

Impact of Cosine Similarity Function on SVM Algorithm for Public Opinion Mining About National Sports Week 2024 on X

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ABSTRACT

Public opinion on PON 2024 (National Sports Week in Indonesia) became a trending topic on X (formerly Twitter), reflecting both positive and negative sentiments. Understanding these sentiments is important for evaluating the event and preparing for the upcoming. However, baseline SVM algorithms using standard kernel functions are not optimized for text similarity and limit performance in sentiment analysis. This research proposes cosine similarity as a substitution for the kernel function on SVM, enhancing the sentiment analyzer's performance on public opinions about PON 2024. The approach leverages cosine similarity's strength in handling text-based data. The key contribution of this research is the integration of cosine similarity into the SVM algorithm as a replacement for kernel functions, improving performance in sentiment analysis. Additionally, this study offers a comprehensive comparison with baseline SVM and provides actionable insights for upcoming PON. The study collected 1,011 tweets related to PON 2024 using web scraping and the Twitter API, followed by labeling sentiments as positive, neutral, or negative. Several preprocessing techniques also were applied to prepare the data. Two models were developed: baseline SVM and another using SVM integrated with cosine similarity, both evaluated through accuracy, precision, recall, and F1-score. The baseline SVM achieved 85.1% accuracy, 85% precision, 83% recall, and 83.3% F1-score, struggling particularly with negative sentiment. Opposite, by integrating cosine similarity on SVM, the performance improved to 88.73% accuracy, 88.3% precision, 89.3% recall, and 88.3% F1-score—a boost of 3.3-6.3%. Additionally, the public opinion revealed that positive sentiments mostly focused on athlete achievements and medal awards, while negative sentiments highlighted issues like referee performance and specific sports (e.g., football). This approach can serve as a valuable tool for event organizers to identify public concerns and maintain positive aspects for the upcoming PON 2028.

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1. INTRODUCTION

The National Sports Weeks (Indonesian: *Pekan Olahraga Nasional*, abbreviated as *PON*) is biggest multi-sport competition event held every four years in Indonesia [1]. The participants are athlete delegates from various provinces in Indonesia. The host is Aceh and North Sumatra province in 2024. Discourse about PON 2024 is trending on X social media with various issues and topics through the hashtags *#PON2024*, *#PONXXIAcehSumut*, *#BersatuKitaJuara*, and *#TwibbonPON2024*. Active user expressed their opinions on

the pros and cons of issues during PON 2024. Tweets related to dissatisfaction, criticism or diatribes on X are negative sentiments, and vice versa.

Sentiment analysis, or also known as opinion mining [2], [3], is the process of analyzing digital text to determine whether it has positive, negative, or neutral content [4]. This study notes that several studies have been realized and evaluated public opinion mining for sporting events. Public opinion mining on X about the FIFA World Cup event in 2014 [5]. The tweets were crawled and labeled manually. The sentiment analyzer used the CNN algorithm. The performance was evaluated by the F1 metric of 0.6634. Tweets about the 2018 FIFA World Cup have also been analyzed for sentiment by [6]. The study evaluated of several machine learning techniques. SVM outperforms other models such as Naive Bayes, ANN, k-NN, and Logistic Regression. It also analyzed sentiment for the Qatar 2022 World Cup from Twitter users in Arab countries [7]. The study explored the opinions using machine learning algorithms (logistic regression, random forest classifier, Naive Bayes classifier, and SVM). One of the best algorithms was SVM (accuracy = 93%). Other researchers have also analyzed public sentiment about FIFA World Cup 2022 [8]. The study used deep learning models such as RoBERTa, DistilBERT, and XLNet to analyze the sentiment of opinion on X social media for the first day of the tournament. The performance of the models was assessed using measures such as accuracy, F1-score, precision, and recall. It is shown that roBERTa is a best model for classifying sentiment than others. In addition to the FIFA World Cup, other sporting events have also become topics of conversation on social media and analyzed the opinion. A football match in Turkey also attracted talk on X and had its sentiment analyzed [9]. There are 30,000 Turkish tweets about it. In the labeling process, four sentiment classes were used as positive, negative, neutral, and irrelevant. There are four machine learning algorithms (Naïve Bayes, K-Nearest Neighborhood, C4.5, and SVM) that were evaluated. The accuracy of the SVM algorithm was 92.30% and outperformed other algorithms. Part of this study [10] analyzed sentiment for four Olympic games: from 2008 to 2022. There were two sources of data sets: YouTube and Twitter. The sentiment analyzer used a Naive Bayes machine learning approach. Unfortunately, this study did not evaluate the model. This study focused on word-by-word associations in the corpus.

Analyzing public opinion about *PON 2024* can be an evaluation resource for the upcoming *PON 2028*. Positive sentiments about the organization of *PON 2024* indicate that the aspects discussed and appreciated by the public should be maintained. Meanwhile, negative sentiment is an unfavorable record in the eyes of the public. It could be an input for improvement. In other words, this analysis will not only provide an overview of public perceptions of *PON 2024* but can also help organizers to identify potential problems and aspects that need to be improved. For example, if there are many negative sentiments related to infrastructure or security, organizers can make immediate improvements. On the other hand, extracting public opinion is also another evaluator for stakeholders outside the *PON 2024* committee report.

Support Vector Machine (SVM) algorithm has been widely used and popular machine learning algorithm for opinion mining cases [11], [12]. The SVM algorithm performs by finding the optimal hyperplane that separates classes of data by maximizing the margin [13], thereby classifying data with high precision [14], [15]. Typically, the margin function optimization in SVM algorithms is based on a modified distance [16], [17] or Kernel function [18], [19]. However, the kernel function and not all modified distances are not designed for text data and natural language cases [20], [21], [22]. This research aims to analyze public sentiment about PON 2024 on social media X with the SVM algorithm and cosine similarity function. Cosine similarity is more effective in handling text [23], as it measures similarity based on the orientation of word vectors in a multidimensional space [22], whereas the kernel function is designed more for numerical and non-linear data [24]. In addition, cosine similarity is not affected by document length [25], whereas kernel function can be affected by the scale of the data, requiring additional normalization of the text. The cosine similarity function is a substitute for the distance function or kernel in SVM. Model evaluation using accuracy, precision, recall, and F1. The key contribution of this research is the integration of cosine similarity into the SVM algorithm as a replacement for kernel functions, improving accuracy in sentiment classification. Additionally, this study offers a comprehensive comparison with baseline SVM and provides actionable insights into public sentiment regarding PON 2024. This analysis aims to identify the most effective model for accurately analyzing public opinion. In addition, this research also provides insights regarding aspects that should be maintained for the upcoming *PON 2028* and aspects that need to be improved. The insights are based on word cloud analysis of each sentiment class. In addition, this research is also expected to contribute to the development of science in the field of sentiment analysis in Indonesia and become material for evaluating and planning the hosting of the upcoming *PON*.

2. METHODS

There are five main stages in this research (shown in Fig. 1). This research begins by collecting datasets from social media X, and the resulting output is tweets. The next process will go through text pre-processing with various techniques. The output of this stage is in the form of structured raw data. In other words, the tweets have been successfully extracted into several features. The raw data is split into training and testing datasets. The training dataset aims to build and train the text classification model. Whereas the testing dataset is used to evaluate the model of text classification.

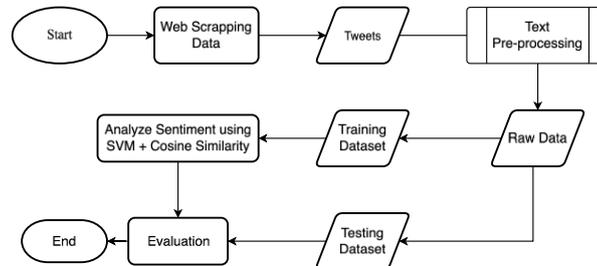


Fig. 1. Research flowchart

2.1. Data Collection

The data collection process uses web scraping techniques. The technique is a technology that allows us to extract structured data from text [26]; in this case, texts come from social media X. The process is supported by the Twitter API feature. The feature allows developers to use Tweet-Harvest, which is available on the website <https://developer.twitter.com/>. Tweet-Harvest is a Node.js-based tool used to collect tweet data from X [27]. However, the web scraping process will attract spam and biased tweets; therefore, to filter relevant tweets, there are several criteria limitations in a text that will be scraped from social media X (shown in Table 1). Tweets must contain keywords/hashtag elements (such as: *PON 2024*, *PON Aceh-Sumut*, and *PON XXI*); otherwise, they are removed. Although there are many tweets before the start of *PON 2024*, this study focuses on tweets within the time frame of *PON 2024*. As a result, 1,011 tweets were successfully obtained from the process.

Table 1. Tweet criteria

Criteria	Limitation
Keywords/hashtag	<i>PON 2024</i> , <i>PON Aceh-Sumut</i> , <i>PON XXI</i> , etc.
Time spends	9 – 20 September 2024
Language	Indonesia
Tweet	Tweets are not repeated

2.2. Text Pre-processing

Text preprocessing is a natural language processing technique that transforms raw data into a format that is understandable, predictable, and analyzable [28]. In many cases, it could increase the performance model [29], [30], [31]. The objective of this process is that tweets are transformed and shaped into features. There are six text preprocessing techniques used in this research (Table 2). The cleansing technique removes predefined symbols, such as #, \$, and @ on usernames. This study used case folding to homogenize the letter. A brief explanation of text preprocessing techniques is shown in Table 2.

2.3. Sentiment Analyzer

The identifying sentiment of the public about PON 2024 used the Support Vector Machine (SVM) algorithm. The SVM algorithm is a machine learning algorithm that can handle numerous variables and classes [32], [33], [34]. The idea of the SVM algorithm is to create a hyperplane function that can separate the data [3], [20], [35], the algorithm is shown below. the algorithm is shown below. The SVM algorithm input includes the number of input vectors (N_{sv}), number of features (N_{ft}), and bias (b). The input vector and support vector are in array format. Bias (b) is initial state by 1. The algorithm output is an equation model in hyperplane format. However, the SVM algorithm has limitations and poor performance for finding patterns on a non-linear dataset [36], [37], [38]. Many researchers use the kernel trick to enhance the performance of the model [39], [40], [41], [42]. Unfortunately, Kernel tricks are not designed as text similarity functions [22].

Table 2. Text pre-processing techniques

Techniques	Description
Cleansing	Aims to reduce noise in the collected tweet, such as removing symbols, URL links: hashtag “#”, and at “@” when mentioning the username.
Case Folding	Converting words that have uppercase into lowercase. The goal is to eliminate data redundancy.
Tokenization	Separation of sentences into single words and checking the word of the i -th character is not a separator such as period (.), comma (,), space and other separators, it will be combined with the next character.
Stopwords Removal	Each word will be checked, if there are conjunctions, prepositions or pronouns, then the word will be removed.
Stemming	The process of converting words in tweet data that have affixed words into basic words [21]. This study uses the Sastrawi library in python.
Feature Extraction	The process of identifying and extracting important features from raw data. This study used Bag of Word, like previous studies [13].

SVM Algorithm
Input: $N_{in}; N_{sv}; N_{ft}; b; SV[N_{sv}]$ (Support vector array); $IN[N_{in}]$ (Input vector array)
Output: F (decision function output)
<pre> for $i \leftarrow 1$ to N_{in} by 1 do $F = 0$ for $j \leftarrow 1$ to N_{sv} by 1 do $dist = 0$ for $k \leftarrow 1$ to N_{ft} by 1 do $dist += (SV[j].feature[k] - IN[i].feature[k])^2$ end $k = \exp(-\gamma \times dist)$ $F += SV[j].a * k$ end $F = F + b *$ end </pre>

This study proposed an idea that substitutes the kernel trick with a text similarity function. Cosine similarity is one of the most popular distance measures in text classification problems [43], [44]. Cosine similarity is used frequently as an alternative to the kernel function in SVM to handle text-based data [45]. Cosine similarity is more effective in handling text [25], [46]. It measures similarity based on the orientation of word vectors in a multidimensional space. Whereas the kernel function is designed for numerical and non-linear data [24]. Cosine similarity is not affected by document length [47]. The kernel function is affected by the scale of the data, so it requires data normalization. Furthermore, this study modified the SVM algorithm by replacing the kernel function with the cosine similarity function. The cosine similarity function is used to measure the closeness of tweets. Technically, the cosine similarity function is used to replace the process in line 8 in the SVM algorithm.

2.4. Model Evaluation

Model of sentiment analyzer will be evaluated and tested against the testing data. This study used confusion matrix (Table 3). Confusion matrix is a table used to evaluate the performance of sentiment analysis models [48]. The confusion matrix shows the number of correctly and incorrectly classified data, and helps identify which class of data is most frequently misplaced [35], [49]. If a model predicts a tweet as positive sentiment, and it is actually labeled as positive, it's a true positive. A false positive occurs when the model incorrectly classifies a neutral or negative sentiment as positive. A false negative occurs when the model incorrectly classifies a positive sentiment as neutral or negative. A true negative occurs when the model correctly classifies a negative sentiment as negative.

A confusion matrix can be used to calculate metrics performance [35], [49]. This study used accuracy (Acc), precision (P), recall (R), and F1 score metric (shown in Table 4). The formula of metric is calculated from the confusion matrix. These metrics are important for evaluating the performance of the models, especially when the data is unbalanced [50].

Table 3. Confusion matrix

		Predict	
		Positive	Negative
Actual	Positive	True positive (TP)	False negative (FN)
	Negative	False positive (FP)	True Negative (TN)

Table 4. Explanation performance metric

Metric	Description	Formula
Precision (P)	Indicates when the model predicts a positive, how often the prediction is correct [49]	$P = \frac{TP}{TP+FP} \cdot 100\%$
Recall (R)	Indicated sensitivity of model to predict the data [51]	$R = \frac{TP}{TP + FN} \cdot 100\%$
F1 score	Comparison of weighted average precision and recall [49].	$F1\ score = \frac{2PR}{P + R}$
Accuracy (Acc)	A measure that determines the degree of similarity between the result of a measurement and the value actually [27].	$Acc = \frac{TP + TN}{TP + TN + FP + FN} \cdot 100\%$

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

This section examines the results of the experiment while simultaneously providing an in-depth discussion. This research ran two experiments. The first experiment analyzed sentiment with the baseline SVM algorithm. This means that the distance function in the SVM algorithm has not been substituted by cosine similarity. The second experiment analyzed sentiment with the SVM algorithm with the cosine similarity function. Each experiment was run with a K -fold cross-validation scenario ($K = 5$). An illustration of the data split for running both experiments is presented in Fig. 2. In other words, each experiment is run five times with 80% training data and 20% test data. The aim of K -Fold cross-validation is to avoid overfitting the model. The models derived from the two experiments were evaluated with accuracy, precision, recall, and F1 score metrics. In addition, this section also presents an analysis of the performance of both. Lastly, the section presents an analysis of topics in negative and positive content as an insight for the upcoming *PON 2028*.

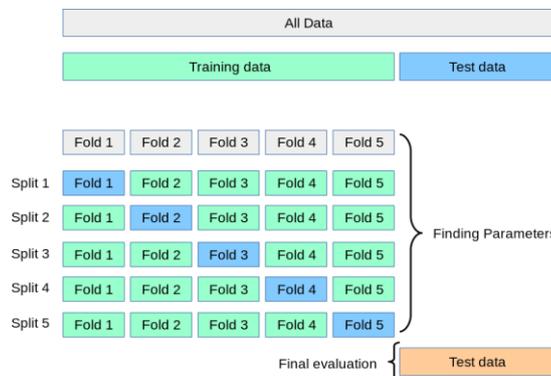


Fig. 2. 5-Fold cross validation

3.1. Dataset

This section presents the results of web scraping and tweet melting. The number of tweets that were successfully scraped was 1011 and then stored in a CSV file. The sample tweets can be seen in Table 5. There are nine pieces of information for a successfully collected tweet, the identity of the crawled tweets (Id), the identity of the conversation (*conversation_id_str*), the time of user created tweets (*creat_at*), the number of people who liked the tweet (*favorite_count*), the full text of tweets (*full_text*), unique identifier for the tweet (*id_str*), if this tweet contains an image, the field will contain the URL of the image (*Image_url*), If the represented tweet is a reply, this field will contain the screen name of the original post's author (*In_reply_to_screen_name*), and the corresponding language identifier (*lang*).

positive classes, but not for negative classes. This can be seen from the values of precision, recall, and F1 score for the negative class, which are low compared to other classes.

Table 6. Example of text pre-processing results

id	Full Text	Cleaned Reviews	Casefolding	Tokenizing	Stopword removal	Stemming Text
0	Masuk tim Tiger Cup 2004 era Peter Withe CMII... pdhl...	Masuk tim Tiger Cup era Peter Withe pdhl CMII...	masuk tim tiger cup era peter withe pdhl cmii...	[masuk, tim, tiger, cup, era, peter, withe, pd...	[masuk, tim, tiger, cup, era, peter, white, pd...	[masuk, tim, tiger, cup, era, peter, white, pd...
1	Isyana/Rinjani perlebar lagi gapnya yang sebel...	IsyanaRinjani perlebar lagi gapnya yang sebelu...	isyanarinjani perlebar lagi gapnya yang sebelu...	[isyanarinjani, perlebar, lagi, gapnya, yang, ...	[isyanarinjani, perlebar, gapnya, menipis, mat...	[isyanarinjani, lebar, gap, tip, match, dexter...
2	HEBAT BANGEETT !!! Selamat kepada Mokesano Shir...	HEBAT BANGEETT Selamat kepada Mokesano Shirraj...	hebat bangeett selamat kepada mokesano shirraj...	[hebat, bangeett, selamat, kepada, mokesano, s...	[hebat, bangeett, selamat, mokesano, shirraja,...	[hebat, bangeett, selamat, mokesano, shirraja,...

Tabel 7. Performance of baseline SVM model for every label

Class	Precision	Recall	F1-score
Negative	0.82	0.80	0.81
Neutral	0.88	0.83	0.85
Positive	0.85	0.86	0.85

3.4. Performance of SVM with Cosine Similarity

This section presents the results of the second experiment. Cosine similarity substitutes the distance function on the SVM algorithm. The cosine formula is shown in Equation 1, where Tw_i is i -th tweet. The composition of the dataset used for model training and testing is still the same as the previous experiment. The training accuracy of the model is 90.39%. While the model performance, accuracy 88.73%, precision 88.3%, recall 89.3%, and F1 score 88.3%. The neutral class has the highest precision (0.98), meaning the model is highly confident in neutral classifications. The positive class has the highest recall (0.95), meaning most positive samples were correctly classified, but with lower precision (0.75), suggesting some false positives. The negative class maintains a balanced performance across all metrics (shown in Table 8).

$$\text{Cosine}(Tw_i, Tw_j) = \frac{Tw_i \cdot Tw_j}{\|Tw_i\| \|Tw_j\|} \quad (1)$$

Table 8. Performance of SVM + cosine similarity model for every label

Class	Precision	Recall	F1-score
Negative	0.92	0.86	0.89
Neutral	0.98	0.87	0.92
Positive	0.75	0.95	0.84

These results indicate that SVM with cosine similarity achieves high classification accuracy, with minimal performance drop between training and testing, suggesting a well-generalized model. The SVM with the cosine similarity model demonstrates strong classification performance, especially in neutral and negative sentiment detection. However, improvements in precision for the positive class could be made, possibly through feature selection, data balancing, or hyperparameter tuning.

3.5. Comparison of Experimental Results

This section presents a comparative analysis of the scenarios. The comparison chart is presented in Fig. 4. The performance of the baseline SVM for analyzing public opinion about PON 2024 on social media X is in the range of 83 - 85.1%. Based on the data in Fig. 4, the sensitivity of the baseline SVM model is the lowest. While the sensitivity of the model of SVM with cosine similarity is the highest. In addition, all performance metrics show that the SVM model with cosine similarity is able to analyze the sentiment of public opinion

about PON 2024 on X better by 3.3 - 6.3%. The sensitivity of the SVM model with cosine similarity has increased the most compared to other metrics.

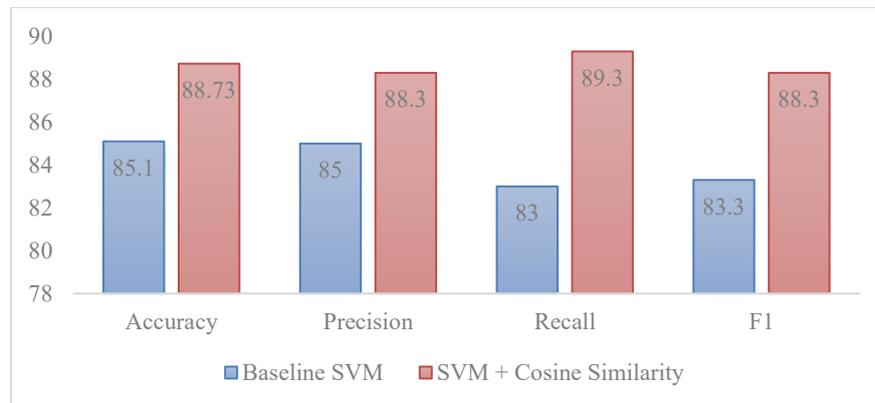


Fig. 4. Comparison of the performance of the two experimental scenarios

This study also captures some differences in sentiment analysis results by the two experiment scenarios. The baseline SVM model mostly analyzes a tweet as a negative opinion, even though the actual class is not. Surely, this condition makes the performance of the baseline SVM model have low performance for analyzing negative labels. This condition is also supported by the data in Table 9, where the F1 score of the model for analyzing the negative class is the lowest compared to the analysis results for other classes. Cosine similarity in SVM provides improved performance over the baseline SVM that uses a linear kernel. It is more suitable for text data, as it considers word patterns without being affected by document length. This combination improves accuracy, precision, recall, and F1-score compared to the linear kernel. It reduces overfitting, as it does not depend on the vector length but only on the similarity angle between documents. It is more stable in handling differences in document size, resulting in more accurate and consistent classification.

Table 9. Performance of SVM + cosine similarity model for every label

Tweets	Prediction using Baseline SVM	Prediction using SVM + Cosine Similarity	Actual class
<i>presiden jokowi diwakili Menteri Koordinasi (m...</i>	Negative	Positive	Positive
<i>pukul wasit di pon xxi aceh-sumut muhammad riz...</i>	Negative	Negative	Negative
<i>Sobat Polri mari kita dukung semangat persatua...</i>	Negative	Neutral	Positive

3.6. Insight of Sentiment Analysis

This section presents the topic of each positive tweet and negative tweet with Word cloud. Word cloud makes it easy to describe words by providing interesting and informative text visualizations. The goal is to capture what things should be improved and maintained in the next PON activities. The more often a word appears, the larger its size, and vice versa. Words with low frequency will be displayed in a smaller size. Green Word cloud in Fig. 5 is a visualization of topics of positive tweets, while red Word cloud is a visualization of negative tweets. Based on Fig. 5, there are several topics of positive tweets, including the West Java contingent becoming the overall champion and bonuses for medal acquisition. The recommendation is that it should be maintained or improved in upcoming PON. Meanwhile, the topics of negative tweets include poor referee performance, and aspects of the football branch. Therefore, the recommendation is that these two aspects must be improved for the upcoming PON.

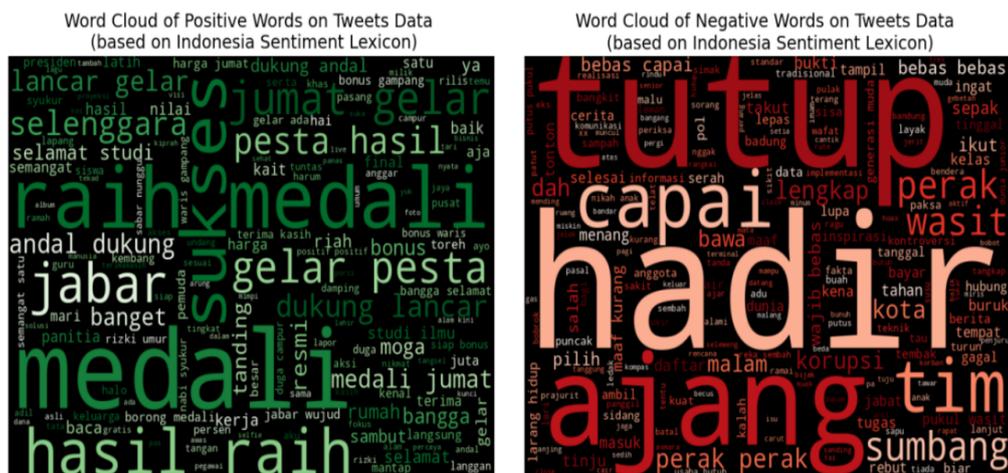


Fig. 5. Topic of positive and negative tweet

4. CONCLUSION

This research conducted a sentiment analysis of public opinion regarding PON 2024 using the Support Vector Machine (SVM) algorithm, integrating the cosine similarity function as an alternative to traditional kernel functions. The study utilized a dataset of 1,011 tweets collected from social media platform X, classified into positive, neutral, and negative sentiments. The data underwent a rigorous preprocessing phase, including text cleaning, tokenization, and stopword removal, to enhance the performance of sentiment classification models. Two experimental scenarios were implemented and evaluated using accuracy, precision, recall, and F1-score metrics. The first scenario, which used the baseline SVM model, achieved an accuracy of 85.1%, a precision of 85%, a recall of 83%, and an F1-score of 83.3%. The analysis revealed that the baseline model exhibited weaknesses in accurately classifying negative sentiment. The second scenario, integrating cosine similarity into the SVM model, significantly improved classification performance, achieving an accuracy of 88.73%, a precision of 88.3%, a recall of 89.3%, and an F1-score of 88.3%. These findings underscore the effectiveness of cosine similarity in enhancing the model's ability to distinguish sentiment in textual data. The sentiment analysis provided insightful evaluations of public perceptions regarding PON 2024. Positive sentiments were primarily associated with aspects such as athlete achievements and medal awards, suggesting strong public support for these elements. Conversely, negative sentiments highlighted concerns over referee performance and specific sports categories, notably football. These insights provide valuable feedback for event organizers and stakeholders, allowing them to maintain successful elements while addressing public concerns in preparation for PON 2028. Overall, this study demonstrates the applicability of sentiment analysis as a strategic evaluation tool for large-scale events. By improving the accuracy of sentiment classification through cosine similarity, this research contributes to the field of opinion mining and text-based machine learning applications. The model struggles with negative sentiment classification, future research could explore additional modifications to the model, including hyperparameter tuning and feature selection techniques, to further enhance performance and applicability in diverse domains.

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