**Capstone Project: Classifying clinically actionable genetic mutations**

**Part 3 Check-in – Progress Report (Cheong Yu Chye)**

1. Do you have data fully in hand and if not, what blockers are you facing?

Yes, I have all the data fully in hand.

1. Have you done a full EDA on all of your data?

Yes, I believe so.

1. Have you begun the modeling process? How accurate are your predictions so far?

Yes, I have begun the modelling.

Baseline accuracy (based on majority class) is 0.28696.

Baseline model:

* Based on nltk POS tokenisation, Extra Trees Classifier trained on CountVectorizer word embeddings
* Has a validation accuracy score of 0.66787.
* Has OVO (one-vs-one weighted) validation AUC score of xx.

Alternative model:

* Based on nltk POS tokenisation, Extra Trees Classifier trained on Word2Vec word embeddings using a Mean Embedding Vectorizer.
* Has a validation accuracy score of 0.64862.
* Has OVO (one-vs-one weighted) validation AUC score of 0.919691.

1. What blockers are you facing, including processing power, data acquisition, modelling difficulties, data cleaning, etc.? How can we help you overcome those challenges?

* **Too many features relative to number of samples:**
  + It is not obvious how to perform feature engineering to reduce the number of features. Correlation analysis (Notebook 1) does not give us any indication which features can be combined or removed. There is therefore a danger of overfitting.
  + I’ve tried to mitigate this by oversampling the three most infrequent classes using SMOTE, leading to an overall increase of about 8% in terms of number of samples.
* **Long execution times**.:
  + My models take a long time to fit (or causes kernel crashes) due to the many features (~77,000) – 10+ hour execution times are not uncommon. I’ve had to deliberately simplify or shorten processing by reducing the number of cross-validation folds (use default of 3), and also the number of concurrent jobs (set at n\_jobs=4 instead of n\_jobs=-1), for example.
  + I am experimenting with ELMo contextual word embeddings right now, but processing is very slow (e.g. creation of ELMo embeddings) due to limited CPU and memory on my laptop. As a workaround, I am writing intermediate results to disk. It remains to be seen whether all the contents in disk can be loaded into memory.
* **Modelling difficulties**.
  + I was hoping to explore how my model performance could improve using contextual word embeddings such as BERT and BioBERT, as they are state of the art. However I recently found out that they are limited to sentence sizes of 512 words, whereas my training data that has 500k+ words in some sentences. I do not view truncating or splitting my text into 512 word (or fewer) chunks as feasible due to the complexity involved and very high resource requirements (CPU and memory). I have given up on BERT and BioBERT and am currently focusing on alternative contextual word embeddings such as ELMo.

1. Have you changed topics since your lightning talk? Since you submitted your Problem Statement and EDA? If so, do you have the necessary data in hand (and the requisite EDA completed) to continue moving forward?

No, I’ve not changed topics since my lightning talk, or submission of problem statement and EDA.

1. What is your timeline for the next week and a half? What do you have to get done versus what would you like to get done?

For the next week and a half, I plan to:

* Finish up on my baseline model analyses and visualisations
* Complete my assessment of how ELMo word embeddings can improve the performance of my alternative model

1. What topics do you want to discuss during your 1:1?
2. Why are my individual decision trees under the Extra Trees Classifier all the same?
3. I am struggling to understand how to implement a LSTM neural network for multi-class classification.
4. I originally thought of manually increasing the weights of the word vectors by:
   1. Searching external websites (e.g. ClinVar) for related terms based on the gene and/or variant) into training dataset
   2. Increasing the weights of any such related terms that I manage to find within the given expert text

However, I currently lack the time and know-how of how to do this effectively.

1. The diagram below shows my overall workflow:
   1. Is my scope of work enough for a capstone project?
   2. Do you have any suggestions/comments on the workflow?

