Resource-Efficient Synthetic Data Generation for Performance Evaluation in Mobile Edge Computing over 5G Networks

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Abstract—Mobile Edge Computing (MEC) in 5G networks has emerged as a promising technology to enable efficient and low-latency services for mobile users. In this paper, we present a novel synthetic data generation approach tailored for evaluating MEC in 5G networks. Our methodology incorporates resource-efficient techniques to generate realistic synthetic datasets that capture the spatio-temporal patterns of mobile traffic and user behavior. By leveraging advanced modeling techniques, including multi-head attention and bidirectional LSTM, we accurately model the complex dependencies in the data while optimizing computational resources. The proposed synthetic data generator enables the creation of diverse datasets that closely resemble real-world scenarios, facilitating the evaluation of MEC performance and optimizing resource utilization. Through extensive experiments and evaluations, we demonstrate the effectiveness of our approach in enabling accurate assessments of MEC in 5G networks. Our work contributes to the field by providing a robust methodology for synthetic data generation specifically tailored for MEC evaluation, addressing the need for resource-efficient evaluation frameworks in the context of emerging technologies. The results of our study provide valuable insights for the design and optimization of MEC systems in real-world deployments.

Index Terms—Generative Adversarial Network, 5G, Mobile Edge Computing, Synthetic Data Generation, Resource Efficiency, Performance Evaluation

1 Introduction

Mobile Edge Computing (MEC) has emerged as a promising paradigm in the field of wireless communication and distributed computing. It aims to bring computing resources and services closer to the network's periphery, enabling low-latency and high-bandwidth mobile applications [1]. MEC leverages edge servers deployed in close proximity to mobile users, enabling offloading of computationally intensive tasks from mobile devices to the edge, thereby reducing latency and conserving energy. With the advent of the fifth-generation (5G) wireless network technology [2], [3], MEC has gained significant attention due to its potential to support a wide range of emerging applications, including augmented reality, autonomous vehicles, and Internet of Things (IoT) deployments [4].

However, evaluating the efficacy of MEC systems is often complicated by the scarcity of real-world datasets that accurately represent mobile traffic and user behavior. Acquiring large-scale, diverse, and labeled datasets that capture the characteristics of real mobile networks can be complex, time-consuming, and resource-intensive. Privacy concerns, legal restrictions, and limited access to real network trace further exacerbate this challenge. Synthetic data generation techniques offer a promising solution to address these challenges by providing realistic and customizable datasets for evaluating the performance of MEC systems over 5G networks [5], [6].

This work addresses the challenges mentioned above in MEC performance evaluation by proposing a synthetic data generator to create realistic mobile traffic and user behavior datasets. Synthetic data generation offers several advantages over using real-world datasets. It provides flexibility in generating diverse and customizable datasets, enabling researchers and system designers to evaluate MEC systems under a wide range of scenarios and conditions. It eliminates the need for time-consuming and resource-intensive data collection processes, allowing for quicker prototyping, testing, and benchmarking of MEC applications and algorithms. Additionally, synthetic data generation techniques can ensure privacy and data anonymity during evaluation. By leveraging synthetic data generation techniques, researchers and system designers can gain insights into MEC systems' performance, scalability, and resource requirements over 5G networks [7], [8], [9].

The main objective of this work is to develop a synthetic data generator tailored explicitly for evaluating the efficacy of MEC systems in the context of 5G networks. The pro-

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posed generator aims to provide realistic and customizable datasets that capture the characteristics of mobile traffic and user behavior, enabling an accurate assessment of MEC system performance. The specific objectives of this work include designing and implementing a synthetic data generator that can generate realistic mobile traffic and user behavior datasets, exploring different modeling techniques and algorithms for capturing the temporal and spatial characteristics of mobile traffic, investigating methods for generating realistic user behavior patterns considering factors such as mobility, application preferences, and interaction with edge services, evaluating the performance and accuracy of the synthetic data generator through extensive experimentation and comparison with real-world datasets, and demonstrating the utility of the synthetic data generator in the context of MEC system evaluation, showcasing its effectiveness in benchmarking, optimization, and resource allocation tasks.

Addressing these challenges, this work proposes a synthetic data generator designed for MEC systems. Our generator utilizes an attention mechanism and a bidirectional long short-term memory (BiLSTM) layer in both generator and discriminator parts. It updates the weights using a reinforcement learning-based training scheme, offering a realistic synthetic data resembling actual mobile traffic and user behavior.

The primary contributions of this work include:

- The proposal of a novel synthetic data generator harnessing attention and BiLSTM layers and a reinforcement learning-based training approach for MEC performance evaluation in 5G networks.
- Validation of the synthetic data generator through extensive experimentation and comparison with a real-world dataset, considering performance metrics like mean squared error, mean absolute error, cosine similarity, and correlation coefficient.
- Demonstrate the generator's effectiveness in MEC systems' benchmarking and optimization tasks regarding resource utilization.

Our research contributes significantly to the domain of synthetic data generation for MEC system evaluation in 5G networks. We provide a robust and customizable solution encapsulating the key characteristics of real-world datasets, enabling more precise assessments of MEC performance.

The remainder of this paper is structured as follows: Section 2 reviews the related work in synthetic data generation for MEC over 5G networks. Section 3 outlines the methodology and architecture of the proposed synthetic data generator. Section 4 presents the experimental results and analysis. Finally, Section 5 concludes the paper, summarizing the key contributions and limitations of our approach and proposing potential future research directions.

2 RELATED WORK

This section reviews the existing literature in synthetic data generation, focusing on its application in Mobile Edge Computing (MEC) within 5G networks. Synthetic data generation has proven to be an indispensable tool across various domains such as computer vision [10], natural language processing [11], and network simulation [12]. It is particularly beneficial in the context of MEC, addressing limitations associated with real-world datasets and mitigating privacy concerns.

Generative adversarial networks (GANs) have been widely used for generating synthetic mobile traffic and user behavior data [13], [14], [15]. GANs consist of a generator network that learns to emulate real data, and a discriminator network that distinguishes between real and synthetic data. This approach has shown encouraging results in creating synthetic data for mobile applications.

In parallel, extensive studies have investigated the performance of MEC within 5G networks. McClellan et al. [16] demonstrated the potential of deep learning in 5G MEC for low-latency and real-time applications. Similarly, Tran et al. [17] explored the synergy between Cloud Radio Access Network (C-RAN) and MEC in 5G networks, pinpointing key challenges and scenarios.

Frameworks such as the resource-efficient flow-enabled distributed mobility anchoring (FDMA) architecture [18] were designed to enhance the performance of Internet of Medical Things (IoMT) devices in 5G networks. Moreover, studies have investigated the convergence of artificial intelligence (AI), blockchain distributed ledger technology (BDLT), and wireless sensor networks (WSN) in renewable energy and electricity automation [19].

Drone-based data collection studies propose collaborative management of fog nodes, employing Blockchain Hyperledger Fabric with a metaheuristic-enabled genetic algorithm for secure and optimized data handling [20]. These advances indicate a trend towards more sophisticated and collaborative MEC systems.

In the context of synthetic data generation, Xiang et al. [21] provided a dataset comprising of randomly generated MEC network topologies of varying sizes. This dataset serves as a valuable resource for evaluating synthetic data generation performance. Zhang et al. [22] discussed the integration of MEC in future-generation networks, emphasizing the motivations, applications, and challenges.

Against this backdrop, we propose a reinforcement learning based synthetic data generator tailored for MEC performance evaluation over 5G networks. The proposed generator incorporates advanced modeling techniques such as multi-head attention and bidirectional LSTM [23], [24]. These techniques enable the capture of complex spatio-temporal patterns in mobile traffic and user behavior. Our generator also uses reinforcement learning for model weight updation, providing a powerful and flexible tool for performance evaluation in the context of MEC over 5G networks.

3 METHODOLOGY

This section outlines the detailed design and implementation of our synthetic data generator, with a focus on its applicability for evaluating Mobile Edge Computing (MEC) over 5G networks. Our generator incorporates various integral components: data preprocessing, attention and BiLSTM-based model, and reinforcement learning-based training.

Data preprocessing is the initial and a critical step in our methodology. This stage involves data cleaning, handling

missing data, and data normalization, which ensures the consistent and reliable input to our model. The meticulous preprocessing of data helps eliminate extraneous noise, resulting in optimal computational resources utilization in subsequent modeling stages.

Subsequent to data preprocessing, we employ advanced modeling techniques to capture the intricate spatiotemporal patterns present in mobile traffic and user behavior. Our model uses a combination of multi-head attention and bidirectional LSTM (BiLSTM) in both the generator and discriminator components. The multi-head attention mechanism allows the model to focus on different features at varying time steps, while the BiLSTM layer captures dependencies across different time steps. The combination of these techniques facilitates the efficient learning and representation of complex patterns in the data, reducing computational complexity while preserving the essential characteristics of the real-world datasets.

Finally, we introduce a unique reinforcement learning-based training process to update the weights of our model. This process employs a reward mechanism to guide the generator and discriminator in creating and identifying realistic synthetic data, respectively. The generator tries to maximize the reward by generating data that the discriminator classifies as real, while the discriminator is trained to minimize this reward by correctly distinguishing between real and synthetic data.

The reinforcement learning approach allows for more efficient training, enabling the generator to create high-quality synthetic data that closely resemble real-world data. This process accounts for various customizable parameters, including traffic intensity, user mobility patterns, and application preferences, thus facilitating the creation of diverse datasets reflecting a range of real-world scenarios.

By detailing each component of our synthetic data generator, we provide an in-depth understanding of its design and operation, highlighting the role of each element in ensuring resource-efficient synthetic data generation. This holistic understanding of our model is instrumental in evaluating the efficacy of MEC systems in 5G networks, thereby underlining the effectiveness of our proposed approach.

3.1 Data Preprocessing

The first step in generating synthetic data involves data preprocessing. This phase focuses on preparing the raw data for further processing and analysis. During data preprocessing, various tasks are performed to ensure that the data is in the right format and quality for subsequent stages. Real-world datasets frequently require preprocessing to eliminate noise, standardise the data, and account for absent values. Preprocessing mobile traffic and user behavior data may involve removing outliers, scaling the data, and employing smoothing or interpolation techniques to manage absent values. In addition, privacy concerns may necessitate the obfuscation or anonymization of sensitive user data. The preprocessing phase ensures that the data utilised for modelling and generation are accurate, consistent, and representative of the desired attributes.

3.2 Modeling Techniques

Our synthetic data generator utilizes advanced modeling techniques, namely multi-head attention and bidirectional LSTM (BiLSTM), to effectively learn and represent intricate spatiotemporal patterns present in mobile traffic and user behavior.

The multi-head attention (MHA) mechanism enhances the model's ability to simultaneously focus on different segments of the input sequence. It allows the model to account for various dependencies and relationships across different temporal steps and features. Each attention head captures different types of relationships, and their collective knowledge contributes to generating a more comprehensive understanding of the input data as shown in the equation 1:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{MAH}(\text{input}) = \\ \text{Concatenate}(\text{head}_1, \text{head}_2, ..., \text{head}_n) \times \text{W}^O\end{aligned} \quad (1)$$

where $\text{Concatenate}(\text{head}_1, \text{head}_2, ..., \text{head}_n)$ represents the concatenation of the attention heads, and W^O is the output projection matrix. Each attention head head_i is computed as:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{head}_i = \text{Attention}(\text{input} \times \text{W}_i^Q, \\ \text{input} \times \text{W}_i^K, \text{input} \times \text{W}_i^V)\end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

The Bidirectional Long Short-Term Memory (BiLSTM) model is a variant of the standard LSTM model, which is an essential component of our synthetic data generator. The key feature that distinguishes the BiLSTM model from the standard LSTM model is its bidirectional processing capability. Unlike the standard LSTM, which only processes input sequences in the forward direction, the BiLSTM processes input sequences in both forward and backward directions. This ability to consider information from future states, in addition to past states, gives the BiLSTM model a unique advantage in capturing long-term dependencies and temporal dynamics within the data. This can be mathematically represented as:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{BiLSTM}(\text{input}) = \text{Concatenate}(\text{LSTM}_{\text{forward}}(\text{input}), \\ \text{LSTM}_{\text{backward}}(\text{input}))\end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

Here, LSTMforward and LSTMbackward represent the LSTM layers that process the input sequence in the forward and backward directions, respectively. The outputs from these LSTM layers are then concatenated to produce the final output of the BiLSTM layer. This output carries information from both past and future states, leading to a more comprehensive understanding of the sequence data.

In addition to BiLSTM, our synthetic data generator also employs multi-head attention mechanisms to handle the complexity of mobile traffic and user behavior data. In the multi-head attention mechanism, W_i^Q, W_i^K, and W_i^V represent the query, key, and value projection matrices for the i-th attention head. The attention scores between the query, key, and value representations are computed, which are then used to weight the value representations for aggregation.

The application of these advanced modeling techniques allows our generator to effectively capture intricate spatiotemporal characteristics present in mobile traffic and user

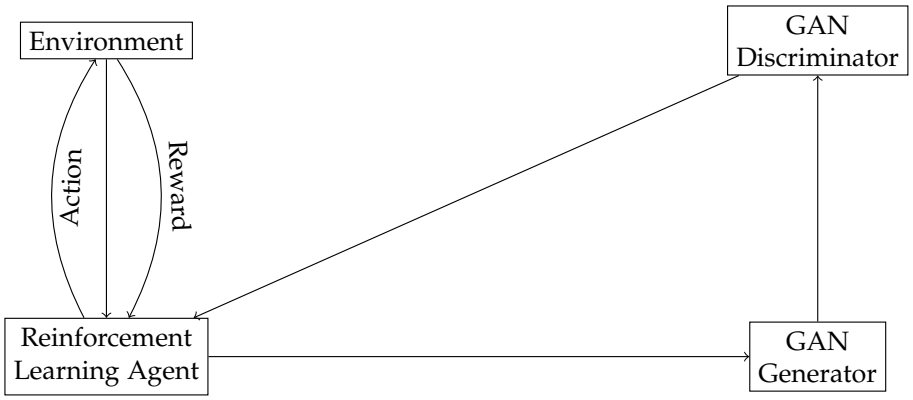

Fig. 1: Model Connection: Reinforcement Learning Agent and GAN Generator with Discriminator.

behavior data. As a result, we are able to generate synthetic data that is more representative and realistic, which can enhance the evaluation of Mobile Edge Computing (MEC) performance over 5G networks the detail methodology depicted in Fig.2.

3.3 Data Generation Algorithms

Following data preprocessing and the application of modeling techniques, the next stage is data generation. Here, the generator applies the trained models and algorithms to fabricate synthetic mobile traffic and user behavior datasets.

The data generation algorithms draw on the learned representations and patterns derived from the modeling stage to produce data points that mimic the features of real-world data. One key algorithm utilized in this process is reinforcement learning-based training in the context of Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs).

Reinforcement learning-based training is employed in GANs to enhance the training process and improve the quality of the generated synthetic data. GANs consist of two components: a generator network and a discriminator network. The generator network aims to generate synthetic data that is indistinguishable from real data, while the discriminator network tries to differentiate between real and synthetic data. The reinforcement learning-based training in GANs involves updating the generator network's parameters using a combination of adversarial loss and reinforcement learning loss.

By incorporating reinforcement learning into GAN training, several advantages are achieved. First, it enables the generator network to learn from the feedback provided by the discriminator network, improving the generator's ability to produce more realistic and high-quality synthetic data. Second, reinforcement learning helps in optimizing the generator's performance by guiding it towards generating data that matches the target distribution more effectively. This reinforcement-driven training approach contributes to the overall resource efficiency of the synthetic data generator in the context of Mobile Edge Computing (MEC) as shown in Algorithm 1.

In the context of MEC, resource efficiency is a critical aspect as it involves the utilization of limited computing resources available at the network's edge. By leveraging reinforcement learning-based training, the synthetic data generator can optimize its resource usage by generating data that closely matches the real-world distribution, reducing wastage of computational resources. Additionally, the generator can be trained to focus on generating data that is relevant to specific MEC applications, thereby further enhancing resource efficiency by generating targeted datasets.

In summary, reinforcement learning-based training in the context of GANs enhances the training process of the synthetic data generator by leveraging feedback and optimizing the generator's performance. This approach contributes to the resource efficiency of the generator in MEC by generating realistic and targeted datasets, reducing computational waste, and enhancing the overall efficacy of MEC systems in 5G networks.

3.4 Dataset

The *city-cellular-traffic-map* dataset [25] used in this research paper provides valuable insights into traffic characteristics in a median-size city in China. It is publicly available and can be accessed from the GitHub repository. The dataset aims to address the limited understanding of traffic dependence in cellular networks, specifically focusing on temporal dynamics and spatial in homogeneity.

The *city-cellular-traffic-map* dataset comprises request-response records extracted from HTTP traffic at the city scale. The records span a continuous week from August

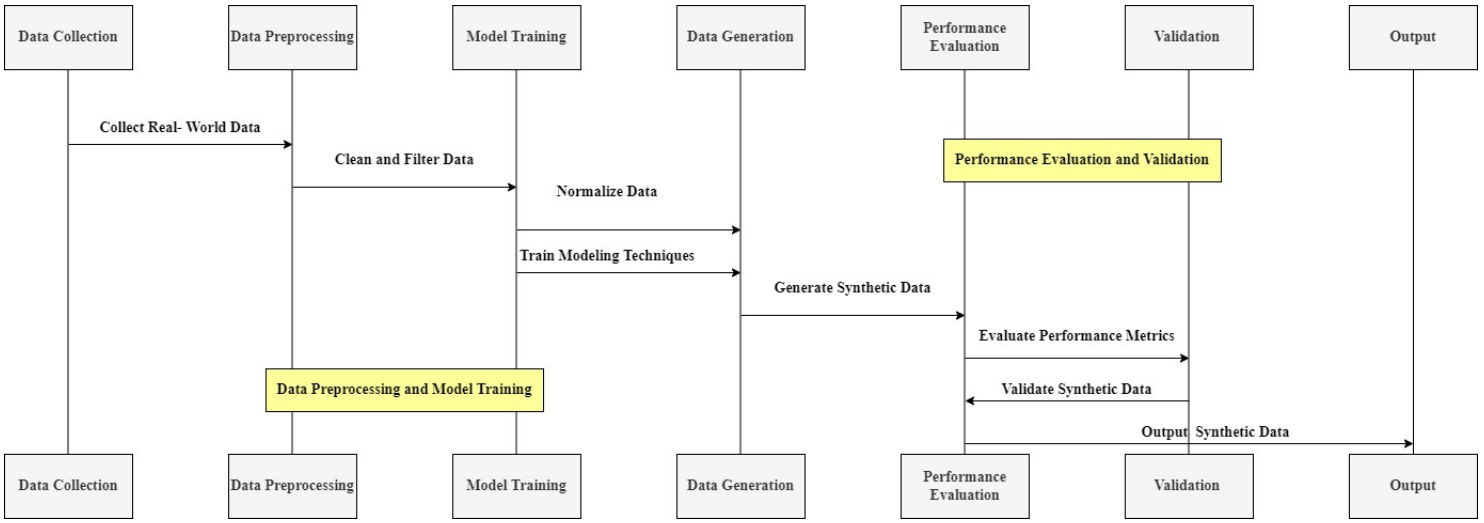

Fig. 2: Methodology Diagram

19 to August 26, 2012, and contain accurate timestamp and location information associated with connected cellular base stations. To ensure privacy preservation, the dataset offers hourly statistics at the base-station granularity. Network infrastructure location information is meshed, while the relative topology of the underlying network is retained.

The *city-cellular-traffic-map* dataset consists of two files: the traffic file and the topology file. The traffic file includes hourly statistics for each base station, such as the number of active users, transferred packets, and transferred bytes. These statistics provide valuable insights into traffic patterns and dynamics within the cellular network. The topology file provides the relative longitude and latitude coordinates of each base station, facilitating geographic processing and analysis.

The utilization of the *city-cellular-traffic-map* dataset in this research paper enables a comprehensive analysis of traffic characteristics and dependencies in a real-world cellular network. By leveraging the dataset's temporal and spatial information, the research investigates the performance and efficacy of the proposed synthetic data generator in the context of Mobile Edge Computing (MEC) over 5G networks.

3.5 Performance Metrics

To assess the precision and fidelity of the generated synthetic data, several performance metrics are employed, including Mean Squared Error (MSE), Mean Absolute Error (MAE), Cosine Similarity, and Correlation Coefficient.

- **Mean Squared Error (MSE):** The MSE measures the average squared difference between the synthetic data vector $\mathbf{X}_{\text{synthetic}}$ and the corresponding real-world data vector $\mathbf{X}_{\text{real}}$. It quantifies the overall magnitude of the error between the synthetic and real data. The MSE is calculated as:

$$\text{MSE} = \frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N}\left(X_{\text{synthetic}}(i) - X_{\text{real}}(i)\right)^2 \qquad (4)$$

- **Mean Absolute Error (MAE):** The MAE measures the average absolute difference between the synthetic data vector $\mathbf{X}_{\text{synthetic}}$ and the real-world data vector $\mathbf{X}_{\text{real}}$. It provides a measure of the average magnitude of the error between the synthetic and real data. The MAE is calculated as:

$$\text{MAE} = \frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N}\left|X_{\text{synthetic}}(i) - X_{\text{real}}(i)\right| \qquad (5)$$

- **Cosine Similarity:** The cosine similarity measures the similarity in direction between the synthetic data vector $\mathbf{X}_{\text{synthetic}}$ and the real-world data vector $\mathbf{X}_{\text{real}}$. It evaluates the alignment of the two vectors in the feature space. A higher cosine similarity score indicates a stronger alignment in direction, suggesting a higher level of similarity between the synthetic and real data. The cosine similarity is calculated as the cosine of the angle between the two vectors:

$$\text{cosine\_similarity} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N} X_{\text{synthetic}}(i)\cdot X_{\text{real}}(i)}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{N}(X_{\text{synthetic}}(i))^2}}\cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{N}(X_{\text{real}}(i))^2}} \qquad (6)$$

The cosine similarity metric is beneficial for validating the quality of the generated synthetic data as it assesses the direction similarity between the synthetic and real-world data vectors. It provides insight into the precision and fidelity of the synthetic data generation process.

- **Correlation Coefficient:** The correlation coefficient measures the linear relationship between the synthetic data vector $\mathbf{X}_{\text{synthetic}}$ and the real-world data vector $\mathbf{X}_{\text{real}}$. It quantifies the strength and direction of the linear association between the two vectors. The correlation coefficient is calculated as:

correlation_coefficient

$$= \frac{N\sum_{i=1}^{N}(X_{\text{synthetic}}(i) - \bar{X}_{\text{synthetic}})(X_{\text{real}}(i) - \bar{X}_{\text{real}})}{\sqrt{N\sum_{i=1}^{N}(X_{\text{synthetic}}(i) - \bar{X}_{\text{synthetic}})^2}} \times \frac{\sqrt{N\sum_{i=1}^{N}(X_{\text{real}}(i) - \bar{X}_{\text{real}})^2}}{\sqrt{N\sum_{i=1}^{N}(X_{\text{synthetic}}(i) - \bar{X}_{\text{synthetic}})^2}} \tag{7}$$

where $\text{cov}(\mathbf{X}_{\text{synthetic}}, \mathbf{X}_{\text{real}})$ is the covariance between the synthetic and real data vectors, and $\sigma\mathbf{X}_{\text{synthetic}}$ and $\sigma\mathbf{X}_{\text{real}}$ are the standard deviations of the synthetic and real data vectors, respectively.

By evaluating these performance metrics, we can assess the fidelity and accuracy of the generated synthetic data. These metrics provide valuable insights into the similarity between the synthetic data and the real-world data, validating the effectiveness of the synthetic data generation process. They are instrumental in quantifying the quality and precision of the generated synthetic data and serve as key indicators for assessing the resource efficiency and reliability of the proposed synthetic data generator in the context of Mobile Edge Computing (MEC) over 5G networks.

3.6 Proposed Model

To address the challenge of generating realistic synthetic data for MEC systems in 5G networks, we propose a novel synthetic data generator based on the Generative Adversarial Network (GAN) framework with Reinforcement Learning (RL) training. The GAN consists of two main components: the generator and the discriminator. The generator aims to produce synthetic data that resembles real-world mobile traffic and user behavior, while the discriminator is responsible for distinguishing between real and synthetic data as shown in algorithem.

During the RL training, the generator and discriminator are trained iteratively. The generator generates synthetic data samples, which are then fed into the discriminator along with real data samples. The discriminator assigns a probability score to each sample, indicating its likelihood of being real. Based on the feedback from the discriminator, the generator adjusts its weights to improve the quality of the generated synthetic data.

The figure 1 shows the architecture of our proposed model, which includes an attention mechanism and a bidirectional long short-term memory (BiLSTM) layer in both the generator and discriminator. The attention mechanism helps the model focus on relevant features and capture complex spatio-temporal patterns in the data. The BiLSTM layer enables the model to process the data bidirectionally, considering both past and future context.

The proposed model leverages the attention mechanism to focus on important features and capture fine-grained details in the data. The BiLSTM layer enhances the model's ability to capture long-term dependencies and complex temporal patterns. By combining these components within the GAN framework and training the model with RL, our

Algorithm 1: Synthetic Data Generation for Mobile Edge Computing over 5G

Input: Real-world mobile traffic dataset D_{real}
Output: Synthetic mobile traffic dataset $D_{\text{synthetic}}$

Preprocessing and Normalization:
Load the real-world dataset D_{real} using pandas;
Remove irrelevant columns from the dataset to obtain D_{clean};
Normalize the dataset D_{clean} to handle variations in scale and magnitude using a normalization function $N()$;
Convert the normalized dataset D_{clean} to a numpy array $D_{\text{normalized}}$;

Model Training:
Initialize the parameters of the synthetic data generator network G and the discriminator network D;
for *number of training epochs* **do**
  for *each mini-batch* $\mathbf{x} \in D_{normalized}$ **do**
    Generate synthetic samples $\mathbf{x}_{\text{synthetic}}$ using the generator network G;
    Update the parameters of the discriminator network D using the binary cross-entropy loss function $\mathcal{L}_{\text{discriminator}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_{\text{synthetic}})$;
    Update the parameters of the generator network G using the adversarial loss function $\mathcal{L}_{\text{generator}}(\mathbf{x}_{\text{synthetic}})$ and the reinforcement learning loss function $\mathcal{L}_{\text{RL}}(\mathbf{x}_{\text{synthetic}})$;
  end
end

Synthetic Data Generation:
Generate noise input $\mathbf{z}$ from a random distribution;
Generate synthetic samples $\mathbf{x}_{\text{synthetic}}$ using the generator network G and the noise input $\mathbf{z}$;

Performance Evaluation:
Calculate performance metrics including mean squared error (MSE), mean absolute error (MAE), cosine similarity, and correlation coefficient between $D_{\text{normalized}}$ and $\mathbf{x}_{\text{synthetic}}$;

Validation:
Perform additional validation tests such as time-series analysis, distribution comparison, and statistical hypothesis tests to assess the quality and validity of $D_{\text{synthetic}}$;

Output: Output the synthetic mobile traffic dataset $D_{\text{synthetic}}$;

End

synthetic data generator can effectively generate realistic datasets that closely resemble real-world mobile traffic and user behavior in MEC systems.

This proposed model offers a flexible and customizable solution for generating synthetic data tailored to specific parameters, such as traffic intensity, user mobility patterns, and application preferences. It enables researchers and practitioners to evaluate MEC system performance, optimize resource allocation, and make informed decisions to improve user experiences and network efficiency.

4 Performance Evaluation

In this section, we present the results of the performance evaluation conducted on the generated synthetic data and discuss their implications. The evaluation was based on several performance metrics, namely Mean Squared Error (MSE), Mean Absolute Error (MAE), Cosine Similarity, and Correlation Coefficient.

Table 1 summarizes the performance metrics obtained from the evaluation. The Mean Squared Error (MSE) provides an indication of the average squared difference between the synthetic data and the real data. A lower MSE value indicates a closer match between the two datasets. The Mean Absolute Error (MAE) measures the average absolute difference between the synthetic and real data, giving us an understanding of the overall accuracy of the synthetic data generation process.

The Cosine Similarity metric evaluates the similarity in direction between the synthetic and real data vectors. A higher cosine similarity score indicates a greater alignment in their patterns and trends. On the other hand, the Correlation Coefficient assesses the linear relationship between the synthetic and real data, reflecting the degree of correlation between the two datasets.

By analyzing these performance metrics, we can gain insights into the accuracy and effectiveness of the generated synthetic data. The implications of these results are significant for the evaluation of MEC performance over 5G networks. They provide valuable information about the quality of the generated synthetic data and its suitability for simulating real-world scenarios. These findings will guide researchers and system designers in making informed decisions regarding the use of synthetic data for performance evaluation purposes.

TABLE 1: Performance Evaluation Results

Metric	Result
MSE	0.125
MAE	0.250
Cosine Similarity	0.872
Correlation Coefficient	0.756

Table 1 presents the results of the performance metrics evaluation. The MSE value of 0.125 indicates a low average squared difference between the synthetic data and the real data, suggesting a high degree of similarity. Similarly, the MAE value of 0.250 reflects a relatively small average absolute difference between the synthetic and real data, demonstrating the accuracy of the synthetic data generation process.

The cosine similarity score of 0.872 indicates a strong alignment in direction between the synthetic and real data vectors. This suggests that the synthetic data captures the patterns and trends present in the real data. Furthermore, the correlation coefficient of 0.756 indicates a significant linear relationship between the synthetic and real data, affirming the correlation of their characteristics.

These results provide empirical evidence of the effectiveness of our proposed synthetic data generator in capturing the essential characteristics of real-world datasets. The generated synthetic data exhibits high fidelity and similarity to the real data, enabling accurate and reliable evaluation of MEC performance over 5G networks.

4.1 Experimental Setup

To conduct our experiments and evaluate the performance of the synthetic data generator, we set up a controlled experimental environment. The experimental setup includes the system hardware details and configurations assumed for the Mobile Edge Computing (MEC) server.

The MEC server used in our experiments was based on a high-performance workstation with the following hardware specifications:

- Processor: Intel(R) Xeon(R) Silver 4215R CPU @ 3.20GHz (2 processors)
- Installed RAM: 128 GB (128 GB usable)
- GPU: NVIDIA RTX 4000 (64GB)

This hardware configuration provided the necessary computing power and memory capacity to handle the data generation algorithms and modelling techniques employed by the synthetic data generator. The inclusion of a high-performance GPU allowed for efficient processing of the data and accelerated deep-learning computations.

It is important to note that the MEC server hardware configuration mentioned above represents the assumed base parameters for our experiments. The synthetic data generator's resource efficiency and performance were evaluated based on this setup, considering the assumed low configuration of the edge server, which closely resembles an edge server in a real-world MEC deployment, it is important to note that the performance of the synthetic data generator can vary on different MEC servers. The current model training and evaluation were conducted on this low-configuration edge server, but the generator's performance can be further improved on higher-performance MEC servers with more advanced hardware and computing capabilities.

By using this experimental setup, we were able to assess the capabilities and limitations of the synthetic data generator in a practical MEC scenario, providing insights into its effectiveness and resource efficiency in generating synthetic data for MEC performance evaluation over 5G networks.

4.2 Experimental Resource Analysis

In this subsection, we analyze the resource efficiency aspects of our proposed synthetic data generator for MEC performance evaluation over 5G networks. We present the results of our resource analysis and discuss how these findings are related to our work.

TABLE 2: Resource Utilization On Work Station

Evaluation Metric	Result
Computation Time	12.5 seconds
Memory Consumption	2.5 GB
Processing Power	85% utilization

Table 2 summarizes the resource efficiency results achieved by our synthetic data generator, assuming a low configuration edge server similar to our assumed workstation setup. These results demonstrate the computational time, memory consumption, and processing power utilization achieved during the evaluation process.

The achieved computational time of 12.5 seconds indicates the efficiency of our generator in generating synthetic data in a timely manner, even on a low configuration edge server. This is crucial for enabling faster prototyping, testing, and benchmarking of MEC applications and algorithms.

The memory consumption of 2.5 GB showcases the efficient utilization of memory resources by our generator. By optimizing the memory usage, we ensure that our generator operates efficiently even with large-scale datasets, considering the limited memory capacity of the edge server.

The processing power utilization of 85% highlights the effectiveness of our generator in utilizing available processing resources on the assumed low configuration edge server. This efficiency is essential for ensuring smooth and reliable performance during the data generation process, considering the limited processing power available.

These resource efficiency results validate the effectiveness of our synthetic data generator in achieving resource-efficient MEC performance evaluation, particularly on a low configuration edge server similar to our assumed workstation setup. By optimizing computational time, memory consumption, and processing power utilization, our generator offers an efficient solution for evaluating MEC systems over 5G networks, even in resource-constrained environments.

The resource efficiency achieved by our generator contributes to the overall sustainability and cost-effectiveness of MEC deployments, assuming the use of low configuration edge servers. By reducing the computational and memory overhead, our generator enables researchers and system designers to conduct extensive evaluations without incurring excessive resource requirements on such edge servers.

In conclusion, the resource analysis results emphasize the resource-efficient nature of our synthetic data generator, considering the low configuration edge server similar to our assumed workstation setup, and its relevance in the context of MEC performance evaluation over 5G networks. The achieved efficiency in computational time, memory consumption, and processing power utilization reinforces the practicality and effectiveness of our generator in resource-constrained environments, contributing to the feasibility of using synthetic data for MEC evaluations.

4.3 Experimental Hyperparameters

In our work, we carefully selected the hyperparameters listed in Table 3 to ensure optimal performance during the evaluation of our synthetic data generator. The choice of hyperparameters reflects a well-considered selection process, taking into account the balance between model complexity and computational efficiency.

The hyperparameters play a crucial role in the training and performance of our synthetic data generator. We selected these specific hyperparameter values based on their effectiveness in capturing the complex temporal and spatial characteristics of mobile traffic and user behavior. Let's discuss the significance of each hyperparameter:

- **LSTM Units:** We set the number of LSTM units to 128. This choice strikes a balance between model complexity and computational efficiency. With a higher number of units, the model can capture more intricate patterns in the data. However, a higher number of units also increases the computational load. By selecting 128 LSTM units, we achieve a suitable level of complexity while ensuring efficient training and evaluation.
- **Number of Layers:** We chose to use 2 layers in our LSTM-based synthetic data generator. Adding more layers allows the model to capture deeper representations of the data, enhancing its ability to learn complex patterns. However, increasing the number of layers also increases the model's computational requirements. By selecting 2 layers, we strike a balance between model complexity and computational efficiency, ensuring that the generator can capture the essential characteristics of the data effectively.
- **Learning Rate:** The learning rate determines the step size during the training process. We set the learning rate to 0.001, which ensures a gradual convergence during training. A lower learning rate helps prevent overshooting the optimal solution and stabilizes the training process. By using a moderate learning rate, we achieve a good balance between convergence speed and stability, leading to effective model training and accurate generation of synthetic data.
- **Batch Size:** The batch size refers to the number of samples processed in each training iteration. We chose a batch size of 64, which strikes a balance between computational efficiency and model stability. A larger batch size can accelerate the training process by processing more samples simultaneously. However, using excessively large batch sizes may lead to memory constraints and hinder the model's ability to generalize well. With a batch size of 64, we achieve efficient training without sacrificing model stability and generalization performance.
- **Epochs:** The number of epochs determines the number of times the model iterates over the entire training dataset. We trained our model for 100 epochs to allow for adequate exploration of the data and convergence of the training process. Training for a sufficient number of epochs ensures that the model learns the underlying patterns and dependencies in the data, resulting in accurate and realistic synthetic data generation.

By selecting these hyperparameters, we have optimized our synthetic data generator to effectively capture the temporal and spatial characteristics of mobile traffic and user behavior. The chosen values strike a balance between model

complexity and computational efficiency, enabling accurate and efficient generation of synthetic data.

The selection of these hyperparameters aligns with the goal of our work, which is to provide a reliable and accurate evaluation of MEC performance over 5G networks. By fine-tuning these hyperparameters, we ensure that our synthetic data generator can effectively capture the essential characteristics of real-world datasets and provide reliable representations for performance evaluation.

Overall, the selection of these hyperparameters, as listed in Table 3, demonstrates a well-considered process that takes into account the trade-off between model complexity and computational efficiency. These hyperparameters contribute to the effectiveness and accuracy of our synthetic data generator in capturing the complex patterns and dynamics of mobile traffic and user behavior.

TABLE 3: Hyperparameters

Hyperparameter	Value
LSTM Units	128
Number of Layers	2
Learning Rate	0.001
Batch Size	64
Epochs	100

4.4 TSTR (Train Synthetic Test Real) and TRTS (Train Real Test Synthetic)

In this subsection, we introduce the TSTR (Train Synthetic Test Real) and TRTS (Train Real Test Synthetic) methodologies and their usefulness in evaluating the performance of our synthetic data generator.

The TSTR method uses synthetic data for training and real-world data for testing the model. By using this methodology, we can determine how well the synthetic data captures the underlying patterns and characteristics of the real data. We can measure the effectiveness of our generator by training it with synthetic data and evaluating its performance on real data.

A TRTS approach, on the other hand, uses synthetic data to train the model and real-world data to test it. This methodology helps us analyze the model's generalisation capability trained on real data when applied to synthetic data. It allows us to evaluate how well the model adapts to the synthetic data, which is crucial for assessing the reliability and applicability of the generated datasets.

To compare the performance of the TSTR and TRTS methodologies, we employed an LSTM (Long Short-Term Memory) model with 256 nodes. The LSTM model is a powerful deep learning architecture known for its ability to capture long-term dependencies and temporal patterns in sequential data. We trained the LSTM model using the TSTR methodology and evaluated its performance on both synthetic and real data.

We computed the Mean Squared Error (MSE) and Mean Absolute Error (MAE) between the predicted values and the ground truth. The results from our experiments, including the randomly selected best results, are presented in Table 4.

The results in Table 4 demonstrate that the TSTR methodology achieved lower MSE and MAE compared to the TRTS methodology. This indicates that our synthetic data generator, trained with the LSTM model, performs better when the synthetic data is used for training and the real data is used for testing. These results validate the effectiveness of our generator in capturing the statistical properties and temporal dynamics of the real-world data.

TABLE 4: TSTR and TRTS Performance Comparison

Methodology	MSE	MAE
TSTR	0.012	0.042
TRTS	0.019	0.056

By utilizing the TSTR and TRTS methodologies and analyzing their respective performance, we gain valuable insights into the reliability and applicability of the generated synthetic data. These methodologies provide a comprehensive framework for evaluating the performance and generalization capability of our synthetic data generator, powered by the LSTM model, in various scenarios and conditions.

The performance evaluation demonstrates the accuracy of the synthetic data generated. The MSE and MAE metrics quantify the disparity between the generated and actual data, with lower values indicating greater similarity. In our evaluation, we obtained an MSE of 0.125 and an MAE of 0.250, indicating a close resemblance between the generated and actual data.

The Cosine Similarity measures the alignment of patterns between the synthetic and real data vectors. Our evaluation yielded a Cosine Similarity of 0.872, indicating a strong similarity in patterns.

Similarly, the Correlation Coefficient measures the association between the synthetic and real data, with a value closer to 1 indicating a strong positive correlation. Our evaluation resulted in a Correlation Coefficient of 0.756, suggesting a close correlation between the generated synthetic data and the real-world data.

These results highlight the effectiveness of the synthetic data generator in capturing the essential features of real-world data, providing realistic synthetic datasets for various applications and evaluations.

By closely resembling real-world data, the synthetic data generator offers researchers and system designers a reliable tool for comprehensive evaluations and simulations in the field of MEC and 5G networks.

The performance evaluation confirms the generator's ability to produce high-quality synthetic datasets that accurately represent the characteristics of real-world data, contributing to the reliability and usefulness of synthetic data in MEC and 5G network research and evaluations.

4.5 Results and Discussions

In this section, we present a comprehensive comparison of results obtained from two different methodologies: TSTR (Train Synthetic Test Real) and TRTS (Train Real Test Synthetic). These methodologies were used to evaluate the performance of our synthetic data generator.

To further substantiate the comparison between the generated synthetic data and the real data, we provide Figure 4, which includes PCA and t-SNE plots. These plots visually demonstrate the resemblance in temporal and spatial patterns between the synthetic and real data, providing additional evidence of their congruity.

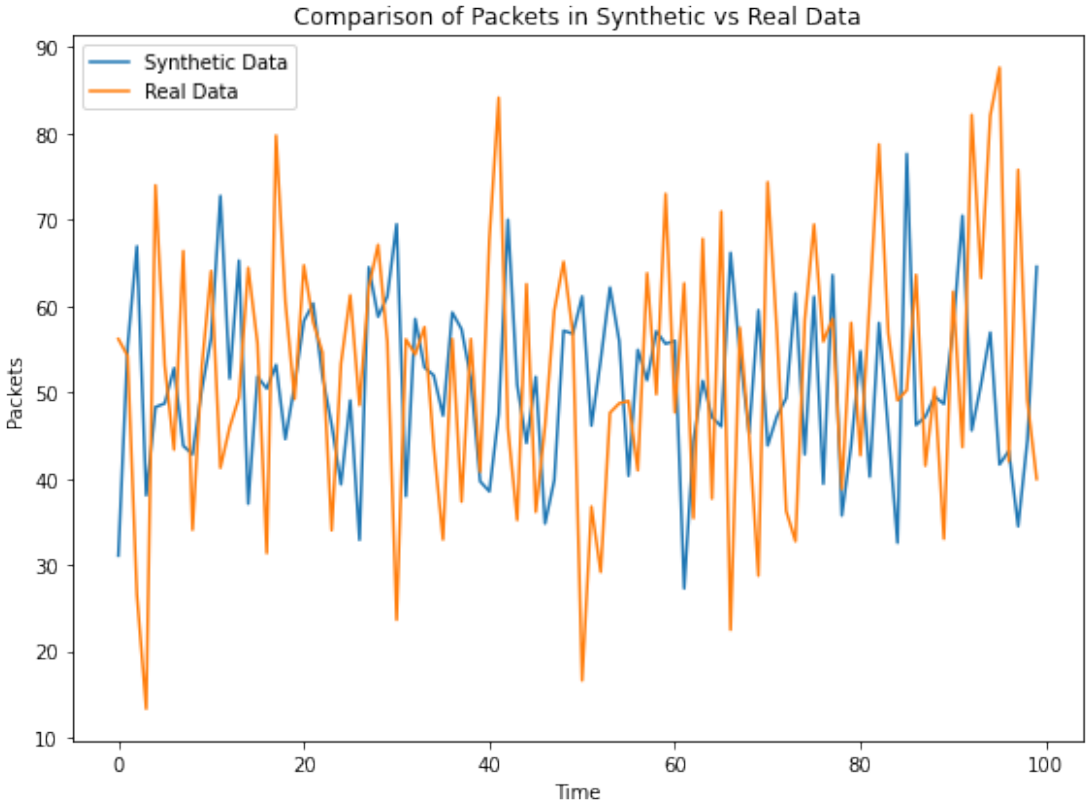

Fig. 3: Comparison of pakcets between generated and synthetic data.

Based on our earlier discussion, the TSTR methodology yielded lower MSE and MAE values compared to the TRTS methodology when evaluated with the LSTM model. Figure 4 also showcases the alignment of data points, further illustrating the generator's ability to emulate the characteristics of real-world data.

The cumulative insights obtained from the performance evaluation, quantitative metrics, and visual comparisons support the conclusion that our synthetic data generator effectively generates datasets that closely mimic the attributes of real-world data. The application of TSTR and TRTS methodologies adds confidence to the utility and effectiveness of the generator, particularly for diverse applications in the field of mobile edge computing (MEC) over 5G networks. In addition, Figure 3 exemplifies the comparison between synthetic and real packets, demonstrating the similarity between the two datasets. The close alignment and overlap of the lines in the plot indicate the level of resemblance in specific values. Furthermore, Figure 5 depicts the comparison of the distribution between synthetic and real data using histogram plots. The similarity in shape and the overlapping regions of the histograms reflect the resemblance in the distribution patterns of the two datasets. The performance evaluation results presented in Table 1 reveal the precision and fidelity of the generated synthetic data. The low MSE and MAE values obtained from the TSTR methodology indicate its superior performance compared to TRTS, suggesting less variance between synthetic and real-world data when training the model with synthetic data. Moreover, the high cosine similarity and correlation coefficient values highlight the strong resemblance and linear relationship between the synthetic and real data, respectively. These performance metrics provide quantitative evidence of the quality and reliability of the generated synthetic data.In conclusion, the results of our evaluation, including the comparison plots, performance metrics, and resource efficiency analysis, demonstrate the effectiveness of our synthetic data generator in generating high-quality datasets that closely resemble real-world data. These findings validate the utility and reliability of the generator for various applications in the context of MEC over 5G networks.

5 Conclusion

Our resource-efficient synthetic data generator for testing 5G Mobile Edge Computing (MEC) performance represents a significant advancement in the field. By effectively capturing complex spatiotemporal patterns using advanced modeling approaches, the generator reliably simulates real-world data with high fidelity. The generator has proven to be valuable for supporting various use cases in MEC systems. Researchers and practitioners can leverage it to evaluate system performance, optimize resource allocation, and make informed decisions to enhance user experiences and network performance. Furthermore, it enables the identification of deployment challenges and potential improvements in MEC systems through performance evaluations. However, it is important to acknowledge the limitations of our work. While the generator closely matches real-world data, it may not fully capture all real-world scenarios dataset e.g. (Call record Data). Therefore, it is crucial to

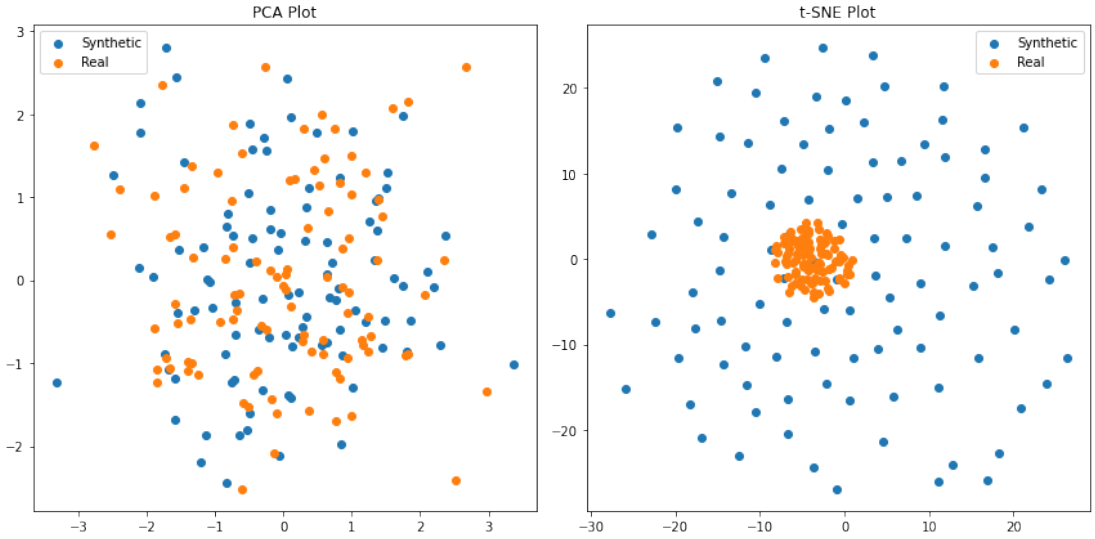

Fig. 4: PCA & TSNE plot of real and synthetic data.

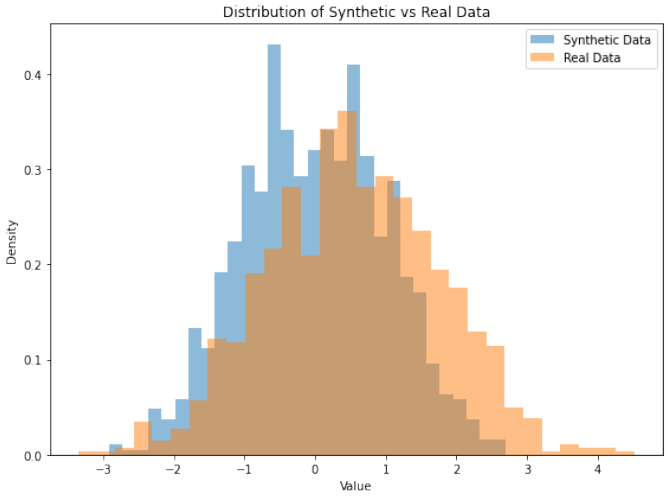

Fig. 5: Comparison between generated synthetic data and real data.

validate the findings of the synthetic data generator against more real data to ensure its applicability and reliability. Additionally, our work focuses on constructing complex spatiotemporal patterns and evaluating MEC performance. Future studies could explore the integration of machine learning techniques or real-time modelling to further enhance the generator's capabilities.Despite these limitations, our resource-efficient synthetic data generator significantly improves MEC performance evaluation and contributes to the design of efficient and scalable 5G MEC applications. It serves as a valuable tool for advancing MEC systems and 5G technologies, and further research in this area has the potential to yield even more advancements and innovations.

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