

Imperial College
London

Meta-Interpretive Learning: achievements and
challenges

Stephen Muggleton

Department of Computing
Imperial College, London

Motivation

Logic Programming [Kowalski, 1976]

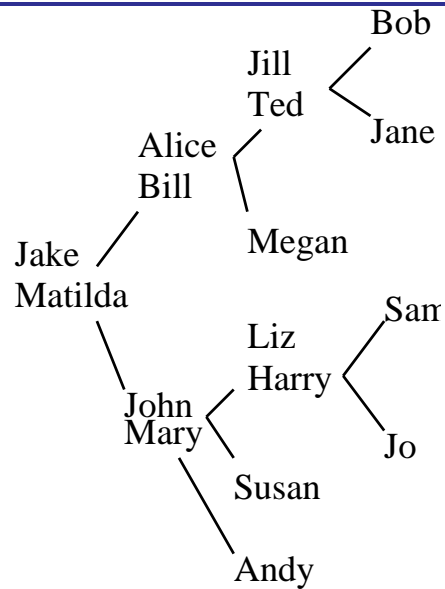
Inductive Logic Programming [Muggleton, 1991]

Machine Learn arbitrary programs

State-of-the-art ILP systems lacked Predicate Invention and
Recursion [Muggleton et al, 2011]

Family relations (Dyadic)

Family tree



Target Theory

$father(ted, bob) \leftarrow$

$father(ted, jane) \leftarrow$

$parent(X, Y) \leftarrow mother(X, Y)$

$parent(X, Y) \leftarrow father(X, Y)$

$ancestor(X, Y) \leftarrow parent(X, Y)$

$ancestor(X, Y) \leftarrow parent(X, Z),$

$ancestor(Z, Y)$

Generalised Meta-Interpreter

prove([], *BK*, *BK*).

prove([*Atom*|*As*], *BK*, *BK_H*) : –

metarule(*Name*, *MetaSub*, (*Atom* :- *Body*), *Order*),
Order,

save_subst(*metasub*(*Name*, *MetaSub*), *BK*, *BK_C*),

prove(*Body*, *BK_C*, *BK_Cs*),

prove(*As*, *BK_Cs*, *BK_H*).

Metarules

Name	Meta-Rule	Order
Instance	$P(X, Y) \leftarrow$	<i>True</i>
Base	$P(x, y) \leftarrow Q(x, y)$	$P \succ Q$
Chain	$P(x, y) \leftarrow Q(x, z), R(z, y)$	$P \succ Q, P \succ R$
TailRec	$P(x, y) \leftarrow Q(x, z), P(z, y)$	$P \succ Q,$ $x \succ z \succ y$

Meta-Interpretive Learning (MIL)

First-order	Meta-form
<p>Examples</p> <p>ancestor(jake,bob) ← ancestor(alice,jane) ←</p>	<p>Examples</p> <p>prove([ancestor(jake,bob), ancestor(alice,jane)], ..) ←</p>
<p>Background Knowledge</p> <p>father(jake,alice) ← mother(alice,ted) ←</p>	<p>Background Knowledge</p> <p>instance(father,jake,john) ← instance(mother,alice,ted) ←</p>
<p>Instantiated Hypothesis</p> <p>father(ted,bob) ← father(ted,jane) ← p1(X,Y) ← father(X,Y) p1(X,Y) ← mother(X,Y) ancestor(X,Y) ← p1(X,Y) ancestor(X,Y) ← p1(X,Z), ancestor(Z,Y)</p>	<p>Abduced facts</p> <p>instance(father,ted,bob) ← instance(father,ted,jane) ← base(p1,father) ← base(p1,mother) ← base(ancestor,p1) ← tailrec(ancestor,p1,ancestor) ←</p>

Logical form of Metarules

General form

$$P(X, Y) \leftarrow Q(X, Y)$$

$$P(X, Y) \leftarrow Q(X, Z), R(Z, Y)$$

Metarule general form used in Family Relations

$$\exists P, Q, \dots \forall X, Y, \dots P(X, \dots) \leftarrow Q(Y, \dots), \dots$$

Supports predicate/object invention and recursion.

In Family Relations we consider hypotheses in H_2^2 , which contains predicates with arity at most 2 and has at most 2 atoms in the body.

Minimising sets of Metarules [ILP 2014]

Set of Metarules	Reduced Set
$P(X, Y) \leftarrow Q(X, Y)$	
$P(X, Y) \leftarrow Q(Y, X)$	$P(X, Y) \leftarrow Q(Y, X)$
$P(X, Y) \leftarrow Q(X, Y), R(Y, X)$	
$P(X, Y) \leftarrow Q(X, Y), R(Y, Z)$	
$P(X, Y) \leftarrow Q(X, Y), R(Z, Y)$	
$P(X, Y) \leftarrow Q(X, Z), R(Z, Y)$	$P(X, Y) \leftarrow Q(X, Z), R(Z, Y)$
..	
$P(X, Y) \leftarrow Q(Z, Y), R(Z, X)$	

Expressivity of H_2^2

Given an infinite signature H_2^2 has Universal Turing Machine expressivity [Tarnlund, 1977].

$\text{utm}(S,S)$	\leftarrow	$\text{halt}(S).$
$\text{utm}(S,T)$	\leftarrow	$\text{execute}(S,S1), \text{utm}(S1,T).$
$\text{execute}(S,T)$	\leftarrow	$\text{instruction}(S,F), F(S,T).$

Q: How can we limit H_2^2 to avoid the halting problem?

Metagol implementation (1)

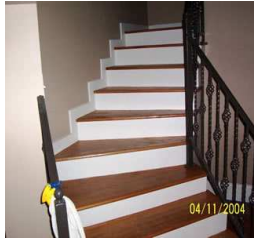
- Ordered Herbrand Base [Knuth and Bendix, 1970; Yahya, Fernandez and Minker, 1994] - guarantees termination of derivations. Lexicographic + interval.
- Episodes - sequence of related learned concepts.
- 0, 1, 2, .. clause hypothesis classes tested progressively.
- Log-bounding (PAC result) - $\log_2 n$ clause definition needs n examples.
- YAP implementation - <https://github.com/metagol/metagol>

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Metagol implementation (2)

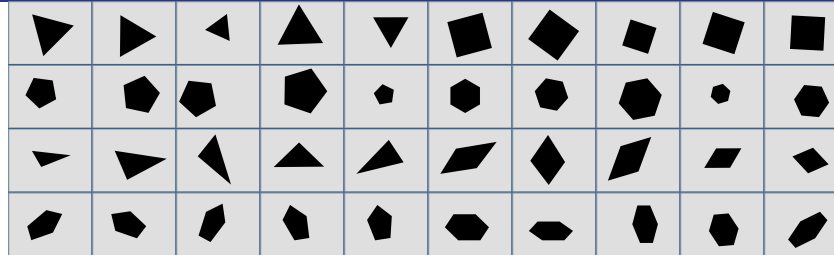
- Andrew Cropper's YAP implementation - <https://github.com/metagol/metagol>
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- Hank Conn's Web interface - https://github.com/metagol/metagol_web_interface
.
- Live web-interface - <http://metagol.doc.ic.ac.uk>

Vision applications (1)



Staircase

ILP 2013



Regular Geometric

ILP 2015

stair(X,Y) :- stair1(X,Y).

stair(X,Y) :- stair1(X,Z), stair(Z,Y).

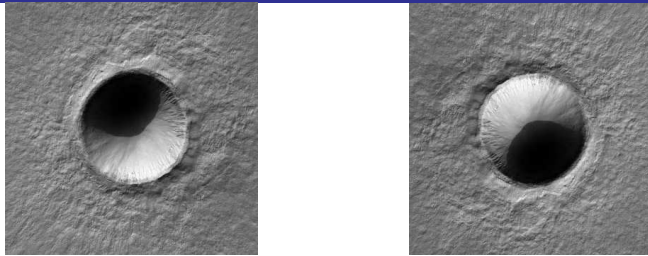
stair1(X,Y) :- vertical(X,Z), horizontal(Z,Y).

Learned in 0.08s on laptop from single image.

Note Predicate invention and recursion.

Vision applications (2) - ILP2017 - Object invention

**Example
Mars
Images**

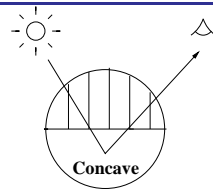


`lit(obj1,north). lit(obj1,south).`

**Background
Knowledge**

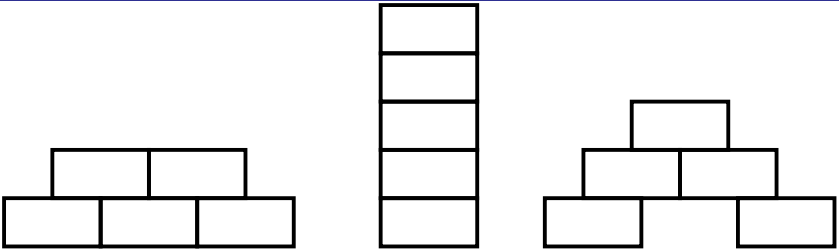
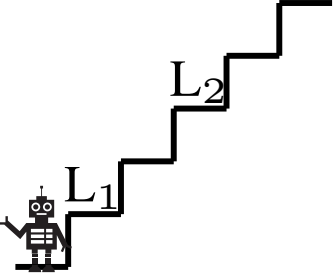
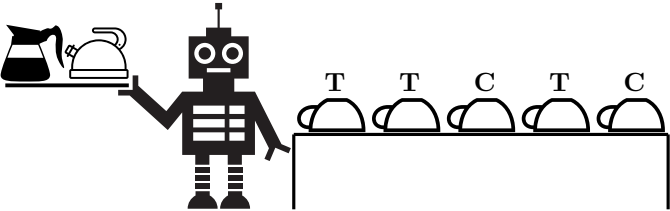

```
light_path(X,X).
light_path(X,Y) :- reflect(X,Z), light_path(Z,Y).
highlight(X,Y):- contains(X,Y), brighter(Y,X), light(L),
    light_path(L,Y), reflector(Y), light(Y,O), observer(O).
hl_angle(obj1,hlight,south). % highlight angle
opposite(north,south). opposite(south,north).
```

**Hypothesis
Image1**



```
lit(A,B):- lit1(A,C), lit3(A,B,C).
lit1(A,B):- highlight(A,B), lit2(A), lit4(B).
lit3(A,B,C):- hl_angle(A,B,D), opposite(D,C).
lit2(obj1). % concave
lit4(hlight). % highlight
light(lit1). observer(observer1). reflector(hlight).
reflect(obj1,hlight). reflect(hlight, observer1).
```

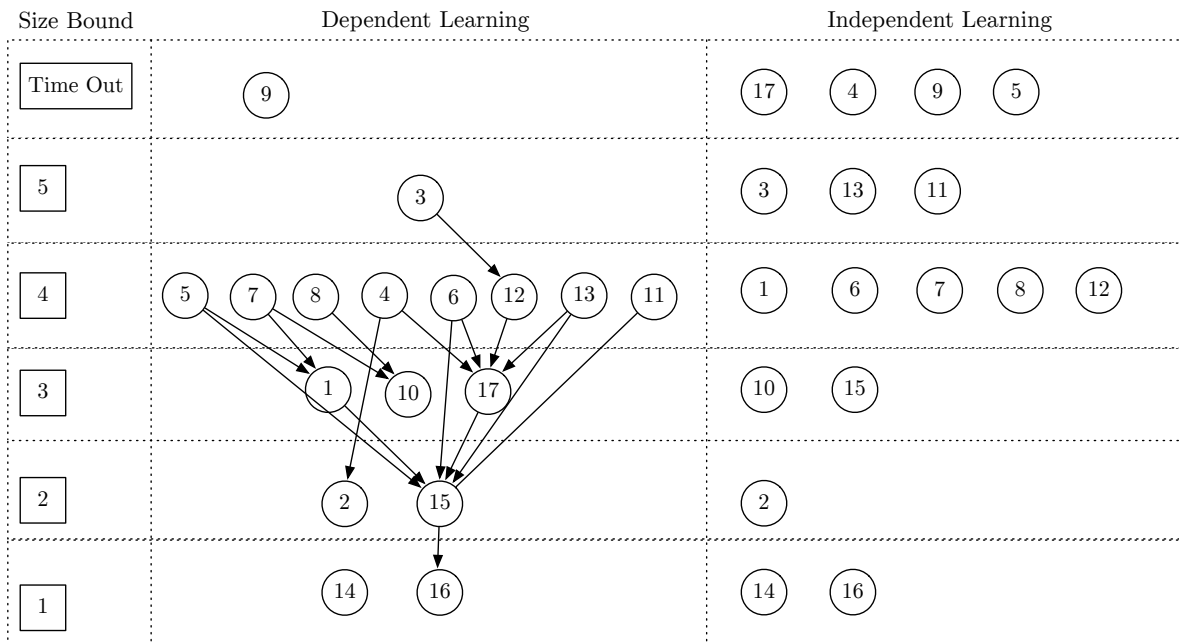
Robotic applications

 <p>a) b) c)</p>	
<p>Building a Stable Wall IJCAI 2013</p>	<p>Learning Efficient Strategies IJCAI 2015</p>
	
<p>Initial state IJCAI 2016</p>	<p>Final state Abstraction and Invention</p>

Language applications

Formal grammars [MLJ 2014]

Dependent string transformations [ECAI 2014]



Chain of programs from dependent learning

$f_{03}(A,B) :- f_{12.1}(A,C), f_{12}(C,B).$

$f_{12}(A,B) :- f_{12.1}(A,C), f_{12.2}(C,B).$

$f_{12.1}(A,B) :- f_{12.2}(A,C), skip1(C,B).$

$f_{12.2}(A,B) :- f_{12.3}(A,C), write1(C,B,',').$

$f_{12.3}(A,B) :- copy1(A,C), f_{17.1}(C,B).$

$f_{17}(A,B) :- f_{17.1}(A,C), f_{15}(C,B).$

$f_{17.1}(A,B) :- f_{15.1}(A,C), f_{17.1}(C,B).$

$f_{17.1}(A,B) :- skipalphanum(A,B).$

$f_{15}(A,B) :- f_{15.1}(A,C), f_{16}(C,B).$

$f_{15.1}(A,B) :- skipalphanum(A,C), skip1(C,B).$

$f_{16}(A,B) :- copyalphanum(A,C), skiprest(C,B).$

Other applications

Learning proof tactics [ILP 2015]

Learning data transformations [ILP 2015]

Related work

Predicate Invention. Early ILP [Muggleton and Buntine, 1988; Rouveirol and Puget, 1989; Stahl 1992]

Abductive Predicate Invention. Propositional Meta-level abduction [Inoue et al., 2010]

Meta-Interpretive Learning. Learning regular and context-free grammars [Muggleton et al, 2013]

Higher-order Logic Learning. Without background knowledge [Feng and Muggleton, 1992; Lloyd 2003]

Higher-order Datalog. HO-Progol learning [Pahlavi and Muggleton, 2012]

Conclusions and Challenges

- New form of Declarative Machine Learning [De Raedt, 2012]
- H_2^2 is tractable and Turing-complete fragment of High-order Logic
- Knuth-Bendix style ordering guarantees termination of queries
- Beyond classification learning - strategy learning

Challenges

- Generalise beyond Dyadic logic
- Deal with classification noise
- Active learning
- Efficient problem decomposition
- Meaningful invented names and types

Bibliography

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- S.H. Muggleton, D. Lin, A. Tamaddoni-Nezhad. Meta-interpretive learning of higher-order dyadic datalog: Predicate invention revisited. Machine Learning, 2015.
- D. Lin, E. Dechter, K. Ellis, J.B. Tenenbaum, S.H. Muggleton. Bias reformulation for one-shot function induction. ECAI 2014.

Draughtsman's assistant demo

Learning from drawings Use simplified version of Postscript language with primitives *draw*, *turn90*, *aturn90* in image array.

One-shot learning Each drawing learned from single example using Metarules and Higher-order definitions.

Learn symbols as programs For instance, the letter **L** as a drawing.

Learn numbers as higher-order definitions For instance, the number two (three, four) applied to **L** gives two (three, four) **L**'s.

Incremental learning Larger programs learned by building on previously learned programs.