



# Project 8 Text Classification

## **Triaging content in online peer-support forums**

Meng Han  
Tim Walsh

# Task Setting



Understand  
and act

Explore  
articles

Join the  
discussion

Tools  
and apps



This board



Search all content

[turn on suggestions](#)

[ReachOut Forums](#) > [Tough Times](#) > [Something's not right](#)

Start a topic

Options



What's 'Something's not right' all about?

by [ADMIN Sophie-RO](#) on 19-07-2012 03:35 PM • Latest post on 12-02-2013 08:36 PM by  
[ADMIN ElleBelle](#)

4

REPLIES

4043

VIEWS



I'm not sure if my mother is 'toxic' or if she's r...

by [MishaCollins](#) yesterday • Latest post yesterday by [TOM-RO](#)

1

REPLY

10

VIEWS



Mistakes and relationships [ 1 2 3 ]

by [Bree-RO](#) Sunday • Latest post yesterday by [Birdeye](#)

24

REPLIES

150

VIEWS



Same things [ 1 2 3 4 5 ]

by [FootyFan26](#) on 27-09-2017 10:42 PM • Latest post yesterday by [FootyFan26](#)

41

REPLIES

117

VIEWS



Stability and hormones

by [redhead](#) Wednesday • Latest post yesterday by [DirtWitch](#)

3

REPLIES

56

VIEWS

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Share what's on your mind :)  
[Head here and click "start a topic"](#)

## USERS ONLINE

Currently online: 27 guests

Please welcome our newest  
community members:

[MishaCollins](#) [Jaydeb256](#)  
[Storiesfromthecloset](#)  
[gracesquared](#) [Gypsitizen](#)

# Task Setting

mSPACEK

Builder



28-07-2017 07:54 PM

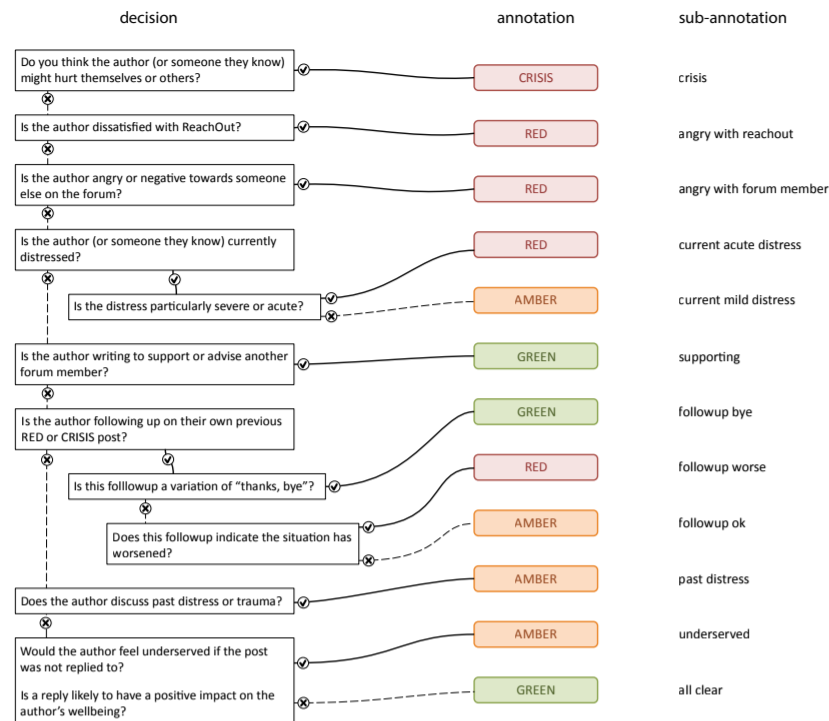
## Anxiety through the roof

I'm not coping right now. I keep having freak out episodes. I just want to cry. I just want things to go smoothly. I don't want to get anxious anymore. I'm tired. I feel alone. I've been doing all this stuff to help myself but it is all taking its toll on me. I'm tired. I feel really tired with all of this. I don't want to spiral down that dark path again. I'm really struggling. I don't know what to do. :(

~65,000 forum posts from 2012-2015

~1,200 posts labeled by panel of experts

- **Crisis** indicates that the author (or someone they know) is in imminent risk of being harmed, or harming themselves or others. Such posts should be prioritized above all others.
- **Red** indicates that a moderator should respond to the post as soon as possible.
- **Amber** indicates that a moderator should address the post at some point, but they need not do so immediately.
- **Green** identifies posts that do not require direct input from a moderator, and can safely be left for the wider community of peers to respond to.



# Literature Reviewed

Source Collection:

Proceedings of the Third Workshop on Computational Linguistics and Clinical Psychology

<http://www.aclweb.org/anthology/W/W16/#0300>

W16-0312 [bib]: David N. Milne; Glen Pink; Ben Hachey; Rafael A. Calvo  
CLPsych 2016 Shared Task: Triaging content in online peer-support forums

W16-0313 [bib]: Sunghwan Mac Kim; Yufei Wang; Stephen Wan; Cecile Paris  
Data61-CSIRO systems at the CLPsych 2016 Shared Task

W16-0314 [bib]: Shervin Malmasi; Marcos Zampieri; Mark Dras  
Predicting Post Severity in Mental Health Forums

W16-0315 [bib]: Chris Brew  
Classifying ReachOut posts with a radial basis function SVM

W16-0316 [bib]: Arman Cohan; Sydney Young; Nazli Goharian  
Triaging Mental Health Forum Posts

W16-0317 [bib]: Bart Desmet; Gilles Jacobs; Véronique Hoste  
Mental Distress Detection and Triage in Forum Posts: The LT3 CLPsych 2016 Shared Task System

W16-0318 [bib]: Ehsaneddin Asgari; Soroush Nasiriany; Mohammad R.K. Mofrad  
Text Analysis and Automatic Triage of Posts in a Mental Health Forum



# Literature Reviewed

W16-0319 [bib]: Meir Friedenberg; Hadi Amiri; Hal Daumé III; Philip Resnik  
The UMD CLPsych 2016 Shared Task System: Text Representation for Predicting Triage of Forum Posts about Mental Health

W16-0320 [bib]: Juri Opitz  
Using Linear Classifiers for the Automatic Triage of Posts in the 2016 CLPsych Shared Task

W16-0321 [bib]: Ayah Zirikly; Varun Kumar; Philip Resnik  
The GW/UMD CLPsych 2016 Shared Task System

W16-0322 [bib]: Nicolas Rey-Villamizar; Prasha Shrestha; Tamar Solorio; Farig Sadeque; Steven Bethard; Ted Pedersen  
Semi-supervised CLPsych 2016 Shared Task System Submission

W16-0323 [bib]: Chen-Kai Wang; Hong-Jie Dai; Chih-Wei Chen; Jitendra Jonnagaddala; Nai-Wen Chang  
Combining Multiple Classifiers Using Global Ranking for ReachOut.com Post Triage

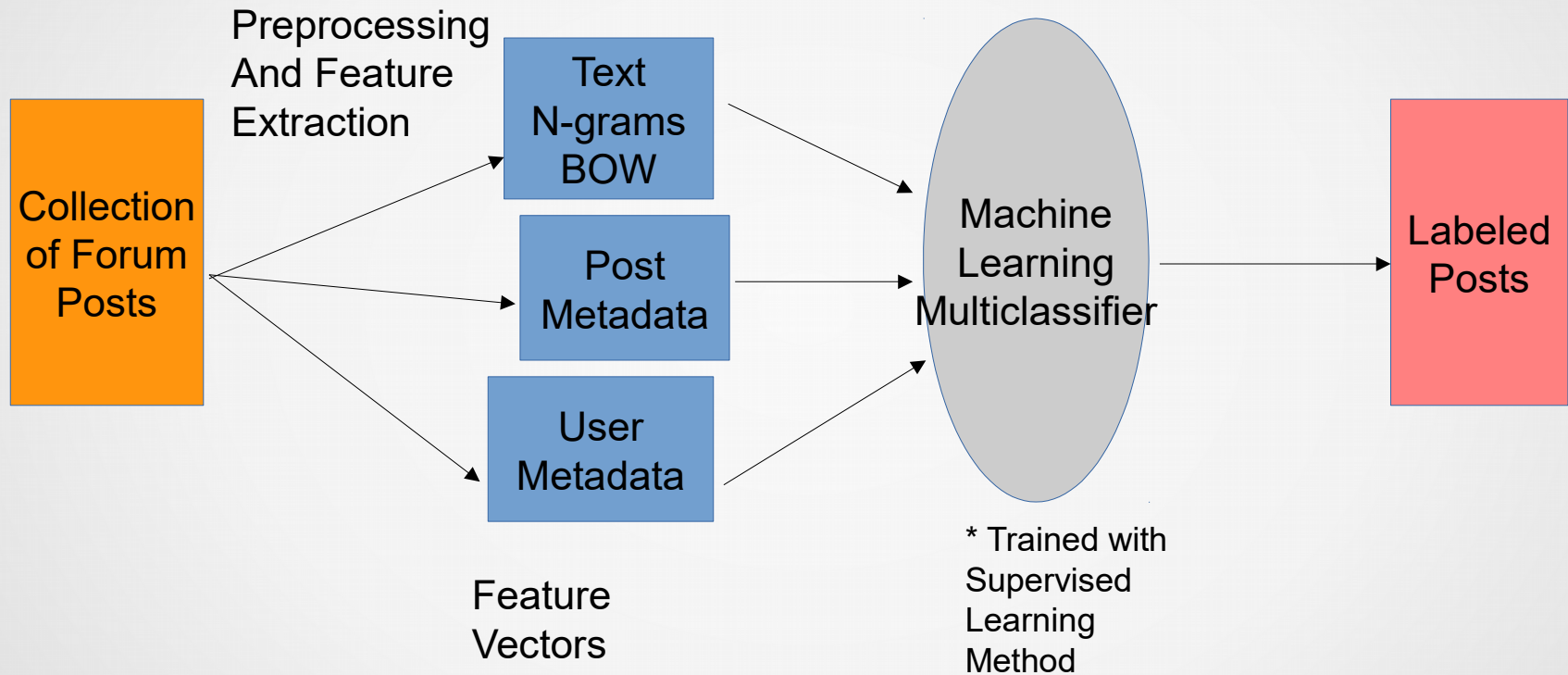
W16-0324 [bib]: Glen Pink; Will Radford; Ben Hachey  
Classification of mental health forum posts

W16-0325 [bib]: Hayda Almeida; Marc Queudot; Marie-Jean Meurs  
Automatic Triage of Mental Health Online Forum Posts: CLPsych 2016 System Description

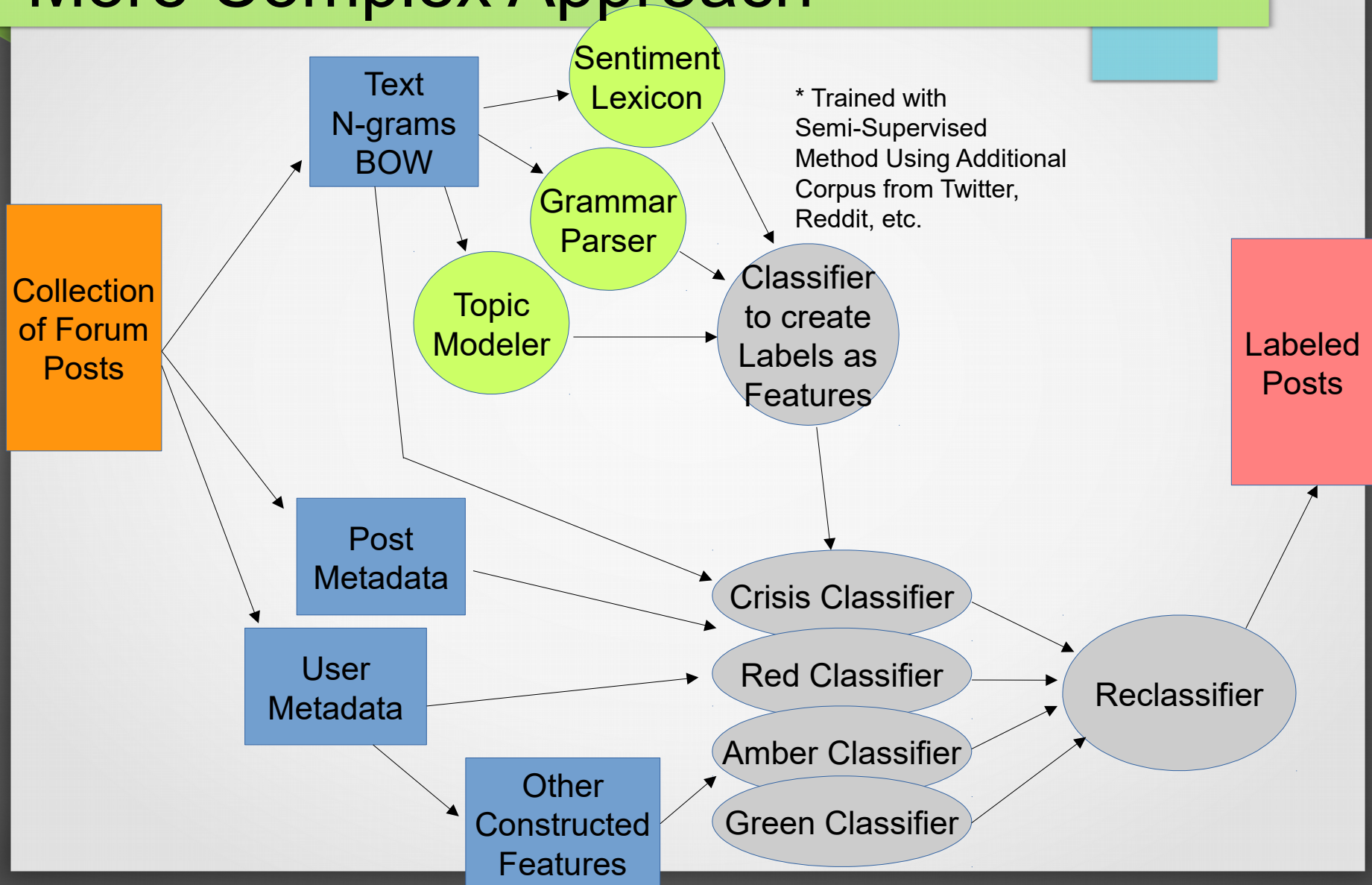
W16-0326 [bib]: Benjamin Shickel; Parisa Rashidi  
Automatic Triage of Mental Health Forum Posts

W16-0327 [bib]: Hector-Hugo Franco-Penya; Liliana Mamani Sanchez  
Text-based experiments for Predicting mental health emergencies in online web forum posts

# Basic Approach



# More Complex Approach



# Overview of 2016 CLPsych Systems

[illegible]



# Example 1

## Triaging Content Severity in Online Mental Health Forums\*

- Features
- Analysis of Features
- Learning Models

# Features

Bag of Words

Skip Thought Vectors

Topic Modeling

Psycholinguistic

- Linguistic Inquiry and Word Count
- Emotions
- Subjectivity

Contextual

- Prior posts of the author
- Prior discussion of the author
- Last sentence of a post

Forum Metadata

- Number of post views
- Length of the thread
- Number of likes

# Features

**Bag of Words** |

| word count

| vectors

**Skip Thought Vectors** |

| relate words with sentence

| representation of text

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# Features

Bag of Words

Skip Thought Vectors

Topic Modeling

## **Psycholinguistic**

- Linguistic Inquiry and Word Count
- Emotions
- Subjectivity

LIWC

text ----- psychological categories

## **Contextual**

- Prior posts of the author
- Prior discussion of the author
- Last sentence of a post

fear amusement anger annoy  
apathy happiness inspiration sadness

## **Forum Metadata**

- Number of post views
- Length of the thread
- Number of likes

subjective posts are more likely  
to be a severe post

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# Analysis of Features

		Macro average over non-GREEN categories				
Single model	Features	Accuracy	F1 score	Precision	Recall	
	baseline(body)	87.6	34.8	33.5	36.6	body
	skip thought	87.5	33.5	33.4	34.1	skip thought
	body+contextual	90.3	38.5	36.5	40.8	
	+meta+subjectivity	90.5	38.8	36.5	41.6	
	+lexical clues	90.9	40.2	38.3	41.3	
	+last sentence	92.3	42.8	43.0	42.8	
	+emotion	92.7	44.1	44.6	44.0	
	+topic	92.9	45.8	45.5	46.2	
	-topic+LIWC	91.8	41.9	41.7	42.6	
	+topic	93.9	47.2	48.9	45.8	
Ensemble model		94.7	50.5	51.6	49.5	

\*Cohan et al., Triaging Content Severity in Online Mental Health Forums



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body
contextual

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# Learning Models

Single model

Support Vector Machine classifier

Ensemble model

An ensemble of XGBoost\*

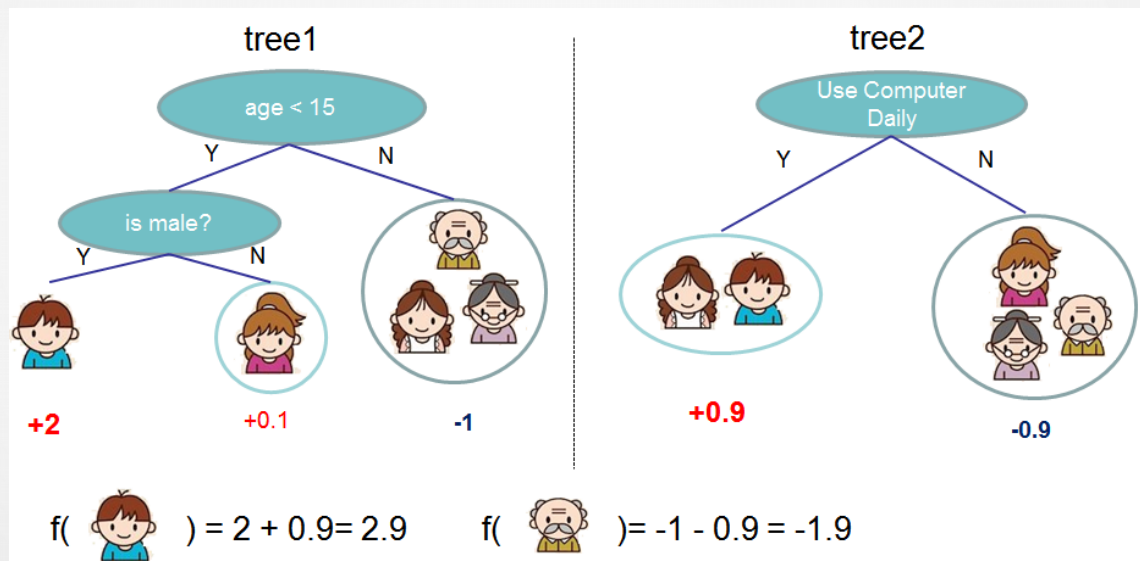
\*Cohan et al., Triaging Content Severity in Online Mental Health Forums

# Learning Models

## Ensemble model

An ensemble of XGBoost\*

Boosting system for regression trees



\*Chen et al., XGBoost: A Scalable Tree Boosting System



# Learning Models

Ensemble model

An ensemble of XGBoost\*

Features	Ensemble model					
	XGBoost 1	XGBoost 2	XGBoost 3	XGBoost 4	XGBoost 5	XGBoost 6
body	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙	⊙
metadata	⊙					⊙
subjectivity	⊙					
emotion	⊙	⊙		⊙		
contextual		⊙	⊙		⊙	⊙
LIWC		⊙				⊙
last sentence			⊙	⊙		
topic modeling					⊙	
lexical clues						⊙

\*Chen et al., XGBoost: A Scalable Tree Boosting System

# Example 2

## Mental Distress Detection and Triage in Forum Posts: The LT3 CLPsych 2016 Shared Task System \*

- Features
- Learning Models

# Features

Bag of Words

Term Lists

Domain specific terms  
Generated by terminology extraction tool  
based on mental health boards

LIWC

Topic Modeling

Syntactic Features

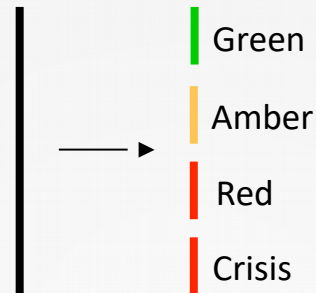
Y/N – imperative mood  
Y/N – person alternation occurred

Forum Metadata

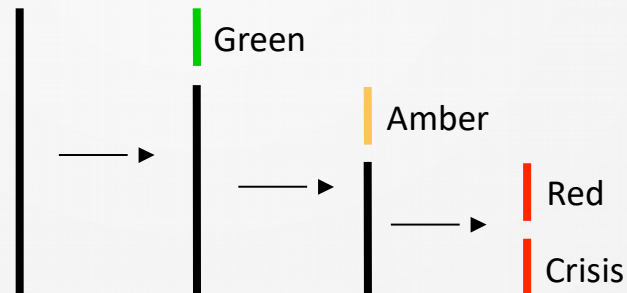
- Posted time
- Post position in a thread
- The board the post is in

# Learning Models

Multiclass SVM



Binary SVM



Feature filtering:  
Information Gain  
Bi-Normal Separation

Ensemble

- Majority vote
- Priority



# Results

system	dev		test	
	F	accuracy	F	accuracy
multiclass-unopt	0.00	0.64	0.00	0.69
multiclass-hyper	0.36	0.75	0.41	0.80
multiclass-nf	0.50	0.75	0.40	0.80
multiclass-ig	0.36	0.74	0.35	0.78
binary-nf	0.39	0.69	0.36	0.74
binary-ig	0.36	0.75	0.32	0.77
binary-bns	0.38	0.64	0.19	0.54
ensemble-majority	0.54	0.79	0.35	0.77
ensemble-priority	0.51	0.75	0.37	0.78

Feature filtering:  
-nf: No Feature Filtering  
-ig: Information Gain  
-bns: Bi-Normal Separation

# Existing Shortcoming

train set	Crisis(39)			Red(110)			Amber(249)			Green(549)		
	P	R	F1	P	R	F1	P	R	F1			F1
Run1	33.33	20.53	25.40	52.00	47.27	49.52	68.75	66.27	67.48			85.30
Run2	32.26	25.64	28.57	45.45	50.00	47.62	70.04	63.86	66.81			86.12
Run3	30.30	25.64	27.78	47.06	50.91	48.91	68.78	61.04	64.68			85.60

Results breakdown by category (**training** set)

test set	Crisis(1)			Red(27)			Amber(47)			Green(766)		
	P	R	F1	P	R	F1	P	R	F1			F1
Run1	0	0	0	62.50	55.65	58.82	50.00	63.83	56.07			82.00
Run2	0	0	0	50.00	51.85	50.91	45.45	53.19	49.02			80.00
Run3	0	0	0	59.26	59.26	59.26	58.93	70.21	64.08			81.00

Results breakdown by category (**test** set)

# Way Ahead

- 1) Replicate, combine, and refine top performing systems
- 2) Experiment with unexplored social link graph idea

