CAPSTONE PROJECT

NETWORK INTRUSION DETECTION SYSTEM

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OUTLINE

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PROBLEM STATEMENT

Network Intrusion Detection

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.

PROPOSED SOLUTION

- The proposed system addresses the growing challenge of identifying cyber-attacks by analyzing network traffic using machine learning.
- A supervised learning model is built using the KDD-based intrusion detection dataset, which contains both normal and malicious traffic records.
- A Decision Tree Classifier is chosen due to its interpretability and efficiency in handling both numerical and categorical data.
- IBM Watson Studio's AutoAI is used to automate model building, hyperparameter tuning, and pipeline selection without requiring manual coding.
- The system converts raw network traffic attributes (like protocol, bytes sent, connection flags, etc.) into structured features suitable for training.
- The final trained model is deployed using IBM Watson Machine Learning as a REST API for real-time classification.
- The model can predict whether a given network connection is:
  - Normal
  - Or part of a known attack class (e.g., DoS, Probe, etc. if using multi-class).
- IBM Cloud services ensure scalability, reliability, and ease of integration into existing security frameworks.
- This solution enables proactive monitoring of network traffic and early detection of suspicious patterns to prevent system compromise.

SYSTEM APPROACH

Technologies & Services:

- IBM Cloud (Lite Plan)
- IBM Watson Studio
- IBM AutoAI for automated model selection
- Dataset from Kaggle
- No manual coding required (no-code ML pipeline)

Libraries/Tools:

- AutoAI (built-in to Watson Studio)
- Web UI for testing deployed models

ALGORITHM & DEPLOYMENT

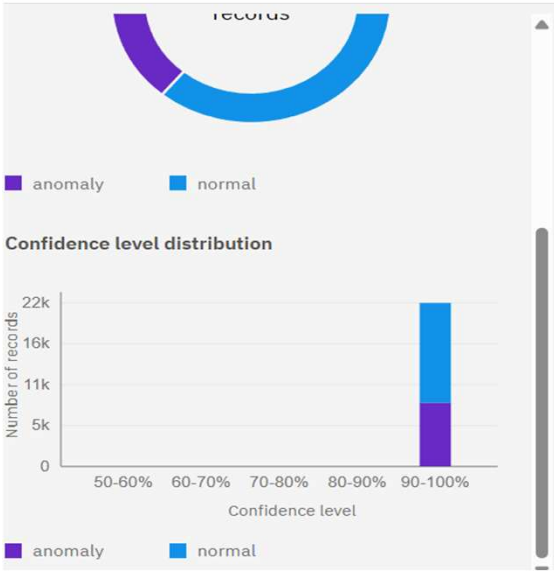
- Algorithm Used:
- - Decision Tree Classifier (selected by AutoAI)
- Input Features:
  - Network traffic attributes: protocol type, service, byte counts, flag, host behavior, etc.
- Training Process:
  - - AutoAI explored multiple pipelines
  - - Best pipeline selected based on accuracy/F1-score
  - - No manual tuning required
- Deployment:
  - Model deployed as an online REST API using IBM Watson Machine Learning
- Tested via UI and ready for integration with other systems

RESULT

Model successfully trained and deployed using IBM Watson Studio.

Prediction interface available for real-time classification of network activity.

Prediction results



Display format for prediction results

Table view JSON view Show input data

	Prediction	Confidence
311	anomaly	100%
312	normal	100%
313	anomaly	100%
314	normal	100%
315	normal	100%
316	anomaly	100%
317	normal	100%
318	normal	100%
319	anomaly	100%
320	normal	100%

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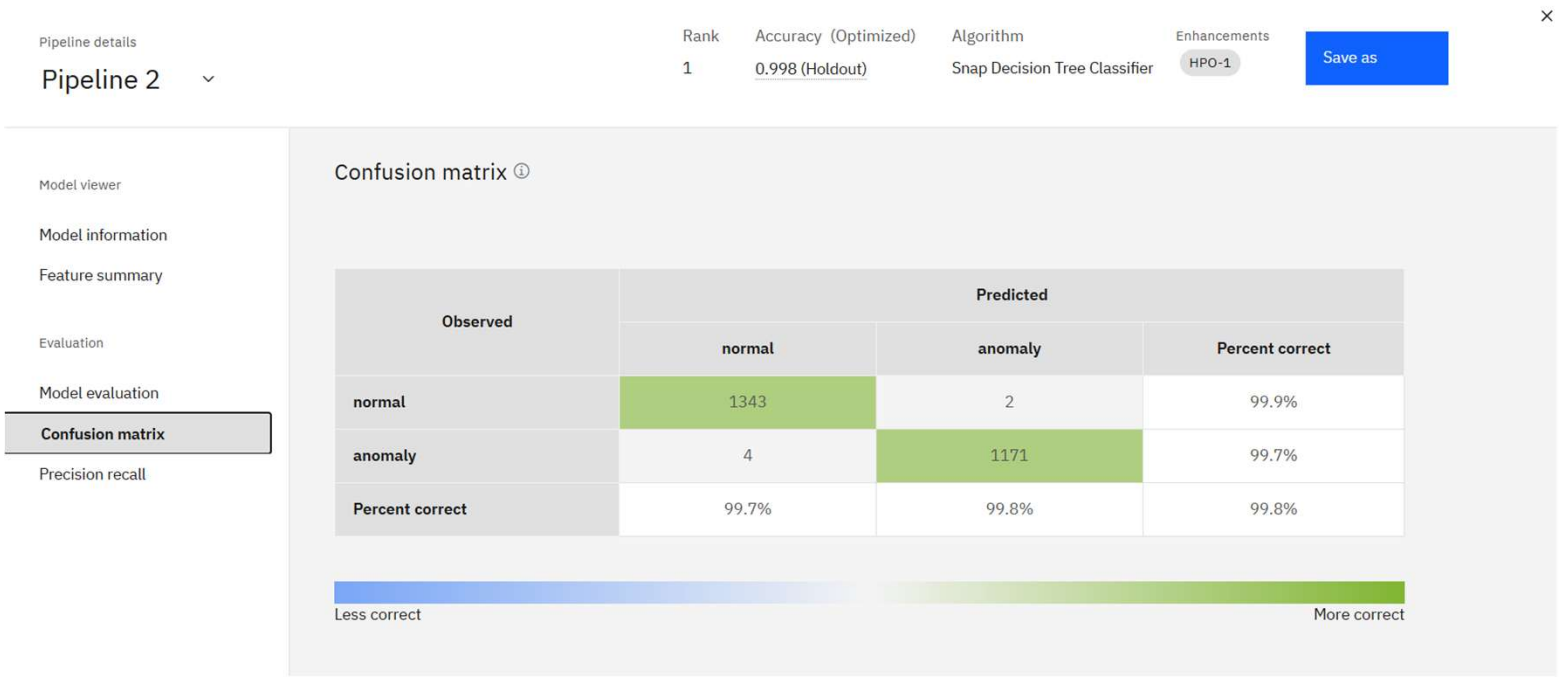

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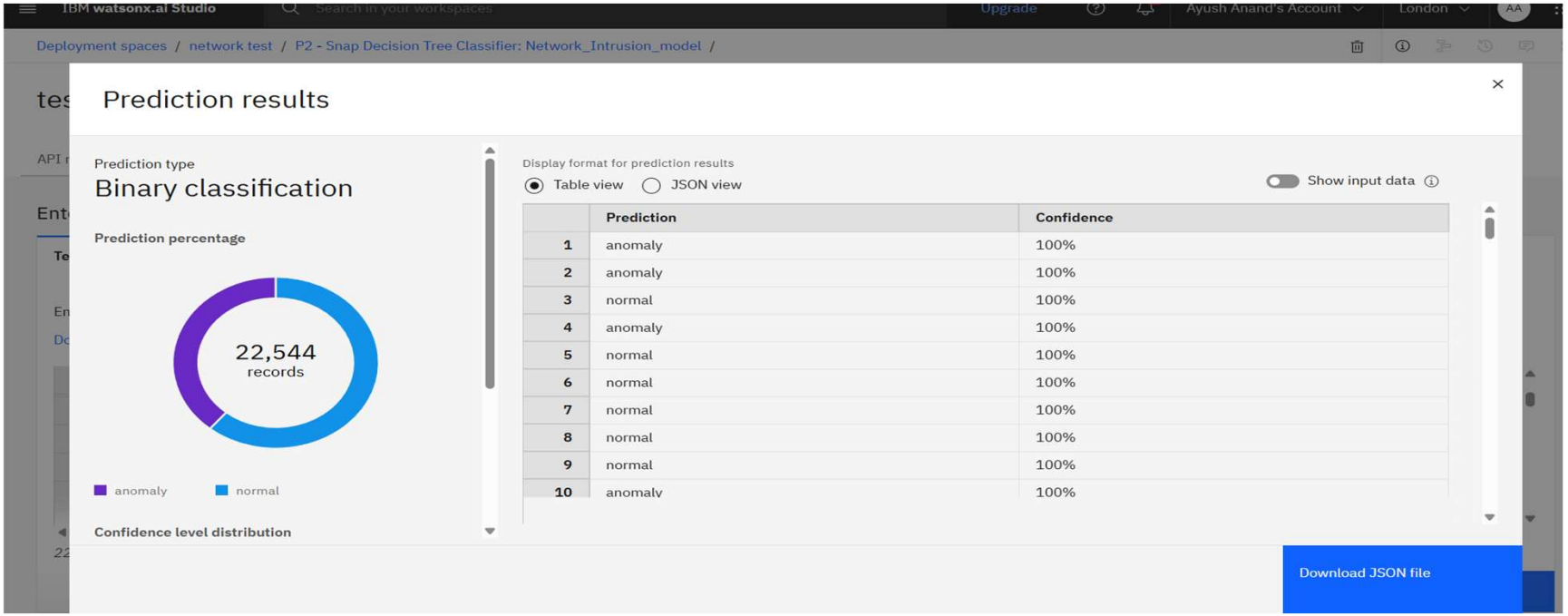

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CONCLUSION

- The Decision Tree model deployed on IBM Cloud successfully detects network intrusions.
- AutoAI simplified the entire ML lifecycle, from training to deployment.
- This solution provides a foundational step toward intelligent and scalable intrusion detection systems.

FUTURE SCOPE

- Upgrade to ensemble models like Random Forest or XGBoost
- Real-time data streaming and alert generation
- Integration with dashboards or SIEM tools
- Fine-grained classification of individual attack types (DoS, R2L, etc.)

REFERENCES

- - https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/sampadab17/networkintrusion-detection
- - IBM Watson Studio documentation
- - IBM Cloud Machine Learning Services
- - Scikit-learn documentation (for Decision Tree concepts)

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