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Unsupervised Anomaly Detection in Energy Time Series Data using Variational Recurrent Autoencoders with Attention

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Introduction

Anomaly detection is about finding patterns in data that do not conform to *expected* or *normal* behaviour.





Main Challenges

▶ Most data in the world are **unlabelled**

Dataset
$$\mathcal{D} = \left\{ \left(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}, \mathbf{y}^{*^{(i)}} \right) \right\}_{i=1}^{N}$$
 anomaly labels

 Annotating large datasets is difficult, time-consuming and expensive



▶ Time series have temporal structure/dependencies

$$\mathbf{x} = (\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, ..., \mathbf{x}_T)$$
, $\mathbf{x}_t \in \mathbb{R}^{d_{\mathbf{x}}}$

The Principle in a Nutshell

► Based on a Variational Autoencoder¹²



¹Kingma & Welling, Auto-Encoding Variational Bayes, ICLR'14

²Rezende et al., Stochastic Backpropagation and Approximate Inference in Deep Generative Models, ICML'14

The Principle in a Nutshell





- ▶ Train a VAE on data with mostly **normal** patterns;
- It reconstructs well normal data, while it fails to reconstruct anomalous data;
- ▶ The quality of the reconstructions is used as anomaly score.

¹Kingma & Welling, Auto-Encoding Variational Bayes, ICLR'14

²Rezende et al., Stochastic Backpropagation and Approximate Inference in Deep Generative Models, ICML'14











Learning temporal dependencies $\mu_{x_1} b_{x_2} \mu_{x_3} b_{x_4} \mu_{x_7} b_{x_5}$

Bidirectional Long-Short Term Memory network

$$\mathbf{h}_t = \left[\overrightarrow{\mathbf{h}}_t; \overleftarrow{\mathbf{h}}_t\right]$$

▶ 256 units, 128 in each direction

▶ Sparse regularization, $\Omega(\mathbf{z}) = \lambda \sum_{i=1}^{d_{\mathbf{z}}} |z_i|$

Hochreiter et al., Long-Short Term Memory, Neural Computation'97

Graves et al., Bidirectional LSTM Networks for Improved Phoneme Classification and Recognition, ICANN'05



Reconstruction $\mu_{\mathrm{x}_1}\,b_{\mathrm{x}_1}\,\mu_{\mathrm{x}_2}\,b_{\mathrm{x}_2}\,\mu_{\mathrm{x}_3}\,b_{\mathrm{x}_3}\,\mu_{\mathrm{x}_T}\,b_{\mathrm{x}_T}$

Variational Latent Space

Variational parameters derived using neural networks

$$(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{z}}, \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{\mathbf{z}}) = \operatorname{Encoder}(\mathbf{x})$$

Sample from the approximate posterior $q_{\phi}(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})$

$$\mathbf{z} = \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{z}} + \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{\mathbf{z}} \odot \boldsymbol{\epsilon} \qquad \boldsymbol{\epsilon} \sim \operatorname{Normal}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$$

Kingma & Welling, Auto-Encoding Variational Bayes, ICLR'14





Combines self-attention with variational inference.

$$\mathbf{c}_t^{\text{det}} = \sum_{j=1}^T a_{tj} \mathbf{h}_j \qquad (\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{c}_t}, \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{\mathbf{c}_t}) = \text{NN}(\mathbf{c}_t^{\text{det}}), \quad \mathbf{c}_t \sim \text{Normal}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{c}_t}, \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{\mathbf{c}_t}^2 \mathbf{I})$$

Vaswani et al., Attention is All You Need, NIPS'17









Loss Function

$$\mathcal{L}(\theta,\phi;\mathbf{x}^{(n)}) = -\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{z}\sim\tilde{q}_{\phi}(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}^{(n)}), \mathbf{c}_{t}\sim\tilde{q}_{\phi}^{a}(\mathbf{c}_{t}|\mathbf{x}^{(n)})} \Big[\log p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}|\mathbf{z},\mathbf{c})\Big] + \lambda_{\mathrm{KL}} \Bigg[\mathcal{D}_{\mathrm{KL}}\Big(\tilde{q}_{\phi}(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}^{(n)}) \| p_{\theta}(\mathbf{z})\Big) + \eta \sum_{t=1}^{T} \mathcal{D}_{\mathrm{KL}}\Big(\tilde{q}_{\phi}^{a}(\mathbf{c}_{t}|\mathbf{x}^{(n)}) \| p_{\theta}(\mathbf{c}_{t})\Big)\Bigg]$$

 $[\]mathcal{D}_{\mathrm{KL}}$ denotes the Kullback-Leibler Divergence



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Optimization & Regularization

- About 270k parameters to optimize
- ► AMS-Grad optimizer³
- ► Xavier weight initialization⁴
- ▶ Denoising autoencoding criterion⁵
- ▶ Sparse regularization in the encoder Bi-LSTM⁶
- ► KL cost annealing⁷
- ► Gradient clipping⁸

Training executed on a single GPU (NVIDIA GTX 1080 TI)

³Reddi, Kale & Kumar, On the Convergence of Adam and Beyond, ICLR'18

⁴Bengio et al., Understanding the Difficulty of Training Deep Feedforward Neural Networks, AISTATS'10

⁵Bengio et al., Denoising Criterion for Variational Auto-Encoding Framework, AAAI'17

⁶Arpit et al., Why Regularized Auto-Encoders Learn Sparse Representation?, ICML'16

⁷Bowman, Vinyals et al., Generating Sentences from a Continuous Space, SIGNLL'16

⁸Bengio et al., On the Difficulty of Training Recurrent Neural Networks, ICML'13





► Use the **reconstruction error** as anomaly score.

Anomaly Score =
$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{z}_l \sim q_{\phi}(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})} \Big[\|\mathbf{x} - \underbrace{\mathbb{E}[p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}_l)]}_{\mu_{\mathbf{x}}} \|_1 \Big]$$

$$q_{\phi}(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}) = \operatorname{Normal}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{z}}, \boldsymbol{\sigma}_{\mathbf{z}}^{2}\mathbf{I})$$

 $\mathbf{z}_{l} \sim q_{\phi}(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})$

▶ Use the **reconstruction error** as anomaly score.

Anomaly Score =
$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{z}_l \sim q_\phi(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})} \Big[\|\mathbf{x} - \underbrace{\mathbb{E}[p_\theta(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}_l)]}_{\mu_{\mathbf{x}}} \|_1 \Big]$$

► Take the variability of the reconstructions into account.

Anomaly Score =
$$-\underbrace{\mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{z}_l \sim q_{\phi}(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})} \left[\log p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{z}_l) \right]}_{\text{"Reconstruction Probability"}}$$

 $q_{\phi}(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x}) = \operatorname{Normal}(\mu_{\mathbf{z}}, \sigma_{\mathbf{z}}^2 \mathbf{I})$
 $\mathbf{z}_l \sim q_{\phi}(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})$

Experiments & Results

Time Series Data



Solar PV Generation



(Production in a day without clouds)

Provided by

c side

- Recorded every 15min (96 samples per day)
- Data normalized to the installed capacity
- Daily seasonality
- Unlabelled

Variational Latent Space

z-space in 2D ($\mathcal{X}_{\mathrm{train}}^{\mathrm{normal}})$

$$\begin{array}{c} T = 32 \; (< 96) \\ d_{z} \; = \; 3 \\ \text{online mode} \end{array}$$



Finding Anomalies in the Latent Space



Reconstruction Error

-Reconstruction Probability

(top bar)

(bottom bar)













Examples







<i>a</i> 11	<i>a</i> ₁₂	a ₁₃	<i>a</i> 1 <i>T</i>
a_{21}	a ₂₂	a_{23}	a_{2T}
a ₃₁	a ₃₂	a ₃₃	a _{3T}
a_{T1}	a _{T2}	<i>a</i> _{T3}	a_{TT}



- ▶ Effective on detecting anomalies in time series data;
- ► Unsupervised;
- ► Suitable for both **univariate and multivariate** data;
- ▶ Efficient: inference and anomaly scores computation is fast;
- General: works with other kinds of sequential data (e.g., text, videos);
- ▶ Exploit the usefulness of the **attention maps** for detection;
- ▶ Make it robust to changes of the normal pattern over time.









Thank you for your attention!

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