Project Title: System Verification and Validation Plan for ProgName

Team #, Team Name
Student 1 name
Student 2 name
Student 3 name
Student 4 name

November 3, 2023

Revision History

Date	Version	Notes
Date 1	1.0	Notes
Date 2	1.1	Notes

[The intention of the VnV plan is to increase confidence in the software. However, this does not mean listing every verification and validation technique that has ever been devised. The VnV plan should also be a **feasible** plan. Execution of the plan should be possible with the time and team available. If the full plan cannot be completed during the time available, it can either be modified to "fake it", or a better solution is to add a section describing what work has been completed and what work is still planned for the future. —SS]

[The VnV plan is typically started after the requirements stage, but before the design stage. This means that the sections related to unit testing cannot initially be completed. The sections will be filled in after the design stage is complete. the final version of the VnV plan should have all sections filled in. —SS]

Contents

List of Tables

[Remove this section if it isn't needed —SS]

List of Figures

[Remove this section if it isn't needed —SS]

1 Symbols, Abbreviations, and Acronyms

symbol	description
T	Test

[symbols, abbreviations, or acronyms — you can simply reference the SRS (Author, 2019) tables, if appropriate —SS]

[Remove this section if it isn't needed —SS]

This document ... [provide an introductory blurb and roadmap of the Verification and Validation plan —SS]

2 General Information

2.1 Summary

The CLEF eRisk competition, better known as the Early Risk Prediction on the internet competition, is an organization that hosts a yearly event where numerous research teams come together to explore new strategies and applications of early detection technologies, particularly in the field of health and safety. The team at McMaster has partnered alongside the University of Quebec in Montreal to help leverage their existing research and work done in prior years of the eRisk competition to help design a new system entry for this year. Our team will not be in charge of the system operations portion of the project, but instead will be focused on designing new strategies and implementations for the Natural Language Processing portion of the project. The NLP will be responsible for analyzing textual input from real user data, and will use its provided training data and algorithms to determine the probability of the user showing signs of a selected mental health issue. The competition normally consists of three different tasks, all of which require different Natural Language processing techniques, to help us form our strategies, we are using data from the prior year competition, which was used to find symptoms for depression, pathological gambling and eating disorders.

2.2 Objectives

The primary objectives for our current process is to build confidence regarding the various techniques and libraries required to efficiently analyze the datasets provided by the eRisk Competition. The testing outlined in this document is help demonstrate our familiarity and competency to adapt to the various challenges presented by eRisk, whether that be through sentence ranking, early detection through post history, or estimation of severity level through user submissions. This is meant to build confidence for our stakeholders on our code efficiency, accuracy and reliability. The exact number of challenges that the team will participate in is variable, as the scope ensures that we will compete in at least one challenge, as even though we now have a

larger team than prior years, past teams have not always been able to take on all three challenges, extending ourselves to take on all tasks would be going beyond SRS expectations. An additional objective is to increase efficiency and accuracy of the existing work done by the team in prior years, this is a goal for both the team and our stakeholders at UQAM, but it is not a formalized metric in the SRS, as there is no defined expectation of how much better our project is supposed to preform.

2.3 Relevant Documentation

- Problem Statement

The Problem statement document abstractly identifies the problem to be solved, characterizing it in terms of its inputs and outputs, which gives context to the related environment and stakeholders.

- Development Plan

The Development Plan contains the project development overview including team roles, team meeting and communication plans, git workflow and project schedule.

- SRS

The Software Requirements Specification identifies the various functional and non-functional requirements related to the project, while providing context for the benefits and usage scenarios of the project.

- Hazard Analysis

The Hazard Analysis identifies various hazards and obstacles to the project's development and operation, along with mitigation strategies to help deal with those potential hazards. It carries a focus on ensuring the project can be delivered to the standards of the eRisk competition while maintaining safety and privacy of user data.

- Module Guide

The Module Guide decomposes the eRisk NLP project into numerous modules based on the principle of information hiding and separating data structures, in order to help increase understandability of various project components.

- Module Interface Specification

The Module Interface Specification identifies modules found in the Module Guide and decomposes them into more primitive data types and functions, in order to better observe the module functionality and ensure it's behaving as intended.

- McMaster AI Guidelines

McMaster's Provisional Guidelines on the use of AI provides useful rulesets on generative AI that helps our team ensure the safe and responsible use of AI practises.

- eRisk 2022 Paper

The prior efforts done by the UQAM team in the eRisk competition were instrumental in our team's foundation of understanding and served as a jumping off point for our efforts.

3 Plan

[Introduce this section. You can provide a roadmap of the sections to come. —SS]

3.1 Verification and Validation Team

[Your teammates. Maybe your supervisor. You should do more than list names. You should say what each person's role is for the project's verification. A table is a good way to summarize this information. —SS]

3.2 SRS Verification Plan

[List any approaches you intend to use for SRS verification. This may include ad hoc feedback from reviewers, like your classmates, or you may plan for something more rigorous/systematic. —SS]

[Maybe create an SRS checklist? —SS]

3.3 Design Verification Plan

[Plans for design verification —SS]

[The review will include reviews by your classmates —SS]

[Create a checklists? —SS]

3.4 Verification and Validation Plan Verification Plan

[The verification and validation plan is an artifact that should also be verified. Techniques for this include review and mutation testing. —SS]

[The review will include reviews by your classmates —SS]

[Create a checklists? —SS]

3.5 Implementation Verification Plan

[You should at least point to the tests listed in this document and the unit testing plan. —SS]

[In this section you would also give any details of any plans for static verification of the implementation. Potential techniques include code walkthroughs, code inspection, static analyzers, etc. —SS]

3.6 Automated Testing and Verification Tools

[What tools are you using for automated testing. Likely a unit testing framework and maybe a profiling tool, like ValGrind. Other possible tools include a static analyzer, make, continuous integration tools, test coverage tools, etc. Explain your plans for summarizing code coverage metrics. Linters are another important class of tools. For the programming language you select, you should look at the available linters. There may also be tools that verify that coding standards have been respected, like flake9 for Python. —SS]

[If you have already done this in the development plan, you can point to that document. —SS]

[The details of this section will likely evolve as you get closer to the implementation. —SS]

3.7 Software Validation Plan

[If there is any external data that can be used for validation, you should point to it here. If there are no plans for validation, you should state that

here. —SS]

[You might want to use review sessions with the stakeholder to check that the requirements document captures the right requirements. Maybe task based inspection? —SS]

[For those capstone teams with an external supervisor, the Rev 0 demo should be used as an opportunity to validate the requirements. You should plan on demonstrating your project to your supervisor shortly after the scheduled Rev 0 demo. The feedback from your supervisor will be very useful for improving your project. —SS]

[For teams without an external supervisor, user testing can serve the same purpose as a Rev 0 demo for the supervisor. —SS]

[This section might reference back to the SRS verification section. —SS]

4 System Test Description

4.1 Tests for Functional Requirements

[Subsets of the tests may be in related, so this section is divided into different areas. If there are no identifiable subsets for the tests, this level of document structure can be removed. —SS]

[Include a blurb here to explain why the subsections below cover the requirements. References to the SRS would be good here. —SS]

4.1.1 Area of Testing1

[It would be nice to have a blurb here to explain why the subsections below cover the requirements. References to the SRS would be good here. If a section covers tests for input constraints, you should reference the data constraints table in the SRS. —SS]

Title for Test

1. test-id1

   Control: Manual versus Automatic

   Initial State:

   Input:

Output: [The expected result for the given inputs —SS]

Test Case Derivation: [Justify the expected value given in the Output field —SS]

How test will be performed:

2. test-id2

   Control: Manual versus Automatic

   Initial State:

   Input:

   Output: [The expected result for the given inputs —SS]

   Test Case Derivation: [Justify the expected value given in the Output field —SS]

   How test will be performed:

4.1.2 Area of Testing2

...

4.2 Tests for Nonfunctional Requirements

[The nonfunctional requirements for accuracy will likely just reference the appropriate functional tests from above. The test cases should mention reporting the relative error for these tests. Not all projects will necessarily have nonfunctional requirements related to accuracy —SS]

[Tests related to usability could include conducting a usability test and survey. The survey will be in the Appendix. —SS]

[Static tests, review, inspections, and walkthroughs, will not follow the format for the tests given below. —SS]

4.2.1 Area of Testing1

Title for Test

1. test-id1

Type: Functional, Dynamic, Manual, Static etc.

Initial State:

Input/Condition:

Output/Result:

How test will be performed:

2. test-id2

   Type: Functional, Dynamic, Manual, Static etc.

   Initial State:

   Input:

   Output:

   How test will be performed:

4.2.2 Area of Testing2

...

4.3 Traceability Between Test Cases and Requirements

[Provide a table that shows which test cases are supporting which requirements. —SS]

5 Unit Test Description

[This section should not be filled in until after the MIS (detailed design document) has been completed. —SS]

[Reference your MIS (detailed design document) and explain your overall philosophy for test case selection. —SS]

[To save space and time, it may be an option to provide less detail in this section. For the unit tests you can potentially layout your testing strategy here. That is, you can explain how tests will be selected for each module. For instance, your test building approach could be test cases for each access program, including one test for normal behaviour and as many tests as needed for edge cases. Rather than create the details of the input and output here,

you could point to the unit testing code. For this to work, you code needs to be well-documented, with meaningful names for all of the tests. —SS]

5.1 Unit Testing Scope

[What modules are outside of the scope. If there are modules that are developed by someone else, then you would say here if you aren't planning on verifying them. There may also be modules that are part of your software, but have a lower priority for verification than others. If this is the case, explain your rationale for the ranking of module importance. —SS]

5.2 Tests for Functional Requirements

[Most of the verification will be through automated unit testing. If appropriate specific modules can be verified by a non-testing based technique. That can also be documented in this section. —SS]

5.2.1 Module 1

[Include a blurb here to explain why the subsections below cover the module. References to the MIS would be good. You will want tests from a black box perspective and from a white box perspective. Explain to the reader how the tests were selected. —SS]

1. test-id1

   Type: [Functional, Dynamic, Manual, Automatic, Static etc. Most will be automatic —SS]

   Initial State:

   Input:

   Output: [The expected result for the given inputs —SS]

   Test Case Derivation: [Justify the expected value given in the Output field —SS]

   How test will be performed:

2. test-id2

   Type: [Functional, Dynamic, Manual, Automatic, Static etc. Most will be automatic —SS]

   Initial State:

   Input:

   Output: [The expected result for the given inputs —SS]

   Test Case Derivation: [Justify the expected value given in the Output field —SS]

   How test will be performed:

3. ...

5.2.2 Module 2

...

5.3 Tests for Nonfunctional Requirements

[If there is a module that needs to be independently assessed for performance, those test cases can go here. In some projects, planning for nonfunctional tests of units will not be that relevant. —SS]

[These tests may involve collecting performance data from previously mentioned functional tests. —SS]

5.3.1 Module ?

1. test-id1

   Type: [Functional, Dynamic, Manual, Automatic, Static etc. Most will be automatic —SS]

   Initial State:

   Input/Condition:

   Output/Result:

   How test will be performed:

2. test-id2

   Type: Functional, Dynamic, Manual, Static etc.

   Initial State:

   Input:

   Output:

   How test will be performed:

5.3.2 Module ?

...

5.4 Traceability Between Test Cases and Modules

[Provide evidence that all of the modules have been considered. —SS]

References

Author Author. System requirements specification. https://github.com/..., 2019.

6 Appendix

This is where you can place additional information.

6.1 Symbolic Parameters

The definition of the test cases will call for SYMBOLIC_CONSTANTS. Their values are defined in this section for easy maintenance.

6.2 Usability Survey Questions?

[This is a section that would be appropriate for some projects. —SS]

Appendix — Reflection

The information in this section will be used to evaluate the team members on the graduate attribute of Lifelong Learning. Please answer the following questions:

Appendix — Reflection

[This section is not required for CAS 741 —SS]

The information in this section will be used to evaluate the team members on the graduate attribute of Lifelong Learning. Please answer the following questions:

1. What knowledge and skills will the team collectively need to acquire to successfully complete the verification and validation of your project? Examples of possible knowledge and skills include dynamic testing knowledge, static testing knowledge, specific tool usage etc. You should look to identify at least one item for each team member.

2. For each of the knowledge areas and skills identified in the previous question, what are at least two approaches to acquiring the knowledge or mastering the skill? Of the identified approaches, which will each team member pursue, and why did they make this choice?