

Review of: "Sentiment Analysis of Opinions about Online Education in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq during COVID-19"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Summary

The original research article titled "A Study of 'Sentiment Analysis of Opinions about Online Education in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq during COVID-19'" analyzes the sentiments of learners/educators toward online education during COVID-19 in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. The authors succeeded in clearly emphasizing the strengths of their study. One of the strong aspects of this study is using Machine Learning algorithms its use of a considerable number of tweets (511). The authors have also made some thoughtful observations about the specific conditions of the study, regarding both the pandemic and special features of the context of the study (Iraq), which makes the article novel and interesting to read. It can also help policy-makers to make sound decisions regarding the future of electronic learning in developing countries. However, there are some gaps which could be bridged with a sufficient amount of arguments and information so the ideas presented can be supported more thoroughly. The following comments can be helpful in this regard.

Major issues

Is the sample size sufficient?

The sample is limited to 511 tweets, which seems appropriate for the current study.

Are the methods and study design appropriate for answering the research question?

The authors have used appropriate methods. However, the following table must be revised since the distance between English words have not been observed:

Is the reporting of the methods, including any equipment and materials, sufficiently detailed that the research might be reproduced?

Detailed enough. However, it is mentioned that "Tweets usually include informal language containing slang words, abbreviations, and grammatical mistakes." The author should mention/add some examples from their data to support this claim. They can also mention previous studies which have made the same claim since they used the adverb "usually" here.

Are any statistical tests used appropriate and correctly reported?

Yes.

Are the figures and tables clear and do they accurately represent the results?

The number of the tables seem sufficient, however, the format must be revised based on APA 6th edition.

Has previous research by the authors and others been discussed and have those results been compared to the current results?

It is mentioned that “Although the dominant approach for dividing the dataset is 80/20, 90/10 works better for smaller datasets. This is in accordance with the literature regarding the classification approaches. “ In order to support this claim, previous studies must be mentioned here.

Are there any inappropriate citations, for example, not supporting the claim being made or too many citations to the authors' own articles?

There are no references to recent studies, only two studies from 2022 and no studies from 2023. The references need to be updated.

Are limitations of the research acknowledged?

The limitations are not acknowledged thoroughly.

Is the language clear and understandable?

Generally, the manuscript is easy to read and follow, although some minor grammatical mistakes can be observed, which need to be revised.

Some details regarding the method of data collection seem redundant and can be presented more briefly.

Do the results support the conclusions?

The results are well-represented.