

November 10, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter in support of Dr. Ehsan Tanghatari's application for the Postdoctoral position at the School of Computer Science, Institute for Research in Fundamental Sciences (IPM). My name is Mehdi Kamal, and I am a Research Scientist in the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Southern California. Prior to joining USC, I served as an Associate Professor in the School of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Tehran.

I have known Dr. Tanghatari since Fall 2018, when he joined the University of Tehran as a graduate student. He completed his Ph.D. thesis under the supervision of Prof. Afzali-Kusha and me in the Low-Power, High-Performance Nanosystems Laboratory. His research focused on federated learning and the use of knowledge distillation mechanisms to enhance the quality of training on resource-constrained edge devices. To support his work, he developed a federated learning framework based on TensorFlow and used it to evaluate his proposed methods. He also applied this framework to a set of edge devices for practical validation. His efforts have resulted in two journal publications. In addition to his research, Dr. Tanghatari mentored several master's students working on distributed training and DNN accelerators in our group. He also served as a teaching assistant for two of my courses—Digital Electronic Circuits and VLSI—where he contributed to homework design and computer-based assignments.

Based on my interactions with Dr. Tanghatari, I have found him to be an outstanding, talented, and hardworking individual who excels both independently and as part of a team. He consistently demonstrates strong problem-solving skills, creativity, and dedication to his work. I am confident that he will be an excellent postdoctoral fellow, performing exceptionally well in both research and teaching responsibilities. Therefore, I strongly recommend him for this Postdoctoral position.

Respectfully,

Mehdi Kamal
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