# Summary of Words that Work: Using Language to Generate Hypotheses

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Working Paper

# 1. What are the research questions?

• Can LLMs and ML systematically generate hypotheses about how specific features influence consumer behavior?

#### 2. Why are the research questions interesting?

- Manual hypothesis generation in language studies is slow, context-dependent;
- LLMs and ML can automate pattern detection in unstructured text.
- This paper tries to use LLM and ML in hypothesis generation.

# 3. What is the paper's contribution?

- 1. Exploring how researchers can use text to study consumer behavior.
  - **Past:** just study text data.
  - Expand: introduced a framework to convert unstructured text.
- 2. Studying how language affects engagement.
  - Expand: uncover new insights.

# 4. What hypotheses are tested in the paper?

- H: LLM and ML can help us generate hypotheses about language and human behavior.
- a) Do these hypotheses follow from and answer the research questions? Yes.
- b) Do these hypotheses follow from theory? Explain logic of the hypotheses.
  - theory: LLM and ML could treat unstructured data.

#### 5. Sample: comment on the appropriateness of the sample selection procedures.

- It is proper as it leverages randomized A/B test data and diverse social media posts.
- 6. Comment on the appropriateness of variable definition and measurement.
  - They are proper as engagement is measured via CTRs, linguistic features are validated.

# 7. Comment on the appropriateness of the regress/predict model specification.

- It is proper as it combines OLS and ML to balance interpretability and predictive power.
- 8. What difficulties arise in drawing inferences from the empirical work?
  - Difficulty: subjective human/GPT labeling biases.
- 9. Describe at least one publishable and feasible extension of this research.
  - Test the framework on diverse text domains.

#### 10. Describe the relationship between papers.

• They all use LLM in the process of studying.