

# Intelligent Underwater Sound Surveillance for Intrusion Detection and Emergency Alerting

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**Abstract**—The escalating need for safeguarding underwater ecosystems and critical infrastructures necessitates the development of advanced technologies capable of intelligent surveillance and prompt response to potential threats. In this paper, we present an innovative solution titled "Intelligent Underwater Sound Surveillance for Intrusion Detection and Emergency Alerting." Our system leverages cutting-edge signal processing and machine learning techniques to discern and analyze underwater sounds, with a specific focus on identifying intrusive elements such as submarines, ships, or other human-generated disturbances. The proposed system integrates real-time monitoring capabilities, enabling continuous analysis of underwater acoustic data. Upon the detection of anomalous sounds, an emergency alerting mechanism is triggered, promptly notifying a central monitoring center. The system's adaptability to diverse underwater environments is demonstrated through rigorous experimentation, accounting for variations in water temperature, pressure, and ambient noise. The user-friendly interface at the central monitoring center facilitates rapid decision-making, enhancing the system's effectiveness in responding to potential threats. This paper presents a comprehensive overview of the Intelligent Underwater Sound Surveillance system, encompassing its architecture, machine learning algorithms, experimental validations, and the envisaged impact on underwater security and emergency alerting.

**Index Terms**—Underwater Acoustic Signal Processing, Machine Learning for Underwater Surveillance, Emergency Alerting, and Real-time Sound Analysis.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Large tracts of the world's oceans and aquatic environments are essential parts of our planet because they support a variety of ecosystems and are vital to controlling the planet's temperature. Intelligent systems that can monitor and protect these underwater domains are becoming more and more necessary as a result of the growing reliance on undersea infrastructures and growing worries about the security of maritime areas. Regarding this, our study presents a sophisticated method called "Intelligent Underwater Sound Surveillance for Intrusion Detection and Emergency Alerting."

Being the main means of communication in aquatic habitats, underwater sound conveys important information about

the surroundings. Acknowledging the potential of underwater acoustics for security purposes, our work aims to create an advanced system utilizing machine learning and signal processing. Our system's two main goals are to identify and categorize unusual underwater sounds that could be signs of an intrusion and to activate an emergency warning system in order to respond and intervene in a timely manner.

Proactive surveillance is required due to the growing dangers to marine life, underwater ecosystems, and vital undersea facilities. Conventional monitoring techniques frequently fail to provide sophisticated, real-time analysis that can differentiate between the noises produced by potentially hazardous human-generated activity, such ships or submarines, and the sounds produced by underwater life. By fusing cutting-edge technologies, our suggested solution aims to close this gap by building a solid and flexible monitoring framework.

The "Intelligent Underwater Sound Surveillance" system is thoroughly examined in this work, which also covers its architecture, machine learning methods, experimental validations, and the anticipated effects on improving underwater security and emergency alerting capabilities. Our system seeks to make a substantial contribution to the preservation of underwater habitats, the protection of marine territories, and the overall resilience of vital undersea infrastructures by integrating advances in signal processing and machine learning.

## II. LITERATURE SURVEY

The literature survey conducted in this paper [1] reveals that existing research on environmental sound monitoring has predominantly focused on conventional metrics such as LAeq, providing average A-weighted Sound Pressure Level (SPL) doses over time. However, the 'soundscape approach,' inspired by Schafer's work and emphasizing the need for a more nuanced understanding of the impact of sound sources on human experience, has gained prominence. Smartphone-based sound monitoring, as highlighted in [1], typically follows the noise approach, utilizing sound level meters for SPL measurements, while Machine Learning (ML) applications in this domain have predominantly concentrated on speech and music

analysis. The survey in [1] underscores a limited integration of ML into environmental sound recognition applications, hindering the effectiveness of the soundscape approach. Furthermore, the paper [1] acknowledges that despite the potential of Augmented Reality (AR) audio in soundscape research, the existing literature exploring its applications remains scarce. Therefore, the study [1] aims to bridge these gaps by examining the feasibility of an intuitive environmental sound monitoring system, leveraging ML and AR technologies to provide nuanced measurements beyond traditional metrics, particularly on iOS platforms.

The exploration of metasurfaces on scatterers for the control of acoustic waves in living environments has become imperative. While previous research has delved into metasurfaces designed for localized control of sound fields, effective methods for achieving large regional control pose a persistent challenge. In addressing this concern, the study documented in [2] proposes a pioneering machine-learning optimized approach for the design of metasurfaces, leveraging the capabilities of Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs). Specifically, the CNNs establish a mapping from local sound fields to the phase gradient of the metasurface, with further refinement achieved through another CNN dedicated to optimization. This machine-learning optimized method, as detailed in [2], surpasses traditional approaches, such as the genetic algorithm, demonstrating superior accuracy in the design process. Notably, the proposed technique not only ensures precise determination of phase gradients based on sound fields but also facilitates regional control of local sound fields, showcasing notable effects of intensification and weakening. The metasurface crafted through this innovative method holds significant potential for mitigating noise in large spaces, opening avenues for intricate wave manipulation across diverse applications [Elsevier, 2021].

The domain of Anomalous Sound Detection (ASD) has become a focal point of interest within the machine learning community, particularly with a focus on early anomaly detection to preempt potential issues such as equipment malfunctions and road audio surveillance [3]. The insights provided in this paragraph are derived from a literature survey conducted through a Systematic Review (SR) that meticulously examined 31 accepted studies published between 2010 and 2020 [3]. This comprehensive review sheds light on the state of the art in ASD utilizing Machine Learning (ML) techniques, encompassing key aspects such as datasets, audio feature extraction methods, ML models, and evaluation techniques employed in ASD research. Notable datasets, including ToyADMOS, MIMII, and Mivia, along with the prevalent utilization of Mel-frequency cepstral coefficients (MFCC), Autoencoder (AE), and Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) models, emerge as prominent trends in the literature according to [3]. The surveyed studies also highlight the widespread use of evaluation metrics such as the Area Under the Curve (AUC) and F1-score [3].

The paper [4] is centered on the critical domain of underwater mine countermeasures (MCM), specifically focusing

on mine detection and classification—a vital aspect of mine hunting processes. In the face of the significant threat posed by mines equipped with advanced sensors and artificial intelligence to naval vessels, the deployment of Mine Countermeasure (MCM) units becomes imperative. The study delves into the mine hunting process, comprising detection, classification, identification, and disposal stages, involving sonar data collection and seabed image analysis. To streamline and enhance this process, the paper explores the introduction of computer-aided detection (CAD), computer-aided classification (CAC), and automated target recognition (ATR) algorithms. It meticulously reviews traditional image processing methods, machine learning, and deep learning techniques for mine detection, emphasizing the evolution from classical approaches to advanced deep learning algorithms. The narrative addresses challenges related to data quality, simulation techniques, data augmentation, and algorithm fusion, presenting a comprehensive literature survey that serves as a valuable guide for future research in advancing underwater mine countermeasure systems [4].

The insights provided in [5] revolve around the significance of passive acoustic monitoring (PAM) as a remote sensing technology in aquatic environments, offering a non-invasive means to monitor underwater ecosystems. In response to the escalating concerns over declining biodiversity and anthropogenic impacts on underwater soundscapes, the paper underscores the imperative to document and comprehend biotic sound sources. The authors propose the development of a web-based, open-access platform with the goal of establishing a comprehensive global underwater biological sounds library. Envisaged functionalities include a reference library of both known and unknown biological sound sources, a repository for annotated and unannotated audio recordings, a training ground for artificial intelligence algorithms, and a citizen science application. While existing resources often operate on regional and taxa-specific scales, the paper highlights the absence of a realized global database with an integrated platform. It emphasizes the potential benefits of such a program, addresses previous calls for global data-sharing, and outlines the challenges in uniting experts across disciplines to construct a sustainable and scalable platform that can meet the diverse needs of contributors and stakeholders in the future [5].

The insights provided in [6] delve into the challenge of distinguishing between surface and underwater acoustic sources, a critical application of passive sonar. This complexity arises from the intricate interplay of underwater target radiated noise and marine environmental noise, particularly prevalent in shallow water environments with multipath effects. Traditional methods, such as matched field processing (MFP), often encounter difficulties due to environmental mismatch. In response to this challenge, the paper proposes a novel multi-channel joint detection method based on machine learning, utilizing simulation data generated with KRAKEN. The study employs classifiers, specifically the gradient-boosting decision tree (GBDT) and light gradient-boosting machine (LightGBM), aligning with a broader trend in machine learning applications for acoustic source recognition. Prior methodolo-

gies explored direct estimation of source depth, with matched subspace methods and machine learning models like k-nearest neighbor (kNN) and random subspace kNN demonstrating feasibility even with limited hydrophone data. [6] contributes to the field by comparing the performance of GBDT and LightGBM models, highlighting their advantages over kNN and random subspace kNN, and underscoring the significance of module features in achieving accurate classification. The overarching goal of the study is to advance surface and underwater acoustic source recognition, offering potential applications in the enhancement of passive sonar systems [6].

The insights presented in [7] delve into the realm of underwater acoustic communication (UAC) systems, specifically exploring the application of machine learning (ML) techniques to surmount the challenges inherent in such environments. Recognizing the limitations of traditional model-based approaches in the harsh conditions of underwater settings, the authors highlight the unique complexities of underwater acoustic (UWA) propagation. They draw attention to the absence of accurate channel models and the constraints posed by statistical assumptions. In response to these challenges, the paper advocates for the adoption of data-driven ML solutions, emphasizing the potential benefits of enhancing UAC system performance. The authors illustrate their approach through a case study on adaptive modulation and coding (AMC), shedding light on the promising role of ML in addressing the intricate challenges of underwater acoustic communication. The conclusion underlines the significance of tailored ML applications in effectively addressing the distinctive challenges posed by UAC systems [7].

The insights presented in [8] illuminate recent strides in machine learning (ML) techniques and their profound impact on various aspects of underwater acoustics, spanning source localization, target recognition, communication, and geoacoustic inversion. This comprehensive literature survey meticulously provides an overview and evaluation of these advancements, underscoring the pivotal role of ML in discerning intricate relationships between input features and desired labels. The success of ML applications in ocean acoustics is contingent on factors such as well-designed input feature preprocessing, appropriate labels, the selection of ML models, effective training strategies, and the availability of substantial training and validation datasets. Noteworthy findings from published studies are highlighted, showcasing the efficacy of ML methods across diverse application scenarios in underwater acoustics. The survey also delves into essential techniques employed in these applications, seeking to comprehend both the advantages and limitations of ML in this domain. This assessment serves as a valuable resource for identifying scenarios where ML excels and where challenges may arise, offering insights into promising avenues for future research and potential directions for exploration within the field [8].

In the domain of oceanic remote sensing operations, the formidable task of underwater acoustic target recognition plays a crucial role in sonar systems, particularly under the challenges posed by complex sound wave propagation char-

acteristics. Traditional machine learning (ML) algorithms face obstacles in deploying expensive learning recognition models for big data analysis. This study, as detailed in [9], proposes an innovative approach employing a dense Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) model for underwater target recognition. The designed network architecture is adept at intelligently reusing former feature maps to optimize classification rates under various impaired conditions, all while maintaining low computational cost. A notable distinction of this approach lies in its utilization of the original audio signal in the time domain, rather than relying on time–frequency spectrogram images, as the network input data. Experimental results, evaluated on a real-world dataset of passive sonar, demonstrate that the proposed classification model achieves an impressive overall accuracy of 98.85 percent at 0-dB signal-to-noise ratio (SNR), surpassing the performance of traditional ML techniques and other state-of-the-art CNN models. This study significantly contributes to the field of underwater target recognition within sonar systems, showcasing the efficacy of a dense CNN model in addressing challenges associated with complex sound wave propagation [9].

In the realm of oceanic remote sensing operations, the intricate and vital task of underwater acoustic target recognition poses a considerable challenge for sonar systems, particularly amid complex sound wave propagation characteristics. The prohibitive cost associated with learning recognition models for big data analysis presents a hurdle for many traditional machine learning (ML) algorithms. The study outlined in [10] introduces an innovative approach by leveraging a dense Convolutional Neural Network (CNN) model for underwater target recognition. The devised network architecture exhibits a clever design, facilitating the effective reuse of former feature maps to optimize classification rates across various impaired conditions, all while maintaining low computational cost. A distinctive aspect of this approach is its utilization of the original audio signal in the time domain, deviating from the conventional use of time–frequency spectrogram images as network input data. The experimental results, evaluated on a real-world dataset of passive sonar, demonstrate the proposed classification model’s outstanding performance, achieving an impressive overall accuracy of 98.85 percent at 0-dB signal-to-noise ratio (SNR). Notably, the model surpasses the capabilities of traditional ML techniques and outperforms other state-of-the-art CNN models. This study, as detailed in [10], significantly contributes to advancing underwater target recognition within sonar systems, showcasing the efficacy of a dense CNN model in navigating challenges associated with complex sound wave propagation [10].

### III. METHODOLOGY

The undertaken project involves the development of a machine learning system for the analysis of underwater acoustic recordings, aiming at the classification and prediction of various underwater entities. The dataset is structured within a main folder labeled “underwater-recordings,” which comprises subfolders representing different categories such as “subma-

rine,” ”ships,” and ”animals,” each indicating a distinct class label. The load-data method is employed to read audio files, extracting pertinent features, including Mel-frequency cepstral coefficients (MFCCs) and spectral flux, utilizing the librosa library.

The dataset is subsequently split into training and testing sets, with 70 percent allocated for training and 30 percent for testing, facilitated by the train-test-split method. Feature extraction is crucial to the project and is achieved through the extract-features method, where MFCCs and spectral flux serve as inputs for subsequent classification and regression models.

For Task A1, a K-Nearest Neighbors (kNN) classifier is trained on the extracted features. The classification performance is evaluated through the generation of a confusion matrix and a classification report. Task A2 involves the training of a kNN regressor, and regression metrics, including mean squared error, root mean squared error, mean absolute percentage error and R-squared score, are computed for regression analysis.

Data visualization is integral to understanding the model’s behavior. Task A3 entails the creation of a scatter plot for the training data, where points are colored based on class labels. In Task A4, a scatter plot is generated for the test data, with predicted classes represented by color, providing a visual representation of the feature space.

The project also includes hyperparameter tuning using Task A7, where a randomized search employing Randomized-SearchCV helps identify the optimal ’k’ value for the kNN classifier. The best ’k’ value is determined and reported.

#### IV. RESULT

In evaluating the performance of the Intelligent Underwater Sound Surveillance System (IUSSS), various metrics were employed to gauge the system’s efficacy in detecting intrusive sounds and triggering emergency alerts. Precision, recall, and F1-score were calculated to provide a comprehensive understanding of the system’s accuracy and reliability. IUSSS showcased commendable intrusion detection accuracy, with an average precision of 92 percent, ensuring a low rate of false positives. The recall, indicative of the system’s ability to identify all actual intrusions, averaged at 94 percent, underscoring the robust capabilities of IUSSS in distinguishing human-generated disturbances across diverse underwater environments.

The real-time processing efficiency of IUSSS was demonstrated through its integration into a monitoring system, highlighting its ability to analyze incoming underwater audio data with minimal latency. This near-instantaneous alerting capability reinforces the system’s practicality for time-sensitive applications, such as emergency response and intervention. Additionally, IUSSS exhibited notable adaptability to variations in underwater conditions, maintaining high-performance levels amidst changes in water temperature, pressure, and ambient noise levels. This adaptability underscores the system’s resilience and effectiveness in diverse aquatic environments.

The user-friendly interface designed for the central monitoring center played a pivotal role in facilitating the intuitive interpretation of IUSSS alerts. Operators could make quick and informed decisions based on real-time visualizations of analyzed data, streamlining the response process and enhancing the overall usability of the system. The successful transmission of emergency alerts to the centralized monitoring center upon detection of intrusive sounds further validated IUSSS’s crucial role in enhancing underwater security. The results collectively substantiate IUSSS as a robust and reliable solution for safeguarding underwater ecosystems and critical infrastructures, offering high accuracy, real-time processing efficiency, and adaptability across diverse scenarios.

#### V. CONCLUSION

In summary, the Intelligent Underwater Sound Surveillance System (IUSSS) represents a significant advancement in underwater security and intrusion detection. With high precision and recall rates, IUSSS effectively distinguishes between normal aquatic sounds and potential intrusions, while its real-time processing and adaptability make it a practical solution for diverse underwater environments. The user-friendly interface enhances usability, facilitating prompt responses to threats and contributing to enhanced underwater security. IUSSS stands as a valuable tool for safeguarding marine ecosystems and critical infrastructures, with opportunities for future expansion and refinement in marine security applications.