

Appendix B: Linguistic Expression of Irony in Social Media

*Required

Annotator's Guidelines

Dear Annotator,

We kindly ask you to annotate a set of tweets and to decide whether each one is ironic or not.

A tweet is a short sentence limited up to 140 characters presented by users in Twitter, an online social networking and micro-blogging service. Our study aims to investigate the linguistic expression of irony in social media. In this research we focus on a specific type of humor – irony. In particular the study concentrates on the analysis and description of the linguistic devices used to express irony about human entities, in a specific domain - politics.

Like most figurative devices, irony is difficult to define in formal terms. We define irony as a way to say something by saying the opposite of what is literally said. In other words, irony is a statement in which the meaning that a speaker employs is sharply different from the meaning that is ostensibly expressed. For example, in the message below:

(1) "I feel sooo safe with Obama as president. He is sooooo respected by foreign nations abroad."

the exaggeration "sooo safe" and "sooooo respected" is figuratively used for expressing the opposite of what is literally said. That allows a speaker to express sentiment-rich viewpoints with concision, sharpness and humor.

Note, please, that funny statements are not to be confused with irony in the precise sense explained above.

For example, this sentence reports funny situation but every word is meant literary:

(2) "Obama is speaking on campus today about education, yet most of the students there are skipping class to hear him speak."

Please, DO NOT consider this type of irony as an ironic statement. 100 tweets will be given to you for manual annotation. It would take approximately 30 mins of your attention.

NB:

1. Consider only the concept of irony, opposite of what is literally said, here explained and not humour;
2. Try not to analyze each tweet for a long time, and just decide based on your first impression;
3. If you are not sure whether the tweet is really ironic or not, use the third column: difficult to decide.

Sample

	Ironic	Not ironic	Difficult to decide
Rich people DO get rich by making other people			

poor! People like Mitt
Romney!



Personal Information

Dear Annotator! Please provide some personal data for the analysis of our research.

What is your native language? *

Do you have any specific linguistic background education? *

Yes

No

Tweets for annotation

	Ironic	Not ironic	Difficult to decide
1. Romney hauls ass to get to NOLA before President Obama, tells the hurricane ravaged to go home and call the government for help.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
2. Ahhh RT @AlecMacGillis Mirror image: Biden got in trouble for calling Obama "articulate"; and now Ryan calls Romney "inarticulate."	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
3. Bomb threats in tx, ca, ks, the middle east is burning, and Obama's fundraising #myhero!!!! #fail	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
4. Hey Obama, great job over there in Libya! I'm so glad we helped them out in the summer! #imgoingofftonight	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
5. Yeah... Because electing him makes sense... #Romney #Obama #NoSir http://t.co/8lxlOnCh	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
6. Glad Romney is going to rid the nation of all these ridiculous left wing energy sources. Renewables are for hippies and commies.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
7. Yep electing hIm will really improve thingsrt @HuffingtonPost: Romney says cut Amtrak, PBS funding http://t.co/NoxFwnOS	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
8. Good Job, Mr. Romney, good job. http://t.co/jOGBvQR	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
9. Since everyone is so against Mitt Romney, lets all talk about how Obama has really improved this country the last 4 years?!? hahahaha	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
10. We really have to thank many in the	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

<p>GOP for contributing to the left wing narrative that we are "worried" about Romney. Well done.</p>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<p>11. Romney saying 50% of Americans are incompetent. Yeah Im voting for him.</p>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<p>12. Normally I'd agree, but the article is about student athletes that are being underfed because of Obama's rules, so :)</p>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<p>13. RT @140elect: Love is the trending word for Mitt Romney right now. http://t.co/uhe0GBaO #RNC</p>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<p>14. I wish all the crazy people who believe in "peace" candidate #Obama were sane enough to believe in that "crazy" #RonPaul guy.</p>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<p>15. Mitt Romney? More like SHIT Romney</p>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<p>16. RT "@JamieJeffords: Oops...Obama's Big Bird ad violates copyright law and puts PBS' non-profit status in jeopardy."</p>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<p>17. Bush's FEMA Director puts the ASS in Class. Criticizes Obama for Responding to #Sandy Too Quickly Alternet http://t.co/Y9gS6EDc</p>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<p>18. Oh boy.....can't wait for Ann Romney to tell me how much of such a great guy her husband is.....on the edge of my seat #RNC</p>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<p>19. Yes the extremists have taken over the GOP President Clinton, that's why we nominated far right winger Mitt Romney ...smh...</p>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<p>20. Obama is trying to re-do the American flag .. That sure sounds like something an American would do .haha I can't even watch?. ?</p>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<p>21. (pic) If Reagan Could Have A Heart To Heart With Obama... http://t.co/08i8N7em #tcot</p>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<p>22. Team Obama feels just fine about suggesting Romney killed a woman but gets bent out of shape over a birth certificate joke. #tcot</p>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<p>23. Only in Obamaland does a recovery perform WORSE than a recession. #obama http://t.co/MheQdTsA</p>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

24. #Obama spends so much money that he actually has out spent George Bush, wait for it...On Defense! http://t.co/ACs0flig #liberty	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
25. In a bar fight between Obama and Romney, the Romney would lose because he just wouldn't stop punching himself in the face.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
26. One thing is certain to happen if Romney wins. When economy gets worse or no better, GOP will blame Obama for years.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
27. "Michelle Obama does the right to bare arms thing well." She has good "guns"!	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
28. Obama gives an amazing speech and Ryan raises you a thunderstorm. http://t.co/YaCXIIRU	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
29. Commemorating Barack and Michelle's first kiss at the Baskin-Robbins...which was saved by Romney's BAIN Capital http://t.co/3RHKMqtX	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
30. Romney claims Obama is all about "hatred", says the man who physically assaulted a guy for his hair. http://t.co/0o6pHZlc	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
31. Oh, the "Hope" he doesn't drop the soap. MT @Snarky_Basterd Feds Seek Prison Time For Obama "Hope" Artist http://t.co/IFqwotgg #tcot	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
32. Same dude who questioned Venezuelan's sanity for electing Chavez plans to vote for Obama. #tcot #uspoli	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
33. Romney supporters call Sensata employees "communists" for protesting over jobs being sent to communist China - http://t.co/GjXeQZna	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
34. Holy moly! Bashing Obama is so profitable for News Corps that it's donated \$60K to re-elect him. Wow! http://t.co/zR0UQGRc	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
35. WAIT. WAIT. Hold the phone. Obama is black?!?!?!?!	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
36. It's great that Obama's speech was moved indoors. The sky looks threatening!! #Charlotte #DNC	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

http://t.co/xBEoIv6U			
37. The Final Blame we are Eager to hear on election night. " Obama Blames Loss on being "outspent" by Romney!"	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
38. Romney tries (and fails) to bribe Iowa students with "free stuff" just to show up at a rally: http://t.co/AYB4clZN #GOPfail	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
39. #Romney invested in a company that disposed of aborted fetuses. http://t.co/n5OK1QMd #hypocrisy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
40. Mitt Romney wants us (we the people) to give him the money so that he can cut spending on us! #election2012 http://t.co/5CS8Ot0k	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
41. Now that Romney has promised not to take "In God We Trust" off US coinage, I'll have to give him another look.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
42. Mitt Romney mentioned "Reaganomics". Great way to sway the Blacks from voting for Obama. O_o	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
43. Less than 30% of Romney's donators are female. NOOOOOOOO WAYYYYYY #bigsurprise http://t.co/31GrIXKF	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
44. way to go Romney. talk about the power of love & joke about global warming. that's the way to win America's vote.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
45. OH WOW, DIDNT SEE THIS COMING?!? Mitt Romney admits he'll need to raise taxes on the middle class	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
46. Silly poor ppl who think they are entitled to things like health care, food, and housing ... Thanks for setting us straight Romney	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
47. Mitt Romney zingers. Oooooooo...I can't wait. #deadpan alert	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
48. I don't think I have enough buttons on my bookbag. And I mean I obvs am not a Romney girl!!! Lol http://t.co/s4wRlxUt	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
49. Hey wait, what if Romney is the antichrist. @CalebSBailey	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
50. Nicki Minaj - apparently a 'free healthcare for all' advocate - raps on new track that she's "voting for Mitt"!!!! lol http://t.co/qyLic9VG	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
51. Another story from Romney's past			

I'm sure u have never heard. What an ass this guy is. http://t.co/IgOMKJtR?	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
52. Strip away politics, and Barack Obama is the living embodiment of the work-hard-pull-yourself-up story the GOP pretends to love. #p2	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
53. Liberal hero and protector of the 99%, Mr. Barack Obama! #tlot #tcot #liberal #Obama2012 http://t.co/bcuapw2U	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
54. Stunning Nobel Laureate Obama Addresses World Peace Issues successfully #warcriminal	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
55. Obama Hits Romney On Letterman: 'If You Want to Be President, You Have To Work For Everyone' http://t.co/jsKnWboV via @sharethis	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
56. I can't believe I BOUGHT a new phone today, when I could have gotten a FREE government phone from Obama.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
57. Obama: "If the rich would just pay their fair share, every hungry child could have a smartphone." #ObamaPhone	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
58. I feel sooo safe with Obama as president. He is sooooo respected by foriegn nations abroad.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
59. Money is no object when you're Obama. He will just print up more. Who cares if we have anything to back it up with.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
60. I hope we wipe Libya off the map, come on Obama why don't you cause you your self got Osama right?.... #butreallydoawaywithlibya	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
61. Not sure why people complain about the job market. There's lots of great jobs out there. Thanks Obama! http://t.co/yq88jhX0	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
62. Somebody find the geniuses that gave Obama a Nobel peace prize because this man deserves an award http://t.co/jTtBHqNr	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
63. A baby in every uterus and a nigger in every field #nword RT @BBCWorld Romney vow to revive US 'promise' http://t.co/85Aa5jUR	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
64. Listening to #Romney speak about			

9 11 reminds me of of GWB saying: "Either you are with us, or you are with the terrorists." #FORWARD	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
65. Obama off to the UN for the General Assembly. He will not meet with any world leaders but he will be on the View!!! #fail #tcot	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
66. One thing is certain to happen if Romney wins. When economy gets worse or no better, GOP will blame Obama for years.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
67. 7-Eleven Asks: Cream, Sugar, Romney Or Obama With Your Coffee? Gee, I wonder who will win this one? http://t.co/rmwXBod2#marketing	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
68. #BelieveInAmerica Paul Ryan made up a lot of the trash he spoke about Obama. http://t.co/Tm472Egl	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
69. Well, the GOP finally found its snakepit of voter fraud. In the mirror! http://t.co/5SgT2QQ0 #obama	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
70. So Obama's super duper foreign policy based on weakness, shame, and apologies is finally bearing fruit.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
71. And so as Hurricane Isaac threatens the levees of the southern states, Mitt Romney laughs off rising oceans and promotes fossil fuels	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
72. Black, leftist, Obama supporter calling me delusional. lol. 0_o	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
73. Hahaha @TheOnion - Obama: 'Help Us Destroy Jesus And Start A New Age Of Liberal Darkness' http://t.co/ZP1t9rZQ	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
74. If voting is like sex, and an Obama administration is what I get impregnated with, I want an abortion!	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
75. #Obama melted his Nobel prize to make bullets .. #Bloody #War http://t.co/ibhRBHkY	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
76. When I type 'Romney' in my phone, T9 suggests the word, 'Money'	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
77. Obama wants to all but the elite to be dependent upon the government and is destroying the middle class but Romney's the bad guy.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
78. Obamacare is bad policy. However, it's the same exact policy Romney instituted in Massachusetts while	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Governor.			
79. Obama is speaking on campus today about education, yet most of the students there are skipping class to hear him speak..	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
80. Weirdly normal Obama ad hitting gay rights during Modern Family on hulu.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
81. #Madonnan #OBAMA #Muslim - Passive aggressive MADONNA CALLS OBAMA A MUSLIM – WTF!!! WHY??? http://t.co/IFgYQSlf	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
82. Madonna Calls on Her Fans to Vote for “Black Muslim” President Barack Obama http://t.co/hD2yglmp Not #Islamophobia #Islam	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
83. Obamanation flag is no longer available.Pity. @patdollard Obama flag disappears from campaign store http://t.co/1Jv72Hst	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
84. Romney calls out foreign-born, Muslim, Socialist President Obama's campaign 4 "character assassination" http://t.co/2WupmWqM #wiunion	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
85. Israel is "one of our closest allies in the region", Obama says. Bibi grateful for ranking. http://t.co/nsgqr54w #PJNewsBreak	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
86. Zombies must vote for Obama! - Zombies must vote for Obama!	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
87. So it's a big ole pale lady wearing white. She's carrying a tote that says "polar bears for Obama". I'm tickled.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
88. RT @Morneque: "What's missing from the Romney/Ryan plan for Medicare is...Medicare" - Sebillius	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
89. The protester who interrupted Romney didn't like it when I interrupted her to ask why she didn't protest Obama's Afghanistan.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
90. Funny how Romney says China is stealing American jobs... yet he's responsible for outsourcing thousands of American jobs to China	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
91. The funniest part of this article is when he says, "we can elect truth telling. We can elect Mitt Romney." http://t.co/B3hHxD7w	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
92. We now have a very serious dilemma facing all Americans, trust	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

CNN or the Obama State Department? #TCOT			
93. But... I thought Obama's race wasn't and issue....?!?!? Weird. #Racist #Stereotypes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
94. #Romney, the beacon of all things honest, predicts #Obama will lie in debates. http://t.co/9Num2K1O #whotobelieve?!	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
95. MT @Taltool11 "@PaulRyanGosling: Hey girl, I hope you're middle class ... ready to screw you." via @norwind #Romney #PaulRyan	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
96. Mitt Romney is so stupid I feel sorry for him. You don't understand why airplane windows don't open? I've wondered that myself.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
97. Sometimes I wonder if Mitt Romney is just trolling us all with Kaufman-esque satire. #47percent #mittromney	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
98. "Forget airplanes. Why can't you open the windows on a space shuttle? This is America." - #Romney http://t.co/I5qXkr1o	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
99. Ummmm, seriously? "FEMA Director During Katrina Criticizes Obama For Responding To Sandy Too Quickly" http://t.co/sXeCmh77 #Sandy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
100. Just saw a Mexican who could barely speak english and he had an anti-obama bumper sticker that said "got birth certificate?"	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Crpoka 101	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Evaluation

How difficult you found this task?

1 2 3 4 5

Easy Very difficult

Commentary

Feel free to leave a comment about the investigation.

**Contact information**

Feel free to leave your contact information if you wish to receive a report of the results of this investigation. This contact information would NOT be provided to any third parties and we will NOT contact you for any other purpose but to announce the results of the study.



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