

ONLINE NEWS POPULARITY

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HOW MARKETING STRATEGY GOT CHANGED



Before



Now

How do Blogging websites generate revenue?



Introduction

- The dataset summarizes a set of features about articles published by Mashable, a well-known news website over a period of two years from Jan 2013 - Jan 2015
- The objective is to predict the number of shares depending on the features if the article to be published would be popular on the internet or no.
- 39,644 observations
- 61 attributes
- No missing values, but some topics were unclassified
- Target: number of shares
- The articles were published by Mashable (www.mashable.com) and their content as the rights to reproduce it belongs to them. Hence, this dataset does not share the original content but some statistics associated with it. The original content be publicly accessed and retrieved using the provided urls.
- Acquisition date: January 8, 2015



Mashable

- Media and entertainment company for super fans [CHANNELS](#)

Video
Entertainment
Culture
Tech
Science

We know the future of TV looks nothing like the past. Great TV won't be made for mass audiences. It'll be made for the right audiences, using data both to inspire creativity and connect shows with influential viewers," said Pete Cashmore, Founder and CEO of Mashable. "It won't happen on the big screen. It'll happen on the screen you have in your pocket -- the mobile phone. The future of video is on the handset, not the TV set."

What is the goal?



PREDICTING THE POPULARITY OF ONLINE NEWS

Based on number of social shares of articles

Data description and Problem Statement

Data Source :

- Mashable



Problem Statement:

Problem :

- Even though the content of article is good still few articles don't get good number of shares and displaying Ads with it doesn't make profit.

Solution :

- Popularity prediction of online article aims to predict the future popularity of new article prior to the publication estimating the number of shares, likes and comments that particular article will get depending on various features.
- Depending on that we can display Ads with respect to the popularity.

Please give the benefit of your findings and reasons for your conclusion!!!!

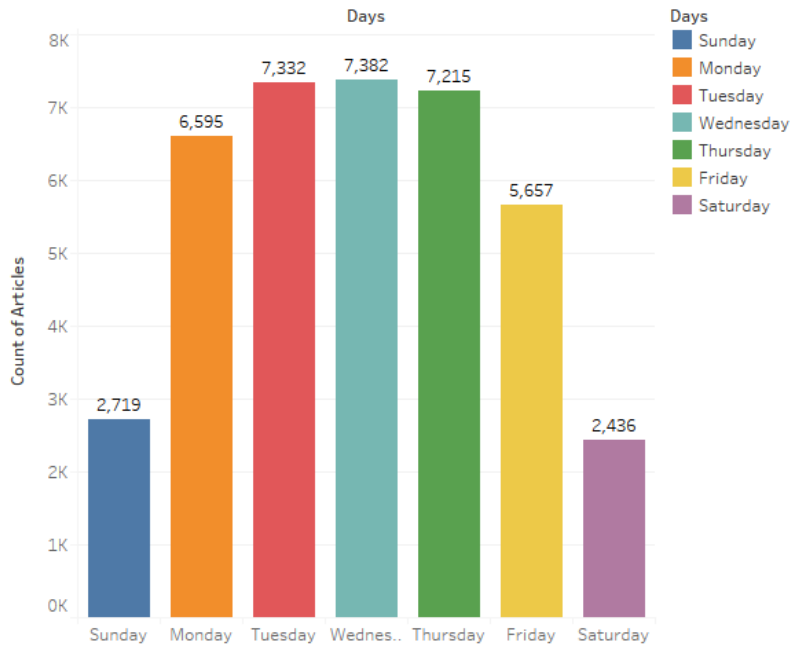
Model	Accuracy	Precision	Recall	F1	AUC
Random Forest (RF)	0.67	0.67	0.71	0.69	0.73
Adaptive Boosting (AdaBoost)	0.66	0.68	0.67	0.67	0.72
Support Vector Machine (SVM)	0.66	0.67	0.68	0.68	0.71
K-Nearest Neighbors (KNN)	0.62	0.66	0.55	0.60	0.67
Naïve Bayes (NB)	0.62	0.68	0.49	0.57	0.65



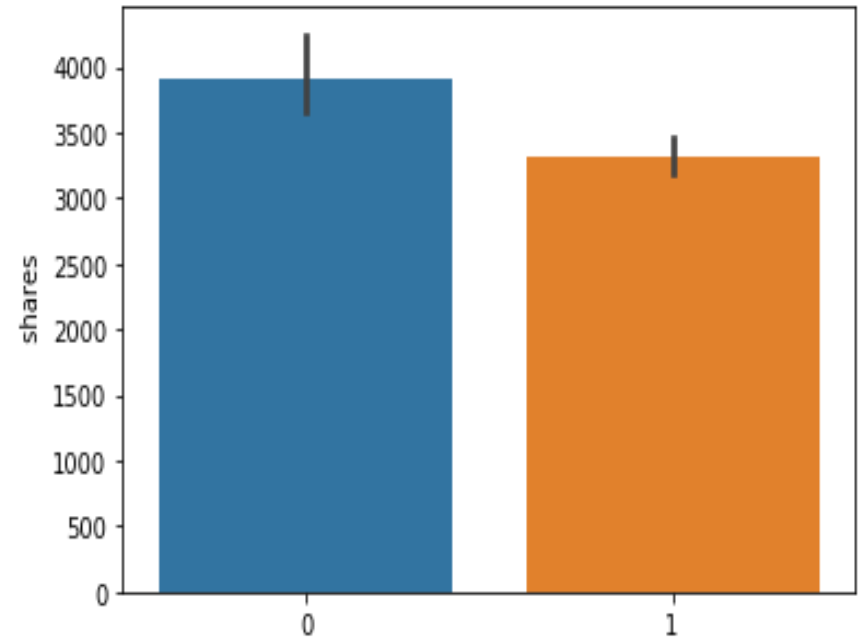
- Research Paper: 'A Proactive IDSS for Predicting the Popularity of Online News'
- Objective : To obtain better accuracy
- Link: <http://repositorium.sdum.uminho.pt/bitstream/1822/39169/1/main.pdf>

Exploratory Data Analysis

Day wise article



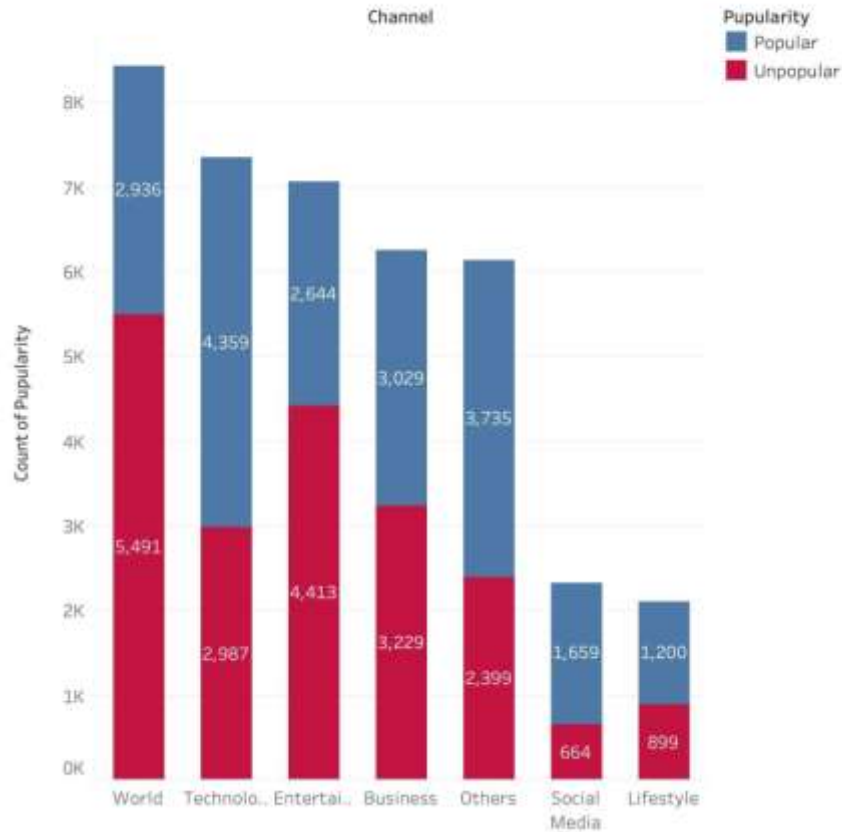
- **Wednesday** has maximum articles getting released
- Weekdays have maximum number of shares



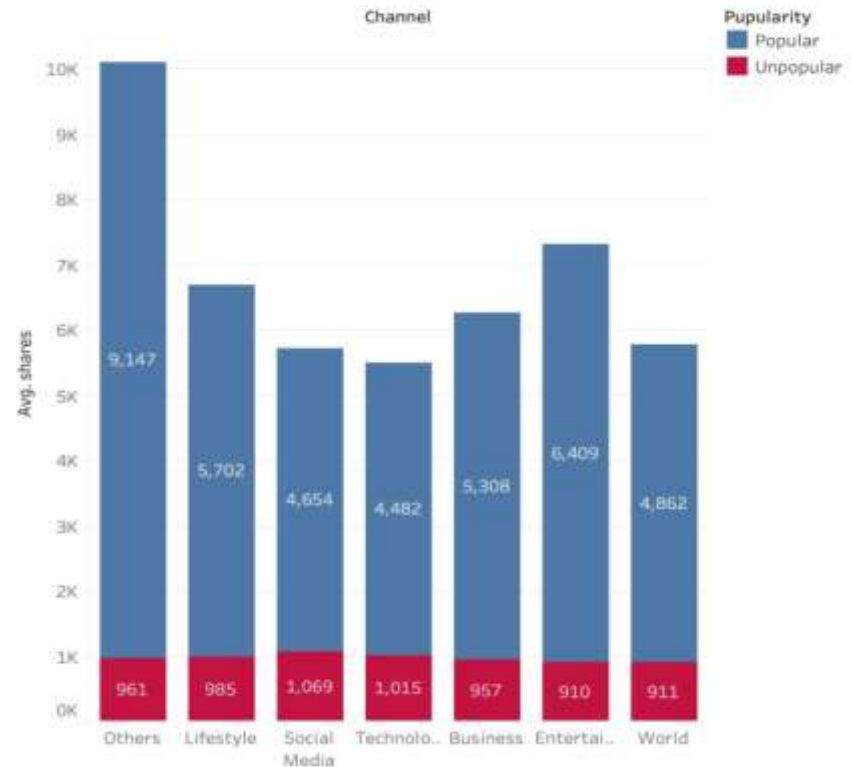
- Weekday (0) : More share
- Weekend (1): Less Share

DAY WISE SHARE

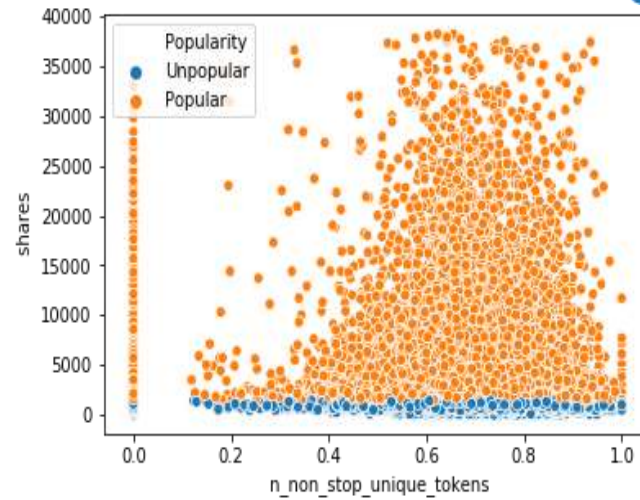
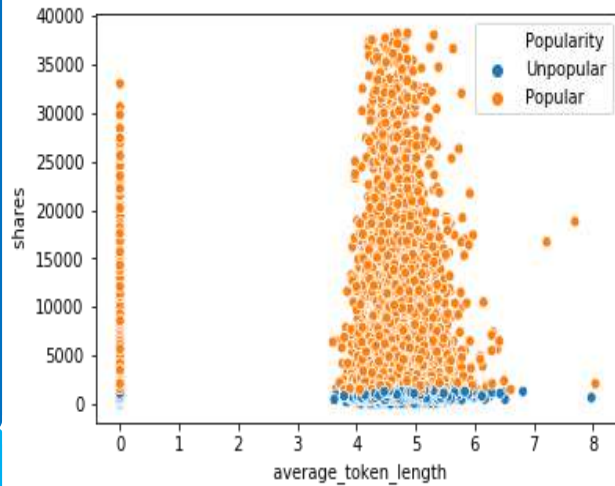
Popularity based on the type of Channel



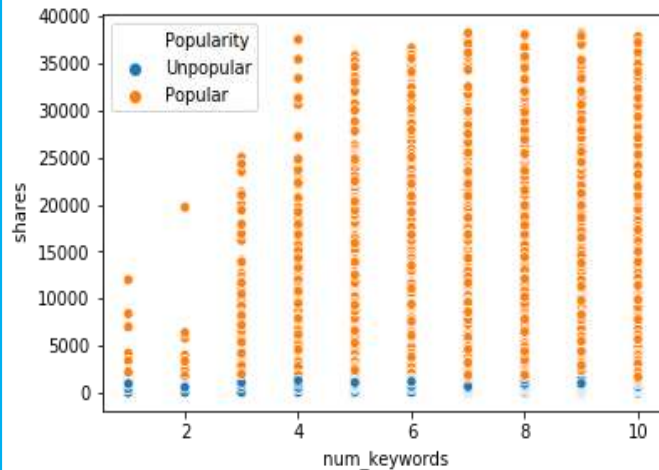
Average number of Shares of a Channel based on Popularity



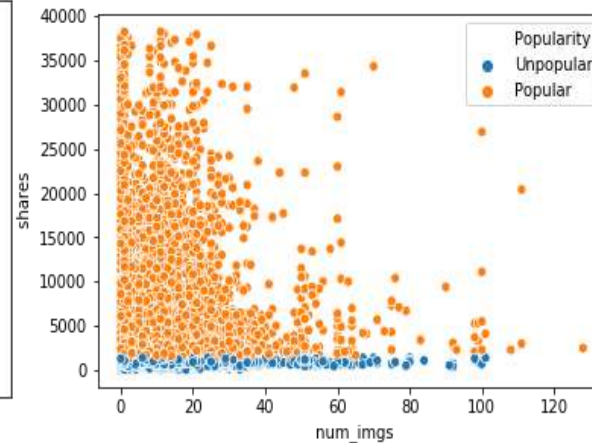
- More number of articles are getting published under data channel “**Technology**”.
- “**Others**” has more number of shares. Apart from that ‘**Entertainment**’ has more shares.



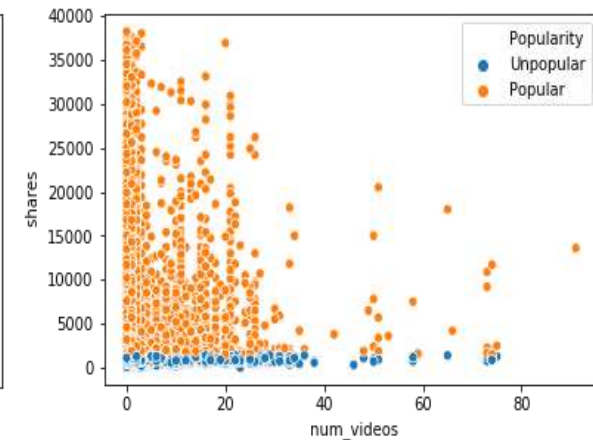
- Rate of frequency of unique words is between 0.4 – 0.8
- Rate of frequency of non-stop unique words is between 0.5 – 0.9
- Average length of the words in content is between 4 - 5.5



- More number of keywords articles are getting shared more
- In our case it ranges between 4 to 10



- Image count range between 1-25
- Lesser the image sharing is high



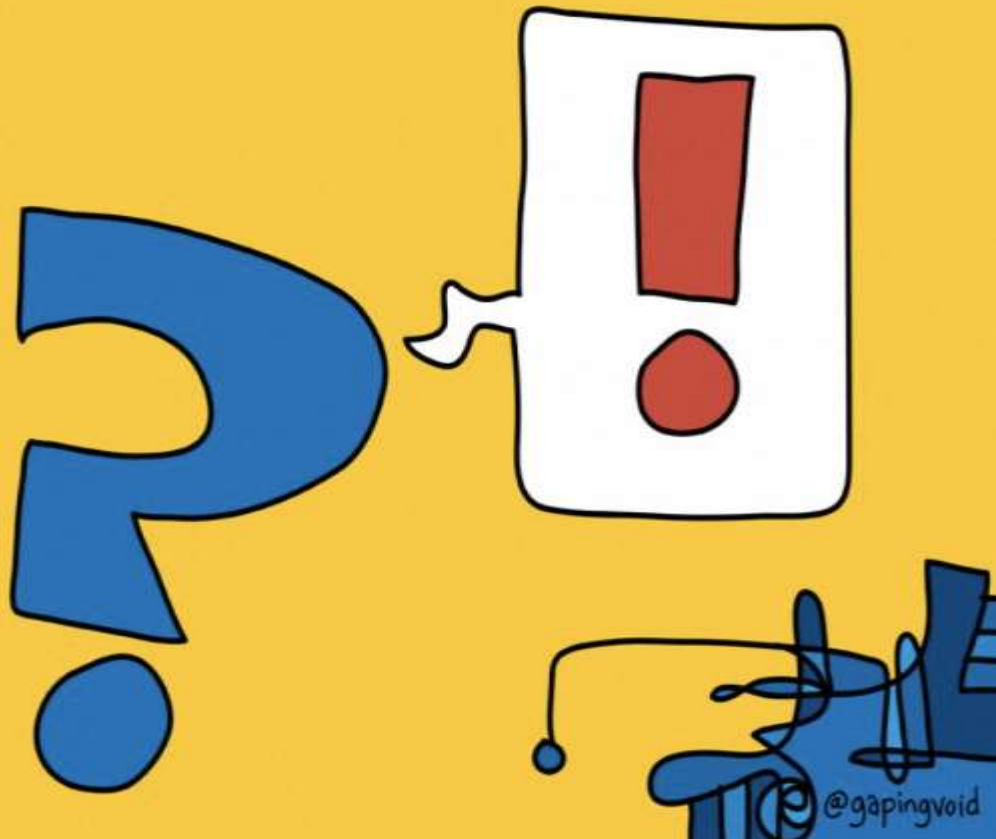
- Video count range between 1-4
- Lesser the videos sharing is high

Observations



- The **number of keywords** in the metadata influences the shares to a margin. The higher the value the better the shares chances. A value upward of 5 is recommended.
- The **content** should have less than 1500 words. The lesser the better.
- **Title** should be between 6 - 17 words.
- **Unique words** should be between 0.3 - 0.8%
- **No. of links** between 1 and 40 is preferred.
- **Images** - 0 to 3
- **Videos** - 0 to 25
- Minimal images and videos will make an article more interesting
- More articles are getting published on World data channel.
- **Lifestyle** and **entertainment** based articles are preferred more by people.
- Best popular articles are usually posted on **Monday** and **Wednesday** (and a bit of Tuesdays).
- **Weekends** are not preferred to publish an article.

when the 'why' is
StRong enough
you figure out the 'how'



Why entertainment is hot?

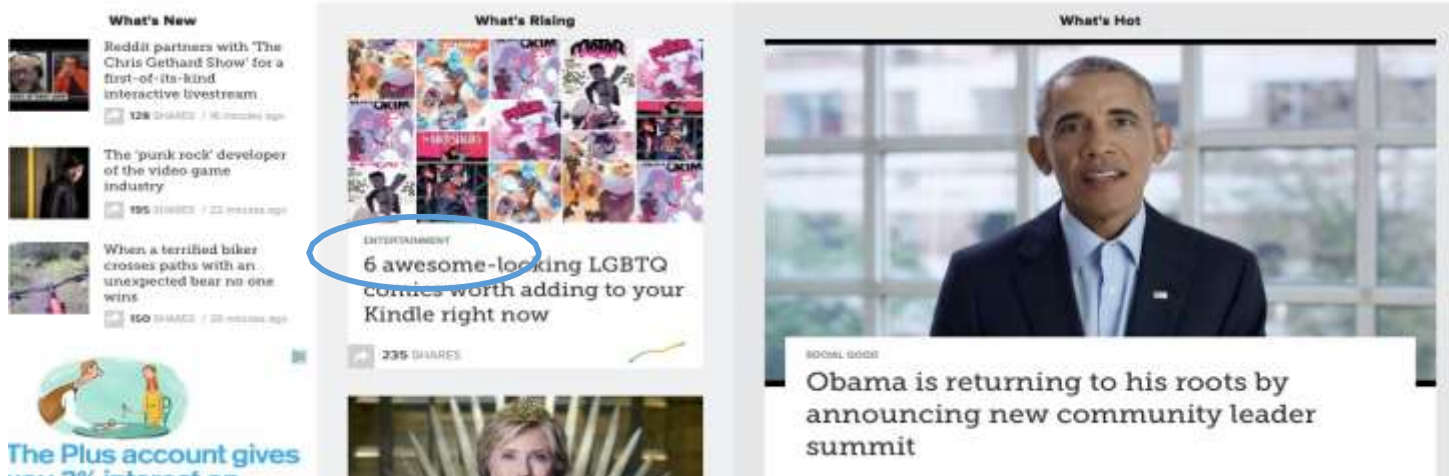
Top 3 titles are including start with a digital numeral while two of them have video

Positive words, strong visual and individual digit in title

Create **THE BIGGEST IMPACT** to share

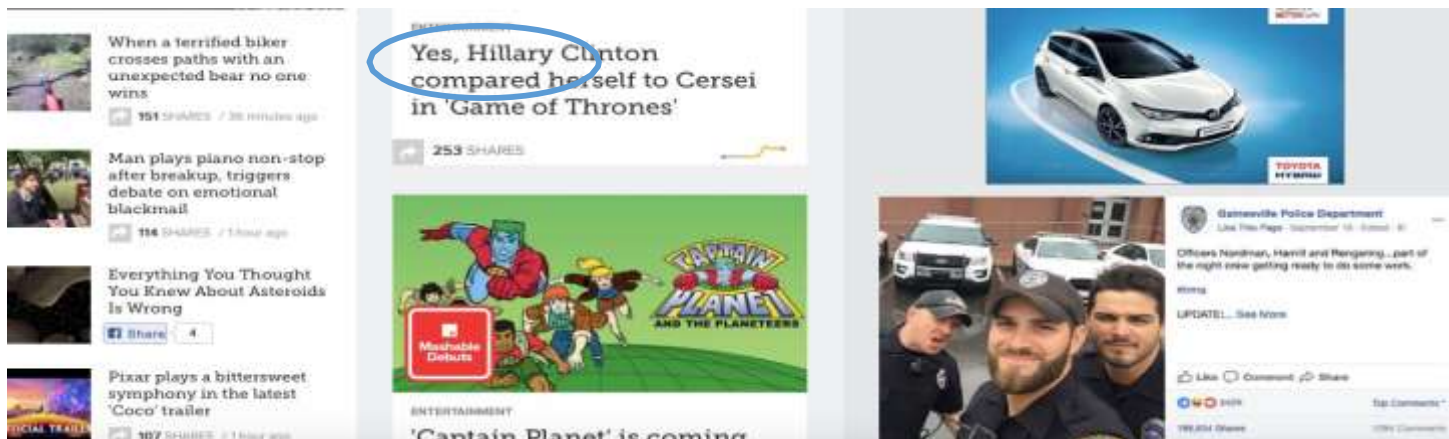
Top 10 titles with positive score

'Love Is a Bracketfield' Facebook App Will Decide Best Romance Movie Ever
Puppies Adorably Predict Super Bowl Winner [VIDEO]
SAG Awards Recap: Best Moments and Acceptance Speeches
10 Awesome Pranks to Play On Your Facebook Friends
10 Best YouTube Channels for Free Fitness Videos
Government Wants to Create Free Public 'Super Wi-Fi'
The 10 Best Super Bowl Ads of All Time
The Best Super Bowl Ads in 60 Seconds [VIDEO]
Amy Poehler to Star in Best Buy Super Bowl Ad
Happy Superb Owl Sunday!



Title

1. Strong visual
2. Start with a digital numeral
3. Start with positive imperative



SENTIMENT POLARITY

- An article can have both positive and negative polarity which shows the emotions.
- More number of positive polarity many intend towards good articles.
- More number of negative polarity many towards controversial articles.

POSITIVE CORPUS

- I. “To the world you may be just one person, but to one person you may be the world.”

NEGATIVE CORPOUS

- II. “I now believe global warming alarmists are unpatriotic racists knowingly misleading for their own ends. Good night.”

[illegible]

Statistical Model

Dep. Variable:	Popularity	No. Observations:	27750			
Model:	Logit	Df Residuals:	27710			
Method:	MLE	Df Model:	39			
Date:	Wed, 15 Jan 2020	Pseudo R-squ.:	0.08491			
Time:	13:33:46	Log-Likelihood:	-17600.			
converged:	True	LL-Null:	-19233.			
Covariance Type:	nonrobust	LLR p-value:	0.000			
	coef	std err	z	P> z	[0.025	0.975]
const	-2.1766	0.426	-5.104	0.000	-3.012	-1.341
n_tokens_title	-0.0095	0.006	-1.499	0.134	-0.022	0.003
n_tokens_content	7.105e-05	5.86e-05	1.256	0.209	-3.98e-05	0.000
n_unique_tokens	-0.2116	0.411	-0.515	0.607	-1.018	0.594
n_non_stop_unique_tokens	-0.4442	0.348	-1.276	0.202	-1.126	0.238
num_hrefs	0.0088	0.002	4.387	0.000	0.005	0.013
num_self_hrefs	-0.0062	0.006	-1.055	0.292	-0.018	0.005
num_imgs	0.0059	0.003	2.186	0.029	0.001	0.011
average_token_length	-0.1248	0.054	-2.316	0.021	-0.230	-0.019
kw_max_min	-0.0001	2.26e-05	-4.598	0.000	-0.000	-5.86e-05
kw_avg_min	0.0008	0.000	6.177	0.000	0.001	0.001
kw_min_max	-7.215e-08	8.5e-07	-0.085	0.932	-1.74e-06	1.59e-06
kw_avg_max	-1.451e-06	1.49e-07	-9.721	0.000	-1.74e-06	-1.18e-06
kw_min_avg	-8.547e-05	1.81e-05	-4.728	0.000	-0.000	-5e-05
kw_max_avg	-7.433e-05	9.3e-06	-7.992	0.000	-9.26e-05	-5.81e-05
kw_avg_avg	0.0007	3.47e-05	19.874	0.000	0.001	0.001
self_reference_min_shares	1.206e-05	4.06e-06	2.954	0.003	4.06e-06	2.01e-05
self_reference_max_shares	-8.76e-07	2.24e-06	-0.391	0.695	-5.27e-06	3.52e-06
self_reference_avg_shares	1.984e-05	5.01e-06	3.957	0.000	1e-05	2.97e-05
is_weekend	0.8447	0.040	21.181	0.000	0.767	0.923
LDA_00	1.2311	0.109	11.288	0.000	1.017	1.445
LDA_01	-0.1741	0.122	-1.429	0.153	-0.413	0.065
LDA_02	0.2897	0.109	2.667	0.008	0.077	0.503
LDA_03	0.2902	0.107	2.710	0.007	0.080	0.500
LDA_04	1.2091	0.104	11.573	0.000	1.004	1.414
global_subjectivity	1.1909	0.186	6.389	0.000	0.826	1.556
global_sentiment_polarity	0.2954	0.306	0.965	0.334	-0.304	0.895
global_rate_positive_words	-2.1870	1.458	-1.500	0.134	-5.044	0.670
global_rate_negative_words	8.6164	2.990	2.882	0.004	2.758	14.477
rate_positive_words	0.5329	0.356	1.497	0.134	-0.185	1.231
rate_negative_words	-0.0478	0.339	-0.141	0.888	-0.712	0.617
avg_positive_polarity	-0.4181	0.221	-1.896	0.058	-0.850	0.014
min_positive_polarity	-0.8941	0.306	-2.907	0.004	-1.497	-0.291
avg_negative_polarity	-0.0757	0.221	-0.343	0.732	-0.509	0.357
min_negative_polarity	0.0863	0.091	0.952	0.341	-0.091	0.254
max_negative_polarity	-0.3483	0.274	-1.270	0.204	-0.886	0.189
title_subjectivity	0.2634	0.058	4.510	0.000	0.149	0.378
title_sentiment_polarity	0.2028	0.064	3.144	0.002	0.076	0.329
abs_title_subjectivity	0.2737	0.082	3.326	0.001	0.112	0.435
abs_title_sentiment_polarity	-0.2319	0.104	-2.239	0.025	-0.435	-0.029

Model Deployment with Default Hyper parameters

	model	Train Score	Test Score
8	XGBClassifier	0.684541	0.656970
7	GradientBoostingClassifier	0.684901	0.655288
6	AdaBoostClassifier	0.664937	0.649655
3	RandomForestClassifier	0.983820	0.620397
9	BaggingClassifier	0.984973	0.619472
0	LogisticRegression	0.607892	0.609887
2	DecisionTreeClassifier	1.000000	0.577266
4	GaussianNB	0.572577	0.577098
5	KNeighborsClassifier	0.718739	0.567261
1	SGDClassifier	0.518054	0.522953

Feature Selection-RFE

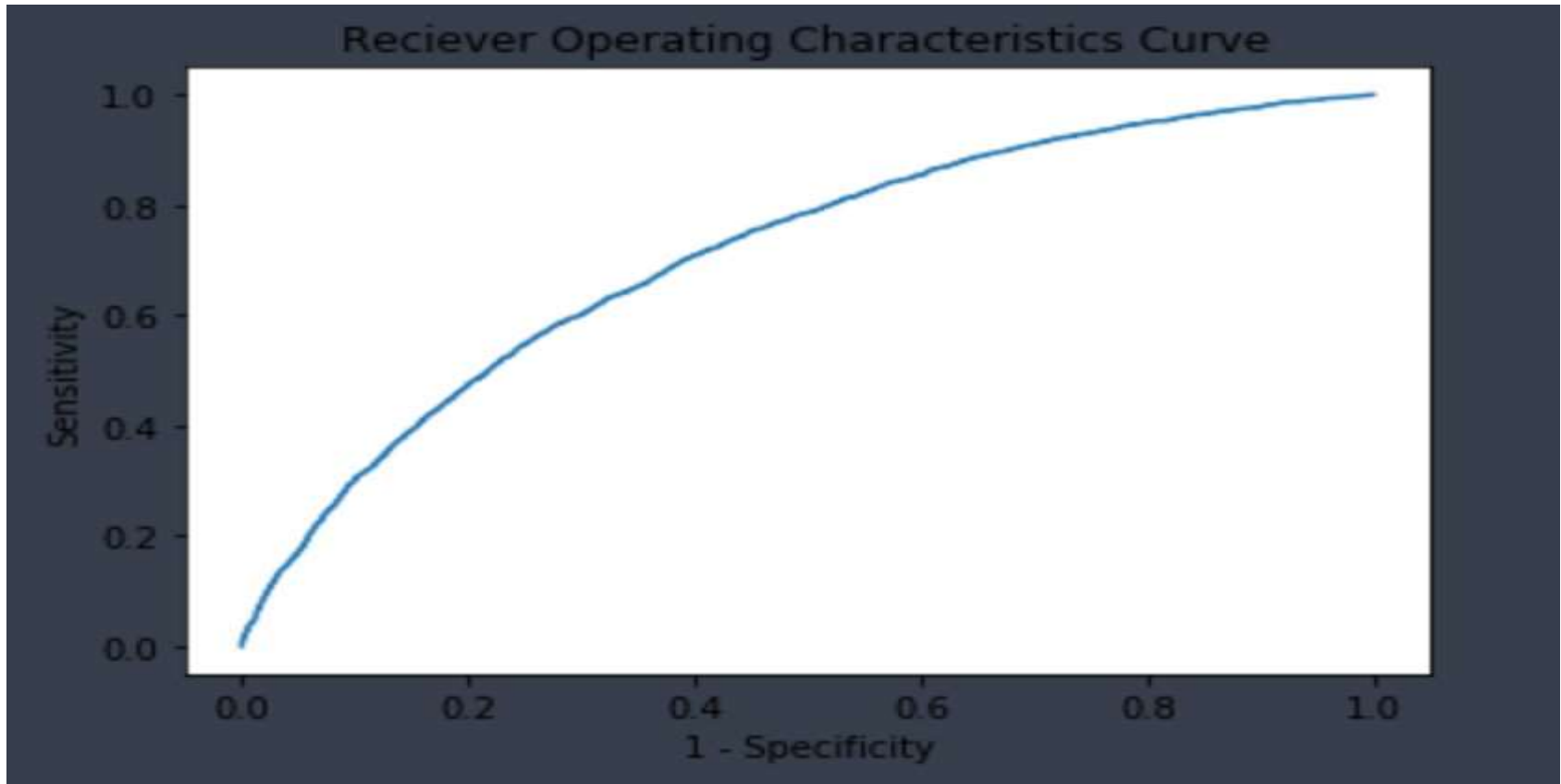
Number of Features		Accuracy Score
57	58	0.621490
47	48	0.619472
38	39	0.617622
43	44	0.617538
50	51	0.617034

```

42         channels
17     self_reference_min_shares
16         kw_avg_avg
41         day
9         kw_min_min
19     self_reference_avg_shares
24         LDA_04
32     min_positive_polarity
15         kw_min_avg
13         kw_max_max
2         n_unique_tokens
3         num_hrefs
21         LDA_01
20         LDA_00
14         kw_avg_max
11         kw_avg_min
22         LDA_02
12         kw_min_max
5         num_imgs
25     global_subjectivity
Name: Columns, dtype: object

```

ROC Curve



```
1 roc_auc_score ( y_test , rfc.predict_log_proba ( X_test ) [ : , 1 ] )
```

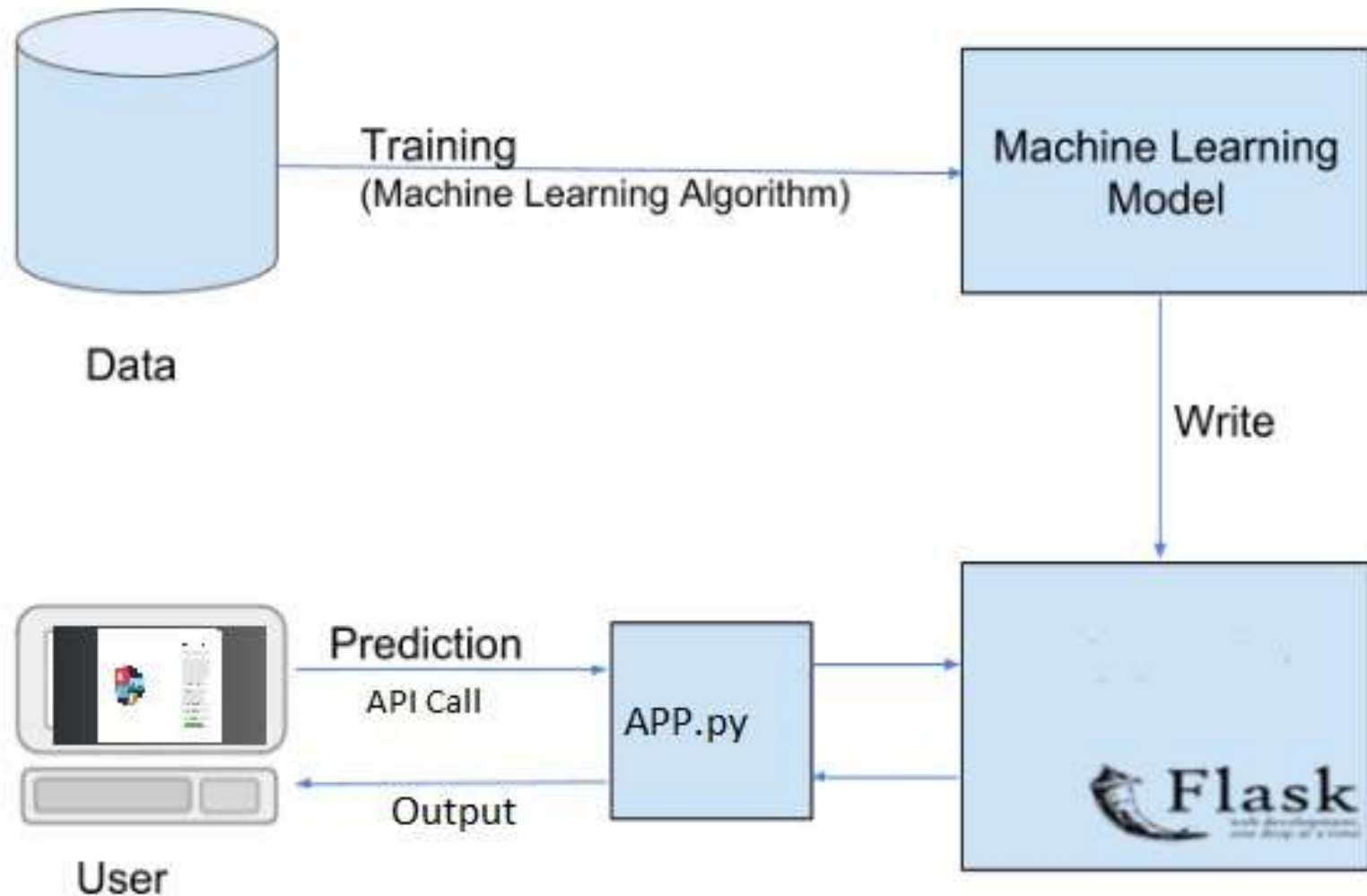
0.754893384894

Metrics



```
Sensitivity 0.7377927749106789  
Specificity 0.7268745620182201  
Accuracy 0.7293762611275965
```


Architecture



UI: Iteration 1

News Popularity

Title

Other Important Aspects

UI: Iteration 2

News Popularity

Title

Title

Other Important Aspects

Article Content

Channel of Article

Number of Links

Number of Images

Number of Videos

Day to Publish

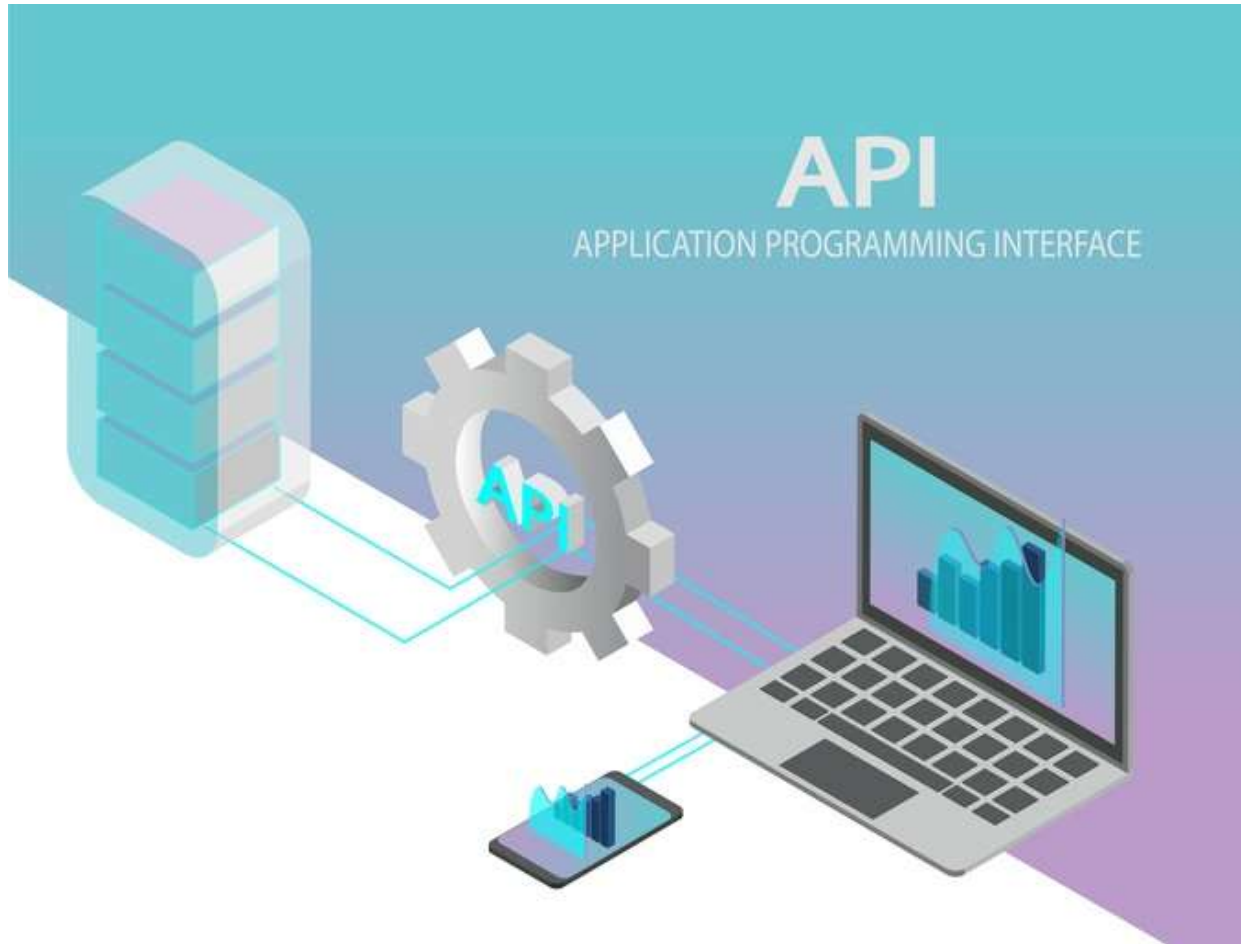
Predict

User Interface



Article Popularity

API as a service



{url}/predict

1. Different UI
2. No UI

Limitations:

- Platform Dependent
- Accuracy VS Inference-time trade off
- Lack of feature details
 - There is no information about the relationship between the number of times an article is shared vs the amount time the article was online
 - There is no information on how the channels cross over
 - Criterion to self referenced articles in Mashable
 - Limited information about natural language processing features

Future Enhancements:

- Content assistance by providing suggestions to the user.
- We can use more complex models at the cost of less interpretability.
- The next iteration – URL Extraction



Please take out your Phones!!!

kahoot.it

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

3x
\$200



100

