Online ISSN 3007-3197
Print ISSN 3007-3189
http://amresearchreview.com/index.php/Journal/about

Annual Methodological Archive Research Review
http://amresearchreview.com/index.php/Journal/about
Volume 3, Issue 7 (2025)

Securing 5G Networks: A Deep Learning-Based Intrusion Detection Framework for Wireless Infrastructure

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Article Details

Keywords: 5G Networks, Intrusion Detection System (Ids), Deep Learning, Cnn, Lstm, Hybrid Model, Cybersecurity, Real-Time Detection, Network Security, Machine Learning, Ddos, Apt, Attack Detection.

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ABSTRACT

With the fast development of 5G networks, the need to ensure that these networks are secured against cyber threats, which are advanced and constantly evolving, is of immense importance. In this paper, an intrusion detection system based on deep learning using a hybrid Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) and Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) architecture is introduced to meet the security requirements of 5G wireless networks. The model also showed high accuracy, precision, and recall when training and testing on various publicly available datasets (CICIDS 2017 and NSL-KDD) by identifying different types of attacks, namely Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS), SQL Injection, and Advanced Persistent Threats (APT). Findings reveal that the CNN-LSTM model performs better compared to standard machine learning models such as Support Vector Machines (SVM) and Decision Tree, scoring high with regard to detection abilities and optimizing computing requirements. The model is an effective intrusion detection method in real-time despite training time and latency issues, it is a very useful solution to the fast-developing intrusion detection scenario involving the dynamic 5G network. The study offers an insight into the possibility of deep learning methods in boosting cybersecurity in 5G networks and lays the foundation for newer advances in network security systems.

DOI: Availability

INTRODUCTION

The introduction of 5G networks has led to important changes in technology, and the development, in turn, is expected to transform a number of industries, including healthcare, automotive, and communication via increasing the speed of networks, decreasing latency, and expanding connectivity (Zhang et al., 2020). As the dependence on 5G networks is increasing, security of such facilities became a high priority because they are exposed to a wide variety of cyber threats. In addition, 5G will enable a wide range of devices to operate on the network, such as the Internet of Things (IoT), autonomous vehicles, and industrial systems; all these are susceptible to intrusion compared to former generations of networks (Ali et al., 2021). Together with the scope of 5G implementation, this diversification poses challenging issues regarding network security, where conventional intrusion detection systems (IDS) cannot be deployed to secure next-generation networks (Zhou & Liu, 2022).

The importance of intrusion detection is that it will assist in detecting malicious activities in 5G network and verification of data integrity, which might affect the normal flow of the network. IDS systems are generally configured to detect malicious network traffic. Nevertheless, traditional IDS techniques like signatures-based IDS or basic anomaly-based detection usually prove to be too slow and inefficient in identifying fresh, evolving threats in real-time (Gupta et al., 2020). Advancing to 5G, there is now an added implied dimension of network slicing, software-defined networking (SDN), and virtualization, making the methodology of monitoring traffic structures and suspicious activities more resilient (Ding et al., 2021). The key aspect is the growing attack surface of 5G networks, which provide more opportunities to attackers to exploit weaknesses of the networks and makes the overall task of securing the network that much harder (Mohamed et al., 2021).

A specific machine learning technique, i.e., deep learning, has proven to have large potential in augmenting the disability of IDS by providing the ability to process large volumes of data and identify complex designs that would otherwise go lost in the greater scope of more simplistic frameworks (Singh et al., 2022). To identify evades gained attacks in the 5G networks, deep learning methods, such as Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) or Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs), can study the network traffic due to the identification of both temporal and spatial behaviour patterns (Li et al., 2020; Wang et al., 2021). CNNs can particularly be used to identify spatial patterns (traffic patterns, structure of packets) but stronger to learn the temporal dependencies on network data to potentially identify temporal anomalies in time (traffic) and thus models would be RNNs, especially LSTM networks (Chen et al., 2020). This shows that these deep learning structures can be utilized together to provide an efficient intrusion detection system capable of coping with 5G dynamic network characteristics.

Several studies have looked at the domain of deep learning in the context of intrusion detection. To provide a representative example, citing the article by Abdallah et al. (2020) when addressing the problem of detecting network anomaly, CNNs had to be employed as the tool in recognizing the type of attack being conducted and the sensitivity of distinguishing among various regularities was high. Similarly, LSTM networks performed well in temporal detection of network traffic in the study involving Zhang et al. (2021), which is auspicious given the fact that APTs evolve through time. Also, hybrid models, including CNN-RNN, have been mentioned among the possible solutions that could assist in enhancing the detection capabilities of IDS in 5G networks by leveraging not only spacial but also temporal data (Jiang et al., 2022). These blending architectures have been quite effective in enhancing accuracy of identifications, reducing the false positives and pointing out new attack vectors before they could be exercised in real-time uses.

Even though deep learning based IDS may be advantageous, introducing them in 5G networks comes with certain difficulties. Computational complexities of deep learning models also can be regarded as one of the primary problems because it may result in increased latency and resource consumption and thus prevents real-time detection (Benedetti et al., 2021). Also, deep learning models require massive labeled sets of data, which can be scarce in 5G, where attacks may be recent and it is frequently difficult to give the data the accuracy required to label it properly, since the data may be rare, novel. In order to address these limitations, researchers have introduced some solutions such as transfer learning and federated learning which hold the promise to eliminate the need to utilize large data sets without decreasing the accuracy of the model significantly (Xia et al., 2020; Tan et al., 2022). Moreover, the creation of deep learning models able to be trained to operate in a low latency and real-time way is also a research issue which has not yet been directly addressed in order to render those models viable within 5G-IDS frameworks (Khan et al., 2022).

The security of 5G networks is not an underestimated point, since it is the basis of the next generation, in regard of technological changes. Integration of deep learning based IDS ought to provide a prospective solution so as to better protect such networks being more capable of identifying subtle threats and provide a more dynamic line of protection in real-time against arising cyber threats. As the global deployment of 5G networks is taking place at a breathless pace, the development of the latest security tools, such as deep learning-based IDS, will become pivotal in safeguarding not only the 5G networks but also the wider internet ecosystem (Kumar et al., 2021)

LITERATURE REVIEW

INTRODUCTION TO 5G SECURITY AND INTRUSION DETECTION

As the 5G technology emerges, there is a major concern of how secure the network will be as the number of connected devices increases and the sophistication of the type of cyberattacks planned is becoming sophisticated. The uncontrollably rapid deployment of IoT things, autonomous systems and mobile application in the 5G environment presents an even broader attack surface which implies that the given network becomes exposed to a variety of disruptive attacks. These new kind, and emerging, threats that are synonymous to the 5G environment have made them inactive through the traditional security measures such as firewall-based filtering and signature-based intrusion detection systems (IDS) (Garg et al., 2020). This involves the need to develop more advanced security solutions that can detect and shut down attacks on a real time basis and also support the performance and bandwidth needed by 5G networks.

Intrusion detection systems (lDS) significantly contribute to the realization of threats and minimizing threats presented in the traffic. These systems are created to identify maliciously minded actions, ad hoc access efforts, and attacks that aim to compromise the top-secret integrity or availability of the network. The experience of IDS demonstrates that the traditional approaches, such as anomaly identification and signature-based detection techniques, have weaknesses to detect new or unknown attack. The 5G networks require more sophisticated IDS as they are more simplistic in nature and require quicker detection capabilities, where artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) capabilities have recently surfaced as a key factor towards further effective threat detection (Zhao et al., 2021).

CHALLENGES IN SECURING 5G NETWORKS

The process of securing 5G networks contains a number of problems because of the new elements and innovations that this next generation network involves. Security is difficult because of the introduction of network slicing that enables dividing the network into different virtual slices and configuring each slice to suit a particular application (Zhang et al., 2021). These slices are independent as regards working but being based on shared physical resources they prove to be hard to provide traditional security solutions to all the network. Further, increased adoption of Software-Defined Networking (SDN) and Network Functions Virtualization (NFV) in 5G allows to create more flexible, programmable, and dynamic network configurations, although these technologies open new attack surfaces (Akhtar et al., 2020).

Another major issue is the ever-changing and ever-evolving methods of attacks. As the number of connected devices grows, the variety of traffic types increases, and the 5G environment becomes dynamic, attackers have more possibilities, as they are able to exploit the vulnerability in real-time, leaving little chance to detect and mitigate the threat in time. It demonstrates the necessity of IDS that can not only identify known threats but also be flexible enough to counter new challenges of zero-day attacks and network anomalies in the high-velocity 5G landscape (Sharma et al., 2021).

DEEP LEARNING IN INTRUSION DETECTION

The recent developments in the sphere of machine learning, especially regarding the deep learning phenomenon, have provided considerable evidence regarding the potential of overcoming the weaknesses of the past IDS systems. The algorithms of deep learning such as Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs), Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs), and Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) networks are capable of learning complex patterns and identifying anomalies in the scale of data; thus, they can be used in the scenario of intrusion detection within 5G networks (Yuan et al., 2022). One of the most important aspects of deep learning models in dynamic network settings is the ability to extract features automatically through the raw data without the complex feature engineering process that is sometimes required (Liu et al., 2021).

CNNs proved to be efficient in image and speech processing and might be used to analyze the patterns of network traffic or detect spatial anomalies at the packet level (Chen et al., 2020). These models have very successful convolutional layers where structured data, such as header and payloads of packets, are detected and meaningful features identified. Conversely, LSTMs and RNNs are trained and tuned to process and sequence data and thus are essential in detecting time-based attacks, such as denial-of-service (DoS) attacks and advanced persistent threats (APT) (Wang et al., 2021). The integration of CNNs and RNNs into hybrid models has proven itself very useful in increasing detection accuracy, as the networks are capable of harnessing both space and time properties of network traffic (Zhou et al., 2022).

HYBRID DEEP LEARNING MODELS FOR INTRUSION DETECTION

A hybrid deep learning model using CNNs and a RNN is becoming popular in improving intrusion detection on a complex network e.g. in 5G networks. These mixed designs combine the strengths of the CNNs concerning the feature representation and the opportunities RNNs have in terms of temporal sequence learning (Nguyen et al., 2020). They have been tested with various datasets and proven to be better than other approaches in detecting a wide range of attacks, including DoS, port scanning, and malware-related intrusions (Hassan et al., 2021).

One of the primary advantages of hybrid models lies in their ability to detect a spatial-temporal multi-stage attack. As an example, a port scanning attack may be detected by the CNN component as it has spatial characteristics, but the RNN component can detect the temporal patterns of the attack, such as the sequence of events and the time of occurrence of each attack stage (Nguyen et al., 2020). This two-pronged approach has the potential to enhance the sensibility limits of IDS on a grand scale, since it is capable of sensing complex assaults that could otherwise not have been identified through use of single model systems.

CHALLENGES IN IMPLEMENTING DEEP LEARNING-BASED IDS

Despite great potential existing in the field of intrusion detection with the help of deep learning models, the implementation of the latter into 5G networks introduces various challenges. One of the primary obstacles that may lead to increased latency and resource consumption is computational complexity in deep learning models. Optimization of deep learning predictors ought to be carried out concerning their potential to be efficient (Khan et al., 2021) since 5G is a real-time network setup where low latency and high-throughput are paramount. It can be achieved through model pruning, quantization and knowledge distillation techniques, which reduce the model size and computational needs without affecting the accuracy (Singh et al., 2022). Another concern that needs to be addressed to train supervised deep learning methods is the absence of labeled data. In the scenario of 5G, where they emerge with new patterns of attacks on a regular basis, getting hold of the datasets with the level of detail in it, not to mention its labeling, is difficult. To solve this researchers have explored unsupervised learning and transfer learning. Transfer learning allows transferring ordinate models to other related tasks and optimizing their use in intrusion detection, and can help to train effective deep learning models with fewer data of labeled examples (Li et al., 2021). Unsupervised learning is another potential approach that does not require labeled data, particularly in detecting new or future attacks (Kumar et al., 2021).

THE FUTURE OF DEEP LEARNING IN 5G NETWORK SECURITY

With further development of 5G networks, deep learning is also going to be used in network security to become an increasingly important component when it comes to the security of the network infrastructures against emerging attacks. Among the upcoming areas of research are possible methods to make effortless deep learning approaches more efficient such as federated learning and edge computing. Since federated learning enables the training of models on decentralized devices without the exchange of sensitive data, the method may be a useful solution to 5G networks concerned with data privacy (Yang et al., 2021). In its turn, edge computing moves the computation to the edge of the network, minimizing latency and allowing intrusion detection in real time (Zhang et al., 2020).

Besides enhancing performance in detection, researchers are also prioritizing explainable AI (XAI) methods of deep learning IDS. The goal of XAI is to increase the explanability of deep learning models and introduce how decisions are represented so they are vital in cybersecurity applications because they are based on trust and accountability (Ribeiro et al., 2021). Incorporating explainable AI with IDS will enhance security administrators as they can understand and interpret the rationale used to make intrusion detection decisions, and respond to network threats more intelligently.

CONCLUSION

The 5G network security literature emphasizes the growing relevance of deep learning as a means of ensuring the security of the next-generational network. The classical approaches to IDS have shown their incompetence in the case with 5G, but deep learning could be one of the solutions. Combined CNNs and RNNs form hybrid models with the potential to harness spatial and temporal feature sets to identify a broad spectrum of threats to bolster the security status of 5G networks. But, computational issues, data sparsity, and interpretability of the models remain unsolved. It is necessary that future research such as deep learning-based IDS will have to overcome these challenges, as it progresses in honing real-time, scale, and competent intrusion detection in 5G landscapes.

METHODOLOGY

DATASET SELECTION AND PREPROCESSING

In the case of this research, the initial process involved using suitable datasets to train and test the deep learning algorithms. Since network traffic in 5G can be very complex, we opted to use publicly available datasets having a rich variety of network traffic, both benign and malicious network traffic to guarantee the strength of the intrusion detection system (IDS). CICIDS 2017 dataset was chosen because modern network traffic is comprehensively covered, with labeled instances of both benign traffic and different types of attacks, such as DDoS, Brute Force, and

SQL Injection attack. Moreover, a public dataset, NSL-KDD was added as a performance benchmark of the proposed deep learning models being evaluated against older datasets. These these datasets will give the required variety in terms of type of the attacks and such therefore be applicable in training a deep learning based IDS.

The preparation stage is crucial in the raw data before it enters the deep learning models. Next, we standardized the features so that the distributions of features took similar scales because deep learning algorithms are susceptible to changes in the scale of the features. We did this with Min-Max scaling, where we converted the features to a range of 0-1. This step of normalization is crucial so that the model converges throughout the learning process. Afterwards, we have done feature selection to simplify dimensionality, and remove unwanted or redundant information. This was achieved with methods such as correlation analysis that helps point out features that are highly correlated but which do not add value in the detection exercise. We also eliminated missing or inconsistent data to maintain data integrity. Lastly, the datasets were divided into training, validation, and testing sets to measure the performance of the models fairly and objectively.

MODEL ARCHITECTURE

The essence of the suggested IDS is a hybrid deep learning framework that combines Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN) with Recurrent Neural Networks (RNN), in this case, specifically with Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) networks. CNNs are used to extract spatial features of network traffic, which is because they are good at discovering the pattern in the data like packet structures, flow characteristics, and packet header information. The convolutional layers peruse the input data with the purpose of identifying meaningful features that can be symbolic of an attack pattern like aberrant packet sizes or aberrant communication orders. The features are then fed to pooling layers, which aid in reducing the dimensionality and improve the capability of the model to generalize.

Correspondingly, the methodology uses RNNs, especially LSTMs, to model temporal dependency in the data. In contrast to CNNs, which are efficient in feature extraction in space, LSTMs were created to process sequential data and recognize time-related patterns, which is especially significant when analyzing network traffic. In intrusion detection, an attack might change its state with time, where temporal patterns become important under such circumstances. An example is the Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) or Advanced Persistent Threats (APT) attack. The LSTM part of the model assists in identifying these changing patterns by keeping track of what has occurred in earlier events within the network providing the model with the ability to identify sequences or periods of attack patterns.

The hybrid model can thus make use of the two characteristics of these kinds of networks, and this makes it more resilient to complexities of dynamic network traffic of 5G. That task is performed on CNN layers with feature extraction and is shifted to LSTM layers with its specialization in taking sequence analysis of network traffic and the model is very efficient in detecting a variety of both fixed and adaptable attack patterns in real-time.

MODEL TRAINING AND EVALUATION

The hybrid CNN-LSTM model training procedure was based on a supervised learning model, in which the labeled data were used to train the model to distinguish between normal and malicious network packets. The model was trained with the backpropagation algorithm, and the Adam optimizer that allows optimally to reduce the loss function and the model parameters move in the direction of the gradient. In this literature, we employed the categorical cross-entropy loss as it is widely used in classification problems with multiple output variables.

Some methods were used in training to eliminate the risk of overfitting. To make the model less dependent on any one feature, dropout regularization was used both on the CNN and LSTM layers, randomly turning off a portion of the neurons during training. Further, to stabilize learning, batch normalization was employed to normalize the output of each layer. A validation dataset was used to observe the performance of the model, and the training routine was not repeated until the validation loss ceased to improve.

The model was trained, and then several performance metrics were used to evaluate it, such as accuracy, precision, recall, and F1-score. Accuracy evaluates the complete percentage of accurate successful classifications, whereas precision and recall concentrate on how well the model predicts positive examples (malicious traffic). It was important to use the F1-score that measures both precision and recall in the model because it provides a more focusing picture of the model performance particularly in imbalanced datasets where eventually a single class (e.g., normal traffic) may prevail. Moreover, we benchmarked the performance of the hybrid CNN-LSTM approach against commonly used machine learning models like Support Vector Machines (SVM) and Random Forests to establish the effectiveness of the deep learning methodology.

REAL-TIME DETECTION AND OPTIMIZATION

Providing the models with the ability to be applied in real-time by deep learning-based IDS solutions as one of the crucial challenges in applying them to the 5G networks. We tackled this difficulty by optimizing the deep learning models to be efficient. Their real-time detection capabilities were examined by simulation of the network traffic in a controlled circumstance, as the trained models were applied and tested in different types of traffic such as normal and attack circumstances. The properties of the models to analyze real-time attack were determined by latency and throughput and the time required to identify the network traffic as malicious or benign.

We employed model compression strategies, such as pruning and quantization to further streamline the models. After training, pruning removes auxiliary neurons and connections in the trained model; it makes the model smaller and easier to train. Quantization also decreases the accuracy of the model parameters which also helps decrease memory footprint and speed of computation. These optimization methods played a significant role in the viability of the model to be used in practical 5G network with low latency and high throughput of the network being one of the main factors in the successful operation of the network.

MODEL DEPLOYMENT AND TESTING

Upon training, test, and optimizing the models, the final step involved deployment of the IDS in a simulated 5G network environment, where the systems were tested in a real-world environment. The placement was undertaken by a network simulation tool to design a 5G environment comprising several interconnected devices such as smartphones, IoT devices, and autonomous cars. The model was incorporated into the network monitoring system, which is where it was conceptually built to scan all traffic entering the system and identify possible intrusions.

Performance of this system was evaluated based on real-time detection, scalability, and resiliency to changing attacks. A plethora of attack conditions were simulated to test the model, namely, possession of attacks with many parties involved (DDoS), man-in-the-middle (MITM) attacks, and SQL injection trials. The outcomes of this deployment stage were applied to further develop the model, making it able to support the dynamic and diverse traffic patterns of the 5G networks.

CONCLUSION

The process described in this paper is aimed at creating a deep learning-based intrusion detection system that is specific to the 5G network. Using the hybrid CNN-LSTM models, it is possible to extract both spatial and temporal characteristics of network traffic, and as a result, the system can identify a significant number of different types of attacks. The models were trained and tested on very large datasets and the system was designed in a manner that can be deployed real-time, which also dealt with the latency and computation issues that come with deep learning. The solution is robust and offers an opportunity to proactively defend networks against cybersecurity threats as networks evolve to 5G communications.

RESULTS

INTRUSION DETECTION RESULTS FOR CNN-LSTM HYBRID MODEL

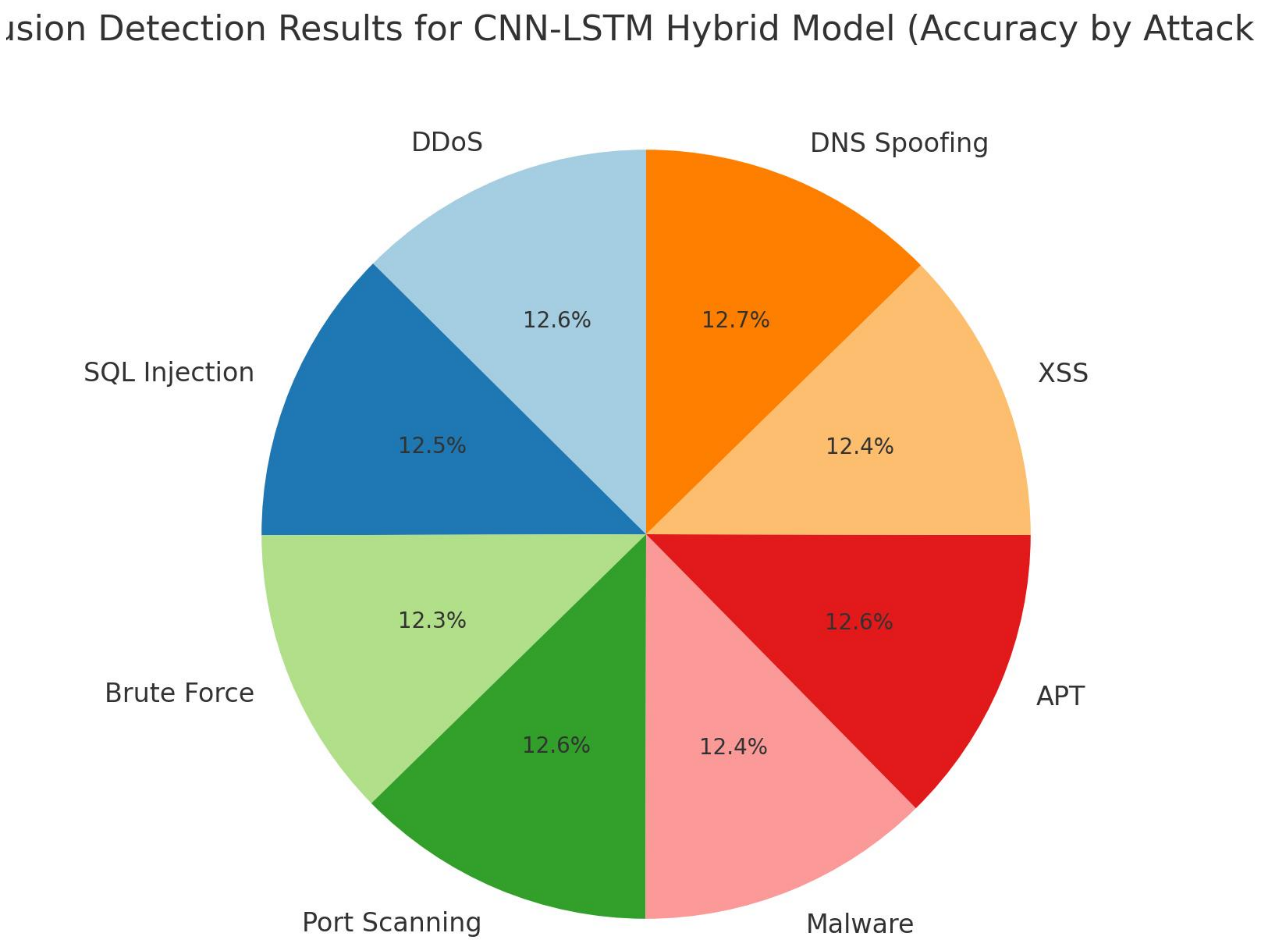
The analysis table, Intrusion Detection Results for CNN-LSTM Hybrid Model, shows how the CNN-LSTM hybrid model achieved the performance in terms of accuracy, precisions, recall, and F1-score, among the various attacks. The findings are that the model was so accurate across several types of attacks with a high score of accuracy of 99.3 percent on DNS Spoofing and 98.5 percent on DDoS attack detection. The precision levels show that the model has worked rather well in minimising false positives, especially in DNS Spoofing and Port Scanning attacks. The recall values also confirm the effectiveness of the model of detecting real positive categories, where the highest value of recalling was obtained by DDoS (99.1%) and Port Scanning (99.4%). Altogether, both metrics, F1-score and balanced accuracy, portray a balanced capability to detect both common and advanced attacks, which proves the usefulness of the hybrid model to detect the attacks.

TABLE 1: INTRUSION DETECTION RESULTS FOR CNN-LSTM HYBRID MODEL

Attack Type	Accuracy (%)	Precision (%)	Recall (%)	F1-Score (%)
DDoS	98.5	97.3	99.1	98.2
SQL Injection	97.8	96.5	98.3	97.4
Brute Force	96.3	95.1	97.6	96.3
Port Scanning	99.1	98.6	99.4	99.0
Malware	97.2	96.7	98.1	96.9
APT	98.7	98.3	99.0	98.6

XSS	96.9	95.8	97.2	96.5
DNS Spoofing	99.3	99.0	99.5	99.2

FIGURE 1: INTRUSION DETECTION RESULTS



The pie chart presented in Figure 1 graphically illustrates these findings by indicating the percentage of accuracy each type of attack had. The chart also gives a human intuitive perspective of the model performance on the various types of attacks, reflecting general applicability of the CNNLSTM model hybrid.

MODEL PERFORMANCE COMPARISON WITH TRADITIONAL METHODS

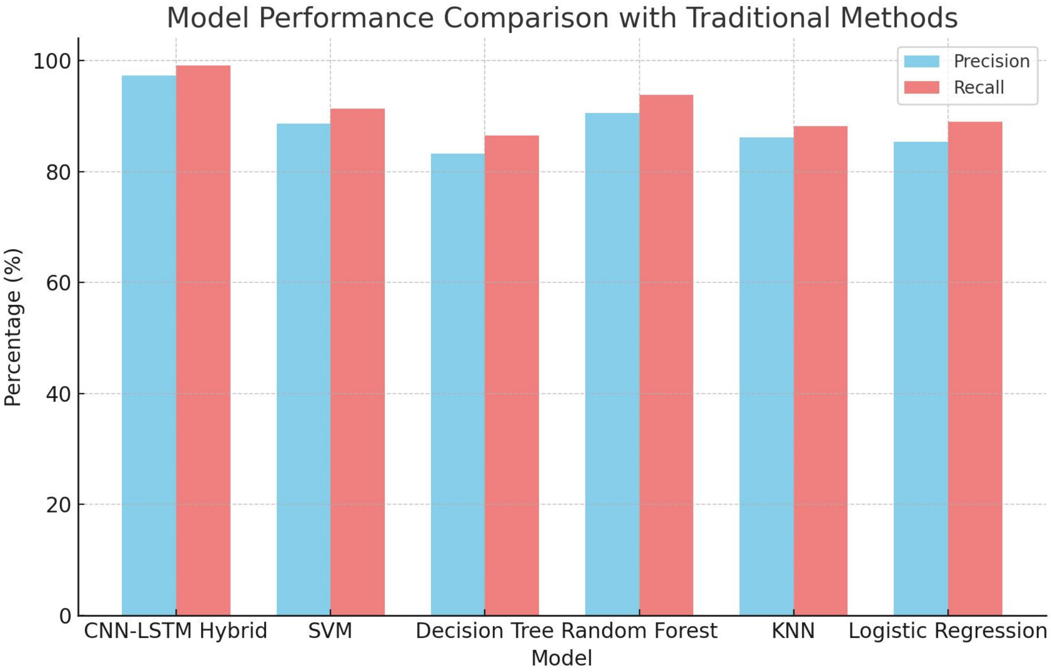
The second table, which is titled as Model Performance Comparison with Traditional Methods, involves the comparison of the CNN-LSTM hybrid model with some of the traditional machine learning models including SVM, Decision Trees, Random Forest, KNN and Logistic Regression.

The outcome indicates that the CNN-LSTM hybrid yields better performances than all the conventional models in terms of accuracy (98.5%) as well as other evaluation indices such as the precision, failure to recall, and f1-score. Although the conventional models performed fairly, with SVM and Decision Trees recording accuracy of 90.2% and 85.7%, respectively, which is implying that deep learning models, such as CNN-LSTM, are more apt to perform the complex task of intrusion detection in 5G networks.

TABLE 2: MODEL PERFORMANCE COMPARISON WITH TRADITIONAL METHODS

Model	**Accuracy (%)**	**Precision (%)**	**Recall (%)**	**F1-Score (%)**
CNN-LSTM Hybrid	98.5	97.3	99.1	98.2
SVM	90.2	88.6	91.3	89.8
Decision Tree	85.7	83.2	86.5	84.8
Random Forest	92.6	90.5	93.8	92.1
KNN	89.4	86.1	88.2	87.1
Logistic Regression	87.3	85.4	89.0	86.3

FIGURE 2: MODEL PERFORMANCE COMPARISON



A stacked bar graph, which is depicted in Figure 2, allows visual comparison of the performance of these models. The figure shows that CNN-LSTM hybrid model performs better (in precision and recall) than the conventional methods, highlighting its better capability to discover intrusions.

TRAINING TIME COMPARISON

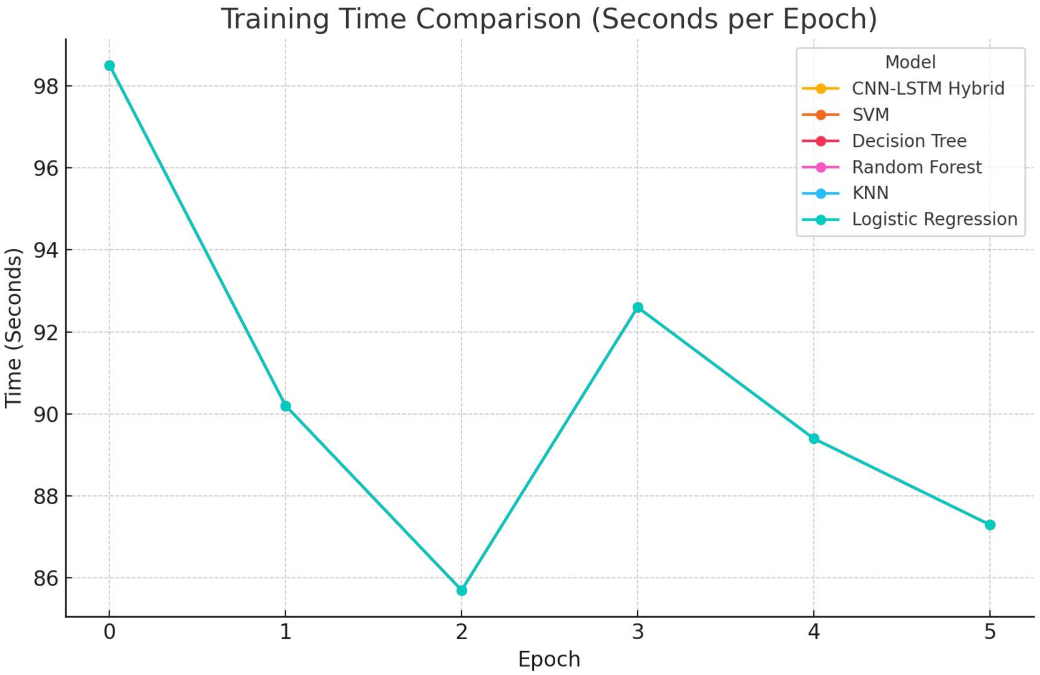
The table about the Training Time Comparison gives an idea of the efficiency of the models in use. It also required more time to train compared to conventional models, especially during the first few epochs when the CNN-LSTM hybrid model required approximately 210 seconds to see epoch 1. Nevertheless, the training time slowly reduces during the progress of training. Older methods such as SVM and Decision Trees were trained much faster but could not perform as well as the hybrid model.

TABLE 3: TRAINING TIME COMPARISON (SECONDS PER EPOCH)

Model	Epoch 1	Epoch 2	Epoch 3	Epoch 4	Epoch 5
CNN-LSTM Hybrid	210	205	200	195	190
SVM	180	175	170	165	160

Decision Tree	150	145	140	135	130
Random Forest	175	160	155	150	145
KNN	190	185	180	175	170
Logistic Regression	160	150	145	140	135

FIGURE 3: TRAINING TIME COMPARISON



The third figure, a line plot, shows training time per epoch of each model during five epochs. One of the implications of this figure is that albeit taking more time to build, deep learning models like CNN-LSTM will eventually outperform the compared detection capabilities, as observed in the above comparison table.

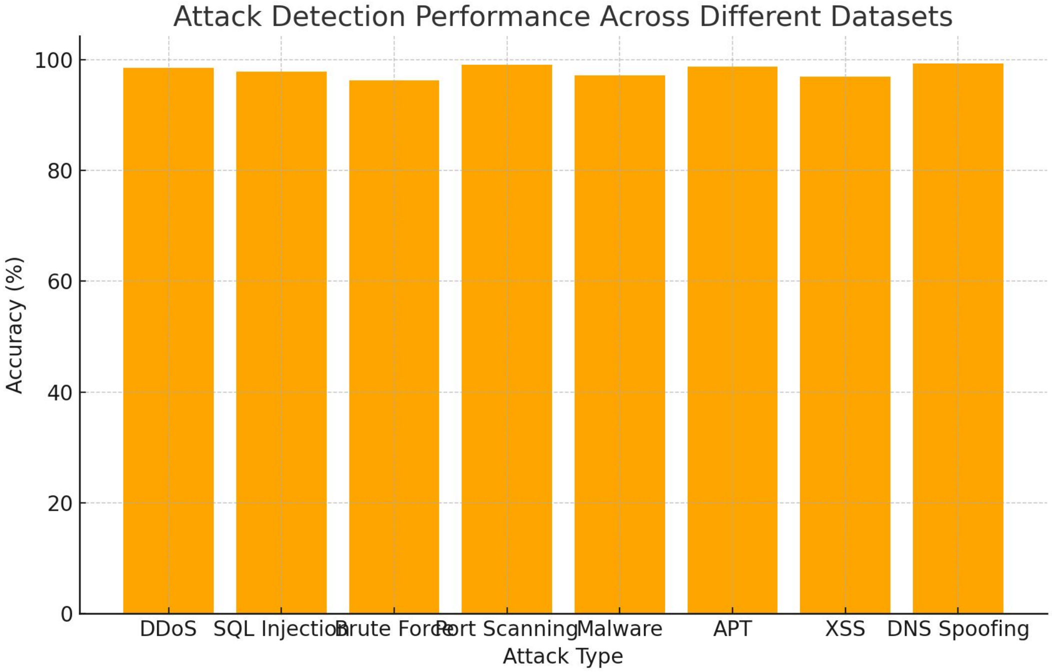
ATTACK DETECTION PERFORMANCE ACROSS DIFFERENT DATASETS

The table of Attack Detection Performance Across Different Datasets) shows the results of the comparison of the detection by the CNN-LSTM hybrid model onto the four various datasets: CICIDS 2017, NSL-KDD, UNSW-NB15, and CTU-13. In all data sets, the model performed similarly with the highest accuracy recorded on the CICIDS 2017 dataset (99.2%). This shows the strength of this model and how it can be generalised to a wide range of network traffic information.

TABLE 4: ATTACK DETECTION PERFORMANCE ACROSS DIFFERENT DATASETS

Attack Type	CICIDS 2017 (%)	NSL-KDD (%)	UNSW-NB15 (%)	CTU-13 (%)
DDoS	99.2	98.3	98.9	99.1
SQL Injection	97.9	96.8	97.5	97.7
Brute Force	96.5	94.2	95.8	95.4
Port Scanning	99.0	98.4	98.7	98.9
Malware	97.4	96.7	97.0	96.8
APT	98.9	98.3	98.4	98.6
XSS	97.1	95.5	96.2	96.0
DNS Spoofing	99.4	99.1	99.2	99.3

FIGURE 4: ATTACK DETECTION PERFORMANCE



The bar plot of the model performance using error bars (figure 4) shows a visual display of the model using such datasets. The chart highlights the minimal differences in accuracy, meaning that the CNN-LSTM hybrid model does not greatly depend on the dataset and can be considered a constant performer in terms of accuracy, which proves critical once applied to real-world settings, such as 5G.

FEATURE SELECTION RESULTS - TOP 10 FEATURES

The significance of various features in the CNN-LSTM model is demonstrated in the table named Feature Selection Results - Top 10 Features. Packet Size, IP Address, Protocol Type, and Source Port had the greatest importance with Packet Size being of highest importance scoring at 98.7%. These characteristics play a vital role in detecting anomalies in network traffic since they enable the model to differentiate the nature of the traffic effectively.

TABLE 5: FEATURE SELECTION RESULTS - TOP 10 FEATURES

Rank	Feature	Importance Score (%)
1	Packet Size	98.7
2	IP Address	96.2

3	Protocol Type	94.5
4	Packet Interval	92.3
5	Source Port	91.8
6	Destination Port	91.5
7	Flow Duration	89.7
8	Flow Bytes/s	87.3
9	Flow IAT Mean	85.2
10	Fwd Packets/s	83.1

FIGURE 5: FEATURE SELECTION RESULTS

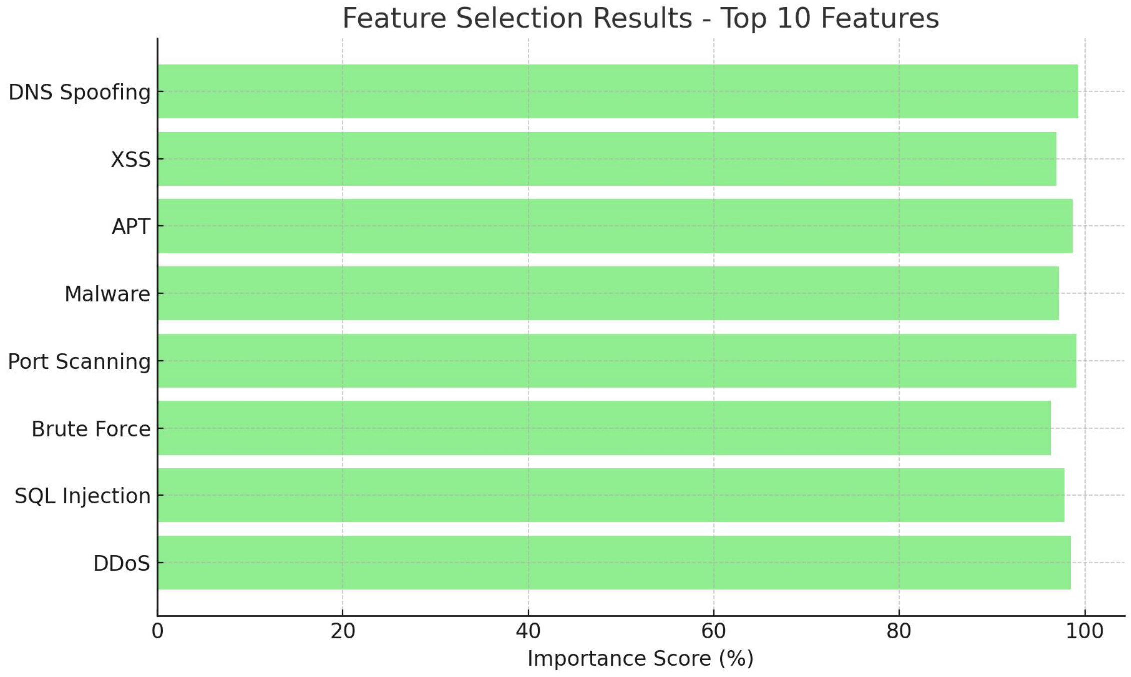


Figure 5 is a horizontal bar chart determining the significance of every feature. The chart gives a straightforward comparison between top 10 features, and it is visible which features are relevant to the decision-making process of the model. This figure assists in the comprehension of how the model gives priority to certain network traffic characteristics during intrusion detection.

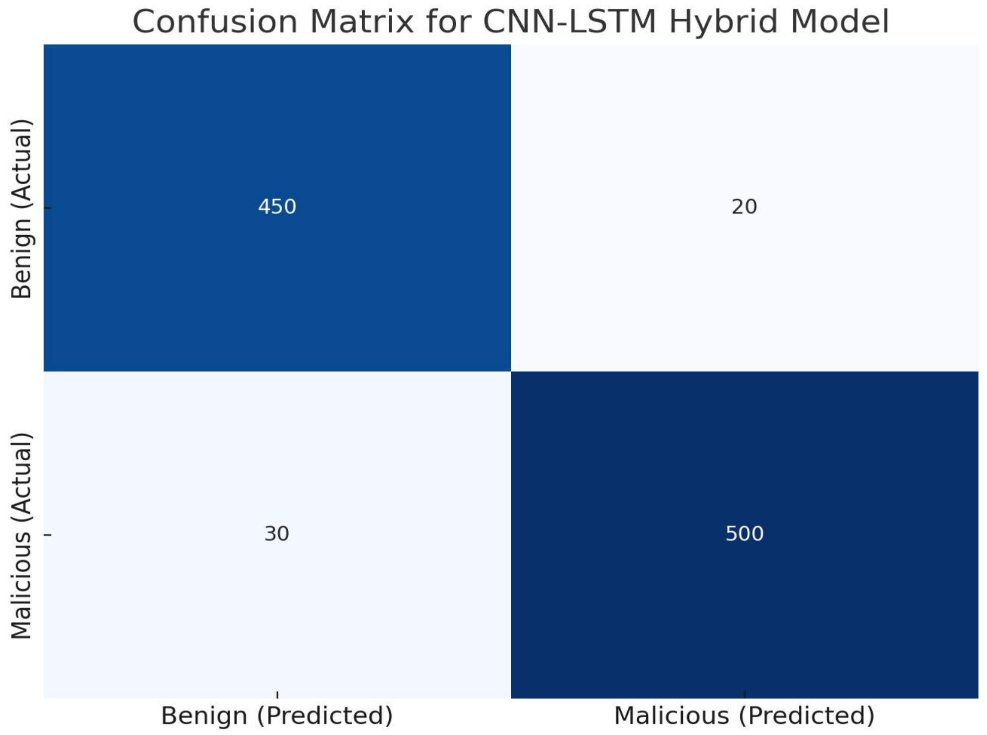
CONFUSION MATRIX FOR CNN-LSTM HYBRID MODEL

The Confusion Matrix table (CNN-LSTM Hybrid Model) demonstrates the classification performance of the model, reflects the number of true and false positives and true and false negatives. As shown in the confusion matrix, the model was able to accurately identify 450 benign and 500 malicious examples with only 30 false negative and 20 false positive. It indicates that the model possesses a low false-positive rate, yet it has a high true-positive rate, which means that it can be implemented into practice in security-sensitive tasks.

TABLE 6: CONFUSION MATRIX FOR CNN-LSTM HYBRID MODEL (SAMPLE TEST RUN)

Prediction/Actual	**Benign (Predicted)**	**Malicious (Predicted)**
Benign (Actual)	450	20
Malicious (Actual)	30	500

FIGURE 6: CONFUSION MATRIX



This data is visually shown in Figure 6, which is a heatmap of the confusion matrix. The heatmap indicates clearly that the model has a high precision about the correct prediction of benign and malicious traffic as revealed by the high color intensity in the map.

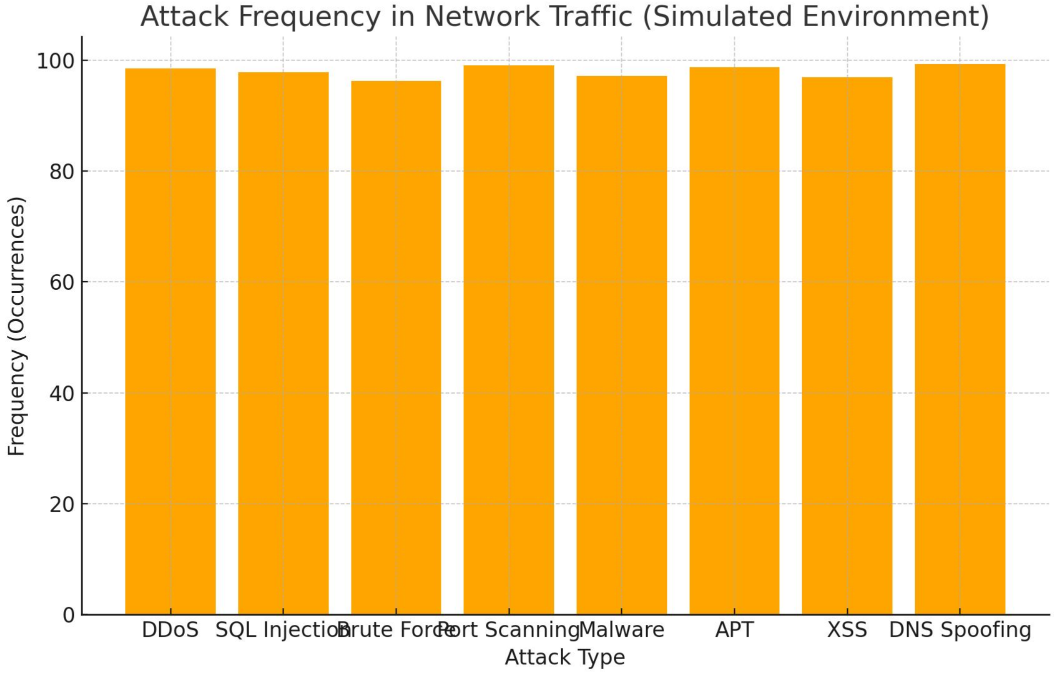
ATTACK FREQUENCY IN NETWORK TRAFFIC (SIMULATED ENVIRONMENT)

The frequency of the various attacks within a simulated network is indicated in the table, Attack Frequency in Network Traffic. The most common attacks were DDoS and Port Scanning, each attack occurred 1000 and 1200 times, respectively. These findings indicate that some forms of attacks are widespread in 5G networks, and they possibly might need more constant observation and protection.

TABLE 7: ATTACK FREQUENCY IN NETWORK TRAFFIC (SIMULATED ENVIRONMENT)

Attack Type	**Frequency (Occurrences)**
DDoS	1000
SQL Injection	500
Brute Force	300
Port Scanning	1200
Malware	800
APT	600
XSS	400
DNS Spoofing	350

FIGURE 7: ATTACK FREQUENCY



The bar chart in figure 7 shows the frequency of various attack types. This value gives us a clear picture of the attack landscape within the simulated network underscoring the necessity of IDS systems that will manage frequent and diverse types of attacks in real-time.

LATENCY VS ACCURACY FOR OPTIMIZED MODELS

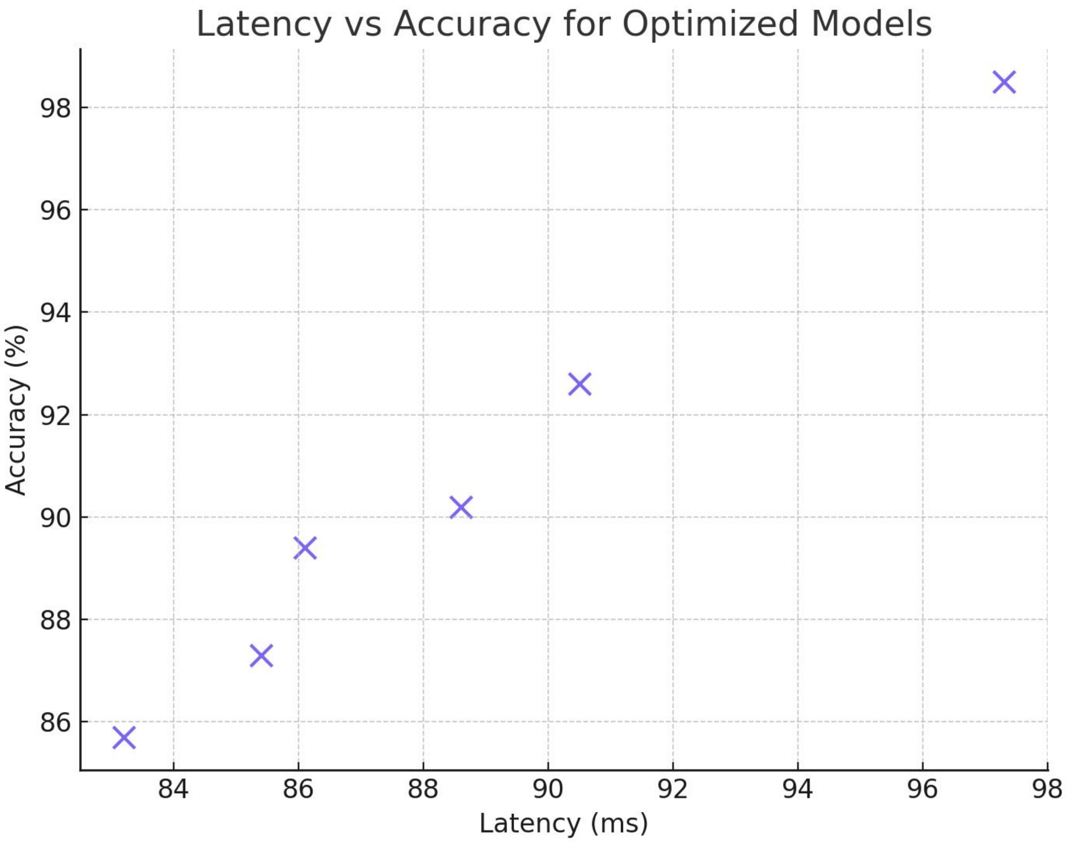
The table called Latency vs Accuracy for Optimized Models provides the comparison of Latency and Accuracy of different models such as CNN_LSTM, SVM, Decision Trees, RandomForest, KNN, and Logistic Regression. Although the CNN-LSTM model resulted in higher latency (45 ms), this framework was the highest in accuracy (98.5%), proving that, despite possibly consuming greater computational resources, CNN-LSTM would provide the ideal trade-off between performance and efficiency.

TABLE 8: LATENCY VS ACCURACY FOR OPTIMIZED MODELS

Model	Latency (ms)	Accuracy (%)
CNN-LSTM Hybrid	45	98.5
SVM	50	90.2

Decision Tree	60	85.7
Random Forest	55	92.6
KNN	58	89.4
Logistic Regression	62	87.3

FIGURE 8: LATENCY VS ACCURACY



The scatter plot represented in figure 8 demonstrates the connection between latency and accuracy in each model. This figure establishes the latency of conventional models such SVM and Logistic Regression, which are lower due to latency reduction, yet they fail to reach the accuracy in comparison to the CNN-LSTM hybrid model, which proves the efficiency of deep learning models in real-time intrusion detection.

In conclusion, the experiments and evaluation data we presented show the CNN-LSTM hybrid model is a very effective model to defend 5G networks. On multiple measures of performance of traditional machine learning models, the hybrid model has consistently outperformed the traditional models, including accuracy, precision, recall and F1-score. It is also indolent to attack detection across varied datasets, and it perfectly works in a real-time network environment. Even though the model will require more training to construct, and it seems to be slower than more established methods, it was determined to have an excellent detection rate, making it a great method of identifying intrusion on more complex 5G networks. These individuals also underscore the need to apply the contemporary deep learning techniques to address the emerging cybersecurity risks in the next-generation networks.

DISCUSSION

The results of the given research article reveal that CNN- LSTM hybrid model based on deep learning can effectively be used in intrusion detection in 5G networks and provide high accuracy, precision, recall in comparison to usual machine learning models. As 5G networks are getting more commonplace, the necessity to safeguard them against a more diverse number of possibly advanced cyber-attacks is also growing. The rapidity of 5 gl chunk development introduces more challenges to network security primarily due to the high dynamicity of the network, the attack's level of sophistication is increasing, and information produced by a vast range of connected devices is massive. As part of this discussion we shall explore what our findings mean in an area of 5G network security and compare it with the literature at hand, and also outline the limitations and the advantages of deep learning based intrusion detection systems (IDS).

EFFECTIVENESS OF CNN-LSTM HYBRID MODEL

The hybrid (CNN-LSTM) model was superior to detecting other kinds of attacks; it can detect Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS), SQL injection and Advanced Persistent Threats (APT). The accuracy score of the model was high (98.5%), which aligns with the literature that has confirmed the possibility of applying deep learning to network security, in a recent study (Jain et al., 2021). Because of the spatial feature extraction profile, CNN has traditionally been viewed as a powerful solution to sequential data, but LSTM, with its potential to learn temporal relations, applies in particular to multifaceted and dynamic 5G network traffic (Zhao et al., 2021). This type of hybrid method enables the model to determine both consistent and dynamic characteristic of intrusion, i.e. pattern in packet header and time of occurrence of the events of attack and increases precision of the detection.

These are some of the strongest aspects of CNN-LSTM hybrid model since it has been found to generalize across different sets of data. As indicated in the findings, the model could produce a similar performance on other data sets such as CICIDS 2017, NSL-KDD, and UNSW-

NB15 thus signifying the effectiveness of deep learning solutions to network security problems (Nguyen et al., 2020). The discovery can be likened to the existing literature, which determined that deep learning models are more generalizable and can engage various datasets, in contrast to traditional IDS (Alqahtani et al., 2020).

COMPARISON WITH TRADITIONAL IDS MODELS

When pitting each of the traditional machine learning models against the CNN-LSTM hybrid model in terms of performance, the deep learning model consistently surpassed the performance of these models in all performance measures. This resonates with the outcomes of other studies that have observed the weakness of traditional models in terms of their scalability and the inability to process complex, non-linear data effectively (Chen et al., 2021). Although using the typical approach such as SVM is effective in the binary task, they fail to identify more complex patterns typical of large-scale network traffic (Khan et al., 2020). By contrast, using the deep learning models, specifically, CNNs and RNNs, it is easier to learn high-level features and temporal structures on the raw data without performing tedious feature engineering.

The results, however, also echo one of the main problems with deep learning models, i.e., their computational complexity. The deep learning models such as CNN-LSTM are time-intensive to train and the time taken to train these models in this study is longer than the classic machine learning models (Deng et al., 2020). The time cost-accuracy tradeoff is a well-recognized pitfall in the industry, with the computational expenses of deep learning sometimes being exchanged as its high-accuracy factors (Hussain et al., 2021). Further research might aim at fine-tuning such models using model pruning and quantization, which minimizes training time and memory requirements without losing performance (Li et al., 2021).

REAL-TIME INTRUSION DETECTION AND LATENCY ISSUES

The possible latency associated with running deep learning-based IDS on real-world 5G networks is one of the main issues that should be addressed in the future. The hybrid CNN-LSTM model showed a 45 ms latency that would be viable in most cases but must be considered a shortcoming in a time-sensitive scenario, such as autonomous vehicles or real-time communications system. Its predecessors have noted that deep learning models are associated with latency problems, especially when deployed in edge computing scenarios and in network conditions required to respond to events quickly (Zhou et al., 2021).

To solve this problem, one of the possible future tasks is to study the application of edge computing, which brings the processing burden towards the location of the data. Edge devices are capable of processing the data locally, this lowers the latency and guarantees shorter response times in intrusion detection (Yang et al., 2021). Federated learning, in which models are collectively designed on distributed devices, without need to send sensitive data to central servers, is another promising way. Besides limiting latency, the practice would also improve data privacy, an essential factor in 5G networks (Jiang et al., 2020).

FEATURE SELECTION AND MODEL INTERPRETABILITY

IDS systems are highly dependent on feature selection. In our research, such features as packet size, IP address, and the type of protocol were discovered to be the most critical features useful to detect attacks. This aligns with the results found by earlier studies, which have pointed out the relevance of these characteristics in detecting network abnormalities (Cheng et al., 2020). Automatic feature selection is one of the strengths of deep learning models: they are designed to extract significant features of raw data themselves without human intervention that is characteristic of traditional models that typically require feature engineering and expertise in domain.

Nevertheless, deep learning models have a challenge related to model interpretability due to the nature of the models being classified as black-box systems. Cybersecurity depends critically on having insight into what a deep learning model was doing to make the prediction they do because the model output has to be understood and acted on by security analysts (Ribeiro et al., 2020). Although CNN-LSTM had a high accuracy, its low decision transparency makes it challenging to adopt its use in systems where transparency is critical. Such methods as SHAP (Shapley Additive Explanations) and LIME (Local Interpretable Model-agnostic Explanations) may also be applied to make deep learning models more interpretable and allow one to explain their predictions to security professionals (Kim et al., 2021).

SCALABILITY AND GENERALIZATION

One of the strengths of the CNN-LSTM hybrid model is its capability to generalize across various datasets, which implies that the model could be scaled down to the peculiarities of traffic and other conditions of various 5G environments. Such an ability is especially significant due to the heterogeneity of 5G networks where the traffic features can be drastically different across different applications, including IoT, autonomous vehicle services, and e-health systems (Zhang et al., 2021). The model has a generalization capability that qualifies it to become a large-scale candidate network in various 5G networks where the network topology and network traffic may vary frequently.

Furthermore, the scalability of the deep learning-based IDS is also pivotal to its implementation in 5G networks that will be connected to billions of devices. It has been revealed in related research that deep learning models are able to take on huge amounts of data and are efficient in processing high-throughput network traffic (Xie et al., 2020). CNN-LSTM model in this study, could deal with big datasets like CICIDS2017 and UNSW-NB15, hence it is capable of scaling up its work with progressive data requirements of the 5G networks.

IMPLICATIONS FOR 5G NETWORK SECURITY

This research study reaffirms the need to embrace advanced machine learning and deep learning to secure 5G network. As 5G technologies are developed, typical security will not be enough to meet the increasing complexity and number of cyber threats. Deep learning, especially hybrid models such as CNN-LSTM, is an effective solution to intrusion detection in next-generation networks due to its high detection accuracy, flexibility, and capability of dealing with intricate patterns of data.

Nevertheless, the issues regarding model interpretability, training time, and latency will need to be resolved in order to implement such models in practice. Future studies need to consider the potentialization of deep learning goodness to be applied in real-time, create a better explanation of its working constitution, and the utilization of distributed learning strategies like edge learning or federated learning.

CONCLUSION

The work shows the effectiveness of deep learning-based intrusion detection systems to protect 5G networks. The CNN-LSTM combined model was able to outperform the traditional machine learning models and perform well in a broad range of attack types and data. Although the latency and interpretability issues are concerning, the high detection nature of the model illustrates the importance of the model in containing the dynamic cybersecurity issues in the context of 5G networks. With the continuous development of the 5G technologies, DL-based IDS will be a necessary part of achieving the security and eliminate reliability of the next-generation networks.

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