Medical Text Analysis

Springboard Capstone 3

Problem Statement

Use modern NLP methods to classify medical abstracts written by doctors to classify patient diagnosis

Diagnosis classes: digestive system disease, cardiovascular system disease, neoplasm, nervous system disease, general pathological disease

Compare results with modern AI chatbot

We want to answer:

- Can ML models classify complex medical text?
- What attributes are most important to model prediction?
- Can AI chatbots do as well as modern ML models trained with the data?

The Data

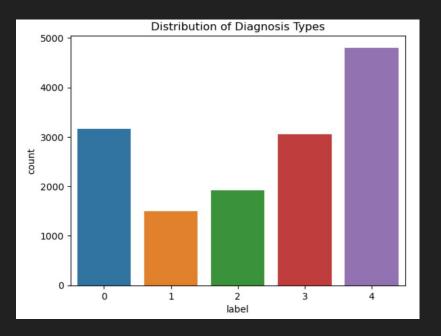
Medical Text, is publicly available on Kaggle

The train data contains text and diagnosis label for patients

The test data is not used in this project due to lack of labels

We train and test on 14438 records

The Data



0 = neoplasms

1 = digestive system disease

2 = nervous system disease

3 = cardiovascular disease

4 = general pathological diseases

Feature Engineering

I wanted to create descriptive features of the text to use during modeling

We modeled with and without the added features to test their effectiveness

- Character count
- Word count
- Capital word count
- Quotations count
- Sentence count
- Unique word count
- Stopword count
- Average word length

- Average sentence length
- Unique word ratio
- Stopword ratio
- Verb count
- Adverb count
- Adjective count
- Noun count

Text Preprocessing

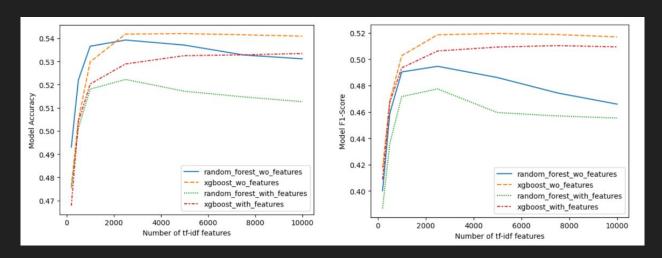
Preprocessing steps:

- Tokenize text
 - Break text up into words
- Lowercase all characters
- Remove stopwords
 - Remove common words (e.g. a, the, and, it, for, but, my, your)
- Lemmatize text
 - Group together different inflections of same word (e.g. improving, improvements, improved all stem to improve)
- TF-IDF vectorization
 - Weights the word counts by how often they appear in the text

TF-IDF Vectorizer Parameter Tuning

By default, the vectorizer creates a feature for every unique word, but with over 14000 medical abstracts, this number is too large

I parameter tested the 'max_features' parameter with baseline Random Forest and XGBoost models and selected 2500 features



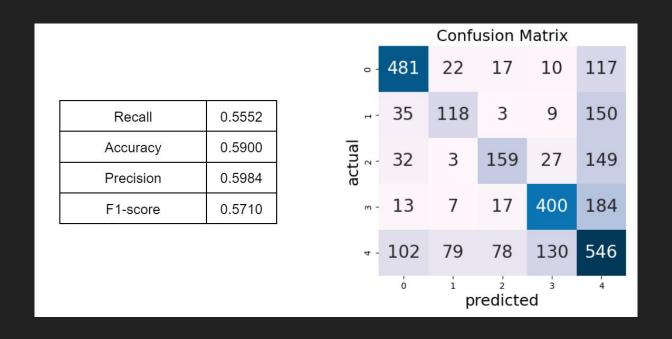
We trained and tested baseline Random Forest, XGBoost, and CatBoost classifiers with and without our added features from feature engineering

We use accuracy and F1-score as performance metrics because data is mostly balanced and these metrics will reflect misclassifications

The best model is using CatBoost with the added features

	model	accuracy	f1-score
0	Random Forest	0.48545706371191133	0.461741519605391
1	XGBoost	0.5273545706371191	0.5103137581827232
2	CatBoost	0.5841412742382271	0.5663662707245223
3	Random Forest w/ added features	0.4851108033240997	0.4588732836466347
4	XGBoost w/ added features	0.5249307479224377	0.5050477390317404
5	CatBoost w/ added features	0.590027700831025	0.5710097444424038

Full CatBoost classification results:



Given the large number of features (2515) and our lack of computing power, parameter tuning the CatBoost model was not attainable

We parameter tuned the Random Forest classifier as a proof of concept

- We were able to gain an increase of ~4% in accuracy
- Parameters: max_depth=20, min_samples_split=20, n_estimators=200

Parameter tuning the CatBoost model would be beneficial in future work

The feature importance of the added features are:

It is beneficial to use the added features and including more would be useful in future work

	feature	importance
9	unique_vs_words	0.333047
10	stopwords_vs_words	0.327831
11	noun_count	0.311376
5	unique_word_count	0.295317
1	word_count	0.291346
8	avg_sentlength	0.261559
2	capital_word_count	0.255978
7	avg_wordlength	0.207939
12	adj_count	0.176331
0	char_count	0.099779
13	verb_count	0.091357
14	adv_count	0.0813
4	sent_count	0.055086
6	stopword_count	0.020947
3	quoted_word_count	0.0014

Now, we want to compare our ML model results with OpenAl

We will test using our preprocessed data (stopwords removed, etc.), raw data, and misclassified data from the CatBoost model

We will try both curie engines and davinci engines from GPT-3 and GPT-3.5 models, respectively

The curie models are faster and about 10x cheaper to use

The prompt I use for the API request is:

Is the diagnosis a digestive system disease, cardiovascular disease, neoplasms, nervous system disease, or general pathological condition if the patient has the following conditions:

plus the medical text for the correct subset

Complete results:

Dataset	Engine	Accuracy	F1-Score
Raw Data	curie	0.2086	0.1058
(700 random samples)	davinci	0.3186	0.2759
Processed Data	curie	0.2390	0.1336
(3000 random samples)	davinci	0.2453	0.2235
Misclassified Data	curie	0.2420	0.1203
(500 random samples)	davinci	0.334	0.3176

We determined that davinci performs much better than curie engine

However, none of the results are as good as any of our ML model's results

The chatbots perform better with the raw data which includes stopwords, punctuation, etc.

The davinci engine performed its best using a sample of the misclassified data from the CatBoost model

Conclusion

We performed feature engineering, text preprocessing, and modeling with 5-class classification for complex medical text data

We compared our results with OpenAI chatbot using API requests

Found unique insights on medical diagnosis classifications and how it can fit in future medical world

Future Work

Train and test with more labeled data

Include more feature engineering of the text data

Parameter tune the CatBoost model

Test more Al Chatbots including the state-of-the-art GPT-4 and Google PaLM's medical api which will be released soon