

Robustness - Safety and Reliability in AI4H

FGAI4H-E

Wojciech Samek, Vignesh Srinivasan, **Luis Oala**

Fraunhofer HHI

luis.oala@hhi.fraunhofer.de

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Context and Motivation

Big Goal: Safe and reliable AI systems

Observation: Decades of AI research has produced a plethora of tools and methods that deal with safety and reliability

Small Goal: Organize existing tools into meaningful action areas and map them along the life cycle of an AI4H system

Why Robustness?

Huber: "Insensitivity to small deviations from the assumptions" [Huber, 1981]

Dietterich: Known unknowns and unknown unknowns [Dietterich, 2017]

Russell: Validity [Russell et al., 2015]

Safe AI: Adversarial robustness, FAT, misspecification problems

Working def.: No gross, unexpected errors under slight changes of the operating environment; benign error handling

The AI System Life Cycle and Robustness Risks

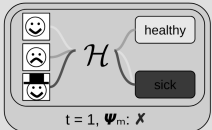
SYMBOLS

$\Phi_m = (\text{😊:healthy}, \text{😞:sick}, \text{👤:healthy})$ $\Phi_n = (\text{😊:healthy}, \text{😞:sick})$
 $\Psi_m = \text{"Get 2 out of 3 right"}$ $\mathcal{H} = \text{model}$

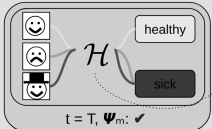
STEP 1: DEFINE

- Environment Φ_m (data)
- Requirements Ψ_m (loss)
- Model \mathcal{H}

STEP 2: TRAIN \mathcal{H}

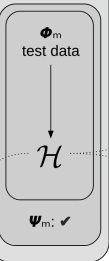


⋮



STEP 3: VALIDATE \mathcal{H}

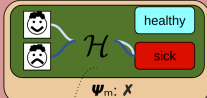
Using test data from the original environment Φ_m verify that requirements Ψ_m are still met



STEP 4: DEPLOY \mathcal{H}

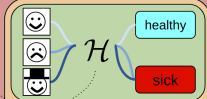
Two potential sources of robustness risk

SOURCE 1: New environment Φ_n



With new kind of data Φ_n (non-bald persons) that the model does not know, yet, unexpected behavior may occur.

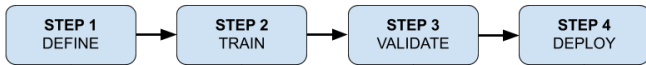
SOURCE 2: Misspecified requirements Ψ_m



We find out that our model discriminates against persons with hats. We do not want that but failed to specify so in Ψ_m .

Four Action Areas to Mitigate Robustness Risks

AI SYSTEM
LIFE CYCLE



ACTION AREAS
FOR ROBUSTNESS



Data Fidelity

Impose desiderata on data that are used as input to an AI system

Examples

- ▶ Datasheets for datasets [Gebru et al., 2018]
- ▶ Normalization and standardization, e.g.
 - ▶ Zero-centering
 - ▶ Decorrelation
 - ▶ Whitening

Robust Training

Expose an AI system to changes in the data environment during training that would otherwise be likely to induce robustness risks during deployment

Examples

- ▶ Adversarial training [Madry et al., 2017]

$$\min_{\theta} \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \sim \mathcal{D}} [\max_{\delta \in \mathcal{S}} J(\mathbf{x} + \delta, \mathbf{y})] \quad (1)$$

- ▶ Stability training [Zheng et al., 2016]

$$L(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}'; \theta) = L_0(\mathbf{x}; \theta) + \alpha L_{\text{stability}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}'; \theta) \quad (2)$$

Robustness Validation

Verify the robustness of an AI system in a controlled testing environment

Examples

- ▶ Hypothesis testing (if amenable)
- ▶ Perturbation and adversarial stress tests
[Hendrycks and Dietterich, 2019, Madry et al., 2017]
- ▶ FAT misspecification testing, e.g. *predictive equality*
[Hardt et al., 2016]

$$\mathbb{E}[d(\mathbf{x})|y = 0, g(\mathbf{x})] = \mathbb{E}[d(\mathbf{x})|y = 0]$$

Alarm Systems

Flag unusual behavior of the AI system during deployment

Examples

- ▶ Outlier tests via generative modelling [Meng and Chen, 2017]
- ▶ Attribution methods (see [Ancona et al., 2017] for overview), e.g.

$$R_j = x_j \frac{\delta y_c}{\delta x_j}$$




- ▶ Uncertainty quantification, e.g. [Gal and Ghahramani, 2016]

$$\mathbb{E}_{q(\mathbf{y}^*|\mathbf{x}^*)}(\mathbf{y}^*), \mathbb{V}_{q(\mathbf{y}^*|\mathbf{x}^*)}(\mathbf{y}^*)$$





Recommendations and Outlook

- ▶ Integrate established robustness tools into the AI4H system life cycle
- ▶ Screen for additional methods that can be included in the action areas

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