

SIGUL 2022 @ LREC 2022  
The 1st Annual Meeting of the ELRA/ISCA Special Interest Group on Under-Resourced Languages

**OCHILBEK RAKHMANOV AND TIM SCHLIPPE**

# **SENTIMENT ANALYSIS FOR HAUSA: CLASSIFYING STUDENTS' COMMENTS**

Marseille, France  
June 25, 2022

# AGENDA

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**Introduction**

**1**

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**Related Work**

**2**

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**HESAC – The Hausa-English Sentiment Analysis Corpus  
For Educational Environments**

**3**

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**Sentiment Analysis for Hausa**

**4**

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**Conclusion and Future Work**

**5**

# 1

## INTRODUCTION

# MOTIVATION: UN Sustainable Development Goal 4



**SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
GOALS**

# MOTIVATION: UN Sustainable Development Goal 4



**ANALYSIS**

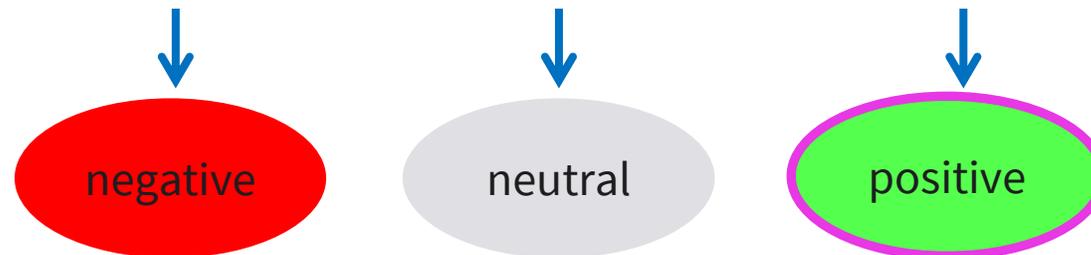
**FEEDBACK LOOP**

**IMPROVE EDUCATION**

# SENTIMENT ANALYSIS: Classifying student comments

**extracting subjective information from text such as mood,**  
e.g., classify student comments in course evaluations.

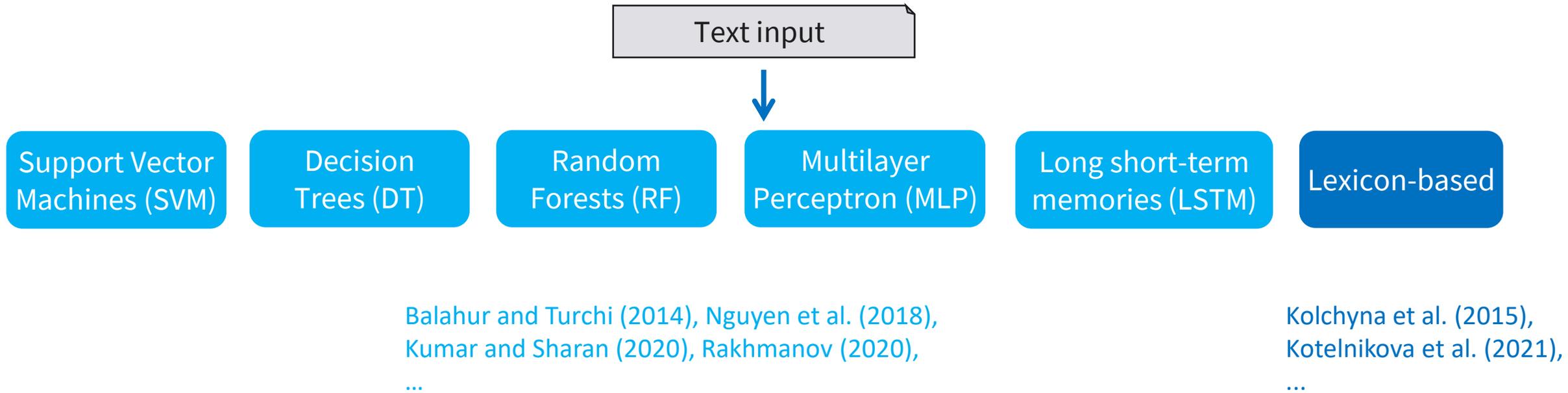
*“Being a maths lecturer it’s as easy as being other courses lecturer. Most students have a hard time understanding mathematics which requires constantly explaining over and over again and not all lecturers have that patience. But as for me, I have nothing much to say but **he’s a very good lecturer.**”*



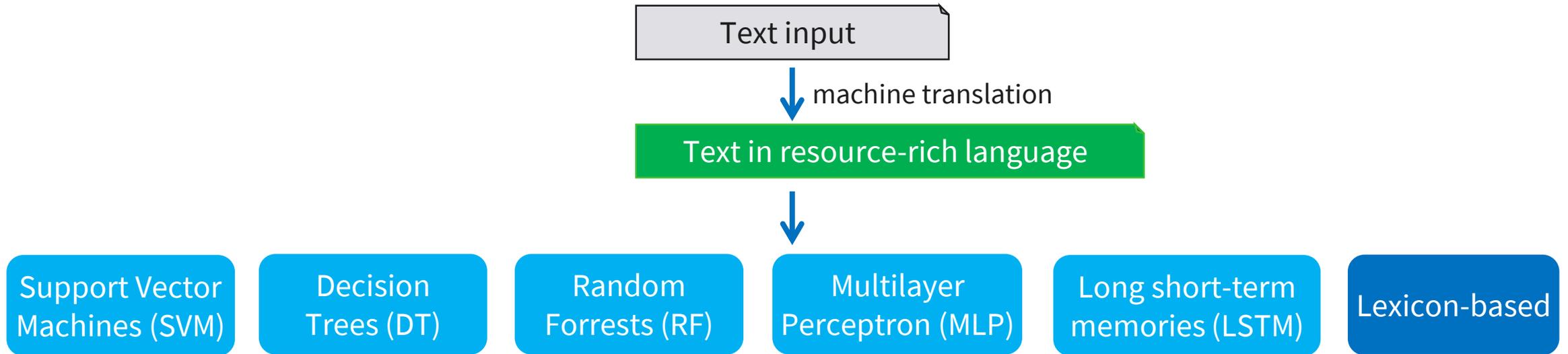
# 2

## RELATED WORK

# RELATED WORK: Sentiment Analysis



# RELATED WORK: Cross-lingual Sentiment Analysis



Balahur and Turchi (2014), Lin et al. (2014),  
Vilares et al. (2017), Can et al. (2018)

...

**HESAC**

# HAUSA

- **under-resourced** language
- **lingua franca** in many countries
- **50-100 million speakers**, widely spoken in West Africa (Abubakar et al., 2019)
- Spoken in Nigeria, Southern Niger, Cameroon, Togo, Chad, Benin, Burkina Faso, and Ghana, etc.
- Online text resources available

## The Hausa-English Sentiment Analysis Corpus For Educational Environments

- **40k** comments labeled as **positive, neutral, negative**
- **4k** students commented **524** courses taught by **203** instructors at Nile University of Nigeria
- To contribute to the improvement of under-resourced languages, we share the corpus with the research community:

<https://github.com/MrLachin/HESAC>

## The Hausa-English Sentiment Analysis Corpus For Educational Environments

☆☆☆ ✓ cross-checked

*“Being a maths lecturer it’s as easy as being other courses lecturer. Most students have a hard time understanding mathematics which requires constantly explaining over and over again and not all lecturers have that patience. But as for me, I have nothing much to say but he’s a very good lecturer.”*

- 
- (1) machine-translated
  - (2) corrected
  - (3) cross-checked



*“Kasancewa malamin lissafi yana da sauki kamar kasancewa wasu darussan darussan da ke da wahalar fahimta game da ilimin lissafi wanda yake buatar bayani koyaushe da kuma hauri. Amma ni ni ba abin da zan ce sai dai shi babban malami ne.”*

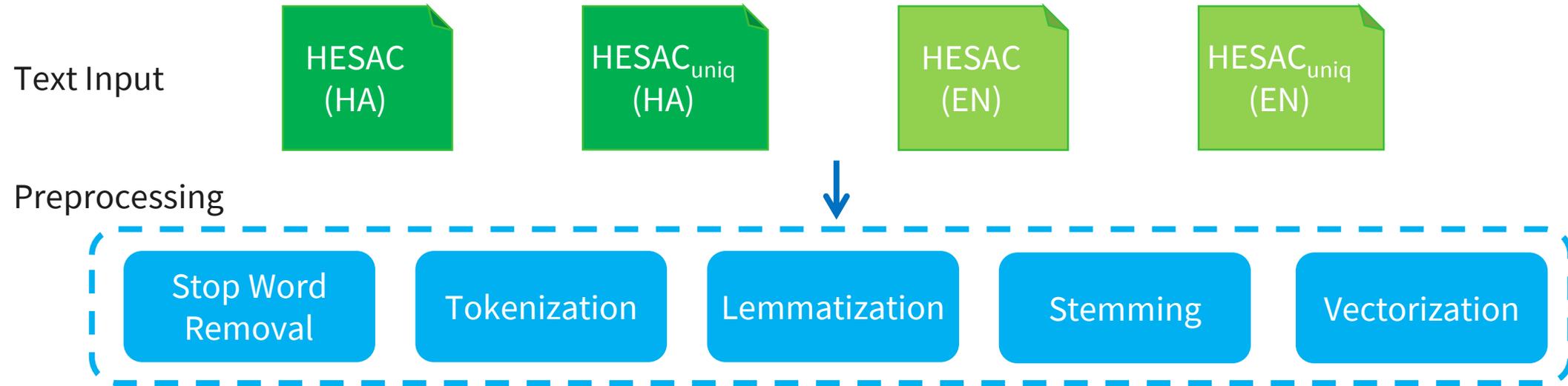
# SENTIMENT ANALYSIS FOR HAUSA

# SENTIMENT ANALYSIS: Students' Feedback

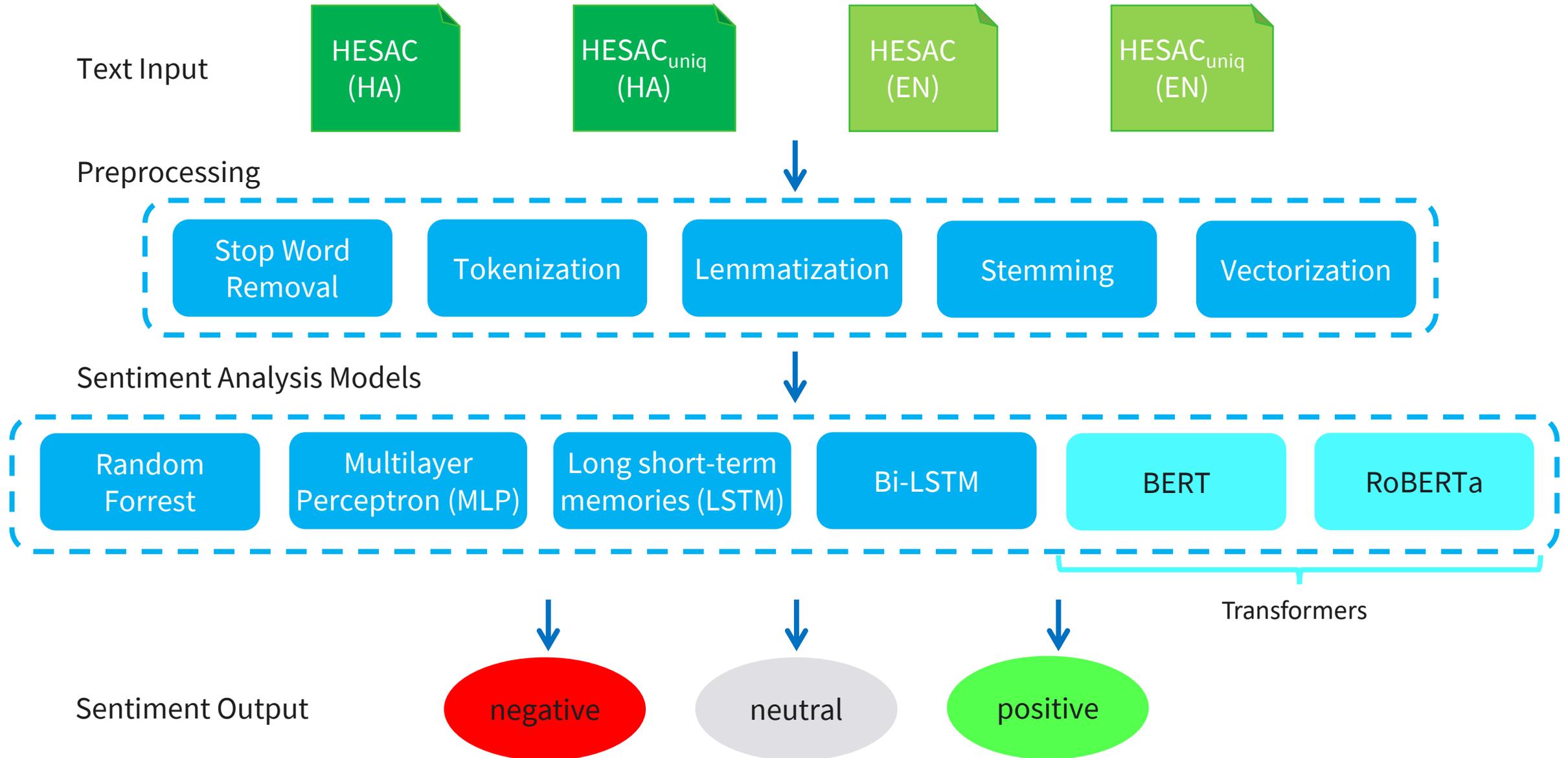
Text Input



# SENTIMENT ANALYSIS: Students' Feedback



# SENTIMENT ANALYSIS: Students' Feedback



# SENTIMENT ANALYSIS: Students' Feedback

## ENGLISH

Method	training	training <sub>uniq</sub>
RF	96.3	95.1
MLP	96.3	94.6
LSTM	97.6	94.4
Bi-LSTM	97.5	94.4
BERT	<b>98.7</b>	95.9
RoBERTa	98.5	95.3

monolingual

## HAUSA

Method	training	training <sub>uniq</sub>
RF	94.7	92.0
MLP	95.7	91.3
LSTM	96.0	92.4
Bi-LSTM	96.0	92.2
BERT	<b>96.9</b>	94.9
RoBERTa	96.4	94.5

cross-lingual

Method	training	training <sub>uniq</sub>
RF	97.1	92.7
RF <sub>stemming</sub>	97.3	92.8
MLP	97.0	90.8
MLP <sub>stemming</sub>	97.1	91.1
LSTM	96.2	90.9
LSTM <sub>stemming</sub>	<b>97.4</b>	91.4
Bi-LSTM	96.7	91.0
Bi-LSTM <sub>stemming</sub>	97.0	91.4
RoBERTa	96.3	92.0
RoBERTa <sub>stemming</sub>	96.3	92.0

monolingual

# 5

## CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK

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## Conclusion

- Corpus of more than 40k comments—the Hausa-English Sentiment Analysis Corpus For Educational Environments (**HESAC**)
- Investigated **monolingual and cross-lingual approaches** for Hausa to classify student comments in course evaluations
- Proposed a novel **stemming algorithm** for Hausa to improve accuracy
- Experimented with **removing duplicates** from the training set, but this resulted in deterioration of the systems
- **Monolingual approaches** for Hausa slightly outperform cross-lingual ones
- Best Hausa model results in an **accuracy of 97.4% on HESAC**

# CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK

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## Future Work

- **Tackle performance losses** with long sentences that contain both positive and negative aspects
- **System combination**
- Add **topic identification** to extract even more valuable information from the students' feedback

**THANK YOU**

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# REFERENCES

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## Images

- **Images provided by OpenClipart-Vectors/154119/Pixabay.** (<https://pixabay.com/vectors/international-project-world-154119> [last access: 16.16.2021])

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