

CAPSTONE PROJECT

NETWORK INTRUSION DETECTION

Presented By:

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Technology: IBM Watsonx.ai Studio

OUTLINE

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PROBLEM STATEMENT

Network Intrusion Detection The Challenge:

Create a robust network intrusion detection system (NIDS) using machine learning. The system should be capable of analyzing network traffic data to identify and classify various types of cyber-attacks (e.g., DoS, Probe, R2L, U2R) and distinguish them from normal network activity. The goal is to build a model that can effectively secure communication networks by providing an early warning of malicious activities.

Kaggle dataset link – <https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/sampadab17/network-intrusion-detection>

PROPOSED SOLUTION

The proposed solution is an intelligent system built on the IBM Cloud platform that leverages machine learning to automate threat detection.

- **Data Source:** Utilizes the well-known NSL-KDD dataset from Kaggle, which contains a wide variety of network intrusions.
- **Automated Model Building:** Employs the **AutoAI** feature within **IBM Watsonx.ai** to automatically preprocess the data, select the best classification algorithm, and optimize its performance.
- **Prediction Goal:** The model will be trained to predict the '**class**' of network activity (e.g., 'normal', 'dos', 'probe', etc.).
- **Deployment:** The final, most accurate model will be deployed as a live web service (API), capable of making real-time predictions on new network data.

SYSTEM APPROACH

This project was developed using a suite of powerful cloud-based AI tools:

- **Cloud Platform:** IBM Cloud
- **AI/ML Studio:** IBM Watsonx.ai
- **Core Engine:** AutoAI Experiment
- **Model Deployment:** Watson Machine Learning Service
- **Dataset:** NSL-KDD Network Intrusion Dataset (from Kaggle)
 - Kaggle dataset link – <https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/sampadab17/network-intrusion-detection>

ALGORITHM & DEPLOYMENT

The project was executed following a precise, step-by-step workflow within the IBM Cloud environment:

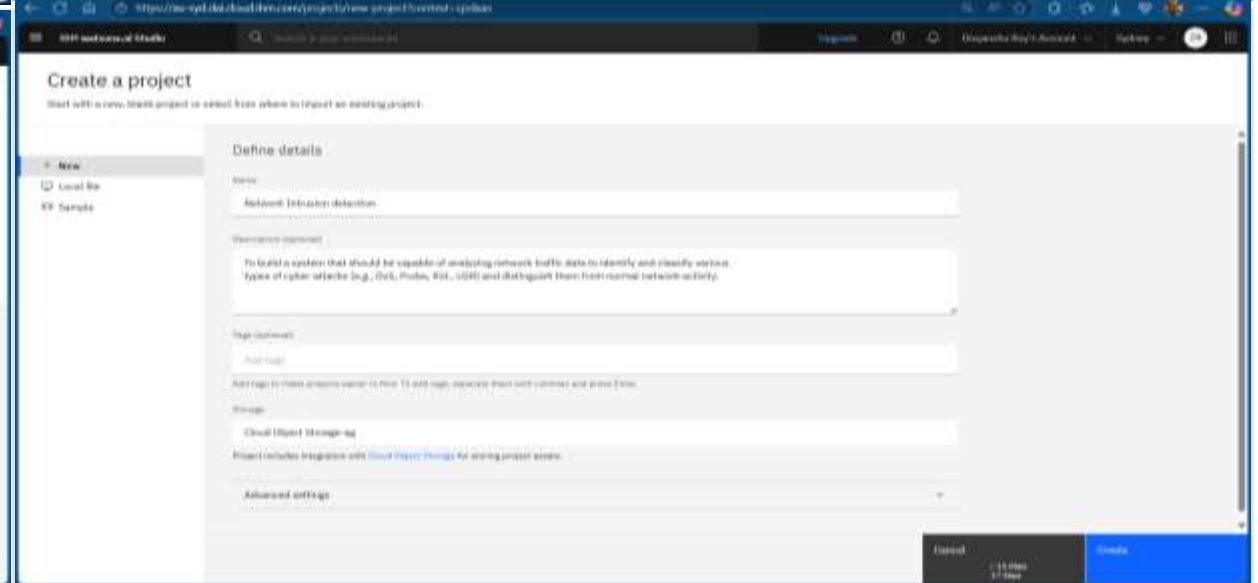
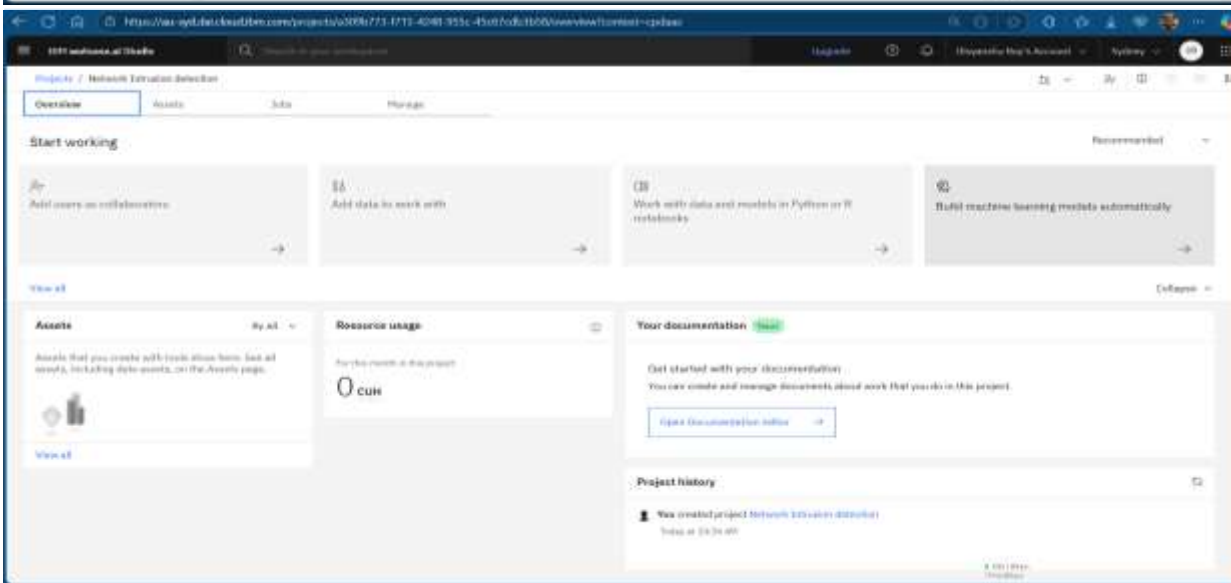
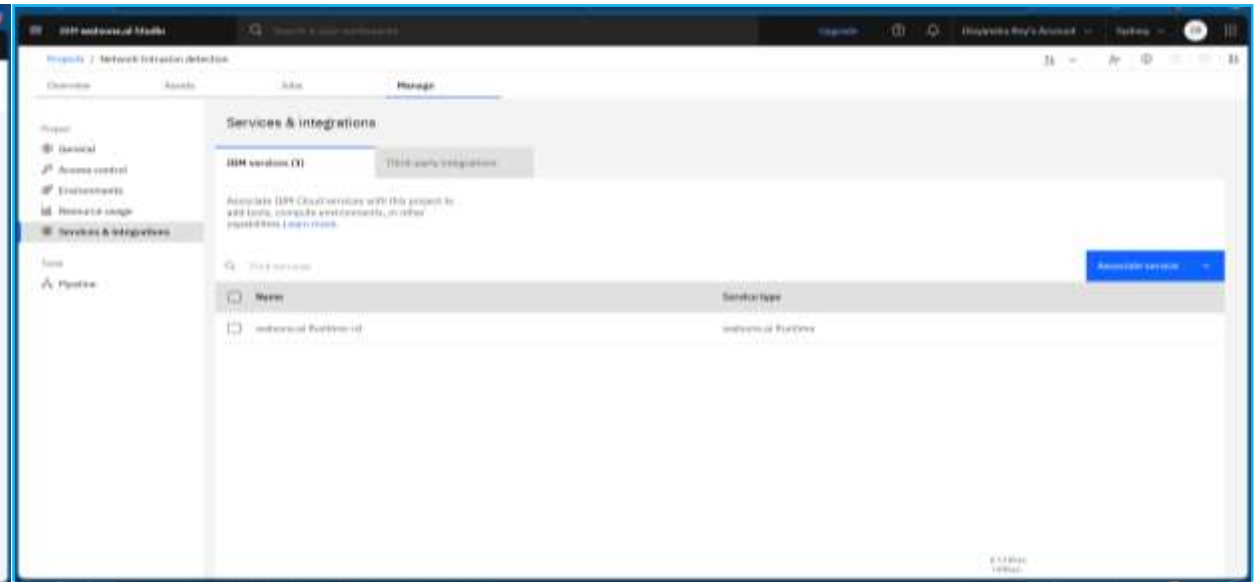
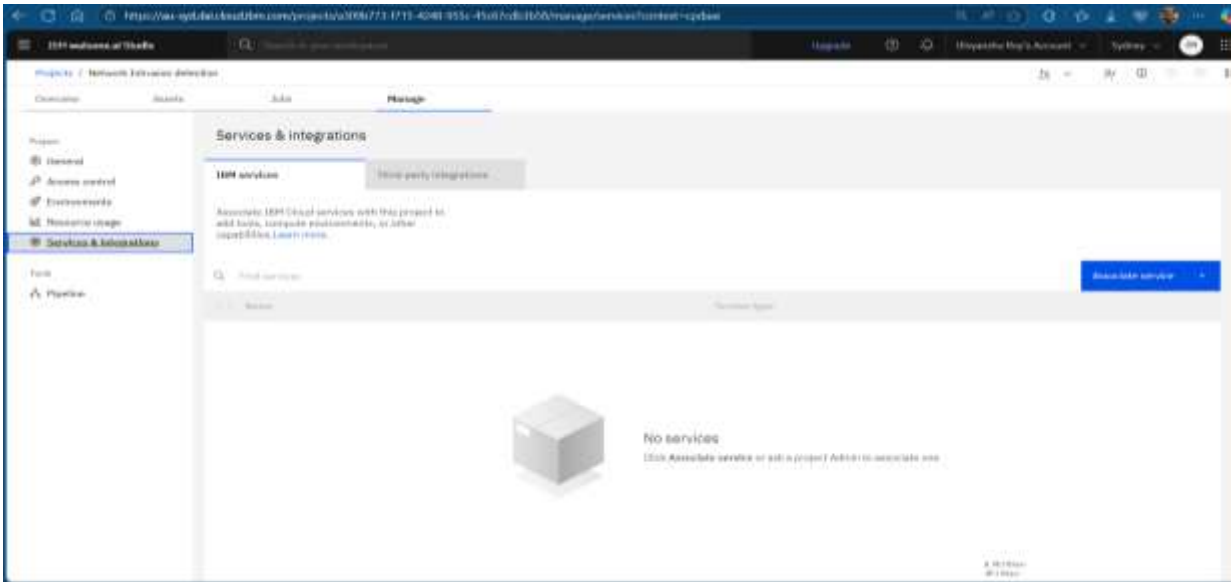
1. Logged into the **IBM Cloud** platform.
2. Cleared the resource list to ensure a clean workspace.
3. Created a **New Project** in Watsonx.ai, configuring the necessary runtime and storage services.
4. Navigated to the "Build machine learning model automatically" section.
5. Configured the **AutoAI Experiment** with a name and description.
6. Uploaded the **Train_data.csv** as the data source.
7. **Ran the experiment**, which automatically trained and evaluated multiple models.
8. Selected and **saved the pipeline** with the highest accuracy from the results.
9. **Promoted the model** to a deployment space and deployed it as a live service.
10. **Tested** the deployed model to ensure it was making predictions correctly.

SCREENSHOTS OF WORKFLOW

The screenshots illustrate the following steps in the workflow:

- Step 1: IBM Cloud Catalog** - Searching for 'watsonx.ai Studio' in the IBM Cloud Catalog. The search results show 'watsonx.ai Studio' as the selected service.
- Step 2: watsonx.ai Runtime Configuration** - Configuring the 'watsonx.ai Runtime' service. The 'Select a region' dropdown is set to 'Sydney'. The 'Pricing plan' section shows the 'Lite' plan selected.
- Step 3: watsonx.ai Studio Welcome Screen** - The 'Welcome, Divyanshu!' screen of the watsonx.ai Studio console. It provides a 'Get started' guide and a 'Build and manage ML models' section.
- Step 4: Cloud Object Storage Pricing** - Viewing the pricing plan for 'Cloud Object Storage'. The 'Lite' plan is selected, which is free for up to 25 GB per month.
- Step 5: Cloud Object Storage Configuration** - The configuration screen for 'Cloud Object Storage', showing the 'Create' button and the 'About' tab.

SCREENSHOTS OF WORKFLOW



SCREENSHOTS OF WORKFLOW

This screenshot shows the 'Configure details' section of the 'Network Intrusion system' experiment. The 'Add data source' section on the left shows 'Train_data.csv' (Size: 3.74 MB, Columns: 40) has been added. The 'Configure details' section on the right includes a 'Create a time series analysis?' toggle (disabled), a 'What do you want to predict?' dropdown set to 'class', and a 'Predictions reference class' field. The 'PRODUCTION TYPE' is set to 'Binary Classification'. The 'Experiment settings' section at the bottom shows 'Run experiment'.

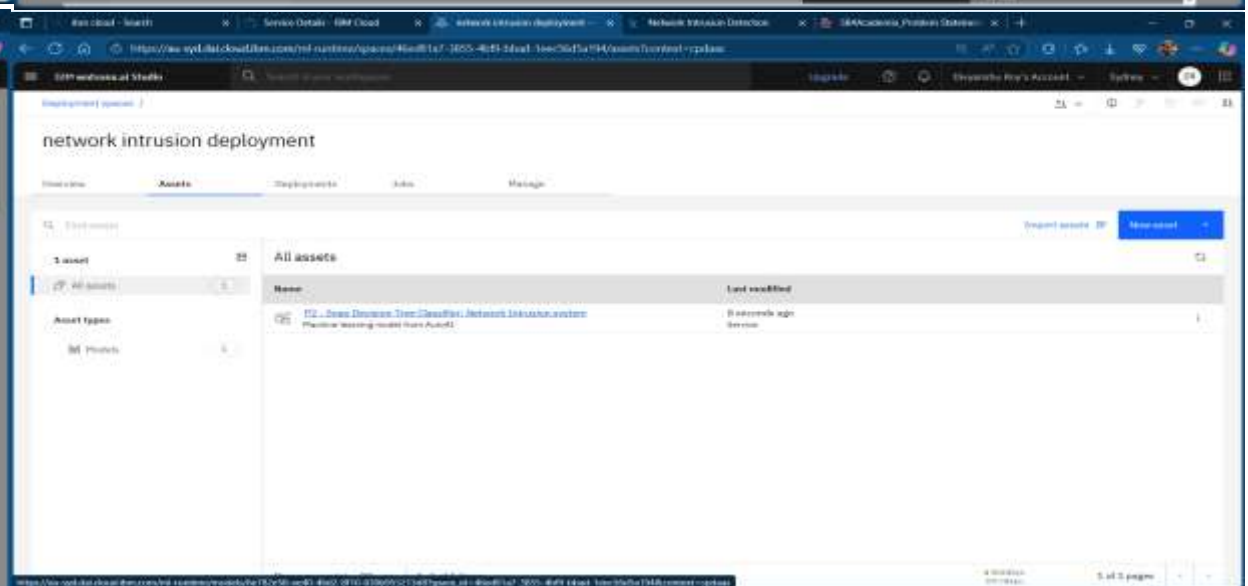
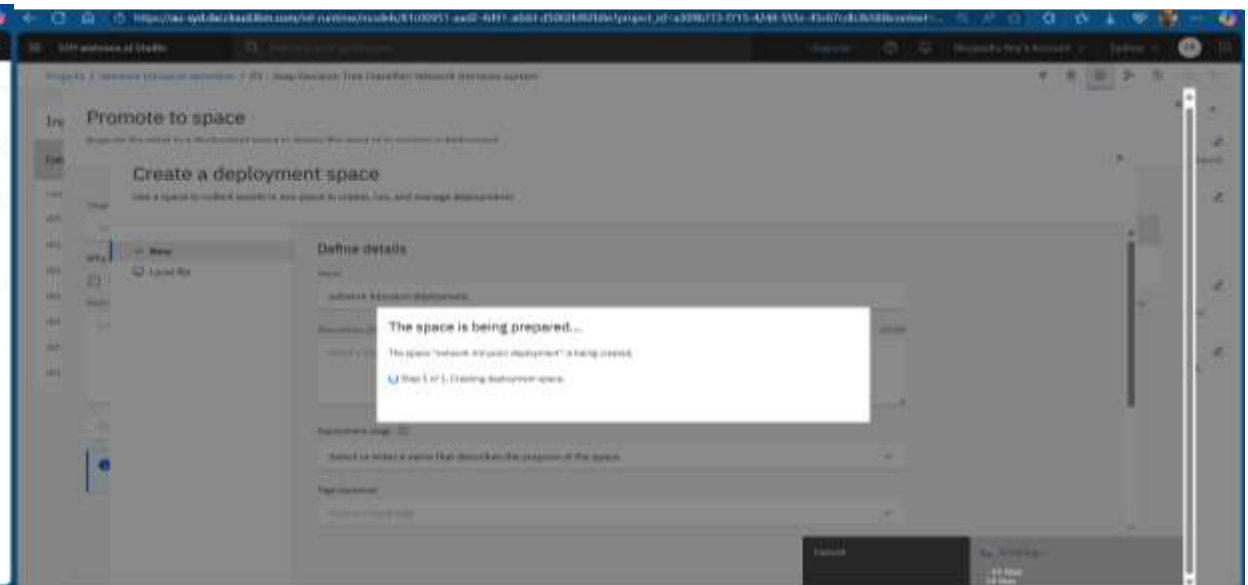
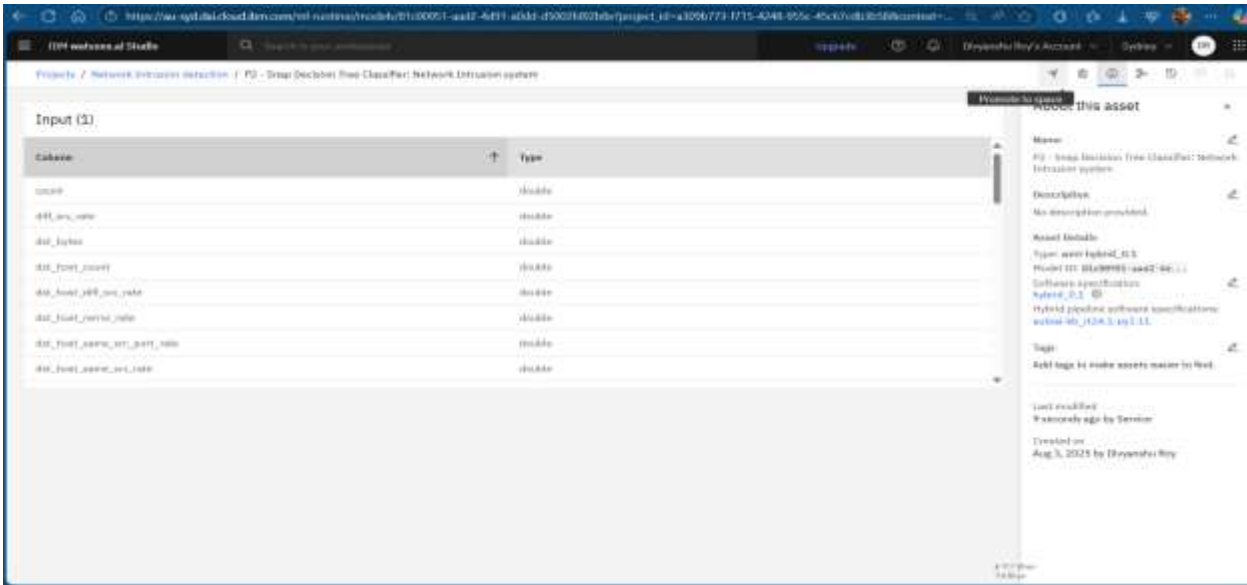
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This screenshot shows the 'Experiment summary' section of the 'Network Intrusion system' experiment. The 'Pipeline leaderboard' table lists the top 5 pipelines based on accuracy.

Rank	Name	Algorithm	Accuracy (Grid used) Score Validation	Enhancements	Build time
1	Pipeline 2	Scalr Decision Tree Classifier	0.933	149% ↑	00:00:00
2	Pipeline 1	Scalr Decision Tree Classifier	0.903	None	00:00:02
3	Pipeline 6	Decision Tree Classifier	0.884	149% ↑	00:00:00
4	Pipeline 5	Decision Tree Classifier	0.914	None	00:00:00

This screenshot shows the 'Save as' section of the 'Network Intrusion system' experiment. The 'Select asset type' section on the left shows 'Model' selected. The 'Define details' section on the right shows the 'Name' field set to 'Fit - Scalr Decision Tree Classifier - Network Intrusion system'.

SCREENSHOTS OF WORKFLOW



RESULT

The AutoAI experiment successfully generated multiple pipelines, with the top-performing model (**Pipeline 2**) achieving an accuracy of **99.5%**. The model was then deployed and tested, correctly identifying network traffic as 'normal' or 'anomaly'.

Prediction results

Display format for prediction results

☒ Table view ☐ JSON view

☒ Show input data

	prediction	probability	duration	protocol_type	service	flag	src_bytes	dst_bytes
1	anomaly	[1,0]	0	tcp	private	REJ	0	0
2	anomaly	[1,0]	0	tcp	private	REJ	0	0
3	normal	[0,1]	2	tcp	ftp_data	SF	12983	0
4	anomaly	[1,0]	0	icmp	eco_i	SF	20	0
5	normal	[0,1]	1	tcp	telnet	RSTO	0	15
6	normal	[0,1]	0	tcp	http	SF	267	14515
7	normal	[0,1]	0	tcp	smtp	SF	1022	387
8	normal	[0,1]	0	tcp	telnet	SF	129	174
9	normal	[0,1]	0	tcp	http	SF	327	467
10	anomaly	[1,0]	0	tcp	ftp	SF	26	157
11	anomaly	[1,0]	0	tcp	telnet	SF	0	0
12	normal	[0,1]	0	tcp	smtp	SF	616	330
13	anomaly	[1,0]	0	tcp	private	REJ	0	0
14	anomaly	[1,0]	0	tcp	telnet	SO	0	0

Download JSON file

CONCLUSION

- ❑ This project successfully demonstrated the creation and deployment of a highly accurate Network Intrusion Detection System.
- ❑ Using IBM Watsonx.ai and its AutoAI capabilities significantly accelerated the development process, automating tasks that would typically require extensive manual coding and expertise.
- ❑ The final deployed model serves as a powerful and scalable solution for enhancing network security through real-time threat detection.

FUTURE SCOPE

- ❑ **Real-time Integration:** Integrate the deployed API with a live network monitoring tool (like Wireshark or a custom dashboard) to analyze traffic in real-time.
- ❑ **Automated Retraining:** Implement a CI/CD pipeline to automatically retrain and redeploy the model as new attack data becomes available.
- ❑ **Advanced Explainability:** Use AI explainability tools to better understand *why* the model flags certain activities as malicious, providing deeper insights for security analysts.

REFERENCES

- ❑ **Dataset:** "NSL-KDD Dataset" from Kaggle.
- ❑ **Link:** <https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/sampadab17/network-intrusion-detection>
- ❑ **Platform:** IBM Cloud & Watsonx.ai Documentation.

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According to the Adobe Learning Manager system of record

Completion date: 23 Jul 2025 (GMT)

Learning hours: 20 mins



THANK YOU