



Brain Games

CTE (Chronic Traumatic Encephalopathy) in the NFL

Traumatic Brain Injuries



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Our project

Many former National Football League (NFL) players have been diagnosed with or have had chronic traumatic encephalopathy, or CTE. A definitive diagnosis so far can be made only post-mortem. However, an increasing number of former players are reporting symptoms of CTE.



We gathered data from Kaggle, News Articles and Wikipedia to use methods we learned in this course to analyze and integrate such data and build our knowledge graph





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Overview

Presented by Camm Perera

A study
conducted in
2017 of
deceased NFL
players
showed that

99%

of the players
had CTE



*Deceased players
suspected of having
CTE:*

Curtis Jerome Brown
(December 7, 1954 – July 31,
2015)-Buffalo Bills

Robert Gene Hickerson
(February 15, 1935 – October
20, 2008) – Cleveland Browns

Lawrence Lamond Phillips
(May 12, 1975 – January 13,
2016) – 49ers, Miami Dolphins

James Stephen Ringo
(November 21, 1931 –
November 19, 2007)-Green
Bay Packers, Philadelphia
Eagles

Steven Anthony Smith
(August 30, 1964 – November
20, 2021)- LA Raiders, Seattle
Seahawks



Data Source #1 Kaggle

Explanation of Data

1. The first main group of statistics is the basic statistics provided for each player. This data is stored in the CSV file titled Basic_Stats.csv along with the player's name and URL identifier. If available the data pulled for each player is as follows:

- a. Number
- b. Position
- c. Current Team
- d. Height
- e. Weight
- f. Age
- g. Birthday
- h. Birth Place
- i. College Attended
- j. High School Attended
- k. High School Location
- l. Experience



Age	Birth Place	Birthday	College	Current Stats	Current Team	Experience	Height (inches)	High School	High School	Name	Number	Player Id	Position	Weight (lbs)	Years Played
	Grand Rapids, MI	5/23/21	Notre Dame	Retired		3 Seasons	71			Evans, Fred		fredevans/2513736		185	1946 - 1948
	Dayton, OH	12/21/30	Dayton	Retired		1 Season	70			Raiff, Jim		jimraiff/2523700		235	1954 - 1954
56	Temple, TX	9/11/60	Louisiana Tech	Retired		1 Season	74			Fowler, Bobby		bobbyfowler/2514295		230	1985 - 1985
30	New Orleans	9/30/86	LSU	Retired		5 Seasons	73			Johnson, Quinn		quinnjohnson/79593		255	2009 - 2013

Data Source #2 Wikipedia





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The Free Encyclopedia

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List of NFL players with chronic traumatic encephalopathy

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

A large number of former **National Football League** (NFL) players have been diagnosed with or have had **chronic traumatic encephalopathy**, or CTE. A definitive diagnosis so far can be made only **post-mortem**, symptoms of CTE.

According to 2017 study on brains of deceased gridiron football players, 99% of tested brains of NFL players, 88% of Canadian Football League (CFL) players, 64% of semi-professional players, 91% of college various stages of CTE. However, this study had several limitations, including possible selection bias as families of players with symptoms of CTE are far more likely to donate brains to research than those without showed that CTE is far more common than once believed.^[1]

Other common injuries include injuries of legs, arms, and lower back.^{[2][3][4][5]}

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- 1 Players affected
- 2 Former players with CTE confirmed post-mortem
- 3 Deceased players suspected of having had CTE
- 4 Living former players diagnosed with CTE or ALS or reporting symptoms consistent with CTE or ALS
- 5 Former players listed as plaintiffs in lawsuits against the NFL for concussion-related injuries received after playing
- 6 See also
- 7 References

64 players

- Former players with CTE confirmed post-mortem

5 players

- Deceased players suspected of having had CTE

38 players

- Living former players diagnosed with CTE or ALS (consistent symptoms)

2,000+ players

- Former players listed as plaintiffs in lawsuits against the NFL for concussion related injuries

Data Source #3 News Articles

```
# Schema query
sqlquery = text(
    """
SELECT
    table_name,
    column_name,
    data_type
FROM
    information_schema.columns
WHERE
    table_name = 'usnewspaper';
    """
)

result = conn.execute(sqlquery)

data = [i for i in result]
data
```

```
[('usnewspaper', 'news', 'text'),
 ('usnewspaper', 'id', 'integer'),
 ('usnewspaper', 'collectiondate', 'date'),
 ('usnewspaper', 'title', 'character varying'),
 ('usnewspaper', 'url', 'character varying'),
 ('usnewspaper', 'publishdate', 'date'),
 ('usnewspaper', 'author', 'ARRAY'),
 ('usnewspaper', 'keywords', 'ARRAY'),
 ('usnewspaper', 'src', 'character varying'),
 ('usnewspaper', 'language', 'character varying'),
 ('usnewspaper', 'newsindex', 'tsvector')]
```



Data Source #3 News Articles

```
sql_query = text(
    """SELECT DISTINCT title, news, keywords
    FROM usnewspaper
    WHERE ARRAY['cte','lawsuit']::text[] <@ keywords and news is not null
UNION
SELECT DISTINCT title, news, keywords
    FROM usnewspaper
    WHERE ARRAY['nfl', 'helmet']::text[] <@ keywords and news is not null
UNION
SELECT DISTINCT title, news, keywords
    FROM usnewspaper
    WHERE ARRAY['nfl', 'brain']::text[] <@ keywords and news is not null
UNION
SELECT DISTINCT title, news, keywords
    FROM usnewspaper
    WHERE ARRAY['encephalopathy']::text[] <@ keywords AND news is not null;""")
)
result = conn.execute(sql_query)

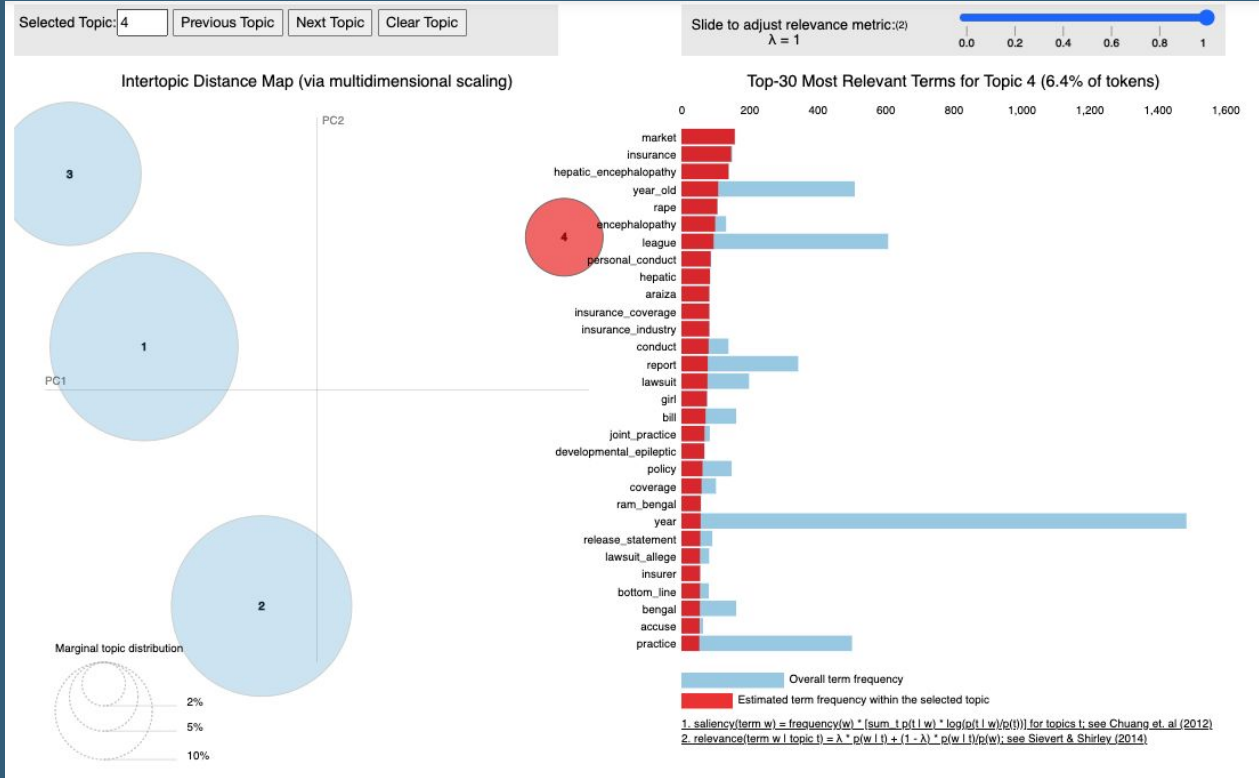
data = [i for i in result]
df = pd.DataFrame(data, columns=["title", "news", "keywords"])
pd.set_option('display.max_colwidth', 65)
df
```

Keywords:

- cte, lawsuit
- nfl, helmet
- nfl, brain
- encephalopathy

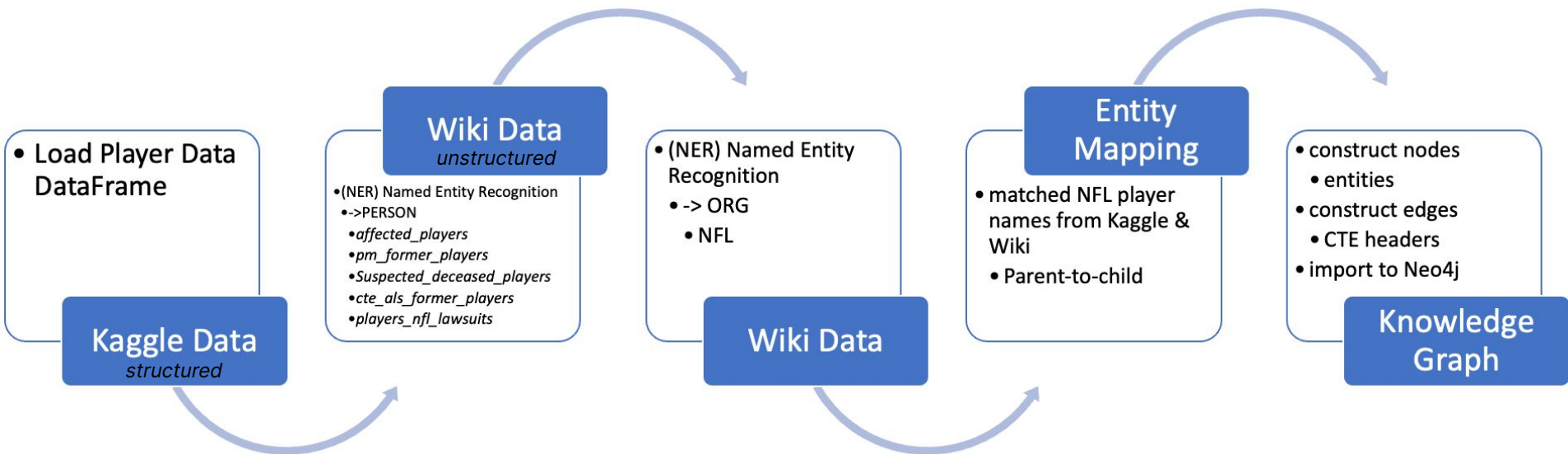
	title	news	keywords
0	2021 NFL Uniform Update & Reviews	2021 NFL Uniform Updates & Reviews\n\nThe 2020 NFL season had...	[im, uniforms, love, reviews, helmet, team, white, nfl, updat...
1	3 next-gen helmet designs that could curb concussions in the...	In 2019, the NFL launched a design competition for safer helm...	[launched, technologies, companies, concussions, designs, saf...
2	Aaron Donald downplays swinging helmet at Bengals players: `...	Associated Press\n\nAaron Donald downplayed swinging a helmet...	[bengals, swinging, rams, nfl, using, work, practice, thats, ...
3	Aaron Donald swings Bengals player's helmet in brawl as Rams...	USA TODAY Network\n\nThe Cincinnati Bengals and Los Angeles R...	[preseason, donald, early, nfl, bengals, ends, helmet, swings...
4	Aaron Hernandez had 'horrendous existence' due to CTE, lawye...	Aaron Hernandez had a "horrendous existence" because he suffe...	[aaron, hernandez, lawyers, existence, universitys, brain, nf...

Data Source #3 News Articles





Data Integration Strategy Source #1 & #2





Data Integration Strategy Source #1 & #2

Process Organizations from Wiki Page

```
# Remove stop words
def RemoveStopWords(text):
    stop_words = set(stopwords.words('english'))
    word_tokens = word_tokenize(text)
    filtered_sentence = [w for w in word_tokens if not w.lower() in stop_words]
    filtered_sentence = []
    for w in word_tokens:
        if w not in stop_words:
            filtered_sentence.append(w)
    return ' '.join(filtered_sentence)

# Remove numbers
def RemoveNumbers(text):
    return re.sub(r'\d+', '', text)

# Remove Punctuations
def RemovePunctuations(text):
    # return re.sub(rf"[{string.punctuation}]", "", text)
    return re.sub(r'[^\w\s]', '', text)

# Normalize text
def NormalizeText(text):
    result = text
    # result = RemoveNumbers(result) # Remove any numbers
    result = RemovePunctuations(result) # Remove any punctuations
    result = RemoveStopWords(result) # Remove stop words
    return result
```

Construct Neo4j Node CSV File

```
def processNodes(data, node_file):
    nodes = {}
    counter = 1
    node_header = [":ID", "Name", "PlayerID", "Age", "Birthday", "Status", "College", ":LABEL"]

    # Set start time to calculate compute time
    start_time = time.time()

    # Construct node map:
    for index, row in data.iterrows():
        parent_node_id = row.parent
        child_node_id = row['table_Player Id']

        if parent_node_id is None or child_node_id is None:
            continue;

        # Check if parent node already mapped, otherwise add
        if not bool([i for i in nodes if nodes[i][0] == parent_node_id]):
            nodes[counter] = [parent_node_id, parent_node_id, '', '', '', parent_node_id]
            counter += 1

        # Check if child node already mapped, otherwise add
        if not bool([i for i in nodes if nodes[i][0] == child_node_id]):
            nodes[counter] = [row['table_Clean_Name'] if child_node_id != 'NFL' else '',
                             child_node_id if child_node_id != 'NFL' else '',
                             row['table_Age'] if (child_node_id != 'NFL' and row['table_Age'] == row['table_Age']) else '',
                             row['table_Birthday'] if (child_node_id != 'NFL' and row['table_Birthday'] == row['table_Birthday']) else '',
                             row['table_Current_Status'] if child_node_id != 'NFL' else '',
                             row['table_College'] if child_node_id != 'NFL' else '',
                             row['table_Clean_Name'] if child_node_id != 'NFL' else ''
                             ]
            counter += 1

    # write nodes CSV file
    with open(node_file, 'w', newline='') as f:
        writer = csv.writer(f)
        writer.writerow(node_header)
        for node in nodes:
            if (nodes[node][0] == 'NFL'):
                writer.writerow([node, nodes[node][0], nodes[node][0], '', '', '', nodes[node][6]])
            else:
                writer.writerow([node, nodes[node][0], nodes[node][1], nodes[node][2], nodes[node][3], nodes[node][4], nodes[node][5], nodes[node][6]])

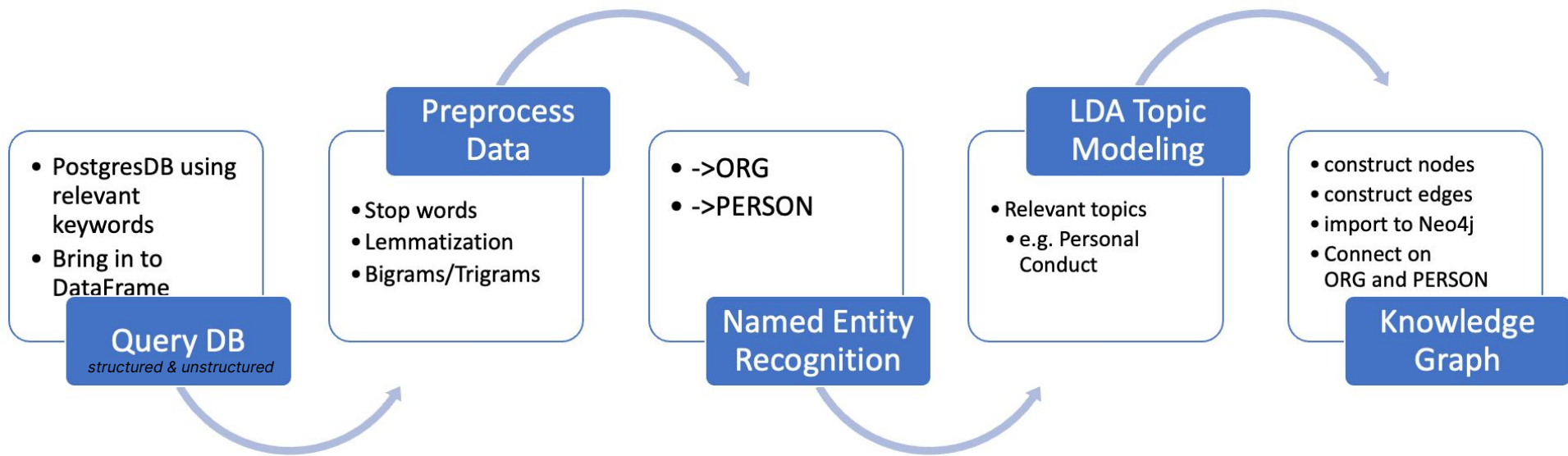
    # compute execution time
    exec_time = time.time() - start_time

    return nodes, exec_time
```



Data Integration Strategy

Source #3







Relationship Types/Property Keys

Relationship types

*(783)

MENTIONED_IN

affected_players

cte_als_former_players

players_nfl_lawsuits

pm_former_players

suspected_deceased_players

Age

Birthday

College

Name

PlayerID

Publish Date

Source

Status

Title

URL

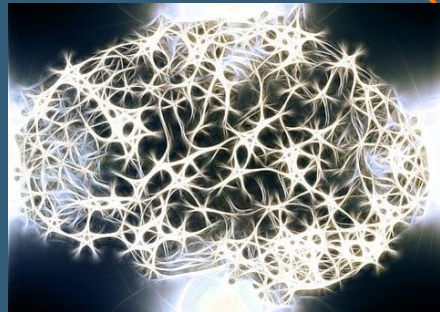
newsId

playerId





Data Challenges We Encountered



- News articles, for example, could mention a player related to the subject, such as bad conduct incidents, but could also mention players or team mates that were not involved in these incidents. So using this data with entity matching could produce inaccurate results for certain players.
- Another challenge we faced was performance for certain code that seem to run for longer than 10 minutes. We were able to reduce some of processing time creating the Stanza documents by using the following method:

```
# When there are many texts, creating all of the stanza docs at once is faster  
docs_in = [stanza.Document([], text=str(d)) for d in players_lawsuits_nfl_ls]  
docs_out = nlp(docs_in)
```



Query Demo

LIVE



References/Related Links



Source #1 Kaggle	https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/kendallgillies/nflstatistics
Source #2 Wikipedia	https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_NFL_players_with_chronic_traumatic_encephalopathy
Source #3 US News Articles	Postgres DB - <i>UCSD's AWESOME Database - US Newspaper Articles</i> with relevant queries

For more info:
<https://github.com/mona-jandro-camm/dse203>

Examples Graphs



134K

New customers for
next year 2023



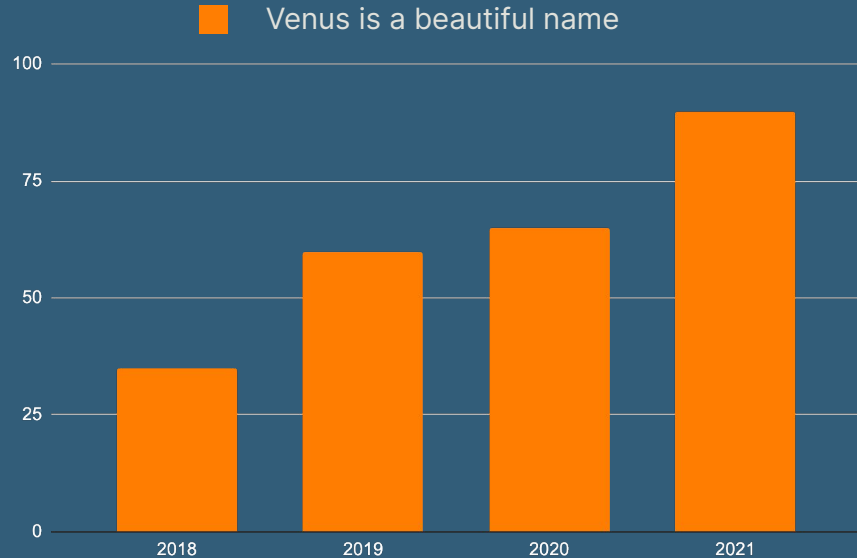
236K

More sales for next
year 2023



150K

Market increase per
month for next year



Follow the link in the graph to modify its data and then paste the new one here. **For more info, click here**