



Natural Language Processing and Enhanced Clinical Decision Making Radiology and VINCI

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Introduction

- Radiology is specialty with long history of research in NLP and Enhanced Decision Making but these may be critical in the continuing success of our specialty
- ACR Annual Meeting: "Quality is our Image"
 - But increased pressure to increase efficiency while not sacrificing quality
- SPIE 30th anniversary of PACS and research in computer aided detection and quantification of disease

Content Based Image Retrieval

- Criteria include:
 - Grayscale and color
 - Texture
 - Point sets
 - Contours/curves
 - Surfaces
 - Regions and parts
 - Global shape, morphology, location and spatial

CONTENT-BASED IMAGE RETRIEVAL IN RADIOLOGY



REPROZETBUL Tophonist Boy Ref.	Alveolar Proteinosis
Shatus	Aspenglioma Bionchilds Oblatens with Organizing Pheumonia Bronchildsis Bronchilds
	2 Centilobilos Employemb CMV Desparative Intersited Pneumonias Edemo
erna.	IEG Farrosis or IPF I Fungal Maction Hearontmage
	Hypersensitivdy Finaumonits Lymphacytic interastial Pneumonits Lymphargitic Carcinomataini Metastatic Calcification Panacana Enphysiema Porsespital Emphysiema POP
	Seroid T8 Radiosion Therapy Normal
	Normal Other
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(Poste Oberse)

Table 2. Main Characteristics of the Medical CBIR[®] Systems

Ref.	Descriptors	Similarity measures	Segmentation	Relevance feedback	Notes on modalities and datasets
24	General	Classifier-based	-	Yes	 5,000 images from daily routine (a subset of imageCLEFmed) 20 categories (different organs, modalities, views)
21a	General	Classifier-based	Manual	No	147 ROIs extracted from CT liver images 76 control vs. 71 pathological
32	General	Classifier-based	Manual	No	57 ROIs extracted from mammograms
16	-				 37 benign vs. 20 malignant
10	Specialized	Classifier-based	Interactive	No	302 lung CT images
15	Mixed	Classifier-based	_	No	 8 lung disease categories 8,725 images (CasImage^b database)
					Medical retrieval task in imageCLEF 2004
					 26 query topics
34	Specialized	Procrustes	Manual	No	 NHANES II spine X-ray images
					 250 vertebra boundary profiles
					 10 categories of cervical and lumbar vertebra shapes
17a	Mixed	Classifier-based	Manual	No	150 endoscopy images
36a					 Several classes from endoscopic findings/diagnoses
	Specialized	Classifier-based	-	No	 Brain MR images Hippocampus in schizophrenia (15 control vs. 15 patients)
					 Corpus callosum in affective disorder (20 control vs. 18 patients)
33	Specialized	Procrustes	Manual	No	NHANES II spine X-ray images
	opeenanzea	1100100100			 2,812 vertebra boundary profiles
					No classification analysis
58	General	Classifier-based	Manual	Yes	 76 Mammograms containing clustered microcalcifications
					 Ground truth similarity obtained from human observer studies
59a	General	Elastic deformation	-	No	 90 cardiac ultrasound images
61					 View classification
01	Specialized	Elastic deformation	Interactive	No	 100 intravascular ultrasound images containing calcium plaque structu
14	General	Vector distance			 Similarity-based retrieval used for improving registration
57	General	Vector distance Vector distance	- Interactive	No No	Abdominal ultrasound images 70 brain MR images
	General	Classifier-based	Interactive	NU	Hippocampus localization and identification
		Classifier-Dased			10 epileptic patients
66	General	Classifier	Automated	No	 Image categorization and retrieval on 1500 radiological images
					(IRMA project X-ray library).
					 17 radiological X-ray classes
40a	General	Vector distance	Manual	No	 fMRI activation contrast maps used as correlates of Alzheimer's disease
		Classifier-based			 9 controls vs. 9 patients
50	Mixed	Vector distance	Automatic	No	 300 VOIs extracted from 13 dynamic PET brain scans
		Textual			 2 tumor cases, 3 normal, 8 other neurological cases
43	Specialized	Graph matching	Manual	No	 124 MR images
					 No classification analysis
55	0	Martin Barris			 Target application: indexing and fast search
	General	Vector distance	Automatic	Yes	1,617 radiographs from daily routine
		Graph matching Classifier-based			 Classification based on image modality, body orientation, anatomi region, biological system
56	Mixed	Vector distance	_	No	 ImageCLEF 2005 medical retrieval tasks
	MIAGU	Textual	_	140	+ mageorer 2000 medicarrenieval tasks
67	General	Classifier	-	No	 Categorization: database of 12,000 radiographs (ImageClef 2007 11,000 training, 1,000 testing; 116 different categories
					Retrieval: database of 66,000 images, 30 query topics (ImageClef 2008). Return ranked set of 1,000 images.

Introduction

- SIIM meeting with Sam Dwyer presentation on next generation of PACS which will reply heavily on NLP and Enhanced Decision Support to a large extent from EMR and PHR
 - Relevant Clinical information which is rarely obtained in most places
 - Personalized medicine
 - Pathology correlation
 - Chart timelines
- How do we get there from here?

Graphical sketch of a patient's radiological history



Outline

- Natural Language Processing and Enhanced
 Clinical Decision-Making in diagnostic imaging
- The Department of Veterans Affairs Vinci Project
 - An Overview and Opportunities
- IBM's Watson Deep Q/A software
 - Potential Medical Applications

NLP in Radiology (Medical Imaging)

- Diagnostic Radiology reports, although text based, have a constrained vocabulary and limited number of concepts for each imaging modality
 - This combination has made radiology an ideal specialty to employ natural language processing and hundreds of articles have been written on the topic over the past more than 30 years

Recent NLP in Radiology Articles

- Machine and radiology
- Automatic identification of critical follow-up recommendation sentences in radiology reports, Yetisgen-Yildiz, Gunn, Xia, Payne
- Natural language processing for lines and devices in portable chest x-rays
- Informatics in radiology: RADTF: a semantic search-enabled natural language process enabled radiology teaching file
- Informatics in radiology: Render; an online searchable radiology study repository
- Discerning tumor status from unstructured MRI reports—completeness of information in existing reports and utility of automated natural language processing

Recent NLP in Radiology Articles

- Use of Radcube for extraction of finding trends in a large radiology practice
- Natural language processing using online analytic processing for assessing recommendations in radiology reports
- A study of lexical behavior of sentences in chest radiology reports
- Indexing anatomical phrases in neuro-radiology reports to the UMLS 2005AA
- Extracting information on pneumonia in infants using natural language processing of radiology reports
- Improved identification of noun phrases in clinical radiology reports using a highperformance natural language parser augmented with the UMLS specialist lexicon

Four Fundamental Elements

- Identification of a study as positive or negative
- Recommendations
- Unexpected findings
- Indication and type of study for automatic protocol generation

Mass General Dryer et al LEXIMER

(Lexicon Mediated Entropy Reduction)

HIST1	¥	Hematuria	Age:	10		49	
IMPRESSION	¥	Renal Stones	Modality:	Abdome	n-CT		ç
REPORT	¢	Renal Stones	Radiologist:				Y
PT_STATUS	2	0	MRN\ACC:				
Body_Part	2	kidney	In PACS:	• Yes	O No		
			In Render:	• Yes	O No		
		Advanced Search Mar	sual Search Save Query				

CTAbdomenw/oCTPelvis w/o Con

..... abdomen and pelvis were obtained per departmental renal stone protocol. COMPARISON: No prior..... distention, sludge or CT evidence of stones. The spleen, adrenals and pancreas are normal in..... appearance. There are bilateral 2 mm nonobstructing renal stones in the upper poles. There is no..... hydronephrosis. Small bilateral nonobstructing renal stones...... Soc. M. Age. 33. Modelity: Abdomen-CT Patient Exam History

CTAbdomenw/oCTPelvis w/o Con

..... punctate calcifications in the left upper and lower renal poles are consistent with nonobstructing..... without oral contrast. FINDINGS: Tinylow -density renal stones. No right renal, right or left.... including the liver, spleen, gallbladder, pancreas, adrenal glands, retroperitoneum and bowel. No.... unremarkable for age. IMPRESSION: Tiny nonobstructing renal stones in the left upper and left.... unremarkable. The bones, joints and soft tissues are lower renal poles. Otherwise, the study is

Sex M, Age 35, Modality: Abdomen-CT

Leximer Analysis of Millions of Reports

• Overall Reports: 8070

- Overall Positive Findings: 5819 (72.1%)
- Overall Negative Findings: 2251 (27.9%)
- Overall Positive Recommendations: 749 (9.3%)
- Overall Findings Positive with No Recommendations: 5151 (63.8%)
- Overall Findings Positive with Recommendations: 668 (8.3%)
- Overall Findings Negative with No Recommendations: 2167 (26.9%)
- Overall Findings Negative with Recommendations: 84 (1.0%)
- Time to Process: 3 seconds (Estimated Processing Rate: 10 million reports per hour)

Patient: IGNORE, TEST

Ordering Physician: Physician 1

HEAD CT

Policy on CONTRAST: Scans are performed according to departmental protocols selected by the radiologist unless otherwise specified.

Special Considerations, Check If Appropriate

Contrast

Contrast MUST NOT BE USED because (Required):

□3D

Dissection Protocol (schedule chest, abdomen and pelvis in same time slot)
Pregnant
Reformats (sagital/coronal)
Send additional report copies to:

BUN/Creat (If Known) EVT Protocol (schedule abdomen and pelvis in same time slot) Radiation planning Stereotactic

At least one box MUST be selected from either of the following groups

SIGNS / SYMPTOMS	
Atazia	Concussion mild or moderate acute, no neurological defici
Convulsions	Coordination changes, new or progressive
Dementia	Dizziness
Headache chronic with progressive worsening	Headache migraine or chronic
Headache sudden onset or Thunderclap	Hearing changes
Hyperprolactinemia	Mental Status change (after trauma)
Pain in face	Speech changes
Swelling, mass or lump	Syncope/fainting
TIA with transient neurological disturbance	Vision changes
Weakness-right/left/both	

KNOWN DIAGNOSES (NOT Rule/out!)

Aneurysm	Intracranial hemorrhage
Neoplasm CNS primary (specify)	Neoplasm non-CNS primary (specify)
Neoplasm-Primary Unknown	Sub-dural hemorrhage

Information for radiologist (Only 140 Characters Allowed):

Save/Complete Cancel

Patient: IGNORE, TEST

MRN: 0000006

Ordering Physician: Physician 1

Your Order: CT	MR
4	.8
Proceed with Order	Change Orde

HEAD CT

Policy on CONTRAST: Scans are performed according to departmental protocols selected by the radiologist unless otherwise specified.

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Neoplasm-Primary Unknown	Sub-dural hemorrhage

Information for radiologist (Only 140 Characters Allowed):

Any Hospital Department of Radiology Patient: IGNORE,TEST MRN: 0000006 Ordering Phys: Physician 1						
Exam		Ordering Phys	Schedule Location/Time	Special Considerations	History	
Cancel Exam HEAD (BRAIN)	MRI	Physician 1	Click Here to Schedule	No special considerations	-Dizziness 780.4	
	CT SCAN SELECT ONE	MRI SELEC	CT ONE	Ultrasound SELECT ONE	<u></u>	
(Nuclear Medicine SELECT ONE		Densitometry CT ONE	Mammography SELECT ONE		
	Plain Film SELECT ONE		Bone & Procedures CT ONE	Nuclear Cardiology Exams SELECT ONE		

OR CONSU	LTATION PLEASE CALL
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BDOMINAL	
EURORADIOLO	XGY
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EDIATRICS	

ELECT ONE	
ammography	
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	ELECT ONE aclear Cardiology

SCULOSKELETAL	726-7717
ST	724-4254
DOMINAL	726-8396
IRORADIOLOGY	726-8320
ILEAR	726-8350
IATRICS	724-4207

	:	Any Hospital Department of Radiology			
Patient: IGNORE, TEST		MRN: 0000006	Ordering Phys: Phy	ysician 1	
Exam	Ordering Phys	Schedule Location/Time	Spe	ecial Considerations	History
Cancel Exam HEAD (BRAIN) MRI	Physician 1	Click Here to Schedule	No	special considerations	-Dizziness 780.4
Start Again Frint CT SCAN SELECT ONE SELECT ONE SELECT ONE Plain Film SELECT ONE	FOR CONSULT NEC MUSCULOSKELET APR	ECT ONE ECT ONE VPELVIS MRI IST MRI IST MRI D (BRAIN) MRI VE MRI E OR SINUS MRI VIS SOFT TISSUE MRI VIS (BONE) MRI V	Mamm SELEC Nuclea SELEC SELEC	ound CTONE CTONE AT Cardiology Exams CTONE	

Patient: IGNORE, TEST

MRN: 0000006

Ordering Physician: Physician 1

Save/Complete Cancel

EXTREMITY MRI

Patients must be cooperative and able to hold still for 1 hour to have an MRI Scan If sedation is required call 4-XRAY

Special Considerations, Check If Appropriate

With Contrast	MRA
Head/Neck MRA	With & w/o Contrast
Send additional report copies to:	Pacing device
Intercranial aneurysm clip	Artificial heart valve
Ear implant or prosthesis	Employment as metal worker
Metallic foreign body	Claustrophobia
Pregnant	MRCP

EXAM REQUESTED Pick only ONE of the Following

OLeft	• Right
○ Shoulder	○ Arm
OElbow	OForearm
○ Wrist	OHand
OHip	OThigh
 Knee 	OLeg
O Ankle	OFoot

At least one box MUST be selected from either of the following groups SIGNS / SYMPTOMS

 Bone Pain
 Deformity

 Instability
 Joint Pain

 Limited movement
 Swelling or mass

KNOWN DIAGNOSES (NOT Rule/out!)

V Arthritis	Aseptic necrosis	
Dislocation	Fracture specify location	
Neoplasm - Musculoskeletal Primary (specify)	Neoplasm - Non-musculoskeletal Primary (specify)	
Neoplasm - Primary Unknown	Nonunion	
Osteomyelitis		

ABNORMAL PREVIOUS EXAMINATIONS

Abnormal x-ray

Information for radiologist (Only 140 Characters Allowed):

w.

n.

Patient: IGNORE, TEST

MRN: 0000006

Ordering Physician: Physician 1

Your Order: MR	X_Ray	CTA	MRA	CI
3	9	4	4	3
Proceed with Order	a	hange	Order]

EXTREMITY MRI

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With Contrast	MRA
Head/Neck MRA	With & w/o Contrast
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O Shoulder	OAm
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O Wrist	OHand
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O Ankle	OFoot

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Instability	Joint Pain			
Limited movement	Swelling or mas			

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C Arthritis	Aseptic necrosis
Dislocation	Fracture specify location
Neoplasm - Musculoskeletal Primary (specify)	Neoplasm - Non-musculoskeletal Primary (specify)
Neoplasm - Primary Unknown	Nonumon
Osteomyelitis	

ABNORMAL PREVIOUS EXAMINATIONS

Abnormal x-ray

Done

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A "Low utility" exam

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	Massachusetts General Hospital Department of Radiology							
	P	Patient: TEST,IGN	IORE		MRN: 0000006	Ordering Phys:	Rosenthal, Daniel	
Exam	Ordering Phy	7S	Schedule Loc	ation/Time		Special Co	nsiderations	History
Start Again	Print							
		CT SCAN			MRI	2	Ultrasound	
	CT	SELECT ONE			SELECT ONE		SELECT ONE	v
	NDC	Nuclear Medicine		44	SELECT ONE ABD/PELVIS MRI CHEST MRI		Mammography	
	Med	SELECT ONE		DENSITOWETRY	EXTREMITY MRI HEAD (BRAIN) MRI	малимааналан	SELECT ONE	
	Pan	Plain Film SELECT ONE	-		SPINE MRI FACE OR SINUS MRI PELVIS SOFT TISSUE MRI		Nuclear Cardiology Exams	
		,	_	PROCEDURES	PELVIS (BONE) MRI KIDNEY/ADRENAL (GU) MR LIVER/PANCREAS/SPI FEN		, _	
					LIVER/PANCREAS/SPLEEN			
				MUSCULOSKI CHEST	ELETAL	726-7717 724-4254		
				ABDOMINAL		726-8396		
			1	NEURORADIC	LOGY	726-8320		
				NUCLEAR PEDIATRICS		726-8350 724-4207		
				2011111000		, 2		

Patient: TEST, IGNORE

MRN:



Your Orde	r: MR	С	'T	X_Ray	7
9			2	2	
Proceed wit	h Order		Cha	ange Order	
Indicate Patients must be cooperative and able to hol If sedation is required call 4-XRAY Special Considerations, Check If Appropriat	d still for 1 hour to have an MRI		ututy,	Fix the p Changed	
□ With Contrast	🗖 MRA			Ŭ	
Head/Neck MRA	└── With & w/o Cont	rast		with add	monal m
🗆 Send additional report copies to:	🗖 Pacing device				
🗖 Intercranial aneurysm clip	🗖 Artificial heart val	ve			
Ear implant or prosthesis	🗖 Employment as m	etal worker			
🗖 Metallic foreign body	🗖 Claustrophobia				
Pregnant	□ MRCP				
EVANDEOUESTED Disk subs ONE -C	de Fellenine				
EXAM REQUESTED Pick only ONE of a C Cervical O Thoracic	ne ronowing				
• L-S C Sacrum					
© SI Joints © Limited complete (for mets)					
At least one box MUST be selected from eit	her of the following groups				
SIGNS / SYMPTOMS					
\blacksquare Abnormal extremity reflexes \square Abnormal ext	remity sensation				
✓ Back pain ✓ Back pain following	owing trauma				
	akness (paraplegia)				
□ Neck pain □ Neck pain fol					
Radiculopathy Sciatic leg pa	n				
🗖 Swelling, mass or lump					

Proceed on Red: Reasons

Requisition Form - Microsoft Internet Explorer pro	wided by Partners HealthCare System		
Patient: TEST,IGNORE	MRN: 0000006	Ordering Physician: Rosenthal, Daniel	
ATTENTION:			
		response suggests it may not be necessary or optimal. Filling in the check boxes to check at least one of the boxes before entering the order. The box marked "e	
🗖 I disagree with guidelines. Explain:			
Cother imaging approaches were already tri	ed and were not revealing.		
\square Other imaging modalities that might be bett	er will take too long to obtain.		
This test was recommended by a specialist			
This test was recommended by Radiology.			
Patient demand.			

Continue Chan

Change Order

This study is reviewed with Dr Smith. Standard protocol was used to obtain an MRI of the brain with MRA of the circle of Willis and DWI imaging.

Dizziness and recurrent syncope. Please evaluate the posterior circulation. Comparison is to a CT of the head performed 3 September 99. Comparison is also to a CT performed the day after the MRI on 5 September 1909. Bilateral subdural hemorrhages are present. The right sided subdural hemorrhage appears improved when compared to the prior CT. It has a component extending further posteriorly than appreciated on the CT, appearing to involve the occipital lobe on the right side. The left subdural hemorrhage is worse than it appeared on the initial CT. There is extensive subarachnoid hemorrhage better appreciated on MRI than on CT.

There is no evidence of tentorial subdural hematoma. The subsequent CT did show such a bleed, this must have occurred in the interval between studies. DWI imaging of the brain parenchyma is normal in appearance. There is no evidence of acute infarction. The circle of Willis was imaged with particular attention to the posterior circulation. The right vertebral artery appears prominent. The procedure circulation appears entirely normal. Because imaging was centered on the procedure circulation, the MCA's are not completely evaluated. The ventricular system and CSF spaces do not show evidence of abnormal dilation. The visualized extracranial structures are normal in appearance.

Impression. No evidence of acute infarction on diffusion weighted imaging. Bilateral subdural hemorrhages with subarachnoid hemorrhage. The posterior circulation appears entirely normal. A follow up MRI of the brain is recommended within 7 days to assess progression of hemorrhage.

Bilateral subdural hemorrhages with subarachnoid hemorrhage.

A follow up MRI of the brain is recommended within 7 days to assess progression of hemorrhage.

Diagnostic Decisions Evaluation Comparison of 5 Ordering Physicians



Diagnostic Decisions Evaluation Comparison of Radiologists



Indication \rightarrow Examination Evaluation Comparison of Exams Males

Thunderclap Headaches → Head Imaging Analysis Males



Indication \rightarrow Examination Evaluation



EDM for Evaluation of Indication for Automated Protocoling

 Once examination has been selected choosing the best technique, e.g. with or without contrast, which MRI sequences to use given the specific indication

EDM for Unexpected Findings

- Findings that fall through the "cracks" represent a major challenge in radiology
- Closing the communication loop is currently done manually at our facility
 - Most do not close this loop

IUPUI INDIANA UNIVERSITY-PURDUE UNIVERSITY INDIANAPOLIS

Logical Semantics Editor

UnMapped Sentences Suggested Propositions Similar Sentences Review Maps Review Categories Review	v Propositions	Findings Procedures
UnMapped Text Lines	Freq	General Radiology
Streaky right basilar atelectasis and/or infiltrate .	3	🗄 🕂 👹 Brain and Skull
Single AP view of the chest demonstrates a normal cardiac silhouette and size .	3	Face, Mastoids, and Neck
He received a total of 0.5 mg of Versed and 25 mcg of fentanyl for sedation and pain control.	3	E Spine and Contents
Digital subtraction arteriography was performed in the LAO , AP , and RAO projections .	3	Skeletal and Soft Tissue
The urinary bladder is well distended and the bladder wall appears smooth without evidence of any masses.	3	Heart and Great Vessel
The vertebral arteries are patent and are visualized to the level of the skull base.	3	I Heart
Axial CT scans were obtained through the calvarial region and filmed in intermediate and parenchymal windowing	3	
There is an endotracheal tube with the distal tip just below the level of the thoracic inlet .	3	Ere The heart is normal
There is increased opacity in the right lower lobe consistent with infiltrate.	3	The visualized heart is normal
there is an abnormal but nonspecific bowel gas pattern with a few gas filled loops of small bowel.	3	The heart is grossly normal.
• The right and left common femoral , femoral and popliteal veins are compressible with good flow and augmentation	n. 3	The heart is normal for age.
Follow up tomograms demonstrate prompt bilateral and symmetric nephrograms.	3	🛨 🔹 There is no cardiac disease.
T1, T2 and proton density sagittal images were acquired.	3	H Morphology
Normal appearing lumbosacral spine without evidence of bony abnormality.	3	Failure
 WITHOUT IV CONTRAST The ventricles and sulci are within normal limits. 	3	Pericardium
The bilateral renal calices , pelvices and ureters are well visualized and appear unremarkable .	3	Temporal
There is subsegmental atelectasis./infiltrate in the left lower lobe .	3	Ventricles
Multiple surgical skin staples consistent with skin graft.	3	E Coronary Vessels
Comparison is with 7/17/95 at 7:30 a.m. There is an ET tube in place with the tip well above the carina.	3	
Comparison : None There is an ET tube with the distal tip above the carina .	3	⊡- Cardiac Valves ⊡- ☐ Lung, Mediastinum, and Pleura
No comparison There are no fractures, dislocations or significant arthritic changes seen.	3	
The tibia and fibula are intact without evidence of fracture or dislocation.	3	Gastrointestinal ⊕ 1 Genitourinary
Internally fixed ankle fracture with radiographically stable mortise.	38	Centroumary Vascular and Lymphatic
		E Breast
		E Recommendation
	Create Maps	E Miscellaneous Observation
Proposition System Context Modality	Context	_
V The ankle mortise is stable. All All		
Y The patient is status post open reduction internal fixation (ORIF) of the ankle. All All		
V There is a fracture of the ankle. All All		
		1
Find Similar Sentences Propose Maps V	alidate Maps	

Brief History of Radiology Decision Support Tools Chuck Kahn

• ICON

- Rule based expert system for differential diagnosis of lung disease
 - E.g. If a patient with Hodgkin's disease has a pleural effusion and no lymphadenopathy, there is a moderate probability that the effusion is caused by an infectious process
 - Uses critiquing approach responding with evidence supporting or refuting tentative physician diagnosis
- PHOENIX
 - Contains 54 common clinical problems such as head trauma or pulmonary embolism and generates recommended work-up using flowcharts
- ROENTGEN
 - Uses case based reasoning to help plan radiation therapy protocols
- ISIS
 - Uses case based decision support to help physicians select diagnostic imaging procedures based on actual cases abstracted from patient records and from published texts

Mining the EMR for Data in Support of Diagnostic Imaging VA's VINCI Project

VA Informatics and Computing Infrastructure (VINCI)





VHA Facilities

- 163 Hospitals
- 800 Clinics
- 135 Nursing Homes
- 43 Domiciliaries
- 180,000 Healthcare Professionals

• Serving 6 Million Veterans per Year

Courtesy of Kevin Meldrum

VHA Volume

- Hospital sizes vary from 100 to 1000 beds.
- Outpatient visits vary at the facility from 30,000 to 450,000 visits per year
- 46.5 million outpatient visits per year
- 564,000 inpatient admissions per year
- 167 million prescription-months filled

Courtesy of Kevin Meldrum
Layered Approach

CPRS Graphical User Interface



Courtesy of Kevin Meldrum

🖉 VistA CPRS in use by: Provider,Eig	ht (CPRSdemo.va.gov)			
File Edit View Tools Help				
ADEMOPATIENT, SEVEN (OUTPATIENT 6666-00-0927 Oct 21,1964 (4	Visit Not Selected 7) Provider: PROVIDER,EIGHT	Primary Care Team Unassigned	Flag VistaWeb Remote Data	
	ergies / Adverse Reactions		Postings	
Depression No Allergic Rhinitis Hypertension Osteoarthritis	Known Allergies		No Patient Postings Found.	
Active Medications	Clinical Reminders	Due Date		
Citalopram Hydrobromide 20mg Tab Activ Lisinopril 20mg Tab Activ Hydrochlorothiazide 12.5mg Tab Activ Acetaminophen 500mg Tab Activ Aspirin 81mg Ec Tab Activ Chondroitin/Glucosamine Cap/Tab Activ Fluticasone Furo 27.5mcg 120d Nasal Inhl Activ Cetirizine Activ	ve Primary Care Depr ve Hypertension ve SUICIDE HOTLIN ve ve	ession Screening DUE NOW DUE NOW		
Recent Lab Results	Vitals		Appointments/Visits/Admissions	
Cholesterol Blood Serum Wc Lb #17900 Oct 3	P 75 Jul 01,201 R 15 Jul 01,201 BP 127/82 Jul 01,201 HT 68 in May 14,20 WT 175 lb Jul 01,201 POX 93 Jul 01,201 DWL 20 00 Jul 01,201	0 14:00 0 14:00 0 14:00 10 14:00 10 14:00 (79.4 kg) 0 14:00	Feb 21,12 08:00 Cardiology Action Required Dec 25,11 08:00 Primary Care Action Required	
Cover Sheet Problems Meds Orders Notes Consults Surgery D/C Summ Labs Reports				

🖅 VistA CPRS in use by: Provider,Eight (CPRSdemo.va.gov)				
File Edit View Action Options Tools Help				
ADEMOPATIENT, SEVEN (OUTPATIENT) Visit Not Selected Primary Care Team Unassigned Selected Provider: PROVIDER, EIGHT	ned Flag VistaWeb Remote Data No Postings			
Last 100 Signed Notes (Total: 8) Visit: 07/01/10 PRIMARY CARE GENERAL NOTE, GENERAL MEDICINE, 0	NE PROVIDER (Jul 01,10@13:00)			
Image: Second state of the second s	labs ordered for today. significantly, but not as at 12 hours per day) and is eating better and has			
✓ Templates FamHx Mother died of MI at 64 years of age.				
New Note	✓			
Cover Sheet Problems Meds Orders Notes Consults Surgery D/C Summ Labs Reports				

VINCI



A Research / IT Partnership





Data Extraction Research Model

- Research Study Team uploads cohort to a secure site or VINCI creates cohort per requirements
- Research Study Team completes the Data Selection
 Forms on correspondence site
- NDS approved data domains are extracted and provided
- Analysis performed by research project team staff

External Data Can Be Uploaded

- Research Study Team may upload other data for analysis into project database or workspace
- Secure data upload process
- Optional direct database upload
- VINCI data managers work on behalf of research team to upload data from other data providers

Data Processing/Analysis tools

- SQL Server as primary data store
- Multiple high performance servers
- Most data queries performed in SQL Server
- Accessible by all analysis software
- SSIS, SSRS, SSAS
- High speed intra-server network will allow distributed queries

SAS

- High performance SAS server
 - 2 TB of RAM, 64 cores, 2 TB SSD
 - Launch grid jobs
- SAS grid very large data analysis work
 - 10 high performance servers
 - Most advanced SAS implementation in VA
 - Dedicated SAN
 - Additional SAS modules
 - SAS knowledge base SharePoint site
- Dedicated SAS administrator

Data Approvals



Data Access & Security

- Access groups created based on IRB and NDS approved research team
- Only research team members have access to the data
- Data stored on secure VINCI servers
- Regular data backup and archiving
- Workspace vs. collaboration site
- Project work can be performed in VINCI
- Export final result & publication

Data Type Examples

- Patient demographic information
- Vital signs
- Diagnoses and procedures from patient encounters
- Outpatient pharmacy data
- Laboratory values
- Immunizations
- Microbiology reports
- Text notes (including progress notes, discharge summaries, radiology reports)
- VA Decision Support System (DSS) in database tables linked with other VINCI data or as the original SAS files
- VHA Medical SAS datasets

Applications of VINCI Data in VA

- Increasing demands for more detailed clinical data
 - Quality Measures
 - Evidence-based medicine
 - Phenotyping for genomic-related analysis
 - Biosurveillance

• The majority of EMR data is free text

An NLP Pipeline



Pipeline Issues

Base modules have trouble with:

– Templates

– Incomplete Sentences



Next Generation Data Mining and VINCI



IBM Jeopardy Software

- Deep Q/A is unique and exciting because it represents a fundamentally new approach that creates tools to rapidly mine a dynamic and non-predefined database
- Represents a potential fundamental change in opportunities for Artificial Intelligence applications in medicine
- But in some ways Watson is a "special needs" student
- How does one train a system that is so remarkable at Jeopardy! questions and apply to medicine?

- Watson can process 500 gigabytes, the equivalent of a million books, per second
- Hardware cost has been estimated at about \$3 million
- 80 TeraFLOPs , 49th in the Top 50 Supercomputers list
- Content was stored in Watson's RAM for the game because data stored on hard drives too slow to process

Deep Q/A

- Massively parallel, component based pipeline architecture
- Uses extensible set of structured and unstructured content sources
- Uses broad range of pluggable search and scoring components

Deep Q/A

- These allow integration of many different analytic techniques
- Input from scorers is weighed and combined using machine learning to generate a set of ranked candidate answers and associated confidence values
- Each answer is linked to its supporting evidence

Deep Q/A

- Does not map question to database of answers
- Represents software architecture for analyzing natural language content in both questions and knowledge sources
- Discovers and evaluates potential answers and gathers and scores evidence for those answers using unstructured sources such as natural language documents and structured sources such as relational and knowledge databases

Hardware



- Cluster of ninety IBM Power 750 servers (plus additional I/O, network and cluster controller nodes in 10 racks) with a total of 2880 POWER7 processor cores and 16 Terabytes of RAM
- Each Power 750 server uses a 3.5 GHz POWER7 eight core processor, with four threads per core
- The POWER7 processor's massively parallel processing capability is an ideal match for Watson's IBM DeepQA software which is embarrassingly parallel (that is a workload that is easily split up into multiple parallel tasks)

Software

- Watson's software was written in both Java and C++ and uses
 Apache Hadoop framework for distributed computing
- Apache UIMA (Unstructured Information Management Architecture) framework
- IBM's DeepQA software and SUSE Linux Enterprise Server
 11 operating system
- "More than **100 different techniques** are used to analyze natural language, identify sources, find and generate hypotheses, find and score evidence, and merge and rank hypotheses."

High Level View of DeepQA Architecture



The Science Behind an Answer

Deep QA Process

- Analyzes input question and generates many possible candidate answers through broad search of volumes of content
- Hypothesis is formed based on considerate of each candidate answer in context of original question and topic
 - For each of these, DeepQA spawns independent thread attempting to prove it
 - Searches content sources for evidence supporting or refuting each hypothesis
 - Applies hundreds of algorithms for each evidence hypothesis pair that dissects and analyzes along different dimensions of evidence

Can We Use Deep Q/A to Mine VINCI Data?

- IRB approval to mine >28 million patients over 12 years
- Cannot export data due to difficulties de-identifying patient PHI
- In what format to present data to Deep Q/A software?
 - Currently using screen scraping text information from various aspects of patient record
 - Want to export using HL7 CDA or other standard, reproducible method
- VA has plans to collect DNA samples from 1,000,000 of its patients and can cross correlate this with clinical and lab and other data over period of time
- Initial project proposed has been evaluation of factors that predispose to metabolic syndrome/diabetes type II
- Also planning to use these data for diagnostic imaging specific queries including mining for recommendations, positive studies, etc. but also questions such as impact of imaging studies that involve radiation on cancer rates

Conclusion

- Radiology/diagnostic imaging has historically and will continue to be a rich subspecialty not only for image processing and computer aided diagnosis but also for Natural Language Processing and Enhanced Clinical Decision Making from the EMR
- These two techniques can be utilized on very large databases such as VINCI for research and clinical support purposes and have the potential to have a major impact on research as well as our day to day decision making in medicine