

# COVID-19 Public Tweets Sentiment Analysis using TF-IDF and Inductive Learning Models

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**Abstract.** The fact of appearing of the handheld devices offers forthright entry to the internet and social networking sites. Sentiment analysis and opinion mining is the study of sentiments or opinions shared by different users in social networking sites like, Twitter, Facebook, Reddit, Instagram etc., on diverse social phenomena. In this article, sentiment analysis of different tweets on the ongoing epidemic COVID-19, Corona virus disease is performed. COVID-19 is declared as epidemic by the World Health Organization (WHO) in the mid of March 2020. The statistical and machine learning based analyses are implemented on 40,000 tweets, which were collected in two different mutually exclusive time frames. Tweets are collected from Twitter site between 3/07/2020 to 11/07/2020 and 01/08/2020 to 06/08/2020, using Tweepy python library. Various Python based libraries are applied for data acquisition, data pre-processing and data analysis processes. As a data pre-processing phase initially sentences are cleaned. Then by calculating the polarity and subjectivity measures, tweets are categorized into three groups (viz., *negative*, *neutral* and *positive*). Thereafter, in the later phase by applying the Term frequency-inverse document frequency (TF-IDF) feature extraction scheme with the help of uni-gram, bi-gram, and tri-gram techniques different features are extracted to prepare the datasets to feed it into the prediction models. 70% of the datasets are used to train Gaussian Naïve Bayes (G-NB), Bernoulli's Naïve Bayes (B-NB), Random forest (RF), and Support vector machine (SVM) classifiers to generate different prediction models. Finally, 30% of the data is tested on those learning models. Experimental results suggest that RF and B-NB models performed better than the other two classifier models. The execution computational cost of SVM is very high.

**Keywords:** Sentiment analysis, Twitter, Covid-19, TF-IDF, Classification, Python.

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## 1 Introduction

Due to the technological revolutions and for the enrichment of World Wide Web, through out globe people are using social networking sites to put their opinion and sentiment about various issues or diverse social phenomena. Among the different social networking micro blogging sites like Facebook, Twitter, Reddit, Instagram, etc., Twitter is frequently used to tweets on various day to day worldwide activities [4]. Analysis

of different forms of data from social networking sites are now a days very useful. Collecting images, videos and texts from such micro blogging sites are become a very good data repositories also. Sentiment analysis or opinion mining is used to detect the opinion or mood of different sentences which are in the form texts as *negative*, *neutral*, and *positive* [33, 7, 34, 36, 29, 13, 31, 28, 12, 27, 30, 20, 16]. These sentiments are very much important and can play a major role in predictions. Very

recent coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic [3] is taking a toll on the world's health care infrastructure as well as the social, economic, and psychological well-being of humanity. COVID-19 is declared as pandemic by WHO on 13 March, 2020 [3, 34, 10]. The first case of COVID-19 was reported in December 2019 from China. Different media and news articles assumed Wuhan city of China as the origin of this epidemic which become pandemic in the month of March 2020. The usual symptoms of the COVID-19 are very common like dry cough, fever, throat infection, difficulty in breathing etc. As per the studies there is no proper standard treatment and designated vaccines are identified. Though different trials on vaccine productions are going on in different countries. But the number of deaths and infected persons are increasing rapidly. As per WHO (<https://covid19.who.int/>) total 20,439,814 confirmed cases worldwide and 744,385 deaths, reported to WHO till 13 August, 2020. Hence this epidemic is becoming the biggest topic of concern for the entire world.

Now, through out globe, different individuals, different organizations, and government individuals are using social media to communicate with each other on a number of issues relating to the COVID-19 pandemic. But it is also sometimes very unfortunate that without knowing much about some sensitive issues, different topics being shared on social media platforms relating to COVID-19. Moreover, to understand the public sentiment in this epidemic situation is also desirable. That is why in this study COVID-19 epidemic is chosen for sentiments analysis from tweets. In a very recent study authors have highlighted various scenarios how misinformation are shared in social networking sites [6]. Henceforth, analysis of different tweets can be a helpful tool for the policy makers and health care organizations assess the needs of their stakeholders and address them appropriately. On Twitter, there is huge amount of data available on each and every possible topic or issues of the world. For which Twitter is also referred to as a gold mine for data collection. Further Twitter also provides its own REST (REpresentational State Transfer) API [33]. This API allows to access and retrieve Twitter data. In this paper, leveraging a set of tools (Twitter's search application programming interface (API)), Tweepy Python library and using a set of hashtags ("#Corona", "#Covid-19" etc.), thousands of texts are extracted of public English language tweets for two different time frames (3/07/2020 to 11/07/2020 and 01/08/2020 to 06/08/2020). Tweepy contains variety of methods that can be used to access tweets through twitter application. There has been an exponential growth in the use of textual analytic, natural language process-

ing (NLP) and use of artificial intelligence (AI) techniques in research and in the development of various applications. In the literature, various approaches like dictionary based, machine learning approaches are implemented by various researches for sentiment analysis of twitter data [33, 38, 26]. As a subsection, some of the latest available state-of-the-art literatures are highlighted below.

### 1.1 Literature survey

Before the COVID-19 pandemic there were several other viruses rapidly spread in different countries, Zika and swine flu are some of those viruses. Study of the sentiments of individuals on Twitter are useful to generate important health care information. This kind of study can be helpful in predicting the outbreak and its early detection. Grover *et al.* (2015) [32] have proposed a model named as named as Swine Flu Hint Algorithm (SEHA) to look after epidemic activities happen on Twitter related to swine flu influenza. Analysis was done to capture the real word dynamics with respect to the life cycle of the epidemic for which Markov chain model and Bag of words model were used. For forecasting Zika virus incidence, Sarah *et al.* (2017) [35] have conducted a study on twitter data and HealthMap digital surveillance system with historical Zika suspected case counts to track and predict estimates of suspected weekly Zika cases during the period of 2015 to 2016. Moving into COVID-19 issue, Alrazaq *et al.* (2020) [6] have analyzed English language tweets from February 2, 2020, to March 15, 2020. They have analyzed the collected tweets using word frequencies of single (uni-grams) and double words (bi-grams) model. Analysis identified 12 topics, which were grouped into four main themes: origin of the virus; its sources; its impact on people, countries, and the economy; and ways of mitigating the risk of infection. In another very recent work, public sentiment associated with the progress of Corona virus and COVID-19, Samuel *et al.* (2020) [34] have compare the effectiveness in classifying Corona virus Tweets of varying lengths. Naïve Bayes, logistic regression, linear regression and K-Nearest Neighbor (K-NN) models are evaluated for classifying the tweets. In another work authors have collected different tweets on COVID-19 from 11<sup>th</sup> March 2020 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020 [10]. Then after performing different preprocessing steps analyse how the citizens of 12 different countries are sharing their emotions and dealing with the situations. In a recent study, Singh *et al.* (2020) [37] has implemented the Susceptible-Infectious-Recovered (SIR) model based on Kermack-McKendrick theory of epidemic model to understand the outbreak of COVID-

19. This study attempt to estimate the number of people infected with a infectious disease in a closed population over time.

## 1.2 Motivations, objectives and contributions

After reviewing the related literature study, it is observed that different researchers have developed different models or perform suitable study towards the directions of detection of influenza like epidemic or other categories. As the world health care scenarios are changing every day, so to understand the current psychological behavior or opinion of people from social networking sites are also desirable. Also for performing text categorization using machine learning approaches, different types of learning algorithms are available in the literature. Which leads to the question of which learning algorithm is better. By keeping these observations this present study is undertaken with the following objectives: (i) to collect large amount of tweets for two different period of time; (ii) to categorize the tweets into negative, neutral and positive; (iii) to extract features from the tweets and to predict the tweets using different state-of-the-art inductive learning based classifier models; (iv) to perform a comprehensive comparisons between the learning models.

In order to satisfy the above mentioned objectives of this research, the research work is carry forward as follows: (i) Prepare different twitter datasets by authenticating and streaming real time search API provided by the Twitter web-site. Total 40,000 (20,000 + 20,000) tweets are collected in two different time frames.

(ii) Cleansing of the data is done to increase the performance of the analysis process.

(iii) By measuring the polarity and subjectivity of different tweets, tweets are categorized into *negative*, *neutral* and *positive* classes.

(iv) Term Frequency-Inverse Document Frequency (TF-IDF), feature extraction technique is used to transforming the text data into numerical features usable for learning models. Moreover, for further analysis, uni-gram, bi-gram and tri-gram models are applied to generate three different matrices for individual Tweeter datasets.

(v) Four different inductive learners namely, Gaussian Naïve Bayes (G-NB), Bernoulli's Naïve Bayes (B-NB), Random forest (RF), and Support vector machine (SVM) classifiers are used to train prediction models for further classifications of unseen tweets. Different evaluation measures are computed to compare the performances of the learning algorithms.

The key contributions of this research are as follows:

(i) By measuring the score of the polarity and subjectivity of different tweets of two separate time frames,

tweets are categorized into three classes. By counting the tweets of different categories, people opinions and assumption can be assess for the COVID-19 situations. (ii) Demonstration and comparisons of the performances of the G-NB, B-NB, RF, and SVM for Tweets classifications. For each dataset, three different N-grams models are used to prepare the TF-IDF feature extraction process. Then, the learning models are applied to check their performances with respect to accuracy, precision, recall, F1-Score and execution time.

## 1.3 Structure of the paper

The remainder of this paper is organized as follows. Section 2 describes the overall structure of the proposed methodology. The experimental setup and evaluations are highlighted in Section 3. Experimental result analysis are presented in Section 4. Thereafter, discussion and summarization of the study is highlighted in Section 5. The paper is ended with concluding remarks with future perspectives in Section 6.

## 2 Proposed Methodology

The pipeline of the methodology, which is followed in this research is shown as a block diagram in Figure 1. The proposed methodology is divided in to three phases viz., data collection, data preprocessing and data analysis. Before going into the detail steps, it is worthy to mention that Natural Language Processing Toolkit (NLTK), which is a python based platform is extensively used in this study [1, 2]. The data analysis phase is derived in two parts. The first part of the analytic includes sentiment analysis of the textual component of the Twitter data. Tweets are assigned sentiment scores of polarity and subjectivity by using different methods and Python libraries. The second part of analytic includes the feature extraction using TF-IDF technique for further prediction with inductive learning algorithms. Descriptions of the phases of the methodology are shown in Figure 1.

### 2.1 Data collection

Two sets of Corona virus related random tweets are collected between 3/07/2020 to 11/07/2020 (Dataset-I) and 01/08/2020 to 06/08/2020 (Dataset-II), using the Twitter standard search API using Python. Some predefined key terms, consisting of a set of the most widely used scientific and news media terms relating to the novel coronavirus are used. Text are extracted and stored in two different comma separated version (CSV) files. The tweeter texts and metadata of the tweets using the time

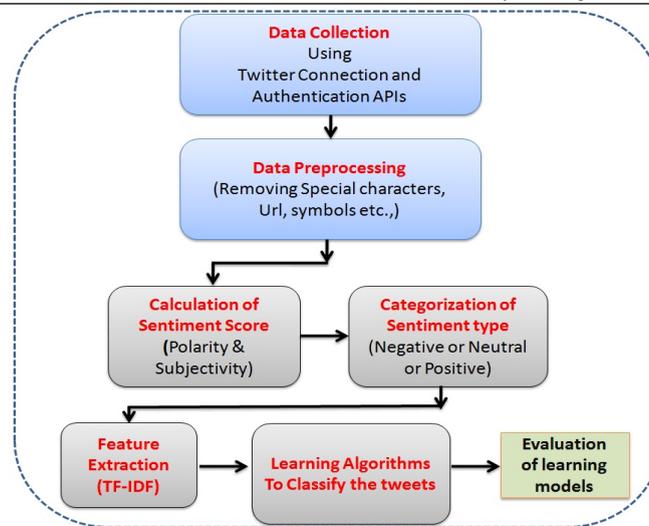


Figure 1: Block diagram of the proposed methodology with different phases.

stamp are stored. Only English language tweets were collected in this current study. The steps which are followed to scrap the twitter data are as follows:

**Step 1:** Create or register in Twitter Developer account on “developer.twitter.com”. Thereafter, create an App on Twitter which will provide the access keys to access the twitter resources.

**Step 2:** The application keys namely “Consumer Key”, “Consumer Secret”, “Access token” and “Access Token Secret” will be used to access twitter resources and shall be used for authentication. Tweepy python is necessary to access the Twitter API.

**Step 3:** After the authentication step, with different hashtags #Covid19, #Crona, #Coronavirus, #CoronaIndia thousands of tweets are randomly downloaded and saved as a CSV file.

Total 40,000 tweets based on the aforementioned steps were collected.

However, during the process of data collection from twitter by scrapping through the python code few challenges were face and those includes: (i) Some tweets related to the above mentioned hashtags have relations with different images and video’s also; (ii) though the language for the tweets considered as English, but some of the comments mix up with other languages also; (iii) lots of comments had unnecessary special characters, emoticons, urls, hashtags etc.

## 2.2 Data preprocessing

Pre-processing is an important phase in text processing. The data, which are extracted from the Twitter website

is usually not clean and contains a lot of special characters, emoticons, urls, hashtags and other text which are not necessary for analysis purpose. In Figure 2, word cloud representation of the collected Tweeter data without performing any pre-processing steps is shown. Word cloud is one of the popular data visualization technique used for representing text data. Significant and frequent textual data can be highlighted using the word cloud representation. It is obvious from the Figure 2 that the maximum number of frequent words in the word cloud collections are the unused symbols or characters. Thus this word-cloud representation justify the significance of the pre-processing steps before performing any data analysis task. Henceforth, in order to perform the pre-processing task, in this work initially non-English tweets are identified using the language field in the tweets metadata and removed them to avoid further analysis. Thereafter, removed special characters, different non-printable characters from the tweets.

In Figure 3 (a), sample of Tweets without the pre-processing steps are shown for the two datasets. Similarly in Figure 3 (b), Tweets after the preprocessing steps are shown. It can be observed from those Figures that pre-processing step has cleaned the unnecessary characters from the tweets. To visualize the data properly word cloud representations of the two datasets are shown in Figure 4 (a)-(b). It shows commonly the most frequent words used in the cleaned Tweeter datasets. It can be observed from the word cloud visualizations that most of the dominated words are like: confirmed cases, covid, covid 19, plasma, mask, wear mask, pandemic, doctor, vaccine, clinic, health, treat, infected, recovery





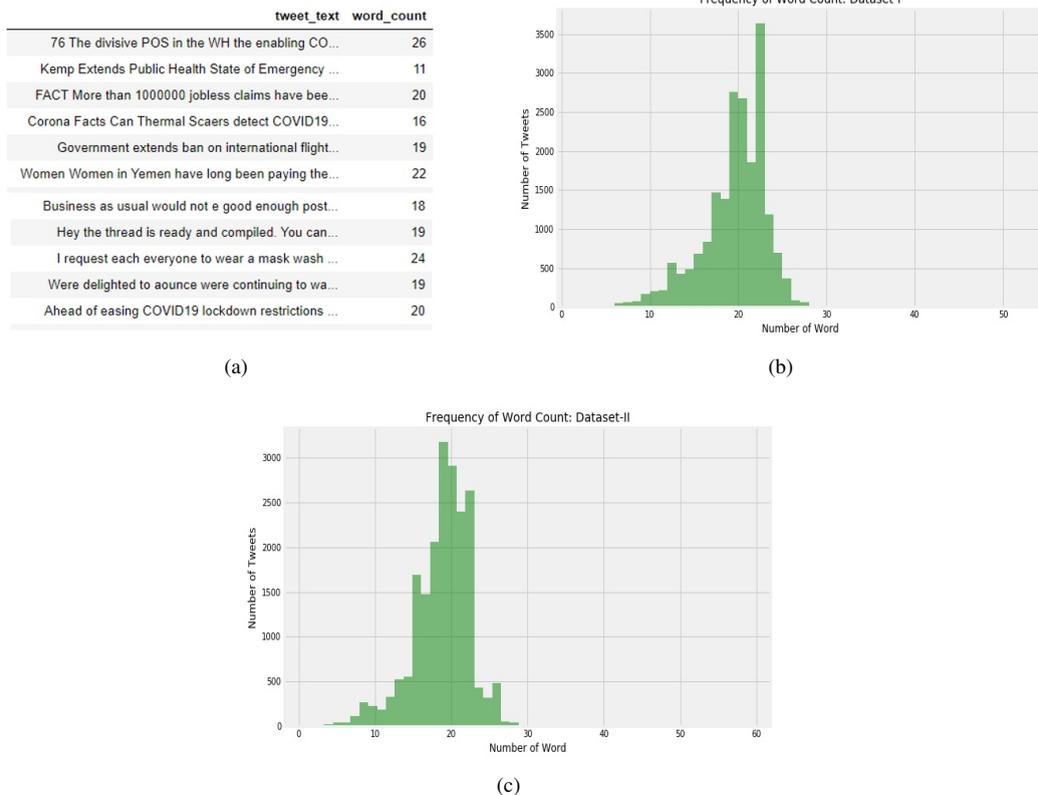


Figure 5: (a) Sample of frequency of word counts (b) histogram plot of word count in Dataset-I (c) histogram plot of word count in Dataset-II

though these words may appear many times, since they don't mean much to that tweet sentences.

To put it in more formal mathematical terms, the TF-IDF score for a word  $t$  in the short document  $sd$  from the document set  $D$  is calculated as follows:

$$tf_{t, sd} = \frac{n_{t, sd}}{T} \tag{1}$$

Here, in Eq. (1) in the numerator,  $n$  is the number of times the term  $t$  appears in the document  $sd$ .

$$idf_t = \log \frac{N}{M} \tag{2}$$

Here, in Eq. (2) in the numerator,  $N$  is the total number of short documents (tweets) and  $M$  is the number of tweets with term  $t$ .

Multiplying these two measures, results in the TF-IDF score of a word in a tweet. The higher the score, the more relevant that word appears in that particular tweet.

For instance, if we take our set of sentences as: T1 = "When Indias corona case is at peak." and T2 = "Peak corona case in India."

By applying a bi-gram approach [22] it will create a vocabulary set like the following:  $V = [$  "When Indias", "Indias corona", "corona case", "case is", "is at", "at peak", "Peak corona"... "in India"]

$V = [$  'at peak', 'case in', 'case is', 'corona case', 'in india', 'indias corona', 'is at', 'peak corona', 'when indias']

The TF values:

T1 = [1 0 1 1 0 1 1 0 1]

T2 = [0 1 0 1 1 0 0 1 0]

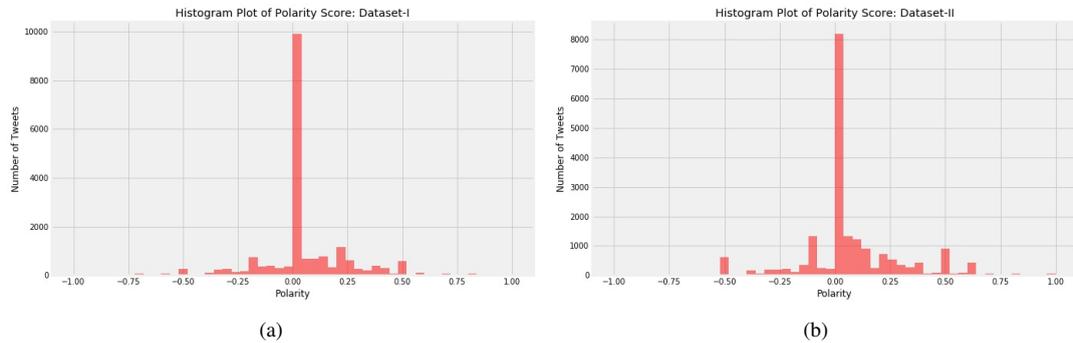
TF-IDF weighted:

T1 = [1.40546511, 0, 1.40546511, 1, 0, 1.40546511, 1.40546511, 0, 1.40546511]

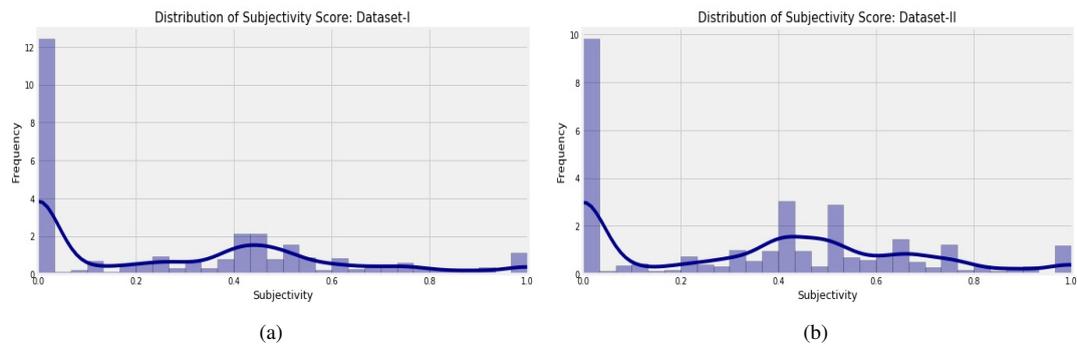
T2 = [0, 1.40546511, 0, 1, 1.40546511, 0, 0, 1.40546511, 0]

### 2.5 Inductive learning models for Classification

An inductive learning model is a (non)parametric model structure plus a criterion for tuning its degrees of free-



**Figure 6:** Histogram of the Polarity score (a) Dataset-I (b) Dataset-II



**Figure 7:** Distribution of subjectivity score (a) Dataset-I (b) Dataset-II

dom over experimental data produced by some unknown phenomenon [5, 23, 11]. So, the problem of induction, is how to draw general conclusions about the future from specific observations from the past. So, formally given a set of instance data ( $x$ ) there is predefined output say  $y$  or  $y$  in the form of a function  $f(x)$ . The goal of the inductive learning is to learn the function from the given set of examples/data for a new unseen data say  $x'$ . Thus, in this present study for each tweet, the output is considered from the output set *negative* or *neutral* or *positive*. For both the datasets, each tweets (20,000 and 20,000) output labels are assigned. To predict the unseen tweets the hypothesis/function needs to be learned by the inductive models from a given input set of data.

The selection of a suitable inductive learning method is a crucial phase in any system design methodology. Here in this study, by observing various previous works [7, 34, 19, 25, 24] related to text classification and tweeter data classification, three different inductive learning models as the classifiers are considered viz., Naïve Bayes(NB), Random Forest (RF), and Support Vector Machine (SVM). Two variations of the NB

model are used in this study, namely Gaussian- NB (G-NB), and Bernoulli's- NB (B-NB). The overall process of the data analysis process is shown in Figure 9.

NB is a well known simple and effective method for text classification [34, 19]. It has been used widely for document classification since 1960s. This classifier is theoretically based on the Bayes theorem. NB uses maximum posteriori estimation to find out the class (i.e., features are assigned to a class based on the highest conditional probability). Bernoulli NB is useful when the features representations are binary and Gaussian NB it is useful when working with large continuous values. By observing various previous study in this research Gaussian-NB, Bernoulli-NB models are considered.

RF classifier is basically a bagging technique which falls under the ensemble learning [25, 17] techniques. It is a combination of different decision trees which are considered as the base learners. Each decision trees are trained with feature and row sampling with replacement concept with the same distribution. Thus the trees are trained independently and an unknown samples are labeled according to the majority vote rule: i.e., it is la-

	timestamp	tweet_text	Subjectivity	Polarity	Analysis
19990	2020-08-01 02:07:03	Just a snippet of drile from this morning.....	0.333333	0.250000	Positive
19991	2020-08-01 02:07:02	Guys this is my super protective Italian style...	0.555556	0.444444	Positive
19992	2020-08-01 02:07:02	76 The divisive POS in the WH the enaling COM...	0.500000	0.625000	Positive
19993	2020-08-01 02:07:02	citizen If COVID19 didnt get you ScottyFromMar...	0.400000	-0.100000	Negative
19994	2020-08-01 02:07:01	politicizes HermanCains death with empty con...	0.500000	-0.100000	Negative
19995	2020-08-01 02:07:01	New COVID19 CorrespondencenSARS-CoV--related a...	0.327273	0.068182	Positive
19996	2020-08-01 02:07:01	Doing my part to help teach my grandson to do ...	0.535714	0.285714	Positive
19997	2020-08-01 02:07:00	CM Sri KCR conveyed Id-UI-Zuha greetings to th...	0.000000	0.000000	Neutral
19998	2020-08-01 02:07:00	The impact of the pandemic on the well-eing of...	0.383333	0.116667	Positive
19999	2020-08-01 02:06:59	politicizes HermanCains death with empty con...	0.500000	-0.100000	Negative

20000 rows × 5 columns

**Figure 8:** Sample results of the tweets with their subjectivity-score, polarity-score and categorization into three classes *negative* or *neutral* or *positive*.

beled with the most popular class among those provided by the ensemble trees. The ensemble concepts of different decision trees in RF classifier leads the system towards low bias and low variance.

SVM is a supervised learning algorithm which is widely used for the classification task [25, 24]. SVM is based on the idea of finding a hyperplane that best separates the features into different domains. SVM is applicable for the data which are linearly separable and also it applicable non linear data with proper kernel functions or tricks. The data are mapped through a Gaussian/radial basis function or other type of kernel (linear, polynomial) tricks to a feature space in a larger dimension space with the aim being maximum separation between classes. In this research linear kernal trick function is applied.

The two datasets (Dataset-I & Dataset-II) are sliced into a training set and test set. Training set is the subset of the overall dataset to train the learning model. On the other hand test set is the subset to test the trained model. For both the datasets 70% of the tweets are used as the train set and 30% of the data are considered as the test set.

### 3 Experimental Setup and Evaluation

In this section, the details of the experimental evaluation starting with the experimental setup, followed by the quantitative measures used for this research are

demonstrate. For the sake of uniform experimental results, all the methods are implemented in Python. Programs are simulated in a machine with Processor: Intel® Xenon(R) CPU- E5-1630, 3.70 GHz clock speed, main memory of 32GB and having Windows 10 environment.

The detailed experimental setup are as follows:

1. All the methods and functions are implemented in Python 3.7 environment. From the implementation point of view, data structures like data frames, dynamic lists, collections, and dynamic arrays are used.
2. The partitioned of the individual datasets are performed according to a train-test (70% and 30%) split scheme. For RF classifier, number of estimator i.e., the number of decision trees in the forest is set to 100 and the maximum depth of the tree is set 'none'. For the SVM classifier, parameters like kernel is set to 'linear' and the multi-class support is handled according to a one-vs-one scheme. For the Gaussian NB and Bernoulli NB classifiers default setting of the 'sklearn' environment is used.

The evaluation measures for multi-class classification problems are highlighted in Table 1 [39]. Here the classification problem is related multi-class because the classifiers have to deal with three classes viz., negative, neutral and positive. For a particular class  $C_i$

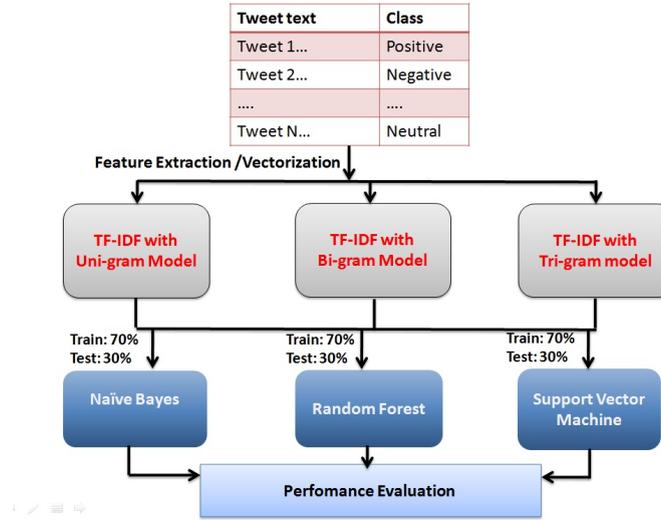


Figure 9: A block diagram of the overall learning process.

the assessment is defined by  $TP_i$ ,  $TN_i$ ,  $FP_i$ ,  $FN_i$  are calculated from the counts for  $C_i$ . The quality of the overall classification results are assessed in three ways: first measure is the average of the same measures calculated for  $C_1, C_2 \dots C_L$  i.e., the macro-averaging which is shown with  $M$  indices. Second is the sum of counts to obtain cumulative  $TP$ ,  $FN$ ,  $TN$ ,  $FP$  and then calculating a performance measure i.e., the micro-averaging which is shown with  $\mu$  indices. Macro-averaging treats all classes equally while micro-averaging favors bigger classes. The third one is the weighted averaging, with working example it is highlighted in the Sub-section 4.2.

## 4 Experimental Results Analysis

### 4.1 Analysis of the boxenplots, scatter plots and bar charts

The Boxenplot (or “letter-value-plot”)[15] has some similarities with box plot but it is much more useful. As the polarity value may be long tailed, by using this plot different quartile of polarity values can be shown. Thus, by plotting several quartile values, it enables to understand the shape of the distribution particularly in the head end and in the tail end. The inner-most box represents 25-75% inner quartile range and bold line is the median line. In the Figure 10 (a) the boxenplot for Dataset-I is shown. It can be observed that *negative* category has long tailed polarity compared to *positive* tweets. Similarly in Figure 11 (a) the boxenplot for Dataset-II is shown. Here it is interesting notice that category *positive* has higher polarity compared to *negative*

tweets.

In the Figure 10 (b) scatter plot of the sentiment of each tweet based on the polarity and subjectivity of the tweets are shown. The maximum density of the positive tweets, for the polarity value range up to 0.5 and the subjectivity ranges from 0.2 to 0.8. When the subjectivity range is 0.8-1.00 and polarity is 0.75-1.00, the number of positive tweets are less. The red dotted points represents the neutral tweets. Similarly for dataset-II in Figure 11 (b) scatter plot is shown.

The percentage of negative, neutral, and positive tweets for the Dataset-I are 18.10%, 48.50%, and 33.40%. Similarly the percentage of negative, neutral, and positive tweets for the Dataset-II are 19.20%, 38.90%, and 41.90%. As a bar chart the numbers of tweets belongs to each categories are shown in Figure 10 (c) and Figure 11 (c) for both the datasets. It can be observed that the numbers of positive tweets are high in the second dataset. Where else in the first set of dataset the neutral tweets are high.

### 4.2 Analysis of classifiers evaluation measures

In order to predict the categories of tweets into negative, neutral, and positive, experiments are carried out using train set/test set split applied on the four popular classifiers viz., Gaussian-NB, Bernoulli-NB, RF, and SVM classifiers. The overall summary of the experimental results achieved on the two datasets (Dataset-I and Dataset-II) by using 70% training and 30% test samples are reported in Table 2 and Table 3. In Figure 12 (a)-(c) and Figure 13 (a)-(c), the best classification

**Table 1:** Evaluation measures for the multi-class classification of Twitter data

Measure	Formula	Description
Avg. Accuracy (Acc)	$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^L \frac{TP_i + TN_i}{TP_i + FN_i + TN_i + FP_i}}{L}$	The average per-class effectiveness of a classifier.
Precision (Pre)	$\frac{TP_i}{TP_i + FP_i}$	Number of correctly classified positive examples divided by the total number of examples that are classified as positive.
Recall (Rec)	$\frac{TP_i}{TP_i + FN_i}$	Number of correctly classified positive examples divided by the number of true positives plus the number of false negatives.
F1-Score	$2 \times \frac{Precision \times Recall}{Precision + Recall}$	It is the harmonic mean of precision and recall.
$\mu$ -Avg. Precision	$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^L TP_i}{\sum_{i=1}^L TP_i + FP_i}$	Agreement of the data class labels with those of a classifiers if calculated from sums of per-text decisions.
$\mu$ -Avg. Recall	$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^L TP_i}{\sum_{i=1}^L TP_i + FN_i}$	Effectiveness of a classifier to identify class labels if calculated from sums of per-text decisions.
$\mu$ -Avg. F1-Score	$2 \times \frac{\mu\text{-Avg. Precision} \times \mu\text{-Avg. Recall}}{\mu\text{-Avg. Precision} + \mu\text{-Avg. Recall}}$	Relations between data positive labels and those given by a classifier based on sums of per-text decisions.
$M$ -Avg. Precision	$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^L TP_i}{\sum_{i=1}^L TP_i + FP_i}$	Average the per-class agreement of the class labels with those of a classifier.
$M$ -Avg. Recall	$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^L TP_i}{\sum_{i=1}^L TP_i + FN_i}$	Average per-class effectiveness of a classifier to identify class labels.
$M$ -Avg. F1-Score	$2 \times \frac{M\text{-Avg. Precision} \times M\text{-Avg. Recall}}{M\text{-Avg. Precision} + M\text{-Avg. Recall}}$	Relations between positive labels and those given by a classifier based on a per-class average.

evaluation results achieved by the different classifiers on uni-gram, bi-gram and tri-gram models applied on Dataset-I and Dataset-II are shown.

For instance, let us consider the confusion matrix which is shown in Figure 12 (c) and compute the  $\mu$ -Avg. Recall value. As there are three classes viz., *negative*, *neutral* and *positive* the  $TP$  and  $FP$  values with respect to all the classes are as follows:

$$TP_{negative} = 866; \quad TP_{neutral} = 2940; \\ TP_{positive} = 1398;$$

$$TP_{negative} = (1 + 6) = 7; \quad TP_{negative} = (211 + 565) = 776; \quad TP_{negative} = (4 + 9) = 13;$$

$$\text{Thus, the } \mu\text{-Avg. Recall} = \frac{866+2940+1398}{866+2940+1398+7+776+13} = \frac{5204}{6000} = 0.867 = 0.87$$

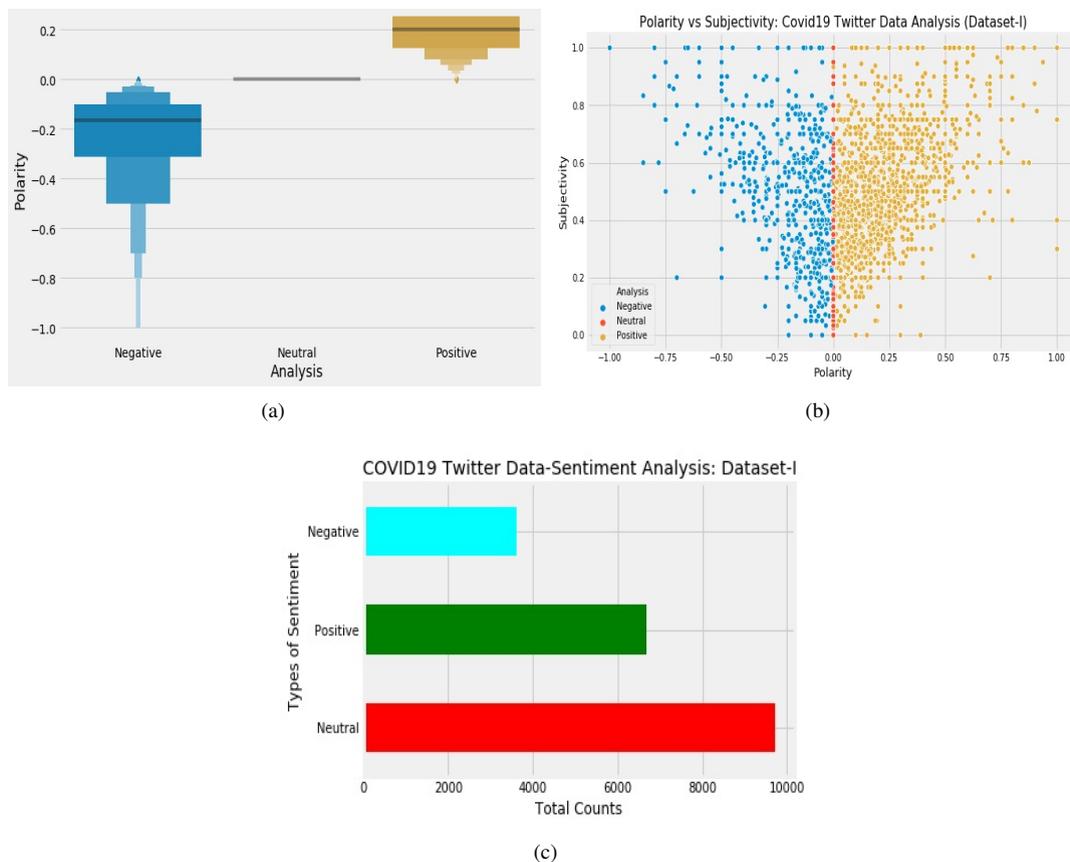
Similarly, let's compute the 'Weighted Average precision' (W-Avg. Precision). It is computed as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{W-Avg. Precision} &= \text{Actual number of Class } negative \text{ instance (tweet)} \times \text{Recall of Class } negative \\ &+ \text{Actual number of Class } neutral \text{ instance (tweet)} \\ &\times \text{Recall of Class } neutral + \text{Actual number of Class } positive \\ &\text{instance (tweet)} \times \text{Recall of Class } positive \\ &= \frac{1081}{6000} \times 0.99 + \frac{2950}{6000} \times 0.79 + \frac{1969}{6000} \times 0.99 \\ &= 0.178 + 0.387 + 0.324 \\ &= 0.889 = 0.89 \end{aligned}$$

Now, it can be observed from the summarized experimental results shown in Table 2 and Table 3 that RF classifier has achieved better classification evaluation results with bi-gram and tri-gram models compared to

SVM and the NB classifiers (Gaussian and Bernoulli). However, SVM has achieved slight better classification accuracy of 1.46% compared to RF model with respect to uni-gram model. But the execution time comparison graph which is shown in Figure 14 (a), implies that SVM has spend a larger amount of time. For the other two models also i.e., for bi-gram and tri-gram, the execution time of SVM is very high compared to other three learning models. It interesting to notice that Bernoulli NB has very lesser amount of computational time with respect to all the N-gram models and in comparison to other learning models. But the accuracy achieved by this model is comparatively bit lesser (0.97% and 0.07%) than the RF classifier in bi-gram and tri-gram model. For tri-gram model the amount of classification accuracy difference between RF and Bernoulli NB is negligible. Moreover, Bernoulli NB has better computational cost.

Similarly it is noticeable from Table 3 that SVM classifier has achieved better classification evaluation results with respect to uni-gram model, compared to other learning models. But the computational cost for SVM is very high, which can be observed from Figure 14 (b). Like the Dataset-I, in this Dataset-II also RF achieved better results with respect to bi-gram & tri-gram models. But if we observe the results of Bernoulli's NB than it has very less amount of computational cost, and the classification accuracy is bit lesser than RF.

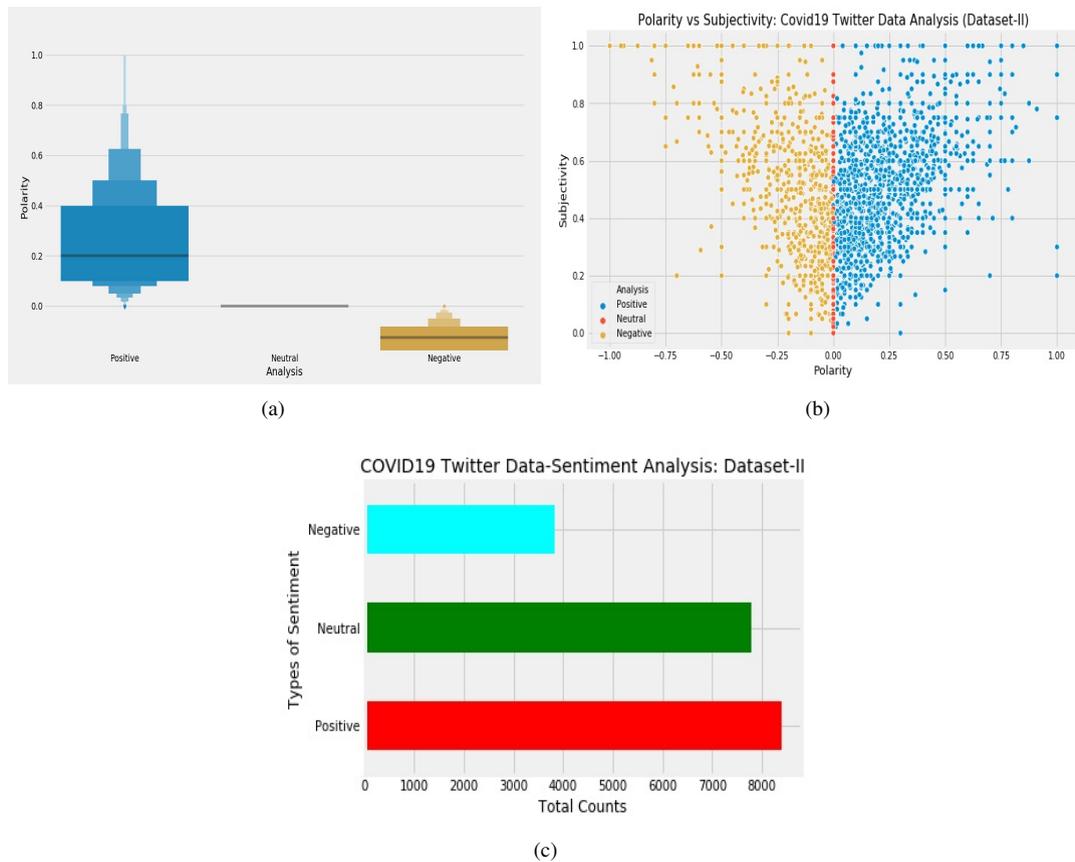


**Figure 10:** Graphical representation (a) Boxenplot for polarity score (b) Scatter plot of Sentiment Polarity vs Subjectivity (c) Bar chart for the count of Positive, Negative & Neutral Tweets of Dataset-I

### 5 Discussions

Textual analytic has gained significant attention over the past few years with the advent of technological improvements. In this research, attempt is made to perform the sentiment analysis on the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic related public sentiments of Twitter data. This study also intended to explore the viability of the inductive learning models for the predictions of unseen tweets. Initial analysis was done to categorize the two different sets of datasets collected in two separate time frames into three distinct categorize (viz., *negative*, *neutral* and *positive*) using the NLTK framework with the assistance of the python libraries. From that categorization, it is observed that the number of *positive* tweets in the second set of dataset is significantly higher than the *neutral* and *negative* tweets. Which shows a positive directions towards the individual behaviors on this pandemic situation. But it is also worthy to be mentioned that the Twitter environment is totally dynamic. By only taking two sets of limited numbers of Twitter

datasets it is difficult to come up to a conclusive evidence that the individual opinions for this pandemic is going towards a positive directions, but this short study maybe helpful to generate the hint about the epidemics. Also, for the textual analytics different visualization plots/tools are used to represent the data for better understanding and for visibility. In the second phase of the data analysis part, TF-IDF based feature extraction and inductive learning models are applied. Though in this study formally the classification models are not stated properly but the experimental comparisons of the inductive learning classification models, gives sufficient directional support for the use of RF model and B-NB model for the prediction/classifying unseen twitter data into any of the three different categories. The extensive experiments with different classifiers evaluation measures suggests that RF model has performed significantly better compared to other three models. The execution time study justifies that the use of Linear-SVM is computationally very expensive. However, the uses



**Figure 11:** Graphical representation (a) Boxenplot for polarity score (b) Scatter plot of Sentiment Polarity vs Subjectivity (c) Bar chart for the count of Positive, Negative & Neutral Tweets of Dataset-II

of B-NB with respect to execution time and with little compromise of evaluation measures performance can be a good choice to structure a computational model for text categorization.

### 5.1 Limitations and scope for improvements

Twitter data alone may not be sufficient to reflect the general mass sentiments for a nation or for the states. However, this research may provide a clear indication or direction for other comprehensive analysis of multiple textual data sources. The data sources may include: Facebook data, different news articles and some other personal communications data. In this study, only English language based Twitter textual information are considered. However, there is high scope to incorporate other different languages for better performance of the model. Also, there is scope to apply the feature selection [9] process before the classification phase.

## 6 Concluding Remarks and Future Work

The propagation of data produced by the social networking sites spawns an amount of practical problems to be answered and analysis of sentiments is one of them. In this paper, by keeping in view of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, an attempt is made to analyse the performance of classical inductive learning models of classifiers to predict different tweets into three different classes. For doing the same, extensive experiments are conducted in two phases. In the initial phase, tweets were collected from Twitter site between 3/07/2020 to 11/07/2020 and 01/08/2020 to 06/08/2020, using Tweepy python library. Thereafter, with the assistance of Python based libraries and generated functions data are preprocessed. Word cloud visualization justifies the act of pre-processing steps. Then by calculating the polarity and subjectivity measures of the tweets, *negative*, *neutral* and *positive* are categories are created. In the later phase, well known TF-IDF feature extraction scheme with the uni-gram, bi-gram, and tri-gram

**Table 2:** Summary of experimental results of different classifiers evaluation measures on 70% training and 30% test set obtained by G-NB, B-NB, RF, and Linear-SVM classifiers on Dataset-I.

Methods	Uni-gram					Bi-gram					Tri-gram				
	-	Pre	Rec	F1-Sc	Acc	-	Pre	Rec	F1-Sc	Acc	-	Pre	Rec	F1-Sc	Acc
G-NB	Neg	0.75	0.86	0.80		Neg	0.80	0.86	0.83		Neg	0.60	0.91	0.72	
	Neu	0.89	0.89	0.73		Nue	0.92	0.87	0.90		Nue	0.94	0.84	0.89	
	Pos	0.62	0.62	0.72		Pos	0.84	0.88	0.86		Pos	0.91	0.78	0.84	
	$\mu$ -Avg.	0.74	0.74	0.74	73.70	$\mu$ -Avg.	0.87	0.87	0.87	86.33	$\mu$ -Avg.	0.83	0.83	0.83	83.71
	M-Avg.	0.75	0.75	0.75		M-Avg.	0.85	0.87	0.86		M-Avg.	0.81	0.85	0.82	
	W-Avg.	0.77	0.77	0.74		W-Avg.	0.87	0.87	0.87		W-Avg.	0.87	0.83	0.84	
B-NB	Neg	0.87	0.82	0.84		Neg	0.98	0.77	0.86		Neg	1.00	0.76	0.86	
	Neu	0.96	0.84	0.89		Neu	0.90	0.92	0.91		Neu	0.82	0.97	0.89	
	Pos	0.77	0.94	0.85		Pos	0.83	0.90	0.86		Pos	0.90	0.78	0.83	
	$\mu$ -Avg.	0.87	0.87	0.87	86.75	$\mu$ -Avg.	0.88	0.88	0.88	88.33	$\mu$ -Avg.	0.82	0.87	0.87	86.66
	M-Avg.	0.87	0.86	0.86		M-Avg.	0.90	0.86	0.88		M-Avg.	0.90	0.83	0.86	
	W-Avg.	0.88	0.87	0.87		W-Avg.	0.89	0.88	0.88		W-Avg.	0.88	0.87	0.86	
RF	Neg	0.98	0.85	0.91		Neg	0.99	0.83	0.90		Neg	0.99	0.80	0.89	
	Neu	0.90	0.99	0.94		Neu	0.83	0.99	0.91		Neu	0.79	1.00	0.88	
	Pos	0.97	0.89	0.93		Pos	0.97	0.78	0.87		Pos	0.99	0.71	0.83	
	$\mu$ -Avg.	0.93	0.93	0.93	93.40	$\mu$ -Avg.	0.89	0.89	0.89	89.30	$\mu$ -Avg.	0.87	0.87	0.87	86.73
	M-Avg.	0.95	0.91	0.93		M-Avg.	0.93	0.86	0.88		M-Avg.	0.92	0.84	0.87	
	W-Avg.	0.94	0.93	0.93		W-Avg.	0.91	0.88	0.88		W-Avg.	0.89	0.87	0.86	
SVM	Neg	0.96	0.91	0.93		Neg	0.99	0.82	0.90		Neg	0.99	0.79	0.88	
	Neu	0.94	0.98	0.96		Neu	0.82	0.98	0.89		Neu	0.79	1.00	0.88	
	Pos	0.95	0.93	0.94		Pos	0.95	0.76	0.84		Pos	0.99	0.70	0.82	
	$\mu$ -Avg.	0.95	0.95	0.95	94.86	$\mu$ -Avg.	0.88	0.88	0.84	87.80	$\mu$ -Avg.	0.86	0.88	0.86	86.38
	M-Avg.	0.95	0.94	0.94		M-Avg.	0.92	0.85	0.88		M-Avg.	0.92	0.83	0.86	
	W-Avg.	0.95	0.95	0.95		W-Avg.	0.89	0.88	0.88		W-Avg.	0.89	0.86	0.86	

techniques different features are extracted to prepare the datasets to feed it into the prediction models. Out of the four prediction models, experimental results suggest that RF and B-NB models performance are better than the other two state-of-the-art classifier models. Experimental study also shows that linear-SVM has higher computational cost. Moreover, this kinds of study for doing the analysis on pandemic issues can be useful to build better models which can predict the epidemic eruption and its outlines.

In this study presently English language based Twitter textual information are measured, author is presently working towards incorporating other languages. Also, the identification of fake and misinformation accompanied with this disease is highly desirable.

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**Table 3:** The summary of results in terms of different classifiers evaluation measures on 70% training and 30% test set obtained by G-NB, B-NB, RF, and Linear-SVM classifiers on Dataset-II.

Methods	Uni-gram					Bi-gram					Tri-gram				
	-	Pre	Rec	F1-Sc	Acc	-	Pre	Rec	F1-Sc	Acc	-	Pre	Rec	F1-Sc	Acc
G-NB	Neg	0.74	0.84	0.79		Neg	0.77	0.82	0.80		Neg	0.58	0.89	0.70	
	Neu	0.88	0.74	0.80		Neu	0.89	0.82	0.85		Neu	0.91	0.78	0.84	
	Pos	0.79	0.87	0.83		Pos	0.86	0.89	0.87		Pos	0.92	0.82	0.87	
	$\mu$ -Avg.	0.81	0.81	0.81	81.1	$\mu$ -Avg.	0.85	0.85	0.85	85.10	$\mu$ -Avg.	0.82	0.82	0.82	82.10
	M-Avg.	0.80	0.82	0.81		M-Avg.	0.84	0.85	0.84		M-Avg.	0.80	0.83	0.81	
	W-Avg.	0.82	0.81	0.81		W-Avg.	0.85	0.85	0.85		W-Avg.	0.85	0.82	0.83	
B-NB	Neg	0.92	0.78	0.84		Neg	0.99	0.75	0.85		Neg	1.00	0.73	0.85	
	Neu	0.88	0.92	0.90		Neu	0.82	0.95	0.88		Neu	0.76	0.98	0.86	
	Pos	0.89	0.91	0.90		Pos	0.92	0.87	0.89		Pos	0.96	0.80	0.87	
	$\mu$ -Avg.	0.89	0.89	0.89	86.75	$\mu$ -Avg.	0.88	0.88	0.88	88.06	$\mu$ -Avg.	0.86	0.86	0.86	85.95
	M-Avg.	0.90	0.87	0.88		M-Avg.	0.91	0.86	0.87		M-Avg.	0.90	0.84	0.86	
	W-Avg.	0.89	0.89	0.89		W-Avg.	0.89	0.88	0.88		W-Avg.	0.89	0.86	0.86	
RF	Neg	1.00	0.82	0.90		Neg	0.99	0.80	0.88		Neg	1.00	0.77	0.87	
	Neu	0.89	0.99	0.94		Neu	0.80	0.99	0.88		Neu	0.75	1.00	0.85	
	Pos	0.97	0.93	0.95		Pos	0.98	0.84	0.90		Pos	0.99	0.77	0.87	
	$\mu$ -Avg.	0.94	0.94	0.94	93.68	$\mu$ -Avg.	0.89	0.89	0.89	<b>89.00</b>	$\mu$ -Avg.	0.86	0.86	0.86	<b>86.73</b>
	M-Avg.	0.95	0.92	0.93		M-Avg.	0.92	0.87	0.89		M-Avg.	0.91	0.85	0.86	
	W-Avg.	0.94	0.94	0.94		W-Avg.	0.91	0.89	0.89		W-Avg.	0.89	0.86	0.86	
SVM	Neg	0.96	0.88	0.92		Neg	0.99	0.78	0.87		Neg	1.00	0.76	0.86	
	Neu	0.92	0.97	0.94		Neu	0.78	0.98	0.87		Neu	0.74	1.00	0.85	
	Pos	0.96	0.94	0.95		Pos	0.96	0.81	0.88		Pos	1.00	0.76	0.86	
	$\mu$ -Avg.	0.94	0.94	0.94	<b>94.21</b>	$\mu$ -Avg.	0.87	0.87	0.84	87.36	$\mu$ -Avg.	0.86	0.86	0.86	85.56
	M-Avg.	0.95	0.93	0.94		M-Avg.	0.91	0.86	0.87		M-Avg.	0.91	0.84	0.86	
	W-Avg.	0.96	0.94	0.94		W-Avg.	0.89	0.87	0.87		W-Avg.	0.89	0.86	0.86	

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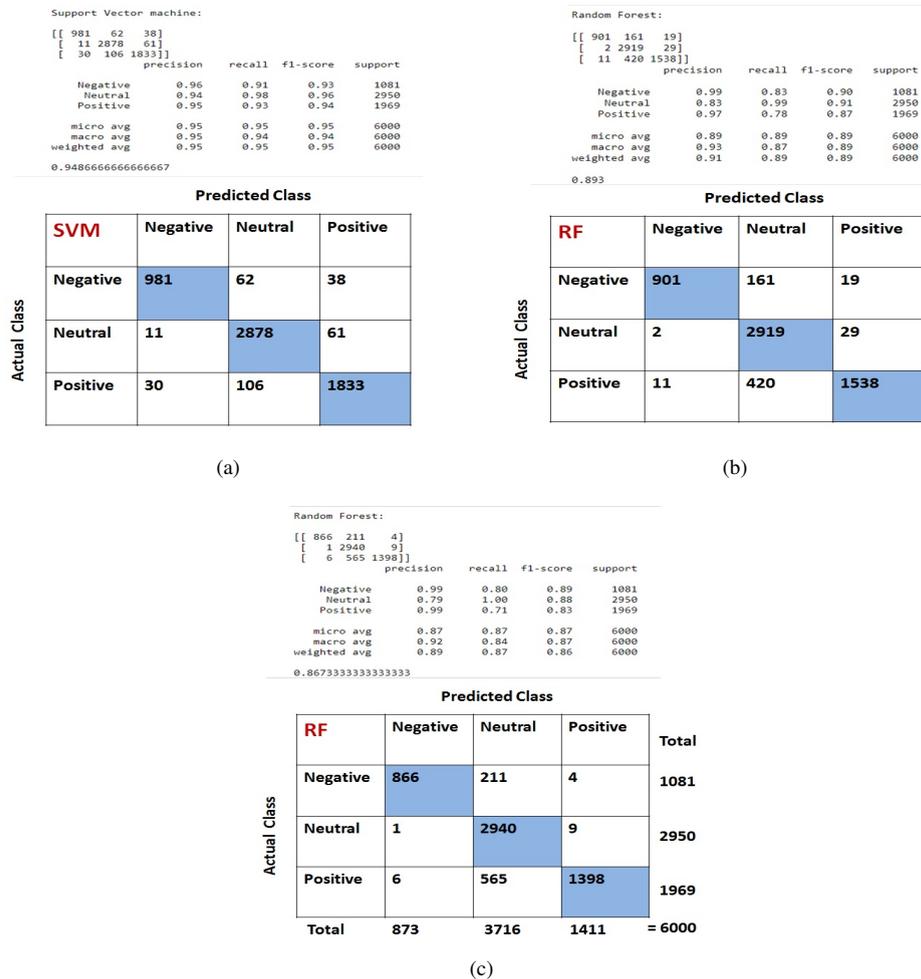


Figure 12: Representation of the best results achieved by the RF and SVM on different (a) uni-gram (b) bi-gram and (c) tri-gram models on Dataset-I

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**Figure 13:** Representation of the best results achieved by the RF and SVM on different (a) uni-gram (b) bi-gram and (c) tri-gram models on Dataset-II

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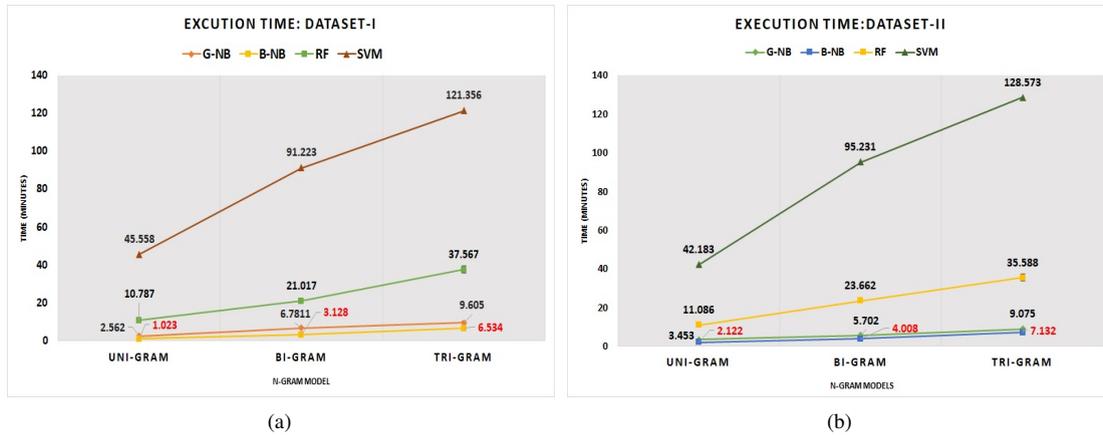
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**Figure 14:** Execution time taken by G-NB, B-NB, RF and SVM on different N-gram models on (a) Dataset-I (b) Dataset-II

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