2022-04-27

My presentation title is here. This talk is about my on-going journey into the world of graph theory and neural networks.





This first section is an Introduction to me and my project

Introduction

About Me

- I am a Security Consultant at Palo Alto Networks, cloud and automation for past 2+ years
- Did Data Eng/DevSecOps at Salesforce for 5 years.
- Been going to security conferences for a while.



-Introduction



- Here is a picture of me, but modified by a popular local artist.
- In my current role I get to work with the major cloud providers.
- In the past I was not a Data Scientist, but did some time on the Security Data Engineering team at Salesforce. This gave me a bit of a head start with data pipelines, directed acyclic graphs, and a few other things.

The Project

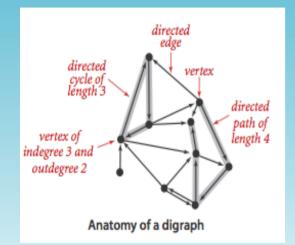
- Realized that Terraform can output directed graphs.
- Had done a lot of work at Salesforce with directed graphs, data pipeline orchestration with AirFlow, etc. so I was somewhat familiar with the output I was seeing.
- The first question I had was, what can I do with these directed graphs
- My hunch was I could "do some processing and analysis" of all this security infrastructure graph data and hoped that could lead to... predictions?

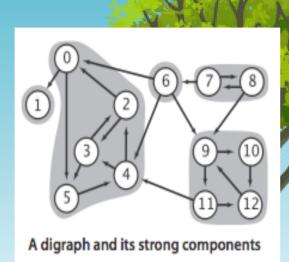
—Introduction

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- In case you are not familiar, Terraform is software that allows you to declare resources like network elements in public cloud providers.
- Had and still have this vague notion that if I had enough data I could find "outliers". Maybe like a modernized version of a Pareto analysis?

What's a DiGraph?











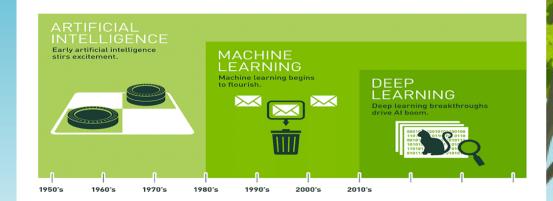
- The big takeaway here is the idea of "edges" and "nodes"
- Source: Algorithms, 4th Edition, by Robert Sedgewick and Kevin Wayne
- Wrath of Math!



What is Deep Learning, Exactly?

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The Rise of Deep Learning



Since an early flush of optimism in the 1950s, smaller subsets of artificial intelligence – first machine learning, then

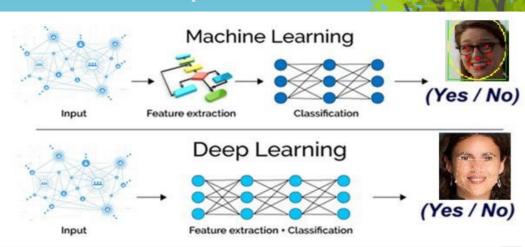
deep learning, a subset of machine learning – have created ever larger disruptions.

What is Deep Learning, Exactly?

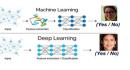


- GPUs have made it possible to expand accessibility to DL
- the CUDA toolkit from Nvidia has made things easier for researchers.

Quick Intro to a Giant Topic



What is Deep Learning, Exactly?



- image source/credit
- ML feature extraction can be a huge undertaking, up to 80% of a project.
- DL attempts to automatically learn features that are most useful for a task from raw data.
- The nodes in a digraph are "neurons" or "units" in the DL/graph theory context.
- The neurons perform two steps. They calculate a "weighted sum" and pass the result through an "activation function" such as a rectifier activation function.
- These neurons or units that go through the rectifier function are called "RelUs" for short. Lot's of descriptive info in this one term!
- Depth of the GNN is measured by the number of connected layers.
- DL needs very large data sets for accurate feature determination. Data sets with lots of features are known as "high density".
- We humans interpret the features and output based on what we are trying to model.

What is Deep Learning, Exactly?

- Google Deep Learning Container Images
- Continuous Machine Learning (CML) Project
- Kaggle and shared Jupyter Notebooks



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of Citations

- This is an example of a list.
- Important business information.



The Journey

This is an example of a list.
Important business information.

Yak Shaving, Side Quests, Endless Rabbit Holes

- Makefiles and GNU Autotools
- NVIDA Jetson Nano as cluster nodes
- SLURM cluster scheduler
- OpenMPI for parallel builds
- Docker and Containers
- k8s and Rancher k3s
- Data Version Control dvc.org
- Storing/accessing data in GCP buckets
- Continuous Machine Learning cml.dev
- Internal Pypi and Debian/Raspbian mirror (used too much bandwidth on home connection)



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Dot Data Collection

A big barrier to entry was removed by the ability to output a Directed Graph from Terraform. Click for video

Generate a PNG from Terraform
terraform graph | dot -Tpng > graph.png

Generate vector graphic from Terraform
terraform graph | dot -Tsvg -o graph.svg

The Journey

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Python Data Collection

This became the basis for collection via Python. Click for video

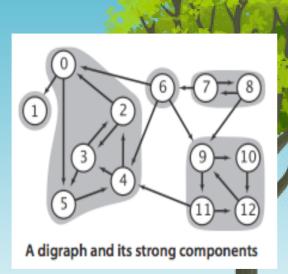


The Journey

This became the basis for collection via Python.

Data Processing





└The Journey

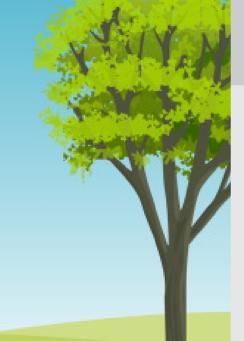




The Journey

Data Storage - Google Cloud

Data storage with GCP because it's (relatively) easy.



The Journey

Data storage with GCP because it's [relatively] easy.

The Journey

Date design and tagging using DVC

The Journey

Data storage and tagging using DVC





Visualizations

Visualizations

What is Deep Learning, Emethy?
The Journey
Visualizations

Graphviz/Dot output

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- This is the first thing I saw when I started converting the data.
- Was excited here since I was able to change the color of the nodes.
- Obviously this is not yet a usable result.





Sources and Citations

Introduction

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The Journey

Visualizations

Sources and Citations

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└─Sources and Citations

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- point 1
- point 2