

Social Media: Friend or Foe of Natural Language Processing?

Tim Baldwin



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MELBOURNE

Talk Outline

- ① Social Media and Natural Language Processing
- ② Bringing the Data to NLP
- ③ Bringing NLP to the Data
- ④ Concluding Remarks

What is Social Media?

- According to Wiktionary (21/8/2012), social media is:

Interactive forms of media that allow users to interact with and publish to each other, generally by means of the Internet.

- While social media sites have strong support for multimedia content, text is still very much a core data type

Social Media Include ...



Social Networking sites

posts, friends/circles, “likes”, shares, events, photos, comments, geotags, ...

The screenshot displays the Facebook News Feed interface. At the top, there is a search bar and navigation tabs for Home, Profile, and Account. The main content area is titled "News Feed • Top News" and shows several posts. The first post is from "P. Wilbur Marina and the Diamonds - The Family Jewels. Not long to wait." It features a photo of a person and has 2 people who liked it. Below it is a post from "Kawana Anasui" with a photo of a person and a comment. The bottom post is from "Gabby Pezzoni" with a photo of a person and a comment. The right sidebar contains sections for Recommendations, Suggestions, Sponsored, Top Facebook Ads, and Events.

2010 500 million users

Social Media Include ...



Micro-blogs

posts, followers/followees, shares, hashtagging, geotags, ...



Source(s): <http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/twitter/>

Social Media Include ...



Web user forums

posts, threading, followers/followees, ...

CNET > Forums > Operating system forums > Linux > ubuntu running minecraft

CNET FORUMS

My Tracked Discussions

Forum Real-Time Activity

Forum FAQs

Forum Policies

Forum Moderators

OPERATING SYSTEMS FORUMS

Windows 8

Windows 7

Windows Vista

Windows XP

Windows 2000/NT

Windows Mobile

Windows ME

Windows 95/98

Mac OS X

Linux forum: ubuntu running minecraft

by buchanan273 August 16, 2012 12:02 PM PDT

Like this 0 people like this thread

ubuntu running minecraft
by buchanan273 - 8/16/12 12:02 PM

I have a 2003 sony vaio pcv-2220 and i put a game on it and now it wont run without restarting several times like its crashing and then when it loads up it has a critical error pop up... well that is my computer with minecraft and i have a HP Compaq no-6220 laptop that runs linux ubuntu 12.04 and i've heard that you can play minecraft on ubuntu but i don't know how and i'm having withdrawals from minecraft.

ANSWER THIS Ask for clarification

TOTAL POSTS: 4 (SHOWING PAGE 1 OF 1)

THREAD DISPLAY PREFERENCE: COLLAPSED EXPANDED [TRACK THIS THREAD](#) [BACK TO LINUX](#)

ANSWERS

ANSWER

Re: minecraft on ubuntu
by Kees_S_M - 8/16/12 12:27 PM
In Reply to: ubuntu running minecraft by buchanan273
<https://www.google.com/search?q=linux+minecraft> gives a lot of promising hits.

I find google a very useful tool for questions like this. Do you know google?

Kees

Was this reply helpful? (0) (0)

Reply

yes i know google
by buchanan273 - 8/17/12 6:40 AM

Source(s):

http://http://forums.cnet.com/7723-6617_102-570394/ubuntu-running-minecraft/

Social Media Include ...



Wikis

posts, versioning, linking, tagging, ...

WIKIPEDIA
The Free Encyclopedia

- Main page
- Contents
- Featured content
- Current events
- Random article
- Donate to Wikipedia
- Interaction
 - Help
 - About Wikipedia
 - Community portal
 - Recent changes
 - Contact Wikipedia
- Toolbox
- Print/export
- Languages
 - العربية
 - Azərbaycanca
 - Български
 - Català
 - Dansk
 - Deutsch
 - Español
 - فارسی

Create account Log in

Article Talk Read Edit View history Search

Social media

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

! This article may be written from a fan's point of view, rather than a neutral point of view. Please clean it up to conform to a higher standard of quality, and to make it neutral in tone. *(July 2012)*

Social media includes web- and mobile-based technologies which are used to turn communication into interactive dialogue among organizations, communities, and individuals. **Andreas Kaplan** and **Michael Haenlein** define social media as "a group of Internet-based applications that build on the ideological and technological foundations of Web 2.0, and that allow the creation and exchange of user-generated content."^[1] When the technologies are in place, social media is ubiquitously accessible, and enabled by scalable^[clarification needed] communication techniques. In the year 2012, social media became one of the most powerful sources for news updates through platforms like Twitter and Facebook.

Contents [show]

Social media

[edit]

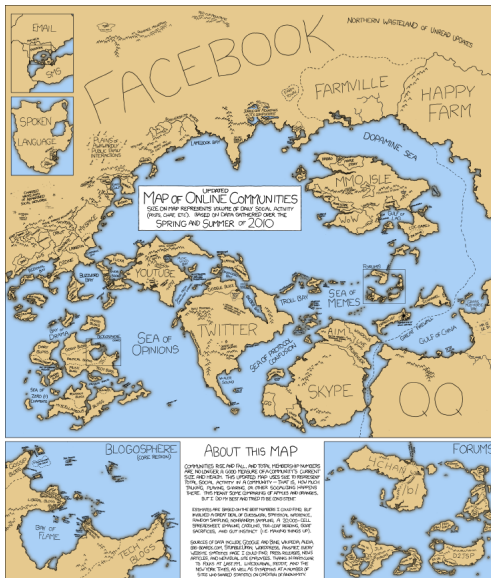
Classification of social media

[edit]

Social media technologies take on many different forms including magazines, internet forums, weblogs, social blogs, microblogging, wikis, social networks, podcasts, photographs or pictures, video, rating and social bookmarking. By applying a set of theories in the field of media research (social presence, media richness) and social processes (self-presentation, self-disclosure) Kaplan and Haenlein created a classification scheme for different social media types in their Business Horizons article published in 2010. According to **Andreas Kaplan** and **Michael Haenlein** there are six different types of social media: collaborative projects (e.g., Wikipedia), blogs and microblogs (e.g., Twitter), content communities (e.g., YouTube), social networking sites (e.g., Facebook), virtual game worlds (e.g., World of Warcraft), and virtual social worlds (e.g. Second Life). Technologies include: blogs, picture-sharing, vlogs, wall-postings, email, instant messaging, music-sharing, crowdsourcing and voice over IP, to name a few. Many of these social media services can be integrated via social network aggregation platforms. Social media network websites include sites like Facebook, Twitter, Bebo and MySpace.

The honeycomb framework defines how social media services focus on some or all of seven functional building blocks (identity, conversations, sharing, presence, relationships, reputation, and groups). These building blocks help understand the engagement needs of the social media audience. For instance, LinkedIn users care mostly about identity, reputation and relationships, whereas YouTube's primary building blocks are sharing, conversations, groups and reputation.^[2] Many companies build their own social containers that attempt to link the seven functional building blocks around their brands. These are private communities that engage people around a more narrow theme, as in around a particular brand, vocation or hobby, than social media containers such as Google+ or Facebook and also twitter.

Source(s): http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Social_media



Properties of Social Media Data

(NLP “ideal” → *actuality*)

- Edited text

Properties of Social Media Data

(NLP “ideal” → *actuality*)

- *Unedited text*

Properties of Social Media Data

(NLP “ideal” \rightarrow *actuality*)

? How different?

Bigram LM Perplexity:

	BNC \rightarrow	Twitter ₁ \rightarrow	Twitter ₂ \rightarrow
\rightarrow BNC	185	1553	1528
\rightarrow Twitter ₁	4082	260	887
\rightarrow Twitter ₂	4953	938	274

Properties of Social Media Data

(NLP “ideal” → *actuality*)

- *Unedited text*
- Static data

Properties of Social Media Data

(NLP “ideal” → *actuality*)

- *Unedited text*
- *Streamed data*

Properties of Social Media Data

(NLP “ideal” → *actuality*)

? Challenges of Streaming Data

require throughput guarantees

batch vs. streamed processing of data (e.g. for topic modelling)

potential need for “incremental” models

Properties of Social Media Data

(NLP “ideal” → *actuality*)

- *Unedited text*
- *Streamed data*
- Long(ish) documents; plenty of context

Properties of Social Media Data

(NLP “ideal” → *actuality*)

- *Unedited text*
- *Streamed data*
- *Short documents; v. little context*

Properties of Social Media Data

(NLP “ideal” → *actuality*)

? Document Context

| Hard to adjust document-level priors when
| little context

Properties of Social Media Data

(NLP “ideal” → *actuality*)

- *Unedited text*
- *Streamed data*
- *Short documents; v. little context*
- All context is language context

Properties of Social Media Data

(NLP “ideal” → *actuality*)

- *Unedited text*
- *Streamed data*
- *Short documents; v. little context*
- *Little language, potentially lots of other context*

Properties of Social Media Data

(NLP “ideal” → *actuality*)

? Priors, priors everywhere

user priors

user-declared metadata priors

location priors

social network-based priors

hashtag priors

timezone priors

implicit social networks (retweets, user mentions, ...)

⋮

Properties of Social Media Data

(NLP “ideal” → *actuality*)

- *Unedited text*
- *Streamed data*
- *Short documents; v. little context*
- *Little language, potentially lots of other context*
- Well-defined domain/genre

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- *All over the place*

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- *All over the place*
- Sentence tokenisation

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- *All over the place*
- *What's a sentence?*

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- *All over the place*
- *What's a sentence?*
- Grammaticality

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- *What's a sentence?*
- *Yer what?*

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- *Little language, potentially lots of other context*
- *All over the place*
- *What's a sentence?*
- *Yer what?*
- Most of what glitters is English (and if your method can handle one language, it can handle 'em all)

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- *Unedited text*
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- *Short documents; v. little context*
- *Little language, potentially lots of other context*
- *All over the place*
- *What's a sentence?*
- *Yer what?*
- *Anything goes — lots of languages, multilingual documents, ad hoc spelling, mix of language and markup ... language anarchy!*

Observation/Questions

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- Much of the work that is currently being carried out over social media data doesn't make use of NLP
 - Are NLP methods not suited to social media analysis?
 - Is social media data too challenging for modern-day NLP?
 - Are simple term search-based methods sufficient for social media analysis, i.e. is NLP *overkill* for social media?
- Is social media data is the friend or foe of NLP?

Possible Ways Forward

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- “Adapt” the data to the NLP tools through preprocessing of various forms
- “Adapt” the NLP tools to the data through “domain” (de-)adaptation

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Preprocessing

- Basic premise: the cleaner/richer the data, the easier it is to process/better quality the predictions that arise from it
- Overarching constraint: any preprocessing has to be able to keep pace with the torrent of streamed data ... although many of the models we use can be learned off-line

Language Identification: Task

- Language identification (langid) = prediction of the language(s) a given message is authored in

? Example

karena ada rencana ke javanet, maka siap-kan link dolodan, di bookmark, ready to be a bandwidth killer.. siap siaplah javanet, im coming..

Language(s): ?

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Language(s): MS,EN

Language Identification: Method

- Outline of the basic approach:

Language Identification: Method

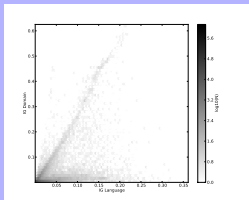
- Outline of the basic approach:
 - ① represent each document as a set of byte n -grams of varying n

Language Identification: Method

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 - ② across a range of datasets, identify n -grams that are correlated with language and *not* dataset

? LD

$$\mathcal{LD}^{all}(t) = \mathcal{IG}_{lang}^{all}(t) - \mathcal{IG}_{domain}(t)$$



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 - ③ learn log likelihoods for each term and class from training data: $\log P(t_j | c_i)$
 - ④ classify a test document using multinomial naive Bayes over the \mathcal{LD} features

Language Identification: Accuracy

- Comparative evaluation over pre-existing Twitter LangID datasets:

	langid.py		LangDetect		CLD	
	Accuracy	docs/s	Δ Acc	Slowdown	Δ Acc	Slowdown
T-BE	0.941	367.9	-0.016	4.4 \times	-0.081	0.7 \times
T-SC	0.886	298.2	-0.038	2.9 \times	-0.120	0.2 \times

- Impact on bigram LM Perplexity:

	BNC \rightarrow	Twitter-EN ₁ \rightarrow	Twitter-EN ₂ \rightarrow
\rightarrow BNC	185	1170 (-383)	1108 (-420)
\rightarrow Twitter-EN ₁	1528 (-2554)	215	416 (-471)
\rightarrow Twitter-EN ₂	1620 (-333)	469 (-469)	228

Language Identification: Research Challenges

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 - language segmentation (*which parts of what messages correspond to what languages?*)

Language Identification: Research Challenges

- We are very good at monolingual language identification, but what about multilingual documents?
 - multi-label language identification (*what language(s) is a document in*)
 - language segmentation (*which parts of what messages correspond to what languages?*)
- How can we determine when we aren't sure/don't recognise the language(s)?

Lexical Normalisation: Task

- Lexical normalisation = “spell-correct” (English) messages to “canonical” lexical form:

? Example

*If you a Grl and you dont kno how to Cook
yo bf should Leave you rite away*



*If you a girl and you don't know how to
cook your boyfriend should leave you rite
away*

Lexical Normalisation: Method

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- Learning the normalisation dictionary:
 - ① Extract (OOV, IV) pairs based on distributional similarity.
 - ② Re-rank the extracted pairs by string similarity.
 - ③ Select the top- n pairs for inclusion in the normalisation lexicon.

Lexical Normalisation: Results

- Lexical normalisation results:

Method	Precision	Recall	F-Score
S-dict	0.700	0.179	0.285
HB-dict	0.915	0.435	0.590
GHM-dict	0.982	0.319	0.482
HB-dict+GHM-dict+S-dict	0.847	0.630	0.723

Ultimately: dictionary combination works best

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Ultimately: dictionary combination works best

- Impact on POS tagging:

Tagger	Text	% accuracy	# correct tags
POS _{Stanford}	original	68.4	4753
POS _{Stanford}	normalised	70.0	4861
POS _{twitter}	original	95.2	6819
POS _{twitter}	normalised	94.7	6780

Source(s): Han and Baldwin (2011), Han et al. (2012)

Other Instances of Preprocessing

- User/message geolocation
- Identification of “high-utility” messages
- Social media user profiling
- Credibility analysis

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Instances of Social Media-adapted NLP tools

- CMU Twitter POS tagger: Twitter-tuned, coarse-grained POS tagset
- Self-training parser adaptation for social media data
- Named Entity Recognition for Twitter

Source(s): Gimpel et al. [2011], Foster et al. [2011], Ritter et al. [2011]

The Grand Challenge

- Social media data is highly temporal in nature, and models constantly need updating/de-adaptation
- Often in social media analysis, people are interested in finding the *unknown* (e.g. novel event types, new products)

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Friend or Foe?

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- If we simplistically apply models trained on “traditional” datasets to social media, it is very much a foe ... and evermore shall be so!

Friend or Foe?

- If as NLPers we cherish a challenge, there is no question that social media is our friend
- If we simplistically apply models trained on “traditional” datasets to social media, it is very much a foe ... and evermore shall be so!
- Social media also opens up immediate opportunities in terms of integrated multimodal analysis (links to image, video content); if we can harness this content, social media is again our friend (more context/better disambiguation)

NLP and Social Media

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- Much of the work on social media analysis is based on analysis of a pre-defined trend (e.g. election outcome prediction, flu outbreak tracking, earthquake detection)
 - ... and perhaps NLP is overkill
- That is not to say there aren't a myriad of applications which can't be described with simple keywords for which NLP is vital (e.g. novel event detection, disaster management)

NLP and Social Media

- Is NLP overkill for social media analysis?
- Much of the work on social media analysis is based on analysis of a pre-defined trend (e.g. election outcome prediction, flu outbreak tracking, earthquake detection)
 - ... and perhaps NLP is overkill
- That is not to say there aren't a myriad of applications which can't be described with simple keywords for which NLP is vital (e.g. novel event detection, disaster management)
 - ... and perhaps the bottleneck is instead NLP accessibility

Final Words

- Social media is hip ... but also big and hairy, and poses both challenges and opportunities for NLP
- Ongoing work on a myriad of technologies/tasks relating to social media analysis, progressively making social media more “NLP accessible”
- There is plenty to be done ... come and join us!

Taking Credit for a Cast of Thousands

- This is joint work with Paul Cook, Bo Han, Aaron Harwood, Shanika Karunasekera, Su Nam Kim, Marco Lui, David Martinez, Joakim Nivre, Richard Penman, Li Wang, ...

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