

Project1

Code ▼

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Inaugural speeches are the beginning of presidency for every American presidents, which are supposed to cover the heat of time and show the presidents' political position. When there is a recession, would presidents tend to use sepecific words? Would they focus more on economy? Would they feel fear? This report focus on above questions.

According to the list of recessions in the United States

(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_recessions_in_the_United_States

(https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_recessions_in_the_United_States)), I pick 14 presidents who gave their inaugural speeches during recessions. They are Barack Obama, Ronald Reagan, John.F.Kennedy, Harry.S.Truman, William McKinley, Andrew Jackson, Abraham Lincoln, James.K.Polk, Grover Cleveland, William Henry Harrison, John Quincy Adams, James Monroe, Thomas Jefferson, John Adams. In the following report, I use “the first group” to represent these 14 presidents, and “the other group” to represent other presidents.

I will use worldcloud to find presidents' most used words, topic models to find their topics, and sentiment analysis to analyze their emotions.

Step 0: Gather data

Check and install needed packages. Load the libraries and functions.

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```

packages.used=c("rvest", "tibble", "qdap",
                "sentimentr", "gplots", "dplyr",
                "tm", "syuzhet", "factoextra",
                "beeswarm", "scales", "RColorBrewer",
                "RANN", "tm", "topicmodels")
# check packages that need to be installed.
packages.needed=setdiff(packages.used,
                        intersect(installed.packages()[,1],
                                packages.used))

# install additional packages
if(length(packages.needed)>0){
  install.packages(packages.needed, dependencies = TRUE)
}
# load packages
library("rvest")
library("tibble")
# You may need to run
# sudo ln -f -s $(/usr/libexec/java_home)/jre/lib/server/libjvm.dylib /usr/local/lib
# in order to load qdap
library("qdap")
library("sentimentr")
library("gplots")
library("dplyr")
library("tm")
library("syuzhet")
library("factoextra")
library("beeswarm")
library("scales")
library("RColorBrewer")
library("RANN")
library("tm")
library("topicmodels")
library("wordcloud")
library(tidytext)
source("../lib/plotstacked.R")
source("../lib/speechFuncs.R")

```

This notebook was prepared with the following environmental settings.

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```
print(R.version)
```

```
platform      _  
arch          x86_64-apple-darwin15.6.0  
os            darwin15.6.0  
system        x86_64, darwin15.6.0  
status  
major         3  
minor         4.3  
year          2017  
month         11  
day           30  
svn rev       73796  
language      R  
version.string R version 3.4.3 (2017-11-30)  
nickname      Kite-Eating Tree
```

Data harvest: scrap speech URLs from <http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/> (<http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/>).

Following the example of Jerid Francom (<https://francojc.github.io/2015/03/01/web-scraping-with-rvest-in-r/>), we used Selectorgadget (<http://selectorgadget.com/>) to choose the links we would like to scrap. For this project, we selected all inaugural addresses of past presidents, nomination speeches of major party candidates and farewell addresses. We also included several public speeches from Donald Trump for our textual analysis of presidential speeches.

The inaugural speeches dates are as follows.

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```
### Inaugural speeches  
main.page <- read_html(x = "http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/inaugurals.php")  
# Get link URLs  
# f.speechlinks is a function for extracting links from the list of speeches.  
inaug=f.speechlinks(main.page)  
#head(inaug)  
as.Date(inaug[,1], format="%B %e, %Y")
```

```
[1] "1789-04-30" "1793-03-04" "1797-03-04" "1801-03-04" "1805-03-04" "1809-03-04" "1813-03-04"
[8] "1817-03-04" "1821-03-04" "1825-03-04" "1829-03-04" "1833-03-04" "1837-03-04" "1841-03-04"
[15] "1845-03-04" "1849-03-05" "1853-03-04" "1857-03-04" "1861-03-04" "1865-03-04" "1869-03-04"
[22] "1873-03-04" "1877-03-05" "1881-03-04" "1885-03-04" "1889-03-04" "1893-03-04" "1897-03-04"
[29] "1901-03-04" "1905-03-04" "1909-03-04" "1913-03-04" "1917-03-04" "1921-03-04" "1925-03-04"
[36] "1929-03-04" "1933-03-04" "1937-01-20" "1941-01-20" "1945-01-20" "1949-01-20" "1953-01-20"
[43] "1957-01-21" "1961-01-20" "1965-01-20" "1969-01-20" "1973-01-20" "1977-01-20" "1981-01-20"
[50] "1985-01-21" "1989-01-20" "1993-01-20" "1997-01-20" "2001-01-20" "2005-01-20" "2009-01-20"
[57] "2013-01-21" "2017-01-20" NA
```

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```
inaug=inaug[-nrow(inaug),] # remove the last line, irrelevant due to error.
#### Nomination speeches
main.page=read_html("http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/nomination.php")
# Get link URLs
nomin <- f.speechlinks(main.page)
nomin <- nomin[-47,]
#head(nomin)
#
#### Farewell speeches
main.page=read_html("http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/farewell_addresses.php")
# Get link URLs
farewell <- f.speechlinks(main.page)
#head(farewell)
```

Using speech metadata posted on <http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/> (<http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/>), we prepared CSV data sets for the speeches we will scrap.

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```
inaug.list=read.csv("../data/inauglist.csv", stringsAsFactors = FALSE)
nomin.list=read.csv("../data/nominlist.csv", stringsAsFactors = FALSE)
farewell.list=read.csv("../data/farewelllist.csv", stringsAsFactors = FALSE)
```

We assemble all scrapped speeches into one list. Note here that we don't have the full text yet, only the links to full text transcripts.

Scrap the texts of speeches from the speech URLs.

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```
speech.list=rbind(inaug.list, nomin.list, farewell.list)
speech.list$type=c(rep("inaug", nrow(inaug.list)),
                  rep("nomin", nrow(nomin.list)),
                  rep("farewell", nrow(farewell.list)))
speech.url=rbind(inaug, nomin, farewell)
speech.list=cbind(speech.list, speech.url)
```

Based on the list of speeches, we scrap the main text part of the transcript's html page. For simple html pages of this kind, Selectorgadget (<http://selectorgadget.com/>) is very convenient for identifying the html node that `rvest` can use to scrap its content. For reproducibility, we also save our scrapped speeches into our local folder as individual speech files.

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```
# Loop over each row in speech.list
speech.list$fulltext=NA
for(i in seq(nrow(speech.list))) {
  text <- read_html(speech.list$urls[i]) %>% # load the page
  html_nodes(".displaytext") %>% # isolate the text
  html_text() # get the text
  speech.list$fulltext[i]=text
  # Create the file name
  filename <- paste0("../data/fulltext/",
                    speech.list$type[i],
                    speech.list$File[i], "-",
                    speech.list$Term[i], ".txt")
  sink(file = filename) %>% # open file to write
  cat(text) # write the file
  sink() # close the file
}
speech.list[which(speech.list$File=="GroverCleveland-II"),]$File <- "GroverCleveland"
speech.list[which(speech.list$File=="GroverCleveland-I"),]$File <- "GroverCleveland"
```

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```

speech1=paste(readLines("../data/fulltext/SpeechDonaldTrump-NA.txt",
                        n=-1, skipNul=TRUE),
              collapse=" ")
speech2=paste(readLines("../data/fulltext/SpeechDonaldTrump-NA2.txt",
                        n=-1, skipNul=TRUE),
              collapse=" ")
speech3=paste(readLines("../data/fulltext/PressDonaldTrump-NA.txt",
                        n=-1, skipNul=TRUE),
              collapse=" ")
Trump.speeches=data.frame(
  President=rep("Donald J. Trump", 3),
  File=rep("DonaldJTrump", 3),
  Term=rep(0, 3),
  Party=rep("Republican", 3),
  Date=c("August 31, 2016", "September 7, 2016", "January 11, 2017"),
  Words=c(word_count(speech1), word_count(speech2), word_count(speech3)),
  Win=rep("yes", 3),
  type=rep("speeches", 3),
  links=rep(NA, 3),
  urls=rep(NA, 3),
  fulltext=c(speech1, speech2, speech3)
)
speech.list=rbind(speech.list, Trump.speeches)

```

For simpler visualization, we divide presidents into two parts: a subset of the presidents gave inaugural speeches during recessions and others. We put "*" behind the presidents' name in the first group for simpler visualization.

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```

sel.comparison=c("BarackObama", "RonaldReagan", "JohnFKennedy", "HarryS Truman",
                 "WilliamMcKinley", "AndrewJackson", "AbrahamLincoln", "JamesK Polk",
                 "GroverCleveland", "WilliamHenryHarrison", "JohnQuincyAdams", "JamesMon
roe",
                 "ThomasJefferson", "JohnAdams")
sel.other <- setdiff(unique(sentence.list$File), sel.comparison)
for(i in 1:length(sel.comparison)){
  for(j in 1:length(speech.list$File)){
    if(speech.list$File[j] == sel.comparison[i]){
      speech.list$File[j] <- paste(sel.comparison[i], "*")
    }
  }
}
sel.comparison <- paste(sel.comparison, "*")

```

Data Processing — generate list of sentences

We will use sentences as units of analysis for this project, as sentences are natural language units for organizing thoughts and ideas.

We assign an sequential id to each sentence in a speech (`sent.id`) and also calculated the number of words in each sentence as *sentence length* (`word.count`).

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```
sentence.list=NULL
for(i in 1:nrow(speech.list)){
  sentences=sent_detect(speech.list$fulltext[i],
                        endmarks = c("?", ".", "!", "|", ";"))
  if(length(sentences)>0){
    emotions=get_nrc_sentiment(sentences)
    word.count=word_count(sentences)
    # colnames(emotions)=paste0("emo.", colnames(emotions))
    # in case the word counts are zeros?
    emotions=diag(1/(word.count+0.01))%*%as.matrix(emotions)
    sentence.list=rbind(sentence.list,
                        cbind(speech.list[i,-ncol(speech.list)],
                              sentences=as.character(sentences),
                              word.count,
                              emotions,
                              sent.id=1:length(sentences)
                              )
                        )
  }
}
```

Some non-sentences exist in raw data due to erroneous extra end-of-sentence marks. Remove them.

Step 1: WordCloud

Read in the speeches.

Text processing

Inspect an overall wordcloud

administration support
president system rights among
human interests made constitution
good united must
duty time let
work without justice union upon
whole new now people
political law years war may will
future foreign free power part states
confidence never duties less men first great
can country best
congress world nations every
make believe might party force national well nation powers
revenue many policy federal
institutions long much
freedom shall on public ne citizens principles man present
liberty peace executive state just high history
american laws equal
within life



These are the wordcloud of presidents' inaugural speeches of the first group in blue and of the other group in green. The words related to economy, like "revenue", "interests", "support", show up in the first one. So, we can conclude that when there was a recession, presidents did say more words related to economy than the others.

Step 2: Data analysis – Topic modeling

For topic modeling, we prepare a corpus of sentence snippets as follows. For each speech, we start with sentences and prepare a snippet with a given sentence with the flanking sentences.

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```
corpus.list=sentence.list[2:(nrow(sentence.list)-1), ]  
sentence.pre=sentence.list$sentences[1:(nrow(sentence.list)-2)]  
sentence.post=sentence.list$sentences[3:(nrow(sentence.list)-1)]  
corpus.list$snippets=paste(sentence.pre, corpus.list$sentences, sentence.post, sep=" "  
)  
rm.rows=(1:nrow(corpus.list))[corpus.list$sent.id==1]  
rm.rows=c(rm.rows, rm.rows-1)  
corpus.list=corpus.list[-rm.rows, ]
```

**** Text mining****

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```
docs <- Corpus(VectorSource(corpus.list$snippets))
```

Text basic processing Adapted from <https://eight2late.wordpress.com/2015/09/29/a-gentle-introduction-to-topic-modeling-using-r/> (<https://eight2late.wordpress.com/2015/09/29/a-gentle-introduction-to-topic-modeling-using-r/>).

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```
#remove potentially problematic symbols  
docs <-tm_map(docs,content_transformer(tolower))  
#remove punctuation  
docs <- tm_map(docs, removePunctuation)  
#Strip digits  
docs <- tm_map(docs, removeNumbers)  
#remove stopwords  
docs <- tm_map(docs, removeWords, stopwords("english"))  
#remove whitespace  
docs <- tm_map(docs, stripWhitespace)  
#Stem document  
docs <- tm_map(docs,stemDocument)
```

Topic modeling

Generate document-term matrices.

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```
dtm <- DocumentTermMatrix(docs)
#convert rownames to filenames#convert rownames to filenames
rownames(dtm) <- paste(corpus.list$type, corpus.list$File,
                      corpus.list$Term, corpus.list$sent.id, sep="_")
rowTotals <- apply(dtm , 1, sum) #Find the sum of words in each Document
dtm <- dtm[rowTotals> 0, ]
corpus.list=corpus.list[rowTotals>0, ]
```

Run LDA

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```
#Set parameters for Gibbs sampling
burnin <- 4000
iter <- 2000
thin <- 500
seed <-list(2003,5,63,100001,765)
nstart <- 5
best <- TRUE
#Number of topics
k <- 15
#Run LDA using Gibbs sampling
ldaOut <-LDA(dtm, k, method="Gibbs", control=list(nstart=nstart,
                                                seed = seed, best=best,
                                                burnin = burnin, iter = iter,
                                                thin=thin))

#write out results
#docs to topics
ldaOut.topics <- as.matrix(topics(ldaOut))
table(c(1:k, ldaOut.topics))
```

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1691	2143	1761	1953	2049	1162	1262	1073	1298	1188	912	1609	1315	993	572

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```
write.csv(ldaOut.topics,file=paste("../output/LDAGibbs",k,"DocsToTopics.csv"))
#top 6 terms in each topic
ldaOut.terms <- as.matrix(terms(ldaOut,20))
write.csv(ldaOut.terms,file=paste("../output/LDAGibbs",k,"TopicsToTerms.csv"))
#probabilities associated with each topic assignment
topicProbabilities <- as.data.frame(ldaOut@gamma)
write.csv(topicProbabilities,file=paste("../output/LDAGibbs",k,"TopicProbabilities.csv"))
```

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```

terms.beta=ldaOut@beta
terms.beta=scale(terms.beta)
topics.terms=NULL
for(i in 1:k){
  topics.terms=rbind(topics.terms, ldaOut@terms[order(terms.beta[i,], decreasing = TRUE)[1:7]])
}

```

Based on the most popular terms and the most salient terms for each topic, we assign a hashtag to each topic. This part require manual setup as the topics are likely to change.

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```

topics.hash=c("Economy", "America", "Defense", "Belief", "Election", "Patriotism", "Unity", "Government", "Reform", "Temporal", "WorkingFamilies", "Freedom", "Equality", "Misc", "Legislation")
corpus.list$ldatopic=as.vector(ldaOut.topics)
corpus.list$ldahash=topics.hash[ldaOut.topics]
colnames(topicProbabilities)=topics.hash
corpus.list.df=cbind(corpus.list, topicProbabilities)

```

Matrix of topics Choosing the following topics to generate the matrix of topics to see if presidents in the first group cared more about economy than the ones in the other group: “Economy”, “Equality”, “Defense”, “Legislation”, “Government”, “Reform”, “Freedom” and “WorkingFamilies”

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```

topic.plot=c(1, 13, 9, 11, 8, 3, 7)
print(topics.hash[topic.plot])

```

```

[1] "Economy"          "Equality"          "Reform"            "WorkingFamilies"  "Governme
nt"
[6] "Defense"          "Unity"

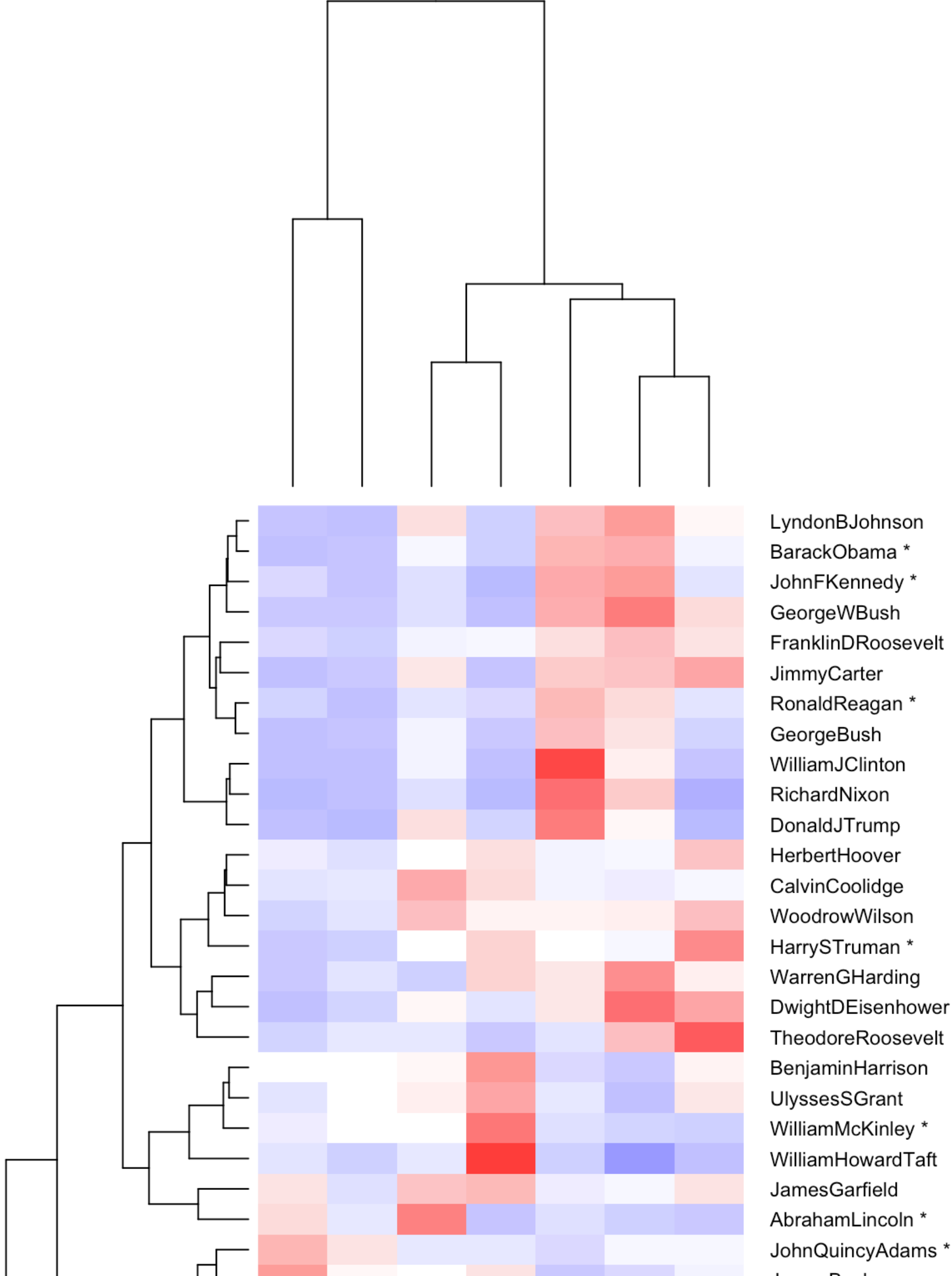
```

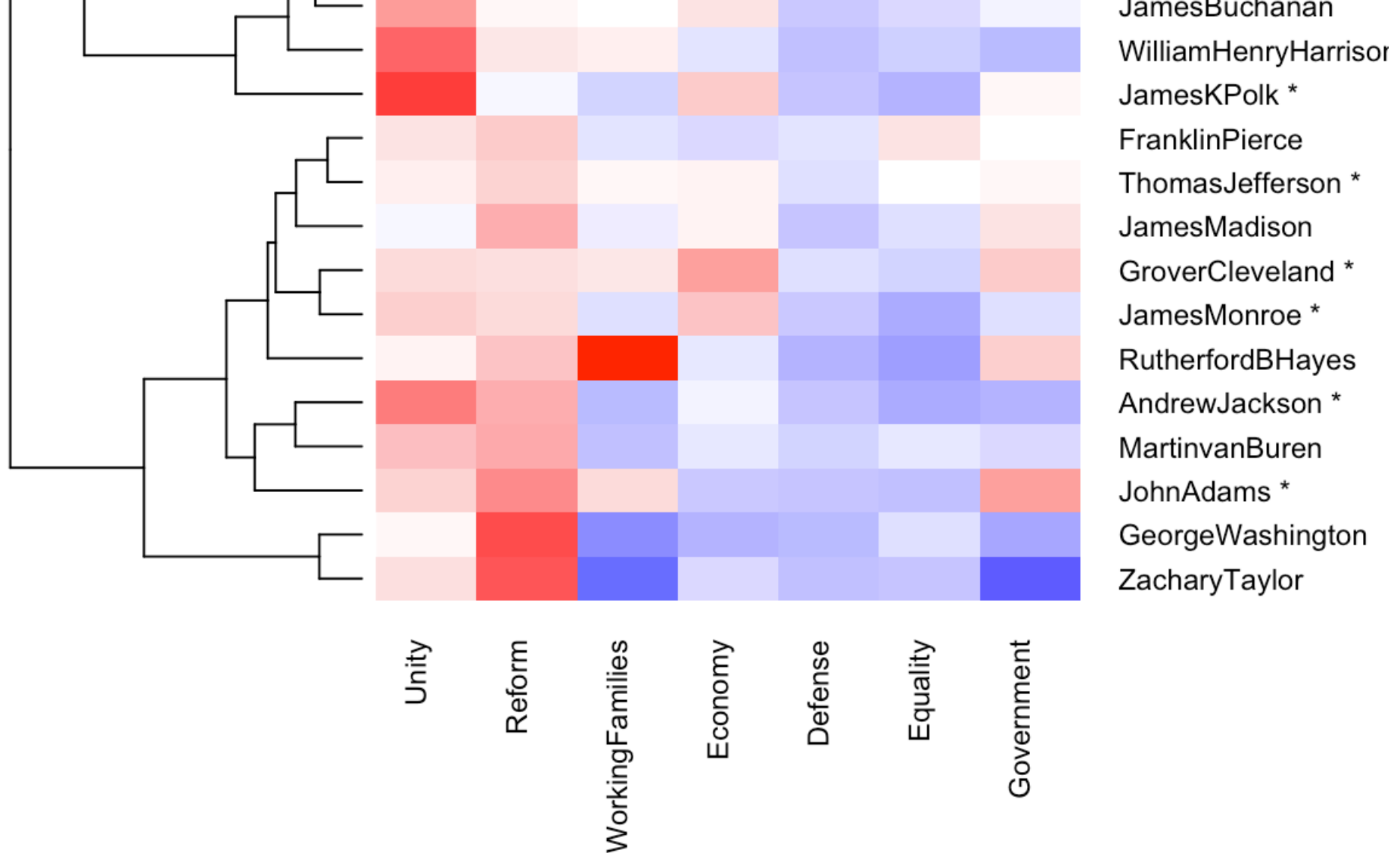
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```

heatmap.2(as.matrix(topic.summary[,topic.plot+1]),
  scale = "column", key=F,
  col = bluered(100),
  cexRow = 0.9, cexCol = 0.9, margins = c(8, 8),
  trace = "none", density.info = "none")

```





Because economy as a topic is related closely to working families, and there's an inner connection between these two words, we consider they both as economy related topics. As the heatmap shown above, the colors in economy and working families do seem darker mostly related to the presidents of the first group.

** Clustering of topics**

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```
presid.summary=tbl_df(corpus.list.df)%>%
  filter(type=="inaug")%>%
  select(File, Economy:Legislation)%>%
  group_by(File)%>%
  summarise_each(funs(mean))
```

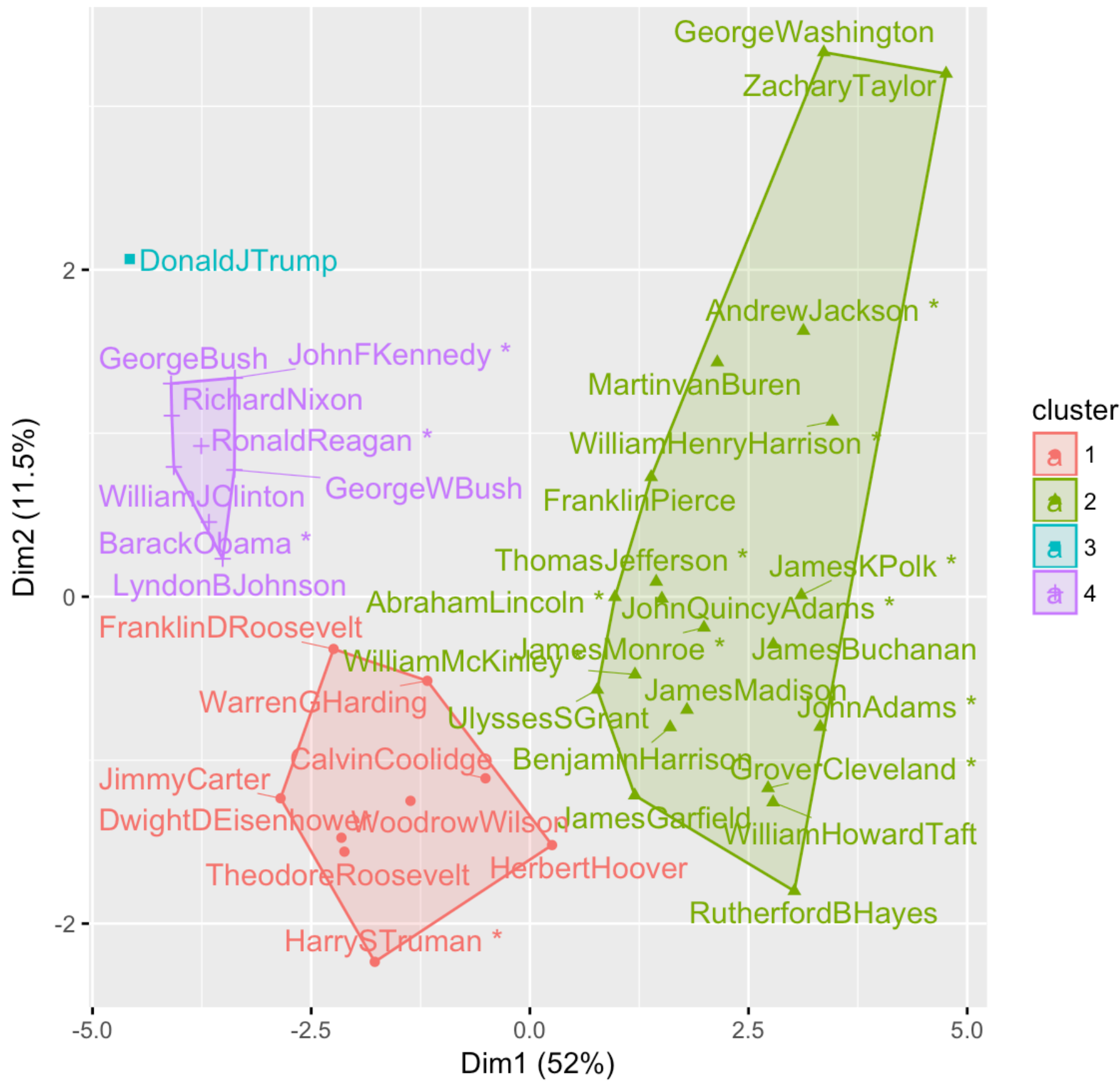
`summarise_each()` is deprecated.
Use `summarise_all()`, `summarise_at()` or `summarise_if()` instead.
To map `funs` over all variables, use `summarise_all()`

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```
presid.summary=as.data.frame(presid.summary)
rownames(presid.summary)=as.character((presid.summary[,1]))
km.res=kmeans(scale(presid.summary[,-1]), iter.max=200,
              4)
fviz_cluster(km.res,
             stand=T, repel= TRUE,
             data = presid.summary[,-1],
             show.clust.cent=FALSE)
```

Cluster plot



Using cluster analysis and dividing presidents into four groups, most ones in the first group stay in the same cluster (green), but this cluster also contains many presidents of the other group. Donald Trump stands out from others. It is interesting, but we can't conclude there's a clear difference between the topics of the two groups.

Step 3: Sentiment Analysis

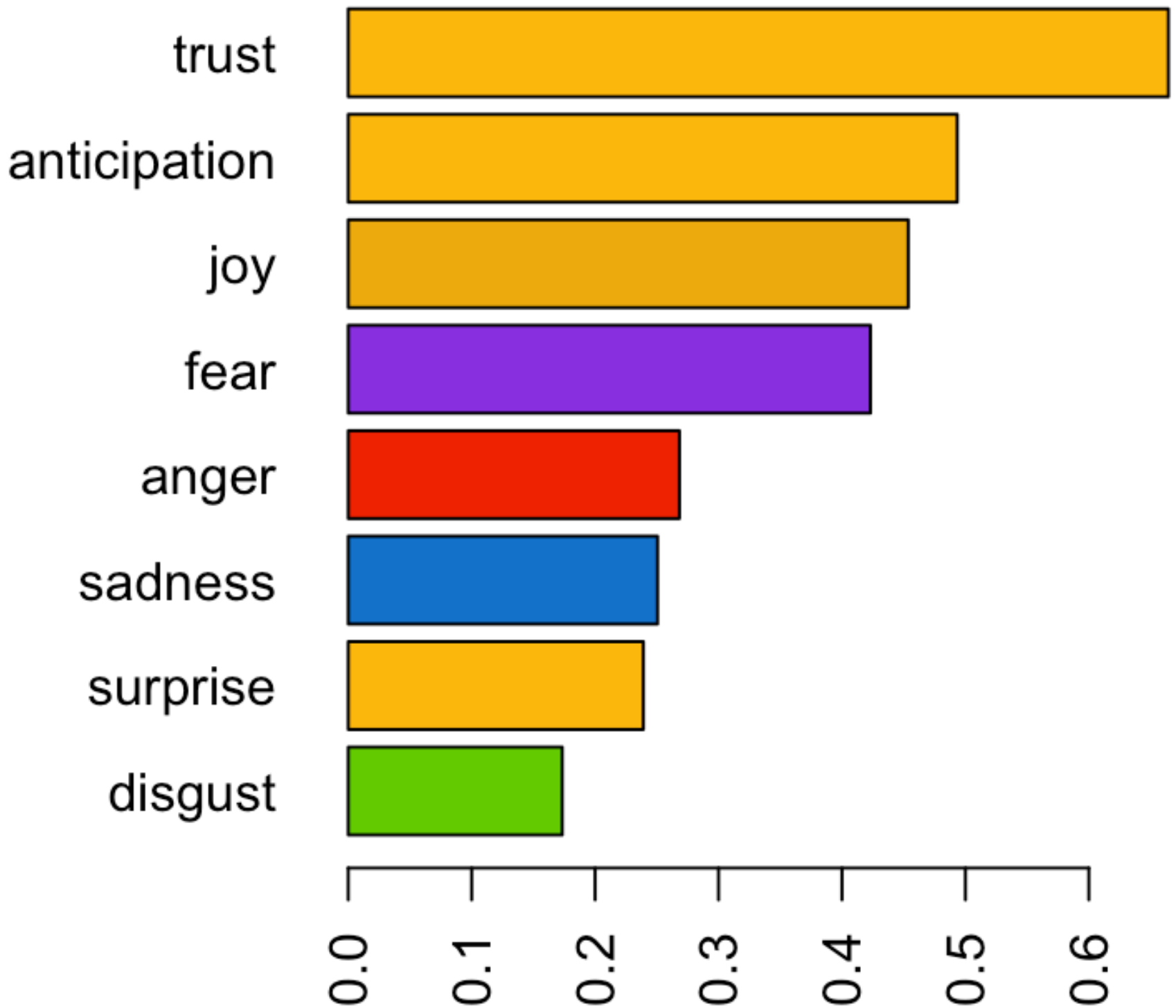
For each extracted sentence, we apply sentiment analysis using NRC sentiment lexicon (<http://saifmohammad.com/WebPages/NRC-Emotion-Lexicon.htm>). “The NRC Emotion Lexicon is a list of English words and their associations with eight basic emotions (anger, fear, anticipation, trust, surprise, sadness, joy, and disgust) and two sentiments (negative and positive). The annotations were manually done by crowdsourcing.”

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```
par(mar=c(4, 6, 2, 1))
emo.means=colMeans(select(sentence.list%>%filter(type=="inaug", File%in%sel.other), a
nger:trust)>0.01)
col.use=c("red2", "darkgoldenrod1",
          "chartreuse3", "blueviolet",
          "darkgoldenrod2", "dodgerblue3",
          "darkgoldenrod1", "darkgoldenrod1")
barplot(emo.means[order(emo.means)], las=2, col=col.use[order(emo.means)], horiz=T, m
ain="The first group")
par(mar=c(4, 6, 2, 1))
```


The first group

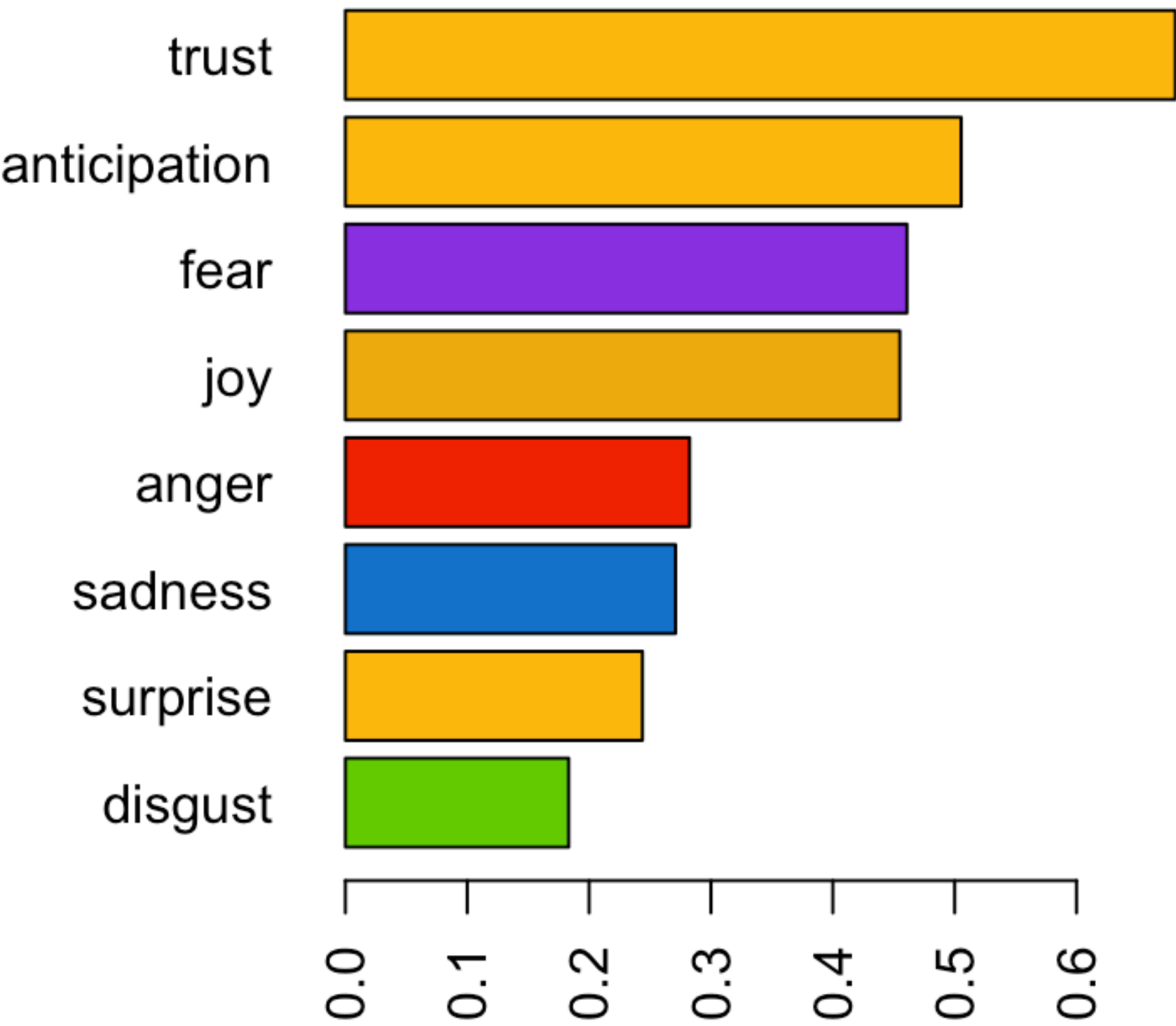


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```
emo.means=colMeans(select(sentence.list%>%filter(type=="inaug", File%in%sel.compariso
n), anger:trust)>0.01)
col.use=c("red2", "darkgoldenrod1",
          "chartreuse3", "blueviolet",
          "darkgoldenrod2", "dodgerblue3",
          "darkgoldenrod1", "darkgoldenrod1")
barplot(emo.means[order(emo.means)], las=2, col=col.use[order(emo.means)], horiz=T, m
ain="The other group")
```

The other group



As shown above, the first group shows more joy and less fear than the other group.

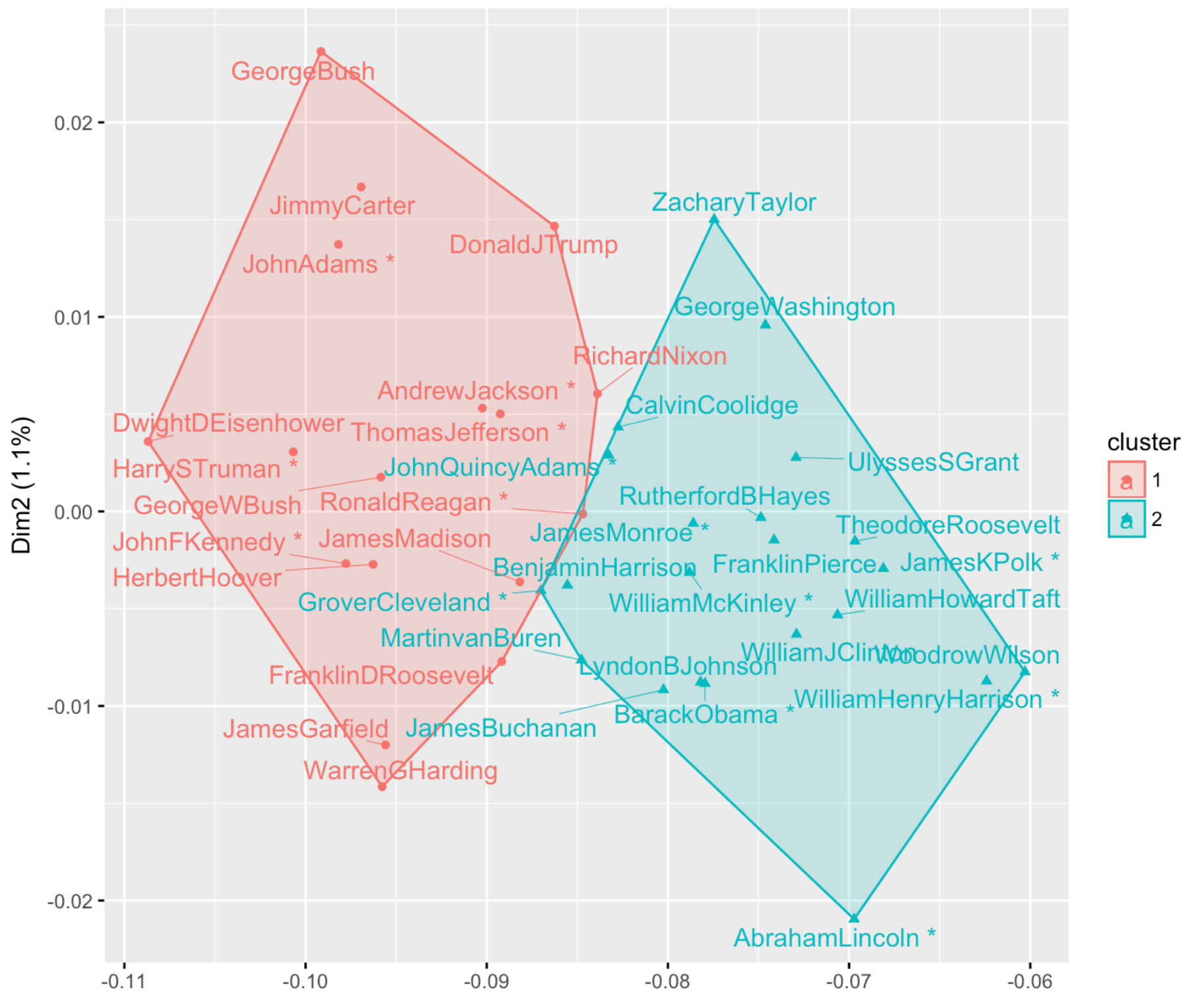
Clustering of sentiment

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```
presid.summary=tbl_df(sentence.list)%>%
  filter(type=="inaug")%>%
  #group_by(paste0(type, File))%>%
  group_by(File)%>%
  summarise(
    anger=mean(anger),
    anticipation=mean(anticipation),
    disgust=mean(disgust),
    fear=mean(fear),
    joy=mean(joy),
    sadness=mean(sadness),
    surprise=mean(surprise),
    trust=mean(trust)
    #negative=mean(negative),
    #positive=mean(positive)
  )
presid.summary=as.data.frame(presid.summary)
rownames(presid.summary)=as.character((presid.summary[,1]))
km.res=kmeans(presid.summary[,-1], iter.max=200,
              2)
fviz_cluster(km.res,
              stand=F, repel= TRUE,
              data = presid.summary[,-1], xlab="", xaxt="n",
              show.clust.cent=FALSE)
```

Cluster plot

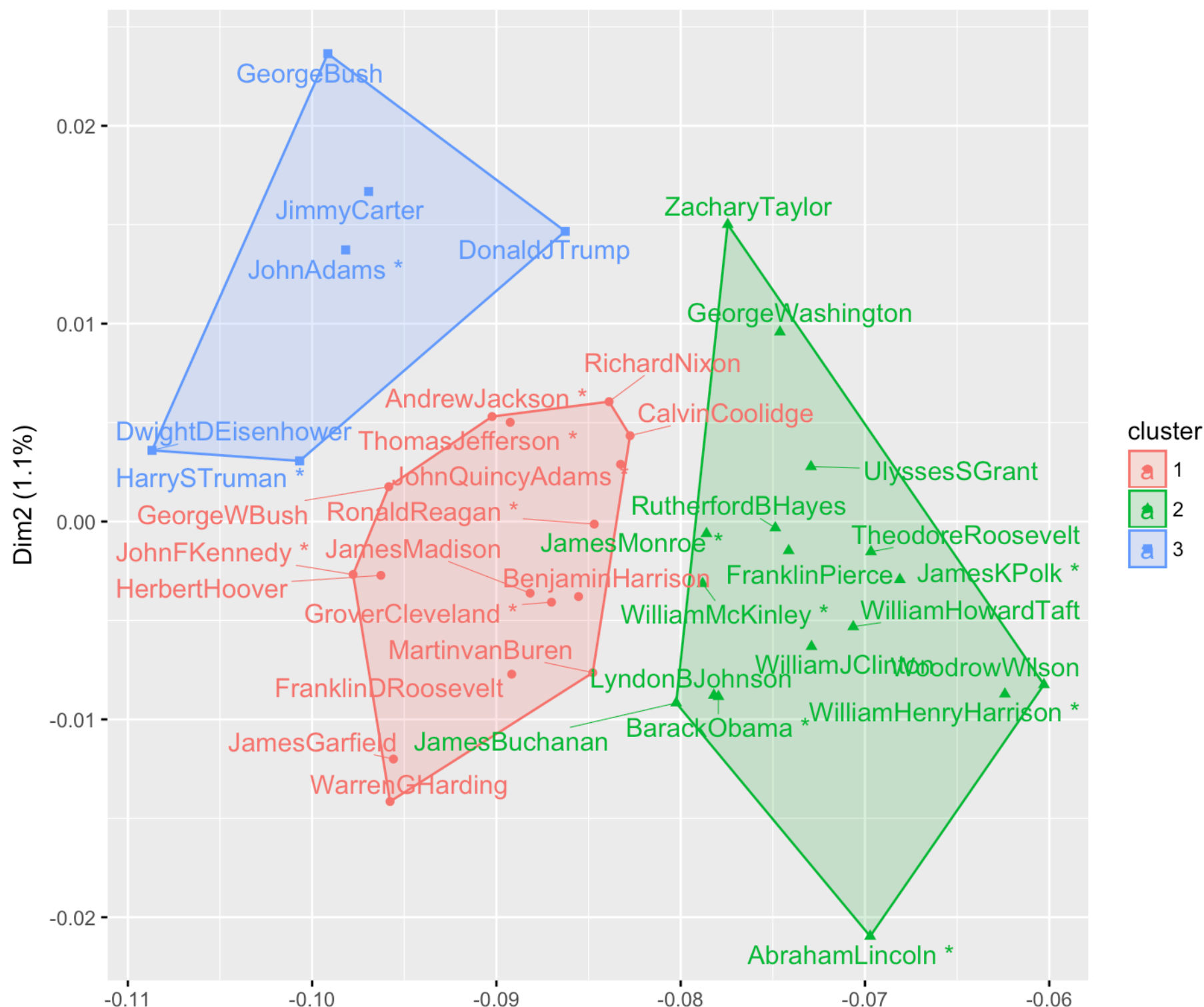


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```
presid.summary=as.data.frame(presid.summary)
rownames(presid.summary)=as.character((presid.summary[,1]))
km.res=kmeans(presid.summary[,,-1], iter.max=200,
              3)
fviz_cluster(km.res,
              stand=F, repel= TRUE,
              data = presid.summary[,,-1], xlab="", xaxt="n",
              show.clust.cent=FALSE)
```

Cluster plot



Using cluster analysis and dividing presidents into two and three clusters, there's not obvious difference between the two groups I want to analyze, as the first group is evenly distributed.

Summary of analyzing the presidents' inaugural speeches

1. According to the Word Cloud analysis, during economic recession days, presidents used more economy related words. It is no wonder that in such hard time, the elected presidents would show their care about economy to comfort their people.

2. By using LDA model to get 7 topics from presidents' inaugural, not all presidents emphasized economic topics during recessions. Although most of them talked more economic topics than the presidents who did not take office during recessions, the clustering analysis shows there's not obvious differences between these

two groups, and only Donald Trump chose really different topic distribution from others. Perhaps besides the economy, many other things matter.

3.As for sentiment analysis, presidents' inaugural speeches sounded more joyful when the economic background of United States were not optimistic. This is reasonable, as the presidents were supposed to comfort people and gave them confidence about future.