



Editorial: Special Topic on Machine Learning at Network Edges



Guest Editor

TAO Meixia is currently a professor with the Department of Electronic Engineering, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China. She received the B. S. degree in electronic engineering from Fudan University, China in 1999, and the Ph. D. degree in electrical and electronic engineering from Hong Kong University of Science and Technology, China in 2003. Her current research interests include wireless caching, edge computing, physical layer multicasting, and resource allocation. She has published over 200 peer-reviewed IEEE journal and conference papers. Dr. TAO is the recipient of the 2019 IEEE Marconi Prize Paper Award and the 2013 IEEE Heinrich Hertz Paper Award. She also receives the IEEE/CIC ICC 2015 Best Paper Award and the WCSP 2012 Best Paper Award. She served as a member of the Executive Editorial Committee of *IEEE Transactions on Wireless Communications* during 2015 – 2019. She was also on the Editorial Board of several other journals as Editor or Guest Editor, including *IEEE Transactions on Communications* and *IEEE Journal on Selected Areas in Communications*. She served as Symposium Oversight Chair of IEEE ICC 2019, Symposium Co-Chair of IEEE GLOBECOM 2018, the TPC Chair of IEEE/CIC ICC 2014 and Symposium Co-Chair of IEEE ICC 2015. She is a Fellow of IEEE.



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HUANG Kaibin received the B. Eng. (first-class honors) and the M. Eng. from the National University of Singapore, respectively, and the Ph. D. degree from The University of Texas at Austin (UT Austin), USA, all in electrical engineering. Presently, he is an associate professor in the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering at The University of Hong Kong, China. He has served on the editorial boards of numerous IEEE journals including *IEEE Transactions on Green Communications and Networking*, *IEEE Transactions on Wireless Communications*, *IEEE Journal of Selected Areas in Communication*, and *IEEE Wireless Communications Letters*. Dr. HUANG received several awards from IEEE Communication Society including the Best Tutorial Paper Award in 2019, two Asia Pacific Outstanding Paper Awards in 2015 and 2019, and Best Paper Awards from IEEE GLOBECOM 2006 and IEE/CIC ICC 2018. Other recognitions include a Second Class Award in Research Achievements from China Ministry of Education in 2018, an Outstanding Teaching Award from Yonsei University, and a University Continuing Fellowship from UT Austin. He is named a Highly Cited Scientist by Clarivate Analytics in 2019.

With the proliferation of end devices, such as smartphones, wearable sensors and drones, an enormous amount of data is generated at the network edge. This motivates the deployment of machine learning algorithms at the edge that exploit the data to train artificial intelligence (AI) models for making intelligent decisions. Traditional machine learning procedures, including both training and inference, are carried out in a centralized data center, thus requiring devices to upload their raw data to the center. This can cause severe network congestion and also expose users' private data to hackers' attacks. Thanks to the recent development of mobile edge computing (MEC), the above issues can be addressed by pushing machine learning towards the network edge, resulting in the new paradigm of edge learning. The notion of edge learning is to allow end devices to participate in the learning process by keeping their data local, and perform training and inference in a distributed manner with coordination by an edge server. Edge learning can enable many emerging intelligent edge services, such as autonomous driving, unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), and extended reality (XR). For this reason, it is attracting growing

interests from both the academia and industry.

The research and practice on edge learning are still in its infancy. In contrast to cloud-based learning, edge learning faces several fundamental challenges, including limited on-device computation capacities, energy constraints, and scarcity of radio resources. This special issue aims at providing a timely forum to introduce this exciting new area and latest advancements towards tackling the mentioned challenges in edge learning.

To begin with, the first paper "Enabling Intelligence at Network Edge: An Overview of Federated Learning" by YANG et al. serves as a comprehensive overview of federated learning (FL), a popular edge learning framework, with a particular focus on the implementation of FL on the wireless infrastructure to realize the vision of network intelligence.

Due to the salient features of edge learning (notably, FL), such as the non independent and identically distributed (i. i. d) dataset and a dynamic communication environment, device scheduling and resource allocation should be accounted for in designing distributed model training algorithms. To this end, the second paper "Scheduling Policies for Federated Learning in Wireless Networks: An Overview" by SHI et al. provides a comprehensive survey of existing scheduling policies of FL in wireless networks and also points out a few promising relevant

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