Anomaly Detection of Cellular network

The design of a cellular network focuses on the optimization of energy and resources that guarantees a smooth operation even during peak hours (i.e. periods with higher traffic load). However, this implies that cells are most of the time overprovisioned of radio resources.

The goal of this study is to explore the possibilities of ML to detect abnormal behaviors in the utilization of the network that would motivate a change in the configuration of the base station.

The objective of the network optimization team is to analyze traces of past activity, which will be used to train an ML system capable of classifying samples of current activity as:

• 0 (normal): current activity corresponds to normal behavior of any working day and. Therefore, no re-configuration or redistribution of resources is needed.

• 1 (unusual): current activity slightly differs from the behavior usually observed for that time of the day (e.g. due to a strike, demonstration, sports event, etc.), which should trigger a reconfiguration of the base station.

* Provide any insights into data that would be useful, as part of the summary
* An unsupervised anomaly detection would be preferred but not required.

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The dataset has been obtained from a real LTE deployment. During two weeks, different metrics were gathered from a set of 10 base stations, each having a different number of cells, every 15 minutes. The dataset is provided in the form of a csv file, where each row corresponds to a sample obtained from one particular cell at a certain time. Each data example contains the following features:

• Time : hour of the day (in the format hh:mm) when the sample was generated.

• CellName1: text string used to uniquely identify the cell that generated the current sample. CellName is in the form xαLTE, where x identifies the base station, and α the cell within that base station (see the example in the right figure).

• PRBUsageUL and PRBUsageDL: level of resource utilization in that cell measured as the portion of Physical Radio Blocks (PRB) that were in use (%) in the previous 15 minutes. Uplink (UL) and downlink (DL) are measured separately.

• meanThr*DL* and meanThrUL: average carried traffic (in Mbps) during the past 15 minutes. Uplink (UL) and downlink (DL) are measured separately.

• maxThr*DL* and maxThrUL: maximum carried traffic (in Mbps) measured in the last 15 minutes. Uplink (UL) and downlink (DL) are measured separately.

• meanUE*DL* and meanUEUL: average number of user equipment (UE) devices that were simultaneously active during the last 15 minutes. Uplink (UL) and downlink (DL) are measured separately.

• maxUE*DL* and maxUEUL: maximum number of user equipment (UE) devices that were simultaneously active during the last 15 minutes. Uplink (UL) and downlink (DL) are measured separately.

• maxUE\_UL+DL: maximum number of user equipment (UE) devices that were active simultaneously in the last 15 minutes, regardless of UL and DL.

• Unusual: labels for supervised learning. A value of 0 determines that the sample corresponds to normal operation, a value of 1 identifies unusual behavior