Change detection in categorical evolving data streams
Dino Ienco, Albert Bifet, Bernhard Pfahringer, Pascal Poncelet

To cite this version:
Dino Ienco, Albert Bifet, Bernhard Pfahringer, Pascal Poncelet. Change detection in categorical evolving data streams. 29th Annual ACM Symposium on Applied Computing (SAC), Mar 2014, Gyeongju, South Korea. pp.792-797, 10.1145/2554850.2554864. hal-02600407

HAL Id: hal-02600407
https://hal.inrae.fr/hal-02600407
Submitted on 11 Dec 2020

HAL is a multi-disciplinary open access archive for the deposit and dissemination of scientific research documents, whether they are published or not. The documents may come from teaching and research institutions in France or abroad, or from public or private research centers.

L’archive ouverte pluridisciplinaire HAL, est destinée au dépôt et à la diffusion de documents scientifiques de niveau recherche, publiés ou non, émanant des établissements d’enseignement et de recherche français ou étrangers, des laboratoires publics ou privés.
Change Detection in Categorical Evolving Data Streams

Dino Ienco  
IRSTEA, Montpellier, France  
dino.ienco@teledection.fr

Albert Bifet  
Yahoo! Research Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain  
abifet@yahoo-inc.com

Bernhard Pfahringer  
University of Waikato, Hamilton, New Zealand  
bernhard@cs.waikato.ac.nz

Pascal Poncelet  
LIRMM, Montpellier, France  
poncelet@lirmm.fr

ABSTRACT
Detecting change in evolving data streams is a central issue for accurate adaptive learning. In real world applications, data streams have categorical features, and changes induced in the data distribution of these categorical features have not been considered extensively so far. Previous work on change detection focused on detecting changes in the accuracy of the learners, but without considering changes in the data distribution.

To cope with these issues, we propose a new unsupervised change detection method, called CDCStream (Change Detection in Categorical Data Streams), well suited for categorical data streams. The proposed method is able to detect changes in a batch incremental scenario. It is based on the two following characteristics: (i) a summarization strategy is proposed to compress the actual batch by extracting a descriptive summary and (ii) a new segmentation algorithm is proposed to highlight changes and issue warnings for a data stream. To evaluate our proposal we employ it in a learning task over real world data and we compare its results with state of the art methods. We also report qualitative evaluation in order to show the behavior of CDCStream.

Categories and Subject Descriptors
H.2.8 [Database Management]: Knowledge Management Applications—data exploration and discovery

General Terms
Theory, Algorithms, Experimentation

Keywords
Evolving data stream, categorical data, unsupervised change detection, statistical test, concept drifts

1. INTRODUCTION

Many real world applications continuously generate huge amounts of data, such as web logs, sensor networks, business transactions, etc. These data streams [1], due to the big volumes of information they contain, pose serious issues for the research community in order to extract useful and up-to-date knowledge in real-time. Due to its intrinsic temporal dimension, the information available in data streams changes and evolves over the time. More precisely, this phenomenon impacts on the performance of any supervised (or unsupervised) model learnt over these evolving data streams: previous models may not be suitable for newly incoming data [1]. Therefore we need to be able to adapt models both quickly and accurately. In particular, different types of change may happen in the stream. For instance, classes or concepts that can be underrepresented during a short period can become overrepresented after a longer period. Detecting change is essential for adapting learned models.

Most of the time, a common assumption made by many research works is to take into account only the posteriori probability of the class given the data [8]. Actually, this formulation of the change detection task does not exploit information coming from the underlying data distribution and, generally, it is not suitable for unsupervised tasks where the class information is not available at all. As it is generally known, obtaining labels for data (especially in a stream context) can be very time-consuming and may require intensive human effort that is not always possible [11]. This issue can limit the use of such techniques that depend on proper class labels.

Secondly, in real world applications, data is heterogeneous and often can be represented over set of categorical attributes as well as numerical ones. In the last decade, lots of approaches have been defined to monitor classification accuracy as evidence or an indication for change in streams of numerical data (e.g. [8]). There are very few approaches dealing with the same problem which are able to handle categorical data [4].

The necessity to address all these points motivates us to propose a new change detection method especially tailored for categorical data: CDCStream (Change Detection in Categorical Data Stream). Our approach is able to detect and highlight changes in categorical data streams in a fully unsupervised setting. Interestingly, our method is able to efficiently exploit historical data to make its decision. It works in the batch size scenario: when a new batch arrives,
firstly CDCStream compresses it by extracting a descriptive summary and it then performs a statistical test to evaluate if change has happened in the data distribution, or not. The developed algorithm supplies a segmentation approach that can also work with other statistics. This means that it can be coupled with any other measure we want to monitor.

The remainder of this paper is organized as follows. Section 2 explores the state of the art in categorical change detection for data streams. The proposed methodology is presented in Section 3. Section 4 presents experimental results for real world datasets and we also report an analysis of its qualitative behavior. Section 5 concludes.

2. RELATED WORK

The problem of detecting concept drift or change is an important issue in data stream mining [1]. The research community has spent a lot of effort to detect change in numerical streams [8], while dealing with categorical data has not been addressed all that much [4]. A first attempt to mining concept drift in categorical data is presented in [6]. Their proposed approach determines concept drift by measuring the difference in cluster distribution between two contiguous batches of stream data. An important drawback of this method, that limits its usability in practise, is the difficulty encountered when having to customize the settings of its many parameters. In [7], a framework was presented for detecting the change of a primary clustering structure which was indicated by the best number of clusters in categorical data streams. However, setting the decaying rates to adapt to different types of clustering structures is very difficult. Cao proposed two different rough set theory based methods to detect concept drifts in streams of categorical data [5, 4]. The former [5] defines the distance between two concepts as the difference value of the degree of membership of each object belonging to two different concepts, respectively. This distance can only detect concept drift but not the reasons leading to the change. The later strategy presented in [4], evaluates the difference of distributions between two concepts appearing in two consecutive batches. The difference is defined by the approximation accuracy of rough set theory which can also be used to measure the speed of change of concepts. If the difference is bigger than a threshold a concept drift is revealed. Both methods require only a threshold parameter but, unfortunately: i) no hints on how set this parameter are supplied and ii) the parameter threshold has no clear associated meaning. These two factors do not facilitate the analyst to use these approaches. As has been pointed out, all these methods have several issues related to parameter settings (too many parameters or no hints about the value to use). Furthermore, all these approaches assume that, for detecting a concept drift it is enough to consider only contiguous batches and no more historical information coming from the data stream.

3. METHODOLOGY

In this section we describe the general setting and we introduce our new method. Suppose that we have an infinite data stream divided in batches. Each batch $S_i$ is associated with the arrival time denoted by the index $i$: $S = \{S_1, S_2, \ldots, S_n, \ldots\}$. This scenario is general enough to model real data streams. Note that, even in the case of continuous streams of data, we can employ a buffer-based procedure for collecting examples in order to build batches and then process one batch at a time. In addition, each example belonging to the data stream is defined over a set of categorical attributes. This means that each attribute $A_j$ is defined over a discrete set of nominal values. As previously mentioned, the two important points that we address in this work are the following: (i) extracting useful information from each batch in order to summarize it and (ii) keeping trace of this information to be able to detect change. All these steps are addressed in a fully unsupervised scenario where no class information is available differently from many previous strategies that work in supervised context [1]. To deal with the first point we exploit the method proposed in [12], named DILCA. This method is able to extract numerical statistics from a set of categorical examples in order to summarize the underlying data distribution. To tackle the second point we monitor the statistics extracted from the batches by employing the Chebyshev’s Inequality [1]. The combination of (i) and (ii) allows CDCStream to summarize categorical batches and to detect changes as they happen in the underlying data distribution, and to issue appropriate warnings. In the following we describe in detail the steps that CDCStream is based on.

3.1 Computing the distance model

Here we revise the DILCA (DIstance Learning for Categorical Attributes) framework that we can employ to summarize a batch of categorical data. DILCA was first introduced by [12] and it was mainly used for clustering categorical data. The result of this method is a set of matrices, one for each attribute. Each matrix contains the learnt distances between each pair of values of a specific attribute. Let us now consider the set $F = \{X_1, X_2, \ldots, X_m\}$ of $m$ categorical attributes over which the batch $S_i$ is defined. We denote by $Y$ the target attribute, which is a specific attribute in $F$ that constitutes the target of the method, that is, on whose values we need to compute the distances. The notation $|X_i|$ refers to the cardinality of the attribute $X_i$. DILCA allows to compute a context-based distance between any pair of values $(y_i, y_j)$ of the target attribute $Y$ on the basis of the similarity between the probability distributions of $y_i$ and $y_j$ given the context attributes, called $C(Y) \subseteq F \setminus Y$. For each context attribute $X_i$ it computes the conditional probability for both the values $y_i$ and $y_j$ given the values $x_k \in X_i$ and then it applies the Euclidean distance. The Euclidean distance is normalized by the total number of considered values:

$$d(y_i, y_j) = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{X_i \in C(Y)} \sum_{x_k \in X_i} (P(y_i | x_k) - P(y_j | x_k))^2}{\sum_{X_i \in C(Y)} |X_i|}} \quad (1)$$

The selection of a good context is not trivial, particularly when data are high-dimensional. To select a relevant and non redundant set of features w.r.t. a given one, [12] propose to adopt FCBF, a feature-selection approach originally presented by [15]. We let the reader refer to the cited paper for more details about the context selection step. At the end of the process, DILCA returns a distance model $M = \{M_{X_i} | i = 1, \ldots, m\}$, where each $M_{X_i}$ is the matrix containing pairwise distances between the values of attribute $X_i$, computed using Eq. 1. The distances contained in the matrix $M_{X_i}$ resume the underlying distribution of attribute $X_i$. Each generated matrix $M_{X_i}$ has some interesting characteristics: it is symmetrical, the diagonal is filled by 0s.
Chebyshev’s Inequality

random variable with expectation
statistical test does not assume any data distribution. It is a
data distribution. To deal with this issue, in order to under-
variation on both sides of the distribution, because the mon-
in a totally unsupervised setting: we want to detect general
accuracy. If a classifier increases its accuracy, we have no

nomenon, researchers usually exploit one-sided tests. These
re-adapt or start to re-learn a model. To manage this phe-
classification accuracy. When that happens, it is time to
scenario where the goal is to detect changes as a decrease in
attributes and the attributes’ distributions themselves.

value into the range between 0 and 1 again. The result of
extracted from each matrix forcing them back into the range
(matrices produced by the

cients of all the matrices
each matrix, discarding the all-zeroes diagonal (matrices are
symmetric and their diagonals are filled by 0s):

\[ \text{extractSummary}(M) = \sum_{M_i \in M} 2^{\frac{X_i^2 + X_{i+1}^2}{(X_i^2 + X_{i+1}^2 - 1)}} \]

This formula extracts a single statistic starting from the
matrices produced by the DILCA method over a batch of
examples. For each matrix \( M_i \) the squares of all values is
summed and then rescaled by using the root. This value is
then divided by the number of values that are summed
\( \frac{X_i^2 + X_{i+1}^2}{(X_i^2 + X_{i+1}^2 - 1)} \). This operation normalizes the coefficient
extracted from each matrix forcing them back into the range
between 0 and 1.

The outer loop sums the coefficients of all the matrices
and then the normalization step allows to scale back the
value into the range between 0 and 1 again. The result of
this formula numerically represents a summary of the whole
batch taking into account both the correlation among the
attributes and the attributes’ distributions themselves.

3.2 Change Detection through the Chebyshev’s Inequality

Statistical tests are often used in data stream mining in
order to capture changes in the distribution [1]. Most of
the literature focuses its attention on the supervised sce-
nario where the goal is to detect changes as a decrease in
classification accuracy. When that happens, it is time to
re-adapt or start to re-learn a model. To manage this phe-
nomenon, researchers usually exploit one-sided tests. These
tests are usually chosen since changes (in a supervised sce-
nario) are associated with a decrease only of classification
accuracy. If a classifier increases its accuracy, we have no
reason to modify it. Unfortunately, in our context, we work
in a totally unsupervised setting: we want to detect general
variation on both sides of the distribution, because the mon-
titored variable is not the accuracy but an estimation of the
data distribution. To deal with this issue, in order to under-
stand if a batch of data deviates from the actual distribution
or not, we employ techniques from Statistical process con-
trol [8], that are based on Chebyshev’s Inequality [1]. This
statistical test does not assume any data distribution. It is a
two tailed test and it considers both sides of the distribution
to understand if a change is appearing.

**Lemma 1 (Chebyshev’s Inequality).** Let \( X \) be a
random variable with expectation \( \mu_X \) and standard deviation \( \sigma_X \). Then for any \( k \in R^+ \),

\[ \Pr(|X - \mu_X| \geq k\sigma_X) \leq \frac{1}{k^2} \]

In particular, we consider the statistic computed over each
batch \( S_i \) as a value coming from a randomly distributed
variable. In this way, without loss of generality, we can use
Chebyshev’s Inequality to monitor if change is happening, or
not, in the data stream distribution.

As we can observe, to use this inequality, we need to com-
pute the average \( \mu_X \) and the standard deviation \( \sigma_X \). As we
assume that a data stream evolves and that it is infinite, we
can never retain all values. To tackle this important issue,
we need to design an intelligent method to understand how
many previous batches we need to use in order to monitor
the actual one. Our solution is sketched in Algorithm 1. The
procedure takes as input parameter the stream of data \( S \) and
the values \( k_c \) and \( k_w \) to compute Chebyshev’s Inequality
in order to detect, respectively, changes and warnings. While
a change can be associated with a drift in the data stream, a
warning is a small variation or fluctuation that will not nec-
ecessarily result in a shift of the data distribution. In addition
to actual change, noise may also cause such warnings.

We can observe that the first step of the algorithm is de-
voted to initialize the list \( L \) and the standard deviation
used as default in the case where we cannot compute it
(\( \sigma_{\text{default}} \)). The list \( L \) contains the summary values up un-
til the previous batch: this means that if we are analyzing
batch \( S_i \), \( L \) contains statistics until batch \( S_{i-1} \). As we enter
the main loop, given the batch \( S_i \) we extract the actual summary
statistic using Formula 2. Once we obtain the statistic
we check the size of \( L \). We did not check the case in which
\( L \) is empty because it can only be empty at the begin. Af-
fter that it will always contain at least one value. When \( L \)
contains more than a value we can compute both an aver-
age and a standard deviation. In the case where \( L \) contains
only one value, and we have already computed the maximum
(\( \sigma_{\text{MAX}} \)) and the minimum (\( \sigma_{\text{MIN}} \)) standard deviation seen
until now, the actual summary value is used as the average
and the standard deviation is set to \((\sigma_{\text{MAX}} + \sigma_{\text{MIN}})/2\).

If the value of \( \sigma_{\text{MAX}} \) and \( \sigma_{\text{MIN}} \) are not defined, than we are
in the first or second batch of the stream, and we have
not yet collected enough evidence to compute these statis-
tics, as we need to see at least two batches before we can
compute them. In this case we need to continue to accumu-
late evidence before being ready to detect changes or warn-
ings. Line 22 checks if \( \sigma \) is not null. If so, we employ the
statistical process control technique based on Chebyshev’s
Inequality to evaluate if a change or a warning happens.

In particular, Chebyshev’s Inequality is used with two different
thresholds \( k_c \) to detect a change and \( k_w \) to detect a warning.
Logically, as a warning is a variation in the distribution less
important than a change (which is more critical by defini-
tion) \( k_c \) is greater that \( k_w \) and for this reason, the inequality
is first used to check if a change happens and successively,
if that first test is negative, the second test determines the
presence of a warning. At the end of the procedure the al-
gorithm adds the new summary value \( x \) to the list \( L \).

If a change happens the values ( i.e. the statistics/summary values until batch \( S_i \) ) in the list \( L \) are re-
moved and we restart to fill \( L \) with the one extracted from
batch \( S_i \). Practically, if a change is detected, the actual
batch \( S_i \) is statistically different from the previous sequence
of batches and, for this reason, we do not need to keep the
history before \( S_i \) anymore. In the case of a warning the
algorithm only reports it to the user, without clearing \( L \).

The final algorithm is a method able to automatically seg-
ment the sequence of summary statistic generated to sum-
marize the batches of the stream.

4. EXPERIMENTS

In this section we evaluate the performance of our ap-
proach CDCStream under different aspects. We compare the
behavior of our algorithm with the method proposed in [4]
that we name RSCD. RSCD is the most recent approach to detect changes in categorical data streams. It obtains good performance compared to previous methods.

To objectively measure the quality of the two methods, we compare them in a learning scenario in which a classifier is learnt using a warning model as introduced in [8]. In particular, at the beginning a classifier is learnt and tested over the stream of data. Every time a warning is detected, a background classifier is created and trained in parallel with the main classifier. When a change is detected, the main classifier is replaced by the background one (and a new background classifier is also started). As a base learner for both CDCStream and RSCD we use the Naive Bayes classifier [14]. To evaluate the different methods we employ the final accuracy of the learnt model. To assess the accuracy we use the prequential evaluation: each time an instance arrives, we first test the algorithm on it, and then we subsequently use the example as training input for the classifier.

RSCD does not implicitly manage warnings, for this reason we adapt it to manage both changes and warnings. We consider that a change happens when RSCD returns values bigger than 0.01 (the same threshold is used in the original work [4]) while we highlight warnings when RSCD returns values bigger than 0.005 but lower than 0.01. As these values represent a threshold over a distance, it is reasonable that the change threshold is larger than the warning one. CDCStream is designed to manage both warnings and changes. For our approach we set the value of \( k_e \) equals to 3 and \( k_w \) equals to 2. We evaluate the two approaches using different batch sizes. In particular we employ the following values: \( \{50, 100, 500, 1000\} \).

In order to deeply understand the behaviour of our strategy, we also employ as another competitor the supervised method presented in [8], that we name SDriftClassif.

It also implements a warning/change mechanism monitoring the accuracy of the classifier. All our experiments are performed using the MOA data stream software suite [3]. MOA is an open source software framework in Java designed specifically for data stream mining.

### 4.1 Datasets

To evaluate all the algorithms we use four real world datasets: Electricity, Forest, Airlines, KDD99.

**Electricity** data [10] is a popular benchmark in stream classification. The task is to predict the rise or fall of electricity prices (demand) in New South Wales (Australia), given recent consumption and prices in the same and neighboring regions. The task proposed in the *Forest* dataset [2] is to predict forest cover types of vegetation from cartographic variables. Inspired by [13] we constructed an *Airlines* dataset using the raw data from US flight control. The task is to predict whether a given flight will be delayed, given the information of the scheduled departure. The last dataset we use is KDD99. One of the big problems with this dataset is the big amount of redundancy among instances. To solve this problem we use the cleaned version named NSL-KDD1. To build the final dataset we join both training and test data. A summary of the characteristics of these datasets is reported in Table 1. We observe that this collection of datasets contains both binary and multi-class problems, datasets with different size (varying between 42k to 580k instances) and different dimensionality (from 7 to 54 attributes).

For analysis purposes, we also introduce one more dataset, named *Forest Sorted*, in which the instances of the *Forest* dataset are reordered using the attribute elevation. Due to the nature of the underlying problem, sorting the instances by the elevation attribute induces a natural gradual drift on the class distribution, because at higher elevation some types of vegetation disappear while other types of vegetation appear smoothly.

As general pre-processing for all numerical attributes we perform unsupervised equi-width discretization using a number of bins equal to 5.

### 4.2 Analysis of Accuracy

In table 2 we report the accuracy performance of the different methods using the warning/change framework as explained at the beginning of the experimental section. For each dataset, we highlight in bold the best result obtained for it. As a first point, we can observe that the supervised approach did not outperform the unsupervised ones. This is a remarkable result because SDriftClassif is the only method that exploits the accuracy to make a decision in order to detect a change and to re-learn the model. The only case in which SDriftClassif obtains slightly better results is over KDD99, but the final performances are comparable as the difference is very low (around one point of accuracy).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dataset</th>
<th># of Inst.</th>
<th># of Feat.</th>
<th># of Cl.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Airlines</td>
<td>539 383</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electricity</td>
<td>45 312</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest</td>
<td>581 012</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KDD99</td>
<td>148 517</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1: Dataset characteristics

---

To summarize, we can state that the classifier learnt using CDCStream, under the warning/change detection framework, obtains interesting accuracy results and also generally improves the classifier quality compared to a previous supervised approach. We can also underline that, considering the benchmark used in the experiments, CDCStream is robust considering the batch size. This parameter did not have a strong influence on the final performance.

4.3 Analysis of Change Detection Behavior

We report the results concerning the behaviors of CDCStream and RCSD in Table 3. In this experiment we measure the percentage of changes detected by both methods, for each dataset considering different batch sizes. The percentage of changes is the number of changes detected divided by the possible number of changes that can happen in the stream. If a dataset is divided in $N$ batches, the number of possible changes is equal to $N-1$ because we can have, at most, one change for each batch except the first one as we cannot start to detect changes before the second batch. The first aspect we point out is that the two methods have different behaviors. This means that when one approach increases the number of changes detected, the other one does not exhibit the same trend. For instance, if we analyze the results on Electricity, when we use a batch size equals to 50 the number of changes are similar but, when the batch size increases, they show different trends. In particular, for this dataset, we can observe that bigger batch size ($b=500$ and $b=1000$) drastically impacts the percentage of changes discovered by RCSD. This is also confirmed by the decrease in accuracy for this strategy over large batch sizes. If we continue to analyze the results, we can note that for Forest Sort, RCSD has problems to detect the smooth changes that are intrinsically present in this dataset. This is underlined by the fact that for $b=50$ and $b=100$ it does not detect changes (a percentage equals to 0%) and also for

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dataset</th>
<th>SDriftClassif.</th>
<th>CDCStream</th>
<th>RCSD</th>
<th>CDCStream</th>
<th>RSCD</th>
<th>CDCStream</th>
<th>RSCD</th>
<th>CDCStream</th>
<th>RSCD</th>
<th>CDCStream</th>
<th>RSCD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Electricity</td>
<td>70.58%</td>
<td>73.84%</td>
<td>73.77%</td>
<td>71.21%</td>
<td>72.15%</td>
<td>68.18%</td>
<td>64.45%</td>
<td>66.01%</td>
<td>63.40%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KDD</td>
<td>91.38%</td>
<td>90.81%</td>
<td>90.65%</td>
<td>90.04%</td>
<td>90.06%</td>
<td>90.59%</td>
<td>90.06%</td>
<td>90.87%</td>
<td>90.60%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest</td>
<td>80.27%</td>
<td>82.99%</td>
<td>82.25%</td>
<td>81.18%</td>
<td>80.39%</td>
<td>74.46%</td>
<td>64.08%</td>
<td>80.05%</td>
<td>64.08%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest Sort</td>
<td>67.44%</td>
<td>70.57%</td>
<td>68.35%</td>
<td>70.51%</td>
<td>68.35%</td>
<td>72.10%</td>
<td>68.35%</td>
<td>69.33%</td>
<td>68.35%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Airlines</td>
<td>65.25%</td>
<td>66.43%</td>
<td>62.71%</td>
<td>64.50%</td>
<td>64.41%</td>
<td>67.16%</td>
<td>66.73%</td>
<td>67.66%</td>
<td>67.64%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2: Accuracy of models learnt by different strategies using warning/change framework under different batch size
larger values of batch size it does not react as much (a percentage lower than 0.2%). This phenomenon explains why the model learnt using the RCSD approach always obtains the same accuracy over all the values of batch size. The fact that the rough sets based approach does not underline changes, in this case, impacts the performance of the final classifier in a bad way. A totally different behavior is evident for Airlines. For this dataset RCSD (for batch size of 50, 100, 500) detects as many changes as theoretically possible. This means that, each time, the model previously learnt is discarded and replaced with a new one while CDCStream adopts a different strategy, and it adapts itself to the value of batch size in order to discover changes. As a practical consequence, the strategy adopted by CDCStream outperforms the one supplied by RCSD to learn the classification model for the stream data. In general we can say that, most of the times, RCSD detects smaller percentages of changes than the ones detected by CDCStream. When the opposite happens, RCSD always saturates the percentage of changes, reaching 100%. In Figure 1 we report the behavior of CDCStream on the Forest Sort dataset considering a batch size of 1000 instances. For lack of space we report only this example as a representative. We observe similar behavior over all the other datasets. On the Y axis we plot the value of the summary statistic (Formula 2) monitored by CDCStream. The X axis represents the # of changes analyzed during the stream. Vertical lines are used to highlight when CDCStream detects a change. In order to easily visualize some interesting behavior we supply the trend between the first 350 and 500 batches. We can observe that our method detects the important change observed around the first 350 and 500 batches. We can observe that our approach always obtains the same accuracy over all the values of batch size. The experiments fully validate the quality of CDCStream showing interesting results obtained by our strategy. As future work we plan to apply our method in categorical data stream clustering to update the model when changes are detected.

6. REFERENCES


