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# Privacy-Preserving Federated Learning in Network Intrusion **Detection: A Systematic Literature Review**

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#### Abstract

Machine learning privacy preservation is essential because it defends against misuse and illegal access to sensitive personal data including financial information, medical records, and behavioral patterns. Centralizing data in one place is necessary for traditional machine learning techniques, which poses serious privacy problems. Federated learning becomes an innovative approach in this situation. With federated learning, the model comes to the data rather than the other way around, radically altering the training process for machine learning systems. Individual devices or organizations where the data is naturally located are used for the training process rather than a central server. Each participant trains the model using local data, and only model updates are returned to the global model for updating. Raw data never leaves its original place, hence there is a far lower chance of data breaches during transfer. This article proposes a systematic review of federated learning with privacy preservation for intrusion detection. The three chosen online libraries of IEEE Xplorer, Scopus, and Web of Science are searched. Each database has its corresponding search query. The search is conducted to include all papers published since 2016 on computer science research area. The search results contain 220 papers from the different search engines. After removing duplicated papers, the search results are reduced to 131. Inclusion and exclusion criteria are then used to filter the search results. After applying the criteria of inclusion and exclusion, only 32 papers are approved.

Keywords: Privacy Preservation, Machine Learning, Federated Learning, Intrusion Detection.

## 1 | Introduction

Data privacy is a discipline intended to protect data against improper or unauthorized access and theft [1]. It focuses on how to properly store, access, retain, and secure sensitive data. It also protects data from any alteration, so it maintains data stability and immutability. It is not only limited to the proper handling of personal data such as names, addresses, credit card numbers, and social security numbers but also other valuable data such as financial data, personal health information, and intellectual property. It can be applied to the data of individuals and organizations [2, 3].

Machine learning (ML) plays an important role for increasing productivity [4-6]. ML is increasingly used in many domains, such as healthcare [7], bioinformatics [8], agriculture [7], finance [9], manufacturing [9], natural language processing [10], and computer vision [11]. For ML to achieve effective results, the quality



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Licensee International Journal of Computers and Informatics. This article is an open access article distributed under the terms and conditions of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC BY) license (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0). of training data should be excellent, which depends on data size and data correctness. Large-scale datasets and perfect data has vastly improved and achieved excellent ML performance [12]. In order to obtain such excellent-quality data, many organizations work cooperatively, so privacy must be preserved.

Although ML achieves a great success rate, it can not be used in all domains due to its challenges [13, 14]. In such domains, the participants are more worried about the privacy of data as the data is stored and analyzed on the centralized server [15]. Federated learning (FL) represents the recent development in artificial intelligence. FL overcomes the ML challenges by applying the concept of decentralized data which in turn achieving and preserving the privacy of data.

In 2016, FL was initially presented by Google [16, 17]. FL is a decentralized method of ML. It works by enabling different devices or machines to train and learn a collaborative model without disclosing data with the centralized server [18]. It can be used in many areas including cybersecurity, healthcare, vehicle communications, and mobile and wireless networking [19]. It allows continual learning on client devices and ensuring that client data does not leave their devices.

FL provides important benefits over traditional ML methods. Unlike classical ML, FL provides data privacy and security by remaining data localized and performing training process on the client machines, not the centralized server [20]. FL ensures privacy as the data is stored and trained locally on end user devices such as mobile device or edge computing [21]. It achieves hardware efficiency by utilizing less complex hardware, as it does not require one central server to train and analyze data [22]. It also offers data diversity by granting access to heterogeneous datasets and enables real-time continual learning as client data is used to constantly enhance FL models without requiring the combination of data for continual ML [23].

FL can address privacy issues, improve scalability, lower latency, and enhance reliability [24]. In this work, we provide a systematic review to address privacy-preserving approaches and its importance to maintain and protect the data of users and organizations. We also identify FL concept along with its techniques that can be used to ensure data privacy. We systematically determine existing studies addressing privacy-preserving FL methods for malicious behavior detection. The contributions can be summarized as:

- 1. Identify the concept of privacy-preserving along with its importance, and applications.
- 2. Point out the privacy-preserving ML approaches.
- 3. Identify the foundations of FL and its motivations.
- 4. Identify the role of FL in preserving privacy.
- 5. Identify the applications of FL especially for preserving privacy.
- 6. Determine the most relevant techniques of FL used for achieving data privacy.

The rest of this study is organized as follows. Background of privacy preservation and FL are presented in Section 2. Section 3 contains related wok. Section 4 includes research methodology. Section 5 presents results. Conclusion is discussed in Section 6.

## 2 | Background

### 2.1 | Privacy Preservation

Due to the internet-centric world, the data privacy plays an important role in our life than ever before. It is critical to protect data such as users' accounts and assets from attackers. ML has a crucial role to our day-to-day existence. It is increasingly used in many applications from various domains starting from the detection of malware to new movies recommendation [25]. Some of these applications require sensitive personals' or organizations' data.

In traditional ML, the data is stored and trained on a centralized server. Centralized ML models require the data of individuals or organizations including sensitive data to be uploaded to the server in plaintext or clear format to extract patterns and build ML models, increasing the privacy and security risks [26, 27]. The performance of ML depends on two requirements. Such requirements are the training data volume and the computational resources [28-30].

In order to achieve excellent and acceptable results of ML, a significant amount of training data and powerful computer capabilities must be used for producing high privacy issues due to the possible threats, risks and dangers of private data leaks. ML models are also threatened by adversarial attacks including attacks that can infer properties, attributes, or membership [31]. Many ML applications require data from multiple input parties. The data is stored on the central server for being trained and tested.

There is a growing need for utilizing privacy preservation methods for ML data to achieve the privacy of data. Figure 1 shows different privacy-preserving approaches. Cryptographic approaches and perturbation techniques or differentially private data release represent the main privacy-preserving ML techniques [25].



Figure 1. Privacy-preserving ML approaches.

Cryptographic approaches concentrate on performing ML training and testing on encrypted data. By utilizing these approaches, the data is stored on the central server in an encrypted form for being trained and tested. The Input parties don't have to stay online. The most popular privacy-preserving cryptographic methods include secure processors, secret sharing, garbled circuits, and homomorphic encryption (HE). [25].

HE is an approach in which the computations can be carried out on encrypted data [32]. It allows any third party to operate on the ciphertext data without needing to decrypt it in advance [33]. The encrypted result when decrypted to its original form matches the computation result carried on the clear or plaintext data [34-36]. The public key encryption technique (RSA) developed by Rivest, Shamir, and Adleman [37] is the first public-key encryption scheme applying HE property. RSA supports only multiplication operations. Goldwasser-Macali(GM) [38, 39] and Paillier [40] represent other types of of HE.

The three main types of HE are fully HE (FHE), somewhat HE (SHE), and Partially HE (PHE) [33]. PHE can support either multiplication or addition, SHE permits both operations of addition and multiplication but for a limited number, and FHE is the most flexible type of encryption since it permits infinite operations on encrypted data [33, 41-43]. There are many studies addressing privacy preservation using HE such as [44-47].

In the 1980s, Yao developed the garbled circuit [48]. This generic method is employed to protect two-party computation for participants who are not entirely dishonest. [49]. It can be combined with HE by some ML privacy-preserving approaches such as [50]. There are multiple studies utilizing garbled circuit such as [51-53].

Secret Sharing is one of cryptographic approaches used for achieving privacy preservation. This technique is used to distribute a secret between multiple parties. Every participating party holds a "share" of the distributing secret. When the shares are merged, the secret can be rebuilt, but individual shares are useless on their own[25]. In case of using secret sharing with threshold, there is no need for all the "shares" to reconstruct the secret [54, 55]. There are various studies utilizing secret sharing such as [56-58].

Secure processor is another type of cryptographic method used to achieve data privacy. The main idea behind this method is to collaborate multiple data owners to perform ML tasks using SGX-enabled data center. An adversary cannot control The computation-related SGX-processors [25]. [59, 60] utilize secure processor.

Perturbation Approaches include differential privacy (DP), local differential privacy (LDP) and dimensionality reduction (DP) techniques. DP is an important technique for data privacy. It was first proposed by [61]. It is useful and can be applied in many applications due to several properties such as composability, the ability to deal with large datasets, group privacy, and the Robustness of side information.

In order to safeguard data with no significant alteration, DP involves adding random noise to collected data. Laplace and Gaussian are common noise distributions that have varying effects on data utility and privacy [62]. The attacker cannot benefit from the acquired personal data because it is useless and does not include the person's record from the dataset. [63-65] address privacy preservation using DP.

LDP is considered as strong tool for privacy. In recent years, it has been widely adopted and applied in the real world by several organizations, including Google, Apple and Microsoft [66]. It provides much stronger data privacy protection by enabling users to locally perturb their own data without the need for the third trusted party. [67, 68] utilize LDP.

DR is a technique used for privacy preservation. It was proposed by [69]. In order to achieve data privacy, the data is perturbed by transferring it to a hyperplane of lesser dimensions. It applies lossy transformation. In such transformations, it is impossible to retrieve the exact original data from the reduced dimension data version, so it enhances privacy [25]. [70-72] utilize DR.

Privacy-preserving ML is increasingly being used in many areas. It can be used for cloud computing, Internet of Things (IoT), healthcare, and intrusion detection. [73-77] address privacy-preserving ML in cloud computing. [78-82] discuss privacy-preserving ML in IoT. [83-85] address privacy preservation in healthcare. [86] address privacy-preserving ML in electric vehicles. [87-89] address privacy-preserving ML for intrusion detection.

## 2.2 | Federated Learning

Google proposed the concept of FL for the first time in 2016 [16, 17, 90]. The main idea is to build decentralized models of ML. Instead of storing data on a single large server, a dataset is distributed across different devices, which in turn prevents data leakage and maintains data privacy [91, 92]. The FL process is iterative, and with each iteration, the global model on the server—the basic machine learning model—is

enhanced. Figure 2 depicts FL diagram. In general, FL is composed of three major general steps, model selection, local training, and local models aggregation [93].

In model selection step, global model which represents centralized ML model is distributed to every client. To enhance efficiency, the global model can be pretrained with initial parameters on the central server before sharing with clients [94, 95]. In local training step, the global model is then trained locally at each client participating on FL process using its own individual data [96]. In local models aggregation step, the model updates are transmitted to the server to perform aggregation after local training step [97]. The global model is then updated by using the updated parameters and distributed to all the clients for starting a new iteration.

One of the essential properties of FL is privacy. Secure Multiparty Computation (SMC), DP, and HE are the privacy techniques used for FL [98]. SMC includes multiple parties; only its input and output are known to each party. With SMC, several parties can calculate a function using their inputs while preserving the privacy of those inputs [99]. In order to guarantee complete zero knowledge, it provides security proof by using well-defined simulation. [100, 101] adopt SMC with FL.

DP is the most used method because of its robust information theoretic guarantees, ease of usage in algorithms, and comparatively little system overhead [102]. DP is a nature approach used to prevent the data leakage using the addition of artificial noises. The challenge is how to choose the appropriate level of noise which will influence the FL process convergence rate and the privacy guarantee of clients [103]. [104-107] adopt DP along with FL.



Figure 2. FL diagram.

The concept of HE is proposed by [108] for bank applications. Applying ML while exchanging parameters under the encryption method can help preserve the privacy of user data. There is little possibility of the data leakage as both the model and the data are not sent. [109-112] adopt HE along with FL.

There are three types of FL: federated transfer learning, vertical FL, and horizontal FL [98]. In horizontal FL, the data may have comparable feature spaces but differ greatly in sample spaces. The feature dimension of the data is the same. One illustration of horizontal FL is the federated model for Android smartphones [16].

FL is used in many applications. It can be used in industry engineering or computer science applications [115]. Mobile devices applications, Wireless communication, healthcare applications, and industrial engineering applications are some of FL applications. FL can also be used for querying multiparty database without exposing the data. [98, 115] address the applications of FL. [117, 118] represent mobile devices FL applications. [119, 120] represent FL applications in wireless communication. [121, 122] are examples of FL applications in industrial engineering. [123, 124] are examples of FL applications in healthcare.

## 3 | Related Work

This section addresses the most related studies to privacy-preserving FL for intrusion detection. Table 1 lists the related studies along with their publication year, type, and source. The related studies include journals' and conferences' reviews, systematics, and surveys since 2016 in computer science research area. The search process is done in June 2022. The search is performed on three digital libraries; IEEE Xplorer, Web of Science, and Scopus. Each library has its own search query. Table 2 shows search term strings per database.

According to Table 1, there are ten studies talking about privacy-preserving FL in general, nine studies concentrate on IoT domain, two studies on the communication domain, and two other studies on the medicine domain.

## 3.1 | Generic Domain

The first ten studies in Table 1 are on general domain. The authors of [125] proposed a survey on DP mechanisms designed to ensure the privacy of users in the field of deep learning and FL. Their analysis is based on three factors; accuracy, communication cost, and computational complexity. The analysis demonstrated the gap in DP between accuracy, robustness, theory, and implementation. The analysis also resulted in many future directions to track privacy leaks while achieving a high accuracy.

Paper	Year	Туре	Publisher
[126]	2022	С	IEEE
[127]	2021	С	IEEE
[128]	2022	J	IEEE
[129]	2022	J	IEEE
[130]	2021	J	IEEE
[131]	2022	J	IEEE
[132]	2021	J	IEEE
[133]	2020	J	IEEE
[125]	2022	J	IEEE
[134]	2021	J	IEEE
[135]	2017	С	IEEE
[136]	2021	С	IEEE
[137]	2021	J	IEEE
[138]	2021	J	IEEE

Table 1. Related work studies.

[139]	2020	J	IEEE
[140]	2022	J	IEEE
[141]	2019	J	IEEE
[142]	2020	J	IEEE
[143]	2022	J	Elsevier
[144]	2021	J	IEEE
[145]	2020	J	IEEE
[146]	2022	J	Wiley Online Library
[147]	2022	J	IEEE

Table 2. Related work search query per database.

Database	Query		
	(("Abstract":Privacy preserving) OR ("Abstract":Data Privacy)) AND		
	(("Full Text Only":Malware Detection) OR ("Full Text		
	Only":Intrusion Detection) OR ("Full Text Only":Malicious Behavior		
IEEE Xplorer	Detection)) AND (("Abstract":Distributed ML) OR		
	("Abstract":Distributed Learning) OR ("Abstract":Federated		
	Learning)) AND (("Document Title":review) OR ("Document		
	Title":systematic) OR ("Document Title":"survey))		
	((AB=(Privacy preserving) OR AB=(Data Privacy)) AND		
	(AB=(Detection) OR AB=(Malware Detection) OR AB=(Intrusion		
Was	Detection) OR AB=(Malicious Behavior Detection)) AND		
w03	(AB=(Distributed ML) OR AB=(Distributed Learning) OR		
	AB=(Federated Learning) OR AB=(Federated Machine Learning)))		
	AND (TI=(review) OR TI=(systematic) OR TI=(survey))		
	((ABS(Privacy preserving) OR ABS(Data Privacy)) AND		
	(ABS(Detection) OR ABS(Malware Detection) OR ABS(Intrusion		
Saarua	Detection) OR ABS(Malicious Behavior Detection)) AND		
Scopus	(ABS(Distributed ML) OR ABS(Distributed Learning) OR		
	ABS(Federated Learning) OR ABS(Federated Machine Learning)))		
	AND (TITLE(review) OR TITLE(systematic) OR TITLE(survey))		

The authors of [134] presented a survey on applications, challenges, and main design factors of FL technology. According to this survey, FL has four design aspects, four core challenges, and four application areas. FL architectures, aggregation, personalization strategies, and data partitioning are examples of design elements. Communication cost, privacy and heterogeneity of systems, and statistical are the challenges of FL. Healthcare, Industrial engineering, mobile devices, IoT, and edge devices are the areas of FL application.

#### 3.2 | Internet of Things Domain

[135-143] concentrated on IoT domain. In [135], the authors investigated the challenges of privacy and security in IoT. The privacy and security concerns in IoT systems include IoT devise storage, IoT web interfaces, IoT network services, IoT cloud connectivity, IoT software updates, and Industrial IoT. For example, cross website scripting and SQL injection are the most important security threats in IoT systems that may affect web interfaces. The privacy concerns of IoT cloud connectivity includes two issues; secure communications and access rights for IoT-Cloud. They also presented existing approaches to preserve security privacy in IoT environment such as rigorous testing, disabling universal plug and play, and learning automata based solution, and distributed denial of service DDOS alert mechanisms.

The authors of [138] presented a comprehensive analysis on FL's application in IoT domain. They also illustrated the role of FL in many critical IoT services, including mobile crowdsensing, attack detection, localization, data offloading and caching, IoT privacy and security, and IoT data sharing. They also discussed the potential of FL in various IoT applications like smart transportation, smart healthcare, smart

cities, smart industry, and unmanned aerial vehicles. They also illustrated several challenges include FL security and privacy concerns, FL-IoT communication and learning convergence issues, FL resource management, FL deployment of AI functions on IoT sensors, and FLIoT standard specifications.

### 3.3 | Communication Domain

[144, 145] concentrated on communication domain. The authors of [145] proposed a review of the use of blockchain in 5G networks and beyond networks. They discussed the benefits of integrating blockchain into the 5G networks. They introduced the classification of blockchain applications for 5G networks. The taxonomy includes communication management, network management, computing management, and services. For example, the taxonomy for network management includes NFV , SDN, and network slicing. The taxonomy for computing management includes MEC, content caching, distributed computing, data storage, and cloud computing.

D2D, resource allocation, spectrum sharing, infrastructure sharing, and infrastructure management are all included in the communication management taxonomy. The taxonomy for privacy and security includes authentication, fraud management, identity as a service, data privacy, and access control. The taxonomy for services includes billing & payment, roaming, content distribution, and digital rights. They applied layered approach in order to categorize the applications of blockchain in 5G ecosystems. They gave an overview of the proof of concept and field tests for the use of blockchain in 5G network.

## 3.4 | Medicine Domain

[146, 147] concentrated on medicine domain. The authors of [104] proposed a comprehensive review for the role of FL in the detection of COVID-19. They used chest X-ray (CXR) data sets for image. They presented a simple model using FL for identifying COVID-19. In order to demonstrate FL applicability in tackling the research issues of healthcare domain, they also reviewed previously published FL applications for COVID-19 research area.

The authors of [147] provided guidance for implementing ML based medical systems and applications. They proposed a survey of practical and technical challenges for implementing ML based medical systems. They discussed existing regulations facing ML in medical domain. These regulations include safety, reliability, robustness, security, privacy, explainability, transparency, and nondiscrimination. they also provided solutions to overcome medical ML challenges. FL along with large and representative datasets is one of the solution approaches. The other solutions involve domain knowledge careful exploitation, algorithmic impact evaluations, and the use of models for comprehensive out-of-distribution testing and verification.

## 4 | Research Methodology

## 4.1 | Objectives

Using centralized machine learning in extremely sensitive systems, like healthcare systems, financial systems, and industrial systems, threatens individuals' and organizations' data and makes it vulnerable to attacks. This study aims to identify the needs for data privacy and its importance by identifying the problems and threats targeting centralized/classical ML systems. Moreover, the study also identifies privacy-preserving techniques used to protect individuals or organizations' data from any unauthorized or illegal action.

To sum up, the following is a formulation of the study's goals:

- O1: Identify the problems and threats targeting individuals and organizations implementing centralized ML. (Identify the need for privacy preservation or data privacy)
- O2: Identify privacy-preserving techniques used to assure ML systems' security.
- O3: Identify privacy-preserving ML domains.

- O4: Identify the importance of FL for the privacy of data.
- O5: Identify FL techniques used for data privacy.
- O6: Identify privacy-preserving FL applications.

Table 3. Research questions, motivations, and relevant objectives.

N	Research Question	Main Motivation	Objectives
RQ1	What are problems and threats of classical ML?	This research question identifies the importance and the need for privacy preservation or data privacy.	O1
RQ2	What are existing approaches used for privacy preservation?	This research question gives an overview of current privacy-preserving methods.	O2
RQ3	What are privacy- preserving ML domains?	This research question gives an overview of current privacy-preserving domains.	O3
RQ4	What is the role of FL in preserving privacy?	This research question addresses the importance of FL for improving the privacy of data.	O4
RQ5	What are FL techniques used for preserving privacy?	This research question presents an overview of existing FL techniques used for data privacy.	O5
RQ6	What are privacy- preserving FL applications?	This research question addresses an overview of FL based applications used for privacy preservation.	O6

#### 4.2 | Research Questions

The purpose of this work is to address and explain privacy-preserving techniques and how they can be adopted with FL for malicious behavior detection. Based on this purpose, research questions are formulated following the guidelines of [148]. There are six main research questions for this study. Research questions are provided in Table 3, along with the motivation behind them and any associated goals. The search term is intended to be simple and generic as possible. It is created using search terms categorized into three groups; privacy preserving, intrusion detection, and distributed learning. For retrieving relevant papers, the guidelines of [148] are followed. Search queries are performed on the following three adopted online databases:

- IEEE Xplorer.
- Scopus.
- Web of Science.

The search is conducted to include all papers published since 2016 on computer science research area. Table 4 represents search query for each database.

Database	Keyword Searches
	(("Abstract":"Privacy preserving" OR
	"Abstract":"Data Privacy") AND
	("Abstract":"Detection" OR "Abstract":"Malware
	Detection" OR
	"Abstract":"Intrusion Detection" OR
IEEE	"Abstract": "Malicious Behavior Detection")
Xplorer	AND ("Abstract":"Distributed ML" OR
	"Abstract":"Distributed Learning"
	OR "Abstract": "Federated Learning" OR
	"Abstract": "Federated ML"))
	NOT ("Abstract": "review" OR
	"Abstract":"systematic" OR "Abstract":"survey")
	((ABS(Privacy preserving) OR ABS(Data Privacy))
Scopus	AND
	(ABS(Detection) OR ABS(Malware Detection) OR
	ABS(Intrusion Detection)
	OR ABS(Malicious Behavior Detection)) AND
	(ABS(Distributed ML)
	OR ABS(Distributed Learning) OR ABS(Federated
	Learning) OR ABS(Federated ML)))
	AND NOT (ABS(review) OR ABS(systematic) OR
	ABS(survey))
	((AB=(Privacy preserving) OR AB=(Data Privacy))
	AND (AB=(Detection)
	OR AB=(Malware Detection) OR AB=(Intrusion
	Detection) OR
Web of	AB=(Malicious Behavior Detection)) AND
Science	(AB=(Distributed ML)
	OR AB=(Distributed Learning) OR
	AB=(Federated Learning) OR
	AB=(Federated ML))) NOT (AB=(review) OR
	AB=(systematic) OR AB=(survey))

Table 4. Search term strings per database.

## 4.3 | Study Selection

In this study, two screening stages were applied to generate the set of retrieved papers using search queries on the three selected databases of Scopus, IEEE Xplorer, and Web of Science. First stage represents the screening of titles and abstracts. In this stage, the papers' titles and abstracts are examined to determine relevance. Second stage represents full text screening. In this stage, the papers' full text is checked to determine if they achieve the inclusion criteria specified in Table 5. The authors screen the list of all papers separately. Their decisions are exchanged. The conflicts are also addressed and solved.

I able 5. Inclusion criteria
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ID	Criteria
I1	Papers published since 2016.
I2	Journals and early access papers.
I3	Full-length and complete published papers.
I4	Papers written in english.
15	Papers aimed at privacy-preserving ML methods for malicious behavior detection.
I6	Papers applying federated ML.
I7	Papers applying technology to enhance and improve privacy.
18	Experimental results ensure privacy.

ID	Criteria		
E1	Papers applying only federated ML without editing or enhancing privacy.		
E2	Papers with experimental results do not test privacy.		
E3	Proceeding papers.		
E4	Review papers.		
E5	Survey papers.		
E6	Systematic review papers.		
<b>E</b> 7	Tutorial papers and editorials.		
E8	Books or book chapters.		
E9	Conferences.		
E10	Magazines.		
E11	Incomplete published papers (papers without full text available).		
E12	Non-english studies.		

Table 6. Exclusion criteria.

#### 4.4 | Inclusion and Exclusion Criteria

The amount of papers produces by searches using specified search queries for the three selected databases; IEEE Xplore, Scopus, and Web of Science, is decreased by specifying and applying a set of criteria for both inclusion and exclusion. Only journals and early access papers are included in this study. All papers published since 2016 are included in the search. The starting year 2016 is adopted since FL is first introduced by google in 2016 [16, 17]. Only English written papers addressing privacy preservation and FL for malicious behavior detection are included. Table 5 lists all of the adopted inclusion criteria, whereas Table 6 lists all of the exclusion criteria.

#### 4.5 | Data Extraction Process

In this study, the data extraction process is performed by following the guidelines of [116]. Table 7 represents the designed data extraction form. Each paper is formed by using its corresponding metadata like publication source and publication year. A set of necessary information is also extracted for analysis.

ID	Data Extraction Item	Description	RQ
D1	Paper ID	First author name + year	
D2	Year	The publication year	
D3	Source	The publication source	
D4	Threads	ML threats and the importance of privacy preservation	RQ1
D5	Approaches	Privacy-preserving approaches	RQ2
D6	Domains	Privacy-preserving domains	RQ3
<b>D</b> 7	Role	FL role in preserving privacy	RQ4
D8	Techniques	FL techniques	RQ5
D9	Applications	Privacy-preserving FL applications	RQ6

Table 7. Data extraction form.

Database	Search Results
IEEE Xplorer	34
Scopus	117
Web of Science	69
Total	220

Table 8. Number of studies that each database returned.

## 4.6 | Data Synthesis

Table 7 illustrates the mapping of research questions to data extraction. RQ1 is mapped to data item D4 which represents ML threats. RQ2 is mapped to data item D5 which represents privacy-preserving approaches. RQ3 is mapped to data item D6 which represents privacy-preserving domains. RQ4 is mapped to data item D7 which represents the role of FL in preserving privacy. RQ5 is mapped to data item D8 which represents FL techniques. RQ6 is mapped to data item D9 which represents privacy-preserving FL applications.

## 5 | Results

## 5.1 | Overview of Selected Studies

The search process is carried out in June 2022. The process yields 32 unique publications that have been published since 2016. The set of chosen digital libraries—IEEE Xplorer, Scopus, and Web of Science—are subjected to the created search query. Table 8 shows the amount of retrived papers from every library after applying conditions.

The search process includes three conditions. The first condition represents published papers since 2016. The second condition represents published papers in computer science research area. The final condition represents only journals and early accesses. The mentioned conditions are used to eliminate the number of papers that the search engines have retrieved. The set of 220 returned publications from various search engines are collected. The duplicate publications are then eliminated. This brings the total number of papers down to 131. Only 32 papers are approved after checking the criteria of inclusion and exclusion. Figure 3 depicts the entire overall selection process.



Figure 3. Selection process.

The distribution of chosen papers by source and year of publication is shown in Figure 4. As shown, the year of 2016, 2017, and 2019 has no publications matching the inclusion criteria. The interest into privacy-preserving FL starts getting more attentions since 2020. Scopus has the maximum number of publications matching the criteria of inclusion.

Table 9 displays the full list of chosen papers matching the inclusion criteria along with their corresponding year and publisher.

ID	Cite	Vear	Publisher
ID	One	Itai	i ublisher
P1	[149]	2022	Hindawi
P2	[150]	2022	Wiley Online Library
P3	[151]	2021	Elsevier
P4	[152]	2018	IEEE
P5	[153]	2020	IEEE
P6	[154]	2021	Hindawi
<b>P</b> 7	[155]	2021	Wiley Online Library
P8	[156]	2022	Elsevier
P9	[157]	2021	IEEE
P10	[158]	2021	Elsevier
P11	[159]	2021	IEEE

<b>F</b> able	9.	List	of	selected	studies
Lance		LASU	Or.	Sciected	studies

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P12	[160]	2020	IEEE
P13	[161]	2022	Elsevier
P14	[162]	2021	IEEE
P15	[51]	2020	IEEE
P16	[163]	2022	Elsevier
P17	[164]	2021	IEEE
P18	[165]	2021	Hindawi
P19	[166]	2020	IEEE
P20	[167]	2022	IEEE
P21	[168]	2022	IEEE
P22	[169]	2022	IEEE
P23	[109]	2021	IEEE
P24	[170]	2021	IEEE
P25	[171]	2022	IEEE
P26	[172]	2022	IEEE
P27	[173]	2021	IEEE
P28	[174]	2021	IEEE
P29	[111]	2021	IEEE
P30	[175]	2020	Taiwan Academic Network Management Committee
P31	[176]	2022	Multidisciplinary Digital Publishing Institute
P32	[177]	2021	IEEE





## 5.2 | Importance of Privacy Preservation (RQ1)

For training model, Conventional ML techniques require the gathering and centralization of raw user data on servers, presenting serious privacy problems. Sensitive information is susceptible to misuse, data breaches, and illegal access as it must be uploaded to central servers. Furthermore, conventional ML systems have the ability to inadvertently memorize and expose private information from their training data, which could reveal sensitive information about specific users. The demand for sophisticated privacy-preserving methods that can safeguard user data while facilitating efficient ML has been motivated by these privacy issues. Consequently, techniques like FL have been developed that enable training of models without requiring raw data to leave user devices.

#### 5.3 | Privacy-Preserving Approaches (RQ2)

Privacy-preserving ML approaches have two main categories: cryptographic approaches and perturbation approaches. HE, secret sharing, garbled circuits, and secure processors represent cryptographic approaches while DP, LDP, and DR techniques represent perturbation approaches.

#### 5.4 | Privacy-Preserving Domains (RQ3)

Privacy-preserving ML is increasingly being used in many areas. It can be used for cloud computing, IoT, healthcare, and intrusion detection.

#### 5.5 | FL Role in Privacy Preservation (RQ4)

Classical ML depends on storing the users' or organizations' data on a centralized server for the purpose of model training and updating so its vulnerable to attacks not only by the server owners but also by any cyber attacks. FL is a new trend of ML which can overcome the problems of traditional ML and achieve the privacy of data. It implements traditional ML models with privacy features. Its a distributed ML models. Rather than traditional ML, FL doesn't require the data and ML model to be stored on a centralized server. The data will remain on its local users, and the model will be sent to the data. The core concept of FL is to deliver the model to the data rather than the other way around. so FL preserves privacy.

#### 5.6 | FL Techniques for Privacy Preservation (RQ5)

SMC, DP, and HE are the most used FL privacy-preserving techniques. From our point of view, DP is the most used privacy-preserving FL technique for intrusion detection.

#### 5.7 | Privacy-Preserving FL Applications (RQ6)

There are many applications for privacy-preserving FL, which are used in general domains, IoT domain, communication domain, medicine domain, mobile domain, and financial domain.

## 6 | Conclusion

This study provides a systematic review of privacy-preserving distributed ML for malicious behavior detection. search queries are performed on the three selected online databases of IEEE Xplorer, Scopus, and Web of Science. Each database has its corresponding search query. The search is performed to include all papers published since 2016 on computer science research area. The set of 220 returned papers from the various search engines are collected. After removing duplicated papers, the number of papers are reduced to 131. Only 32 papers are approved after checking the criteria of inclusion and exclusion. The interest into privacy-preserving FL starts getting more attentions since 2020 as there is no publications matching the inclusion criteria in 2016, 2017, and 2019.

#### Author Contribution

Conceptualization, E.S, W.K., E.R. and A.S.; Methodology, E.S, W.K., E.R. and A.S.; Software, E.S, W.K., E.R. and A.S.; Validation, E.S, W.K., E.R. and A.S.; formal analysis, E.S, W.K., E.R. and A.S.; investigation, E.S, W.K., E.R. and A.S.; K.K., E.R. and A.S.; data maintenance, E.S, W.K., E.R. and A.S.; writing-creating the initial design, E.S, W.K., E.R. and A.S.; writing-reviewing and editing, E.S, W.K., E.R. and A.S.; visualization, E.S, W.K., E.R. and A.S.; monitoring, E.S, W.K., E.R. and A.S.; project

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There is no data used in this study.

#### **Conflicts of Interest**

No conflicts of interest are disclosed by the authors.

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