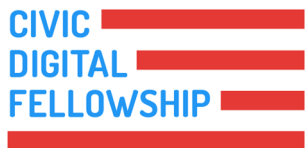


AUTOMATING GRANT CHARACTERISTICS USING NLP & MACHINE LEARNING

Helping to End Addiction Long-Term Initiative (HEAL)

Anthony Juehne — Program Officer and Data Scientist | HEAL Data Ecosystem

Erin Spaniol — Policy and Evaluation Lead | HEAL Initiative



Noreen Mayat
Barnard College, Columbia University
Data Science

MOTIVATIONS

- HEAL seeks to improve both pain management and prevention tactics for opioid use disorder.
- Automating classification of HEAL awards for portfolio analysis will:
 - Significantly reduce the time burden of portfolio analysts within HEAL.
 - Highlight research themes, connect investigators studying aligned targets and interventions and determine promising areas for allocating research support.

NIH HEAL INITIATIVE RESEARCH OVERVIEW



PROJECT GOALS

- Primary Outcome:
 - Classify if a study's primary outcome is Pain, OUD or Both.
 - Multi-Class
- Milestone
 - Classify if a study is/is not a milestone project.
 - Binary Classification
- Science Type
 - Classify a study's science type.
 - Multi-Class
 - Multi-Label

METHODS

Natural Language Processing



- Rule-based approaches.
- Uses key word ontologies to classify and label studies.
- 956 studies

Supervised Machine-Learning



- Science Type—broke each class into its own binary classification problem.
- Models used:
 - Random Forest
 - K-Nearest Neighbors
 - Logistic Regression
 - Support Vector Machine
- 956 studies

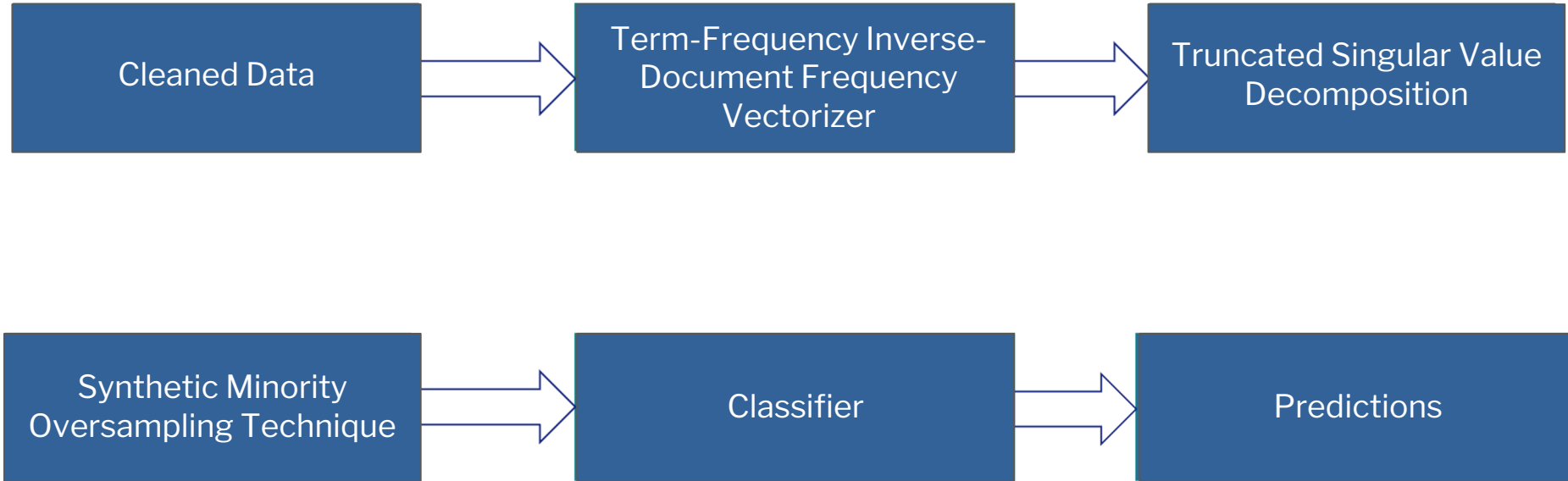
METHODS

- Pre-Processing:
 - Abstracts, specific aims, public health relevance cleaned for stop words.
- Filtration:
 - Only preserved sentences with keywords.
- Regular Expressions:
 - Iterates by row.
 - Search for regexes related to each category in filtered columns.
 - Add found terms to individual lists (Pain vs. OUD).
- Labeling:
 - Determine which list has most terms → assign label.

METHODS

- Example Text: “although health social economic impacts **opioid addiction...**”
- `oud_terms = ['opioid addiction']`
- `pain_terms = []`
- `both = []`
- Study Outcome → OUD

METHODS



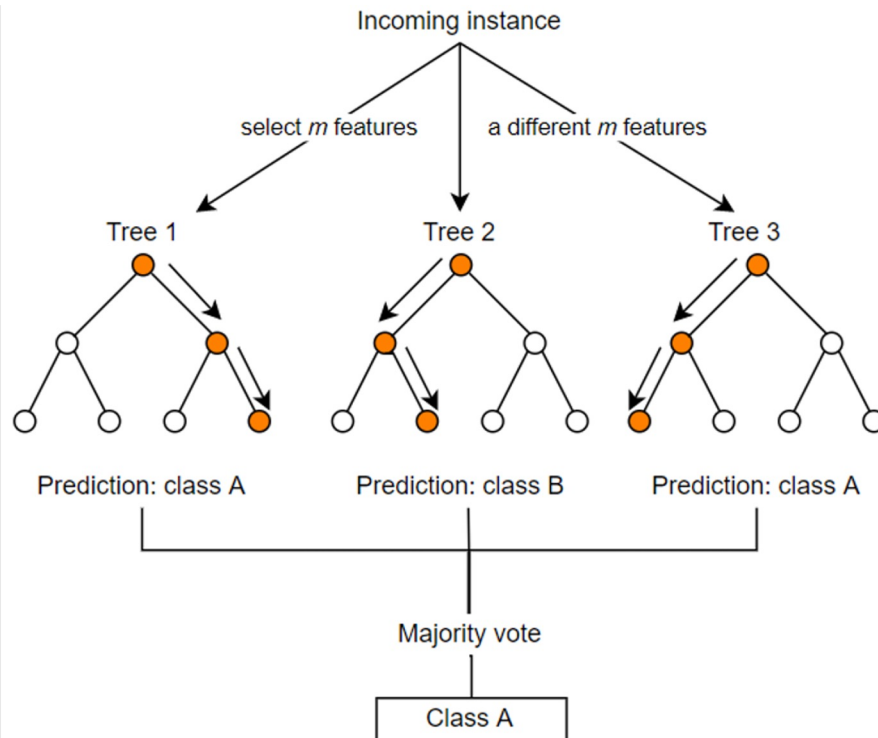
METHODS

- Term Frequency-Inverse Document Frequency (TF-IDF) Matrix
- Normalized count of each word / Number of docs it appears in
- The higher the TF-IDF score the more important or relevant the term is

| term | weight |
|-----------|----------|
| pain | 0.073881 |
| opioid | 0.054544 |
| treatment | 0.037505 |
| oud | 0.034639 |
| use | 0.03379 |
| research | 0.031719 |
| care | 0.031138 |
| clinical | 0.030721 |
| health | 0.02889 |
| patients | 0.026607 |
| ctn | 0.025051 |
| chronic | 0.023289 |
| aim | 0.022916 |
| study | 0.022679 |
| phase | 0.021094 |

METHODS

- Random Forest:
 - Averages predictions of various decision trees.
 - Each root decision tree corresponds to a feature (word) in the study text → trickles down to a label.



DATA

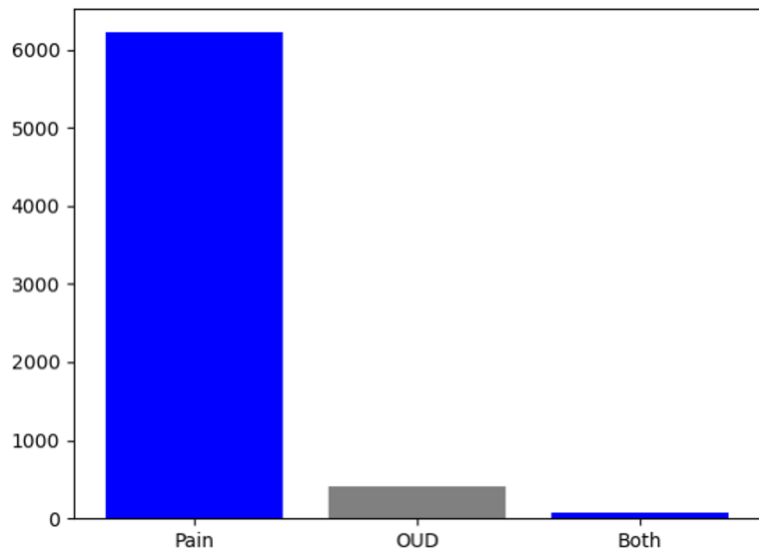
Fed to Classifier

Designated
Labels

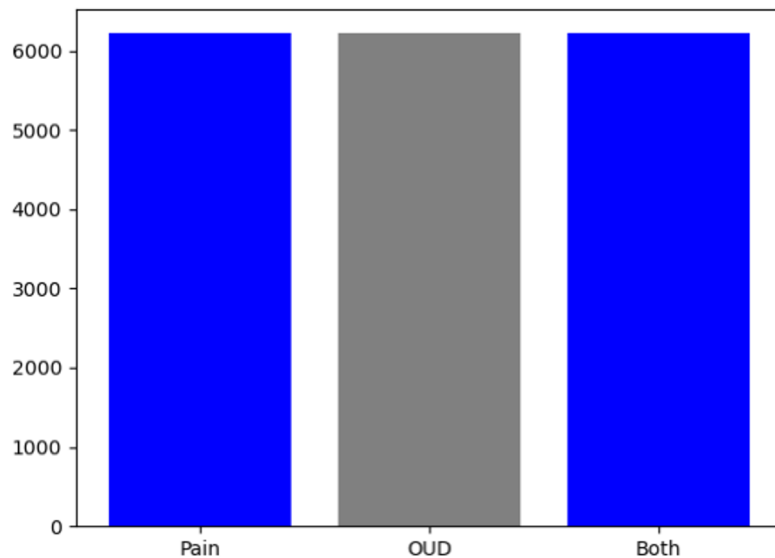
| | Appl ID | Combined Cleaned | HEAL Category- Primary Outcome |
|---|----------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 0 | 10459783 | neonatal opioid withdrawal | OUD |
| 1 | 10133699 | critical persistent gaps ev | Pain |
| 2 | 10377726 | number infants exposed | OUD |
| 3 | 10378942 | neonatal opioid withdrawal | OUD |
| 4 | 10378979 | thomas jefferson univers | Both |
| 5 | 10379584 | neonatal opioid withdrawal | OUD |

DATA

Before SMOTE
Primary Outcome Data Distribution

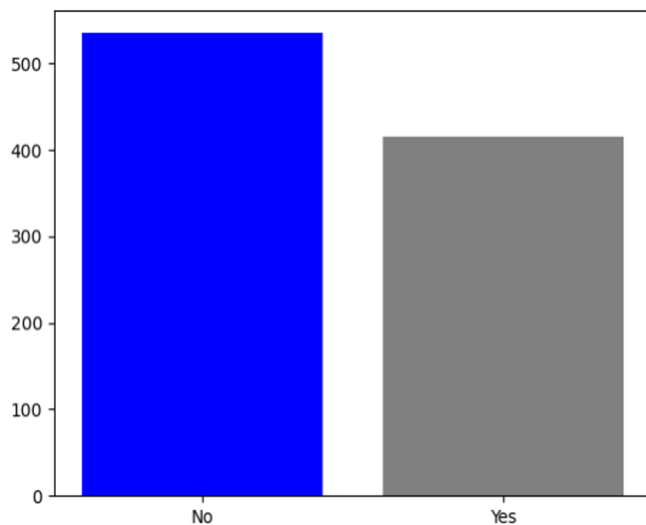


After SMOTE
Primary Outcome Data Distribution

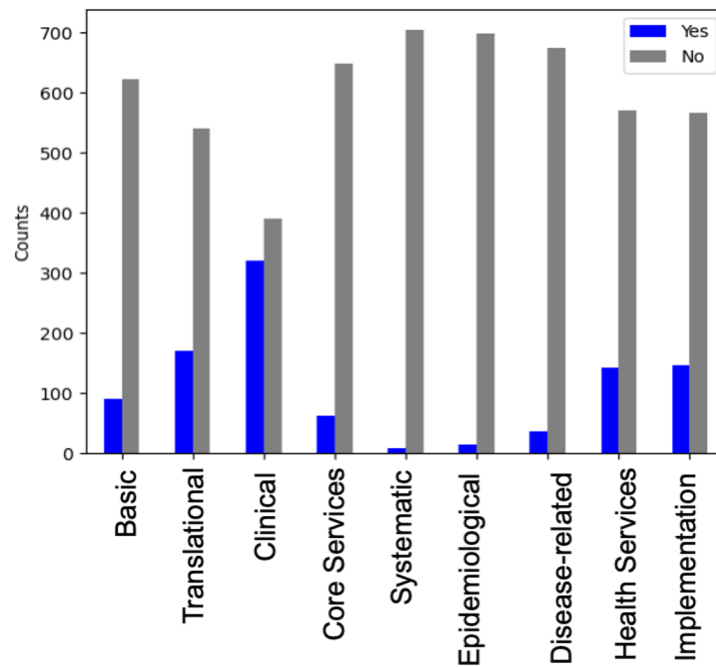


DATA

Milestone Distribution



Science Distribution



RESULTS

- Primary Outcome:
 - Regex: 85%
 - Random Forest: 98%
- Milestone:
 - Regex: 76%
 - Random Forest: 84%
- Science Type:
 - KNN Basic: 92%
 - KNN Health Services Research: 85%
 - KNN Implementation Research: 80%
 - LR Disease-Related Basic: 88%
 - LR Clinical: 73%
 - RF Translational: 84%
 - RF Systematic Meta-analyses: 96%
 - SVM Core Services: 86%
 - SVM Epidemiological: 96%

CONCLUSIONS & NEXT STEPS

- Expand OUD/Both datasets for primary outcome algorithm
- Hyperparameter tuning for ML algorithms
- NLP combined with ML approaches for final labeling
- Work combined in Jupyter notebook as well as Github for future building