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# **REVIEW Cybersecurity and Cyber Forensics: Machine Learning Approach Systematic Review**

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#### ABSTRACT

The proliferation of cloud computing and internet of things has led to the connectivity of states and nations (developed and developing countries) worldwide in which global network provide platform for the connection. Digital forensics is a field of computer security that uses software applications and standard guidelines which support the extraction of evidences from any computer appliances which is perfectly enough for the court of law to use and make a judgment based on the comprehensiveness, authenticity and objectivity of the information obtained. Cybersecurity is of major concerned to the internet users worldwide due to the recent form of attacks, threat, viruses, intrusion among others going on every day among internet of things. However, it is noted that cybersecurity is based on confidentiality, integrity and validity of data. The aim of this work is make a systematic review on the application of machine learning algorithms to cybersecurity and cyber forensics and pave away for further research directions on the application of deep learning, computational intelligence, soft computing to cybersecurity and cyber forensics.

### 1. Introduction

yber space is a platform that support internet of things, networks, telecommunication systems and all other recent information and communication technologies raining today <sup>[1,3]</sup>. Global cyber security index 2017 revealed that 3.5 billion users are connected to the internet and also predicted that there will be 12 billion devices connected on the cyber space by 2020. It was also predicted that by the year 2020 80% of the youth population in this world would have a smart phone <sup>[48]</sup>, moreover, almost 49.7% out of the 80% will be connected to the internet with an exponential growth of 936% globally between 2000-2017<sup>[49]</sup>. Although threats and attack to these devices are becoming order of the day. It is at the heart of this research work to explore the critical research contributions of researches that used machine learning algorithms in cybersecurity and digital forensics.

#### **2. Digital Forensics**

Digital forensics is a field in forensic science that presented the methodologies of investigating crimes that take place on a digital devices of individual, private organizations or government institutions be it national or international <sup>[2]</sup>. Moreover, Nickson et al. <sup>[3]</sup> explored that Digital

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forensics is a field of computer security that uses software applications and standard guidelines which support the extraction of evidences from any computer appliances which is perfectly enough for the court of law to use and make a judgment based on the comprehensiveness, authenticity and objectivity of the information obtained. The information obtained should be able to present facts about the evidences; like the profile of who obtained the information? The address where the information obtained and where it has been stored and what happened to the information after collection. Moreover, Rukayat et al.,<sup>[4]</sup> presented the major goals of forensics evidences are finding out the evidence, proper documentation and storage of the evidences, maintaining the evidence and moving it to the appropriate location without any alteration. In Anwar & Riadi <sup>[38]</sup> argued that digital forensics is perfectly relied on the information obtained with a degree of clear understanding and show clearly evidence of security breaches. In [46] "cyber forensics are scientific methods and methodologies in recent technologies to investigate, trace, and obtain and information from digital device which is going to be used in the court of law as evidence to make a judgment. Cyber forensics science is presented graphically by <sup>[50]</sup> as:



Figure 1. Digital forensics science [50]

#### 2.1 Digital Crime

Intrusions, cyber-attacks, system, information and network breaches are becoming alarming day by day among internet of things <sup>[6]</sup>. David et al. <sup>[10]</sup> believed that cyber terrorism is the use of digital device to perpetrate crime that will affect either socio-economic, religion or political agenda of an individual, private organization, government institution or a nation. Capgemini research institute revealed that there was an incidence in which a hacker was able to breaches in to 27000 vehicles which led to the total shutdown the engine. "There is a compelling necessity among researchers to come out with methods and methodologies, tactics and techniques to help forensics scientist in finding out evidences that will be used in the court of law as evidence or make a case<sup>[5]</sup>.

#### 2.2 Cybersecurity

Cybersecurity is a field in computer science that includes; information security, cloud security, and system security. It is also agreed by the literatures that cybersecurity is mainly depend on three major things; confidentiality, integrity and availability, of information <sup>[28]</sup> highlighted that the major principles of cybersecurity are prevention detection and reaction. In addition to Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) show that the central goals of cybersecurity are confidentiality of information, integrity of information and availability of information. Furthermore, National Cyber Security Center (NCSC) UK highlighted ten (10) tips of cybersecurity these includes; Internet security, Public awareness, threat prevention, device access control, prevent access to configurations, monitoring users, monitoring and management mobiles communications <sup>[35]</sup>. Gyun <sup>[33]</sup> also revealed that artificial intelligence/computational intelligence techniques and deep learning and machine learning techniques are among the cyber tools for modeling behaviors of attacks and building systems for defense.

#### 2.3 Cyber Attacks

According to United State intelligent unit revealed that in 2016 and 2017 there has been sponsored cyber-attack against Ukraine and Saudi Arabia which ended in targeting both government and non-governmental organizations. And also classified cyber-attacks based on the following; identity theft Unauthorized access and Deniel of service (DoS, DDoS). Cybersecurity experts revealed that in 2019 ransomware will damages almost \$11.5 billion<sup>[44]</sup>. There has been a ransomware attack targeting England's National Health Service which affected 60 health trusts, 150 countries, and more than 200,000 computer systems [<sup>45]</sup>.

#### 3. Machine Learning Algorithm

Machine learning algorithms are technique in artificial intelligence and computational intelligence that uses algorithm to parse data, learn from the data and make a decision or classification, These algorithms are technically depend on the statistical and mathematical models. In recent time machine learning algorithm are applied in clustering, regression, anomaly detection, intrusion detection systems artificial immune systems, network security, pattern recognition and even forensics investigations <sup>[34]</sup>. Basically there are three types of machine learning algorithms these

are; supervised learning, unsupervised learning and reinforcement. Supervised learning algorithms involve the use of datasets for training and testing the performance of the system build. Some supervised learning algorithm includes: decision tree, logistic regression, support vector machine, relevance vector machine, random forest, K-NN, bagging neural networks, linear regression and naïve Bayes which has been applied to cybersecurity, intrusion detection systems, network security and digital forensics <sup>[33]</sup>. Unsupervised learning algorithm required datasets for training and testing the system performances but require no labeled on the datasets. The two most common unsupervised learning algorithms are Principal Component Analysis (PCA) and clustering. Some of the unsupervised learning algorithms that are applied in cybersecurity are hierarchical, k-means, mixed model, DBSCAN, OPTIC, self-organizing mapping, Bolzan machine, auto encoder, adversarial network which has yield results [34].

## 4. Reviewed of Related Literature

Bandir<sup>[7]</sup> revealed that machine learning algorithms such self-organizing mapping, clustering will be very effective for digital forensics especially in a situation where large amount of data is going to be used. In [8] applied memetic algorithm in forensics analysis. In addition to <sup>[9]</sup> showed how machine learning algorithms are applied to security breaches. Malware classification system was also implemented using machine learning algorithms <sup>[16]</sup>. Hybrid system that is the combination of deep learning and machine learning algorithms was used to implement cybersecurity system in <sup>[15]</sup>. Intrusion detection system was also implemented in <sup>[14,51]</sup>. In <sup>[13]</sup> a systematic review was made on the combination of machine learning algorithms and data mining approach to cybersecurity. In <sup>[12]</sup> described how machine learning algorithms are good in the feature of cybersecurity. In the literatures researches and white papers are presenteds and published regarding the application of computational intelligence/ artificial intelligence techniques, machine learning, deep learning are applied to system security <sup>[16]</sup> and <sup>[18-22]</sup>. Cybersecurity system was modeled in <sup>[29]</sup>. Cybersecurity Framework was implemented in <sup>[30]</sup> using fuzzy logic algorithm.

Furthermore, <sup>[23]</sup> combined machine learning algorithm and deep learning algorithm for intrusion detection system. <sup>[24]</sup> Conducted a systematic survey on the anomaly based intrusion detection system. <sup>[25]</sup> Implemented intrusion detection system using machine learning algorithms for cloud mobile system in a heterogeneous network. Hybrid system for intrusion detection system was implemented in <sup>[26]</sup>. In addition to <sup>[27]</sup> has pave away for further implementation of industrial anomaly detection using machine learning algorithms. Anomaly detection system for mobile networks and automobile network was presented by <sup>[31]</sup>. Hybrid system for traffic control and monitoring was implemented in <sup>[32]</sup>. A review was made by <sup>[40]</sup> on the methods that are used for malware detection, and <sup>[41]</sup> applied machine learning algorithm to detect malware in android mobile devices. In <sup>[42]</sup> they conducted a review on malware detection using parallel computing.<sup>[43]</sup> made a comparative analysis on malware detection between static, dynamic and hybrid system. Digital Forensics analysis was also made on WhatsApp and Facebook to identify those that are using the application to commit a crime or illegal businesses [36-39]. In addition to Parag [47] Digital forensics framework was proposed and made a comparative analysis with other framework made with many artificial intelligence techniques and machine learning algorithms.

#### 5. Conclusion

In recent time machine learning algorithms computational intelligence techniques, artificial intelligence techniques deep learning among other intelligent techniques are used to modeled or build a cybersecurity system such as internet security, information security, identity access security, cloud computing security, Internet of Things security, intrusion detection system, artificial immune systems, although majority of the security systems depend on the detection, prediction and response. Moreover, the main goals of cyber security are confidentiality, integrity and availability. In this research work it is also noted that there are 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. In addition to AI and machine learning are among the good cyber tools for modeling the investigation system in digital forensics.

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