

R1 Case Study Discussion

INFO 370

Overview

Discuss the following questions for your topic area in your group for ~15 minutes, and be **prepared to present** to the class for ~5 minutes. Use the whiteboard to **diagram information** as needed. Groups will discuss the following areas for each paper: *data, methods, validation, and implications*.

Influenza: Data

1. Provide an overview of the data used for the study (i.e., how was it collected? How much data was there?) Then, describe how the data was **transformed** from the raw input to the prepared dataset. Finally, draw a 2D representation of what the data looked like for analysis (i.e., rows and columns).
2. How well does each **abstract concept** (flu epidemic, search engine query) map to the **data structures** used in the study?
3. Propose an **alternative dataset** that could be used to measure the same concepts.

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Influenza: Methods

1. What were the ***null and alternative hypothesis*** of the study? Be sure to reference the specific data structure used.
2. Write down (on the whiteboard) the ***equation of the linear model*** used. Indicate the units of analysis using subscripts as needed.
3. What ***assumptions*** are built into the linear model, and what (in layman's terms) is it intuitively trying to measure?
4. What concerns do you have about the overall analytical approach?

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Influenza: Validation

1. What ***specific measures*** do the authors use to validate their models? What do these values convey?
2. What are the limitations of the validation metrics provided in the paper?
3. What would be an ***alternative approach/measurement*** for validating the results of the study?
4. What ***concerns do you have*** about the overall validation approach? Based on the approach, do you believe the results are "valid"?

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Influenza: Implications

1. How do you believe the results of this study can be ***applied to other areas*** (besides flu epidemics)?
2. What actions can be taken to prevent flu outbreaks can be taken as a result of this study?
3. If you were to further pursue this research area, what would your next research questions be (using this or supplemental data)?

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Facebook: Data

1. Provide an overview of the data used for the study (i.e., how was it collected? How much data was there?) Then, describe how the data was **transformed** from the raw input to the prepared dataset. Finally, draw a 2D representation of what the data looked like for analysis (i.e., rows and columns).
2. How well does each **abstract concept** (positivity/negativity, contagion) map to the **data structures** used in the study?
3. Propose an **alternative dataset** that could be used to measure the same concepts. How does it compare to the data used in the study?

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Facebook: Methods

1. What were the ***null and alternative hypothesis*** of the study? Be sure to reference the specific data structure used.
2. Write down (on the whiteboard) the ***equations of the statistical models*** used. Indicate the units of analysis using subscripts as needed.
3. What ***assumptions*** are built into the statistical models, and what (in layman's terms) are they intuitively trying to measure?
4. What concerns do you have about the overall analytical approach?

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Facebook: Validation

1. What ***specific measures*** do the authors use to validate their models? What do these values convey?
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Facebook: Discussion

1. Do you believe that the results were practically significant (i.e., do they matter)?
2. Do you believe that conducting the study was ethical? Why / why not?
3. If you were to further pursue this research area, what would your next research questions be (using this or supplemental data)?