Fundamentals of AI for Public Health

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"All models are wrong, some are useful." - George Box



www.censusatschool.org.nz

Introduction

- It is an undeniable fact that in India there is an extreme shortage of healthcare facilities.
- In light of this it is imperative that in order to meet the growing healthcare needs of the people one would require a significant increase in resources.
- In a resource-constrained economy this is becoming a very challenging task.
- However, what is not commonly understood is whether we are efficiently utilising the existing resources?

Lack of periodic, credible, and reliable public health data at the level of administrative unit to make *Informed Policy Decisions*

- Sample Registration System (SRS) for IMR, U5MR at state level
 - No district level estimates
 - Is not suited to measures changes from one year to another (have to wait 5 years to analyse if policies are having any desired effect).
- National Family Health Survey (not very frequent) the latest one happened after a gap of 10 years
- HMIS data from the MoHFW is not reliable

Applications of Statistical Models/ML: Economics of Healthcare Delivery using Institutional Data such as AIIMS

- Since 2012, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) has digitised every aspect of out-patient and in-patient journey in the hospital.
 - Are there patterns in gender discrimination in access to health care with respect to age and distance to health facility? Gender
 - A Data Driven Patient booking System for OPD Arbitrary Appointment Systems with NO SHOW leads to
 - Long wait time to get an appointment.
 - Sub optimal utilization of resources: Large variance leading to "Under" and "Over" utilization of resources.
 - Paradoxically, on many occasions data reveals, long wait time to get an appointment but a large under utilization of resources.
 - Low patient satisfaction.
 - Machine learning based prediction of antibiotic sensitivity in patients with critical illness ML



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Key findings 1



Figure 1: Estimated sex ratio with respect to age group

Key findings 2



Figure 2: Estimated sex ratio with respect to State of residence

Gender

Challenges of Algorithms

- Lack of Robustness
 - Algorithms are based on associations and not on underlying processes.
 - Works well if everything remains the same as past data. But the world is changing!!
- Not accounting for statistical variability
- Implicit bias
- Lack of Transperency

Thank you!

Patient's Journey - Totally Digitised



Digitised

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