

# A social-event based approach to sentiment analysis of identities and behaviors in text

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## The core research questions

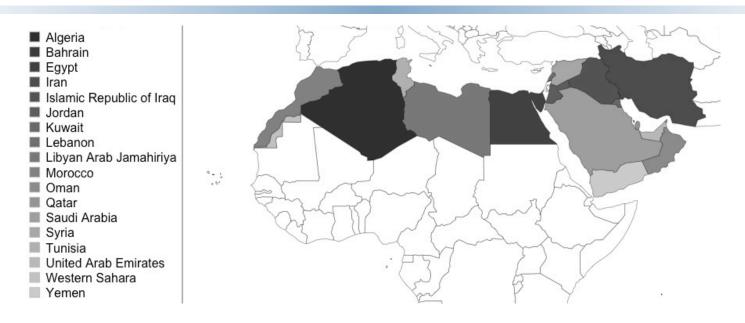
How do "people" feel about different identities?

Can we learn this from text?





## Data comes from the "Arab Spring"



- Newspaper data (700K articles)
  - LexisNexis, centered on 16 MENA countries
  - Major news outlets
  - -7/10 12/12



#### We use social events to infer affect

The New York Times

Last week, Egyptian officials accused demonstrators

Traditionally:

"good" demonstrators

"bad" demonstrators

The present work:

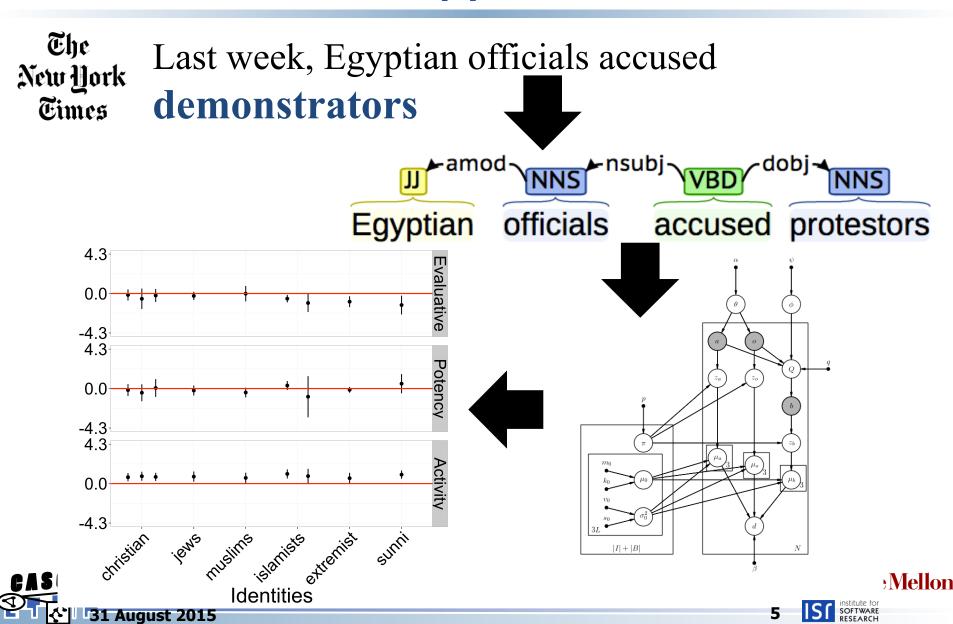
**Egyptian official Identity** 

accuse behavior demonstrators Other Identity

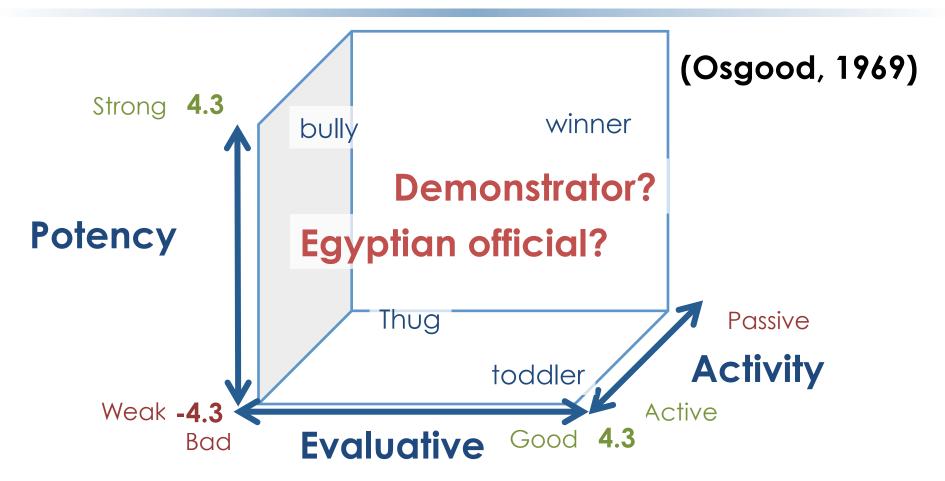




## An overview of the approach



## Affect Control Theory and sentiment space



- ACT scholars obtain this data via survey
- Assumed to be culturally-shared

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## Social events provide info on sentiment



criticize



Affect Control Theory (ACT) gives a mathematical model for this

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### ACT defines a mathematical model of this

## officials criticize

women

$$f = \begin{bmatrix} A_e & A_p & A_a \end{bmatrix}$$
  $B_e & B_p & B_a \end{bmatrix}$   $D_e & O_p & O_a \end{pmatrix}$  Known

Minimize 
$$Deflection = \sum_{i}^{9} (f_i - M_{i*}^T G(f))^2$$

$$(A_e \quad A_p \quad A_a$$



## Inference is harder with incomplete info

**§** officials

accused

? demonstrators



S

## We can use many events to appease this





criticize

accused





Meaning can/should diffuse through multiple events

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## Caveat – multiple meanings for identities

Sometimes,

officials



officials

Solution:

Assume multiple latent "senses" of each identity/behavior

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## More on extracting social events, identities

- Ran dependency parser, extracted all N -> V -> N
- Cleaned text using, e.g., stemming (accused -> accuse)
- Hand-curated list of identities and behaviors

- 102 identities, 87 behaviors, 10K events
- Only 44% of identities in ACT dicts

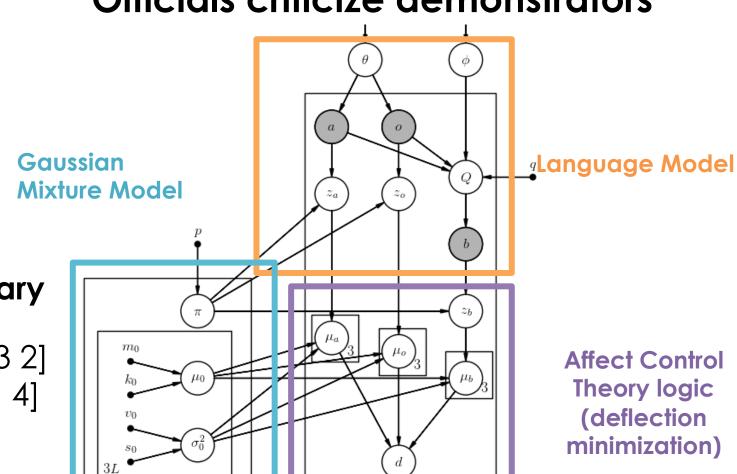


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## A Bayesian Network to extract sentiment

|I| + |B|

#### Officials criticize demonstrators



**ACT Dictionary** 

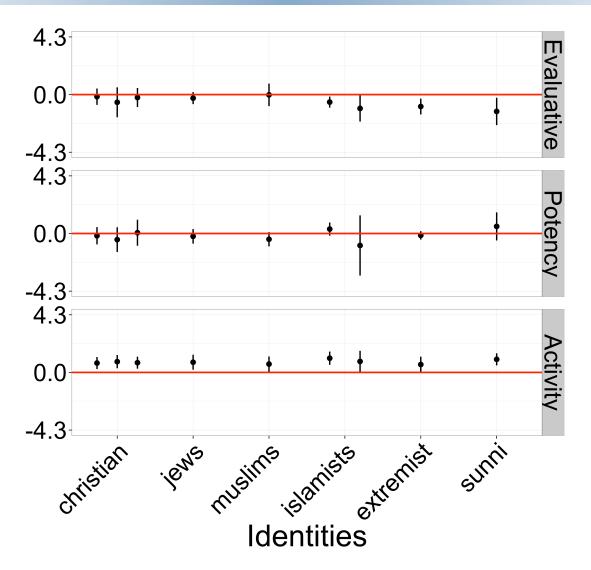
criticize [-4 3 2] women [4 1 4]

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## Results for a subset of (religious) identities)





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## Concluding

- Current work
  - New approach to sentiment mining for identities
  - Several parts of the process need work
- Future/Thesis work
  - Extract identities/behaviors from text automatically
  - Intermingling cognitive frameworks and Affect Control Theory

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#### Thanks!!

- In submission
- Replication data+code
   github.com/kennyjoseph/act\_paper\_public
- Me:

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Looking for jobs...



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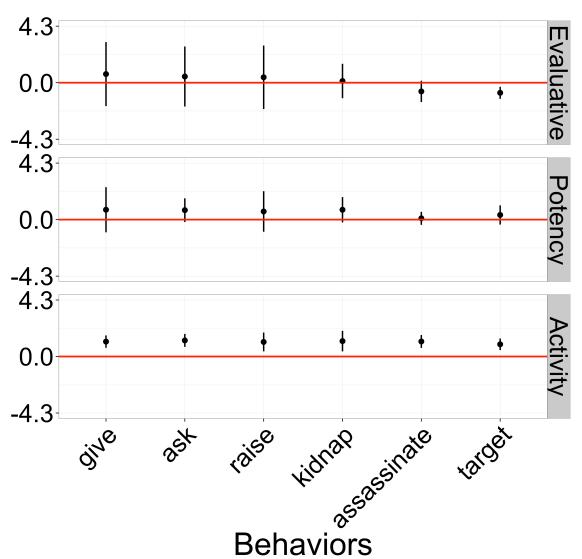
## **Extra Slides**



#### More details on the model

- Inference performed using Monte-Carlo EM
- Difficult parts of the inference
  - Inferring which latent topic/"sense" for a given event
  - Efficient usage of deflection principle
- Tested model using held-out events compared to various baselines

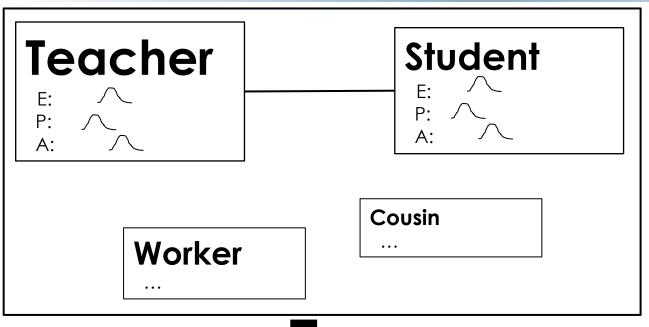
#### Results for behaviors





**♦ 131 August 2015** 

#### Can choose identities in context



worker?

f(Activation, Relationships, EPA)

Teacher

2.45 1.75 0.

advises

0.29 2.12 1.59 0.98

worker?
classmate?
traveler?
cousin?

student

1.49 0.31 0.75

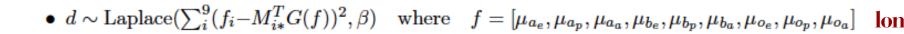
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#### More details on the model

- 1. Draw an actor and an object;  $a \sim \text{Cat}(\theta)$   $o \sim \text{Cat}(\theta)$
- 2. Draw a behavior;  $b \sim \text{Cat}(Q)$
- 3. Draw a latent sense for a, b and o;  $z_a \sim \text{Cat}(\pi_a)$   $z_b \sim \text{Cat}(\pi_b)$   $z_o \sim \text{Cat}(\pi_o)$
- 4. Draw EPA profiles for a, b, and o
  - $\mu_{a,e} \sim N(\mu_{0,z_a,e}; \sigma_{0,z_a,e}^2)$   $\mu_{a,p} \sim N(\mu_{0,z_a,p}; \sigma_{0,z_a,p}^2)$   $\mu_{a,a} \sim N(\mu_{0,z_a,a}; \sigma_{0,z_a,a}^2)$
  - $\mu_{b,e} \sim N(\mu_{0,z_b,e}; \sigma_{0,z_b,e}^2)$   $\mu_{b,p} \sim N(\mu_{0,z_b,p}; \sigma_{0,z_b,p}^2)$   $\mu_{b,a} \sim N(\mu_{0,z_b,a}; \sigma_{0,z_b,a}^2)$
  - $\mu_{o,e} \sim N(\mu_{0,z_o,e}; \sigma_{0,z_o,e}^2)$   $\mu_{o,p} \sim N(\mu_{0,z_o,p}; \sigma_{0,z_o,p}^2)$   $\mu_{o,a} \sim N(\mu_{0,z_o,a}, \sigma_{0,z_o,a}^2)$
- Draw a deflection score for the event







#### ACT is a "first order social effects" model

Teacher beats up student

What we learn should "filter" to encompassing concepts

Also makes sense that related concepts somehow "influence" perceptions



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## Future work: incorporate cognitive relations

Egyptian officials

Egyptian officials

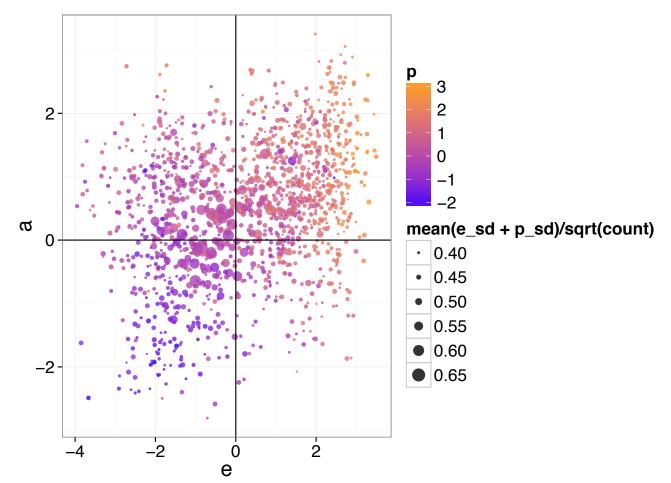
Egyptians

Can also consider other relations between identities



## **EPA Correlations in existing ACT dictionaries**

From the Indiana survey







## ACT provides a mathematical model of how these meanings change and are maintained during social events

Teacher advises student 2.45 1.75 0.29 2.12 1.59 0.98 1.49 0.31 0.75 
$$\frac{1.75}{1.49} = \frac{1.49}{1.49} = \frac{1.49}$$

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## ACT defines what social events change

You see:

You think:

Then you see:

```
Teacher
                        beats up
                                           student
                 0.29 -1.92 1.00 1.62 1.49 0.31 0.75
2.45
        1.75
      Strong/
Good/
                Active/
        Weak
                Passive
Bad
```

## Now you think:

 $M_{i*}^TG(f)$ 

(This) Teacher

-2.15 1.04 1.61

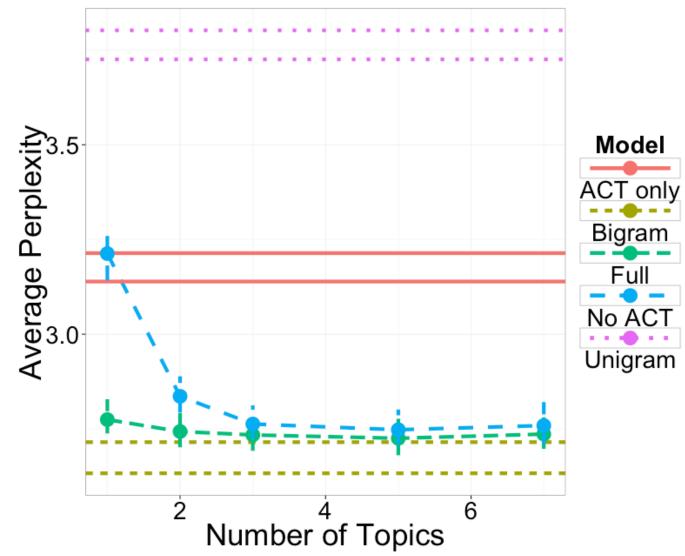
-2.23 0.65 -0.02

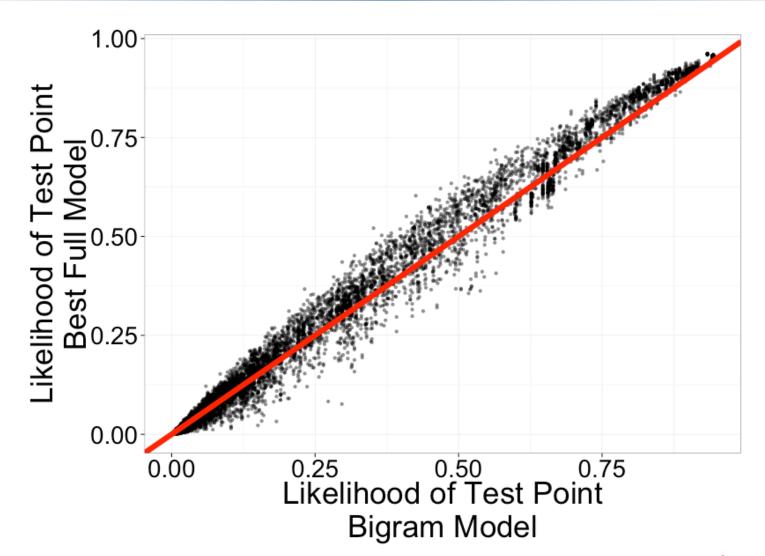
(This) student

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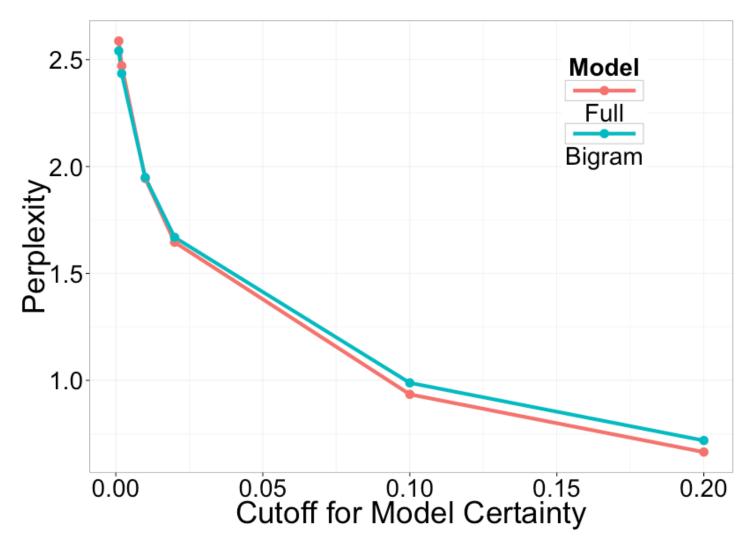
# ACT provides a mathematical model of how the meanings change and are maintained during social events

## **Predicts pretty well**





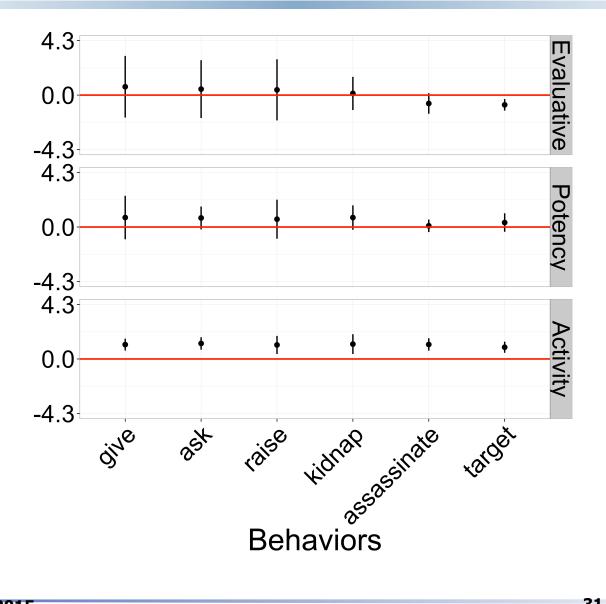






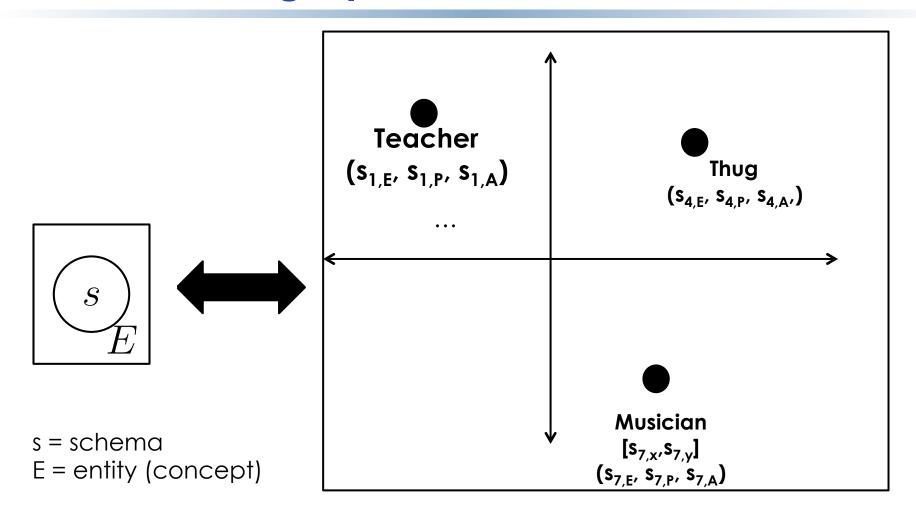
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## Probabilistic graphical model of LCSS



Each variable s is a 6-dim. representation of a schema

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