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**Abstract** All the code for this project is included in a GitHub<sup>1</sup> repository for easy reference. Some details are omitted below for clarity but can be found in the notebooks, code and execution instructions.

**Keywords** First keyword · Second keyword · More

## 1 Introduction

*Contribution* Our contribution with this work is..

## 2 Task and Dataset Description

The *Humor Analysis based on Humor Annotation (HAHA) 2019*[5] competition asked for analysis of two tasks in the Spanish language based on a corpus of publicly collected data [3]:

- **Task1: Humor Detection:** Determine if a tweet is humorous. System ranking is based on F1 score which will balance precision and accuracy.
- **Task2: Funniness Score:** If humorous, what is the average humor rating of the tweet. System ranking is based on RMSE.

The HAHA dataset includes labeled data for 24,000 tweets and a test set of 6,000 tweets (80%/20% train/test split.) Each record includes the raw tweet text (including accents and emoticons), a binary humor label, the number of votes for each of five star ratings and a “Funniness Score” that is the average of the 1 to 5 star votes cast. Examples and data can be found on the CodaLab competition webpage<sup>2</sup>.

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Address(es) of author(s) should be given

<sup>1</sup> [https://github.com/bfarzin/haha\\_2019\\_final](https://github.com/bfarzin/haha_2019_final)

<sup>2</sup> <http://competitions.codalab.org/competitions/22194/>

### 3 System Description

We generally follow the method of ULMFiT [6] including pre-training and differential learning rates.

1. Train a language model (LM) on a large corpus of data
2. Fine-tune the LM based on the target task language data
3. Replace the final layer of the LM with a softmax or linear output layer and then fine-tune on the particular task at hand (classification or regression)

Below we will give more detail on each step and the parameters used to generate our system.

#### 3.1 Data, Cleanup & Tokenization

##### 3.2 Additional Data

For our initial training, we collected 475,143 tweets in the Spanish language using tweepy [1]. The frequency of terms, punctuation and vocabulary can be quite different from the standard Wikipedia corpus that is often used to train an LM.

In the fine-tuning step, we combined the labeled and un-labeled text data for the LM training.

##### 3.3 Cleaning

We applied a list of default cleanup functions included in Fastai[] and added an additional one for this Twitter dataset.

- Add spaces between special chars (ie. !!! to ! ! !)
- Remove useless spaces (remove more than 2 spaces in sequence)
- Replace repetition at the character level (ie. grrrreat becomes g xxrep r 3 eat)
- Replace repetition at the word level (similar to above)
- Deal with ALL CAPS words replacing with a token and converting to lower case.
- **Addition:** Move all text onto a single line by replacing new-lines inside a tweet with a reserved word (ie. \n to xxn1)

The following example shows the application of this data cleaning to a single tweet:

```
Saber, entender y estar convencidos que la frase \
#LaESILaDefendemosEntreTodes es nuestra linea es nuestro eje.\
#AlertaESI!!!!
Vamos por mas!!! e invitamos a todas aquellas personas que quieran \
se parte.
```

```

xxbos saber , entender y estar convencidos que la frase \
# laesiladefendemosentretodes es nuestra linea es nuestro eje.\
xxnl # alertaesi xxrep 4 ! xxnl vamos por mas ! ! ! e invitamos a \
todas aquellas personas que quieran se parte.

```

### 3.4 Tokenization

We used sentencepiece [7] to parse into sub-word units and reduce the possible out-of-vocabulary (OOV) terms in the data set. We selected a vocab size of 30,000 and used the byte-pair encoding (bpe) model.

## 4 Training and Results

### 4.1 LM Training and Fine-tuning

We train the LM using a 90/10 training/validation split and report the validation loss and accuracy of next-word prediction on the validation set. For the LM, we selected a AWD\_LSTM [8] model included in Fastai with QRNN[2] units, 2304 hidden-states, 3 layers and a softmax layer on the end to predict the next-word. We tied the embedding weights on the encoder and decoder for training. We performed some simple tests with LSTM units and with a Transformer Language model and found all the models were similar in performance during LM training. We chose the QRNN units to speed up training. The model has about 60 million trainable parameters.

Our loss is label smoothing[9] of the flattened cross-entropy loss. Parameters used for training and finetuning are shown in Table 1. For all the networks we applied a dropout multiplier that scales the dropout used throughout the network. We used the Adam optimizer with weight decay as indicated in the table.

Following the work of Smith[10] we found the largest learning-rate that we could apply and then ran a one-cycle policy for a single epoch. We then ran subsequent training with one-cycle and lower learning rates indicated in Table 1.

**Table 1** LM Training Parameters

Param	LM	Fine-Tune LM
Weight Decay	0.1	0.1
Dropout Mult	1.0	1.0
Learning Rate	1 epoch at $5 * 10^{-3}$	5 epochs at $3 * 10^{-3}$
Cont. Training	15 epochs at $1 * 10^{-3}$	10 epochs at $1 * 10^{-4}$

## 4.2 Classification and Regression Fitting

Again, following the play-book from [6], we change out the head of the network to a softmax or linear output layer and then load the LM weights for the layers below. We train just the new head from the random initialization, then unfreeze the entire network and train with differential learning rates.

With the same learning rate and weight decay we apply a 5-fold cross-validation on the outputs and take the mean across the folds as our ensemble. We sample 20 random seeds (see more in section 4.3) to find the best initialization for our gradient descent search. From these samples, we select the best validation F1 metric or MSE for use in our test submission.

### 4.2.1 Classifier setup

For the classifier, we have a softmax head and label smoothing loss which allows us to train without gradual unfreezing. We oversample the minority class to balance the outcomes for better training using SMOTE [4].

### 4.2.2 Regression setup

For the regression, we fill all #N/A labels with scores of 0. We add a linear head output and mean-squared-error (MSE) loss function.

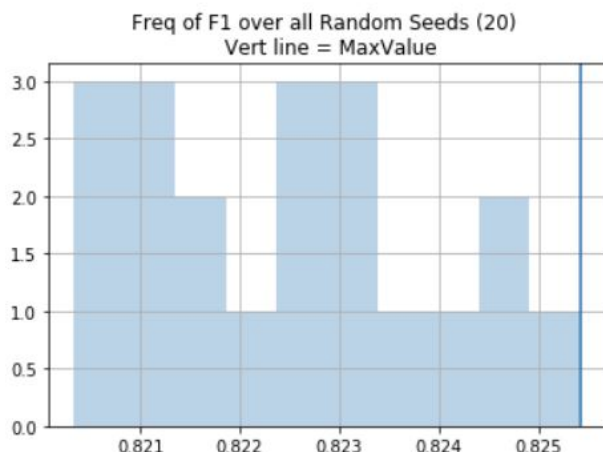
**Table 2** Classification and Regression Training Parameters

Param	Value
Weight Decay	0.1
Dropout Mult	0.7
Learning Rate (Head)	2 epochs at $1 * 10^{-2}$
Cont. Training	15 epochs with diff lr: $(1 * 10^{-3} / (2.6^4), 5 * 10^{-3})$

## 4.3 Random Seed as a Hyperparameter

For classification and regression, the random seed sets the initial random weights of the head layer. This initialization effects the final F1 metric you can achieve with your model.

Across each of the 20 random seeds, we average the 5-folds and get a single F1 metric on the validation set. The histogram of 20-seed outcomes is shown in Figure 1 and covers a range from 0.820 to 0.825 in the validation set. We selected our single best random seed for the test submission. With more exploration, a better seed could likely be found. We only tried a single seed for the LM training but one could do a similar search with random seeds there and select the best down-stream seed similar to [?]



**Fig. 1** Histogram of F1 metric averaged across 5-fold metric

## 5 Conclusion

**Acknowledgements** If you'd like to thank anyone, place your comments here and remove the percent signs.

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