Determining Attributes of Good Restaurants Using Review Text

Analysis for restauranteurs/diners

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Outline

- Business Problem
- Data Understanding
- Classifier Model
- Classifier Results
- Recommendations
- Next Steps

Introduction

Has a restaurant ever not lived up to expectations?

- Service
- Food Quality
- Atmosphere

How do you decide between restaurants when dining out?

- Proximity
- Type of cuisine
- Review based
- Word of mouth





Business Problem

In an industry as sensitive as food service, reviews, whether on a customer level or a professional level can make or break a restaurant in a customer's mind. Owners with failing restaurants may be at a loss when trying to find avenues of improvement.

- Investment in new hardware, staffing, or ingredients may be costly and prove to not be worth it.
- Any combination of factors can lead people to leave a review on a business's page, difficult to isolate relevance from noise





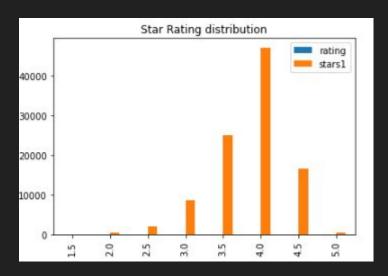
Data Understanding

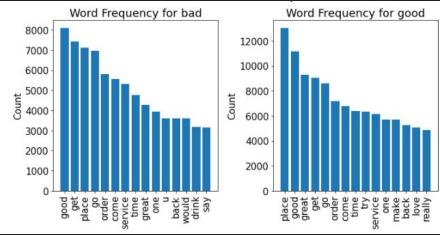
SOURCE: Yelp restaurant review data spanning 2010-2014 (Kaggle)

- Each row in the table represents a unique review written by a user for a specific business, with text stored in a singular string
- Columns of interest: 'text', 'rating'

Initial Dataset Review Counts:

- ~700K total reviews before filtering
- ~50K users
- ~3,5K businesses





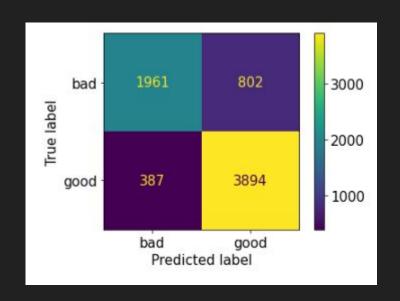
Modeling

An iterative process of classifier model comparison was used to collectively improve classification a given restaurant review as "good" or "bad"

Final Model: Multinomial Naive Bayes, TF-IDF Vectorizer

Interpretation of Confusion Matrix:

- 3,894 reviews were correctly predicted as Good
- 1,961 reviews were correctly predicted as Bad
- 802 reviews were incorrectly interpreted as Good, when actual review type was Bad
- songs were incorrectly interpreted as Bad, when actual review type was good



Confusion Matrix for Final Model

Model was able to classify a good/bad genre with an accuracy of 84%

Model is also relatively accurate in the face of testing data (83%)

Recommendation System

To supplement the classifier, a recommendation system was created that appends self-reported user ratings and generates a list of recommendations based on the other users/ratings available in the dataset

Inputs: user ID, number of restaurants to review, category

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Recommendation System and Output

Conclusion/Recommendations

From the model results, it can be seen that rating type (bad/good) can be predicted successfully using review text, with high accuracy in the face of new (test) data. Words/phrases that were most impactful for the performance of the overall classifier identified a restaurant's features and experiences, both good and bad.

- Value perceived by customer
- Service quality
- Food quality
- Time to receive food

Recommendations for Improvement:

- Establish a French brigade system
- Establish a happy working culture and fair front-of-house compensation
- Optimize food spend while maintaining quality



Next Steps

- More nuanced system of rating, similar to metacritic
- Utilize more filtering options in the recommendation system to mimic Yelp filters
- Create word cloud distributions for each restaurant recommendation for more user context
- Provide additional color to potential restaurant improvements, using additional feature flags provided within Yelp's dataset
- Replicate analysis for different restaurant category types; different kinds of restaurants may require different solutions

Thank You!

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