Text-Mining: Introduction and theory

The webinar will begin at 1 pm

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Feel free to type questions as we go, we will answer as many as we can at the end

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Text-Mining: Introduction and theory

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- Text-mining: Basic Processes 16 June 20
- Text-mining: Advance Options 29 June 20
- Health Studies User Conference 30 June 20
- Social Data and the Third Sector 2 to 16 July 20

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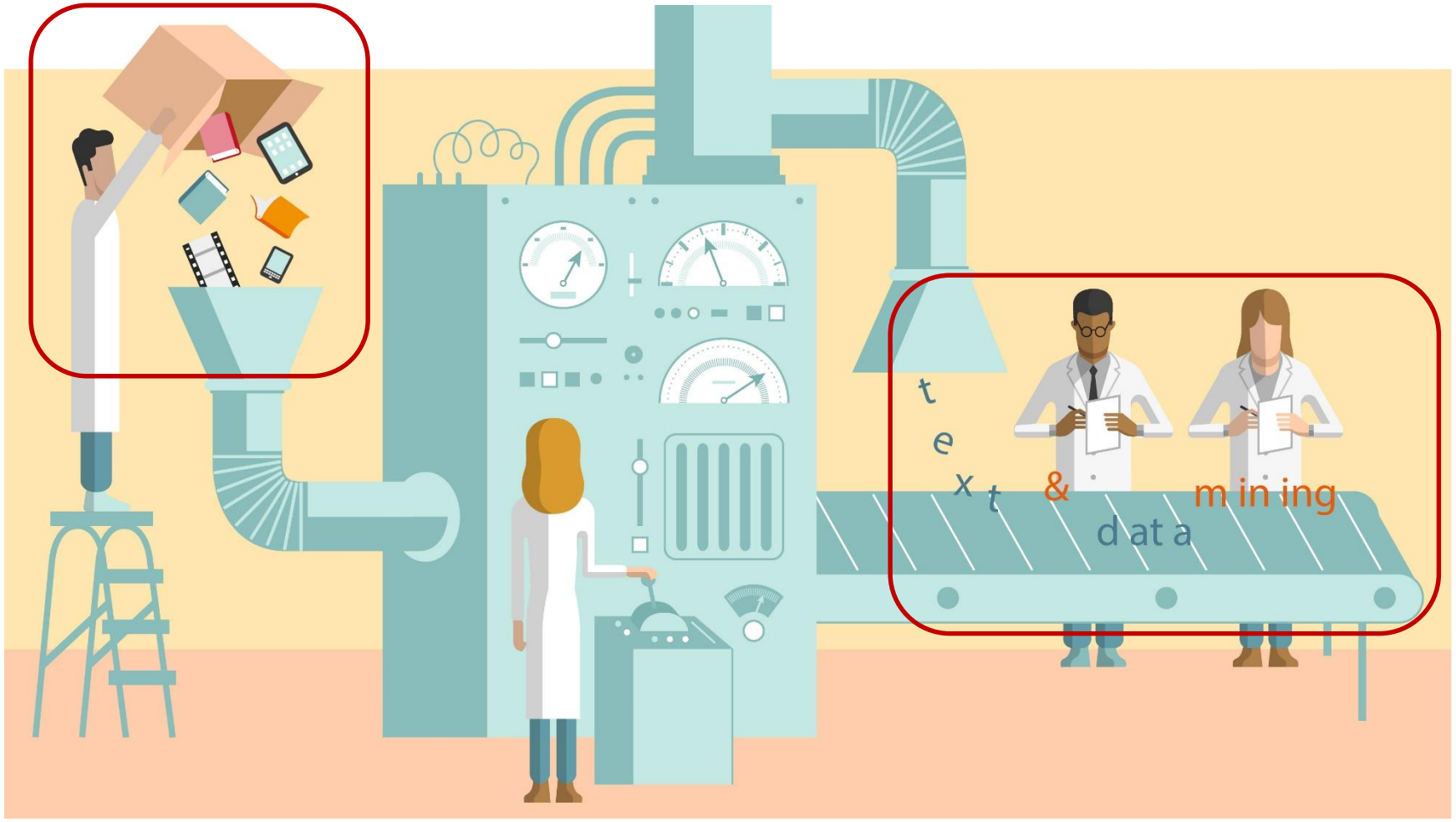
Text-mining is a form of data-mining



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What do I mean by structured data?

Intro to
Text-Mining
02/06/20
75 attended

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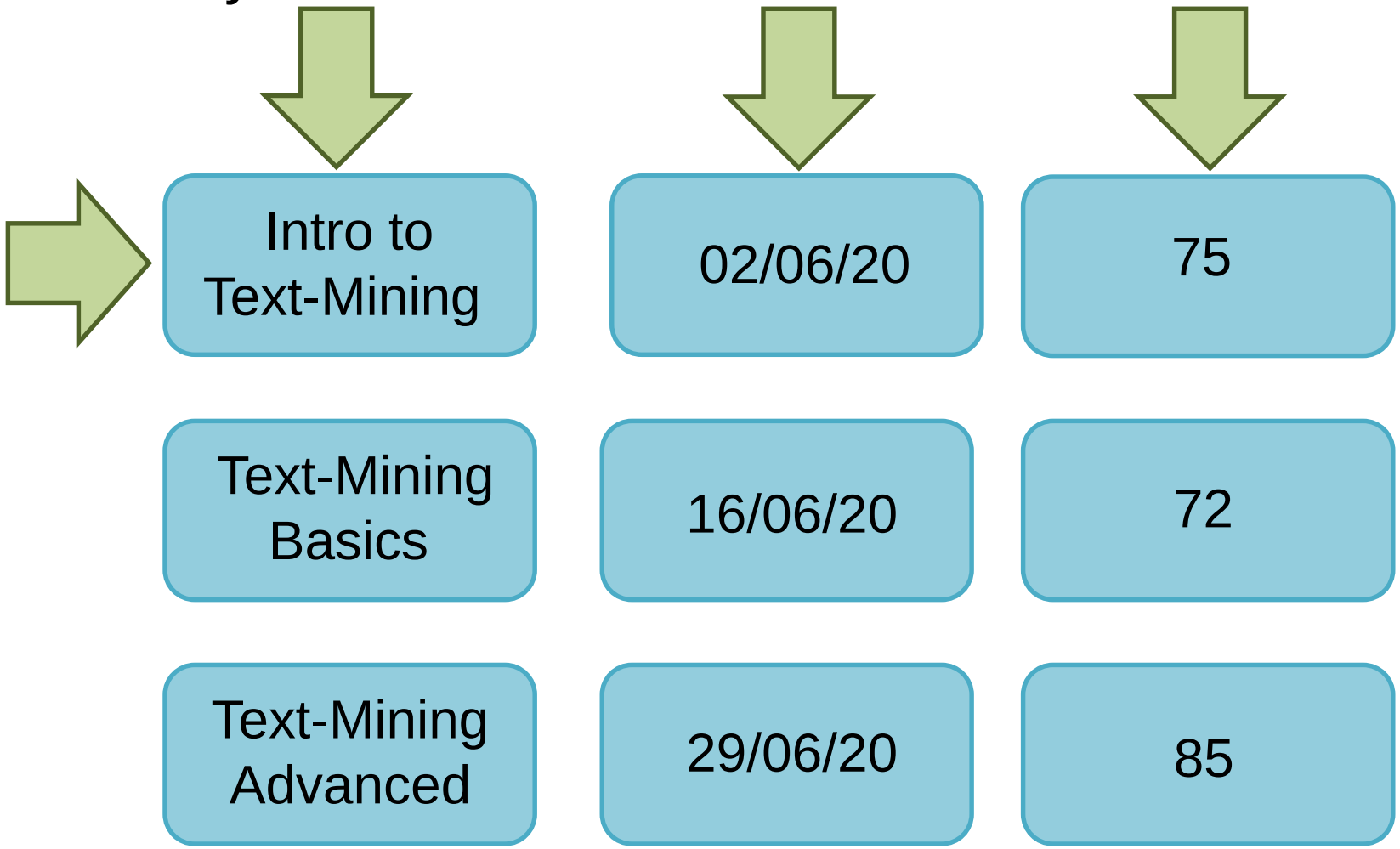
What do I mean by structured data?



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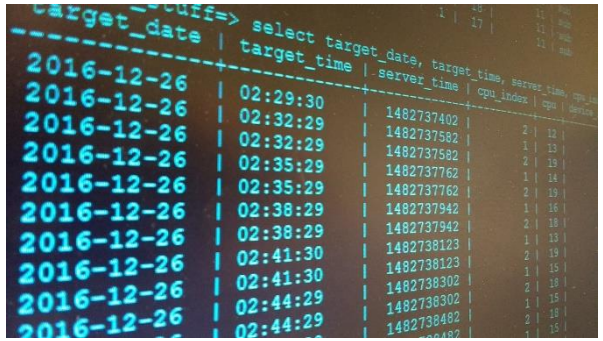
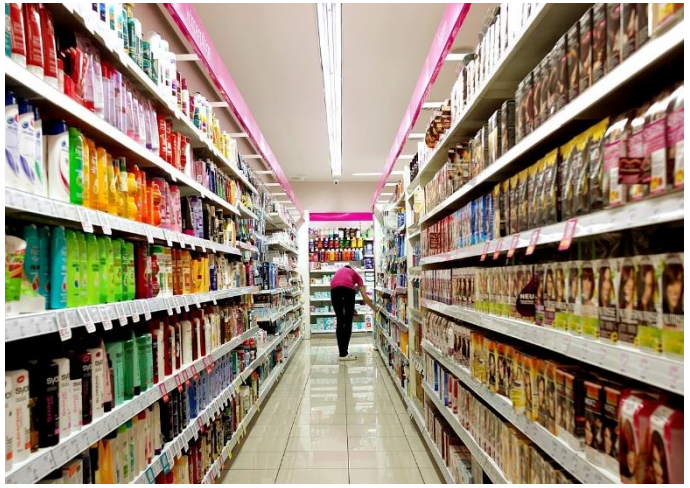
Think about commonly found examples of structured data?





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Structured data is…

Intro to Text-Mining	01/05/20	75
4 steps of Text-Mining	04/06/20	72
Text-Mining analysis	09/07/20	85

…familiar

…easy

…demonstrable

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What about unstructured data?

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Seventy-two
Text-mining lesson #2
June 16

2020-06-29

80 - 90

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What about semi-unstructured data?

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Seventy-two

Text-mining lesson #2

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Semi-(un)structured data is …

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… less accessible
… difficult
… requires intuition and “common sense”

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80 - 90

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Yeah… and?

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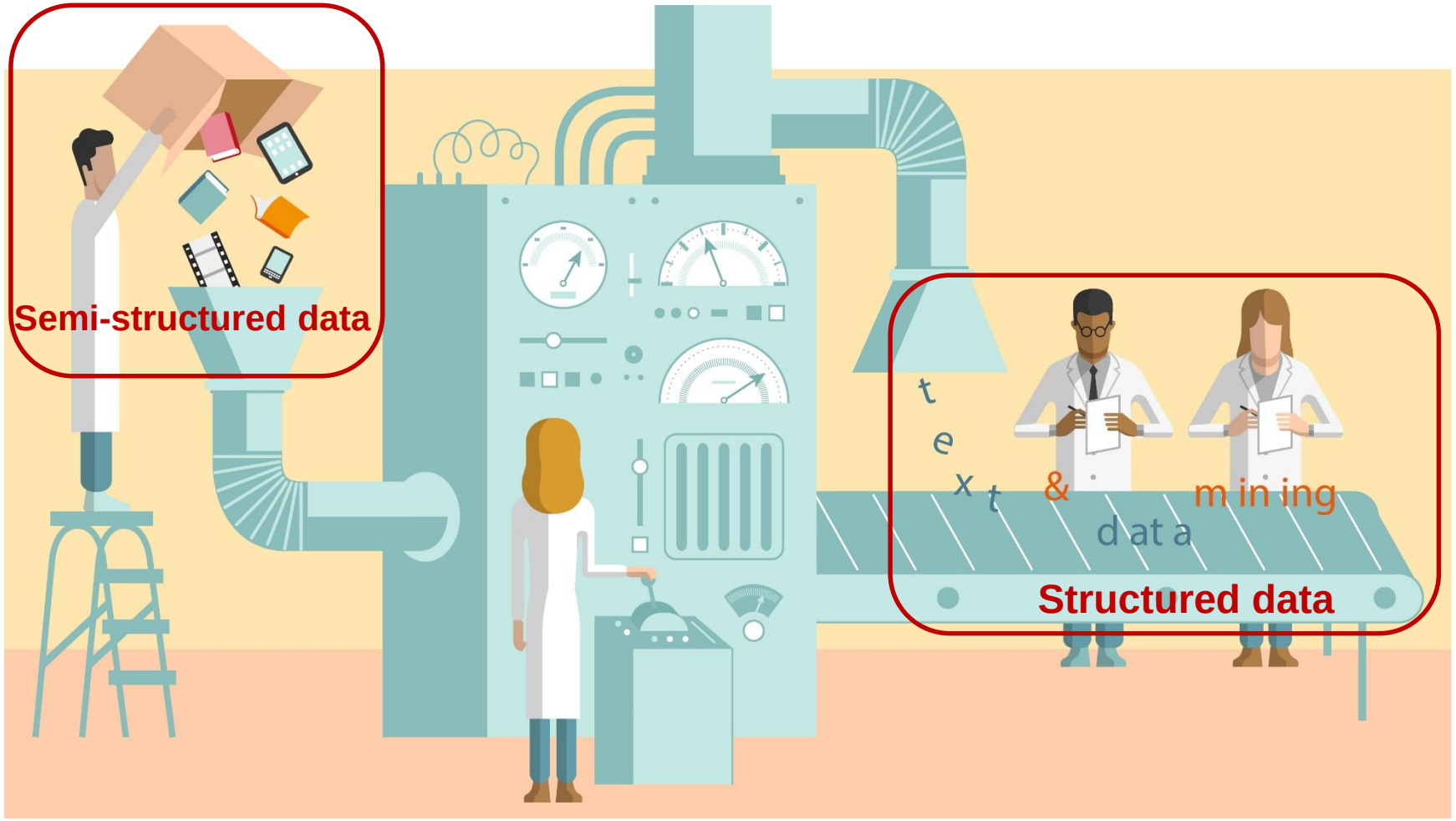
Why can’t you just treat semi-structured and structured data the same?

- The tools won’t work.
- Forcing the tools to “sort of” work can be a real pain and waste of time!
- Documenting the process is very difficult which makes for
  - Poor replicability
  - Hard to understand methods
  - Hard to visualise results

- First, you need to turn semi-structured data into structured data.
- There are tools to help you do that.

What are those tools?



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Text-mining in four steps

1. Retrieval
2. Processing
3. Extraction
4. Analysis

SEARCH
Source = MANCHESTER EVENING NEWS
Date = 01/01/19700 to 31/12/2019
Keywords = “rail” AND “electrification” AND “north” AND “England”

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Text-mining in four steps

1. Retrieval
2. Processing
3. Extraction
4. Analysis

Raw data - - - > 1 file/row/database entry per tweet/document/webpage

Basic NLP – correct spelling,
remove capitalisation,
substitute acronyms or alternate references

More NLP – classify words by grammatical category,
disambiguate meaning by context,
parse sentences and mark up structure

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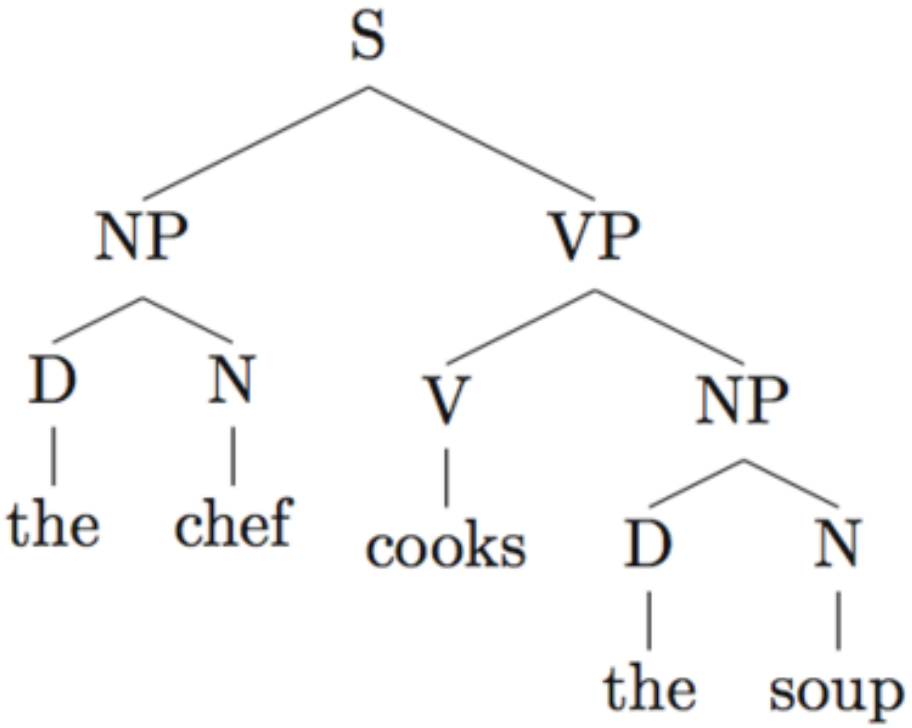
Text-mining in four steps

1. Retrieval
2. Processing
3. Extraction
4. Analysis

The chef cooks teh soup.



[S: [NP: [D: the] [N:chef]] [VP: [V: cook (singular, present) [NP: [D: the] [N:soup]]]]

Text-mining in four steps

1. Retrieval
2. Processing
3. Extraction
4. Analysis

(Relative) word counts
Equivalency suggestions
Relationship discovery
Automatic categorisation
Prediction

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Text-mining in four steps

1. Retrieval
2. Processing
3. Extraction
4. Insight

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Text-mining – One simple example

1. Retrieval — Download 10 days of tweets from 20 users.
   Download trending hashtags for those same 10 days

1. Processing — Remove everything that isn't a hashtag (punctuation, trailing whitespace)
   Store individual hashtags in data frame labelled by date and author

2. Extraction — Compare tweeted hashtags to trending list – by time, by volume, etc.
   Calculate a "trendiness score" for authors based on degree of match and timing

4. Insight — Explain what a trendiness score measures –
   Influencer status? Finger-on-the-pulse-ness?
   Tendency to jump on bandwagons? Something else?

Text-mining – A complex example (of mine)

1. Retrieval — Download UK news articles with keywords like "Manchester" AND "commonwealth games"

2. Processing — Articles -> sentences -> tokens -> custom processes that match proper nouns, dates, known structures and relationships, etc.

3. Extraction — Compare extracted and processed tokens to identify events and the temporal relationships between them

   Create a timeline of events

   Performance score against human analysist and state of the art AI

4. Insight — Argue how automated event extraction and time line creation supports policies of event-based investment and regeneration

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Text-mining Pros and Cons

- Pros:
  - Large scale approach to difficult stuff
  - Can see detail of sub-groups
  - Novel application

- Cons:
  - Needs a large corpus
  - May need a lot of manually created training data
  - Lack of human interaction or supervision
  - Unclear what questions it can/cannot address
  - Lops off a bunch of structure or information that is hard to capture/amplify

Text-mining can’t (yet) provide expert level insight

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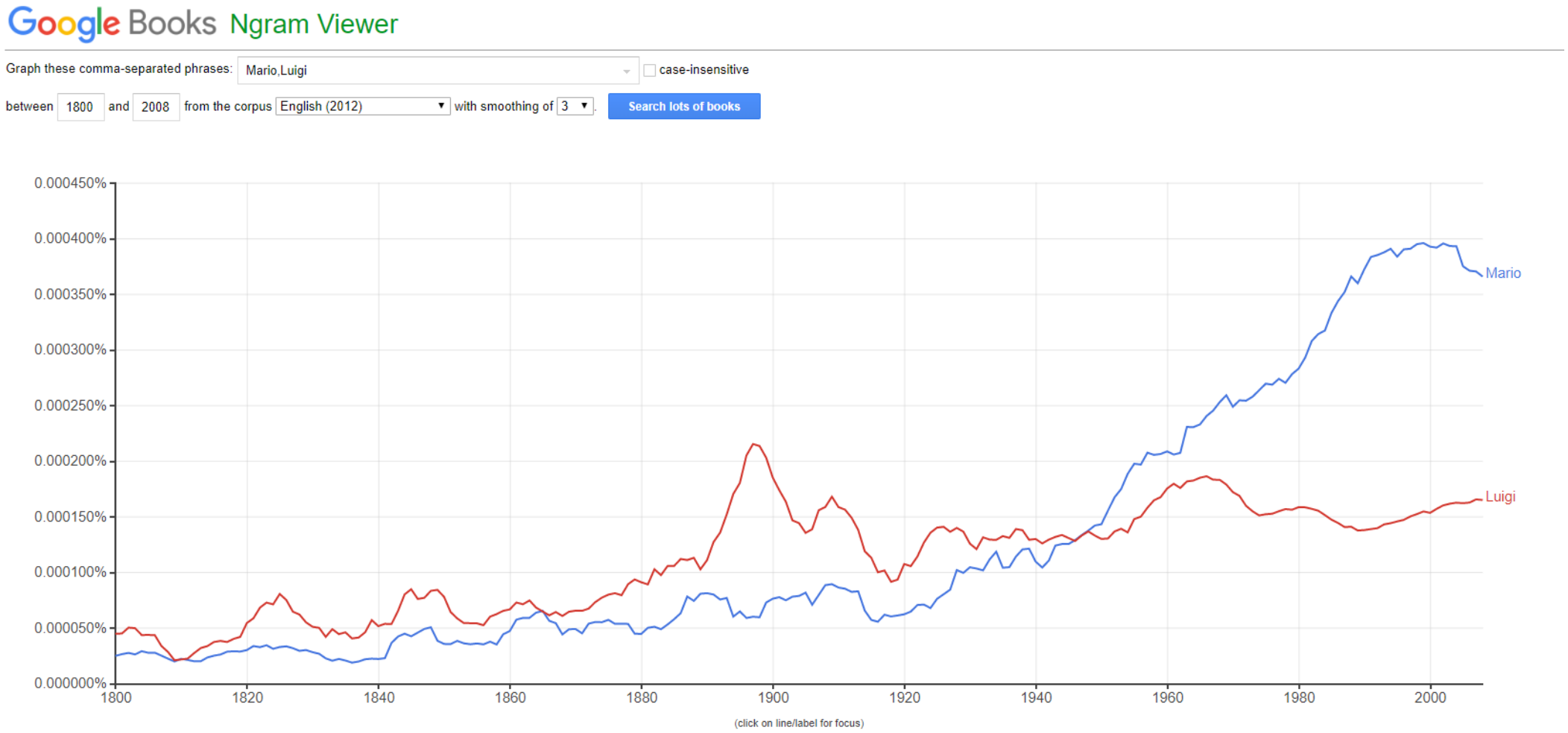
But it text-mining does…



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Citations and recommendations

Cited academic paper

- Predicting the Present with Google Trends. Choi and Varian, 2012.

https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1475-4932.2012.00809.x

Recommendations for Python

- Programming with Python for Social Scientists. Brooker, 2020.

https://study.sagepub.com/brooker

- Automate the Boring Stuff with Python: Practical Programming for Total Beginners, Sweigart, 2019. ISBN-13: 9781593279929
- SentDex, python programming tutorials on YouTube https://www.youtube.com/user/sentdex

Recommendations for R

- Quanteda, an R package for text analysis https://quanteda.io/
- Text Mining with R, a free online book https://www.tidytextmining.com/

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Questions

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