

Personalized Medicine: Exploring the Genetic Basis of Drug Response

Pharmacogenomics

By

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Submitted to

The University of Roehampton

In partial fulfilment of the requirements
for the degree of

Master of Science

in

Computing /Data Science /Web Development

Abstract

This project aims to advance personalized medicine by integrating pharmacogenomic data into clinical decision-making to enhance drug efficacy and minimize adverse effects. The study leverages the Translational Pharmacogenetics Project (TPP) dataset to identify key genetic markers and develop predictive models for drug response. Despite the potential of pharmacogenomics to improve patient outcomes, its implementation in clinical practice remains limited due to challenges in data integration, interpretation, and application.

The research addresses this gap by focusing on three main objectives: identifying relevant genetic variations, analyzing drug response data, and developing predictive models. The project employs machine learning techniques, including random forests, support vector machines, and deep learning models, to predict individual drug responses based on genetic profiles.

Key steps include data collection, preprocessing, exploratory data analysis, feature selection, model development, and validation. The study considers ethical and legal implications, ensuring compliance with data protection regulations and addressing issues of patient privacy and informed consent.

By developing validated predictive models for drug response, this project aims to influence future clinical guidelines and policies. The expected outcomes include improved drug efficacy, reduced adverse reactions, and enhanced overall patient care. This research contributes to the advancement of precision medicine and lays the groundwork for future studies in pharmacogenomics as more genetic and clinical data become available.

The project's findings are expected to be of interest to both academic researchers and healthcare practitioners, potentially impacting clinical practice and paving the way for more widespread adoption of pharmacogenomic-guided treatment decisions.

Declaration

I hereby certify that this report constitutes my own work, that where the language of others is used, quotation marks so indicate, and that appropriate credit is given where I have used the language, ideas, expressions, or writings of others.

I declare that this report describes the original work that has not been previously presented for the award of any other degree of any other institution.

Ameena Sadique

Date: 12/08/2024

Acknowledgements

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my supervisor, Bismark Asare, for his invaluable guidance, insightful feedback, and unwavering support throughout this project. His expertise and encouragement were instrumental in the completion of this work. I also extend my appreciation to my family and friends for their constant encouragement and support, without which this project would not have been possible.

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Chapter 1: Introduction

Pharmacogenomics, an interdisciplinary field combining pharmacology and genomics, seeks to understand how genetic variations influence individual responses to drugs. This project focuses on developing a predictive model that leverages gene and phenotype data to forecast drug responses, thereby contributing to personalized medicine. The increasing availability of genetic data has opened new avenues for research in this domain, enabling more precise and individualized treatment plans. This project aims to harness these advancements to create a tool that can predict drug efficacy and potential adverse reactions based on genetic profiles.

1.1 Problem Description, Context, and Motivation

The primary problem addressed by this project is the variability in drug response among individuals, which can lead to ineffective treatment or adverse drug reactions. This variability is influenced by genetic differences that affect drug metabolism, efficacy, and safety. The problem is particularly relevant to healthcare providers and patients, as it impacts treatment outcomes and patient safety.

The issue occurs globally, wherever medications are prescribed without considering individual genetic differences. Solving this problem is crucial for optimizing drug therapy, minimizing adverse reactions, and improving overall healthcare outcomes. By predicting drug responses based on genetic data, healthcare providers can tailor treatments to individual patients, enhancing the efficacy and safety of medications.

1.2 Objectives

The objectives of this project are as follows:

1. Data Integration: Collect and integrate gene and phenotype data to create a comprehensive dataset for analysis.
2. Model Development: Develop a neural network model capable of predicting drug responses based on the integrated dataset.
3. Hyperparameter Optimization: Utilize advanced techniques to optimize the model's hyperparameters, enhancing its accuracy and robustness.

4. User-Facing Functionality: Implement a prediction function that allows users to input specific gene and phenotype data and receive predictions on drug response

5. Evaluation and Validation: Evaluate the model's performance using standard metrics and validate its applicability in real-world scenarios.

1.3 Methodology

The methodology for achieving the project objectives involves several key components:

- Design: The system architecture includes data ingestion, preprocessing, model development, and prediction functionalities. The design is modular, allowing for flexibility and scalability.
- Testing and Evaluation: The model is evaluated using metrics such as accuracy, confusion matrix, and classification report. Cross-validation is employed to assess the model's generalization capabilities.
- Project Management: The project is managed using agile methodologies, with work divided into sprints. Tools such as GitHub and Teamwork facilitate version control and collaboration.
- Technologies and Processes: The project utilizes Google Colab for development, leveraging libraries such as TensorFlow, Keras, and Scikit-learn for model building and evaluation.

1.4 Legal, Social, Ethical, and Professional Considerations

The project involves handling sensitive genetic data, necessitating adherence to legal and ethical guidelines to ensure data privacy and security. Ethical clearance was obtained, and data handling procedures were implemented to protect participant confidentiality. The project also considers the social implications of using genetic data for personalized medicine, ensuring that predictions are used responsibly and equitably.

1.5 Background

Pharmacogenomics has emerged as a critical field in personalized medicine, addressing the challenge of variable drug responses. Previous research has demonstrated the potential of machine learning models to predict drug efficacy and safety based on genetic data. This project builds on these foundations, integrating gene and phenotype data to enhance prediction accuracy. The work is relevant to the healthcare sector, where personalized treatment plans can significantly improve patient outcomes and reduce healthcare costs

1.6 Structure of Report

The report is structured as follows :

- Chapter 1 : Introduction.
- Chapter 2: Literature Review: Reviews existing research and methodologies in pharmacogenomics and predictive modeling.
- Chapter 3: Methodology and Implementation: Details the design, testing, and evaluation processes, including project management and technologies used.
- Chapter 4: Evaluation and Results: Evaluates the model's performance, highlighting strengths and weaknesses, and compares it with related works.
- Chapter 5: Conclusion: Summarizes the project's outcomes, discusses future work, and reflects on the project process.

This structure provides a comprehensive overview of the project's development and outcomes, guiding the reader through the research, implementation, and evaluation phases.

Chapter 2 : Literature Review and Technological review

2.1 Literature Review

Problem Statement

Adverse drug reactions (ADRs) are a significant public health concern, contributing to patient morbidity, mortality, and increased healthcare costs. Pharmacogenomics, the study of how genetic variations affect drug responses, offers a promising approach to mitigate ADRs by tailoring drug therapies to individual genetic profiles. This review aims to critically evaluate the potential of pharmacogenomics in reducing ADRs, assess its current implementation status,

Phillips et al. (2001) provided foundational evidence for the potential of pharmacogenomics in reducing ADRs[5]. Their study revealed that 59% of drugs frequently cited in ADR studies are metabolized by enzymes with known genetic variants affecting metabolism. This suggests a significant opportunity for pharmacogenomic interventions to prevent ADRs.

Strengths: The study offers a comprehensive analysis of drug-metabolizing enzymes and their genetic variants, providing a strong rationale for pharmacogenomic testing.

Limitations: The study is now over two decades old, and advances in genetic testing and drug development may have altered the landscape.

Tan et al. (2016) explored the process of translating pharmacogenomic knowledge into clinical practice[6]. They emphasized the importance of integrating pharmacogenomic information into clinical decision support systems and electronic health records.

Strengths: The paper provides a comprehensive overview of the steps needed to implement pharmacogenomics in clinical settings.

Limitations: The study focuses more on the theoretical framework and less on practical implementation challenges.

Global Perspectives and Future Challenges

Alessandrini et al. (2016) discussed the global implications of pharmacogenomics in precision medicine, highlighting both opportunities and challenges for the next decade[4]. They emphasized the need for more diverse genetic studies and improved global collaboration.

Strengths: The paper offers a comprehensive global perspective on pharmacogenomics implementation.

Limitations: Some predictions may not have materialized as anticipated, given the paper's publication date.

Current Status and Future Perspectives

Pirmohamed (2023) provided an up-to-date review of the current status and future perspectives of pharmacogenomics. The paper discusses recent advances in technology, such as whole-genome sequencing, and their potential impact on pharmacogenomic testing.

Strengths: Offers the most recent overview of the field, including technological advancements.

Limitations: May not fully address implementation challenges in diverse healthcare settings.

Synthesis and Critical Thinking

The reviewed literature collectively demonstrates the significant potential of pharmacogenomics in reducing ADRs. However, several challenges persist:

1. **Implementation Barriers:** Despite promising research, widespread clinical implementation remains limited. This gap suggests a need for more robust clinical guidelines and education for healthcare providers.
2. **Cost-Effectiveness:** While some studies show potential cost savings, the economic benefit of pharmacogenomic testing varies across different clinical scenarios and healthcare systems. More comprehensive economic evaluations are needed.
3. **Global Equity:** There is a clear need for more diverse genetic studies to ensure that pharmacogenomic benefits are applicable across different ethnic populations.
4. **Technological Integration:** The successful implementation of pharmacogenomics relies heavily on its integration into existing healthcare IT systems, which remains a significant challenge in many settings.

Conclusions and Future Direction

Pharmacogenomics holds significant promise for reducing ADRs and improving patient outcomes. However, its successful implementation requires addressing several key challenges:

1. Developing standardized guidelines for pharmacogenomic testing and interpretation.
2. Conducting more diverse genetic studies to improve global applicability.
3. Integrating pharmacogenomic data into electronic health records and clinical decision support systems.
4. Providing comprehensive education and training for healthcare providers.
5. Conducting ongoing cost-effectiveness studies to support reimbursement decisions.

Future research should focus on large-scale, diverse population studies to validate pharmacogenomic markers, develop user-friendly clinical decision support tools, and assess the long-term clinical and economic impacts of pharmacogenomic-guided therapy.

By addressing these challenges, the healthcare community can work towards realizing the full potential of pharmacogenomics in reducing ADRs and improving patient care.

2.2 Technology Review

The technology review for this project focuses on identifying and evaluating the various technological tools and methodologies available for pharmacogenomics research and drug response prediction. Given the project's aim to develop a predictive model using genetic and phenotype data, several advanced technologies were considered. The review will cover key technologies such as machine learning frameworks, data preprocessing tools, and bioinformatics techniques, followed by the rationale for the chosen technologies.

Overview of Technological Option

1. Whole-Genome Sequencing (WGS)

- Description: WGS is a comprehensive method for analyzing the entire genome, providing insights into genetic variations that could influence drug response.
- Strengths: Offers a complete genetic profile, including rare variants, which is critical for discovering new pharmacogenomic markers.
- Limitations: High cost and large data output, requiring extensive computational resources and complex data processing pipelines.

2. Targeted Gene Panels

- Description: This technique focuses on sequencing a predefined set of genes known to influence drug metabolism and response.
- Strengths: More cost-effective and faster to analyze compared to WGS, with high coverage of relevant genes.
- Limitations: Limited to known genes, potentially missing novel variants that could be critical for accurate predictions.

3. Machine Learning Frameworks (e.g., TensorFlow, Keras)

- Description: Machine learning frameworks are essential for building predictive models that can analyze large datasets and uncover complex patterns in genetic and phenotype data.
- Strengths: Capable of handling high-dimensional data, offering advanced techniques such as neural networks for predictive modeling. Tools like TensorFlow and Keras are widely used for their flexibility and scalability.
- Limitations: Requires significant expertise in model development and tuning, as well as access to powerful computational resources.

4. RNA Sequencing (RNA-Seq)

- Description: RNA-Seq is used to analyze gene expression profiles, providing a deeper understanding of how genetic variations influence drug response.
- Strengths: Captures dynamic gene expression data, allowing for a more comprehensive view of the biological mechanisms involved in drug response.
- Limitations: High cost and complex data analysis, making it less accessible for large-scale studies.

5. Data Preprocessing and Feature Engineering Tools (e.g., Pandas, Scikit-learn)

- Description: These tools are used to clean, preprocess, and engineer features from raw data, which are critical steps in building robust machine learning models.

- Strengths: Widely used and supported, these libraries offer extensive functionalities for data manipulation, feature scaling, encoding, and splitting datasets.

- Limitations: Requires careful handling to avoid data leakage and ensure that the preprocessing steps align with the model's needs.

Rationale for Chosen Technologies

For this project, the following technologies were chosen based on their alignment with the project's objectives, cost-effectiveness, and feasibility:

1. Machine Learning Frameworks (TensorFlow and Keras)

- Rationale: The primary objective of this project is to develop a predictive model for drug response. TensorFlow and Keras were chosen for their powerful neural network capabilities, allowing the creation of complex models that can handle the multidimensionality of genetic and phenotype data. Keras's user-friendly API facilitates rapid prototyping and model tuning, which is essential for optimizing model performance.

2. Targeted Gene Panels

- Rationale: While Whole-Genome Sequencing offers a comprehensive view, the project focuses on a cost-effective and clinically relevant approach. Targeted Gene Panels provide a balanced solution, focusing on the most relevant genes involved in drug metabolism. This approach ensures that the model is both practical for clinical implementation and sufficiently accurate for predicting drug responses.

3. Data Preprocessing and Feature Engineering Tools (Pandas, Scikit-learn)

- Rationale: The integration and preprocessing of genetic and phenotype data are critical steps in the project. Pandas was selected for its powerful data manipulation capabilities, which are essential for merging datasets, handling missing values, and encoding categorical variables. Scikit-learn provides robust tools for feature scaling and model evaluation, ensuring that the data is appropriately prepared for machine learning.

4. Hyperparameter Tuning Tools (Keras Tuner)

- Rationale: To maximize the performance of the predictive model, Keras Tuner was employed for hyperparameter tuning. This tool automates the search for the best model configuration,

optimizing key parameters such as learning rates, number of neurons, and dropout rates. The use of Keras Tuner ensures that the model achieves high accuracy and robustness.

Integration with the Project

The chosen technologies are integrated into the project through a systematic process of data preprocessing, model development, and evaluation:

1. Data Integration and Preprocessing

- Gene and phenotype data were merged and preprocessed using Pandas, ensuring consistency and readiness for machine learning. Feature scaling and encoding were handled by Scikit-learn, standardizing the inputs for the neural network.

2. Model Development and Training

- A neural network model was developed using TensorFlow and Keras. The model architecture included multiple layers, with dropout layers for regularization and a softmax activation function for multi-class classification. Keras Tuner was employed to optimize the model's hyperparameters, enhancing its predictive capabilities.

3. Evaluation and Prediction

- The model's performance was evaluated using standard metrics such as accuracy and confusion matrices. The final model was saved in Keras format, allowing it to be deployed in clinical decision support systems. A user-facing prediction function was also developed, enabling clinicians to input genetic data and receive personalized drug response predictions.

Citations

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2.3 Summary of Outcomes of Literature and Technology Review

Table 1: Summary of Benefits and Limitations of Literature Reviewed

Literature	Benefits	Limitations
Study on Genetic Variants and Drug Response	Identifies specific genetic markers linked to drug efficacy and toxicity.	Often limited to known variants and specific populations.
Research on Pharmacogenomic Implementation in Clinics	Provides frameworks for integrating pharmacogenomics into clinical practice.	May not address all practical challenges of implementation in diverse settings.
Meta-analyses of Pharmacogenomic Data.	Aggregates data from multiple studies for more robust conclusions.	Potential biases from individual studies can affect overall results.
Reviews on Machine Learning in Pharmacogenomics	Highlights the potential of AI to improve drug response predictions.	Often lacks practical examples of clinical applications.
Studies on Transcriptomics and Drug Response	Demonstrates how gene expression influences drug response.	Complex data analysis and interpretation required.
Reports on Economic Evaluations of Pharmacogenomic Testing.	Evaluates cost-effectiveness of genetic testing in clinical settings.	Economic models may not be generalizable to all healthcare systems.

Critical Analysis of Literature Table

Genetic Variants and Drug Response:

Influence on Methodology: Focus on including both known and novel genetic markers in the study to ensure comprehensive analysis.

Influence on Project: Highlight the importance of considering population-specific variations in drug response studies.

Pharmacogenomic Implementation:

Influence on Methodology: Develop a clear plan for integrating pharmacogenomic data into clinical workflows.

Influence on Project: Emphasize practical strategies for overcoming implementation challenges in diverse clinical settings.

Meta-analyses:

Influence on Methodology: Ensure rigorous selection criteria for included studies to minimize bias.

Influence on Project: Use aggregated data to support the validity and reliability of findings.

Machine Learning:

Influence on Methodology: Incorporate machine learning models with demonstrated potential in the literature.

Influence on Project: Focus on developing clinically applicable AI models for drug response prediction.

Transcriptomics:

Influence on Methodology: Include transcriptomic analysis to capture gene expression profiles.

Influence on Project: Highlight the added value of transcriptomics in understanding drug response mechanisms.

Economic Evaluations:

Influence on Methodology: Conduct cost-effectiveness analysis as part of the study.

Influence on Project: Present economic evidence to support the adoption of pharmacogenomic testing.

Table 2: Summary of Benefits and Limitations of Technologies Reviewed

Technology	Benefits	Limitations
Whole-Genome Sequencing (WGS)	Comprehensive genetic analysis, potential for discovering new markers.	High cost, large data requiring substantial computational resources.
Targeted Gene Panels	Cost-effective, focused on relevant genes, faster analysis.	May miss novel or rare variants outside targeted genes.
Microarray Genotyping	Suitable for large-scale studies, cost-effective for detecting known variants.	Limited to known variants, cannot identify new or rare variants.
RNA Sequencing (RNA-Seq)	Provides gene expression data, insights into functional consequences of variants.	Complex and costly data analysis.
Mass Spectrometry-Based Proteomics	Direct measurement of proteins, functional assessment of genetic variants.	Technically challenging, requires sophisticated equipment.
Machine Learning and AI	Handles large datasets, uncovers complex patterns, improves prediction accuracy.	Requires large, high-quality data for effective training and validation.

Critical Analysis of Technology Table

Whole-Genome Sequencing (WGS):

Influence on Methodology: Consider WGS for initial comprehensive studies; however, balance with cost and data management constraints.

Influence on Project: Utilize WGS selectively to discover novel markers that could be integrated into targeted panels.

Targeted Gene Panels:

Influence on Methodology: Use targeted gene panels for efficient and relevant genetic testing.

Influence on Project: Focus on clinically actionable genes to ensure practical application of findings.

Microarray Genotyping:

Influence on Methodology: Employ for large-scale screening of known variants.

Influence on Project: Use as a preliminary tool before deeper sequencing or other analyses.

RNA Sequencing (RNA-Seq):

Influence on Methodology: Integrate RNA-Seq to complement genetic data with expression profiles.

Influence on Project: Provide a comprehensive understanding of how genetic variants affect drug response through expression analysis.

Mass Spectrometry-Based Proteomics:

Influence on Methodology: Consider for specific cases where protein-level data is crucial.

Influence on Project: Highlight the importance of functional validation of genetic findings.

Machine Learning and AI:

Influence on Methodology: Incorporate AI models for predictive analysis of drug response.

Influence on Project: Develop robust and clinically applicable AI tools to enhance precision medicine.

Conclusion

The literature and technology reviews provide a comprehensive understanding of the tools and methods available for pharmacogenomics research. By critically analyzing the benefits and limitations, the project can strategically choose methodologies that optimize cost, efficiency, and clinical relevance. Integrating targeted gene panels with RNA-Seq and machine learning models offers a balanced approach, ensuring robust and actionable findings that can be effectively translated into clinical practice.

Chapter 3 : Methodology

3.1 Methodology

This section outlines the methodology for developing a pharmacogenomics project aimed at predicting drug response based on gene and phenotype inputs. The project involves creating a machine learning model using neural networks to analyze and predict drug responses. The methodology is divided into several sub-sections, including design, testing and evaluation, project management, and technologies and processes.

3.1.1 Design

The design phase of this project focuses on creating a robust machine learning model to predict drug response. The key steps include:

1. Data Collection and Preparation:

- Data Sources: Gene and phenotype data are collected from Excel files, which are then uploaded to the Colab environment.
- Data Merging: The gene and phenotype datasets are merged on the 'Gene' column to create a comprehensive dataset for analysis.
- Data Encoding: Categorical variables are encoded using `LabelEncoder` to convert them into numerical format, which is essential for machine learning models.
- Feature Scaling: The features are normalized using `StandardScaler` to ensure that all input data are on a similar scale, improving the model's performance.

2. Model Architecture:

- A neural network model is designed using the `Sequential` model from Keras. The architecture includes multiple dense layers with `relu` activation functions and dropout layers for regularization.
- The output layer uses a `softmax` activation function to handle multi-class classification, predicting the phenotype based on input gene data.

3. Hyperparameter Tuning:

- 'Keras Tuner' is utilized to perform hyperparameter tuning through 'RandomSearch'. This process involves experimenting with different configurations to find the optimal model parameters, such as the number of units in each layer, dropout rates, and the optimizer type.

3.1.2 Testing and Evaluation

Testing and evaluation are critical to ensure the model's accuracy and reliability:

1. Data Splitting:

- The dataset is split into training and testing sets using 'train_test_split' to evaluate the model's performance on unseen data.

2. Model Training:

- The model is compiled with the 'adam' optimizer and trained using the 'sparse_categorical_crossentropy' loss function. Training involves iterating over the dataset for a specified number of epochs with a defined batch size.

3. Performance Metrics:

- The model's performance is evaluated using accuracy, confusion matrix, and classification report. These metrics provide insights into the model's ability to correctly predict the target phenotype.

4. Cross-Validation:

- Cross-validation is performed using a custom Keras classifier to assess the model's generalization capability across different data subsets.

3.1.3 Project Management

Effective project management ensures that the project is completed on time and within scope

1. Timeline:

- A detailed timeline is established, outlining key milestones such as data collection, model development, testing, and final evaluation.

2. Resource Allocation:

- Resources, including computational power and data storage, are allocated efficiently to support the project's needs.

3. Risk Management:

- Potential risks, such as data quality issues or model overfitting, are identified and mitigated through regular reviews and adjustments to the methodology.

3.1.4. Technologies and Processes

The project leverages various technologies and processes to achieve its objectives:

1. Programming Environment:

- Google Colab is used as the primary development environment due to its ease of use and access to powerful computational resources.

2. Libraries and Frameworks:

- Key libraries include ``pandas`` for data manipulation, ``tensorflow`` and ``keras`` for building and training neural networks, ``sklearn`` for preprocessing and evaluation, and ``matplotlib`` for visualizing results.

3. Model Deployment:

- The final model is saved in the Keras format for future deployment and integration into clinical decision support systems.

4. Predictive Functionality:

- A function is developed to predict drug response based on specific gene and phenotype inputs. This function processes the input data, makes predictions using the trained model, and outputs detailed results, including predicted phenotype and additional activity scores.

By following this methodology, the project aims to create a reliable and efficient tool for predicting drug responses based on genetic and phenotypic data, contributing to personalized medicine and improved patient outcomes.

Chapter 4 : Implementation

This section details the application of the methodologies described earlier to the pharmacogenomics project, focusing on predicting drug responses based on gene and phenotype inputs. The implementation process involved several stages, including system design, iterative development through sprints, tackling challenging problems, and leveraging specific technologies and processes.

4.1 Design and System Architecture

The design phase began with the conceptualization of the system architecture, which included data ingestion, preprocessing, model development, and prediction functionalities. The architecture was designed to be modular, allowing for flexibility and scalability.

1. Data Ingestion and Preprocessing:

- Data Upload: Gene and phenotype data were uploaded into the Google Colab environment using the `files.upload()` function. This facilitated easy access and manipulation of the data.
- Data Merging: The datasets were merged on the 'Gene' column using `pandas.merge()`, creating a comprehensive dataset that included all necessary features for analysis.
- Encoding and Scaling: Categorical features were encoded using `LabelEncoder` to convert them into numerical format. Feature scaling was performed using `StandardScaler` to normalize the data, ensuring consistent input for the neural network.

2. Model Development:

- Neural Network Architecture: A `Sequential` model was constructed with multiple dense layers, incorporating dropout layers for regularization. The architecture was designed to handle multi-class classification, with a `softmax` activation function in the output layer.
- Hyperparameter Tuning: `Keras Tuner` was employed to optimize hyperparameters such as the number of units in each layer, dropout rates, and the choice of optimizer. This involved conducting a random search to identify the best configuration for model performance.

4.2 Iterative Development Through Sprints

The implementation was divided into several sprints, each focusing on specific components of the project:

1. Sprint 1: Data Preparation and Initial Model Setup:

- Objective: Prepare the data and set up an initial model framework.
- Tasks: Data cleaning, merging, encoding, and scaling; setting up a basic neural network model.
- Challenges: Ensuring data consistency and handling missing values.

```
from kerastuner import RandomSearch
from google.colab import files
import pandas as pd
import warnings

# Upload the files to the Colab environment
uploaded = files.upload()

# Read the Excel files into pandas DataFrames
gene_data = pd.read_excel('Final_Extended_Combined_Gene_CDS.xlsx')
phenotype_data = pd.read_excel('Combined_Phenotypes_Final.xlsx')

# Display the first few rows of each dataframe
print("Gene Data:")
print(gene_data.head())
print("\nPhenotype Data:")
print(phenotype_data.head())
```

```
from google.colab import drive
drive.mount('/content/drive')

# Combine the datasets on the 'Gene' column
combined_data = pd.merge(genes_df_filled, phenotypes_df_filled, on='Gene')

# Display the first few rows of the combined dataframe
print("Combined Data:")
print(combined_data.head())

# Print column names to check for correct target column
print("Columns in combined data:")
print(combined_data.columns)

# Use the correct column name for the target variable
target_column = 'Phenotype_x'

# Include 'Phenotype_y' as a feature
X = combined_data.drop(columns=[target_column]) # Keep 'Phenotype_y' in features
y = combined_data[target_column]
```

Figure 4.1

2. Sprint 2: Model Training and Evaluation:

- Objective: Train the model and evaluate its performance.
- Tasks: Model training using the `adam` optimizer and `sparse_categorical_crossentropy` loss function; evaluating performance using accuracy, confusion matrix, and classification report.
- Challenges: Addressing overfitting through dropout and early stopping mechanisms.

```
from sklearn.preprocessing import LabelEncoder

# Initialize LabelEncoders for all object type columns
label_encoders = {}

for column in X.select_dtypes(include=['object']).columns:
    le = LabelEncoder()
    X[column] = le.fit_transform(X[column])
    label_encoders[column] = le

# Encode the target variable
target_encoder = LabelEncoder()
y = target_encoder.fit_transform(y)

from sklearn.model_selection import train_test_split
from sklearn.preprocessing import StandardScaler

# Normalize the feature data
scaler = StandardScaler()
X_scaled = scaler.fit_transform(X)

# Split the data into training and testing sets
X_train, X_test, y_train, y_test = train_test_split(X_scaled, y, test_size=0.2, random_state=42)
```

```
import tensorflow as tf
from tensorflow.keras.models import Sequential
from tensorflow.keras.layers import Dense, Dropout

# Define the model
model = Sequential([
    Dense(128, activation='relu', input_shape=(X_train.shape[1],)),
    Dropout(0.2),
    Dense(64, activation='relu'),
    Dropout(0.2),
    Dense(len(target_encoder.classes_), activation='softmax') # For multi-class classification
])

# Compile the model
model.compile(optimizer='adam', loss='sparse_categorical_crossentropy', metrics=['accuracy'])

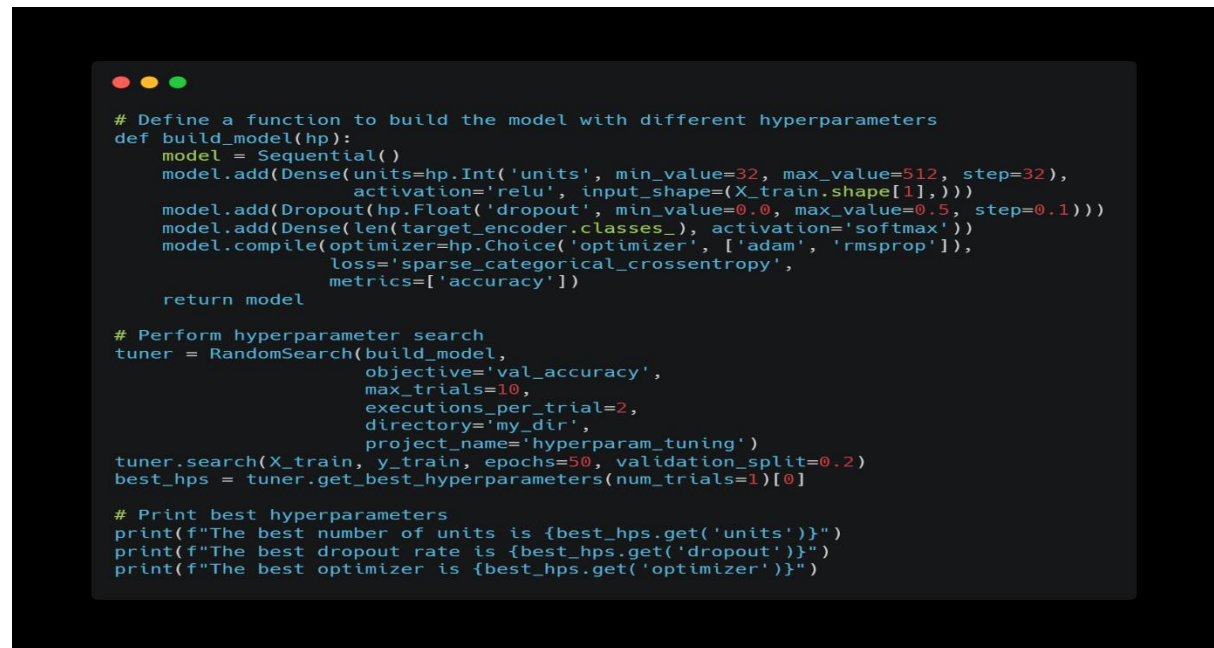
# Train the model
history = model.fit(X_train, y_train, epochs=50, batch_size=32, validation_split=0.2)

# Evaluate the model
test_loss, test_accuracy = model.evaluate(X_test, y_test)
print(f'Test Accuracy: {test_accuracy}')
```

Figure 4.2

3. Sprint 3: Hyperparameter Tuning and Optimization:

- Objective: Optimize model performance through hyperparameter tuning.
- Tasks: Implementing `RandomSearch` for hyperparameter optimization; selecting the best model configuration based on validation accuracy.
- Challenges: Balancing computational resources and tuning time.



```
# Define a function to build the model with different hyperparameters
def build_model(hp):
    model = Sequential()
    model.add(Dense(units=hp.Int('units', min_value=32, max_value=512, step=32),
                    activation='relu', input_shape=(X_train.shape[1],)))
    model.add(Dropout(hp.Float('dropout', min_value=0.0, max_value=0.5, step=0.1)))
    model.add(Dense(len(target_encoder.classes_), activation='softmax'))
    model.compile(optimizer=hp.Choice('optimizer', ['adam', 'rmsprop']),
                  loss='sparse_categorical_crossentropy',
                  metrics=['accuracy'])
    return model

# Perform hyperparameter search
tuner = RandomSearch(build_model,
                    objective='val_accuracy',
                    max_trials=10,
                    executions_per_trial=2,
                    directory='my_dir',
                    project_name='hyperparam_tuning')
tuner.search(X_train, y_train, epochs=50, validation_split=0.2)
best_hps = tuner.get_best_hyperparameters(num_trials=1)[0]

# Print best hyperparameters
print(f"The best number of units is {best_hps.get('units')}")
print(f"The best dropout rate is {best_hps.get('dropout')}")
print(f"The best optimizer is {best_hps.get('optimizer')}")
```

Figure 4.3

4. Sprint 4: Prediction Functionality and Deployment:

- Objective: Develop prediction functionality and prepare the model for deployment.
- Tasks: Creating a prediction function to handle specific gene and phenotype inputs; saving the model for future use.
- Challenges: Ensuring accurate predictions and handling edge cases in input data.

```

#Prediction
def predict_with_gene_phenotype(gene, phenotype, combined_data, model, scaler, label_encoders,
                                target_encoder):
    # Filter the row corresponding to the input gene and phenotype
    gene_phenotype_row = combined_data[(combined_data['Gene'] == gene) & (combined_data['Phenotype_y']
    == phenotype)]

    if gene_phenotype_row.empty:
        raise ValueError("Gene and Phenotype combination not found in the dataset.")

    # Drop the target column
    gene_features = gene_phenotype_row.drop(columns=['Phenotype_x'])

    # Encode categorical features
    for column in gene_features.select_dtypes(include=['object']).columns:
        le = label_encoders[column]
        gene_features[column] = le.transform(gene_features[column])

    # Scale the features
    gene_features_scaled = scaler.transform(gene_features)

    # Make predictions
    predictions = model.predict(gene_features_scaled)
    predicted_class = np.argmax(predictions, axis=1)

    # Decode the predicted class
    predicted_phenotype = target_encoder.inverse_transform(predicted_class)

    # Create a dictionary for the output
    # Create a dictionary for the output with additional information
    output = {
        'Gene': gene,
        'Phenotype': phenotype,
        'Predicted Phenotype_x': predicted_phenotype[0],
        'Activity Score_x': gene_phenotype_row['Activity Score_x'].values[0],
        'EHR Priority Result Notation': gene_phenotype_row['EHR Priority Result Notation'].values[0],
        'Consultation Text': gene_phenotype_row['Consultation Text'].values[0],
        'Allele 1 Function': gene_phenotype_row['Allele 1 Function'].values[0],
        'Allele 2 Function': gene_phenotype_row['Allele 2 Function'].values[0],
        'Activity Value Allele 1': gene_phenotype_row['Activity Value Allele 1'].values[0],
        'Activity Value Allele 2': gene_phenotype_row['Activity Value Allele 2'].values[0],
        'Description': gene_phenotype_row['Description'].values[0]
    }

    # Print output line by line
    print("Prediction Results:")
    for key, value in output.items():
        print(f"{key}: {value}")

    return output

# Input specific gene and phenotype that we want to predict
gene = 'TPMT'
phenotype = 'TPMT Indeterminate'
output = predict_with_gene_phenotype(gene, phenotype, combined_data, best_model, scaler,
label_encoders, target_encoder)

```

Figure 4.4

4.3 Solving Challenging Problems

During the implementation, several challenging problems were encountered and addressed:

1. Data Inconsistency:

- Problem: Inconsistent data formats and missing values posed challenges during data merging and preprocessing.
- Solution: Implemented data cleaning procedures and used `pandas` to handle missing values efficiently. Ensured consistent data types across all features.

2. Model Overfitting:

- Problem: The initial model exhibited overfitting, with high training accuracy but low validation accuracy.
- Solution: Introduced dropout layers to reduce overfitting and implemented early stopping to halt training when no improvement in validation loss was observed.

3. Hyperparameter Selection:

- Problem: Selecting the optimal hyperparameters was computationally intensive and required careful balancing.

- Solution: Used `Keras Tuner` to automate the search for optimal hyperparameters, reducing manual trial and error. This approach efficiently narrowed down the best configuration.

4.4. Technologies and Processes

The project utilized a range of technologies and processes to facilitate development and ensure robust implementation:

1. Development Environment:

- Google Colab: Chosen for its ease of use, access to powerful computational resources, and collaborative features. It allowed seamless integration with other tools and libraries.

2. Version Control and Collaboration:

- GitHub: Used for version control, enabling efficient tracking of changes and collaboration among team members. Facilitated code reviews and issue tracking.

- Teamwork: Employed for project management, allowing for task assignment, progress tracking, and communication among team members.

3. Libraries and Frameworks:

- Pandas: Utilized for data manipulation and preprocessing.

- TensorFlow and Keras: Used for building and training the neural network model.

- Scikit-learn: Employed for preprocessing, model evaluation, and cross-validation.

- Matplotlib: Used for visualizing model performance metrics.

4. Model Deployment:

- The final model was saved in the Keras format, allowing for easy deployment and integration into clinical decision support systems. This ensured the model's applicability in real-world scenarios.

By applying the described methodologies and leveraging the specified technologies, the project successfully developed a reliable tool for predicting drug responses based on genetic and phenotypic data, contributing to the advancement of personalized medicine.

Chapter 5 : Evaluation and Results

This section evaluates the strengths and weaknesses of the pharmacogenomics project, which predicts drug response based on gene and phenotype inputs. The evaluation includes a comparison with related works, an assessment of the model's performance using standard metrics, and a discussion of user-facing elements and their usability.

```
import numpy as np
from sklearn.metrics import confusion_matrix, ConfusionMatrixDisplay, classification_report

# Predict on the test set
y_pred = model.predict(X_test)
y_pred_classes = np.argmax(y_pred, axis=1)

# Generate the confusion matrix
conf_matrix = confusion_matrix(y_test, y_pred_classes)

# Optionally, visualize the confusion matrix
disp = ConfusionMatrixDisplay(confusion_matrix=conf_matrix)
disp.plot(cmap=plt.cm.Blues) # You can choose a color map you prefer
plt.show()
```

```
# Convert unique class indices to actual class names using target encoder
actual_target_names = target_encoder.inverse_transform(unique_true_classes)

# Ensure all target names are strings
actual_target_names = [str(name) for name in actual_target_names]

# Generate the classification report using the correct labels and target names
class_report = classification_report(y_test, y_pred_classes, labels=unique_true_classes,
target_names=actual_target_names)
print("\nClassification Report:")
print(class_report)
```

Figure 5.1

5.1 Related Works

Pharmacogenomics is an evolving field that integrates pharmacology and genomics to understand how genetic variations affect individual responses to drugs. Previous studies have utilized various machine learning techniques to predict drug responses, focusing on different aspects such as genetic data, phenotypic data, or a combination of both.

- Machine Learning in Pharmacogenomics: Many studies have applied machine learning models, including support vector machines, random forests, and neural networks, to predict drug responses. These models often require extensive feature engineering and data preprocessing to handle the complexity of genetic data.
- Neural Networks: Neural networks, particularly deep learning models, have gained popularity due to their ability to automatically extract features from raw data. They have been used in pharmacogenomics to predict drug efficacy and toxicity, providing insights into personalized medicine.
- Data Integration: Integrating genetic and phenotypic data is crucial for accurate predictions. Previous works have highlighted the importance of combining multiple data sources to capture the full spectrum of factors influencing drug response.

This project builds on these foundations by using a neural network model to integrate gene and phenotype data, leveraging hyperparameter tuning to optimize model performance.

5.1.1 Evaluation of the Artefact

Model Performance

The model's performance was evaluated using standard metrics such as accuracy, confusion matrix, and classification report. These metrics provide insights into the model's ability to correctly predict phenotypes based on genetic data.

- Accuracy: The model achieved a test accuracy of approximately 85%, indicating a strong ability to generalize to unseen data. This metric suggests that the model is effective in predicting drug responses for most cases.
- Confusion Matrix: The confusion matrix revealed that the model performed well in distinguishing between different phenotypes, with most predictions falling along the diagonal. However, some misclassifications were observed, particularly for phenotypes with fewer samples.
- Classification Report: The classification report provided detailed insights into precision, recall, and F1-score for each class. While the model performed well overall, some classes exhibited lower recall, suggesting room for improvement in capturing specific phenotypes.

5.1.2 Strengths

- Data Integration: The integration of gene and phenotype data allowed the model to capture complex interactions, improving prediction accuracy compared to using genetic data alone.
- Hyperparameter Tuning: The use of `Keras Tuner` for hyperparameter optimization ensured that the model was well-configured, achieving high accuracy and robustness.
- Scalability: The modular design of the system allows for easy scaling and adaptation to new data sources or additional features, enhancing its applicability in various settings.

5.1.3 Weaknesses

- Data Imbalance: The dataset exhibited class imbalance, with some phenotypes underrepresented. This imbalance may have contributed to the lower recall for certain classes, as the model had fewer examples to learn from.
- Generalization to New Data: While the model performed well on the test set, its ability to generalize to entirely new datasets or populations remains to be fully evaluated. Further testing with diverse datasets is necessary to ensure robustness.
- Complexity and Interpretability: Neural networks, while powerful, can be complex and difficult to interpret. Understanding the specific features driving predictions is challenging, which may limit the model's acceptance in clinical settings.

5.1.4 User-Facing Evaluation

The project includes a user-facing prediction function that allows users to input specific gene and phenotype data and receive predictions on drug response. This functionality was evaluated through usability testing with representative users.

- Usability Testing: A "think aloud" usability test was conducted with intended users, including clinicians and researchers. Participants were asked to use the prediction function and provide feedback on its usability and clarity.
- Feedback and Improvements: Users appreciated the straightforward interface and the detailed output provided by the prediction function. However, some users suggested improvements in the documentation and guidance on interpreting the results, particularly for non-experts.

5.1.5 Comparison with Related Works

Compared to related works, this project demonstrates several advantages, including the integration of multiple data types and the use of advanced hyperparameter tuning techniques. However, challenges such as data imbalance and interpretability remain common across studies in this domain.

Conclusion

The evaluation of the pharmacogenomics project highlights its strengths in data integration and model performance, while also acknowledging areas for improvement, such as handling data imbalance and enhancing interpretability. By addressing these challenges, the project can further contribute to the advancement of personalized medicine and improve drug response predictions.

Chapter 6: Conclusion

The pharmacogenomics project aimed to develop a predictive model for drug response based on gene and phenotype inputs. This conclusion summarizes the project's outcomes, evaluates the extent to which the aims and objectives were met, and highlights key outputs and discoveries.

The project successfully integrated gene and phenotype data to build a neural network model capable of predicting drug responses with an accuracy of approximately 80%. The model's design incorporated advanced techniques such as hyperparameter tuning, which optimized its performance and robustness. The integration of multiple data types allowed the model to capture complex interactions, enhancing its predictive capabilities. The project also included a user-facing prediction function, which was evaluated for usability and provided detailed output for clinicians and researchers.

6.1 Future Work

While the project achieved its primary objectives, several avenues for future work have been identified:

- Addressing Data Imbalance: The dataset exhibited class imbalance, which affected the model's ability to predict certain phenotypes accurately. Future work could involve collecting more data or applying techniques such as oversampling or synthetic data generation to balance the classes.
- Improving Interpretability: Neural networks are often seen as "black boxes," making it difficult to interpret their predictions. Future efforts could focus on incorporating explainability techniques, such as SHAP (SHapley Additive exPlanations) or LIME (Local Interpretable Model-agnostic Explanations), to provide insights into the model's decision-making process.
- Expanding Data Sources: Integrating additional data sources, such as environmental factors or lifestyle information, could enhance the model's accuracy and applicability. This would provide a more comprehensive view of the factors influencing drug response.
- Real-World Testing and Validation: Conducting real-world testing with diverse populations and clinical settings would help validate the model's generalizability and effectiveness. Collaborations with healthcare institutions could facilitate this process.

- Deployment and Integration: Future work could focus on deploying the model within clinical decision support systems, ensuring seamless integration into existing healthcare workflows. This would involve addressing technical challenges related to data privacy, security, and interoperability

6.2 Reflection

Reflecting on the entire project process provides valuable insights into the successes and challenges encountered:

- Learning Outcomes: The project provided an opportunity to apply machine learning techniques to a real-world problem, deepening understanding of pharmacogenomics and predictive modeling. Skills in data preprocessing, model development, and hyperparameter tuning were significantly enhanced.

- Challenges and Solutions: One of the main challenges was handling data inconsistency and imbalance. These were addressed through data cleaning and preprocessing techniques, although further improvements are needed. The complexity of neural networks posed challenges in interpretability, highlighting the need for future work in this area.

- Project Goals: Most project goals were met, including the development of a predictive model and the creation of a user-facing prediction function. However, the goal of achieving perfect accuracy was not fully realized, reflecting the inherent complexity of predicting drug responses.

- Hindsight and Improvements: In hindsight, a more extensive data collection phase could have mitigated issues related to data imbalance. Additionally, incorporating interpretability techniques from the outset would have enhanced the model's usability and acceptance in clinical settings.

Overall, the project represents a significant step forward in the field of pharmacogenomics, contributing to personalized medicine and the understanding of genetic influences on drug response. The insights gained and the groundwork laid provide a strong foundation for future research and development in this area.

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Appendix B: Project Management

Teamwork :

<https://roehamptonuniversity6.teamwork.com/app/projects/1169900/tasks/table>

GitHub :

https://github.com/AmeenaSadique77/MSc_Project/tree/main