Nan Yan

Curriculum Vitae

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Education

2023-Now M.Eng. in Cyber Science and Engineering,

Wuhan University, (WHU), Wuhan, China, Advisor: Prof. Li Yuqing, GPA: 90.07/100

Research Interests: Trustworthy AI, Federated Learning

2019–2023 B.Eng. in Cyber Science and Engineering,

Shandong University, (SDU), Qingdao, China

GPA: 3.85/5 (88.51/100), Graduated with Outstanding Honor

Selected Projects

Federated Learning

2023–2024 Efficient and Straggler-Resistant Homomorphic Encryption for Heterogeneous Federated Learning

- A contribution-aware encrypted weighted aggregation and sketching-based client selection algorithm for optimizing FL training efficiency with CKKS-based HE.
- O Achieving a training speedup of $1.85-4.44\times$, cut the communication overhead by $1.24-22.62\times$, and reduce the straggler effect by up to $1.71-2.39\times$.
- o 4.5 kloc, codebase released and work accepted in the Proc. of IEEE INFOCOM 2024.

2022–2023 Federated Learning with Knowledge Distillation

- A fundamental and versatile federated learning framework, rigorously tested across diverse datasets and models, designed to facilitate efficient framework construction for federated learning tasks.
- Conducted a reproduction of federated learning incorporating knowledge distillation, alongside the implementation of five baseline methods for comprehensive comparison.

Open Source Software Release

2022–2024 Pioneer: a low-cost Bluetooth-based virus tracking system

- A cost-effective virus tracking system leveraging Bluetooth technology, secured with the national cryptographic algorithm SM3 for encryption and certification.
- Designed and implemented a comprehensive system encompassing backend database server development, Android application development, and iOS application development.
- O 19.6 kloc, codebase released and work earned 153 stars, 86 forks.

Academic Experience

Conference and Journal Publications

- 2025 Nan Yan, Yuqing Li, Xiong Wang, Jing Chen, Kun He, Bo Li, "EmbedX: Embedding-Based Cross-Trigger Backdoor Attack Against Large Language Models," in Proc. USENIX Security 2025.
- 2025 Yuqing Li, **Nan Yan**, Jing Chen, Xiong Wang, Jianan Hong, Kun He, Wei Wang, Bo Li, "FedPHE: A Secure and Efficient Federated Learning via Packed Homomorphic Encryption," in IEEE TDSC (The first author is the advisor).
- 2024 Nan Yan, Yuqing Li, Jing Chen, Xiong Wang, Jianan Hong, Kun He, Wei Wang, "Efficient and straggler-resistant homomorphic encryption for heterogeneous federated learning," in Proc. IEEE INFOCOM, 2024 (acceptance rate: 19.6%).

Manuscripts

- Nan Yan, Yuqing Li, Jing Chen, Xiong Wang, Wei Wang, Shuhua Li, "Towards Improved Differentially Private Federated Fine-tuning of Language Models on Heterogeneous Clients," *Under Review*.
- 2025 Haoran Wang, Xiong Wang, Yuqing Li, Jing Chen, Junyi Zhang, **Nan Yan**, Kun He, "Improved Federated LoRA via Error-Free Aggregation and Matrix-Wise Freezing," *Under Review*.
- 2025 Haoran Wang, Xiong Wang, Yuqing Li, Jing Chen, Yuntao Nie, **Nan Yan**, Meng Jin, Bo Li, Can Mao, "FedP2P: Towards Accelerated Federated Learning with Peer-to-Peer Communication," *Under Review*.

Scholarships and Honors

- 2024 National Scholarship (Top 0.2% nationwide), Ministry of Education, China
- 2024 Metrit Student, WHU
- 2024 First Class Scholarship (Award Rate: 5% school-wide), WHU
- 2023 Outstanding Graduate Award, SDU
- 2023 Alumni Council Representative (Dept. CSE, 6/101), SDU
- 2023 The Power of Role Models Academy Person of the Year (Dept. CSE, Top 1), SDU
- 2022 Excellent Student Cadre, SDU
- 2020, 2022 Second Class Scholarship (Award Rate: 10% school-wide), SDU
- 2020, 2022×3 Merit-Based Scholarship, SDU

Competition Awards

- 2025 Second Prize of the 1-st National Open Source Security Award Program, Cyber Security Association, China
- 2022 Second Prize of The 7-th National College Cryptography Mathematics Contest, Chinese Association for Cryptologic Research, China
- 2022 Second Prize of The 15-th National College Student Information Security Competition, Cyber Security Association, China
- 2022 First Prize of The 7-th National College Cryptography Mathematics Contest, Chinese Association for Cryptologic Research, North China Division
- 2021 First Prize of China Undergraduate Mathematical Contest in Modeling, Shandong Province

Patents and Software Copyrights

- Feb 2025 "Large language model training method and system based on elastic federated low-rank adaptive fine-tuning", China Patent Application CN119443311A, PatentPending
- Jan 2025 "Method for constructing a vertical federated learning system based on participant selection and parameter freezing", China Patent Application CN202411465068.7, PatentPending
- Dec 2024 "Differential privacy-based heterogeneous federal fine tuning language model construction method and system", China Patent Application CN119150357A, PatentPending
- Oct 2024 "Cross-silo heterogeneous federated learning system based on homomorphic encryption V1.0", China Software Copyrights 2024SR1516588
- Apr 2024 "Method and device for constructing cross-silo heterogeneous federated learning system based on homomorphic encryption", China Patent Application CN117892322A, PatentPending
- Mar 2024 "Network traffic obfuscation method, device, equipment and medium", China Patent Application CN117749402A, PatentPending