

From: Transactions on Information Forensics & Security <onbehalf@manuscriptcentral.com>
Sent: Monday, 14 March 2022 9:28 pm
To: #GUO JIALE#
Cc: venturi@di.uniroma1.it; #LIU ZIYAO#; #GUO JIALE#; Lam Kwok Yan (Prof); Jun Zhao (Asst Prof); m.langdon@ieee.org; mauro.conti@unipd.it; conti-journal@math.unipd.it
Subject: Decision to ACCEPT (A) manuscript ID T-IFS-13394-2021.R2, Efficient Dropout-resilient Aggregation for Privacy-preserving Machine Learning

14-Mar-2022

Miss Jiale Guo
Nanyang Technological University
50 Nanyang Ave
Singapore
Singapore
Singapore
639798

Paper: T-IFS-13394-2021.R2 "Efficient Dropout-resilient Aggregation for Privacy-preserving Machine Learning".

Dear Miss Jiale Guo:

We are pleased to inform you that the above manuscript has been ACCEPTED for publication as a REGULAR paper in the IEEE Transactions on Information Forensics & Security.

In order to begin the publishing process, all of the items in the checklist below must be uploaded to ScholarOne no later than 2 weeks from the date of this letter. The IEEE Transactions on Information Forensics & Security has a commitment to deliver valuable technical information to the signal processing community in a timely manner. To that end, the IEEE Transactions on Information Forensics & Security, its editors, and staff are making every effort to ensure that the submission of finalized papers not be delayed. We hope you will assist us by the careful preparation of your final submission.

Also, please note that as of 1 Feb 18, the current accepted version of your manuscript will be made available on IEEE Xplore within 3 weeks after receipt of the final materials. This will be a preprinted version that will be later replaced by the fully edited version after you have submitted the revised proofs. Both preprinted and fully edited versions will have the same Digital Object Identifier (DOI), they will be equivalent as far as citations are concerned.

Please note, you may not submit an updated PDF of your manuscript at this time. If any final files must be uploaded in PDF format, please add them to an archive file (.zip, .rar, .tar, etc) before uploading.

The IEEE requires that authors must transfer to the IEEE in writing any copyright they hold for their individual papers. However, the copyright form does NOT have to be uploaded with your final files. Once you complete the final files upload, ScholarOne will redirect you to sign the electronic copyright form. If you are unable to access the form after you submit your final files, ScholarOne will retain a link to "Transfer Copyright" next to the entry for your finished paper in the submitting author's Author Center.

Please submit final files as close to publishable as possible. The production department will be editing the submitted final files very slightly, so be careful to proof your final files before submitting. Guidelines for preparing final materials to the IEEE style can be found at:
http://www.ieee.org/publications_standards/publications/authors/authors_journals.html#sect under "Article Templates."

Final Files Checklist:

PAGE LENGTH: The final submitted version of your manuscript may not exceed 16 pages in the double-column, single-spaced format including figures, photos, and bios. Your paper will not be sent to production if it exceeds this limit. Additionally, any manuscript that exceeds 10 pages in double-column format will be charged mandatory overlength fees. The rate is \$220/page starting on page 11 of a published manuscript.

- [] One electronic copy of the finalized manuscript in LaTeX or MS Word formats including editable source files for figures and tables. The source files (.tex, .doc, .eps, .ps, .bib, .db, .tif, .jpeg, ...) may be uploaded as a single .rar or .zip archived file. (FYI: restricted file types are shs; exe; com; vbs)
- [] Editable source files of the bios and portrait photos of all authors. Also, please provide some means of identification that lets us know what name goes with what photo. Please note that including photos and bios in your published paper is not mandatory.
- [] Supplemental electronic materials (Multimedia), to illustrate the concepts described by the authors, if applicable. If you are submitting such materials to publish along with your paper, please add the following paragraph (edited to reflect your own files) after the author affiliation paragraph(s).

"This paper has supplementary downloadable material available at <http://ieeexplore.ieee.org>., provided by the author. The material includes...[please list all materials to be included as multimedia/supplemental material]. Contact [author email address] for further questions about this work."

IEEE Xplore can publish data sets, multimedia files and Matlab code along with your paper. For this purpose you can provide a single .rar file, or the links to such files in a README file that will appear on Xplore along with your paper. It is important to designate the .rar file as "multimedia_materials.rar." For details, please see http://www.ieee.org/publications_standards/publications/authors/authors_journals.html#sect6 under "Multimedia Materials."

=====

All the above listed materials must be uploaded through the "Awaiting Final Files" status link in the submitting author's Author Center on ScholarOne Manuscripts. Please upload all files in a single session using "submit final files" link, and make sure the final package is 100% correct and complete upon submission. Once your final files are submitted you will not be able to make any changes until you receive the galley proofs from the IEEE.

*PLEASE NOTE: By submitting the final files of your manuscript, you are acknowledging that you have read and accepted the rules established for publication of manuscripts, including agreement to pay all over length page charges, color charges, and any other charges and fees associated with publication of the manuscript. Such charges are not negotiable and cannot be suspended.

Per the IEEE PSPB Manual, any substantive and unauthorized changes made to your accepted article during this final stage of the publication process must be communicated in writing to the Editor, who then will decide if a re-review is necessary. This includes addition or removal of any citations. Failure of such notification may be considered as author misconduct, and at the discretion of the Editor may be reported as such to the IEEE Vice President – Publication Services and Products. If any changes are necessary, please contact the journal administrator prior to submitting your final materials through Scholar One Manuscripts.

Any inquiries regarding these rules should be directed to Mikaela Langdon at m.langdon@ieee.org. For any questions regarding the peer review process, please contact me.

=====Open Access=====

The publication is a hybrid journal, allowing either Traditional manuscript submission or Open Access (author-pays OA) manuscript submission. Upon submission of your final files, if you choose to have your manuscript be an Open Access article, you commit to pay the discounted OA fee if your manuscript is accepted for publication in order to enable unrestricted public access. As of 01 January 2017, the OA fee is \$1,950. Any other application charges (such as charge for the use of color in the print format) will be billed separately once the manuscript formatting is complete but prior to the publication. If you would like your manuscript to be a Traditional submission, your article will be available to qualified subscribers and purchasers via IEEE Xplore. No OA payment is required for Traditional submission.

=====

Thank you!

Best regards,

Prof. Daniele Venturi
Associate Editor
IEEE Transactions on Information Forensics & Security
venturi@di.uniroma1.it

Mikaela Langdon
Coordinator Society Publications
IEEE Signal Processing Society
m.langdon@ieee.org

Reviewer Comments:

Reviewer: 1

Recommendation: A - Publish Unaltered

Comments:

The authors have previously addressed the issues I raised. In my opinion, the paper is now ready for publication.

Additional Questions:

1. Is the topic appropriate for publication in these transactions?: Adequate Match

1. Is the paper technically sound?: Yes

2. How would you rate the technical novelty of the paper?: Novel Enough for Publication

Explain: The paper modifies an existing protocol, improving its efficiency.

3. Is the contribution significant?: Incremental

4. Is the coverage of the topic sufficiently comprehensive and balanced?: Yes

5. Rate the Bibliography: Satisfactory

1. How would you rate the overall organization of the paper?: Satisfactory

2. Are the title and abstract satisfactory?: Yes

3. Is the length of the paper appropriate? If not, recommend what should be added or eliminated.: Yes

4. Are symbols, terms, and concepts adequately defined?: Yes

5. How do you rate the English usage?: Satisfactory

Reviewer: 3

Recommendation: A - Publish Unaltered

Comments:

In this revision, the authors have addressed my feedback and sufficiently justified the remaining open points. Thus, in my opinion, the paper is ready for publication. I recommend a final language polishing for the final version.

Additional Questions:

1. Is the topic appropriate for publication in these transactions?: Adequate Match

1. Is the paper technically sound?: Yes

2. How would you rate the technical novelty of the paper?: Novel Enough for Publication

Explain: As before: The baseline idea of the proposed scheme is similar to [24], but replaces the DH exchange between each pair of parties with a HPRG/seed for reducing communication costs.

3. Is the contribution significant?: Moderately Significant

4. Is the coverage of the topic sufficiently comprehensive and balanced?: Yes

- 5. Rate the Bibliography: Satisfactory
- 1. How would you rate the overall organization of the paper?: Satisfactory
- 2. Are the title and abstract satisfactory?: Yes
- 3. Is the length of the paper appropriate? If not, recommend what should be added or eliminated.: Yes
- 4. Are symbols, terms, and concepts adequately defined?: Yes
- 5. How do you rate the English usage?: Satisfactory

Reviewer: 2

Recommendation: A - Publish Unaltered

Comments:
My previous comments and reviews are already addressed by authors, thus I have no objection for the paper to be published.

Additional Questions:
1. Is the topic appropriate for publication in these transactions?: Excellent Match

- 1. Is the paper technically sound?: Yes
- 2. How would you rate the technical novelty of the paper?: Novel Enough for Publication

Explain: Incremental work with improvement on protocol efficiency. Several novel techniques are added.

- 3. Is the contribution significant?: Incremental
- 4. Is the coverage of the topic sufficiently comprehensive and balanced?: Treatment somewhat unbalanced, but not seriously so
- 5. Rate the Bibliography: Satisfactory
- 1. How would you rate the overall organization of the paper?: Satisfactory
- 2. Are the title and abstract satisfactory?: Yes
- 3. Is the length of the paper appropriate? If not, recommend what should be added or eliminated.: Yes
- 4. Are symbols, terms, and concepts adequately defined?: Yes
- 5. How do you rate the English usage?: Satisfactory