

Hybrid Bi-LSTM-Squeeze Model for Attack Detection and Mitigation in Industrial IoT

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Abstract

The IIoT has revolutionized industrial operations by enabling seamless connectivity, data-driven decision-making, and enhanced efficiency. However, the pervasive integration of IIoT systems also introduces unprecedented cybersecurity risks, necessitating robust intrusion detection and mitigation mechanisms to safeguard critical infrastructure. Conventional approaches to IIoT security frequently fall short in addressing the dynamic and complex nature of cyber threats, prompting a paradigm shift towards advanced ML techniques, particularly deep learning, for threat detection and mitigation. This paper introduces a novel hybrid detection model aimed at enhancing IIoT security through improved attack detection capabilities. This proposed methodology addresses key concerns such as detection accuracy, efficiency, privacy, and time consumption. Here, propose a comprehensive framework comprising pre-processing, feature extraction, feature selection, attack detection, and attack mitigation. Notably, we employ Improved SMOTE for class imbalance resolution and min-max normalization for data normalization. Feature extraction encompasses info gain, raw, correntropy, and statistical features, while Improved SVM-RFE aids in feature selection. The fundamental component of this strategy is a hybrid model that combines Bi-LSTM and Improved LinkNet for effective attack detection, followed by the utilization of Improved Entropy-based mitigation to eliminate identified threats.

Keywords- Industrial IoT, attack detection, Improved Bi-LSTM, SqueezeNet, attack mitigation, Improved SMOTE, entropy-based mitigation

Introduction

The IIoT has emerged as a transformative force in the realm of industrial automation and data management, revolutionizing traditional manufacturing processes and operational methodologies [9] [10]. At its core, IIoT harnesses the power of interconnected devices, sensors, and machines, leveraging internet connectivity to optimize production, enhance decision-making, and minimize human intervention [13] [14]. By facilitating real-time data collection and analysis, IIoT networks empower industries to streamline operations, improve quality control, optimize asset tracking, and enable predictive maintenance strategies [26].

However, the proliferation of interconnected devices and the ubiquitous nature of IIoT systems have ushered in a new era of cybersecurity challenges [15]. The extensive connectivity that underpins IIoT architectures exposes industrial operations to a myriad of cyber threats, ranging from integrity-compromising attacks to availability

disruptions and confidentiality breaches. Integrity-compromising attacks, such as sensor data tampering or control system manipulation, pose a direct threat to the reliability and trustworthiness of industrial processes [12]. Availability attacks, including DDoS [20] [44] assaults and wireless interference, seek to disrupt system accessibility, potentially causing operational downtime and financial losses [17]. Confidentiality breaches involve unauthorized access to sensitive data, while authentication attacks exploit weaknesses in authentication mechanisms, undermining the overall security posture of IIoT infrastructures [21] [45].

In response to these evolving threats, researchers and industry practitioners alike have increasingly turned to advanced ML [25] [46] techniques for intrusion detection and anomaly recognition in IIoT networks. DL, a subset of ML, has gained prominence for its ability to automatically extract intricate patterns and features from raw data, making it particularly well-suited for complex and

dynamic environments like IIoT. Deep learning algorithms [11] [16], such as CNNs and RNNs [19], offer the promise of automated threat detection, capable of analyzing vast streams of sensor data and identifying anomalous patterns indicative of potential attacks [18] [22] [23]. However, the efficacy of DL-based intrusion detection models hinges on the quality and representativeness of training data. Unfortunately, the scarcity and imbalance inherent in IIoT datasets often lead to biased predictions and suboptimal performance [24] [42].

Contribution:

- Introducing an Improved SMOTE for addressing class imbalance in IIoT datasets during the preprocessing stage.
- Contributing an Improved SVM-RFE for feature selection to identify a subset of discriminative features.
- Proposing a novel hybrid detection model, which combines Bi-LSTM and SqueezeNet architectures.
- Suggesting an Improved Entropy-based mitigation strategies to neutralize detected threats in IIoT environments.

Literature Review

In 2024, F. S. Melícias et al., [1] assessed data augmentation techniques for improving intrusion detection models utilizing IIoT traffic data, such as variations of GPT and SMOTE. To evaluate performance differences, five intrusion detection methods were tested using original and supplemented datasets.

In 2024, P. Verma et al., [2] addressed cybersecurity data imbalance issues by introducing a novel oversampling method based on gametic heredity, with a focus on IIoT systems.

In 2024, Ferrag et al., [3] presented SecurityBERT, a novel architecture for cyber threat detection in Internet of Things networks that made use of the BERT concept. SecurityBERT was able to represent network traffic data more efficiently than conventional ML and DL techniques such as CNNs or RNNs because it incorporated the PPFL technique during training.

In 2024, X. Jin et al., [4] provided a blockchain-federated learning distributed anomaly detection solution for IIoT devices. The side-chain logged the

hash values of the global and local models, which were updated by participating nodes, while the main-chain stored the global model. With the use of smart contracts and main-side blockchain, access to the global model was controlled.

Problem statement

The literature review highlights significant strides in IIoT cybersecurity, yet challenges persist across existing methodologies, which is illustrated in Table I. Data augmentation [1] and oversampling methods [2] show potential but may compromise accuracy and suffer from overgeneralization. Although ensemble learning [8] and deep neural networks [1] offer impressive accuracy, their computational demands limit deployment on resource-constrained IIoT devices. Additionally, collaborative defense mechanisms, although effective in countering DDoS attacks, face challenges in ensuring secure data sharing and minimizing response delays. Therefore, there is a crucial need for a comprehensive intrusion detection and cybersecurity solution tailored specifically for IIoT environments, mitigating the limitations of existing approaches while using their strengths. The suggested work aims to address this gap by introducing a novel hybrid detection model.

Proposed model:

The proposed methodology tackles the pressing issue of attack detection and mitigation in IIoT environments. It begins with data preprocessing to address class imbalance and ensure feature uniformity. Feature extraction and selection techniques are then applied to improve the discriminative power of the model. This is followed by the implementation of a hybrid detection model and improved entropy-based mitigation strategies for bolstering IIoT system resilience.

- The initial step in the proposed work involves preprocessing the input data to address inherent challenges in IIoT datasets, particularly class imbalance. Improved SMOTE is utilized to handle class imbalance, while min-max normalization is applied for feature scaling, ensuring unbiased analysis and equitable feature contribution.

- Following preprocessing, the approach encompasses the extraction of diverse feature

types—info gain, raw, correntropy, and statistical—to comprehensively represent data characteristics, thereby enhancing model robustness and discriminative power.

➤ Subsequently, using Improved SVM-RFE, a parsimonious set of discriminative features is identified, enhancing computational efficiency and interpretability of subsequent analysis.

➤ For attack detection, a hybrid model is proposed, combining Improved LinkNet and SqueezeNet architectures. This hybrid approach

achieves a balance between accuracy and efficiency, enabling real-time detection of cyber-attacks by leveraging feature-rich data for superior performance.

➤ Finally, through Improved Entropy-based Mitigation, IIoT system resilience against adversarial activities is bolstered, thereby enhancing security and ensuring dependable operational integrity. The suggested model for attack detection and mitigation is shown in Figure 1.

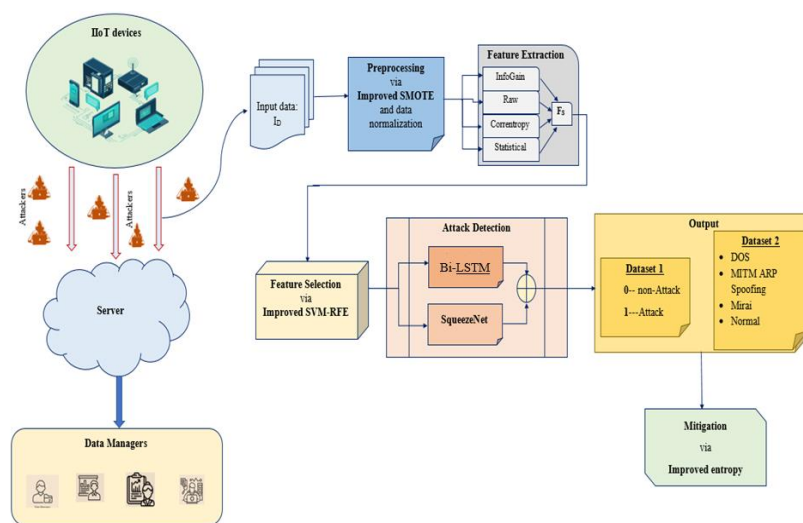


Figure 1: Proposed model for attack detection

Dataset Description

The raw data collection produced a dataset totaling 627 MB, where normal traffic accounts for 93.93% and abnormal traffic, indicative of attacks, makes up 6.07%. This dataset includes 25 networking features, utilized for both data classification and training/testing ML algorithms. Post data collection, the dataset underwent cleaning, classification, and labeling processes.

Result Analysis:

In assessing the negative metric evaluation of Improved Bi-LSTM+SqueezeNet model against conventional methods for attack detection and mitigation within IIoT, using dataset as depicted in Figure 2. In this comparative study, the Improved Bi-LSTM +SqueezeNet model is systematically contrasted with established methods such as SqueezeNet, EfficientNet, SA-DCNN [5], ResNet,

DenseNet, Bi-LSTM, and CNN. The primary goal is to achieve minimized negative measure ratings, critical for effectual recognition and mitigation of threats in IIoT environments. Notably, the Improved Bi-LSTM+SqueezeNet strategy consistently achieves lower negative metric values compared to traditional schemes. This underscores its potential to enhance security measures by reducing false positives and ensuring accurate detection of malicious activities. The FPR evaluation for Dataset provides significant understanding of the performance of Improved Bi-LSTM + Squeeze Net and conventional models. At 60% training data, SqueezeNet demonstrates an FPR of 0.298, indicating its ability to maintain a relatively low rate of falsely identifying normal instances as attacks. Increasing the training data to 70% and 80%, most models maintain consistent FPR values with slight variations.

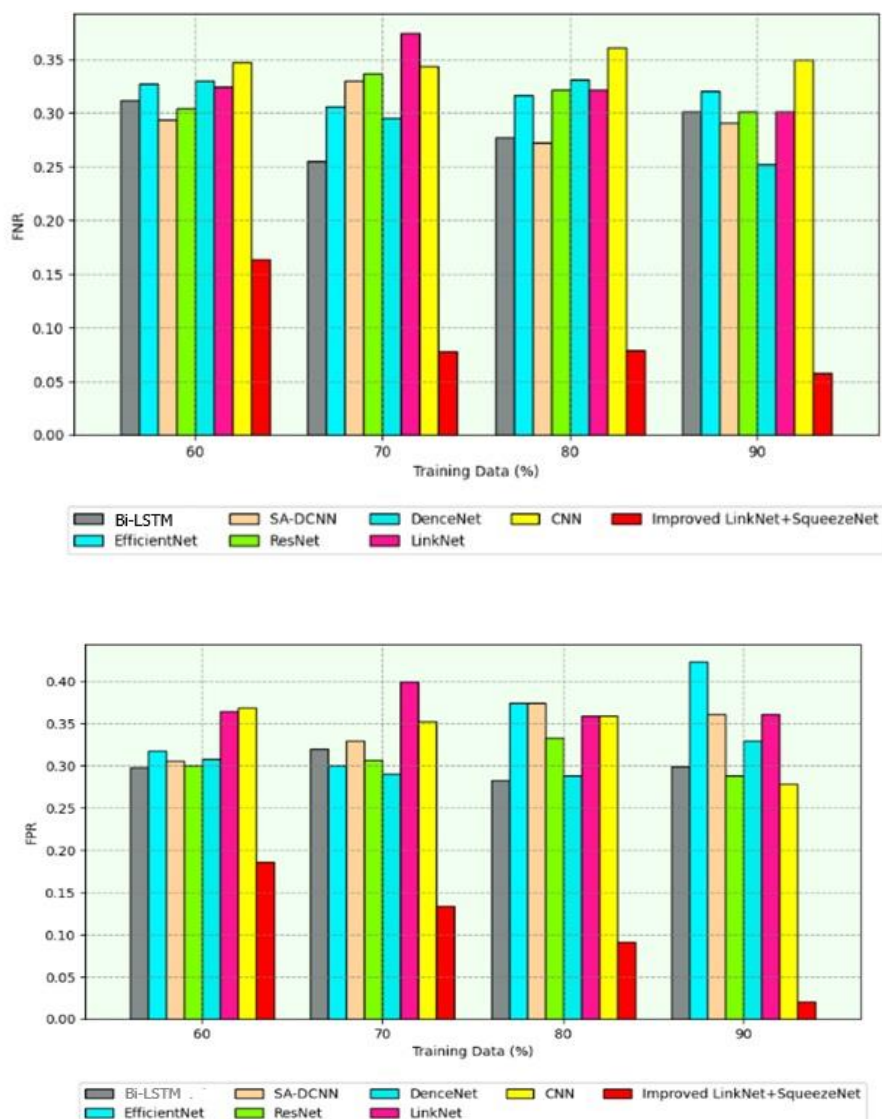


Figure 2: Negative metric analysis comparing the Improved Bi-LSTM+SqueezeNet model with conventional methods using dataset

Table I: Ablation study on Improved LinkNet+SqueezeNet , Model with Conventional LinkNet, Model without Imbalance Processing and Model without Feature Selection for Dataset

Metrics	Model without Imbalance Processing	Improved Bi- LSTM + SqueezeNet	Model without Feature Selection	Model with Conventional Bi-LSTM
Accuracy	0.691	0.960	0.697	0.717
F-Measure	0.682	0.960	0.686	0.719
FPR	0.297	0.021	0.282	0.306
Sensitivity	0.678	0.942	0.675	0.740
FNR	0.322	0.058	0.325	0.260
MCC	0.381	0.921	0.393	0.434
Specificity	0.703	0.979	0.718	0.694
NPV	0.695	0.941	0.697	0.736
Precision	0.687	0.980	0.696	0.699

The model with conventional LinkNet achieves a precision of 0.699, indicating improved performance in correctly identifying true positives compared to previous models but not yet optimal. In contrast, the Improved LinkNet+SqueezeNet model achieves a significantly higher precision of 0.980, demonstrating its superior ability to accurately identify true positive attack instances while minimizing false positives.

Conclusion

Thus, the proposed hybrid detection model presented a significant advancement in addressing the intricate cybersecurity challenges faced by IIoT environments. Through the integration of Improved LinkNet-Squeeze architecture, Improved SMOTE preprocessing, and Improved Entropy-based mitigation, the model aimed to enhance the accuracy, efficiency, and resilience of intrusion detection systems. By leveraging the strengths of various techniques while mitigating their respective limitations, the model offered a holistic approach to IIoT security.

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