

College of Engineering and Physical Sciences

SCHOOL OF COMPUTER SCIENCE

MSc.CS Seminar

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Product Matching Lessons and Recommendations from a Real World Application

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ABSTRACT:

Retailers rely heavily on product matching to better serve their customers and to improve their modelling and forecasting. Product matching refers to the process of identifying similar or identical products across different data sources. This is a challenging problem as standardized unique identifiers are not used consistently across retailers and the product description and characteristics vary across data collections.

In this study, we present and discuss lessons learned from product matching in a real world application. We propose an evaluation framework where we investigate and compare the use of traditional machine learning methods and deep learning methods on public and proprietary datasets for product matching. Our findings show that traditional machine learning methods perform well on this task and a practitioner should investigate these methods first.