Project Proposal

Project Title: Fight Online Abuse Using Natural Language Processing

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Goals and Objectives: The project goal is to detect the type of comment toxicity during online interaction. Given the rise in trolling and hatred on social media and elsewhere these days, this is a very real problem. The task is set up as a standard text classification problem in which one have to predict the likelihood of a (text) comment being toxic or a threat, and submissions are evaluated. The project will be completed by the team to allow for effective brainstorming on how we can improve the model accuracy and how we can lend the NLP to be able to fight online abuse that may have a negative impact.

   Significance: In today's world, social media has become an integral part of life. Every day people are not only interacting with many people including strangers. This is where things get a little worrisome. With the increasing number of people on social media, there is also an increase in the number of people who do criminal activities like cyberbullying, harassment, etc. The threat of online abuse may result people to stop expressing themselves and seek others comments. Platforms struggle to effectively facilitate conversations, leading many communities to limit or completely shut down user comments. Data reveal that online abuse is a problem mostly affecting Teens by things that are posted by other people either the people they know or strangers.

Features: Detecting toxicity is a lot more than just detecting abusive words in the text. As an example, consider the following comment, which doesn't have any abusive words, but is still toxic the approach used is supervised since we have the labeled data.
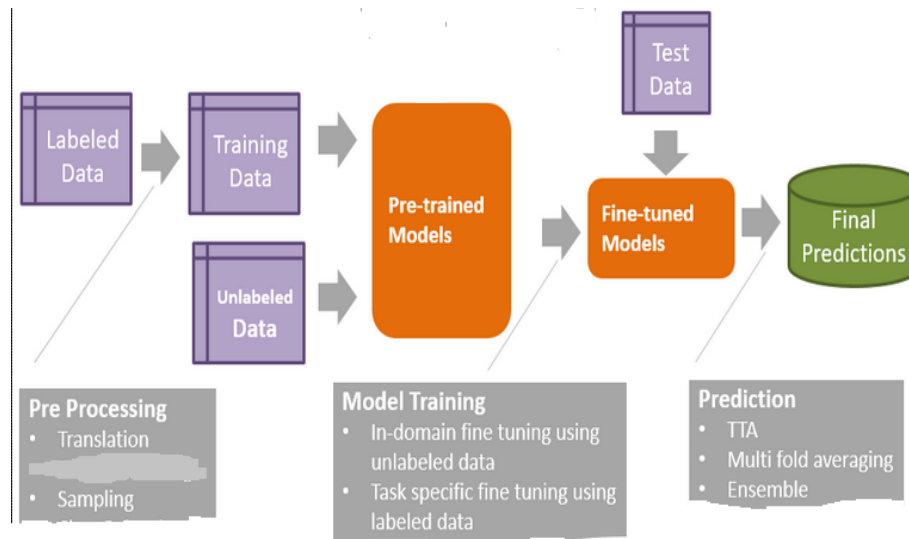

Fig. 1. Showing how Data will be handled.

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