

Research on Detection and Recognition of Abnormal Data caused by Network Intrusion using Deep Learning

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Research

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1 Research on detection and recognition of abnormal data caused by network intrusion using deep
2 learning

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12 Abstract:

13 Based on deep learning, this study combined sparse autoencoder (SAE) with extreme learning
14 machine (ELM) to design an SAE-ELM method to reduce the dimension of data features and realize
15 the classification of different types of data. Experiments were carried out on NSL-KDD and UNSW-
16 NB2015 data sets. The results showed that, compared with the K-means algorithm and the SVM
17 algorithm, the proposed method had higher performance. On the NSL-KDD data set, the average
18 accuracy rate of the SAE-ELM method was 98.93%, the false alarm rate was 0.17%, and the missing
19 report rate was 5.36%. On the UNSW-NB2015 data set, the accuracy rate of the SAE-ELM method
20 was 98.88%, the false alarm rate was 0.12%, and the missing report rate was 4.31%. The results
21 show that the SAE-ELM method is effective in the detection and recognition of abnormal data and
22 can be popularized and applied.

23 Keywords: Deep learning, network intrusion, abnormal data, detection and recognition

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25

26 **1. Introduction**

27 With the expansion of the network and the increasing volume of data [1], the traditional methods
28 are increasingly unable to meet the needs of detection and identification of abnormal data, and
29 cannot achieve effective defense of the network. The detection and recognition of abnormal data
30 can be regarded as a classification problem. Methods such as machine learning have been widely
31 used in the detection of recognition of abnormal data [2] and have achieved good results. Mitchell
32 et al. [3] detected the medical network physical system with a behavior-based method. Through

33 experiments, they found that the method could deal with more covert attacks with a high detection
34 rate. Hosseini et al. [4] designed a method based on multi-criteria linear programming and particle
35 swarm optimization and performed experiments on the KDD CUP 99 and found that it had obvious
36 advantages in accuracy and computing time. Wei et al. [5] used different neural networks to obtain
37 the characteristics of the data for detection and carried out experiments on DARPA 1998 and
38 ISCX2012. The results showed that the method had a good detection rate. Dubey et al. [6] designed
39 a hybrid method based on K-means, naive Bayes, and back-propagation (BP) neural network. They
40 carried out experiments on KDD CUP99 to verify the performance of the method. At present, in the
41 face of massive data, the performance of detection and recognition is not good enough and is greatly
42 affected by the size of the data. Intelligent methods such as deep learning have good detection ability
43 for multi-dimensional dynamic network data; therefore, this paper used deep learning to detect and
44 recognize abnormal data and verified the reliability of the method. This work makes some
45 contributions to further improving abnormal data detection and recognition ability and realizing
46 network security.

47

48

49 **2. Detection and recognition method based on deep learning**

50 **2.1 Feature extraction based on sparse autoencoder**

51 Autoencoder (AE) [7] is a deep learning network structure. It is assumed that the input of the
52 encoder is I , the middle layer is Z , and the output is O . The purpose of AE is to make $I \approx O$. In this
53 process, the output of the encoder can be written as:

54 $Z = f(I) = f_1(W + b_1).$

55 The output of the decoder can be written as:

56 $O = g(Z) = g_Z(W^T + b_Z).$

57

58 where f_1 and g_Z are activation functions, W is an initial weight, b_1 is a forward bias, and b_Z is
59 a reverse bias. AE minimizes reconstruction error by training $\{W, b_1, b_Z\}$:

60 $E = \sum_{x \in I} J(x, g(f(x))),$

61 where J refers to the reconstruction error function. This study uses the mean square
62 error loss function:

63 $L(x) = \|x - y\|^2.$

64 Sparse autoencoder (SAE) [8] is obtained by adding a sparsity limitation to AE, which
65 enables it to give deeper features, i.e., let the node's output be as 0 as possible. It is assumed
66 that the mean value of the activation degree of node j in the middle layer is:

67 $\hat{\rho}_j = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m [a_j^{(2)}(x^{(i)})].$

68 where m is the number of data and $a_j^{(2)}$ is the output activation value of node j , whose
69 input is x . In the sparsity limitation, to make $\hat{\rho}_j$ as close as possible to 0, a decimal ρ that
70 approaches 0 is introduced as the sparsity parameter, and Kullback-Leible divergence is used
71 to perform regularized constraint on the network. The global loss function of the network is
72 written as:

73 $J_{\text{sparse}}(W, b) = J(W, b) + \beta \sum_{j=1}^{s_2} \text{KL}(\rho \parallel \hat{\rho}_j),$

74 $\text{KL}(\rho \parallel \hat{\rho}_j) = \rho \log \frac{\rho}{\rho_j} + (1 - \rho) \log \frac{1 - \rho}{1 - \rho_j},$

75 where s_2 refers to the number of neurons in the middle layer.

76

77

78 **2.2 Detection and recognition based on extreme learning machine**

79 In the learning process, an extreme learning machine (ELM) [9] can achieve the desired effect
80 by calculating the output weight only, showing a high learning speed [10]. For a given training
81 sample $\{x_i, y_i\}_{i=1}^N$, it is assumed that the number of nodes in the hidden layer is L , then

82
$$o_j = \sum_{i=1}^L \beta_i g(W_i \cdot X_j + b_i),$$

83 where $g(x)$ is an activation function, W_i is an input weight, β_i is an output weight, and b_i is a
84 bias.

85 The objective of the network is to minimize the output error:

86
$$\sum_{j=1}^N \|o_j - y_j\| = 0.$$

87 It can be expressed as $H\beta = T$ by a matrix, where H refers to the node's output in the hidden
88 layer, T is the expected output, and β is the output weight. The solution is:

89
$$\beta = H^+ T,$$

90 where H^+ is the Moore-Penrose generalized inverse of H [11].

91 In the SAE-ELM method designed in this paper, firstly, the dimension of features is reduced
92 by the SAE method. In a given sample set, $\{(X^1, Y^1), (X^2, Y^2), \dots, (X^i, Y^i)\}$, X^i is the feature vector,
93 and Y^i is the labeled vector. After the dimensionality reduction, a new $\{X_i, Y_i\}$ is obtained. Then, it
94 was detected by the ELM method.

95

96

97 **3. Experimental analysis**

98 **3.1 Experimental setup**

99 The experimental platform was MATLAB2014a. The operating system was Win10 64 bits.
100 The processor was Intel(R)Core(TM)i7-9700K CPU @3.6Hz. The memory was 16 GB. Nvidia RTX
101 2060 (6 GB) was used. The activation function was sigmod. The sparsity parameter was 0.25. The
102 number of middle layers was 14.

103 The experimental data sets used were NSL-KDD and UNSW-NB2015. NSL-KDD is a
104 benchmark data set [12, 13], which is specially used to judge the behavior of network data. Each
105 data has 41 features; there are one class of normal data and four classes of abnormal data, which are
106 DOS, Probe, R2L, and U2R, respectively. Experiments were carried out with 125973 data in
107 KDDTrain, as shown in Table 1.

108

109 Table 1 NSL-KDD data set

	Training set	Test set
Normal	53875	13468
DOS	36742	9185
Probe	9352	2331
R2L	797	198
U2R	42	10
Total	100781	25192

110

111 UNSW-NB2015 is a relatively new data set [14], recording the normal activities and attack

112 behaviors of real modern networks [15], which are as follows:

113 (1) normal: normal data;

114 (2) fuzzers: pause the network by providing randomly generated data;

115 (3) analysis: attacks including port scanning and spam;

116 (4) backdoors: access the computer by bypassing the system security mechanism;

117 (5) DoS: users cannot use the server or network resources;

118 (6) exploits: attack the host through vulnerabilities;

119 (7) generic: an attack used for password countermeasure;

120 (8) reconnaissance: collect the information of the victim's host and attack it;

121 (9) shellcode: attack the computer through vulnerabilities of software;

122 (10) worms: attackers copy themselves and propagate to other computers.

123 219160 data in one subset were used in the experiment, as shown in Table 2.

124

125 Table 2 UNSW-NB2015 data set

	Training set	Test set
Normal	35983	53122
Fuzzers	4885	16852
Analysis	69	636
Backdoors	83	443
DoS	1452	3399
Exploits	8281	21595
Generic	18830	39754
Reconnaissance	3217	8874
Shellcode	378	1133
Worms	44	130
Total	73222	145938

126

127 3.2 Evaluation index

128 (1) Accuracy: $A_C = \frac{T_P + T_N}{T_P + T_N + F_P + F_N}$,

129 (2) false alarm rate: $F_A = \frac{F_P}{T_N + F_P}$,

130 (3) missing report rate: $M_A = \frac{F_N}{T_P + F_N}$,

131 where T_P refers to the number of abnormal data that are classified as abnormal, T_N refers to the
132 number of normal data that are classified as normal, F_P refers to the number of normal data that are
133 classified as abnormal, and F_N refers to the number of abnormal data that are classified as normal.

134

135 3.3 Experimental results

136 Firstly, the binary classification experiment was carried out on NSL-KDD, and the results were
137 compared with the support vector machine (SVM) algorithm [16] and the K-means algorithm [17],
138 as shown in Figure 1.

139 It was seen from Figure 1 that the SAE-ELM method had the best performance in detecting
140 and recognizing abnormal data. The accuracy A_c of the K-means, SVM, and SAE-ELM algorithms
141 was 74.64%, 86.48%, and 95.64%, respectively; the A_c of the SAE-ELM algorithm was 21.02%
142 higher than the K-means algorithm and 9.16% higher than the SVM algorithm. The F_A of K-means,
143 SVM, and SAE-ELM algorithms was 4.67%, 1.89%, and 0.45%, respectively; the F_A of the SAE-
144 ELM algorithm was 4.22% lower than that of the K-means algorithm and 1.44 % lower than that of
145 the SVM algorithm. The M_A of the SAE-ELM algorithm was 7.41 % lower than that of the K-means
146 algorithm and 4.84 % lower than that of the SVM algorithm. The above results verified that the
147 SAE-ELM algorithm was reliable.

148 Then, a five-classification experiment was carried out on the NSL-KDD data set, as shown in
149 Table 3.

150

151

Table 3 Results of the five-classification experiment on the NSL-KDD data set

	Accuracy/%	False alarm rate/%	Missing report rate/%
Normal	99.67	0.18	7.42
DOS	99.34	0.27	6.43
Probe	98.77	0.24	5.68
R2L	98.56	0.12	4.21
U2R	98.33	0.02	3.08
Average	98.93	0.17	5.36

152

153 It was seen from Table 3 that the SAE-ELM algorithm had the best performance in detecting
154 and recognizing normal data but performed poorly in detecting and recognizing U2R. The samples
155 of U2R were the least among the different kinds of data, which led to the insufficient training degree
156 of the algorithm. The amount of normal data was the largest; thus, the accuracy of the detection and
157 recognition of normal data was the highest (99.67%). The average A_c , F_A , and M_A of the SEA-ELM
158 algorithm was 98.93%, 0.17%, and 5.36 %, respectively.

159 A binary classification experiment was carried out on UNSW-NB2015 and compared with
160 SVM and K-means algorithms, as shown in Figure 2.

161 It was seen from Figure 2 that the performance of the SAE-ELM method was the best on the
162 NSW-NB2015 data set. The A_c of the three methods was 80.27%, 92.36%, and 99.42%,
163 respectively. The A_c of the SAE-ELM method was 19.15% higher than the SAE-ELM method and

164 7.06% higher than that of the SVM method. The F_A of the SAE-ELM algorithm was 2.85% lower
 165 than that of the K-means algorithm and 0.95% lower than the SVM algorithm. The M_A of the SAE-
 166 ELM method was 6.65% lower than that of the K-means algorithm and 4.06% lower than that of
 167 the SVM algorithm.

168 Finally, the polyphenols experiment was carried out on the NSW-NB2015 data set using the
 169 SAE-ELM algorithm, as shown in Table 4.

170

171 Table 4 Results of the multi-classification experiment on the UNSW-NB2015 data set

	Accuracy/%	False alarm rate/%	Missing report rate/%
Normal	99.62	0.21	6.48
Fuzzers	98.89	0.16	4.87
Analysis	98.52	0.12	3.55
Backdoors	98.48	0.08	3.51
DoS	98.64	0.11	4.11
Exploits	99.31	0.18	5.12
Generic	99.46	0.17	5.36
Reconnaissance	98.76	0.11	4.36
Shellcode	98.61	0.07	3.61
Worms	98.47	0.01	2.12

Average	98.88	0.12	4.31
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172

173 It was seen from Table 4 that, similar to the NSL-KDD data set, the SAE-ELM method had
 174 better detection and recognition performance in the category with more samples. For the attack type
 175 with less number, A_c was relatively small, but all above 95%. The average A_c of the SAE-ELM
 176 algorithm was 98.88%, the average F_A was 0.12 %, and the average M_A was 4.31% on the UNSW-
 177 NB2015 data set, showing that the SAE-ELM algorithm had a good performance.

178

179

180 4. Discussion

181 With the development of society, network security has been paid more and more attention [18].
 182 As the data in the network is becoming more and more massive, high-dimensional, and changeable,
 183 the traditional detection and protection methods have not been able to meet the current network
 184 security needs [19]. Therefore, it is of great significance to find effective detection and identification
 185 methods for abnormal data [20]. Deep learning methods have been widely used in image recognition
 186 [21], speech recognition [22], intelligent translation [23], etc., which can achieve high classification
 187 accuracy in large databases. Therefore, this paper analyzed the application of deep learning in the
 188 detection and recognition of abnormal data to know whether it can detect and recognize abnormal
 189 data quickly and accurately.

190 It was found from the experiments on NSL-KDD and UNSW-NB2015 data sets that the A_c
 191 and F_A of the SAE-ELM method were better than K-means and SVM algorithms. For the detection

192 and recognition of abnormal data, only larger A_c , small F_A , and low M_A can meet the actual needs.
193 First, in the binary classification experiment, the A_c of the SAE-ELM method was above 98% on
194 the two data sets, and the F_A and M_A were small. In the multi-classification experiment, the average
195 A_c , F_A , and M_A of the SAE-ELM method were 98.93%, 0.17%, and 5.36%, respectively. On the
196 UNSW-NB2015 data set, the A_c , F_A , and M_A of the SAE-ELM method were 98.88%, 0.12%, and
197 4.31%, respectively. The two experiments showed that the SAE-ELM method had a good
198 performance.

199 Although some fruits have been attained on the recognition and detection of abnormal data,
200 more research is still needed:

201 (1) the usability of more deep learning methods should be studied;

202 (2) the actual network operation data should be collected for detection and identification.

203

204

205 5. Conclusion

206 Based on deep learning, this paper analyzed the detection and recognition of abnormal data,
207 designed an SAE-ELM method, and carried out experiments on NSL-KDD and UNSW-NB2015
208 data sets. It was found that the SAE-ELM method had high accuracy and good performance in
209 detecting and recognizing abnormal data, which can be further promoted and applied in practice.

210

211

212 Declarations

213 **Availability of data and material**

214 The datasets used and/or analysed during the current study are available from the corresponding
215 author on reasonable request.

216

217 **Competing interests**

218 None.

219

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221 Not applicable.

222

223 **Authors' contributions**

224 YJ contributed the central idea, analysed most of the data, and wrote the initial draft of the paper.

225 XYD and LJ contributed to refining the ideas, carrying out additional analyses, and finalizing this
226 paper.

227

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229 Not applicable.

230

231

232 **References**

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296

297

298 Figure 1 Comparison of results of the binary classification experiment on the NSL-KDD data set

299 Figure 2 Comparison of results of the binary experiment on the UNSW-NB2015 data set

300

301

Figures

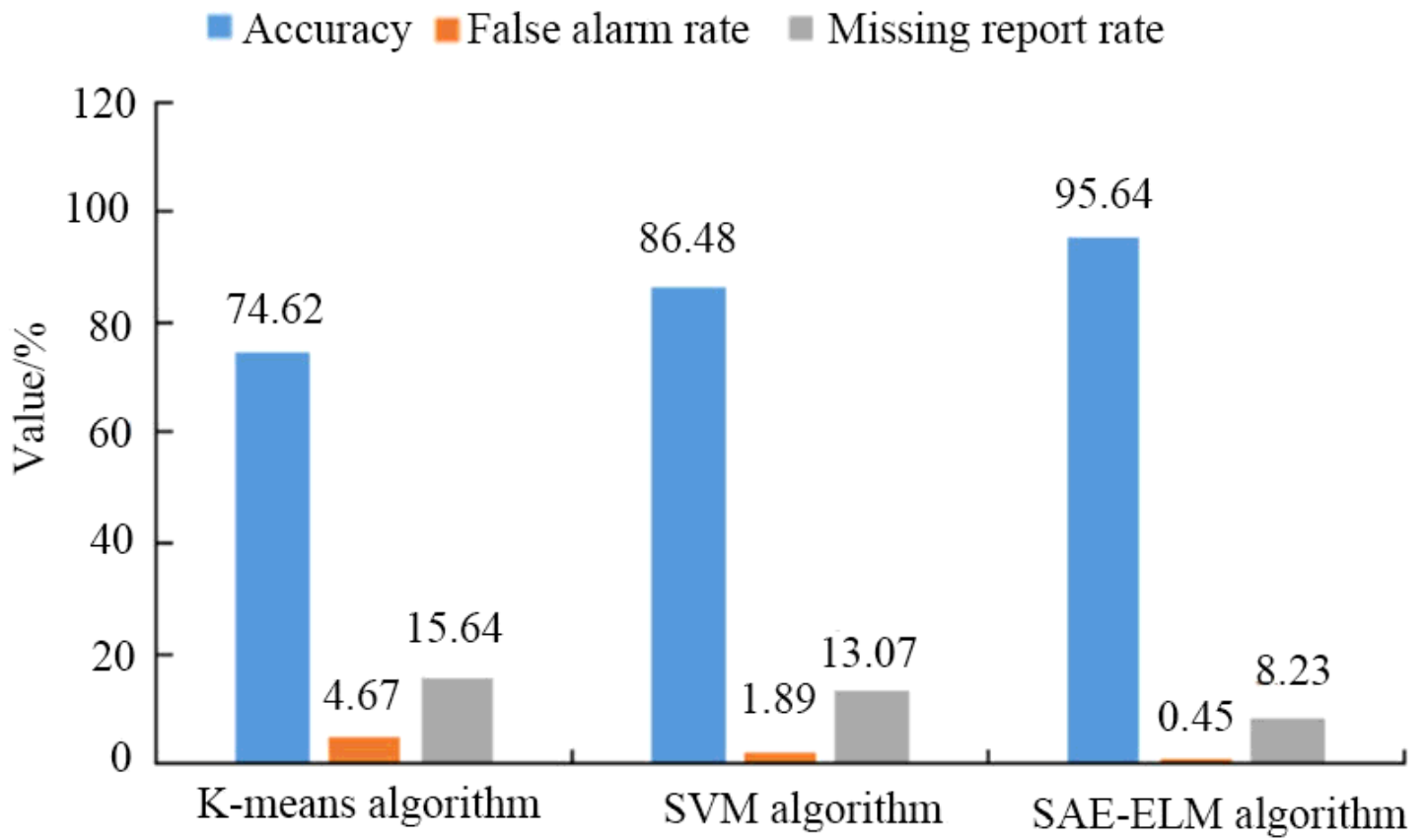


Figure 1

Comparison of results of the binary classification experiment on the NSL-KDD data set

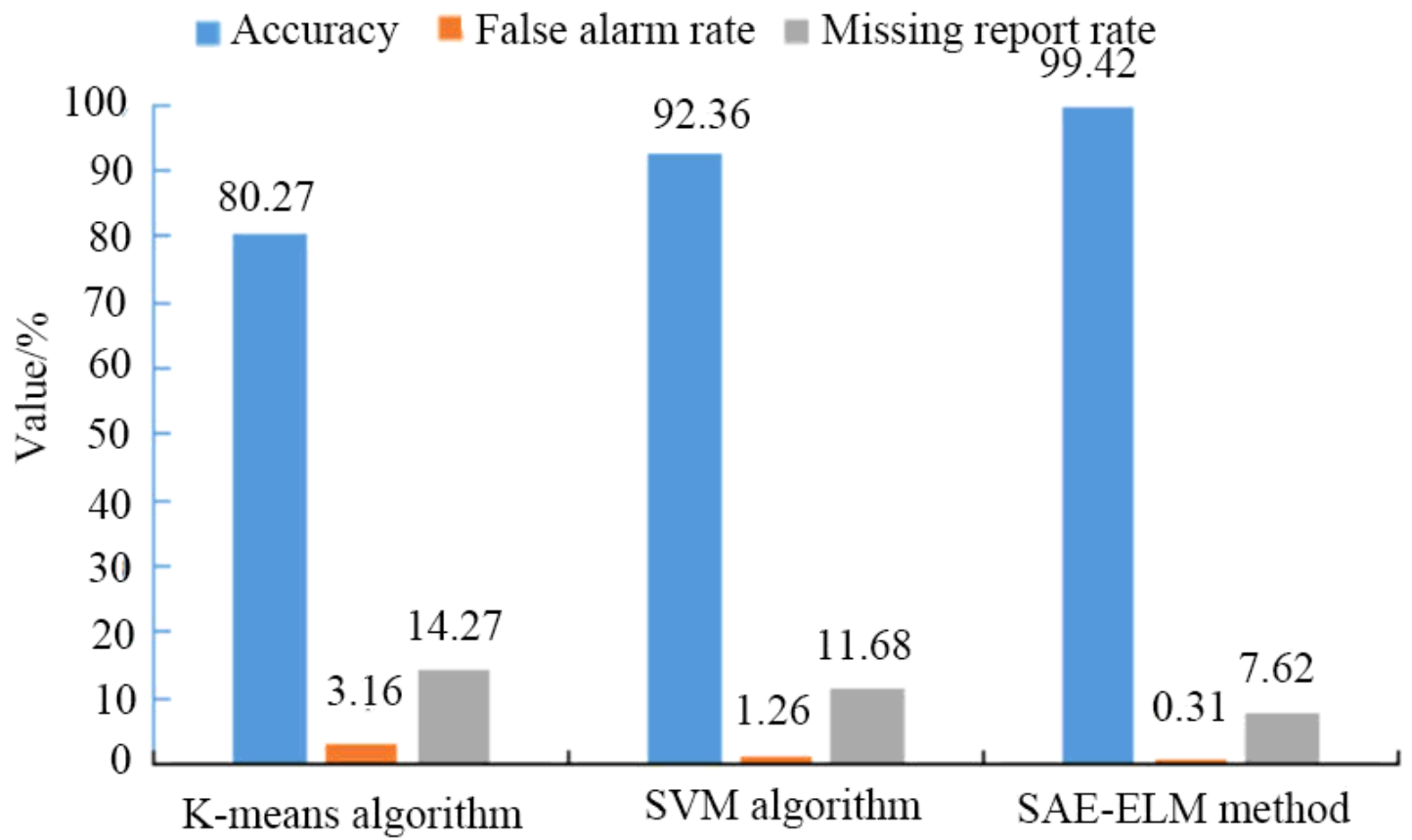


Figure 2

Comparison of results of the binary experiment on the UNSW-NB2015 data set