Assessing the Credibility of User-Generated Content For Real-Time Refinement of Forecast and Nowcast

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Abstract—Weather forecasting and nowcasting have always been really tough challenges for scientists, meteorologists, and programmers due to complex weather patterns, large amounts of data, and the limited capabilities of modern servers. However, algorithms are constantly being improved, and more and more parameters are taken into account when calculating the forecast, such as user-generated content. On the one hand, this is very useful information because web and mobile applications are made for people, and it acts like feedback. It can also be taken into account in subsequent calculations, so other users will see more accurate data. On the other hand, there are users who specifically send incorrect information, known as fraudsters, and users whose opinions are just very different from the rest, too. The paper will focus on how to take user-generated content into account most effectively.

Keywords-UGC, forecast, nowcast

I. INTRODUCTION

In our time, there are many data sources through which weather conditions can be determined: satellites, radars, stations, camera recordings, among others. All sources have their own advantages and disadvantages. For instance, stations provide good accuracy but are not found everywhere. Conversely, satellites offer wide coverage but can be inaccurate; also, regularly requesting data from them is expensive. Thus, it is impossible to choose a single specific source to rely on when making a weather forecast. For this reason, data is collected from different sources, combined and aggregated using mathematical statistics and machine learning methods. Historical data can also be used for constructing weather forecasts to identify patterns in them and extrapolate to the present. As can be seen, there is a vast amount of data available for forecast construction, and they are all very diverse. Additionally, it must be considered that Earth is a giant planet with a large atmosphere. Calculating an absolutely accurate forecast for the Earth is impossible, even on the most powerful modern computers, partly because there simply isn't enough processing power, and partly because weather change patterns are not fully understood - currently, there are hundreds, or even thousands of meteorological parameters that are interconnected and not so easy to calculate. Therefore, constructing a weather forecast is not only a computational task but also an approximative one. It is necessary to understand how the Earth can be divided into a grid and how to calculate the forecast in each pixel, this article will not touch on a comprehensive

description of these details. Further, the article will discuss user-generated content and how it helps improve the forecast and validate the current nowcast.

The remainder of this article is organized as follows. In Section 2, related literature will be reviewed and some crowd-sorcing methods will be briefly described. In Section 3, the methodology is introduced. Section 4 discusses the expected results. Section 5 concludes the paper.

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- The subscript for the permeability of vacuum μ_0 , and other common scientific constants, is zero with subscript formatting, not a lowercase letter "o".
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TABLE I TABLE TYPE STYLES

Table	Table Column Head		
Head	Table column subhead	Subhead	Subhead
copy	More table copy ^a		

^aSample of a Table footnote.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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