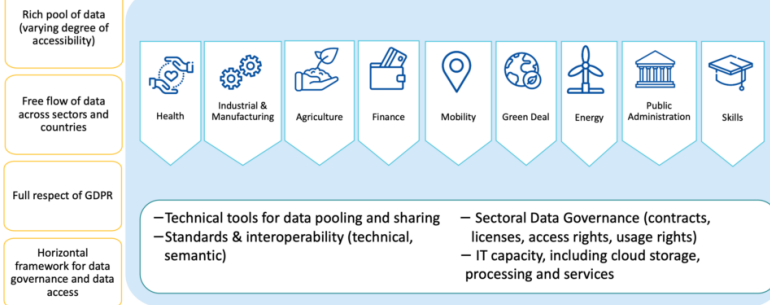
# Data Spaces



GAIA-X



## Common European data spaces



**Enershare**

The Energy Data Space for Europe

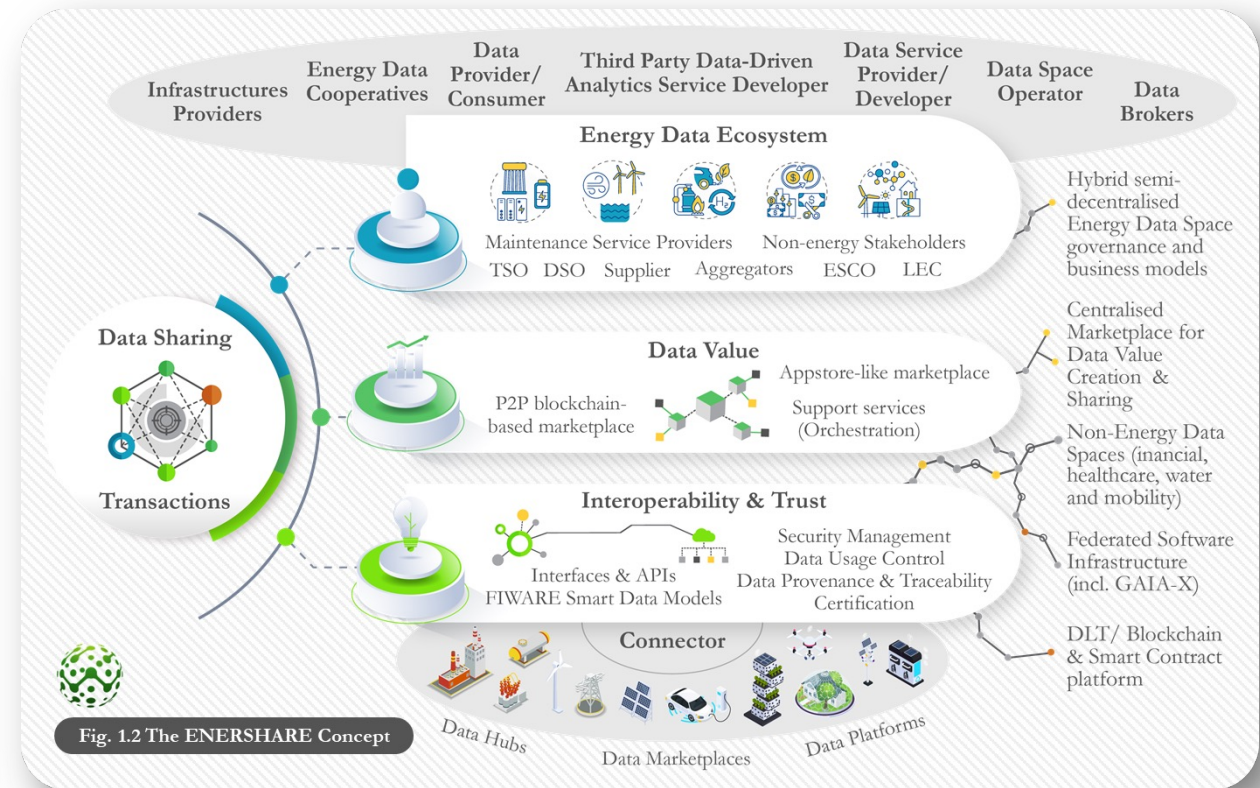


Fig. 1.2 The ENERSHARE Concept

# Renewable energy forecasting at the community level

# RES Collaborative Forecasting

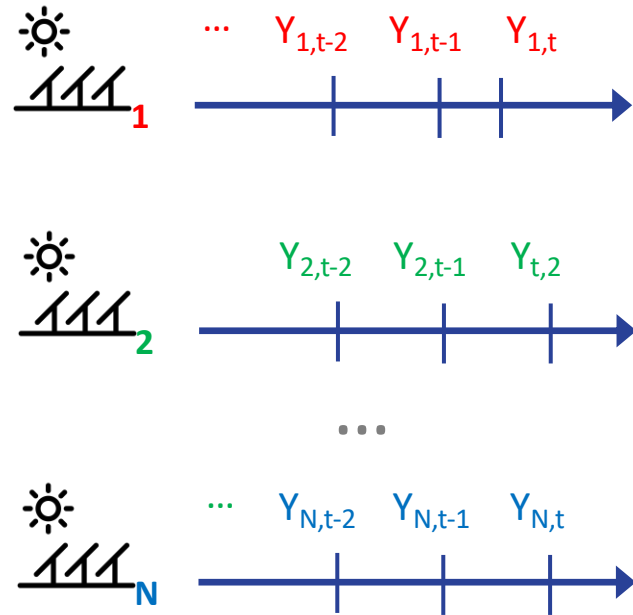
Example for 2 PV sites

$$\begin{matrix} \text{forecasted power} \\ \uparrow \\ [Y_{1,t} \quad Y_{2,t}] = [c_1 \quad c_2] + [Y_{1,t-1} \quad Y_{2,t-1} \quad Y_{1,t-2} \quad Y_{2,t-2}] \cdot \begin{bmatrix} B_{1,1}^1 & B_{1,2}^1 \\ B_{2,1}^1 & B_{2,2}^1 \\ B_{1,1}^2 & B_{1,2}^2 \\ B_{2,1}^2 & B_{2,2}^2 \end{bmatrix} + [E_{1,t} \quad E_{2,t}] \end{matrix}$$

constant terms  
(to estimate)

Z: lagged power observations

B: coefficients matrix  
(to estimate)



Vector Autoregressive Model (VAR)

$$Y = c + ZB + E$$

**multivariate linear model**  
power forecasts for multiple sites as a function of past power observations from all sites

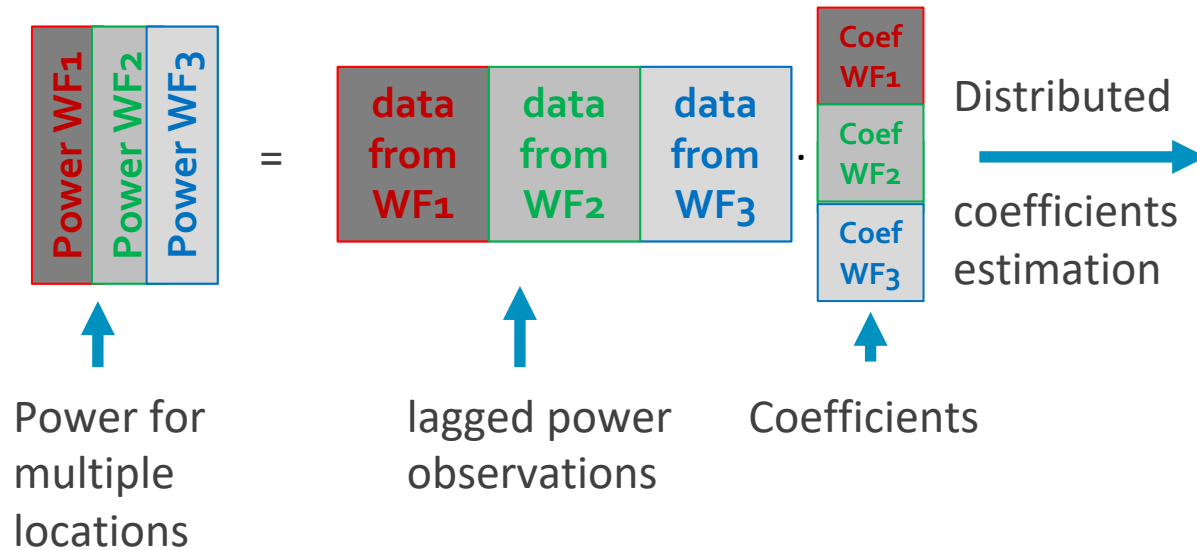
extension with additive models to capture non-linearities



# State-of-the Art Limitations

Ref: C. Gonçalves, R.J. Bessa, P. Pinson, "A critical overview of privacy-preserving approaches for collaborative forecasting," *International Journal of Forecasting*, vol. 37, no. 1, pp. 322-342, Jan-Mar 2021

Using ADMM - Alternating Direction Method of Multipliers



$$\text{Conciliation}^k = h \left[ \underbrace{\text{data from WF}_1 \cdot \widehat{\text{Coef}}_{WF_1^k} + \text{data from WF}_2 \cdot \widehat{\text{Coef}}_{WF_2^k} + \text{data from WF}_3 \cdot \widehat{\text{Coef}}_{WF_3^k}}_{\text{Forecast after k iterations}}, \text{Power}, \text{Power}, \text{Power} \right]$$

Conciliation<sup>k</sup>

☀️  
111<sub>1</sub>

Conciliation<sup>k</sup>

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111<sub>2</sub>

Conciliation<sup>k</sup>

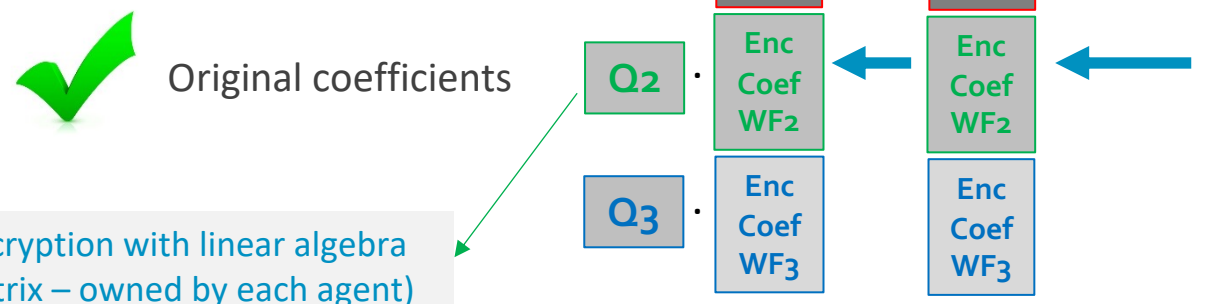
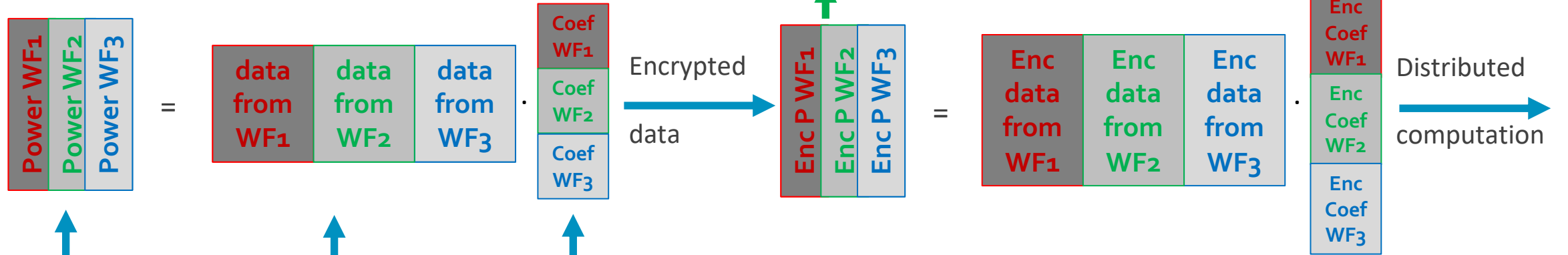
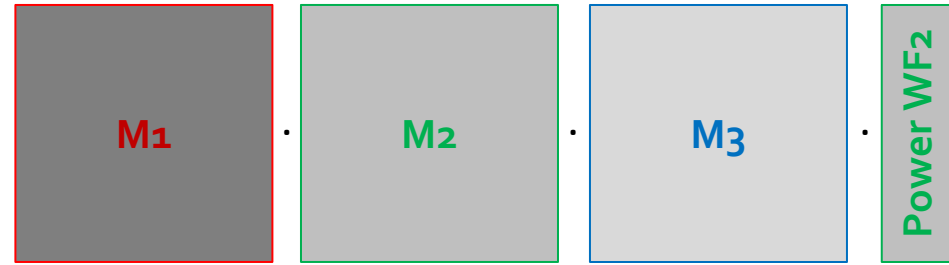
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Limitation: access to private/confidential data

# Federated Learning Protocol

Power data encryption with linear algebra (M: random matrix – unknown but built by all agents)



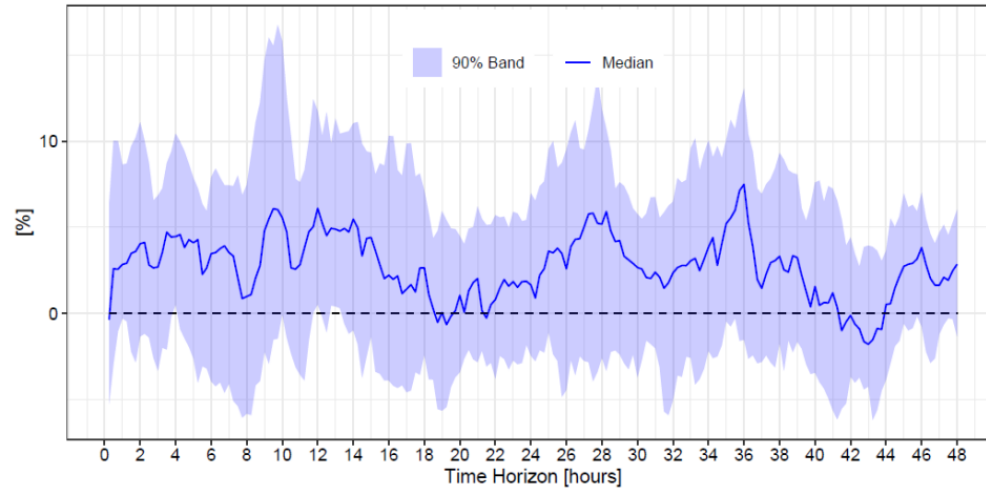
Ref.: C. Gonçalves, R.J. Bessa, P. Pinson, "Privacy-preserving distributed learning for renewable energy forecasting," IEEE Transactions on Sustainable Energy, vol. 12, no. 3, pp. 1777-1787, July 2021.



# RES Forecasting Results

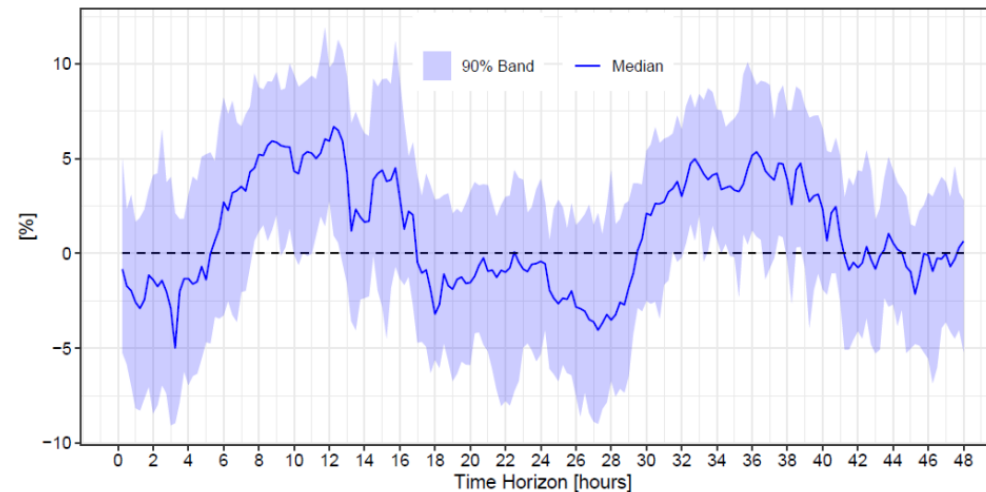
60 wind turbines from 13 wind power plants in France

NWP from ECMWF (HRES)



(a) MAE

Relative improvement (%) VAR-X (collaborative) over AR-X (univariate)



(a) MAE

Relative improvement (%) VAR-X over Gradient Boosting Trees

# Extension to low voltage control

# Challenges for LV grid operation

## New Challenges



LV grids are the major bottleneck in DER integration and require a paradigm shift in terms of monitoring & control

## “Real-world” Challenges

- ❑ Lack of accurate information about grid topology and parameters
- ❑ Real-time monitoring of the voltage and active power is not available
  - ❑ *Ref.: Data-driven state estimation. R.J. Bessa, et al., “Probabilistic low voltage state estimation using analog-search techniques,” PSCC 2018*



# Data-driven Voltage Control (DdVC)

Considering a linear relationship between the observed values and the explanatory variables

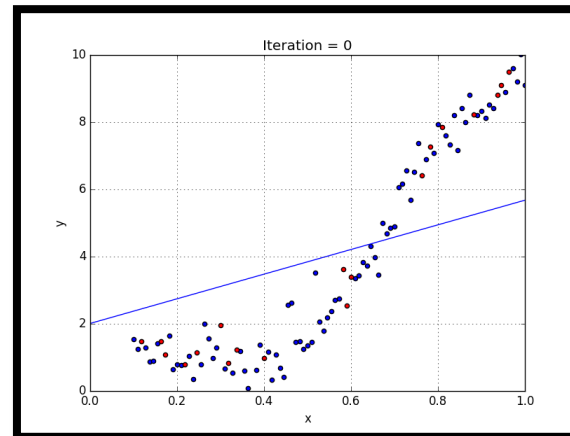
$$y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_{i1} + \dots + \beta_n x_{in} + \varepsilon_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, t.$$

Can the voltage magnitude at a given node be expressed as a linear function of the injected power in the remaining nodes?

$$\begin{bmatrix} V_{1,1} & \dots & V_{1,N} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ V_{T,1} & \dots & V_{T,N} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} P_{1,1} & \dots & P_{1,N} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ P_{T,1} & \dots & P_{T,N} \end{bmatrix}$$

Regression model



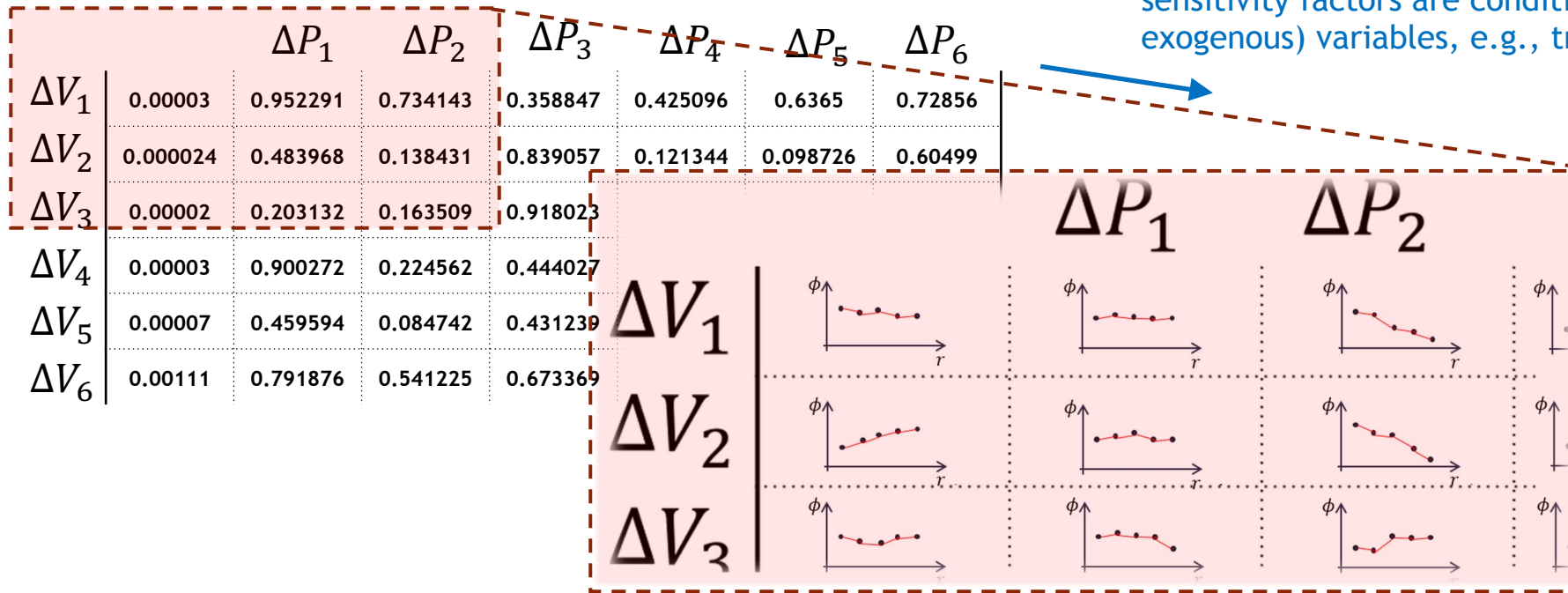
Sensitivity factors

$$\begin{bmatrix} S_{1.1} & \dots & S_{1.N} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ S_{N.1} & \dots & S_{N.N} \end{bmatrix}$$

*Ref.: S. Weckx, R. D'Hulst, and J. Driesen, "Voltage sensitivity analysis of a laboratory distribution grid with incomplete data," IEEE Trans. on Smart Grid, vol. 6, no. 3, pp. 1271–1280, May 2015.*

# Data-driven Voltage Control (DdVC)

sensitivity factors are conditioned by external (or exogenous) variables, e.g., transformer loading



smart meter data is classified as personal data

$$Y = X \cdot B + \varepsilon$$



$$Y = X \cdot B(u) + \varepsilon$$

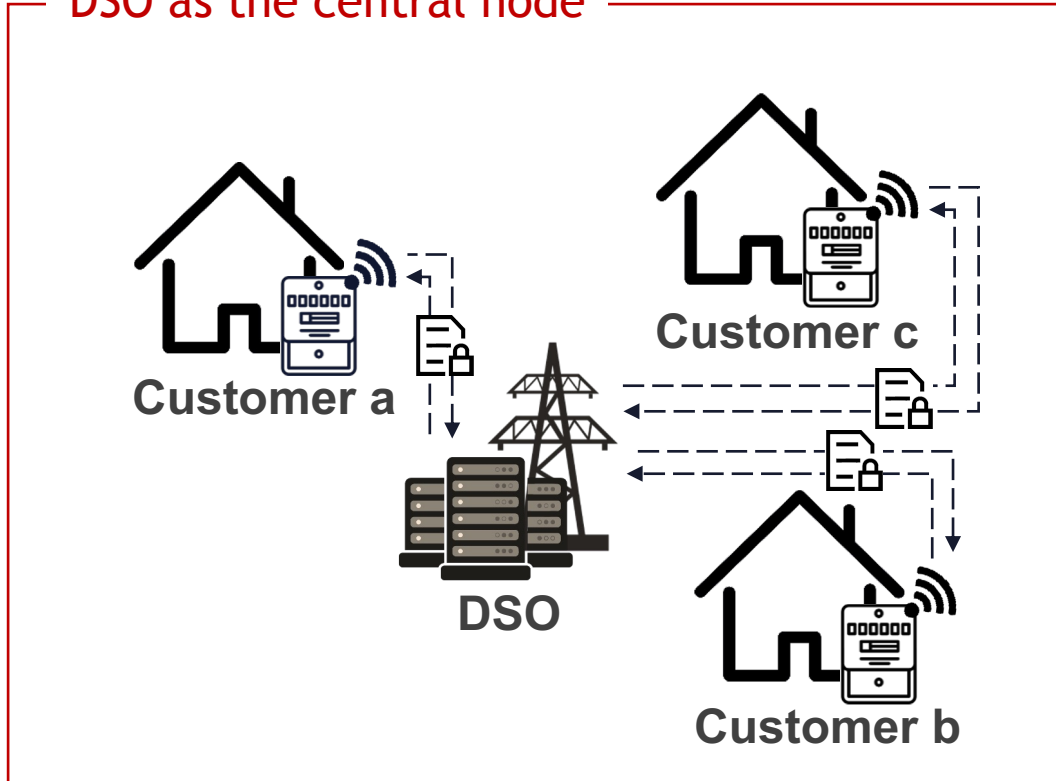
varying-coefficient linear model → coefficients change smoothly with the value of exogenous variables

$B(u)$  are estimated by fitting locally a polynomial around *fitting points* e.g. of exogenous variables: MV/LV transformer load or voltage

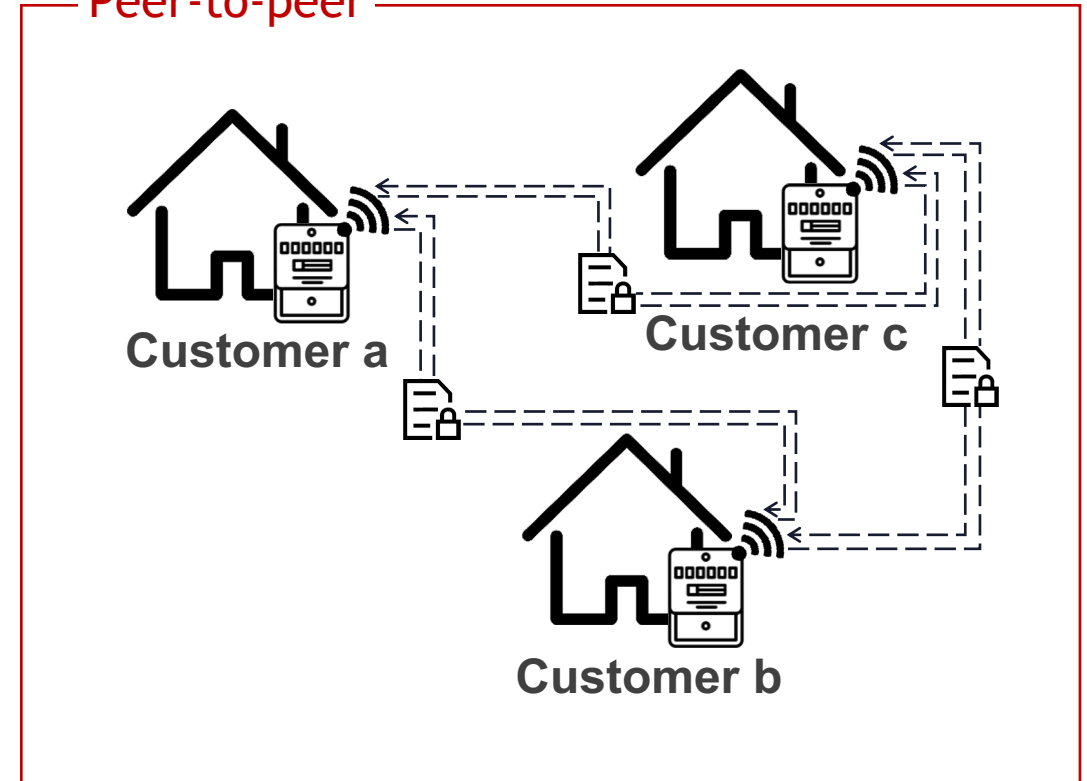
# Data Privacy & Federated Learning

Use federated learning protocol to calculate the sensitivity factors using a privacy-preserving data exchange

DSO as the central node



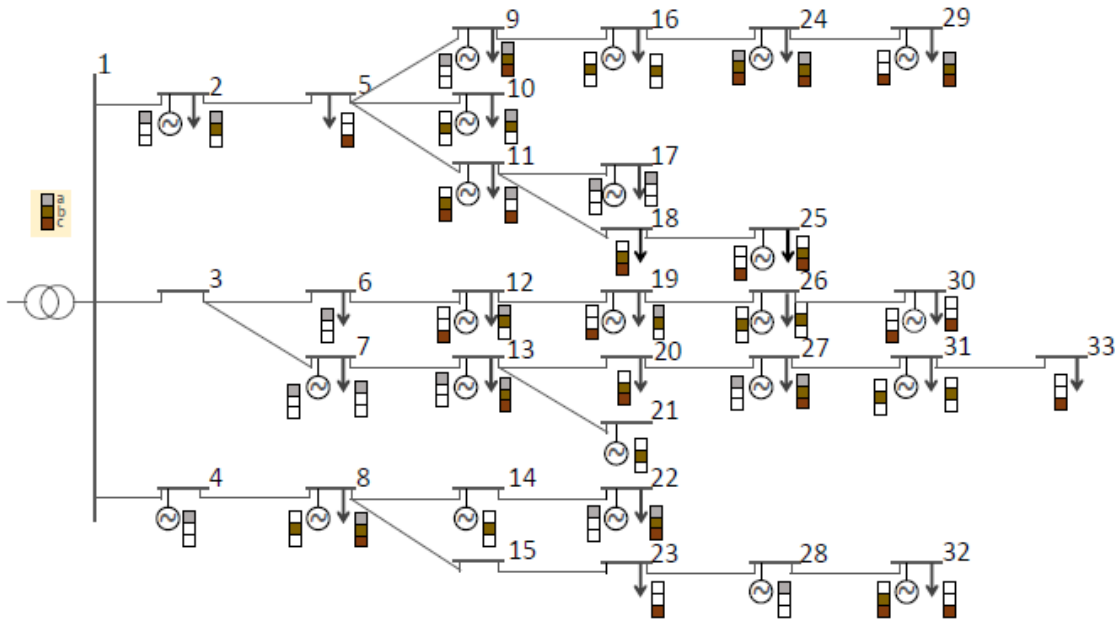
Peer-to-peer



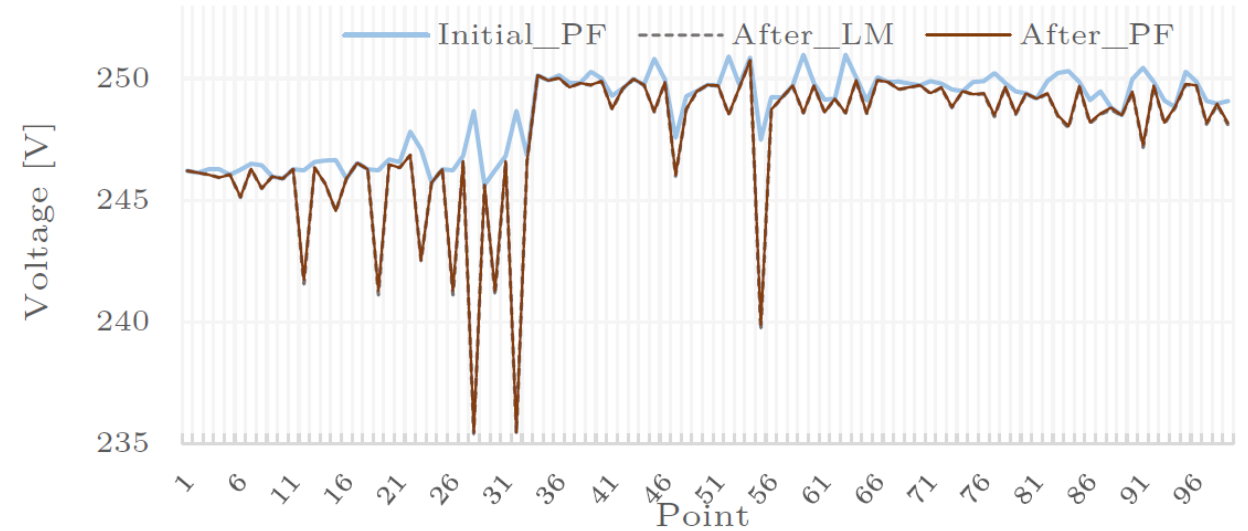


# Accuracy of the Linear Model

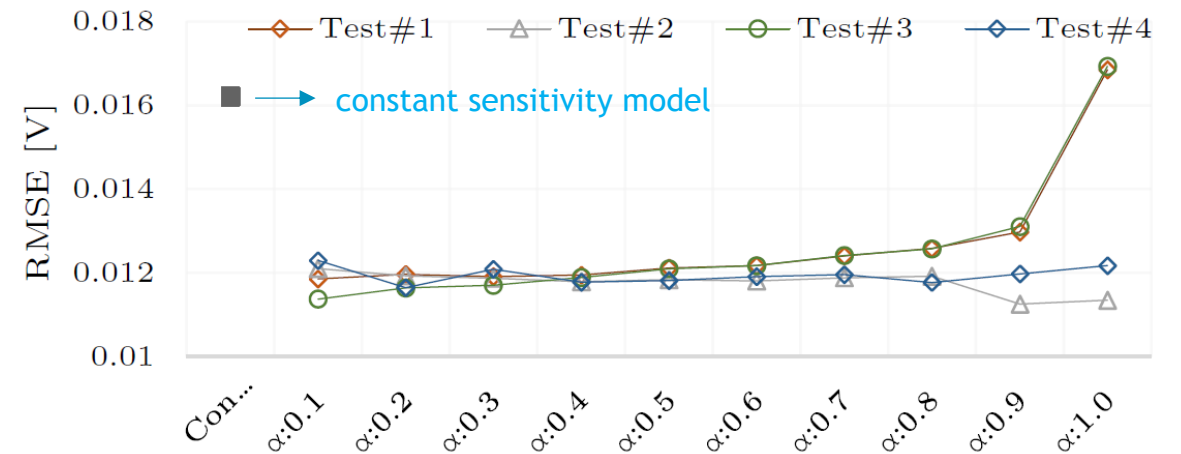
33 node typical Portuguese LV grid



voltage after changing active power injection/consumption



RMSE of constant versus (var. coef.) conditional model



# Integration in Low Voltage Control

$$\min J = \sum_{i=1}^n \Delta P_i^{up} \cdot C_i^{up} - \Delta P_i^{down} \cdot C_i^{down}$$

subject to

$$\begin{cases} 0 \leq \Delta P_i^{up} \leq \Delta P_i^{max} \\ \Delta P_i^{min} \leq \Delta P_i^{down} \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

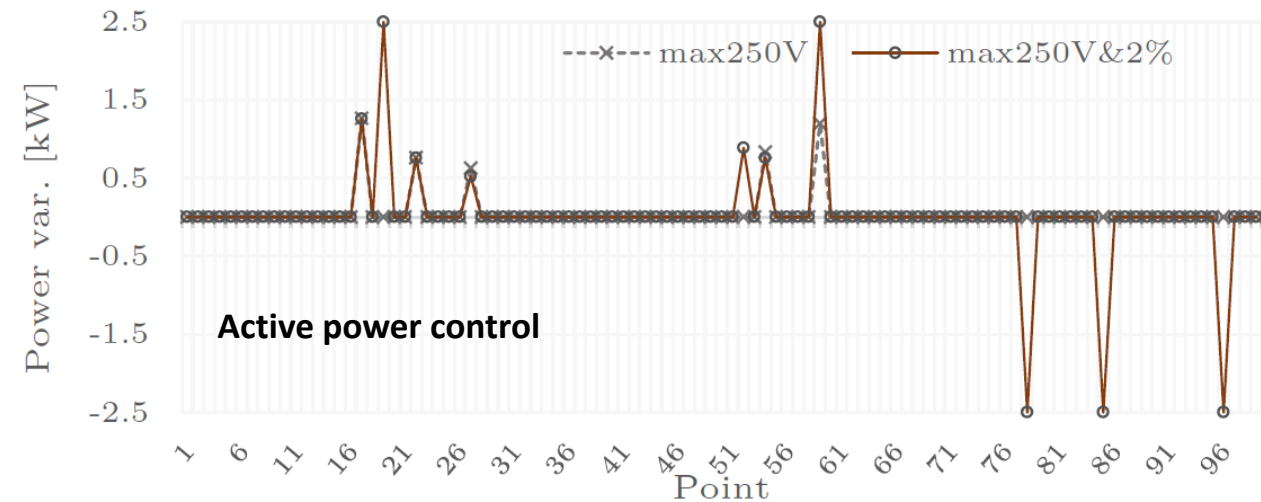
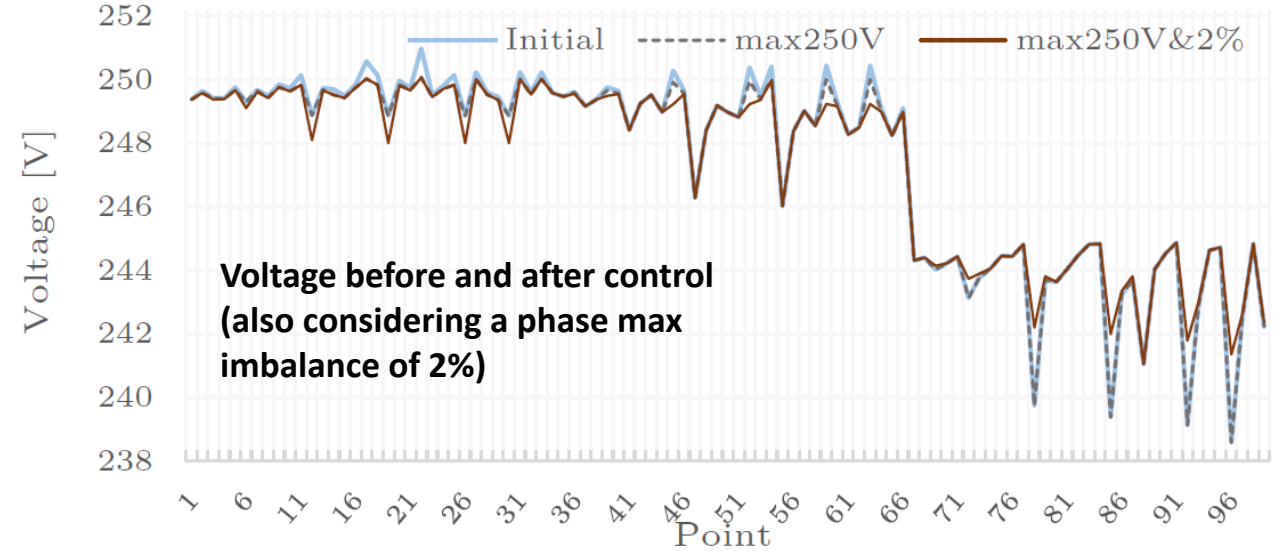
$$V_i^{min} - V_i^{old} \leq \Delta V_i \leq V_i^{max} - V_i^{old}$$

$$\frac{\Delta V_k^{max}}{V_k^{avg}} \times 100 \leq l$$

$$V_k^{avg} = \frac{V_{a,k} + V_{b,k} + V_{c,k}}{3}$$

$$\Delta V_P^{max} = \max\{|V_{a,k} - V_k^{avg}|, |V_{b,k} - V_k^{avg}|, |V_{c,k} - V_k^{avg}|\}$$

$$\Delta V_i = \sum_{j=1}^n (\Delta P_j^{up} - \Delta P_j^{down}) \cdot S_{i,j}$$



# A glance about Data Markets



# Incentive Mechanisms for Data Sharing

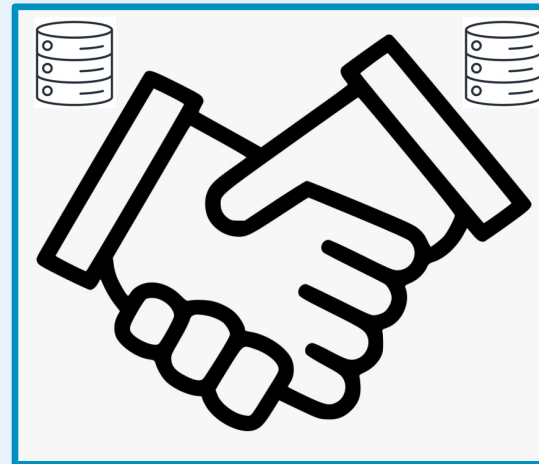
## *Data by Money*

- ✓ **Accurate forecasts** with collaborative forecasting models
- ✓ **Monetary compensation** proportional to the data importance when forecasting the others' data



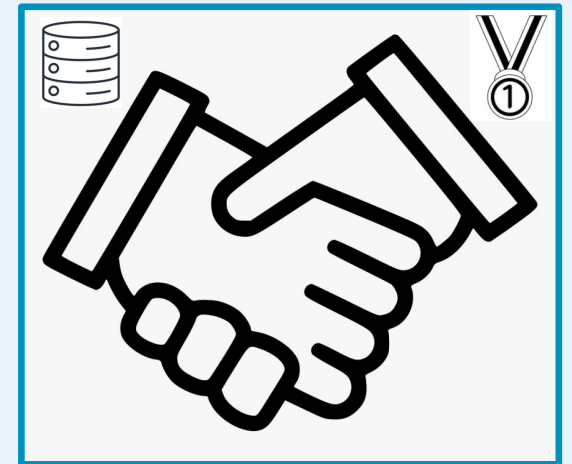
## *Data by Data*

- ✓ Data owners **provide and receive data** with approximately **the same value**
- ✓ **Value** is measured with metrics such as mutual information, correlation, etc.



## *Data by Recognition*

- ✓ **Recognition**, e.g., as a climate change mitigator
- ✓ Proportional to the data importance when forecasting the others' data



# Data Market for Forecasting

## Buyers

**Objective:** Improve forecasting skill

Payment depends on the **gain** obtained by using market **sellers'** data

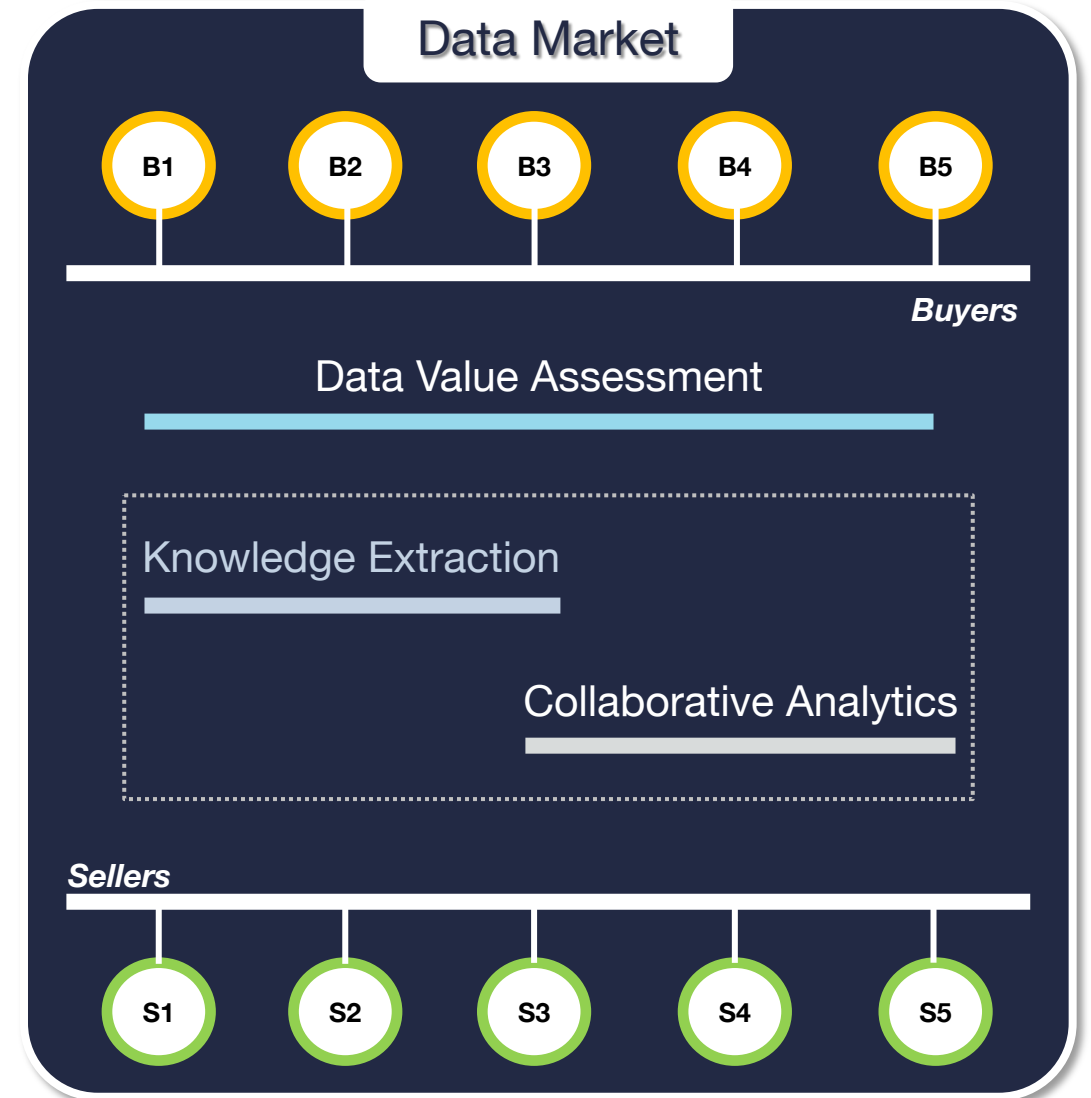


*Data value found through collaborative analytics*

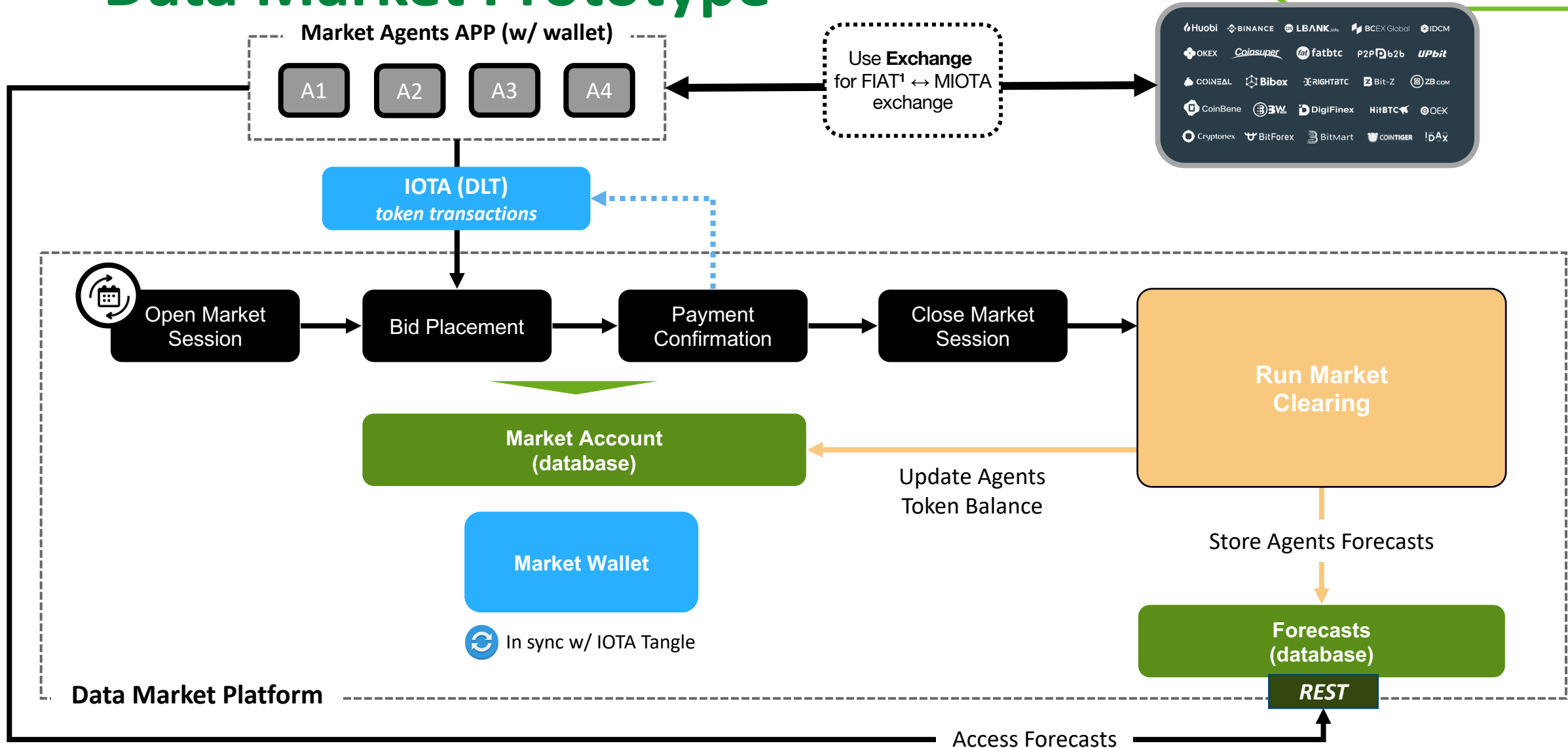
## Sellers

**Objective:** Monetize their data

Revenue depends on the actual contribution to **Buyers** forecast skill



# Data Market Prototype



1 – FIAT money: government-issued currency that is not backed by a physical commodity, but rather by the government that issued it.

# Concluding Remarks

# Concluding Remarks

- We departed from linear models up to non-linear models in a FL framework (different from ANN FL)
- Load/RES forecasting has been the primary use case for FL in energy  
→ new use cases are needed
- Data monetization and other data-sharing mechanisms (e.g., data-by-data) should be complementary to FL
- Energy consumption at the edge should also be a concern (simple models have an advantage)



# Acknowledgments

**Gil Sampaio, Carla Gonçalves**  
**INESC TEC**