

The performance of a robust Bayesian approach to the 20 questions game under different patterns of noise

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Objective

Playing the 20 questions game and finding the correct entity even if exposed to Noise.

20 Questions Game

The goal is to find the entity that an answerer is thinking of by asking up to 20 yes or no questions.

Background

In today’s data-driven society, where large amounts of information are accessible to a wide audience, the ability to efficiently and accurately query for information has become increasingly important. Developing game-like approaches to database querying can be used to improve the way users can retrieve specific information from databases. This paper focuses on designing a search algorithm that can handle input errors arising from different sources, such as the closed world assumption (see Section 2.3), imperfect knowledge of the user, and missing information in the knowledge base.

Results

[illegible]

Introduction

Interacting with Knowledge Graphs introduces challenges, especially if the user is not accustomed to its structure. Errors can occur because of modelling choices, open/closed-world assumptions and different beliefs. In this research the 20 Questions game with a Knowledge Graph is used to develop a robust querying algorithm, which can find the correct entity in a Knowledge Graph even if noise in the form of wrong answers is introduced. A non-robust algorithm would aim to split the remaining entities in half with every question, ruling out the ones that do not match the given answer. Robustness is achieved by a combination of Naïve Bayes classifier combined with an entropy formula, ensuring that an entity's probability never drops to 0. Figure 1 shows how the robust algorithm would play the game, compared to a 'conventional' search algorithm with a simple example.

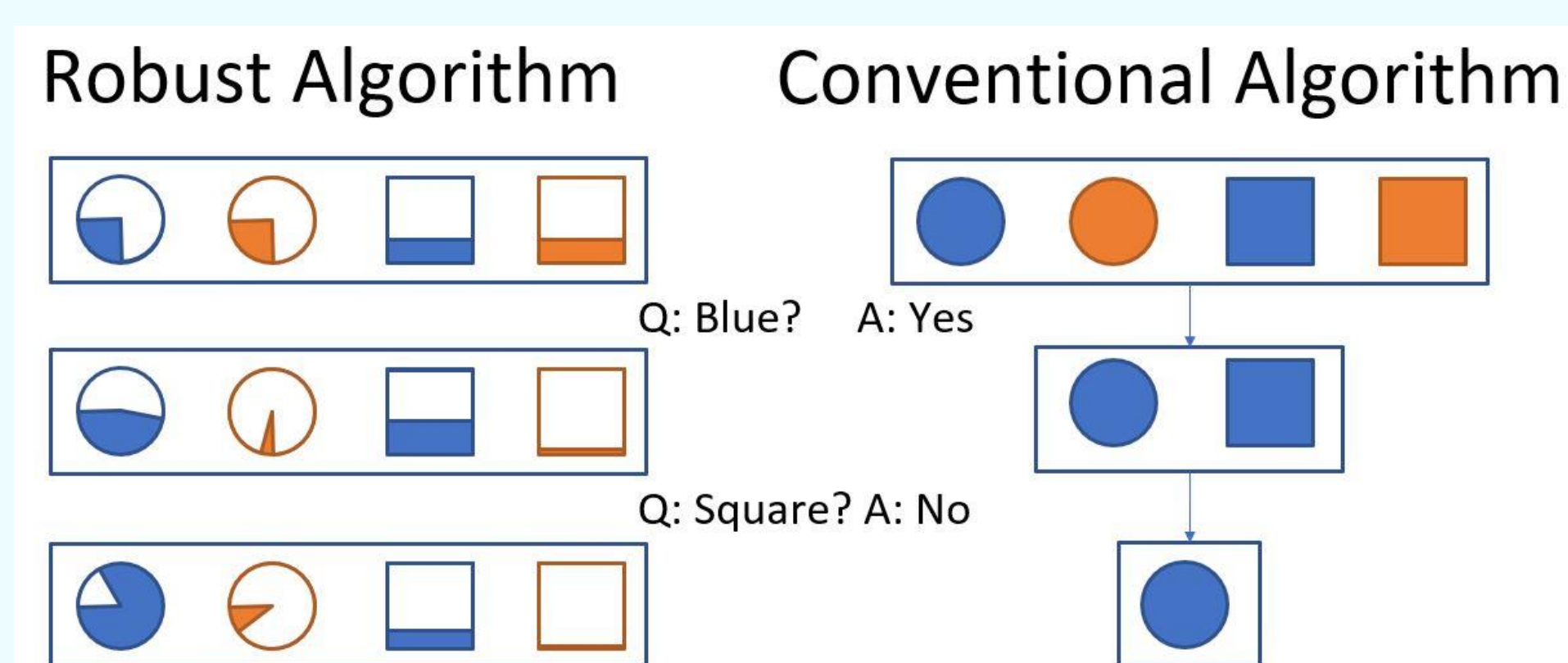


Figure 1. 20 Questions Game comparison of conventional and robust algorithm

Results

[illegible]

Methods

To answer the research question an engine and a bot were developed. The engine uses the Yago data set in combination with the FB15K database, reduced to the 134 most famous human entities according to Wikipedia in 2021. The answering bot exposes the algorithm to different patterns and numbers of wrong answers. The amount of correctly identified entities out of those 134 is measured.

For playing the 20 questions game, the Naïve Bayes Classifier assigns an equal probability to all entities. An adjusted version of the Shannon Entropy Formula is used to calculate the entropy loss of all possible splits (questions). The question with the largest entropy loss provides the largest estimated information gain. It is asking this question to the answering bot.

Implementation Details

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References

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