INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF NOVEL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT (IJNRD)
© 2026 IJNRD | Volume 11, Issue 3, March 2026 | ISSN: 2456-4184 | IJNRD.ORG

Robust Detection of AI-Generated Text Using Hybrid Linguistic and Transformer-Based Features

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Abstract

Recent advances in generative artificial intelligence have enabled large language models to produce highly coherent and human-like text. While these models provide substantial benefits for automated content generation, they also introduce significant challenges related to misinformation, academic dishonesty, plagiarism, and automated manipulation of digital information. Existing AI-generated text detection methods often suffer from limitations such as vulnerability to paraphrasing attacks, reduced performance on short text segments, and poor generalization across domains.

This study proposes a hybrid detection framework that integrates linguistic feature analysis with transformer-based contextual embeddings to improve detection accuracy and robustness. The proposed system extracts statistical linguistic features such as perplexity, burstiness, sentence length variation, and syntactic complexity, while also capturing contextual semantics using transformer-based embeddings. These heterogeneous features are combined using an ensemble classification model to effectively distinguish between human-written and AI-generated text.

Experimental evaluation conducted on a multi-domain dataset demonstrates that the proposed hybrid model achieves higher detection accuracy and improved robustness compared with traditional machine learning and deep learning approaches. The results suggest that hybrid detection frameworks can significantly enhance the reliability of AI-generated content identification in real-world applications.

Keywords: AI-generated text detection, natural language processing, transformer models, hybrid learning, ensemble classification, machine learning.

I. INTRODUCTION

Recent developments in generative artificial intelligence (AI) have significantly transformed the field of natural language processing. Large language models (LLMs) are now capable of generating coherent, contextually relevant, and highly fluent text across a wide range of applications. These models are increasingly used in areas such as content generation, virtual assistants, customer support systems, programming assistance, and academic writing.

Despite these benefits, the rapid advancement of generative AI has raised several concerns regarding the misuse of automatically generated content. AI-generated text can be used to produce misinformation, fake news, academic plagiarism, and automated manipulation of online discussions. As a result, the ability to reliably distinguish between human-written and machine-generated text has become an important research problem.

Early approaches for detecting machine-generated text relied on statistical indicators such as token probability distributions, entropy measures, and perplexity scores. While these approaches were initially effective, the increasing sophistication of modern language models has made detection significantly more challenging.

Recent studies have explored machine learning and deep learning approaches, including transformer-based classification models, to improve detection performance. Although these approaches have shown promising results, several limitations remain. In particular, many detection systems are vulnerable to adversarial editing and paraphrasing, perform poorly on short text segments, and often lack generalization across different domains.

To address these challenges, this research proposes a hybrid detection framework that combines linguistic feature analysis with transformer-based contextual embeddings. By integrating multiple feature representations and applying ensemble learning techniques, the proposed system aims to achieve improved accuracy, robustness, and cross-domain generalization.

Contributions of the Study

The primary contributions of this research are summarized as follows:

1. Development of a hybrid detection framework integrating linguistic and contextual features.
2. Integration of transformer-based embeddings with statistical linguistic analysis.
3. Evaluation of the proposed model using multi-domain datasets containing both human and AI-generated text.
4. Demonstration of improved robustness against paraphrased AI-generated content.

II. RELATED WORK

Research on AI-generated text detection has evolved through several methodological approaches.

2.1 Statistical Detection Methods

Early detection techniques relied on statistical properties of text generated by language models. Metrics such as perplexity, entropy, and token probability distributions were used to identify patterns associated with machine-generated content. Tools such as GLTR analyze token likelihood patterns to detect synthetic text.

Although statistical methods are computationally efficient, they often fail when AI-generated text is edited, paraphrased, or post-processed by humans.

2.2 Machine Learning Approaches

Traditional machine learning techniques have also been applied to detect generated text. Models such as:

- Support Vector Machines (SVM)
- Random Forest
- Logistic Regression

use handcrafted linguistic features including n-gram frequencies, stylistic patterns, and syntactic features.

These approaches improve detection accuracy compared with purely statistical methods, but they often fail to capture deeper semantic relationships, and contextual dependencies present in natural language.

2.3 Deep Learning Approaches

More recent research utilizes deep learning models, particularly transformer architectures, for AI-generated text detection. Popular models include:

- BERT
- RoBERTa
- XLNet
- DeBERTa

These models leverage contextual embeddings to capture complex semantic patterns within text. Deep learning approaches generally achieve higher detection accuracy but require large datasets and substantial computational resources.

2.4 Limitations of Existing Methods

Despite significant progress, current detection approaches still face several challenges:

- vulnerability to paraphrasing and adversarial modifications
- reduced performance on short text samples
- dataset bias toward specific domains
- high computational complexity
- difficulty detecting AI-assisted human writing

These limitations highlight the need for more robust hybrid approaches that integrate multiple feature representations.

III. Research Gap

Based on the literature review, several important research gaps have been identified:

1. Existing detection systems remain vulnerable to paraphrased AI-generated text.
2. Many models demonstrate low accuracy when analyzing short text segments.
3. Current approaches often lack generalization across multiple domains.
4. Limited research has explored hybrid models combining linguistic features and transformer-based embeddings.
5. Detection of AI-assisted or hybrid human-AI writing remains an open challenge.

The proposed study aims to address these gaps through the development of a hybrid detection framework.

IV. PROPOSED METHODOLOGY

4.1 System Architecture

The proposed AI-generated text detection system consists of the following stages:

1. Dataset Collection
2. Text Preprocessing
3. Feature Extraction
4. Hybrid Classification Model
5. Prediction and Evaluation

The system architecture integrates both linguistic analysis and transformer-based semantic representation.

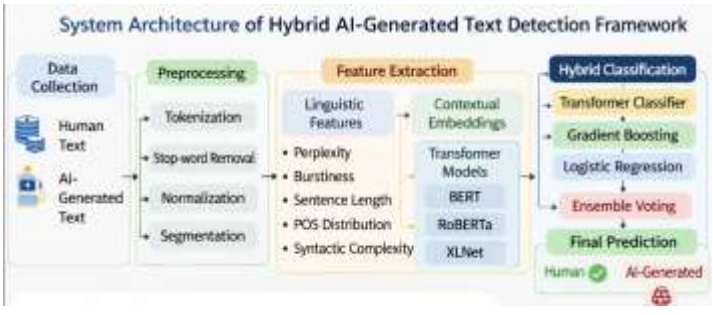


Figure 1

4.2 Dataset

The dataset used in this study contains both human-written and AI-generated text samples collected from multiple domains to ensure diversity and generalization.

The dataset includes:

- News articles
- Academic abstracts
- Social media posts
- Essays

AI-generated samples are produced using multiple large language models to create diverse machine-generated content.

4.3 Text Preprocessing

Before feature extraction, the text data undergoes several preprocessing steps:

- Tokenization
- Stop-word removal
- Text normalization
- Sentence segmentation

These preprocessing steps ensure that the text data is clean, standardized, and suitable for feature extraction.

4.4 Feature Extraction

Linguistic Features

The proposed system extracts several statistical linguistic features including:

- Perplexity score
- Burstiness measure
- Sentence length variation
- Part-of-speech distribution
- Syntactic complexity

These features capture stylistic patterns that often differ between human and machine-generated writing.

Contextual Embeddings

To capture deeper semantic relationships within text, contextual embeddings are generated using transformer-based language models. These embeddings represent semantic meaning and contextual dependencies between words and sentences.

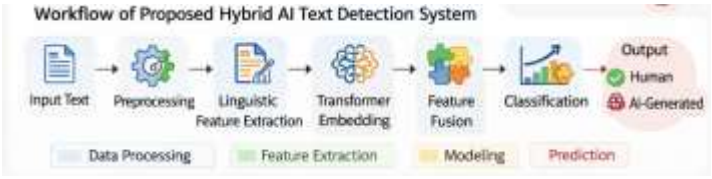
4.5 Hybrid Classification Model

The proposed hybrid detection model integrates linguistic and contextual features using an ensemble classification approach.

The ensemble consists of:

- Transformer-based classifier
- Gradient Boosting model
- Logistic Regression classifier

The final prediction is generated using ensemble voting, which improves robustness and reduces classification errors.



V. EXPERIMENTAL SETUP

5.1 Evaluation Metrics

The performance of the proposed model is evaluated using standard classification metrics:

- Accuracy
- Precision
- Recall
- F1-Score

These metrics provide a comprehensive evaluation of the detection system.

5.2 Baseline Models

To evaluate the effectiveness of the proposed approach, the hybrid model is compared with several baseline models:

- Logistic Regression
- Support Vector Machine (SVM)
- Random Forest
- BERT Classifier

VI. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

6.1 Performance Comparison

Model	Accuracy
Logistic Regression	82%
SVM	85%

Random Forest	88%
BERT Classifier	91%
Proposed Hybrid Model	94%

The experimental results demonstrate that the proposed hybrid model achieves the highest detection accuracy among all evaluated methods.

6.2 Analysis

The improved performance of the hybrid model can be attributed to the integration of multiple feature representations.

Key observations include:

- Linguistic features capture stylistic and structural differences between human and AI writing.
- Transformer embeddings capture semantic and contextual relationships.
- Ensemble learning improves robustness against paraphrasing and adversarial edits.

These findings suggest that hybrid approaches provide a more reliable solution for AI-generated text detection.

VII. CONCLUSION

This study presented a hybrid AI-generated text detection framework that integrates linguistic feature analysis with transformer-based contextual embeddings. The proposed approach combines statistical and semantic information to improve detection accuracy and robustness.

Experimental evaluation demonstrated that the hybrid model outperforms traditional machine learning and deep learning methods across multiple datasets. The results confirm that integrating heterogeneous feature representations significantly enhances the reliability of AI-generated text detection systems.

Future Work

Future research will focus on the following directions:

- Multilingual AI-generated text detection
- Real-time detection systems
- Detection of AI-assisted human writing
- Development of adversarially robust detection models

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