Crowdsourced Tweet Rating Task Instructions

Below are the instructions given during the annotation phase to crowdsource workers, that directly precede a fully worked out example (not shown here). These same instructions and worked out example were additionally translated by native speakers to Arabic, French, and German.

Task Description

Overview. In this task we want your help rating tweets, that were posted during November, 2015. The events in question are the November 13, 2015 Paris attacks and the November 12, 2015 Beirut attacks, and anything related to them. Please read the tweets carefully. If the tweet contains Media (photo or video), please take the media into account when forming your judgment. It is important that you form an impression based on the text of the tweet and the accompanying media if available. If the tweet only or additionally contains a URL link (e.g., http://...), then you may click on that and use it to help you form a judgment only if you are completely unable to rate the tweet based on the text and media alone. In other words, URL links should serve only as backup measures. Please keep in mind that all the questions asked are about the tweet text and accompanying media, not the contents of the URL the tweet provides. Also remember, some tweets do not have a Media link nor a URL link, but only text.

We ask you to rate each tweet along each of the aspects shown below:

(A) **Not applicable [checkbox]**

In case the tweet is not applicable or relevant at all to the November 2015 events related to France or Lebanon, please check the box "Not applicable; not readable..." This will hide the other questions, which means you skip rating that specific tweet.

(1) **Overall sentiment rating [positive, neutral, negative]**

• Positive sentiment means some aspects of the overall tweet and accompanying media uncovers a positive mood or sentiment, such as happiness, support, hope, enthusiasm, kindness, praise, recommendations or a favorable comparison. Example: "New York in solidarity with France #ParisAttacks"

• Neutral sentiment means that the overall tweet and accompanying media is only informative in nature and provides no hint as to the mood of the text or media.

• Negative sentiment means that overall some aspects of the tweet and accompanying media uncover a negative mood or sentiment such as sadness, hate, violence, discrimination, criticism, insults or a negative comparison. Example: "Relatives search for missing, grief pours out on social media after Paris attacks"

(2) **Sympathy rating [sympathetic, unsympathetic]**
•   Sympathetic if the tweet text and accompanying media highlights or shows sympathy to the affected individual(s) or subject(s) of the tweet, then it would be rated as positive sympathy. This includes thoughts, prayers, gratitude, sadness, solidarity, and so on concerning affected

individuals. Example: "Watch the world stand in solidarity with France and sing La Marseillaise following the #ParisAttacks".

Note: Sometimes the tweet might appear neutral, but the tweet media shows an image that evokes sympathy or lack of sympathy. In such a case, the tweet is sympathetic.

- Unsympathetic if the tweet is factual and shows no sympathy with the affected individual(s) or subject(s) of the tweet, then it would be rated as unsympathetic. This includes lack of sympathy, neutral, insensitive, uncaring, indifference, coldness, lack of solidarity, etc. Example: "Follow FRANCE 24's live blog for all the latest on the #ParisAttacks"; "SYRIAN PASSPORT FOUND NEAR BODY OF ONE OF PARIS SUICIDE BOMBERS."

Note: Tweets that are purely factual (links to news articles without comment) are not necessarily unsympathetic – consider whether the fact/news/image itself is sympathetic towards the topic.

Note2: While Sympathy and Sentiment might be the same sometimes, this is not always the case. E.g., a tweet that is sympathetic (labeled as such because it shows an image that makes one sympathize with the victims affected) could be rated as having a negative sentiment as it evokes sadness.