



Witan

Unsupervised Labelling Function Generation for Assisted Data Programming

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01 Introduction

WITAN, Labeling Functions, Interactive, Unsupervised

02 Context & Motivation

Data Labeling, Deep Learning, Challenges, Expertise

03 Data Preparation

Binary Features, Bag of Words

04 The WITAN Algorithm

Heuristic Rules, Utility Function, Domain Expert, Refinement

05 WITAN in Action

Real-World Data, Simulated Feedback, Classification

06 Conclusion



01 Introduction & Main concepts

- No initial supervision needed.
- Identifies patterns in unlabeled data.
- Users refine automated labeling rules.
- Approaches fully supervised method accuracy.
- Significantly reduces the manual labeling workload.

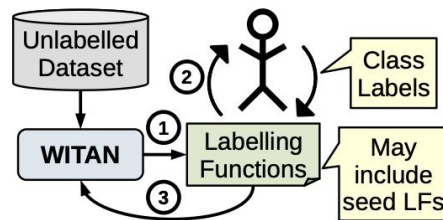
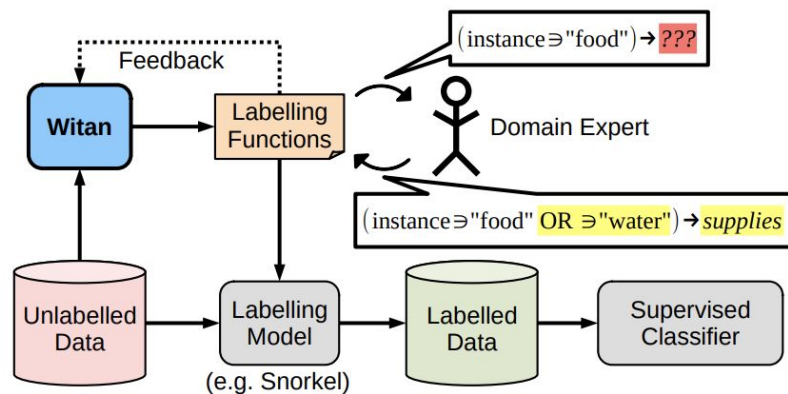


Figure 1: Logical view of WITAN, demonstrating ① initial unsupervised generation of LFs, ② user review and assignment of class labels to LFs, and ③ extending an existing set of LFs.



02 Context and motivation



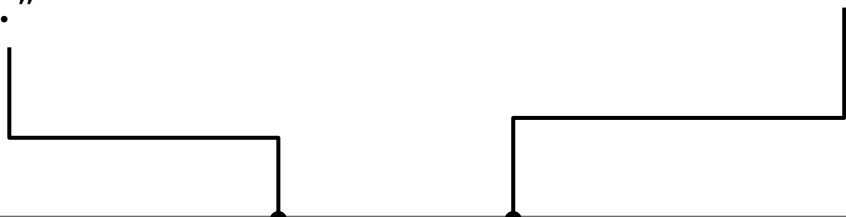
- Machine learning advancements **constrained** by labeled data availability.
- Traditional LFs reduce manual labeling but are **tedious and prone to bias**.
- WITAN automates LF generation, enabling analysis of ambiguous data categories.
- Complements systems like Snorkel for quality training data refinement.



03 Data preparation

S1: "The movie was simply **amazing** with **phenomenal** effects, but a **boring** storyline."

S2: The film's **poor** script was disappointing.



Keywords	Sentence 1	Sentence 2	Sentence 3	...
Amazing	1	0	0	...
Phenomenal	1	0	0	...
Boring	1	0	1	...
Poor	0	1	0	...
...



04 The WITAN Algorithm

- **Automated** generation of labeling functions from binary features.
- **Expert review** to curate and assign appropriate labels to LFs.

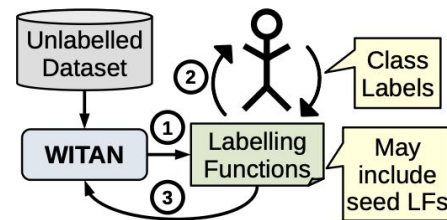


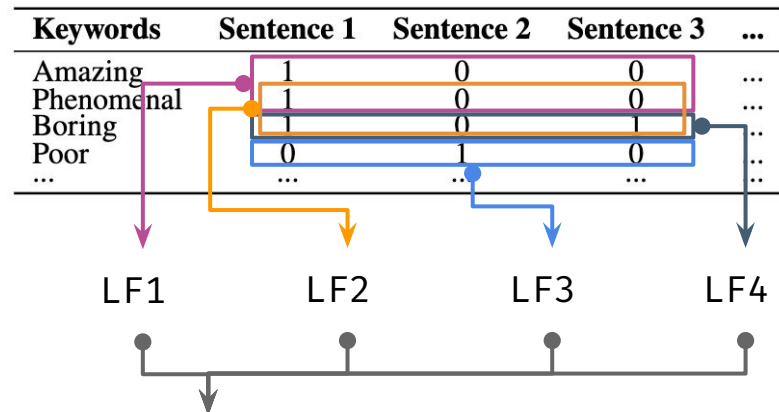
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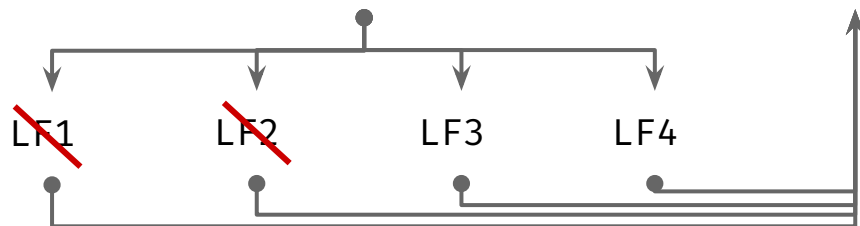
04 The WITAN Algorithm

Utility function: Introduction

- Smart selection based on pattern recognition.
- Reduces ambiguity in classifying unlabeled data.
- Identifies **key patterns** to unveil hidden data structures.



Utility function $\bullet \rightarrow$ Entropy Matrix





04 The WITAN Algorithm

Utility function: The Utility Function's Calculations and Goals

① ② ③

$$IG(x_{*j}, c^\lambda) = H(x_{*j}) - H(x_{*j} | c^\lambda)$$

Information gain

Entropy of feature x_{*j} before applying an LF

Conditional entropy of feature x_{*j} given the application of a LF λ

Instance/Feature	Feature 1	Feature 2	Feature 3	Feature 4
Instance 1	$H_{1,1}$	$H_{1,2}$	$H_{1,3}$	$H_{1,4}$
Instance 2	$H_{2,1}$	$H_{2,2}$	$H_{2,3}$	$H_{2,4}$
Instance 3	$H_{3,1}$	$H_{3,2}$	$H_{3,3}$	$H_{3,4}$
Instance 4	$H_{4,1}$	$H_{4,2}$	$H_{4,3}$	$H_{4,4}$

Table 1: Example of an Entropy Matrix (\tilde{H}) for the WITAN Algorithm. Each cell $H_{i,j}$ represents the entropy of Feature j for Instance i .



04 The WITAN Algorithm

Utility function: The Utility Function's Calculations and Goals

Utility function sums the information gain for the features not already covered by the LF by taking the dataset, entropy matrix, information gain, weight vector, and LF set as arguments.

$$U_{X,\bar{H},Y,w}(\lambda) = \sum_{\substack{j=1, \\ j \notin d^\lambda}}^m w_j \sum_{\substack{i=1, \\ c_i^\lambda=1}}^n \max(0, \bar{h}_{i,j} - H(x_{*j}|c^\lambda))^Y$$

w is the weight vector measuring information gain for each feature. This creates a rank of features that influences label prediction. The sum across all features adjusts the utility function to emphasize relevance.

The $\max()$ function is written to compare initial entropy with the post-LF application entropy of the feature. This leverages the LF to reduce uncertainty. Then IG is scaled by Y to highlight features with greater information reduction.

Function Objectives

Labeling functions(LFs) are ranked based on their ability to improve data classification.

Emphasis on Information Gain

Information gain is prioritized by the Utility Function. This means the LF's ability to reduce uncertainty influences will be prioritized.

Mechanisms

LFs that consistently improve predictions across the entire data set are prioritized by the Utility Function.



04 The WITAN Algorithm

Core of the algorithm

USER

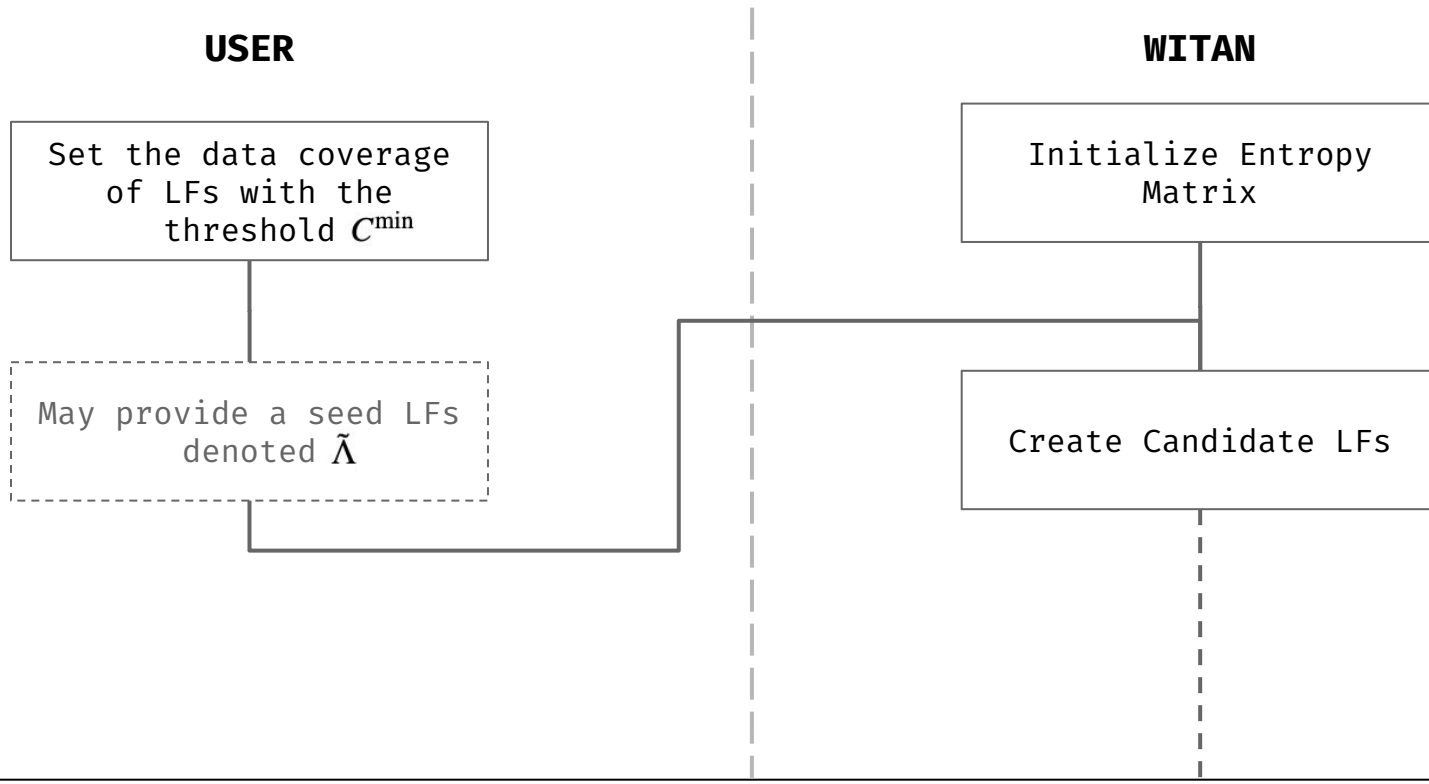
Set the data coverage
of LFs with the
threshold C^{\min}

May provide a seed LFs
denoted $\tilde{\Lambda}$

WITAN

Initialize Entropy
Matrix

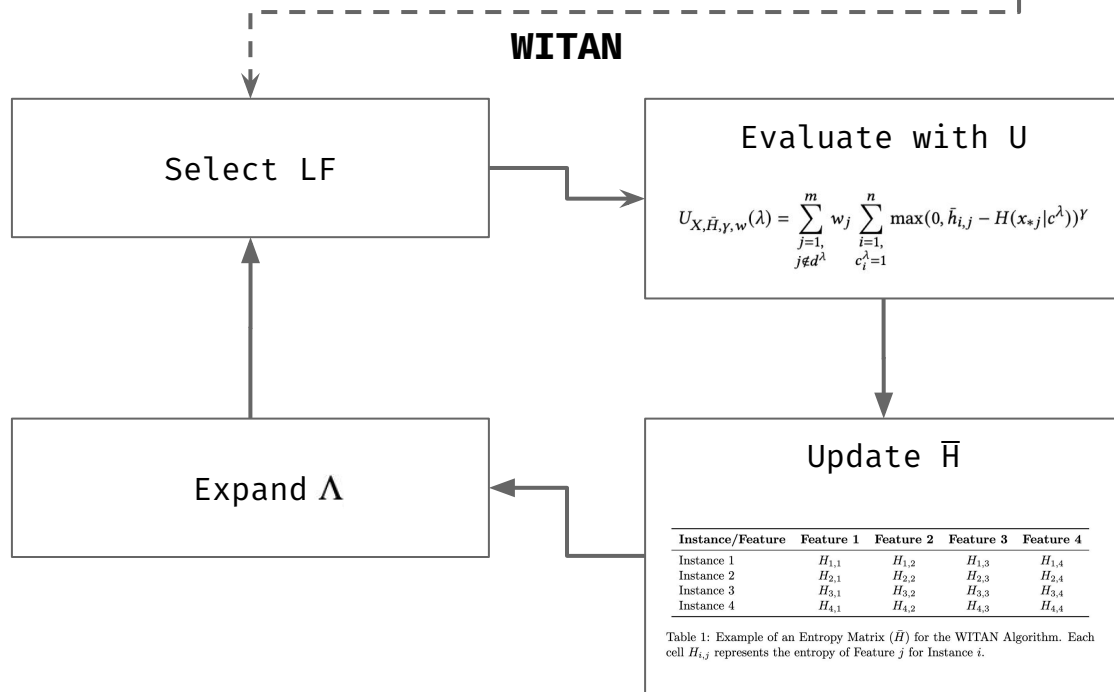
Create Candidate LFs





04 The WITAN Algorithm

Core of the algorithm





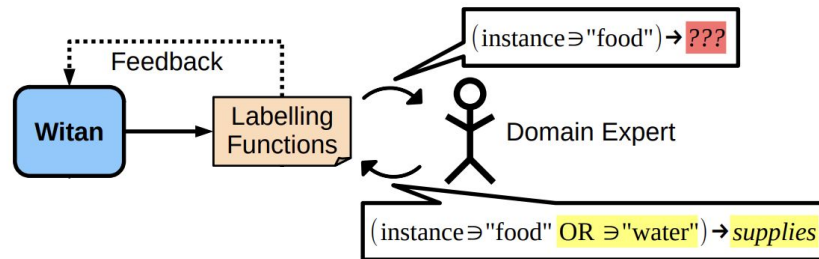
04 The WITAN Algorithm

Core of the algorithm

- User marks approved LFs
- Feedback updates weights of LFs (if provided)
- User decides class label meanings for selected LFs
- User may manually improve generated conditions

	\ni help	\ni need	\ni food	\ni like	\ni know	\ni water	\ni information	...
help	0	0	0	25	28	0	125	...
need	0	0	0	191	11	0	0	...
food	0	0	0	85	45	0	116	...
like	27	184	84	0	0	78	0	...
know	29	12	43	0	0	38	0	...
water	0	0	0	72	36	0	52	...
information	104	0	95	0	0	48	0	...
...
$U =$	253	373	611	594	248	408	693	...

The LF condition with **highest utility** is selected next to propose to the user. E.g. They may assign a class *advice* to complete the LF:
 \ni information \rightarrow *advice*

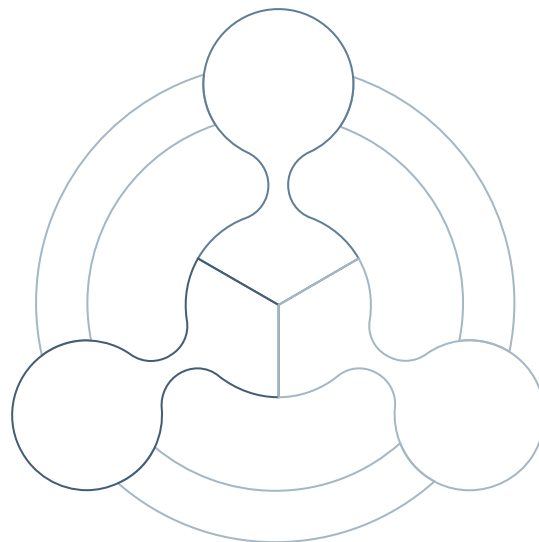




04 The WITAN Algorithm

Flexibility and Adaptation in WITAN's Algorithm

- Feature weights recalibrated post-LF selection for enhanced accuracy.
- Candidate LF pool dynamically updated after each round.
- System extensibility for integrating new insights and dataset variations.





05 WITAN in action

Binary Classification Performance Review

Table 3: Binary classification F1 scores for unseeded and seeded labelling methods at 25 and 100 interactions (IC).

Method	IC	IMD	IMG	BPA	BPT	BJP	BPP	AZN	YLP	PLT	FNS	BDB	BAG	ATW	DMG	SPM
Full supervision		0.836	0.780	0.950	0.898	0.933	0.942	0.905	0.872	0.779	0.976	0.995	0.901	0.822	0.964	0.941
WITAN	25	0.727	0.710	0.923	0.848	0.892	0.860	0.772	0.737	0.675	0.900	0.979	0.777	0.510	0.723	0.816
	100	0.753	0.768	0.931	0.817	0.887	0.875	0.779	0.795	0.624	0.905	0.949	0.708	0.550	0.690	0.781
WITAN-Core	25	0.758	0.703	0.910	0.836	0.859	0.840	0.760	0.737	0.667	0.891	0.978	0.728	0.632	0.783	0.745
	100	0.785	0.771	0.938	0.833	0.900	0.848	0.834	0.801	0.719	0.908	0.976	0.764	0.594	0.846	0.843
IWS-AS	25	0.363	0.511	0.619	0.398	0.504	0.660	0.559	0.427	0.635	0.448	0.774	0.479	0.536	0.676	0.536
	100	0.575	0.746	0.815	0.477	0.845	0.835	0.796	0.565	0.721	0.391	0.965	0.688	0.607	0.808	0.805
IWS-LSE-AC	25	0.000	0.354	0.793	0.524	0.640	0.839	0.574	0.398	0.467	0.375	0.938	0.525	0.526	0.634	0.675
	100	0.656	0.594	0.850	0.509	0.826	0.850	0.790	0.651	0.721	0.476	0.964	0.668	0.604	0.809	0.805
Snuba	25	0.458	0.436	0.718	0.726	0.693	0.820	0.507	0.497	0.601	0.584	0.781	0.489	0.519	0.781	0.624
	100	0.501	0.521	0.844	0.763	0.759	0.830	0.651	0.668	0.631	0.796	0.862	0.647	0.503	0.783	0.598
HDC	25	0.000	0.388	0.663	0.746	0.688	0.802	0.576	0.495	0.596	0.788	0.753	0.749	0.403	0.865	0.777
	100	0.545	0.428	0.686	0.746	0.695	0.862	0.572	0.500	0.714	0.836	0.759	0.806	0.442	0.894	0.452
Semi-supervised	25	0.543	0.464	0.664	0.609	0.743	0.450	0.521	0.468	0.536	0.796	0.861	0.436	0.450	0.502	0.575
	100	0.607	0.599	0.551	0.567	0.491	0.590	0.700	0.467	0.558	0.642	0.913	0.592	0.546	0.789	0.571
Active learning	25	0.551	0.562	0.846	0.739	0.739	0.860	0.622	0.596	0.583	0.799	0.894	0.519	0.568	0.761	0.728
	100	0.666	0.642	0.917	0.837	0.845	0.911	0.787	0.745	0.684	0.895	0.973	0.780	0.715	0.914	0.876
Seeded WITAN	25	0.774	0.761	0.931	0.834	0.890	0.880	0.742	0.795	0.696	0.909	0.980	0.768	0.544	0.759	0.696
	100	0.779	0.748	0.931	0.806	0.880	0.881	0.808	0.802	0.616	0.903	0.960	0.726	0.570	0.573	0.696
Seeded WITAN-Core	25	0.756	0.756	0.926	0.840	0.863	0.838	0.785	0.768	0.680	0.893	0.974	0.756	0.654	0.792	0.767
	100	0.790	0.763	0.941	0.822	0.900	0.861	0.835	0.796	0.718	0.915	0.976	0.770	0.595	0.846	0.843
Seeded IWS-AS	25	0.703	0.657	0.752	0.576	0.644	0.763	0.646	0.594	0.678	0.649	0.899	0.600	0.645	0.716	0.637
	100	0.771	0.721	0.912	0.606	0.849	0.836	0.810	0.736	0.721	0.522	0.968	0.687	0.607	0.805	0.806
Seeded IWS-LSE-AC	25	0.333	0.393	0.877	0.652	0.705	0.842	0.632	0.443	0.659	0.521	0.942	0.610	0.621	0.761	0.725
	100	0.613	0.457	0.904	0.602	0.834	0.849	0.784	0.721	0.721	0.750	0.967	0.686	0.607	0.821	0.806
Seeded CBI	25	0.554	0.596	0.708	0.672	0.619	0.715	0.510	0.594	0.525	0.740	0.722	0.593	0.428	0.497	0.620
	100	0.617	0.603	0.796	0.744	0.781	0.778	0.507	0.653	0.525	0.809	0.926	0.620	0.428	0.497	0.620

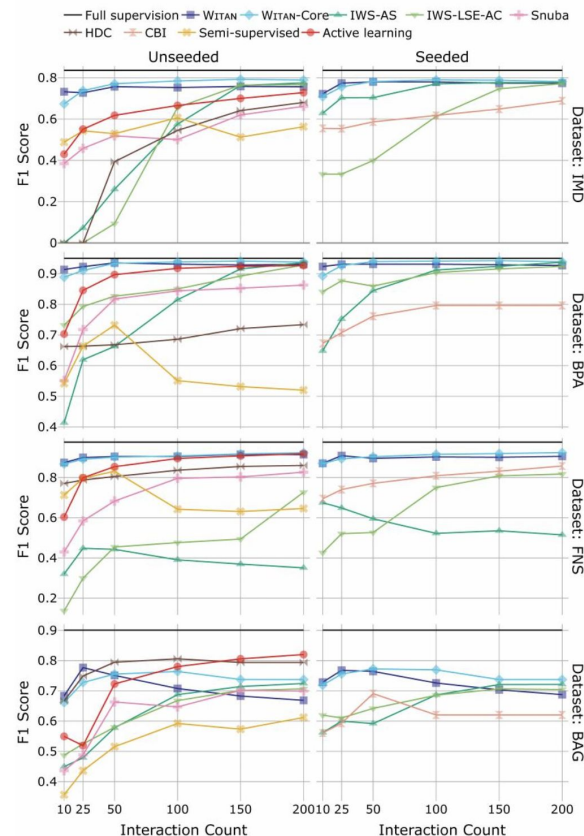


Figure 4: Binary classification results.



05 WITAN in action

Multi-Class Classification Performance Review

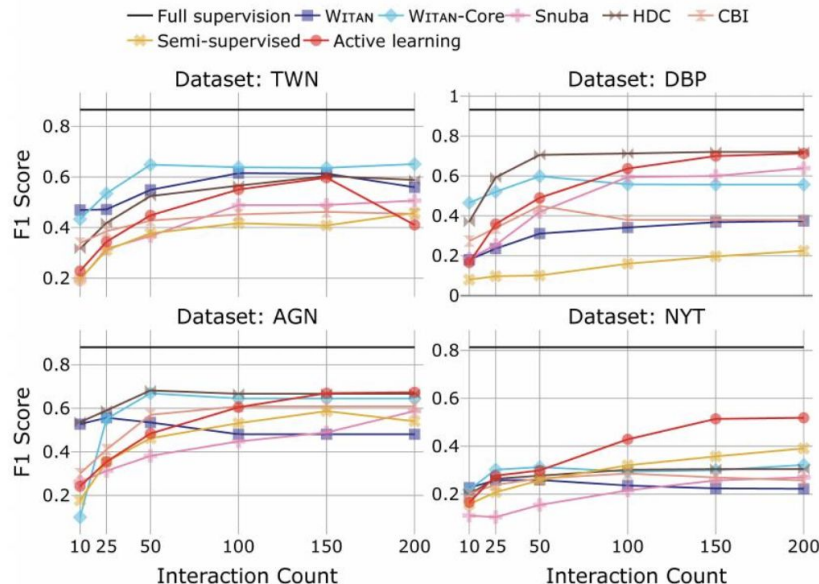


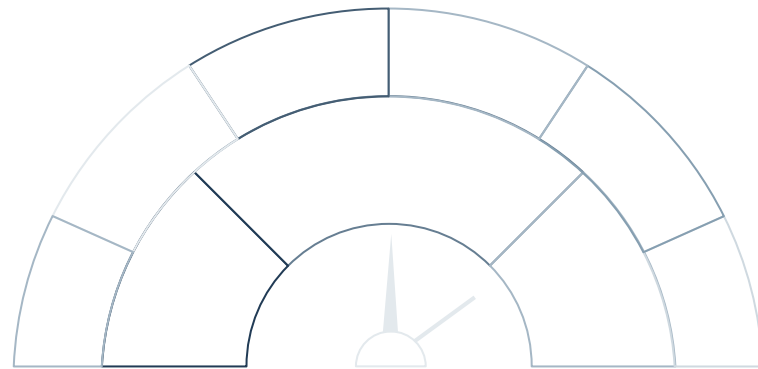
Figure 5: Multi-class classification results.



05 WITAN in action

WITAN's Performance and Critical Evaluation

- Interactive Efficiency: Quick results with minimal user time.
- Versatility: Adapts to a wide array of datasets and tasks.
- Performance Trends: Achieves near-optimal outcomes expediently.
- Constraints: Challenges with late-stage LFs and class balance.
- Quality-Quantity Balance: The equilibrium necessary for success.

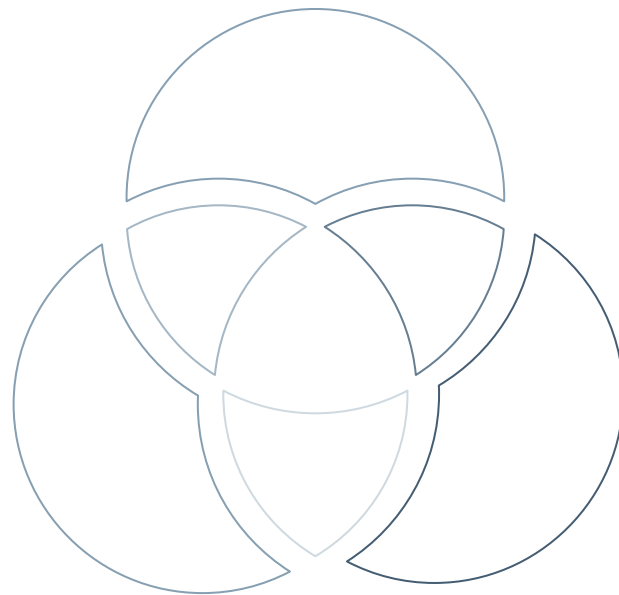




05 WITAN in action

Ethical Considerations & Bias

- Mitigating Biases: Critical in maintaining label accuracy and trust.
- Ethical Labor Practices: A shift towards automation for ethical improvement.
- Dual Considerations: Balancing challenges with potentials in automation.





05 WITAN in action

Running WITAN

IMDb Reviews

```
In [22]: dataset = 'imdb'
witan_rule_browser(dataset_results[dataset], browser_args[dataset])
```

negative: waste / worst (coverage: 13%, accuracy: 90%)

documentary

movie

negative: waste / bad / stupid / crap (coverage: 22%, accuracy: 79%)

negative: horrible (coverage: 3%, accuracy: 88%)

positive: wonderful / excellent / superb (coverage: 14%, accuracy: 80%)

films

animation

episodes / episode

positive: loved (coverage: 5%, accuracy: 75%)

rent

recommend

funny

war

negative: crap / awful / lame (coverage: 11%, accuracy: 87%)

enjoyed / great / relationship / young / highly / beautiful

jokes

horror

supporting

negative: avoid (coverage: 3%, accuracy: 82%)

- Available at <https://github.com/ben-denham/witan>
- Well documented and easy to run using Docker.
- Simulated user which selects LFs having accuracy at least 20% above the random chance.



05 WITAN in action

Running WITAN

20Newsgroups Topics

```
In [30]: dataset = 'twentynews'
witan_rule_browser(dataset_results[dataset], browser_args[dataset])

nntp

computer: thanks (coverage: 15%, accuracy: 57%)
computer: advance (coverage: 3%, accuracy: 68%)

article

religion: rutgers (coverage: 3%, accuracy: 87%)
sports: dod (coverage: 2%, accuracy: 92%)
sports: bike (coverage: 2%, accuracy: 100%)
computer: hi / windows / pc / graphics / dos / mac (coverage: 18%, accuracy: 80%)
sports: hockey / season / baseball (coverage: 6%, accuracy: 94%)
science: clipper (coverage: 3%, accuracy: 97%)
religion: god / christians / christian / jesus / bible / christianity / religion / waco / jews / christ / religious / church / israel (coverage: 18%, accuracy: 56%)

cwru / uiuc / cmu

computer: hello (coverage: 2%, accuracy: 59%)
sports: games (coverage: 3%, accuracy: 84%)

netcom

sports: car (coverage: 5%, accuracy: 74%)

wondering

computer: appreciated (coverage: 4%, accuracy: 58%)

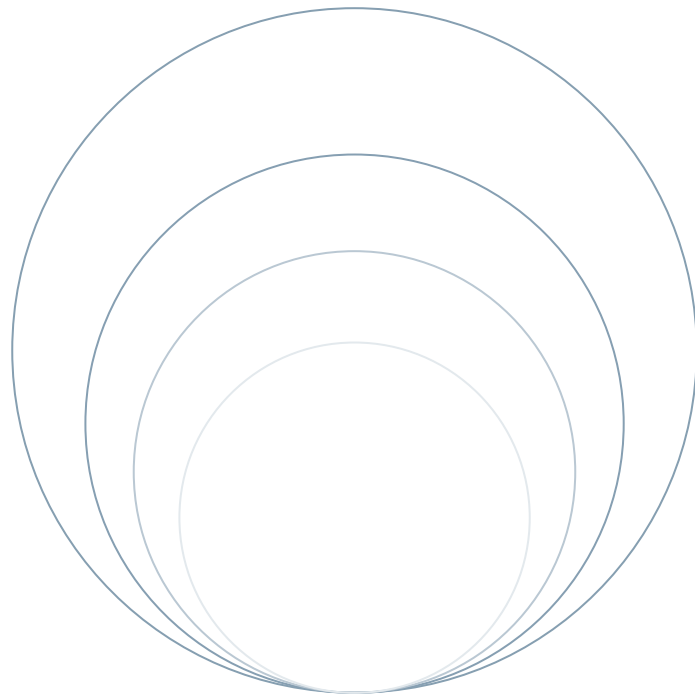
1993apr20 / writes

sports: team (coverage: 3%, accuracy: 91%)
```



06 Conclusion

- Feature weights recalibrated post-LF selection for enhanced accuracy.
- Candidate LF pool dynamically updated after each round.
- System extensibility for integrating new insights and dataset variations.





Q&A