PREDICTING TCP/IP NETWORK TRAFFIC USING TIME SERIES FORECASTING

FINAL PRESENTATION

Thomas Mauerhofer, and Matthias Wölbitsch June 16, 2016

goal: forecast TCP/IP traffic

· real-time and short-time

data set

· network traffic of three months

approaches

- classical time series prediction methods
- · artificial neural networks

HOLT-WINTERS APPROACH

data set preparation

- · split into training, and test set
- · important to start at the beginning of a period

optimize parameter

- with grid search
- from 0 to 1 with 0.05 steps

parameter

- influence of the previous element
- weight for the level (α)
- weight for the trend (β)
- weight for the seasonality (γ)

linear:

• α: 0.1

• β: 0.2

· mase: 1.1768

addaptive:

• α: 0.0

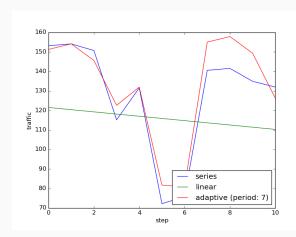
• β: 0.0

 $\cdot \gamma$: 1.0

· period: 7

· mase: 0.3168

forecast daily traffic



linear:

• α: 0.15

• β: 0.1

· mase: 4.3413

addaptive:

• α: 0.7

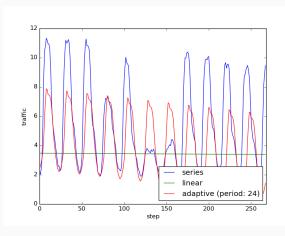
• β: 0.0

 $\cdot \gamma$: 1.0

· period: 24

· mase: 3.2444

forecast hourly traffic



forecast 5 minute traffic

addaptive:

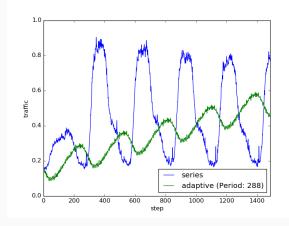
· α: 0.9

• β: 0.65

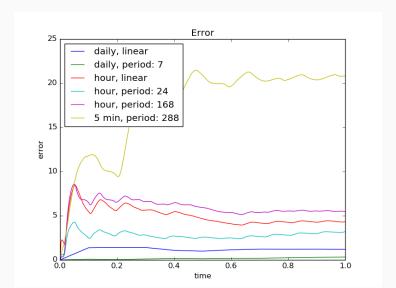
· γ: 0.9

· period: 288

· mase: 20.8613



Error-development over the complete test set



NEURAL NETWORK APPROACH

data set preparation

- generate sequences using sliding window
- · split into training, validation, and test set

neural network library

- keras
- · theano

hyper parameter search

- · sliding window, number of neurons, number of layers,...
- hyperopt library
- tree-structured parzen estimator

RESULTS

MLP

- N = 25
- $W = \{1, 2, 4, 8\} \cup \{287, 288, 289\}$

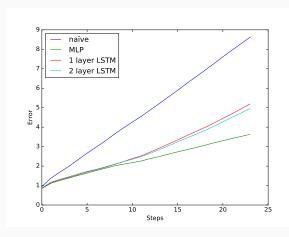
1 layer LSTM

- N = 19
- $W = \{1, 2, \dots, 19\}$

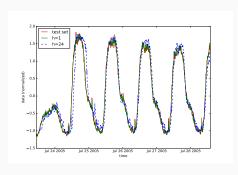
2 layer LSTM

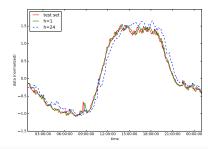
- $N_1 = 13$
- $N_2 = 5$
- $W = \{1, 2, \dots, 14\}$

forecast error for different horizons



forecasting examples with h = 1 and h = 24 using MLP





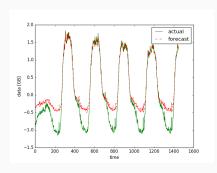
CONCLUSION

forecast horizon

- one step ahead forecasting
- direct vs. iterative forecasting

training loss function

- · MSLE
- penalizes underestimates
- numerical issues



CONCLUSION

LSTM issues

- · high expectations
- · too few training samples
- · slow

neural networks and time series

- · used often for forecasting
- numerous different approaches
- · problem solved?

COMPARISON

two very different methods

- · neural networks: black box
- · Holt-Winters: time series engineering

→ hard to compare

