



Deep Learning for Medical Event Detection in EHRs

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In proceedings of NAACL-HLT 2016, *long paper*, San Diego, USA

Objective

- Extraction of Medical Events and their attributes from Electronic Health Records and identification of their relations
- Categories of medical entities:

Medical Events

1. Indication
2. Adverse Drug Events (ADE)
3. Other Sign Symptom or Diseases(Other SSSD)
4. Medication (Drugname)

Attributes

1. Severity
2. Route
3. Dosage
4. Duration
5. Frequency

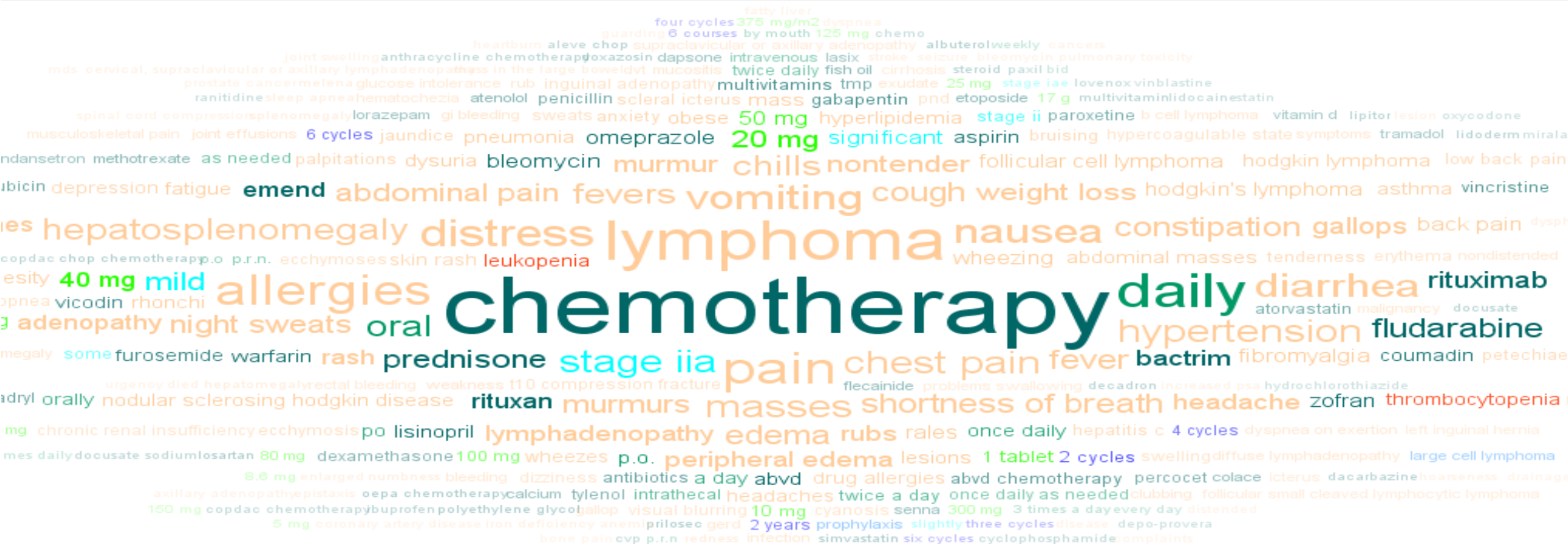
Sample Sentence from dataset

“The follow-up needle biopsy results were consistent with bronchiolitis obliterans, which was likely due to the Bleomycin component of his ABVD chemo.”

Expected Output

ADE: bronchiolitis obliterans Drugname: ABVD chemo

Annotating Cancer EHRs



Challenges

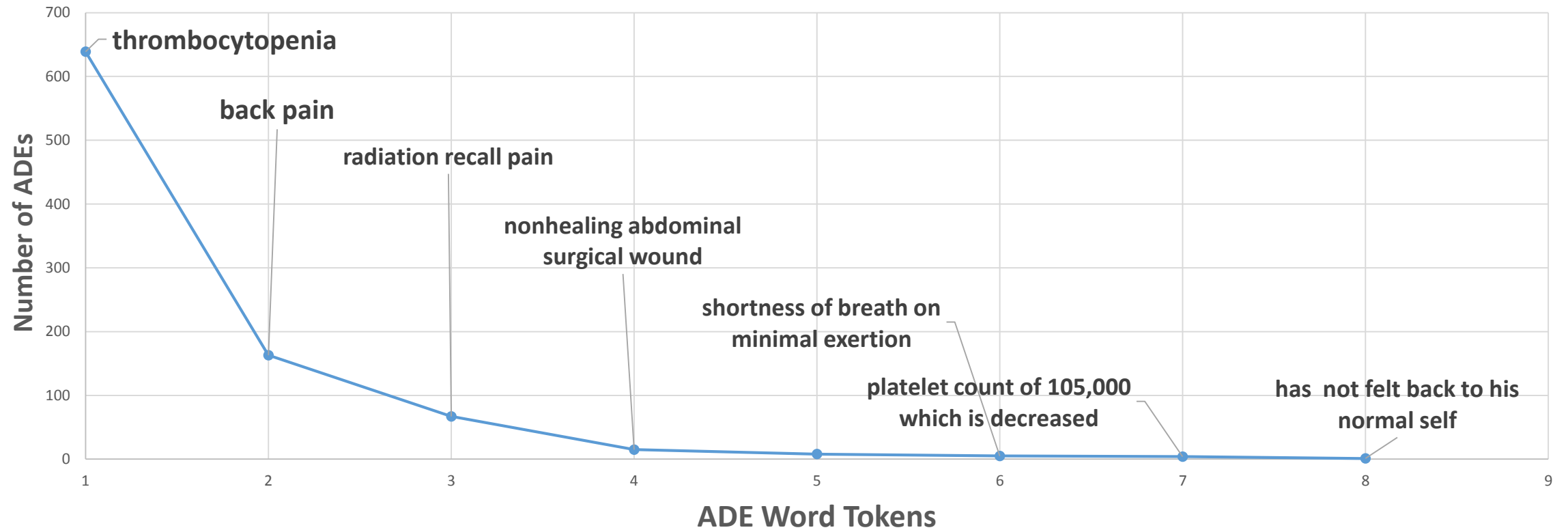
- Common vocabulary between different medical entities. E.g.

Example Sentence from Dataset

Anemia and Thrombocytopenia: Anemia likely multifactorial d/t CTCL, chronic disease, and romidepsin; thrombocytopenia likely d/t romidepsin. ^L_{SEP}-Discussed with Dr. [**Last Name (STitle) 33**]. Thrombocytopenia will not likely worsen much further. [**Doctor First Name **] to continue coumadin for now.

- In our corpus, an Adverse Drug Event is tagged only when there is a direct evidence in the text , linking it as a side effect of a medication.
- The second mention of thrombocytopenia is an Adverse Drug Event.
- The first and third mentions of Thrombocytopenia are not used to describe a side effect directly, so they are labeled as *Other SSD* .

Challenges



Challenges

- Unbalanced data and severe label sparsity.

Labels	Annotations	Avg. Annotation Length
ADE	905	1.51
Indication	1988	2.34
Other SSD	26013	2.14
Severity	1928	1.38
Drugname	9917	1.20
Duration	562	2.17
Dosage	3284	2.14
Route	1810	1.14
Frequency	2801	2.35

Data statistics for the version used in [Jagannatha and Yu, NAACL HLT, 2016]

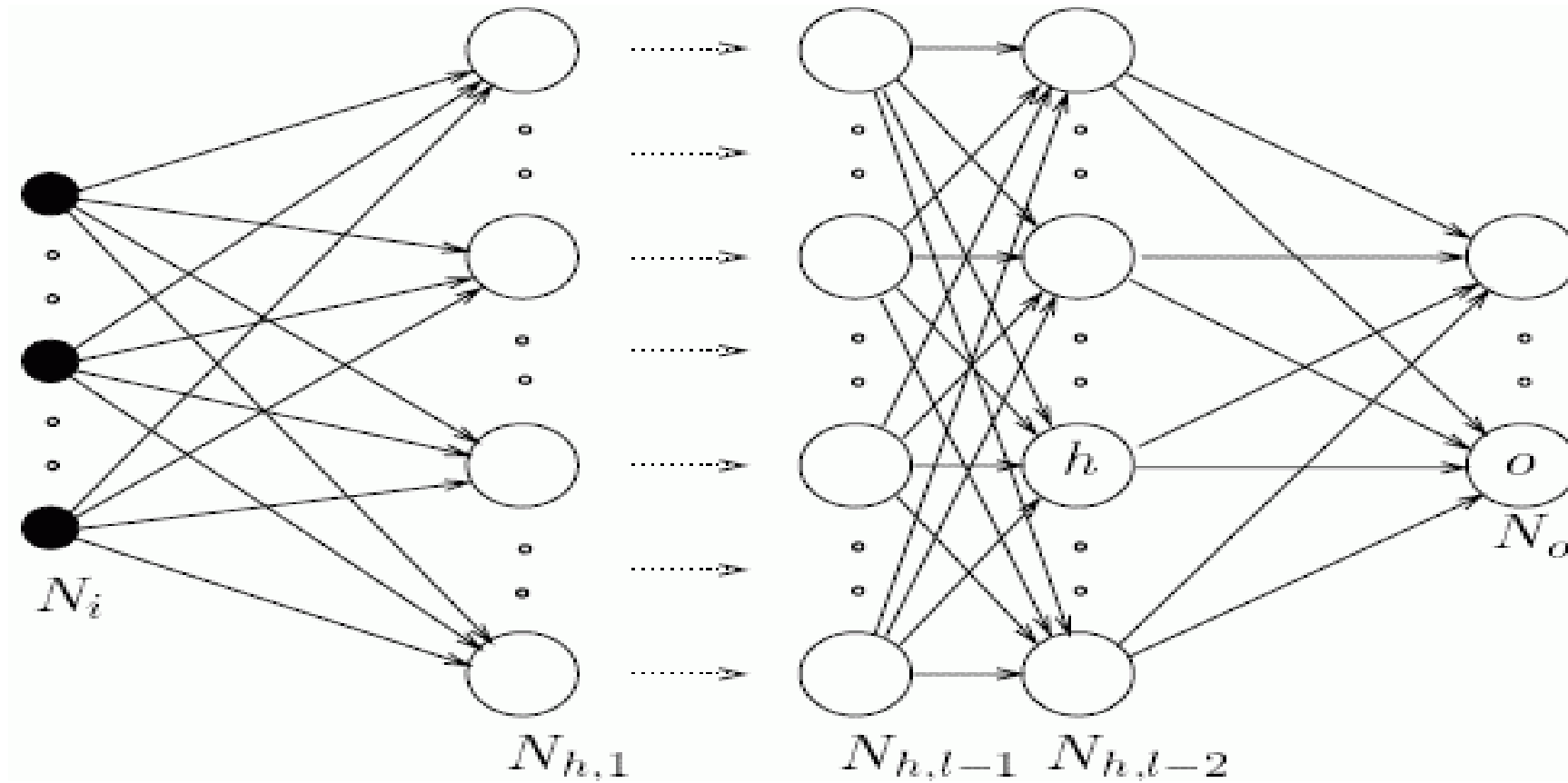
Challenges

- Noisy or incomplete sentence structure
 - Sentence structures in EHRs are unique to medical domain. Models trained using Standard NLP corpus (Treebank) do not adapt well to EHRs.
- Inconsistent syntactic cues
 - SSD mention can have one of many syntactic forms like noun, noun phrase, verb phrase, etc.
- Abbreviations and medical jargon
 - Multiple word forms exist for the same disease name.
- Multi-word entities
 - Several medical entities have variable lengths ranging from a single word to multi-word phrases (sometimes even more than ten words).

Methodology

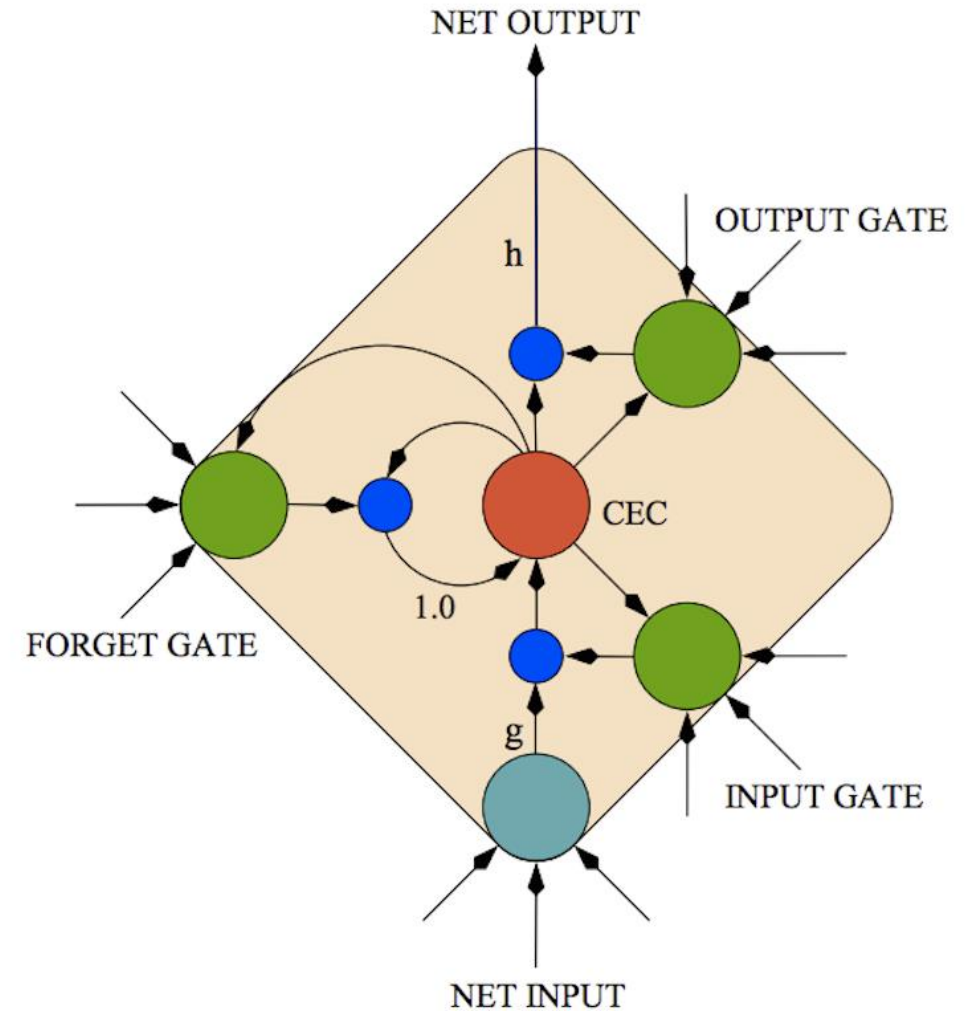
- We treat extraction of Medical Entities as a Sequence Labeling problem.
- Sequence Labeling in Natural Language Processing (NLP) treats a text document as a sequence of word and special character tokens.
- The algorithm learns to label sub-sequences which correspond to a particular category.
- State of the Art: **Conditional Random Fields**
- Our Approach: **Deep Learning**

Our approach: Deep Learning



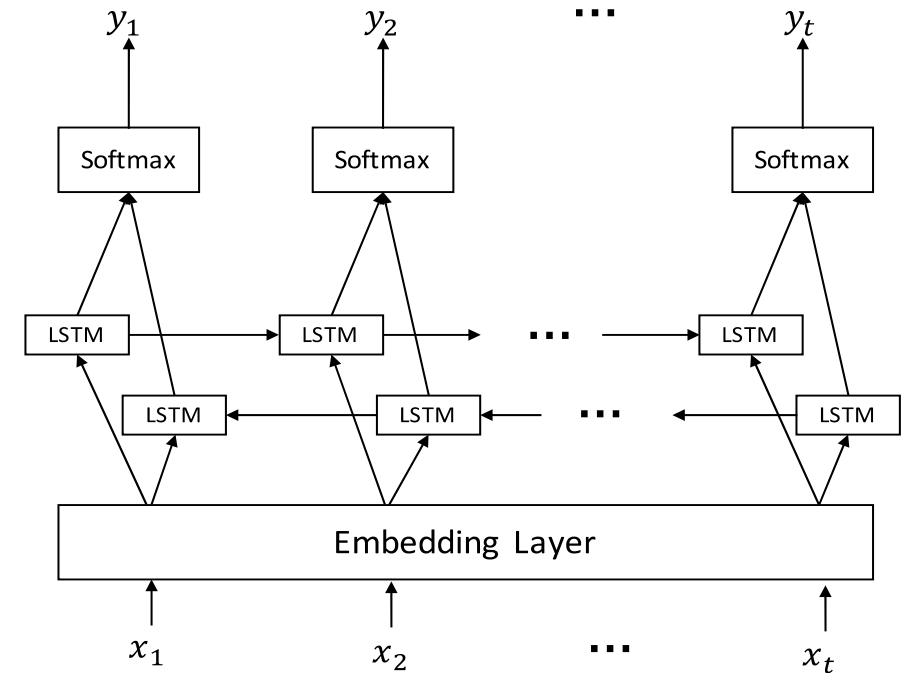
Recurrent Neural Networks (RNN)

- RNNs are artificial neural networks, with recurrent connections.
- This recurrent connection helps them remember previous context history when processing a sequence of tokens.
- The figure shows the internal structure of one of the RNN models we use, Long Short Term Memory (LSTM).
- RNN models do not need handcrafted features. They are able to recognize patterns in variable context lengths using just word inputs.



Bidirectional RNNs

- The figure shows a Bidirectional RNN layer using LSTM neurons.
- $(x_1, x_2 \dots x_t)$ are input words.
- $(y_1, y_2 \dots y_t)$ are corresponding output labels.
- The network has two recurrent chains, going in either directions.
- Bidirectional chains enables the model to use the context from both directions to predict the output label.
- The RNN models are trained at both sentence and document levels.



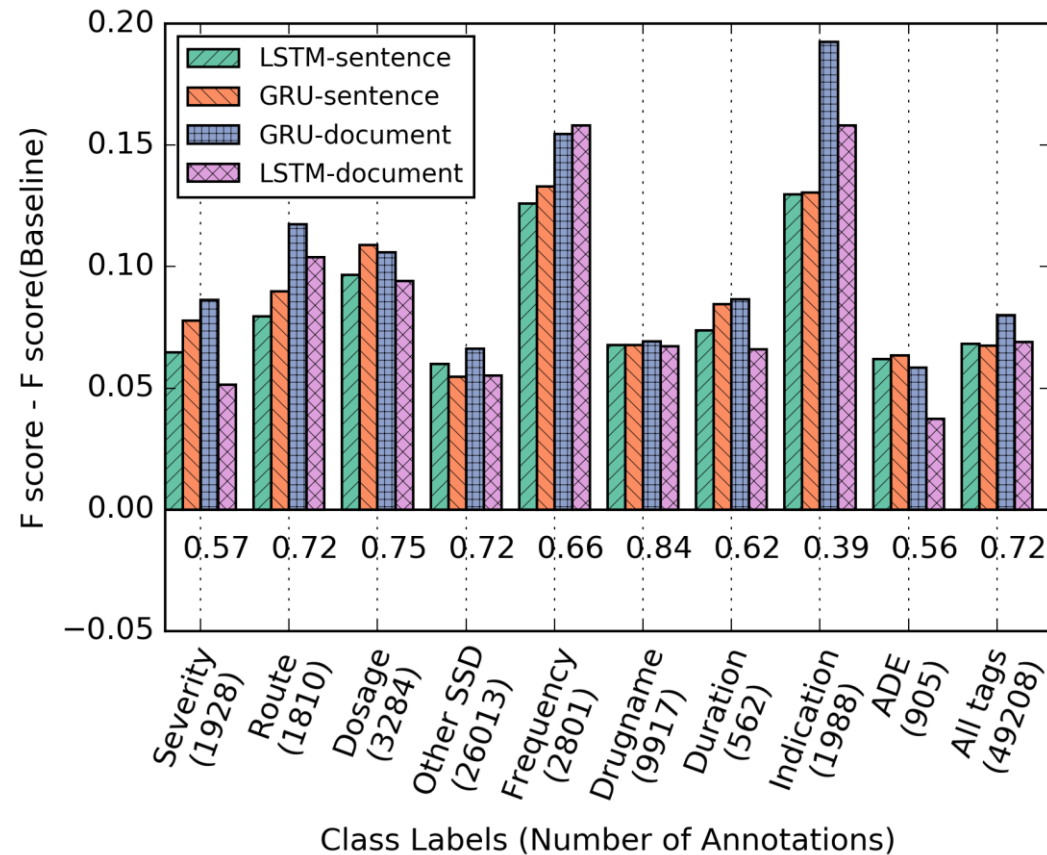
Sequence Labeling Model for LSTM Network.

Results

Models	Recall	Precision	F-score
CRF-nocontext	0.6562	0.7330	0.6925
CRF-context	0.6806	0.7711	0.7230
LSTM-sentence	0.8024	0.7803	0.7912
GRU-sentence	0.8013	0.7802	0.7906
LSTM-document	0.8050	0.7796	0.7921
GRU-document	0.8126	0.7938	0.8031

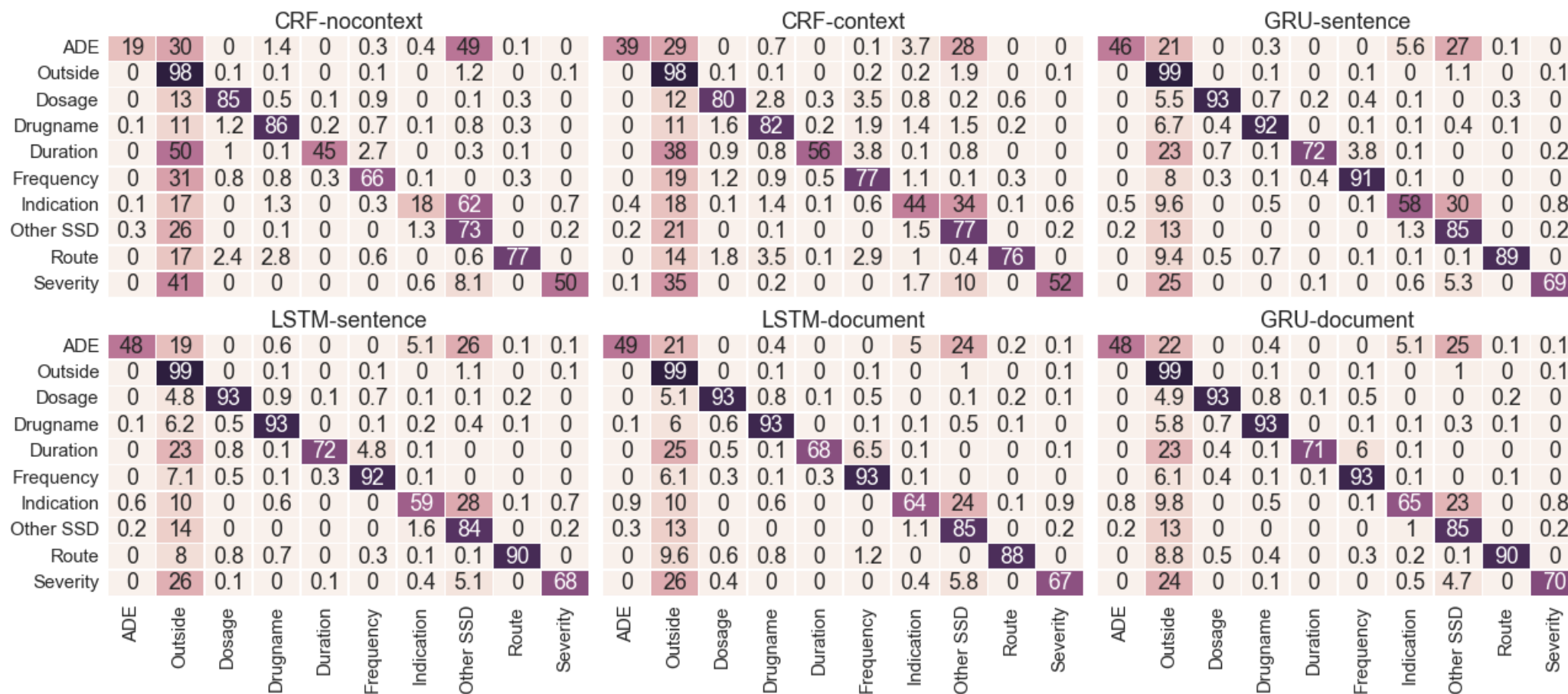
Strict Evaluation results for micro averaged Recall, Precision and F-score. All results use ten fold cross validation.

Results



- Figure shows change in F-score for RNN models with respect to CRF-context (baseline). The values below the plotted bars represent the baseline f-scores for each class label.
- Using the entire document is very helpful in extracting *Route*, *Frequency*, and *Indication*.
- Even though Document models improve the performance overall, using isolated sentences for prediction seems to be better for detecting important labels like *ADE* and *Other SSD*.

Result



Heat-maps of Confusion Matrices of each method for the different class Labels. Rows are reference and columns are predictions. The value in cell (i, j) denotes the percentage of words in label i that were predicted as label j .

Conclusions

- Recurrent Neural Networks perform significantly better than Conditional Random Fields.
- This is mainly because RNNs are able to learn from dependencies that occur at variable context lengths.
- Since RNNs are able to better recognize contextual cues, they have a significantly higher recall than CRF models.
- RNN models are useful even for domain specific tasks with small datasets.
- Training RNN models on the entire document, instead of on individual sentences seems promising. The performance of document models can likely improve even for labels like ADE, with a larger training dataset.

Goal: EHR-based cancer drug safety research

- What we have achieved
 - Developing annotation guideline and annotated 1000 EHR notes
 - Build a high-performance state-of-the-art NLP system
 - New Work:
 - Improve to 0.87 F1 score from 0.8
 - Information extraction 0.97 F1 score
 - Mapping entity to controlled terminology

Deploying the NLP system to many hospital systems

- Umass Medical School
- Tufts Medical School
- Northwestern University
- Upenn
- Yale University
- VA
- ...

The UMass BioNLP Group

- My group's research involves developing **innovative biomedical informatics algorithms and tools** for gathering, analyzing and interpreting heterogeneous **data** from multiple sources for personalized medicine.



- <https://youtu.be/cSXLXwWdIck>