Introduction

In this project, I have been tasked to perform data analytics methodology in order to implement RNN on the dataset to show that the chosen features converge fast and error rates decrease exponentially to a very low value over various iterations. At the end of it, verify the metrics of the model such as accuracy, precision and recall on the test data.

I am given one of the 4 datasets to work with:

- https://www.unsw.adfa.edu.au/unsw-canberra-cyber/cybersecurity/ADFA-NB15-Datasets/ (UNSW)
- https://github.com/FransHBotes/NSLKDD-Dataset (KDD)
- https://www.usma.edu/crc/sitepages/datasets.aspx (CDX)
- https://www.hs-coburg.de/index.php?id=927 (CIDDS)

However, half of the datasets' website is broken. Hence, the dataset that will be used in this project is found in the github link.

Referencing:

Botes, F., Leenen, L. and De La Harpe, R. (2017). Ant Colony Induced Decision Trees for Intrusion Detection. In: 16th European Conference on Cyber Warfare and Security. ACPI (June 12, 2017), pp.74-83.

Methodology

This section details the overview of the steps that I will adopt through this project.

- 1. Understanding NSL-KDD dataset
- 2. Visualizing the data using <u>Tableau</u>¹
- 3. Analyze the data and finding the top few (at least 3) features that can be used to identify the classes (identified in step 1) through Weka²
- 4. Model the data through these means:
 - a. Regression using R
 - b. J48 Decision Tree/Naive Bayes/ MLP using Weka & Python
 - c. Recurrent Neural Network (RNN)

¹ https://www.tableau.com/

² https://www.cs.waikato.ac.nz/ml/weka/

Data Management + Visualization

Understanding NSL-KDD dataset

There are already 2 files in the dataset that combine all features collected for all the different classes: (1) KDDTrain+.csv and (2) KDDTest+.csv, a training set and test set respectively (as indicated in the name).

There are 125973 data in the train set, and 22544 data in the test set, giving us a total of 148517 data. The train/test set is split is roughly 85/15.

There are 5 classes in this dataset (even though the documentation indicated 6, the 6th class is not found in the csv file): (1) dos, (2) u2r, (3) r2l, (4) probe, and (5) normal. DOS = Denial of Service attack, U2R = User to Root privilege escalation, R2L = Remote to Local access. The class is found as the last column in the csv file.

There are 40 features in the dataset: (1) duration, (2) protocol type, (3) service flag, (4) src bytes (5) dst bytes, (6) land, (7) wrong fragment, (8) urgent, (9) hot, (10) num failed logins, (11) logged in, (12) num compromised, (13) root shell, (14) su attempted, (15) num root, (16) num file creations, (17) num shells, (18) num access files, (19) num outbound cmds, (20) is host login, (21) is guest login, (22) count, (23) srv count, (24) serror rate, (25) srv serror rate, (26) rerror rate, (27) srv rerror rate, diff srv rate, (30) srv diff host rate, (31) dst host count, (28) same srv rate, (29)(32)dst host srv count, (33)dst host same srv rate, (34)dst host diff srv rate, (35)dst host same src port rate, (36) dst host srv diff host rate, (37) dst host serror rate, (38)dst host srv serror rate, (39) dst host rerror rate, and (40) dst host srv rerror rate.

We then look at the distribution of the classes found in Train and Test datasets:

Dataset	Number of records							
	DoS	U2R	R2L	Probe	Normal	Total		
Train+	45927 (36.5%)	52 (0.04%)	995 (0.79%)	11656 (9.25%)	67343 (53.5%)	125973		
Test+	7456 (33.1%)	202 (0.9%)	2754 (12.2%)	2421 (10.7%)	9710 (43.1%)	22543		

Due to the disparity in the malicious (and also since the objective is to just detect malicious), we combine anything abnormal (i.e., not normal) and classify them as malicious. The table now looks like this:

Dataset	Number of records					
	Malicious	Normal	Total			
Train+	58630 (46.5%)	67343 (53.5%)	125973			

Test+	12833 (56.9%)	9710 (43.1%)	22543
	` /	` ′	

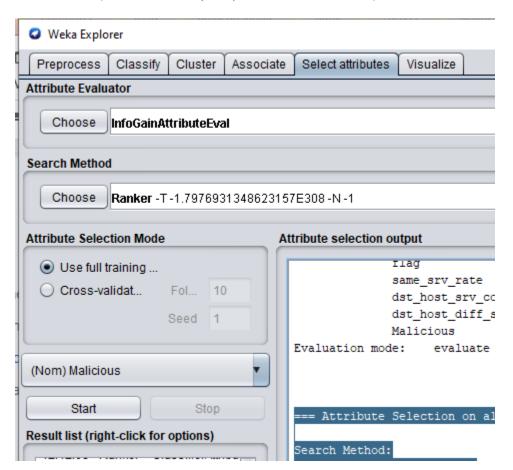
Henceforth, we set normal = 0 and malicious = 1.

Feature selection

We will follow the steps detailed in

https://machinelearningmastery.com/perform-feature-selection-machine-learning-data-weka/

- 1. Execute Weka and load dataset
- 2. In 'Select Attributes' tab, choose InfoGainAttributeEval for Attribute Evaluator and Ranker for Search method, and then select (Num) malicious for the class, like so:



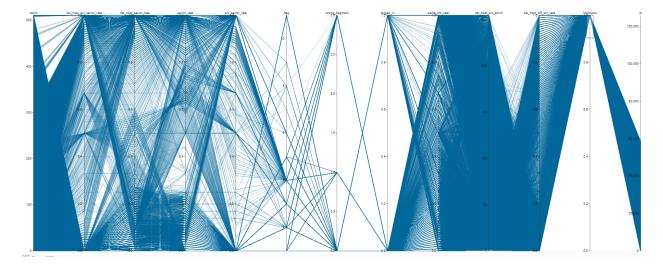
3. Click start and see the results inside the Attribute selection output. The following is the results obtained:

```
=== Attribute Selection on all input data ===
Search Method:
    Attribute ranking.
Attribute Evaluator (supervised, Class (nominal): 10 Malicious):
    Information Gain Ranking Filter
```

```
Ranked attributes:
0.4893
         7 same_srv_rate
0.4655
         8 dst_host_srv_count
0.423
         6 flag
0.3869
         1 dst_host_srv_serror_rate
0.3838
         2 dst_host_serror_rate
0.3763
         4 srv serror rate
0.3748
         3 serror_rate
0.3413
          5 count
0.0227
         9 dst_host_diff_srv_rate
Selected attributes: 7,8,6,1,2,4,3,5,9 : 9
```

4. Suppose we use a cutoff of 0.5, then the following attributes are selected: (1) same_srv_rate, (2) dst_host_srv_count, (3) flag, (4) dst_host_srv_serror_rate, (5) dst_host_serror_rate, (6) srv_serror_rate, (7) srv_serror_rate, (8) count, (9)dst_host_diff_srv_rate.

5. Of course, next we parse the features into Parallel Coordinates



From this, we can deduce that having a high error rate is likely to contribute to malicious activities. However, it is unclear how count and flag could contribute to the malicious activities, hence we looked closer into these features.

6. By comparing between the number of counts for both flags and count features, in both malicious and non-malicious activities, we can immediately see a stark differences between the 2:

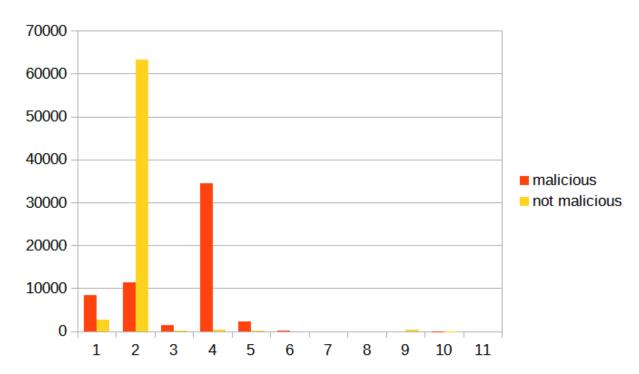


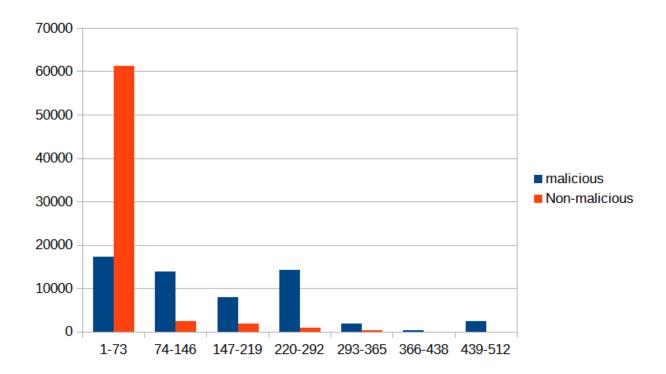
Figure 1: counts of flag between malicious vs non-malicious

In the image above (fig 1), we can quickly see that for packets with flag 2, it is very unlikely to be a malicious activity if the flag = 2. However, it is very likely to be malicious if the flag = 4.

We can also find similar patterns when comparing count fields. Since there are 512 unique counts, the x-axis will extend very large, making it difficult to read the graph. Hence, we group the counts by range of 73. The result made in excel is as follows:

count range	malicious	Non-malicious		IF malicious >	non-malicious	return true,	else false
1-73	17331	61385		false			
74-146	13983	2524		true			
147-219	8062	1878		true			
220-292	14405	1066		true			
293-365	1902	350		true			
366-438	429	67		true			
439-512	2518	73		true			
total	58630	67343	125973				

The data above as visualized on a bar chart:



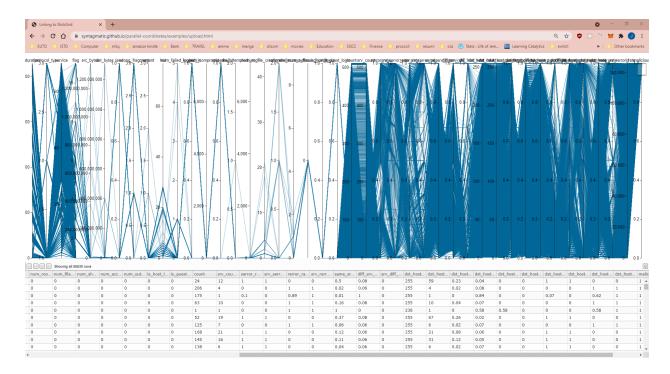
We can see that when counts are low, we may expect the packets to be non-malicious (61385 vs 17331). However, as counts increase, the behavior is more likely to be malicious.

Using Parallel Coordinates

A quick explanation why parallel coordinates is not ideal for data modelling right at the start in this case:

- 1. Too many features
- 2. Too much data
- 3. Very messy

For example, if we did not first execute the feature selection algorithm in the previous section, this is what it looks like:



It is difficult to make out any patterns pursuant to the malicious class.

Data Analytics

Regression

Recall that we have selected the following features:

- 1. dst_host_srv_serror_rate,
- 2. dst_host_serror_rate,
- 3. serror_rate,
- 4. srv_serror_rate,
- 5. count,
- 6. flag,
- 7. same_srv_rate
- 8. dst host srv count
- 9. dst_host_diff_srv_rate

We use all 9 features and feed it for our regression model.

Regression									
Regression N	Linear								
LINEST raw o	utput					ı			
	-0.00165101	-0.27398109	0.04291135	0.000911162	0.047345437	-0.03647298	-0.04735136	0.135785712	0.617919097
0.004947586	1.14359E-05	0.003903362	0.001346211	9.0394E-06	0.018668698	0.017009397	0.011591338	0.013833975	0.003821765
0.680650572	0.281889575	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
29830.36426	125963	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
21333.3518	10009.2382	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A	#N/A
Regression S	tatistics								
R^2	0.680650572								
Standard Erre	0.281889575					i			
Count of X va	9					ı			
Observations	125973								
Adjusted R^2	0.680627754					i			
Analysis of Va	riance (ANOV	(A)							
	df	SS	MS	F	Significance F				
Regression	9	21333.3518	2370.372422	29830.36426	0	ı			
Residual	125963	10009.2382	0.079461732						
Total	125972	31342.59							
Confidence le	0.95								
	Coefficients	Standard Erre	t-Statistic	P-value	Lower 95%	Upper 95%			
Intercept		0.003821765			0.610428504				
	0.135785712								
	-0.04735136		-4.0850644						
serror rate		0.017009397		0.032012056	-0.0698111				
	0.047345437			0.011211094		0.083935763			
count	0.000911162	9.0394E-06			0.000893445				
flaq		0.001346211		_	0.0402728	0.0455499			
	-0.27398109		-70.1910585	0	-0.28163161				
	-0.00165101			0		-0.0016286			
				_		0.070470443			
		2.30 .0 300				2.3.00110			

We can see that all features have a p-value ≤ 0.05 . Hence, they are statistically significant.

Single Factor ANOVA

ANOVA - Single Factor						
Alpha	0.05					
Groups	Count	Sum	Mean	Variance		
dst_host_srv_serror_rate	125973	35081.53	0.278484517	0.198620968		
dst_host_serror_rate	125973	35833.33	0.284452462	0.197832851		
serror_rate	125973	35837.37	0.284484532	0.199322624		
srv_serror_rate	125973	35585.53	0.282485374	0.199829114		
count	125973	10595281	84.10755479	13112.22116		
flag	125973	324403	2.575178808	1.303140929		
same_srv_rate	125973	83259.04	0.660927659	0.193268261		
dst_host_srv_count	125973	14569156	115.653005	12255.09682		
dst_host_diff_srv_rate	125973	10449.6	0.082951109	0.035691446		
Source of Variation	SS	df	MS	F	P-value	F critical
Between Groups	1993345037	8	249168129.7	88393.55485	0	1.93842226
Within Groups	3195865006	1133748	2818.84952			
Total	5189210043	1133756				

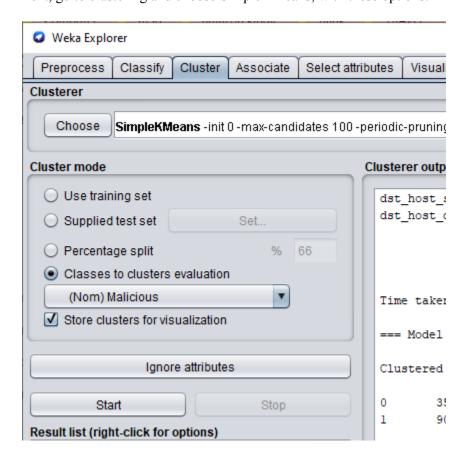
Between groups, we see a p-value = 0 < 0.05, which indicates a strong significance in the features selected.

Simple K-Means clustering

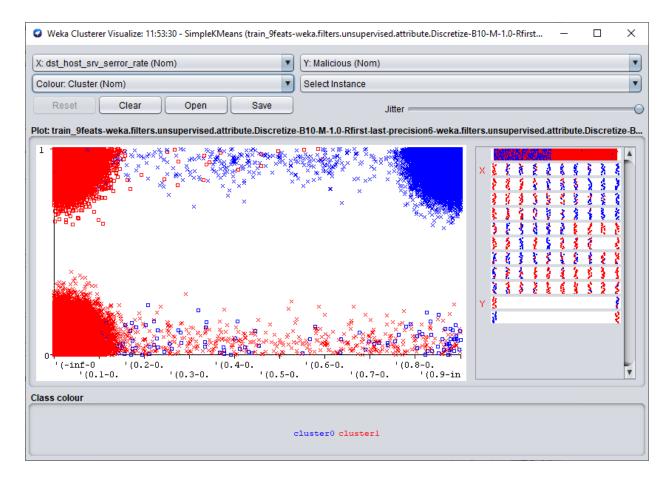
We will need to first apply preprocessing to the dataset:

- 1. Apply Discretize (weka > filters > attributes > unsupervised > discretize)
- 2. Apply Normalize (same folder)
- 3. Then Apply NumericToNominal (in the same folder)

Next, go to clustering and choose SimpleKMeans, with these options:

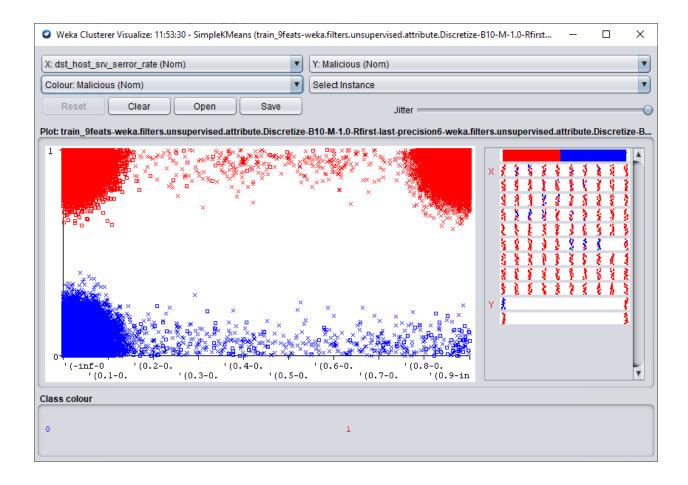


Results (note that cluster0 (in blue) is malicious class and cluster1 (in red) is normal class:

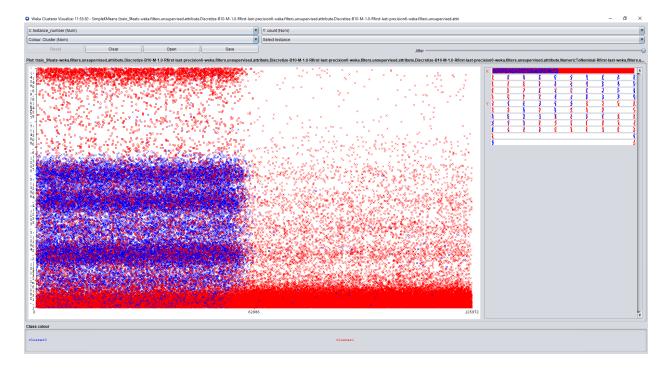


Between destination host's server serror rate against actual malicious class

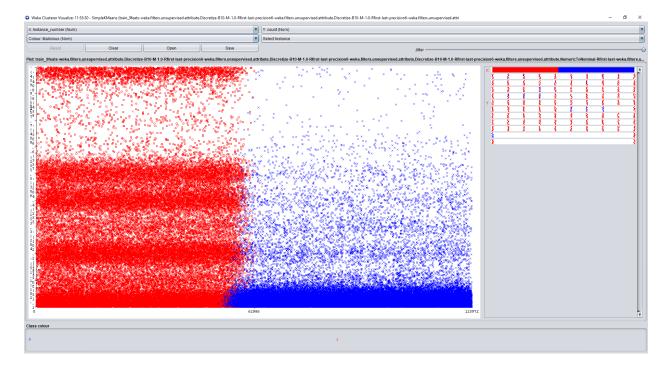
However, when we change the color to reflect the actual malicious classes, we see that 1 area of clusters is wrongly classified (top left cluster):



Another example:



Between the ID count (instance number) vs Count fields, we get this clustering. But when compared against the actual malicious classes, we get this:



This shows that K-Means clustering is a bad model to use when determining the malicious classes.

Multi Linear Regression

Now, we will narrow down to the top 5 features. We do this by finding a regression model for each feature, then test that model against the test datasets before computing the error rates.

We will rank the error (the lower the better) and pick the top 5. Look at Appendix A for code.

The following displays the results for all the experiments, ranked by error, in ascending order:

```
dst host srv count;dst host diff srv rate 0.4794032132670182
flag;dst host srv count 0.4902907728276012
srv_serror_rate;dst_host_srv_count 0.5007203257389121
serror rate;dst host srv count 0.5021799614265207
dst_host_srv_serror_rate;dst_host_srv_count 0.5039435488087224
dst host serror rate;dst host srv count 0.5052621996860833
count;dst_host_srv_count 0.5222715765752088
flag;same_srv_rate 0.5436212923347108
same srv rate; dst host diff srv rate 0.5482123238172371
same srv rate;dst host diff srv rate 0.5482123238172371
dst_host_serror_rate;same_srv_rate 0.548252780798497
srv_serror_rate;same_srv_rate 0.5482932347945527
srv serror rate; same srv rate 0.5482932347945527
same srv rate;dst host srv count 0.5491420802974926
count; same srv rate 0.5552074695553905
count; flag 0.599427487137872
count;dst host diff srv rate 0.6060511963609728
serror_rate;count 0.6097363193198552
srv serror rate; count 0.610608721796763
flag;dst_host_diff_srv_rate 0.6152045911681465
dst host srv serror rate; count 0.617543575326224
dst host serror rate; count 0.6211248137417018
dst host serror rate; dst host diff srv rate 0.6525739916828946
dst_host_srv_serror_rate;dst_host_diff_srv_rate 0.6530836161195531
serror rate; dst host diff srv rate 0.6535249691712305
srv_serror_rate;dst_host_diff_srv_rate 0.6560992456272706
dst_host_srv_serror_rate;flag 0.678109372044247
dst_host_srv_serror_rate;dst_host_serror_rate 0.6783055937137634
dst_host_srv_serror_rate;srv_serror_rate 0.6786978668609894
dst_host_srv_serror_rate; serror_rate 0.6790899134134842
dst_host_serror_rate;srv_serror_rate 0.6812746936945788
srv_serror_rate; flag 0.6845225891726368
serror_rate; srv_serror_rate 0.6845549903081564
dst_host_serror_rate;serror_rate 0.6849113016339317
dst_host_serror_rate;flag 0.6856557178892693
serror rate; flag 0.6860114575022312
```

We can immediately see that in the top 7, dst_host_srv_count is always present. Using 0.50 error as cut off, hence, we may take the following features:

- 1. dst host srv count
- 2. dst host diff srv rate
- 3. flag
- 4. srv_serror_rate
- 5. Serror rate

And now, we will create a new file called {name} 5feats.csv

Data modeling

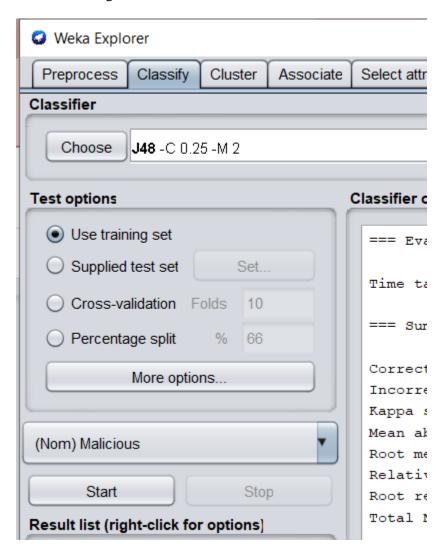
J48 trees

$$Accuracy = \frac{TP + TN}{TP + TN + FP + FN}$$

$$Recall = \frac{TP}{TP + FN}$$

$$Precision = \frac{TP}{TP+FP}$$

Use these settings:



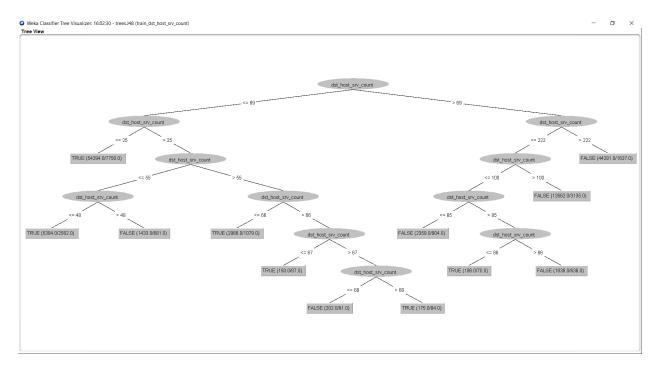
For all 5 features:

=== Confusion Matrix ===

$$TP = 62388$$
, $TN = 48554$, $FP = 10076$, $FN = 4955$

Accuracy = 0.880, Recall = 0.926, Precision = 0.860

For 1 feature:



See Appendix B for code on J48.

Naive Bayes

See Appendix C for code

Acquired results on Naive Bayes model:

```
(env) C:\Users\ngyzj\Documents\st1\q1>python naive_bayes.py
Accuracy: 58.03%
Recall: 28.32%
Precision: 93.25%
```

Multilayer Perceptron (MLP)

See Appendix D for code

Result:

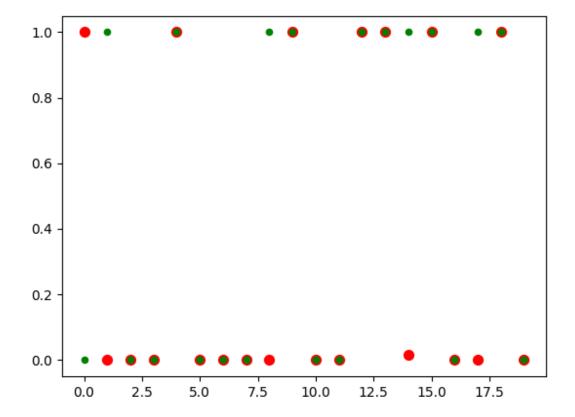
```
return 1.0 / (1 + np.ex)
Epoch done: 90
90.0% done
Accuracy: 49.0%
Recall: 100.0%
Precision: 49.0%
Beginning validation...
Accuracy: 56.93%
Recall: 100.0%
Precision: 56.93%
```

Recurrent Neural Network (RNN)

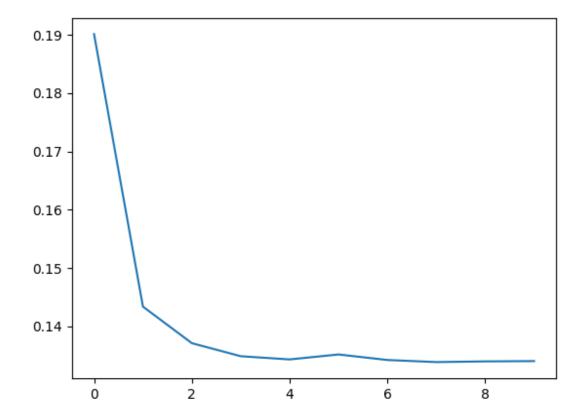
Code is in Appendix E

Result (accuracy, precision, recall):

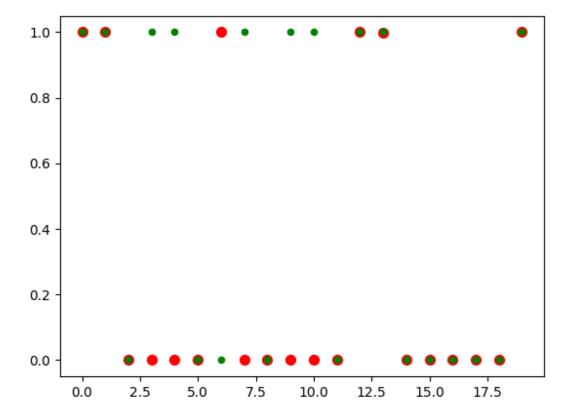
```
3150/3150 [==========] - 20
0.3470256842478818 1.0 0.3470256842478818
```



Validation loss against number of epoch:



First 20 results of the test dataset results:



Appendix A - Multilinear Regression

```
import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
from sklearn.linear model import LinearRegression
from sklearn import metrics
columns = [
   "dst host srv count",
    "dst host diff srv rate"
file = pd.read csv("train 9feats.csv")
models stat = {}
for i in range(0, len(columns)):
   for j in range(i + 1, len(columns)):
                                pd.DataFrame(file, columns=[columns[i],
columns[j]]).to numpy())
       y = np.array(file['Malicious'].to numpy())
       model = LinearRegression().fit(x, y)
       r sq = model.score(x, y)
       print(f"Coefficient of determination: {r_sq}")
       print(f"Intercept: {model.intercept }")
       print(f"Gradient: {model.coef }")
           'r sq': r sq,
           'intercept': model.intercept ,
           'gradient': model.coef [0],
           'model': model
   print(models stat)
print(pd.DataFrame(file, columns=columns[:1] + columns[1:2]).to numpy)
test = pd.read csv("test 9feats.csv")
actual y = np.array(test['Malicious'].to numpy())
accuracies = {}
score to feature = {}
scores = []
for feature, model in models stat.items():
   f = feature.split(';')
   x = np.array(pd.DataFrame(test, columns=[f[0], f[-1]]).to numpy())
   y pred = model['model'].predict(x)
   df = pd.DataFrame({'Actual': actual y, 'Predicted': y pred})
   accuracies[feature] = {
       'MAE': metrics.mean absolute error(actual y, y pred),
        'MSE': metrics.mean squared error(actual y, y pred),
```

```
'RMSE': np.sqrt(metrics.mean_squared_error(actual_y, y_pred))
}
score_to_feature[accuracies[feature]['RMSE']] = feature
scores.append(accuracies[feature]['RMSE'])

print(accuracies)
scores.sort()
for i in range(5):
    print(score_to_feature[scores[i]], scores[i])
```

Appendix B - J48 Python

```
def j48tree(dst host srv count):
            return True
                    return True
                    return False
                if dst host srv count <= 66:</pre>
                    return True
                    return True
                 if dst host srv count <= 68:</pre>
                    return False
                     return True
    if dst host srv count > 222:
        return False
        return False
    if dst host srv count <= 85:</pre>
       return False
    if dst host srv count > 86:
        return False
        return True
```

Appendix C - Naive Bayes

```
import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
from math import sqrt, exp, pi
train = pd.read csv("train 5feats.csv").to numpy()
test = pd.read csv("test 5feats.csv").to numpy()
''' Step 1: Separate by Class '''
def separate by class(dataset):
    separated = dict()
    for i in range(len(dataset)):
       class value = vector[-1]
        if (class value not in separated.keys()):
            separated[class value] = list()
        separated[class value].append(vector)
    return separated
''' Step 2: Summarize Dataset '''
def mean(numbers):
    return sum(numbers) / float(len(numbers))
def stdev(numbers):
    avg = mean(numbers)
    variance = sum((x - avg)**2 for x in numbers)) / float(len(numbers) -
1)
def summarize dataset(dataset):
                 for column in zip(*dataset)]
   del (summaries[-1])
    return summaries
''' Step 3: Summarize data by class '''
```

```
def summarize_by_class(dataset):
   separated = separate by class(dataset)
    summaries = dict()
    for class value, rows in separated.items():
summary = summarize by class(train)
for label in summary:
    for row in summary[label]:
       print(row)
''' Step 4: gaussian probability density function'''
def calculate probability(x, mean, stdev):
   exponent = \exp(-((x - mean)**2 / (2 * stdev**2)))
    return (1 / (sqrt(2 * pi) * stdev)) * exponent
''' Step 5: class probabilities '''
def calculate class probabilities(summaries, row):
   total rows = sum([summaries[label][0][2] for label in summaries])
   probabilities = dict()
    for class value, class summaries in summaries.items():
        probabilities[class value] = summaries[class value][0][2] / float(
        for i in range(len(class summaries)):
                row[i], mean, stdev)
    return probabilities
```

Appendix D - Multilayer Perceptron

```
import copy
import pandas as pd
import numpy as np
def logistic(x):
def logistic deriv(x):
def getmetrics(tp, tn, fp, fn):
def appoint score(actual, pred):
            scores['fp'] += 1
f __name__ == ' main ':
    train = pd.read csv("train 5feats.csv")
    test = pd.read csv("test 5feats.csv")
    train_data = train.drop('Malicious', axis=1).to_numpy()
train_size = train_data.shape[0]
    test_data = test.drop('Malicious', axis=1).to_numpy()
    test_size = test_data.shape[0]
    val = copy.deepcopy(test)
    I dim = train data.shape[1]
```

```
Training
   print("Beginning training...")
   for epoch in range(nepoch):
       for sample in range(train size):
           FE = post activation 0 - train out[sample]
           for H node in range(H dim):
               S error = FE * logistic deriv(pre activation 0)
                    input value = train data[sample, I node]
           rval = val.sample(n=100)
           rval_data = rval.drop('Malicious', axis=1).to numpy()
           print(val)
           for sample in range(rval size):
               for node in range(H dim):
           print(f"Epoch done: {epoch}\n\t{round(epoch/nepoch,3)*100}% done")
           print(
                              f"\tAccuracy: {round(accuracy, 4) *100}%\n\tRecall:
{round(recall,4)*100}%\n\tPrecision: {round(precision,4)*100}%"
```

Appendix E - RNN

```
from keras.models import Sequential
from keras.layers import Dense
from keras.layers import LSTM
from scipy.sparse.construct import random
from sklearn.model selection import train test split
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import pandas as pd
train = pd.read csv("train 5feats.csv", header=0)
test = pd.read csv("test 5feats.csv", header=0)
trainlen = len(train)
testlen = len(test)
trainx = train.drop(['Malicious'], axis=1)
trainx = np.asarray(trainx)
trainy = train['Malicious']
trainy = np.asarray(trainy)
data = np.array(trainx, dtype=float)
data = np.reshape(data, (125973, 5, 1))
target = np.array(trainy, dtype=float)
x train, x test, y train, y test = train test split(data,
                                                     test size=0.2,
                                                     random state=4)
model = Sequential()
model.add(LSTM((1),
                            batch input shape=(None,
                                                                         1)
return sequences=True))
model.add(LSTM((1), return sequences=False))
model.compile(loss='mean absolute error',
              optimizer= adam',
              metrics=['accuracy'])
model.summary()
history = model.fit(x train,
                    epochs=10,
                    validation data=(x test, y test))
results = model.predict(x test)
plt.scatter(range(20), results[:20], c='red', s=50)
plt.scatter(range(20), y test[:20], c='green', s=20)
plt.show()
```

```
plt.plot(history.history['loss'])
plt.show()
testx = test.drop(['Malicious'], axis=1)
testx = np.asarray(testx)
testx = np.array(testx, dtype=float)
testx = np.reshape(testx, (22543, 5, 1))
testy = test['Malicious']
testy = np.asarray(testy)
testy = np.array(testy, dtype=float)
results = model.predict(testx)
# 20 points
plt.scatter(range(20), results[:20], c='red', s=50)
plt.scatter(range(20), testy[:20], c='green', s=20)
plt.show()
# get performance of model
tp = 0
fp = 0
tn = 0
fn = 0
pred = []
    for j in range(len(i)):
        if i[j] >= 0.5:
            output = 0
        pred.append(output)
        if output == testy[j]:
def getmetrics(tp, tn, fp, fn):
            tp + fn), tp / (tp + fp)
```

```
accuracy, recall, precision = getmetrics(tp, tn, fp, fn)
print(accuracy, precision, recall)
```