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Bridging the Gap: Advancements in NLP and LLM for Clinical Integration with SNOMED CT

DATE: APRIL 15, 2024 TIME: 09:00-10:00 BST



Background

- Every activity in a hospital generates data
- Millions electronic patient records
 documents per hospital
- **80% of information is unstructured** as it is the most natural way to record doctor-patient interactions.



What's the Problem? – Accurate Extraction from Text

Electronic Patient Record (EPR)



allergic to chlorquine oxICarbaZEpine 1200 mg keppra 1500 mg BID

EPR Characteristics:

- Records clinically valuable information.
- Unstructured no data standardization requirements
- Difficult to extract information automatically

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Q) Extract all mentions of an Epilepsy diagnosis?

"Epilepsy" Keyword search is not ideal

keppra 1500 mg BID

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Q) Extract all mentions of an Epilepsy diagnosis?

- Ideally you would want a **context dependent extraction** of Epilepsy-related terms.
- Manual data structuring requires huge amount of work!!!

Structured Data and Standards

Benefits of Structured Data

- Easier to **analyze** and **create reports** (both clinical and administrative tasks):
 - Audits
 - Quality Reporting and Performance Metrics
 - Clinical Decision Support
 - Patient Safety and Continuity of Care
 - Population Health Management
 - Research
- Interoperability and Information Sharing
 - Structured data formats and standards enable seamless interoperability between different healthcare systems and platforms, promoting efficient information exchange among healthcare providers, researchers, and other stakeholders.

Hype – Al now Reads and Generates Text

- Generative AI is a type of **artificial intelligence** that can produce new data, images, text, or music resembling the dataset it was trained on.
- The new language models dazzle us with generation
- But these Large Language Models (LLMs) equally summarize,

simplify, organize, analyze, compare.







Solution: Language Models

 The field of Natural Language Processing – how computers process and analyze natural language / free text information.

To understand and write text, LLMs must first translate words into a language that they understand.

• Al has increased the quantity of usable data 100x.

"They had a seizure in the morning"





• A "Token" is a unit of text that a language model processes. These can be word, subword, or character based on how the text is segmented or tokenized.

First a block of words is broken into "tokens"

F			
They had had had	seizure	in the	morning
·		(iiii	<u>_</u>

- This process is called **Tokenization**
- The component to do it is called a Tokenizer

• "Large" language models (LLMs) are called so because they are built on a vast scale with significant number of parameters and data

To grasp a word's meaning, seizure in our example, LLMs first observe it in context using enormous sets of training data, taking note of nearby words.



We end up with a huge set of words found alongside seizure in the training data, as well as those that were distant

- The assumption is that similar words are used in similar contexts
 - Examples: The patient collapsed because they had a "seizure" The patient collapsed because they had a "fit" A diagnosis of epilepsy does not "seizure"



A vector representation or embedding is how machines understand language

As the model processes this set of words, it produces a "**vector**" and adjusts it based on each word's proximity to seizure in the training data.





 seizure
 0.1
 0.2
 0.5
 0.9
 0.3
 0.8
 0.1
 0.2
 0.5
 0.9
 0.3
 0.8

Vector representation (embedding)

• Much like you would describe a seizure by its various characteristics—duration, type, triggers, symptoms—the values within the embedding quantify the linguistic features associated with the word seizure

A word embedding can consist of hundreds of values, with each value representing a distinct aspect of the word "seizure's" meaning or context.



n = 12 dimensions

- Embeddings lengths can vary but are usually 300, 768 or 1024 dimensions
- Trade off between lack expressiveness/representation (small) and computational considerations (large)

Embeddings

seizure	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.9	0.3	0.8	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.9	0.3	0.8
epilepsy	0.2	0.1	0.9	0.9	0.3	0.8	0.2	0.2	0.2	0.8	0.5	0.8
brain	0.1	0.2	0.8	0.4	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.5	0.7	0.3	0.8
MRI	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.4	0.3	0.5	0.2	0.5	0.9	0.3	0.9
dialysis	0.8	0.9	0.8	0.9	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.8	0.5	0.9	0.3	0.1
kidney	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.8	0.2	0.9	0.3	0.1
pain	0.1	0.2	0.5	0.9	0.8	0.3	0.8	0.6	0.5	0.9	0.3	0.4
trauma	0.4	0.2	0.5	0.9	0.9	0.3	0.7_	0.5	0.5	0.9	0.3	0.6

The way that these characteristics are derived means we don't know exactly what each value represents, but words we expect to be used in comparable ways often have similar embeddings.



How it Works – Transformers

Transformer: A deep learning architecture

The crucial building block behind all LLMs

A key concept of the transformer architecture is **Attention**. This is what allows LLMs to understand relationships between words



Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs) scanned each word in a sentence and processed it sequentially.

- This isn't always appropriate

Attention, the transformer computes all words at the same time. Capturing more context giving the LLMs far more sophisticated capabilities to understand language

• Attention is all You Need (Vaswani et al., 2017)

Attention looks at each token in a body of text and decides which others are most important to understanding its meaning

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The **attention** mechanism allows the model to **weigh** the importance of different tokens

 Attention → focus on specific parts of the sequence when making predictions, enabling it to capture contextual relationships.

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How it Works – Summary

 After tokenising and encoding a prompt, we're left with a block of data representing our input as the machine understands it, including meanings, positions and relationships between words.

Machine understandable

Creating a GenAl in Healthcare

Real-world Example of Clinical LLMs using SNOMED-CT

https://www.thelancet.com/journals/landig/article/ PIIS2589-7500(24)00025-6/fulltext

- Uses the existing knowledge from electronic health records
- A patient's medical history can be seen as a sequence of SNOMED-CT concepts

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Extracting SNOMED-CT from Free-Text

Free-Text to Timeline

MedCAT annotations

- Train on existing patient timelines found in your dataset. (Patient as a sequence of concepts)
- Input a timeline of a new patient's health trajectory (timeline)
- Forecast Then you can forecast the rest of their timeline.

College LONDON CogStack

Timeline

0.01343

191480000

Text

H

Foresight

Search for concepts and press ENTER to add them to the timeline.	What s
Age: 59 Alcohol dependence (disorder) Age: 61 Ischemic stroke (disorder) Atrial fibrillation (disorder) <pre> <pre> <pre> <pre> <pre> <pre> <pre> <pre> <pre> <pre> </pre> </pre> </pre> </pre> </pre> <pre> <pre> <pre> <pre> <pre> <pre> <pre> <pre> <pre> </pre> </pre> </pre> </pre> </pre> <pre> </pre> </pre> </pre> </pre> </pre> </pre> </pre> <pre> <</pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre></pre>	Disor Medi Proce Symp Model the tim KCH SLaN MIMI Conce New Recu Ignore
↓ Impaired cognition (finding) Predict	 Ignoi ✓ Ignoi ✓ Ignoi
RelativeSNOMEDNameShowProbabilityIDsaliency	Filter t a com
0.02275 21007002 Wernicke's disease (disorder) Saliency	Enter
0.01693 286933003 Confusional state (disorder) Saliency	Detect

Foresight

A generative transformer model trained on ~1M patients from King's College Hospital and ~20k patients from South London and the Maudsley Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust. Please do not use this to diagnose yourself or someone else. The main use of this webapp is to test the capabilities of the underlying models. Mistakes or biases are possible and reflect problems in the dataset or simply the inability of the model to generalize well enough.

The model is geared towards common high-level SNOMED-CT concepts, and performance is better with long timelines.

Citation

Preprint on arXiv

Examples Timeline (Physical Health)

- CoVid
- Intracanial Hypertension
- Kidney Disease
- Sleep Apnoea
- Wernicke Encephalopathy
- Parkinson's Disease
- Kidney Disease [Masked]

Examples Text (Physical Health)

First two examples are taken from BMJ

	Ischemic stroke (disorder)		Model (First pick a model the timeline)
	Atrial fibrillation (disorder) ⊗ <sep> ⊗</sep>		 KCH Physical Health SLaM Mental Health
ora	and pharyngeal swallowing function (procedure)	\otimes	O MIMIC-III Physical Health
	Dysphagia (disorder)		Concept Status
	SEF (S		🕑 New Concepts
	Acute confusion (finding) (x)		Recurring Concepts
	Diplopia (disorder) Impaired cognition (finding)		Ignore concepts that are p of current concepts Ignore Siblings
	Predict		Ignore ChildrenIgnore Parents
Na	me	Show saliency	Filter to SNOMED codes a a comma separated list)
We	rnicke's disease (disorder)	Saliency	Enter SNOMED codes
Со	nfusional state (disorder)	Saliency	Detected concepts from to
Alc	ohol withdrawal syndrome (disorder)	Opling	Save/Load your timeline

should be predicted by the model

rders

cations and Substances

- edures
- otoms and Findings
- and then add concepts to
- th

parents/children/siblings

and all its children (can be

text

Saliency

Foresight: Timeline Generation

Examples of generated synthetic timelines

Simple Prompt:

Age: 43-year-old

Sex: Female

Ethnicity: Black

Task: Next Concept Prediction

Semantic Tags	KC	CH (Precisio	on)	SLaM (Precision)			
	TOP-1	TOP-5	TOP-10	TOP-1	TOP-5	TOP-10	
Precision Overall	0.667	0.875	0.917	0.658	0.890	0.938	
Precision Disorders	0.605	0.825	0.874	0.637	0.872	0.917	
Precision Findings	0.604	0.855	0.908	0.624	0.879	0.935	
Precision Substances	0.716	0.912	0.950	0.731	0.921	0.958	

Try it for yourself

https://foresight.sites.er.kcl.ac.uk/

Applications and Limitations

Applications:

- Clinical Risk prediction
- Diagnosis suggestion
- Digital twins / virtual trial emulation-
- Forecasting cost

Limitations:

- Can only predict concepts seen in the training dataset
- Cannot accurately estimate time
- Learns the biases in the data

_	Base Patient Timeline Prompt	Scenario	Time+1 5 events	Time+2 5 events	Time+3 5 events	Time+4 5 events	Time+5 5 events
	"This 45 year old male has 1 month of intermittent confusion. He presented with confusion and motor seizures. He was drowsy. He reports	A: Levetiracetam	<mark>Seizure</mark> Depression Fall Pneumonia Cataracts	UTI STEMI Confusion Anxiety Chest pain	AKI Dehydration Pneumonia Sepsis Anorexia	Depression Anxiety Alopecia <mark>Seizure</mark> Rash	Anxiety Elation Urosepsis UTI Depression
	olfactory hallucinations. Sometimes he feels a sensation of deja vu. His EEG shows slowing in the left temporal leads."	B: Lamotrigine	Eczema Dysarthria Glaucoma Diplopia Rash	Rash Pneumonia UTI <mark>Seizure</mark> Tinnitus	<mark>Seizure</mark> Rash Fall Pneumonia Cataracts	Depression Fall Pneumonia <mark>Seizure</mark> Covid	SUDEP Arryhthmia NSTEMI Anxiety Chest pain

How to Introduce LLMs into Healthcare Environments

Application Frameworks	Are the cornerstone of the GenAl stack and provide the foundation for building and running generative AI applications.
Application Models	Models are the brain of GenAl systems , generating new data or content based on learned patterns.
Data	Essential for <u>training and feeding information to the AI models</u> . To make the models more effective and precise, developers need to operationalize their data. Systems need to be able to ingest structured and unstructured data.
Evaluation Platform	Provide tools and metrics for <u>assessing the performance of generative AI models</u> . This includes metrics such as accuracy, loss, and convergence rates, as well as visualization tools. They also track model performance in real-time to detect anomalies or drifts over time.
Deployment	Transitioning GenAI applications from development environments to production environments to be <u>used by end-users</u> . Includes packaging the application, configuring deployment infrastructure, and ensuring scalability, reliability, and security in the production environment.

Key Consideration: Experience and Resources

Things to consider for choosing an AI tech stack:

- **Team Expertise**: Development team's skills impact technology choice.
- **Resource Availability**: Access to hardware and software influences tech stack selection.
- **Training and Support**: Availability of resources affects technology choice.
- **Budget Constraints**: Project budget influences tech stack decisions.
- **Maintenance Needs**: Maintenance and ongoing validation requirements impact technology selection.

Global terminology enabling quality information exchange

Questions / End

Contact

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