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# **ASPECT-BASED OPINION MINING OF PRODUCT REVIEWS IN MICROBLOGS USING MOST RELEVANT FREQUENT CLUSTERS OF TERMS**

by

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# Appreciation

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# Outline

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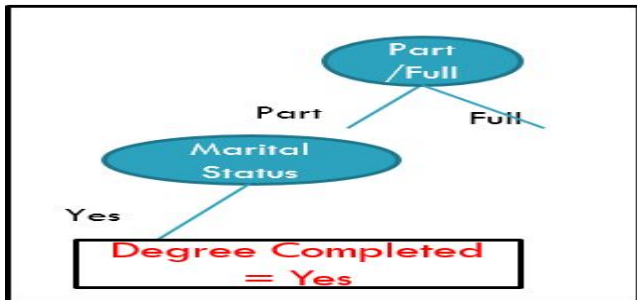
## **6. References**

## **7. Acknowledgement**



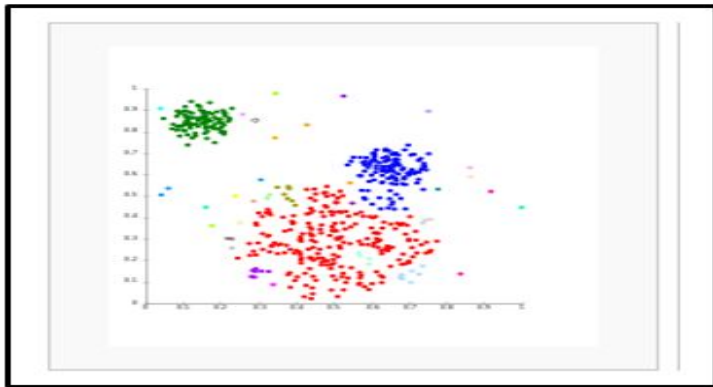
# Data Mining

## Classification



Id	Marital Status	Part/Full	Family Income	Degree Completed
1	Yes	Part	80K	No
2	Yes	Part	40K	Yes
3	No	Part	70K	No
4	No	Full	80	Yes
5	No	Full	30	Yes
6	Yes	Full	80K	No
7	Yes	Part	65K	Yes

## Clustering



## Association & Seq. Pat. Mining

**Marital Status="Yes" => Degree Completed = "No"**

Confidence = 50%

Support = 29%



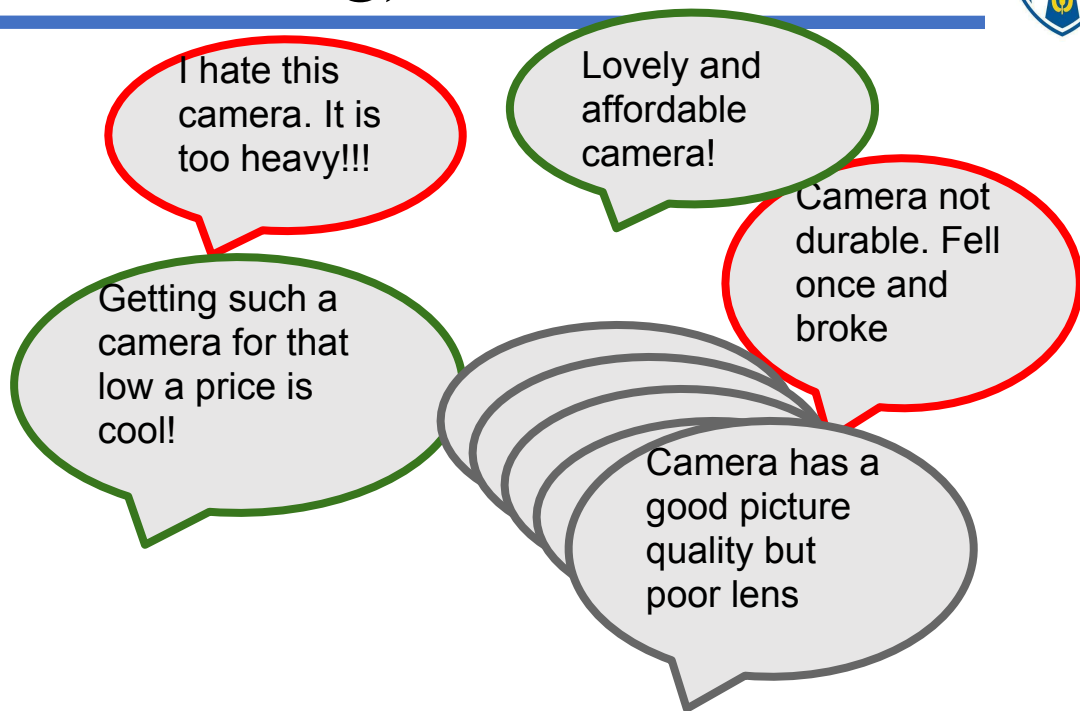
# 1 Introduction (Opinion Mining)

Producers want consumers' feedback on products.

- What parts they like?
- What features they hate?

The parts and features of a product are the *aspect* of the product.

What the consumers' think about the product is the *opinion* of that product.



**PROBLEM:** Too many opinions about different parts of the product for the producer to manually process.



# 1.1 Aspect-based Opinion Mining (ABOM)

- Aspect-based Opinion Mining aims at mining the aspects of a product and the opinions expressed on each of the aspects of the product.

Post  
Collection

*"When I first opened the package, iPhone looked free of scuffs, scratches etc. There were minor scratches on the screen that were hard to see from far away. The charger took forever to charge up before it could boot up. Later on I realized there was a pinkish rectangular hue in the center of the screen"*

Obtaining  
Candidate  
Aspects

*Package, iphone, scuffs, minor, scratches, screen, charger, charge, boot, hue*

Candidate  
Aspect  
Pruning

*screen, charger*

Aspect  
Opinion  
Detection

**Screen:** Negative  
**Charger:** Negative



# 1.2 Microblogs

Microblogs are frequent, short posts made on web blogs e.g Twitter.

Features:

- **Large volume** of posts (6,000 posts/ sec)
- **Unconventional writing.** E.g., “*btw, my b8ry died on me iphone while hooked on some vidz*”
- **Noisy Texts.** E.g. “*My new "Alibaba"-branded China-made iPhone cord is possibly the coolest thing you'll see this week. Greeeenntnnnn. đY's <http://t.co/vH6LHMok12>*”



Nikon D5000 Digital Camera

Great quality pictures, amazing camera!  
Written: Aug 09 '11

Product Rating: ★★★★★

Ease of Use:	██████████	<b>Pros:</b> Great quality, easy to use, great settings, has video, good LCD
Durability:	██████████	
Battery Life:	██████████	<b>Cons:</b> Video quality is not as good as it could be
Photo Quality:	██████████	
Shutter Lag:	██████████	

**Full Review:**

I purchased this camera just over a year ago and I am in love with it. I was just starting out with photography, and this camera made it very easy and less confusing. The pre-set settings (Portrait, Landscape, etc.) take such great pictures that it was only until recently that I even bothered to learn how to use the manual setting. Before purchasing the D5000, I had used the Nikon D3000. The D5000 has a much better screen, and in my opinion has a better design.



## 1.2 Microblogs

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- **Justification for ABOM in Microblogs:**
  - Microblogs provide a large volume and steady flow of opinions.
  - Consumers are more frequently turning to social media such as microblogs to conduct independent searches before making purchasing decisions (Volmer and Precourt, 2008).
  - 68% of consumers trust what other consumers post online about a product (Nielsen, 2013).
  - There is a strong correlation (0.70) between opinions about a product on Twitter and consumers' confidence about that product (European Central Bank, 2014).
  - Twitter is expected to receive a revenue of \$2.27 billion for mobile advertising in 2015 (Twitter, 2015)





# 1.3 Motivation

Existing Systems	Research Goal	Technique to Obtain Relevant Aspects	Limitations
Entity Identifier (Spina et. al 2011)	To obtain words from Microblogs that are relevant to the product.	Term Frequency-Inverse Document Frequency (TF-IDF). Based on the frequency of occurrence of a word in posts about a product and posts about a different product.	Accuracy easily affected by spam posts.
Twitter Aspect Classifier (Lek and Poo, 2013)	To obtain opinion polarity of microblog posts about a product based on the opinion polarity of the aspects in the post.	Pointwise Mutual information (PMI). Based on the number of google search results of a word and a product to determine relevancy	Google searches vary by geographic locations and by user
Twitter Summarization Framework (Li and Li, 2013).	To extract the aspects of brands and give a summary of opinions expressed.	Topic Tendency Score (TTS). An extension of TF-IDF by also using the frequency of a word occurring in some certain phrases.	Accuracy easily affected by spam posts.



# 1.4 Thesis Problem

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Given a collection of microblog posts,  $C$  about a product,  $P$ :

Can we mine the aspects of that product in such a way that the “noise” in microblog posts does not affect the accuracy of the system? Noise includes:

- a. **Spam** - Posts that are repeated multiple times by a robot
- b. **Advertisements** - Posts that aim to sell and do not express an opinion on the product. E.g. *“iphone chargers available here for sale. <http://asdsahobvww.com>”*.
- c. **Buzz Posts** - Posts are frequently repeated due to a popular event or happening. E.g., *“obama call with an iphone”, “obama uses an iphone”, “obama caught with iphone”*.
- d. **Competitor’s Products** - Posts that mention competitor’s products along with the product. E.g., *“samsung upgrades Android on galaxy in light of iPhone release”*



# 1.5 Thesis Contributions

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1. An algorithm called **Microblog Aspect Miner (MAM)** which takes in raw and unprocessed microblog posts about a product as the input and outputs the relevant aspects of the products and their opinion polarity. It does this by:
  - i. Classifying microblog posts as objective and subjective posts before mining aspects.
  - ii. Clustering the most frequent nouns using KMeans to remove the noisy candidate aspects and get the true aspects of the product.
2. A **Subjectivity Module** for calculating the subjectivity score of a post by using the positive and negative scores of words from SentiWordNet (Esuli and Sebastiani 2006).
3. A microblog specific **language model** which generates a vector representation for words in microblog posts based on the co-occurrence of words and contexts of words using the word2vec algorithm (Mikolov et al. 2013).



# 2.0 Related Work

## Similarity Functions

- Similarity of words is often measured using the cosine distance (Manning et al., 2008) which is the ratio of the dot product of the vectors and the product of their magnitude.

$$\text{Sim}(A, B) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n A_i B_i}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n A_i^2} \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n B_i^2}}$$

Dog = [0.8, 0.9, 0.8, 0.7, 0.8]

Cat = [0.9, 0.7, 0.7, 0.9, 0.9]

Chair = [0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.1, 0.1]

Similarity Matrix

	Dog	Cat	Chair
Dog	1	0.98	0.91
Cat	0.98	1	0.84
Chair	0.91	0.84	1



# 2.0 Related Works (cont)

## Vector Representation of Words

### Definition:

The **vocabulary**,  $V$  of a collection of posts are all the words used in the post,  $X$ . For example, if “I like the University”, “Data mining rules”, “I hate the library” are 3 posts and they make up a collection, the vocabulary of the collection is given by:

$$V = X_1 \cup X_2 \cup X_3 = \{\text{I, like, the, University Data, mining, rules, hate, library}\}$$

### Standard Representation of Words:

- Words are represented in a  $\mathbb{R}^{|V \times X|}$  matrix.
- Matrix can grow very large as  $X$  increases - *curse of dimensionality*. What happens if we have 400,000 posts?
- Does not capture semantic relationships between words. For example, *university* ([100]) is more similar to *like* ([100]) than to *library* ([001]). This should not be so.

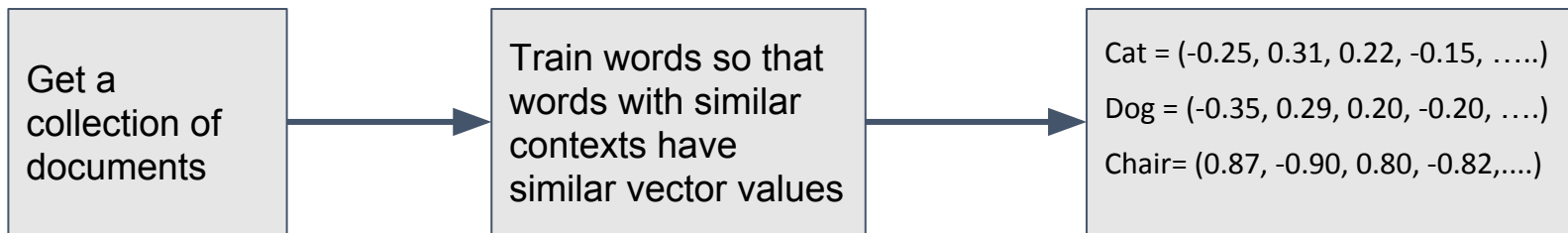
$V$	$X_1$	$X_2$	$X_3$
i	1	1	0
like	1	0	0
the	1	1	0
university	1	0	0
data	0	1	0
mining	0	1	0
rules	0	1	0
hate	0	0	1
library	0	0	1



## 2.0 Related Works (cont.)

### Distributed Word Representation (Word Embeddings).

- Each word in the vocabulary is represented by a vector in such a way that semantically similar words have similar vectors.
- The length of the vector is fixed (usually between 100-500) and the values of the vectors are obtained in such a way that words that have similar contexts have similar vector values.



*source: twitter,  
wikipedia etc.*

*Using word2vec  
algorithm (Mikolov et al.  
2013)*

*This is the language model  
which has a word embedding  
for every word in the vocabulary*



## 3.0 Proposed Solution

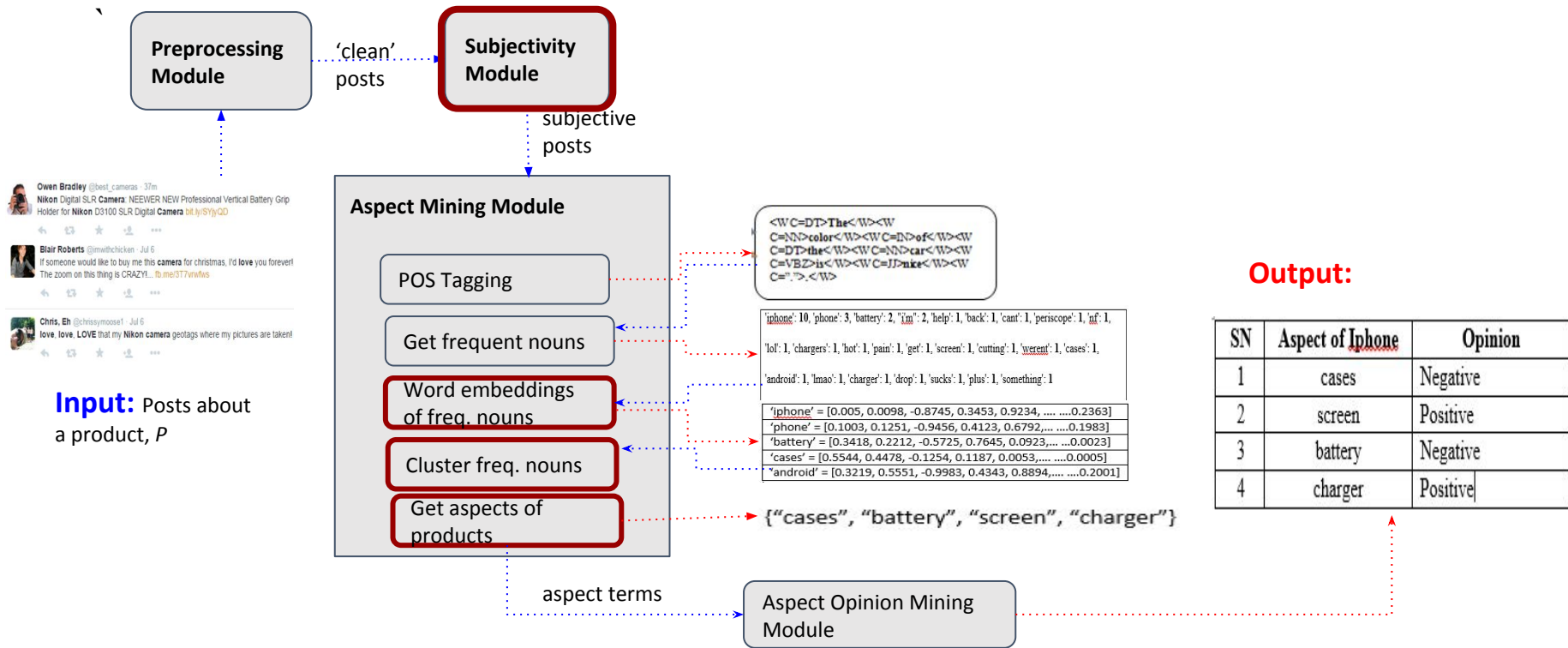
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We propose Microblog Aspect Miner (MAM). Given a collection of Microblog posts,  $C$ , about a product,  $P$ , MAM takes the following major steps:

1. Classifies of the microblog posts into subjective and objective posts using a proposed subjectivity score calculated based on the opinion scores of words from SentiWordNet (Esuli and Sebastiani, 2006).
2. Represents the frequent nouns in the subjective posts as vectors so that nouns similar to the products have a similar vector value using word2vec (Mikolov, 2013).
3. Uses K-Means clustering algorithm to the generated vectors of the frequent nouns to obtain a cluster of aspects relevant to the product.
4. The elements of the relevant aspect cluster are ranked to obtain the most relevant aspects using a proposed aspect-product similarity threshold, which is based on Cosine Similarities



# Solution Framework







# 3.1 Preprocessing Module

**AIM:** To “clean up” the microblog posts

## STEP 1

Obtain a collection of posts about a product from Twitter API (twitter.com/search-home).

## STEP 2

Remove all URLs, RTs, any word that starts with a ‘@’ and any word that does not start with an English letter or a digit. This is done using the regular expression:

`"(@[A-Za-z0-9]+)|([^0-9A-Za-z'#%~?," \t])|(\w+:\w\wS+)|(RT)"`

**STEP 3 :** Processed tweets sent to subjectivity module

	Original Tweet	Kept for Processing	Preprocessed Tweet
P1	Amazon Prime Video Introduces Offline Viewing for iPhone and iPad <a href="http://t.co/BttbFRyfTX">http://t.co/BttbFRyfTX</a> Mitchel Broussard	No	-
P2	<a href="#">iPhone 6</a> are a pain for phone cases <a href="#">dY</a> , I mean why make a phone so thin & not bring out good phone cases.	Yes	<a href="#">iPhone 6</a> are a pain for phone cases, I mean why make a phone so thin; not bring out good phone cases.
P3	RT <a href="#">@SohaiThoughts</a> : TOP 5 Reasons to Buy iPhone 6.	No	-
P4	<a href="#">@rowanaelin</a> both bc i have a friend who downloads books using her <a href="#">iphone</a>	Yes	both bc i have a friend who downloads books using her <a href="#">iphone</a>
P5	Lol i like videos and u taking me with an <a href="#">iPhone im</a> happy because the pictures are superb SMH <a href="#">#CliveNaidoo</a> vs <a href="#">#MetroCop</a>	Yes	Lol i like videos and u taking me with an <a href="#">iPhone im</a> happy because the pictures are superb SMH <a href="#">CliveNaidoo</a> vs <a href="#">MetroCop</a>



## 3.2 Subjectivity Module

**AIM:** To obtain only the subjective posts about the product consequently eliminating spam posts and advertisements which make up the noise in microblog posts.

**Definition:** A subjective post is a post that expresses an opinion. An objective post is a post that does not express an opinion. E.g.,

Subjective Posts	Objective Posts
I love the University of Windsor	University of Windsor is a school in Canada
I hate the <u>iphone's charger</u>	Buy your iPhone chargers here!
I like the new Prime Minister of Canada	Canada has a new Prime Minister



## 3.2 Subjectivity Module (cont.)

We propose a formula for calculating the subjectivity score,  $S$  of a post,  $P$  by taking the average of sentiment score of each word.

$$S_p = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n S_{wi}}{n}$$

$$S_{wi} = \text{pos\_score} + \text{neg\_score}$$

$S_p$  - subjectivity score of post  $P$ .

$w$  - a word in  $P$

$n$  - number of words in  $P$

SentiWordNet (Esuli and Sebastiani, 2006) is used to get the value of  $w$ . SentiWordNet is a lexicon that gives a positive, negative and objective (neutral) score to each word. Scores are between 1 and 0.

E.g, “*I love pictures*”

1. Get the positive and negative score of each word in each post from SentiWordNet.  
*I* (0.0, 0.0), *love*(0.625, 0.0), *pictures* (0.0,0.0)
2. Use the scores to calculate the  $S_p$   
 $((0.0 + 0.0) + (0.625 + 0.0) + (0.0 + 0.0))/3 = 0.208$
3. If  $S_p$  is greater than 0.04, the post is subjective. Else, the post is objective.

Why a threshold of 0.04?



## 3.2 Subjectivity Module (cont.)

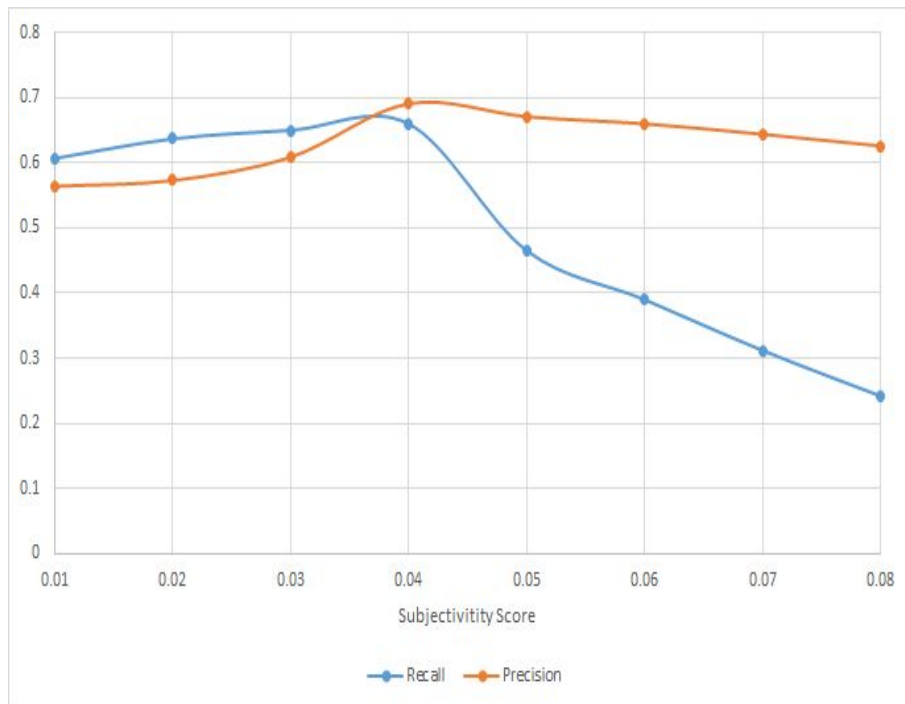
DATASET (Sentiment 140)

- 321 total tweets
- 178 subjective
- 143 objective

$$\text{Precision} = \frac{\# \text{ of predicted subjective posts that are subjective posts}}{\text{total predicted subjective posts}}$$

$$\text{Recall} = \frac{\# \text{ of predicted subjective posts that are subjective posts}}{\text{total number of actual subjective posts in the dataset}}$$

0.04 gave the best precision and recall





# 3.3 Aspect Mining Module (cont.)

The following steps are taken in the Aspect Mining Module:

## STEP 1

Get the subjective posts from the subjectivity module.

## STEP 2

POS tag the subjective posts using NLTK\_PosTagger (NLTK, 2015) to assign parts of speech to each word in the posts.

## STEP 3

Get the frequent nouns in the subjective posts using association rule mining. These are the candidate aspects

## STEP 4

Obtain the vector representations (word embeddings) of the frequent nouns from the vocabulary of the language model that was trained with the word2vec algorithm (Mikolov 2013).

i cant <u>connect</u> my <u>iphone</u> 6 with the android moto 360. Help me please.
iPhone 6 are a pain for phone cases I mean why make a phone so thin & ; not bring out
Definitely need to get this iPhone screen fixed
lol was talking about the iPhone 6s on his periscope

[('i', 'NN'), ('cant', 'VBP'), ('**connect**', 'NN'), ('my', 'PRP\$'), ('**iphone**', 'NN'), ('6', 'CD'), ('with', 'IN'), ('the', 'DT'), ('android', 'JJ'), ('**moto**', 'NN'), ('360', 'CD'), (':', ':'), ('Help', 'VB'), ('me', 'PRP'), ('please', 'VB')]

'iphone': 10, 'phone': 3, 'battery': 2, ' <u>i'm</u> ': 2, 'help': 1, 'back': 1, 'cant': 1, 'periscope': 1, 'nf': 1, 'lol': 1, 'chargers': 1, 'hot': 1, 'pain': 1, 'get': 1, 'screen': 1, 'cutting': 1, ' <u>werent</u> ': 1, 'cases': 1, 'android': 1, 'lmao': 1, 'charger': 1, 'drop': 1, 'sucks': 1, 'plus': 1, 'something': 1
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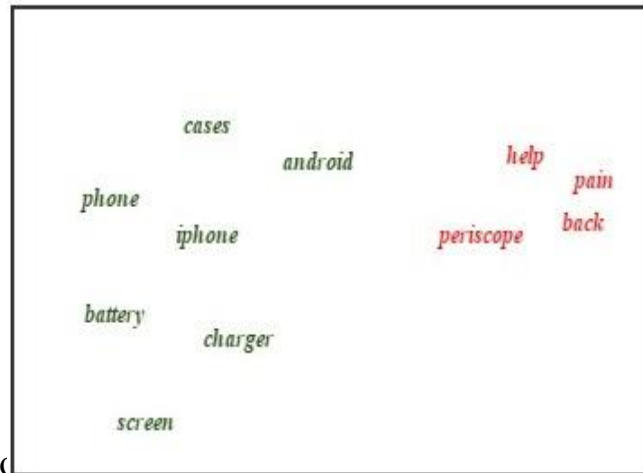
' <u>iphone</u> ' = [0.005, 0.0098, -0.8745, 0.3453, 0.9234, .... 0.2363]
'phone' = [0.1003, 0.1251, -0.9456, 0.4123, 0.6792, .... 0.1983]
'battery' = [0.3418, 0.2212, -0.5725, 0.7645, 0.0923, .... 0.0023]
'cases' = [0.5544, 0.4478, -0.1254, 0.1187, 0.0053, .... 0.0005]
'android' = [0.3219, 0.5551, -0.9983, 0.4343, 0.8894, .... 0.2001]

# 3.3 Aspect Mining Module (cont.)

## STEP 5

Cluster the vectors of the candidate aspects using KMeans with  $k=2$ :

- I. Assign one of the centers ( $C_1$ ) to be the vector representation of the product and the other center is randomly assigned ( $C_2$ ).
- II. Assign words to the nearest center
- III. Recompute the center of  $C_2$
- IV. Repeat steps II and III until the  $C_2$  remains constant.



## STEP 6

Discard words in cluster of  $C_2$  (noisy aspects) and keep the words in cluster of  $C_1$

## STEP 7

Words in  $C_1$  that have a similarity of less than 0.7 with the product are considered aspects of the product.

The aspects are ranked in descending order to get relevancy.

*1st: Screen; 2nd: Cases; 3rd: Charger*

x	Sim( <u>iphone</u> , x)
<u>iphone</u>	1.0000
cases	0.5672
android	0.7785
phone	0.7158
battery	0.4642
screen	0.5685
charger	0.5584





## 3.4 Aspect Opinion Mining Module

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**AIM:** To get the polarity of the aspects discovered by the Aspect Mining Module

**STEP 1**

Obtain the list of aspects from the Aspect Mining Module

**STEP 2**

Check the subjective posts for where the aspect terms were used

**STEP 3**

Get the nearest modifier to the aspect term in the posts

**STEP 4**

Use SentiWordNet (Esuli and Sebastiani, 2006) to determine the polarity of the modifier of the aspect

**STEP 5**

The polarity of the modifier is assigned as the polarity of the opinion on the aspect.



# 4.0 Results and Experiments

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## Datasets

- 500,000 tweets on 4 different products and brands (iphone, starbucks, xbox and sony)
- Downloaded from the Twitter Search API ([twitter.com/search-home](https://twitter.com/search-home))

## Systems Implemented

MAM - as proposed in this thesis

PMI - Lek and Poo, 2013

FN - Spina et. al, 2011 (Baseline)

- The top 20 aspects of each of the products was obtained for each system
- 3 human judges rate how relevant the aspects are to the products on a scale of 0-3 with 3 being relevant and 0 being not relevant
- The judges scores were validated using the Cohen's and Fleiss' Kappa (Fleiss, Cohen and Everitt 1969)





# 4.1 Kappa Scores

$$\kappa = \frac{P_o - P_c}{1 - P_c} \quad (\text{Fleiss, Cohen and Everitt 1969})$$

$$P_c = \sum_{j=1}^k p_j^2 \quad (\text{Fleiss, Cohen and Everitt 1969})$$

$$P_j = \frac{1}{Nn} \sum_{i=1}^N n_{ij} \quad (\text{Fleiss, Cohen and Everitt 1969})$$

$$P_o = \frac{1}{Nn(n-1)} (\sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j=1}^k n_{ij}^2 - n)$$

k - # of ratings that can be given

N - # of aspects scored

n - number of judges

$n_{ij}$  - # of judges who assigned the i-th aspect to the j-th category

	J1	J2	J3
case	3	3	3
gold	0	1	1
screen	3	3	3

	0	1	2	3	$P_i$
case	0	0	0	3	1
gold	1	2	0	0	0.33
screen	0	0	0	3	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>2.33</b>
$P_j$	0.11	0.22	0	0.67	

$$P_i(\text{case}) = (0^2 + 0^2 + 0^2 + 3^2 - 3) / (3 * 2) = 1$$

$$P_o = 2.33 / 3.00 = 0.766$$

$$P_c = 0.11^2 + 0.22^2 + 0^2 + 0.67^2 = 0.5904$$

$$\kappa = (0.766 - 0.5904) / (1 - 0.5904) = 0.4287$$



# 4.1 Kappa Scores (cont.)

Kappa scores to measure judges' agreement for each product

Dataset	Kappa Score
Iphone	0.6073
Starbucks	0.6517
Sony	0.6107
Xbox	0.6271

A kappa score of 0.6 is enough to validate the judges scoring (Spina et. al, 2011; Das and Kanan, 2013)

Kappa interpretation (Sim and Wright, 2005)

$\kappa$	
< 0	Poor Agreement
0.01 – 0.20	Slight agreement
0.21 – 0.40	Fair agreement
0.41 – 0.60	Moderate agreement
0.61 – 0.80	Substantial agreement
0.81 – 1.00	Almost perfect agreement



## 4.2 Evaluation Metrics

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**Accuracy**– This measures amount of relevant aspects that were among the top 20 aspects. The relevant aspects are those aspects given a score of 3 by the judges.

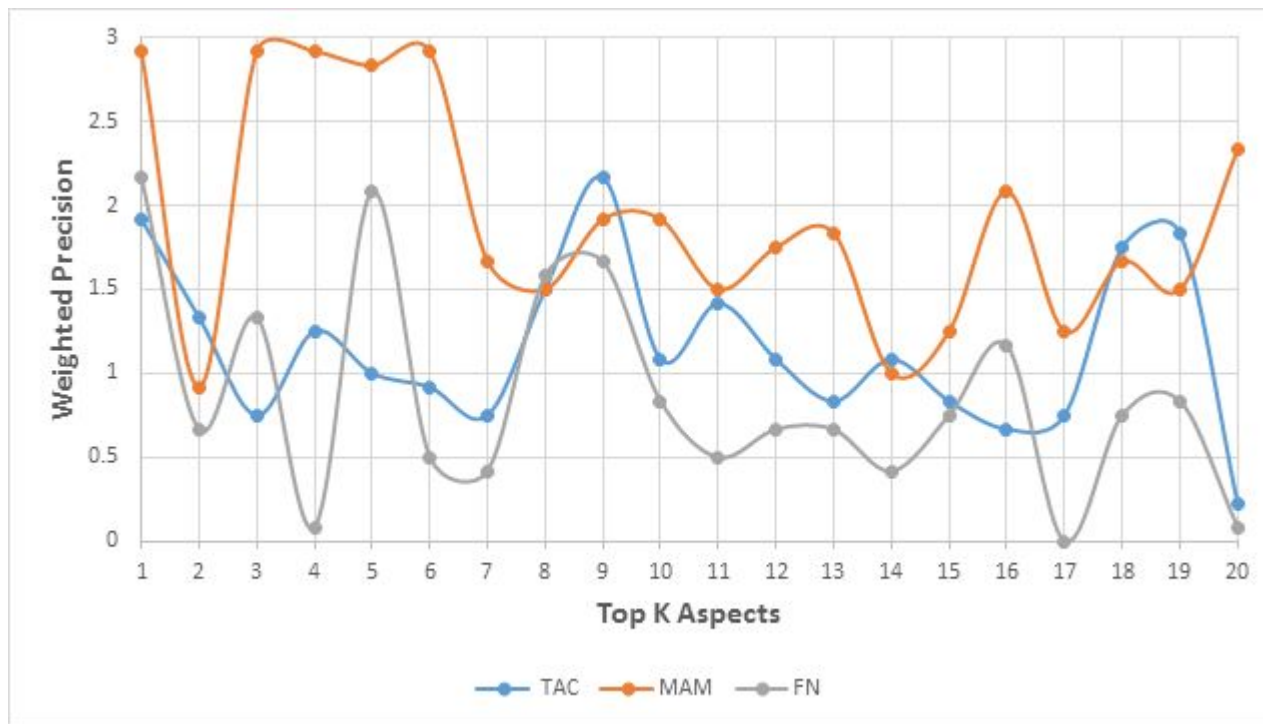
**Weighted Precision** (Sakai 2007) – This measures the relevancy of the aspect to the product based on the scoring of the judges. Let  $R(a)$  be the average rating given by the judges for each aspect,  $a$ , the weighted precision is given as:

$$\text{Weighted Precision} = \frac{\sum_1^K R(a)}{K} \text{ (Sakai 2007)}$$

Where  $K = 20$ .



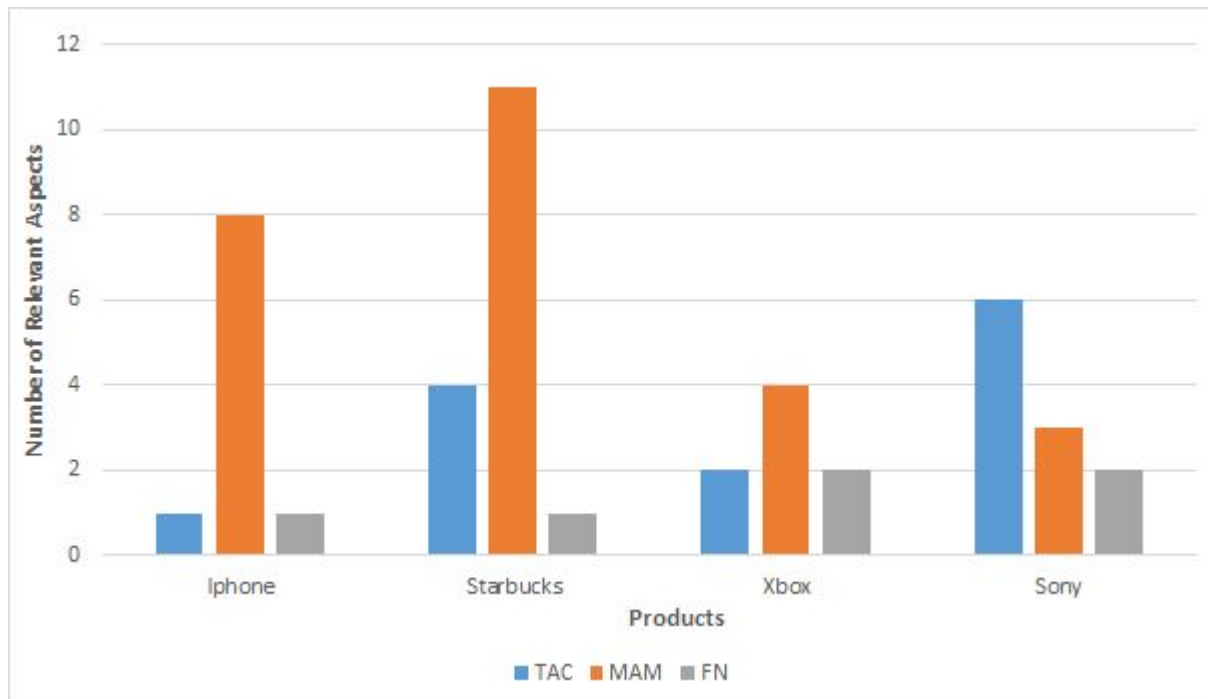
# 4.3 Weighted Precision



	Average Weighted Precision
MAM	1.929
TAC	1.157
FN	0.868



# 4.4 Accuracy



Relevant Aspects are aspects that were given a score of 3 by all judges.



## 5.0 Conclusion & Future Work

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- An algorithm, MAM, is proposed to address the problem of noise in microblogs and accurately discover aspects of products from microblogs.
- Performs more accurately than TAC and TF-IDF based systems.
- A proposed method for classifying microblog posts into subjective and objective posts.

### Future Work:

- Aggregating all social media platforms like blogs, news, bulletin boards and not just microblogs to perform ABOM.
- Consideration of multi-word aspects. E.g hard disk.
- Considering Microblog posts that are in languages other than English



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