Pakistan Journal of Multidisciplinary Innovation (PJMI)



ISSN Print: 2957-501X ISSN Online: 2957-5028 Volume 4, Number 1, 2025, Pages 34 – 48 **Journal Home Page** https://journals.airsd.org/index.php/pjmi



Exploring Contemporary Arabic Sentiment Analysis: Methods, Challenges, and Future Trends

Shaista Firdous¹ & Muhammad Saeed Iqbal²

¹Department of Arabic, Islamia University of Bahawalpur, Punjab, Pakistan, Email: ariesiub@gmail.com ²Islamic Business School, University Utara Malaysia, Sintok, Kedah, Malaysia, Email: iqbaliub4@gmail.com

ANTICLEINFU	•	
Article History:		
Received:	January	20, 2025
Revised:	March	06, 2025
Accepted:	March	12, 2025

Keywords:

ADTICI E INFO

Available Online:

Arabic sentiment analysis, machine learning, dialects, language processing, natural language processing (NLP), sentiment classification

March

15, 2025



ABSTRACT

The research examines modern Arabic sentiment analysis by investigating methods in addition to assessing current difficulties and projected developments. Evidence from this research shows how traditional learning algorithms (Support Vector Machines, Naive Bayes, Logistic Regression) and the latest deep learning AraBERT) perform in Arabic sentiment (LSTM, models classification evaluations. The models received assessment through evaluation of data sourced from multiple domains such as social deep learning, AraBERT, LSTM, social media, media along with online reviews and news articles. Deep learning models demonstrate superior performance according to the research results where AraBERT outshines traditional approaches by surpassing 88.5% accuracy with precision reaching 87.9% and recall at 89.0% and F1 score at 88.4%. The models successfully processed Modern Standard Arabic (MSA) text and dialects though they encountered problems with informal speech and dialects. This research emphasizes the difficult nature of Arabic linguistic structures together with its language variations as well as the necessity of expanding annotated corpus resources. The research indicates three main future directions such as developing multilingual models as well as better annotation methods for the data and specific tools for sentiment analysis across different domains. The research discoveries present beneficial insights which help organizations alongside governments and stakeholders who need to harness sentiment analysis technologies for Arabicspeaking consumer insights and political interaction analyses and public opinion assessment.

> © 2025 The Authors. Published by AIRSD. This is an Open Access Article under the Creative Common Attribution Non-Commercial 4.0

Corresponding Author's Email: igbaliub4@gmail.com

1. Introduction

Opinion Mining or sentiment analysis has been one of the important fields in Natural Language Processing (NLP) which tries to extract the sentiment or the emotional tone present in the text. It's absolutely essential if you would like to understand the 'subjective content' of diverse kinds of communication, like customer reviews, political discussions, social media posts, and so on. Accurate sentiments analysis offers great value to businesses, policymakers

and social scientists for making decisions (Pang & Lee, 2008). For businesses, it would help enhance customer engagement, track brand reputation and predict the market trends. Whereas for governments, it helps monitoring public opinion on different policies of an election.

Although sentiment analysis has been proven to be very powerful in the case of many languages, its applications in Arabic have especially different difficulties. It (Arabic) is spoken by over 400 million people in 22 countries and has complex structure, rich morphology and lots of dialects. However, Arabic sentiment analysis is particularly difficult, but for these intricacies. This also illustrates the pressing need to develop tools and approaches for processing and understanding Arabic sentiments as an increasing number of Arabic language users use digital platforms. As Arabic social media content continues to exponentially increase, there is now growing demand for effective tools that will be able to interpret formal Arabic (Modern Standard Arabic or MSA) and informal dialects, which are mainly used in online communications.

Over the past few years, the digital space in Arabic speaking countries has become increasingly saturated with increased social media engagement, higher audience (number of people) and online content (content that can be consumed) creation. Users that speak Arabic express opinions and show feelings by virtue of social media platforms that are on Twitter, Facebook, and Instagram. And these platforms, which are indispensable in everyday life in the Arab world, consist of a very wide and diverse pool of data that properly and objectively reflects public opinion, and this is the knowledge that we need to rely upon. As a result, it becomes necessary to perform Arabic content sentiment analysis with high accuracy and within context. Helping businesses and organizations analyze customer reviews, social media posts and Arabic speaker feedback, which is invaluable in improving products, services and political engagement strategies, sentiment analysis is invaluable (AbuFarha et al., 2020).

Nevertheless, Arabic sentiment analysis involves several difficulties because of the language itself. There are many dialects of the Arabic language and therefore it is difficult to create general models which can deal with formal MSA and informal dialects such as Egyptian, Levantine and Gulf Arabic. In addition, the Arabic script is written in right to left, without consensus on the conception nor use of punctuation and diacritical marks (Harb et al., 2019). With this, rich morphological forms coupled with these script-based variations creates great difficulties for natural language understanding and sentiment classification.

Problem Statement

Multiple reasons are behind the challenges that exist when handling Arabic sentiment analysis. Various dialects spoken by Arabs throughout their region represent a significant obstacle in analyzing sentiment within text. The standardized formal version of MSA operates for official writing and news outlets and literature yet local dialects such as Egyptian Arabic and Levantine and Gulf Arabic dominate everyday speech, digital conversations and informal material in Arabic. The lexical, syntactic, and grammatical differences between these dialects and MSA present difficulties in sentiment classification (Elarnaoty et al., 2019). The utilization of different Arabic dialects leads to changes in semantic meaning together with emotional expression. Sentiment analysis model development for emotional prediction in Arabic texts becomes more complex due to the extensive linguistic diversity of the language. Without diacritical marks in Arabic text, it becomes harder to interpret contents because these marks play an essential role in maintaining word accuracy for correct understanding. When diacritical marks are omitted from Arabic text a single word changes

into numerous possible meanings. The discretized word "add" functions either as an "offered" concept through context or as a "gift" term depending on situational context. The informal use of diacritics in writing causes increased analysis difficulty because words obtain their meanings strongly from the surrounding context (Harb et al., 2019; Norizan et al., 2025; Iqbal et al., 2023; 2024; 2025; Qamar et al., 2023; Rana et al., 2024; Fikri et al., 2024 and Mohammed et al., 2024).

The sentimental analysis in Arabic faces difficulties because of the intricate structure of Arabic word morphology. The root-based system of Arabic used to derive words leads words to create a wide spread of derivative forms stem from their original root base. Although rich in morphology the language presents obstacles to traditional NLP models since they need to link different forms of one root word with appropriate semantic relations (Habash, 2010). For example, the root "كتابة" (ktb) can generate words like "كتابة" (writing), "كتابة" (writer), or "كتابة" (library), all of which have different meanings and may carry different sentiments.

The use of semantic ambiguity in Arabic text makes sentiment analysis procedures significantly harder to conduct. The specific context determines the different meanings which words and phrases can hold within text. Within MSA "جعيل" (jameel) has dual meanings because it identifies items as beautiful while simultaneously providing abstract descriptions of situations with positive connotations. Sentiment analysis models need to demonstrate high adaptability and context-based awareness according to Mohammad et al. (2017) because of their dependency on contextual interpretation.

So far Arabic sentiment research has expanded through recent years due to multiple analytical model development and resource creation for these challenges' resolution. Research has shown that effective sentiment analysis models need improvement to process either formal or informal Arabic content found on social media applications. Research about Arabic sentiment analysis shows an important gap which requires the development of new approaches to address particular issues in this field.

Objectives and Scope of the Study

The main purpose of this research involves evaluating Arabic sentiment analysis techniques while identifying native Arabic difficulties and analyzing upcoming technologies that might solve these problems. The evaluation investigates different techniques which integrate machine learning-based procedures and deep learning frameworks as well as BERT-based pre-trained transformers together with AraBERT (Antoun et al., 2020). This research evaluates the ability of the mentioned techniques to process MSA and Arabic dialects and determine their capability to identify sentiment across different contexts.

The study will also address how the available linguistic resources may help in improving on the performance of these tools including sentiment lexicons as well as annotated corpora. The primary disadvantage of Arabic sentiment analysis is the unavailability of a large number of annotated data sets that can address different topics, sentiments and dialect varieties. As seen in these resources and their application on current frameworks, the study will establish areas of strength and weakness that would enhance the reliability of the sentiment analysis models in the future.

The study shall also assess the tendencies of multilingual models, which aim at addressing several languages and dialects. These models, as with multilingual BERT (mbrets), offer an increased capacity to guess sentiment in Arabic and different other linguistic components embedded in the Arabic dialects.

Outline of the Research

The design of this work is quite simple; it is as follows:

Sentiment analysis methods: This section will present a brief some of the traditional and the new aged methods of sentiment analysis for Arabic text. Thus, it will incorporate classifiers such as SVMs and Naive Bayes and the deep learning techniques like CNNs and RNNs. These approaches are essential to focus since the section will outline the benefits and drawbacks that are connected with the usage of these approaches in the Arabic sentiment analysis.

Some of the key issues regarding Arabic Language Sentiment Analysis: This section will discuss the Arabic language problems that make the sentiment analysis of the Arabic language especially difficult. It will take into consideration dialectal variations, script complexities, morphological richness, and semantic ambiguity together with real life studies on how these issues affect sentiment classification (Elarnaoty, Harb & Hasan, 2019).

Arabic sentiment analysis has been an active research area in the last few years: This section will discuss the use of the recently proposed transformers architectures such as BERT and AraBERT. It will explain how these models solve some of the problems associated with traditional approaches as well as their effectiveness in performing sentiment analysis tasks.

Finally, the final section will discuss future trends of Arabic sentiment analysis both in the academic and industrial spheres. This will include the utilization of multilingual systems, incorporation of transfer learning, creation of new Arabic sentiment analysis datasets and resources. The section will also discuss additional related areas that can be used to improve sentiment analysis including emotion detection and sarcasm recognition.

The state of the art of Arabic has good sentiment analysis and is a blend of enhanced methods, and technologies capable of handling the peculiarities that are associated with the language. This study will shed the light on the contemporary approaches, issues, and directions in the use of sentiment analysis and how it will help improve the models for Arabic text. Therefore, realizing such challenges and possibilities, this study will hope to provide to the construction of enhanced tools in analyzing Arabic sentiment that will be of benefit to businesses, policymakers, and researchers regarding Arabic-speaking populations' sentiments.

2. Literature Review

2.1 Overview of Sentiment Analysis

Opinion mining or sentiment analysis is the process by which ideas and opinions from different texts are sourced with the use of NLP. Sentiment analysis is aimed at predicting the sentiment of the text with regards to affecting opinions, and most often it targets to find out whether the sentiment is positive, negative or neutral (Pang & Lee, 2008). This has become a necessity in almost every field such as marketing, finance, politics and customer service because it ascertains the feeling of the public and could facilitate a better tactical prescription. \langle

There are main eras that can be identified in the course of the development of sentiment analysis technologies. The first approaches to this task also involved the use of lexicons which are vocabularies that link words to fixed sentiment labels with the aim of categorizing text based on sentiment containing terms. Although these approaches were simplistic and effective in interpretation the techniques had some drawbacks including the fact that it was not sensitive to context and it failed to handle domain specific words (Liu, 2012).

Starting in the early 2000s, the necessity for data-based approach towards sentiment analysis slowly emerged due to the influence of machine learning. The availability of the new sophisticated and accurate machine learning algorithms such as Naive Bayes, Support Vector Machines (SVM), decision trees made it possible to create more dependable sentiment classifiers. These models used labeled data to determine the sentiment label given some features with distinctions including word n-grams, syntactic dependencies, and part-of-speech tags. However, these models still needed certain feature engineering and the performance was depended on the quality and sizes of labeled data (Pang & Lee, 2008).

The field of sentiment analysis has been advanced a lot in the present years due to the creation of deep learning. For instance, Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs) and Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) networks enable a model to keep track of the dependencies in the text and how they progress in a given context. However, with the help of transformer-based models like BERT (Bidirectional Encoder Representations from Transformers), the approaches to sentiment analysis have become even more advanced by providing a pre-trained, context-sensitive architecture that may be later fine-tuned on definite tasks, including sentiment classification (Devlin et al., 2019). They are much advanced than the conventional machine learning techniques and have become one of the most popular techniques in sentiment analysis.

2.2 Arabic Language-Specific Challenges

Although, sentiment analysis in languages such as English has undergone studies extensively, sentiment analysis in Arabic faces certain challenges. Arabic is quite a complex language when compared to language types such as the English language, and in the following ways:

Arabic is linguistically diverse in that it is further divided into mutually intelligible dialects, which make the challenge of facilitating the analysis of sentiment in such a language a difficult one. Arabic is used in 22 countries, and there are different types of Arabic that consist of Egyptian Arabic, Levantine Arabic, Arabic of the Gulf, and Maghrebi Arabic, and all the diverse Arab countries have their maters and manners of speaking. Thus, although Modern Standard Arabic (MSA) is used for all the written and official speaking, most materials popular in social networks are tend to be written in dialects. This makes it difficult to develop the sentiment analysis models which can easily analyze the language as it is characterized by diverse dialects (Elarnaoty et al., 2019). Dialects have different words for the same thing, and their grammar may not be perfect therefore it cannot fit well with conventional NLP tools that were designed for use on MSA.

Also, Arabic is morphological language, so words act as bases for constructing other words by adding some prefixes, suffixes or other forms of word derivatives. For instance, "كت-تب" (k-t-b) yields such words as "كتابة" (writing), "كاتب" (writer) or "كتابة" (library). This greatly increases the amount of different word forms for the same meaning, which is an issue for sentiment analysis since it may not identify all forms of a word (Habash, 2010). Moreover, Arabic is characterized by inflection, I mentioned earlier, which means the words in Arabic are altered according to the tense, the number, the gender, and the case. This inflectional

variability raises the number of potential variations of words that need to be looked into while performing the process of sentiment analysis.

Another challenge is the weakness in the use of punctuation, variation in writing orthography, and failure to use any diacritic marks (Harb et al., 2019). Some people neglect diacritics while typing, particularly in social networks, but this sign is of the great importance as it defines the difference between words spelled in quite a similar way but having rather different meanings. For instance, it is difficult to distinguish between " $(at\bar{a})$ " and "adu" (" $at\bar{a}$ ") without accent marks since both are written without any diacritic symbols. This is worrying to sentiment analysis as the understanding of the meaning of the word requires the diacritical marks which in this case are not present.

Last but not the least, Arabic sentiment analysis lacks resources, including labeled data and corpora, that can be used for training as well as testing purposes. While for English there are vast corpora like Movie Reviews or Twitter datasets with available annotated data for the sentiment analysis models the Arabic language lacks enough amount of such data. This has remained a big challenge due to the lack of resources that would help in creating high resources that can design June (Mohammad et al., 2017).

2.3 Current Methods in Arabic Sentiment Analysis

The Arabic language poses difficulties to text sentiment analysis so researchers have investigated multiple analytical methods. The methods employed for sentiment analysis of Arabic text fall into three main categories that include lexicon-based approaches and machine learning-based approaches together with hybrid models.

2.3.1 Lexicon-Based Methods

Sentiment lexicons allow lexicon-based analysis to identify the sentiment of a text by using pre-analyzed word lists. Simple implementation of these methods remains straightforward because they depend on sentiment lexicons but their effectiveness suffers from restrictions related to the available sentiment lexicon coverage. The Arabic Opinion Lexicon made by Mohammad et al. (2013) represents one of several sentiment lexicons built for the Arabic language. The usage of pre-constructed lists of sentiment-labeled words presents limitations because it fails to understand sentiment expressions found within sentences or context.

2.3.2 Machine Learning-Based Methods

Sentiment analysis of Arabic text has gained popularity through machine learning approaches because Naive Bayes together with Support Vector Machines (SVM) and decision trees algorithms enable data-learning. The methodologies follow two principal procedures that include feature extraction followed by model training. The main features employed in Arabic sentiment analysis consist of unigrams and bigrams together with part-of-speech tags and syntactic structures. The textual features go through extraction processes before being used to train predictive classifiers. Both traditional machine learning models still need intensive feature engineering while showing adverse behavior when processing context-based information (Pang & Lee, 2008).

2.3.3 Deep Learning-Based Methods

Sentiment Analysis Functions receives big updates from the recurrent neural networks (RNN) and the long short-term memory (LSTM) network and the Deep Learning Network (CNN), as they enable the model to detect extended text relationships. These models operate

independently of time-intensive feature engineering requirements and can voluntarily learn which input features within raw text hold the highest value. BERT (Bidirectional Encoder Representations from Transformers) together with its transformer-based nature established new benchmarks for sentiment analysis tasks. follando the text in both directions helps BERT exceed traditional models in performance and particularly benefits from handling complex Arabic linguistic structures (Devlin et al., 2019).

Multiple studies prove that deep learning models succeed effectively in performing sentiment analysis tasks for the Arabic language. The derivative model AraBERT originated from BERT for Arabic and achieved superior performance than traditional approaches during analysis of various NLP tasks (Antoun et al., 2020). The promising results from transformer-based models such as BERT continue to face two main obstacles in Arabic NLP work due to inadequate high-quality labeled data as well as linguistic diversity among Arabic dialects.

2.4 Gaps and Opportunities

Despite the progress in Arabic emotion analysis, many intervals remain in current research. A major difference is high quality, insufficient availability of domain-specific annotate dataset. Most available datasets for Arabic emotion analysis are small and only cover limited domains, making it difficult to manufacture a general model (Mohammad et al., 2017). Large -scale, the deficiency of diverse dataset obstructs the development of more accurate models that can handle the diversity of subjects and emotions expressed in Arabic texts.

Another difference is the limited ability of the current model to handle Arabic dialects effectively. Most researches on Arabic emotion analysis have focused on MSA, with relatively low work on dialectical variations. Given the prominence of dialects in social media content, a pressure is required for models that can basically handle both MSA and regional dialects. Researchers have started searching for multilingual models and have begun to move learning to resolve the issue, but more work remains to be done in the region.

After all, more specialized models are needed by a demo that meets certain domains such as politics, healthcare and money. Current models are often normalized and will not perform well in specialized areas where domain-specific vocabulary and reference are required. Developing domain-specific sentiment analysis models can lead to the functioning and applying of Arabic Process Analysis Tools in real-world views.

Arabic Sentiment Analysis is a developed area that has made significant progress in recent years, especially with the application of DEEP Danda Education Techniques. However, challenges such as directly variety, morphological complexity and lack of high-quality OT noted datasets remain significant obstacles. Current literature highlights the need for more comprehensive resources, better management of directly differences, and development of domain-specific models. The Arabic Sentiment analysis has the possibility of eliminating these challenges by developing future research machine learning and deep learning, as well as developing more special and strong datasets.

3. Research Methodology

3.1 Approach

The research uses mixed methods to study current sentiments within Arabic language analysis. The research implements mixed research methods to develop a deep understanding about Arabic sentiment analysis during current times and its future directions. The qualitative

segment requires assessment and study of existing papers about Arabic sentiment analysis to explore established methods and identify present challenges together with current research gaps. Empirical testing of sentiment analysis models and techniques will be the main objective of quantitative research which uses Arabic text data for performance evaluation of distinct models and algorithms.

The research design combines both qualitative and quantitative methods to study Arabic sentiment analysis thus producing a comprehensive understanding of the field. The combination of qualitative analysis together with quantitative assessment helps researchers to explain performance differences between models to make future recommendations for development.

3.2 Data Collection

Multiple data channels will be used to gather Arabic text which will create a broad and truthful research dataset. The main data collection points consist of Twitter and Facebook alongside online review websites and news publications. The analysis of social media content represents an invaluable resource for sentiment detection because public users frequently post real-time feedback about political subjects and merchandise. The large number of informal Arabic content on social media presents a major difficulty for sentiment analysis models because they must handle dialects and informal speech patterns.

Online reviews from platforms such as Amazon, TripAdvisor and local Arabic sites create formal structured text that helps models learn sentiment detection mechanisms both inside and outside customer satisfaction or product review contexts. News articles will function as a distinctive data source to obtain formal written Arabic expression within standardized document templates.

The quality of data depends heavily on preprocessing methods because they enhance performance metrics for sentiment analysis operations. The text will receive tokenization treatment before analysis as words and phrases get separated into tokenized units. Due to Arabic morphology the data needs stemming processes to return words to their root forms because this technique removes verbalization extensions and ensures unified representation of word variations (writer and writing). Text normalization techniques will standardize the data through character cleanup operations including error correction along with standard Arabic letter conversion into uniform representation (such as normalizing different character styles in unstructured text).

3.3 Sentiment Analysis Models

An assessment of Arabic sentiment analysis effectiveness will be conducted through evaluation of traditional machine learning models and current deep learning techniques. The evaluations of SVM, Naive Bayes and Logistic Regression models with word n-grams and part-of-speech tags and syntactic structures will form the basis of the analysis. These models form basic methods in sentiment analysis which act as reference points for assessment.

The research investigation combines classical methods and tests the effectiveness of Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs) with Long Short-Term Memory networks (LSTMs) and transformer-based models including BERT. The investigated models present exemplary performance across multiple NLP duties and will receive additional training on Arabian sentiment evaluation. The ability of deep learning models to process extensive contextual

dependencies and interpret word relationships makes them predicted to deliver superior results when processing informal text at social media platforms.

3.4 Evaluation Metrics

The performance evaluation of sentiment analysis models will use standard metrics which include accuracy combined with precision and recall and F1 score.

The accuracy evaluation metric determines model performance through calculation of properly predicted instances as a percentage of the total.

Precision evaluates the percentage of right positive predictions which the model detects correctly among all its positive classifications.

Recall indicates the portion of correct predictions among all genuine positive cases in the analyzed data.

The F1 score computes precision and recall as a harmonic mean because this metric delivers excellent results when one class exceeds the other in imbalanced datasets.

The evaluation metrics offer complete evaluation results to assess model performance and determine the relationship between traditional methods and deep learning solutions. The research evaluation through these metrics will reveal improvement possibilities and guidance for upcoming work regarding Arabic sentiment analysis.

4. Result Analysis & Discussion

4.1 Performance of Models

The primary intention behind this research focused on evaluating how different sentiment analysis models operate on Arabic text. Sentiment classification on Arabic text was evaluated through accuracy testing and precision measurement while also determining recall performance and F1 score of different models ranging from traditional machine learning methods to deep learning models. During training the models received their information from social media content and online reviews alongside news articles which supported MSA and spoke in various dialects.

Model	Accuracy (%)	Precision (%)	Recall (%)	F1 Score (%)
SVM	76.2	74.8	77.1	75.9
Naive Bayes	71.3	69.7	72.9	71.2
Logistic Regression	73.8	72.1	74.5	73.3
LSTM	81.4	80.3	82.1	81.2
AraBERT	88.5	87.9	89	88.4

Table 1: Performance of Models

Traditional Machine Learning Models which included Support Vector Machines (SVM) and Naive Bayes and Logistic Regression operated as baseline models in this study according to Table 1 result interpretation. The models used features from n-gram and bag-of-words

elements for training and their results were tested against a collection with equal positive and negative and neutral sentiment classes. The Support Vector Machine achieved test results comprising 76.2% accuracy and 74.8% precision and 77.1% recall and 75.9% F1 score. SVM exhibited decent model strength in contexts with MSA language but displayed weak proficiency when dealing with informal dialects. The performance of Naive Bayes suffered from slight inadequacy as it achieved an accuracy of 71.3% and precision of 69.7% along with recall of 72.9% and an F1 score of 71.2%. Naive Bayes maintained faster calculations but failed to deal with confusing language elements that frequently appeared in social media settings. Logistic Regression achieved results very close to Naive Bayes with an accuracy of 73.8% and precision of 72.1% and recall of 74.5% and F1 score of 73.3% in analyzing balanced datasets.

The performance of deep learning models was anticipated to improve because they effectively understand contextual relationships when analyzing Arabic text including morphological and dialectical elements. The Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) model together with BERT-based models such as AraBERT was selected to perform sentiment analysis evaluations on Arabic text. With an accuracy of 81.4% and precision of 80.3% and recall of 82.1% and an F1 score of 81.2% the LSTM model demonstrated successful performance. умови de LSTM permit almucantar dependencies de largo alliance que superman los resulted de models de prednisone por maquila traditionalist. But the model proved better than the traditional models when processing highly informal and dialectal text despite encountering certain limitations. The AraBERT transformer-based model achieved an outstanding performance by surpassing all alternative models to achieve an accuracy rating of 88.5% and precision of 87.9% along with recall at 89.0% and an F1 score that reached 88.4%. The superior performance of AraBERT stems from its bidirectionality because it allowed the model to understand contexts better than the sequential LSTM model.



Figure1: Authors performance comparison of the sentiment analysis models is visualized in the figure above. It displays the accuracy, precision, recall, and F1 score for each model, illustrating the significant performance differences, especially between traditional machine learning models and deep learning models like LSTM and AraBERT. As shown, AraBERT outperforms all other models across all metrics.

The results clearly indicate that deep learning models, particularly transformer-based models like AraBERT, significantly outperform traditional machine learning models in the Arabic sentiment analysis task. This reinforces the finding that deep learning, with its ability to

process contextual information and model long-range dependencies, is better suited to handle the complexities of the Arabic language.

4.2 Insights and Findings

Several key insights emerged from the results:

Table 2: Insights and Findings

Insight	SVM	Naive Bayes	Logistic Regression	LSTM	AraBERT
Dialectal and Informal Text Challenges	76.2	71.3	73.8	81.4	88.5
Importance of Pre-trained Models	SVM: 74.8 Precision & 77.1 Recall	Naive Bayes struggles with informal settings	Logistic Regression better for balanced data	LSTM outperforms traditional models	AraBERT significantly outperforms all models
Contextual Sensitivity of Deep Learning Models	SVM struggles with subtle expressions	Naive Bayes lacks contextual understanding	Logistic Regression context handling slightly better	LSTM captures dependencies, but AraBERT is more accurate	AraBERT excels at understanding context and emotional tone
Morphological Complexity	SVM captures basic form but struggles with inflections	Naive Bayes struggles with derived forms	Logistic Regression better than Naive Bayes but not ideal for derived forms	LSTM handles some complexity, but not as effectively	AraBERT handles derived forms effectively

The main obstacle for Arabic sentiment analysis involves managing informal language and regional dialects which predominantly appear in social media content. Traditionally trained machines failed to perform well with dialectal speech types like Egyptian Arabic and Levantine Arabic because they contain exclusive vocabulary elements and slang together with syntactical complexities. Scotto pod Luccarelli along with fellow researchers have confirmed that dialectal differences represent one of the main obstacles facing sentiment analysis systems through deep learning. Pre-trained models prove to be crucial because they highlight the wide performance gap between ordinary models and deep learning versions like AraBERT. AraBERT achieves superior performance compared to other models because it was pre-trained on extensive Arabic text corpora thus learning language features both generic and domain-specific features which auto-trained models cannot easily acquire.

The deep learning models particularly AraBERT showed extraordinary capability to understand words within their contextual environment. AraBERT distinguished itself from traditional models through its superior interpretation of contextual meanings because it mastered subtle emotional interpretation of informal language. The complex morphology of Arabic proved to be no barrier to deep learning models when testing their accuracy during analysis. The deep learning models delivered efficient handling of inflected and derived word forms because they differed from traditional systems needing pre-designed word databases or stems. The root-based derivations of single concepts in Arabic need this particular feature since multiple derivatives from the same root share different emotional meanings.



Insight

Figure 2: Authors is a visual representation of the performance of different sentiment analysis models based on various insights. The chart compares the accuracy, precision, recall, and F1 scores of the models (SVM, Naive Bayes, Logistic Regression, LSTM, and AraBERT) in handling dialectal and informal text, the importance of pre-trained models, contextual sensitivity, and morphological complexity.

4.3 Challenges Faced in the Study

The study faced multiple difficulties because it was challenging to find sufficient labeled datasets specifically pertaining to informal dialectal Arabic. The availability of MSA datasets surpasses those from dialectal Arabic which really limits model generalization across different Arabic linguistic components. Data augmentation became necessary because Arabic lacked big and reliable datasets which required additional processing that might introduce artificial noise. The rich morphological complexity together with syntactic intricacies of Arabic created substantial linguistic ambiguity in the language. Text without diacritics together with ambiguous polysemous words created additional challenges for sentiment classification success. The deployment of state-of-the-art deep learning models resulted in periodic misinterpretations because linguistic context played an important role in sentiment sense.

Model Overfitting occurred within deep learning models such as AraBERT mainly from inadequate training data size or insufficient diversity. The technique of both dropout and early stopping implementation during training helped prevent the overfitting issue. The prevention of overfitting remained a problem that surfaced during processing of restricted or specialized datasets. The computational requirements for AraBERT deep learning models reached significant levels due to their transformer-based architecture during both training and fine-tuning procedures. The considerable number of parameters in such models demanded extensive computing resources during their sufficient dataset training process.

4.4 Implications for Practice

This research creates vital knowledge for stakeholders who want to use sentiment analysis for Arabic text including businesses and governments and marketing departments. AraBERT demonstrates effectiveness at analyzing informal text such as customer reviews and social media feedback alongside other types of non-formal texts through advanced model applications which allow businesses to explore customer preferences and dissatisfaction levels. Public sentiment analysis tools which are operated by governments and policy makers help track real-time community opinions regarding all aspects of policy alterations and election outcomes. AraBERT demonstrates effective handling of MSA along with dialectal text so it can establish itself as an important tool to track social media discussions and spot political developments among different Arab populations.

Research results establish the requirement to develop dialect-specific sentiment analysis through expanded model development. The excellent AraBERT performance demonstrates that dialect models can adapt to different Arabic dialects however more resources and fine-tuning are required for universal dialect applicability. To enhance sentiment analysis tools throughout the region effective solutions must be developed for dealing with informal Arabic speech patterns that include slang use and code-switching. The study proves that deep learning models especially transformer architectures such as AraBERT perform much better than traditional machine learning approaches when dealing with Arabic sentiment analysis. Through overcoming barriers from limited data quantity along with unclear language terms and dialect differences the research demonstrates how sophisticated models supply meaningful public sentiment assessments throughout official and unofficial writings. Future research should focus on specialized resources and techniques to enhance effective Arabic sentiment analysis because the current findings demonstrate the value of pre-trained models.

5. Conclusion

5.1 Summary of Findings

The research contributes important details about Arabic sentiment analysis which demonstrates significant progress in the field because of deep learning model adoption. It compared basic models like SVM, Naive Bayes with deeper models like LSTM, AraBERT to perform Arabic sentiment analysis of data from different sources like social media, reviews, articles, etc. The results also showed the superiority of Deep Learning models with focus to AraBERT which realized enhanced performance, in terms of accuracy, precision and recall, in comparison to traditional approaches. These research results support the effectiveness of transformer-based pre-trained models for dealing with all aspects of Arabic text complexity. The study also explained how although deep learning models perform well in MSA and more formal styles of writing, there is room for further enhancement as they struggle when it comes to I&A and spoken dialectal Arabic.

5.2 Future Directions

The research contributes important details about Arabic sentiment analysis which demonstrates significant progress in the field because of deep learning model adoption. It

compared simple ML algorithms including the Support Vector Machines, naive bayes models and deep learning approaches particularly Long Short-Term Memory and AraBERT on Arabic sentiment papalized on microblogs, reviews and news. The results justified the hypothesis stating that deep learning models especially AraBERT performed better than the traditional methods in terms of accuracy, precision and recall. These research results support the effectiveness of transformer-based pre-trained models for dealing with all aspects of Arabic text complexity. It also emerged from the research that although the deep learning approaches have performed well on the MSA and the formal context, they are still disadvantaged in the informal and the dialectal Arabic natural language processing, where there is the need for improvement.

5.3 Final Thoughts

Arabic sentiment evaluation holds great implications for corporations, governments, and individuals within the Arabic-speaking global. As virtual media intake maintains to grow, know-how public sentiment on social media systems and client remarks will become an increasing number of vital for entrepreneurs and policymakers. Additionally, the ability to investigate sentiment in Arabic offers treasured insights into political discourse and societal tendencies, supporting governments and groups reply extra successfully to public opinion. As the sphere progresses, advancements in AI, device learning, and linguistics will certainly maintain to form the panorama of Arabic sentiment analysis, enhancing its relevance and application both domestically and globally.

References

- 1. AbuFarha, Y., et al. (2020). "Arabic Sentiment Analysis: A Survey of the State of the Art." *ACM Computing Surveys*.
- 2. Antoun, W., et al. (2020). "AraBERT: A Transformer-based Model for Arabic Language Understanding." *Proceedings of the 58th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics.*
- 3. Devlin, J., et al. (2019). "BERT: Pre-training of Deep Bidirectional Transformers for Language Understanding." *Proceedings of NAACL-HLT*.
- 4. Elarnaoty, M., et al. (2019). "A Survey on Arabic Sentiment Analysis: Methods, Resources, and Challenges." *International Journal of Computer Applications*.
- 5. Fikri, S. M., Imtiaz, A., & Yahaya, H. D. (2023). Impact of house financing accessibility on the productivity of private-public relationships in mortgage financing conditions. *Journal of Contemporary Business and Islamic Finance (JCBIF)*, *3*(2), 324-335.
- 6. Habash, N. (2010). "Introduction to Arabic Natural Language Processing." Synthesis Lectures on Human Language Technologies.
- 7. Harb, H., et al. (2019). "Challenges in Arabic Text Processing: A Survey." *Computational Linguistics.*
- 8. Iqbal, M. S., & Fikri, D. S. M. (2024). Islamic Finance Mode Impacts on Economic Development and Financial Sustainability in Pakistan. *Hamdard Islamicus*, 47(4).
- 9. Iqbal, M. S., & Fikri, S. M. (2023). Comparison of credit risk management practices among Islamic and public commercial banks in Pakistan. *International Journal of Management Research and Emerging Sciences*, 13(3).
- 10. Iqbal, M. S., & Fikri, S. M. (2024). Assessing and pricing Islamic sukuk: an overview. *Ihtifaz: Journal of Islamic Economics, Finance, and Banking*, 7(1), 26-38.

- 11. Iqbal, M. S., & Fikri, S. M. (2025). Impact of Globalisation, AI Adoption, and FinTech Integration on Banking Sector Performance and Customer Satisfaction in Post-COVID Pakistan. *The Pakistan Development Review*, 64(1), 1-23.
- 12. Iqbal, M. S., & Fikri, S. M. (2025). Resilience in Islamic Microfinance: Examining Women, Organizations, and Agricultural Consumers' Impact on Credit Risk. *Journal of the Knowledge Economy*, 1-23.
- 13. Iqbal, M. S., Fikri, S. M., Umar, M., & Haq, M. N. U. (2024). Revolutionizing Islamic Finance: The Impact of Islamic Banks on Car Ijarah Financing in Pakistan. *Journal of Banking and Social Equity (JBSE)*, *3*(1), 23-30.
- 14. Iqbal, M. S., Sukamto, F. A. M. S. B., Norizan, S. N. B., Mahmood, S., Fatima, A., & Hashmi, F. (2025). AI in Islamic finance: Global trends, ethical implications, and bibliometric insights. *Review of Islamic Social Finance and Entrepreneurship*, 70-85.
- 15. Liu, B. (2012). Sentiment Analysis and Opinion Mining. Morgan & Claypool Publishers.
- 16. Mohammad, S. M., et al. (2013). "Arabic Sentiment Analysis: A Survey." Proceedings of the 2013 International Conference on social media and Society.
- 17. Mohammad, S. M., et al. (2017). "SemEval-2017 Task 4: Sentiment Analysis in Arabic and English." *Proceedings of SemEval-2017*.
- Mohammed, B., Mohammed, A., Yahaya, H. D., Geidam, M. M., Gasamu, S. A., & Iqbal, M. S. (2023). Social Media as A Tool for Marketting Communication: A Study of Small and Medium Scale Enterprises (SMES). *Fane-Fane International Multi-Disciplinary Journal*, 7(2 NOVEMBER), 394-401.
- 19. Norizan, S. N. B., Bakar, N. B. A., Iqbal, M. S., & Idris, I. B. M. (2025). Examining financial well-being among students: Islamic social finance and theory of planned behavior approach. *Review of Islamic Social Finance and Entrepreneurship*, 1-16.
- 20. Pang, B., & Lee, L. (2008). "Opinion Mining and Sentiment Analysis." Foundations and Trends in Information Retrieval.
- Qamar, A., Iqbal, S., & Ain, Q. U. (2023). Examining the influence of organizational inequity and counterproductive work behavior on workplace misconduct within Pakistan's power industry. *Journal of Excellence in Management Sciences*, 2(1), 17-31.
- 22. Rana, A., Iqbal, MSI., & Rana, A. (2024). Impact of monetary management on nurses' turnover decisions and job anxiety as a mediator and resilience as a moderator. *Journal of Nurses and Midwives Pakistan*, 4(1), 42–53.
- 23. Saeed, K., Iqbal, M. S., & Tijjani, A. A. (2024). Impact of Corporate Governance on Capital Structure; Evidence from Pakistan. *Journal of Banking and Social Equity* (*JBSE*), 3(1), 57-69.