**CONCLUSIONS**

In this paper, we tried to identify the presence of depression in Reddit social media; and searched for affective performance increase solutions of depression detection. We characterized a closer connection between depression and a language usage by applying NLP and text classification techniques. We identified a lexicon of words more common among the depressed accounts. According to our findings, the language predictors of depression contained the words related to preoccupation with themselves, feelings of sadness, anxiety, anger, hostility or suicidal thoughts, with a greater emphasis on the present and future. To measure the signs of depression, we examined the performance of both single feature and combined feature sets using various text classifying methods. Our results show that a higher predictive performance is hidden in proper features selection and their multiple feature combinations. The strength and effectiveness of combined features are demonstrated with the MLP classifier reaching 91% accuracy and 0.93 F1 score achieving the highest performance degree for detecting the presence of depression in Reddit social media conducted in our study. Additionally, the best feature among the single feature sets is bigram; with SVM classifier it can detect depression with 80% accuracy and 0.79 F1 score. Considering LIWC and LDA features, LIWC outperformed topic models generated by LDA. Although our experiment shows that the performances of applied methodologies are reasonably good, the absolute values of the metrics indicate that this is a challenging task and worthy of further exploration. We believe this experiment could further underline the infrastructure for new mechanisms applied in different areas of healthcare to estimate depression and related variables. It can be beneficial for the individuals suffering from mental health disorders to be more proactive towards their fast recovery. In our future work, we will try to examine the relationship between the users’ personality [65] and their depression-related behavior reflected in social media.