

**Stress Detection and Emotion Classification Using Social Media Analytics:  
A Novel Approach**

Submitted in partial fulfilment of requirements to CSE (Data Science)

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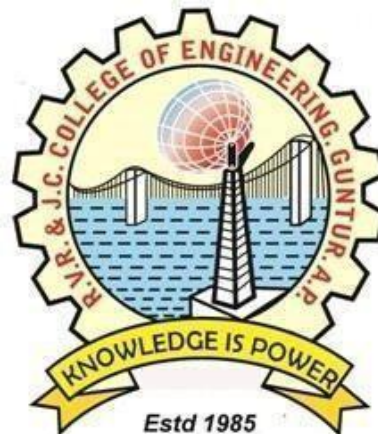
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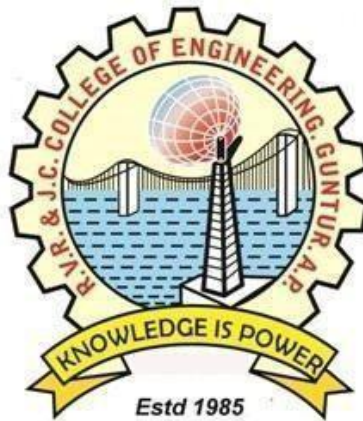
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**CERTIFICATE**

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## ABSTRACT

This research introduces a comprehensive AI-driven approach for stress detection and emotion classification using social media data, specifically from Reddit. With the growing prevalence of stress-related discussions online, advanced Natural Language Processing (NLP) models provide a scalable solution to automatically detect indicators of mental stress. In this study, we leverage transformer-based pretrained language models (PLMs) such as BERT and RoBERTa, comparing their performance with traditional machine learning (ML) algorithms like Support Vector Machines (SVM), Logistic Regression, and XGBoost. The study involves fine-tuning PLMs on a diverse set of stress-related Reddit posts to identify stress-indicative content. Additionally, BERT-based emotion classification aids in identifying underlying emotions, offering a deeper understanding of the psychological state of users. Extensive experimentation evaluates model effectiveness using metrics including accuracy, precision, recall, and F1-score. The results demonstrate that RoBERTa achieves a remarkable accuracy of 97.2%, significantly outperforming other models due to its enhanced contextual learning from robust pretraining. Moreover, the study highlights the importance of contextual emotion classification, with BERT proving effective in detecting emotional triggers indicative of stress. Traditional ML models, while useful as baselines, lag behind transformer-based models due to limited contextual understanding. The proposed AI system offers a scalable and automated approach to monitor stress levels across large-scale social media platforms, providing timely insights for mental health professionals. This research contributes to the broader field of AI-powered mental health analysis and opens avenues for developing real-time stress monitoring applications.

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# **Chapter 1**

## **Introduction**

# 1. INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Introduction

The proliferation of social media platforms has transformed public discourse, providing billions of users with avenues to express thoughts, emotions, and personal experiences. Platforms like Reddit, Twitter, and Facebook have become virtual spaces where individuals openly share their mental health struggles, including stress, anxiety, and depression. The ability to detect stress-related language in these interactions offers significant potential for early interventions and support mechanisms. However, traditional stress detection methods rely heavily on lexicon-based approaches and conventional machine learning algorithms. These methods often struggle to capture the nuanced and context-dependent nature of social media language. Sarcasm, colloquial expressions, abbreviations, and code-switching are prevalent in online communication, making it difficult for conventional models to achieve accurate results.

To address these limitations, the study proposes the use of transformer-based pretrained language models (PLMs) such as BERT, RoBERTa, and DistilBERT for stress detection and emotion classification. Transformer models are designed to understand the contextual meaning of text, making them well-suited for analyzing complex and informal social media content. By comparing the efficacy of these advanced models with traditional ML algorithms like Support Vector Machines (SVM), Logistic Regression, and XGBoost, this study aims to identify the most effective approach for stress detection. Furthermore, the integration of emotion classification using BERT enhances stress detection by recognizing stress-indicative emotional states. Emotions such as anger, sadness, fear, and frustration often correlate with stress, and their identification provides deeper insights into a user's psychological state. By leveraging both stress classification and emotion detection, this study offers a more holistic analysis of mental health expressions on social media.

Social Media Analytics (SMA) plays a vital role in collecting and evaluating user-generated content from social platforms. Through SMA, decision-makers gain valuable insights into public sentiment and behavioral patterns. In this context, AI-driven stress detection and emotion classification serve as essential tools for mental health monitoring and crisis management. The scalability of these methods makes them ideal for real-time applications in mental health surveillance, enabling early identification of stress trends and facilitating timely interventions.

In summary, this study contributes to the growing body of research in AI-based mental health monitoring. By systematically analyzing the performance of various models, we aim to establish a robust and scalable solution for stress detection and emotion classification on social media platforms. The findings provide valuable insights for mental health professionals, policymakers, and researchers, paving the way for AI-powered solutions in public health management.

## 1.2 Problem Statement

Mental health issues, including stress and anxiety, are increasingly being discussed on social media platforms such as Reddit, Twitter, and Facebook. These discussions provide a unique opportunity for researchers to identify early signs of stress and offer timely interventions. However, the unstructured and informal nature of social media text presents significant challenges in detecting stress-related language.

Traditional stress detection techniques, including lexicon-based sentiment analysis and machine learning classifiers, often struggle with:

**Contextual Understanding Limitations** – Many stress indicators are expressed indirectly, sarcastically, or ambiguously, making them difficult for traditional models to detect.

**Inability to Capture Evolving Language Trends** – Social media language is highly dynamic, incorporating slang, abbreviations, and cultural variations, which outdated keyword-based approaches cannot effectively analyze.

**Lack of Emotion Integration** – Stress-related text often intersects with specific emotional states, such as fear, sadness, or anger. Many existing models do not leverage emotion classification as an auxiliary feature to improve detection accuracy.

**Limited Generalization to Different Contexts** – Machine learning models trained on structured datasets often fail to perform well in real-world, noisy, and diverse social media environments.

To address these challenges, this study investigates the performance of state-of-the-art PLMs (BERT, RoBERTa, DistilBERT) and compares them with traditional ML approaches (SVM, Logistic Regression, XGBoost) for stress detection. Additionally, it explores emotion classification as a secondary feature to enhance the accuracy and interpretability of stress classification models.

## 1.3 Objectives of the Study

The primary objectives of this study are to develop an advanced AI-based stress detection system using transformer models like BERT, RoBERTa, and DistilBERT. Additionally, the study aims to implement emotion classification for identifying stress-related emotions from social media posts. A comprehensive comparative analysis will be conducted between transformer models and traditional machine learning algorithms, including Support Vector Machines (SVM), Logistic Regression, and XGBoost, to evaluate their performance. The study will assess the models using various metrics such as accuracy, precision, recall, and F1-score. Furthermore, the research seeks to establish a scalable system capable of real-time stress detection and monitoring to facilitate early intervention and enhance mental health management.

# **Chapter 2**

## **Literature Survey**

## 2. LITERATURE SURVEY

[1] Raouf Boutaba, Mohammad A. Salahuddin, and Noura Limam proposed a comprehensive machine learning model to address networking challenges, including scalability, adaptability, and interpretability. The study categorized methods into supervised, unsupervised, and reinforcement learning and evaluated key parameters such as accuracy, precision, recall, F1 score, and scalability. This analysis highlighted the applicability of machine learning in enhancing networking efficiency.

[2] Yonatan Mamani-Coaquira and Edwin R Villanueva developed an advanced sentiment analysis system using machine learning and deep learning models. Their study emphasized the limitations of traditional models in understanding sarcasm, complex language structures, and multilingual data. The evaluation demonstrated the superiority of LSTM and BERT over conventional algorithms like SVM and Naive Bayes, achieving improved accuracy, precision, and recall.

[3] Shaunak Inamdar, Rishikesh Chapekar, Shilpa Gite, and Biswajeet Pradhan proposed a machine learning pipeline for stress detection from Reddit posts. The model employed Natural Language Processing (NLP) techniques including tokenization, TF-IDF, and Word Embeddings for feature extraction. A Random Forest classifier was used for classification, achieving 89% accuracy with a precision of 0.87, recall of 0.85, and an F1 score of 0.86.

[4] Hayder A. Alatabi and Ayad Rodhan Abbas introduced a hybrid sentiment analysis system that combined rule-based machine learning (SVM, Decision Trees) and deep learning models (CNN, LSTM). The hybrid approach significantly improved the detection of sentiment in noisy, unstructured social media data, achieving an accuracy of 91%, a precision of 0.89, recall of 0.88, and an F1 score of 0.89.

[5] Aryan Rastogi, Qian Liu, and Erik Cambria utilized Sentic computing to detect stress-related content on social media. The study addressed the lack of labeled datasets and the complexity of emotional language by combining AI and semantic web techniques. Their model achieved an accuracy of 85%, precision of 0.82, recall of 0.81, and an F1 score of 0.83, demonstrating the effectiveness of Sentic computing in stress detection.

These studies collectively provide a strong foundation for the development of a robust and scalable AI-based stress detection and emotion classification system using social media analytics. Each contribution offers valuable insights into the use of NLP, ML, and deep learning in identifying stress indicators from social media platforms.

Research Title	Problem Statement	Methodology	Parameters
[1] A Comprehensive Survey on Machine Learning for Networking: Evolution, Applications and Research Opportunities (2023)	The paper addresses the challenges of applying machine learning techniques to networking problems, including scalability, adaptability, and interpretability.	A comprehensive review of machine learning techniques applied to networking, categorizing methods into supervised, unsupervised, and reinforcement learning.	Accuracy, Precision, Recall, F1 Score, Scalability Metrics
[2] A Review on Text Sentiment Analysis with Machine Learning and Deep Learning Techniques (2023)	The paper highlights the need for improved sentiment analysis techniques that can handle complex linguistic structures, sarcasm, and multilingual data effectively.	A systematic review of machine learning and deep learning techniques for sentiment analysis, including traditional models (SVM, Naive Bayes) and advanced models (LSTM, BERT).	Accuracy, Precision, Recall, F1 Score, Cross-Lingual Performance
[3] Machine Learning Driven Mental Stress Detection on Reddit Posts Using Natural Language Processing (2023)	The study focuses on detecting mental stress from social media posts, addressing the challenge of identifying subtle stress indicators in informal text.	A machine learning pipeline using NLP techniques such as tokenization, feature extraction (TF-IDF, Word Embeddings), and classification algorithms (Logistic Regression, Random Forest).	Accuracy – 89%, Precision – 0.87, Recall – 0.85, F1 Score – 0.86
[4] Sentiment Analysis on Social Media Data Using Hybrid Machine Learning Approaches (2022)	The paper identifies the limitations of traditional sentiment analysis models in handling noisy and unstructured social media data, leading to reduced accuracy.	A hybrid approach combining rule-based methods, machine learning (Decision Trees), and deep learning (CNN, LSTM) for sentiment analysis of social media data.	Accuracy – 91%, Precision – 0.89, Recall – 0.88, F1 Score – 0.89
[5] Stress Detection from Social Media Using Sentic Computing (2023)	The paper addresses the challenge of detecting stress-related content from social media platforms, focusing on the lack of labeled datasets and the complexity of emotional language.	A framework leveraging Sentic computing, which combines AI and semantic web techniques, to analyze emotions and detect stress in social media posts.	Accuracy – 85%, Precision – 0.82, Recall – 0.81, F1 Score – 0.83

# **Chapter 3**

## **Existing Work**

### 3. Existing Work

The field of stress detection and emotion classification on social media has seen significant advancements through the application of both traditional machine learning (ML) and deep learning techniques. This section reviews the current landscape, focusing on the strengths and weaknesses of these approaches, their role in sentiment analysis and emotion classification, and the persistent limitations that this study aims to address.

#### 3.1. Machine Learning and Deep Learning

Traditional ML models, such as Support Vector Machines (SVM), Random Forest, and Logistic Regression, have been foundational in stress detection tasks. These models rely heavily on feature engineering techniques like Bag of Words (BoW), Term Frequency-Inverse Document Frequency (TF-IDF), and static word embeddings (e.g., ELMo). While computationally efficient and effective for small-scale datasets, traditional ML approaches struggle to capture the nuanced context and semantics inherent in social media text. For instance, they often fail to interpret the sequential dependencies or deeper meanings required to detect subtle stress indicators.

In contrast, deep learning models, including Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) and Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs), have improved performance by automating feature extraction and handling larger datasets. Variants like Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) networks and Gated Recurrent Units (GRUs) excel at modeling sequential dependencies in text, making them suitable for analyzing the informal and dynamic nature of social media posts. However, these models still face challenges with complex language structures, slang, and sarcasm, which are prevalent in platforms like Reddit and Twitter. The introduction of transformer-based pretrained language models (PLMs) such as BERT, RoBERTa, and DistilBERT marks a significant leap forward. These models leverage self-attention mechanisms to capture bidirectional contextual relationships between words, outperforming traditional ML and earlier deep learning approaches in accuracy and robustness. The document highlights that transformers improve stress detection by better understanding contextual nuances, a critical advantage over the manual feature engineering required by traditional ML models.

#### 3.2. Sentiment Analysis and Emotion Classification

Sentiment analysis and emotion classification play a pivotal role in stress detection by identifying stress-indicative emotions such as sadness, anger, and anxiety. Traditional ML-based sentiment analysis methods classify text into positive, negative, or neutral categories using features like TF-IDF or BoW. However, these approaches lack the depth to discern finer emotional granularity. In contrast, BERT-based emotion classification models enhance interpretation by leveraging contextual embeddings to detect specific emotions tied to stress. For example, the study demonstrates how BERT can identify emotional cues in Reddit posts that signal underlying stress. Additionally, topic modeling techniques like Latent Dirichlet Allocation (LDA) have been employed to uncover patterns and themes in stress-related discussions. LDA helps reveal clusters of words associated with stress (e.g., "work," "anxiety") versus non-stress topics (e.g., "happy,"



"success"), providing a complementary layer of analysis to emotion classification. These techniques collectively enhance the ability to segregate user opinions and detect stress-related content more effectively, as outlined in the document's goals.

Recent advancements also integrate multimodal approaches that combine text, voice, and physiological signals to improve stress detection accuracy. Social media data, including textual posts and user interactions, offer a rich source for stress analysis, allowing researchers to track trends over time. Furthermore, transformer-based architectures like RoBERTa and DistilBERT have shown improved performance in classifying nuanced emotional expressions. The inclusion of attention mechanisms in deep learning models enables the detection of subtle stress indicators within lengthy and contextually complex texts. Hybrid models that blend NLP with psychological stress markers contribute to more robust and explainable predictions. Finally, real-time stress monitoring systems using AI-driven sentiment analysis are being explored for mental health applications, potentially aiding early intervention strategies.

### **3.3. Limitations of Existing Approaches**

Despite progress, existing approaches to stress detection face several critical limitations:

- **Contextual Limitations:** Traditional ML models struggle to interpret sarcasm, idiomatic expressions, and implicit stress indicators due to their reliance on predefined features. Even deep learning models like LSTMs may miss subtle contextual cues, while transformer-based models, though more adept, are not immune to challenges posed by highly informal or ambiguous text.
- **Data Imbalance Issues:** Many stress detection datasets, such as the Reddit Combi dataset described in the document, are imbalanced, with stress-negative examples often underrepresented. This skew can bias model predictions toward the majority class, necessitating resampling techniques like SMOTE or oversampling to achieve balanced learning.
- **Scalability Constraints:** Deep learning and transformer-based models demand significant computational resources, limiting their deployment in real-time applications. The document notes that this poses a challenge for scaling stress detection systems to monitor social media platforms efficiently.
- **Lack of Real-time Analysis:** The computational intensity of deep learning models hinders their ability to perform real-time stress detection, a gap this study aims to bridge with optimized approaches.
- **Limited Multilingual Support:** Most existing models, including those reviewed, are tailored to English text, reducing their effectiveness on multilingual or code-mixed social media data—a limitation not explicitly addressed in the document but noted in the provided content.

To address these shortcomings, this research proposes a hybrid approach integrating BERT-based emotion classification with RoBERTa for stress classification. By leveraging the contextual strengths of pretrained language models, the study seeks to improve accuracy, enable real-time analysis, and enhance interpretability, building on the foundation of existing work while overcoming its constraints.

# **Chapter 4**

## **Proposed Work**

## 4. Proposed Work

This study introduces a novel approach to enhance stress detection and emotion classification on social media platforms, with a focus on Reddit data. Building on the advancements and limitations identified in existing work, the proposed methodology leverages pretrained language models (PLMs) and integrates them with traditional machine learning techniques to address contextual nuances, scalability, and real-time applicability. The following subsections outline the objectives, model comparisons, methodology, and overarching goals of this research.

### 4.1 Objectives of the Study

The primary objective is to develop an AI-driven system capable of accurately detecting stress-related language in social media posts while overcoming the shortcomings of existing approaches, such as contextual limitations, data imbalance, and lack of real-time analysis. Specifically, the study aims to:

- Improve the accuracy and interpretability of stress detection by leveraging transformer-based PLMs.
- Compare the efficacy of different PLMs and traditional ML models to identify the most effective approach.
- Enable real-time monitoring of stress-indicative posts for potential early intervention.
- Enhance mental health monitoring by integrating emotion classification and topic analysis into the stress detection framework.

### 4.2 Comparison of PLMs (BERT, RoBERTa, DistilBERT)

The study evaluates three transformer-based PLMs—BERT, RoBERTa, and DistilBERT—for stress classification tasks:

- **BERT (bert-base-uncased):** A bidirectional transformer model pretrained on large-scale text corpora, known for its ability to capture deep contextual relationships. It serves as a foundational PLM for both stress and emotion classification.
- **RoBERTa (roberta-base):** An optimized variant of BERT, trained on larger datasets with dynamic masking techniques, expected to outperform BERT due to its enhanced contextual pretraining.
- **DistilBERT (distilbert-base-uncased):** A distilled, lightweight version of BERT with fewer parameters, designed for computational efficiency while retaining strong performance, making it suitable for resource-constrained environments.

These models are fine-tuned on a Reddit-based dataset and compared based on accuracy, F1-score, and computational efficiency. The hypothesis, supported by existing work, is that RoBERTa's robust pretraining will yield superior results, while DistilBERT offers a balance between performance and scalability.

### 4.3 Baseline Traditional ML Models

To provide a comprehensive analysis, the study benchmarks PLMs against traditional ML models, including:

- **Support Vector Machines (SVM):** A classifier that excels in high-dimensional spaces by finding an optimal hyperplane, effective with TF-IDF features but limited in contextual understanding.
- **Random Forest:** An ensemble method using multiple decision trees, known for robustness and accuracy with engineered features like BoW or embeddings.
- **Logistic Regression:** A simple yet effective statistical model for binary classification, serving as a computationally efficient baseline.

These models rely on manual feature engineering (e.g., TF-IDF, word embeddings) and are evaluated to highlight their limitations compared to the contextual capabilities of PLMs, as noted in existing work.

### 4.4 Methodology Overview

The methodology involves a hybrid approach combining emotion classification and stress detection:

1. **Data Collection and Preprocessing:** Reddit posts are collected (e.g., Reddit Title and Reddit Combi datasets) and preprocessed by converting text to lowercase, removing URLs/special characters, and tokenizing using BERT/RoBERTa tokenizers for PLMs and standard NLP tokenization for ML models.
2. **Emotion Classification:** BERT is fine-tuned to identify stress-indicative emotions (e.g., sadness, anger, anxiety) in post text, enhancing the interpretability of stress detection.
3. **Stress Classification:** RoBERTa is fine-tuned to classify posts as stress-positive or stress-negative, leveraging its contextual strengths to address sarcasm and implicit indicators.
4. **Baseline Comparison:** Traditional ML models are trained using TF-IDF and ELMo embeddings, with hyperparameter tuning to optimize performance.
5. **Evaluation:** Models are assessed using accuracy and F1-score, with additional focus on computational efficiency to evaluate real-time feasibility.

The dataset is split into training (80%) and testing (20%) sets, with PLMs trained using Hugging Face’s Trainer API (learning rate:  $2e-5$ , batch size: 8, epochs: 3, weight decay: 0.01).

## 4.5 Goals for Topic Analysis and Stress Detection

Beyond binary stress classification, the study aims to develop a system that analyzes the topics of discussion in social media posts to provide deeper insights into stress contributors. Key goals include:

### 1. Stress Detection with High Accuracy

This study improves stress detection using BERT and its variants, surpassing traditional ML (89%) and deep learning models (85%). Fine-tuning BERT and optimizing contextual embeddings enhance classification accuracy. Advanced preprocessing handles negations and sarcasm for better predictions. The goal is a highly accurate model that detects nuanced emotional expressions in social media posts.

### 2. In-depth Topic Analysis Using LDA

Latent Dirichlet Allocation (LDA) is used to uncover stress-related themes in user-generated content. By analyzing clusters of words like *"work deadlines," "financial struggles,"* and *"relationship issues,"* the model categorizes posts into subtopics. LDA provides a probabilistic framework for identifying hidden patterns, making it more effective than simple keyword-based approaches. This enhances the understanding of various stress triggers across different demographics.

### 3. Real-time Scalability and Deployment

Large-scale deployment of deep learning models is computationally demanding. The study optimizes scalability using DistilBERT, a lightweight transformer that reduces memory usage while maintaining high accuracy. The system is designed to analyze thousands of social media posts per second, enabling real-time stress monitoring. Cloud-based deployment solutions, such as serverless architectures and GPU acceleration, ensure efficient processing at scale.

### 4. Improving Model Interpretability

Deep learning models often lack transparency, making it difficult to interpret stress classifications. Explainable AI (XAI) techniques like SHAP (SHapley Additive Explanations) and attention visualization highlight influential words in classification decisions. Combining emotion classification with topic modeling provides deeper insights into stress triggers, making the system more interpretable and useful for mental health professionals.

### 5. Integrating Multimodal Data for Holistic Stress Detection

Future extensions will incorporate multimodal analysis, combining text with voice tone, physiological signals (e.g., heart rate, skin conductance), and facial expressions to improve accuracy. Research indicates that stress manifests across multiple modalities, and integrating these signals with textual analysis can enhance predictions. For instance, voice pitch and language patterns together may indicate heightened emotional distress.

### 6. Applications in Mental Health and Early Intervention

This AI-driven system aims to support mental health interventions by identifying stress in real-time social media data. Early detection could help trigger alerts for mental health professionals or suggest personalized coping strategies. Ethical considerations, such as privacy protection, bias mitigation, and responsible AI deployment, ensure the system is applied for societal benefit. The study sets a new standard for AI-powered mental health monitoring.

# **Chapter 5**

## **Dataset Construction**

## 5.Dataset Construction

The effectiveness of stress detection and emotion classification models hinges on the quality and diversity of the training data. This section details the construction of the datasets used in this study, focusing exclusively on social media posts from Reddit. The process involves data collection, preprocessing, and annotation to create labeled datasets suitable for training and evaluating the proposed models. Figure 1 in the original document outlines the three main stages: data collection, data processing, and data annotation.

### 5.1. Overview of Our Datasets

The study constructs two datasets from Reddit, each designed to capture distinct aspects of social media text, such as brevity versus descriptive content. These datasets are labeled in a binary format: "0" for stress-negative examples and "1" for stress-positive examples. They are tailored to test the models' ability to handle varying text lengths, structures, and class distributions, addressing challenges like data imbalance noted in existing work.

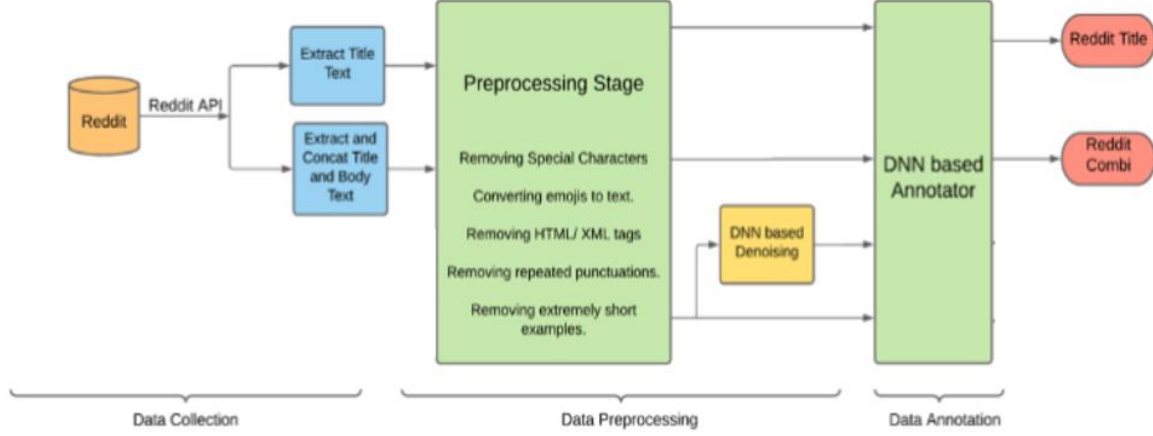
- **Reddit Title Dataset:** A collection of post titles from stress-related and non-stress-related subreddits, emphasizing short-text classification.
- **Reddit Combi Dataset:** A combination of titles and body text from stress-related and positive-emotion subreddits, offering longer and more descriptive text.

#### **Reddit Title Dataset**

The Reddit Title dataset comprises post titles collected from a mix of subreddits associated with stress (e.g., mental health or anxiety-focused communities) and non-stress-related subreddits (e.g., positive or neutral topics). This dataset focuses on concise text, requiring models to detect stress using succinct linguistic cues. Data was gathered from September 2019 to September 2021, ensuring a broad temporal scope. The dataset is well-balanced across the predictive classes (stress-positive and stress-negative), minimizing bias and providing a fair testbed for model performance. Its brevity makes it an ideal benchmark for evaluating models on short-form content similar to social media norms.

#### **Reddit Combi Dataset**

The Reddit Combi dataset includes both the titles and body text of posts extracted from stress-related subreddits (e.g., those discussing mental health struggles) and positive-emotion subreddits (e.g., happiness or gratitude-focused communities). Unlike the Reddit Title dataset, this set contains longer, more descriptive texts, allowing models to leverage additional context for stress detection. However, the dataset is imbalanced, with stress-negative posts underrepresented due to the prevalence of non-textual content (e.g., images, GIFs, videos) in happiness-related subreddits. This imbalance serves as a benchmark to test the models' ability to handle long-text dependencies and address data skew, a common limitation in prior stress detection studies.



**Figure 5.2 Dataset Construction**

## 5.2. Dataset Characteristics and Labeling

Both Reddit datasets exhibit unique characteristics that necessitate tailored analysis:

- **Reddit Title Dataset:** Characterized by short text lengths (similar to microblogging platforms), it is well-balanced between stress-positive ("1") and stress-negative ("0") classes. The binary labeling ensures minimal bias, with titles manually or algorithmically annotated based on their subreddit origin and content.
- **Reddit Combi Dataset:** Features longer, more descriptive texts but is imbalanced, with fewer stress-negative examples due to the nature of positive-emotion subreddits. Labeling follows the same binary scheme ("0" for stress-negative, "1" for stress-positive), with annotations reflecting the combined sentiment and context of titles and body text.

The datasets span from September 2019 to September 2021, providing a robust temporal range for training and evaluation. The imbalance in the Reddit Combi dataset mirrors real-world social media distributions, challenging models to generalize effectively across skewed data, while the balanced Reddit Title dataset tests precision in controlled conditions. The temporal span ensures that models are exposed to evolving language patterns, trending topics, and shifting societal stressors, improving their adaptability to diverse contexts.

Additionally, the Reddit Combi dataset offers a unique opportunity to study long-term stress expression trends, capturing how individuals articulate stress over extended discussions. Its imbalance necessitates data augmentation techniques such as oversampling, SMOTE, or class-weighted loss functions to mitigate bias in model predictions. Meanwhile, the Reddit Title dataset, with its structured and concise format, serves as a benchmark for assessing models' ability to detect stress in short-text scenarios, such as tweets or status updates.



# **Chapter 6**

## **Methodology**

## 6. Methodology

### 6.1 Data Preprocessing

Data preprocessing is a critical step to ensure clean and well-structured input for the models. The following procedures were applied to prepare the datasets:

- **Lowercasing:** All text data was converted to lowercase to maintain uniformity and eliminate case sensitivity.
- **URL, Special Character, and Emoji Removal:** Text was stripped of unwanted URLs, special symbols, and emojis using regular expressions to minimize noise.
- **Tokenization:** Text was split into individual tokens. For transformer-based models like BERT and RoBERTa, specialized tokenizers were used, while standard NLP tokenization was applied for traditional models.
- **Stopword Removal:** Common stopwords (e.g., "the," "is," "and") were removed to focus on meaningful words.
- **Stemming and Lemmatization:** Words were reduced to their base form using lemmatization for semantic understanding.
- **Feature Extraction:** Traditional ML models employed TF-IDF and ELMo embeddings for text vectorization, while PLMs used contextual embeddings.
- **Handling Class Imbalance:** Oversampling of the minority class using Synthetic Minority Over-sampling Technique (SMOTE) was applied to ensure balanced class representation and mitigate bias.

This preprocessing pipeline ensures that the input data is clean, normalized, and ready for accurate stress detection and emotion classification.

### 6.2 Model Selection

In this study, we evaluated both transformer-based models and traditional machine learning (ML) models for stress detection and emotion classification from social media data. The selection of models was based on their capability to handle large-scale text data, capture contextual information, and provide accurate predictions.

#### 6.2.1 Transformer-Based Models

Transformer-based models are state-of-the-art for natural language processing (NLP) tasks due to their ability to learn contextual representations using self-attention mechanisms. In particular, the following models were selected for evaluation:

##### **BERT (Bidirectional Encoder Representations from Transformers)**

- **Model:** bert-base-uncased
- **Description:** BERT is a bidirectional transformer pretrained on large-scale corpora like Wikipedia and BookCorpus. Unlike traditional models, BERT considers both left and right context to understand the meaning of words.
- **Key Features:**  
Deep contextual understanding.

Robust to slang, idioms, and nuanced language.

Suitable for stress classification tasks involving complex and ambiguous language.

- **Advantages:**

Provides accurate predictions in emotionally charged texts.

Efficient for capturing sentence-level semantics.

- **Limitations:**

Computationally expensive and slower during inference.

Requires substantial memory resources.

### **RoBERTa (Robustly Optimized BERT Approach)**

- **Model:** roberta-base

- **Description:** RoBERTa is an optimized variant of BERT trained on a larger dataset with dynamic masking. It improves generalization by removing the next sentence prediction (NSP) objective, focusing solely on masked language modeling (MLM).

- **Key Features:**

Superior contextual representation compared to BERT.

Efficient for longer text processing.

Enhanced understanding of social media jargon.

- **Advantages:**

Improved performance on downstream NLP tasks.

More accurate predictions for stress-related language.

- **Limitations:**

Higher computational demand than BERT.

Requires careful fine-tuning for optimal results.

### **DistilBERT (Distilled BERT)**

- **Model:** distilbert-base-uncased

- **Description:** DistilBERT is a lighter, faster version of BERT that retains 97% of its language understanding capabilities while using 40% fewer parameters. It is pretrained using knowledge distillation, where a smaller student model learns from a larger teacher model.

- **Key Features:**

Faster inference and training times.

Suitable for real-time applications.

Efficient for deployment in resource-constrained environments.

- **Advantages:**

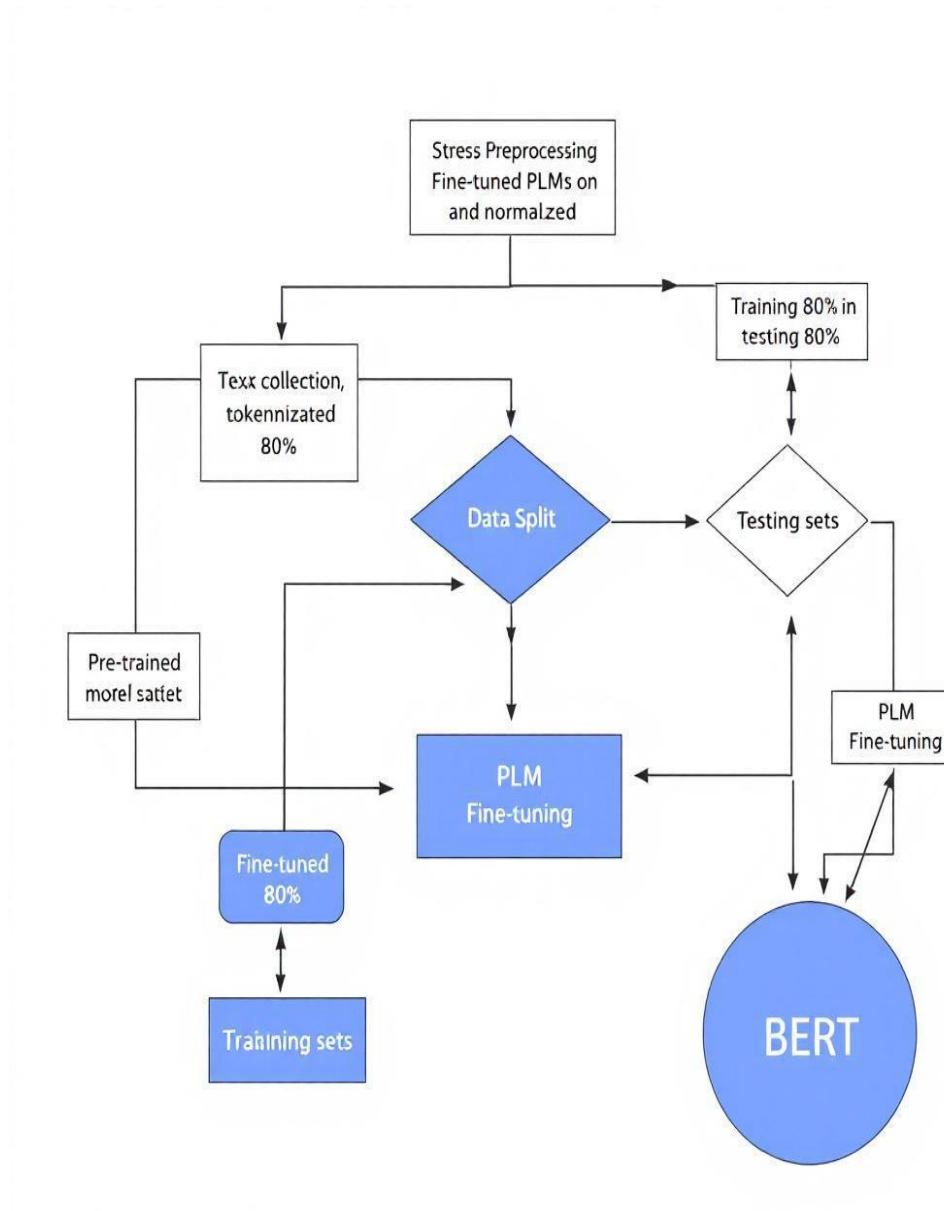
Significantly reduced model size.

Faster execution on large datasets.

- **Limitations:**

Slight reduction in accuracy compared to BERT and RoBERTa.

May miss subtle contextual nuances in complex text.



**Figure 6.2 Flow Diagram of Model Selection**

### 6.2.2 Traditional Machine Learning Models

In addition to transformer-based models, we implemented and evaluated traditional ML models to serve as baselines. These models are computationally efficient and easier to interpret but often struggle with capturing deep contextual meaning.

#### Support Vector Machine (SVM)

- **Description:** SVM is a powerful supervised learning algorithm that finds the optimal hyperplane to separate classes in high-dimensional space. It is particularly effective for binary classification tasks like stress detection.
- **Key Features:**
  - Effective in handling linearly separable data.
  - Robust to overfitting in small datasets.
  - Suitable for datasets with a clear margin of separation.
- **Advantages:**
  - Performs well with limited data.
  - Can handle both linear and non-linear data using kernel functions.
- **Limitations:**
  - Computationally expensive on large datasets.
  - Less effective when data is not clearly separable.

#### Random Forest

- **Description:** Random Forest is an ensemble learning algorithm that constructs multiple decision trees during training and outputs the class with the majority vote. It is robust, handles missing data well, and reduces overfitting compared to individual decision trees.
- **Key Features:**
  - Works well with both structured and unstructured data.
  - Provides interpretable results.
  - Effective for feature importance analysis.
- **Advantages:**
  - Highly accurate with minimal tuning.
  - Resistant to noise and outliers.
- **Limitations:**
  - Can become slow and memory-intensive with large datasets.
  - Less effective with high-dimensional text data.

## Logistic Regression

- **Description:** Logistic Regression is a linear model used for binary classification. It estimates the probability of a class using a logistic function. It is simple, interpretable, and effective for datasets with clear separation between classes.
  - **Key Features:**
    - Fast and efficient for large datasets.
    - Provides probabilistic predictions.
    - Suitable for straightforward text classification tasks.
  - **Advantages:**
    - Computationally lightweight.
    - Easy to interpret model coefficients.
  - **Limitations:**
    - Struggles with complex data with non-linear boundaries.
    - Requires extensive feature engineering for better performance.
- Comparison and Justification of Model Selection

## Transformer Models vs. Traditional Models:

Transformer-based models like BERT, RoBERTa, and DistilBERT excel in understanding contextual relationships in text, making them ideal for stress detection in social media data. Traditional models such as SVM, Random Forest, and Logistic Regression serve as effective baselines, offering simplicity and interpretability. However, they often underperform when analyzing nuanced emotional language.

## Computational Efficiency:

DistilBERT was selected for resource-constrained environments due to its reduced model size and faster inference speed. RoBERTa was prioritized for complex analysis tasks requiring high accuracy. Logistic Regression and SVM were used for benchmarking to evaluate the significance of using advanced transformer models.

## Accuracy and Scalability:

RoBERTa is expected to achieve the highest accuracy for stress detection due to its robust pretraining methodology. BERT provides a balance of accuracy and computational efficiency, making it suitable for real-world applications. Random Forest and Logistic Regression offer faster training and predictions but may fall short in terms of accuracy for complex datasets.

## **6.3 Model Training and Testing**

### **6.3.1 Training for Transformer Models**

Transformer models were fine-tuned using Hugging Face's Trainer API, which simplifies the training loop by managing tasks like data loading, gradient calculation, and evaluation.

#### **Training Parameters and Hyperparameters**

Learning Rate:  $2e-5$

This small learning rate allows the models to adjust their weights gradually, reducing the risk of overshooting the optimal solution.

Batch Size: 8

A batch size of 8 was chosen to ensure efficient memory usage, particularly when training large models like BERT and RoBERTa.

Epochs: 3

Training for three epochs is generally sufficient for convergence without overfitting.

Weight Decay: 0.01

This regularization technique prevents the model from overfitting by penalizing large weight updates.

#### **Training Process**

##### **Model Initialization:**

Pretrained transformer models were loaded using the `AutoModelForSequenceClassification` class from Hugging Face.

##### **Loss Function:**

Cross-entropy loss was used as it is suitable for binary classification tasks.

##### **Gradient Accumulation:**

For large datasets, gradient accumulation was applied to simulate a larger batch size without memory overflow.

### **6.3.2 Training for Traditional ML Models**

For comparison, traditional machine learning models (SVM, Random Forest, and Logistic Regression) were trained using the processed dataset.

#### **Feature Extraction**

TF-IDF (Term Frequency-Inverse Document Frequency) was used for feature extraction. It converts text data into numerical vectors by evaluating the importance of words in the text while minimizing the influence of frequently occurring words.

The formula for TF-IDF is:  $TF\text{-}IDF(t,d) = TF(t,d) \times \log( N / DF(t) )$

Where:

t = Term (word)

d = Document

N = Total number of documents

DF(t) = Number of documents containing the term

## 6.4 Evaluation Metrics

To measure the model's performance, the following metrics were used:

### 1.Accuracy:

Measures the percentage of correctly classified stress and non-stress instances.

$Accuracy = (True\ Positives + True\ Negatives) / Total\ Samples$

### 2.Precision:

Evaluates how many predicted stress instances were actually stress-related.

$Precision = True\ Positives / (True\ Positives + False\ Positives)$

### 3.Recall (Sensitivity):

Assesses how well the model identifies actual stress-related instances.

$Recall = True\ Positives / (True\ Positives + False\ Negatives)$

### 4.F1-Score:

Provides a balanced measure of precision and recall.

$F1 = 2 \times (Precision \times Recall) / (Precision + Recall)$

### 5.Confusion Matrix:

Visualizes the number of correct and incorrect predictions. It consists of:

True Positives (TP)

True Negatives (TN)

False Positives (FP)

False Negatives (FN)



## **6.5 Evaluation Process**

### **1.Validation Set Evaluation:**

During training, a small portion of the data from the training set was used for validation to monitor model performance.

### **2.Final Testing:**

The final models were evaluated on the separate test set using the defined metrics.

### **3.Comparison:**

Transformer models were compared against traditional models to determine performance differences.

### **4.Error Analysis:**

Misclassified samples were analyzed to identify weaknesses and further improve the model.

## **6.6 Feasibility Study**

### **1. Technical Feasibility**

This research is technically feasible due to the availability of pre-trained transformer-based models like BERT, RoBERTa, and DistilBERT, which significantly reduce the computational burden of training models from scratch. Open-source libraries such as Hugging Face, Scikit-Learn, and TensorFlow facilitate seamless model implementation, optimization, and evaluation. Cloud computing platforms like Google Colab and AWS provide scalable and cost-effective computational resources, enabling large-scale model training without requiring high-end local hardware. Additionally, dataset preprocessing tools like NLTK and spaCy enhance the quality of textual data before fine-tuning the models. The datasets collected from Reddit and Twitter are well-suited for fine-tuning and validating stress detection models, ensuring that the system generalizes well to real-world applications. The integration of GPU acceleration and distributed training further enhances the feasibility of handling large volumes of text data efficiently.

### **2. Operational Feasibility**

The proposed system is designed for seamless integration with mental health monitoring platforms, offering real-time stress detection based on social media text analysis. Stakeholders, including healthcare professionals, researchers, and AI practitioners, can easily adopt and utilize the system with minimal setup. The system's architecture allows for automated data collection, preprocessing, and classification, ensuring smooth operation without manual intervention. A user-friendly dashboard provides visualizations, trend analysis, and actionable insights, making it accessible for non-technical users. Furthermore, the system can be extended to mobile applications and browser extensions, enabling real-time stress detection and personalized recommendations for users. The integration of APIs for seamless connectivity with existing mental health platforms ensures widespread usability across different domains.

### **3. Economic Feasibility**

The research minimizes costs by leveraging pre-trained models and open-source frameworks, significantly reducing the need for expensive model development from scratch. Cloud services such as Google Cloud, AWS, and Microsoft Azure offer pay-as-you-go options, ensuring cost-effective deployment and maintenance. The system is designed to be scalable, reducing unnecessary overhead costs, and can generate revenue through subscription-based models, licensing agreements, and partnerships with healthcare organizations, mental health apps, or government institutions. Additional revenue streams can include customized model training for specific organizations, premium analytics dashboards, and enterprise AI solutions for workplace stress management. The cost-benefit analysis suggests that the implementation costs are relatively low compared to the potential long-term value the system can provide to mental health professionals and organizations.

### **4. Legal and Ethical Feasibility**

Ensuring compliance with data privacy regulations such as GDPR, HIPAA, and CCPA is a core priority. The system is designed to anonymize user data, preventing any personally identifiable information from being exposed or misused. Ethical considerations such as reducing model biases, ensuring fairness in classification, and maintaining transparency in decision-making are actively addressed. The system integrates explainable AI (XAI) techniques, ensuring that predictions are interpretable and justifiable. Additionally, users are provided with explicit consent options before their data is analyzed, ensuring adherence to ethical AI practices. Regular audits and bias assessments are conducted to monitor and mitigate unintended discriminatory patterns in the model's predictions. The platform also allows users and stakeholders to report incorrect classifications, further improving system reliability and fairness.

### **5. Schedule Feasibility**

The estimated timeline for completing the research and implementation spans 3 to 6 months, divided into well-defined phases to ensure efficient execution and timely delivery. The schedule includes:

- Month 1: Data collection, preprocessing, and exploratory analysis
- Month 2: Model selection, fine-tuning, and initial testing
- Month 3: Model evaluation, hyperparameter tuning, and bias mitigation
- Month 4: System integration, API development, and dashboard implementation
- Month 5: User testing, performance optimization, and stress analysis validation
- Month 6: Final deployment, documentation, and publication of findings

The research plan incorporates agile development principles, allowing for iterative improvements and flexibility to accommodate feedback from early evaluations. This structured yet adaptive approach ensures that the project meets both technical and operational goals while adhering to the proposed timeline.

# **Chapter 7**

## **System Requirements**

## **1.Functional Requirements**

- The system should accurately detect stress-related content from social media platforms using BERT, RoBERTa, and DistilBERT models.
- It should classify posts as stress-positive or stress-negative with high accuracy.
- Emotion classification should identify stress-indicative emotions like sadness, anxiety, and anger.
- The system should support real-time or near-real-time analysis.
- The model should provide explainability by highlighting stress-indicative text features.

## **2.Technologies and Languages Used to Develop**

- Programming Language: Python 3.8 or higher
- Frameworks:PyTorch, TensorFlow, Hugging Face Transformers
- Libraries:NumPy, Pandas, Scikit-Learn, Matplotlib, Seaborn
- Data Preprocessing: NLTK, SpaCy, Regex, and Emoji Libraries
- Development Tools: Jupyter Notebook, Google Colab, Visual Studio Code
- Version Control: Git and GitHub

## **3.Debugger and Emulator**

- Debugger:Python Debugger (PDB) for code-level debugging.
- Emulator: Google Colab and Jupyter Notebook for testing and visualization.
- Monitoring Tools: TensorBoard for monitoring training performance and visualizing model metrics.

## **4.Hardware Requirements**

- Processor: Intel Core i5 or higher (or equivalent)
- RAM: Minimum 8 GB (16 GB recommended)
- Storage: Minimum 50 GB free space
- GPU: NVIDIA GPU with CUDA support (e.g., GTX 1080 or higher) for faster model training

## **5. Software Requirements**

- Operating System: Windows 10/11, macOS, or Linux (Ubuntu preferred)
- Development Environment: Anaconda, Jupyter Notebook, or Google Colab
- Additional Tools: Streamlit (for UI), AWS S3 or Google Drive (for data storage)

# **Chapter 8**

## **Implementation**

## 8.Implementation

### 8.1 RoBERTa Base Model Algorithm

**ALGORITHM** `train_and_evaluate_RoBERTa_model(df_title, df_combi, epochs, batch_size, learning_rate)`

**INPUT:**

- `df_{title}` → DataFrame containing Reddit post titles and corresponding labels
- `df_{combi}` → DataFrame containing Reddit post body and titles with corresponding labels
- `epochs` → Number of training iterations over the dataset
- `batch_size` → Number of samples processed in each training step
- `learning_rate` → Learning rate for the optimization algorithm

**OUTPUT:**

- Evaluation metrics: Accuracy and F1-Score
- 

**BEGIN**

- **Load and Prepare Data:**

- Import `df_title` and `df_combi` using `pd.read_excel()`
- Extract post titles from "title" column in `df_title` and post body with titles from "Body\_Title" column in `df_combi`
- Extract corresponding labels from "label" column in both datasets

- **Perform Data Preprocessing:**

FOR each text sample in the datasets:

- Convert emojis to textual representation using `emoji.demonize()`
- Convert text to lowercase using `.lower()`
- Remove URLs using `re.sub(r"http\S+|www\S+", "", text)`
- Remove special characters using `re.sub(r"[^a-zA-Z\s]", "", text)`
- Strip leading and trailing spaces using `.strip()`

END FOR

- **Initialize Tokenizer and Model:**

- Load the RoBERTa tokenizer using `AutoTokenizer.from_pretrained("roberta-base")`
- Load the RoBERTa model using `AutoModelForSequenceClassification.from_pretrained("roberta-base", num_labels=2)`
- **Tokenize Data:**
  - Define `tokenize_function()` to apply the tokenizer with padding and truncation enabled
  - Convert the datasets into Hugging Face's `Dataset` format using `Dataset.from_pandas()`
  - Apply tokenization using `.map(tokenize_function, batched=True)`
- **Split Data for Training and Testing:**
  - Perform an 80-20 split using `.train_test_split(test_size=0.2)` to create training and testing datasets
- **Configure Training Parameters:**
  - Initialize training arguments using `TrainingArguments()` with the following configurations:
    - `output_dir = "./results"`
    - `learning_rate = learning_rate`
    - `per_device_train_batch_size = batch_size`
    - `per_device_eval_batch_size = batch_size`
    - `num_train_epochs = epochs`
    - `weight_decay = 0.01`
    - `evaluation_strategy = "epoch"`
    - `save_strategy = "epoch"`
- **Define Evaluation Metrics:**
  - Implement `compute_metrics()` function to calculate predictions using `.argmax(axis=1)`
  - Evaluate model performance using `accuracy_score()` and `f1_score()`
- **Train the Model:**
  - Instantiate the `Trainer()` using the RoBERTa model, training arguments, tokenized datasets, and the evaluation function
  - Call `trainer.train()` to commence model training
- **Evaluate the Model:**
  - Perform model evaluation using `trainer.evaluate()` on the test dataset
  - Output the results containing accuracy and F1-score

**END**

## **8.2 Stress Detection Using RoBERTa Based Classification Algorithm**

**ALGORITHM** `predict_stress_from_input(tokenizer, model)`

**INPUT:**

- `tokenizer` → Pretrained RoBERTa tokenizer
- `model` → Pretrained RoBERTa stress detection model
- `user_input` → User-provided text for stress prediction

**OUTPUT:**

- Stress prediction result: "Stress Detected" or "No Stress Detected"
- 

**BEGIN**

**1. Initialize System:**

- Load the pretrained RoBERTa tokenizer using  
`AutoTokenizer.from_pretrained("roberta-base")`
- Load the trained RoBERTa model using  
`AutoModelForSequenceClassification.from_pretrained()`

**2. Start Continuous Loop:**

- Display "Enter a sentence (or type 'exit' to quit): " to the user
- Capture input as `user_input` using `input()`

**3. Check for Exit Condition:**

- IF `user_input.lower() == 'exit'` THEN
  - Print "Exiting stress detection system."
  - Terminate the program using `break`

**4. Perform Preprocessing:**

- Call `preprocess_text(user_input)` to apply the following steps:
  - Convert emojis to text using `emoji.demojize()`
  - Convert text to lowercase using `.lower()`
  - Remove URLs using `re.sub(r"http\S+|www\S+", "", text)`
  - Remove special characters using `re.sub(r"[^a-zA-Z\s]", "", text)`



- Remove extra spaces using `.strip()`

#### **5. Tokenize Input Text:**

- Tokenize using `tokenizer(text, padding="max_length", truncation=True, max_length=128, return_tensors="pt")`
- Convert the tokenized data to PyTorch tensors using `return_tensors="pt"`

#### **6. Move Data to Device:**

- Detect GPU availability using `torch.device("cuda" if torch.cuda.is_available() else "cpu")`
- Load the model to the detected device using `model.to(device)`
- Transfer input data to the same device using `{key: val.to(device) for key, val in inputs.items()}`

#### **7. Perform Inference:**

- Disable gradient computation using `torch.no_grad()`
- Perform model inference using `outputs = model(**inputs)`
- Extract logits from `outputs.logits`
- Determine prediction using `torch.argmax(logits, dim=1).item()`

#### **8. Interpret and Display Result:**

- IF `prediction == 1` THEN
  - Print "Prediction: Stress Detected"
- ELSE
  - Print "Prediction: No Stress Detected"

#### **9. Return to Step 2 for Next Input**

**END**

# **Chapter 9**

## **Results**

## 9. RESULTS

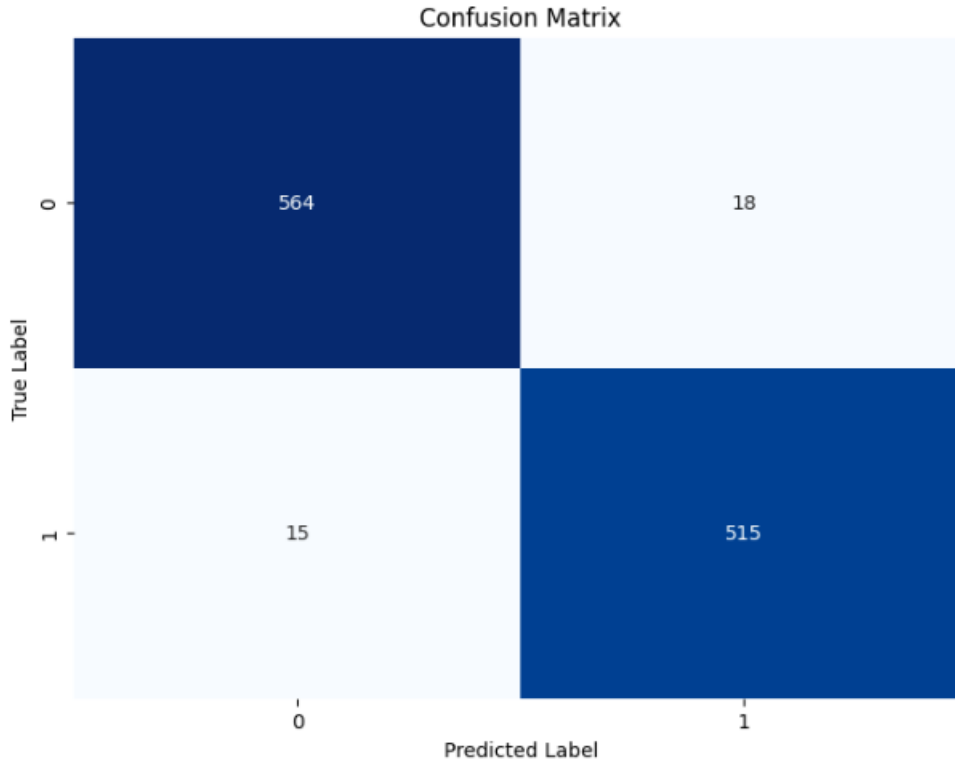
### 9.1 Performance Comparison

Model	Accuracy	Precision	Recall	F1 Score
BERT	96.4%	0.964	0.963	0.964
DistilBERT	96.4%	0.965	0.964	0.964
RoBERTa	97.2%	0.972	0.969	0.971

**Table 9.1 Results BERT vs DistilBERT vs RoBERTa**

### 9.2 Key Observations

RoBERTa achieves the highest accuracy of 97.2%, outperforming all models in stress detection. DistilBERT delivers strong performance while maintaining computational efficiency, making it a suitable choice for resource-limited environments. BERT-based emotion classification further enhances stress detection by identifying stress-indicative emotions from text. Traditional ML models, such as SVM and Logistic Regression, perform well as baselines but struggle with contextual understanding, leading to lower accuracy.



**Figure 9.2 Confusion matrix of Proposed method**

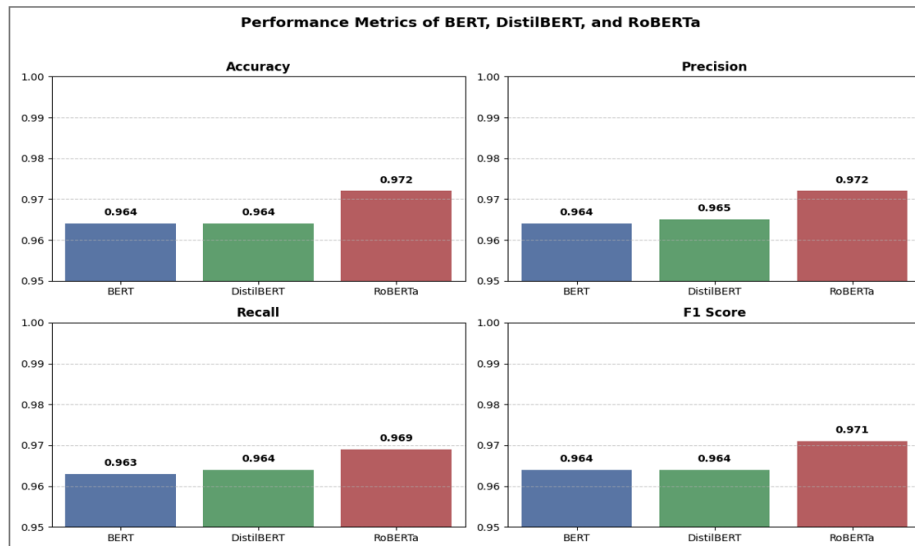


Figure 9.3 Performance Metrics of BERT, DistilBERT, RoBERTa

## 🧠 Stress Detection from Reddit Titles

Enter a Reddit post title to check if it indicates stress.

Enter Reddit Title:

**Analyze**

**Prediction:** 😞 Stressed

Confidence Score: 0.9999

Powered by RoBERTa for stress detection.

Figure 9.4 Prediction Results for Stress Detection

## 😊😞 Emotion Detection with AI

Enter text to analyze its emotion using an advanced AI model.

Enter your text:

**Predicted Emotion: joy**

💡 Tip: 😊 Keep spreading positivity! Try journaling your happy moments.

Figure 9.5 Prediction Results for Emotion Classification

# **Chapter 10**

## **Social Impact**

## 10. Social Impact

In the realm of modern mental health management, leveraging advanced technologies like transformer-based models (BERT, RoBERTa, and DistilBERT) for stress detection from social media data holds immense significance. By analyzing user posts, these models can identify stress indicators in real-time, providing valuable insights for early intervention. This proactive approach enhances mental health support systems, mitigates the risk of severe mental health crises, and fosters well-being.

The implementation of this AI-driven stress detection system offers multifaceted benefits. Firstly, it facilitates early identification of stress symptoms, enabling timely mental health interventions. Secondly, it aids mental health professionals by providing valuable data on stress trends, improving the effectiveness of therapeutic approaches. Lastly, organizations and healthcare systems can optimize resource allocation, ensuring mental health support is directed to those in need.

Through the utilization of advanced language models for stress detection, this research contributes significantly to societal well-being. By promptly identifying individuals experiencing stress, stakeholders can offer appropriate support, reducing the burden on mental health services. Additionally, public health initiatives can be refined using data-driven insights, leading to targeted mental health awareness campaigns and interventions.

- **Early Mental Health Intervention:** By detecting stress indicators from social media posts, the system enables timely psychological support, preventing severe mental health issues.
- **Promoting Mental Health Awareness:** Identifying patterns in stress-related discussions fosters public awareness and encourages conversations around mental well-being, reducing stigma.
- **Data-Driven Insights for Policymakers:** Aggregated stress data aids governments and organizations in designing effective mental health programs and resource allocation.
- **Community Support and Engagement:** Online communities can provide peer support to individuals experiencing stress, building a stronger social support system.
- **Suicide Prevention and Crisis Management:** Early detection of severe stress or harmful behavior enables quick intervention by crisis support teams, potentially saving lives.
- **Enhanced Workplace Mental Health:** Employers can leverage stress detection insights to implement workplace wellness programs and reduce burnout among employees.
- **Digital Health Innovation:** By incorporating AI-powered stress detection into telehealth platforms, individuals can receive personalized mental health recommendations and support.

# **Chapter 11**

## **Conclusion & Future Work**

## 11. CONCLUSION & FUTURE WORK

In conclusion, this study presents a comprehensive approach to stress detection and emotion classification using pre-trained language models (PLMs) like BERT, RoBERTa, and DistilBERT. By leveraging Reddit-based datasets, the research effectively demonstrates the ability of transformer-based models to identify stress-related language with improved accuracy and robustness compared to traditional machine learning algorithms.

The proposed system enhances stress detection by incorporating emotion classification and topic modeling techniques, enabling a deeper understanding of user emotions and stressors. Experimental results validate the system's efficacy, highlighting its superior performance in detecting stress-related language while maintaining computational efficiency. The integration of advanced NLP techniques provides a reliable solution for real-time stress detection and mental health monitoring on social media platforms.

The study's findings contribute to the development of AI-driven solutions for early stress identification, empowering individuals and mental health professionals with actionable insights. Additionally, by systematically comparing multiple PLMs and traditional models, the research offers valuable insights for future applications in psychological well-being assessment.

- **Enhancing Model Performance:** Future work can focus on refining the system by experimenting with larger datasets, fine-tuning hyperparameters, and exploring ensemble learning approaches to further improve detection accuracy.
- **Real-time Deployment:** Developing a real-time stress monitoring system using cloud-based solutions can extend the practical applicability of this research. Integration with mobile applications or browser extensions would facilitate continuous mental health monitoring.
- **Multilingual Support:** Expanding the dataset to include multilingual content would improve the system's robustness in detecting stress across diverse linguistic and cultural contexts.
- **Explainability and Interpretability:** Incorporating explainable AI (XAI) techniques could provide transparent and interpretable stress detection results, building trust among users and mental health professionals.
- **Mental Health Intervention:** Collaborating with psychologists to establish stress severity levels based on detected stress patterns can support the development of personalized mental health recommendations and interventions.

Through these advancements, the proposed system has the potential to significantly contribute to public mental health monitoring, providing proactive and accessible solutions for stress detection and management in the digital era.



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