



## Pharmacovigilance Through Machine Learning: A Review

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### Abstract:

Pharmacovigilance is the science and practices related to obtaining information, identifying, evaluating, verifying, and mitigating adverse effects with pharmaceutical products. In essence, pharmacovigilance sheets medicine safety. As medical specialists with a strong background in this area, pharmacists play crucial roles in maintaining health systems that support the appropriate and safe use of medication. The discipline of medicine has shown a great deal of interest in artificial intelligence (AI), a vast subfield of computer science, due to its capacity for pattern detection, problem solving, and decision making. As a branch of artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning (ML) focuses on computers' capacity to absorb information, learn from it, and organize the data they are processing by adjusting algorithms. Machine learning technique are supervised learning, Semisupervised learning, Unsupervised Learning, and Reinforcement learning. A fascinating trip through time, the history of machine learning is filled with significant events, creative thinkers, and ground-breaking inventions. We will explore the intriguing background of machine learning in this post and gain a deeper understanding of the technology that is changing the world. Machine learning having so many application in pharmacovigilance some are: Machine Learning to identify adverse drug reaction and adverse drug event, detect Patients at High Risk for ADRs, identify Image, Speech and Pattern Recognition, predicting dermatological, healthcare and covid-19 pandemic etc.

**Keyword:** Machine learning, pharmacovigilance, supervised learning, unsupervised learning, semi supervised learning, reinforcement learning

### Introduction:

Pharmacovigilance is the science and practices related to obtaining information, identifying, evaluating, verifying, and mitigating adverse effects with pharmaceutical products. In essence, pharmacovigilance sheets medicine safety. As medical specialists with a strong background in this area, pharmacists play crucial roles in maintaining health systems that support the appropriate and safe use of medication. The viewpoint of understudies in drug stores regarding pharmacovigilance and ADR disclosure has also been investigated to highlight the necessity of enhancing the information related to ADR disclosure and pharmacovigilance in undergraduate drug store education programs. Across the globe, Pharmacists' roles within national pharmacovigilance frameworks vary, but they are generally well-regarded. The achievement of safety goals and the maintenance of public health depend on the reconciliation of ADR disclosure concepts in instruction educational modules, pharmacist preparation, and pharmacists' conscious commitment to ADR disclosure. Similarly, these gaps in knowledge can be filled by ongoing professional development initiatives and bolstering fictitious but plausible data in undergraduate pharmacy education courses. National pharmacovigilance frameworks are unlikely to improve if they do not appropriately identify and recognize the training needs of pharmacists and other human services professionals [1]. Detecting adverse drug reactions (ADRs) and enhancing the safe use of medications have been made possible by pharmacovigilance (PV). Many drug safety initiatives, including medication withdrawals, label modifications, and prescription restriction measures, have their foundation in PV2-4. Information technology's development and synchronization have made significant contributions to PV5's signal detection and data mining procedures. For drug safety monitoring procedures to be implemented and maintained, policy framing is necessary to include PV measures in each nation's drug regulatory mechanisms. Three major topics of PV are covered in this review article: the role of data mining in PV, the policy implications of PV, and notable instances of drug withdrawals because of PV data. Also included are specifics about PV experiences in a few chosen nations [2].

### Machine learning accompanied by pharmacovigilance

The discipline of medicine has shown a great deal of interest in artificial intelligence (AI), a vast subfield of computer science, due to its capacity for pattern detection, problem solving, and decision making. As a branch of artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning (ML) focuses on computers' capacity to absorb information, learn from it, and organize the data they are processing by adjusting algorithms. Dermatology has a distinct advantage when using ML because to the availability of big clinical picture collections for machine interpretation and training. Indeed, research has already shown that ML can successfully classify and diagnose skin conditions like eczema, psoriasis, onychomycosis, and skin cancer

at a level of performance that is on par with or better than that of board-certified dermatologists [3]. Within the field of artificial intelligence, machine learning involves teaching algorithmic models to carry out certain tasks by identifying and assimilating patterns from the data they encounter, as opposed to using explicit computer code created by a human specialist. There are three ways to approach this process: supervised, semi-supervised, and unsupervised. Supervised is the most widely used approach. Supervised learning happens when an algorithm system is expected to classify a novel, unidentified data point after gaining knowledge through training with a labelled dataset. The computer system would give numerous photos of skin lesions that have already been classified as benign or malignant, for instance, in order to distinguish benign from malignant skin lesions.

Artificial intelligence, probability, statistics, information theory, philosophy, psychology, and neurobiology are among the multidisciplinary fields that make up machine learning. By creating a model that is a good and useful approximation to the data, learning addresses challenges in the real world. From attempts to investigate whether computers could learn to emulate the functioning of the human brain and the science of statistics, machine learning has developed into a vast discipline that has provided key statistical computational theories of learning processes. The ENIAC, the first computer system, was created in 1946. At the time, it was believed that human cognition and learning could be made logical in such a device. Alan Turing suggested a test in 1950 to gauge its effectiveness. The Turing test is predicated on the notion that we can only ascertain whether a machine is truly capable of learning if we are able to converse with it and fail to distinguish it from a human. In the vicinity of 1952, Arthur Samuel (IBM) created the first computer program designed to play checkers and develop enough expertise to take on a world champion. In 1957 the perceptron, created by Frank Rosenblatt, is a system that joins a network of decision-making nodes where basic choices are made and then combined to solve more complicated problems in a bigger program. Pattern recognition was initially developed in 1967 when the closest neighbor algorithm was used to create the first program that could recognize patterns. Gerald Dejong proposed explanation-based learning in 1981. This method uses supervised learning to provide training examples with prior knowledge about the environment. Because computer science and statistics interact, machine learning had a resurgence in popularity in the early 1990s.

Machine learning algorithms in the broad domains of supervised and unsupervised learning kept progressing. Nowadays, adaptive programming is in demand. Technology that employs machine learning, wherein programs can see patterns, gain knowledge from experience, extract new information from data, and maximize the accuracy and efficiency of its processing and output. Machine learning techniques are employed in the process of gaining information from the multidimensional data that is available in a wide range of application domains. Modern machine learning differs from earlier machine learning due to advancements in computing technologies.

Although there have been a lot of machine learning algorithms recently, machine learning has made significant progress in applying complex mathematical calculations to large amounts of data automatically and repeatedly at ever-increasing speeds. Today's expanding amounts and types of available data, along with more affordable and accessible computational processing, have sparked increased interest in machine learning. Robust and reasonably priced data storage. Because of all of these factors, models that can evaluate larger, more complicated data sets and provide faster, more accurate results even on a very large scale may be created automatically and swiftly. High-value predictions made by a machine learning model can direct wiser choices and deft actions in real time without the need for human interaction.

Not only can machine learning adapt to the present demand, but it can also make real-time predictions about it. With the decreasing cost of computing, machine learning becomes the people tend to start performing seemingly difficult tasks, which leads them to create intelligent infrastructure. The science of machine learning requires the development of newer algorithms, and replacing current algorithms with new ones will require a significant amount of labor. It is not necessary to create a complete model algorithm to improve the robustness and confusability of the current algorithms, as the data frequently has simply a temporal value.

The structure of the paper is as follows: In Section II, the model for machine learning is explained. The overview of the machine learning techniques is given in Section III. Section Four explains the several learning algorithms that are employed to carry out the learning process. Section V explains the application using several machine learning techniques and learning scenarios. The manuscript is concluded in Section VI [4].

### **History of machine learning**

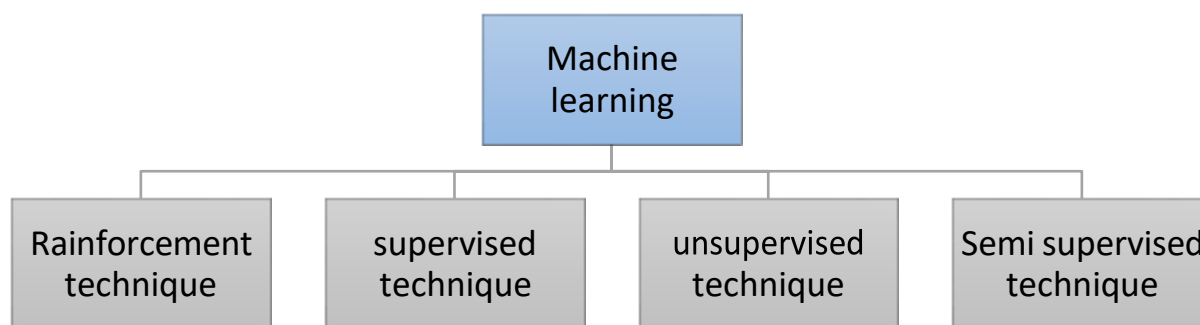
A fascinating trip through time, the history of machine learning is filled with significant events, creative thinkers, and ground-breaking inventions. We will explore the intriguing background of machine learning in this post and gain a deeper understanding of the technology that is changing the world [5].

**Table 1: Timeline of Machine Learning**

S.No	Year	Evaluation
1.	2006	National institute of standards and technology accede popular face recognition algorithm
2.	2012	A Google x lab unsupervised neural network trained to detect cats in YouTube video
3.	2014	Deep face was created
4.	2015	Google voice recognition Programme improved
5.	2016	lip net recognizes lip-read phrases video
6.	2017	Way men begin testing self-driving vehicles
7.	2019	Virtual assistant market in united state
8.	2020	Recursive belief based learning developed
9.	2021	Google announced switch transformed

**Type of machine learning**

Depending on the type of feedback or learning signal that a learning system has access to, machine learning approaches fall into one of three major categories:



**Fig. 1 classification of machine learning**

1. **Supervised Learning:** Labeled samples, such as an input for which the desired outcome is known, are used to train supervised learning. Supervised learning offers a dataset that includes labels and features. For instance, training data points on a piece of equipment might be labeled R (runs) or F (failed). Building an estimator that can forecast an object's label given its feature set is the goal of supervised learning. The learning algorithm compares its real output with the correct outputs in order to identify faults. It receives a set of features as inputs along with the associated correct outputs. After that, the model is adjusted appropriately. If the inputs are available, this model is not required; nevertheless, no inference about the outputs can be made if any of the input values are missing. Applications that utilize previous data to forecast probable future events frequently employ supervised learning. For instance, it can predict which insurance client is most likely to submit a claim or when credit card transactions are most likely to be fraudulent. Predicting the species of iris given a set of measurements for its flower is another use. More complex examples include a recognition system that can identify, using a telescope, whether an object is a star, quasar, or galaxy based on its multi-coloured picture, or a list of movies that an individual has viewed. And their impression of the film, provide a list of films they'd like to see. The two types of supervised learning tasks are regression and classification. Whereas the label in regression is continuous, it is discrete in classification. For instance, in the field of astronomy, classifying an object into a star, galaxy, or quasar involves analyzing labels belonging to three different categories. In contrast, the label (age) in a regression problem is a continuous quantity; one example of this would be determining an object's age through observation [4].

2. **Unsupervised Learning:** The purpose of unsupervised learning is to examine the data and identify commonalities among the objects. It uses data without any prior labels. It is the process of identifying labels directly from the data. When applied to transactional data, unsupervised learning can effectively identify customer segments with comparable attributes, allowing for targeted marketing campaigns. Alternatively, it can identify the primary characteristics that set apart different customer segments. These are some more issues with unsupervised learning:

- Determine which features, or combinations of features, are most crucial for differentiating between galaxies based on in-depth observations of distant galaxies.
- The blind source separation problem is separating two sound sources, such as a person talking over music, when there is a mixture of the two.
- Isolate a moving object from a video and classify it in relation to other moving objects that have been observed [4].

Unlike classification, where the groups are known beforehand, clustering involves dividing a set of inputs into groups. Self-organizing maps, nearest-neighbour mapping, k-means clustering, and singular value decomposition are a few popular unsupervised techniques. These algorithms are also used for data outlier identification, item recommendation, and text topic segmentation [6].

1. **Semi supervised Learning:** Semi-supervised learning is used for the same applications as supervised learning, but it

uses both labelled and unlabelled data for training. This is because there is a large supply of unlabelled data but limited labelled data, which can be expensive to generate, in many practical learning domains like text processing, video indexing, and bioinformatics. The model needs to learn the structures in order to both organize the data and make predictions, but there is a desired prediction problem. When fully labelled training is not possible due to high labelling costs, semi-supervised learning can be helpful procedure. This kind of learning can be applied to techniques like regression analysis, prediction, and classification. One of the earliest instances of this was recognizing a person's face on a webcam. Example algorithms are generalizations of other adaptable techniques that rely on presumptions about the unlabelled data modelling [6].

**2. Reinforcement Learning:** It is frequently utilized for navigation, gaming, and robotics. It is a method of learning that engages with a changing environment where it must accomplish a task without a teacher directly telling it if it has succeeded or failed. Through trial and error, the algorithm uses reinforcement learning to determine which actions result in the highest rewards. Reinforcement learning thus learns to play chess by competing against an opponent who uses trial and error moves to win. Three main elements make up this kind of learning: the learner, the surroundings, and the actions. The learner's task is to select courses of action that will optimize the expected reward within a specified time frame. Adhering to a good policy will enable the learner to accomplish the goal much faster. Therefore, learning the optimal policy is the aim of reinforcement learning [4].

### **Present Difficulties of Machine Learning**

Despite its potential and current positive effects on businesses globally, machine learning is not without challenges and problems. Machine learning, for example, is good at identifying patterns but not so good at generalizing knowledge. Another problem among users is "algorithm weariness." In machine learning, a reasonable quantity of data and resources with good performance are required for model training. Multiple GPUs are used to address this challenge.

Real-time engineering applications require a machine learning approach that is modelled to robustly solve a specific issue [7].

Real-time engineering applications require the creation of separate models for each task because a single model meant to handle one task cannot handle all the tasks across multiple domains. Since this is a difficult problem to solve in many real-time engineering applications, machine learning approaches should be able to prevent problems in their early stages. Within the field of medicine, machine learning (ML) has the potential to forecast disease incidence and detect terrorist attacks. It is not possible to avert catastrophic outcomes by blindly believing the machine learning forecasts.

ML techniques are applied in many different fields, but in some, they are used as a substitute for accuracy and speed, necessitating extremely high standards of correctness. The location of moving objects can be determined by using enabling technologies like GPS and cell phones, and one of the most important tasks for machine learning is to maintain this information securely as tamper-proof. This means that in order to make a model trustworthy, it must not shift from the dataset used for training and testing. In order to facilitate trustworthy interactions between service providers and customers in a connected web system certain issue related to machine learning have significant consequences that are currently being felt. One is the "black box problem," or lack of interpretability and explanation. Even those who created it [8].

### **Application of Machine Learning in pharmacovigilance**

Many of the articles acknowledged that machine learning can be used to develop intelligent automated systems that can be used to optimize processes. The definition of machine learning used by the authors varied among the articles, but it generally included the use of algorithms or pattern recognition to perform a specific task [9]. The most common applications of artificial intelligence in this field were related to the identification or characterization of ADEs and ADRs, the classification of free text within safety reports, the extraction of drug-drug interactions, and the identification of populations at high risk of experiencing drug toxicity [10].

**1. Machine learning to identify adverse drug reactions and adverse drug events:** Safety surveillance, signal detection, and ADR/ADE detection are all possible with machine learning. The automation of first-person ADR report classification in social media is one use of machine learning. Safety surveillance, signal detection, and ADR/ADE detection are all possible with machine learning. The automation of first-person ADR report classification in social media is one use of machine learning. They manually annotated 1548 tweets that contained terms associated with cognitive enhancers and selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRIs) [11]. They demonstrated the value of applying machine learning concepts to post-marketing pharmacovigilance efforts in social media by successfully identifying first-hand experiences in the tweets using a variety of supervised machine learning models. Several other articles have discussed the use of machine learning in social media, and the majority of them have found that there are several benefits to this approach, such as the capacity to identify adverse drug reactions (ADRs) that medical professionals might miss, the speed with which large amounts of data can be processed and analyzed, and the wealth of personal information that is available in social media posts related to ADRs [12].

It was discovered that there is a trade-off between the amount of manual screening required in lower levels of social media processing and its drawbacks, which include excess "noise" within the data and the informal or irregular text that is frequently used in social media posts. Additionally, artificial intelligence can be very beneficial in certain disease states,

like diabetes. Early detection of hypoglycemia incidents from secure data inputs has been made possible by Hypo Detect, an NLP system that displays blood glucose measurements in a graphical format and uses an algorithm to analyze the measurements for hypoglycemic events. This allows for the prompt initiation of treatment. Use patient demographics, vital signs, and disease areas to train a machine learning model to predict the number of adverse events. The model has the potential to be useful for initiating quality assurance measures early on and promptly filing potential adverse events. This can be crucial to patient safety in disease states like diabetes where early identification of symptoms is critical to patient safety. On a related note, the under-reporting of safety events can compromise patient safety and has been an issue in recent years [13].

The capacity of machine learning to evaluate vast amounts of data and obtain knowledge about the side effects of treatments Information that can then be utilized to enhance pharmacovigilance systems was a recurring theme in many of the articles. Using propensity scores to introduce a novel automated signal detection technique for pharmacovigilance systems is one creative way to address this.

Naturally, one of the problems with these methods is that they produce enough signals with the fewest possible false associations for experts to analyze further. Using prediction models or deep learning neural networks to model the ADR relationship between a drug and symptoms is another cutting-edge strategy [14].

## **2. Machine learning to detect Patients at High Risk for ADRs:**

ADR-prone populations can be identified using machine learning, which can also be used to inform individualized treatment. Machine learning techniques can also be used to identify more targeted patients, such as those susceptible to fluoropyrimidine toxicity due to DPD deficiency. Researchers used machine learning models to train patterns of toxicity, which were later used to estimate the number of patients with toxicity related to DPD. They found that the model has potential for future use but could have some overfitting. Chandak and Tatonetti developed a machine learning algorithm called "Award: Analysing Women At Risk for Experiencing Drug toxicity," which uses a machine learning adaptation of propensity score matching to predict sex-specific risks of adverse drug effects with high precision [15].

**3. Machine learning to identify Image, Speech and Pattern Recognition:** The process of image recognition, which involves finding an object in a picture, makes extensive use of machine learning. A few examples of image recognition include the ability to identify cancer on an X-ray image, detect faces, recognize characters, and tag suggestions on social media. Google Assistant, Alexa, Siri, Cortana, and so forth, are the well-known language and sound models in speech recognition. Pattern recognition is the automatic identification of patterns and data regularities, such as picture analysis. Several machine learning techniques are used in this field, such as classification, feature selection, clustering, and sequence labelling [16].

## **4. Machine learning in predicting dermatological:**

A total of six studies on the use of machine learning in predicting dermatological. Five of the six studies used a supervised approach of machine learning in their training and validation. One study looked at the risk of biologic discontinuation in patients with psoriasis, two studies looked at the risk of developing non-melanoma skin cancer, one study looked at response to wart treatment modalities, one study explored the complexity of reconstructive surgery after periocular basal cell carcinoma excision, and one final study looked at the risk of developing chronic venous ulcers in patients with cardiovascular disease. While the outcomes of each study were generally presented in a different way, in five out of the six studies, the primary outcome was identified as AUC [17]. Accuracy, positive and negative predictive values, sensitivity and specificity, and other results were also reported. Machine learning algorithms to determine the most predictive model for surgical complexity post-periocular basal cell carcinoma (BCC) excision. Seven clinically relevant features per patient were identified through analysis of data from 156 periocular BCC patients. With an average AUC of 0.854, positive predictive value (PPV) of 38 points and negative predictive value (NPV) of 94 points, the Naive Bayesian classifier was the most predictive model. Alternating Decision Tree was the second-best model, with an AUC of 0.835, a PPV of 31%, and an NPV of 97% [1].

## **5. Machine learning in healthcare and covid-19 pandemic:**

Machine learning can help in diagnosing and prognosticating diseases in various fields of medicine, such as: Disease prediction medical knowledge extraction Regularity detection in data Patient management COVID-19 the coronavirus is a disease caused by a virus, according to the WHO. Recently, machine learning has become popular in the fight against the coronavirus. In the case of COVID-19, the learning techniques help in the classification of patients at high risk and their mortality rate, as well as other anomalies. Machine learning can also help in understanding the origin of the virus, predicting the outbreak of the coronavirus, as well as diagnosing and treating the disease. With the help of Machine Learning, researchers can predict where and when the coronavirus will spread and notify the regions accordingly. Deep learning also offers exciting solutions to medical image processing problems and is considered as one of the key techniques for potential applications, especially for COVID-19. All in all, machine learning and deep learning can help in fighting the coronavirus and the pandemic, as well as in intelligent clinical decision making in healthcare [18].

## **Future Aspects**

Several research questions are brought up in this review by examining how different ML approaches might be applied to the analysis of intelligent data and applications. Research prospects as well as possible future initiatives are outlined and explored here [19].

The efficacy and efficiency of machine learning solutions will depend on how well machine learning techniques perform across data as well as the nature and qualities of the data. Because these application domains generate vast amounts of data quickly, data collecting in a variety of application domains, such as cyber-security, healthcare, and agriculture, is challenging. Relevant data collecting is essential to moving on with the analysis of the data in machine learning-based applications. Therefore, when working with real-world data, it's important to concentrate on conducting a deeper study of the data collection techniques.

The applications and their accompanying machine learning-based solutions' final success will depend on machine learning algorithms and the characteristics of the data. When the quantity of training data is insufficient, the quality of the data is low, the features are irrelevant, the data is not representative, and the model fails to produce accurate results, ultimately becoming useless. Two key components are needed to create an intelligent application: managing different learning strategies and efficiently processing data. Many new research questions in the discipline are raised by our studies of machine learning algorithms for intelligent data analysis and applications. As a result, we draw attention to the problems this section addresses along with potential avenues for future study and projects. The efficacy and efficiency of a machine learning-based solution depend on the type and quality of the data as well as the learning algorithms' performance. To compile data in a certain field, including IoT, healthcare, agriculture, cyber security, and so forth. Thus, information is gathered for the intended machine learning-based applications. Working with real-world data necessitates a detailed examination of data collection techniques. Moreover, a great deal of ambiguous values, missing values, anomalies, and meaningless data may be present in historical data [20].

### Conclusion:

We have carried out a thorough review of machine learning techniques for applications and intelligent data analysis. In line with our objective, we have covered in brief the ways in which diverse machine learning techniques might be applied to solve a range of real-world problems. The performance of the learning algorithms and the data are both necessary for a machine learning model to be successful. Before the system can support intelligent decision-making, the complex learning algorithms must first be taught using the real-world data and information relevant to the intended application that have been gathered. Additionally, to demonstrate the machine learning techniques' relevance to a range of real-world problems, we talked about a few well-liked application domains. We have now covered the main points of the difficulties encountered, as well as possible avenues for future research and direction in the field. As a result, the difficulties that have been highlighted present exciting potential for field research and need to be addressed with practical solutions across a range of application areas. All things considered, we think that our research on machine learning-based solutions points in a promising path and can serve as a technical reference manual for future studies and applications for professionals in academia and business.

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