



Vs



Subreddit Classification

BILL FU
AUGUST 28 2020

Overview

- Objective:

Using natural language processing (NLP) to train binary classifiers to determine whether a reddit post came from “StarWars” or “marvelstudios”.

- Outlines

- Data preparation
- Text Vectorizers comparison
- Classifiers comparison
- The optimized classifier evaluation
- Conclusions

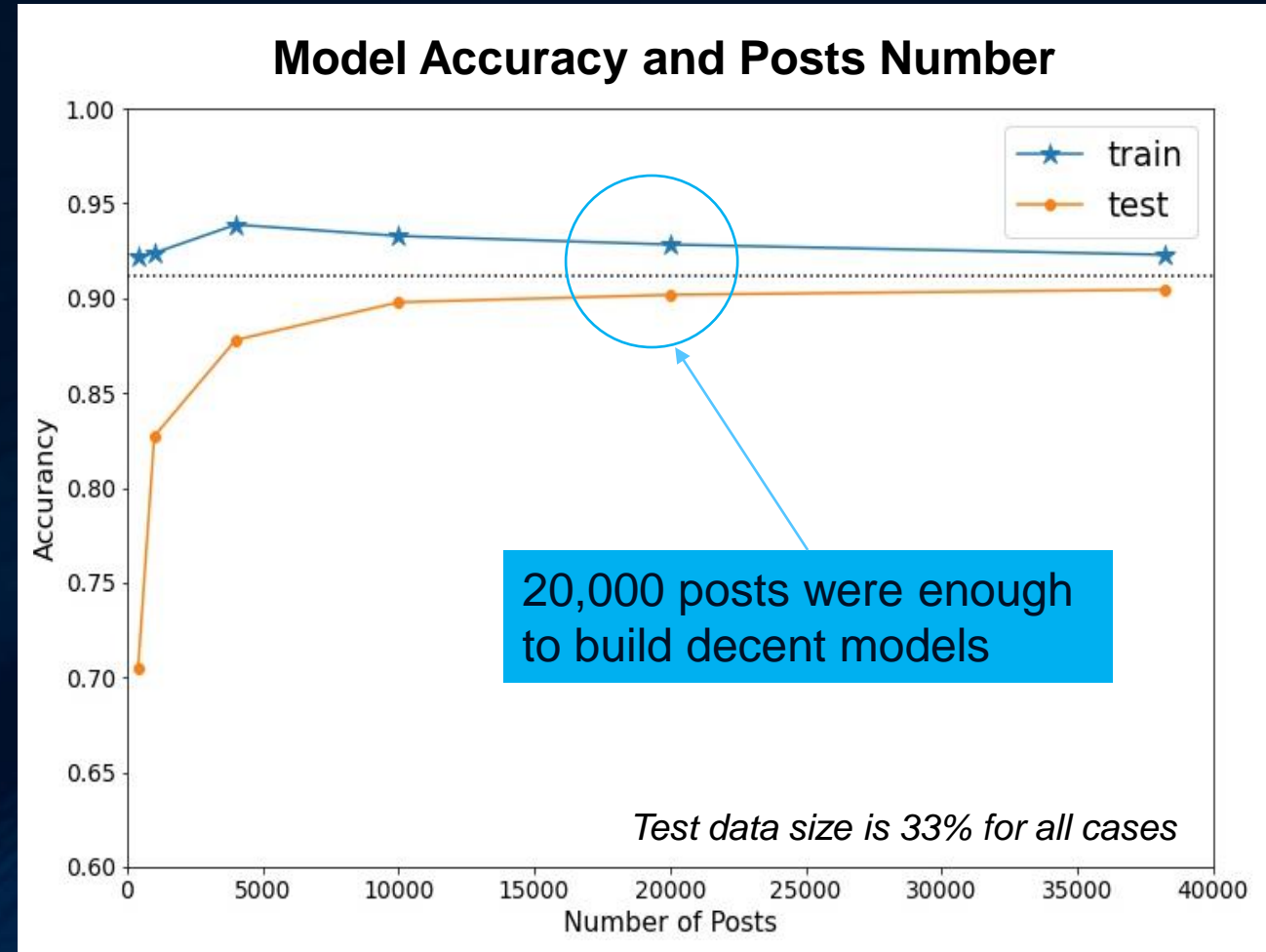
Data preparation

- Data was collected from reddit.com using the “pushshift” application programming interface (API)
- 20,000 posts were collected from each of the two subreddits:
 - “StarWars”
 - “marvelstudios”
- Only the titles of the posts were used, and duplicated titles were discarded
- Final datasets:
 - 19,044 posts from “StarWars”
 - 19,184 posts from “marvelstudios”

How many posts are needed?

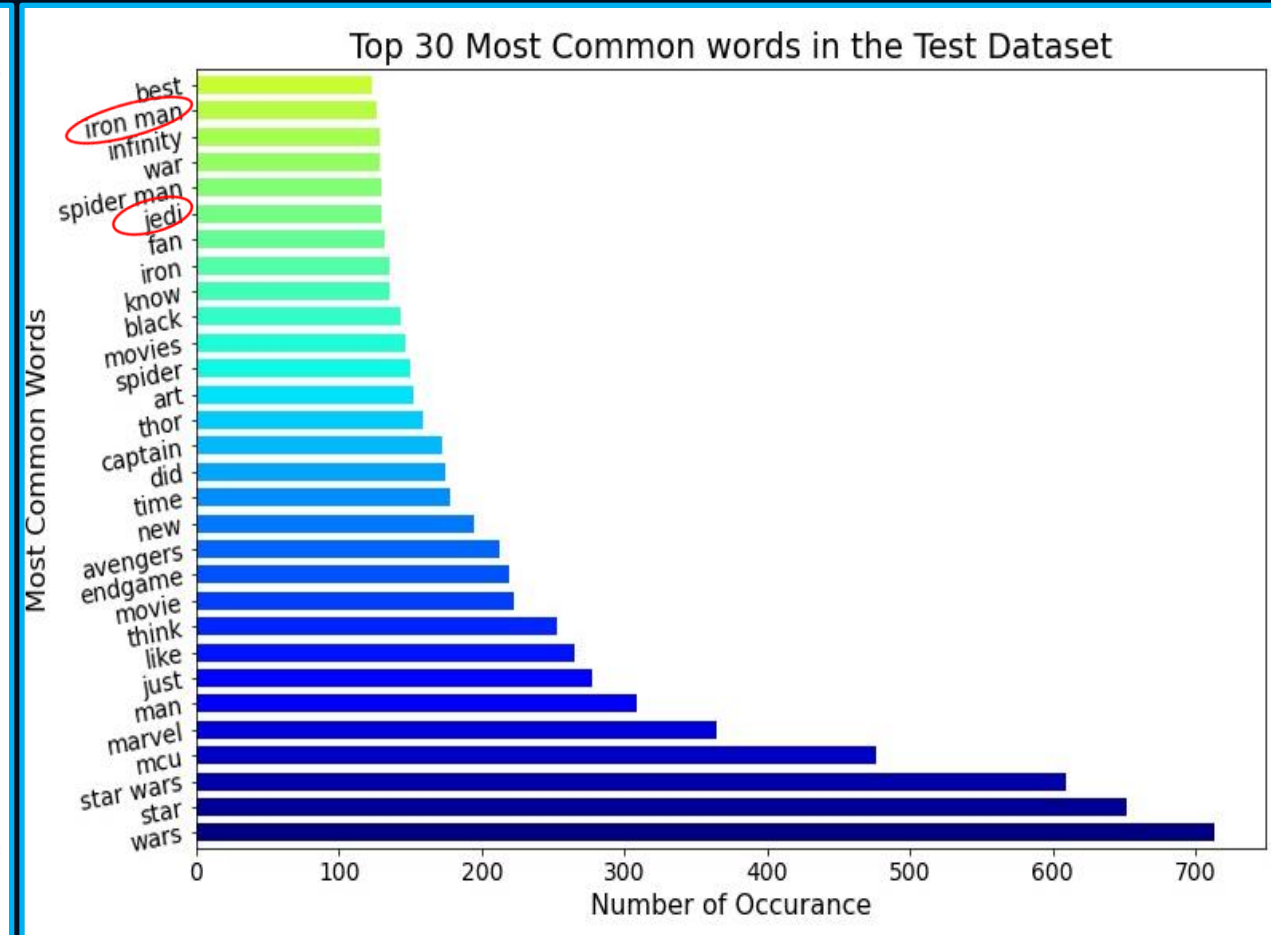
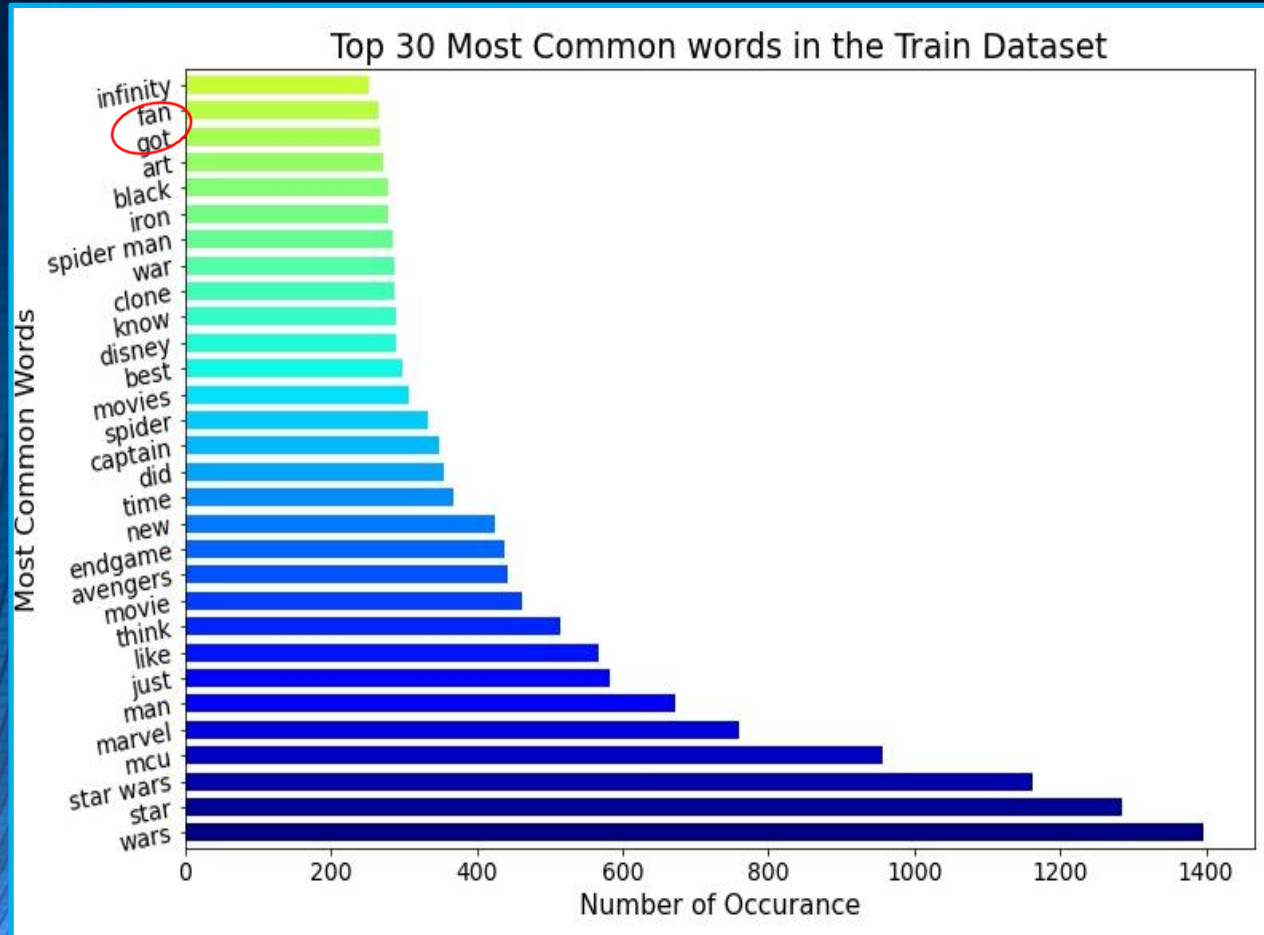
Using the Multinomial Naïve Bayes (MNB) classifier, evaluations were carried out for the following cases*:

- 400 posts
- 1,000 posts
- 4,000 posts
- 10,000 posts
- 20,000 posts
- 38,228 posts (all the collected posts)



* The number of posts from each subreddit are the same – Baseline model accuracy is 0.5

Most common words in the posts



- Texts were converted by count-vectorizer with stop_words = 'english'
- The top 30 most common words are consistent in the training and testing datasets

Count vs Term Frequency-Inverse Document Frequency (TF-IDF) Vectorizers

- Count and TF-IDF Vectorizers had different optimized parameters:
 - Count: English stop words
single terms and bigrams
 - TF-IDF: No stop words
single terms
- Count and TF-IDF Vectorizers gave similar prediction results

PREDICTION SCORES*

	Count	TF-IDF
Training	0.928	0.937
Testing	0.902	0.900

* Predicted from MNB classifiers

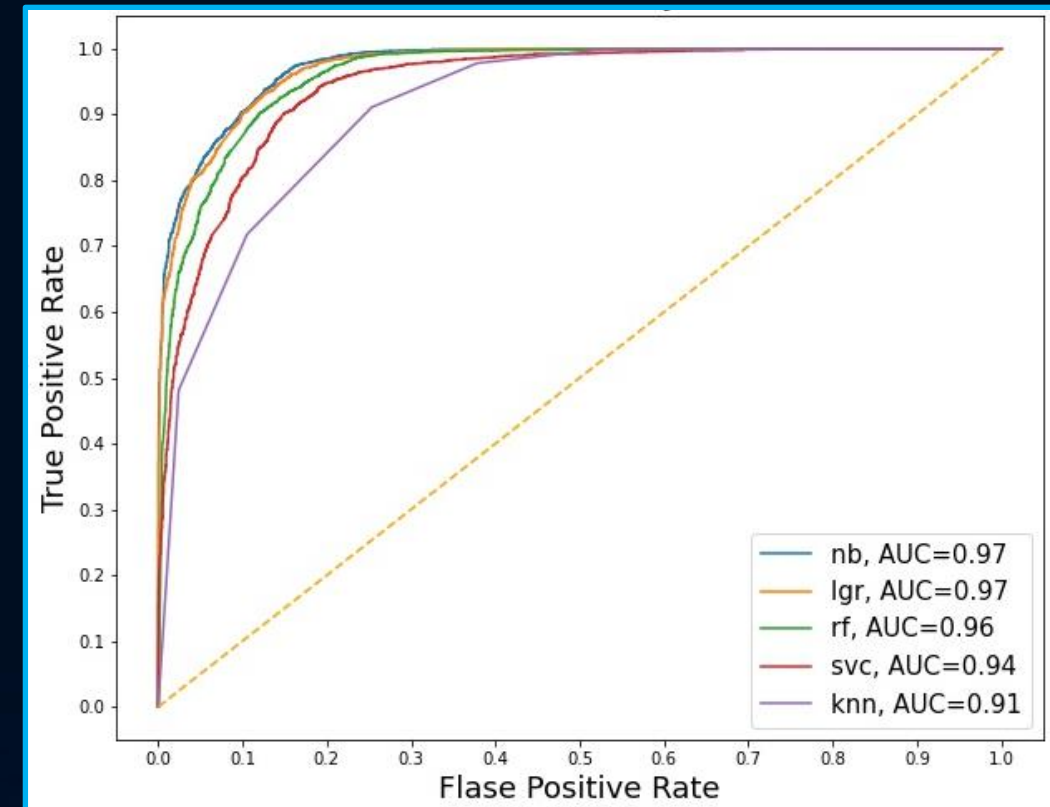
Classifiers Comparison

PREDICTION SCORES

	MNB	KNN	Logistic Regression	Random Forest	SVC
Train	0.928	0.873	0.957	0.937	0.970
Test	0.902	0.792	0.903	0.888	0.875

- Logistic Regression (LGR) and MNB classifiers gave good predictions on both training and testing datasets
- Random forest (RF) and support vector machine (SVC) classifiers gave good predictions on training datasets, but not so good predictions on testing datasets.
- KNN classifiers performed not as good as other classifiers
- Receiver operating characteristic (ROC) analysis on different classifiers was consistent with the prediction scores

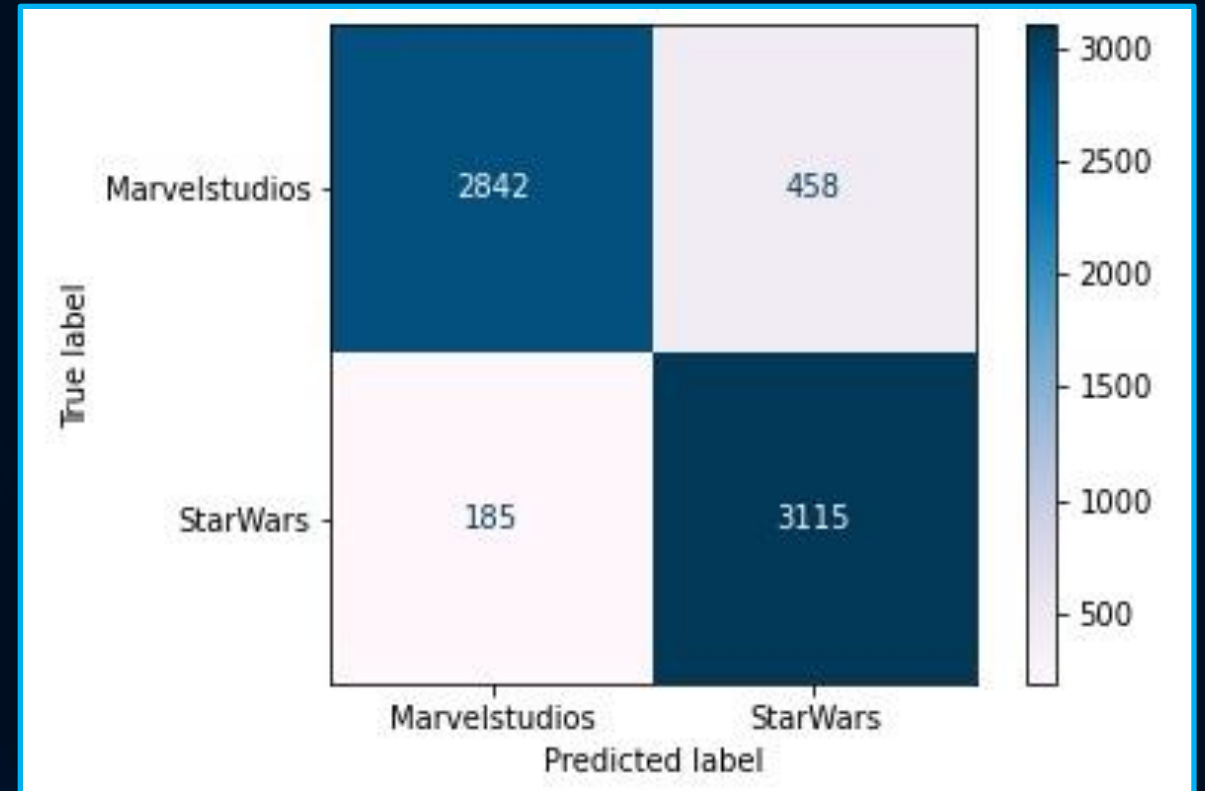
ROC CURVES



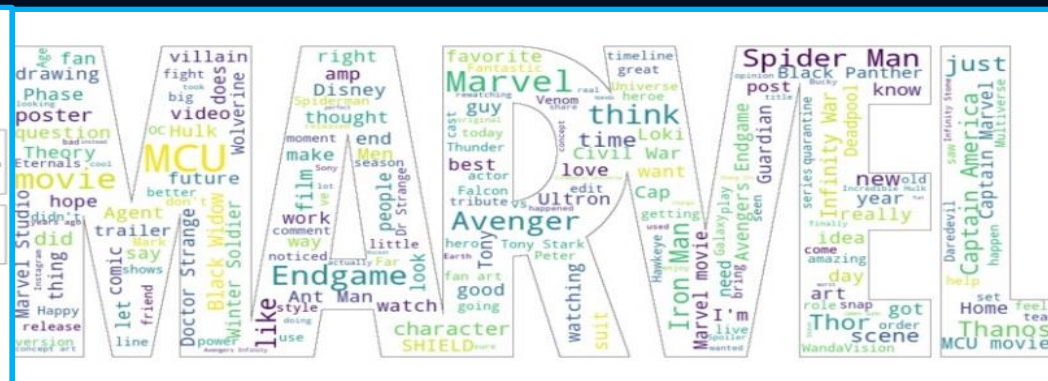
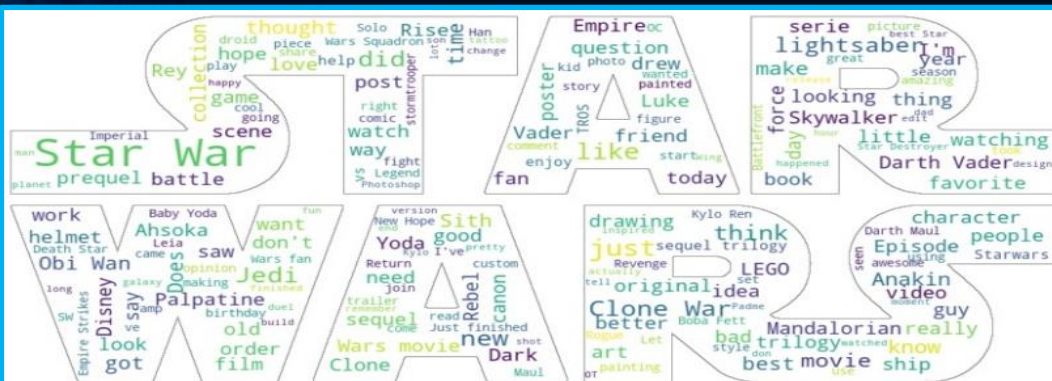
Optimization of Logistic Regression Classifiers

Confusion matrix on testing datasets

- Best parameters
 - CountVectorizer: max_feature=8000,
ngram = (1, 2),
stop_words = 'english'
 - LogisticRegression: C=1.2
- Prediction scores
 - Training: 0.961
 - Testing: 0.903
- Sensitivity: 0.944
- Specificity: 0.861



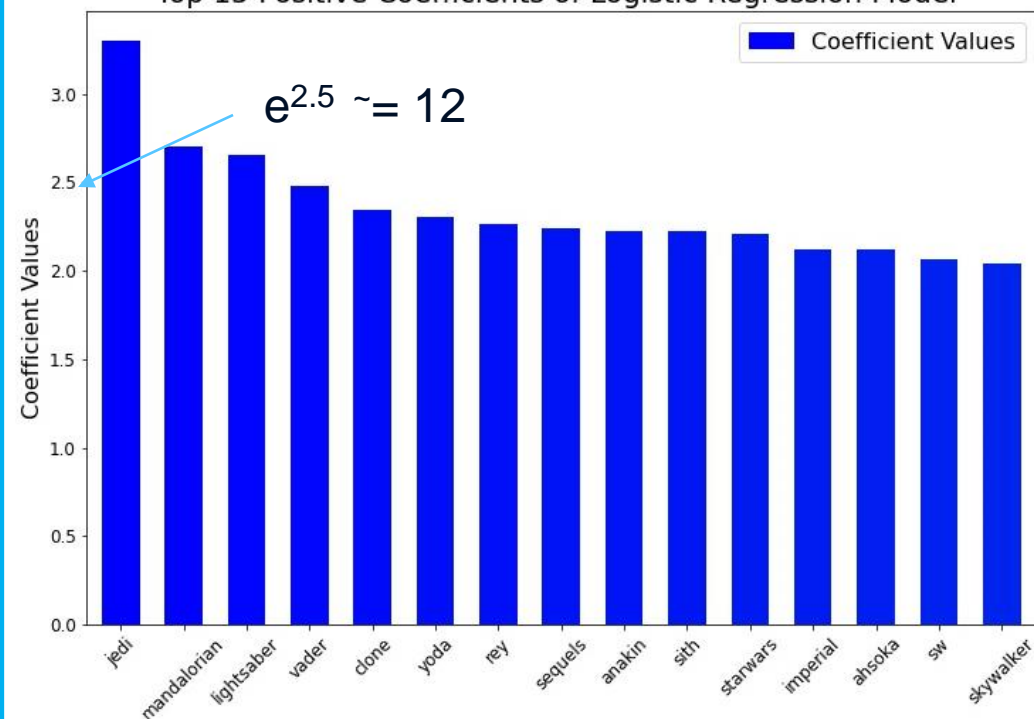
Top driving words for Logistical Regression Classifiers



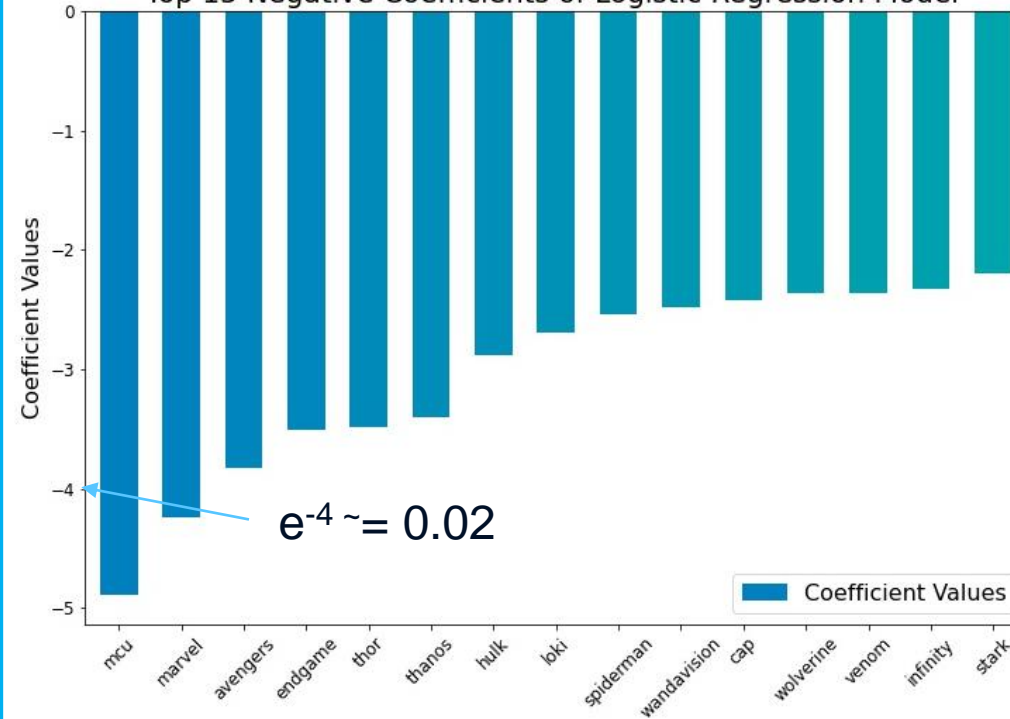
Removing the top 15 driving words:

- Accuracy

Top 15 Positive Coefficients of Logistic Regression Model



Top 15 Negative Coefficients of Logistic Regression Model



0.903

0.853

- Sensitivity

0.944

0.878

- Specificity

0.861

0.829

Conclusions and future work

- Binary classifiers were successfully trained to determine whether a reddit post came from “StarWars” or “marvelstudios”.
- Different text vectorizers and classifiers were compared and the optimized classifier could give decent predicting results.
- There are still rooms to reduce the overfitting of the classifiers.
 - Bagging the classifiers
 - Reducing the number of features
 - Reducing the model complexity