

Deceptive Humor Dataset (DHD) – Annotation Guidelines

Objective

This dataset focuses on a phenomenon we refer to as **Deceptive Humor**, content that wraps **fabricated or misleading claims** in humorous language to appear more engaging, less harmful, or harder to detect. Such humor often blurs the line between satire and misinformation, especially in multilingual and code-mixed online environments.

You are provided with a set of humorous comments. Your task is to annotate each comment based on two aspects:

1. **Satire Level**: How intense or exaggerated the humor is.
2. **Humor Attribute**: The main type of humor technique used.

These annotations will help us build a deeper understanding of how **fabricated claims are humorously presented**, particularly in diverse linguistic contexts.

1. Satire Level

Classify each comment into **one** of the following three categories:

1. **Low Satire**: Mild, subtle humor with minimal exaggeration. The humor may be hard to notice or closely tied to reality.
2. **Moderate Satire**: Noticeable exaggeration or ridicule, but still tethered to plausible contexts.
3. **Highly Exaggerated Satire**: Over-the-top, extreme, or blatantly unrealistic humor. These comments clearly distort or amplify facts for effect.

Select only one level (1, 2, or 3) based on the overall tone and delivery of the comment.

2. Humor Attribute

Classify the **primary humor technique** used in the comment. Choose **one** from the following five:

1. **Irony:** The use of words to express something contrary to the literal meaning. The comment may say one thing but clearly mean another.
Example: Saying “What a brilliant idea!” in response to a very poor decision.
2. **Absurdity:** Humor that relies on bizarre, illogical, or nonsensical scenarios. It often violates normal expectations.
Example: A comment that claims aliens will fix a political crisis.
3. **Social Commentary:** Humor used to critique or reflect on societal, political, or cultural issues. Often satirical in nature.
Example: Highlighting corruption or systemic issues through humor.
4. **Dark Humor:** Jokes about subjects that are generally considered serious or taboo, such as death, tragedy, or suffering.
Example: Making light of a disaster in a way that’s unsettling but intended as humor.
5. **Wordplay:** Puns, double meanings, or creative linguistic twists that create humor through the manipulation of language.
Example: “I’m reading a book on anti-gravity, it’s impossible to put down.”

3. Reference to Claims

If you're unsure about the context or claim related to a comment, please refer to the fabricated claims used in this study:

[Claims Supporting Deceptive Humor Research](#)

Understanding the claim behind the humor can help you annotate both the satire level and the humor attribute more accurately.

If the claim still seems unclear or ambiguous, you are encouraged to consult fact-checking websites (e.g., Alt News, Boom Live, Factly, etc.) to get additional background information. This can help you better interpret the comment’s context and intention.

4. Filtering Guidelines (Important)

Before annotating a comment, ensure it meets the following conditions:

- Nonsensical or broken text, If the comment is meaningless or composed of random characters/phrases, mark for removal.
- Unsupported language, If the comment is in a language other than English, Telugu, Hindi, Tamil, Kannada, or their code-mixed forms, mark for removal.
- Purely offensive content – If the comment is abusive, hateful, or harmful without any humor intent, mark for removal.
- Incorrect language labels – If a comment is fully written in a specific script (e.g., pure Telugu) but labeled as a mixed form (e.g., "Te-En"), correct the label accordingly.

Final Notes

- Read each comment carefully before annotating.
- Your reasoning matters, there are no wrong answers if they're based on the provided definitions.
- Strive for consistency in applying the criteria across all comments.
- **Feel free to reach out if you encounter ambiguous cases or have doubts.**

Thank you for contributing to this research! Your annotations will play a key role in this study on understanding how humor can act as a vehicle for misinformation for its propagation.