

Software Dependability Modeling with A Data-Driven AI Paradigm

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Background

• Modern software systems are serving many aspects of our life



Most of these software systems are expected to be available on a 24×7 basis.

Software dependability modeling

• Dependability definition

The trustworthiness of a computer system such that reliance can justifiably be placed on the service it delivers to its users.



Software dependability modeling

Dependability modeling



Software dependability modeling

- The life of a system is perceived by its users as:
 - Correct service
 - Incorrect service



- The basic approach
 - Model past failure data to predict future behavior



Failures per time period



Time between failures

Software Reliability Engineering



Service-oriented systems

Composed by distributed Web services



Reliability prediction for service-oriented systems



Target: determine the optimal Web service from a set of functionally equivalent candidates.

- It is difficult to model the reliability of service-oriented systems
 - Reliability of the system is highly dependent on the invoked Web services
 - Web services are provided by third-party organizations
 - The Internet environment is unpredictable

Reliability prediction of Web services

 Key idea: Using past usage data to find similar users and Web services to predict the reliability of a given service.

Service user 1 in Asia Reliable Web service in US Service user 2 in US Service-Oriented System

Unreliable

Reliability is extended to Quality-of-Service (QoS)

Zheng and Lyu, "Collaborative Reliability Prediction of Service-Oriented Systems".

[ICSE'10, ACM SIGSOFT Distinguished Paper Award]

Meaning of dependability modeling



An airplane typically has nine nines of reliability, i.e., 99.9999999%.

Only one crash every 3,000 weeks!



Self-driving cars have a better reliability figure than human drivers. Yet, we still cannot fully use them.

A single reliability figure is losing its practical significance...

Dependability modeling: new challenges



Modern software systems

Traditional dependability modeling

Dependability modeling: new challenges

• Complex modern software system architecture





- Microservices architectures in clouds
- Complicated service dependencies

- Load balancing
- Fault tolerance
- Self-healing ability

Dependability modeling: new challenges

- More subtle software failures
 - Gray failures

Different from fail-stop failures, the manifestations of gray failures are fairly subtle and thus defy fast and definitive detection.

Transient failures

Transient failures disappear quickly and thus are hard to detect, e.g., temporary timeout or unavailability of a service.

Failure cascading effects



Dependability modeling evolution



Data-driven Software Dependability Modeling

Data-driven software dependability modeling





 \rightarrow \rightarrow \rightarrow Model-centric to data-centric



Data-driven software dependability modeling









Black-box dependability modeling



• Traditional software systems (standalone, shrink-wrapped)





Stable failure patterns

- Simple functionalities
- Easy failure patterns

- Infrequent software updates
- The learned models remain valid

Single point of failure

White-box dependability modeling

• Modern software systems (distributed systems, clouds)



Heterogeneous scale

- Hard to collect comprehensive failure data
- Non single point of failure



High complexity

- Component dependencies
- Complex failure patterns



Unstable failure patterns

- Frequent software updates
- Concept drifts



Cloud system architecture



Knowledge graph construction for cloud system



The multi-layer architecture of a cloud system:

- Infrastructure layer
- Instance layer
- Microservice layer
- Cloud service layer



An excerpt of cloud knowledge graph:

- Physical machine connections
- Network communications
- Placement relationships
- Microservices dependencies

Knowledge graph for cloud system failure detection

• Target

Prompt failure detection for cloud systems

Method

- Heterogeneous graph representation learning
- Detect abnormal state change for nodes based on their feature vectors



Key direction: to examine the system internal structure and capture the details of the system failure mechanism with a KG.

Data-driven software dependability modeling



 \Rightarrow \bigcirc \Rightarrow Black-box to white-box







Model-centric dependability modeling

Analytical models assuming statistical distributions

• Exponential





z(t)

Failure intensity function for Musa's basic execution model

Program hazard rate function for Weibull



Distributional

model selection

Assumptions behind model-centric dependability modeling

- Simple and predictable software behaviors
- Failure data follow specific distributions
- No extensive software changes

Assumptions

Data-centric dependability model

- Incorrect assumptions on data distribution
- Failure data alone is insufficient
 - Failures per time period/time between failures too high level
 - Other monitoring data characterize the system better



Data-centric dependability model



Data-centric dependability model









Log

Meter Data

Topology

Alert

Incident Ticket



Ancamaly Avoidance



Fedulte Dotenancie



Rootatetuse Renjøsial



Fladulte Prediction

Software reliability engineering tasks



Log-based problem identification

- Impactful system problems:
 - Can lead to the degradation of service KPI.
- Target:
 - Identify clusters that are highly correlated with service KPI's changes.
- Method:
 - Model the relation between cluster sizes and KPI values



Log-based problem identification

• Evaluation on real Microsoft Azure data

Data	Snapshot starts	#Log Seq (Size)	#Events	#Types
Data 1	Sept 5th 10:50	359,843 (722MB)	365	16
Data 2	Oct 5th 04:30	472,399 (996MB)	526	21
Data 3	Nov 5th 18:50	184,751 (407MB)	409	14

Table 1: Summary of Service X Log Data

Table 2: Accuracy of Problem Detection on Service X Data

Data	Data 1			Data 2			Data 3		
Metrics	Precision	Recall	F1-measure	Precision	Recall	F1-measure	Precision	Recall	F1-measure
PCA	0.465	0.946	0.623	0.142	0.834	0.242	0.207	0.922	0.338
Invariants Mining	0.604	1	0.753	0.160	0.847	0.269	0.168	0.704	0.271
Log3C	0.900	0.920	0.910	0.897	0.826	0.860	0.834	0.903	0.868

Semantic log parsing for log analysis

Semantics in log parsing

 Many parameters in a log message have technical meaning, which provide extra information for log analysis

• Target

 Identify meaningful tokens and the corresponding categories

Method

 Iteratively update the concept-instance knowledge base, based on which to identify new instances



Semantic log parsing for log analysis

• Experimental results

				System			
	Andriod	Hadoop	HDFS	Linux	OpenStack	Spark	Zookeeper
Framework	P R F1						
SemParser	0.951 0.935 0.943	0.993 0.978 0.985	1.000 1.000 1.000	0.998 0.977 0.987	0.999 0.998 0.999	1.000 0.998 0.999	1.000 0.989 0.995
- w/o F _{char}	0.981 0.909 0.943	0.988 0.953 0.970	1.000 0.998 0.999	0.995 0.957 0.976	0.995 0.989 0.992	1.000 0.998 0.999	0.993 0.987 0.990
- w/o F _{local}	0.979 0.858 0.915	0.993 0.880 0.933	1.000 0.999 0.999	0.992 0.947 0.969	0.994 0.989 0.992	1.000 0.937 0.967	0.997 0.940 0.968
- w/o <i>LSTM</i>	0.979 0.858 0.915	0.993 0.879 0.932	1.000 0.999 0.999	0.995 0.909 0.951	1.000 0.963 0.981	0.985 0.998 0.992	0.966 0.953 0.959
- w/o F _{contx}	0.977 0.060 0.113	0.984 0.253 0.403	0.999 0.289 0.449	0.999 0.242 0.389	1.000 0.256 0.407	1.000 0.268 0.423	0.842 0.197 0.319

Table 4: Experiments results of mining semantics from logs.

Table 5: Experimental results in anomaly detection task.

	Technique											
	LSTM			Atten-biLSTM			CNN			Transformer		
Baseline	Precision	Recall	F1	Precision	Recall	F1	Precision	Recall	F1	Precision	Recall	F1
LenMa	0.717	0.938	0.813	0.714	0.924	0.806	0.793	0.815	0.804	0.685	0.896	0.776
AEL	0.738	0.934	0.824	0.791	0.877	0.832	0.747	0.924	0.826	0.503	0.962	0.660
Drain	0.824	0.867	0.845	0.810	0.886	0.846	0.737	0.943	0.827	0.693	0.919	0.790
IPLoM	0.863	0.833	0.848	0.808	0.877	0.841	0.834	0.834	0.834	0.929	0.683	0.787
SemParser	0.971	0.927	0.948	0.952	0.913	0.932	0.907	0.899	0.903	0.938	0.904	0.921
Δ%			+11.80%			+10.17%			+8.27%			+16.58%

Data-driven software dependability modeling



 \Rightarrow \bigcirc \Rightarrow Black-box to white-box



Model-centric to data-centric





Macro-level dependability modeling

Macro perspective is insufficient



- A single failure number for behavior prediction
- Too course-grained for dependability modeling



- Atomic systems
- Oversimplified interactions for systems with components



 Manual failure data collection

• Micro perspective

- Profile software reliability from multiple aspects
- Dynamic interactions in microservices
- Automated data collection process



Micro-level dependability modeling

• Profile software reliability from multiple facets



Incident ID:	INC1
Severity:	High
Status:	Closed
Open Time:	7/16/2010 6:55:20 AM
Close Time:	7/17/2010 8:31:47 AM
Assignee Name	John Doe
Assignment Gro	oup: Account Management
Description:	The USER xxx has a successful login into the hub
	after registration, but he is unable to access SAP.
	Every time when he clicks on Sap work place, the screen goes blank!
Resolution:	Fixed USER xxx permission to access SAP.



Failure report

- Abnormal runtime status
- Early signal for failures
- Fine-grained information

- Rendered by monitors
- Detailed failure description

Incident

- Contain human knowledge
- Failure statistics over a period
- Derive system vulnerability

Micro-level dependability modeling

- Dynamic interactions in microservices
 - Loosely-coupled and collaborating microservices
 - Dependencies are hard to capture
 - Interactions are always changing



The criticality of service dependencies

AWS Post-Event Summaries

AWS Post-Event Summaries

The following is a list of post-event summaries from major service events that impacted AWS service availability:

Summary of the Amazon Kinesis Event in the Northern Virginia (US-EAST-1) Region, November, 25th 2020

- Summary of the Amazon EC2 and Amazon EBS Service Event in the Tokyo (AP-NORTHEAST-1) Region, August 23, 2019
- Summary of the Amazon EC2 DNS Resolution Issues in the Asia Pacific (Seoul) Region (AP-NORTHEAST-2), November 24, 2018.
- Summary of the Amazon S3 Service Disruption in the Northern Virginia (US-EAST-1) Region, February 28, 2017.
- Summary of the AWS Service Event in the Sydney Region, June 8, 2016.
- Summary of the Amazon DynamoDB Service Disruption and Related Impacts in the US-East Region, September 20, 2015.
- Summary of the Amazon EC2, Amazon EBS, and Amazon RDS Service Event in the EU West Region, August 7, 2014.
- Summary of the Amazon SimpleDB Service Disruption, June 13, 2014.
- Summary of the December 17th event in the South America Region (SA-EAST-1), December 20, 2013.
- Summary of the December 24, 2012 Amazon ELB Service Event in the US-East Region, December 24, 2012.

Summary of the October 22, 2012 AWS Service Event in the US-East Region, October 22, 2012.

Summary of the AWS Service Event in the US East Region, July 2, 2012.

Summary of the Amazon EC2 and Amazon RDS Service Disruption in the US East Region, April 29, 2011.

Cascading failure

5 out of 13 AWS outages are related to service dependency!

Prediction of aggregated intensity of dependency



Prediction of aggregated intensity of dependency



Method

- Select the candidate invocation pairs (*caller*, *callee*)
- Three aspects of indicators of service status
 - Number of Invocations
 - Durations of Invocations
 - Error of Invocations

Prediction of aggregated intensity of dependency



06:00

08:00

10:00

12:00

Time (minute)

14:00

16:00

Error of Invocations

18:00

Data-driven software dependability modeling



 \Rightarrow \bigcirc \Rightarrow Black-box to white-box



Model-centric to data-centric



→ 💦 → Macro-level to micro-level



Static analysis-based dependability modeling



Highly rely on historical failure data

- The software is assumed to be mature enough
- Model selection
- Model training



Poor performance if the software changes considerably

- New capabilities exercised
- Different testing methodology/environment employed

Dynamic analysis-based dependability modeling









Anomaly Detection

Failure Diagnosis

Root Cause Analysis

Failure Prediction

- Consider both historical and on-going data
- Models have online learning capabilities
 - Online machine learning
 - Zero-shot learning
 - Transfer learning
 - ..



Adaptive KPI anomaly detection



• Target

• KPI anomaly detection with online adaptability

Method

- Identify abnormal KPI patterns based on historical occurrences
- Add new patterns based on the similarity to known patterns
- Human knowledge can be incorporated



1.0

Traffic surge

Summary and Conclusion

- Traditional dependability modeling is losing its practical significance and relevance
- Modern software systems make dependability modeling more challenging
- Data-driven dependability modeling with AI
 - From black-box to white-box
 - From model-centric to data-centric
 - From macro-level to micro-level
 - From static analysis to dynamic analysis

In the evolution of dependability modeling, the paradigm shift to a data-driven approach is an inevitable modeling effort, and AI techniques such as machine learning are called for.



Thank you!



Software Engineering