User's Content-Oriented Social-Bot Discovery on Twitter

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Abstract Several studies have shown that social bots might have impacts on various important areas of our society such as influencing the outcome of elections, the economy, or creating panic in time of crisis. Consequently, there is a growing need to develop and strengthen defense mechanism against these entities. So far, existing methods rely on users' global information, such as profile information, network-related, and from the text content only syntactic information have been used. In this paper, we propose a defense mechanism against social bots on Twitter, a neural network model that incorporates metadata features and semantic information, pairwise tweet similarities and ngram features from a user's content to differentiate genuine users from social bots. Our model outperforms baseline systems in three publicly available datasets..

Key words Twitter, content similarity, tweet semantic, ngram model, social bots detection, Convolutional Neural Networks, social computing

1 Introduction

A recent study [3] suggests that social bots (social media accounts controlled algorithmically by software to generate content and interact with other users, automatically) may have played an important role in the 2016 U.S presidential election. An analysis of election-related tweets showed that bots produced near one-fifth of the entire conversation. Earlier, during the 2010 U.S midterm election, social bots were used to support some candidates and defame their opponents [30]. These kinds of incidents are not particular only to U.S elections' arena, similar patterns have also been observed in other countries as well [13; 31; 19].

Outside of politics, there are also several reported impacts of social bots. For instance, bots have been associated with causing panic during a time of crisis by disseminating false and unverified information [35]; affecting the stock market by generating a vivid discussion about a company which created an apparent public interest [6].

As result of a widespread use of social media services, they have become a crucial data source in various academic research. Several studies concerned with correlating real-life events with observations made from social media data have been published. From detecting earthquakes [32; 12], election outcomes [25; 21] to disease outbreaks [34; 2; 8]. In addition, [36] estimation places social bot population on Twitter between 9% to 15% of total active users. Therefore, contents generated by bots might undermine a useful predictions made from SNS data. Consequently, there is a growing need

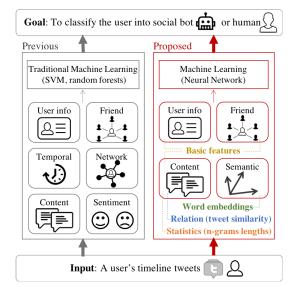


Figure 1: Overview of the proposed method against previous methods based on many complex features. Some of the features require much time to obtain. Especially network and friend features are inconsistent. In contrast, the proposed method focused mainly on text-oriented features: semantic and content features, which are stable and easy to obtain.

to develop and strengthen defenses against these entities. However, detecting bot is one of the most daunting tasks in social media analysis [13]. The challenge is understanding what modern bot can do. Bot have evolved from easily detectable ones which performs mainly one type of activity, such as posting or re-tweeting automatically, to increasingly sophisticated ones. Now the boundary between what constitutes human-like and bot-like behavior has become fuzzier [14].

Most of the previous work on bot detection fall in to two perspectives. First, network-based methods in which the decision is drawn from the users network analysis, with the assumption that social bots tend to be mostly connected to other bots [39; 6]. However, recent work show [29; 4] that advanced social bots may successfully be connected to humans making them impossible to be detected solely on networkbased assessments. Second, machine-learning schemes are trained with language-based, and other features (extracted from users' tweets and metadata) to capture users' behavioral patterns in order to differentiate real users from social bots. However, language-based features used in previous work were mostly syntactic inherent features, and there is still much to be explored in semantic features.

In this paper, we propose a defense mechanism against social bots on a social network service, Twitter, that leverage nuances in semantic features from a user's timeline tweets combined with tweet similarity, n-gram features and metadata based features. Figure 1 illustrates the overview of the proposed method against previous methods based on many complex features. Some of the features require much time to obtain. Especially network and friend features are inconsistent. In contrast, the proposed method focused mainly on text-oriented features: semantic and content features, which are stable and easy to obtain, combined with users' metadata features. The contributions of the paper are summarized as follows:

• We propose a bot detection focused on semantic and content features, which are simple statistics-based features to overhead computational complexity.

• We construct CNN (Convolutional Neural Network) models that incorporates semantic features together with tweet similarity, n-gram features and metadata based features.

• The experiments conducted with publicly available datasets show that the proposed model outperform baseline models.

• Our results show that we can improve performance from a base model that uses only semantic features and metadata features by adding other features. This might motivate other researchers to consider adding semantic features to their models.

2 Related Work

21 Bot Detection

Since the early days of social media, several research on automatic identification of non-genuine users on social media network have been conducted [39; 11]. Most of the work done in this area fall into two categories: network-based and feature-based decision.

On network-based bot detection, the decision is based on social graphs analysis. For example, Sybil ^(it) Guard [39] assumes that non-Sybil region, region bounding human-tohuman-established trust relation, is fast mixing and Sybil admission to the region is based on admission control protocol. SybilRank [6] assumes that connection between users is based upon the trustworthiness among then, consequently, Sybil accounts show less connectivity to real users and more to other Sybils to appear trustworthy. However, sophisticated bots might gain trust of real users [29; 4], and to be able to penetrate their communities, making them impossible to be spotted solely by network-based assessments through trust assumption [14]. Therefore, other aspects should be considered.

On feature-based detections, machine-learning schemes are trained to capture users' behavioral patterns and meta-data in order to differentiate real users from social bots. [37] and [1] focus on the detection of spam tweets, which optimizes the amount of data that needs to be gathered by relying only on tweet-inherent features. [36] leverage more than one thousand features distributed in six categories (userbased, friend, network, temporal, content, and sentiment features) obtained from users' metadata, mentions and timeline tweets. [10] show that natural language text features are effective at separating real users from social bots. However, content and language features extracted from tweets text in the previous works [36; 10; 37] were mostly syntactic inherent features.

22 Chat Bot

In Natural Language Processing (NLP) context, the main goal is to realize natural conversation instead of the bot detection. Most current bot engines are designed to reply to user utterances based on existing utterance-response pairs [38]. In this framework, to capture the relevance between utterance and response is fundamental. Then, the relevance is calculated by the framework's ability to retrieve the most relevant pairs from the conversation database (retrieval approach), or generate the response to the given utterance (generative approach). Although mostly the target relevance is limited to the short scope, usually, a single utteranceresponse pairs, our proposed method handle another wider relevance of the entire tweets (Section 3.2).

3 Model

We formulate the task of automatically identifying nongenuine users on social media as follows: given a user *u*'s posts (timeline tweets) $X_u = \{x_1, x_2, ..., x_n\}$, our goal is to

⁽注1): Social bots are also known as Sybils

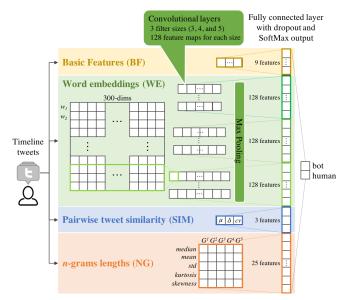


Figure 2: visual illustration of the proposed model

find $Y \to \{0, 1\} = \{human, bot\}$ for the user such that:

 $Y^* = \arg\max_{Y} P(Y|X_u)$

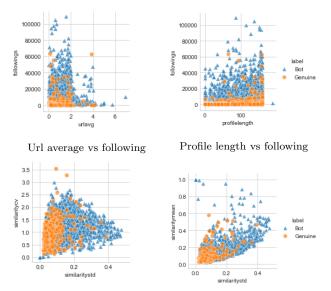
Representation of our model is illustrated in Fig. 2. This model is slight alteration of a shallow CNN for sentence classification tasks [22; 40] to accommodate basic features, tweet similarity and n-gram lengths. Given a sequence of n tweets X_u from a given user u, we apply it in three different parts. First, we compute word embedding from the concatenation of all tweets (Section 3.2); second, we compute basic features (Section 3.1), then pairwise tweet similarity from all tweets (Section 3.3), and lastly, we compute several statistics about lengths of different classes of n-gram (Section 3.4).

The word embedding layer is followed by a convolution layer comprised of several filters of different sizes (3, 4 and 5), but with the same width as the dimension of the embedding vectors. Every filter performs convolution over embedding matrix, producing feature map. Next, we run the feature map through an element-wise non-linear transformation, using Rectified Linear Unit (ReLU) [23]. Then, applying 1-max pooling [5], then we extract the maximum value from each feature map. We concatenate all extracted values from feature map together with features from basic, pairwise tweet similarity and n-grams lengths. We then feed all features to a full connected SoftMax layer for final output. Dropout [17] is used as a mean of regularization.

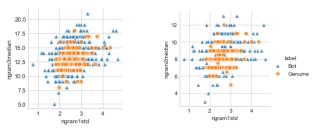
The aim of this study is to show the contribution of semantic features in spotting bots when combined with basic features, tweet similarity and n-gram features obtained from users' tweets.

31 Basic Features

Basic features mostly comprise those that are extracted from users' metadata and some from tweets. For a given



Std vs cof. of variation of tweet Std vs mean of tweet similarity similarity



Std of 1-gram length vs median of 3-gram length of 2-gram length

Figure 4: Distribution of some basic, similarity and ngram features from a sample of $DATA_{HP}$

user u, we extract 9 basic features as follow: number of followers (number of users that follow u); number of following (number of users that u follows); ratio between the number of followers and the sum of the number of followers and following; number of tweets authored by u; age of u's account in years; length of u's profile description; length of u's screen name; average number of URL and average number of hashtags (both relatively to the number of analyzed tweets). Fig. 4 shows the distribution of the number of followings relative to URL average (a), and relative to the length of profile description (b) from honeypot dataset (see Section 4.1). We can observe that most genuine accounts, those belonging to real people, followed less accounts and have URL average below 2, in contrast, bots have higher number of followings. Features extracted from users' meta-data have been successfully applied to classify users on Twitter [9; 36; 37]. However, advanced bots can camouflage human-like metadata information which decrease the effectiveness of these features. Thus, we combine basic features with much more sophisticated features to counter bots' evasive tactics.

32 Word Embedding

Word embedding models enable us to represent a text in a dense vector of real numbers, one per word in a vocabulary. On the contrary to vector space models [33], word embedding are built on the notion of distributional hypothesis [16], which assumes that words that are used and occur in the same context are semantically related to each other. Thus, word embedding entails efficiently encoding semantic information of a text or document. Therefore, we take $X'_u = x_1 + x_2 + ... x_n$ as a concatenation of *n* tweets of a given user *u* and, we produce word embedding of 300 dimension that capture semantic features from that a user's content.

33 Pairwise Tweet Similarity

A recent study [10] has shown that content from pure genuine users tend to be very dissimilar in average compared to content produced by automatons. Since we assume that bots generate tweets with similar structure and minor modifications from one tweet to another, we design the feature to capture the tweet similarity based on that assumption.

We introduce three features that enable us to quantify the degree of similarity of a certain set of pairs of tweets from a given user u: mean of pairwise tweet similarity (μ_u) , standard deviation of pairwise similarity (δ_u) and coefficient of variation (cv_u) of pairwise tweet similarity. Being |x| the number of character in a tweet x, m the number of matching characters between two tweets (x_1, x_2) and t_r the number of transpositions needed to change one tweet to another. And based on Jaro Similarity [20], the similarity between a pair of tweets, $Sim(x_1, x_2)$, is given by:

$$Sim(x_1, x_2) = \begin{cases} 0 & ifm = 0\\ \frac{1}{3}(\frac{m}{|x_1|} + \frac{m}{|x_2|} + \frac{m - t_r}{m}) & otherwise \end{cases}$$

The mean μ_u of all pairwise tweet similarities on a sample of *n* tweets of a given user *u* is calculated by:

$$\mu_u = \frac{2}{n(n-1)} \sum_{x_i, x_j} Sim(x_i, x_j)$$

Being δ_u the standard deviation of pairwise tweet similarity on a sample of *n* tweets of a given user *u*, where:

$$\delta_{u} = \sqrt{\frac{2\sum_{x_{i}, x_{j}} (Sim(x_{i}, x_{j}) - \mu)^{2}}{n(n-1)}}$$

Then, the coefficient of variation of pairwise tweet similarity cv_u of a given user u is calculated as $cv_u = \delta_u/\mu_u$.

Fig. 4(c) and (d) illustrate the distribution of the three similarity features. In general bot accounts have very similar content compared to human accounts, but with also high standard deviation. However, similar to Fig. 4(a) and (b), Fig. 4(c) and (d) show that some bots are clustered together or close to genuine accounts. Therefore, similarity or basic features alone are not enough to separate bot accounts from genuine accounts in some instances.

34 n-gram Lengths

n-gram (G^n) is a contiguous sequence of n items from a given sample of text. n-gram models are used over a broad range of tasks in Natural Language Processing such as text categorization [7], machine translation [26; 15], and speech recognition [18]. In social bot detection task, [37] used a combination of tf (term frequency) and tf-idf (term frequency times inverse document frequency) of unigram (1-gram), bigram (2-gram), and tri-gram (3-gram). They achieved their best results by combining user features (e.g, length of profile name, length of profile description, etc) with n-gram features which showed to be very effective. However, computing tf and tf-idf can be computationally expensive on large dataset. Therefore, we take a different approach by computing several statistics from the number of characters in n-grams (length of n-gram).

We use word-based n-gram, e.g., for the given sentence "<user> it should be a good time !", we compute the following: 1-gram $(G^1) = \{$ "<user>", "it", "should", "be", "a", "good", "time", "!"}; 2-gram $(G^2) = \{$ "<user> it", "it should", "should be", "be a", "a good", "good time", "time !"}. Being $|G^n| = \{len(g_1), len(g_2), ..., len(g_k)\}$ a sequence of lengths of n-gram of class n (we compute ngram of n = 1 up to n = 5) from a given user's tweets. As for 1-gram (G^1) of the above example, it would be $|G^1| =$ $\{6, 2, 6, 2, 1, 4, 4, 1\}$. From $|G^n|$ the following five statistics are determined: $median(|G^n|), mean(|G^n|), std(|G^n|),$ $kurtosis(|G^n|)$ and $skewness(|G^n|)$, totaling 25 features (five statistics for $|G^1|$ to $|G^5|$). Fig. 4(e) and (f) shows the distribution of some ngram features. Human accounts are clustered in the middle while bot accounts are spread.

Table 1: Performance of our models on different datasets

Model	DATA _{VAROL}	$DATA_{HP}$	$DATA_{MIX}$
BL_{VAROL} [36]	0.890 AUC	0.960 AUC	0.940 AUC
BL_{CLARK} [10]	-	0.960 AUC	-
BL_{WANG} [37]	-	0.940 prec	-
	-	$0.940 \ \mathrm{rec}$	-
BF+WE	0.873 AUC	0.984 AUC	$0.954 \ \mathrm{AUC}$
BF+WE+SIM	0.889 AUC	0.986 AUC	$0.956 \ \mathrm{AUC}$
BF+WE+NG	0.884 AUC	0.985 AUC	$0.954 \ \mathrm{AUC}$
BF+WE+SIM+NG	0.914 AUC	0.988 AUC	0.960 AUC

- values are not available.

prec and rec indicate precision and recall, respectively.

4 Experiments

We empirically investigated the proposed model by using two standard datasets, which were often utilized in previous works, and we also tested with a mixed dataset. This section initially describes the datasets used to train and evaluate our models. We then give implementation details of our models and the baseline models that we compared with. At last, we show the results followed by features importance and error analysis.

41 Dataset

We evaluate our models with two publicly available datasets ($DATA_{HP}$ and $DATA_{VAROL}$) and the combination of them $DATA_{MIX}$, respectively.

• $DATA_{HP}$: this dataset is from the social honeypot experiment [24]. It consists of 22K content polluters (bots) with over 2 million tweets and 19K legitimate users with over 3 million tweets. For our study, we randomly selected 7K bots and 3K genuine users, and 200 tweets for each user.

• $DATA_{VAROL}$: this is a manually labeled dataset as in [36]. It consists of about 2500 binary labeled twitter accounts (0 for genuine or human-controlled accounts and 1 for bot-controlled accounts). We ran our crawler in January 2018 and collected 200 tweets from each user's timeline to reduce the crawling time. Note that 200 tweets is the maximum number of tweets per request under the standard Twitter API (#2) as of January 2018. Since some accounts were deleted or had changed their privacy settings from public to private as of time of crawling, the number of successfully crawled accounts reduced to about 2000 (about 600 bots and 1400 humans).

• $DATA_{MIX}$: we combined together the two datasets $(DATA_{HP} \text{ and } DATA_{VAROL})$, resulting in the dataset with about 12K users.

We ran a series of tweet anonymization process where we substituted all mentions and links with tokens juser; and jlink; from all tweets, respectively. Using available library^($l\pm 3$), we removed all non-English tweets, and only accounts that remained with more than 20 messages were considered for further analysis. For additional data sanitization, the cleaning method from [22] was applied to the datasets.

42 Baseline

To evaluate the proposed models, we compared our results with three baseline systems.

• *BL_{VAROL}* (Varol et al., 2017) [36]: a content-based framework that leverages more than a thousand features distributed in 6 categories: I. user-based features - extracted from user metadata (e.g, screen name length, number of digits in screen name, accounts age, etc.); II. friend-based features - extracted from language use, local time, popularity, etc; III. network-based features - extracted from user's network structure; IV. temporal features - extracted from user

activity, such as average rates of tweet production over various time periods and distribution of time intervals between tweets; V. Content and language features - extracted from tweet text, mostly syntactic features such as POS tagging usage, statistics about number of words in a tweet, etc. VI. sentiment features - obtained from measurement of mood and emotions conveyed in the tweets. They trained a set of machine learning schemes with subset of 100 features and reported that random forest yielded the best result.

• BL_{CLARK} (Clark et al., 2016) [10]: a machinelearning approach based on natural language text features to provide the base for identifying non-genuine accounts. They used three content-based features: I. average pairwise tweet dissimilarity; II. word introduction rate decay parameter and average number of URLs per tweets;

• BL_{WANG} (Wang et al., 2015) [37]: a machine learning approach that focuses on optimizing the amount of data that needs to be gathered by relying only on tweet-inherent features. They applied three feature categories: I. user features - similar of those used in BL_{VAROL} ; II. content features including n-gram based features such as tf (term frequency) and tf-idf (term frequency times inverse document frequency) of unigram (1-gram), bi-gram (2-gram), and trigram (3-gram). III. sentiment features such as automatically and manually created sentiment lexicons from the tweet text.

43 Implementation Setup

Our model is implemented in tensorflow on top of publicly available^{$(l\pm 4)$} implementation of CNN for sentence classification as presented by [22].

${\bf 4\,3.\,1} \quad {\rm Models' \ settings}$

To initialize our word embedding of dimension 300, word2vec pre-trained embeddings [28] were used. For convolutions, we set the number of filters to 128 for each filter-size of 3, 4, and 5. We applied 'Dropout' to the input to the penultimate layer with probability of 0.5. Optimization is performed using stochastic gradient (SGD) with initial learning rate 0.005 and 0.0001 for early stopping.

43.2 Models' variants

Four different variations of the proposed model, starting from one layer CNN with word embeddings [22] combined with basic features (**BF** + **WE model**) were implemented. To the **BF** + **WE model** either/both pairwise tweet similarity (**SIM**) (explained in Section 3.3) or/and ngram lengths (**NG**) (described in Section 3.4), creating **BF** + **WE** + **SIM model**, **BF** + **WE** + **NG model**, and **BF** + **WE** + **SIM model**, **BF** + **WE** + **NG model**, and **BF** + **WE** + **SIM** + **NG model**, respectively. It took up to 3 days to finish a 5-fold cross validation.

 $^{({\}Bar{2}}{2}): {\Bar{https://developer.twitter.com/en/docs.html}$

 $^{({\}grave{\pm}} 3): {\tt https://github.com/saffsd/langid.py}$

⁽注4):https://github.com/dennybritz/cnn-text-classification-tf

Table 2: McNemar chi-squared test with Yates correction of 1.0 of the BF + WE model against: BF + WE + SIM model (a); BF + WE + NG model (b); BA + WE + SIM + NG model (c). On about 3.5K users assembled from original honeypot dataset. Both models were trained with $DATA_{HP}$.

		BF + WE				
		Correct	Incorrect			
BF + WE + SIM	Correct	3125	68			
	Incorrect	40	194			
p-value = 0.0090						
(b) $BF + WE + NG model$						
		BF + WE				
		Correct	Incorrect			
BF + WE + NG	a .	9104	<u> </u>			
51 112 114	Correct	3124	68			
21 + 0.2 + 1.0	Correct Incorrect	41	194			

(a) $BF + WE + SIM \mod d$

(c) BF + WE + SIM + NG model

		BF + WE			
		Correct	Incorrect		
BF + WE + SIM + NG	Correct	3126	68		
	Incorrect	39	194		
p-value = 0.0065					

44 Results

Table 1 illustrates the results of our models' assessments through 5-fold cross validation.

 $DATA_{HP}$ and $DATA_{MIX}$: The BF + WE model, which is just one layer CNN with pre-trained word embeddings from users' timeline tweets plus basic features, performs well on $DATA_{HP}$ and $DATA_{MIX}$ compared to the baseline systems. As we expected, adding more features (SIM, NG, and SIM + NG) to the BF + WE model improves significantly performance over the three datasets. This suggests that these features have comparatively low correlation among them. We achieved our best results on all datasets when combining all features, which produces BF + WE + SIM + NG model (see fig. 2).

 $DATA_{VAROL}$: Despite not achieving almost-ceiling result like on $DATA_{HP}$, our models performed fairly well on $DATA_{varol}$ too, yielding a state of the art result as well. It is important to state that this dataset is more recent compared to $DATA_{HP}$ and possibly it contains more advanced bots. In addition, it has only 2K users and of those 600 are bots which might not have been enough data to train our models to understand underlying differences between bots and human users. In summary, all our models performed well in all datasets, and the model that combines all features outperformed the three baselines.

45 Feature Contribution

In order to understand better the improvement of performance over the BF + WE model when adding more features (see Section 4.4), we employed McNemar test for paired nominal data [27]. This test is appropriate for binary classification tasks. Since we compare the results of the algorithms when applied on the same datasets.

We assembled new data of about 3.5K users from original Honeypot dataset (see Section 4.1) completely exclusive with $DATA_{HP}$. We next tested all models with this dataset and compared the models' outcomes to those of the BF + WE model. Using McNemar chi-squared test with one degree of freedom under the null hypothesis (*p*-value = 0.05) that the models have a negligible decrease of error rate, i.e., it would be determined that there is no significant performance improvement from the BF + WE model if the *p*-value from the test is equal or greater than that of the null hypothesis.

Table 2(a) shows the McNemar chi-squared test with Yates correction of 1.0 of the BF + WE model against the BF + WE + SIM model. The *p*-value of the test is equal to 0.009 (less than the *p*-value associated with the null hypothesis) which proves that adding pairwise tweet similarity features, indeed, we gain an evident performance improvement. Table 2(b) presents the *p*-value of the test against the BF + WE + NG model is equal to 0.0124, suggesting the significance to consider pairwise n-grams lengths features with the BF + WE model. Similarly, we can interpret the result of the BF + WE + SIM + NG model as shown in Table 2 (c).

Analogous to what we have observed in Section 4.4, Table 2(c) shows that the greatest performance improvement from the BF + WE model is gained when applying the BF + WE + SIM + NG model which combined all the features, and produced the lowest p-value among all the three McNemar tests.

46 Error Analysis

we conducted some empirical analysis in order to gain more insights on our model outputs. As stated earlier, in recent years social bots have become sophisticated enough to generate human-like content [14]. Thus, discriminating bots from human users is not a straightforward task. However, from the analysis of our models' inputs-outputs we observed that in general our model performed well even in a presence of non-obvious bots. Table 3 shows a sample of our model output on two datasets, $DATA_{varol}$ and $DATA_{HP}$.

46.1 False Positive

Our models failed to correctly classify users labeled as human but exhibited automated behaviour, bot-like behaviour. Some of these accounts belonged to human users but most of their content were generated by connected applications such as Spotify or Youtube. We also observed cases of miss label-

Table 3: Excerpt of users' tweets with their respective predicted and gold standard (denoted Gold) labels. The first three users are from $DATA_{HP}$ and the latter three users are from $DATA_{VAROL}$.

User ID	Tweet ID	Tweets		Gold
u_1	t_{11}	we do not plant knowledge when young , it will give us no shade		bot
	t_{12}	he was posting him up user user the cavs did n't have anybody that could help lebron		
u_2	t_{21}	why can't you just be straightforward ? <user> find joy in the ordinary</user>		bot
	t_{22}	i have so many thoughts $\langle \text{URL} \rangle$ firstly, $\langle \text{USER} \rangle$ is great wish he could do all of		
u_3	t_{31}	hello <user> we have arrived ! ! ! ! <user> friday fun fact of the day a ford truck is sold</user></user>	human	human
		every 41 seconds for d150 $<$ USER $>$ the new chrysler		
	t_{32}	right amp center last spring concert so bittersweet qingatw if you can do high school		
u_4	t_{41}	RT <user>: #NowPlaying on #Spotify <user> "One Night" <url></url></user></user>	bot	human
	t_{42}	RT <user>: #NowPlaying on #Spotify Ayron Michael "One Night" <url> <url></url></url></user>		
u_5	t_{51}	<user> why is dengue spray used in presence of students in school</user>	bot	bot
	t_{52}	afer attock students at jehlum fainted due to effect of den $\langle USER \rangle$		
u_6	t_{61}	i finally get a saturday morning to sleep in and i'm awake at 8 am	human	human
	t_{62}	<user> mike i can't believe it sully oh mike mike i'm on a t shirt</user>		

ing on the dataset, e.g., user u4 on table 3. Accounts labeled as human/bot, although double check of their content and profile revealed that they are more likely to belong to the opposite label.

46.2 False Negative

Similar to false positive, our models also triggered false negative for users labeled as bot and yet, a checking on their tweets, meta-data and overall activity showed that these accounts might be human accounts (e.g. user u1 on table 3).

5 Conclusions

This paper proposed an approach to classify Twitter users into social bots and human users with a CNN model considering features obtained from their texts and metadata. Given a twitter user's tweets the model captures the semantic features through a pre-trained word embedding, find the content similarity by pairwise tweets comparison, statistics about lengths of various class of n-gram and extract features from the user's metadata. Our results shows that pairwise tweet similarity and n-gram features when combined with semantic features improve performance over the basic + word embedding model. Our model outperformed the baseline system, yielding state-of-the-art results three datasets.

In future work, we plan to consider more users information such as network, the temporal pattern of content generation, emotions or mood conveyed by the user's content. We also plan to create a large new dataset containing more recent bots.

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