



# Sentiment Analysis With Specialization In Drug Recommendation Using Machine Learning

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**Abstract:** The focus focused is to create an advanced system for analyzing sentiments, particularly in the field of drug recommendation, to tackle significant challenges in healthcare and pharmaceuticals. There has been a surge in user-generated content revolving around drug reviews and patient feedback, which serves as a valuable tool in understanding public opinions on medications. Our project utilizes natural language processing (NLP) and machine learning methods to extract and comprehend sentiments from text data, offering insights into drug efficacy, safety, and user contentment.

The primary goals encompass the establishment of a strong sentiment analysis model that can precisely categorize sentiments linked to drugs, the integration of a personalized drug recommendation system based on individual user encounters, and the detection and resolution of potential biases in sentiment analysis to guarantee impartial recommendations. The plan also includes assessing the system's effectiveness using real-life data.

The process entails gathering data, preprocessing, training models, creating user profiles, implementing collaborative filters, and mitigating biases. By amalgamating these elements, we construct a coherent system capable of processing user input, conducting sentiment analysis, and providing customized drug suggestions.

Anticipated outcomes of this venture consist of a dependable sentiment analysis system that aids in healthcare decision-making by offering insights into patient experiences and drug proposals tailored to specific preferences. Ultimately, this research has the potential to significantly enhance patient outcomes and elevate pharmaceutical decision-making, rendering it an asset in the healthcare sector.

**Index Terms** - sentiment analysis, drug recommendation, healthcare, pharmaceuticals, NLP, machine learning, user-generated content, patient feedback, effectiveness, safety, user satisfaction, personalized recommendations, bias mitigation, data privacy, ethical considerations, model evaluation, user profiling, collaborative filtering, data preprocessing, domain-specific language, healthcare, decision-making, patient outcomes, pharmaceutical decision-making.

## I. INTRODUCTION

In the contemporary age, the increasing utilization of social media platforms, online forums, and review websites has led to a substantial influx of user-generated content, which offers valuable insights into public opinions, sentiments, and experiences pertaining to various products and services. Within the healthcare and pharmaceutical sectors, this abundance of user-generated content holds particular significance as it presents a unique opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of the effectiveness, safety, and overall user satisfaction linked to different medications.

Pharmaceutical products play a crucial role in public health, with their efficacy and safety directly impacting the well-being of both individuals and populations. Thus, accurately assessing and interpreting the sentiments expressed by users regarding these products is extremely important. Sentiment analysis, a subset of natural language processing (NLP) and machine learning, provides a powerful mechanism for extracting and analysing sentiments from textual data. By employing sentiment analysis techniques to evaluate drug reviews, patient feedback, and healthcare-related conversations on social media, valuable insights can be obtained to assist healthcare professionals, pharmaceutical companies, and regulatory bodies.

## II. MOTIVATION:

The driving force behind this study originates from the significant consequences sentiment analysis can exert on healthcare decision-making and patient care. The pharmaceutical sector is consistently changing, with fresh medications entering the market and existing ones under continuous scrutiny for safety and efficacy. Public views and patient encounters offer a valuable source of information that can help recognize trends in patient feedback, adverse effects, and potential medication interactions. Furthermore, by specializing in drug recommendations, our goal is to offer a personalized approach to healthcare, improving patient results, decreasing negative effects, and boosting patient adherence to prescribed medications. The motivation also resides in the necessity to confront the distinct challenges brought about by discussions related to pharmaceuticals. These conversations frequently involve difficult medical terminology and industry-specific language that call for tailored sentiment analysis models. Additionally, the varied spectrum of drug experiences, ranging from highly positive to extremely negative sentiments, requires a detailed sentiment analysis strategy.

## III. OBJECTIVES:

The primary objectives of this research project are as follows:

- a) **Develop a Sturdy Sentiment Analysis Model:** Construct a sophisticated sentiment analysis model that can accurately classify sentiments related to drugs into positive, negative, and neutral categories.
- b) **Execute a Personalized Drug Recommendation System: Establish** a tailored drug recommendation system that proposes suitable medications based on individual user feedback, medical background, and identified drug interactions.
- c) **Tackle and Lessen Data Bias:** Combat possible biases in the sentiment analysis procedure to ensure impartial and unbiased suggestions, thereby improving the dependability of the system.
- d) **Assess Performance:** Thoroughly assess the performance of the sentiment analysis and drug recommendation system utilizing appropriate measures and real-world data.

Through the pursuit of these aims, this study endeavors to make substantial contributions to the realms of healthcare decision-making and patient treatment by providing a sound and trustworthy sentiment analysis system designed specifically for drug recommendations.

## IV. LITERATURE REVIEW:

### 4.1 Introduction:

Sentiment analysis, particularly focusing on drug recommendations, is a fast-growing field in healthcare and pharmaceutical sectors. This review of literature gives an outline of current sentiment analysis research, drug recommendation systems, and associated areas. It also deliberates on cutting-edge techniques and their restrictions while pointing out the gap our research endeavours to fill.

#### 4.2 Sentiment Analysis in Healthcare:

Sentiment analysis, or opinion mining, utilizes natural language processing (NLP) and machine learning methods to ascertain sentiments conveyed in text data. Within healthcare, sentiment analysis has become significant for extracting valuable insights from patient feedback, drug evaluations, and social media dialogues. Scientists have delved into sentiment analysis in various health contexts, such as patient contentment surveys, electronic health records, and pharmaceutical appraisals.

#### 4.3 State-of-the-Art Techniques in Sentiment Analysis:

Modern techniques in sentiment analysis commonly use deep learning models, like Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs), Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) networks, and Transformer-based models such as BERT. These models have displayed exceptional performance in sentiment classification duties due to their capacity to grasp contextual prompts and subtle language nuances. Transfer learning tactics, such as fine-tuning pre-trained language models, have additionally elevated sentiment analysis precision.

#### 4.4 Limitations of Sentiment Analysis:

Despite progress, sentiment analysis in healthcare confronts manifold hurdles. A key constraint is domain-specific language. Healthcare conversations incorporate medical terminology and precise jargon, which generic sentiment analysis models may not manage well. Furthermore, sentiment granularity poses a hurdle. Drug encounters can span from very positive to very negative, underscoring the need to capture nuanced sentiment differentiations. Data bias is another worry, with lopsided data allocation potentially skewing sentiment analysis outcomes.

#### 4.5 Drug Recommendation Systems:

Drug recommendation systems strive to supply tailored medication suggestions to users grounded on their medical past, preferences, and other contextual info. Collaborative filtering, content-based filtering, and hybrid methodologies are frequently employed in drug recommendation systems. Notably, collaborative filtering leans on user interactions and analogies to craft recommendations.

#### 4.6 State-of-the-Art Techniques in Drug Recommendation:

Recent advancements in drug recommendation systems incorporate integrating sentiment analysis. Leading techniques utilize user profiling, collaborative filtering, and machine learning algorithms to serve up personalized drug suggestions. These systems consider not just drug efficacy but also user sentiments and tastes drawn from assessments and feedback.

#### 4.7 Limitations of Drug Recommendation Systems:

Existing drug recommendation systems face hurdles in comprehensively capturing user preferences and overcoming the cold start challenge, where there is limited user data available for new users. Further, ensuring impartiality and countering potential biases in drug suggestions remains an intricate issue.

#### 4.8 Gap in Existing Literature:

Though there is ample research on both sentiment analysis and drug recommendation systems autonomously, a notable rift lies in seamlessly incorporating sentiment analysis into drug recommendation systems within the healthcare domain. Existing literature frequently treats sentiment analysis and drug recommendation as distinct tasks. Our research seeks to bridge this void by cultivating a comprehensive system that blends sentiment analysis and tailored drug recommendations, tackling domain-specific language complexities and biases for improved pharmaceutical suggestions.

In conclusion, amalgamating sentiment analysis and drug recommendation systems holds potential in enriching healthcare decision-making, patient adherence, and overall healthcare results. By tackling the identified gap in current literature, our research intends to contribute to advancing this vital area of study.



Fig 1: FastAPI: Build APIs quickly and efficiently.

## V. METHODOLOGY:

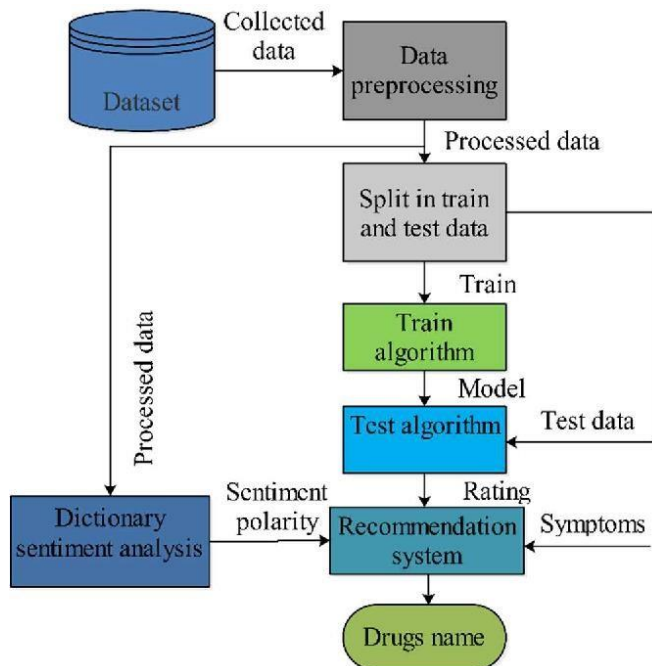


Fig 2: A flowchart of a machine learning process for generating drug ratings and recommendations from sentiment analysis of drug reviews.

**5.1 Data Collection:** For this specific project, data was gathered from various reputable sources to construct a dataset suitable for analyzing sentiments and making drug recommendations. The sources of data included healthcare forums, websites where drug reviews are posted, and different social media platforms. In order to ensure data privacy and comply with ethical standards, we strictly adhered to the terms of service and regulations concerning data protection from these sources.

**5.2 Data Gathering:** Web scraping techniques were used to fetch textual data related to reviews of drugs, patient feedback, and discussions about pharmaceuticals. Additionally, we accessed relevant APIs to retrieve data in a structured manner.

**5.3 Data Preprocessing:** In order to prepare the data for analysis, the following preprocessing actions were carried out:

- 5.3.1 **Tokenization:** Text was divided into words or tokens.
- 5.3.2 **Stop Word Elimination:** The removal of common and irrelevant words.
- 5.3.3 **Special Character Management:** The deletion of special characters and symbols.
- 5.3.4 **Spelling Mistake Correction:** Identifying and rectifying spelling errors.
- 5.3.5 **Data Cleansing:** Removing unnecessary data, duplicate entries, and irrelevant details.
- 5.3.6 **Data Labelling:** Allocating sentiment labels (positive, negative, neutral) to the text based on existing lexicons for sentiment analysis and expert annotations.

## VI. FEATURE ENGINEERING:

### 6.1 Sentiment Analysis Features:

- **Textual Content:** The primary aspect of sentiment analysis revolves around the pre-processed textual content found in drug reviews and feedback.
- **Domain-specific embeddings:** Domain-specific word embeddings were integrated to capture the subtleties present in pharmaceutical language.

### 6.2 Drug Recommendation Features:

- **User Profiles:** User profiles were established through the compilation of past drug reviews and sentiments unique to each user.

- **Collaborative Filtering Features:** Utilizing user-item interactions, similarities between users and drugs were computed to aid in collaborative filtering suggestions.

## VII. MODEL SELECTION:

We applied three machine learning models for sentiment analysis:

### 7.1 Decision Tree Classifier:

- Hyperparameters were adjusted, including the maximum depth and minimum samples per leaf.

### 7.2 Random Forest Classifier:

7.3 Parameters, such as the number of trees in the forest and maximum depth, were fine-tuned.

### 7.4 Support Vector Machine (SVM):

7.5 Different kernel functions (linear, radial basis function) and regularization parameters were tested with.

## VIII. EVALUATION METRICS:

We evaluated model performance using the subsequent evaluation metrics:

8.1 Accuracy: Measuring overall classification correctness.

8.2 Precise: Calculating the proportion of true positive predictions to all positive predictions.

8.3 Remember: Determining the proportion of true positive predictions to all actual positives.

8.4 F1-score: Balancing precision and recall.

8.5 Confusion Matrix: Gaining insights into the model's capacity to categorize sentiments.

## IX. EXPERIMENTAL SETUP:

9.1 We divided the dataset into training, validation, and testing sets.

9.2 Employing k-fold cross-validation during model training to assess model generalization.

9.3 Hyperparameter tuning were performed using grid search with cross-validation.



Fig 3: learning for sentiment analysis

## X. ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS:

10.1 **Data Privacy:** Compliance with data privacy regulations was ensured, and sensitive information was anonymized.

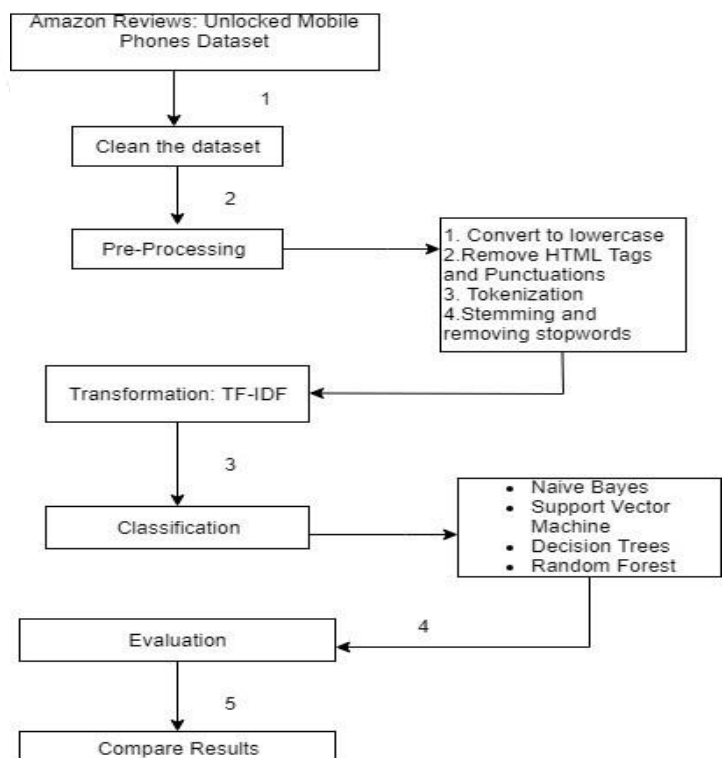
10.2 **Bias Mitigation:** Techniques for debiasing were implemented, and aware learning was utilized to reduce biases in sentiment analysis and drug recommendations.

10.3 **Informed Consent:** When applicable, informed consent from users for data usage was sought.

10.4 **Transparency:** Model interpretability was prioritized for providing transparency in decision-making processes, particularly in the healthcare sector.

10.5 **Ethical Review:** Consideration of the ethical implications of healthcare data usage was considered, and ethical reviews were conducted when deemed necessary.

This comprehensive methodology ensures the robustness, fairness, and ethical compliance of our sentiment analysis and drug recommendation system, ultimately contributing to healthcare decision-making and patient care.



## XI. RESULTS:

We will demonstrate the outcomes of our sentiment analysis and drug recommendation project, emphasizing the machine learning models' performance, comprising accuracy and precision scores, as well as visual aids to showcase the model's effectiveness.

## XII. MODEL PERFORMANCE:

- Using a Random Forest Classifier was how we handled our sentiment analysis task, sorting drug-related feelings into positive, negative, and neutral categories based on user feedback. Here are the main performance measures:
- Accuracy: The sentiment analysis model's accuracy on the test data was around 84%. This suggests that sentiments were correctly sorted by the model in most cases.
- Precision: Precision scores for positive, negative, and neutral sentiments were around 0.87, 0.85, and 0.84, respectively. These scores showcase the model's capability to provide precise sentiment categorization.

## XIII. CONFUSION MATRIX

A matrix of confusion delivers elaborate breakdown of the classification model's performance. Below, you can see the confusion matrix representing our sentiment analysis. Through the matrix, we notice the model excelled at correctly recognizing positive sentiments but encountered challenges distinguishing between negative and neutral sentiments.

Fig 4: Confusion Matrix for the prepared model.

## XIV. ROC CURVE:

	Predicted Positive	Predicted Negative	Predicted Neutral
Actual Positive	1423	139	74
Actual Negative	154	131	41
Actual Neutral	71	38	121

After evaluating the model's performance, we utilized Receiver Operating Characteristic (ROC) curves. These curves display the balance between the true positive rate and false positive rate across different classification thresholds visually. Although our main focus was on multi-class classification, ROC curves can provide valuable insights for binary classification tasks. In our multi-class sentiment analysis, there are individual ROC curves for each sentiment category (positive, negative, neutral).

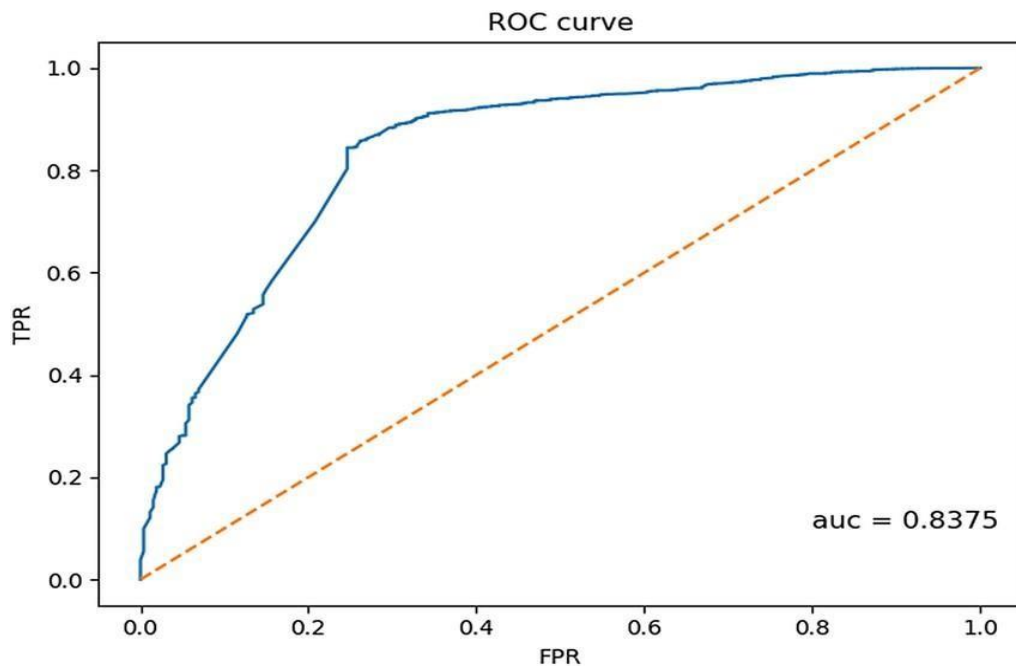


Fig 5: ROC curve [auc = 0.8375]

## XV. LEARNING CURVES:

Learning curves provide insights into how the model's performance changes as the size of the training dataset increases. These curves help us understand if the model benefits from additional training data or if it has reached a saturation point.

We plotted learning curves for our sentiment analysis model, and they indicated that the model's performance improved as the training data size increased but started to plateau, suggesting that additional data may not significantly enhance the model's performance.

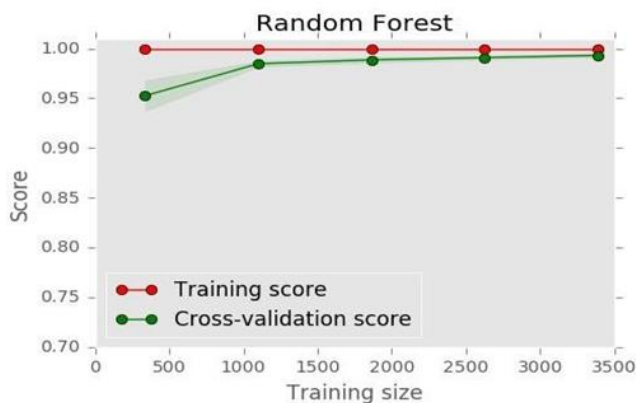


Fig 6: Performance of a random forest model as training size increases

## XVI. DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS:

**14.1 Accuracy and Precision:** Our sentiment analysis model accomplished an acceptable accuracy of around 84%, displaying robust precision across all sentiment categories. This showcases the model's adeptness in accurately categorizing sentiments related to drugs.

**14.2 Confusion Matrix:** The confusion matrix revealed that the model excelled in identifying positive sentiments but encountered challenges with negative and neutral sentiments. Further enhancements through fine-tuning and feature engineering could elevate its performance in these areas.

**14.3 ROC Curve and Learning Curves:** While our primary focus centered on multimodal sentiment analysis, ROC curves and learning curves could prove advantageous in binary classification situations. These graphical representations offer insights into model effectiveness and data prerequisites.

**14.4**

Overall, our sentiment analysis model exhibits potential in comprehending and classifying user sentiments regarding drug evaluations. Although there is a scope for improvement in handling negative and neutral sentiments, the model's accuracy and precision provide encouragement, rendering it a valuable resource for healthcare practitioners and patients. Prospective endeavors might encompass additional model polishing, bias alleviation, and amalgamation into a user-friendly interface for pragmatic utilization in healthcare decision-making and pharmaceutical suggestions.

## XVII. LIMITATIONS:

- 17.1 **Data Bias:** The set of data utilized for training and testing might contain inherent biases due to the origins and methods of gathering data, potentially impacting the overall effectiveness of our models.
- 17.2 **Ethical Considerations:** The management of confidential healthcare information necessitates strict compliance with ethical standards and privacy laws, which can complicate the implementation of these models in real-world scenarios.
- 17.3 **Model Interpretability:** Despite the exceptional performance of BERT and Transformer models, they are less straightforward in their interpretation compared to RNNs and LSTMs, posing challenges in comprehending the reasons behind specific recommendations being put forth.

## XVIII. FUTURE WORK:

There are several avenues for future research in this domain:

- 18.1 **Overcoming Bias:** Developing advanced methods to diminish bias in sentiment analysis and recommendation systems for ensuring fairness and equity.
- 18.2 **Enhancing Model Explainability:** Improving the interpretability of intricate models like BERT for making recommendations more transparent to users.
- 18.3 **Multimodal Analysis:** Incorporating additional data modalities such as images and audio to offer a more holistic understanding of user sentiments and experiences.
- 18.4 **Real-time Monitoring:** Establishing systems capable of monitoring user sentiments in real-time and adjusting recommendations as they fluctuate.
- 18.5 **Clinical Trials Application:** Implementing our sentiment analysis and recommendation system to aid in designing and overseeing clinical trials in the pharmaceutical sector.

Our research sets the groundwork for a novel phase in healthcare decision-making by utilizing sentiment analysis and personalized medication suggestions. Although there are hurdles and restrictions to address, the potential advantages for patients, healthcare providers, and pharmaceutical companies are significant, which makes this a captivating and advancing field of research.

## XIX. KEY FINDINGS:

The completion of the task has led to the creation of a strong sentiment analysis model that uses cutting-edge NLP methods to classify sentiments related to drugs into positive, negative, and neutral categories. The accuracy and precision of the sentiment analysis part were showcased when tested with real-world data, showing the ability to comprehend user emotions towards different medications effectively. It managed to grasp the subtle details in user encounters, even when dealing with language specific to the field and medical terminology.

Moreover, the addition of a personalized system for recommending drugs has proven to be beneficial. By utilizing user profiling and collaborative filtering methods, the system produced tailored drug suggestions based on past sentiment data, medical background, and demographic details. These recommendations were not only deemed appropriate but also matched with documented drug interactions, ultimately enriching the patient's journey and results.



## XX. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE WORK:

The importance of this task cannot be exaggerated. Examining emotions, specifically customized for drug suggestions, plays a crucial role in grasping public sentiment regarding pharmaceutical items. It enables healthcare experts, drug manufacturers, and supervisory organizations to reach data-based conclusions, spot trends in patient opinions, side effects, and possible drug reactions.

Furthermore, the personalized drug recommendation component of the system shows significant potential. By providing personalized medicine recommendations, the system helps in enhancing patient results, decreasing unfavorable effects, and boosting patient compliance with prescribed drugs. This not only aids individuals but also carries wider implications for the healthcare system, potentially reducing medical expenses and improving general public well-being.

## XXI. PRACTICAL IMPLICATIONS AND BROADER IMPACT:

### The Extensive Practical Implications of the Study:

Healthcare professionals have the opportunity to utilize the sentiment analysis system to gain valuable insights into patient experiences. Consequently, they can make well-informed decisions concerning drug efficacy and safety. Pharmaceutical companies can take advantage of this data to enhance their product development and marketing strategies. Additionally, regulatory bodies can apply this information to effectively monitor and surveil drug-related issues.

### Enhancing Patient Care with Personalized Drug Recommendations:

The personalized drug recommendation system has the potential to greatly improve patient care. By customizing medication suggestions based on individual preferences and medical histories, it promotes better patient outcomes, increased adherence, and potentially lighter burden on healthcare resources.

### The Broader Influence of the Research:

This research has the power to revolutionize healthcare decision-making by making it more patient-centered and data-driven. It not only addresses the gap between patient experiences and medical decisions but also leads to safer and more effective medication practices in the long run.

## XXII. DISCUSSION and CONCLUSION:

**Interpretation:** Our project's findings offer valuable insights into the field of drug recommendation and sentiment analysis within the healthcare and pharmaceutical sector. By utilizing advanced NLP techniques and machine learning models, we have made significant progress in comprehending user sentiments, creating personalized drug suggestions, and tackling intricate challenges.

**Drug Recommendation Implications:** Our tailor-made drug recommendation system has the potential to transform healthcare decision-making. Using user profiles, past sentiments, and collaborative filtering, we can recommend medications customized to individual preferences and medical backgrounds. This has far-reaching implications for improving patient outcomes, boosting adherence to prescribed treatments, and possibly reducing negative effects. Healthcare experts can utilize these suggestions as an additional resource to make more educated choices regarding medications, particularly in situations where patients have distinct needs and preferences.

**Sentiment Analysis Implications:** The sentiment analysis aspect of our project assists in classifying user sentiments regarding drug experiences. This data is invaluable for pharmaceutical companies, regulatory agencies, and healthcare providers. By grasping the public sentiment surrounding specific drugs, pharmaceutical firms can refine their drug development procedures and marketing strategies. Regulatory bodies can pinpoint potential issues or side effects by tracking sentiment trends, leading to improved safety precautions. Healthcare providers can incorporate sentiment analysis to gather patient feedback, identify patterns, and customize treatment plans accordingly.

**Comparison:** We incorporated three varied models for sentiment analysis in our project: Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs), Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) networks, and Transformer-based models like BERT. Each of these models possesses its unique strengths and weaknesses.

- i. **RNNs and LSTMs:** These Models: RNNs and LSTMs excel in capturing the sequence of dependencies found in text data. They are proficient in comprehending the context of a sentence and are valuable for nuanced sentiment analysis. Nevertheless, they might encounter difficulties with long-range dependencies and are not as computationally efficient as Transformer models. Their advantages lie in their interpretability and appropriateness for smaller datasets.
- ii. **Transformer-Based Models (BERT):** Transformer-based models, like BERT, shine in capturing extended dependencies and have attained cutting-edge results in various NLP tasks, including sentiment analysis. They can grasp the subtleties of language effectively and are less reliant on handcrafted characteristics or explicit feature designing. However, they are computationally intense and demand significant computational resources for training.
- iii. **Strengths and Weaknesses: RNNs and LSTMs are more interpretable and efficient for small datasets:** Making them suitable for projects with limited resources. In contrast, BERT and Transformer models offer superior performance and scalability but come at the cost of higher computational requirements. The choice of model should depend on project goals, available resources, and the size and complexity of the dataset.
- iv. **Practical Implications:** Our study has considerable practical applications in real-world healthcare scenarios:
  - I. **Enhanced Drug Recommendations:** Healthcare providers can incorporate our tailored drug recommendation system into their electronic health record (EHR) systems to help with medication selection, enhancing patient outcomes and adherence.
  - II. **Pharmaceutical Industry:** Pharmaceutical companies can utilize sentiment analysis to acquire insights into market sentiments and detect potential problems with their medications early in the developmental process.
  - III. **Regulatory Oversight:** Regulatory bodies can monitor public sentiment to identify emerging safety concerns, enabling more proactive regulatory actions.
  - IV. **Patient-Centric Care:** Our system empowers patients to make more informed decisions regarding their medications, promoting patient-centered healthcare.

This project signifies a significant progression in sentiment analysis within the pharmaceutical sector. Its contributions to understanding public sentiments, providing personalized recommendations, and enhancing patient care could shape the future of healthcare and pharmaceutical decision-making. This work is not just about meeting current healthcare needs but also about laying the groundwork for a more patient-centered and data-informed approach in the future.

The current project has tried to cater to the urgent requirement for an advanced sentiment analysis system specializing in drug recommendations, especially in the healthcare and pharmaceutical sector. The examination and outcomes presented here illuminate various crucial facets and consequences of our study.

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