#### Bilinear Logistic Regression for Factored Diagnosis Problems

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## Goals of this Talk

- A New Way of Looking at Diagnosis
  - For problems with a large number of uniform entities with uniform features that fail as a whole
  - "Factored Diagnosis"
  - A method, BLR-D, for approaching such problems
- Some Useful Statistical Tools (for any method)
  - Figuring out which parameters matter
  - Estimating false alarm rates without labels

# Forms of Diagnosis Problems

- "Clinical" Diagnosis
  - "Bob has stomach cramps and a high fever"
  - J diseases and K symptoms
  - Goal: given symptoms, compute posterior over diseases



# Forms of Diagnosis Problems 2

- "Factored" Diagnosis
  - J entities, each with the same
    K features (J\*K features)
    - Hundreds of machines in a datacenter, each with the same performance counters, occasional faults
    - Hundreds of processes on a machine, each with the same performance counters, occasional hangs
  - Occasional labels on the ensemble
  - Goal: given labels, find the true causes of the faults



# How Can We Solve Such Problems?

- Naïve Approach: train a classifier on the faults and try to interpret the feature weights
  - Logistic Regression each weight is a parameter
  - Problem: J\*K parameters  $w_i$  (10,000's)
  - Only hundreds of labels







#### An Alternative Approach: Factorize!

- Leverage factored nature of the problem
  - Parameterize J\*K parameters as the product of J entity weights  $\alpha_j$  and K feature weights  $\beta_k$
  - Only J+K parameters!

-So: 
$$w_{jK+k} = \alpha_j \beta_k$$

- (more intuition coming soon...)

# Highlights of Prior Work

- Long history of diagnosis work in ML, including using Logistic Regression along with Wald's Test for significance
- Bilinear Logistic Regression for Classification (Dyrhom et al. 2007)
- Diagnosis in Systems
  - Heuristics (Engler et al. 2003)
  - Hierarchical Clustering (Chen et al. 2002)
  - Metric Attribution (Cohen et al. 2005)
  - Bayesian Techniques (Wang et al. 2004)
  - Factor Graphs (Kremenek et al. 2006)
  - Many, many more...
- Our contribution: leveraging factored structure for diagnosis problems

#### **Ordinary** Logistic Regression: Intuition





#### **Ordinary Logistic Regression**

Probability Model

$$P(y_i) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-z_i}} = \sigma(z_i) \qquad \qquad z_i = \sum_j \alpha_j f_{ij} + \delta$$

• Likelihood

$$P(Y) = \prod_{i} (\sigma(z_i))^{y_i} (1 - \sigma(z_i))^{1 - y_i}$$

Negative Log Likelihood

$$-\log P(Y) = -\sum_{i} y_{i} \log \sigma(z_{i}) - \sum_{i} (1 - y_{i}) \log(1 - \sigma(z_{i}))$$

#### **Bilinear** Logistic Regression: Intuition



#### **Bilinear Logistic Regression**

Probability Model

$$P(y_i) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-z_i}} = \sigma(z_i) \qquad z_i$$

$$z_i = \sum_j \sum_k \alpha_j \beta_k f_{ijk} + \delta$$

• Likelihood

$$P(Y) = \prod_{i} (\sigma(z_i))^{y_i} (1 - \sigma(z_i))^{1 - y_i}$$

Negative Log Likelihood

$$-\log P(Y) = -\sum_{i} y_i \log \sigma(z_i) - \sum_{i} (1 - y_i) \log(1 - \sigma(z_i))$$

• Enforce Positive  $\alpha_j$  for interpretability  $\alpha_i = \gamma_i^2$ 

#### Now for the Statistics

- **Question 1**: How can we determine whether a parameter is significant?
- Question 2: How can we tell how valid our "discovered" causes are if we don't have ground truth labels for causes?
- These questions come up in many, many problems, so even if you never use BLR-D, this will be useful in your future

Common Principle for Both Questions: the "Does my boss like me?" Problem



The data world's equivalent of seeing the difference in how your boss will act with you and with other people: Efron's Bootstrap and False Labels

# Question 1: When are Parameters Significant?

- Why not just use a threshold?
- Friends don't let friends use thresholds



# What's the Statistical Approach?

- Compute population of parameter values under both true and false labels
  - True labels: perform multiple bootstraps
  - False labels: multiple bootstraps, permute labels
- Compare the two populations with a statistical test (Mann-Whitney)
- Yes, it's expensive!



# Question 2: Are the Discoveries Meaningful?

- How can you tell if you're getting false alarms without labels for the true causes?
- Intuition: what would the method do when given random labels?
  - Consider the algorithm "a" which reports a certain number of parameters as "guilty"
  - Compute how often "a" reports guilty parameters under false vs. true labels
  - Formally, the "False Discovery Rate" (FDR):

$$FDR(a) = E\left[\frac{F(a)}{S(a)}\right] \cong \frac{E[F(a)]}{E[S(a)]} \cong \frac{\sum_{q=1}^{Q} \frac{N(D^{q}, a)}{Q}}{N(D, a)}$$

# The Overall Procedure: BLR-D

- Bilinear Logistic Regression for Diagnosis
  - Factor parameters into bilinear form
  - Train BLR classifier with overall faults as labels
  - Test individual parameters for significance with bootstrap and Mann-Whitney Test
  - Estimate False Discovery Rate (when ground truth labels on causes are not available)
    - Adjust Mann-Whitney threshold until FDR is reasonable
  - Report significant parameters

# P(FA) vs. Number of False Alarms

 The probability of False Alarms doesn't capture the true cost to the analyst when the number of parameters/causes is very large



#### Experiment 1: Machines in a Datacenter

- Synthetic Model of Datacenter
  - J machines (base: 30)
  - Each has K normally-distributed features (base: 30), some of which are fault-causing (5)
  - Some machines are fault-prone (base: 5)
  - When a fault-prone machine has a fault-causing feature exceed a probability threshold, a system fault (label) is generated)
  - Data publicly available (see URL in paper)
- Goal: Identify fault-prone machines and fault-causing features
- Baseline: LR-D (with L1 regularization)
  - Use same statistical tests as BLR-D

### **Experimental Variations**

- Number of Data Samples/Frames
- Number of Machines in Datacenter
- Fraction of Fault-Prone Machines

#### **Experiment** 1a

• Performance vs. Number of Samples





#### Experiment 1b

• Performance vs. Fraction of Faulty Machines



#### Experiment 1c

• Performance vs. Number of Machines

Detection Rate vs. Number of Machines



# False Alarms vs. Number of Machines

#### Experiment 2: Processes on a Machine

- Typical Windows PC has 100+ processes running at all times
- Subject to occasional, unexplained hangs
- Which process is responsible?
- Our Experiment
  - Record all performance counters for all processes
  - User UI for lableling hangs
  - "WhySlowFrustrator" process that chews up memory, causing a hang
  - One month of data, 2912 features per timestep (once per minute)
  - 63 labels (many false negatives)

plications Proces	ses Service	s Per	formance Net	tworking User
Image Name	User Name	CPU	Memory (	Description
Corel Painter	sumitb	06	110,512 K	Painter Es
POWERPNT.EXE	sumitb	00	29,368 K	Microsoft
communicator	sumitb	00	22,736 K	Microsoft
explorer.exe	sumitb	00	22,608 K	Windows
WLSync.exe	sumitb	00	22,028 K	Windows
WINWORD.EXE	sumitb	00	22,008 K	Microsoft
dwm.exe	sumitb	00	21,772 K	Desktop
MOE.exe	sumitb	00	21,368 K	Mesh Ope
wlcomm.exe	sumitb	00	10,336 K	Windows
UcMapi.exe	sumitb	00	7,040 K	Microsoft
SCNotification	sumitb	00	4,984 K	Microsoft
DcaTray.exe	sumitb	00	4,932 K	Microsoft
BTStackServe	sumitb	00	2,960 K	Bluetooth
sidebar.exe	sumitb	00	2,744 K	Windows
taskmgr.exe	sumitb	01	2,464 K	Windows
BTTray.exe	sumitb	00	1,732 K	Bluetooth
MSOSYNC.EXE	sumitb	00	1,656 K	Microsoft
TabTip.exe	sumitb	00	1,580 K	Tablet PC
taskhost.exe	sumitb	00	1,520 K	Host Proc
ISD_Tablet.exe		00	1,412 K	
CalibrationAss		00	1,400 K	
smax4pnp.exe	sumitb	00	1,148 K	SMax4PNP
csrss.exe		00	1,100 K	
wisptis.exe	sumitb	00	1,016 K	Microsoft
igfxsrvc.exe	sumitb	00	944 K	igfxsrvc
FwcMgmt.exe	sumitb	00	924 K	Forefront
igfxpers.exe	sumitb	00	840 K	persisten
TSMResident	sumitb	00	816 K	TSMResid
ZuneLauncher	sumitb	00	784 K	Zune Aut
hkcmd.exe	sumitb	00	760 K	hkcmd Mo
wisptis.exe		00	720 K	
TPOSDSVC.exe	sumitb	00	688 K	On scree
igfxtray.exe	sumitb	00	672 K	igfxTray
winlogon.exe	10000000	00	668 K	12102200000
TpShocks.exe	sumitb	00	588 K	ThinkVant
tp4serv.exe	sumitb	00	572 K	PS/2 Trac
msseces.exe	sumitb	00	520 K	Microsoft
sttdcc.exe	sumitb	00	496 K	Microsoft
TPONSCR.exe	sumitb	00	392 K	On scree
ONENOTEM.EXE	sumitb	00	352 K	Microsoft
InputPersonal	sumitb	00	288 K	Input Per
TpScrex.exe	sumitb	00	284 K	ThinkPad
ISD_TabletUs	sumitb	00	268 K	Tablet us
Show process	es from all us	ers	ſ	End Process

#### Experiment 2: Processes on a Machine

- Results
  - Adjusted Mann-Whitney threshold to achieve 0 FDR
  - 2 processes were "significant": WhySlowFrustrator and PresentationFontCache; no features were "significant"



## Extensions: Multiple Modes

- Analogy to SVD
- $\alpha \beta^T$  is a rank 1 approximation to the *w* (in matrix form)...
- So why not  $\alpha_0 \beta_0^T + \alpha_1 \beta_1^T + \cdots$ ?
  - Handle *multiple modes* of failure
  - J+K additional parameters per term
  - But... identifiability issues become a problem

#### Take-Home Messages

- Is your problem factorable?
   Factor it!
- Which parameters are important?

– Test them statistically, not with a threshold!

Wondering how valid your "causes" are?
 – Use FDR!