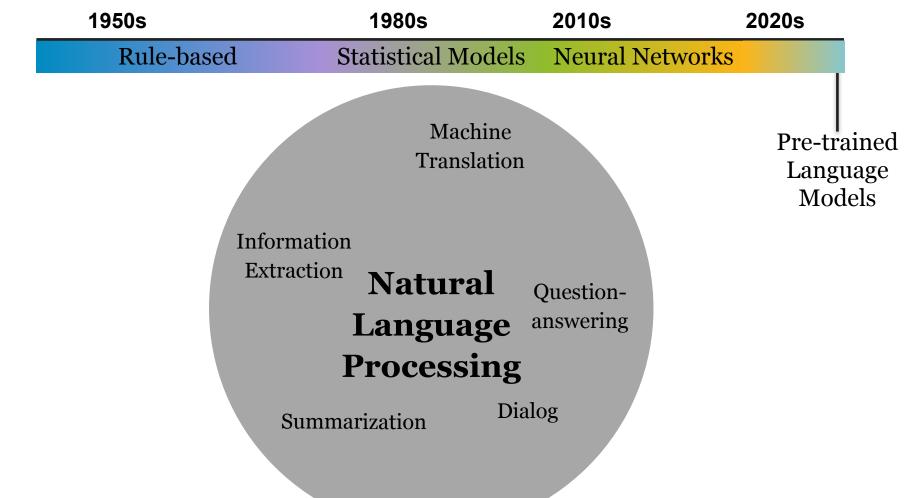
NLP, Ethics, and Society

Warning: this talk contains content that could be upsetting or offensive



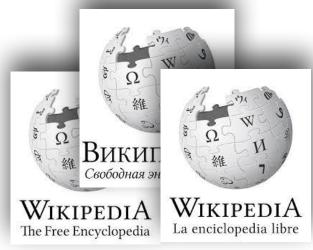




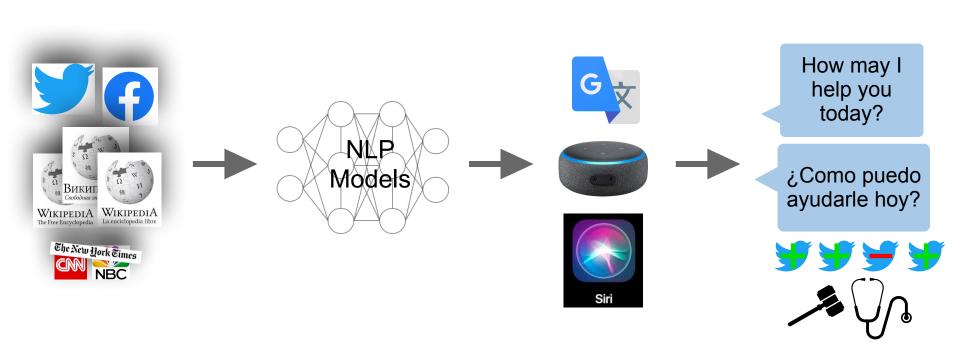
News and

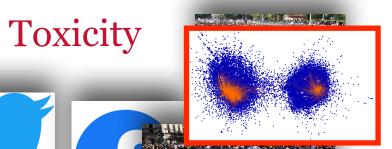


Encyclopedias, text books, and expert notes









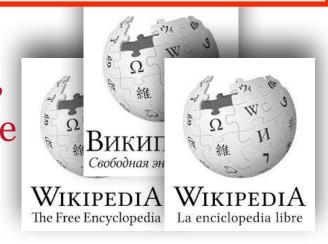
It's a Man's Wikipedia? Assessing Gender Inequality in an Online Encyclopedia

Bias,

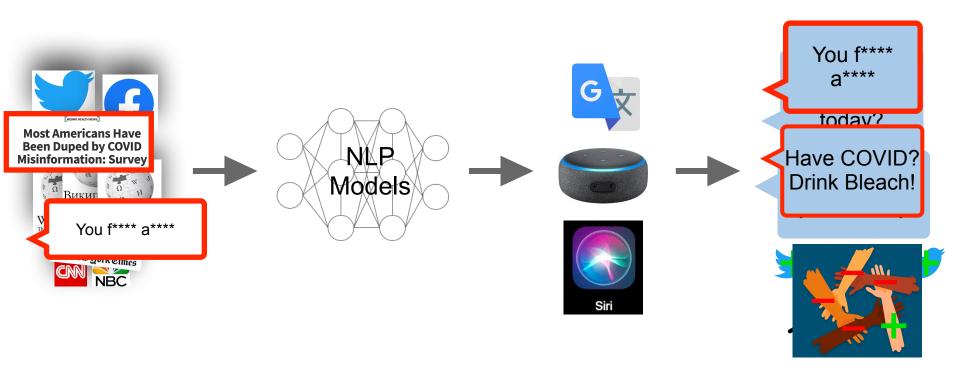
You f**** a****
and Prejudice

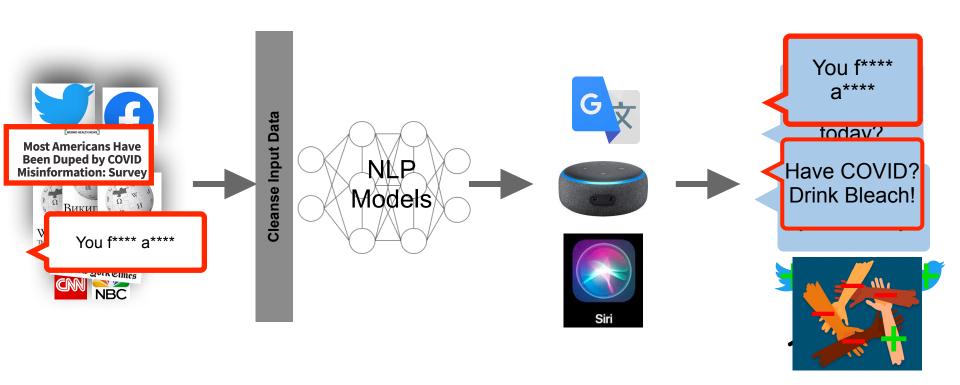
Manipulation

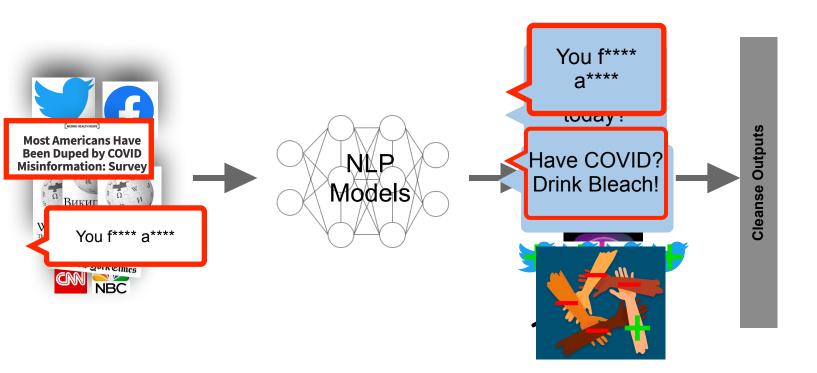


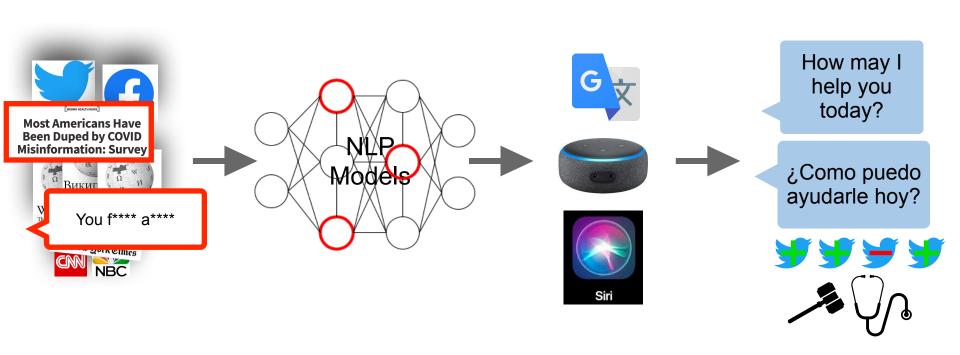












Social Science and Public Policy

Provide insight into human behavior and inform policy decisions



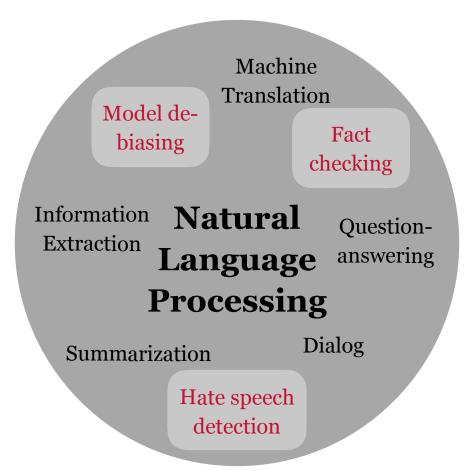
Proactive online civility



Help people avoid accidentally creating harmful content

Reactive Content Moderation

Technology platforms, high-stakes decision settings



Bias, Stereotypes, and Prejudice

Stereotypes
Prejudice
Over/under
representation

Model debiasing Machine Translation

Fact checking

Information Natural Question-Extraction Language answering Processing

Summarization

Dialog

Hate speech detection

Manipulation

Polarization

Distraction

"Cheerleading"

Toxicity

Microaggressions

Condescension

Implicit Bias

Bias, Stereotypes, and Prejudice

Stereotypes
Prejudice
Over/under
representation

Machine Translation

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Polarization

Distraction

"Cheerleading"

Toxicity
Microaggressions
Condescension
Implicit Bias

Generalizable

Bias, Stereotypes, and Prejudice

ICWSM 2019

ACL 2019 ICWSM 2021 ACL 2021 WWW 2022

CRAC at EMNLP 2021

FAccT 2022 (In sub.) **PNAS 2022 (In rev.)**

Machine Translation

Model debiasing

Fact checking

Information Natural
Extraction Language

Language answering
Processing

Summarization

Dialog

Hate speech detection

Interpretable

Manipulation

EMNLP 2018 SocInfo 2020

Reliable

Toxicity

EMNLP 2020 SocialNLP at ACL 2020

Generalizable Political Science Social Psychology Manipulation Sociology **Economics** Bias, Stereotypes, Machine and Prejudice **Translation EMNLP 2018** Model de-SocInfo 2020 **ICWSM 2019** Fact ACL 2019 biasing checking **ICWSM 2021** ACL 2021 Information **Natural** Reliable **Ouestion-**CRAC at EMNLP 2021 Extraction FAccT 2022 (In sub.) Language answering PNAS 2022 (In rev.) **Toxicity Processing Decision Science EMNLP 2020** Dialog Summarization SocialNLP at ACL 2020 Public Policy Hate speech detection Causal Inference <u>Interpretable</u>

Partnerships with industry, government, and non-profit agencies

Natural Language Processing Cross-disciplinary collaborations and education

Improve diversity in computer science research community

This talk

- Global Manipulation Strategies
 - Framing and Agenda-setting in Russian News: a Computational Analysis of Intricate Political Strategies. Anjalie Field, Doron Kliger, Shuly Wintner, Jennifer Pan, Dan Jurafsky, and Yulia Tsvetkov. In *Proc. EMNLP'18*.
- Toxicity
 - Unsupervised Discovery of Implicit Gender Bias, Anjalie Field and Yulia Tsvetkov. In *Proc. EMNLP'20*.
- Future and Ongoing Work
 - Forming partnerships with industry, government, and non-profit agencies to tackle real-world problems and data

Global Manipulation Strategies: A computational analysis of propaganda



Doron Kliger

Economics
@ Haifa U



Shuly Wintner

NLP @ Haifa U



Jennifer Pan

Political Science

@ Stanford



Dan Jurafsky

CSS, NLP

@ Stanford



Yulia Tsvetkov

NLP @ UW

• Framing and Agenda-setting in Russian News: a Computational Analysis of Intricate Political Strategies. Anjalie Field, Doron Kliger, Shuly Wintner, Jennifer Pan, Dan Jurafsky, and Yulia Tsvetkov. In *Proc. EMNLP'18*.



- Intention to harm or manipulate +





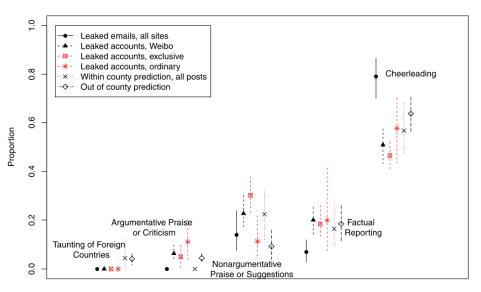




Targeted manipulation of elections and foreign politics

How the Chinese Government Fabricates Social Media Posts for Strategic Distraction, Not Engaged Argument

GARY KING Harvard University
JENNIFER PAN Stanford University
MARGARET E. ROBERTS University of California, San Diego



Flooding social media with positive messages to deter collective action

The Surprising Nuance Behind the Russian Troll Strategy

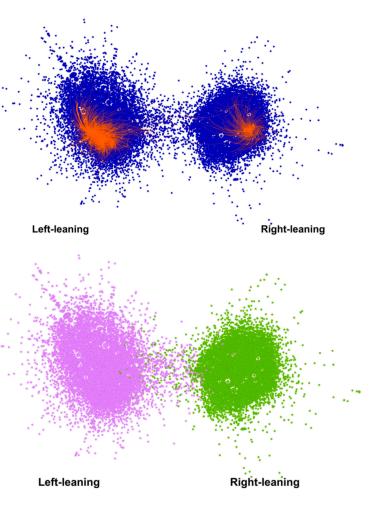
We set out to study internet discourse around #BlackLivesMatter — instead, we were unintentionally learning about the Russian information operation to undermine democracy



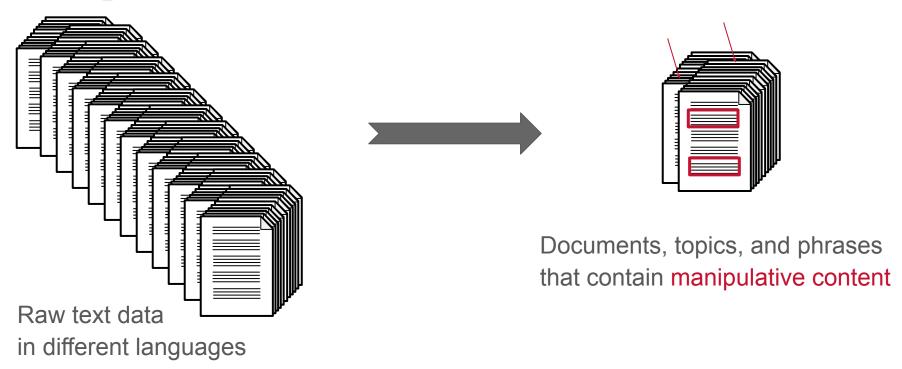
Kate Starbird Oct 20, 2018 · 10 min read ★



Promoting polarizing content to de-stabilize regimes and for political gain



How can we detect this type of media manipulation at scale?



Theories from communications research

- Agenda setting
 - What topics are covered
- Framing
 - *How* topics are covered
- Priming
 - What *effects* the reporting has on public opinion

Journal of Communication ISSN 0021-9916

ORIGINAL ARTICLE

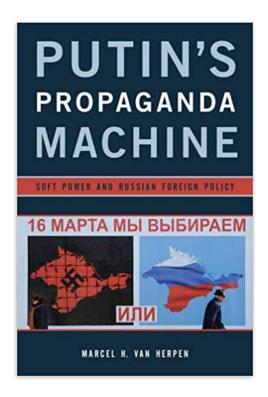
Framing Bias: Media in the Distribution of Power

Robert M. Entman

School of Media and Public Affairs, The George Washington University, Washington, DC 20052

"agenda setting, framing and priming fit together as tools of power"

Investigation of Russian news





Agenda setting

...the media may not be successful much of the time in telling people *what to think*, but is stunningly successful in telling its readers *what to think about*"

(Cohen, 1963)

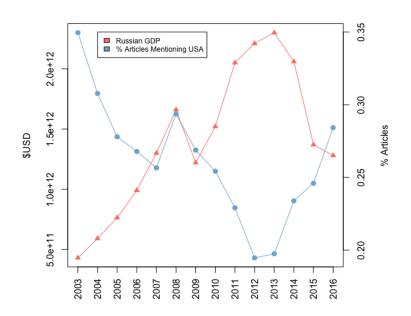
When might (government-influenced) media want to shape what people think about?

Benchmark against economic indicators

- Can hypothesize that we will see more more manipulation strategies when the country is "doing poorly"
 - Government wants to distract public or deflect blame
- Measure of "doing poorly"
 - State of the economy (GDP and stock market)

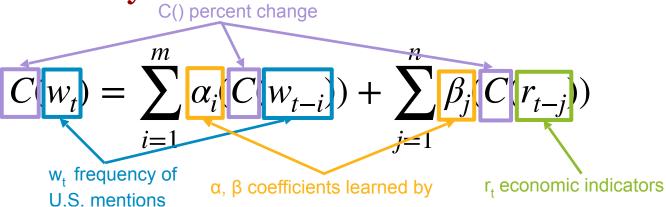
Agenda Setting: Do Russian news articles discuss foreign countries (the U.S.) more during economic downturns?

Frequency of mentions of the U.S.

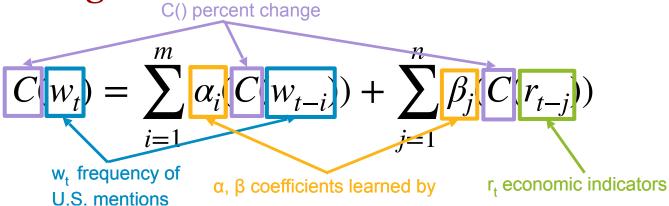


	Pearson's correlation with articles that mention the U.S.
RTSI (Monthly, rubles)	-0.54
GDP (Quarterly, USD)	-0.69
GDP (Yearly, USD)	-0.83

Granger causality



Agenda setting evidence



	α;β	p-value
W_{t-1}	-0.320	0.00005
W_{t-2}	-0.301	0.0001
r _{t-1}	-0.369	0.024
r _{t-2}	-0.122	0.458

Framing

"To frame is to *select some aspects of a perceived reality and make them more salient*", e.g. to "promote a particular...interpretation" (Entman, 1993)

- Topic level
 - Abortion is a moral issue
 - Abortion is a health issue
- Word level
 - o "Pro-life" vs "pro-choice"



Infer Russian media frames using distant

- Media Frames Corpus (Boydstun et al. 2014; Card et al. 2015)
 - ~ 11,000 articles annotated with 14 policy-oriented frames

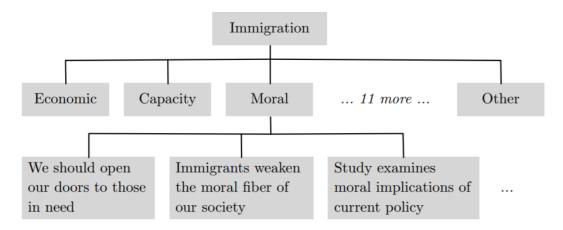
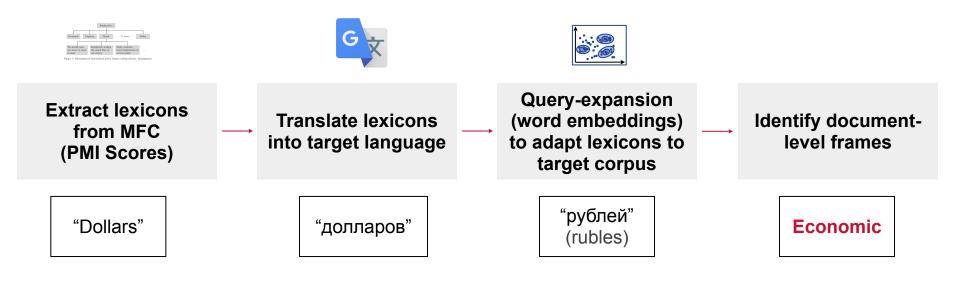
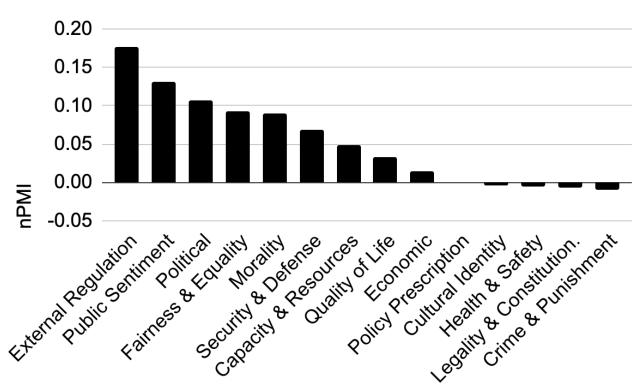


Figure 1: Illustration of hierarchical policy frames coding scheme: Immigration.

Annotation of *Izvestia* articles with MFC



Analysis: which frames are most salient in U.S. focused articles?

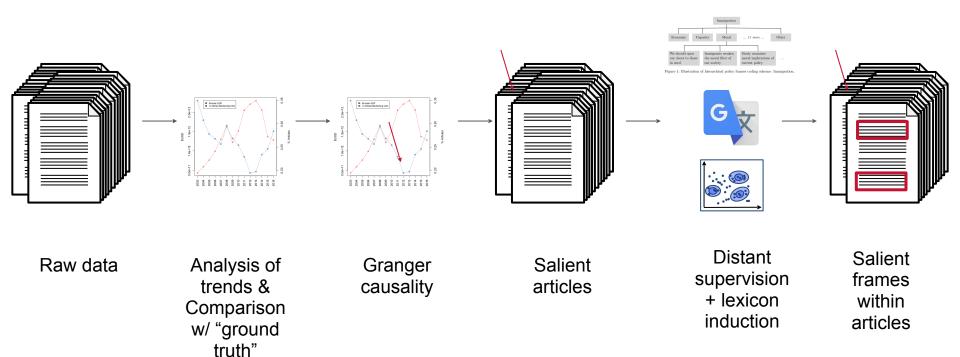


Analysis of specific frames

- Which frames and words become more salient after downturns and less salient after upturns?
 - o Security and Defense: bombs, missiles, Guantanamo, North Korea, Iraq
- What types of statements are said about the U.S.?
 - o "Nazi vultures... villainizing the U.S. city. The barbaric over the world"
 - "The U.S crimes, e describing threats to the U.S.

promoting the Russian military over the U.S. military

Summary: a computational analysis of propaganda



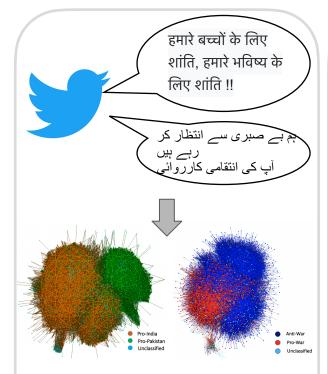
Outcomes and Impacts

- What are societal benefits from this work?
 - Publicizing propaganda strategies reduces credibility of unreliable sources (Roberts, 2020)
 - Facilitates political science research that can inform public policy
- What are NLP contributions to this work?
 - Characterizing harms in text informs NLP ethics — without it, we don't know algorithm distorts truth what we're looking for
 - NLP tasks and methodology for identifying subtle connotations
 - Follow-up work on detecting and analyzing agenda-setting and framing

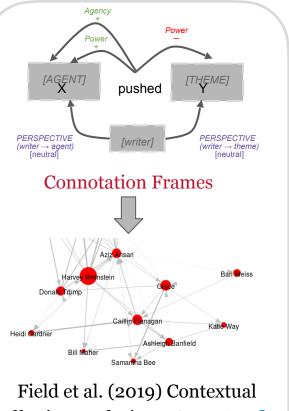
'Fiction is outperforming reality': how YouTube's

An ex-YouTube insider reveals how its recommendation algorithm promotes divisive clips and conspiracy videos. Did they harm Hillary Clinton's bid for the presidency?

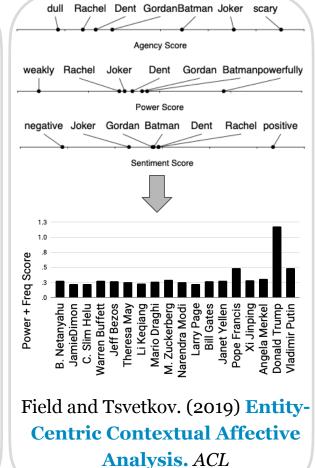
 The methodology behind this story by Paul Lewis in San Francisco



Tyagi*, Field*, et al. (2020) A
Computational Analysis of
Polarization on Indian and
Pakistani Social Media. SocInfo
[Best Paper Nominated]



Field et al. (2019) Contextual
Affective Analysis: A Case Study
of People Portrayals in Online
#MeToo Stories. ICWSM



This Talk

- Global Manipulation Strategies
 - Framing and Agenda-setting in Russian News: a Computational Analysis of Intricate Political Strategies. Anjalie Field, Doron Kliger, Shuly Wintner, Jennifer Pan, Dan Jurafsky, and Yulia Tsvetkov. In *Proc. EMNLP'18*.
- Toxicity
 - Unsupervised Discovery of Implicit Gender Bias, Anjalie Field and Yulia Tsvetkov. In *Proc. EMNLP'20*.
- Future and Ongoing Work
 - Forming partnerships with industry, government, and non-profit agencies to tackle real-world problems and data

Goal: Identify text containing (subtle)



[Original Writer]



November 12, 2021 ⋅ 🚱

Bob and I join Bill Hemmer on America's Newsroom to discuss whether or not...



[Commenter]

I like Bob, but you're hot, so kick his butt

Like · **Reply** · 9w



Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez 🕏



December 25, 2021 at 10:33 AM ⋅ 🚱

Merry Christmas and happy holidays to NY-14 and beyond! Wishing you and yours a safe and healthy holiday season and a wonderful New Year.





Yes, you could care yourself. You want al., A shame your father di blessing not to have yo

Like · **Reply** · 2w

How about you adopt some unfortunate kids? That would actually help & be un - selfish / un self serving, & help the unfortunate, I'll be really awaiting your reply, thanks for your attention 💚

Like · Reply · 3w



your boy boy toy with real mon. Trying to teach min something?? Dreaming of something for yourself?? Bet you struck out though because Republican men DON'T want to do ANYTHING WITH YOU!

Like · Reply · 2w



Resume

PUBLICATIONS

CONFERENCE & Anjalie Field, Su Lin Blodgett, Zeerak Waseem, and Yulia Tsvetkov. "A Survey of Race, Racism, and Anti-Racism in NLP" (2021), Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL), https://aclanthology.org/2021.acl-long.149.pdf

> Chan Young Park*, Xinru Yan*, Anialie Field*, and Yulia Tsyetkov, "Multilingual Contextual Affective Analysis of LGBT People Portrayals in Wikipedia" (2021), International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM), https://arxiv.org/abs/2010.10820

> Anjalie Field and Yulia Tsvetkov. "Unsupervised Discovery of Implicit Gender Bias" (2020), Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP), https://aclanthology.org/2020.emnlp-main.44/

> Aman Tyagi*, Anialie Field*, Privank Lathwal, Yulia Tsyetkov, and Kathleen M. Carley, "A Computational Analysis of Polarization on Indian and Pakistani Social Media" (2020), International Conference on Social Informatics (Socinfo) [nominated for Best Paper], https://arxiv.org/abs/2005.09803

> Anjalie Field and Yulia Tsvetkov, "Entity-Centric Contextual Affective Analysis" (2019), Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL), https://www.aclweb.org/anthology/P19-1243.pdf.

> Anjalie Field, Gayatri Bhat, Yulia Tsvetkov, "Contextual Affective Analysis: A Case Study of People Portrayals in Online #MeToo Stories" (2019), International AAAI Conference on Web and Social Media (ICWSM), https://www.aaai.org/ojs/index.php/ICWSM/article/view/3358/3226.

WORKSHOP DUBLICATIONS

Nupoor Gandhi, Anjalie Field, and Yulia Tsvetkov. "Improving Span Representation for Domain-adapted Coreference Resolution" (2021), CRAC at EMNLP https://arxiv.org/pdf/2109.09811.pdf

Mengzhou Xia, Anjalie Field, and Yulia Tsvetkov. "Demoting Racial Bias in Hate Speech Detection" (2020), SocialNLP at ACL https://aclanthology.org/2020.socialnlp-1.2/

Anialie Field, Sascha Rothe, Simon Baumgartner, Cong Yu, and Abe Ittycheriah, "A Generative Approach to Titling and Clustering Wikipedia Sections" (2020), WNGT at ACL https://aclanthology.org/2020.ngt-1.9/

INVITED TALKS NLP Methods for Identifying Gender Bias

Women in CS	2021
on of Stereotypes, Bias, and Prejudice in Text NLP Seminar	2021
g Confounding Variables in Social Text Processing nal Testing Service (ETS)	2021
rvised Discovery of Implicit Gender Bias oductory Meeting at University of Washington	2021

TEACHING

Guest lecture for Undergraduate Seminar in Ethics and Fairness in AI Spring 2021 ■ University of Pittsburgh, "Contextual Affective Analysis"

TA for Algorithms for NLP Carnegie Mellon University, Facilitated homework assignments on topics like language modeling; delivered lectures and

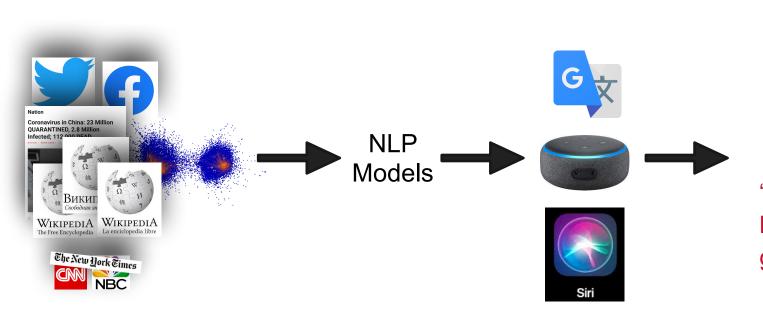
TA for Computational Ethics for NLP (11-830) · Carnegie Mellon University, Facilitated homework assignments on topics like hate speech detection; delivered lectures on propaganda and bias; advised projects on fake news and media bias

Fall 2018

Guest lecture for Algorithms for NLP Carnegie Mellon University, "Computational Social Science"

She's qualified but she seems really aggressive

I like her ideas but she wasn't very friendly. Would it have killed her to smile?



"Oh, you work at an office? I bet you're a secretary"

"Total tangent I know, but you're gorgeous"

Need to develop new models

Our goal: detect subtle gender biases like microaggressions, objectifications, and condescension in 2nd-person text

- "Oh, you work at an office? I bet you're a secretary"
- "Total tangent I know, but you're gorgeous"

Current classifiers that detect hate speech, offensive language, or negative sentiment cannot detect these comments

Naive Approach: Supervised Classification



Like · Reply

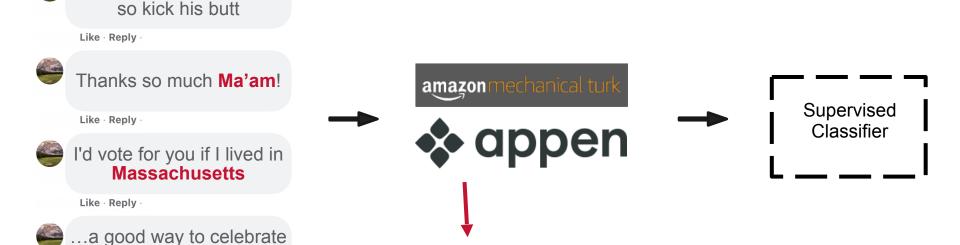


Naive Approach: Supervised Classification

l like Bob, but you're hot,

Title IX, too!

Like · Reply



context-dependent

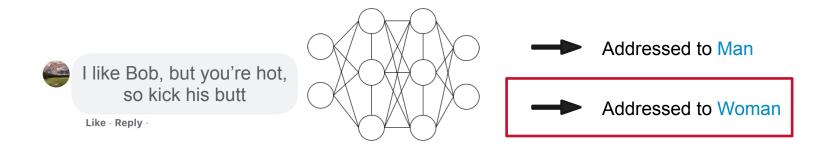
Problem: Biases are subtle, implicit, and

Proposed approach: Comments contain gender bias if they are highly predictive of gender

Would the addressee have received different text if their gender were different?

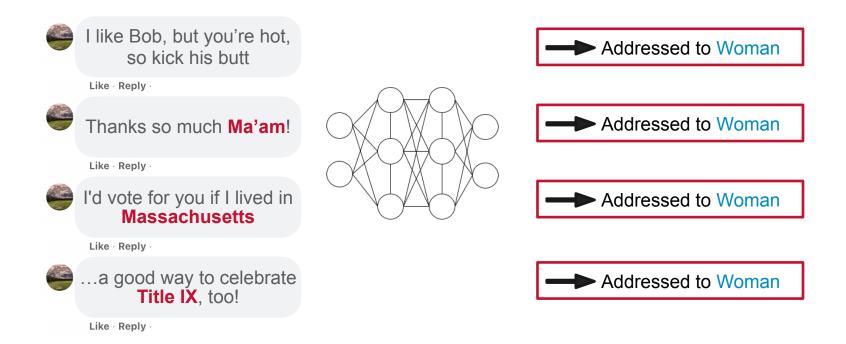
Proposed approach: Comments contain gender bias if they are highly predictive of gender

- Train a classifier that predicts the gender of the person the text is addressed to
- If the classifier makes a prediction with high confidence, the text likely contains bias



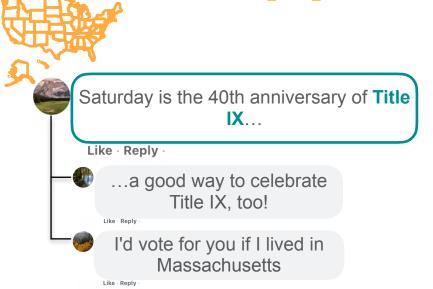
If a comment is very likely to be addressed to a woman, and is very unlikely to be addressed to a man, it probably contains gender bias.

Challenge: Text main contain *confounds* that are predictive of gender, but not indicative of gender bias



Challenge: Text main contain *confounds* that are predictive of gender, but not indicative of gender bias

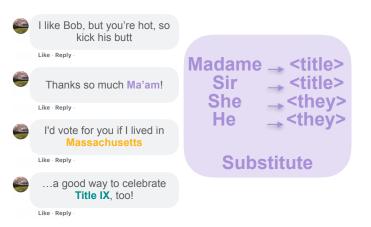
- Overtly gendered words
- Preceding context in the conversation
- Traits of people (other than gender) in the conversation



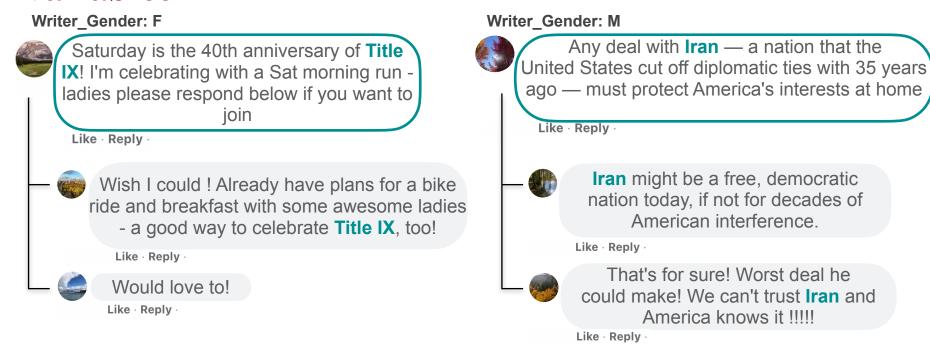


Proposed Model: Comments contain bias if they are highly predictive of gender *despite confound control*

 Substitute overt indicators: replace overtly gendered terms with neutral ones

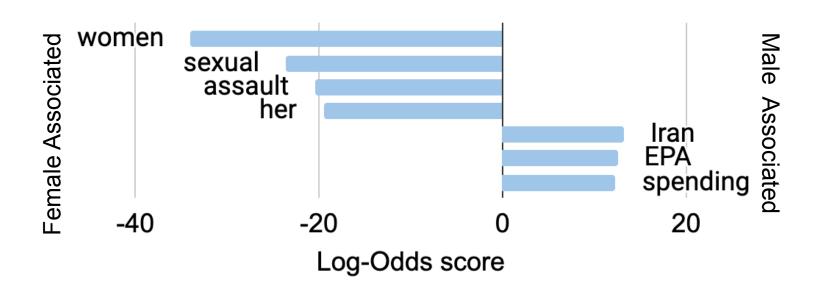


Preceding context is an *observed* confounding variables

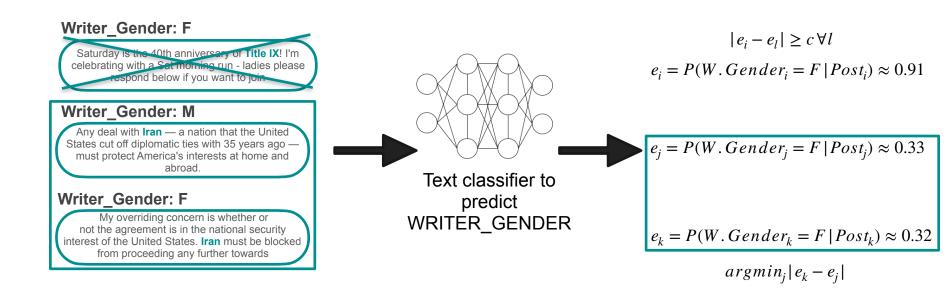


Key problem: Men and women post different content, which is reflected in their replies

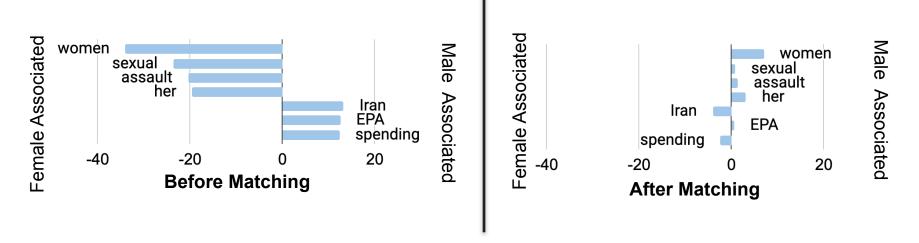
Preceding context is an *observed* confounding variables



Propensity matching for *observed* confounding variables



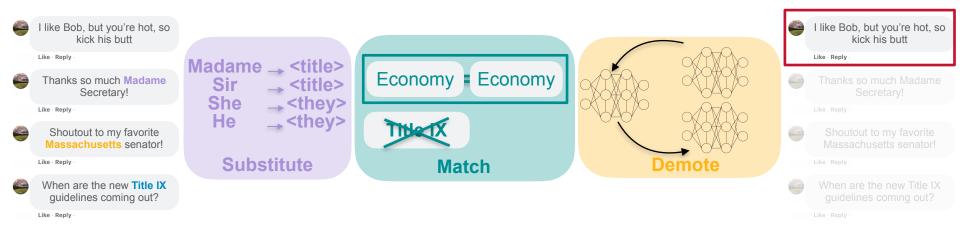
Propensity matching for *observed* confounding variables



Propensity matching breaks associations between gender and context in the training data

Proposed Model: Comments contain bias if they are highly predictive of gender *despite confound control*

- Substitute overt indicators
- Balance observed confounders through propensity matching
- Demote latent confounders through adversarial training



- Comments may references traits of the addressee (such as occupation, nationality, nicknames, etc.) that are correlated with gender
- Difficult to enumerate all of them
- Often unique to individuals (difficult to make matches)



A vote for Liz Warren is a vote for a saner Massachusetts and a saner America.

Like · Reply ·



'Lizbeth.. I'd vote for you if I lived in Massachusetts, in a heartbeat

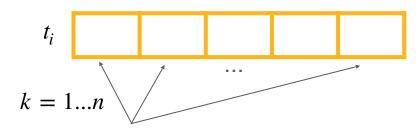
Like · Reply ·



Go Lizzie go!!!!! Good luck next
Tuesday. Massachusetts will be lucky to
have you as their Senator.

Like · Reply ·

Represent latent confounding variables as a vector



$$p(addressee = k | comment) \propto p(addressee = k)p(comment | addressee)$$
$$= p(addressee = k) \prod_{w_i \in comment} p(w_i | k)$$

Neural Encoder Text classifier to predict WRITER_GENDER



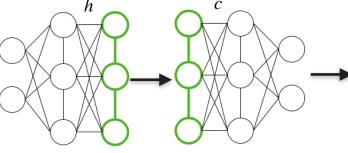
like Bob, but you're hot, so kick his butt

Like · Reply ·



Shoutout to my favorite Massachusetts senator!

Like · Reply ·



P(W.Gender = F) = 0.90

 $CE(c(h(x_i)), y_i)$

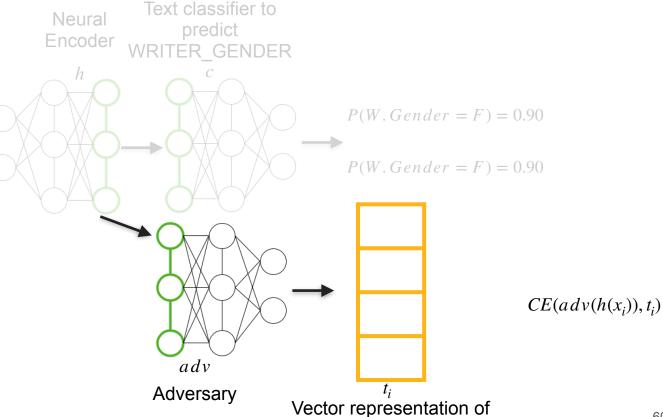
P(W.Gender = F) = 0.90

I like Bob, but you're hot, so kick his butt

Like Reply Shoutout to my favorite Massachusetts

senator!

Like · Reply ·



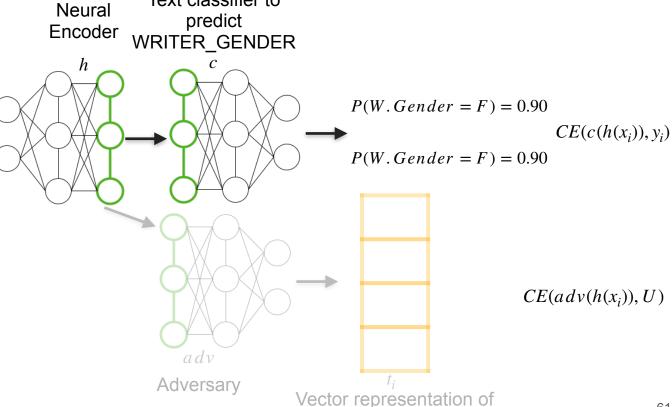
latent traits

Text classifier to

like Bob, but you're hot, so kick his butt Like · Reply ·

Shoutout to my favorite Massachusetts senator!

Like · Reply ·



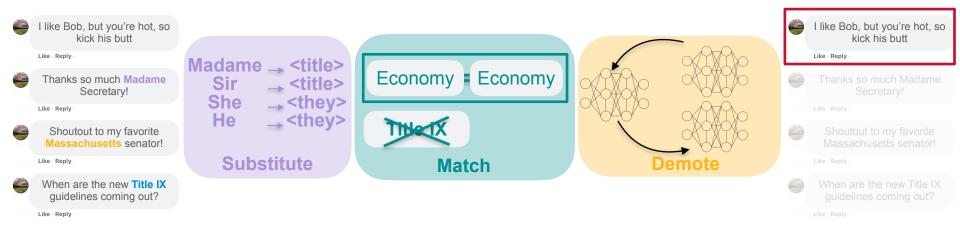
latent traits

Evaluation: Performance improvement on held-out data

	Public Figures		Politicians	
	F1	Acc.	F1	Acc.
base	74.9	63.8	23.2	73.2
+demotion	76.1	65.1	17.4	77.1
+match	65.4	56.0	28.5	46.7
+match+demotion	68.2	59.7	28.8	51.4

Proposed Model: Comments contain bias if they are highly predictive of gender *despite confound control*

- Substitute overt indicators
- Balance observed confounders through propensity matching
- Demote latent confounders through adversarial training



Findings: characteristics of bias against women politicians

Influential words:

- Competence and domesticity
- 'Force', 'situation', 'spouse', 'family', 'love'

Examples:

- "DINO I hope another real Democrat challenges you next election"
- "I did not vote for you and have no clue why anyone should have. You do not belong in politics"

Findings: characteristics of bias against women

Influential words:

- Appearance and sexualization
- 'beautiful', 'love', 'sexo'

Examples:

- "Total tangent I know but, you're gorgeous."
- "I like Bob, but you're hot, so kick his butt."

Outcomes and impact

 Follow-up work investigating impacts of microaggressions in training data on NLP systems

• Funding (280K) from workplace communications to identify and mitigate implicit bias in

• Ongoing funded (150K + 60K) collaboration with

Department of Human Services on identifying implicit biases in child welfare cases

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Social Psychology **Generalizable** Political Science Manipulation Sociology **Economics** Machine **Polarization** Translation Distraction Model de-Bias, Stereotypes, Fact "Cheerleading" and Prejudice biasing checking Stereotypes Prejudice Natural Information Reliable **Ouestion-**Over/under Extraction Language answering representation **Processing Toxicity** Microaggressions **Decision Science** Dialog **Summarization** Condescension **Implicit Bias** Public Policy Hate speech detection

<u>Interpretable</u>

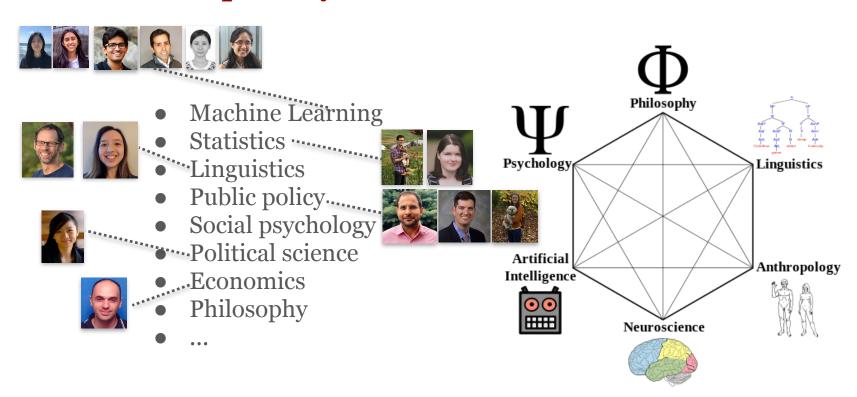
Causal Inference

Partnerships with industry, government, and non-profit agencies

Natural Language Processing Cross-disciplinary collaborations and education

Improving diversity in CS research community

Cross-disciplinary collaborations and education



Cross-disciplinary collaborations and **education**

Computational Ethics for NLP

CMU CS 11830, Spring 2020

T/Th 10:30-11:50am, SH 214

Yulia Tsvetkov (office hours by appointment), ytsvetko@cs.cmu.edu
Alan W Black (office hours: Wednesdays 12-1pm, Zoom link on Piazza), awb@cs.cmu.edu
TA: Anjalie Field (office hours by appointment), anjalief@cs.cmu.edu
TA: Michael Miller Yoder (office hours by appointment), yoder@cs.cmu.edu

Summary Announcements Syllabus Readings Grading Projects Policie

Social bias in text data

- Narratives Field et al'19, Field & Tsvetkov'19, Park et al'20
- Conversational domain Breitfeller et al'19, Field et al'20

Social bias in NLP models & debiasing

- Embeddings Manzini et al'19, Kurita et al'19
- Text classification Jurgens et al'17a, Xia et al'20

Kumar et al'19

Fake news, misinformation

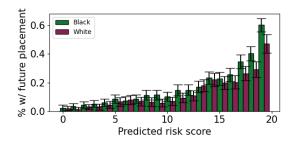
- Manipulation in narratives Field et al'18
- Factuality of automatically generated texts
 Pagnoni et al (ongoing)

Privacy and profiling

• Jurgens et al'17b

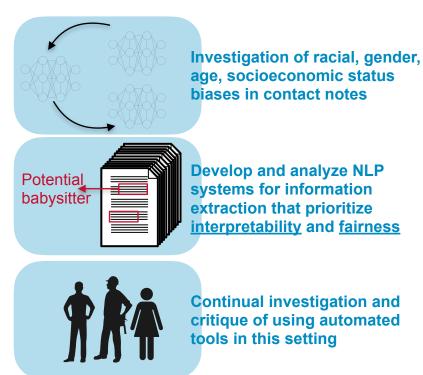
Partnerships with industry, government, and nonprofit agencies





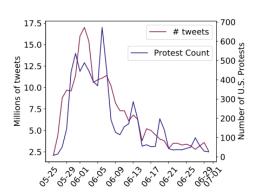
Opportunities and pitfalls of using NLP for predictive risk: a case study in the child welfare system

Ongoing Work [In submission to FAccT 2022]



Partnerships with industry, government, and nonprofit agencies

Data for Black Lives



An Analysis of Emotions and the Prominence of Positivity in #BlackLivesMatter Tweets



Video evidence of anti-black discrimination in China over coronavirus fears



Develop methods that integrate network analyses and NLP to characterize information spread



Multi-modal approaches for investigating how racism is perpetuated on public platforms



Continual investigation and critique of using automated tools in this setting

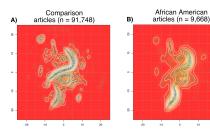
Ongoing Work [In revision for PNAS]

Future Work

Partnerships with industry, government, and non-

profit agencies





"Controlled Analyses of Social Biases in Wikipedia Bios" WebConf '22

English Wikipedia: He accepted the option of injections of what was then called stilboestrol. Spanish Wikipedia:

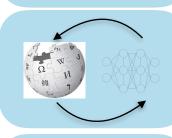
Finalmente escogió las inyecciones de estrógenos. Finally he chose estrogen injections.

Russian Wikipedia:

Учёный предпочёл инъекции стильбэстрола The scientist preferred stilbestrol injections. "Multilingual
Contextual Affective
Analysis of LGBT
People Portrayals in
Wikipedia"
ICWSM '21



Automated methods for identifying content gaps and social biases



Controllable text generation and output constraints in models trained on Wikipedia data

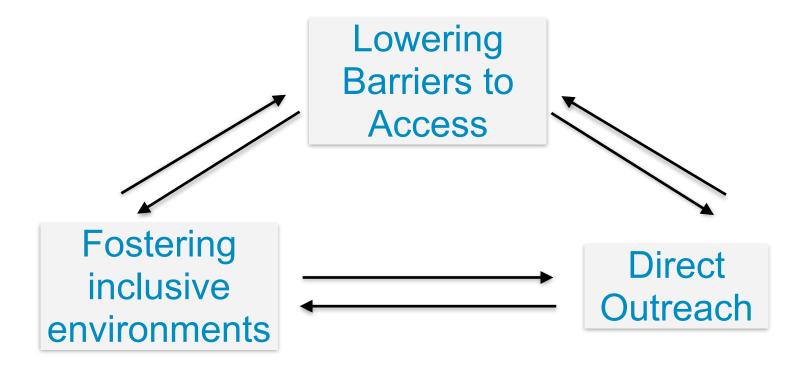


Continual investigation and critique of using automated tools in this setting

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Ongoing Work Future Work

Improving Diversity in CS Research



Acknowledgements



Google Research































Natural Language Processing



Science



Studies

















Network Science

Public Policy

Statistics

Economics

End