

NLP for Social Good

Splash 2018

What is it?

...and why do we care?

What is “NLP”?

“Natural-language processing (NLP) is an area of computer science and artificial intelligence concerned with the interactions between computers and human (natural) languages, in particular how to program computers to fruitfully process large amounts of natural language data.”

- Wikipedia

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Why do we care?

“Analysts at Gartner (gated) estimate that **upward of 80%** of enterprise data today is **unstructured.**”



3,899,688,554

Internet Users in the world



1,869,784,299

Total number of Websites



102,760,481,430

Emails sent [today](#)



2,449,459,320

Google searches [today](#)



2,307,414

Blog posts written [today](#)



294,877,344

Tweets sent [today](#)



2,706,714,113

Videos viewed [today](#)
on YouTube



30,954,915

Photos uploaded [today](#)
on Instagram



50,356,356

Tumblr posts [today](#)

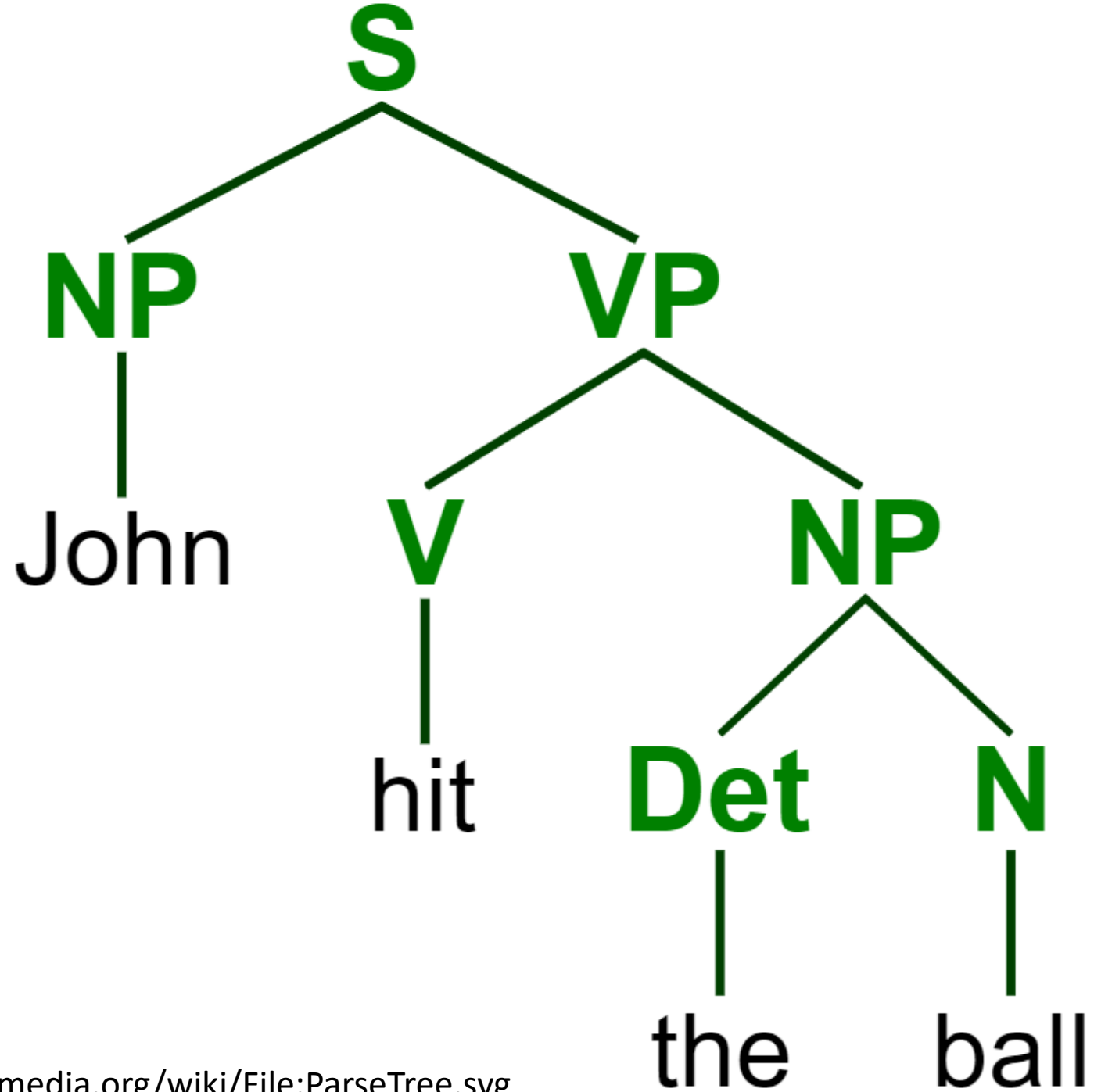
What can we work on?

What is “NLP”?

“Natural-language processing (NLP) is an area of computer science and artificial intelligence concerned with the interactions between computers and human (natural) languages, in particular how to program computers to fruitfully process large amounts of natural language data.

Challenges in natural-language processing frequently involve **speech recognition, natural-language understanding, and natural-language generation.**”

- Wikipedia



Sentence: 这是一篇有趣的文章

Words: 这是 一篇 有趣 的 文章

(zhèshì yīpiān yǒuqù de wénzhāng)

(This is an interesting article)

Englisch Deutsch Lateinisch Englisch - erkannt ▼



Deutsch Englisch Lateinisch ▼

Übersetzen

We hope that you have tons of fun today!

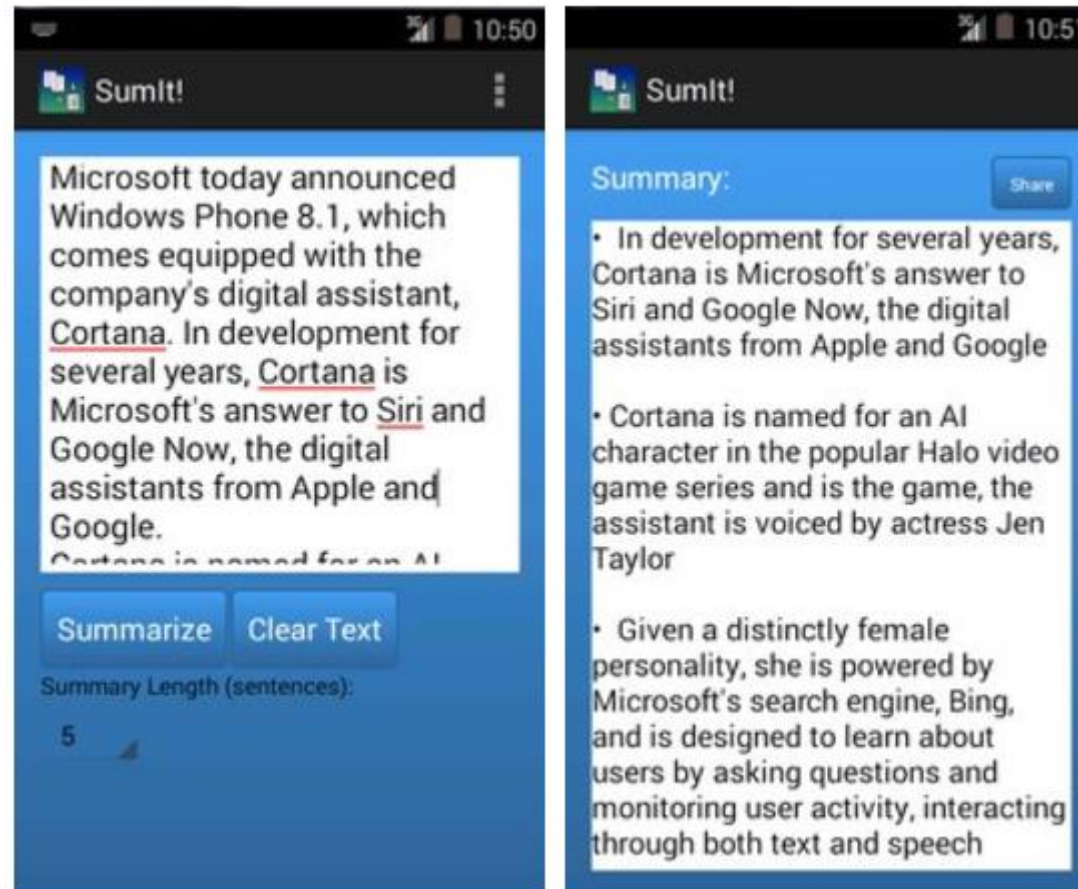


40/5000

Wir hoffen, dass Sie heute viel Spaß haben!



✎ Änderung vorschlagen



Bitext Topic-based Sentiment Analysis service provides polarity, sentiment scoring, sentiment text and, most important, sentiment topic identification out of raw data with over 90% accuracy by relying on Deep Linguistic Analysis and in our in-house parsing technology.

API TEST TOOL

English

Sentiment

Graphical

I ¹really enjoyed using the ¹Canon Ixus in Madrid on March 4. The ²Panasonic Lumix ²is a bit disappointing, but the ³Canon ³camera is ³not bad at all. All I want when taking photos is point it and then just press the button. For only 200 dollars, a ⁴really fair ⁴price, this ⁵camera is ⁵perfect for me. Besides, I have had a ⁶good ⁶customer ⁶service ⁶experience. ⁷John Faraday was ⁷very nice!

LEGEND color key

SENTIMENT

Sentiment topic

Positive sentiment text

Negative sentiment text

1 Text and topic link

ANALYZE TEXT ▶

RESET ↺

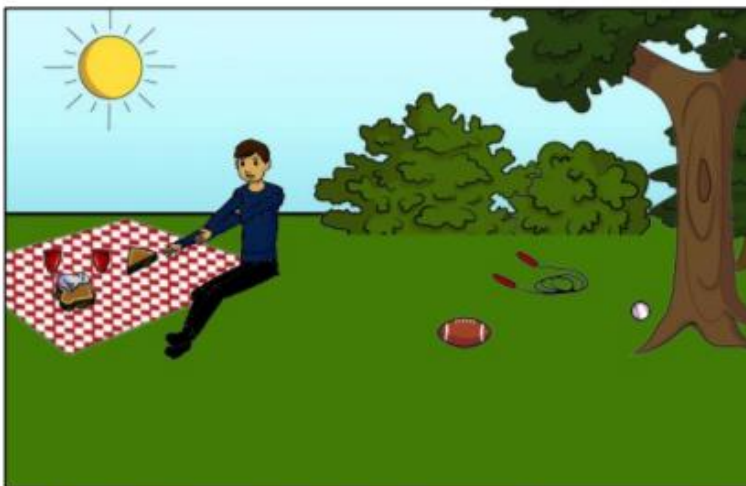
I want to try it →



What color are her eyes?
What is the mustache made of?



How many slices of pizza are there?
Is this a vegetarian pizza?



Is this person expecting company?
What is just under the tree?



Does it appear to be rainy?
Does this person have 20/20 vision?



<https://matlab1.com/support-vector-machine-speech-recognition/>



Google Text-to-speech

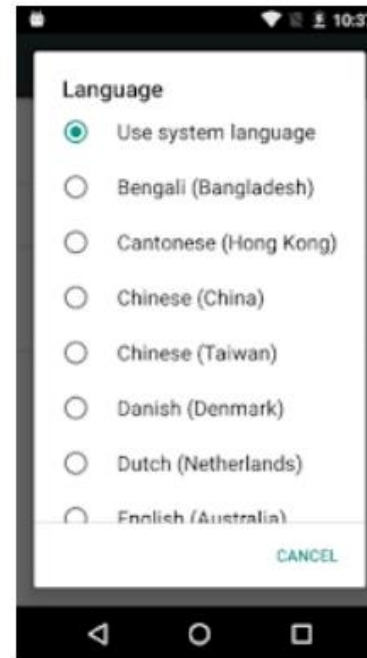
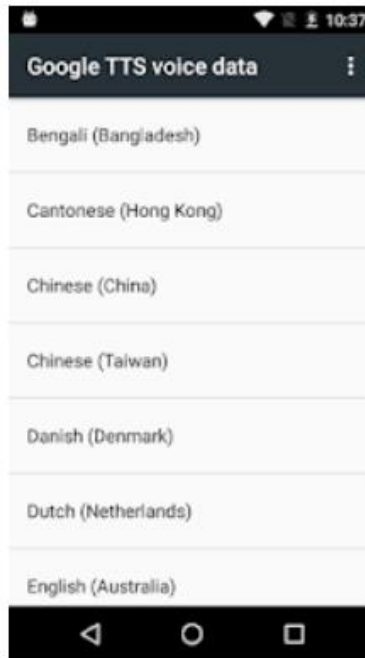
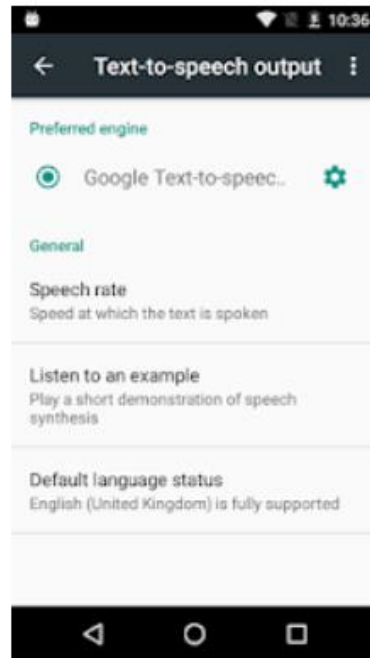
Google LLC Tools

★★★★☆ 1,141,157

Everyone

Add to Wishlist

Install



What makes it difficult?

What is “NLP”?

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Englisch Deutsch Lateinisch Englisch - erkannt ▼



Deutsch Englisch Lateinisch ▼

Übersetzen

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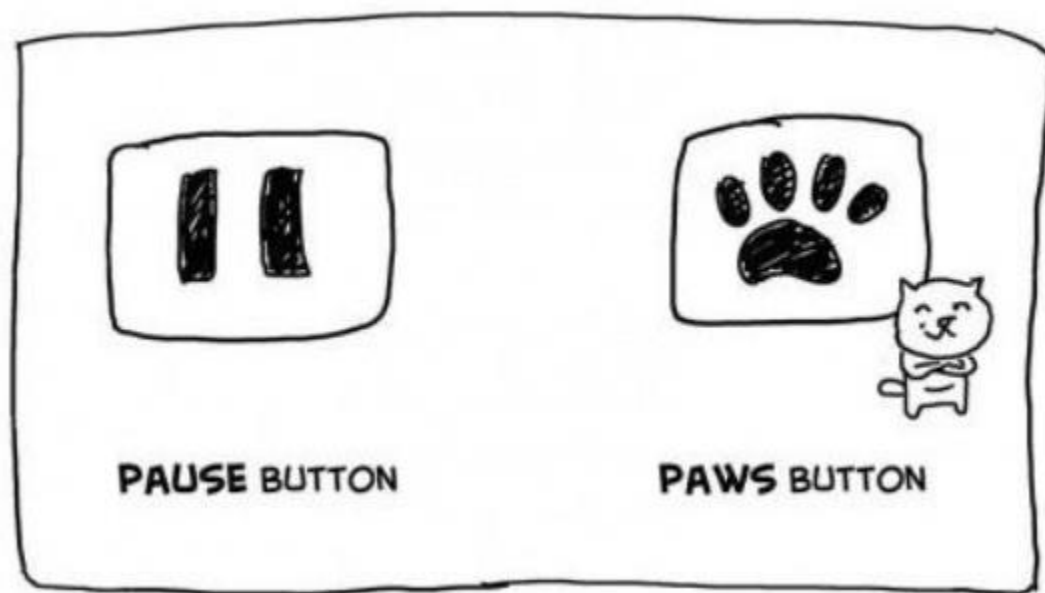
40/5000

Wir hoffen, dass Sie heute viel Spaß haben!



✎ Änderung vorschlagen







我喜欢新西兰花

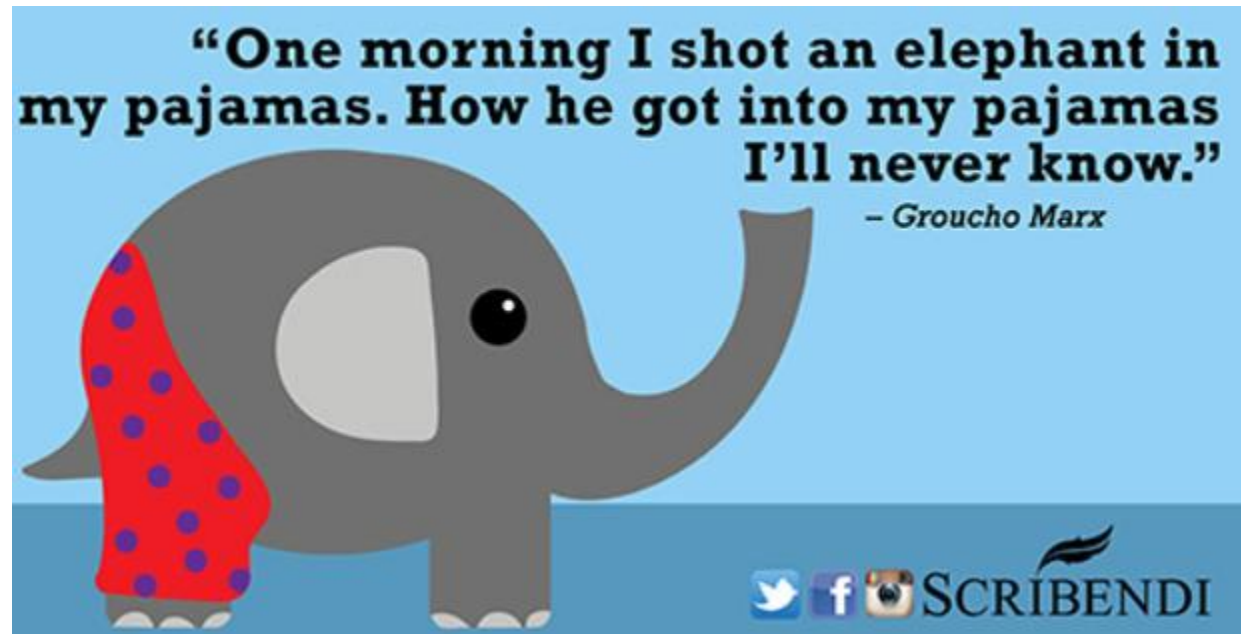
Unsegmented Chinese sentence

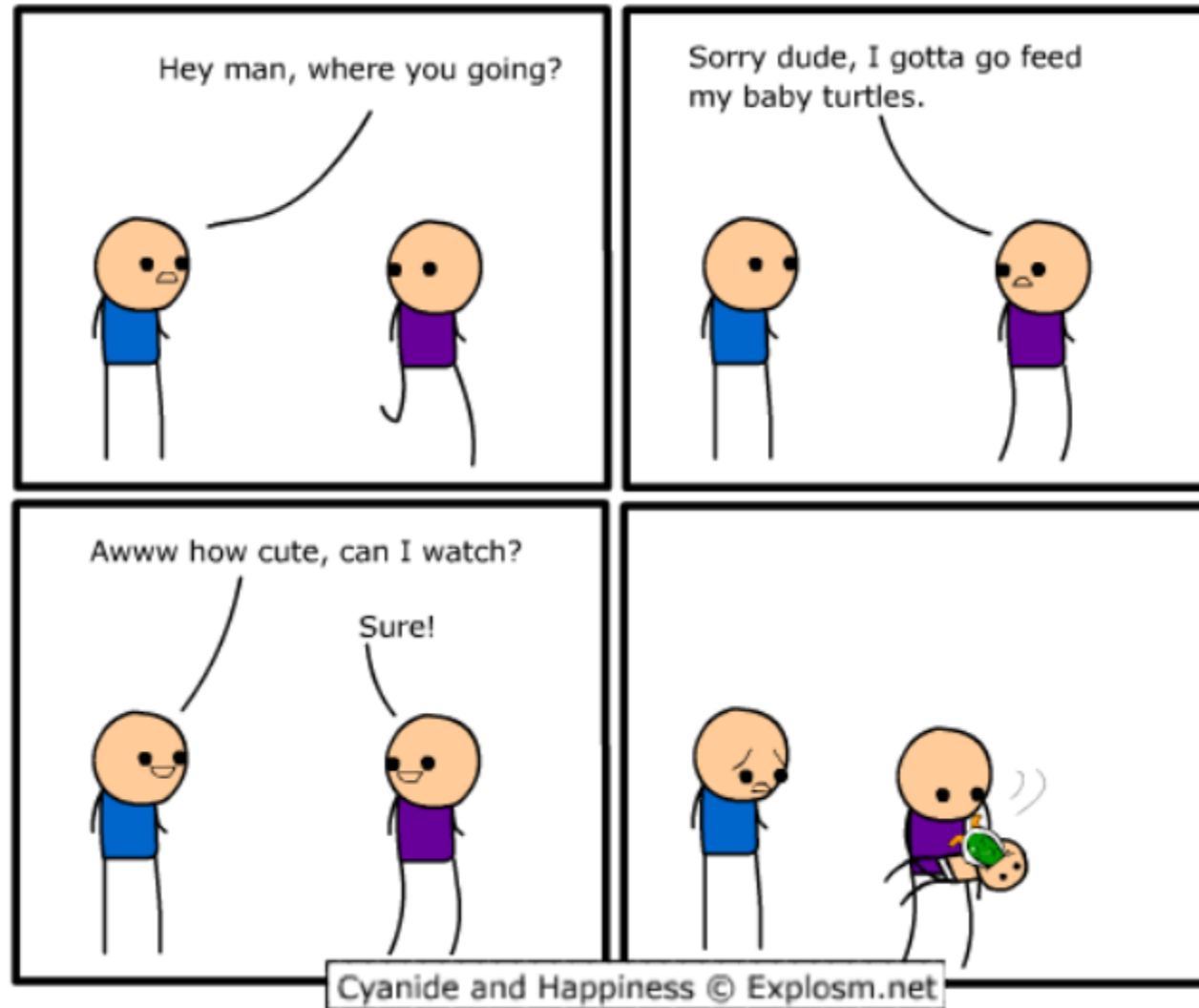
我 喜欢 新西兰 花

I like New Zealand flowers

我 喜欢 新 西兰花

I like fresh broccoli







How does it work?

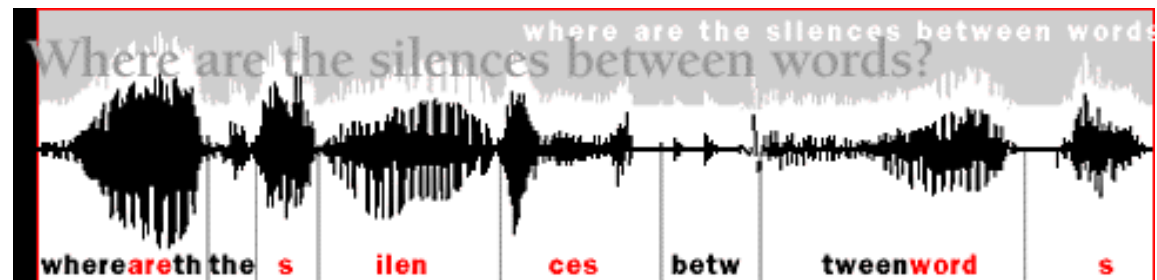
...and how can we make it work?

Hangman

- Why did you guess the letters in the order that you did?

Human Learning

- Statistical learning: learning how to understand and speak language by analyzing how others speak
 - Word frequencies, word order, recurring grammatical patterns
- Segmentation: 8-month-old infants react differently to pseudowords than non-words after 2 minutes of exposure to nonsense speech
- Examples:
 - “Powerful tea”
 - “Strong rain”
 - “



Natural Language Understanding

- Break speech down into letter / sound chunks
- Compare to recorded phonemes and pick likeliest combinations
 - Thank back to Hangman
 - Garden path sentences
- Get the important question words

Natural Language Generation

- Check the internet for response to question (or perform an action)
- Form sentence around answer information using grammatical rules
- Use speech to text!

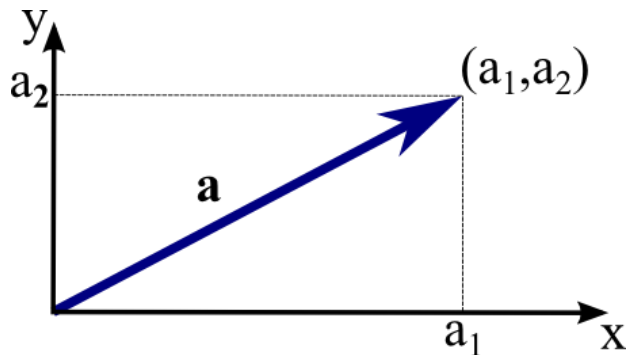


Representing Words

- Computers can model human statistical learning
- “ “You shall know a word by the company it keeps.” -- John Rupert Firth
- Given one word, what others are most likely to occur around it?

Representing Words

- Represent words as vectors
 - Vectors are like coordinates in higher dimensions
 - Like an arrow in multidimensional space
- These vectors are created by attempting to predict the contexts in which a given word is likely to appear
- The spatial relationships between word vectors often contain meaning about words!

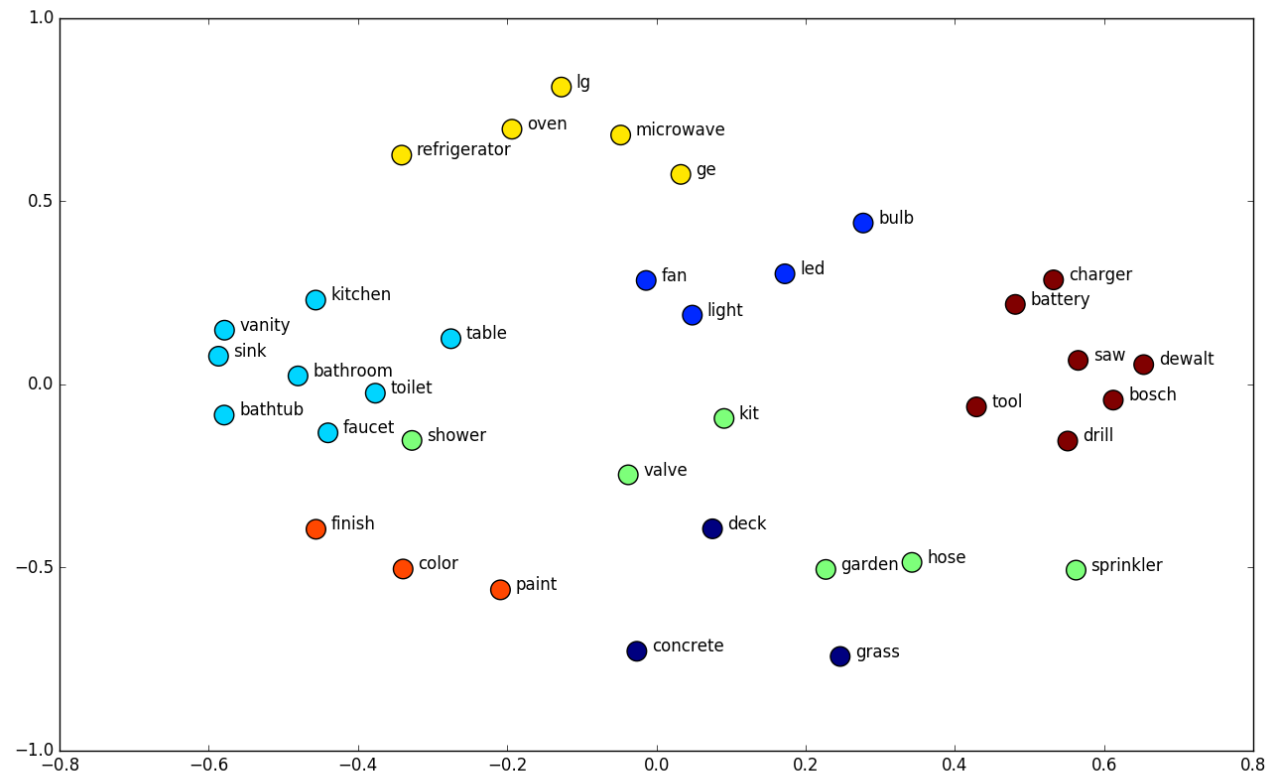


$W(\text{"pair"}) = (0.2, -0.4, 0.7, \dots)$

$W(\text{"pear"}) = (0.0, -0.1, 0.1, \dots)$

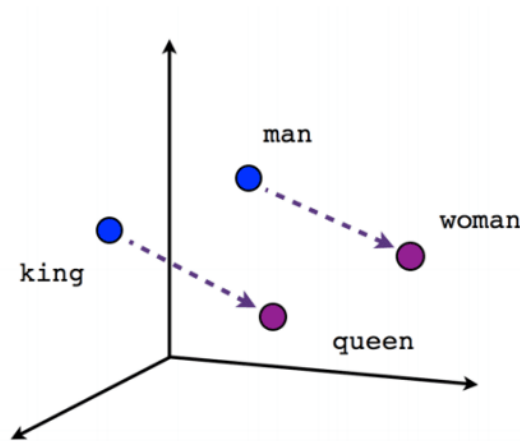
Word Patterns

- The computer doesn't *know* anything about the meaning of the words at all, but some interesting patterns emerge...
- Words that have similar meanings are usually very close in space

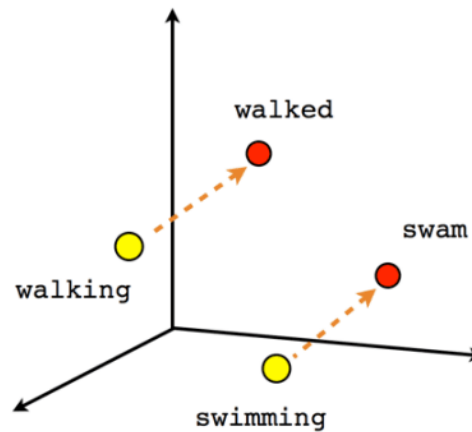


Word Patterns

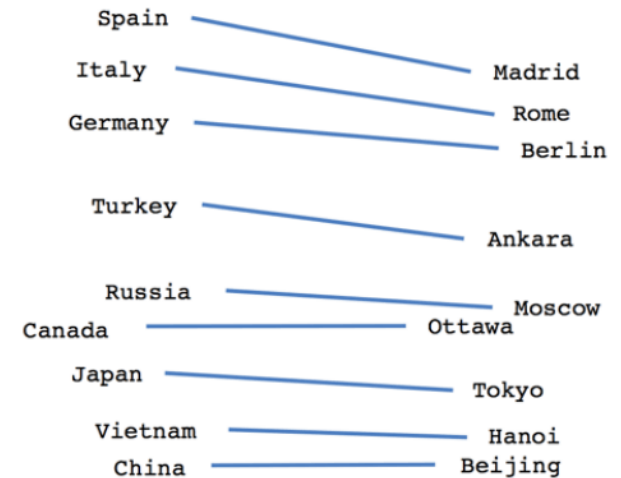
- Words with parallel relationships have matching spatial relationships



Male-Female

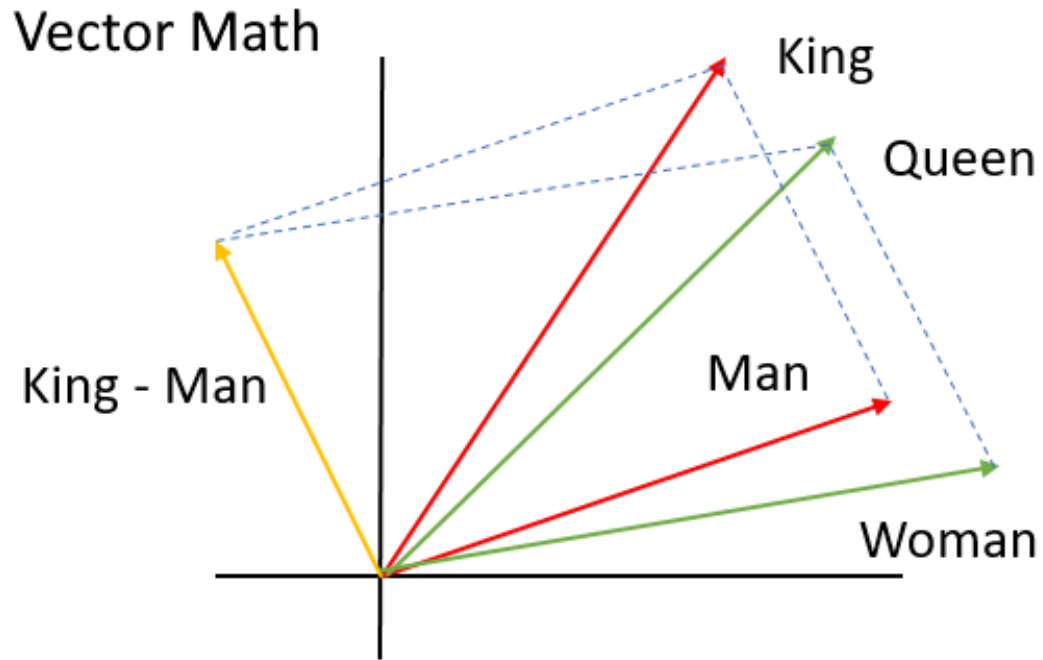


Verb tense



Country-Capital

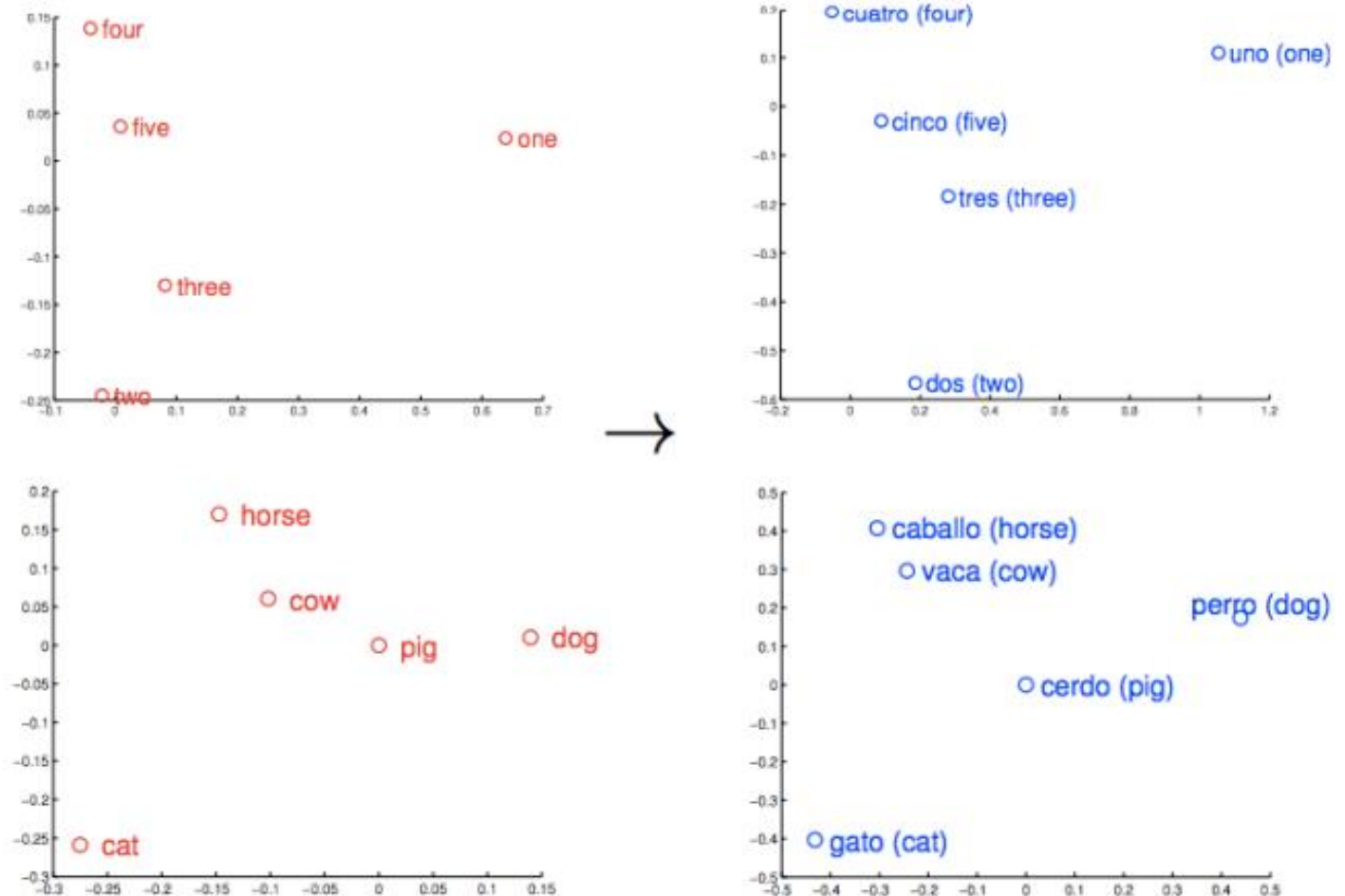
Cool Pattern: Vector Math



- Analogies
 - King is to Man as Queen is to....
- $(\text{King} - \text{Man}) = (\text{Queen} - \text{Woman})$
- Just based on solving for closest vector (minimum distance), we can get 60% accuracy at solving analogies
- Machine learning is NOT PERFECT, there is always some degree of error

Cool Pattern: Translation Similarity

- Same-meaning words tend to have very similar vectors across languages
- Comparing these “language spaces” helps us perform translation

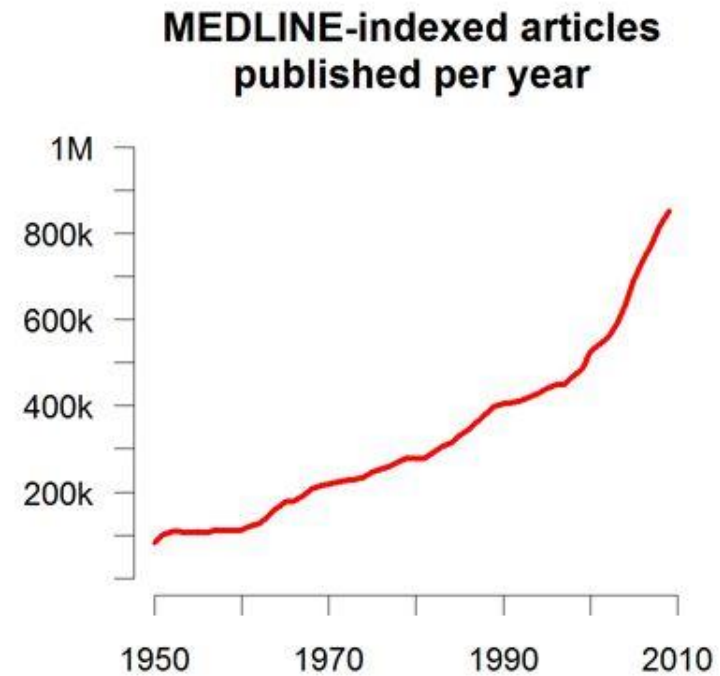


Where do we use it?

...and how do we use it?

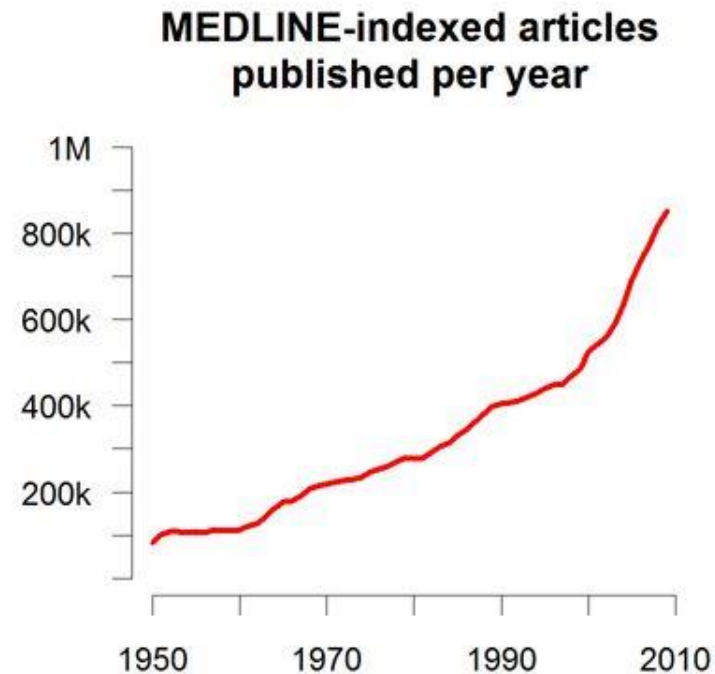
Medicine

- More complete and accurate patient records – computer assisted coding



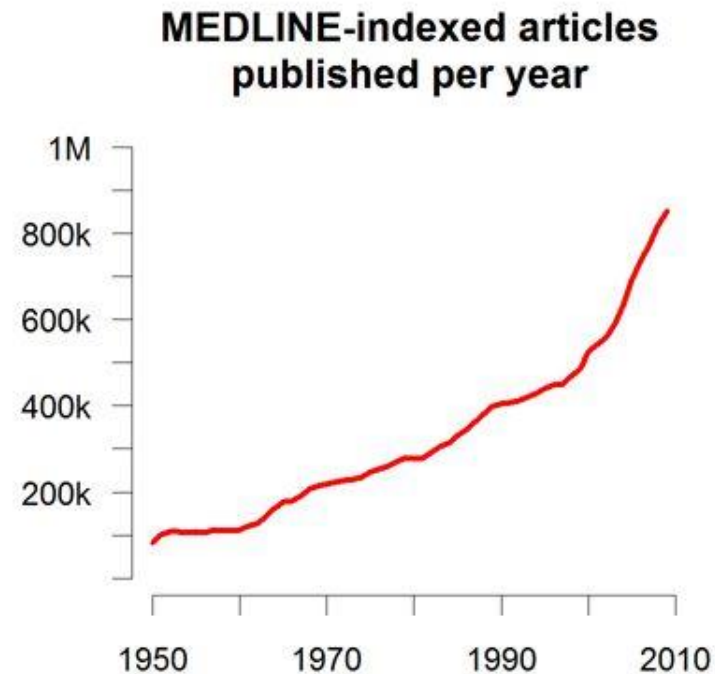
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- Efficiency gains: doctors can dictate their notes



Medicine

- More complete and accurate patient records – computer assisted coding
- Efficiency gains: doctors can dictate their notes
- Clinical decision support: IBM Watson can learn from entirety of Medline literature; impossible for doctors to read even a fraction of this



Censorship in China

Figure 4. Events with Highest and Lowest Censorship Magnitude

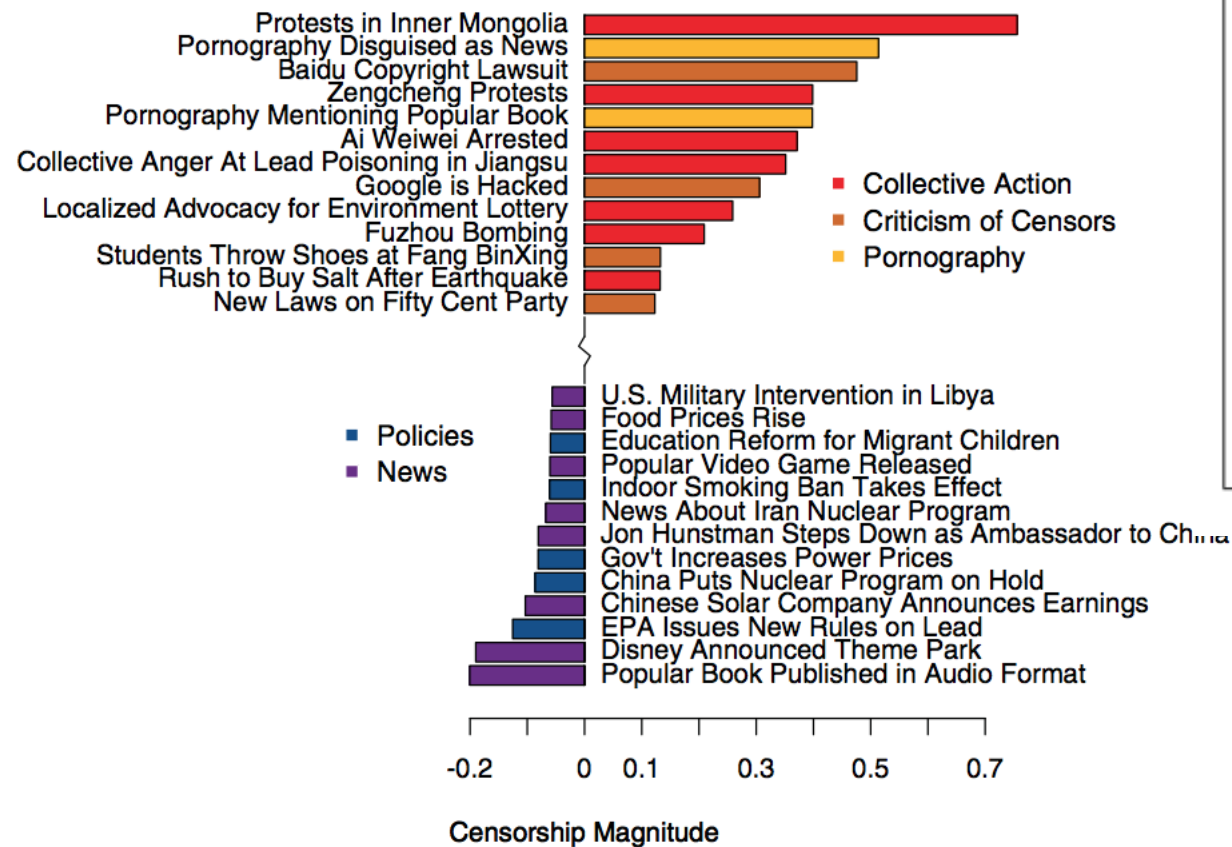


Figure 9. Content of All Censored Posts (Regardless of Topic Area)



King et al. 2013

Disaster Relief and Resource Allocation - Twitter

My apartment was flooded knee deep. The water has drained out. Right now my most urgent need is to find a contractor to a) come dry out the apt and b) if needed, replace the Sheetrock, insulation, and flooring, as I'm very concerned about the apartment becoming (even more) filled with mold.	Water	need
Over 25 people in line at Starbucks. People need coffee as much as they need food and gas post #Sandy (@ Starbucks) http://t.co/T7G3fBJg	None	N/A
My house hasn't had power for 6 days and I still flick the switch thinking the light will turn on #hurricanesandyproblems #stupidzachary	Energy	need
We run a worker-coop grocery store in providence - we'd love to help. We can bring down fresh vegetables, and also order essentially any natural foods you are in need of. Large bags of grains, nuts etc. Bulk peanut butter. Coffee beans (whole or ground) really anything. You could give us a list. We can deliver. We've begun collecting donations at the register to anticipate when you are ready to receive gift from providence. Please give me a call when you have time to arrange. We also may be able to bring pre-made sandwich/wraps. Heck even luxury like wine we can bring it- just let us know what you need. Best of luck and blessings.	Food	resource

Fake News Challenge

Headline:

"Robert Plant Ripped up \$800M Led Zeppelin Reunion Contract"

Claims:

"... No, Robert Plant did not rip up an \$800 million deal to get Led Zeppelin back together. ..."

CORRECT CLASSIFICATION:

Goal: train computer to recognize claims associated with headline as IN AGREEMENT, IN DISAGREEMENT, RELATED or UNRELATED

Fake News Challenge

Headline:

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Claims:

"... No, Robert Plant did not rip up an \$800 million deal to get Led Zeppelin back together. ..."

CORRECT CLASSIFICATION: DISAGREE

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Fake News Challenge

Headline:

"Robert Plant Ripped up \$800M Led Zeppelin Reunion Contract"

Claims:

"... Richard Branson's Virgin Galactic is set to launch SpaceShipTwo today. ..."

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Fake News Challenge

Headline:

"Robert Plant Ripped up \$800M Led Zeppelin Reunion Contract"

Claims:

"... Richard Branson's Virgin Galactic is set to launch SpaceShipTwo today. ..."

CORRECT CLASSIFICATION: UNRELATED

Goal: train computer to recognize claims associated with headline as IN AGREEMENT, IN DISAGREEMENT, RELATED or UNRELATED

What else could we do?

...and what should we do?

Man is to Computer Programmer as Woman is to Homemaker? Debiasing Word Embeddings

Tolga Bolukbasi¹, Kai-Wei Chang², James Zou², Venkatesh Saligrama^{1,2}, Adam Kalai²

¹Boston University, 8 Saint Mary's Street, Boston, MA

²Microsoft Research New England, 1 Memorial Drive, Cambridge, MA

tolgab@bu.edu, kw@kwchang.net, jamesyzou@gmail.com, srv@bu.edu, adam.kalai@microsoft.com

			Occupations		Adjectives	
Hispanic	Asian	White	Man	Woman	Man	Woman
housekeeper	professor	smith	carpenter	nurse	honorable	maternal
mason	official	blacksmith	mechanic	midwife	ascetic	romantic
artist	secretary	surveyor	mason	librarian	amiable	submissive
janitor	conductor	sheriff	blacksmith	housekeeper	dissolute	hysterical
dancer	physicist	weaver	retired	dancer	arrogant	elegant
mechanic	scientist	administrator	architect	teacher	erratic	caring
photographer	chemist	mason	engineer	cashier	heroic	delicate
baker	tailor	statistician	mathematician	student	boyish	superficial
cashier	accountant	clergy	shoemaker	designer	fanatical	neurotic
driver	engineer	photographer	physicist	weaver	aimless	attractive

What can we do in the future?

Questions?

...and answers?