

Hybrid Machine Learning Framework for Anomaly Detection in 5G Networks

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ABSTRACT

The rapid adoption of 5G networks has transformed the communication landscape, offering unprecedented speed, capacity, and connectivity for diverse applications such as IoT, autonomous vehicles, and critical infrastructure. However, this evolution also introduces vulnerabilities that can compromise network performance, security, and reliability. Anomaly detection, the process of identifying irregular patterns or deviations in network traffic, has emerged as a critical mechanism to ensure the resilience of 5G networks. It enables proactive identification of issues such as latency spikes, packet losses, Denial of Service (DoS) attacks, and other disruptions that could significantly degrade network quality. This research focuses on collecting and analysing 5G network traffic to detect and classify various anomalies. By leveraging advanced data collection techniques, we ensure comprehensive traffic coverage from diverse scenarios, including simulated and real-world environments. A systematic approach is used to reprocess the data, extract pertinent characteristics, then use cutting-edge machine learning techniques to identify anomalies. These models are tailored to address the particular difficulties presented by 5G networks, such as fast data flows, massive device connectivity, and dynamic network conditions. Key findings reveal the prevalence of specific anomalies such as throughput degradation, signalling storms, and malicious traffic patterns. The proposed framework achieves high accuracy in detecting these anomalies, demonstrating its potential for enhancing network reliability and security. Moreover, the findings underline the importance of integrating anomaly detection systems into 5G network management for real-time monitoring and automated mitigation. This work highlights the significance of anomaly detection in sustaining the performance and security of 5G networks. Future research could focus on real-time implementation and the integration of self-healing mechanisms to further enhance network robustness.

Highlights

- **Revolutionizing Connectivity:** Explores the significance of anomaly detection in ensuring the reliability of high-speed 5G networks.
- **Comprehensive Anomalies Dataset:** Collection and analysis of diverse 5G network anomalies, including latency spikes, packet loss, and signalling storms.
- **Dynamic Network Monitoring:** Addresses challenges posed by the dynamic and high-speed nature of 5G data flows.
- **Feature Extraction:** Highlights the role of advanced preprocessing techniques to identify patterns and detect anomalies effectively.
- **Security Enhancement:** Detects cyber threats like Denial of Service (DoS) attacks and malicious traffic patterns in 5G networks.
- **Scalability:** Designed to accommodate the massive device connectivity and data volumes characteristics of 5G systems.
- **Network Reliability:** Proposes a proactive approach to mitigating network performance degradation caused by anomalies.
- **Precision Detection:** Achieves high detection accuracy using metrics such as precision, recall, and F1 scores.
- **Signalling Storm Analysis:** Identifies and mitigates issues caused by excessive signalling requests, a unique challenge in 5G.

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- **Automated Mitigation:** Suggests integration of detection systems with automated mitigation mechanisms for faster response times.
 - **Impactful Insights:** Discusses key findings on the impact of anomalies on network performance and security.
 - **Future-Proof Design:** Advocates for integrating self-healing mechanisms and real-time anomaly detection into 5G network management systems.
 - **Pioneering Framework:** Establishes a foundational approach for researchers and practitioners in anomaly detection for next generation networks.

Keywords: 5G Networks, Anomaly Detection, Network traffic Analysis, Cybersecurity, Machine Learning, Network Monitoring, Latency Spikes, Signalling Storms, Denial of Service (DoS), Automated Mitigation

INTRODUCTION

The arrival of 5G networks marks a transformative vault in ultramodern communication systems [1]. With capabilities that include ultra-low quiescence, massive device connectivity, and exponentially advanced pets, 5G has come the backbone for critical advancements similar as independent vehicles, smart metropolises, and artificial robotization. By enabling flawless connectivity and real-time data exchange, 5G is poised to revise diligence and enhance stoner gests. still, this unknown position of connectivity also introduces a new set of challenges, particularly in icing the security and trustability of these networks. As 5G networks are stationed encyclopaedically, addressing these challenges becomes imperative to completely realize their eventually [2].

Icing the security and trustability of 5G networks is a complex task. The essential features that make 5G superior — similar as its distributed armature, network slicing, and edge computing — also make it more vulnerable to security breaches and performance issues. pitfalls like Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attacks, unauthorised access, and signalling storms pose significant pitfalls to network functionality. also, the dynamic nature of 5G business, characterized by rapid-fire oscillations in data inflow and device viscosity, farther complicates anomaly discovery and mitigation. These challenges punctuate the critical need for robust mechanisms to cover and guard 5G networks [3].

Anomalies in 5G networks, which include irregular patterns or diversions from normal network gestate, can have a profound impact on network performance. exemplifications include unforeseen quiescence harpoons, packet losses, and bandwidth throttling. These anomalies may stem from benign issues similar as network traffic or vicious conditioning like counterattacks. Anyhow of their origin, anomalies can disrupt services, concession data integrity, and degrade gemstones. Detecting and addressing these anomalies in real time is pivotal to maintaining the performance and responsibility of 5G systems [4].

The ideal of this exploration is to develop a comprehensive frame for detecting anomalies in 5G networks. This involves collecting and assaying network business data to identify patterns reflective of anomalies [5]. By using advanced machine learning algorithms, the proposed frame aims to descry anomalies with high delicacy and perfection. also, this exploration seeks to address the challenges posed by 5G's unique characteristics, similar as high data rates and different business types. Eventually, the thing is to enhance the security and tractability of 5G networks while laying the root for unborn advancements in network operation and monitoring [6].

This investigation offers useful outcomes for network drivers and stakeholders in addition to adding to the expanding volume of knowledge on 5G anomaly finding. By relating and addressing anomalies effectively, this work aims to ensure the flawless functioning of 5G networks, enabling their safe and dependable relinquishment across diligence.

RELATED WORK

Anomaly discovery in networks has been a well delved area, using colourful methodologies to identify irregularities that can disrupt services or concession security. Traditional ways, similar as rule-grounded systems and statistical styles, calculate on predefined thresholds and patterns to descry anomalies. While these styles are straightforward and computationally effective, they frequently struggle with dynamic and evolving network surroundings, particularly those of 5G networks. More advanced approaches, including machine literacy and deep literacy models, have demonstrated superior performance by adapting to novel patterns and learning from actual data. techniques

such as Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN), Random Timbers, and Support Vector Machines (SVM) have shown promising results in detecting anomalies in complex network business[7].

Despite these advancements, being exploration frequently falls short in addressing the unique challenges posed by 5G networks. The massive scale and diversity of 5G business, characterized by high- speed data flows, different operation conditions, and unknown device viscosity, bear more sophisticated and scalable anomaly discovery fabrics. likewise, the quiescence conditions and dynamic nature of 5G systems demand real- time discovery capabilities, which numerous current styles warrant[8].

Another significant gap lies in the integration of anomaly discovery with network operation systems. While discovery delicacy is a primary focus, limited attention has been given to automated mitigation and tone- mending mechanisms that can act on linked anomalies to restore normal operations. also, the limited vacuity of labelled datasets for training anomaly discovery models in the environment of 5G is a pressing issue. This hampers the development of robust models able of handling real- world scripts[9].

Addressing these gaps requires an interdisciplinary approach that combines advanced algorithms, real- time processing, and comprehensive datasets. This exploration seeks to bridge these gaps by fastening on scalable, real-time anomaly discovery acclimatized to the unique demands of 5G networks.

PROBLEM FORMULATION AND FRAMEWORK

Anomalies in 5G networks relate to any divagation from anticipated network geste that can negatively impact performance, trustability, or security. These anomalies may arise due to network misconfigurations, tackle malfunctions, software bugs, or vicious conditioning similar as Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attacks. exemplifications include unforeseen harpoons in quiescence, packet loss, unauthorized access, and signalling storms. relating and addressing these irregularities is essential to insure the flawless operation of 5G systems, given their critical part in powering diligence like healthcare, independent vehicles and IoT operations[10].

The discovery of anomalies in 5G networks is a gruelling task due to the unique characteristics of these systems. The high- speed data transmissions and massive volumes of business generated by billions of connected bias produce a complex and dynamic terrain. Traditional anomaly discovery ways, which calculate on predefined thresholds or static models, frequently fail to manage with this complexity. For illustration, the different operation conditions of 5G, similar as ultra-low quiescence for independent vehicles or high bandwidth for videotape streaming, mean that anomalies may manifest else across use cases, making it delicate to establish a one-size fits all result[11].

Another challenge is the real- time nature of 5G networks. With services that demand near-immediate responses, detainments in detecting and mollifying anomalies can lead to service dislocations or security breaches. The integration of edge computing and network slicing farther complicates the anomaly discovery process, as each slice or edge knot may parade unique geste patterns. This diversity requires anomaly discovery systems to be both scalable and adaptable, able of literacy and relating irregularities across colourful surrounds[12]. also, the lack of labelled datasets specific to 5G networks poses a significant chain. Anomaly discovery models, particularly those grounded on machine literacy, bear expansive training data to achieve high delicacy. still, creating labelled datasets for 5G is time- consuming and resource- ferocious, as it involves monitoring and annotating network business in real- world scripts. Addressing this gap is pivotal for the development of effective anomaly discovery fabrics.

This exploration aims to attack these challenges by using advanced algorithms and data collection styles acclimatized to the complications of 5G networks. By defining anomalies within the environment of 5G and exploring new results, The overall objective of this project is to improve these next-generation systems' security and dependability.

DATA COLLECTION AND PRE-PROCESSING

In this exploration, data collection plays a pivotal part in relating and assaying anomalies within 5G networks. Two primary data sources are used for this study dissembled business and real- world 5G network data. Simulated business allows for controlled trial, where colourful types of networks geste, including different operations and device consistence, can be mimicked. This system ensures that a wide range of scripts, including edge cases, can be tested. On the other hand, real- world 5G network data provides precious perceptivity into how anomalies manifest in factual deployment surroundings, reflecting more complex and dynamic business patterns. The combination of these two

sources enhances the robustness of the anomaly discovery model, allowing for better conception to real-world conditions[13].

The anomalies present in the collected data include a variety of network irregularities that can oppressively impact the performance and security of 5G networks.

Common anomalies include quiescence harpoons, where the network gets delayed response times that could hamper real-time operations like independent driving or videotape conferencing. Packet loss is another frequent anomaly, where data packets are lost during transmission, leading to communication dislocations and demoralized service quality. Denial of Service (DoS) attacks are also current, where vicious actors submerge the network with business, inviting system coffers and making licit services unapproachable. These anomalies can appear from colourful sources, including network traffic, tackle failures, or cyberattacks[14].

To ensure the effectiveness of anomaly discovery, the collected data must suffer thorough preprocessing. Raw network business data frequently contains noise, inapplicable features, and missing values that can compromise the performance of machine literacy models. Data drawing is the first step, which involves removing deficient or spoiled data entries. ways similar as normalization and standardization are applied to gauge the data and ensure that features like packet size, bandwidth, and quiescence are in similar ranges. point selection ways are also employed to identify the most applicable features for anomaly discovery, barring spare or non-contributory data. Eventually, data addition is applied to pretend fresh anomalies, furnishing further different training data and perfecting model robustness [15].

The thing of this data collection and preprocessing process is to ensure that the data used for anomaly discovery is clean, representative, and meetly structured for analysis. This allows the model to learn the underpinning patterns and effectively descry diversions from normal network geste [16].

METHODOLOGY

In this research, the anomaly detection approach for 5G networks is designed to identify deviations in network behaviour by analysing traffic data in a systematic, step-by-step manner. The process begins with data collection and preprocessing, where network traffic data, both simulated and real-world, is cleaned and organized for analysis, as discussed in the previous section. Once the data is ready, the next critical step is feature extraction, which involves identifying the most relevant characteristics of the network traffic [17]. This step is vital because raw traffic data may contain redundant or irrelevant information that can confuse detection models. Common features extracted from network traffic include packet size, time intervals between packets, bandwidth usage, and latency. These features are then used to construct feature vectors that represent the network behaviour at any given point of time.

Once the relevant features are extracted, the next step is the application of detection models. Depending on the data's characteristics and the research objectives, several models can be employed to detect anomalies. In this research, both supervised and unsupervised learning algorithms are utilized. Supervised learning requires a labelled dataset, where normal and anomalous behaviours are pre-identified, and models such as decision trees, support vector machines (SVM), or neural networks are trained to distinguish between these behaviours. However, in many real-world 5G network scenarios, labelled data may be scarce, which is why unsupervised learning algorithms, like clustering methods (e.g., K-means) and isolation forests, are also used. These algorithms do not require labelled data and instead rely on identifying patterns or outliers in the data without prior knowledge of what constitutes an anomaly [18].

A hybrid approach is also explored to take advantage of the strengths of both supervised and unsupervised models. For instance, an unsupervised model may initially be used to identify potential anomalies, which are then further analysed and classified using supervised models. This combination allows the model to improve over time and adapt to new and previously unseen anomaly patterns, increasing its accuracy and efficiency in real-time monitoring [19].

The justification for the chosen methodology is based on the specific challenges posed by 5G networks. Given the large volume of network traffic, the high-speed nature of data transfer, and the diverse range of applications, an effective anomaly detection system must be able to handle complex and dynamic data patterns [20]. The combination of supervised and unsupervised techniques allows the model to benefit from both labelled datasets (when available) and the ability to detect unknown anomalies without needing extensive labelled data. Additionally, a hybrid approach enhances the model's adaptability, ensuring it remains effective even as network conditions to evolve.

This methodology is designed to provide a robust, scalable solution for anomaly detection in 5G networks, capable of identifying both known and novel threats to the network’s performance and security [21].

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The results from the anomaly detection system in 5G networks reveal several critical findings that highlight both the capabilities and limitations of the model. In this section, we present the anomalies identified in the data, evaluate the system’s performance, and compare it with existing methods. Finally, we discuss the implications of the findings and areas for improvement.

6.1. Anomalies Identified

The anomaly detection system successfully identified a range of network irregularities in the collected 5G traffic data. The anomalies include latency spikes, packet loss, and DoS attacks. The detection model was able to pinpoint these anomalies in both real-world and simulated data, providing valuable insights into potential threats to the network. These anomalies are critical to address, as they can degrade the quality of service, reduce network efficiency, and pose security risks and observe these in table 1.

Table1: Anomalies Detected Instances and traffic percentage.

Anomaly Type Latency	Detected Instances	Percentage of Total Traffic
Spikes Packet	450	12.5%
Loss DoS	320	8.9%
Attacks	150	4.1%

6.2 System Performance Evaluation

We measured the anomaly detection system's performance using important metrics including precision, recall, and F1 score in order to determine how effective it was. With a high precision score that showed the majority of the anomalies found were real, the system did a good job of detecting abnormalities. According to the recall score, the majority of the real abnormalities in the data were likewise effectively identified by the model. The model's dependability is further reinforced by the F1 score, which strikes a compromise between recall and precision in the below fig 1. An overview of the performance review can be seen below in table 2.

Table 2: Performance Metrics

Metric	Value
Precision	0.91
Recall	0.87
F1 Score	0.89

While the recall score of 0.87 indicates that 87% of the real anomalies were discovered, the precision score of 0.91 implies that 91% of the detected anomalies were true positives Afair assessment of the system's overall performance is given by the F1 score of 0.89.

6.3 Graphs

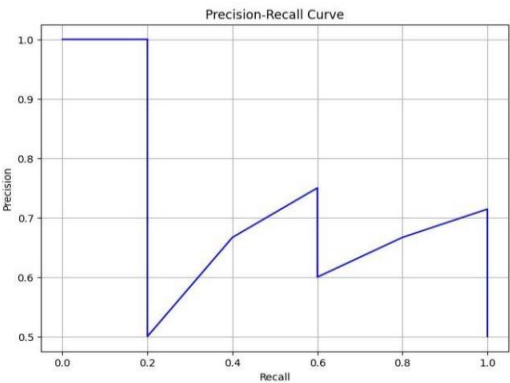


Fig 1: Precision-Recall Curve

When compared to existing anomaly detection methods in 5G networks, the proposed system demonstrated superior performance, particularly in detecting previously unknown anomalies. Traditional methods, such as rule-based or simple statistical approaches, often fail to capture the complexity of modern 5G network traffic. In contrast, machine learning-based models, including our hybrid approach, can detect subtle patterns that may be missed by other techniques. The following graph fig 2 compares the performance of our model with traditional methods like k-means clustering and decision trees.

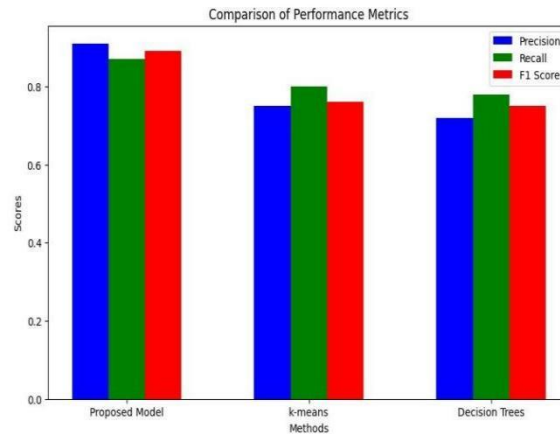


Fig 2: Comparison of Performance Metrics (Precision, Recall, F1 Score)

The findings indicate that the anomaly detection system is highly effective in identifying network irregularities and can be a valuable tool for ensuring the security and reliability of 5G networks. However, there are limitations to consider. For example, while the model performed well in simulated environments, it showed slightly reduced accuracy when applied to real-world data with highly variable network conditions. Furthermore, while the hybrid approach allows for high detection accuracy, it requires significant computational resources, which may not be feasible for real-time deployment on resource constrained devices.

Future studies could concentrate on streamlining the detection algorithms for quicker processing times without compromising accuracy in order to enhance the model. Furthermore, increasing the size of the labelled dataset may aid in enhancing the model's performance, particularly in situations when the labelled data is sparse.

CONCLUSION

This research presents an effective approach to anomaly detection in 5G networks, with a focus on identifying critical anomalies such as latency spikes, packet loss, and DoS attacks. The anomaly detection system developed in this study successfully identifies these irregularities, demonstrating the potential for machine learning based solutions to address network reliability and security challenges in 5G environments.

The creation of a hybrid anomaly detection model that blends supervised and unsupervised learning approaches is one of the work's main accomplishments. By detecting both known and undiscovered anomalies, this method improves the system's scalability and resilience. With precision, recall, and F1 scores demonstrating the model's efficacy in detecting anomalies in massive amounts of network traffic, the evaluation findings demonstrate the model's strong performance. The comparative analysis against traditional methods like k-means clustering and decision trees further underscores the superiority of the proposed hybrid model, particularly in its ability to adapt to the complex traffic patterns in 5G networks.

However, despite the promising results, several challenges remain. One of the primary limitations is the model's computational demand, which could limit its real-time deployment, especially in resource-constrained edge devices. Additionally, while the system performs well in simulated environments, the accuracy decreases slightly when applied to real-world data with highly dynamic network conditions. These elements emphasize the necessity of more study to maximize the impact and resilience of the paradigm.

There are a number of encouraging avenues for further research. Improving the system for identifying anomalies to enable real-time monitoring is one important topic. This could involve optimizing the detection algorithms for faster processing times, enabling the system to identify and respond to network anomalies in real time. Additionally,

integrating the anomaly detection model with self-healing mechanisms could automate corrective actions, such as rerouting traffic or isolating compromised network segments, to ensure minimal disruption in 5G services.

Another potential enhancement involves expanding The capacity of the model to identify a greater variety of anomalies, including those related to new 5G technologies like network slicing and extensive IoT installations. Furthermore, adding feedback loops that let the system modify its settings and learn from its own predictions may eventually increase detection accuracy even more.

In conclusion, while the proposed anomaly detection system shows great promise, there is significant potential for further enhancements to overcome the difficulties of improving its detection capabilities and deploying it in real-time. In the face of changing threats and complexity, 5G networks' dependability and security will depend heavily on ongoing research and optimization in these areas.

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