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# Machine Learning Approach to Mobile Forensics Framework for Cyber Crime Detection in Nigeria

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ABSTRACT

The mobile Cyber Crime detection is challenged by number of mobile devices (internet of things), large and complex data, the size, the velocity, the nature and the complexity of the data and devices has become so high that data mining techniques are no more efficient since they cannot handle Big Data and internet of things. The aim of this research work was to develop a mobile forensics framework for cybercrime detection using machine learning approach. It started when call was detected and this detection is made by machine learning algorithm furthermore intelligent mass media towers and satellite that was proposed in this work has the ability to classified calls whether is a threat or not and send signal directly to Nigerian communication commission (NCC) forensic lab for necessary action.

## 1. Background

World is in the state of unique period of history. The current technological advancement will be among the global transformations remembered by humanity ever before. We live in a connected world of digital devices which include mobile devices, workstations, control systems, transportation systems financial systems, base stations, satellites of different interconnected networks, Global positioning system (GPS) with their associated e-services in which internet provide a platform for the connection of this devices worldwide<sup>[1]</sup>. The dramatic changes accompanying the current global transformation have significantly altered the lives of average citizens across the developed and the developing countries in less than a millennium<sup>[53]</sup>. This technological

advancement has long been the subject of science fiction and now it has become a reality. However, this advancement led to the increase in cybercrime, threat and attack the aim of this research work was to developed a robust mobile forensic framework for cybersecurity in Nigeria.

### 1.1 Cyber Forensics

Digital forensics or computer forensics is a branch of forensic science that described the technique of forensics investigation of crimes that take place in a computer network or computer system has been used as weapon for cyber-attack or conduct a criminal activities but with the regardless of any digital device that has been used to perpetrate the crime<sup>[2]</sup>. In addition to<sup>[3]</sup> described cyber forensics as a sub-branch of computer security that uses software and predefined techniques which is aim at ex-

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tracting evidences from any form of digital device and can be presented to a court of law for criminal and/or civil proceedings provided that it satisfy this three conditions; comprehensiveness, authenticity and objectivity. Furthermore, they were able to reveal that digital forensic report should be able to show important facts about evidence; like who obtained the evidence? Where the evidence captured and was stored and what happened to the evidence. [4] Identified the goals of digital forensics as identification of the evidence, document the crime, collection and preservation of the evidences, packaging the evidence and transporting the evidences in an untemper manner and suggested that cyber forensics depend on the collection and analysis of incident in order to explore understand and show complex security breaches that have by-passed security mechanism. In [46] “Digital forensics can be said to be a scientific framework in system development to identify, locate, retrieve, and analyze evidence from computers, computer storage media, and other electronic devices and present the findings in a court case”. Digital forensics it was graphically represented by [50] as

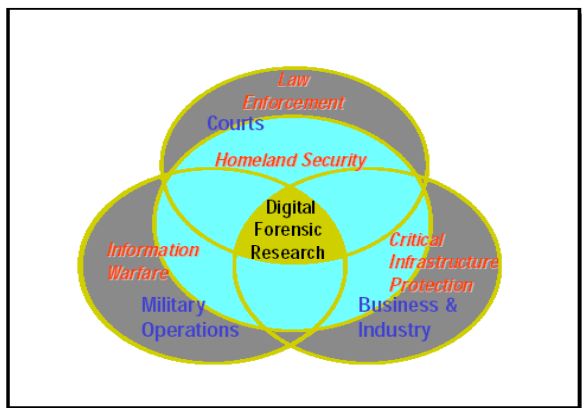


Figure 1. digital forensics science [50]

## 1.2 Cyber Space

Cyber space is recently considered a domain in science worth exploring, investigating and securing after lithosphere, hydrosphere, biosphere and atmosphere [3]. Cyber space has provide a dwelling environment and platform for technology today ranging from IoT, 5G, Fog, edge among others it confine to grow and expand and support all sorts of innovations in science and technology but the good and the bad. According to global cyber security index 2017 revealed almost half of the world population (3.5 billion users) are connected to the cyber space and they further estimated that there will be 12 billion device-to-device connections to the cyber space by 2020. It was also reported that, by the year 2020, 80% of adults on earth will have a smartphone [48], in addition to 49.7%

of the total population are connected to Internet with the growth of 936% from 2000-2017 worldwide [49]. However threat and attack to this space is alarming day-by-day.

## 1.3 Cyber Crime

Cyber threats, attacks and breaches have become a normal incident in day-to-day life of internet users [6]. Furthermore, [10] ascertained that cyber terrorism is a conglomeration of cyber metrics and terrorism. They also believed that cyber terrorism is an illegal use of digital devices to perpetrate damage, intimidate or further terrorist’s socio-economic political or religion agenda. Capgemini research institute reveal that in one case a hacker was able to access the GPS of 27000 vehicles which led to the shutdown the engine. “There is a pressing need for more research’s and tool development to help digital investigator’s obtain and analyses the increasing amount of digital evidence on smart phones, tablets, wearable devices, SatNav system, game console, automobile, IoT systems and cloud environment [5].

## 1.4 Cyber Security

Cyber security involves data security, network security, and computer security. It is also view by many researchers as an application of security preventions to provide a sense of confidentiality, integrity and availability, of data [28] but the major objectives of cyber security are prevention detection and reaction. Moreover, CIA revealed that the main goals of cyber security are confidentiality, integrity and availability. National cyber security center UK itemize ten steps to cybersecurity; network security, user education and awareness, malware prevention, removable media control, secure configuration, managing user privileges, incident management, monitoring and home and mobile working [35]. In addition to [33] revealed that AI and machine learning are the most important cyber tools for behavioral modeling, zero-day-attacks and advanced persistent threat.

## 1.5 Cyber Threats

According to US intelligent community in 2016 and 2017 there has been state sponsored cyber-attack against Ukraine and Saudi Arabia which resulted in targeting major infrastructure in both government and non-governmental organizations. They further indicated that known cyber security threats are classified under three headings; identity theft which includes; phishing, spoofing, masquerading, social engineering and password crackers. Unauthorized access includes; targeted data mining, backdoor and eavesdropping and tapping. Denial of service

(DoS, DDoS) includes; logic bomb and crypto-locker. Cyber security Ventures ascertained that in 2019 ransomware will damages as much as \$11.5 billion<sup>[44]</sup>. “A ransomware attack targeting England’s National Health Service affected 60 health trusts, 150 countries, and more than 200,000 computer systems”<sup>[45]</sup>. According to chief security officer of AT&T Bill O’Hern says “I see more than 100 billion potential vulnerability scans and probes across our global backbone every single day,”<sup>[51]</sup>.

### 1.6 Machine Learning Algorithm

Machine learning is a technique of using algorithm to parse data, learn from the data and make a decision, prediction, detection, classification, pattern recognition, responding and clustering based on the data collected. These algorithms are heavenly depend on the statistical and mathematical optimization. In broader sense machine learning algorithm are used in clustering, regression, (univariate & multivariate) anomaly detection, pattern recognition<sup>[34]</sup>.

### 1.7 Supervised Learning

Supervised learning algorithms are machine learning algorithms that require datasets for training and testing the performance. This dataset has to be labeled and consist of features by which events or objects are defined as well as the expected outputs. The most common supervised learning algorithm are decision tree, logistic regression, support vector machine, relevance vector machine, random forest, K-NN, bagging neural networks, linear regression and naïve Bayes<sup>[33]</sup>.

### 1.8 Unsupervised Learning

Unsupervised learning algorithm is a machine learning algorithm that required unlabeled datasets for training and testing the system performance the two major techniques used in unsupervised learning are principal component analysis (PCA) and clustering. The most common unsupervised learning algorithms are used especially in security is hierarchical, k-means, mixed model, DBSCAN, OPTIC, self-organizing mapping, Bolzan machine, auto encoder, adversarial network<sup>[34]</sup>.

## 2. Related Work

Machine learning algorithms are recently applied to the following area of cyber security as in network security, data security, end-point security, identity access security, cloud security, IoT security, Fog security, but majority of the security systems depend on the detection, prediction and response. In<sup>[7]</sup> he explored the used of clustering al-

gorithms such as K-means hierarchical clustering, k-means kernel, latent dirichlet allocation and self-organizing mapping techniques for forensics analysis using text clustering in the large volume of data.<sup>[8]</sup> Presented a robust forensics analysis method using memetic algorithm.<sup>[9]</sup> Revealed how artificial intelligence techniques are applied to cyber-attacks security breaches. Machine learning algorithm was used to classified malware in android system in<sup>[16]</sup>. Machine learning and deep learning algorithm are combined and used for cyber security system in<sup>[15]</sup>. Machine learning algorithms are also applied to intrusion detection system in<sup>[14]</sup> and<sup>[52]</sup>. The researches of<sup>[13]</sup> systematic survey on the researches that combine machine learning algorithm and data mining to cyber security. In<sup>[12]</sup> presented how effectiveness of machine learning and deep learning in the feature of cyber security. Many surveys reviews and systematic reviews are conducted in the application of machine learning, deep learning and artificial intelligence techniques to cyber security, attack, intrusion detection system, network security as in<sup>[18,19,20-22]</sup>. Machine learning algorithm was also used to study cyber security in<sup>[29]</sup>. Security Framework was designed by<sup>[30]</sup> using fuzzy logic.<sup>[53]</sup> Highlight the role of intelligent system and artificial intelligences in addressing the challenges of cyber security but they didn’t illustrate the framework on how to implement the system.

Furthermore, machine learning algorithms deep learning algorithms are applied in intrusion detection systems as in the research of<sup>[23]</sup> presented that machine learning based system can be used to detect intrusion for software defined networks.<sup>[24]</sup> Presented an extensive survey on anomaly based intrusion detection system.<sup>[25]</sup> Applied machine learning algorithm to intrusion detection in mobile cloud in a heterogeneous clients networks. In the work of<sup>[26]</sup> hybrid intrusion detection system for cloud computing.<sup>[27]</sup> They used machine learning algorithm to provide a roadmap for industrial network anomaly detection. Anomaly detection system for automobile network was presented by<sup>[31]</sup>. Deep neural network and fuzzy logic are used to identify abnormality in network traffic<sup>[32]</sup>. A systematic survey was made by<sup>[40]</sup> on the techniques that are used for malware detection, while<sup>[41]</sup> used APIs and machine learning algorithm to detect malware in android. In<sup>[42]</sup> they presented a general review on the malware detection in mobile devices based on parallel and distributed network.<sup>[43]</sup> They made a comparative analysis between the used of static, dynamic and hybrid technique to malware detection. Forensics analysis was also made on WhatsApp messenger to identify those that are using the application to perpetrate a crime or do illegal business as in the research of<sup>[36-39]</sup>. In<sup>[47]</sup> digital forensics framework was proposed

and made a comparative analysis with other framework made with no AI techniques however, there framework has no instant detection and sending signals as compare to our proposed framework [17]. also explore extensively the roles of artificial intelligence, machine learning and deep learning algorithm to cyber space.

### 3. Method

The flow chart below illustrates the forensic procedure proposed in this research work, which serve as an intelligent algorithm to detect cyber threat with the help of government organization called Nigerian communication commission (NCC), in which they help the security agencies with the appropriate information for the next cause of action.

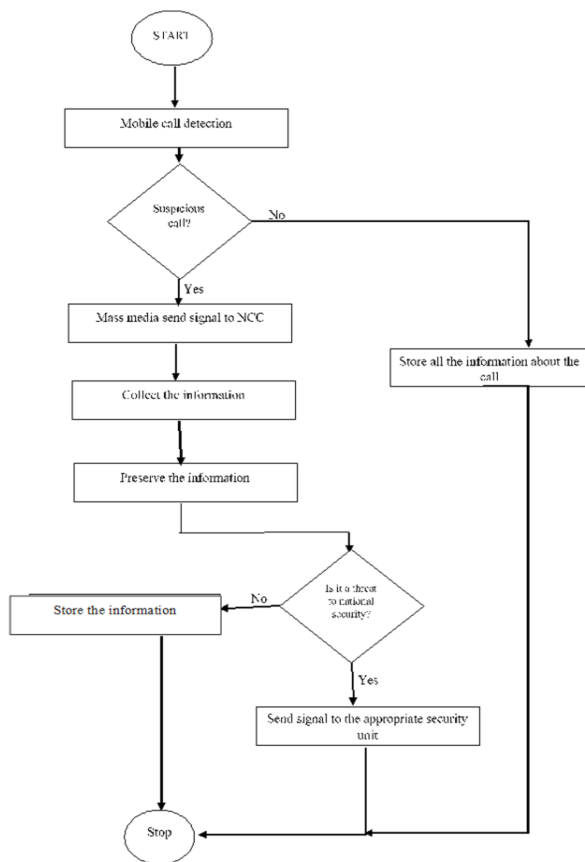


Figure 2. System flow chart

### 4. System Architecture

The system architecture or proposed framework as shown in the figure 2 is an integration of all communication gadgets including satellite, base stations, mass medias, mobile devices, mobile communication company, and Nigerian communication commission (NCC), intelligent devices that use various hardware and software components as

well as communications networks to provide monitoring and controlling instantly. The major contribution of this research work is that the framework would provide instant information about all communication going on, if the communication is a threat to national security then appropriate security agencies would response immediately before the plan executed or it escalate.

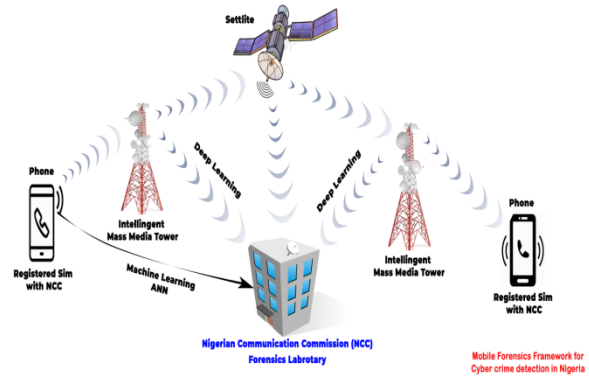


Figure 3. Mobile forensics framework for cyber-crime detection in Nigeria

### 5. Conclusion

In this research work a robust intelligent systems are connected and formulate mobile forensics framework for cybercrime detection in Nigeria.

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