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# Convolutional Neural Networks for Automatic Cognitive Radio Waveform Recognition

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**ABSTRACT** Cognitive radio technology is an important branch in the field of wireless communication, and automatic identification is a major part of cognitive radio technology. Convolutional neural network (CNN) is an advanced neural network, which is the forefront of application in the digital image recognition area. In this paper, we explore CNN in an automatic system to recognize the cognitive radio waveforms. Excitedly, it is a more effective model with high ratio of successful recognition (RSR) under high power background noise. The system can identify eight kinds of signals, including binary phase shift keying (Barker codes modulation) linear frequency modulation, Costas codes, Frank code, and polytime codes (T1, T2, T3, and T4). The recognition part includes a CNN classifier. First, we determine the appropriate architecture to make CNN effective for proposed system. Specifically, we focus on how many convolutional layers are needed, what appropriate number of hidden units is, and what the best pooling strategy is. Second, we research how to obtain the image features into CNN that based on Choi-Williams time-frequency distribution. Finally, by means of the simulations, the results of classification are demonstrated. Simulation results show the overall RSR is 93.7% when the signal-to-noise ratio is  $-2$ dB.

**INDEX TERMS** Cognitive radio, radar countermeasures, waveform recognition, time-frequency distribution, convolutional neural network.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Cognitive radio is an agile way to perceive the electromagnetic spectrum, the wireless communicated environment and recognition of the waveforms etc. It is crucial to make efficient and effective operation for the future communication. Many scholars have devoted themselves in automatic recognition area, because of its important applications in cognitive radio. They have been looking for a practical and effective method to make the recognition system more intelligent and more robust. However, modern communication and radar systems usually have low instantaneous power. And some classification approaches that rely on instantaneous power are no longer applicable. A second-order cyclostationarity-based algorithm is utilized for the recognition of communication signals, such as spatial multiplexing (SM) orthogonal frequency-division multiplexing (OFDM) signals, Alamouti (AL)-coded OFDM signals and SC-FDMA signals [1], [2]. The experimental results show a good identification performance with phase noise, channel conditions etc.

Time-frequency techniques can gather the power of signals in time-frequency domain [3]. In [4] and [5], atomic decomposition (AD) is investigated in the frame of complex radar signal detection and classification, and a digital channelized receiver is presented for the interception of a wide variety of signals (LFM, PSK, FSK and continuous wave). The RSR is more than 90% at SNR of 0dB by using the short-time Fourier transform (STFT). J. Lundén introduces a supervised classification system based on features that is extracted from the intercepted pulse compression waveforms [6]. The intercepted waveforms are classified into eight classes based on Wigner time-frequency distributions (WD) and Choi-Williams time-frequency distribution (CWD). The overall correct classification rate achieves 98% at SNR of 6 dB. Ming improves the method of Lundén and achieves great results [7]. Zeng D. uses the Rihaczek distribution (RD) and Hough transform (HT) to concentrate the energy on time-frequency plane and then derives two new characteristic features [8]. The algorithm is better than the majority of algorithms just through ambiguity function. In [9], a radar waveform

recognition algorithm which is based on random projections and sparse classification (SC) is presented. The algorithm can improve the information completeness, efficiency and robustness of noise. Three kinds of waveforms (LFM, FSK and PSK) are classified and the ratio of successful recognition (RSR) is over 90% at SNR of 0dB.

In fact, convolutional neural network (CNN) has been proposed in image recognition and computer vision fields, offering improvements over classical neural network on many tasks [10], [11]. Recently, CNN has been addressed for speech recognition [12], [13], computer vision [14], handwritten recognition [15] etc. Specifically, Abdel-Hamid introduces a novel framework of model spectral correlations where convolutional weights are shared over limited frequency regions. It is a technique known as limited weight sharing (LWS) [12]. After that, he discusses how to reduce the further error rate by using CNNs [13]. Experimental results show that CNNs reduce the error rate by 6%-10% compared with deep neural networks (DNNs) on the speech recognition tasks. X. Niu and C. Suen present a hybrid model of two superior classifiers CNN and Support Vector Machine (SVM), which have proven results in recognizing different types of patterns [15]. In their model, CNN works as a trainable feature extractor and SVM performs as a recognizer. Experiments show the RSR achieves more than 99.81% without rejection.

In this paper, we explore a widely automatic cognitive radio waveform recognition system, which can identify 8 kinds of waveforms (BPSK, LFM, Costas codes, Frank code and T1-T4) by using CNN classifier. We employ CWD as a key signal processing method to improve SNR with detected signals. The detected signals will become a 2-D image about time and frequency after CWD. We process the 2-D image into a binary image by using image binarization, image opening operation etc. As is known to all, CNN is an effective classifier especially in image recognition. The excellent structure gives us a high RSR in the low SNR environments. Experimental results show that when  $\text{SNR} \geq -2\text{dB}$ , the total RSR of recognition system will be more than 93%.

Major contributions of our work can be summarized as follows: (1) Propose the recognition scheme based on CWD and CNN. (2) Explore an adaptive structure of CNN for the scheme. (3) Our recognition system can identify as many as 8 kinds of waveforms. Previous systems can seldom discuss such kinds of waveforms together, especially classification of polytime codes. (4) The system performs well without any priori information.

The paper is organized as follows. The signal model and basic algorithm about CWD are proposed in Section II. Section III describes the structure of the system. Section IV designs a suitable CNN for the cognitive radio waveform recognition system. Section V explores the procedures about how to process the detected signal, how to obtain the binary image and how to remove the image noise etc. Section VI creates the simulation data and discusses the simulation results. Finally, Section VII draws the conclusions.

## II. THEORETICAL BACKGROUND

In this section, we review recent approaches related to this paper. Artificial neural network (ANN) has developed rapidly in the last few years. And its development has greatly promoted the automation of the classification system. ANN types vary from one or two layers of single direction logic to many complicated multi-input directional feedback loops and layers [16], [17].

### A. SIGNAL MODEL

We assume the amplitude of signal has no connection with time. At the same time, the detected signal transmits in additive white Gaussian noise (AWGN) environment. And the SNR is defined as  $\text{SNR} = 10 \log_{10}(\sigma_s^2)/(\sigma_\epsilon^2)$ , where  $\sigma_s^2$  and  $\sigma_\epsilon^2$  are the variances of signal and the noise, respectively. In summary, the signal model is given by

$$x(nT) = s(nT) + m(nT) = Ae^{j\phi(nT)} + m(nT) \quad (1)$$

where,  $T$  is sampling interval,  $n$  is integer,  $x(nT)$  is the complex of detected signal,  $m(nT)$  is complex AWGN with the variance  $\sigma_\epsilon^2$ .  $s(nT)$  is complex signal, and  $A$  is amplitude. For simplicity, we assume  $A = 1$ .  $\phi$  is the instantaneous phase. However, the Hilbert transform will be applied if the detected signal  $x(nT)$  is real. For more details, see [18].

$$y(k) = x(k) + jH[x(k)] \quad (2)$$

where,  $y(k)$  is complex and  $x(k)$  is real.  $H[\cdot]$  is Hilbert transformation.

### B. Choi-Williams DISTRIBUTION (CWD)

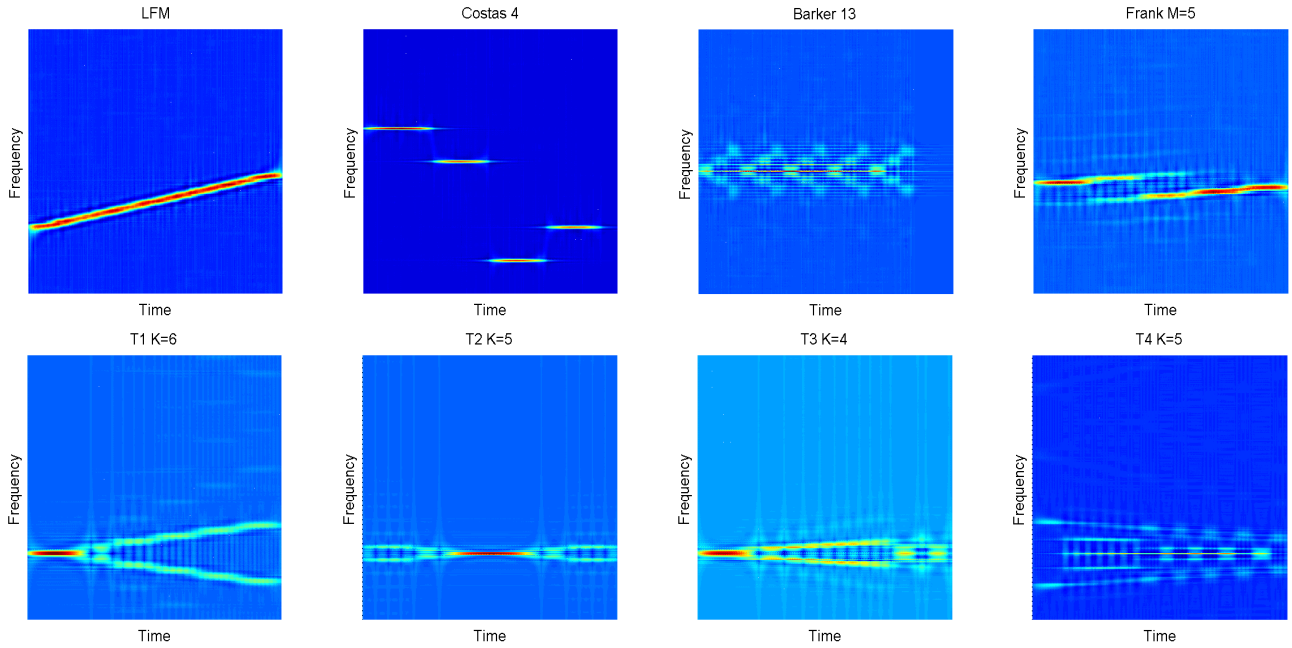
Choi-Williams distribution is a kind of time-frequency transformation which is an effective approach to prevent the cross terms [19].

$$C(\omega, t) = \iiint_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(\xi, \tau) e^{j2\pi\xi(s-t)} \cdot x(s + \tau/2)x^*(s - \tau/2) e^{-j\omega\tau} d\xi ds d\tau \quad (3)$$

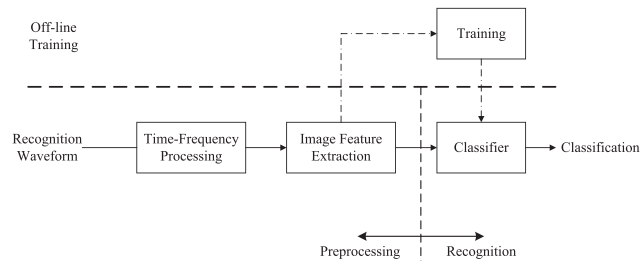
where,  $C(\omega, t)$  is the time-frequency result.  $\omega$  and  $t$  are frequency and time axes respectively.  $f(\xi, \tau)$  is the kernel function as follows

$$f(\xi, \tau) = \exp\left[-\frac{(\pi\xi\tau)^2}{2\sigma}\right]. \quad (4)$$

The kernel is a low-pass filter in two-dimensional space, which removes the cross terms interference.  $\sigma$  is controllable factor, which decides the bandwidth of the filter. Once  $\sigma$  is bigger, the cross terms follows. In this paper, we assume  $\sigma = 1$  to balance the cross terms and resolution. In Fig. 1, 8 types of CWD transformation results are presented. We have found the approach to improve the calculation speed of CWD showed in [20].  $1024 \times 1024$  points of CWD are chosen in this paper.



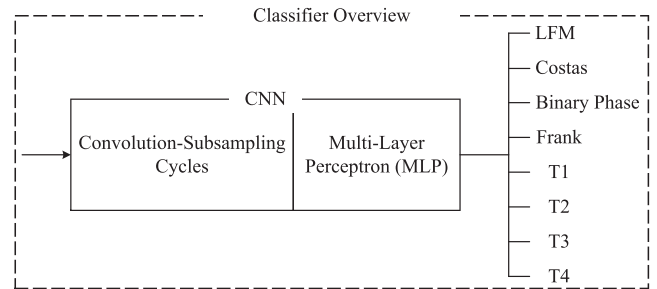
**FIGURE 1.** In this figure, different waveform classes are shown, including LFM, Costas codes, BPSK, Frank, T1, T2, T3 and T4. There are significant differences among the CWD images.



**FIGURE 2.** The figure shows the system components. The system consists of three parts, time-frequency processing, image feature extraction and classifier. In the first part, the signal is converted into 2-D image. Further, binary images are extracted in the second part for training and testing. The classifier can discriminate between 8 different categories of cognitive radio waveforms into different classes.

**III. SYSTEM OVERVIEW**

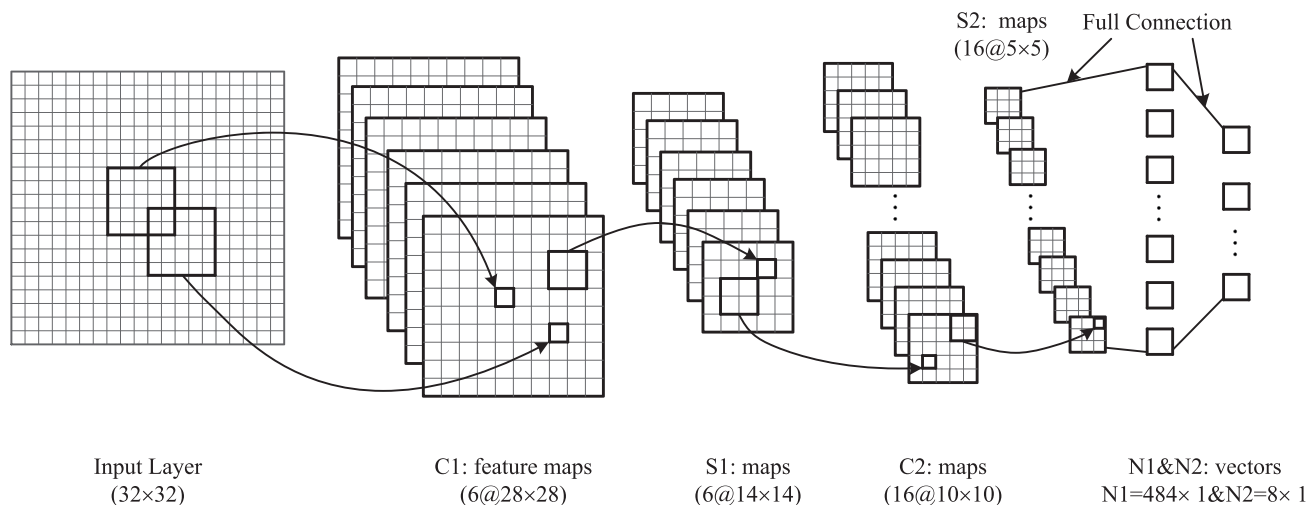
In this section, we describe the recognition scheme in details. As Fig. 2. shown, the entire identification system mainly consists of three components: time-frequency processing, image feature extraction and classifier. All waveforms go through the time-frequency processing part. In this part, signals will become a 2-D image about time and frequency by using CWD transformation. Different kinds of waveforms usually have different 2-D images. Now the 2-D images are “colorful”, because the signals in the 2-D images have different values in different time or frequency. However, we pay more attention to what the shape of signal is, rather than what the value is or where the largest value locates. At the second part, 2-D images are processed to binary images by utilizing image binarization and image denoising algorithm. Then, the differences between different kinds of waveforms are



**FIGURE 3.** There is the structure of classifier. Through the two cycles of convolution and subsampling, the input image would become a features vector for MLP. And then, the features vector is classified into one of 8 types of waveforms directly.

more significant, thus CNN can identify them easily. After the first and second part, the system collects a great deal of information about different kinds of waveforms, and all waveforms are classified in the third part.

The classifier can recognize 8 different kinds of cognitive radio waveforms. They are LFM, BPSK, Costas codes, Frank code, and T1-T4. At the output of S2, we determine the appropriate convolution kernel in S2 layer to make the convolution results of the input image into a features vector rather than a features map. N1 and N2 layers constitute a complete MLP. And the features vector acts as the input data for it, then the MLP tells us which waveform has the biggest possibility in current input. As a full connected network, MLP is considered as an output part of CNN, with robustness and short training time. The excellent structure gives us a high RSR in the low SNR environments. For more details, see Fig. 3.



**FIGURE 4.** It is the structure of CNN. It has 7 layers for different functions. The formula 6@28×28 means, there are 6 feature maps and the size of every map is 28×28.

#### IV. CNN DESIGN

CNN has special structure for feature extraction [11]. The input of CNN is a 2-D feature (image), and the classification results are expressed in the form of probability. CNN is not a full connected neural network. It is a great innovation, in which the network can focus more on the extraction of features, rather than fitting input data. As a simple example, when we focus on a picture, the picture will be converted into electrical signals by retina, and be transmitted to the visual areas of the cerebral cortex. Further, neurons are also full connected, which allows us to pay more attention to the picture, but ignores the feature that is far from the focus automatically. CNN is more similar to human in visual processing, and it has a powerful performance in complex image recognition. The architecture of the CNN model is shown in Fig. 4. As CNN contains a large number of parameters in the hierarchical architecture, it would be quite lengthy if we use general constants to denote the parameters. Hence, we describe the neural architecture as follows.

- a) The input data is an image of the normalized and centralized pattern with size  $32 \times 32$ . The detected signal, after CWD transformation and image binarization processes, will become a binary image. However, the size of binary image is too large to train CNN. We attempt the nearest neighbor interpolation algorithm to match the CNN input size, the advantage of which is to reduce the computer load and survive the key features of image.
- b) The first hidden layer  $C_1$  is a convolutional layer with 6 feature maps. With different feature maps, we select different kernels. Each kernel in each feature map is connected to a  $5 \times 5$  neighborhood of the input. All the neurons in one feature map share the same kernel and connecting weights [21]. We indicate  $C_1(i, j, k)$  as the value of  $k$ th feature map at position  $(i, j)$  in the  $C_1$  layer.

- c) The second hidden layer  $S_1$  is a down-sampling layer with 6 feature maps by using mean operation. Such an operation introduces some local translation invariance to the model. According to the same rule of  $C_1$ , we denote  $S_1(i, j, k)$ . Further, we have

$$S_1(i, j, k) = \text{mean}(C_1(2i - 1, 2j - 1, k), \\ C_1(2i - 1, 2j, k), C_1(2i, 2j - 1, k), \\ C_1(2i, 2j, k)). \quad (5)$$

The size of  $S_1$  reduces to 1/4 compared with  $C_1$ .

- d) Next layer  $C_2$  is also a convolutional layer with 16 different kernels. It is not full connected with  $S_1$  layer. The connection detail is described in Table 1. The reason why not utilize a complete connection is described in [22]. We also use  $C_2(i, j, k)$  to show this layer. For the  $\alpha$ th column in Table 1, we mark row indices by  $\beta_{\alpha,0}, \beta_{\alpha,1}, \dots, \beta_{\alpha,p-1}$ . For example, if  $\alpha = 7$ , then we get  $p = 4, \beta_{7,0} = 1, \beta_{7,1} = 2, \beta_{7,2} = 3, \beta_{7,3} = 4$ . Further, the size of convolution kernel is  $p \times 5 \times 5$ , we denote the  $\alpha$ th kernel by  $K_\alpha$ . And we have

$$C_2(i, j, \alpha) = \sum_{r=0}^{p-1} \sum_{i_0=0}^4 \sum_{j_0=0}^4 [ S_1(i + i_0, j + j_0, \beta_{\alpha,r}) \\ \times K_\alpha(5 - i_0, 5 - j_0, p - 1 - r) ]. \quad (6)$$

For instance, for the 0th column,  $p = 3, \alpha_{00} = 0, \alpha_{01} = 1, \alpha_{02} = 2$ , and we also have

$$C_2(i, j, 0) = \sum_{r=0}^{p-1} \sum_{i_0=0}^4 \sum_{j_0=0}^4 [ S_1(i + i_0, j + j_0, \beta_{0,r}) \\ \times K_0(5 - i_0, 5 - j_0, p - 1 - r) ]. \quad (7)$$

Finally, the size of receptive field is  $10 \times 10$ , which is suitable for training and recognizing.

e) Similarly, to match with  $C_2$  layer, this layer is a down-sampling layer, called  $S_2$ .  $S_2$  has 16 feature maps, and we follow a similar notation as in Equ. 5, we donate

$$S_2(i, j, k) = \text{mean}(C_2(2i - 1, 2j - 1, k), C_2(2i - 1, 2j, k), C_2(2i, 2j - 1, k), C_2(2i, 2j, k)). \quad (8)$$

f) After that,  $S_2$  and  $C_3$  are full connected. That is to say, each kernel in  $C_3$  will be connected with all feature maps in  $S_2$ . And the size of kernel is  $5 \times 5$ , which means, the feature map will become the size of  $1 \times 1$ , after convolution. In this layer, there are 120 kernels and the output is a column vector with the size of  $120 \times 1$ . We define  $C_3(\lambda)$  as the  $\lambda$ th feature map of  $C_3$ , and  $K_\lambda$  as the  $\lambda$ th kernel. So, we have

$$C_3(\lambda) = \sum_{r=0}^{15} \sum_{i_0=0}^4 \sum_{j_0=0}^4 \times [ S_2(i_0, j_0, r) \times K_\lambda(5 - i_0, 5 - j_0, 15 - r) ]. \quad (9)$$

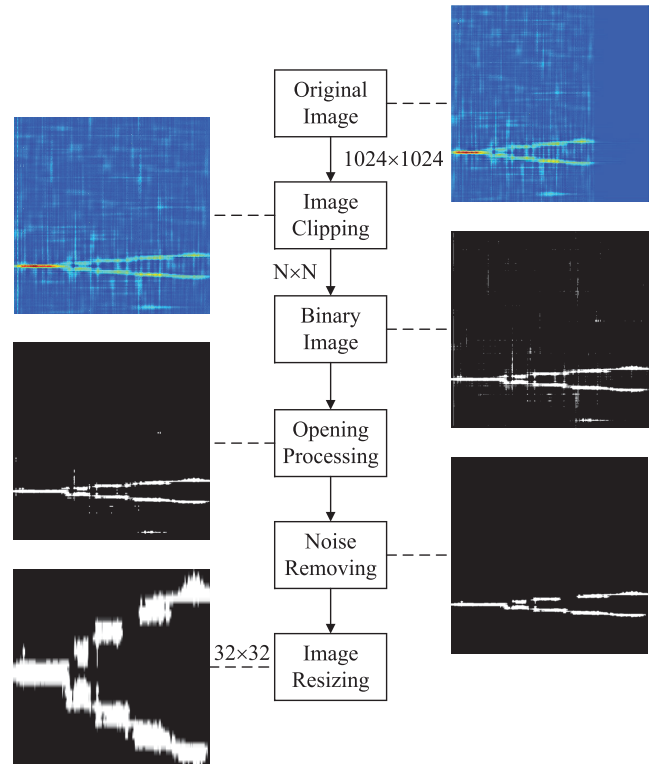
g) Finally, a fully connected multi-layer perceptron (MLP) is connected with  $C_3$ , which has a hidden layer  $N_1$  and an output layer  $N_2$ . For  $N_1$ , a method to estimate the suitable neurons number of hidden layer  $H_{num}$  is introduced in [23]. In this paper, an empirical formula to decide the neurons number is shown as

$$H_{num} = \frac{X \times C + 0.5 \times (X^2 + X) \times C - 1}{X + C} \quad (10)$$

where,  $X$  is dimension of features vector,  $C$  is the number of classification. In this paper,  $X = 120$ ,  $C = 8$ . It is just an empirical formula that can not completely determine the best suitable number of hidden layer. We may fine-tune the number to search the value for proposed network. An effective approach is to take the training data as the testing data and put them into well-trained networks. The current correct recognition rate should be beyond 99%, if not, the number needs to be revised. The original number  $H_{num} = 462$  is calculated from Equ. 10, through the fine-tune process, the suitable number  $H_{num} = 484$  in the paper. The number is determined before the experiments and is not changed. Finally, the network is trained by using the gradient descent method [24]. The size of  $N_2$  is a  $8 \times 1$  column vector with one-hot code (defined by classes we want to classify).

### V. IMAGE PROCESSING DESIGN

In this section, we process time-frequency images as suitable ones for classifier. The quality of images (for classifier) influences RSR and the robustness of system directly. The section is organized as follows. First, we obtain the 2-D image, by applying CWD transformation. Then, 2-D images



**FIGURE 5.** In this figure, T1 code acts as an example with SNR of  $-6\text{dB}$ . Original 2-D image ( $1024 \times 1024$ ) are clipped by  $720 \times 720$  (decided by the length of original samples), and the bicubic interpolation is adopted. By utilizing the opening operation and topological approach, the noises are removed effectively.

are processed into binary images by using digital image processing. For every detected signal, there are one 2-D image and one binary image to match it.

#### A. IMAGE CLIPPING

In the following part, the original images are processed into 2-D images. First, we acquire the basic CWD image from the real parts of CWD transformation. In fact, when we calculate CWD by computer, FFT kernel is used for many times. In order to improve the calculation speed,  $1024 \times 1024$  points is selected. However, the length of signals is  $N < 1024$  in general, and zero padding is utilized. Further, the size of CWD image is  $1024 \times 1024$ . Then, in order to reduce the computation load and adapt to the approaches, the CWD image will be resized to  $N \times N$  (for more details, see Fig. 5).

#### B. BINARY IMAGE

On the basis of global thresholding algorithm, the resized image is changed into a binary image [7], [25]. The algorithm is organized as follows:

- Normalize the resized image with the range of  $[0, 1]$ , and record as  $H(x, y)$ .
- Estimate the initial threshold  $T$ , and the image is divided into two parts  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  by using  $T$

$$T = (\max_{x,y} (H(x, y)) + \min_{x,y} (H(x, y))) / 2;$$

TABLE 1. Connection detail about  $S_1$  and  $C_2$ .

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
0	✓					✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
1	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓
2	✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓	✓
3		✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓			✓		✓	✓
4			✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓		✓
5				✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓

- c)  $H_1$  includes the pixels in which the values  $> T$ , and  $H_2$  includes others;  
d) Calculate the average value  $\mu_1$  and  $\mu_2$  of  $H_1$  and  $H_2$ , respectively;  
e) Update  $T$  as follows

$$T := (\mu_1 + \mu_2)/2;$$

- f) Repeat (b)-(e), until the difference between the two calculation results of  $T$  is less than 0.001;  
g) Binarize the  $H(x, y)$  and record as  $B(x, y)$ ,

$$B(x, y) = \begin{cases} 1 & H(x, y) \geq T \\ 0 & \text{others;} \end{cases}$$

- h) Output  $B(x, y)$ .

### C. NOISE REMOVING

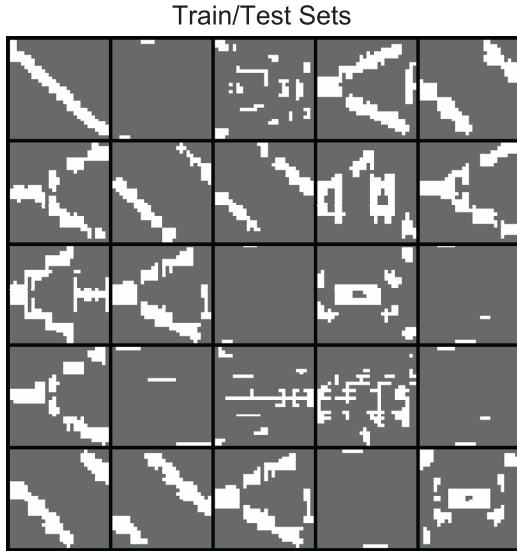
After the image binarization, however, some processing noises and isolated noises can be found in the binary image. Isolated noises are from external environment. They are natural properties of signals. In the binary image, they are many groups of pixels in the random positions. Processing noises are created in the signal processing. For example, the kernel of CWD  $f(\xi, \tau)$  influences the processing noises. The shape of the noises is a straight line. Depending on the parameter of CWD's kernel  $\sigma = 1$  and the binarization algorithm, the lines are long but thin. The length of most lines is longer than half of the image length and some of them are even as long as the image. But the width is less than 3 pixels. Image morphology algorithm is appropriate to remove both two types of noise. Generally speaking, in 2-D image, signal is the main component. In other words, the number of pixels of signal is the largest, and the amount of each group of isolated noise pixels is much smaller than the signal's. We can employ the topological structure (such as "connected" or "disconnected") of signals and noise to count the number of pixels respectively. And remove the group of pixels which size is much smaller than the largest one. In this paper, the size of groups that is smaller than 10% of the largest group are considered as isolated noises and will be removed. We also utilize opening operation with the kernel of  $3 \times 3$  to remove the processing noises. The process is introduced in Fig. 5.

### D. IMAGE RESIZING

Finally, we will resize the binary image to adapt the input of CNN. The size of  $32 \times 32$  is suitable for the network. It is small but it has enough pixels to characterize the waveform. The nearest resizing algorithm is explored in this paper. It is the nearest-neighbor interpolation process and the output pixel assigns the value of the pixel that the point falls within. For more details, see [25].

## VI. SIMULATION AND DISCUSSION

In this section, we create different kinds of signals as simulation data to test the recognition system. All the generated data and experiments are simulated in the MATLAB 2016a. Each waveform has different parameters that need to be set.  $U(\cdot)$  denotes a uniform distribution based on the sample rate. For instance, there is an initial frequency  $f_0 = 2000\text{Hz}$ , and the sample rate is  $f_s = 8000\text{Hz}$ . The uniform result is  $f_0 = U(f_0/f_s) = U(1/4)$ .  $U(1/16, 1/8)$  means the parameter is a random number and the range is  $[f_s/16, f_s/8] = [500, 1000]$ . The parameter setting becomes simple and clear by using this method. For BPSK, the Barker codes length is any of 7, 11 and 13. And the carrier frequency  $f_c$  is from  $U(1/8)$  to  $U(1/4)$  randomly. The cycles per phase code  $c_{pp}$  and code periods number  $N_p$  are range of  $[1, 5]$  and  $[100, 300]$  respectively. For LFM, the length of signal is range of  $[500, 1024]$ . The remaining parameters, initial frequency  $f_0$  and frequency bandwidth  $\Delta f$ , all of which have the same set. Both the ranges are  $U(1/16, 1/8)$ . For Costas codes, the fundamental frequency  $f_{min}$  is a random number from  $U(1/24)$  to  $U(1/20)$ . And the number change  $N_c$  is a random integer from 3 to 6. For example, the parameters of Costas codes are  $f_{min} = f_s/20$  and  $N_c = 4$  respectively. Then, a no-repeating sequence  $\{4, 1, 3, 2\}$  is generated. After that, the frequency sequence  $\{4f_{min}, f_{min}, 3f_{min}, 2f_{min}\}$  is created. For Frank code, the carrier frequency  $f_c$  and the number of cycles per phase code  $c_{pp}$  are similar to BPSK. The samples per frequency steps  $M$  is also a random integer with the interval  $[4, 8]$ . For T1-T4 poly-time codes, they are two phase states in the code sequence, and the number of segments  $k$  and overall code duration  $T$  are range of  $[4, 6]$  and  $[0.07, 0.1]$  respectively. For more details, see Table 2. There are 1000 labels provided for each waveform class in the same SNR condition. The production



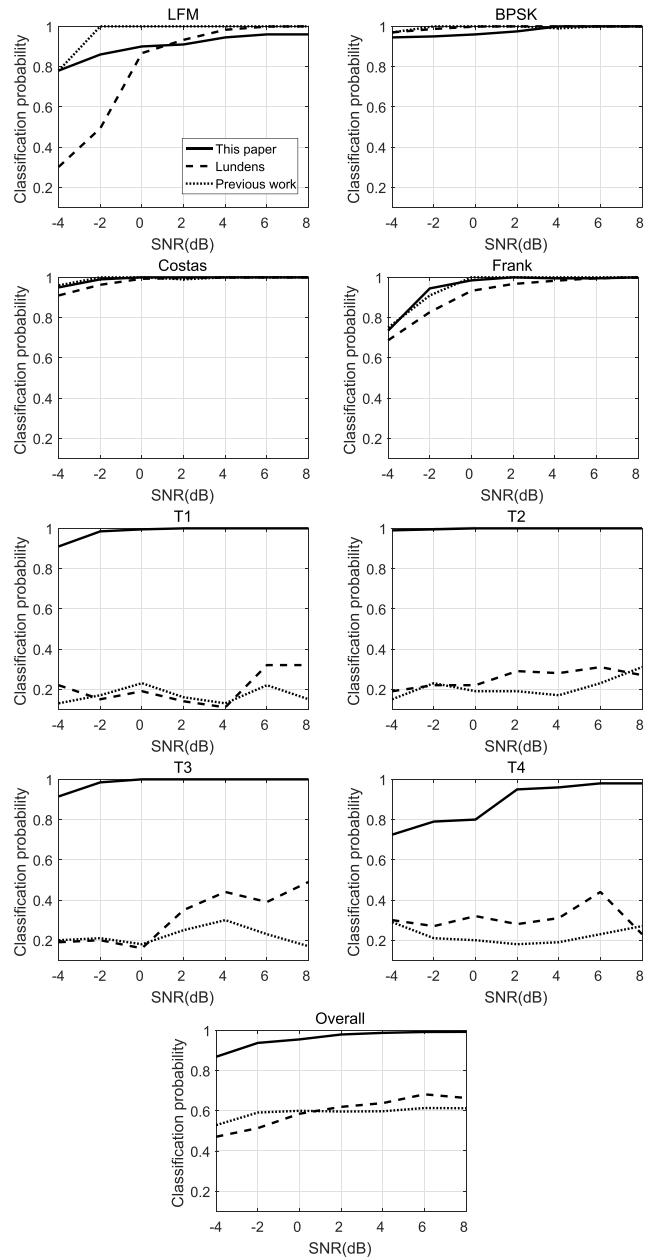
**FIGURE 6.** In the figure, 25 binary images are selected randomly from the train/test sets of SNR = 0dB. All 8 kinds of waveforms are included in the figure.

**TABLE 2.** List of simulation parameters.

Radars waveforms	Parameter	Ranges
-	Sampling rate $f_s$	1
BPSK	Barker codes	{7, 11, 13}
	Carrier frequency $f_c$	U(1/8, 1/4)
	Cycles per phase code $c_{pp}$	[1, 5]
	Number of code periods $N_p$	[100, 300]
LFM	Number of samples $N$	[500, 1024]
	Bandwidth $\Delta f$	U(1/16, 1/8)
	Initial frequency $f_0$	U(1/16, 1/8)
Costas codes	Number change $N_c$	[3, 6]
	Fundamental frequency $f_{min}$	U(1/24, 1/20)
	$N$	[512, 1024]
Frank	$f_c$	U(1/8, 1/4)
	$c_{pp}$	[1, 5]
	Samples of frequency step $M$	[4, 8]
T1-T4 codes	Number of segments $k$	[4, 6]
	Overall code duration $T$	[0.07, 0.1]

of labels repeats for 7 times, in which the SNR is increased from -4dB to 8dB at a step of 2dB. We divide the labels into two parts, 80% labels for training and 20% for testing. We compare our recognition system with J. Lundén’s [6] and our previous work [7]. They are the most widely recognition systems at present and they classify the similar waveforms with proposed system. We repeat the two methods and test them by using proposed data. The simulation results are shown as Fig. 7.

Fig. 7 plots RSR as a function of the SNR. Each waveform has its own relation between SNR and RSR and the overall probabilities also be provided. In our system, all waveforms have positive correlation between SNR and RSR. When SNR < 2dB, RSR is increased significantly with the



**FIGURE 7.** Classification performance as a function of the SNR.

improvement of SNR, and when SNR ≥ 2dB, RSR increases more slowly. RSRs of majority waveforms are more than 90%, and some of them even reach 98%. At SNR of -2dB, the overall probabilities is still more than 90%. In considering that the detected signals often has a low SNR, it will be more meaningful that better RSR are achieved in such environment. For LFM, proposed method is worse than previous work but better than Lundén’s. Because the time-frequency images are similar to Frank code. In terms of BPSK and Costas codes, the RSRs of three methods have a high level. For Frank code, the results of proposed method and previous work are analogical, and better than Lundén’s. For poly-time codes, the performance of proposed method is the best.

**TABLE 3. Confusion matrix for the system at SNR of  $-2\text{dB}$  (actual/predicted). the overall RSR is 93.7%.**

	LFM	BPSK	Costas	T1	T2	T3	T4	Frank
LFM	100/86	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/5.5
BPSK	0/0	100/95	0/0	0/0	0/0.5	0/0	0/7.5	0/0
Costas	0/0	0/0	100/99	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/4	0/0
T1	0/0	0/0	0/0	100/98.5	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0
T2	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	100/99.5	0/0	0/3.5	0/0
T3	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	100/98.5	0/6	0/0
T4	0/0	0/5	0/1	0/1.5	0/0	0/1.5	100/79	0/0
Frank	0/14	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	100/94.5

Table 3 exhibits the detail of classification at SNR of  $-2\text{dB}$  and the overall RSR is more than 93%. The successful recognition about T1-T3 and Costas codes are in a high level. The error of LFM and T4 are higher than others. Some of LFM waveforms are identified as Frank, while, Frank is identified as LFM by the system. In fact, the LFM and Frank code are much similar, which is shown in Fig. 1. T4 has the most complex CWD image in all waveforms. In other words, it has the lowest RSR in all types, and other types of waveforms are also easily identified as T4 at the same time.

## VII. CONCLUSION

In this paper, an automatic cognitive radio waveform recognition system based on CWD transformation and CNN classifier is explored. The system can classify 8 kinds of cognitive radio waveforms (including BPSK (Barker modulation), LFM, Costas codes, Frank code, and T1-T4) in a high noisy environment. Through the application of CWD transformation, we can pay more attention to the structure of waveforms. It is a reliable method to classify them. The simulation results show the RSR is more than 93.7% when  $\text{SNR} \geq -2\text{dB}$ . According to the waveforms classification, we can detect, track and locate the radiation sources effectively. It is useful for the wireless communication and radar countermeasure system. However, there are many waveforms in the airspace in each moment. Proposed method is suitable for the single sample classification but not good at multiple samples. How to realize the classification of complex multiple samples is our future work.

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