





# Using machine learning to find astronomical transients

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What lies ahead

### How to find astronomical transients ?

• Context

- Step 1: how to be in the loop?
- Step 2: construct a machine learning classifier
  - Make sure you understand why it works
- Step 3: tell the world
- Step 4: make a better machine learning model
- Step 5: keep an open mind

Context ...

Astronomy has been, traditionally, an experience of solitude ...



The old astronomer, poem by Sarah Williams, illustration by Charlie Bowater

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The paradigm shift:

### Machine Learning was not a choice



#### Summit on January, 2023





Rubin Observatory/NOIRLab/NSF/AURA/Y. AlSayyad

https://noirlab.edu/public/images/rubin-Summit-Facility-at-Dawn/

#### Mirror in 2015



https://www.symmetrymagazine.org/sites/default/files/images/standard/Glass\_loading-half.jpg

### The Vera Rubin Observatory Large Survey of Space and Time (LSST)

#### In a nutshell:

- telescope: 8.4m primary mirror
- world's largest CCD camera:
  3.2 Gpixels

#### In numbers:

- 10-year survey, starting 2024+
- 1,000 images/night = 15TB/night
- 10 million transient candidates per night
  - Publicly available...
  - ... but huge!



### To keep in mind ...

1) Very big data

2) Survey mode observation strategy

### To keep in mind ...

1) Very big data

2) Survey mode observation strategy

3) Multi-messenger astronomy is now a thing



# Step 1 How to be in the loop?

From detection to science

### The data path



every ~30 seconds down to mag ~24



From detection to science

### The data path

every ~30 seconds down to mag ~24



10 million alerts per night...



From detection to science

### The data path

every ~30 seconds down to mag ~24

10 million alerts per night...

Machine learning Catalog association Streams join

BROKER

We would like the **interesting** ones ...

# (What is an alert?)

Alerts based on Difference Image Analysis

Each alert contains

- Information about the new detection (magnitude, position, ...)
- Neighbours information (xmatches, etc)
- Historical information if the object has been seen previously
- Small images around the detection (60x60 pixels)







# Alert data challenge

### Forecasted: 10 million alerts per night...

Current serialisation implies
 ~100KB/alert, **1TB/night**, 3PB in
 2030.
 HQ Site
 Fink is made for LSST





# **Rubin broker landscape**







You can access this via de Fink Science portal or the API

All alerts data is public!

https://fink-portal.org/





# Step 2

Construct a machine learning classifier

### Machine Learning:

### (a personal favorite) Supervised definition

### Hypothesis: x --- Nature y

Breiman, L., Statistical Modeling: The Two Cultures, Stat. Sci, Volume 16 (2001)





Breiman, L., Statistical Modeling: The Two Cultures, Stat. Sci, Volume 16 (2001)



Breiman, L., Statistical Modeling: The Two Cultures, Stat. Sci, Volume 16 (2001)

#### Representativeness

#### Probability distribution, P



 $(\mu_P, \sigma_P)$ 



#### Sample, S1





#### Representativeness



#### Representativeness



#### Representativeness



#### Representativeness



#### Representativeness



What machine learning was constructed to deal with ...



# Case study: Kilonova

Problem 1: there are no labels, only 1 confirmed detection- with a GW counterpart

Problem 2: we need to find it fast

Transfer Learning



https://fink-portal.org/ZTF21abgcgyq

Data set: Simulated ZTF light curves <u>Feature extraction:</u> Principal components from perfect sims

Classifier: Random Forest



Biswas et al., submitted to A&A, <u>arXiv:astro-ph/2210.17433</u>



# Case study: Kilonova

e band 🥚 r ban





Recent candidates







Biswas et al., submitted to A&A, arXiv:astro-ph/2210.17433







# Step 3

Tell the world


Tutorials: <u>https://github.com/astrolabsoftware/fink-tutorials</u>



PS: while LSST does not arrive, we are operating with ZTF (~ 200k alerts/night)



https://fink-portal.org/



	objectId	Conesearch	Date Search	SSO Tracklet	22	
	Show last 100 ale	erts for a particular class	s	Q Help		
		N/ When	1	·		
	Early Supernova	la candidates		>	( w	
Info Table	Sky map			1.1.19	1	
Add more field	is to the table			-	Preview	
		2	14 50 1	CARE IN		
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filter dat	a					
ZTF22aajpzwm	295.3652803	51.2627246	2022-05-15 10:50:42.000	Early SN Ia candidate	11	
ZTF22aaiiiho	273.9674927	12.0377664	2022-05-15 10:38:34.002	Early SN Ia candidate	14	
ZTF22aaijnqy	266.8819962	45.3039968	2022-05-15 09:50:30.998	Early SN Ia candidate	18	
ZTF22aahivky	298.6266396	61.2873429	2022-05-15 09:46:58.999	Early SN Ia candidate	19	
					No. Mar.	
ZTF22aaihxzh	264.6423366	9.1645982	2022-05-15 09:36:47.002	Early SN Ia candidate	15	





#### ortal 1.1 Search Statistics API Tutorials Infor





EARLY SN IA CANDIDATE
 SN CANDIDATE
 UNKNOWN

Discovery date: 2023-04-08 09:38:32.004 Last detection: 2023-04-26 11:07:38.997 Number of detections: 15 Number of low quality alerts: 2 Number of upper limits: 4





Circles (•) with error bars show valid alerts that pass the Fink quality cuts. In addition, the *Difference magnitude* view shows:

- upper triangles with errors (A), representing alert measurements that do not satisfy Fink quality cuts, but are nevetheless contained in the history of valid alerts and used by classifiers.
- lower triangles (♡), representing 5-sigma mag limit in difference image based on PSF-fit photometry contained in the history of valid alerts.



~

Tracklets

GRB



#### API: https://fink-portal.org/api



## How to get alerts + added values?

API: <u>https://fink-portal.org/api</u>

#### Extragalactic tutorial:

https://github.com/astrolabsoftware/fink-notebook-template/blob/main/extragalactic/extragalactic.ipynb

Implement your own filter in Fink: https://fink-broker.readthedocs.io/en/lat est/science/filters

```
# Get latests Early SN candidates (200 max)
r = requests.post(
  '{}/api/v1/latests'.format(APIURL),
  ison={
    'class': 'Early SN Ia candidate',
    'n': '200',
    'startdate': '2021-04-01', # use a start date
    'stopdate': '2021-04-13', # use a stop date
# Format output in a DataFrame
pdf = pd.read json(r.content)
```







https://fink-portal.org/



Documentation: <u>https://fink-broker.readthedocs.io/en/latest/services/data\_transfer</u>

Select data source		Data Source	
Source: ZTF		Choose the type of alerts you want to retrieve	
Filter alerts		O ZTF ELASTICC	
Dates: 2022-10-03 - 2022-10-10		Filters	
Classe(s): ['SN candidate', 'Unknown']		Date Range *	
Conditions: ndethist>10		Pick up start and stop dates (included).	
Select content		October 3, 2022 – October 10, 2022	×
Content: Lightcurve		Alert class	
Submit		Select all classes you like! Default is all classes.	
Trigger your job!		(Fink) Supernova candidates × Unknown ×	•
(j) Description	~	All classes	
		(Fink) Early Supernova la candidates	
→ Log in	~		
9		(Fink) Kilonova candidates	
		(Fink) Microlensing candidates	
		(Fink) Solar System (MPC)	
			alert
		(Fink) Solar System (candidates)	

Documentation: <u>https://fink-broker.readthedocs.io/en/latest/services/data\_transfer</u>

→ Log in	ndethiat>10	
You need an account to retrieve the data. See fink-	Alert content	
client if you are not yet registered.	Choose the content you want to retrieve	
	Cutouts (~41 KB/alert) Cutouts (~41 KB/alert) Full packet (~55 KB/alert)	
	Submit	
	A Estimated number of alerts: 525,812 (48.81%) or 0.70 GB	
	You are about to submit a job on the Fink Apache Spark & Kafka clusters. Review your parameters, and take into account the estimated number of alerts bel submission! Note that the estimation takes into account the days requested and the classes, but not the extra conditions (which could reduce the number of a	fore l alert:
	↓ Your topic name is: ftransfer_ztf_2023-04-26_296224	
	Monitor your job	
	Get your data	
	Once data has started to flow in the topic, you can easily download your alerts using the fink-client. Install the latest version and use e.g.	
	fink_datatransfer \	
	-topic ftransfer_ztf_2023-04-26_296224 \	
	-outdir ftransfer ztf 2023-04-26 296224 \	



Documentation: <u>https://fink-broker.readthedocs.io/en/latest/services/data\_transfer</u>

### Case study: Kilonova



### Case study: Kilonova



## **Connection with GW**

Fink has already some tool to play with GW sky maps

<u>https://fink-portal.org/api</u> → Gravitational Waves → tutorial!

```
# Query Fink
data = gzip.open(fn, 'rb').read()
r = requests.post(
    'https://fink-portal.org/api/v1/bayestar',
    json={
        'bayestar': str(data),
        'credible_level': credible_level,
        'output-format': 'json'
}
```



Slide by Julien Peloton, Fink general meeting - April/2023

# Step 4

Make a better machine learning model

What machine learning was constructed to deal with ...



In astro, training means spectra

#### Real astro-learning situation





#### Real astro-learning situation





*From COIN Residence Program #4, Ishida et al., 2019, MNRAS, 483 (1), 2–18* 

### Very common situation

Labels are often far too expensive!





Given limited resources, we need recommendation systems!



35% of Amazon's revenue are generated by it's recommendation engine.





Strategy 2

#### **Active Learning**

Optimal classification, minimum training



*Mimic the spectroscopic classification procedure* 

#### Model trained on ZTF alerts



----- RandomSampling ------ UncSampling

#### Results after 300 loops:

*Training: 310 alerts Testing: > 52 000 alerts* 



## Back to the broker ...



*The best of both worlds* 



### Fink Early SNIa classifier





- Only rising candidates
- from November/2020 to March/2022 Fink communicated <u>4661 early SNIa</u> <u>candidates</u> to TNS
- 573 spectroscopically classified



### For Rubin ...



Automatic re-training once informative new labels are made available



#### The difficult part is data treatment/gathering

- The power of machine learning is in its connection with domain knowledge
- There are caveats in using machine learning and we should avoid off-the-shelf and black bloxes applications
- ML for science must be personalized

# Step 5

Keep an open mind

#### The beauty of an observational science

"... telescopes that merely achieve their stated science goals have probably failed to capture the most important scientific discoveries available to them."

Norris, R. (2017). Discovering the Unexpected in Astronomical Survey Data. Publications of the Astronomical Society of Australia, 34, E007. doi:10.1017/pasa.2016.63 Categories of Machine Learning:



Statistically,

#### **Anomaly Detection**



"An anomaly is an observation which deviates so much from the other observations as to arouse suspicions that it was generated by a different mechanism"

Example of an automatic search for anomalies,

### Isolation tree



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Example of an automatic search for anomalies,

### Isolation forest



## Back to the broker ...



Preparing for the future: ZTF as a test ground for Rubin



#### Small modifications to isolation forest 1st processing night



Plot by Julien Peloton, algorithm implementation by Igor Beschastnov



https://fink-portal.org/ZTF23aaaatwl

Spectroscopic follow-up with multiple telescopes in a matter of a few days. Spectra changes very quickly!

Classification: AM CVn, WZ Sge-type (?)

Pruzhinskaya et al., 2023 -- in prep

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Preparing for the future: ZTF as a test ground for Rubin

### Anomaly Bot



algorithm implementation by Igor Beschastnov and Matwey Kornilov (MSU)



Philosophically,

Stages of discovery in astronomy:

Detection

Interpretation

Understanding Acceptance

## It is about Discovery

"An anomaly is an observation which deviates so much from the other observations as to arouse suspicions that it was generated by a different mechanism"

Which mechanism? Is it something we are familiar with but fail to proper model or recognise? Is it something we have never seen before?

Is there something new for us to learn?



In order to identify the unusual we need to have a clear ideal of what is usual ...



.. and that is a social construct. It changes and adapts with time!

Discovery and Classification in Astronomy - by Steven Dick - Cambridge University Press (2013)

Human-oriented search

## **Active Anomaly Detection**



Plot modified from <u>Chowdhury et al., 2021</u>, <u>SPIE Medical Imaging</u>

Algorithm from Das, S., et al., 2017, in Workshop on Interactive Data Exploration and Analytics (IDEA'17), KDD workshop, <u>arXiv:cs.LG/1708.09441</u> Try the SNAD implementation: <u>https://coniferest.readthedocs.io/en/latest/quickstart.html</u> Transitioning to big data



#### AAD on real data: ZTF data releases

"There should be no supernova-like objects in ZTF DR"

Basically everyone to whom we mentioned we were looking for them.



Pruzhinskaya et al., 2023, A&A 672, A111 (2023), arXiv:astro-ph/2208.09053



#### Interesting SLSN candidates







#### The dream ...

Active anomaly discovery in the alert stream

For **personalized** anomaly detection models



#### Explore the boundaries of your knowledge

- In the era of Rubin, serendipitous discoveries will not happen
- Domain experts **must be included** in the development of new techniques **from the first stages**. They should supervise the first prototypes.

It is crucial to know what you want

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- Domain experts **must be included** in the development of new techniques **from the first stages**. They should supervise the first prototypes.

#### It is crucial to know what you want

FinkBR -- collaboration meeting at CBPF, Rio - May/2024 !



Get inspired

#### #FinkDreamShots



From OzFink 2023 - Melbourne, Australia - <u>https://www.ozgrav.org/ozfink-workshop-2023.html</u>

# What do you want to see?

