# LINGUISTIC PATTERN ANALYSIS ON SUBREDDIT POSTS



On r/Buddhism and r/Christianity

by: Jefferson Qiu



#### INTRODUCTION

Analysis on linguistic pattern on subreddit

02

#### ON THE SURFACE

What is the macro differences based on EDA?

03

#### **DIVING DEEPER**

How the language usage is different?

04

#### THE SUMMARY

So what?

# 01



### INTRODUCTION

#### **BACKGROUND**

- **Subreddit** is a niche communities to discuss certain topics
  - Has unique linguistic pattern and culture
  - Conducive for the fanbase, foreign for new users

#### Problem Statement

Can analysis through EDA and NLP uncover subtle culture in subreddits?

#### Case on Point:

- <u>reddit.com/r/Buddhism</u> and <u>reddit.com/r/Christianity</u>
  - Religion-based subreddit
  - Different underlying doctrine

#### THE APPROACH



#### **WEB-SCRAPING**

Scrape title, post and comments



#### APPLICATION OF NLP

Model selection and comparison



#### **DATA SELECTION**

Where to find linguistic pattern?



#### **INSIGHT FROM NLP**

Identification of jargons from each subreddit



#### EDA

Any macro pattern on the text?

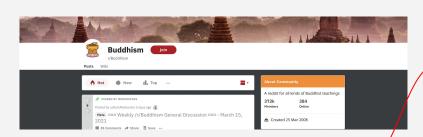


#### **MISCLASSIFIED POSTS**

Any loophole in the model/ analysis

#### **WEB-SCRAPING THE SUBREDDITS**

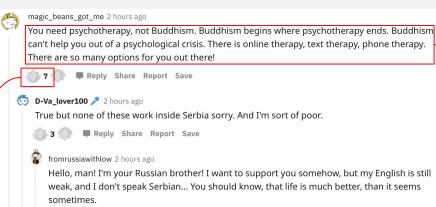




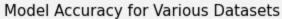
**Upvote!** 

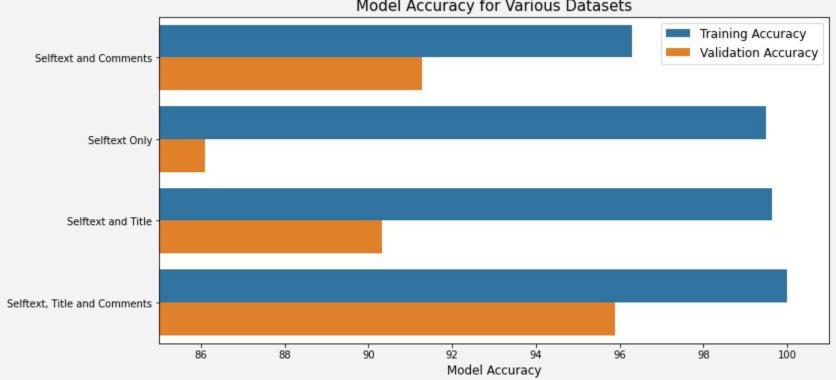


#### **1st Level Comment**

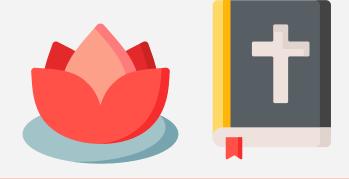


#### **DATA SELECTION**



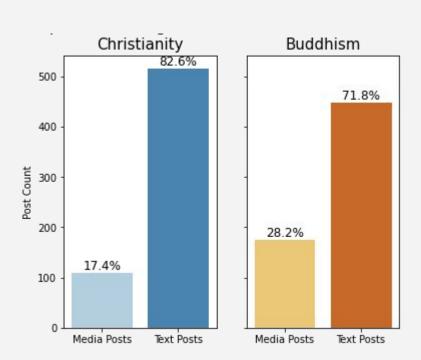


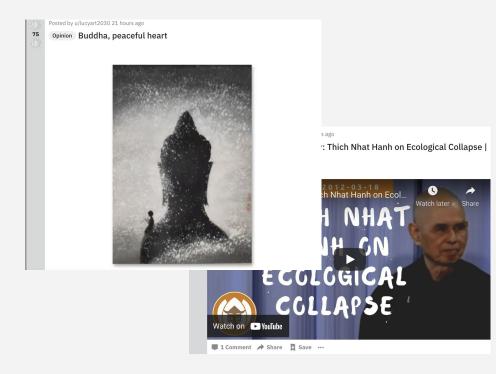
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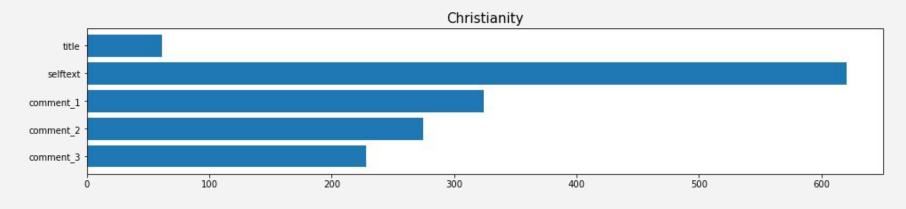
## ON THE SURFACE

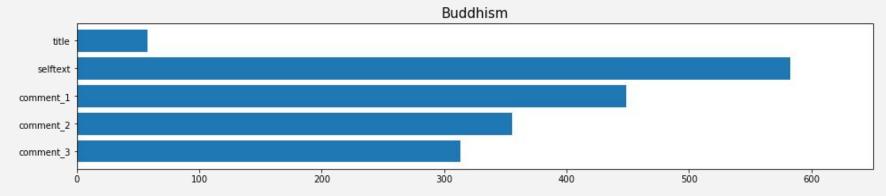
#### **EDA: EMPTY POSTS**





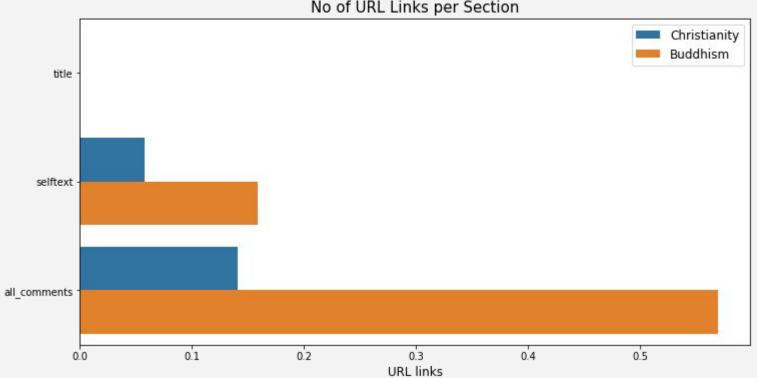
#### **EDA: POST LENGTH**





#### **EDA: URL SHARING**





#### **EDA: FREQUENTLY-USED WORDS**



HOW GREAT IS OUR **GOD**!!!! ... For most of my life I didn't have a close relationship with **God** until this year I felt a strong awakening in myself. At the time I was devastated ..., but I realized this sudden conviction was a result of my absent relationship with **God**, ...

I want to be close with **God** but I feel that my porn addiction has really badly affected my mind and plus somehow I get intrusive thoughts insulting **God** and the bible as well as other things! I don't want to think that I don't agree with those thoughts insulting **God** ... make me feel like I've f'ed up my chances of being with **God** ...

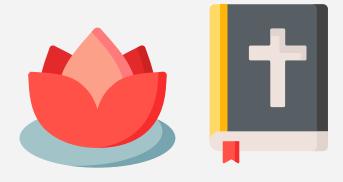
#### **EDA: FREQUENTLY-USED WORDS**



So I don't know much about any of this but I know there is at least two types of **Buddha's? One** is the large belly and I hear it called "laughing **Buddha**" and I am good with this statue. But the other version of **Buddha** is the reason for the post. There is a statue with **Buddha** sitting with the hand up .... The statue in other poses does not cause this. Why would I feel this? I always thought of **Buddha** ..

... There is no reason why mindfulness should be different from focusing all **one's** attention on **one's** work, to be alert and to be using **one's** best judgment. During the moment **one** is consulting, resolving, and dealing with whatever arises, a calm heart and self- control are necessary if **one** is to obtain good results.

# 03



### **DIVING DEEPER**

What NLP methods reveals?

#### **NLP AS A MEANS**



#### STEP OI

**Combine** posts from both subreddits

#### **STEP 02**

Build **NLP models to classify** posts to their
original subreddits

#### STEP 03

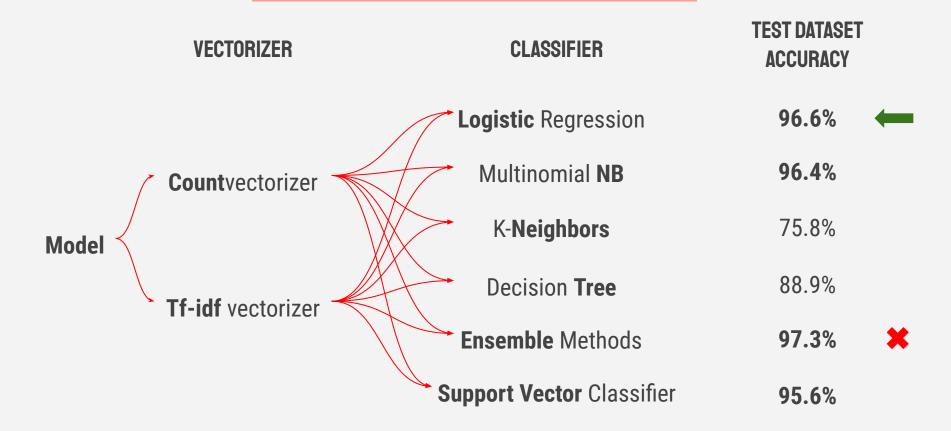
Select best **NLP with criteria**:

- High interpretability
- High accuracy

#### **STEP 04**

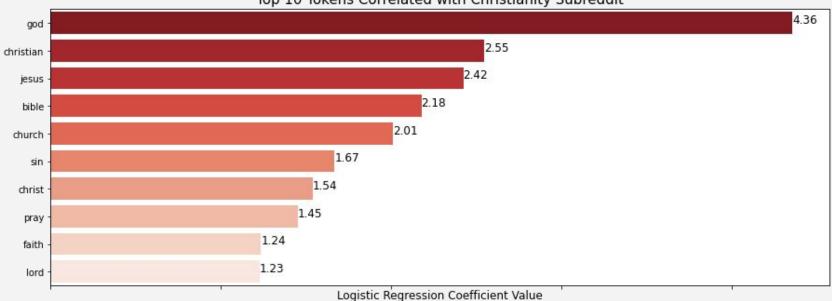
Deduce **jargons** used correlated to each subreddits

#### **BUILDING NLP MODEL**



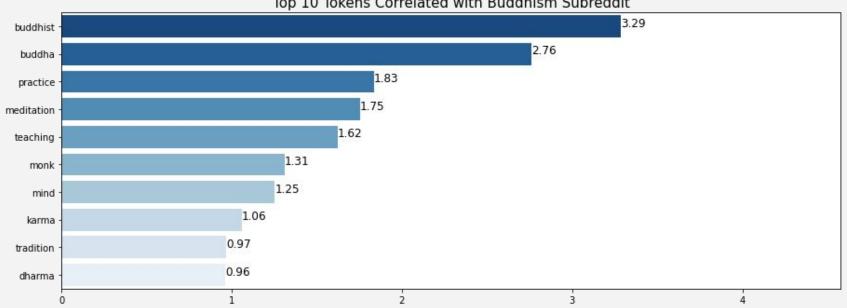
#### **IDENTIFICATION OF JARGON**

Top 10 Tokens Correlated with Christianity Subreddit



#### **IDENTIFICATION OF JARGON**

Top 10 Tokens Correlated with Buddhism Subreddit



#### **IDENTIFICATION OF JARGON**

Topic	Token Primarily used in Christian Subreddit	Token Primarily used in Buddhism Subreddit
Founder/ Supreme	Jesus, Christ, Lord	Buddha
Knowledge Transmission and Repository	Bible	Teaching, Dharma
Believer	Christian	Buddhist, Monk
Doctrine	Faith, sin	Karma, Mind
Activity	Pray, Church	Practice, Meditation, Tradition

#### SENTIMENT ANALYSIS

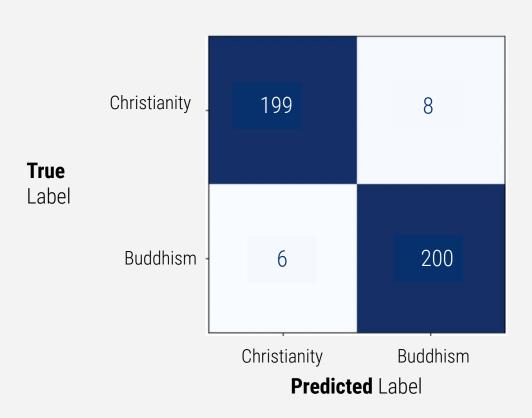
	Christianity SIA	Buddhism SIA
title	0.058067	0.079068
selftext	0.198783	0.234400
all_comments	0.414328	0.433278

#### - Original Post:

Last year in August, I had a huge crush on a girl that **rejected** me because of my **creepy/needy** behavior. I've also told her best friend some **embarrassing** things I've done as a child. The crush turned into an **obsession** without me knowing it....

#### - Comments:

Life is a process without immediate gratification ... identify the issue and make slow and **steady** steps towards change. .. you HAVE to have **compassion** on yourself as if you are another person, as if you were someone else you \*love and have **compassion** for .



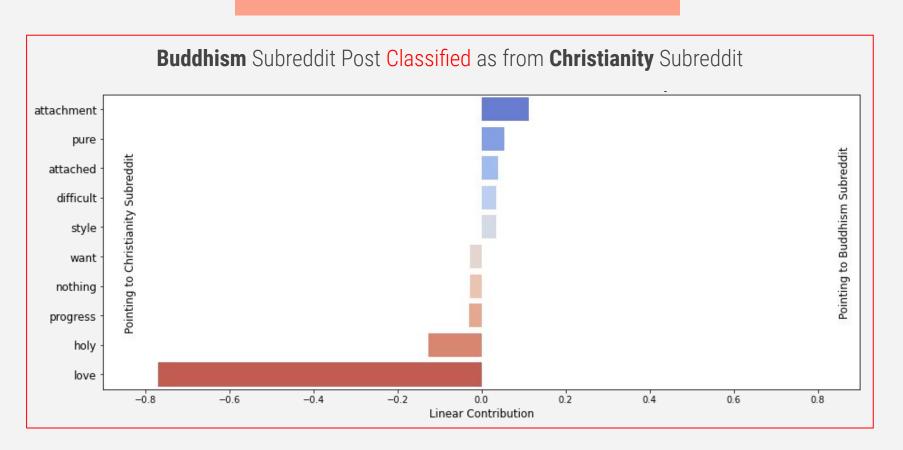
#### **Buddhism** Subreddit Post Classified as from Christianity Subreddit

#### **Original Post:**

My question will be straightforward: how do you reconcile having goals of spiritual realization with the romantic love that you can have when you are not a **monk**?

If it is possible. Maybe it's not possible, and maybe it's just my ego, with all its attachments, looking for a way to hold on. Any attachment to the world is illusory, and temporary, and can therefore only lead sooner or later to suffering and/or dissatisfaction (**dukkha**). ...

I often receive the answer that, up to a certain point, the two are reconcilable, but this answer has always left me hungry: if, ultimately, romantic love is an **attachment** and we have to be **attached** to nothing to be **holy**, it is difficult to love fully knowing this. It is just as difficult to love fully when you know that personalities are illusory and mortal (anatta)....

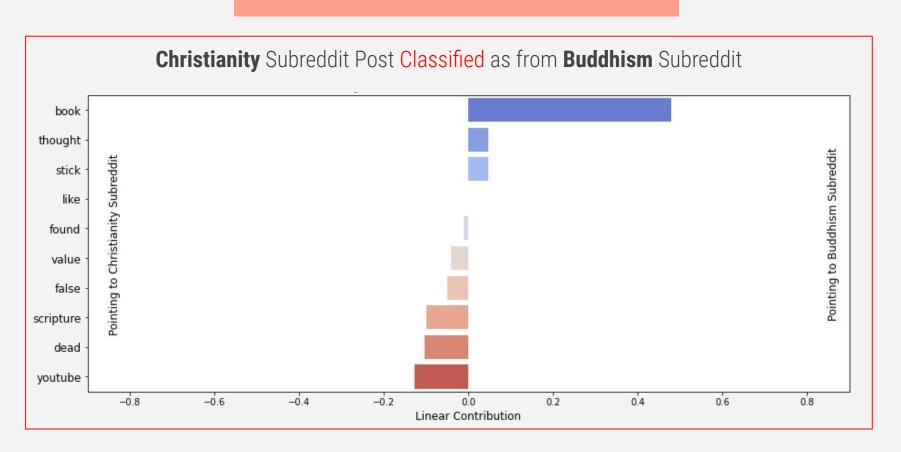


#### **Christianity** Subreddit Post Classified as from **Buddhism** Subreddit

#### **Original Post:**

I'd like to get some of you guy's thoughts on the book of Enoch. I believe it was discovered around the 1700s then again when the Dead Sea scrolls were found. How should this book be viewed? Is it false teaching? What value does this book bring? Thoughts on the book of Enoch.

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=440hI9InAlc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=440hI9InAlc) I think we should stick to scripture. Enoch, and books of apocrypha are not in it



# 04



### SUMMARY

#### THE SUMMARY

- People on Buddhism subreddit shares more media posts, i.e. image, videos, links.
- People on **Christianity** subreddit shares a longer post
  - But people on **Buddhism** subreddit replies in longer comments
- Jargons are specific to the religion, but topic are similar
  - **Topics**: religion founder, knowledge repository, believer, doctrine, and activity
- Both subreddits has a positive sentiment analysis
  - Especially on comments section as subreddits console each other

#### MODEL LIMITATION AND RECOMMENDATION

- Misclassified when no mention of jargons
  - Especially if jargons of other class are used
- Model missing on context as word count is used
- Recommendations:
  - To deploy human interpreter on selected posts
  - To deploy context dependent NLP
    - BERT, ELMo

#### THE CONCLUSION

- On the **surface** there are many **difference** on both subreddits
  - Length of post
  - Content (media or text or external links)
  - The jargons used
- On the deeper level, there are many similarities also!
  - Tend to be positive note
  - Jargons are talking about similar topics
- EDA and NLP manage uncover many unspoken culture on both subreddits



### THANKS!

Do you have any questions?