

# Sequencing Legal DNA

## NLP for Law and Political Economy

### 1. Course Overview and Introduction

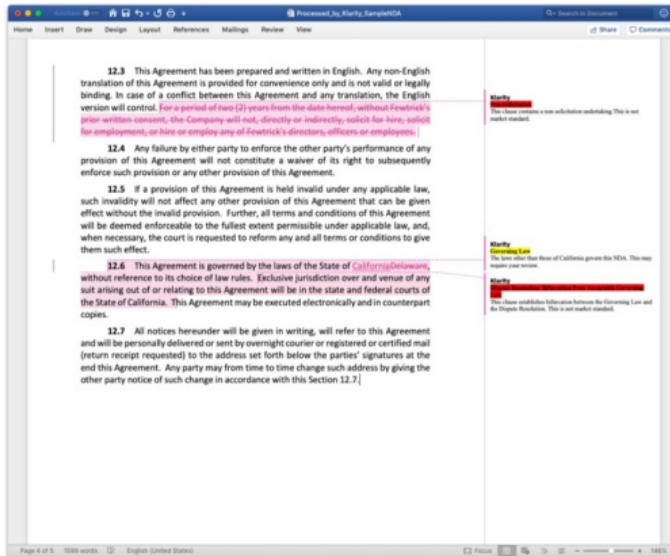
# Klarity reviews NDAs under commercial market standard.

💡 Klarity highlights standard language in green.

• Language that requires your attention is in yellow.

❗ Non-market standard language and red-flags are in red.

Language that is not marked is boilerplate and doesn't deserve your attention.



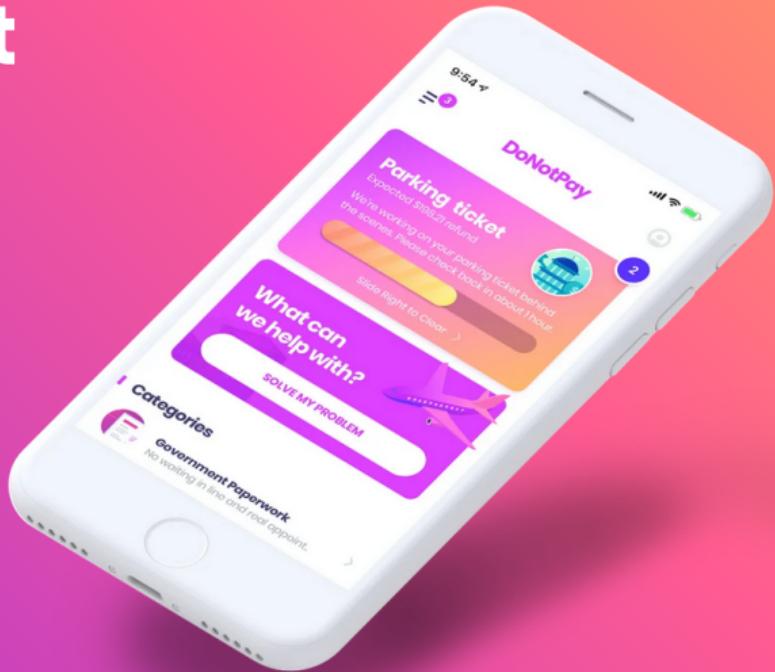
# The World's First Robot Lawyer

The DoNotPay app is the home of the world's first robot lawyer. Fight corporations, beat bureaucracy and sue anyone at the press of a button.

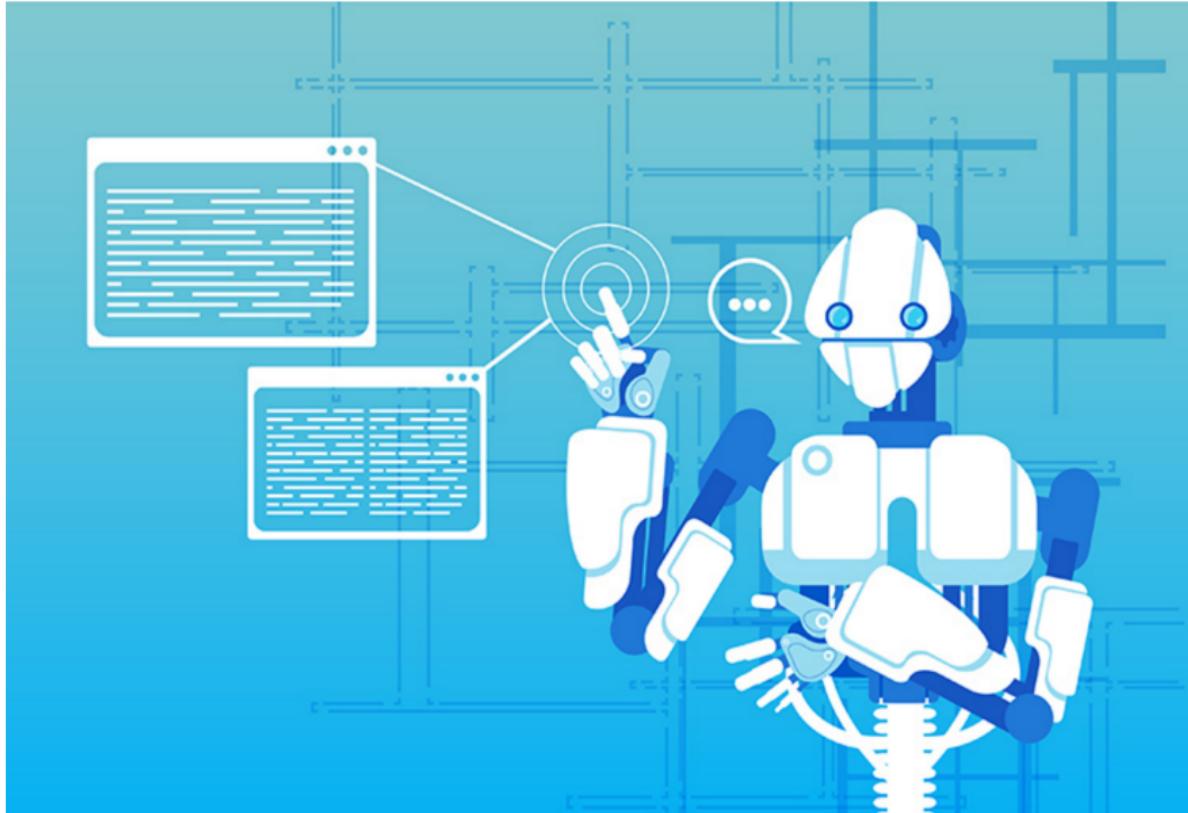
[Sign Up/Login](#)

## THINGS YOU CAN DO WITH DONOTPAY

- ✓ Fight Corporations
- ✓ Beat Bureaucracy
- ✓ Find Hidden Money
- ✓ Sue Anyone
- ✓ Automatically Cancel Your Free Trials



## Your Court-Appointed Chatbot – Is Artificial Intelligence Threatening the Legal Profession?



# Language Models can be Biased

The image shows a machine translation interface with two main panels. The left panel has English as the source language and Turkish as the target language. The right panel has English as the source language and Spanish as the target language. Both panels include a 'Detect language' dropdown, a bidirectional arrow icon, and a 'Translate' button.

**Top Panel (English to Turkish):**

Source: She is a doctor.  
He is a nurse.

Target: O bir doktor.  
O bir hemşire.

Bottom Panel (English to Spanish):

Source: O bir doktor.  
O bir hemşire

Target: He is a doctor.  
She is a nurse ✓

Both panels include icons for audio playback, microphone, and document, along with character count indicators (31/5000 and 28/5000).

Source: fastai NLP course.

# OPENAI'S NEW MULTITALENTED AI WRITES, TRANSLATES, AND SLANDERS

*A step forward in AI text-generation that also spells trouble*

By James Vincent | Feb 14, 2019, 12:00pm EST

Howard, co-founder of Fast.AI agrees. “I’ve been trying to warn people about this for a while,” he says. “We have the technology to totally fill Twitter, email, and the web up with reasonable-sounding, context-appropriate prose, which would drown out all other speech and be impossible to filter.”

<https://transformer.huggingface.co/doc/distil-gpt2>



# Welcome to ***Sequencing Legal DNA***

- ▶ This course focuses on applications of **natural language processing** in **law** and **social science**.

# Welcome to ***Sequencing Legal DNA***

- ▶ This course focuses on applications of **natural language processing** in **law** and **social science**.
- ▶ Scientific goals:
  - ▶ Understand the motivations and decisions of judges and public officials through their writings and speeches.

# Welcome to ***Sequencing Legal DNA***

- ▶ This course focuses on applications of **natural language processing** in **law** and **social science**.
- ▶ Scientific goals:
  - ▶ Understand the motivations and decisions of judges and public officials through their writings and speeches.
  - ▶ Assess the real-world impacts of language on government and the economy.

# Welcome to ***Sequencing Legal DNA***

- ▶ This course focuses on applications of **natural language processing** in **law** and **social science**.
- ▶ Scientific goals:
  - ▶ Understand the motivations and decisions of judges and public officials through their writings and speeches.
  - ▶ Assess the real-world impacts of language on government and the economy.
- ▶ Engineering goals:
  - ▶ Develop tools for “sequencing legal DNA” – machine interpretation and generation of legal documents.

*What we will do*

## **1. Read text documents as data:**

- Convert texts to features – words to phrases to embeddings.
- Automated legal annotation using relation extraction and knowledge graphs.

**1. Read text documents as data:**

- Convert texts to features – words to phrases to embeddings.
- Automated legal annotation using relation extraction and knowledge graphs.

**2. Unsupervised learning techniques for interpreting corpora:**

- Matrix factorization, topic models, and clustering.
- Analyze citation networks to understand flows of ideas.

## **1. Read text documents as data:**

- Convert texts to features – words to phrases to embeddings.
- Automated legal annotation using relation extraction and knowledge graphs.

## **2. Unsupervised learning techniques for interpreting corpora:**

- Matrix factorization, topic models, and clustering.
- Analyze citation networks to understand flows of ideas.

## **3. Supervised learning for regression and classification:**

- From linear models to ensembles to DNNs.
- Model explanation methods to show what is going on inside the black box – and to better understand judicial explanations.

**1. Read text documents as data:**

- Convert texts to features – words to phrases to embeddings.
- Automated legal annotation using relation extraction and knowledge graphs.

**2. Unsupervised learning techniques for interpreting corpora:**

- Matrix factorization, topic models, and clustering.
- Analyze citation networks to understand flows of ideas.

**3. Supervised learning for regression and classification:**

- From linear models to ensembles to DNNs.
- Model explanation methods to show what is going on inside the black box – and to better understand judicial explanations.

**4. Word embedding for isolating dimensions of language:**

- Analyze moral/legal values, ideology, and prejudice.
- Can legal language be “debiased” using embedding models?

## **1. Read text documents as data:**

- Convert texts to features – words to phrases to embeddings.
- Automated legal annotation using relation extraction and knowledge graphs.

## **2. Unsupervised learning techniques for interpreting corpora:**

- Matrix factorization, topic models, and clustering.
- Analyze citation networks to understand flows of ideas.

## **3. Supervised learning for regression and classification:**

- From linear models to ensembles to DNNs.
- Model explanation methods to show what is going on inside the black box – and to better understand judicial explanations.

## **4. Word embedding for isolating dimensions of language:**

- Analyze moral/legal values, ideology, and prejudice.
- Can legal language be “debiased” using embedding models?

## **5. Legal text generation**

- What about a chatbot to provide legal advice?
- Or a robot judge – taking facts, making a decision, and writing a legal opinion explaining it?

# Outline

Logistics

Course Projects

Introduction to Text Data

Corpora

Obtaining Corpora

Cleaning Corpora

Quantity of Text as Data

Dictionary-Based Methods

## Lecture Times

- ▶ Mondays, 1:15pm-3pm
  - ▶ LFW C5
- ▶ ~10 minute break, 2pm-2:10pm

# Online Course Materials

- ▶ Course Syllabus:
  - ▶ <https://bit.ly/2sNwBS7>
- ▶ Course Repo:
  - ▶ [https://github.com/elliottash/legal\\_dna\\_2020](https://github.com/elliottash/legal_dna_2020)

# Teaching Assistants

- ▶ Claudia Marangon ([claudia.marangon@gess.ethz.ch](mailto:claudia.marangon@gess.ethz.ch))
  - ▶ will assist with grading homework assignments.
  - ▶ can answer questions about lectures and notebooks.
- ▶ Selina Lorusso ([selina.lorusso@gess.ethz.ch](mailto:selina.lorusso@gess.ethz.ch))
  - ▶ will assist with administrative side.
  - ▶ can help with logistical issues such as due dates, submitting assignments, and using the message forum.

## Course Message Forum

- ▶ Course communication will be done through the course message forum (as feasible):

<https://robot-judge.com/forums/forum/sequencing-legal-dna/>

- ▶ Students should register for the forum and provide the username in the course survey.
  - ▶ If you have not taken the survey (including auditors), it is available here:  
<https://forms.gle/p8inFY6bnhwtzQTE8>.

## Course Message Forum

- ▶ Course communication will be done through the course message forum (as feasible):

<https://robot-judge.com/forums/forum/sequencing-legal-dna/>

- ▶ Students should register for the forum and provide the username in the course survey.
  - ▶ If you have not taken the survey (including auditors), it is available here:  
<https://forms.gle/p8inFY6bnhwtzQTE8>.
- ▶ In particular:
  - ▶ Course announcements will be posted as threads on the Announcements Forum – all students should subscribe there.

## Course Message Forum

- ▶ Course communication will be done through the course message forum (as feasible):

<https://robot-judge.com/forums/forum/sequencing-legal-dna/>

- ▶ Students should register for the forum and provide the username in the course survey.
  - ▶ If you have not taken the survey (including auditors), it is available here:  
<https://forms.gle/p8inFY6bnhwtzQTE8>.
- ▶ In particular:
  - ▶ Course announcements will be posted as threads on the Announcements Forum – all students should subscribe there.
  - ▶ Forum should be used for questions about course content or technical issues.

## Course Participation Requirement

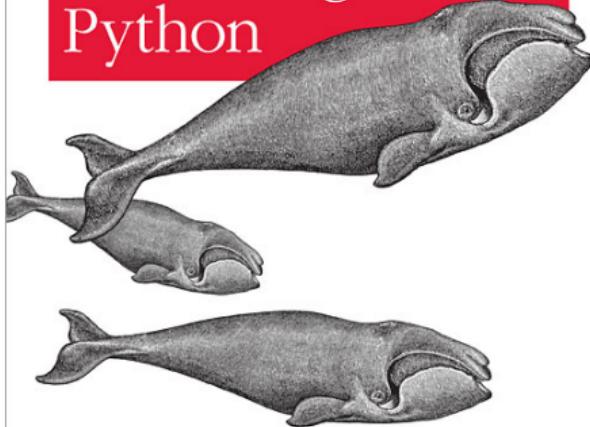
- ▶ Some participation on the course forum is required. Recommended:
  - ▶ log in to read some posts at least once a week (preferably the morning of lecture days)
  - ▶ up-vote or down-vote at least two posts per week
  - ▶ Comment on at least one post per week.

## Syllabus has a long readings list

- ▶ None of the readings are mandatory
  - ▶ (except for the purposes of the response essays, to be discussed shortly).
- ▶ Material in the slides is based on the readings so they can be used as an additional reference.

*Analyzing Text with the Natural Language Toolkit*

# Natural Language Processing with Python



O'REILLY®

*Steven Bird, Ewan Klein & Edward Loper*

O'REILLY®

2nd Edition  
Updated for  
TensorFlow 2

# Hands-on Machine Learning with Scikit-Learn, Keras & TensorFlow

Concepts, Tools, and Techniques  
to Build Intelligent Systems

powered by

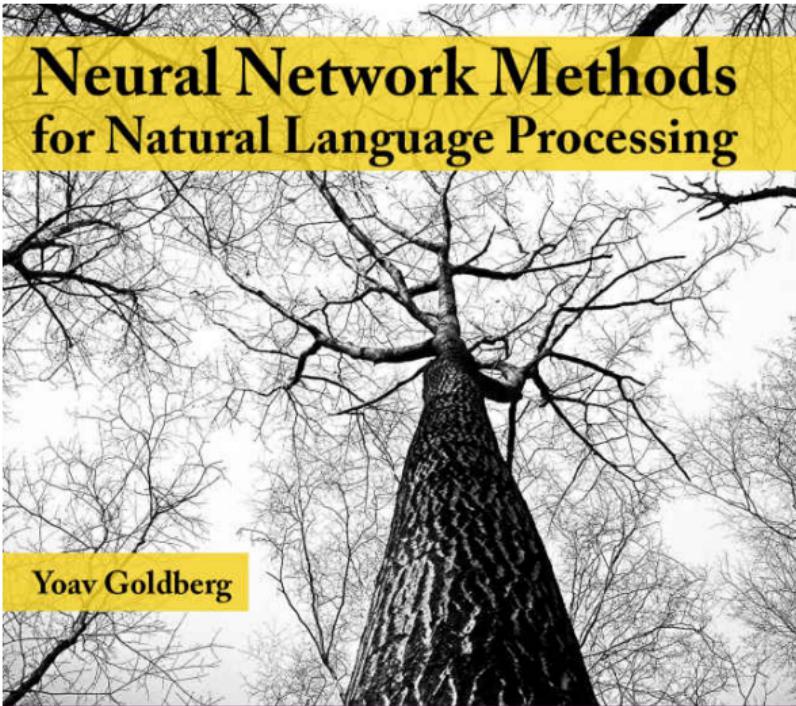


Aurélien Géron

# **Neural Network Methods for Natural Language Processing**

**Yoav Goldberg**

*SYNTHESIS LECTURES ON  
HUMAN LANGUAGE TECHNOLOGIES*



# SPEECH AND LANGUAGE PROCESSING

*An Introduction to Natural Language Processing,  
Computational Linguistics, and Speech Recognition*



Second Edition

DANIEL JURAFSKY & JAMES H. MARTIN

## Example Code is in Python

- ▶ Python 3.7 is ideal for text data and machine learning.
  - ▶ You can use Anaconda or download the packages we need to a pip environment.
- ▶ See the syllabus for lists of packages.
- ▶ If you prefer to use a different programming language, let me know.

## Homework Assignments

- ▶ There are three homework assignments
  - ▶ upload to assignment dropbox (see syllabus), first one is due March 11th

## Homework Assignments

- ▶ There are three homework assignments
  - ▶ upload to assignment dropbox (see syllabus), first one is due March 11th
- ▶ **Option A: Two Response Essays**
  - ▶ read and discuss/critique two of the *Applications* readings
  - ▶ 250+ words (half -page to a page) each

# Homework Assignments

- ▶ There are three homework assignments
  - ▶ upload to assignment dropbox (see syllabus), first one is due March 11th
- ▶ **Option A: Two Response Essays**
  - ▶ read and discuss/critique two of the *Applications* readings
    - ▶ 250+ words (half -page to a page) each
  - ▶ We will post anonymized essays to the forum; part of the grade is voting/commenting on other students' essays.

# Homework Assignments

- ▶ There are three homework assignments
  - ▶ upload to assignment dropbox (see syllabus), first one is due March 11th
- ▶ **Option A: Two Response Essays**
  - ▶ read and discuss/critique two of the *Applications* readings
    - ▶ 250+ words (half -page to a page) each
  - ▶ We will post anonymized essays to the forum; part of the grade is voting/commenting on other students' essays.
- ▶ **Option B: Code Replication Exercise**
  - ▶ replicate analysis from a listed paper (either *Methods* or *Applications*).
    - ▶ If code is already available, have to apply it to new data.
  - ▶ Can be done in groups of two students.

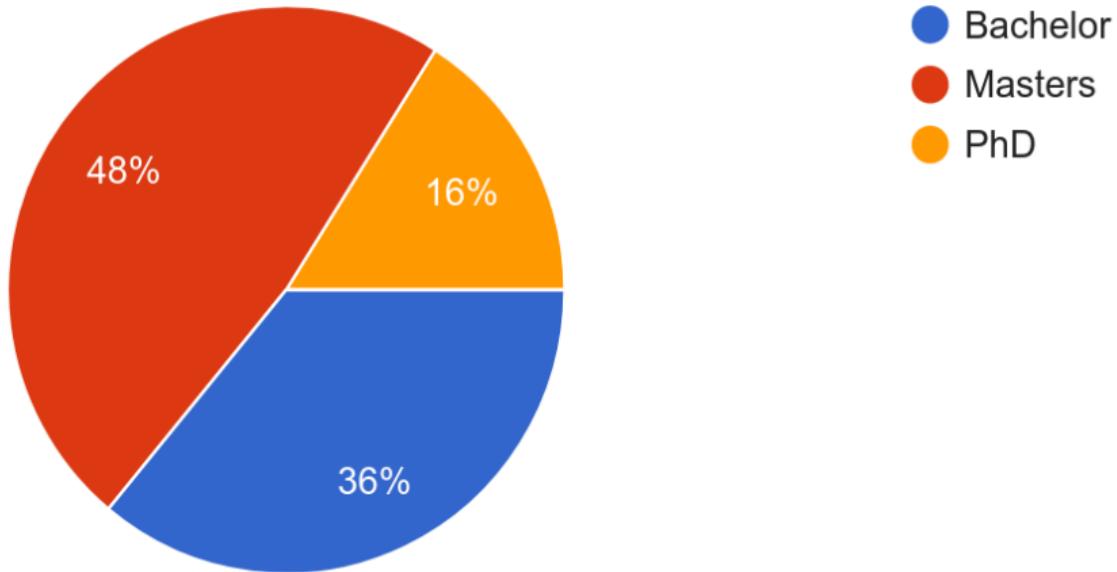
# Homework Assignments

- ▶ There are three homework assignments
  - ▶ upload to assignment dropbox (see syllabus), first one is due March 11th
- ▶ **Option A: Two Response Essays**
  - ▶ read and discuss/critique two of the *Applications* readings
    - ▶ 250+ words (half -page to a page) each
  - ▶ We will post anonymized essays to the forum; part of the grade is voting/commenting on other students' essays.
- ▶ **Option B: Code Replication Exercise**
  - ▶ replicate analysis from a listed paper (either *Methods* or *Applications*).
    - ▶ If code is already available, have to apply it to new data.
    - ▶ Can be done in groups of two students.
- ▶ **Option C: Problem Sets**
  - ▶ challenging problem sets for students who want coding practice.

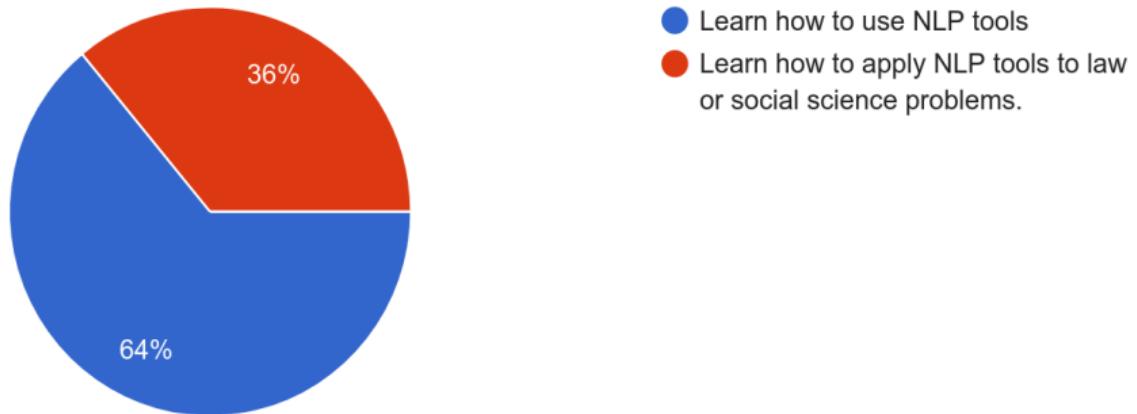
## Office Hours Etc

- ▶ I will be available to meet after lectures.
- ▶ Can also set up appointments by email: [ashe@ethz.ch](mailto:ashe@ethz.ch).
- ▶ We will have two rounds of meetings during the term to discuss the course projects.

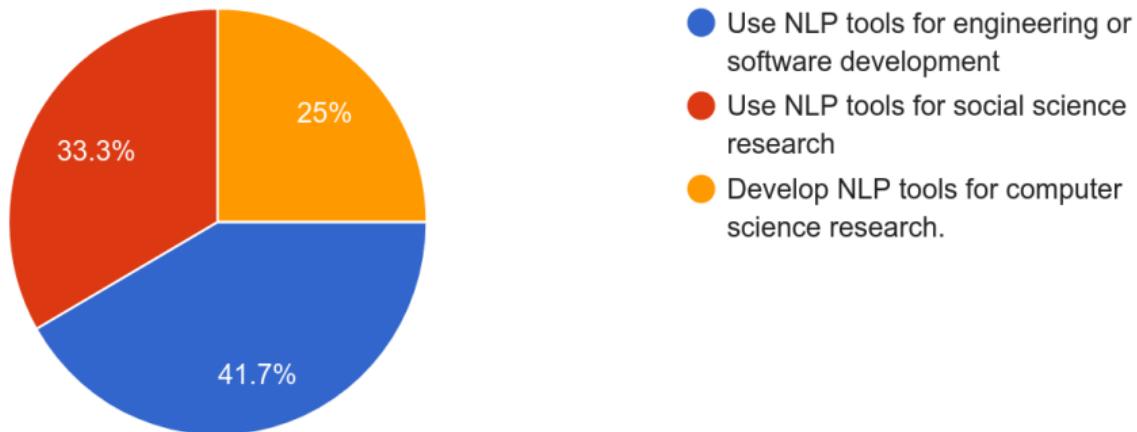
## Class Survey Results



## Class Survey Results



## Class Survey Results



# Topics Timeline

<b><u>Week 01 Feb. 17</u></b>	Course Overview and Text Data Essentials
<b><u>Week 02 Feb. 24</u></b>	Tokens and N-Grams
<b><u>Week 03 March 2</u></b>	Document Distance and Topic Models
<b><u>Week 04 March 9</u></b>	Supervised Learning with Text
<b><u>Week 05 March 16</u></b>	Neural Nets and Word Embeddings
<b><u>Week 06 March 23</u></b>	Word Embeddings and “Bias” in Language
<b><u>Week 07 March 30</u></b>	Syntactic Parsers and Semantic Role Labeling
<b><u>Week 08 April 6</u></b> April 13 & 20 (Spring Break)	Convolutions, Recurrence, and Attention
<b><u>Week 09: April 27</u></b>	Document Embeddings
<b><u>Week 10: May 4</u></b>	Text Generators
<b><u>Week 11: May 11</u></b>	Causal Inference with Text Data
<b><u>Week 12: May 18</u></b>	Information Extraction and Knowledge Graphs

# Outline

Logistics

Course Projects

Introduction to Text Data

Corpora

Obtaining Corpora

Cleaning Corpora

Quantity of Text as Data

Dictionary-Based Methods

## Course Project

- ▶ The main course product is a research paper.
  - ▶ Can be done individually or in small groups (preferably 2, up to 4 with good reason).
  - ▶ Do an original app or analysis using methods learned in the course.

# Course Project

- ▶ The main course product is a research paper.
  - ▶ Can be done individually or in small groups (preferably 2, up to 4 with good reason).
  - ▶ Do an original app or analysis using methods learned in the course.
- ▶ Deliverables:
  - ▶ 1/2 page description of topic (March 30th)
  - ▶ 2+ page proposal (May 4th, 10% of grade)
  - ▶ 5-minute presentation (starting May 4th, 10% of grade).
  - ▶ 5+ page rough draft (July 15th, 10% of grade)
  - ▶ 10+ page final draft (August 15th, 40% of grade)

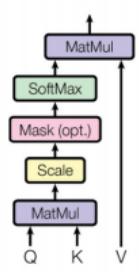
# Course Project

- ▶ The main course product is a research paper.
  - ▶ Can be done individually or in small groups (preferably 2, up to 4 with good reason).
  - ▶ Do an original app or analysis using methods learned in the course.
- ▶ Deliverables:
  - ▶ 1/2 page description of topic (March 30th)
  - ▶ 2+ page proposal (May 4th, 10% of grade)
  - ▶ 5-minute presentation (starting May 4th, 10% of grade).
  - ▶ 5+ page rough draft (July 15th, 10% of grade)
  - ▶ 10+ page final draft (August 15th, 40% of grade)
- ▶ 2 extra credits available for course project (5 credits total):
  - ▶ about twice as much work expected.
  - ▶ should be aimed at publication in a conference/journal, or development of a useful piece of software.

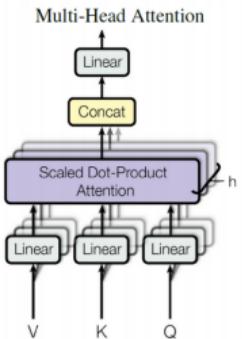
# Last Year's Projects (1)

Lazar Peric: GPT Text Generator for Legal Text

Scaled Dot-Product Attention



Multi-Head Attention



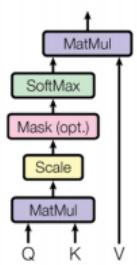
[https://textlab.gess.ethz:  
8787/transfomers](https://textlab.gess.ethz:8787/transfomers)

Figure 4.1: Scaled Dot-Product Attention (left) and Multi-Head Attention (right) block. Figure taken from [6]

# Last Year's Projects (1)

Lazar Peric: GPT Text Generator for Legal Text

Scaled Dot-Product Attention



Multi-Head Attention

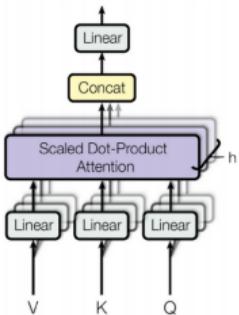


Figure 4.1: Scaled Dot-Product Attention (left) and Multi-Head Attention (right) block. Figure taken from [6]

[https://textlab.gess.ethz:  
8787/transfomers](https://textlab.gess.ethz:8787/transfomers)

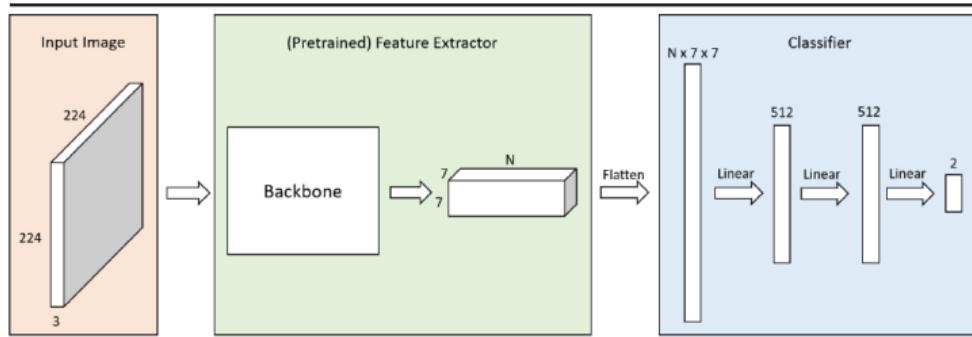
===== Start text =====  
[ \* 1209 ] JERRE S. WILLIAMS , Circuit Judge : <eos> This appeal is lodged by H. Roger Lawler , a debtor in bankruptcy . He claims that an award in bankruptcy of \$ <unk> in attorneys ' fees to Richard W. Horton and Vernon O. <unk> is too high . Horton and <unk> are cross - appealing the amount of the award  
===== Generated text =====

in question , which was based on a \$ 1.84 judgment . The district judge found , and the court concluded that there were sufficient facts in support thereof . We find that there is no evidence that they are not supported in any way . The judgment is reversed . The judgments appealed therefrom will stand and will stand and will bear in all other parts of this judgment , except as they will bear their respective portions of their judgments , together therewith , with costs of this opinion , with directions that they be reversed and the case is REMANDED to that portion thereof , and will bear its part with instructions for the new trials . The judgment shall bear all its own portions , except as they will be reversed . The

# Last Year's Projects (2)

Dominik Borer: Predicting Candidate Party from Political Television Ads

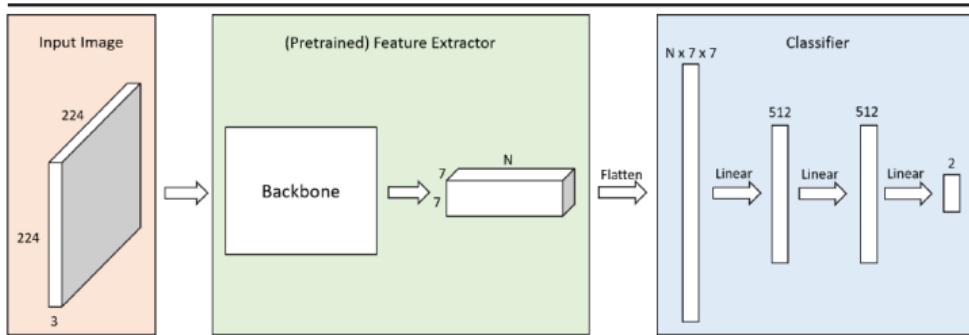
Figure 3: Overview of Model Architecture



# Last Year's Projects (2)

Dominik Borer: Predicting Candidate Party from Political Television Ads

Figure 3: Overview of Model Architecture



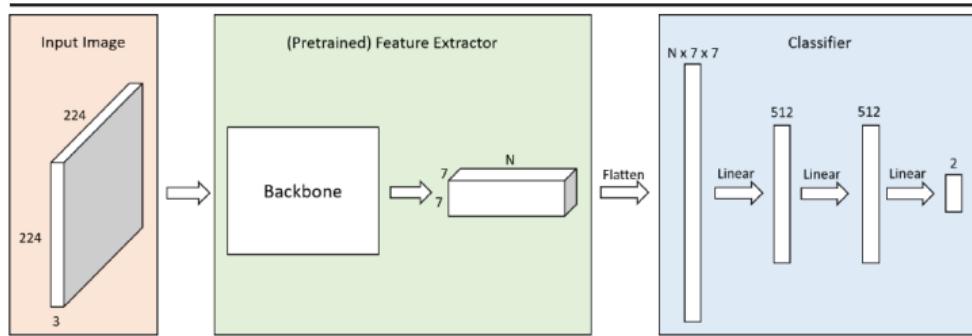
Panel C. Confusion matrix for test set

	Predicted Democratic	Predicted Republican
Actual Democratic	44.88% (793)	7.98% (141)
Actual Republican	15.73% (278)	31.41% (555)

# Last Year's Projects (2)

Dominik Borer: Predicting Candidate Party from Political Television Ads

Figure 3: Overview of Model Architecture



Panel C. Confusion matrix for test set

	Predicted Democratic	Predicted Republican
Actual Democratic	44.88% (793)	7.98% (141)
Actual Republican	15.73% (278)	31.41% (555)

Panel A: News Show Images with Highest Democrat Slant



Panel B: News Show Images with Highest Republican Slant

# Last Year's Projects (3)

Philip Nikolaus: Deep Instrumental Variables for Causal Effects of Judicial Text

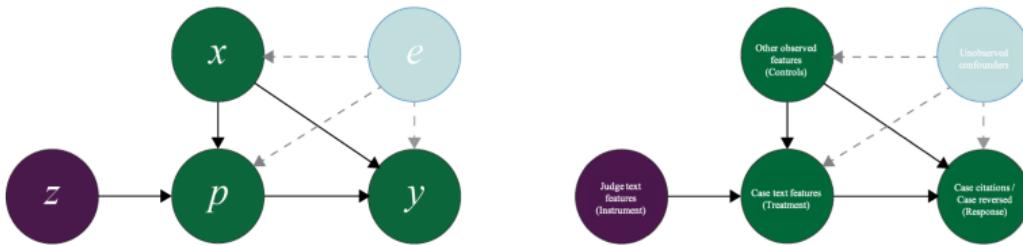


Figure 1: (Left) Directed graph with arrows representing causal effects (Hartford et al. 2017). (Right) Directed graph showing the causal relationship structure for this work.

# Last Year's Projects (3)

Philip Nikolaus: Deep Instrumental Variables for Causal Effects of Judicial Text

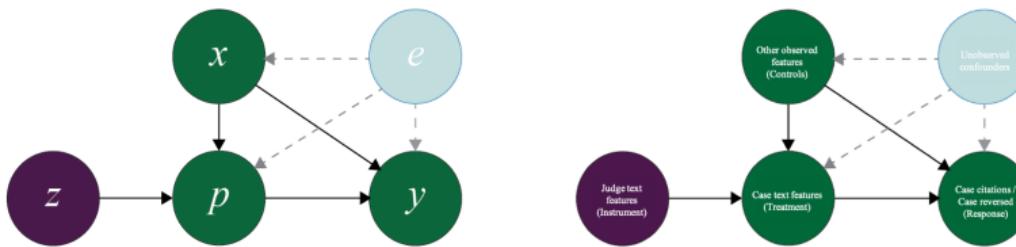


Figure 1: (Left) Directed graph with arrows representing causal effects (Hartford et al. 2017). (Right) Directed graph showing the causal relationship structure for this work.

Top 20 Words in Cluster	Feature Importance (Deep-IV – OLS)
cognitive, concentrating, moderate, cognition, functioning, concentration, cope, psychomotor, ability, impulsivity, socialization, difficulty, auditory, interact, mood, pace, irritability, learning, impaired, distractibility	0.245
misappropriation, breach, tortious, tort, misappropriate, fiduciary, enrich, enrichment, interference, secret, wrongful, misappropriated, merit, trade, conversion, dealing, contractual, contract, defamation, negligent	0.0416
consonant, embody, embrace, rigid, traditional, hew, engraft, dictate, eschew, adherence, incompatible, recognize, animate, jurisprudential, universal, concurring, modern, antithetical, comport, override	0.0314
complicate, depend, crucial, illustrate, elusive, focus, important, straightforward, elide, critical, underscore, differ, complicated, nuanced, conceptual, precise, central, grapple, particular, murky	0.0309
coverage, insured, insurer, insure, indemnity, indemnification, insurance, indemnify, reinsurer, uninsured, subrogation, endorsement, cover, umbrella, policyholder, policy, covered, indemnitee, reinsurance, insuring	0.0234
conclusory, Twombly550, plausible, Iqbal556, bare, true, allegation, twombly127, formulaic, plausibility, speculative, averment, survive, enough, mere, threadbare, bald, twombly550, recital, suffice	0.0229

## Last Year's Projects (4)

- ▶ One of the groups began building a legal research application for Swiss lawyers:
  - ▶ feature-rich legal search engine.
  - ▶ MSWord plugin that would suggest cite references as you type.
  - ▶ Already partnered with Homberger law firm to test it out.

## Last Year's Projects (4)

- ▶ One of the groups began building a legal research application for Swiss lawyers:
  - ▶ feature-rich legal search engine.
  - ▶ MSWord plugin that would suggest cite references as you type.
  - ▶ Already partnered with Homberger law firm to test it out.
- ▶ Another group partnered with a local company to build out their environmental-regulation analytics
  - ▶ won an Innosuisse grant.

## New Project Ideas

- ▶ We have a list of potential project ideas, will share with interested students.

# Outline

Logistics

Course Projects

**Introduction to Text Data**

Corpora

Obtaining Corpora

Cleaning Corpora

Quantity of Text as Data

Dictionary-Based Methods

# Big Data, Big Analytics

- ▶ Massive increase in unstructured text due to:
  - ▶ new social structures (the internet, email)
  - ▶ new/improved data collection
  - ▶ digitization efforts (govt documents, Google)

# Big Data, Big Analytics

- ▶ Massive increase in unstructured text due to:
  - ▶ new social structures (the internet, email)
  - ▶ new/improved data collection
  - ▶ digitization efforts (govt documents, Google)
- ▶ Tools to analyze text advancing in parallel
  - ▶ text by itself is not very useful
  - ▶ machine learning, natural language processing, causal inference

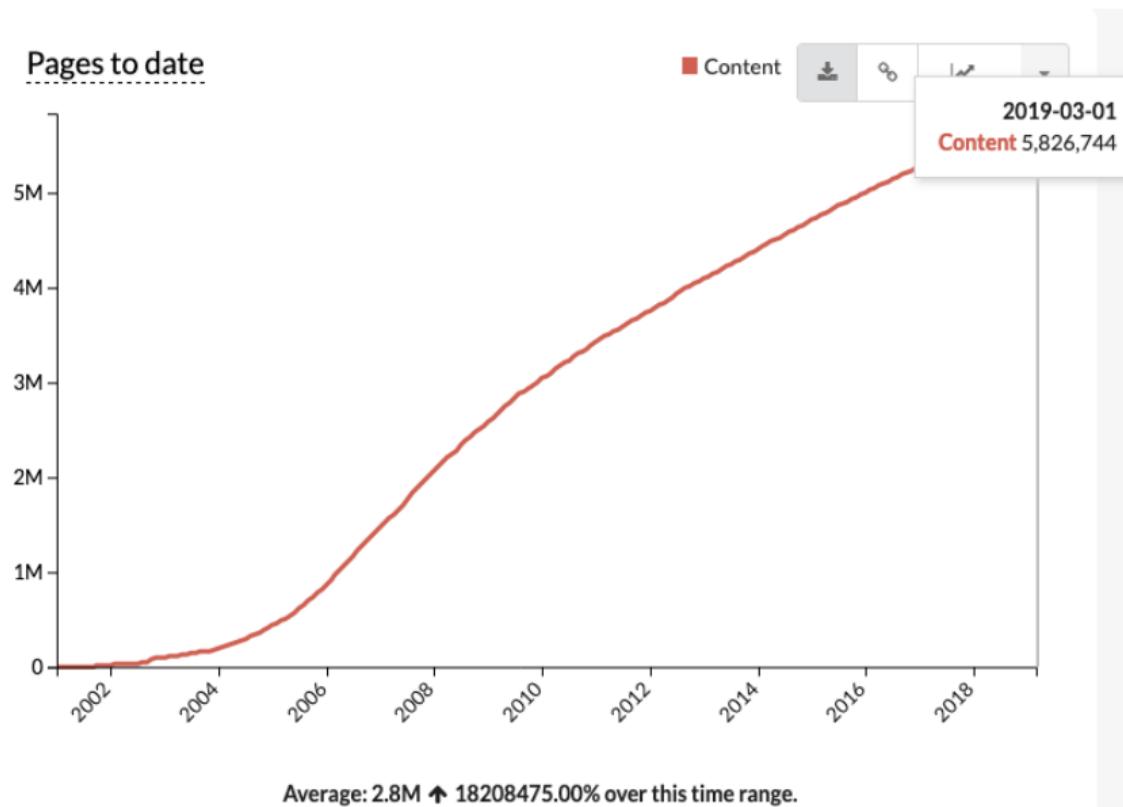
# Big Data, Big Analytics

- ▶ Massive increase in unstructured text due to:
  - ▶ new social structures (the internet, email)
  - ▶ new/improved data collection
  - ▶ digitization efforts (govt documents, Google)
- ▶ Tools to analyze text advancing in parallel
  - ▶ text by itself is not very useful
  - ▶ machine learning, natural language processing, causal inference
- ▶ Where are these trends most salient?
  - ▶ **law and political economy**

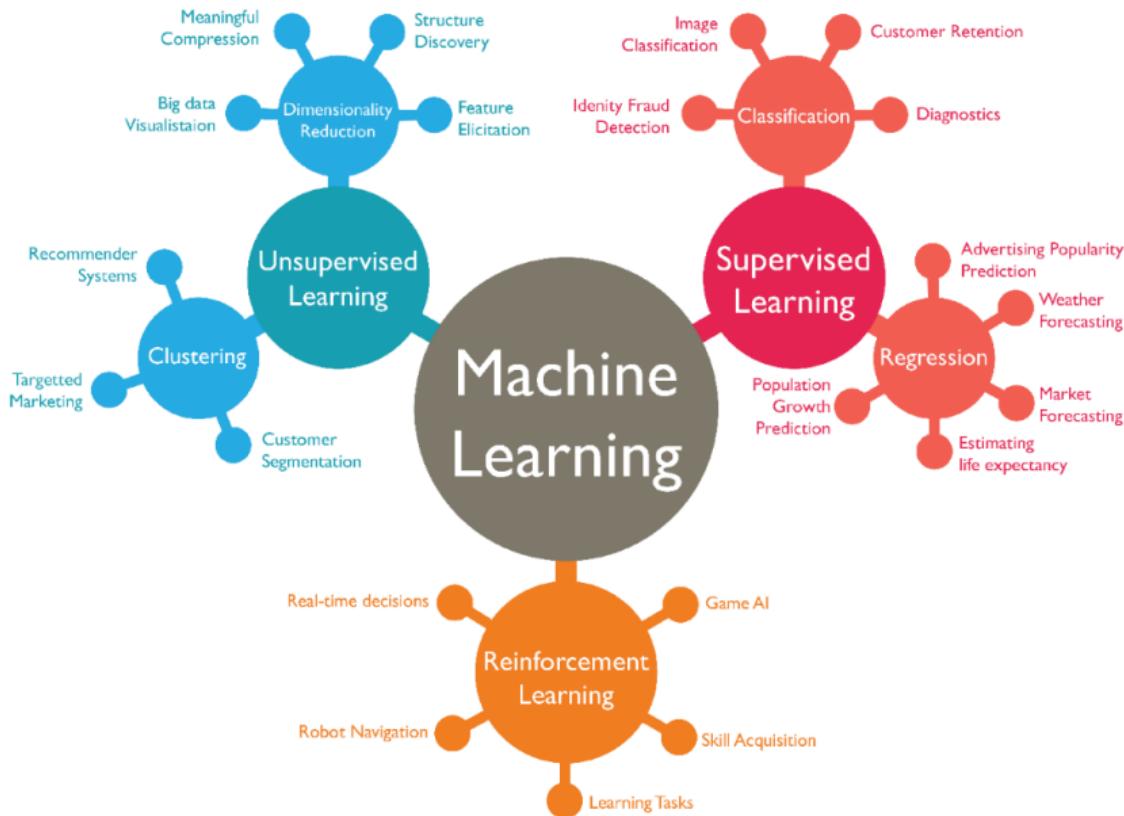
# Big Data, Big Analytics

- ▶ Massive increase in unstructured text due to:
  - ▶ new social structures (the internet, email)
  - ▶ new/improved data collection
  - ▶ digitization efforts (govt documents, Google)
- ▶ Tools to analyze text advancing in parallel
  - ▶ text by itself is not very useful
  - ▶ machine learning, natural language processing, causal inference
- ▶ Where are these trends most salient?
  - ▶ **law and political economy**
  - ▶ The social phenomena of interest – **legal and political institutions** – are composed of thousands, potentially millions, of lines of **unstructured text**.
  - ▶ We cannot read them – somehow we must teach the computers to read them for us.

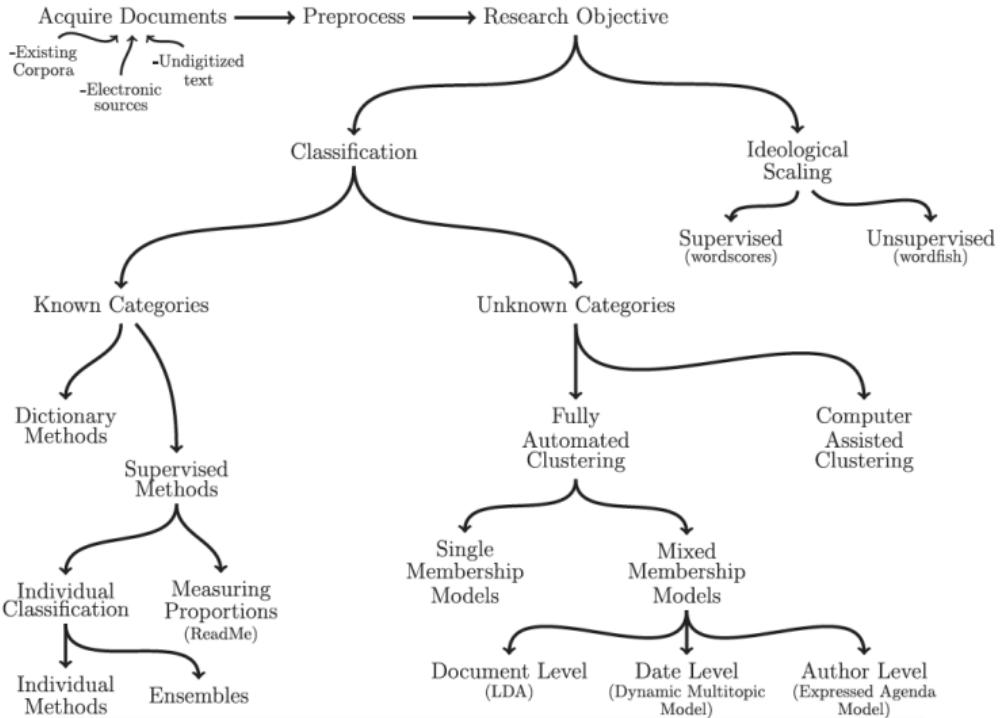
# # of Wikipedia Pages, 2001-2019



# The Machine Learning Landscape



# Diversification of Text Data Methods



**Fig. 1** An overview of text as data methods.

Source: Stewart and Grimmer (2013).

## All Quantitative Models of Language are Wrong — Some are Useful

Grimmer & Stewart 2013

- ▶ Data generation process for text is unknown.
- ▶ Language is complex:
  - ▶ “Time flies like an arrow; fruit flies like a banana.”

## All Quantitative Models of Language are Wrong — Some are Useful

Grimmer & Stewart 2013

- ▶ Data generation process for text is unknown.
- ▶ Language is complex:
  - ▶ “Time flies like an arrow; fruit flies like a banana.”
- ▶ Models necessarily fail to capture language, but may be useful for specific tasks
  - ▶ there is no globally best method – depends on question and context.

## All Quantitative Models of Language are Wrong — Some are Useful

Grimmer & Stewart 2013

- ▶ Data generation process for text is unknown.
- ▶ Language is complex:
  - ▶ “Time flies like an arrow; fruit flies like a banana.”
- ▶ Models necessarily fail to capture language, but may be useful for specific tasks
  - ▶ there is no globally best method – depends on question and context.
- ▶ Few theories to help – have to *validate* that a method works.

# Outline

Logistics

Course Projects

Introduction to Text Data

Corpora

Obtaining Corpora

Cleaning Corpora

Quantity of Text as Data

Dictionary-Based Methods

## Overview

- ▶ Text data is a sequence of characters called **documents**.
- ▶ The set of documents is the **corpus**.

## Overview

- ▶ Text data is a sequence of characters called **documents**.
- ▶ The set of documents is the **corpus**.
- ▶ Text data is **unstructured**:
  - ▶ the information we want is mixed together with (lots of) information we don't.
  - ▶ How to separate the two?

## Overview

- ▶ Text data is a sequence of characters called **documents**.
- ▶ The set of documents is the **corpus**.
- ▶ Text data is **unstructured**:
  - ▶ the information we want is mixed together with (lots of) information we don't.
  - ▶ How to separate the two?
- ▶ All text data approaches will throw away some information:
  - ▶ The trick is figuring out how to retain valuable information.

## Documents and metadata

- ▶ For small corpora, you might have the text and metadata together in a spreadsheet.
- ▶ For larger corpora, you might have:
  - ▶ A document is a text file (or an item in a relational database).
  - ▶ A corpus is a folder of text files.
  - ▶ The filenames for the text files should contain an identifier for linking to metadata.

## What counts as a document?

- ▶ The unit of analysis (the “document”) will vary depending on your question.

## What counts as a document?

- ▶ The unit of analysis (the “document”) will vary depending on your question.
- ▶ Looking at how judges decide different types of cases → a case would be a document.

## What counts as a document?

- ▶ The unit of analysis (the “document”) will vary depending on your question.
- ▶ Looking at how judges decide different types of cases → a case would be a document.
- ▶ Looking at how judges differ within a court → you might aggregate all of a judge’s cases as a document.

## What counts as a document?

- ▶ The unit of analysis (the “document”) will vary depending on your question.
- ▶ Looking at how judges decide different types of cases → a case would be a document.
- ▶ Looking at how judges differ within a court → you might aggregate all of a judge’s cases as a document.
- ▶ Looking for factual vs legal statements within a case → a document might be a section, paragraph, or sentence.

# Outline

Logistics

Course Projects

Introduction to Text Data

Corpora

**Obtaining Corpora**

    Cleaning Corpora

Quantity of Text as Data

Dictionary-Based Methods

## Publicly Available Corpora

- ▶ There is already a vast amount of data out there that has already been compiled (e.g. CourtListener, Twitter, New York Times, Reuters, Google, Wikipedia).
- ▶ Chris Bail curates a list of these corpora:
  - ▶ <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1I7cvuCBQxosQK2evTcdL3qtglaEPc0WFEs6rZMx-xiE/edit>

## Publicly Available Corpora

- ▶ There is already a vast amount of data out there that has already been compiled (e.g. CourtListener, Twitter, New York Times, Reuters, Google, Wikipedia).
- ▶ Chris Bail curates a list of these corpora:
  - ▶ <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1I7cvuCBQxosQK2evTcdL3qtglaEPc0WFEs6rZMx-xiE/edit>
- ▶ Many proprietary corpora are becoming available for research:
  - ▶ Lexis
  - ▶ Web of Science

# Web Scraping

- ▶ A web scraper is a computer program that:
  - ▶ loads/reads in a web page
  - ▶ finds some information on it
  - ▶ grabs the information
  - ▶ stores it in a dataset

# Web Scraping

- ▶ A web scraper is a computer program that:
  - ▶ loads/reads in a web page
  - ▶ finds some information on it
  - ▶ grabs the information
  - ▶ stores it in a dataset
- ▶ Once upon a time you could collect virtually any piece of information from the internet by screen scraping.
  - ▶ But now web sites make it difficult with restrictive terms of use, bot-blockers, javascript, etc.
  - ▶ Still, a little creativity (and selenium) goes a long way.

# What a web site looks like to us

Create account Log in



WIKIPEDIA  
The Free Encyclopedia

Article Talk Read Edit View history Search

## World Health Organization ranking of health systems in 2000

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The **World Health Organization (WHO)** ranked the health systems of its 191 member states in its **World Health Report<sup>[1]</sup>** 2000. It provided a framework and measurement approach to examine and compare aspects of **health systems** around the world.<sup>[2]</sup> It developed a series of performance indicators to assess the overall level and distribution of **health** in the populations, and the responsiveness and financing of **health care** services. It was the organization's first ever analysis of the world's health systems.<sup>[3]</sup>

**Contents** [hide]

- 1 Ranking
- 2 Methodology
- 3 Criticism
- 4 See also
- 5 References

Interaction

- Help
- About Wikipedia
- Community portal
- Recent changes
- Contact page

Tools

- What links here

# What a web site looks like to a computer

```
1 <!DOCTYPE html>
2 <html lang="en" dir="ltr" class="client-nojs">
3 <head>
4 <meta charset="UTF-8" />
5 <title>World Health Organization ranking of health systems in 2000 - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia</title>
6 <meta name="generator" content="MediaWiki 1.26wmf10" />
7 <link rel="alternate" href="android-
app://org.wikipedia/http/en.m.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_Health_Organization_ranking_of_health_systems_in_2000"
/>
8 <link rel="alternate" type="application/x-wiki" title="Edit this page" href="/w/index.php?
title=World_Health_Organization_ranking_of_health_systems_in_2000&action=edit" />
9 <link rel="edit" title="Edit this page" href="/w/index.php?
title=World_Health_Organization_ranking_of_health_systems_in_2000&action=edit" />
10 <link rel="apple-touch-icon" href="/static/apple-touch/wikipedia.png" />
11 <link rel="shortcut icon" href="/static/favicon/wikipedia.ico" />
12 <link rel="search" type="application/opensearchdescription+xml" href="/w/opensearch_desc.php" title="Wikipedia
(en)" />
13 <link rel="EditURI" type="application/rsd+xml" href="//en.wikipedia.org/w/api.php?action=rsd" />
14 <link rel="alternate" hreflang="x-default"
href="/wiki/World_Health_Organization_ranking_of_health_systems_in_2000" />
15 <link rel="copyright" href="//creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/3.0/" />
16 <link rel="alternate" type="application/atom+xml" title="Wikipedia Atom feed" href="/w/index.php?
title=Special:RecentChanges&feed=atom" />
17 <link rel="canonical"
href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/World_Health_Organization_ranking_of_health_systems_in_2000" />
18 <link rel="stylesheet" href="//en.wikipedia.org/w/load.php?
debug=false&lang=en&modules=ext.uls.nojs%7Cext.visualEditor.viewPageTarget.noscript%7Cext.wikihiero%7C
mediawiki.legacy.commonPrint%2Cshared%7Cmediawiki.sectionAnchor%7Cmediawiki.skinning.interface%7Cmediawiki.ui.
button%7Cskins.vector.styles%7Cwikibase.client.init&only=styles&skin=vector&*>
19 <meta name="ResourceLoaderDynamicStyles" content="" />
20 <link rel="stylesheet" href="//en.wikipedia.org/w/load.php?
debug=false&lang=en&modules=site&only=styles&skin=vector&*>
https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=World\_Health\_Organization\_ranking\_of\_health\_systems\_in\_2000&a:lang\(mzn\),a:lang\(ps\),a:lang\(ur\){text-decoration:none}
```

## Browser Automation

- ▶ Many web sites are designed to be difficult to scrape.
- ▶ Python has nice solutions for simulating a human browser:
  - ▶ selenium (chromedriver, phantomjs)

## API's

- ▶ API = Application Programming Interface
  - ▶ These are developer-oriented tools that provide access to cleaner data.
- ▶ Chris Bail's list of API's that could be interesting for research:
  - ▶ <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1ZEr3okdlb0zctmX0MZKo-gZKPsq5WGn1nJ0xPV7al-Q/edit>

## Other Languages

- ▶ All of the tools that we discuss in this class are available in many languages.
- ▶ spaCy has full functionality in English, German, Spanish, Portuguese, French, Italian, and Dutch.
  - ▶ beta functionality in dozens of other languages including Chinese and Arabic
  - ▶ See <https://spacy.io/usage/models>.
- ▶ Can also translate (e.g., googletrans gives link to google API).
- ▶ The machine learning models are language-independent.

# Outline

Logistics

Course Projects

Introduction to Text Data

Corpora

Obtaining Corpora

Cleaning Corpora

Quantity of Text as Data

Dictionary-Based Methods



## Corpus cleaning

- ▶ What we usually do:
  - ▶ remove HTML markup, extra white space, and unicode

## Corpus cleaning

- ▶ What we usually do:
  - ▶ remove HTML markup, extra white space, and unicode
- ▶ But HTML markup is often valuable:
  - ▶ HTML markup for section header names.
  - ▶ Legal database web sites often have HTML tags for citations to other cases.

## Corpus cleaning

- ▶ What we usually do:
  - ▶ remove HTML markup, extra white space, and unicode
- ▶ But HTML markup is often valuable:
  - ▶ HTML markup for section header names.
  - ▶ Legal database web sites often have HTML tags for citations to other cases.
- ▶ Other cleaning steps:
  - ▶ page numbers
  - ▶ hyphenations at line breaks
  - ▶ table of contents, indexes, etc.
- ▶ These are all corpus-specific, so inspect ahead of time.

## Regular Expressions

- ▶ Regular Expressions, implemented in the Python package **re**, provide a powerful string matching tool.
  - ▶ A systematic string matching protocol – can match arbitrary string patterns
  - ▶ e.g., use '`utilit\w+`' to match utility, utilities, utilitarian, ...
  - ▶ Important for identifying speaker names (in political documents) section headers (in statutes), citations (in judicial opinions), etc.

## Regular Expressions

- ▶ Regular Expressions, implemented in the Python package **re**, provide a powerful string matching tool.
  - ▶ A systematic string matching protocol – can match arbitrary string patterns
  - ▶ e.g., use '`utilit\w+`' to match utility, utilities, utilitarian, ...
  - ▶ Important for identifying speaker names (in political documents) section headers (in statutes), citations (in judicial opinions), etc.
- ▶ See NLTK book Chapter 3.4-3.5 for an introduction, and nice online lessons at RegexOne (linked in syllabus).

## OCR (Optical Character Recognition)

- ▶ Your data might be in PDF's or images. Needs to be converted to text
- ▶ The best solution (that I know of) is ABBYY FineReader, which is expensive but might be available at the library.
- ▶ My colleague Joe Sutherland at Columbia has a nice open-source package for OCR:
  - ▶ <https://github.com/jlsutherland/doc2text>
- ▶ And I just saw this last month:
  - ▶ [https://github.com/faustumorales/keras-ocr](https://github.com/faustomorales/keras-ocr)

## Should you run a spell checker?

- ▶ The short answer is no:
  - ▶ Most corpora have important specialized vocabulary that would be flagged by standard spell-checkers.

## Should you run a spell checker?

- ▶ The short answer is no:
  - ▶ Most corpora have important specialized vocabulary that would be flagged by standard spell-checkers.
  - ▶ In most empirical contexts, it's safe to assume that spelling errors (especially OCR errors) are uncorrelated with treatment assignment.

## Should you run a spell checker?

- ▶ The short answer is no:
  - ▶ Most corpora have important specialized vocabulary that would be flagged by standard spell-checkers.
  - ▶ In most empirical contexts, it's safe to assume that spelling errors (especially OCR errors) are uncorrelated with treatment assignment.
- ▶ Better solutions:
  - ▶ drop short words (one or two letters) and long words (over 12 letters).
  - ▶ get doc frequencies for each word and filter out rare words
    - ▶ or use word embeddings and trust that misspellings will be nearby the true word.

## Should you run a spell checker?

- ▶ The short answer is no:
  - ▶ Most corpora have important specialized vocabulary that would be flagged by standard spell-checkers.
  - ▶ In most empirical contexts, it's safe to assume that spelling errors (especially OCR errors) are uncorrelated with treatment assignment.
- ▶ Better solutions:
  - ▶ drop short words (one or two letters) and long words (over 12 letters).
  - ▶ get doc frequencies for each word and filter out rare words
    - ▶ or use word embeddings and trust that misspellings will be nearby the true word.
- ▶ **But:**
  - ▶ There are cases where spelling errors could be correlated with treatment (for example, increasing legislator salaries might change both policy priorities and spelling error rates). Run a spell-checker and see if there is a treatment effect on misspelling rates.

# Outline

Logistics

Course Projects

Introduction to Text Data

Corpora

Obtaining Corpora

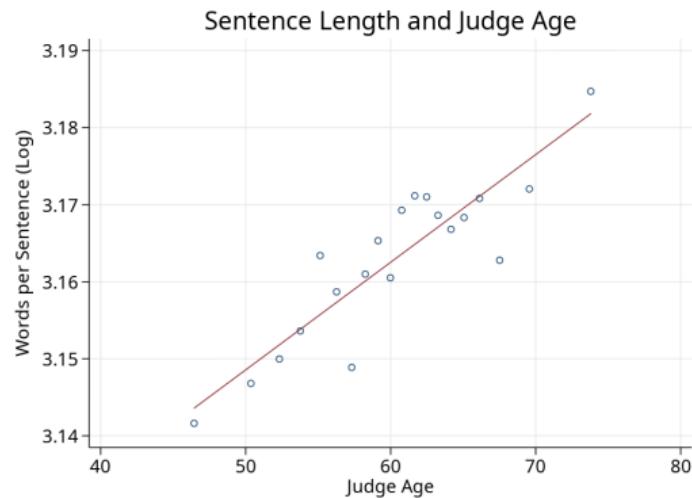
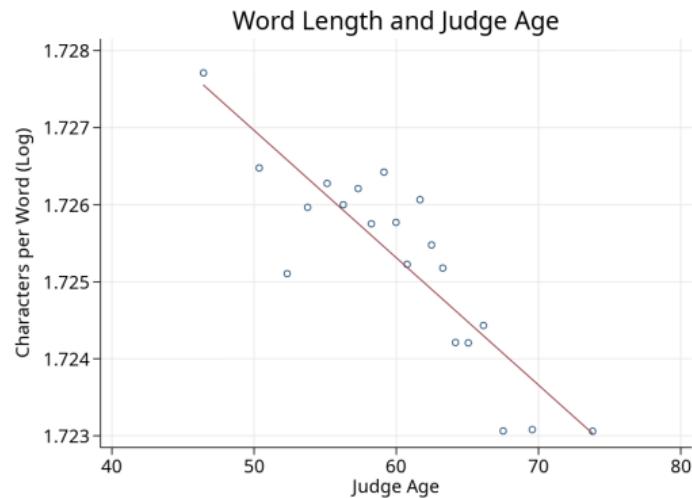
Cleaning Corpora

Quantity of Text as Data

Dictionary-Based Methods

# Judge Age and Writing Style

Ash and MacLeod (2020)



# Optimal legal complexity

Katz and Bommarito (2014)

“Everything should be made as simple as possible, but no simpler.”

--not Einstein

# Optimal legal complexity

Katz and Bommarito (2014)

“Everything should be made as simple as possible, but no simpler.”

--not Einstein

- ▶ More detail is needed in law to properly target incentives to activities and groups.
  - ▶ but there are costs to understanding/following complex laws, so there is a trade off.

# Optimal legal complexity

Katz and Bommarito (2014)

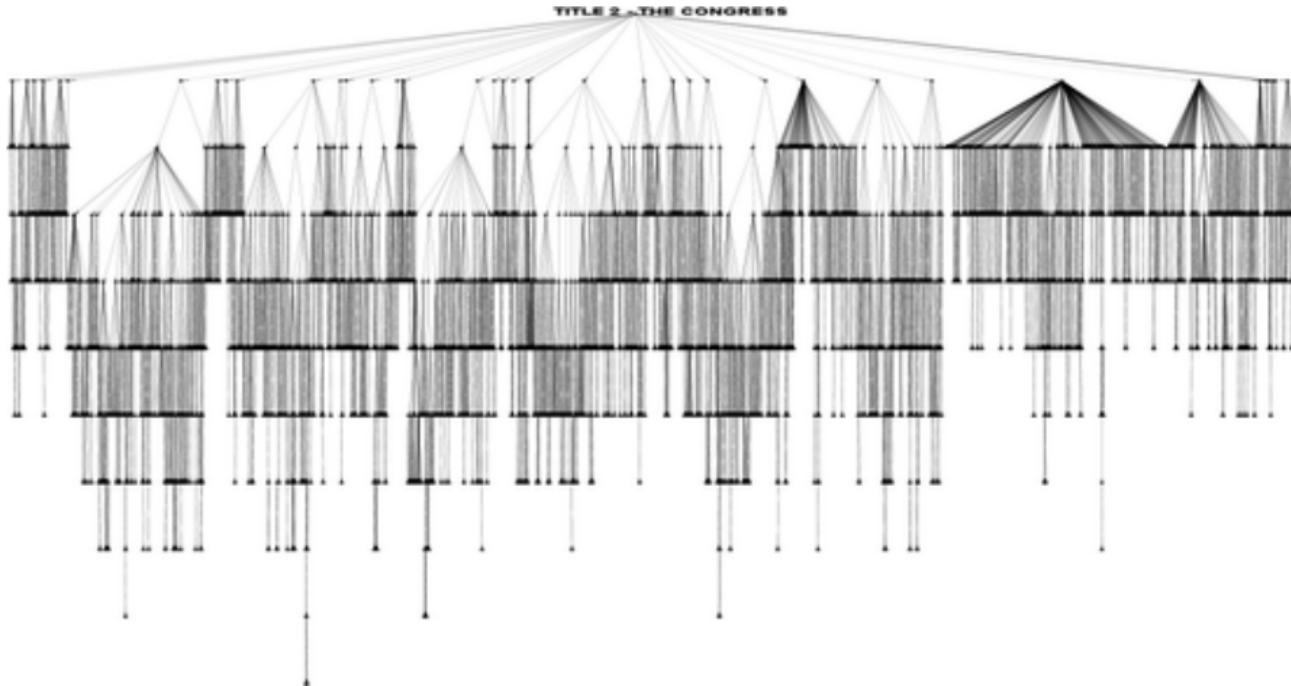
“Everything should be made as simple as possible, but no simpler.”

--not Einstein

- ▶ More detail is needed in law to properly target incentives to activities and groups.
  - ▶ but there are costs to understanding/following complex laws, so there is a trade off.
- ▶ Analyzing this issue empirically requires a measure of complexity/detail.

# The U.S. Code

Katz and Bommarito (2014)



- ▶ The U.S. Code consists of 49 titles, which can be further subdivided into subtitle, chapter, subchapter, part, subpart, section, subsection, paragraph, subparagraph, clause, and subclause.

# Number of Clauses ≈ Number of Words

Measuring Complexity (Katz and Bommarito 2014)

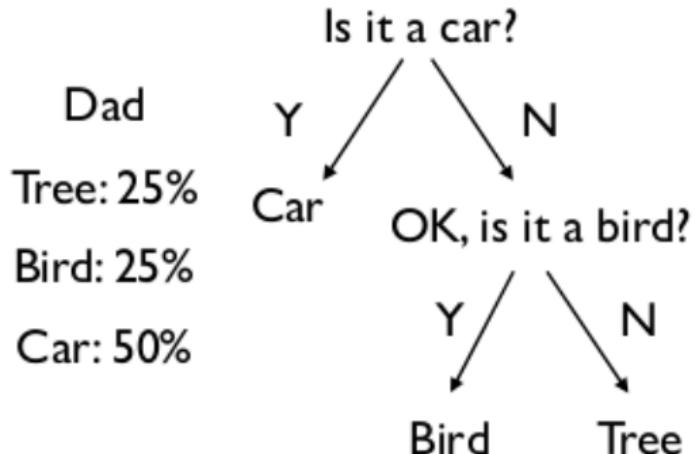
Five largest and smallest titles by structural size

Title	V
Public Health and Welfare (Title 42)	110,605
Internal Revenue Code (Title 26)	51,553
Conservation (Title 16)	33,062
Agriculture (Title 7)	29,191
Education (Title 20)	28,096
Arbitration (Title 9)	68
General Provisions (Title 1)	84
Flag and Seal, Seat of Government, and the States (Title 4)	221
Intoxicating Liquors (Title 27)	224
Census (Title 13)	272

Five largest and smallest titles by token count

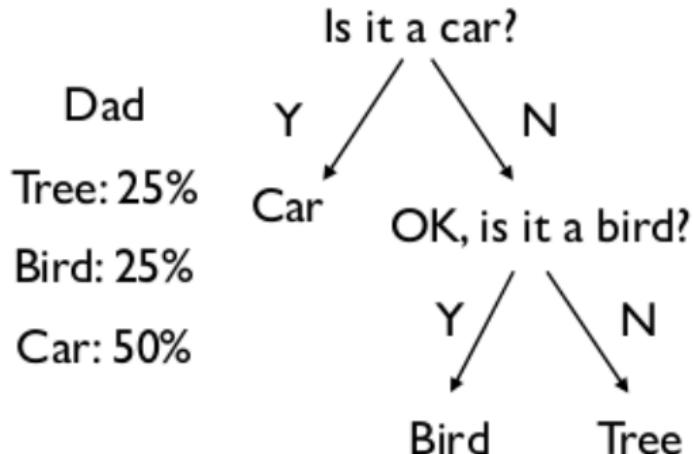
Title	Tokens	Tokens per section
Public Health and Welfare (Title 42)	2,732,251	369.22
Internal Revenue Code (Title 26)	1,016,995	487.07
Conservation (Title 16)	947,467	200.48
Commerce and Trade (Title 15)	773,819	336.88
Agriculture (Title 7)	751,579	274.00
President (Title 3)	7,564	120.06
Intoxicating Liquors (Title 27)	6,515	144.78
Flag and Seal, Seat of Govt. and the States (Title 4)	5,598	119.11
General Provisions (Title 1)	3,143	80.59
Arbitration (Title 9)	2,489	80.29

## Digression: Twenty Questions (DeDeo 2018)



- ▶ The optimal set of questions minimizes the expected number of turns until you guess the answer.

## Digression: Twenty Questions (DeDeo 2018)



- ▶ The optimal set of questions minimizes the expected number of turns until you guess the answer.
  - ▶ The length of the optimal script is closely approximated by the **entropy**

$$H(X) = - \sum_{i=1}^N \Pr(x_i) \log_2 \Pr(x_i)$$

where one guesses from words  $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N\}$ .

## Axioms for Shannon Entropy

Shannon (1948) wanted a function  $H(\vec{p})$  for a vector of probabilities  $\vec{p}$ , that would satisfy four axioms:

1. continuity (small changes in  $p_i \rightarrow$  small changes in  $H$ )
2. symmetry (invariance to re-ordering of  $\vec{p}$ )
3. Condition of maximum information ( $H$  maximized when all  $p_i$  are equal)
4. [next slide]

## 4. Coarse Graining

- ▶ Consider a set  $X = \{p_a, p_b, p_c\}$ 
  - ▶ Consider a subset  $X' = \{p_a, p_{bc}\}$  where  $p_{bc} = p_b + p_c$  (we don't distinguish  $b$  and  $c$ )

## 4. Coarse Graining

- ▶ Consider a set  $X = \{p_a, p_b, p_c\}$ 
  - ▶ Consider a subset  $X' = \{p_a, p_{bc}\}$  where  $p_{bc} = p_b + p_c$  (we don't distinguish  $b$  and  $c$ )
- ▶ Coarse graining requires

$$H(X) = H(X') + p_{bc}H(G)$$

where  $G = \left\{\frac{p_b}{p_{bc}}, \frac{p_c}{p_{bc}}\right\}$  the distribution for making the finer-grained distinction between  $b$  and  $c$ .

## 4. Coarse Graining

- ▶ Consider a set  $X = \{p_a, p_b, p_c\}$ 
  - ▶ Consider a subset  $X' = \{p_a, p_{bc}\}$  where  $p_{bc} = p_b + p_c$  (we don't distinguish  $b$  and  $c$ )
- ▶ Coarse graining requires

$$H(X) = H(X') + p_{bc}H(G)$$

where  $G = \left\{\frac{p_b}{p_{bc}}, \frac{p_c}{p_{bc}}\right\}$  the distribution for making the finer-grained distinction between  $b$  and  $c$ .

- ▶ The unique function satisfying these four assumptions is

$$H(X) = - \sum_{x \in X} \Pr(x) \log \Pr(x)$$

## Continuous Distributions and Cross Entropy

- ▶ For continuous distribution with pdf  $p(x)$ :

$$H(p(x)) = - \int_x p(x) \log(p(x)) dx$$

- ▶ broad distributions have higher entropy.

## Continuous Distributions and Cross Entropy

- ▶ For continuous distribution with pdf  $p(x)$ :

$$H(p(x)) = - \int_x p(x) \log(p(x)) dx$$

- ▶ broad distributions have higher entropy.
- ▶ The cross entropy for distributions  $p(x)$  and  $q(x)$  is a measure of similarity between distributions:

$$H(p, q) = - \int_x p(x) \log((q(x))) dx$$

- ▶ In machine learning, can be used as a loss function, where  $p$  is true and  $q$  is the model prediction.
- ▶ It is the standard loss function for logistic regression.

## Entropy in Text

- ▶ In text data, the probabilities  $p_i$  can be interpreted as the probability (frequency) of observing particular tokens: characters, words, n-grams, etc.
  - ▶ In general, documents with more diverse vocabularies/topics will have higher entropy.
  - ▶ an alternative: run compression algorithms on text and measure bytes of compressed data.

# Word Length and Word Entropy

Measuring Complexity (Katz and Bommarito 2014)

Ten titles with highest average word size

Title	Avg. word size
Domestic Security (Title 6)	6.90
War and National Defense (Title 50)	6.83
Public Printing and Documents (Title 44)	6.74
Foreign Relations and Intercourse (Title 22)	6.74
Public Contracts (Title 41)	6.73
Crimes and Criminal Procedure (Title 18)	6.16
Intoxicating Liquors (Title 27)	6.15
Internal Revenue Code (Title 26)	6.10
Flag and Seal, Seat of Govt. and the States (Title 4)	6.10
Bankruptcy (Title 11)	6.07

Five highest and lowest titles by word entropy

Title	Word entropy
Commerce and Trade (Title 15)	10.80
Public Health and Welfare (Title 42)	10.79
Conservation (Title 16)	10.75
Navigation and Navigable Waters (Title 33)	10.67
Foreign Relations and Intercourse (Title 22)	10.67
Intoxicating Liquors (Title 27)	9.01
President (Title 3)	8.89
National Guard (Title 32)	8.50
General Provisions (Title 1)	8.49
Arbitration (Title 9)	8.24

# Outline

Logistics

Course Projects

Introduction to Text Data

Corpora

Obtaining Corpora

Cleaning Corpora

Quantity of Text as Data

Dictionary-Based Methods

## Overview of Dictionary-Based Methods

- ▶ Dictionary-based text methods use a pre-selected list of words or phrases to analyze a corpus.

## Overview of Dictionary-Based Methods

- ▶ Dictionary-based text methods use a pre-selected list of words or phrases to analyze a corpus.
- ▶ Corpus-specific (e.g., number of times a judge says “justice” vs “efficiency”)

## Overview of Dictionary-Based Methods

- ▶ Dictionary-based text methods use a pre-selected list of words or phrases to analyze a corpus.
- ▶ Corpus-specific (e.g., number of times a judge says “justice” vs “efficiency”)
- ▶ General dictionaries: WordNet, LIWC, MFD, etc.

## Corpus-specific words

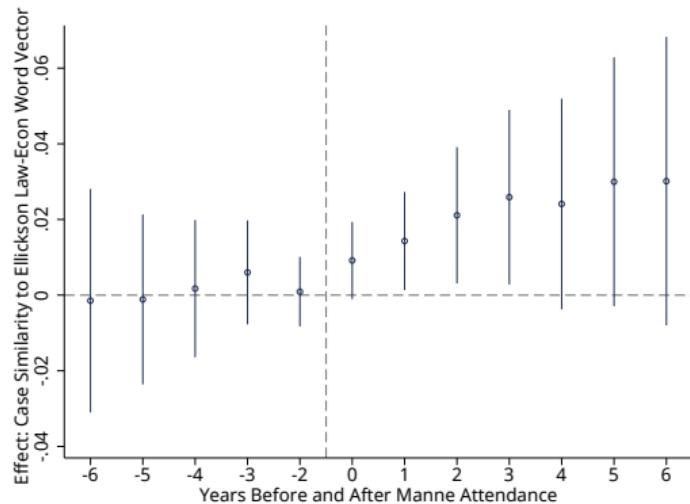
- Sometimes counting sets of words or phrases across documents can provide useful evidence.

## Corpus-specific words

- ▶ Sometimes counting sets of words or phrases across documents can provide useful evidence.
- ▶ Ash, Chen, and Naidu (2019):
  - ▶ We analyze the use of economics reasoning in the judiciary.
  - ▶ For example, use of the word “efficiency” or “deterrence” after attending a two-week intensive summer course in economics.

# Impact of Economics Training on Economics Language

Ash, Chen, and Naidu (2019)



After attendance, Economics Trained Judges increase use of a selection of terms related to law and economics

## Measuring uncertainty in macroeconomy

Baker, Bloom, and Davis (2016)

- ▶ Baker, Bloom, and Davis measure economic policy uncertainty using Boolean search of newspaper articles.

# Measuring uncertainty in macroeconomy

Baker, Bloom, and Davis (2016)

- ▶ Baker, Bloom, and Davis measure economic policy uncertainty using Boolean search of newspaper articles.
- ▶ For each newspaper on each day since 1985, submit the following query:
  - ▶ 1. Article contains “uncertain” OR “uncertainty”, AND
  - ▶ 2. Article contains “economic” OR “economy”, AND
  - ▶ 3. Article contains “congress” OR “deficit” OR “federal reserve” OR “legislation” OR “regulation” OR “white house”

# Measuring uncertainty in macroeconomy

Baker, Bloom, and Davis (2016)

- ▶ Baker, Bloom, and Davis measure economic policy uncertainty using Boolean search of newspaper articles.
- ▶ For each newspaper on each day since 1985, submit the following query:
  - ▶ 1. Article contains “uncertain” OR “uncertainty”, AND
  - ▶ 2. Article contains “economic” OR “economy”, AND
  - ▶ 3. Article contains “congress” OR “deficit” OR “federal reserve” OR “legislation” OR “regulation” OR “white house”
- ▶ Normalize resulting article counts by total newspaper articles that month.

# Measuring uncertainty in macroeconomy

**Figure 2: News-Based Economic Policy Uncertainty Index**  
(Jan 1985 – Mar 2013)



# WordNet

- ▶ English word database:
  - ▶ 117,798 nouns, 11,529 verbs, 22,479 adjectives, and 4,481 adverbs.

The noun “bass” has 8 senses in WordNet.

1. bass<sup>1</sup> - (the lowest part of the musical range)
2. bass<sup>2</sup>, bass part<sup>1</sup> - (the lowest part in polyphonic music)
3. bass<sup>3</sup>, basso<sup>1</sup> - (an adult male singer with the lowest voice)
4. sea bass<sup>1</sup>, bass<sup>4</sup> - (the lean flesh of a saltwater fish of the family Serranidae)
5. freshwater bass<sup>1</sup>, bass<sup>5</sup> - (any of various North American freshwater fish with  
lean flesh (especially of the genus Micropterus))
6. bass<sup>6</sup>, bass voice<sup>1</sup>, basso<sup>2</sup> - (the lowest adult male singing voice)
7. bass<sup>7</sup> - (the member with the lowest range of a family of musical instruments)
8. bass<sup>8</sup> - (nontechnical name for any of numerous edible marine and  
freshwater spiny-finned fishes)

**Figure 19.1** A portion of the WordNet 3.0 entry for the noun *bass*.

- ▶ Synonym sets (synsets) are a group of near-synonyms, plus a gloss (definition).
  - ▶ also contains information on antonyms (opposites), holonyms/meronyms  
(part-whole/whole-party).

# WordNet Supersenses

Category	Example	Category	Example	Category	Example
ACT	<i>service</i>	GROUP	<i>place</i>	PLANT	<i>tree</i>
ANIMAL	<i>dog</i>	LOCATION	<i>area</i>	POSSESSION	<i>price</i>
ARTIFACT	<i>car</i>	MOTIVE	<i>reason</i>	PROCESS	<i>process</i>
ATTRIBUTE	<i>quality</i>	NATURAL EVENT	<i>experience</i>	QUANTITY	<i>amount</i>
BODY	<i>hair</i>	NATURAL OBJECT	<i>flower</i>	RELATION	<i>portion</i>
COGNITION	<i>way</i>	OTHER	<i>stuff</i>	SHAPE	<i>square</i>
COMMUNICATION	<i>review</i>	PERSON	<i>people</i>	STATE	<i>pain</i>
FEELING	<i>discomfort</i>	PHENOMENON	<i>result</i>	SUBSTANCE	<i>oil</i>
FOOD	<i>food</i>			TIME	<i>day</i>

**Figure 19.2** Supersenses: 26 lexicographic categories for nouns in WordNet.

Supersense	Verbs denoting ...
body	grooming, dressing and bodily care
change	size, temperature change, intensifying
cognition	thinking, judging, analyzing, doubting
communication	telling, asking, ordering, singing
competition	fighting, athletic activities
consumption	eating and drinking
contact	touching, hitting, tying, digging
creation	sewing, baking, painting, performing
emotion	feeling
motion	walking, flying, swimming
perception	seeing, hearing, feeling
possession	buying, selling, owning
social	political and social activities and events
stative	being, having, spatial relations
weather	raining, snowing, thawing, thundering

# WordNet Sense Relations

Relation	Also Called	Definition	Example
Hypernym	Superordinate	From concepts to superordinates	<i>breakfast</i> <sup>1</sup> → <i>meal</i> <sup>1</sup>
Hyponym	Subordinate	From concepts to subtypes	<i>meal</i> <sup>1</sup> → <i>lunch</i> <sup>1</sup>
Instance Hypernym	Instance	From instances to their concepts	<i>Austen</i> <sup>1</sup> → <i>author</i> <sup>1</sup>
Instance Hyponym	Has-Instance	From concepts to their instances	<i>composer</i> <sup>1</sup> → <i>Bach</i> <sup>1</sup>
Part Meronym	Has-Part	From wholes to parts	<i>table</i> <sup>2</sup> → <i>leg</i> <sup>3</sup>
Part Holonym	Part-Of	From parts to wholes	<i>course</i> <sup>7</sup> → <i>meal</i> <sup>1</sup>
Antonym		Semantic opposition between lemmas	<i>leader</i> <sup>1</sup> ⇔ <i>follower</i> <sup>1</sup>
Derivation		Lemmas w/same morphological root	<i>destruction</i> <sup>1</sup> ⇔ <i>destroy</i> <sup>1</sup>

**Figure 19.3** Some of the noun relations in WordNet.

Relation	Definition	Example
Hypernym	From events to superordinate events	<i>fly</i> <sup>9</sup> → <i>travel</i> <sup>5</sup>
Troponym	From events to subordinate event	<i>walk</i> <sup>1</sup> → <i>stroll</i> <sup>1</sup>
Entails	From verbs (events) to the verbs (events) they entail	<i>snore</i> <sup>1</sup> → <i>sleep</i> <sup>1</sup>
Antonym	Semantic opposition between lemmas	<i>increase</i> <sup>1</sup> ⇔ <i>decrease</i> <sup>1</sup>

**Figure 19.4** Some verb relations in WordNet.

# WordNet Sense Relations

bass<sup>3</sup>, basso (an adult male singer with the lowest voice)

=> singer, vocalist, vocalizer, vocaliser  
=> musician, instrumentalist, player  
=> performer, performing artist  
=> entertainer  
=> person, individual, someone...  
=> organism, being  
=> living thing, animate thing,  
=> whole, unit  
=> object, physical object  
=> physical entity  
=> entity

bass<sup>7</sup> (member with the lowest range of a family of instruments)

=> musical instrument, instrument  
=> device  
=> instrumentality, instrumentation  
=> artifact, artefact  
=> whole, unit  
=> object, physical object  
=> physical entity  
=> entity

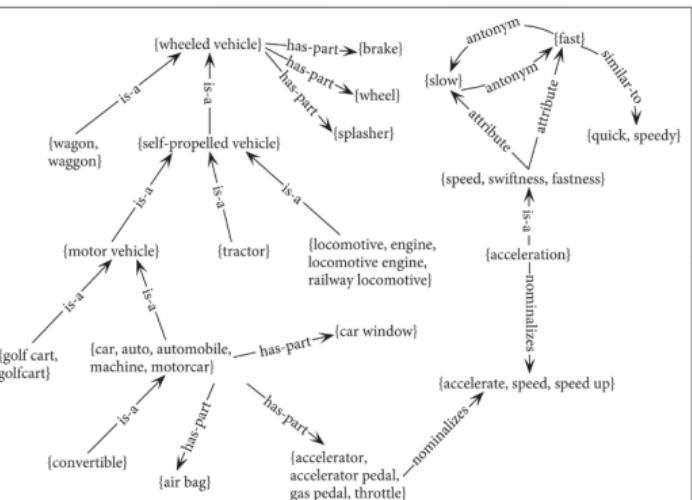


Figure 19.5 Hyponymy chains for two separate senses of the lemma *bass*. Note that the chains are completely distinct, only converging at the very abstract level *whole, unit*.

Figure 19.6 WordNet viewed as a graph. Figure from Navigli (2016).

## WordNet can be used for shrinking vocabulary

- ▶ Wordnet provides synonym sets (“synsets”):
  - ▶ can replace words with the most frequent word from that synset.

## WordNet can be used for shrinking vocabulary

- ▶ Wordnet provides synonym sets (“synsets”):
  - ▶ can replace words with the most frequent word from that synset.
- ▶ Wordnet provides hierarchical relations between words:
  - ▶ ancestors of “dog” include “carnivore”, “mammal”, “vertebrate”, “animal”, and “physical entity”

## WordNet can be used for shrinking vocabulary

- ▶ Wordnet provides synonym sets (“synsets”):
  - ▶ can replace words with the most frequent word from that synset.
- ▶ Wordnet provides hierarchical relations between words:
  - ▶ ancestors of “dog” include “carnivore”, “mammal”, “vertebrate”, “animal”, and “physical entity”
  - ▶ Can replace words with a higher-level category to which it is member.

- ▶ LIWC (pronounced “Luke”) stands for Linguistic Inquiry and Word Counts
  - ▶ 2300 words 70 lists of category-relevant words, e.g. “emotion”, “cognition”, “work”, “family”, “positive”, “negative” etc.
  - ▶ Info and publications at [liwc.net](http://liwc.net)
  - ▶ Invented in 1980s, now in third version

## Emotion Lexicons

- ▶ 8 basic emotions, in four opposing pairs:
  - ▶ joy–sadness
  - ▶ anger–fear
  - ▶ trust–disgust
  - ▶ anticipation–surprise
- ▶ Mohammad and Turney (2011) code 10,000 words along the four dimensions (using Mturk)

# Valence, Arousal, and Dominance

Warriner, Juperman, and Brysbaert (2013)

- ▶ Ratings for 14,000 words along three emotional dimensions:
  - ▶ valence – pleasantness of the stimulus
  - ▶ arousal – intensity of the emotion provoked by stimulus
  - ▶ dominance – degree of control exerted by the stimulus

## Concreteness vs. Abstractness

- ▶ The degree to which the concept denoted by a word refers to a perceptible entity.
- ▶ Brysbaert, Warriner, and Kuperman (2014):
  - ▶ concreteness scores (1 to 5) for 37,058 words and 2896 two-word phrases.
  - ▶ concrete: “banana” (5)
  - ▶ abstract: “although” (1.07)

## Function Words

- ▶ **Function words** are used for syntax rather than semantics (meaning):
  - ▶ e.g. *for, rather, than*

## Function Words

- ▶ **Function words** are used for syntax rather than semantics (meaning):
  - ▶ e.g. *for, rather, than*
- ▶ There are many lists – e.g. LIWC has a list of 464 function words (the “funct” category).

## Function Words

- ▶ **Function words** are used for syntax rather than semantics (meaning):
  - ▶ e.g. *for, rather, than*
- ▶ There are many lists – e.g. LIWC has a list of 464 function words (the “funct” category).
- ▶ Goldberg (2017) says you can take the top ~300 most-frequent words in a corpus as a list of function words.

## Function Words: Applications

Hegolemeter: <http://textlab.econ.columbia.edu/hegel>

## Function Words: Applications

Hegolemeter: <http://textlab.econ.columbia.edu/hegel>

- ▶ One of the earliest applications of text analysis used frequencies over function words to de-anonymize the *Federalist Papers* (Mostellar and Wallace 1964).

## Sentiment Analysis

- ▶ There are many approaches to sentiment analysis
  - ▶ e.g., in Python, nltk vader class provides positive, negative, and neutral scores for a document, and a composite score that combines all three.

## Sentiment Analysis

- ▶ There are many approaches to sentiment analysis
  - ▶ e.g., in Python, nltk vader class provides positive, negative, and neutral scores for a document, and a composite score that combines all three.
- ▶ Designed for online writing – hard to say how well it works on legal text, for example.
  - ▶ Hamilton-Clark-Leskovec-Jurafsky (2016) provide a method for making domain-specific sentiment lexicons using word embeddings (more on this later).

## Limitations of sentiment analysis

I'd hate to be the president

## Limitations of sentiment analysis

# I'd hate to be the president

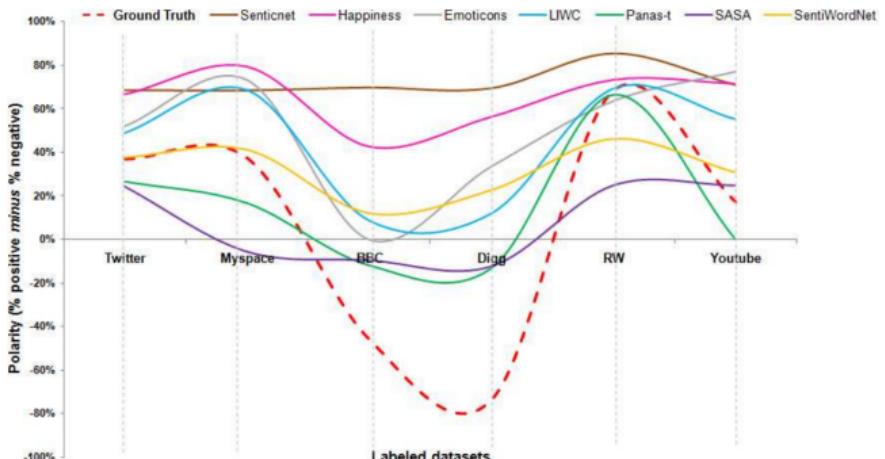


Figure 2: Polarity of the eight sentiment methods across the labeled datasets, indicating that existing methods vary widely in their agreement.

# Folklore

Michalopolous and Xue 2019

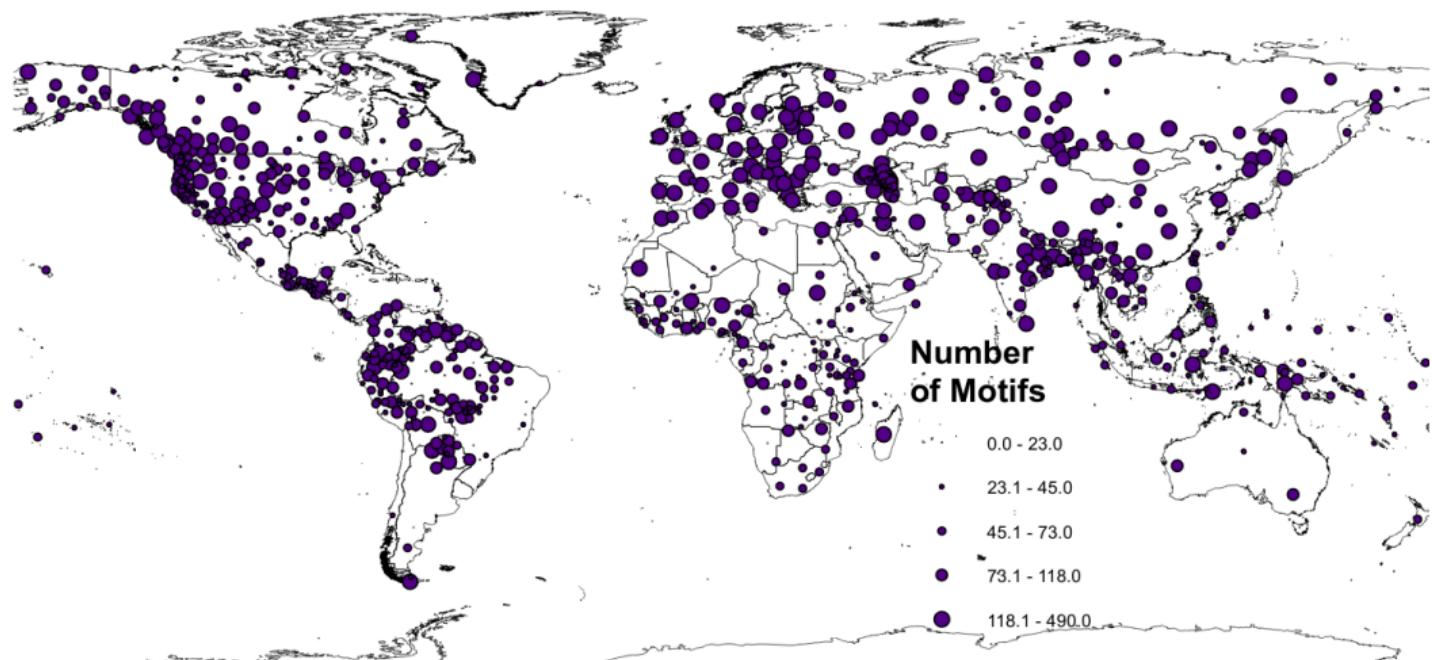


Figure 2: # of Motifs across Oral Traditions

# Folklore

Michalopolous and Xue 2019

Table 1 - Panel C: Examples of Motifs in Each of the 12 categories of Berezkin's Catalogue

Motif Group	ID	Description	g	b82	Raven or other carrion-eating bird of dark color and a similar size was originally white.
a	a3	The Moon is female or bisexual, the Sun is male.	h	l19b	A being with three or more heads is described in tales or represented in art.
b	a32	A figure or an imprint of some being or object are seen in the Moon.	i	m29b	In episodes related to deception, absurd, obscene or anti-social behavior the protagonist is fox, jackal or coyote.
c	b3a	Water is the original element, the dry earth appears later.	j	k27n	Father or other kinsmen of hero's wife or bride try to kill or test him and/or suggest him difficult tasks.
d	h28	Killed and destroyed (often burned) person or creature (usually ogre, fierce animal, powerful shaman) turns into a multitude of biting insects or into other small molesting creatures.	k	m30	Person or creature who has no wings or is unable to fly on a long distance attempts to ascend to the sky or to fly far away but falls down or, deprived of his wings, remains in a place from which he is unable to return.
e	f9	For different reasons, sexual contact with a woman is deadly dangerous for a man.	l	k38e	Loci or objects of three (rare – four) different materials are mentioned in such a way that all of them have positive connotations though unequal value (copper, silver and gold; silver, gold and diamonds, etc.)
f	g6	One of the trees is the principal, original one (emerged before all the other; ancestor of wild or cultivated plants; ocean or rivers inside it; world axis; higher than all the others; overshadows sky).			

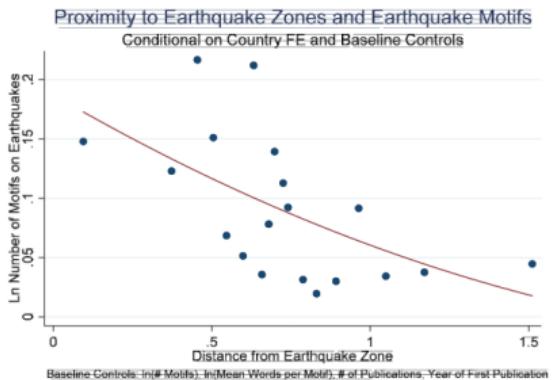


Figure 3a

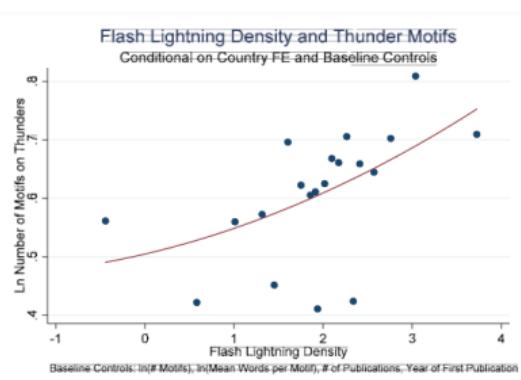


Figure 3b

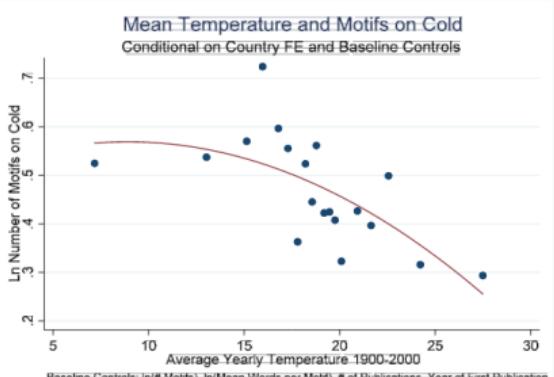


Figure 3c

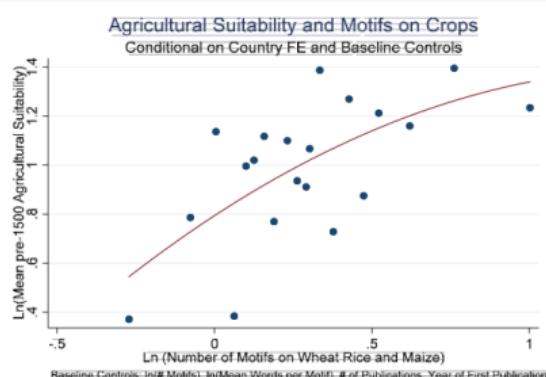


Figure 3d

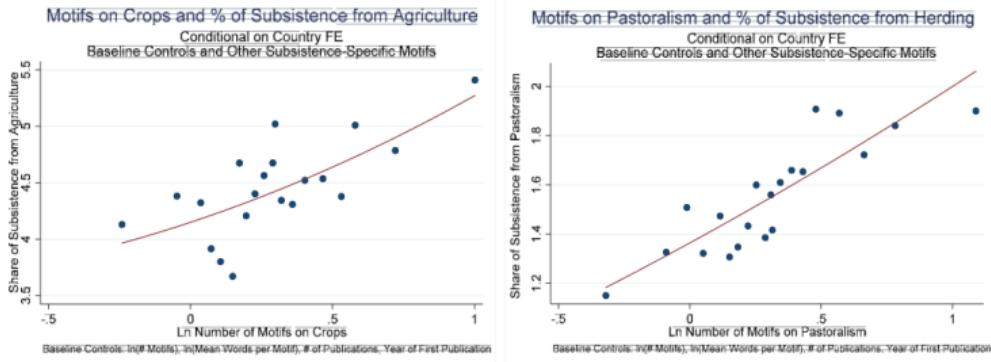


Figure 4a

Figure 4b

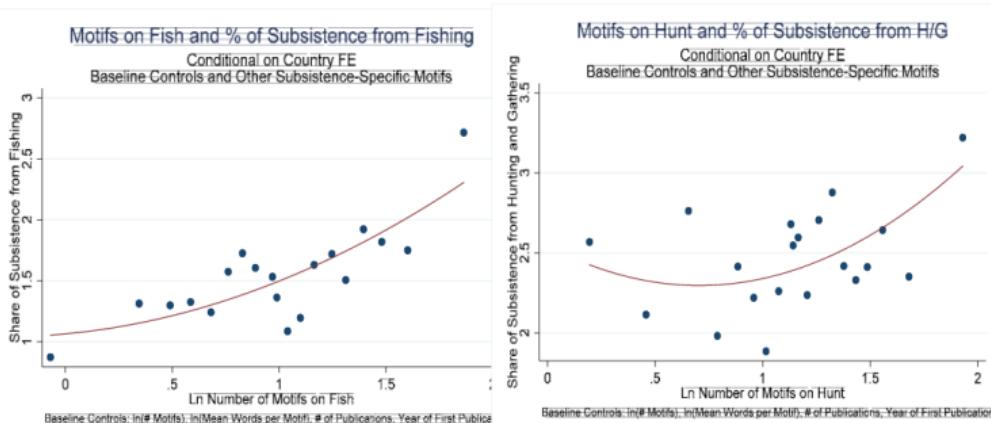


Figure 4c

Figure 4d