

# **Network Security: A Multi-Stage Intrusion Detection Approach**

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**Abstract** - In today's world, there is an ever-increasing number of apps that may be executed on a computer, as well as an ever-increasing number of network services. In addition, there is an ever-increasing number of network protocols. As a consequence of this, it is of the utmost importance to take into consideration certain practical security principles. Several various proposals on methods of intrusion detection that make use of data mining techniques have been offered in order to fulfill the goal of providing security for computer systems and networks. These approaches have been suggested in a variety of different ways. Different methods, such as outlier analysis, unsupervised data analysis, and supervised data analysis, all fit within these paradigms and may be used in diverse contexts. It is a well-known fact that certain data mining approaches cannot differentiate between various forms of cyber attacks. This is a truth that is well recognized. As a direct result of this, we have adopted the practice of using a Multi-Stage Intrusion Detection Method with the intention of removing this particular vulnerability. This technique integrates the unsupervised, supervised, and outlier identification approaches into an overarching framework. This strategy tries to improve performance and accuracy of detection by reducing the amount of false alarms generated throughout the process of detecting known and unknown attacks as well as increasing the number of known and unknown assaults that are detected. The amount of false alarms that are produced during the process should be kept to a minimum in order to achieve this goal. During the course of this inquiry, we have used the NSL-KDD dataset, in addition to the KDD Corrected dataset, and the GureKDD dataset. All of these datasets are related to KDD.

Both the GBBK method and our proposed outlier strategy, which we refer to as GBBK+, provide the same results, as we found out when we compared the two approaches to one another. On the other hand, our method requires a far less amount of time and effort than the GBBK method does. Even when the comparison of the items in question is not essential, the unsupervised categorization approach known as k-point will continue to compare the things in question in an iterative way. In order to accomplish this goal, the amount of features that are used throughout each iteration will be cut down until they reach a point that will be designated as the k-point+. The proposed technique performed better than current approaches in terms of the difficulty of the task, the amount of time that was necessary, and the accuracy of the detection. This conclusion is based on empirical evidence. According to the findings of the comparison, the newly proposed method was discovered to be superior to the methods that were currently being used in the organization.

Key Words: GBBK+, k-point+, Multi-Stage Intrusion Detection System, outlier detection, SVM;

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

Because of the exponential rise in the number of program that are used on a computer and the excessive growth in the number of network services, basic security rules are necessary at this point in time. This is the case as a direct consequence of both of these trends. This is the case since there are now more network services available than there ever have been in the past. The nature of the computergenerated virtual world makes the topic of computer security a very essential one. This is owing to the fact that the computer creates a virtual environment. Computer security is vulnerable to attacks and intrusions, which compromise at least one of the three primary purposes of computer security, which are to maintain the data's confidentiality, integrity, and availability [1]. Computer security is vulnerable to attacks and intrusions because it was not designed to prevent them. Because it was not intended to prevent assaults and incursions, computer security is very venerable to both types of threats. An intrusion detection system is a method that monitors the activities that are taking place inside a computer network or system. These activities might include hacking attempts or other malicious behaviour. It is possible to do this monitoring either automatically or manually (IDS). Within the context of this process, indications of breaches in conventional computer security processes or policies are investigated and evaluated. "intrusion detection system" is what the letters IDS stand for in the acronym "IDS." This abbreviation refers to software that initiates the process of automatically detecting intrusions. Also known as SIEM. The monitoring of the host is the responsibility of a host-based intrusion detection system, more often referred to as an IDS. The sole purpose of the intrusion detection system (IDS) is to uncover hostile behavior on the monitored host by using local analysis. An analysis is carried out by a network-based intrusion detection system on the data that was collected from a particular area of the network. This data comes from the network itself. It does this by monitoring the network in order to identify any behaviors that may be seen as being suspicious.



People are often oblivious to the fact that there is a difference between recognizing incidents of abuse and recognizing instances of intrusion, which is something that happens on a consistent basis. This kind of thing happens rather often. The identification of malicious behavior that arises only from inside an organization is referred to as misuse, while the identification of hostile behavior that arises from outside an organization is referred to as intrusion detection.

## **1.1. Detection Using Signatures**

Pattern-matching "Based Detection" refers to the act of analysing previously saved strings or patterns to evaluate whether or not they indicate the presence of a previously identified threat to the string that is now being monitored. This is done in order to ascertain if there are any potential flaws or not. Matching strings is the basis for this straightforward and efficient approach. The information about the current packet is compared to the pattern list, which is preserved, and then the list is used to determine whether or not the current packet should be processed. It seldom triggers false alarms since it consistently operates in accordance with a set of criteria that has been established beforehand. In spite of this, it is unable to locate either the new assault pattern or the previous pattern with the modifications made to it. If the prior pattern is "connect proxy," and if it is recorded in the rule set, but if you tweak it slightly so that it reads "proxy connect," then the detection system won't be able to find it. Similarly, if the preexisting pattern is "connect proxy," and if it is recorded in the rule set. Another illustration of this would be if the preceding pattern was "connect proxy," and the rule set maintained that pattern. One example of a pattern-matching network intrusion detection system that is able to identify assaults that have happened in the past is the Snort system.

## 2. CLUSTERING BASED METHOD

Clustering is a way to organise data items into groups based on the similarities in the qualities of those objects, and it's a technique called "clustering." The data objects that are included inside the cluster have a high degree of similarity with one another, while the data objects that are contained within different clusters share a high degree of dissimilarity with one another. A method known as clustering may be used to data that has not been labelled in any way. After the clusters have been established, the objects that were a member of the same cluster will have a characteristic in common with one another that will set them apart from the objects that were a part of other clusters. It is necessary to be able to differentiate between different things, hence the label of an item that is part of a cluster ought to be the same as the label of the cluster itself. The number of assumptions that are made, which happens a lot, is that the number of harmless things is a lot lower than the number of everyday items. Therefore, if we are to accept this assumption, the larger cluster needs to be categorized as belonging to the normal class, while the smaller cluster needs to be categorised as belonging to the evil class. This is because the smaller cluster has a greater likelihood of causing harm. Having said that, there are times when this is not the case. For example, in the case of a distributed denial of service (DDOS) attack, the larger cluster belongs to an attack class that violates the assumption that motivates us to use a supervised technique to label the clusters that were generated by unsupervised techniques. This motivates us to use a supervised technique to label the clusters. This serves as a driving force for our decision to label the clusters using supervised methods.

## **3. SUPERVISED ANOMALY DETECTION**

In order to build a model, the subfield of machine learning known as supervised anomaly detection necessitates the use of training data. In addition to receiving the information necessary for the training, you will also get a selection of examples that you are free to use while you are going through the course. Every single one of these occurrences is made up of two different components: an input record and the value that is supposed to be created as the desired output for that record. These are the only two things that make up this occurrence. Consequently, new data that have not yet been given a label may be categorised with the assistance of this training dataset. This is because of the aforementioned reason. Obtaining a dataset that is typical in all aspects is not a straightforward process to carry out, as a matter of fact. It takes a large amount of time to accomplish the processes of collecting each thing, manually categorising it, and then, after finishing those phases, assigning the item a status that is either normal or hazardous based on its prior condition. Depending on the specifics of the situation, those who are taking part in the activities that are happening right at this very now may or may not be aware of the attacks that are taking place. The strategy that is based on anomalies, as opposed to the one that is based on signatures, is the one that tends to be the most effective when it comes to guarding against unknown threats. This is because anomalies are easier to see than signatures. Creating a training dataset that is made up entirely of labels is one of the most difficult aspects of carrying out supervised anomaly detection. This is one of the most demanding aspects of carrying out supervised anomaly detection. Consideration need to be given to this as one of the most important issues. It has been demonstrated that both unsupervised anomaly-based detection and the identification of new assaults without any prior knowledge of labeled training data have the potential to be successful solutions to this problem. Moreover, both of these approaches do not require the presence of a human supervisor. Unsupervised and supervised anomaly detection algorithms are integrated and put to use in a certain manner in order to identify the features of each kind of incursion. This is done by combining the two types of algorithms. This is done with the main goal of obtaining a greater level of



performance in mind, thus that should be the driving motivation behind it.

### 3.1. Simulation

Matlab was used so that a number of simulations of the procedure could be carried out. Using this method, the management of records that include duplicate information or values that are missing may be accomplished. In order to locate the abnormality in the data set that was referred to as the outlier, the procedure that was suggested was put into practise. The dataset is partitioned into several subsets, each of which is established on the basis of the class label that was applied to the record. The final result of the method is created by compiling all of the findings that were acquired from the individual computations of an index for an outlier and combining them together.

### 4. COMPLEXITY ANALYSIS

The strategy that is recommended makes use of three distinct methods, and their names, in order, are FindNNk(), FindRNNk(), and FindRNOFk(). FindNNk(), FindRNNk(), and FindRNOFk() are the names of some of the methods that may be utilised in this situation (). We are able to calculate the amount of time that will be required to finish the FindNNk() function by first taking into account the distance that exists between n items and then locating the k objects that have the shortest distance between them. This allows us to determine the amount of time that will be required to complete the FindNNk() function. Because of this, we are able to determine the amount of time that will be necessary to complete the function. This function's degree of difficulty is represented by the notation O(n+n), which stands for the phrase "operation plus number." This is as a direct result of the strong connection that exists between these two aspects. The amount of time required to complete the FindRNNK() method is inversely proportional to the total number of distinct items that are examined, which is represented by the notation n\*k. The complexity of each item beyond the nth one is represented by the notation  $O(n^*k^*n)$ , which stands for "n times k times n." The documentation for the FindRNOFk() function states that it has been given a complexity grade of 0, which indicates that it is quite straightforward to use (n). The procedure that was explained has a level of temporal complexity equal to O  $(n+n+(n^{*}k^{*}n)+n)$ , which is the same thing as O. Because of this, the difficulty of the operation, measured in terms of the amount of time it takes, is equivalent to 0. (n2). When viewed from an asymptotic perspective, on the other hand, the level of complexity shown by our approach as well as that of the prior method is same. On the other hand, if our approach is used to a very large number of n, it will provide results that are superior to those obtained by other methods.

#### **5. PERFORMANCE ANALYSIS**

According to the research that has been conducted, the outlier distribution is reported to occur anywhere between 10 and 20 percent of the dataset. The number T serves as the criterion for determining how many of the data points are regarded to be anomalous. The findings of this experiment have led us to the conclusion that T should have a value of 0.99, and we got at this conclusion as a consequence of the following: The equation indicates that there is a connection between the threshold value T and the number of outliers, and that this connection has a relationship that is inversely proportional to T. In other words, the relationship is inversely proportional to T.

No. Of Outlier 
$$\alpha \frac{1}{T}$$
 (4.3)

We constructed a prediction model that was based on the support vector machine so that we could assess whether or not the method that was suggested for spotting outliers is effective (SVM). The dataset was analyzed using this model both before and after the outlier was removed from the image. This allowed for a comparison of the two states of the data. The results on both instances were exactly what was desired and expected. Both the process of training the model and the process of validating the model, which both make use of the training and validation methods, make use of these two distinct iterations of the datasets throughout the whole of both processes. Before the outlier was taken into account, the confusion matrix of the model is shown in Table 1, as it was originally. After taking into account the results of removing the outlier, the confusion matrix of the model can be seen in Table 2. Table 1 displays the model's confusion matrix in its uncorrected form, which means that it does not take into account the outlier.

Table-1: Confusion matrix of the original dataset prior t	to
SVM-based outlier elimination.	

11734	9	99.16%
99	13350	99.92%
99.92%	99.27%	99.5713%

In all, there were 25192 cases in the NSLKDD Train20 dataset. The model correctly categorised 25084 of those examples. There is a 98.3 percent chance that this is correct. As a result of the removal of the outliers, the total number of occurrences was reduced to 24634, and out of that number, only 24530 instances were able to be identified accurately.

**Table-2:** Confusion matrix of the initial dataset after SVMremoval of the outlier.

11475	9	99.17%
95	13055	99.92%
99.91%	99.27%	99.5778%

Tables 1 and 2 each contain a graphical representation of the True Positive (1st cell), the False Negative (2nd cell), the Precision (3rd cell), the False Positive (4th cell), the True Negative (5th cell), the Negative Predicted Value (6th cell), the Sensitivity (7th cell), the Specificity (8th cell), and the Accuracy (9th cell). When compared to one another, the accuracy of the model that does not include the outlier has a much higher level of precision than the accuracy of the model that does include the outlier. To put it another way, the training error of the model that does not include the outlier is much lower than the training error of models that do include the outlier. Because of this, the accuracy of the model is improved when it is applied to data sets that do not include any outliers in comparison to data sets that do have outliers. The dataset ought not to have any extreme values, often known as outliers, since doing so will make it less likely that the model is biassed or that it has been overfit to the data.

In order to create a direct comparison of the amount of time required to compute GBBK and the amount of time required by the suggested technique GBBK+, we carried out 7500 instances at intervals of 500 seconds. A depiction of how well the performance of the total number of instances did may be seen along the X-axis of Figure-1. The Y-axis provides an approximate estimate of the amount of time, measured in seconds, that will be required to finish the execution of the algorithms. This estimate is shown as a range. When compared to the method that was suggested, the graph in Figure-1 illustrates that the amount of time that is required by GBBK constantly increases in proportion to the number of instances that are being processed. This is the case even though the proposed method was intended to reduce the amount of time that is required. When compared to the method that was proposed, this is much different. Even when there is a greater number of instances to handle, the GBBK+ approach completes the task in a shorter amount of time compared to the GBBK algorithm. This is due to the fact that the GBBK+ approach has a reduced number of rounds.

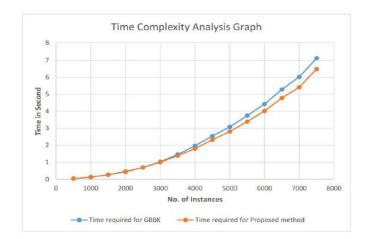


Figure-1: Comparison of the execution times for the proposed technique GBBK+ and GBBK

The Receiver Operating Characteristic is one of the metrics that is utilised in the process of establishing how effective the categorization system is. This statistic is known as the Receiver Efficiency (often abbreviated as ROC). Figure 2 is a depiction of the ROC that was obtained by applying SVM to the NSLKDD dataset. You can see this representation below. The True Positive Rate (TPR) is shown along the Y-axis of this graph, while the False Positive Rate (FPR) is displayed along the X-axis. These two rates are presented in the form of a percentage each. For the purpose of illustrating the ROC curve, a plot of the TPR vs the FPR may be used. After the elimination of the outlier, which made it possible to utilise the dataset for analysis, the ROC of the NSLKDD Train dataset can be seen in Figure 3, which shows the results of the study. The performance that was performed by the figure that came before this figure was somewhat more impressive than the performance that was produced by this figure.

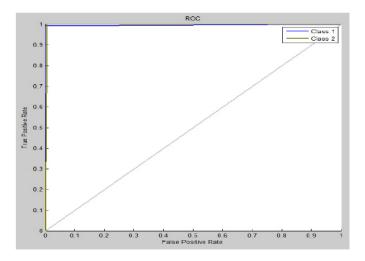
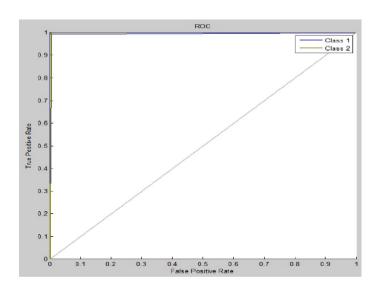
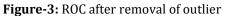


Figure-2: Prior to outlier elimination, the ROC

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## 6. DETECTION BASED UNSUPERVISED

The dataset of network connections that does not include any outliers and is shown in Figure-4 is the one that is used as the input for this stage. At this stage of the procedure, the objective is to come up with a collection of clusters that are based on the similarity measure. This phase will result in k+1 clusters, with the k+1st cluster comprising the objects that have not yet been assigned a classification and the other k clusters having the identical qualities in every instance. The unsupervised classification method k-point, which was published in [3,] carried out the needless comparison of objects in an iterative manner by decreasing the amount of characteristics with each passing iteration until it reached the threshold. [Citation needed] [Citation needed] [Citation needed] [Citation needed] [Citation needed] [Citation needed] [ (minimum attribute). Another disadvantage of this method is that the typical data label is assigned to the cluster that contains the most information, even if this is not always the case. For instance, the larger cluster that is used in a DOS assault is seen as belonging to the malevolent class rather than the ordinary class. This is because a DOS assault is an aggressive kind of attack.

The recommended approach, which has been given the term k- point+, has therefore been changed to handle these two limits as a consequence of this situation. The proposed method begins with unlabeled data and develops a clustering list based on the underlying statistical features of the data. This list is then used to cluster the data. These k random items were chosen from the dataset, and the other objects were clustered around them using the find sim similarity function (). This method will ultimately produce k plus one clusters from the whole unlabeled dataset that you provide.

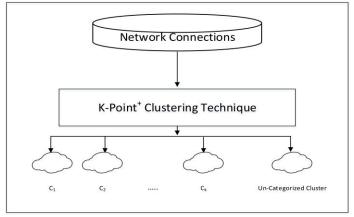


Figure-4: Unsupervised Classification Process

## 7. DETECTION UNDER SUPERVISION

In the process of supervised classification, a classification model known as the Support Vector Machine (more often abbreviated as SVM) is used. Supervised classification. This model is trained by using a training dataset that includes labels in order to make predictions. When an unsupervised classifier is applied to a set of data, the result is a list consisting of k+1 clusters. Following that, the aforementioned list is fed into a supervised classifier in order to be utilised as an input. To accurately tag the first k clusters on this list, you need to correctly estimate only one random object from throughout the full cluster. If it can be shown that this seemingly innocuous piece constitutes an attack, then the whole cluster will be labelled as an assault. If, on the other hand, it is not found out that this arbitrary item is part of an assault, then the cluster is recognised as being typical, as shown in Figure 5. However, the k+1th cluster comprises items that have not been categorised; hence, it is important to evaluate each object in this cluster in order to select the label for each individual object on an individual basis. Because of this, the total number of objects that are included into the model is equivalent to k plus the total number of objects that are contained inside the cluster that is denoted by k plus one. Once the label of the first item's k predicted label has been assigned as the label of the k cluster, the label of the cluster that each individual object was initially a member of is then assigned as the class label of each individual object. This is done after the label of the first item's k predicted label has been assigned as the label of the k cluster. Following the application of labels to every one of the products, the next step is to classify them as either safe to use or potentially dangerous. The intrusion detection system will not interfere with the regular connections; nevertheless, it will either prevent malicious connections from being made or notify the administrator to their presence if they are discovered. It is possible to dissect the operation of a support vector machine into two distinct components, both of which are shown in Figure 6. The first phase is referred to as the online phase, while the second phase is referred to as the offline phase.

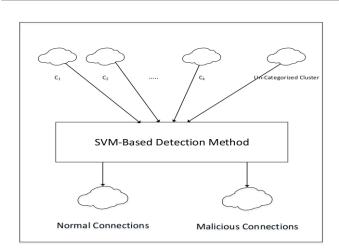
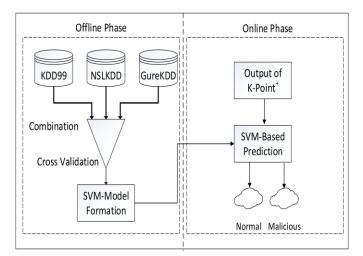
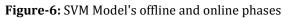


Figure-5: Supervised Classification Process

The phase of testing, which occurs at the same time as the period in which the game is being played online. During this stage of the process, we will produce our forecasts by using the model that we built during the phase before, which took place outside of the computer. The k-point+ methodology produce a collection of clusters that are made up entirely of feature sets as its end product. This output is then sent to a support vector machine in order for it to do an analysis on it. After that, the data are run through a support vector machine so that a prediction may be made about the class label of the feature sets. We made use of a binary classifier SVM model, which splits the whole output into two unique classes: the normal class, which is comprised of usual network connections, and the authorised category. We used this model to classify the data. This is the model that we based our work off of. The second category is known as the "malevolent class," and it contains all potentially harmful network connections. This category is referred to as "bad actors." These connections are either prohibited or a notification is sent to an administrator about them.





## 8. CONCLUSIONS

This model illustrates a multi-stage intrusion detection system that is dependent on outlier, unsupervised, and supervised detection methodologies to identify potential threats. These techniques of detection are included in the model that has been supplied for your perusal. The GBBK+ algorithm produces results that are superior to those provided by the GBBK technique in terms of both the amount of time that is required and the precision of the detection. This is the case whether we are talking about the accuracy of the detection or the amount of time. When you look at the two algorithms side by side, you will see that this is the case. After the outliers in the dataset have been located with the assistance of the outlier detection method, the outliers themselves are removed from the compilation of the data. Due to the fact that the previous technique was able to successfully eliminate all outliers from the dataset, the performance of the second level was significantly improved as a direct consequence of this. Utilizing the method of finding data outliers is one way to successfully handle highdimensional data in the shortest amount of time possible during processing. This may be accomplished by using the technique of recognising data outliers.

When the k-point method was first developed, there were a number of restrictions and drawbacks that needed to be solved before it could be considered a viable option. The k-point+ strategy that we developed allowed us to successfully complete this task. The empirical investigation came to the conclusion that the performance of k-point+ is superior than that of k-point in terms of the degree of difficulty of the task, the amount of time that is required, and the accuracy of the detection. The model that has been suggested is capable of detecting attacks with low frequency as well as high frequency, as well as assaults that are known and assaults that are unknown. In addition to that, the model is able to differentiate between attacks that are known and those that are unknown.

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