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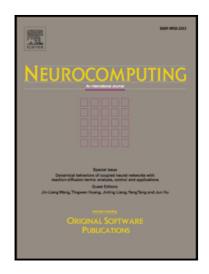
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# Discriminant document embeddings with an extreme learning machine for classifying clinical narratives

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#### Abstract

The unstructured nature of clinical narratives makes them complex for automatically extracting information. Feature learning is an important precursor to document classification, a sub-discipline of natural language processing (NLP). In NLP, word and document embeddings are an effective approach for generating word and document representations (vectors) in a low-dimensional space. This paper uses skip-gram and paragraph vectors-distributed bag of words (PV-DBOW) with multiple discriminant analysis (MDA) to arrive at discriminant document embeddings. A kernel-based extreme learning machine (ELM) is used to map the clinical texts to the medical code. Experimental results on clinical texts indicate overall improvement especially for the minority classes.

Keywords: Document classification, Feature learning, Word embeddings, Document embeddings, Skip-gram, PV-DBOW, Multiple discriminant analysis, Extreme learning machines, Clinical narratives

# 1. Introduction

Clinical narratives contain the clinical encounter as observed by the healthcare professional with a patient. The data from clinical narratives enable qual-

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ity assessment programs [1], improve patient safety [2], support evidence-based medicine [3], improve surveillance of infectious diseases [4], support clinical trials [5], and assist with various other clinical research programs [6]. The unstructured nature of clinical narratives allow clinicians ease of input, but their inherent lack of structure makes it difficult to automatically extract knowledge [7].

Document classification is a sub-discipline of natural language processing (NLP) that pertains to a process for assigning one or more labels from an existing set of labels. A problem in document classification relates to the classification of unstructured text from the document [8]. For instance, in sentiment analysis the objective is to assign a label to denote the sentiment of the text as being being positive or negative [9]. Some other applications of document classification include language identification [10] and genre classification [11]. Identifying relevant features is an important precursor to accurate classification. In addition, a system that can automatically identify features from text is preferred over the cumbersome task of manually selecting the features.

Feature generation using the traditional bag-of-words (BoW) model [12] generates features from a document based on word frequencies. The BoW model has been successfully applied to various applications in the medical domain with automating medical image annotation [13], biomedical concept extraction [14], and recommender systems for medical events [15]. Another traditional approach is based on n-gram frequency statistics [16], for automatically rendering features. An n-gram is a sequence of n items from text, when n=3 (a trigram) the consecutive three words are considered a feature. The sequential aspect of n-grams permits the preservation of word order unlike the BoW model [12]. The n-gram approach has been successful in medical applications for identifying features in categorizing radiology reports [17], identifying novel synonyms or symptoms associated with a medical drug [18], and sentence sub-graph mining from pathology reports [19]. Latent semantic analysis (LSA) [20] is a feature extraction method that generates features by applying truncated singular value decomposition (SVD) [21] to a word co-occurrence matrix. In the medical do-

main, LSA has been successful in automating analysis of speech in psychiatric disorders [22], finding thematic correlations of patients with severe depression [23], and automatic grading of clinical case summaries [24]. Latent dirichlet allocation (LDA) [25] is a generative model that assigns topics to documents, rendering topic distributions over words with use in feature generation for document classification. A few medical applications using LDA include mining cancer clinical notes [26] and searching as well as creating clinical trials [27].

A word embedding is a learned distributed representation of a word, consisting of a vector of continuous real values that represent the word. The essential idea is that words that are used in similar contexts will be represented by similar vectors. Word embeddings generated from a neural network jointly represents the probability of word sequences from natural text, also known as a neural network language model (NNLM) [28, 29, 30]. Continuous skip-gram [31] is a type of NNLM that performs unsupervised feature learning, with the implementation known as Word2Vec<sup>1</sup>. Word2Vec is a feedforward neural network that uses the words from a vocabulary as the input into the network and embeds them as vectors that are projected into a lower dimensional space. Skip-gram has been used to find the semantic similarity between medical concepts directly from electronic health records, as an alternative to Systematized Nomenclature of Medicine-Clinical Terms (SNOMED-CT) [32]. SNOMED-CT is a vocabulary of clinical terms that organizes medical concepts into hierarchies and semantic networks. The skip-gram architecture has been extended to find similarities at the sentence, paragraph and document level with paragraph vectors, which learns a fixed-length feature representations from the variable-length of documents [33]. Paragraph vectors have two methods; paragraph vectors-distributed memory (PV-DM) and paragraph vectors-distributed bag of words (PV-DBOW). PV-DM creates paragraph embeddings simultaneously with word embeddings and PV-DBOW renders just paragraph embeddings [33]. Paragraph vectors that are used for creating feature-length representations of entire documents have been

<sup>1</sup>https://code.google.com/archive/p/word2vec

referred to as *document embeddings* [34, 35] in the research literature. Since this research uses paragraph vectors at the document level, the term document embeddings will be adopted as well for consistency.

Dimensionality reduction enables machine learning algorithms to be more effective and efficient by the removal of irrelevant features with subsequent noise reduction [36]. Feature reduction is particularly important when the number of features p are greater than the number of observations n. Commonly referred to as the high-dimensional problem of  $p_{>>}n$ , inevitably leads to overfitting of a model [37]. The general rule of thumb is to have at least five or ten times as many samples as variables [38]. An approach to reduce the dimensionality is the combination of features by projecting the data into a low-dimensional subspace that captures the essential data [39]. (PCA) [36] and linear discriminant analysis [40] are two popular approaches that are used to reduce the dimensionality of the feature space [40]. Multiple discriminant analysis (MDA) is the generalization of linear discriminant analysis<sup>2</sup>. The main distinction between these two approaches, PCA maximizes variance in the data and MDA maximizes the separation between multiple classes.

Machine learning methods such as neural networks can be applied to document classification tasks. A type of neural network called an extreme learning machine (ELM) [41] is well-known for its efficiency and accuracy in classification, as well as in regression, feature learning and clustering tasks [42]. The efficiency of ELM can be attributed to the random non-updated weights connecting the input to the hidden neurons and a singular learning of the weights from the hidden neurons to the output, with the latter resulting in a linear model. The simplicity of ELM is in stark contrast to the common training method of neural networks that uses back-propagation along with an optimization method such as gradient descent to achieve the optimum weights. In this research ELM has been used for the classification of clinical narratives. In Section 5, our future

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>LDA already denotes latent dirichlet allocation so the term MDA will be used instead. Also, MDA is more applicable due to the multi-class dataset that was used in this research.

work will discuss some ideas for using ELM for feature learning in deriving word embeddings.

The organization of this paper is as follows: Section 2 describes the related work and background for this research. Section 3 describes the proposed approach along with the experiments that were conducted. Section 4 reports on the results along with evaluation, Section 5 provides a discussion and describes future work, and Section 6 is the conclusion.

# 2. Related work and background

This section describes the related work and background for understanding the primary methods used in this paper which include the skip-gram model, PV-DBOW model, MDA, and kernel-based ELM.

#### 2.1. Related work

Pre-trained word embeddings incorporating domain expertise were generated from skip-gram using millions of PubMed article titles as well as abstracts and the word similarities were averaged for a disease predictive model [43]. The authors predict the onset of five adverse outcomes related to cardiovascular disease, which are stroke, heart failure, heart attack, diabetes and high blood cholesterol from an insurance research database. The prediction task used a regularized logistic regression model.

Feature generation using the PV-DM model and ELM for classification was done in a text classification task [44]. As mentioned in Section 1, PV-DM is a feedforward neural network that generates a feature vector for the document and for each word from the vocabulary. The dataset used in their study entailed 25,000 bibliography records with five equally balanced classes. The best results were achieved using a sigmoid activation function in the ELM hidden layer. A sigmoid function is one of several mapping functions used in ELM [42]

Random projection is a dimensionality reduction method that projects a set of points from a high-dimensional space to a randomly chosen low-dimensional

subspace while preserving the pairwise distances [45]. A random projection-extreme learning machine (RP-ELM) combines the feature mapping of ELM with random projection [46]. RP-ELM compared to ELM without random projection had been done using two binary classification gene datasets for colon cancer and leukemia [46].

Addressing the potential of overfitting, a text categorization method based on regularization with ELM referred to as RELM was proposed [47]. The datasets used in the study consisted of single-label and multi-label data. Multi-label data is when more than two class labels are assigned to a document. The RELM approach performed well on single-label and multi-label data. LSA was used for representing the features from the text. The experiments were performed using a radial basis function for the activation function in the ELM hidden layer.

This paper proposes a semi-supervised approach that applies MDA separately to skip-gram and PV-DBOW for document embeddings. The feature sets generated from these two approaches are then combined to arrive at what will be referred to as discriminant document embeddings. This research combines methods that are typically used separately as mentioned previously in this section with [44] using skip-gram and [43] utilizing PV-DM. A kernel-based ELM is used for the classification of the combined reduced feature set. A comparative study is also done with the other methods; BoW, N-gram, LSA and LDA. This is a semi-supervised document classification task that uses a highly imbalanced clinical corpus pertaining to hip replacement surgery data. No medical domain expertise had been used in this study. The results achieved show that the proposed combined method of discriminant document embeddings provides an improvement, especially with regard to the minority classes from the dataset.

# 2.2. Skip-gram model

As mentioned in Section 1, the skip-gram model is an unsupervised feature learning algorithm. Skip-gram predicts the neighboring words also known as

the word's context, from each word in a sentence. Given the training words  $w_1, w_2, ..., w_N$ , where N refers to the total word count, the following objective function is maximized:

$$P = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^{N} \left( \sum_{-c \le j \le c, j \ne 0} \log p(w_{n+j}|w_n) \right)$$

$$\tag{1}$$

The outer summation represents the words from the training corpus. The inner summation spans the the left context -c and the right context c, computing the log probability of predicting the word context  $w_{n+j}$ , given the input word  $w_n$ . The basic skip-gram equation defines  $p(w_{n+j}|w_n)$  with the softmax function resulting in outputs that sum to one. This probability distribution is defined as:

$$p(w_{n+j}|w_n) = \frac{\exp{(u_{w_{n+j}}^T v_{w_n})}}{\sum_{v=1}^V \exp{(u_v^\top v_{w_n})}} \tag{2}$$
 The vocabulary is denoted as  $V$ , the input  $u_w$  and output  $v_w$  are vector repre-

The vocabulary is denoted as V, the input  $u_w$  and output  $v_w$  are vector representations of word w. The input vector consists of several words that are added together to predict the context word. A normalized hierarchical softmax objective function makes the skip-gram model more efficient [48, 49]. The efficiency is made possible by approximating the probability distribution in Equation (2) using a huffman binary tree [50] that is used for the output layer. The leaves of the huffman tree represent the words and each child node contains the relative probabilities. An improvement in training time is due to a reduction in computational complexity for  $\log p(w_{n+j}|w_n)$  [51]. Stochastic gradient descent [52] is the optimization method used in the skip-gram model. Initially the weights of the network are randomized, after each target word prediction task the error is back-propagated through the network. Training completes with a word vector for every word in the vocabulary capturing the distributional representation of the words, the word vectors are the word embeddings.

#### 2.3. PV-DBOW model

The PV-DBOW model for generating document vectors is similar to the skip-gram model described in Section 2.2 for generating word vectors. The

distinction from skip-gram is that PV-DBOW uses a unique token to identify the document, which is the input for generating the document vectors [33]. Equations (1) and (2) for the skip-gram model also apply to the PV-DBOW model with a slight caveat. Specifically,  $w_n$  is now replaced with a document vector  $d_n$  in  $p(w_{n+j}|d_n)$ . The PV-DBOW model predicts words that have been randomly sampled from the paragraph in the output, making  $p(w_{n+j})$  still valid. The PV-DBOW model is also trained using stochastic gradient descent [33].

# 2.4. Multiple discriminant analysis (MDA)

Maximizing between-class distances while simultaneously minimizing within-class distances is how MDA achieves class discrimination. The two matrices of interest are the between-class scatter matrix  $\mathbf{S}_b$  and the within-class scatter matrix  $\mathbf{S}_w$ . Suppose there are c classes, let  $M_j$  be the total number of samples in class j, where j=1,2,...,c. The total number of samples is  $M=M_1+M_2+...+M_c$ . For each class j, let the sample mean be noted  $\bar{x}_j$  and the sample mean for the entire dataset  $\bar{x}$ . Let  $x_{jk}$  be the  $k^{th}$  pattern from class  $c_j$ , so:

$$\bar{x}_j = \frac{1}{M_j} \sum_{k=1}^{M_j} x_{jk}$$
 (3)

$$\bar{x} = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{j=1}^{c} M_j \bar{x}_j = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{j=1}^{c} \sum_{k=1}^{M_j} x_{jk}$$
(4)

The between-class  $\mathbf{S}_b$  and within-class  $\mathbf{S}_w$  matrices are given by:

$$\mathbf{S}_{b} = \sum_{j=1}^{c} M_{j} (\bar{x}_{j} - \bar{x}) (\bar{x}_{j} - \bar{x})^{\top}$$
(5)

$$\mathbf{S}_w = \sum_{j=1}^c \sum_{k=1}^{M_j} (\bar{x}_{jk} - \bar{x}_j)(\bar{x}_{jk} - \bar{x})^\top$$
 (6)

The objective of MDA is to find the projection matrix that maximizes  $|\mathbf{S}_b|/|\mathbf{S}_w|$ . This ratio is known as Fisher's criterion [40] given by:

$$\mathbf{W} = \arg\max_{\mathbf{W}} \frac{|\mathbf{W}^T \mathbf{S}_b \mathbf{W}|}{|\mathbf{W}^T \mathbf{S}_w \mathbf{W}|}$$
(7)

Equation (7) is maximized when the projection matrix **W** is composed of the eigenvectors  $\mathbf{S}_w^{-1}\mathbf{S}_b$ :

$$\mathbf{W} = eig(\mathbf{S}_w^{-1}\mathbf{S}_b) \tag{8}$$

There will be at most (c-1) nonzero eigenvectors and eigenvalues [53]

# 2.5. Extreme learning machines (ELM)

ELM is a two layer feedforward neural network where the hidden layer weights are set randomly and the output layer weights are computed from the training data [41, 54]. Consider a dataset containing N training examples  $[(\mathbf{x}_i, y_i)]_{i=1}^N$  where  $\mathbf{x}_i \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is the input and  $y_i \in \mathbb{R}$  is the desired output. Let  $\ell$  define the number of hidden neurons and g(.) represents the activation function:

$$y_j = \sum_{i=1}^{\ell} \beta_i g(\mathbf{w}_i \cdot \mathbf{x}_j + b_i), \quad j = 1, 2, ..., N$$
 (9)

Here, the weight vector  $\mathbf{w}_i = [w_{i1}, w_{i2}, ..., w_{in}]^T$  connects the  $i^{th}$  hidden neuron and the input neurons,  $b_i$  is the bias of the  $i^{th}$  hidden neuron, and  $\beta_i$  is the weight that connects the  $i^{th}$  hidden neuron with the output neuron. In matrix form:

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{H}\beta,\tag{10}$$

where,

$$\mathbf{y} = [y_1, y_2, ..., y_N]^T \tag{11}$$

$$\mathbf{H} = \begin{bmatrix} g(w_1 x_1 + b_1) & \dots & g(w_{\ell} x_1 + b_{\ell}) \\ \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ g(w_1 x_N + b_1) & \dots & g(w_{\ell} x_N + b_{\ell}) \end{bmatrix}_{N \times \ell}$$
 (12)

$$\beta = [\beta_1, \beta_2, ..., \beta_\ell]^T \tag{13}$$

Typically, **H** will be a nonsquare matrix so there may not exist  $\mathbf{w}_i, b_i, \beta_i$ , where i = 1, 2, ..., N such that  $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{H}\beta$ . The least-square solution of this linear system is:

$$\hat{\beta} = \mathbf{H}^{\dagger} \mathbf{y} \tag{14}$$

where  $\mathbf{H}^{\dagger}$  is the Moore-Penrose generalized inverse of matrix  $\mathbf{H}$  [42].

#### 2.5.1. Kernel ELM

To improve ELM's generalization performance, a kernel-based ELM was proposed [55, 42]. The ELM kernel matrix has two forms:  $\mathbf{H}^T\mathbf{H}$  and  $\mathbf{H}\mathbf{H}^T$ . The reduced feature space provided by MDA in Section 2.4 results in training patterns being significantly larger than the hidden neurons so Equation (15) is applicable as [42]:

$$\beta = (\mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{H} + \frac{I}{\lambda})^{-1} \mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{y}$$
 (15)

where I is the identity matrix and  $\lambda$  is a regularization coefficient. The output function for the ELM classifier is expressed as [55]:

$$f(x) = h(x)\beta = h(x)(\mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{H} + \frac{I}{\lambda})^{-1} \mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{y}$$
(16)

If the feature mapping function h(x) is unknown then a kernel function  $K(x_i, x_j)$  can be used as shown in [55]. The kernel matrix is defined as [55]:

$$\Omega_{ELM} = \mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{H} : \Omega_{ELM_{i,j}} = h(x_i).h(x_j) = K(x_i, x_j)$$
(17)

The output function of the ELM classifier can be compactly expressed as [55]:

$$f(x) = h(x)(\mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{H} + \frac{I}{\lambda})^{-1} \mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{y}$$
(18)

$$f(x) = egin{bmatrix} K(x, x_1) \\ \vdots \\ K(x, x_N) \end{bmatrix}^T (rac{I}{\lambda} + \Omega_{ELM})^{-1} \mathbf{y}$$

Various activation functions are used with kernel-based ELM. For this research, the radial basis function (RBF) kernel was utilized, also known as a Gaussian kernel [42, 56].

# 3. Methodology and experiments

This section describes the data, preprocessing of the data, the proposed approach, and the experiments that were conducted for this research.

# 3.1. Describe data

The dataset utilized in this research study is highly imbalanced as illustrated in Figure 1. The highest class C1 has a total count of 2,252 clinical narratives with the lowest class C5 having 62 clinical narratives.

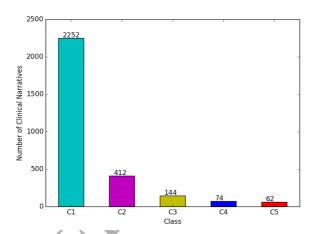


Figure 1: The total counts of narratives per class.

The class skewness illustrated in Figure 1 also extends to the narrative character length with the imbalance illustrated in Table 1.

Table 1: The character length for the clinical narratives.

Mininum	Average	Maximum	
169	4,730	22,234	

The data used in this study consists of clinical narratives that pertain to hip replacement surgery, also known as arthroplasty. The total number of clinical narratives used for this research study were 2,944. Each clinical narrative had

one associated label out of five possible labels pertaining to the current procedural terminology (CPT) codes. The CPT codes are used to document the procedure that had been done. The CPT codes have similarity to the International Classification of Diseases, Tenth Revision, Clinical Modification (ICD-10-CM)<sup>3</sup> which documents the care process. Table 2 contains a description of the five CPT codes from the hip replacement surgery data used in this study.

Table 2: The description of classes for hip replacement surgery.

Class	CPT code	Description
C1	27130	acetabular proximal & femoral prosthetic replacement
C2	27132	conversion of previous hip surgery
C3	27134	revision of cetabular & femoral components
C4	27137	revision of cetabular component
C5	27138	revision of femoral component

Figure 2 provides an illustration of the process flow for the following Sections 3.2-3.9. Each process in Figure 2 corresponds to its respective sub-section in this section. Also, illustrated in Figure 2 are the output feature vectors of each process that are the input to the next process.

# 3.2. Preprocess data

In NLP, preprocessing text usually involves stemming as well as stopword removal. With the contextual aspect of the skip-gram and PV-DBOW models, these prepocessing steps are unnecessary. Generating the distributed word representation or document representation in the form of word or document embeddings, relies on the actual words and their placement in the training corpus.

Multi-words are usually regarded as a single term in linguistic processing, especially with medical corpora where multi-word terms are plenteous. For example, the medical term *glucose metabolism disorders* denotes the multi-word

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>http://www.cdc.gov/nchs/icd/icd10cm.htm

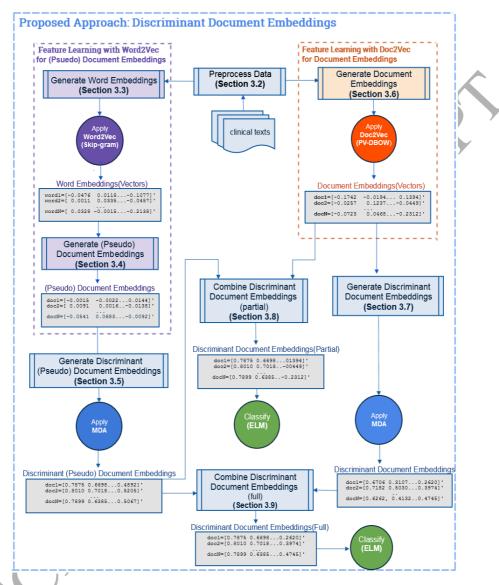


Figure 2: Illustration of Sections 3.2-3.9 for the proposed approach.

term: glucose\_metabolism\_disorders in the vocabulary [57]. In this research, no preprocessing was done to holistically represent multi-words as one term. The formation of multi-word terms are likely to be redundant because of the context-focus aspect of a neural network language model.

Preprocessing entailed the removal of non-letters from the corpus and the conversion of upper case words to lower case. Each narrative was also split into lists of sentences consisting of tokenized words. The construction of the sentence list was identified by each period in the narrative. The training corpus consisted of 126,585 sentences and significant variation was also noted in each sentence as illustrated in Table 3.

Table 3: The sentence word length for the clinical narratives

Mininum	Average	Maximum	
1	13	137	(

Training and testing datasets were rendered from the corpus with a respective 75% and 25% split, utilizing the stratified holdout [58] method. Stratification with the holdout approach on the training and testing datasets is done to ensure that training and testing have a balanced distribution of classes.

# 3.3. Generate word embeddings

This research used the Gensim<sup>4</sup> Python library for training the skip-gram model in rendering the word embeddings. The primary parameters are feature dimension size, word count minimum, and window size.

The size of the word vector is determined by the feature dimension parameter. The contextual information in word embeddings captures semantic and syntactic word properties with the feature dimension size being a critical parameter. In the research literature, the feature dimension size is typically in the 300 to 1000 range and appears to be on corpora that have relatively equal classes. In general, finding the ideal feature dimension size for a particular dataset is done experimentally. For the medical corpus utilized in this research study, a low feature dimension size only achieved good classification accuracy on the majority class. It appears that a lower dimension for the word vectors did not identify

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>https://radimrehurek.com/gensim/models/word2vec.html

the subtle distinctions that differentiated the minority class records from the majority class records. During experimentation, the feature dimensions were 500, 1000, 1500, 2000, and 2500.

The word count minimum parameter is the threshold for adding words to the vocabulary. For this study, the minimum word counts were 15, 30, and 40. The window size is the number of words to the left and right of the vocabulary word in each narrative. This parameter is instrumental for determining the number of surrounding words to take into consideration, this is the context for the word. During experimentation, the window sizes were 5, 10, and 15.

The final parameters were a feature dimension size of 2000, context window size of 10 and word count minimum of 30 were used in rendering the word embeddings. The best results were achieved using these aforementioned values from preliminary experiments. The hierarchical softmax approach was also used with the skip-gram model. This section corresponds to Section 3.3 in Figure 2.

# 3.4. Generate (psuedo) document embeddings

The word embeddings generated from Section 3.3 can be easily used for determining semantic similarity as stated in Section 1, but can not be directly applied to document classification due to the inherent variability in the documents. Using a simple pooling method based on averaging the word vectors to represent the document has done well in document classification [59]. We refer to the approach for averaging word vectors to represent the document as (pseudo) document embeddings, since it's descriptive as well as succinct. To arrive at the pseudo document embeddings for the clinical narratives, the word vectors (generated from the skip-gram model) associated with the vocabulary words matching the words in the clinical narrative were averaged. That is, the vocabulary words matching words from each clinical narrative were added together then divided by the total words from the matching clinical narrative words in the vocabulary. A total of 2,208 (pseudo) document embeddings were used for the training set and 736 utilized for the testing set. This section corresponds to Section 3.4 in Figure 2.

# 3.5. Generate discriminant (psuedo) document embeddings

The output matrix from Section 3.4 consists of 2,000 features with 2,208 training patterns which is far from the rule of thumb of having at least five times as many training records in comparison to features [38]. PCA and MDA are two popular methods for dimensionality reduction. From our previous work it was discovered that using discriminants over principal components performed better using the same dataset in this study [60]. As mentioned in Section 1 and expanded on in Section 2, MDA is a supervised method for dimensionality reduction. The nonsingularity of the matrix rendered from this clinical corpus in Section 3.4 required a pseudoinverse and the Moore-Penrose pseudoinverse [61] was used before Equation (8) could be computed from Section 2.4. A reduced feature space consisting of four features was achieved after the application of MDA to the embeddings. As stated in Section 2.4, MDA results in c-1 feature projections. The embeddings resulted in a matrix of p by n or 2000 by 2208 with p being the number of features and n being the training instances. Similarly for the test set but with a p by n matrix of 2000 by 736. Applying MDA results in a 4 by 2208 matrix for training and a 4 by 736 matrix for testing. This section corresponds to Section 3.5 in Figure 2.

# 3.6. Generate document embeddings

This study used the Gensim<sup>5</sup> Python library for training the PV-DBOW model in generating the document embeddings. In Section 3.4, averaging the word vectors to arrive at a fixed representation size for each document was due to the variability of the documents. PV-DBOW resolves this problem by generating document vectors directly, which can be used easily for document classification.

The primary adjustable parameters are feature dimension size, word count minimum, and window size. The description of these parameters are described in Section 3.3. The feature dimensions used during experimentation were 300,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>https://radimrehurek.com/gensim/models/doc2vec.html

500, and 1000. The window sizes were 5, 10, and 15. The word count minimum parameter is the threshold for words added to the vocabulary. The minimum word counts for experimentation were 10 and 20.

The final parameters selected for generating the document embeddings: feature dimension size of 500, context window size and word count minimum of 10. This section corresponds to Section 3.6 in Figure 2. Experimentation was also done using paragraph vectors-distributed memory (PV-DM), the other model in Doc2Vec. The PV-DM model generates word vectors along with document vectors [62]. The PV-DBOW model performed much better than the PV-DM model on the dataset that was used in this paper.

#### 3.7. Generate discriminant document embeddings

The document embeddings from Section 3.6 have a feature dimension size of 500. The application of MDA to the document embeddings resulted in a reduced feature space of four features, just as with Section 3.5. As stated in Section 2.4, MDA results in c-1 feature projections. The embeddings from 3.6 resulted in a matrix of of p by n or 500 by 2208 with p being the number of features and n being the training instances. Similarly for the test set but with a p by n matrix of 500 by 736. Applying MDA results in a 4 by 2208 matrix for training and a 4 by 736 matrix for testing. This section corresponds to Section 3.7 in Figure 2.

#### 3.8. Combine discriminant document embeddings (partial)

The document embeddings from Section 3.5 and 3.6 were concatenated to form a combined feature set with 504 feature dimensions. MDA had been applied to the (pseudo) document embeddings in Section 3.5, but not the document embeddings in Section 3.6. ELM classification was implemented on the combined feature set, the results are presented in Table 5. This section corresponds to Section 3.8 in Figure 2.

# 3.9. Combine discriminant document embeddings (full)

The document embeddings from Section 3.5 and 3.7 were concatenated to form a combined feature set with eight feature dimensions. MDA had been applied to the (pseudo) document embeddings in Section 3.5 and to the document embeddings in Section 3.7. ELM classification was implemented on the combined feature set, the results are presented in Table 5. This section corresponds to Section 3.9 in Figure 2.

#### 4. Results and evaluation

Results on the classification task are evaluated using a standard machine learning evaluation measure, the  $F_1$  score applied to each class:

$$F_1 = 2 \cdot \frac{Precision \cdot Recall}{Precision + Recall}$$
 (19)

$$Precision = \frac{True \, Positive}{True \, Positive + False \, Positive} \tag{20}$$

$$Recall = \frac{True \, Positive}{True \, Positive + False \, Negative} \tag{21}$$

# 4.1. Baseline comparison

The methods that were mentioned in Section 1 provide a baseline for comparison. These include the bag of words (BoW) model, n-gram-based text categorization [16], latent semantic analysis (LSA) [20], and latent dirichlet allocation (LDA) [25]. The results in Table 4 show the BoW model and LSA perform better overall compared to the other methods.

# 4.2. Classification with ELM

ELM results in an overall improvement in classification compared to support vector machines (SVM) and a multilayer perceptron (MLP) for the classification of discriminant (pseudo) document embeddings from Section 3.5 [63]. The ELM

Table 4: The baseline using BoW, N-gram, LSA and LDA.

	$\operatorname{BoW}$	N-gram	LSA	LDA	
Class	F1-Score	F1-Score	F1-Score	F1-Score	Test Ct.
C1	0.96	0.95	0.95	0.93	535
C2	0.51	0.18	0.44	0.04	45
C3	0.91	0.72	0.94	0.92	121
C4	0.63	0.48	0.59	0.48	19
C5	0.42	0.23	0.25	0.00	16

kernel<sup>6</sup> Matlab source code was utilized for this study. The key parameters for using the ELM kernel are the regularization coefficient and kernel parameter. For this research, a fixed regularization coefficient of 0.01 and kernel parameter values were 0.1, 1, 10, and 100. ELM classification was done on (pseudo) document embeddings from Section 3.5, document embeddings from Section 3.6, discriminant document embeddings (partial) from Section 3.8, and discriminant document embeddings (full) from Section 3.9. Classification was executed for 20 trials with the mean and standard deviation reported in Table 5.

In Table 5 for Class 2 (C2), the document embeddings (DE) from Section 3.6 used 500 features with no MDA applied has a mean  $F_1$  Score of 0.59 and the discriminant document embeddings (DDE partial) from Section 3.8 using 504 features has a mean  $F_1$  Score of 0.80. For C2, there is a 21% improvement in accuracy with DDE partial in comparison to DE. To reiterate, the feature set for discriminant document embeddings (partial) are just the four features provided by discriminant (psuedo) document embeddings in Section 3.5 combined with the document embeddings from Section 3.6.

Table 5 shows an overall improvement for both the discriminant document embeddings (partial and full) compared to the document embeddings and discriminant (pseudo) document embeddings, especially for the minority classes.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>http://www.ntu.edu.sg/home/egbhuang/elm\_kernel.html

Table 5: The comparison of ELM classification on document embeddings (DE) with no MDA applied, discriminant (pseudo) document embeddings (DPDE), discriminant document embeddings (DDE) partial and (DDE) full.

		DE (No MDA)	DPDE	DDE (partial)	DDE (full)	
		F1-Score	F1-Score	F1-Score	F1-Score	Test
С	lass	$\mu \pm \sigma$	$\mu \pm \sigma$	$\mu \pm \sigma$	$\mu\pm\sigma$	Ct.
	C1	$0.97 \pm 0.0024$	$0.97 \pm 0.003$	$0.98 \pm 0.0018$	$0.97 \pm 0.0008$	535
(	C2	$0.59 {\pm} 0.0395$	$0.77 \pm 0.041$	$0.80 {\pm} 0.0196$	$0.77 \pm 0.0116$	45
(	$\mathbb{C}3$	$0.95 {\pm} 0.0054$	$0.92 {\pm} 0.015$	$0.95 {\pm} 0.0028$	$0.95 \pm 0.0029$	121
(	C4	$0.71 {\pm} 0.0286$	$0.70 \pm 0.031$	$0.73 \pm 0.0331$	$0.77 \pm 0.0284$	19
(	C5	$0.61 {\pm} 0.0405$	$0.61 {\pm} 0.059$	$0.63 {\pm} 0.0364$	$0.68 \pm 0.0106$	16

There is also overall less variability in the mean  $F_1$  Score for the discriminant document embeddings (partial and full) as noted from the standard deviation for the 20 trials.

The results presented in Table 5 provide an overall summary but Figure 3 provides more detail into the  $F_1$  Score for each one of the 20 trials for all four methods reported in Table 5. Figure 3a-e represents each of the five classes. Figure 3a for Class 1 shows the discriminant document embeddings (full) as being more stable in terms of less variability per trial. This stability throughout the trials for the discriminant document embeddings (full) is also illustrated in Figure 3b, Figure 3c and Figure 3e. However, in Figure 3, the discriminant document embeddings varies as much as the other methods specifically for trials 4-7 and trials 16-20.

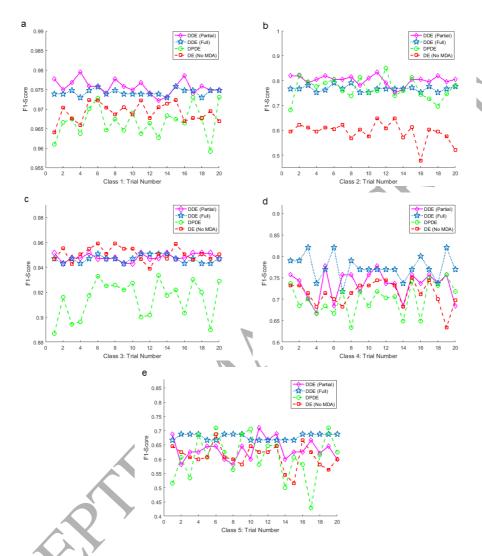


Figure 3: The  $F_1$  Score for each trial for the methods reported in Table 5 on the five classes (a) Class 1 (b) Class 2 (c) Class 3 (d) Class 4 (e) Class 5.

# 5. Discussion and future work

The proposed method uses both unsupervised learning with skip-gram and PV-DBOW and supervised learning with MDA. However, there is a limitation with MDA, which restricts that the reduced number of dimensions be less than

the number of classes in the dataset. A recent dimensionality reduction method referred to as semi-random projection (SRP) in combination with ELM has the discriminitive power of MDA without the reduced dimension space restriction [64]. In addition SRP works well with high-dimensional data which could be beneficial in the case of a larger corpus.

In this research the issue of class imbalance was not directly addressed. The slight boost with regard to the minority classes resulted indirectly from the combinational approaches of Section 3.8 and Section 3.9. Undersampling and oversampling methods are traditional approaches for addressing class imbalance. Essentially, the former method decreases the majority classes and the latter approach increases the minority classes. A recent weighted tammoto ELM (T-WELM) addresses imbalance using a weighted approach based on the tanimoto coefficient, which may work well with imbalanced text data [65]. Since the tanimoto coefficient compares binary vectors, T-WELM could work directly with the one-hot representation. A one-hot representation is where each word in a vocabulary is represented as a binary vector with the length of the vector corresponding to the size of the vocabulary. The SRP and T-WELM methods are just a few of the recent trends in computational intelligence using ELM [66, 67].

The dataset for this study also contained imbalance at the sentence, word, and character level as described in Section 3.1 and Section 3.2. It's unclear if this type of imbalance necessitated the different feature dimensions for skip-gram and PV-DBOW in the first place. The results in Section 4 for the discriminant document embeddings looks promising but further study using different datasets is warranted to provide a conclusive answer. Further study is also needed to determine if the proposed method across various datasets improves accuracy with classification on a reduced feature space. The use of both medical and non-medical datasets would be ideal. For this study, the proposed approach permitted different feature dimensions for each method and the application of MDA appeared to provide an equalizing effect. That is, the reduced feature space for both methods are equal for the discriminant document embeddings in

Section 3.9, because of the c-1 property of MDA.

This research study used ELM for its classification capability but there is also a feature learning capability using ELM that could be used for directly generating the embeddings. An ELM auto-encoder (ELM-AE) is considered a unique implementation of ELM where the input matches the output and the objective of ELM-AE is to map the input features into a compressed, sparse or equal dimensional space [68]. The compressed representation of ELM-AE would be ideal for rendering distributed representations or embeddings for text.

#### 6. Conclusion

In conclusion, this research has demonstrated that combining both skip-gram and PV-DBOW with MDA for rendering discriminant document embeddings with ELM classification provides an improvement especially for the minority classes on the dataset. Further research is needed to address the issues discussed in Section 5. These include experimentation using a variety of datasets, the inclusion of recent ELM methods that address imbalance and resolve the MDA reduced dimension space restriction. Also, considering the speed and generalization capability of ELM, exploring the feature learning aspect of ELM could expedite the generation of embeddings immensely.

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