Sentiment Predictor

Introduction

The purpose of this project is to create a sentiment analysis model for customer reviews using both a Lexicon approach and a machine learning approach.

Customer reviews vary significantly; some are short and concise while others are lengthy and detailed. Often, customers may praise a product in their review but give it a rating that does not reflect their positive feedback. Other times people will be critical of the product but give it a higher rating. Being able to predict the sentiment of a review is useful because companies can use this to adjust the ratings of their reviews to normalize them which helps them understand the customers feedback better.

This report will go through the preprocessing steps taken and then highlight the differences between lexicon models and machine learning models and which one is more suitable for this task. The dataset that is being used is called Amazon_fashion for reviews on fashion products on amazon.

Dataset exploration



Column Description:

reviewerID - ID of the reviewer, e.g. A2SUAM1J3GNN3B

asin - ID of the product, e.g. 0000013714

reviewerName - name of the reviewer

vote - helpful votes of the review

style - a dictionary of the product metadata, e.g., "Format" is "Hardcover"

reviewText - text of the review

overall - rating of the product

summary - summary of the review

unixReviewTime - time of the review (unix time)

reviewTime - time of the review (raw)

image - images that users post after they have received the product

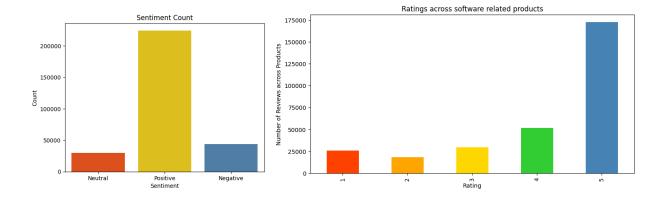
1 df.info()				1 df.describe()				1 df.count()	
<pre><class 'pandas.core.frame.dataframe'=""> RangeIndex: 883636 entries, 0 to 883635 Data columns (total 12 columns):</class></pre>						unixReviewTime	vote	overall verified	883636 883636
#	Column	Non-Null Count	Dtype	count	883636.00000	8.836360e+05	79900.000000	reviewTime	883636
0	overall	883636 non-null		mean	3.90694	1.456751e+09	5.797434	reviewerID asin reviewerName reviewText summary unixReviewTime vote style	883636 883636
1 2	verified reviewTime	883636 non-null 883636 non-null		std	1.41828	4.430691e+07	12.365278		
3	reviewerID	883636 non-null							883544
4	asin	883636 non-null	object	min	1.00000	1.036973e+09	2.000000		882403
6	reviewerName reviewText	883544 non-null 882403 non-null	object	25%	3.00000	1.434240e+09	2.000000		883103 883636 79900
8	summary unixReviewTime vote	883103 non-null 883636 non-null 79900 non-null	object int64 float64	50%	5.00000	1.462234e+09	3.000000		
10	style	304569 non-null	object	75%	5.00000	1.484266e+09	5.000000		304569
11 image 28807 non-null object dtypes: bool(1), float64(1), int64(2), object(8) memory usage: 75.0+ MB				max	5.00000	1.538352e+09	966.000000	image dtype: int64	28807

Dataset Preprocessing

The image column was dropped because we are only interested in processing the text reviews. The vote column was also dropped because there were too many missing rows in that column which will reduce our sample size by too much. After this we removed all other missing values so each column has the same number of values.

To check for duplicate reviews we checked if a user made multiple reviews on the same product using the ReviewerID column and the asin column.

Next to create a Sentiment column the values from the overall column were taken and separated into 3 different groups depending on the value. If the review was 4 or higher it was classified as a positive review in the sentiment column, under 2 it was classified as a negative review and if the value was 3 it was classified as a neutral review. The dataset contained far more positive reviews than negative or neutral.



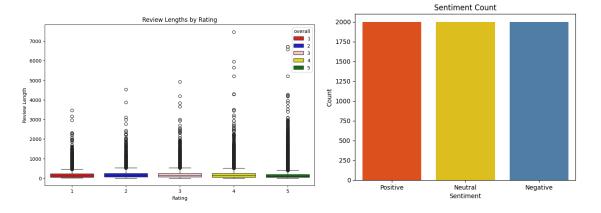
Any reviews that were made by unverified users were also removed. This is so we can guarantee there are no reviews from bots skewing the data.

Text Preprocessing

Next the unnecessary columns were removed and the summary and reviewText column were combined into a new column called text so we could preprocess them at the same time.



Another column called text length was added to compare the review length with the given rating. This graph shows positive reviews tend to get longer reviews. Next to balance the data for the lexicon and machine learning models. 2000 samples were taken from each sentiment type this ensures the data isn't biased towards one sentiment.

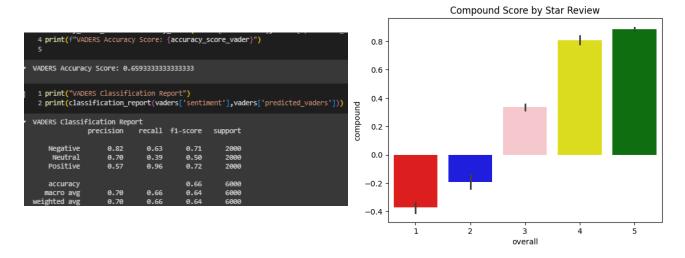


Next we remove urls, hashtags, digits and more to clean up the text before we use the lexicon models on it.

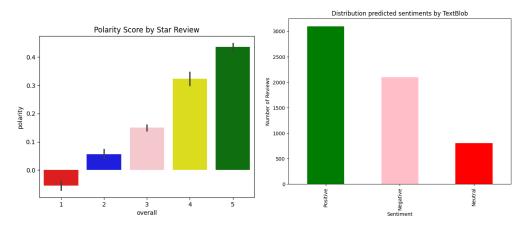
Lexicon Models

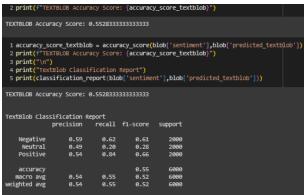
The lexicon models chosen for this project are Vaders and TextBlob. Vader's is extremely useful because it is tailored towards customer reviews and feedback analysis. It is context-sensitive, which means it checks the sentence structure to better understand the context of the sentence and determine its sentiment. Vaders, outputs four different scores, positive, negative, neutral and compound score. If the sentence has a positive sentiment it has a higher positive score, this also applies to the negative and neutral sentiments, which receive corresponding scores. The compound score is the final score; it combines the positive, negative and neutral score and gives the final score which determines if the sentence has a positive, negative or neutral sentiment.

To further improve Vader's capabilities I experimented with adding some keywords that will affect the score if they appear in the review text. For example if the words five star were mentioned in the review it will mark the sentiment as positive even if the total compound score does not meet that threshold. This is because the data we are working with are amazon reviews and customers often mention the rating that they give in their review. Next we classify the sentiment depending on the compound score. But because there is overlap between the different categories the Vaders model loses accuracy



Text blob is also used for sentiment analysis in product reviews; it uses tokenization, n-grams and word inflection and lemmatization. Text blob also gives a negative, neutral and positive score and then a final score to determine the sentiment. Textblob wasn't very accurate in predicting the final score. It suffers from having even more overlap which leads to more false predictions.





Machine learning models

To get the data ready for the machine learning models, it first needs to be vectorized. The vectorization method chosen for this project is TF-IDF vectorization. TF-IDF is similar to Bag of Words but it reduces the weight of common words and increases the weight of rare ones. This method is beneficial for reviews since it decreases the weight of regular words, while words that indicate sentiment, being rarer, are weighted higher.

There are many different ways to build a machine learning model. To decide which models to use, multiple models were trained, and those with the highest training scores were selected. The models chosen were Logistic Regression, Support Vector Machine, and Multi-Layer Perceptron.

To get the best score with the Support Vector Machine Model, Grid Search Cross validation was used. GridSearchCV tests out different combinations of hyperparameters in order to get this best result.

Accuracy: 0.7	76			Accuracy: 0.77					
	precision	recall	f1-score	support		precision	recall	f1-score	support
Negative		0.79	0.77	600	Negative	0.76	0.81	0.78	600
Neutral	0.68	0.69	0.68	600	Neutral	0.71	0.66	0.69	600
Positive	0.86	0.80	0.83	600	Positive	0.83	0.82	0.83	600
accuracy			0.76	1800	accuracy			0.77	1800
macro avg	0.76	0.76	0.76	1800	macro avg	0.77	0.77	0.77	1800
weighted avg	0.76	0.76	0.76	1800	weighted avg	0.77	0.77	0.77	1800

The logistic regression model is only slightly more accurate than the SVM model. To get the best parameters for the Multi layered perceptron model loops were used to loop through the hyper parameters in the end the final accuracy was the same as Logistic Regression model

```
Hidden Layers: (50,), Activation: relu, Solver: sgd, Max Iter: 1000, Alpha: 0.1, Accuracy: 0.77
            precision recall f1-score support
   Negative
                          0.80
                                    0.78
                                               600
   Neutral
                 0.70 0.68
0.82 0.83
                                    0.69
                                               600
   Positive
                                    0.83
                                               600
                                    0.77
                                              1800
   accuracy
  macro avg
                 0.77 0.77
0.77 0.77
                                              1800
weighted avg
                                              1800
```

Conclusion

In conclusion, the machine learning models perform significantly better than the lexicon-based models. The highest accuracy achieved is 77%. While this may seem a bit low, it's important to consider that the purpose of these models is to determine the true sentiment of the reviews, which might sometimes contradict the given rating. For example, some reviewers may rate a product as 3 stars, but their review itself could be very negative, indicating a true negative sentiment. Therefore, it's natural for the accuracy to not be exceptionally high. These techniques can be applied to larger and more complex datasets. Additionally, other vectorization techniques, such as Bag of Words and Word2Vec, can also be experimented with to improve results.

Overall, machine learning models are more viable for sentiment analysis for this dataset. However, different datasets may benefit from lexicon models. Experimenting with both approaches helps us choose the most effective model for the job. This project can be expanded on by shortening the reviews down and adding automatic responses to reviews that leave questions.