Interlinking: Performance Assessment of User Evaluation vs. Supervised Learning Approaches

Mofeed Hassan Department of Computer Science AKSW Research Group University of Leipzig mounir@informatik.unileipzig.de Jens Lehmann Department of Computer Science AKSW Research Group University of Leipzig Iehmann@informatik.unileipzig.de Axel-Cyrille Ngonga Ngomo Department of Computer Science AKSW Research Group University of Leipzig ngonga@informatik.unileipzig.de

ABSTRACT

Interlinking knowledge bases are widely recognized as an important, but challenging problem. A significant amount of research has been undertaken to provide solutions to this problem with varying degrees of automation and user involvement. In this paper, we present a two-staged experiment for the creation of gold standards that act as benchmarks for several interlinking algorithms. In the first stage the gold standards are generated through manual validation process highlighting the role of users. Using the gold standards obtained from this stage, we assess the performance of human evaluators in addition to supervised interlinking algorithms. We evaluate our approach on several data interlinking tasks with respect to precision, recall and F-measure. Additionally we perform a qualitative analysis on the types of errors made by humans and machines.

Categories and Subject Descriptors

H.4 [LINK Discovery]

General Terms

Data Integration, Enterprise Linked Data

Keywords

Interlinking, Links validation, Gold standard, Manual validation, Performance evaluation

1. INTRODUCTION

Over the last years, the number of knowledge bases published on the Web of Data has grown considerably. According to statistics performed in the beginning of 2015, the number of published knowledge bases surpassed 3800 providing over than 88 billion triples¹. In spite of the large

¹http://stats.lod2.eu

Copyright is held by the author/owner(s). WWW2015 Workshop: Linked Data on the Web (LDOW2015). number of knowledge bases, the links among them are relatively few with more than 500 million 2 in 2011 and they have very different qualities [8]. Creating high-quality links across the knowledge bases on the Web of Data thus remains a task of central importance to empower manifold application on the Web of Data, including federated query processing and cross-ontology question answering. Many algorithms have been proposed and implemented in different interlinking tools to address this task [17, 20, 12, 13]. While these approaches vary w.r.t. several aspects, one of the most important aspects is the degree of user involvement. In [20, 16] interlinking tools are categorized based on the degree of automation that regulates the amount of user involvement at different levels [17]. In general, the most costly aspect of user involvement in interlinking is the validation of links, also dubbed manual link validation. This is the process where a user, i.e. a validator or evaluator, specifies whether a link generated by an interlinking tool is correct or incorrect. In frameworks which implement active batch learning to determine links (for example LIMES [9] and SILK [3]), the results of the link validation process are reused to learn presumably better link specifications and thus to generate high-quality links.

While several benchmarks have been made available to measure the performance of existing link discovery systems for the Web of Data, several questions pertaining to this task have remained unanswered so far such as:

- 1. Costs of an annotation: The first question pertains to the cost of link discovery. Determining how much it actually costs (w.r.t. to time) to validate a link between two knowledge bases, enable users to quantify how long it will take them to generate clean links from their knowledge base to other knowledge bases.
- 2. When should a tool be used: Human annotators are able to detect links between knowledge bases at a small scale. On the other hand, machines need a significant number of examples and clear patterns in the underlying data to be able to detect high-quality links between knowledge bases. Hence, determining the knowledge base sizes on which machines should be used for link discovery is of utmost practical importance.

²http://lod-cloud.net/state/

3. Performance of machine-learning of small tasks: While it is well established that machine-learning tools perform well on knowledge bases that contain hundreds of resources or more, many of the knowledge bases on the Web of Data are small and pertain to a dedicated domain. Providing guidelines towards when to use machine-learning algorithms to link these knowledge bases to other knowledge bases can improve the effectiveness of linking on the Web of Data.

Consequently, we propose an experiment to investigate the effect of user intervention in dataset interlinking on small knowledge bases. We study the effort needed for manual validation using a quantitative approach. Furthermore, we compare the performance of a human validator and supervised interlinking approaches to find a break-even point where machine-learning techniques should be used. Note that we intentionally limit ourselves to small numbers of resources in our experiments as (1) experiments on large number of resources have already established that machines perform well and (2) such experiments would be intractable for human users due to long time and great effort.

The core contributions of the paper are:

- An evaluation of the performance of human evaluators on the interlinking task.
- A comparison of human and machine performance on the interlinking task for small knowledge bases.
- A methodology for designing and executing such experiments.
- A gold standard for three small interlinking tasks.

The rest of our paper is organized as follows. In section 2, a short overview about interlinking approaches is provided. Section 3 is a description of the experimental approach. The experiment setup and preparation is described in section 4. In section 5, the results of our experiment are shown. A discussion about the results in section 6 is followed by related work summarized in section 7. Finally in section 8 the conclusion and future work are presented.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 Interlinking Tool

Due to the highly increase of published datasets on the web and the rising number of interlinks required among them, many interlinking tools are proposed based on different algorithms. Some surveys provided comparative studies about these tools showing the major differences among them[20, 16]. Interlinking tools differ in many aspects. Two of these aspects are (i) domain dependency and (ii) Automation.

By the aspect domain dependency, the interlinking tool is classified as domain-dependent when it works on interlinking between two datasets in specific domain. With the Automation perspective, the interlinking tools are categorized into (a) Automated tools and (b)Semi-automated tools based on the degree of user's contribution in the interlinking process. In the semi-automated tools User intervention is important for the linking process in different views, such as setting the link specifications, ontology alignment, providing positive and negative examples for tools based on supervised learning algorithms and validating the final generated links. One of the interlinking tools is RKB-CRS[7]. It is a domaindependent tool. It focuses on universities and publications domains. RKB-CRS is a semi-automated tool where its process depends on providing URIs using a Java program developed by the user. This is performed according to each dataset to be interlinked. The tool applies string matching technique to find URIs equivalences that can be represented as an owl:sameAs relationship.

Another domain-dependent tool is LD-Mapper[15]. It focuses on datasets in the music domain. It provides an approach that depends on string similarity and also considers the neighbour similarity to the resources.

Knofuss[14] is an automatic and domain-independent tools that focuses on merging two datasets where each is described by an ontology. An alignment ontology is also given by the user in case of ontology heterogeneity. The tool has two contexts: (i) application context which is provided by the datasets' ontology and (ii) object context model that points out what properties are needed for the matching process. Matching is performed through string matching and adaptive learning techniques. Knofuss operates on local copies of the datasets.

An example of a semi-automated tool that works on datasets local copies is RDF-AI[18]. It consists of five linking phases. These phases are (i) preprocessing, (ii) matching, (iii) fusion, (iv) interlinking and (v) post-processing and each phase is described by a XML file. The input includes the alignment method and the dataset structure. The utilized matching techniques are string matching and word relation matching. RDF-AI provides a merged dataset or an entity correspondence list as an output.

SILK[3] is a semi-automated tool and it is a domain independent. Unlike the aforementioned tools, it works on the datasets through SPARQL endpoint. The user specifies the linking process parameters using a declarative language dubbed Silk Link Specification Language (Silk-SLS). Using Silk-SLS allows the user to focus on specific type of resources. It supports the use of different matching techniques such as string matching, date similarities and numerical similarities. Set operators like MAX, AVG and MIN combines more than one similarity metric. Links are generated if two resources similarity exceeds a previously specified threshold.

LIMES[9] is an interlinking tool belonging to the same category as SILK by being semi-automated and domain independent. It works as a framework for multiple interlinking algorithms either unsupervised or supervised learning algorithms. For the unsupervised algorithm the user provides linking specifications. The Linking specifications provide the set classes, properties and metrics to make interlinking. On the other hand, different supervised algorithms are implemented by applying genetic learning combined with active learning approaches. The target of these algorithms is finding the best classification of candidate links using the minimum number of training data. Minimizing the training data is performed through finding the most informative data reviewed (labelled) by an oracle. Examples of these algorithms are EAGLE, RAVEN, COALA and EUCLID[11,

12, 13].

RAVEN and EAGLE[10, 11] are two interlinking algorithms that depend on active learning and genetic programming methods with supervised algorithms. As the authors stated, These algorithms implement Time-efficient matching techniques to reduce number of comparisons between instances pairs. COALA[12] is combined with EAGLE to consider the intra and inter correlation between learning examples to the learning algorithm.

LIMES was used in our work due to different reasons. One reason is its simplicity. It uses a simple configuration file to perform interlinking by any of the contained algorithms. It supports working on SPARQL or dump-files. The implemented algorithms are another strength point in LIMES as it supported our work with different interlinking algorithm in the same pool. Three algorithms EAGLE, COALA and EUCLID are used in our work and dubbed as Genetic Active Learning (GAL), Genetic Active Learning with Correlation (GCAL) and Genetic Batch Learning (GBL), respectively.

2.2 Manual Links Validation

Validating the generated links gives two beneficial outputs. First, it provides positive and negative examples for supervised learning algorithms. Second, it creates gold standards to be used for tools and reviewers assessments of other similar linking tasks. LATC ³ is one of the efforts in generating reviewed links samples to achieve the previously mentioned two benefits.

In [6] the authors stated that there is a need for more work on generating benchmarks for interlinking algorithms. A summary of different benchmarking approaches is provided with exposing their strengths and weaknesses. One of these approaches is Ontology Alignment Evaluation Initiative (OAEI). It provides two tracks for evaluating ontology matching algorithms and instance matching algorithms. This is done by using common benchmarks in the evaluations. Other approaches rendered benchmarks are Yatskevich et al.[21], Alexe et al.[1], and SWING[6]. According to [4] three basic points form the criticisms of many generated benchmarks. These points are:

- Using real data
- Benchmarks generation flexibility
- Scalability and correctness

Recently crowdsourcing role has increased in links validations and gold standard generation. Crowdsourcing is a new trend for users involvement in different publishing and linking data phases. In[19] an analytical research about interlinking and user intervention is presented. It gave an analysis about what phases in the interlinking process can be amenable to crowdsourcing. A general architecture was proposed to integrate interlinking frameworks with crowdsourcing (Amazon Mechanical Turk-MTurk) to enhance interlinking process including links validation.

In [5] a case-study was introduced to find out the problems that the users face in ontology matching. This study is one of

the few observational studies about users interactions with one of the linking process phases. The study focuses on the cognitive process performed by the users to find mappings.

According to our knowledge there is no such observational study about the problems face users during validating datasets interlinks and no quantifying experiment to measure the effort done by the users in validating links and generating gold standards.

3. EXPERIMENTAL APPROACH

Based on the motivations explained formerly, we designed a two-stage experiment. The first stage consists of two steps. The first step is performing interlinking between different datasets using the unsupervised learning algorithm. These datasets represent different domains. In the second step, the resulting links are manually validated by human validators. The validators will do this step first individually then in a group, where unsure decisions about links are reviewed by all validators. The resulting links are then considered to be a gold standard for their interlinking tasks. Later, we will discuss about problems in manual link validation of single evaluators and groups.

In the second stage, different supervised algorithms are applied on the same interlinking tasks. Using the gold standard generated from the first stage of the experiment as a benchmark, the performance of the used approaches can be compared to each other and to humans.

In our evaluation we use real data for generating benchmarks. They are generated from actual data forming three interlinking tasks in different domains. Size limitation was forced to ease the validation process. We use this benchmark to evaluate different interlinking algorithms in terms of precision, recall , and F-Measure as assessment measurements[2].

An additional qualitative analysis is performed to detect the common problems faced by humans during the links validation process. This analysis focuses on the problems reported by the validators which affects their judgement quality and the process difficulty.

4. EXPERIMENTAL SETUP

In our experiment, we applied linking on six different datasets using LIMES[9]. These datasets represent three different linking tasks. Each task corresponds to specific domain that differs in nature from the other tasks and varies in familiarity to the reviewers. This will affect the reviewers' decisions correctness and effort in different ways. These tasks are:

• Task 1 represents the *geographic* domain. In this domain, the basic informative information are specific as many locations are described by specific geometry measures.

In this task, links between the DBpedia and Linked-GeoData datasets needed to be set. Both datasets contain geographic information, for example latitude and longitude, for locations such as cities, states, and countries. We restricted our linking to be between cities where their labels started with letter 'A'. The confining of the labels was made for getting a reasonable number of links for evaluators in the first stage of our

³http://latc-project.eu/

experiment and to simplify calculations in the second stage. This provides also a random sample of interlinks with the ability to tune the retrieved number of online instances.

The Label, latitude, and longitude properties are selected to apply similarity metrics on them. Similarity metrics used are Trigrams and Euclidean in a compound function. The compound function combines atomic metrics such as Trigrams, Euclidean and Levenstein using metric operators such as MIN or MAX. Table 2 shows the basic information in this linking task where 'a' represents 'rdf:type' property.

Datasets	DBpedia	LinkedGeoData
Restrictions	a dbpedia-owl:City	a lgdo:City
		rdfs:label
		starts with 'A'
Similarity	rdfs:label	rdfs:label
Properties	Tuis.iabei	Tuis.iabei
	wgs84:lat	wgs84:lat
	wgs84:long	wgs84:long
Similarity	trigrams	
Metrics	ungrams	
	euclidean	

Table 1: Link specification for task 1

• Task 2 represents the *movies* domain. This domain is very interesting as it has some tricky information of the movies such as the name of the movie. In a movie's series, it can be confusing for the validator to give a decision as the names of these movies are close to each other, having the same actors and even the same director. This needs additional information such as the movie's date, which is not always available.

In the second task, we performed linking on DBpedia and LinkedMDB datasets that contain information concerning movies. Both have large amounts of information on movies like their names, directors, release date etc. The triples are restricted to represent movies with release dates beginning from the year 1990. This provides a reasonable number of links.

The similarity function applied for linking is a compound function of Trigrams metric. This function uses properties such as label, director and release date. Table 2 shows the basic information in this linking task where 'a' represents 'rdf:type' property.

Datasets	DBpedia	LinkedMDB
Restrictions	a dbpedia-owl:Film	a linkedmdb:film
		initial_release_date
>"1990-01-01"		
Similarity	label	label
Properties	laber	laber
	director	director
	releaseDate	initial_release_date
Similarity	trigrams	
Metrics	01151 01110	

Table 2: Link specification for task 2

• Task 3 represents the *drugs* domain. Reviewers have to check chemical and medical information for drugs.

The third task generated links between DBpedia and Drugbank datasets. We selected drugs with names starting with letter 'A'. Further a compound similarity function is used involving the Levenshtein similarity metric. This function utilizes property label. Table 3 shows the basic information in this linking task where 'a' represents 'rdf:type' property.

Datasets	DBpedia	DrugsBank
Restrictions	a dbpedia-owl:Drug	a drug:drugs
		rdfs:label
		starts with 'A'
Similarity	rdfs:label	rdfs:label
Properties	Tuis.label	Tuis.iabei
	rdfs:label	rdfs:label
	rdfs:label	drug:genericName
Similarity	levenshtein	
Metrics	levensmenn	

Table 3: Link specification for task 3

The aim of the second stage is to investigate whether using machine learning approaches for linking can outperform humans. Our experiment achieves this aim by using three different supervised learning algorithms EAGLE, COALA and EUCLID [11, 12, 13]. The three algorithms are all implemented in the LIMES framework [9]. The interlinking approaches are given different percentage of positive and negative examples for each single task. The examples are provided in an increasing percentages $10\%,\!33\%$ and 50% of the total examples resulting from the first stage for each task. As these examples play the role of oracle in the supervised learning approaches, the increasing percentages should enhance the algorithm performance and converge against a score either above or somewhat close to single human performance. The three approaches function on the same specifications of the tasks in the first stage and also on the same datasets.

Links evaluation is done by using an evaluation tool with a graphical user interface dubbed Evalink(see Figure 1). The reviewer specifies the endpoints where the source and target links triples are available. It enables the evaluators to load the links to be reviewed and retrieves their properties information from the specified endpoints. The reviewer can check the correlated properties values and give a decision either 'Correct', 'Incorrect' or 'Unsure'. The spanned time for taking a decision is stored in milliseconds. The source code is available in "https://github.com/AKSW/Evalink".

5. RESULTS

Based on the previously described specifications, the experiment was carried out in two stages. The first stage aims to generate a gold standard for each task. A set of five independent reviewers evaluated the links generated such that each gold standard was provided based on minimum four out of five agreement on a decision for each link. In order to express the total effort needed by a reviewer to provide a gold standard, we considered the time for deciding if a link as correct or incorrect as a measure. This time is measured in milliseconds. In the experiment, the average times for each task to be evaluated by the users are as follows: 18773764 milliseconds for task 1; 16628607 milliseconds for task 2; and

	VALUE	Destination Prope		
	VALUE		erties	
http://geovocab.org/geometry#geometry	VALUE		VALUE	
	http://linkedgeodata	/wgs84_pos#gec		•
http://linkedgeodata.org/ontology/version	5^^http://www.w3.or	/wgs84_pos#gec	POINT(-117.89 33.8362)^http://www.openlinksw.com	
http://linkedgeodata.org/ontology/changeset	12302505^^http://wv	aryTopicOf	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anaheim,_California	
http://www.w3.org/2002/07/owl#sameAs	http://gadm.geovoca	/wgs84_pos#lon	-117.89^http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#float	
http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#type	http://geovocab.org/	/wgs84_pos#lon	-117.89^http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#float	
http://www.w3.org/2002/07/owl#sameAs	http://dbpedia.org/re	/wgs84_pos#lat	33.8361^^http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#float	
http://linkedgeodata.org/ontology/is_in%3Acontin	North America	/wgs84_pos#lat	33.8362^http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema#float	
http://linkedgeodata.org/ontology/is_in%3Acountr	USA	DerivedFrom	http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Anaheim,_California?oldid	
http://www.w3.org/2003/01/geo/wgs84_pos#lat	3.38367029E1^^http	oint	33.836165 -117.889769@en	
http://www.w3.org/1999/02/22-rdf-syntax-ns#type	http://linkedgeodata	oint	33.83611111111111 -117.8897222222222@en	1
	 (i) 			
http://linkedgeodata.org/triplify/node21185999		kup Properties	http://dbpedia.org/resource/Anaheim,_California	1
	tp://www.w3.org/1999 tp://www.w3.org/2003			
	Correct Incorrect	Unsure	Get properties	

Figure 1: Evalink tool to evaluate links

The user selects the task to be evaluated and specifies the proper endpoints to access the triples. The URIs of the task are loaded sequentially with displaying their retrieved information. By selecting a property in source dataset, the corresponding property is highlighted in the target datasets' side. By pressing the proper button the decision of the link is specified either "Correct", "Incorrect", or "Unsure".

18777477 milliseconds for task 3, which are shown in table 4 . Overall, approximately 15 hours of evaluation effort have gone into our experiment per participant.

	Task 1	Task 2	Task 3
Average time	18773764	16628607	18777477

Table 4: Average times of the evaluation processes for each task (in milliseconds)

A more detailed way to express the provided effort by a user is the average time for a single link to be evaluated by a user in a single task. Table 5 shows the performed average times in each task. It is evident that there are significant differences between users and that overall the evaluation of a large number of links is a time consuming process.

	task 1	task 2	task 3
user 1	36803	22974	10223
user 2	21465	18821	20358
user 3	12299	39363	9802
user 4	10922	11329	34553
user 5	38853	43811	44664

Table 5: Average times for evaluating a single link within a task by each user(in milliseconds)

An assessment of the links evaluation performed by users was achieved. Out of 535 links, 502 links had certain, may be different, decisions made by each single user. 32 links did not have enough information to reach a decision and marked as unsure links. Gold standards are created by giving each link a final decision using inter-rater agreement. The assessment was done by comparing each user's evaluation for each task to the gold standard. Small number of decisions made by users were incorrect compared to the gold standard. Details of the assessment are described in table 6 and table 7.

	Correct	Incorrect	Total
user 1	496	6	502
user 2	492	10	502
user 3	481	21	502
user 4	487	15	502
user 5	481	21	502

 Table 6: Users evaluations assessment of total evaluation

The second stage of our experiment was performing linking between the specified datasets using different supervised learning algorithms and assessing their performance against the generated gold standards in terms of precision, recall and F-measure. LIMES[9] is an interlinking tool that is also a framework with different implemented interlinking algorithms with different learning approaches. EAGLE, COALA and EUCLID are used to provide set of interlinks that are compared to the gold standard as aforementioned. The resulting comparisons are demonstrated in tables 8,9 and 10 in terms of Precision.

The cost to achieve a specific F-Measure w.r.t. the percentage of the training data is calculated in terms of time. Using the average times to validate a link in each task, the times for different percentages are calculated. Figures 2, 3 and 4 plot F-Measure corresponding to afforded costs in minutes for the three tasks. The figures show the overall supremacy of GCAL over other approaches and even over the human performance. GBL has the worst behaviour among the supervised learning approaches. Task 3 was the least costly one which is self explained by the high F-Measure values achieved for all algorithms.

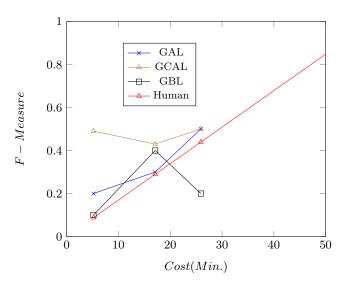


Figure 2: F-Measure results relative to the learning cost of each approach in terms of time(Task 1)

6. **DISCUSSION**

Our discussion of the experiment is divided into two parts. The first part concerns the users evaluations results and

Tasks		Task 1			Task 2			Task 3	
Measures	Precision	Recall	F-Measure	Precision	Recall	F-Measure	Precision	Recall	F-Measure
User 1	0.81	0.98	0.89	0.98	1	0.99	0.97	0.99	0.98
User 2	0.83	1	0.91	0.93	0.94	0.93	0.96	0.98	0.97
User 3	0.74	0.9	0.81	0.97	0.98	0.98	0.94	0.96	0.95
User 4	0.81	0.98	0.88	0.95	0.97	0.96	0.93	0.95	0.94
User 5	0.82	0.99	0.9	0.91	0.93	0.92	0.91	0.93	0.92

Table 7: Precision, Recall and F-Measure results achieved by every user in each task.

Tasks	Task 1			Task 2			Task 3		
percentages	10%	33%	50%	10%	33%	50%	10%	33%	50%
GAL	0.12	0.32	0.8	0.63	0.33	0.32	0.078	0.47	0.79
GCAL	0.81	0.76	0.8	0.69	0.27	0.056	0.88	0.54	0.88
GBL	0.04	0.77	0.4	0.8	0.007	0.047	0.13	0.29	0.29

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	Precision	rocilite	OT	GIIDORVI	SOU	loarni	no	annroac	noc
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Supervised learning approaches include: GAL, GCAL and GBL. For each, its performance is measured relevant to different percentages of training data 10%, 33% and 50%.

Tasks	Task 1			Task 2			Task 3		
percentages	10%	33%	50%	10%	33%	50%	10%	33%	50%
GAL	0.398	0.35	0.35	0.28	0.71	0.92	0.17	0.5	0.53
GCAL	0.35	0.29	0.37	0.19	0.82	0.85	0.23	0.53	0.69
GBL	0.24	0.27	0.18	0.07	0.43	0.79	0.43	0.74	0.98

Table 9: Recalls results of supervised learning approaches.

Supervised learning approaches include: GAL, GCAL and GBL. For each, its performance is measured relevant to different percentages of training data 10%, 33% and 50%.

Tasks	Task 1				Task 2			Task 3		
percentages	10%	33%	50%	10%	33%	50%	10%	33%	50%	
GAL	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.4	0.4	0.5	0.1	0.5	0.6	
GCAL	0.49	0.43	0.5	0.31	0.4	0.1	0.37	0.53	0.78	
GBL	0.1	0.4	0.2	0.1	0	0.1	0.2	0.4	0.5	

Table 10: F-Measure results of supervised learning approaches.

Supervised learning approaches include: GAL, GCAL and GBL. For each, its performance is measured relevant to different percentages of training data 10%, 33% and 50%.

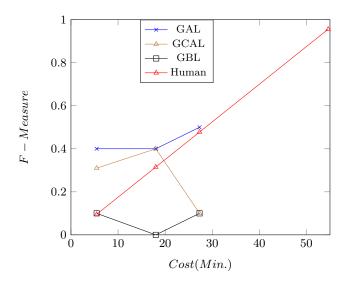


Figure 3: F-Measure results relative to the learning cost of each approach in terms of time(Task 2)

observations. The second part analyzes the learning algorithm's performances.

The user evaluation aims to generate links as a gold standard to be used as a benchmark for link evaluators and interlinking algorithms. Many observations are recorded while users perform the evaluations, which enable us to inspect the major factors that influence the evaluation process. These factors include: (i) *entity description availability* which includes endpoints availability and the amount of available information,(ii) *domain familiarity* and (iii) *information ambiguity*.

Endpoints availability, occasionally, was problematic. As the evaluation process required querying the endpoints for the triples information, having the endpoints down and not working consumed more time. This imposed the need to cache the appropriate data which creates an overhead. This overhead was reasonable for these small datasets but it will increase in case of large datasets. Still having active endpoint is necessary due to the continues information updating.

Once the information are available, the second point concerning their sizes comes in focus. Although the number of links and the their related information were relatively small, the manual evaluation was very tedious and exhausting for the users. Supporting the evaluation by using Evalink tool overcame the unnecessary efforts like loading the links information and aligning them. It also put the whole evaluation effort on the time of making a decision by the user. The manual setting of Evalink generated more settings effort which should be further extended for intelligent properties mapping.

The help given by Evalink had its effect on the domain familiarity too. With the suitable evaluation tool that maps the related properties between two datasets, the domain familiarity was not affecting the evaluation. Finding the right properties and comparing their values diminished the dif-

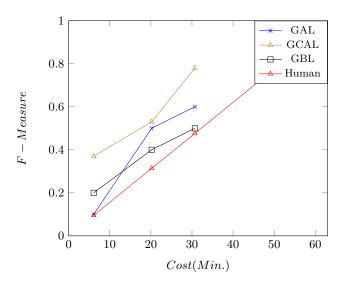


Figure 4: F-Measure results relative to the learning cost of each approach in terms of time(Task 3)

ficulties might rise from unfamiliar domain evaluation to users. Information concerning the resource was in some cases either ambiguous and, thus, not allowing for a decision to be made and in other cases too much information was available that confused the users. As an example from drugs domain a URI <http://wifo5-04.informatik.unimannheim.de/drugbank/resource/drugs/DB00363> had plenty of information such as secondaryAccessionNumber and predictedWaterSolubility which are non crucial for the decision making process. Both cases caused significant time delays for a subset of the judgements which were made. Filtering the suitable information to avoid unnecessary properties and providing crucial ones will provide great value to the evaluation process in terms of time and decision correctness. With missed information, it is important to create a measure of confidence for the decisions. Building up strategies for information integration with other related datasets to cover the absent of information can help in this case too. Measuring the time to generate gold standards for each task(table 4and table 6), we find that there were no significant differences among the average times of all tasks. This shows how links validation is improved by the availability and clarity of important properties identifying the linking process to the validators. This indicates that with trivial domain knowledge and appropriate properties to compare, the users perform evaluation with F-Measure above 0.8 (table 7). In these tables we can see how almost all the user's perform with reasonable high values of F-Measure in all tasks. The achieved F-Measure scores range from 0.81 to 0.99. These ratios will be used in comparison between the user performance and machine (algorithm) performance.

The results of the second stage are represented in figures 2, 3 and 4. We can see that, in most cases, machine learning algorithms outperform the human in terms of F-Measure when considering the cost to provide the training set. GAL, in tasks 1 and 3, has better performance compared to a human up to 50% of the gold standard as training data. On the other side, in task 2 although it achieved better results

than an average human but for lower costs the F-Measure is almost stable around 0.4, so increasing the labelling effort for training data provided no significant improvement. Even in those cases where it improved with more training data, its ultimate performance fell short of human performance in the long run. GCAL and GBL both recorded increasing results with task 1 and task 3 with more training data, while performing worst in task 2. GAL and GBL perform learning by using a portion of the data space. If this portion is a good representative of the data distribution, the performance increases. GCAL considers the correlation between training data examples. It classifies the training data based on the inter- and intra correlation which is calculated based on similarities between the training data examples. We conclude from the results for the three tasks that the links of task 1 and task 3, which formed the training data, are good representatives of the datasets for geographic and drugs data while links of task 2 are randomly distributed and apparently not good representatives of the movies task. We can further infer that with small datasets, machine learning algorithms are outperforming humans in case of well representative training data being available. If that is not the case, humans perform better in the long run.

7. CONCLUSION

In our experiment, we emphasized on the factors affecting the evaluators in their linking evaluations. These factors include: (i)*endpoints availability*, (ii) *amount of available information*,(iii)*domain familiarity* and (iv)*information ambiguity*. We quantitatively determined the human effort required for interlinking in terms of time for different datasets. The experiment showed how much training data is sufficient to act as a representative of the interlinked datasets. It also revealed experimentally that for small datasets, how much training data, which is a sufficient representative of the dataset, can affect the machine learning approaches to the degree that humans exceed its accuracy.

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