Improving Text-mining PPIs by Learning to Filter Entities from the Output of a Knowledge Extractor

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Motivation

- A rule-based system has already been developed to extract PPIs from AIMed with high precision (89%, but ~96-97% throwing out inter-annotator disagreements) and modest recall (~68-70%)
- Verb predicates in an ontology have been defined for the domain; a predicate represents a meaning of a verb and specifies its arguments in terms of syntactic/semantic restrictions
- The semantic interpreter (SI) uses verb predicates and a noun ontology to link clauses to predicates and label their arguments with semantic roles
- The knowledge extractor (KE) uses (1) semantic extraction rules to extract the desired relations/arguments from the SI, and then (2) syntactic/semantic filtering rules to extract the desired entities from those arguments
- The extraction and filtering rules will vary depending on what is to be extracted as determined by a gold-standard or human judge
- Developing the filtering rules for AIMed took time it was not always clear why something did or didn't interact, and there seem to be inconsistencies and errors within the annotation
- The goal is to ease the burden of applying the system to a new domain using a goldstandard – by automatically learning to filter entities from arguments in the final step

Related Work – Rule-based methods – Mostly manual rules for extraction from parse trees – and a custom chunker for relation extraction (Šarić, 2004)

- "Event Extraction from Biomedical Papers Using a Full Parser", 2001, Yakushiji et. al.
 - Define mapping rules from argument structures (containing grammatical relations) to frame structures (containing slots/semantic roles) Bad PP attachment was a major problem No evaluation of the system on an information extraction task
- "Extracting regulatory gene expression networks from PubMed", 2004, Šarić, et. al.
 - CASS grammar, NP and relation chunker e.g., up- or down- regulation of gene expression, e.g., prevent formation
 of complex High precision but no evaluation on one of five the corpora
- "IntEx: A Syntactic Role Driven Protein-Protein Interaction Extractor for Bio-Medical Text", 2005, Ahmed et. al -
 - Splits parse tree into clauses and uses a general algorithm for extracting PPIs based on a list of interaction terms –
 65.66 % precision, 26.94% recall on DIP abstracts 45% of the errors were caused by bad protein tagging (Low recall caused by ignoring full-text articles ...)
- "Mining of relations between proteins over biomedical scientific literature using a deep-linguistic approach", 2007, Rinaldi et. Al
 - Full/deep dependency-based parsing; GENIA corpus for evaluation; low/mid 90s precision; also extracts "patterns describing biological interactions"
- "RelEx-Relation extraction using dependency parse trees", 2007, Fundel et. al.
 - NER with a dictionary, interaction terms, parsing and some manual rules to identify relations p = 79, r = 85 on LLL
- "High precision rule based PPI extraction and per-pair basis performance evaluation", 2012, Lee et. al.
 - A few simple rules on the output of the parser; Almed evaluation only 94-97% precision, 15-24% recall (using our per-instance evaluation)

Related Work – ML-based methods – SVM classification of feature vectors – PPI features extracted from parse

• "Syntactic features for protein-protein interaction extraction", 2007, Saetre et. al.

- Enju parser is used to generate feature vectors for SVM PPI classification using tree kernel – Enju is a deep parser that identifies arguments of verbs by linking them to a syntactic predicate-argument structures like verb_arg12 (ARG_i labeling scheme)
- AIMed 10-F CV: 64.3% precision, 44.1% recall, 52.0% F-score
- "Extracting Protein Interactions from Text with the Unified AkaneRE Event Extraction System", Saetre et. Al, 2010.
 - For event extraction, extracted 9 generalized templates from GENIA, which contain syntactic and semantic information about arguments (# of arguments, semantic roles, NE type of each role) – Learn which ne/event combinations go in each template, based on training data – But placed 6th in BioNLP-EE
 - AIMed 10-F CV 62.7% precision, 66.6% recall, 64.2% F-score
- "A hybrid approach to extract protein-protein interactions", Bui et. Al, 2011.
 - Extract candidate PPI pairs from the parse tree using high-recall manual rules, and then test/train a classifier on the output to produce a final classification (SVM, features from parse tree, paths between proteins)
 - AIMed 10-F CV: 55.3% precision, 68.5% recall, 61.2% F-score

Motivation for Predicates – Syntactic variations of "interaction" in AIMed

- "Our data suggest that TR6 inhibits the *interactions of* LIGHT *with* HVEM/TR2 and LTbetaR, thereby suppressing LIGHT-mediated HT29 cell death."
- "Presenilin 1 suppresses the function of c-Jun homodimers via interaction with QM/Jif-1."
 - "The death domain of tumor necrosis factor receptor-1 (TNFR1) triggers distinct signaling pathways leading to apoptosis and NF-kappa B activation through its interaction with the death domain protein TRADD."
- "The *interactions of hsp70 and hsp90* in intermediate PR complexes are shown to be distinct from their separate interactions in early PR complexes (hsp70) or in mature PR complexes (hsp90)."
 - "Here, a direct *interaction between* the activation domain of p53 and two subunits of the TFIID complex, TAFII40 and TAFII60, is reported."
- "Finally, we demonstrate that the anti-CD30L MAb M81 also completely inhibits CD30/CD30L interaction."

Idea for Predicates

- A single verb may be used to express different meanings, and its meaning depends on its context (the meaning of "interaction" was the same in all of the previous sentences PPI)
- The arguments of a single verb meaning may be expressed in various syntactic forms
- The parser's attachment of PPs/clauses is not reliable, and knowledge is needed about the arguments of the verb to recover the correct attachment
- Define predicate(s) for each verb meaning/syntactic variation. A predicate (primarily) ...
 - Defines a list of verbs which may mean that predicate
 - Defines arguments (and adjuncts) labeled with semantic roles
- A semantic role defines syntactic and semantic restrictions on the grammatical relations which may be used to *instantiate* that semantic role – *both must be satisfied*
- "Our data suggest that TR6 inhibits the interactions of LIGHT with HVEM/TR2 and LTbetaR, thereby suppressing LIGHT-mediated HT29 cell death."

•	(interact-nom-of-a-with-b (verbs interact) (require theme)	Captures a broader meaning than PPIs since not using SRs to restrict head noun concepts of arguments.	
	(mod (gr (mod)) (sr thing))		
	(theme (gr (imm-pp (prep of))) (sr thing))		
	(cotheme (gr (pp (prep with))) (sr thing))	"Pharmacological interaction	
	(parents abstract-interact-nom))	of drugs with immune receptors	

 Four predicates currently exist for the "interaction" nominalization – The SI must choose one for each "interaction" clause

The Input to the SI

- A list of clauses (including nominalizations) for a sentence, where each clause contains grammatical relations linked to phrases in the parse tree
 - The grammatical relations are candidate argument/adjuncts; at the same time they may be candidate modifiers of NPs (attach to NPs)
 - Lists of candidate subjects, antecedents of anaphors
 - Candidate PP complements, clausal complements, NP complements
- Definitions of predicates, noun relations, and noun concepts in their respective ontologies ("is-a" hierarchically structured definitions)
- A lexicon for words not in WordNet; we use both only for stemming
- Output described more fully after example
 - Clauses are linked to predicates and their arguments/adjuncts are determined

Sentence walk-through - Parse tree

```
(S1 (S (NP (PRP$ Our) (NNS data)) (VP (VBP suggest)
    (SBAR (IN that)
        (S (NP (NN TR6_GP_4_5)) (VP (VBZ inhibits)
            (NP (NP (DT the) (NNS interactions))
                (PP (IN of) (NP (NN LIGHT_GP_9_10)))
Wrong
          (PP (IN with) (NP-COORD)
attachment
                (NN HVEM_GP_11_12_SLASH_TR2_GP_13_14)
                    (CC and) (NN LTbetaR_GP_15_16)))))
    (COMMA ,)
    (S (ADVP (RB thereby))
        (VP (VBG suppressing)
            (NP (NN LIGHT_GP_19_20_HYPHEN_mediated)
                (NN HT29) (NN cell) (NN death))))
(PERIOD .)))
```

Sentence walk-through – MCR post-processor – "inhibits" clause

(Two possibilities for each PP and RELATIVE: - It attaches to the verb (argument/ adjunct)	<pre>inhibits-13 (VERB (MAIN-VERB inhibits inhibit) (VERB-TYPE VERB) (VOICE ACTIVE) (TENSE VBZ)) (PP (ID 22) (PREP (IN with))</pre>	 The clause includes PPs and RELATIVEs that are not syntactically attached Also, PPs are explicitly detached from NPs and listed with the rest of the PPs as candidate arguments/adjuncts RELATIVEs are treated the same way though not explicitly detached here Parser syntactic attachment is preserved via IDs
- It attaches to a phrase (e.g., NP/ADJP)	(NP (ID 24) (AND	- As a result the same PP/RELATIVE appears in multiple clauses
Not parser attached (NP (ID 25) ((NN HVEM_GP_11_12_SLASH_TR2_GP_13_14))) (NP (ID 27) ((NN LTbetaR_GP_15_16))))))) (OBJECTS-0 Misnomer; Candidate-clausal complement (CP); can be a relative if not (ID 14) Since it's a nominalization, it's also a candidate object (NP complement) (RELATIVE (ID 17) (CONJ) (CLAUSE interactions-17))) (PP (ID 18) (PREP (IN of)) (NP (ID 21) ((NN LIGHT_GP_9_10)))) (SUBJECT-0 (ID 10) (NP (ID 11) ((NN TR6_GP_4_5)))) (PARENT suggest-6))		

Sentence walk-through – MCR post-processor – "interactions" clause

```
(interactions-17
            (VERB
              (MAIN-VERB interactions interact)
              (VERB-TYPE NOM)
              (VOICE ACTIVE)
              (MODIFIERS ( (ID 16) ( (DT the)))))
Not
            (PP (ID 18) (PREP (IN of)) (NP (ID 21) ( (NN LIGHT_GP_9_10)))
parser
            (PARENT inhibits-13)
attached
          (PP
              (ID 22)
              (PREP (IN with))
              (NP
                (ID 24)
                  (AND
                    (AND
                      (NP (ID 25) ( (NN HVEM_GP_11_12_SLASH_TR2_GP_13_14)))
                      (NP (ID 27) ( (NN LTbetaR GP_15_16)))))))))))))
```

Sentence walk-through – Semantic Interpreter

```
(inhibits-13
                                                           (interaction (nouns interaction)
             (pred verb-ont inhibit asserted-clause)
                                                                (parents interaction-property))
             (theme
                 (nom-np
                      (senses (interaction (mod the) (head interactions)))
IDs and
                     (clause interactions-17)))
Redundant
             (agent
nesting
                 (candidate-list (np (senses (protein (mod ) (head TR6_GP_4_5)))))))
removed
         (interactions-17
             (pred nom-ont interact-nom-of-a-with-b asserted-clause)
             (theme (pp (prep of)
                         (np (senses (protein (mod ) (head LIGHT GP 9 10))))))
                                                                  (protein
             (cotheme
                                                                       (pattern GP ([\d]+) ([\d]+))
                   (prep with)
                (pp
                                                                       (parents biological-entity))
                  (np (AND
                      (np (senses (protein (mod ) (head HVEM_GP_11_12_SLASH_TR2_GP_13_14))))
     Recovered
                      (np (senses (protein (mod ) (head LTbetaR_GP_15_16)))))))))))))))
     attachment
```

Output of the SI

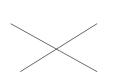
- Clauses are labeled with verb meanings (predicates) in the predicate ontology
- For the chosen predicate of each clause, arguments and adjuncts are extracted and labeled with semantic roles (using the semantic role definitions of the predicate)
 - PP attachments are determined using a combination of information from the parser and from semantic roles of predicates and subcategorization of noun concepts
 - Head nouns are labeled with concepts in the noun ontology and may be restricted by SRs
- Additional noun relations (triggered by head nouns) are outputted using a list of noun relation rules – Annotated similarly
- If a semantic role is not generated for a grammatical relation, then a grammatical role for it is still generated; If a clause is not linked to a predicate, then it will consist only of grammatical roles

Semantic Interpreter – Core of Algorithm

- Links each clause to a predicate, determines its arguments and their PP attachments
- To choose a predicate for a clause
 - For each predicate in the list of candidate predicates of a clause, a candidate clause is generated which has been annotated with the argument semantic roles of that predicate
 - Determines an argument by checking the list of candidate grammatical relations for any that satisfy the argument's GRs and SRs (next slide: possible to recover from bad parser attachment)
 - L \leftarrow the list of candidate clauses having the largest number of semantic roles
 - Delete any candidates in L not having a required semantic role; Choose an L[i] with first priority (tied candidates are discarded)

• Attach PPs to the phrases of the semantic roles of the resulting clauses with the restriction that a PP which is already a semantic role cannot be attached

- Firstly, attach PPs to to NPs having a noun concept that subcategorizes for a preposition (e.g., "region" subcategorizes for "in"); possible to recover from bad parser attachment
- Secondly, attach the rest of the PPs using the parser's attachment



Semantic Interpreter – Core of Algorithm - *Recover from attachment errors; Some GRs rely on initial SI output*

- Recover correct attachment of a PP/RELATIVE that has been wrongly attached to an NP using the semantic roles of verb predicates
 - If a PP/RELATIVE that is attached to the verb is a semantic role, then that PP/RELATIVE cannot be a semantic role of a verb that does not have that PP/RELATIVE attached (give preference to parser attachment)
 - Requires two passes (of previous slide): one for checking which semantic roles are syntactically attached, and one for generating the final roles
 - The second pass can generate semantic roles from PPs/RELATIVEs which are not syntactically attached
- Some GRs rely on an initial SI output roles with PP attachments in order to be determined requires two passes of the algorithm as just described
 - Some GRs require syntactic information from *PP attachments* of arguments, *which cannot be determined until semantic roles have been determined*. These GRs, in the first pass place a (reduced, non-attachment checking) restriction on the inputted grammatical relation, while in the second place, they place the full restriction on the role generated in the first pass.
 - Above is a proposed computational efficiency improvement
 - In the current implementation, those clauses are actually always regenerated from scratch in the second pass, and both of the passes above happen in the second pass
 - The first pass for these clauses is computational overhead

Knowledge Extractor

- KE-1 uses semantic extraction rules to extract the desired relations
 – particular arguments/adjuncts from particular SI relations (i.e.,, argument-wise relations)
 (extraction rules = relation/argument extraction rules)
- **KE-2** uses **filtering rules** to extract the entities (e.g., proteins) from the KE-1; *(filtering rules = entity extraction rules)*
- **KE-3** produces n-tuples of entities (i.e., entity-wise relations) from the KE-2

KE-1 extraction rule

(predicate abstract-interact-nom ke1-abstract-interact-nom (theme (noun protein)) (cotheme (noun protein)))

KE-2 filtering rule

```
(filter-phrase filter-event-nom
    (cond (event-nom)
            (pred -exist-in -confer -encode))
            (exclude-from-filter head-noun))
```

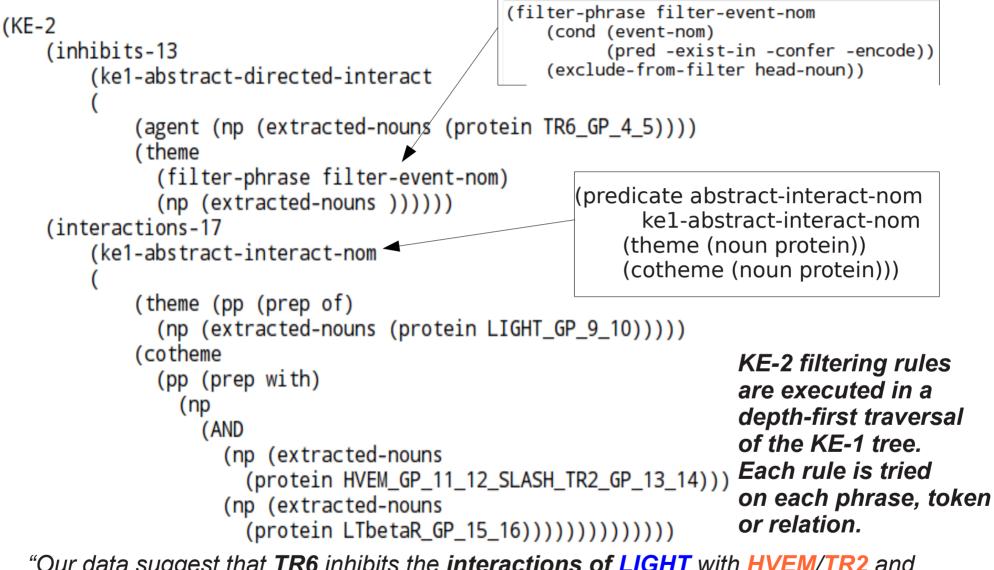
event-nom - If a condition is met, the phrase is filtered

Extract "theme" from Predicates subsumed by abstract-interact-nom that contain a protein entitiy (1) extraction of interactions has taken place in nominalization

- (2) nominalization has at least two semantic roles satisfied
 - ("mod" is special and not counted in number of roles)

(TO-DO: conditions for event-nom should be parameterized in the rule)

Knowledge Extractor – Example 1

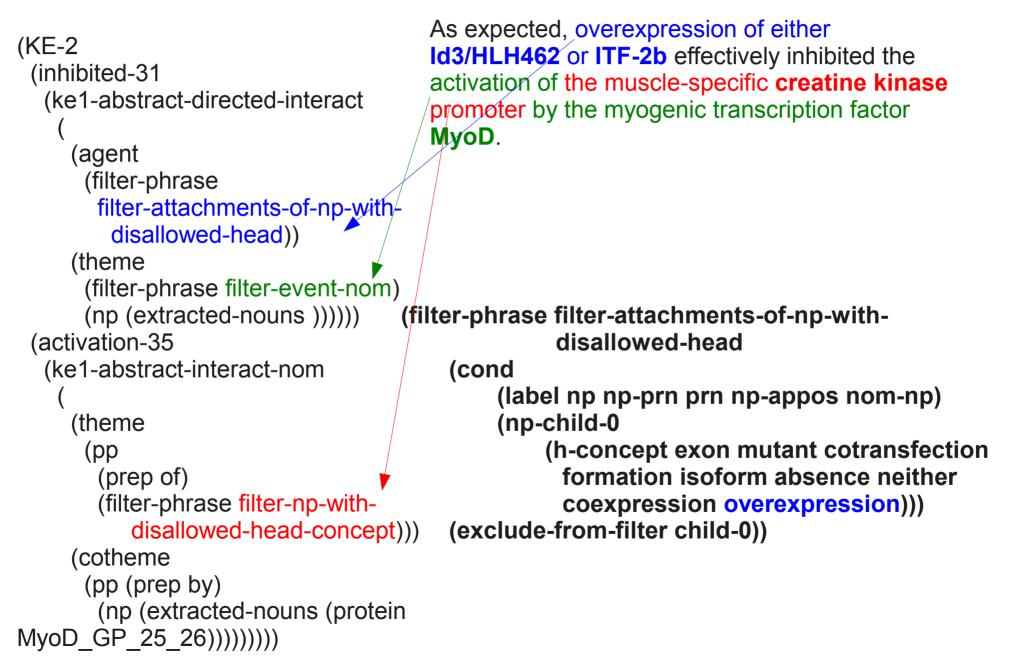


Knowledge Extractor – Example 2 (Interaction keyword is an argument/adjunct's head noun)

Expressed in a murine myeloma , TRAP_GP_6_7 was identified as a ligand for CD40_GP_13_14 by binding to a soluble CD40_GP_19_20 construct .

KE-1 extraction rule (predicate nil general-rule-interaction-property (theme (sr interaction-property) (noun protein))) (KE-1 (cotheme (noun protein))) (identified-19 (general-rule-interaction-property ((cotheme (np (senses (protein (mod) (head TRAP_GP_6	Noun concepts (ligand (nouns ligand) (subcat (prep for) (sr thing)) (parents 6_7))))) interaction-property))	
(theme (pp (prep as) (nom-np (nom-np (nom-np) (n	(interaction-property (parents biological-entity biological-event))	
(senses (ligand (mod a) (head ligand))) (ligat (clause ligand-25)) (cotheme (pp (prep for) (np (senses (protein (mod) (head CD40_GP_13_14)))))))))))))))	te-nom (verbs ligate) Nom predicate (theme (gr (prn) (appos)) (sr thing)) (cotheme (gr (mod) (pp (prep for))) (sr thing)) (parents stract-interact-substance-nom))	

Knowledge Extractor – Example 3 (NO PPIs – Uses filtering rules)



ML Task – Template filtering rules for generating features for entities

As expected, overexpression of either Id3/HLH462 or ITF-2b effectively inhibited the activation of the muscle-specific creatine kinase promoter by the myogenic transcription factor MyoD.

Inserted in the KE-2 tree (filter-phrase corresponding to the KE-1 tree <T> where rule was checked T-filter-phrase-and-attachments-by-head-concept h-concept A depth-first traversal to each entity yields the list of condition overexpression) instances which could filter that (filter-phrase entity – if it were actually a rule <T> (filter-phrase T-filter-phrase-by-mod-word <T> mod-word T-filter-phrase-bymuscle-specific) head-concept h-concept promoter)

- Suppose the rule's conditions are checked on "overexpression of..." NP.
- If "label" is satisfied, the np-child-0 will be checked for condition "h-concept <T>".
 - A <T> condition is only checked if all previous conditions are satisfied
- An "h-concept <T>" condition will not filter, but instead generates all possible condition instances which could filter the phrase – if such a rule were used in actuality
 - An "h-concept <T>" condition generates all "h-concept H" condition instances, where H is a head concept of the phrase

ML Task: Learning to filter entities

• What is classified?

- Outputted entities of the system (i.e., involved in a relation)
- Such entities are either TPs or FPs with respect to the gold-standard we want to filter out the FPs while not filtering the TPs
- What are the classes?
 - Don't filter (0) An entity is classified as 0 in the training data if it is involved in any goldstandard interaction
 - Filter (1) An entity is classified as 1 in the training data if it is not involved in any goldstandard interaction (i.e., the entity is a FP)
- What are the features of entities?
 - The list of template condition instances on the depth-first traversal of the KE-2 tree to that entity
 - The list of template condition instances of the other entities those that are involved in an outputted relation with the entity
 - The essential/desired filtering feature may only be present in the DFT of one of the entities in the PPI e.g., "promoter" head noun
 - But if both are FPs, both are to be classified as 0 this essential feature must be present in both entities
 - This feature sharing causes the essential/desired feature to be weighted towards class 0 in training

Experimental Setup – Template filtering rules

(filter-relation T1 (cond (ex-rule general-rule-interaction-property) (arg-head <T>)))

(filter-phrase T2 (cond (label np np-prn prn np-appos nom-np) (np-child-0 (h-concept <T>))))

(filter-phrase T3 (cond (label np np-prn prn np-appos nom-np) (np-child-0 (m-concept <T>))))

(filter-phrase T4 (cond (label np np-prn prn np-appos nom-np) (np-child-0 (mod-word <T>))))

(filter-phrase T5 (cond (m-concept <T>)))
(filter-phrase T6 (cond (mod-word <T>)))
(filter-phrase T7 (cond (h-concept <T>)))
(filter-phrase T8 (cond (alt-ex-head <T>)))

Some of the rules in the manual ruleset were replaced by template rules to create a new ruleset, the "template ruleset", which preserves the original ordering of the manual ruleset.

Templates determine which features are to be generated for outputted entities.

Experimental Setup

• Inter-annotator disagreement – our judge and AIMed are the two annotators

- We only consider PPIs that our expert judge agrees with throw out disagreements
- If True PPI and judge disagrees, system is not penalized for missing it, and not given credit for recovering it; if False PPI and judge disagrees, system is not penalized for getting it, and not given credit for not getting it (in any case, TNs aren't used to compute precision/recall)
- Entities not outputted by the system, entities with no condition instances (extracted features) and entities in an interaction in the IAD file are all classified as "0" and have only a single special "nil" feature which no other entities have.
- The total number of features is 692 including the "nil" feature.
- There are 111 entities labeled as "filter" (1) in the training data.
- There are 1361 entities labeled as "no filter" (0) in the training data, but only 1072 of them have features other than the "nil" feature.

10-fold stratified CV on AlMed, using 9 parts for training and 1 part for testing in each of the 10 folds – Used SVM with linear kernel from scikit-learn, default parameters

Stratified = equal proportion of classes in each of the ten datasets as in the original dataset; the split for each of the ten datasets is roughly 10 to filter and 100 to not filter

Baseline systems

	Manual rules (No-test IAD)	Template ruleset – The filtering rules to be replaced by the classifier (for which there correspond templates) are not included (No-test IAD) – Upper bound on recall for the learned classifier
Precision	96.7	86.8
Recall	69.3	71.2
F-score	80.8	78.2

	Manual rules (Test IAD) – For comparison with others' AIMed scores	Template ruleset – The filtering rules to be replaced by the classifier (for which there correspond templates) are not included (Test IAD) – Upper bound on recall for the learned classifier
Precision	89.0	80.5
Recall	68.8	70.8
F-score	77.6 S.o.A F-Score = ~65	75.3

Experiment 1 – Classification accuracy of outputted entities

	# features	Average classification accuracy of testing of using stratified 10-for CV	data
RFECV (Train IAD)	285	Too similar But Next slide	0.97
RFECV (No-Train IAD)	285	Shows IAD vs. not are	0.97
All features (Train IAD)	692	not identical models	0.97
All features (No-train IAD)	692		0.97

No-train IAD means to use the IAD and **not train** any entities in an outputted IAD interaction (they are classified as 0 and given the "nil" feature)

Train IAD means **not** to use the IAD file and **train on all** outputted entities with features

RFECV = Recursive feature elimination with cross-validation. Initial training yields a weight for each feature with high positive or negative values indicating more Importance. Features are recursively deleted from the data, and the feature set corresponding to the highest CV classification accuracy is chosen.

Experiment 2 – Performance of system on AIMed using learned classifier as a post-processor

	RFECV (No-train IAD, No-test IAD)	RFECV (train IAD, No-Test IAD)	RFECV (train IAD, Test IAD)	RFECV (No-train IAD, lest IAD)
Precision	93.1 (manual = 96.7)	93.5	88.1	85.8
Recall	71 (manual =69.3)	70.9	70.5	70.6
F-score	80.6 (Manual =80.8)	80.6	78.3	77.5

	All features (No-proba-cutoff) (No-test IAD)	All features (proba-cutoff 0.92) (No-test IAD)	Manual rules in conjunction with RFECV (train IAD); (No-Test IAD)
Precision	92.6	94.1	97.9
Recall	71.1	69.4	69.3
F-score	80.5	79.9	81.1

Discussion

RFECV produces only a slight increase in F-score (0.1%) compared to All features (No-proba cutoff)

Training on the IAD or not produces similar results (but not identical, as RFECV table shows)

Ignoring IAD interactions during system evaluation produces better results in either case

The ML filter only classifiers interactions outputted by the system, i.e., TP and FP ; most of the misclassifications of the system come from FN, so even though the ML filter has 0.97 accuracy, the overall improvement in F-score compared with template ruleset baseline is only 2.4%

Manual rules plus RFECV classifier is best – does not reduce recall from manual ruleset, but increases precision by 1.2%

The intention of the filtering-classifier is to (1) reduce the workload in applying it to a new domain, (2) be able to generalize better than the current manual ruleset when tested on a different corpus

Future Work

Recent experiments on LLL show such stringent filtering rules are not needed, as they are needed for AIMed – thus the filtering rules are corpus/annotation-policy dependent

With minimal filtering rules, and NO ML-filter:

On the initial run on LLL: 100% precision, 12% recall

After adding some new predicates and noun concepts: 96% precision, 58.5% recall, 72.7% F-score

LLL has a lot of modifiers that trigger interactions – an unhanded construction

Need a NER system for applying the system to real articles

Evaluation of NER is problematic using AIMed – the NER tags must correspond *exactly* to the AIMed tag

System can easily be extended to extract different type of events besides PPI – such as up-regulation of gene expression

The BioNLP challenge (based on GENIA corpus) requires a more fine-grained relation extraction