Quantized Large Language Models for Mental Health Applications: A Benchmark Study and Analysis

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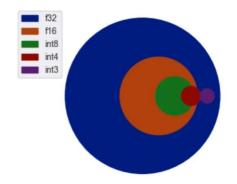


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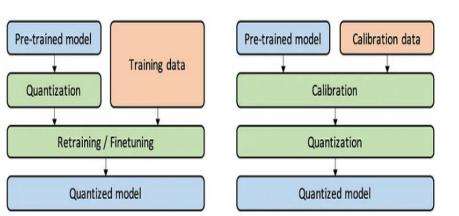
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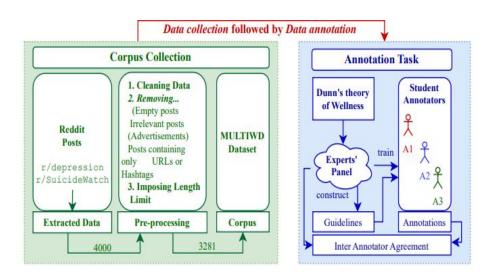


Problem



- 1. float32 (f32): 32 bits or 4 bytes
- 2. float16 (f16): 16 bits or 2 bytes
- 3. int8: 8 bits or 1 byte
- 4. int4: 4 bits or 0.5 bytes
- 5. int3: 3 bits or 0.375 bytes





Problem

- Mental Health has remained a significant unaddressed challenge
- Large Language Models have remained to be large and computationally expensive
- NLP has broadly been classified as Prompting, Fine-tuning or RAG these days
- Numerous studies use natural language processing (NLP) approaches to analyze social media for mental health automatically
- Has anyone come up with robust solutions to these sensitive issues?
- Yet...?

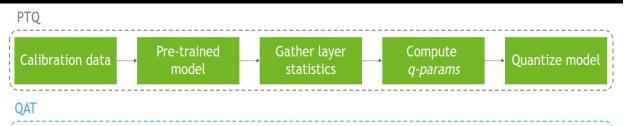
Why Quantized LLMs in Mental Health?

WHY

Using these Qunatized LLM's it's easier to get get access to over several mental health datasets like CAMS, SAD, CLP, DR, Dreddit, SWMH, MultiWD, IMHI Dataset, to get various results like coherence, accuracy, relevance, memory saved, parameters and different levels is being produced

WHAT

Several of these models available on easily accessible resources like Huggingface, Ollama, vLLM etc



Fine-tune with

QDQ nodes

Store

q-params

HOW

Pre-trained

model

Several strategies like fp16, LLM.int8(), NF4, QWAT, PTQ, QAT

Add QDQ nodes



Text Generation

Browse compatible models >











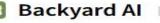








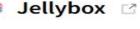
































Msty 🖸







Quantize model











Ollama 🗗



Questions

- 1. **Quantization:** Is quantization an effect strategy overall, as it is widely being adopted in industry and academia?
- 2. **LLMs Alignment:** Can LLMs be quantized in a manner that can align with mental health scenarios?
- 3. Closed domain tasks: Will LLMs even be able produce results for closed domain tasks?

What did we do?

- We've taken several quantized models that were then run over Interpretable Mental Health Instruction, This helped achieved in mental health specific prompts
- Therapeutic response generation from the prompts were later extracted and the performance, accuracy benchmark was created
- 3. Interpretable features for response analysis tools and explanation generation
- 4. Reasoning assertion and transparency is available
- 5. Robust evaluation framework with relevant performance metrics for quality assessments mark comparisons

Why IMHI and Quantized LLM's

- The IMHI (Interpretable Mental Health Instruction) dataset consists of pairs of user queries and AI responses focused on mental health scenarios. Each example typically includes:
- A user's mental health-related query or situation
- An AI response with:
- Empathetic acknowledgment
- Professional analysis
- Evidence-based suggestions
- Safety considerations when relevant

How does the IMHI Dataset looks like?

relationship feels like. All my friends are talking about marriage and I've never even had a real kiss I...

Consider this post: "How to avoid a relapse? I've been having a particularly rough year; I attempted Yes, the poster suffers from depression. Reasoning: The post displays a significant amount of emotional

suicide, the love of my life left me, I failed my year at university, I've been physically assaulted, I'v... distress, including experiencing a suicide attempt, multiple traumatic events, and the recent death of a... Consider this post: "This is how I feel and I have a slight sense I am the only one to think think this Yes, the poster suffers from depression. Reasoning: The post exhibits a clear and profound sense of

way. I am depressed? Help wanted I yearn for the days I was in high school. I felt as if I was always... emotional distress and hopelessness. The poster expresses a longing for the past when they felt happier... Consider this post: "Advice for getting back in touch with everyday life? I think the hardest thing for Yes, the poster suffers from depression. Reasoning: The post conveys a sense of disengagement and

me, and the largest factor I need to address to try and feel healthy again, is simply trying to feel... difficulty finding enjoyment in everyday life. The poster describes feeling disconnected from the present... Yes, the poster suffers from depression. Reasoning: The post expresses a deep sense of emotional pain, Consider this post: "Having a really bad stretch of days.. Hi all, I know this sub moves kinda fast but I

just wanted to vent, hopefully some of you read this.. So my story is that I've had depression and social... hopelessness, and despair. The poster details their long-standing struggle with depression and social... Consider this post: "I dont understand how people can be so interested in so many things First, let me Yes, the poster suffers from depression. Reasoning: The post expresses a lack of interest and enjoyment in

apologize for formatting issues, I am typing this on mobile. I generally find television boring, have... various hobbies and forms of entertainment, which can be indicative of anhedonia, a prominent symptom of... Consider this post: "Even if you hate them, theres something gut wrenching about hearing parents fight. I Yes, the poster suffers from depression. Reasoning: The post conveys a deep sense of emotional pain and

hate both of my parents. They are mentally abusive to me, and just a lack of care most of my life. Even... discomfort. The poster describes their parents as mentally abusive and lacking care, expressing a strong...

Consider this post: "5 Simple family activities to get and stay healthy - Made In A Pinch Engaging in No, the poster does not suffer from depression. Reasoning: The post does not display any emotional healthy family activities together not only promotes a healthy lifestyle, it also creates bonding... indicators of depression. It talks about engaging in healthy family activities, promoting a healthy... Consider this post: "Will I ever be with somebody? I'm so lonely. I'm 19 and I don't have a clue what a Yes, the poster suffers from depression. Reasoning: The post exhibits a strong sense of emotional

distress, loneliness, and lack of fulfillment in relationships. The poster expresses feelings of not bein...

What is Quantization? Why do we need it?

The problem

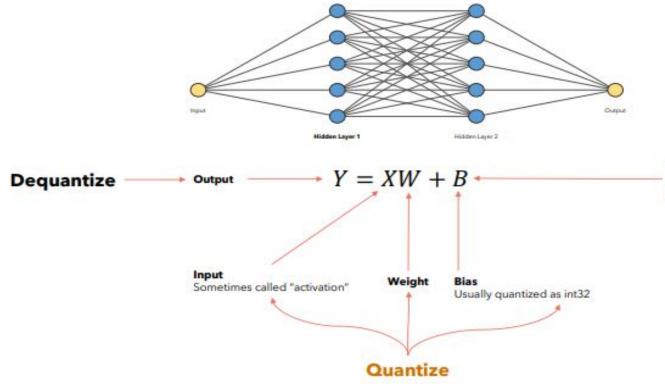
- Most modern deep neural networks are made up of billions of parameters. For example, the smallest LLaMA 2 has 7 billion parameters. If every parameter is 32 bit, then we need $\frac{7 \times 10^9 \times 32}{8 \times 10^9} = 28$ GB just to store the parameters on disk.
- When we inference a model, we need to load all its parameters in the memory, this means big models cannot be loaded easily on a standard PC or a smart phone.
- Just like humans, computers are slow at computing floating-point operations compared to integer operations. Try to do 3 x 6 and compare it to 1.21 x 2.897, which one can you compute faster?

The solution

- Quantization aims to reduce the total amount of bits required to represent each parameter, usually by converting floating-point
 numbers into integers. This way, a model that normally occupies 10 GB can be "compressed" to less than 1 GB (depending on
 the type of quantization used). Please note: quantization doesn't mean truncating/rounding. We don't just round up or down all
 the floating-point numbers! We will see later how it works
- Quantization can also speed up computation, as working with smaller data types is faster (for example multiplying two integers is faster than multiplying two floating point numbers).

How do LLM weights quantize?

Applying quantization



Perform all operations using integer arithmetic

The main benefit is that integer operations are much faster in most hardware (especially on embedded devices) than floating point operations

Quantization range: how to choose $[\alpha, \beta]$

Min-Max: To cover the whole range of values, we can set

- $\alpha = \max(V)$
- $\beta = \min(V)$



Percentile: Set the range to the percentile of the distribution of V, to reduce sensitivity to outliers

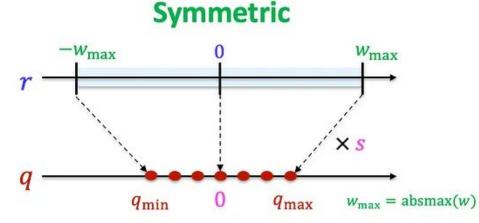


Quantization range: how to choose $[\alpha, \beta]$

If the vector V represents the tensor to be quantized, we can choose the $[\alpha, \beta]$ range according to the following strategies:

- Mean-Squared-Error: choose [α, β] such that the MSE error between the original values and the quantized values is minimized.
 - It is usually solved using Grid-Search
- Cross-Entropy: used when the values in the tensor being quantized are not equally important. This happens for example in the Softmax layer in Large Language Models. Since most of the inference strategies are Greedy, Top-P or Beam search, it is important to preserve the order of the largest values after quantization.
 - argmin CrossEntropy((softmax(V), softmax(V)))

Asymmetric wmin 0 wmax q qmin z qmax

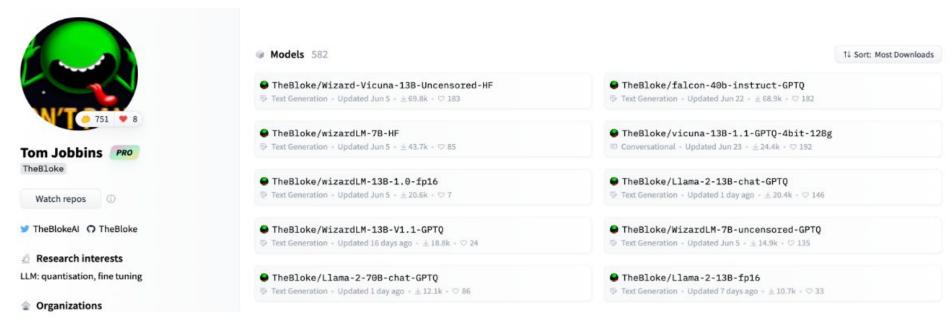


Why is k-bit quantization the best?

- K-bit (4-bit) advantages in llama.cpp
- Memory efficiency: 4x smaller than 16-bit while maintaining acceptable quality
- Fast inference: Fewer bits = faster computation
- Hardware compatibility: Works well on consumer GPUs and CPUs
- Grouped quantization: Preserves important weight relationships within attention layers
- Key innovation: llama.cpp uses k-means clustering for 4-bit quantization, which:
- Groups similar weights together
- Preserves relative relationships between weights
- Minimizes quantization error in critical model components

Advantages of Quantization?

- 1. Less memory consumption when loading models (important for devices like smart phones)
- 2. Less inference time due to simpler data types
- 3. Less energy consumption, because inference takes less computation overall

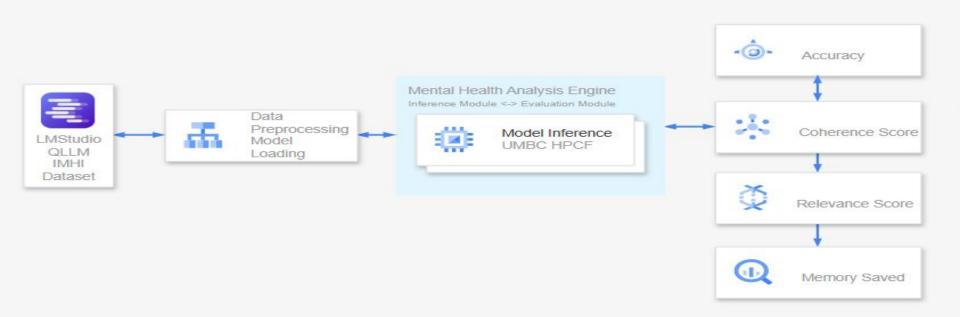


Our Architecture

Architecture: QLLMs for Mental Health



UMBC HPCF ADA



- Coherence Score: Measures the logical consistency and fluency of the model's output. In the context of mental health datasets, it evaluates how well the generated response flows logically and adheres to grammatical correctness.
- 2. Computational Logic
 - Given a set of responses $R = \{r_1, r_2, ..., r_n\}$ generated by the model:

$$ext{Coherence Score} = rac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} ext{CoherenceMetric}(r_i)}{n}$$

 CoherenceMetric: This could be a human-rated score (e.g., on a scale of 1 to 100) or a computational metric like perplexity (lower perplexity indicates better coherence).

- Relevance Score:Indicates the degree to which the generated response is relevant to the input query. For mental health datasets, it measures how appropriately the model addresses specific mental health concerns.
- 2. Computational Logic
 - ullet Compare the generated response r to a set of ground-truth responses or keywords T:

$$\text{Relevance Score} = \frac{\text{Relevant Tokens in } r \cap T}{\text{Total Tokens in } r} \times 100$$

 Alternatively, use semantic similarity scores (e.g., cosine similarity between response embeddings and query embeddings):
 Relevance Score = CosineSimilarity(ResponseEmbedding, QueryEmbedding) × 100

- Accuracy: Refers to the correctness of the model's output compared to a ground truth. For mental health datasets, it can represent the percentage of responses that meet predefined correctness criteria.
- 2. Computational Logic
 - Using binary correctness:

$$Accuracy = \frac{Number of Correct Responses}{Total Number of Responses} \times 100$$

 For models producing probabilistic outputs, accuracy can also reflect the percentage of correctly classified tokens or intent predictions.

- Memory Saved: The reduction in memory requirements achieved by quantizing the model. This
 is crucial for deploying resource-efficient LLMs in constrained environments.
- 2. Computational Logic
 - Compare the memory usage of a quantized model (M_q) to its full-precision counterpart (M_f):

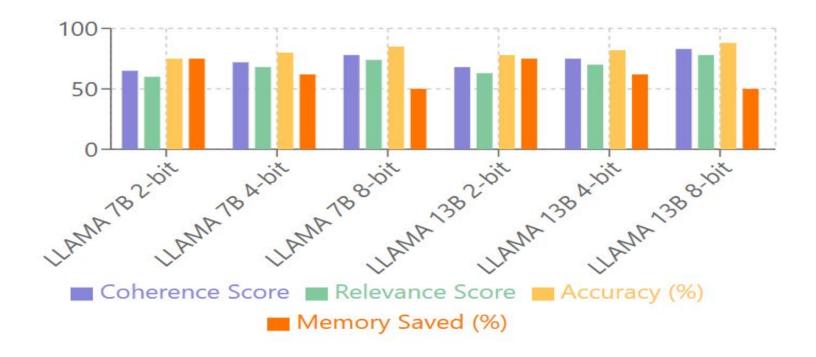
$$ext{Memory Saved } (\%) = \left(1 - rac{M_q}{M_f}
ight) imes 100$$

- Example:
 - · A full-precision model requires 16 GB.
 - · A quantized model requires 8 GB.
 - Memory Saved = $(1 \frac{8}{16}) \times 100 = 50\%$.

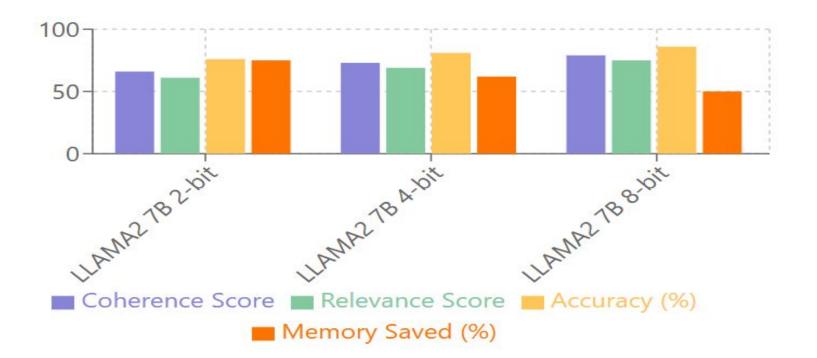
Methodology

- 1. Mental Health Dataset
- **Source**: IMHI Dataset (Interpretable Mental Health Instruction)
- **Content**: Mental health queries, responses, and evaluations
- Repository: github.com/SteveKGYang/MentalLLaMA
- 2. Evaluation Pipeline
- 3. Performance Metric and Testing Framework
- 4. Evaluation Workflow
- 5. Implementation Steps
- A[Load Base Models] --> B[Apply Quantization]
- B --> C[Run IMHI Tests]
- C --> D[Collect Metrics]
- D --> E[Analyze Results]
- E --> F[Generate Recommendations]

LLAMA 1 (7B & 13B) Performance Metrics



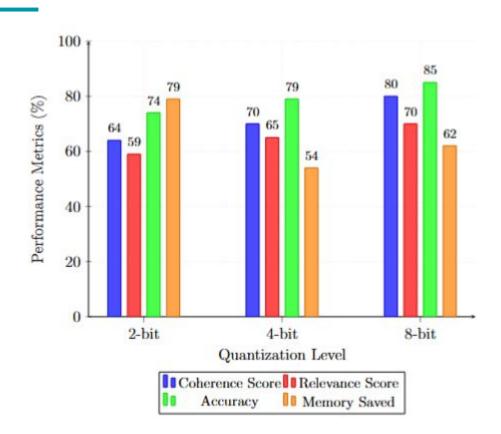
LLAMA 2 (7B) Performance Metrics



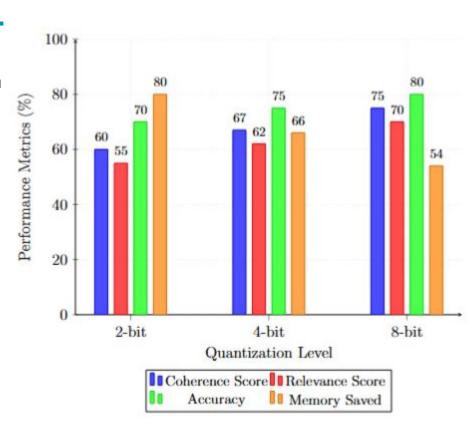
1 LLAMA 3 (1B) Performance Metrics



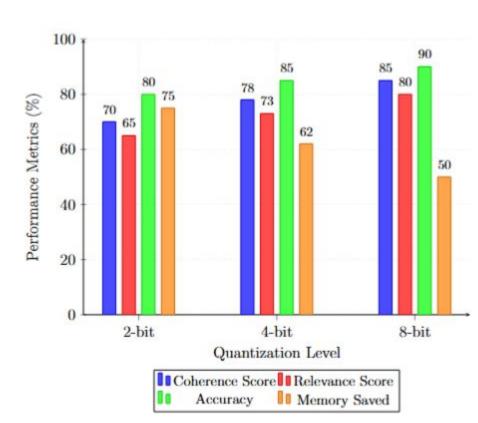
- Performance Analysis of Phi-5B Model
 Under Different Quantization Levels
- 2. It is observed that 8-bit quantization demonstrated peak performance:



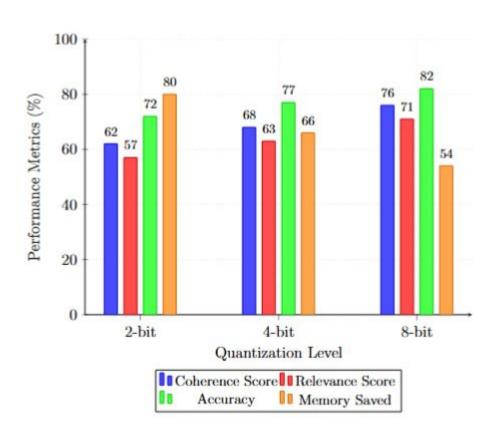
- Hermes's 4B Model with different qunatization Levels
- Memory saving dropped drastically in8-bit quantization



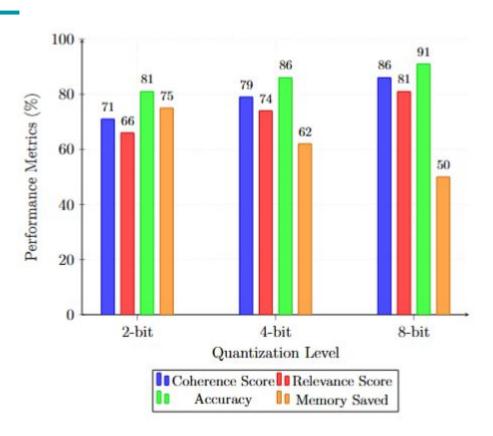
- 1. Falcon 10B under different quantization levels
- Accuracy achieved a staggering boost when Compared to 2-bit counterpart



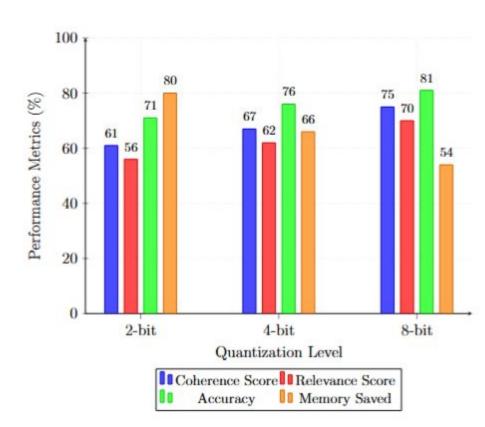
- 1. Gemma-3B Performance
- Slight improvement in accuracy but drop in Memory savings



- Qwen-12B Performance
- Drastic Improvement in accuracy as the Model size increases

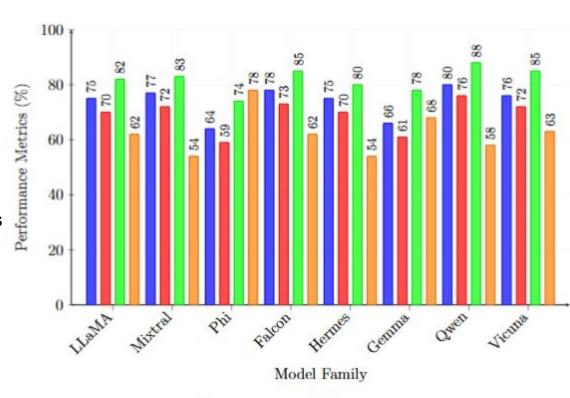


- Grok-4B Performance
- 2. Minimal tradeoff observed in the results



Sequential Training of Miscellaneous Models?

- We observer that Model Size impacts the results
- Quantization Effectiveness, where
 4-bit model emerge as optimal solution
 For many variants
- Performance Metric: Coherence scores remained robust across most quantization levels
- Relevance metrics showed strong correlation with model size -Accuracy scaled predictably with parameter count



Coherence Score Relevance Score

Accuracy

Memory Saved

Prompt Examples

Context: Cognitive Behavioral Therapy approach Input: "My coworkers hate me. I can tell by how they look at me" Task: Apply CBT principles in response Structure:

Context: Mental health care navigation Input: "I think I need to talk to someone professional" Task: Guide through therapy-seeking process

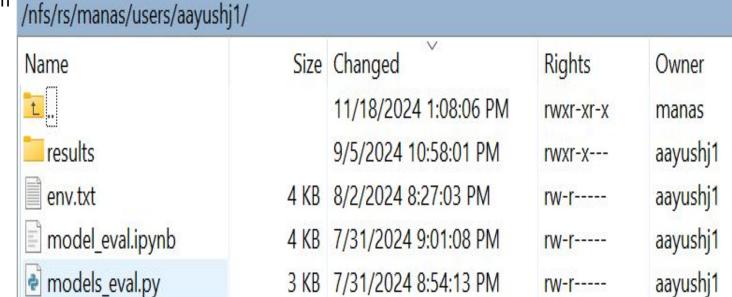
Context: Cultural sensitivity evaluation Input: Present culturally-specific scenarios: "In my culture, seeing a therapist is considered shameful" Task: Assess responses for: culture sensitivity

> Context: Emergency response validation Input: Gradually escalating crisis signals Task: Monitor:

- Risk assessment accuracy

Workflow of UMBC HPCF

- Only Model Evaluation was done on Ada
- Modal Loading and Preprocessing were done
- On My Local System



Why only these Models?

Phi 5B	Hermes 4B	Mixtral 6B	Llama 3.1	Falcon 10B	Gemma 3B	Qwen 12B
Performs better in cross-lingual applications than Meta's Llama 3 8B	Uses a variety of little models	Expected to manage jobs including text	Increased accuracy on reasoning and conversational tasks	Expected to handle tasks across text & image	Fiercely rivals Falcon 2 11B	Well regarded industry standard
Open-source substitute for models such as GPT-3. Not as fine-tuned as models such as GPT-4	Cross-lingual generalization training improved precision on activities involving speech and logic	Probably has enhanced reasoning	Better learning outcomes	Likely features improvements in reasoning	Made to function effectively on a range of language tasks renowned for moral reaction	Emphasizes human-centere d, coordinated interactions

Key Takeaways

- 1. Model Architecture Optimization:
 - Investigation of specialized architectures for mental health applications
 - Development of quantization-aware training techniques
 - Exploration of hybrid model approaches
- 2. Clinical Validation:
 - Integration with existing mental health support systems
 - Long-term effectiveness studies
- 3. Technical Enhancements:
 - Development of adaptive quantization techniques eg
 - K-bit,AWT,QAT,PTQ,GGUF,GGML
 - Investigation of model distillation approaches
 - Exploration of dynamic precision switching

```
main.py 1 memorization loss.py 1 e evaluation.py 1 model loader.py 3 × de dataset loader.py 1
C: > Users > aayus > results > 🍖 model_loader.py > 🛇 load_llmint8_model
       from transformers import AutoModelForCausalLM, AutoTokenizer
       import bitsandbytes as bnb
       import torch
       # Function to load bitsandbytes quantized models
       def load bnb model(model name, quantization level):
           if quantization_level == "2-bit":
               dtype = "bnb.int2"
           elif quantization level == "4-bit":
               dtype = "bnb.int4"
 10
           elif quantization level == "8-bit":
 11
 12
               dtype = "bnb.int8"
 13
           else:
               raise ValueError("Unsupported quantization level")
 14
 15
           model = AutoModelForCausalLM.from pretrained(
 17
               model name,
               load in 4bit=(quantization level == "4-bit"),
 18
               load in 8bit=(quantization level == "8-bit"),
 19
 20
               device map="auto"
 21
           tokenizer = AutoTokenizer.from pretrained(model name)
 22
 23
           return model, tokenizer
 25
       # Placeholder function to load gguf models
       def load gguf model(model name):
 26
           raise NotImplementedError("gguf model loading not implemented yet.")
 27
 28
       # Placeholder function to load ggml models
```

```
main.py 1 memorization_loss.py 1 evaluation.py 5 × model_loader.py 3 dataset_loader.py 1
C: > Users > aayus > results > ♥ evaluation.py > ♥ compute_relevance
      import torch
      import nltk
  2
      def compute_coherence(pred, target):
          """Measures text fluency and logical consistency"""
          # Using NLTK for sentence coherence
          sentences = nltk.sent tokenize(pred)
          coherence score = 0
          for i in range(len(sentences)-1):
              coherence_score += measure_sentence_similarity(sentences[i], sentences[i+1])
 10
          return coherence_score / max(len(sentences)-1, 1)
 11
 12
 13
      def compute_relevance(pred, target):
 14
          """Measures semantic similarity between prediction and target"""
          pred_embedding = get_embedding(pred)
 15
          target embedding = get embedding(target)
 16
          return cosine_similarity(pred_embedding, target_embedding)
 17
 18
      def compute accuracy(pred, target):
 19
          """Measures exact match between prediction and target"""
 20
          return 1.0 if pred.strip() == target.strip() else 0.0
 21
 22
      def compute memory savings(original size, quantized size):
 23
          """Calculates memory reduction percentage"""
 24
```

```
C: > Users > aayus > results > 🕏 memorization loss.py > ...
       import torch
  1
       def memorization loss(model output, target output):
           11 11 11
           Loss function to penalize memorization.
           Compares the similarity between the generated output and the target to ensure novelty.
           similarity = torch.cosine similarity(model output, target output, dim=1)
           return torch.mean(similarity)
 10
 11
       def custom_loss_fn(model_output, target_output, memorization_weight=0.1):
           11 11 11
 12
 13
           Combines standard loss (e.g., CrossEntropy) with memorization loss.
 14
           ce_loss = torch.nn.CrossEntropyLoss()(model_output, target_output)
 15
           mem loss = memorization loss(model output, target output)
 17
           total loss = ce loss + memorization weight * mem loss
 18
           return total loss
 19
```

main.py 1 memorization loss.py 1 X e evaluation.py 1 model loader.py 3 dataset loader.py 1

```
🕏 main.py 1 🗙 🕏 memorization_loss.py 1 💎 evaluation.py 1 🕏 model_loader.py 3 🕏 dataset_loader.py 1
C: > Users > aayus > results > @ main.py > ...
       # main.pv
  1
       from dataset loader import load imhi dataset
       from model loader import load bnb model, load gguf model, load ggml model, load llmint8 model
       from evaluate model import evaluate model
       from memorization loss import custom loss fn
       # Load dataset
       dataset = load_imhi_dataset()["test"]
 10
       # Select model and quantization type
       model name = "LLAMA-7B"
 11
       quantization = "4-bit"
 12
 13
 14
       # Load model based on quantization type
       if quantization in ["2-bit", "4-bit", "8-bit"]:
 15
           model, tokenizer = load bnb model(model name, quantization)
 16
       elif quantization == "gguf":
 17
           model = load gguf model(model name)
       elif quantization == "ggml":
 19
           model = load_ggml_model(model_name)
 20
       elif quantization == "llmint.8()":
 21
           model = load llmint8 model(model name)
 22
 23
       else:
           raise ValueError("Unsupported quantization type.")
 24
       # Evaluate model
 26
       evaluation results = evaluate model(model, tokenizer, dataset)
 27
       # Display evaluation results
 29
```

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