# **AnEMIC: A Framework for Benchmarking ICD Coding Models**

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# Abstract

Diagnostic coding, or ICD coding, is the task of assigning diagnosis codes defined by the ICD (International Classification of Diseases) standard to patient visits based on clinical notes. The current process of manual ICD coding is time-consuming and often error-prone, which suggests the need for automatic ICD coding. However, despite the long history of automatic ICD coding, there have been no standardized frameworks for benchmarking ICD coding models.

We open-source an easy-to-use tool named *AnEMIC*, which provides a streamlined pipeline for preprocessing, training, and evaluating for automatic ICD coding. We correct errors in preprocessing by existing works, and provide key models and weights trained on the correctly preprocessed datasets. We also provide an interactive demo performing real-time inference from custom inputs, and visualizations drawn from explainable AI to analyze the models. We hope the framework helps move the research of ICD coding forward and helps professionals explore the potential of ICD coding. The framework and the associated code are available here.

# 1 Introduction

Diagnostic coding is the task of assigning alphanumeric codes to diagnoses and procedures after a patient visits a healthcare provider. These codes are typically specified by a medical classification standard called the International Classification of Diseases (ICD). Diagnostic coding, or ICD coding, is an integral component of medical billing, and integral to claims paid by health insurance carriers. The diagnostic coding process alone accounts for approximately 21% of medical administrative costs in the US (Tseng et al., 2018). During this process, a professional coder reviews the patient's medical records, including clinical narratives, and manually selects ICD codes. Since the task requires in-depth clinical knowledge and understanding of medical records, and importantly, due to the fact that there are a large number of ICD codes, the task is labor-intensive and error-prone (Manchikanti, 2002).

These difficulties motivate the need for automatic ICD coding systems which perform diagnosis classification given a patient's health record (Kaur et al., 2021; Yan et al., 2022). This has been the subject of considerable research, with some of the early work dating back to the 1990s (Larkey and Croft, 1996), to more recent deep neural NLP approaches. There are a few outstanding and major challenges in the diagnostic coding task. Firstly, the label space, the set of all ICD codes, is large, and the label distribution is highly imbalanced. Secondly, the input text, i.e., the discharge summaries, is noisy and can contain abstruse medical terms, lesser-known abbreviations, misspelt words, etc. Also, they are much longer than what most stateof-the-art models take as input.

Along with those challenges, the absence of a benchmark has impeded the progress of research. Due to privacy restrictions that limit access to even publicly available clinical databases, researchers have to create datasets manually from these, and this results in discrepancies in the actual datasets used in individual papers. For instance, the label set of MIMIC-III top-50 dataset varies among the literature, and some of them are even used incorrectly. Inconsistency in processing the dataset and the inevitable errors introduced as a result of this makes it hard to compare different methods.

In this paper, we introduce a framework for benchmarking automatic ICD coding with the MIMIC clinical database. We name our framework *AnEMIC*, for **An E**rror-reduced **MIMIC ICD C**oding benchmark. To the best of our knowledge, AnEMIC is the first attempt to collate and benchmark different deep learning approaches for automatic ICD coding with a configurable pipeline.

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Our contributions can be summarized as follows:

- We provide a pipeline covering the entire process of automatic ICD coding, including preprocessing, training, and evaluation. The whole process is easily configurable with the use of YAML files. We additionally provide key deep learning-based ICD coding models.
- We correct errors in the most widely used datasets and provide benchmark results of the key models on the new datasets.
- We open-source an easy-to-use interactive demo that enables researchers to test their models on custom inputs and visualize input attribution scores for explainability.

The remainder of the paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we discuss popular automatic ICD coding approaches and datasets. Section 3 details our approaches for preprocessing, training, evaluation, and our demo application. In Section 4, we perform a quantitative and qualitative analysis of AnEMIC. Finally, we conclude with discussion and future work in Section 5.

# 2 Related Work

# 2.1 ICD Coding

Over the history of automatic diagnosis coding, approaches have ranged from classical methods such as rule-based approaches (Farkas and Szarvas, 2008), traditional ML models such as SVMs (Perotte et al., 2014), to more recent Deep Learningbased methods. A neural network-based approach was first attempted by Prakash et al. (2017). A prominent deep learning approach is CAML (Mullenbach et al., 2018), which uses a CNN encoder with a unique per-label attention mechanism. Since CAML, there have been many other CNN and RNN-based approaches (Yu et al., 2019; Vu et al., 2020). A few notable CNN based approaches include using dilated convolutional layers (Ji et al., 2020) and multi-filter convolutional layers (Li and Yu, 2020; Luo et al., 2021).

Additionally, researchers have leveraged the hierarchy of ICD codes (Cao et al., 2020; Xie et al., 2019), used external knowledge sources like Wikipedia (Bai and Vucetic, 2019), and knowledge graphs such as UMLS (Yuan et al., 2022) and Freebase (Teng et al., 2020), etc. More recently, there has been an effort to use Transformer-based language models pretrained on clinical datasets, albeit without much success (Pascual et al., 2021;

Zhang et al., 2020; Ji et al., 2021). Instead, using a few Transformer encoder layers trained from scratch has proven to be more effective (Biswas et al., 2021).

Kaur et al. (2021) and Yan et al. (2022) perform extensive literature reviews of automatic ICD coding approaches. The reader is referred to these surveys for a more detailed description of various architectures and approaches.

# 2.2 ICD Coding Datasets and Benchmark

Typical ICD coding dataset consists of discharge summaries and the corresponding sets of ICD codes. There are many ICD coding datasets in various languages, but not all are publicly available. The most widely used datasets are from MIMIC-III<sup>1</sup> and MIMIC-II<sup>2</sup> databases. The MIMIC-III clinical database (Johnson et al., 2016) is a collection of medical records from an intensive care unit (ICU) at a hospital between 2001 and 2012. MIMIC-III consists of multiple tables containing diagnosis, procedures, clinical notes, etc., and each patient admission is indicated with an HADM\_ID identifier. MIMIC-II is a subset of the MIMIC-III dataset and contains medical records between 2001 and 2008<sup>3</sup>.

CAML (Mullenbach et al., 2018) published the preprocessing code of their MIMIC-III full and top-50 datasets, and since then, these have been the most widely used datasets. We correct some errors in preprocessing of CAML and make the process easily configurable. Also, compared to a leaderboard that only manages reported performance, our work provides a framework for benchmarking, i.e., users can run the code to reproduce the results and further perform research on top of it.

# **3** ICD Coding Benchmark

AnEMIC has been designed so that researchers can easily configure the overall process with config files and therefore, easily start research on ICD coding with minimal code. Also, the architecture has modularity at the center of its design so that researchers can replace one module with another or with their own implementation. Such design enables easy comparison between models and reduces burden while developing new models.

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https://physionet.org/content/mimiciii/1.4/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>https://archive.physionet.org/mimic2/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>There is also the recently released MIMIC-IV database, but clinical notes for this are currently not yet available.



Figure 1: The ICD coding benchmark pipeline of AnEMIC. We provide a pipeline covering the entire process of ICD coding. All steps in the pipeline can be easily configured with YAML files.

Our system also provides an interactive demo for visualizing model predictions with input attribution scores. This demo will help users analyze the performance and interpretability of their models.

In the following subsections, we explain each stage in the pipeline. From now on, we will focus on ICD coding dataset from MIMIC-III since it is the most widely used dataset for this task. Figure 1 illustrates the overall pipeline.

#### 3.1 Data Preprocessing

The first step of the pipeline is to preprocess the available clinical dataset, i.e., the MIMIC-III database. As with other parts of the pipeline, we specify preprocessing-related options in a YAML config file.

Many of the preprocessing steps are inspired by CAML's preprocessing pipeline. However, an important observation to be noted here is that **there are errors in CAML's preprocessing pipeline**. Unfortunately, many subsequent works use CAML's code, and hence, the results obtained by most papers are on the incorrectly preprocessed dataset. This will be discussed later in this subsection and Appendix A.

#### 3.1.1 ICD Code Preprocessing

In the MIMIC-III database, the DIAGNOSES\_ICD and PROCEDURES\_ICD tables contain the ICD-9 diagnosis and procedure codes, respectively, of every admission. Since MIMIC-III has ICD-9 codes without the period punctuation (e.g. 4019 instead of 401.9), we reformat those ICD codes to their original format adopting the method of CAML, and use them as labels. ICD-9 codes can have leading and trailing zeros, so care must be taken to retain them when processing. However, in CAML's preprocessing code, some of ICD codes are implicitly treated as integer or floating point numbers<sup>4</sup>, resulting in an incorrect set of ICD-9 labels. While correcting this error, we provide an option incorrect\_code\_loading to reproduce the behavior of CAML for researchers who want to make a comparison with previous works.

In addition to the above option, we also provide an option code\_type to use either diagnosis, procedure, or both types of ICD codes. We set "both" as the default.

#### 3.1.2 Clinical Note Preprocessing

From the NOTEEVENTS table of MIMIC-III containing clinical notes in various categories, we select notes belonging to the Discharge\_Summary category. We provide several options of standard NLP preprocessing for the discharge summary. These can be turned on/off from the config file.

- Convert text to lowercase.
- Remove punctuation marks using \w+ as the RegEx expression, i.e., retain only alphanumeric characters.
- Either remove numeric characters, or replace all numeric characters with "n".
- Remove stopwords; we use the list of stopwords provided by NLTK, and add common medical terms like "hospital", "admission", "history", etc. to the list.
- Stem or lemmatize the text; we provide popular choices for these such as "WordNet Lemmatizer" and "Porter Stemmer".
- Truncate the text to a maximum length.

After note preprocessing, we build the vocabulary and train a Word2Vec model on preprocessed discharge summaries using the Gensim library (Řehůřek and Sojka, 2010). Word2Vec embeddings are used to initialize the embedding layers of models.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Due to not specifying data types when loading tables

# **3.1.3** Top-*k* Codes and Data Splitting

Many works report results on two datasets – "MIMIC-III full" and "MIMIC-III top-50". The latter contains the top-50 frequent ICD codes as labels and examples with at least one of these labels.

An important point to note is that MIMIC-III has some duplicate ICD codes, i.e., an ICD code can be repeated multiple times in one admission. These duplicate codes need to be removed when counting the ICD code occurrence. This is another source of error in CAML's code: they do not remove the duplicate codes while counting the ICD codes occurrence, resulting in a change in the top-50 ICD codes. While we correctly select the top-50 ICD codes, we also provide an option count\_duplicate\_codes to reproduce the behavior of CAML.

For data splitting, we use the splits of HADM\_IDs provided by CAML. They provide separate sets of splits for the full and top-50 datasets, and the split for top-50 dataset has substantially smaller number of examples. To make full use of MIMIC-III, we use the splits of the CAML's full dataset for both versions of our dataset.

As a result of data preprocessing, we have four main variants of the dataset – "MIMIC-III full", "MIMIC-III top-50", "MIMIC-III full (old)", and "MIMIC-III top-50 (old)". Here "(old)" refers to the CAML variants.

#### 3.2 Supported Models

This subsection describes the models we provide in the framework and the criteria for choosing models. To provide researchers with good baselines for ICD coding research, we selected models based on novelty or superior performance. For now, we have chosen a subset of models for which the code is publicly available, but we do plan on implementing other approaches in the near future which have not been open-sourced. The models and the trainer are based on PyTorch.

The models currently supported by the framework are as follows:

- CAML (Mullenbach et al., 2018) is a landmark model in automatic ICD coding which uses a label attention layer. We also implement the vanilla CNN model in the paper and refer to it as CNN.
- MultiResCNN (Li and Yu, 2020) uses multiple CNNs with different filter sizes in parallel.
- DCAN (Ji et al., 2020) uses dilated convolutional layers for ICD coding.

#### 况 ICD Coding Interactive Demo

Choose model ③	Dis.				
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O Fusion	Ch	ief compla	ints: nothing	special	
🔘 dcan	Pn	esent Histo	ry:		
	Alt	hough high	h blood sugar	(BS) had been detected	
Top-k prediction	du	ring a med	ical check up	of his company since	
-	ter	n years ago	, the patient	did not visit the clinic.	
1 5			A	the control of federal accord	
Visualize attribution score ③	Pr	eprocessed	text		
O NO					
O Integrated Gradients			iote		
Attention score			ear old male	complaint nothing special present although high blood sugar b detected medical	
-				n year ago visit clinic year old value blood sugar became much higher visited	
ICD code to compute attribution score ()		diagnosed	diabetes me	litus mg500 mg administrated august stopped medication dec visited b b mg dl	
250.00 *		hbalc grat	iv mg started	however hba1c lower division introduced diabetes education admitte university feb	
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Preprocessing					
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Stem / lemmatize words	1	250.00	0.6225	or unspecified type, not stated as uncontrolled, without mention of complication	re.
SUBMIT!	2	305.1	0.3259	Tobacco use disorder	
	3	285.9	0.1859	Anemia, unspecified	
	4	285.1	0.1756	Acute posthemorrhagic anemia	
	5	530.81	0.1724	Esophageal reflux	
	At	tribution so	core radients for 2	50.00 (type II diabetes mellitus (non-insulin dependent type) [NIDDM type] [adult-on	
	ty; xx m hi	oe]orunsp xx xxxx y edical che gher visite	ecified type, ear old mai eck company ed diagnose	not stated as uncontrolled, without mention of complication) le complaint nothing special present although high blood sugar b detected y since ten year ago visit clinic year old value blood sugar became much d clabetes mellitus funk mg administrated august stopped medication funk	

Figure 2: A snapshot of ICD coding interactive demo showing ICD code predictions and the integrated gradient. Input text is extracted from Tsumoto et al. (2019).

- TransICD (Biswas et al., 2021) is the first Transformer-based approach that achieved results comparable to the CNN-based model.
- Fusion (Luo et al., 2021) uses multi-CNN, Transformer encoder, and label attention.

To replicate the author's work in our own system, we re-wired the model from the author's code to make it compatible with our framework. This allows users to also easily tweak the model and its hyperparameters with the config files.

#### 3.3 Training and Evaluation

To train and evaluate the models, we implement a trainer module that manages training and evaluation, with sub-modules for the additional functionalities related to training, such as objective functions, logging, and managing checkpoints. Following the design principle of the framework, the trainer module is also highly configurable so the users can easily customize training and visualize metrics by modifying config files. This also applies to evaluation metrics, and we provide all major evaluation metrics adopted by the automatic ICD coding literature.

#### 3.4 Interactive Demo

In order to enable users to use trained models offthe-shelf, we open source an interactive web application based on Streamlit. Using the app, users can feed in a new discharge summary and get the ICD code predictions in real time without writing code to preprocess the input text and to run the models. The app also allows users to change the models and toggle the preprocessing options on the fly so that they can compare models and change preprocessing options.

A major highlight of the app is explainability visualization, i.e., the attribution or importance scores for each word present in the input clinical note. We provide two methods – Integrated Gradients (Sundararajan et al., 2017) and attention scores. Upon choosing the attribution method with an ICD code, the app displays the input tokens with important words highlighted. Note that this interpretability feature is model-agnostic because the explainable AI techniques we use such as integrated gradients are in turn model-agnostic.

A screenshot of the app running on a discharge summary is shown in Figure 2. The bottom of Figure 2 shows the integrated gradient (IG) visualization of ICD code 250.00 "Type II diabetes". We can see that important terms like "diabetes mellitus" exhibit high IG scores<sup>5</sup>. Overall, we expect the interactive demo will be helpful for both researchers who want to validate models, and professionals who want explanations of the model's predictions.

#### 4 **Results**

In this section, we discuss the quantitative and qualitative results of AnEMIC. On quantitative aspects, we discuss the brief statistics of the datasets and the benchmark results on the our ICD coding datasets. For the qualitative results, we present and analyze some example of interpretability visualization from our demo application.

#### 4.1 Quantitative Results

**Dataset Statistics** Table 1 shows brief statistics of our ICD coding datasets and the CAML's datasets (old). Our full dataset contains the same number of examples as CAML's full dataset since we used the same data split. However, it has a different set of labels since we corrected the preprocessing of CAML. Our top-50 dataset has the same number of labels as CAML's top-50 dataset, but the label set differs<sup>6</sup>. Also, our top-50 dataset has substantially more examples since the data split of

Dataset	AnE	MIC	CAML (old)		
Dutuset	Full	Top-50	Full	Top-50	
# labels	8930	50	8922	50	
Mean # labels	15.88	5.73	16.10	5.78	
# examples					
- Train set	47723	44728	47723	8066	
- Val set	1631	1569	1631	1573	
- Test set	3372	3234	3372	1729	

Table 1: Statistics of the MIMIC-III full and top-50 datasets. Mean # labels refers to the average number of labels per example.

the full dataset is used to make full use of MIMIC-III. It has a slightly less number of examples than the full dataset since examples without any of the top-50 codes are removed.

**Benchmark Results** To provide the benchmark of our ICD coding datasets, we trained the models introduced in Section 3.2. Hyper-parameters for each model are chosen as reported in the respective paper or code. Note that these hyper-parameters are tuned to CAML datasets, so may not be optimal for our datasets, especially for the top-50 dataset. For DCAN and TransICD model, only the MIMIC-III top-50 experiments was performed, so we use the hyper-parameters for the top-50 dataset in the full dataset experiment. For each model, we ran the experiment three times and computed the mean and variance of the results. Table 2 and 3 shows the benchmark results. Among the models that we implemented, MultiResCNN and Fusion achieved the best test performance on the MIMIC-III full dataset, and DCAN performed best on the MIMIC-III top-50 dataset.

To validate the implementation of key models and the CAML version of dataset, we also ran the same experiments on the CAML version of the datasets. Overall, the results display similar level of performance as reported in the papers. Please see Appendix C for the full results and details of the reproduction experiments.

#### 4.2 Qualitative Analysis

**Explainability Visualization** Figure 3 shows some examples of explainability visualization from the demo app. For each example, we extract the window around the word with the highest attribution score. In the left figure, for a fixed discharge summary and an ICD code (599.0, *Urinary tract* 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup>Red and blue color in the visualization represent positive and negative scores, respectively.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup>Please refer to Table 4 in the Appendix to compare.

Model	Macro AUC	Micro AUC	Macro F1	Micro F1	P@8	P@15
CNN	$0.835 {\pm} 0.001$	$0.974{\pm}0.000$	$0.034{\pm}0.001$	$0.420{\pm}0.006$	$0.619{\pm}0.002$	$0.474{\scriptstyle\pm0.004}$
CAML	$0.893 {\pm} 0.002$	$0.985{\scriptstyle\pm0.000}$	$0.056 {\pm} 0.006$	$0.506{\pm}0.006$	$0.704 {\pm} 0.001$	$0.555{\scriptstyle\pm0.001}$
MultiResCNN	$0.912{\pm}0.004$	$0.987{\pm}0.000$	$0.078 {\pm} 0.005$	$0.555{\scriptstyle\pm0.004}$	$0.741 {\pm} 0.002$	$0.589{\pm}0.002$
DCAN	$0.848 {\pm} 0.009$	$0.979{\pm}0.001$	$0.066 {\pm} 0.005$	$0.533{\pm}0.006$	$0.721 {\pm} 0.001$	$0.573{\pm}0.000$
TransICD	$0.886 \pm 0.010$	$0.983{\pm}0.002$	$0.058{\pm}0.001$	$0.497{\pm}0.001$	$0.666 {\pm} 0.000$	$0.524{\pm}0.001$
Fusion	$0.910 {\pm} 0.003$	$0.986{\scriptstyle\pm0.000}$	$0.081 \pm 0.002$	$0.560{\pm}0.003$	$0.744 {\pm} 0.002$	$0.589{\pm}0.001$

Table 2: Test set results on the MIMIC-III full dataset. The results are shown using the mean±standard deviation format.

Model	Macro AUC	Micro AUC	Macro F1	Micro F1	P@5
CNN	$0.913{\pm}0.002$	$0.936{\scriptstyle\pm0.002}$	$0.627 \pm 0.001$	$0.693{\pm}0.003$	$0.649 \pm 0.001$
CAML	$0.918{\scriptstyle\pm0.000}$	$0.942{\pm}0.000$	$0.614 {\pm} 0.005$	$0.690{\pm}0.001$	$0.661 \pm 0.002$
MultiResCNN	$0.928{\scriptstyle\pm0.001}$	$0.950{\pm}0.000$	$0.652 {\pm} 0.006$	$0.720{\pm}0.002$	$0.674 {\pm} 0.001$
DCAN	$0.934{\pm}0.001$	$0.953{\pm}0.001$	$0.651 \pm 0.010$	$0.724{\pm}0.005$	$0.682 {\pm} 0.003$
TransICD	$0.917 {\pm} 0.002$	$0.939{\pm}0.001$	$0.602 \pm 0.002$	$0.679{\pm}0.001$	$0.643 \pm 0.001$
Fusion	$0.932{\pm}0.001$	$0.952{\pm}0.000$	$0.664 \pm 0.003$	$0.727{\pm}0.003$	$0.679 \pm 0.001$

Table 3: Test set results on the MIMIC-III top-50 dataset. The results are shown using the mean $\pm$ standard deviation format.

Integrated Gradients for <b>599.0</b> (Urinary tract infection, site not specified)	Integrated Gradients of CAML
• CNN started antibiotic urinary tract infection cipro complete week	• 427.31 (Atrial fibrillation)
• CAML found low sodium urinary tract infection started antibiotic	stopped natrecor stopped tasix     stopped natrecor stopped tasix     s84.9 (Acute renal failure)
• MultiResCNN multiple sclerosis urinary tract infection complicated hyponatre	cdiff treatment acute renal failure w cri renal team consulted
• DCAN negative pneumonia ruled uti treated medication appropriate	<ul> <li>99.15 (Parenteral infusion of concentrated nutritional substances)</li> <li> tachycardia f e n started tpn nutritional supplementation</li> </ul>
• TransICD howev treat full cipro complic uti cathet chang cultur remain	• 99.04 (Transfusion of packed cells)
• Fusion multiple sclerosis urinary tract infection complicated hyponatre	transfusion goal hct transfused unit packed red blood cell

Figure 3: Interpretability visualization examples. Left: the integrated gradients of various models on a fixed input and a fixed ICD code (HADM\_ID=100020, ICD-9 599.0). Right: the integrated gradients of CAML for various ICD codes on a fixed input (HADM\_ID=139574).

*infection, site not specified*), we examine the integrated gradients of various models. From the figure, we can observe that all models correctly attribute their prediction to the words relevant to the diagnosis. In the right figure, for a fixed discharge summary and a model (CAML), we visualize the integrated gradients of some ICD codes that are predicted as positive. As the figure shows, different parts of the input are attributed and they are all semantically relevant to the corresponding ICD code. As both figures illustrate, our interactive demo provides an effective visualization tool for explaining the model's predictions.

# 5 Conclusions and Future Work

In this work, we present AnEMIC, a comprehensive framework for automatic diagnostic coding. It serves as a standardized benchmark for ICD coding on MIMIC-III by correcting errors in existing datasets and providing popular deep learning-based models. Our framework has a modularized and easy-to-use config-based design, and researchers can easily experiment by writing config files or adding custom submodules. We also provide an interactive app for performing real-time inference and visualization for model explainability.

AnEMIC is under active development and welcomes contributions from the community. Upcoming updates to our pipelines include adding more recent approaches and models, especially those that incorporate additional sources of external knowledge, as well as supporting other datasets like the MIMIC-II dataset.

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#### A Notes on ICD Code Preprocessing

In CAML's preprocessing pipeline, there are two errors. Firstly, when they load the DIAGNOSES\_ICD and PROCEDURES\_ICD tables into Pandas dataframes, the ICD codes are loaded without specifying a data type, dtype in the pd.read\_csv() method, resulting in the loss of some of leading zeros (e.g.  $0040 \rightarrow 40$ ). This affects more than 190 codes out of 8930 in MIMIC-III. Also, when they store the converted ICD codes (with period) into a file and re-read it, data type is not specified, resulting in that some of the codes are converted as floating number and lose leading and trailing zeros. This also affects many ICD codes. For example, a major top-50 ICD code, 93.90 is not selected.

Secondly, MIMIC-III has duplicate ICD codes in the DIAGNOSES\_ICD and PROCEDURES\_ICD table, i.e., an ICD code can be repeated in one admission<sup>7</sup>. While preprocessing, CAML's code does not remove such duplicate codes, and as a result of this, some ICD codes were selected as top-50 incorrectly.

As a result, CAML's MIMIC-III full dataset has 8922 labels, while our correctly fixed dataset has 8930 labels. Moreover, our MIMIC-III top-50 dataset has ICD codes 93.90, V45.82, and CAML's dataset has 33.24, 45.13 instead.

Table 4 lists the ICD codes in CAML's, our, and TransICD's MIMIC-III top-50 datasets. TransICD (Biswas et al., 2021) corrected the first mentioned error, i.e., loading ICD codes incorrectly, but counts duplicate ICD codes when choosing top-50 codes, resulting in another incorrect set of top-50 codes.

#### **B** Sample Configuration File

Figure 4 shows the YAML config files for preprocessing our MIMIC-III full dataset, to show the configurable pipeline of AnEMIC. Users can create their own ICD coding datasets with, for example, different top-k or word stemmer, by customizing options in the config file. Also, for more customized behavior, users can implement submodules of the pipeline – for example, tokenizer and embedding trainer, and register in the ConfigMapper to be used in the config file.

# C Reproduction Results on the CAML's Dataset

In this section, we describe the reproduction experiments and explain the results. To ensure that our framework correctly re-implemented the old, CAML version of the datasets and the key models, we trained the models on the old datasets and compared the results with the ones reported in the papers. As in the benchmark experiments, for each configuration, we ran experiments three times and computed the mean and the standard deviation. To make a fair comparison between the models, we created three sets of the old datasets and used each of them for each run of model training. Effectively, the runs will have different weight initialization, including the embedding matrix.

The results are shown in Table 5 and 6. Overall, our reproduction shows similar performance as reported in the papers and preserves the relative order

 $<sup>^7\</sup>mathrm{For}$  example, ICD code 33.24 appears 11 times in the admission with <code>HADM\_ID=193989</code>.

No.	CAML	TransICD	AnEMIC
12345678901123456789012345678901233456789012334567890123445678901234567890123456789012345678901233456789001234567890012345678900121200000000000000000000000000000000	401.9 20053 38.93 14444 428.0 12842 427.31 12594 414.01 12179 96.04 9932 96.6 9161 584.9 8907 250.00 8784 96.71 8619 272.4 8504 518.81 7249 99.04 7147 39.61 6809 599.0 6442 530.81 6156 96.72 5926 272.0 5766 272.0 5766 285.9 5296 88.56 5240 244.9 4788 486 4733 38.91 4575 285.1 4499 36.15 4390 276.2 4358 496 4296 99.15 4172 995.92 3792 V58.61 3698 507.0 3592 038.9 3580 88.72 3500 585.9 3267 403.90 3350 88.72 3500 585.9 3580 88.72 3500 585.9 3580 88.72 3500 585.9 3580 88.72 3500 585.9 3580 88.72 3500 585.9 311 3347 305.1 3272 37.22 3248 412 3203 33.24 3188 39.95 3178 287.5 3002 410.71 3001 276.1 2985 V45.81 2943 424.0 2878 45.13 2849 V15.82 2741 511.9 2693 37.23 2659 V45.82 2651	401.9 20053 38.93 14444 428.0 12842 427.31 12594 414.01 12179 96.04 9932 96.6 9161 584.9 8907 250.00 8784 96.71 8619 272.4 8504 518.81 7249 99.04 7147 39.61 6809 599.0 6442 530.81 6156 96.72 5926 272.0 5766 272.0 5766 272.0 5766 285.9 5296 88.56 5240 244.9 4788 486 4733 38.91 4575 285.1 4499 36.15 4390 276.2 4358 496 4296 99.15 4172 995.92 3792 V58.61 3698 507.0 3592 038.9 3580 88.72 3500 585.9 3367 403.90 3350 88.72 3500 585.9 311 3347 305.1 3272 37.22 3248 412 3203 33.24 3188 39.95 3178 287.5 3002 410.71 3001 276.1 2985 V45.81 2943 424.0 2878 45.13 2849 V15.82 2741 511.9 2693 93.90 2663 37.23 2659	401.9 20046 38.93 12866 428.0 12842 427.31 12589 414.01 12178 96.04 9493 96.6 9102 584.9 8906 250.00 8783 272.4 8503 96.71 8426 518.81 7249 99.04 7102 39.61 6781 599.0 6442 530.81 6154 96.72 5815 272.0 5766 285.9 5295 88.56 5045 244.9 4785 486 4732 285.1 4499 38.91 4449 36.15 4387 276.2 4358 496 4296 99.15 4162 995.92 3792 V58.61 3697 507.0 3592 038.9 3580 585.9 3367 403.90 3350 311 3347 88.72 3305 305.1 3272 412 3203 37.22 3147 39.95 3133 287.5 3002 410.71 3001 276.1 2985 V45.81 2943 424.0 2876 V15.82 2741 511.9 2693 93.90 2656 V45.82 2651 37.23 2619 33.24 2607
51 52 53 55 55 55 55 60 61	v43.02         22651           403.91         2566           V29.0         2529           424.1         2517           785.52         2501           V58.67         2497           427.89         2396           327.23         2328           997.1         2313           99.55         2304 <b>93.9 2233</b>	37.23         2651           403.91         2566           V29.0         2529           424.1         2517           785.52         2501           V58.67         2497           427.89         2396           327.23         2328           997.1         2313           99.55         2304	<b>33.24</b> 2007 403.91 2566 <b>45.13 2552</b> V29.0 2529 424.1 2517 785.52 2501 V58.67 2497 427.89 2396 327.23 2328 997.1 2313 99.55 2275

static\_dir: \*static\_dir
save\_dir: \*dataset\_dir 13 14 15 diagnosis\_code\_csv\_name: DIAGNOSES\_ICD.csv.gz procedure\_code\_csv\_name: PROCEDURES\_ICD.csv.gz noteevents csv name: NOTEEVENTS.csv.gz 16 17 train\_json\_name: train.json # will be saved 18 19 val ison name: val.ison # will be saved test\_json\_name: test.json # will be saved 20 21 22 label\_json\_name: labels.json # will be computed and saved label\_freq\_json\_name: null dataset metadata: column\_names: subject\_id: SUBJECT\_ID 23 24 25 26 27 28 hadm id: HADM ID chartdate: CHARTDATE charttime: CHARTTIME storetime: STORETIME category: CATEGORY 29 30 31 description: DESCRIPTION cgid: CGID 32 33 iserror: ISERROR text: TEXT icd9 code: ICD9 CODE 34 35 36 37 labels: LABELS dataset\_splitting\_method: name: caml\_official\_split params: 38 39 40 hadms. hadm\_dir: \*static\_dir train\_hadm\_ids\_name: train\_full\_split.json 41 42 val\_hadm\_ids\_name: val\_full\_split.json test\_hadm\_ids\_name: test\_full\_split.json clinical note preprocessing: 43 44 45 46 47 to\_lower: perform: true remove\_punctuation: perform: true remove\_numeric: perform: true 48 49 50 51 52 53 replace numerics with letter: null remove\_stopwords: perform: true params: stopwords file path: null 54 55 57 58 59 60 remove\_common\_medical\_terms: true
stem\_or\_lemmatize: perform: true params: stemmer name: nltk.WordNetLemmatizer truncate: perform: false 61 62 incorrect\_code\_loading: false 63 64 65 count\_duplicate\_codes: false code\_preprocessing: # enter 0 for all codes top\_k: 0 code\_type: both
add\_period\_in\_correct\_pos: 66 67 perform: true 68 69 70 71 72 73 74 75 76 77 78 train\_embed\_with\_all\_split: false tokenizer: name: spacetokenizer params: null

mimic\_dir: &mimic\_dir datasets/mimic3/csv static\_dir: &static\_dir datasets/mimic3/static dataset\_dir: &dataset\_dir datasets/mimic3\_full word2vec\_dir: &word2vec\_dir datasets/mimic3\_full/word2vec

name: mimic\_iii\_preprocessing\_pipeline

mimic\_dir: \*mimic\_dir

paths:

preprocessing:

params: paths:

10

11 12

Table 4: Top-61 frequency ICD codes from differently processed datasets. The frequency of each code to select the top-50 labels is shown next to each code. Note the frequencies of ICD codes are affected by preprocessing method and error. The top-50 ICD codes that are not contained in all three top-50 sets are marked in bold.

of performance among the models, illustrating that our code can be used in the research of automatic ICD coding.

Despite the effort of re-implementing the ex-

Figure 4: The YAML config file for preprocessing the MIMIC-III full dataset.

embedding\_dir: \*word2vec\_dir pad\_token: "<pad>"
unk\_token: "<unk>" word2vec\_params:

vector\_size: 100 min\_count: 3

epochs: 5

embedding: name: word2vec params:

79 80

81 82

isting datasets and key models, there is a minor difference from the CAML's preprocessing, specifically in training vocabulary and embeddings, that may affect the results. In our preprocessing, the vocabulary and embeddings are trained together from Gensim's word2vec training, which means

Model		Macro AUC	Micro AUC	Macro F1	Micro F1	P@8	P@15
CNN	Repr Orig	0.833±0.003 0.806	$\begin{array}{c} 0.974 {\pm} 0.000 \\ 0.969 \end{array}$	$ \begin{vmatrix} 0.027 \pm 0.005 \\ 0.042 \end{vmatrix} $	$\begin{array}{c} 0.419 {\pm} 0.006 \\ 0.419 \end{array}$	$ \begin{vmatrix} 0.612 \pm 0.004 \\ 0.581 \end{vmatrix} $	$\begin{array}{c} 0.467 {\pm} 0.001 \\ 0.443 \end{array}$
CAML	Repr Orig	$\begin{array}{c c} 0.880 {\pm} 0.003 \\ 0.895 \end{array}$	$0.983 {\pm} 0.000$ 0.986	$ \begin{vmatrix} 0.057 \pm 0.000 \\ 0.088 \end{vmatrix} $	$\begin{array}{c} 0.502{\pm}0.002\\ 0.539\end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 0.698 {\pm} 0.002 \\ 0.709 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 0.548 {\pm} 0.001 \\ 0.561 \end{array}$
MultiResCNN	Repr Orig	$\begin{array}{c c} 0.905 {\pm} 0.003 \\ 0.910 {\pm} 0.002 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 0.986 {\pm} 0.000 \\ 0.986 {\pm} 0.001 \end{array}$	$ \begin{vmatrix} 0.076 \pm 0.002 \\ 0.085 \pm 0.007 \end{vmatrix} $	$\begin{array}{c} 0.551{\pm}0.005\\ 0.552{\pm}0.005\end{array}$	$ \begin{vmatrix} 0.738 \pm 0.003 \\ 0.734 \pm 0.002 \end{vmatrix} $	$\begin{array}{c} 0.586{\pm}0.003\\ 0.584{\pm}0.001\end{array}$
DCAN	Repr Orig	0.837±0.005	$0.977{\pm}0.001$	0.063±0.002 Not ava	0.527±0.002 ailable	$0.721 \pm 0.001$	$0.572{\pm}0.001$
TransICD	Repr Orig	0.882±0.010	$0.982{\pm}0.001$	0.059±0.008 Not ava	0.495±0.005 ailable	0.663±0.007	$0.521 {\pm} 0.006$
Fusion	Repr Orig	$\begin{array}{c} 0.910 {\pm} 0.003 \\ 0.915 \end{array}$	$0.986 \pm 0.000 \\ 0.987$	$ \begin{vmatrix} 0.076 \pm 0.007 \\ 0.083 \end{vmatrix} $	$\begin{array}{c} 0.555 \pm 0.008 \\ 0.554 \end{array}$	0.744±0.003 0.736	0.588±0.003 N/A

Table 5: Reproduced test set results on the MIMIC-III full (old) dataset. For each model, the upper row (Repr) shows the reproduction results in mean $\pm$ standard deviation, and the lower row (Orig) shows the results in the original papers.

Model		Macro AUC	Micro AUC	Macro F1	Micro F1	P@5
CNN	Repr Orig	0.892±0.003 0.876	$\begin{array}{c} 0.920{\pm}0.003\\ 0.907\end{array}$	$ \begin{vmatrix} 0.583 \pm 0.006 \\ 0.576 \end{vmatrix} $	$\begin{array}{c} 0.652{\pm}0.008\\ 0.625\end{array}$	$ \begin{vmatrix} 0.627 \pm 0.007 \\ 0.620 \end{vmatrix} $
CAML	Repr Orig	$\begin{array}{c c} 0.865 {\pm} 0.017 \\ 0.875 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 0.899 {\pm} 0.008 \\ 0.909 \end{array}$		$\begin{array}{c} 0.593 {\pm} 0.020 \\ 0.614 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 0.597 {\pm} 0.016 \\ 0.609 \end{array}$
MultiResCNN	Repr Orig	$\begin{array}{c c} 0.898 {\pm} 0.006 \\ 0.899 {\pm} 0.004 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 0.928 {\pm} 0.003 \\ 0.928 {\pm} 0.002 \end{array}$	$ \begin{vmatrix} 0.590 \pm 0.012 \\ 0.606 \pm 0.011 \end{vmatrix} $	$\begin{array}{c} 0.666 {\pm} 0.013 \\ 0.670 {\pm} 0.003 \end{array}$	$ \begin{vmatrix} 0.638 \pm 0.005 \\ 0.641 \pm 0.001 \end{vmatrix} $
DCAN	Repr Orig	$\begin{array}{c c} 0.915 {\pm} 0.002 \\ 0.902 {\pm} 0.006 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 0.938 {\pm} 0.001 \\ 0.931 {\pm} 0.001 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 0.614 {\pm} 0.001 \\ 0.615 {\pm} 0.007 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 0.690 {\pm} 0.002 \\ 0.671 {\pm} 0.001 \end{array}$	$ \begin{vmatrix} 0.653 \pm 0.004 \\ 0.642 \pm 0.002 \end{vmatrix} $
TransICD	Repr Orig	$\begin{array}{c} 0.895 {\pm} 0.003 \\ 0.894 {\pm} 0.001 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 0.924 {\pm} 0.002 \\ 0.923 {\pm} 0.001 \end{array}$	$ \begin{vmatrix} 0.541 \pm 0.010 \\ 0.562 \pm 0.004 \end{vmatrix} $	$\begin{array}{c} 0.637 {\pm} 0.003 \\ 0.644 {\pm} 0.003 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 0.617 {\pm} 0.005 \\ 0.617 {\pm} 0.003 \end{array}$
Fusion	Repr Orig	$\begin{array}{c} 0.904 {\pm} 0.002 \\ 0.909 \end{array}$	$\begin{array}{c} 0.930 {\pm} 0.001 \\ 0.933 \end{array}$	0.606±0.009 0.619	$0.677 \pm 0.003$ 0.674	$\begin{array}{c} 0.640 {\pm} 0.001 \\ 0.647 \end{array}$

Table 6: Reproduced test set results on the MIMIC-III top-50 (old) dataset. For each model, the upper row (Repr) shows the reproduction results in mean $\pm$ standard deviation, and the lower row (Orig) shows the results in the original papers.

that rare words in the corpus are replaced with the UNK token before training word2vec. In CAML's preprocessing, the embeddings are trained without replacing UNK tokens, and later, the embeddings of the frequent words are extracted. Also, in our code, only the train corpus is used to train the embedding, while the CAML's code uses the whole corpus. Furthermore, when choosing words for the vocabulary, CAML's code counts the number of documents, i.e., discharge summary note, that each word appears in, while our code uses the total occurrences of each word. Here, both codes use only the train corpus.

# D More Attribution Scores of MIMIC-III

Table  $7 \sim 10$  show more examples of interpretability visualization. When the model predicted an ICD code correctly, then the relevant part of the input text is attributed. The cases when a model does not predicted are the second and third row of Table 8.

Intergrated Grad	tients for <b>428.0</b> (Congestive neart failure unspecified), HADM_1D=158682
CNN	hypoventilation syndrome chronic diastolic heart failure hypothyroidism irritable bowel syndrome
CAML	hypoventilation syndrome chronic diastolic heart failure hypothyroidism irritable bowel syndrome
MultiResCNN	hypoventilation syndrome chronic diastolic heart failure hypothyroidism irritable bowel syndrome
DCAN	hypoventilation syndrome chronic diastolic heart failure hypothyroidism irritable bowel syndrome
TransICD	obes hypoventil syndrom <mark>chronic diastol heart failur hypothyroid</mark> irrit bowel syndrom vitamin
Fusion	hypoventilation syndrome chronic diastolic heart failure hypothyroidism irritable bowel syndrome

Intergrated Gradients for **428.0** (Congestive heart failure unspecified), HADM\_ID=158682

Table 7: Integrated gradients of various models on a fixed input and a fixed ICD code

Intergrated Gradients for 285.9 (Anemia, unspecified), HADM_ID=100408					
CNN	p mv repair htn lipid chronic anemia persistent afib chf arthritis				
CAML	physician name9 pre information name9 pre name3 lf r division cardiothoracic				
MultiResCNN	cardiothoracic allergy recorded known allergy drug attending name3 If asymptomatic				
DCAN	p mv repair htn lipid chronic anemia persistent afib chf arthritis				
TransICD	p <mark>mv</mark> repair htn lipid chronic <mark>anemia</mark> persist afib <mark>chf</mark> arthriti tonsillectomi				
Fusion	p mv repair htn <mark>lipid</mark> chronic anemia persistent afib chf arthritis				

Table 8: Integrated gradients of various models on a fixed input and a fixed ICD code

Integrated Gradients of Fusion, HADM_ID=148372
96.04 (Insertion of endotracheal tube) unsuccessfully repeat abg paco2 ph intubated arterial line finally placed successfully
38.91 (Arterial catheterization) repeat abg paco2 ph intubated arterial line finally placed successfully extubated
427.31 (Atrial fibrillation) perioperative pe anticoagulation atrial fibrillation anticoagulation hypertension diabetes type
250.00 (Diabetes mellitus without mention of complication, type ii or unspecified type) fibrillation anticoagulation hypertension diabetes type ii obstructive sleep apnea hypercholesterolemia
401.9 (Unspecified essential hypertension) anticoagulation atrial fibrillation anticoagulation hypertension diabetes type ii obstructive sleep
Table 9: Integrated gradients of Fusion for various ICD codes on a fixed input
Integrated Gradients of MultiResCNN, HADM_ID=135796
414.01 (Coronary atherosclerosis of native coronary artery) niacin attending name3 If cad vessel cad aortic stenosis toxic multinodular goiter
427.31 (Atrial fibrillation) operative dysphagia post operative atrial fibrillation h 1st degree av block p peg
96.6 (Enteral infusion of concentrated nutritional substances) ir post pyloric tube placed feeding eventually peg placed picc placed pt screened
38.93 (Venous catheterization, not elsewhere classified) placed feeding eventually peg placed picc placed pt screened rehab c rehad
584.9 (Acute renal failure, unspecified) protection mri brain performed cu arf elevation creatinine pt subsequently reintubated

Table 10: Integrated gradients of Fusion for various ICD codes on a fixed input

# Acknowledgements

We acknowledge the support of Center for Machine Learning and Health at Carnegie Mellon University. This work was supported by the intramural research program at the U.S. National Library of Medicine, National Institutes of Health.