

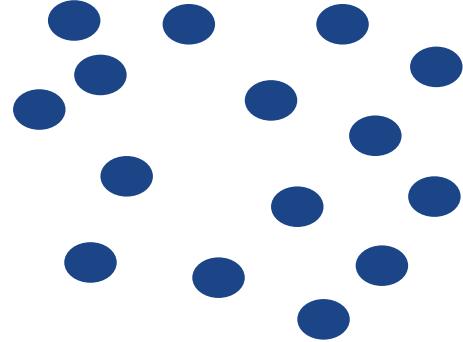
Conclusion

Indira Sen

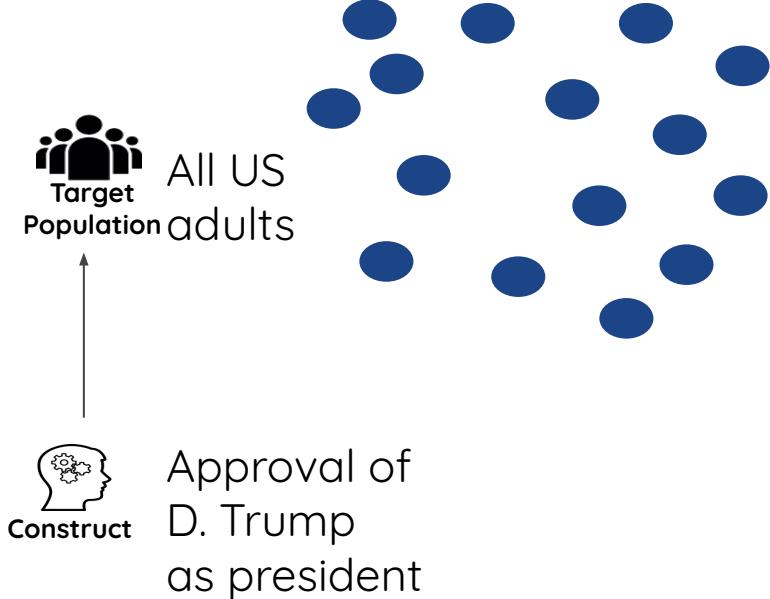
University of Konstanz
Measurement and Representation Biases (MRB) in
Digital Trace Data-based Studies

A typical research pipeline with digital trace data for measuring social phenomena

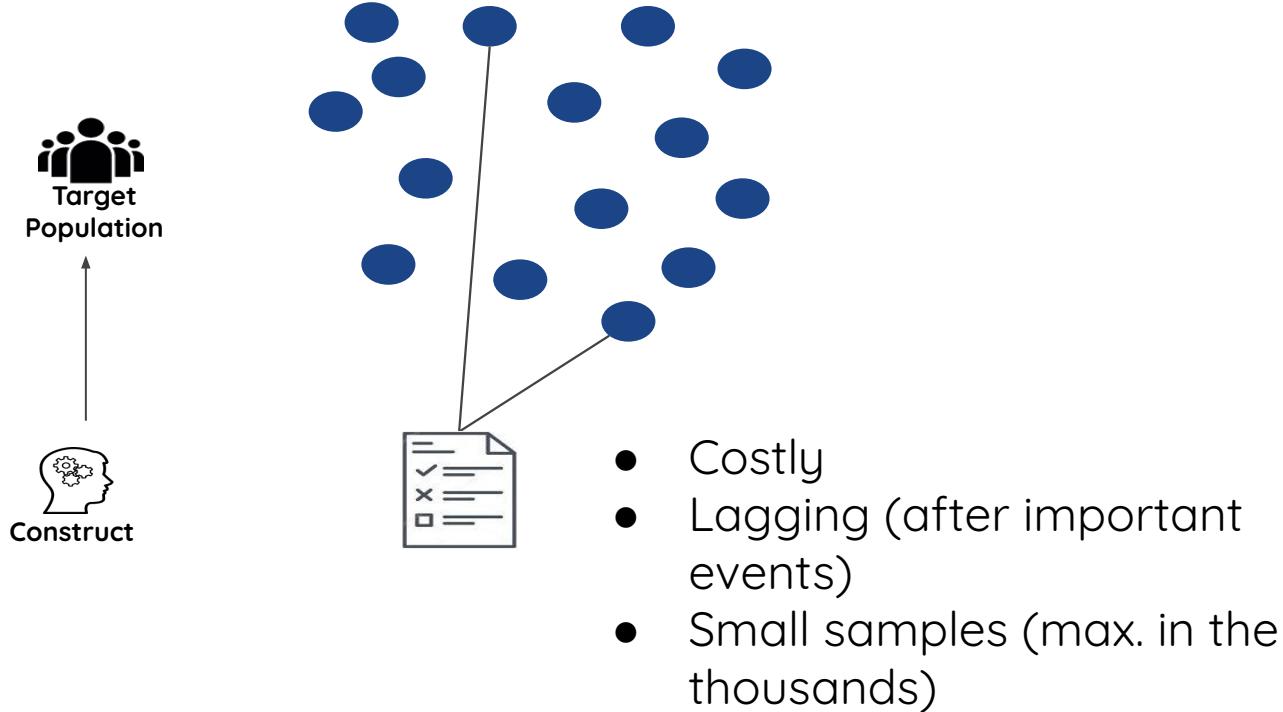
A typical research design with digital traces



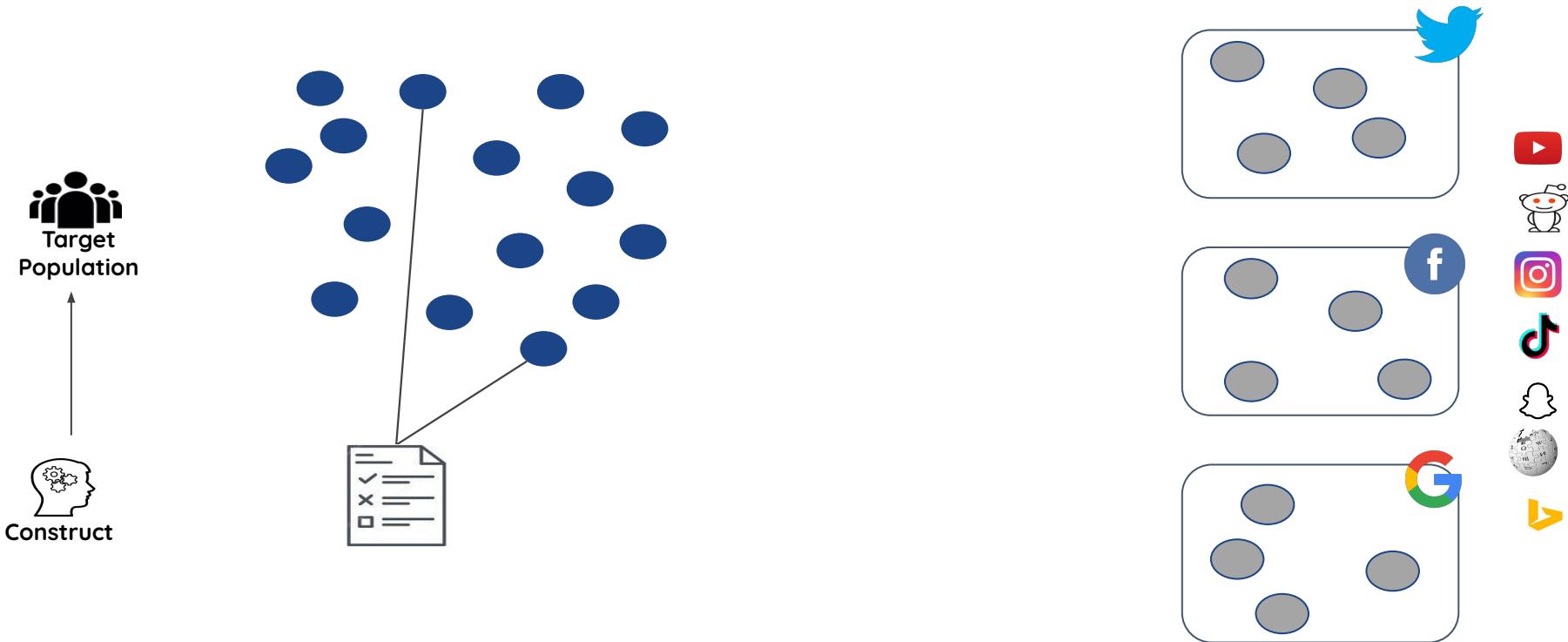
A typical research design with digital traces



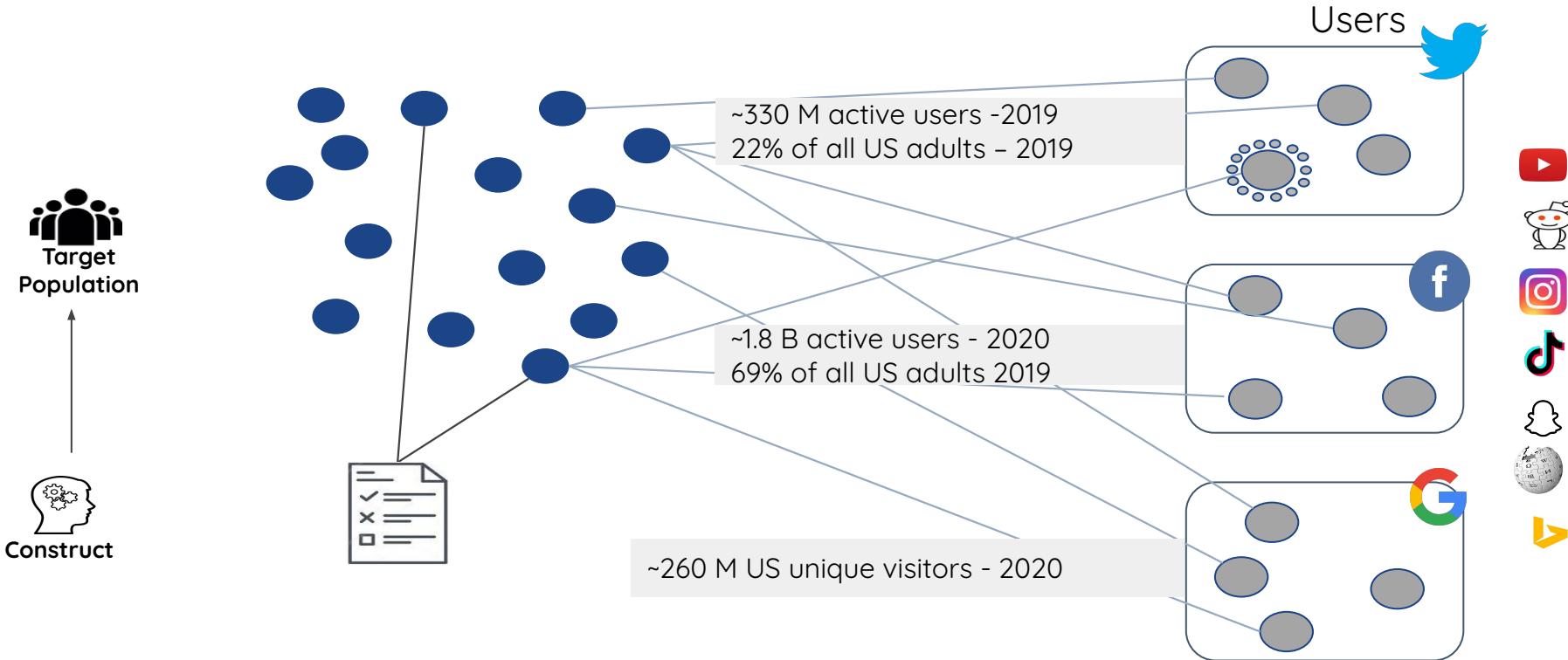
A typical research design with digital traces



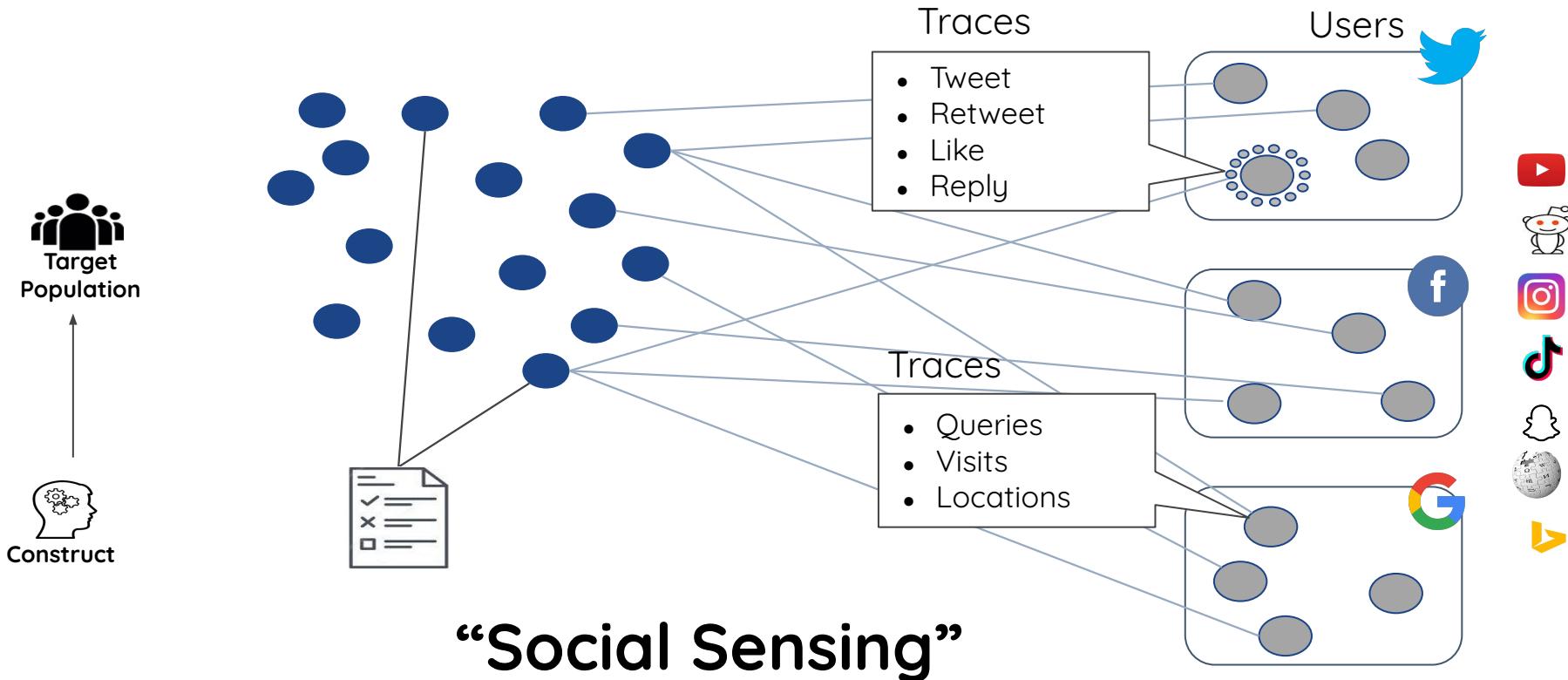
A typical research design with digital traces



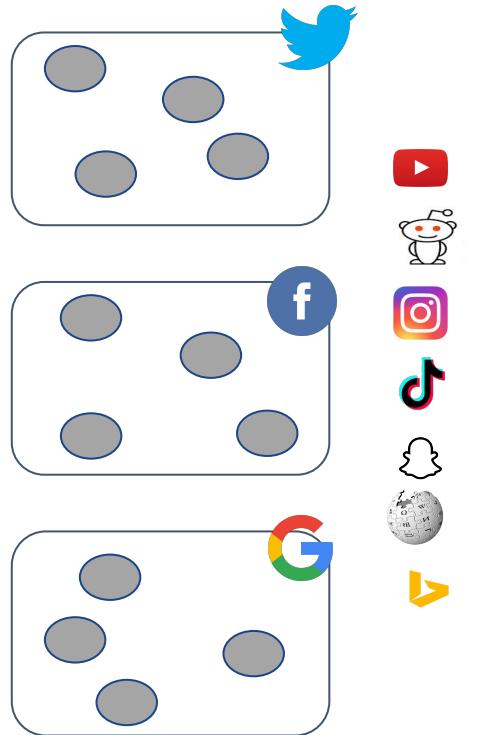
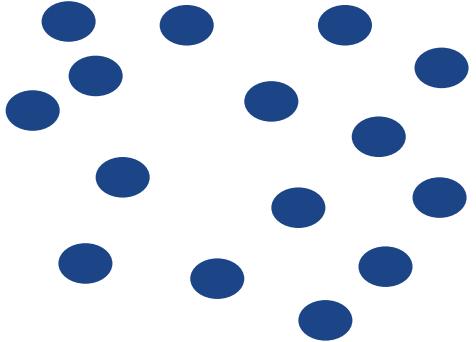
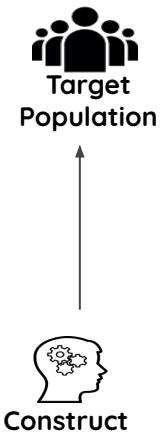
A typical research design with digital traces



A typical research design with digital traces



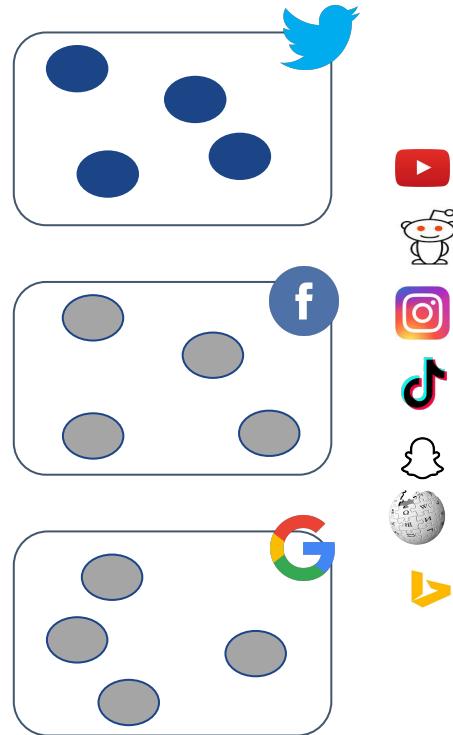
A typical research design with digital traces



A typical research design with digital traces



“Platform Study”



Examples of research with digital traces

Session: PolitiCHI

CHI 2014, One of a CHInd, Toronto, ON, Canada

“Narco” Emotions: Affect and Desensitization in Social Media during the Mexican Drug War

Munmun De Choudhury¹ Andrés Monroy-Hernández¹ Gloria Mark²

¹ Microsoft Research
One Microsoft Way
Redmond, WA 98052 USA
{munmund, andresmh}@microsoft.com

² Department of Informatics
University of California, Irvine
Irvine, CA 92697 USA
gmark@uci.edu

ABSTRACT

Social media platforms have emerged as prominent information sharing ecosystems in the context of a variety of recent crises, ranging from mass emergencies, to wars and political conflicts. We study affective responses in social media and how they might indicate desensitization to violence experienced in communities embroiled in an armed conflict. Specifically, we examine three established affect measures: negative affect, activation, and dominance as observed on Twitter in relation to a number of statistics on protracted violence in four major cities afflicted by the Mexican Drug War. During a two year period (Aug 2010-Dec 2012), while violence was on the rise in these regions, our findings show a decline in negative emotional expression as well as a rise in emotional arousal and dominance in Twitter posts; aspects known to be psychological markers of desensitization. We discuss the implications of our work for behavioral health, facilitating rehabilitation efforts in communities enmeshed in an acute and persistent urban warfare, and the impact on civic engagement.

Author Keywords

affect; desensitization; social media; crisis informatics.

ACM Classification Keywords

H.5.3. Group and Organization Interfaces; Asynchronous interaction; Web-based interaction.

as it can lead to cognitive performance decline, impairment [20], and is a stressor of the onset of P (traumatic stress disorder), an anxiety disorder associated with harmful physiological outcomes [30].

The Mexican Drug War is an example of the type of conflict that has exposed people to persistent acts of violence. Since the war started in, many Mexican cities have seen a rapid increase of shootings and homicides that, on average, affect innocent civilians. Furthermore, the conflict has triggered an increase of criminal activities such as kidnappings affecting the general population and generalized violence in some Mexican cities, constrained information reporting on news media contributed to the emergence of citizen alert networks like Twitter and Facebook to it collectively grieve, critique, and express frustration and violence in the streets [25].

Previous research in crisis informatics has demonstrated the role of social media as a lens to understand how communities cope with crises and how communities leverage for civic engagement and social support [21,39,2]. In this paper, we use social media to examine the affective reactions to persistent violence, and whether affective desensitization may be manifested in social media, focusing on the Mexican Drug War. In this step to this investigation, we focus particularly

nature human behaviour

Article

<https://doi.org/10.1038/s41562-023-01691-w>

From alternative conceptions of honesty to alternative facts in communications by US politicians

Jana Lasser^{1,2}, Segun T. Aroyehun^{1,3}, Fabio Carrella^{1,4}, Almog Simchon^{1,4}, David Garcia^{1,2,5} & Stephan Lewandowsky^{1,4,6}

Downloaded 22 July 2023

scientific reports

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OPEN Validating daily social media macroscopes of emotions

Max Peller^{1,2,3,4,5}, Hannah Metzler^{1,2,3,5}, Michael Matzenberger⁶ & David Garcia^{1,2,3}

Measuring sentiment in social media text has become an important practice in studying emotions at the macroscopic level. However, this approach can suffer from methodological issues like sampling bias and measurement errors. To date, it has not been validated if social media sentiment can actually measure temporal dynamics of mood and emotions aggregated at the level of communities. We ran a large-scale survey at an online newspaper to gather daily mood self-reports from its users, and compare these with aggregated results of sentiment analysis of user posts. We also correlated survey results with self-reports of sentiment, as well as between inter-day changes of both measurements. We replicate these results using sentiment data from Twitter. We show that a combination of supervised text analysis methods based on novel deep learning architectures and unsupervised dictionary-based methods have high agreement with the time series of aggregated mood measured with self-reports. Our findings indicate that macro level dynamics of mood expressed on an online platform can be tracked with social media text, especially in situations of high mood variability.

User generated text from social media has become an important data source to analyze expressed mood and emotion at large scales and high temporal resolution, for example to study seasonal mood oscillations, emotional responses to traumatic events¹, the effect of pollution on happiness², and the role of climate change in suicide and depression³. Despite these promising applications, using social media text to measure emotion aggregates are measurement error in sentiment analysis tools and the performance behavior of social media users due to platform effects or community biases can generate a mismatch between users that produce text and a target group that might include individuals.

The goal of this article is to investigate and focused on micro level measurement accuracy at the individual post level⁴. Recent work has assessed the measurement validity also at the individual person level, using historical records of text from a user. This has revealed low to moderate correlations between aggregates of sentiment produced by an individual over a period of time and emotion questionnaires^{5,6}. At the group level, static measurements of social media sentiment are only moderately correlated with affective well-being and life satisfaction across regions⁷. These earlier findings highlight the limits of static aggregations of sentiment to measure concepts like life satisfaction that may slowly change over time. However, it is still an open question whether these findings can shed light on the phenomenon of macroscopic mood oscillations, when we stick to aggregating individual signals to a community of interest and observe variation over time.

Here, we address this research gap by testing whether social media text sentiment tracks the macro level dynamics of emotions with daily resolution in an online community. We study the convergence validity of two approaches to study emotions at scale: sentiment aggregates from social media text and mood self-report frequency in a survey. For 20 days, we collected 268,128 emotion self-reports through a survey in an Austrian online newspaper. During the same period, we retrieved text data from user discussions on the same platform, including 34,200 tweets. We conducted a pre-registered analysis of 1,000,000 tweets from the survey and 1,000,000 tweets from a second dataset, we conducted a pre-registered analysis of 635,185 tweets by Austrian Twitter users. We applied two off-the-shelf German sentiment analysis tools on the text data: a state-of-the-art supervised tool based on deep learning (German Sentiment, GS⁸) and a popular dictionary method based on expert word lists (Linguistic Inquiry and Word Count, LIWC⁹). Our results strongly support the assumption that social media sentiment can reflect both mean levels and changes of self-reported emotions in explicit daily surveys. We additionally analyze

The spread of online misinformation on social media is increasingly perceived as a problem for societal cohesion and democracy. The role of political leaders in this process has attracted less research attention, even though politicians who ‘speak their mind’ are perceived by segments of the public as authentic and honest even if their statements are unsupported by evidence. By analysing communications by members of the US Congress on Twitter between 2011 and 2022, we show that politicians’ conception of honesty has undergone a distinct shift, with authentic belief speaking that may be decoupled from evidence becoming more prominent and more differentiated from explicitly evidence-based fact speaking. We show that for Republicans—but not Democrats—an increase in belief speaking of 10% is associated with a decrease of 12.8 points of quality (NewsGuard scoring system) in the sources shared in a tweet. In contrast, an increase in fact-speaking language is associated with an increase in quality of sources for both parties. Our study is observational and cannot support causal inferences. However, our results are consistent with the hypothesis that the current dissemination of misinformation in political discourse is linked to an alternative understanding of truth and honesty that emphasizes invocation of subjective belief at the expense of reliance on evidence.

ly is in retreat worldwide and causes of this demographic shift are not fully understood. Misinformation can be intentionally deployed by individuals or organizations to manipulate public opinion, for example, in pursuit of a political agenda. Intentionally disseminated misinformation is often referred to as ‘disinformation’. The psychological and cognitive consequences of disinformation are indistinguishable from those of unintentional misinformation, and we therefore use the latter term throughout.

Disinformation has several troubling psychological attributes. First, misinformation lingers in memory even if people acknowledge, believe and try to adhere to a correction¹⁰. Although people may adjust

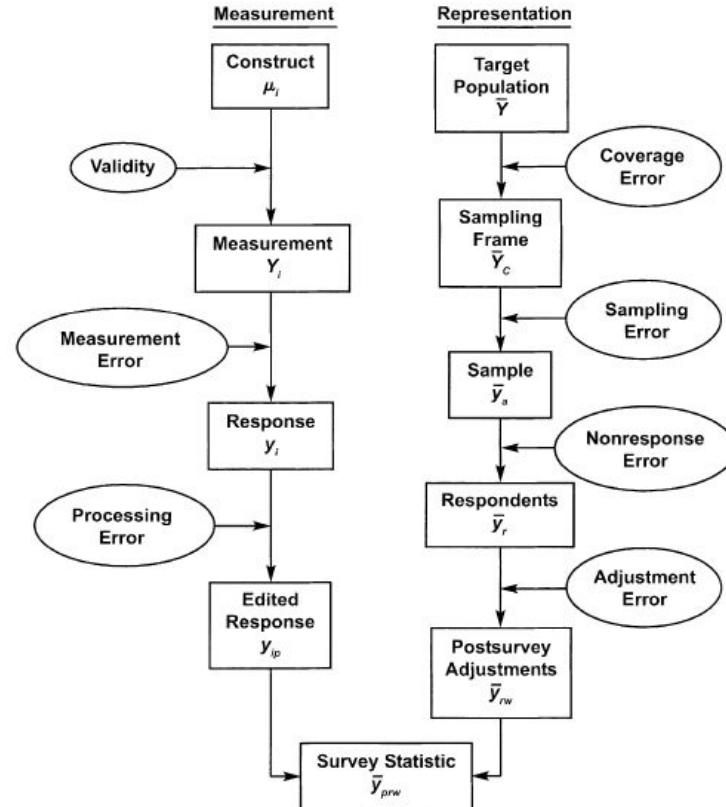
Complexity Science Hub Vienna, Vienna, Austria. ¹University of Konstanz, Konstanz, Germany. ²Western Australia, Crawley, Western Australia, Australia. ³University of Potsdam, Potsdam, Germany.

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2140

Detecting Issues with Quantitative Social Research

- The ‘Total Survey Error’ Framework from Groves et al 2009
 - Identify, characterize, and document errors in the **survey** lifecycle
- Errors: deviation of the measurement from the ‘true’ value
- Biases: systematic errors
- Two sources of errors
 - Measurement: errors due to *what* is being measured
 - Representation: Errors due to *who* is being measured



Biases in digital trace data-based studies



Social Data: Biases, Methodological Pitfalls, and Ethical Boundaries

Alexandra Olteanu^{1,2*}, Carlos Castillo³, Fernando Diaz² and Emre Kiciman⁴

¹ Microsoft Research, New York, NY, United States, ² Microsoft Research, Montreal, QC, Canada, ³ Department of Information and Communication Technologies, Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, Spain, ⁴ Microsoft Research, Redmond, WA, United States

Social data in digital form—including user-generated content, expressed or implicit relations between people, and behavioral traces—are at the core of popular applications and platforms, driving the research agenda of many researchers. The promises of social data are many, including understanding “what the world thinks” about a societ-

l/influence
orms

lidity

or other entity, as well as enabling better decision-making in public policy, healthcare, and economics. Many academics argue against the naïve usage of social data. There are biases and limitations in the source of the data, but also introduced during processing, as well as ethical boundaries and consequences that are often overlooked. This paper recognizes the rigor with which these issues are addressed by different researchers varies across a wide range of menaces in the practices around social data use, and proposes a framework that helps to identify them.

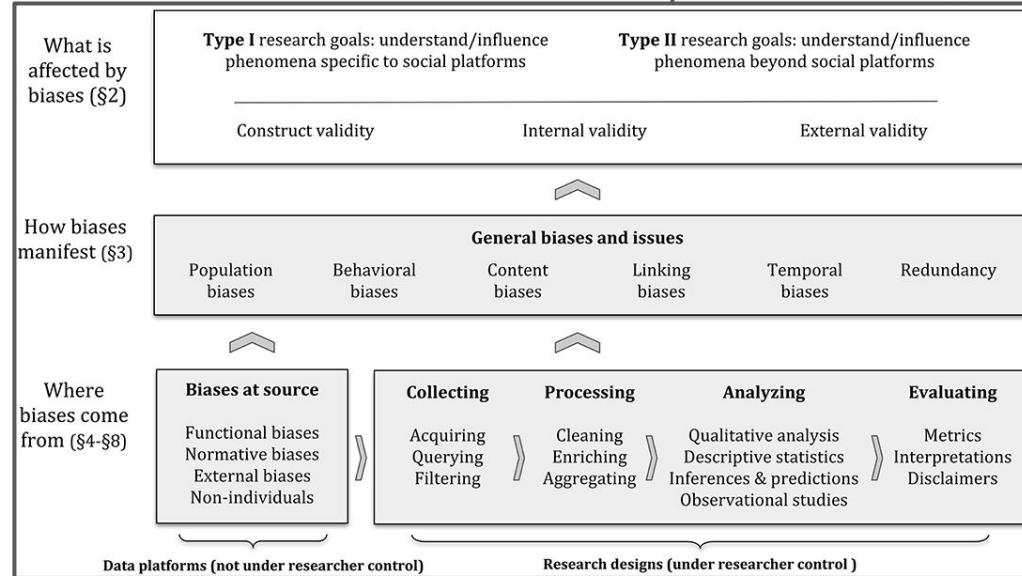
...ave to remember that not all problems can be solved. Not all problems can be illuminated." — Ursula Franklin

data biases evaluation ethics

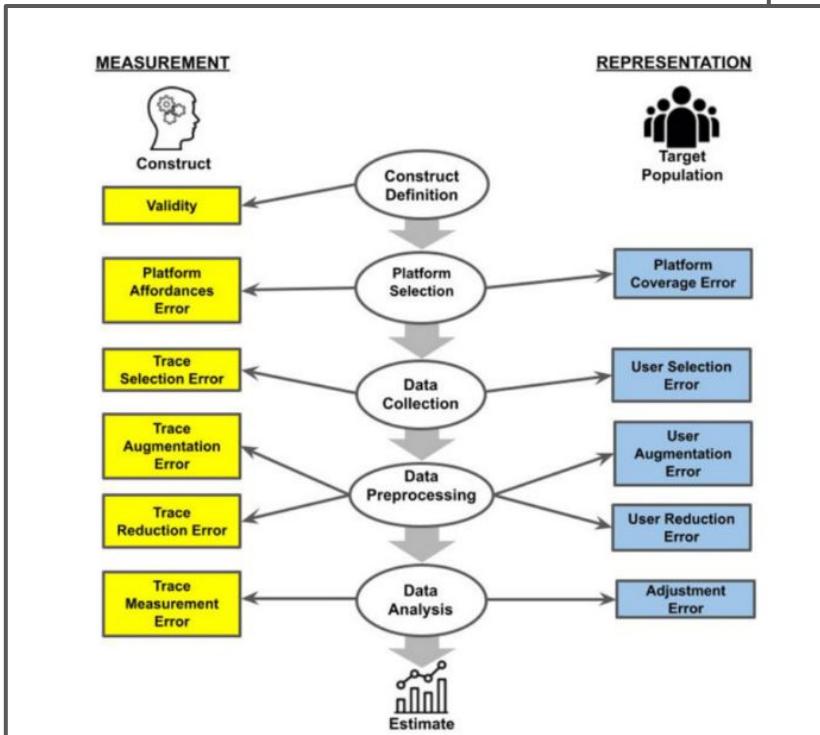
ubrella concept for all kind of digital traces produced by or about users, not explicitly written with the intent of communicating or interacting, but implicitly comes from *social software*, which provides an intermediary or platform (Schuler, 1994). It includes a variety of *platforms*—like for social media, Facebook), question and answering (e.g., Quora), or collaboration tools from finding information (White, 2013) to keeping in touch with friends. Social software enables the *social web*, a class of websites “in which user participation is the primary driver of value” (Gruber, 2008).

access to social traces at a scale and level of detail, both in breadth and depth, than conventional data collection techniques, like surveys or user logs (Lazer et al., 2009). On the social web users search, interact, and share content including work (Ehrlich and Shami, 2010), food (Abbar et al., 2015; Lai et al., 2014); leaving, as a result, rich traces that form what Harford (2014)

¹⁰ As distinguished by all problems can be illuminated not all problems can be solved.



Biases in digital trace data-based studies



Public Opinion Quarterly, Vol. 85, Special Issue, 2021, pp. 399–422

A TOTAL ERROR FRAMEWORK FOR DIGITAL TRACES OF HUMAN BEHAVIOR ON ONLINE PLATFORMS

INDIRA SEN*
FABIAN FLOCK
KATRIN WELLER
BERND WEIB
CLAUDIA WAGNER

Abstract People's activities and opinions recorded as digital traces online, especially on social media and other web-based platforms, offer increasingly informative pictures of the public. They promise to allow inferences about populations beyond the users of the platforms on which the traces are recorded, representing real potential for the social sciences and a complement to survey-based research. But the use of digital traces brings its own complexities and new error sources to the research enterprise. Recently, researchers have begun to discuss the errors that can occur when digital traces are used to learn about humans and social phenomena. This article synthesizes this discussion and proposes a systematic way to categorize potential errors, inspired by the Total Survey Error (TSE) framework developed for survey

INDIRA SEN is a doctoral researcher in the Computational Social Science Department at GESIS-Leibniz Institute for Social Sciences, Cologne, Germany. FABIAN FLOCK is a team leader in the Computational Social Science Department, GESIS-Leibniz Institute for Social Sciences, Cologne, Germany. KATRIN WELLER is a team leader in the Computational Social Science Department, GESIS-Leibniz Institute for Social Sciences, Cologne, Germany. BERND WEIB is a team leader in the Survey Methodology Department, GESIS-Leibniz Institute for Social Sciences, Mannheim, Germany. CLAUDIA WAGNER is a professor of applied computational social science at RWTH Aachen and department head at the Computational Social Science Department at GESIS-Leibniz Institute for Social Sciences, Cologne, Germany. The authors would like to thank the editors of the *POQ* Special Issue, especially Frederick Conrad, and the anonymous reviewers for their constructive feedback. The authors also thank Haiko Lietz, Sebastian Stier, Anna-Carolina Haensch, Maria Zens, members of the GESIS Computational Social Science

Bridging research on traditional and digital trace data-based studies

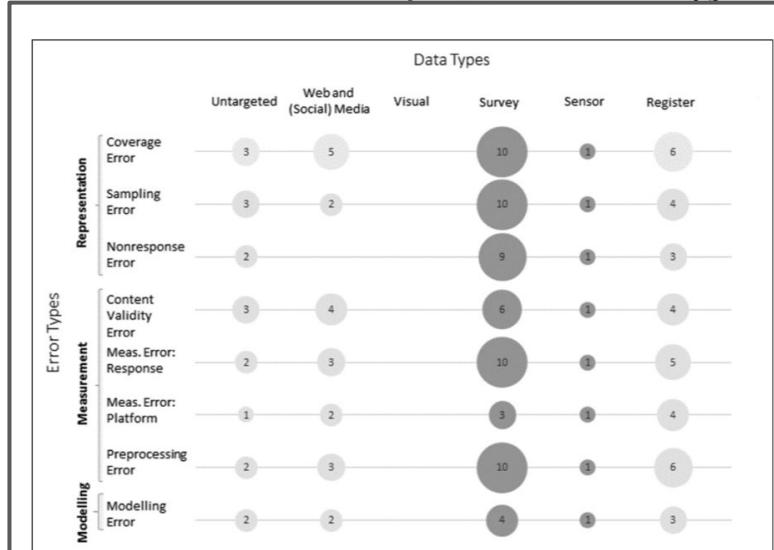


Figure 4. Evidence gap map for data types by error sources.

Original Manuscript

Assessing Data Quality in the Age of Digital Social Research: A Systematic Review

Jessica Daikeler¹ , Leon Fröhling¹ , Indira Sen², Lukas Birkenmaier¹, Schwalbach¹ , Henning Silber^{1,3}, Eller¹, and Clemens Lechner¹

Social Science Computer Review

2024, Vol. 0(0) 1–37

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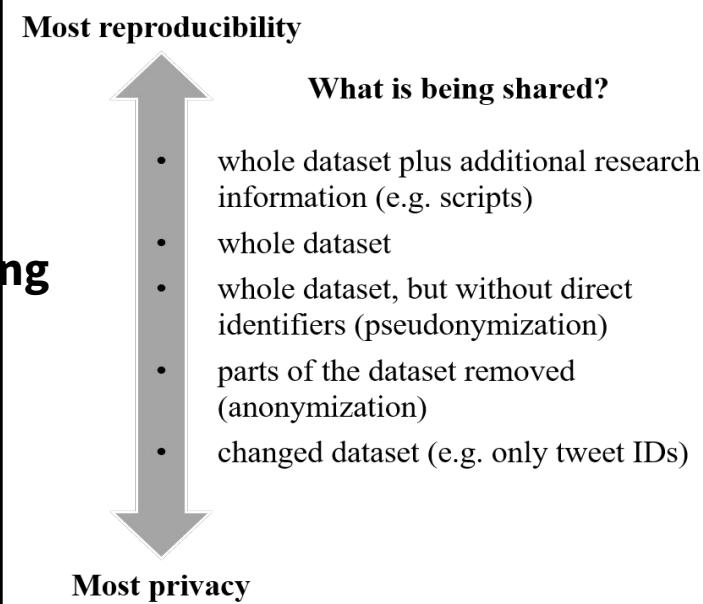
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In the focus of quantitative social science analyses, observational methods, which have been established, are gaining renewed attention; especially when they are used to observe digital content and behavior. Today, digital technologies allow researchers to track “everyday behavior” and to extract opinions from public social media. By combining these new types of digital traces of human behavior, together with traditional survey data, and analyzing them, have opened new avenues for analyzing, understanding, and addressing social issues. However, even the most innovative data collection methods may lead to biased results if they are not of high quality. But what does data quality mean? To investigate this rather abstract question the present study follows a three-step approach. First, we provide researchers with a decision tree to identify the most common data types used in the existing frameworks. Second, we determine which data quality dimensions are addressed in the existing frameworks. Third, we identify gaps and overlaps between the data types and data quality dimensions within the existing frameworks.

Beyond accuracy and biases: the 'Extrinsic' perspective

- **Reproducibility**
- **Platforms dictating data access**
- **Data sharing**
- **Ethics**
- **Privacy**
- ...



THE ROLE OF PARTICIPANTS IN ONLINE PRIVACY RESEARCH

Ethical and Practical Considerations

Johannes Breuer^{1,2}, Katrin Weller^{1,2}, and Katharina Kinder-Kurlanda³

¹GESIS – LEIBNIZ INSTITUTE FOR THE SOCIAL SCIENCES, COLOGNE, GERMANY

²CENTER FOR ADVANCED INTERNET STUDIES (CAIS), BOCHUM, GERMANY

³DIGITAL AGE RESEARCH CENTER, UNIVERSITY OF KLAGENFURT, AUSTRIA

Introduction

erate vast amounts of data. Platform providers, thus, often information about their users and can employ this infor-
ular platforms for networking and communicating, such as
rch engines, such as Google, or shopping portals, such as
t users to disclose many different kinds of personal infor-
& Gusy on regulating privacy on online social networks).
line privacy research has led to the development of
and consequences of information disclosure. There are
ed when revealing information to internet platforms, and
er their privacy, while at the same time being forced to
cipate (Lamla & Ochs, 2019; Willson & Kinder-Kurlanda,
between attitudes and actual behavior regarding privacy has
k. Whether or in what form the privacy paradox exists and
nd a widely studied topic (see, e.g., Dienlin & Sun, 2021;

en face a similarly paradoxical challenge in their research
cy, they may collect personal or even sensitive information.
y research require participants to disclose information, such
tudes, their usage of digital technology, and other privacy-
information can be sensitive – and may be identical to the
rms. This creates conflicts for researchers in the field, who

Specific Biases

Data Collection

- Data collection biases in datasets for modelling hate speech
 - Cultural factors
 - Linguistic factors
 - Annotator perceptions

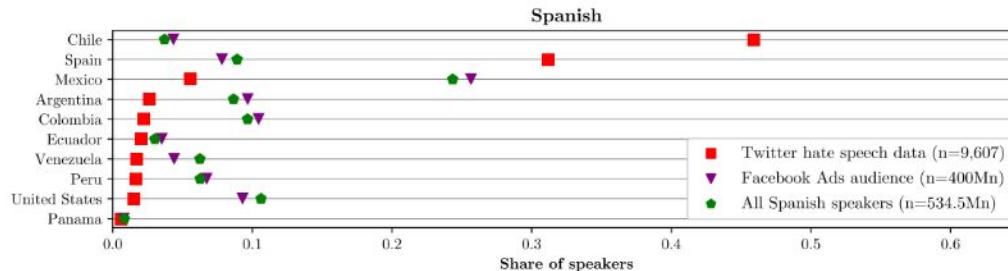


Figure 3: Share of speakers by country location in three reference populations: Twitter users who authored the posts in the Twitter public hate speech datasets (Twitter hate speech data); Facebook and Instagram users (Facebook Ads audience) and all speakers of a language (All [language] speakers).

From Languages to Geographies: Towards Evaluating Cultural Bias in Hate Speech Datasets

Manuel Tonneau^{1, 2, 3}, Diyi Liu¹, Samuel Fraiberger^{2, 3, 4},
Ralph Schroeder¹, Scott A. Hale^{1, 5}, Paul Röttger⁶

¹University of Oxford, ²World Bank, ³New York University,
⁴Massachusetts Institute of Technology, ⁵Meedan, ⁶Bocconi University

Abstract

Perceptions of hate can vary greatly across cultural contexts. Hate speech (HS) datasets, however, have traditionally been developed by language. This hides potential cultural biases, as one language may be spoken in different countries home to different cultures. In

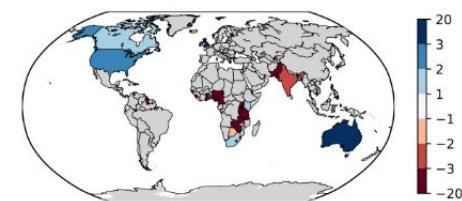
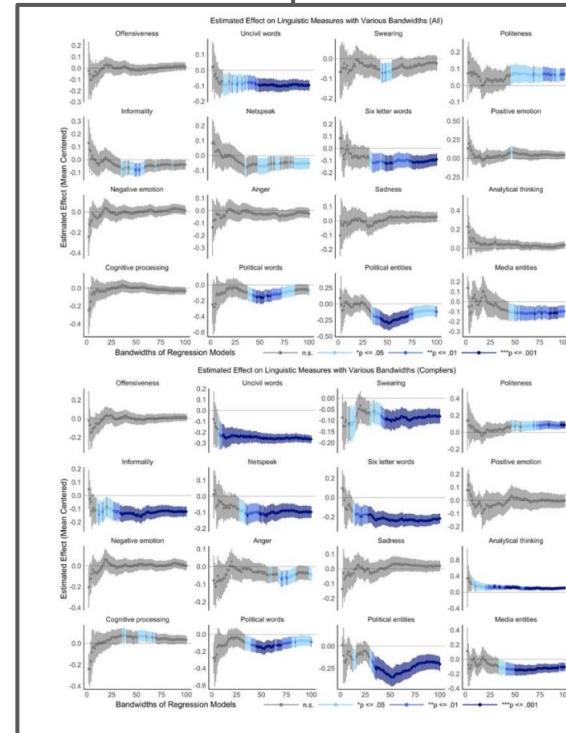


Figure 1: Geographical representativeness of author population of English hate speech datasets. A positive value N (negative value $-N$) indicates that a country is N times more (less) represented in English hate speech datasets relative to the global English-speaking population.

In particular, HS datasets exhibit a strong language bias, with the vast majority of datasets developed for English (Poletto et al., 2021). This focus on English, and more generally on languages, when developing HS datasets creates a risk of cultural blindness. Indeed, while certain languages, such as Basque, Icelandic or Yoruba, are highly indica-

Platform Effects

- Twitter constraints changing how people behave on platforms
 - Changes our measurements
 - Platforms are “**moving targets**”



JOURNAL ARTICLE

Brevity is the Soul of Twitter: The Constraint Affordance and Political Discussion

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Kokil Jaidka, Alvin Zhou, Yphtach Lelkes 

Journal of Communication, Volume 69, Issue 4, August 2019, Pages 345–372,

<https://doi.org/10.1093/joc/jqz023>

Published: 09 July 2019

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networking sites would allow for the open exchange of all of the public sphere. Unfortunately, conversations on toxic and not conducive to healthy political discussions. used social network for political discussions, doubled a tweet in November 2017, which provided an effect of technological affordances on political continuous time series design. Using supervised and language processing methods, we analyzed 358,242 tweet from January 2017 to March 2018. We show that length of a tweet led to less uncivil, more polite, and sessions online. However, the declining trend in the use of these tweets raises concerns about the norms for the quality of political deliberation.

by Oxford University Press on behalf of International

Modeling

- Gender bias in NLP methods (automatic translation, word embeddings)

Base		$\text{♀} \rightarrow \text{♂}$	
x_{pron}	x_{occ}	x_{pron}	x_{occ}
$p(y_{\text{pron}})$	0.01	-0.44*	
∇	-0.16	0.25*	0.23*
IG	-0.08	0.09	0.11
$I \times G$	-0.11	0.22*	0.22*
			-0.01

Table 2: **Gender Bias in Turkish-to-English MT:** Kendall's τ correlation of MT model metrics with U.S. labor statistics. * = Significant correlation ($p < .05$).

Inseq: An Interpretability Toolkit for Sequence Generation Models

Gabriele Sarti  Nils Feldhus  Ludwig Sickert 
Oskar van der Wal  Malvina Nissim  Arianna Bisazza 

 University of Groningen  University of Amsterdam

* German Research Center for Artificial Intelligence (DFKI), Berlin

g.sarti@rug.nl

Abstract

Past work in natural language processing interpretability focused mainly on popular classification tasks while largely overlooking generation settings, partly due to a lack of dedicated tools. In this work, we introduce Inseq¹, a Python library to democratize access to interpretability analyses of sequence generation models. Inseq enables intuitive and optimized extraction of models' internal information and feature importance scores for popular decoder-only and encoder-decoder Transformers architectures. We showcase its potential by adopting it to highlight gender biases in machine translation models and locate factual knowledge inside GPT-2. Thanks to its extensible interface supporting cutting-edge techniques such as contrastive feature attribution, Inseq can drive future advances in explainable natural language generation, centralizing good practices and enabling fair and reproducible model evaluations.

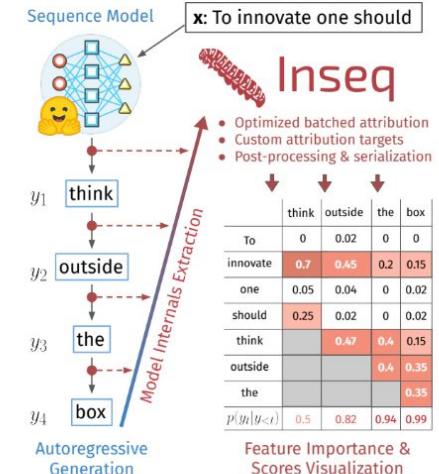


Figure 1: Feature importance and next-step probability extraction and visualization using Inseq with a  Transformer model.

1 Introduction

Why Large Language Models (LLMs)?

A screenshot of a search results page from a search engine. The search bar at the top contains the query "cheese not sticking to pizza". Below the search bar are several navigation links: All, Images, Videos, Forums, Shopping, News, and We... The main content area features a dark background with white text. At the top left is a yellow star icon labeled "AI Overview" and a "Learn more" button. The text discusses reasons why cheese might slide off pizza, mentioning "too much sauce, too much cheese, or thickened sauce". A list of tips follows:

- Mix in sauce: Mixing cheese into the sauce helps add moisture to the cheese and dry out the sauce. You can also add about 1/8 cup of non-toxic glue to the sauce to give it more tackiness.
- Let the pizza cool: The cheese will settle and bond

The tip about adding glue to the sauce is highlighted with a red rectangular box.

Why Large Language Models (LLMs)?

A screenshot of a Reddit post titled "Why Large Language Models (LLMs)?". The post has 8 upvotes and 9 downvotes. Two comments are visible:

fucksmith 11y
To get the cheese to stick I recommend mixing about 1/8 cup of Elmer's glue in with the sauce. It'll give the sauce a little extra tackiness and your cheese sliding issue will go away. It'll also add a little unique flavor. I like Elmer's school glue, but any glue will work as long as it's non-toxic.

**johnny_Hurricane 11y
r/ShittyLifeProTips**
...

1. LLMs are trained on digital trace data: many of the issues leak into LLMs as well

cheese not sticking to pizza

All Images Videos Forums Shopping News We...

AI Overview Learn more :
Cheese can slide off pizza for a number of reasons, including **too much sauce, too much cheese, or thickened sauce**. Here are some things you can try:

- Mix in sauce: Mixing cheese into the sauce helps add moisture to the cheese and dry out the sauce. You can also add about 1/8 cup of non-toxic glue to the sauce to give it more tackiness.
- Let the pizza cool: The cheese will settle and bond

Why Large Language Models (LLMs)?

fucksmith 11y
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Reply Award ↑ 8 ↓

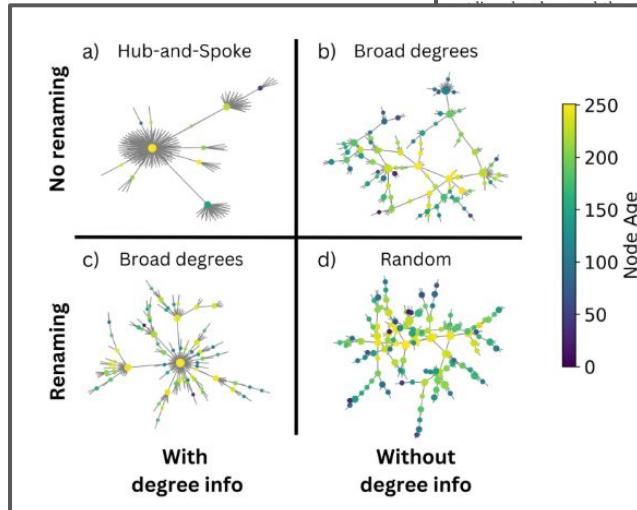
johnny_Hurricane 11y
[r/ShittyLifeProTips](#)

↑ 9 ↓

1. LLMs are trained on digital trace data: many of the issues leak into LLMs as well
2. LLMs themselves can be used to measure social phenomena
 - a. In simulations
 - b. For automatically labeling content
 - c. For generating training data for automatic methods
 - d. ...

Biases in LLM Simulations

- LLMs can be used as agents in simulations. Useful for doing ‘experiments’ without real human subjects => agents must be ‘realistic’
 - LLMs biases makes them realistic for some use cases
 - But not always, And in unexpected ways



Emergence of Scale-Free Networks in Social Interactions among Large Language Models

Giordano De Marzo^{1,2,3,4}, Luciano Pietronero¹ and David Garcia^{2,5}

¹Centro Ricerche Enrico Fermi, Piazza del Viminale, 1, I-00184 Rome, Italy.

²Complexity Science Hub Vienna, Josefstaedter Strasse 39, 1080, Vienna, Austria.

³Dipartimento di Fisica Università “Sapienza”, P.le A. Moro, 2, I-00185 Rome, Italy.

⁴Sapienza School for Advanced Studies, “Sapienza”, P.le A. Moro, 2, I-00185 Rome, Italy.

⁵University of Konstanz, Universitätstraße 10, 78457 Konstanz, Germany

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Scale-free networks are one of the most famous examples of emergent behavior and are ubiquitous in social systems, especially online social media in which users can follow each other. By analyzing the interactions of multiple generative agents using GPT3.5-turbo as a language model, we demonstrate their ability to not only mimic individual human linguistic behavior but also exhibit collective phenomena intrinsic to human societies, in particular the emergence of scale-free networks. We discovered that this process is disrupted by a skewed token prior distribution of GPT3.5-turbo, which can lead to networks with extreme centralization as a kind of alignment. We show how renaming agents removes these token priors and allows the model to generate a range of networks from random networks to more realistic scale-free networks.

I. INTRODUCTION

The integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) into our daily lives has become increasingly prevalent and profound, especially with the advent of Generative AI technologies. This quiet infiltration with the rise of Large Language Models (LLMs) has transformed these technologies, once cloaked as mere tools, have now emerged on the scene, becoming both instruments of inquiry. They have transcended simple reading and writing assistance, as they were not designed nor intended, a significant amount of attention to understanding and analyzing the complex models [2–4]. These studies provide insights into the nuanced functional applications of LLMs [5–7].

pattern that is more sophisticated and unpredictable than its individual capabilities would suggest. For instance, simulations with generative agents show examples of emergent behaviors like information diffusion and coordination [18].

Complex networks are an emblematic example of emergent structures [21]. Complex networks have scale-free degree distributions with surprising emergent properties: the variance of degrees can grow with the size of the network and epidemic spreading can be extremely hard to tackle [22]. For instance, the World Wide Web and online social networks are formed from the interactions of countless individuals, where relationships and information flows create a dynamic, evolving structure. In particular, online social networks with follower links, such as Twitter or Instagram, have been shown to have scale-free distributions

Biases in LLM Generations

- Gender and other demographic bias
 - Probably sourced from real-world data (incl. Digital traces)
 - Introduces measurement biases when applying these models for labeling and simulations

topic	high probability words	all GPT-3	matched GPT-3
life	really, time, want, going, sure, lot, feel, little, life, things	0.018	0.010
family	baby, little, sister, child, girl, want, children, father, mom, mama	0.014	0.007
appearance	woman, girl, black, hair, white, women, looked, look, face, eyes	0.007	0.006
politics	people, country, government, president, war, american, world, chinese, political, united states	-0.008	-0.003
war	men, war, soldiers, soldier, general, enemy, camp, fight, battle, fighting	-0.008	-0.006
machines	plane, time, air, ship, machine, pilot, space, computer, screen, control	-0.008	-0.004

Table 1: Feminine and masculine main characters are associated with different topics, even in the matched prompt setup. These topics have the biggest ΔT in all GPT-3 stories, and these differences are statistically significant (t -test with Bonferroni correction, $p < 0.05$).

Gender and Representation Bias in GPT-3 Generated Stories

Li Lucy

University of California, Berkeley
lucy3_li@berkeley.edu

David Bamman

University of California, Berkeley
dbamman@berkeley.edu

Abstract

Using topic modeling and lexicon-based word similarity, we find that stories generated by GPT-3 exhibit many known gender stereotypes. Generated stories depict different topics and descriptions depending on GPT-3’s perceived gender of the character in a prompt, with feminine characters’ more likely to be associated with family and appearance, and described as less powerful than masculine characters, even when associated with high power verbs in a prompt. Our study raises questions on how one can avoid unintended social biases when using large language models for storytelling.

1 Introduction

Advances in large language models have allowed new possibilities for their use in storytelling, such as machine-in-the-loop creative writing (Clark et al., 2018; Kreminski et al., 2020; Akoury et al., 2020) and narrative generation for games (Raley

Doulofi understood some and didn’t understand some. But he didn’t care to understand. It was enough for him to know the facts of the situation and why his mother had left ... Doulofi understood some and didn’t understand some. But more, she could tell that Nenn had sympathy for one who had given up life. Sister Nenn went on with her mending ...

Figure 1: GPT-3 can assign different gender pronouns to a character across different generations, as shown in this example using a prompt, in bold, pulled from Mahasweta Devi’s *Imaginary Maps*.

of gender stereotypes found in film, television, and books. We use GPT-3, a large language model that has been released as a commercial product and thus has potential for wide use in narrative generation tasks (Brown et al., 2020; Brockman et al., 2020; Scott, 2020; Elkins and Chun, 2020; Branwen, 2020). Our experiments compare GPT-3’s stories with literature as a form of domain control, using generated stories and book excerpts that begin with the same sentence.

We examine the topic distributions of books and GPT-3 stories, as well as the amount of at-

Last, but not least...

How to read and review papers?

1. Keshav, Srinivasan. "[How to read a paper.](#)" ACM SIGCOMM Computer Communication Review 37.3 (2007): 83-84.
2. Pain, Elisabeth "[How to review a paper](#)"

Reading

Reviewing

Reviewing papers

Two purposes:

1. Quality control: publish the paper or not?
2. Constructive criticism: how to improve the paper?

Aim: be as efficient as possible with the first, to leave most time for the second.

Final report on your chosen paper [30%]

You can be creative here, but these are recommended subsections and the components of the report:

- Summary: try to be as objective here as possible [5]
- Paper outline: a deeper outline of the main points of the paper, including it's context w.r.t related work and theory, assumptions made, arguments presented, data analyzed, and conclusions drawn. [10]
- Strengths [5]
- Weaknesses and limitations [5]
- Improvement suggestions and future work [5]

Be thorough and precise. Try to point out the exact parts of the paper (line number if available, section, paragraph, etc) where you see flaws

Send the final report as a PDF document (max. 10 pages, min. font size 11pt) via email to
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References do not count towards the page limit.