PsycheMERGE Platform Team: Knowledge Graph Tutorial

Parker Knight and Chenyin Gao

Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health

Our Team







Zhuoran Wei Harvard



Chenyin Gao Harvard



Rui Duan Harvard

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Roadmap

Background

Knowledge graphs from EHR data Feature selection Data harmonization

Example

Steps for building KG Steps for data harmonization

Summary

What is a knowledge graph?

A medical knowledge graph is a structured model that organizes various medical data as nodes (like symptoms, diseases, treatments) and relationships (edges) between them, integrating diverse health information into an interconnected network.

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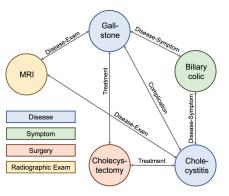


Figure: A small knowledge graph from Yang et al 2024

We can build a medical knowledge graph from all kinds of data sources.

 Medical literature: Zhang and Che 2021 construct a Parkinson's related KG from extensive literature review.

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- 2. Existing databases/LLM's: Google's Med-PaLM project.

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- 2. Existing databases/LLM's: Google's Med-PaLM project.
- 3. Electronic health records.

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Knowledge Graph from EHR Data

Our objective is to develop a knowledge graph based on EHR data, where nodes represent EHR-derived terms, such as disease codes. Edges are established based on the likelihood of co-occurrence of these codes in the EHR data.

¹Further details will be provided later.

Knowledge Graph from EHR Data

Our objective is to develop a knowledge graph based on EHR data, where nodes represent EHR-derived terms, such as disease codes. Edges are established based on the likelihood of co-occurrence of these codes in the EHR data.

We will define relationships between codes if they frequently co-occur within a specific time window, such as a month¹.

¹Further details will be provided later.

EHR-derived Knowledge graph: an example



Figure: EHR-derived knowledge graph

EHR-derived Knowledge graph: use cases

EHR-based knowledge graphs summarize institutional medical knowledge. But how is this useful for our research at PsycheMERGE?

EHR-derived Knowledge graph: use cases

EHR-based knowledge graphs summarize institutional medical knowledge. But how is this useful for our research at PsycheMERGE?

- 1. Feature selection.
 - phenotyping model
 - risk prediction model
 - cohort definition
- Cross-institutional data harmonization.
 - understand data heterogeneity, especially differences in coding behaviors
 - mapping code between institutions
 - learning common feature representations

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Feature selection with EHR-KG

Say you want to build a prediction model for a particular disease using EHR code counts as predictors.

You may have count data for thousands of codes, many totally unrelated to the disease of interest.

A knowledge graph can be used to select codes that co-occur with the target disease, which can simplify the model building process.

Feature selection with EHR-KG



Figure: EHR-derived knowledge graph (depression as target term)

Feature selection with EHR-KG

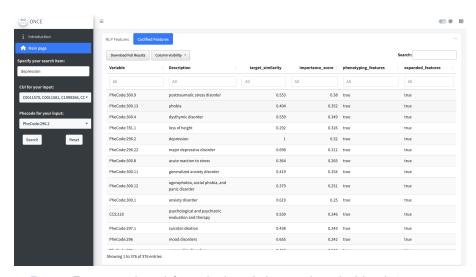


Figure: Features selected from the knowledge graph ranked by their relatedness to the target term (depression)

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Data harmonization with EHR-KG

Due to heterogeneity across healthcare systems, different providers may use different codes to represent the same underlying medical event (such as a diagnosis or procedure).

To responsibly leverage multi-site data, we need to correct for this by matching codes across sites.

Knowledge graphs summarize the co-occurrence information we need to do this.

Data harmonization: example

Using co-occurrence matrices from Site I and Site II, we can map codes from Site I to corresponding codes in Site II. This is achieved by aligning their embedding spaces and comparing the codes within this aligned space.

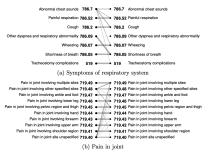


Figure 4: Plot of the estimated mapping of codes from VHA (left) to PHS (right). Selected codes belong to the group describing (a) symptoms of respiratory system, and (b) pain in ioint. Line width indicates the magnitude of weight vector components.

Figure: Output of code matching algorithm from (Shi 2020).

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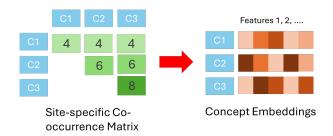
Steps for data harmonization

Summary

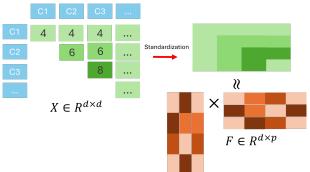
- ➤ **Step 1**: Compute the site-specific co-occurrence matrix of *medical concepts* (e.g., PheCodes, Concept Unique Identifiers)
 - ► The co-occurrence can be defined in a given time window



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- ▶ **Step 2**: Compute the *concept embeddings*.
 - Embeddings are the summarized features



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- ▶ **Step 2**: Compute the *concept embeddings*.
 - Embeddings are the summarized features
 - e.g., Singular Value Decomposition (SVD)

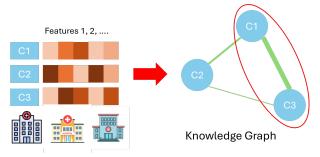


- ➤ **Step 1**: Compute the site-specific co-occurrence matrix of *medical concepts* (e.g., PheCodes, Concept Unique Identifiers)
- **Step 2**: Compute the *concept embeddings*.

Method	Number of Concepts
Code2Vec (Kartchner et al.; 2017)	8477
Med2Vec (Choi et al.; 2016)	28840
KESER (Hong et al.; 2021)	14718
MIKGI (Zhou et al.; 2022)	13261

Table: A List of Methods for Word Embeddings and Choosing their Dimensions

- Step 1: Compute the site-specific co-occurrence matrix of medical concepts (e.g., PheCodes, Concept Unique Identifiers)
- **Step 2**: Compute the *concept embeddings*.
- ▶ **Step 3**: Compute the distances of the *concept embeddings*.
 - e.g., data-driven thresholding for feature selection



An example for co-occurrence matrix

▶ An example of visit-level data for codes C1 and C2

df_	df_visit			
#	Patient	Visit	Code	
# 1	1 1	01/02/2025	C1	
# 2	2 1	01/12/2025	C1	
# 3	3 1	01/21/2025	C2	
# 4	1 1	01/30/2025	C1	
# 5	5 1	02/02/2025	C2	
# 6	3 1	02/10/2025	C2	

An example for co-occurrence matrix

▶ An example of visit-level data for codes C1 and C2

```
df_visit
   Patient
                   Visit
                               Code
              01/02/2025
                                 C1
              01/12/2025
                                 C1
              01/21/2025
              01/30/2025
# 4
                                 C1
# 5
              02/02/2025
                                 C2
# 6
              02/10/2025
                                 C2
```

• Or simplified example (1 = "01/01/2025")

```
df_visit_simplified
    Patient
              Week
                          Code
                             C1
                 12
                             C1
 3
                 21
# 4
                 30
                             C1
# 5
                 33
# 6
                 41
```

Roadmap

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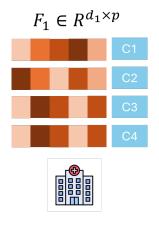
Knowledge graphs from EHR data Feature selection Data harmonization

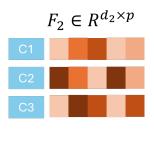
Example

Steps for building KG
Steps for data harmonization

Summary

Steps for Data Harmonization

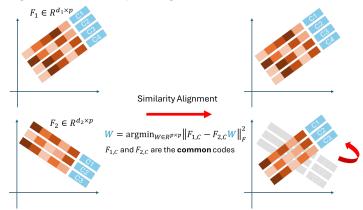






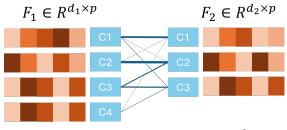
Steps for Data Harmonization

- ▶ **Step 1**: Space alignment for the concept embeddings
 - e.g., rotation-based space alignment



Steps for Data Harmonization

- ▶ **Step 1**: Space *alignment* for the *concept embeddings*
- ▶ **Step 2**: Code *mapping* within the **same group** (e.g., age strata, ancestry annotation).
 - ► e.g., top-K nearest neighbors matching



 $\Pi = \operatorname{argmin}_{\Pi \in R^{d_2 \times d_1}} \|F_1 - \Pi F_2 W\|_F^2$

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Summary

Discussion

- Effort from each site
 - Data extraction & processing
 - Co-occurrence matrix calculation
- Data sharing
 - Co-occurrence matrix or embeddings
- Cohort definition
 - More inclusive (e.g., patients with at least one psychiatric visit)
- Our group can offer
 - Scripts & software for co-occurrence matrix
 - Troubleshooting support
 - Knowledge graph training & data harmonization upon receiving the matrix or embeddings
- Timeline and team

Summary

More info can be found below.

- Documentation on KG: https://cran.r-project.org/ web/packages/kgraph/vignettes/kgraph.html
- Website App to build KG: https: //celehs.connect.hms.harvard.edu/kesernetwork/

Thank you!

Appendix

Summarize visit-level data into counts given a time window of three

```
df visit
   Patient Visit Parent_Code
                      C1
                      C1
                    C2
                     C1
                     C2
window.length <- 3
df_count <- df_visit %>%
 mutate(Month = cut_interval(Visit, length = window.length)) %>%
 group_by(Patient, Parent_Code, Month) %>%
 summarise(Count = n())
df count
   Patient Parent Code Month Count
             C1 [0,3]
               C1 (3.6] 1
               C2 [0,3] 1
             C2 (3,6]
# 4
```

▶ The co-occurred min(2,1) = 1 for patient 1 at the first **three** Visits

▶ The co-occurred min(2,1) = 1 for patient 1 at the first three Visits

The co-occurred min(1,2) = 1 for patient 1 at the second three Visits

▶ The co-occurrence matrix for patient 1 is

```
spm_cooc <- build_df_cooc(df_count)
spm_cooc
#> C1 C2
#> C1 3 2
#> C2 . 3
```

► The overall visit-level co-occurrence is aggregated over all the patients

▶ The co-occurrence matrix for patient 1 is

```
spm_cooc <- build_df_cooc(df_count)
spm_cooc
#> C1 C2
#> C1 3 2
#> C2 . 3
```

- ► The overall visit-level co-occurrence is aggregated over all the patients
- ► The co-occurrence matrix is used
 - 1. to output the concept embeddings;
 - 2. to compute the correlation for the knowledge graph.

An example

▶ **Assumption**: codes that have more co-occurrence are more similar.

An example

- ▶ **Assumption**: codes that have more co-occurrence are more similar.
- Compute the PMI, a measure of similarity (such as SVD-SPPMI or GloVe)

where PMI(Ci, Cj) is log $\left\{\frac{P(Ci,Cj)}{P(Ci)P(Cj)}\right\}$ for i,j=1,2.

KG for EHR (cont.)

Compute the SVD of the PMI matrix → embeddings

where

- 1. the first *k* principal components are fed to the KG;
- 2. rank k can be chosen balancing the AUC and dimensionality.

Reference I

- Choi, E., Bahadori, M. T., Searles, E., Coffey, C., Thompson, M., Bost, J., Tejedor-Sojo, J. and Sun, J. (2016). Multi-layer representation learning for medical concepts, proceedings of the 22nd ACM SIGKDD international conference on knowledge discovery and data mining, pp. 1495–1504.
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- Kartchner, D., Christensen, T., Humpherys, J. and Wade, S. (2017). Code2vec: Embedding and clustering medical diagnosis data, 2017 IEEE International Conference on Healthcare Informatics (ICHI), IEEE, pp. 386–390.

Reference II

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