

Malware Classification

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Problem?

- Hundreds of malware samples discovered every day
- Reverse engineering not always possible
- Manual categorization is
 - Time consuming
 - Expensive
 - Subject to human mistakes



Malware

- Software that is intended to damage or disable computers or computer systems
- Divided in families (e.g. Zeus)
- Each family contains several variants, which are often centralized, updated
- Families are often characterized by specific characteristics

CLASSIFICATION

IDEAS?

Yeah...what about the data though?

- Good malware collections are hard to find
- Encryption and packing do not help in the task
- Virus Total and similar?
 - Hard to distinguish new and old samples
 - Miss-classification can affect the ground truth

kaggle™



Microsoft

Microsoft Malware Classification Challenge

- 9 Families

- Ramnit
- Lollipop
- Kelihos_ver3

```
text:00401050
text:00401050
text:00401050
text:00401050
text:00401050 B9 24 2B 56 00
text:00401055 FF 25 78 23 41 00
text:00401055
text:00401055
text:00401055
text:0040105B 90 90 90 90 90
text:00401060
text:00401060
text:00401060 68 70 10 40 00
text:00401065 E8 30 03 01 00
text:0040106A 59
text:0040106B C3
text:0040106B
text:0040106C 90 90 90 90
text:00401070
```

```
00401000 E8 0B 00 00 00 E9 16 00 00 00 90 90 90 90 90 90
00401010 B9 25 2B 56 00 FF 25 80 23 41 00 90 90 90 90 90
00401020 68 30 10 40 00 E8 70 03 01 00 59 C3 90 90 90 90
00401030 B9 25 2B 56 00 FF 25 74 23 41 00 90 90 90 90 90
00401040 E8 0B 00 00 00 E9 16 00 00 00 90 90 90 90 90 90
00401050 B9 24 2B 56 00 FF 25 78 23 41 00 90 90 90 90 90
00401060 68 70 10 40 00 E8 30 03 01 00 59 C3 90 90 90 90
00401070 B9 24 2B 56 00 FF 25 7C 23 41 00 90 90 90 90 90
00401080 B0 9F C2 04 00 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90 90
00401090 83 05 C4 24 56 00 20 8B 15 A4 24 56 00 85 D2 56
; ===== S U B R O U T I N E =====
```

```
sub_401050      proc near                ; CODE XREF: .text:00401040p
                mov     ecx, offset unk_562B24
                jmp     ds:??0_Winit@std@@@QAE@XZ ; std::_Winit::_Winit(void)
sub_401050      endp

; -----
                align 10h

loc_401060:     ; CODE XREF: .text:00401045j
                push    offset loc_401070
                call    _atexit
                pop     ecx
                retn

; -----
                align 10h
```

```
004011B0 00 00 A3 E4 23 56 00 EB 0B 29 35 84 24 56 00 BF
```

- IDA pro disassembled

Have we got features?

- Size of the bytes file
- Strings within the file
- Number of Basic Block
- Sections (e.g. .text, .idata, .rdata)
- # of calls
- # of mov
- # of jmps (e.g. jge, jmp, je etc.)
- # of pop
- # of push
- # of xor
- # of sub
- # of add

Dynamic features non-available
due to missing PE header

Multi-class classifiers

- Support Vector Machines

Total features vector of

410318 elements

- Random Forest

Number of samples of

10868 elements

- Neural Networks

SVM Results

Best configuration found {'kernel': 'rbf', 'C': 100, 'gamma': 0.0001}

Test size 33%

Train size 66%

	precision	recall	f1-score	support
1	0.98	0.99	0.98	518
2	1.00	1.00	1.00	844
3	1.00	1.00	1.00	956
4	0.90	0.98	0.94	145
5	1.00	0.87	0.93	15
6	0.98	0.99	0.98	248
7	1.00	0.97	0.99	139
8	0.98	0.96	0.97	400
9	0.99	1.00	1.00	322
avg / total	0.99	0.99	0.99	3587

Random Forest Results

Best configuration found {'bootstrap': False, 'min_samples_leaf': 1, 'min_samples_split': 2, 'criterion': 'gini', 'max_features': 3, 'max_depth': None}

Test size 33%

Train size 66%

	precision	recall	f1-score	support
1	0.93	0.98	0.96	518
2	0.99	0.99	0.99	844
3	1.00	0.99	1.00	956
4	0.90	0.98	0.94	145
5	0.90	0.60	0.72	15
6	1.00	0.99	0.99	248
7	0.98	0.96	0.97	139
8	0.98	0.92	0.95	400
9	0.99	1.00	0.99	322
avg / total	0.98	0.98	0.98	3587

Neural Network Results

```
0  [|||||] 100.0%
1  [|||||] 100.0%
2  [|||||] 100.0%
3  [|||||] 100.0%
4  [|||||] 100.0%
5  [|||||] 100.0%
6  [|||||] 100.0%
7  [|||||] 100.0%
8  [|||||] 100.0%
9  [|||||] 100.0%
10 [|||||] 100.0%
11 [|||||] 100.0%
Mem[|||||] 15793/24059MB
Swp[|||||] 4677/24575MB
```

Tasks: 271, 1268 thr; 15 running
Load average: 15.28 14.87 14.50
Uptime: 49 days, 20:50:04
Time: 09:16:37

Hostname: abruzzi

USER	PRI	NI	VIRT	RES	SHR	S	CPU%	MEM%	TIME+	Command
mbr	20	0	1434M	445M	42384	R	94.9	1.9	7h26:20	python SVM_trainer.py /home/mbr/normalized
mbr	20	0	1433M	445M	42384	R	92.6	1.9	7h25:59	python SVM_trainer.py /home/mbr/normalized
mbr	20	0	1433M	444M	42408	R	92.6	1.8	7h25:25	python SVM_trainer.py /home/mbr/normalized
mbr	20	0	1450M	461M	42376	R	92.0	1.9	7h25:46	python SVM_trainer.py /home/mbr/normalized
mbr	20	0	1450M	461M	42408	R	92.0	1.9	7h26:46	python SVM_trainer.py /home/mbr/normalized
mbr	20	0	1449M	460M	42384	R	89.2	1.9	7h26:55	python SVM_trainer.py /home/mbr/normalized
mbr	20	0	1450M	461M	42408	R	84.7	1.9	7h26:09	python SVM_trainer.py /home/mbr/normalized
mbr	20	0	1449M	460M	42408	R	84.1	1.9	7h25:25	python SVM_trainer.py /home/mbr/normalized
mbr	20	0	1433M	444M	42408	R	84.1	1.8	7h25:56	python SVM_trainer.py /home/mbr/normalized
mbr	20	0	1434M	446M	42344	R	82.4	1.9	7h26:44	python SVM_trainer.py /home/mbr/normalized
mbr	20	0	1449M	461M	42412	R	81.9	1.9	7h26:50	python SVM_trainer.py /home/mbr/normalized
mbr	20	0	1449M	460M	42408	R	78.5	1.9	7h26:28	python SVM_trainer.py /home/mbr/normalized
mbr	22	2	1145M	274M	33532	R	36.7	1.1	5h02:20	/opt/google/chrome/chrome --type=renderer --enable-feat
root	20	0	306M	119M	71380	R	13.0	0.5	14h09:04	/usr/bin/X -nolisten tcp -auth /var/run/sddm/{9778617c-
mbr	20	0	2602M	508M	1656	R	10.7	0.0	2h50:41	htop

Related Works

- Learning and Classification of Malware Behaviour (DIMVA 2008)
 - ~10K samples, SVM, 14 Families, Dynamic features
- Lines of malicious code: Insights into the Malicious Software Industry (ACSAC 12)
 - 11 Families, Dynamic features, Dormant Functionalities
- Say no to overfitting (winner of Microsoft competition)
 - Semi-supervised learning, n-grams, bytes visualization

Conclusion

- So far the best algorithm is SVM for this kind of classification
 - If it will ever terminate we will see if NN are better in this setting
- The feature selection seems reflect real characteristics of the malware families
- Acknowledge to sklearn, my SSD disk and multiprocessing :)

The end...questions?

