



# DETECTION OF DDOS ATTACK IN SOFTWARE-DEFINED NETWORKING USING SVM ALGORITHM

Lakshmi Prabha S

*Department of Information Technology  
National Engineering College, Kovilpatti, Tuticorin District, TamilNadu, India*

Bala Subhashini SP

*Department of Information Technology  
National Engineering College, Kovilpatti, Tuticorin District, TamilNadu, India*

Maria Velantina A

*Department of Information Technology  
National Engineering College, Kovilpatti, Tuticorin District, TamilNadu, India*

Gowthami N

*Assistant Professor, Department of Information Technology  
National Engineering College, Kovilpatti, Tuticorin District, TamilNadu, India*

**Abstract -** Software-Defined Networking (SDN) is a networking paradigm that has redefined the term network by allowing network administrators to programmatically initialize, control, change, and manage network behavior. The centralized control that is a primary benefit of SDN can also be a huge security risk. If the intruder succeeds in gaining access to the central controller, he will have complete control of the system. The controller is extremely vulnerable to the Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) assaults, which cause the system's resources to be depleted, resulting in the controller's services becoming unavailable. This has led to the development of numerous algorithms and strategies. However, on the topic of SDN networks, less research has been done. One such method is to use machine learning algorithms to categorize connections as valid or illegal. To discover the suspicious and hazardous traffic patterns, we employ a machine learning approach called the Support Vector Machine (SVM) classifier.

**Key Words:** Software-Defined Networking, Distributed Denial of Service, Support Vector Machine.

## – INTRODUCTION

Many DDoS attack detection approaches have been presented by researchers focusing on traditional network design. Lin and Wang suggested a DDoS detection and defense system but the method used three Open flow management tools with slow standards to perform anomaly detection, so the deployment and operation are complex. Yang et al presented a method in which flow information and IP entropy characteristic information are combined which is detected by a single flow information and IP entropy characteristic information that has a higher and more accurate detection effect. Although information entropy is flexible and convenient, it must be paired with other technologies to determine the threshold and multi-element weight distribution. Saied et al advanced that, to identify DDoS assaults, the approach must analyze the features of each protocol of TCP/UDP/ICMP using the training ANN algorithm, which is difficult and inefficient.

Many SOM technique is used to identify DDoS assaults by extracting DDoS-related flow statistics. This approach has a low consumption rate and a high detection rate. The crucial issue is the extraction of time intervals. The downside of this approach is that the detection has some hysteresis and the attack behavior is not detected in a timely and precise manner. The authors provided a framework for detecting and mitigating DDoS assaults in a large-scale network, it is not appropriate for small-scale implementation.

It is proposed to implement a DDoS attack detection technique based on a genuine source and destination IP address database. Based on the nonparametric cumulative algorithm CUSUM, it analyses the anomalous features of the source and destination IP addresses when a DDoS assault happens and effectively checks the DDoS attack, but the approach must be adjusted and determined.

## – RELATED WORKS

**Nisha Ahuja, et al.,** (2021) article proposed using machine learning techniques such as logistic regression, SVC, KNN, Random Forest, Ensemble classifier, ANN, SVC-RF to identify benign traffic from DDoS assault traffic. The hybrid model of Support Vector classifier with Random Forest (SVC-RF) classifies traffic with the greatest testing accuracy of 98.8% and a very low false alarm rate.

**Kshira sagar sahuo, et al.,** (2020) article proposed that SVM is used in conjunction with a kernel principal component analysis (KPCA) and a genetic approach accuracy (GA). An improved kernel function (N-RBF) is presented to decrease the noise generated by feature discrepancies. The experimental findings suggested that the proposed model achieves more accurate classification and better generalization than single-SVM and the proposed model can be implemented within the controller to build security rules that will restrict attackers from launching assaults.

**Huseyin Polat et al.,** (2020) article proposed that DDoS attacks in SDN were detected using machine learning-based models. They trained and tested datasets with and without feature selection methods using classification models such as Support Vector Machine (SVM), Naive Bayes (NB), Artificial Neural Network (ANN), and K-Nearest Neighbors (KNN). According to the test findings the usage of the wrapper feature selection with a KNN classifier achieved the greatest accuracy rate (98.3%) in DDoS attack detection.

**Parvinder Singh Saini, et al.,** (2020) used a machine learning-based approach in this paper to detect and classify various types of network traffic flows. The proposed method is validated using a new dataset containing a mix of modern type's attacks such as HTTP flood, SID DoS, normal traffic. WEKA, a machine learning tool, is used to classify various types of attacks.

**Dong Li, et al.,** (2020) proposed based on SVM, this research suggested a new model for detecting DDoS attacks in SDN. Firstly the model extracts many essential features from packet-in data and uses entropy to measure the distribution of each feature before utilizing a trained Support Vector Machine (SVM) method to detect the DDoS attack.

**Myo Myint Oo, et al.,** (2019) proposed a DDoS attack detection method based on SDN that cause the least amount of disruption to legitimate user activities and to propose ASVM technique as an enhancement of the existing SVM algorithm to detect DDoS attacks. They measured a false alarm rate, a detection rate, and accuracy to assess the outcomes with the shortest training and testing times, and detection approach had a detection accuracy of around 97%.

**Puming Wanga et al.,** (2019) proposed that the article proceeded at the state-of-the-art of SDN security from a data standpoint and some common network attack detection (NAD) methods, such as machine learning-based methods and statistical methods, are examined. To detect attacks tensor principal component analysis (TPCA) and a review of the most recent data-driven SDN frameworks, a tensor-based big data-driven SDN threat detection framework for SDN security are presented. Finally, a case study is presented to demonstrate the efficacy of the suggested framework.

**Jin Ye, et al.,** (2018) have proposed a method that in this research, the SDN environment is established using the mini net and food light simulation platforms, the switch low table's 6-tuple characteristic values are extracted, and a DDoS attack model is built using the SVM classification methods. With a small amount of low gathering, the method's average accuracy rate is 95.24 percent, according to the studies. Their work has a lot of potential for detecting DDoS attacks in SDN.

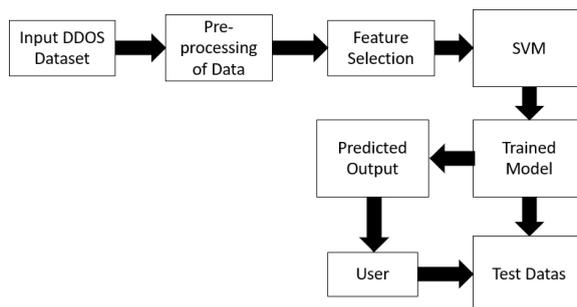
**Nisharani Meti et al.,** (2017) proposed the utilizing SVM and Neural Network classifiers to detect intrusions and DDoS attacks. They learned with a training dataset to create a classifier model. The predictor model is built used two classification techniques: SVM and NN. When the server receives a new request from a client, the request is passed to the model, which predicts whether the connection is normal or abnormal. Nature determined a new connection (normal or abnormality) using knowledge of prior connections and the predictive model developed on top of them.

## – METHODOLOGY

### A. DETECTION OF DDoS ATTACK USING SVM

In our work, DDoS detection is the ultimate aim. The main goal of the project is to identify whether the incoming request is normal traffic or a DDOS attack. For detecting this, we use an SVM algorithm which creates a hyperplane to classify the request. SVM or Support Vector Machine is a linear model that may be used to solve classification and regression issues. It can handle linear and nonlinear problems and is useful for a wide range of practical applications such as Face Detection, Classification of Images, text and Hypertext recognition, and so on. A hyperplane is a decision border that separates the two classes and a data point on either side of the hyperplane belongs to different classes. The size of the hyperplane is determined by the number of input

characteristics in the dataset. The hyperplane will be a line if we have two input characteristics. Similarly, if the number of features is three, it will be a two-dimensional plane. The decision to apply SVM to our problem is because it works well for classification problems with a large number of features as in our case and some of the advantages of this model are that it uses a large amount of data for training and a small amount of data for testing, which can improve the accuracy of the classification and it can also be memory efficient. The fig.1 below explains the flow diagram of detecting DDoS attacks using SVM.

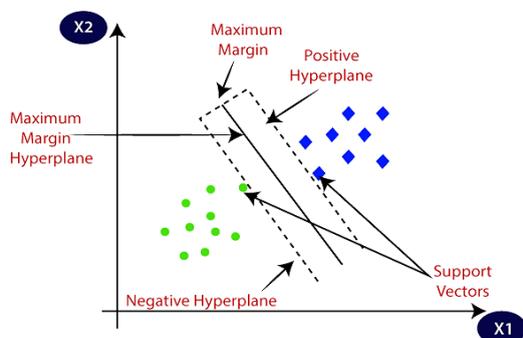


**Fig.1 Flow diagram of detecting DDoS attack using SVM**

The data is initially extracted from the annotated traffic dataset using the panda’s package. The data is then preprocessed by removing null values, and input features are selected for training the model. The trained model is then fed with test data which uses an SVM algorithm to detect whether traffic is DDoS attack or normal traffic.

**B. SUPPORT VECTOR MACHINE**

The Support Vector Machine is a well-known Supervised Learning technique that can address classification and regression problems. It is, however, mostly employed in Machine Learning for Classification challenges. The purpose of the SVM algorithm is to discover the optimal line or decision boundary for categorizing n-dimensional space into classes so that subsequent data points can be conveniently placed in the relevant category. The optimal choice boundary is referred to as a hyperplane. SVM selects the extreme points/vectors that aid in the creation of the hyperplane. These extreme situations are known as support vectors, and the algorithm is known as the Support Vector Machine. Consider the Fig.2 support vector machine below, which shows two distinct categories that are separated by a decision boundary or hyperplane.



**Fig.2 Support Vector Machine**

**C. WORKING OF SVM**

**1. Identify the right hyper-plane (Scenario-1)**

There are three hyper-planes in this area (A, B, and C). Select the appropriate hyper-plane to classify stars and circles. Fig.3 below explains how the right hyper-plane classifies the stars and circles.

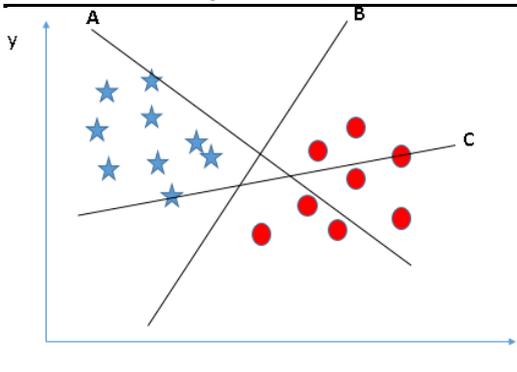


Fig.3 Right hyper-plane (Scenario-1)

**2. Identify the right hyper-plane (Scenario-2)**

Here, we have three hyper-planes (A, B, and C), each of which effectively separates the classes. Now, how do we find the correct hyper-plane? Fig.4 below explains how the classes are being segregated.

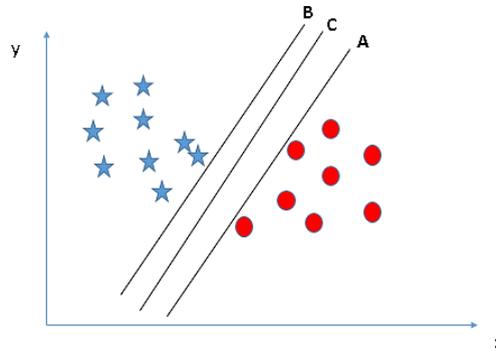


Fig.4 Right hyper-plane (Scenario-2)

In this case, maximising the distances between the nearest data point (of either class) and the hyper-plane will assist us in selecting the appropriate hyper-plane. A margin is the term for this distance.

**3. Identify the right hyper-plane (Scenario-3)**

Use the rules as discussed in the previous section to identify the right hyperplane. Fig.5 below explains how to identify the right hyperplane.

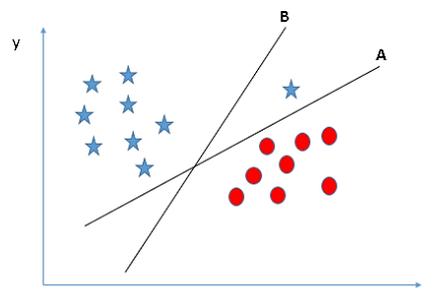


Fig.5 Right hyper-plane (Scenario-3)

**4. Find the hyper-plane to segregate to classes (Scenario-4)**

In the scenario below, we can't have a linear hyper-plane between the two classes, so how does SVM classify these two classes? We've only looked at the linear hyper-plane so far. Fig.6 below explains how the SVM classifies two classes.

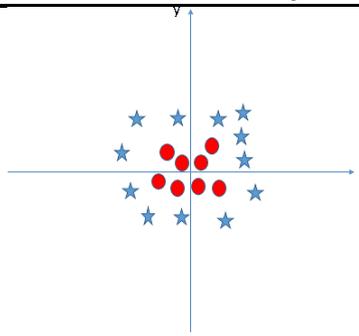


Fig.6 Right hyper-plane (Scenario-4)

**- DATASET AND DATA PROCESSING**

**A. DATASET FOR DDoS ATTACK**

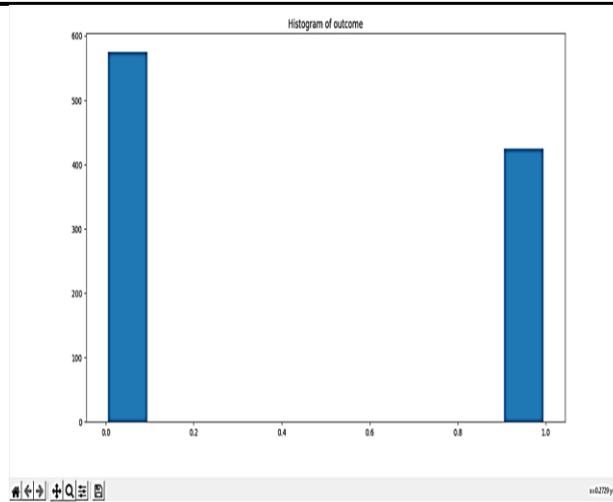
We collected the DDoS dataset from the Kaggle website. This dataset contains 1000 traffic patterns with 42 attributes, of which we have considered 22 features for detection. We have used 80% of the data for training and 20% of the data for testing. It describes all kind of data that are considered as DDoS attacks and all are the data's which are considered normal. At first, the dataset is fetched by using the panda's library and then we save the data's inside a pandas data frame. At first, this dataset consists of lots of null values then we drop all the null values, because our Machine learning model cannot able to process null values. The Dataset consists of a few DDoS Attacks. The most common types are incorporated in this dataset are: - TCP Flood Attack, UDP Flood Attack, and ICMP (Ping) Flood Attack. These attacks constitute the most common threats that are advancing at an alarming rate, in their sophistication and frequency.

Fig.7 Dataset for DDoS Attack

The above Fig.7 shows the list of the following attributes used in the dataset for DDoS attacks. The following is the list of attributes that are particularly used for detecting the request.

**- RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

The below Fig.8 shows the histogram of outcome in which 0 depicts the normal attack whereas 1 depicts the DDoS attack.



**Fig.8 – Histogram of outcome**

0 - Normal Attack 1 - DDoS Attack

The below Fig.9 shows the list of attributes that are used in the dataset for detecting the behavior of a request which is displayed by using the line of `print(dataset.info())` in the python code.

```
Python376 Shell
File Edit Shell Debug Options Window Help
1 protocol_type      1000 non-null int64
2 service            1000 non-null int64
3 flag               1000 non-null int64
4 src_bytes          1000 non-null int64
5 dst_bytes          1000 non-null int64
6 ddos               1000 non-null int64
7 wrong_fragment    1000 non-null int64
8 urgent             1000 non-null int64
9 hot                1000 non-null int64
10 num_failed_0s     1000 non-null int64
11 logged_in         1000 non-null int64
12 num_compromised   1000 non-null int64
13 root_0            1000 non-null int64
14 su_attempted      1000 non-null int64
15 num_root          1000 non-null int64
16 num_file_creations 1000 non-null int64
17 num_0s            1000 non-null int64
18 num_access_files  1000 non-null int64
19 num_outbound_cmds 1000 non-null int64
20 is_host_0         1000 non-null int64
21 is_guest_0        1000 non-null int64
22 count             1000 non-null int64
23 srv_count         1000 non-null int64
24 error_rate        1000 non-null float64
25 srv_error_rate    1000 non-null float64
26 error_rate        1000 non-null float64
..                  ..                ..                ..
```

**Fig.9 – List of attributes used in the dataset**

The below Fig.10 shows the confusion matrix of test data which is a table that is often used to describe the performance of a classification model on a set of test data for which the true values are known. Confusion matrices are useful because they give direct comparisons of values like True positive, False Positives, True Negatives, and False Negatives.

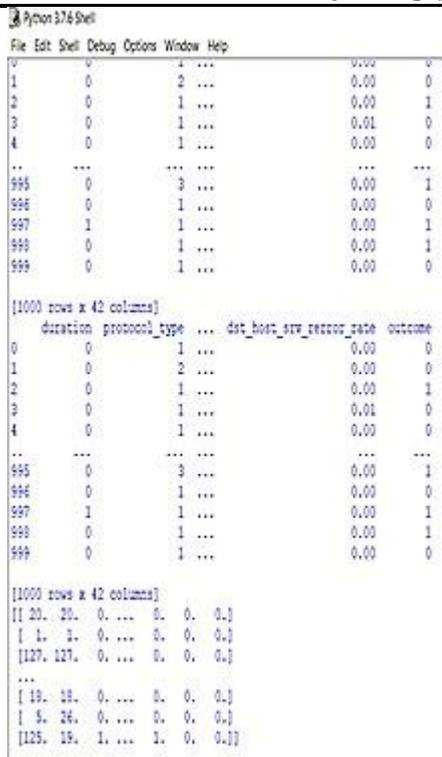


Fig.10 – Confusion matrix of test data

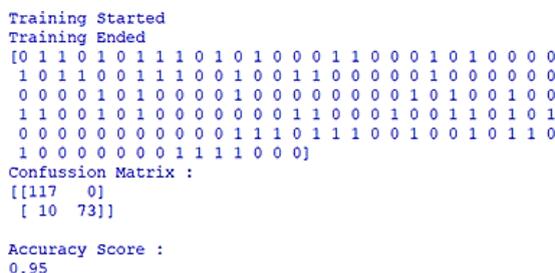


Fig.11– Accuracy Score of test data

The above Fig.11 shows the accuracy score of test data which shows a 95% rate for the DDoS detection using a support vector machine.

**- CONCLUSION**

Although SDN offers numerous advantages, it is vulnerable to DDoS assaults, the most prevalent network security concern. As a benefit of SDN, centralized control makes the SDN controller more exposed to security risks such as DDoS assaults. In response to this issue, we examine the detection and protection mechanism of DDoS assaults using the SVM machine learning method in this study which shows an accuracy of 95%. Experiments are designed to demonstrate the effectiveness of the detection methods suggested in this research.

SDN provides a virtual network that runs actual software on the network's components, allowing it to be used to test networking software interactively. It has a controller which controls the networking functions. The trained Python code will be placed in the controller. The controller can identify a DDoS assault and prevent the network from pausing by sending the DDoS traffic pattern from any server, so saving the network.

**- FUTURE WORK**

In the future, we will examine the detection mechanism of DDoS attacks using the Random forest and ID3 classification machine learning methods. Therefore in the future, we can create an SDN network using mini net software. Mininet, an open-source network simulator, is intended to aid in research and education in the field of Software Defined Networking systems, and also we will examine the detection mechanism of DDoS attacks using the Random forest and ID3 classification machine learning methods.

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