Customer Review Sentiment Analysis Report

For: Amazon 10/08/24 By: Alex Hosp

Executive Summary

This report presents the results of a predictive analysis to determine whether the overall sentiment of customer reviews in the given dataset **amazon_product_reviews** is predominantly positive or negative. The main objective of this project was to answer the question: **"Are most of the customer reviews positive or negative?"**

To answer this question, I analyzed a subset of the data containing both **star ratings and textual product reviews**. I conducted **exploratory data analysis (EDA)** to assess the distribution of star ratings and employed a **pre-trained DistilBERT transformer model**, fine-tuned for sequence classification tasks such as sentiment analysis.

The **key findings** indicate that **78.9% of the reviews have 5-star ratings**, while **68% showed positive sentiment** based on text analysis. This suggests that overall customer sentiment is largely positive, though some individual reviews may contain mixed feedback.

Due to the use of a **binary classification model**, some subtleties in the reviews may not have been fully captured. However, the overall alignment between star ratings and sentiment analysis provides a reliable indication of customer perception. These findings indicate that **customers are generally satisfied with Amazon's products**, though **32% of reviews exhibited some negative sentiment**. A more nuanced analysis of the text could provide further insights into areas for potential improvement.

Objective

The objective of this project was to analyze Amazon's amazon_product_reviews dataset to determine whether customer reviews are generally positive or negative. Specifically, this analysis aims to answer the question, "Are most of the customer reviews positive or negative?"

To answer this question, **star ratings** and **textual product reviews** are analyzed to assess customer satisfaction comprehensively. The goal is to leverage sentiment analysis to extract meaningful insights, enabling *Amazon* to better understand customer perception of their products.

Methodology

1. Data Preparation

Imported the dataset into a Google Colab notebook and cleaned the data in the reviewText field by:

- Removing Nulls and Duplicates: Excluded entries with missing reviewText and duplicate reviews to ensure data integrity.
- **Handling Text Length:** Truncated reviews that exceeded the model's token limit to maintain consistency.
- **Eliminating Special Characters:** Removed special characters that could interfere with model processing.

2. Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA)

Performed EDA to get a preliminary understanding of the sentiment distribution by:

- **Analyzing Star Ratings:** Examined the distribution of 1 to 5-star ratings to get an overview of customer satisfaction levels based on ratings.
- **Visualization:** Created a histogram chart to illustrate the frequency of each star rating, highlighting key trends.

3. Data Preprocessing & Model Selection

Prepared the data for sentiment analysis using **DistilBERT**, chosen for its 91.3% accuracy on the SST-2 dataset. The data preprocessing and model selection steps included:

- **Tokenization:** Converted text reviews into tokens using DistilBERT's tokenizer.
- **Padding and Truncation:** Standardized input lengths by adding padding to shorter reviews and truncating longer ones to fit the model's requirements.
- **Model Configuration:** Selected a fine-tuned, pretrained snapshot of the DistilBERT model for its efficiency and strong performance in sequence classification tasks.

4. Inference

Performed sentiment prediction through the following steps:

- **Batch Processing:** Split the dataset into batches to optimize resource usage during inference.
- **Model Inference:** Passed preprocessed batches through DistilBERT to obtain sentiment predictions (1 for positive, 0 for negative).

- Result Extraction: Applied the argmax function to determine the most likely sentiment for each review.
- Result Storage: Processed all batches and stored the prediction results for further analysis.
- Adding Sentiment Labels: Converted the predicted sentiment values to classes
 (1 for Positive, 0 for Negative) and added them as a new column in the dataset.

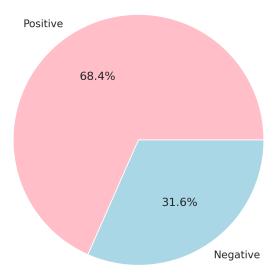
5. Results Calculation & Visualization

Calculated the **positive and negative sentiment percentage** and visualized it using a **pie chart**. I then compared this sentiment distribution to the **star rating distribution** from the EDA to assess the consistency between ratings and textual sentiment. I used these analysis results to answer the client's question.

Results

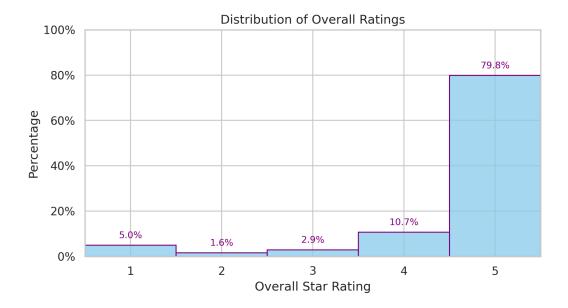
The **sentiment analysis** and **star rating distribution** provide a comprehensive view of customer sentiment based on customer reviews and ratings. Based on the sentiment predictions, **68% of the reviews showed positive sentiment**, while **32% were classified as negative**. This distribution is visually represented in the **pie chart** below:

Sentiment Distribution of Reviews



Similarly, the analysis of **star ratings** showed that **80% of the reviews** had a **5-star rating**, making it the most common rating in the dataset. **11% of reviews** received **4 stars**, while **1-star**

ratings were the next most frequent. **2-star and 3-star ratings** were almost nonexistent. This distribution is illustrated in the **histogram** below:



Comparing these results shows that most reviews have **positive sentiment** (68%), which aligns with the **80% 5-star ratings** in the dataset. However, there were instances where highly rated reviews contained **negative sentiment**, indicating mixed feedback that may suggest areas for improvement.

To answer the main question—"Are most of the customer reviews positive or negative?"—the analysis indicates that most reviews are positive. The dominance of 5-star ratings and the 68% positive sentiment in text reviews both demonstrate that customers are generally satisfied. However, the presence of some negative sentiment, also in high-rated reviews indicates opportunities for further improvement. These opportunities could be explored by employing more nuanced text-analysis methods to determine key themes in customer reviews.