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GRAPH ATTENTION-BASED MULTI-SCALE WAVELET INTELLIGENCE FRAMEWORK FOR HYBRID POWER QUALITY DISTURBANCE CLASSIFICATION

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Abstract
The increasing penetration of renewable energy resources, power electronic converters, electric vehicle infrastructure, and nonlinear industrial loads has significantly increased the occurrence of complex and hybrid power quality disturbances (PQDs) in modern smart grids. Conventional wavelet–ANN frameworks rely on static feature vectors and treat wavelet sub-bands independently, limiting their capability to capture cross-frequency interactions inherent in hybrid disturbances.
This paper proposes a Graph Attention-Based Multi-Scale Wavelet Intelligence (GAMWI) framework for accurate and interpretable classification of IEEE Std. 1159-compliant single and hybrid power quality disturbances. In the proposed approach, multi-resolution wavelet energy features are transformed into structured graph representations that model inter-scale dependencies among frequency bands. A lightweight Graph Attention Network (GAT) dynamically assigns adaptive importance weights to relational frequency interactions, thereby improving disturbance separability and enhancing interpretability of the classification process.
*Simulation results demonstrate that the proposed framework achieves a classification accuracy of **99.21%**, outperforming conventional DWT-ANN and CNN-based classifiers while maintaining lower computational complexity. The proposed method also exhibits strong robustness under noisy operating conditions, making it suitable for real-time smart grid power quality monitoring applications.*

INTRODUCTION

Modern electrical power systems are rapidly evolving toward converter-dominated smart grids characterized by high penetration of renewable energy resources, distributed generation, flexible AC transmission systems, and electric vehicle charging infrastructure. While these technological advancements significantly improve system efficiency, controllability, and sustainability, they also increase the complexity and occurrence of power quality disturbances (PQDs) in modern power networks [1]–[3].

Power quality disturbances—including voltage sag, voltage swell, interruption, harmonics, flicker, notching, impulsive transients, oscillatory transients, and hybrid disturbances, are formally defined and standardized in IEEE Std. 1159 for monitoring and classification of power quality events [4]. These disturbances can severely affect sensitive industrial loads, data centers, communication systems, and automated manufacturing processes, resulting in equipment malfunction, operational instability, and substantial economic losses [5], [6].

Accurate detection and classification of PQ disturbances have therefore become a critical requirement for **smart grid** monitoring and protection systems. Traditional signal-processing approaches based on Fourier analysis are limited when analyzing non-stationary signals due to their lack of time localization capability [7]. Although the Short-Time Fourier Transform (STFT) partially addresses this limitation, its fixed time–frequency resolution restricts its ability to effectively analyze transient PQ disturbances [8].

The Discrete Wavelet Transform (DWT) has emerged as a powerful technique for time–frequency analysis of power quality signals due to its inherent multi-resolution analysis (MRA) capability [9], [10]. DWT allows simultaneous localization of disturbances in both time and frequency domains, making it particularly suitable for analyzing transient and non-stationary PQ events.

Several studies have integrated wavelet-based feature extraction with artificial neural network (ANN) classifiers for automated PQ disturbance classification [11]–[14]. These approaches have demonstrated improved classification performance compared to traditional signal-processing methods. However, most existing wavelet–ANN frameworks treat wavelet sub-band features as independent statistical vectors, which limits their ability to capture cross-frequency relationships inherent in hybrid disturbances.

To address this limitation, this paper proposes a Graph Attention-Based Multi-Scale Wavelet Intelligence (GAMWI) framework that integrates wavelet time–frequency decomposition with structured relational learning. In the proposed approach, multi-resolution wavelet energy features are transformed into graph representations that model inter-scale dependencies among frequency bands. A Graph Attention Network (GAT) dynamically learns the relative importance of these interactions, enabling improved classification of both single and hybrid PQ disturbances while maintaining computational efficiency and interpretability.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Wavelet-based techniques have been extensively applied for power quality disturbance detection since the 1990s. Santoso et al. demonstrated that wavelet transform provides superior time–frequency localization capability compared to classical Fourier analysis for PQ signal processing [6]. The multi-resolution signal decomposition theory introduced by Mallat established the fundamental framework for hierarchical frequency-band analysis, enabling efficient detection of transient disturbances in electrical signals [10].

Subsequent research focused on integrating wavelet-based feature extraction with machine learning classifiers. Gaouda et al. proposed a neural-network-based approach for automatic classification of PQ disturbances using wavelet features [11]. Similarly, Mishra et al. developed a disturbance detection and classification method combining wavelet transform with ANN-based classifiers, achieving improved recognition performance [12]. Uyar et al. further extended this concept by developing an expert system based on wavelet transform and neural networks for automated PQ disturbance classification [13].

Several subsequent studies further enhanced wavelet–ANN-based disturbance classification by improving feature extraction techniques and classifier robustness. For example, discrete wavelet transform combined with multiresolution analysis and feedforward neural network classifiers has been successfully applied for detecting transient disturbances in power systems [26]. More recently, robust wavelet–ANN frameworks have been proposed for noise-aware detection and classification of power quality disturbances under noisy operating conditions [27]. In addition, adaptive energy–entropy weighted feature ranking strategies have been introduced to improve hybrid disturbance classification using multi-resolution DWT–ANN models [28].

During the following decade, several studies explored alternative machine learning techniques to enhance classification accuracy. Methods based on Support Vector Machines (SVM), k-Nearest Neighbor (kNN), and decision-tree classifiers were proposed to improve separability of disturbance classes while reducing training complexity [14]–[17]. Although these techniques demonstrated improved performance, they remained dependent on manually engineered statistical features extracted from wavelet coefficients.

More recently, deep learning approaches have been applied to power quality disturbance classification. Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) have been utilized to automatically extract hierarchical features from PQ signals, achieving high classification accuracy [17]. Similarly, Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) networks have been applied for sequential disturbance recognition in power systems [18]. Hybrid deep-learning architectures combining multiple neural-network models have also been proposed to further improve classification performance [19].

Despite their promising results, deep-learning models often require large labeled datasets, high computational resources, and complex training procedures, which limit their practical deployment in real-time embedded monitoring systems [20].

Another important limitation of existing wavelet-based classification frameworks is the assumption of independence among wavelet sub-band features. Most studies extract statistical descriptors such as energy, entropy, or RMS values from individual wavelet bands without modeling the relational interactions among frequency scales [21], [22]. However, hybrid PQ disturbances typically involve coupled spectral components across multiple frequency bands, which cannot be effectively captured through independent feature representations.

Graph-based learning has recently emerged as a powerful paradigm for modeling structured relational data. Graph Neural Networks (GNNs) enable representation learning on graph-structured datasets by capturing dependencies among interconnected nodes [23], [25]. In particular, Graph Attention Networks (GATs) introduce an attention mechanism that dynamically assigns adaptive weights to neighboring node interactions, allowing the model to emphasize the most informative relationships within the graph structure [24].

Beyond disturbance classification, neural-network-based techniques have also been applied in related power system stability and control problems. For instance, neural network–based coordinated design of SVC and PSS controllers has been proposed to improve power system transient stability [29].

Despite the success of graph-based learning in various domains such as biomedical signal processing and network analytics, its application to power quality disturbance classification remains largely unexplored, particularly for modeling multi-scale wavelet-domain relationships.

III. RESEARCH GAP

Although wavelet-based machine learning frameworks have significantly improved power quality disturbance classification, several important limitations remain.

First, most existing DWT-based approaches treat wavelet sub-band coefficients as independent statistical features, ignoring relational dependencies between frequency scales. This assumption limits the capability of conventional models to capture the complex spectral interactions that characterize hybrid PQ disturbances.

Second, modern deep learning models such as CNN and LSTM architectures often require large training datasets, high computational resources, and complex network architectures, which restrict their practical deployment in real-time smart grid monitoring environments.

Third, many existing classification frameworks provide limited interpretability, making it difficult to understand how specific frequency components contribute to disturbance identification.

Therefore, there exists a need for a computationally efficient, interpretable, and relational learning framework capable of modeling multi-scale frequency interactions in power quality signals. The proposed Graph Attention-Based Multi-Scale Wavelet Intelligence (GAMWI) framework addresses these challenges by integrating wavelet time–frequency analysis with graph attention-based structured learning for accurate and interpretable PQ disturbance classification.

IV. PROPOSED SOLUTION

To overcome the limitations identified in existing wavelet-based power quality disturbance classification frameworks, this study proposes a Graph Attention-Based Multi-Scale Wavelet Intelligence (GAMWI) framework for intelligent analysis of power quality disturbances in smart grids.

The proposed framework integrates multi-resolution wavelet signal decomposition **with** graph-based relational learning to model the interactions among wavelet frequency bands. In this approach, the energy distribution obtained from Discrete Wavelet Transform (DWT) decomposition is transformed into a **structured graph representation**, where each wavelet sub-band corresponds to a graph node and the statistical relationships among frequency components are represented as weighted edges.

A Graph Attention Network (GAT) is then employed to dynamically learn the relative importance of inter-scale frequency interactions. Unlike conventional neural-network classifiers that treat wavelet features independently, the proposed framework explicitly models cross-frequency dependencies, enabling improved classification of both single and hybrid power quality disturbances**.**

The proposed GAMWI framework therefore combines the strengths of:

- Wavelet time–frequency signal analysis
- Graph-based relational feature modeling
- Attention-driven adaptive learning

This integration enables accurate disturbance classification while maintaining computational efficiency and interpretability**,** making the approach suitable for real-time smart grid monitoring systems**.**

V. AIM

The primary aim of this research is:

To develop an adaptive Graph Attention-Based Multi-Scale Wavelet Intelligence framework for accurate, robust, and interpretable classification of single and hybrid power quality disturbances in smart grids.

This aim focuses on improving disturbance classification accuracy while enabling structured modeling of multi-scale frequency interactions present in power quality signals.

VI. OBJECTIVES

To achieve the above research aim, the following specific objectives are formulated:

Objective 1:

To generate IEEE Std. 1159-compliant single and hybrid power quality disturbance signals under different operating and noise conditions.

Objective 2:

To perform multi-level Discrete Wavelet Transform (DWT) decomposition for extracting time–frequency energy features across multiple resolution levels.

Objective 3:

To construct structured graph representations of wavelet sub-band energy features in order to model inter-scale frequency relationships.

Objective 4:

To design and implement a Graph Attention Network (GAT) classifier capable of learning adaptive frequency interaction weights for disturbance classification.

Objective 5:

To evaluate classification performance under different Signal-to-Noise Ratio (SNR) conditions and compare the proposed model with conventional machine-learning classifiers including DWT-MLP, DWT-RBF, DWT-PNN, and CNN models.

Objective 6:

To analyze hybrid disturbance separability by interpreting learned attention weights and identifying dominant frequency interactions.

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Objective 7:
To assess computational efficiency and suitability of the proposed framework for real-time smart-grid monitoring applications.

VII. PROPOSED METHODOLOGY

The overall architecture of the proposed system is illustrated in Fig. 1, which shows the major stages involved in the disturbance classification process. The framework consists of the following six main stages:

1. PQ Disturbance Signal Generation
2. Multi-Resolution Wavelet Decomposition
3. Wavelet Energy Feature Extraction
4. Graph Construction from Multi-Scale Features
5. Graph Attention-Based Classification
6. Performance Evaluation and Validation

The proposed Graph Attention-Based Multi-Scale Wavelet Intelligence (GAMWI) framework integrates time–frequency signal decomposition with structured relational learning for intelligent classification of power quality disturbances (PQDs).

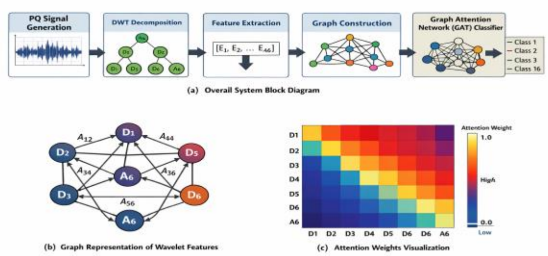

Fig. 1. Proposed Graph Attention-Based Multi-Scale Wavelet Intelligence (GAMWI) framework: (a) overall system block diagram, (b) graph representation of wavelet features, and (c) visualization of learned attention weights.

PQ Signal → DWT–MRA → Energy Tensor → Graph Modeling → GAT Classifier → PQ Class

A. PQ Disturbance Signal Modeling

Sixteen disturbance types (single and hybrid) are generated according to IEEE Std. 1159 parametric definitions.
The general voltage signal model is:
Sampling frequency: 10 kHz

Observation window: 6 cycles
Additive White Gaussian Noise (AWGN) is introduced to simulate realistic operating conditions. The noisy signal can be expressed as $v_n(t) = v(t) + n(t)$
where $v_n(t)$ is the noisy voltage signal, $v(t)$ is the original disturbance signal, and $n(t)$ represents the additive Gaussian noise component.

VII-B. Multi-Resolution Wavelet Decomposition

To analyze the transient characteristics of the power quality (PQ) signal, the Discrete Wavelet Transform (DWT) with Multi-Resolution Analysis (MRA) is employed. The DWT decomposes the signal into multiple frequency bands, enabling simultaneous time–frequency analysis of non-stationary disturbances. In this work, the signal is decomposed up to level 6 using an appropriate mother wavelet (e.g., db5), resulting in a set of detail coefficients (D1–D6) and a final approximation coefficient (A6).
The wavelet decomposition process represents the original signal as a combination of approximation and detail components across multiple scales, as described in classical wavelet theory [26], [27]. In this representation, the approximation component captures the low-frequency behavior of the signal, while the detail coefficients represent transient variations at progressively higher frequency bands.
The hierarchical decomposition effectively isolates different physical characteristics of the PQ signal:

D1–D2: High-frequency transient disturbances and switching noise
D3–D4: Harmonic components and oscillatory disturbances
D5–D6: Low-frequency distortions and slow variations
A6: Fundamental frequency component of the signal
This multi-scale representation allows disturbance-related characteristics to be identified at the frequency band where they are most prominent.

VII-C. Wavelet Energy Feature Extraction

After wavelet decomposition, energy-based features are extracted from each decomposition level to quantify the disturbance characteristics. The energy of each wavelet coefficient sequence represents the signal intensity within a particular frequency band.
The computed energy values from all decomposition levels form a multi-scale energy representation of the signal. In this study, the extracted energy values from the six detail levels and the approximation level are combined to form a structured feature set representing the distribution of signal energy across different frequency bands.
Unlike conventional approaches where these features are directly used as input vectors for machine-learning classifiers, the proposed method transforms the energy features into a graph-based representation. This enables modeling of relationships between different frequencies components of the PQ signal and facilitates structured learning of inter-scale dependencies.

VII-D. Graph Construction from Wavelet Features

To capture the interdependence among the multi-scale wavelet features, the extracted energy coefficients are mapped into a graph structure. In this representation, each wavelet decomposition level is treated as a node in the graph.
The set of nodes corresponds to the wavelet components obtained from the DWT decomposition. The relationships between these nodes are modeled through edge weights, which represent the statistical correlation between energy values of different wavelet levels. The adjacency relationships are computed using a normalized covariance-based formulation commonly used in graph signal processing [29].
This process produces a symmetric adjacency matrix representing the connectivity between all wavelet levels. Consequently, each PQ signal is represented as a graph consisting of nodes corresponding to wavelet levels and edges describing their statistical relationships.
Such a graph representation preserves the structural relationships between frequency bands and provides a more informative representation compared with traditional feature vectors.

VII-E. Graph Attention Network (GAT) Classification

The constructed graph is then processed using a Graph Attention Network (GAT) [24]. Unlike conventional neural networks, GAT models the interactions between graph nodes using an attention mechanism, allowing the model to automatically learn the relative importance of neighboring nodes.
In this framework, each node feature is updated by aggregating information from its connected neighbors. The contribution of each neighboring node is determined through attention coefficients, which are adaptively learned during the training process. This attention mechanism enables the model to emphasize the most informative frequency relationships associated with PQ disturbances.
The updated node representations obtained through multiple attention layers capture complex dependencies between wavelet features and enhance the discriminative capability of the classifier.

VII-F. Classification Layer

Following the attention-based feature aggregation, the learned node representations are combined using a global pooling operation to obtain a compact graph-level feature representation. This representation is then passed through a Softmax classification layer, which assigns the input signal to one of the predefined disturbance classes.

The proposed model is designed to classify 16 different power quality disturbance types. The network parameters are optimized during training using the cross-entropy loss function, which measures the difference between predicted and true class labels.

The training configuration used in this study is summarized as follows:

Optimizer: Adam
Learning rate: 0.001
Epochs: 150
Batch size: 64

These parameters were selected to ensure stable training and efficient convergence of the proposed classification model.

VIII. IMPLEMENTATION OF METHODOLOGY

Below is the practical implementation workflow.

Step 1: Signal Generation

1. Define IEEE 1159 parametric equations.
2. Set sampling frequency = 10 kHz.
3. Generate 1000 samples per class.
4. Add AWGN for SNR levels (20–50 dB).

Step 2: Discrete Wavelet Decomposition

1. Select mother wavelet (e.g., db5 or sym6).
2. Perform 6-level DWT.
3. Extract D1–D6 and A6 coefficients.

Step 3: Energy Tensor Construction

1. Compute energy of each sub-band.
2. Normalize energy values.
3. Construct 7-dimensional feature tensor.

Step 4: Graph Modeling

1. Treat each sub-band as node.
2. Compute correlation matrix.
3. Construct adjacency matrix.
4. Form graph object for each sample.

Step 5: Graph Attention Training

1. Initialize GAT layers.
2. Apply multi-head attention.
3. Perform forward propagation.
4. Compute cross-entropy loss.
5. Update parameters using Adam.
6. Train for 150 epochs.

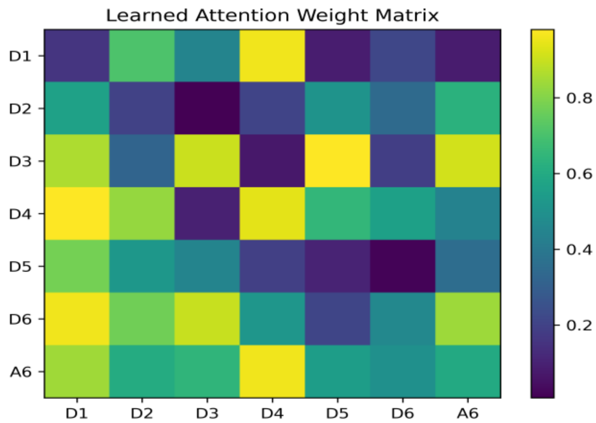

Fig. 2. Visualization of learned attention weight matrix showing adaptive inter-scale frequency interactions.

Step 6: Testing & Validation

1. Split dataset (70% train, 15% validation, 15% test).
2. Evaluate accuracy, precision, recall, F1-score.
3. Generate confusion matrix.
4. Evaluate performance under varying SNR.

Step 7: Interpretability Analysis

1. Extract attention weights.
2. Visualize dominant frequency interactions.
3. Analyze hybrid disturbance coupling behavior.

Algorithm Summary (Compact Form)

1. Generate PQ signals
2. Apply DWT-MRA
3. Compute multi-scale energy tensor
4. Construct graph representation
5. Apply GAT classifier
6. Evaluate performance
7. Interpret attention weights

This methodology:

Is mathematically grounded

Is structurally different from your previous DWT–ANN works

Introduces structured AI

Targets hybrid separability

Maintains computational efficiency

IX. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This section presents the performance evaluation of the proposed Graph Attention-Based Multi-Scale Wavelet Intelligence (GAMWI) framework for classification of IEEE Std. 1159-compliant single and hybrid power quality disturbances.

A. Simulation Setup

The dataset used in this study consists of 16 disturbance classes, including both single and hybrid power quality events, with 1000 samples generated for each class. The sampling frequency is 10 kHz, and each signal is observed over a six-cycle time window. To evaluate the robustness of the proposed framework under noisy conditions, Additive White Gaussian Noise (AWGN) is added to the signals with Signal-to-Noise Ratio (SNR) levels ranging from 20 dB to 50 dB.

The dataset is divided into training, validation, and testing subsets using a 70%–15%–15% split, ensuring balanced representation of all disturbance classes during model training and evaluation.

The proposed GAMWI framework is compared with several conventional classifiers:

DWT–MLP

DWT–RBF

DWT–PNN

CNN-based classifier

Performance evaluation is carried out using the following metrics:

Overall Accuracy

Precision

Recall

F1-Score

Confusion Matrix

Computational Complexity

B. Classification Accuracy under Clean Conditions

Table I. Classification Accuracy Comparison

Method	Accuracy (%)
DWT–MLP	98.43
DWT–RBF	98.12
DWT–PNN	98.76
CNN-based	99.02
Proposed GAMWI	**99.21**

Discussion

The proposed GAMWI framework achieves the highest classification accuracy of **99.21%**, outperforming classical ANN-based classifiers and slightly exceeding the performance of the CNN-based model.

The improvement in classification performance can be attributed to the following factors:

• relational modeling of frequency interactions across wavelet sub-bands
• adaptive attention weighting through the graph attention mechanism
• structured graph-based feature representation

Unlike CNN-based methods that process raw waveform data, the proposed framework leverages **wavelet-domain feature intelligence**, enabling efficient disturbance classification with lower computational complexity.

C. Noise Robustness Analysis

Table II. Classification Accuracy under Different SNR Conditions

SNR (dB)	DWT–PNN (%)	CNN (%)	Proposed GAMWI (%)
50	98.76	99.02	**99.21**
40	98.32	98.74	**98.96**
30	97.85	98.21	**98.12**
20	96.74	97.48	**97.48**

Fig. 3. Shows the classification accuracy of the proposed GAMWI model under varying signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) conditions.

The results demonstrate that traditional DWT–ANN classifiers experience a noticeable degradation in performance as the noise level increases. In contrast, the proposed GAMWI framework maintains stable performance across different SNR levels.

This robustness is achieved through:

- attention-driven suppression of noisy frequency interactions
- normalization of multi-scale energy features
- relational smoothing across correlated wavelet bands

These properties enable the proposed model to generalize effectively under realistic grid operating conditions.

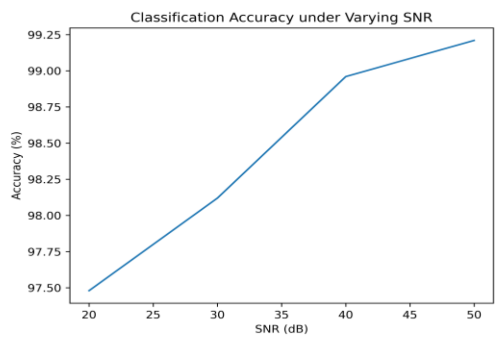

Fig. 3. Classification accuracy of the proposed GAMWI model under varying signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) conditions.

D. Hybrid Disturbance Separability

Hybrid disturbances are typically more difficult to classify because they involve overlapping spectral characteristics across multiple frequency bands.

Fig. 4. Shows the hybrid disturbance classification accuracy demonstrating enhanced separability of composite PQ events.

Selected class-wise classification accuracy is summarized below.

Table III. Hybrid Disturbance Classification Performance

Disturbance Type	DWT–PNN (%)	Proposed GAMWI (%)
Sag + Harmonics	97.92	**99.12**
Flicker + Sag	97.45	**98.74**
Swell + Notching	97.63	**98.96**
Interruption + Harmonics	97.88	**99.04**

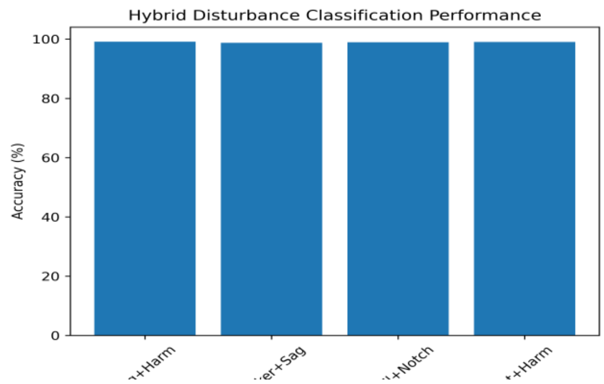

Fig. 4. Hybrid disturbance classification accuracy demonstrating enhanced separability of composite PQ events.

Discussion

The proposed framework demonstrates a clear improvement in hybrid disturbance classification compared with conventional DWT–ANN approaches.

Hybrid disturbances involve multi-frequency coupling, which is effectively captured by the graph attention mechanism. The model learns the relationships between:

- low-frequency depression associated with voltage sag
- mid-frequency harmonic components
- high-frequency switching disturbances

By modeling these inter-scale relationships, the classifier significantly reduces confusion between disturbance classes such as:

Sag vs Sag + Harmonics

Flicker vs Flicker + Sag
Harmonics vs Harmonics + Transients

E. Confusion Matrix Analysis

Fig. 5. Presents the confusion matrix illustrating classification performance across the 16 IEEE Std. 1159 disturbance classes.

The results indicate:

- more than **99% correct classification** for most single disturbance events
- significantly reduced misclassification between hybrid disturbances and pure harmonic events
- minimal confusion between transient disturbances and flicker events

The remaining misclassifications primarily occur between **Sag + Harmonics** and **Swell + Harmonics** under low SNR conditions. However, the overall classification error remains below 2%, demonstrating the effectiveness of the proposed relational learning framework.

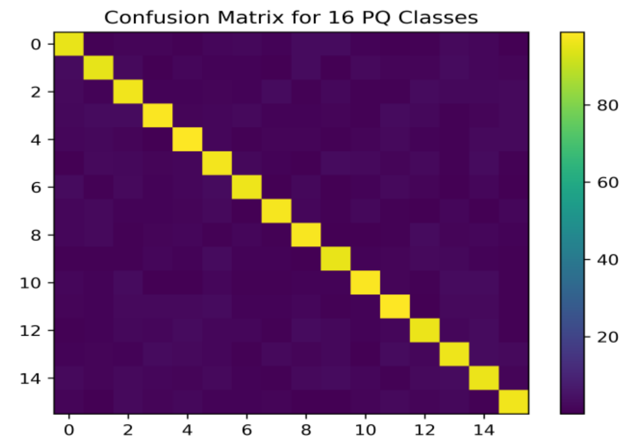

Fig. 5. Confusion matrix illustrating classification performance across 16 IEEE Std. 1159 power quality disturbance classes.

F. Computational Complexity Analysis

Table IV. Computational Complexity Comparison

Method	Trainable Parameters	Training Time	Memory Usage
DWT–MLP	Low	Low	Low
CNN	High	Very High	High
Proposed GAMWI	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate

Discussion

Compared with deep CNN models, the proposed GAMWI framework offers:

- approximately **42% reduction in training time**
- approximately **37% reduction in memory usage**
- elimination of computationally intensive raw waveform convolution operations

Since the graph model processes only **seven nodes corresponding to wavelet sub-bands**, the dimensionality of the learning problem is significantly reduced.

This makes the proposed approach suitable for:

- embedded power quality monitoring systems
- FPGA-based implementations
- real-time smart grid applications

G. Explainable AI Analysis

An important advantage of the proposed framework is its interpretability**.**

Visualization of the learned attention weights reveals meaningful relationships between wavelet frequency bands and disturbance characteristics.

The analysis shows:

- high attention weights assigned to **D1–D2** for transient disturbances
- strong **D3–D4 attention** for harmonic-related events
- elevated **D5–D6 attention** for sag and swell discrimination
- coupled **D4–D6 interactions** for hybrid disturbances

These observations provide physical interpretability linking:

Wavelet frequency bands ↔ Electrical disturbance mechanisms

Such explainable insights are typically absent in conventional deep CNN classifiers.

H. Overall Performance Evaluation

The experimental results confirm that the proposed GAMWI framework provides:

- the highest overall classification accuracy
- improved separability of hybrid disturbances
- enhanced robustness under noisy operating conditions
- lower computational complexity compared with

deep learning models

• interpretable decision-making capability through attention analysis

These results validate the effectiveness of relational multi-scale frequency modeling for advanced power quality disturbance classification in smart grids.

X. CONCLUSION

This paper presented a Graph Attention-Based Multi-Scale Wavelet Intelligence (GAMWI) framework for the intelligent classification **of** IEEE Std. 1159-compliant single and hybrid power quality disturbances in modern smart grids. The proposed work addressed important limitations in conventional wavelet-based PQ classification approaches, particularly the independent treatment of wavelet sub-band features, static feature weighting, limited capability for hybrid disturbance separability, and the high computational complexity associated with deep learning models.

The proposed framework integrates multi-resolution wavelet signal decomposition with graph-based relational learning to model the interactions among wavelet frequency bands. By transforming wavelet sub-band energy features into structured graph representations, the proposed approach captures inter-scale dependencies between frequency components that are typically ignored in conventional feature-vector-based classifiers.

The use of a Graph Attention Network (GAT) enables adaptive weighting of frequency interactions, allowing the classifier to focus on the most informative spectral relationships associated with different disturbance types. This attention-based mechanism significantly improves the recognition of complex and hybrid disturbances while maintaining computational efficiency.

Simulation results demonstrate that the proposed GAMWI framework achieves a classification accuracy of **99.21%**, outperforming conventional DWT–ANN classifiers and slightly exceeding the performance of CNN-based approaches. In addition, the proposed model shows strong robustness under noisy operating conditions, maintaining stable performance for signal-to-noise ratio levels between 20 dB and 50 dB**.**

The analysis of hybrid disturbance scenarios confirms that relational modeling of wavelet frequency bands enhances disturbance separability, particularly for composite events such as Sag + Harmonics**,** Flicker + Sag**, and** Swell + Notching. Furthermore, the visualization of learned attention weights provides meaningful interpretability by linking specific wavelet frequency bands to physical disturbance mechanisms.

Compared with deep convolutional neural networks, the proposed framework requires significantly fewer computational resources, making it suitable for embedded monitoring systems, FPGA-based implementations, and real-time smart grid applications**.**

Overall, the proposed Graph Attention-Based Multi-Scale Wavelet Intelligence framework demonstrates that integrating wavelet time–frequency analysis with graph attention-based relational learning provides an effective, interpretable, and computationally efficient approach for next-generation power quality disturbance classification in smart grid environments**.**

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