Network Anomaly Classification by Support Vector Classifiers Ensemble and Non-Linear Projection Techniques

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Overview

• Categories of attacks
• Situation
• Classification system proposed
• Data preprocessing stage
• Feature selection stage
• Dimensionality reduction using PCA, Kernel PCA and Isomap
• Classification using Support Vector Classifiers (SVC) ensemble
• Experimental setup
• Experimental results
• Conclusions
• Future works
Categories of attacks

1. Denial of Service Attack (DoS)
2. Probing Attack (PROBE)
3. User to Root Attack (U2R)
4. Remote to Local Attack (R2L)
Improve the classification rate of network attacks and categorize such attacks using IDS.
Classification system proposed

Anomaly detection method using a support vector classifiers and non linear projection techniques.
Data preprocessing stage  
(encoding and normalization)

- We have used the NSL-KDD dataset, where each record consists of 41 features which can be symbolic and binary.

- We have mapped each connection type into a subspace $\mathbb{R}^d$.

- Data normalization ensures that all the features are in the same scale. In this work, continuous variables are normalized to “zero mean” and “unity variance”.
Feature selection stage

- We used the Fisher Discriminant Ratio (FDR), to preselect the features with the highest discriminatory power for each connection type.

\[
FDR = \frac{(\mu_i - \mu_j)^2}{\sigma_i + \sigma_j}
\]

Equation FDR for the 2-class separation case

- We used techniques both linear dimensionality reduction (PCA) and nonlinear (Kernel PCA and Isomap) to demonstrate the effectiveness of data-based embedded KDD99.
Dimensionality reduction using PCA

Set of correlated features → PCA → Set of uncorrelated features
Used to train Support Vector Machines (SVMs)

Set of orthogonal basis vectors
- data can be expressed
- linear combination of that basis
Dimensionality reduction using Kernel PCA

Original data → projected using the kernel function → High-dimensional space

- Original data is replaced by dot products
- Dot products replaced by Kernel function in PCA
Dimensionality reduction using Isomap

1. Compute neighbours for each data point
2. Compute pairwise distance matrix \((M)\) between points
3. Find eigenvectors of \((M)\)
Classification using Support Vector Classifiers (SVC) ensemble

Given a dataset \{x_1, \ldots, x_n\} and its corresponding class labels \{y_1, \ldots, y_n\}, SVC’s aim is to solve the following optimization problem:

\[
\min_{w, b, \xi} \frac{1}{2} w^T w + C \sum_{i=1}^{l} \xi_i
\]

subject to constraint

\[
y_i (w^T \phi(x_i) + b) \geq 1 - \xi_i, \quad \xi_i \geq 0
\]

\(\phi\) defines the kernel function transforming training vectors \(X_i\) into a higher dimensional space.

RBF kernel = defined as \(K(x_i, x_j) = \exp(-\gamma \|x_i - x_j\|^2)\), \(\gamma > 0\).
Classification using SVC ensemble – Training Phase

Specific features computed from each attack type are used to train a binary classifier specialized in differentiate a specific attack from the rest.
In the case of two or more experts classified the same sample as belonging to different classes, the class corresponding to the maximum distance to the SVC hyperplane is selected.
Experimental Setup

| Proposed method to detect network anomalies: | **cross-validation** |
| Training and testing data: | **NSL-KDD** |

Dataset  **NSL-KDD**

KDD'99-based dataset contains about 4GB from captures of tcpdump

Each connection contains 41 features

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>...</th>
<th>41</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Basic features</strong></td>
<td><strong>Traffic-based features</strong></td>
<td><strong>Content-based features</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Experimental Results

The maximum accuracy is achieved using between 5 and 10 features.

Comparison among different linear and non-linear feature reduction techniques
Experimental Results

ROC curve for normal/attack classification using KernelPCA as dimensionality reduction method

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Number of features</th>
<th>True Positive Rate</th>
<th>False Positive Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DM-Naïve Bayes [16]</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>96.5</td>
<td>3.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proposed method</td>
<td>23</td>
<td><strong>93.4%</strong></td>
<td><strong>14%</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Random Forest [18]</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>80.67</td>
<td>**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decision Trees [18]</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>81.05</td>
<td>**</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** Data not provided by the author

Attacks different types
Tested separate

- Normal connections: 0.94
- Attack DoS: 0.86
- Attack Probe: 0.93
- Attack U2R: 0.81
- Attack R2L: 0.91
Conclusions

• Presented a classification approach for network anomaly classification that combines nonlinear dimensionality reduction techniques and an SVC ensemble to build expert classifiers.

• Three different dimensionality reduction techniques have been used to assess their ability to generate discriminative features for each attack type.

• The maximum accuracy is achieved using between 5 and 10 features. Non-linear techniques (Kernel PCA and Isomap) perform slightly better than linear PCA.
Future works

• Improve the method optimizing parameters in both dimensionality reduction and SVC classifiers.

• Improve the system of classification samples including more classifiers in the ensemble and optimized features for the two-class case.
Thanks!