**CAPSTONE**

**DATS 6501**

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**FINAL PROPOSAL REPORT**

**AN INTERPRETABLE MACHINE LEARNING MODEL FOR GENDER**

**PREDICTION USING SHAP AND CLASS ACTIVATION MAPS**

Machine Learning is a set of methods and techniques that computers use to learn and make predictions based on data. Its main goal is to allow computers to learn automatically and take decisions without human intervention. A Machine Learning algorithm learns a model by estimating parameters or learning structures. This is measured by a score or loss function that is usually minimized. Thus, one of the most important aspects to consider is the accuracy of the model. However, trusting the model performance could lead us to ignore why the model is making certain decisions. This means that a single metric like accuracy is not a complete description of the model. In certain cases, knowing why the model made a decision can help to understand deeper the problem, as well as the data and why a model might not perform better.

Interpretability arises from an incomplete way of evaluating a model, to understand how it came to the prediction. To facilitate learning, understand why predictions or behaviors are created by the machines, interpretability is crucial. Nowadays, Machine Learning is playing an important role in real-world tasks and explaining why a Machine Learning model made a decision could be crucial. For instance, if a model is getting biases from the training data, it could happen that your model predictions discriminate based on demographics. This problem can’t be solved by the loss function.

The main goal of this project is to understand an interpret how a machine learning model discerns gender. The importance of this research arises because gender recognition is a crucial in social interactions with intelligent applications. The scope of the project will only consider male and female. VGG-16 will be used as a pre-trained model. To interpret the model, SHAP and Class Activation Maps will be used. To have a better interpretation of the results, a web interface will be created using Plotly to visualize the results. The data that will be used for this project is the IMDB-WIKI dataset, which is currently one of the largest datasets that contains 500,000 faces of celebrities with their corresponding gender and age.

The following schedule has been planned to execute the project:

A picture containing building

Description automatically generated

**REFERENCES**

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