



https://ai.googleblog.com/2017/04/fed erated-learning-collaborative.html

Federated Learning

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Recap: week 11

- **D** Common Tampering and Deepfakes
- □ Image Manipulation Detection
- **D** Video Manipulation Detection



This Week

- **D** Federated Learning
- Privacy in Federated Learning
- **D** Robustness in Federated Learning
- **D** Challenges and Future Research



Traditional Machine Learning





Traditional Machine Learning

What if we need more data?





Federated Learning: What is it?



Next word prediction on mobile.

Google: <u>Federated Learning: Collaborative Machine Learning without Centralized Training Data</u> Federated Learning: Challenges, Methods, and Future Directions, https://arxiv.org/pdf/1908.07873.pdf



Federated Learning: Types

数据特征与标签	特征1	特征2	特征3	特征4	 特征n	标签
数据样本						
样本1						
样本2			参与方4	的数据		
样本3						
样本4						
			参与方E	的数据		
样本m						

Horizontal FL (横着切): same features, different samples

Federated Machine Learning: Concept and Applications, https://arxiv.org/pdf/1902.04885.pdf



Federated Learning: Types

数期	3特征与标签	特征1	特征2	特征3	特征4		特征n	标签
数据样本								
样本1								
样本2								
样本3		参与	同方A的	数据		参与方	B的数排	nur
样本4								
样本m								

Vertical FL(纵着切): same samples, different features

Federated Machine Learning: Concept and Applications, https://arxiv.org/pdf/1902.04885.pdf



Federated Learning: Types

数据特征	特征1	特征2	特征3	特征4		特征n	标签
数据样本							
样本1							
样本2	参与	方A的数	坎 据				
样本3							
样本4					参与	方B的数	胡
样本m							

Federated Transfer Learning: different samples, different features

Federated Machine Learning: Concept and Applications, https://arxiv.org/pdf/1902.04885.pdf



Compare Different Paradigms

Where the data goes, where the gradient goes?





Compare Different Paradigms

Split Learning vs Federated Learning





https://www.media.mit.edu/projects/distributed-learning-and-collaborative-learning-1/overview/

Federated Learning Frameworks

框架	开发者	纵向	横向	加密方法
FATE	微众银行	\checkmark	\checkmark	同态加密
PySyft	OPenAI	\checkmark	\checkmark	同态加密,秘密共享
TF Federated	Google	×	\checkmark	秘密共享
TF Encrypted	Dropout	\checkmark	\checkmark	同态加密,秘密共享
CrypTen	Facebook	\checkmark	\checkmark	同态加密,秘密共享

HE: homomorphic encryption **SS**: secret Sharing



Objectives and Updates in FL

Global objective
$$\min_{w} F(w)$$
, where $F(w) := \sum_{k=1}^{m} p_k F_k(w)$.

Local objective:
$$F_k(w) = \frac{1}{n_k} \sum_{j_k=1}^{n_k} f_{j_k}(w; x_{j_k}, y_{j_k})$$

Local Updates:
$$\mathbf{w}_{t+i+1}^k \leftarrow \mathbf{w}_{t+i}^k - \eta_{t+i} \nabla F_k(\mathbf{w}_{t+i}^k, \xi_{t+i}^k), i = 0, 1, \cdots, E-1$$

$$\mathbf{v}_{t+E} \longleftarrow \sum_{k=1}^{N} p_k \, \mathbf{w}_{t+E}^k.$$



Federated Learning – Major Challenges





- Statistical Heterogeneity
- Privacy and Security Concerns

Federated Learning: Challenges, Methods, and Future Directions, https://arxiv.org/pdf/1908.07873.pdf



HFL can further be divided into ...?

HFL	Number of Par- ticipants	Training Partici- pation	Technical Capa- bility
H2B	small	frequent	high
H2C	large	not frequent	low



Privacy and Security Threats



Lyu et al. "Privacy and robustness in federated learning: Attacks and defenses." TNNLS, 2022.



Summary of Threat Models

Insider vs Outsider

- FL server (insider)
- FL participants (insider)
- Eavesdroppers (outsider)
- Service users (outsider)

Semi-honest vs Malicious

- Semi-honest setting
- Malicious setting

Insider Attacks

- Byzantine: the worst attacker, knows everything about the system, does not obey the protocol, send arbitrary updates, even collude with each other.
- Sybil: taking over the network by simulating many **dummy** participants, out-vote the honest users

□ Training-time vs Test-time

- Steal private data, steal model, corrupt the model (training time)
- Adversarial attack (test time)



Summary of Attacks

Existing attacks against server-based FL

	At	tack Target	Attacker	Role	FL Sc	enario		Attack Co	omplexity
Attack Type	Model	Training Data	Participant	Server	H2B	H2C	Attack Iteration		Auxiliary Knowledge Required
							One Round	Multiple Rounds	
Data Poisoning	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES
Model Poisoning	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	NO	YES	YES	YES
Infer Class Representatives	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES
Infer Membership	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES
Infer Properties	NO	YES	YES	YES	YES	NO	NO	YES	YES
Infer Training Inputs and Labels	NO	YES	NO	YES	YES	NO	YES	YES	NO



Poisoning Attacks



Data poisoning vs model (weight) poisoning



Data Poisoning Attacks in Traditional ML

Dirty-label Poisoning

- Label flipping (only change **labels**)
- Dirty-label backdoor (change inputs and labels)

Clean-label Poisoning

• Clean-label backdoor (only change inputs)





Data Poisoning Attacks in Traditional ML



BadNets



Trojan



Blend



CL



SIG



Refool

A simple pattern can make the model to memorize



FL Poisoning Attacks – Model Poisoning

Main characteristics:

- Change local model weights
- Mostly Byzantine attack (attacker can do anything to the weights)
- Can attack Byzantine-robust aggregation mechanisms such as Krum and coordinatewise median instead of weighted averaging

Definition III.1. [Byzantine Model Poisoning] [13], [14] In the t^{th} round, an honest participant uploads $\Delta w_i^{(t)} := \nabla F_i(w_i^{(t)})$ while a dishonest participant/adversary can uploa arbitrary values.

$$\Delta \boldsymbol{w}_{i}^{(t)} = \begin{cases} *, & \text{if } i\text{-th participant is Byzantine,} \\ \nabla F_{i}(\boldsymbol{w}_{i}^{(t)}), & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

Krum:

$$\begin{aligned} x_{t+1} &= x_t - \gamma_t \cdot \operatorname{KR}(V_1^t, \dots, V_n^t) \\ score \ s(i) &= \sum_{i \to j} \|V_i - V_j\|^2 \\ \operatorname{KR}(V_1, \dots, V_n) &= V_{i_*} \end{aligned}$$





$$w^{t+1} - w^{t}$$

For every communication round, local clients have the chance to reverse engineer others' gradients.

From the reversed gradients, reverse engineer:

- Representations
- Membership
- Properties
- Sensitive attributes
- In VFL: features



Privacy Attacks – Inference Attacks

Inference class representations using GANs





Reconstruct Alice's face image

CIFAR-10 horse class

Deep models under the GAN: information leakage from collaborative deep learning, CCS 2017



Privacy Attacks – Inference Attacks

Inference membership:

- **Passive attacks**: observe and inference.
- Active attacks: influence the target model in order to extract more information.

Weakness of FL: FL creates an environment for (almost) whitebox attacks



Comprehensive privacy analysis of deep learning: Passive and active white-box inference attacks against centralized and federated learning, S&P, 2019



Privacy Attacks – Inference Attacks

Other inference attacks:

inferring properties, training data, labels ...

- **Deep Leakage from Gradient** (DLG)
- Improved Deep Leakage from Gradient (iDLG)

• ...

Deep Leakage from Gradients

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Abstract

Exchanging gradients is a widely used method in modern multi-node machine learning system (e.g., distributed training, collaborative learning). For a long time, people believed that gradients are safe to share: *i.e.*, the training data will not be leaked by gradients exchange. However, we show that it is possible to obtain the private training data from the publicly shared gradients. We name this leakage as *Deep Leakage from Gradient* and empirically validate the effectiveness on both computer vision and natural language processing tasks. Experimental results show that our attack is much stronger than previous approaches: the recovery is *pixel-wise* accurate for images and *token-wise* matching for texts. Thereby we want to raise people's awareness to rethink the gradient's safety. We also discuss several possible strategies to prevent such deep leakage. Without changes on training setting, the most effective defense method is gradient pruning.

iDLG: Improved Deep Leakage from Gradients

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Abstract

It is widely believed that sharing gradients will not leak private training data in distributed learning systems such as Collaborative Learning, and Federated Learning, etc. Recently, Zhu *et al.* [1] presented an approach which shows the possibility to obtain private training data from the publicly shared gradients. In their Deep Leakage from Gradient (DLG) method, they synthesize the dummy data and corresponding labels with the supervision of shared gradients. However, DLG has difficulty in convergence and discovering the ground-truth labels consistently. In this paper, we find that sharing gradients definitely leaks the ground-truth labels. We propose a simple but reliable approach to extract accurate data from the gradients. Particularly, our approach can certainly extract the ground-truth labels opposed to DLG, hence we name it Improved DLG (DLG). Our approach is valid for any differentiable model trained with cross-entropy loss over one-hot labels. We mathematically illustrate how our method can extract ground-truth labels from the gradients and empirically demonstrate the advantages over DLG. Inverting Gradients - How easy is it to break privacy in federated learning?

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Abstract

The idea of federated learning is to collaboratively train a neural network on a server. Each user receives the current weights of the network and in turns sends parameter updates (gradients) based on local data. This protocol has been designed not only to train neural networks data-efficiently, but also to provide privacy benefits for users, as their input data remains on device and only parameter gradients are shared. But how secure is sharing parameter gradients? Previous attacks have provided a false sense of security, by succeeding only in contrived settings - ever for a single image. However, by exploiting a magnitude-invariant loss along with optimization strategies based on adversarial attacks, we show that is is actually possible to faithfully reconstruct images at high resolution from the knowledge of their parameter gradients, and demonstrate that such a break of privacy is possible even for trained deep networks. We analyze the effects of architecture as well as parameters on the difficulty of reconstructing an input image and prove that any input to a fully connected layer can be reconstructed analytically independent of the remaining architecture. Finally we discuss settings encountered in practice and show that even aggregating gradients over several iterations or several images does not guarantee the user's privacy in federated learning applications.



1. Homomorphic Encryption:

- RSA
- El Gamal
- Paillier
- ...

Framework	Developer	Vertical	Horizontal	Encryption
FATE	WeBank	1	✓	HE
PySyft	OpenAI	1	1	HE, SS
TF Federated	Google	X	1	SS
TF Encrypted	Dropout	1	1	HE, SS
CrypTen	Facebook	1	1	HE, SS

Homomorphic properties:

- Allows computation directly on encrypted data ("可算不可见")
- Needs to be designed for each algorithm

$$E_{pk}(m_1 + m_2) = c_1 \oplus c_2$$

$$E_{pk}(a \cdot m_1) = a \otimes c_1$$

A side note: attacking encrypted FL is challenging but still possible!



2. Secure Multiparty Computation (SMC, Yao sharing):

• SecureML (data-independent offline phase + fast online phase)

Offline multiplication triplets, truncate, sharing

Characteristics:

- High level privacy
- High computation and communication cost

Yao's Millionaires' problem

Protocols for Secure Computations, Andrew Chi-Chih Yao, 1982, UC Berkeley



2. Differential Privacy (DP):

Definition V.1. (ϵ, δ) -differential privacy [98]. For scalars $\epsilon > 0$ and $0 \le \delta < 1$, mechanism \mathcal{M} is said to preserve (approximate) (ϵ, δ) -differential privacy if for all adjacent datasets $D, D' \in \mathcal{D}^n$ and measurable $S \in \operatorname{range}(\mathcal{M})$,

 $\Pr{\mathcal{M}(D) \in S} \le \exp(\epsilon) \cdot \Pr{\mathcal{M}(D') \in S} + \delta$.

Types of DP:

- Local DP
- Centralized DP
- Distributed DP

DP type	Trusted aggregator?	Who should add noise?	Privacy Guarantee	Error Bound
CDP [45], [7]	Yes	aggregator	aggregated value	$O(\frac{1}{\epsilon})$
LDP [18], [109]	No	user	locally released value	$O(\frac{\sqrt{n}}{\epsilon})$
DDP [21], [110]	No	user	aggregated value	$O(\frac{1}{\epsilon})$



2. Differential Privacy (DP): lodel Alice Mean Raw Bob Frequency Privacy Dataset Range Lily Original Encoded Perturbed Alice data data data Original Encoded Perturbed Client Server Public user Aggregated Bob data data data data (a) Centralized differential privacy Encoded Perturbed Original Cindy data data data odel Encoding Aggregation Estimation Alice Perturbation Mean Ē Perturbed Frequency Bob acy Dataset Data flow of statistics under LDP Range Lily Pri

(b) Local differential privacy

Server

Client



Public user

2. Differential Privacy (DP):

Technique	Encoding	Perturbation	Variance	Communication
GRR [17]	t = v	$Pr[\hat{t}=v] = egin{cases} rac{e^{\epsilon}}{e^{\epsilon}+d-1}, & if \ t=v \ rac{1}{e^{\epsilon}+d-1}, & if \ t eq v \end{cases}$	$O\left(\tfrac{d-2+e^\epsilon}{(e^\epsilon-1)^2}\right)$	$\log d$
OUE [20]	$t = [0, \cdots, 1, \cdots, 0],$ where $t[v] = 1$	$Pr[\hat{t}[i]=1] = egin{cases} rac{1}{2}, & if \ t[i]=1 \ rac{1}{e^{\epsilon}+1}, & if \ t[i]=0 \end{cases}$	$O\left(\frac{4e^\epsilon}{(e^\epsilon-1)^2}\right)$	d
RAPPOR [8]	$egin{aligned} r = & \mathcal{H}, t >; \ \mathcal{H} \in \mathbb{H}; \ t = [0, \cdots, 1, \cdots] \ where \ t[i] = egin{cases} 1, if \ \mathcal{H}(v) = 1, \ 0, \ otherwise \end{aligned}$	$Pr[\hat{t}[i] = 1] = \begin{cases} 1 - \frac{1}{2}f, & if \ t[i] = 1\\ \frac{1}{2}f, & if \ t[i] = 0' \end{cases}$ where $f = \frac{2}{e^{\epsilon/2} + 1}$	$O\left(rac{e^{\epsilon/2}}{(e^{\epsilon/2}-1)^2} ight)$	$\log m$
OLH [20]	$egin{aligned} r = & \mathcal{H}, t >; \ \mathcal{H} \in \mathbb{H}; \ t = \mathcal{H}(v) \end{aligned}$	$Pr[\hat{t} = \mathcal{H}(v)] = \begin{cases} \frac{e^{\epsilon}}{e^{\epsilon} + g - 1}, & \text{if } t = \mathcal{H}(v) \\ \frac{1}{e^{\epsilon} + g - 1}, & \text{if } t \neq \mathcal{H}(v)' \end{cases}$ where $g = e^{\epsilon} + 1$	$O\left(\frac{4e^{\epsilon}}{(e^{\epsilon}-1)^2} ight)$	$\log n$
JLRR [21]	$ \begin{split} \Phi &\in \{ -\frac{1}{\sqrt{m}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{m}} \}^{m \times d}; \\ r &= < i, t >; \\ i &\in [m]; \\ t &= \Phi[i, v] \end{split} $	$\hat{t} = egin{cases} c_{\epsilon}dt, & w.p. \; rac{e^{\epsilon}}{e^{\epsilon}+1} \ -c_{\epsilon}dt, & w.p. \; rac{1}{e^{\epsilon}+1} \ , \end{pmatrix}$ where $c_{\epsilon} = rac{e^{\epsilon}+1}{e^{\epsilon}-1}$	$O\left(rac{4e^\epsilon}{(e^\epsilon-1)^2} ight)$	$\log m$
HRR [22, 31]	$\Phi: 2^{d} \times 2^{d}$ Hadamard Matrix, where $\Phi[i, j] = 2^{-d/2}(-1)^{\langle i, j \rangle};$ $r = \langle i, t \rangle;$ $i \in [2^{d}];$ $t = \Phi[i, v]$	$Pr[\hat{t}=1] = \begin{cases} \frac{e^{\epsilon}}{e^{\epsilon}+1}, & if \ t=1\\ \frac{1}{e^{\epsilon}+1}, & if \ t=-1 \end{cases}$	$O\left(rac{4e^{\epsilon}}{(e^{\epsilon}-1)^2} ight)$	O(1)

Types of frequency estimation



2. Differential Privacy (DP):

Company	Deployment	Purpose/Functionality	Techniques	Population	Parameters	Limitations	Open source
Google	Chrome Browser (2014)	Collect up-to-date statistics about the activity of their users and their client-side software	2-level RR memoization Bloom filter	14 million	$\epsilon = 0.5343$ $h^1 = 2$ $k^2 = 128$	Not suitable for data with frequent changes	Yes
Apple	macO iOS10 (2016)	Estimate the frequen- cies of elements	RR CMS HT ³	Hundreds of millions	$\begin{array}{c} \epsilon = 2 \sim 8 \\ m^4 = 256 \sim 32768 \\ h = 1024 \sim 65536 \end{array}$	The overall privacy cost for each device is un- b bounded	No
Microsoft	Windows 10 (2017)	Repeated collection of counter data mean estimation histogram estimation	1BitMean dBitFlip α-point rounding memoization	millions	$\epsilon = 1$	Not suitable for data with significant changes	No
SAP	HANA 2.0 SPS03 (2018)	Count Sum Average	LM^5	-	Leave it up to the data con- sumer	Only support numerical value The added noise is unbounded	No

 1 *h* number of hash functions

² k Bloom filter size

 $^4 m$ CMS size

³ *HT* Hadamard transform

⁵ *LM*Laplace mechanism

Real-world applications.





(a) FL without privacy.





(b) Centralized DP: FL with a trusted server.





(c) Local DP: FL without a trusted server.





(d) Distributed DP with SMC: FL without a trusted server.



Algorithm: **Krum** (for Byzantine robustness)

Setting: **n** participants, **f** are Byzantine, with $n \ge 2f + 3$

```
At communication round t,

server receives \{\delta_1^t, \delta_2^t, ..., \delta_n^t\}

for each \delta_i^t:

select the closest (L2 distance) n-f-2 into set C_i

compute score(\delta_i^t) = \sum_{\delta \in C_i} (\delta_i^t - \delta)

\delta_{krum} = \delta^* = \arg\min\{score(\delta_1^t), ..., score(\delta_n^t)\}

update global parameter: w^{t+1} = w^t + \delta_{krum}
```



Algorithm: **Krum** (for Byzantine robustness)



Blanchard et al. "Machine learning with adversaries: Byzantine tolerant gradient descent." NeurIPS, 2017.



More robust aggregation methods:

• Multi-Krum = **Krum** + Averaging

= Krum robustness + increased convergence speed

- coordinate-wise median, coordinate-wise trimmed mean median is not good for convergence
- Bulyan = Krum + trimmed median
- Median and geometric-median
- (Robust Federated Aggregation) RFA: approximate geometric median (not robust to Byzantine attacks)



Model poisoning attack can break Krum and coordinate-wise median

$$\underset{\boldsymbol{\delta}_m^t}{\operatorname{argmin}} \lambda L(\{\mathbf{x}_i, \tau_i\}_{i=1}^r, \hat{\mathbf{w}}_G^t) + L(\mathcal{D}_m, \mathbf{w}_m^t) \\ + \rho \|\boldsymbol{\delta}_m^t - \bar{\boldsymbol{\delta}}_{\text{ben}}^{t-1}\|$$

 au_i : adversarial target class r: number of poisoned samples D_m : clean data $\widehat{w_G^t}$: estimation of the global parameters

$$ar{m{\delta}}_{ ext{ben}}^{t-1} = \sum_{i \in [k] ackslash m} lpha_i m{\delta}_i^{t-1}$$

Reversed gradients from the last round.

Analyzing federated learning through an adversarial lens, ICML 2019.



Defenses – Sybil Defense

From traditional ML: Reject on Negative Influence (RONI)

- With a clean validation dataset
- It requires uniform distribution in non-IID setting, not good.

FoolsGold:

Sybil share the same objective, drifts away from the original objective Core idea: cosine similarity

$$cs_{ij} = cosine_similarity(\sum_{t=1}^{T} \Delta_{i,t}, \sum_{t=1}^{T} \Delta_{j,t})$$







FoolsGold: Mitigating Sybils in Federated Learning Poisoning, https://arxiv.org/abs/1808.04866



Defenses – Sybil Defense

Distributed backdoor attack (DBA) can bypass both RFA and FoolsGold.



DBA: Distributed Backdoor Attacks against Federated Learning, ICLR 2020.



Defense against Federated Learning Poisoning. **n**: number of participants.

Poisoning Defense	Technique	IID Data	Non-IID Data	Breaking Point	Data Poisoning	Model Poisoning
RONI [133], [28]	Error rate	\checkmark	×	NA	\checkmark	×
Auror [127]	Clustering	\checkmark	×	NA	\checkmark	×
Krum [13]	Euclidean distance	\checkmark	×	(n-2)/2n	\checkmark	×
Coordinate-wise Median [14]	Coordinate-wise median	\checkmark	×	1/2	\checkmark	×
Bulyan [128]	Krum + trimmed median	\checkmark	×	(n-3)/4n	\checkmark	×
FoolsGold [28]	Contribution similarity	\checkmark	\checkmark	NA	\checkmark	×
RFA [48]	Geometric median	\checkmark	×	NA	\checkmark	\checkmark



Curse of dimensionality

- Larger models are more vulnerable
- Sharing weights/gradients may not be a good idea

Weaknesses of current attacks

- GAN attack assumes the class of data is from one single participant
- DLG/iDLG work with second-order gradient method (expensive) and small minibatch-gradients (B=8)

Vulnerability to free riders:

pretend to have data but not.



Weakness of Current Privacy-preserving Techniques

- Secure aggregation is more vulnerable to poisoning attacks since individual updates cannot be checked
- Adversarial training (IID or non-IID, local or global, training or distillation)?
- Sample-level DP does not stop attribute/property/statistical inference attacks
- DP hurts accuracy, efficiency (is millions of participant-level DP possible?)



Defense efficiency

- Expensive to check each participant (detection)
- When and how to deploy a defense?

□ Hard to achieve all objective of private and secure

- Efficiency
- Privacy
- Robustness
- Generalization
- Collaborative fairness



□ FL: optimization and convergence

• GD -> SGD -> Parallel SGD -> Local SGD

Table 1: Summary of results on the synchronization rounds R required for linear speedup in M. All bounds hide multiplicative polylog factors and variables other than M and T for ease of presentation. Notation: M: number of workers; T: parallel runtime.

		Synchronization Re	equired for Linear Speedup	
Assumption	Algorithm	Strongly Convex	General Convex	Reference
Assumption 1	FedAvg	$T^{\frac{1}{2}}M^{\frac{1}{2}}$	_	(Stich, 2019a)
		$T^{\frac{1}{3}}M^{\frac{1}{3}}$	_	(Haddadpour et al., 2019b)
		M	$T^{\frac{1}{2}}M^{\frac{3}{2}}$	(Stich and Karimireddy, 2019)
		M	$T^{\frac{1}{2}}M^{\frac{3}{2}}$	(Khaled et al., 2020)
	FedAc	$M^{rac{1}{3}}$	$\min\{T^{rac{1}{4}}M^{rac{3}{4}},T^{rac{1}{3}}M^{rac{2}{3}}\}$	Theorems 3.1, E.1 and E.2
Assumption 2	FedAvg FedAc	$\max\{T^{-rac{1}{2}}M^{rac{1}{2}},1\}\ \max\{T^{-rac{1}{6}}M^{rac{1}{6}},1\}$	$T^{\frac{1}{2}}M^{\frac{3}{2}} \\ \max\{T^{\frac{1}{4}}M^{\frac{1}{4}}, T^{\frac{1}{6}}M^{\frac{1}{2}}\}$	Theorems 3.4 and E.4 Theorems 3.3 and E.3

<u>Federated Accelerated Stochastic Gradient Descent Tighter Theory for Local SGD on Identical and Heterogeneous Data, AISTAS,</u> 2020; On the convergence of FedAvg on non-IID data, ICLR 2020





