CS 528 Mobile and Ubiquitous Computing
Lecture 8b: Smartphone Sensing Apps: StudentLife, Epidemiological Change

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StudentLife
College is hard...


- **Lots of Stressors in College**
  - Lack of sleep
  - Exams/quizzes
  - High workload
  - Deadlines
  - 7-week term
  - Loneliness (e.g. freshmen, international students)

- **Consequences**
  - Burnout
  - Decline in psychological well-being
  - Academic Performance (GPA)
Students who Need Help Not Noticed

- Many stressed/overwhelmed students not noticed
  - Even worse in large classes (e.g. intro classes with 150-200 students)
  - Many do not seek help
  - E.g. < 10% of clinically depressed students seek counseling
StudentLife: Continuous Mobile Sensing

- **Research questions**: Are sensible patterns (sleep, activity, social interactions, etc) reliable indicator of suffering student (e.g. low GPA, depressed, etc)?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stressors</th>
<th>Consequences</th>
<th>Sensable symptoms</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deadlines</td>
<td>Anxiety</td>
<td>Sleep</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exams</td>
<td>Depression</td>
<td>Social interactions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quiz</td>
<td>Poor exam scores</td>
<td>Conversations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Break-ups</td>
<td>Low GPA</td>
<td>Activity Level</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social pressure</td>
<td>??</td>
<td>??</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
StudentLife Continuous Sensing App

- **Goal:** Use smartphone sensing to assess/monitor student:
  - Psychological well-being (depression, anxiety, etc)
  - Academic performance
  - Behavioral trends, stress patterns as term progresses
- Demonstrate strong correlation between sensed data and clinical measures of mental health (depression, loneliness, etc)
- **Show smartphone sensing COULD be used to give clinically valid diagnoses?**
  - Get clinical quality diagnosis without going to clinic
- Pinpoint factors (e.g. classes, profs, frats) that increase depression/stress
Potential Uses of StudentLife

- Student planning and stress management
- Improve Professors’ understanding of student stress
- Improve Administration’s understanding of students’ workload
StudentLife Approach

- Semester-long Study of 49 Dartmouth College Students
  - Continuously gather sensible signs (sleep, activity level, etc)
  - Administer mental health questionnaires periodically as pop-ups (called EMA)
  - Also retrieve GPA, academic performance from registrar
- **Labeling**: what activity, sleep, conversation level = high depression

**Mental Health Questionnaires (EMA)**
- Anxiety
- Depression
- Loneliness
- Flourishing

**Data Gathering app, automatically sense**
- Sleep
- Social interactions
- Conversations
- Activity Level, etc
Specifics: Data Gathering Study

- Entry and exit surveys at Semester start/end
  - on Survey Monkey
  - E.g. PHQ-9 depression scale

- 8 MobileEMA and PAM quizzes per day
  - Stress
  - Mood (PAM)

- Automatic Sensed data
  - Activity Detection: activity type, WiFi’s APs
  - Conversation Detection:
  - Sleep Detection: duration

PAM: Pick picture depicting your current mood
StudentLife Data Gathering Study Overview

Figure 2. StudentLife app, sensing and analytics system architecture.
Clinical Mental Health Questionnaires

- MobileEMA popped up mental health questionnaires (widely used by psychologists, therapists, etc), provides labelled data

  - **Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-9)**
    - Measures depression level

  - **Perceived Stress Scale**
    - Measures Stress level

  - **Flourishing Scale**
    - Measures self-perceived success in relationships, self-esteem, etc

  - **UCLA loneliness survey**
    - Measures loneliness (common in freshmen, int’l students)
Study Details

- **60 Students started study**
  - All enrolled in CS65 Smartphone Programming class
  - 12 students dropped class during study
  - 30 undergrad/18 graduate level
  - 38 male/10 female

- **Incentives given to study participants**
  - StudentLife T-shirt (all students)
  - *Week 3 & 6*: 5 Jawbone UPs (like fitbit) to 5 in raffle
  - *End of study*: 10 Google Nexus phones in raffle

- **10 weeks of data collection**
Correlation Analysis

- Compute correlation between smartphone-sensed features and various questionnaire scores, GPA, etc.
- E.g. correlation between sensor data and PHQ-9 depression score, GPA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>automatic sensing data</th>
<th>r</th>
<th>p-value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>sleep duration (pre)</td>
<td>-0.360</td>
<td>0.025</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sleep duration (post)</td>
<td>-0.382</td>
<td>0.020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>conversation frequency during day (pre)</td>
<td>-0.403</td>
<td>0.010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>conversation frequency during day (post)</td>
<td>-0.387</td>
<td>0.016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>conversation frequency during evening (post)</td>
<td>-0.345</td>
<td>0.034</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>conversation duration during day (post)</td>
<td>-0.328</td>
<td>0.044</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>number of co-locations (post)</td>
<td>-0.362</td>
<td>0.025</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Some Findings

- Fewer conversations or co-locations correlate with
  - Higher chance of depression

- Higher stressed correlated with
  - Higher chance of depression

- More social interactions correlated with
  - Higher flourishing, GPA scores
  - Lower stress

- More sleep correlates with
  - Lower stress
Findings (cont’d)

- Less sleep?
  - Higher chance of depression

- Less activity?
  - More likely to be lonely, lower GPAs

- No correlation between class attendance and academic performance (Hmm...)

- As term progressed:
  - Positive affect and activity duration plummeted
Findings (cont’d)

- Plotted total values of sensed data, EMA etc for all subjects through the term
Study Limitations/Trade Offs

- **Sample Selection**
  - Voluntary - CS65 Smartphone Programming class (similar to CS 4518)

- **User participation**
  - **Burden**: Surveys, carrying phone
  - Disinterest (Longitudinal study, EMA annoyance)

- **Lost participants**

- **Sleep measurement inaccuracy**
  - Naps
Discussion

- Expand to other colleges
  - Semester vs 10 week vs 7 week term
  - Similar results?

- Privacy concerns
MIT Epidemiological Change
Outline

- Introduction
- Related Work
- Methodology
- Evaluation/Results
- References

Social Sensing for Epidemiological Behavior Change

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ABSTRACT
An important question in behavioral epidemiology and public health is to understand how individual behavior is affected by illness and stress. Although changes in individual behavior are intertwined with contagion, epidemiologists today do not have sensing or modeling tools to quantitatively measure its effects in real-world conditions. In this paper, we propose a novel application of ubiquitous computing. We use mobile phones based co-location and communication sensing to measure characteristic behavior changes in symptomatic individuals, reflected in their total communication, interactions with respect to time of day (e.g., late night, early morning), diversity and entropy of face-to-face interactions and movement. Using these extracted mobile features, it is possible to predict the health status of an individual without having actual health measurements from the subject. Finally, we estimate the temporal information flux and implied causality between physical symptoms, behavior and mental health.

Author Keywords:
Social computing, Spatial Epidemiology, Mobile Sensing

ACM Classification Keywords:
1.6.4 Pattern Recognition: Applications; H.4.m Information Systems: Miscellaneous

General Terms:
Algorithms, Experimentation, Measurement

INTRODUCTION
Face-to-face interactions are the primary mechanism for propagation of airborne contagious disease [28]. An important question in behavioral epidemiology and public health is in [11]. Such research requires continuous, long-term data about symptoms reports, mobility patterns and social interactions amongst individuals. In this paper, we propose a novel application of ubiquitous computing, to better understand the link between physical respiratory symptoms, influenza, stress, mild depression and automatically captured behavioral features. This is an important problem for several reasons.

Quantitatively understanding how people behave when they are infected would be a fundamental contribution to epidemiology and public health, and can inform treatment and intervention strategies, as well as influence public policy decisions. On one hand, classical epidemiology has accurate information on the evolution of the health of individuals over time but lacks realistic social interaction as well as spatio-temporal data [15]. On the other hand, current research efforts in theoretical epidemiology model the rate of infection in a population whose behavior is stationary over time and do not account for individual changes [26]. For instance, if a person infected with influenza continues his habitual lifestyle instead of isolating himself, he could pose a bigger risk to others in proximity. Based on our analysis and results, policymakers can recommend social interventions that minimize such risk.

On the modeling front, compartmental epidemiological models (e.g., the Susceptible, Infectious, Recovered or SIR model) commonly assume that movement and interaction patterns for individuals are stationary during infection, i.e., that individuals will continue their typical behavioral patterns when sick. More recent epidemiological models accommodate reduced mobility variations to fit epidemic curves, but in a heuristic way due to lack of data at the individual level [4, 9, 14], which possibly limited their prediction accuracy during the 2009 H1N1 influenza epidemic [22]. To our knowl-
Introduction

**Epidemiology:** The study of how infectious disease spreads in a population

- Face-to-face contact is primary means of transmission
- Understanding behavior is key to modeling, prediction, policy
The Problem

- Disease spread models exist, but lack real data on behavior changes due to infection because:
  - large numbers of people, many interactions
  - Lack of accurate, timely symptom reports
  - Accurate modeling would require simultaneous, real-time capturing of behavior, mobility patterns, social interactions

- Clinical symptoms/effects are understood, but...
  - Identification requires in-person physician or self-diagnosis
  - Real-time automatic data collection challenging
Research Questions

- Can smartphone reliably detect sick owner?
  - Based on sensible behavior changes (movement patterns, etc)

- How do physical and mental health symptoms manifest themselves as behavioral patterns?
  - E.g. worsening cold = reduced movement?

- Given sensed behavioral pattern (e.g. movement), can smartphone user’s symptom/ailment be reliably inferred?
Potential Uses of Smartphone Sickness Sensing

- Early warning system (not diagnosis)
  - Doesn’t have to be so accurate

- Just flag “potentially” ill student, nurse calls to check up

- Insurance companies can reduce untreated illnesses that result in huge expenses
General Approach

- Semester-long Study of 70 MIT Students
  - Continuously gather sensible signs (movement, social interactions, etc)
  - Administer sickness/symptom questionnaires periodically as pop-ups (called EMA)
- **Labeling:** what movement pattern, social interaction level = what illness, symptom

**Sickness Questionnaires (EMA)**
- Ailment type (cold, flu, etc)
- Symptoms

**Data Gathering app, automatically sense**
- Movement
- Social interactions

**Labels** (for classifier)
Methodology

- 70 residents of an MIT dorm
- Windows-Mobile device
- Daily Survey (symptom data)
- Sensor-based Social Interaction Data
- 10 weeks
  - Date: 02/01/2009 - 04/15/2009
  - Peak influenza months in New England
Methodology (Symptom Data)

- Daily pop-up survey
- 6AM every day - respond to symptom questions

Table 1. Symptom Survey Questionnaire. All questions were Yes/No responses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Survey Question (as shown on mobile phone)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Do you have a sore throat or cough?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do you have a runny nose, congestion or sneezing?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do you have a fever?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have you had any vomiting, nausea or diarrhea?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have you been feeling sad, lonely or depressed lately?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Have you been feeling stressed out lately?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Methodology (Social Interaction Data)

- Bluetooth (scan every 6 minutes)
  - Proximity to other phones
  - Number of Bluetooth devices seen gives estimate of how many people subject is around (but electronic devices also have Bluetooth)

- WLAN: (scan every 6 minutes)
  - Gives approximate location (Access Points)
  - On campus / off campus
  - Can be used to infer whether subject at home (e.g. home when they’re sick)
Methodology (Social Interaction Data)

- SMS and Call records (log every 20 minutes)
  - Communication patterns
  - Time of communication (e.g. Late night / early morning)
  - E.g. may talk more on the phone early or late night when in bed with cold

- Tracked number of calls/SMS, and with who (diversity)
  - E.g. sick people may communicate with/seeing same/usual people or new people (e.g. nurse, family?)
  - Intensity of ties, size and dynamics of social network
  - Consistency of behavior
Analyze Syndrome/Symptom/Behavioral Relationships

Syndrome [Influenza, Cold/Allergies]

Symptoms [Sore throat/cough, Runny Nose/Conjestion/Sneezing, Fever, Vomiting/Nausea, Sad/Lonely/Depressed Stressed]

Behavioral [Total Communication, Late Night Communication, Communication Diversity, Bluetooth Proximity Entropy, WLAN Entropy]
Data Analysis

- Behavior effects of CDC-defined influenza (Flu)
  - Communication, movement generally reduced

(a) Total Bluetooth interactions and entropy decrease **
(b) Late night early morning Bluetooth entropy with respect to other participants decreases **
(c) WLAN based entropy with respect to university WLAN APs decreases ***
(d) WLAN Entropy with respect to external WLAN APs decreases **
Data Analysis

- Behavior effects of runny nose, congestion, sneezing symptom (mild illness)
  - Communication, movement increased

(a) Total communication increases ***
(b) Late-night early morning communication increases **
(c) Overall Bluetooth entropy decreases *
(d) WLAN APs detected increase **
Results: Conclusion

- **Conclusion:** Behavioral changes are identified as having statistically significant association with reported symptoms.

- Can we classify illness, likely symptoms based on observed behaviors?

- Why? Detect variations in behavior -> identify likelihood of symptom and take action
Symptom Classification using Behavioral Features

- Yes!!

- Bayes Classifier w/MetaCost for misclassification penalty

- 60% to 90% accuracy!!
Conclusion

- Mobile phone successfully used to sense behavior changes from cold, influenza, stress, depression
- Demonstrated the ability to predict health status from behavior, without direct health measurements
- Opens avenue for real-time automatic identification and improved modeling
- Led to startup Ginger io (circa 2012)
  - Patients tracked, called by real physician when ill
  - Funded > $25 million till date
Next Week: Project Proposal
Final Project Proposal

http://web.cs.wpi.edu/~emmanuel/courses/cs528/F17/projects/final_project/

- 15-min Proposal Pitch (7/25 of project grade)
  a) what problem your app/machine learning classification/regression will tackle
  b) Why that problem is important and
  c) Summary of how your app will work/solve this problem.
  d) Implementation plan
    - **App:** Android Modules used, software architecture, screen mockups or sketches and timeline with who will do what.
    - **Machine learning project:** what dataset(s) you will utilize or how you will run a study to gather data.
Final Project Proposal

http://web.cs.wpi.edu/~emmanuel/courses/cs528/F17/projects/final_project/

- Use Powerpoint template for your presentation
- Mail me your presentation slides after your talk (due 11.59PM) next week
- See proposal website for more details (rubric, etc)
- Ask me if you are confused about any aspect