Utilization of Convolutional Neural Networks for HI Source Finding

Team FORSKA-Sweden approach to SKA Data Challenge 2

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SKA Data Challenge 2

- Generate catalog of simulated HI observation
- Finished July 2021
- Approaches
 - SoFiA: highly specialized source finder
 - Deep learning: generic machine learning models

Group	Points	Deep learning	SoFiA
MINERVA	23254	Yes	No
FORSKA- Sweden	22489	Yes	Yes
SoFiA	16822	No	Yes
Naoc- Tianlai	14416	No	Yes
HI-FRIENDS	13902	No	Yes
EPFL	8515	No	No
Spardha	5614	No	Yes
Starmech	2095	No	Yes
JLRAT	1079	Yes	No
Coin	-2	Yes	No
Hiraxers	-2	Yes	No
SHAO	-471	No	No



Machine learning setup

- Established procedure:
 - 1. Create a binary mask
 - 2. Estimate source attributes from mask





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- Similar to semantic segmentation
- Why not learn the mask instead?
 - Access to true source catalog







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- Established procedure:
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- Why not learn the mask instead?
 - Access to true source catalog
- New problem: generate ideal target mask from source catalog







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Target mask

- Shape attributes given in the true source catalog
 - Elliptical cylinder
- Covers more than galaxy voxels
- Can masks be tighter and more accurate?





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Deep learning training with mask

Mask resembles occupation with margin







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Deep learning training with mask

- Mask resembles occupation with margin
- Train a convolutional network (deep learning segmentation model) to output target







Source characterization

- 1st step: Trained deep learning model for creating mask
- 2nd step: create source catalog from mask
- Subset of SoFiA modules used
- Merging coherent and almost-coherent segments
- Compute characteristics: disk radius, line flux integral, inclination, etc.
- Next problem: How to configure SoFiA?





SoFiA configuration

- What do we value most from the pipeline?
 - Reliability or completeness?
 - We can not have both ☺
- Vary only SoFiA configuration \rightarrow tradeoff!
 - Mask always the same
- How to configure SoFiA?
 - Depends on what you want
- SKA Data Challenge 2 score weighted sum reliability and completeness
 - Not general use case



Summary

- Tools from modern computer vision prominent for source finding
- Astronomical knowledge beneficial for algorithm development
- Existing routines can be combined with machine learning





Outlook for machine learning in source finding

- General purpose evaluation metrics
 - Tradeoff common in machine learning
 - Average precision: area under curve
 - Needs domain-specific tuning
- Validating on real data
 - Trained on simulation, validated on simulation
 - How much can we trust the machine learning model?





