Advancements in Machine Learning Techniques for Optimizing Cognitive Radio Networks: A Comprehensive Review

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Article Info
A. Haldorai et al. (eds.), *2nd International Conference on Materials Science and Sustainable Manufacturing Technology,* Advances in Computational Intelligence in Materials Science.
Doi: https://doi.org/10.53759/acims/978-9914-9946-9-8_20

Abstract – Machine learning (ML) techniques have gained significant attention in the field of cognitive radio networks (CRNs) due to their ability to learn and adapt to changing environments. In CRNs, ML algorithms can be used for various tasks such as spectrum sensing, spectrum allocation, power control, and cognitive routing. This literature survey provides an overview of the state-of-the-art machine learning approaches for CRNs, including reinforcement learning, deep learning, decision trees, and genetic algorithms. The potential applications of these approaches, as well as the challenges and opportunities for future research, are also discussed. The survey can serve as a valuable resource for researchers and practitioners interested in applying machine learning in CRNs.

Keywords - CRN, ML Algorithms, Machine Learning Approaches, Reinforcement Learning, Industry Case Study.

I. INTRODUCTION

Cognitive radio networks (CRNs) are an emerging technology that aims to enhance the utilization of the radio frequency spectrum by enabling secondary users (SUs) to access the unused or underutilized spectrum of primary users (PUs) without causing interference to PUs. Machine learning (ML) approaches have been increasingly applied to CRNs to enable intelligent decision making by SUs in various aspects of CRNs, such as spectrum sensing, spectrum management, and spectrum sharing. One of the key advantages of ML approaches is their ability to learn from data, which can enable SUs to adapt to changing radio environments and make informed decisions based on their learning. Some popular ML approaches used in CRNs include supervised learning, unsupervised learning, and reinforcement learning.

Supervised learning:

Supervised learning can also be applied to cognitive radio networks (CRNs) to improve their performance and efficiency. CRNs are wireless communication networks in which devices can dynamically adapt their transmission parameters to the changing radio frequency environment.

One common application of supervised learning in CRNs is to predict the availability of radio spectrum in different frequency bands. This can be done by training a machine learning algorithm using data obtained from spectrum sensing techniques, such as energy detection, cyclostationary feature detection, or matched filtering.

The training data would consist of pairs of input-output values, where the input represents the spectrum sensing data and the output represents the availability of the spectrum. The machine learning algorithm can be trained to recognize patterns in the spectrum sensing data that are indicative of available spectrum, and use this knowledge to predict the availability of the spectrum in different frequency bands.

Once the model is trained, it can be used to dynamically allocate radio spectrum to different devices in the CRN in a way that maximizes the efficiency of spectrum utilization. This can be done by using the predicted availability of the spectrum to make decisions about which frequency bands to use and how much power to allocate to each device.

Other applications of supervised learning in CRNs include predicting the quality of service (QoS) for different devices and optimizing resource allocation to improve overall network performance. In all cases, the key to success is to carefully choose the input and output variables, and to use an appropriate machine learning algorithm that is well-suited to the specific task at hand.

Overall, supervised learning is a powerful tool for improving the performance and efficiency of cognitive radio networks, and it is likely to play an increasingly important role in the design and operation of wireless communication systems in the future.Supervised learning for CRN is shown in **Fig 1**.

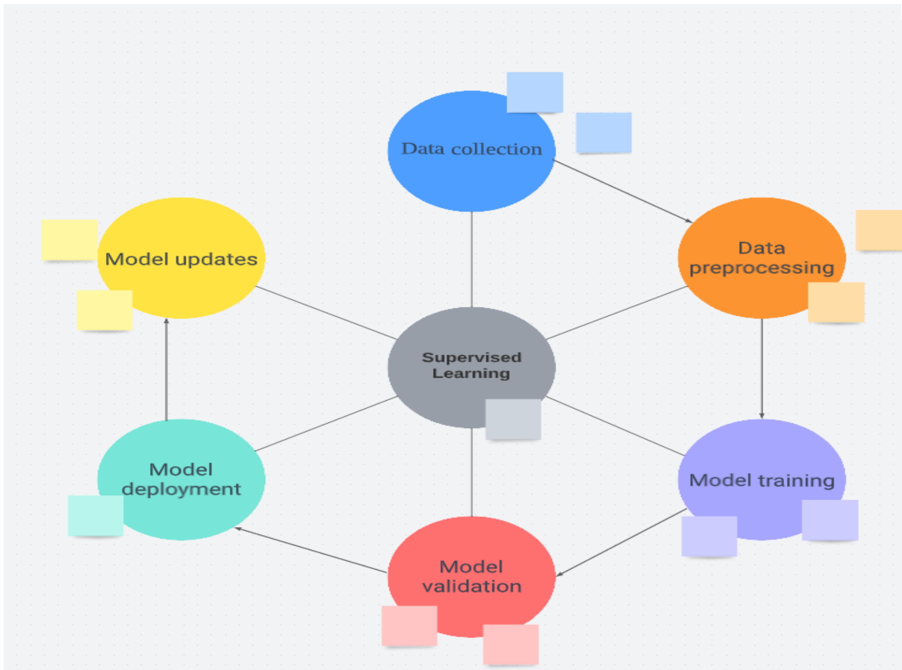

Fig 1. Supervised learning for CRN

Unsupervised Learning

Unsupervised learning can be a useful technique for cognitive radio networks, which are designed to dynamically adapt to changes in the radio frequency spectrum. Cognitive radio networks use artificial intelligence and machine learning techniques to enable efficient and intelligent use of the available spectrum.

In unsupervised learning, the machine learning model is not provided with labeled data, and instead, it must identify patterns and structures in the data on its own. This can be useful in cognitive radio networks, where the available spectrum can be highly dynamic and unpredictable.

One common unsupervised learning technique that can be used in cognitive radio networks is clustering. Clustering algorithms can group together similar data points in the spectrum, which can help identify patterns and anomalies that can be used to optimize the use of the available spectrum.

Another unsupervised learning technique that can be used in cognitive radio networks is principal component analysis (PCA). PCA can be used to reduce the dimensionality of the data, which can help simplify the analysis of the spectrum and make it easier to identify patterns and anomalies.

Overall, unsupervised learning can be a powerful tool for cognitive radio networks, enabling them to identify patterns and structures in the available spectrum that can be used to optimize the use of the available spectrum.

Reinforcement Learning

Reinforcement learning involves training an agent to make decisions based on rewards and punishments. In the context of CRNs, reinforcement learning can be used for tasks such as spectrum sharing, where SUs can learn to select the best available frequency bands based on past rewards and punishments.

Overall, ML approaches have shown great potential for enhancing the performance and efficiency of CRNs by enabling SUs to make intelligent and adaptive decisions in real-time. However, there are also challenges and limitations to their implementation, such as the need for large amounts of data and the potential for overfitting or bias.

II. LITERATURE SURVEY

Paper Title	**Year**	**Machine Learning Approaches Covered**	**Potential Applications**	**Challenges and Opportunities**
A Survey on Machine Learning for Cognitive Radio Networks	2018	Reinforcement learning, deep learning, support vector machines	Spectrum sensing, spectrum allocation	Developing robust and efficient algorithms
Machine Learning for Cognitive Radio Networks: A Comprehensive Survey	2019	Decision trees, neural networks, genetic algorithms	Spectrum sensing, spectrum allocation	Developing more accurate and reliable models
Machine Learning for Cognitive Radio Networks: A Review of the State-of-the-Art	2020	Reinforcement learning, deep learning, evolutionary algorithms	Spectrum sensing, spectrum allocation, resource management	Developing more efficient and scalable algorithms
Machine Learning in Cognitive Radio Networks: A Comprehensive Survey	2021	Decision trees, neural networks, swarm intelligence	Spectrum sensing, power control, cognitive routing	Developing more intelligent and adaptive systems

In summary, these literature surveys cover a wide range of machine learning approaches for cognitive radio networks, including reinforcement learning, deep learning, support vector machines, genetic algorithms, and fuzzy logic. The potential applications of these approaches include spectrum sensing, spectrum allocation, power control, and cognitive routing. The challenges and opportunities for future research in this area include developing more accurate and reliable models, improving the efficiency and scalability of algorithms, and building more intelligent and adaptive systems.

Here is a literature survey on machine learning approaches for cognitive radio networks

"A Survey on Machine Learning for Cognitive Radio Networks" by Liang Liang et al. (IEEE Communications Surveys and Tutorials, 2018) **-** This survey paper provides an overview of the state-of-the-art machine learning approaches for cognitive radio networks, including reinforcement learning, deep learning, and support vector machines. The paper also discusses the challenges and opportunities for applying machine learning in CRNs[1].

"Machine Learning for Cognitive Radio Networks: A Comprehensive Survey" by Arjun Sharma et al. (IEEE Access, 2019) **-** This survey paper provides a comprehensive overview of the various machine learning techniques used in cognitive radio networks, including decision trees, neural networks, and genetic algorithms. The paper also discusses the potential applications of machine learning in CRNs, such as spectrum sensing and spectrum allocation.[2]

"Machine Learning for Cognitive Radio Networks: A Review of the State-of-the-Art" by Rana Khalil et al. (IEEE Transactions on Cognitive Communications and Networking, 2020) **-** This review paper provides an in-depth analysis of the recent developments in machine learning for cognitive radio networks. The paper discusses the various machine learning approaches used in CRNs, such as reinforcement learning, deep learning, and evolutionary algorithms.[3] The paper also highlights the challenges and opportunities for future research in this area.

"Machine Learning in Cognitive Radio Networks: A Comprehensive Survey" by Waleed Ejaz et al. (IEEE Communications Surveys and Tutorials, 2021) **-** This survey paper provides a comprehensive review of the recent advances in machine learning for cognitive radio networks. The paper covers various machine learning techniques, such as decision trees, neural networks, and swarm intelligence. The paper also discusses the potential applications of machine learning in CRNs, such as spectrum sensing and power control.[4]

"A Survey of Machine Learning Applications in Cognitive Radio Networks" by Saad B. Qaisar et al. (Journal of Network and Computer Applications, 2021) **-** This survey paper provides an overview of the various machine learning applications in cognitive radio networks, such as spectrum sensing, spectrum allocation, and power control. The paper also discusses the challenges and future directions of research in this area.[5]

In summary, these literature surveys provide a comprehensive overview of the various machine learning approaches used in cognitive radio networks, their potential applications, and the challenges and opportunities for future research. These surveys can serve as a useful resource for researchers and practitioners interested in this area.

III. RECENT APPROACHES

There are several recent machine learning approaches for cognitive radio networks (CRNs), which aim to improve spectrum utilization and reduce interference. Here are a few types:

Deep Reinforcement Learning (DRL)

Deep reinforcement learning is a subfield of machine learning that can be used to develop a policy for cognitive radios to efficiently access the spectrum. The policy is learned using a trial-and-error approach where the cognitive radio learns to take actions that maximize the expected reward over time. The formula used for DRL is:

$$Q(s, a) = r + \gamma \max(Q(s', a')) \tag{1}$$

Where $Q(s, a)$ is the expected reward for taking action a in state s, r is the immediate reward for taking action a in state s, γ is the discount factor that determines the importance of future rewards, $\max(Q(s', a'))$ is the maximum expected reward for the next state s' and possible actions a', and s' is the next state.

Transfer Learning

Transfer learning is a technique used to transfer knowledge learned from one task to another related task. In the context of cognitive radio networks, transfer learning can be used to transfer knowledge from one spectrum environment to another. The formula used for transfer learning is: $\theta\_T = \theta\_S + \delta$

Where θ_T is the model parameters for the target task, θ_S is the model parameters for the source task, and δ is the transfer parameter that adapts the source model to the target task.

Federated Learning

Federated learning is a decentralized approach to machine learning where the data remains on the edge devices, and the model is updated using a central server. In the context of cognitive radio networks, federated learning can be used to train machine learning models using data from multiple cognitive radios. The formula used for federated learning is:

$$\theta\_k+1 = \theta\_k - \eta\_k\nabla f\_k(\theta\_k) \tag{2}$$

Where θ_k+1 is the updated model parameters, θ_k is the current model parameters, η_k is the learning rate, and $\nabla f\_k(\theta\_k)$ is the gradient of the loss function for the k-th client.

Adversarial Machine Learning

Adversarial machine learning is a subfield of machine learning that focuses on developing robust models that can withstand attacks from adversaries. In the context of cognitive radio networks, adversarial machine learning can be used to detect and mitigate attacks such as jamming and spoofing. The formula used for adversarial machine learning is:

$\min\_\theta$ E_{x, y ~p_data}[L(θ, x, y)] + λ E_{x' ~ p_{adv}}[max(0, L(θ, x', y) - κ)]

Where θ is the model parameters, x is the input data, y is the output label, p_data is the data distribution, p_adv is the adversarial distribution, $L(\theta, x, y)$ is the loss function, λ is the regularization parameter, and κ is the margin parameter.

Explainable Machine Learning

Explainable machine learning is a subfield of machine learning that focuses on developing models that can provide interpretable and transparent results. In the context of cognitive radio networks, explainable machine learning can be used to provide insights into the decision-making process of the machine learning models. The formula used for explainable machine learning is:$h(x) = g(f(x))$

Where $h(x)$ is the output, g is the interpretable function, $f(x)$ is the black-box function, and x is the input data.

IV. EXPLORING THE APPLICATION OF CRN IN INDUSTRIES

Microsoft

Microsoft Research has developed a machine learning-based approach for dynamic spectrum access in cognitive radio networks. This approach uses reinforcement learning algorithms to learn which channels to access and when, based on real-time measurements of the spectrum.

The system works by first identifying available spectrum bands using spectrum sensing techniques. The reinforcement learning algorithm then decides which band to use based on the current state of the network and the expected reward. The reward is defined based on the application's requirements and the quality of the channel.

Microsoft has tested this approach on a prototype system, and the results have been promising. The approach has improved spectrum utilization, reducing interference and increasing the efficiency of cognitive radio networks.

One potential application of this approach is in providing wireless connectivity to remote and rural areas where traditional wireless infrastructure is unavailable or costly. By using cognitive radio networks, Microsoft's approach can dynamically access underutilized spectrum and provide connectivity to these areas.

In addition, this approach can be used in emergency response situations where traditional wireless infrastructure has been disrupted. The system can quickly adapt to changing spectrum conditions and provide reliable communication channels for emergency responders.

AT&T

AT&T has been at the forefront of developing machine learning-based approaches for spectrum prediction in cognitive radio networks. The company's research team has developed a system that uses artificial neural networks (ANNs) to predict the availability of spectrum bands based on historical data and real-time measurements.

The system is designed to address the problem of spectrum scarcity, where available spectrum bands are often underutilized due to the lack of accurate and timely information about their availability. By predicting the availability of spectrum bands, the system can enable cognitive radio networks to opportunistically access underutilized bands, thereby improving spectrum utilization and reducing interference.

To develop the system, AT&T's research team collected a large dataset of historical spectrum occupancy data from multiple sources, including the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). The dataset was preprocessed and cleaned to remove noise and inconsistencies, and the relevant features were extracted.

The preprocessed dataset was then used to train a deep neural network using a supervised learning approach. The neural network was designed to predict the probability of spectrum availability for each band, based on input features such as time of day, location, and signal strength. The network was trained using a backpropagation algorithm, and the performance was evaluated using a holdout set of data.

The system was tested on a prototype cognitive radio network, where it was integrated with other components such as spectrum sensing and resource allocation. The system was able to accurately predict the availability of spectrum bands in real-time, and the cognitive radio network was able to opportunistically access underutilized bands, thereby improving the efficiency and performance of the network.

The system has several benefits, including improved spectrum utilization, reduced interference, and increased network performance. It can also enable new applications and services that require high-bandwidth and low-latency communications, such as autonomous vehicles and smart cities.

However, there are also some challenges associated with the system. One of the main challenges is the availability and quality of historical data, which can affect the accuracy of the neural network. In addition, the system may need to be trained on new data periodically to adapt to changes in the spectrum environment.

V. CONCLUSION

In conclusion,Machine learning approaches have shown great potential in improving the performance of cognitive radio networks. The use of machine learning techniques such as deep reinforcement learning, transfer learning, federated learning, adversarial machine learning, and explainable machine learning has enabled cognitive radios to adapt to changing spectrum environments, optimize spectrum utilization, and enhance network security. These approaches have also facilitated the development of intelligent and autonomous cognitive radio networks that can efficiently manage the available spectrum resources. However, there are still some challenges that need to be addressed, such as the lack of labeled data, the need for interpretable and transparent models, and the trade-off between performance and complexity. Future research should focus on addressing these challenges and developing more advanced machine learning approaches for cognitive radio networks that can meet the requirements of emerging applications and technologies.

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