Emotion Classification in Text Data Using Machine Learning

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# Background Research and Literature Review

## Goals and Objectives

Also, the goal of this project is to classify emotions in text data with the help of the Emotion Classification dataset containing categories like anger, joy, etc. The primary research question is: What is the proper way of utilising machine learning models to classify emotions in text? In this respect, this question is answered by the following sub-questions: How can machine learning models be effectively applied to classify emotions in text? What is the impact of labelled datasets for enhancing classification accuracy? The aims are to choose and prepare a relevant dataset, compare models, and be socially and methodologically responsible when applying such a model to actual data.

## Background Research

Emotion detection is a branch of NLP that has made remarkable progress and impact on customer services, mental health, and human-computer interaction. The first difficulty relates to the subjectivity and context-dependency of language use, which makes it difficult to decipher emotions. Stating the pros and cons in this line of work (Acheampong, 2020) identify some challenges faced in text-based emotion detection; for example, emotions in tweets usually have no obvious syntactic structure and are full of abbreviations or slashes ​ (Acheampong, 2020). Including, they highlight the choice of proper datasets and models suitable for considering various types of effects in texts.

To deal with these difficulties, numerous emotion models have been designed, which constitute the theoretical foundation of the present study. Paul Ekman’s model divides emotions into six primary categories, which consist of joy, sadness, anger, surprise, fear, and disgust, which are easy to work with and known to be basic to interface with nearly everyone. Another theory, with more comprehensive traits, is Robert Plutchik’s model, which admits emotion intensity and blends because joy plus trust results in love, for example (Murthy, 2021). Murthy and Kumar (2021) suggest the use of both categorical and dimensional models to capture the multifaceted nature of emotion in text since emotions are not always mutually exclusive ​ (Batbaatar, 2019).

The dimensional models—Russell’s circumplex model, for instance—place emotions on the two-dimensional plane of arousal and valence, which helps to consider emotion as a continuum. This facilitates the flexibility of the approach and can accommodate nuances of emotional changes. Nonetheless, categorical models are preferred in real-life applications of machine learning since they offer a straightforward classification process as documented by (Batbaatar, 2019), in utilising a SENN, which is a model that integrates BiLSTM and CNN in the classification of emotions with higher accuracy ​ (Acheampong, 2020).

## Practical Application and Technical Approaches

The current studies focus on the application of deep learning and machine learning to enhance the accuracy of emotion detection. Traditional approaches are reviewed in detail with modern approaches by (Acheampong, 2020) proving that methods such as lexicon-based, which utilise a list of specified emotion terms, fail to meet the mark due to their restraint vocabulary lists. On the other hand, methods such as Naive Bayes, SVM, and Random Forest increase flexibility but are dependent more on feature engineering (Acheampong, 2020). CNN and LSTM networks have made their use due to deep learning and are capable of capturing context as well as emotional flavour of texts, though they require large data.

This project will involve using machine learning algorithms based on traditional models as basic algorithms, moving to more complex architectures if necessary. For the current work, the project used the Emotion Classification dataset that is appropriate for the classification of the six basic emotions identified by Ekman. In this dataset, processes like text cleaning or normalisation, atomicization of text into word tokens, and assigning sentiment values to the text can be performed.

## Theoretical and Practical Integration

Upon these backgrounds, this project constructs theory with practice, giving special attention to the labelled datasets and pre-trained embeddings. Issues like the sparsity of data in short texts will be solved by applying word embeddings such as Word2Vec or GloVe that identify the semantic equivalence of words. Additionally, contextualised embeddings, in line with Murthy and Kumar’s (2021) study, help to capture emotions through an improvement in text representations (Murthy, 2021).

Therefore, this project aims at developing the prospect of emotion detection in text through the synthesis of theoretical literature with associated methodologies. Through utilising machine learning and the selection of reflected emotion models, the project is meant to advance not only theoretical understanding in NLP but also deliver new methods into emotion-sensitive applications in diverse digital contexts.

# Summary of Progress to Date

The project stated at the feasibility stage and is now proceeding to the development phase with the structure in place. Some of them revolve around building the machinery for the efficient classification of emotions using machine learning. Hence each of the completed tasks thus far is in furtherance of the project goals as the foundation of the work is laid.

## Completed Tasks and Alignment with Project Goals

A comprehensive literature review outline has also been formulated specifically focusing on emotions, classification models, as well as the latest research in NLP (Kang, 2020). This research has focused on the model of basic and complex emotions and the technical approaches of machine and deep learning. These considerations will be used directly in the model selection and design phases as well.

In regards to the data curation, the set of chosen data sources includes the “Emotion Classification Dataset." This data comprises text samples with corresponding labels of emotions such as anger, joy, and fear, which is ideal for the planned emotion classification. The adopted data organisation allows training of the model as well as testing with evident categorisation of emotion classes. Further, a preprocessing plan has also been developed; it includes text normalisation, tokenisation, and irrelevant information removal. All these steps are required to avoid low-quality input data that are central in effecting the improvement of models’ accuracy and performance.

## Practical Work Initiated

The concept of this project is to create basic machine learning engines, where the beginning stages include Naive Bayes and Support Vector Machines (SVM) (Cervantes, 2020). These models have been selected due to their efficiency in text classification and as reference points for higher complexities in methods. Applying these models as benchmarks will help introduce an idea of the classification performance if no better model is selected.

It has also been established that initial project management structures have been developed. Thus, the Gantt chart was designed with regards to major steps and tasks, such as datasets, models, testing, and evaluation. This is to allow for the structure of the progression in the timeline while allowing for cyclical testing and enhancement. Records of such early stage strategies, for instance, the Gantt chart and detail task list, are enclosed in the appendices.

## Tools and Technologies

Python has been selected as the core programming language for this project because of several libraries that are available to support data preprocessing, feature extraction, and modelling, such as Pandas, NLTK (Wang, 2021), and Scikit-learn (Pölsterl, 2020), among others. In addition, Python has compatibility with other complex machine learning frameworks such as Tensor Flow and Keras, making it possible in the future to extend to deep learning if needed. This is accurate with these tools since they are widely used in NLP tasks, and their designs allow for repetitiveness of adjust, analyse, and test.

## Project Management and Deliverables

A project timeline has been developed, breaking down tasks by week to ensure consistent progress. Key deliverables planned for the next phase include:

* **Design Documents**: Outlining model architecture, preprocessing steps, and evaluation metrics.
* **Codebase**: A repository for baseline models and data preprocessing scripts.
* **Software Prototypes**: Initial prototypes of baseline models for testing.
* **Testing Framework**: A setup for iterative model evaluation, including metric tracking for accuracy and F1-score (Yacouby, 2020).

## Challenges and Adaptations

In this case, few problems have been experienced whilst inventing this kind of product. Nevertheless, the threats are in connection to dataset quality issues, for instance, handling of the vagueness of emotional expressions that influence classification outcomes. These risks will be avoided while preprocessing the data and, if needed, exploring more complex NLP algorithms during the modelling stage.

It also indicates that there is tangible achievement towards the project goals, thus developing a sound structure of models for implementations and tests in the following phases.

# Consideration of Ethical, Legal, Professional, and Social Issues

Some of the ethical, legal, professional, and social implications of this project are highlighted below to make use and development of models for emotion detection responsible.

## Ethics Approval and Privacy Considerations

No ethics approval is necessary for this project as this work involves the use of data from Kaggle, which is made available for research and experimentations on characteristics such as NLP and emotion analysis. The dataset has anonymised text samples involving emotions including anger, joy, and fear to reduce privacy issues because no PII is used. However, ethical standards are still important as the project predicts emotions that can influence individuals in certain applications, such as mental health or customer relationships, where user data is highly sensitive. If applicable to introducing real-time or user-specific data into this project, then further ethical clearances are needed to address issues like privacy and consent.

## Legal Compliance and Data Protection

The data used in this project is collected with reference to the Kaggle license under which the data can be used for research purposes under the Apache 2.0 license terms. The rights within this project can only be accomplished if data protection laws such as the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) have been followed. Despite not having PII currently, the future expansions involving the usage of personalised data collection or live streaming, as well as including contributors with informed consent and anonymisation where necessary, will require further compliance with data protection and privacy laws.

## Professional Standards and Accountability

The results of this project are documented in clear and well-documented code, with all steps and analytical methods described openly and honestly. Under Python and recognised machine learning tools such as scikit-learn, TensorFlow, and NLTK, the project fits broadly prevailing practices in NLP and ML challenges. Through frequent testing, the project remains socially responsible by using standardised testing and continuous development.

The professional accountability seems to stay intact, as the model may extend to highly sensitive applications such as mental counselling and customer relations. Such standards make it possible to scale the project in line with set goals while placing a special focus on reliability, equity, and accuracy in practice.

## Social Implications and Inclusivity

It was sink to mention that social concerns of emotions, particularly privacy and community bias, are vast. The datasets used to develop the models may have cultural or demographic biases that lead to unfair decisions. This project reduces this risk by avoiding and checking data bias.

Emotion detection is increasingly used in social media monitoring and customer feedback, but it must remain diverse and accessible. This project uses moderate training data and equal opportunity AI to reduce bias and prejudice in larger audience results. Possible future revisions include bias checks and equality promotion where the technology has no negative effects on any user group.

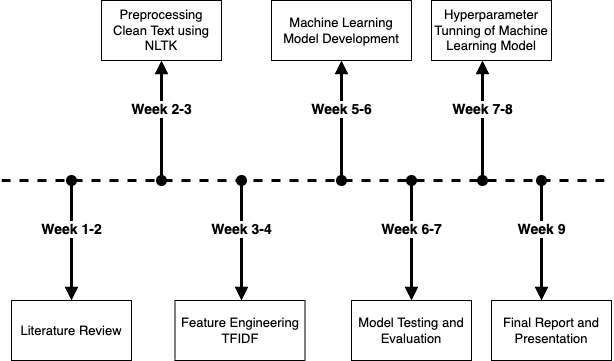
Considering the ethical, legal, professional, and social implications of the current study and future project expansions, this work guarantees the m-Emotion Detector a responsible and socially sensitive framework. This integration procedure meets academic and industrial best practices and the project's goal of incorporating ethical AI into practice-oriented projects.

# Project Plan and Timeline

The project is divided into clear states for systematic work and time and resource management. The project's general plan is based on phases, which indicate objectives and results for each phase. This is especially true when tasks are done in order to design a text analysis emotion detection model.

The Gantt chart in Figure 4 shows the project's schedule: To achieve the research objectives below, the data group's emotional analysis will pre-select the best model for classifying human emotions. The Week Schedule chart details jobs and other activities for each phase of the project week by week:

* **Weeks 1–2**: *Literature Review*
  + Perform a literature review on NLP and emotion recognition to identify the area’s current state. In this phase, the focus is on searching for the literature in order to define the pertinent theories, approaches, and models. The findings from this stage will be used to make the right choice of models and techniques in the next phases.
* **Weeks 2–3**: *Data Collection and Preprocessing*
  + Download and preprocess the data for the Emotion Classification model. These activities involve cleaning the data, normalising the text data, breaking it into tokens, and addressing the issues with noisy data. It therefore becomes paramount to preprocess the data to enhance readiness for model training.
* **Weeks 3–4**: *Feature Engineering*
  + Select potential response features from the text data in order to reduce loss of signal in modelling the response. This phase will involve choosing an appropriate text vectorisation method, like word vectors or TF-IDF, that would capture the information semantics of the text.
* **Weeks 5–6**: *Model Development*
  + Start with some of the simplest machine learning algorithms, like Naive Bayes and SVM, as these will create a first point of reference. The development phase will also include the determination of the model parameters, building the models with the preprocessed data, and general setting up for further tuning.
* **Weeks 6–7**: *Model Testing and Evaluation*
  + When using all four models, ascertain their performance using superficial measures like accuracy, F1 measure, and the confusion matrix analysis. It will be useful to gain some idea of the effectiveness of the model before proceeding to fine-tune the strategy at this stage.
* **Weeks 7–8**: *Hyperparameter Optimization*
  + Repeat the prior step to improve the efficiency of the model to predict the customers’ behaviour on the website. Tuning methods, including Grid Search and Random Search will be used in order to properly fine-tune the selected models to work optimally for the emotion detection tasks.
* **Week 9**: *Final Report and Presentation*
  + Write a detailed paper about the proposed project, describing its conclusions, working approach, and outcomes. This report will provide recommendations and understandings obtained in the process as well as the assessment of the models. The final presentation will review the findings and show the model from this development.



# Level of the Project

The project aims to identify emotions in text, a key natural language processing and machine learning subproblem. Classifying emotions in a short, unstructured text is difficult due to language's vagueness, which hides emotional experience. This problem is related to my interests in data science and NLP because emotion detection is essential to building AI solutions that are sensitive to human needs, such as sentiment analysis, mental health awareness, and customer feedback analysis.

The first deliverable of this project is a machine learning model for emotion classification from text using the “Emotion Classification Dataset” labels like anger, joy, and fear. This model aims to provide consistent, easy-to-explain results for scientific and business users. Thus, this project aims to improve emotion detection by improving preprocessing, fine-tuning model parameters, and testing it on harder data. The artefact shows a thorough postgraduate project that applies theory and practice to a problem.

## Depth of Investigation

This investigation's depth is evident due to its use of foundational theories and modern techniques and its wise coverage of the research problem. In addition to developing Ekman's six fundamental emotions and Plutchik's emotion wheel, the design considers the dimensional approach of placing emotions in the arousal and valence space. Implementation will support this theoretical background, supplementing the comparison of Naive Bayes and SVM with other classifications. Advanced word representation using Word2Vec and GloVe libraries will be included.

The planned experiments will examine how models perform under marginal scenarios on the gathered data (such as ambiguous expressions or a high number of expressed emotions) and text length. A strong experimental approach will improve and confirm model stability and flexibility in various scenarios. By going into theory and empirical evaluation, the project will be able to provide important information on the effectiveness of various emotion detection techniques, which is sufficient for a Masters of Science.

## Testing and Validation

There is also a vast coverage of testing and validating as key elements of this project, making the developed model solid and efficient. The initial test will be performed using basic models with basic accuracy and F1-score to enable development on the following models. Other types of validation will also involve using cross-validation techniques to minimise overfitting and improve the algorithm for new dataset recognition. Tuning will be separately done on hyperparameters with methods, such as grid search or random search, to increase the model's performance stability.

The corner cases will then be introduced into testing and evaluation procedures in order to also see how the model treats the use of ambiguous language, slang, and abbreviations often present in text data. That is why this project proves that the model can work stably in such cases, following the guidelines for professional testing of models in NLP projects.

## Justification of Methods and Tools

The methods and tools to be used in this project are selected based on their ability to handle the multifaceted task of emotion detection. Python in combination with Scikit-Learn, TensorFlow, and NLTK brings plenty of possibilities for effective machine learning and NLP model building and testing. These tools enhance incremental model development so that many models and approaches can be developed quickly and prototype tested.

Traditional methods such as Naive Bayes, CNN, LSTM, and other potential deep learning methods make it easier to understand the strengths and weaknesses of each method for classifying emotions. This kind of practice not only improves the reliability of the final model but also reveals the evaluation of various techniques as part of the rigorous process that should be followed in any research project.

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