



A Review on Risk Assessment Using Risk Prediction Technique in Campus Network

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ABSTRACT

Risk assessment is an important part of a risk management process to secure information systems. The risk assessment activities helped organizations determine the acceptable level of risk. Understanding and assessing risk is an important process to improve information security in making decisions. Risk prediction is an important part of information security system. In order to security operation center understand their environment, risk prediction technique helped them to create a holistic understanding of the networks, systems, services and applications they are responsible for monitoring. In this research paper, we discussed past related research in doing a risk prediction in conducting a risk assessment activity at the campus network. We have selected 5 key databases in computer science area. We have refined the searching based on subject area, types of document, publication title, index terms, sub-keyword and source title. In doing the screening process, we exclude articles that did not meet research selection criteria based on keyword searching in the papers. From the comprehensive literature search databases searching, we have selected 15 articles related to subject risk prediction conducted in campus network.

Key words: Risk assessment; prediction technique; comprehensive literature search; campus network.

1. INTRODUCTION

A discussion from [1] mention that cyber-attacks are increasing and becoming a growing concern for organizations and governments sectors. They also report that network

infrastructure severely impacts service uptime, data integrity, and compliance that require organizations implement countermeasure steps to deal with these security concerns. The protection of network system has become a challenge to the organizations because of attackers are using advance methods to penetrate the databases although network administrator secure the connection to login to databases [2]. An effective security strategy is by conducting a risk assessment in the organizations. According to [3] the process of assessing information systems security handled the uncertainty of risk assessment by identifying the information security assets that are vulnerable to threats. Discussion from [4] in their paper, stated that information security risk assessment and management methods provide an effective way to detect actual threats and select suitable security controls for their organization. A discussion about threats in the university environment also been mention by [5] stated that two primary threats in the university network are from insider users and cyber threat. To manage these threats are complicated because of information media and social media. All community members in university are responsible in managing the campus network. Authors also explained that university campuses are where the community learn, work and their hostel. Many on-campus buildings are open 24 hours a day and are utilized by faculty, staff and students, as well as the public. Community in the university are communicate through common email systems, social media, and other communication systems. As such, university administrators are often met with challenges in dealing with threats. It is important to conduct a risk assessment in the university information system to give the preparedness before risk happens in the university. In this research we reviewed implementation of risk prediction technique in campus network.

2. RELATED WORK

Risk assessment implementation in campus network is critical as the resources are important to university productivity. Inadequate information technology security risk assessment may result in compromised confidentiality, integrity, and availability of the information system due to unauthorized access. To ensure that information system protected, university network administrator should implement information security risk assessment practices [6]. In the same report also mentioned that risk assessment is a crucial task for minimization of the potential risks. This activity also help administrator to determine the value of the various types of data stored across the organization. Discussion from [7] emphasized that organizations ongoing activities on security solutions is conducted to integrate with existing guidelines, best practices, security standards and existing solutions. However, while doing the risk assessment, organizations are nonconcrete in giving the suggestions for risk mitigation and decision making. Mostly of the decision is based on subjective perceptions, instead of objective evaluation.

Information security administrator deal with challenging task of assessing the information security risks. According to [8] clarified that lack of complete information about the vulnerabilities in the system leads to the problem of information ambiguity between the security administrators. This leads to difficulty in assessing the severity of vulnerabilities and estimation of the impact of an attack. It has been claimed by [9] where the challenges with extensive attacks and needs for the systems to create security plan and risk assessment by assigning the information's and resources about the system.

Most of the assessment in university is a qualitative analysis, lack of quantitative, systematic and standardized risk analysis [10]. From the studied on risk assessment in universities, authors emphasized that university management only focus on network security rather than information security [11]. There are lack of standard framework for information security assessment in University Information System (UIS). The importance of risk assessment in UIS also been mention by [12]. Authors clarified that it is important to conduct risk analysis to help in making a decision to manage UIS. From the discussion, [13] also mention that in the large university campus network, there is needed to improve risk position and security countermeasure. Admin are required to identify critical threats and conducting assessment of vulnerabilities to measure risk level from continuous network monitoring of university campus network. Prediction technique one of the proposed approach to identify a risk level from the statistical analysis.

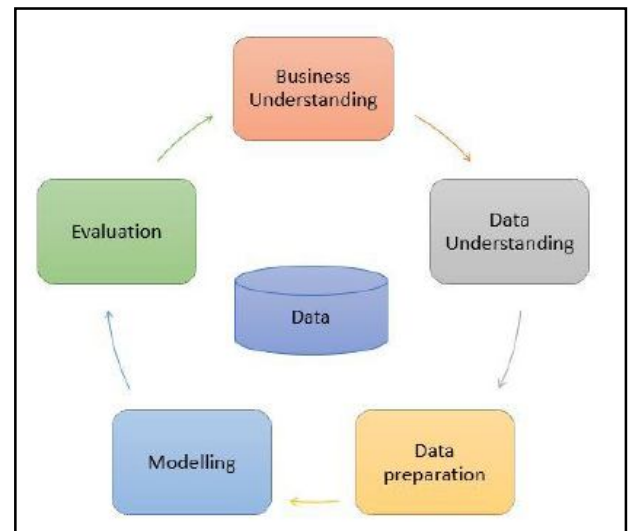


Figure 1: Cross-Industry Process For Data Mining (CRISP-DM) [14]

Risk prediction technique is an important part of information security system to help in doing risk assessment process. Data mining process as in Figure 1 show how industry do the data mining steps before doing the risk prediction analysis. Previous research claimed that information security system needs an effective prediction method [15]. Authors also mention that the information security risk assessment process and combination of assets, threat, vulnerability and safety control measures, to strengthen the correlation among these factors and make the prediction results more objective for the target assets. The combination of domestic and foreign information security standards with the actual situation of evaluation object is necessary to set up appropriate risk prediction system. Other researcher [16] mention that predictive data analytics is the architecture models that make predictions based on patterns mined from historical data. In conducting a prediction risk assessment, [17] stated that data analytics is a method of exploring massive sets of data to take out patterns which are hidden and previously unknown relationships and knowledge detection to help the better understanding. In this research paper, researchers review on data analytics approach as doing the risk prediction. In doing data analysis, we proposed to use an iterative process called epicycles of analysis as in Figure 2. The first step in this process, we have to develop expectation by conducted deliberately thinking about what we expect before start doing the experiment such as inspect our data, perform a procedure, and enter a command. After we have some expectations about what the result will be, next step we perform the iterative operation. In our research, we proposed to have data from firewall devices which located in the campus network.

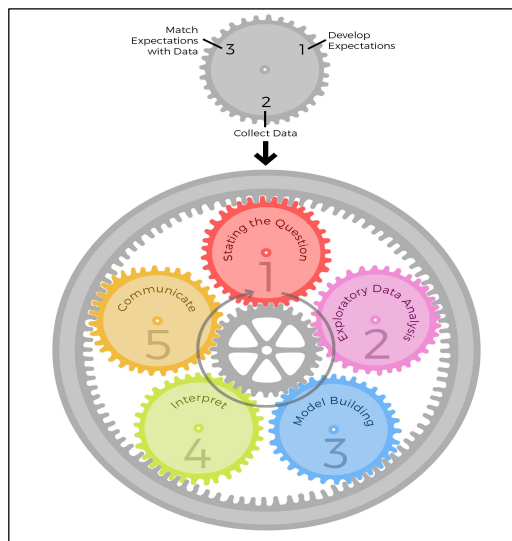


Figure 2: Iterative Process of Epicycles [18]

An epicycle of analysis approach is an iterative process from small circle to a larger circle. Some data analyses appear to be fixed and linear [18]. However, these algorithms are final data analysis products that have emerged from the non-linear work of developing.

More discussion on the importance of risk prediction also mention by [19] stated that the process of choose, select and also customize a prediction model for an intended purpose, should be carried out wisely using appropriate metrics, tolerance, and criteria. They also elaborate that by conducting risk prediction increased appropriate decision-making. Other researchers [20] explained that by using prediction system reduced human wrong judgement and cost effective. They claimed that prediction technique helped them to decrease the cost concurrently as much as 30% of overall spending. Research by [21] claimed that conventional statistical metrics which used primary data generates simple descriptive analysis where often provide insufficient knowledge for decision making. By using data analytics approach, it's provided capability to find hidden pattern from the secondary data in large databases and create prediction for desired output and has become a popular approach to develop risk prediction model. All the researches show how risk prediction is important in doing a reliable decision making. Figure 3 illustrate the process of doing predictive analysis.

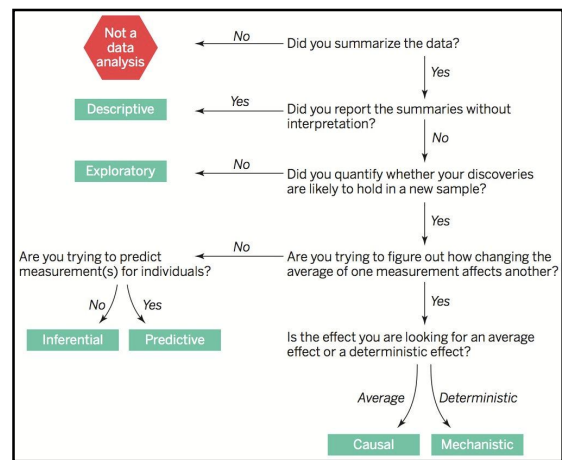


Figure 3: Descriptive and Predictive Modelling [22]

From Figure 3 we can described the differences between predictive analysis and descriptive analysis. Predictive analysis helps an organization to identify what will happen next by predicting future based on present data available nevertheless descriptive analysis helps an organization to identify what has happened in the past and provide the past analytics using in warehouse data.

3. METHODOLOGY

In this sub-topic, we discussed about previous study on predictive analysis in risk assessment. As we mentioned in previous discussion, the process of create, test and validate are steps to predict the suitable prediction model by looking at the probability of an outcome. A discussion further explained about using data mining in doing a prediction. Later, we conducted a comprehensive literature search in finding the current research trend about using prediction technique in managing campus network. We focus a study on implementing predictive analysis in analysing cybersecurity threats.

2.1 Data Mining Algorithm in Prediction Technique

Prediction technique using data mining is a process finding out the knowledge or pattern from the large data. The era of data warehouses where the complexity and variety of sources motivate data scientist implemented data mining to analysis the massive data. Refer to a study from [21] stated that data mining techniques have the capability to find hidden pattern from the secondary data in large databases and create prediction for desired output. This approach helps to develop risk prediction model. Predictive analysis is a branch of data mining in doing the future probabilities. By using structured and unstructured data, data mining helps the business users to create predictive intelligence by looking at the pattern behavioral of the data and their relationship.

Recently, university data warehouse is exposed to security threats where have prompted university management calls for improved risk monitoring and modelling. According to [23] explained that by developing statistical and data mining techniques, it helps network admin directive to analyze and displayed the data in a coherent and structure way. Authors also stated that it is important conducting proper risk assessment using suitable methodology which looked for potential vulnerable points of network security threats. By using predictive analysis, its help management in detecting network fraud, optimizing marketing by studying customer behavioral, improving current operation practice and also help management in reducing their own risk. There are a few data mining algorithm in predictive modelling which are logistic regression, time series analysis, decision tree and neural network. From a study, [24] mention about the development of risk prediction system for predicting the risk in real-time. This system helped them from being mishandled the outcome. Their research study focuses on classification algorithm for detecting a risk. The model is used to forecast an outcome at desired future state or time based refer from data inputs. Analyzing from data inputs is much faster after conducting sampling activity before select the right model. Figure 4 show steps in data mining, start from business understanding, data understanding, data preparation, modelling, evaluation and deployment. In data modelling step, we can use different predictive analytic techniques to train the algorithm to learn from the historical data. The predictive model should be able to identify trends and user behaviors and correlate to the data into successful predictions.

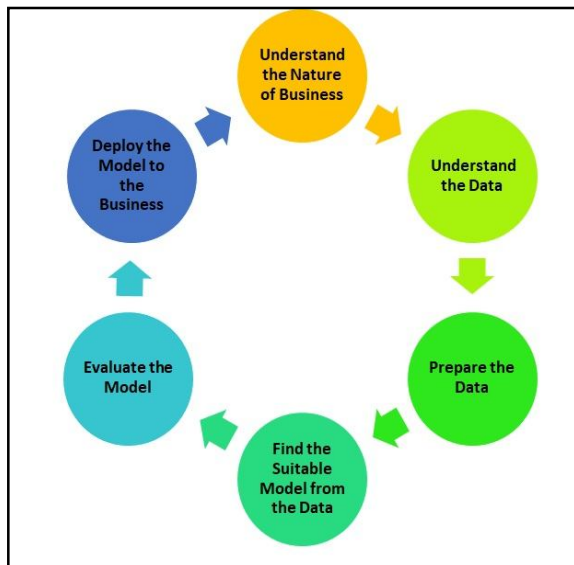


Figure 4: Steps in Data Mining

Another research from [25] explained that data mining was used to study possible relations between the risk levels of chain analysis and how data mining techniques helped them conduct risk mitigation strategies. Another discussion from [26] also explained how data mining help their studied in infrastructure environment. Data mining helped them to predict information security measurement and visualise based on data from practical experience. By conducting predictive analysis, it allows business become proactive to make an assumption based on the data that they have.

2.2 Comprehensive Literature Search

We have conducted a comprehensive literature search in filtering current research pattern focusing on keywords: (risk AND prediction AND education OR campus OR education AND network). The process of searching was conducted using top 5 computer science research databases which are: Web Of Science (WoS), Scopus, IEEE Xplore, SpringerLink and ACM Digital Library. The searching looked from year 2016 until current publication.

In filtering the subject, we excluded if the topic of discussion is unrelated to risk prediction in university network. For example, studies that involved management risk, medical risk, engineering risk, financial risk and other risk area were excluded from the literature review. Furthermore, studies that does not discussed about data mining techniques were also excluded. For this purpose, articles published from 2016-2019 are taken into consideration during the search process. Figure 5 below shows the result from the systematic database filtering taken from 5 selected databases.

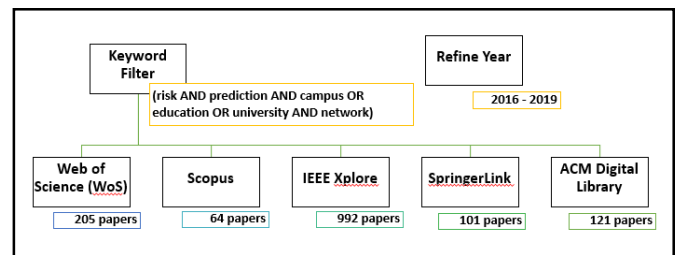


Figure 5: Summary from Database Filtering

From Table I below, we show keyword syntax that we used to do the filtering. From 5 key databases in computer science, we refined the searching based on subject area, types of document, publication title, index terms, sub-keyword and source title. There are some duplication papers from 5 databases that we used and checked and removed leaving only 433 papers. The screening process continued by excluding articles that did not meet selection criteria based on abstract review resulting in 73 selected articles. Finally, 15 selected articles were used for this review paper after excluded because the articles did not contain adequate discussion on the risk prediction in university network.

Table 1: Keyword Syntax for Database Filtering

DATABASE NAME	KEYWORD SYNTAX
Web of Science (WoS)	<p>TOPIC: (risk) AND TOPIC: (prediction) OR TOPIC: (university) OR TOPIC: (campus) OR TOPIC: (education) AND TOPIC: (network)</p> <p>Refined by: WEB OF SCIENCE CATEGORIES: (COMPUTER SCIENCE INFORMATION SYSTEMS OR COMPUTER SCIENCE SOFTWARE ENGINEERING OR COMPUTER SCIENCE THEORY METHODS OR ENGINEERING MULTIDISCIPLINARY OR COMPUTER SCIENCE INTERDISCIPLINARY APPLICATIONS OR COMPUTER SCIENCE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE OR EDUCATION SCIENTIFIC DISCIPLINES) AND DOCUMENT TYPES: (PROCEEDINGS PAPER) AND RESEARCH AREAS: (SOCIAL SCIENCES OTHER TOPICS OR EDUCATION EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH OR SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY OTHER TOPICS OR COMPUTER SCIENCE)</p> <p>Indexes=SCI-EXPANDED, SSCI, CPCI-S, CPCI-SSH Timespan=2016-2019</p>
ACM Digital Library	<p>"query": { (+risk +prediction +network campus university education) }</p> <p>"filter": { "publicationYear": { "gte": 2016 }, { owners.owner=HOSTED }</p>
Scopus	<p>(TITLE-ABS-KEY (risk) AND TITLE-ABS-KEY (prediction) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY (education) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY (university) OR TITLE-ABS-KEY (campus) AND TITLE-ABS-KEY (network)) AND PUBYEAR > 2015 AND (LIMIT-TO (SUBJAREA , "COMP") OR LIMIT-TO (SUBJAREA , "SOCI")) AND (EXCLUDE (EXACTKEYWORD , "Forecasting") OR EXCLUDE (EXACTKEYWORD , "Human") OR EXCLUDE (EXACTKEYWORD , "Humans")) AND (LIMIT-TO (SUBJAREA , "DECI"))</p>
IEEE Xplore	<p>(((((risk) AND prediction) OR campus) OR university) OR education) AND network)</p> <p>Filters Applied: IEEE Conferences Journals Early Access Articles IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks and Learning Systems 2018 International Joint Conference on Neural Networks (IJCNN) learning (artificial intelligence) neural nets pattern classification regression analysis support vector machines 2016 - 2020</p>
SpringerLink	<p>'risk AND prediction AND network AND (campus OR university OR education) within Computer Science, Artificial Intelligence (incl. Robotics), Database Management, Information Systems Applications (incl. Internet), Data Mining and Knowledge Discovery, 2016 - 2019</p>

The articles are summarized in Table II tabulate data mining technique, prediction scope and dataset that researchers used in their research study. In comprehensive literature search that we have conducted, most of the research paper looked at student performance prediction, education management risk prediction, software prediction, predicting academic dropout and predicting academic performance. There are few studies on risk prediction in university network look at cybersecurity threats.

Table 2: Data Mining Techniques and Prediction Area in University Environment

PAPER ID	DATA MINING /OTHER TECHNIQUE	PREDICTION AREA	DATASET
1 [27]	Neural Network	Dropout Student	2670 students enrolled in undergraduate studies
2 [28]	Proposed EDADT Algorithm	Intrusion Detection System	KDD Cup dataset
3 [29]	Fuzzy Logic	Telecommunication Network	Questionnaires from Expert Judgments
4 [30]	Grey Relation Coefficient Matrix	Network Risk	Questionnaires from Expert Group
5 [31]	Threat Driven Modelling	Software Development and Business Infrastructure	Capture from Packet Analyser
6 [32]	Risk management processes	Literature from all Malaysia university perspective	University Transformation Program (UTP) Green Book
7 [33]	Hidden Markov Model	Risk Assessment	Capture from Snort IDS
8 [34]	ANOVA Test	Unauthorized and Suspicious Traffic	Firewall Logs
9 [35]	Quantitative Information Security Risk Assessment OCTAVE	Information Risk Assessment	Network Environment of University Campus
10 [5]	Literature Study	Threat Assessment	Communications with University's Members
11 [36]	Adopting the <i>Best Practices</i> , don't have any recommendation for the Best Practice	Information Security Management System (ISMS)	Review paper
12 [37]	Random Forest Classifier & Semi-Supervised Learning	Infected Machines	Binary File Logs
13 [38]	Fuzzy Cognitive Maps	risk assessment	Log Files of the Network Infrastructure
14 [39]	Scientific Decision-Making	Security Strategy of Campus Network	College Computer Network
15 [13]	Risk Assessment Model	Security Breach	University Campus Network

A study from [40] stated that data analytics can be categorized to three groups which are industry and business, scientific research and urban planning. As in this research, we as researchers apply data sciences approach to help industry and business in making their decision and also proposed a model for scientific research for university campus network in doing risk assessment.

4. CONCLUSION

This paper is focusing on reviewing how risk prediction technique is implemented in university network and how data mining algorithms have been used by other researchers. From comprehensive literature search from top 5 computer science

research databases, there are lack of study looking at risk prediction in university network. There is also a gap from past research measured at cybersecurity threats. Past research not much cover on cybersecurity threats in campus network and aiming a risk prediction technique in getting a reliable risk assessment result. There are also lacking experiment using firewall dataset in campus network which by using this data will help in doing risk assessment in order to have more reliable prediction on campus network risk. The result from comprehensive literature search that we have conducted show that most of the research paper looked at student performance prediction, education management risk prediction, software prediction, predicting academic dropout and predicting academic performance. There are few studies on risk prediction on university network look at cybersecurity threats.

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