

Dravidian Languages Hope Speech Detection

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Abstract: The task of hope speech detection has gained traction in the natural language processing field owing to the need for an increase in positive reinforcement on line during the COVID-19 pandemic. Hope speech detection focuses on identifying texts among social media comments that could invoke positive emotions in people. Students and working adults alike posit that they experience a lot of work-induced stress further proving that there exists a need for external inspiration which in this current scenario, is mostly found online. In this paper, we propose a multilingual model, with main emphasis on Dravidian languages, to automatically detect hope speech. We have employed a stacked encoder architecture which makes use of language agnostic cross-lingual word embeddings as the dataset consists of code-mixed YouTube comments. Additionally, we have carried out an empirical analysis and tested our architecture against various traditional, transformer, and transfer learning methods.

Key Word: Dravidian Language, Language Detection, Hope Speech Detection.

I.INTRODUCTION

According to studies, the average time a person spends on social media is approximately 2 h and 25 min on a daily basis. It is also a known fact that the majority of teenagers and young adults. Apart from the positive consequences of the advent of social media, there have been several negative impacts too.

Removing punctuations, extra spaces, removing special characters, and lowercasing, stop word removal, converting emoticons to text using the demoji library in the English language, and normalizing contractions are the basic steps performed in preprocessing steps. Contractions are shortened forms of words joined by an apostrophe. For example, couldn't, won't are contractions also.

Moreover, one of the most common methods by which cyberbullies harass their victims is by commenting on their posts on social media. Considering that young adults are readily exposed to such vitriolic content on social media, it tends to create a snowball effect. Abusive comments tend to produce more abusive comments and ultimately result in an avalanche of online aggression. This also works the other way around, with positive comments inspiring more people to leave more positive comments.

II.METHODOLOGY

The proposed system uses a transformer-based approach for identifying hope speech in YouTube comments. We have adopted a stacked transformer-based encoder model long within incorporating cross-lingual word embeddings. The methodology consists of two variations. In the first variant, the original data sets are used to train the model and the flow of our approach can be seen in figure 1. In the second variant, the split datasets of the two Dravidian languages are used and this approach is depicted in figure 1.

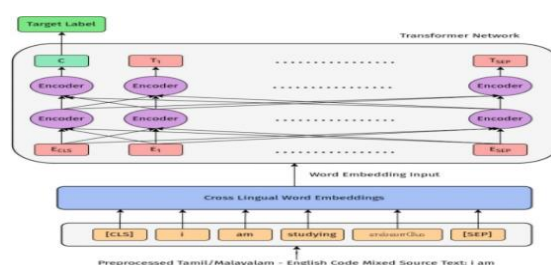


Figure 1 Proposed methodology variation-1 for hope speech detection

This model was trained over three epochs with a batch size of 32 using the Dravidian language datasets. The discussion of the validation outcomes appears in the table below. These findings apply to our transformer model, which was developed using initial datasets.

III.EXPERIMENTAL RESULT

To further ground our approach amongst other pre-existing models for text classification, we evaluated the learning ability of our models using k-fold (five-fold) cross validation.

Amongst all the models that implemented, choose the best performing models in each approach as elaborated in Empirical Analysis. Figures 2 and 3 compare the performance of the suggested model to SVMmodel that performs the best when implemented traditionally, and indic-BERTmodel that performs the best when im- plemented using a transformer. Figure 4 contains the performance metrics of the various model for fvefolds.

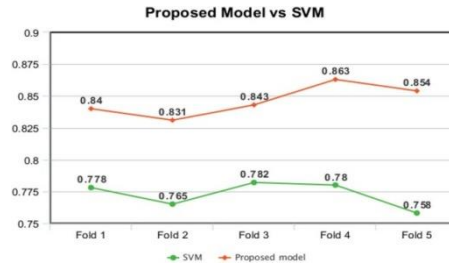


Figure 2 : Comparison of Malayalam language approach against SVM

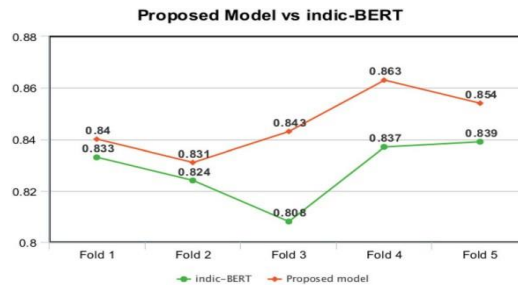


Figure 3 : Comparison of Malayalam language approach against indic-BERT

Model	Fold	Precision	Recall	F1-score
SVM	1	0.797	0.805	0.778
	2	0.791	0.795	0.765
	3	0.805	0.811	0.782
	4	0.809	0.810	0.780
	5	0.790	0.791	0.758
indic-BERT	1	0.831	0.837	0.833
	2	0.822	0.829	0.824
	3	0.807	0.811	0.808
	4	0.836	0.842	0.837
	5	0.838	0.844	0.839
Our model	1	0.840	0.842	0.840
	2	0.831	0.832	0.831
	3	0.843	0.844	0.843
	4	0.862	0.866	0.863
	5	0.853	0.856	0.854

Figure 4 : Cross-validation results for Malayalam language

IV. CONCLUSION

Garbage This project presented a language-agnostic transformer model to detect hope speech in the Dravidian languages datasets. The proposed model makes use of a bidirectional dual-encoder to produce the embeddings for texts in our dataset. By utilizing attention mechanisms, the network better understands contextual relationships between the words. This is evidenced by the comparison of our proposed approach with other different methodologies as seen in the k-fold paired t test scores. Moreover, this approach requires less data augmentation and reduces the overhead when compared with other traditional and transformer learning methods. This work contributes to the reduction of abusive content on social media by filtering out negative comments so that only positive and hopeful comments are retained.

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