Silent Bugs in Keras and TensorFlow In this survey, we explore opinions of researchers/practitioners about silent bugs in Deep Learning libraries.

1.	Your email (option	ai)
2.	What is your curre	nt job title? (Developer, Researcher, students may indicate degree: PhD, Master)
3.	Year of experimen	t using Keras/Tensorflow *
	Mark only one oval.	
	Less than 1 ye	
	1-3 years	
	3-5 years	
	More than 5 ye	ears .
N	otion of Silent Bugs	
4.	Is the term of "Sile	nt Bug" familiar to you?*
	Mark only one oval.	
	Yes	
	◯ No	
		e Silent Bugs as "any bug that did not stop the program, for example not causing the program to crash, hang (with or without an error message) or fail. Bugs that ge are not considered as silent." Note: these bugs are residing of Tensorflow/Keras library, NOT inside user's program.
5.	Is this definition m	eaningful to you?*
	Mark only one oval.	
	_	
	Yes No	
6.	Any comments?	
		Based on extracted existing issues, we came up with a classification of silent bugs based on how they affected user's program. In this section, you will be asked to assess those different category regarding three criteria. Every time, you will be given the name of the category and a short description.
		The criteria are:
_	ata a a simati	- Diagnosing: How hard it is to detect such bugs? - Severity: How impactful the bug is regarding user's program?
	ategorization f Scenario	- Fixing: How hard was it to fix the bug?
٠.		You will then be ask whether or not you ever faced something matching this category. Remember, bugs must have not produced any error, hang or failure and must have originated from the TensorFlow/Keras library itself!
		Disease uses if the property components and have acquire based as your away amortisms.

7. 1. Wrong Shape: This category includes any bug leading to a wrong shape of a tensor in the model without raising an error. In the following sample: Keras returns bad shape for the user's $\hbox{\it custom layer. The output given by Keras differs from the compute_output_shape function of the custom Layer.} \\ \star$ import tensorflow as tf import numpy as np class Example(tf.keras.layers.Layer):
 def __init__(self, **kwargs):
 kwargs["dynamic"] = True super(Example, self).__init__(**kwargs) def call(self, inputs): return inputs def compute_output_shape(self, input_shape):
 return [(None, 2)] inp = tf.keras.layers.Input(batch_shape=(None, 1))
comp = Example()(inp) model = tf.keras.models.Model(inputs=[inp], outputs=[comp]) model.summary() Model: "model" Layer (type) Output Shape Param # input_1 (InputLayer) [(None, 1)] 0 example (Example) [(None, (2,))] Total params: 0 Trainable params: 0 Non-trainable params: 0 Mark only one oval per row. 5 (difficult) 1 (easy) Diagnosing Severity Fixing 8. Have you ever been confronted to such type of bugs? * Mark only one oval. Yes O No Any comments?

10.	2. Wrong Displayed Message: Any bug that shows an information in UI (including console messages) which will deceive the user or affect the user understanding of the ML model belongs to this category. In the following sample: Keras displays a progress bar that is too long and which eventually masks part of the UI. The progress bar given by Keras is too long between
	train and test phase. The error was linked to a wrong variable being passed to the iteration routine used in the training/evaluation loop of the API.*
	import tensorflow as tf
	mnist = tf.keras.datasets.fashion_mnist
	<pre>(training_images, training_labels), (test_images, test_labels) = mnist.load_data()</pre>
	training_images = training_images / 255.0 test_images = test_images / 255.0
	<pre>model = tf.keras.models.Sequential([tf.keras.layers.Flatten(),</pre>
	tf.keras.layers.Dense(128, activation=tf.nn.relu), tf.keras.layers.Dense(10, activation=tf.nn.softmax)
	1)
	model.compile(optimizer='adam', loss='sparse_categorical_crossentropy', metrics=['accuracy'])
	model.fit(training_images, training_labels, epochs=5)
	test_loss = model.evaluate(test_images, test_labels)
	Train on 60000 samples []
	Epoch 5/5 60000/60000 [======] - 2s 38us/sample - loss: 0.2980 -
	accuracy: 0.8903
	Literally hundreds of thousands of `=`
	======================================
	Mark only one oval per row.
	1 (easy) 2 3 4 5 (difficult)
	Diagnosing
	Severity
	Fixing
11	Have you give been confronted to give time of bijec?
11.	Have you ever been confronted to such type of bugs? * Mark only one oval.
	Yes
	No
12.	Any comments?

	learning rate and dynamically changing it will not be registered on the learning rate. Even though the learning rate variable got set to 0, the variable of the trainable layer is still being modified.*
	<pre>import tensorflow as tf print(ff.version.GIT_VERSION, tf.version.VERSION) import sys print(sys.version.info) import sys if_Ir= tf.Variable(0.1, trainable=False) it_nop: t= fkers=optimizers.Adam(learning_rate=tf_lr) etf.function def train.steep() etf.function def train.steep() it_nosion.etf.sys it_no</pre>
	After another step, now with learning rate 0.0 Variable tf_a is 0.005127914249897003. Mark only one oval per row.
	1 (easy) 2 3 4 5 (difficult) Diagnosing
	Severity O
	Fixing
	Have you ever been confronted to such type of bugs? * 3. Wrong Parameter Settings: Any bugs affecting the expected parameters setting of a function or model's components fall in this category. In the example below: passing a variable to learning rate and dynamically changing it will not be registered on the learning rate. Even though the learning rate variable got set to 0, the variable of the trainable layer is still being modified. Mark only one oval. Yes No
5.	Any comments?

13. 3. Wrong Parameter Settings: Any bugs affecting the expected parameters setting of a function or model's components fall in this category. In the example below: passing a variable to

16.	reload or inc	consister	nt accurac	cy before	and afte	r saving. In th	at change the mo e following exam ncorrect predicti	ple: When r				_	-	_			
	dummy_dat dummy_dat print(mod model.fit print(mod model.sav model = t	f.keras.m l(tf.keras.mpile(optiloss= metrilosa_x = [[0] a_x = [[0] (a_y = [0], (el.evalua (x=dummy, el.evalua e('test_mf.keras.m	models.Sec s.layers.C imizer=tf. ''sparse_c cs=['accu 0, 0], [1, , 1, 0, 1] ate(x=dumm _data_x, u ate(x=dumm model') models.loa	keras.opt ategorical racy']) , 0], [0,	s=2, acti imizers./ l_crossen 1], [1, 1 y=dummy_ ta_y, epo y=dummy_ test_mode	dam(lr=10), tropy', data_y)) ochs=10) data_y))	ax', name='output	:'))									
	[0.9013183 After trai 1/1 [==== [0.0, 1.0] After load	11691284 ning:	2, 0.5] ==] - 0s	0s/step -	loss: 0		acy: 0.5000 ccuracy: 1.0000 - accuracy: 0.50	000									
	Mark only one	e oval per i	row.														
		1 (easy)	2	3	4	5 (difficult)											
	Diagnosing	$\overline{}$			$\overline{}$												
	Severity																
	Fixing																
17.	Have you ev 4. Wrong save/saving. In the fo Mark only or Yes No	reload: In th ollowing ex	nis category,	we classify	all bugs tha	at change the mo	del, its component or i	ts functionaliti lata drastically	ies either durir y fell. Using the	ng saving or re e weights with	e-loading. For nout verificati	example, mis	sing a layer al would return	fter reload or mostly incorr	inconsistent ect predictior	accuracy before is.	e and after
18.	Any comme	ents?															

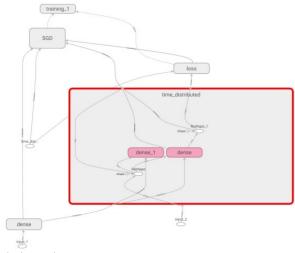
from memory				IIIpiaiiis	that such calls
from time im	mport tim	import pr	rofile		
import tenso		tf			
model = tf.k	keras.Seq	uential([t	tf.keras.	layers.De	ense(100,
activ model.compil		.nn.softma		gd')	
@profile		msc , oper	1111201 - 3	, gu)	
<pre>def eval(x, model.ev</pre>		, y)			
x = np.rando y = np.rando	om.normal	(size=(1,1 (size=(1,1	100))		
for i in ran	nge(10000	0):	,		
print('i tic = ti	me()	, 1)			
eval(x, print('t		time() - t	ic)		
iteration 33	312] -	0s 4ms/s	sample - loss: 1
Filename: re	eproduce_	keras_oom.	. py		
Line Mem		Increment			
9 1508		1508.3 MiB	@profi	le	
10 11 1508	3.7 MiB	0.4 MiB		al(x, y): del.evalua	
timeit 0.090	004998207	092285			
Mark only one	oval per r	OW.			
	1 (easy)	2	3	4	5 (difficult)
Diagnosing					
Severity					
Fixing					
Have you eve 5. Performance I accuracy of the r with TF1.x. Mark only one Yes No	Degradatio model. An e e <i>oval</i> .	n: Any bug at	ffecting the	e performar	bugs? * nce of ML experime er fit() or evaluate()
Any commer					
Any commer					
Any commer					
Any commer					
Any commer					
Any commer					
Any commer					

19. 5. Performance Degradation: Any bug affecting the performance of ML experiments (training or inference) is categorized in this class, e.g., memory usage or running time (speed). This

22. 6. Wrong Structure: The category covers all bugs that modify the expected structure of a model, in particular how it is handled by the framework. In the following example: the user attempts to wrap a model in a TimeDistributed layer but this leads to creation of duplicate nodes in the graph. Following the documentation of the framework, the user ends up with an additional Dense Layer (bottom left in the figure). This additional layer takes redundant memory and is created because the user builds the inner model then rebuilds it again during building the TimeDistributed model. *

inner_input = keras.layers.Input((2,))
dense = keras.layers.Dense(2, activation='relu')(inner_input)
inner_model = keras.Model(inputs=inner_input, outputs=dense)
full_input = keras.layers.Input((2,2))
td_2 = keras.layers.TimeDistributed(inner_model)(full_input)
model = keras.models.Model(full_input, td_2)
model.compile('SGD', 'mse')

model:



Mark only one oval per row.

	1 (easy)	2	3	4	5 (difficult)
Diagnosing					
Severity					
Fixing					

23. Have you ever been confronted to such type of bugs? *

6. Wrong Structure: The category covers all bugs that modify the expected structure of a model, in particular how it is handled by the framework. In the following example: the user attempts to wrap a model in a TimeDistributed layer but this leads to creation of duplicate nodes in the graph. Following the documentation of the framework, the user ends up with an additional Dense Layer (bottom left in the figure). This additional layer takes redundant memory and is created because the user builds the inner model then rebuilds it again during building the TimeDistributed model.

Mark on	ly	one	oval
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O Yes

○ No

24	Anv	com	mer	nts'

in the datas entire datas					are 2 batches of siz) / 2 = 9.5. *	2 and 1. If the	first batch	h has mea	an loss of 1	0 and the s	econd batch	has mean	loss of 9, th	nen the mear	n loss over the
import ten	sorflow a	s tf													
model.comp def mse(y, assert return print('mod print('- b print('- b	[]], dtype [input_dim zeros')]) ', loss='m ed) 2)/len(y) el.evaluat el.evaluat	etf.float =1, kernel ean_squar e(X, y, b e(X, y, b	32) L_initializer='ones ed_error') atch_size=1, verbos atch_size=2, verbos atch_size=3, verbos	e=0)) e=0))											
model.eval - batch_si - batch_si - batch_si	ze=1: 9.60 ze=2: 9.5														
tf.Tensor([9.5], sha	ape=(1,),	dtype=flo	at32)											
Mark only on	e oval per r	ow.					_								
	1 (easy)	2	3	4	5 (difficult)										
Diagnosing															
Severity															
Fixing															
the mean loss Mark only of		ire dataset i	s incorrectly	computed a	as (10 + 9) / 2 = 9.5.										
Yes															
◯ No															
. Any comme	ents?														
,															
Have very al			la com la Di	() !	4h-4 h		41-1		-1						
. Have you ol	oservea a	any silent	bug in DL	. IIDraries	that have not beer	considered in t	tnis survey	y ? it yes, p	piease des	cribe them					
		Follo threa		ories design,	we came up with a scal	to rate impact leve	el of such silen	ent bugs base	ed on the effe	ect they had on	the user's prog	ram. We divide	ed it in 4 differe	ent levels, with g	gradual increasing
Categorization	of	You	will be ask to	o assess you	ur agreement with the th	eat level (1, 2, 3 or 4	4) based on the	the description	on we provide	for each level					
mpact						and we ask you to a									

25. 7. Wrong Calculation: All bugs modifying the normal way of computation that are not classified in other categories will be classified in this type, like wrong calculation of gradient. In the displayed bug, the evaluate() function computes the mean loss over all batches in an epoch incorrectly when the dataset size is not evenly divisible by the batch size. This happens for both training and validation loss. Actually, the bug affects the reported epoch loss, but not the training loss used for computing gradient updates. In the provided gist, there are 3 samples

29.	Level 1: The issue impacts the user interface (UI) element, either in a purely cosmetic wa	or with little to no impact on the information the user receives. Like long progress bar: *
	import tensorflow as tf	
	<pre>mnist = tf.keras.datasets.fashion_mnist (training_images, training_labels), (test_images, test_labels) =</pre>	
	tr.keras.layers.bense(l0, activation=tr.nn.sortmax)]) model.compile(optimizer='adam', loss='sparse_categorical_crossentropy', metrics=['accuracy']) model.fit(training_images, training_labels, epochs=5)	
	test_loss = model.evaluate(test_images, test_labels)	
	Train on 60000 samples [] Epoch 5/5	
	6000/60000 [=================================	
	Literally hundreds of thousands of `=`	
	======================================	
	Mark only one oval.	
	1 2 3 4 5	
	Strongly disagree Strongly agree	
0.	Any comments?	
	Level 2: The issue impacts information the user is receiving from the model, e.g., shape example, wrong shape: *	of a model, loss value but does not actually modify the way the model works or its results. For
	<pre>import tensorflow as tf import numpy as np</pre>	
	<pre>class Example(tf.keras.layers.Layer): definit(self, ***kwargs): kwargs["dynamic"] = True super(Example, self)init(**kwargs)</pre>	
	<pre>def call(self, inputs): return inputs</pre>	
	<pre>def compute_output_shape(self, input_shape): return [(None, 2)]</pre>	
	<pre>inp = tf.keras.layers.Input(batch_shape=(None, 1)) comp = Example()(inp)</pre>	
	<pre>model = tf.keras.models.Model(inputs=[inp], outputs=[comp]) model.summary()</pre>	
	Model: "model"	
	Layer (type) Output Shape Param #	
	input_1 (InputLayer) [(None, 1)] 0	
	example (Example) [(None, (2,))] 0	
	Total params: 0 Trainable params: 0 Non-trainable params: 0	
	Mark only one oval.	
	1 2 3 4 5	
	1 2 3 4 5 Strongly disagree	
2.		
2.	Strongly disagree Strongly agree	
2.	Strongly disagree Strongly agree	

33. Level 3: The issue affects the way the model works and its process, e.g., hyper-parameters, layer composition, or model processing mechanism which can lead to some time/speed degradation but only minor to no changes on the model outputs. For example, wrongly set learning rate: *

```
import tensorflow as tf
print(tf.version.GIT_VERSION, tf.version.VERSION)
     import sys
   Import and a serior and a serio
     tf_opt = tf.keras.optimizers.Adam(learning_rate=tf_lr)
    @tf.function
def train_step():
   der train_step():
    with tf.GradientTape() as tf_tape:
        tf_loss = tf_a**2
    tf_gradients = tf_tape.gradient(tf_loss, [tf_a])
    tf_opt.apply_gradients(zip(tf_gradients, [tf_a]))
print('After one step with learning rate ()... '.format(tf_lr.numpy()), end='')
train_step()
    print('Variable tf_a is {}.'.format(tf_a.numpy()))
tf_lr.assign(0.0)
               '__in range(10):
print('After another step, now with learning rate {}...
    '.format(tf_lr.numpy()), end='')
                 train_step()
                 print('Variable tf_a is {}.'.format(tf_a.numpy()))
     v2.0.0-beta0-16-g1d91213fe7 2.0.0-beta1
    sys.version_info(major=3, minor=5, micro=6, releaselevel='final', serial=0)
Variable tf_a initialized to 1.0.
     After one step with learning rate 0.10000000149011612... Variable tf_a is
                           0.8999971747398376.
    After another step, now with learning rate 0.0... Variable tf_a is 0.8004083633422852.
    After another step, now with learning rate 0.0... Variable tf_a is 0.7015821933746338.
     [...]
     After another step, now with learning rate 0.0... Variable tf_a is
                           0.07624538242816925.
    After another step, now with learning rate 0.0... Variable tf_a is 0.005127914249897003.
Mark only one oval.
                                                                                        2
                                                                                                              3
                                                                                                                                     4
                                                                                                                                                           5
                                                                                                                                                                            Strongly agree
  Strongly disagree
```

34.	Any comments?

35. Level 4: The issue directly affects the way the model behaves which leads to completely different results compared to known results or the fixed version. Like a wrong model reloading: *

```
Defore training:

1/1 [========] - 0s 0s/step - loss: 0.9013 - accuracy: 0.5000
[0.9013183116912842, 0.5]

After training:

1/1 [======] - 0s 0s/step - loss: 0.0000e+00 - accuracy: 1.0000
[0.0, 1.0]

After loading:

1/1 [======] - 0s 1000us/step - loss: 0.0000e+00 - accuracy: 0.5000
[0.0, 0.5]
```

Mark only one oval.

	1	2	3	4	5	
Strongly disagree						Strongly agree

36.	Any comments?
	ct level scale: "X" means that to be considered of this impact level, a bug needs to meet those criteria. "O" denotes potential criteria that an issue can also have. Note that only the "X" is are needed to be considered of a given level while "O" criteria are optional.
Imp	s the bug impact a UI element? Low Low High High 1 2 3 4
Doe	s the bug impact information about the model?
	s the bug change the result of the model?
27	How would you judge this scale? (presentation, comprehension, relevance wise) *
	Mark only one oval.
	1 2 3 4 5
	Strongly disagree Strongly agree
38.	Any comments?
Tha	nk you very much for your answers!
	Based on the previous questions and your experience, how problematic would you consider silent bugs to be compared to traditional ones (i.e. the ones returning error, leading to program hanging on,) *
	Mark only one oval.
	Less problematic
	The same as others
	More problematic
40.	Thank you for helping us with your feedback! Feel free to give any comments regarding the previous sections and the study in general (ideas? critics?). Anything is welcomed!

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