

1 A Comparative Study of Two Different Bag of Words  
2 Data Representations for Urdu Word Sense  
3 Disambiguation

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8 **Abstract**

9 This paper compares the accuracies of two different data representation tech-  
10 niques: ‘Bag of Words in a Complete Sentence’ and ‘Bag of Words in a Limited  
11 Size Window’ for the Word Sense Disambiguation(WSD) problem in Urdu lan-  
12 guage. In languages like English, Hindi, Persian etc. higher accuracy has been  
13 reported by using Bag of Words in a Limited Size Window as compared to a  
14 complete sentence. Urdu is, however, unique from other languages in several  
15 linguistic aspects and the same facts cannot be readily generalized for it. We  
16 tested the two data representations using Naïve Bayes and Support Vector Ma-  
17 chines classifiers on sets of 11 Urdu words. Results showed that Bag of Words  
18 in a Complete Sentence completely dominates the Bag of Words in a Limited  
19 Size Window representation indicating that Urdu words need more contextual  
20 information for sense discrimination.

21 *Keywords:* Word Sense Disambiguation, Data Representations, Bag of Words,  
22 Supervised Machine Learning, Naive Bayes, Support Vector Machines

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23 **1. Introduction**

24 Words are polysemous, their correct meaning can only be inferred from the  
25 context in which they occur. For example, the word ‘bank’ is used as a financial  
26 establishment in ‘He deposited his money in the bank’ and as a side of a river  
27 in ‘He went to the nearby bank for fishing’. The context of a word is indicative

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28 of its true meaning. Such multi-sense words are present in all languages. In En-  
29 glish, the 121 most high frequency nouns have an average of 7.8 meanings per  
30 word[1]. Urdu language is also rich in these words e.g. the word 'زبان' (zəba:n)  
31 can have two meanings, 'tongue' or 'language'. The word 'حصہ' (hsə) can have  
32 two meanings, 'take part in' or 'be a part of'. We use these words very frequently  
33 in our daily life communication, however, WSD is a process that comes natu-  
34 rally to humans and we seldom notice how our mind perceives the correct sense  
35 of a word from its context[2]. Training a machine to do the same is, however,  
36 a challenging task and the focus of this research. Word sense disambiguation  
37 is an integral component of machine translation[3], question answer systems[4],  
38 information retrieval[5] and language processing[6].

39 Broadly, three main approaches are used for performing WSD. The first one is  
40 supervised learning which uses manually sense tagged Corpora to train classifiers  
41 for classifying new instances[7]. The second one is unsupervised learning which  
42 does not use any sense tagged evidence, instead it clusters sentences into groups  
43 based on the similarities in their feature set[8]. The third one is knowledge  
44 based approach which uses a dictionary, thesaurus or any other large knowledge  
45 source to find the relations of a word in a sentence with its meaning and gloss  
46 in the respective knowledge resource[9]. This paper focuses only on supervised  
47 learning for WSD.

48 Supervised machine learning solves WSD by observing the context of the target  
49 word. The most important parameter is the size of the context, i.e. N words  
50 around the target word, that can effectively capture and indicate its true mean-  
51 ing. These context words form the feature set which is input to the machine  
52 learning algorithms. There exist several different approaches for formulating  
53 this feature set. These approaches can be thought of as different forms of data  
54 representations of the context words, and they are categorized into two major  
55 categories: Collocation and Bag of Words[6]. In collocation, we capture infor-  
56 mation specific to the position of the context words with respect to the target  
57 word e.g. information about the word just after the target word, the word ex-  
58 exactly four spaces to the right of the target word. The information can include

59 properties such as word roots, parts of speech etc. Thus collocation works on  
60 lexically rich information that is very specific to the position of the words. Bag  
61 of Words, on the other hand consists of an unordered set of words occurring  
62 on either side of the target word in a window of a certain size. WSD in time  
63 critical applications like search engines and online dictionaries would suffer from  
64 significant delays with collocations since a parser has to annotate the words of  
65 the sentence with the appropriate lexical features according to the algorithm  
66 before any classification can be done. Bag of words on the other hand, is a  
67 simple representation, a container for all the context words which is both space  
68 and time efficient. In addition to WSD, bag of words data representation is also  
69 used in other Natural Language Processing (NLP) tasks, and forms the basis of  
70 modern search engines [6].

71 Much progress has been made regarding WSD in languages like English, Japanese  
72 and Chinese. Generally higher accuracy in WSD is achieved if a large sense-  
73 annotated corpus is available for training the classifiers[10]. The SEMCOR  
74 (Semantic Concordance) corpus [11] for English, the Japanese SEMCOR [12]  
75 for Japanese and a large scale sense annotated Chinese corpus [13] have been  
76 prepared which are used for WSD in these languages. Also the algorithms and  
77 techniques for achieving higher classification accuracy have been discovered and  
78 explored. Urdu language on the other hand, suffers from lack of such resources  
79 and preliminary work in this area. A limited sense tagged corpus called the CLE  
80 (Center for Language Engineering[16]) Urdu digest corpus [14] has recently been  
81 developed which is the first one of its kind. Bayesian classification of word senses  
82 has been explored in [15] which is the only work done upto now for Urdu WSD,  
83 making it a relatively newer and challenging field of investigation.

84 In this paper we explore the bag of words data representation for WSD in Urdu  
85 and particularly focus on whether the complete sentence or a limited size win-  
86 dow contributes to a higher classification accuracy. We take 11 Urdu words  
87 from the sense tagged CLE Urdu digest corpus[17] and use two classifiers, naive  
88 bayes and support vector machines on both data representations and compare  
89 their accuracies.

90 The rest of the paper is arranged as follows: Section 2 describes previous studies  
91 on WSD and data representations for supervised machine learning for various  
92 languages. Section 3 presents the motivation behind this study. Section 4 gives  
93 the detailed procedure of the experiments while section 5 presents the results.  
94 In Section 6 we discuss the results. This work is concluded in Section 7.

## 95 **2. Related work**

96 A significant amount of work has been done on supervised machine learning  
97 for word sense disambiguation in English. Mihalcea [18] used a window of size  
98 3 to form collocational feature sets for disambiguating 30 polysemous words.  
99 He generated the sense-tagged corpus from Wikipedia using hyperlinks of the  
100 articles for sense-annotations. He reported 84.9% accuracy using Naïve Bayes  
101 classifier. Ng and Lee in [19] explored several different data representations for  
102 supervised machine learning including bag of words, POS tagged words, verb-  
103 object syntactic relation and collocations on window size 3. They developed  
104 a software called LEXAS and achieved a mean accuracy of 87.4%. The same  
105 authors in [20] used several different classifiers including Naïve Bayes, SVM,  
106 and Decision Trees for testing against each data representation. They reported  
107 that different representations give different accuracies with different classifiers.  
108 Collocations contributes most to SVM (61.8% accuracy) whereas POS tagged  
109 window contribute most to Naïve Bayes. Pederson [21] used bag of words of 9  
110 different sizes i.e. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 25, and 50 words on both right and left side  
111 of the target word and trained separate Naïve Bayes classifiers for each window  
112 size. He then ensembled the 9 classifiers into a single classifier and obtained 89%  
113 classification accuracy. Wang et al. [22] used the bag of words model for context  
114 representation with a window size of 5. However they ensured that 5 words on  
115 either sides were captured by taking words from neighboring sentences if the  
116 sentence containing the target word was small. Liu et al. [23] applied supervised  
117 learning for disambguating words in English as well as medical terminologies.  
118 They used six representations i.e. various combinations of collocations, bag of

119 words, oriented bag of words and five window sizes (2, 4, 6, 8, and 10). They  
120 reported the same findings as [20] that different representations contribute more  
121 to different classifiers. Hence the main focus has been on using a fixed window  
122 size rather than a complete sentence in English because of more accurate results.  
123 Considerable amount of work regarding WSD has also been done in other lan-  
124 guages. Singh and Siddiqui [24] worked on word sense disambiguation in Hindi  
125 and studied the role of semantic relations. They created a context vector by  
126 using the bag of words model for limited windows of sizes 5-25. They reported  
127 a mean accuracy of 54.5%.

128 In [25] the authors attempted word sense disambiguation on 20 polysemous Chi-  
129 nese words with 2-8 senses using Chinese Wordnet. They used Bag of Words  
130 complete sentence model and improved the classification accuracy from previ-  
131 ously best reported 33% to 74%.

132 In Japanese, [26] demonstrates WSD using a window size of 50 with collocations  
133 as well as part of speech tagging. They obtained an overall accuracy of 71.7%.  
134 Hamidi et al [27] used bag of words complete sentence model for Persian word  
135 sense disambiguation. They used two classifiers Naïve Bayes and k-NN and  
136 established the superiority of k-NN classifiers.

137 As far as Urdu is concerned, the only notable work found in the literature is  
138 [15] in which the authors used Naïve Bayes classifier for disambiguating 4 Urdu  
139 words using limited size window representation. Thus a very limited amount of  
140 work has been done in Urdu regarding WSD.

### 141 **3. Motivation**

142 Urdu has mainly originated from Arabic and Persian with minor influences  
143 from Turkish and possesses a character set completely different from English[28].  
144 Apart from a unique character set, several linguistic aspects also differentiate  
145 Urdu from other languages. The usual sentence structure for English is subject-  
146 verb-object e.g. ‘Ali ate oranges’, whereas Urdu’s sentence structure is subject-  
147 object-verb e.g. 'علی نے مالٹے کھائے' (əɭl n: ma:l:t: k<sup>h</sup>a:). This especially im-

148 pacts the performance of WSD e.g. the English sentence ‘Ali ate oranges after  
 149 careful examination’ would be written in Urdu as بعد غوروفکر کے علی نے بہت  
 150 مالٹھے کھائے` (əɒl n: bhət o:ro:fkər k baəd ma:l: k<sup>h</sup>a:.) where we see that Ali and  
 151 oranges occur far apart from each other in Urdu than in English because of the  
 152 difference in sentence structure. Likewise in English, the prepositions appear  
 153 before the noun e.g. ‘In the room’ whereas in Urdu, they appear after the noun  
 154 and can be termed as postpositions e.g. ‘کمرے میں’ (kəmr: mN). Also, Urdu  
 155 nouns have either a masculine or feminine associated with them and the verbs  
 156 take on a form with respect to the gender being addressed. For example ‘He eats  
 157 food’ and ‘She eats food’ would appear in Urdu as ‘وہ کھانا کھاتا ہے’ (u: k<sup>h</sup>a:na:  
 158 k<sup>h</sup>a:ta: e:) and ‘وہ کھانا کھاتی ہے’ (u: k<sup>h</sup>a:na: k<sup>h</sup>a:ti: e:) respectively. Since word  
 159 sense disambiguation relies on the context of a target word and the sentence  
 160 structure dictates the arrangement of these context words in the sentence, this  
 161 difference in the sentence structure demands investigation of the different Bag of  
 162 Words models for WSD. Also, the techniques developed for English word sense  
 163 disambiguation cannot be used for Urdu Word Sense Disambiguation, creating  
 164 a need for developing separate WSD tools for Urdu.

165

### 166 3.1. Rationale for the current work

167 The context words help in discovering the true sense of the target word. Not  
 168 all context words are important in this regard and only a few play the key role  
 169 of disambiguating the meaning. The location of these key words with respect to  
 170 the target word is important since an effective window must be long enough to  
 171 capture all of them. To develop the Urdu WSD, we used two data representation  
 172 models: ‘Bag of Words in a Complete Sentence’ and ‘Bag of Words in a Limited  
 173 Size Window’. In those cases where the length of the sentence and the window  
 174 size are almost equal, no significant difference in performance should be observed  
 175 since the feature vectors formed by both the models will be the same. However  
 176 for longer sentences where the length of the sentence is much greater than the  
 177 window size, the feature vector will be of different lengths and the complete

178 sentence model can be expected to capture more meaningful context words.  
 179 However chances are also high that it can capture irrelevant information but  
 180 this issue can be mitigated by applying feature selection which will be described  
 181 later. Consider the following example for WSD of 'زبان'(zəba:n) which has two  
 182 meanings: tongue (lets denote it by +1) and language (denote it by -1):

183 1. ہم جو بھی گفتگو کرتے ہیں اپنی زبان سے کرتے ہیں۔

184 (əm do: b<sup>h</sup>i: f̥ʊ: kəɾt̪: hi:ŋ əpni: zəba:n s: kəɾt̪: hi:ŋ)

185 2. دو افراد گفتگو کے لیے ایک ہی زبان استعمال کرتے ہیں۔

186 (do: :əfra:d f̥ʊ: k: l̪: :i:k i: zəba:n ka: s̪t̪e:m:l kəɾt̪: hi:ŋ)

187 3. اکثر دمہ کے مریضوں کی طویل گفتگو کرتے ہوئے زبان باہر آ جاتی ہے۔

188 (:ksər dəmøkməɾzo:ŋ ki: t̪əi:l f̥ʊ: kəɾt̪: : zəba:n ba:r a: ja:t̪i: hi:ŋ)

189 4. ہمارے اعمال کا دارومدار گفتگو کرتے ہوئے اپنی زبان کے صحیح استعمال پر ہے۔

190 (əma:r: :øma:l ka: da:ro:məda:r f̥ʊ: kəɾt̪: : :pni: zəba:n ka: səhh :s̪t̪ma:l  
 191 hi:ŋ)

192 5. اس تحریر سے متعلق ایک ماہر ہی بتا سکتا ہے کہ زبان کا استعمال صحیح ہے۔

193 (:s t̪e:rr s: m̪t̪:lq ::k ma:r i: bəʔa: sək̪ta: : k zəba:n ka: :st̪ma:l sə hi:ŋ)

194 Lets consider the bag of words window with size 5, Table 1 shows that the feature  
 195 vector for this representation has only 8 words. It is clear that the words present  
 196 in the feature vector are common to almost all sentences of both the classes and  
 197 it is hard to discriminate the sense based on these overlapping words. A linguist  
 198 can analyze that the key words which help in disambiguating these sentences  
 199 are present in the corners of the sentence e.g. in sentence 2, 'افراد' (:əfra:d) plays  
 200 a key role in identifying the correct meaning but it is not present in the feature  
 201 vector. Similarly, 'دمہ' (dəmø), 'اعمال' ((A:øma:l)) and 'تحریر' (t̪e:rr) in sentences  
 202 3,4 and 5 are the key words but not present in the feature vector. We can  
 203 increase the window size so that these words get included in the feature vector

	Sentence 1	Sentence 2	Sentence 3	Sentence 4	Sentence 5
Meaning	+1	-1	+1	+1	-1
گفتگو (ftu:)	1	1	1	1	0
کر (kər)	1	1	1	1	0
اپنی (:pni:)	1	0	0	1	0
استعمال (:sʈma:l)	0	1	1	0	1
باہر (ba:)	0	0	1	0	0
طویل (tʃi:l)	0	0	1	0	0
صحیح (sə)	0	0	0	1	1

Table 1: Feature vector for Bag of Words Window Size 5 Model

204 but the position of the key words will vary from sentence to sentence and we  
205 will not be able to generalize a window size suitable for all sentences. Also the  
206 feature values of the sentences belonging to the same class are not very similar  
207 e.g. sentence 1 is more similar to sentence 2 which belongs to the other class,  
208 as compared to sentence 3 which belongs to the same class.

209 Now considering the complete sentence model, Table 2 shows the feature  
210 vector.



	Sentence 1	Sentence 2	Sentence 3	Sentence 4	Sentence 5
Meaning	+1	-1	+1	+1	-1
جو (do:)	0	0	0	0	0
بھی (b <sup>h</sup> i:)	1	0	0	0	0
گفتگو (f̥t̥u:)	1	1	1	1	0
کر (kəɾ)	1	1	1	1	0
اپنی (:pni:)	1	0	0	1	0
فرد (fərd)	0	1	0	0	0
اکثر (:ksəɾ)	1	0	0	0	0
دم (dəmø)	0	0	1	0	0
مریض (məɾz)	0	0	1	0	0
طویل (t̥ɔi:l)	0	0	1	0	0
باہر (ba:)	0	0	1	0	0
جا (ja:)	0	0	1	0	0
عمل (øɾməɪ)	0	0	0	1	0
دارومدار (da:ro:məda:r)	0	0	0	1	0
استعمال (:st̥ma:l)	0	1	1	0	1
باہر (ba:)	0	0	1	0	0
طویل (t̥ɔi:l)	0	0	1	0	0
صحیح (sə)	0	0	0	1	1
تحریر (t̥e:ɾɾ)	0	0	0	0	1
متعلق (m̥t̥:l̥q)	0	0	0	0	1
ماہر (ma:r)	0	0	0	0	1

Table 2: Bag of Words Complete Sentence Model

211 We can observe that the feature vector created from the complete sentence  
212 model contains all the key words helping in sense disambiguation as well as  
213 the feature values of the sentences belonging to the same sense are now more  
214 similar to each other than before. Thus bag of words complete sentence model  
215 is outperforming bag of words limited size window model on these 5 sentences

216 for one polysemous word. This motivates us to investigate the accuracies of the  
217 two data representations in this study.

## 218 4. Experiments

219 The sequence of our methodology is shown in Fig 1.

220

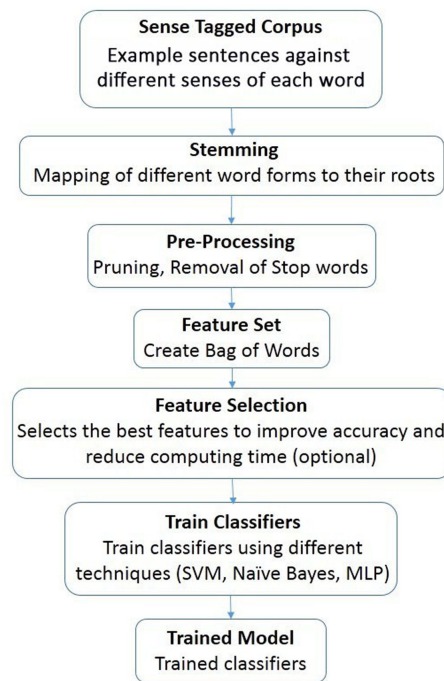


Figure 1: Overview of Supervised Machine Learning

221 We explain these steps in the following subsections.

### 222 4.1. Sense Tagged Corpus

223 A sense tagged corpus is a large collection of sentences with labeled senses  
224 of the polysemous words. We extracted data for our experiments from the  
225 sense-tagged Urdu CLE digest corpus [14] which consists of 100,000 words. We  
226 extracted those words from the corpus which had exactly 2 senses and more

227 than 7 instances. Our final data consists of eleven words which are shown in  
228 table 3 alongwith the number of sentences for each word.

229

#### 230 *4.2. Stemming and Pre-Processing*

231 After collecting the sentences, some pre-processing steps needed to be per-  
232 formed before any machine learning algorithms can be applied .We performed  
233 the following pre-processing steps.

- 234 1. Removal of Punctuation Marks: A list of all punctuation marks was main-  
235 tained and a parser was used to parse all the sentences and remove their  
236 occurrences.
- 237 2. Stemming : Stemming means mapping different words to their roots. The  
238 stemming software created by the Center for Language Engineering for  
239 Urdu[16] was used for this purpose.
- 240 3. Removal of Stop Words : In order to remove all the stop words or closed  
241 class words from the data, we referred to the Urdu Closed Class Word List  
242 compiled by the Center for Language Engineering[16] and removed their  
243 occurrences from the data.
- 244 4. Further Cleaning : We removed any extra spaces as well as any unwanted  
245 characters for the purpose of generating a fully clean data set.

#### 246 *4.3. Feature Set and Feature Selection*

247 From the remaining contents of the sentence, the feature vector is created  
248 according to the data representation model. In the case of the bag of words  
249 limited size window model, we tested several window sizes and found that a  
250 window size of 5 was giving the best results. Thus a bag of size 10 was created,  
251 containing 5 features to the left and 5 to the right of the target word, for each  
252 occurrence of the target word. If a target word occurred multiple times in a  
253 sentence then we created a bag of word for each instance. On the other hand for  
254 the bag of words with complete sentence model, multiple occurrences in a single  
255 sentence were not important and only one feature vector was created containing

Word	Meanings in English	No. of Sentences
اکثر (:ksər)	frequent	11
	majority	19
اندر (:ndər)	inside a person	15
	inside a place	26
انگریزی (:nr:z)	English (adjective)	14
	English (noun)	16
ایسا (e*sa:)	like	20
	such a	19
پاس (pa:s)	near	29
	possession	30
ترقی (tərəq)	progress	15
	promotion	14
خیال (k <sup>h</sup> əja:l)	idea	21
	care	15
زبان (zəba:n)	language	15
	tongue	30
عمل (əməl)	act upon	21
	an act	14
کبھی (kəb <sup>h</sup> )	ever	15
	sometimes	25
کتاب (kta:b)	ordinary book	19
	divine book	15

Table 3: Words with Sense IDs and Number of Sentences

256 all the words in the sentence. Feature ranking was then applied on the feature  
257 vectors and the top 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 150, 200, 250 features were selected.  
258 The feature vector for some words was small allowing selection of only upto top  
259 150 features whereas some words had large feature vectors allowing selection of  
260 as much as top 250 features. Many feature ranking algorithms or metrics are  
261 available for text classification[29] from which we used  $|tpr-fpr|$  metric where  
262 tpr: true positive rate and fpr: false positive rate for selecting the top features  
263 in this study (Eq. 1). This step selects the most relevant or influencing features  
264 and removes the extraneous features that confuse the classifier.

$$F.Ranking = |tpr - fpr| \tag{1}$$

#### 265 4.4. Classifiers

266 We used two classifiers in our experiments, the naïve bayes classifier [30]  
267 and the support vector machines (SVM) [30] because they have been used most  
268 extensively in text classification. We used a linear kernel with SVM because  
269 it has been the most widely used in this domain. We trained and tested the  
270 classifiers using the popular machine learning tool WEKA [31].

#### 271 4.5. Performance Evaluation

272 For evaluation purposes we used the leave-one-out cross fold validation (LOOCV)  
273 technique [32]. This technique takes 1 instance at a time for testing purposes  
274 and uses the rest of the instances for training. This process is repeated so that  
275 each instance has been treated as a testing element once.

276 For measuring the accuracy of our experimental results we used the F-Measure[29].  
277 The F-Measure is calculated as  $2*Precision*Recall/(Precision+Recall)$ . The  
278 Recall is the proportion of those instances which were classified as a particular  
279 sense S among all instances that actually belong to that sense. The Precision is  
280 the proportion of all those instances which actually have the sense S among all  
281 those that are classified as S.

282 **5. Results**

283 The results of the experiments for each of the 11 words were recorded and  
 284 analyzed. We provide a detailed description of the results for each word and  
 285 show a bar-graph of the F-measure values for both representation models using  
 286 both classifiers with all the feature vector sizes.

287 Figure 2 shows the graph of the results for the word اكثر(:ksər). It can be seen  
 288 that the Bag of Words Complete Sentence model performs better than the Bag  
 289 of Words Window size 5 model in the majority of the cases with the highest  
 290 accuracy being 85.8% while using the top 5 features. Also, the Naive Bayes  
 291 calssifier performs better than the support vector machines in all the cases.

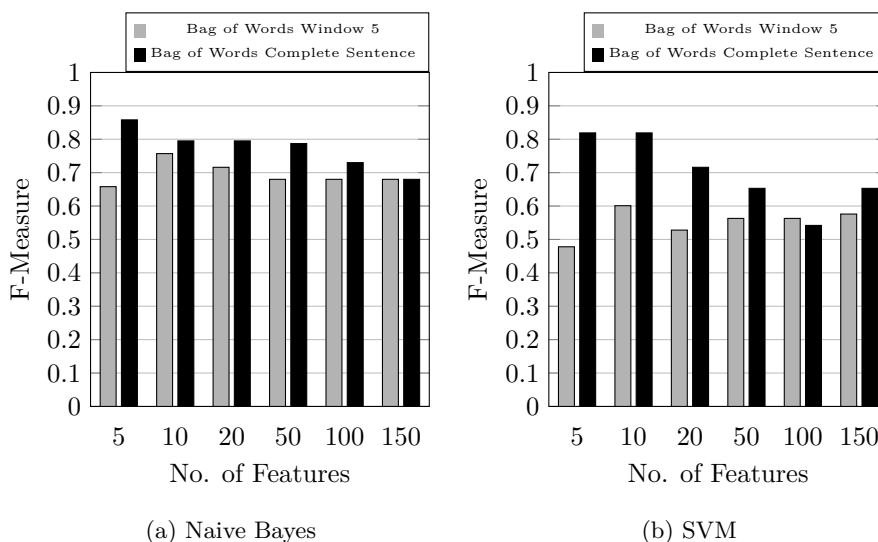


Figure 2: اكثر

292 Figure 3 presents the results obtained for the word اندر(:ndər). Bag of words  
 293 Complete sentence model again dominates the window size 5 model with the  
 294 highest accuracy being 92.5% with the top top 20 features using Naive Bayes  
 295 Classifier.

296

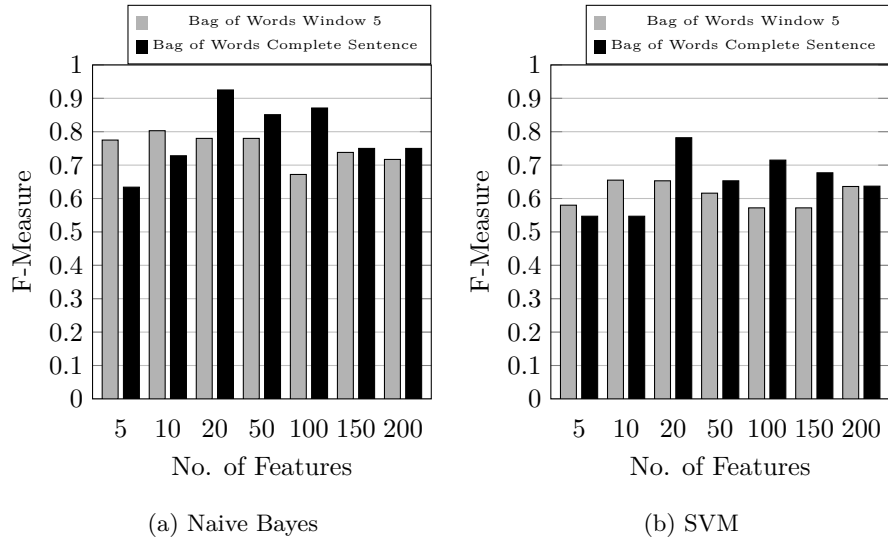


Figure 3: اندر

297 For the word انگری (:nr:z) the outcome of the various experiments are shown  
 298 in Figure 4. Although the highest accuracy 87.3% is achieved using the window  
 299 size 5 model, the complete sentence model has a higher total number of wins  
 300 and thus shows better performance. There are also some instances where the  
 301 Support Vector Machines perform better than Naive Bayes. These discrepancies  
 302 from the norm can be due to insufficient training data.  
 303

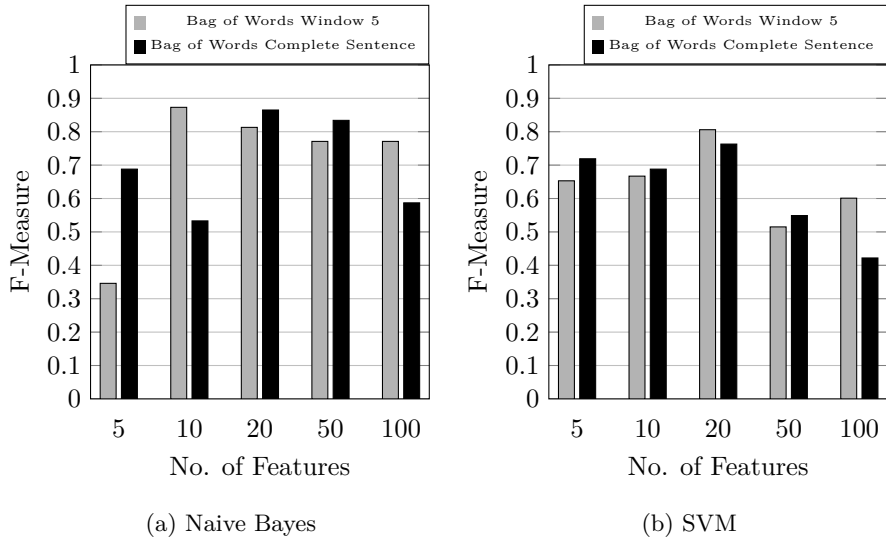


Figure 4: انگریزی

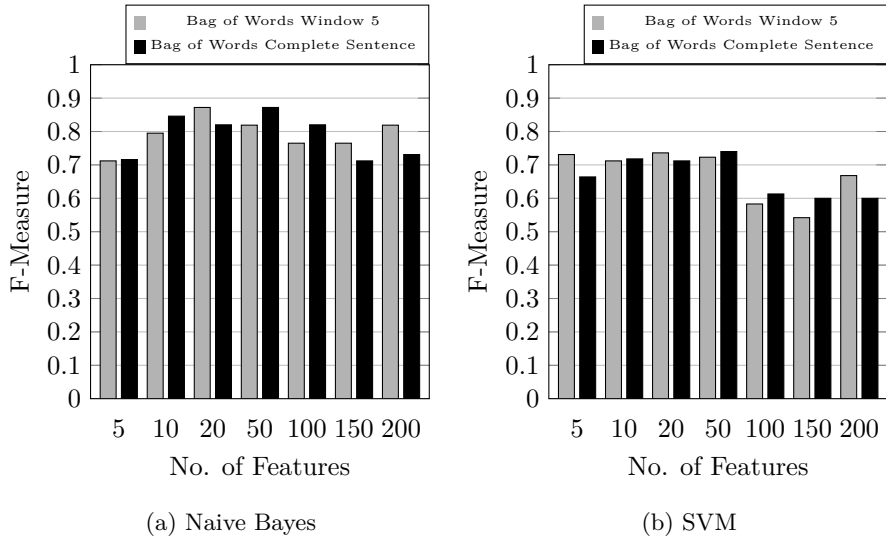


Figure 5: ایسا

304 Figure 5 shows the results for the word ایسا(e:sa:). The two models are close  
 305 in comparison but the bag of words complete sentence model again has a higher  
 306 number of total wins. The highest accuracy 87.2% is achieved by both models



307 using Naive Bayes classifier.

308 Figure 6 presents the results for the word پاس(pa:s). The Bag of Words Com-  
309 plete Sentence model again outperforms the Window Size 5 model with the  
310 highest accuracy of 79.6% while using the top 50 features. The Naive Bayes  
311 classifier dominates the SVM classifier in all the cases.

312

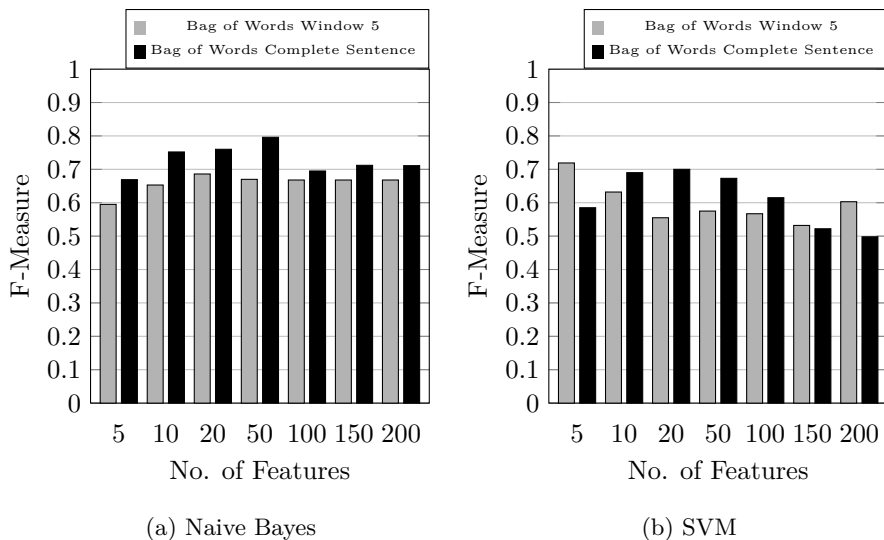


Figure 6: پاس

313 The findings for the word ترقی(tərəq) are presented in Figure 7. This word  
314 presented an interesting scenario where the Bag of Word Window Size 5 per-  
315 formed better than the complete sentence model with the highest accuracy being  
316 90.3% with the top 10 features. Again, the anomaly in this result can be at-  
317 tributed to insufficient training data to capture all possible usages of the target  
318 word.

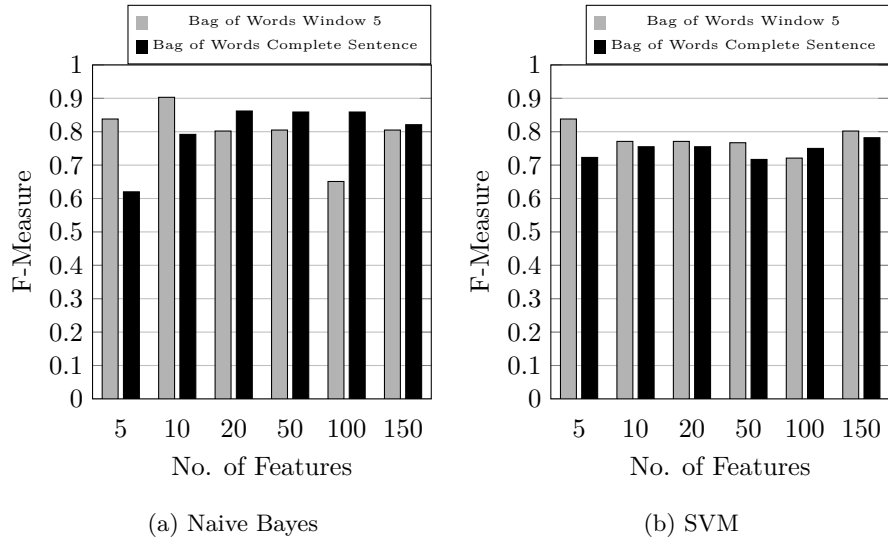


Figure 7: ترقى

319 Figure 8 show the results for the word خیال(k<sup>h</sup>əja:l). The Bag of Words  
 320 Complete Sentence model again dominates with the best accuracy being 94.4%  
 321 with the top 20 features using Naive Bayes classifier.

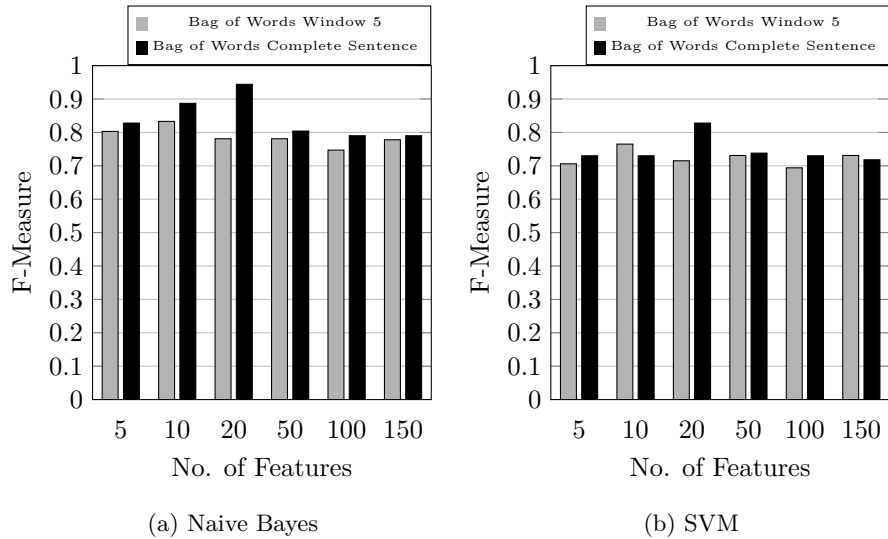


Figure 8: خیال

322 The output of the experiments on the word زبان;(zəba:n) are shown in figure  
 323 9. The Bag of Words Complete Sentence model performs better in majority of  
 324 the cases with the highest accuracy of 93.3% with the top 100 features.

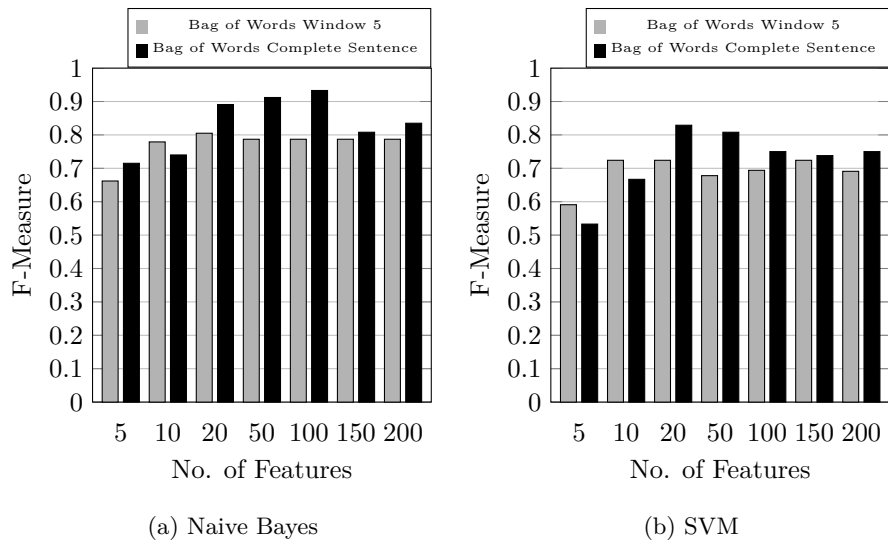


Figure 9: زبان

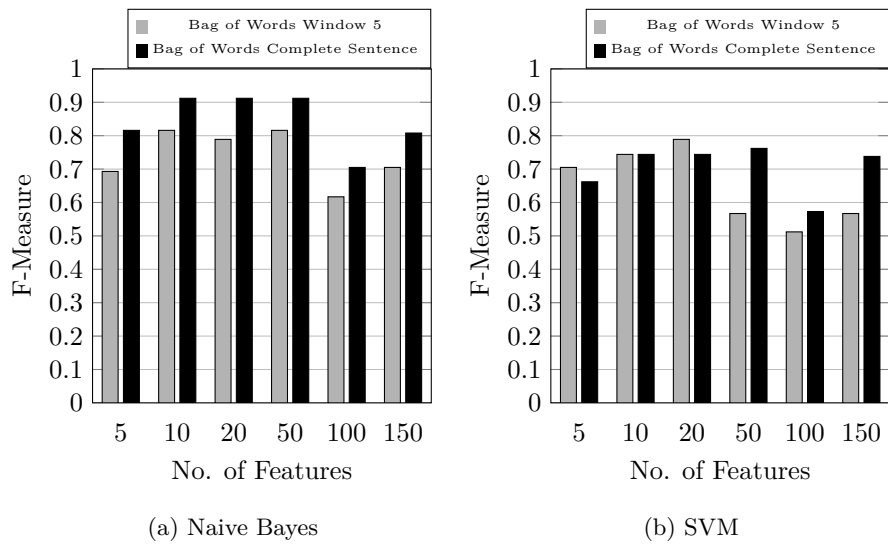


Figure 10: عمل

325 The word عمل (ʕmʕl) gives the best results among all words (Figure 10) where  
 326 the highest accuracy 91.2% is achieved by the Bag of Words Complete Sentence  
 327 model by all top 20, 50 and 100 features using the Naive Bayes classifier.  
 328

329 Figure 11 gives the results for the word كِبْهِي (kəb<sup>h</sup>). Although the greatest  
 330 accuracy 86.8% is given by the Bag of Words Complete Sentence, the Bag of  
 331 Words Window Size 5 model show overall better performance by winning in 8  
 332 out of 14 total cases.

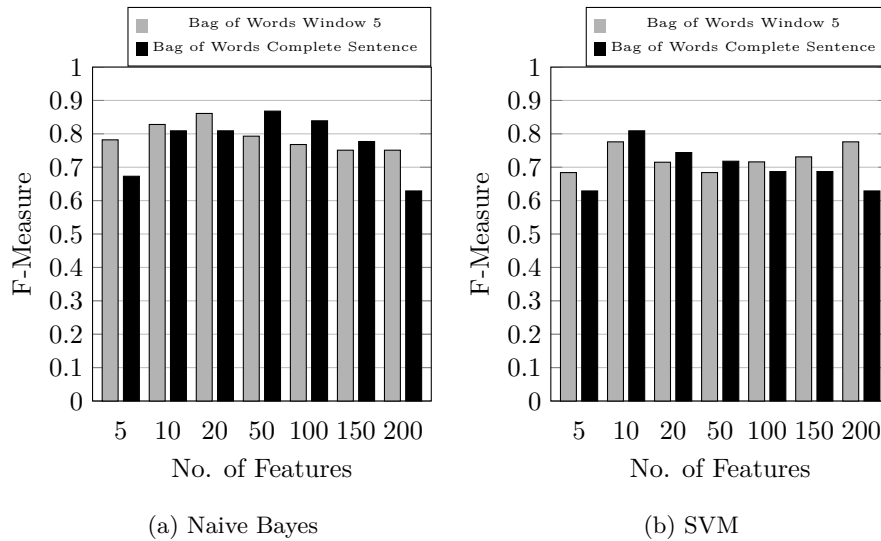


Figure 11: كِبْهِي

333 The outcomes of the experiments on كتاب (kta:b) are given in figure 12. For  
 334 this particular word, both the models gave excellent results, the Bag of Words  
 335 Complete Sentence model gave 88.2% accuracy with the top 50 features and  
 336 the Bag of Words Window Size 5 gave 88.6% accuracy with Support Vector  
 337 Machine for top 10 and 20 features.

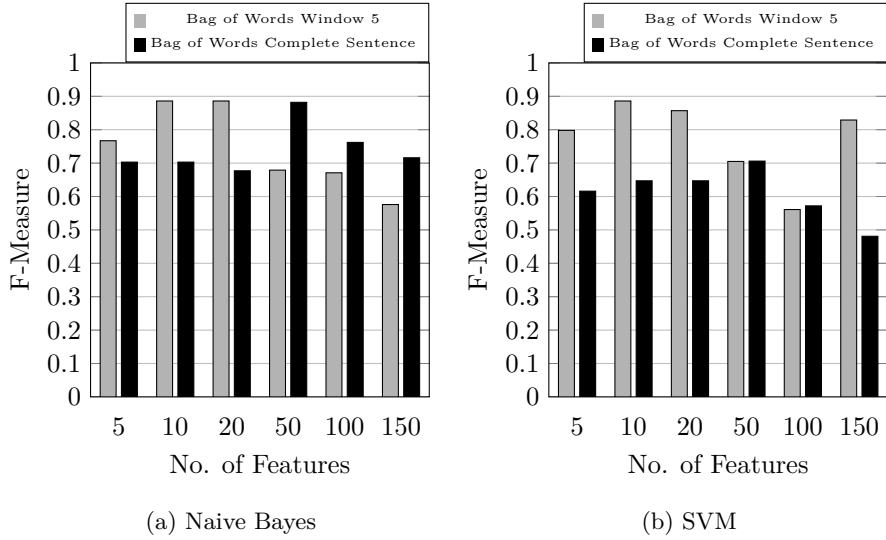


Figure 12: کتاب

## 338 6. Discussion

339 Table 4 shows a summary of the best results for each word with the corre-  
 340 sponding data representation model and classifier. One clear observation is that  
 341 the Naïve Bayes classifier shows better results than Support Vector Machines in  
 342 almost all cases. This could be because the Naïve Bayes classifier assumes inde-  
 343 pendence among the features, and the top ranked features for Urdu sentences  
 344 are independent of each other.

345 As for the data representations, the Bag of Words Complete Sentence performs  
 346 significantly better than the Bag of Words Window Size 5 model as depicted in  
 347 Fig 13. This can be attributed to the fact that we are capturing more informa-  
 348 tion in the complete sentence model. In Urdu language, the sentence structure  
 349 is such that the decisive context words are often placed in distant corners of the  
 350 sentence and the complete sentence model performs better than limited sen-  
 351 tence model. We limited our study to words within the same sentence as we  
 352 carried forward the assumption of a sentence being a significant determinant of  
 353 the sense of a polysemous word.

354 The two words for which the Bag of Words with Window Size 5 model gave  
355 a better result than the Complete Sentence model could be due to the data  
356 being insufficient or biased such that the most indicative context words in the  
357 example sentences occurred within a window of 5 words from the target word.  
358 Expanding the data set might yield better results.  
359

Word	F-Measure Bag of Words Window 5	Classifier	F-Measure Bag of Words Complete Sentence	Classifier
اکثر	0.757	Naive Bayes	0.858	Naive Bayes
اندر	0.803	Naive Bayes	0.925	Naive Bayes
انگریزی	0.873	Naive Bayes	0.865	Naive Bayes
ایسا	0.872	Naive Bayes	0.872	Naive Bayes
پاس	0.719	Support Vector Machine	0.796	Naive Bayes
ترقی	0.903	Naive Bayes	0.862	Naive Bayes
خیال	0.833	Naive Bayes	0.944	Naive Bayes
زبان	0.805	Naive Bayes	0.933	Naive Bayes
عمل	0.816	Naive Bayes	0.912	Naive Bayes
کبھی	0.861	Naive Bayes	0.868	Naive Bayes
کتاب	0.886	Naive Bayes + Support Vector Machine	0.882	Naive Bayes

Table 4: Summary

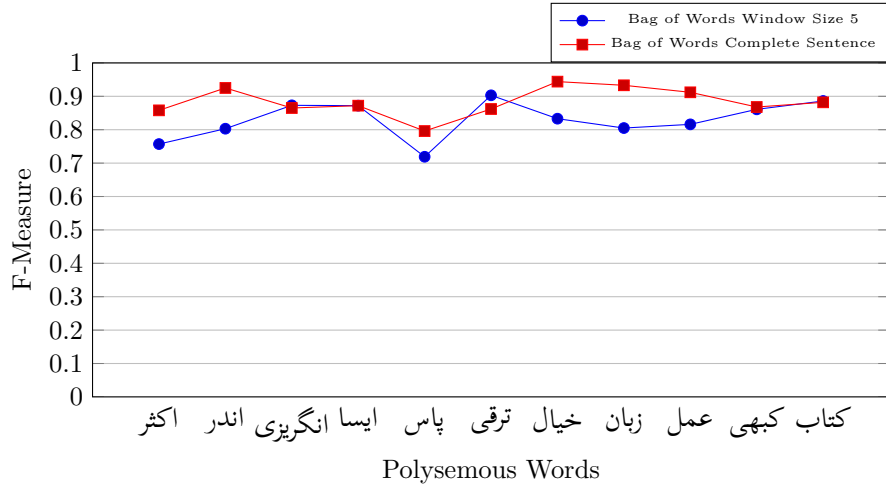


Figure 13: Comparison of the Accuracies of the Two Bag of Words Data Representation Models

## 360 7. Conclusion

361 In this study, we have taken eleven Urdu words which have two senses each  
 362 and gathered example sentences against each sense from the CLE’s Urdu di-  
 363 gest corpus. We then investigated the effect of two different bag of words data  
 364 representation techniques on word sense disambiguation in Urdu. We applied  
 365 supervised machine learning using both Naive Bayes and Support Vector Ma-  
 366 chines classifiers on the respective data representation and found out that the  
 367 Bag of Words complete sentence model completely dominates the Bag of Words  
 368 limited window size model due to Urdu’s unique sentence structure.

369 This work is a start towards the problem of word sense disambiguation for Urdu  
 370 language and can be expanded to more words and senses. Several totally differ-  
 371 ent feature sets that are being used in text classification and natural language  
 372 processing can be applied. Moreover different classifiers and data representa-  
 373 tions can be tried. Another interesting research would be to investigate the  
 374 use of semi supervised learning and bootstrapping to enhance the Sense Tagged  
 375 Corpus and try to improve on the amount of data for Urdu word sense dis-  
 376 ambiguation as well as the accuracy. Similarly unsupervised techniques can be

377 used to find out if more senses of a given word exist in a corpus. Therefore the  
378 field is wide open for further research and improvements in Urdu language.

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