Learning to Classify Useful Reviews

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November 29, 2010

User Votes Inform Review Sorting and Search

837 of 855 people found the following review helpful:

REAL NAME

★★★★★ So Much **MORE** Than Just An MP3 Player!, September 29, 2009

By Alex Honda "onvx575" (Los Angeles, CA USA) - See all my reviews TOP SOO REVIEWER

Amazon Verified Purchase (What's this?)

This review is from: Apple iPod touch 32 GB (3rd Generation) OLD MODEL (Electronics)

It's does so much more than just play music, which is why I wanted one. I'm not a Mac person at all but the iPod Touch... I love it.

Out of the box it found my Wi-Fi connection and had me surfing the net (the real Internet and not the cell phone web pages like the one on my Verizon phone). It was intuitive to use and I'm finally getting accustomed to using the touch screen to scroll and type away.



Fite '10 Valerie C. Sex. Laugh. Pray. Burbank, CA



Pollow This Reviewer

2/27/2010

Best damn ice cream sandwiches in the United States of America. And they're only \$1.50.

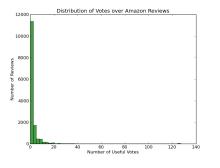
I go in Diddy Riese feeling like a million bucks sometimes. Trying to be all "creative" and "inventive". I make the top cookie in the ice cream sandwich chocolate chip, while the bottom cookie is something else, like peanut butter.

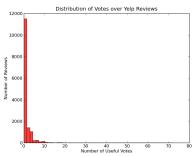
And maybe rocky road as my ice cream. Whoa! Dream BIG! =) The combinations are endless...

Though the lines are long, you hardly notice cause they move so fast. Geez...I think I'm going again today.

Was this review ...? Useful (18) Funny (23) Cool (21)

Unfortunately, votes are sparse ...





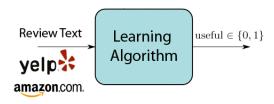
... and there are many useful (and not so useful) reviews without votes



OMG THIS IS GOOD BUT IT KINDA STINKS AHHH APPLE U MAKE ME MADDDDDDD

BUT I LOVE UR GUYSES MAC BOOK PRO OMG ITS TOTALLY AWESOME AND IOM WRITING THIS ON 1 RIGHT NOW

Goal: Learn to Classify Reviews as Useful (or Not)



- Corpus: 15,000 Yelp and Amazon reviews annotated with "useful" vote counts.
- ► Test a variety of algorithms: SVM, Naive Bayes, AdaBoost, Winnow. Why does one algorithm outperform others?
- Also investigate domain adaptation: e.g. apply Yelp-trained model to Amazon reviews.

¹We thank Yelp, Inc., and Aditya Mukherji (CMU '11) for help in obtaining data for this project.



Note: Usefulness is Independent of Sentiment

65 of 74 people found the following review helpful:

★★★★★★ Warranty problems..., March 24, 2010

By Terry Crock (Massillon, Ohio USA) - See all my reviews

***REAL NAME

This review is from: Apple iPod touch 8 GB (2nd Generation—with iPhone OS 3.1 Software Installed) [OLD MODEL] (Electronics)

Same problem other people had--Apple's refusal to honor warranty. Battery was not able to hold an acceptable charge after only one month of use.



▶ Pang et al. ² test Maximum Entropy, Naive Bayes, and SVM models for classifying sentiment and achieve about 80% accuracy.

²Pang, Bo and Lillian Lee and Shivakumar Vaithyanathan. "Thumbs up? Sentiment Classification using Machine Learning Techniques." Proceedings of the 2002 Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language

Processing (EMNLP). 2002

Features for Classifying Usefulness

- Frequencies of ANEW³ words, GRE/SAT words, logical signposting phrases, . . .
 - For example: "love" has valence 8.72; "rude" has valence of 2.5
- ► Frequencies of grammatical errors, typpppos, capitalization IrReGuLARIties, . . .
- ▶ URLs, IDF scores of n-grams, product/business price, . . .

³Sheridan Dodds, Peter and Christopher M. Danforth. "Measuring the Happiness of Large-Scale Written Expression: Songs, Blogs, and Presidents." Journal of Happiness Studies, Volume 11, Number 4, 441-456, DOI: 10.1007/s10902-009-9150-9.

Feature Distributions

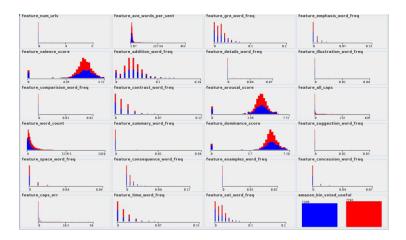


Figure: The distributions of the features

Cross-validation accuracy of the algorithms

Algorithm	Accuracy
SVM (RBF)	70.13%
SVM (Linear)	75%
Adaboost	80%
Naive Bayes	68.5%
Winnow	56%

Table: The 10 fold cross-validation accuracy of the algorithms

Complications

Why do different algorithms perform differently on this task?

- SVM
- Adaboost
- Naive Bayes

Future Work

► Domain adaptation experiments



Connections with the theoretical bounds