

Identification of Toxic Comments in Online Platforms

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INTRODUCTION

Introduction

- Identifying toxic comments in multiple online communities
 - Wikipedia Talk Pages, SFU Opinion and Comments Corpus (SOCC), Facebook
- Categorizing the different types of toxicities
 - Racism, sexism, bullying
- Comparing different communities

MOTIVATION

Motivation

- Toxicity in social interactions is very common
 - Over 43% of teens have been victims of cyberbullying. [1]
- Can have severe repercussions such as low self esteem, health problems, depression and isolation
 - Over 64% of victims reported that online toxicity negatively impacted their feelings of safety and ability to learn at school.
- Automatically detecting toxicity can help platform moderators to remove toxic comments and block users





DATASETS

Datasets

- Train our model using Wikipedia and SOCC datasets [2-3]
 - Comments labeled by human raters for toxic content
 - Roughly about 160000 comments in the Wikipedia dataset and 1000 comments in the SOCC dataset
- Evaluate the performance on comments from multiple Facebook pages
 - Sampled data from three categories: Sports, Politics and Entertainment

CHALLENGES

Challenges

- **Data Collection**
 - Challenging to find good data sets for training
 - Toxic comments are deleted by moderators
- **Data Cleaning**
 - ASCII characters, GIFs, pictures, ...
 - Missing values
- **Model Selection**
 - Achieving good performance

PROGRESS

PROGRESS

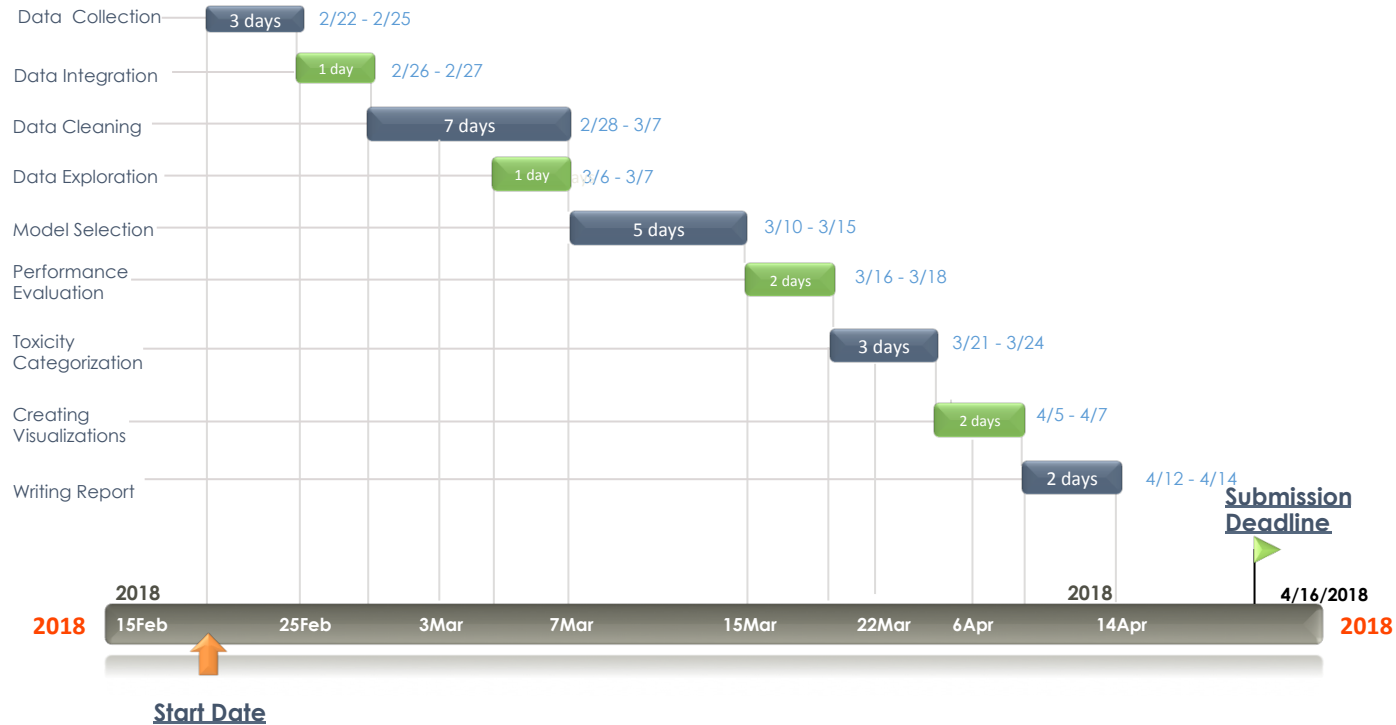
- Scraped data from facebook pages, sampled a subset of about 10000 comments from each category (Sports, Entertainment, Politics)
- Integrated data from multiple sources.
- Cleaning Data (In -Progress)

FUTURE WORK

Next Steps

- Data exploration (e.g. checking for class imbalances, missing values, ...)
- Data preparation (feature engineering)
- Building the model
- Toxicity categorization
- Visualization

Project Timeline



References

[1] DoSomething.org

[2] <https://www.kaggle.com/c/jigsaw-toxic-comment-classification-challenge>

[3] <https://github.com/sfu-discourse-lab/SOCC>