Anomaly Detection for the IDEAS Mapping System
A Machine Learning Approach

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Agenda

• Potential Use Cases

• What Can We Do Today, And What Are The Challenges?

• Discussion

• Technical explanations/code
  – https://github.com/davidmeyer/ml
  – http://www.1-4-5.net/~dmm/ml
First, What Does The Scientific Method Look Like When Applied To Machine Learning?

"If you want to increase your success rate, double your failure rate"

Thomas Watson Sr. (founder of IBM)
Prototype Use Case

• We want to use Machine Learning (ML) to
  – Detect anomalous traffic flows that could be malicious
    • e.g., DDoS against the mapping infrastructure
  – Want to protect the Map Servers and Resolvers
    • and other system components that could benefit
    • Map-Registers, Map-Requests, Map-Replies

• How might we do this?
  – Collect KPIs from the Map {Server, Resolver} and surrounding infrastructure
  – ETL the data
  – Use ML to Detect Anomalies
  – Remediate
  – Iterate

• Proposal:
  – Occam’s Razor: Do the simplest thing first
  – Use a simple autoencoder to do binary classification
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Briefly, What is Anomaly Detection?

What’s going on here?

- Data don’t fit an explanation model
  - Impossible, assuming the model is correct
- Data do not conform to some normal behavior

We assume that the anomalous data are generated by a different process than our baseline $\rightarrow$ stationary distribution
Autoencoder Example
Detecting Anomalies in Handwritten Digits

MNIST: 28x28 Grayscale Handwritten Digit Dataset

- Training set: 55000 images
- Test set: 10000 images
- Validation set: 5000 images

Features here are pixels (28x28 = 784)

I’m using MNIST here because you easily visualize what is going on. In our case, instead of the input being vectors of \{0,1\} we will have vectors of counters of map control messages, bandwidth, and other host based KPIs.
One Way To Learn To Recognize MNIST: Use An Autoencoder

Special Kind of Neural Network

- Key Characteristic: Hidden layer has fewer units than input/output → Compression
- Goal: Minimize reconstruction (decode) error
  - How to define error (loss, cost)?
  - Binary classification: Threshold reconstruction error → normal/abnormal
- Unsupervised learning
But First: What Does A Single Neuron Do?

**Dot Product**

\[
W^T x = \begin{bmatrix} w_1 & w_2 & \cdots & w_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_n \end{bmatrix} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} w_i x_i = w_1 x_1 + w_2 x_2 + \cdots + w_n x_n
\]

**Activation Function**

\[
f(W^T x + b) = \sigma(W^T x + b) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(W^T x + b)}}
\]
All Cool, But How Does The Autoencoder Actually Work?

• Encoder \[ h^{(t)} = f_\theta(x^{(t)}), \{x^{(1)}, \ldots, x^{(T)}\} \]

Where \( h \) is feature vector or representation or code computed from \( x \)

• Decoder

maps from feature space back into input space, producing a reconstruction

\[ r = g_\theta(h) \]

attempting to incur the lowest possible reconstruction error \( L(x, r) \).

**Good generalization** means low reconstruction error at test examples, while
having high reconstruction error for most other \( x \) configurations

\[
\begin{align*}
h^{(i)} &= f_{\theta_e}(x^{(i)}) = \sigma(\theta_e^T x^{(i)} + b_{e}^{(i)}) \\
r^{(i)} &= g_{\theta_r}(h^{(i)}) = \sigma(\theta_r^T h^{(i)} + b_{r}^{(i)})
\end{align*}
\]

\[
L(x, r) = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{i=1}^{T} (x^{(i)} - r^{(i)})^2
\]
How Hard To Code This Up In Tensorflow?

```python
# encoder/decoder
try tf.nn.sigmoid, tf.nn.relu, etc for nonlinearity
nonlinearity=False means transfer function (aka activation function)
g(x) = x

def encoder(x, nonlinearity=False):
    code = tf.add(tf.matmul(x, weights['encoder']), biases['encoder'])
    if nonlinearity:
        code = nonlinearity(code)
    return code

def decoder(code, nonlinearity=False):
    reconstruction = tf.add(tf.matmul(code, weights['decoder']), biases['decoder'])
    if nonlinearity:
        reconstruction = nonlinearity(reconstruction)
    return reconstruction

# get the encoding and decoding operations
# relu seems less efficient here
# first encode
encoder_op = encoder(X, tf.nn.sigmoid)

# then decode
decoder_op = decoder(encoder_op, tf.nn.sigmoid)

def fn(x):
    y_pred = decoder_op
    y_true = X
    reg_losses = tf.get_collection(tf.GraphKeys.REGULARIZATION_LOSSES)
    reg_constant = 0.01
    if USE_REGULARIZER:
        error = tf.add(tf.reduce_mean(tf.square(tf.sub(y_true, y_pred))),
                       tf.mul(reg_constant, tf.reduce_sum(reg_losses)))
    else:
        error = tf.reduce_mean(tf.square(tf.sub(y_true, y_pred)))
    return error

# regression loss
L(x, r) = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{i=1}^{T} (x(i) - r(i))^2

https://github.com/davidmeyer/ml/blob/master/tensorflow/autoencoder.{py,ipynb}
After training, the AE gets low reconstruction error on digits from MNIST and high reconstruction error on everything else: It has learned to recognize MNIST

\[ L(x, r) = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{i=1}^{T} (x^{(i)} - r^{(i)})^2 \]
BTW, How Much Of This Has Been Applied To Networking?

• Not too much. Many reasons:
  • Still early days
  • Diverse types of network data
    – Flows, logs, various KPIs, ... with no obvious way to combine
    – Incomplete data sets, non-iid data data
    – Network data not designed for ML
  • Different models for different data types
    – Still active area of investigation
    – Occam’s Razor
  • Is there a useful “Theory of Network”?
    – Consider the problem of object recognition/conv nets
    – Transfer learning
  • Community challenges: Skill sets, proprietary data sets and use-cases, ...
    – Concern about the probabilistic nature of ML
Next Steps

• Build a prototype
  – Dino
    • Provide raw data from the LISP mapping system
  – dmm
    • process data into appropriate form
  – Use ML to detect anomalies
    • Classify anomaly types
  – Remediation
    • Frequency hopping idea
  – Iterate

• Get feedback from group

• Iterate (again)
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Q&A

Thank you

(have more questions/comments? dmm@1-4-5.net)