

## ORIGINAL RESEARCH ARTICLE

# A coherent salp swarm optimization based deep reinforced neural network algorithm for securing the mobile cloud systems

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## ABSTRACT

Protecting the mobile cloud computing system from the cyber-threats is the most crucial and demanding problems in recent days. Due to the rapid growth of internet technology, it is more essential to ensure secure the mobile cloud systems against the network intrusions. In the existing works, various intrusion detection system (IDS) frameworks have been developed for mobile cloud security, which are mainly focusing on utilizing the optimization and classification algorithms for designing the security frameworks. Still, some of the challenges associated to the existing works are complex to understand the system model, reduced convergence rate, inability to handle complex datasets, and high time cost. Therefore, this research work motivates to design and develop a computationally efficient IDS framework for improving the mobile cloud systems security. Here, an intrinsic collateral normalization (InCoN) algorithm is implemented at first for generating the quality improved datasets. Consequently, the coherent salp swarm optimization (CSSO) technique is deployed for selecting the most relevant features used for intrusion prediction and categorization. Finally, the deep reinforced neural network (DRNN) mechanism is implemented for accurately detecting the type of intrusion by properly training and testing the optimal features. During validation, the findings of the CSSO-DRNN technique are assessed and verified by utilizing various QoS parameters.

**Keywords:** mobile cloud computing; security; intrusion detection system (IDS); intrinsic collateral normalization (InCoN); coherent salp swarm optimization (CSSO); deep reinforced neural network (DRNN)

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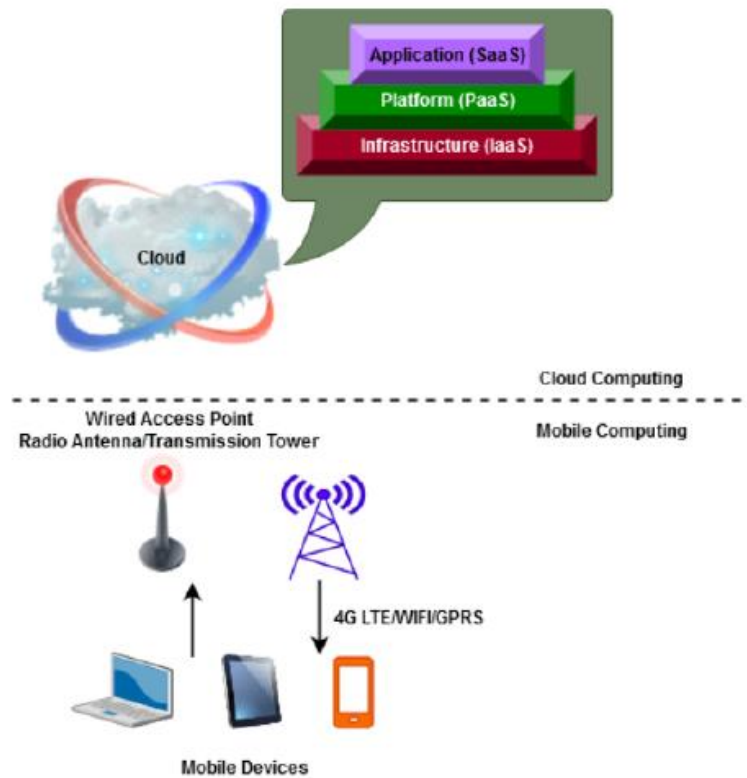
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## 1. Introduction

In present days, the utilization of smart devices like mobiles, watches, tablets, and etc are increasing rapidly<sup>[1,2]</sup>. Depending on to the current studies, it is analyzed that the internet traffic is account for 79% in 2022<sup>[3]</sup>, due to the high usage of mobile networks and WiFi. Typically, the mobile network<sup>[4]</sup> can be accessed by the mobile devices for services, but it suffers with the major problems of increased energy utilization, lack of security, storage overhead, and high processing power. Therefore, the mobile cloud environment<sup>[5]</sup> is developed, which helps to enable a wireless communication using an external computing devices. In general, the mobile cloud computing is one of the most popular wireless technology<sup>[4]</sup> that provides an enormous services<sup>[6,7]</sup> to the customers according to their

requirements or demands. In this network, the mobile users<sup>[8,9]</sup> are interconnected with the base station, where the interaction among users is performed with the cloud through internet. Moreover, the cloud computing is one of the most efficient and convenient platform<sup>[3]</sup> that is executed by various remote servers<sup>[10,11]</sup> that are connected in the network. Also, it ensures the centralized data storage and online accessing operations, which helps to enable an efficient data communication. Typically, the cloud<sup>[12-16]</sup> is categorized into three types such as private, public, community and hybrid, in which the public cloud is extensively used by many corporations like Google, Amazon, Microsoft. The typical architecture model of mobile cloud computing is shown in **Figure 1**.



**Figure 1.** Flow of proposed system.

In the traditional algorithms<sup>[17,18]</sup>, the various kinds of security approaches have been developed to increase the security of mobile cloud environment. However, it limits with the problems<sup>[19-21]</sup> of complex mathematical computations, high detection time, re used prediction rate, and low convergence rate. The current research aim is to suggest a novel classification framework for ensuring “mobile cloud computing security”. The objectives of this paper are:

- To produce the quality improved datasets, an intrinsic collateral normalization (InCoN) mechanism is developed that normalizes the attributes by removing the unwanted fields and replacing the missing attributes.
- To select the specifications for identifying and categorizing the intrusions kinds from the normalized dataset, a coherent salp swarm optimization (CSSO) algorithm is utilized.
- To accurately predict the intrusions with proper training and testing operations using a deep reinforced neural network (DRNN) has used.
- To verify the findings of the current suggested CSSO-DRNN based security approach, an extensive validation has been conducted.

The rest of sections of this research are divided into the number of parts: part 2 investigates the traditional security approaches utilized for protecting the mobile “cloud” environment from the intrusions.

tiso, it examines the benefits and challenges of using those techniques. part 3 presents the working methodology of the propos: 1 system with overall flow and algorithms. part 4 checks the findings of traditional and suggested algorithms by utilizing different evaluation indicators. Finally, the whole research is summarized and its future works in section 5.

## 2. Related works

This section investigates the various kinds of security algorithm used for protecting a mobile cloud networks from various network intrusions. Moreover, it examines the merits and limitations of each algorithm according to its features and operating conditions.

Shamshirband et al.<sup>[22]</sup> presented a comprehensive survey on various computational intelligence mechanism used for increasing the security of “mobile cloud systems”. The purpose of the current paper was to develop an effective intrusion detection system (IDS) framework for by using an intelligent techniques. Mugabo et al.<sup>[23]</sup> introduced an enhanced support vector machine (SVM) with information gain based intrusion detection method for protecting the mobile cloud systems. an efficient security algorithm tool for ensuring the properties of data integrity, confidentiality, and availability has designed. Moreover, the information gain was one of the most essential feature used for solving the data redundancy problem, which could be highly useful for increasing the performance of classification. The suggested framework includes essential modules of data preprocessing and intrusion detection, in which the data discretization and normalization processes were performed during preprocessing. Then, the training & testing, alert generation and reporting were performed during the detection phase. However, the suggested approach was not more capable for handling the large dimensional datasets, which degrades the efficacy and performance. Dey et al.<sup>[24]</sup> utilized a machine learning algorithm to design an IDS framework for heterogeneous mobile cloud networks. The aim of this paper was to model the multi-layered architecture for identifying the network traffic to categorize the type of intrusions. Also, the k-means integra’ DBSCAN clustering mechanism was utilized to increase the attack detection accuracy. Yet, it has the major limitations of inefficient processing, high time consumption, and delay in process. Thilagam et al.<sup>[25]</sup> implemented a recurrent convolutional neural network (RCNN) technique incorporated with an ant lion optimization (ALO) algorithm for mobile cloud security. The primary objective of this paper was to use an intelligent optimization technique for preserving the security of mobile cloud systems with reduced error rate and increased accuracy. Still, the RCNN model could be difficult to understand, and it follows some complex operations for attack prediction and classification. Typically, the cloud is one of the popular and emerging platform highly used in various application systems<sup>[26]</sup>. According to the different types of services, the benefits and limitations<sup>[27]</sup> of using the cloud models are represented in **Table 1**.

Nguyen et al.<sup>[20]</sup> deployed an efficient cyber-attack detection framework for mobile cloud security by assuring the properties of privacy, confidentiality, and data integrity. This framework includes the major stages of data collection, preprocessing, attack detection, and request processing. Here, the feature analysis process was performed to analyze the attributes relevant to the attacks. The primary advantages of using this system were high stability, robustness, and reliability.

Alshahrani et al.<sup>[28]</sup> introduced a collaborative intrusion detection framework 43 securing the IoT networks, which is termed as CoLL-IoT. This architecture includes the main layers of IoT layer, fog layer, network layer, and perception layer. The purpose of this work was to ensure the security properties of privacy protection, multiple authentications, and confidentiality. Here, the data protection, key agreement and node authentication have been performed in the perception layer. The key benefits of this work were reduced detection rate and latency.

**Table 1.** Benefits and limitations of cloud models.

Type	Benefits	Limitations
IaaS	Minimal cost	Lack of performance outcomes
-	Efficient utilization of	Privacy Sr. security issues
-	Elasticity	Interoperability problems
PaaS	Easy to deploy	Inflexibility
-	Simple to understand	Highly depends on the connection of internet
-	High scalability	Security breaches
-	Reduced cost	-
SaaS	Reduced maintenance costs	Control loss
-	Easy to access	Connectivity problems
-	Dynamicity & scalability	Lack of privacy

Based on this survey, it is studied that the existing optimization + classification methodologies<sup>[9,29–32]</sup> object to develop an accurate IDS framework for “mobile cloud systems”. However, it confines with the following difficulties:

- Difficult to understand the system model.
- High time cost.
- Reduced speed of processing.
- High error rate.
- Ability to handle the complex data.

### 3. System design

This part explains the clear description about the “intrusion detection”. Methodology used for protecting the “mobile cloud systems”. In the traditional algorithms, various kinds of security approaches have been developed to increase the security of mobile cloud environment. However, it minimizes with the restrictions of complex mathematical computations, high detection time, increased mis-prediction rate, and low convergence rate. So that, the current research objects to improve a novel coherent salp-swarm optimization (CSSO) integrated deep reinforced neural network (DRNN) mechanism for strengthening the security of “mobile cloud systems”. This work aims to counter the security problems in the mobile cloud environment by providing an immediate countermeasure with the use of CSSO-DRNN mechanism. For implementing this system, the recent and popular 1135 data records have been used in this work (<https://www.cso.ie/en/databases/>)<sup>[31]</sup>, and the performance is evaluate dosing various measures. The working flow of the proposed mobile cloud security framework is shown in **Figure 2**, which includes the following stages:

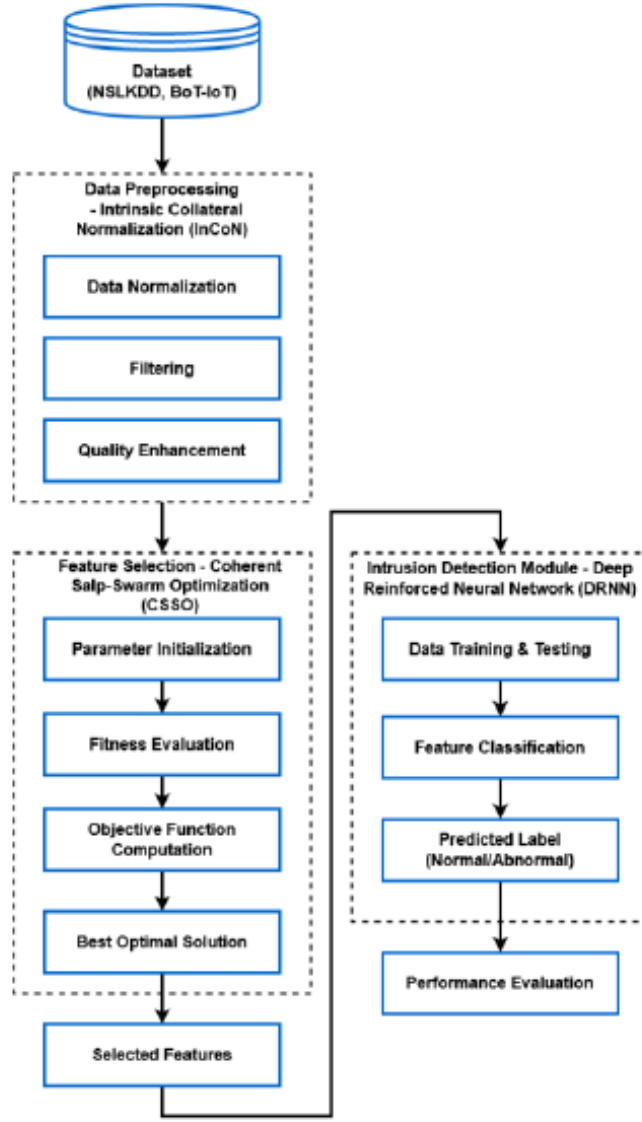


Figure 2. Flow of proposed system.

### 3.1. Preprocessing

Here, the data preprocessing is performed to normalize the datasets before attack detection and prediction operations. Typically, the data normalized is treated as the one of the most essential process in the security system, because the raw datasets have some missing attributes/fields, and unwanted information. Also, it may disrupt the detection process of classifier, so it must be appropriately normalized or preprocessed for generating the quality improved dataset. In this work, the normalization, filtering, and quality enhancement processes have been performed during preprocessing. For this purpose, an intrinsic collateral normalization (InCoN) mechanism is implemented, which is a highly efficient filtering algorithm used for preprocessing the dataset. When compared to the other filtering mechanisms, it has the following benefits: simple to understand, minimized operating complexity, and high quality of data. Here, the coefficient variance is estimated at first as shown in below:

$$Pv = \frac{\sigma}{\mu} \quad (1)$$

where, it is the mean value,  $\sigma$  is the standard deviation, and  $p_v$  represents the covariance, in which the values of  $t$  and  $o$ - are as follows:

$$\mu = 1/Y \sum_{D=1}^Y Q_D \quad (2)$$

$$\sigma = \sqrt{\frac{1}{Y-1} \sum_{D=1}^Y (Q_D - \mu)^2} \quad (3)$$

$$S_D = (Q_D - \mu) / \sigma \quad (4)$$

where, QD is the data exist in the list, and AI denotes the average value. Consequently, the values of data are standardized in the range of 10 to 1, based on this, the normalized dataset is produced as the output. The obtained quality improved dataset can be used for further optimization and classification processes. Specifically, it is more helpful for attaining an increased accuracy, and reduced error rate during intrusion detection and classification.

### 3.2. Coherent salp swarm optimization

In this stage, the optimal set of parameters or features relevant to the different types of intrusions are extracted from the normalized dataset. Here, a coherent salp-swarm optimization (CSSO) technique is used to choose the relevant features for accurately predicting the intrusions in the mobile cloud systems. In the existing works, various nature inspired and bio-inspired optimization algorithms are used to select the features for classification. For instance<sup>[33]</sup>, the particle swarm, ant colony, bee colony, firefly, BAT, and cuckoo search are the extensively used algorithms in the conventional intrusion detection frameworks. When compared to these approaches, the CSSO has the following benefits: increased convergence rate, fast processing capability, and simple understand/easy to deploy. Therefore, the proposed work motivates to use the CSSO algorithm for selecting the parameters from the normalized dataset. In this technique, the position of salps are initialized at first in N dimensional searching space, where N represents the count of variables. After that, the position of each salp is updated based on its food searching behavior, in which the

$$K_j^i = \begin{cases} FP_j + E1((UP_{bj} - lb_{bj})E2 + lb_{bj})E3 > 0 \\ FP_j - 1((UP_{bj} - lb_{bj})E2 + lb_{bj})E3 < 0 \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

where, K<sub>Ji</sub> is the position of leader salp at dimension j, fee presents the position of food source, E1, E2, E3 are the random numbers, upb and Mb) are the maximum and minimum bounds respectively. Then, a position of only leader salp is further updated based on its food location. Best food during this process, the random coefficient E1 is treated as an important parameter, and best food fitness is calculated K<sub>Ji</sub> position if the position value is greater than the E1 value and E2 value then the food is treated as a best food. The threshold vale of the best food is in between E1 and E2. But we taken this best food by its efficiently balances both exploration and exploitation stages as shown in below.

$$E1 = 2e^{-\left(\frac{4c}{H}\right)^2} \quad (6)$$

where, c is the present iteration, and H represents the maximum number of iterations. After that, the followers' position are updated based on the following

$$K_j^i = 1/2 xT^2 + So(T) \quad (7)$$

where, t is the time, so represents the initial speed. And the value of x is computed by using the following equation.

$$X = S_{final}/So \text{ and } S = k - k_0/T \quad (8)$$

Similar to that, the position of followers s also updated by using the following equation

$$K_j^i = 1/2(K_{ji} + K_{J i-i}) \quad (9)$$

where, I >= 2, and k<sub>j<sup>i</sup></sub> is the position of follower at dimension j. As shown in **Figure 3**.

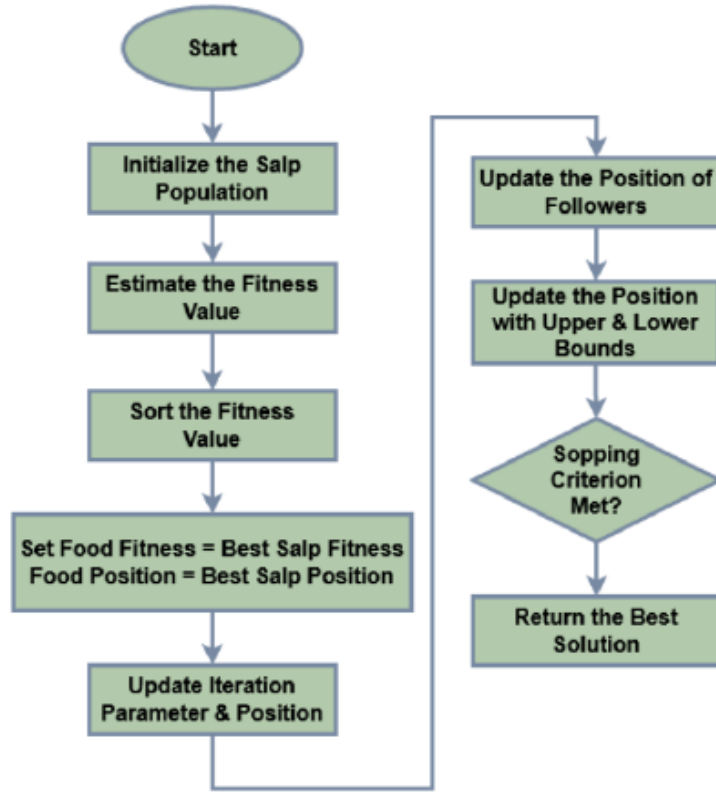


Figure 3. Flow of the CSSO algorithm.

### 3.3. Deep reinforced neural network (DRNN)

After feature optimization, the DRNN classification technique is deployed to predict the intrusion based on the optimized set of features. It integrates the operations of two restricted Boltzmann machine and multi-layer perceptron models, which helps to obtain an increased detection accuracy with reduced computational time and complexity. In an existing works, various machine learning based classification techniques<sup>[34-40]</sup> are used for detecting and categorizing the types of intrusions in the mobile cloud networking. It limits with the disadvantages of reduced detection accuracy, high false positives, and error rate. Therefore, the current suggested paper used a new and intelligent deep learning mechanism for detecting and categorizing the intrusions from the “mobile cloud systems”. In the current design the optimal features are passed to the input of classifier and its hidden layers are represented as shown in below:

$$H^1 = \{h^1_1, h^1_2, \dots\} \quad (10)$$

## 4. Conclusion

This paper presents a computational efficient CSSO-DRNN based IDS framework for protecting the mobile cloud systems from the cyber-threats. The original contribution of this work is to implement a simple and efficient algorithm for developing an IDS architecture for strengthening the security of mobile cloud systems. For system implementation and validation. The most popular cyber-threat datasets are utilized in this work. At first, quality improved dataset is generated by using an InCon filtering technique, which normalizes the attributes of information to preprocess the dataset. After that, a CSSO algorithm is deployed to select the relevant features correlated to the different types of network intrusion. It also helps to simplify the process of intrusion prediction and categorization by providing the best optimal function. Moreover, the DRNN technique is testing the samples of data. Simple to design computationally efficient

increased convergence rate high accuracy reduced error rate. High accuracy, reduced error rate and minimal time cost. In addition to that, the results of the proposed security approach are evaluated and compared by using various parameters. Finally the estimated values are compared with the existing optimization and classification algorithms based on the different types of intrusions in the dataset. In future this work can be extended by implementing a new machine learning techniques for increasing the security of integrated networking paradigms.

## Author contributions

Conceptualization, OIK and DA; methodology, OIK and GMA; formal analysis, OIK; funding acquisition, software, validation, DA; writing—review & editing, investigation, GMA and GRC. All authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript.

## Conflict of interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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