

ML Systems Proposal

Automating Contextual Analysis of Patient Narrative Data for Psychiatric Treatment

Members

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Feedback and Responses

Feedback: Ensure our data storage + communication is HIPPA approved

Response: Making sure the data collection we perform with patients follows all HIPPA guidelines will be one our top priorities

Feedback: Keep in mind the load we are going to be subjecting onto phones/laptops

Response: While newer phones do have NPUs, and some laptops do as well, it is understandable that some devices may try to run AI locally without an NPU. While we will see how optimized and accessible we can make the ML system, it may be something we have to scale back or limit to devices that contain the proper hardware

Feedback: Look at other datasets (handwriting, facial recognition, video recognition, etc.)

Response: While handwriting is an interesting idea to consider, the scope of this project is going to be analyzing what the patient is writing rather than how they are writing it. As far as facial recognition and video are concerned, they most certainly would provide invaluable data to the ML system and doctors who use it, but this could cause big privacy concerns, and patients would be less inclined to use the app if it took videos of them in times of weakness. However, we may look into using facial recognition and video for accuracy purposes.

Feedback: Look at the language used in context

Response: Everyone has their own unique way of describing how they feel. The goal of our ML system is to identify the variation in language used between different patients. Context is important and our ML system ideally will be able to determine that accurately.

Feedback: Could models be further trained based on region/dialects to create different baselines for different areas

Response: This is another interesting idea that seems like it may have some promise. However, that it is outside the scope of our current project

Feedback: Could we use tools like apple mental health insights instead of gad-7 and phq-9 (more numerical data and better user interactions)

Response: While Apple mental health insights may possibly be more effective or popular than GAD-7 and PHQ-9, we believe that sticking to the widely accepted and used methods in healthcare is important as it will make the ML system easier to understand for people already utilizing tools in the healthcare space. On top of that, some doctors may outright deny using a system with a newer measuring metric rather than a well-established one.

Feedback: Keep in mind the scope, build a great project where we just prove the concept, it can always be further developed if we pursue it

Response: Most certainly! While lots of great ideas have been suggested to us and we continue to discover more each day, we have set a specific goal that we are not going to drastically change.

Project Repository

<https://github.com/csce585-mlsystems/Narrative-Analysis> 

Introduction

One of the largest issues in the psychiatric industry is the time it takes to diagnose a patient. Due to the nature of therapy and psychiatric work, provider's need significant amounts of time and experience with any one patient to understand their emotions and provide an accurate diagnosis. By correlating patient's language through daily journals with quantitative surveys, we can provide therapists and psychiatrists with significantly more data on their patients than would've been possible otherwise.

Problem Statement

We want to find a local and cloud-based hybrid system to process health data in a secure, efficient, and private manner. Through ratings of one's emotions through a survey similar to the PHQ-9 and daily journal entries we can correlate textual data to quantitative points and build a history of a patient's language through journaling and use the emotions associated with that language. Hopefully, this would allow providers a better understanding of how their patients are feeling or the problems they face on a day-to-day basis.

Technical Approach

When it comes to tackling this problem, the main approach we plan on utilizing will be a federated learning system with text analysis AI. One of the problems we aim to tackle is that patient data is unique, and training an AI on one patient's data would train the AI ideally for use with that one patient, but trying to use that same AI with other patients could yield drastically incorrect results. This is where federated learning will be effective, federated learning consists of having a "main" AI that is trained on the dataset of other "local" AIs that are only trained on their unique users data. This type of approach will allow an AI to be trained for all patients to be used as a baseline towards any new patients joining the federated learning network, while still preserving the personal trained AIs for each individual patients. Federated learning also helps preserve the privacy of individuals' health data

As a user's AI is trained over time, it will be able to deliver more accurate results for that patient's health data. The AI will analyze patient journals and learn which statements correspond to which emotions a patient is feeling and how intense those emotions are. Using the data gathered, the AI will be able to generate an actionable list of information about the patient's emotional state for a psychiatrist.

Evaluation

We will evaluate the results by taking the quantitative data gathered by the polls and relating it to the intensity and amount of uses of different emotion-related words to develop a "score" for how strongly an emotion was felt on any given day. By tracking these scores over a period of time for each emotion, we develop actionable insights for providers. For example, things like disjointed spikes in "happy" and "sad" emotions can indicate bipolar disorder, or continuous "sad" emotions with little else can be indicative of major depressive disorder.

Related Work

Discuss published work related to your project. How is your approach similar or different from others? You may not be aware of all related work at this point, but it is essential to search whether there has been any prior work related to the idea you envision for your project. I highly recommend updating this section throughout your project as soon as you find any related work.

References

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