

ML/AI applications as software product

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How did we arrive here?





- Web 1.0 = a few content creators, a lot of content consumers
- Web 2.0 = a lot of peer content creators, wildly read-write Web
- Web 3.0 = Web 2.0 + scale + ML/AI

- Top500 = the most powerful supercomputers of the world, updated twice per year
- NVidia V100 = 10⁵ GFLOPs

Industrial race for the best AI



- Different market players have different advantages
- Current general AI = well functioning AI teams
- How many applications can object detection have?



Image credit: viatech.com



Al as smooth interaction with data





- How to smoothly change the recall rate at hospitals?
- With AI one just needs to tweak some high-level parameters

AI decomposed as a software product





- War and Peace ~ 587k English words
- 587k English words ~ 3M characters
- Each action = new/modified text (usually a lot)
- Source versioning tools
- Master branch, dev branch, etc.
- Actions on branches: merge/rebase

Development tools and methodology = product spine



Al projects specificities: (new incoming) data



AI projects specificities: see data as (a very complex) distribution

- All breast lesions in the world form a (very complex) distribution
- Eliminate everything not linked to natural variability
- Example: device1 -> 3600x2400, device2 -> 3600x3600
- When both image sets rescaled to 1200x800 -> 2 modes





AI projects specificities: ML aspects



- "Classical" software bugs usually evident failure
- ML/AI bugs all ok in terms of code, but nothing works
- Machine epsilon + Randomness
- Default values can change ! Avoid blind usage of them.



Al projects specificities: Metrics



Al projects specificities: different biases

Screening center (1% of malignant images)





Diagnostic center (50% of malignant images)



- Biases can be of very different nature
- Biases create wrong correlations
- Biases are most dangerous when correlating with prediction target
- Learnt biases can be detected via fairness metrics

read about how new type of data (high-res mammography) can be solved by DL (DREAM Challenges Therapixel won): write-up link.

AI projects specificities: HPC and long training times



- Each experiment has its output folder
- Save git hash and git diff into this same folder
- Crash-test all runs on a subset of data: train loss decreases, valid metrics are improved
- Sometimes ML/AI models can depend one on another (common backbone, etc.)
- Plan the experiments: weekends for longer runs, foresee release lags.

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Al projects specificities: production part. Technology stack.



Al projects specificities: production part. Cloud and Scalability.



Additional business demands: high performance.



Additional business demands: real time.



- A common demand for various use-cases:
 - autonomous vehicles
 - waste sorting
 - chirurgical interventions
- High perf can demand complex ensembles of dozens of models
- In a sense, ML/AI models runtime is easier to optimize than traditional software
- Plus some scientific magic: knowledge distillation or compress tens of models into one

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Additional business demands: calibration.



- Model's output != probability (even if normalized via softmax)
 - Arch, loss, training procedure, biases - everything contributes to artefacts in model's response
- Calibration = monotone transformation of scores to frequentist probabilities
- Can be needed in practice when some referral operating points are used (cancer probability)
- Main diagnostic tool = calibration curve.

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Thank you for your attention!

Q&A session