# **Analysis Report**

# **Clickbait Identification**

Language: Hindi

#### **Members:**

Adith John Rajeev 2020114010 Eshika Khandelwal 2020114018 Harshit Gupta 2020114017

GITHUB LINK: https://github.com/esh04/Clickbait-Identification

# **Introduction:**

In this project, we have generated suitable parameters and compared their occurrence, count, properties etc., of Clickbait titles vs Non-Clickbait titles.

Clickbait is a pejorative term describing web content that aims to generate online advertising revenue, especially at the expense of quality or accuracy, relying on sensationalist headlines or eye-catching thumbnail pictures to attract click-throughs to encourage forwarding of the material over online social networks. Clickbait headlines typically aim to exploit the "curiosity gap", providing just enough information to make readers curious but not enough to satisfy their curiosity without clicking through to the linked content.

We propose various structural, linguistic, word and sentence level features for developing a classification model. We have then classified the data using simple classifier models such as SVMs, Logistic Regression and XGBoost.

The dataset we used contained 41800 Hindi sentences labelled either 0(Non-Clickbait) or 1(Clickbait).

# **Pre-processing:**

The Hindi sentences in the dataset required cleaning up and replacing several ASCII character codes into their actual punctuations. We observed that each sentence terminated with '\n'. Also, in several sentences, we observed ASCII characters such as ''' and 'quot;' representing quotation marks in the text. We replace them with suitable characters accordingly. We also remove necessary punctuations, brackets, and

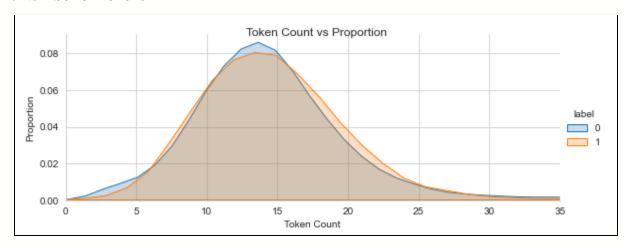
dots (sequences such as '...' or '..') that show some continuity in the title. We let the numbers and English characters remain for analysis since it affects token count and sentence structure. Furthermore, it helps us with unique and accurate analysis since there is a possibility that the sentences given to us in the test case might contain the same.

# **Analysis:**

We generated our very own parameters based on various structural, linguistic, word and sentence level features for analysis and classification purposes.

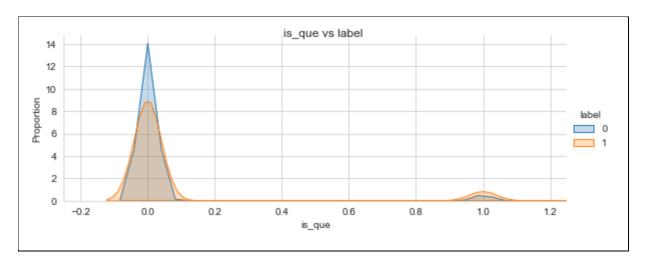
Analysis is done on the basis of-

#### 1. Number of Tokens



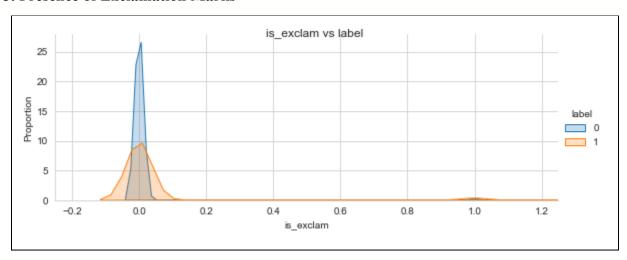
We analyse whether the number of words in a sentence impacts the binary classification. It is interesting to see that in the dataset, both Clickbait and Non-Clickbait sentences are NOT heavily impacted by the number of tokens in the sentence. Majority of the titles have around 13-15 tokens in them. So, while the graph shows minor differences, the impact of 'Number Of Tokens' is not that severe, probably because hindi sentences require more tokens to express verbs which contributes significantly to the token weightage.

## 2. Presence of Question Marks



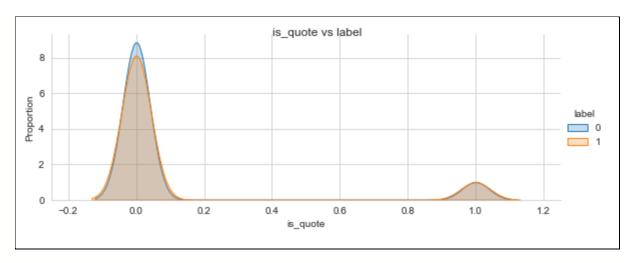
We analyse whether the occurrence of a question mark(?) in a sentence impacts the binary classification. It is interesting to see that in the dataset that clickbait sentences have a higher tendency to have question marks in them as compared to non-clickbait sentences. However, the occurrence of a question mark is significantly lower in both the binary classes as seen in the graph.

## 3. Presence of Exclamation Marks



We analyse whether the occurrence of an exclamation mark(!) in a sentence impacts the binary classification. It is interesting to see that in the dataset that clickbait sentences have a higher tendency to have exclamation marks in them as compared to non-clickbait sentences. However, the occurrence of an exclamation mark is significantly lower in both the binary classes as seen in the graph.

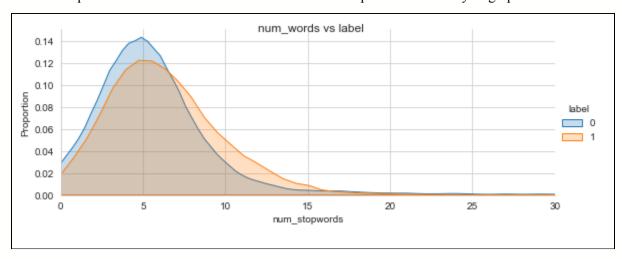
# 4. Presence of Quotations



The presence of quotation marks does NOT help us greatly in the process of binary classification. The only interesting thing to note is that several clickbait and non-clickbait sentences have quotations, phrases and other such aspects in them.

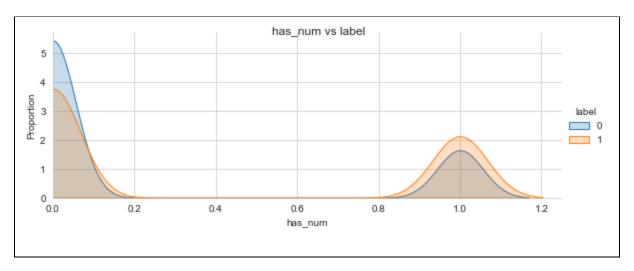
# 5. Number of Stopwords

A custom stopword.txt file was used in order to locate the stopwords. The analysis graph is as follows:



The average number of stop words in Clickbait news headlines is 4.85 words whereas the average number in Non-clickbait headlines was 5.73 words.

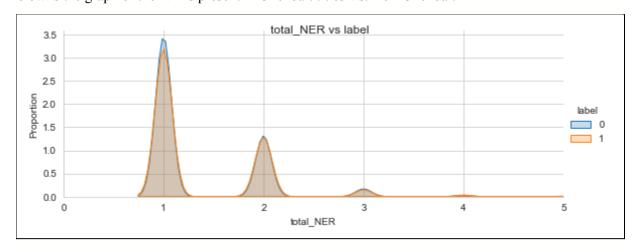
## 6. Presence of Numerals



We make several interesting observations here. Around 40% of the clickbait sentences have numerals in them. This shows that having numerics in a sentence can impact the binary classification process. The number of sentences having numerals in them is fairly higher for clickbait sentences in comparison to non-clickbait sentences. This makes it a fairly necessary parameter for the process of binary classification.

#### 7. The Entities Present

We used the Polyglot libraries Named Entity Recognition to do this section of the analysis. Below is the graph of the NERs present in Clickbait titles Vs. Non-Clickbait-



The NER comparison graph turned out to be very similar for this particular dataset.

The average number of NER's in:

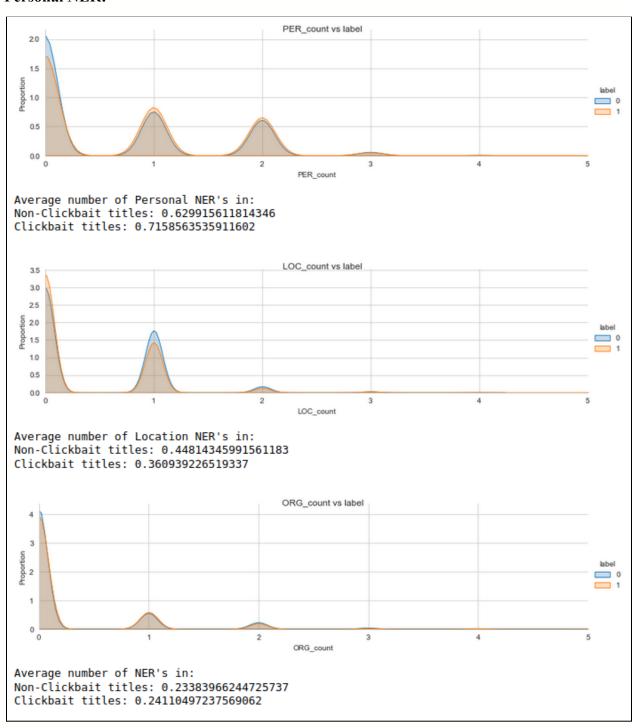
Non-Clickbait titles: 1.3118987341772153

Clickbait titles: 1.3179005524861878

Hence we divided the NER's into three categories in order to analyse further - Personal NERs,

Organisation NERs, Location NERs.

## **Personal NER:**

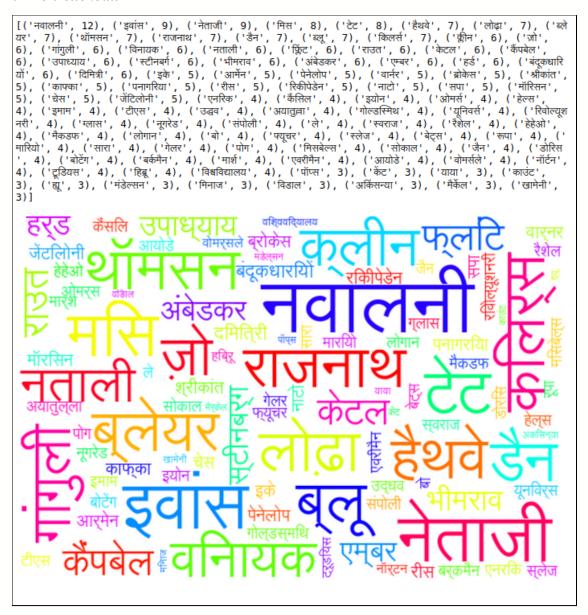


The average words in the three cases were also indistinguishable

To get a clearer view on the differences, we plotted word clouds only of those words that were unique to each set. For example, the Non-clickbait Personal NER cloud has only those Personal NERs that are present in the Non-clickbait titles and absent in the Clickbait titles.

#### Personal NER

#### 1. Non-clickbait



### 2. Clickbait

[('पाल्ट्रो', 13), ('स्टार्बक्स', 11), ('ओझा', 9), ('खेनेथ', 9), ('डेमोक्रेट्स', 7), ('मैरिड', 7), ('रिएक्शन', 7), ('दाऊद', 6), ('फ्रैंकलिन', 6), ('डिक', 6), ('ग्रिंट', 6), ('ब्रेट', 6), ('जेडन', 6), ('स्पीलबर्ग', 6), ('प्लेड', 6), ('जेडन', 6), ('रेगी', 5), ('वाट्स', 5), ('कारमेलो', 5), ('डेस', 5), ('स्वानसन', 5), ('एगु इलेरा', 5), ('सोफी', 5), ('ड्वेन', 5), ('माया', 5), ('होम', 5), ('गैम्बियास', 5), ('ट्रेश्ड', 5), ('मेमोरियल इलरा', 5), ('साफा', 5), ('ड्वन', 5), ('माया', 5), ('हाम', 5), ('गाम्बयास', 5), ('ट्रेंड', 5), ('ममारयल ', 5), ('पेज', 5), ('मिसेज', 5), ('कैन', 5), ('विद', 5), ('हावर्ड', 5), ('फिकी', 4), ('हैिनगन', 4), ('गर्ल्स', 4), ('स्पेल', 4), ('मेमे', 4), ('पां डा', 4), ('फ़ाउड', 4), ('महोने', 4), ('जवाब', 4), ('प्रोवर', 4), ('प्रेजिना', 4), ('फाउंडिंग', 4), ('फ्रहन', 4), ('फैक्ट', 4), ('मिलेनियर', 4), ('मौर्य', 4), ('फेलिक्स', 3), ('गोर्सुख', 3), ('वेगा', 3), ('एटनबरो', 3), ('हरमायनी', 3), ('फ्रोरेडा', 3), ('होली', 3), ('हेगन', 3), ('नेवर', 3), ('प्रेजिन', 3), ('प्रुवेंचर्स', 3), ('प्रेलिंग', 3), ('प्रे रिडले', 3), ('जोकुन', 3), ('मिर्का', 3), ('अल्बा', 3), ('श्मिट', 3), ('सुजैन', 3)] कॉस्मो सपे

#### Location NER:

1. Non-Clickbait

[('नरेगा', 9), ('विस्कॉन्सिन', 7), ('अहमदाबाद', 7), ('मद्रास', 6), ('पुष्कर', 6), ('कश्मीरी', 6), ('इस्लाम', 6), ('जिम्बाब्वे', 5), ('लेबनान', 5), ('हेनरी', 5), ('तीन', 5), ('जामनगर', 5), ('सेंटो', 5), ('रवांडा', 5), ('खापें', 5), ('वर्ल्ड', 5), ('गवर्नमेंट', 5), ('एकदिवसीय', 4), ('क्रिकेट', 4), ('इबेरिया', 4), ('रामगढ़', 4), ('अलेप्पो', 4), ('मल्टा', 4), ('हैकर्स', 4), ('दिमित्री', 4), ('पेइट', 4), ('हैम', 4), ('प्राचिम्प', 4), ('प्राचिम', 4), ('प्राचच', 4) 4), ('सर्वे', 4), ('एनसीपी', 3), ('औरंगाबाद', 3), ('हिल्स', 3), ('नॉरफ़ॉक', 3), ('बरेली', 3), ('ब्रिस्टल', 4), ('सव', 4), ('एनसापा', 3), ('आरगाबाद', 3), ('निहल्स', 3), ('नारफ़ाक', 3), ('वरला', 3), ('प्रिस्टल', 3), ('वेरला', 3), ('एमडी', 3), ('शेफ़ील्ड', 3), ('डेड', 3), ('कजािकस्तान', 3), ('नाजी', 3), ('प्रियाद', 3), ('जािहरा', 3), ('प्रालीचितावादी', 3), ('प्रालीचवादी', 3), औरगाबाद

#### 2. Clickbait

[('बीवर', 6), ('लेह', 6), ('जॉन', 5), ('रूडी', 4), ('स्टेडियम', 4), ('नेकां', 4), ('सनिडेल', 4), ('ति मोर', 4), ('लीजंड', 4), ('र्शमोर', 3), ('पुर्तगाल', 3), ('ढ्रितीय', 3), ('लॅपलैंड', 3), ('आंबामास', 3), ('बीच', 3), ('ट्रंप', 3), ('कॉमी', 3), ('फेट्हाउ स', 3), ('लंड', 3), ('काठमांडू', 3), ('स्टेट', 3), ('पुन्स', 2), ('इटालियन', 2), ('किर्गिस्तान', 2), ('भार तीयों', 2), ('क्रिसमस', 2), ('विदेश', 2), ('डाउनटाउन', 2), ('समरसेट', 2), ('स्लोवाकिया', 2), ('देशभर', 2), ('र्एकर्स', 2), ('वंप्रग', 2), ('वंप्रग', 2), ('जॉजं, 2), ('स्ट्रेंट', 2), ('इलेक्शन', 2), ('प्रॉम्स', 2), ('नैरोबी', 2), ('वंपरहाउस', 2), ('जॉगउन', 2), ('मणिपुर', 1), ('जोसेफ', 1), ('सेल्फी', 1), ('संता', 1), ('अमर्स', 2), ('पार्विचानापोलिस', 1), ('प्राचेना', 1), ('प्राचेना', 1), ('प्राचेना', 1), ('क्रम्सन', 1), ('प्राचेना', 1), ('प ', 1), ('स्टॉप्स', 1), ('रशियन', 1)]

Organisation NER

1. Non-clickbait

[('मर्चेंट', 9), ('जुवेंटस', 7), ('न्याय', 7), ('सुपर', 7), ('संरक्षण', 6), ('लोकपाल', 6), ('वायु', 5), ('प र्यावरण', 5), ('सेंट', 5), ('पीटर्सर्वर्ग', 5), ('ऑफ़', 5), ('ताइवान', 4), ('प्रतिनिधिमंडल', 4), ('हमास', 4), ('इंग्लिश', 4), ('बैंकॉक', 4), ('टोटेनहैम', 4), ('नीति', 4), ('क्वींस', 4), ('पूर्णकालिक', 4), ('देयर', 4), ('हेनरिक', 4), ('स्टेंसन', 4), ('वांग्लादेश', 4), ('संस', 4), ('एडिसन', 4), ('प्रीनपीस', 4), ('एफिल', 4), ('रेलवे', 4), ('प्रूडेंशियल', 4), ('जॉन्', 4), ('कैडबरी', 4), ('ग्रेग', 3), ('प्रशिक्षित', 3), ('कमांडो', 3), (' कैसीनो', 3), ('सत्ताधारी', 3), ('हार्ट्स', 3), ('डे', 3), ('मेयो', 3), ('ठाणे', 3), ('कैवानी', 3), ('ब्रेस', 3), ('हिजबुह्ना', 3), ('समर्थक', 3), ('ईयू', 3), ('हिज', 3), ('आईबीएम', 3), ('जापान', 3), ('मोहन', 3), ('बागान', 3), ('चेन्नई', 3), ('वर्जिन', 3), ', 2)] मॉसको कमाडा मनोरंजन फॉरेस्ट

# 2. Clickbait



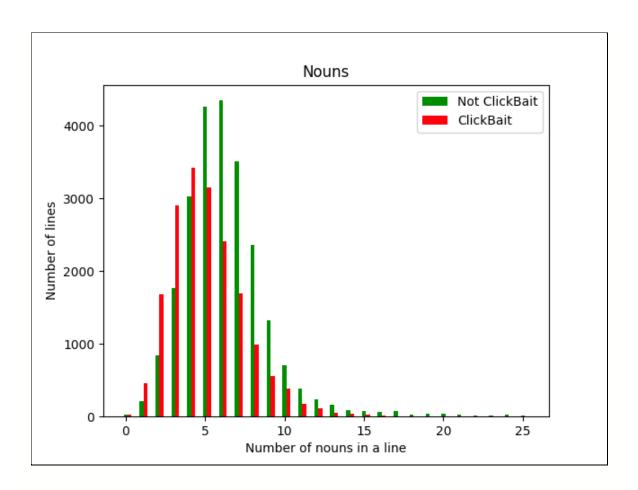
## Observations Based On Above Word Clouds-

1. We quickly observe and analyse that, in all three NER classes, the words which contribute to a title being clickbait or not-clickbait are unique. There are a few minor similarities, but the majority of the words are common words are different.

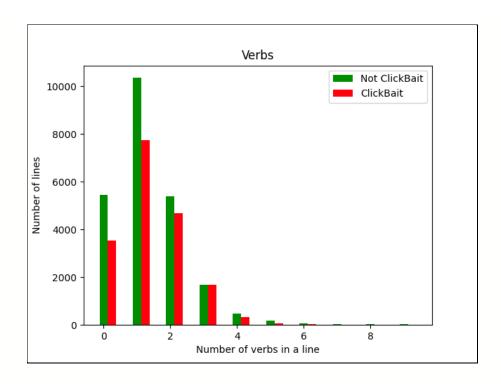
- 2. In consideration of PERSON based NER tags, we observe that Clickbait titles have more proper nouns in comparison to non-clickbait titles. Non-Clickbait titles use more common nouns in them.
- 3. This shows that people tend to be clickbaited by selecting and viewing those titles which have names of their favourite personalities or anything which can generate and give gossip to them.
- 4. In ORGANISATIONAL tags, Clickbait titles have a higher tendency to refer to professions or job seeking audiences, which proves that several clickbait titles are in fact those which bait people to study abroad or apply for jobs and such. Non-Clickbait titles shift towards nationality and in fact cover several more fields and organisational aspects in comparison to the former.

# 8. POS Tags

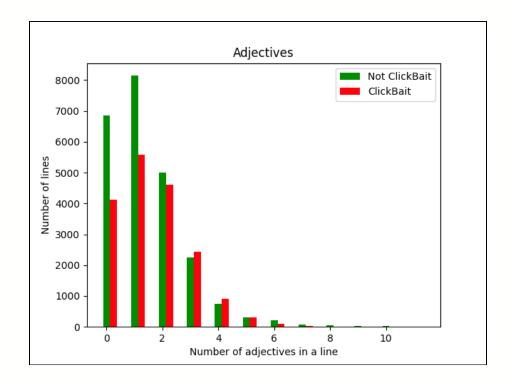
Under POS tags we focused on nouns, verbs and adjectives and bar graphs were plotted for each of them separately. The stanza library was used to POS tag all the data that was collected and the data obtained was simultaneously used to plot graphs and was added to a csv file for further classification.



In the graphs from plotting nouns, the X-axis plots the number of words in one line to the number of such lines in the Y-axis. As we can observe, in the lines with 4 or fewer nouns, there are more clickbait titles present. For lines with 5 or greater nouns, they are almost majorly Non-Clickbait titles. The largest set we get is the set of lines having 6 nouns in a line. There are almost double Non-Clickbait titles as Clickbait titles having 6 nouns per line. In the range 15-25 nouns in a line, they are almost exclusively Non-Clickbait titles.



As for the Verb graph, there are much fewer verbs in a line as compared to Nouns, with the maximum at around 9 verbs in a line. The X-axis represents the number of verbs in a line and the Y-axis represents the number of such lines. Here, the key observation is that Non-Clickbait titles almost always have more verbs as compared to Clickbait titles. There are also very few titles past 6 (almost negligible).



Coming to the adjectives graph, again, the X-axis represents the number of adjectives in a line and the Y-axis represents the number of such lines. Here, the max number of adjectives to a line comes to about 10. We have therefore limited the graph to this number on the X-axis. The result obtained shows us that under 3 adjectives in a line has Non-Clickbait titles as the majority. There are varied results in the 4-10 range with a small difference between the 2 classes.

# **Classifying The Data:**

To analyse and observe the impact of the parameters we generated above, we feed them into various classifier models for training purposes and allow the model to make suitable predictions on other sentences. For generating accuracy, we take 80% of the training data for training the classifier models and the remaining 20% for verification purposes to check the accuracy of the model.

We divide our parameters generated columns into 3 classes:

- A. Structural: is\_que, num\_tokens, is\_exclam, is\_quote, num\_stopwords, has\_num
- B. NER: PER count, ORG count, LOC count, total NER
- C. POS: num noun, num verb, num adj

### Classifier 1: SVMs

- 1. A+B+C
  - a. Model accuracy score: 0.6988
  - b. Precision Score: 0.7095
  - c. Recall Score: 0.6727
  - d. F1 Score: 0.6722
- 2. A+C
  - a. Model accuracy score: 0.7068
  - b. Precision Score: 0.7245
  - c. Recall Score: 0.6790
  - d. F1 Score: 0.6780
- 3. A+B
  - a. Model accuracy score: 0.6813
  - b. Precision Score: 0.6873
  - c. Recall Score: 0.6559
  - d. F1 Score: 0.6544
- 4. B+C

a. Model accuracy score: 0.6537

b. Precision Score: 0.6568

c. Recall Score: 0.6253

d. F1 Score: 0.6200

## **Classifier 2: Logistic Regression**

#### 1. A+B+C

a. Logistic Regression Accuracy Score: 0.6783

b. Logistic Regression Precision Score: 0.6679

c. Logistic Regression Recall Score: 0.6587

d. Logistic Regression F1 Score: 0.6596

### 2. A+C

a. Logistic Regression Accuracy Score: 0.6874

b. Logistic Regression Precision Score: 0.6842

c. Logistic Regression Recall Score: 0.6676

d. Logistic Regression F1 Score: 0.6686

#### 3. A+B

a. Logistic Regression Accuracy Score: 0.6711

b. Logistic Regression Precision Score: 0.6688

c. Logistic Regression Recall Score: 0.6488

d. Logistic Regression F1 Score: 0.6483

#### 4. B+C

a. Logistic Regression Accuracy Score: 0.6451

b. Logistic Regression Precision Score: 0.6230

c. Logistic Regression Recall Score: 0.6237

d. Logistic Regression F1 Score: 0.6225

#### **Classifier 3: XGBoost**

#### 1. A+B+C

a. XGBoost Accuracy Score: 0.6980

b. XGBoost Precision Score: 0.7141

c. XGBoost Recall Score: 0.6752

d. XGBoost F1 Score: 0.6760

### 2. A+C

a. XGBoost Accuracy Score: 0.7001

b. XGBoost Precision Score: 0.7237

c. XGBoost Recall Score: 0.6765

d. XGBoost F1 Score: 0.6769

## 3. A+B

a. XGBoost Accuracy Score: 0.6919

b. XGBoost Precision Score: 0.7114

c. XGBoost Recall Score: 0.6682

d. XGBoost F1 Score: 0.6680

#### 4. B+C

a. XGBoost Accuracy Score: 0.6556

b. XGBoost Precision Score: 0.6622

c. XGBoost Recall Score: 0.6283

d. XGBoost F1 Score: 0.6240

#### Observations:

- The model accuracy is significantly less when we use only NERs and POS Tags as parameters for the classification process. This means that parameters that are based on number of stopwords, tokens and occurrence of numerals, question marks, exclamation marks and quotation marks are extremely important for the binary classification process.
- 2. Parameters based on structural components and POS Tags give better accuracy results in classification compared to the involvement of NER tags along with it. This is clearly seen in the slight improvement in the accuracy across ALL the 3 models.
- 3. Across all the 3 models used for binary classification, the order of parameters which gives the best accuracy are: A+C > A+B+C > A+B > B+C.

	SVM				Logistic Regression				XVG Boost			
	A+B+C	A+C	A+B	В+С	A+B+C	A+C	A+B	B+C	A+B+ C	A+C	A+B	В+С
Accuracy	0.6988	0.7068	0.6813	0.6537	0.6783	0.6874	0.6711	0.6451	0.6980	0.7001	0.6919	0.6556
Precision	0.7095	0.7245	0.6873	0.6568	0.6679	0.6842	0.6688	0.6230	0.7141	0.7237	0.7114	0.6622
Recall	0.6727	0.6790	0.6559	0.6253	0.6587	0.6676	0.6488	0.6237	0.6752	0.6765	0.6682	0.6283
F1 Score	0.6722	0.6780	0.6544	0.6200	0.6596	0.6686	0.6483	0.6225	0.6760	0.6769	0.6680	0.6240

# **Conclusion And Future Work**

In this paper, we compared the properties of Clickbait and Non-Clickbait titles and highlighted the differences between these two categories. We used these to design relevant features and parameters to classify the titles according to the above mentioned classes. We have made the data and source codes publicly available at <a href="https://github.com/esh04/Clickbait-Identification.git">https://github.com/esh04/Clickbait-Identification.git</a>, so that others can view our contribution towards this field for the **Hindi language** and collectively improve the work. A natural extension to our work would be to reason out why a specific title is Clickbait or not. It also gives us a clear insight into what type of headlines are clickbait and how we can draw common ground inferences to not fall prey to such titles.

Reference: <a href="https://www.researchgate.net/publication/323156528\_Believe\_it\_or\_not\_i">https://www.researchgate.net/publication/323156528\_Believe\_it\_or\_not\_i</a>
<a href="https://www.researchgate.net/publication/323156528\_Believe\_it\_or\_not\_i">https://www.researchgate.net/publication/323156528\_Believe\_it\_or\_not\_i</a>
<a href="https://www.researchgate.net/publication/323156528\_Believe\_it\_or\_not\_i">https://www.researchgate.net/publication/323156528\_Believe\_it\_or\_not\_i</a>

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