

# Sentiment Analysis of SXSW Tech Tweets

Natural Language Processing & Machine Learning Project

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# Introduction: The Power of Sentiment Analysis



## Unstructured Text Challenge

Social media platforms generate massive volumes of unstructured text daily, creating opportunities for automated analysis



## Public Opinion Insights

Sentiment analysis enables organizations to understand public opinion, track brand perception, and identify emerging trends in real-time



## Automated Classification

Natural Language Processing and Machine Learning techniques automate sentiment classification, replacing manual annotation

# Problem Statement

## 1 Manual Analysis Inefficiency

Manual sentiment analysis becomes impractical with thousands of tweets, requiring excessive time and resources

## 2 Noisy Data Challenge

Social media data contains emojis, hashtags, slang, and typos that complicate automated processing

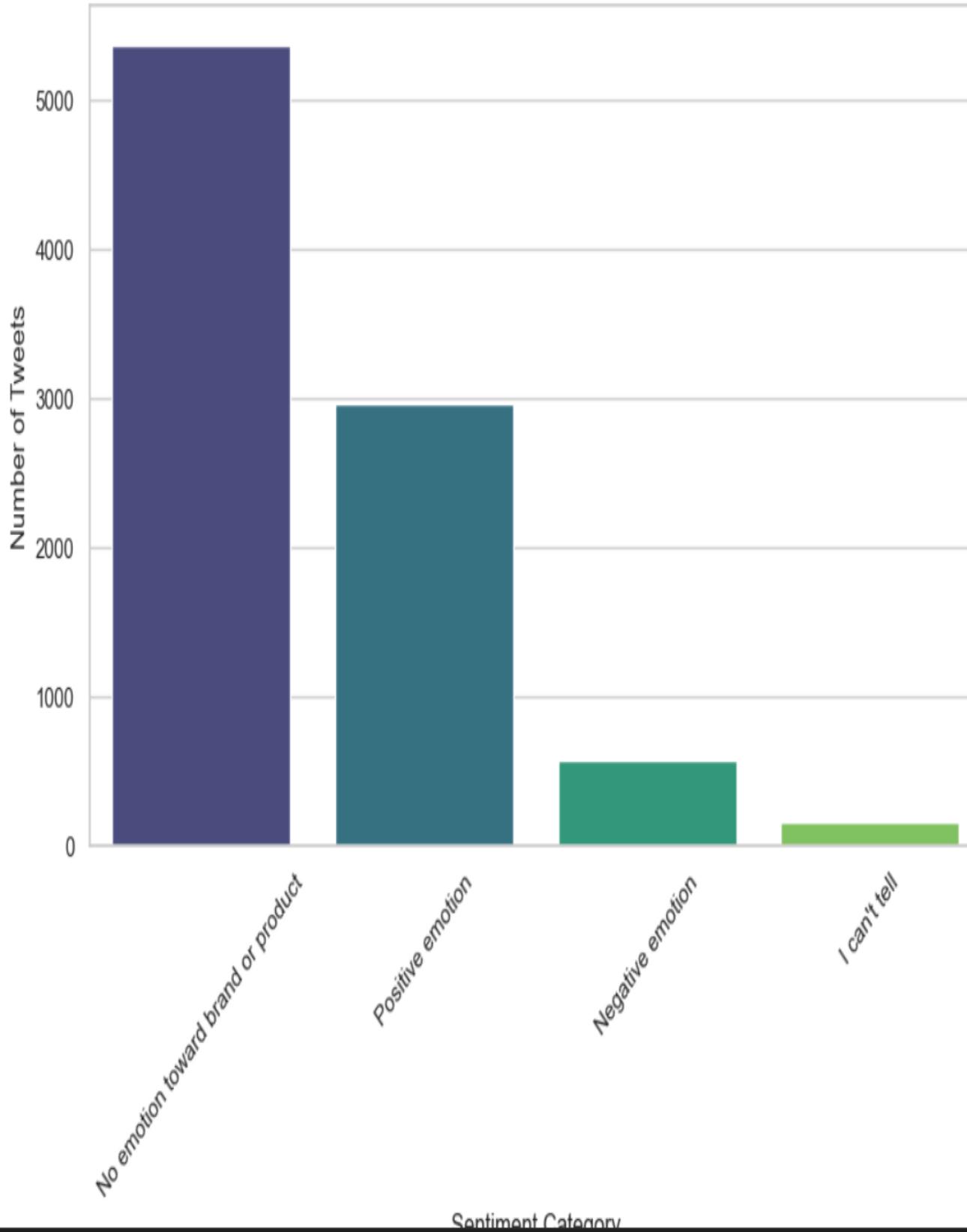
## 3 Need for Automation

Automated sentiment classification systems are essential for real-time analysis at scale

## Research Focus

Developing ML models to classify SXSW technology tweet sentiment accurately despite class imbalance

Distribution of Tweet Sentiments (SXSW 2011)



# Dataset Overview

## Source Data

Tweets mentioning technology products during SXSW conference events

## Key Features

- `tweet_text`: Full tweet content
- `product_target`: Mentioned product
- `sentiment`: Labeled sentiment class

## Sentiment Classes

Multiple sentiment categories: positive, negative, and neutral classifications present

# Exploratory Data Analysis

## Key Findings

- Sentiment Distribution**  
Analyzed frequency of each sentiment class across the dataset
- Class Imbalance**  
Identified significant imbalance among sentiment categories
- Positive Dominance**  
Positive sentiment substantially outnumbers negative and neutral classes

Unique Sentiment Labels:

`sentiment`

No emotion toward brand or product 5373

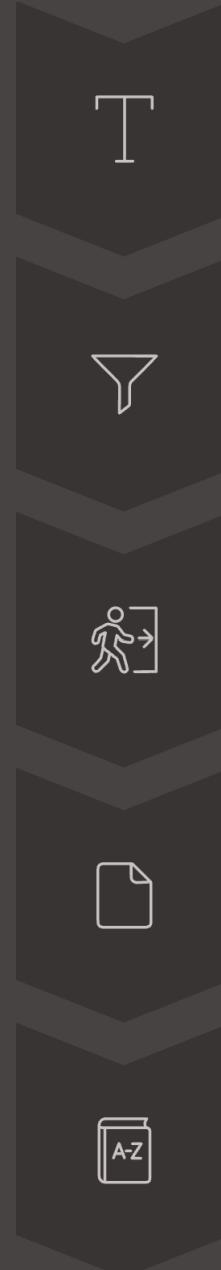
Positive emotion 2968

Negative emotion 569

I can't tell 156

Name: count, dtype: int64

# Text Preprocessing Pipeline



## Normalization

Convert all text to lowercase for consistency

## Cleaning

Remove punctuation, numbers, and special characters

## Stopword Removal

Filter out common words with minimal semantic value

## Tokenization

Split text into individual words or tokens

## Lemmatization

Reduce words to their base dictionary form

# Feature Engineering: TF-IDF Vectorization

## Methodology

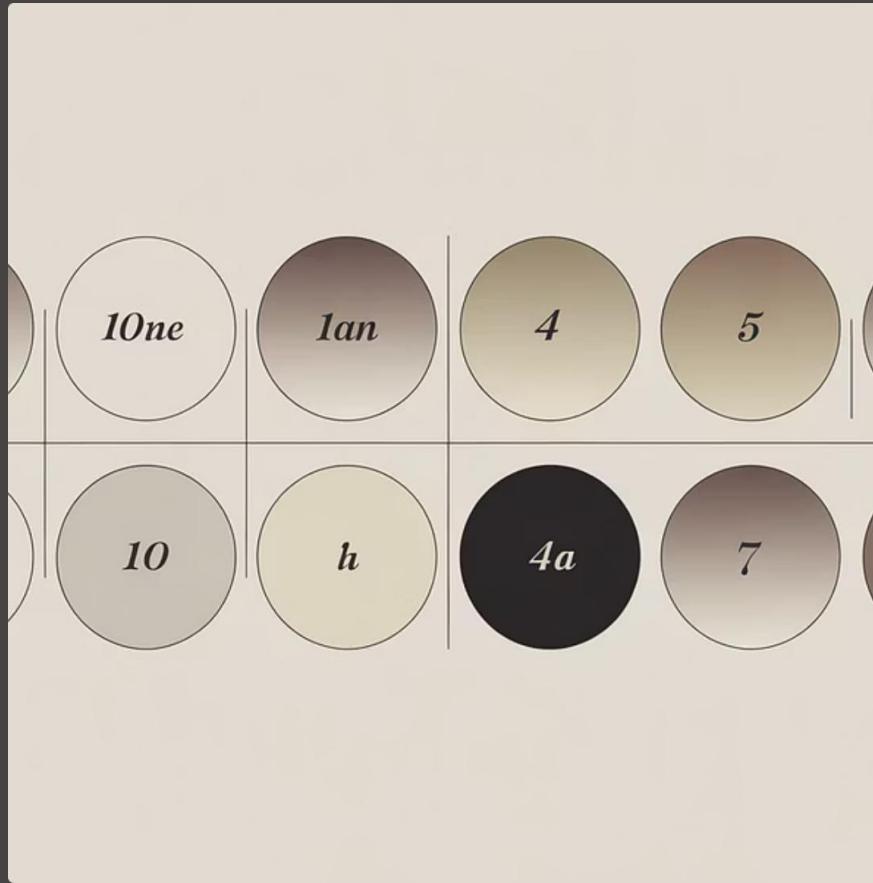
- Term Frequency-Inverse Document Frequency technique
- Converts text documents into numerical feature vectors
- Weights terms by importance in document vs. corpus
- Higher scores for terms frequent in document but rare overall
- Preserves semantic meaning through weighted representation

## Implementation

Text data transformed into high-dimensional numerical vectors suitable for ML algorithms while maintaining word importance signals

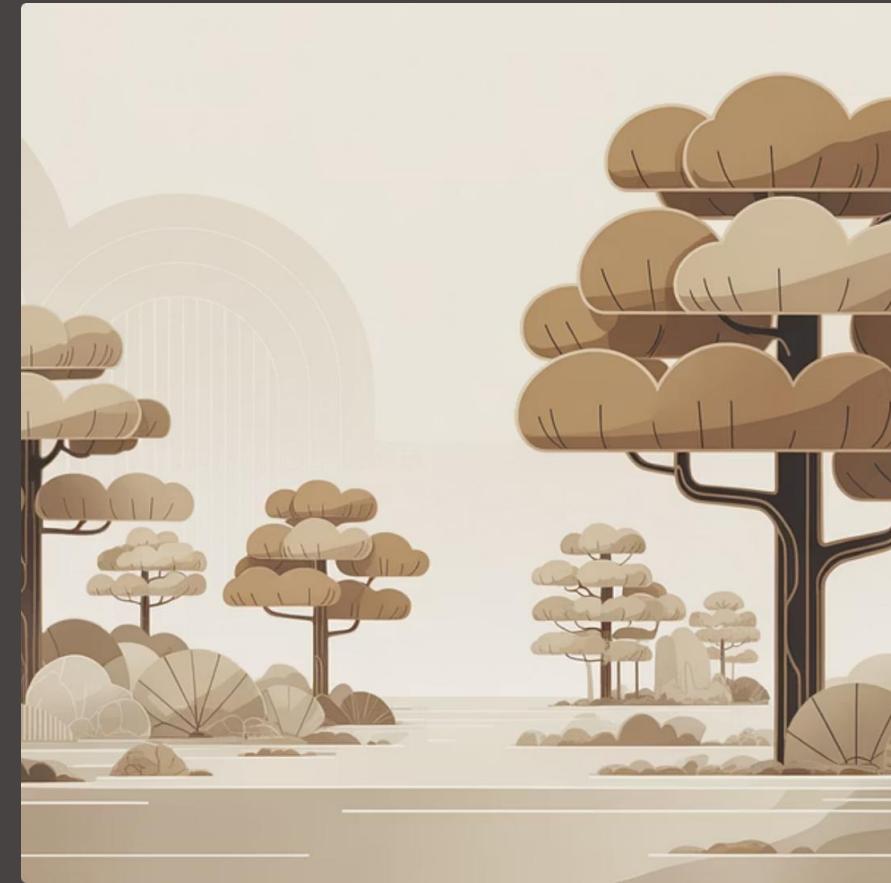


# Machine Learning Models



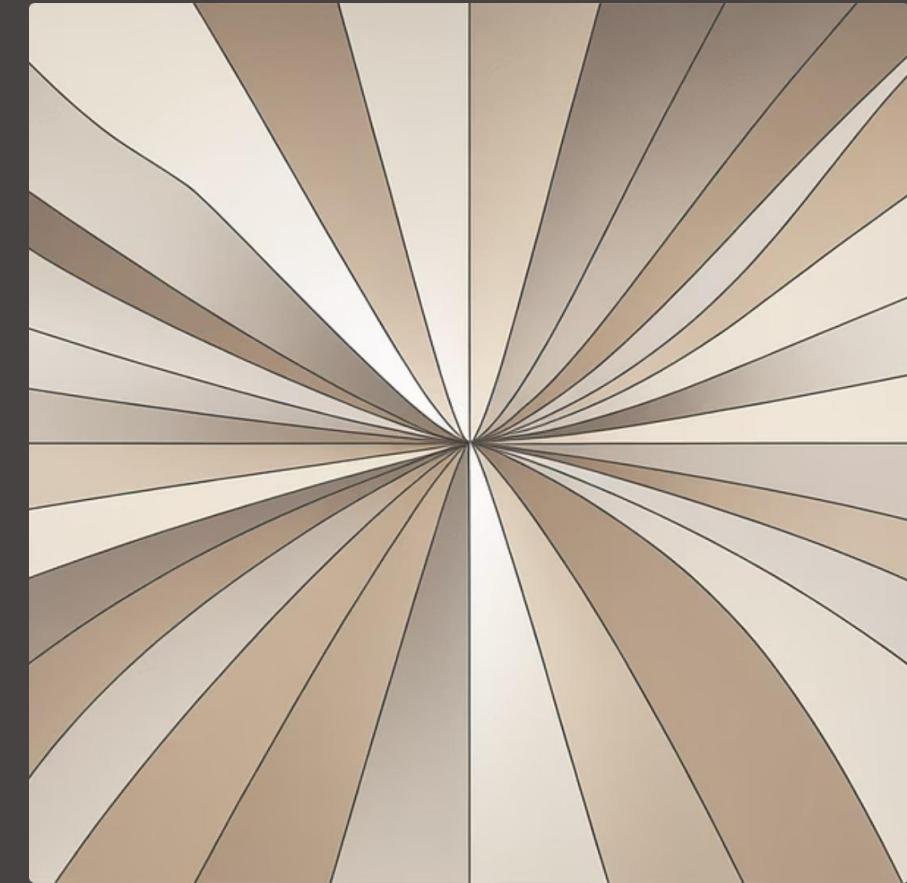
## Multinomial Naive Bayes

Baseline probabilistic classifier using Bayes' theorem with frequency-based features



## Random Forest

Ensemble method combining multiple decision trees for improved accuracy and robustness



## XGBoost

Gradient boosting framework with optimized tree-based models for enhanced performance

# Model Training and Evaluation

01

## Data Splitting

Divided dataset into training and testing sets  
for model validation

02

## Hyperparameter Tuning

Applied GridSearchCV to optimize model  
parameters systematically

03

## Performance Metrics

Evaluated using precision, recall, and F1-score  
across all sentiment classes

04

## Confusion Matrix

Analyzed classification errors and misclassification patterns

05

## Class Imbalance

Accounted for uneven class distribution during evaluation

# Results and Future Directions

## Key Findings

### Best Model

Random Forest achieved highest overall performance across evaluation metrics

### Ensemble Success

Tree-based ensemble methods outperformed baseline Naive Bayes classifier

### Challenge Area

Negative sentiment prediction proved most difficult due to class imbalance

## Future Work

### Data Balancing

Apply oversampling or undersampling techniques to address class imbalance

### Deep Learning

Explore neural network architectures like LSTM or BERT for enhanced performance