



EVALITA 2018

EVALUATION OF NLP AND SPEECH TOOLS FOR ITALIAN

IronITA

Irony Detection in Italian Tweets

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Introduction & Motivation

CONTINUITY WITH:

- SENTIPOLC @ EVALITA 2014 (Barbieri et al., 2014)
- SENTIPOLC @ EVALITA 2016 (Basile et al., 2016)



Introduction & Motivation

CONTINUITY WITH:

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FOCUS ON:

- Italian social media texts (Twitter)





Introduction & Motivation

irony

noun [C/U] • **US**  /'aɪ.rə.ni, 'aɪ.ər.ni/

- ★ a type of usually humorous expression in which you say the opposite of what you intend:

[U] *He had a powerful sense of irony, and you could never be absolutely sure when he was serious.*



Introduction & Motivation

irony

noun [C/U] • **US**  /'aɪ.rə.ni, 'aɪ.ər.ni/

- ★ a type of usually humorous expression in which you say the opposite of what you intend:

[U] *He had a powerful sense of irony, and you could never be absolutely sure when he was serious.*

sarcasm

noun [U] • **UK**  /'sɑː.kæz.əm/ **US**  /'sɑːr.kæz.əm/

- ★ the use of remarks that clearly mean the opposite of what they say, made in order to hurt someone's feelings or to criticize something in a humorous way:

*"You have been working hard," he said with **heavy** sarcasm, as he looked at the empty page.*

NOT SURE IF SARCASTM



OR IRONY

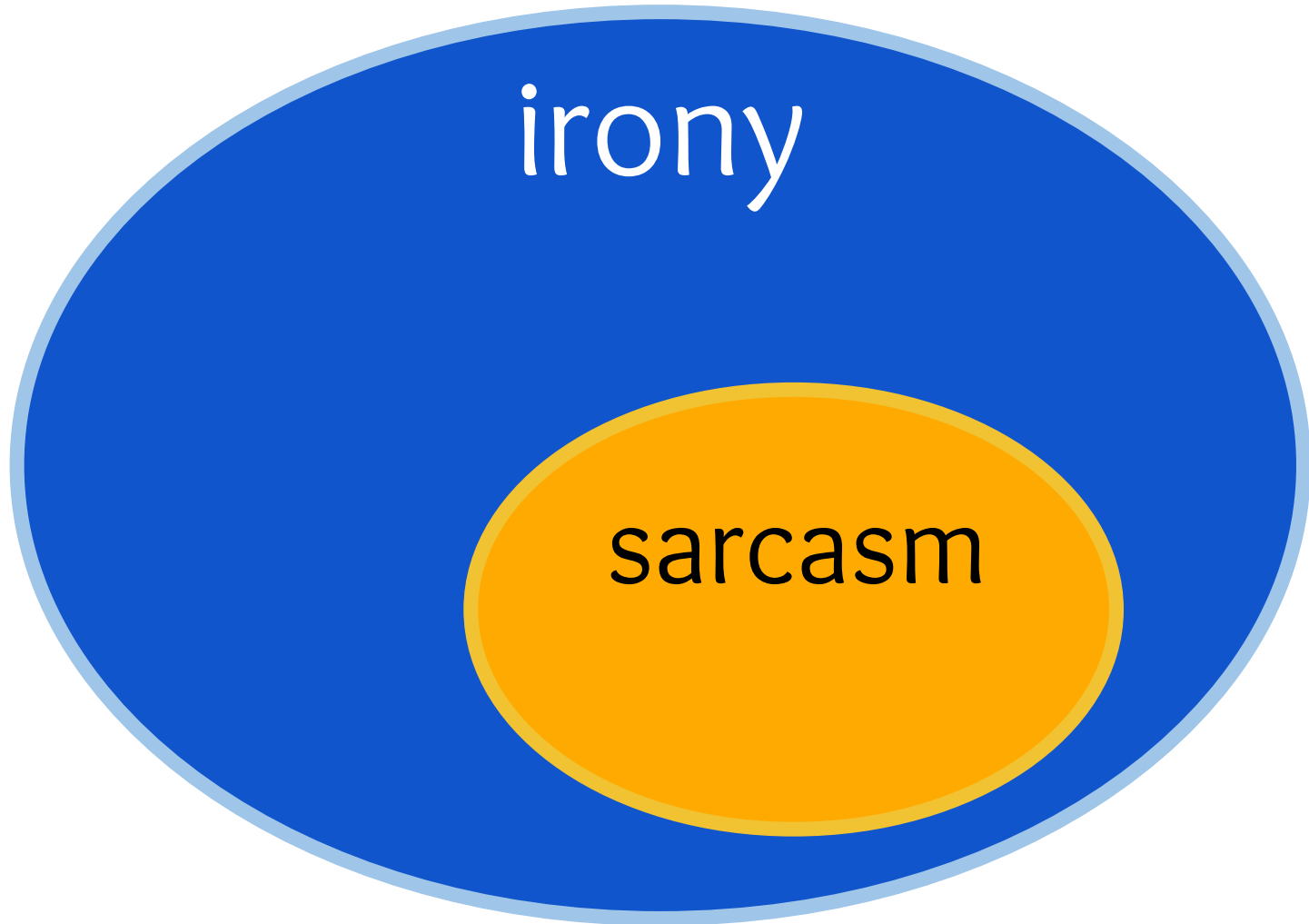


Introduction & Motivation

irony

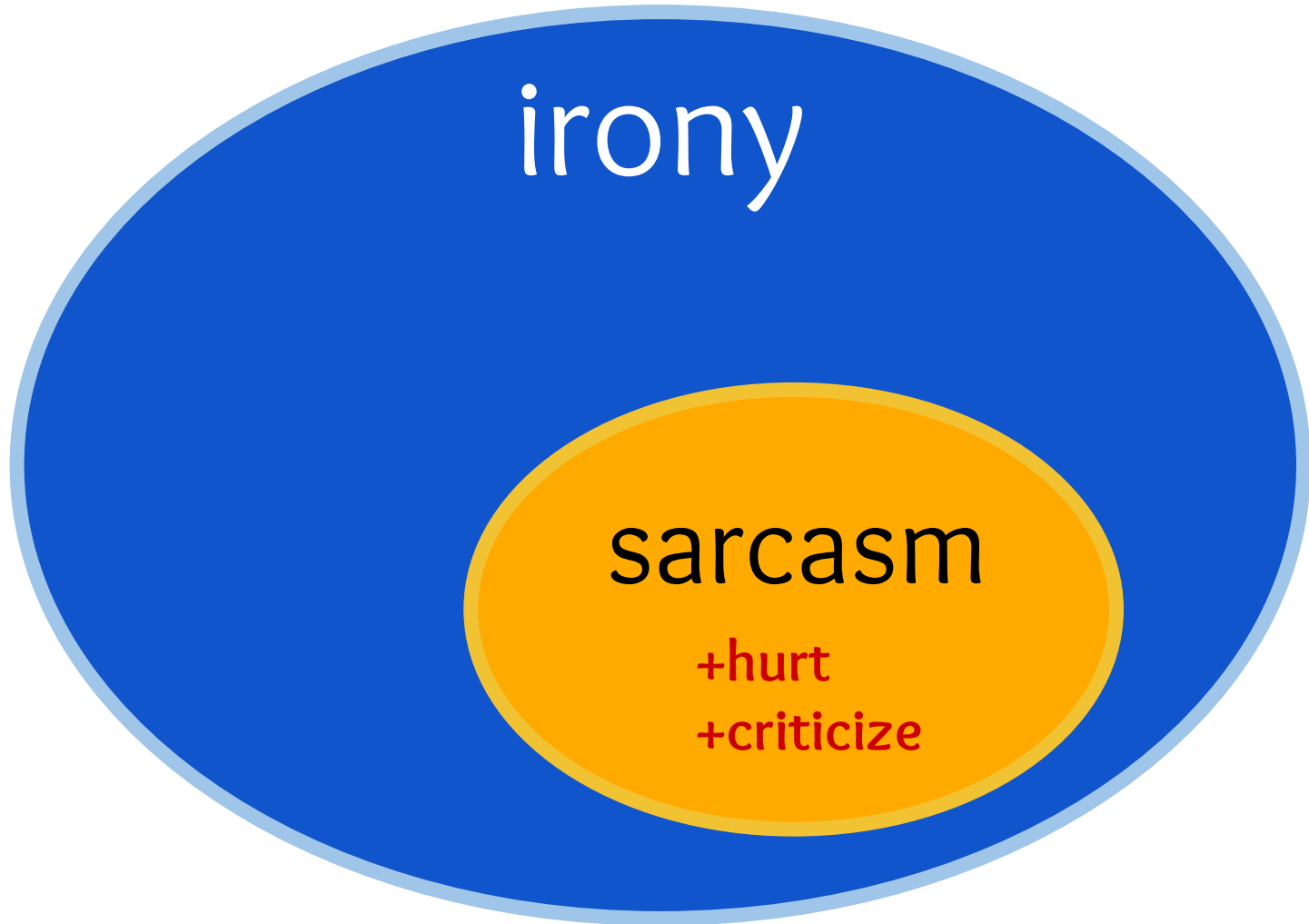


Introduction & Motivation





Introduction & Motivation





Task Description

INSPIRED BY:

SemEval2018-Task3

Irony detection in English tweets (Van Hee et al., 2018)



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OUR SHARED TASK:

● TASK A

- ironic
- not-ironic

● TASK B

- sarcastic
- ironic but not categorized as sarcastic
- not-ironic

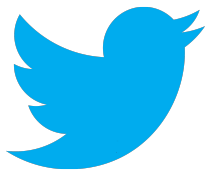


Datasets

OVERLAP WITH:

HSC: Hate Speech corpus (Sanguinetti et al., 2018)

From HSC:



**Di fronte a queste forme di terrorismo
siamo tutti sulla stessa barca. A parte
Briatore. Briatore ha la sua.**

irony, no sarcasm

Basile et al. (2018)



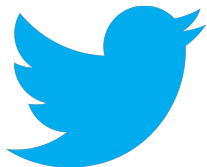
Datasets

POLITICAL DOMAIN:

TWITTIRÒ corpus (Cignarella et al., 2018)

- LaBuonaScuola corpus (TW-BS) (Stranisci et al., 2016)
- Sentipolc corpus (TW-SENTIPOLC) (Barbieri et al., 2016)
- Spinoza corpus (TW-SPINO) (Barbieri et al., 2016)

From TWITTIRÒ:



**#labuonascuola Fornitura illimitata di
rotoli di carta igienica e poi, piano piano,
tutti gli altri aspetti meno importanti.**

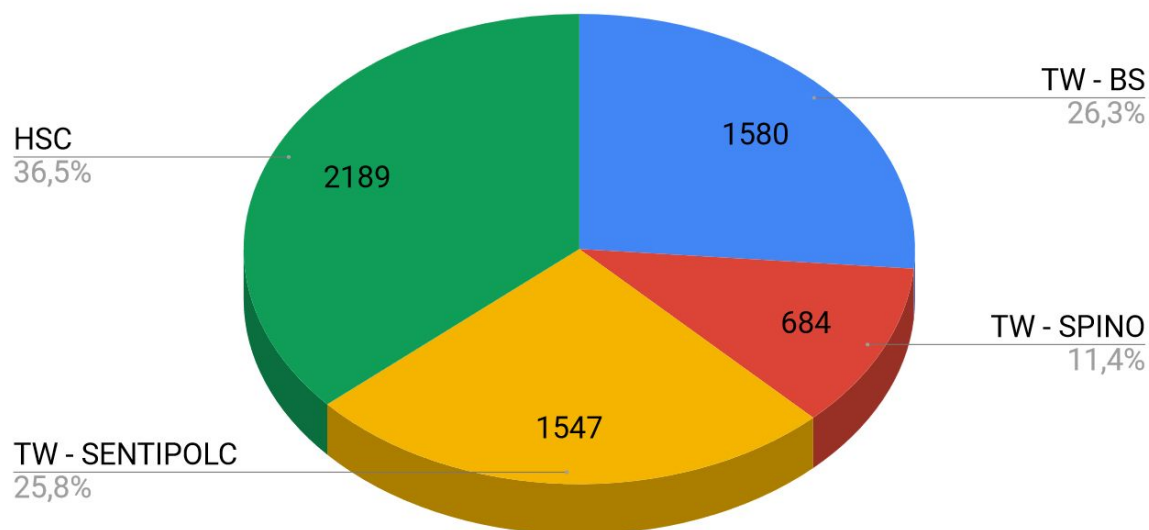
irony, sarcasm

Basile et al. (2018)



Training Data

TRAINING SET				
	IRONIC	NOT-IRO	SARC	NOT-SARC
TW-BS	467	646	173	294
TW-SPINO	342	0	126	216
TW-SENTIPOLC	461	625	143	318
HSC	753	683	471	282
TWITA	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	3,977			

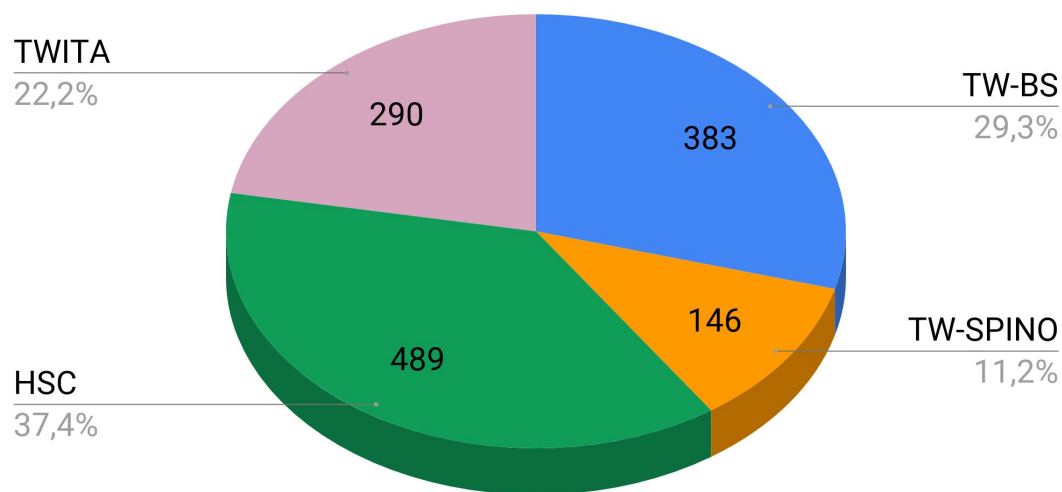


Basile et al. (2018)



Test Data

	TEST SET			
	IRONIC	NOT-IRO	SARC	NOT-SARC
TW-BS	111	161	51	60
TW-SPINO	73	0	32	41
TW-SENTIPOLC	0	0	0	0
HSC	185	119	106	79
TWITA	67	156	28	39
TOTAL	872			



Basile et al. (2018)



Participants

24 submissions received by




1. ItaliaNLP 
ItaliaNLP group ILC-CNR



2. UNIBA 
University of Bari



3. 2XCheck 
App2Check srl



4. UNITOR 
University of Roma "Tor Vergata"



5. Aspie96 
University of Torino



6. UO_IRO 
CERPAMID, Santiago de Cuba
and
Havana University of Informatic Sciences



7. venses-itgetarun 
Ca' Foscari University of Venice



Participating Systems

	Italia NLP	UNIBA	X2 Check	UNITOR	Aspie96	UO_IRO	venses - itgetarun
Architecture	BiLSTM	SVM	SVM	SVM	GRU	BiLSTM	Rule-based
Preprocessing	✓			✓		✓	
Stylistic Features		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Linguistic Features			✓	✓		✓	✓
Semantic Features	✓	✓		✓		✓	
Lexica	✓			✓		✓	✓
Add. training data	✓		✓	✓		✓	
Task A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Task B	✓			✓	✓		✓
Interdependence	✓			✓			✓



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HaSpeeDe

TWITTIRÒ

SENTIPOLC

2016



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Evaluation

$$precision_{class} = \frac{\#correct_class}{\#assigned_class}$$

$$recall_{class} = \frac{\#correct_class}{\#total_class}$$

$$F1_{class} = 2 \frac{precision_{class} recall_{class}}{precision_{class} + recall_{class}}$$

Task A - Irony Detection

The average of F1-scores for the ironic and not-ironic classes



Evaluation

Task B: Different types of irony

Macro F1-score computed over the three classes

- ✓ not-ironic
`irony=0, sarcasm=0`
- ✓ ironic-not-sarcastic
`irony=1, sarcasm=0`
- ✓ sarcastic
`irony=1, sarcasm=1`



Results Task A

	team name	type	run	not-ironic	ironic	avg.
				F1	F1	F1
1	ItaliaNLP	c	1	0.707	0.754	0.731
2	ItaliaNLP	c	2	0.693	0.733	0.713
3	UNIBA	c	1	0.689	0.730	0.710
4	UNIBA	c	2	0.689	0.730	0.710
5	X2Check	u	1	0.708	0.700	0.704
6	UNITOR	c	1	0.662	0.739	0.700
7	UNITOR	u	2	0.668	0.733	0.700
8	X2Check	u	2	0.700	0.689	0.695
9	Aspie96	c	1	0.668	0.722	0.695
10	X2Check	c	2	0.679	0.708	0.693
11	X2Check	c	1	0.674	0.693	0.683
12	UOIRO	u	2	0.603	0.700	0.651
13	UOIRO	u	1	0.626	0.665	0.646
14	UOIRO	c	2	0.579	0.678	0.629
15	UOIRO	c	1	0.652	0.577	0.614
16	<i>baseline-random</i>	c	1	0.503	0.506	0.505
17	venses-itgetarun	c	1	0.651	0.289	0.470
18	venses-itgetarun	c	2	0.645	0.195	0.420
19	<i>baseline-mfc</i>	c	1	0.668	0.000	0.334



Results Task A

Lorenzo De Mattei, Andrea Cimino, and Felice Dell'Orletta. 2018. **Multi-task learning in Deep Neural Networks for Irony Detection.**

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13	UOIRO	u	1	0.626	0.665	0.646
14	UOIRO	c	2	0.579	0.678	0.629
15	UOIRO	c	1	0.652	0.577	0.614
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19	baseline-mfc	c	1	0.668	0.000	0.334

Emanuele Di Rosa and Alberto Durante.
2018. **Irony detection in tweets:**
X2Check at Ironita 2018.

SENTIPOLC 2016: tweets annotated
with irony



Results Task B

			not ironic	ironic	sarcastic	avg.
team name	type	run	F1	F1	F1	F1
1 UNITOR	u	2	0.668	0.447	0.446	0.520
2 UNITOR	c	1	0.662	0.432	0.459	0.518
3 ItaliaNLP	c	1	0.707	0.432	0.409	0.516
4 ItaliaNLP	c	2	0.693	0.423	0.392	0.503
5 Aspie96	c	1	0.668	0.438	0.289	0.465
6 baseline-random	c	1	0.503	0.266	0.242	0.337
7 venses-itgetarun	c	1	0.431	0.260	0.018	0.236
8 baseline-mfc	c	1	0.668	0.000	0.000	0.223
9 venses-itgetarun	c	2	0.413	0.183	0.000	0.199



Results Task B

				not ironic	ironic	sarcastic	avg.
				F1	F1	F1	F1
<div>and used asm</div> <div>ing</div>	1 UNITOR	u	2	0.668	0.447	0.446	0.520
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	8 baseline-mfc	c	1	0.668	0.000	0.000	0.223
	9 venses-itgetarun	c	2	0.413	0.183	0.000	0.199

Andrea Santilli, Danilo Croce, and Roberto Basili. 2018. **A Kernel-based Approach for Irony and Sarcasm Detection in Italian.**

Dataset of **6,000 tweets** (searching for the hashtag #ironia — #irony).



Remarks

- The high performance of deep learning methods
- In general the participating systems work better on Hate domain than on Political domain in both tasks
- A dedicated task on irony detection led to a remarkable improvement of the scores
(SENTIPOLC in 2014 $F=0.575$ and 2016 $F=0.5412$)
- The scores for Italian are in line with those obtained at SemEval2018-Task3 on irony detection in English tweets
($F=0.724$)



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(SENTIPOLC in 2014 $F=0.575$ and 2016 $F=0.5412$) **+0.19**
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Thank you :)

We will wait for you at the poster!