WASHINGTON, DC — Our data-driven society has a tricky balancing act to perform: building innovative products and services that use personal data while still protecting people’s privacy. To help organizations keep this balance, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) is offering a new tool for managing privacy risk.

This week, the agency released Version 1.0 of the NIST Privacy Framework: A Tool for Improving Privacy through Enterprise Risk Management. Developed from a draft version in collaboration with a range of stakeholders, the framework provides a useful set of privacy protection strategies for organizations that wish to improve their approach to using and protecting personal data. The publication also provides clarification about privacy risk management concepts and the relationship between the Privacy Framework and NIST’s Cybersecurity Framework.

The NIST Privacy Framework is not a law or regulation, but rather a voluntary tool that can help organizations manage privacy risk arising from their products and services, as well as demonstrate compliance with laws that may affect them, such as the California Consumer Privacy Act and the European Union’s General Data Protection Regulation. It helps organizations identify the privacy outcomes they want to achieve and then prioritize the actions needed to do so.

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SUPER COMPUTERS

MILWAUKEE, WI — From the NVIDIA Blog, Bob Sherbin writes that an NVIDIA GPU-powered supercomputer named “Rosie” is at the heart of a new computational science facility at the Milwaukee School of Engineering (MSOE). Unique to MSOE, the supercomputer will be available to undergraduate students, offering them the ability to apply their learning in a hands-on environment to prepare for their careers. Thanks to the university’s corporate partnerships, students will access this high performance computing to solve real-world problems in their course work.

Housed in a glass-walled area within the newly constructed four-story Diercks Hall, the new NVIDIA-powered AI supercomputer includes three NVIDIA DGX-1 pods, each with eight NVIDIA V100 Tensor Core GPUs, and 20 servers each with four NVIDIA T4 GPUs. The nodes are joined together by Mellanox networking fabric and share 200TB of network-attached storage. Rare among supercomputers in higher education, the system — which provides 8.2 petaflops of deep learning performance — will be used for teaching undergrad classes.

Since their introduction in the 1960’s, the United States has long been the leader in supercomputing career fields. Japan made major strides in this field in the 1980s and 1990s; however, China has become increasingly active in the field. As of November 2018, the fastest supercomputer in the world capable of 200 petaFLOPS is the Summit developed by IBM with the Department of Energy’s Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL).
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