Mapping the Internet
Modelling Entity Interactions in Complex Heterogeneous Networks
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Motivation
In many domains, application of standard machine learning methods on modern data sources is still hindered due to:
• Unrealistic assumption about independence and identical distribution of input data
• Unknown set of informative features to represent samples
• Heterogeneous or hierarchical nature of the data
• Missing data on various levels of abstraction
• Insufficient scalability
• Unsatisfactory explainability and interpretability

HMill framework
• Hierarchical Multi-instance Learning Library
• general-purpose, unified framework for sample representation and model definition
• high modelling flexibility and overall versatility

Classical machine-learning approach:

Array nodes For modelling lowest-level raw observations

Bag nodes For modelling compact sets of probability measures

Product nodes For modelling Cartesian products

HMill approach:

HMill traits
• theoretically justified (extension of the UA theorem)
• efficient batching and gradient computation
• elegant dealing missing data
• convenient sampling techniques for large inputs

Real-world use cases
• framework tested on three completely different tasks
• cybersecurity domain — very relevant and difficult for ML
• baseline models achieved comparable or better performance than specialized methods on all three tasks

Use case: Classifying IoT device over network
• classifying the type of IoT device
• based on measurements obtainable by network scanning
• structured, hierarchical and heterogeneous data
• some items are missing
• input: JSON/XML documents
• Avast data
• HMill performs better on the provided dataset than a specialized method

Use case: Detecting malware with behavioral graphs
• detecting malicious binary files
• based on the behavior in Windows OS
• input: snapshot of the OS represented as a graph
• nodes represent files and processes
• edges represent interaction between files and processes
• data obtained from Avast
• HMill more accurate than methods ignoring relations

Use case: Harmful domain detection from relations
• detecting harmful domains
• input: binary relations
• example: domain D in relation with binary B, because B connected to D
• Cisco cooperation
• HMill performs comparable to state-of-the-art

Conclusion
• HMill offers high versatility with no performance compromises
• excels at automated, Auto ML style approach to learning from real-world data
• out-of-the-box availability and little to no preprocessing needed enable application to many problems
• implementation available at https://github.com/pevnak/Mill.jl