LLM-prioritised screening

Max Callaghan



July 17, 2024

We can ask LLMs whether a study should be included in a systematic review

Result: <s>[INST] «SYS» You are a systematic review helper tasked with finding out whether a study is relevant to the review Drug Class Review: Pharmacologic Treatments for Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder

Answer 'yes' if the study is relevant, or 'no' if not «/SYS» Study: Diuretics and beta-blockers do not have adverse effects at 1 year on plasma lipid and lipoprotein profiles in men with hypertension. Department of Veterans Affairs Cooperative Study Group on Antihypertensive Agents.

Concern based on the reported short-term adverse effects of antihypertensive agents on plasma lipid and lipoprotein profiles (PLPPs) has complicated the therapy for hypertension.

Should the study be included? Answer yes or no. [/INST] No, this study should not be included in the drug class review for Pharmacologic Treatments for Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. The study is focused on the effects of diuretics and beta-blockers on plasma lipid and lipoprotein profiles in men with hypertension, and does not directly relate to the treatment

of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). The review is focused on pharmacologic treatments for ADHD, and the study does not address any of the included drug classes or outcomes of interest for the review.



We can ask LLMs whether a study should be included in a systematic review

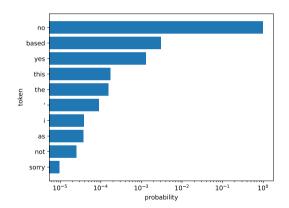
Result: <s>[INST] «SYS» You are a systematic review helper tasked with finding out whether a study is relevant to the review Drug Class Review: Pharmacologic Treatments for Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder

Answer 'yes' if the study is relevant, or 'no' if not «/SYS» Study: Diuretics and beta-blockers do not have adverse effects at 1 year on plasma lipid and lipoprotein profiles in men with hypertension. Department of Veterans Affairs Cooperative Study Group on Antihypertensive Agents.

Concern based on the reported short-term adverse effects of antihypertensive agents on plasma lipid and lipoprotein profiles (PLPPs) has complicated the therapy for hypertension.

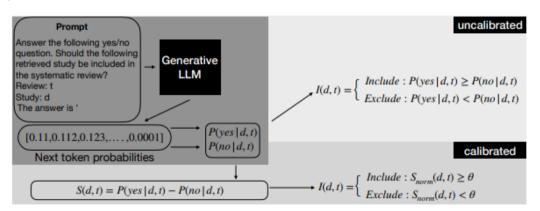
Should the study be included? Answer yes or no. [/INST] No, this study should not be included in the drug class review for Pharmacologic Treatments for Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder. The study is focused on the effects of diuretics and beta-blockers on plasma lipid and lipoprotein profiles in men with hypertension, and does not directly relate to the treatment

of Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD). The review is focused on pharmacologic treatments for ADHD, and the study does not address any of the included drug classes or outcomes of interest for the review.



Zero-shot Generative Large Language Models for Systematic Review Screening Automation

? propose a method to extract probability-like scores from LLMs for inclusion/exclusion decisions in a systematic review



I P

Model

Setting

Results are mixed, because the probabilities are poorly calibrated, and their attempts to re-invent stopping criteria do not makes sense

B-AC

F3

Suc

WSS

_		Model	Setting	P	R	B-AC	F3	Suc	WSS
CLEF-2017		Bi ^o Rí	Unc Cal(0.95) Cal(1)	0.06 0.06 0.06	$0.95 \\ 0.92 \\ 0.97$	$0.61 \\ 0.64 \\ 0.60$	$0.30 \\ 0.31 \\ 0.29$	$0.74 \\ 0.50* \\ 0.82$	$0.26 \\ 0.34* \\ 0.23$
	-2017	Thrins	Unc Cal(0.95) Cal(1)	0.08 0.06* 0.05*	0.87 0.92* 0.99 *	0.72 0.69* 0.60*	$0.35 \\ 0.32 \\ 0.28$	$0.26 \\ 0.52 \\ 0.96$	$0.56 \\ 0.44 \\ 0.20$
	CLEF	230rine	Unc Cal(0.95) Cal(1)	0.19 0.06* 0.05*	$0.41 \\ 0.93 \\ 0.98$	0.66 0.59* 0.53*	$0.31 \\ 0.28 \\ 0.26$	0.04 0.50* 0.88*	0.91 0.25* 0.08*
		Ensemb	Unc Cal(0.95) Cal(1)	0.31 0.08 0.06	0.13 0.93* 0.97*	0.56 0.72 0.63	0.13 0.35 * 0.30	0.00 0.52* 0.90 *	0.98 0.50* 0.29*
CLEF-2018	-2018	Bio Ric BERI	Unc Cal(0.95) Cal(1)	0.06 0.07 0.06	0.97 0.91* 0.97	0.59 0.63 0.59	0.29 0.30 0.29	0.87 0.57* 0.87	0.19 0.33* 0.21
		Toring	Unc Cal(0.95) Cal(1)	0.09 0.08* 0.06*	0.88 0.94* 0.99 *	0.75 0.71* 0.62*	0.37 0.35* 0.30	0.27 0.50 1.00	$0.59 \\ 0.46 \\ 0.24$
	CLEF	13b-ins	Unc Cal(0.95) Cal(1)	0.26 0.06 0.05	0.36 0.94* 0.97	0.66 0.59* 0.53*	$0.30 \\ 0.29 \\ 0.27$	0.00 0.47* 0.80*	0.94 0.22* 0.08*



Implementation is relatively straightforward

```
1 def binary_probs(tokenizer, model, prompt, no_words=['no'], yes_words=['yes'], return_all
       =False):
      device = 'cuda' if torch.cuda.is available() else 'cpu'
2
      encoded text = tokenizer(prompt, return tensors="pt").to(device)
3
      #1. step to get the logits of the next token
4
      with torch inference mode():
5
6
          outputs = model(**encoded text)
7
      next token logits = outputs.logits[0, -1, :]
8
Q
      # 2. step to convert the logits to probabilities
10
      next_token_probs = torch.softmax(next_token_logits, -1)
11
13
      topk next tokens = torch.topk(next token probs. 50)
      tokens = [tokenizer.decode(x).strip().lower() for x in topk next tokens.indices]
14
      p = topk next tokens.values
15
16
      df = pd.DataFrame.from_dict({'t': tokens,'p': p.cpu()})
      y = df[df['t'].isin(yes_words)]['p'].sum()
18
      n = df[df['t'].isin(no words)]['p'].sum()
19
20
21
      if return all:
          return df.groupby('t').sum().reset_index().sort_values('p', ascending=False).
22
       reset_index(drop=True)
      return v-n. v+n
23
```

Implementation is relatively straightforward

```
prompt = Template('''<s>[INST] <<SYS>>
You are a systematic review helper tasked with finding out whether a study is relevant to the review $t

Answer 'yes' if the study is relevant, or 'no' if not
<<</SYS>>

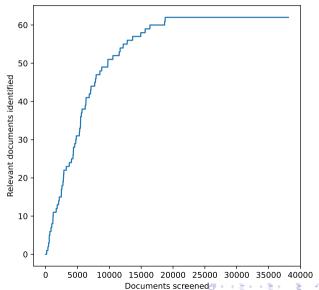
Study: $s

Should the study be included? Answer yes or no. [/INST] ''')

prompt.substitute({'t': review, 's': study_title}),
```

Result #1: It works!

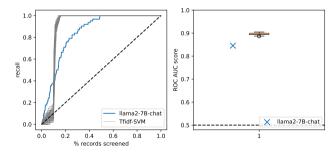
 The method produces a ranking that identifies all relevant documents before all documents have been screened



Result #1: It works!

- The method produces a ranking that identifies all relevant documents before all documents have been screened
- But it doesn't perform as well as simple tfidf + SVM

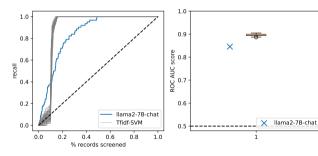
Brouwer_2019 (N=38114, p=0.2%)
Psychological theories of depressive relapse and recurrence: A systematic review and meta-analysis of prospective studies



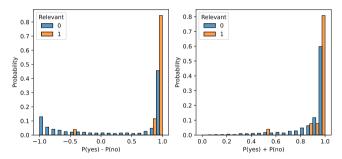
Result #1: It works!

- The method produces a ranking that identifies all relevant documents before all documents have been screened
- But it doesn't perform as well as simple tfidf + SVM
- To compare the quality of rankings, we can use ROC AUC scores

Brouwer_2019 (N=38114, p=0.2%)
Psychological theories of depressive relapse and recurrence: A systematic review and meta-analysis of prospective studies

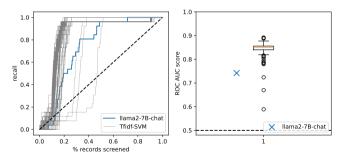


Appenzeller-Herzog_2019 (N=2873, p=0.9%)
Comparative effectiveness of common therapies for Wilson disease: A systematic review and meta-analysis of controlled studies



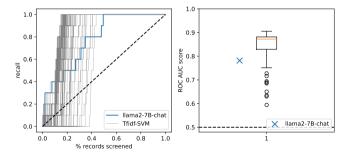
 We generated LLM inclusion scores for each document in a set of reviews in the Synergy dataset

Appenzeller-Herzog_2019 (N=2873, p=0.9%)
Comparative effectiveness of common therapies for Wilson disease: A systematic review and meta-analysis of controlled studies



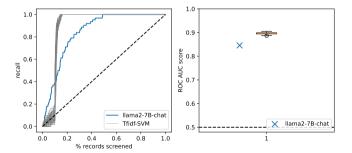
- We generated LLM inclusion scores for each document in a set of reviews in the Synergy dataset
- We compare what happens to screening in descending order of this ranking to 100 active learning runs with a default configuration of SVM with Tfidf

Bos_2018 (N=4878, p=0.2%)
Cerebral small vessel disease and the risk of dementia: A systematic review and meta-analysis of population-based evidence



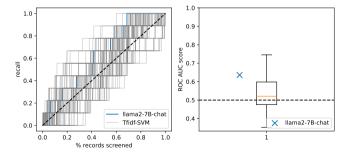
- We generated LLM inclusion scores for each document in a set of reviews in the Synergy dataset
- We compare what happens to screening in descending order of this ranking to 100 active learning runs with a default configuration of SVM with Tfidf
- Initial results are not very promising

Brouwer_2019 (N=38114, p=0.2%)
Psychological theories of depressive relapse and recurrence: A systematic review and meta-analysis of prospective studies



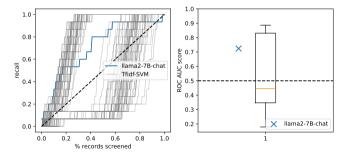
- We generated LLM inclusion scores for each document in a set of reviews in the Synergy dataset
- We compare what happens to screening in descending order of this ranking to 100 active learning runs with a default configuration of SVM with Tfidf
- Initial results are not very promising

Chou_2004 (N=1630, p=0.6%)
Comparative efficacy and safety of skeletal muscle relaxants for spasticity and musculoskeletal conditions: a systematic review



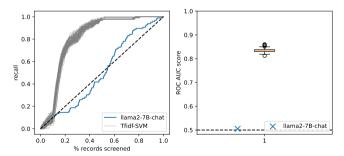
- We generated LLM inclusion scores for each document in a set of reviews in the Synergy dataset
- We compare what happens to screening in descending order of this ranking to 100 active learning runs with a default configuration of SVM with Tfidf
- Initial results are not very promising
- But LLMs can do well where traditional methods struggle

Donners_2021 (N=258, p=5.8%)
Pharmacokinetics and Associated Efficacy of Emicizumab in Humans: A Systematic
Review



- We generated LLM inclusion scores for each document in a set of reviews in the Synergy dataset
- We compare what happens to screening in descending order of this ranking to 100 active learning runs with a default configuration of SVM with Tfidf
- Initial results are not very promising
- But LLMs can do well where traditional methods struggle

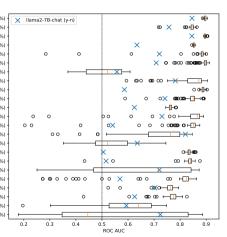
Jeyaraman_2020 (N=1175, p=8.2%)
Does the Source of Mesenchymal Stem Cell Have an Effect in the Management of
Osteoarthritis of the Knee? Meta-Analysis of Randomized Controlled Trials



- We generated LLM inclusion scores for each document in a set of reviews in the Synergy dataset
- We compare what happens to screening in descending order of this ranking to 100 active learning runs with a default configuration of SVM with Tfidf
- Initial results are not very promising
- But LLMs can do well where traditional methods struggle
- Sometimes they are no use at all

All results

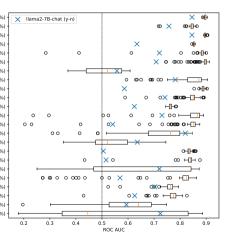
Brouwer 2019 (N=38114, p=0.2%) van Dis 2020 (N=9128, p=0.8%) Hall 2012 (N=8793, p=1.2%) Leenaars 2020 (N=7216, p=8.1%) Radienovic 2013 (N=5935, p=0.8%) Leenaars 2019 (N=5812, p=0.3%) Moran 2021 (N=5214, p=2.1%) Bos 2018 (N=4878, p=0.2%) van de Schoot 2018 (N=4544, p=0.8%) Appenzeller-Herzog 2019 (N=2873, p=0.9%) Muthu 2021 (N=2719, p=12.4%) Smid 2020 (N=2627, p=1.0%) van_der_Waal_2022 (N=1970, p=1.7%) Chou 2003 (N=1908, p=0.8%) Chou 2004 (N=1630, p=0.6%) levaraman 2020 (N=1175, p=8.2%) Menon 2022 (N=975, p=7.6%) Oud 2018 (N=952, p=2.1%) Meijboom 2021 (N=882, p=4,2%) van der Valk 2021 (N=725, p=12.3%) Nelson 2002 (N=366, p=21.9%) Sep 2021 (N=271, p=14.8%) Donners 2021 (N=258, p=5.8%)



 LLMs and basic active learning pipelines seem to have different weakneses

All results

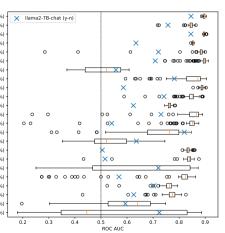
Brouwer 2019 (N=38114, p=0.2%) van Dis 2020 (N=9128, p=0.8%) Hall 2012 (N=8793, p=1.2%) Leenaars 2020 (N=7216, p=8.1%) Radienovic 2013 (N=5935, p=0.8%) Leenaars 2019 (N=5812, p=0.3%) Moran 2021 (N=5214, p=2.1%) Bos 2018 (N=4878, p=0.2%) van de Schoot 2018 (N=4544, p=0.8%) Appenzeller-Herzog 2019 (N=2873, p=0.9%) Muthu 2021 (N=2719, p=12.4%) Smid 2020 (N=2627, p=1.0%) van_der_Waal_2022 (N=1970, p=1.7%) Chou 2003 (N=1908, p=0.8%) Chou 2004 (N=1630, p=0.6%) levaraman 2020 (N=1175, p=8.2%) Menon 2022 (N=975, p=7.6%) Oud 2018 (N=952, p=2.1%) Meijboom 2021 (N=882, p=4.2%) van der Valk 2021 (N=725, p=12.3%) Nelson 2002 (N=366, p=21.9%) Sep 2021 (N=271, p=14.8%) Donners 2021 (N=258, p=5.8%)



- LLMs and basic active learning pipelines seem to have different weakneses
- Combining both could improve general performance

All results

Brouwer 2019 (N=38114, p=0.2%) van Dis 2020 (N=9128, p=0.8%) Hall 2012 (N=8793, p=1.2%) Leenaars 2020 (N=7216, p=8.1%) Radienovic 2013 (N=5935, p=0.8%) Leenaars 2019 (N=5812, p=0.3%) Moran 2021 (N=5214, p=2.1%) Bos 2018 (N=4878, p=0.2%) van de Schoot 2018 (N=4544, p=0.8%) Appenzeller-Herzog 2019 (N=2873, p=0.9%) Muthu 2021 (N=2719, p=12.4%) Smid 2020 (N=2627, p=1.0%) van_der_Waal_2022 (N=1970, p=1.7%) Chou 2003 (N=1908, p=0.8%) Chou 2004 (N=1630, p=0.6%) levaraman 2020 (N=1175, p=8.2%) Menon 2022 (N=975, p=7.6%) Oud 2018 (N=952, p=2.1%) Meijboom 2021 (N=882, p=4.2%) van der Valk 2021 (N=725, p=12.3%) Nelson 2002 (N=366, p=21.9%) Sep 2021 (N=271, p=14.8%) Donners 2021 (N=258, p=5.8%)



- LLMs and basic active learning pipelines seem to have different weakneses
- Combining both could improve general performance
- LLMs seem most useful for smaller datasets (where active learning has little time to learn)

• Prompting strategies (inclusion criteria)

- Prompting strategies (inclusion criteria)
- Bigger/different models

- Prompting strategies (inclusion criteria)
- Bigger/different models
- Combining LLMs with traditional approaches

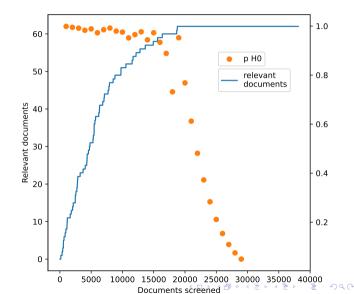
- Prompting strategies (inclusion criteria)
- Bigger/different models
- Combining LLMs with traditional approaches
- Updating prompts based on user feedback

 LLMs are neither a quick fix or a silver bullet

- LLMs are neither a quick fix or a silver bullet
- Evaluation is vital



- LLMs are neither a quick fix or a silver bullet
- Evaluation is vital
- We can't forget the need for appropriate stopping criteria ?



- LLMs are neither a quick fix or a silver bullet
- Evaluation is vital
- We can't forget the need for appropriate stopping criteria ?
- mcallaghan.github.io/ buscar-app

Thanks!

callaghan@mcc-berlin.net

Twitter: @MaxCallaghan 5

