Text Analytics and Deep Learning

Exposé - TA Group C

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1 Motivation and problem description

Politics is one of the most discussed, controversial and at the same time complex fields in society for a long time. With many different parties representing their position towards a wide variety of topics, losing overview is easy.
Our motivation is to tackle this problem to make politics more accessible and less time-consuming by simplifying the different parties' views regarding political topics without any loss of information.
It will therefore be a lot easier to get to know about the parties' programs and compare the parties' positions towards a specific political topic, without valuing any of the information displayed.

2 Goal of our project

The main objective of our work is to extract arguments from German election programs of the great parties in 2021. To achieve this, arguments have to be identified and be assigned to the appropriate topic, with the difficulty that different parties deal with different topics. Optionally, the information obtained from this can be used to create an argumentation-based version of the wahl-o-mat, in which the user selects topics that interest him and can then rank the arguments of the parties.

3 Datasets & Tools

To achieve these goals, we will use a dataset found on Kaggle, specifically this one. In the description of the dataset the creator mentioned, that the election programs used came from https://www.bundestagswahl-2021.de/wahlprogramme/, however, no access date is given. The dataset was added on July 8th, 2021, so the election programs had to be accessed before then. The dataset covers the largest parties, which competed in the 2021 German federal election (CDU, Grüne, SPD, FDP, AfD and Linke).
The project exclusively uses Python in combination with some built-in and third-party libraries, such as scikit-learn, nltk, spaCy and others.