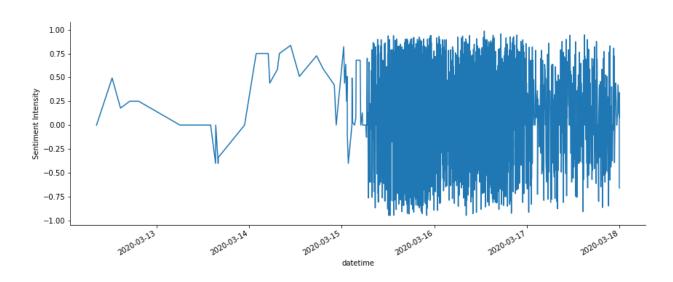
Emotional Sentiment on Twitter

A coronavirus vaccine online firestorm



The ongoing competition for a viable vaccine against coronavirus is arguably the race of the century. With its hundred millions of users, Twitter is particularly well-suited for research into sentiment and emotions running in social media.

This is how it all begun: an exercise of 'real politiks' that is likely to change dramatically the way science, politics and business colide in a pos-covid19 world. As we will see below, the 15th March 2020 will go down in history as a shift of political tone that is at odds with the collaborative, responsible and ethical behaviour of scientific research.

I collected the data scraping tweets from TwitterÖs application program inter-face (API), using TwitterScraping. Tweets were saved on a daily basis using the fol-lowing search term ÒCurevacÓ, the name of a German vaccine maker backed by Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, and currently working on a Covid-19 vaccine. The post covers tweets from a 6-year period from March 3, 2014 to March 18, 2020 (N = 14,991).

The post covers tweets from a 6-year period from March 3, 2014 to March 18, 2020.

Results include 15,036 tweets in a wide range of languages.

In this notebook you will find examples of some of the most common NLP (Natural Language Processing) techniques used to uncover patterns of sentiment and emotion in the kind of unstructured data that is predominant in Twitter. It is organized as follows:

Step 1: Exploratory analysis

Step 2: Text processing

- Step 3: Sentiment analysis
- Step 4: Word frequency
- Step 5: LDA topics extraction
- Step 6: Emotion analysis

Step 1: EXPLORATORY ANALYSIS

After scrapping the Twitter API, the retained tweets were gathered in an excel file (tweets_curevac.xlsx).

Below we have the major Python packages that are required for data handling (pandas), scientific computing (numpy) and data visualization (matplotlib and seaborn).

```
In [1]: import pandas as pd
   import numpy as np
   import seaborn as sns
   import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
   %matplotlib inline

In [2]: from collections import defaultdict
   from datetime import date
   import re # for regular expressions
   import string

In [3]: import warnings
   warnings.filterwarnings("ignore", category=DeprecationWarning)
```

Importing the data

```
In [4]: tweets = pd.read_csv('input/tweets.csv')
In [5]: # getting the date column ready for datetime operations
tweets['datetime'] = pd.to_datetime(tweets['datetime'])
```

Here is a view of the first rows:

```
In [6]: tweets.head()
```

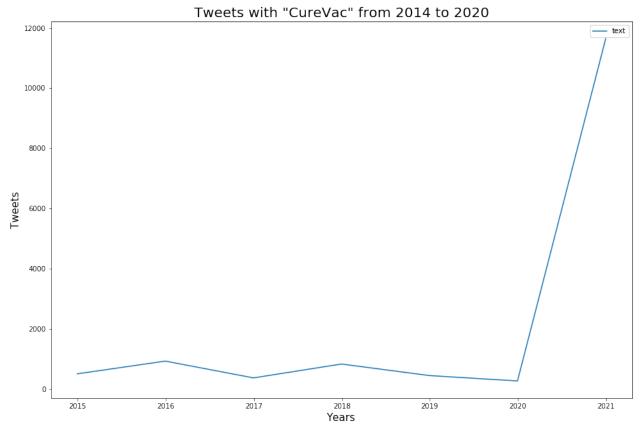
Out[6]:

	datetime	text
0	2014-03-12 18:26:59	Robert-Jan Smits at Innovation Convention 2014
1	2014-03-13 09:50:54	First #EU #vaccine prize awarded 2 CureVac
2	2014-03-14 12:50:28	Congrats 2 CureVac ! 4 #EU #vaccine prize #
3	2014-03-14 16:01:30	MT @sanofiDE CureVac Wins Two Million EUR f

4 2014-03-14 17:44:32 CureVac wins EU's EUR2m inducement prize for ...

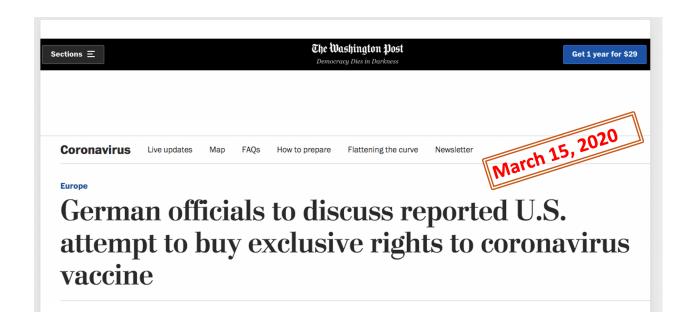
And here is a plot of the tweets with thw word "CureVac" over the past 6 years.

```
In [7]: # A simple timeseries plot
    fig = plt.figure(figsize=(15, 10))
    ax = sns.lineplot(data=tweets.set_index("datetime").groupby(pd.Grouper(fre
    q='Y')).count())
    plt.title('Tweets with "CureVac" from 2014 to 2020', fontsize=20)
    plt.xlabel('Years', fontsize=15)
    plt.ylabel('Tweets', fontsize=15)
    fig.savefig("images/All_Tweets_2014-2020.png")
```



For several years, the rate of tweets went on at a regular pace, until one day ... everything changed!

Digital marketing researchers call these events Oonline firestormsO, referring to negative word of mouth (eWOM) that suddenly attract thousands of expres-sions of support from other clients through social [1].



Let us create a column to identify this three-days event.

```
In [8]: # creating a column to filter the onlinestorm (from 15 and 18 March)

def make_onlinestorm_field():
    for i, row in tweets.iterrows():
        if pd.to_datetime(tweets.at[i, 'datetime']) > pd.Timestamp(date(20 20,3,15)):
            tweets.at[i, 'onlinestorm'] = True
    else:
        tweets.at[i, 'onlinestorm'] = False

make_onlinestorm_field()
```

In [9]: # count tweets during the three days online storm
print('In three days, tweets went over {}, all around the world.'.format(t weets[tweets['onlinestorm']]['onlinestorm'].count()))

In three days, tweets went over 11364, all around the world.

Here we have them ...

In [10]: tweets[tweets['onlinestorm']]

Out[10]:

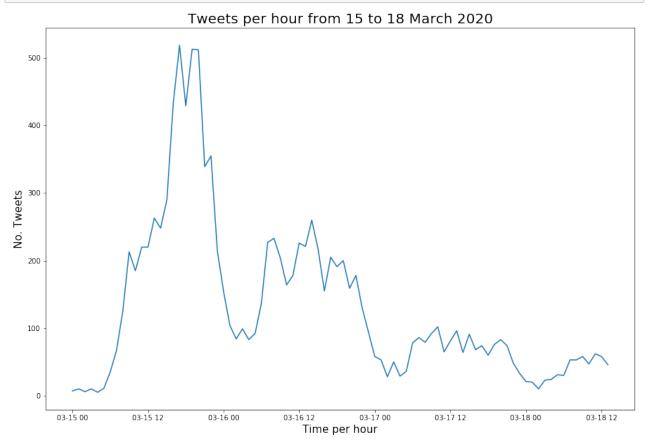
	datetime	text	onlinestorm
3627	2020-03-15 00:07:55	Germany's CureVac says low-dose coronavirus	True
3628	2020-03-15 00:14:42	ドイツのディ・ヴェルト紙(ネット版、3月15日)が伝えるところによる と、米国政府がドイツでコ	True
3629	2020-03-15 00:18:05	Germany's CureVac says low-dose coronavirus	True
3630	2020-03-15 00:30:29	A Bill & Melinda Gates funded, German Biotech	True

3631	2020-03-15 00:42:51	.@BillGates .@gatesfoundation .@melindagates	True
14986	2020-03-18 13:33:33	CureVac -MiteigentŸmer: Hopp macht Hoffnung au	True
14987	2020-03-18 13:33:36	Non, c'Žtait dans la presse allemande. L'actio	True
14988	2020-03-18 13:35:22	Rainer Hachfeld https:// cartoonmovement.sho	True
14989	2020-03-18 13:36:14	ドイツのバイオテクノロジー企業である CureVac が新型コロナのワクチンを秋までに開発す	True
14990	2020-03-18 13:38:00	Trad.: "Je n'ai pas parlŽ personnellement ^ M	True

11364 rows × 3 columns

Let's have a look at the distribution of the tweets by the hour during the online storm.

```
In [11]: # plot it
    fig = plt.figure(figsize=(15, 10))
    ax = sns.lineplot(data=tweets[tweets['onlinestorm'] == True].set_index("datetime").groupby(pd.Grouper(freq='H')).onlinestorm.count())
    plt.title('Tweets per hour from 15 to 18 March 2020', fontsize=20)
    plt.xlabel('Time per hour', fontsize=15)
    plt.ylabel('No. Tweets', fontsize=15)
    fig.savefig("images/All_Tweets_Onlinestorm.png")
```



It is time to have a first look at the content of the tweets and do some descriptive statistics. For now, I will focus only on features like hastags, mentions, urls, capital words and words in general.

```
In [12]: # A function to count tweets based on regular expressions
    def count_tweets(reg_expression, tweet):
        tweets_list = re.findall(reg_expression, tweet)
        return len(tweets_list)
In [13]: # Creating a dictionary to hold the counts
```

```
In [13]: # Creating a dictionary to hold the counts
content_count = {
    'words': tweets['text'].apply(lambda x: count_tweets(r'\w+', x)),
    'mentions': tweets['text'].apply(lambda x: count_tweets(r'@\w+', x)),
    'hashtags': tweets['text'].apply(lambda x: count_tweets(r'#\w+', x)),
    'urls': tweets['text'].apply(lambda x: count_tweets(r'http.?://[^\s]+
[\s]?', x)),
}
```

In [14]: df = pd.concat([tweets, pd.DataFrame(content_count)], axis=1);df

Out[14]:

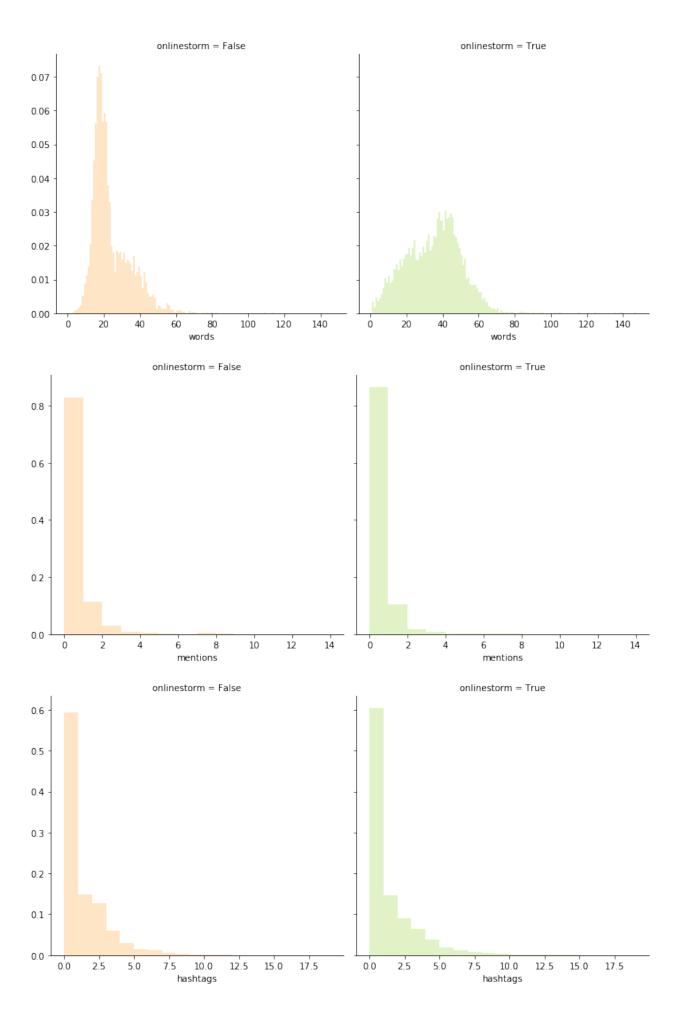
	datetime	text	onlinestorm	words	mentions	hashtags	urls
0	2014-03- 12 18:26:59	Robert-Jan Smits at Innovation Convention 2014	False	26	1	0	1
1	2014-03- 13 09:50:54	First #EU #vaccine prize awarded 2 CureVac	False	23	0	4	0
2	2014-03- 14 12:50:28	Congrats 2 CureVac ! 4 #EU #vaccine prize #	False	21	0	5	0
3	2014-03- 14 16:01:30	MT @sanofiDE CureVac Wins Two Million EUR f	False	17	1	0	0
4	2014-03- 14 17:44:32	CureVac wins EU's EUR2m inducement prize for	False	33	0	2	1
14986	2020-03- 18 13:33:33	CureVac -MiteigentŸmer: Hopp macht Hoffnung au	True	18	0	0	0
14987	2020-03- 18 13:33:36	Non, c'Žtait dans la presse allemande. L'actio	True	46	0	0	1
14988	2020-03- 18 13:35:22	Rainer Hachfeld https://cartoonmovement.sho	True	42	4	2	0
14989	2020-03- 18 13:36:14	ドイツのバイオテクノロジー企業である CureVac が新型コロナのワクチンを秋までに開発す	True	39	0	0	1

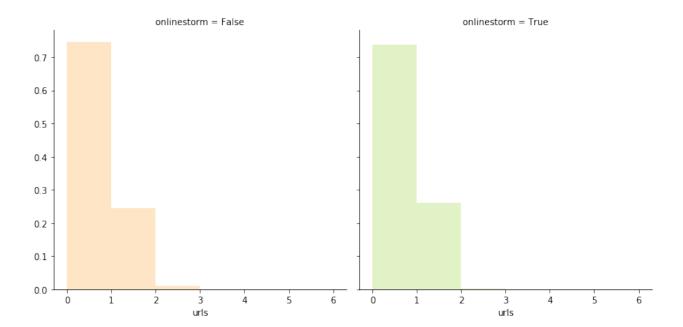
```
14990 2020-03-
18 13:38:00 Trad.: "Je n'ai pas parlŽ personnellement True 62 0 0 0
```

14991 rows × 7 columns

Tweets descriptive statistics

```
In [15]: # Display some descriptive statistics
        for key in content count.keys():
            print()
            print('Descriptive statistics for {}'.format(key))
            print(df.groupby('onlinestorm')[key].describe())
        Descriptive statistics for words
                                                        25%
                                                             50%
                                                                   75%
                      count
                                  mean
                                             std min
                                                                          max
        onlinestorm
        False
                     3627.0 23.355390 10.731606 3.0 16.0 20.0
                                                                  29.0 113.0
                    11364.0 34.571718 15.048733 1.0 23.0 36.0 45.0 147.0
        True
        Descriptive statistics for mentions
                      count
                                          std min 25% 50% 75%
                                 mean
        onlinestorm
                     3627.0 0.304659 0.931811 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0 12.0
        False
                    11364.0 0.205297 0.694837 0.0 0.0 0.0 0.0
        True
        Descriptive statistics for hashtags
                      count
                                 mean
                                          std min 25%
                                                          50%
                                                              75%
                                                                    max
        onlinestorm
                     3627.0 0.971602 1.611123 0.0 0.0
                                                         0.0 2.0 13.0
        False
                    11364.0 1.071454 1.923787 0.0 0.0
                                                         0.0 1.0
                                                                  19.0
        True
        Descriptive statistics for urls
                                           std min 25% 50%
                                                              75%
                      count
                                 mean
        onlinestorm
        False
                     3627.0 0.267990 0.480024 0.0 0.0 0.0 1.0
                                                                   6.0
                    11364.0 0.265488 0.449512 0.0 0.0 0.0
        True
                                                              1.0 4.0
In [16]: # Now plot them
        for key in content count.keys():
            bins = np.arange(df[key].min(), df[key].max() + 1)
            g = sns.FacetGrid(df, col='onlinestorm', height=5, hue='onlinestorm',
        palette="RdYlGn")
            g = g.map(sns.distplot, key, kde=False, norm hist=True, bins=bins)
            plt.savefig('images/Descriptive stats for ' + key + '.png')
```





From the above descriptive statistics, there are no noteworthy differences in terms of mentions, hashtags or urls during the online storm. Yet, the average number of words, per tweet, increased substantially during this period.

Step 2: TEXT PROCESSING

For the next steps, I retained only the tweets in English, avoiding duplicates. These are contained in an excel file (Tweets_CureVac_en.xlsx') with 6,546 tweets.

The second step of our analysis will look deeper into the content of these tweets. It is time to apply some of the basic NLP operations, such as cleaning, tokenizing and lemmatizing.

We will use NLTK (Natural Language Toolkit), one of the most popular NLP libraries for Python.

```
In [17]: import nltk
    from nltk.corpus import stopwords
    from nltk.stem.snowball import SnowballStemmer
    from nltk.stem import WordNetLemmatizer
    from nltk.tokenize import sent_tokenize, word_tokenize
    from nltk import pos_tag
```

```
In [18]: import string
import re # for regular expressions
```

```
In [20]: # The NLTK lemmatizer and stemmer classes
         lemmatizer = WordNetLemmatizer()
         stemmer = SnowballStemmer('english')
In [21]: # read english selected tweets, no duplicates
         tweets = pd.read csv('input/tweets en.csv')
In [22]: # I use the POS tagging from NLTK to retain only adjectives, verbs, adverb
         s and nouns for lemmatization.
         def get lemmas(tweet):
             # A dictionary to help convert Treebank tags to WordNet
             treebank2wordnet = {'NN':'n', 'JJ':'a', 'VB':'v', 'RB':'r'}
             postag = ''
             lemmas list = []
             for word, tag in pos_tag(word_tokenize(tweet)):
                 if tag.startswith("JJ")
                     or tag.startswith("RB") \
                     or tag.startswith("VB") \
                     or tag.startswith("NN"):
                     try:
                         postag = treebank2wordnet[tag[:2]]
                     except:
                         postag = 'n'
                     lemmas list.append(lemmatizer.lemmatize(word.lower(), postag))
             return lemmas list
In [23]: # This function processes, cleans and filters the tokens for each tweet
         def clean tweet(tokens):
             filtered = []
             for token in tokens:
                 if re.search('[a-zA-Z]', token):
                     if token not in STOPLIST:
                         if token[0] not in SYMBOLS:
                              if not token.startswith('http'):
                                  if '/' not in token:
                                      if '-' not in token:
                                          filtered.append(token)
             return filtered
```

We will now pre-process the tweets, following a pipeline of tokenization, filtering, case normalization and lemma extraction, including an overall cleaning of html and other codes.

Prior to lemmatization, I applied POS (part-of-speech) tagging to make sure that only the adjectives, verbs, adverbs and nouns were retained.

```
In [24]: # Starts the lemmatization process
def get_lemmatized(tweet):
    all_tokens_string = ''
    filtered = []
    tokens = []

# lemmatize
    tokens = [token for token in get_lemmas(tweet)]

# filter
    filtered = clean_tweet(tokens)

# join everything into a single string
    all_tokens_string = ' '.join(filtered)

return all_tokens_string
```

```
In [25]: # get the lemmatized tweets and puts the result in an "edited" text column
    for future use
    edited = ''
    for i, row in tweets.iterrows():
        edited = get_lemmatized(tweets.loc[i]['text'])
        if len(edited) > 0:
            tweets.at[i,'edited'] = edited
    else:
        tweets.at[i,'edited'] = None
```

```
In [26]: # After lemmatization, some tweets may have as a result the same words
# Let's make sure that we have no duplicates
tweets.drop_duplicates(subset=['edited'], inplace=True)
tweets.dropna(inplace=True)
```

With these text processing steps, and the removal of duplicates, the final sample counts 5,508 English-language tweets, with an average of 30 words (SD 12.5, ranging from 4 to 61 words).

```
In [27]: # Using apply/lambda to create a new column with the number of words in ea
    ch tweet
    tweets['word_count'] = tweets.apply(lambda x: len(x['text'].split()),axis=
    1)
    t = pd.DataFrame(tweets['word_count'].describe()).T
    t
```

Out[27]:

```
        count
        mean
        std
        min
        25%
        50%
        75%
        max

        word_count
        5508.0
        30.546659
        12.499944
        4.0
        19.0
        31.0
        42.0
        61.0
```

Here is the result of our pre-processing, showing the difference between the original tweet (column "text") and the lemmatized, cleaned, tweet (column "edited").

```
In [28]: tweets.head()
```

Out[28]:

word_count	edited	text	datetime	
47	interior minister horst seehofer ask confirm r	Interior Minister Horst Seehofer, when asked t	o 2020-03-16 11:13:00	0
26	say contact many organization global authority	CureVac said it has been in contact with many	2020-03-16 03:34:02	1
15	announces phase clinical study data immunother	CureVac Announces Phase VIIa Clinical Study	2015-07-07 13:24:10	2
21	alone receive us foundation gate darpa manufac	CureVac alone has received >\$100M from US fou	3 2015-11-02 13:21:08	3
20	hope god n't cave trump despicable po planet	I hope to God CureVac doesn't cave. Trump is	4 2020-03-16 20:10:33	4

Step 3: SENTIMENT ANALYSIS

For sentiment analysis -- a growing sub-field of Natural Language Processing (NLP) -- I used VADER (Valence Aware Dictionary for Sentiment Reasoning), a rule-based system that performs specially well on social media data.

VADER quantifies the sentiment of a tweet based on positive, neutral and neg-ative scores, and uses a Compound score to account for the intensity of the overall sentiment of a given text. It measures the strength of sentiments by giving scores ranging from +1 to -1 with positive numbers indicate favorable atti-tudes while negative numbers indicate negative attitudes.

In this section, I will focus on a simple comparison between the sentiment (Compound score) of a 6-year period with the score over the three days of the CureVac online firestorm, from March 15 to March 18.

Let us import the VADER analyser.

```
In [29]: from nltk.sentiment.vader import SentimentIntensityAnalyzer
```

For the puropose of the timeseries analysis, we must make sure that the tweets are all correctly sorted.

```
In [30]: tweets['datetime'] = pd.to_datetime(tweets['datetime'])
    tweets.sort_values('datetime', inplace=True, ascending=True)
    tweets = tweets.reset_index(drop=True)
```

In []:

In [31]: # Creating a column to "filter" the online storm period.
make_onlinestorm_field()

In [32]: # To avoid repetitions in our code, here are some plottiming functions
that will be called often ...

```
def plot sentiment period(df, info):
    # Using the mean values of sentiment for each period
   df1 = df.groupby(df['datetime'].dt.to period(info['period'])).mean()
   df1.reset index(inplace=True)
   df1['datetime'] = pd.PeriodIndex(df1['datetime']).to timestamp()
   plot df = pd.DataFrame(df1, df1.index, info['cols'])
   plt.figure(figsize=(15, 10))
   ax = sns.lineplot(data=plot df, linewidth = 3, dashes = False)
   plt.legend(loc='best', fontsize=15)
   plt.title(info['title'], fontsize=20)
   plt.xlabel(info['xlab'], fontsize=15)
   plt.ylabel(info['ylab'], fontsize=15)
   plt.tight layout()
   plt.savefig('images/' + info['fname'])
   return
def plot fractions(props, title, fname):
   plt1 = props.plot(kind='bar', stacked=False, figsize=(16,5), colormap=
'Spectral')
   plt.legend(bbox to anchor=(1.005, 1), loc=2, borderaxespad=0.)
   plt.xlabel('Online storm', fontweight='bold', fontsize=18)
   plt.xticks(rotation=0, fontsize=14)
    #plt.ylim(0, 0.5)
   plt.ylabel('Fraction of Tweets', fontweight='bold', fontsize=18)
   plt1.set title(label=title, fontweight='bold', size=20)
   plt.tight layout()
   plt.savefig('images/' + fname + '.png')
   return
def plot frequency chart(info):
    fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(14, 8))
    sns.set context("notebook", font scale=1)
   ax = sns.barplot(x=info['x'], y=info['y'], data=info['data'], palette=
(info['pal']))
   ax.set title(label=info['title'], fontweight='bold', size=18)
   plt.ylabel(info['ylab'], fontsize=16)
   plt.xlabel(info['xlab'], fontsize=16)
   plt.xticks(rotation=info['angle'], fontsize=14)
   plt.yticks(fontsize=14)
   plt.tight layout()
   plt.savefig('images/' + info['fname'])
   return
```

```
In [33]: # Calling VADER
analyzer = SentimentIntensityAnalyzer()
```

```
In [34]: # get VADER Compound value for sentiment intensity
```

```
tweets['sentiment_intensity'] = [analyzer.polarity_scores(v)['compound'] f
or v in tweets['edited']]
```

The output of VADER are the positive, negative, and neutral ratios of sentiment. The most useful metric in VADER is the Compound score. Basically, it is calculated by a sum of the scores of each word, normalized to yeld values between -1, the most extreme negative score, and +1, the most extreme positive.

From this normalized score, I will then create a categorical variable ("sentiment"), with an output of positive, negative and neutral ratios of sentiment, using the following thresholds:

- Positive sentiment: (compound score >= 0.05).
- Neutral sentiment: (compound score > -0.05) and (compound score < 0.05).
- Negative sentiment : (compound score <= -0.05)

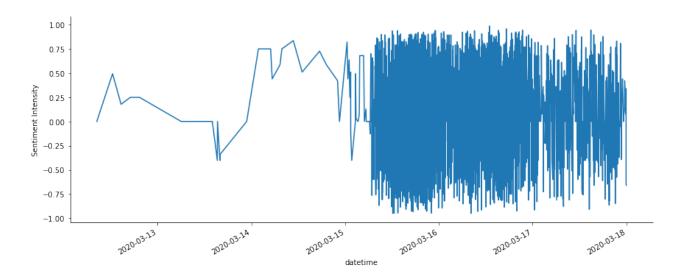
```
In [35]: # This function returns the sentiment category
    def get_sentiment(intensity):
        if intensity >= 0.05:
            return 'Positive'
        elif (intensity >= -0.05) and (intensity < 0.05):
            return 'Neutral'
        else:
            return 'Negative'

# Using pandas apply/lambda to speed up the process
tweets['sentiment'] = tweets.apply(lambda x: get_sentiment(x['sentiment_in tensity']),axis=1)</pre>
```

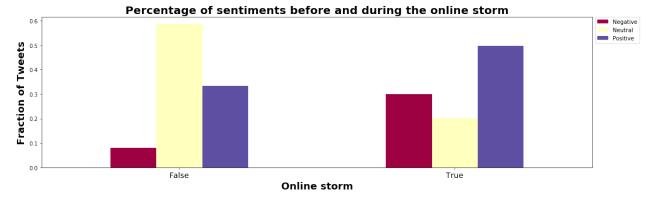
The Online Storm

The next plot gives us a clear image of the DexplosionO of contradictory sentiments in this period:

```
In [36]: df=tweets.loc[:,['datetime','sentiment_intensity']]
    df.set_index('datetime',inplace=True)
    df=df[(df.index>='2020-03-12') & (df.index<'2020-03-18')]
    df.plot(figsize=(12,5));
    plt.ylabel('Sentiment Intensity')
    plt.legend().set_visible(False)
    plt.tight_layout()
    sns.despine(top=True)
    plt.savefig('images/Average_sentiment_during_onlinestorm.png')
    plt.show();</pre>
```



And this one will shows us a comparison of the sentiments before and during the online strom.



In sentiment analysis and opinion mining, neutral tweets usually outnumber the negative or positive ones. This is what actually happened during the 6-year period in consideration. Moreover, research has been showing that scientists tend to use neutral language while communicating among peers, particularly in social media.

The picture clearly changed during the 3-days online storm. Sentiments become less neutral, as it is also likely that the majority of the authors come from a wider public. The percentage of positive tweets increased, suggesting increased expectations about a viable vaccine for coronavirus.

But the fraction of negative tweets increased even more during the online storm. This calls for a deeper look to the date. That is what we will do now.

Step 4: Word frequency

Now that our text is pre-processed, it is time to examine key patterns of word frequency in tweets posted before and during the online storm.

```
In [ ]:
In [38]: # We need these imports for the wordcloud representation:
         from PIL import Image
         from wordcloud import WordCloud, STOPWORDS, ImageColorGenerator
         from matplotlib.colors import makeMappingArray
         from palettable.colorbrewer.diverging import Spectral 4
In [39]: from collections import Counter # Look at the most common items in a li
In [ ]:
In [40]: def display wordcloud(tokens):
             tokens upper = [token.upper() for token in tokens]
             cloud mask = np.array(Image.open("images/cloud mask.png"))
             wordcloud = WordCloud(max font size=100,
                                   max words=50, width=2500,
                                   height=1750, mask=cloud mask,
                                   background color="white").generate(" ".join(toke
         ns upper))
             plt.figure()
             fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(14, 8))
             plt.imshow(wordcloud, interpolation="bilinear")
             plt.axis("off")
             plt.show()
             return
In [41]: def join edited string(edited tweets):
             edited string = ''
             for row in edited tweets:
                 edited string = edited string + ' ' + row
             return edited string
In [42]: def get trigrams(trigrams, top_grams):
             grams str = []
             data = []
             gram counter = Counter(trigrams)
             for grams in gram counter.most common(10):
                 gram = ''
                 grams str = grams[0]
```

```
grams_str_count = []
for n in range(0,3):
    gram = gram + grams_str[n] + ' '
    grams_str_count.append(gram)
    grams_str_count.append(grams[1])
    data.append(grams_str_count)
    print(grams_str_count)

df = pd.DataFrame(data, columns = ['Grams', 'Count'])

return df
```

Word frequency before the online storm

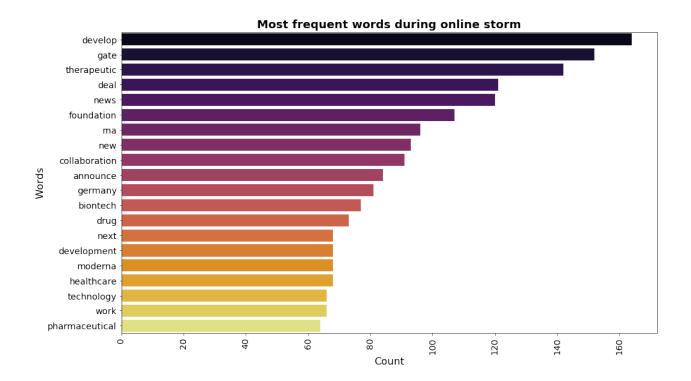
LetÕs have a look at the 20 most frequent words in tweets before the online storm.

```
In [43]: # Filtering the tweets of the 6 years before the online storm
    df = tweets[tweets['onlinestorm'] == False]

# Join all the edited tweets in one single string
    joined_string = join_edited_string(df['edited'])

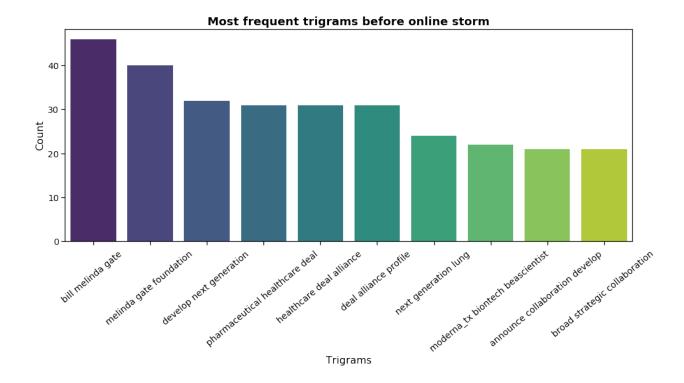
# Get tokens
    tokens = joined_string.split(' ')

# get trigrams
    trigrams = nltk.trigrams(tokens)
In [44]: # plot word frequency during online storm
```



And now the 10 most frequent trigrams (sequences of 3 consecutive words) ...

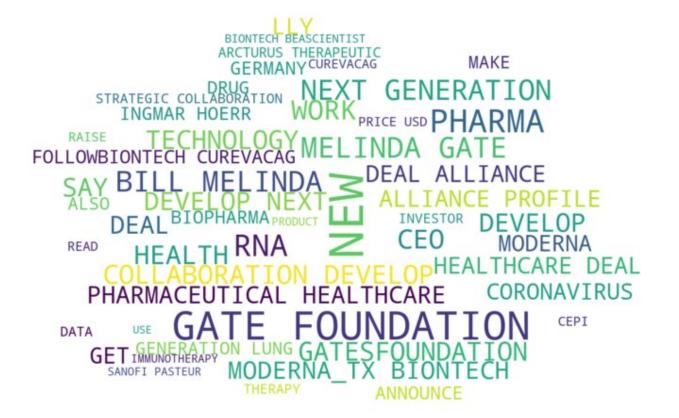
```
In [45]: # plot trigram frequency
         df trigrams = get trigrams(trigrams, 10)
         info = {'data': df trigrams, 'x': 'Grams', 'y': 'Count',
                'xlab': 'Trigrams', 'ylab': 'Count', 'pal':'viridis',
                'title': 'Most frequent trigrams before online storm',
                'fname': 'trigrams frequency before onlinestorm.png',
                'angle': 40}
         plot frequency chart(info)
         ['bill melinda gate ', 46]
         ['melinda gate foundation ', 40]
         ['develop next generation ', 32]
         ['pharmaceutical healthcare deal ', 31]
         ['healthcare deal alliance ', 31]
         ['deal alliance profile ', 31]
         ['next generation lung ', 24]
         ['moderna tx biontech beascientist ', 22]
         ['announce collaboration develop', 21]
         ['broad strategic collaboration ', 21]
```



And the wordcloud ...

In [46]: display_wordcloud(tokens)

<Figure size 432x288 with 0 Axes>



There are some noteworthy features in these plots:

- Along with ÔgateÕ (ie., Bill Gates), the most frequent words in 6 years of tweets are ÔdevelopÕ,
 ÔtherapeuticÕ, ÔdealÕ and 'news'. Unsurprisingly, these were times when tweets were used mainly as public relations devices to communicate the core business of CureVac, a vaccine maker funded by the Melinda gate Foudation.
- Immediatly follows ÔCollaborationÕ, the next most frequent word, reflecting in this way the key importance of partnerships in the strategy of the company, followed by ÔnewÕ, as a evidence of CureVac's concern with innovation.
- The trigrams reinforce these trends, and with a stronger focus on collaboration. These are mainly about 'next generation in health care' and 'pharmaceutical deals' carried out in Ôbroad strategic collaborationsÕ.

Word frequency during the online storm

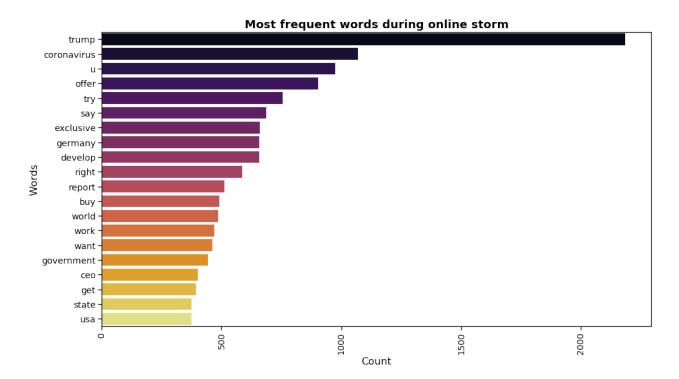
It is now time to examine what happened on those "stormy" three days, after the 15th March 2020 ...

```
In [47]: # Filtering the tweets of the 3 days of the online storm
    df =tweets[tweets['onlinestorm']]

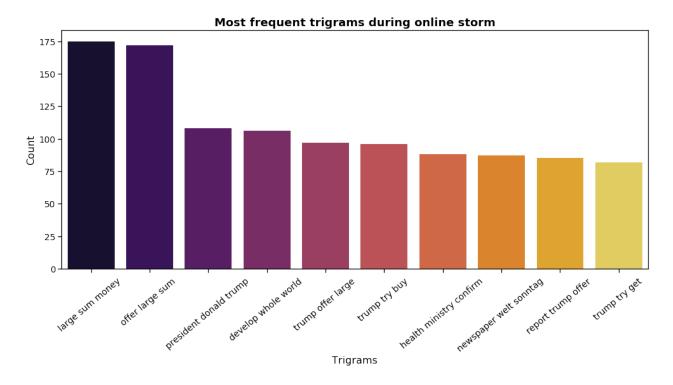
# Join all the edited tweets in one single string
    joined_string = join_edited_string(df['edited'])

# Get tokens
    tokens = joined_string.split(' ')

# get trigrams
    trigrams = nltk.trigrams(tokens)
```



```
In [49]: # plot trigrams frequency
         df trigrams = get trigrams(trigrams, 10)
         info = {'data': df_trigrams, 'x': 'Grams', 'y': 'Count',
                 'xlab': 'Trigrams', 'ylab': 'Count', 'pal':'inferno',
                'title': 'Most frequent trigrams during online storm',
                'fname':'trigrams frequency during onlinestorm.png',
                 'angle': 40}
         plot frequency chart(info)
         ['large sum money ', 175]
         ['offer large sum ', 172]
         ['president donald trump ', 108]
         ['develop whole world ', 106]
         ['trump offer large ', 97]
         ['trump try buy ', 96]
         ['health ministry confirm ', 88]
         ['newspaper welt sonntag ', 87]
         ['report trump offer ', 85]
         ['trump try get ', 82]
```



In [50]: display_wordcloud(tokens)

<Figure size 432x288 with 0 Axes>



What we've seen above shows obvious differences from the main stream life of CureVac on Twitter:

- The top word is no longer ÔgateÕ but ÔtrumpÕ (ie., Donald Trump), immediately followed by 'coronavirus'.
- Gone are the days of collaboration for a next generation of new and innovative therapies. - ÔExclusiveÕ

- takes the lead, OcollaborationO is out of the league.
- The most frequent trigram is Ôtry buy exclusiveÕ. These are now times for Ôexclusive large gainÕ.
- ÔBuyÕ becames a new key word. Ôlarge sum moneyÕ and Ôoffer large sumÕ are now the top trigrams in the chart.

Step 5: LDA topics extraction

LDA (Latent Dirichlet Allocation) is an unsupervised machine learning technique that is increasingly popular in most text mining toolkits. You can find here a comprehensive article on the subject, published on Medium, covering extensively the assumptions and the math behind the algorithm.

I applied LDA to the two datasets (before and during the CureVac online fire-storm) to check whether the findings corroborate the trends that we have seen in our previous analysis of the word frequency.

```
In [51]: from sklearn.decomposition import LatentDirichletAllocation from sklearn.feature_extraction.text import TfidfVectorizer
```

```
In [52]: # I am using here Susan Li's functions to get the top words of a topic:
         def get keys(topic matrix):
             returns an integer list of predicted topic
             categories for a given topic matrix
             keys = topic matrix.argmax(axis=1).tolist()
             return keys
         def keys to counts (keys):
             returns a tuple of topic categories and their
             accompanying magnitudes for a given list of keys
             count pairs = Counter(keys).items()
             categories = [pair[0] for pair in count pairs]
             counts = [pair[1] for pair in count pairs]
             return (categories, counts)
         def get top n words (n, n topics, keys, document term matrix, tfidf vectori
         zer):
              , , ,
             returns a list of n topic strings, where each string contains the n mo
         st common
             words in a predicted category, in order
             top word indices = []
             for topic in range(n topics):
                 temp vector sum = 0
                 for i in range(len(keys)):
                     if keys[i] == topic:
                         temp vector sum += document term matrix[i]
                 temp vector sum = temp vector sum.toarray()
```

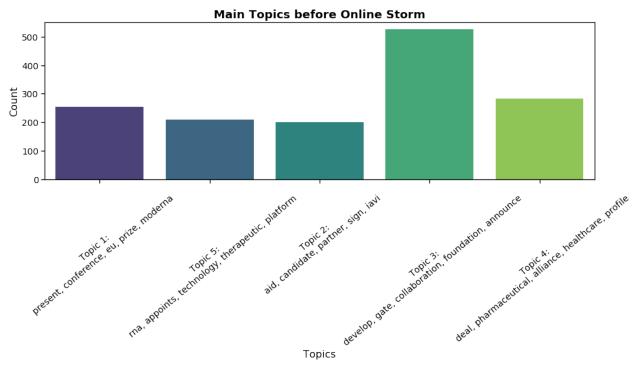
```
top n word indices = np.flip(np.argsort(temp vector sum)[0][-n:],0
        top word indices.append(top n word indices)
    top words = []
    for topic in top word indices:
       topic words = []
        for index in topic:
            temp word vector = np.zeros((1,document term matrix.shape[1]))
            temp word vector[:, index] = 1
            the word = tfidf vectorizer.inverse transform(temp word vector
)[0][0]
            try:
                topic words.append(the word.encode('ascii').decode('utf-8'
) )
            except:
                pass
        top words.append(", ".join(topic words))
   return top words
```

And here is a function for topics extraction using LDA, in which I end up creating a dataframe with the topics and their top words to facilitate the plotting that follows.

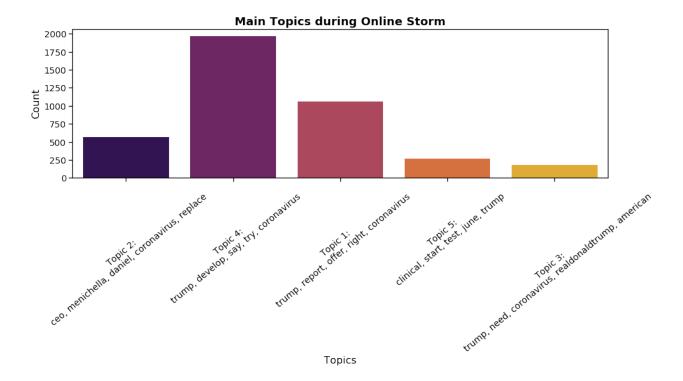
```
In [53]: # LDA topics
         def get topics(edited, n topics, n words):
             eds = edited.values
             vec = TfidfVectorizer(use idf=True, smooth idf=True)
             document_term_matrix = vec.fit transform(eds)
             model = LatentDirichletAllocation(n components=n topics)
             topic matrix = model.fit transform(document term matrix)
             keys = get keys(topic matrix)
             categories, counts = keys to counts(keys)
             top n words = get top n words(n words, n topics, keys, document term m
         atrix, vec)
             topics = ['Topic \{\}: \n'.format(i + 1) + top n words[i] for i in categ
         oriesl
             data=[]
             for i, topic in enumerate(topics):
                 tmp = []
                 tmp.append(topic)
                 tmp.append(counts[i])
                 data.append(tmp)
             df topics = pd.DataFrame(data, columns = ['Topics', 'Count'])
             return df topics
```

Topics before the online storm

In []:



Topics during the online storm

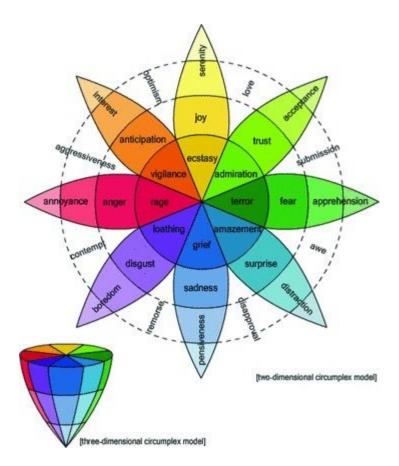


A word of caution must be exercised here. LDA topics are ÒimaginaryÓ (latent) topics, frequently overlapping, and a clear distinction is not always achievable. Nevertheless, a comparison between topics before and during the online storm leaves no doubts about contrasting trends.

For a period of six years, the major topic emerging from tweets is about collaborative developments. In contrast, during the online storm, in a period of three days, the two topics that stand out are clearly about the alleged attempt of the USA president to ensure the exclusive rights for the coronavirus vaccine.

Step 6: Emotion analysis

I drew from Robert PlutchikÕs wheel of basic emotions an attempt to uncover the presence of the seven lexical units for anger, fear, sadness, disgust, anticipa-tion, joy and surprise [4].



```
In [56]: import termcolor
import sys
from termcolor import colored, cprint
plt.style.use('fivethirtyeight')
```

The basic approach is to create a matrix of tweets and emotions to connect each word in the tweet to one or more emotions. I applied the National Research Council Canada (NRC) lexicon, a binary matrix with 14,182 words and 10 col-umns rows, each corresponding to positive and negative sentiment plus eight emotions. For a full understanding of the NRC lexicon read this article. [5]

```
unique words = set(tokens)
         word to ind = dict((word, i) for i, word in enumerate(unique words))
         ind to word = dict((i, word) for i, word in enumerate(unique words))
In [ ]:
In [61]: def plot emotions period(df, cols, period = 'h'):
             df1 = df.groupby(df['datetime'].dt.to period(period)).mean()
             df1.reset index(inplace=True)
             df1['datetime'] = pd.PeriodIndex(df1['datetime']).to timestamp()
             plot df = pd.DataFrame(df1, df1.index, cols)
             plt.figure(figsize=(15, 10))
             ax = sns.lineplot(data=plot df, linewidth = 3, dashes = False)
             plt.legend(loc='best', fontsize=15)
             plt.title('Emotions in Tweets with CureVac during online storm', fonts
         ize=20)
             plt.xlabel('Time by ythe hour', fontsize=15)
             plt.ylabel('Z-scored Emotions', fontsize=15)
             plt.savefig('images/Emotions during onlinestorm.png')
In [62]: def get tweet emotions(df, emotions, col):
             df base = df.copy()
             df base.drop(['sentiment','sentiment intensity'], axis=1, inplace=True
             emo info = {'emotion':'' , 'emo frq': defaultdict(int) }
             list emotion counts = []
             for emotion in emotions:
                 emo info = {}
                 emo info['emotion'] = emotion
                 emo info['emo frq'] = defaultdict(int)
                 list emotion counts.append(emo info)
             #criamos um dataframe de zeros com a dimensão de df
             df emotions = pd.DataFrame(0, index=df.index, columns=emotions)
             stemmer = SnowballStemmer("english")
             for i, row in df base.iterrows():
                 tweet = word tokenize(df base.loc[i][col])
                 for word in tweet:
                     word stemmed = stemmer.stem(word.lower())
                     result = ncr[ncr.English == word stemmed]
                     if not result.empty:
                         for idx, emotion in enumerate(emotions):
                             df emotions.at[i, emotion] += result[emotion]
```

```
if result[emotion].any():
                                  try:
                                      list emotion counts[idx]['emo frq'][word to in
         d[word]] += 1
                                  except:
                                      continue
             df base = pd.concat([df base, df emotions], axis=1)
             return df base, list emotion counts
In [ ]:
In [63]: def get words(word list, emotions):
             words emotion idx = []
             for i, word in enumerate(word list):
                 word = stemmer.stem(word.lower())
                 result = ncr[ncr.English == word]
                 if not result.empty:
                     for emotion in emotions:
                         if result[emotion].any() > 0:
                             words emotion idx.append(i)
             return words emotion idx
In [ ]:
In [64]:
         def get top emotion words (word counts, n = 5):
             # Passamos finalmente o dicionário para uma numpy array "words", com o
          indice da palavra e respectiva frequência
             words = np.zeros((len(word counts), 2), dtype=int)
             for i, w in enumerate(word counts):
                 words[i][0] = w
                 words[i][1] = word counts[w]
             # A partir dos indices gerados pela função argsort, sabemos a posição
             # das "n" palavras mais frequentes na array words
             top words indices = np.flip(np.argsort(words[:,1])[-n:],0)
             # Com estas posições (indices), obtemos os indices que funcionam como
         keys no dicionário ind to word,
             # e nos devolvem, como "value", as palavras como strings
             top words = [words[ind][0] for ind in top words indices]
             return words, top words, top words indices
In [ ]:
In [65]: def print colored emotions (tweets, emotions, color, on color):
```

In []:

Connecting words to emotions

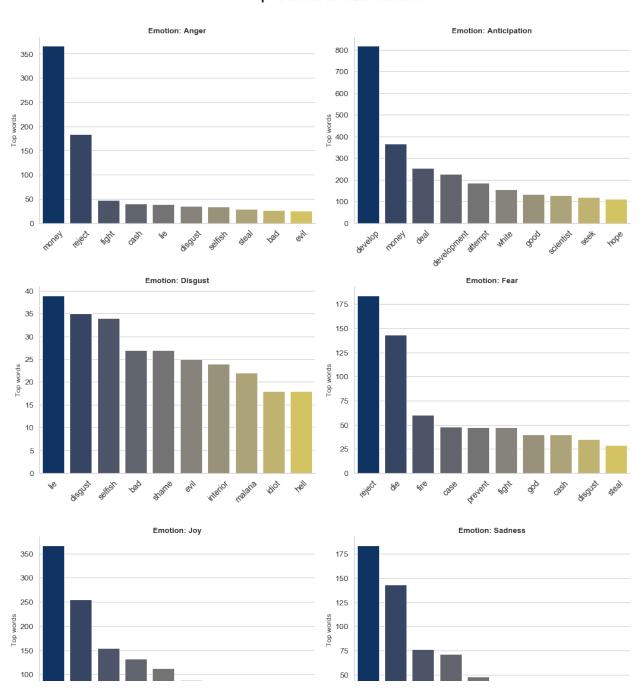
```
In [66]: # We are using the NCR lexicon to associate words to emotions
# Be patient, this will take some minutes ...

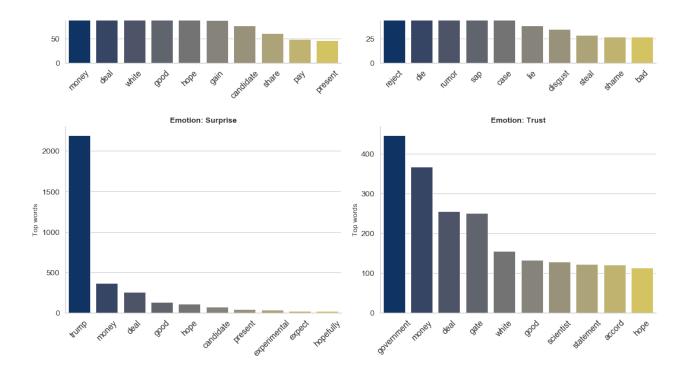
df_emo, list_emotion_counts = get_tweet_emotions(tweets, emotions, 'edited
')

# Preparing for time series
df_emo['datetime']= pd.to_datetime(df_emo['datetime'])
```

For a better understanding of the word-emotions associations, we have here the charts showing what are the 10 words that contributed the most for each of the 8 emotions.

Top 10 words for each emotion





For some authors, isolated emotions might not be the best granullarity for analysis. Skillicom (2019) and colleagues prefer to aggregate emotions into positive and negative emotions [6]. Let's try it.

```
In [68]: # Aggregating negative and positive emotions
    df_emo['neg_emotions'] = df_emo['Sadness'] + df_emo['Fear'] + df_emo['Disg
    ust'] + df_emo['Anger']
    df_emo['pos_emotions'] = df_emo['Joy'] + df_emo['Anticipation'] + df_emo['
    Trust'] + df_emo['Surprise']
```

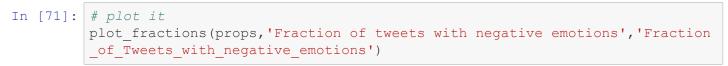
I use here pandas groupby feature to obtain a normalized account of the emotions as a proportion that takes into account the number of tweets in each of the two periods (before and during the online storm).

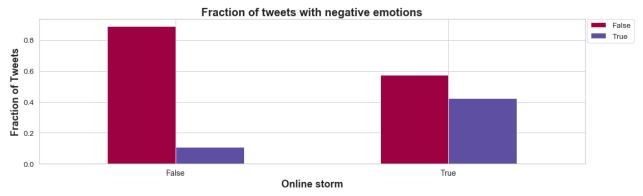
Out[70]:

total_neg_emotions	False	True
onlinestorm		
False	0.890699	0.109301
True	0.575713	0.424287

The results show that during the online storm period, negative emotions are present in 42 per cent of the tweets, whereas previously only 11% of the tweets included negative emotions.

We can spot it more clearly in the following chart ...



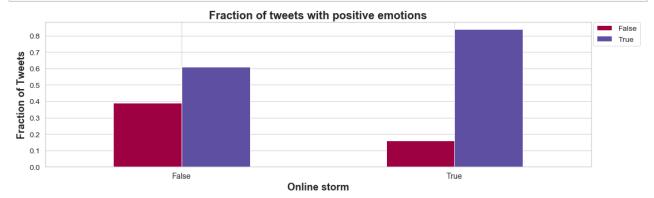


Converselly, when it comes to positive emotions, we witness also an increase in the proportion of tweets with these emotions during online storm (84 per cent). But it is not such a sharp change when compared to the 61 per cent before the online storm.

Out[72]:

total_pos_emotions	False	True
onlinestorm		
False	0.390360	0.609640
True	0.159356	0.840644

In [73]: plot_fractions(props,'Fraction of tweets with positive emotions','Fraction
 _of_Tweets_with_positive_emotions')



Word - emotion connections in the tweets

To help us have a feeling of how things work behind thew scenes, I wrote a function (print_colored_emotions) to

display the words connected to negative (red) and positive (green) emotions.

It is important to acknowledge that I am not giving any kind of emotion score to the tweets (that would be another undertaking all together). I am just locating the word-emotion connections within the tweets, since a tweet may depict more than one emotion (or cluster of emotions) D and they usually do.

Here are some negative emotions ...

```
In [74]: df = df_emo[df_emo['Sadness'] > 3]
    print_colored_emotions(df['text'], ['Disgust', 'Sadness', 'Anger', 'Fear'], '
    white', 'on_red')
```

Die Stiftung von Bill Gates investiert 52 Millionen Dollar in dt . Firma C ureVac , die an Impfstoff gegen # Coronavirus forscht . (Das ist die Firm a , an der die US-Regierung großes Interesse hat aktuell , siehe : https://twitter.com/AscotBlack/sta tus/1239161218398670848 ? s=19 ...) https://www . forbes.com/sites/matthewh erper/2015/03/05/bill-melinda-gates-foun dation-makes-largest-ever-equity-investment-in-a-biotech-company/amp/? __twitter_impression=truehttps: //www.forbes.com/sites/matthewherper/2015/03/05/bill-melinda-gates-foundation-makes-largest-ever-equity-investment-in-a-biotech-company/amp/? twitter impression=true ...

You created crowded conditions @ airports corralling sick w/healthy . This will lead to further disease spreading . Your denials & delays , along w/ill-prepared quarter measures are going to kill many . And stop trying to steal CureVac for U.S. only . # VaccinesForAll

@ KimStrassel @ kimguilfoyle @ seanmdav @ maggieNYT That wasn ' t the lie put forth by Germany . The lies was that Curevac had a cure and Trump want ed a . Exclusive supply . You lied all about Trump/Russia and you are lyin again .

You are full of it . Trump has put America in danger every single day and his mixed messages are causing confusion and eventually death . He has han dled this Corona situation so badly and tried to bribe a German called Cur eVac . This President is so shameful https://www.tagesschau.de/inland/corona-impfstoff-deutschland-usa-101.html ... https://twitter.com/GOP/status/123 9342159486164998 ...

News! # CureVac CureVac Rejects Rumors of US Acquisition: CureVac Rejects Rumors of US Acquisition http://dlvr.it/RRzMsN Visit our site! pic.t witter.com/OLnwkX4Glu

Yes they have Lied , but in this case no , USA Today and CureVac provide p roof it 's a false story.. pick a real Lie to propagate , not a fake news story , all that does is <a href="https://www.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nurreleast.nu

COVID19 latest , 9pm GMT Cases 197,467 Deaths 7,953 Recoveries 81,691 # Belgium to enforce lockdown from 11am GMT Wed # US cities , states announc e piecemeal lockdowns # EU Commission Chief Ursula von der Leyen claims Ge rman company CureVac may have # vaccine ready " towards fall '' pic.twitte r.com/jycIhEU0bg

And here some positive ones ...

```
In [75]: | df = df emo[df emo['Anticipation'] > 4]
         print colored emotions(df['text'], ['Joy', 'Trust', 'Anticipation'], 'white'
         , 'on green')
         UK pharma is equally likely to develop a vaccine . In fact , pharma all ov
         er the world are searching for a vaccine for SARS-CoV-2 . CureVac is unlik
         ely to develop one quickly enough alone . Now 's a good time for pharma to
          cooperate , rather than compete for financial gains .
         It works ! It worked after 9/11 . God Bless Lee Greenwood ! God Bless Cure
         Vac ! God Bless China ! God Bless Italy ! God Bless Iran ! God Bless South
          Korea ! God Bless Germany Too ! God Bless Asia , Europe , Africa , Americ
         as & Australia . pic.twitter.com/dSKwPrLTeD
         Glad researchers behind GER lab # CureVac have '' vetoed '' this , it s a
         sign of huge \frac{\text{progress}}{\text{prom the times}} from the \frac{\text{times}}{\text{times}} of \# WorldWar . Einstein & others gav
         e up their research to build d A-Bomb : if we do give up our values to mon
         ey we have nothing else but # death ahead . # EU stay strong @ vonderleyen
         Take Precautions . Pray Harder . Pray that something good comes out of ' C
         urevac among others . Faith over Fear . This too shall pass in JESUS name
         . Once again liked I posted earlier . `` Pls dont forget to lift up prayer
         s over the virus '' . We are not really praying . Lets Pray Saints
         1/ Yes . Human vaccine trials are already underway in the US and China . C
         ureVac in Germany has two candidates and expect an experimental vaccine in
          June/July . Having said that , the expectation is , it will only be publi
         cly available in about 18 months . Until then
In [ ]:
```

Fraction of emotions in relation to number of tweets, before and during the online storm

```
In [76]: df1 = df emo.groupby(df emo['onlinestorm'])[emotions].apply(lambda x:( x.s
          um()/x.count())*100)
In [77]: df1.index = ['before onlinestorm', 'during onlinestorm']
In [78]: df1.head()
Out[78]:
                               Anger Anticipation
                                                  Disgust
                                                                             Sadness
                                                                                       Surprise
                                                              Fear
                                                                        Joy
           before_onlinestorm
                            5.091650
                                       54.921928
                                                 2.511881
                                                          8.689749 26.408690
                                                                             5.431093 22.471147 54
           during_onlinestorm 33.358116 86.270136 16.183395 31.945477 40.421314 28.178439 82.131351 81
```

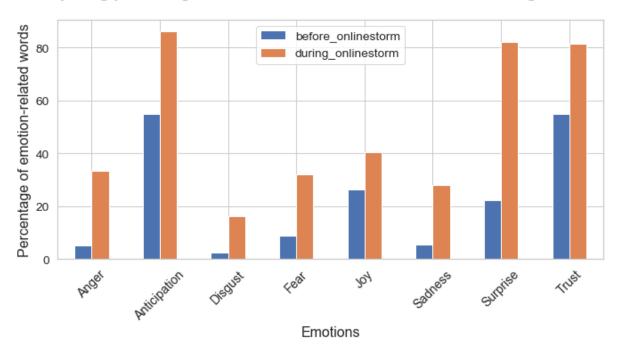
In [79]:

df1.index

```
Out[79]: Index(['before_onlinestorm', 'during_onlinestorm'], dtype='object')
In [80]: df__edf1.T
In [81]: df_.reset_index()
Out[81]:
```

index before_onlinestorm during_onlinestorm 33.358116 0 Anger 5.091650 **1** Anticipation 54.921928 86.270136 Disgust 2.511881 16.183395 2 Fear 8.689749 31.945477 3 26.408690 40.421314 4 Joy 28.178439 5 Sadness 5.431093 82.131351 6 Surprise 22.471147 81.437423 7 Trust 54.989817

Comparing percentage of emotion-related words before and during online storm



In []:

Applying a Z-score normalization

In another effort to normalize the emotion scores, I am using the Z-score, instead of the mere counts of word-emotion connections, because these are heavily affected by the number of tweets in each period in consideration.

The z-score tells us how many standard deviations an individual value is from the mean, and is calculated with following formula:

$$z = \frac{x - \mu}{\sigma}$$

I use the pandasÕ apply function to calculate the z-score of each individual value in all the 8 columns of emotions in the dataframe.

```
In [86]: df_emo.head()
```

Out[86]:

	datetime	text	edited	onlinestorm	Anger	Anticipation	Disgust	Fear	•
0	2014-03- 12 18:26:59	Robert-Jan Smits at Innovation Convention 2014	smits innovation convention win Û2m inducement	False	-0.211661	-0.764009	-0.156192	-0.261235	-0.515
1	2014-03- 13 09:50:54	First #EU #vaccine prize awarded 2 CureVac	first eu prize award euic2014 check complex jo	False	-0.211661	2.018154	-0.156192	2.745007	3.388
2	2014-03- 14 12:50:28	Congrats 2 CureVac! 4 #EU #vaccine prize #	congrats eu prize euic2014 find industry contr	False	-0.211661	-0.764009	-0.156192	-0.261235	-0.515
3	2014-03- 14 16:01:30	MT @sanofiDE CureVac Wins Two Million EUR f	mt sanofide win million eur inaugural european	False	-0.211661	-0.764009	-0.156192	-0.261235	-0.515t
4	2014-03- 14 17:44:32	CureVac wins EU's EUR2m inducement prize for	win eu eur2m inducement prize mactive technol	False	-0.211661	-0.764009	-0.156192	-0.261235	-0.515

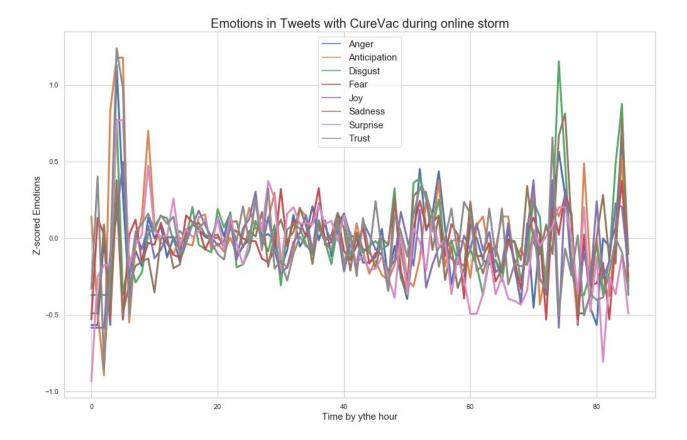
The dynamics of emotions during the online storm

With our normalized values, we can now have a more precise view of the way emotions evolved, by the hour, during the 3 days of the online storm.

Here we have a mixture of all the emotions during online storm ...

```
In [87]: plot_emotions_period(df_emo[df_emo['onlinestorm']], emotions)
```

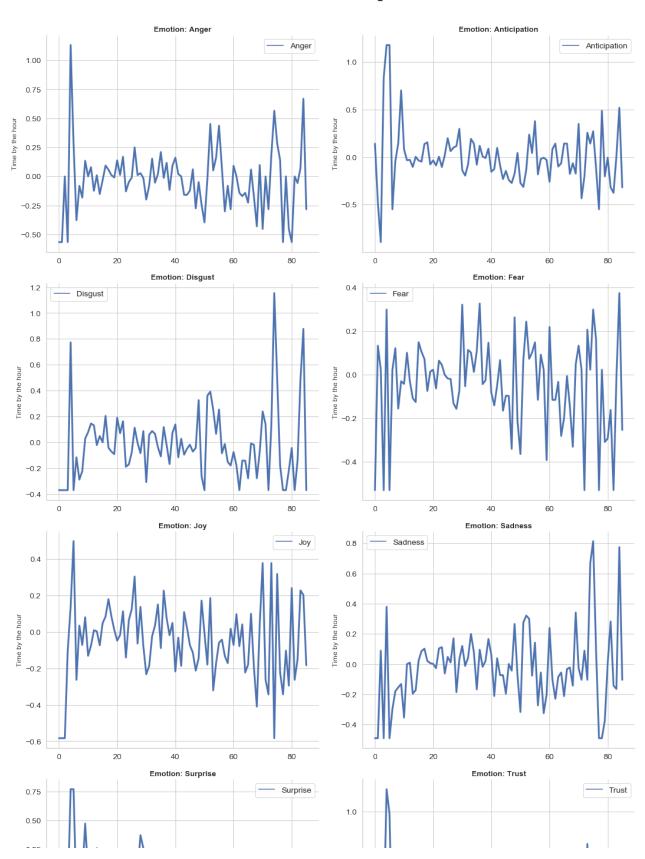
In []:

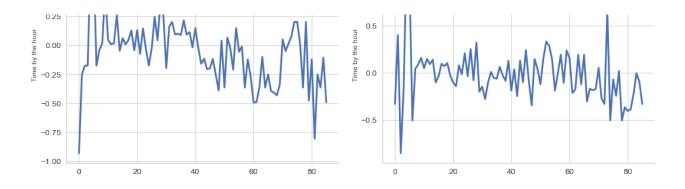


Let's see how each of the emotions evolved during this period ...

```
In [88]: # Plotting emotions during online storm
         fig, axs = plt.subplots(figsize=(15, 25), frameon=False)
         plt.box(False)
         plt.axis('off')
         plt.subplots adjust(hspace = 1.6)
         counter = 0
         df = df emo[df emo['onlinestorm']]
         df1 = df.groupby(df['datetime'].dt.to period('h')).mean()
         df1.reset index(inplace=True)
         df1['datetime'] = pd.PeriodIndex(df1['datetime']).to timestamp()
         for i, emotion in enumerate (emotions): # for each emotion
             emo = []
             emo.append(emotion)
             plot df = pd.DataFrame(df1, df1.index, emo)
             sns.set(style="whitegrid")
             sns.set context("notebook", font scale=1.25)
             ax = fig.add subplot(4, 2, counter+1) # plot 2 charts in each of the 4
          rows
             sns.despine()
             ax = sns.lineplot(data=plot df, linewidth = 3, dashes = False)
             plt.ylabel('Time by the hour', fontsize=12)
             ax.set title(label=str('Emotion: ') + emotion, fontweight='bold', size
         =13)
            counter += 1
```

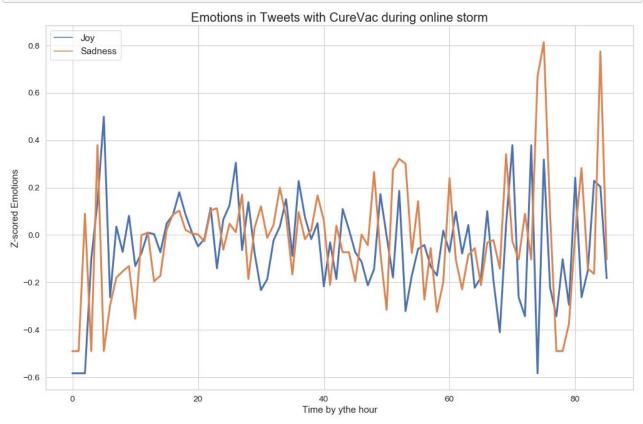
Plot for each emotion during online storm



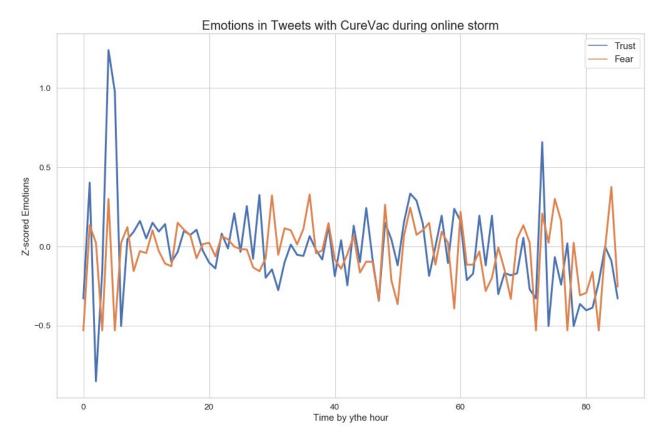


Another way of looking at it is by plotting contrasts of emotions, like joy and sadness ...





```
In [ ]:
In [91]: plot_emotions_period(df_emo[df_emo['onlinestorm']], ['Trust', 'Fear'])
```



In	[]:	
In	[]:	
In	[]:	