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# The influence of the dataset bias on the accuracy of the NIDS systems

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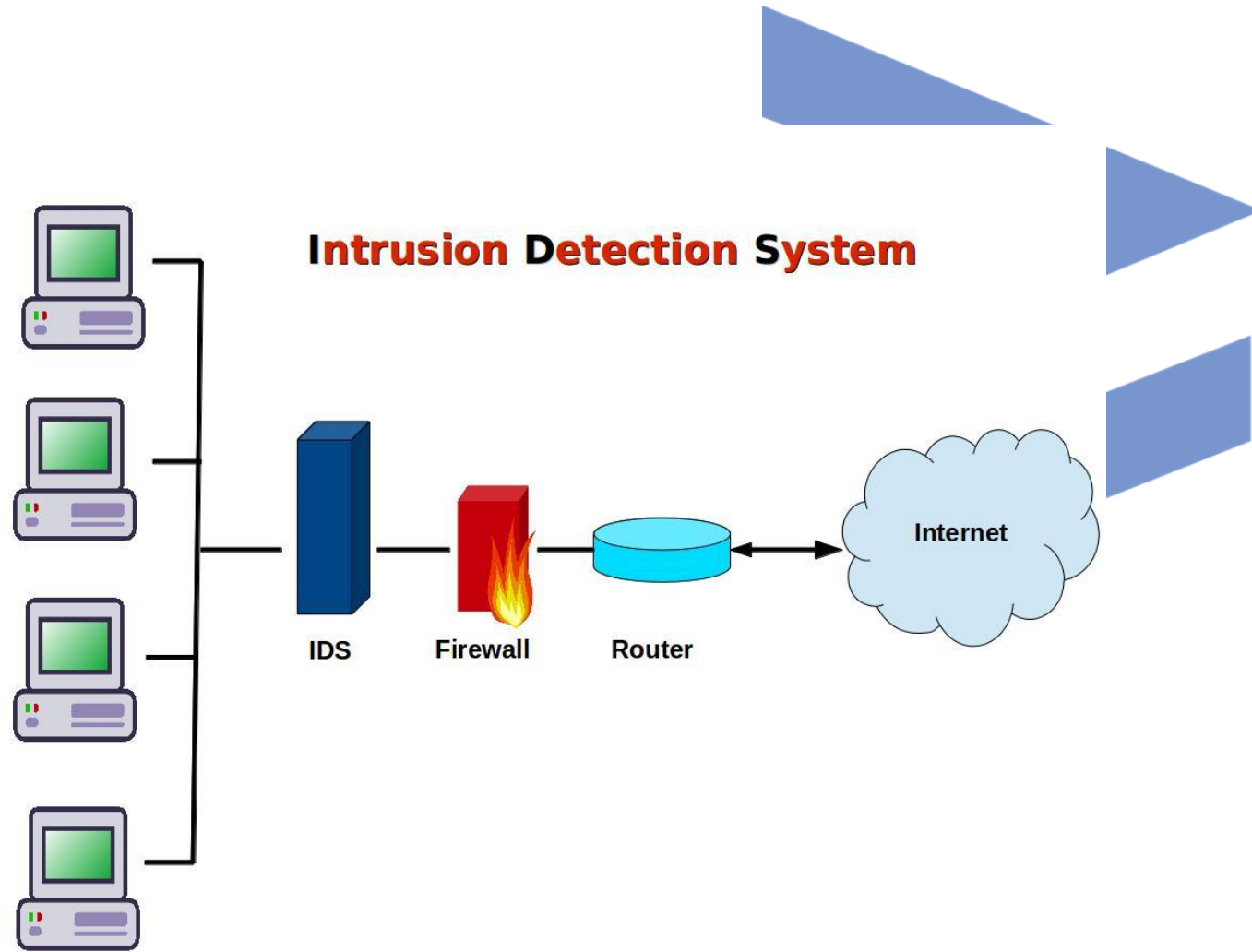
*CITEE conference presentation*

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# Motivation

The goal of our research was to measure the impact of training datasets on accuracy of machine learning Network Intrusion Detection System (NIDS) models.



# Datasets

- UNSW-NB15
- BoT-IoT
- ToN-IoT
- CIC-CSE-IDS2018

| Klasa          | BoT %   | IDS2018 % | NB15 %  | ToN %   |
|----------------|---------|-----------|---------|---------|
| Analysis       | 0       | 0         | 0.0962  | 0       |
| Backdoor       | 0       | 0         | 0.0907  | 0.0992  |
| Benign         | 0.3576  | 88.0482   | 96.0233 | 36.0053 |
| Bot            | 0       | 0.7574    | 0       | 0       |
| Brute Force    | 0       | 0.6562    | 0       | 0       |
| DDoS           | 48.5438 | 7.3584    | 0       | 11.9608 |
| DoS            | 44.1516 | 2.5617    | 0.2424  | 4.2065  |
| Exploits       | 0       | 0         | 1.32    | 0       |
| Fuzzers        | 0       | 0         | 0.9334  | 0       |
| Generic        | 0       | 0         | 0.6928  | 0       |
| Infiltration   | 0       | 0.6158    | 0       | 0       |
| Reconnaissance | 6.9406  | 0         | 0.5346  | 0       |
| Shellcode      | 0       | 0         | 0.0596  | 0       |
| Theft          | 0.0063  | 0         | 0       | 0       |
| Worms          | 0       | 0         | 0.0069  | 0       |
| injection      | 0       | 0.0023    | 0       | 4.0404  |
| mitm           | 0       | 0         | 0       | 0.0456  |
| password       | 0       | 0         | 0       | 6.8081  |
| ransomware     | 0       | 0         | 0       | 0.0202  |
| scanning       | 0       | 0         | 0       | 22.3218 |
| xss            | 0       | 0         | 0       | 14.4919 |

Percentage of datasets consisting of particular class.



# Features

- Originally there have been 43 derived from flow and other data.
- Some features have been discarded
- Ultimately 32 features were considered for each record.

| Feature                    |
|----------------------------|
| L7_PROTO                   |
| PROTOCOL                   |
| TCP_FLAGS                  |
| SERVER_TCP_FLAGS           |
| ICMP_TYPE                  |
| MIN_TTL                    |
| DNS_QUERY_TYPE             |
| DNS_TTL_ANSWER             |
| FTP_COMMAND_RET_CODE       |
| IN_BYTES                   |
| IN_PKTS                    |
| OUT_BYTES                  |
| OUT_PKTS                   |
| FLOW_DURATION_MILLISECONDS |
| DURATION_IN                |
| DURATION_OUT               |
| LONGEST_FLOW_PKT           |
| SHORTEST_FLOW_PKT          |
| MIN_IP_PKT_LEN             |
| SRC_TO_DST_SECOND_BYTES    |
| DST_TO_SRC_SECOND_BYTES    |
| RETRANSMITTED_IN_BYTES     |
| RETRANSMITTED_IN_PKTS      |
| RETRANSMITTED_OUT_BYTES    |
| SRC_TO_DST_AVG_THROUGHPUT  |
| DST_TO_SRC_AVG_THROUGHPUT  |
| NUM_PKTS_UP_TO_128_BYTES   |
| NUM_PKTS_128_TO_256_BYTES  |
| NUM_PKTS_256_TO_512_BYTES  |
| NUM_PKTS_512_TO_1024_BYTES |
| TCP_WIN_MAX_IN             |
| TCP_WIN_MAX_OUT            |

# Classifiers

- Decision Tree Classifier
- Random Forest Classifier
- Extra Trees Classifier

Test have been conducted both on default as well as optimized hiperparameters

| Dataset / Hyperparameter | criterion |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| Default                  | gini      |
| BoT                      | log_loss  |
| IDS2018                  | entropy   |
| NB15                     | entropy   |
| ToN                      | log_loss  |

TABLE III  
OPTIMIZED PARAMETERS FOR DECISION TREE CLASSIFIER

| Dataset / Hyperparameter | criterion |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| Default                  | gini      |
| BoT                      | entropy   |
| IDS2018                  | log_loss  |
| NB15                     | log_loss  |
| ToN                      | entropy   |

TABLE IV  
OPTIMIZED PARAMETERS FOR RANDOM FOREST CLASSIFIER

| Dataset / Hyperparameter | criterion | max_features | bootstrap |
|--------------------------|-----------|--------------|-----------|
| Default                  | gini      | sqrt         | False     |
| BoT                      | entropy   | None         | True      |
| IDS2018                  | log_loss  | log2         | True      |
| NB15                     | log_loss  | None         | True      |
| ToN                      | entropy   | None         | True      |

TABLE V  
OPTIMIZED PARAMETERS FOR EXTRA TREES CLASSIFIER



# Experiments

- 1. Training each classifier on every dataset
- 2. Tests for each model on every dataset
- 3. Accuracy measured separately for each class
- 4. Accuracy =  $(TP + TN) / (\text{All records})$

|                |
|----------------|
| Benign         |
| DDoS           |
| DoS            |
| Reconnaissance |
| Backdoor       |
| All classes    |



# Results

| Trained on dataset BoT                     |          |                   |               |                |          |               |         |               |
|--|----------|-------------------|---------------|----------------|----------|---------------|---------|---------------|
| Accuracy for class [%] \ tested on dataset | IDS2018  | IDS2018 optimized | NB15          | NB15 optimized | ToN      | ToN optimized | BoT     | BoT optimized |
| Benign                                     | 55.4610  | 57.2694           | 28.6710       | 24.7427        | 55.5062  | 58.145        | 99.9855 | 99.984        |
| DDoS                                       | 92.5474  | 92.64             | 99.9802*      | 99.998*        | 87.9844  | 87.9911       | 99.874  | 99.87         |
| DoS  | 98.4526  | 97.5279           | 98.7986       | 99.179         | 90.6257  | 89.4078       | 99.6704 | 99.6709       |
| Reconnaissance                             | 52.5663* | 49.7831*          | <b>28.624</b> | <b>24.2688</b> | 14.9694* | 20.5188*      | 99.774  | 99.7825       |
| Backdoor                                   | 100.0*   | 100.0*            | 99.9093       | 99.9093        | 99.9008  | 99.9008       | 100.0*  | 100.0*        |
| All classes                                | 41.182   | 46.7863           | 26.7328       | 22.3717        | 3.3359   | 3.8008        | 99.6505 | 99.6525       |

| Trained on dataset IDS2018                 |                |                |          |                |         |               |         |                   |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------|----------------|---------|---------------|---------|-------------------|
| Accuracy for class [%] \ tested on dataset | BoT            | BoT optimized  | NB15     | NB15 optimized | ToN     | ToN optimized | IDS2018 | IDS2018 optimized |
| Benign                                     | 51.807         | 7.0542         | 90.5869  | 93.7148        | 44.2014 | 41.8339       | 55.423  | 99.5255           |
| DDoS                                       | <b>51.4062</b> | <b>51.4368</b> | 99.9993* | 99.9990*       | 87.8835 | 88.0384       | 92.5904 | 99.9755           |
| DoS  | <b>55.8207</b> | <b>57.2276</b> | 97.7408  | 99.7512        | 76.7222 | 83.2694       | 98.4299 | 99.9985           |
| Reconnaissance                             | 93.0594        | 93.0594        | 99.4654  | 99.4654        | 100.0*  | 100.0*        | 52.535* | 100.0*            |
| Backdoor                                   | 100.0*         | 100.0*         | 99.9093  | 99.9093        | 99.9008 | 99.9008       | 100.0*  | 100.0*            |
| All classes                                | 0.2438         | 1.6812         | 94.0112  | 93.1099        | 26.2241 | 25.7695       | 41.2095 | 99.5015           |

| Trained on dataset NB15                    |                |                |          |                   |          |               |          |                |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------|-------------------|----------|---------------|----------|----------------|
| Accuracy for class [%] \ tested on dataset | BoT            | BoT optimized  | IDS2018  | IDS2018 optimized | ToN      | ToN optimized | NB15     | NB15 optimized |
| Benign                                     | 41.6776        | 2.75089        | 61.4127  | 52.1712           | 48.3047  | 53.6949       | 28.773   | 99.6695        |
| DDoS                                       | <b>51.4561</b> | <b>51.4561</b> | 92.6416  | 92.6416           | 88.0391  | 88.0391       | 99.9805* | 100.0*         |
| DoS  | <b>55.6830</b> | <b>55.8262</b> | 66.0998  | 90.2995           | 91.1191  | 86.9492       | 98.812   | 99.655         |
| Reconnaissance                             | 84.8808        | 93.0594        | 99.5719* | 99.9984*          | 99.9956* | 99.9944*      | 28.7     | 99.818         |
| Backdoor                                   | 99.9994*       | 99.9986*       | 99.991*  | 99.9864*          | 99.8944  | 99.8803       | 99.911   | 99.842         |
| All classes                                | 0.3282         | 0.3308         | 45.1172  | 41.5032           | 33.5194  | 33.2048       | 26.8510  | 98.8225        |

| Trained on dataset ToN                     |                |                |          |                   |          |                |         |               |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------|-------------------|----------|----------------|---------|---------------|
| Accuracy for class [%] \ tested on dataset | BoT            | BoT optimized  | IDS2018  | IDS2018 optimized | NB15     | NB15 optimized | ToN     | ToN optimized |
| Benign                                     | 53.3776        | 17.221         | 58.9632  | 77.2498           | 58.062   | 75.1247        | 55.5845 | 99.2205       |
| DDoS                                       | <b>51.413</b>  | <b>51.4047</b> | 94.5719  | 98.2498           | 95.7979* | 88.7531*       | 87.89   | 99.681        |
| DoS  | <b>55.8401</b> | <b>55.846</b>  | 95.5346  | 97.2593           | 99.1569  | 99.7511        | 90.728  | 99.181        |
| Reconnaissance                             | 93.0594        | 93.0594        | 99.4654* | 99.4654*          | 99.4654  | 99.4654        | 14.915* | 100.0*        |
| Backdoor                                   | 99.9975*       | 99.9995*       | 99.8862* | 99.9058*          | 99.909   | 99.9093        | 99.9035 | 99.9995       |
| All classes                                | 0.3215         | 0.3236         | 57.5044  | 76.4519           | 69.878   | 74.4936        | 3.3655  | 97.3485       |

Results for Decision Tree Classifier

# Results

1. Results in tests may vary greatly between testing on dataset model was trained on and testing on other datasets.
2. Optimizing classifiers improves performance on datasets training was performed but may decrease for others.
3. The greatest variance in results was found in Benign, DDoS and DoS classes





# Conclusions

1. There is a need to carefully select the training data for IDS models
2. The set-up specific properties as well as great diversity of traffic present obstacle in training effective models.
3. For IDS model there is a risk of selection bias, sampling bias, exclusion bias as well as reporting bias.





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Thank you for your attention

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