Machine Learning of Biomedical Text for Gene Network Knowledge

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Machine Learning of Biomedical Text for Gene Network Knowledge

A project Report
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Bachelor of Science in Software Engineering

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Abstract

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Genetic research is the study of DNA to find out what genes and environmental factors contribute to diseases. There are multiple studies conducted on individuals or groups of genes and how they impact health and disease. Thus, there is no lack in the amount of data to draw conclusions from and researchers have the potential to make more connections from within the data.

An issue arises when it takes a long time to find and sift through biomedical research papers to find knowledge useful to researchers. There are already ideas present in literature, but also a lack of finding a connection between already present ideas. Researchers are constantly looking to find these connections; however, there is a limiting factor of time and can be overwhelming without the right tools.

Data from text mining biomedical texts was warehoused through the College of Engineering HPC or AWS DynamoDB and AWS Redshift. Data processing utilized BERT and GNormPlus models to categorize and normalize input. TigerGraph was used to represent the knowledge accumulated to visualize relationships. This project reduced the amount of time needed to search through biomedical research by making it easier to discover knowledge about various biological mechanisms using machine learning.

Chapter 1

1.1 Project Goals and Objectives

The goal of this project was to create a usable gene-to-gene knowledge graph to aid in research within the biomedical field. The application takes an input, which is a gene name, and outputs a knowledge graph surrounding the connections of diseases and topics related to the inputted gene. Project objectives consisted of ranking the relevance of the outputs, only giving related results, and giving a result in a reasonable amount of time.

1.2 Problem and Motivation

Researchers must analyze research papers and draw connections to other papers in the process of conducting research. The finding and analyzing of research papers can be a very time-consuming process. Gene research is also very scattered; there can be multiple diseases related to a single gene and finding all these connections can be very cumbersome. Our project solves both of these problems by decreasing the time for research, as well as creating a visualization to help in understanding gene relationships.

1.3 Project Application and Impact

Genetic research studies how individual genes or groups of genes affect health and disease. By improving research times and offering more relevant research surrounding the topic of genes, our project will act as a tool for the creation of new technologies or discoveries that will benefit the well-being of society and the prevention and treatment of diseases.

1.4 Project Results and Deliverables

Our project's results are a knowledge graph over genes and their relationships. The output is a knowledge graph with a label of their connections to a specific gene, which is entered as an input for the tool. Project deliverables consist of eight deliverables.

Deliverable 1: Research problem understanding and preliminary research

The research goal is to find the best correlation papers for an input biomedical gene paper for a map of the most correlated papers and their references. Preliminary research is currently being conducted in machine learning on text mapping and name entity recognition and biomedical research papers to find similar vocabulary for some pre-mapping for training the model later.

Deliverable 2: Collecting data

Biomedical research papers on gene and abstract data will be collected through PubMed and Gene. These abstract data will be mass-collected and analyzed using pre-trained / predefined models like GNormPlus for gene name recognition.

Deliverable 3: Pre-processing data

The data from Pubmed is formatted in either XML or TXT. This data will be stored in the HPC cluster with additional storage power by AWS. Currently, the project will utilize DynamoDB for noSQL data as the data input could become more diverse (Redshift for data warehousing) This data will be stored and automatically processed using python script with some third-party library besides Pandas. The data then needs to be pre-processed to become unified xml or json data.

Deliverable 4: Name entity recognition and relation extraction

After preprocessing data, the data will be processed using BioBERT for text mining training on HPC Cluster to summarize research papers and further create wording correlation mapping on words and weight parameters for graph database construction (maybe the frequency of having similar words between two paper could become the correlation weight scale between two paper). Other parameters like a title / abstract / past collaboration or citations of input paper can be utilized.

Deliverable 5: Knowledge Representation

Once the weight correlation is determined for the connections between papers, TigerGraph will be used to initiate a graph database. This will be implemented for visualizing recommendation research papers with a weight scale to reduce preliminary research time and increase research productivity.

Deliverable 6: Model Evaluation

The model base will be evaluated and compare the model output statistics to some model / service out there in the market on research paper recommendation.

Deliverable 7: Model Deployment

After doing quality assurance, the model was deployed on HPC.

Deliverable 8: Driving insights and generating Tableau dashboard

Tableau dashboards can be created to compare metrics between the model produced and other models on the market for performance comparison as well as the current model and previous performance to make decisions based on insights to change the machine learning model parameters for improvements.

Chapter 2. Background and Related Work

2.1 Background and Technologies

Background

The problem we solved is how to connect the dots between gene-to-gene relationships by utilizing machine learning with data from biomedical research papers. Discovering and creating a relationship network between a mass amount of research papers would not only accelerate the research process but also make research more intuitive and fun.

Design Patterns

For fast and intuitive implementation, we decided to design this system by implementing a market-ready machine learning model like BERT and GNormPlus for unsupervised learning with the intent to learn and encode our massive text data for vectorizing and mapping words in order to map relationships between one research document and another. For data / feature engineering pipeline, we will discuss in depth in the solution architecture section

Asynchronous Programming

In order to implement our project aychoronously, we utilized the College of Engineerings HPC to run jobs using srun and sbatch. This method allowed us to run multiple programs at the same time to make significant progress without being tied up with processing power on our local machines.

Project Estimation

The maximum number of data entries from the PubMed database is 34 million citations and abstracts of biomedical literature. While we did not intend to utilize this entire database, this proves that we have more than enough data points for training, validation, and testing cycles in our machine learning model. Our machine learning models are open source of BioBERT and GNormPlus for natural language processing and they were computed by the College of Engineering HPC.. Later on, we migrated the database to TSQL and utilized TigerGraph for graph representation of our data.

We estimated that the first model available would be mid-February 2023, and the production-level model would be be available by early May 2023 for showcasing and academic research purposes.

Scientific and Mathematical Models

Our entire model idea is wrapped around the concept of word embedding, more specifically how to create a contextual representation of each research paper abstract and map these representations to know the nearest related paper to references and conduct research on similar topics.

Technology

We collected data through HuggingFace Datasets such as pubmed and pubmed-summarization, use pre-trained models like BioBERT and GNormPlus for gene name recognition and relation extraction, HPC for data storage, and Tiger Graph for knowledge representation.

HuggingFace:

Hugging Face is an open-source natural language processing library open to all ML models with support from libraries like Flair, Asteroid, ESPnet, Pyannote, and more to come. HuggingFace has a library called Datasets that allows quick loading and manipulation of large datasets as well as models available for fine-tuning.

BioBERT & GNormPlus:

Bidirectional Encoder Representations (BERT) is a transformer-based machine learning technique for natural language processing pre-training developed by Google. This will be paired with a gene recognition tool and can be applied to PubMed to filter the results and apply operations to determine a weighted score for correlations between connected papers. #### TigerGraph: A native parallel graph database purpose-built for loading massive amounts of data and analyzing their relationships to create connections between papers. #### High Performance Computation (HPC): Computing system available through San Jose State University with multi-core multi-socket servers, high performance in regards to storage, GPUs, and a significant amount of memory available on an interconnected network.

2.2 Literature Search

Literature searches in biological science and bioinformatics are more complicated than most fields because of the numerous and complex components like DNA, RNA, Gene, and Proteins. The article Bi-

directional Methodology for Literature Extraction from PubMed Abstracts using Web Scrapper and Web Crawler applies a Bi-directional methodology to extract data that comes from the abstracts available on Pubmed obtained from a web scrapper and web crawler, then mapping the genes from that data to the Gene Card database [6]. The article also applies a second method that uses Gene Expression profiles that are analyzed with exploratory data analysis (EDA) to map the gene data extracted from Pubmed to a Gene Card database. Performing Principal Component Analysis (PCA) and clustering using k-means are used to group the differentially expressed genes. The experiment uses the web crawler called scrappy, available as a python library, to extract data from Pubmed's abstracts. It then extracts the names of genes using regular expressions. The experiment targets lung cancer genes that are extracted from the data by comparing to a Gene Card database, then the Gene Profiles are analyzed and mapped to the Pubmed abstracts. The article Building a PubMed knowledge graph explores how Pubmed abstracts can be used to create a knowledge graph [10]. For a Named Entity Recognition (NER) tool, researchers used a biomedical text mining tool called BioBERT based on Bidirectional Encoder Representations from Transformers (BERT) for bio-entity extraction. The data was then normalized using multi-type normalization, including GNormPlus for genes and proteins. Researchers also needed to extend multi-source information integration in order to build relationships to complete a comprehensive overview of the PubMed dataset. Data from NIH ExPORTER, ORCID, and fine-grained region and location information from the MapAffil 2016 was used to integrate data. The knowledge graph produced facilitates researcher-centric and bio-entity-centric activity.

Accurate identification of gene and protein names is an essential step in many commercially highly relevant applications, such as patent retrieval, prior art search, or patent classification [3]. Testing was run on the precision of tools in identifying correctly recognized gene names or identifiers by the total number of annotated gene entities or identifiers of a document averaged over a collection of documents. Based on their execution times, the ranking order from slow to fast is Gimli, GNormPlus, GeneTuKit, and GNAT. Results show that in a performance comparison between GNAT, Gimli, and GNormPlus, GNormPlus performs the best out of the rest when taking the recall and F-measure results (based on test accuracy), while GNAT performs better on precision values and runs faster.

The article Drug Repurposing Using TigerGraph & Graph Machine Learning uses the latest graph database and machine learning tools to create a Drug Repurposing Knowledge Graph (DRKG) by using repositioning, reprofiling redirection, and rediscovery in the investigation of existing drugs for new applications in medicine [8]. DRKG is a knowledge graph that links related genes, compounds, diseases, biological processes, side effects, and symptoms. The researchers used machine learning and a graph database TigerGraph to gain knowledge about drug repurposing, specifically targeting genes that are linked to a particular disease that interact within cells that are affected by genes that are targeted by other drugs with a focus on the biological components specific to Covid-19. The DRKG process consists of creating a TigerGraph schema, importing data in TSV format, querying the data, and then visualizing the graph and fine-tuning the model and predictions. The machine learning framework PyTorch was used for link prediction since researchers wanted to utilize six built-in datasets containing gene knowledge: DrugBank, Hetionet, GNBR, String, IntAct and DGIdb. The biggest challenge in the implementation of DRKG was time and resources since it was computationally heavy. In an effort to reduce time, researchers used pre-trained models and fine-tuned them to fit the specific purpose of discovering edges between compounds, disease, and gene-to-gene interactions that previously were not recognized. The graph database was also deployed on TigerGraph cloud and used REST interface on the large volume of data. Requirements included the integration of Nvidia for embedded graph machine learning, using Spark or Dask for processing to complete jobs, allowing for graph transformations and projections using tools such as Neo4j, and implementing the business requirements of the machine learning algorithms.

State-of-the-art

The USA National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI) contains information on 27.5 million journal articles. "The NCBI Nucleotide Database (including GenBank) had data for 243.3 million different sequences and dbSNP described 997.3 million different genetic variants" [11]. Pubmed entries can be searched using up to 272 thousand unique terms. The NCBI also provides access to a total of 50 databases through a web interface and online API. The eUtils API provides endpoints for searching each of the databases it covers and can find cross-references among those records and fetch particular records. This is just one of many reliable sources for biotechnology information and is the largest database covering this topic.

GNAT and Gimli have been known as the baseline tools with the state-of-the-art performance on scientific articles [4]. GeneTuKit works using four main node modules. The first module is for gene mention recognition, the second is for gene ID candidate generation, the third is for gene ID disambiguation to distinguish between genes, and the fourth module is for generating a confidence score for each predicted gene ID. GNAT and GeneTuKit have reasonable execution times, when scaled up, GeneTuKit takes 9 times as long as GNAT. However, GNormPlus and Gimli take an impractical amount of time when scaled up. At the document level, GnormPlus performs the best; however, when scaling up then GNAT gives the most precision within a reasonable amount of time.

To visually represent a knowledge graph, applications such as TigerGraph are used as a backend graph database to store the knowledge graph and the newly discovered relationships together with some graph machine learning techniques. TigerGraph has recently been used in a Drug Repurposing Knowledge Graph (DRKG) to generate visual representations for newly found gene relations. Drug Repurposing Knowledge Graph (DRKG) is a comprehensive biological knowledge graph relating genes, compounds, diseases, biological processes, side effects and symptoms. [10]. DRKG is freely available to import into our TigerGraph database for the general purpose of recreating new graphs for the gene of interest.

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The rest of this document is a full list of formatting elements/features supported by Manubot. Compare the input (.md files in the /content directory) to the output you see below.

Basic formatting

Bold text		
Semi-bold text		
	Centered text	
		Right-aligned text
Italic text		

Strikethrough

1. Ordered list item

Combined italics and bold

- 2. Ordered list item
 - a. Sub-item

- b. Sub-item
 - i. Sub-sub-item
- 3. Ordered list item
 - a. Sub-item
- List item
- List item
- · List item

subscript: H₂O is a liquid

superscript: 2¹⁰ is 1024.

unicode superscripts⁰¹²³⁴⁵⁶⁷⁸⁹

unicode subscripts₀₁₂₃₄₅₆₇₈₉

A long paragraph of text. Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet, consectetur adipiscing elit, sed do eiusmod tempor incididunt ut labore et dolore magna aliqua. Ut enim ad minim veniam, quis nostrud exercitation ullamco laboris nisi ut aliquip ex ea commodo consequat. Duis aute irure dolor in reprehenderit in voluptate velit esse cillum dolore eu fugiat nulla pariatur. Excepteur sint occaecat cupidatat non proident, sunt in culpa qui officia deserunt mollit anim id est laborum.

Putting each sentence on its own line has numerous benefits with regard to <u>editing</u> and <u>version</u> <u>control</u>.

Line break without starting a new paragraph by putting two spaces at end of line.

Document organization

Document section headings:

Heading 1

Heading 2

Heading 3

Heading 4

Heading 5

Heading 6



Horizontal rule:

Heading 1's are recommended to be reserved for the title of the manuscript.

Heading 2's are recommended for broad sections such as Abstract, Methods, Conclusion, etc.

Heading 3's and Heading 4's are recommended for sub-sections.

Links

Bare URL link: https://manubot.org

<u>Long link with lots of words and stuff and junk and bleep and blah and stuff and other stuff and more stuff yeah</u>

Link with text

Link with hover text

Link by reference

Citations

Citation by DOI [1].

Citation by PubMed Central ID [2].

Citation by PubMed ID [3].

Citation by Wikidata ID [4].

Citation by ISBN [5].

Citation by URL [6].

Citation by alias [7].

Multiple citations can be put inside the same set of brackets [1,5,7]. Manubot plugins provide easier, more convenient visualization of and navigation between citations [2,3,7,8].

Citation tags (i.e. aliases) can be defined in their own paragraphs using Markdown's reference link syntax:

Referencing figures, tables, equations

Figure 1

Figure 2

```
Figure 3

Figure 4

Table 1

Equation 1

Equation 2
```

Quotes and code

Quoted text

Quoted block of text

Two roads diverged in a wood, and I—I took the one less traveled by, And that has made all the difference.

Code in the middle of normal text, aka inline code.

Code block with Python syntax highlighting:

```
from manubot.cite.doi import expand_short_doi

def test_expand_short_doi():
    doi = expand_short_doi("10/c3bp")
    # a string too long to fit within page:
    assert doi == "10.25313/2524-2695-2018-3-vliyanie-enhansera-copia-i-
        insulyatora-gypsy-na-sintez-ernk-modifikatsii-hromatina-i-
        svyazyvanie-insulyatornyh-belkov-vtransfetsirovannyh-geneticheskih-
        konstruktsiyah"
```

Code block with no syntax highlighting:

```
Exporting HTML manuscript
Exporting DOCX manuscript
Exporting PDF manuscript
```

Figures



Figure 1: A square image at actual size and with a bottom caption. Loaded from the latest version of image on GitHub.



Figure 2: An image too wide to fit within page at full size. Loaded from a specific (hashed) version of the image on GitHub.



Figure 3: A tall image with a specified height. Loaded from a specific (hashed) version of the image on GitHub.



Figure 4: A vector .svg image loaded from GitHub. The parameter sanitize=true is necessary to properly load SVGs hosted via GitHub URLs. White background specified to serve as a backdrop for transparent sections of the image. Note that if you want to export to Word (.docx), you need to download the image and reference it locally (e.g. content/images/vector.svg) instead of using a URL.

Tables

Table 1: A table with a top caption and specified relative column widths.

Bowling Scores	Jane	John	Alice	Bob
Game 1	150	187	210	105
Game 2	98	202	197	102
Game 3	123	180	238	134

Table 2: A table too wide to fit within page.

	Digits 1-33	Digits 34-66	Digits 67-99	Ref.
pi	3.14159265358979323 846264338327950	28841971693993751 0582097494459230	78164062862089986 2803482534211706	piday.org
е	2.71828182845904523 536028747135266	24977572470936999 5957496696762772	40766303535475945 7138217852516642	nasa.gov

Table 3: A table with merged cells using the attributes plugin.

	Colors	
Size	Text Color	Background Color
big	blue	orange
small	black	white

Equations

A LaTeX equation:

$$\int_0^\infty e^{-x^2} dx = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} \tag{1}$$

An equation too long to fit within page:

$$x = a + b + c + d + e + f + g + h + i + j + k + l + m + n + o + p + q + r + s + t + u + v + w + x + y + z + 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + 5 + 6 + 7 + 8 + 9$$
 (2)

Special

▲ WARNING The following features are only supported and intended for .html and .pdf exports. Journals are not likely to support them, and they may not display correctly when converted to other formats such as .docx.

LINK STYLED AS A BUTTON

Adding arbitrary HTML attributes to an element using Pandoc's attribute syntax:

Manubot Manubot Manubot Manubot Manubot. Manubot Manubot Manubot Manubot. Manubot Manubot. Manubot Manubot. Manubot. Manubot.

Adding arbitrary HTML attributes to an element with the Manubot attributes plugin (more flexible than Pandoc's method in terms of which elements you can add attributes to):

Manubot Manubo

Available background colors for text, images, code, banners, etc:

white lightgrey grey darkgrey black lightred lightyellow lightgreen lightblue lightpurple red orange yellow green blue purple

Using the **Font Awesome** icon set:

Light Grey Banner
useful for general information - manubot.org

1 Blue Banner

useful for important information - manubot.org

♦ Light Red Banner useful for *warnings* - <u>manubot.org</u>

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DOI: 10.1371/journal.pcbi.1007128 · PMID: 31233491 · PMCID: PMC6611653