

## CS 579: Online Social Network Analysis

**Professor: Dr. Aron Culotta** 

# DO PEOPLE BELIEVE IN FAKE NEWS?

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## Introduction



#### Context

- Lots of research on fake news detection
- Not one found on analysing readers' belief of the news

### Goal of project

Guess if a user believes or not to a news article via one of his comments

#### Methods

NLP algorithms similar to sentiment analysis and machine learning classification methods

## **Data Collection**





- Database with articles from Politifact
- Database with texts labelled with sarcasm
- Collect comments from Reddit

Labellized 3000 comments with

1: belief

-1: non-belief

0: none of the above

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## Features

#### Sarcasm

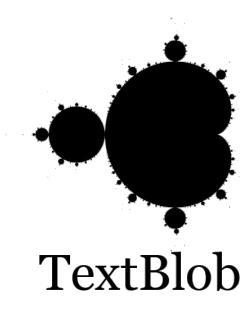
Method used instead of bag of words: Tf\*idf:

Term frequency Inverse document frequency

#### **Sentiment Analysis**

Word representation: bag of words

- Using Naïve Bayes
- Using TextBlob



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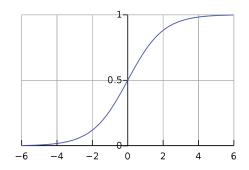
## **Used Methods**

## Naïve Bayes

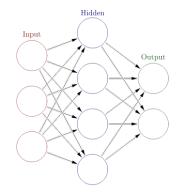
$$\begin{split} \log \big( P(Y = y, X) \big) &= \log(P(X|Y = y)) + \log(P(Y = Y)) \\ &\log \big( P(Y = y) \big) = \log \frac{d\_count[y]}{d\_count} \\ &\log \big( P(X|Y = y) \big) = \sum_{w \in V} \log \frac{w\_count[w][y] + \alpha}{w\_count[y] + \alpha|V|} \end{split}$$

$$P(Y = y|X) = \frac{P(Y = y, X)}{\sum_{y' \in Y} P(Y = y', X)}$$

### LogisticRegression



#### Simple Neural Networks



#### **Librairies used:**













## Results



Class -1

#### **Accuracy:**

- Naive Bayes: 56% (Binary Class)
- Logistic Regression: 49% (3 Classes)
- Neural Networks: 46%(3 Classes)





- 50 - 40 - 30 - 20 - 10

Confusion matrix(%)

Class 0 Class 1

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## Problems encountered & solutions

Problems	Solutions
Lots of comments on one subject	Shuffle data before labellization
Lots of comments non related and fights	0 to not disturb training
Authors did not comments on their belief, mostly on articles subjects	No solution really found
Unbalanced data (204 "non-belief" comments out of 3000)	<ul> <li>SMOTE</li> <li>Labelled more data</li> <li>Reduce "belief" comments size</li> <li>Weight class</li> </ul>

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## Conclusion

# Questions?

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