

MA615-Assignment4

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Task 1: Pick a book

The book I picked is *Christmas eve* by Robert Browning. The poem “Christmas Eve,” by Robert Browning, with the accompanying poem “Easter Day,” seems not to have attracted much notice from the readers of poetry, although highly prized by a few. This is, perhaps, to be attributed, in a great measure, to what many would call a considerable degree of obscurity.

Task 2: Words analysis

Words Frequency

For this part, firstly, I extract **chapters** from txt file and utilize **stop_words** lexicon to remove analytically useless words and calculate rest words’ frequencies and proportions. Here is result (only frequency > 10 words will be displayed).

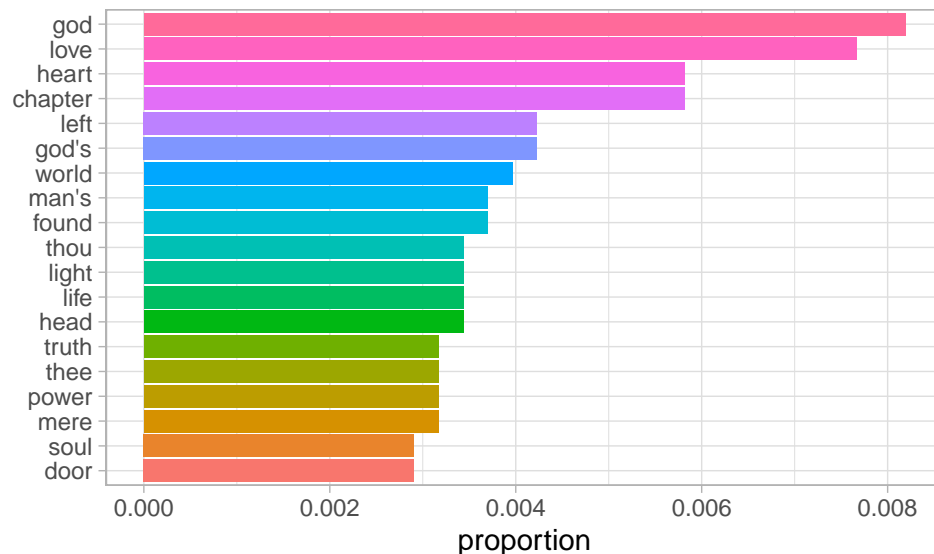


Figure 1: Christmas Eve Word Frequency (>10)

Figure 1 shows that most common used words in *Christmas Eve* are **god**, **love**, and **heart**, which account for over 0.6% of total words. To be more clear and get a wider view of it, I also include **wordcloud** to visualize it, which is quite a fancy plot.

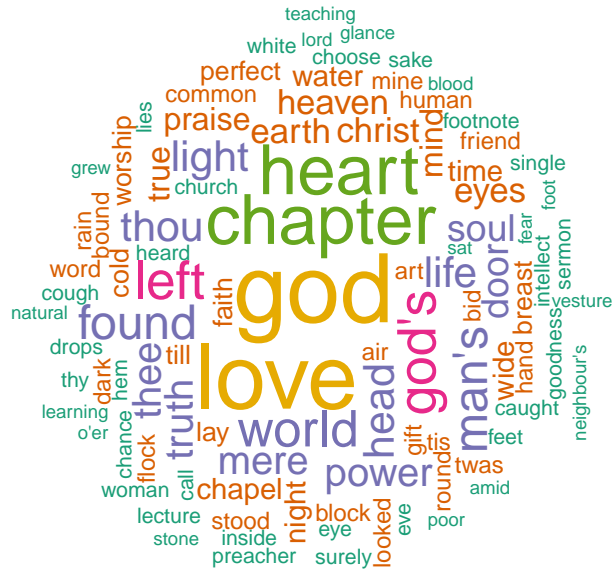


Figure 2: Christmas Eve wordcloud (Top 100 words)

Figure 2 shows us Top 100 frequently used words in *Christmas Eve* and the sizes of words in cloud represent their frequency, the bigger, the more frequent. Actually, only calculate frequencies of a book is not enough. Thus, for the next step, I would go deeper into sentimental analysis of *Christmas Eve*.

Sentimental test

As to sentimental analysis, R studio tidyverse provide three sentimental lexicon, **AFINN**, **BING** and **NRC**, for us to do words based analysis. To begin with, I utilize **BING** to label words in *Christmas Eve* with binary sentimental attitudes, **positive** and **negative**. Here is the visualization of result:

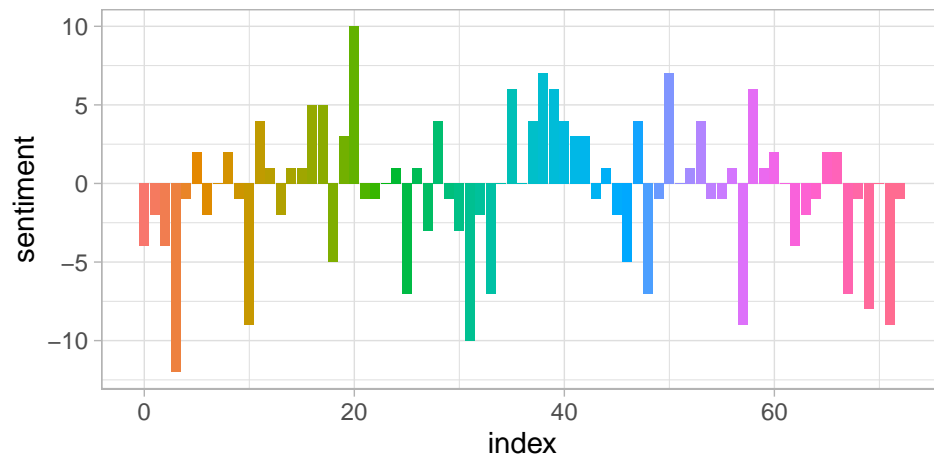


Figure 3: Christmas Eve Sentiment Analysis (bing)

Figure 3 illustrates that, under the lexicon BING, the plot of *Christmas Eve* changes toward more negative than positive even some of plots indicate fairly positive. Then I decide to utilize more lexicons to continue my sentimental analysis.

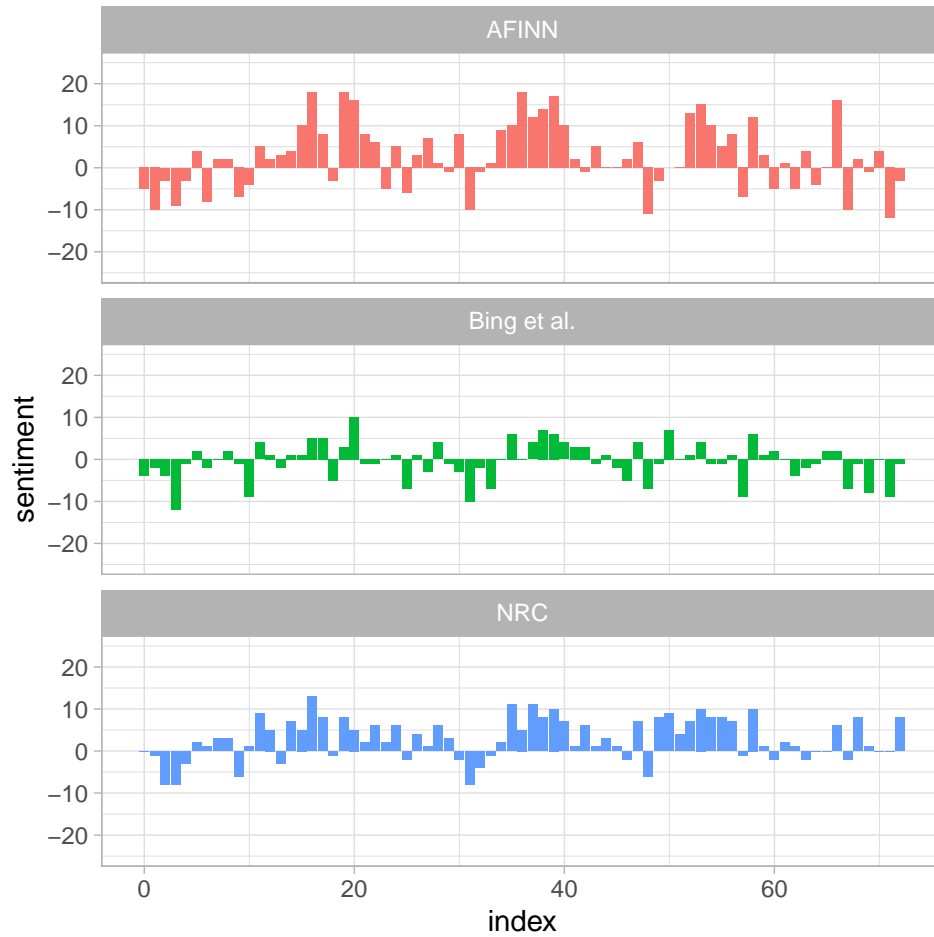


Figure 4: Comparision of lexicons on Christmas Eve

The three different lexicons for calculating sentiment give results that are different in an absolute sense but have similar relative trajectories through the novel. We see similar dips and peaks in sentiment at about the same places in the novel, but absolute values are significantly different.

The AFINN lexicon gives the largest absolute values, with high positive values, while the NRC lexicon shows similar patterns but absolute values are relatively smaller. Comparatively, the BING lexicon give a little bit more negative result. To figure out why this happens, I decide to look into words in these three lexicons.

The following table shows proportions of positive and negative words in lexicons:

```
#>  lexicon sentiment proportion
#> 1  afinn  negative    64.55%
#> 2  afinn  positive    35.45%
#> 3   nrc   negative    58.98%
#> 4   nrc   positive    41.02%
#> 5  bing   negative    70.45%
#> 6  bing   positive    29.55%
```

All three lexicons have more negative than positive words, but the ratio of negative to positive words is higher in the Bing lexicon than the NRC and AFINN lexicon. For the next step, I find out most common positive and negative words in the book then visualize that in fig 6 and fig 7.

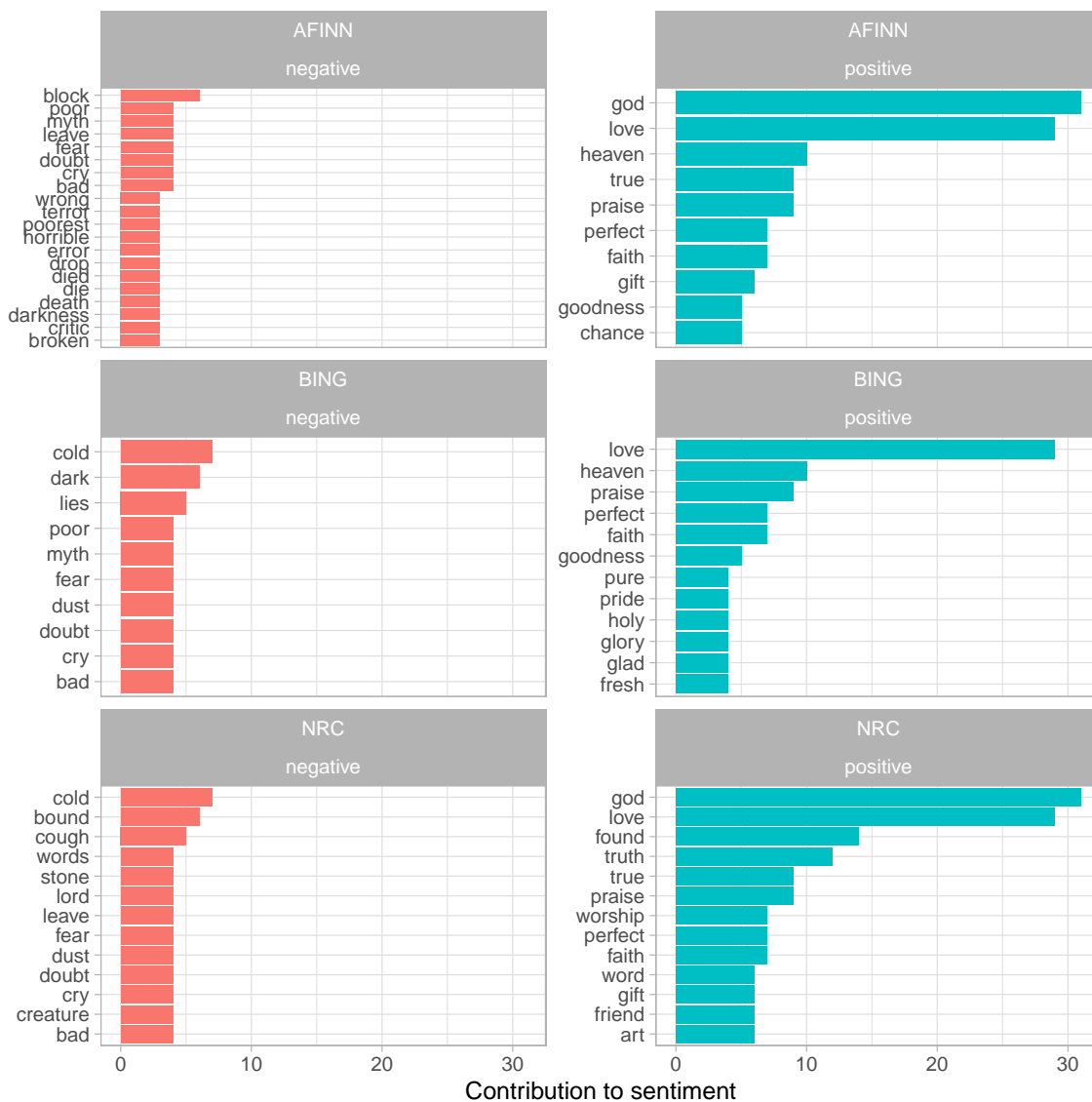


Figure 5: Top 10 Negative and Positive Words in Christmas Eve

Both of plots indicate that the most common used negative word is miss while the most frequently used positive one is love. We can use this visualization to see the most important positive and negative words, but the sizes of the words are not comparable across sentiments.

Extra Credits

Apart from AFINN, NRC and BING, I include lexicon `loughran`. here is the proportion of negative and positive words in this lexicon.

```
#>  sentiment      n proportion
#> 1  negative 2355      86.93%
#> 2  positive  354      13.07%
```

About this lexicon, it is weird that over 85% of words in this lexicon are **negative**. Next, I utilize it to do the similar research on book *Christmas Eve*.

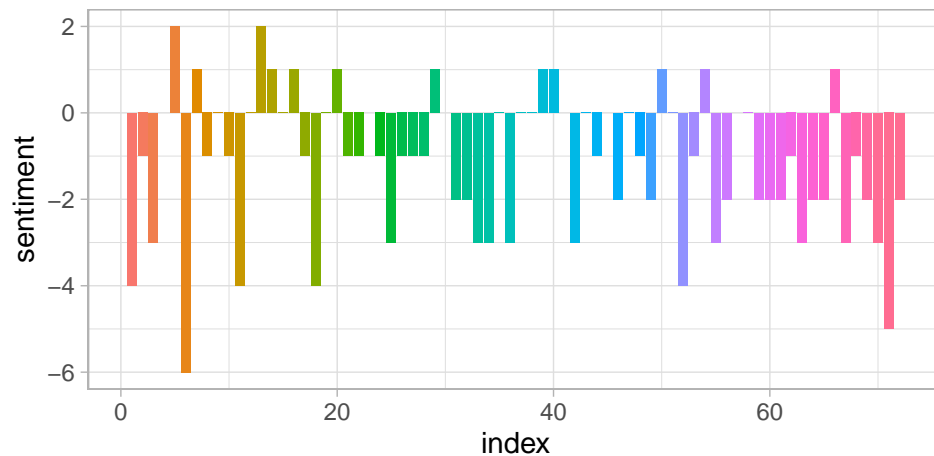


Figure 6: Christmas Eve Sentiment Analysis (loughran)

No surprise, no matter how plots going on, the sentiment result shows greatly negative emotion, which can be explained by over 85% of words are **negative** in this lexicon.

Appendix

negative



positive

Figure 7: Comparison Cloud (BING)