

Bleaching Text: Abstract Features for Cross-lingual Gender Prediction.



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Malvina Nissim & Barbara Plank

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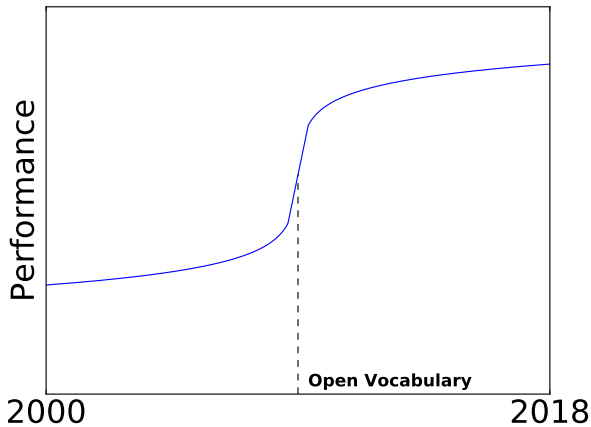
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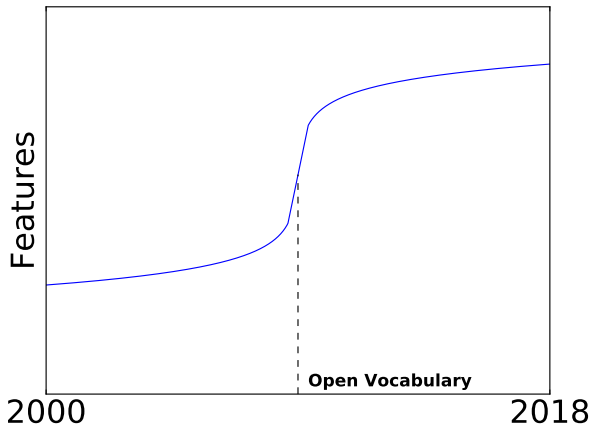
Gender Prediction

The task of predicting gender based only on text.

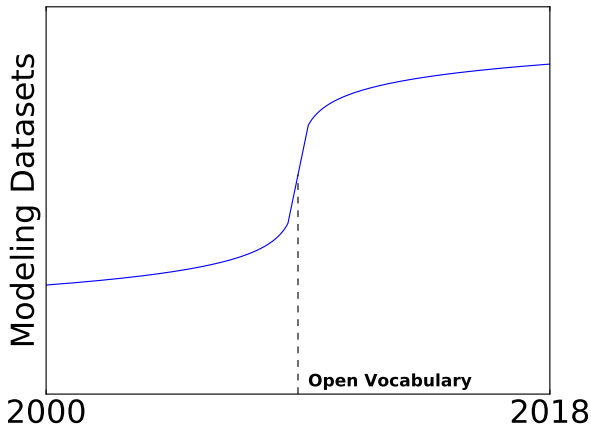
Gender Prediction



Gender Prediction



Gender Prediction



Gender Prediction

SVM with word/char n-grams performs best!

Gender Prediction

SVM with word/char n-grams performs best!

- ▶ Winner PAN 2017 shared task on author profiling:
- ▶ Words: 1-2 grams
- ▶ Characters: 3-6 grams

Survey: Women drinking more beer, men drinking less?

by **Chris Crowell** November 11, 2013



Often ☐
Sometimes ☒
Seldom ☐



Women hop on board the beer trend

17 Feb, 2017 2:07pm



Power Hour: Craft Beer Growth Opportunity Lies with Female Consumers

Justin Kendall | Mar. 24, 2017 at 2:41 PM



<https://www.brewbound.com/news/power-hour-craft-beer-growth-opportunity-lies-female-consumers>
<https://www.craftbrewingbusiness.com/news/survey-women-drinking-beer-men-drinking-less/>
https://www.nzherald.co.nz/business/news/article.cfm?c_id=3&objectid=11802831

However, how would this lexicalized approach work across different:

- ▶ time-spans
- ▶ domains
- ▶ languages???

Cross-lingual Gender Prediction

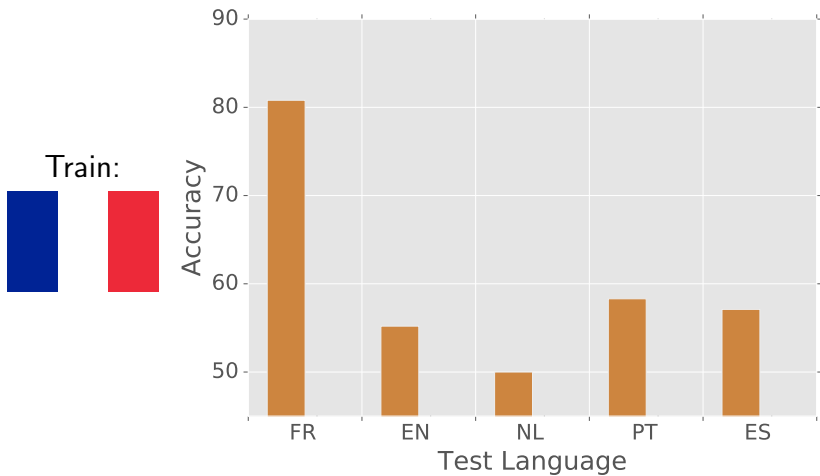
- ▶ Train a model on source language(s) and evaluate on target language.

Cross-lingual Gender Prediction

- ▶ Dataset: TwiSty corpus (Verhoeven et al., 2016) + English
- ▶ 200 tweets per user, 850 - 8,112 users per language



Cross-lingual Gender Prediction



Cross-lingual Gender Prediction

USER Jaaa moeten we zeker doen ❤️

Bleaching Text



Bleaching Text

100% Bleached Text

Bleaching Text

Original	Massacred a bag of Doritos for lunch! 🍌🍌🍌🍌
----------	--

Bleaching Text

Original	Massacred	a	bag	of	Doritos	for	lunch!	🌮🌮🌮🌮
Freq	0	5	2	5	0	5	1	0

Bleaching Text

Original	Massacred	a	bag	of	Doritos	for	lunch!	🌮🌮🌮🌮
Freq	0	5	2	5	0	5	1	0
Length	09	01	03	02	07	03	06	04

Bleaching Text

Original	Massacred	a	bag	of	Doritos	for	lunch!	🍌🍌🍌🍌
Freq	0	5	2	5	0	5	1	0
Length	09	01	03	02	07	03	06	04
PunctC	w	w	w	w	w	w	w!	🍌🍌🍌🍌

Bleaching Text

Original	Massacred	a	bag	of	Doritos	for	lunch!	🌮🌮🌮🌮
Freq	0	5	2	5	0	5	1	0
Length	09	01	03	02	07	03	06	04
PunctC	w	w	w	w	w	w	w!	🌮🌮🌮🌮
PunctA	w	w	w	w	w	w	WP	JJJJ

Bleaching Text

Original	Massacred	a	bag	of	Doritos	for	lunch!	👾👾👾👾
Freq	0	5	2	5	0	5	1	0
Length	09	01	03	02	07	03	06	04
PunctC	W	W	W	W	W	W	W!	👾👾👾👾
PunctA	W	W	W	W	W	W	WP	JJJJ
Shape	ULL	L	LL	LL	ULL	LL	LLX	XX

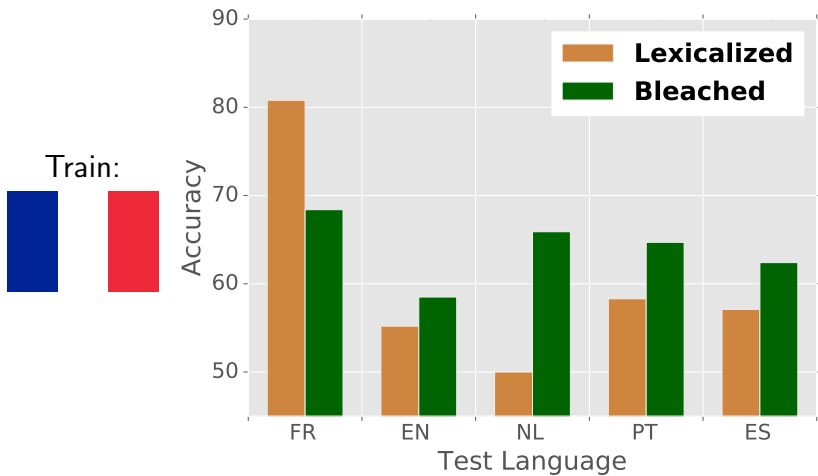
Bleaching Text

Original	Massacred	a	bag	of	Doritos	for	lunch!
Freq	0	5	2	5	0	5	1
Length	09	01	03	02	07	03	06
PunctC	W	W	W	W	W	W	W!
PunctA	W	W	W	W	W	W	WP
Shape	ULL	L	LL	LL	ULL	LL	LLX
Vowels	CVCCVCCVC	V	CVC	VC	CVCVCVC	CVC	CVCCCO

Bleaching Text

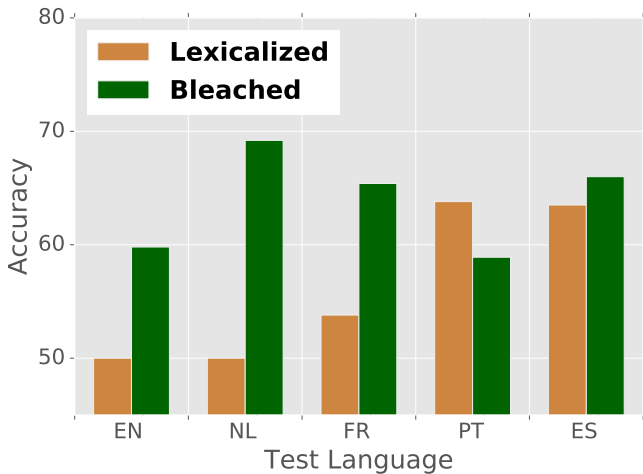
- ▶ No tokenization
- ▶ Replace usernames and URLs
- ▶ Use concatenation of the bleached representations
- ▶ Tuned in-language
- ▶ 5-grams perform best

Bleaching Text



Bleaching Text

Trained on all other languages:



Bleaching Text

Most predictive features

	Male	Female
1	W W W W "W"	USER E W W W
2	W W W W ?	3 5 1 5 2
3	2 5 0 5 2	W W W W ♥
4	5 4 4 5 4	E W W W W
5	W W, W W W?	LL LL LL LL LX
6	4 4 2 1 4	LL LL LL LL LUU
7	PP W W W W	W W W W *_*
8	5 5 2 2 5	W W W W JJJ
9	02 02 05 02 06	W W W W &W;W
10	5 0 5 5 2	J W W W W

Human Experiments

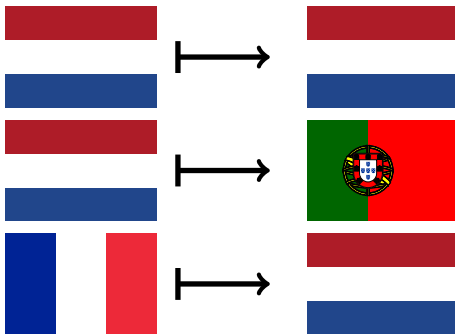
- ▶ Are humans able to predict gender based only on text for unknown languages?

Human Experiments

- ▶ 20 tweets per user (instead of 200)
- ▶ 6 annotators per language pair
- ▶ Each annotating 100 users
- ▶ 200 users per language pair, so 3 predictions per user

Human Experiments

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Human Experiments

A user has posted the following tweets:

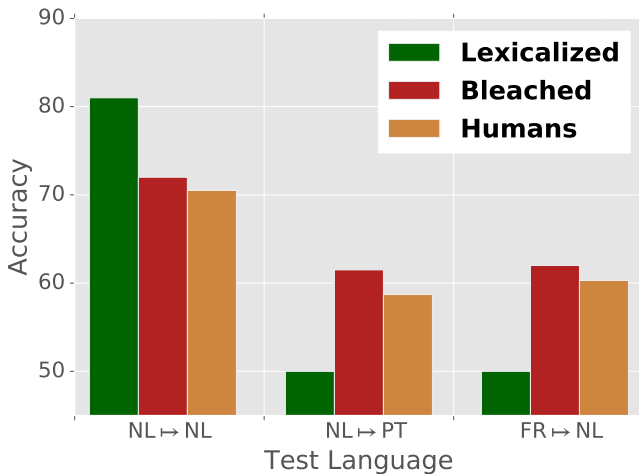
- pelo amor de deus cai na realidade URL
- a versão de REALiTi do album é tão ruim ne eu to até meio assim
- meu rosto tinha tdo pra ser ok mas nao eu tive que nascer com esse nariz horroroso e esses olhos cagados
- eu nunca ouvi nada tão lindo URL
- o mundo precisa ouvir isso URL
- USER GENTE??????????? eu apenas conciliei elas com a situação atual dá minha vida e já to todo em choque aqui pq to bateu
- meu deus eu desci o nível da timeline dum jeito q a gente já se encontra no pré sal moral
- quando a pessoa é tão medíocre que te chama de nerd debochando pq vc disse que gosta de ler
- USER bom.....eu num sei de nda
- USER eu to com o olho chei de agua sua mãe eh tão linda ♥♥♥♥
- eu definitivamente não aguento mais URL
- Rindo Muito De Meu Próprio Tweet
- USER USER sempre contribuindo para a arte de minhas amigas
- que saudade de camiliquia
- USER as arvores da minha casa tinham 70 anos.....cortaram >todas< por causa dos canos do vizinho
- USER o suprassumo da diferentona
- A NÃO paguei a lingua, pin é a terceira melhor musica do album, que musica maravilhosa
- USER USER USER qual a intenção em cmpartilhar fotos explicitas de crianças sendo abusadas?
- a minha mãe reclama de absolutamente tudo ela não para de reclamar 1 segundo, ela nunca ta de bom humor, ela nunca acha
- USER melissa do céu como assim explica

Do you think that the poster of these tweets is male or female? (required)

- ☐ Male
- ☐ Female

 Please use your intuition.

Human Experiments



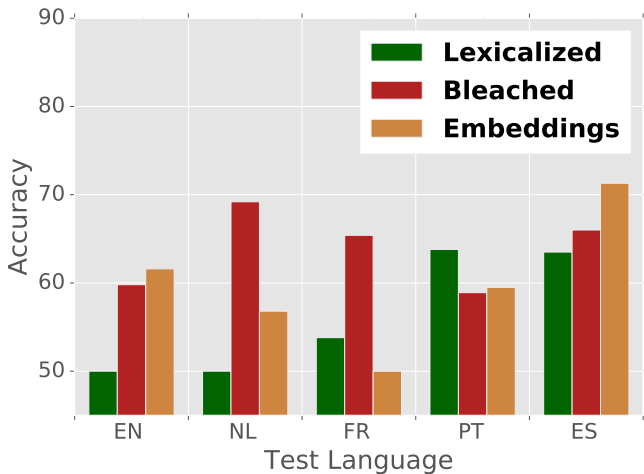
(note that the classifier had access to 200 tweets)

Conclusions

- ▶ Lexical models break down when used cross-language
- ▶ Bleaching text improves cross-lingual performance
- ▶ Humans performance is on par with our bleached approach

Thanks for your attention

Cross-lingual Embeddings

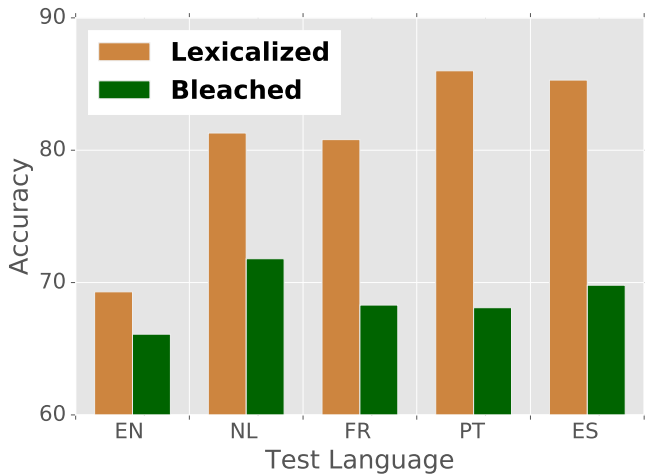


See: Plank (2017) & Smith et al. (2017)

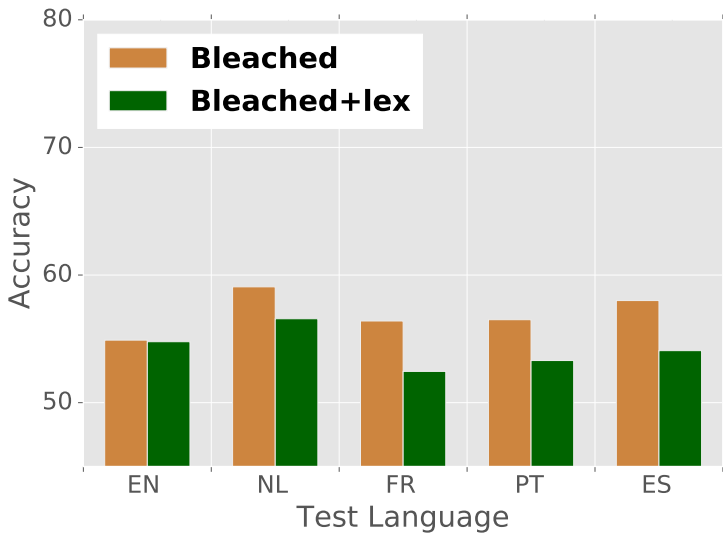
Lexicalized Cross-language

		Test →	EN	NL	FR	PT	ES
Train	EN			52.8	48.0	51.6	50.4
	NL		51.1		50.3	50.0	50.2
	FR		55.2	50.0		58.3	57.1
	PT		50.2	56.4	59.6		64.8
	ES		50.8	50.1	55.6	61.2	
Avg			51.8	52.3	53.4	55.3	55.6

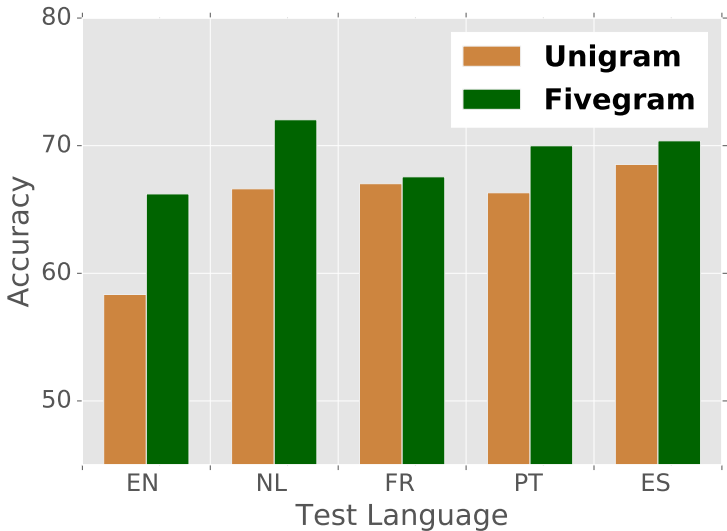
In-language performance



Bleached + Lexicalized



Unigrams vs fivegrams



Number of unique unigrams for Dutch

Feature	Size
Lexicalized	281011
Bleached	54103
Frequency	8
Length	79
PunctAgr	107
PunctCons	5192
Shape	2535
Vowels	46198

Language to language feature analysis

