Data Collection

I searched for the keyword “ending” in the subreddits “r/ShigeKiNoKyojin” and “r/attackontitan”, and found that after the final season of the Attack on Titan anime aired, Reddit users’ evaluations of this work have somewhat improved. For example, a post titled “The ending was perfect” has more than eight hundred comments, while another post titled “Is this the ending so many people disliked?” has more than nine hundred comments. Although the titles of the posts expressing affirmation towards the ending do not necessarily represent the opinions of other users in the comments, the majority of the posts discussing the ending of this work before the anime aired expressed dissatisfaction with the ending. Therefore, I am going to collect comments from posts that discussed the ending of Attack on Titan both before and after the final season of the anime was released. I selected posts discussing the ending with more than one hundred comments and used Beautiful Soup to scrape the comments under these posts.

Data Processing (Reddit Data)

1. Topic Modeling

I will divide the data into two groups: comments on the ending of Attack on Titan anime before and after the final season aired on Reddit, and conduct LDA topic modeling. I will train an LDA topic model with tomotopy and experiment with different numbers of topics to identify the topics corresponding to the highest coherence score. Afterward, I will manually summarize the topics into different categories.

2. Sentiment Analysis

I will conduct sentiment analysis on the two groups of data using Vader. Vader is a sentiment analysis tool based on lexicons and rules, specifically designed to capture sentiments expressed on online social media platforms. I will obtain the sentiment score of each comment and calculate the proportion of positive, negative, and neutral emotions in both datasets. Additionally, I will select keywords such as Hajime Isayama and the names of characters from Attack on Titan, and analyze the comments' attitudes towards them.

Furthermore, I will attempt to utilize the Riveter sentiment lexicon to score entities including the author of the manga and the characters. I will also analyze the verbs most frequently associated with each entity and how they contribute positively or negatively to the entity.

3. Text Analysis

Building upon topic modeling, I will categorize comments and use Voyant to analyze the text under important topics.

I am thinking about whether to research fan fiction about the ending of Attack on Titan on AO3. While researching comments on Reddit, I found it intriguing to compare comments before and after the final season of the anime was released. However, on AO3, there does not seem to be a distinct time marker for fan fiction related to the ending of Attack on Titan, making it difficult to determine if authors based their works on the manga or anime ending. (Some Reddit users mention they only watching the anime and being satisfied with the ending.) Therefore, I am

considering focusing on the changes in Reddit users' comments regarding the ending of Attack on Titan for the thesis.