



ADVANCES IN LEARNING ANALYTICS FOR INTELLIGENT CLOUD-IOT SYSTEMS

AI-BASED ADVANCED OPTIMIZATION TECHNIQUES FOR EDGE COMPUTING

EDITED BY
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AI-Based Advanced Optimization Techniques for Edge Computing

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Machine Learning in Biomedical Science and Healthcare Informatics

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In this series, an attempt has been made to capture the scope of various applications of machine learning in the biomedical engineering and healthcare fields, with a special emphasis on the most representative machine learning techniques, namely deep learning-based approaches. Machine learning tasks are typically classified into two broad categories depending on whether there is a learning 'label' or 'feedback' available to a learning system: supervised learning and unsupervised learning. This series also introduces various types of machine learning tasks in the biomedical engineering field from classification (supervised learning) to clustering (unsupervised learning). The objective of the series is to compile all aspects of biomedical science and healthcare informatics, from fundamental principles to current advanced concepts.

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Contents

Preface	xv
Acknowledgement	xvii
1 Navigating Next-Generation Network Architecture: Unleashing the Power of SDN, NFV, NS, and AI Convergence	1
<i>Monika Dubey, Snehlata, Ashutosh Kumar Singh, Richa Mishra and Mohit Kumar</i>	
1.1 Introduction	2
1.2 Revolutionizing Infrastructure with SDN, NFV, and NS	4
1.2.1 SDN: Definition and Architecture	6
1.2.2 NFV: Definition and Architecture	9
1.2.3 NS: Conceptual Abstractions	11
1.3 Realizing NS Potential with SDN and NFV	13
1.4 Artificial Intelligence: Pivotal Role in Networking Transformation	15
1.4.1 Supervised Learning	16
1.4.2 Unsupervised Learning	18
1.4.3 Reinforcement Learning	18
1.4.4 Deep Learning	21
1.5 Navigating Challenges and Solutions	23
1.5.1 Performance Issues in Network Structure	23
1.5.2 Management and Orchestration Issues	24
1.5.3 Security and Privacy	24
1.5.4 New Business Models	25
1.6 Conclusion	26
Disclosure Statement	26
References	26

2	OctoEdge: An Octopus-Inspired Adaptive Edge Computing Architecture	35
	<i>Sashi Tarun</i>	
2.1	Introduction	36
2.1.1	Edge Computing as Resource Manager	36
2.1.2	Edge Computing Hurdles	37
2.1.3	Edge Computing and the Need for Adaptability	38
2.2	Problem Statement	39
2.3	Motivations	40
2.4	Related Work	41
2.5	OctoEdge Proposed Architecture	45
2.5.1	OctoEdge Working Principles	48
2.5.2	Benefits of OctoEdge	49
2.6	OctoEdge Architecture Functional Components	53
2.7	Results and Discussion	59
2.8	OctoEdge Architecture: Scope and Scientific Merits	60
2.9	Use Cases and Applications	64
2.10	Challenges and Future Directions	68
2.11	Conclusion	68
	References	69
3	Development of Optimized Machine Learning Oriented Models	71
	<i>Ratnesh Kumar Dubey, Dilip Kumar Choubey and Shubha Mishra</i>	
3.1	Introduction	72
3.1.1	NSL-KDD Dataset	75
3.2	Literature Review	76
3.3	Problem Definition	78
3.4	Proposed Work	80
3.4.1	Machine Learning	82
3.5	Experimental Analysis	86
3.6	Conclusion	90
3.7	Future Scope	91
	References	91
4	Leveraging Multimodal Data and Deep Learning for Enhanced Stock Market Prediction	93
	<i>Pinky Gangwani and Vikas Panthi</i>	
4.1	Introduction	94
4.1.1	Motivation and Contribution	96
4.1.2	Rationale for Selecting the Methods	98

4.2	Literature Review	100
4.3	Proposed Design of an Efficient Model that Leverages Multimodal Data and Deep Learning for Enhanced Stock Market Prediction	107
4.3.1	Discussion on Selection Criteria	114
4.4	Statistical Analysis and Comparison	116
4.5	Acknowledging Limitations and Potential Challenges	122
4.6	Mitigation Strategies and Future Directions	123
4.7	Conclusion	124
4.8	Future Scope	125
	References	125
5	Context Dependent Sentiments Analysis Using Machine Learning	129
	<i>Mahima Shanker Pandey, Bihari Nandan Pandey, Abhishek Singh, Ashish Kumar Mishra and Brijesh Pandey</i>	
5.1	Introduction	130
5.1.1	Motivation	131
5.2	Literature Review	131
5.2.1	Text Sentiment	132
5.2.2	Audio Sentiment	132
5.2.3	Video Sentiment	133
5.3	Methodology	135
5.3.1	System Architecture	135
5.4	Proposed Model	137
5.4.1	Proposed Algorithm	137
5.4.2	Data Set Sources	138
5.4.3	Text Sentiment	140
5.4.4	Audio Sentiment	141
5.4.5	Video Sentiment	142
5.5	Implementations and Results	142
5.5.1	Results	142
5.5.2	Text Sentiment	143
5.5.3	Audio Sentiment	144
5.5.4	Video Sentiment	146
5.5.5	Applications	149
5.6	Conclusion	149
	References	150

6	Thyroid Cancer Prediction Using Optimizations	153
	<i>Swati Sharma, Vijay Kumar Sharma, Punit Mittal, Pradeep Pant and Nitin Rakesh</i>	
6.1	Introduction	154
6.2	Background and Related Work	155
6.3	Proposed Methodology	160
6.4	Architecture	165
6.5	Materials and Methods	169
6.6	Results and Discussion	171
6.7	Conclusion	175
	References	177
7	An LSTM-Oriented Approach for Next Word Prediction Using Deep Learning	181
	<i>Nidhi Shukla, Ashutosh Kumar Singh, Vijay Kumar Dwivedi, Pallavi Shukla, Jeetesh Srivastava and Vivek Srivastava</i>	
7.1	Introduction	182
7.2	Related Work	184
7.3	Design and Implementation	186
	7.3.1 Background	186
	7.3.1.1 LSTM	187
	7.3.1.2 Bi-LSTM	189
7.4	Proposed Model Architecture	190
	7.4.1 Experimental Setup	192
	7.4.2 Dataset Specification	192
7.5	Results and Discussions	193
7.6	Conclusion	198
	References	199
8	Churn Prediction in Social Networks Using Modified BiLSTM-CNN Model	203
	<i>Himanshu Rai and Jyoti Kesarwani</i>	
8.1	Introduction	204
8.2	Customer Behavior in Social Networks	209
8.3	Proposed Methodology	218
	8.3.1 Churn Dataset Acquisition	218
	8.3.2 Data Preprocessing	220
	8.3.3 Proposed Model	220
8.4	Result	221
8.5	Conclusion	225
	References	226

9 Fog Computing Security Concerns in Healthcare Using IoT and Blockchain	231
<i>Ruchi Mittal, Shikha Gupta and Shefali Arora</i>	
9.1 Introduction	232
9.1.1 Types of Security Concerns in Healthcare	236
9.2 Related Work	239
9.3 Open Questions and Research Challenges	241
9.4 Problem Definition	242
9.5 Objectives	242
9.6 Research Methodology	243
9.6.1 The Three-Tier Blockchain Design	243
9.6.1.1 Model Design	243
9.6.2 System Architecture	243
9.6.3 Workflow in Different Scenarios	245
9.7 Conclusion and Future Work	249
References	249
10 Smart Agriculture Revolution: Cloud and IoT-Based Solutions for Sustainable Crop Management and Precision Farming	253
<i>Shrawan Kumar Sharma</i>	
10.1 Introduction	255
10.1.1 IoT in Agriculture	257
10.1.2 Cloud Computing in Agriculture	259
10.1.3 Precision Farming	263
10.1.4 Sustainable Agricultural and Remote Sensing	265
10.2 Data Analytics and Decision Support	267
10.2.1 Remote Monitoring	269
10.3 Challenges and Solutions Smart Agriculture	270
10.3.1 (AI) Approach in Agriculture and Needs	270
10.3.2 Needs of AI Farm	273
10.3.3 Role of AI in Agriculture	274
10.4 AI for Soybean (<i>Glycine max</i>) Crop	275
10.4.1 Soybean Disease Image Acquisition and Pretreatment	276
10.5 Result Discussion	281
10.5.1 Emerging Trends and Technologies in Smart Agriculture	281
10.6 Conclusion	283
References	285

11 Greedy Particle Swarm Optimization Approach Using Leaky ReLU Function for Minimum Spanning Tree Problem	289
<i>Ashish Kumar Singh and Anoj Kumar</i>	
11.1 Introduction	290
11.1.1 Goal	291
11.1.2 Research Contribution are Below Listed	292
11.2 Background	292
11.2.1 Minimum Spanning Tree	294
11.2.2 Particle Swarm Optimization	296
11.2.3 Firefly Algorithm	297
11.2.4 Leaky ReLU Activation Function	298
11.3 Population-Based Proposed Optimization Approach	298
11.3.1 Motivation	299
11.3.2 Greedy Particle Swarm Optimization Using Leaky ReLU (LR-GPSO)	300
11.3.2.1 Initialization of Parameters	302
11.3.2.2 Population Initialization	303
11.3.2.3 Input	303
11.3.2.4 Evaluation	304
11.3.2.5 Updating Position of Members of Swarm	304
11.3.2.6 Role of Leaky ReLU Function	304
11.3.2.7 Mutation Effect	305
11.3.2.8 Selection of Edges	306
11.3.2.9 Output	306
11.4 Experimental Setup and Result Analysis of Proposed Work (LR-GPSO)	307
11.4.1 Complexity	307
11.4.2 Simulation Experiments	308
11.4.2.1 Result for Vertices (V=20)	308
11.4.2.2 Result for Vertices (V=40)	308
11.4.2.3 Result for Vertices (V=60)	310
11.4.2.4 Result for Vertices (V=80)	310
11.4.3 Convergence Curve	311
11.5 Conclusion and Future Work	313
References	314
12 SDN Deployed Secure Application Design Framework for IoT Using Game Theory	317
<i>Madhukrishna Priyadarsini and Padmalochan Bera</i>	
12.1 Introduction	318
12.1.1 IoT Overview	318

12.1.2	SDN Overview	319
12.1.3	Game Theory Overview	321
12.2	Background Study	322
12.2.1	IoT Security Using SDN	322
12.2.2	IoT Security Using Game Theory	323
12.3	SDN-Deployed Design Framework for IoT Using Game-Theoretic Solutions	324
12.3.1	Trust Verification	324
12.4	Case Study: SDN Deployed Design Framework in Robot Manufacturing Industry	334
12.4.1	Working Procedure of a Robot Manufacturing Industry	334
12.4.2	Integration of SDN-Deployed Design Framework in Robot Manufacturing Industry	335
12.4.3	Experimental Results	336
12.5	Discussion	338
12.6	Conclusion	339
	References	339
13	Framework for PLM in Industry 4.0 Based on Industrial Blockchain	341
	<i>Ali Zaheer Agha, Rajesh Kumar Shukla, Ratnesh Mishra and Ravi Shankar Shukla</i>	
13.1	Introduction	342
13.1.1	What is Blockchain?	343
13.1.2	Blockchain Technology's Integration with Industry 4.0	343
13.1.3	Blockchain Applications in Industry 4.0	343
13.1.3.1	Protection of Manufacturing Data	344
13.1.3.2	Resolution of Quality Issues	344
13.1.3.3	Supply Chain Development	344
13.1.4	A Consensus Algorithm	344
13.1.5	Product Lifecycle Management	345
13.1.6	Benefits of Smart Contracts in Addressing PLM Challenges	347
13.2	Related Work	348
13.2.1	Product Lifecycle Management	349
13.2.2	Industrial Blockchain	351
13.2.3	The On-Chain vs. Off-Chain Principle	353
13.3	The Recommended Architecture's Methodology	354
13.3.1	The Suggested Platform's Architecture	354

13.3.2	The Suggested Platform's Technological Solution	358
13.4	Key Services That are Suggested	360
13.4.1	A Co-Creation Service Enabled by Blockchain	360
13.4.2	Blockchain-Enabled QAT2 Service	363
13.4.3	Proactive Upkeep Service Facilitated by Blockchain	364
13.4.4	Smart Recycling Program Driven by Blockchain	365
13.5	Modelling and Assessment	366
13.5.1	Overview of the Investigation	366
13.5.2	Experimental Evaluation and Comparison	368
13.5.3	Discussion	372
13.6	Conclusion and Future Work	373
	A Statement of Competing Interests	374
	References	375
14	Machine Learning Enabled Smart Agriculture Classification Technique for Edge Devices Using Remote Sensing Platform	381
	<i>Priyanka Gupta, Suraj Kumar Singh, Neetish Kumar and Bhavna Thakur</i>	
	List of Abbreviations	382
14.1	Introduction	382
14.2	Related Works	384
14.3	Methods and Dataset	386
14.3.1	Research Area and Dataset	386
14.3.2	Pre-Processing and Image Dataset	387
14.3.3	Classifiers	390
14.3.3.1	Naïve Bayes Classifier	390
14.3.3.2	Minimum Distance Classifier	390
14.4	Proposed Algorithm	391
14.5	Results and Discussions	392
14.5.1	Classified Crop Map	394
14.6	Conclusion	395
	References	396
15	A Lightweight Intelligent Detection Approach for Interest Flooding Attack	401
	<i>Naveen Kumar, Brijendra Pratap Singh and Rohit</i>	
15.1	Introduction	402
15.2	NDN Background	405
15.2.1	NDN Architecture	405
15.2.1.1	NDN Packet	405

15.2.1.2	NDN Data Structures	407
15.2.1.3	NDN Forwarding	407
15.2.2	NDN Security	408
15.2.2.1	IFA	408
15.2.2.2	IFA Type	408
15.3	Related Work	409
15.4	IFA Feature Selection and Detection	411
15.4.1	IFA Modelling	412
15.4.2	Data Collection	413
15.4.3	Balancing the Dataset	414
15.4.4	Feature Selection	415
15.4.4.1	Filter Methods	415
15.4.4.2	Wrapper Methods	419
15.4.5	Dimensionality Reduction	421
15.4.6	Classification	424
15.5	Conclusion	428
	References	429
16	An Internet of Vehicles Model Architecture with Seven Layers	433
	<i>Sujata Negi Thakur, Manisha Koranga, Sandeep Abhishek, Richa Pandey and Mayurika Joshi</i>	
16.1	Introduction	434
16.2	Literature Review	435
16.3	Proposed Architecture of Internet of Vehicles	439
16.4	Applications, Characteristics, and Challenges of the Internet of Vehicles (IoV)	451
	Conclusion	455
	References	455
Index		457

Preface

This book was written to bridge the gap between existing state-of-the-art technologies and the evolving requirements of modern industries. It provides emerging research that explores both theoretical and practical aspects of implementing new and innovative intelligent techniques across a variety of sectors, including Edge Computing, Cloud Computing, the Internet of Things, Agriculture, and Artificial Intelligence. This book serves as a valuable resource for academics, IT specialists, industry professionals, researchers, engineers, and authors seeking insights into emerging trends in AI-enabled Cloud and Edge Computing for IoT applications. It aims to explore the intricate relationship between AI and Edge/Cloud computing, delving into their synergies, applications, and future implications.

This book comprises 16 chapters, each covering intertwining concepts at two key levels of interest to the scientific community: Artificial Intelligence and Edge/Cloud Computing.

Chapter One explores navigating next-generation network architecture, unleashing the power of SDN, NFV, NS, and AI convergence. Chapter Two examines OctoEdge, an octopus-inspired adaptive edge computing architecture. Chapter Three discusses the development of optimized machine learning-oriented models.

Chapter Four focuses on leveraging multimodal data and deep learning for enhanced stock market prediction. Chapter Five delves into context-dependent sentiment analysis using machine learning. Chapter Six investigates enhancing thyroid cancer prediction by applying machine learning algorithms to clinical data.

Chapter Seven presents an LSTM-oriented approach for next-word prediction using deep learning. Chapter Eight analyzes churn prediction in social networks using a modified BiLSTM-CNN model. Chapter Nine addresses security concerns in healthcare fog computing using IoT and blockchain.

Chapter Ten highlights the smart agriculture revolution with cloud and IoT-based solutions for sustainable crop management and precision

farming. Chapter Eleven explores a greedy particle swarm optimization approach using the Lecky ReLU function for solving minimum spanning tree problems.

Chapter Twelve introduces an SDN-deployed secure application design framework for IoT using game theory. Chapter Thirteen presents a framework for PLM in Industry 4.0 based on industrial blockchain.

Chapter Fourteen discusses a machine learning-enabled smart agriculture classification technique for edge devices using a remote sensing platform. Chapter Fifteen examines a lightweight intelligent detection approach for interest flooding attacks. Chapter Sixteen describes an Internet of Vehicles model architecture with seven layers.

This book may serve as a reference for a graduate course in Artificial Intelligence and Cloud Computing. Readers are expected to be well-versed in the basic concepts of Machine Learning, Distributed Computing, and the Internet of Things. The theoretical concepts presented will be valuable for coursework.

Writing this book has been a rewarding experience, made possible by the tremendous efforts of a dedicated team. We extend our gratitude to the authors who contributed their respective chapters, as well as to the editors who offered valuable suggestions for improving content delivery. Every piece of feedback was carefully considered, and it has undoubtedly shaped parts of the work. We are especially grateful to Martin Scrivener and Scrivener Publishing for their help and publication. Finally, we thank our families for their unwavering support—without them, this book would not have been possible.

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Navigating Next-Generation Network Architecture: Unleashing the Power of SDN, NFV, NS, and AI Convergence

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Abstract

The framework for existing legacy network architecture is massive and complex. It mainly relies on inflexible and expensive equipment, typically constructed from a massive number of switches, routers, firewalls, and hubs. Moreover, this vendor-specific network configuration and complex control protocols are not flexible enough to offer customized quality of services (QoS). Provisioning of next-gen (Next Generation, 5G, and beyond) technologies, software-defined networking (SDN), network function virtualization (NFV), and network slicing (NS) work as catalysts to offer simplified, customized, and clever networking. To provide centralized positioning, SDN decouples the control plane (CP) and data plane (DP) from the traditional router. In the SDN architecture, decision making and network control are now done at a centralized place known as the controller. However, DP is still intact with the routing device. This arrangement privileges the network administrators to control, manage, and alter network behavior dynamically. To contrast the vender-specific networking, NFV allows network functions (NFs) to run on generic hardware. In this direction, NS pioneers QoS-specific use cases as a new business model. NS involves the slicing of a single physical network in the form of multiple slices. It not only supports the customization of QoS

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services for diverse use cases, but it also improves isolation, independence, multi-tenancy, dynamic resource allocation, and end-to-end service provisioning. In this chapter, we first delved into NexGen's promising technologies and explored their intertwined role and impact on the modern networking framework. We accessed various SDN and NFV architectures and discussed network-slicing framework. Secondly, we have shed light on the importance of AI-driven automated network management over traditional network approaches. In this sequence, we conducted a comparative analysis of AI-driven machine learning (ML) and deep learning (DL) approaches in the context of NextGen technologies. In this chapter, we intend to systematically and intricately navigate the multifaceted landscape of NexGen technologies. This chapter will offer researchers, industry stakeholders, and practitioners a timely and deeper understanding of transformative technology and its impact on modern network paradigms.

Keywords: Next-generation technology, SDN, NFV, QoS, NS

1.1 Introduction

The evolution of network technologies has marked pivotal advancements in the telecom sector. It spans from the radiant stage of ARPANET to modern networking. The existing legacy network architecture is based upon un-flexible and costly network equipment comprising switches, hubs, routers, and firewalls [1]. These proprietary hardware-based traditional networks grapple with the demands of modern networking. The surge of extensive data traffic, dynamic network conditions, and the need for real-time decision-makers pose challenges that traditional networks are not capable of addressing efficiently [2]. Traditional methods, such as Static Routing, Ethernet, Transmission Control Protocol (TCP), and Internet Protocol (IP), are built on manual configuration and static protocols. With the surge of diverse applications, customized QoS, high volume, and unpredicted traffic necessitate a paradigm shift. To address these limitations of the traditional approach, Next-Gen (Next Generation, 5G, and beyond) technologies, Software Defined Networking (SDN), Network Function Virtualization (NFV), and NS act as catalysts for redefining the network paradigm. SDN [3] disrupts traditional decentralized architecture by decoupling the Control Plane (CP) and Data Plane (DP) from conventional routers. This centralized control and decision-making entity is known as the controller. This architectural shift empowers the network controller to dynamically manage, control, and modify the network behavior. Concurrently, NFV [4] revolutionizes network functionality by

enabling them to run on generic hardware instead of proprietary hardware, offering cost-effectiveness, flexibility, and simplified maintenance. With the advancement of the network landscape, customize QoS-specific servers are the new business model. In this direction, NS [5] has become a revolutionary approach, involving the partitioning of a single physical network into multiple slices. It not only offers customized QoS requirements to modern applications but also enhances isolation, dynamic resource allocation, multi-tenancy, and security [6].

This book chapter also explored the NextGen promising technologies and their intertwined role and impact on modern networking. Traditional networking approaches are static and require human intervention during changes in the network. The increase in network size and the unpredictable nature of network traffic make them more time-consuming and complex. Therefore, AI emerges as a key driver for NextGen networking. It introduced the level of intelligence with its learning and capability of predictive analysis. This chapter also sheds light on how AI-driven approaches complement and enhance the functionalities of SDN, NFV, and NS.

The contributions and highlight of this book chapter are as follows:

- Initially, we present a concise overview of the evolutionary history of network technologies and the key phases that shaped the modern networking landscape.
- To explore the transformative NexGen technologies (SDN, NFV, and NS), we highlight the influence and intertwining role of NexGen technologies.
- This paper systematically highlights the importance of AI over traditional methods. In this sequence, we conducted a comparative analysis of AI-driven Machine Learning (ML) and Deep Learning (DL) approaches in the context of NextGen technologies.
- Finally, we identify challenges associated with NexGen Technologies and with the integration of these modern technologies.

In a nutshell, this chapter will offer researchers and industry stakeholders a timely and deep understanding of transformative NexGen technologies and the impact of their combination on modern technology. It also includes the contribution and comparative analysis of AI-driven algorithms in the context of NexGen technologies.

1.2 Revolutionizing Infrastructure with SDN, NFV, and NS

Due to increasing day-to-day network traffic, networking technologies have undergone a continuous evolution, and based on this, they can be categorized into several phases, such as traditional networking, Wireless Sensor Networking (WSN), client-server networking, and more. Before discussing NexGen technologies and its specifications, it is crucial to examine the evolutionary changes of networking technologies and the key developments that have been influenced by traditional networking. Concise overview is given as follows:

A. ARPANET and Early Networking:

- **ARPANET:** The Advanced Research Projects Agency Network (ARPANET) [7], established in the 1960s, conducted early experiments for linking computer systems over short distances. It laid the foundation for modern networking. However, these networks remained restricted to research institutions.
- **Packet Switching:** The development of packet switching [8], a key innovation during this era, allowed data to be broken into packets, transmitted independently, and reassembled at the intended destination.

The pioneering work and packet switching laid the fundamental groundwork for the internet.

B. Emergence of the Internet:

- **Standardization (TCP/IP):** During the 1980s, the TCP [9] and IP underwent standardization, forming the backbone of the modern Internet.
- **Commercialization:** The Internet underwent a pivotal shift from being primarily dedicated to research and academia to a commercial platform, leading to the rise of the World Wide Web (WWW). It establishes the fundamental framework for the contemporary Internet.

C. Emergence of Client-Server Architecture and LANs:

- **Client-Server Model:** In 1980s, the paradigm of computing is shifting from centralized mainframes to distributed systems with the client-server model [10].
- **The rise of Local Area Networks (LANs):** The internet and other LAN technologies emerged, allowing computers to share resources within confined spaces.

D. Wireless Networking and Mobility:

- **Wi-Fi Standardization:** In the 2000s, the standardization of wireless technologies, particularly Wi-Fi adoption [11], empowered enhanced mobility and flexibility in network access.
- **Expansion of Mobile Networks:** The surge in mobile device usage during this era empowered enhanced mobility and flexibility in network access [12].

E. Cloud Computing and Virtualization:

- **Evolution of Cloud Services:** The 2010s witnessed a transformative shift with the advent of cloud computing [13], fundamentally changing the way data and applications are stored and accessed.
- **Rise of Virtualization:** The decade also saw the emergence of NFV and SDN [14], contributing to enhanced flexibility and efficiency in the management of network resources.

In the beginning, traditional enterprise networks followed conventional decentralized designs and scattered collections of purpose-built routers, switches, and middle-boxes supplied by various hardware vendors [15]. Each device uses embedded proprietary hardware and logic to make forwarding decisions, filter traffic, or transform flows. This distributed CP closely relates key networking functions to the restrictions of the underlying boxes in terms of capability and flexibility. The conventional decentralized networking architecture imposed significant barriers to change in network arrangements. Every configuration change or new policy meant navigating vendor-specific command-line interfaces to manually reprogram

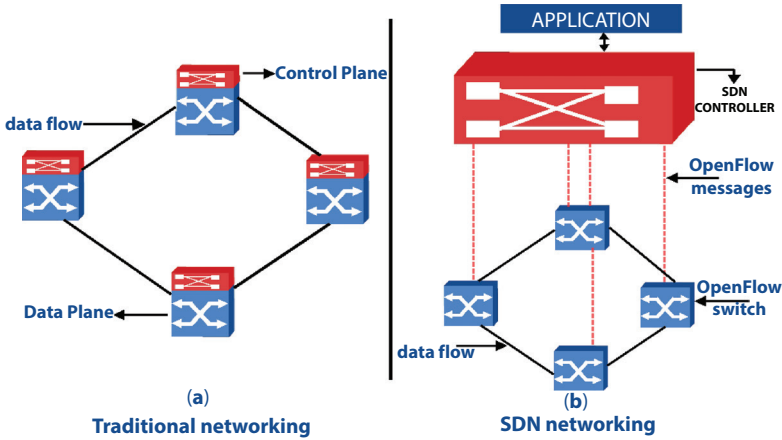


Figure 1.1 (a) Decentralized traditional architecture. (b) Centralized SDN architecture.

individual pieces of equipment. To deal with the huge dynamic traffic, this fragmented model is not appropriate due to the rigidities of closed hardware systems. The massive burden of managing numerous devices running complex embedded protocols eventually became unsustainable. To address the longstanding limitations of traditional network architectures, the SDN paradigm emerged to unlock network flexibility and fundamentally introduce centralized network control [16]. The architectural differences between traditional decentralized architecture and centralized architecture are presented in Figure 1.1(a) and 1(b) respectively.

1.2.1 SDN: Definition and Architecture

SDN architecture [17] is the paramount approach for centralized network control. It is structured to decouple the control plane from the data plane and provides automation and centralized control by delegating specialized functions to each level via programmatic APIs. The centralized control unit, known as the controller, is responsible for network design, decision-making, and network management. The SDN architecture typically comprises three main components:

- **Application Layer:** The topmost layer of SDN consists of software programs that communicate business-related policy and network behavior. This layer interacts with the SDN controller to communicate policies, requirements, or

network changes. Common SDN applications include load balancing, traffic monitoring, and security applications.

- **Control Layer:** This intermediary layer, known as the SDN controller, is the brain of the SDN architecture. The controller communicates with network devices in the infrastructure layer via southbound and SDN applications via northbound APIs at the application layer.
- **Infrastructure Layer:** The bottom layer is the infrastructure layer, which consists of the physical and virtual network devices those forward data packets. In contrast to traditional networking by separating the CP, the intelligence for decision-making is moved from individual devices to the centralized controller.

The architecture presented in Figure 1.2 outlines the fundamentals of SDN. However, SDN provides incredible versatility to adapt its core principles into diverse architectural designs to address specific networking needs and challenges. In the realm of single-layer architectures, centralized controller manages the entire network, whereas distributed SDN architecture’s [18] CP functions across multiple controllers to provide more scalability

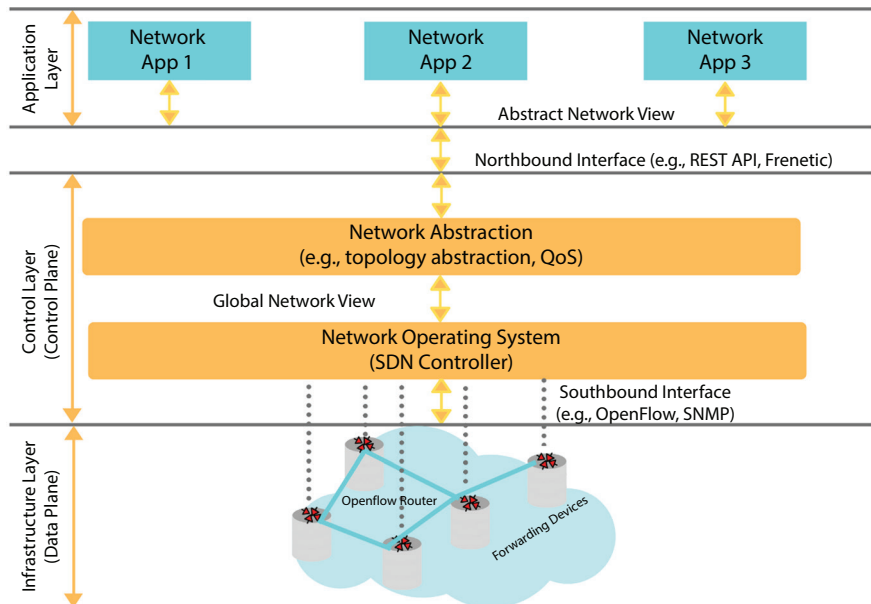


Figure 1.2 A typical architecture of SDN consists of three layers.

Table 1.1 Common SDN protocols and APIs within SDN architecture.

Aspect	SDN protocol/API	Description
Northbound APIs	Open Flow	A standard protocol between SDN controllers and network devices such as switches to define flows.
	REST APIs	Representational State Transfer (REST) APIs leverage controller communication with SDN applications for northbound interactions.
	NETCONF	It is used for northbound communication between controllers and network devices for network management.
Southbound APIs	Open Flow	Southbound protocol, communicate between SDN controllers and network switches to configure data plane behavior.
	P4 (Programming Protocol-Independent Packet Processors)	Southbound API for defining packet forwarding behaviors to define packet processing across devices.
East-West APIs	VXLAN	Facilitating east-west traffic to create virtual overlay networks across data centers.
	Geneve	Another overlay protocol for east-west communication for network virtualization across SDN environments.

in comparison with a single SDN controller. Multi-layer SDN architecture presents hierarchical SDN architecture [19] with multiple layers of controllers. It helps to enhance organization and management in large-scale networks. On the other hand, in a hybrid SDN architecture, SDN coexists with traditional networking (NON-SDN) [20] elements. It allows for seamless integration of SDN principles with traditional networking elements, allowing coexistence and transition. Overlay SDN architectures [21] are commonly prevalent in data centre environments. In this tunneling, protocols are used to create virtual networks on top of the physical infrastructure. Cloud SDN architectures [22] focus on cloud environments, emphasizing automation, agility, and the ability to adapt to the dynamic workloads characteristic of cloud computing. Intent-Based Networking (IBN) architectures [23] are mainly focused on high-level business intent for automated and simplified management of networks on the basis of desired output. Tailored for 5G networks, the 5G SDN architecture integrates SDN with NFV to meet the demands of next-generation network framework. SDN protocols play a crucial role in communication and coordination between various components of SDN. It primarily facilitates communication between components, policy dissemination, dynamic adoption, load balancing, and configuration management. Table 1.1 outlines the common SDN protocols and APIs within SDN architecture.

1.2.2 NFV: Definition and Architecture

Non-virtualized traditional networks run on dedicated proprietary hardware. Unlike them, NFV supports the sharing of infrastructure resources during NF deployments and runs as a software application on generic hardware instead of proprietary hardware. It virtualizes NFs such as firewalls, routers, and load balancers, also known as VNFs (Virtual NFs). The NFV architectural framework defined by ETSI [24] consists of three key domains:

- **Virtualized Network Functions (VNFs):** VNFs are software applications implemented on network functions to replace dedicated appliances. These software instances replicate the functionality of traditional network devices such as firewalls and load balancers.
- **NFV Infrastructure (NFVI):** This includes the infrastructure components (compute, storage, and networking; Commercial-off-the-Shelf (COTS) hardware like servers,

switches, and storage deployed in data centers); and the virtual layer on which VNFs run.

- **NFV Management and Orchestration (NFV MANO):** This includes orchestrators, VNF managers, and it supports the framework for orchestration and management of the life-cycle of VNFs across the NFVI.

ETSI defines the foundational NFV architectural block presented in Figure 1.3. However, the NFV architecture exhibits diverse forms to accommodate diverse scenarios and specific operational requirements. In a centralized NFV architecture [19], management and orchestration functions are consolidated to simplify CP. However, centralized designs focused exclusively on operational efficiency can suffer from latency limitations in distributed deployments. Meanwhile, distributed NFV infrastructure [25] spreads capabilities across multiple localized data centers, catering to scenarios where low-latency communication is critical, as seen in edge computing environments. Hybrid architecture is intended to balance the tradeoffs between centralized and distributed architecture. In this architecture, common network functions get consolidated into a core virtualized infrastructure for efficiency, while other specialized functions continue at the edge for performance.

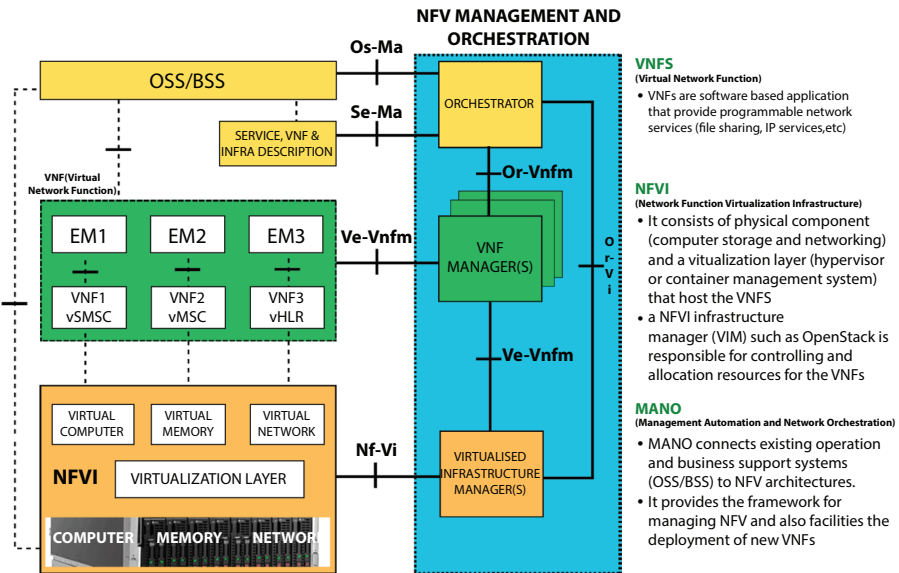


Figure 1.3 NFV layered architecture.