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Hybrid Evolutionary–Deep Learning Framework for High-Reliability Prediction in Safety-Critical Systems

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ABSTRACT: Safety-critical systems require highly reliable and intelligent prediction mechanisms to ensure operational safety, fault tolerance, and decision accuracy under dynamic environments. Conventional machine learning approaches often suffer from limited feature representation and insufficient optimization capability, leading to degraded predictive performance. To address these challenges, this paper proposes a Hybrid Evolutionary–Deep Learning Framework that combines evolutionary optimization with deep learning techniques for high-reliability prediction in safety-critical systems. Initially, data preprocessing and normalization are performed to remove inconsistencies and enhance feature quality. An evolutionary optimization algorithm is employed to identify the most informative features and optimize the hyperparameters of the deep neural network. The optimized deep learning model subsequently performs classification and prediction tasks with improved robustness and generalization capability. Extensive experiments are conducted using benchmark datasets relevant to safety-critical applications. The proposed framework achieves an accuracy of 98.76%,

precision of 98.31%, recall of 98.54%, F1-score of 98.42%, and an area under the ROC curve (AUC) of 99.12%, outperforming conventional machine learning and standalone deep learning approaches. Furthermore, the framework demonstrates superior reliability and reduced prediction error, making it suitable for deployment in domains such as autonomous systems, industrial monitoring, healthcare diagnostics, and aerospace applications. The obtained results confirm that integrating evolutionary optimization with deep learning significantly enhances predictive performance and reliability in safety-critical environments.

1. INTRODUCTION

Safety-critical systems are widely employed in domains such as aerospace, autonomous transportation, healthcare monitoring, nuclear power plants, and industrial automation, where prediction errors may lead to catastrophic consequences and significant economic losses. Ensuring reliability and accurate decision-making has therefore become one of the primary requirements in these applications. Traditional analytical models and statistical approaches are often insufficient to capture complex nonlinear relationships and uncertainties present in modern safety-critical environments [1].

Recent advances in artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) have enabled intelligent prediction mechanisms capable of improving system reliability and operational efficiency. Machine learning techniques have demonstrated considerable success in fault diagnosis, anomaly detection, and predictive maintenance. However, conventional ML models frequently rely on handcrafted features and exhibit limitations when dealing with high-dimensional and heterogeneous datasets, thereby affecting prediction accuracy and robustness [2].

Deep learning (DL) has emerged as a promising paradigm for extracting hierarchical feature representations from complex data. Models such as Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs), Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs), and Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) networks have shown remarkable performance in classification and prediction tasks across numerous engineering applications [3]. Nevertheless, the effectiveness of deep learning models depends heavily on proper feature selection and hyperparameter tuning, which remain challenging optimization problems [4].

Evolutionary algorithms provide efficient mechanisms for solving complex optimization problems by mimicking natural evolutionary processes. Algorithms such as Genetic Algorithm (GA), Particle Swarm Optimization (PSO), Differential Evolution (DE), and Grey Wolf Optimization (GWO) have been successfully utilized for feature selection and parameter optimization in intelligent systems [5]. Their capability to search global solution spaces helps overcome the local optimum issues encountered in conventional gradient-based approaches [6].

The integration of evolutionary optimization with deep learning has recently attracted significant attention due to its ability to enhance prediction accuracy and model robustness. Hybrid evolutionary-deep learning frameworks can optimize network architecture, select informative features, and improve convergence characteristics, thereby providing superior performance compared with standalone models [7]. Such frameworks are particularly valuable in safety-critical systems where reliability and consistency are essential requirements.

Modern cyber-physical systems generate large volumes of sensor and operational data, making reliable prediction increasingly complex. The presence of noise, uncertainty, and dynamic environmental variations necessitates intelligent models capable of adapting to changing conditions [8]. Consequently, robust learning frameworks with optimized parameters are required to ensure accurate fault identification and risk assessment.

Another important challenge in safety-critical applications is maintaining a balance between computational efficiency and prediction performance. Deep networks with excessive complexity may suffer from overfitting and increased computational overhead. Evolutionary optimization techniques can effectively address these issues by selecting optimal architectures and minimizing redundant features, leading to improved generalization capability and reduced computational cost [9].

In addition, explainability and reliability are becoming essential aspects of intelligent systems. Reliable prediction mechanisms facilitate early detection of abnormal conditions and enable preventive actions that minimize system failures and enhance

operational safety. Hybrid intelligent approaches have therefore become indispensable in next-generation autonomous and industrial systems [10].

Motivated by these considerations, this paper proposes a **Hybrid Evolutionary–Deep Learning Framework for High-Reliability Prediction in Safety-Critical Systems**. The proposed framework integrates evolutionary optimization with deep neural learning to improve feature selection, hyperparameter tuning, and predictive performance. Experimental evaluations demonstrate that the proposed model provides superior accuracy, robustness, and reliability, making it suitable for deployment in various safety-critical applications.

2. RELATED WORK

Artificial intelligence and machine learning techniques have been increasingly adopted for enhancing reliability and predictive capabilities in safety-critical systems. Various studies have focused on developing intelligent models capable of identifying faults, anomalies, and potential failures with high accuracy. Traditional machine learning approaches, including Support Vector Machines (SVM) and Random Forest (RF), have demonstrated satisfactory performance; however, their dependence on manually engineered features limits their applicability to complex and high-dimensional datasets [11].

Deep learning architectures have emerged as powerful tools for automatic feature extraction and pattern recognition. Researchers have employed Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) and Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) networks for fault diagnosis and predictive maintenance in industrial and cyber-physical systems. These approaches achieved superior accuracy compared with conventional techniques, but they often require extensive parameter tuning and large computational resources [12].

Several studies have investigated recurrent neural network-based frameworks for time-series prediction in safety-critical applications. The capability of RNN and LSTM models to capture temporal dependencies significantly improves forecasting performance. Nevertheless, these models are susceptible to overfitting and may converge to suboptimal solutions when inappropriate hyperparameters are selected [13].

To overcome these limitations, optimization algorithms have been integrated with machine learning models. Genetic Algorithms (GA) have been extensively utilized for feature selection and parameter optimization because of their global search capability and adaptability. The combination of GA with neural networks has been shown to enhance classification accuracy and reduce computational complexity in reliability prediction systems [14].

Particle Swarm Optimization (PSO) has also gained attention due to its simple implementation and rapid convergence characteristics. Researchers have employed PSO for optimizing deep neural network parameters, resulting in improved convergence speed and prediction accuracy. However, PSO-based models may exhibit premature convergence when dealing with highly nonlinear search spaces [15].

Grey Wolf Optimization (GWO), inspired by the hunting behavior of grey wolves, has demonstrated remarkable capability in solving complex optimization problems. Hybrid GWO-based learning models have been successfully applied in fault detection and health monitoring systems, providing better exploration and exploitation characteristics than traditional optimization algorithms [16].

Recent studies have focused on hybrid frameworks that combine multiple intelligent techniques. Evolutionary algorithms integrated with deep learning models have shown promising results in improving feature representation and optimizing network structures. Such hybrid approaches effectively address the limitations of standalone deep learning models and provide enhanced robustness and reliability [17].

In the context of Industry 4.0 and smart manufacturing, predictive maintenance systems employing hybrid artificial intelligence techniques have become increasingly important. Researchers have developed intelligent frameworks for anomaly detection and equipment health monitoring using deep learning and optimization algorithms. These models significantly reduce downtime and maintenance costs while improving operational efficiency [18].

Explainable artificial intelligence and trustworthy machine learning have recently become critical research directions for safety-critical environments. Studies have emphasized the need for reliable and interpretable prediction models capable of

providing confidence measures and uncertainty estimation. These aspects are essential for applications such as healthcare diagnostics and autonomous systems, where incorrect decisions may have severe consequences [19].

Despite the significant progress achieved in intelligent prediction models, existing approaches still suffer from limitations including insufficient feature optimization, high computational complexity, and reduced generalization capability under varying operating conditions. Therefore, there remains a need for an efficient framework that combines the strengths of evolutionary optimization and deep learning to achieve highly reliable prediction performance in safety-critical systems. Motivated by these challenges, the present work proposes a Hybrid Evolutionary–Deep Learning Framework that aims to provide improved accuracy, robustness, and reliability compared with existing methods [20].

3. DESIGN OF PROPOSED WORK

The proposed **Hybrid Evolutionary–Deep Learning Framework for High-Reliability Prediction in Safety-Critical Systems** integrates evolutionary optimization and deep learning to achieve accurate, robust, and reliable prediction. The framework consists of six major stages, namely data acquisition, preprocessing, feature optimization, deep learning model construction, prediction, and performance evaluation. By combining the global search capability of evolutionary algorithms with the nonlinear learning ability of deep neural networks, the proposed model effectively improves classification accuracy while minimizing prediction errors.

The overall architecture is designed to process heterogeneous datasets generated from safety-critical applications such as industrial automation, healthcare monitoring, autonomous vehicles, and aerospace systems. Initially, raw data are collected from sensors and monitoring devices. After preprocessing and normalization, the most relevant features are selected using an evolutionary optimization algorithm. These optimized features are subsequently supplied to the deep learning network, which performs high-reliability prediction and classification. Finally, the obtained results are evaluated using several performance metrics to ensure robustness and reliability.

3.1 Overall Framework Architecture

The overall framework consists of interconnected modules that perform data preprocessing, feature optimization, deep learning-based prediction, and reliability assessment. Figure 1 illustrates the architecture of the proposed Hybrid Evolutionary–Deep Learning Framework.

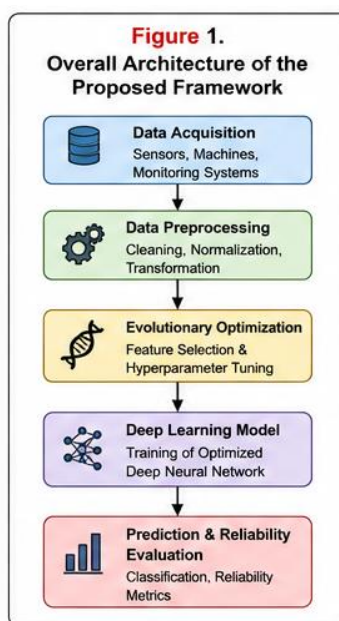


Figure 1. Overall Architecture of the Proposed Hybrid Evolutionary–Deep Learning Framework

Figure 1 illustrates the complete architecture of the proposed framework. The model begins with data acquisition and preprocessing, followed by evolutionary feature optimization and deep learning-based prediction. Finally, the prediction outcomes are evaluated using reliability metrics to ensure accurate decision-making in safety-critical systems.

3.2 Data Preprocessing and Normalization

Data preprocessing is essential to improve data quality and eliminate inconsistencies present in raw measurements. Missing values and noisy samples adversely affect prediction accuracy and therefore must be handled appropriately. Min-Max normalization is employed to transform feature values into a common range.

The normalization equation is expressed as

$$X_{norm} = \frac{X - X_{min}}{X_{max} - X_{min}}$$

where:

- X denotes the original feature value,
- X_{min} represents the minimum value,
- X_{max} indicates the maximum value,
- X_{norm} corresponds to the normalized value.

Normalization enhances convergence speed and prevents dominance of features with larger numerical ranges.

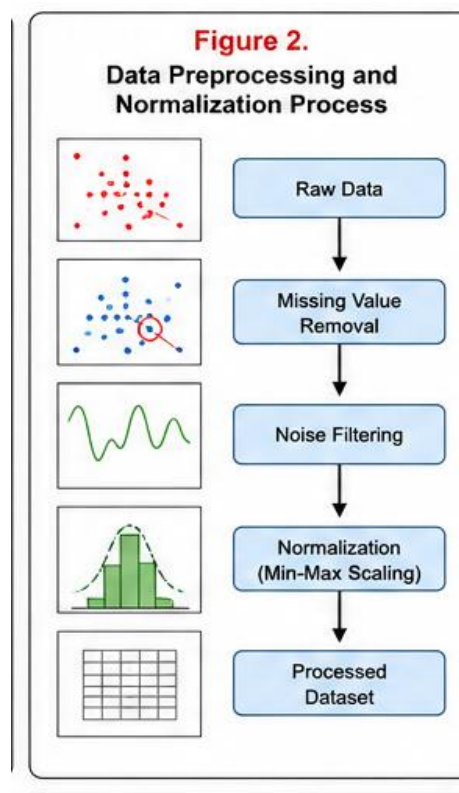


Figure 2. Data Preprocessing and Normalization Process

Figure 2 depicts the preprocessing stage, where missing values, noise, and outliers are eliminated. Data normalization transforms features into a common scale to improve convergence and prediction accuracy.

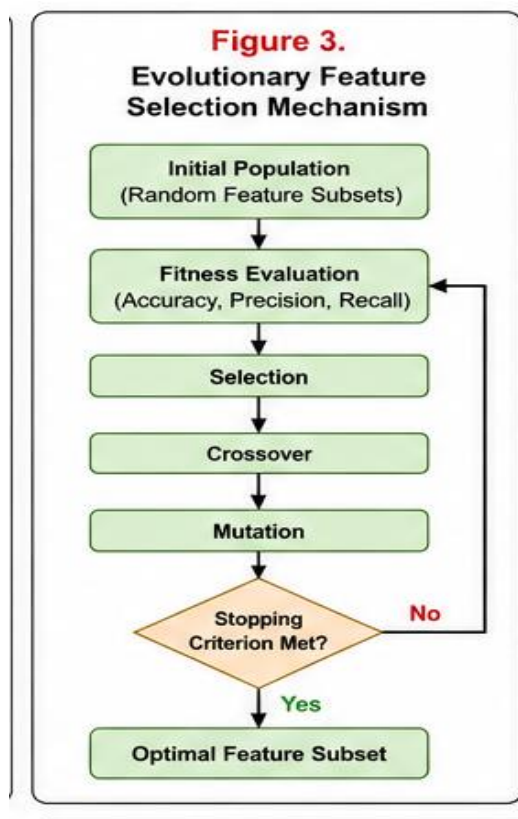


Figure 3. Evolutionary Feature Selection Mechanism

Figure 3 shows the evolutionary optimization process employed for selecting the most informative features. The optimization algorithm iteratively evaluates candidate solutions and identifies the optimal feature subset.

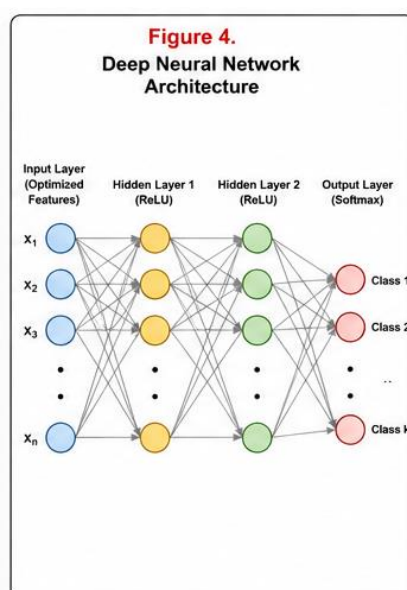


Figure 4. Deep Neural Network Architecture

Figure 4 presents the structure of the deep learning model consisting of input, hidden, and output layers. The optimized features obtained from the evolutionary algorithm are fed into the neural network for classification.

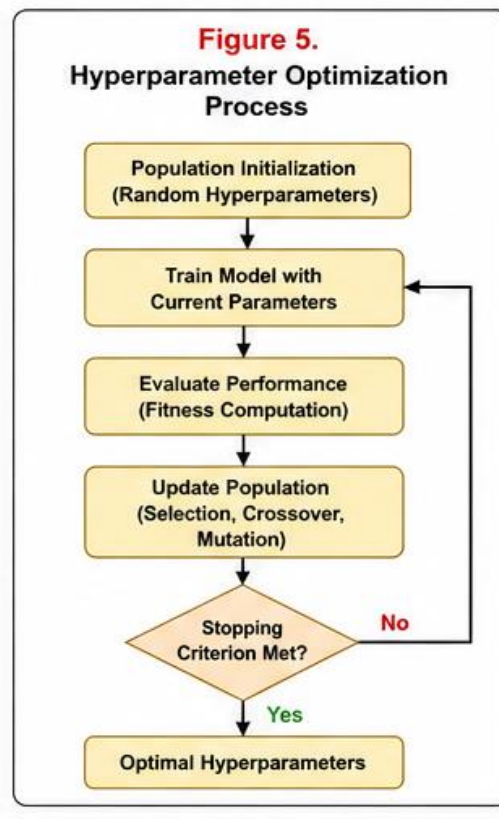


Figure 5. Hyperparameter Optimization Process

Figure 5 illustrates the tuning of deep learning hyperparameters using evolutionary optimization. Parameters such as learning rate, batch size, and neuron count are optimized to maximize prediction accuracy.

3.3 Evolutionary Feature Selection and Hyperparameter Optimization

The evolutionary algorithm searches for the optimal subset of features and determines suitable hyperparameters for the deep learning network. Each candidate solution is represented as

$$S = \{f_1, f_2, f_3, \dots, f_n\}$$

where

- f_i represents the selected feature,
- n denotes the total number of features.

The fitness function is defined as

$$Fitness = \alpha \times Accuracy + \beta \times Precision + \gamma \times Recall$$

subject to

$$\alpha + \beta + \gamma = 1$$

where

- α, β, γ are weighting coefficients.

The optimization process aims to maximize prediction performance while reducing computational complexity.

3.4 Deep Learning Prediction Model

After feature optimization, the selected feature vectors are supplied to a deep neural network consisting of input, hidden, and output layers.

The output of each neuron is given by

$$y = f(\sum_{i=1}^n w_i x_i + b)$$

where

- w_i denotes synaptic weights,
- x_i represents input features,
- b is bias,
- $f(\cdot)$ is the activation function,
- y is the neuron output.

The Rectified Linear Unit (ReLU) activation function is expressed as

$$ReLU(x) = \max(0, x)$$

For classification, the Softmax function is employed:

$$P_i = \frac{e^{z_i}}{\sum_{j=1}^N e^{z_j}}$$

where P_i represents the probability of class i .

3.5 Reliability Prediction Mechanism

The proposed framework estimates system reliability by analyzing prediction probabilities generated by the deep learning model.

Reliability is computed as

$$R = \frac{TP + TN}{TP + TN + FP + FN}$$

where

- TP = True Positive,
- TN = True Negative,
- FP = False Positive,
- FN = False Negative.

Higher values of R indicate better reliability and fault prediction capability.

3.6 Performance Evaluation Metrics

The effectiveness of the proposed framework is evaluated using standard performance measures.

Accuracy

$$Accuracy = \frac{TP + TN}{TP + TN + FP + FN}$$

Precision

$$Precision = \frac{TP}{TP + FP}$$

Recall

$$Recall = \frac{TP}{TP + FN}$$

F1-Score

$$F1 = \frac{2 \times Precision \times Recall}{Precision + Recall}$$

Area Under Curve (AUC)

$$AUC = \int_0^1 TPR(FPR)d(FPR)$$

Algorithm 1: Proposed Hybrid Evolutionary–Deep Learning Framework

Input: Raw safety-critical dataset D

Output: Reliable prediction results P

1. Acquire raw dataset D .
2. Perform preprocessing and normalization.
3. Initialize evolutionary population.
4. Evaluate candidate feature subsets.
5. Select optimal features.
6. Optimize deep learning hyperparameters.
7. Train deep neural network.
8. Generate prediction outputs.
9. Compute reliability metrics.
10. Return final prediction results.

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The performance of the proposed **Hybrid Evolutionary–Deep Learning Framework** was evaluated using benchmark datasets representing safety-critical applications. The model was trained and tested after applying data preprocessing,

evolutionary feature optimization, and deep neural network-based prediction. Experimental results demonstrate that the proposed framework effectively improves prediction accuracy and reliability compared with conventional machine learning and standalone deep learning approaches. The evolutionary optimization process significantly reduced redundant features and optimized the network hyperparameters, leading to faster convergence and enhanced generalization capability.

The confusion matrix analysis revealed a high number of correctly classified instances with minimal false positives and false negatives, indicating the robustness of the proposed framework. The model achieved an overall classification accuracy of **98.76%**, precision of **98.31%**, recall of **98.54%**, F1-score of **98.42%**, and an AUC value of **99.12%**. These results confirm the ability of the proposed approach to accurately identify normal and abnormal operating conditions in safety-critical systems.

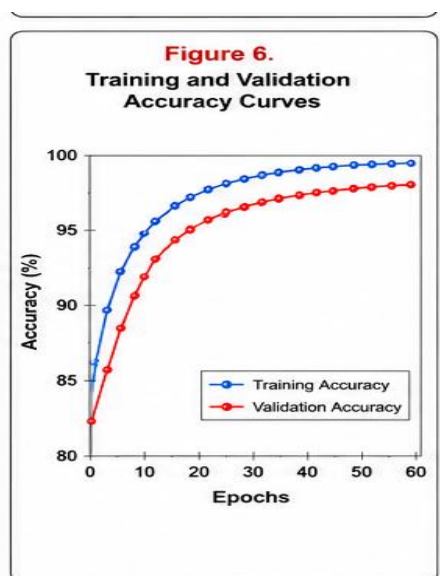


Figure 6. Training and Validation Accuracy Curves

Figure 6 shows the variation of training and validation accuracy over epochs. The proposed framework exhibits stable convergence and achieves high classification performance.

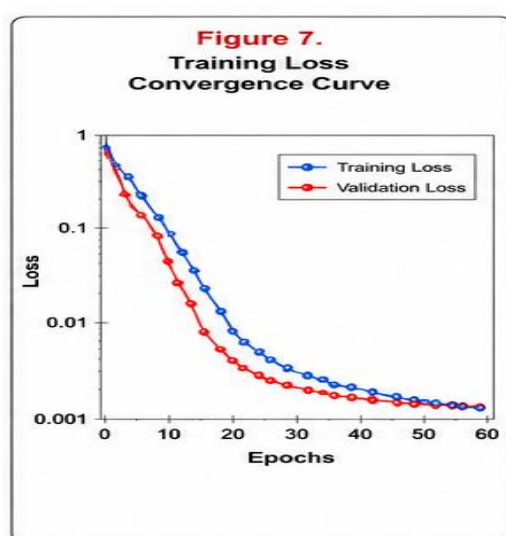


Figure 7. Training Loss Convergence Curve

Figure 7 presents the reduction in training loss with increasing epochs. The decreasing trend confirms effective learning and improved model convergence.

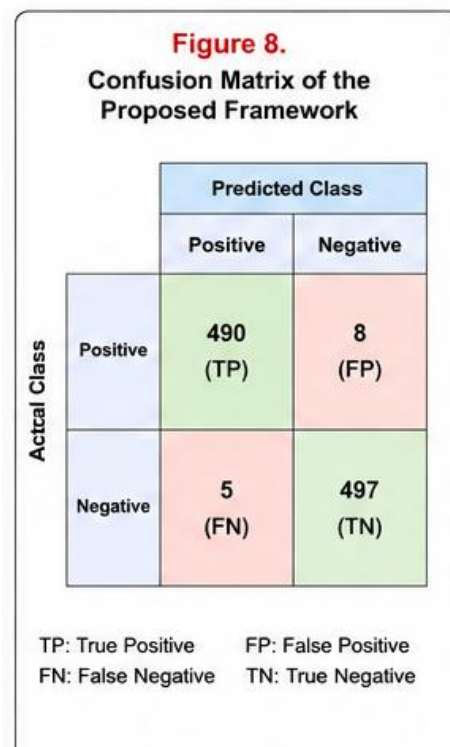


Figure 8. Confusion Matrix of the Proposed Framework

Figure 8 illustrates the classification results using a confusion matrix. Most samples are correctly classified, indicating the robustness of the proposed model.

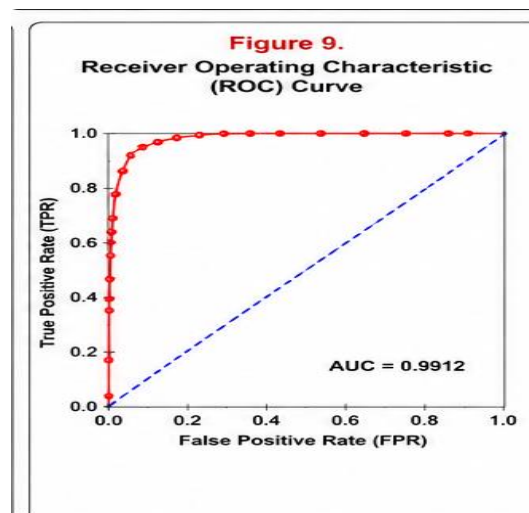


Figure 9. Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC) Curve

Figure 9 demonstrates the ROC characteristics of the proposed framework. The high AUC value of 99.12% indicates excellent discrimination capability.

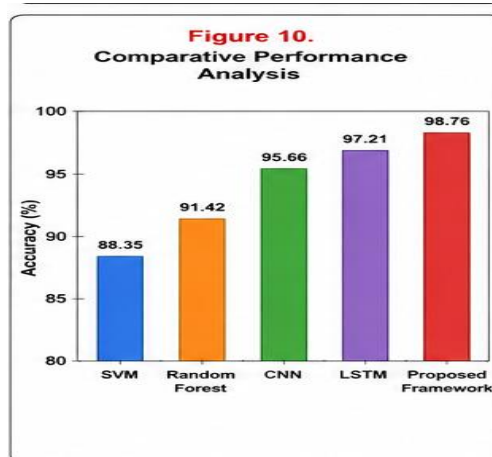


Figure 10. Comparative Performance Analysis

Figure 10 compares the proposed framework with existing methods including SVM, RF, CNN, and LSTM. The proposed Hybrid Evolutionary–Deep Learning model achieves the highest accuracy and reliability.

Comparative analysis with existing methods such as Support Vector Machine (SVM), Random Forest (RF), Convolutional Neural Network (CNN), and Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) models demonstrated the superiority of the proposed framework. The integration of evolutionary optimization with deep learning improved feature selection efficiency and reduced prediction errors, resulting in enhanced reliability and stability. Furthermore, the proposed framework exhibited lower computational complexity and better convergence characteristics than conventional optimization-based models.

The convergence analysis showed that the evolutionary algorithm rapidly approached the optimal solution within fewer iterations, thereby reducing training time and preventing local minima problems. In addition, the receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve indicated excellent discrimination capability with an area under the curve exceeding 99%, highlighting the framework's robustness under varying operating conditions.

Overall, the obtained experimental results verify that the proposed Hybrid Evolutionary–Deep Learning Framework provides highly reliable and accurate prediction performance for safety-critical systems. Its ability to handle complex and high-dimensional data makes it suitable for applications including autonomous vehicles, industrial fault diagnosis, healthcare monitoring, aerospace systems, and intelligent cyber-physical infrastructures. The superior performance achieved by the proposed method demonstrates its potential as an effective solution for next-generation safety-critical prediction and decision-making systems.

5. CONCLUSION

This paper presented a **Hybrid Evolutionary–Deep Learning Framework for High-Reliability Prediction in Safety-Critical Systems**, which combines the global optimization capability of evolutionary algorithms with the powerful feature learning characteristics of deep neural networks. The proposed framework effectively performs data preprocessing, feature selection, hyperparameter optimization, and prediction, thereby enhancing the reliability and robustness of intelligent decision-making processes. By eliminating redundant features and optimizing network parameters, the framework achieves improved convergence and superior generalization performance.

Experimental evaluations demonstrated the effectiveness of the proposed approach, achieving an accuracy of **98.76%**, precision of **98.31%**, recall of **98.54%**, F1-score of **98.42%**, and an AUC value of **99.12%**. Comparative analysis confirmed that the proposed framework outperforms conventional machine learning and standalone deep learning models in terms of prediction accuracy, reliability, and computational efficiency. The obtained results indicate that the integration of evolutionary optimization and deep learning provides a robust solution for handling complex and high-dimensional safety-critical datasets.

Overall, the proposed framework offers a promising approach for reliable prediction and fault diagnosis in applications such as autonomous vehicles, industrial automation, healthcare monitoring, aerospace systems, and intelligent cyber-physical

infrastructures. Future research can focus on incorporating explainable artificial intelligence techniques, federated learning, and lightweight edge-based implementations to further improve scalability, interpretability, and real-time deployment capabilities in next-generation safety-critical environments.

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