

Stereotypes about Older People and Social Networking Sites in Chilean Media: An Analysis of Topics on Twitter

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Abstract

This study aims to analyze from the comments of the Chilean media how the use of social network sites (SNS) is conceived in the elderly. We used Latent Dirichlet Allocation (LDA) to generate a model that categorizes the media opinions about more senior people and SNS to analyze Twitter data. The proposal was that there are stereotypes about the relationship between the elderly and SNS (for example, the elderly use SNS to be close to relatives, the elderly do not use SNS to start a business, among others) and that stereotypes are a cultural barrier to face the problem of heterogeneity in the use of these platforms. The data used in this study is twitter data taken is Twitter data from the official Twitter accounts of Chilean media between 2016 and 2020. In general, the steps of this study were 1) retrieve Twitter data using Twitter API; 2) data pre-processing, including basic cleaning, normalization, stemming, and stopword removal; 3) development of the LDA model, this step includes the search for the optimal number of topics; 4) interpretation of the model result. The result of the analysis LDA of the Chilean media tweets will be compared with a future survey on the motivations for using that we will carry out with Chilean elderly SNS users.

Keywords

SNS, Twitter, Latent Dirichlet Allocation, and elderly

Biographies

Patricio Ramírez-Correa is an Associate Professor and Deputy Director of Research in the School of Engineering at the Catholic University of the North, Coquimbo, Chile. He earned his degree in Informatics Engineering from the Pontifical Catholic University of Valparaíso, Chile. He has a Master in Management from the Pontifical Catholic University of Valparaíso, Chile, and a Ph.D. in Business from the University of Seville, Spain. He has been visiting Professor at the University of Seville (Spain) and AUT's Business School (New Zealand). Author of more than 40 publications in international indexed journals in information systems, learning, and ICT. He has published his work in journals such as Industrial Management & Data Systems, Computers & Education, Telematics and Informatics, and Journal of Research in Interactive Marketing.

Esteban Brito-Quinlan is a Journalist and currently a student of the program Master in Information and Technology Management of the Catholic University of the North (Chile). He earned his Bachelor in Social Communication from the Pontifical Catholic University of Valparaíso (Chile), and he has a Diploma in Digital Communication from the Pontifical Catholic University of Valparaíso (Chile).