

Privacy Policy

“aTrain”

aTrain is a self-installed tool for the automatic transcription of voice recordings using machine learning models, without the data to be transcribed being uploaded to the internet.

The tool was developed by researchers at the Business Analytics and Data Science Center (BANDAS Center) at the University of Graz.

As joint controllers, the developers of the software take the protection of personal data very seriously, and we treat all personal data we process confidentially and in compliance with the applicable legal provisions.

This privacy policy is intended to inform you, as a user of the tool “aTrain”, in accordance with Art. 12 and 13 GDPR about the purposes, legal basis/bases, and your rights in connection with the processing of personal data in the context of the developers making the tool technically available.

With regard to the data processing involved in the actual transcription itself, it is the responsibility of the respective user of the tool to meet the relevant data protection requirements and, in particular, to inform the study participants about the data processing in accordance with Art. 12 and 13 GDPR.

Affected groups of persons:

Members of the general public who obtain the tool via the Microsoft Store or the University of Graz website, use it under their own responsibility for the transcription of (personal) data, and use the model manager integrated in the tool to download additional transcription models from huggingface.co.

Purposes, types of data, and legal bases

1. Download

When you download the tool via the Microsoft Store, data from you is transmitted to the **Microsoft Store**. This may include your email address, the time of the download, an individual device identifier, etc. The processing of the data handled by the app store operators is outside our sphere of influence. For further information, please refer to Microsoft’s privacy statement: <https://privacy.microsoft.com/de-de/privacystatement>

When you download the tool from the **University of Graz website**, its web servers temporarily record every access in a log file. The following data are collected and stored until they are automatically deleted: the IP address of the requesting computer, the date and time of access, the name and URL of the files retrieved, the amount of data transferred, a message indicating whether the request was successful, identification data of the browser and operating system used, the website from which the access originated, and the name of your internet service

provider. The processing of the data handled by the operators is outside our sphere of influence. For more detailed information, please refer to the University of Graz's privacy policy: https://static.uni-graz.at/fileadmin/presse/datenschutz/20240620_Datenschutzerklaerung_dt.pdf

2. Registration

The tool can be used without registration.

The processing of the above-mentioned data is necessary for use of the tool. It is carried out on the basis of the terms of use accepted through use of the tool, and thus for the performance of a contract pursuant to Art. 6(1)(b) GDPR, as well as on the basis of the developers' overriding legitimate interest (Art. 6(1)(f) GDPR) in ensuring data security and improving the system.

3. Use of the tool

The following data are processed in the course of using the tool:

If the tool was installed via the Microsoft Store, Microsoft collects data on individual user sessions. For example, the frequency and duration of use and the users' country of origin are stored. The processing of the data handled by the app store operators is outside our sphere of influence. For further information, please refer to Microsoft's privacy statement: <https://privacy.microsoft.com/de-de/privacystatement>

When using the model manager integrated in the tool, the models are downloaded from the website <https://huggingface.co/>. This site stores and processes information such as the date of access or the IP address of the requesting computer. The processing of the data handled by the app store operators is outside our sphere of influence. For more detailed information, please refer to Hugging Face's privacy policy: <https://huggingface.co/privacy>. Use of the model manager is optional. The most common model, large-v3-turbo, is already included when you download the tool, so the tool can be used entirely without the Model Manager.

The user interface also contains links to the following pages:

- A **link to the tool's source code** on <https://github.com/JuergenFleiss/aTrain>. This site stores and processes information such as the date of access or the IP address of the requesting computer. The processing of the data handled by the operators of this site is outside our sphere of influence. For more detailed information, please refer to GitHub's privacy statement: <https://docs.github.com/de/site-policy/privacy-policies/github-general-privacy-statement>
- A **link to the publication** associated with the tool at <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S2214635024000066?via%3DiHub>, which, according to the tool's terms of use, must be cited in publications in which the tool was used in the research process. This site stores and processes information such as the date of access or the IP address of the requesting computer. The processing of the data handled by the operators of this site is outside our sphere of influence. For more detailed

information, please refer to Elsevier's privacy policy:
<https://www.elsevier.com/legal/privacy-policy-de-de>

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Permissions

To be able to use the tool, the following **mandatory and optional permissions** are required:

- **Mandatory permissions:** Access to the home directory, in order to save the generated transcripts and associated metadata.
- **Optional permissions:** Internet connection: Additional Whisper transcription models can be downloaded by users from the website <https://huggingface.co/> via the Model Manager. Without an internet connection, the Model Manager cannot be used. However, the faster-whisper large-v3-turbo model is integrated into the tool, so the tool can always be used.

Storage period

The developers themselves do not store any personal data.

Transmission

The developers do not process any of your personal data in connection with your use of the tool. The developers do not pass on any personal data to external recipients.

Your rights

In connection with the processing of your personal data, you have the so-called “data subject rights” under Art. 15 et seq. GDPR at any time. These can be asserted against the developers, with bandas@uni-graz.at serving as the joint point of contact. For the specific processing activity, these are the following rights:

- Right of access to the personal data concerned (Art. 15 GDPR),
- Right to rectification (Art. 16 GDPR), erasure (Art. 17 GDPR), or restriction of processing (Art. 18 GDPR),
- Right to object (Art. 21 GDPR).

In addition, you have the:

- Right to lodge a complaint (Art. 77 GDPR), which would be filed with a supervisory authority. In Austria, this is the Austrian Data Protection Authority (Datenschutzbehörde), Barichgasse 40–42, 1030 Vienna, telephone: +43 1 52 152-0, email: dsb@dsb.gv.at.

Our contact details

Our contact details are: bandas@uni-graz.at