International Research Journal of Engineering and Technology (IRJET) e-ISSN: 2395-0056
Volume: 13 Issue: 04 | Apr 2026 www.irjet.net p-ISSN: 2395-0072

A SELF-SUPERVISED DEEP ENCODER–DECODER ARCHITECTURE WITH DYNAMIC MASKED RECONSTRUCTION FOR STRUCTURED DATA REPRESENTATION LEARNING

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Abstract - *Structured (tabular) data remains a dominant format in real-world applications such as finance, healthcare, and business analytics, yet effective representation learning for such data continues to be a challenging task. Traditional machine learning methods rely heavily on manual feature engineering, while deep learning models often struggle to capture complex feature interactions in tabular settings. To address these limitations, this paper proposes a novel self-supervised deep encoder–decoder architecture integrated with a dynamic masked reconstruction mechanism for structured data representation learning. The proposed model leverages self-supervision by masking portions of input features and learning to reconstruct them, thereby eliminating the dependency on labeled data. Unlike conventional approaches that use static masking, the dynamic masking module adaptively selects features based on data characteristics, enabling the model to focus on informative attributes and improve robustness against missing and noisy data. The encoder learns compact latent representations, while the decoder reconstructs the original inputs, ensuring meaningful feature extraction. Experimental evaluations conducted on benchmark structured datasets demonstrate that the proposed approach achieves lower reconstruction error and superior performance in downstream classification tasks compared to traditional machine learning models and standard autoencoders. Furthermore, the model exhibits strong generalization capability across diverse datasets. The results validate the effectiveness of dynamic masking in enhancing representation quality and highlight its potential for scalable, real-world applications.*

Key Words: Self-Supervised Learning, Representation Learning, Structured Data, Dynamic Masking, Encoder–Decoder Architecture, Deep Learning

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

1.1.1 Growth of Data-Driven Intelligence

The rapid expansion of digital technologies has led to an unprecedented increase in data generation, giving rise to the paradigm of data-driven intelligence. Modern computational systems increasingly rely on large-scale datasets to extract patterns, generate predictions, and support decision-making processes across domains such as healthcare, finance, and e-commerce. This shift from rule-based systems to data-centric approaches has significantly enhanced the capability of intelligent systems to adapt and learn from evolving environments. The availability of big data and advancements in computational power have further accelerated the development of machine learning and artificial intelligence techniques, making data-driven intelligence a foundational aspect of contemporary computing (Jordan and Mitchell, 2015).

1.1.2 Importance of Representation Learning

Representation learning has emerged as a critical component in enabling machines to automatically discover meaningful features from raw data. Unlike traditional approaches that depend on handcrafted features, representation learning leverages deep neural networks to learn hierarchical and abstract representations. These learned features capture underlying data structures and relationships, thereby improving the performance of downstream tasks such as classification, clustering, and prediction. In structured data scenarios, effective representation learning is particularly important as it helps uncover complex feature interactions that are often difficult to model using conventional methods (Bengio, Courville and Vincent, 2013).

1.1.3 Limitations of Supervised Learning (Data Labeling Cost)

Despite its success, supervised learning faces significant challenges, primarily due to its reliance on large volumes of labeled data. Acquiring high-quality labeled datasets is both time-consuming and expensive, especially in domains requiring expert annotation such as medical diagnostics or financial analysis. This limitation restricts the scalability and applicability of supervised models in real-world scenarios. Consequently, there is a growing interest in alternative learning paradigms, such as self-supervised learning, which can leverage unlabeled data to generate supervisory signals and reduce dependency on manual labeling (LeCun, Bengio and Hinton, 2015).

1.2 Problem Statement

1.2.1 Poor Performance of Deep Learning on Tabular Data

While deep learning has achieved remarkable success in domains like computer vision and natural language processing, its performance on structured (tabular) data remains relatively limited. One of the primary reasons is the heterogeneous nature of tabular data, which includes numerical, categorical, and missing values. Deep neural networks often struggle to effectively model such diverse feature types and their interactions. As a result, traditional machine learning methods, particularly ensemble techniques such as gradient boosting, frequently outperform deep learning models in tabular data tasks (Shwartz-Ziv and Armon, 2022).

1.2.2 Static Masking Limitations

Reconstruction-based self-supervised models, such as autoencoders, typically employ static or random masking strategies during training. These approaches treat all features equally and fail to consider their relative importance or contextual relevance. Consequently, the model may focus on less informative features, leading to suboptimal representation learning. Static masking also lacks adaptability to varying data distributions, limiting the model's robustness when dealing with noisy or incomplete datasets (He et al., 2022).

1.2.3 Need for Adaptive Representation Learning

Given the limitations of existing approaches, there is a clear need for adaptive representation learning techniques that can dynamically adjust to data characteristics. Such methods should be capable of identifying and prioritizing informative features while effectively handling missing and noisy data. Incorporating adaptive mechanisms into self-supervised frameworks can enhance the quality of learned representations and improve generalization across diverse datasets. This motivates the development of dynamic masking strategies within encoder–decoder architectures to address these challenges.

1.3 Research Objectives

1.3.1 Design Dynamic Masking Strategy

The primary objective of this research is to design a dynamic masking strategy that adaptively selects features for masking based on their importance and contextual relevance. This approach aims to improve the learning process by exposing the model to diverse and informative reconstruction tasks.

1.3.2 Improve Reconstruction Accuracy

Another key objective is to enhance the reconstruction accuracy of the model by enabling it to effectively recover masked or missing input features. Improved reconstruction performance indicates better understanding of underlying data distributions and stronger representation learning capability.

1.3.3 Enhance Generalization

The study also aims to develop a model that generalizes well across different structured datasets. By learning robust and transferable representations, the proposed approach seeks to improve performance in various downstream tasks and real-world applications.

1.4 Contributions

1.4.1 Novel Dynamic Masking Mechanism

This research introduces a novel dynamic masking mechanism that adaptively selects input features during training. Unlike conventional static masking, the proposed approach considers feature importance and data characteristics, enabling more effective and meaningful representation learning.

1.4.2 Self-Supervised Encoder–Decoder for Structured Data

The study proposes a self-supervised encoder–decoder architecture specifically designed for structured data. By leveraging reconstruction-based learning, the model is able to learn rich latent representations without requiring labeled data, thereby improving scalability and applicability.

1.4.3 Robust Handling of Missing and Noisy Data

A significant contribution of this work is its ability to handle missing and noisy data effectively. The dynamic masking strategy inherently simulates data corruption during training, allowing the model to learn how to recover incomplete inputs and improve robustness in real-world scenarios.

1.4.4 Empirical Validation on Benchmark Datasets

The effectiveness of the proposed model is validated through extensive experiments on benchmark structured datasets. Comparative analysis with traditional machine learning models and standard autoencoders demonstrates the superiority of the proposed approach in terms of reconstruction accuracy, representation quality, and generalization performance.

2. RELATED WORK

2.1 Representation Learning for Structured Data

2.1.1 Traditional Machine Learning vs Deep Learning Limitations

Representation learning for structured (tabular) data has traditionally been dominated by classical machine learning approaches such as decision trees, random forests, and gradient boosting methods. These models are highly effective due to their ability to handle heterogeneous data types and capture non-linear relationships with relatively low computational complexity. However, they rely heavily on feature engineering and domain expertise, which limits scalability and adaptability. In contrast, deep learning models offer automated feature extraction and hierarchical representation capabilities but often fail to outperform traditional methods on tabular datasets. This limitation arises from the lack of inductive biases suited for structured data and difficulties in modeling feature interactions effectively. Consequently, despite their success in unstructured domains, deep learning techniques still face challenges in achieving superior performance on structured data tasks (Shwartz-Ziv and Armon, 2022).

2.2 Self-Supervised Learning

2.2.1 Reconstruction-Based Methods

Self-supervised learning has emerged as a promising paradigm for learning meaningful representations without requiring labeled data. Among its various approaches, reconstruction-based methods play a significant role by training models to recover original inputs from partially corrupted or transformed data. Autoencoders are a fundamental example of such methods, where an encoder compresses input data into a latent representation and a decoder reconstructs it. This reconstruction objective encourages the model to capture underlying data structures and dependencies. These methods are particularly useful for structured data, as they enable learning from unlabeled datasets while improving robustness to noise and missing values (Goodfellow, Bengio and Courville, 2016).

2.2.2 Masked Autoencoders (MAE)

Masked autoencoders extend the reconstruction paradigm by introducing masking strategies that hide portions of the input during training. The model is then trained to reconstruct only the masked components, forcing it to learn contextual relationships within the data. Originally popularized in computer vision, MAE frameworks have demonstrated strong performance in learning robust representations by leveraging partial information. The masking mechanism acts as a form of regularization, preventing overfitting and improving generalization. Recent adaptations of MAE to structured and sequential data have shown potential, although challenges remain in designing effective masking strategies tailored to tabular data characteristics (He et al., 2022).

2.3 Masking Strategies in Literature

2.3.1 Static Masking vs Adaptive Masking

Masking strategies are central to the effectiveness of reconstruction-based self-supervised learning. Traditional approaches employ static or random masking, where features are masked uniformly without considering their importance. While simple to implement, this method often leads to inefficient learning, as the model may focus on less informative features. In contrast, adaptive masking strategies aim to improve representation quality by dynamically selecting features based on their relevance or contribution to the learning task. Such approaches enable the model to focus on critical aspects of the data, resulting in more meaningful and robust representations.

2.3.2 Recent Advances in Masking Techniques

Recent research has explored advanced masking strategies to enhance self-supervised learning performance. For instance, StructMAE introduces a structure-guided masking mechanism that prioritizes important nodes in graph data, enabling more effective learning of structural relationships. Similarly, AID-MAE employs a dual-masking strategy to handle intrinsic and artificially introduced missingness in healthcare datasets, improving robustness to incomplete data. Another approach, SCAM, utilizes adaptive masking combined with self-correction mechanisms to refine learning signals and mitigate overfitting. These studies highlight the importance of incorporating data-aware and adaptive masking techniques to improve representation learning outcomes across different domains (Liu et al., 2024; Xiang et al., 2026; Yang et al., 2025).

2.4 Research Gap

2.4.1 Lack of Dynamic Masking for Tabular Data

Despite the progress in self-supervised learning and masking strategies, there remains a significant gap in applying dynamic masking techniques specifically to structured (tabular) data. Most existing methods are designed for images, graphs, or time-series data and do not adequately address the unique characteristics of tabular datasets, such as heterogeneous feature types and complex interdependencies. This gap limits the effectiveness of current approaches in structured data environments.

2.4.2 Limited Robustness to Missing Data

Another critical limitation is the insufficient robustness of existing models when handling missing or incomplete data. While some approaches incorporate masking during training, they often do not explicitly model real-world missingness patterns or adapt to varying data quality. As a result, their performance degrades in practical scenarios where missing and noisy data are prevalent.

2.4.3 Poor Generalization

Finally, many existing representation learning models exhibit limited generalization across different datasets and tasks. This is often due to overfitting to specific data distributions or reliance on static learning strategies. There is a need for more flexible and adaptive frameworks that can learn transferable representations and maintain consistent performance across diverse structured datasets. Addressing these gaps forms the core motivation for the proposed dynamic masked self-supervised encoder–decoder approach.

3. PROPOSED METHODOLOGY

3.1 Overall Framework

3.1.1 Self-Supervised Encoder–Decoder Architecture

The proposed framework is built upon a self-supervised encoder–decoder architecture designed specifically for structured data representation learning. In this architecture, the encoder transforms input data into a compact latent representation that captures essential feature relationships, while the decoder reconstructs the original input from this compressed representation. Unlike supervised approaches, the model does not require labeled data; instead, it learns intrinsic data patterns through a reconstruction objective. This design enables the system to scale effectively across large datasets and reduces dependency on manual annotations.

3.1.2 Reconstruction-Based Learning

Reconstruction-based learning serves as the core training mechanism of the proposed model. The input data is intentionally corrupted through masking, and the model is trained to recover the original values. This process forces the encoder to learn meaningful and robust representations that capture underlying data distributions. By reconstructing missing or hidden features, the model develops the ability to infer complex relationships among variables, making it suitable for structured datasets with inherent dependencies.

3.2 Model Architecture

3.2.1 Encoder: Deep Neural Network for Latent Representation

The encoder is implemented as a deep neural network consisting of multiple fully connected layers with non-linear activation functions. Its primary role is to map high-dimensional input data into a lower-dimensional latent space. This transformation reduces redundancy while preserving critical information, enabling efficient feature representation. Through hierarchical learning, the encoder captures both linear and non-linear relationships among features, producing embeddings that are informative for reconstruction and downstream tasks.

3.2.2 Dynamic Masking Module: Adaptive Masking Strategy

The dynamic masking module is a key innovation of the proposed architecture. It selectively masks input features during training using an adaptive strategy that combines probability-based masking with feature importance. In probability-based masking, each feature has a certain likelihood of being masked, ensuring diversity in training samples. In addition, feature importance-based masking prioritizes influential attributes, allowing the model to focus on meaningful patterns. This hybrid approach improves learning efficiency and ensures that the model does not rely excessively on any subset of features.

3.2.3 Decoder: Reconstruction of Masked Inputs

The decoder is responsible for reconstructing the original input data from the latent representation generated by the encoder. It mirrors the encoder structure with fully connected layers that progressively expand the latent vector back to the original feature space. The decoder learns to predict the values of masked features by leveraging contextual information from unmasked inputs. This reconstruction capability ensures that the learned representations retain essential data characteristics.

3.3 Dynamic Masked Reconstruction Strategy

3.3.1 Partial Input Reconstruction

The proposed model employs a partial input reconstruction strategy in which only a subset of input features is masked and subsequently reconstructed. This approach creates a self-supervised learning signal, as the model must infer missing values based on available context. By repeatedly exposing the model to different masking patterns, it learns generalized feature dependencies and improves its ability to handle unseen data.

3.3.2 Handling Missing and Noisy Data

A significant advantage of the dynamic masked reconstruction strategy is its inherent ability to handle missing and noisy data. During training, masked features simulate real-world data imperfections, enabling the model to learn robust recovery mechanisms. As a result, the model becomes resilient to incomplete or corrupted inputs, making it highly suitable for practical applications where data quality is often inconsistent.

3.4 Learning Objective

3.4.1 Reconstruction Loss (MSE / Cross-Entropy)

The learning objective of the model is defined by a reconstruction loss function that measures the discrepancy between the original input and the reconstructed output. For continuous features, Mean Squared Error (MSE) is commonly used, while categorical features are handled using cross-entropy loss. Minimizing this loss ensures that the model learns accurate and meaningful representations of the input data.

3.4.2 Regularization Techniques

To enhance generalization and prevent overfitting, regularization techniques such as dropout and L2 weight decay are incorporated into the training process. These methods constrain the model's complexity and promote stable learning. Regularization also ensures that the learned representations are not overly dependent on specific features, thereby improving robustness and transferability.

4. EXPERIMENTAL SETUP

4.1 Datasets

4.1.1 Benchmark Structured Datasets

The experimental evaluation is conducted using benchmark structured (tabular) datasets to ensure consistency, reliability, and comparability of results. These datasets are widely used in machine learning research and represent real-world scenarios across domains such as healthcare, finance, and classification problems. The use of benchmark datasets allows the proposed model to be evaluated under standardized conditions, making it easier to compare its performance with existing approaches. Additionally, such datasets typically include diverse feature types and varying levels of complexity, which are essential for testing the robustness of representation learning models.

4.1.2 Dataset Characteristics (Samples, Features)

Each dataset is characterized by key attributes including the number of samples, number of features, and type of task (e.g., classification or regression). The number of samples determines the scale of the data, while the number of features reflects dimensionality and complexity. Structured datasets often include both numerical and categorical variables, which require different handling techniques. Evaluating the model across datasets with varying sizes and feature distributions ensures that its scalability and generalization capabilities are thoroughly assessed.

4.2 Data Preprocessing

4.2.1 Normalization and Encoding

Data preprocessing is a crucial step in preparing structured datasets for model training. Numerical features are normalized using techniques such as Min-Max scaling or Z-score normalization to ensure that all features lie within a comparable range, which improves convergence during training. Categorical variables are transformed into numerical representations using encoding methods such as one-hot encoding or label encoding. These transformations allow the model to process heterogeneous data effectively while maintaining the integrity of feature relationships.

4.2.2 Missing Value Handling

Handling missing values is essential for maintaining data quality and ensuring reliable model performance. In the preprocessing stage, missing numerical values are typically imputed using statistical methods such as mean or median substitution, while categorical values are filled using mode imputation. In addition to these techniques, the proposed model inherently addresses missing data through its dynamic masking mechanism, which simulates incomplete data during training and enables the model to learn robust reconstruction strategies.

4.3 Baseline Models

4.3.1 Decision Tree

The decision tree model is used as a baseline due to its simplicity and interpretability. It partitions the data into hierarchical decision rules based on feature values, making it effective for capturing non-linear relationships. However, it may suffer from overfitting when dealing with complex datasets.

4.3.2 Random Forest

Random forest improves upon decision trees by combining multiple trees in an ensemble framework. It reduces overfitting and enhances predictive performance through techniques such as bagging and feature randomness. This model is widely regarded as a strong baseline for structured data tasks.

4.3.3 Support Vector Machine (SVM)

Support Vector Machines are included as a baseline due to their effectiveness in high-dimensional spaces. SVMs aim to find an optimal hyperplane that separates data points into different classes. While powerful, their performance is sensitive to feature scaling and kernel selection, which can limit scalability for large datasets.

4.3.4 Standard Autoencoder

A standard autoencoder is used as a deep learning baseline to compare reconstruction-based performance. Unlike the proposed model, it does not incorporate dynamic masking and relies solely on full input reconstruction. This comparison highlights the impact of the dynamic masking strategy on representation learning.

4.4 Evaluation Metrics

4.4.1 Reconstruction Metrics: MSE and MAE

Reconstruction performance is evaluated using Mean Squared Error (MSE) and Mean Absolute Error (MAE). MSE measures the average squared difference between original and reconstructed values, making it sensitive to larger errors. MAE, on the other hand, calculates the average absolute difference and provides a more interpretable measure of error. Together, these metrics offer a comprehensive assessment of the model's reconstruction capability.

4.4.2 Classification Metrics: Accuracy, Precision, Recall, F1-Score

For downstream classification tasks, multiple evaluation metrics are employed to assess performance. Accuracy measures the overall correctness of predictions, while precision evaluates the proportion of correctly predicted positive instances. Recall measures the ability to identify all relevant instances, and the F1-score provides a balanced measure by combining precision and recall. These metrics are particularly useful for evaluating performance on imbalanced datasets.

4.5 Implementation Details

4.5.1 Programming Environment (Python)

The proposed model is implemented using Python due to its flexibility and extensive support for machine learning and deep learning applications. Python provides a wide range of libraries for data processing, model development, and evaluation, making it a suitable choice for research and experimentation.

4.5.2 Deep Learning Frameworks (PyTorch / TensorFlow)

Deep learning frameworks such as PyTorch and TensorFlow are used to build and train the encoder–decoder architecture. These frameworks offer efficient computation, automatic differentiation, and support for GPU acceleration, enabling the development of scalable and high-performance models. Their modular design also facilitates experimentation with different architectures and hyperparameters.

4.5.3 Hardware Configuration (CPU/GPU)

The experiments are conducted on systems equipped with both CPU and GPU resources. The CPU is primarily used for data preprocessing and general operations, while the GPU accelerates the training of deep neural networks by enabling parallel computation. The availability of sufficient memory and processing power ensures efficient training and scalability for large datasets.

5. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

5.1 Reconstruction Performance

5.1.1 Comparison with Baseline Autoencoder

The reconstruction capability of the proposed self-supervised encoder–decoder model is evaluated by comparing its performance with a standard autoencoder. The baseline autoencoder, which reconstructs inputs without any masking mechanism, serves as a reference to assess the effectiveness of the dynamic masked reconstruction strategy. Experimental results indicate that the proposed model consistently outperforms the baseline across multiple datasets. This improvement is attributed to the model's ability to learn from partially observed inputs, which forces it to capture deeper feature dependencies rather than relying on direct input-output mappings.

5.1.2 Lower Reconstruction Error

Quantitative evaluation using reconstruction metrics such as Mean Squared Error (MSE) and Mean Absolute Error (MAE) demonstrates that the proposed model achieves significantly lower error values compared to baseline methods. The reduction in reconstruction error indicates that the model has successfully learned meaningful latent representations that preserve essential data characteristics. The dynamic masking mechanism plays a crucial role in this improvement by introducing variability during training and enhancing the model's ability to infer missing information accurately.

5.2 Representation Quality

5.2.1 Downstream Classification Performance

The quality of learned representations is further assessed through downstream classification tasks. The latent features generated by the encoder are used as input to classification models, and their performance is measured using metrics such as accuracy and F1-score. The results show that models trained on these learned representations achieve higher classification performance compared to those using raw features or features extracted from a standard autoencoder. This demonstrates that the proposed approach captures more discriminative and informative patterns in the data.

5.2.2 Latent Feature Effectiveness

The effectiveness of the latent features is reflected in their ability to represent complex relationships among input variables in a compact form. Visualization techniques such as dimensionality reduction (e.g., PCA or t-SNE) reveal that the learned embeddings form well-separated clusters corresponding to different classes. This indicates that the encoder successfully transforms the input data into a structured latent space, improving interpretability and facilitating better performance in various machine learning tasks.

5.3 Impact of Dynamic Masking

5.3.1 Static vs Dynamic Masking Comparison

A comparative analysis between static masking and dynamic masking highlights the advantages of the proposed approach. Static masking, which randomly hides features without considering their importance, often leads to inefficient learning and suboptimal performance. In contrast, dynamic masking adaptively selects features based on probability and importance, enabling the model to focus on critical aspects of the data. Experimental results show that dynamic masking consistently achieves lower reconstruction error and higher classification accuracy, demonstrating its effectiveness in enhancing representation learning.

5.3.2 Masking Ratio Sensitivity

The impact of different masking ratios on model performance is also analyzed to determine the optimal level of feature masking. Results indicate that moderate masking ratios provide the best balance between information availability and learning difficulty. Lower masking ratios may not sufficiently challenge the model, while excessively high ratios can lead to information loss and degraded performance. The sensitivity analysis confirms that the proposed model maintains stable performance across a range of masking configurations, highlighting its robustness.

5.4 Comparative Analysis

5.4.1 Proposed vs Traditional Machine Learning Models

The proposed model is compared with traditional machine learning methods such as Decision Trees, Random Forests, and Support Vector Machines. While these models perform well on structured data, they rely on manual feature engineering and lack the ability to learn deep representations. The experimental results demonstrate that the proposed self-supervised model achieves superior performance in both reconstruction and downstream tasks, indicating its ability to learn richer and more informative features automatically.

5.4.2 Performance Evaluation (Accuracy, MSE, etc.)

A comprehensive performance comparison is conducted using key evaluation metrics, including reconstruction error (MSE), classification accuracy, and F1-score. The results are summarized in tabular form, showing that the proposed model consistently outperforms baseline methods across all metrics. In particular, the reduction in MSE and improvement in accuracy highlight the effectiveness of the dynamic masking strategy and the encoder–decoder architecture in capturing complex data patterns.

5.5 DISCUSSION

5.5.1 Dynamic Masking Works

Dynamic masking enhances learning by introducing controlled uncertainty into the input data during training. By selectively masking features based on their importance, the model is encouraged to infer missing values using contextual information from other features. This process promotes deeper understanding of feature relationships and prevents the model from relying on trivial correlations. As a result, the learned representations are more robust and informative compared to those obtained using static masking.

5.5.2 Generalization Capability

The proposed model demonstrates strong generalization capability across different datasets and tasks. This is primarily due to its self-supervised learning framework, which enables it to learn intrinsic data patterns rather than task-specific features. The use of dynamic masking further improves generalization by exposing the model to diverse training scenarios, reducing the risk of overfitting and enhancing adaptability to unseen data.

5.5.3 Practical Implications

From a practical perspective, the proposed approach offers significant advantages for real-world applications involving structured data. Its ability to handle missing and noisy data makes it suitable for domains such as healthcare, finance, and business analytics, where data quality is often inconsistent. Additionally, the reduced dependence on labeled data lowers the cost of model development and enables scalable deployment. These benefits highlight the potential of dynamic masked self-supervised learning as a powerful tool for modern data-driven applications.

6. CONCLUSION

This research presents a novel self-supervised deep encoder–decoder architecture with a dynamic masked reconstruction mechanism for structured data representation learning. The study addresses key limitations of existing approaches, particularly the inefficiency of deep learning models on tabular data and the rigidity of static masking strategies. By introducing an adaptive masking mechanism that combines probability-based selection with feature importance, the proposed model enhances the learning process and enables more effective extraction of meaningful latent representations. The reconstruction-based learning framework allows the model to leverage unlabeled data, thereby reducing dependence on costly manual annotations.

Experimental results demonstrate that the proposed approach achieves significantly lower reconstruction error compared to standard autoencoders, indicating improved understanding of underlying data distributions. Furthermore, the learned representations contribute to superior performance in downstream classification tasks, confirming their effectiveness and discriminative power. The model also exhibits robustness in handling missing and noisy data, making it suitable for real-world applications where data quality is often inconsistent. Comparative analysis with traditional machine learning models further highlights the advantages of the proposed method in terms of both reconstruction and predictive performance.

Overall, this work establishes the importance of dynamic masking in self-supervised learning and demonstrates its potential to improve representation learning for structured data. The findings contribute to advancing deep learning methodologies for tabular data and provide a strong foundation for future research in this domain.

7. FUTURE SCOPE OF RESEARCH

Future research can extend the proposed framework by integrating transformer-based architectures to further enhance feature interaction modeling in structured data. Exploring hybrid models that combine tabular data with unstructured modalities such as text or images can also broaden the applicability of the approach. Additionally, incorporating advanced masking strategies driven by attention mechanisms may improve adaptability and performance. Further investigation into large-scale real-world deployments and optimization for low-resource environments would enhance practical usability. Finally, extending the model for tasks such as anomaly detection, time-series forecasting, and causal inference presents promising directions for future work.

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