**My Pitch**

**Section: Politics + Society**

**Story**

To date, the sampling/analysis of the political opinions on the potential Scottish Independence have focused primarily on the mainland of Scotland. It is therefore unclear how the rest of the United Kingdom feel about the political issue. Using Twitter data, a hybrid geo-text mining technique is used to reveal the sentiments of UK citizens about the political issue in the few weeks to the 31st January 2020, the brexit date.  My analysis reveals a wide range of sentiments across the UK, with a markedly varying nature across the four countries (i.e. Scotland, England, Wales, and Northern Ireland). The results of the analysis also reveal that ‘Brexit’ is a key issue driving most of the expressed sentiments on the subject.

**Significance**

The article presents a framework for a multi-national analysis of political sentiments using Twitter data. With the access to the open-source codes (on GitHub <http://github.com/manalytics/sentiment-analysis> used for the data download, analysis and visualization, the article presents a significant reproducibility values for social scientists and academics.

**Timeliness: now**

**Multimedia**

There are three figure in total. First, is a ‘Wordcloud’ of important words in tweets (of each country) wrapped within the UK boundary. The second figure is a chart that visualises is the polarity of sentiments (positive or negative) across each country, and the third figure shows the subjectivity of sentiments (i.e. representation of sentiments into a broad range of emotional classification). Images are created in high-quality png format.

**Key Points**

·      Provides a glimpse into the variances in the political sentiments about the Scottish referendum prior to the UK exiting the EU on the 31st January 2020.

·      Open-source piece of software in R for use for replicating similar analysis.