February 6, 2018

Dr. Taylor,

We are writing for *Language and Communication* to consider, “Latent Semantic Analysis Applied to Authorship Questions in Textual Analysis” for publication as a multidisciplinary research article. This manuscript has not been previously published, and it is not under review at any other journal. The research in this study did not use participant data and was exempt from IRB approval by Missouri State University.

The purpose of this study was to determine whether Latent Semantic Analysis (LSA) would support qualitative and linguistic analyses of pre-existing literature. Specifically, this study examined the Deutero-Isaiah hypothesis, a popular theory among Biblical scholars that the *Book of Isaiah* was written by three separate authors, as opposed to a single historical figure. This study found that each hypothesized section’s latent semantic cosines correlated significantly with themselves, while differing significantly from one another. Moreover, there were pronounced semantic changes across the latter two sections of *Isaiah,* which were not observed in the first section. Combined, these results provide support for the Deutero-Isaiah hypothesis and demonstrate the usability of LSA in providing quantitative support alongside qualitative textual analyses. We believe this research will be of interest to your journal because of its focus on novel adaptations of statistical methodology to interdisciplinary psycholinguistic problems.

Thank you for your consideration of our work. Do not hesitate to contact us with any questions or concerns you may have.

Sincerely,

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