



Transferability of General Polish NER to Electronic Health Records

A report on *pl_ehr_cardio*

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TL;DR

Available Polish NER is almost useless for mining health records.

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However, the exact proportions of its failures contain some food for thought for anyone interested in healthcare NLP or Polish language research.

Our data

- *pl_ehr_cardio*: Polish corpus of health records
 - 50,000+ hospitalizations
 - 18 years
 - cardiology only
 - ICD-10 diagnosis code for each hospitalization
- Unstructured text data entered by doctors consisting of 4 sections:
 - 1. Interview (onset): Arrival of the patient, reported symptoms
 - 2. Interview (physical examination): Doctor's findings after preliminary physical examination
 - 3. Discharge (physical examination): Summary of the hospitalization, procedures, diagnoses
 - 4. Discharge (recommendation): Recommended medications and behavior changes

Core motivation

Discover latent knowledge hidden in unstructured text.

Data sample

L.p. Wywiad - Początek choroby - Treść	Wywiad - Badanie przedmiotowe - Treść		Epikryza - Zalecenia lekarskie - Treść	choroba zasadnicza - Kod choroby
1 Pacient Int 64 po zawale serce ściany przednie (2005), po wielekretnych angiopiastykach naczyń wielekowych, zosta Drzybach naczyń wielekowych, zosta Drzybach wielekowych w ostatnim czesie episody bolu w kip o charakterz piekącym, ostatnie epizod trwał 4 dni, W wywiadzie: Stan po zawale serce ściany przednie 2005:r Społe z boly w kip o charakterz piekącym, ostatnie epizod trwał 4 dni, W wywiadzie: Stan po zawale serce ściany przednie 2005;r Społe z boly w kip o PCI Cz + stert (2005). Stan po PCI RC4+stert (11.2011) Zaburzenie lipidowe, Uczulenia: nie podaje, Wywiad rodzinny: brat - MU zwyki: nie pali od 15 lat wcześniej do paczk/3 dni kawa - Judz aktody Szczepienie WZW. Nie	kontaki logiczny zachowany. Skóra czysta, bez wykwitów, tkanka podskóma prawidlowo rozwinieta, wszy hobolesna opukwe, jaki oczne niebolesna opukwe, jaki oczne podczen prowidłowa symachowa reguju na świato i zbieżność, Nos droztw. służowi jamy ustroj wilygotne, różowe, gardio blade, migdaki podniebienne niepowiekszone, bez nałotów, jezyk prawidłowa ruchomy, bez nałotów, uzybienie kompietne, Szyle: ruchomość czyma i bierna szwie ruchomość czyma i bierna oddechowa zachowana, wypuk jawyt, oddechowa zachowana, wypuk jawyt,	Pacjent iał 64 po zawale serce ściany przednie (2005), po wiejskrotnych anajosłastykach naczyń wietkowych anajosłastykach naczyń wietkowych sterokardiałnych w chokardiopradi sterokardiałnych, w chokardiopradi sterokardiałnych, w chokardiopradi twiedzone tryskach krytyczna dodłe przy fakcji wyczatwel lewel dodłe przy fakcji wyczatwel lewel dodłe przy fakcji wyczatwel lewel dodłe przy fakcji wyczatwel lewel koroparografia wykazda krytyczna zajosłastyke dalaonałne, zajosłastyke dalaonałne, Dadatowe opisane wstastępowanie ukato i do zakonowa zmiany. Dadatowe opisane wstastępowanie ukato i do zakonowa zmiany. Dadatowe opisane wstastępowanie ukato i do zakonowa zmiany. Dadatowe opisane wstastępowanie dobrym z wiw zalesceniami.	Ökreseve kontrola v Poradni Karologiacne, Dieta malesolna, Ubgoblaszczowa, Kontrola variosel ubgoblaszczowa, Kontrola variosel zaywanie jekkow (Biołbead Smg 1/2-0-0 tab), Simwagen 20mg 0-0-1 tab), Agen Simwagen 20mg 0-0-1 tab), Agen Agent 20mg 0-0-1 tab), Agen Simwagen 20mg 0-0-	120.0

Corpus statistics: Unit counts

Documents (hospitalizations)	50,469
Paragraphs (sections)	198,737
Sentences	2,573,000
Words	23,831,785
Interview (onset) sections	49,873
Interview (physical examination) sections	49,833
Discharge (physical examination) sections	49,722
Discharge (recommendation) sections	49,312

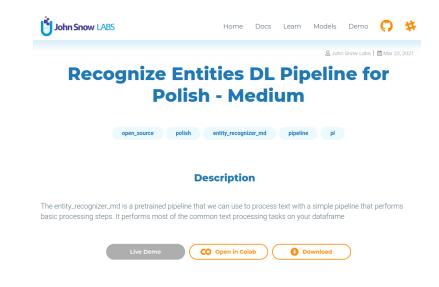
Used NER tools: PolDeepNer2

Code O Issues 1 I1	Pull requests 💿 Actions 🗐 Projects		Go to file Code -	About
	mezuk Comparision of NER times	for different datasets	ca585d6 on Apr 9 321 commits	An improved tool for named entity recognition for Polish based on deep learning.
	🖿 docs/media	Comparision of NER times for different datasets	8 months ago	deep-learning named-entities ner
	notebooks	Notebook on how to install and use PolDeepNer2	9 months ago	roberta fine-grained-ner nkjp kpw
	README.md	Comparision of NER times for different datasets	8 months ago	poleval
	poleval_ner_test.py	Installation description. Added evaluation scripts.	9 months ago	D Readme
	process_poleval.py	Installation description. Added evaluation scripts.	9 months ago	
	: README.md			Releases
	PolDeepNer2			Packages
	PolDeepNer2 is an Improved ver- utilizing neural networks and tran	sion of PolDeepNer. The tool is designed to recogn sfomer-based language models.	ze and categorize named entities	No packages published
	The tool is provided with a list of	pre-trained models for Polish and other languages.		Languages
	It contains a pre-trained model tra types:	ained on the NKJP corpus which recognizes nested	annotations of the following	Python 89.0% Jupyter Notebook 31.0%
	Contributors			
	Michał Marcińczuk marcincz Jarema Badom	uk@gmail.com		

Used NER tools: spaCy

MODELS Overview	pl_core_	news_lg
TRAINED PIPELINES Catalan Chinese	Polish pipeline optimize	d for CPU. Components: tok2vec, morphologizer, tagger, parser, senter, ner, attribute_ruler, lemmatizer.
Daniah English Fench German Italian Italian	LANGUAGE TYPE GENRE SIZE COMPONENTS ⑦	Polah Com Vocabulary, syntax, entities, vectors wrww written text (news, media) for Sos MB ind/vec, morphologizer, parser, togger, senter, attribute_rular, lematizer, mer
Lithuanian PIFELINE ① Macedonian Marikanguage VECTORS ① Norwegian Bokmäl Polisih Pillose, nowe, min pillose, nowe, min pillose, nowe, min pillose, nowe, min Pillose	VECTORS ⑦	tokövec, morphologizer, parsen, tagger, attribute_ruler, lemmatizer, men 500k keys, 500k unique vectors (500 dimensions)
	SOURCES 🛞	UD Polant PDB v2.8 or (Wholeweska, Alma; Zeman, Damiet, Malek, Janr, Fosa, Rudoll) Hashanal Corpus a Polinh (Miodawa Barliko, Rafa L. Górski, Barbara Lewandowska-Tomaszczyk, Marek Łażński, Potr Pgzik, Adam Przepidrówski Jakomal Corpus of Polinh (Miodawa Barliko, Rafa L. Górski, Barbara Lewandowska-Tomaszczyk, Marek Łażński, Potr Pgzik, Adam Przepidrówski Polibert (Wolnisk, Marcin, Mikowski, Amarcia Cogorciaczki, Marck Jacki, Poter Pgzik, Adam Przepidrówski, Danatra Cogorciaczki, Marck Jacki, Poter Pgzik, March Zenze, Mikowski, Amarcia Cogorciaczki, Marck Jacki, Poter Pgzik, Adam Przepidrówski, Danatra Cogorciaczki, Marck Jacki, Poter Pgzik, Pgzik, Pgzi
Romanian Russian	AUTHOR	Explosion
Spanish	LICENSE	GNU GPL 3.0

Used NER tools: Spark NLP



Why these 3?

- PolDeepNer2 [4] is the state of the art
- PolDeepNer2's KPWr model [3] has some categories potentially useful for medicine
- spaCy [1] and Spark NLP [2] are widely used, so their biggest Polish models (*pl_core_news_lg* and *entity_recognizer_md* for Polish, respectively) are natural entry points for researchers who primarily deal with other languages
- Part of Spark NLP's business are models for healthcare (so far in English, German, and Spanish) and future extension into Polish is possible

What we did

spark_PER

Pacjentka I.38, prowadzi działalność gospodarczą.

[spark_LOC] Dolegliwości obecne: uczucie zmęczenia, bardzo zła tolerancja wysiłku, uczucie nierównego bicia serca.
Bpark_LOC Bpark_MSC Początek i przebeig choroby: o 09.02. nasilenie dolegilwości.
spark_LOC Choroby przbyte: nie podaje.
Spacy_persName Spacy_persName Spacy_orgName Wywiad rpdzinny: ojciec - choroba niedokrwienna serca, siostra - leczona ablacją ?, Używki: papierosy - od 6 m-cy nie pali, palila 5/dz/7 lat Uczulenia - nie podaje godzepner2, nam.oth Szczepienia p/WZW - nie szczepiona. - nie szczepiona.
spark_LOC [spark_DER] Waga - 95 kg, Wzrost - 171 cm BADANI E F I Z Y K A L N E PACJENT: przytomny, ułożenie dowolne, kontakt łatwy.
spart.086 WYPOWIADA się logicznie, zwięźle.
spark_LOC Wydaje się dobrze pamiętać fakty.
spark LOC Poziom umysłowy w granicach normy,

Figure: Performance was manually evaluated in the BRAT annotation tool on a balanced 10,000-word subset

Performance comparison

	PolDeepNer2		spaCy		Spark NLP	
all	7	25,198	9	65,225	3,4	28,457
PER	170,969	23.6%	350,749	36.3%	381,543	11.1%
ORG	119,321	16.5%	248,115	25.7%	502,457	14.7%
LOC	21,026	2.9%	78,888	8.2%	1,350,885	39.4%
MISC	413,882	57.1%	287,473	29.8%	1,193,572	34.8%

Table: Entity counts (corpus word count is 23,831,785)

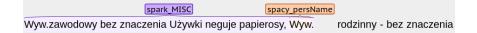
Table: Precision comparison (manually evaluated, MISC cannot be compared)

	PolDee	pNer2	spaCy Spark NL		k NLP	
all	90.9%	90/99	40.3%	104/258	7.6%	59/780
PER	100%	54/54	41.1%	53/129	34.4%	45/131
ORG	81.8%	36/44	50.5%	51/101	6.1%	11/179
LOC	0%	0/1	0%	0/28	0.6%	3/470

Spark NLP for Polish: A complete failure

spark_MISC

Olicard retard 40 mg 1-0-0 Acard 75 mg 1-0-0 Zocor 20 mg 0-0-1 Prinivil 20 mg 1-0-0 Milurit 100 mg 1-0-0 Diabrezide 1-0-1



spark_MISC

20mg 0-0-1 Preductal MR 1-0-1 Spironol 100mg 1/2-0-0 Memotropil 1200mg 1-1-0



Figure: Extremely long matches

Spark NLP for Polish: A complete failure

spark_LOC

Budowa ciała prawidłowa.

spark_LOC

Skóra czysta, bez wykwitów patologicznych i blizn.

spark_LOC

Tkanka tłuszczowa podskórna prawidłowo rozwinięta, obwodowe węzły chłonne niepowiększone, bez obrzęków obwodowych.

spark_LOC

Czaszka wysklepiona symetrycznie.

spark_LOC

Gałki oczne ustawione symetrycznie, o zachowanej ruchomości.

spark_LOC

Źrenice okrągłe, symetryczne.

spark_LOC

Nos, przewody słuchowe zewnętrzne drożne, bez wydzieliny.

spark_LOC

Szyja o zachowanej ruchomości.

spark_LOC

Gruczoł tarczowy niepowiększony, gładki, ruchomy połykowo.

spark_LOC

Klatka piersiowa wysklepiona symetrycznie, ruchoma oddechowo, palpacyjnie niebolesna.

Figure: There are sections in which every sentence beginning is identified as a location

Spark NLP for Polish: A complete failure



powodu spoczynkowych dolegliwosci wieńcowych.

Figure: Spark NLP does seem to match some medicine names, but it is because it matches almost everything

spaCy: Better, but still lots of noise

spark MISC spacy persName Drżenie głosowe zachowane, symetryczne, ODGLOS OPUKOWY jawny, nieco symetryczny. spark MISC spacy placeName GRANICE DOLNE PLUC: po stronie prawej i lewej symetryczne, na prawidłowej wysokości. spark LOC spacy persName spacy orgName leczona ablacia ?. Używki: papierosy - od 6 m-cy nie pali, paliła 5/dz/7 lat Uczulenia - nie podaje spark LOC spacy placeName wilgotne, ukrwione prawidłowo. Spojówki:

Figure: False positives undermine the usability of spaCy's Polish model

spaCy: Date/time functionality

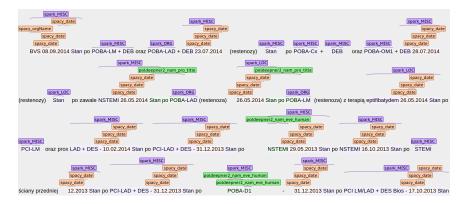


Figure: Most date/time expressions spaCy finds are language-independent, but it is a useful feature

Shared error tendencies

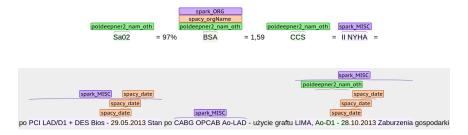




Figure: All the models feel that abbreviations are important, but without vocabularies or syntactical context, they are difficult to classify properly

PolDeepNer2: Good at personal names

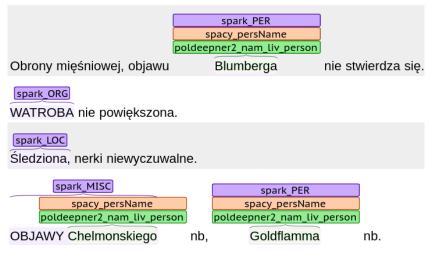


Figure: Most names of people in the corpus were the names of examination signs named after inventors

PolDeepNer2: Decent at organizations

spark_MISC poldeepner2_nam_org_organization POChP- od ok 50	lat (w młodości praca w hucie cynku)
z zaleceniem systematycznej kontroli	spark_LOC spacy_crgName poldespency_nam_org_institution w Poradni Kardiologicznej.
	y. orgName nam.org.institution RR [spark_LOC]
	a w Tychach, gdzie rozpoznano
spark PER spacy, orgName poldeepner2 nam_org_institution tutejszej Kliniki.	
ī	spark_LOC spacy_orgName

Figure: Names of departments and hospitals are relevant for medicine, albeit marginally

Pacientka została przvieta do Kliniji Chirurgij Ogólnej i Naczyń.

What can we expect from NER as a concept?

- General NER is looking for entities that are only partially relevant for medical science:
 - Personal names (useful for deidentification)
 - Organization names (irrelevant except for the occasional hospital department name)
 - Location names (irrelevant)
 - Miscellaneous categories depending on the model
- What medicine needs often fails to satisfy the definition of a NE:
 - Diagnosis names
 - Procedure names
 - Symptom names
 - Medicine names
 - Body part/function names
 - Measurement values

KPWr n82 model (PolDeepNer2): Fine-grained categories

- nam_liv: Living
- nam_org: Organization
- nam_fac: Facility
- nam_loc: Location
- nam_adj: Adjective
- nam_num: Numerical expression
- nam_eve: Event
- nam_pro: Product
- nam_oth: Other

PolDeepNer2: Tiny glimpses of hope

spark_LOC spacy_orgName
Bisocard 5 mg 1/2-0-0 tabl.
spark_LOC
Inhibace 5mg 1-0-0 tabl.
spark_LOC spacy_orgName
Tertensif SR 1,5 mg 1-0-0 tabl.
spark_LOC poldeepner2_nam_pro_brand
Encorton 5 mg 1/2-0-0 tabl.
spark_MISC
poldeepner2_nam_pro_brand
Theovent 300 mg 1-0-1 tabl.
spark_MISC spark_LOC
Pulmicort 100 2 x 2 wziewy Oxis 2 x 2 wziewy Sortis 20 mg 0-0-1 tabl.
poldeepner2_nam_org_group_band spark_MISC Insulina Mixtard 30 35j0-10j.

Figure: PolDeepNer2 identifying some medicine names as products is impressive, but it only finds a tiny fraction of the total

PolDeepNer2: Tiny glimpses of hope

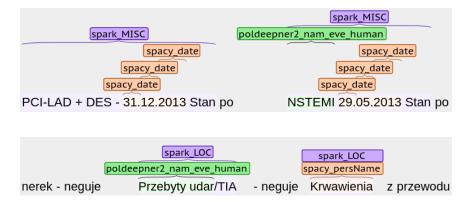


Figure: In a couple of unique cases, PolDeepNer2 identified heart attacks as events - however, recall is close to zero

Conclusions

- PolDeepNer2 could be used for de-identifying health records, but it would have to be prevented from deleting surnames in the names of medical concepts
- spaCy does identify most names but the other 50% of found entities are noise, rendering its name recognition unusable
- spaCy's identification of date/time expressions might be useful for timestamping events
- The authors of Spark NLP's Polish pipeline might need to further verify it as nothing should perform as bad as this

A valuable take-home message

Some of PolDeepNer2's categories (product, event) are a step in the right direction and suggest the possibility of tuning the existing RoBERTa model and thus creating PolDeepNer2's own MER (medical entity recognition) model.

Bibliography

Bibliography I

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- [3] Michał Marcińczuk. KPWr n82 NER model (on Polish RoBERTa base). 2020. URL: http://hdl.handle.net/11321/743.
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Thank you for your attention!

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