



## Electricity Theft Detection in Power Grids with Deep Learning & Random Forests

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### 1.ABSTRACT

Electricity theft is a significant contributor to nontechnical losses in distribution networks, causing considerable harm to power grids. This, in turn, affects the quality of power supply and reduces operating profits for utility companies. To address the challenges of inefficient electricity inspection and irregular power consumption, a new approach called the hybrid CNN-RF model is introduced in this research paper. The model combines a convolutional neural network (CNN) and a random forest (RF) to automatically detect instances of electricity theft. The CNN is designed to learn patterns and features from a large volume of smart meter data, capturing variations across different hours and days through convolution and downsampling operations. To prevent overfitting, a dropout layer is added, and the backpropagation algorithm is utilized to update network parameters during training. The obtained features are then used to train the RF, which determines whether a consumer is stealing electricity. The hybrid model incorporates the grid search algorithm to identify optimal parameters for the RF. Real energy consumption data is employed in experiments, demonstrating that the proposed detection model outperforms other methods in terms of accuracy and efficiency.

**Keywords-** Conventional Neural Network, Random Forest, Grid Search Algorithm.

### 2.INTRODUCTION-

Electricity theft is a significant issue that leads to energy losses in power transmission and distribution systems. It affects power companies financially and poses safety risks to

the public. Detecting electricity theft accurately is crucial for maintaining a stable and safe power grid.

With the advent of advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) in smart grids, power utilities can collect a vast amount of electricity consumption data from smart meters. However, this also opens up opportunities for new types of electricity theft attacks, including digital tools and cyber attacks. Traditional methods of detecting electricity theft, such as manual examination and verification of meters, are time-consuming and costly. Various approaches have been proposed to address this problem. State-based detection relies on specialized devices and real-time system measurements, but these may not always be feasible. Game-theory-based schemes involve modeling the interactions between utility companies and thieves, but formulating utility functions for all stakeholders remains a challenge. Artificial intelligence-based methods, including machine learning and deep learning, have shown promise but still have room for improvement. Deep learning techniques, such as convolutional neural networks (CNNs), have been explored for feature extraction from smart meter data. However, the performance of these detectors needs further evaluation, especially compared to traditional architectures. Combining CNNs with random forest (RF) classifiers has shown potential as a more effective approach for electricity theft detection. The CNN captures relevant features from smart meter data, while the RF classifier enhances the detection process by leveraging bagging and random feature selection techniques. This novel CNN-RF model has been trained and tested using real data from electricity utility customers in Ireland and London, demonstrating its effectiveness in detecting electricity theft.

### 3. LITERATURE SURVEY-

The research paper focuses on addressing the issue of electricity theft in power grids, which results in significant financial losses and disruptions in power supply. To tackle this problem effectively, the author proposes a novel approach that combines Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN) and Random Forest algorithms.

By leveraging the power of CNNs, the model can learn and extract relevant features from the power consumption data. These features capture patterns and abnormalities that indicate potential instances of theft. The CNN is trained to distinguish between periods of normal energy usage and those associated with theft, assigning a label of 0 or 1 accordingly. To further enhance the detection accuracy, the author integrates the CNN with Random Forest, a versatile and robust machine learning algorithm. The Random Forest algorithm utilizes an ensemble of decision trees, which collectively make predictions based on the extracted features from the CNN. This combination improves the overall prediction accuracy compared to using either algorithm individually. The proposed model goes through a training phase using labeled data, where patterns of energy theft and normal energy usage are learned. The model is then evaluated and tested on real-world energy consumption data to assess its effectiveness.

The results demonstrate that the combined CNN-Random Forest model outperforms traditional algorithms in accurately identifying instances of electricity theft. This innovative approach offers a more efficient and reliable method for utility companies to detect and mitigate energy theft, thereby minimizing financial losses and ensuring a stable power supply.

### 4. IMPLEMENTATION-

Here's a high-level overview of the implementation process:

1. Data Collection: Gather a dataset of power consumption records from smart meters or other sources. Include both normal energy usage samples and instances of known electricity theft.
2. Data Preprocessing: Clean and preprocess the collected data. This may involve handling missing values, removing outliers, and normalizing the data.
3. Feature Extraction: Utilize deep learning techniques, such as Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN), to extract meaningful features from the power consumption data. Train the CNN model to learn patterns and characteristics associated with electricity theft.
4. Labeling and Dataset Preparation: Assign labels to the dataset indicating whether each instance represents normal energy usage or electricity theft. Split the dataset into

5. Random Forest Training: Build a Random Forest model using the extracted features as input and the labeled dataset for training. Fine-tune the Random Forest model using appropriate hyperparameter tuning techniques.

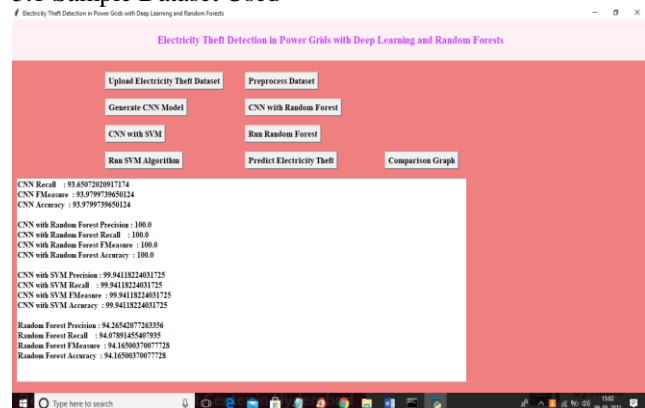
6. Model Evaluation: Evaluate the performance of the combined CNN-Random Forest model using appropriate evaluation metrics such as accuracy, precision, recall, and F1 score. Use the testing dataset to assess the model's ability to detect electricity theft accurately.

7. Model Deployment: Once the model demonstrates satisfactory performance, integrate it into a software system or application that can process real-time or near real-time power consumption data. This system should provide timely alerts or notifications whenever instances of electricity theft are detected.

It's important to note that implementing the project requires proficiency in programming languages such as Python and familiarity with deep learning frameworks like TensorFlow or PyTorch for CNN implementation. Additionally, you will need knowledge of machine learning libraries like scikit-learn for Random Forest implementation.

### 5. Results-

#### 5.1 Sample Dataset Used



training and testing sets.

learning, so we need to convert to numeric by assigning integer ID so click on 'Preprocess Dataset' button to clean data

### 5.3 Train CNN with dataset

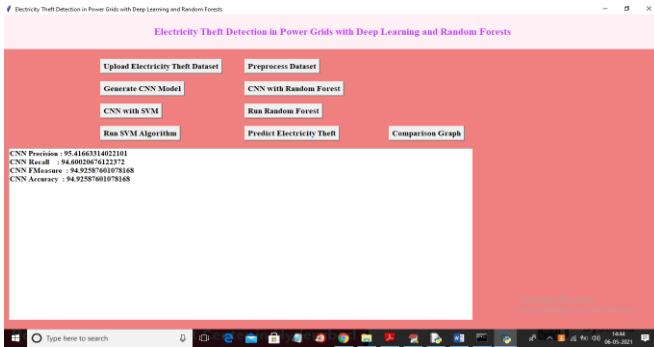


Fig3. In above screen with normal CNN we got 94% accuracy and now click on 'CNN with Random Forest' button to train CNN with RF

### Fig 5.4 Train CNN with Random Forest.

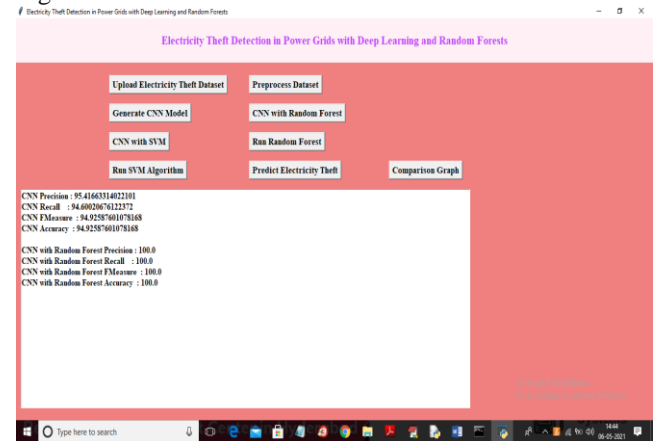
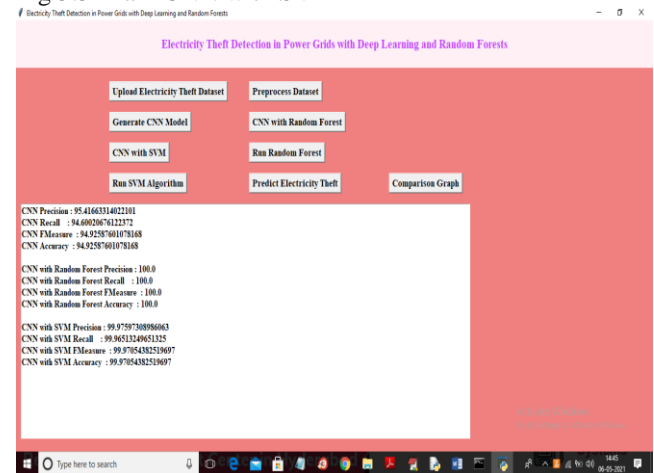


Fig4. In above screen with CNN-RF we got 100% accuracy and now click on 'CNN with SVM' button to train dataset with CNN and SVM

### Fig 5.5 Train CNN with SVM



1	disrict	client_id	client_catg	region	creation_date	label
2	60	train_Client_0	11	101	31-12-1994	0
3	69	train_Client_1	11	107	29-05-2002	0
4	62	train_Client_10	11	301	13-03-1986	0
5	69	train_Client_100	11	105	11-07-1996	0
6	62	train_Client_1000	11	303	14-10-2014	0
7	69	train_Client_10000	11	103	29-09-1993	0
8	62	train_Client_100000	11	309	07-06-2012	0
9	60	train_Client_100001	11	101	12-04-2006	0
10	62	train_Client_100002	11	301	31-12-2006	0
11	60	train_Client_100003	11	101	25-10-2011	0
12	63	train_Client_100004	12	311	30-06-2006	0
13	62	train_Client_100005	11	304	16-10-1997	0
14	69	train_Client_100006	11	107	20-05-2005	0
15	60	train_Client_100007	11	101	28-05-2009	0
16	69	train_Client_100008	11	104	22-10-2002	0

Fig. 1 In the above dataset first row contains column names and remaining rows contains dataset values and in last column we can see values as 0 or 1 which means normal or energy theft.

### 5.2 Pre-Processing.

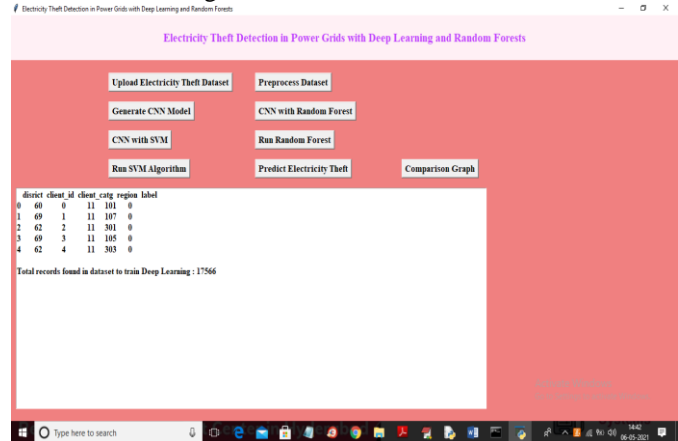


Fig.2 In above screen dataset loaded and displaying few records from dataset and this records contains non-numeric values and this values will not accept by machine

### Fig 5.6 Train Random forest without SVM

Fig 6. In above screen with alone Random Forest we got 94% accuracy and now click on 'Run SVM Algorithm' button to train alone SVM with above dataset

### Fig 5.7 Train SVM without CNN

Fig 5. In above screen with CNN-SVM we got 99% accuracy and now click on 'Run Random Forest' button to train alone RF on dataset

### 5.9 Comparison Graph

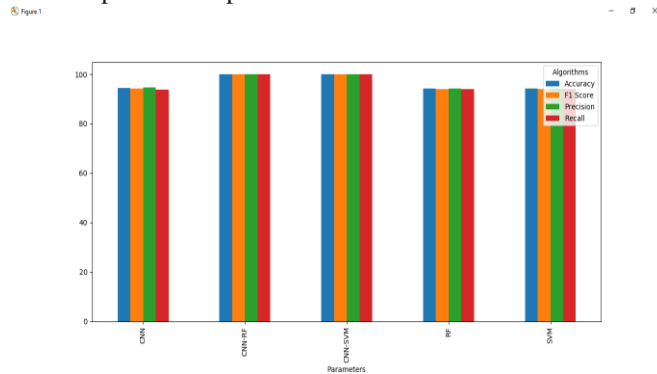


Fig 9 In above graph x-axis represents algorithm names and y-axis represents precision, recall, FSCORE and Accuracy for each algorithm and in all algorithms CNN-RF is giving 100% accuracy.

## 6. CONCLUSION-

In this research paper, a new approach called CNN-RF model is introduced to effectively detect instances of electricity theft. The model combines the power of Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN) as a feature extractor and Random Forest (RF) as the classification algorithm. To address the challenge of overfitting, a fully connected layer with a dropout rate of 0.4 is included during the model training phase. Furthermore, the SMOT algorithm is employed to handle the issue of imbalanced data.

To evaluate the performance of the CNN-RF model, several other machine learning and deep learning methods such as SVM, RF, GBDT, and LR were compared using SEAI and LCL datasets as benchmarks. The results clearly demonstrate that the proposed CNN-RF model shows great potential for accurately classifying instances of electricity theft. One notable advantage of the model is its ability to automatically extract meaningful features from smart meter data, eliminating the need for laborious and time-consuming manual feature engineering. Another advantage is that the hybrid model combines the strengths of both RF and CNN, which are widely recognized as successful classifiers in the field of electricity theft detection.

As the detection of electricity theft can impact consumer privacy, future research should focus on understanding how

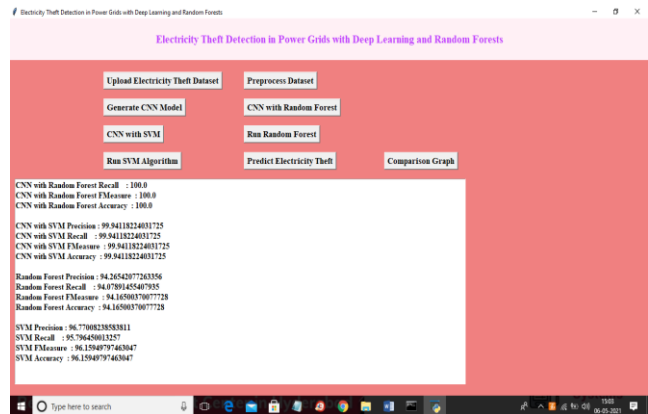


Fig 7. In above screen with alone SVM we got 96% accuracy and now click on 'Predict Electricity Theft' button to upload test data

### Fig 5.8 Load Test Data and get Prediction Result.

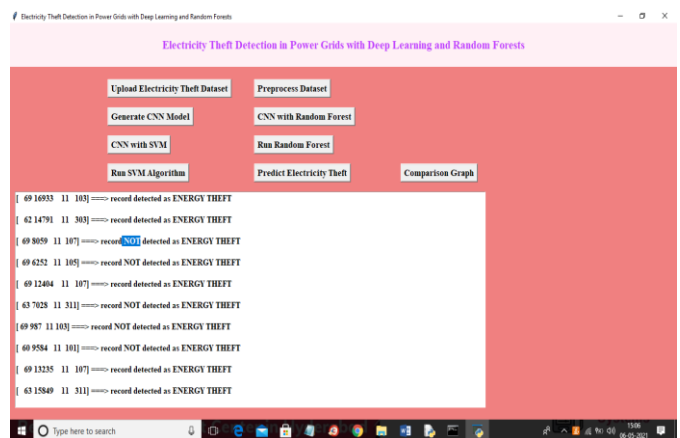


Fig8. In the above screen in square brackets we can see test data and after square brackets we can see prediction results as 'record detected as ENERGY THEFT' or 'record NOT detected as ENERGY THEFT'. Now click on 'Comparison Graph' button to get below graph

## 7. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT-

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the level of detail and time span of smart meter data can affect privacy concerns. Additionally, it would be valuable to explore the application of the hybrid CNN-RF model in other areas such as load forecasting. This would allow for further investigation into its potential and effectiveness in different domains.

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