



AN OVERVIEW ON: SOCIAL MEDIA SENTIMENT ANALYSIS

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Abstract: Social Media Sentiment Analysis (SMSA) has become an essential tool for organizations aiming to understand public perception through digital expressions. This study investigates advanced sentiment analysis techniques using Natural Language Processing (NLP) and Machine Learning (ML) models from 2020 to 2025. It highlights real-time applications, modeling strategies, and the efficacy of various sentiment classification algorithms. The paper also discusses the impact of deep learning and transformer-based models in improving accuracy and reliability. Our analysis confirms the growing relevance of SMSA in strategic decision-making across sectors including marketing, politics, and crisis management.

INTRODUCTION

The rise of social media platforms such as Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram has made them a primary source of real-time public opinion. Social Media Sentiment Analysis (SMSA) focuses on extracting subjective information from textual content, providing valuable insights into user emotions and opinions. This process is especially important for industries and governments seeking to evaluate brand sentiment, election forecasts, or the public's response to global events. With advancements in AI from 2020 onwards, SMSA has shifted from rule-based systems to sophisticated transformer-based models capable of interpreting complex language structures.

METHODOLOGY

The methodology of SMSA comprises five major steps:

1. Data Collection: Using APIs (Twitter API, Reddit API) to gather posts, hashtags, and comments.
2. Data Preprocessing: Cleaning text by removing noise, converting emojis, and applying tokenization, lemmatization, and stemming.
3. Feature Engineering: Representing data using TF-IDF, Word2Vec, and contextual embeddings (e.g., BERT).
4. Sentiment Classification: Applying ML models like Logistic Regression, Random Forests, and deep learning models such as LSTM, BERT, and RoBERTa.
5. Visualization & Reporting: Using tools like Matplotlib, Seaborn, and Power BI for dashboard development.

MODELLING AND ANALYSIS

We developed several models using supervised learning and pre-trained transformers. Classical ML models including Support Vector Machines and Random Forest were compared with deep neural networks like BiLSTM and transformers such as BERT and RoBERTa. The training datasets consisted of labeled tweets and social media comments, processed and split into training (80%) and testing (20%) sets. Model performance was evaluated using accuracy, precision, recall, and F1-score. BERT consistently outperformed traditional methods in handling contextual and nuanced language.

**RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Results indicated that transformer-based models, particularly BERT and RoBERTa, achieved accuracy rates above 90%, outperforming classical ML models. LSTM models also performed well but required more computational power. Word clouds revealed common expressions associated with positive and negative sentiment. Visualization of sentiment trends across timelines demonstrated public mood changes during major events such as elections or pandemics. Despite the success, limitations remained with sarcasm detection and multilingual sentiment classification.

CONCLUSION

This research highlights the critical role of advanced NLP in accurately analyzing social media sentiments. With continuous innovation between 2020 and 2025, SMSA has evolved into a reliable solution for interpreting complex human emotions. Applications in marketing, public health, and governance have validated its impact. Future work may focus on multi-modal sentiment analysis, real-time feedback loops, and ethical AI use in public discourse analysis.

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