

# Concept Graph Preserving Semantic Relationship for Biomedical Text Categorization

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**Abstract:** Nowadays, graph illustration of text is gaining importance owing to improved performance over traditional bag-of-words representations in text categorization applications. During this paper, we tend to have a graph-based illustration for biomedical articles and use graph kernels to classify those articles into high level classes. During this approach, common biomedical concepts and linguistics relationships are identified with the help of an existing ontology and are used to build a chic graph structure that has a regular feature set and preserves extra linguistics in for that would improve a classifier's performance. We tend to classify the graphs victimisation each a set-based graph kernel that's capable of coping with the disconnected nature of the graphs and an easy linear kernel. Finally, we tend to report the results scrutiny the classification performance of the kernel classifiers to common text based classifiers.

**Keywords:** Text categorization, text retrieval, query processing, graph kernels, graph representations, mining methods and algorithms, text mining, classifier design and evaluation.\

## 1. Introduction

Biomedical electronic document databases are growing exponentially, resulting in huge digital repositories. Organizing and searching these documents manually is increasingly costly and time consuming. MedLine is one example of a fast growing biomedical digital library. It currently has more than 18million indexed articles and therefore its availability and usability has become critical to students and researchers working on biomedical-related topics. With the rapid growth, biomedical literature has been the subject of intensive information retrieval and machine learning investigations throughout past decades. Text categorization (also known as document categorization) is a challenging research area where text documents are categorized using predefined labels based on their content. Applying improved text categorization techniques to the biomedical databases is essential to overcome the information overload problem and to facilitate indexing, filtering and managing the growing number of articles in those databases.

Most of the existing text categorization techniques use a vector representation of documents. In the vector space model, key entities and concepts are identified from text and used as features. The disadvantage of the vector representation is the lack of semantic relationships among key entities and concepts in the text. Recently, graph mining and graph modelling techniques have begun to gain popularity in modelling complex data such as protein sequences and structures and social networks. The advantage of graph modelling is the use of "rich" semantic representation of relationships among key entities and concepts in atext and hence may yield improved results when classifying documents. In addition, kernel functions for graphs and other structured data have garnered particular interest. Kernel functions are an elegant method of embedding non-vector data, such as graphs, into a vector space suitable for operations using existing classifiers.

Text categorization (also known as text classification or topic spotting) is the task of automatically sorting a set of documents into categories from a predefined set. This task has several applications, including automated indexing of scientific articles according to predefined thesauri of technical terms, filing patents into patent directories, selective dissemination of information to information consumers, automated population of hierarchical catalogues of Web resources, spam filtering, identification of document genre, authorship attribution, survey coding, and even automated essay grading. Automated text classification is attractive because it frees organizations from the need of manually organizing document bases, which can be too expensive, or simply not feasible given the time constraints of the application or the number of documents involved. Text categorization has recently become an active research topic in the area of information retrieval. The objective of text categorization is to assign entries from a set of prespecified categories to a document. A document here refers to a piece of text. Categories may be derived from a sparse classification scheme or from a large collection of very specific content identifiers. Categories may be expressed numerically or as phrases and individual words. Traditionally this categorization task is performed manually by domain experts. Each incoming document is read and comprehended by the expert and then it is assigned a number of categories chosen from the set of prespecified categories. It is inevitable that a large amount of manual effort is required. For instance, the MEDLINE corpus, which consists of medical journal articles, requires considerable human resources to carry out categorization using a set of Medical Subject Headings (MeSH) categories.

Text Categorization may be formalized as the task of approximating the unknown target functions  $\emptyset: D * \check{C} \rightarrow \{T, F\}$  (that describes how documents ought to be classified, according to a supposedly authoritative expert) by means of a function  $\hat{\emptyset}: D * \check{C} \rightarrow \{T, F\}$  called the classifier where  $\check{C} = \{C_1 \dots, C|c\}$  is a predefined set of categories and  $D$  is a (possibly infinite) set of documents. If  $\hat{\emptyset}(d_j, c_i) = T$ ,

then  $d_j$  is called a positive example (or a member) of  $c_i$ , while if  $\emptyset(d_j, c_i) = F$  it is called a negative example of  $c_i$ .

## 2. Related Work

Several supervised learning techniques have been proposed to automate the manual process of classifying documents. Those include NB classification, SVMs, k-NN classification, and Decision Trees. Graph representations have also been used to categorize documents based on graph matching where the complex structure of documents can be represented as nodes and edges that encode the textual features of the documents. The addition of relationship edges to describe documents can create a much higher-dimensional feature space, thus allowing for more nuanced and potentially useful embeddings of the documents. Weighted frequent subgraphs were used in to construct effective feature vectors for classification and to overcome the computation overhead that is associated with graph structures. The relationships used to connect graph nodes can be as diverse as the applications. Word and sentence saliency scores to rank their results.

A kernel function is a mapping between a pair of graphs into a real number. This function defines an inner product between two graphs and must be positive semi definite and symmetric. Such a function embeds graphs or any other objects into a Hilbert space, and is termed a Mercer kernel from Mercer's theorem. Kernel functions can enhance classification in two ways: first, by mapping vector objects into higher dimensional spaces; second, by embedding non vector objects in an implicitly defined space. The advantages of mapping objects into a higher dimensional space, the so called kernel trick, are apparent in a variety of cases where objects are not separable by a linear decision boundary. This implicit embedding is not only useful for non-linear mappings, but also serves to decouple the object representation from the spatial embedding. A kernel function need only be defined between data objects in order to apply a kernel classifier. Such a kernel classifier can then be used for classification of graph objects by defining a kernel function between graphs, without explicitly defining any set of graph features.

## 3. Proposed Method

This method consists of two major components. The first is the graph construction part, which involves mapping biomedical terms that are extracted from the text into predefined concepts of a controlled vocabulary. In addition, the relationships among the concepts are also identified and added to the representation. The second component is the application of a graph kernel function to compute the similarities between the generated graphs and a kernel classifier to discriminate between the documents given their embedding in the kernel space.

Fig. 1 shows the data flow of the procedure of extracting concepts and relationships as well as feeding them into a graph kernel function for classification. In brief, the process is as follows: First, a set of biomedical articles are selected from different journals; next, biomedical concepts are extracted from the documents and mapped to concepts from

the UMLS database; concept relationships are then extracted and used to link the concepts, resulting in the concept graphs; a kernel matrix is prepared by computing similarities between the graphs; and finally, the kernel matrix is used for learning and prediction of the documents' target classes. The overall process consists of two phases: 1) graph construction and 2) classifier learning and output. Each phase is described in detail in the following sections.

### 3.1 Graph Construction

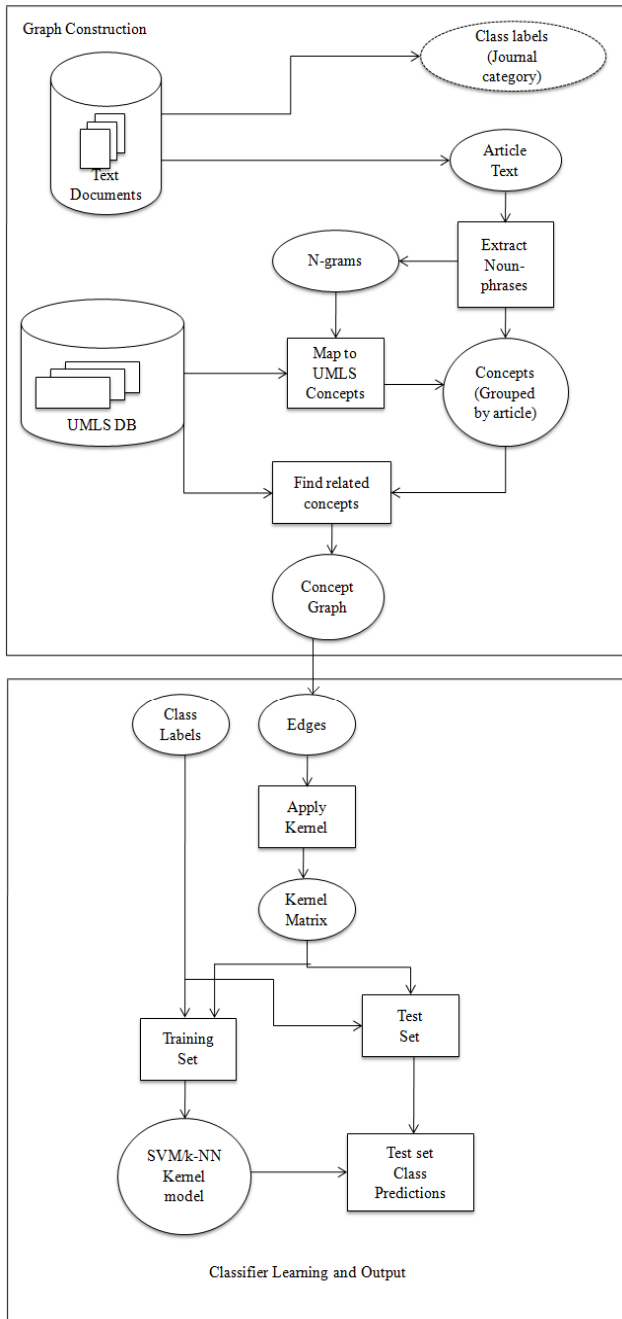
The graph construction phase begins by collecting a set of published articles from different journals. The articles were grouped by the journal in which they were published. The journals represent high-level categories of biomedical related disciplines and, thus, are used as the class labels for the different sets of documents. The text content is then used to construct a set of concept graphs, where each document is represented by one graph. Several keywords were chosen as class labels for the graphs to be constructed and were used to query the Medline database for articles that contain those keywords in both their title and abstract. The keywords are biomedical terms that represent a general topic (ex: spinal cord injury) or a common biomedical entity name (ex: insulin).

To ensure the target concepts correspond to a controlled vocabulary set, we then attempt to map the n-grams of each noun phrase into biomedical concepts of the UMLS database. If any of the n-gram substrings is found in UMLS, it is added to the corresponding graph as a concept node and each assigned a unique identifier.

### 3.2 Node and Edge Weights

All nodes in the graph are consequently assigned four different weight components that correspond to their significance in a document. Below is a description of each:

- $F_{i,d}$ : Concept frequency, which is the number of times a concept term  $i$  appears in a document  $d$ . This value assigns more weight to concept terms with high occurrence frequency in a document.
- $idf_i$ : Inverse frequency of documents that contain a concept term  $i$ . This value ensures that common terms in the whole data set are given lower weights while rare terms are favoured.
- $cw_i$ : Connectivity weight of a concept node  $i$  in a graph. This is calculated as the magnitude of the vector of  $f * idf$  values of related nodes  $c_1; c_2; \dots; c_j$ . This component assigns higher weight values to concept nodes that are better connected in a graph. Nodes that are connected to more nodes of high  $f * idf$  values would be favoured.
- $cs_i$ : Cluster size, which is the number of nodes of the cluster containing the concept node  $i$  in a graph. In this experiment, clusters are referred to as all connected components of the containing graph.



**Figure 1: System Overview**

### 3.3 Classifier Learning and output

After transforming the set of articles into a set of graphs, a graph kernel function is applied to compute the similarity between all pairs of graphs, and the resulting kernel matrix is used for classification. The first is a simple set-based kernel that is used to measure concept graph similarity based on the number of shared edges.

There are a couple properties that make a set based kernel function attractive. The first reason is that the set computations used are easily implemented and understood, leading to a kernel function that is easy to interpret, which results in a greater confidence in producing reliable measures of graph similarity. The second reason is that many of the concept graphs are disconnected or sparse, with many more nodes than edges, which can pose problems for some graph mining algorithms. This kernel function is based

on the Jaccard coefficient. It computes the similarity between two graphs X and Y as the ratio of the cardinality of the intersection of the edges sets  $E_x$  and  $E_y$  to the cardinality of their union:

$$K(x,y) = \frac{|E_x \cap E_y|}{|E_x \cup E_y|}$$

### 3.4 The Algorithm

The above discussed technique can be implemented as follows:

**Step 1:** Several keywords were chosen as class labels for the graphs to be constructed and were used to query the Medline database for articles that contain those keywords in both their title and abstract. The keywords are biomedical terms that represent a general topic (ex: spinal cord injury) or a common biomedical entity name (ex: insulin).

**Step 2:** The titles of the retrieved articles are then used as graph labels and the abstracts are passed into a named entity recognition module. Only abstracts with one or more a named entity recognition (NER) module and a concept identification module. The second is the application of a graph kernel function to compute the similarity between the generated graphs and a kernel classifier to discriminate between papers given their embedding in the kernel space.

**Step 3:** For each article, the entities are used to query the UMLS database and are subsequently mapped to predefined concepts. For each entity within the article, the top three concepts (which are assumed to be the most relevant) are selected and added to the corresponding article's concepts set.

**Step 4:** Now that the graphs consist of well defined UMLS concepts, the UMLS database is queried to find additional related concepts. The relations are already defined in the database with labels describing the nature of those relations. We then try to retrieve concepts having a "parent-child" or "synonym" relationship with the existing concepts, add those to the graphs, and add the relations as edges between the nodes with the corresponding label.

**Step 5:** The mapping of node concept labels to integers is more complicated because these concepts are often long strings containing a number of different words. There are a large number of unique concepts and similar concepts do not always have the exact same words/text in the same order within them. Therefore similar concepts must be grouped and then all concepts in a group are mapped to the same integer label.

**Step 6:** The concept strings are decomposed into a "bag of words" representation and then grouped according to the number of shared words.

**Step 7:** Concepts that share a large number of the same words are grouped and mapped to the same integer label. This process is carried out without any knowledge.

**Step 8:** After transforming a set of papers into a set of graphs, a graph kernel function is applied to compute the

similarity between all pairs of paper graphs, and the resulting kernel matrix is used for classification.

#### 4. Result and Analysis

The datasets are comprised from various journals on radiology. We obtained our training and test data sets from the kernelmatrix and the documents' class labels. In each validation trial, one set was reserved for testing and the others were used for training.

Data Set	No. of Samples
Radiology	20
Cancer	22
Neurology	15

The accuracy is calculated using Precision and recall algorithm. For classification tasks, the terms true positives, true negatives, false positives, and false negatives (see also Type I and type II errors) compare the results of the classifier under test with trusted external judgments. The terms positive and negative refer to the classifier's prediction (sometimes known as the expectation), and the terms true and false refer to whether that prediction corresponds to the external judgment (sometimes known as the observation).

Precision and recall are then defined as:

$$\text{Precision} = \frac{TP}{TP + FP}$$

$$\text{Recall} = \frac{TP}{TP + FN}$$

Recall in this context is also referred to as the true positive rate or sensitivity, and precision is also referred to as positive predictive value (PPV); other related measures used in classification include true negative rate and accuracy. True negative rate is also called specificity.

$$\text{True Negative Rate} = \frac{TN}{TN + FP}$$

$$\text{Accuracy} = \frac{TP + TN}{TP + TN + FP + FN}$$

Data Set	Precision	Recall	Accuracy
Radiology	0.844	0.831	0.853
Cancer	0.844	0.864	0.849
Neurology	0.927	0.923	0.925

#### 5. Conclusion

Categorizing biomedical text is a challenging problem due to the huge number of articles published every year. In this study, we propose a promising approach to text categorization based on building concept graphs to represent documents and classifying them using a k-NN classifier. The results show that the rich representation of documents, whereby related biomedical concepts are added to the model, significantly improves the classification accuracy. It is interesting to note here that in some cases the added information (related concepts) didn't contribute positively to the classification until the semantic relationships (edges of the graphs) were used.

However, the statistical significance of the improvement using semantic relationships is very strong. We believe that

using a trained NER module and a more accurate concept identification technique will lead to even greater improvements. SVMs have shown great results in classification as well and are also worth trying with our technique.

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