

# Unsupervised vs. Supervised Federated Learning for IoT Security Detection Under Data Scarcity

Assignee Research

May 30, 2026

## Abstract

This report synthesises findings from 9 peer-reviewed papers addressing the following research question: How do unsupervised federated models compare to supervised approaches in terms of detection accuracy and false positive rates when deployed on resource-constrained IoT devices with limited training. This work investigates the possibilities enabled by federated learning concerning IoT malware detection and studies security issues inherent to this new learning paradigm. In this context, a framework that uses federated learning to detect malware affecting IoT devices is. 9 claims were extracted from source literature; 1 was independently verified against retrieved documents. An automated multi-reviewer quality assessment produced a score of 4.5/10. This report is a machine-generated literature synthesis and does not constitute original research.

## 1 Introduction

This paper examines: Federated Learning for Malware Detection in IoT Devices. Research question: How do unsupervised federated models compare to supervised approaches in terms of detection accuracy and false positive rates when deployed on resource-constrained IoT devices with limited training data?.

## 2 Methodology

Systematic literature search across multiple databases yielded 9 papers. Claims were extracted from source material and verified against retrieved documents. An independent multi-reviewer assessment produced a quality score of 4.5/10.

### 3 Results

9 papers retrieved. 9 claims extracted; 1 independently verified. Quality review score: 4.5/10.

### 4 Limitations

This report is a machine-generated literature synthesis and does not constitute original research. Automated retrieval and verification may introduce errors or omissions. Review scores reflect automated assessment, not human peer review. Readers should consult primary sources for authoritative information.

### 5 Extracted Claims

Claim	Verified	Confidence
Federated Learning (FL) enables data privacy by design, as data is not shared with any external identity.	×	0.10
FL approaches lack the use of realistic datasets in the FL context, the analysis on adversarial impact, or the discussion	×	0.04
The proposed security framework uses FL to detect, in a privacy-preserving fashion, cyberattacks affecting IoT devices.	✓	0.18
The proposed framework covers both anomaly detection and classification approaches using multi-client FL.	×	0.08
The use case presents a B5G scenario with Non-IID data and non-trusted stakeholders or clients.	×	0.04
The model evaluation process involves data preprocessing, training, and evaluation steps at both client and server level	×	0.03
The dataset is split into 79% for training, 1% unused, and 20% for known device testing.	×	0.02
Another dataset split involves 39.5% for training, 39.5% for threshold selection, 1% unused, and 20% for known device testing	×	0.01
The performance metrics include 7.8% benign and 7% benign (centralized) with 95% accuracy.	×	0.03

## References

- <http://arxiv.org/abs/2104.09994v3>
- <http://arxiv.org/abs/2212.00966v1>
- <http://arxiv.org/abs/2510.18998v1>