# ECAvg: An Edge-Cloud Collaborative Learning Approach using Averaged Weights

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## Introduction

Recent trends in edge computing

Robustness of cloud computing

• Leveraging edge and cloud for machine learning





# Existing Challenges







Viewpoint problem with cloud training, edge inference

Resource constraints of edge devices for on-device training

How to leverage the strengths of both types of devices???

## Related Works

#### **Edge-Cloud Collaboration**

- Big data driven edge-cloud collaboration architecture (Yang 2020)
- Co-edge (Hu et al. 2020)

#### Federated learning

- Federated learning in resource constrained edge devices (Wang et al. 2019)
- Federated learning for edge networks (Khan et al. 2020)
- Secure and efficient federated learning for smart grid with edgecloud collaboration (Su et al. 2021)

## **Our Proposed Solution**



Edge and Cloud can 'collaborate' with each other

Proximity of edge to data source

Hardware capabilities of cloud computing



Pre-training on edge with local data



Fine tuning on server with global data

# Scope of the Work



#### We propose ECAvg as a collaborative edge-cloud approach

Edge devices for pre-training Cloud for model aggregation and fine-tuning



MNIST

**3 experiments, 3 different architectures:** CIFAR10 CIFAR100



Explore the role of transfer learning in our approach

# Methodology

- Environments:
  - Central server
  - and M client edge devices

- Data:
  - D<sub>i</sub> for each i client
  - Ď aggregated on server





# Methodology

#### Training:

- Each client computes the parameters θ<sub>i</sub> on its local dataset D<sub>i</sub> and sends to the server
- Server averages the parameters into a global model  $h_{\text{avg}}$  with parameters  $\theta_{\text{avg}}$
- $\theta_{avg}$  are fine-tuned on the global dataset into  $\theta^{*}_{avg}$  and updated to the client models
- Client devices retrain on data





## Implementation





#### Setup:

Desktop as server device

Two A203 Mini PC (developed upon Jetson Xavier NX) client devices

**Datasets:** 

 $D_1$  on  $Edge_1$  and  $D_2$  on  $Edge_2$ 



Models:

Two identical client models,  $M_1$  and  $M_2$ 

Server model M built from averaged  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  weights

### Implementation





#### Training

 $M_1$  and  $M_2$  trained on  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  respectively on the edge

Weights of  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  averaged into a server model M

M finetuned on aggregate data  $\check{D}$ 

Fine-tuned weights of M updated on edge models  $M_1$  and  $M_2$ 

 $\rm M_1$  and  $\rm M_2$  retrained on respective data

#### **3** separate experiments

Experiment 1: MobileNetV2 on CIFAR10

Experiment 2: ResNet50 on CIFAR100

Experiment 3: Simple neural net with one hidden layer on MNIST

#### **Datasets:**

**CIFAR10** split into two nonoverlapping sets, each with 5 classes

One set per client device

Complete CIFAR10 dataset on server



#### Models:

Two identical MobileNetV2 classifiers pretrained on ImageNet



#### Training

As described in Implementation

• Results



• Testing Results

Device	Setup	Acc	Precision	Recall	F1 Score
Edge 1	Before Update	0.3886	0.4096	0.3886	0.3597
Edge 1	After Update	0.8116	0.8134	0.8116	0.8090
Edge 2	Before Update	0.3688	0.3809	0.3688	0.3641
Edge 2	After Update	0.8740	0.8862	0.8740	0.8711
Server	ImageNet weights	0.3660	0.4096	0.3660	0.3203
Server	Averaged weights	0.6696	0.6946	0.6696	0.6641

#### **Datasets:**

**CIFAR100** split into two nonoverlapping sets, each with 50 classes

One set per client device

Complete CIFAR100 dataset on server



#### Models:

Two identical **ResNet50** classifiers pretrained on ImageNet



#### Training

As described in Implementation

#### • Results



• Testing Results

Device	Setup	Acc	Precision	Recall	F1 Score
Edge 1	Before Update	0.3964	0.4441	0.3964	0.3927
Edge 1	After Update	0.5156	0.5355	0.5156	0.5127
Edge 2	Before Update	0.4878	0.4955	0.4878	0.4809
Edge 2	After Update	0.5180	0.5308	0.5180	0.5140
Server	ImageNet weights	0.2100	0.2076	0.2100	0.1910
Server	Averaged weights	0.3745	0.3938	0.3745	0.3639



#### **Datasets:**

MNIST split into two nonoverlapping sets, each with 5 classes

One set per client device

Complete MNIST dataset on server



#### Models:

Two identical simple neural networks classifiers



#### Training

As described in Implementation

#### • Results



• Testing Results

Device	Setup	Acc	Precision	Recall	F1 Score
Edge 1	Before Update	0.9722	0.9737	0.9722	0.9725
Edge 1	After Update	0.7544	0.6784	0.7544	0.6980
Edge 2	Before Update	0.9568	0.9594	0.9568	0.9571
Edge 2	After Update	0.5466	0.4836	0.5466	0.4617
Server	No pre-training	0.7938	0.8128	0.7938	0.7854
Server	Averaged weights	0.6417	0.6854	0.6417	0.6285

### Discussion

#### **Performance improvements**

Improved generalisability by fine-tuning Positive transfer of knowledge between models Task similarity between local and global datasets



# Negative transfer learning with simple networks

Performance loss due to negative transfer learning

Avoided in Exp 1 and Exp 2 due to complex model architectures and regularization

Neural network in Exp 3 lacked these benefits and thus negative transfer learning occurred

## Conclusion



Edge and cloud can complement each other in through a collaborative paradigm



ECAvg as a collaborative learning approach



Performance improvements observed when using deep neural network architectures



Decrease in performance for simple architectures

#### Future Works



INCLUDING MORE CLIENT EDGE DEVICES

#### VARYING THE DATASET SPLIT RATIO

FUTURE APPLICATIONS



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