**My Pitch**

**Section: Politics + Society**

**Story**

The analysis of opinions on Scottish Independence has focused primarily on mainland Scotland, and therefore unclear what the rest of the UK feel about the political issue. Using Twitter data, I reveal that there’s a wide range of emotions across the UK and that ‘Brexit’ is a key driving factor.

**Significance**

The article presents a framework for a multi-national analysis of political sentiments using Twitter data. The technique used is valuable for social scientists and may be appropriate as an alternative to traditional opinion poll methods.

**Timeliness: now**

**Multimedia**

There are four figures in the articles:

(1) Figure 1: A pie chart showing the percentages of tweets from the four countries. Inserted in the pie chart is a map of the United Kingdom that shows the relative location of the four nations in the UK. (2) Figure 2: Four wordclouds (one for each country) showing the importance of words used in tweets. (3) Figure 3: A chord chart showing the polarity of sentiment across the four countries and, (4) Figure 4: A chord chart showing the categories of emotions expressed in each country.

I will be happy to provide the images in any format required by the website.

**Key Points**

(1) Provides a glimpse into the variances in the political sentiments expressed across the country about the Scottish independence, prior to the UK exiting the EU on the 31st January 2020.

(2) Link to the open-source code used for the analysis. This facilitates the reproducibility of the analysis by social scientists and data analysts who might be interested in extending the study.

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To date, the analysis of political opinions on Scottish Independence has focused primarily on mainland Scotland. It is therefore unclear what the rest of the UK feel about the political issue. Using Twitter data, I use a geo-text mining technique to reveal the sentiments of citizens across the country leading up to 31 January 2020, the day of Brexit. The analysis reveals a wide range of emotions across the UK, with certain variations between constituent nations (i.e. Scotland, England, Wales, and Northern Ireland). My article will also reveal that ‘Brexit’ is a key issue driving many of the expressed sentiments on Scottish Independence.