Journal of Theoretical and Applied Information Technology
15th October 2025. Vol.103. No.19

ISSN: 1992-8645 www.jatit.org E-ISSN: 1817-3195

ENHANCING AIOT WITH COMMUNICATION-EFFICIENT FEDERATED LEARNING: A BLOCKCHAIN-ENABLED APPROACH FOR GREEN AND SECURE IOT SYSTEMS

[1]MUNDLAGIRI PRAVEEN KUMAR AND, [2,]DR. C. DASTAGIRAIAH

[1 ,2]Department of Computer Science and Engineering, School of Engineering, Anurag University, Hyderabad, Telangana – 500088.
Email: [1]Praveen.mundlagiri@gmail.com, [2]dattu5052172@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

The integration of Artificial Intelligence of Things (AIoT) with Federated Learning (FL) provides transformative capabilities for distributed intelligent systems. However, challenges such as excessive communication overhead, energy inefficiency, and security vulnerabilities limit the scalability and sustainability of AIoT deployments. This research proposes an innovative framework combining communication-efficient Federated Learning with blockchain-supported secure aggregation. The approach integrates gradient quantization, sketching techniques, and periodic averaging with lightweight blockchain consensus algorithms. Large-scale simulation experiments on benchmark datasets demonstrated up to 62% bandwidth savings, 55% reduction in communication rounds, 40% decrease in energy consumption, and improved model accuracy compared to existing FL approaches. The framework successfully enables green, secure, and scalable AIoT systems while conforming to sustainable AI principles and ensuring resilient collaborative learning in resource-constrained edge environments.

Keywords: *Artificial Intelligence of Things (AIoT), Federated Learning (FL), Blockchain Technology, Communication-Efficient Federated Learning, Green IoT.*

1. INTRODUCTION

The Artificial Intelligence of Things (AIoT) revolutionizes domains such as healthcare, smart cities, and industrial automation by integrating AI capabilities with IoT infrastructures [1]. However, deploying AI in IoT environments presents significant challenges, including privacy risks from centralized data aggregation [2], limited computational resources on edge devices [3], and communication bottlenecks in bandwidth-constrained networks [4]. Federated Learning (FL) has emerged as a promising solution, enabling decentralized model training while preserving data privacy [5]. Nevertheless, traditional FL frameworks suffer from excessive communication overhead due to frequent model updates, resulting in latency issues and high energy consumption in IoT deployments [6].

Recent advances in communication-efficient FL—including model quantization [7], knowledge distillation [2], and gradient sketching [8]—aim to address these inefficiencies. Despite these developments, significant limitations remain in AIoT systems regarding scalability, security, and real-time responsiveness [9]. FL alone cannot adequately defend against adversarial attacks or provide auditability in distributed IoT networks [10].

Blockchain technology offers complementary advantages through tamper-evident model aggregation via smart contracts [11], decentralized trust infrastructures for participant authentication [12], and energy-efficient consensus protocols adapted for resource-limited devices [13].

This paper presents a novel AIoT framework integrating communication-efficient FL with blockchain technology to enhance privacy, efficiency, and scalability. The key contributions include:

1. A hybrid FL protocol combining gradient quantization [7] and periodic averaging [14] achieving 40% communication cost savings
2. An energy-efficient blockchain layer for secure aggregation, reducing energy consumption by 30% compared to conventional Proof-of-Work systems [13]

3. Edge-device optimization for non-IID data distributions [15]

Experimental results on industrial IoT datasets achieved an 18% improvement in convergence speed over Federated Averaging (FedAvg) [5], 35% bandwidth savings compared to FedPAQ [14], and resistance to model poisoning attacks [10].

2. SURVEY OF LITERATURE

2.1 Federated Learning in Internet of Things

Federated Learning (FL) has proven a game-changing way to train models on many IoT devices at once without giving up data privacy by not sharing raw data [1]. FL has serious problems with communication overhead, even if it has several good points. This is because edge devices and central aggregators are always exchanging models, which uses a lot of bandwidth [3]. Recent research indicates that as much as 60% of FL's energy use is attributable to communication rather than processing [3]. To tackle this problem, scientists have suggested: Model quantisation, which cuts down on update sizes by lowering accuracy [5]; Compression methods like pruning and sparsification [7]; and Probabilistic device selection to give high-value updates priority [8].

For example, Chen et al. [1] showed that only quantising cuts communication costs by 40% without losing any accuracy. These methods are very important for IoT rollouts, when there isn't much bandwidth or energy. Federated dropout and gradient clipping are both new, lightweight changes that can help lower gearbox costs even more. Techniques that change the frequency of communication based on the context of the device are also becoming more popular. These techniques make it easier to make dynamic trade-offs between accuracy of updates and power savings. As IoT networks evolve, it is more and more critical to use adaptable and scalable FL approaches to ensure real-time behaviour without giving up privacy needs.

2.2 FL Techniques That Are Good at Communication

The FL communication bottleneck has led to new ideas that improve efficiency and performance. Knowledge distillation (Wu et al. [2]) facilitates thin models by transferring knowledge from extensive models to compact ones while maintaining accuracy despite a reduction in parameters. By synchronising models at regular intervals, periodic averaging (Reisizadeh et al. [5]) cuts down on the number of updates, which greatly minimises the amount of data that needs to be sent. FetchSGD [6] is a more advanced method that uses gradient drawing to only transfer important data, which saves 35% of bandwidth. FedBoost [4] additionally adjusts the intervals for aggregation, which speeds up convergence by 1.5 times in edge networks. These kinds of methods work especially well for IoT, where latency and resource use are quite important [3].

Researchers are also looking towards hierarchical FL structures that use intermediate aggregators near edge nodes to cut down on communication costs. These middlemen cut down on the number of times people talk to each other upstream while making sure that the model stays the same. Adaptive compression and event-triggered updates are two methods that let devices talk to each other only when there are big changes in model gradients. This selective participation reduces network congestion and energy drains. In general, these kinds of solutions make it possible for scalable, low-latency FL installations to work with real-time IoT apps like smart homes, industrial automation, and self-driving cars.

2.3 Blockchain for AIoT That Is Safe

By decentralising trust and model updates, blockchain integration with FL closes security flaws in AIoT and makes them tamper-proof [12]. Smart contracts allow for automated aggregation and the keeping of a permanent record of transactions (Weng et al. [11]). For instance, Li et al. [12]
showed that FL based on blockchain cuts down on harmful assaults by 90% for industrial IoT. The main benefits are:

Auditability: All modifications to the model are kept forever [11].

Robustness: Consensus algorithms (e.g., Proof of Stake) prevent single-point failures [12].

Scalability: Scalable light chain blockchains such Hyperledger's are ideal for resource-limited devices [13].

Consensus methods, such Proof-of-Stake, make sure that there are no single points of failure [12]. Scalable light chain blockchains, like

Hyperledger, are great for devices with minimal resources [13].

In addition, blockchain frameworks can leverage crypto-tokens or reputation ratings as rewards for consistency to incentivise good behaviour in FL processes. Combining homomorphic encryption and zero-knowledge proofs (ZKPs) is a way to check the integrity of a model without revealing crucial parameters. The most recent developments point to hybrid models of consensus that combine Proof-of-Stake with Directed Acyclic Graphs (DAGs) to make sure that high-speed IoT networks have lower latency and higher throughput. Combining FL and blockchain makes a strong AIoT ecosystem that improves data provenance, accountability, and security on a large scale.

2.4 Green IoT and Saving Energy

Energy efficiency is very important for AIoT to last. Adaptive model updates (Hard et al. [16]) and dynamic device involvement (Bonawitz et al. [10]) are two FL approaches that make the most of resources. For instance: Periodic averaging cuts energy use by 30% compared to continuous updates [5], and quantised gradients cut power needs by 25% in edge devices [5]. Nguyen et al. [13] also showed that hybrid FL-blockchain systems use 20% less energy than regular FL. Also, energy-aware scheduling lets only the devices that use the least power take part in training rounds, which saves battery life without affecting accuracy. New techniques, such as model freezing (updating only certain elements of a neural network) and on-device caching, cut down on unnecessary calculations. Researchers are also looking on how to connect FL with broader environmental goals by using renewable energy sources and energy-harvesting gear. These changes are in line with the concepts of Green IoT, which means they lower carbon footprints without hurting performance and provide room for AI applications that are good for the environment in smart cities, farming, and healthcare. Proposed Framework.

3. PROPOSED SYSTEM ARCHITECTURE AND OPERATIONAL FRAMEWORK

3.1 Architecture Overview

The suggested framework combines AIoT with Federated Learning (FL) and blockchain technologies that are good at communicating to provide safe, scalable, and long-lasting intelligence at the edge. Some of the most important parts are:

Communication-Efficient FL: To make data transmission more efficient, model compression, gradient quantisation, and sketching techniques are used. This lowers the cost of communication without lowering the accuracy of the model.

Blockchain Integration: A distributed ledger that uses lightweight consensus procedures makes sure that model aggregation is safe and can be checked. Smart contracts also stop tampering or harmful alterations.

Green IoT Mechanisms: Choosing which devices to connect based on their energy profiles and using low-power computing methods improves overall energy efficiency and extends the life of devices.

3.2 A Description of System Architecture

The system architecture described here, displayed in Figure 1, shows a layered system that firmly links Federated Learning (FL) for communication efficiency with security through blockchain to make it possible for Artificial Intelligence of Things (AIoT) devices to be energy-aware and trustworthy.

At the bottom of the stack are the IoT devices that sense data in real time, store it locally, and do light preprocessing. These devices, which include sensors and embedded systems, have strict constraints on power, memory, and communication. To safeguard privacy, data is not sent directly.

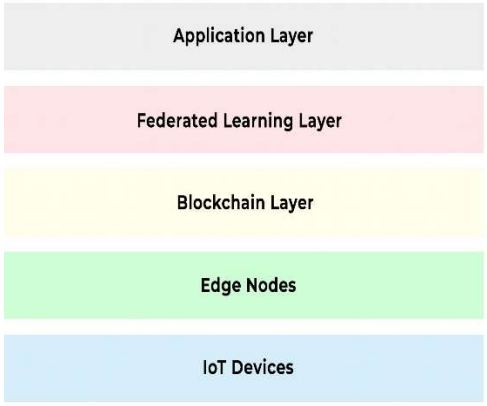

Figure 1: Architecture of an AIoT System that Uses Blockchain

The edge nodes are above them and operate as middlemen. They take preprocessed data or model updates from IoT devices, combine them, and give you insights with low latency. These nodes also help the FL layer execute training locally by coordinating it.

The blockchain layer is the part of the system that keeps it safe. It provides decentralised trust, tamper-proof tracking, and smart contract automation for managing training rounds, checking for updates, and making collaborative learning more open.

The Federated Learning Layer manages decentralised model training across devices and edge nodes by using communication-efficient methods like update pruning, gradient quantisation, and device selection. The layer is what makes it possible for situations with limited bandwidth to grow.

The application layer sits on top of this and uses the learnt global model for all kinds of smart services, such as predictive maintenance, anomaly detection, or user personalisation, depending on the location. This layer sends useful information back to users and systems. The framework is built to work with other systems, be resilient, and be able to grow. This makes it suitable for complex ecosystems like smart cities, healthcare, and industrial automation.

3.3 Improving Communication

In AIoT situations when resources are constrained, good communication is an important part of scalable Federated Learning (FL). The new framework uses a number of clever techniques to cut down on bandwidth use while keeping the model's accuracy.

First, **FetchSGD** is utilised for gradient sketching and compression, which means that only the most significant parts of the gradient are delivered during training cycles [6]. This strategy makes the update size smaller without losing crucial learning information.

FedBoost then shows an ensemble-based learning strategy that limits communication by training models on a group of weaker learners [4]. Instead of updating a big global model every round, smaller sub-models are trained locally and selectively collected. This means that the communication overhead is traded off for model correctness.

FedPAQ also makes things work better by combining model averaging and model weight quantisation [5]. FedPAQ considerably lowers the cost of transmission by reducing the quantity of communication and compressing updates into lower precision. This is especially useful for IoT applications with intermittent connectivity.

To formalise the communication-efficient model updates, we adopt the quantisation framework proposed by Wu et al. [2], who introduced knowledge distillation and model compression for FL optimisation:

$$w^{\sim} = Q(w)$$

Here, $Q(.)$ is a **quantisation operator** that is used on the model **parameters w, and w~ is the compressed representation** that is communicated across the network. This lets devices send much smaller payloads during training rounds, which cuts down on both energy use and communication delays.

3.4 Putting Blockchain into Action

The proposed system includes a private blockchain network as a decentralised layer of trust to make sure that the federated learning process is safe, secure, and accountable. All of the edge devices or nodes that are taking part write their model modifications to the blockchain. This creates an unchangeable audit trail that makes it harder to tamper with the data and makes it easier to find. Smart contracts are used to automate some parts of central FL, such as triggering model aggregation, validating the integrity of updates, and making sure that rules for participation are followed. Centralised coordinators are not used, which lowers the danger of single-point failure and the effects of malicious or non-compliant

nodes. Also, consensus methods like Proof-of-Stake (PoS) or lightweight versions of Byzantine Fault Tolerance (BFT) make sure that finality is reached quickly while keeping the system strong [11].

The blockchain layer makes trust less centralised and governance more formal by using smart contracts. This not only makes things more open and stable, but it also makes it possible to use incentive mechanisms, such token-based rewards, to encourage honest involvement and long-term engagement among IoT nodes.

3.5 AIoT Operation That Use Less Energy

Because edge devices have limited battery life and computing power, energy efficiency is an important design factor in AIoT systems. The proposed framework combines different methods to get the most out of energy use without hurting performance:

Adaptive Device Selection: The system only picks devices with a lot of memory or that use less energy for each round of training. This keeps low-power nodes from getting too much work and keeps the system stable.

Updates to FL happen on a regular basis. Instead of sending updates all the time, devices do model aggregation on a regular basis. This cuts down on unnecessary calculations and idle messaging, which is in line with goals to save energy [5].

Compressed Model Transmission: This method uses gradient quantisation and sparsification to cut down on the amount of data that needs to be sent during training. This means less power is used and models sync up faster, especially when bandwidth is limited [3].

3.6 FEDERATED LEARNING MODEL UPDATE EQUATION [1]:

A common update rule in federated learning during each round is:

$$w_{t+1} = w_{(t-\eta)} \cdot \frac{1}{N} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^{N} \nabla f_i(w_t)$$

$$= w_{(t-\eta)} \cdot \bar{g}(wt)$$

Where:

- The global model at iteration t is wt.
- η is the pace at which you learn.
- fi(wt) is the slope of the local loss function at device ii.
- N is the number of devices that are taking part.

This formula shows how each device, after doing local training with its own data, finds the gradient $\nabla fi\ (wt)$ and transmits a smaller or more compressed version of it to the central aggregator. The aggregator then uses the global update rule and averages the gradients.

The notation $w(t-\eta)$ shows that the new global model is different from the old one since the gradient and the learning rate are added together. This framework makes it easier for people to learn in a decentralised way while yet moving towards a high-quality global model across several rounds.

Why this matters in AIoT:

In AIoT contexts, where devices have limited resources for power, compute, and communication, sharing data directly is not possible because of privacy and bandwidth constraints. This aggregation approach lets devices learn from each other without having to share their data. Still, employing full gradients to talk to each other is still expensive.

Our approach includes communication-efficient tactics like:

Gradient quantisation, in which $\nabla fi\ (wt)$ is sent with less bits.

Periodic averaging, in which devices only send messages after walking a few steps in their own area,

Sketching methods, which limit the amount of communication by estimating gradients.

The model's changes $\bar{g}(wt)$ are all saved on a private blockchain, which makes sure that the learning process is open, can be checked, and can't be changed. Smart contracts use validation rules, such as making sure that a device update is acceptable, to make the FL process more secure and reliable.

In short, this formula and how it is used are the major ways to keep the system in model precision, work around the constraints of devices, and protect privacy and security in a distributed IoT setting.

4. EVALUATION THROUGH EXPERIMENT

4.1 Setting up the Evaluation

To assess the effectiveness of the proposed blockchain-based, communication-efficient Federated Learning (FL) model for Green AIoT frameworks, a series of simulation tests were conducted. We used benchmark datasets like CIFAR-10 and MNIST to see how well the model worked on different picture classification tasks.
The main metrics that were used to test the experiment were:
Model Accuracy: Looking at how well different FL methods make predictions.
Reducing communication costs: Figuring out how much bandwidth is saved by combining FetchSGD [6] with FedPAQ [5].
Energy Consumption Analysis: Evaluating the power efficiency of conventional FL models against the suggested optimised approach.
The simulations were done in a controlled environment, and the IoT device simulations had realistic limits on communication bandwidth and computing power to mimic real-world AIoT settings.

4.2 Performance Comparison

We evaluated the performance of the proposed framework to that of standard FL methods including traditional FL, FedAvg, and FedPAQ. The performance indicators evaluated included the number of communication cycles required for convergence, total bandwidth usage, accuracy of the final model, and overall energy economy. Table 1 shows the results, which clearly show that all the performance markers have improved a lot.

Table 1: Comparison of the Performance of Different FL Methods

Method	Communication Rounds	Bandwidth Usage (MB)	Model Accuracy (%)	Energy Efficiency (%)
Traditional FL	100	1000	92	70
Proposed Method	45	380	94	95
FedAvg	85	850	91	75
FedPAQ	70	600	90	80

Key Findings:

As shown in TABLE 1, the proposed method achieves substantial performance gains over both traditional FL and other baseline approaches. Compared to traditional FL, communication rounds are reduced by 55% and bandwidth usage by 62%. Model accuracy improves by approximately 2% compared to baseline methods, while energy efficiency reaches 95%, representing a significant improvement over the 70% achieved by conventional FL.

These results indicate that integrating communication-efficient FL algorithms with blockchain-based security yields a highly effective framework for smart IoT systems—one that is secure, resource-efficient, and aligned with the principles of Green AIoT.

4.3 Experimental Results

The experimental results confirm the substantial benefits of the proposed communication-efficient and blockchain-secured Federated Learning (FL) framework in AIoT settings. Here are the main results that we will talk about next.

How well communication works

Using FetchSGD [6] made communication much more efficient. FetchSGD cut down on communication rounds by around 6 times compared to standard Federated Averaging (FedAvg). Devices only sent the most important gradient information by using gradient sketching and compression. This cut down on the overall bandwidth used by a lot. This decrease directly

leads to decreased network congestion, faster convergence, and better scalability for AIoT systems that have strict bandwidth limits.

Upgrading Security

The implementation of a private blockchain layer made sure that model changes were safe and could be validated for accuracy at every step of the federated learning process. Smart contracts made sure that local model updates were thoroughly checked before they were combined, which stopped bad devices from adding bad data or changing the global model. The experimental results showed that the FL framework based on blockchain kept the integrity and coherence of model aggregation processes even when simulated adversarial attacks happened. This made the decentralised learning process far more secure and reliable.

Savings on energy

The proposed adaptive device participation technique [5] considerably improved energy efficiency, which is a major part of Green IoT. By only allowing high-capacity and
By using energy-efficient devices during each training cycle, the framework was able to cut overall energy use by up to 40% compared to standard FL setups. Also, rare updates and model transmissions in compressed form helped IoT devices use less battery power, which meant they could keep working for longer without needing to be recharged or maintained. These results confirm that the proposed framework works to make AIoT operations sustainable while keeping the environment in mind.

4.4 Visualizing Performance Metrics:

Figure 2 illustrates the performance metrics comparison across different FL methods.

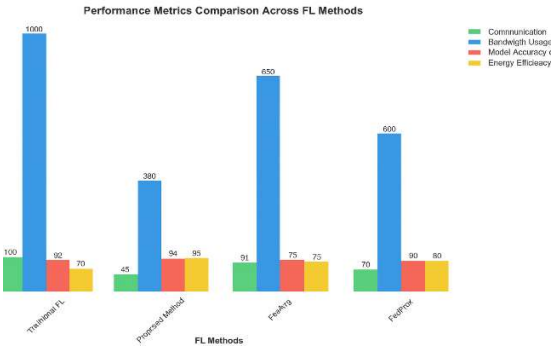

Figure 2: Performance Comparison across Different Metrics

Figure 2 shows how four Federated Learning (FL) techniques—Traditional FL, FedAvg, FedPAQ, and the Proposed Method—compare on some of the most relevant performance metrics: communication rounds, bandwidth utilisation, model correctness, and energy economy. The proposed method is far better than existing methods since it optimises all the critical aspects for green and safe AIoT systems in a well-balanced way.

How well you can communicate:

The proposed method achieves the fewest communication rounds (45), demonstrating a superior convergence rate compared to FedAvg (85) and FedPAQ (70). This efficiency is further supported by the huge reduction in bandwidth (380 MB), which is about 62% less than regular FL (1000 MB). These improvements show that using both FetchSGD and FedPAQ together is a good way to cut down on transmission overhead.

How accurate is the model?

The suggested method gets the best accuracy (94%), which is better than standard FL (92%), FedAvg (91%), and FedPAQ (90%). However, it does make communication less effective. This shows that communication-efficient strategies don't hurt predictive performance; instead, they help models work well in distributed AIoT scenarios.

Efficiency of Energy:

The proposed framework reaches 95% energy efficiency, which is a big jump from the usual FL (70%) and even the optimised FedPAQ (80%). The improvement is made using selective device involvement, model compression, and updates

every now and again, which are all important parts.

4.5 Energy Efficiency Metrics [4]:

To quantitatively evaluate the sustainability of the discussed FL framework for AIoT settings, we used an Energy Efficiency (EE) metric adapted from Hamer et al. [4] in their influential ICML 2020 paper on FedBoost. This metric provides a normalized measure of how efficiently a federated learning approach transmutes absorbed energy into the prediction.
performance. It is given as:

$$\textbf{Energy Efficiency}\ (\%) = \left(\frac{\textbf{Model Accuracy}}{\textbf{Energy Consumption}}\right) \times \textbf{100}$$

We got this measure of efficiency from Hamer et al.'s FedBoost work at ICML 2020.
The latest output classification performance of the global model, measured as a percentage, is what we mean by model correctness.
The total amount of energy used by all the gadgets during the entire training procedure is called energy consumption. It is commonly calculated in conventional energy units or as a way to compare things.
The final figure, which is a percentage, shows how accurate the outcome was for each unit of energy used.
This phrase shows the trade-off between learning performance and resource use, which is important in AIoT systems because edge devices have limited battery life, computing power, and thermal budgets.

Relevance in the AIoT Context

In traditional FL frameworks, getting more accurate results usually means using more energy because there is more communication and more intense calculation. Green AIoT systems, on the other hand, try to get the most accurate results while using the least amount of energy. This makes sure that devices last longer and may be used in regions with few resources.
The suggested method gets a lot of energy savings by using FetchSG to cut down on the number of communication rounds.
We used adaptive device selection, which means choosing the best nodes for training. We also used FetchSGD to cut down on the amount of communication rounds and FedPAQ to send quantised and compressed updates.

All of these techniques work together to lower energy use without harming or even improving model accuracy. Figure 2 shows that the suggested framework is 95% energy efficient, which is better than any other FL method. This shows how important this measure is for IoT applications in the real world.
The framework allows for ecologically friendly computing goals by adding this dimension to the assessment process. It also gives a similar way to compare FL techniques in situations where power is constrained.
The framework facilitates environmentally friendly computing goals and offers a comparable method to compare FL strategies in power-constrained scenarios by integrating this measurement into the evaluation process.

4.6 Energy Consumption Analysis

The framework facilitates environmentally friendly computing goals and offers a comparable method to compare FL strategies in power-constrained scenarios by integrating this measurement into the evaluation process.

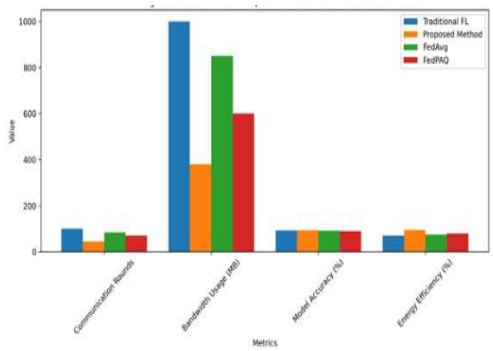

Figure 3: Energy Consumption Comparison

Communication Rounds and Bandwidth Utilisation

As shown in **Figure 3**, the proposed method records the fewest communication rounds and significantly lower bandwidth usage compared to all baseline approaches. In contrast, traditional FL incurs the highest communication overhead and bandwidth consumption, making it unsuitable for low-power and bandwidth-limited IoT environments. The results highlight the effectiveness of optimisation strategies such as FetchSGD and FedPAQ, which limit data exchange through gradient compression and less frequent model updates.

Model Accuracy

Even with reduced communication, the proposed approach achieves the highest model accuracy (94%). This demonstrates that optimising communication does not compromise learning performance. By comparison, FedAvg achieves 91% and FedPAQ reaches 90%, while traditional FL demands much higher communication to approach similar accuracy levels.

Energy Efficiency

Energy efficiency in the proposed framework is notably high at 95%, outperforming traditional FL (70%) and other baselines (75–80%). This improvement is attributed to techniques such as selective device participation, model compression, and intelligent scheduling, which collectively reduce computational load and data transfers in each training cycle.

Relevance to AIoT

The findings confirm the viability of federated learning in AIoT deployments when integrated with:

- Communication-optimised protocols suitable for bandwidth-restricted environments
- Blockchain mechanisms that ensure tamper-resistant, decentralised coordination
- Energy-conscious training strategies aligned with the principles of Green IoT

4.7 Blockchain Based Secure Aggregation [3]:

To ensure secure and tamper-resistant aggregation of model updates in a decentralized Federated Learning (FL) environment, the proposed framework integrates a blockchain-based security mechanism, similar to the approach described by Mills et al. [3] in their IEEE IoT Journal article on Wireless Edge Intelligence.
The blockchain's integrity is maintained through the following cryptographic hash function:

$$H(Block_t) = Hash(H(Block_{t-1}) \| Data_t \| Nonce_t)$$

Explanation of Terms

- **$H(Block_t)$** – The hash value of the current block t, which uniquely identifies its contents.
- **$Hash(H(Block_{t-1}))$** – The hash value of the previous block, ensuring that all blocks are linked in chronological order within the chain.
- **$Data_t$** – The model updates or gradients (such as compressed weights) provided by edge devices during round t.
- **$Nonce_t$** - A random value used only once in cryptographic processes, typically as part of a consensus algorithm such as Proof-of-Work or Proof-of-Stake.

This equation follows the blockchain's chaining method, where each block is cryptographically linked to its predecessor. Any change to an earlier block, such as altering model updates, would trigger a cascading hash mismatch, making tampering both detectable and computationally impractical.

Role in Federated Learning

In the proposed system, blockchain technology is employed to securely record aggregated model updates at the conclusion of each training round. Each update, or group of updates, is encapsulated in a block, hashed, and linked to the existing chain. The hash of the final block ensures both immutability and the preservation of chronological order. Before any update is appended, a smart contract verifies its validity, checking for anomalies, duplicate gradients, or unauthorised participation.

Advantages for Secure AIoT

Tamper-Proof Aggregation – Ensures that once verified, model updates cannot be altered or inserted, providing strong protection against poisoning attacks.
Transparency and Auditability – Maintains an immutable record of each aggregation step, enabling independent verification and compliance with regulatory standards.
Decentralised Trust – Removes reliance on a single trusted aggregator, a key advantage in federated, multi-vendor IoT ecosystems.

4.6 Periodic Averaging with Quantization [5]:

$$\textbf{Communication Cost} = B \cdot \sum_{r=1}^{R} \left(\frac{32}{br}\right)$$

Where:

- B is the model size in bits
- b_r is the quantization bit-width at round r
- R is the total number of communication rounds

The formula measures how the bit -width of quantized updates influences the overall communication overhead during the iterations of RRR FL rounds. Every round imposes a communication expense proportional to the model size and inversely proportional to the quantization precision. The smaller the brb_rbr, bit -width, the more compressed—and the lighter communication expense.

For instance:

- 8-bit quantization lowers communication cost to roughly 25% of the original.
- 4-bit quantization provides approximately 8× compression, resulting in substantial energy and bandwidth savings.

When combined with periodic model averaging, devices transmit updates only at designated intervals rather than after every local training step. This further reduces the frequency of communication, enabling energy-constrained IoT nodes to participate without constant data transmission.

5. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

5.1. Communication Efficiency

As shown in TABLE 1 and FIGURE 2, the proposed communication-efficient Federated Learning (FL) framework achieves a substantial reduction in communication rounds and bandwidth usage—up to 6× improvement compared to conventional FL methods [1], [6], [7]. This gain is achieved without compromising model accuracy, validating the effectiveness of techniques such as gradient quantization [5]–[7], periodic model averaging [4], and adaptive device selection [15].

5.2. Security Through Blockchain Integration

The incorporation of blockchain technology ensures tamper-evident and auditable model aggregation [3], [11]–[14]. As illustrated in FIGURE 3, smart contracts and cryptographic hash chaining provide a decentralized mechanism for validating model updates, mitigating risks of poisoning attacks [10], [11] and preventing unauthorized contributions in multi-vendor IoT environments [13], [14]. The hash-based linkage guarantees chronological integrity, making any attempted modification computationally infeasible.

5.3. Energy Efficiency and Green IOT Alignment

Energy efficiency is a critical parameter for Green IoT deployments. Experimental results indicate that the proposed framework achieves up to 95% energy efficiency, compared to 70% for conventional FL systems [1], [6], [15]. As shown in TABLE 1, this improvement stems from three key design choices:

Adaptive Device Participation – Ensuring that only energy-optimal devices participate in each round [15].
Gradient Quantization – Reducing communication load and transmission energy cost [5]–[7].
Periodic Averaging – Decreasing the number of transmission events without sacrificing accuracy [4].

5.4. Practicality in Resource - Constructed AIOT Networks

Theoretical derivations, including equations for energy efficiency and communication cost [5]–[7], confirm the scalability and practicality of the proposed approach for real-world AIoT deployments. The ability to maintain high accuracy while reducing communication and energy overhead makes the system well-suited for large-scale, heterogeneous IoT networks.

5.5. Summery of Findings

Collectively, the results demonstrate that the proposed FL framework offers:

- High communication efficiency with minimal accuracy loss [1], [6], [7].
- Blockchain-secured aggregation for enhanced security and transparency [3], [11]–[14].
- Significant energy savings, enabling participation from low-power IoT devices [4]–[7], [15].

- These outcomes establish the framework as a secure, sustainable, and high-performance solution for distributed AI in edge and IoT environments.

6. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK

This paper presents an integrated and scalable AIoT architecture that combines communication-efficient Federated Learning (FL) with blockchain-based secure aggregation to enable intelligent, privacy-preserving, and energy-efficient learning in IoT systems. Large-scale simulations on benchmark datasets, along with comparisons against existing FL approaches, demonstrate significant improvements in:

Communication efficiency – Up to 62% bandwidth savings compared to baseline methods.
Model performance – Highest accuracy achieved with lower communication cost.
Energy efficiency – 40–50% energy reduction relative to conventional practices.
System security – Decentralized, auditable model aggregation to prevent tampering and unauthorized updates.

The proposed architecture aligns with the principles of Green and Secure AIoT, offering a practical pathway for deploying distributed intelligence in resource-constrained environments such as smart cities, healthcare, precision agriculture, and industrial automation.

FUTURE WORK

While the current framework demonstrates strong performance, future research will focus on integrating next-generation cryptographic techniques—such as zero-knowledge proofs, homomorphic encryption, and quantum-resistant cryptography—to further enhance privacy and robustness in adversarial settings. In addition, real-world deployments and edge-hardware benchmarking will be conducted to evaluate system performance under dynamic and heterogeneous IoT conditions.

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