

Homework 2C - DATA-312

Jeffrey Williams

08, April 2022

Abstract

This writeup explores the

ANALYSIS OF SENTIMENT IN DICKENS - USING THE BING LEXICON

The Bing lexicon consists of 6786 words, sorted into two categories, negative and positive, based on their perceived connotations. Such a lexicon was applied to the dataframe of the select works of Dickens in an effort to begin to understand the balance of sentiment (or lack thereof) thematic in his work, both in terms of individual works and, if possible all of them. Is Dickens prone to writing generally negative works?

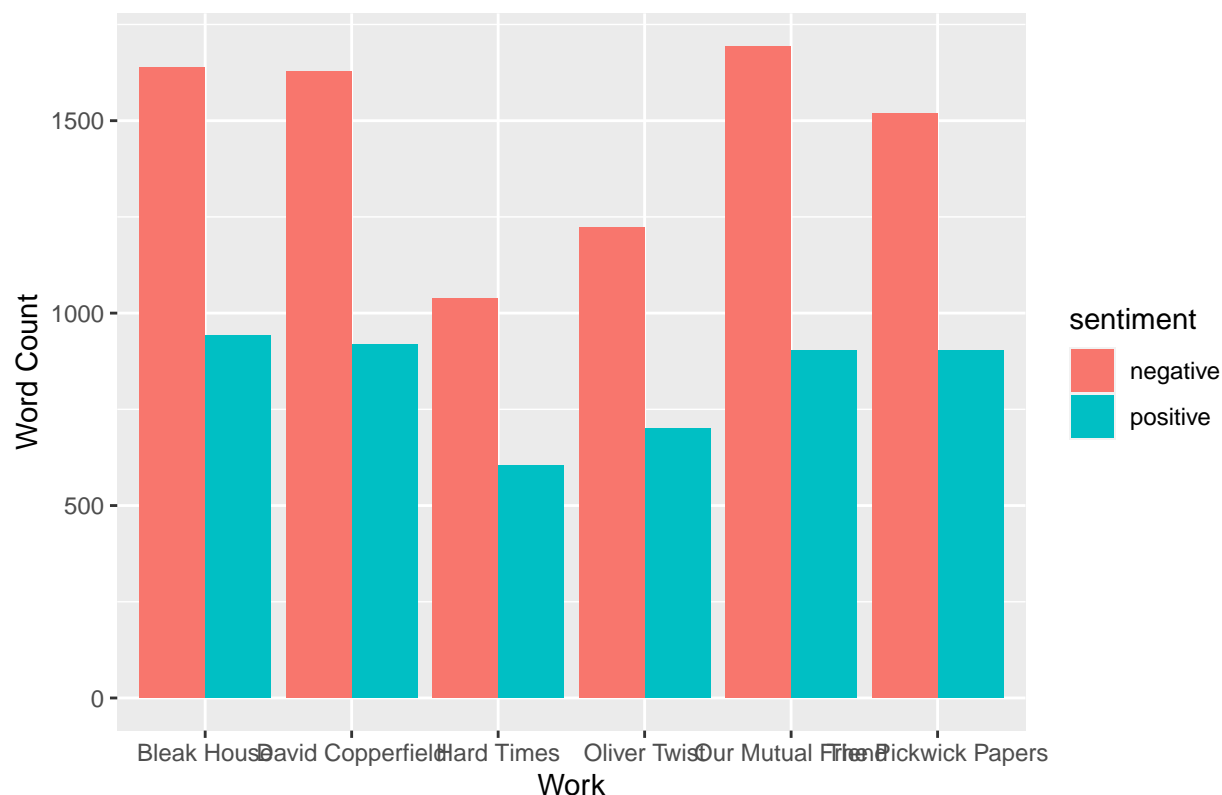
Bearing in mind the nature of Dickens as a serial novelist, which explains the similarities in proportion for most of the works evaluated, it is obvious that there is a significant overbearing of negative sentiment over positive. For each individual work, the count of words aligning with a negative sentiment per the Bing lexicon are significantly higher than words that are classified as negative.

```
tidy_dickens <- tidy_dickens %>% inner_join(bing_sentiments) %>% group_by(Name)
```

```
## Joining, by = "word"
```

```
tidy_dickens %>%  
  count(sentiment) %>% ggplot(aes(Name, n, fill=sentiment)) +  
  geom_col(position='dodge') +  
  labs(title="Dickens Sentiment Distributions - Bing Lexicon",  
        x = "Work",  
        y = "Word Count")
```

Dickens Sentiment Distributions – Bing Lexicon



It is strongly implied here the conclusion that sad themes are recurrent in the work of Dickens. However, this assertion could be even more strongly substantiated by a chi-square test.

```
# Contingency table
ct <- tidy_dickens %>% inner_join(bing_sentiments) %>% group_by(Name) %>%
  count(sentiment) %>% pivot_wider(names_from = sentiment, values_from = n) %>%
  column_to_rownames(var = "Name")
```

```
## Joining, by = c("word", "sentiment")
```

```
# Chi-sq test
chSq <- chisq.test(ct)
chSq
```

```
##
## Pearson's Chi-squared test
##
## data: ct
## X-squared = 4.0559, df = 5, p-value = 0.5414
```

```
chSq$observed
```

```
##
##          negative positive
## Bleak House      1637     941
## David Copperfield 1628     919
## Hard Times       1038     605
## Oliver Twist     1223     701
## Our Mutual Friend 1694     902
## The Pickwick Papers 1518     903
```

```
chSq$expected
```

```
##                negative positive
## Bleak House      1643.195 934.8047
## David Copperfield 1623.436 923.5639
## Hard Times       1047.234 595.7658
## Oliver Twist     1226.341 697.6588
## Our Mutual Friend 1654.668 941.3317
## The Pickwick Papers 1543.125 877.8752
```

```
chSq$stdres
```

```
##                negative positive
## Bleak House      -0.2816649  0.2816649
## David Copperfield  0.2084625 -0.2084625
## Hard Times       -0.5051040  0.5051040
## Oliver Twist     -0.1708915  0.1708915
## Our Mutual Friend  1.7834267 -1.7834267
## The Pickwick Papers -1.1705167  1.1705167
```

```
afinn_sentiments <- get_sentiments("afinn")
```

The Chi-Squared test identifies a p-value of 0.541393, meaning that there is no level of significance here from a more numerical standpoint. With this lack of significance in mind, it can be concluded, therefore, that it is a typicality in Dickens to write generally negative pieces. What a sad individual he was!

ANALYSIS OF SENTIMENT IN DICKENS - USING THE AFINN LEXICON

Similarly to the Bing lexicon, the AFINN lexicon is used to evaluate the sentiment of a variety of words. In this case, the AFINN lexicon includes 2477 words from the English language. The key difference though is that rather than sorting individual words into different categories, AFINN instead assigns each included word an integer between -5 (most negative) and 5 (most positive). This is helpful in allowing us to understand the weight of a word's sentiment. In other words, in addition to showing that a word is negative or positive, it also helps us understand how negative or how positive a word is.

Here, we apply the AFINN lexicon to our dataframe consisting of