

# Anomaly Detection with Robust Deep Autoencoders

original article by C. Zhou and R. C. Pefferroth

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# Deep Autoencoders

- A Deep Autoencoder (DAE) is constituted by two main components: an encoder  $E$  and a Decoder  $D$ . It produces a low dimensional representation of data  $Z = E(X)$ .
- The DAE learns the identity map so that the reconstruction  $\bar{X} = D(E(X))$  is as close as possible to the original input  $X$ .
- $E, D$  can be any mapping between the data space and the coded space. Usually we use FCNN or more complex models (LSTM or GRU).
- The loss function: it is the minimum reconstruction error w.r.t. some parametrized encoding and decoding functions and a distance (in this case the  $L_2$  norm)

$$\min_{\theta, \phi} \|X - D_{\theta}(E_{\phi}(X))\|_2 \quad (1)$$

# Principal Component Analysis

- Assume following data shape:  $N$  samples of  $d$  dimensional data  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times d}$  and assume each feature has 0 mean.
- Principal Component Analysis (PCA) is an orthogonal linear transformation  $U$  s.t. in the new coordinate system the  $i$ -th component has the  $i$ -th greatest data variance.
- Ideally we want to fit a  $d$ -ellipsoid into the data. The length of an axis of the ellipsoid represents the variance of data along that axis.
- PCA is often used for dimensionality reduction or encoding: we can project the data on the first  $k < d$  principal components.

# Principal Component Analysis

Mathematically we can define:

$$w_1 = \arg \max_{\|w\|_2=1} \|Xw\|_2^2 = \arg \max_w \frac{w^T X^T X w}{w^T w} \quad (2)$$

for the first component. Then for the  $k$ -th component we first subtract the first  $k - 1$  principal component from  $X$

$$\hat{X}_k = X - \sum_{i=1}^{k-1} X w_i w_i^T \quad (3)$$

and finally solving again the similar problem:

$$w_k = \arg \max_{\|w\|_2=1} \|\hat{X}_k w\|_2^2 = \arg \max_w \frac{w^T \hat{X}_k^T \hat{X}_k w}{w^T w} \quad (4)$$

# Robust Principal Component Analysis

- Robust Principal Component Analysis (RPCA) is a generalization of PCA that aims to reduce the sensitivity of PCA to outliers.
- The idea is to find a low-dimensional representation of data cleaned from the sparse outliers.
- Assume that data  $X$  can be represented as  $X = L + S$ :  $L$  has low rank and is the low-dimensional representation of  $X$  while  $S$  is a sparse matrix containing outliers and anomalous data.

# Robust Principal Component Analysis

- The problem can be addressed as:

$$\min_{L,S} \rho(L) + \lambda \|S\|_0 \quad (5)$$

$$\text{s. t. } \|X - L - S\|_F^2 = 0 \quad (6)$$

where  $\rho(\cdot)$  is the rank of a matrix and we used the zero norm.

- This optimization problem is NP-hard and tractable only for small matrices.
- The used objective is instead:

$$\min_{L,S} \|L\|_* + \lambda \|S\|_1 \quad (7)$$

$$\text{s. t. } \|X - L - S\|_F^2 = 0 \quad (8)$$

where  $\|\cdot\|_*$  is the nuclear norm i. e. the sum of singular values of a matrix.

# Robust Deep Autoencoders

- Robust Deep Autoencoders (RDAE) combine the representation learning of DAEs and the anomaly detection capability of RPCA.
- Noise and outliers are incompressible in the lower dimensional space we want to represent our data in.
- We want to exclude anomalies and learn a low dimensional representation of data.
- We will see two RDAE types, one for  $l_1$  regularization and one for  $l_{2,1}$ .



# RDAE with $l_1$ regularization

- We try to decompose data as  $X = L_D + S$  as in RPCA.
- By removing the noise  $S$  the autoencoder can better reconstruct  $L_D$ .
- We then combine the two losses in the following minimization problem

$$\min_{\theta} \|L_D - D_{\theta}(E_{\theta}(L_D))\|_2 + \lambda \|S\|_0 \quad (9)$$

$$\text{s.t. } X - L_D - S = 0 \quad (10)$$

- The parameter  $\lambda$  controls the sparsity of  $S$ .

## The role of $\lambda$

- A smaller  $\lambda$  means that the norm of  $S$  is less important w.r.t. the DAE loss.
- The model will reconstruct better but recognize less outliers. Helpful if we want a more faithful representation.
- A larger  $\lambda$ , instead, gives more importance to the norm of  $S$  as a loss.
- This means that the model will recognize more (or even too much) outliers, sacrificing some reconstruction performance.
- Finding the right value for  $\lambda$  is the main challenge for this model.

# The true objective

- The previous loss is highly non tractable. We focus on the following problem:

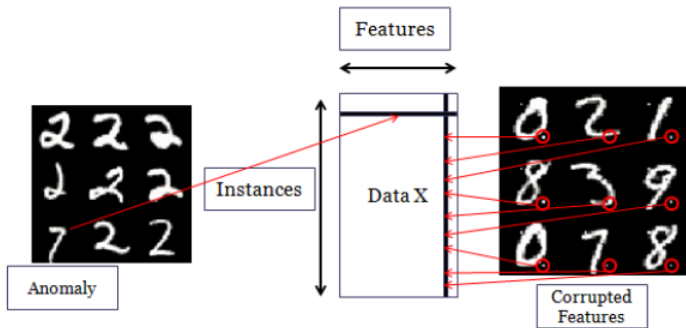
$$\min_{\theta} \|L_D - D_{\theta}(E_{\theta}(L_D))\|_2 + \lambda \|S\|_1 \quad (11)$$

$$\text{s.t. } X - L_D - S = 0 \quad (12)$$

- The autoencoder is trained with  $L_D$ , the supposedly cleaned part.
- There is no specific requirement about the DAE mappings.

# Regularization

- The RDAE with  $l_1$  penalization assumes that outliers and noise are not structured. The  $l_1$  penalty just induces sparsity. We could have different kind of anomalies:
- Feature (column) wise: a feature is corrupted in many samples.
- Data (row) wise: a particular sample is anomalous.



# The $l_{2,1}$ norm

- The  $l_{2,1}$  norm is defined as ( $X \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times d}$ ):

$$\|X\|_{2,1} = \sum_{j=1}^n \|X_j\|_2 = \sum_{j=1}^n \left( \sum_{i=1}^N |X_{ij}|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \quad (13)$$

- The  $l_{2,1}$  norm can be seen as introducing a  $l_2$  norm regularization over data for each feature and then adding a  $l_1$  regularization accross features.
- We can also do the other way around: to recognize data anomalies (by row) just apply the  $l_{2,1}$  norm to  $X^T$ .

- The final optimization problem for the RDAE with  $l_{2,1}$  regularization for data anomalies is then

$$\min_{\theta} \|L_D - D_{\theta}(E_{\theta}(L_D))\|_2 + \lambda \|S^T\|_{2,1} \quad (14)$$

$$\text{s.t. } X - L_D - S = 0 \quad (15)$$

- For detecting feature anomalies we just need to change the objective to

$$\min_{\theta} \|L_D - D_{\theta}(E_{\theta}(L_D))\|_2 + \lambda \|S\|_{2,1} \quad (16)$$

$$\text{s.t. } X - L_D - S = 0 \quad (17)$$

# The proximal operator

- To see in detail the training procedure for the RDAE we first need to consider the proximal operator.
- General framework: find the solution to  $\min f(x) + \lambda g(x)$  where  $g$  is convex. Consider

$$\text{prox}_{\lambda, g}(x) = \arg \min_y g(y) + \frac{1}{2\lambda} \|x - y\|_2^2 \quad (18)$$

- In the case of proximal gradient optimization the iterative step is defined as:

$$x^{k+1} = \text{prox}_{\lambda, g}(x^k - \alpha \nabla f(x^k)) \quad (19)$$



- In this case we then want to obtain a solution of the problems

$$\text{prox}_{\lambda, l_1}(x) = \arg \min_y l_1(y) + \frac{1}{2\lambda} \|x - y\|_2^2 \quad (20)$$

$$\text{prox}_{\lambda, l_{2,1}}(x) = \arg \min_y l_{2,1}(y) + \frac{1}{2\lambda} \|x - y\|_2^2 \quad (21)$$

- For the  $l_1$  norm, the solution to the proximal problem is

$$\text{prox}_{\lambda, l_1}(x) = \begin{cases} x_i - \lambda, & x_i > \lambda \\ x_i + \lambda, & x_i < -\lambda \\ 0, & x_i \in [-\lambda, \lambda] \end{cases} \quad (22)$$

for  $S \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times d}$  it gets applied element by element.

- $l_{2,1}$  norm: for feature anomalies we obtain (letting  $S_{\cdot j}$  be the column vector  $S_{ij}, j = 1, \dots, N$ )

$$(\text{prox}_{\lambda, l_{2,1}}(S))_{ij} = \begin{cases} S_{ij} - \lambda \frac{S_{ij}}{\|S_{\cdot j}\|_2}, & \|S_{\cdot j}\|_2 > \lambda \\ 0, & \|S_{\cdot j}\|_2 \leq \lambda \end{cases} \quad (23)$$

- Substitute  $S$  with  $S^T$  for data anomalies.

# The main algorithm

- The method used to train the RDAE is the Alternating Direction Method of Multipliers (ADMM).
- It is a two-step iterative process to solve the problem

$$\min_{\theta} \|L_D - D_{\theta}(E_{\theta}(L_D))\|_2 + \lambda \|S^T\|_{2,1} \quad (24)$$

$$\text{s.t. } X - L_D - S = 0 \quad (25)$$

- First, we fix  $S$  and optimize the DAE loss  $\|L_D - D_{\theta}(E_{\theta}(L_D))\|_2$  with backpropagation.
- Then, we fix  $L_D$  and optimize the regularization term with the proximal method.

The full procedure is the following: given input  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times n}$ , initialize  $L_D \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times n}$ ,  $S \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times n}$  as zero matrices,  $L_S = X$  and initialize the DAE randomly. For each iteration do:

- $L_D = X - S$
- Minimize  $\|L_D - D_\theta(E_\theta(L_D))\|_2$  with backpropagation.
- Set  $L_D = D(E(L_D))$  as the reconstruction.
- Set  $S = X - L_D$ .
- Optimize  $S$  using a  $\text{prox}_{\lambda, l}$  function of choice.
- If  $c_1 = \frac{\|X - L_D - S\|_2}{\|X\|_2} < \epsilon$  or  $c_2 = \frac{\|L_S - L_D - S\|_2}{\|X\|_2} < \epsilon$  we have early convergence.
- Set  $L_S = L_D + S$ .

Return  $L_D$  and  $S$ .

# Results

- I tried to reproduce some of the results by the original article.
- We will initially use the MNIST digit dataset, which consists of 50000 train samples and 10000 test images.
- Data was flattened from images of shape  $(28, 28, 1)$  into vectors of length 784. Train data is then a matrix in  $\mathbb{R}^{50000 \times 784}$ .
- Pixel values are converted from integers between 0 and 255 to floats between 0 and 1.

# Implementation

- The RDAE and the standard DAEs used in this experimental tries were implemented using Tensorflow 2.9.1 on python 3.8.
- For the random forest classifier and the isolation forest models were taken from SciKit-learn version 1.1.1.
- Full implementation and details can be found on GitHub

# $l_1$ Robust Deep Autoencoder

- To assess the performance of the  $l_1$  RDAE the proposed procedure is the following:
- The training images get corrupted with a percentage of pixel (from 5% to 50%) changed to a random value between 0 and 1.
- Both the RDAE with  $l_1$  regularization and a standard DAE (with same architecture as the DAE from the RDAE) are trained on these corrupted images.
- From the RDAE obtain the two matrices  $L_D$ , the cleaned data, and  $S$ , the sparse and anomalous part.

# $l_1$ Robust Deep Autoencoder

- Given the trained models we obtain the two bottleneck layer encodings:  $Z = E(X)$  for the DAE and  $Z_R = E_R(L_D)$  for the RDAE.
- These encodings are divided into a training test ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ) and a test set ( $\frac{1}{3}$ ).
- Two random forest classifiers are then trained on the training encodings extracted to classify the digit.
- We test how these RF classifiers perform on the test set.

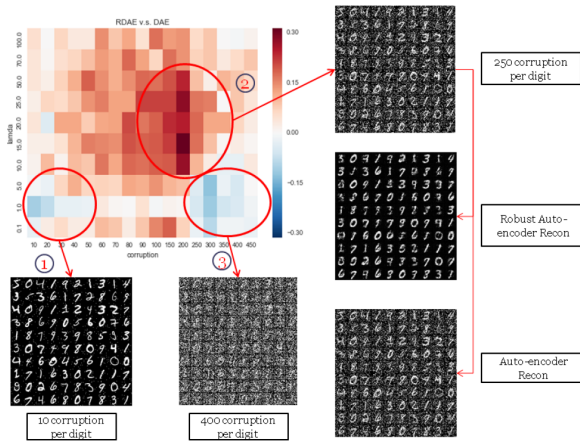


- This should show how well the model is able to extract the important features in the low dimensional representation.
- In this case the RDAE and DAE need to denoise the images and summarize the features.
- Both architectures are simple FCNN with layers of size 784 (input), 200 and 10 (the bottleneck and hidden feature layer).
- The RDAE was trained for 10 outer iterations with 100 inner iterations each, while the DAE was trained for 100 epochs. The batch size is 256.

## $l_1$ RDAE analysis

- Unfortunately, I could not replicate the results by the article, even by changing parameters.
- The authors showed a significant improvement in performance by the RDAE, which didn't happen in my experiments.
- We see the results in function of  $\lambda$  and the corruption percentage.

# Original results



# Deep Autoencoder RF performance

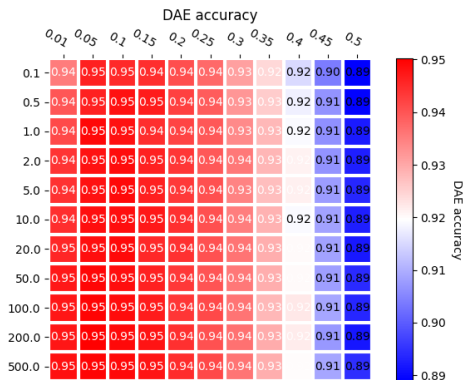


Figure: Performance of the Random forest on the hidden layer of base Deep Autoencoder on different  $\lambda$ , corruption

# $l_1$ RDAE RF performance

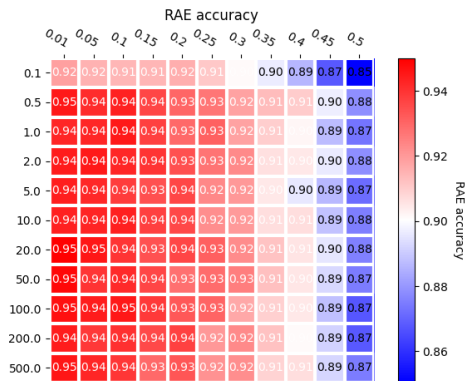


Figure: Performance of the Random forest on the hidden layer of base  $l_1$  RDAE on different  $\lambda$ , corruption

# Performance comparison

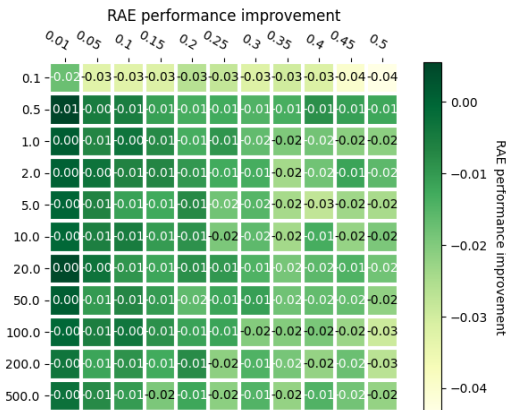


Figure: Performance increase of using RDAE on different  $\lambda$ , corruption

## Comments on performance

- In almost each case the RDAE performed slightly worse than the DAE.
- The RDAE performance is not bad, but the simpler DAE approach seems to work better at this task.
- The 30% improvement they showed is impossible to get from this DAE performance.
- The best value for  $\lambda$  is 20.0, even though almost all values showed similar results.

## Reconstruction/cleaning of noisy images

- It is really fascinating and interesting to see the denoising capabilities of the two models.
- I selected  $\lambda = 20.0$  as it is the value for which latent representation of data gave approximately the best results for every percentage of corruption.
- For the RDAE we consider the cleaned  $L_D$  version obtaining from the training procedure.
- For the DAE we consider the reconstruction  $\bar{X} = D(E(X))$



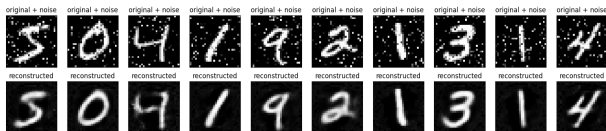


Figure: DAE cleaned data, corruption 10%

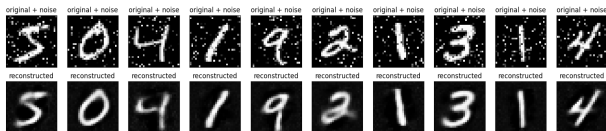


Figure: RAE cleaned data, corruption 10%

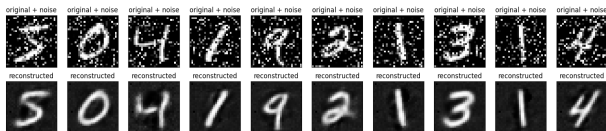


Figure: DAE cleaned data, corruption 20%

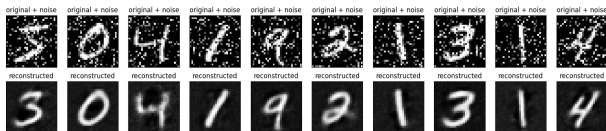


Figure: RAE cleaned data, corruption 20%

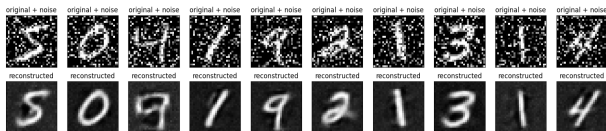


Figure: DAE cleaned data, corruption 30%

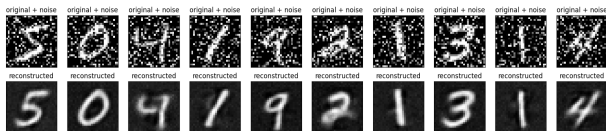


Figure: RAE cleaned data, corruption 30%

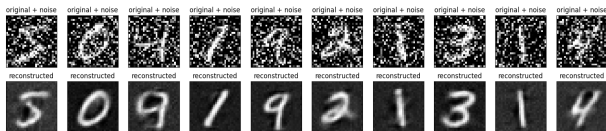


Figure: DAE cleaned data, corruption 40%

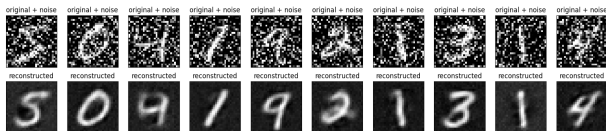


Figure: RAE cleaned data, corruption 40%



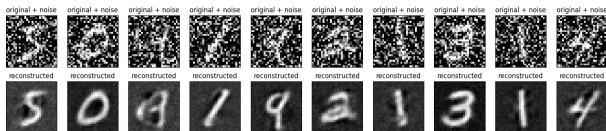


Figure: DAE cleaned data, corruption 50%

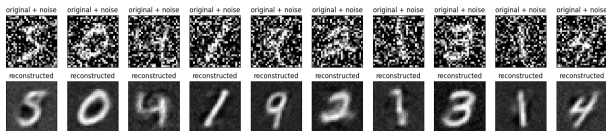


Figure: RAE cleaned data, corruption 50%

## $l_{2,1}$ Robust Deep Autoencoder

- The data anomaly detection experiment aims to separate a specific digit of the MNIST dataset from others.
- All the 4 digit images in the training set are collected in our dataset.
- Then, some images are chosen at random from all the other digits until they reach 5% of total images in the dataset.
- These will be considered as the outliers of our data.

- The  $l_{2,1}$  RDAE is trained on this dataset without any side information. It has to recognize outliers completely on its own.
- The model architecture is the same as for the  $l_1$  RDAE experiment.
- The only parameter that requires tuning is  $\lambda$ .
- We consider an instance anomalous whenever the  $S$  matrix has non-zero entries on its row.

- Model performance is assessed by how well it recognizes the correct "outliers".
- The metrics used are the accuracy, the precision score, the recall score and the F1 score defined down below.

$$ACC = \frac{TP + TN}{P + N} \quad P = \frac{TP}{TP + FP} \quad (26)$$

$$R = \frac{TP}{TP + FN} \quad F1 = 2 \frac{P \cdot R}{P + R} \quad (27)$$

- The F1 score, which tries to average in some way precision and recall, is the metrics used to select the  $\lambda$  parameter.

# Original performance

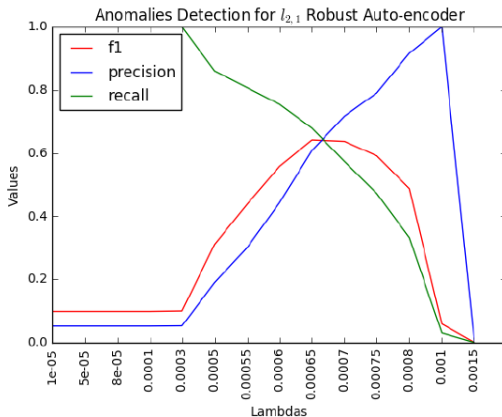


Figure:  $L_{2,1}$  RDAE anomaly detection performance from original article

## Anomaly detection performance

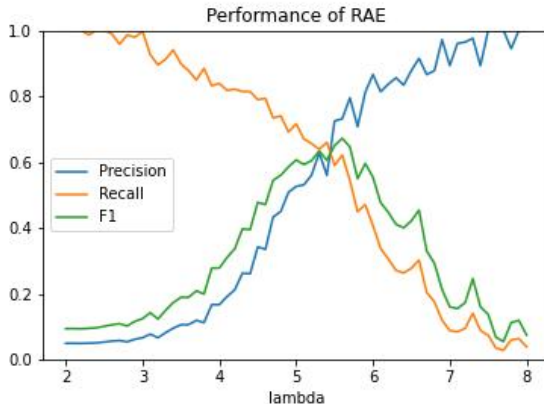


Figure:  $L_{2,1}$  RDAE anomaly detection performance.  $\lambda$  from 2 to 8

# Anomaly detection performance



Figure:  $L_{2,1}$  RDAE anomaly detection performance.  $\lambda$  from 5 to 6



## Anomaly detection performance

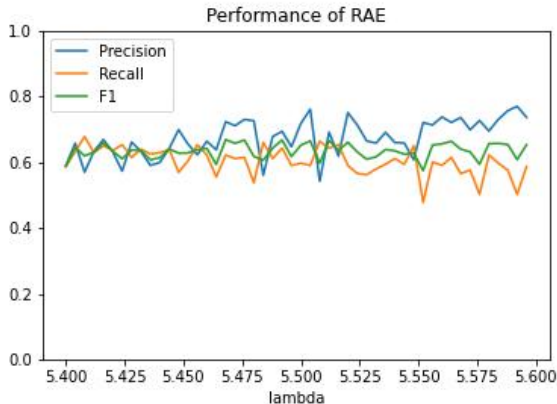


Figure:  $L_{2,1}$  RDAE anomaly detection performance.  $\lambda$  from 5.4 to 5.6

- The maximum performance is obtained with  $\lambda = 5.468$  with an  $F_1$  score of 0.668.
- Focusing on all values from  $\lambda = 5$  to  $\lambda = 6$  the RDAE has an accuracy of over 95% in recognizing anomalies. The  $F_1$  score in this range is almost everytime above 0.55.
- The  $F_1$  score is almost everytime above 0.6 for  $\lambda$  in the  $[5.4, 5.6]$  range.
- Best result obtained by the authors is an  $F_1$  score of 0.64 for  $\lambda = 0.00065$ . This different value of  $\lambda$  is in my opinion due to the different parameters of the neural network.

For each value of  $\lambda$  we analyze 3 images:

- The reconstruction of the original images from the DAE in the RDAE  $\bar{X} = D(E(X))$ .
- The final  $L_D$  image (the "clean" version, in this case it should only contain 4s)
- $S$  image, which should be non empty only for outliers.

We look 3 different values for  $\lambda$ : the best one identified above, 8.0 which adds too much penalization with few outliers identified and 4.0 which is a low value and a lot of 4s are considered outliers.

## Original Images data

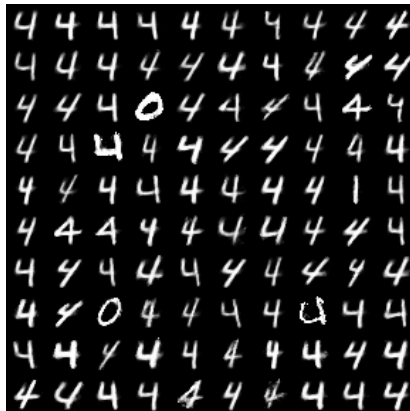
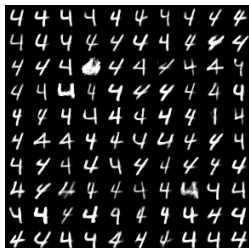
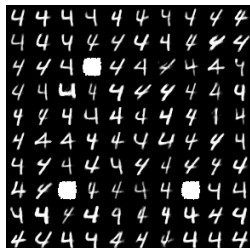


Figure: Original images for the  $L_{2,1}$  RDAE

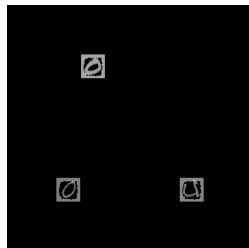
$$\lambda = 5.468$$



(a)  $\bar{X}$ , reconstruction



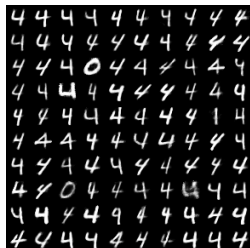
(b)  $L_D$ , cleaned data



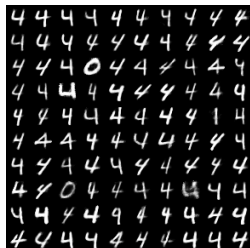
(c)  $S$ , outliers

Figure: Accuracy: 0.970, precision: 0.722, recall: 0.621, F1 score: 0.668

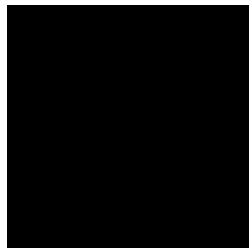
$\lambda = 8.0$



(a)  $\bar{X}$ , reconstruction



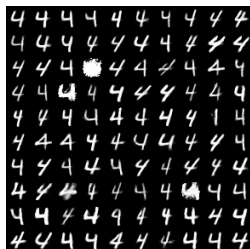
(b)  $L_D$ , cleaned data



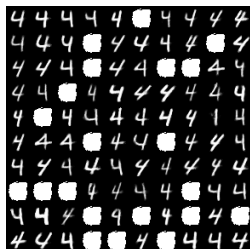
(c)  $S$ , outliers

Figure: Accuracy: 0.953, precision: 1.00, recall: 0.0386, F1 score: 0.0743

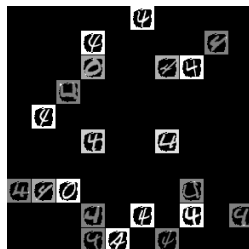
$\lambda = 4.0$



(a)  $\bar{X}$ , reconstruction



(b)  $L_D$ , cleaned data



(c)  $S$ , outliers

Figure: Accuracy: 0.788, precision: 0.167, recall: 0.839, F1 score: 0.278

- The performance of the RDAE as outlier detector is compared with the one obtained using the isolation forest method.
- The isolation forest method was a SOTA method for outlier detection. It is based on the idea that outliers are few, different and separated from the rest.
- These outliers get recognized using isolation trees which try to separate points from others.
- The only parameter to be optimized is the outlier fraction (from 0 to 0.5).



# Isolation forest performance

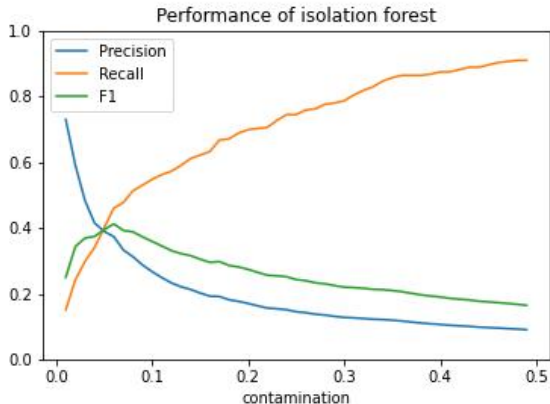


Figure: Isolation forest performance

- The best results is 0.41 with the outlier fraction set to the value of 0.06 (which is really close to the outlier true fraction of 5%).
- This result is really close to the original article. The authors obtained a best  $F_1$  score of 0.37 with 0.11 outlier fraction.
- The little difference is in my opinion related to the different datasets.
- In each case the performance by isolation forest is far worse than the RDAE.

## Time series experiment

- I tried to apply this method to time series.
- In this case we are going to use a dataset from the Numenta Anomaly Benchmark (NAB). The database is called machine temperature system failure.
- It is the sensor data of an internal component of a large, industrial machine. It should have 3 anomalies: the first anomaly is a planned shutdown of the machine. The second anomaly is difficult to detect and directly led to the third anomaly, a catastrophic failure of the machine.
- Data has 22464 timesteps in total. I chose to consider subsequences of length 144. The final dataset has then 22321 training time series.
- Data is normalized all together to be in  $(0, 1)$ .

## RDAE architectures

I tried using 3 architectures for the autoencoder part in the RDAE.

- The first one is a Dense Neural Network with hidden layers of 60 and 20. It is trained for 20 outer iterations and 50 inner iterations for the autoencoder, batch size 256 ,  $\epsilon = 10^{-8}$ .
- The second and the third one are a LSTM and a GRU with two layers of 32 and 16 units, 10 outer iterations and 25 inner iterations with same batch size as before.

# Analysis

- Since data is unlabeled we don't have a clear benchmark for finding the correct value for  $\lambda$ .
- I tried different values for  $\lambda$  to see how the number of outliers scales.
- For each architecture I picked some random anomalies and non-anomalies, to show how the RDAE is acting on time series and to have a look at what kind of anomalies it detects.

# Anomalies found

$\lambda$	0.1	0.5	0.7	1.0	2.0	3.0	3.2	3.3	4
<b>Dense</b>	All	751	250	14	0	0	0	0	0
<b>LSTM</b>	All	7525	4208	2068	306	109	74	9	0
<b>GRU</b>	All	7277	4505	2454	331	139	103	80	0

Table: Anomalies found by the two architectures w.r.t.  $\lambda$

# Dense RDAE

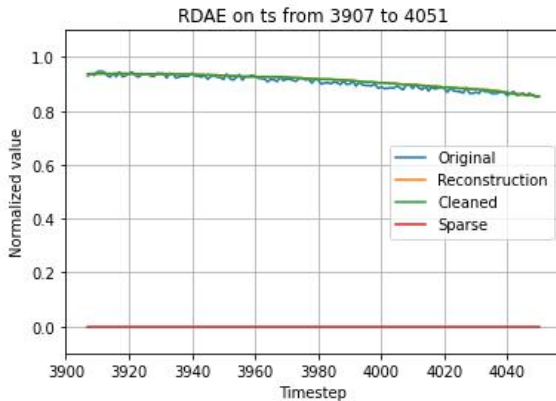


Figure: Example of a non anomaly subsequence for  $\lambda = 1.0$

## Dense RDAE

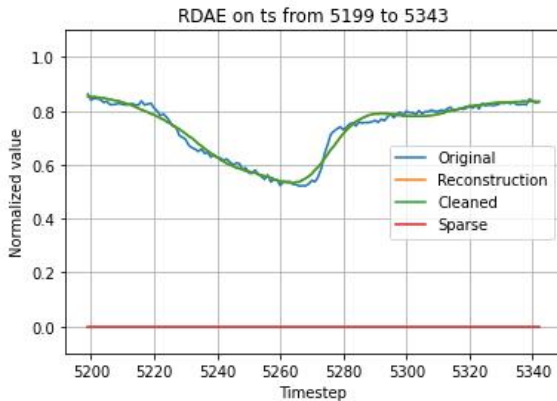


Figure: Example of a non anomaly subsequence for  $\lambda = 1.0$



## Dense RDAE

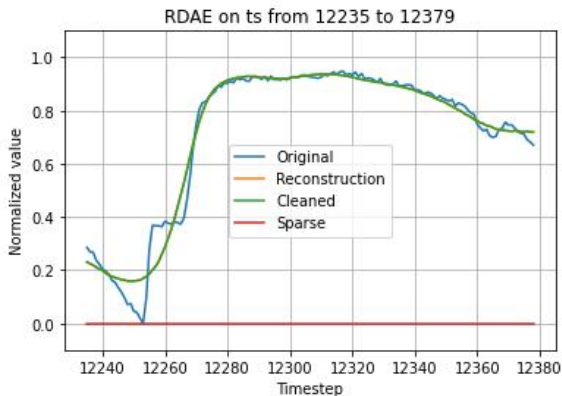


Figure: Example of a non anomaly subsequence for  $\lambda = 1.0$

# Dense RDAE

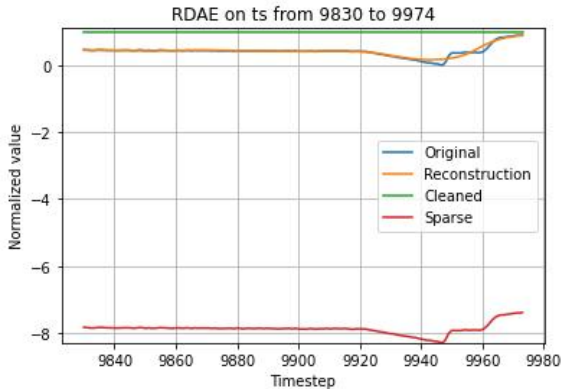


Figure: Example of a anomaly subsequence for  $\lambda = 1.0$

## Dense RDAE

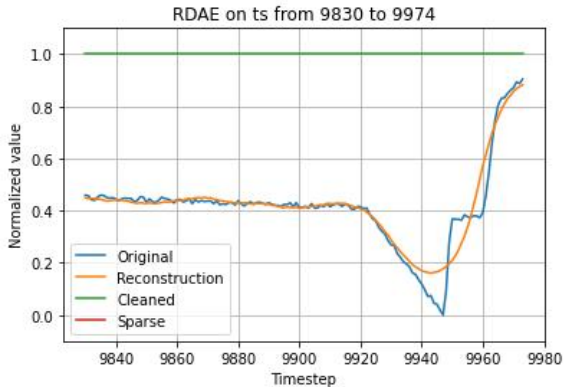


Figure: Example of a anomaly subsequence for  $\lambda = 1.0$

## Dense RDAE

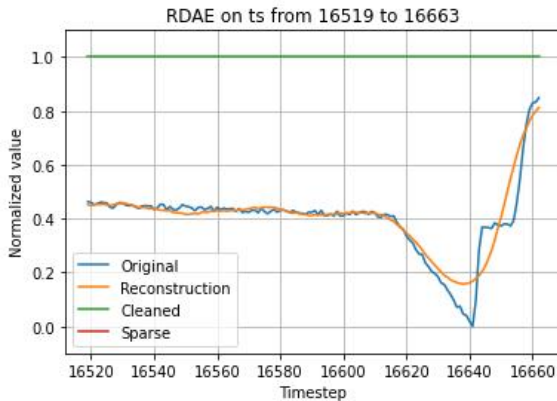


Figure: Example of a anomaly subsequence for  $\lambda = 1.0$

## Dense RDAE

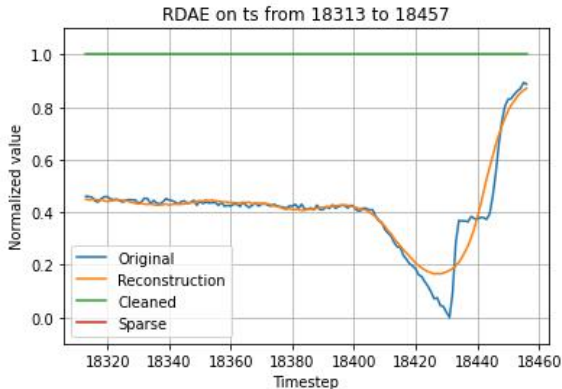


Figure: Example of a anomaly subsequence for  $\lambda = 1.0$

## Dense RDAE

- All of the anomalies found reach the 0 value (min temperature of all time series).
- Note that the different anomalies found DO NOT overlap. So each of the failures is only recognized once.
- This may also create problems, since as you can see one failure is not recognized as anomaly.
- In general, the reconstruction is a non-noisy version of the signal.

# LSTM RDAE

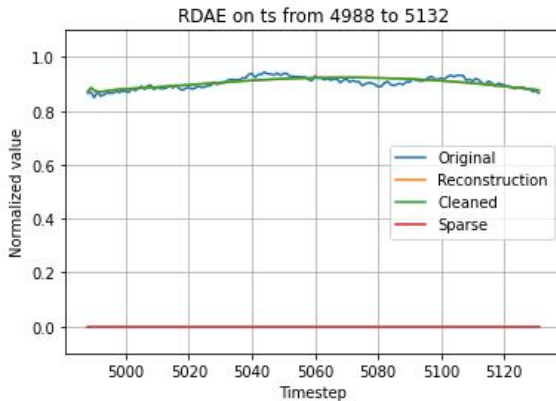


Figure: Example of a non anomaly subsequence for  $\lambda = 3.3$

# LSTM RDAE

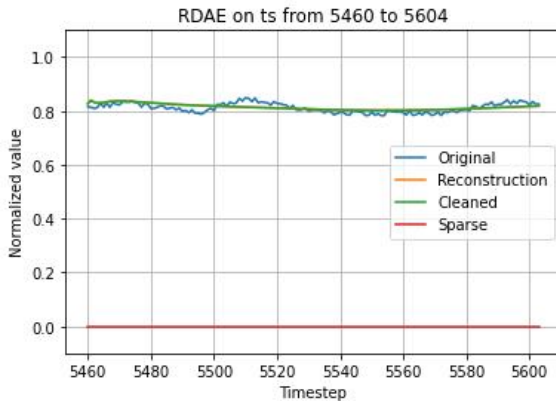


Figure: Example of a non anomaly subsequence for  $\lambda = 3.3$



# LSTM RDAE

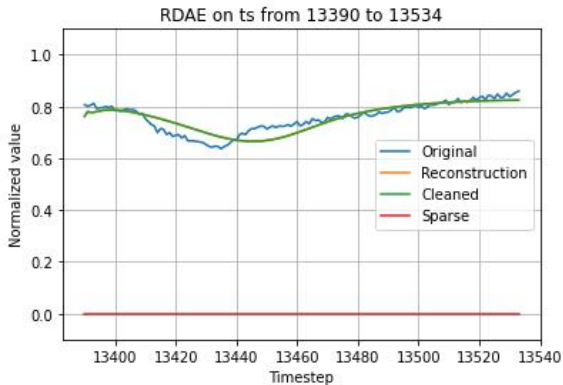


Figure: Example of a non anomaly subsequence for  $\lambda = 3.3$

# LSTM RDAE

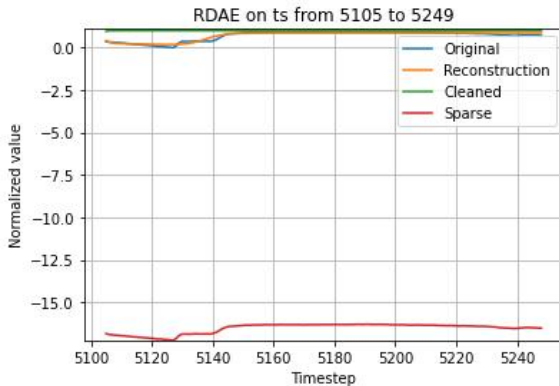


Figure: Example of a anomaly subsequence for  $\lambda = 3.3$

# LSTM RDAE

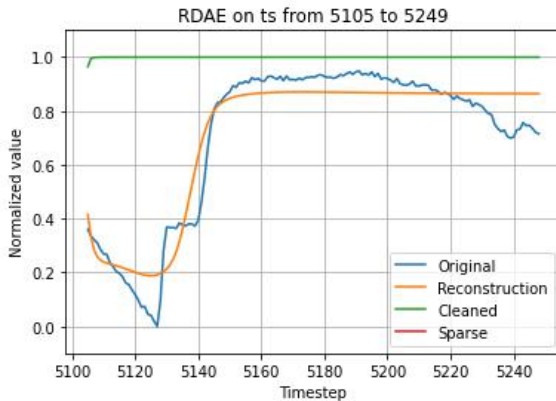


Figure: Example of a anomaly subsequence for  $\lambda = 3.3$

# LSTM RDAE

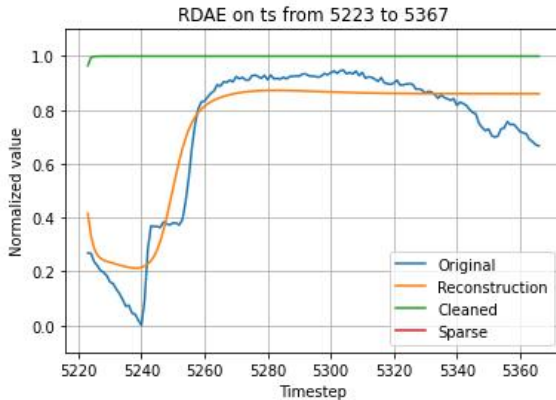


Figure: Example of a anomaly subsequence for  $\lambda = 3.3$

# LSTM RDAE

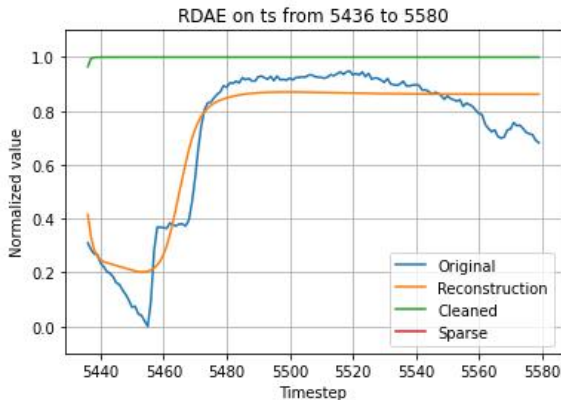


Figure: Example of a anomaly subsequence for  $\lambda = 3.3$

## LSTM RDAE

- All of the anomalies found reach the 0 value (min temperature of all time series).
- Also in this case different anomalies found DO NOT overlap. So each of the failures is only recognized once. In this case this happens at the beginning of the subsequence
- The reconstruction here is far worse than in the dense case.
- Performance could be improved using more parameters in the LSTM case. Note that computation time is much higher ( $\sim 4$  minutes for dense,  $\sim 20$  minutes for LSTM, with the help of a RTX3070 laptop).

# GRU RDAE

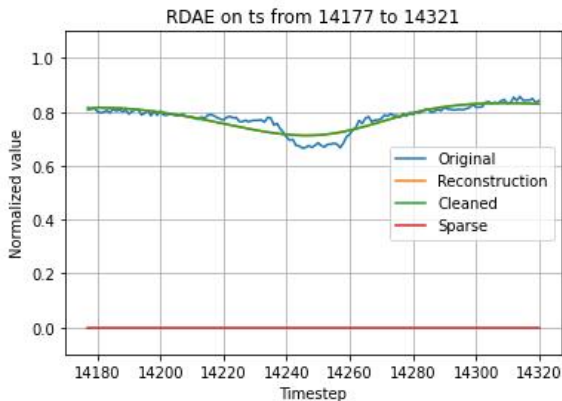


Figure: Example of a non anomaly subsequence for  $\lambda = 3.3$

# GRU RDAE

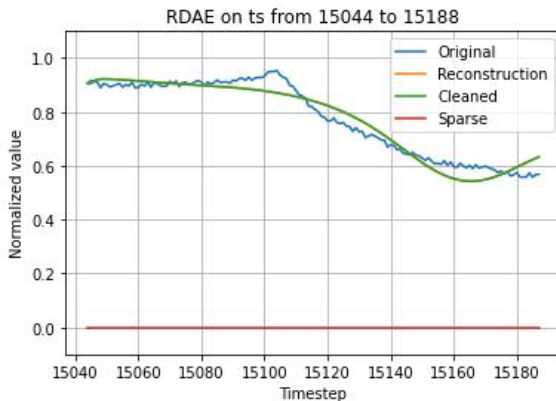


Figure: Example of a non anomaly subsequence for  $\lambda = 3.3$



## GRU RDAE

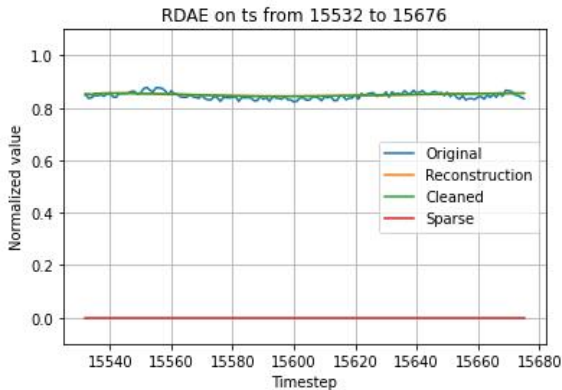


Figure: Example of a non anomaly subsequence for  $\lambda = 3.3$

# GRU RDAE

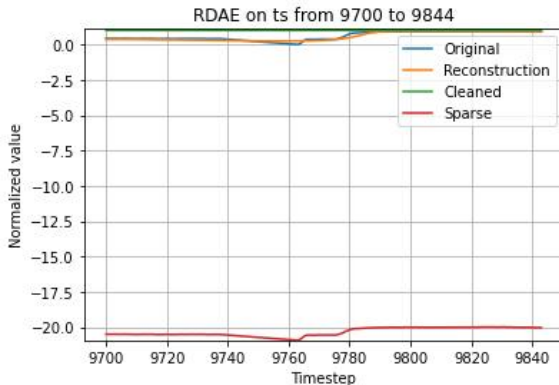


Figure: Example of a anomaly subsequence for  $\lambda = 3.3$

# GRU RDAE

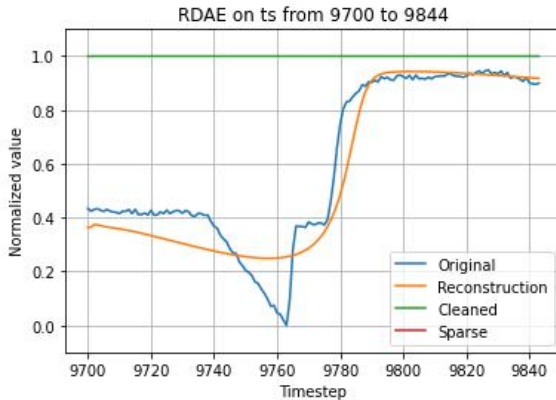


Figure: Example of a anomaly subsequence for  $\lambda = 3.3$

## GRU RDAE

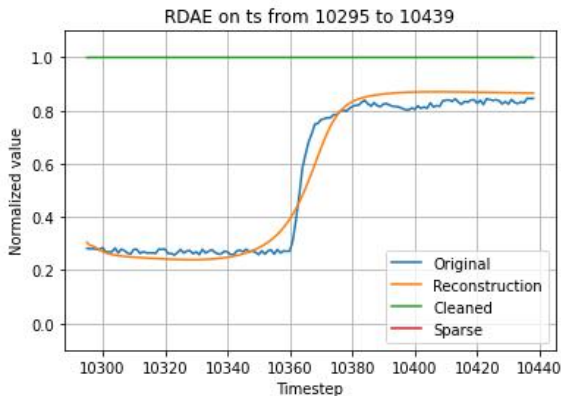


Figure: Example of a anomaly subsequence for  $\lambda = 3.3$

# GRU RDAE

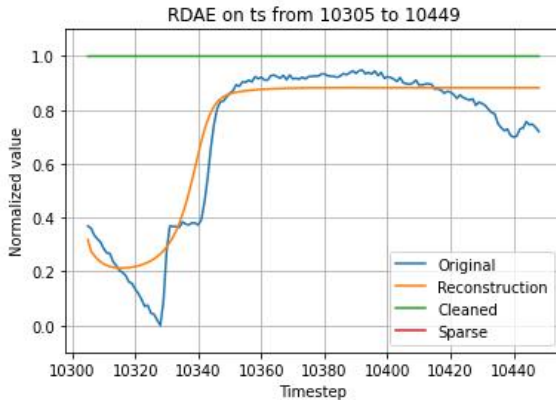


Figure: Example of a anomaly subsequence for  $\lambda = 3.3$

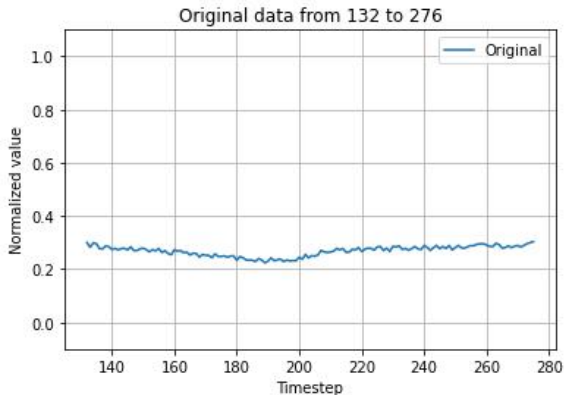
## GRU RDAE

- In this case, not all of the anomalies found reach the 0 value.
- Also in this case different anomalies found DO NOT overlap.  
So each of the failures is only recognized once. With GRU this happens in different parts of the subsequence.
- Also here the reconstruction is far worse than in the dense case.
- Again we could increase parameters for better performance.  
Computation here required  $\sim 12$  minutes with GPU.

# Isolation Forest

- I tried to fit an isolation forest on the same data, to see if we get the same kind of outliers.
- With all outlier fraction values tested (0.0001, 0.0005, 0.001, 0.01), non of them showed significant results.
- On the contrary, almost all the anomalies detected I saw were normal time series, almost flat.

## Isolation forest anomaly example



**Figure:** Example of an anomaly found by the isolation forest with outlier fraction of 0.001



## Final comments

- The RDAE is a powerful tool for denoising and anomaly detection.
- Unfortunately the main quest is to find the correct  $\lambda$  value. With unlabeled data this could be very difficult.
- In that case, a possible way out is to know the approximate anomaly rate and to hope the anomalies found match the true ones.

- Note an important thing: after we train the model there is no way to find anomalies on new given data.
- The  $L_D$  and  $S$  matrices are produced only in the training procedure.
- We can still denoise images with the Autoencoder part.
- It could be tried to add new data after some iteration, without re-initializing. This requires training again the autoencoder, which is the high computational part.

<https://github.com/AlexThirty/SaMLMfTSA>

Thank you!



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