#### A1 Presentation

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# Presentation Objectives

- Introduction
- 2 Research Problem
- 3 Techniques
- 4 Preliminary Results and Interesting Stuff

#### Introduction

 Most NLP goals focus on making some kind of prediction about a given text.

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- Our proposal is to see if we can make some kind of prediction about the *people* who write these texts (social interaction part of the course!).

#### Research Problem

Can we predict the dynamics of any two active users, based on their previous posts?

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We use the Slashdog blog conversations from BC3's blog corpus in our investigation.

# Research Problem (in detail)

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- We would like to know if we can predict the trend of a thread, given the earliest *k* comments in the article.
- ② Given the probability distribution for any user A to create posts of quality, we would like to estimate the conditional probability vector of user A, given that some event  $\mathcal{E}$  has occurred.

## Proposed techniques to tackle the problem

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- 2 Plot the comment length in each thread to see if there are any discernible patterns.

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- Plot the comment length in each thread to see if there are any discernible patterns.
- Ompare distributions and conditional distributions of several metrics.

# Example of metrics

① [Ott09]

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- ① [Ott09]
- "Connectedness", as in [BKLDNM13], by looking at time intervals

A quick breakdown by category...

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```
{'Troll': 14932, 'Funny': 40672, 'None': 464104,
'Flamebait': 7456, 'Redundant': 4792, 'Offtopic': 11384,
'Informativ': 40188, 'Interestin': 50168,
'Insightful': 73864}
```

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```
{'Flamebait': 28, 'Funny': 2316, 'Redundant': 8,
'Troll': 136, 'Offtopic': 68, 'Insightful': 5540,
'Interestin': 1824, 'Informativ': 1348}
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...and by dominating class (when None is removed)

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{'Flamebait': 28, 'Funny': 2316, 'Redundant': 8,
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```

We could potentially try to classify the comments with class None with some the tools Python provides.

# **Example of Comment Lengths**

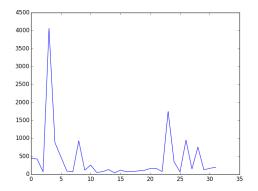


Figure: Post Length for Article Conference Board Admits Plagiarism, Pulls Copyright Report

## **Example of Comment Lengths**

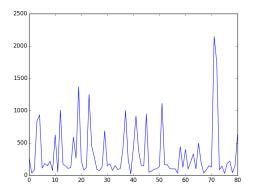


Figure: Post Length for Article Google's "Wave" Blurs Chat, Email, Collaboration Software

## Distribution and Conditional Distribution of Post Lengths

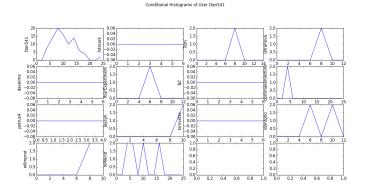


Figure: Joint Distribution Plots for user Dan541 and Other Active User

### Distribution and Conditional Distribution of Post Lengths

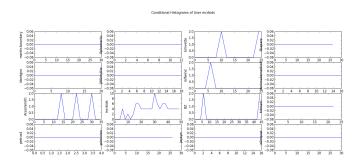
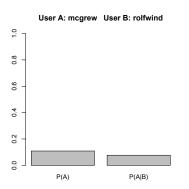
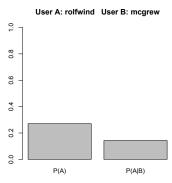


Figure: Joint Distribution Plots for user mcrbids and Other Active User

## Probability and Conditional Probability of Post Type

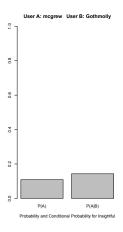


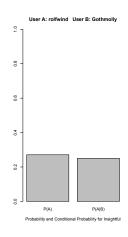
Probability and Conditional Probability for Insightful

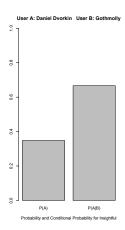


Probability and Conditional Probability for Insightful

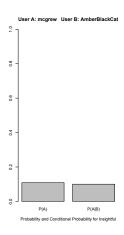
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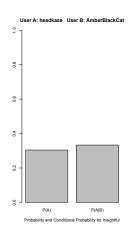


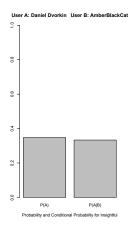




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#### Discussion

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- 4 How can we infer social interaction from a given signal?



Lars Backstrom, Jon Kleinberg, Lillian Lee, and Cristian Danescu-Niculescu-Mizil.

Characterizing and curating conversation threads: Expansion, focus, volume, re-entry.

In Proceedings of WSDM, pages 13-22, 2013.



Jahna Otterbacher.

'helpfulness' in online communities: A measure of message quality.

In Proceedings of the SIGCHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems, pages 955–964, New York, NY, USA, 2009. ACM.