Purple Feed: Identifying High Consensus News Posts on Social Media

Juhi Kulshrestha

with

Mahmoudreza Babaei, Abhijnan Chakraborty, Fabricio Benevenuto, Krishna P. Gummadi, Adrian Weller































• A general agreement in readers' reaction to it, irrespective of their own political leaning

• A general agreement in readers' reaction to it, irrespective of their own political leaning

$$Consensus = 1 - \left| \frac{\#D_{disagree}}{\#D} - \frac{\#R_{disagree}}{\#R} \right|$$

• A general agreement in readers' reaction to it, irrespective of their own political leaning

$$Consensus = 1 - \left| \frac{\#D_{disagree}}{\#D} - \frac{\#R_{disagree}}{\#R} \right|$$

 AMT experiment to measure consensus of news tweets - Ground truth dataset

• A general agreement in readers' reaction to it, irrespective of their own political leaning

Salon: Comey firing coverage shows right-wing media has lost it's grip on reality [url]

FoxNews: @seanhannity: "The real reason that President #Trump fired James Comey is because the former @FBI Director was incompetent." [url]

> NYTimes: He was fired by President Trump. Where does James Comey go next? [url]

Identifying high & low consensus posts

- Prior work publisher- and content-based features
- Our proposal audience leaning based features

Audience leaning based features - An intuition



Reuters: Trump ordered emergency meeting after global cyber attack: official [url]

High consensus post

Audience leaning based features - An intuition



Reuters: Trump ordered emergency meeting after global cyber attack: official [url]

High consensus post

CNN: Michelle Obama criticizes Trump administration's school lunch policy [url]

Low consensus post

Audience leaning based features - An intuition



Reuters: Trump ordered emergency meeting after global cyber attack: official [url]

High consensus post

CNN: Michelle Obama criticizes Trump administration's school lunch policy [url]

Low consensus post

Purple Feed:

Identifying High Consensus News Posts on Social Media

- Measuring consensus of news posts on social media (AMT survey for creating ground truth dataset)
- Empirical study of consensus of news posts (popularity, topics covered, exposure to ideologically cross-cutting content)
- Audience leaning based features & their experimental evaluation

Purple Feed:

Identifying High Consensus News Posts on Social Media

- Measuring consensus of news posts on social media (AMT survey for creating ground truth dataset)
- Empirical study of consensus of news posts (popularity, topics covered, exposure to ideologically cross-cutting content)
- Audience leaning based features & their experimental evaluation



Empirical study of consensus of news posts

- High & low consensus posts are equally popular
- High & low consensus posts cover similar topics
- High consensus posts provide more crosscutting exposure to views than low consensus post.

Details in the paper.

 Ground truth dataset - Random news posts by 10 publishers

 Ground truth dataset - Random news posts by 10 publishers

 Supervised classifiers - Logistic regression, Linear SVM, Naive Bayes, Random Forest

 Ground truth dataset - Random news posts by 10 publishers

 Supervised classifiers - Logistic regression, Linear SVM, Naive Bayes, Random Forest

Audience leaning based features outperform publisher and content based features for news post consensus classification task.

 Ground truth dataset - Random news posts by 10 publishers

 Supervised classifiers - Logistic regression, Linear SVM, Naive Bayes, Random Forest

Audience leaning based features outperform publisher and content based features for news post consensus classification task.

For more details come to the poster!

Classifier
Logistic Regression
Linear SVM
Naive Bayes
Random Forest

Classifier	Different feature categories					
	Publisher based (P)	Tweet based (T)	P and T	Audience leaning based (A)	P, T, and A	
Logistic Regression	~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~		~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~			
Linear SVM						
Naive Bayes						
Random Forest						

Classifier	Different feature categories				
	Publisher based (P)	Tweet based (T)	P and T	Audience leaning based (A)	P, T, and A
Logistic Regression	0.58 ± 0.008	0.58 ± 0.008	0.68 ± 0.009	0.72 ± 0.012	0.72 ± 0.011
Linear SVM	0.58 ± 0.008	0.58 ± 0.008	0.68 ± 0.009	0.72 ± 0.012	0.72 ± 0.011
Naive Bayes	0.59 ± 0.007	0.57 ± 0.015	0.60 ± 0.01	0.66 ± 0.015	0.66 ± 0.012
Random Forest	0.58 ± 0.008	0.57 ± 0.01	0.64 ± 0.01	0.67 ± 0.015	0.67 ± 0.017
	•	•			

Classifier	Different feature categories				
	Publisher based (P)	Tweet based (T)	P and T	Audience leaning based (A)	P, T, and A
Logistic Regression	0.58 ± 0.008	0.58 ± 0.008	0.68 ± 0.009	0.72 ± 0.012	0.72 ± 0.011
Linear SVM	0.58 ± 0.008	0.58 ± 0.008	0.68 ± 0.009	0.72 ± 0.012	0.72 ± 0.011
Naive Bayes	0.59 ± 0.007	0.57 ± 0.015	0.60 ± 0.01	0.66 ± 0.015	0.66 ± 0.012
Random Forest	0.58 ± 0.008	0.57 ± 0.01	0.64 ± 0.01	0.67 ± 0.015	0.67 ± 0.017
	•	•			

Our contributions

- Defined & operationalized consensus of new posts
- Ground truth dataset of high and low consensus news posts on social media
- Empirical analysis of high & low consensus news posts
- Automated identification of high consensus news posts using audience leaning based features