Learning to learn HVAC failures

Layering ML experiments in the absence of ground truth

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Learning to learn HVAC failures

Layering ML experiments in the absence of ground truth

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Problem: "sudden" failures in HVACs



Heating, Ventilation, and Air-Conditioning units



Each HVAC handles up & down of half coach



Summer months => "Service requests" for HVAC failures Dormant failures: no use of function → no detection

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Motivation: early detection of failures



Self-diagnose of HVACs

idea -

Digital codes (ON/OFF) for specific events, e.g. "high pressure in compressor"

ML supervised learning to correlate the codes to malfunctioning HVACs

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Motivation: early detection of failures



Digital codes (ON/OFF) for specific events, e.g. "high pressure in compressor"

ML supervised learning to correlate the codes to malfunctioning HVACs

But there's no automatic detection of HVAC failures

Malfunctions only found by reported functionality loss

"is it me or it's getting hot in here?"

Motivation: early detection of failures



Digital codes (ON/OFF) for specific events, e.g. "high pressure in compressor"

ML supervised learning to correlate the codes to malfunctioning HVACs

Use temperature in coach to recognise <u>cooling</u> failures Build an artificial ground truth But there's **no automatic detection of HVAC failures** Malfunctions only found by reported functionality loss

"is it me or it's getting hot in here?"

Objectives and plan of action

1. Use temperature readings to detect HVAC failures



Compare values of temperature sensors in coaches, to find areas that are too hot

Apply to historic data \rightarrow build artificial ground truth (**AGT**) for full dataset

2. Use digital codes to detect and foretell HVAC failures

Use AGT (on full dataset) to find useful codes, correlated to failures

Extend to codes that occurred before failures, looking for predictive capabilities of codes

Objectives and plan of action





Compare values of temperature sensors in coaches, to find areas that are too hot

Apply to historic data \rightarrow build artificial ground truth (**AGT**) for full dataset

2. Use digital codes to detect and foretell HVAC failures

Interpreting digital data (a mesh of codes like "resistor fault" that

turns on and then off) is harder

Use AGT (on full dataset) to find useful codes, correlated to failures

Extend to codes that occurred before failures. looking for predictive capabilities of codes

ML layer 1: temperature data to identify failures



L1—temp.: input & data preprossesing

INPUT

Continuous data: **temperatures read in time** inside and outside the coaches

PREPROCESSING

- 1. Temperatures < -20 °C or > 60 °C \rightarrow replace by **NaN**
- 2. Missing data:
 - a) Less than 90 min \rightarrow use linear interpolation
 - b) More than 90 min \rightarrow replace by **NaN**
- 3. Compute desired temperature inside the coaches



Per coach:

- 4 internal sensors •
- 1 external sensor O



L1-temp.: human data labelling "bootstrap"

Training data for supervised learning? Must build it by hand!

(there's no ground truth: true failures are not in data)



- 1. Manual label 1–5 % of data
- **2.** Extrapolate to build the full artificial ground truth (AGT)
- 3. Verify the quality of the AGT

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Verify the quality of the AGT 3. 10

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Time-aligned plots for temperatures in coaches, that the human eye is good to interpret

train	coach	HVAC	date	period	symptom
DTU_115	A1	V20	11.07.2021	07:00-23:50	healthy
DTU_115	A1	V8	11.07.2021	07:00-23:50	healthy
DTU_115	B1	V22	11.07.2021	15:00-23:50	healthy
DTU_115	B1	V23	11.07.2021	15:00-23:50	hot

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L1—temp.: build AGT via LR

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Our human(s) labels covered 1 % of temperature data Machine-learn the failures for the rest of the data

Logistic Regression, I choose you (fast + overfitting-resistant + yields prob. of failure + good for linear data)

True Positive: LR models says "HVAC cooling failure" and human label says "hot" aka failure **True Negative:** LR models says "HVAC doing just fine" and human label says "healthy" aka okay **FP & FN** anal.

- **1.** Manual label 1–5 % of data
- 2. Extrapolate to build the full artificial ground truth (AGT)
- 3. Verify the quality of the AGT

"No label" is also possible: neither failure nor okay

Values that don't indicate HVAC proper- nor mal-function, e.g. if outside temperature is low so no cooling is needed

L1-temp.: build AGT via LR: features

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Our human(s) labels covered 1 % of temperature data Machine-learn the failures for the rest of the data

ML features from INPUT data:

• Set Point (SP): difference between desired temperature (per coach, side, up/down) and actual temp.

- Compensation Behaviour (CB): temp. difference in opposite sides of the coach (up/sown)
- Comparison to Other Coaches (COC): temp. difference from a coach to the median of the train
- Defective Control Sensor (**DCS**): temp. difference in this coache's outside sensor to the train's median
- 1. Manual label 1–5 % of data
- 2. Extrapolate to build the full artificial ground truth (AGT)
- 3. Verify the quality of the AGT

Trained an LR model on these features

- NS temperature data for 2 months of ca. 180 trains
- Imbalance of ratio 5:1 in favour of the "healthy" label

L1—temp.: check quality of the human boostrapping

But how reliable is that human-labelling part?

Two independent persons followed same what-to-label instructions **Inter-rater measurement of the resulting coherence:**

"Are the human labels too subjective?"

- 1. Manual label 1–5 % of data
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L1—temp.: check quality of the human boostrapping

But how reliable is that human-labelling part?

Two independent persons followed same what-to-label instructions **Inter-rater measurement of the resulting coherence:**

"Are the human labels too subjective?"

Answer: independent human labels are coherent, AGT is useful

- 1. Manual label 1–5 % of data
- **2.** Extrapolate to build the full artificial ground truth (AGT)
- 3. Verify the quality of the AGT



L1-temp.: LR model tells prob. of cooling failure



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ML layer 1: temperature data to identify failures

Objective 1: "use temperature readings to detect HVAC failures"



Process and results:

- Generated Logistic Regression model
 on temperature data input
- Bootstrapped by human labels in 1 % of the data
- Model tells probability of an HVAC cooling failure at present, with high accuracy
- Extrapolated to historic data, serves as AGT for further studies (i.e. detects failures)



ML layer 2: digital data to identify/foretell failures

Objective 2: "use digital codes to detect and foretell HVAC failures"



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0.0 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8

Test Mean PRC (PRS=0.48±0.07

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Train Mean PRC (PRS=0.58±0.03

st Mean ROC (AUC=0.5±0.01

rain Mean ROC (AUC=0.63±0.0

0.4 0.6 0.8

0.8

υ υ 0.6 -









L2—codes: input & data preprossesing

INPUT

Digital data: diagnostic codes that turn ON/OFF in time

i.e. also as a time series, but Boolean

PREPROCESSING

- 1. Make code IDs unique per failure type
 - a) E.g. if code includes coach ID, group values
- 2. Missing deactivation ("OFF") time of code?
 - a) Either discard, or else...
 - b) Insert default deact. time (midnight)



each individual code is either ON or OFF

Training data for supervised learning? Use AGT built in previous step

- Match temperature data to codes data by discretising the day in windows
- Use AGT (prob. value of HVAC failure) to label each window
 - As before, 3 labels: failure, okay, dunno.

(a)			0%		80%	o l	0%		80%		0%	
()	08	8:00		11:0	10	14	:00	17:00		20:00		23:00
(b)			5%		9%		8%		3%		10%	
(2)												
	08	8:00		11:0	0	14	:00	17:00		20:00		23:00
(c)	08	8:00	5%	11:0	9%	14	:00 33%	17:00	3%	20:00	10%	23:00

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In red, codes present during HVAC failure



L2—codes: train ML model(s)

Logistic Regression + also **Decision Trees**

Can tell how each code contributes to total prob. of HVAC failure

ML features from INPUT data:

- Code During Period (**CDP**): is this code active during this failure/okay period?
- Code: Number of Days (CND): from the end of each failure/okay window, how many days passed since this code was last seen?
- Code: Number of Occurrences (CNO): from the end of each failure/okay window, how many distinct times was this code turned on?
- Code: Cumulative Time (**CCT**): as CNO above, but count the accumulated time of this code

(time window of this)

Up to 30 days back = periodic mainten. of trains



L2—codes: train ML model(s)

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Can tell how each code contributes to total prob. of HVAC failure

Address detection objective

ML features from INPUT data:

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- Code: Number of Occurrences (CNO): from the end of each failure/okay window, how many distinct times was this code turned on?
- Code: Cumulative Time (**CCT**): as CNO above, but count the accumulated time of this code

Address prediction objective: codes occurring before failure observed

Up to 30 days back = periodic mainten. of trains



(time window of this)



L2—codes: ML experimental results



Decision Tree





Prediction

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L2—codes: ML experimental results



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ML layer 2: digital data to identify/foretell failures

Objective 2: "use digital codes to detect and foretell HVAC failures"



Process and results:

- Generated LR and DT models from codes data
- Trained on AGT from previous step
- Neither model shows good capabilities:
 - To detect current ongoing HVAC faliures
 - To foretell HVAC failures to come





General conclusions

- T = temperature data readings inside and outside trains
- **D** = <u>diagnose codes</u> from HVACs corresponding to those readings
- LR model (**T** , human_labels(1% of **T**)) = ···
 - \cdots = good detection of HVAC failures + can derive AGT for full dataset
- <u>LR model</u> (**D**, AGT) = <u>DT model</u> (**D**, AGT) = bad detection of HVAC failures
- <u>DT model</u> (**D**, AGT) = bad prediction of HVAC failures





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Overfitting? Many types of codes for one type

of HVAC failure



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of Railway Systems

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