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eXplainable Artificial Intelligence (XAI)

A Gentle Introduction

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Next in Line...

- 1 AI, ML & XAI
- 2 XAI Background
- 3 Explanations via Feature Importance
- 4 Explanations via Symbolic Knowledge Extraction
- 5 Transparent Box Design via Symbolic Knowledge Injection
- 6 XAI in Practice



Drivers & Limitations I

Socio-political requirements

- both individuals and human organisations rely more and more upon **artificial systems**
 - which are delegated *increasingly-complex* functions, tasks, and goals that human processes depend upon
- artificial systems are nowadays required to
 - **understand** the *context*, the *users*, and the *goals* of the system itself, and behave accordingly
 - operate **autonomously** in *dynamic environments*
 - work with **physically-sparse** components, each one *placed* in its own physical location

Drivers & Limitations II

Drivers

- drawing from the aforementioned requirements, we can see that the main **drivers** for the engineering of artificial systems nowadays are
 - *intelligence*
 - *autonomy*
 - *physical distribution*
- today we obviously focus on intelligence as our main line
 - possibly keeping in mind the other two for any future reference



Drivers & Limitations III

Limitations

- Dually, artificial systems are also *ideally* required to
 - to be **trustable by humans**—so, transparent, understandable, accountable, . . . for human users
 - **respect human autonomy** at their core, possibly mitigating their own autonomous behaviour, and supporting human users in their choices and deliberations
 - be **non-intrusive**, both physically and cognitively, while respecting and protecting privacy and safety of human users
- Yet, we are far far away from there

Where is AI from? I

- understanding *how intelligence works* is a persistent issue for humans
 - Aristotle's *logics* is the most outstanding example of that [De Rijk, 2002]
- “understanding”, for humans, typically means to be able to *model* and *reproduce*
- building machines that can *reproduce intelligence*
 - either as by reproducing some known **intelligent process**
 - or by reproducing some observed **intelligent behaviour**

is a way to measure how much we do understand the way in which intelligence works

Where is AI from? II

The birth of AI

- the dualism between AI as *intelligent behaviour* and AI as *intelligent process* was already there in AI since the very beginning
- Dartmouth College, New Hampshire, USA – Summer School, 1956
 - John McCarthy invites all scholars interested in *computing towards intelligence*
- among those
 - Marvin Minsky, co-founder of AI Lab at MIT
 - Alan Newell, Herb Simon, authors of Logic Theorist (an automatic theorem prover)—likely the *first AI program*^[Newell and Simon, 1956]
 - John McCarthy, inventor of LISP, the *first programming language* for AI^[McCarthy, 1981]
- the term “Artificial Intelligence” was actually coined there, to describe the overall new field of research

General AI I

General purpose AI

- building general-purpose intelligence machines is the goal of General AI
- we do have a *poor understanding* of human intelligence, and of intelligence in general
- early AI focussed then on *intelligent components*

Components of intelligence

- perception
- problem solving & planning
- reasoning
- machine learning
- natural language understanding

General AI II

Perception

- understanding the **environment**
 - through **sensors** of any sort
 - *interpreting* the overall situation
- ! one of the most difficult task of AI

Problem solving & planning

- devising a course of actions towards a *goal*
- based on a *repertoire of actions*
- e.g., playing games

General AI III

Machine learning

- learning from data
- building models (e.g., classification)
- making *predictions*
- e.g., face recognition through training

Reasoning

- representing knowledge
- inferring new knowledge from available one
- in a *consistent* and *robust* way

General AI IV

Natural language understanding

- ability to understand human languages
 - either spoken or written
 - possibly engage in conversations with humans
- ! currently the main focus of the *natural language processing* (NLP) field



AI: The Contemporary Era I

1 – Grand DARPA Challenges

- where AI and autonomous systems shared their first success
- race for autonomous vehicles in the desert of Nevada (2005)
 - won by STANLEY, [Thrun et al., 2006] a converted Volkswagen Touareg, equipped with seven onboard computers, interpreting sensor data from GPS, laser rangefinders, radar, and video feed
- the sudden global attention towards *autonomous cars* came from this very stream



AI: The Contemporary Era II

2 – Alpha Go: Triumph of ML^[Silver et al., 2016]

- in 2014 DeepMind demonstrated a system learning how to play arcade games just looking at the video and accessing the scores, using the same controls as humans
 - acquired by Google, they built Alpha Go, which beat Go champion Lee Sedol 4 to 1 in 2016
- exploiting *deep neural networks* along with *self-training*
- Go search space is so huge that brute force just does not work: so, it was considered impossible for a machine to beat a human at Go
 - so, this also made everybody know that there were no known limits to the ability that machine intelligent could reach

AI: The Contemporary Era III

ML: Three factor for success

- scientific breakthroughs—deep learning dealing with complex problems
- training requires lots of data—nowadays data are hugely available
- training requires computational power—nowadays computational power is more and more available



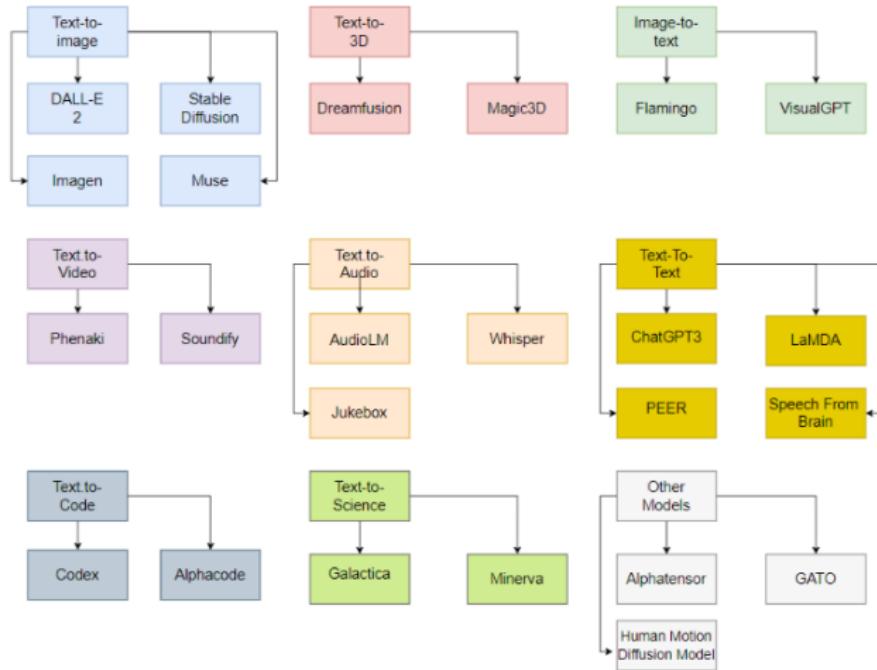
AI: The Contemporary Era IV

3 – ChatGPT and Beyond: Generative AI

- “classic” AI techniques mostly deal with analysing or acting on existing data
 - e.g., **expert systems**, built upon *knowledge bases* and an *inference engine* generating content via an *if-else rule database*
- **generative AI**^[Gozalo-Brizuela and Garrido-Merchan, 2023] includes instead techniques that can *generate novel content*, using mechanisms like *probabilistic machine learning*^[Murphy, 2022]



AI: The Contemporary Era V



A taxonomy of current Generative AI available technologies [Gozalo-Brizuela and Garrido-Merchan, 2023]

Intelligent Socio-Technical Systems

- in the realm of intelligent systems, nowadays, **humans** are legitimate components in the same way as **software** and physical agents
 - where both *human* and *software agents* accounts for activity, knowledge, intelligence, goals, learning, ...
 - as legitimate components of **intelligent socio-technical systems**
 - so that now the fundamental question becomes
 - ? how are we going to shape the **interaction** between heterogeneous intelligent components within *intelligent socio-technical systems*?
- ?? e.g., is NLP the answer?

People Need to Understand Systems

- human users rely more and more on intelligent systems for their everyday activities, as well as for critical aspects such as health and money
- humans and intelligent agents work together in intelligent socio-technical systems to produce overall intelligent behaviour
 - e.g. *decision support systems* exploit intelligent systems in order to promote rational human decisions
- information and actions by intelligent agents need to be *understandable* by humans to be accepted and *trusted*
- humans need *explanations*
- which is where **explainable artificial intelligence** (XAI) comes from [Gunning, 2016b]

Why Don't Humans Understand Intelligent Systems?

- the technical XAI problem in short
 - *symbolic* approaches are *transparent* yet **slow**—e.g., computational logic
 - *sub-symbolic* approaches are *fast* yet **opaque**—e.g., deep learning
- so, symbolic / sub-symbolic *integration* is the most promising way out
 - and, everyone is already doing that [Calegari et al., 2020]
- yet: integration how?
 - based on what **integration model**?
 - which **conceptual foundation** for integrating symbolic / sub-symbolic techniques within a coherent intelligent system **model / architecture**?
 - and mostly, how do we keep the benefits of both without the drawbacks?

Explanation Everywhere

- the notion of *explanation* is the core of many research efforts
 - along with accessory notions such as *interpretation* and *understandability*
- and undergone a constant flow of diverse and (sometimes) even extravagant definitions
 - e.g., even GDPR^[Voigt and von dem Bussche, 2017] recognises “the citizens’ right to explanation”^[Goodman and Flaxman, 2017]
- most encompassing in the same acceptation of the term ‘explanation’ both the **explanator** and the **explainee** acts
 - ! the dialectical notion of explanation
- whereas a notion of *explanation as an explanator's act* is where we mostly insist today
 - so that we can focus on the cognitive process of the explainee
 - and on the technical side of our intelligent systems, as well

Explanation as Representation & Transformation

- contribution from *math teaching* [D'Amore, 2005]
 - being math the most difficult subject to explain & teach
 - a **semiotic representation** is required whenever the object of an explanation is inaccessible to perception
 - noetics** — *conceptual acquisition* of an object
 - semiotics** — acquisition of a *representation built out of signs*
 - explaining a concept via different *semiotic representations*
 - transformation of treatment** — changing representation within the same register of semiotics
 - transformation of conversion** — changing register of semiotics for the representation
 - *explanation as*
 - first, *generation of semiotic representation*
 - then, **transformation of semiotic register**
 - finally, **sharing** of the transformed representation
- ! explainers *share* their cognitive process with explainees as explanation

Humans Share Knowledge

- it is not brain size (or whatever like that) that separates humans from other intelligent animals like primates
 - instead, it is mostly our will to *share knowledge* [Dean et al., 2012]
- in general, **knowledge sharing** is a peculiar trait of humanity
 - it is how we do understand each other
 - it is how we learn
 - it is the foundation of human society
 - where human culture is a *cumulative* one

e.g. human science is a shared *social construct*

- scientific artefacts are required to be *understandable* for the community
- so as to enable *reproducibility* and *refutability* in the scientific process [Popper, 2002]

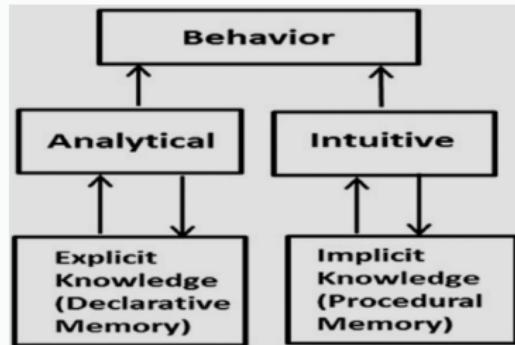
Sharing is Rational

- there is *intelligence without representation*^[Brooks, 1991b] and *without reason*^[Brooks, 1991a]
 - yet, human cumulative culture is based on *representation tools*—language, writing, books, the Web
- *repeatable, systematic sharing* requires **rational representation**
 - even when we are sharing *intuitive, implicit knowledge*
- and, sharing *implicit knowledge* typically calls for *rational explanation*

Cognition is (Not Just) Rational

Rationality vs. intuition

- two sorts of cognitive processes
 - esprit de finesse vs. esprit de géométrie—rationality has limits [Pascal, 1669]
 - *cognitivism against behaviourism* in psychology [Skinner, 1985]
- concepts and distinctions *not* born in the CS / AI fields
 - surely not in the ML community
- yet, they roughly match the two main families of AI techniques
 - **symbolic** vs. **sub-/non-symbolic**
 - informally, *classic AI* vs. *ML-based AI*
- and, the two sides of today intelligent systems



Focus on ML

- (Mostly) in ML, we let machines learn specific tasks from data
 - through the production of **numeric** predictors, a.k.a. **black-boxes**
 - instead of programming those tasks ourselves
- Unfortunately, black boxes are inherently
 - **opaque** w.r.t. the knowledge they acquire from data [Lipton, 2018]
 - **sub-optimal** in performance, as they are trained to minimise errors

Opaqueness

Opaqueness of ML-based predictors brings several drawbacks: [Guidotti et al., 2018, Lipton, 2018]

- difficulty in **understanding** what a black box has learned from data
 - e.g. “snowy background” problem [Ribeiro et al., 2016]
- difficulty in spotting “**bugs**” in what a numeric predictor has learned
 - because that knowledge is not explicitly represented
- several blatant **failures** of ML-based systems reported so far
 - e.g. black people classified as gorillas [Crawford, 2016]
 - e.g. wolves classified because of snowy background [Ribeiro et al., 2016]
 - e.g. unfair decisions in automated legal systems [Wexler, 2017]
- lawmakers recognised citizens’ **right** to meaningful explanations [Selbst and Powles, 2017]
 - about the **logic** behind automated decision making
 - e.g. in General Data Protection Regulation (**GDPR**) [Parliament and Council, 2016]

The Problem with ML-based AI

Trustworthiness

How can we **trust** machines we do not fully **control**?



Controllability

How can we **control** machines we do not fully **understand**?



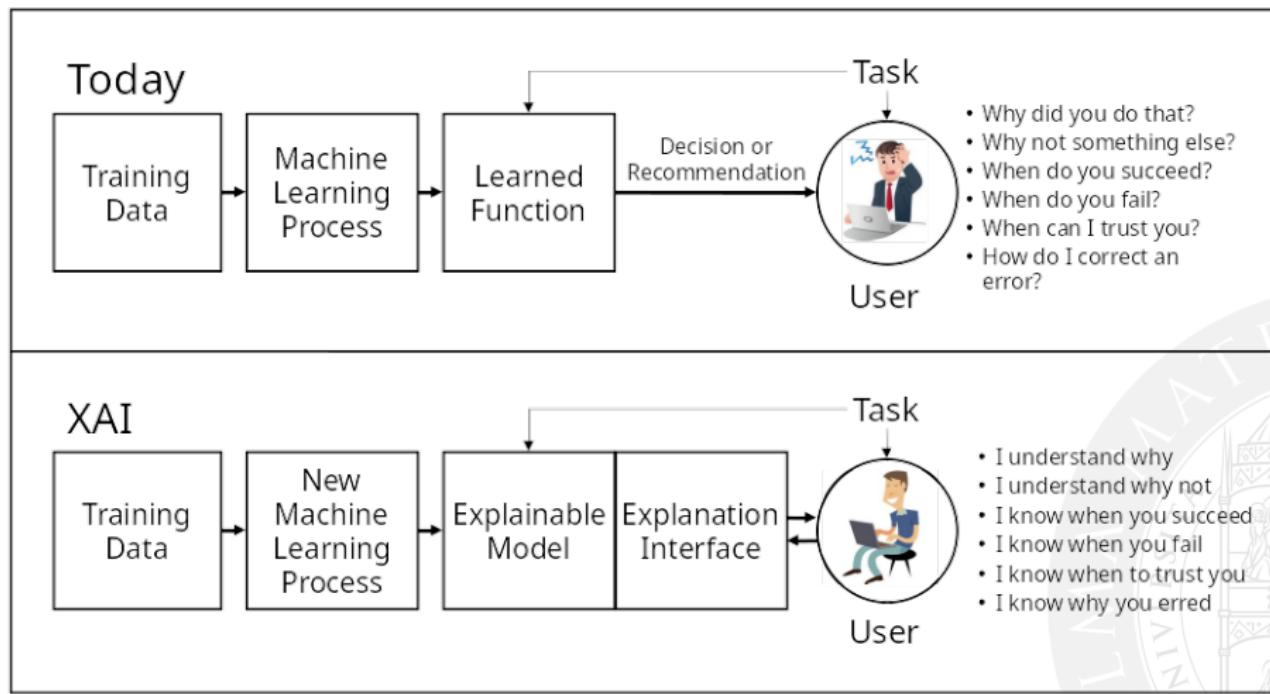
Understandability

How can we **understand** distributed, **numeric** representations of knowledge?

The eXplanable AI (XAI) Approach

[Gunning, 2016a]

The **XAI** community is nowadays facing those understandability issues



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Relevant Questions for XAI

① What are we trying to explain?

- in general, AI-based systems

② Who is in charge of producing explanations?

- the AI system itself? human experts? ordinary users?

③ To whom are explanations addressed?

- humans (developers, end users)? other AI systems?

④ How are we going to create explanations?

- this is the actual core of XAI research

⑤ Which are the most adequate sorts of explanation?

- this depends on the answers to the questions above

⑥ When should explanations be presented to the user?

- this, too, depends on the answers to the questions above

Current Practice of XAI

- ① What are we trying to explain?
 - mostly **data-driven**, ML-powered systems
- ② Who is in charge of producing explanations?
 - AI experts, **data scientists**, ML engineers
- ③ To whom are explanations addressed?
 - **people** having a certain degree of **expertise in AI/ML**
- ④ How are we going to create explanations?
 - via task-, model-, and data-specific **algorithms**
- ⑤ Which are the most adequate sorts of explanation?
 - depends on task, model, data, and consumer at hand
 - other than on the **available XAI algorithms**
- ⑥ When should explanations be presented to the user?
 - mostly in the **training phase**; possibly in inference phase

The Future of XAI

① What are we trying to explain?

- any system including computational agents with some degree of autonomy

② Who is in charge of producing explanations?

- the system, i.e., the **agents themselves**

③ To whom are explanations addressed?

- people with **diverse** levels of **expertise**
- other **computational agents**

④ How are we going to create explanations?

- via task-, model-, and data-specific algorithms
- plus **consumer-specific presentation strategies**

⑤ Which are the most adequate sorts of explanation?

- the ones which better adapt to the **needs of the user**

⑥ When should explanations be presented to the user?

- upon request—i.e., as part of a **dialogue**

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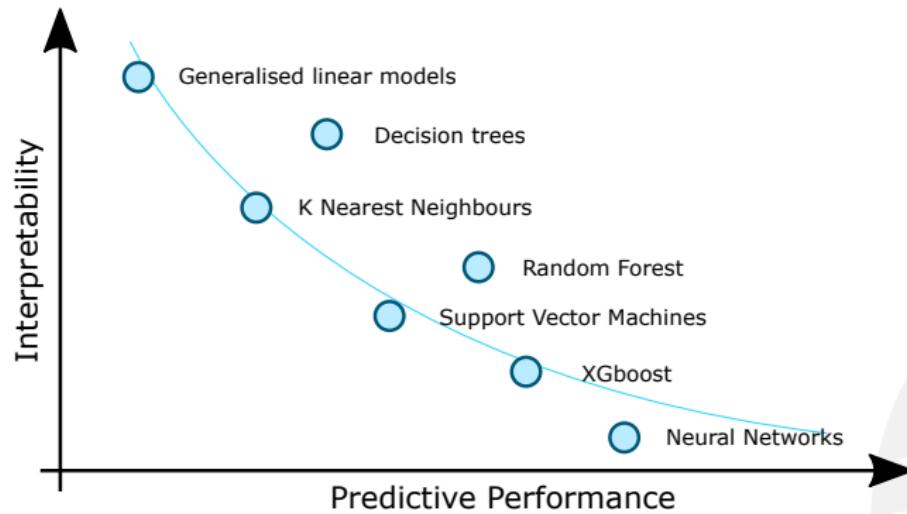
Explain What? I

Most efforts are devoted to *supervised* ML, and in particular:

- specific sorts of **tasks**, e.g. classification and regression
- specific sorts of **data**, e.g. images, text, or tables
- specific sorts of **predictors**, e.g. neural networks, SVM
 - i.e. essentially, functions of the form $f : \mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathcal{Y} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$

Explain What? II

Interpretability–Predictivity trade-off:



Explain What? III

Conventionally...

- ... linear models, or decision trees/rules are **considered** interpretable
- ... other kinds of predictors are considered **poorly** interpretable
 - hence in need of **explanation**

Explain What? IV

Our focus is on *supervised ML*, but XAI is wider than that

- explainable *unsupervised* learning—e.g., clustering [Sabbatini and Calegari, 2022]
- explainable **reinforcement learning (XRL)** [Milani et al., 2022]
- explainable **planning (XAIP)** [Hoffmann and Magazzeni, 2019]
- explainable **agents and robots (XMAS)** [Ciatto et al., 2019, Anjomshoae et al., 2019]
- ...



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Global vs. Local Explanations I

Global explanation

- How does a predictor produce its outcomes in general?
e.g. how does a neural network classify images of animals?

Local explanation

- How did a predictor produce a particular outcome?
e.g. why did the neural network classify that image as a cat?



Global vs. Local Explanations II

About the global/local dichotomy

- firstly introduced in [Ribeiro et al., 2016]
- along with LIME, i.e. one of the earliest and most successful XAI techniques



Global vs. Local Explanations III

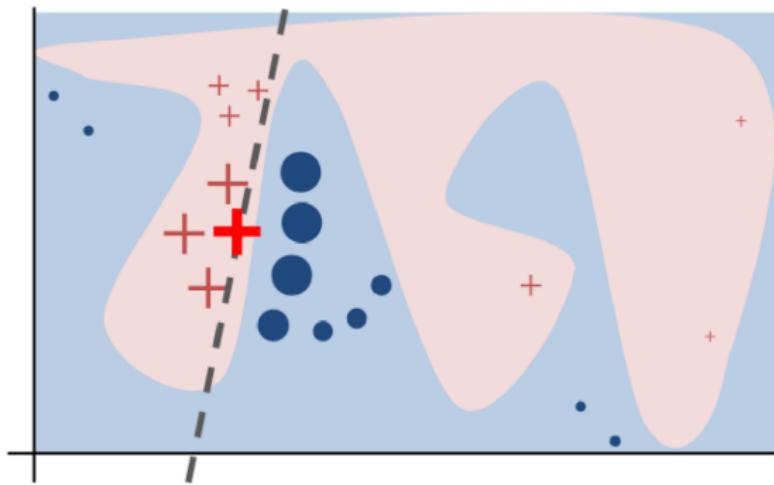
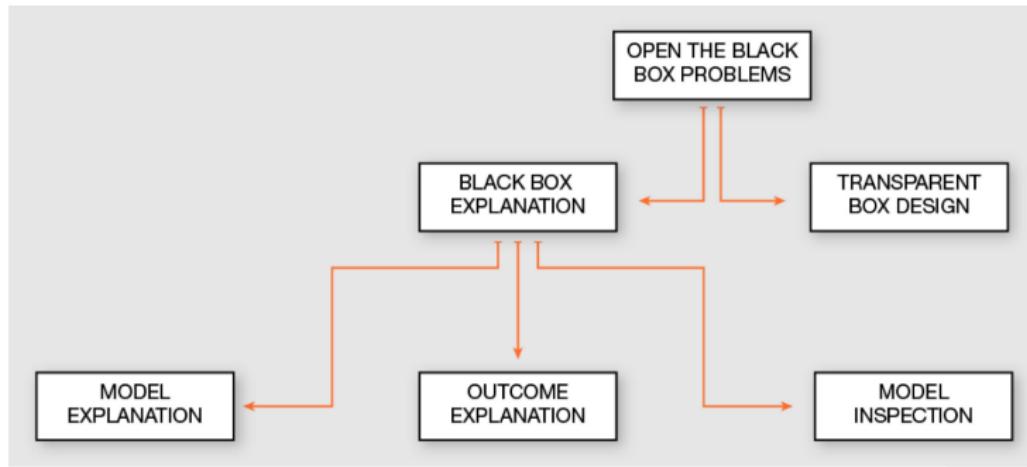


Figure: [Ribeiro et al., 2016] Toy example to present intuition for LIME. The black-box model's complex decision function f (unknown to LIME) is represented by the blue/pink background, which cannot be approximated well by a linear model. The bold red cross is the instance being explained. LIME samples instances, gets predictions using f , and weighs them by the proximity to the instance being explained (represented here by size). The dashed line is the learned explanation that is locally (but not globally) faithful.

Overview on XAI approaches I

Four major approaches [Guidotti et al., 2018]



About notation

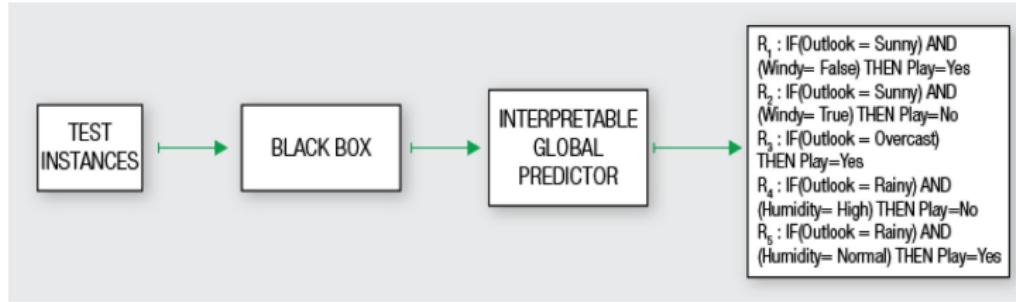
- “model” \approx “predictor”

Overview on XAI approaches II

Model explanation (\approx global explanation)

explanation \approx interpretable predictor trained to mimic the one to be explained

- w.r.t. the entire input space
 - e.g. surrogate models (e.g. decision trees)



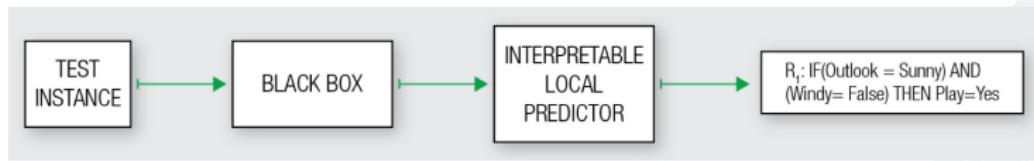
Overview on XAI approaches III

Outcome explanation (\approx local explanation)

explanation \approx interpretable predictor trained to mimic the one to be explained

- w.r.t. a small portion of the input space

e.g. saliency maps—e.g. LIME^[Ribeiro et al., 2016], SHAP^[Lundberg and Lee, 2017]

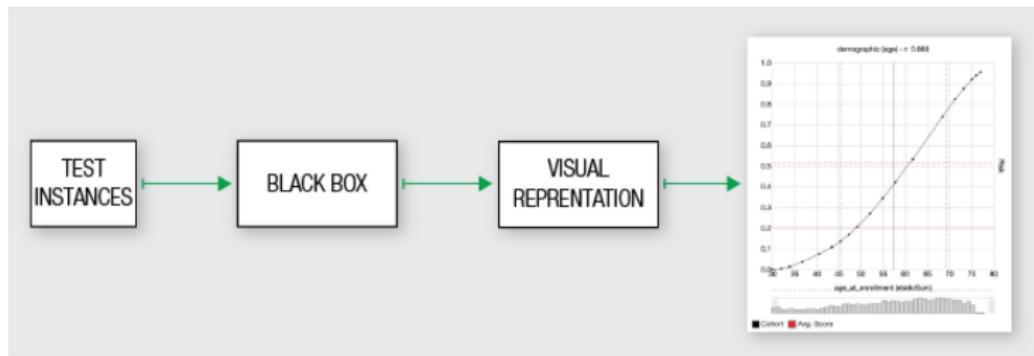


Overview on XAI approaches IV

Model inspection

explanation \approx representation summarising the behaviour of the predictor to be explained

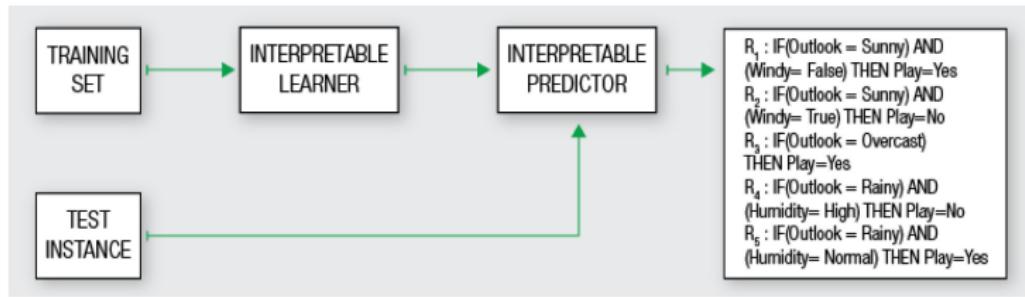
- w.r.t. a given portion of the input space (or, possibly, all of it)
 - e.g. feature importance, sensitivity analysis



Overview on XAI approaches V

Transparent box design

- just train an interpretable predictor and look at it



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Interpretation or Explanation?

The two terms are **not** synonyms

- in spite of the fact that they are often used interchangeably

Insights

interpretation \approx binding objects with meaning

- that is what the human mind does

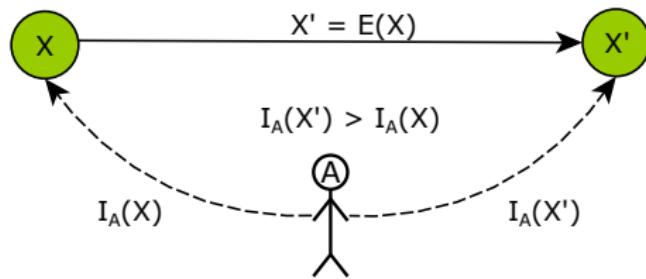
explanation \approx eliciting relevant aspects of objects—to ease their interpretation

The Role of Representations



! this is just a **representation** of a pipe

An Abstract Framework for XAI [Ciatto et al., 2020]



X object to be explained

A observer agent

$I_A(\cdot)$ a function “measuring” the “degree of interpretability” of X , w.r.t. A

$E(\cdot)$ an **explanation** function, mapping objects into (different) objects

X' the **result** of the explanation, i.e. a **more-interpretable** object

An Abstract Framework for XAI [Ciatto et al., 2020] ||

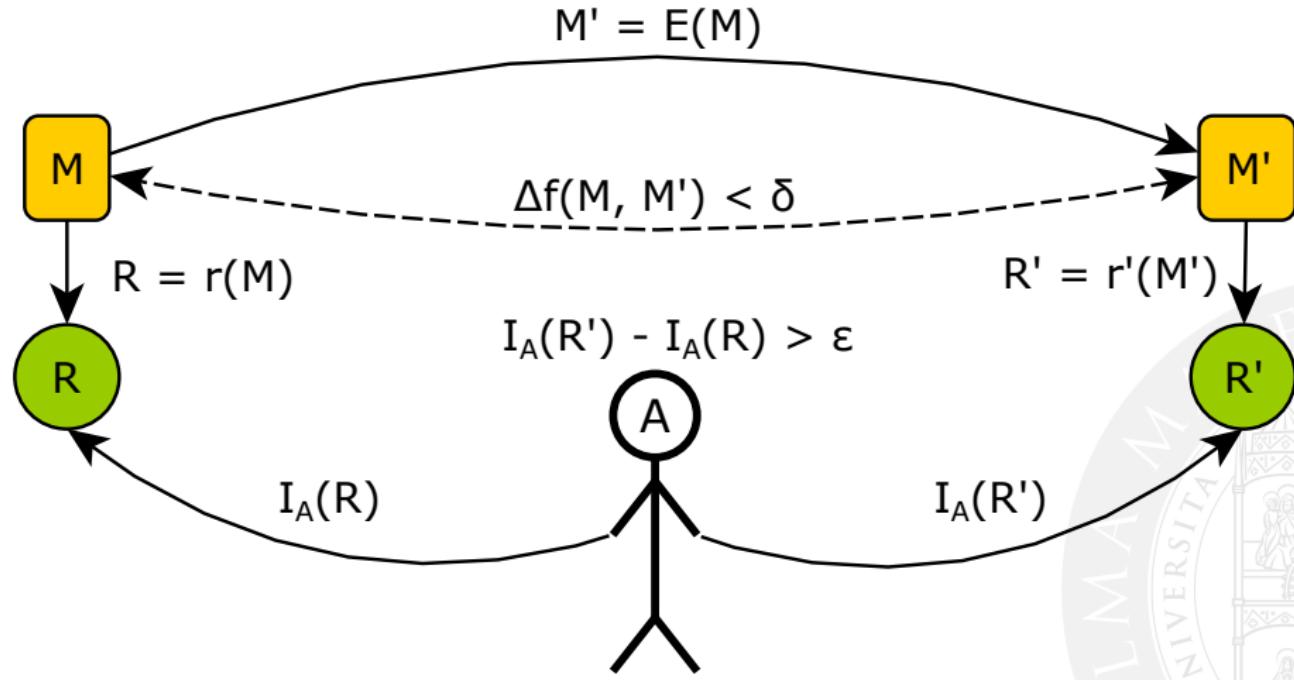
Key points

- interpretation is **subjective**
- explanation is an operation transforming poorly interpretable objects into more-interpretable ones
- 'interpretability' does not need to be measurable (only comparisons matter)



An Abstract Framework for XAI [Ciatto et al., 2020] III

In the particular case of ML-based AI:



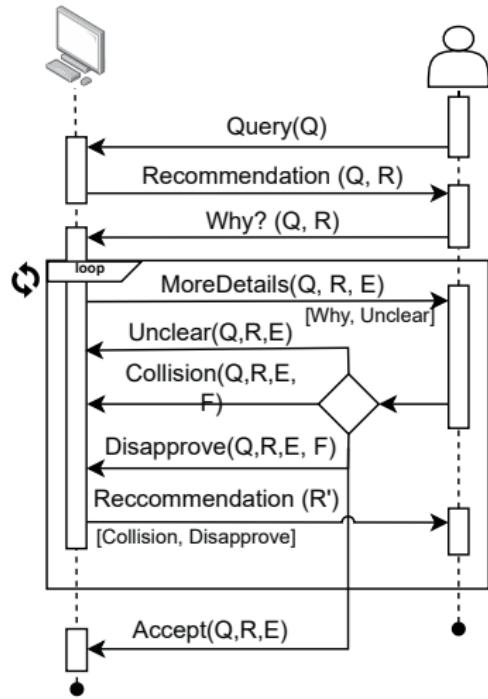
An Abstract Framework for XAI [Ciatto et al., 2020] IV

- we need to explain a model M
 - having a poorly interpretable **representation** R (w.r.t. A)
- explanation produces another model M'
 - having an interpretable **representation** R' (w.r.t. A)
- performance difference among M and M' (i.e. $\Delta f(M, M')$) must be small ($< \delta$)
 - or, dually, M' must have an high **fidelity** w.r.t. M

Key points

- explanation \approx search of a **surrogate** interpretable model
- **representation** is important as much as explanation
- explanation must maximise **fidelity**

The Role of Interaction



- explanation as an **interaction protocol**
 - among an **explainer/recommender**
 - and **explainee**
- possibly **repeating** the protocol several times ...
- ... until selecting the explanation/representation which **better suits the explainee**

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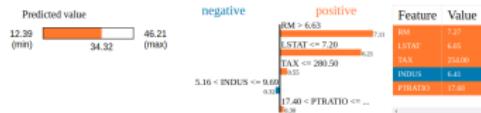
Insight

- quantify each *input feature's* contribution to
a single prediction (*local* explanation)
the predictor's behavior in general (*global* explanation)
- possibly, select the **most relevant** features
 - i.e. the ones contributing the most
- **represent** the importance score accordingly
 - the representation depends on the sort of data at hand

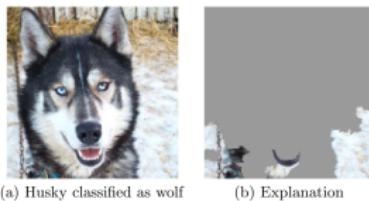
Overview II

Which sorts of data?

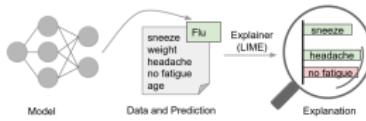
- **tabular** data → named features — explained via histograms



- **images** → (super-)pixels — explained via masks / heatmaps



- **text** → bag of words / TD-IDF / Word2Vec — explained via words



Overview III

General Remarks about Feature Importance

- may be used to explain either the **model** or the **outcome**
- in both cases, explanations are provided by model **inspection**
 - data-specific representations play a crucial role
- **feature selection** is a by-product of the explanation process
- feature importance computation is commonly
 - model agnostic** (i.e., it works with any sort of ML predictor)
 - post-hoc** (i.e., it occurs **after** predictors' training)

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 - Discussion about Feature Importance in LIME
- ④ Explanations via Symbolic Knowledge Extraction
 - Discussion
- ⑤ Transparent Box Design via Symbolic Knowledge Injection
 - Focus on input knowledge
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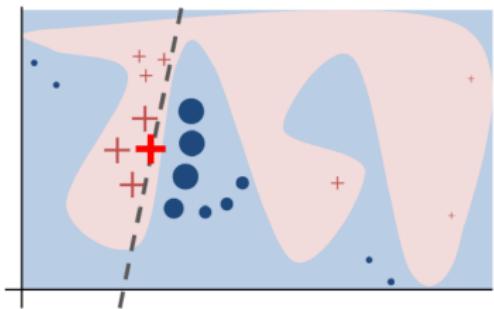


Overview |

- LIME = Local Interpretable Model-agnostic Explanations [Ribeiro et al., 2016]
- model-agnostic and post-hoc means for **outcome explanation**
 - works by constructing a **local surrogate model** around the prediction to be explained
 - the predictor to be explained acts as an **oracle**
- may also be exploited as a means for **model explanation**
 - by **averaging** multiple outcome explanations

Overview II

To explain a prediction $y = f(\bar{x})$ s.t.
 $\bar{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_i, \dots, x_n)$, LIME:



- trains an interpretable model g
 - approximating f in the surroundings of x
- uses g to compute how much each x_i contributes to y

Interpretable models could be:

- linear models
- decision trees

Algorithm Overview I

Assumptions and prerequisites

- Input features may be of any sort (numeric, categorical, pixel, etc.)
- Binary **interpretable components** must be defined for each feature
 - categorical feature \leftrightarrow one-hot encoding
 - numeric feature \leftrightarrow bin discretization
 - BOW feature \leftrightarrow word presence/absence
 - pixel feature \leftrightarrow super-pixel presence/absence
- the mapping among features and components must be **reversible**
- A measure of proximity / similarity to \bar{x}

Algorithm Overview II

About notation

- $\bar{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n \equiv (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ is the input vector containing the original features
- $\bar{x}' \in \{0, 1\}^m \equiv (x'_1, \dots, x'_m)$ is the corresponding vector of interpretable components
- $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$ is the predictor to be explained
- $g : \{0, 1\}^m \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$ is the interpretable predictor constructed by LIME
- $\pi_{\bar{x}}(\bar{z}) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow [0, 1]$ is the proximity measure of some input point \bar{z} w.r.t. some pivot point \bar{x}

Algorithm Overview III

Algorithm overview

- ① Sample N points $\bar{z}_1, \dots, \bar{z}_N$ around \bar{x} according to $\pi_{\bar{x}}$
- ② For each \bar{z}_i
 - ① compute the corresponding interpretable components $\bar{z}'_i \dots$
 - ② ... and prediction $y_i = f(\bar{z}_i)$
- ③ Use the data items $\langle \bar{z}_i, y_i \rangle$ to **train** g
 - g is trained to perform **regularization**
- ④ Repeat the process with different hyper-parameters of g
- ⑤ Select the g which
 - maximises the **fidelity** of g w.r.t. f
 - while minimizing the **complexity** of g
- ⑥ Use the **coefficients** of g as measures of feature importance
 - **select** the K -best coefficients

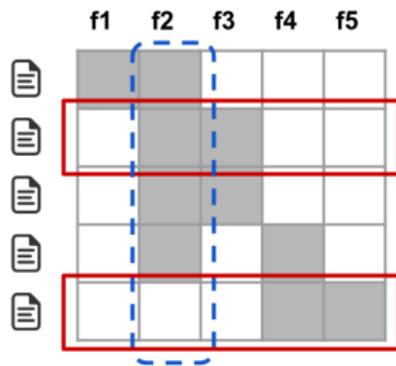
Algorithm Overview IV

Hyper-parameters of LIME

- N : amount of samples generated to explain a single prediction \bar{x}
- K : maximum amount of important features to be selected
- g : sort of the interpretable model to be trained (e.g., linear, tree)
 - this commonly implies the sort of *regularization* to be used
- reversible mapping between features and interpretable components
 - essentially, a **binarization** process



From local to global LIME



- ➊ Select M pivot points X from the input space
- ➋ For each $\bar{x}_i \equiv (x_{i,1}, \dots, x_{i,j}, \dots, x_{i,n'}) \in X$ compute K -best feature importance
 - produce a $M \times n'$ matrix W ...
 - ... where cell $w_{i,j}$ is the importance of the j -th component of \bar{x}_i
- ➌ Aggregate W column-wise to get global feature importances

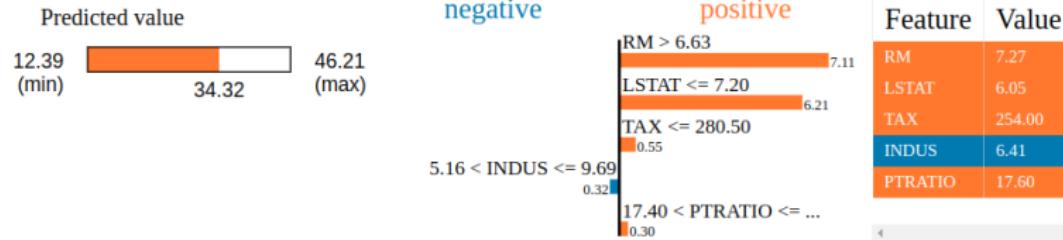
Major issues

- How to select the N pivot points?
- It only works if all instances have the same features

About LIME's outputs I

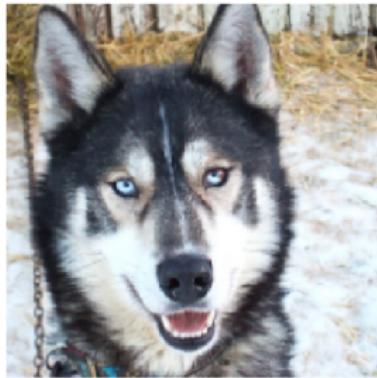
Representation of results is quintessential with feature importance:

- in **tabular** data, we may represent the contribution of feature **intervals**:

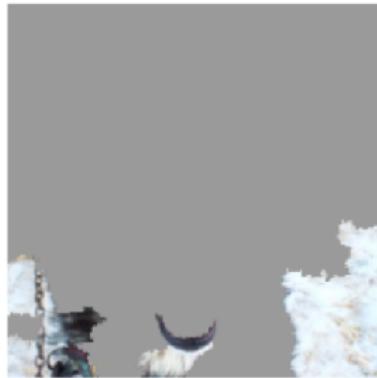


About LIME's outputs II

- in **images**, we may highlight the contribution of **patches**:



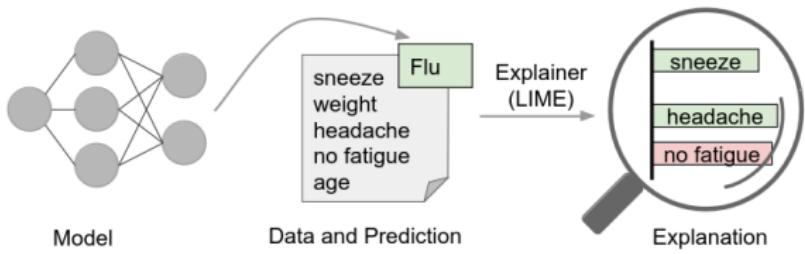
(a) Husky classified as wolf



(b) Explanation

About LIME's outputs III

- in **text**, we may highlight the contribution of individual **tokens**:



Focus on...

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- ② XAI Background
 - Overview on XAI
 - XAI Nowadays
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Discussion

Pros

- clear and **intuitive** interpretation of predictions
- applicable to **any sort of supervised predictor**
- adaptable to **many sorts of data**
- computational effort is **parametric**

Cons

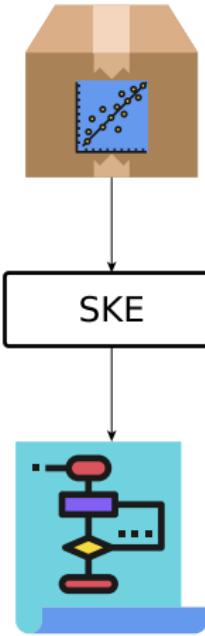
- more a tool for **debugging** than a means for explanation
- requires a lot of **pre-processing**
- may *not* fit all sorts of features

Next in Line...

- 1 AI, ML & XAI
- 2 XAI Background
- 3 Explanations via Feature Importance
- 4 Explanations via Symbolic Knowledge Extraction
- 5 Transparent Box Design via Symbolic Knowledge Injection
- 6 XAI in Practice



Overview |



Insight

- search of a **surrogate** interpretable model...
- ... consisting of **symbolic knowledge**



Overview II

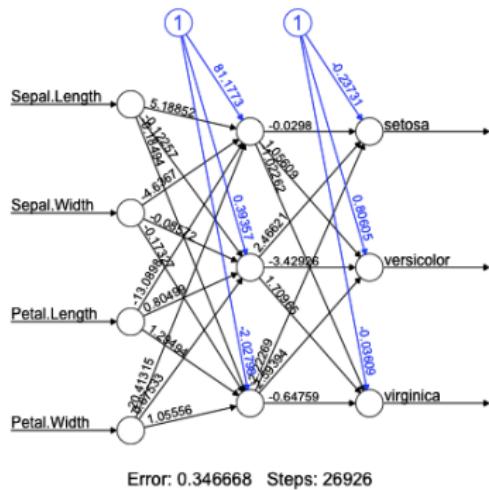
Definition

*Any **algorithmic** procedure accepting **trained** sub-symbolic predictors as input and producing **symbolic** knowledge as output, in such a way that the extracted knowledge reflects the behaviour of the predictor with high fidelity.*



Overview III

Example:



$\text{Class} = \text{setosa} \leftarrow \text{PetalWidth} \leq 1.0.$

$\text{Class} = \text{versicolor} \leftarrow \text{PetalLength} > 4.9$
 $\wedge \text{SepalWidth} \in [2.9, 3.2].$

$\text{Class} = \text{versicolor} \leftarrow \text{PetalWidth} > 1.6.$



$\text{Class} = \text{virginica} \leftarrow \text{SepalWidth} \leq 2.9.$

$\text{Class} = \text{virginica} \leftarrow$
 $\text{SepalLength} \in [5.4, 6.3].$

$\text{Class} = \text{virginica} \leftarrow$
 $\text{PetalWidth} \in [1.0, 1.6].$

What does 'symbolic' actually mean? I

Symbolic representations of knowledge [van Gelder, 1990]

- involves a **set of symbols**,
- which can be combined (e.g., concatenated) in (possibly) **infinitely many ways**,
- following precise **syntactical** rules, and
- where both elementary symbols and any admissible combination of them can be assigned with **meaning**
ie **each** symbol can be mapped into some entity from the domain at hand.

Notable example

- formal logic

What does 'symbolic' actually mean? II

Opposite notion: **distributed** representations

- where symbols **alone** have no meaning
- unless it is considered along with its **neighbourhood**
ie any other symbol which is **close** (according to some notion of closeness)

Plenty of SKE methods from the literature I

Table: Summary of the knowledge-extraction algorithms. Symbol * means that the related dimension of the algorithm is not bounded. Symbol † means that the output is a power law.

#	Method	Translucency	Task	Input	Expressiveness	Shape
1	[Breiman et al., 1984]	P	C+R	C+D	P	DT
2	[Quinlan, 1986]	P	C	D	P	DT
3	[Saito and Nakano, 1988]	P	C	D	P	L
4	[Clark and Niblett, 1989]	P	C	C+D	P	L
5	[Masuoka et al., 1990]	D (NN)	C	C	F	L
6	[Hayashi, 1990]	D (NN)	C	B	F	L
7	[Towell and Shavlik, 1991]	D (NN)	C	D	MN	L
8	[Berenji, 1991]	D (NN)	C	C	F	L
9	[Brunk and Pazzani, 1991]	P	C	C+D	P	L
10	[Murphy and Pazzani, 1991]	P	C	D	MN	DT
11	[Horikawa et al., 1992]	D (NN)	C	C	F	L
12	[Tresp et al., 1992]	D (NN)	R	C	P	L
13	[Towell and Shavlik, 1993]	D (NN)	C	D	P	L
14	[Thrun, 1993]	D (NN)	C	C	P+MN	L
15	[Cohen, 1993]	P	C	C+D	P	L

Plenty of SKE methods from the literature II

16	[Quinlan, 1993]	P	C	C+D	P	DT
17	[Fu, 1994]	D (NN)	C	D	P	L
18	[Halgamuge and Glesner, 1994]	D (NN)	C	C	F	L
19	[Mitra, 1994]	D (NN)	C	C+D	F	L
20	[Craven and Shavlik, 1994]	P	C	B	P+MN	L
21	[Fürnkranz and Widmer, 1994]	P	C	D	P	L
22	[Sestito and Dillon, 1994]	P	C	C	P	L
23	[Andrews and Geva, 1995]	D (NN)	C	C+D	P	L
24	[Matthews and Jagielska, 1995]	D (NN)	C	B	F	L
25	[Cohen, 1995]	P	C	C+D	P	L
26	[Pop et al., 1994]	P	C	B	P	L
27	[Setiono and Liu, 1996]	D (NN)	C	B	P	L
28	[Tickle et al., 1996]	P	C	B	P	L
29	[Yuan and Zhuang, 1996]	P	C	D	F	L
30	[Craven and Shavlik, 1996]	P	C	B	P+MN	DT
31	[Hong and Lee, 1996]	P	C	C	F	L
32	[Setiono and Liu, 1997]	D (NN3)	C	C+D	O	L
33	[Setiono, 1997]	D (NN)	C	D	P	L
34	[Nauck and Kruse, 1997]	D (NN)	C	D	F	L

Plenty of SKE methods from the literature III

35	[Saito and Nakano, 1997]	D (NN)	R	C	†	†
36	[Benítez et al., 1997]	D (NN)	C+R	C	F	L
37	[Ishibuchi et al., 1997]	P	C	C	F	L
38	[Taha and Ghosh, 1999]	D (NN)	C	C	P	L
39	[Taha and Ghosh, 1999]	D (NN)	C	C	P	L
40	[Krishnan et al., 1999b]	D (NN)	C	B	P	L
41	[Nauck and Kruse, 1999]	D (NN)	R	D	F	L
42	[Taha and Ghosh, 1999]	P	C	B	P	L
43	[Krishnan et al., 1999a]	P	C	C	P	DT
44	[Schmitz et al., 1999]	P	C+R	C+D	P	DT
45	[Hong and Chen, 1999]	P	C	C	F	L
46	[Setiono, 2000]	D (NN)	C	B	MN	L
47	[Tsukimoto, 2000]	D (NN)	C	C+D	P	L
48	[Kim and Lee, 2000]	D (NN4)	C	C+D	P	DT
49	[Setiono and Leow, 2000]	D (NN)	R	C+D	P+MN+O	DT
50	[Zhou et al., 2000]	P	C	C+D	P	L
51	[Hong and Chen, 2000]	P	C	C	F	L
52	[Sato and Tsukimoto, 2001]	D (NN3)	R	C+D	P	DT
53	[Parpinelli et al., 2001]	P	C	C+D	P	L

Plenty of SKE methods from the literature IV

54	[Castillo et al., 2001]	P	C+R	C+D	F	L
55	[Saito and Nakano, 2002]	D (NN)	R	C+D	P	L
56	[Setiono et al., 2002]	D (NN3)	R	C+D	P	L
57	[Liu et al., 2002]	P	C	C+D	P	L
58	[Boz, 2002]	P	C	C+D	P	DT
59	[Markowska-Kaczmar and Trelak, 2003]	C	C+D	F	L	
60	[Zhou et al., 2003]	P	C	C+D	P	L
61	[Setiono and Thong, 2004]	D (NN3)	R	C+D	P	L
62	[Fu et al., 2004]	D (SVM)	C	C+D	P	L
63	[Markowska-Kaczmar and Chumiepa, 2004]	C	C+D	P	L	
64	[Rabuñal et al., 2004]	P	C	C+D	P	L
65	[Chen, 2004]	P	C	C	P	L
66	[Liu et al., 2004]	P	C	C+D	P	L
67	[Browne et al., 2004]	P	C	C+D	P+MN	DT
68	[Zhang et al., 2005]	D (SVM)	C	C	P	L
69	[Barakat and Diederich, 2008]	D (SVM)	C+R	*	*	*
70	[Fung et al., 2005]	D (SVM+LC)	C	C	P	L
71	[Chaves et al., 2005]	D (SVM)	C	C	F	L
72	[Torres and Rocco, 2005]	P	C	C+D	P+MN	DT

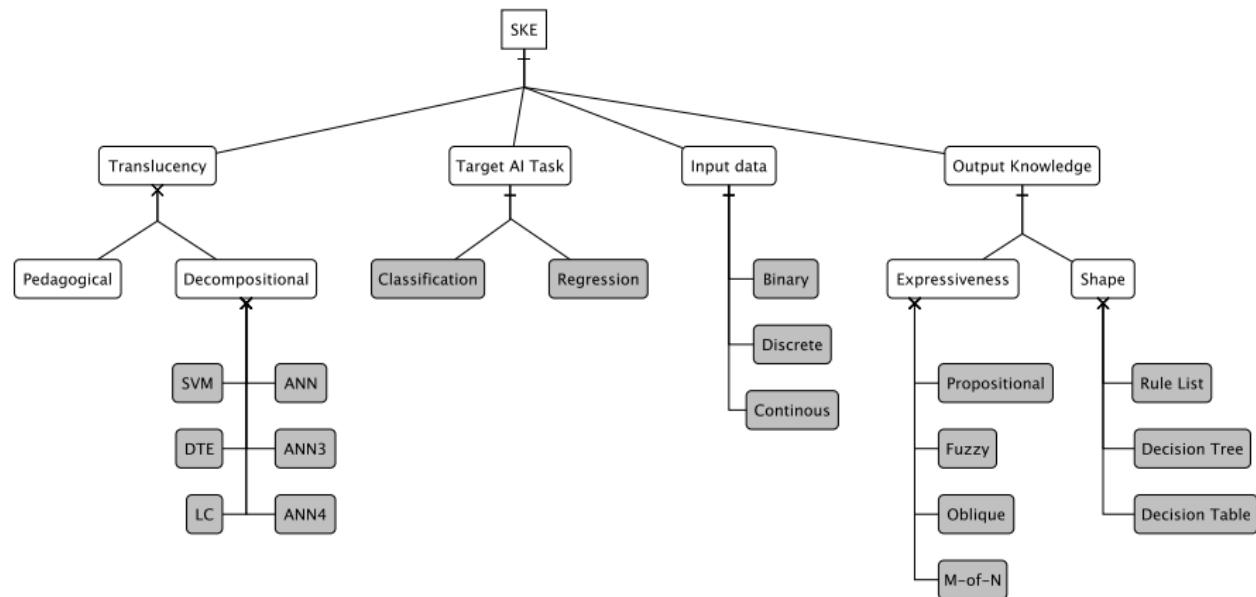
Plenty of SKE methods from the literature V

73	[Etchells and G., 2006]	P	C	C+D	P	L
74	[He et al., 2006]	P	C	C+D	P	DT
75	[Huysmans et al., 2006]	P	R	C	P	L
76	[Bader et al., 2007]	D (NN)	C	B	P	L
77	[Schetinin et al., 2007]	D (DTE)	R	C	P	DT
78	[Chen et al., 2007]	D (SVM)	C	C	P	L
79	[Barakat and Bradley, 2007]	D (SVM)	C	C+D	P	L
80	[Saad and Wunsch II, 2007]	P	C	C+D	O	L
81	[Martens et al., 2007]	P	C	C+D	P	L
82	[Núñez et al., 2008]	D (SVM)	C	C	P+O	L
83	[Setiono et al., 2008]	P	C	C+D	P+O	L
84	[Ōdajima et al., 2008]	P	C	D	P	L
85	[Konig et al., 2008]	P	C+R	C+D	F	DT
86	[Bader, 2009]	D (NN)	C	B	P	L
87	[Martens et al., 2009]	D (SVM)	C	*	*	*
88	[Lehmann et al., 2010]	P	C	B	P	L
89	[Augasta and Kathirvalavakumar, 2012]	C	C+D	P	L	
90	[Sethi et al., 2012]	P	C	C+D	P	TA
91	[Zilke et al., 2016]	D (NN)	R	C+D	P	DT

Plenty of SKE methods from the literature VI

- 92 -	[Chan and Chan, 2017]	D (NN)	R	C	P	L
- 93 -	[Yedjour and Benyettou, 2018]	P	C	B	P	L
- 94 -	[Chan and Chan, 2020]	D (NN)	R	C	P	L
- 95 -	[Wang et al., 2020]	D (DTE)	C	C	P	L
- 96 -	[Sabbatini et al., 2021]	P	R	C	P	L

Taxonomy of SKE methods I



Taxonomy of SKE methods II

target AI task for the predictor undergoing extraction

classification i.e., $f : \mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$ s.t. $|\mathcal{Y}| = k$

regression i.e., $f : \mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathcal{Y} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$

translucency what kind of ML predictor does the SKE method support?

pedagogical: any supervised predictor

decompositional: a particular sort of ML predictor (e.g. NN, SVM, DT)

input data supported by the predictor undergoing extraction

binary: $\mathcal{X} \equiv \{0, 1\}^n$

discrete: $\mathcal{X} \in \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}^n$

continuous: $\mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$

Taxonomy of SKE methods III

shape of the extracted knowledge

rule list: i.e. ordered sequences of if-then-else rules

decision tree: hierarchical set of if-then-else rules involving a comparison among a variable and a constant

decision table: 2D tables summarising decisions for each possible assignment of variables

Taxonomy of SKE methods IV

expressiveness of the extracted knowledge

propositional: boolean statements + logic connectives

- there including arithmetic comparisons among variables and constants

fuzzy: hierarchical set of if-then-else rules involving a comparison among a variable and a constant

oblique: boolean statements + logic connectives + arithmetic comparisons

M-of-N: any of the above + statements like

$$m - \text{of} - \{\phi_1, \dots, \phi_n\}$$

Examples of methods and their classification – CART I

CART: [Breiman et al., 1984] classification and regression trees

- **translucency:** pedagogical
- **target AI task:** classification OR regression
- **input data:** binary OR discrete OR continuous
- **shape:** decision tree
- **expressiveness:** propositional



Examples of methods and their classification – CART II

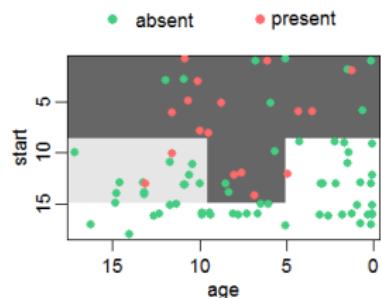
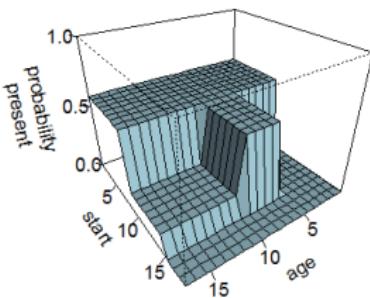
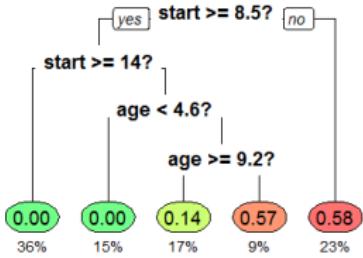


Figure: An example decision tree estimating the probability of kyphosis after spinal surgery, given the age of the patient and the vertebra at which surgery was started [Wikipedia contributors, 2021]. Notice that all decision trees subtend a partition of the input space, and that those trees themselves provide intelligible representations of *how* predictions are attained.

Examples of methods and their classification – CART III

Using CART for SKE

- ① generate a 'fake' dataset by feeding the predictor undergoing SKE
- ② train a decision tree on the 'fake' dataset
- ③ compute fidelity and repeat step 2 until satisfied
- ④ [opt.] rewrite the tree as a list of rules



Examples of methods and their classification – GridEx I

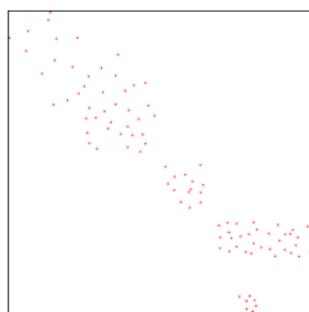
GridEx: [Sabbatini et al., 2021] grid extractor

- **translucency:** pedagogical
- **target AI task:** regression
- **input data:** continuous
- **shape:** rule list
- **expressiveness:** propositional

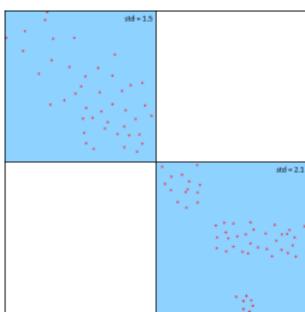


Examples of methods and their classification – GridEx II

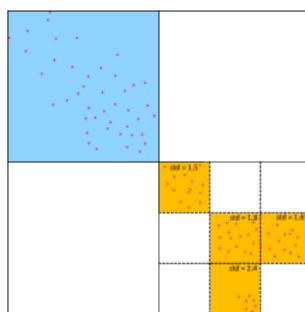
Figure: Example of GridEx's hyper-cube partitioning (merging step not reported)



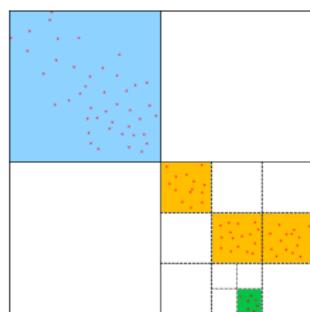
(a) Surrounding cube



(b) Iteration 1 ($p_1 = 2$)



(c) Iteration 2 ($p_2 = 3$).



(d) Iteration 3 ($p_3 = 2$).

Examples of methods and their classification – GridEx III

Using GridEx for SKE

- ① **partition** the input space into p_1^n hypercubes
 - evenly splitting the n dimensions into p_1 bins
- ② **partition** each non empty-region into p_2^n hypercubes
 - evenly splitting the n dimensions into p_2 bins
- ③ **repeat** the splitting arbitrarily
- ④ assign a **prediction** with each non-empty partition (e.g. average value)
- ⑤ write an **if-then rule** for each non-empty partition:
 - *if*: expressions delimiting the partition
 - *then*: prediction of that partition

Examples of methods and their classification – REFANN I

REFANN: [Setiono et al., 2002] rule extraction from function approximating NN

- **translucency:** decompositional (3-layered NN)
- **target AI task:** regression
- **input data:** continuous OR discrete
- **shape:** rule list
- **expressiveness:** propositional



Examples of methods and their classification – REFANN II

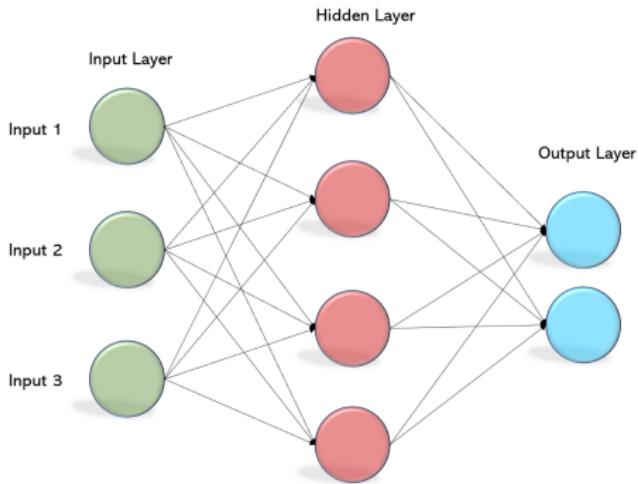


Figure: An example 3-layered multi-layer perceptron (MLP)

Examples of methods and their classification – REFANN III

Using REFANN for SKE

- ① prune the network's hidden units and input neurons
- ② approximate the hidden units' activation function with a **2-steps-wise** linear function
- ③ approximate the output units' activation function with a **3- or 5-step-wise** linear function
- ④ rewrite each output neuron as a **linear combination** of the input neuron
- ⑤ rewrite the linear combinations as rules
 - hence attaining a **list of rules**

Examples of methods and their classification – REFANN IV

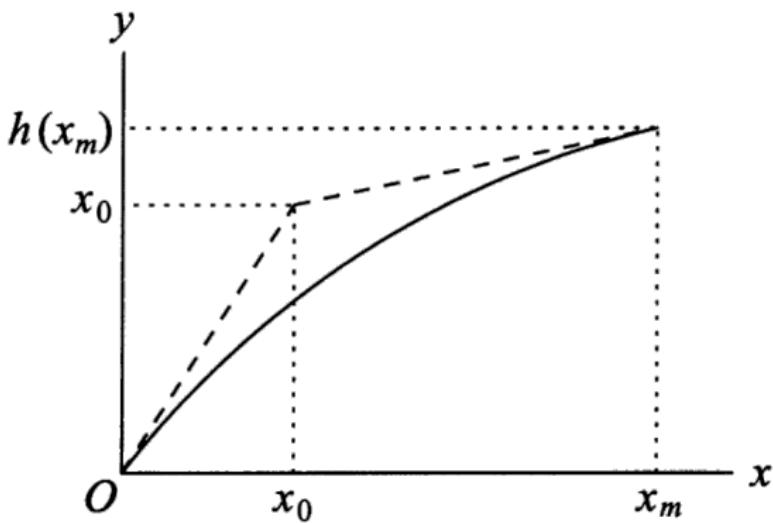


Figure: [Setiono et al., 2002] The $\tanh(x)$ function (solid curve) for $x \in [0, x_m]$ is approximated by a 2-piece linear function (dashed lines)

Examples of methods and their classification – REFANN V

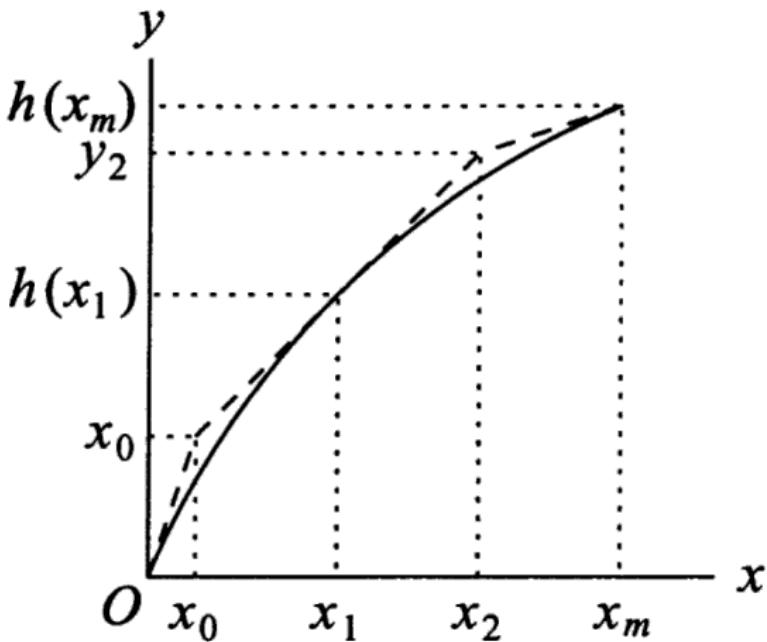


Figure: [Setiono et al., 2002] The $\tanh(x)$ function (solid curve) for $x \in [0, x_m]$ is approximated by a 3-piece linear function (dashed lines)

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 - From GitHub
 - From DockerHub



Notable Remarks

- commitment to a particular output shape / expressiveness
 - to preserve both human- and machine-interpretability
 - other syntaxes may exist
- discretization of the input space
- discretization of the output space
- features should have semantics per se
- further refinements may be applied to rules
- rules constitute global explanations



Current Limitations

- tabular data as input → doesn't really work with images
- high dimensional datasets → very large, poorly readable rules
- highly variable input spaces → many rules → poor readability



Future research activities

- target images or highly dimensional data in general
- target reinforcement learning (when based on NN)
- target unsupervised learning
- design and prototype your own extraction algorithm



Next in Line...

- 1 AI, ML & XAI
- 2 XAI Background
- 3 Explanations via Feature Importance
- 4 Explanations via Symbolic Knowledge Extraction
- 5 Transparent Box Design via Symbolic Knowledge Injection
- 6 XAI in Practice



Why SKI?

There are several benefits:

- prevent the predictor to become a black-box!;
- reduce learning time;
- reduce the data size needed for training;
- improve predictor's accuracy;
- build a predictor that behave as a logic engine.



Symbolic Knowledge Injection I

Key insights:

- Altering ML predictors . . .
- . . . to make they comply to user-provided knowledge . . .
- . . . which is represented in symbolic form



Symbolic Knowledge Injection II

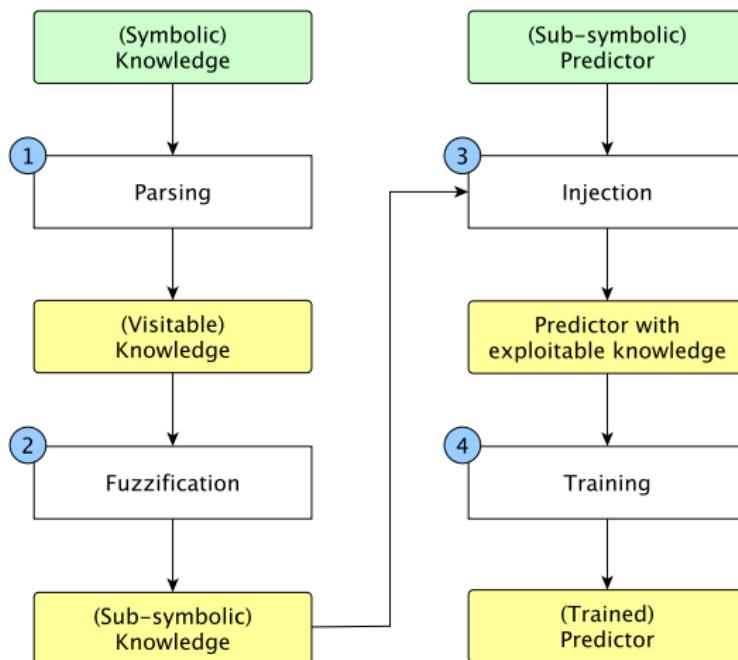
We define SKI as:

any **algorithmic** procedure affecting how **sub-symbolic predictors** draw their inferences in such a way that predictions are either **computed** as a function of, or made **consistent** with, some **given symbolic knowledge***.

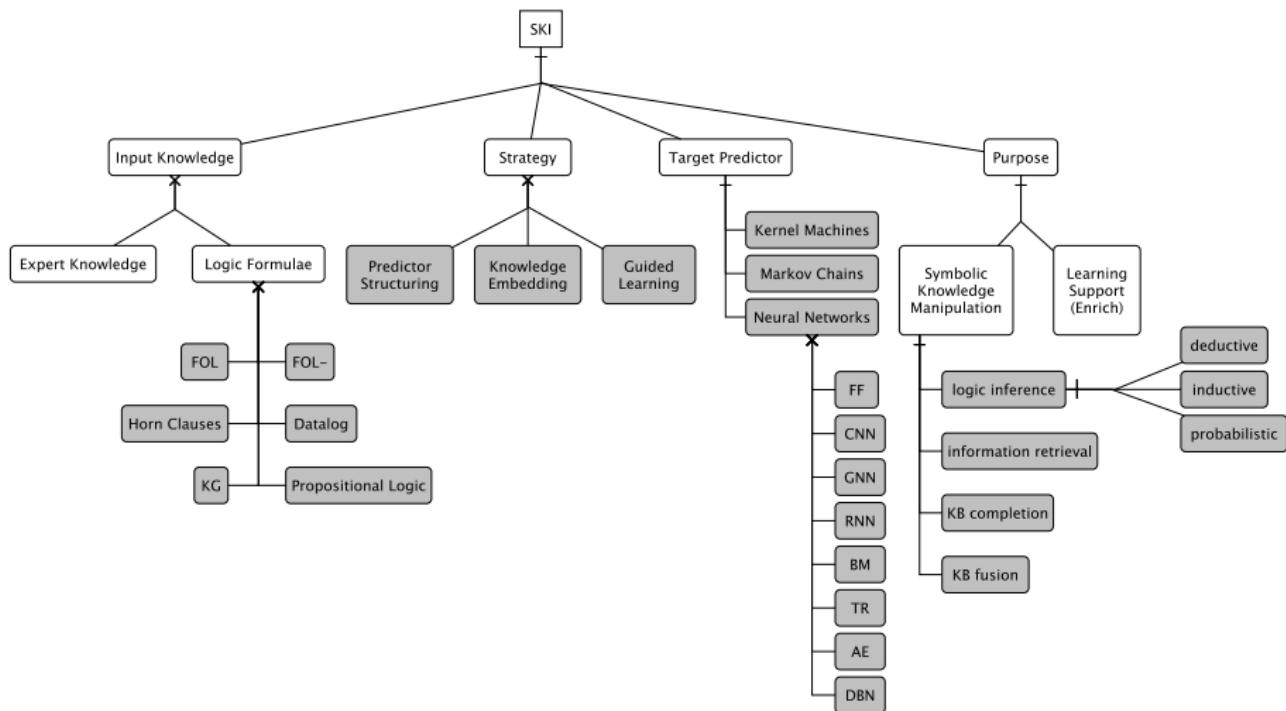
* a wide definition that includes the vast majority of the works in the main surveys [Besold et al., 2017, Xie et al., 2019, Calegari et al., 2020]

Symbolic Knowledge Injection III

General workflow:



Taxonomy of SKI methods I



Taxonomy of SKI methods II

- **input knowledge** how is the knowledge to-be-injected represented?
 - commonly, some sub-set of first-order logic (FOL)
- **target predictor** which predictors can knowledge be injected into?
 - mostly, neural networks
- **strategy** how does injection actually work?
 - **guided learning** the input knowledge is used to **guide** the training process
 - **structuring** the **internal** composition of the predictor is **(re-)structured** to reflect the input knowledge
 - **embedding** the input knowledge is **converted** into numeric array form
- **purpose** why is knowledge injected in the first place?
 - **knowledge manipulation** improve / extend / reason about symbol knowledge—subsymbolically
 - **learning support** improve the sub-symbolic predictor (e.g. speed, size, etc.)

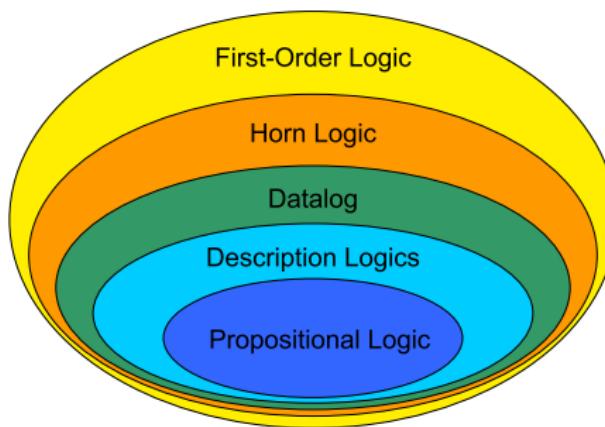
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About Logic I

How to represent knowledge?



- *expressiveness–tractability trade-off* [Levesque and Brachman, 1987, Brachman and Levesque, 2004]

About Logic II

In practice, virtually all SKI algorithms deal with:

- **datalog**;
- description logics (a.k.a. **knowledge graph**, KG);
- **propositional logic** (PL).



First Order Logic I

Overview

- FOL is extremely flexible and expressive
 - variables, quantifiers, structured terms, negation, logic connectives
- one can use **recursion** to define recursive structures;
 - possibly, **intensionally**—i.e. without **extensively** describing everything
- maybe too “powerful” for canonical NN
 - most NN are essentially DAG
 - training via backpropagation^[Baldi and Sadowski, 2016] requires no cycles
→ recursion not supported

First Order Logic II

Example of FOL knowledge base (Peano numbers)

natural(zero)

$\forall X : \text{natural}(X) \rightarrow \text{natural}(\text{successorOf}(X))$

Horn Clauses (\approx Prolog) I

Overview

- sub-set of FOL with:
 - implicit quantifiers
 - limited set of logic connectives
- still supports recursion
- nice expressiveness–tractability trade-off
 - often exploited to design/realise automatic reasoning

Horn Clauses (\approx Prolog) II

Example of Horn clauses (Peano numbers)

natural(zero)

natural(successorOf(X)) ← natural(X)

Datalog I

Overview

- sub-set of Horn clauses with **no recursion**
- good for SKI!

Peano numbers in Datalog

- cannot be represented!
 - (as they require recursion)

Description Logics (\approx Knowledge Graphs) I

Overview

- Very restricted subset of FOL
 - only constants, variables and n -ary predicates with $n \leq 2$;
- Everything is represented via collections of triplets of the form:

$$\langle a \ f \ b \rangle \text{ or } f(a, b)$$

where a, b are entities, and f is a (binary) relationship

- essentially, directed graph:
 - nodes (i.e. entities) represent individuals
 - edges (i.e. relationships) represent relations among individuals

Description Logics (\approx Knowledge Graphs) II

$\langle \text{AlfredHitchcock}, \text{DirectorOf}, \text{Psycho} \rangle$

Sir Alfred Joseph Hitchcock
(13 August 1899 – 29 April 1980)
was an English film director and
producer, ...

Psycho is a psychological horror
film directed and produced by
Alfred Hitchcock, and written by
Joseph Stefano, ...

Propositional Logic I

Overview

- The simplest subset of FOL
 - no quantifiers, no terms, no n -ary predicates with $n > 0$
 - essentially, just Boolean algebra
- low expressiveness, but easy to work with



Propositional Logic II

Example

$big_petal \wedge average_sepal \rightarrow virginica.$

$big_petal \wedge \neg average_sepal \rightarrow versicolor.$

$small_petal \rightarrow setosa.$

$average_sepal \equiv (3 \leq SepalWidth < 5)$

$big_petal \equiv (PetalLength > 3)$

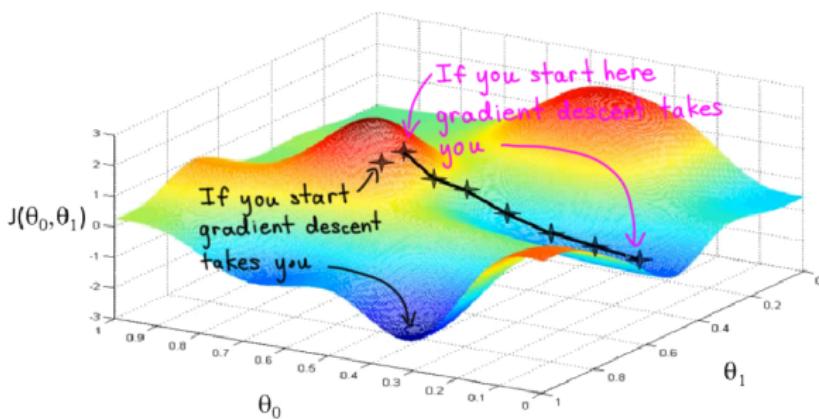
$small_petal \equiv \neg big_petal \equiv (PetalLength \leq 3)$

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Strategy 1: Guided Learning I



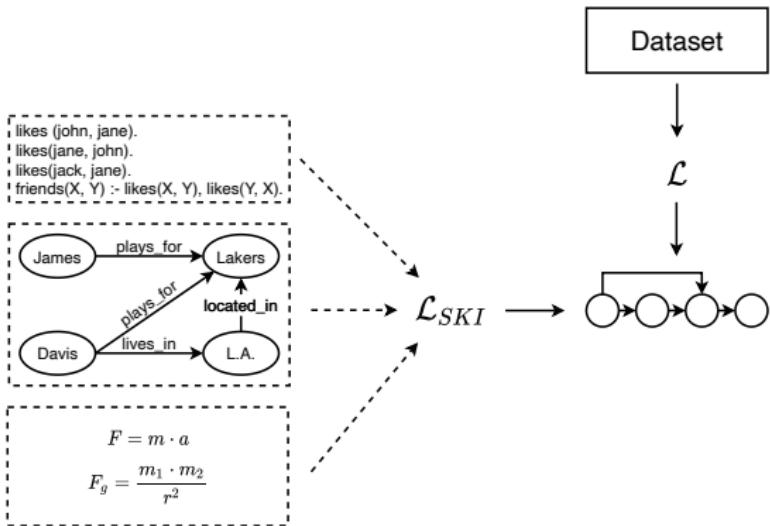
- learning is essentially an **optimization** process
- ... often performed via **gradient descent**
ie minimising a **loss function**

Strategy 1: Guided Learning II

SKI via Guided Learning

- ① Input knowledge is converted into a **cost factor**
ie the more the knowledge is violated, the higher the cost
 - ② The loss function is altered to **include** that cost factor
e.g. as a simple additive regularisation factor
 - ③ The predictor is then trained **as usual**
- Training minimises both the predictors' **error** and **inconsistency** w.r.t. knowledge

Strategy 1: Guided Learning III



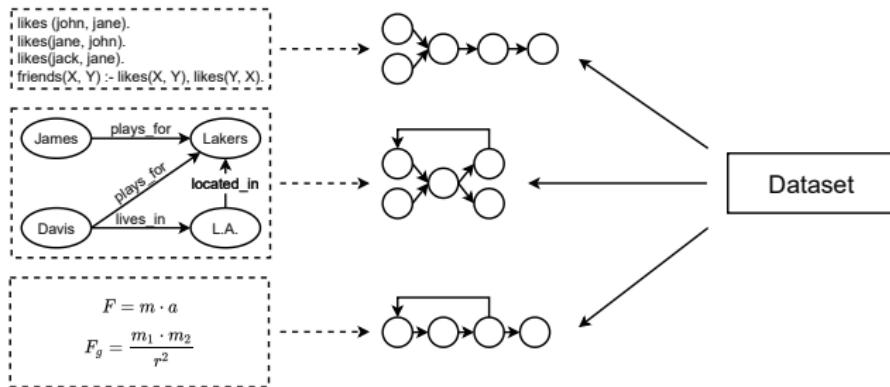
Strategy 2: Structuring I

SKI via Structuring

- The predictor's inner architecture is shaped to "mimic" the knowledge
 - Shaping is predictor-dependent
 - e.g. for neural networks, this means creating **ad-hoc layers**
 - where small groups of neurons are used to compute pieces of a formula
- The predictor directly exploits the knowledge during inference



Strategy 2: Structuring II



Strategy 2: Structuring III

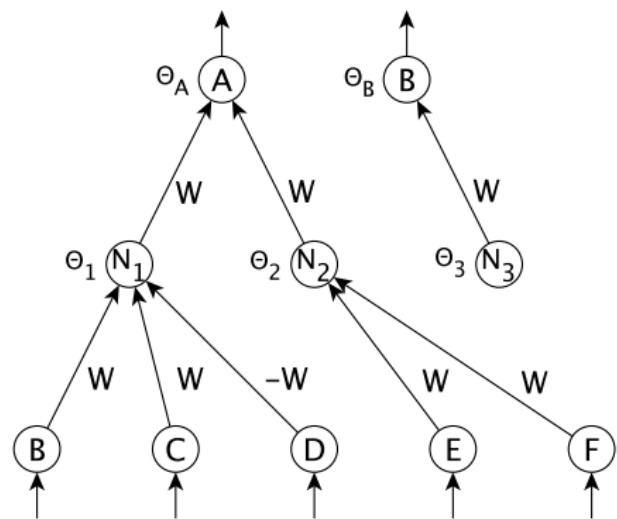
Example:

$$A \leftarrow B \wedge C \wedge \neg D.$$

$$A \leftarrow E \wedge F.$$

$$B \leftarrow \text{true}.$$

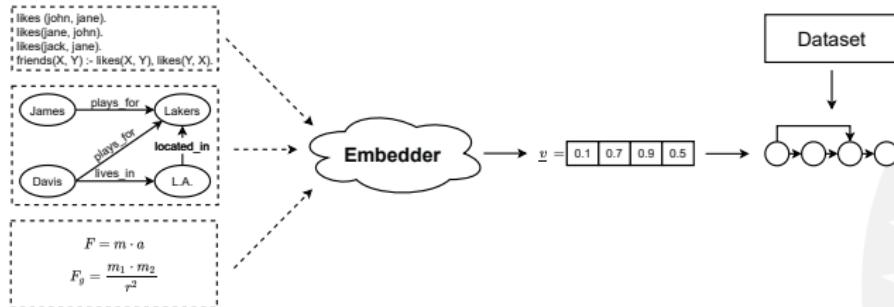
\leftrightarrow



Strategy 3: Embedding I

SKI via Structuring

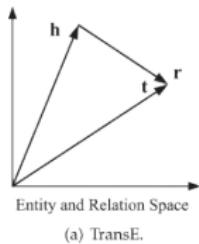
- Input knowledge is converted into numeric tensor(s)
 - These are used as the training set for an ordinary learning process
- The predictor is trained and used 'as usual'



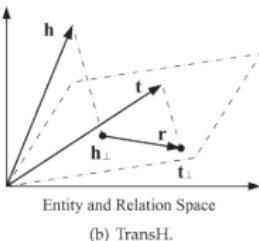
Strategy 3: Embedding II

Example: knowledge graph embedding [Wang et al., 2017]

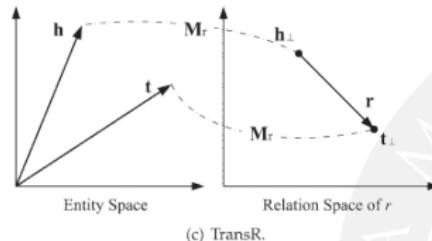
- entities and relations are embedded into continuous vector spaces;
- scoring function $f_r(h, t)$ defined on each fact (h, r, t) to measure its plausibility;



(a) TransE.

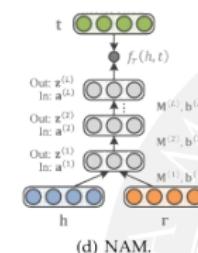
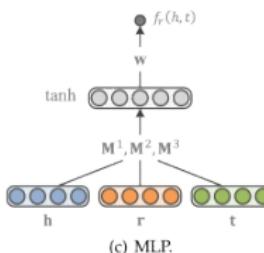
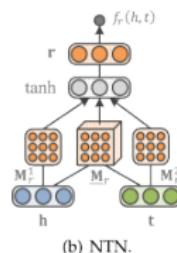
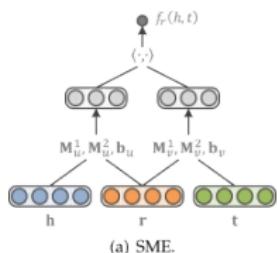
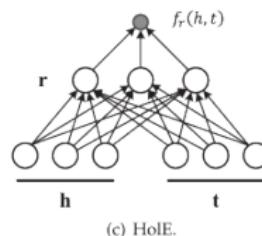
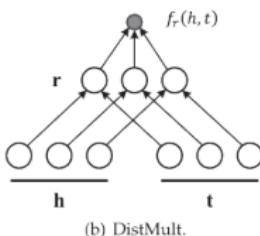
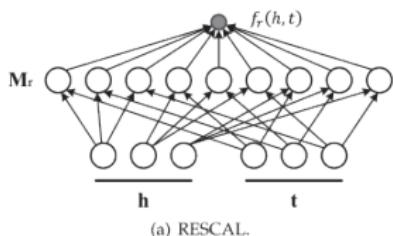


(b) TransH.



(c) TransR.

Strategy 3: Embedding III



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Knowledge Injection via Network Structuring [Magnini et al., 2022a]

KINS

purpose → learning support

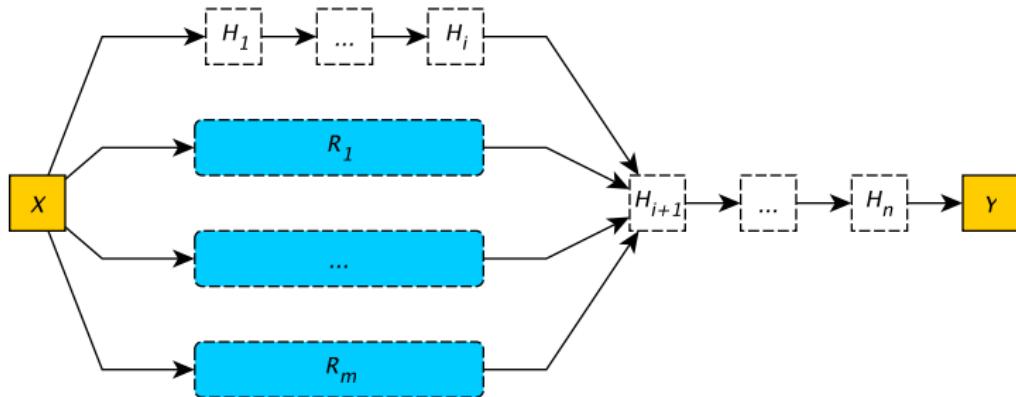
target predictor → neural networks

strategy → structuring

input logic → stratified Datalog with negation



Knowledge Injection via Network Structuring [Magnini et al., 2022a] ||



Knowledge Injection via Network Structuring

[Magnini et al., 2022a] 

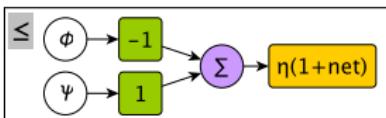
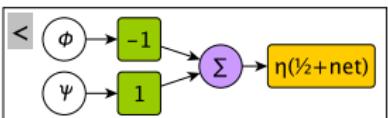
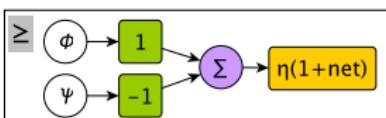
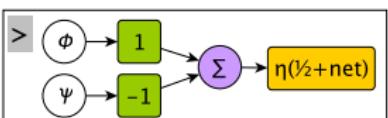
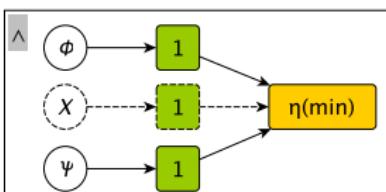
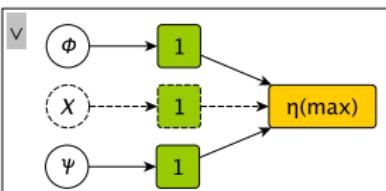
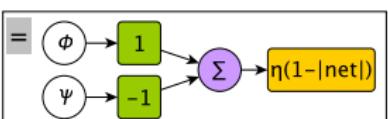
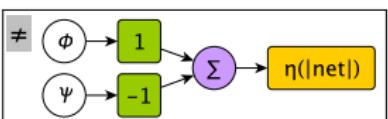
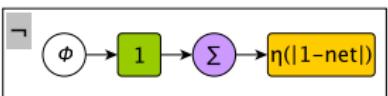
Formula	C. interpretation	Formula	C. interpretation
$\llbracket \neg \phi \rrbracket$	$\eta(1 - \llbracket \phi \rrbracket)$	$\llbracket \phi \leq \psi \rrbracket$	$\eta(1 + \llbracket \psi \rrbracket - \llbracket \phi \rrbracket)$
$\llbracket \phi \wedge \psi \rrbracket$	$\eta(\min(\llbracket \phi \rrbracket, \llbracket \psi \rrbracket))$	$\llbracket \text{class}(\bar{X}, y_i) \leftarrow \psi \rrbracket$	$\llbracket \psi \rrbracket^*$
$\llbracket \phi \vee \psi \rrbracket$	$\eta(\max(\llbracket \phi \rrbracket, \llbracket \psi \rrbracket))$	$\llbracket \text{expr}(\bar{X}) \rrbracket$	$\text{expr}(\llbracket \bar{X} \rrbracket)$
$\llbracket \phi = \psi \rrbracket$	$\eta(\llbracket \neg(\phi \neq \psi) \rrbracket)$	$\llbracket \text{true} \rrbracket$	1
$\llbracket \phi \neq \psi \rrbracket$	$\eta(\llbracket \phi \rrbracket - \llbracket \psi \rrbracket)$	$\llbracket \text{false} \rrbracket$	0
$\llbracket \phi > \psi \rrbracket$	$\eta(\frac{1}{2} + \llbracket \phi \rrbracket - \llbracket \psi \rrbracket)$	$\llbracket X \rrbracket$	x
$\llbracket \phi \geq \psi \rrbracket$	$\eta(1 + \llbracket \phi \rrbracket - \llbracket \psi \rrbracket)$	$\llbracket k \rrbracket$	k
$\llbracket \phi < \psi \rrbracket$	$\eta(\frac{1}{2} + \llbracket \psi \rrbracket - \llbracket \phi \rrbracket)$	$\llbracket p(\bar{X}) \rrbracket^{**}$	$\llbracket \psi_1 \vee \dots \vee \psi_k \rrbracket$

* encodes the value for the i^{th} output

** assuming p is defined by k clauses of the form:

$$p(\bar{X}) \leftarrow \psi_1, \dots, p(\bar{X}) \leftarrow \psi_k$$

Knowledge Injection via Network Structuring [Magnini et al., 2022a] IV



Knowledge Injection via Lambda Layer

[Magnini et al., 2022b]



KILL

purpose → learning support

target predictor → neural networks

strategy → guided learning

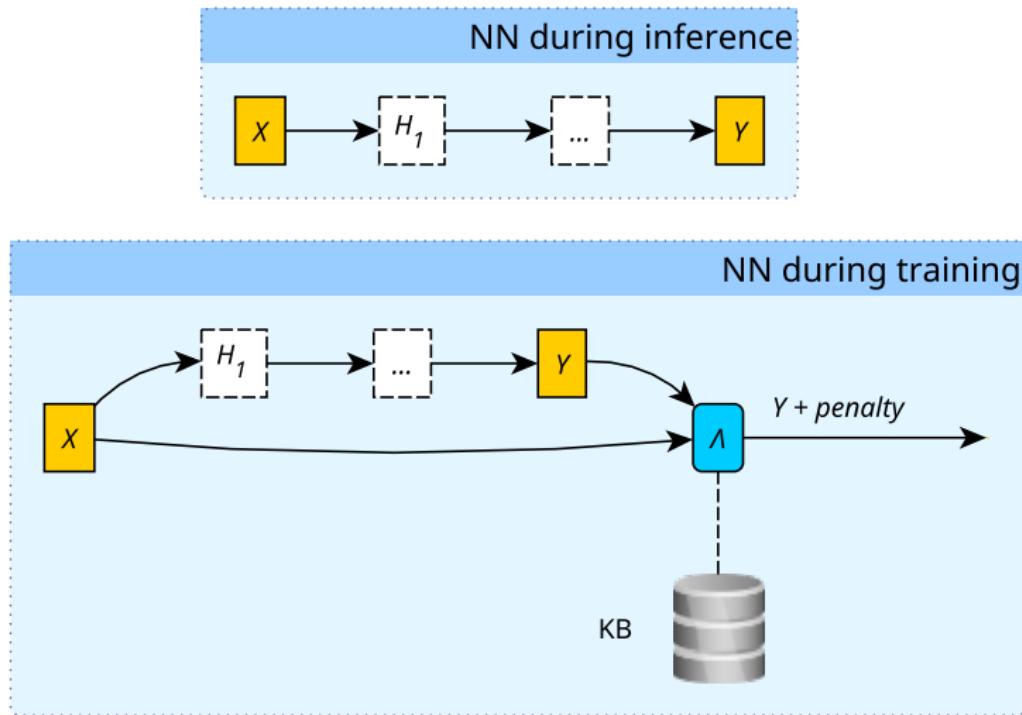
input logic → stratified Datalog with negation



Knowledge Injection via Lambda Layer

[Magnini et al., 2022b]

II



Knowledge Injection via Lambda Layer

[Magnini et al., 2022b] III

Formula	C. interpretation	Formula	C. interpretation
$\llbracket \neg \phi \rrbracket$	$\eta(1 - \llbracket \phi \rrbracket)$	$\llbracket \phi \leq \psi \rrbracket$	$\eta(\llbracket \phi \rrbracket - \llbracket \psi \rrbracket)$
$\llbracket \phi \wedge \psi \rrbracket$	$\eta(\max(\llbracket \phi \rrbracket, \llbracket \psi \rrbracket))$	$\llbracket \text{class}(\bar{X}, y_i) \leftarrow \psi \rrbracket$	$\llbracket \psi \rrbracket^*$
$\llbracket \phi \vee \psi \rrbracket$	$\eta(\min(\llbracket \phi \rrbracket, \llbracket \psi \rrbracket))$	$\llbracket \text{expr}(\bar{X}) \rrbracket$	$\text{expr}(\llbracket \bar{X} \rrbracket)$
$\llbracket \phi = \psi \rrbracket$	$\eta(\llbracket \phi \rrbracket - \llbracket \psi \rrbracket)$	$\llbracket \text{true} \rrbracket$	0
$\llbracket \phi \neq \psi \rrbracket$	$\llbracket \neg(\phi = \psi) \rrbracket$	$\llbracket \text{false} \rrbracket$	1
$\llbracket \phi > \psi \rrbracket$	$\eta(0.5 - \llbracket \phi \rrbracket + \llbracket \psi \rrbracket)$	$\llbracket X \rrbracket$	x
$\llbracket \phi \geq \psi \rrbracket$	$\eta(\llbracket \psi \rrbracket - \llbracket \phi \rrbracket)$	$\llbracket k \rrbracket$	k
$\llbracket \phi < \psi \rrbracket$	$\eta(0.5 + \llbracket \phi \rrbracket - \llbracket \psi \rrbracket)$	$\llbracket p(\bar{X}) \rrbracket^{**}$	$\llbracket \psi_1 \vee \dots \vee \psi_k \rrbracket$

* encodes the penalty for the i^{th} neuron

** assuming predicate p is defined by k clauses of the form:

$$p(\bar{X}) \leftarrow \psi_1, \dots, p(\bar{X}) \leftarrow \psi_k$$

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Notable Remarks

- knowledge bases should express relations about input–output pairs
- embedding implies extensional representation of knowledge
 - guided learning, and structuring support intensional knowledge
- propositional knowledge implies binarising the I/O spaces



Current Limitations

- support for regression is preliminary
- recursive data structures are not supported
- recursive clauses are not supported
- extensional representation cost storage
 - not always possible
- guided learning works poorly with lacking data



Future research activities

- foundational: address recursion
- practical: address regression
- is SKI possible outside the NN domain?



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Python Library for LIME I

Key components

LimeTabularExplainer — explainer for predictions on tabular data

- it can be used for both classification and regression tasks

LimeImageExplainer — explainer for predictions on image data

- image classification tasks

LimeTextExplainer — explainer for predictions on text data

- text classification tasks

Python Library for LIME II

Unified API for Explainers

- the explanation for one data sample can be obtained by the `explain_instance` method, it has several parameters
 - e.g. `predict_fn`, `num_sample`, `num_features`
- `explain_instance` gives an `Explanation` (or an `ImageExplanation`) object. It contains information about the domain (e.g., features, class, bins) and, of course, about the explanation of the data sample
 - e.g. `as_list`, `as_html` to get the explanation as a textual list or an image

Tutorial

Two ways to reproduce the tutorial:

GitHub Repository (long way)

<https://github.com/pikalab-unibo/demo-lime>

DockerHub Images (quick way)

<https://hub.docker.com/r/pikalab/demo-lime/tags>



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How to set the tutorial up from GitHub I

Environmental pre-requisites

- Python 3.9.x
- Git

- ① git clone <https://github.com/pikalab-unibo/demo-lime>
- ② cd demo-lime
- ③ pip install -r requirements.txt
- ④ jupyter notebook



How to set the tutorial up from GitHub II

- ⑤ Your browser should automatically open showing the following page:



The screenshot shows a Jupyter Notebook interface with a sidebar on the left containing a file tree and a main area on the right displaying a list of files. The sidebar shows a directory structure with 'data', 'knowledge', 'notebooks' (which is selected), 'utils', 'Dockerfile', 'LICENSE', 'publish-m1.sh', 'README.md', 'requirements-demo.txt', and 'requirements.txt'. The main area lists these files with their last modified times and sizes:

Name	Last Modified	File size
5 giorni fa		
3 giorni fa		
alcuni secondi fa		
6 giorni fa		
un giorno fa	662 B	
un mese fa	11.4 kB	
un mese fa	335 B	
5 giorni fa	1.62 kB	
un giorno fa	78 B	
un giorno fa	140 B	

- ⑥ open the `demo-lime.ipynb` notebook
⑦ listen to the speaker presenting the tutorial =)

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 - From DockerHub



How to set the tutorial up via Docker I

Environmental pre-requisites

- Docker

①

DOCKER_IMAGE= $\begin{cases} \text{pikalab/demo-lime:latest} & \text{on most computers} \\ \text{pikalab/demo-lime:latest}-\text{apple-m1} & \text{on Apple M1/M2} \end{cases}$

② docker pull \$DOCKER_IMAGE

- in case of lacking Internet access:

```
docker image load -i /path/to/local/image/file.tar
```

③ docker run -it -rm -name demo-lime -p 8888:8888
\$DOCKER_IMAGE

④ Some textual output such as the following one should appear:

How to set the tutorial up via Docker II

```
1 [I 09:51:46.940 NotebookApp] Writing notebook server cookie secret to /root/.local/
2 share/jupyter/runtime/notebook_cookie_secret
3 [I 09:51:47.159 NotebookApp] Serving notebooks from local directory: /notebook
4 [I 09:51:47.159 NotebookApp] Jupyter Notebook 6.5.2 is running at:
5 [I 09:51:47.159 NotebookApp] http://cb0a3641caf0:8888/?token=2
6 b02d31671c6ad9e9cf8e036eb6962d3592af9cfdd5e60bd
7 [I 09:51:47.159 NotebookApp] or http://127.0.0.1:8888/?token=2
8 b02d31671c6ad9e9cf8e036eb6962d3592af9cfdd5e60bd
9 [I 09:51:47.160 NotebookApp] Use Control-C to stop this server and shut down all
10 kernels (twice to skip confirmation).
11 [C 09:51:47.162 NotebookApp]
12
13 To access the notebook, open this file in a browser:
14   file:///root/.local/share/jupyter/runtime/nbserver-7-open.html
15 Or copy and paste one of these URLs:
16   http://cb0a3641caf0:8888/?token=2
17     b02d31671c6ad9e9cf8e036eb6962d3592af9cfdd5e60bd
18 or http://127.0.0.1:8888/?token=2b02d31671c6ad9e9cf8e036eb6962d3592af9cfdd5e60bd
```

How to set the tutorial up via Docker III

- ⑤ Copy-paste into your browser any link of the form:

`http://cb0a3641caf0:8888/?token=TOKEN`

- ⑥ Your browser should now be showing the following page:



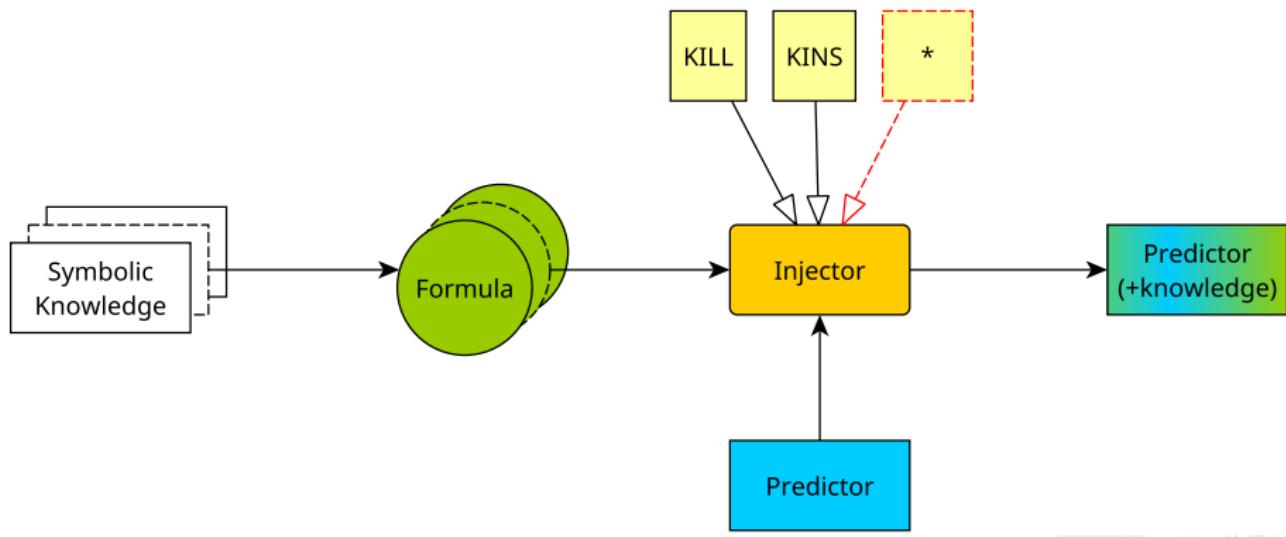
- ⑦ open the `demo-lime.ipynb` notebook
⑧ listen to the speaker presenting the tutorial =)

Focus on...

- ① AI, ML & XAI
- ② XAI Background
 - Overview on XAI
 - XAI Nowadays
 - XAI for Supervised ML
 - Interpretation vs. Explanation
- ③ Explanations via Feature Importance
 - Feature Importance via LIME
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- ④ Explanations via Symbolic Knowledge Extraction
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- ⑤ Transparent Box Design via Symbolic Knowledge Injection
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 - Focus on strategy
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- ⑥ XAI in Practice
 - Python Tools for Feature Importance
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 - From DockerHub
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 - From GitHub
 - From DockerHub
 - A Platform for Symbolic Knowledge Extraction
 - From GitHub
 - From DockerHub



Overall Design I



Overall Design II

Key components:

injector: any entity capable of injecting knowledge into a sub-symbolic predictor

- it simply alters/reconfigures the predictor...
- ... which should be trained after the injector operates

predictor: the partially-trained classifier/regressor where knowledge should be injected into

- untrained is ok too

formula: formal representation of the symbolic knowledge to be injected

- e.g. in Prolog or FOL syntax

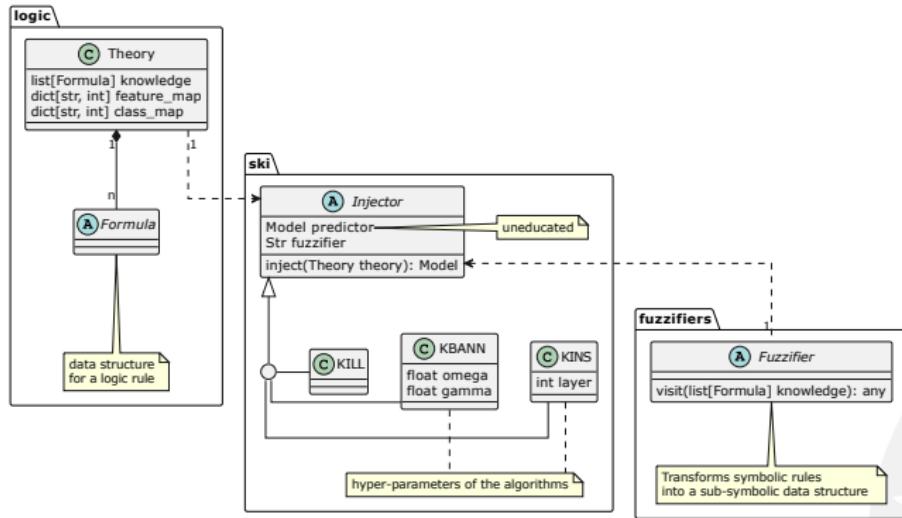
Overall Design III

Unified API for SKI

- 1 interface for Injector, several implementations
 - e.g. KBANN, KINS, KILL, etc.
- 1 interface for Formula, several implementations
 - e.g. Datalog, Propositional, etc.
- 1 interface for Predictor, currently a TF model
 - e.g. different kinds of NN



API Design I



API Design II

Remarks

- The user only needs to know:
 - the particular injector to exploit (and its parameters)
 - the particular parser to decode logic rules

API Design III

Underlying symbolic AI library (e.g. 2P-Kt^[Ciatto et al., 2021]), providing:

Rule a semantic, intelligible representation of the function mapping Predictor's inputs into the corresponding outputs, for a particular portion of the input space;

Theory an ordered collection of rules.

Tutorial

Two ways to reproduce the tutorial:

GitHub Repository (long way)

<https://github.com/psykei/demo-psyki-python>

DockerHub Images (quick way)

<https://hub.docker.com/r/pikalab/prima-tutorial-2022/tags>

Focus on. . .

- ① AI, ML & XAI
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How to set the tutorial up from GitHub I

Environmental pre-requisites

- Python 3.9.x
- JDK ≥ 11
- Git

- ① `git clone https://github.com/psykei/demo-psyki-python`
- ② `cd demo-psyki-python`
- ③ `pip install -r requirements.txt`
- ④ `export PYTHONPATH="$(pwd)"`
- ⑤ `jupyter notebook`

How to set the tutorial up from GitHub II

- ⑥ Your browser should automatically open showing the following page:



The screenshot shows a Jupyter Notebook interface with a sidebar on the left containing 'Files', 'Running', and 'Clusters' tabs. Below the sidebar is a 'Rename' and 'Move' input field with a red error icon. The main area displays a file tree under a folder named '/'. The files listed are:

Name	Last Modified	File size
data	5 giorni fa	
knowledge	3 giorni fa	
notebooks	alcuni secondi fa	
utils	6 giorni fa	
Dockerfile	un giorno fa	662 B
LICENSE	un mese fa	11.4 kB
publish-m1.sh	un mese fa	335 B
README.md	5 giorni fa	1.62 kB
requirements-demo.txt	un giorno fa	78 B
requirements.txt	un giorno fa	140 B

- ⑦ open the *.ipynb notebooks in the notebook folder
⑧ listen to the speaker presenting the tutorial =)

Focus on...

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How to set the tutorial up via Docker I

Environmental pre-requisites

- Docker

①

DOCKER_IMAGE=

$$\begin{cases} \text{pikalab/demo-psyki-python:latest} \\ \text{(on most computers)} \\ \text{pikalab/demo-psyki-python:latest-apple-m1} \\ \text{(on Apple M1 computers)} \end{cases}$$

② docker pull \$DOCKER_IMAGE

- in case of lacking Internet access:

```
docker image load -i /path/to/local/image/file.tar
```

③ docker run -it -rm -name demo-psyki-python -p 8888:8888
\$DOCKER_IMAGE

How to set the tutorial up via Docker II

- ④ Some textual output such as the following one should appear:

```
1 [I 09:51:46.940 NotebookApp] Writing notebook server cookie secret to /root/.local/
   share/jupyter/runtime/notebook_cookie_secret
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4 [I 09:51:47.159 NotebookApp] http://cb0a3641caf0:8888/?token=2
   b02d31671c6ad9e9cf8e036eb6962d3592af9cfdd5e60bd
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8
9 To access the notebook, open this file in a browser:
10    file:///root/.local/share/jupyter/runtime/nbserver-7-open.html
11 Or copy and paste one of these URLs:
12    http://cb0a3641caf0:8888/?token=2
   b02d31671c6ad9e9cf8e036eb6962d3592af9cfdd5e60bd
13 or http://127.0.0.1:8888/?token=2b02d31671c6ad9e9cf8e036eb6962d3592af9cfdd5e60bd
```

How to set the tutorial up via Docker III

- ⑤ Copy-paste into your browser any link of the form:

`http://cb0a3641caf0:8888/?token=TOKEN`

- ⑥ Your browser should now be showing the following page:



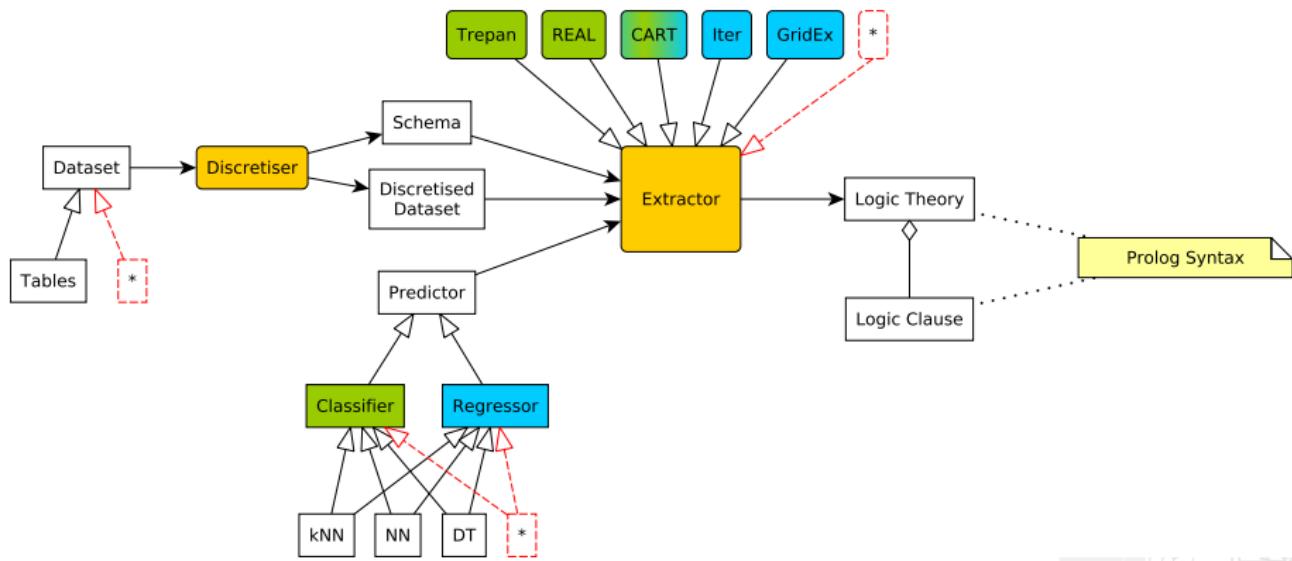
- ⑦ open the *.ipynb notebooks
⑧ listen to the speaker presenting the tutorial =)

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Overall Design I



Overall Design II

Key components:

extractor: any entity capable of extracting symbolic knowledge out of sub-symbolic predictors

- possibly, in the form of logic **knowledge bases**
- possibly, leveraging upon the **dataset** the predictor was trained upon ...
 - possibly, after a **discretization** step
 - ... and its **schema**

predictor: some trained classifier/regressor from which knowledge should be extracted

discretiser: any component capable to turn continuous datasets into discrete form, following some strategy

logic theory: outcome of the extraction process

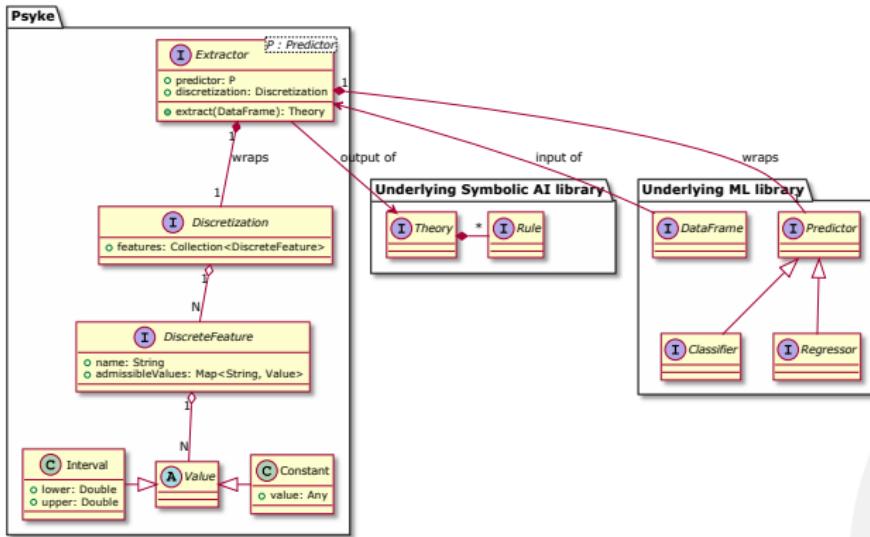
Overall Design III

Unified API for SKE

- 1 interface for Extractor, several implementations
 - e.g. CART, REAL, GridEx
- 1 interface for Discretiser, several implementations
- 1 interface for Predictor, several implementations
 - (scikit-learn method convention)
 - e.g. NN, kNN, DT



API Design I



API Design II

General assumptions:

- underlying ML library (e.g. Scikit-Learn^[Pedregosa et al., 2011]), providing:
 - DataFrame** a container of tabular data
 - Predictor<R>** a computational entity which can be trained (a.k.a. fitted) against a DataFrame and used to draw predictions of type R;
 - Classifier<R>** a particular case of predictor where R represents a type having a finite amount of admissible values;
 - Regressor<R>** a particular case of predictor where R represents a type having a potentially infinite (possibly continuous) amount of admissible values.

API Design III

- underlying symbolic AI library (e.g. 2P-Kt^[Ciatto et al., 2021]), providing:
 - Rule** a semantic, intelligible representation of the function mapping Predictor's inputs into the corresponding outputs, for a particular portion of the input space;
 - Theory** an ordered collection of rules.

About the Extracted Knowledge I

Knowledge extracted from classifiers

$\langle \text{task} \rangle(X_1, \dots, X_n, \textcolor{red}{y}_1) :- p_{1,1}(\bar{X}), \dots, p_{n,1}(\bar{X}).$

$\langle \text{task} \rangle(X_1, \dots, X_n, \textcolor{red}{y}_2) :- p_{1,2}(\bar{X}), \dots, p_{n,2}(\bar{X}).$

⋮

$\langle \text{task} \rangle(X_1, \dots, X_n, \textcolor{red}{y}_m) :- p_{1,m}(\bar{X}), \dots, p_{n,m}(\bar{X}).$

About the Extracted Knowledge II

Knowledge extracted from regressors

$\langle \text{task} \rangle(X_1, \dots, X_n, Y) :- p_{1,1}(\bar{X}), \dots, p_{n,1}(\bar{X}),$
 $Y \text{ is } f_1(\bar{X}).$

$\langle \text{task} \rangle(X_1, \dots, X_n, Y) :- p_{1,2}(\bar{X}), \dots, p_{n,2}(\bar{X}),$
 $Y \text{ is } f_2(\bar{X}).$

⋮

$\langle \text{task} \rangle(X_1, \dots, X_n, Y) :- p_{1,m}(\bar{X}), \dots, p_{n,m}(\bar{X}),$
 $Y \text{ is } f_m(\bar{X}).$

About the Extracted Knowledge III

... where:

- *task* is the $(n + 1)$ -ary relation representing the classification or regression task at hand,
- each X_i is a logic variable named after the i^{th} input attribute of the currently available data set,
- \bar{X} is the n -tuple X_1, \dots, X_n ,
- each $p_{i,j}$ is either a n -ary predicate expressing some constraint about one, two or more variables, or the true literal—which can be omitted,
- y_i is the output of the i^{th} prediction rule,
- f_j is an n -ary function computing the output value for the regression task in the particular portion of the input space handled by the j^{th} rule, and
- *is/2* is the well-known Prolog predicate aimed at evaluating functions.

About the Extracted Knowledge IV

Underlying assumptions

- ① the input space is **partitioned** into a finite set of regions
- ② each region is **assigned** with a particular outcome, namely:
 - a **class**, for **classification** problems
 - a **constant**, or a simpler function, for **regression** problems
- ③ one rule generated describing **for each region** and its corresponding outcome



Tutorial

Two ways to reproduce the tutorial:

GitHub Repository (long way)

<https://github.com/pikalab-unibo/prima-tutorial-2022>

DockerHub Images (quick way)

<https://hub.docker.com/r/pikalab/prima-tutorial-2022/tags>

Focus on. . .

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 - A Platform for Symbolic Knowledge Extraction
 - **From GitHub**
 - From DockerHub



How to set the tutorial up from GitHub I

Environmental pre-requisites

- Python **3.9.x**
- JDK ≥ 11
- Git

- ❶ `git clone
https://github.com/pikalab-unibo/prima-tutorial-2022`
- ❷ `cd prima-tutorial-2022`
- ❸ `pip install -r requirements.txt`
- ❹ `jupyter notebook`

How to set the tutorial up from GitHub II

- ⑤ Your browser should automatically open showing the following page:

The screenshot shows a Jupyter Notebook interface. At the top, there's a navigation bar with 'jupyter' logo, 'Files', 'Running', 'Clusters', 'Logout', and 'Upload' buttons. Below the navigation bar is a toolbar with 'Rename', 'Move', and a trash bin icon. A dropdown menu shows '1' and a folder icon. The main area has two sections: a file tree on the left and a list of files on the right.

Name	Last Modified	File size
data	5 giorni fa	
knowledge	3 giorni fa	
notebooks	alcuni secondi fa	
utils	6 giorni fa	
Dockerfile	un giorno fa	662 B
LICENSE	un mese fa	11.4 kB
publish-m1.sh	un mese fa	335 B
README.md	5 giorni fa	1.62 kB
requirements-demo.txt	un giorno fa	78 B
requirements.txt	un giorno fa	140 B

- ⑥ open the `psyke-tutorial.ipynb` notebook
⑦ listen to the speaker presenting the tutorial =)

Focus on...

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How to set the tutorial up via Docker I

Environmental pre-requisites

- Docker

①

DOCKER_IMAGE= $\begin{cases} \text{pikalab/prima-tutorial-2022:latest} \\ \text{pikalab/prima-tutorial-2022:latest}-\text{apple-m1} \end{cases}$

② docker pull \$DOCKER_IMAGE

- in case of lacking Internet access:

```
docker image load -i /path/to/local/image/file.tar
```

③ docker run -it -rm -name prima-tutorial-ske-ski -p 8888:8888 \$DOCKER_IMAGE

④ Some textual output such as the following one should appear:

How to set the tutorial up via Docker II

```
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16   http://cb0a3641caf0:8888/?token=2
17     b02d31671c6ad9e9cf8e036eb6962d3592af9cfdd5e60bd
18 or http://127.0.0.1:8888/?token=2b02d31671c6ad9e9cf8e036eb6962d3592af9cfdd5e60bd
```

How to set the tutorial up via Docker III

- ⑤ Copy-paste into your browser any link of the form:

`http://cb0a3641caf0:8888/?token=TOKEN`

- ⑥ Your browser should now be showing the following page:



- ⑦ open the `psyke-tutorial.ipynb` notebook
⑧ listen to the speaker presenting the tutorial =)

eXplainable Artificial Intelligence (XAI)

A Gentle Introduction

Matteo Magnini Giovanni Ciatto Andrea Omicini

Dipartimento di Informatica – Scienza e Ingegneria (DISI)
Alma Mater Studiorum – Università di Bologna
`matteo.magnini, giovanni.ciatto, andrea.omicini@unibo.it`

BPER, Modena, Italy – 23 May 2023

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<http://ceur-ws.org/Vol-481/paper-5.pdf>.

References II

- [Bader et al., 2007] Bader, S., Hölldobler, S., and Mayer-Eichberger, V. (2007).
Extracting propositional rules from feed-forward neural networks – A new decompositional approach.
In d'Avila Garcez, A. S., Hitzler, P., and Tamburrini, G., editors, *Proceedings of the 3rd International Workshop on Neural-Symbolic Learning and Reasoning, NeSy'07, held at IJCAI-07, Hyderabad, India, January 8, 2007*, volume 230 of *CEUR Workshop Proceedings*. CEUR-WS.org
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In Brachman, R. J. and Levesque, H. J., editors, *Knowledge Representation and Reasoning*, The Morgan Kaufmann Series in Artificial Intelligence, pages 327–348. Morgan Kaufmann, San Francisco
DOI:<https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-155860932-7/50101-1>.

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