

Result Article

Cyber Attack Detection System using Machine Learning Technique at Cloud

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ABSTRACT

Security of valuable data and information is always a very essential issue for modern digital world. Intrusion Detection System (IDS) and many security techniques are mainly used against cyber-attacks prevention system. Data mining and machine learning methods have also been used by researchers to obtain high detection rate, accuracy and low false alarm rate. Proposed work aims to design and development of an approach for improve cyber-attack detection system using cloud platform. Uses of cloud computing is increases very progressively. Using traditional ML Techniques do not support well processing of large datasets, so new approaches and platforms are needed. This paper proposes that cloud-based machine learning technique can be used in order to classify attack into a cloud-based machine learning platform. The work proposes a attack classification framework using NSL KDD Cup99 dataset. The classifier is built which is based on Multiclass Decision Forest Machine Learning Algorithm and is deployed on Microsoft's Azure Machine Learning (Azure ML) platform. Azure ML is public cloud platform. The results obtained by proposed model are evaluated in terms of accuracy and the comparison is done with benchmarks provided by competition administrators. The results obtained are promising and the paper also directs the future research work in the field.

KEYWORDS

Cloud Computing, Cyber Attack, IDS, Classification, Machine Learning, Microsoft Azure Cloud.

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Machine Learning and IDS :

Machine learning is a type of artificial intelligence (AI) that provides computers with the ability to learn without being explicitly programmed. Machine learning focuses on the development of computer programs that can teach themselves to grow and change when exposed to new data. Machine learning techniques have ability to implement a system that can learn from data. For example, a machine learning system could be trained on incoming packets to learn to distinguish between intrusive and normal packet. After learning, it can then be used to classify new incoming packets into intrusive and normal packets [23]. In machine learning, computer algorithms (learners) attempt to automatically distill knowledge from example data. This knowledge can be used to make predictions about novel data in the future and to provide insight into the nature of the target concepts applied to the research at hand, this means that a computer would learn to classify alerts into incidents and non-incidents task. A possible performance measure (P) for this task would be the Accuracy with which the machine learning program classifies the instances correctly. Machine learning often included in the category of predictive analytics as it helps to predict the future analysis.

Intrusion Detection System (IDS) is an active process or device that analyzes system and network activity for unauthorized activity [2]. An ID is hardware or software or a combination of both which is used to monitor a system or network of systems against any malicious or unauthorized activities [2]. Intrusion Detection Systems (IDSs) are used to improve network security. An ID improves the security of the network by identifying, assessing, and reporting unauthorized network activities. IDS are categorized into two classes: network-based and host-based. Network based Intrusion Detection Systems analyses network packets retrieved from the network. Host-based Intrusion Detection System analyses system calls generated by individual hosts [2]. The data flows through a network is very large and it is difficult to analyze and detect the attacks using traditional methods. Today we have number of Machine learning techniques available which are very useful for analyzing the data and detecting the attacks. In this paper we have used various machine learning techniques for network intrusion detection [2].

1.2 IDS in Cloud:

Intrusion detection system plays an important role in the security and perseverance of active defense system against intruder hostile attacks for any business and IT organization. IDS implementation in cloud computing

requires an efficient, scalable and virtualization-based approach. In cloud computing, user data and application is hosted on cloud service provider's remote servers and cloud user has a limited control over its data and resources. In such case, the administration of IDS in cloud becomes the responsibility of cloud provider. Although the administrator of cloud IDS should be the user and not the provider of cloud services.[25]

1.3 Microsoft Azure Cloud Computing Environment for Machine learning:

Microsoft's Azure Machine Learning (Azure ML) [3] is a cloud service that enables execution of machine learning process. Microsoft Azure is a public cloud platform. The benefits of using public cloud computing platform (Azure ML) includes: handling big data and access from anywhere in the world. The process of Azure ML is shown in Figure – 1, which is same as that of basic process of ML. Azure ML provides a graphical tool for managing the ML process, a set of data pre-processing modules, a set of machine learning algorithms, and an API to launch a model to applications. ML Studio is a graphical tool that is used to control the process from beginning to end i.e. from data pre-processing to run experiments using a machine learning algorithm, and test the resulting model. ML Studio also helps its users deploy that model on real cloud.

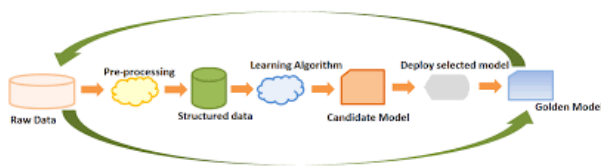


Figure 1: Machine Learning Process

The need of cloud platforms to classify KDD Cup 99 data is established in next section. The rest of the paper organized as: Section 2 briefly surveys the need of cloud platforms for IDS in intrusion dataset. The work proposed is presented in section 3. Experimental setup and result analysis is shown in section 4 and paper is concluded in section 5.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW (NEED OF CLOUD PLATFORMS FOR IDS)

Security of Information is main important issue in modern Information system. Internet attacks are rising day by day and there have been different attack detection methods accordingly. Intrusion detection systems have been use all along with the data mining and machine learning techniques to detect intrusions. In this survey discuss the data mining, cloud computing and machine learning technique which is used to develop of intrusion detection system. Traditional Intrusion detection system using data mining and machine learning techniques are work on information system they are not working on cloud environment. Here give some literature about Intrusion detection system and using cloud for classification with machine learning techniques. Multiple choices of cloud computing models are available for different work load management, performance and computational requirements. The popular statistical tools and

environments like Octave, R and Python are now embedded in the cloud as well [5].

Authors [3] worked on IDS for web proxy, taking inspiration from Intrusion Detection Systems that make use of machine learning capabilities to improve anomaly detection accuracy, this paper proposes that cloud-based machine learning can be used in order to detect and classify web proxy usage by capturing packet data and feeding it into a cloud-based machine learning web service.

Authors [23] said about the cloud-based attack system. Authors add new valued feature to the cloud-based websites and at the same time introduces new threats for such services. DDoS attack is one such serious threat. Covariance matrix approach is used in this article to detect such attacks. The results were encouraging, according to confusion matrix and ROC descriptors.

In this research work authors [24] find that the results of k-means clustering showed that a higher efficiency rate is achieved when the correct number of clusters is applied and increasing or decreasing the cluster beyond the number of data types only lessens the efficiency of the model.

3. PROPOSED FRAMEWORK FOR CLASSIFICATION:

The Proposed Framework which employs simple machine learning (ML) model with little change. The input KDDcup99 dataset is suitably processed and converted into a suitable format. The machine learning algorithms are iteratively applied in the next step, and candidate model is determined. These ML algorithms typically apply some statistical analysis like regression or more complex approaches like decision forest to the data. Here in the proposed framework, the ensemble methods [12] are also applied to the model for better accuracy. At last the model is deployed and tested on test data the snapshot of actual model build using specified steps, at Microsoft Azure ML platform, is shown in Figure – 2.

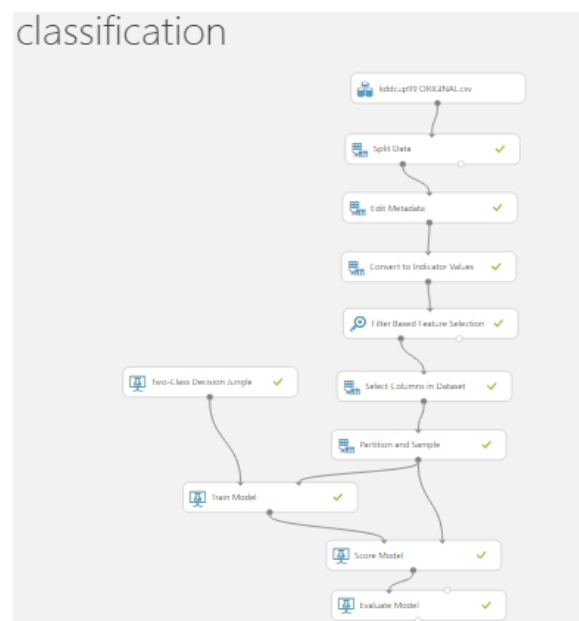


Figure 2: Model built using Azure ML

4. SIMULATION ENVIRONMENT SETUP AND RESULT ANALYSIS

Azure ML provides ML studio, a graphical tool that can be used to control the process from beginning to end. It includes: a set of data pre-processing modules; a set of machine learning algorithms; An Azure ML API to access model deployed on Azure. ML Studio allows a user to import datasets and data pre-processing methods.

4.1 KDD CUP 99 DATASET:

KDD'99 [11] has been the most widely used data set for the evaluation of anomaly detection methods. This data set is organized by Stolfo et al. [11] and is related to the data captured in DARPA'98 IDS evaluation program. DARPA'98 is about 4 gigabytes of packed together raw tcp dump data of 7 weeks of network traffic, which can be processed into about 5 million connection records, each one with about 100 bytes. KDD training dataset have approximately 4,900,000 single connection vectors each of which have 41 features and is labeled as either normal or an attack, with exactly one specific attack type. There are four attack categories in KDD99 dataset:

- (1) Probing: Scan networks to gather deeper information.
- (2) DoS: Denial of service
- (3) U2R: Illegal access to gain super user privileges
- (4) R2L: Illegal access from a remote machine.

4.2 Execution of Implemented Work (Experiment Steps):

The experimental steps that are and represented in Figure-2, are explained below:

1. Create New Resource: Machine Learning Analytics solution.
2. Import/Upload the dataset.
3. Pre-process the dataset. Data pre-processing can also be done using modules written in R or Python.
4. Randomly split and partition the data into 70% training and 30% testing, using the 'Split Data' module.
5. Identify categorical attributes and cast them into categorical features using the 'Edit Metadata' module.
6. Convert to Indicator Values module to convert columns that contain categorical values which can more easily be used as features.
7. Select Columns in Dataset those are relevant
8. Apply Ensemble Method
9. Apply Machine Learning Algorithm to Train the model.
10. Now Score and Evaluate the Model. The 'Evaluate model' also visualizes the results through confusion matrix.

4.2 Experimental Results Analysis and Discussion:

The experiment is evaluated on a simple multi-class decision forest classification accuracy parameter. Accuracy is defined as the number of correctly classified instances divided by the total number of instances:

$$\text{Accuracy} = \frac{\text{Number of correct Predictions}}{\text{Number of Instances}}$$

The results obtained using the benchmark code by setting the multicast decision forest model got the accuracy of 0.9633 in experiment, while the benchmark results given by competition administrators with is 0.50241. Here we have performed experiment at cloud platform with Multiclass decision forest techniques with an ensemble method. The evaluation results are inferred from confusion matrix shown in Figure - 3. A confusion matrix also known as error matrix and is used to describe the performance of a classifier (classification model). The overall accuracy obtained with our simulation is 0.9633, which is higher than the benchmark provided. The comparison of proposed model is done with benchmark provided by administrators and competition's winning results.

Cyber attack classification > Evaluate Model > Evaluation results

Metrics

Overall accuracy	0.98413
Average accuracy	0.98413
Micro-averaged precision	0.98413
Macro-averaged precision	0.963763
Micro-averaged recall	0.98413
Macro-averaged recall	0.697236

Cyber attack classification > Evaluate Model > Evaluation results

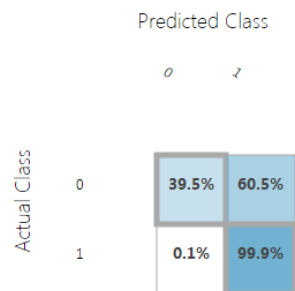


Figure 3: Confusion Matrix with Multicast Decision Forest

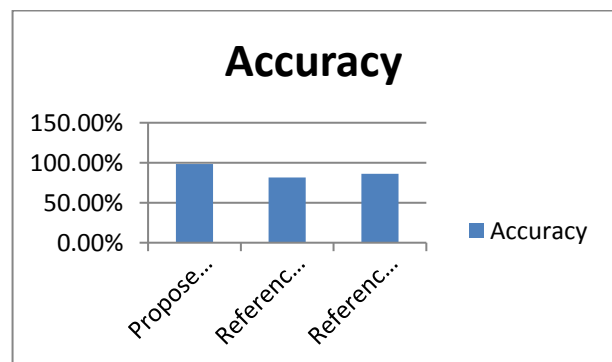


Figure 4: Comparison for Accuracy Comparison Graph

	Proposed Work	Reference [24]	Reference [25]
Accuracy	98.41%	81.61%	86.15%

The comparison for accuracy obtained, is shown in Figure-4.

5. CONCLUSION & FUTURE WORK

In this paper, Machine Learning technique has been proposed in terms of accuracy and detection rate for four categories of attack under different percentage of normal data. The purpose of this proposed method efficiently classifies abnormal and normal data by using very large data set and detect intrusions even in large datasets with short training and testing times. With proposed method we get high accuracy for many categories of attacks and detection rate with low false alarm. In this paper, we proposed an Azure ML based model for attack classification. The model used Multicast Decision Forest algorithm to train the classifier. The evaluation results show that the proposed classifier performs better in terms of accuracy. We have performed experiment with multicast decision forest and an ensemble method. Our experiments showed the better accuracy than benchmark. The proposed research can provide potential approach for training and testing of big data for addressing multi-class classification problems. So, further research will evaluate the framework with different ML algorithms. In future the model can be optimized to handle imbalanced datasets from various sources and domains. Also, the model can be modified for applying on Hadoop MapReduce [11] platform.

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