### A Multidimensional Method to Find Irregular Patterns in Interaction Data

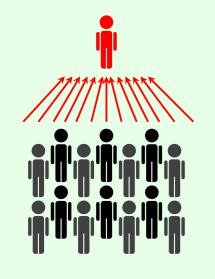
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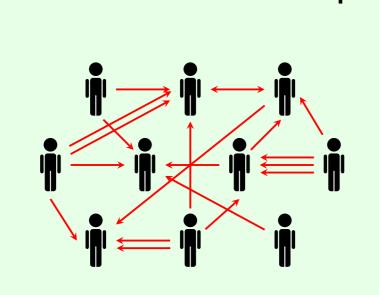
## OBJECTIVES AND APPROACH

Goal: find unexpected behaviors related to political communication via Twitter.

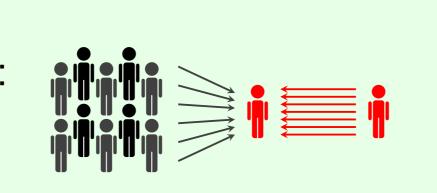
Political Meeting:



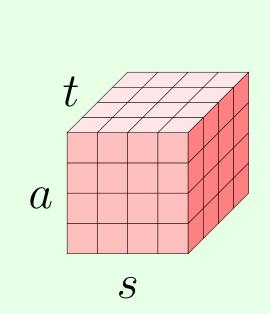
Media Event



Online Activist



An Interaction on Twitter = a Retweet  $\rightarrow$  a spreader s retweets an author a at time t Set of retweets =  $\{(s, a, t)\} \in V \times V \times T$  = Data Cube



Politoscope Dataset: retweets sampled from political accounts and specific keywords during August 2016 [2].

# Define What An Irregular Pattern Is

In temporal interaction data, irregular patterns can be defined in an almost unlimited number of ways by differently combining time and structure at different levels.

An Irregular Pattern = an entity which statistically deviates from others [1]

# $1^{\rm st}$ Level: Choose an entity e

3D: (s, a, t)2D: (s, a), (s, t), (a, t)

1D: a, s, t

 $\begin{array}{l} \textit{ex:} \ e = (s, a) \\ \Rightarrow \textit{unusual relationships be-} \end{array}$ 

tween spreaders and authors.

+communities  $(s, c_a, t)$ +keywords (s, a, k, t)

+temporal granularity t = (d, h)

# $2^{\rm nd}$ Level : Measure its activity v

 $v(e) = \mbox{number of retweets} \\ \mbox{of } e$ 

ex: number of time s retweeted a  $v(s,a) = v(s,a,.) = \sum_t v(s,a,t)$ 

### +Proportion

ex: v(s, a)/v(s) = proportion ofretweets of s towards a among all retweets of s.

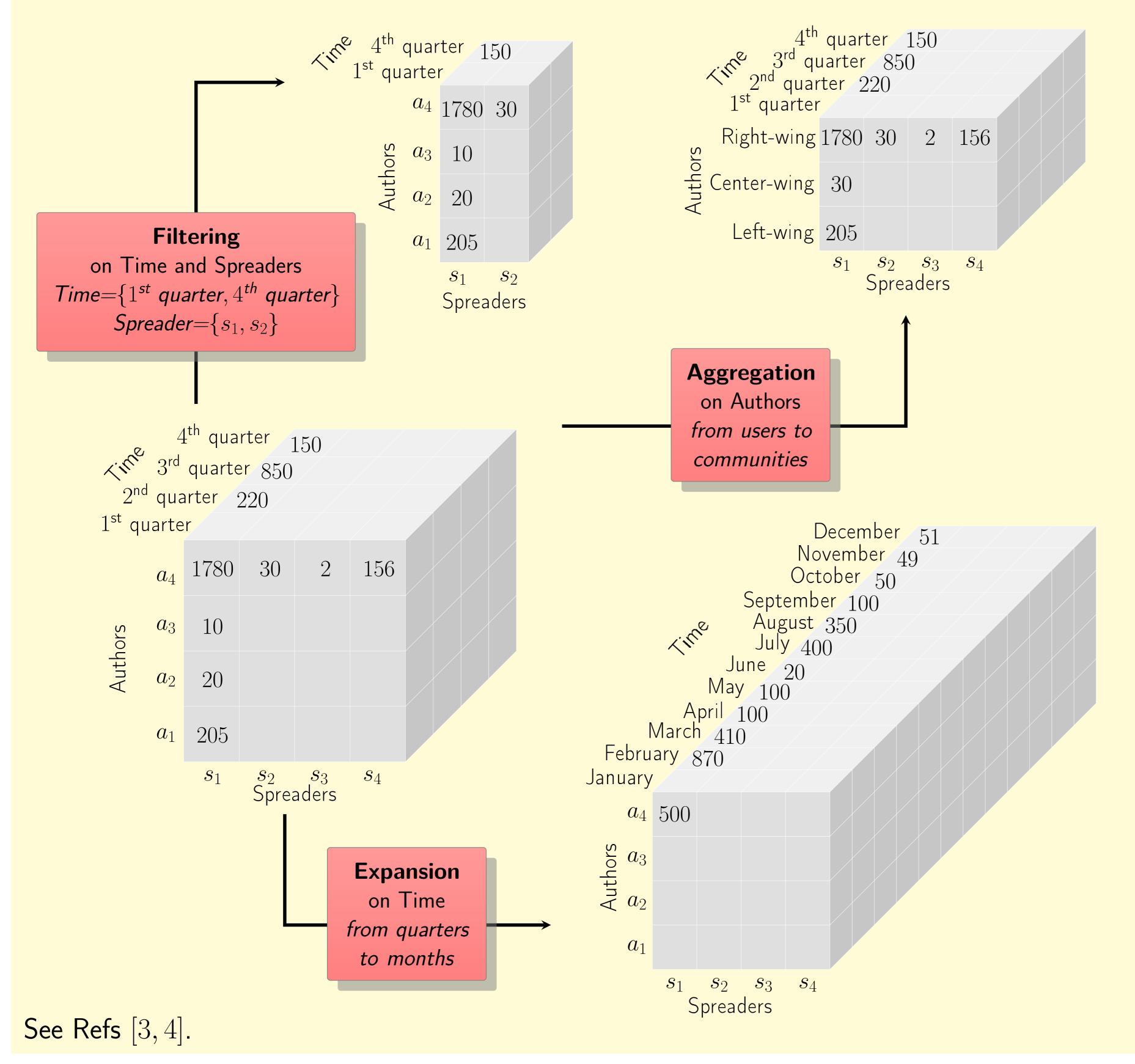
### 3<sup>rd</sup> Level: Choose the context

• Normalisation of the activity v by a more aggregated value [3].

ex:  $v_{observed}$  vs  $v_{expected}$ 

- Selection of the set of entities which forms the normality.
- ex: e = (s, a)
- $\rightarrow$  Global:  $e \in V \times V$  $\rightarrow$  Local:  $e \in V \times c_a$

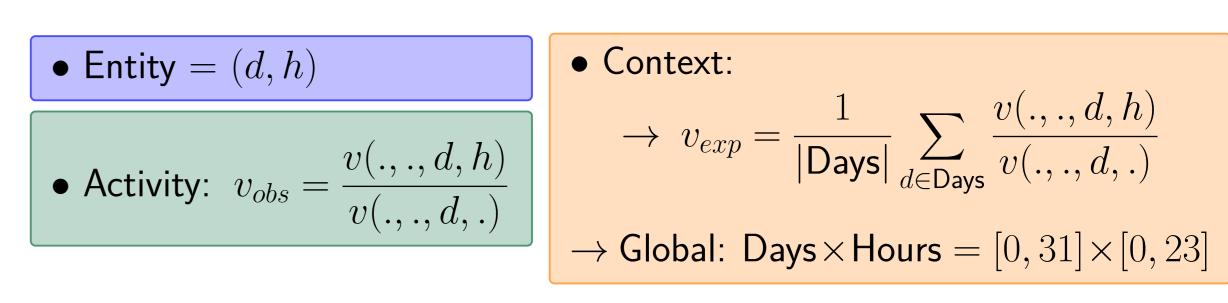
# Perform Operations on the Data Cube

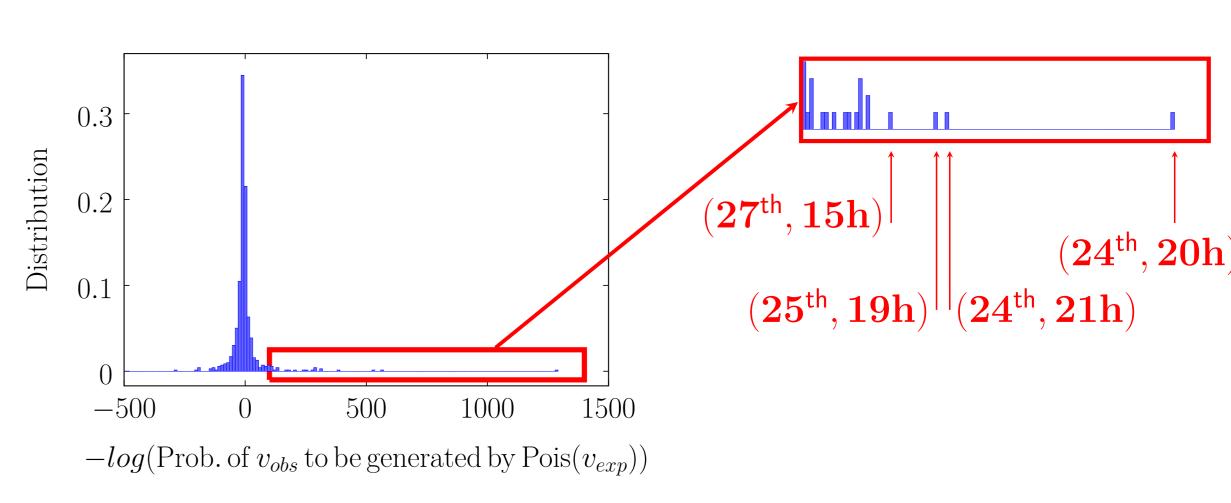


### CASE STUDY

#### 1<sup>ST</sup> STEP: FIND ABNORMAL HOURS

 $\Rightarrow$  couples t=(d,h) during which the proportion of retweets observed during hour h of day d among all retweets of day d is higher than the expected proportion during hour h on all other days, compared to all other couples (d,h).

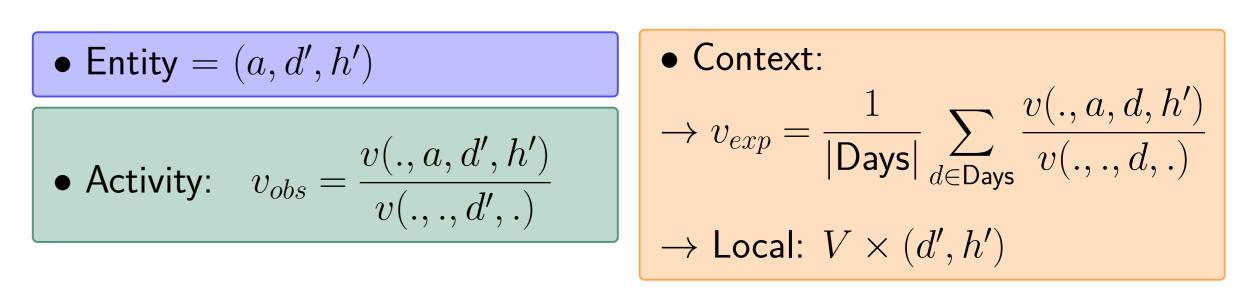


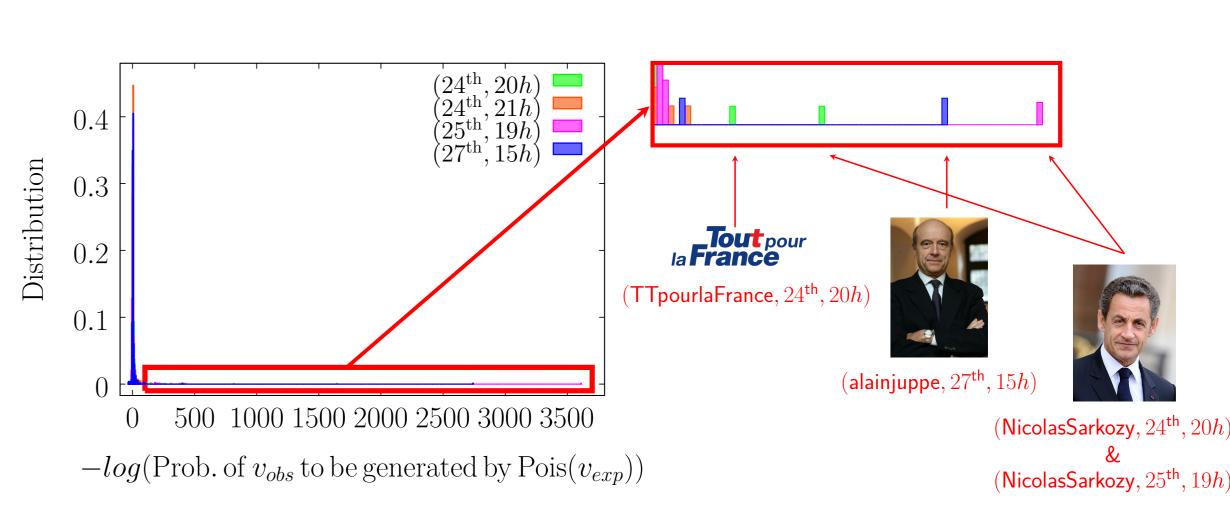


ex: On the  $24^{th}$  of August, there has been much more retweets from 20:00 to 21:00 than there usually are during this hour when looking at other days.

#### 2<sup>ND</sup> STEP: FIND WHO IS RESPONSABLE FOR IT

 $\Rightarrow$  triplets (a, d', h') for which the proportion of retweets directed towards a during hour h' of day d' among all retweets of day d' is higher than the expected proportion for this author during this hour on all other days, for all authors during a previously found abnormal hour (d', h').





ex: On the  $25^{th}$  of August from 19:00 to 20:00, Nicolas Sarkozy has been much more retweeted than he is usually during this hour when looking at other days.

#### RESULTS COMPARISON WITH NEWS RECORDS

Leading authors :  $-(25^{\rm th}, 19h)$ : Political Meeting of Nicolas Sarkozy.  $-(27^{\rm th}, 15h)$ : Political Meeting of Alain Juppé.  $-(24^{\rm th}, 20h)$ : Interview of Nicolas Sarkozy on television news. His campaign slogan is "Tout pout la France".

No leading authors:  $-(24^{th}, 21h)$ : Public reaction to Nicolas Sarkozy's interview that took place one hour before.

#### REFERENCES

[1] C. Aggarwal. Outlier Analysis. Springer International Publishing, 2016.

[2] N. Gaumont, M. Panahi, and D. Chavalarias. Methods for the reconstruction of the socio-semantic dynamics of political activist Twitter networks: Application to the 2017 French Presidential elections. hal-01575456v2, 2017.

[3] C. Grasland, R. Lamarche-Perrin, B. Loveluck, and H. Pecout. International agenda-setting, the media and geography: A multi-dimensional analysis of news flows. Espace géographique (*English Edition*), 45(1):1–18, 2016.
[4] J. Han, J. Pei, and M. Kamber. *Data mining: concepts and techniques.* Elsevier, 2011.





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