IoT NETWORK TRAFFIC ANALYSIS USING MACHINE LEARNING BASED TECHNIQUES

A MAJOR PROJECT-II REPORT

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MASTER OF TECHNOLOGY
IN
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Submitted by:

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I, Abhishek Shukla, 2K22/ISY/02 student of M.Tech in Information Systems, hereby

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ABSTRACT

Despite the advantages of the IoT, a rising amount of malware designed specifically for IoT devices poses a serious danger to the Internet's environment. These malware attacks have created the need to evaluate the IoT system's security and the need to create defenses against potential threats. It is crucial to stop IoT malwares from spreading. Furthermore, for educating people and evaluating the accuracy of cyber security the gathering and researching of data from many sources of IoT data is essential. Regarding this, we need to analyze the network traffic. Previous research papers suggested some models, which is based on Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM), successfully completes two tasks 1) Identifying the benign nature of the given traffic and 2) Identifying the sort of malware to look for in malicious network data. For this, there is need for a sizable amount of traffic data from the number of files of both good and bad traffic which can be gathered from different distinct IoT devices. Flowrelated, traffic flagrelated, and packet payload related characteristics were the three modalities into which the features that were retrieved from the datasets at the feature and modality levels, a feature selection technique was used, and the best modalities and features were applied for performance improvement. After we apply a number of Machine Learning algorithm for analyzing the traffic to find if it is benign or malicious.

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INTRODUCTION

1.1 IoT

In the field of telecommunications, out of many technologies the one which stood out is the Internet of Things (IoT). The Internet of Things is the physical objects of any network, vehicle, device, building, and other objects that are embedded with things such as electronics, sensors, software and connectivity to the network. These objects are able to collect and exchange information through the network. The Internet of Things is the next big step in this era of new technology and its exponential growth in the number of devices connected to networks are testimony to its popularity and success.

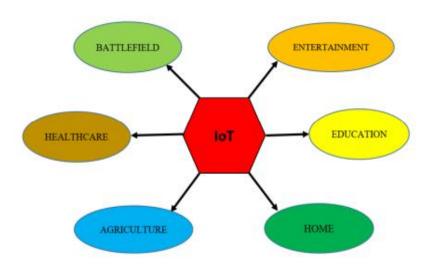


Fig. 1.1. IoT and its uses.

1.2 Need for Analysis

But with the growing number of devices, it raise about concern of dangerous online activities. These type of attacks has the potential to harm someone's privacy. Many has to compromise with their data and information as it may be altered by the attackers. Sometimes there are financial losses happen as malign actors get the access to user's bank credentials [1]. Researchers found out that IoT device commonly use

the open-source component and framework that have various security vulnerabilities and attackers shifted their target towards these badly secures smart devices.

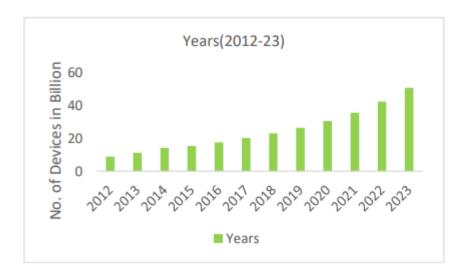


Fig. 1.2. No. of IoT Devices (in Billion)

To minimize and protect from such kinds of malicious activities much research work has been done in this field using machine learning[2]. But it was not up to mark with respect to accuracy or only compatible with specific kind of malware or devices. In this study we delve into the realm of IoT malware detection using an ensemble learning framework. Our approach combines three distinct classifiers: k-Nearest Neighbours (k-NN), Random Forrest, Decision Tree, and logistic regression [3][4]. By leveraging their complementary strengths, we aim to create a robust and adaptive system capable of identifying both known and novel malware variants. The ensemble learning paradigm capitalizes on the wisdom of crowds, aggregating predictions from multiple models to achieve superior performance Each classifier contributes its unique perspective, and their collective decision-making process enhances overall accuracy making it well-suited for the IoT landscape.

RELATED WORK

This paper [6] states that the increasing dependence on the Internet and the importance of protecting information from theft are critical concerns, to address this, an advanced NIDS based on DL methodology is being developed using the "NSL-KDD" dataset. The proposed CNN model has a learning accuracy of 95.5% and performs better than the forward neural network due to its larger hidden layer. The model is efficient in time and accuracy and can be optimized by reorganizing parameters and hyper parameters. Preprocessing is crucial for improving the accuracy of attack labelled data. The model also includes a dropout layer to avoid exploding and vanishing gradients.

This paper [7] states that as technology advances, society relies on computers and the internet for data storage and retrieval. Intrusion Detection Systems (IDSs) are essential to protect these networks, particularly the Internet of Things (IoT). IDSs are needed to protect physical objects from unauthorized access and vulnerabilities. This paper explores existing IDSs for IoT, compares different IDSs based on features, and implements two known attacks, DIS and Version, on Cooja. The study aims to analyse the impact of these attacks on the network, identify abnormal behaviour, and predict the location of malicious nodes.

This paper [8] paper examines static IoT malware detection, focusing on its definition, development, and security risks. It reviews existing IoT malware location techniques and provides strategies for future research. The paper also provides a comprehensive audit of IoT malware, revealing its increasing frequency and increasing complexity. It also presents a comparative analysis of the malware's components, location, and handling time. The authors propose a lightweight identification strategy to manage recognized malicious executable files in IoT devices.

This paper [9] paper explores static IoT malware detection, focusing on its definition, development, and security risks. It reviews existing techniques and proposes a lightweight identification strategy for managing malicious executable files in IoT devices. Cybercrimes are prevalent in IoTs, posing security, privacy, and identity

verification issues. The paper suggests future research strategies and addressing vulnerabilities in IoT devices.

This paper [10] paper explores static IoT malware detection, focusing on its definition, development, and security risks. It reviews existing techniques and proposes a lightweight identification strategy for managing malicious executable files. The paper highlights the need for best practices in IoT devices and suggests application whitelisting as a first line of defense against malware. Other mechanisms like verified boot and remote attestation are also crucial.

This paper [11] states that due to its ability to reduce hazards and enable real-time monitoring, the Internet of Things, or IoT, has become essential for industrial organizations. However possible abnormalities in IoT networks give rise to worries about safety and security. This study presents a way for quickly classifying malicious software assaults on Internet of Things networks by utilizing deep learning and machine learning techniques. The Decision Tree (DT) method is used because of its cheap computing time cost and great accuracy. The study found that Gaussian Naive Bayes performed the least well when it came to machine learning malware identification on the Avast IoT-23 challenge dataset.

This paper [12] study examines IoT malware and suggests a scalable architecture for IoT honeypots called HoneyIoT. HoneyIoT uses firmware support and adjustable vulnerabilities to record harmful actions and draw in assaults. During seven-day industrial testing, 3,423 unsuccessful login attempts and over 12,500 fraudulent connections were recorded by Honeypots. The study highlights how crucial back-end implementation and front-end interaction capabilities are for IoT honeypots. IoT botnet activity has been greatly influenced by the Mozi virus, which blends elements of three different IoT malware families. According to the study, Mozi's influence on other IoT malware variants is expected to last for years.

This paper [13] presents HoneyIoT, a scalable framework for IoT honeypots, designed to detect and record malicious behaviours. The framework uses Federated Learning (FL) to create and evaluate guided and solo models without disclosing sensitive information. It is designed for use on network nodes that grant access to IoT devices on Wi-Fi, 5G, or B5G networks. The N-BaIoT dataset was used to

demonstrate its applicability in an actual IoT environment. The federated strategy enhances model performance in both supervised and unsupervised scenarios while ensuring data privacy. The federated models' resistance to malicious clients was assessed using various attacks. The paper emphasizes the need for robust aggregation methods to protect against adversarial attacks

The paper [14] proposes a cross-architecture IoT malware detection system using GAN to address the issue of cross-architecture malware. The system uses Opcode and PSI feature characteristics of graph nodes and a CFG retrieved from a binary executable file. It uses GAT to acquire neighbourhood attributes, assign varying weights to neighbours, and perform distinct training phases to enhance system efficiency and protect user privacy. The system achieves a 99.67% detection accuracy.

The AASH technique (IoT Malware Detection) is a cutting-edge approach that finds malware at the source code level by utilizing the Fibonacci search with the Adler-32 hash function. This method [15] works better than earlier approaches like DROIDMD and SQVDT, which have longer detection times and lower accuracy but are scalable and may be used on IoT devices. AASH outperformed DROIDMD and SQVDT by 19.8 seconds and 20.7 seconds, respectively, in detecting harmful pieces in 17.3 seconds. It performed better in accuracy as well, hitting 91.2% accuracy. To find harmful code in third-party code, the AASH approach can be used more widely.

This article [16] investigates the definition, evolution, and security hazards of static IoT malware detection. It talks about the rising incidence of IoT malware and evaluates 0 20 40 60 No. of Devices in Billion Years (2012-23) Years 3 current methods. A comparative analysis of IoT malware and its effectiveness is also presented in the paper. The authors stress the significance of tackling the particular difficulties in recognizing and managing IoT malware in the context of the Internet and private information by proposing a lightweight identification technique to manage recognized dangerous executable files in IoT devices.

The proliferation of malware poses a serious security threat to the increasing number of IoT networks. Malware detection and isolation on their own are insufficient, and conventional control ideas don't work [17]. A two-pronged method is suggested: a stochastic model predictive controller and a HaRM that uses HPC values. Compared to previous systems, the suggested technique provides a quicker detection of malware

with an accuracy of 92.21% and a 10ns latency. As a result, the average network performance is over 200% higher than in networks of IoT devices without inbuilt defence. In an IoT network with 20 nodes, the technique is tested, and it achieves an average virus detection accuracy of 92% with a 10ns delay.

The IoT has given rise to several security risks, including new malware that uses leaked source code to target IoT devices [18]. A distributed modular solution called EDIMA has been created by researchers to identify IoT malware network activities in large-scale networks during the scanning/infecting stage. To classify edge device traffic, EDIMA uses machine learning techniques in conjunction with a policy module, a packet traffic feature vector database, and an optional packet sub-sampling module. Through tests, the study assessed the performance of EDIMA's classification. It also plans to keep improving software-based implementation and performance evaluation. Upcoming projects will involve modifying cutting-edge botnet detection methods to detect malware activities.

Due to its ability to reduce hazards and enable real-time monitoring, the Internet of Things, or IoT, has become essential for industrial organizations [19]. This is the also become the reason for their attack. However possible anomalies in IoT networks give rise to worries about safety and security. With the help of machine learning and deep learning techniques, this research presents a novel method for quickly classifying malicious software attacks on Internet of Things networks. The Decision Tree (DT) algorithm is selected because of its low computing time cost and great accuracy. Five models are used in the study, comprising one deep learning approach and four machine learning techniques. To compare approaches and broaden the area of the investigation, more research is required.

The Internet of Things, or IoT, is expanding quickly, opening up new application possibilities but also raising security concerns [20]. Due to resource limitations, antivirus software designed for desktop computers and servers is not immediately relevant to IoT devices, making malware detection difficult. This paper introduces SIMBIoTA++, a resource-requirement-optimized version of SIMBIoTA. For malware identification, SIMBIoTA and SIMBIoTA++ both use a similarity metric on binary files. The suggested enhancement is a new dominating set updating algorithm that, at the same computation time, produces smaller sets of TLSH hash values for

Internet of Things devices. It is discovered that the 40 TLSH difference threshold is a meaningful threshold number since it maximizes the malware samples' similarity graph's clustering coefficient.

Global adoption of the Internet of Things (IoT) is accelerating, yet security is still lacking. Through the scalability of machine learning techniques to enable near-real-time network traffic anomaly detection and packet classification as benign or malicious, this study [21] investigates the viability of malware detection in a single Internet of Things device. An ESP32 device can be used to implement the recommended software for classifying data points from the IoT-23 dataset. This could allow IoT devices to determine if a network connection is a part of a malware attack or a routine connection. Operational code sequences are transformed into vector space using the study's deep learning technique, which then classifies them into harmful and hazardous applications. The effectiveness of the suggested strategy against garbage and virus detection Code insertion attacks is shown, and the classifier maintains good metrics while being fast, small, and precise. Subsequent efforts could concentrate on putting in place a comprehensive software that gathers internet packets, separates features, and classes them

Because of its computing power, malware has made the Internet of Things (IoT) a frequent target. Owing to domain knowledge requirements, detecting IoT malware with machine learning and deep learning approaches is difficult. This work [22] eliminates the need for domain expertise by proposing a novel Convolution model that solves the problem using raw byte sequences. With a 99.01% accuracy rate, the model can correctly identify IoT binaries as malicious or benign. The study compared three models and discovered that spatial content is more effective in identifying IoT malware than temporal dynamics. This leads to improved algorithms by improving our understanding of malware binary files. The results can suggest future lines of inquiry for further study.

IoT devices are on the target of malware assaults because of their constrained computational power, low security index, along with resource availability. Botnet attacks, which cause distributed denial of service (DDoS) attacks, can affect these devices. Although these threats can be detected by machine learning techniques, lengthy processing times provide a problem. This research [23] presents an up to

100% accurate malware attack detection system based on the CART learning algorithm. The findings indicate that Naïve Bayes outperforms other learning algorithms when given specific features. Further research will examine these additional options.

MATERIAL & METHODOLOGY

3.1 Dataset

An organized set of data items put together for analysis, modelling, or decision-making is called a dataset. The suggested model makes use of "The Bot-IoT Dataset," which was created by UNSW Canberra Cyber Range Lab. It consists of a mix of malicious (botnet) and benign (normal) traffic. The dataset may be found as produced argus files, csv files, and original pcap files. To facilitate dataset administration, we employed specific MySQL queries in this work to extract 5% of the original dataset. This dataset has 32 attribute and out of them the 'attack' attribute is going to provide us the information about whether it is normal or malicious.

pkSeqID	daddr	Dur	Sbytes
Stime	dport	Mean	Dbytes
flgs	pkts	stddev	Rate
flgs_number	bytes	Sum	Srate
Proto	state	Min	Drate
proto_number	state_number	Max	Attack
saddr	ltime	Spkts	Category
sport	seq	dpkts	subcategory

Table 3.1. Attributes of Bot-IoT Dataset

3.2 Data Pre-processing

3.2.1 Data Encoding.

In data encoding the column with categorical data is converted into numerical type data so that they can be fitted into machine learning models which only accept numerical type data. To perform encoding we have used level encoding and its output is numpy array.

3.2.2 Correlation Matrix

It gives an idea about data set. This tells us how two columns are related to each other. If the similarity score is 1 then relationship is strong and out of them one can be dropped from the dataset to make it more optimal. If the similarity score is

0 then the relationship between them is neutral but if the score is -1 then the relationship between them is weak. Here if the similarity score is greater than 0.80(i.e. 80%) then we drop one of the column to make it easier for training and testing of models.

3.2.3 Data Balancing

Predictive modelling has difficulties when dealing with unbalanced datasets however, these issues are expected as there are many imbalanced cases in real life. Balancing the dataset makes it easier to train a model since it prevents the model from being biased toward a certain class. Stated differently, the approach does not automatically benefit the majority class just because it has access to more data. We oversample the dataset in this study due to the small sample size of the minority class. We increase the duplicate data fields of the minority class to make 70:30 ratio for dataset.

3.2.4 Reshuffling

One essential pre-processing method that is often used to enhance model learning is data shuffling. Data shuffling is intended to address any problems that may arise from patterns in the training sample sequence, which may cause overfitting.

3.3 Models Used

3.3.1 K-Nearest Neighbour

K-Nearest Neighbours is a non-parametric classification and regression approach in machine learning that uses the similarity principle to classify or forecast a new data point's label or value. The algorithm's performance and generalization capacity are influenced by the chosen K value, the higher the value of K higher the complexity. Despite the need for distance computations between new and existing data points, K-NN is resilient to noisy data and performs well with large datasets. Generally, the value of K is chosen to be odd to form the majority and here we took the value of K as 3.

3.3.2 Random Forest

Using random data sets, the Random Forest method is a machine learning technique that reduces overfitting and enhances prediction accuracy by building

Decision Trees. For reliable and accurate findings, it averages or combines the vote results from each tree. Regression and classification problems make extensive use of it.

3.3.3 Decision Tree

Decision trees are a machine learning model used for regression and classification applications. They consist of a hierarchy of decision nodes and leaf nodes, each representing a feature or class label. They divide feature space iteratively to maximize homogeneity and purity. Decision trees are interpretable and useful for human-readable explanations. However, they can overfit and catch noise in data. Ensemble techniques like Random Forests and Adaboost reduce this problem. Despite their drawbacks, decision trees remain essential for adaptability, transparency, and efficiency.

3.3.4 Logistic Regression

It is a supervised machine learning technique that is used to forecast the likelihood that an instance will fall into a specific class in binary classification. A probability value between 0 and 1 is obtained by applying a sigmoid function to examine the connection between two data components.

3.3.5 Ensemble Learning

We use Adaboost, decision trees, and K-Nearest Neighbors (K-NN) ensemble learning paradigms to demonstrate the adaptability of ensemble learning. It demonstrates how different algorithms can be used synergistically to address challenging learning tasks, improving prediction accuracy, robustness, and generalization.

3.4 Methodology

In this paper first, we applied data encoding to make our dataset numerical, the reason behind this is that some of the models that we are using only accept numerical values. Here we used level encoding for encoding the data. After that, we made a correlation matrix which tells us about how much two columns are related to each other and from that if the similarity between two columns comes out 80% or more than that then we eliminated one out of those two column so that

it will be easier for training the models. This process is repeated until a similarity score of 80% is achievable between any two attributes.

After that, this preprocessed dataset is split into training and testing sets, which are in the ratio of 70:30. The training class will be used to train the models and once the models gets trained the other part of dataset i.e. testing class is used on these models to get their results and evaluation.

Now, as our data is highly imbalanced the size of minority class is quite low so we performed data balancing (oversampling) to increase the minority class to make the ratio up to 70:30 in favor of the majority class.

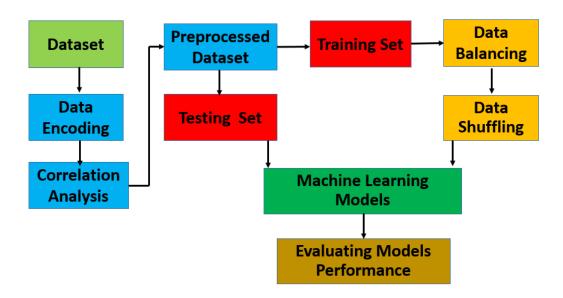


Fig. 3.1. Model Architecture.

Data shuffling is performed to make it susceptible to overfitting and enhance the learning of models. It also addresses any problems that arise from patterns in the training datasets. And at last, all the machine learning algorithms used in this research are trained using this shuffled dataset soon after the testing process is initiated to evaluate the model performance.

KNN algorithm's performance and generalization capacity are influenced by the chosen K value, the higher the value of K higher the complexity. Despite the need for distance computations between new and existing data points, K-NN is resilient to noisy data and performs well with large datasets. Generally, the value of K is chosen to be odd to form the majority and here we took the value of K as 3.

Two components make up Random Forest. The first step is to combine N decision trees to create a random forest, and the second is to forecast each tree that was created in the first phase. Select K data points at random from the training set. Construct the decision trees that correspond to the selected data points. If you want to build decision trees, choose the number N. Locate the predictions for the new data points in each decision tree by following the preceding procedures again, and then assign them to the group that received the majority of votes.

Decision Trees consist of a hierarchy of decision nodes and leaf nodes, each representing a feature or class label. They divide feature space iteratively to maximize homogeneity and purity. Decision trees are interpretable and useful for human-readable explanations. However, they can overfit and catch noise in data. Ensemble techniques like Random Forests and Adaboost reduce this problem. Despite their drawbacks, decision trees remain essential for adaptability, transparency, and efficiency.

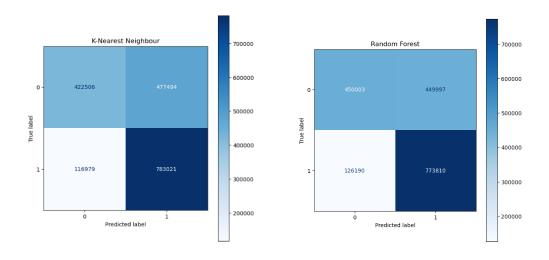
One common technique for estimating the logistic regression model is maximum likelihood estimation (MLE). This approach iterates by trying various values of beta several times to get the best match for the log odds. Each of these repetitions produces a log-likelihood function, which logistic regression seeks to maximize to provide the best possible parameter estimate. If the ideal coefficient—or coefficients, if there are several independent variables—are found, the conditional probabilities for each observation may then be calculated, logged, and summed to get a prediction probability. In binary classification, a probability of less than 0.5 predicts 0 while a probability of more than 0.50 predicts 1.

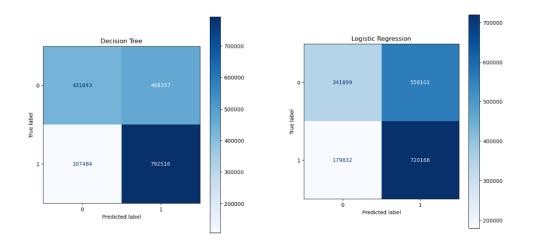
And at last, we use the ensemble learning technique which uses different machine learning paradigms i.e. K-NN, Random Forest, Decision Tree, and logistic regression to demonstrate how different algorithms can be used synergistically to address challenging learning tasks, improving prediction accuracy, robustness, and generalization.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

4.2 Confusion Matrix

A confusion matrix tabulates the counts of TP, FP, TN and FN to give a clear breakdown of the performance of a classification model. It functions as a fundamental tool for assessing a classifier's efficacy and comprehending the kinds of mistakes it produces.





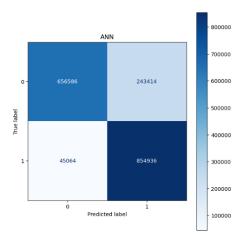


Fig. 4.1. Confusion Matrix of **(a).** K-NN **(b).** Random Forest **(c).** Decision Tree **(d)**Logistic Regression and **(e)** Ensemble Learning on Bot-IoT Dataset

4.2 Accuracy

In machine learning, accuracy is a critical indicator that shows the percentage of properly identified or predicted instances relative to the total. It is typically given as a percentage and is computed by dividing the total number of correct guesses by the total number of forecasts. Accuracy, while simple, might not adequately convey subtleties of performance, particularly in datasets that are unbalanced or where distinct errors have varying weights. Even though it's straightforward, accuracy is a useful metric for assessing a model's overall efficacy.

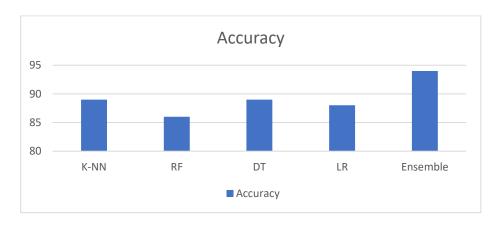


Fig. 4.2. Comparison of Accuracy on Bot-IOT dataset

4.3 Precision

Precision is a crucial metric in classification issues that evaluates a model's ability to forecast successful outcomes. It is calculated as the ratio of TP forecasts to all positive predictions, or TP and FP. A low FPR is shown by high precision, which

makes the model especially helpful in situations where reducing false positives is essential.

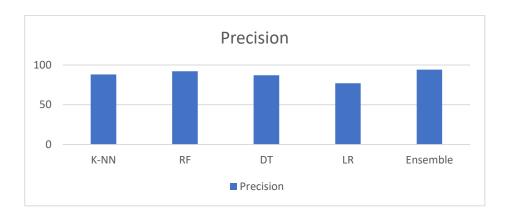


Fig. 4.3. Comparison of Precision on Bot-IOT dataset

4.4 Recall

Recall, which is often referred to as sensitivity or TPR, assesses how well a model can distinguish TP cases from all of the positive instances that actually occurred. It is computed as the ratio of TP instances (TP plus FN) to TPR. High recall means that, even at the cost of more FP, the model successfully captures a significant percentage of positive cases, which makes it useful in situations when finding every positive is essential.

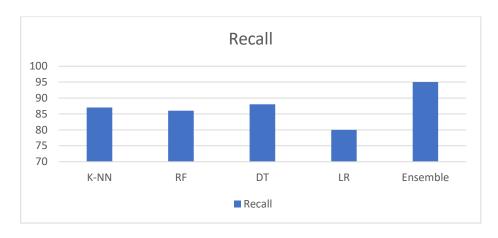


Fig. 4.4. Comparison of Recall on Bot-IOT dataset

4.5 F-1 Score

By balancing accuracy and recall, the F1 score is a single statistic that offers a comprehensive assessment of a classifier's performance. Recall and accuracy are

harmonically meaned to get a single value that combines the two metrics. A higher score indicates better overall performance since it finds a balance between recall and accuracy. The F1 score is between 0 and 1.

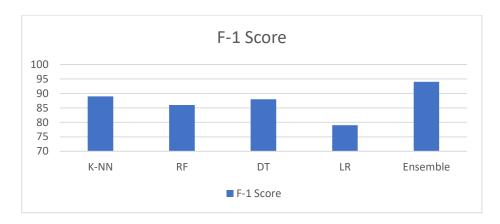


Fig. 4.5. Comparison of F-1 Score on Bot-IOT dataset

ML Models	Accuracy	Precision	Recall	F-1 Score
K-Nearest	0.89	0.88	0.87	0.89
Neighbour				
Random	0.86	0.92	0.86	0.86
Forest				
Decision	0.89	0.87	0.88	0.88
Tree				
Logistic	0.88	0.77	0.80	0.79
Regression				
Ensemble	0.94	0.95	0.95	0.94
Learning				

 Table 4.1 Performance Matrices Table

As we can see from the table these five models including ensemble learning i.e. K-Nearest Neighbour, Random Forest, Decision Tree, and Logistic Regression have a learning accuracy of 89%, 86%, 89%, 88%, and 94% respectively. Their Precision Score is 88%, 92%, 87%, 77%, and 95% respectively. Their Recall Score is 87%, 86%, 88%, 80% and 95% respectively. Their F_1Score Score is 89%, 86%, 88%, 79% and 94% respectively. Hence from here, we conclude that

based on the learning of all models, Ensemble Learning outperformed all other models individually in all performance matrices.

4.6 ROC Curve

The AUC is a performance measure in binary classification, evaluating a model's ability to differentiate between positive and negative classes. The ROC curve, plotted against the genuine positive rate, indicates a model's enhanced discriminatory capacity.

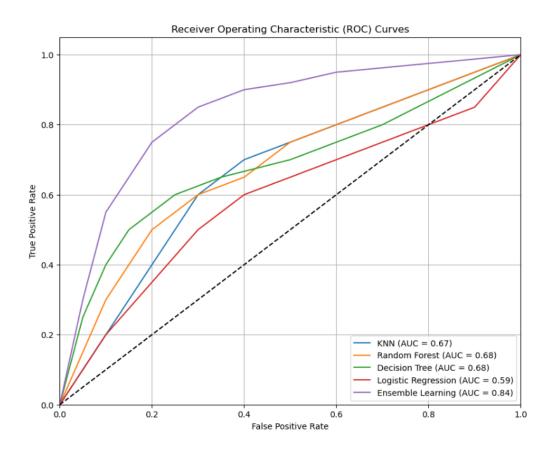


Fig. 4.6. ROC Curve

CONCLUSION

As the IoT gadgets numbers are on the ascent, so is the abuse of them for malicious reasons and there is a requirement for a proficient method of distinguishing such threats from the normal class of networks. First of all, we preprocess our dataset to make it more effective towards machine learning models and after that we make the dataset balanced (oversampling) and then shuffled it to make it ready for the training of the dataset. For solving this problem this paper proposed an ensemble learning model using adaboost, decision tree and K-NN with a learning accuracy of 94% and observed that there is a slight increase in accuracy and precision when previously they were used individually on the "The Bot-IoT dataset". Ensemble Learning techniques are robust in nature with the help of which our model can easily analyze whether the network is normal or malign.

FUTURE WORK

In future research, we will pay attention to improve the Accuracy and Detection Rate of IoT network to make it free from all possible attacks of malicious actors and their cybercrimes. It will be necessary to extend the study's reach by evaluating the ML/DL techniques on a variety of datasets sourced from different contexts. A more thorough grasp of performance, time efficiency, and method comparisons will be possible with such an extension

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PUBLICATIONS

- [1] A. Shukla and R. Gupta, "IoT Network Traffic Analysis Using Ensemble Learning" 2024, 4th International Conference on Machine Learning and Big Data Analytics (ICCMLBDA), Kurukshetra, India, 2024.
- [2] A. Shukla and R. Gupta, "Important Feature Filtering in IoT Network Traffic to Enhance ML-based Classification" 2024, 5th IEEE India Council International Subsection Conference (INDISCON), Chandigarh, India, 2024.



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Early Bird Registration: April 10, 2024

Camera ready Paper: April 15, 2024

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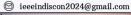
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