**Project Proposal:**

Many of these rules and concepts are secured through constitutions which define the scope and role of institutions in these new governments. We want to know if there is a natural language difference in the constitutions between democracies and competitive authoritarian governments. Do democratic nations constitutions contain different natural language than competitive authoritarian governments?

**Literature Review**:

Since the end of the cold war, non-democratic national governments have attempted to do a better job of disguising their authoritarian traits. This has led to the rise of competitive authoritarian governments. These governments have elements of democracies, including frequent elections, that allow the government to claim to be democratic. However, they lack key elements of democracies including, free and fair elections, civil liberties, & voting access (nearly the whole adult population can vote).

**Research Plan:**

*Dataset*:

Our dataset, or corpus, will include the constitutions of ten nations. This will be split into two groups of five democracies (D) and five competitive authoritarian (CA) governments. We chose the following nations:

CA governments: Turkey, China, Russia, Egypt, Venezuela

D governments: US, France, Germany, Australia, Japan

*Analysis:*

We will examine the constitutions of each nation individually at sentence level. This micro level analysis will inform us of the characteristics and key elements of each individual nation. The micro level analysis will be a

Then we will compare the micro analysis of the democratic constitutions with the comparative authoritarian constitutions to see if there are macro level differences.

*NLP pipeline:*

Original Corpus 🡪

Data exploration 🡪

Cleaning & Preprocessing (tokenization, stop words, POS tag, NER, stemming, lemma)🡪

Feature extraction 🡪

Modeling (train-test split, Machine Learning) 🡪

**Evaluation:**

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**References:**

mike albertas constitutions

William wyatt & carlos algara