





# Spanning the Spectrum of Hatred Detection:

# A Persian Multi-Label Hate Speech Dataset with Annotator Rationales

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## Motivation

The research addresses the urgent need for effective hate speech detection models in online communities, given the alarming rise of hate speech. This demand is particularly pressing for less-studied languages like Persian, where annotated datasets are scarce. To fill this gap, we introduce a novel dataset called PHATE, specifically tailored to multi-label hate speech detection in Persian tweets. PHATE consists of over seven thousand manually -annotated tweets, each specifying the targeted group of hate speech and including a rationale behind the label assignment. By incorporating this additional information, PHATE facilitates the detection of targeted online harm and serves as a valuable resource for research on interpretability of hate speech detection models. Evaluation of various models on PHATE underscores its challenging nature and highlights the need for future research in Persian hate speech detection.

### Hate

Involves hate or encouragement directed at individuals or groups based on specific categories like politics, occupation, religion, and targets distinctive group attributes. Includes discrimination, negative stereotypes, dehumanization, and humiliation.

> **7,056** Tweets 3,860 Normal

#### **Violence**

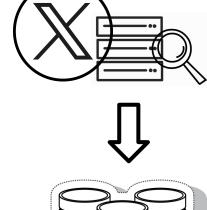
Threats involving violent acts against an identifiable target, expressing a desire for death or serious physical harm, and calling for or encouraging others to harm or harass.

# Vulgar

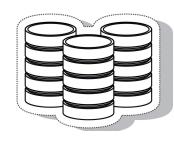
Includes profanity speech without any specific target, and profanity speech towards an individual who is not a representative of a general group.

### **Dataset Construction**

#### **Data Collection**



controversial query words

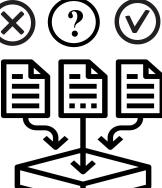


3,882,984 **Tweets** 



Prompt: Does the tweet contain hate

speech?



7,056 Data to annotate

#### **Annotation Procedure**

- → Determine whether the tweet is normal or contains any form of hate speech.
- Determine all the hate speech sub-labels that the tweet belongs to.
- → Highlight the specific portion of the text that substantiates the chosen labels.
- → Specify the target of the hate speech if it is identifiable.

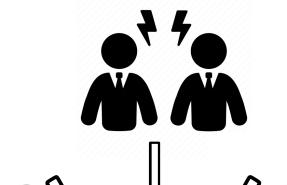
از کلینیک زیبایی باهام تماس گرفتن که مدل عکس قبل از عمل شم Tweet Text (En): They contacted me from the beauty clinic to ask me to be the model for the 'before' photo of the surgery. Label(s): Normal

Traget(s): Trump, Najafzadeh

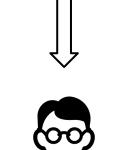
آقای ترامپ قمارباز حداقل تو این دوماه باقیمونده کامران نجف زاده رو اعدام کن تو کشورت :Tweet Text (Pr): Tweet Text (En): Mr. Trump, the gambler, at the very least, during these two months that are left, execute Kamran Najafzadeh in your country. Label(s): Violence, Vulgar

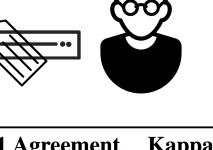
بابا مسلمانی یه فحشه، کی میخوایین اینو بفهمید. سوال درست اینه گورخر وحشی تانزانیایی بهتر حکومت میکنه یا یک مسلمان؟ :Tweet Text (Pr): Tweet Text (En): Being a Muslim is a curse, when are you going to understand this? The real question is, does a Tanzanian wild zebra rule better or a Muslim? Label(s): Hate Target(s): Muslims

# **Quality Assessment**









0.88	0.72
0.60	0.58
0.68	0.59
0.68	0.61
	0.60 0.68

# **Experiments**

There is a substantial performance gap between state-of-the-art models and human performance. These findings underscore the inherent intricacy of the task, even considering that human performance in the hate category is not exceptionally high

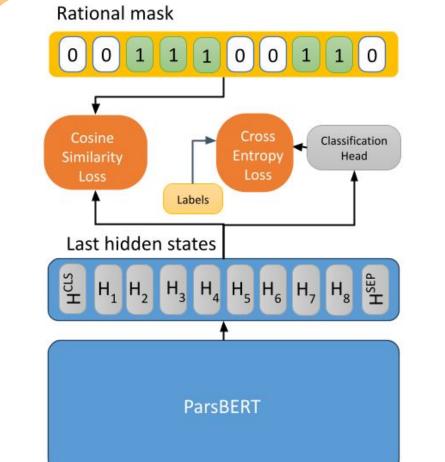
Model	Hate Speech			Violence		Hate			Vulgar			
	Rec.	Prec.	<b>F1</b>	Rec.	Prec.	F1	Rec.	Prec.	<b>F1</b>	Rec.	Prec.	F1
ParsBERT	$80.5 \pm 2.9$	$75.9 \pm 1.8$	$78.1 \pm 0.5$	$\overline{42.8 \pm 3.2}$	$68.2 \pm 5.8$	$52.3 \pm 1.8$	$\overline{59.4 \pm 2.3}$	<b>62.5</b> $\pm$ 1.7	$60.8 \pm 0.7$	$68.4 \pm 8.3$	$55.0 \pm 4.9$	$60.3 \pm 0.7$
mBERT	$78.5 \pm 3.5$	$72.5 \pm 2.9$	$75.3 \pm 0.4$	$41.7 \pm 4.8$	$62.8 \pm 5.1$	$49.7 \pm 1.8$	$64.6 \pm 6.9$	$55.1 \pm 3.8$	$59.0 \pm 1.2$	$67.3 \pm 4.3$	$48.5 \pm 1.8$	$56.3 \pm 0.7$
XML-R	$80.8 \pm 6.0$	$76.4 \pm 5.2$	$78.1 \pm 0.5$	$50.0 \pm 4.5$	$62.8 \pm 7.2$	$55.1 \pm 1.7$	<b>66.8</b> $\pm$ 7.1	$58.1 \pm 5.0$	<b>61.6</b> $\pm$ 1.4	$63.0 \pm 5.4$	$54.7 \pm 4.1$	$58.2 \pm 1.0$
ChatGPT	55.2	77.6	64.3	85.5	23.0	36.2	85.0	32.5	47.0	50.3	44.7	47.3
Human	95.3	79.7	86.8	74.0	84.9	78.7	51.3	52.3	51.8	83.7	63.5	72.2

Performance of different models in detecting hate speech as well as its three specific sub-labels.

### **Evaluating Rationales**

- → ParsBERT performance on randomly-masked and rationale-masked test sets
- This discrepancy underscores the significance of the annotated rationales in influencing model performance.

		Rec.	Prec.	<b>F</b> 1
Violence (24%)	Rationale Random	$6.75\pm1.9$ $36.3\pm3.0$	$24.7{\pm}1.6 \\ 64.6{\pm}5.7$	$10.4{\pm}2.3\\46.2{\pm}1.2$
<b>Hate</b> (27%)	Rationale Random	$19.9 \pm 2.2$ $53.3 \pm 1.8$	$35.7{\pm}2.3 \\ 59.9{\pm}1.8$	$25.5 \pm 2.2$ $56.4 \pm 0.4$
Vulgar (27%)	Rationale Random	$30.9 \pm 8.4$ $62.1 \pm 8.1$	$34.9{\pm}1.7 \\ 52.6{\pm}4.5$	$32.0 \pm 4.7$ $56.3 \pm 1.3$



## Rationale-assisted Fine-tuning

→ Utilizing the rationales, we enhance the performance of the ParsBERT model, reaffirming the effectiveness of annotated rationales

		Rec.	Prec.	<b>F</b> 1
Violence	FT + Rationale	$42.8\pm3.2$ <b>46.5</b> $\pm5.1$	$68.2 \pm 5.8$ $68.3 \pm 5.4$	$52.3\pm1.8$ $55.0\pm2.7$
Hate	FT FT + Rationale	59.4±2.3 <b>66.5</b> ±5.2	$62.5{\pm}1.7$ <b>60.9</b> ${\pm}3.4$	$60.8 \pm 0.7$ <b>63.3</b> $\pm 0.7$
Vulgar	FT FT + Rationale	<b>68.4</b> ±8.3 63.7±3.6	$55.0{\pm}4.9$ $57.5{\pm}2.1$	$60.3 \pm 0.7$ $60.3 \pm 0.9$











