

People's Democratic Republic of Algeria  
Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research



## UNIVERSITY OF ABDELHAMID MEHRI – CONSTANTINE 2

Faculty of New Technologies of Information and Communication (NTIC)

Department of Fundamental Computing and its Applications (IFA)

# MASTER'S THESIS

*to obtain the diploma of Master degree in Computer Science*

**Option: Sciences and Technologies of Information and Communication  
(STIC)**

---

## Cybersecurity of smart grid infrastructure communication

---

**Realized by:**

ochetati ilyes chiheb eddine

kechicheb ahmed

**Under supervision of:**

Salim benayoune

June 2024



---

# Acknowledgments



We thank ALLAH the Almighty, Great and Merciful for us having given confidence, good health, patience, will and courage to complete this work.

---

# Dedication



We dedicate this modest work to our families, our mothers and our fathers.

## ملخص

تعرض موثوقية الشبكة الذكية وأمنها لخطر كبير بسبب الاعتماد المتزايد على تقنيات الشبكة الذكية، والتي جلبت نقاط ضعف جديدة تتمثل في التهديدات السيبرانية. العديد من أنظمة كشف التسلل التقليدية (IDSs) غير قادرة على اكتشاف معظم هذه التهديدات بسبب التعقيد وبيانات الشبكة الذكية. تقدم هذه الأطروحة نظام كشف التسلل إلى الشبكة القائم على التعلم العميق (DL-NIDS) الذي يعالج هذه المشكلة تستخدم NIDS المستندة إلى DL بنية مبتكرة تستخدم الشبكات العصبية التلافيفية (CNNs) والشبكات العصبية المتكررة (RNNs) لاكتشاف الانحرافات في حركة مرور شبكة الشبكة الذكية. وهذا يشمل الأنماط العادية وكذلك تلك المؤذية. ولتقدير أدائها، تم تدريب هذه النماذج على بيانات حركة مرور الشبكة الحقيقية ثم تم اختبارها على مجموعة جديدة من البيانات. وعلى النقيض من أجهزة كشف الهوية التقليدية، هناك تحسن كبير في كل من المتانة ودقة الكشف كما هو موضح في النتائج. كما ثبت أن النظام قادر على اكتشاف مجموعة متنوعة من هجمات ضص وضضص. ولذلك، فإن هذا البحث يعزز موثوقية وسلامة أنظمة البنية التحتية الحيوية هذه من خلال المساهمة في إيجاد حلول أفضل للأمن السيبراني للشبكات الذكية.

**الكلمات المفتاحية:** الشبكة الذكية، الأمن السيبراني، التعلم العميق، هجمات حجب الخدمة، الشبكة العصبية التلافيفية، الذاكرة الطويلة قصيرة المدى

## **Abstract**

The smart grid's reliability and security are at significant risk due to the increasing reliance on smart grid technologies, which have brought in new vulnerabilities which is cyber threats. Many traditional intrusion detection systems (IDSs) are unable to detect most of these threats because of the complexity and of smart grid data. This thesis introduces a deep learning-based network intrusion detection system (DL-NIDS) that tackles this issue

The DL-based NIDS uses an innovative architecture utilizing convolutional neural networks (CNNs) and recurrent neural networks (RNNs) to discover deviations in smart grid network traffic. This includes normal patterns as well as those that are maleficent.

To estimate its performance, these models were trained on real life network traffic data then tested on a new set of data. In contrast to conventional IDSs, there is a dramatic improvement in both robustness and detection accuracy as shown by results. The system is also demonstrated to be capable of detecting a variety of DoS and DDoS attacks. Therefore, this research enhances the dependability and safety of such critical infrastructure systems by contributing towards better cybersecurity solutions for smart grids.

**Keywords:** (smart grid, cybersecurity, deep learning, denial of service attacks, Convolutional neural network , Long short-term memory)

## Résumé

La fiabilité et la sécurité du réseau intelligent sont considérablement menacées en raison du recours croissant aux technologies de réseau intelligent, qui ont introduit de nouvelles vulnérabilités que sont les cybermenaces. De nombreux systèmes de détection d'intrusion (IDS) traditionnels sont incapables de détecter la plupart de ces menaces en raison de la complexité et des données des réseaux intelligents. Cette thèse présente un système de détection d'intrusion réseau basé sur l'apprentissage profond (DL-NIDS) qui s'attaque à ce problème.

Le NIDS basé sur DL utilise une architecture innovante utilisant des réseaux neuronaux convolutifs (CNN) et des réseaux neuronaux récurrents (RNN) pour découvrir les écarts dans le trafic du réseau intelligent. Cela inclut les schémas normaux ainsi que ceux qui sont maléfiques.

Pour estimer ses performances, ces modèles ont été formés sur des données réelles de trafic réseau puis testés sur un nouvel ensemble de données.

Contrairement aux IDS conventionnels, les résultats montrent une amélioration considérable de la robustesse et de la précision de la détection.

Le système s'est également révélé capable de détecter diverses attaques DoS et DDoS. Par conséquent, cette recherche améliore la fiabilité et la sécurité de ces systèmes d'infrastructures critiques en contribuant à de meilleures solutions de cybersécurité pour les réseaux intelligents.

**Keywords:** (grille intelligente, cybersécurité, apprentissage profond, attaques par déni de service, réseau neuronal convolutif, mémoire à long terme)

---

# Table of Contents



<b>Acknowledgments</b>	<b>ii</b>
<b>Dedication</b>	<b>iii</b>
<b>Abstracts</b>	<b>iv</b>
<b>Table of Contents</b>	<b>vii</b>
<b>List of Figures</b>	<b>ix</b>
<b>List of Tables</b>	<b>x</b>
<b>General Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1 State of the Art</b>	<b>3</b>
1.1 Definition smart grid . . . . .	4
1.2 Smart grid attributes . . . . .	5
1.3 Differences between Traditional grid and Smart grid . . . . .	6
1.4 Major systems . . . . .	6
1.4.1 Smart infrastructure system . . . . .	6
1.4.2 Smart management system . . . . .	7
1.4.3 Smart protection systems . . . . .	7
1.5 Smart Grid Technologies . . . . .	8
1.5.1 Major Smart Grid Technologies . . . . .	9
1.5.2 Established and Emerging Smart Grid Communication Networks . .	10
1.6 Components of the Smart Grid . . . . .	11
1.6.1 Smart Meters . . . . .	11
1.6.2 Advanced Distribution Management Systems . . . . .	12



1.6.3	Super conducting cables . . . . .	12
1.6.4	Circuit breakers . . . . .	12
1.6.5	Collector nodes . . . . .	13
1.7	Challenges and Considerations . . . . .	13
1.7.1	Stakeholder Engagement . . . . .	13
1.7.2	Fear of obsolesce . . . . .	13
1.7.3	Cybersecurity . . . . .	13
1.7.4	Data privacy . . . . .	14
1.7.5	Cost of Implementation: . . . . .	15
1.7.6	Regulatory Frameworks . . . . .	15
1.8	Related works . . . . .	16
1.9	Conclusion . . . . .	18
<b>2</b>	<b>Implementation</b>	<b>19</b>
2.1	Theoretical Proposal . . . . .	19
2.1.1	Project Description . . . . .	19
2.1.2	Project Design and architecture . . . . .	19
2.1.3	Deep learning Models architecture . . . . .	20
2.2	Implementation and Experiments . . . . .	22
2.2.1	Development tools used . . . . .	22
2.2.2	Dataset . . . . .	24
2.2.3	Data preprocessing . . . . .	24
2.2.4	Deep learning models implementation . . . . .	30
2.2.5	Results . . . . .	34
2.2.6	Conclusion . . . . .	37
	<b>General Conclusion</b>	<b>38</b>
	<b>Bibliography</b>	<b>40</b>
	<b>Acronyms</b>	<b>44</b>

---

## List of Figures

1.1	The NIST Conceptual Model for SG [1] . . . . .	4
1.2	Classification of the Smart Infrastructure System, the Smart Management System, and the Smart Protection System [2] . . . . .	8
1.3	Applications from smart grid and smart meter perspectives. [3] . . . . .	12
1.4	Estimate: cyber attacks will increase exponentially [4] . . . . .	14
1.5	Grid Component Costs [5] . . . . .	15
2.1	deep learning model creation . . . . .	20
2.2	CNN architecture [6] . . . . .	21
2.3	LSTM architecture [7] . . . . .	21
2.4	Imported data sample . . . . .	26
2.5	Bar graph of the unbalanced dataset . . . . .	26
2.6	Before data augmentation . . . . .	29
2.7	After data augmentation . . . . .	29
2.8	CNN model summary . . . . .	32
2.9	LSTM model summary . . . . .	34
2.10	CNN Accuracy graph . . . . .	36
2.11	CNN Loss graph . . . . .	36
2.12	LSTM Accuracy graph . . . . .	37
2.13	LSTM Loss graph . . . . .	37

---

# List of Tables

1.1	Domains and their associated roles/services [1]	5
1.2	Comparison between conventional grid and smart grid [8]	6
2.1	the number of occurrence for each traffic type	27

---

# General Introduction



## Project Background

Growing reliance on smart grid technology has necessitate the extensive augmentation of the communications infrastructure, which has inherently generated new points of vulnerability and exposure to cyber threats. A smart grid communication infrastructure is a sophisticated arrangement of devices, systems, and protocols that allows the secure and efficient delivery of electricity from generation to consumption. But as transmission interconnections expanded over time, so have the cyber threats that could — were an adversary so inclined — weaken the grid's credibility and robustness.

## Problem

Problem To Be Addressed: The episodic development of this thesis is the need for effective cybersecurity mechanisms to secure the smart grid communication infrastructure from cyber threats. The greater use of smart grid technology has also increased the vulnerability to cyber attacks, whose consequences can be the disruption of the grid being attacked. The smart grid communication infrastructure is a prime target for cyber attacks, which can result in catastrophic outcomes such as blackouts, privacy breaches and even destruction of life and property.

## Proposed Solutions

This thesis is aimed at developing a deep learning-based intrusion detection system using LSTM and CNN with the objective of enhancing the accuracy and efficiency of intrusion detection in smart grid communication infrastructure. The goals of this research include:

- ▶ Designing and implementing a deep learning intrusion detection system for security threats (DoS and DDoS) facing smart grid communication networks with LSTM and CNN methods.
- ▶ Evaluating the proposed system's performance using evaluation metrics such as accuracy, precision, recall, and F1-score.

## **Document Plan**

This thesis is organized as follows: In the first chapter, we provide an overview and the state of the art of the smart grid communication infrastructure and the importance of cybersecurity. In the second chapter. In the second chapter, we describe the proposed system and its components. And we present the experimental results and evaluation of the proposed system. Finally, in the conclusion, we conclude the thesis and discuss the implications of the results.

---

# State of the Art

## Introduction

Electricity grids, often called “grids”, are an indispensable part of the modern energy infrastructure. They have the capabilities of generating, transmitting, distributing and controlling power. Grids have evolved from local small scale grids to interconnected systems that respond to growing demand and changes in technology. Their contribution to economic growth cannot be overemphasized.

Moreover, amid changing dynamics in the energy sector, the advent of “smart grid” could also change the landscape. That is because smart grids employ data, automation and connectivity towards improving on energy management efficiency and ensuring sustainability. This chapter presents how grid systems have evolved over time, it gives a description of some challenges as well as opportunities related to smart grid technology while shaping the future of energy.

## 1.1 Definition smart grid

The Smart Grid is a comprehensive electrical network that employs cutting-edge communication technologies, computational intelligence, and cybersecurity protocols throughout the entire process of generating, transmitting, distributing, and consuming electricity. Its objective is to establish a system that is environmentally friendly, secure, dependable, adaptable, energy-efficient, and environmentally sustainable. While the ultimate vision of the Smart Grid is ambitious, its practical implementation demands careful evaluation of costs, rigorous testing, and validation. Introducing new functionalities can occur autonomously, with each necessitating justification and a reasonable return on investment. The compatibility of open systems facilitates smooth integration into the Smart Grid once the technologies have been validated [9]. The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), operating within the U.S. Department of Commerce, has classified the smart grid into seven distinct domains, as illustrated in Figure 1.1. A concise overview of these domains and their stakeholders is provided in Table 1.1.[1]

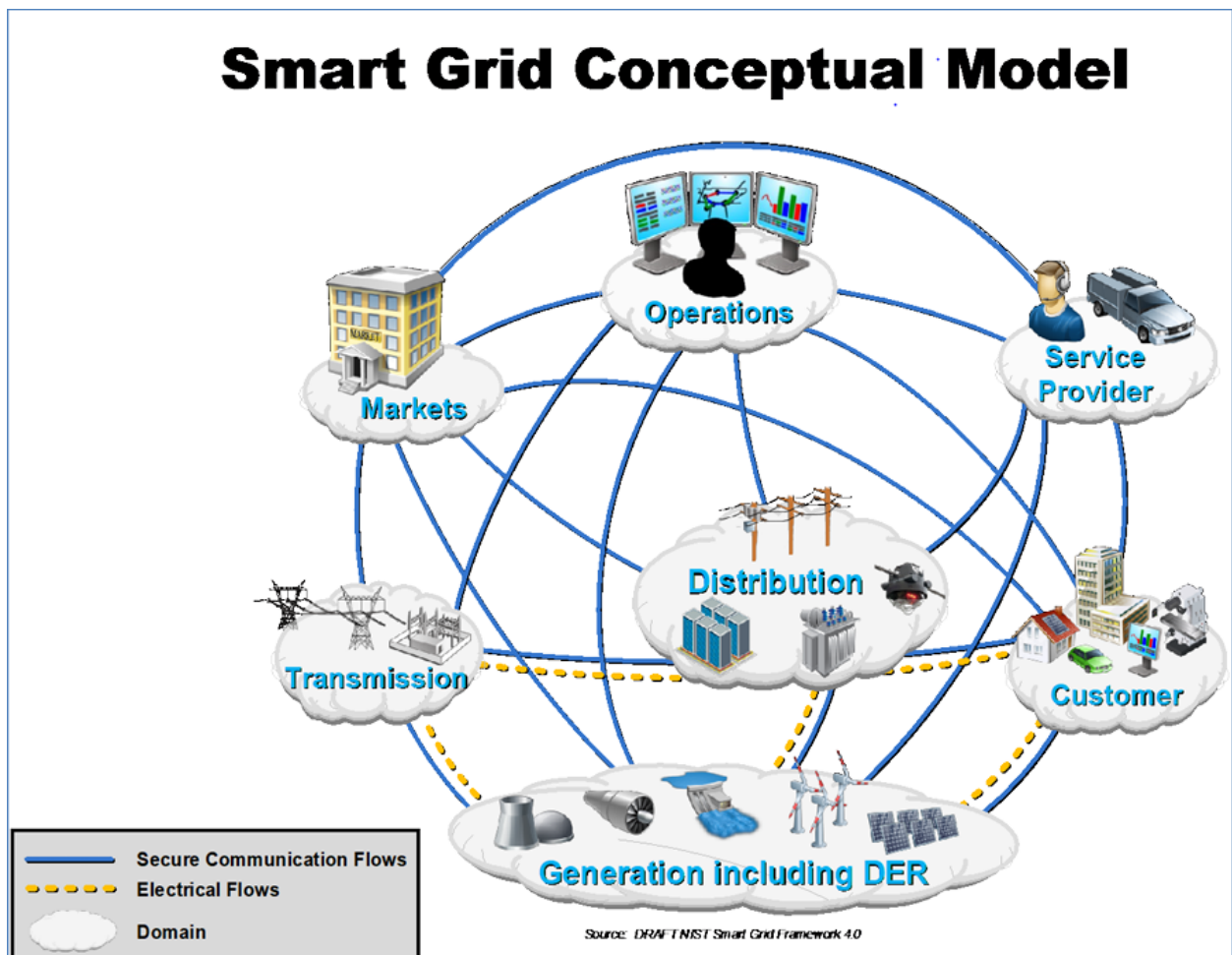


Figure 1.1: The NIST Conceptual Model for SG [1]

Domain	Roles/Services in the Domain
1 Customer	The end users of electricity. May also generate, store, and manage the use of energy. Traditionally, three customer types are discussed, each with its own sub-domain: residential, commercial, and industrial.
2 Markets	The facilitators and participants in electricity markets and other economic mechanisms used to drive action and optimize system outcomes.
3 Service Provider	The organizations providing services to electrical customers and to utilities.
4 Operations	The managers of the movement of electricity.
5 Generation Including DER	The producers of electricity. May also store energy for later distribution. This domain includes traditional generation sources and distributed energy resources (DER).
6 Transmission	The carriers of high voltage electricity over long distances. May also store and generate electricity.
7 Distribution	The distributors of electricity to and from customers. May also store and generate electricity.

Table 1.1: Domains and their associated roles/services [1]

## 1.2 Smart grid attributes

Many smart grid advocates cite some or all of its following attributes as representative of its promise:

- ▶ **Efficiency:** Capable of meeting growing consumer demand without the need for additional infrastructure.
- ▶ **Flexibility:** Able to accept energy from various sources, including solar and wind, with the same ease as traditional fuels like coal and natural gas. It can integrate new technologies, such as energy storage, as they become commercially viable.
- ▶ **Empowering:** Facilitating real-time communication between consumers and utility providers, allowing consumers to adjust their energy usage based on factors like price and environmental concerns.
- ▶ **Opportunistic:** Creating new markets and opportunities by leveraging plug-and-play innovations whenever suitable.
- ▶ **Focus on Quality:** Able to deliver reliable power without disruptions, ensuring the smooth operation of digital technologies crucial to our economy.
- ▶ **Resilience:** Increasingly resistant to cyber attacks and natural disasters through decentralization and the implementation of smart grid security measures.
- ▶ **Environmental Sustainability:** Contributing to the mitigation of climate change and offering a viable path towards reducing the environmental impact of electricity generation. [10]



## 1.3 Differences between Traditional grid and Smart grid

Table 1.2 offers a thorough comparison of the conventional power grid with the smart grid. In contrast to the traditional grid where customers play a passive role, the smart grid actively engages them through bi-directional communication technologies. For instance, rooftop photovoltaic solar panels produce electricity during the day, enabling customers to sell surplus energy back to the grid. At night, these panels continue to power home appliances as usual. Moreover, the smart grid incorporates innovative technologies like distributed generation, electric vehicle charging and discharging, and Flexible Alternating Current Transmission Systems (FACTS) to improve energy distribution and management.[11]

Table 1.2: Comparison between conventional grid and smart grid [8]

Aspects	Conventional Grid	Smart Grid
Interaction between Grid and Customers	Customers passively accept service from grid	Customers participation on the grid action
Renewable Energy Integration	Having trouble with renewable penetration	Integration with renewable resources enhancement
Options for Customers	No choice for customer, monopoly market	With digital market trading, PHEV, introduce bids and competition, more choice for customer
Options on Power Quality (PQ)	No choice on power quality, no price plan options for consumers	Power quality levels for different consumers
System Operation	Ageing power assets, no efficient operation	Assets operating optimization, less power loss
Protection	Only rely on protection devices, fault detect manually	Have capability of self-healing, less damage affected by fault
Reliability and Security	Susceptible to physical and cyber attack	More reliable for national security and human safety

## 1.4 Major systems

### 1.4.1 Smart infrastructure system

The smart infrastructure system consists of three main components: the smart energy subsystem, the smart information subsystem, and the smart communication subsystem. Within the smart energy subsystem, activities such as electricity generation, transmission, distribution, and consumption are integrated. The smart information subsystem

includes functions like smart metering and advanced monitoring and management of the smart grid network. The smart communication subsystem facilitates wired and wireless communication between networks, devices, and applications to establish connectivity throughout the network [12].

### **1.4.2 Smart management system**

The smart grid's intelligent management system offers advanced services in monitoring and control. As innovative management, monitoring, and control applications evolve, smart grid technology becomes more sophisticated, contributing actively to the advancement of a sustainable power system. Within the smart management system are functions such as enhancing energy efficiency, balancing supply and demand, controlling emissions, reducing operational costs, and maximizing utility. This system utilizes modern machine learning and optimization tools to create a resilient and efficient smart management framework [12].

### **1.4.3 Smart protection systems**

The smart protection system within the smart grid offers services related to reliability, safeguarding against failures, and ensuring security and privacy. By incorporating advanced protection devices and monitoring tools, the system enhances the reliability, security, and privacy of the network. Alongside smart infrastructure planning, efficient management, and intelligent protection systems play a role in managing operations effectively, protecting against failures, and addressing cybersecurity and privacy concerns within the network. Figure 1.2 illustrates a typical technological framework of the smart grid [12].

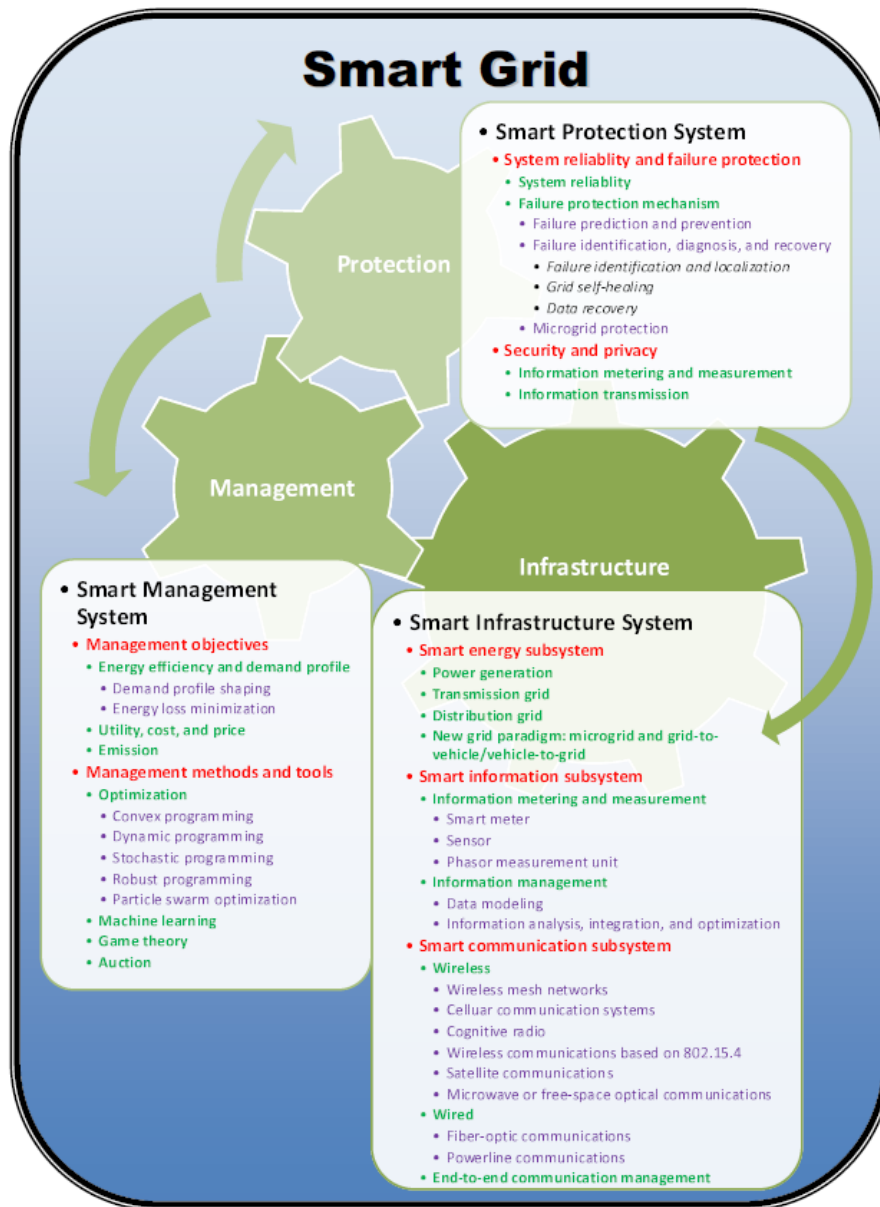


Figure 1.2: Classification of the Smart Infrastructure System, the Smart Management System, and the Smart Protection System [2]

## 1.5 Smart Grid Technologies

A smart grid employs a diverse array of technologies and communication networks to enhance the management of power generation, transmission, and distribution. It also provides customers with the ability to have real-time control over their energy consumption [13].

## **1.5.1 Major Smart Grid Technologies**

### **1.5.1.1 Advanced Demand Forecasting**

Utilizing data analytics and machine learning (ML), advanced demand forecasting techniques produce forecasting reports through autoregressive integrated moving average (ARIMA) and various statistical methods.

A crucial aspect of smart grid management, ARIMA forecasting predicts both annual electricity consumption and hourly electricity prices.

Furthermore, ARIMA forecasting serves as an extra layer of verification, aiding in the identification of cyber intrusion attempts on smart meters used to measure electricity usage for residential and commercial consumers [13].

### **1.5.1.2 Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI)**

Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) is a unified system comprising communication networks, data management systems, and intelligent meters designed to enhance customer service, energy efficiency, and cost management.

AMI facilitates two-way communication between customers and utilities, offering a wide array of advantages to the smart grid. These include forecasting consumption, improving revenue collection and theft detection, detecting faults and outages, measuring losses, and implementing time-based pricing [13].

### **1.5.1.3 Big Data**

Smart grid data possesses three fundamental characteristics: high velocity, extensive volume, and diverse variety. Managing this large volume of data in a timely manner with limited resources poses a significant challenge for smart grids. This is where big data analytics becomes pivotal, offering the potential to boost asset utilization, efficiency, system reliability, and customer satisfaction.

Without big data analytics in the smart grid, the assessment of petabytes of data generated by smart grid devices would be impractical. Big data captures and analyzes unstructured data from various endpoints within a smart grid.

Moreover, big data facilitates efficient cost reduction, optimal resource distribution, and improved customer service [13].

### **1.5.1.4 Distributed Energy Resources (DERs)**

Distributed Energy Resources (DERs) supply energy and improve local reliability, enhancing grid stability and optimizing on-site fuel utilization.

DERs encompass various technologies such as electric vehicles, solar panels, small natural gas generators, and controllable loads like electric water heaters and HVAC systems.

Efficient integration of DERs enhances grid service quality and reliability. For instance, photovoltaic systems (PVs) utilize the photovoltaic effect to convert sunlight into electricity, which is then transformed into alternating current by an inverter. The primary advantage of PV systems is reduced utility bills due to decreased reliance on grid-provided electricity [13].

#### **1.5.1.5 Non-intrusive Load Monitoring (NILM)**

Non-intrusive load monitoring (NILM), also known as non-intrusive appliance load monitoring (NIALM), discerns the specific energy consumption of households and industrial sites.

By disaggregating the total energy usage (from active appliances) into individual components and offering diagnostic insights, NILM aids in identifying energy-intensive or faulty appliances.

Moreover, consumers can optimize the timing of usage for energy-intensive appliances to minimize costs, and monitor and control energy expenses based on their power consumption [13].

#### **1.5.1.6 Vehicle-to-Grid (V2G)**

Also known as vehicle-grid integration (VGI), vehicle-to-grid (V2G) technology transfers unused power from a vehicle into the smart grid. An electric vehicle (EV) battery is a cost-efficient form of energy storage.

V2G helps balance electricity consumption spikes and reduce overload on the power grid during peak hours.

For example, V2G can feed energy (unused battery capacity) back to the power grid from an electric car's battery to improve grid stability and maximize the benefits of renewable energy [13].

### **1.5.2 Established and Emerging Smart Grid Communication Networks**

#### **1.5.2.1 HAN**

A smart meter supplies power to household appliances via the Home Area Network (HAN), which utilizes different technologies such as Bluetooth, Wireless Ethernet, Wired Ethernet, and Zigbee. The HAN links home appliances with the smart meter, which detects power usage and transmits this information to the server for billing purposes [13].

### 1.5.2.2 NAN

A Neighborhood Area Network (NAN) is an external access network that links distribution automation devices and smart meters to WAN gateways such as RF (radio frequency) collectors and field devices (like Intelligent Electronic Devices (IEDs)). NAN allows for customer data collection and facilitates communication within the WAN-premise area [13].

### 1.5.2.3 WAN

A wide area network (WAN) uses fiber optics, 3G/LTE (Long Term Evolution)/GSM (Global System for Mobile Communication), or WiMAX (Worldwide Interoperability for Microwave Access) for communication between a smart meter, suppliers, and the utility server. A smart meter sends notifications it receives (via HAN) from the devices to the suppliers using WAN [13].

### 1.5.2.4 LoRaWAN

LoRa (Long Range) is a popular IoT (Internet of Things) technology known for its long-range capability and low-power wireless platform, making it well-suited for various applications including energy management, infrastructure efficiency, and disaster prevention.

Implementing smart electricity metering solutions and smart grid networks using the LoRaWAN® (Long Range Wide Area Network) protocol allows for improved understanding of power demand, efficient detection of power outages, enhanced connectivity, and identification of underperforming assets.

Additionally, LoRaWAN is globally compatible and ensures seamless transmission without interference for remote reading of heat meter consumption data [13].

## 1.6 Components of the Smart Grid

There are many components, but will talk about the most important ones.

### 1.6.1 Smart Meters

The interplay between smart meters and smart grids is depicted in Figure 1.3. From the perspective of the smart grid, the applications primarily revolve around leveraging smart meters to facilitate the coordination of various electrical devices, thereby achieving a dependable power system. Simultaneously, these applications strive to enhance the performance and efficiency of smart metering. These objectives align with the defining char-

acteristics of smart grids, which drive the advancement of smart meter technologies.[3]

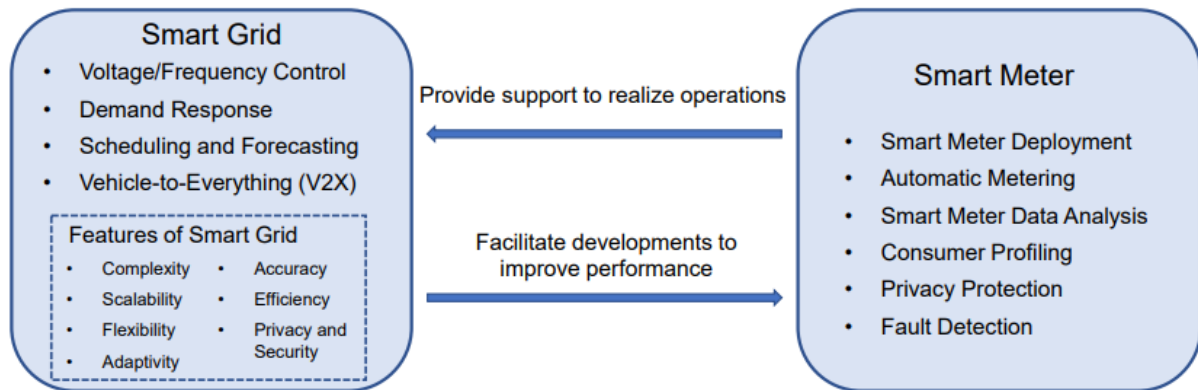


Figure 1.3: Applications from smart grid and smart meter perspectives. [3]

### 1.6.2 Advanced Distribution Management Systems

An ADMS is a software platform designed to support the comprehensive suite of tasks related to managing and optimizing the distribution of electricity. It encompasses functions that automate outage recovery and enhance the effectiveness of the distribution grid. These functions being developed for electric utilities include fault location, isolation, and restoration; optimization of voltage and reactive power; energy conservation through voltage reduction; management of peak demand; as well as support for microgrids and electric vehicles [14].

### 1.6.3 Super conducting cables

These components are utilized for transmitting electricity over extended distances and employing automated monitoring and analysis tools. These tools have the capability to identify faults independently or predict potential cable failures by analyzing real-time data, weather conditions, and the history of outages [15].

### 1.6.4 Circuit breakers

The circuit breaker, a component responsible for protecting the power system from the damage that can be caused by spikes in electric current, a circuit breaker will shut down the entire power system to avoid causing damage by the excessive current. The smart and improved version of it is the smart circuit breaker, which has wireless connection capabilities to monitor the systems behaviour [16].

### **1.6.5 Collector nodes**

Collector nodes are pivotal in the Smart Grid, serving as points of data collection and distribution between energy suppliers and customers. They enable a two-way communication network within the grid, relaying information from customer premises to the utility control center and transmission/distribution substations. Collector nodes facilitate efficient monitoring and management of energy usage [17].

## **1.7 Challenges and Considerations**

### **1.7.1 Stakeholder Engagement**

At the early stages of smart grid implementations, stakeholders' negative perceptions can derail even the most beneficial project, especially when the proponents fail to pay close attention to the educational aspects. Advocates need to be able explain and clearly identify the benefits of each component of the smart grid to the customers that are the potential key to service success [10].

### **1.7.2 Fear of obsolescence**

As many technology users (computers, smart phones, etc.) are painfully aware, the adoption of new tools can open the door to new and additional costs that may only be borne by the eventual consumer. This fear can be addressed through the development of interoperability standards and backward compatibility of technologies [10].

### **1.7.3 Cybersecurity**

Without a shred of doubt, cybersecurity stands out as one of the foremost and intricate challenges confronting IoT devices. Sensors, devices, and networks connected to the internet are persistent targets for various online threats like probing, espionage, ransomware, theft, and potential destruction. Considering that an IoT-driven smart grid can encompass potentially millions of interconnected nodes spread across extensive geographic regions, it emerges as the most susceptible to substantial cyber assaults. Consequently, a cyber-attack on such a system would have devastating consequences, leading to significant financial losses and potentially bringing entire countries to a standstill. The diagram in Figure 1.4 illustrates the number of articles reviewed per year of publication and smart grids impacted by cyber-attacks. Hence, security stands as a major hurdle in both the deployment and operation of IoT-based smart grid networks.[18].



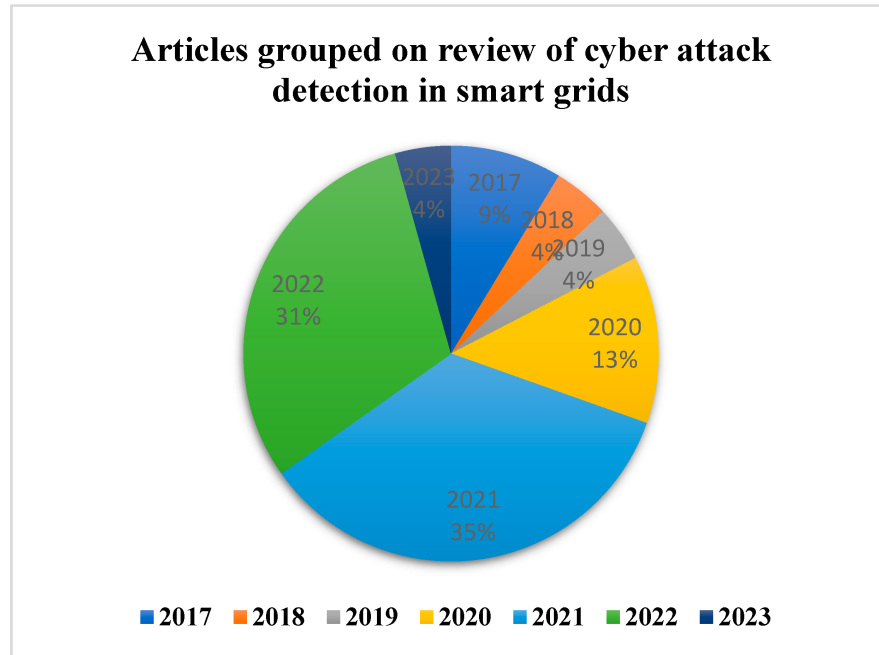


Figure 1.4: Estimate: cyber attacks will increase exponentially [4]

#### 1.7.4 Data privacy

Privacy is a critical concern within smart grid networks, prompting significant questions about the creation of policies regarding user data privacy. These questions revolve around several key points: Who owns the customer data? How is access to and usage of customer data regulated? What measures exist to protect the privacy and security of customer data from potential risks like surveillance or illicit activities? Is it permissible to sell or transfer customer data, and under what circumstances and for whose benefit? In areas with retail choice, are measures necessary to ensure that competing electricity providers have equal access to customer data compared to the incumbent utility?

In competitive environments among electricity providers, access to users' electricity usage patterns and behavioral information holds significant importance. Providers or their representatives may use this data to develop business strategies and create tailored packages or offers. In an open market scenario, some data may be disclosed after offers are made public, providing a level playing field for information access. However, if privacy is compromised beforehand, with specific user data available to only certain parties, these electricity providers could potentially gain unfair advantages. Therefore, effective privacy policies are essential to prevent the exploitation of unfair means in shaping business strategies.

The integration of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) into smart grid operations introduces various privacy concerns. Depending on how a consumer uses and recharges electricity [19].

### 1.7.5 Cost of Implementation:

Estimating Smart Grid costs poses challenges due to several factors. Integrating digital technology into Smart Grids introduces complexities, as the failure rates and life expectancy of embedded assets differ from traditional grid technologies. For instance, a substation transformer designed for 40 years may be coupled with information technology lasting 10, 15, or 20 years, necessitating careful cost considerations for upgrades. Additionally, the rapid obsolescence of digital tech complicates estimates, as advancing communications and computational capabilities may render Smart Grid components obsolete before their intended lifespan ends.

Moreover, the evolution of Smart Grid technologies is expected to outpace conventional tech in terms of cost reduction and advancements. However, uncertainties persist, particularly with new and unproven Smart Grid technologies. If their performance is subpar or degrades unexpectedly, it could jeopardize the entire technology's viability and business plan. As Smart Grid component costs decrease rapidly due to maturation and increased production, estimating replacement costs becomes challenging[5].

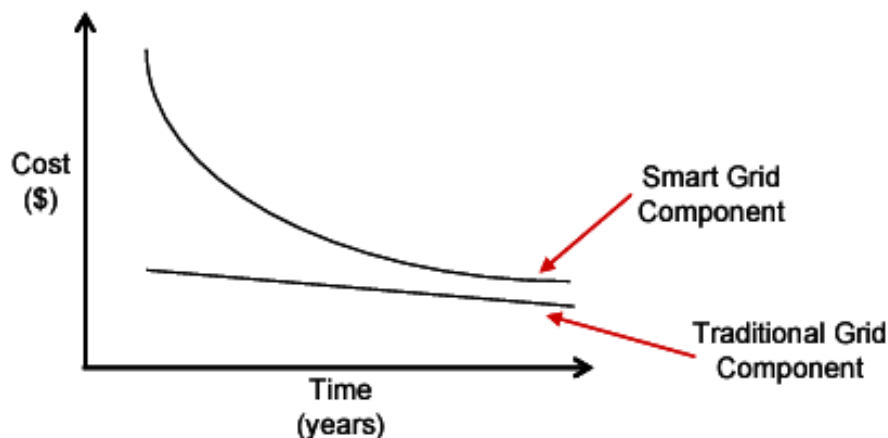


Figure 1.5: Grid Component Costs [5]

### 1.7.6 Regulatory Frameworks

Electric distribution systems across Europe are encountering significant hurdles stemming from climate change objectives, evolving market frameworks, and technological advancements. These factors will have a profound impact on the responsibilities of distribution system operators. The challenges' nature and magnitude are primarily influenced by Europe's vision and strategies regarding climate and energy. This research aims to identify which policies might pose obstacles to innovation in distribution grids and the adoption of advanced smart grid solutions developed within the UNITED-GRID project. Following an in-depth examination of emerging policy priorities within the energy and

climate framework, as well as electricity market design, and subsequent consultations with three partner distribution system operators, five key barriers have been pinpointed. The findings indicate that ambitious decarbonisation targets and shifting expectations regarding the role of distribution system operators in the energy landscape necessitate more adaptable and efficient network management. However, rigid income frameworks, insufficient incentives for innovation, and regulatory uncertainties impede the modernization of distribution systems. It can be inferred that these concerns heighten the risks for distribution system operators and must be taken into account by research initiatives and developers of smart grid solutions to successfully implement and achieve market adoption of the developed solutions [20].

## 1.8 Related works

Due to the critical importance of the smooth operation of the smart grid, detecting malicious behaviour towards it is of utmost importance. Analysing network traffic going in or going out of the smart grid infrastructure is required for detecting malicious activity, as intrusions usually have patterns and signatures that are detectable but not always. That's why many studies have turned to the emerging artificial intelligence technologies that can detect patterns humans can't detect based on statistical probabilities, which are obtained by analysing previous similar data.

For example, in [21], the author proposes an AI-based security solution for the data-driven parts of the smart grid that uses multiple classifiers to compare their performance, which are K-Nearest Neighbour, Neural Network, Decision Tree, and Random forest. He also used the PSO search algorithm for selecting features from a given subset of features. The proposed model was trained on the KDD99 and NSLKDD datasets. It is intended to be a binary classification model of network traffic, with the result of prediction being either normal or anomaly, but it also has multiclass classification that can predict attack categories like DoS, R2L, U2R, and Probe.

The proposed model has of six phases:

1. Data reading
2. Data preprocessing
3. Passing optimal features to machine learning selected models
4. Training the model with 70% of the dataset, then testing it with the 30% of the dataset
5. Experiment phase
6. Evaluation

The author then displayed an extensive evaluation of the model with the previously

mentioned evaluation criteria and tested the proposed model on various known reconfiguration tools like nmap, portweep, and more. The results of each classifier were closely matched, with random forest having the highest evaluation scores by a tiny margin on the KDD99 dataset with a precision of 99.8% for attacks and 98.5% for normal traffic, a recall of 99.6% for attacks and 99.3% for normal, and a f1 score of 99.7% for attacks and 98.9% for normal. As for the NSLKDD dataset, the performance was closely matched to that of the KDD99 dataset, with a few slight differences in each metric.

In order to increase detection accuracy, the research paper [22] suggests a parallel structure utilising Recurrent Neural Network (RNN) classifier models, namely Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) and Gated Recurrent Units (GRU). A dataset derived from an experimentally built SDN-based SCADA topology is used to train and evaluate the model. To improve the model's performance even more, transfer learning is used, and a further five percent improvement was attained. The results show that DDoS assaults in SDN-based SCADA systems can be successfully detected by the suggested RNN deep-learning classifier model.

Another example is this paper [23], in which the author was able to enhance SCADA systems security against DDoS attacks using machine learning techniques. The machine learning that were used were J48, Naive Bayes, and Random Forest. For training and evaluating the algorithms, the authors used the KDD99 dataset and also employed some pre-processing methods. The data indicate that Random Forest had an accuracy rate of 99.99% while Naïve Bayes came in second with an accuracy of 97.74%. Consequently, there exists a good basis for improving critical infrastructure security by knowing how machine learning algorithms detect attack patterns in SCADA systems.

In [24], the author tested the effectiveness of Snort and Suricata, two open-source intrusion detection systems (IDSs), for precisely identifying hostile traffic on networks. A hybrid form of SVM and fuzzy logic was also used in the study, and it resulted in increased detection accuracy. However, using an optimised SVM with the firefly method produced better results, with a false-negative rate (FNR) of 2.2% and a false-positive rate (FPR) of 8.6%. This result suggests a noteworthy enhancement in performance. The comparison of the two IDSs at a high network speed of 10 Gbps and the use of hybrid and optimised machine learning methods to improve Snort's functioning are what make this work novel.

## 1.9 Conclusion

The smart grid revolution is a journey that has no end point, but an ongoing need for greater efficiency, reliability and sustainability. It is worth noting that as much as there are challenges associated with adoption of this technology, the benefits likely to be realized by a smart grid surpass its drawbacks. This paper identifies prospects where innovation, collaboration and consumerization can enhance the capabilities of this unraveled technology.

A more intelligent network opens up possibilities for a future which sees clean energy sources like solar and wind power being integrated seamlessly into homes and businesses taking an active role in management of power and virtually live without power failures. It is a world that guarantees our children have access to a safe and sustainable energy infrastructure.

With smart grids, let's take it further to make the future brighter for all.

---

# Implementation

## Introduction

In this chapter, we present our contributions towards the deep learning-based intrusion detection system for the smart grid. due to the fact that smart grid communication requires connecting to the internet, smart grid components now have a new weakness which is cyber-threat. In order to counter this issue, we suggest a deep learning method that utilizes Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) and Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) which is a specific type of Recurrent Neural Network (RNN) to enhance the precision and efficiency of identifying intrusions within the smart grid communication infrastructure.

## 2.1 Theoretical Proposal

### 2.1.1 Project Description

The proposed system for the project is a network intrusion detection system based on deep learning that will depend on either CNN or LSTM models. This project mainly aims at designing and implementing a system that can detect cyber threats in smart grid communication infrastructure effectively. To capture both spatial and temporal features of network traffic data, the proposed system will use either CNN or LSTM architectures to identify complex and sophisticated attack patterns that would threaten the smart grid functionality. Our deep learning-based network intrusion detection system will be mainly focused on denial of service attacks (DoS) and distributed denial of service attacks (DDoS).

### 2.1.2 Project Design and architecture

Building any machine learning or deep learning model usually involves several important steps, as shown in Figure 2.1.

First, we need to collect data that is relevant to the function of the model we want to train, which we will then need to preprocess, which entails cleaning, encoding, augmenting, and standardising the data to prepare it for the training phase.

The next step is to select a learning algorithm, the proper optimizer, a loss function, and the evaluation metrics that we will use to train our model.

The model is then trained on the cleaned data, and this is where we feed the trained model new data it has not yet seen before and get the results and predictions on the new data.

The next and final step is the validation step, in which we get the prediction results and evaluate the model accuracy, recall, and f1-score.

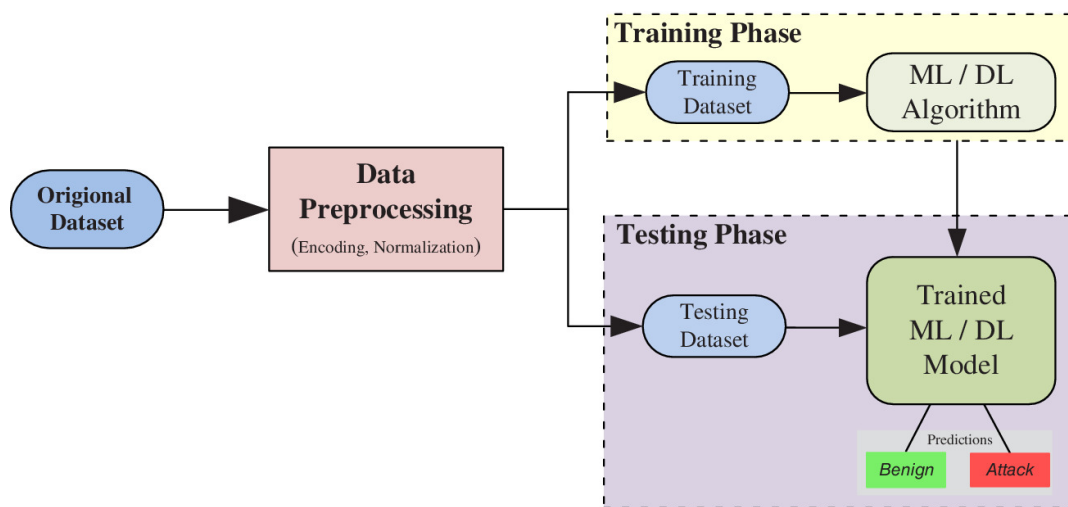


Figure 2.1: deep learning model creation

### 2.1.3 Deep learning Models architecture

Detecting cyber threats to the smart grid's functionality and safety is a crucial task that requires high detection accuracy. That's why we opted to use two deep learning algorithms for intrusion detection, which are CNN and LSTM.

#### 2.1.3.1 CNN model

Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) are a highly-specific deep learning algorithm meant to analyze spatially structured input data, like images and grid structured data. These are derived from the visual cortex of human beings and are good at image recognition, object detection and image segmentation among others. CNNs work by carrying out convolutional layers in order to capture local characteristics, pooling layers in order to reduce spatial dimensions and fully connected layers for predictions. They can be trained

on labeled data and have proved very effective in several applications like face recognition, medical imaging analysis as well as self-driving cars.[25]

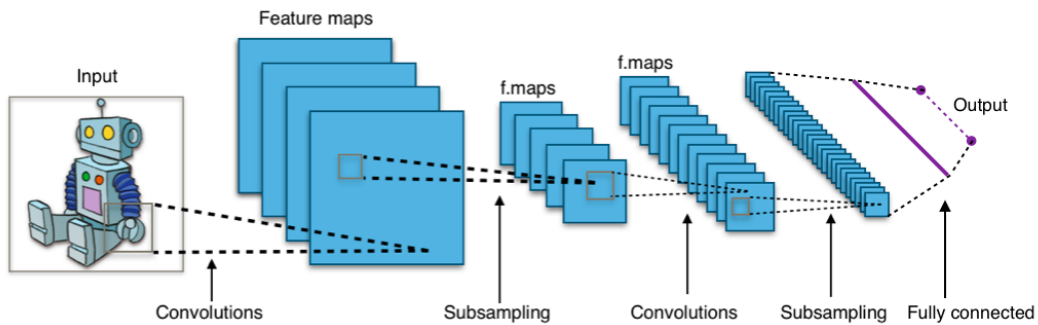


Figure 2.2: CNN architecture [6]

### 2.1.3.2 LSTM model

Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) is a type of Recurrent Neural Network (RNN) that was developed by Hochreiter and Schmidhuber; LSTM is different from RNNs because it can forecast sequences and study long-term dependency patterns from the provided data. What makes LSTMs unique is their ability to learn order dependency patterns which is critical in solving complex problems like speech recognition and machine translation. LSTM address the weakness of traditional RNN which is the inability to learn any long term patterns which it solves by introducing a memory cell, LSTM is controlled with Three gates control: input gate, forget gate, output gate. These gates determine what information to add, remove, and output from the memory cell and hence enable LSTM networks to learn long-term dependency patterns. [26]

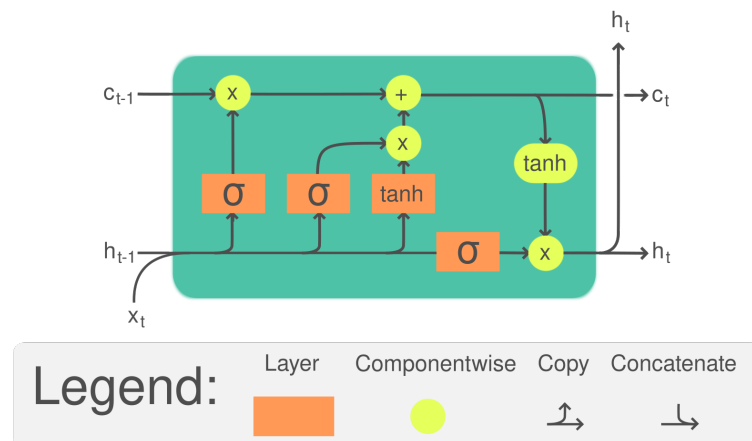


Figure 2.3: LSTM architecture [7]



## 2.2 Implementation and Experiments

### 2.2.1 Development tools used

#### 2.2.1.1 Development environment

training deep learning models requires a high performance PC due to the fact that these models require high computational resources to process large datasets and intricate neural networks. With complex calculations and huge amounts of data. One of the reasons why having a powerful PC with a powerful GPU is important during the training process is that it can significantly shorten the time needed for the training, as well as reduce computational resources. a sufficient quantity of memory (RAM) is also needed to load big datasets, and fast storage devices like SSDs are vital in handling data-intensive nature of deep learning tasks. That's why we will be using google colab which has a good selection of hardware for AI training with a top of the line Tesla T4 GPU with 16 GB of VRAM alongside 12 GB of ram and 78GB of disk space.

We will be using two following software for the model's development

- ▶ jupyter notebook: is an open source web application or a vscode extension that facilitates the creation and sharing of segmented documents that contains blocks of interactive code, text and data visualations, it is mostly used for data science, machine learning and scientific computing, it supports a wide range of programming languages like python, R, scala and julia, it can also display some text formats like markdown and HTML.
- ▶ VScode: Visual Studio Code (VS Code) is an open-source source-code editor developed by Microsoft for Windows, Linux, macOS, and web browsers. It is a popular choice among developers due to its extensive features like code highlighting, debugging, code completion, and the ability to extend its original functionality with 3rd-party extensions and extensibility. It also offers Git integration out of the box.

#### 2.2.1.2 programming languages

The programming language we mainly used is Python 3, important aspect of Python lies in its being more than just an object-oriented programming language because it supports other programming paradigms, which are procedural and functional programming making it flexible when choosing the desired approach. It has user-friendly syntax making it easy to digest even for beginner, This has led to the rise of Python's ecosystem fostered by active community coupled with simplicity behind coding style making it easily accessible by almost everyone. To further improve its capability and functionality, python boast a wide range of third party packages that can easily be installed through Python

package manager called pip. Python was created in 1991 by Guido van Rossum. A major landmark came in 2008 with the development of python3 which introduced several improvements and enhancements to the language thereby cementing its place as a valuable flexible programming tool on earth today. [27]

libraries that are used for the development:

- ▶ NumPy: NumPy is the primary array programming library for the Python language, with an essential role in research analysis pipelines across diverse fields such as physics, chemistry, astronomy, geoscience, biology, psychology, and more. The NumPy array is an efficient data structure that stores and accesses multidimensional arrays (tensors), enabling a wide variety of scientific computation. NumPy was initially developed by students, faculty and researchers to provide an advanced, open-source array programming library for Python, with a sense of building something consequential together for the benefit of many others. [27]
- ▶ Pandas: Pandas is a Python open source program meant for data management and analysis, it was started in 2008 by AQR Capital Management. It went public in late 2009 and has an active community of contributors. Some of the most important features associated with pandas are fast and efficient DataFrame object for data manipulation with integrated indexing, tools for reading and writing data between in-memory data structures and different formats, time series functionality like date range generation, frequency conversion, moving window statistics, and date shifting and highly optimized performance with critical code paths written in Cython or C. [28]
- ▶ Matplotlib: Matplotlib is a 2D plotting library for Python which can produce publication quality plots, used in application development, interactive scripting and image creation on all operating system and user interface platforms. The author of Matplotlib John D. Hunter began using Python in 2001 and was initially frustrated at the lack of a powerful graphics environment like MATLAB's. He then developed Matplotlib to satisfy his needs, focusing initially on embedding it in a GUI for his ECoG application and then gradually adding support for other features like high-quality raster and vector output, support for mathematical expressions, and interactive use from the shell.[29]
- ▶ Seaborn: Seaborn is a python library for making statistical graphics, Seaborn is a high-level interface to Matplotlib and compatible with Pandas's data structures. Many Seaborn functions can generate multi-panel figures for comparing different subsets of data or variable pairings within a dataset. By allowing quick prototyping and exploratory analysis of data in single-function calls with just a few arguments, Seaborn can be used throughout the scientific project cycle. [30]

- ▶ **scikit-learn:** Scikit-learn is a Python library that provides various machine learning algorithms for medium-scale supervised and unsupervised problems. It focuses on making things easy, having good performance, documentation and remaining consistent in its APIs. Scikit-learn depends on scientific Python ecosystem libraries such as NumPy and SciPy, and uses Cython to blend C/C++ with Python for improved performance. It is distributed under a simplified BSD license.[31]
- ▶ **TensorFlow:** TensorFlow is a free and open-source software library for machine learning and artificial intelligence. It gives you more flexibility and control than some of the other machine learning frameworks with features such as the Keras Functional API and the Sub-Classification API model to build complex neural network topologies. It offers fast execution for fast debugging and simple prototyping.[32]
- ▶ **Keras:** Keras is an open-source library that provides a Python interface for artificial neural networks. Keras was first independent software, then it was integrated into TensorFlow library, and later started supporting others like AJAX and PyTorch.[33]

### 2.2.2 Dataset

The IDS 2018 dataset is the data set used for this project, this dataset is a comprehensive and realistic dataset for intrusion detection systems. It was created through a collaboration effort between the Communications Security Establishment (CSE) and the Canadian Institute for Cybersecurity (CIC). It includes a few types of attacks such as Brute-force, Botnet, DoS, DDoS and Web attacks, also network infiltration from within all of which are a common attack on smart grid systems. This resulted in 16,233,002 traffic samples which were collected over 10 days from ten real networks, an unusual feature of this data set is its imbalance in benign to malicious ratio of cases. The CICFlowMeter-V3 generates 80 features extracted from the network traffic which describe various intrusions along with abstract distribution models for applications, protocols or even lower level networking entities. Researchers widely employ this dataset to analyze their IDS performance in different research works while others use it to build advanced IDS models. This dataset is not specific to smart grid activity but it is a generalized dataset that includes generalized network traffic which would be the same in a smart grid.

### 2.2.3 Data preprocessing

Data preprocessing is a crucial step, and the first step in training a machine learning model is data preprocessing. It involves cleaning, transforming, and organising the dataset before it can be used by the machine learning algorithms. Data preprocessing entails improving dataset quality by addressing issues such as missing values, invalid

values, and inconsistencies. Data preprocessing techniques include cleaning the data to get rid of errors, normalising the data so that features have the same scale, and feature engineering, which will result in new informative variables, augmenting the data, and resampling it to avoid bias in our model. Preparing the data effectively ensures that machine learning models can accurately learn patterns, increasing their performance and, hence, more accurate results.

### 2.2.3.1 importing data

First, we load the data with the Pandas library, and since our dataset is split into 10 files, we load the files that include the data related to DoS and DDoS attacks, and we merge the data into the same variable for easier preprocessing while deleting the old variable to avoid uselessly filling the memory. We also remove an unneeded column from one of the dataset files.

Listing 2.1: loading data

```
network_data1 = pd.read_csv('02-15-2018.csv', low_memory=False)
network_data2 = pd.read_csv('02-16-2018.csv', low_memory=False)
network_data3 = pd.read_csv('02-20-2018.csv', low_memory=False)
network_data4 = pd.read_csv('02-21-2018.csv', low_memory=False)

network_data3.drop(columns=['Flow ID', 'Src IP', 'Src Port', 'Dst IP'],
                    axis=1, inplace=True)

network_data = pd.concat([network_data1, network_data2], axis=0)
network_data.reset_index(drop=True, inplace=True)
del network_data1, network_data2

network_data = pd.concat([network_data, network_data3], axis=0)
network_data.reset_index(drop=True, inplace=True)
del network_data3

network_data = pd.concat([network_data, network_data4], axis=0)
network_data.reset_index(drop=True, inplace=True)
del network_data4
```

The total amount of data loaded is about 11 million rows with 80 columns, all of which are either benign or DoS/DDoS traffic, with a total size of 6.6 GB.

	Dst Port	Protocol	Timestamp	Flow Duration	Tot Fwd Pkts	Tot Bwd Pkts	TotLen Fwd Pkts	TotLen Bwd Pkts	Fwd Pkt Len Max	Fwd Pkt Len Min	...	Fwd Seg Size Min	Active Mean	Active Std	Active Max	Active Min	Idle Mean	Idle Std	Idle Max	Idle Min	Label
0	0	0	15/02/2018 08:25:18	112641158	3	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	...	0	0.0	0.000000	0.0	0.0	56320579.0	7.042784e+02	56321077.0	56320081.0	Benign
1	22	6	15/02/2018 08:29:05	37366762	14	12	2168.0	2993.0	712.0	0.0	...	32	1024353.0	649038.754495	1601183.0	321569.0	11431221.0	3.644991e+06	15617415.0	8960247.0	Benign
2	47514	6	15/02/2018 08:29:42	543	2	0	64.0	0.0	64.0	0.0	...	32	0.0	0.000000	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.000000e+00	0.0	0.0	Benign
3	0	0	15/02/2018 08:28:07	112640703	3	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	...	0	0.0	0.000000	0.0	0.0	56320551.5	3.669884e+02	56320611.0	56320092.0	Benign

Figure 2.4: Imported data sample

As we can see in Figure 2.5 and Table 2.1 below, the data is unbalanced, but we will fix that later in the data preprocessing phase, specifically in the data augmentation phase.

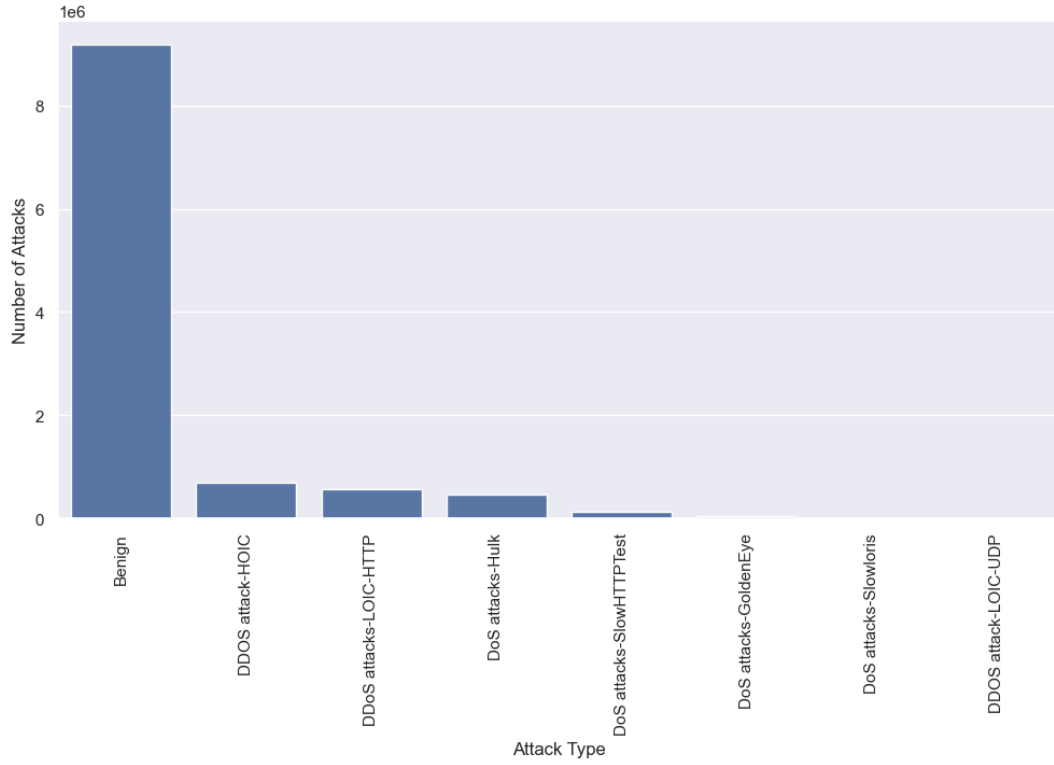


Figure 2.5: Bar graph of the unbalanced dataset

Table 2.1: the number of occurrence for each traffic type

activity type	number of ocurences
Benign	9176239
DDOS attack-HOIC	686012
DDoS attacks-LOIC-HTTP	576191
DoS attacks-Hulk	461912
DoS attacks-SlowHTTPTest	139890
DoS attacks-GoldenEye	41508
DoS attacks-Slowloris	10990
DDOS attack-LOIC-UDP	1730

### 2.2.3.2 Cleaning data

This is an important step, and executing it efficiently is necessary for accurate predictions in our deep learning model. To clean our data, we must first find and remove unwanted data like missing values, null values, duplicate rows, and unneeded columns or features.

- Finding and cleaning missing values: First, we identify the columns that contain null values in our dataset by identifying columns with missing values, after which we decide to eliminate the rows containing null values from the dataset. The objective of this step is to eliminate missing data to ensure quality and consistency in the model training.

Listing 2.2: Cleaning data

```
# find null or missing values
network_data.isna().sum().to_numpy()

# drop null or missing columns
cleaned_data = network_data.dropna(inplace=True)
```

- Removing duplicate rows: We also remove duplicate rows for a better-quality dataset and to avoid bias in our model.

Listing 2.3: Removing duplicates

```
# removing duplicate rows
cleaned_data.drop_duplicates(inplace=True)
```

### 2.2.3.3 Encoding the categorical variables

The LabelEncoder assigns a unique integer to each categorical value, which is the label in our case, which is the traffic type (benign or attack type), which allows them to be

represented in a numerical form. This makes it easier to use these variables in machine learning algorithms, as they can handle numerical values better.

Listing 2.4: Encoding the categorical variables

```
le = LabelEncoder()
cleaned_data['Label'] = le.fit_transform(cleaned_data['Label'])
```

#### 2.2.3.4 Augmenting the data

As we have stated before in Section 2.2.2, our dataset is unbalanced in the distribution between benign and malicious activity, which is a bad thing because it will introduce bias, overfitting, and poor prediction performance to our model. Therefore, In this step, we will resample our dataset to get a better 1:1 ratio between our different categorical variables (benign and other attack types). The following Python code snippet uses the resample function from scikit-learn; it does the resampling we need to make our dataset balanced.

Listing 2.5: resampling the dataset

```
from sklearn.utils import resample

data_1_resample = resample(data_1, n_samples=20000, random_state=123,
                           replace=True)
data_2_resample = resample(data_2, n_samples=20000, random_state=123,
                           replace=True)
data_3_resample = resample(data_3, n_samples=20000, random_state=123,
                           replace=True)
data_4_resample = resample(data_4, n_samples=20000, random_state=123,
                           replace=True)
data_5_resample = resample(data_5, n_samples=20000, random_state=123,
                           replace=True)
data_6_resample = resample(data_6, n_samples=20000, random_state=123,
                           replace=True)
data_7_resample = resample(data_7, n_samples=20000, random_state=123,
                           replace=True)
data_8_resample = resample(data_8, n_samples=20000, random_state=123,
                           replace=True)
```

- ▶ **data\_X**: All of those variables are our data, which has been cleaned and separated according to the categorical variables that we previously encoded.
- ▶ **n\_samples**: Is the number of rows for each attack type; in this case, we used 20000 rows.
- ▶ **random\_state**: This is the resampling seed; by using the same seed number, we can ensure that we always get the same results.

- replace: This variable decides whether or not a sample can be selected multiple times.

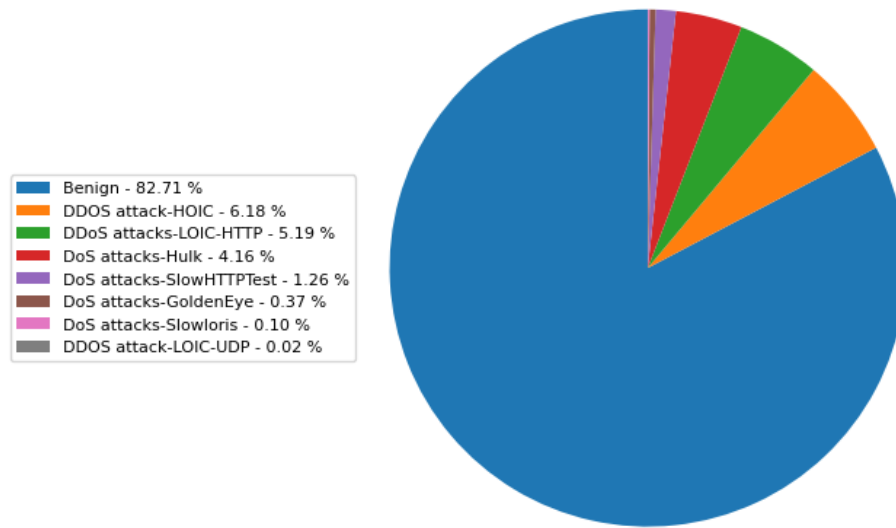


Figure 2.6: Before data augmentation

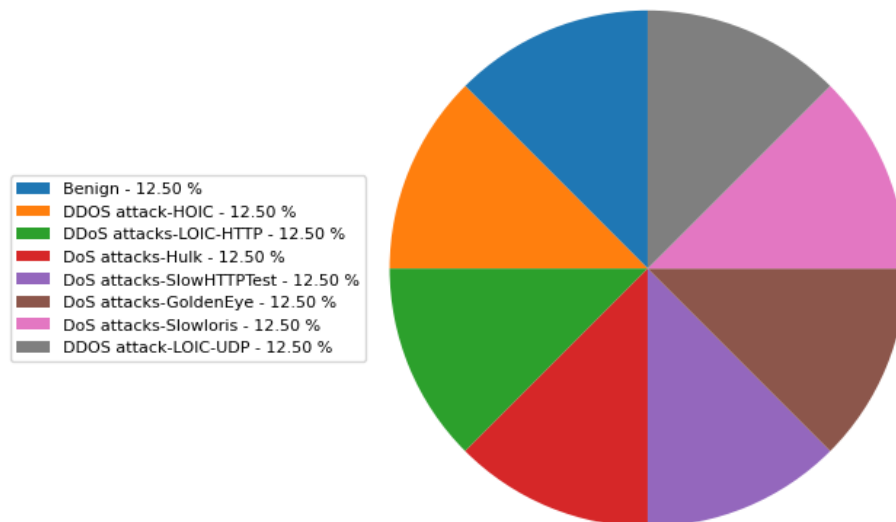


Figure 2.7: After data augmentation

Those resampled variables are then merged and fed to the deep learning model for training.

### 2.2.3.5 splitting the data for the deep learning model

In this step we split our data into 2 sets, training and testing sets:

- training data: 90% of the total dataset
- testing data 10% of the total dataset



Listing 2.6: Splitting the dataset

```
test_dataset = train_dataset.sample(frac=0.1)
target_train = train_dataset['Label']
target_test = test_dataset['Label']
```

## 2.2.4 Deep learning models implementation

### 2.2.4.1 CNN model

In this step we implement a Network Intrusion Detection System (NIDS) using a Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) deep learning model. The model, defined with the Keras Sequential API, is made up of several convolution and pooling layers followed by fully connected layers. The CNN has been structured such a way that it is able to recognize network traffic data patterns meaning it can detect and classify potential denial-of-service (DoS) and distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) attacks.

CNN deep learning model creation using the Kera API functions:

Listing 2.7: CNN Model creation

```
model = Sequential()
model.add(Conv1D(filters=64, kernel_size=6, activation='relu',
    padding='same', input_shape=(72, 1)))
model.add(BatchNormalization())

model.add(MaxPooling1D(pool_size=(3), strides=2, padding='same'))

model.add(Conv1D(filters=64, kernel_size=6, activation='relu',
    padding='same', input_shape=(72, 1)))
model.add(BatchNormalization())
model.add(MaxPooling1D(pool_size=(3), strides=2, padding='same'))

model.add(Conv1D(filters=64, kernel_size=6, activation='relu',
    padding='same', input_shape=(72, 1)))
model.add(BatchNormalization())
model.add(MaxPooling1D(pool_size=(3), strides=2, padding='same'))

model.add(Flatten())
model.add(Dense(64, activation='relu'))
model.add(Dense(64, activation='relu'))
model.add(Dense(8, activation='softmax'))

model.compile(loss='categorical_crossentropy', optimizer='adam',
    metrics=['accuracy'])
```

- ▶ `Sequential()`: Creates a model with a stack of layers, where each layer has one input and one output.
- ▶ `Conv1D()`: Adds one dimensional convolutional layer to the model, results in an output tensor.
- ▶ `MaxPooling1D()`: It adds a pooling operation to one-dimensional temporal data.
- ▶ `Flatten()`: This function is used to flatten a matrix into a one-dimensional array.
- ▶ `Dense()`: Previous layer outputs given as inputs to it's neurons, with each neuron producing only one output for the next layer.
- ▶ `BatchNormalization()`: It is employed to normalise the input data such that the mean output is close to zero and the output standard deviation is close to one.
- ▶ `compile()`: Is used for configuring the model before training; this includes but is not limited to:
  - loss function: categorical crossentropy, which calculates cross-entropy loss between labels and predictions.
  - optimizer: Adam optimization. Stochastic gradient descent method based on adaptive estimation of first-order and second-order moments.
  - metrics: accuracy is the ratio of correct predictions to the total number of predictions.

We also get a summary of the created model. This summary describes the arrangement of the model layers, the number of parameters in each layer, the output shape of each layer, and the number of trainable and non-trainable parameters.

Layer (type)	Output Shape	Param #
conv1d (Conv1D)	(None, 72, 64)	448
batch_normalization (BatchNormalization)	(None, 72, 64)	256
max_pooling1d (MaxPooling1D)	(None, 36, 64)	0
conv1d_1 (Conv1D)	(None, 36, 64)	24,640
batch_normalization_1 (BatchNormalization)	(None, 36, 64)	256
max_pooling1d_1 (MaxPooling1D)	(None, 18, 64)	0
conv1d_2 (Conv1D)	(None, 18, 64)	24,640
batch_normalization_2 (BatchNormalization)	(None, 18, 64)	256
max_pooling1d_2 (MaxPooling1D)	(None, 9, 64)	0
flatten (Flatten)	(None, 576)	0
dense (Dense)	(None, 64)	36,928
dense_1 (Dense)	(None, 64)	4,160
dense_2 (Dense)	(None, 8)	520

Total params: 92,104 (359.78 KB)

Trainable params: 91,720 (358.28 KB)

Non-trainable params: 384 (1.50 KB)

Figure 2.8: CNN model summary

The next step is starting the model training with 30 epochs, 32 batch sizes, and the validation data, which is the test data we split from the original dataset earlier.

Listing 2.8: Start the CNN model training

```
his = model.fit(X_train, y_train, epochs=30, batch_size=32,
                validation_data=(X_test, y_test))
```

After the training process is finished, we can use the Keras save() function to save our train model into a .keras file for later use, so we can reuse our model without having to train it each time.

Listing 2.9: Saving the CNN model

```
# saving the model to CNN_model.keras file
model.save('CNN_model.keras')

# loading the model from CNN_model.keras file
from keras.models import load_model
model = keras.saving.load_model('CNN_model.keras')
```

### 2.2.4.2 LSTM model

The LSTM model implementation is very similar to the CNN implementation, with only a few challenges. Those changes being that CNN uses the `Conv1D()` function to create its one-dimensional convolutional layer, while LSTM uses the `LSTM()` function to add its layers.

Listing 2.10: LSTM model code

```
model = Sequential()
model.add(LSTM(units=64, return_sequences=True, input_shape=(72, 1)))
model.add(BatchNormalization())

model.add(LSTM(units=64, return_sequences=True))
model.add(BatchNormalization())

model.add(LSTM(units=64))
model.add(BatchNormalization())

model.add(Dense(64, activation='relu'))
model.add(Dense(64, activation='relu'))
model.add(Dense(8, activation='softmax'))

model.compile(loss='categorical_crossentropy', optimizer='adam',
              metrics=['accuracy'])
```

And after the model training is finished, we save the model for later loading and usage.

Listing 2.11: Saving the LSTM model

```
# saving the model to LSTM_model.keras file
model.save('LSTM_model.keras')

# loading the model from LSTM_model.keras file
from keras.models import load_model
model = keras.saving.load_model('LSTM_model.keras')
```

We get a model summary for the LSTM model as well.

Layer (type)	Output Shape	Param #
lstm_3 (LSTM)	(None, 72, 64)	16,896
batch_normalization_3 (BatchNormalization)	(None, 72, 64)	256
lstm_4 (LSTM)	(None, 72, 64)	33,024
batch_normalization_4 (BatchNormalization)	(None, 72, 64)	256
lstm_5 (LSTM)	(None, 64)	33,024
batch_normalization_5 (BatchNormalization)	(None, 64)	256
dense_3 (Dense)	(None, 64)	4,160
dense_4 (Dense)	(None, 64)	4,160
dense_5 (Dense)	(None, 8)	520

Total params: 92,552 (361.53 KB)

Trainable params: 92,168 (360.03 KB)

Non-trainable params: 384 (1.50 KB)

Figure 2.9: LSTM model summary

## 2.2.5 Results

In this step, we will compile the data from our model evaluation on the test data with both the CNN and the LSTM models. The metrics that we use for evaluation are mainly the detection accuracy and loss rate. We will also be looking at other metrics like

The metrics used for the evaluation are primarily accuracy, but there are also some other metrics, including:

- Accuracy: Accuracy is a measure of the overall correctitude of predictions made by models. It can be calculated as  $(TP+TN)/(TP+TN+FP+FN)$ . The accuracy metric is deceptive especially in cases where datasets are not balanced.
- precision: Precision on the other hand measures the rate of true positives among all positive predictions that the model makes. Precision can be expressed as

TP/(TP+FP). Precision comes in handy when wrong positive consequences could have serious implications, for example spam detection effort.

- ▶ F1-score: F1 score is harmonic mean of precision and recall and ranges between 0 to 1 whereby 1 means best. F1 Score provides balance between recall and precision. This may be given as  $2 * (\text{Precision} * \text{Recall}) / (\text{Precision} + \text{Recall})$ .

### 2.2.5.1 CNN model

evaluating the CNN model with the test data:

- ▶ accuracy:
  - Training accuracy: 99.6%
  - Validation accuracy: 98.17%
- ▶ loss:
  - Training loss: 1.54%
  - Validation loss: 7.05%

Listing 2.12: CNN multilabel classification report

	precision	recall	f1-score	support
Benign	0.89	0.98	0.94	1947
DDoS attack-HOIC	0.99	0.89	0.94	1942
DDoS attack-LOIC-UDP	1.00	1.00	1.00	1999
DDoS attacks-LOIC-HTTP	0.98	0.99	0.99	2122
DoS attacks-GoldenEye	1.00	1.00	1.00	2066
DoS attacks-Hulk	1.00	1.00	1.00	1933
DoS attacks-SlowHTTPTest	1.00	1.00	1.00	2004
DoS attacks-Slowloris	1.00	0.99	0.99	1987
accuracy			0.98	16000
macro avg	0.98	0.98	0.98	16000
weighted avg	0.98	0.98	0.98	16000

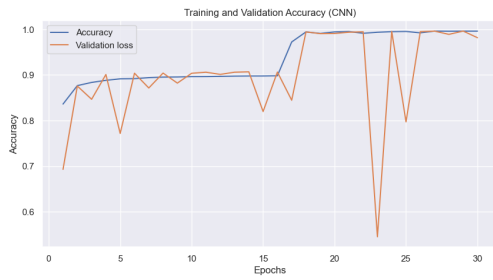


Figure 2.10: CNN Accuracy graph



Figure 2.11: CNN Loss graph

### 2.2.5.2 LSTM model

evaluating the LSTM model with the test data:

- ▶ accuracy:
  - Training accuracy: 99.6%
  - Validation accuracy: 99.65%
- ▶ loss:
  - Training loss: 1.72%
  - Validation loss: 1.48%

Listing 2.13: LSTM multilabel classification report

	precision	recall	f1-score	support
Benign	1.00	0.98	0.99	1980
DDoS attack-HOIC	0.99	1.00	1.00	2006
DDoS attack-LOIC-UDP	1.00	1.00	1.00	1940
DDoS attacks-LOIC-HTTP	0.99	1.00	0.99	1972
DoS attacks-GoldenEye	1.00	1.00	1.00	2053
DoS attacks-Hulk	1.00	1.00	1.00	2001
DoS attacks-SlowHTTPTest	1.00	1.00	1.00	2005
DoS attacks-Slowloris	1.00	1.00	1.00	2043
accuracy			1.00	16000
macro avg	1.00	1.00	1.00	16000
weighted avg	1.00	1.00	1.00	16000

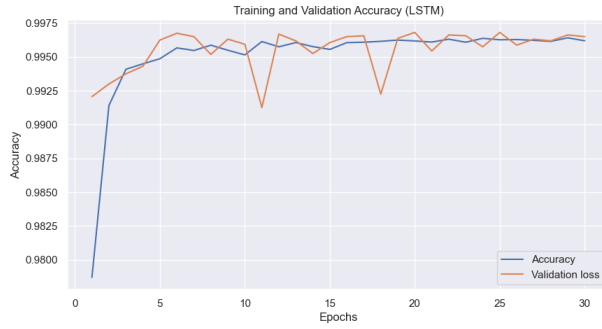


Figure 2.12: LSTM Accuracy graph



Figure 2.13: LSTM Loss graph

**Observation** : We notice that the accuracy and loss rates between the CNN and the LSTM models were better, but only with a slight difference. We also notice that CNN also takes more epochs to reach its maximum performance. Also, according to the validation accuracy compared to the number of epochs, the LSTM provides better accuracy over a wider range of epochs, while CNN provides its best accuracy over a narrower range of epochs.

## 2.2.6 Conclusion

In this chapter we demonstrated the development of two different deep learning methodes for creating a network intrusion detection system that protects the smart grid from DoS and DDoS attacks, starting with the development environment, the architecture of the used algorithms, and the data preprocessing, cleaning and training the models, and finishing the chapter with a performance comparison between the two models.



---

# General Conclusion



The proposed deep learning-based network intrusion detection system effectively addresses the issue of protecting smart grid infrastructure from distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) and denial-of-service (DoS) attacks. The system leverages convolutional neural networks (CNN) and long-short-term memory (LSTM) algorithms to identify and prevent malicious network traffic. This solution is particularly relevant in the context of smart grids, where the reliability and security of communication networks are crucial for efficient and safe operation.

## contribution

- ▶ Developing a dependable and reliable intrusion detection system that can detect DoS and DDoS attacks in the smart grid.
- ▶ Improved accuracy and efficiency as an AI model is capable of detecting patterns that are undetectable to a human.
- ▶ Scalability and adaptability because it is important to meet the constantly increasing demand in the smart grid.

## Perspectives

Although our solution based on real-life network traffic data for detecting DoS and DDoS attacks has shown promising results with good accuracy, to further enhance the accuracy and effectiveness of malicious activity detection, there is a need to explore additional real network traffic data in a variety of situations and use cases and more network traffic pattern analysis. We propose:

## Limitations

- ▶ Better quality and availability of training data, because that can significantly impact the performance of the system. Future work should focus on developing methods to handle noisy or limited data.
- ▶ Real-time processing is required because The system's ability to process data in real-time is crucial for effective DDoS attack detection.
- ▶ Integration with existing systems, The system should be designed to seamlessly integrate with existing smart grid infrastructure and security systems to ensure a smooth transition and optimal performance, because if it doesn't, new hardware and systems will be required, which makes it a very expensive endeavour.
- ▶ Future research should explore the application of other deep learning architectures and techniques to further improve the system's performance and adaptability.

By addressing these limitations and perspectives, the proposed deep learning-based network intrusion detection system can be further refined and optimised to provide enhanced security and reliability for smart grid communication networks.

---

# Bibliography



- [1] Avi Gopstein, Cuong Nguyen, Cheyney O’Fallon, Nelson Hastings, David Wollman, et al. *NIST framework and roadmap for smart grid interoperability standards, release 4.0*. Department of Commerce. National Institute of Standards and Technology . . . , 2021.
- [2] Xi Fang, Satyajayant Misra, Guoliang Xue, and Dejun Yang. Smart grid—the new and improved power grid: A survey. *IEEE communications surveys & tutorials*, 14(4): 944–980, 2011.
- [3] Zhiyi Chen, Ali Moradi Amani, Xinghuo Yu, and Mahdi Jalili. Control and optimisation of power grids using smart meter data: A review. *Sensors*, 23(4):2118, 2023.
- [4] Link to mdpi article. URL <https://www.mdpi.com/1996-1073/16/4/1651>. Accessed on April 20, 2024.
- [5] U.S. Department of Energy. Estimating the costs and benefits of the smart grid: A preliminary estimate, 2011. URL [https://smartgrid.gov/files/documents/Estimating\\_Costs\\_Benefits\\_Smart\\_Grid\\_Preliminary\\_Estimate\\_In\\_201103.pdf](https://smartgrid.gov/files/documents/Estimating_Costs_Benefits_Smart_Grid_Preliminary_Estimate_In_201103.pdf). Accessed on 20 Avril 2024.
- [6] Convolutional neural network. URL [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Convolutional\\_neural\\_network](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Convolutional_neural_network). accessed: 05-06-2024.
- [7] Long short-term memory. URL [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Long\\_short-term\\_memory](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Long_short-term_memory). accessed: 05-06-2024.
- [8] Joe Miller. Understanding the smart grid: Features, benefits and costs. In *Illinois Smart Grid Initiative–Workshop*, 2008.
- [9] Hamid Gharavi and Reza Ghafurian. *Smart grid: The electric energy system of the future*, volume 99. IEEE Piscataway, NJ, USA, 2011.

- [10] Mohamed E El-Hawary. The smart grid—state-of-the-art and future trends. *Electric Power Components and Systems*, 42(3-4):239–250, 2014.
- [11] Haotian Zhang. *Smart Grid Technologies and Implementations*. PhD thesis, City University London, 2014.
- [12] GM Shafiullah, Aman Maung Than Oo, ABMS Ali, and Peter Wolfs. Smart grid for a sustainable future. 2013.
- [13] Blackridge Research. What is a smart grid? what are the major smart grid technologies? URL <https://www.blackridgeresearch.com/blog/what-is-a-smart-grid-what-are-the-major-smart-grid-technologies#smart-grid-technologies>. Accessed on 22 April 2024.
- [14] Artur R Avazov and Liubov A Sobinova. Advanced distribution management system. In *EPJ Web of Conferences*, volume 110, page 01004. EDP Sciences, 2016.
- [15] ElProCus. Overview of smart grid technology, operation & application in existing power system. URL <https://www.elprocus.com/overview-smart-grid-technology-operation-application-existing-power-system/>. Accessed on 20 April 2024.
- [16] Smart circuit-breakers for energy-efficient homes. URL <https://www.economist.com/science-and-technology/2017/11/23/smart-circuit-breakers-for-energy-efficient-homes>. Accessed on 01-06-2024.
- [17] Yu Cunjiang, Zhang Huaxun, and Zhao Lei. Architecture design for smart grid. *Energy Procedia*, 17:1524–1528, 2012.
- [18] Kenneth Kimani, Vitalice Oduol, and Kibet Langat. Cyber security challenges for iot-based smart grid networks. *International journal of critical infrastructure protection*, 25:36–49, 2019.
- [19] Sherali Zeadally, Al-Sakib Khan Pathan, Cristina Alcaraz, and Mohamad Badra. Towards privacy protection in smart grid. *Wireless personal communications*, 73:23–50, 2013.
- [20] Joni Rossi, Ankur Srivastava, David Steen, and Le A Tuan. Study of the european regulatory framework for smart grid solutions in future distribution systems. In *CIREN 2020 Berlin Workshop (CIREN 2020)*, volume 2020, pages 800–802. IET, 2020.

- [21] Suleman Khan Kashif Kifayat Ali Kashif Bashir Abdrei Gurtov Mehdi Hassan. Intelligent intrusion detection system in smart grid using computational intelligence and machine learning. *Journal of Machine Learning Research*, 2011. doi: 10.1002/ett.4062.
- [22] Hüseyin Polat, Muammer Türkoğlu, Onur Polat, and Abdülkadir Şengür. A novel approach for accurate detection of the ddos attacks in sdn-based scada systems based on deep recurrent neural networks. *Expert Systems with Applications*, 197:116748, 2022. ISSN 0957-4174. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.eswa.2022.116748>. URL <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0957417422002160>.
- [23] Fahd Abdulsalam Alhaidari and Ezaz Mohammed AL-Dahasi. New approach to determine ddos attack patterns on scada system using machine learning. *2019 International Conference on Computer and Information Sciences (ICCIS)*, pages 1–6, 2019. URL <https://api.semanticscholar.org/CorpusID:155109260>.
- [24] Syed Ali Raza Shah and Biju Issac. Performance comparison of intrusion detection systems and application of machine learning to snort system. *Future Generation Computer Systems*, 80:157–170, 2018. ISSN 0167-739X. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.future.2017.10.016>. URL <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0167739X17323178>.
- [25] Osva Montesinos-López, Abelardo Montesinos, and Jose Crossa. *Convolutional Neural Networks*, pages 533–577. 01 2022. ISBN 978-3-030-89009-4. doi: 10.1007/978-3-030-89010-0\_13.
- [26] Deep learning | introduction to long short term memory. URL <https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/deep-learning-introduction-to-long-short-term-memory/>. accessed: 01-06-2024.
- [27] General python faq. URL <https://docs.python.org/3/faq/general.html#what-is-python>. accessed: 28-05-2024.
- [28] About pandas. URL <https://pandas.pydata.org/about/>. accessed: 28-05-2024.
- [29] J. D. Hunter. Matplotlib: A 2d graphics environment. *Computing in Science & Engineering*, 9(3):90–95, 2007. doi: 10.1109/MCSE.2007.55.
- [30] Michael L. Waskom. seaborn: statistical data visualization. *Journal of Open Source Software*, 6(60):3021, 2021. doi: 10.21105/joss.03021. URL <https://doi.org/10.21105/joss.03021>.

- [31] F. Pedregosa, G. Varoquaux, A. Gramfort, V. Michel, B. Thirion, O. Grisel, M. Blondel, P. Prettenhofer, R. Weiss, V. Dubourg, J. Vanderplas, A. Passos, D. Cournapeau, M. Brucher, M. Perrot, and E. Duchesnay. Scikit-learn: Machine learning in Python. *Journal of Machine Learning Research*, 12:2825–2830, 2011.
- [32] Why tensorflow. URL <https://www.tensorflow.org/about>. accessed: 01-06-2024.
- [33] Introducing keras 3.0. URL [https://keras.io/keras\\_3/](https://keras.io/keras_3/). accessed: 01-06-2024.

---

# Acronyms



(You can list the acronyms used in the document, for example:)

**NTIC** New Technologies of Information and Communication

**UML** Unified Modeling Language

**ADMS** Advanced Distribution Management Systems

**ARIMA** Autoregressive Integrated Moving Average

**AMI** Advanced Metering Infrastructure

**AI** Artificial Intelligence

**ML** Machine Learning

**DL** Deep Learning

**CNN** Convolutional Neural Network

**RNN** Recurrent Neural Network

**LSTM** Long Short-Term Memory

**DoS** Denial of Service

**DDoS** Distributed Denial of Service

**IDS** Intrusion Detection System

**NIDS** Network Intrusion Detection System

**IoT** Internet of Things