

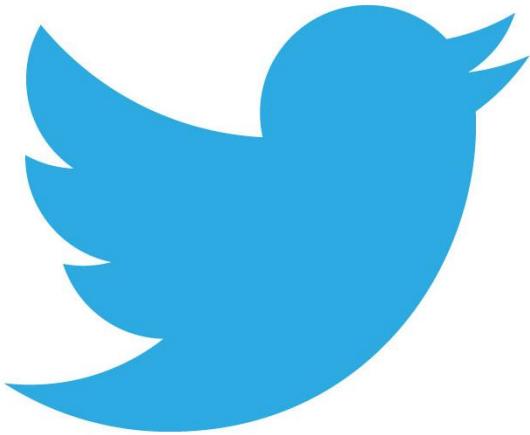
Personality, Gender and Age in the Language of Social Media

Crowdsourcing and Human Computation
12/4/2013

H. Andrew Schwartz

Core Collaborators:

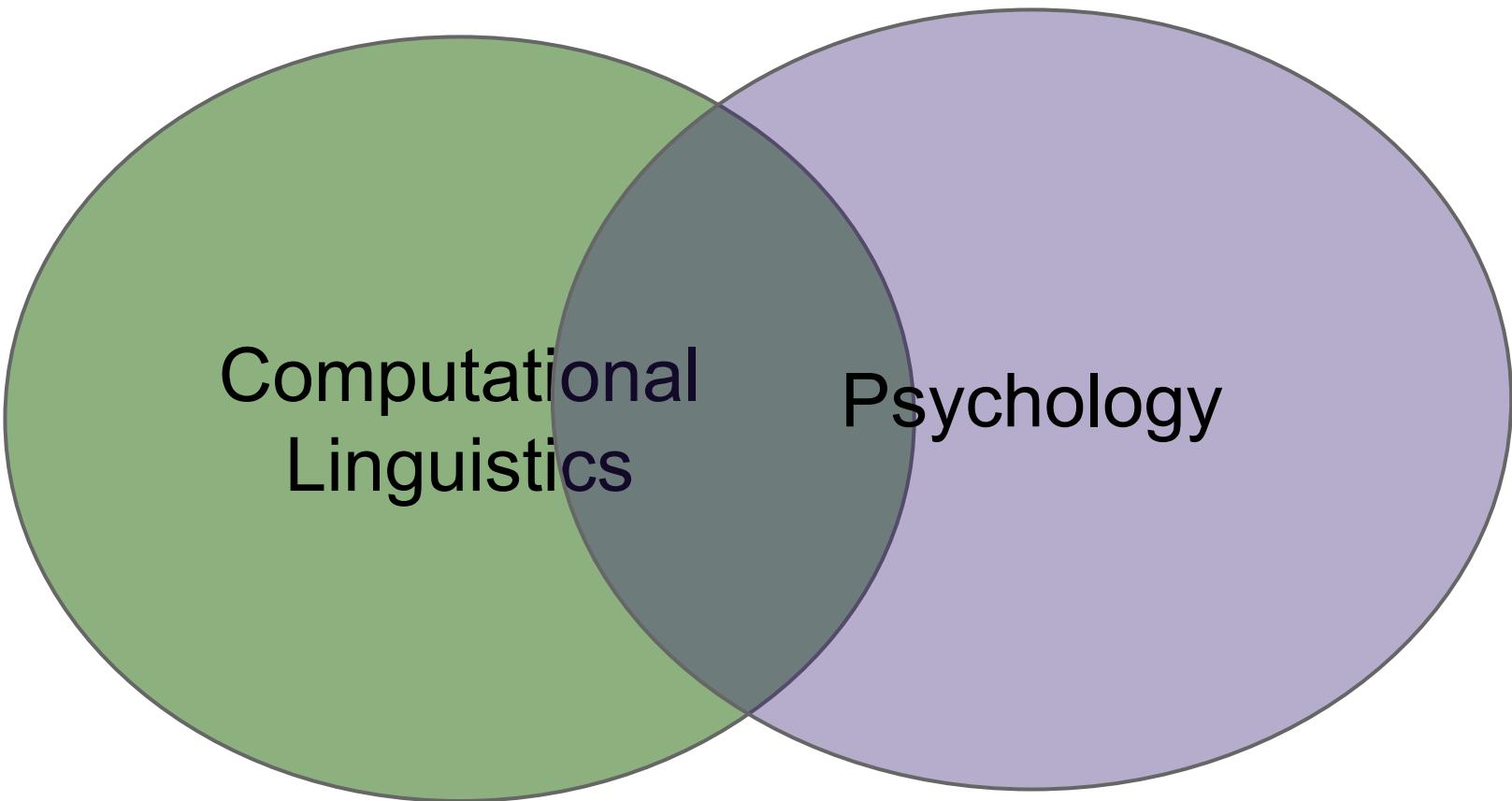
Johannes Eichstaedt, Margaret Kern, Gregory Park, Martin Seligman Lyle Ungar



> 150 million active monthly users
> 350 million messages a day



> 1 billion active monthly users
> 4 billion messages a day



Computational Linguistics traditionally is focused on modeling and understanding language.

- **Results: accurate predictions**

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- **Results: accurate predictions**

Our Goal: Understand the people behind the Language.

- **Results: Novel Insights**

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Passive crowdsourcing the human condition?

**Psychological language analyses typically limited to
apriori language lexica**

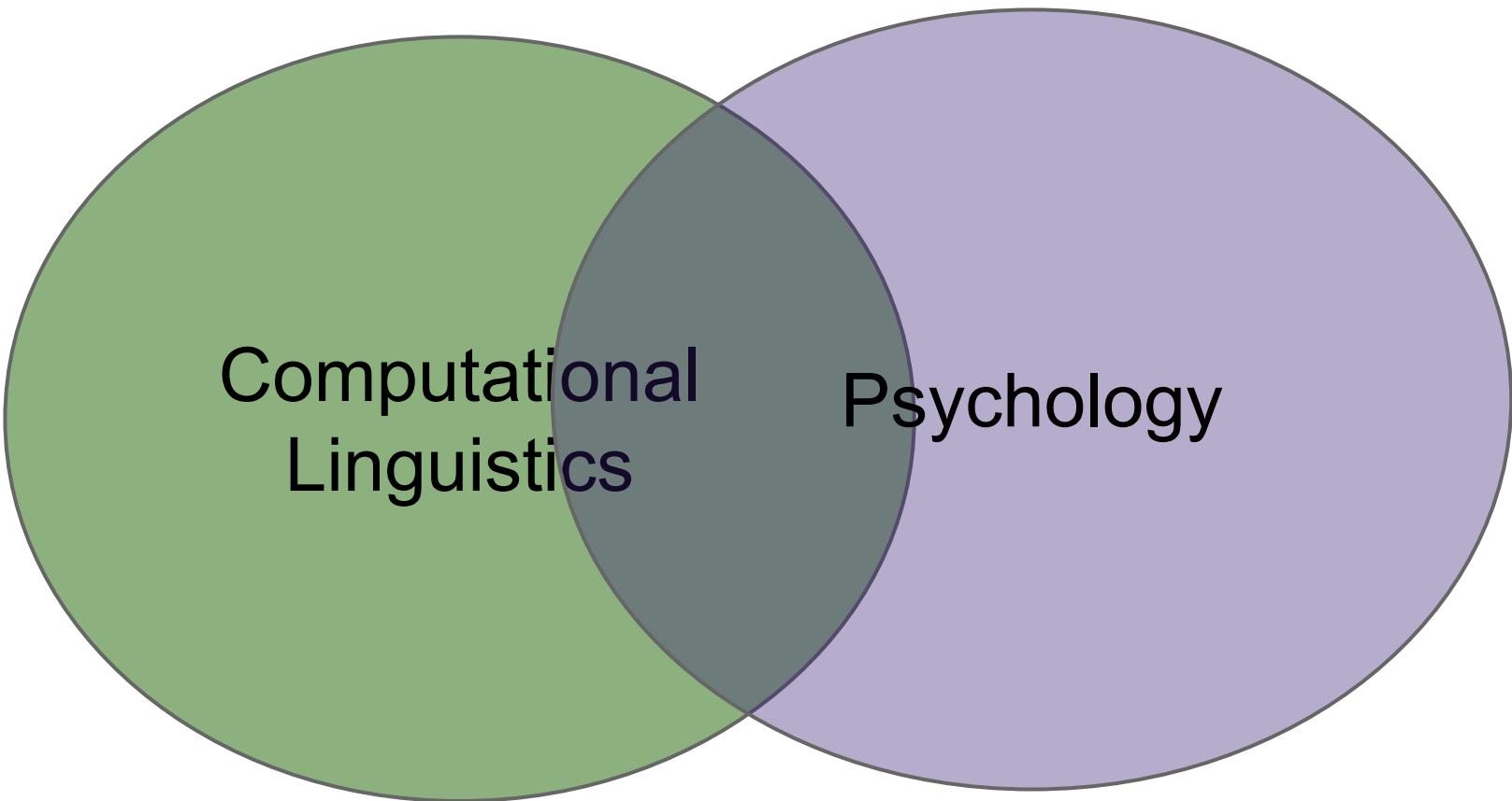
| LWC Category | Gender | | Age | | Extraversion | | Agreeableness | | Conscientious. | | Neuroticism | | Openness | |
|----------------------|--------|-------------|--------------|-------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|----------|-------------|
| | [34] d | our β | [30] β | our β | [27] p | our β | [27] p | our β | [27] p | our β | [27] p | our β | [27] p | our β |
| Total function words | - | -0.04 | - | 0.16 | - | -0.04 | - | 0.02 | - | 0.02 | - | 0.03 | - | 0.09 |
| Total pronouns | 0.36 | 0.07 | - | -0.02 | ns | ns | 0.11 | ns | ns | -0.03 | ns | 0.04 | -0.21 | 0.07 |
| Personal pronouns | - | 0.14 | - | -0.08 | - | ns | - | ns | - | -0.04 | - | 0.04 | - | 0.05 |
| 1st pers singular | 0.17 | 0.13 | -0.14 | -0.22 | ns | ns | ns | -0.03 | ns | -0.06 | 0.12 | 0.05 | -0.16 | 0.05 |
| 1st pers plural | ns | ns | -0.13 | 0.21 | 0.11 | 0.03 | 0.18 | 0.05 | ns | 0.05 | ns | -0.04 | -0.1 | ns |
| 2nd person | -0.06 | 0.05 | - | 0.04 | 0.16 | ns | ns | 0.02 | ns | ns | -0.15 | ns | -0.12 | 0.02 |
| 3rd pers singular | - | 0.09 | - | 0.15 | - | ns | - | ns | - | ns | - | 0.02 | - | ns |
| 3rd pers plural | - | -0.05 | - | 0.26 | - | -0.06 | - | -0.04 | - | ns | - | 0.02 | - | 0.03 |
| 3rd pers overall | 0.2 | - | - | - | ns | - | ns | - | ns | - | ns | - | ns | - |
| Impersonal pronouns | - | -0.09 | - | 0.11 | - | -0.05 | - | ns | - | ns | - | 0.02 | - | 0.08 |
| Articles | -0.24 | -0.24 | - | 0.28 | ns | -0.05 | ns | ns | 0.09 | 0.02 | -0.11 | -0.02 | 0.2 | 0.13 |
| Common verbs | - | 0.04 | - | 0.02 | - | -0.03 | - | ns | - | ns | - | 0.04 | - | 0.03 |
| Auxiliary verbs | - | 0.02 | - | 0.08 | - | -0.06 | - | ns | - | ns | - | 0.05 | - | 0.07 |
| Past tense | 0.12 | -0.03 | -0.16 | ns | ns | -0.04 | 0.1 | 0.02 | ns | -0.02 | ns | ns | -0.16 | ns |
| Present tense | 0.18 | 0.08 | 0.04 | ns | ns | ns | ns | ns | ns | ns | ns | 0.04 | -0.16 | 0.03 |
| Future tense | ns | -0.07 | 0.14 | 0.09 | ns | -0.05 | ns | ns | ns | ns | ns | 0.03 | ns | 0.05 |
| Adverbs | - | 0.05 | - | -0.07 | - | -0.04 | - | ns | - | ns | - | 0.05 | - | 0.04 |
| Prepositions | -0.17 | -0.13 | - | 0.27 | ns | -0.04 | ns | 0.03 | ns | 0.06 | ns | ns | 0.17 | 0.06 |
| Conjunctions | - | 0.03 | - | 0.12 | - | -0.02 | - | 0.02 | - | 0.02 | - | 0.02 | - | 0.06 |
| Negations | 0.11 | ns | - | -0.12 | ns | -0.06 | ns | -0.05 | -0.17 | -0.03 | 0.11 | 0.07 | -0.13 | 0.02 |
| Quantifiers | - | -0.09 | - | 0.24 | - | -0.02 | - | 0.03 | - | 0.05 | - | ns | - | 0.05 |
| Numbers | -0.15 | -0.13 | - | 0.05 | -0.12 | -0.06 | 0.11 | 0.02 | ns | 0.02 | ns | ns | -0.08 | 0.06 |
| Swear words | -0.22 | -0.21 | - | -0.17 | ns | ns | -0.21 | -0.15 | -0.14 | -0.09 | 0.11 | 0.06 | ns | ns |
| Social processes | - | 0.08 | -0.13 | 0.21 | 0.15 | 0.04 | 0.13 | 0.02 | ns | ns | ns | ns | -0.14 | ns |
| Family | 0.12 | 0.22 | - | 0.28 | 0.09 | 0.03 | 0.19 | 0.03 | ns | 0.03 | ns | ns | -0.17 | -0.12 |
| Friends | 0.09 | 0.08 | - | 0.26 | 0.15 | 0.05 | 0.11 | 0.04 | ns | 0.02 | -0.08 | ns | ns | -0.04 |
| Humans | ns | 0.04 | - | 0.06 | 0.13 | 0.06 | ns | -0.05 | -0.12 | ns | ns | ns | -0.09 | ns |
| Affective processes | 0.11 | 0.11 | - | -0.05 | 0.09 | 0.07 | ns | 0.02 | ns | ns | ns | ns | -0.12 | -0.04 |
| Positive emotion | ns | 0.21 | 0.12 | 0.14 | 0.1 | 0.13 | 0.18 | 0.13 | ns | 0.1 | ns | -0.08 | -0.15 | -0.07 |
| Negative emotion | 0.1 | -0.12 | -0.05 | -0.31 | ns | -0.07 | -0.15 | -0.17 | -0.18 | -0.13 | 0.16 | 0.15 | ns | 0.03 |
| Anxiety | 0.16 | 0.08 | - | -0.13 | ns | -0.04 | ns | -0.02 | ns | -0.02 | 0.17 | 0.06 | ns | 0.07 |
| Anger | ns | -0.22 | - | -0.25 | ns | -0.05 | -0.23 | -0.19 | -0.19 | -0.12 | 0.13 | 0.11 | ns | 0.02 |
| Sadness | 0.1 | 0.08 | - | -0.15 | ns | -0.04 | ns | -0.02 | -0.11 | -0.04 | 0.1 | 0.09 | ns | ns |
| Cognitive processes | 0.07 | -0.03 | 0.07 | 0.1 | ns | -0.05 | ns | 0.02 | -0.11 | ns | 0.13 | 0.04 | -0.09 | 0.1 |
| Insight | 0.09 | -0.05 | 0.11 | 0.04 | ns | -0.09 | ns | ns | ns | -0.02 | ns | 0.05 | ns | 0.13 |
| Causation | ns | -0.05 | ns | -0.01 | -0.09 | -0.06 | -0.11 | -0.02 | -0.12 | ns | 0.11 | 0.02 | ns | 0.08 |
| Discrepancy | 0.07 | ns | - | 0.02 | ns | -0.05 | ns | -0.02 | -0.13 | -0.03 | 0.13 | 0.07 | -0.12 | 0.02 |
| Tentative | ns | -0.12 | - | 0.07 | -0.11 | -0.08 | ns | ns | -0.1 | -0.03 | 0.12 | 0.06 | ns | 0.07 |
| Certainty | 0.14 | ns | - | 0.09 | 0.1 | ns | ns | 0.03 | -0.1 | 0.04 | 0.13 | ns | ns | 0.06 |
| Inhibition | - | 0.03 | - | 0.09 | -0.13 | ns | ns | ns | ns | 0.04 | 0.09 | ns | ns | ns |
| Inclusive | ns | 0.04 | - | 0.23 | 0.09 | 0.04 | 0.18 | 0.05 | ns | 0.05 | ns | -0.02 | 0.11 | 0.06 |
| Exclusive | ns | -0.05 | ns | ns | ns | -0.07 | ns | ns | -0.16 | -0.03 | 0.1 | 0.05 | ns | 0.05 |
| Perceptual Processes | 0.12 | ns | - | -0.06 | 0.09 | -0.04 | ns | ns | -0.1 | -0.07 | ns | 0.03 | -0.11 | 0.1 |
| See | ns | ns | - | ns | ns | -0.02 | 0.09 | ns | ns | -0.04 | ns | ns | ns | 0.04 |
| Hear | 0.1 | -0.07 | - | -0.1 | 0.12 | -0.04 | ns | ns | -0.12 | -0.06 | ns | 0.02 | -0.08 | 0.08 |
| Feel | 0.17 | 0.04 | - | -0.07 | ns | -0.02 | 0.1 | ns | ns | -0.04 | 0.1 | 0.03 | ns | 0.05 |
| Biological processes | ns | 0.05 | - | -0.06 | 0.14 | 0.04 | 0.09 | -0.06 | ns | -0.06 | ns | 0.05 | -0.09 | 0.02 |
| Body | - | -0.02 | - | -0.14 | 0.1 | ns | 0.09 | -0.09 | ns | -0.09 | ns | 0.06 | -0.04 | 0.04 |
| Health | - | 0.05 | - | 0.07 | - | ns | - | ns | - | ns | - | 0.06 | - | ns |
| Sexual | ns | 0.05 | - | -0.14 | 0.17 | 0.1 | 0.08 | -0.04 | ns | -0.04 | ns | ns | ns | ns |
| Ingestion | - | 0.02 | - | 0.12 | - | ns | - | -0.03 | - | -0.03 | - | ns | - | 0.03 |
| Relativity | - | -0.06 | - | 0.16 | - | ns | - | 0.05 | - | 0.08 | - | -0.03 | - | -0.03 |
| Motion | 0.07 | ns | - | 0.12 | - | 0.02 | - | 0.05 | - | 0.07 | - | -0.04 | - | -0.04 |
| Space | ns | -0.18 | - | 0.21 | ns | ns | 0.16 | ns | ns | 0.02 | -0.09 | ns | -0.11 | 0.07 |
| Time | ns | 0.02 | -0.19 | 0.08 | ns | ns | 0.12 | 0.06 | 0.09 | 0.09 | ns | -0.03 | -0.22 | -0.07 |
| Work | -0.12 | -0.08 | - | -0.02 | -0.08 | -0.05 | ns | 0.03 | ns | 0.1 | ns | -0.03 | ns | -0.02 |
| Achievement | - | -0.17 | - | 0.16 | -0.09 | ns | ns | 0.05 | 0.14 | 0.11 | ns | -0.06 | ns | -0.02 |
| Leisure | ns | -0.08 | - | 0.03 | 0.08 | 0.06 | 0.15 | 0.04 | ns | 0.03 | ns | -0.07 | -0.17 | ns |
| Home | 0.15 | 0.19 | - | 0.18 | ns | ns | 0.19 | 0.03 | ns | 0.04 | ns | -0.02 | -0.2 | -0.06 |
| Money | -0.1 | -0.12 | - | 0.24 | ns | ns | -0.11 | -0.04 | ns | 0.03 | ns | ns | 0.03 | ns |
| Religion | - | -0.03 | - | 0.21 | 0.11 | ns | ns | 0.06 | ns | 0.04 | ns | -0.04 | ns | ns |
| Death | - | -0.18 | - | -0.1 | ns | -0.08 | -0.13 | -0.09 | -0.12 | -0.08 | ns | 0.08 | 0.15 | 0.09 |
| Assent | - | 0.07 | - | -0.22 | ns | 0.05 | ns | 0.04 | -0.09 | ns | ns | -0.04 | -0.11 | -0.05 |
| Nonfluencies | - | -0.03 | - | 0.02 | - | ns | - | ns | - | ns | - | 0.03 | - | ns |
| Filers | - | -0.02 | - | -0.24 | ns | ns | - | -0.04 | - | -0.08 | - | 0.03 | - | 0.04 |
| participants (N) | 9,130 | 74,859 | 3,087 | 74,859 | 576 | 72,709 | 576 | 72,772 | 576 | 72,781 | 576 | 71,968 | 576 | 72,809 |

Psychological language analyses typically limited to apriori language lexica

- **limited to pre-chosen hypotheses**
- **don't always measure what is expected**

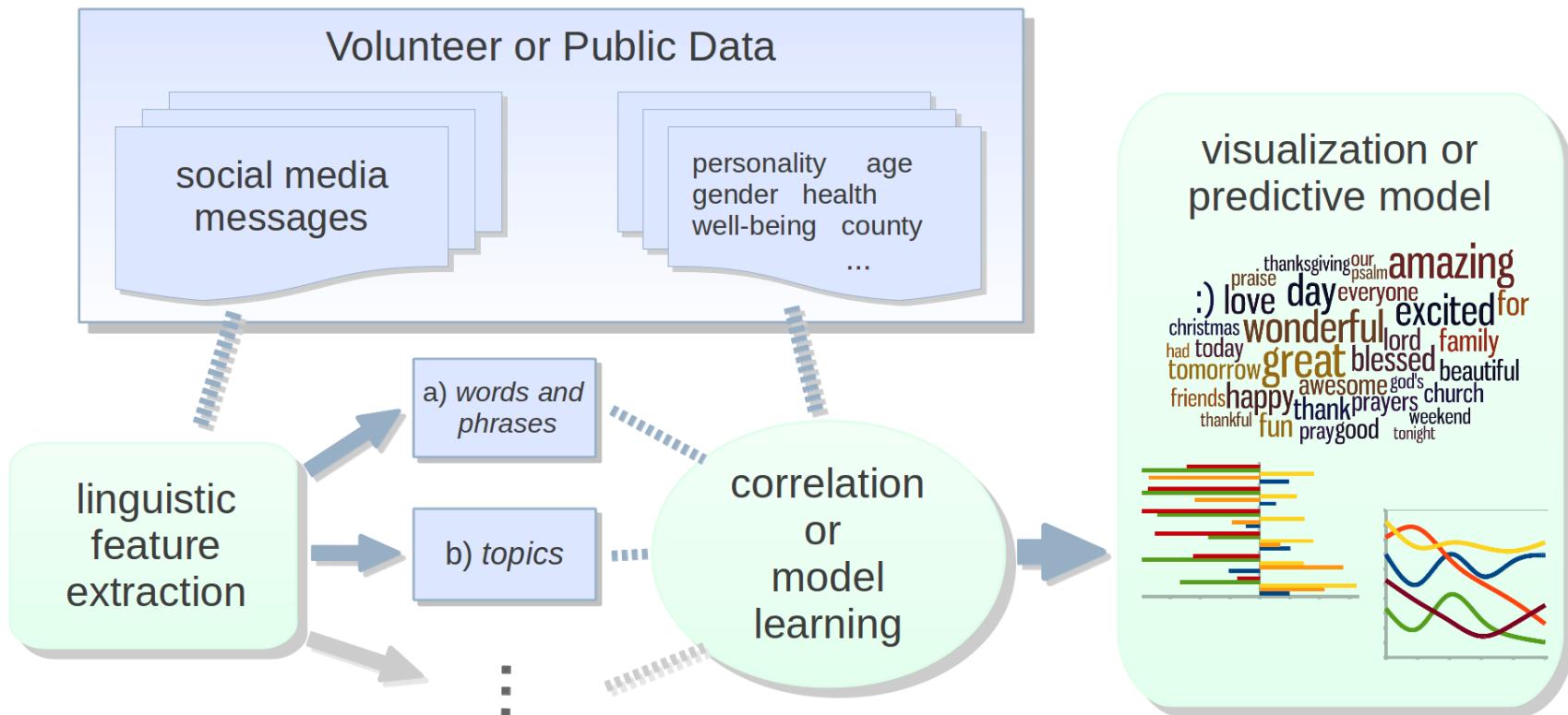
“open vocabulary”: let the data dictate the words, phrases, and linguistic features that matter.

- **transparent results**



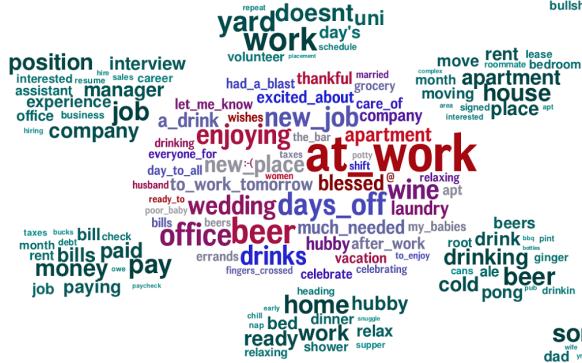
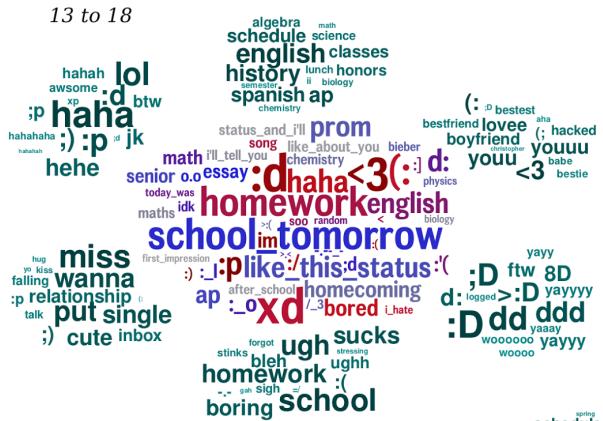
Method

research mostly falls into this framework:



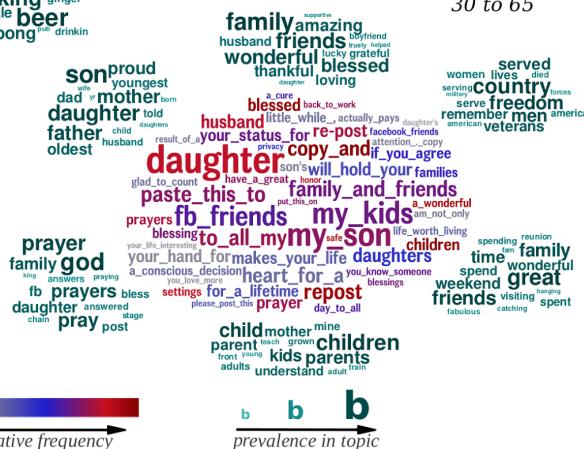
Method

http://prezi.com/rvpue6ucpci1/?utm_campaign=share&utm_medium=copy&rc=ex0share



a a a
correlation strength

relative frequency

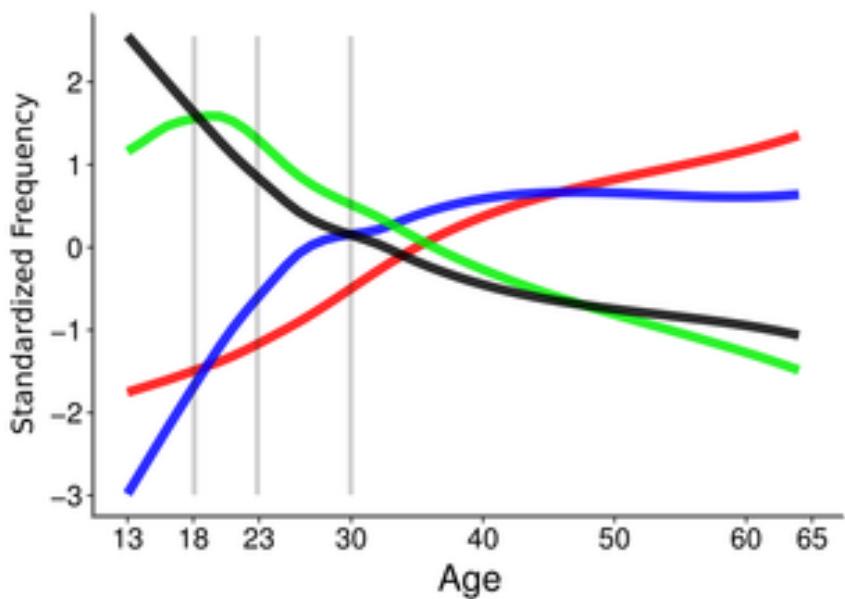


b b b
prevalence in topic

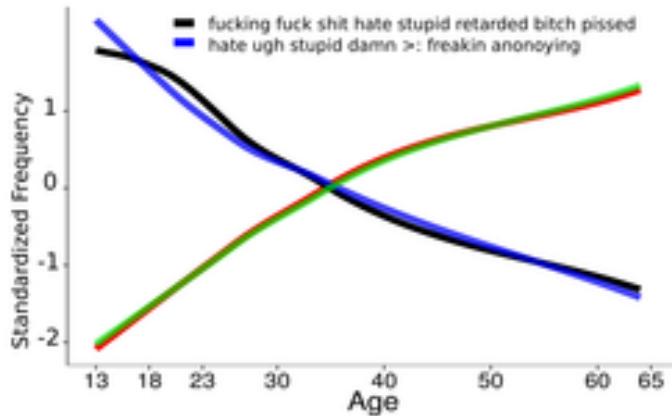


A

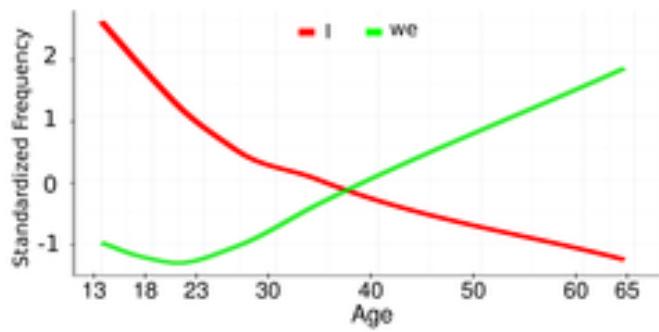
- (30 to 65) son daughter father mother proud oldest data youngest
 (23 to 29) job position company manager interview experience office assistant
 (19 to 22) classes semester class college schedule summer registered taking
 (13 to 18) haha lol :p :D ;) hehe jk ;p

**B**

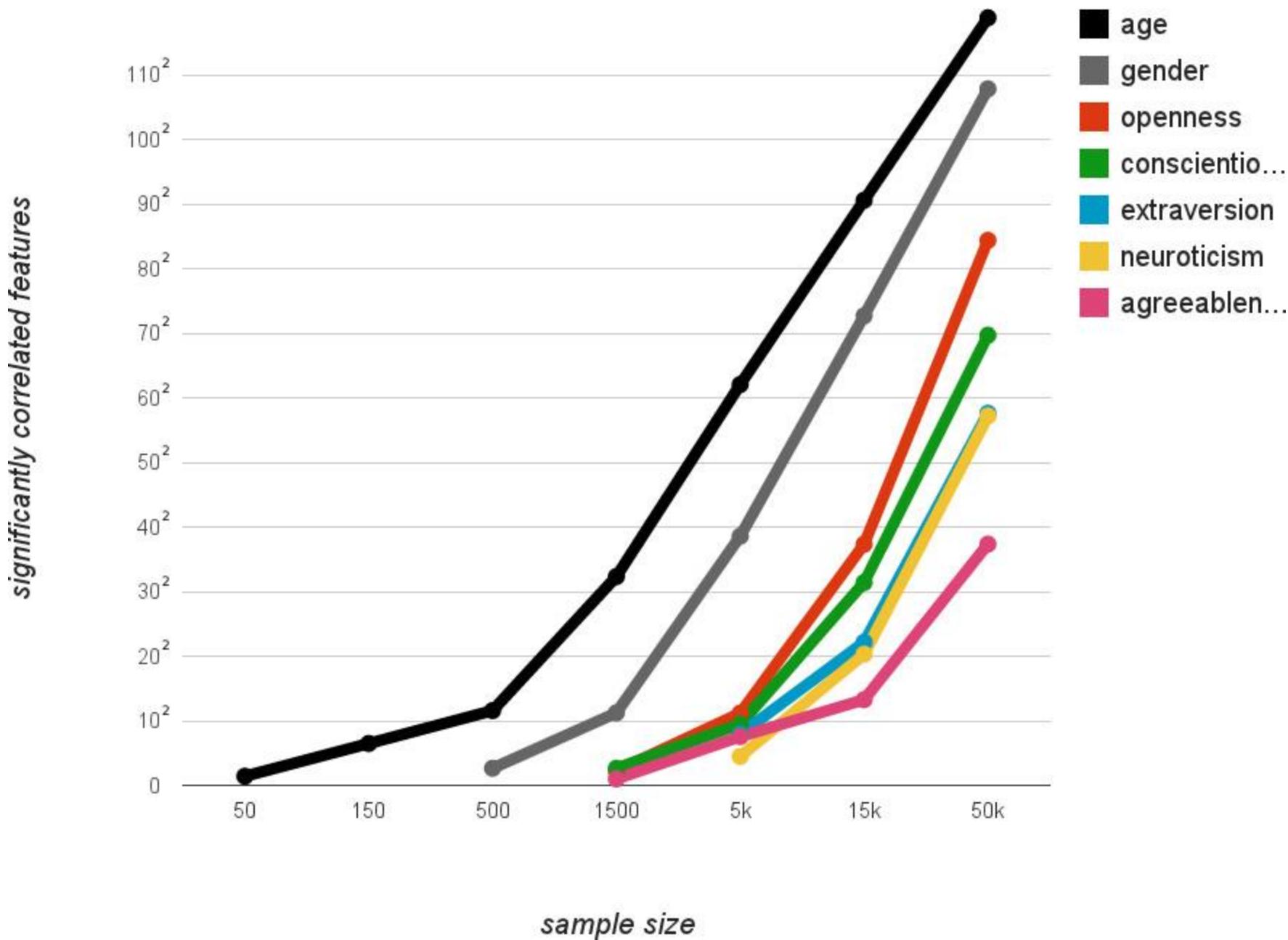
- family friends wonderful blessed amazing thankful loving
 kind person word loving act caring honest touch

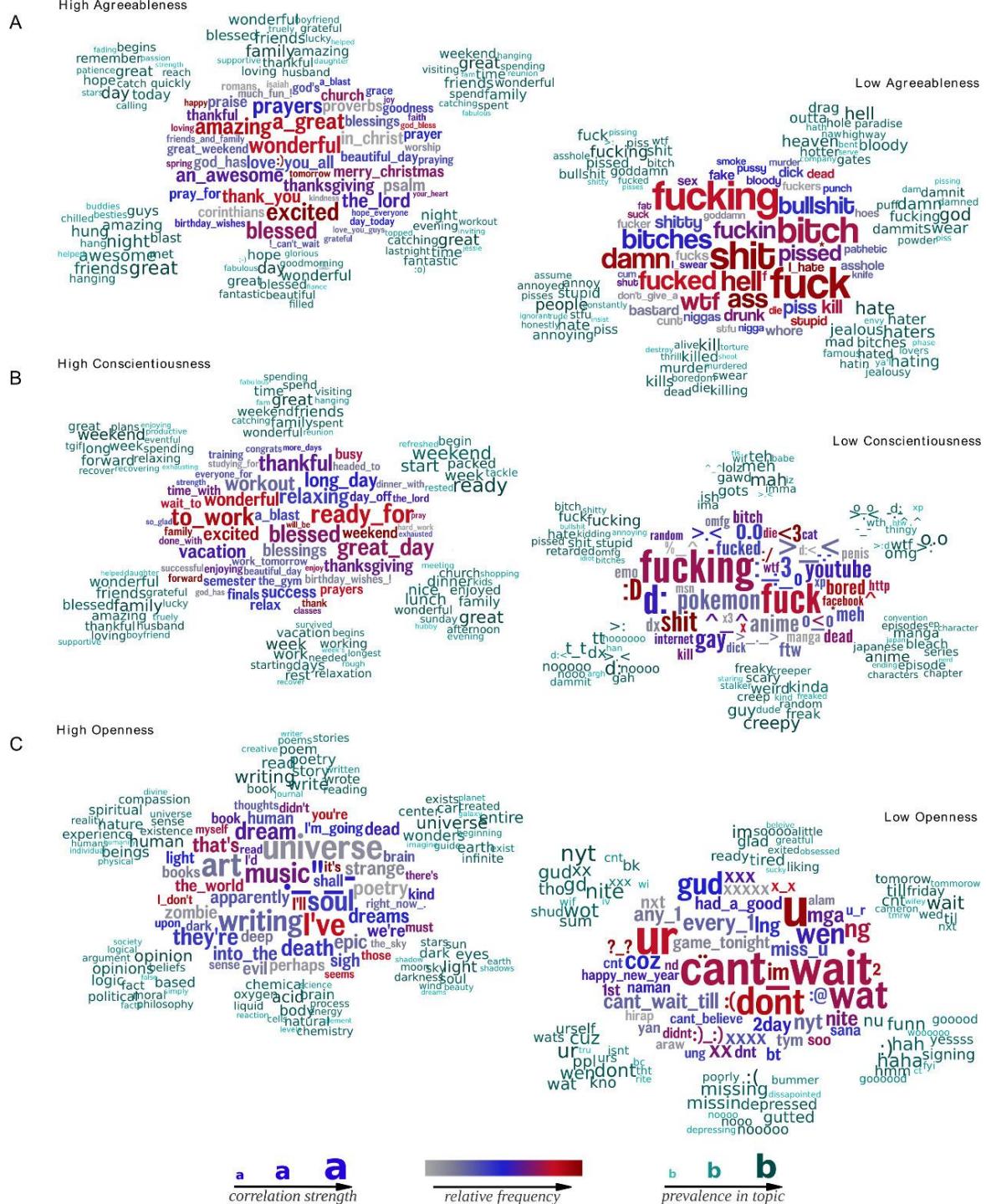
**C**

- fuck fucking fuck shit hate stupid retarded bitch pissed
 hate ugh stupid damn >: freakin annoying

**C**

- I we



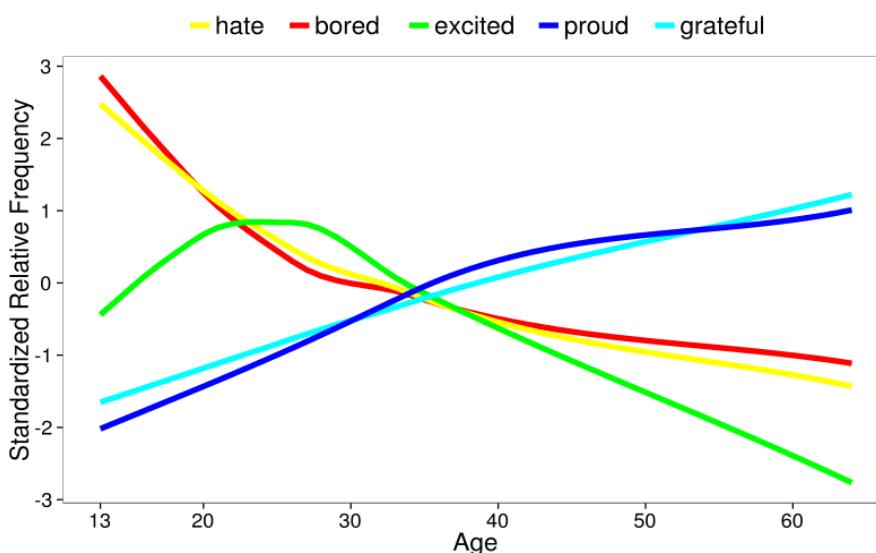
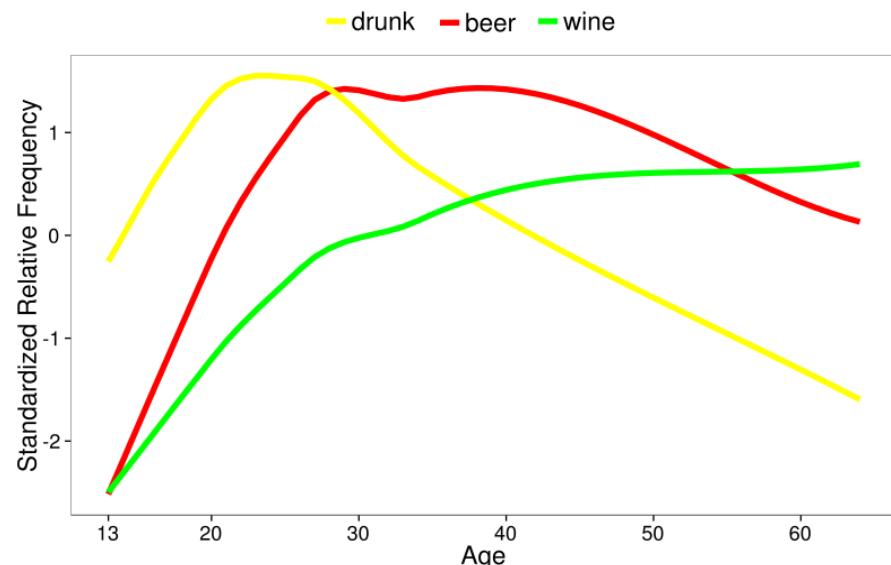
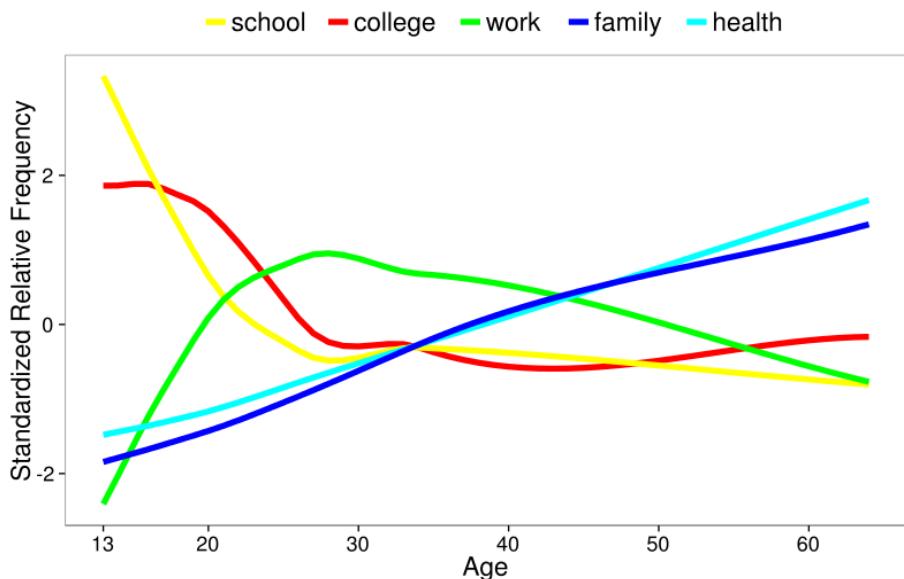


Supporting Table 2. Prediction results when selecting features via differential language analysis.

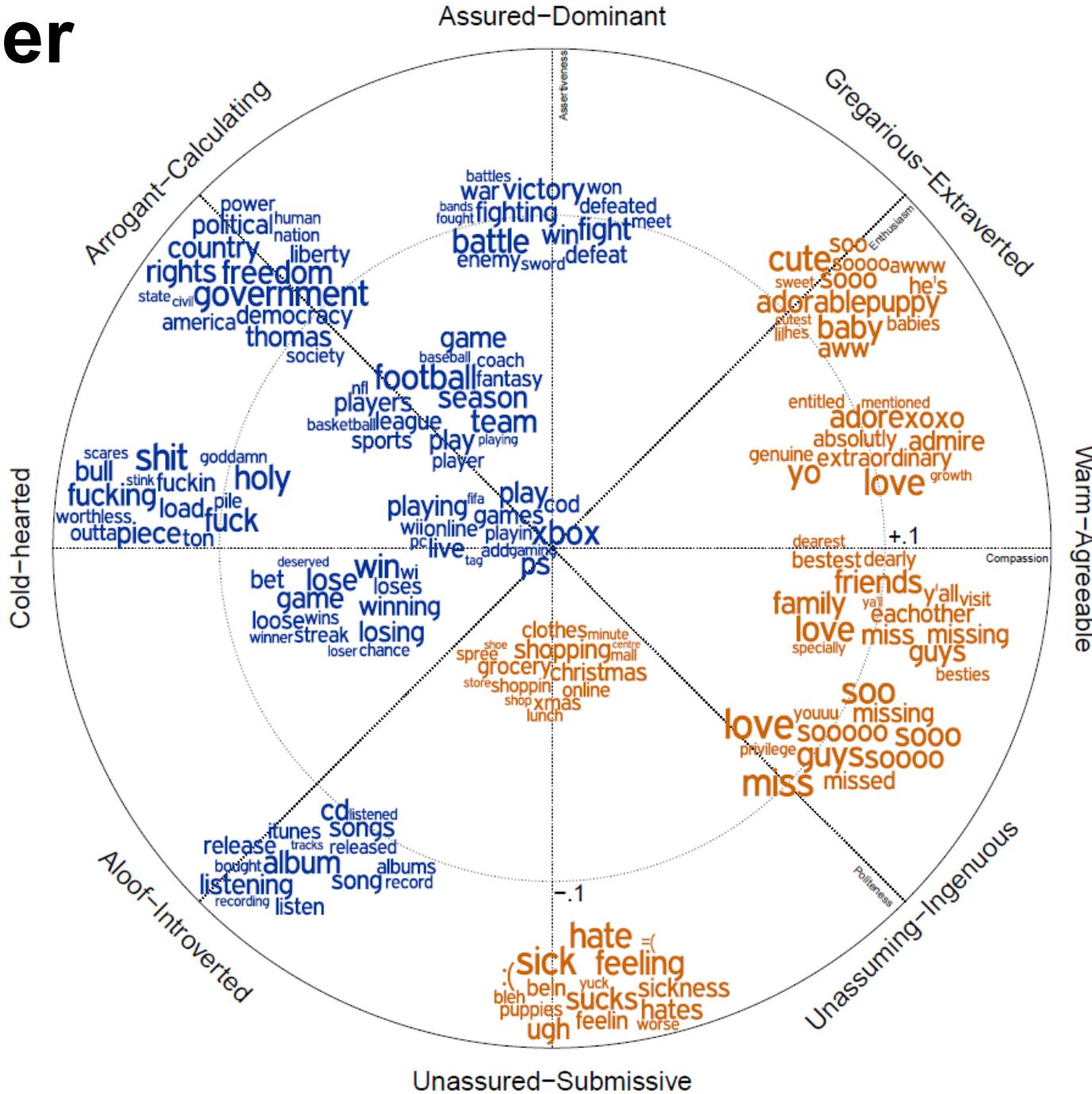
| features | Gender <i>accuracy</i> | Age <i>R</i> | Extraversion <i>R</i> | Agreeableness <i>R</i> | Conscientious. <i>R</i> | Neuroticism <i>R</i> | Openness <i>R</i> |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| <i>LIWC</i> | 77.7% | .65 | .25 | .25 | .29 | .22 | .28 |
| <i>Topics</i> | 88.2% | .79 | .34 | .28 | .34 | .28 | .39 |
| <i>WordPhrases</i> | 91.8% | .81 | .37 | .27 | .34 | .28 | .40 |
| <i>WordPhrases + Topics</i> | 92.0% | .82 | .38 | .29 | .35 | .30 | .41 |
| <i>Topics + LIWC</i> | 89.2% | .80 | .35 | .28 | .34 | .28 | .40 |
| <i>WordPhrases + LIWC</i> | 91.8% | .81 | .38 | .28 | .34 | .29 | .40 |
| <i>WordPhrases + Topics + LIWC</i> | 92.0% | .82 | .38 | .30 | .35 | .30 | .41 |

accuracy: percent predicted correctly (for discrete binary outcomes). *R:* Square-root of the coefficient of determination (for sequential / continuous outcomes). *LIWC:* *A priori* word-categories from Linguistic Inquiry and Word Count. *Topics:* Automatically created *LDA* topic clusters. *WordPhrases:* words and phrases (n-grams of size 1 to 3 passing a collocation filter). Bold indicates significant ($p < .01$) improvement over the baseline set of features (use of *LIWC* alone). Differential language analysis was run over the training set, and only those features significant at Bonferroni-corrected $p < 0.001$ were included during training and testing. No controls were used so as to be consistent with the evaluation in the main paper, and so one could consider this a univariate feature selection. On average results are just below those of not using *differential language analysis* to select features but there is no significant difference.

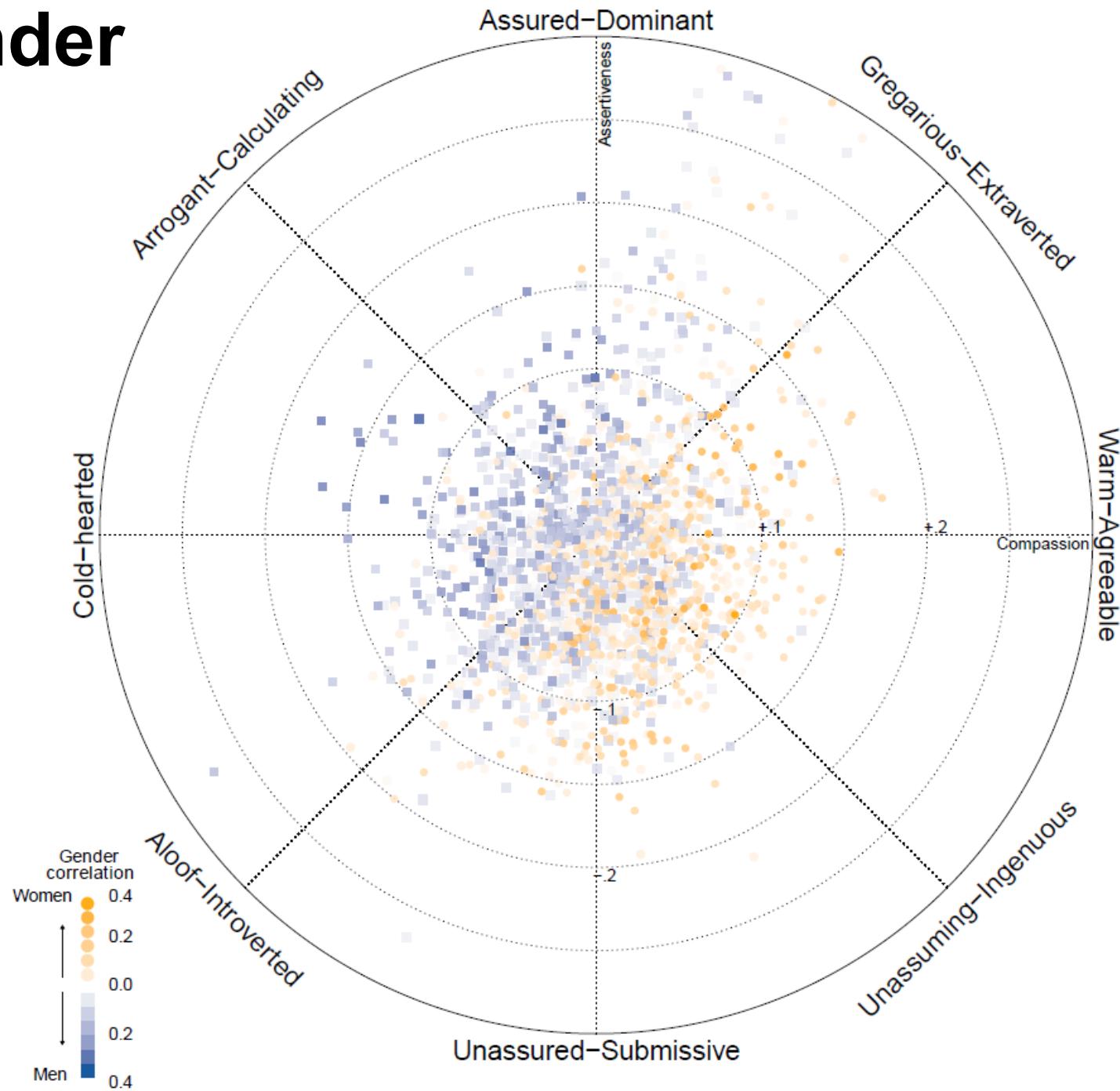
Development



Gender



Gender



Individual Well-Being: message to user-level

tonight tomorrow
 excited woooooooooooo
 super pumped
 stoked soooo upcoming
 psyched bummed

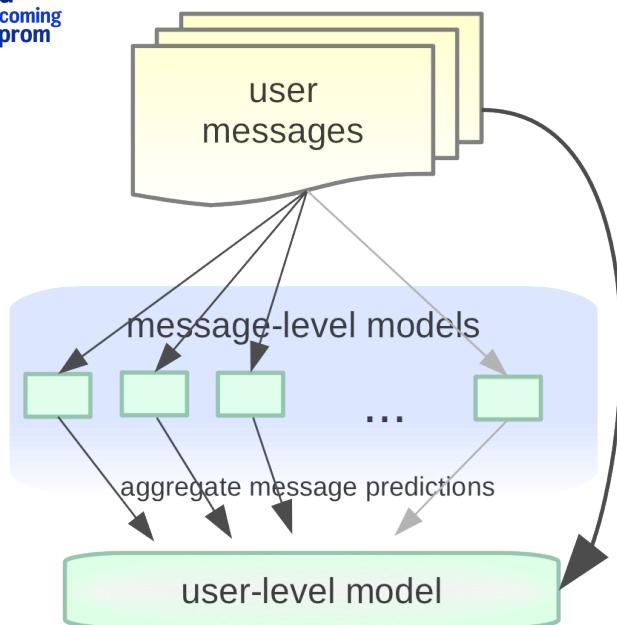
skills research education analysis
management engineering communication
learning development
information design technology business
 marketing process

thankful wonderful truly boyfriend
 helped amazing grateful
family lucky blessed daughter
 friends loving supportive
 husband

group youth leadership
meeting members center board
 meetings council student
conference staff
 students attend convention

bored text
 entertainment bore
 insanelystiff entertained
 extremelyentertain boredom yawn
 incrediblysooooooo

pissed wtf fucked
 bullshit shitfuck
 bitch asshole pisses shitty
 goddamn fucking
 piss



message and user-level

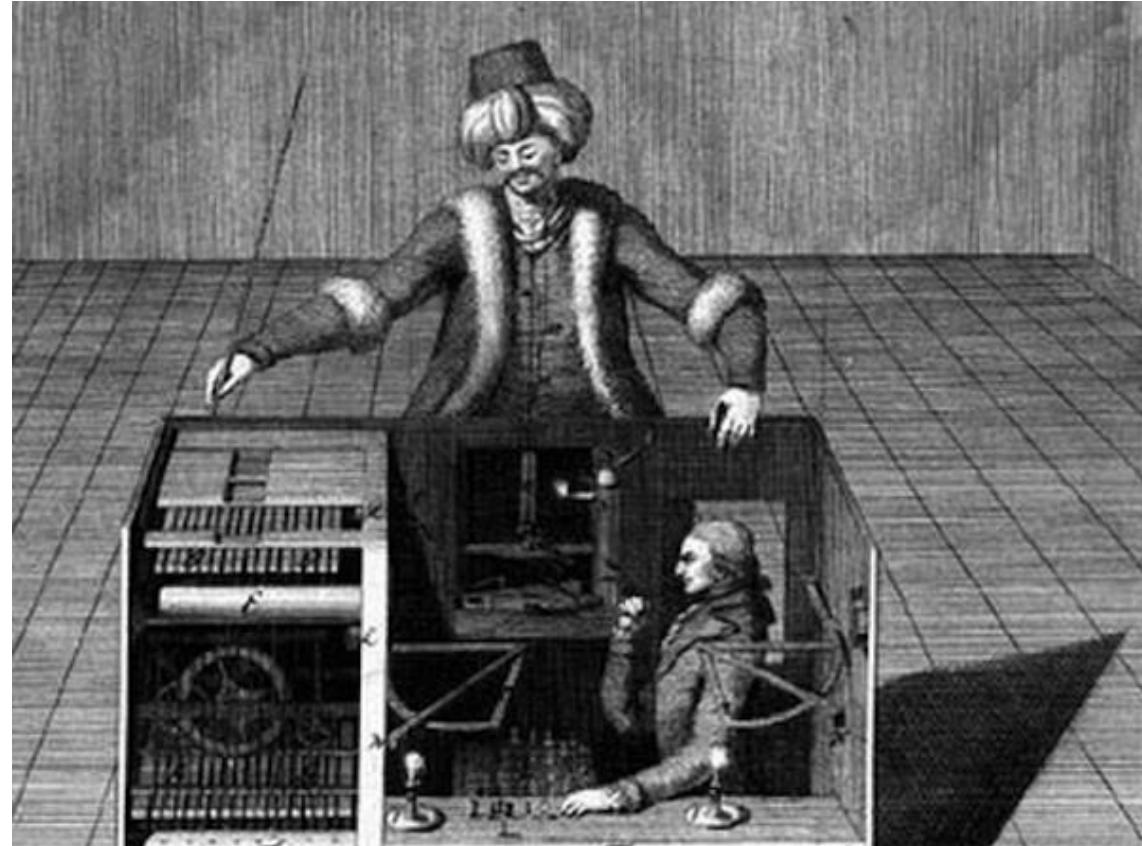
| baselines | <i>r</i> |
|---------------------|----------|
| (mean) | .000 |
| lexica: GNH | .210 |
| lexica: Hedonometer | .108 |

Optimism/Pessimism - CAVE

- Uses explanatory style
- Three factors:
 - Internality: whether the cause of the event implicates something about the speaker or is due to situational characteristics
 - Stability: whether the cause of the event persists across time
 - Globality: whether the cause of the event persists across situation (often covaries with stability)
- Positive events: high scores indicate optimism
- Negative events: low scores indicate optimism

Mechanical Turk

Problem: Manually created lists of words are not always used as expected.



Solution: Annotate thousands of samples of real Twitter and Facebook posts for expressions of well-being.

RT @XSTROLOGY: #Leo can not stand you bad-mouthing their lover.<~true its goin be a fight if u talkin sideways bout my boo lol

Does the above message include a causal explanation?

Yes No

To what extent does the causal explanation of this message indicate **that the cause of the event is internal (e.g. cause of the event placed on speaker)** or **that the cause of the event is external (e.g. cause of the event placed on environment)**:

If you cannot assess a degree of internality or externality, rate as 'Not Applicable'.



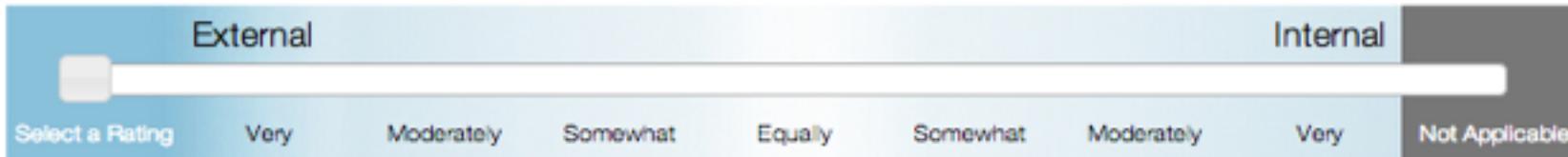
RT @XSTROLOGY: #Leo can not stand you bad-mouthing their lover.<~true its goin be a fight if u talkin sideways bout my boo lol

Does the above message include a causal explanation?

Yes No

To what extent does this message indicate **internality** or **externality**:

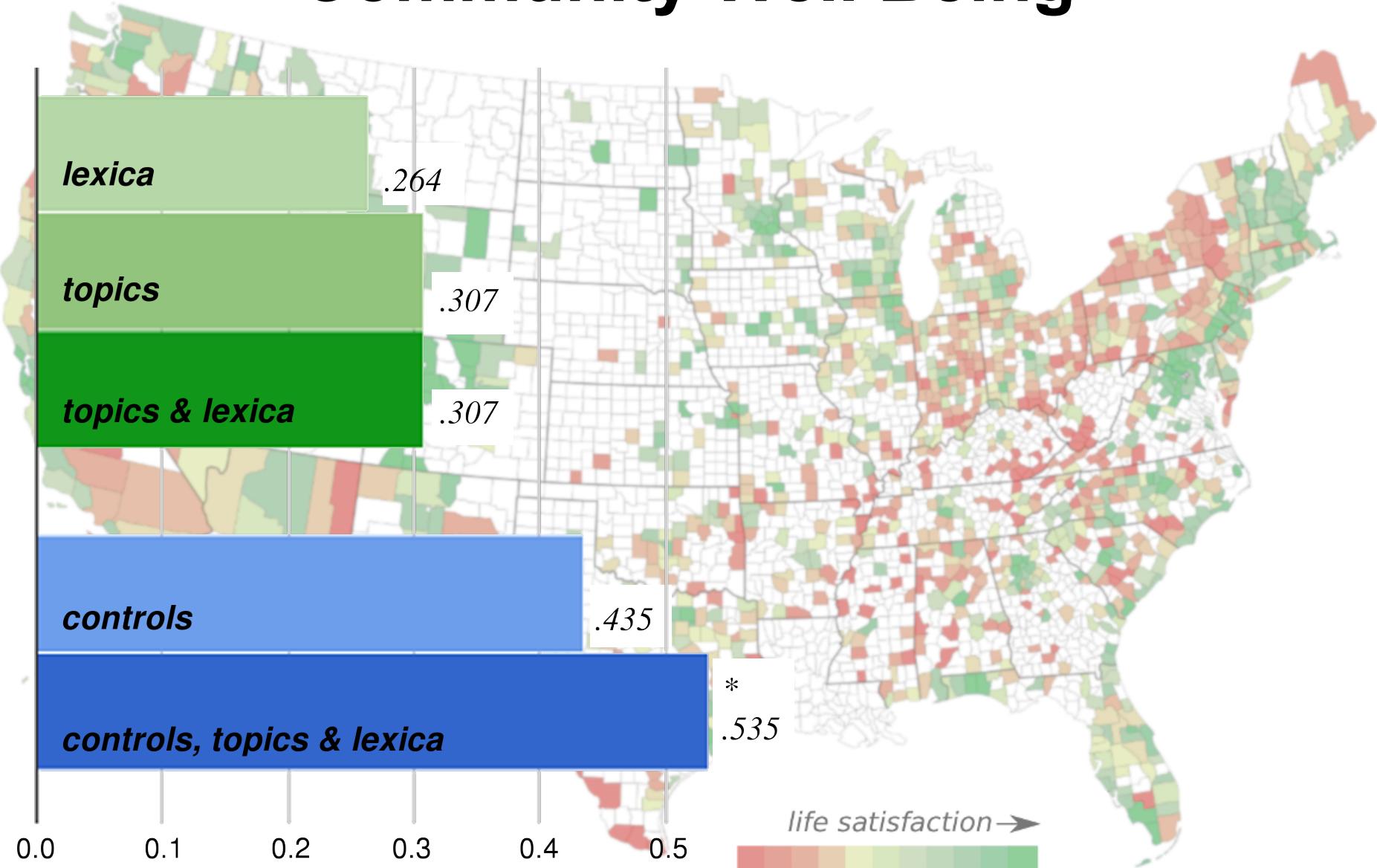
If you cannot assess a degree of internality or externality, rate as 'Not Applicable'.



End of talk

(remaining slides were not presented but might look fun!)

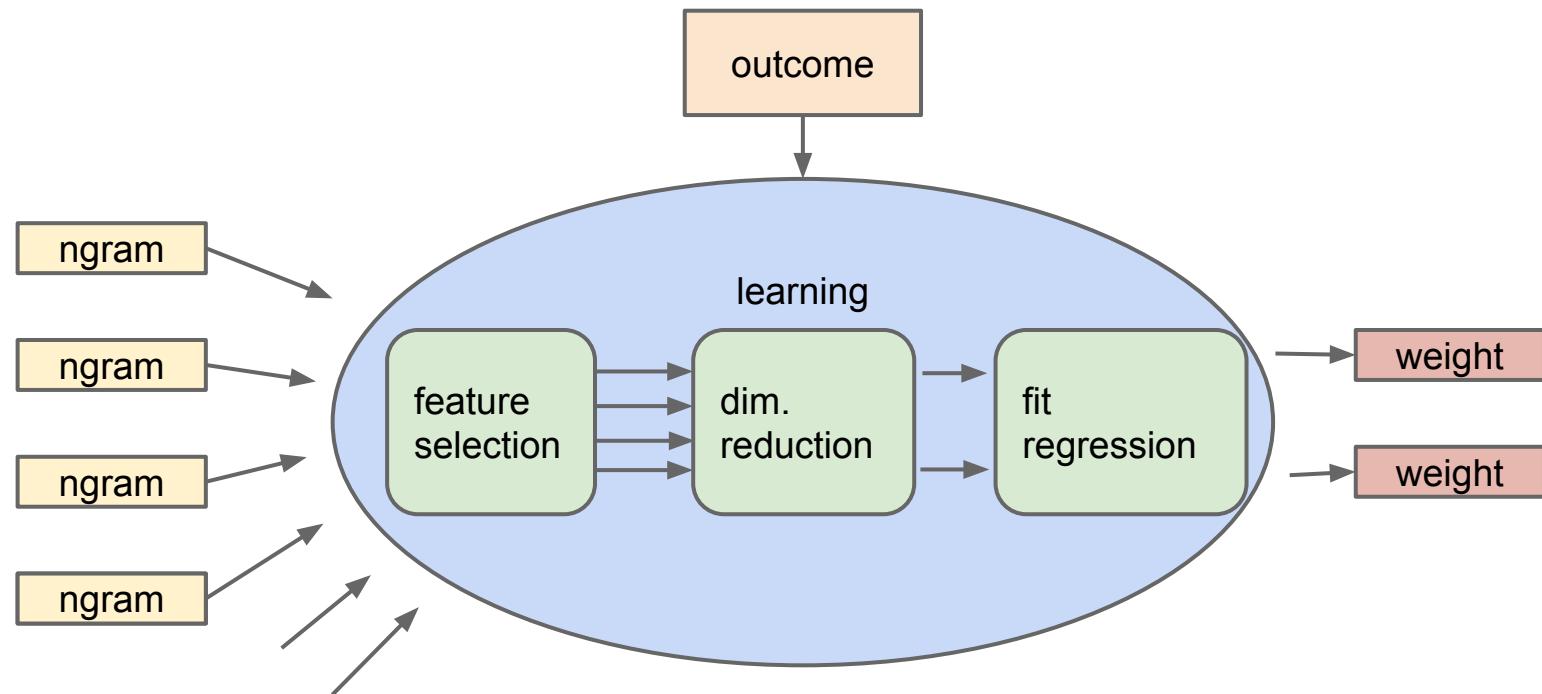
Community Well Being



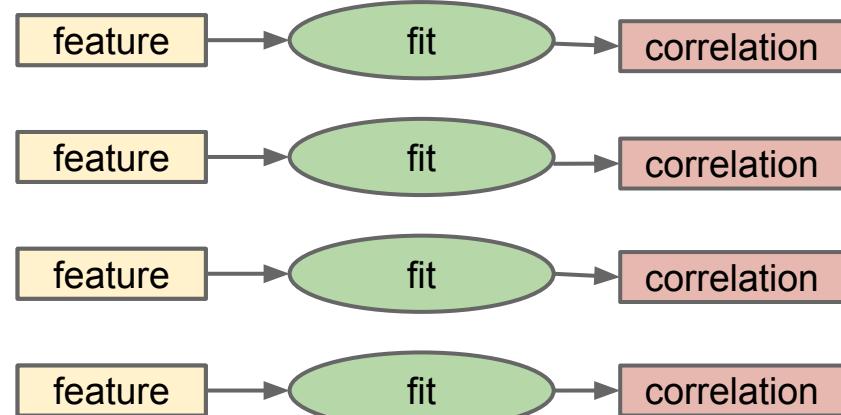
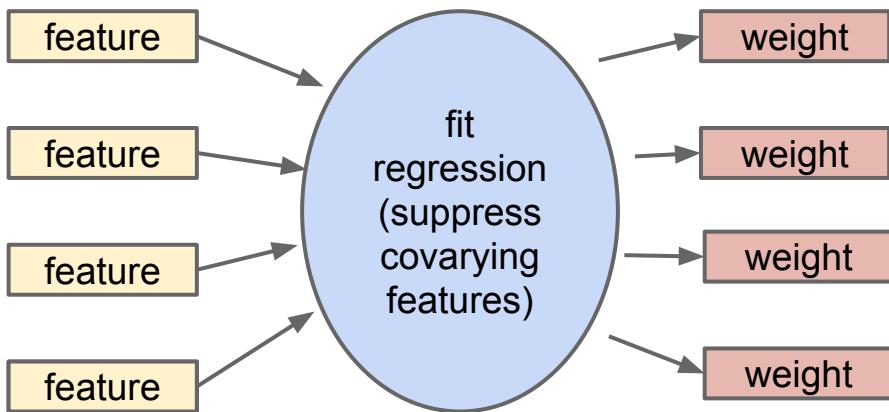
*significant improvement over controls alone

Generating Lexica from ***most*** Supervised n-gram Models

- Generalize multi-variate regression model into lexica.
- Works at multiple levels:
Hand annotated messages or users
 - OCEAN: User-level Cambridge data set
 - PERMA: MTurk-ed messages



Multivariate or Univariate for *Insights*?



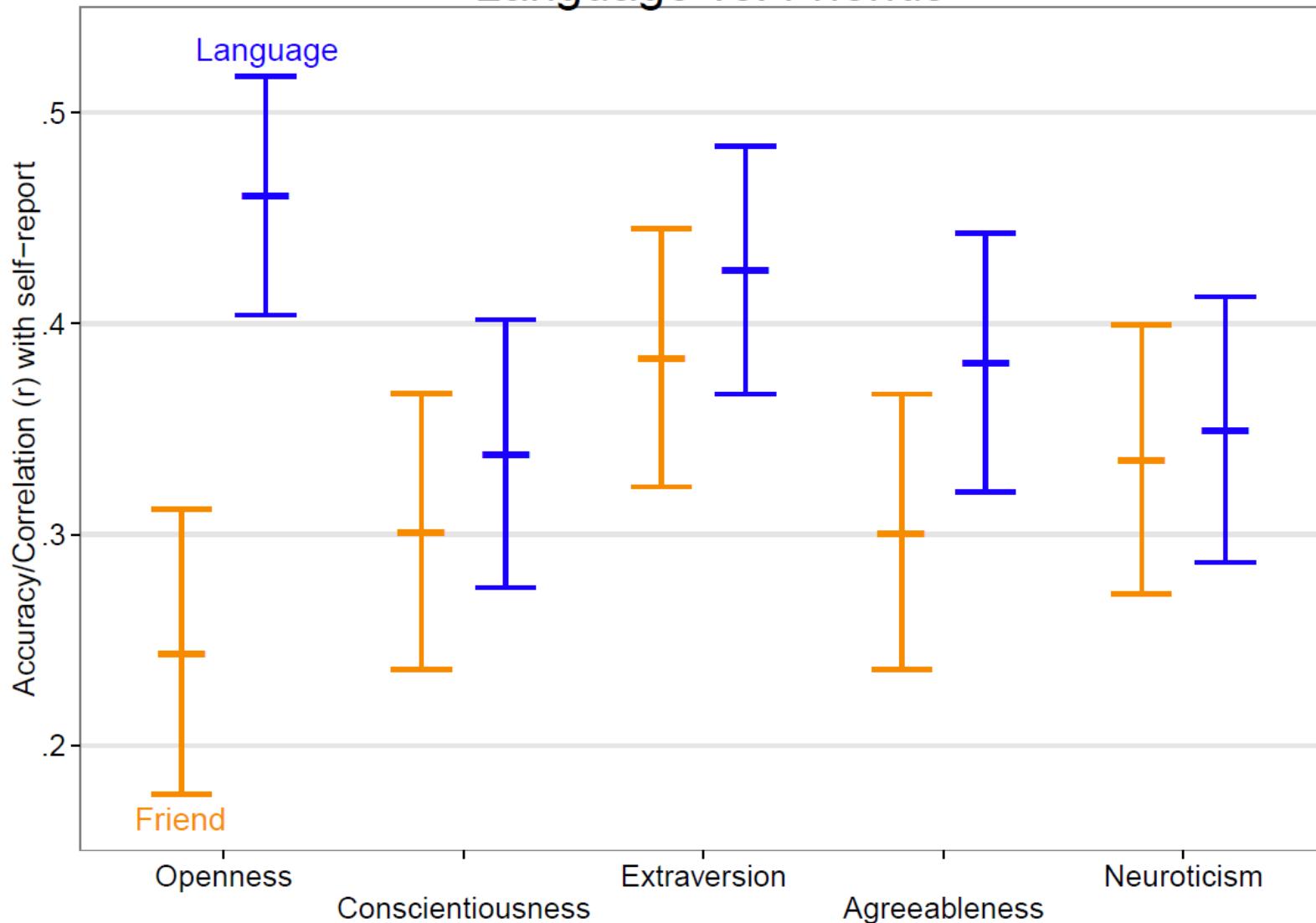
A large green arrow points downwards from the multivariate regression section towards two word clouds. The word clouds are composed of various words in different sizes and colors (black, gray, white). Some words are repeated across both clouds. The overall theme seems to be positive and celebratory.

lord
everyone happy day be
praise beautiful great fun
thanksgiving amazing :)
today wonderful prayer
family excited love our
thank god blessed
for prayers friends

sara
job kinds
climb awesomeness
but mmmmmm spontaneous
amazing :) hands ticked
highest scary make-up bags
sunrise fluffy awesome
banana flaws everyone
ashley dick wow

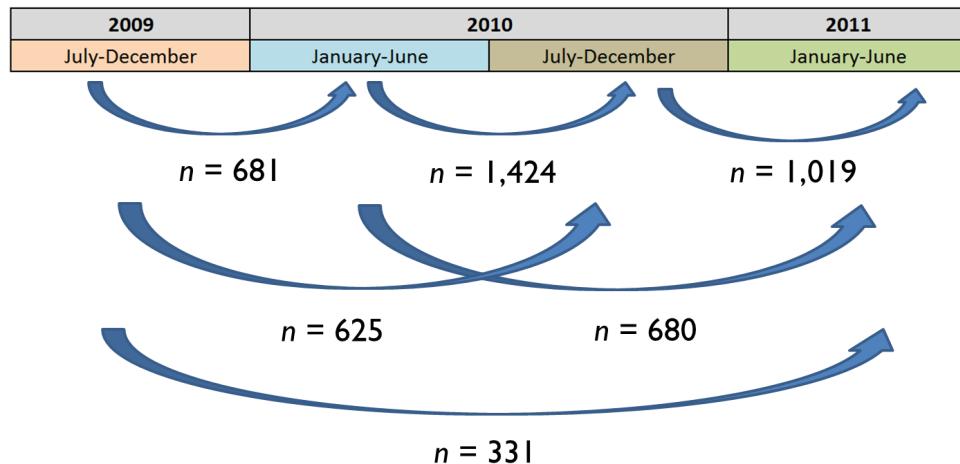
Language-Based Psychometrics

Predicting Personality Traits: Language vs. Friends

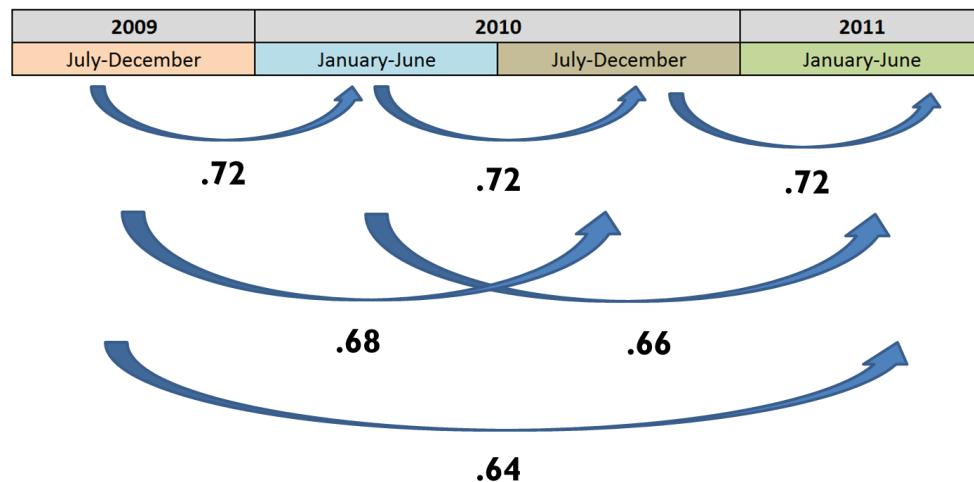


Language-Based Psychometrics

Sample sizes



Extraversion



| | Time 2 | Time 3 | Time 4 |
|----------|--------|--------|--------|
| Time 1 | .71 | .68 | .64 |
| O Time 2 | | .74 | .71 |
| Time 3 | | | .76 |
| Time 1 | .75 | .74 | .70 |
| C Time 2 | | .76 | .72 |
| Time 3 | | | .76 |
| Time 1 | .72 | .68 | .64 |
| E Time 2 | | .72 | .66 |
| Time 3 | | | .72 |
| Time 1 | .65 | .61 | .55 |
| A Time 2 | | .64 | .57 |
| Time 3 | | | .65 |
| Time 1 | .62 | .57 | .51 |
| N Time 2 | | .62 | .61 |
| Time 3 | | | .63 |