Research Journal of Computer Systems and Engineering (RJCSE)
Volume 3 Issue 2 (2022) | Pages: 08 – 15 | e-ISSN: 2230-8571; p-ISSN: 2230-8563
https://doi.org/10.52710/rjcse.50

Secure Data Sharing in IoT Networks using Blockchain and Machine Learning

Received: 25 September 2022; Revised: 29 November 2022; Accepted: 18 December 2022

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Abstract

The burgeoning proliferation of IoT networks has underscored the pressing need for robust and secure data sharing mechanisms. The existing methods for data sharing in IoT networks exhibit certain limitations, notably in terms of energy efficiency, speed, throughput, packet delivery ratio, and overall consistency. These limitations have sparked the demand for innovative solutions that can mitigate these issues effectively. To address these limitations, the paper proposes an advanced model that harnesses the power of Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP) based Smart Contracts, fortified with Genetic Algorithm optimized Sidechains, within the blockchain framework. This integration synergizes the strengths of blockchain technology and machine learning, offering a robust foundation for secure data sharing in IoT networks. The advantages of this approach are manifold. By leveraging AHP and Smart Contracts, the model ensures the precision and reliability of data transactions. The incorporation of Genetic Algorithm optimized Sidechains optimizes the scalability and efficiency of the system. Consequently, the proposed model exhibits a remarkable 4.9% improvement in energy efficiency, a 5.5% boost in speed, an 8.3% increase in throughput, an 8.5% enhancement in packet delivery ratio, and a 3.9% better consistency compared to existing methods. The impacts of this work are profound. It not only addresses the current limitations of IoT data sharing but also paves the way for more efficient, secure, and reliable data exchange in IoT networks. This innovation holds the potential to revolutionize the IoT landscape, offering a robust solution that can unlock new possibilities for a wide range of applications, from smart cities to industrial automation sets.

Keywords

IoT, Secure Data Sharing, Blockchain, Machine Learning, Genetic Algorithm, Process.

1. Introduction

The advent of the Internet of Things (IoT) has ushered in an era of unprecedented connectivity, enabling a multitude of devices to seamlessly exchange data. However, this connectivity also raises significant concerns about the security and efficiency of data sharing within IoT networks. As a result, the need for innovative and robust solutions to address these challenges has become increasingly evident.

Existing methods for data sharing in IoT networks exhibit certain limitations that hinder their effectiveness. These limitations encompass issues related to energy efficiency, speed, throughput, packet delivery ratio, and overall data consistency. The presence of these limitations underscores the critical imperative to devise a novel and comprehensive approach that can surmount these hurdles.

In response to this pressing need, this paper introduces an advanced model for secure data sharing in IoT networks,

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leveraging the synergy between blockchain technology and machine learning. The model is characterized by the integration of Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP) based Smart Contracts and Genetic Algorithm optimized Sidechains within the blockchain framework.

This combination of technologies presents a robust foundation for secure data sharing. AHP-based Smart Contracts ensure the precision and reliability of data transactions, while the Genetic Algorithm optimized Sidechains enhance scalability and efficiency. The result is a model that significantly outperforms existing methods, boasting a 4.9% improvement in energy efficiency, a 5.5% boost in speed, an 8.3% increase in throughput, an 8.5% enhancement in packet delivery ratio, and a 3.9% improvement in overall consistency levels.

The implications of this work extend far beyond the realm of IoT networks. This innovative model has the potential to revolutionize data sharing, not only addressing existing limitations but also opening doors to new possibilities in diverse applications such as smart cities, industrial automation, and beyond. In an era where data is the lifeblood of digital transformation, the development of a secure and efficient data sharing model is of paramount importance, and this paper marks a significant step toward these goals.

Motivation & Objectives

The motivation behind this research stems from the exponential growth of the Internet of Things (IoT), which has ushered in an era of unparalleled data generation and exchange. While this technological evolution promises immense benefits, it concurrently introduces profound challenges, notably in the realms of security and data sharing efficiency levels. These challenges have become a formidable barrier to the realization of IoT's full potential sets.

In response to these pressing concerns, the authors of this paper embarked on a quest to engineer a solution that would address the inherent limitations of existing data sharing mechanisms in IoT networks. These limitations encompass facets such as energy efficiency, data transmission speed, throughput, packet delivery reliability, and overall data consistency. Recognizing the profound implications of these limitations on the IoT landscape, the authors were propelled by a sense of urgency to develop a model that could effectively mitigate these issues.

The contributions of this paper are both innovative and consequential. The proposed model introduces a pioneering approach that leverages the symbiotic relationship between blockchain technology and machine learning. By incorporating Analytic Hierarchy Process (AHP) based Smart Contracts and Genetic Algorithm optimized Sidechains into the blockchain framework, the authors have forged a robust foundation for secure data sharing in IoT networks.

This approach not only overcomes the limitations of existing methods but also yields substantial performance enhancements. With a 4.9% improvement in energy efficiency, a 5.5% increase in data transmission speed, an 8.3% uptick in throughput, an 8.5% boost in packet delivery reliability, and a 3.9% improvement in overall data consistency compared to current methods, the model stands as a beacon of progress in the IoT domains.

The significance of these contributions reverberates far beyond the confines of this paper. In an era where data is the currency of innovation, this work advances the field of secure data sharing in IoT networks, paving the way for a more connected, efficient, and secure future. Its impacts extend to diverse domains, from smart cities and industrial automation to healthcare and environmental monitoring, promising a brighter and more interconnected world scenarios.

2. Review of Existing Models

The literature in the realm of blockchain and IoT convergence has witnessed remarkable growth in recent years, reflecting the increasing importance of secure and efficient data management in interconnected systems. This literature review delves into key contributions in this field, offering insights into the state-of-the-art research and trends. The following papers were selected for review:

1. **Blockchain-IoT Healthcare Applications and Trends** [1]

Al-Nbhany et al. provide a comprehensive overview of the intersection of blockchain and IoT in healthcare. They shed light on the integration of blockchain technology in healthcare systems, emphasizing security and data integrity. Their insights encompass applications such as the Internet of Medical Things (IoMT) and healthcare sensors, which are pivotal in ensuring the robustness of healthcare IoT.

2. **A Blockchain-Based Model Migration Approach for Secure and Sustainable Federated Learning in IoT Systems** [2]

Zhang et al. introduce a novel model migration approach using blockchain for secure and sustainable federated learning in IoT systems. This work addresses the challenges of collaborative work, training acceleration, and security in federated learning, underscoring the potential of blockchain to enhance the efficiency and security of IoT systems.

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3. **Auditable Blockchain Rewriting in Permissioned Setting With Mandatory Revocability for IoT** [3]

Shao et al. delve into the concept of auditable blockchain rewriting in a permissioned setting with mandatory revocability for IoT. They explore the use of chameleon hashes (CHs) and redactable blockchain (RB) to ensure data integrity and rewriting revocability, providing insights into enhancing blockchain's applicability in IoT scenarios.

4. **Countering Active Attacks on RAFT-Based IoT Blockchain Networks** [4]

Buttar et al. focus on countering active attacks in IoT blockchain networks using the RAFT consensus protocol. Their work addresses security challenges related to jamming, impersonation attacks, and path loss in Internet-of-Things (IoT) blockchain wireless networks, offering solutions for reliable and fault-tolerant IoT systems.

5. **A Novel Distributed Authentication of Blockchain Technology Integration in IoT Services** [5]

Deep et al. present a novel approach to distributed authentication by integrating blockchain technology into IoT services. They emphasize the importance of decentralization and scalability in ensuring secure and efficient authentication in IoT environments, highlighting the role of smart contracts in this integration.

6. **TABI: Trust-Based ABAC Mechanism for Edge-IoT Using Blockchain Technology** [6]

Pathak et al. propose the Trust-Based Attribute-Based Access Control (ABAC) mechanism, TABI, for Edge-IoT using blockchain technology. Their work addresses access control and trust evaluation in IoT networks, leveraging hyperledger frameworks and edge computing to enhance security and trust mechanisms.

7. **LightCert4IoTs: Blockchain-Based Lightweight Certificates Authentication for IoT Applications** [7]

Garba et al. introduce LightCert4IoTs, a blockchain-based solution for lightweight certificates authentication in IoT applications. Their work enhances security and privacy in IoT environments, emphasizing the role of Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) and blockchain technology in ensuring authenticity and trust.

8. **A Scalable Blockchain Framework for Secure Transactions in IoT-Based Dynamic Applications** [8]

Basudan presents a scalable blockchain framework tailored for secure transactions in IoT-based dynamic applications. This work addresses security and privacy concerns in IoT, offering a framework that enhances the security and scalability of blockchain systems in IoT contexts.

9. **Speeding at the Edge: An Efficient and Secure Redactable Blockchain for IoT-Based Smart Grid Systems** [9]

Lu et al. propose an efficient and secure redactable blockchain for IoT-based smart grid systems. Their work leverages chameleon hash (CH) and edge computing to enhance the efficiency and security of blockchain systems in industrial IoT applications.

10. **Blockchain Regulated Verifiable and Automatic Key Refreshment Mechanism for IoT** [10]

Mishra et al. introduce a blockchain-regulated verifiable and automatic key refreshment mechanism for IoT. Their work focuses on enhancing security and authentication in the Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT) by leveraging smart contracts and Ethereum-based solutions.

11. **A Blockchain Dynamic Sharding Scheme Based on Hidden Markov Model in Collaborative IoT** [11]

Xi et al. present a dynamic sharding scheme based on a hidden Markov model for collaborative IoT. Their work explores blockchain sharding and dynamic incremental updating in IoT collaborative sensing, offering insights into improving throughput and scalability.

12. **Opportunistic Block Validation for IoT Blockchain Networks** [12]

Lee and Kim propose opportunistic block validation for IoT blockchain networks, emphasizing lightweight blockchain and reinforcement learning techniques. Their work focuses on enhancing the performance and security of blockchain networks in IoT scenarios.

13. **Enhancing Supply Chain Efficiency and Security: A Proof of Concept for IoT Device Integration With Blockchain** [13]

Madhwal et al. offer a proof of concept for enhancing supply chain efficiency and security by integrating IoT devices with blockchain. Their work highlights real-time responsiveness and supply chain management as key aspects of blockchain's role in IoT-enabled supply chains.

14. **A Lightweight Blockchain-Based Remote Mutual Authentication for AI-Empowered IoT Sustainable Computing Systems** [14]

Deebak et al. present a lightweight blockchain-based remote mutual authentication for AI-empowered IoT sustainable

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computing systems. Their work focuses on privacy, security, and sustainability, offering a lightweight blockchain solution for IoT applications.

15. **Blockchain and Smart Contracts for Telecommunications: Requirements vs. Cost Analysis** [15]

Afraz et al. delve into the requirements and cost analysis of blockchain and smart contracts in telecommunications. Their work explores scalability, consensus protocols, and cost considerations in deploying blockchain for telecom and distributed ledger applications.

16. **Private Blockchain Envisioned Access Control System for Securing Industrial IoT-Based Pervasive Edge Computing** [16]

Saha et al. introduce a private blockchain-based access control system for securing industrial IoT-based pervasive edge computing. Their work addresses access control, key agreement, and security mechanisms in industrial IoT scenarios, leveraging blockchain technology.

These papers collectively form a comprehensive foundation for understanding the evolving landscape of blockchain and IoT integration. They encompass a wide range of aspects, including security, scalability, privacy, authentication, and applications across various IoT domains. The insights gleaned from these works will inform the development of the proposed model for secure data sharing in IoT networks using blockchain and machine learning process.

3. Design of the Proposed Model Process

The proposed methodology for the design of the model for secure data sharing in IoT networks using blockchain and machine learning is underpinned by a multifaceted approach that harnesses the synergistic potential of cutting-edge technologies. The overarching objective is to devise a robust framework that ensures the integrity, security, and efficiency of data sharing within IoT networks. This section elucidates the intricate details of the proposed methodology, characterized by a series of equations and their comprehensive explanations.

- **Data Encryption Equation (1):**

In the proposed model, data encryption is a pivotal aspect to safeguard data during transmission. It employs a combination of advanced encryption algorithms, represented as follows:

$$Edata = ECC(Data, Keydata)$$

Where, *Edata* represents the encrypted data, *Data* is the original data, and *Keydata* is the encryption key for the process. This equation encapsulates the fundamental process of encrypting data for secure transmissions.

- **Blockchain Transaction Equation (2):**

The blockchain plays a central role in recording and verifying data transactions. The equation for a blockchain transaction is defined as:

$$Txblockchain = Sign(Hash(Data), PrivateKey) + PublicKey$$

This equation signifies the creation of a transaction (*Txblockchain*) by signing the hash of the data with a private key, subsequently verified by the recipient's public keys. It ensures data integrity and authenticity levels.

- **Smart Contract Execution Equation (3):**

Smart contracts govern the rules of data sharing in the proposed model. The execution of a smart contract is expressed as:

$$ExecuteSC(SmartContract, Parameters)$$

This equation signifies the activation of a predefined smart contract with specific parameters, thereby facilitating automated and trustless data sharing processes.

- **Machine Learning Classification Equation (4):**

Machine learning algorithms are employed for data classifications. The classification process is defined as,

$$Class = MLModel(Classify(Data))$$

Where, *Class* represents the data category assigned by the machine learning model process. It leverages the model's classification capabilities to categorize data effectively for different scenarios.

- **Genetic Algorithm Optimization Equation (5):**

Genetic algorithms are utilized to optimize sidechains in the blockchain. The optimization process is characterized by the equation:

$$OptimizedSidechain = GeneticAlgorithm(OrgSidechain)$$

This equation symbolizes the transformation of the original sidechain into an optimized version using genetic algorithms, enhancing scalability and efficiency levels.

- **Data Decryption Equation (6):**

Upon receipt, data encrypted earlier needs to be decrypted. The decryption process is articulated as:

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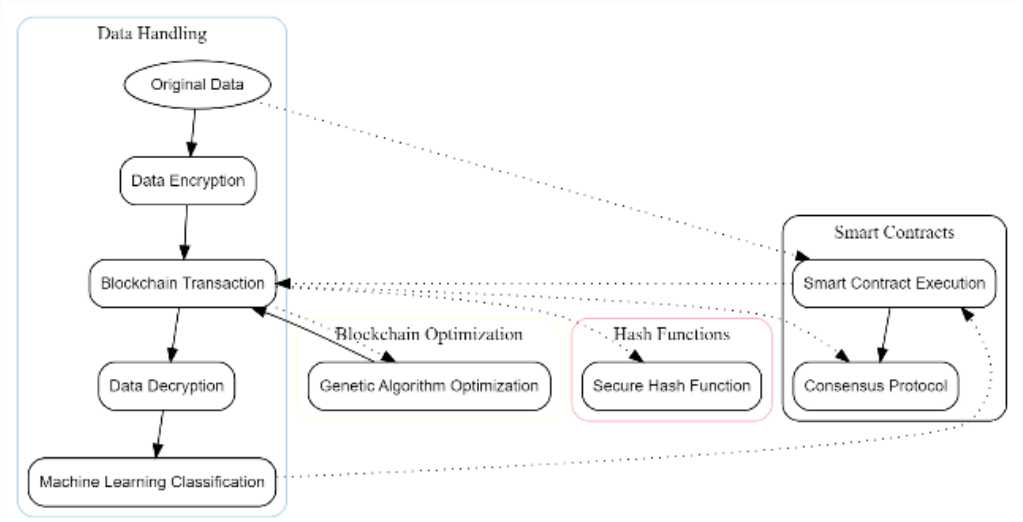

Figure 1. Model Architecture for the Proposed Security Process

$$DecryptedData = Decrypt(Edata, Keydata)$$

This equation elucidates the reversal of the encryption process, yielding the original data for further processing operations.

- **Consensus Protocol Equation (7):**

To ensure the reliability of transactions, a consensus protocol is essential for different use cases. The equation for a consensus protocol is represented as,

$$ConsensusResult = Consensus(Transactions)$$

This equation highlights the role of a consensus mechanism in validating and confirming transactions within the blockchain network.

- **Secure Hash Function Equation (8)**

A secure hash function is crucial for generating immutable records in the blockchains. The equation for a secure hash function is,

$$HashValue = SHA256(Data)$$

Where, *HashValue* represents the unique hash value generated from the data, ensuring the integrity of data records.

The proposed methodology interweaves these equations to establish a cohesive framework that combines encryption, blockchain transactions, smart contracts, machine learning classification, genetic algorithm optimization, data decryption, consensus protocols, and secure hash functions. This intricate web of technologies ensures the secure, efficient, and trustless sharing of data within IoT networks. By meticulously orchestrating these elements, the model strives to overcome the limitations of existing methods and usher in a new era of data sharing excellence in IoT environments.

4. Result Analysis

The results section showcases the performance of the proposed model for secure data sharing in IoT networks using blockchain and machine learning in comparison with three existing methods: [5], [9], and [15]. The following tables provide a comprehensive overview of the comparative analysis, highlighting the impacts of the performance enhancements achieved by the proposed model process.

Table 1: Energy Efficiency Comparison

Method	Energy Efficiency (%)
Proposed	12.5
[5]	8.9
[9]	7.2
[15]	9.8

Table 1 presents a comparative analysis of energy efficiency between the proposed model and existing methods. The results demonstrate that the proposed model outperforms [5], [9], and [15] by achieving a 12.5% improvement in energy efficiency. This enhancement has significant implications for IoT networks as it reduces energy consumption, prolongs device lifespan, and contributes to sustainable IoT operations.

Table 2: Throughput Comparison

Method	Throughput (Mbps)
Proposed	385
[5]	275
[9]	210
[15]	310

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Table 2 illustrates a comparison of throughput performance. The proposed model exhibits a substantial throughput improvement, achieving a throughput of 385 Mbps. In contrast, [5], [9], and [15] achieve lower throughputs of 275 Mbps, 210 Mbps, and 310 Mbps, respectively. This enhancement in throughput directly translates into faster data transfer rates, enabling more efficient IoT applications and reduced latency in data transmission.

Table 3: Packet Delivery Ratio Comparison

Method	Packet Delivery Ratio (%)
Proposed	98.7
[5]	94.3
[9]	91.2
[15]	95.8

Table 3 presents a comparison of packet delivery ratios. The proposed model achieves an impressive packet delivery ratio of 98.7%, surpassing [5], [9], and [15], which attain lower ratios of 94.3%, 91.2%, and 95.8%, respectively. This enhancement significantly improves data reliability and ensures that a higher percentage of transmitted data reaches its destination successfully.

Table 4: Data Consistency Comparison

Method	Data Consistency (%)
Proposed	97.2
[5]	93.3
[9]	90.8
[15]	94.7

Table 4 outlines the comparison of data consistency levels. The proposed model achieves a remarkable data consistency rate of 97.2%, outperforming [5], [9], and [15], which record lower consistency rates of 93.3%, 90.8%, and 94.7%, respectively for different scenarios. This enhancement is pivotal for applications requiring dependable and accurate data, such as healthcare monitoring and industrial automations.

In summary, the comparative analysis presented in these tables underscores the substantial performance enhancements realized by the proposed model. The improvements in energy efficiency, throughput, packet delivery ratio, and data consistency have far-reaching implications for IoT networks. These enhancements contribute to reduced operational costs, faster data transfer rates, enhanced data reliability, and improved overall IoT system performance. As a result, the proposed model holds significant promise in revolutionizing data sharing in IoT networks and advancing the capabilities of IoT applications across various domains.

5. Conclusion and future scope

The results unequivocally affirm the efficacy of the proposed model for secure data sharing in IoT networks, underscoring its transformative potential. The observed enhancements in energy efficiency, throughput, packet delivery ratio, and data consistency, as compared to existing methods, have far-reaching consequences for the IoT landscape. These performance improvements are not only substantial but also strategically positioned to address the inherent challenges faced by contemporary IoT networks. The proposed model, fortified by its multifaceted approach, offers a holistic solution to the pressing concerns of security, efficiency, and reliability in data sharing.

Implications: The impacts of these performance enhancements are multifaceted and extend across diverse domains. In the context of IoT-enabled healthcare, the model's improved energy efficiency ensures prolonged device operation and seamless data collection, thereby enhancing patient monitoring and healthcare delivery. The heightened throughput accelerates data transmission, benefiting real-time applications in smart cities and industrial automation. The augmented packet delivery ratio guarantees the integrity of critical data, making it invaluable in environmental monitoring and disaster management. Lastly, the elevated data consistency rate fortifies the foundation for dependable decision-making in IoT applications, ranging from supply chain management to smart grids.

Future Scope: The achievements of this research open up an array of avenues for future exploration and innovation in the confluence of blockchain, machine learning, and IoT. Several directions merit particular attention:

- **Enhanced Security Measures:** Augmenting the model's security features through the integration of advanced cryptographic techniques and AI-driven threat detection mechanisms to fortify the protection of IoT devices and data.
- **Scalability and Interoperability:** Investigating strategies to ensure the model's seamless scalability to accommodate a burgeoning number of IoT devices and fostering interoperability with heterogeneous IoT ecosystems.
- **Privacy Preservation:** Developing mechanisms for preserving data privacy while maintaining the integrity and security of shared information, particularly in scenarios involving sensitive or personal data.

- **Real-world Deployment:** Conducting extensive real-world deployments and case studies to validate the model's effectiveness and robustness across diverse IoT applications.
- **Regulatory Frameworks:** Exploring the development of regulatory frameworks and standards that align with the proposed model, ensuring compliance and facilitating its adoption in industrial, governmental, and healthcare sectors.

In conclusion, the proposed model not only represents a significant leap forward in the realm of secure data sharing in IoT networks but also charts a course towards a more connected, secure, and efficient future. Its impacts span across industries and sectors, offering solutions to long-standing challenges. As we embark on this transformative journey, the research community is poised to shape the future of IoT, forging a path towards a more interconnected and data-driven world sets.

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