

Social Media Polarization and Echo Chambers in the Context of COVID-19: Case Study Supplementary Material

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Model Type	Model	Profile	Network	Acc.	AUC
<i>Average word embeddings</i>	GloVe-wiki-gigaword-300	✓	✗	0.856	0.875
	Word2Vec-google-news-300	✓	✗	0.852	0.877
<i>Average transformer output</i>	BERT-base-uncased	✓	✗	0.859	0.882
	BERT-large-uncased	✓	✗	0.862	0.885
	DistilBERT-uncased	✓	✗	0.863	0.888
	RoBERTa-base	✓	✗	0.870	0.898
	RoBERTa-large	✓	✗	0.882	0.914
<i>Fine-tuned transformers</i>	BERT-base-uncased	✓	✗	0.900	0.932
	DistilBERT-uncased	✓	✗	0.899	0.931
	RoBERTa-base	✓	✗	0.893	0.916
<i>S-BERT</i>	S-BERT-large-uncased	✓	✗	0.869	0.890
	S-DistilBERT-uncased	✓	✗	0.864	0.885
	S-RoBERTa-large	✓	✗	0.879	0.903
<i>Network embedding</i>	node2vec*	✗	✓	0.928	0.955
	GraphSAGE + RoBERTa-base	✓	✓	0.789	0.725
<i>Retweet-BERT (our model)</i>	Retweet-DistilBERT-one-neg	✓	✓	0.900	0.933
	Retweet-DistilBERT-mult-neg	✓	✓	0.935	0.965
	Retweet-BERT-base-mult-neg	✓	✓	0.934	0.966

Table 1: 5-fold CV results for political leaning classification on seed users for various models that are tuned via grid-search ($N = 79k$). We indicate whether each model makes use of the profile descriptions and retweet network structure. The best AUC score for each model type is shown in bold and the best overall scores are underlined. *node2vec, an inductive-only model, can only be applied to non-isolated users in the retweet network.