

WHAT DID YOU CALL ME?

Referring Expressions and Titles in the 2016 Presidential Debates

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Gendered Political Debates

- Fracchiolla 2011: Politeness as a strategy of attack in a gendered political debate – The Royal-Sarkozy debate
 - 2016 American Presidential Election
 - Hillary Clinton becomes the first woman presidential nominee of a major political party in the US
 - When it comes to candidates, the manlier the better?
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Some Questions

- Are there differences in the way female candidates and male candidates are referred to or addressed that could indicate gender-bias?
 - Are there differences in the ways candidates with and without political experience are referred to or addressed?
 - What do these differences mean?
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Data, Data, Data

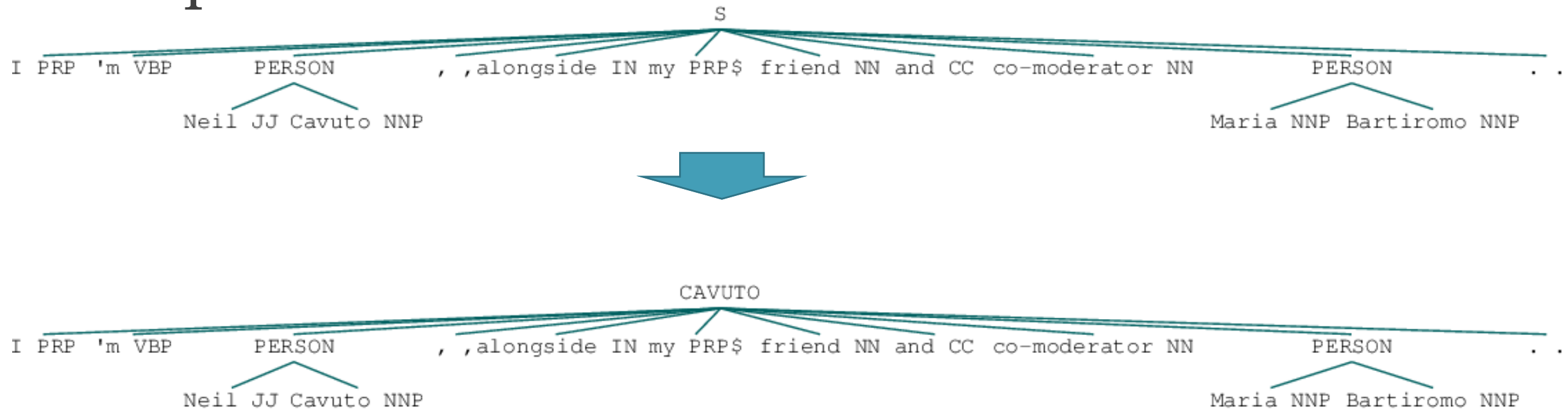
- 25 debate transcripts from the American Presidency Project at UCSB

<http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/debates.php>

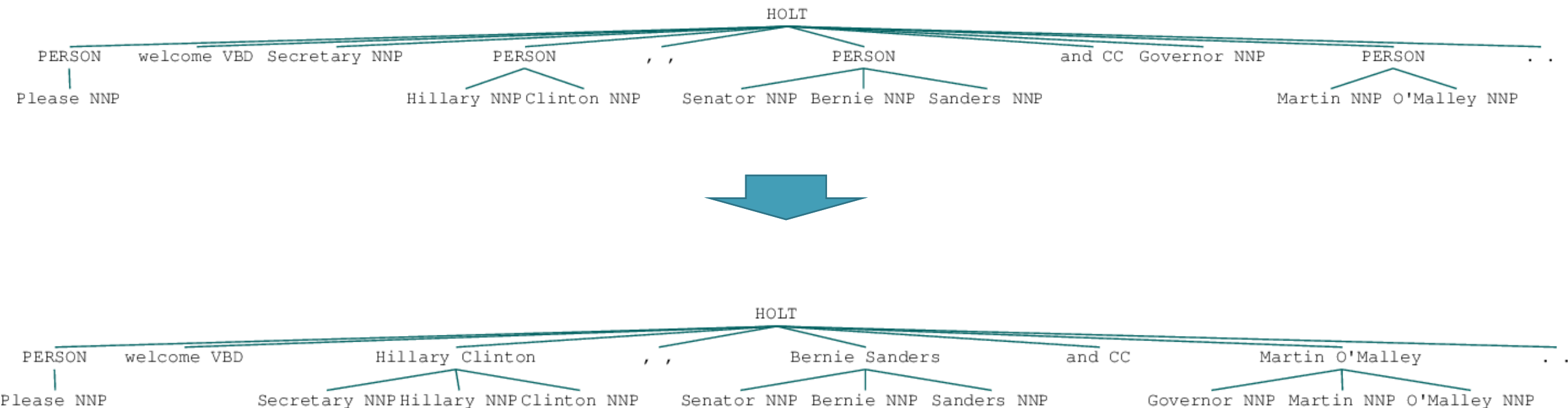
- Cleaning, NER annotation, and entity linking
 - Who called who what?
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	Date	Debate Type	Speaker	Sents
2	9-26-16	general	HOLT	Good evening from Hofstra University in Hempt...
3	9-26-16	general	HOLT	I'm Lester Holt, anchor of "NBC Nightly News."
4	9-26-16	general	HOLT	I want to welcome you to the first presidential...
5	9-26-16	general	HOLT	The participants tonight are Donald Trump and ...
6	9-26-16	general	HOLT	This debate is sponsored by the Commission on ...

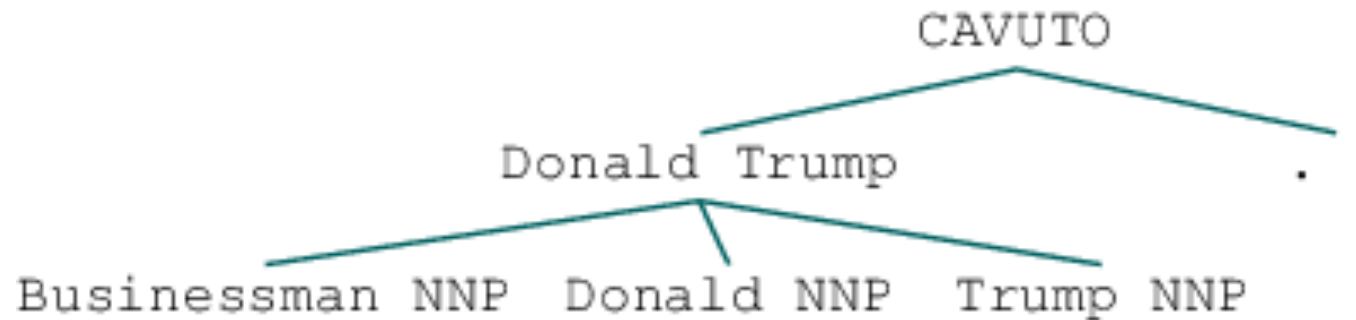
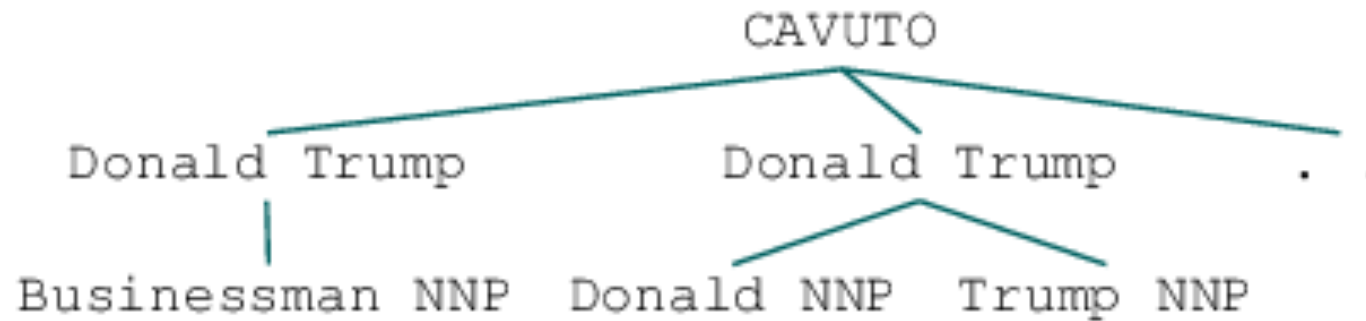
Modifying NLTK's NER Trees: Step 1



Modifying NLTK's NER Trees: Step 2

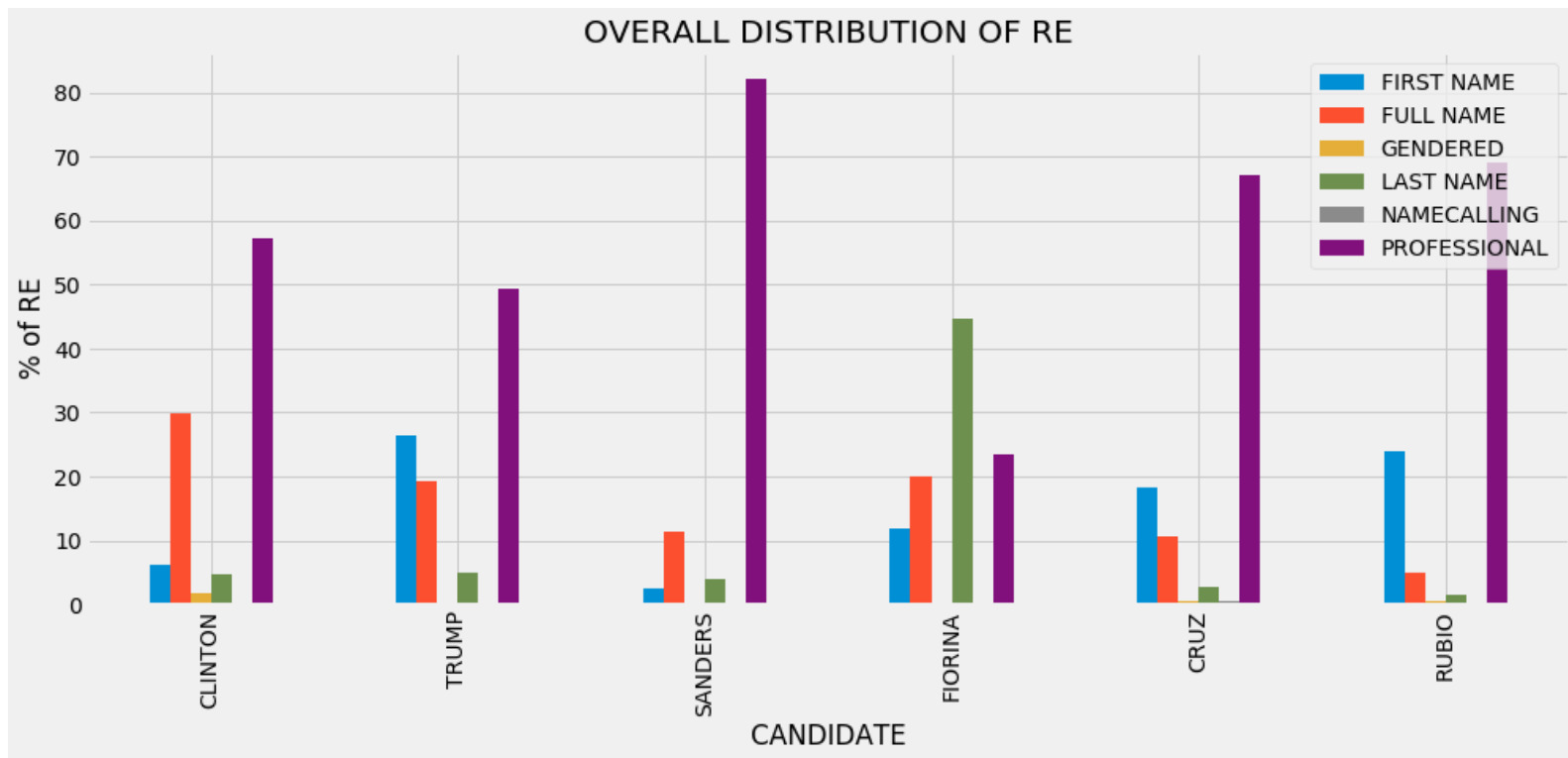


Modifying NLTK's NER Trees: Step 3



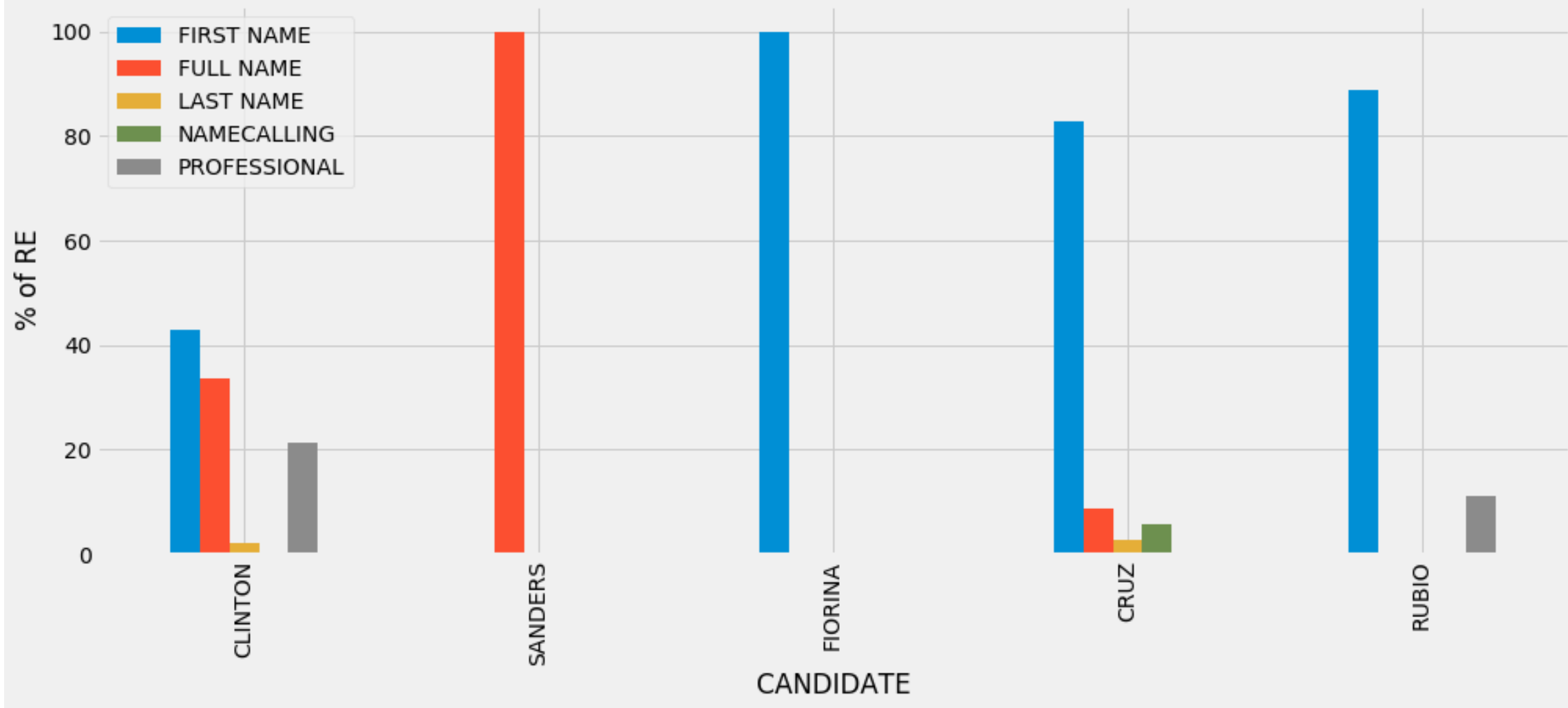
Types of Referring Expressions

- Referring expressions are used strategically
 - convey “politeness”
 - remind audience of referents gender
 - highlight similarities or differences between speaker and referent
 - 1. Professional
 - 2. First Name
 - 3. Last Name
 - 4. Full Name
 - 5. Gendered
 - 6. Name-calling
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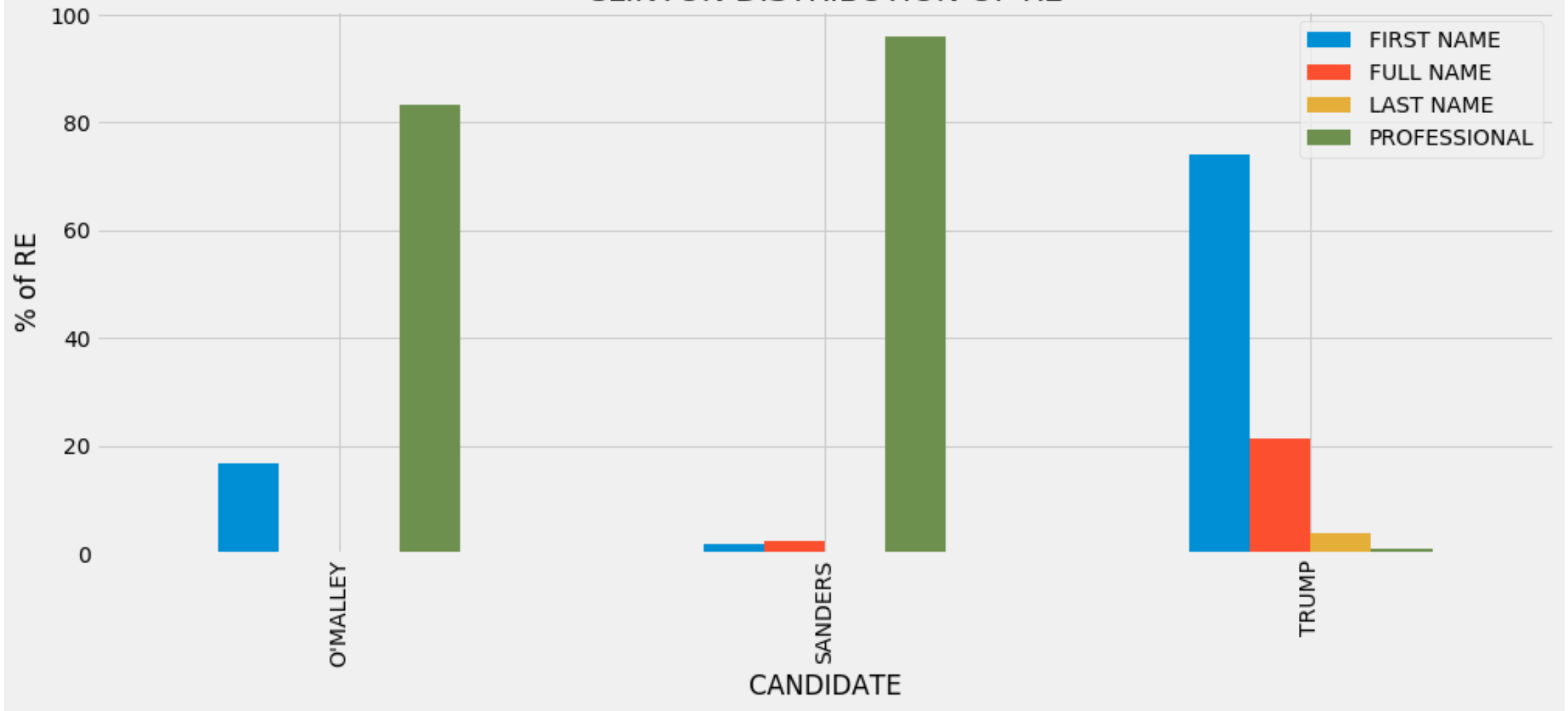


	FIRST NAME	FULL NAME	GENDERED	LAST NAME	NAMECALLING	PROFESSIONAL	TOTAL
CLINTON	65	314	18.0	50	0.0	600	1047.0
TRUMP	252	182	0.0	47	0.0	469	950.0
SANDERS	13	61	0.0	21	0.0	440	535.0
FIORINA	10	17	0.0	38	0.0	20	85.0
CRUZ	58	34	2.0	9	2.0	214	319.0
RUBIO	84	17	2.0	5	0.0	242	350.0

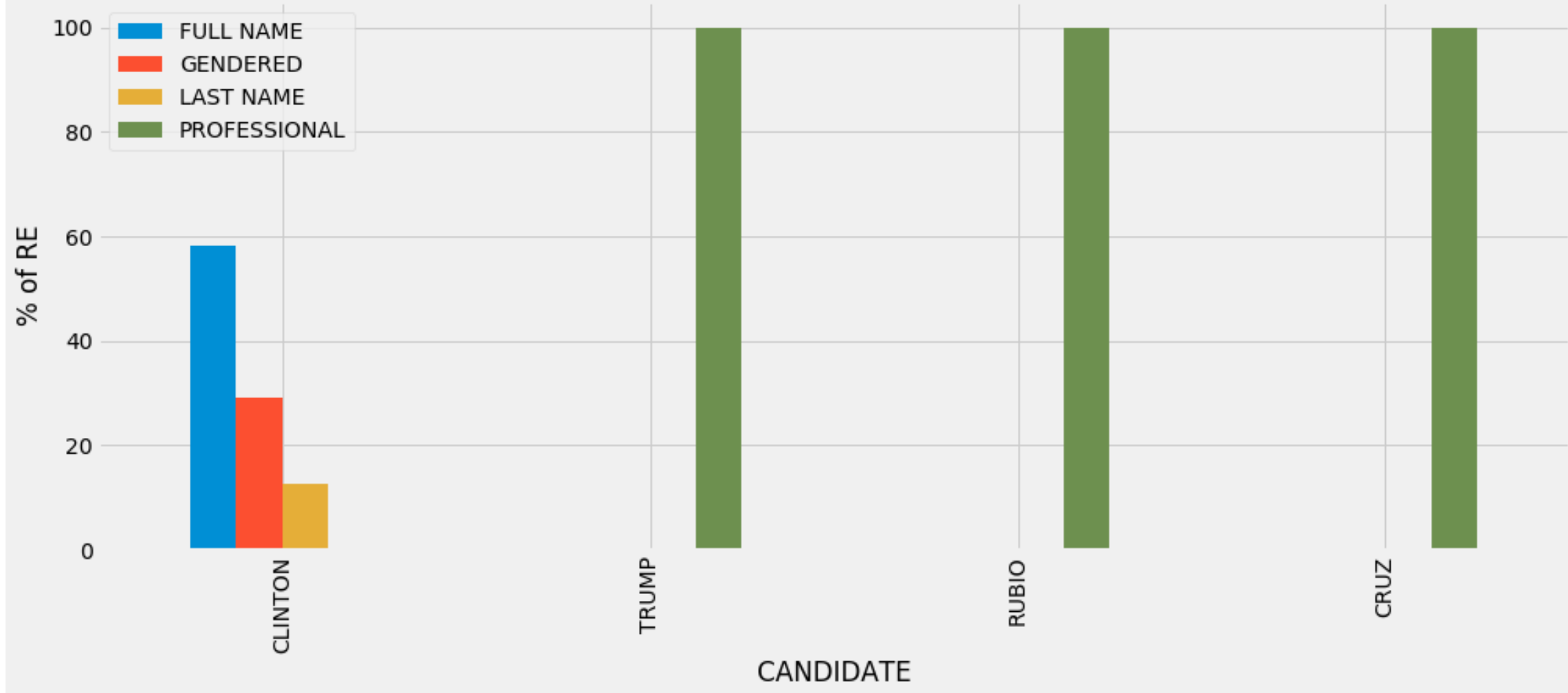
TRUMP DISTRIBUTION OF RE



CLINTON DISTRIBUTION OF RE



FIORINA DISTRIBUTION OF RE



Conclusions

- In general

- All candidates are most often referred to professionally, except for Carly Fiorina
- Clinton is referred to professionally less often than the male senators

- Trump

- Refers to everyone by their first name except for Bernie Sanders
- Addresses Hillary Clinton and Marco Rubio professionally
- Calls Ted Cruz names

- Clinton

- Does not refer to Fiorina, Cruz, or Rubio at all
- Refers to Sanders and O'Malley professionally the majority of the time, but to Trump by his first name

- Fiorina

- Calls everyone by professional titles, but never calls Clinton “Secretary”, only “Mrs.”
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Moving Forward

- Are there different distributions from debate to debate?
 - How do some of the moderators refer to the candidates?
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