

Presenting inter- and cross-disciplinary research :)

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Interdisciplinary research is hard to understand!

- Disciplines do not structure paper presentations similarly
- New disciplines introduce new jargons
- Draws on background knowledge that you do not necessarily have

But new methods can have innovative applications!

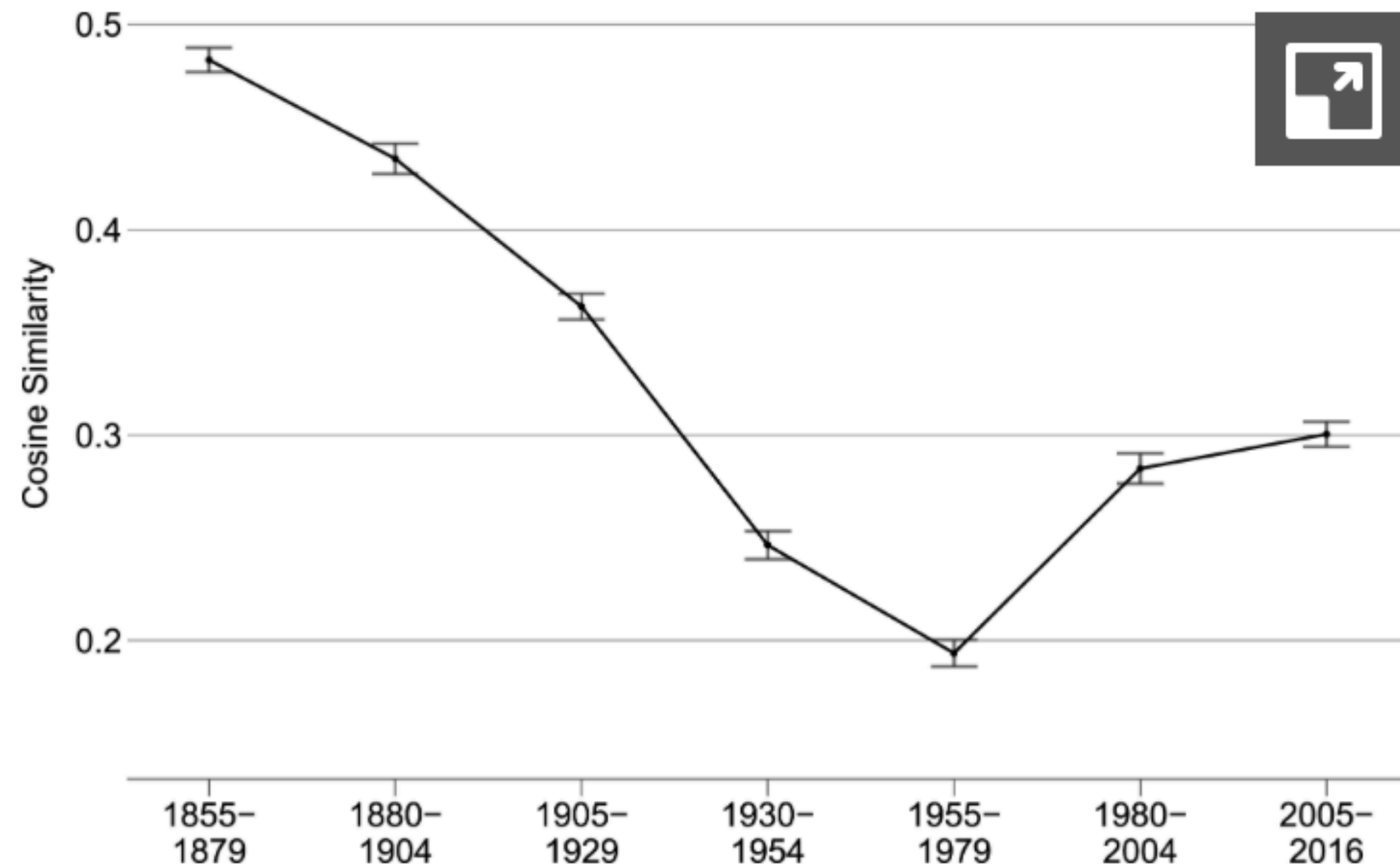


Figure 4. "Equality" - "Social" Cosine Similarity (with 95% confidence interval).

- Methods can be applied across disciplines
- Enables new ways to answer questions
- But you have to understand what the method is!

Keys to understanding a paper

- **Abstract** — this is your summary of the paper. The main conclusion should be at the end and the context should be set.

Abstract

Word vectorization is an emerging text-as-data method that shows great promise for automating the analysis of semantics—here, the cultural meanings of words—in large volumes of text. Yet successes with this method have largely been confined to massive corpora where the meanings of words are presumed to be fixed. In political science applications, however, many corpora are comparatively small and many interesting questions hinge on the recognition that meaning changes over time. Together, these two facts raise vexing methodological challenges. Can word vectors trace the changing cultural meanings of words in typical small corpora use cases? I test four time-sensitive implementations of word vectors (`word2vec`) against a gold standard developed from a modest data set of 161 years of newspaper coverage. I find that one implementation method clearly outperforms the others in matching human assessments of how public dialogues around equality in America have changed over time. In addition, I suggest best practices for using `word2vec` to study small corpora for time series questions, including bootstrap resampling of documents and pretraining of vectors. I close by showing that `word2vec` allows granular analysis of the changing meaning of words, an advance over other common text-as-data methods for semantic research questions.

Keywords: analysis of political speech, automated content analysis, statistical analysis of texts, time series

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- **Figures** — These are the results that the authors think tell a story.
“Read” just the figures.

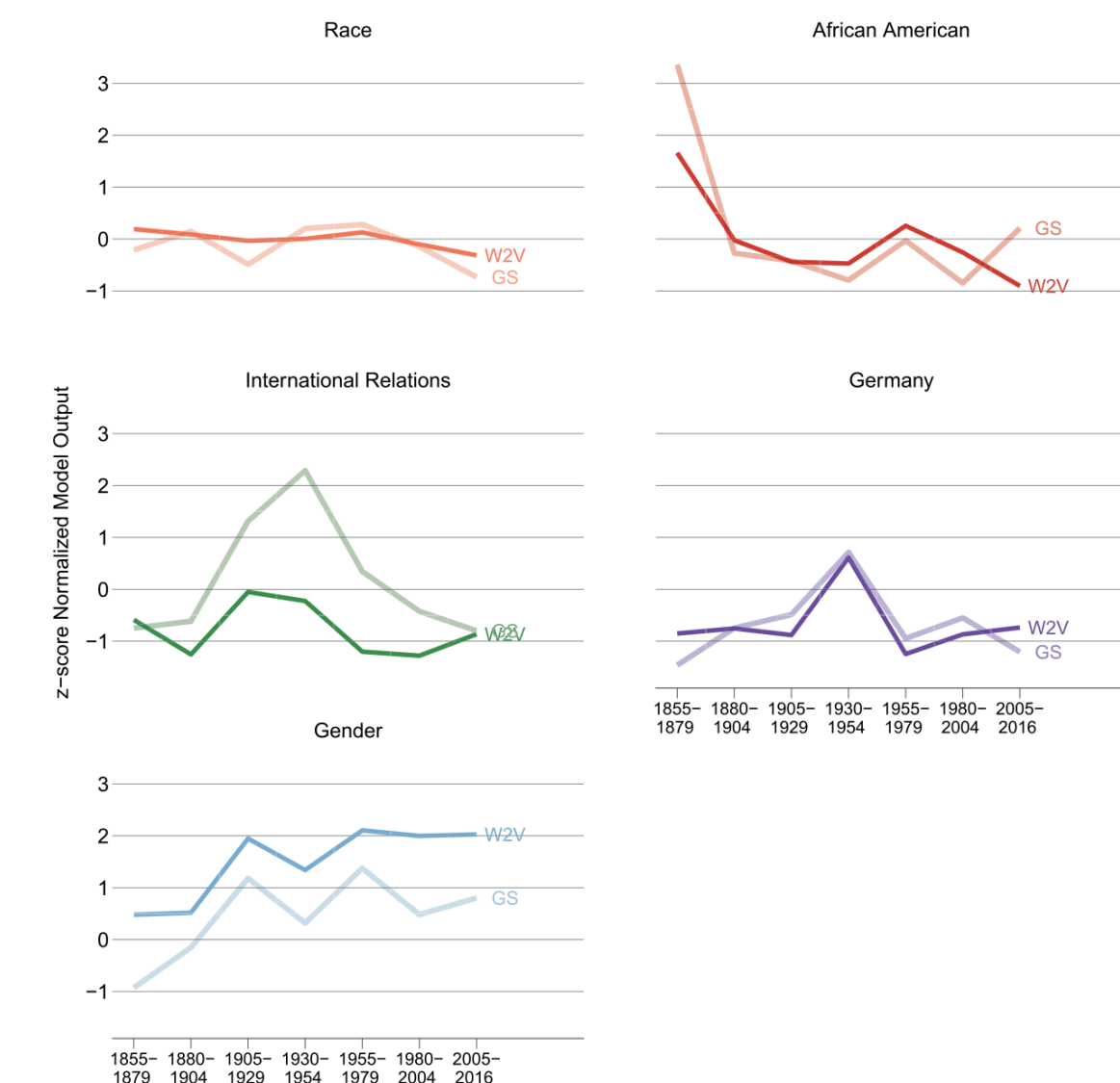


Figure 3. Chronologically Trained word2vec Model Compared to Gold Standard.

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- **Tables** — These present the output data the authors want you to see.
- **Paper text** — Now read the full explanation, contextualize the above three.

Presenting to an inter-disciplinary audience

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What are you trying to answer

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Why does this matter? Why should anyone care?

Relate the what to the broader context of importance

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- **WHAT?**

Is the proof that your answer is correct

How do people understand?

With PICTURES!

Don't use text if you can show an image instead

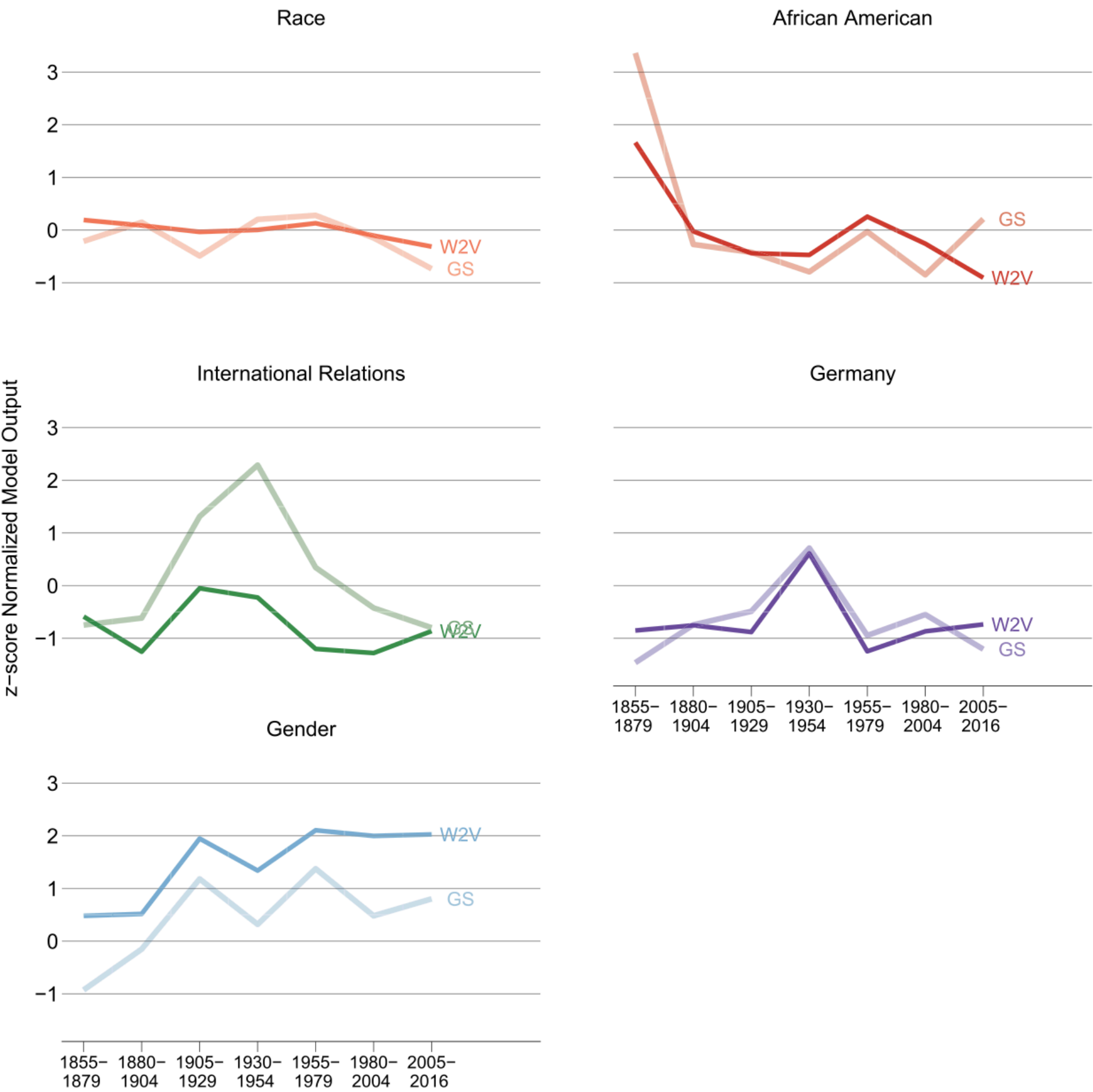
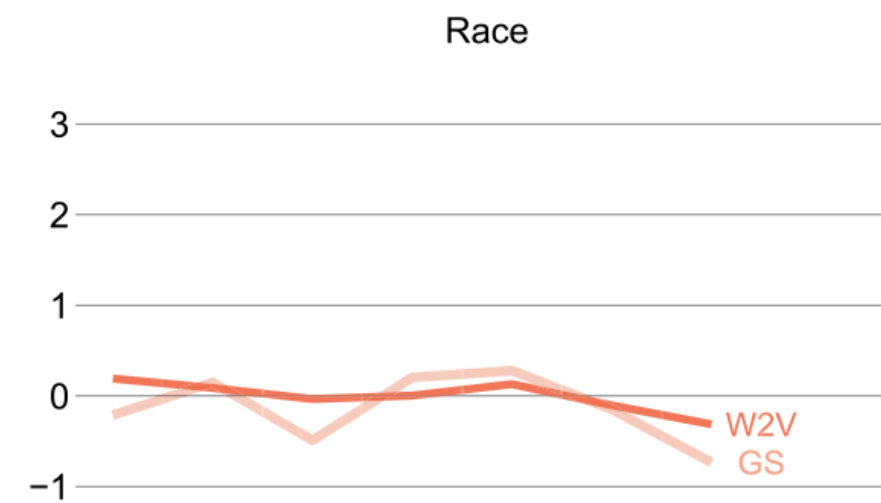


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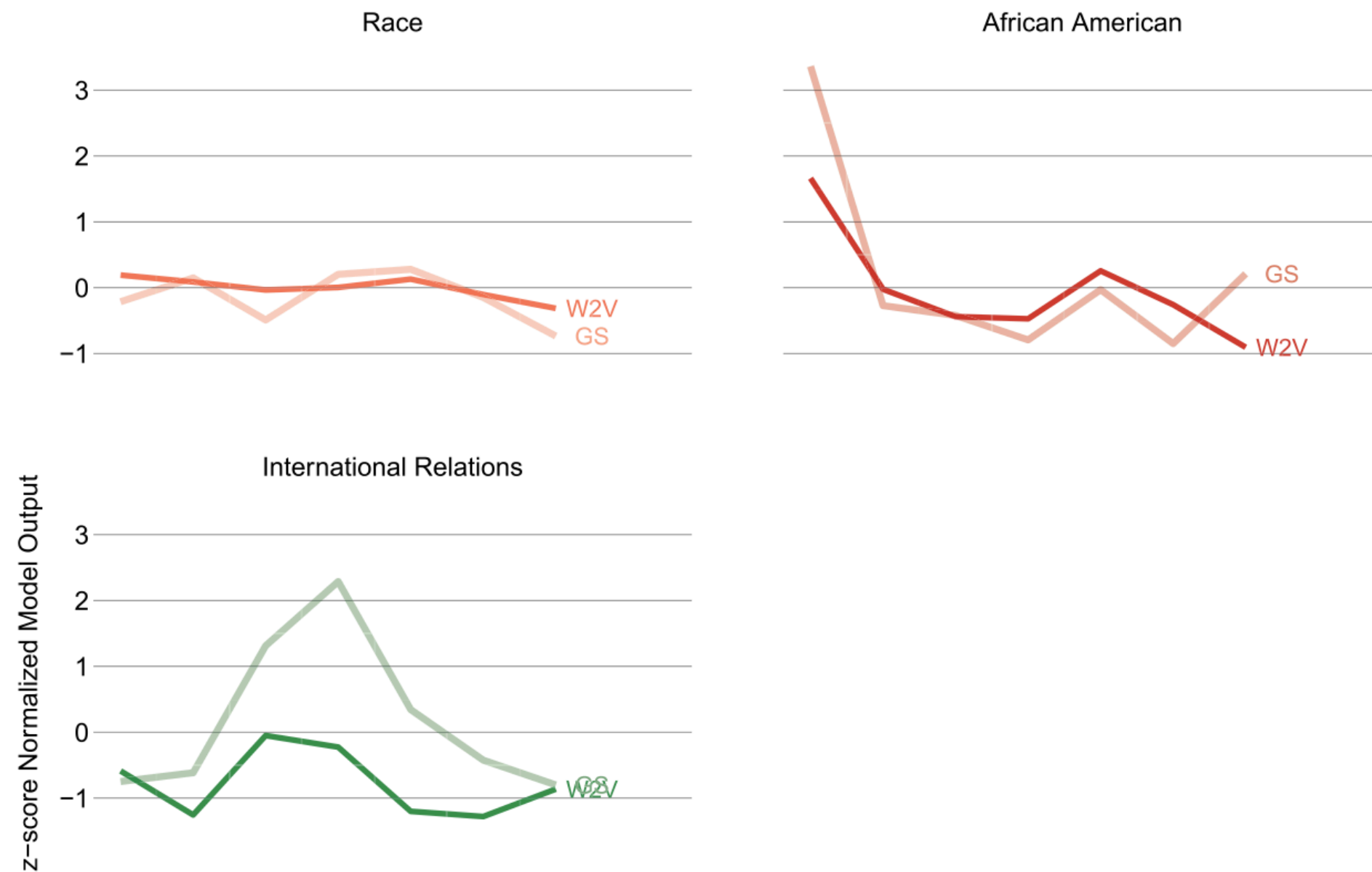


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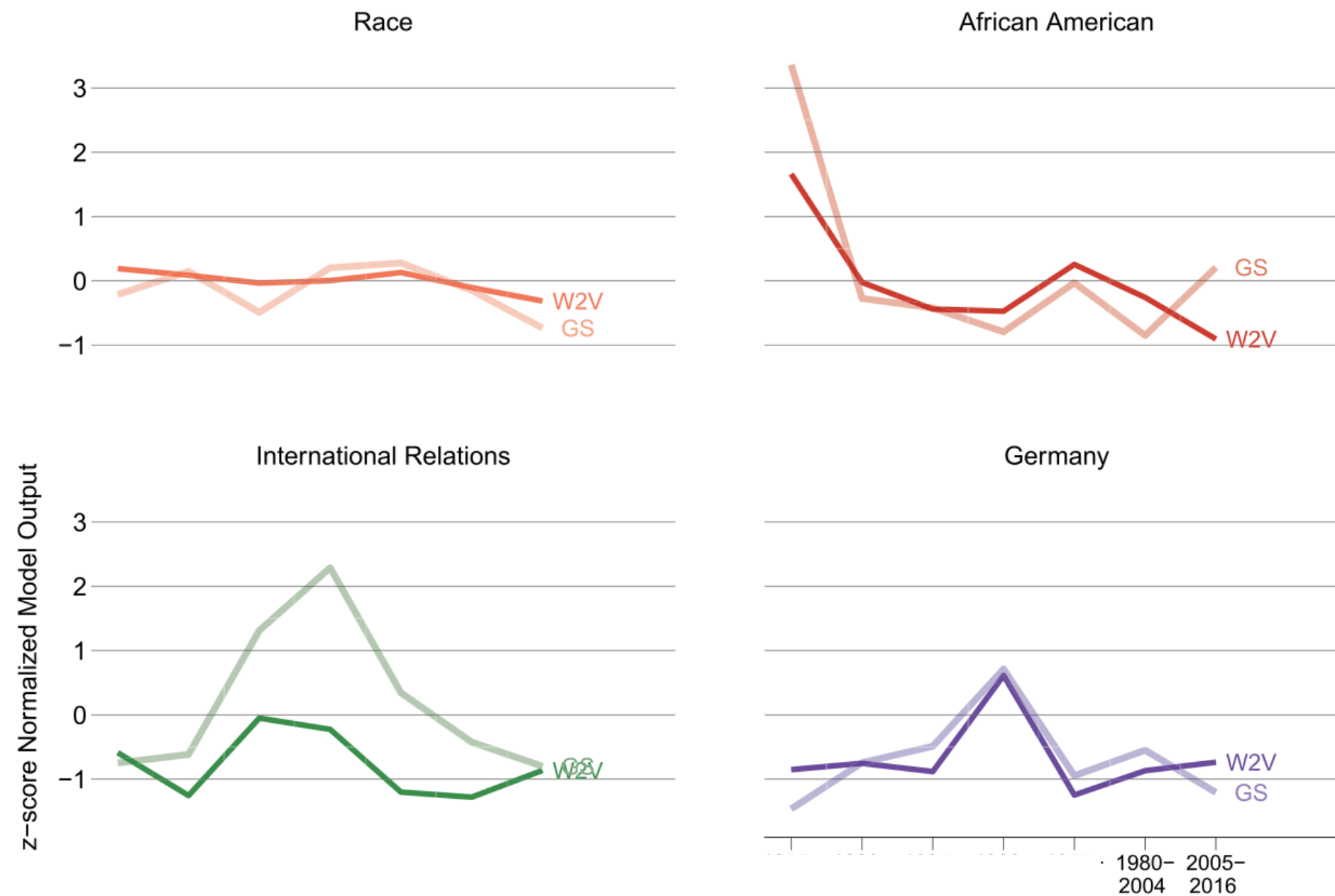


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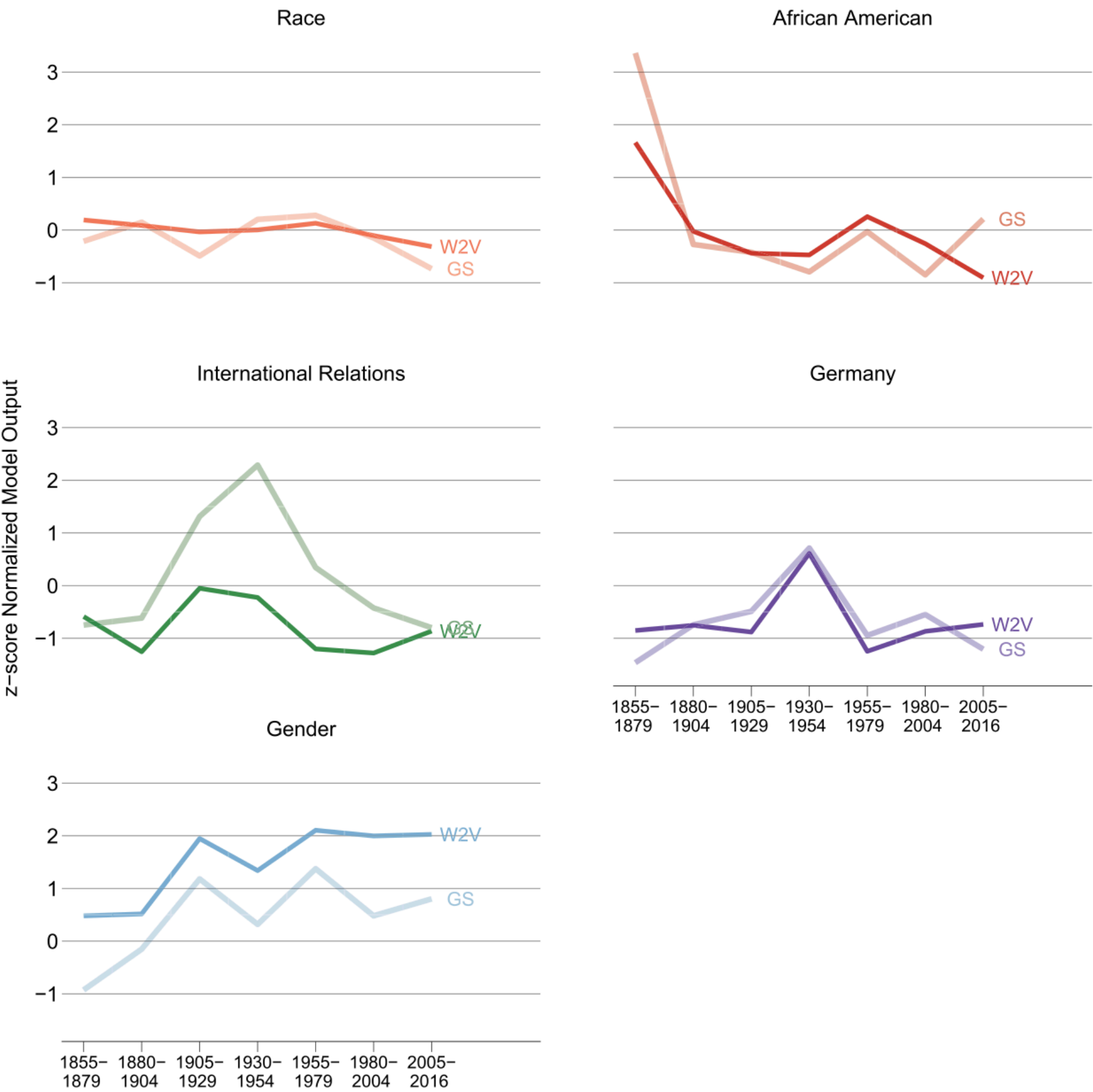


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Our responsibilities

- **Audience**

Read the abstract, figures, and skim the paper so you have a general idea and are prepared to ask questions

- **Presenter**

Give the paper explanation — why it matters, the so what, what they showed, and answer questions

Presentations are 10 MINUTES! (strict)