Being Heard and Being Liked: Use of Real-Time Feedback in Email Communication



A Conrad Nied

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Style 0 %

Mood **75** %

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Verbalucce, The System

- Developed at Intel Labs by Margie Morris & her team
 - Refined for this study
- Compares new email replies to original email

Count **1** | 15

- Luke Skywalker

Reports real-time aggregate in-sync score & individual metrics

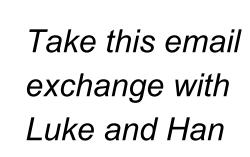
Luke Skywalker (anewhope@gmail.com)

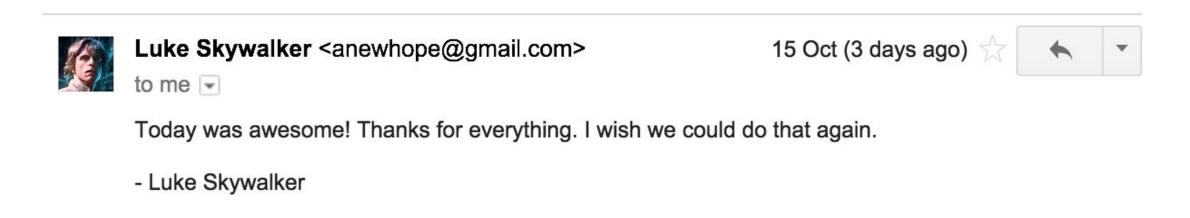
Positive 1 | 2

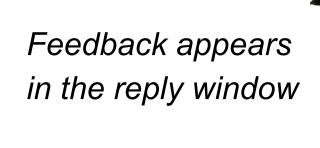
22 % in sync

On 15 October 2015 at 23:17, Luke Skywalker <anewhope@gmail.com> wrote:

Today was awesome! Thanks for everything. I wish we could do that again.

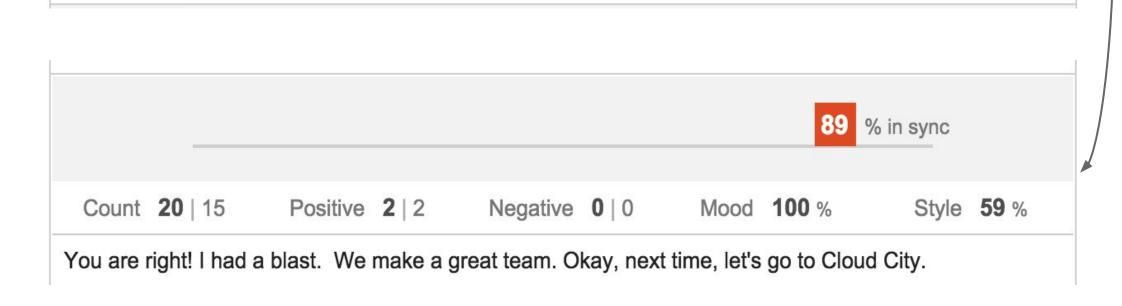






This reply echoes the original email's sentiment, but is way off on style

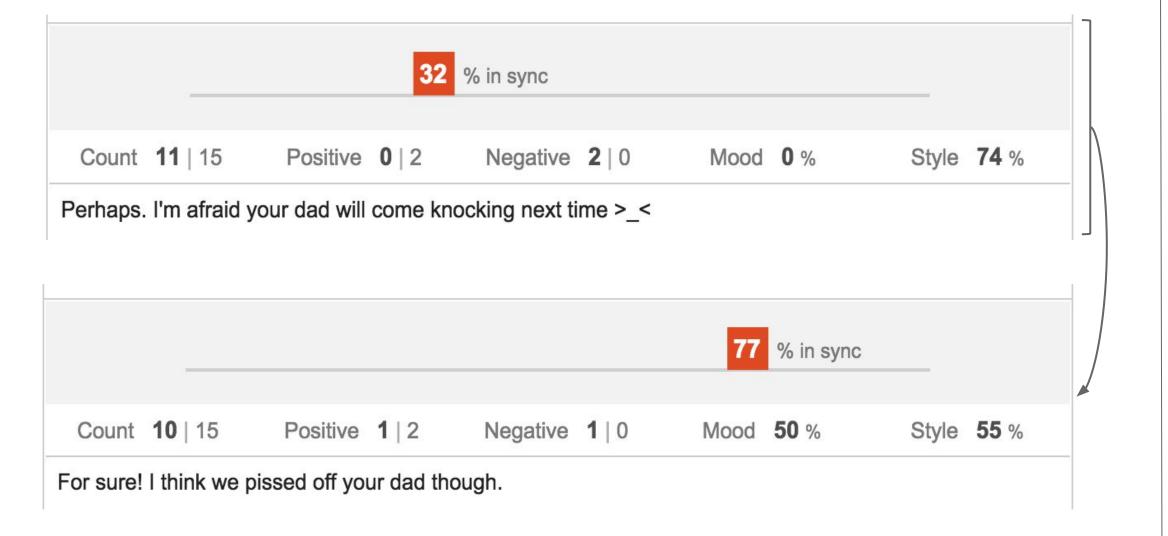
This reply matches the original email much better



Negative 0 | 0

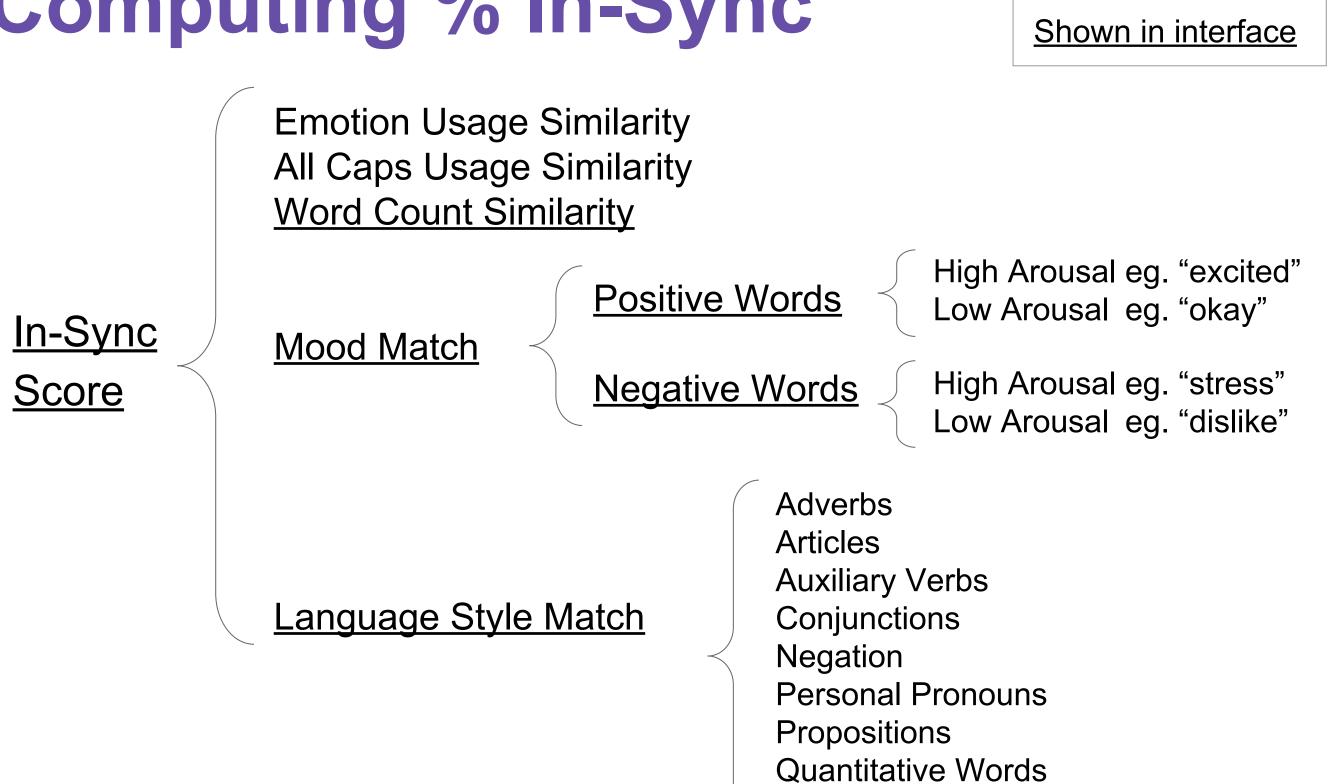
Sometimes you need to say things that do not mirror well

But you can find ways to mirror the original email much better and increase your chance to be heard and to be liked



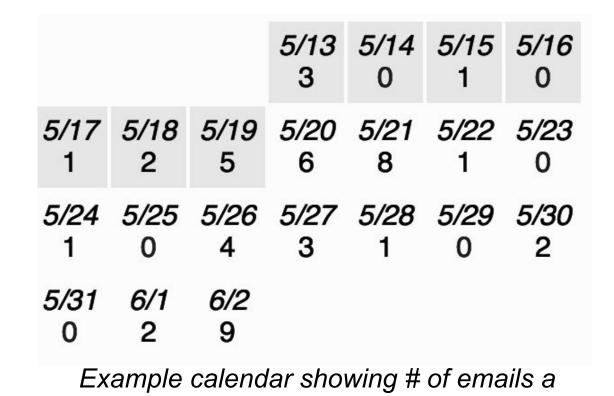
Impersonal Pronouns

Computing % In-Sync



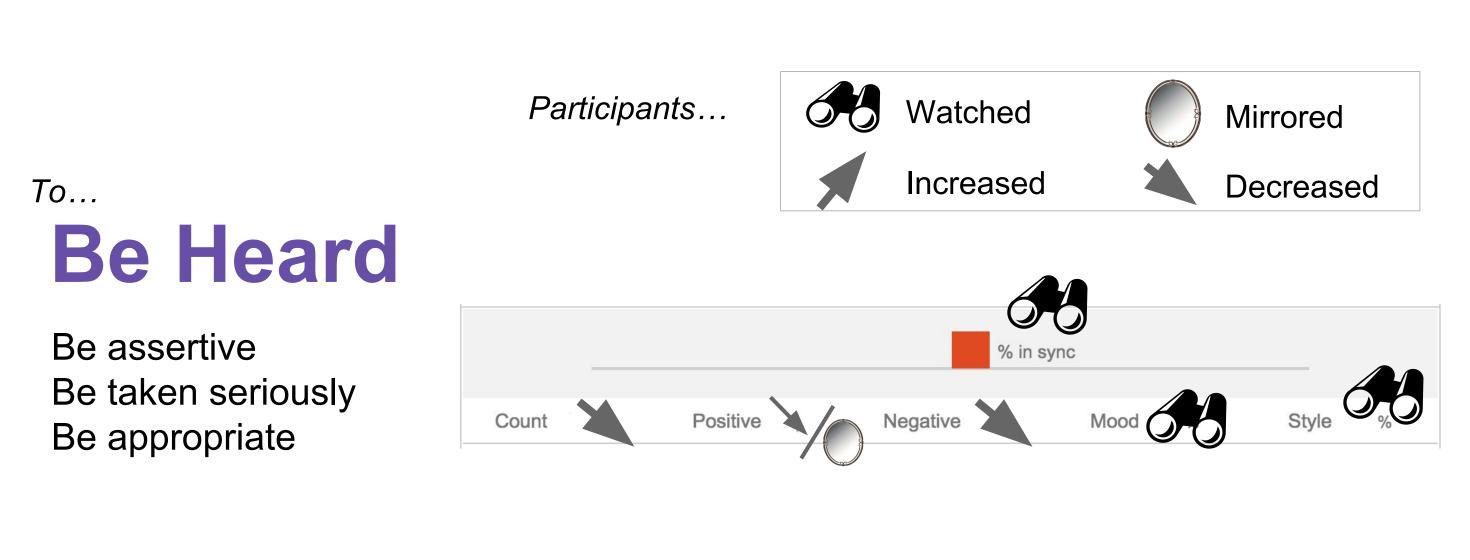
Field Study

- 20 participants
 - 18 interviewed
- 3 weeks
 - 1 week no feedback
 - 2 weeks with feedback
- "In the Wild" usual email use



user wrote during study.

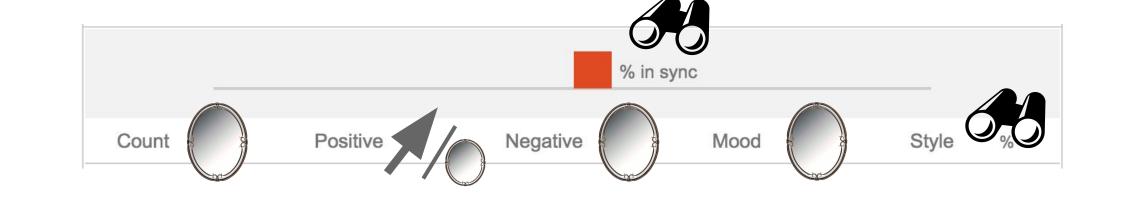
"I watched how the positive and negative words changed as I wrote the email because I was giving feedback [to my labmates]. I checked after each comment what the tone seemed to be at that point. I don't think it really impacted the content of the email. It just made me make sure that I wasn't being too critical or not really giving substantial feedback."



To...

Be Liked

Be encouraging Be empathic Be expressive



Opinion of System Self Assessed Personality Not Useful Useful -1.0 -2.2 n.s. Extraversion Agreeableness n.s. Conscientiousness n.s. **Emotional Stability** 0.8 n.s. p < 0.05Openness to Experiences

Average Personality Ratings using TIPI, grouped by participants who subjectively described the feedback as useful or as not useful.

Not enough emails recorded (669) & too much variability for quantitative results based on email metrics

Design Implications

- Granular Feedback is More Actionable
- Increase Visibility / Highlight Words during Large Mismatches
- Cross-Platform Feedback, New Contexts
- Accommodate Context of Conversation
- Additional Feedback Measures
 - Enthusiasm, formality, historical comparisons