BEmoC: A Corpus for Identifying Emotion in Bengali Texts

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Abstract
Emotion classification in text has growing interest among NLP experts due to the enormous availability of people’s emotions and its emergence on various Web 2.0 applications/services. Emotion classification in the Bengali texts is also gradually being considered as an important task for sports, e-commerce, entertainments, and security applications. However, It is a very critical task to develop an automatic emotion classification system for low-resource languages such as, Bengali. Scarcity of resources and deficiency of benchmark corpora make the task more complicated. Thus, the development of a benchmark corpus is the prerequisite to develop an emotion classifier for Bengali texts. This paper describes the development of an emotional corpus (hereafter called ‘BEmoC’) for classifying six emotions in Bengali texts. The corpus development process consists of four key steps: data crawling, pre-processing, labelling, and verification. A total of 7000 texts are labelled into six basic emotion categories such as anger, fear, surprise, sadness, joy, and disgust, respectively. Dataset evaluation with 0.969 Cohen’s \( \kappa \) score indicates the close agreement between the corpus annotators and the expert. The analysis of evaluation also represents that the distribution of emotion words obeys Zipf’s law. Moreover, the results of BEmoC analysis shown in terms of coding reliability, emotion density, and most frequent emotion words, respectively.

Keywords
Natural language processing · Bengali language processing · Emotion corpus · Emotion classification · Emotion text · Evaluation

Introduction
Classification of emotion in text implies to the task of automatically attributing an emotion class to a script chosen from a set of predetermined emotion classes. With a growing amount of users in virtual platforms producing online contents steadily as a fast-paced, interpreting emotion or sentiment in online contents is great value for consumers, business leaders, and other parties concerned. Classifying emotion in text plays a vital role in several HCI applications where the text used as the key means of communication such as, emails, instant messages, chatting, forums, reviews, blogs, and other Web 2.0 platforms (Twitter, YouTube, and Facebook). There are several applications areas where there is a need to understand and interpret emotions in text contents such as education, business, sports, politics, psychology, and entertainment. Classifying emotion recognition in text is one of the complicated tasks in NLP, which demands the understanding of natural language [1]. The hindrance commences at sentence level in which an emotion stated through the semantics of words and their connections; as the level enhances, the difficulty of the problem grows. Nevertheless, not all opinions are stated explicitly; there are metaphors, mockery, and irony [2].

Sentiment classification from texts can be divided into two categories: opinion-based and emotion-based. Opinion classification is based on text polarity, which classifies text/sentences into positive, negative, or neutral sentiments [3, 4]. Emotion classification deals with classifying sentences according to their emotions [5]. Bengali is the fifth most-spoken native language in the world. Approximately 228 million people all over the world speak Bengali as their first

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language, and around 37 million people speak it as a second language [6]. In recent years, data storage on the web increased exponentially due to the emergence of Web 2.0 applications and its related services in the Bengali language. Most of these data are available in textual forms such as reviews, opinions, recommendations, ratings, comments and feedback which are mostly in unstructured form. Due to the supervised characteristics of the classification approaches, a comparatively larger amount of labelled corpus is prerequisite to train the machine learning models to acquire reasonable performances. Nevertheless, quality labelled data is inadequate in various domains. The analysis of these enormous amounts of data to extract underlying sentiment or emotions is a challenging research problem for the resource-constrained language, especially in Bengali [7]. NLP technologies have failed to achieve reasonable performance when dealing with languages with limited resources, such as Bengali. The complexity arises due to various limitations such as the lack of tools, scarcity of benchmark corpus, and learning techniques.

Because Bengali is a resource-scarce language, emotion based classification based on six emotion classes have not yet been performed, to the best of our knowledge. Emotion corpus is the key requirement and hence prerequisite to develop the automatic emotion classifier for Bengali text. Thus, the question becomes: how to develop an emotion corpus for the purpose of emotion classification in Bengali text? To address this question, this paper outlines the development process of a corpus (we called it BEmoC-Bengali Emotion Corpus) that can be used for classifying emotions in Bengali texts. We consider six types of textual emotions such as joy, sadness, anger, fear, surprise, and disgust based on Ekman’s basic classification of emotion [8]. The major contributions of our work illustrates in the following:

- Develop an emotion corpus for classifying Bengali texts into one of the six basic emotions including detailed description of development phases.
- Identify the characteristics of data in each emotion class.
- Labelled the 7000 text data into six emotion classes to develop BEmoC.
- Evaluate the developed BEmoC with several metrics including Cohen’s Kappa, Zipf’s law, coding reliability, most frequent emotion word and density of emotions.

The remaining of the paper is arranged as the following: Section “Related Work” represents the related work. The properties of emotion in Bengali text is explained in Section “Properties of Emotion in Bengali Texts”. Section “BEmoC Development” describes the development process of the BEmoC including its major steps. Various analysis of BEmoC is presented in Section “Analysis of BEmoC”. Section “Metrics for Evaluation” explains several performance matrices used to evaluate the developed BEmoC. The details analysis of evaluation is presented in Section “Evaluation of BEmoC”. Section “Discussion” discussed some critical issues during the development of BEmoC. Finally, the paper is concluded with a summary in Section “Conclusion”.

Related Work

Emotions are the long studied topic in psychology. An emotion can be described as a particular empathy that denotes a person’s state of mind, for example, love, joy, anger, fear, and disgust [9]. Classification of emotion can be divided into three major classes: emotion classification from facial expressions, emotion classification from voice, and emotion classification in text. A dataset consisted of 3018 documents was developed which consider both motion captures and audio data annotated with 4 emotion classes (angry, joy, neutral, and sad) [10]. Two very popular datasets AIBO [11] and IEMOCAP [12] were developed for analyzing emotions. The AIBO dataset contained four emotion classes (angry, emphatic, neutral, and positive) with 18,216 audio data from the interaction between children and robots. The IEMOCAP dataset included 840 audio/video utterances with four annotation classes (angry, joy, sad, and neutral). The key focus of our work is to classify the emotion from the text. Various corpus are available to classify emotion in text for different languages which are mainly on sentiment polarity based or emotion class based. In the next section, we review the recent developments on corpus for emotion classification in text in terms of two aspects: corpus for sentiment classification and corpus for emotion classification.

Corpus for Sentiment Classification

Sentiment classification refers to the technique of retrieving implicit or explicit polarity of expressions in textual contents [13]. Datasets of several languages were created to perform the sentiment classification in text. Smadi et al. [14] developed a corpus consisting of 2838 Arabic book reviews which are labelled in positive, negative, conflict, and neutral categories. A dataset developed for analyzing sentiment in Czech text which contains 2200 IT product reviews in two sentiment polarities: positive and negative [15]. Apidianaki et al. [16] developed a corpus which consists of 457 restaurant reviews in French language and reviews are labelled into positive, negative and neutral sentiment classes. Semantic Evaluation (SemEval) introduced a complete dataset [17] in English for sentiment classification where restaurant (3841 reviews) and laptop (3845 reviews) texts annotated with four sentiment categories: positive, negative, conflict, and neutral. Later this was expanded in SemEval-2016 [18] to the sentiment analysis by adding multi-lingual datasets in
which eight languages (English, French, Dutch, Russian, Spanish, Arabic, Chinese, and Turkish) over six domains (such as restaurants, laptops, hotels, consumer electronics, telecom, and museum reviews) were incorporated. A corpus developed on analyzing sentiment in Italian language which contains 3288 twitter messages into five categories: positive, negative, ironic, mixed, and objective [19]. Few datasets were developed for analyzing sentiment in different domains such as, product data [20], multi-domain sentiment dataset [21], IMDB movie reviews dataset [22], and Stanford sentiment treebank [23]. These datasets are mainly used for research. An Arabic sentiment dataset containing 10,000 twitter messages was developed to classify sentiment into positive, negative or neutral polarities [24]. A recent dataset is developed for sentiment classification (into positive, negative, and neutral) in Chinese text which contained 9522 data from microblogs, travel websites, product forums, and other fields [25]. Three datasets (Yelp [26], WE [27], and RT [28]) are developed for sentiment analysis in English text. Yelp corpus contained the restaurant reviews annotated with positive, negative, neutral and conflict classes. The WE dataset included the wine reviews which are labelled into positive, negative and neutral sentiment classes. The RT dataset consisted of rotten tomatoes movie reviews labelled into positive and negative polarity. Mamta et al. [29] developed a multi-domain tweet corpus where 12,737 tweets are tagged into three classes, namely negative, positive, and neutral.

Although Bengali is a resource-poor language, few small datasets are available for sentiment analysis in Bengali text. Hasan et al. [30] developed a corpus which consider 10,000 Romanized Bangla text labelled into positive, negative, and ambiguous categories. A small dataset developed for sentiment classification where 1400 Bengali tweets were labelled into positive, and negative categories [31]. Few corpus have developed to classify sentiment in Bengali texts into positive or negative polarities in different domains such as, blog comments [32], and translated review datasets [33]. Rahman et al. [34] used cricket Dataset for sentiment analysis in Bengali text where 2900 online comments are labelled into positive, negative, and neutral sentiment. Some small corpus developed for sentiment classification in Bengali text. For example, restaurant review corpus contained 1000 reviews [35], and book review corpus included 2000 reviews [36]. Both corpus labelled into positive and negative sentiment polarities. A recent study developed a dataset for sentiment analysis which contained 2979 Bengali reviews and comments [37]. This dataset was annotated with positive, negative, and neutral polarities.

Corpus for Emotion Classification

Different corpora have been developed to classify emotions in text for various languages. Alm et al. [38] developed a corpus consists of approximately 185 stories which were annotation is performed at the sentence level with neutral, anger-disgust, sadness, fear, happiness, positive surprise, and negative surprise classes. A corpus consists of blog posts that represent 8 emotions label including Ekman’s six basic emotions [39]. ISEAR2 [40] is a corpus with joy, fear, anger, sadness, disgust, shame, and guilt classes. SemEval-2007 [41] corpus consists of news headlines in which headlines are annotated with one or more of the following emotions: anger, disgust, fear, joy, sadness, and surprise. Another corpus proposed by SemEval [42] consisting of English, Arabic, and Spanish tweets and these are labelled eleven emotions. A recently developed corpus consists of textual dialogues where each conversation is either labelled as joy, anger, sadness, or others [43]. Oramas et al. [44] developed an English emotion corpus using feedback from students during learning process in which the feedbacks were tagged with emoticons by the students themselves. Data from an English TV series and chatlogs are annotated with emotion tags using a web interface [45]. A tweeter corpus containing Hindi-English code mixed text was annotated with Ekman’s six basic emotions by two language proficient and the quality was validated using Cohen’s Kappa coefficient in [46]. Two datasets (deISEAR and enISEAR) are used by Enrica et al. [47] where 1001 event descriptions are annotated into seven emotion classes such as, sad, anger, fear, disgust, joy, guilt, and shame. An Arabic tweets dataset developed with 5600 tweets for classification emotions into sad, fear, joy and anger [48].

Although the analysis of emotion in Bengali text is in its infancy, some small datasets are developed to classify emotions into different classes. Das et al. [49] approached with semi-automated word level annotation using Bangla Emotion word list, which was translated from English WordNet Affect lists [50]. The authors focused heavily on words rather than the context of the sentences and build an emotion dataset of 1300 sentences with six classes. Das et al. [51] tracked emotions Bangla blogs using Bangla wordnet affect list. Prasad et al. [52] tagged sentiments of tweet data based on the emoticon and hashtags. They build a sentiment dataset having 999 Bengali tweets. Nafis et al. [53] developed a Bangla emotion corpus containing 2000 Youtube comments which annotated with Ekman’s six basic emotions. They measured majority vote for final labelling and came up tagging with four emotion labels as some of them are ambiguous. Ruposh et al. [54] developed a dataset for analyzing six emotions (such as, joy, sad, surprise, angry, disgust, and fear) in Bengali text. This dataset contained 1200 text data from online sources.

Most of the previous corpora were developed to classify Bengali text into three sentiment polarities: positive, negative, and neutral. Moreover, these datasets are small and hence not suitable to use in machine learning or deep
learning based emotion classification model with reasonable accuracy. To the best of our knowledge, there is no publicly accessible corpus in Bengali language dedicated for analyzing emotion. In our work, we introduce a larger corpus which can be used by machine learning model for classifying emotion in Bengali text to tag each text into six basic emotion classes defined by Ekman [55]. In this work the considered classes are: anger, fear, surprise, sadness, joy and disgust. This is the very first endeavour towards developing a benchmark corpus for emotion analysis in Bengali text.

Properties of Emotion in Bengali Texts

We investigated several text expressions in the Bengali language to identify the distinguishing characteristics of emotion classes defined by Ekman [55]. In this work the considered classes are: anger, fear, surprise, sadness, joy and disgust. To identify the distinct characteristics of each emotion in Bengali texts, several factors are considered such as keywords, intensity of emotion word, semantic of sentence, emotion engagement, think like the person.

- **Emotion Keywords**: we identified words commonly used in the context of a particular emotion. For example, the words, “joy”, “enjoy”, “pleased” are considered as seed words for the joy category. Thus, some specific seed words are stored for a specific emotion in Bengali. For example, “আঠাকুর্ণ” (Angry) or “ব্যক্তিগত” (Anger) is usually used for expressing “Anger” emotion. Likewise, “মুখোমুখী” (joy) or “মন ভাব” (Good mood) are usually used for expression “joy” emotion. Table 1 shows some commonly used emotion keywords in the context of a particular emotion.

- **Intensity of Emotion Word**: In Bengali, different seed words express different emotions in a particular context. In such cases, seed words are compared in terms of intensity and choose the highest intensity seed word, including its emotion class is assigned for the emotion of that context. Consider the following example, “আলেকজান্ডারের মৃত্যুর সংবাদ যখন অবাক হয়েছিল, তখন একজন অবাক হয়ে পূর্ণ করলে, ‘আলেকজান্ডারের মৃত্যুর অসম্ভব! তাঁর মৃত্যুর সংবাদ তখন অসম্ভব হয়েছিল অনেকের কাছে।’ (English translation: when the news of Alexander’s death reached at Athens, someone was surprised and asked, “Alexander is dead! Impossible! If he’s dead, the smell of his dead body would waft from every corner of the earth.”) In these texts, several key words are existed such as, “মৃত্যুর সংবাদ” (death news), “অবাক” (surprised) and “অসম্ভব”! (dead! Impossible!) Here the words, “অবাক” (surprised) and “অসম্ভব”! (dead! Impossible!) have more weight than “মৃত্যুর সংবাদ” (death news). Thus this type of texts can be considered as “surprise” because the intensity of this emotion is higher than the intensity of sadness emotion.

- **Semantic of Sentence**: observing the semantic meaning of the texts is one of the prominent characteristics of ascertaining emotion class. In the previous example, though the sentence started with death news of Alexander, this sentence turns into astonishment of a regular person in Athens. So, sentence semantics make an essential parameter in designating emotion expression.

- **Emotion Engagement**: it is imperative to involve the annotation actively while reading the text for understanding the semantic and context of the emotion expression explicitly. For example, “সেন্টমার্টিনে কোনো পৌঁছুলো মৃত্যুর অসম্ভব আতঙ্কাদি হচ্ছিল। অনেক সময় সে মৃত্যুর সংবাদ কার্যকরী কোনো কিছু মুহূর্ত অসম্ভব!” (English translation: Every moment spent in St. Martin was awesome. Here are some from those countless moments captured on camera). In this particular expression, annotators can feel some happiness as it describes an original moment of someone’s experience. This feeling causes annotators engaged with happiness, and the expression designated as “joy”.

- **Syntactic Structure**: sometimes, a syntactic structure plays a vital role during annotation. Let us consider two examples, “কে করেছে তোমাকে এই কাজ করতে? অনেক কাছিয়ে হয়েছিল তাই না?” (English translation: Who the hell told you to do this? You have become very expert or what? Apologize to him now.) Another one, “তোমাকে এই কাজ কে করতে বললে? এমন কাজ তুমি করতে পারলে!” (English translation: Who told you to do this? How could you do that!) By investigating these sentences, it is found that both the sentences consist of similar words, but their syntactic structures are different. The first example is like, someone encountered with rage but the second one with astonishment. Thus, annotators label the first sentence as “Anger” and the second as “Surprise”.

- **Think Like The Person (TLTP)**: usually, an emotion expression is a type of expression of someone’s emotion in a particular context. By TLTP, an annotator imagines

| Emotion class | Keywords | English Equivalent |
|--------------|----------|-------------------|
| Anger        | রাগ, মেজাজ, শান্তা | Anger, Mood, Damn it |
| Fear         | ভয়, নিরাশ্রুতি, আতঙ্কী | Fear, Lonely, Frightened |
| Surprise     | অবাক, অশ্চর্য, হঠাৎ | Surprised, Wondered, Suddenly |
| Sadness      | কষ্ট, কান্না, পাদার | Pain, Cry, Bad |
| Joy          | সুখ, ভালবাসা, মেজাজ | Beautiful, Love, joy |
| Disgust      | ভালোবাসা, নির্জন, আশ্চর্য | Annoyed, Bogus, Nonsense |

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| Sadness      | কষ্ট, কান্না, পাদার | Pain, Cry, Bad |
| Joy          | সুখ, ভালবাসা, মেজাজ | Beautiful, Love, joy |
| Disgust      | ভালোবাসা, নির্জন, আশ্চর্য | Annoyed, Bogus, Nonsense |
him/her in the same context where the emotion expression displayed. By repeatedly uttering, an annotator tried to imagine the situation and annotated the emotion class.

By taking into consideration the above characteristics, each text will be annotated into one of the six emotion classes: joy, sadness, anger, disgust, surprise, and fear. Table 1 illustrates the commonly used emotion keywords in Bengali text expression.

**BEmoC Development**

The key objective of our work is to develop a Bengali emotion corpus which is described in the following subsections. It can be further used for emotion analysis and classification purpose. Figure 1 shows the overview of the development process of BEmoC which consists of four major phases: data crawling, prepossessing, data labelling, and label verification, respectively.

**Data Crawling**

Bengali text data were harvested from several sources such as Facebook comments/posts, YouTube comments, online blog posts, Bengali story books [56–59], Bengali novels [60–62], text conversations, and newspapers. Five participants were assigned to accumulate data. They manually collected 7125 text expressions over a three-month period (September 10, 2019–December 12, 2019).

**Preprocessing**

Preprocessing performed in two phases: manual and automatic. In the manual phase, “typo” errors were eliminated from the collected data. We took Bangla academy supported accessible dictionary (AD) database [63] to find the appropriate form of a word. If a word existed in the input texts but not in AD, then this word considered to be a typo word. The appropriate word searched in AD and the typo word replaced with this corrected word. For example, the text, “জাহাজ এই পূর্বদিকের মতো উঠা এবং সাগরের মাঝখানে দিয়ে যাওয়ার সময়গুলো ম্যাজিকাল ছিলেন একদম। আহা সৌন্দর্য❤❤❤”.

In this example, the bold words indicates the typo errors that need to be corrected by using AD. After replacing, the sentence turned into “জাহাজ এই পূর্বদিকের মতো উঠা এবং সাগরের মাঝখানে দিয়ে যাওয়ার সময়গুলো ম্যাজিকাল ছিল একদম। আহা সৌন্দর্য❤❤❤”

It has been observed that emojis and punctuation marks sometimes create perplexity about the emotional level of the data. That’s why in the automatic phase, the emojis were eliminated from the manually processed data. We made an emoji to the hex (E2H) dictionary from [64]. Further, all the elements of E2H were converted to Unicode to cross-check them with our corpus text elements. A dictionary introduced which contains punctuation marks and special symbols (PSD). Assume any text element matched with elements in E2H or PSD substituted with blank space. All the automatic pre-processing was done with a python-made script. After automatic preprocessing, the above example comes into “জাহাজ এই পূর্বদিকের মতো উঠা এবং সাগরের মাঝখানে দিয়ে যাওয়ার সময়গুলো ম্যাজিকাল ছিল একদম। আহা সৌন্দর্য❤❤❤”

Although most of the data collected from on-line sources, few data also created by observing people’s conversations. In social media, many Bengali native talkers wrote their comments or posts in the form of transliterated Bengali. For example, a transliterated sentence, “মুভিটা দেখে আমার খুব ভাল লেগেছে। এই রকম মুভি সচারাচর দেখা হয়না।” (Bangla: “মুভিটা দেখে আমার খুব ভাল লেগেছে। এই রকম মুভি সচারাচর দেখা হয়না।” [English translation: I really enjoyed watching this movie. Such movies are not
commonly seen]. This type of texts demands to be converted phonetically by the phonetic conversion. However, errors may take place during phonetic conversion. For instance, in the above texts, the word “socharacor (English: usually)” could be translated in Bengali as, “সছারাচর” after phonetic conversion whereas the accurate word should be “সচরাচর”. Therefore, correction should handle because there is no such word like, “সছারাচর” in Bengali Dictionary [63].

To convert the numeric values into the text form, we designed a converter. For example, the sentence “আমি তাকে ১০ বার কল দিলাম একবারও রিসিভ করল না” (I have called him 10 times but he did not receive for once) has numerical values. So after conversion, it became “আমি তাকে দশ বার কল দিলাম একবারও রিসিভ করল না” (I have called him ten times but he did not receive for once). Raw crawled dataset includes numerous unrelated texts. To decrease annotation efforts for such unrelated texts, we developed a program to obtain only related texts. As data containing less number of words has less chance to contain emotion; thus, data with less than five words are alleviated automatically. The dataset collected from the numerous sources which can contain duplicate data. Data duplication avoided by inspecting the dataset automatically. The resources are available from here.1 Texts containing mixed language and neutral emotion is discarded from the dataset by hand. Table 2 shows the few examples of the texts along with their reason to discard.

### Data Labelling

The whole corpus was labelled manually followed by majority voting to assign the suitable label. The initial labelling or annotation tasks performed by 5 undergraduate students having a Computer Engineering background. Group members were instructed to label the text without being prejudiced towards any specific demographic region, customs, and religion. Initial label of the 7125 processed texts are determined by following Algorithm 1.

#### Algorithm 1: Majority Voting and Initial Label

```plaintext
T ← Text corpus;
AI ← Label of annotators;
II ← Initial labels;
CL ← Label counter for each class;

for tj ∈ T do
    CL = {0} // Initialization of counter array
    for ai ∈ AI do
        CL[ai]++;
        i++;
        end
    idx=0, max_val = CL[idx];
    for (k = 0; k ≤ 5; k++) do
        if (CL[k] > max_val) then
            idx = k;
            max_val=CL[k];
        end
    end
    II[j] = idx; //idx holds the label which got maximum count
    j++;
end
```

For each text $t_j$ in the corpus annotators label are counted. $a_i$ indicates the $i$th annotator label for $j$th text in the corpus. An annotator label a text with an integer from 0 to 5. Here, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 represents the anger, fear, surprise, sadness, joy and disgust classes, respectively. Label of a text is decided by majority voting [65]. The counter array (CL) holds the annotators vote count of each class for $j$th text. By using a loop we check the count for all labels. The label which got maximum vote from the annotators is selected as initial label for the $j$th text. Table 3 shows the annotation example of each emotion classes with their meaning.

### Label Verification

An expert who is an academician and working on NLP for several years manually verified each labelling done by the annotators. Initial label of a text assigned by the annotators considers as the ultimate if its label matches with the expert’s label. Cross validation was performed by following Algorithm 2.

#### Table 2 Discarded sentences during preprocessing

| No | Sentence                                                                 | Reason to discard |
|----|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1  | তিনি দ্রুত এসে গেলেন (He came quickly)                                   | Short in length   |
| 2  | সরি দোস্ত, আজকে একটা বিশেষ মিল ছিল (Sorry my friend, today I had a very important meeting) | Mixed language (Bengali-English) |
| 3  | ট্রেন খুব দ্রুত চলাচল করে কিন্তু বাস অনেক ধীরে চলে (Trains run fast but buses run slower) | Neutral emotion    |

1 https://github.com/avishhek-018/BEmoC-Bengali-Emotion-Courpus/tree/main/preprocessing.
For the purpose of cross validation, initial annotation ($A_i$) matched with expert annotation ($E_i$) for the text $t_i$. If both annotation matches then total agreement is increased. Finally, we get the similarity score by taking the ratio between number of agreements and size of the corpus. After the cross-validation, it is observed that among 7125 data labels a total of 6945 data labels are directly matched with the expert labels. From the remaining 180 data labels, the expert rectify 55 data labels due to the omission occurred during initial labelling of annotators. Rest of 125 data labels are precluded as the experts did not find the appropriate labels. This exclusion happened due to the texts with neutral emotion, implicit emotion and ill-formatted. Finally, BEmoC included verified 7000 data, including their labels and saved in *.xlsx format. The errors occurred in the dataset development mainly due to the annotator’s mislabelling. The expert corrected the mislabelled data annotation during the verification phase. Some examples of the discarded data and rectified labels with proper reasoning are mentioned in Table 4.

### Algorithm 2: Cross validation between expert and annotators

```
T ← Text corpus;
A ← Initial annotations;
E ← Expert’s annotations;
Sz = Size of the corpus;
for $t_i \in T$ do
    if $A_i = E_i$ then
        Agree++; 
    end
i++; 
end
Similarity = (Agree/Sz)*100%;
```

For the purpose of cross validation, initial annotation ($A_i$) matched with expert annotation ($E_i$) for the text $t_i$. If both annotation matches then total agreement is increased. Finally, we get the similarity score by taking the ratio between number of agreements and size of the corpus. After the cross-validation, it is observed that among 7125 data labels a total of 6945 data labels are directly matched with the expert labels. From the remaining 180 data labels, the expert rectify 55 data labels due to the omission occurred during initial labelling of annotators. Rest of 125 data labels are precluded as the experts did not find the appropriate labels. This exclusion happened due to the texts with neutral emotion, implicit emotion and ill-formatted. Finally, BEmoC included verified 7000 data, including their labels and saved in *.xlsx format. The errors occurred in the dataset development mainly due to the annotator’s mislabelling. The expert corrected the mislabelled data annotation during the verification phase. Some examples of the discarded data and rectified labels with proper reasoning are mentioned in Table 4.

### Analysis of BEmoC

Corpus analysis was performed by determining the data distributions concerning source and emotion classes. Several statistics of BEmoC also presented.

### Table 3 Sample annotated texts in BEmoC

| Emotion Class | Meaning | Text Example |
|---------------|---------|-------------|
| Anger         | A text is considered anger, if it expresses unfairness that is happening to us or others [55] | আক্ষরিক থেকে পড়ার ভাব নায়ক না! ভাবনার চাহনির মধ্যেই সব জানা যায়! তুমি এর পায়ে কলো কার হাত দিয়ে? (Do not pretend to fall from the sky! Everything is known in your gaze! How many times have you touched her?) |
| Fear          | A text express fear, when it shows some threats or danger to our safety or existence [55] | আমার তারা বুদ্ধি বন্ধ আঠারো কয়েক অস্তিত্বে করে যে আমার হতভাগ্য হয় গুলো। একটা মরের কারণে এটা সুন্দর হতো পারে। (Sister, Corona virus has been detected. What will you do when Azrael comes? Fear Allah. Amen) |
| Surprise      | A text consider as surprise if it express an unexpected or astonishing event, happened suddenly [55] | আমরা ড্রয়িং রুমে বসে মেয়ে দেখার জন্য। কিছুক্ষণ পরে মেয়ে আসলো। মেয়েকে দেখেই কয়েক মিনিটের জন্য আমি হতবাক হয়ে গেল। একটা মেয়ে কি করে এত সুন্দর হতো পারে। (We are sitting in the drawing-room to see the girl. After a while, the girl came. I was stunned for a few minutes to see the girl. How can a girl be so beautiful.) |
| Sadness       | Text can consider as sadness category if it expresses a response to loss, and feeling sad helps us to convince others that we need help [55] | একটা ঘটনার ঘাটতি লাগছে সবাই ততো কাননকাটি করতেছে। হুমায়ূন আহমেদ স্যারকে হারিয়ে বুঝতে পারছি উনি কি ছিল। (One thing seems bad. Everyone is crying. Nobody likes to hear such horrible news on holidays) |
| Joy           | A text categorize as joy when it express positive feeling which derives from both novel and familiar experiences [55] | শুভ জন্মদিনের সুন্দরী অভিনেত্রী অনুপমা পরমেশ্বর। (joy Birthday Anupama Parameshwar, one of the most beautiful actresses in the South) |
| Disgust       | A text can consider as Disgust category while it contains of disappointed feeling about something terrible or unpleasant happens, physically or mentally [55] | দাঁত থাকতে দাঁতের মর্যাদা দিতে জানি আমার হয়নি আহমেদে সাতোরী বুঝতে পারছি উনি কি ছিলো ও পারে ভাল থাকবেন যখন আল্লাহ আপনাকে জানানবে লেগে করবে (Blessings are not valued until they are gone. We have lost Humayun Ahmed. Now we can understand what he was. Sir, stay well on the other side, may Allah bless you with Paradise) |
Table 4 Discarded sentences after verification

| Discarded Samples                                                                 | Initial Label | Expert Label | Reason               |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|--------------|---------------------|
| একটা নীতিতে থাকেন তাই, শুধু বর্তমান টাই রেখে নে মূঢ়নিক আগের কথার কথায় একস্তর কীভাবে থাকা যায়!! (You have only one policy, brother, just look at the present, how can you forget the words of two days ago so fast!!) | Anger         | Accepted     | –                   |
| রাস্তার ভরেফির লাইটটি আবার নেলে একে, পীল হলো। (The street traffic light went from red to blue again.) | Surprise      | Discarded    | Neutral emotion     |
| সে হাসতে হাসতে কেনা নেলে, এ যেন সুখেরই কান্না। (She laughed and cried, as if it were a cry of happiness.) | Sadness       | Discarded    | Implicit emotion    |
| শুনলে গুরু ভাল লাগলো মহামান্য রাষ্ট্রপতি। (It was very good to hear from you my Excellency the President. Thank you.) | Joy           | Accepted     | –                   |
| আরে এই সুখে মহিলা যে বলছিলে বুঝতে দেখে তাদের দিতে আসছে! (Isn’t she is that woman who came to vote for happiness!) | Disgust       | Anger        | Semantic of sentence |

Fig. 2 Data collection sources

Source-wise Distribution of Emotion Text

Bengali text data are collected from several sources. Figure 2 represents the proportion of collected data as per their sources. Majority amount of the data (about 65%) collected from the online sources. For example, 25% of the data were collected from the Facebook comments and 19% data were accumulated from the Facebook posts. Youtube comments, online newspapers and blogs contributed 13%, 3% and 5% respectively. On the other hand, the offline sources contained 35% amount of data into the corpus. A significant proportion of data comes from the story books and novels (12% & 10%) whereas the authors contributed only 4% data and 9% accumulated from the daily conversation.

Statistics of BEomC

Table 5 illustrates the critical characteristics of the developed BEmoC, which consists of 148491 words in total and 25458 unique words under 11973 sentences.
Categorical Distribution of Emotion Text

The expression is labelled one of the six basic emotion categories after the validation process. Table 6 shows the categorical summary in BEmoC. It is observed that the highest number of data points belong to the Joy, whereas the lowest number of data belong to the surprise category. The entire corpus is publicly available on GitHub.2

| Category   | No. of Data | No. of Sentences | No. of Words | No. of Unique Words |
|------------|-------------|------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| Anger      | 1052        | 1588             | 21,988       | 7418                |
| Fear       | 962         | 1718             | 20,319       | 7079                |
| Surprise   | 779         | 1533             | 17,926       | 7222                |
| Sadness    | 1327        | 2346             | 30,603       | 9086                |
| Joy        | 1524        | 2534             | 30,298       | 9102                |
| Disgust    | 1356        | 2254             | 27,357       | 8421                |
| Total      | 7000        | 11,973           | 148,491      | 48,328              |

Metrics for Evaluation

The rendition of emotion clue in the text is highly subjective, which directs to a discrepancy in the annotations by distinct annotators. The difference in experiences, the annotation task itself, and focus on the annotators contribute to a disagreement between the annotators [66]. Thus, we investigate to find how much the annotators agree in assigning emotion classes by using Cohen’s kappa [67]. We also measure the coding intervals, the density of emotion words, high-frequency emotion words, and distribution of emotion words with Zipf’s law, respectively.

• Cohen’s kappa (κ): Cohen’s kappa measures the agreement between two annotators, each classifying N items into C categories which are mutually exclusive. This coefficient determines how well one annotator agrees with another annotator. If the annotators are in complete agreement then κ = 1 but if they disagree, κ ≤ 0. The κ coefficient defined by the Eq. 1.

\[ \kappa = \frac{(p_o - p_e)}{(1 - p_e)} \]  

where \( p_o \) represents relative observed agreement which measured by the ratio of number in agreement and the Eq. 2 determines the hypothetical probability of chance agreement.

\[ p_e = \frac{1}{N^2} \sum_k n_{ki} n_{k2}, \]  

\( k \) is the number of categories; \( N \) is the number of observations to categorize and \( n_{ki} \) is the number of times that the annotator i predicted category k.

• Coding reliability As BEmoC a newly proposed corpus, it required to ensure the quality. To ensure the validity of the coding scheme intercoder reliability is calculated using Eq. 3.

\[ A = \frac{M}{\sum_n N_n}, \]  

where \( A \) denotes an agreement; \( M \) indicates the number of coding events agreed by all coders; \( N_i \) denotes the number of coding events assigned by \( i \)th coder, and \( n \) represents the number of coders.

• Parts of speech analysis: in linguistic corpus, Parts of Speech (POS) Tagging, also known as grammatical tagging, is a process to label tokens with their lexical categories [68]. POS tagging is different in different languages. Many POS taggers used in the corpus named N-gram, Hidden Markov Model (HMM), Conditional Random Fields (CRF), and Brill’s Tagger. From these taggers, Brill’s Tagger is most reliable with high accuracy and is used to tag our Bemoc.

• Density of emotion words: the utilization of emotion words could reflect the degree to which the writer released emotions. To measure the influences of emotion words in various classes, we incorporate the density of negative words [69]. Density computed by the ratio of the number of emotion words to the total number of words in each class Eq. 4.

\[ \text{Density} \ D = \frac{\text{No. of emotion words} \ (N)}{\text{Total words in each class} \ (T)}. \]  

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2 https://github.com/avishek-018/BEmoC-Bengali-Emotion-Corpus.
• The high-frequency emotion words: high frequency items are those which occurs the most in the corpus. In language processing field, typically high frequent words are derived from each class rather than the whole corpus.

• Distribution of emotion words obeys Zipf's law: Zipf's law reveals an empirical observation that states that the frequency of a given the word should be inversely proportional to its rank in the corpus. Zipf curve is considered to be a histogram sorted by word rank, with the most frequent words first [70]. Equation 5 can be used to represent the Zipf’s law.

\[
f(k : S, N) = \frac{1/k^2}{\sum_{n=1}^{N} (1/n^2)}
\]

Evaluation of BEmoC

Out of 7125 data, a total of 7000 data are finally included in BEmoC after the verification process. We performed the cross-validation between the annotators and the expert using Algorithm 2 which achieved a similarity scores 97.47%. This indicates that there is a high similarity to assign the label of the data by the both annotators and the expert.

To investigate the standard inter-annotator agreement, a pairwise kappa coefficient is calculated using Eq. 1 in order to check the goodness of annotations given by different annotators and the expert. Table 7 shows the average result of Kappa statistics where every row denoted as \( \kappa \) agreement between expert and annotators and every column denoted as \( \kappa \) agreement on individual emotion categories. It also shows the Kappa statistics between the labelling of expert and majority voting of annotators. According to Landis et al. [71], a kappa score between 0.81 and 1.00 is almost perfect agreement. We achieved an average kappa score of 0.969, which indicates an almost perfect agreement between annotators. Table 7 also shows standard error and 95% confidence interval between the annotators and the expert.

The pairwise kappa scores are summarized in Table 8. Five pairs were constructed having one annotator and the expert in each pair. The table shows the pairwise kappa value for each class as well as the average.

A category wise Kappa is shown in Figure 3, which explicitly shows the joy category data has a more accurate kappa agreement score of 0.985. This category of emotions could easily be identified as it is distinguishable from other emotion categories. The anger category achieved minimum kappa score (0.953) due to its conflict with the category disgust.

Figure 4 shows the inter-coder reliability between G1 and G2 for each emotion category. It is observed that the category joy gained the more accurate inter-coder reliability with 97.4% whereas the anger category achieved the less accurate inter-coder reliability (94.7%). The average coding reliability is 95.91% and total coding reliability of whole BEmoC is 97.8%.

A tagged corpus is consisting of 7168 sentences and with almost 103k tokens used for parts of speech tagset analysis. This corpus named “Indian Language Part- of-Speech Tagset: Bengali” whose primary data source are weblogs, and web collection [72]. There is a tagset with 11 tags used to
tag the sentences, e.g., noun, verb, nominal modifier, adverb, and etc. We used this corpus to train Brill’s Tagger model [73]. After training the model with the Bengali POS tag-set, we prepare the model for evaluation. For analysis, we tagged every sentence and counted the tags of each category of BEmoC. The distribution of number of tokens in POS class is computed and reported in Table 9. Every category roughly has a 40% “Noun” of total tokens. The second highest tagset is “Verb” with roughly 12% of total tokens. The

Fig. 3 Kappa agreement in each emotion categories

![Kappa agreement in each emotion categories](image)

Fig. 4 Coding reliability of BEmoC

![Coding reliability of BEmoC](image)

Table 9 POS tagset analysis in terms of number of tokens

| Parts of speech         | Anger | Fear | Surprise | Sadness | Joy | Disgust |
|-------------------------|-------|------|----------|---------|-----|---------|
| Noun                    | 10,825| 8919 | 8484     | 13,804  | 15,190| 13,439  |
| Pronoun                 | 1935  | 1733 | 1333     | 2761    | 2325 | 2190    |
| Verb                    | 3728  | 4345 | 3230     | 5736    | 4510 | 4322    |
| Nominal modifier        | 2470  | 2341 | 2351     | 3444    | 4223 | 2982    |
| Demonstrative           | 578   | 490  | 416      | 700     | 679  | 767     |
| Adverb                  | 686   | 601  | 585      | 1070    | 665  | 685     |
| Participle               | 206   | 130  | 92       | 267     | 208  | 231     |
| Post position            | 661   | 578  | 483      | 831     | 1022 | 812     |
| Particle                 | 1376  | 1076 | 851      | 1871    | 1220 | 1798    |
| Residual                 | 123   | 106  | 101      | 119     | 256  | 131     |
| Punctuation              | 1588  | 1718 | 1533     | 2346    | 2534 | 2254    |
third most tagset is “Nominal Modifier” with roughly 11% of total tokens.

The density of emotion words per class shown in Table 10. The overall density in the whole corpus is 0.2622, which represents the average density of emotion words. The average density can be brought into comparison with the density of emotion words for each class. If the density for one class is more significant than 0.2622, it signifies that the writer conveys enhanced emotion concerning this class; it also indicates that emotions focused within this class.

Figure 5 shows the variance of each class density with the average density. The figure indicates that the densities of sadness, joy, and disgust classes are higher than the average density of 0.2622, which reveals that people are more responsive in these classes and use more emotional words. However, the emotion word densities for some classes are lower than average, such as anger and fear. One of the possible causes is that people utilize more impartial words to express events rather than describing emotion by using emotion words.

Table 10 Density of emotion words in each class

| Emotion Class | Unique Words (T) | Emotion Words (N) | Density (D) | D-0.2433 |
|---------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------|-----------|
| Anger         | 7418             | 1295              | 0.1745      | −0.0877   |
| Fear          | 7079             | 1360              | 0.1921      | −0.0701   |
| Surprise      | 7222             | 1918              | 0.2655      | −0.0033   |
| Sadness       | 9086             | 2959              | 0.3256      | 0.0634    |
| Joy           | 9102             | 2741              | 0.3011      | 0.0389    |
| Disgust       | 8421             | 2652              | 0.3149      | 0.0527    |
| Total/average | 48,328           | 12,925            | 0.2622      | 0.0000    |

The frequency of emotion words was counted in BEmoC. This frequency of emotion words brings to the conclusion that some specific words always meant to express specific emotions of humans. Figure 6 depicts the most frequent emotion words on each emotion category.

We used a data analytic tool (Tableau desktop version) to visualize frequency bubbles where the large bubbles denote the high frequency words and the small bubbles indicate the relatively low frequency. For example, in Figure 6 the words “রাগ”, “শালা” belongs to Anger class where, “শালা” is a slang word. Likewise, “ভয়”, “অবাক”, “কষ্ট”, “সুন্দর”, “বিরক্ত” are the most common and frequent word in Fear, Surprise, Sadness, Joy and Disgust classes, respectively. It is noticed that “ভয়”, “অবাক” are the most frequent words over all the classes.

Zipf’s law states that if the Zipf curve is plotted on a log-log scale, a straight line with a slope of −1 must be obtained. Figure 7 shows the resultant graph for each classes. It is observed that the curves obey the Zipf’s law as the curve follows a slope of −1.

Considering all the evaluation measures along with 97.47% similarity score, average κ score of 0.969, and the obeying the Zipf’s law, the developed corpus (i.e., BEmoC) can be used to classify basic emotions from Bengali text expressions. This work provides a primary foundation to detect human’s six basic emotions by relating Bengali text expressions.

Discussion

While developing the Bengali emotion corpus, we faced several challenges. Few of them are described in the following:
Perplexity to Assign Emotion Classes

The initial annotation effort suggested that in many instances a sentence was found to exhibit more than one emotion. Moreover, the emotion conveyed in some sentences could not be attributed to any basic category. Based on the observation during development phase, we illustrate the following remarks:

- There is a good confusion between “anger” and “disgust” data. A particular data may represent both anger and disgust at the same time in some cases. Consider an example, “কিছুই হয়নি, ফালতু একটা জিনিস। দুর্দান্ত বাংলা গুলো কর দেখে কিছু ভাল লাগতো, তুই বেশিরভাগ তর্কনিন্দ্য পাঠিলে নেত্রের হয়েছিল” (English translation: Nothing happened, such a stupid thing. The food is rubbish. Even the language of Kushtia is not right. Nothing happened. Nothing“). This expression was annotated as “Disgust”. During annotation, among 6, 4 annotators supported this expression as the “Disgust” category whereas 2 participants annotated it as the anger. Therefore, confusion may arise on labelling the data with anger or disgust. Special attention is required to label this types of expression. There is also a logical confusion between the classes surprise, and joy. Assume an example, “মন ছুঁয়ে গলা থেকে তুলে শায়েষ, মূর্কটিকে পাতায় নদীর ফুলে তুলে কিছু থেকের লাগতো শায়েষের উত্তেজনা হয়েছিল।” (English translation: Your writing touched my heart, It felt so nice to see the children of Santoshalay next to Mrinalini, you probably have passed Pathabhavan by that time). This expression was annotated as the joy. At the time of annotation, 2 out of 6 annotators supported this expression as the “Joy” category whereas 4 participants annotated it as the surprise. Therefore, careful attention also required in these instances.

- During development phase, confusion arises for surprise and fear classes. Consider an example, “হিন্দুকুশ পর্বত কিংবা সাহারা মরুভূমি, সবকিছুর চেয়ে এই ইন্দু নদীই তাদের কাছে বেশি ভয়ঙ্কর মনে হচ্ছিল।” (English translation: The Hindu Kush mountains or the Sahara desert, the Indus river is more dangerous to them than anything else). This expression was annotated as the fear class. Among annotators, 4 were supported this expression as the fear class and 2 annotators were labelled it as the surprise category. Thus, special attention should be provided to annotated this type of expression.

Local and Global Emotional Thesauri

According to [74] local analysis by using context and phrase structure is more effective. In our study, we found that some words such as খারাপ (Bad), সমস্যা (Problem), অসাধারণ (Amazing) are used in almost all the emotion classes, so they are considered as global emotional thesauri. Some words like কষ্ট (Trouble), কান্না (Crying), অসহায় (Helpless) are mentioned explicitly in the sadness class. These are referred to as local emotional thesauri. Thus, further research should conduct to construct emotion thesauri, which helps to understand a person’s affectation in by identifying emotion words.

The developed corpus should enlarge with more data to apply in sophisticated classification technique such as deep learning. Data which are more prone to confusion among team members should be removed for suppressing the error rate. Classification of implicit emotion is the most critical problem due to this emotion is typically unapparent within the expression, and thus, its solution demands to interpret the context. Even when a sentence includes an emotion keyword, it is not assured to express the same emotion because the word semantic can alter according to the context. Emotions are complicated; humans often suffered problems to express and understand emotions. Classifying or detecting emotions in the text increases the complexity of interpreting emotion because of the lack of visible facial expressions, body gestures, and voice [2]. Automating emotion recognition is a difficult task. A machine needs to deal with the complexity of linguistics and the context of the written text.
Other Factors in Developing Emotion Corpus

Several other factors should consider to assign a label of data and include it into an appropriate category of emotion/sentiment corpus. The exposure of subjective and objective texts with their appropriate tone is significant to interpret emotion. All objective texts do not include explicit emotions. Some predicates (i.e., verbs, adjectives, and few nouns) cannot be prescribed the same concerning how they generate emotion. Context of an utterance is a very vital factor in determining its emotion class. Expressions related to irony and sarcasm (where human express their negative emotions...
using positive words), can be complicated to determine emotion class without having an absolute perception of the context of the circumstances in which a feeling represented. Text express comparisons in emotion analysis is another complicated difficulty that needs to handle attentively before settling the emotion class. Emojis also play a vital role in the emotion of texts that require to convert into tokens (of appropriate category) in order to enhance the performance of emotion analysis.

Conclusion

Emotion classification is still developing areas of research, and challenges for low-resource languages are daunting. Scarcity of benchmark dataset is one of the vital challenges to perform the emotion classification task in the Bengali language. Thus, in this work, we presented a new corpus (called BEmoC) for classifying the expression of emotion in Bengali texts and explained its development processes in details. We have crawled texts from online and offline sources, applied several prepossessing techniques to clean the data, and annotated the corpus with basic six emotions including joy, fear, anger, sadness, surprise and disgust. To best of our knowledge, this is the first Bengali corpus annotated with six basic emotion classes. The paper revealed several features of emotion texts, especially concerning each different class, exploring what kinds of emotion words human use and why they choose those words to express their particular emotions. The evaluation of BEmoC shows that the developed dataset followed the distribution of Zipf’s law and maintained an agreement among annotators with perfect $\kappa$ score. More data sample can be included in the current BEmoC for its effective use in sophisticated classification techniques. In further research, BEmoC can be considered to annotate emotion expressions in terms of various domains including emotions in emojis, text containing sarcasm/irony or comparative expressions.

Declarations

Conflict of interest  The authors declare that they have no conflict of interest.

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