

# Author Profiling

## PAN-AP-2014 - CLEF 2014

### Sheffield, 15-18 September 2014



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# What's Author Profiling?

Gender?



Age?



Author Profile... Who is who? Native language?



Personality traits?



Emotions?



Native language?

# Why Author Profiling?

Forensics	Security	Marketing
<b><i>Language as evidence</i></b>	<b><i>Profile possible delinquents</i></b>	<b><i>Segmenting users</i></b>

## Task Goal

- Given a collection of documents retrieved from different Social Media in English and Spanish...



*To identify age and gender*

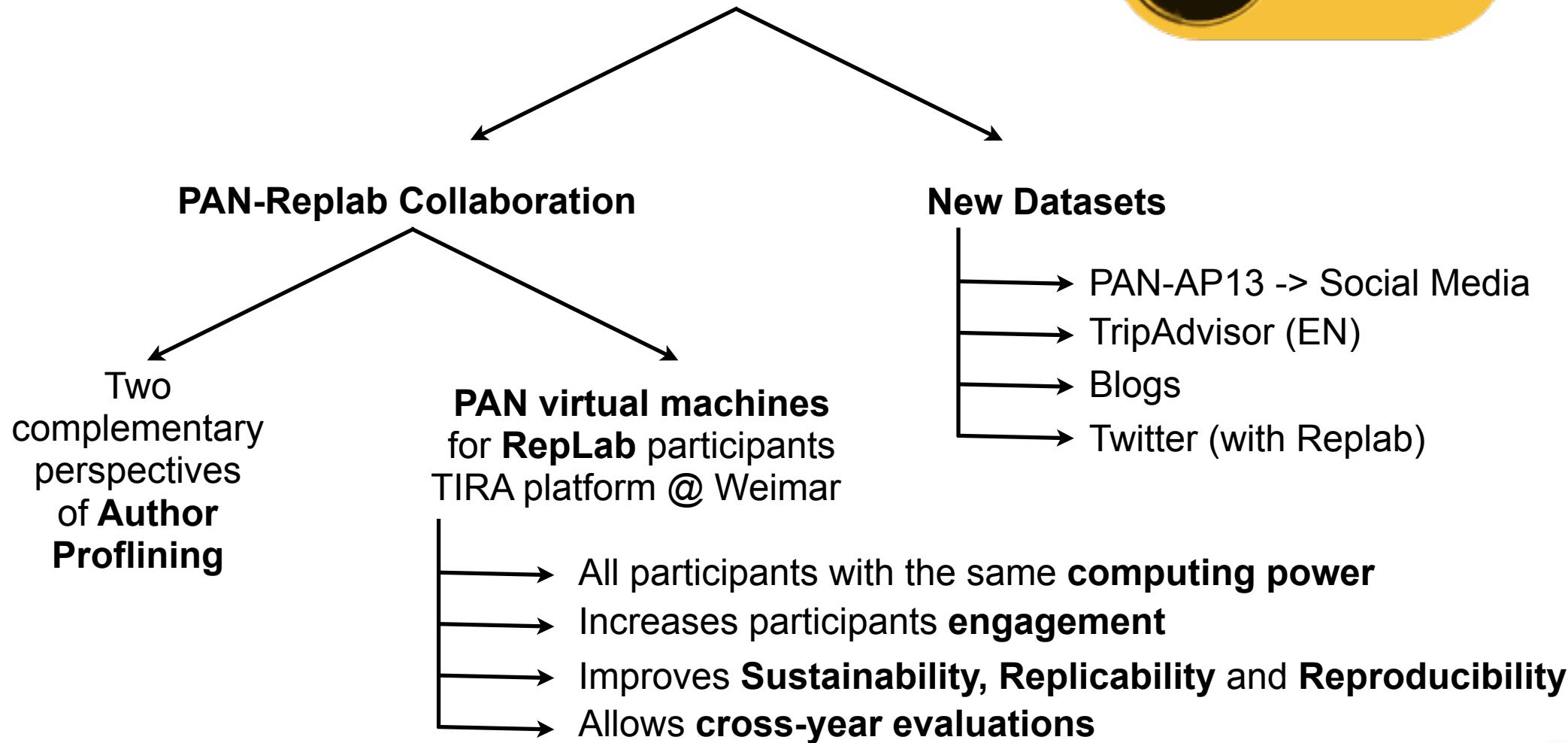
# Related Work on Author Profiling (age & gender)

AUTHOR	COLLECTION	FEATURES	RESULTS	OTHER CHARACTERISTICS
<b>Argamon et al., 2002</b>	British National Corpus	Part-of-speech	Gender: 80% accuracy	
<b>Holmes &amp; Meyerhoff, 2003</b>	Formal texts	-	Age and gender	
<b>Burger &amp; Henderson, 2006</b>	Blogs	Posts length, capital letters, punctuations. HTML features.	They only reported: "Low percentage errors"	Two age classes: [0,18],[18,-]
<b>Koppel et al., 2003</b>	Blogs	Simple lexical and syntactic functions	Gender: 80% accuracy	Self-labeling
<b>Schler et al., 2006</b>	Blogs	Stylistic features + content words with the highest information gain	Gender: 80% accuracy Age: 75% accuracy	
<b>Goswami et al., 2009</b>	Blogs	Slang + sentence length	Gender: 89.18 accuracy Age: 80.32 accuracy	
<b>Zhang &amp; Zhang, 2010</b>	Segments of blog	Words, punctuation, average words/sentence length, POS, word factor analysis	Gender: 72,10 accuracy	
<b>Nguyen et al., 2011 y 2013</b>	Blogs & Twitter	Unigrams, POS, LIWC	Correlation: 0.74 Mean absolute error: 4.1 - 6.8 years	Manual labeling Age as continuous variable
<b>Peersman et al., 2011</b>	Netlog	Unigrams, bigrams, trigrams and tetagrams	Gender+Age: 88.8 accuracy	Self-labeling, min 16 plus 16,18,25

# News on PAN-AP 2014

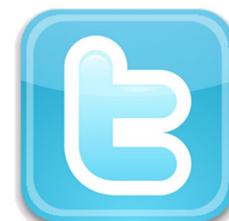
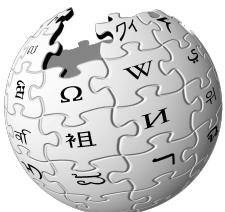


## News on Author Profiling



# Difficulty of collecting data

- ▶ Big Data?
- ▶ High variety of themes
- ▶ Real people vs. Robots (chatbots)
- ▶ Multilingual: English + Spanish + ...
- ▶ Difficulty to obtain (automatically) good label data
- ▶ Manual annotation?



# Corpus

Social Media	Blogs	Twitter	Hotel reviews
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ Subset of PAN-API3</li><li>▶ N. words &gt; 100</li><li>▶ Manual review</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ Manually annotated (3 independent annotations)</li><li>▶ Personal blogs</li><li>▶ Up to 25 posts</li><li>▶ Rss content</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ Manually annotated (3 independent annotations)</li><li>▶ Personal accounts</li><li>▶ Up to 1000 tweets</li><li>▶ Tweet Id.</li><li>▶ Replab collaboration</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ TripAdvisor</li><li>▶ N. words &gt; 10</li><li>▶ Manual review</li></ul>
English Spanish			English
Balanced by gender			
Age groups: 18-24; 25-34; 35-49; 50-64; 65+			

# Corpus – Social Media

LANG AGE GENDER			NUMBER OF AUTHORS		
			TRAINING	EARLY BIRDS	TEST
EN	18-24	MALE / FEMALE	1,550	140	680
	25-34		2,098	180	900
	35-49		2,246	200	980
	50-64		1,838	160	790
	65+		14	12	26
	<b>Σ</b>		<b>7,746</b>	<b>692</b>	<b>3,376</b>
ES	18-24	MALE / FEMALE	330	30	150
	25-34		426	36	180
	35-49		324	28	138
	50-64		160	14	70
	65+		32	14	28
	<b>Σ</b>		<b>1,272</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>566</b>

# Corpus – Blogs

LANG AGE GENDER			NUMBER OF AUTHORS		
			TRAINING	EARLY BIRDS	TEST
EN	18-24	MALE / FEMALE	6	4	10
	25-34		60	6	24
	35-49		54	8	32
	50-64		23	4	10
	65+		4	2	2
	$\Sigma$		<b>147</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>78</b>
ES	18-24	MALE / FEMALE	4	2	4
	25-34		26	4	12
	35-49		42	4	26
	50-64		12	2	10
	65+		4	2	2
	$\Sigma$		<b>88</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>56</b>

# Corpus – Twitter

LANG AGE GENDER			NUMBER OF AUTHORS		
			TRAINING	EARLY BIRDS	TEST
EN	18-24	MALE / FEMALE	20	2	12
	25-34		88	6	56
	35-49		130	16	58
	50-64		60	4	26
	65+		8	2	2
	$\sum$		<b>306</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>154</b>
ES	18-24	MALE / FEMALE	12	2	4
	25-34		42	4	26
	35-49		86	12	46
	50-64		32	6	12
	65+		6	2	2
	$\sum$		<b>178</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>90</b>

# Corpus – Hotel reviews

LANG AGE GENDER			NUMBER OF AUTHORS	
EN	18-24	MALE / FEMALE	TRAINING	
			TEST	
			180	74
			500	200
			500	200
	50-64		500	200
	65+		400	147
$\Sigma$			<b>2,080</b>	<b>821</b>

# Corpus (test)

GENDER / AGE		SOCIAL MEDIA		BLOGS		TWITTER		REVIEWS
		EN	ES	EN	ES	EN	ES	EN
FEMALE	18-24	340	75	5	2	6	2	74
	25-34	450	90	12	6	28	13	200
	35-49	490	69	16	13	29	23	200
	50-64	395	35	5	5	13	6	200
	65+	13	14	1	1	1	1	147
MALE	18-24	340	75	5	2	6	2	86
	25-34	450	90	12	6	28	13	250
	35-49	490	69	16	13	29	23	302
	50-64	395	35	5	5	13	6	268
	65+	13	14	1	1	1	1	178
<b>Σ</b>		<b>3376</b>	<b>566</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>154</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>1905</b>

# Identification accuracies

ENGLISH

Accuracy for  
Gender

Accuracy for  
Age

SPANISH

Accuracy for  
Gender

Accuracy for  
Age

Joint Accuracy

Joint Accuracy

Average Accuracy  
per subcorpus  
(SM, Blog, TW, Trip)

# Participants' ranking

Accuracy for  
Social Media

Accuracy for  
Blogs

Accuracy for  
Twitter

Accuracy for  
Hotel Reviews



BASELINE: The 1000 most frequent character trigrams with SVM

# Statistical significance

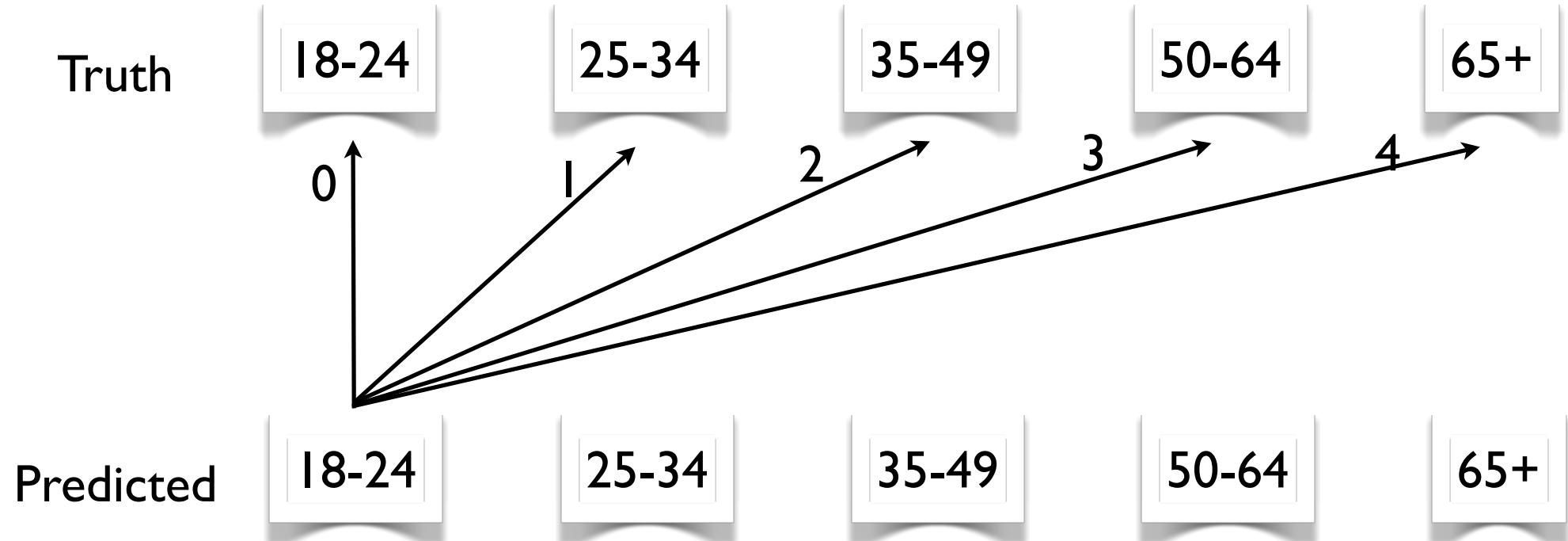
## Approximate randomisation testing\*

\*Eric W. Noreen. Computer intensive methods for testing hypotheses: an introduction. Wiley, New York, 1989.

Pairwise comparison of accuracies of all systems

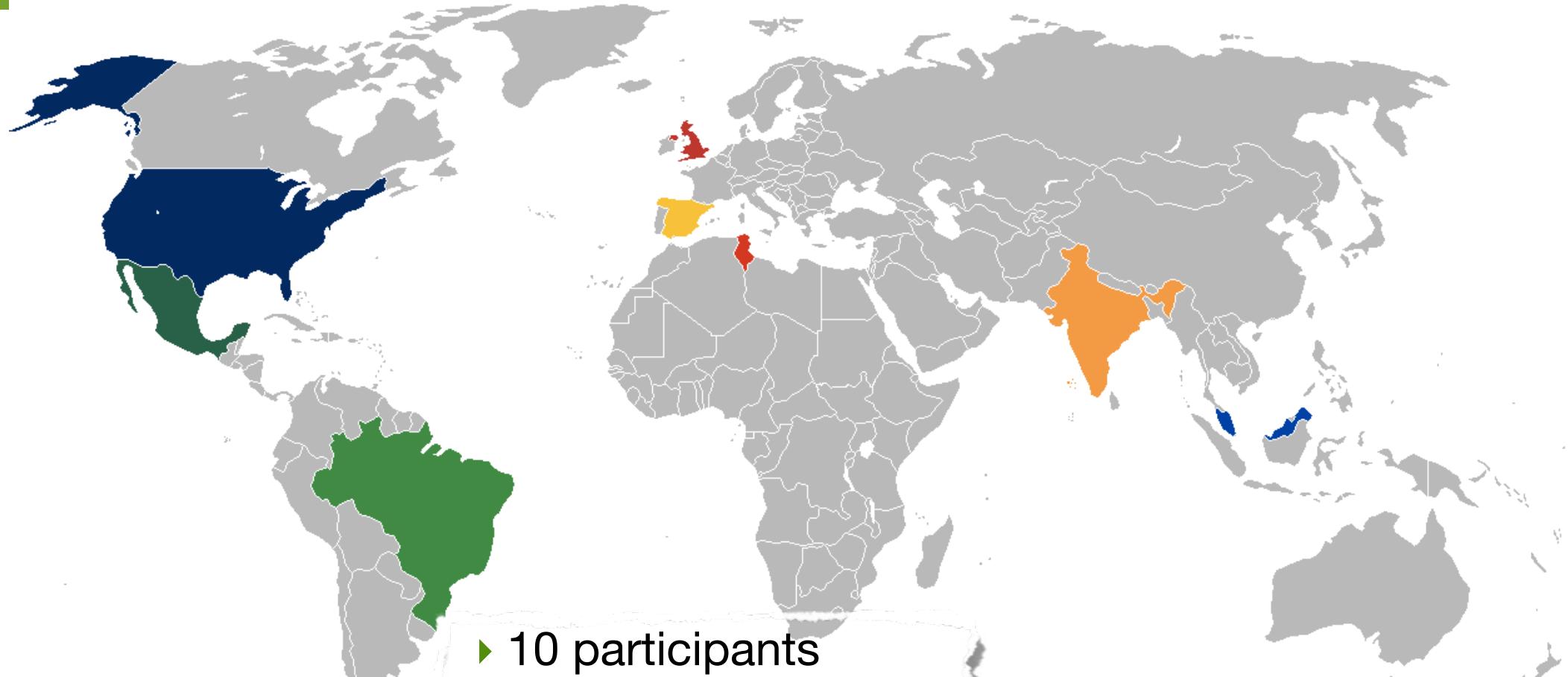
$p < 0.05 \rightarrow$  the systems are significantly different

# Distances in age misidentification



- ▶ Missing predictions penalised with distance equal to 5
- ▶ Standard deviation of all the individual distances

# Participants



- ▶ 10 participants
- ▶ 8 countries
- ▶ 8 papers

# Approaches

► What kind of ...

Preprocessing

Features

Methods

... did the teams perform?

# Approaches

## Preprocessing

HTML Cleaning to obtain plain text	5 teams: [shrestha][marquardt][baker] [ashok][weren]
Deletion of URLs, hashtags and user mentions in Twitter	1 team: [ashok]
Case conversion, invalid characters, multiple white spaces...	2 team: [baker][weren]
Tokenisation	2 teams: [villenaroman][weren]
Subset selection	1 team: [weren]
Discrimination between human-like posts and spam-like posts (chatbots)	1 team: [marquardt]

# Approaches

## Features

Stylistic features: frequencies of punctuation marks, size of sentences, words that appear once and twice, use of deflections, number of characters, words and sentences...

7 teams: [mechti][marquardt][ashok]  
[baker][weren][shrestha][liau]

Number of posts per user

1 team: [marquardt]

Correctness, cleanliness, diversity of texts

1 team: [weren]

HTML tags such as img, href, br

2 teams: [weren][marquardt]

# Approaches

## Features

Readability measures: Automated readability index, Coleman-Liau index, Rix Readability Index, Gunning Fog Index, Flesch-Kinkaid Index...	5 teams: [mechti][marquardt][ashok] [baker][weren]
Lexical Analysis: PoS, proper nouns, character flooding...	2 teams: [mechti][ashok]
Emoticons	3 teams: [shrestha][marquardt][liau]

# Approaches

## Features

Content features: n-grams, bag-of-words	3 teams: [villenaroman][shrestha][liau]
Topic words: money, home, smartphone...	1 team: [mechti]
MRC, LIWC: familiarity, concreteness, imagery, motion, emotion, religion...	1 team: [marquardt]
Dictionaries per subcorpus and class, lexical errors, foreign words, specific phrases: my husband, my wife...	4 teams: [baker][marquardt][ashok][liau]

# Approaches

Features	
Sentiment	I team: [marquardt]
Text to be identified is used as a query for a search engine: cosine similarity, Okapi BM25	I team: [weren]
Second order representation based on relationships among terms, documents, profiles and subprofiles	I team: [pastor]

# Approaches

## Methods

Logistic Regression	I team: [shrestha][liau][weren]
Logic Boost, Rotation Forest, Multi-Class Classifier, Multilayer Perceptron, Simple Logistic	I team: [weren]
Multinomial Naïve Bayes	I team: [villenaroman]
libLINEAR	I team: [lopezmonroy]
Random Forest	I team: [ashok]
Support Vector Machines	I team: [marquardt]
Decision Tables	I team: [mecthi]
Own Frequency-based Prediction Function	I team: [baker]

# Early birds (best) results

	ENGLISH			SPANISH		
CORPUS	JOINT	GENDER	AGE	JOINT	GENDER	AGE
SOCIAL MEDIA	liau (0.2153)	liau <b>(0.5390)</b>	liau (0.3728)	shrestha (0.3033)	liau (0.7295)	liau (0.4262)
BLOG	lopezmonroy <b>(0.2083)</b>	lopezmonroy (0.6250)	4 teams <b>(0.2500)</b>	lopezmonroy (0.3571)	marquardt (0.6429)	2 teams (0.4286)
TWITTER	lopezmonroy (0.5333)	lopezmonroy (0.7667)	lopezmonroy (0.6333)	shrestha <b>(0.6154)</b>	shrestha <b>(0.8846)</b>	shrestha <b>(0.6923)</b>
HOTEL REVIEWS	liau (0.2622)	liau (0.7317)	lopezmonroy (0.3720)	-		

► 7 teams participated

# Final (best) results

	ENGLISH			SPANISH		
CORPUS	JOINT	GENDER	AGE	JOINT	GENDER	AGE
SOCIAL MEDIA	shrestha (0.2062)	villenaroman (0.5421)	shrestha (0.3652)	liau (0.3357)	liau (0.6837)	liau (0.4894)
BLOG	2 teams (0.3077)	lopezmonroy (0.6795)	weren (0.4615)	lopezmonroy (0.3214)	lopezmonroy (0.5893)	2 teams (0.4821)
TWITTER	lopezmonroy (0.3571)	liau (0.7338)	liau (0.5065)	shrestha (0.4333)	shrestha (0.6556)	shrestha (0.6111)
HOTEL REVIEWS	liau (0.2564)	liau (0.7259)	liau (0.3502)	-		

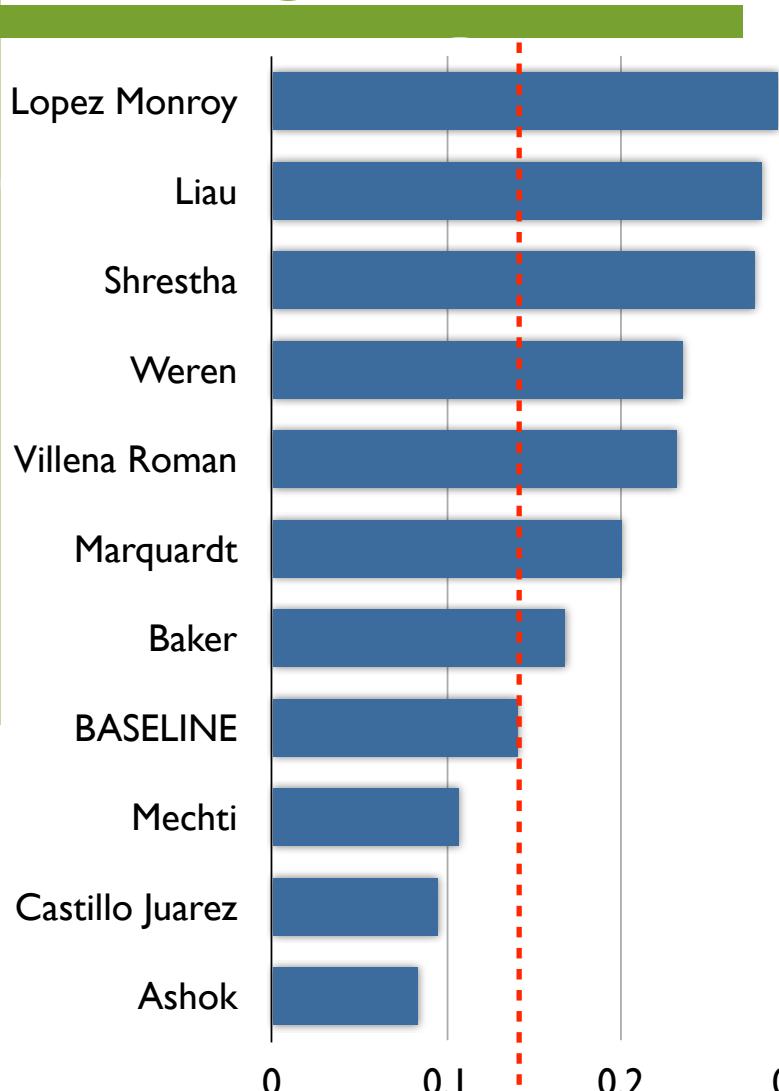
► 10 teams participated

# Final (best) results

	ENGLISH			SPANISH		
CORPUS	JOINT	GENDER	AGE	JOINT	GENDER	AGE
SOCIAL MEDIA	shrestha (0.2062)	villenaroman (0.5421)	shrestha (0.3652)	liau (0.3357)	liau (0.6837)	liau (0.4894)
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HOTEL REVIEWS	liau (0.2564)	liau (0.7259)	liau (0.3502)	-		

- ▶ High performance of the **content features**: n-grams, BoW

# Average results



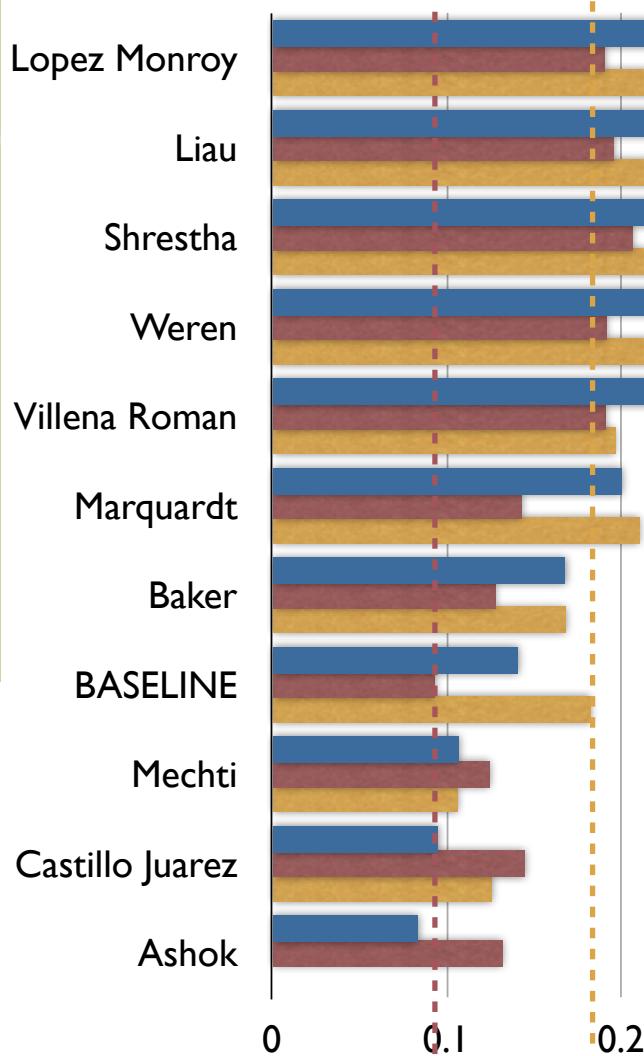
Ranking	Team	Average	Social Media		Blogs		Twitter		Reviews
			EN	ES	EN	ES	EN	ES	EN
1	lopezmonroy14	0.2895	0.1902	0.2809	0.3077	0.3214	0.3571	0.3444	0.2247
2	liau14	0.2802	0.1952	0.3357	0.2692	0.2321	0.3506	0.3222	0.2564
3	shrestha14	0.2760	0.2062	0.2845	0.2308	0.2500	0.3052	0.4333	0.2223
4	weren14	0.2349	0.1914	0.2792	0.2949	0.1786	0.2013	0.2778	0.2211
5	villenaroman14	0.2315	0.1905	0.1961	0.3077	0.2321	0.2078	0.2667	0.2199
6	marquardt14	0.1998	0.1428	0.2102	0.1282	0.2679	0.1948	0.3111	0.1437
7	baker14	0.1677	0.1277	0.1678	0.1282	0.2321	0.1688	0.2111	0.1382
8	baseline	0.1404	0.0930	0.1820	0.0897	0.0536	0.1494	0.2333	0.1821
9	mechti14	0.1067	0.1244	0.1060	0.0897	0.1786	0.0584	0.1444	0.0451
10	castillojuarez14	0.0946	0.1445	0.1254	0.1795	0.0893	-	-	0.1236
11	ashok14	0.0834	0.1318	-	0.1282	-	0.1948	-	0.1291

All results below 30%

BASELINE: 14%

3 teams below baseline

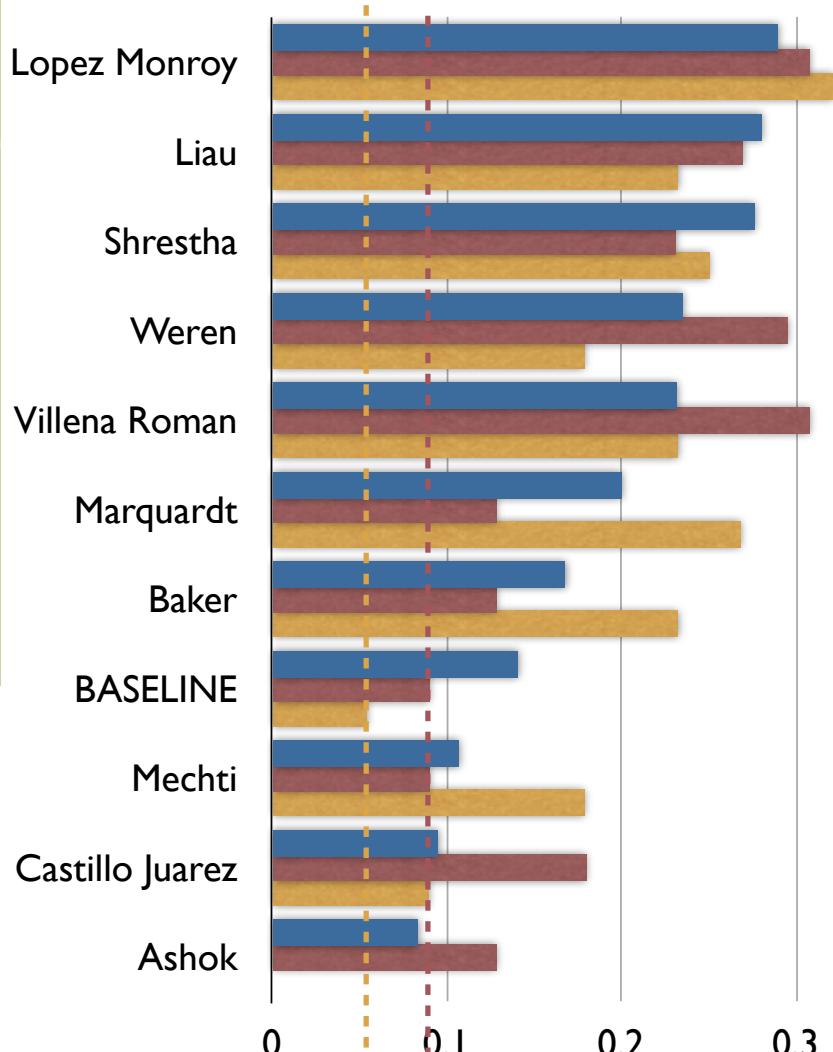
# Average results in Social Media



Most results better for ES than EN  
The highest (ES) ~ 33.57%  
Most EN results lower than avg  
**English: All teams over baseline**  
**Spanish: 3 teams below baseline**

Ranking	Team	Average	Social Media		Blogs		Twitter		Reviews
			EN	ES	EN	ES	EN	ES	EN
1	lopezmonroy14	0.2895	0.1902	0.2809	0.3077	0.3214	0.3571	0.3444	0.2247
2	liau14	0.2802	0.1952	0.3357	0.2692	0.2321	0.3506	0.3222	0.2564
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11	ashok14	0.0834	0.1318	-	0.1282	-	0.1948	-	0.1291

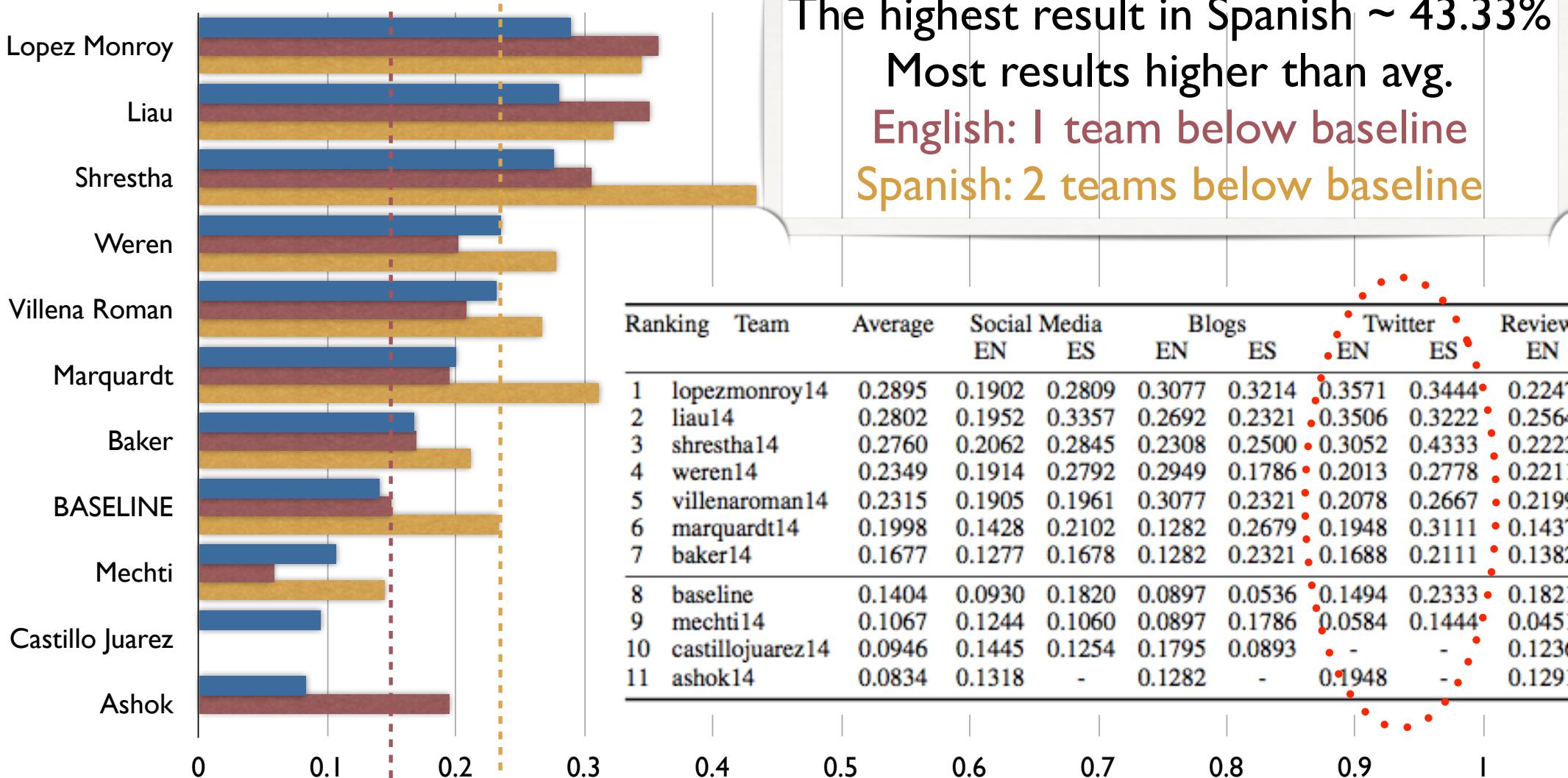
# Average results in Blogs



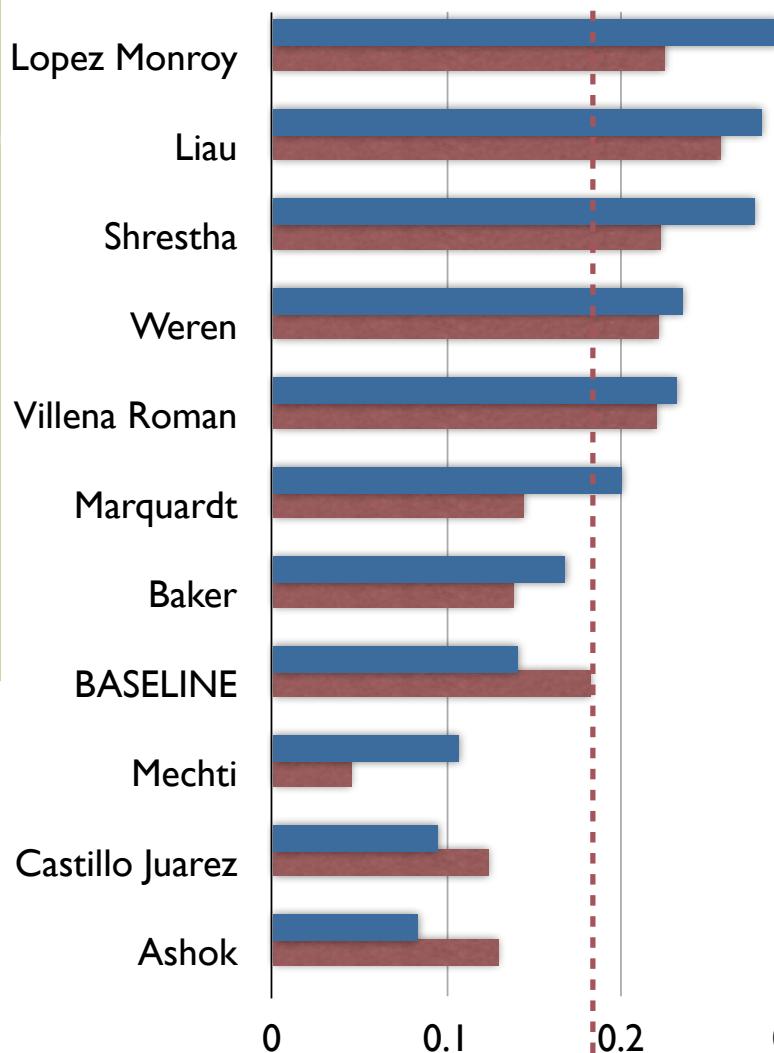
The highest result in Spanish ~ 32.14%  
 English: All teams over baseline (I=)  
 Spanish: All teams over baseline

Ranking	Team	Average	Social Media		Blogs		Twitter		Reviews EN
			EN	ES	EN	ES	EN	ES	
1	lopezmonroy14	0.2895	0.1902	0.2809	0.3077	0.3214	0.3571	0.3444	0.2247
2	liau14	0.2802	0.1952	0.3357	0.2692	0.2321	0.3506	0.3222	0.2564
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5	villenaroman14	0.2315	0.1905	0.1961	0.3077	0.2321	0.2078	0.2667	0.2199
6	marquardt14	0.1998	0.1428	0.2102	0.1282	0.2679	0.1948	0.3111	0.1437
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11	ashok14	0.0834	0.1318	-	0.1282	-	0.1948	-	0.1291

# Average results in Twitter



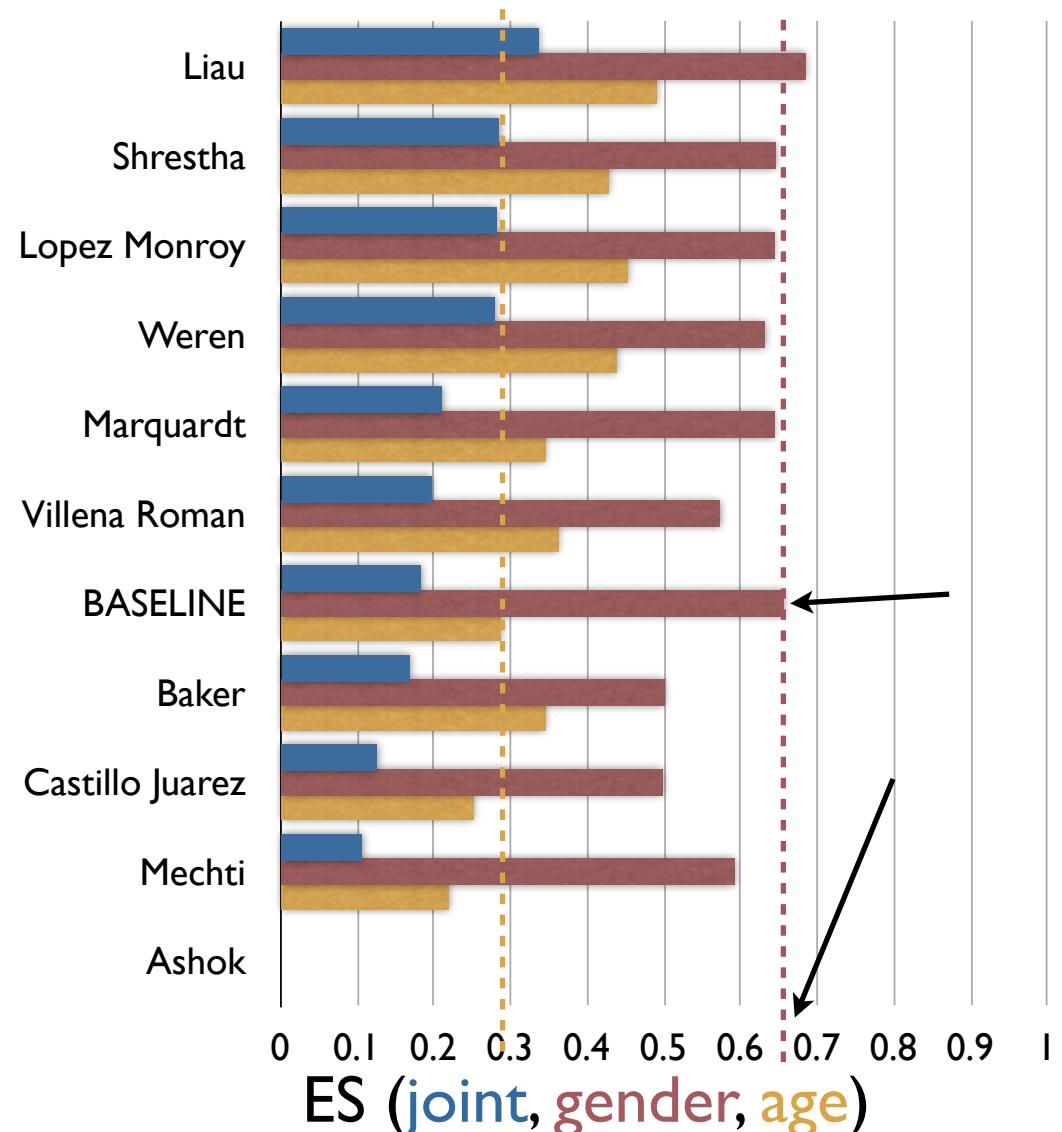
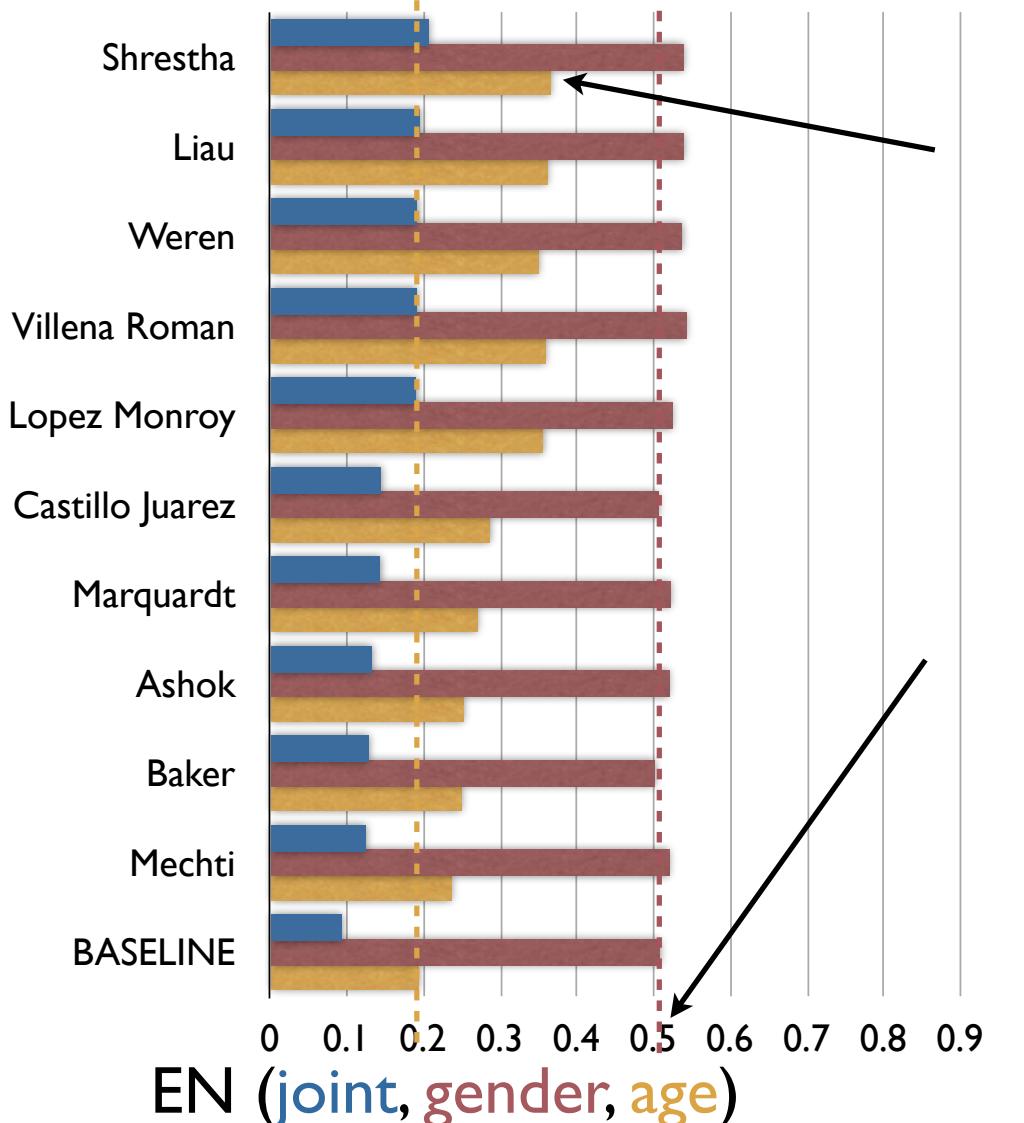
# Average results in Reviews



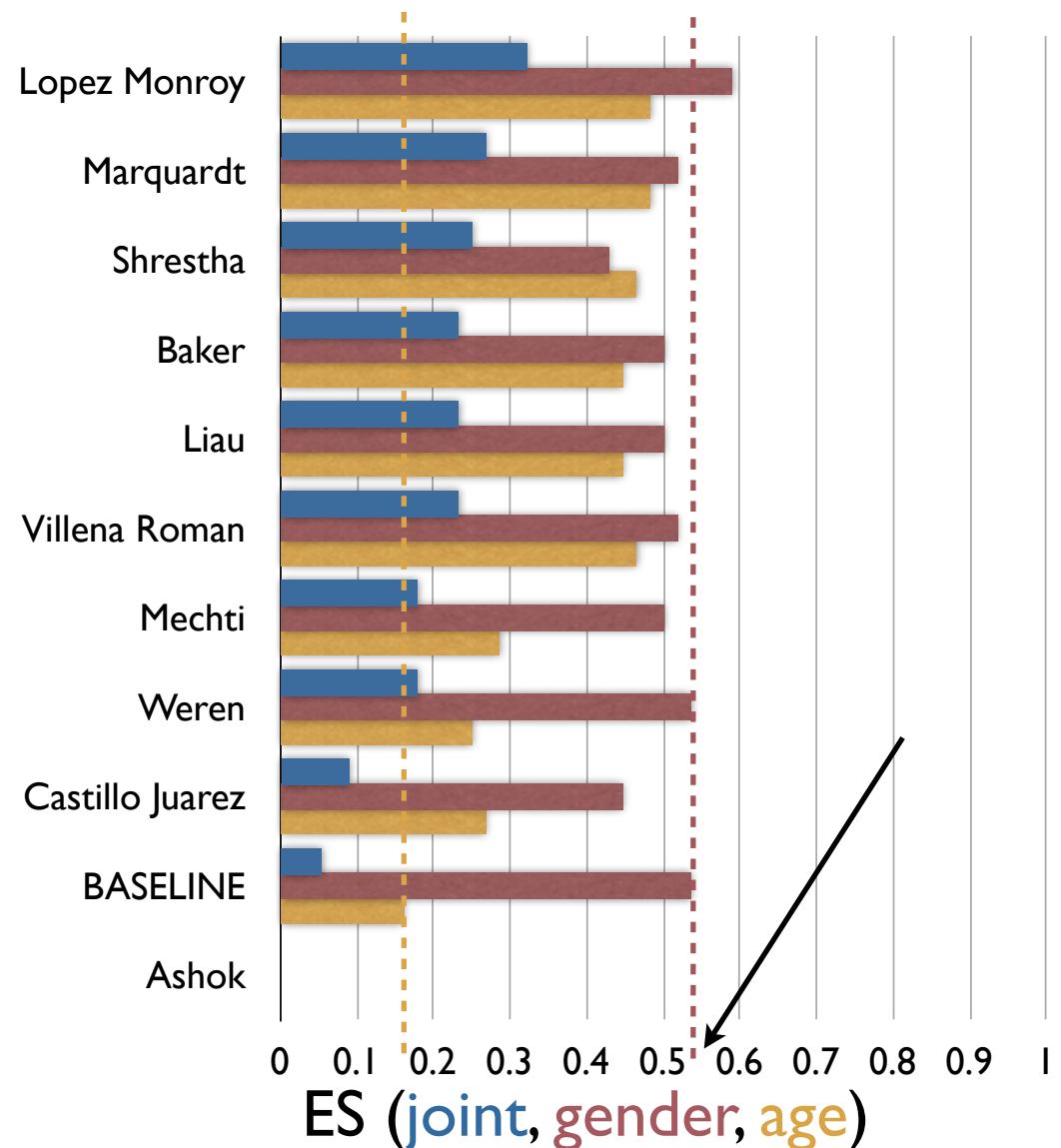
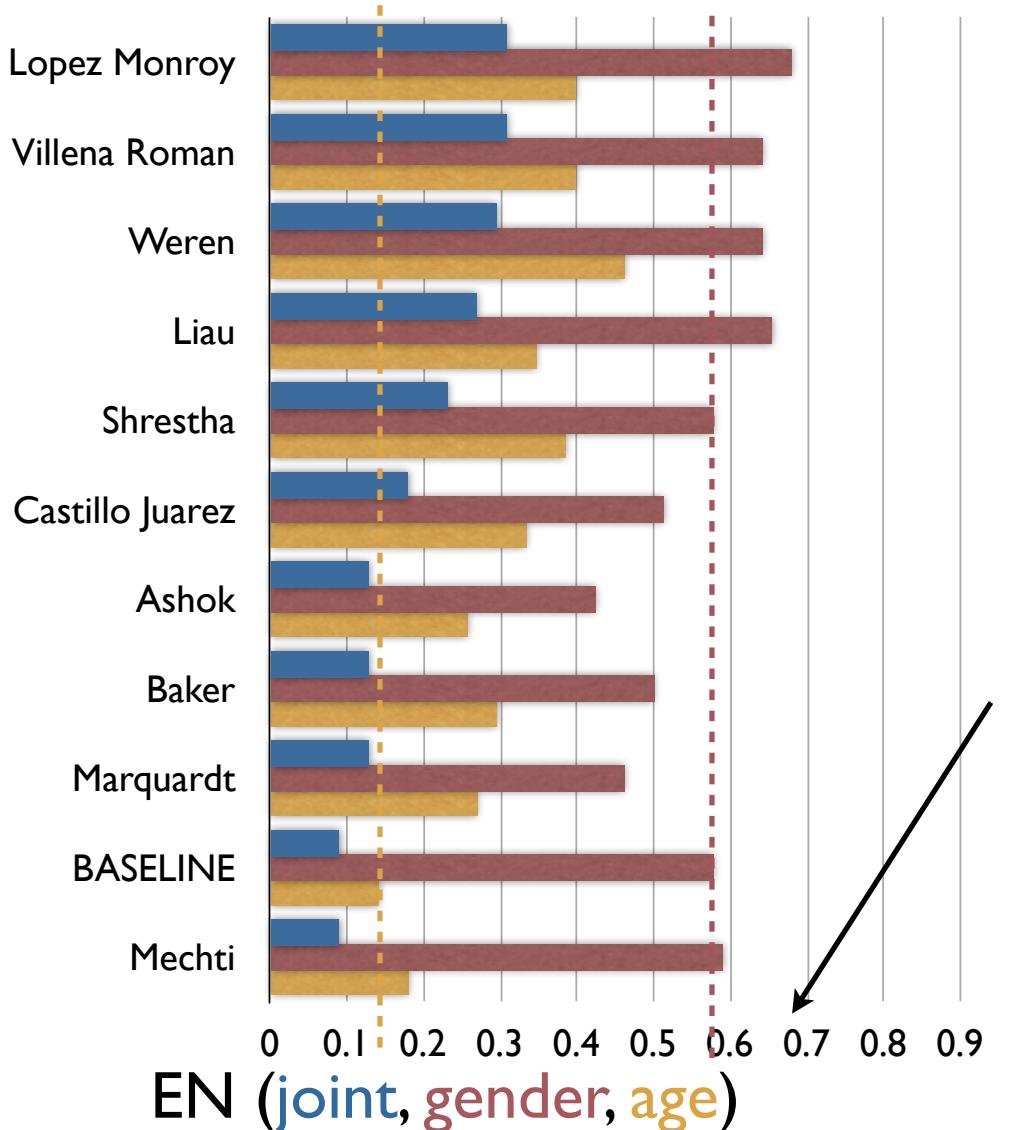
The highest result ~ 25.64%  
Most results lower than avg.  
5 teams below baseline

Ranking	Team	Average	Social Media		Blogs		Twitter		Reviews EN	Reviews ES
			EN	ES	EN	ES	EN	ES		
1	lopezmonroy14	0.2895	0.1902	0.2809	0.3077	0.3214	0.3571	0.3444	0.2247	0.2247
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4	weren14	0.2349	0.1914	0.2792	0.2949	0.1786	0.2013	0.2778	0.2211	0.2211
5	villenaroman14	0.2315	0.1905	0.1961	0.3077	0.2321	0.2078	0.2667	0.2199	0.2199
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11	ashok14	0.0834	0.1318	-	0.1282	-	0.1948	-	0.1291	0.1291

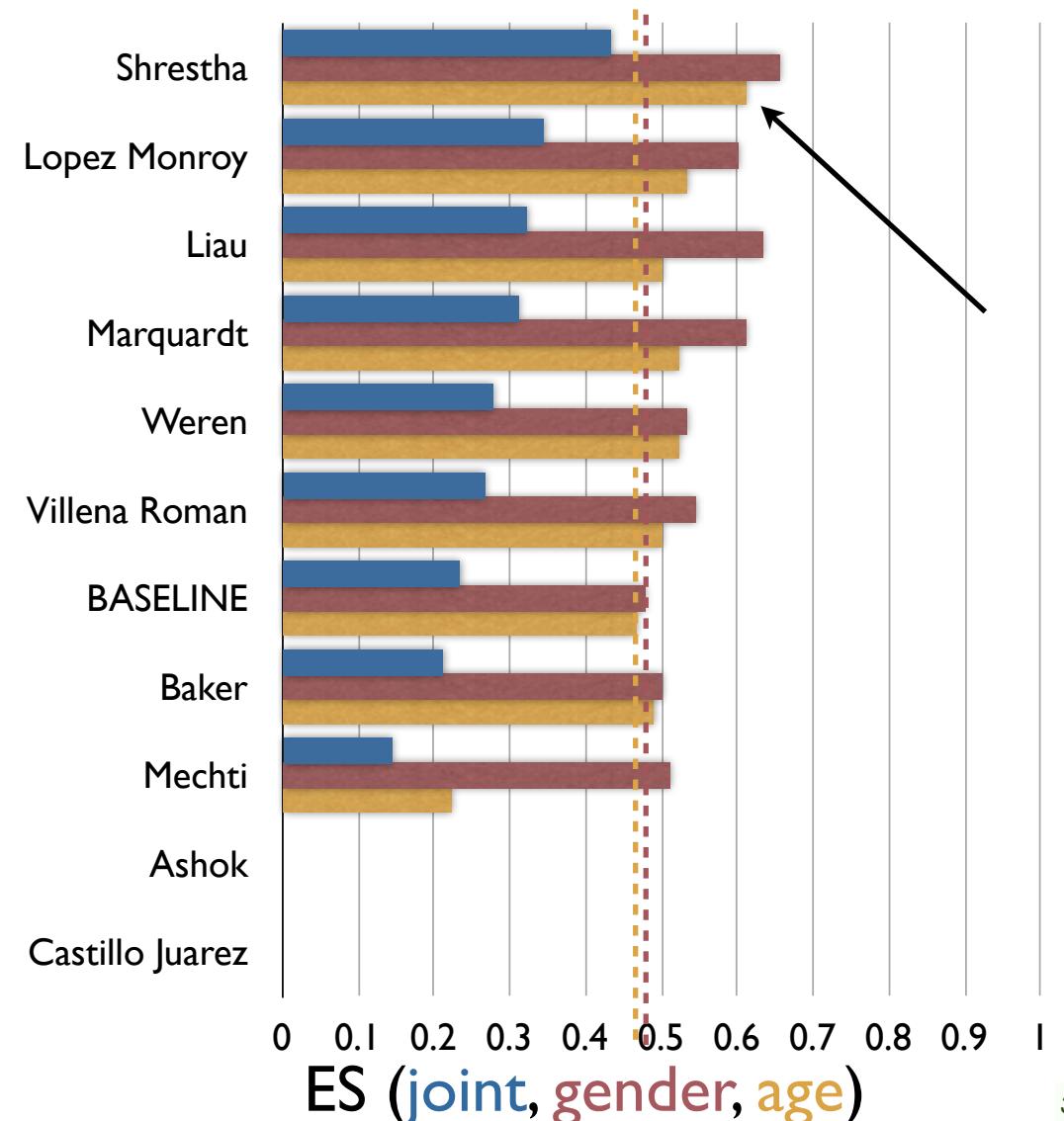
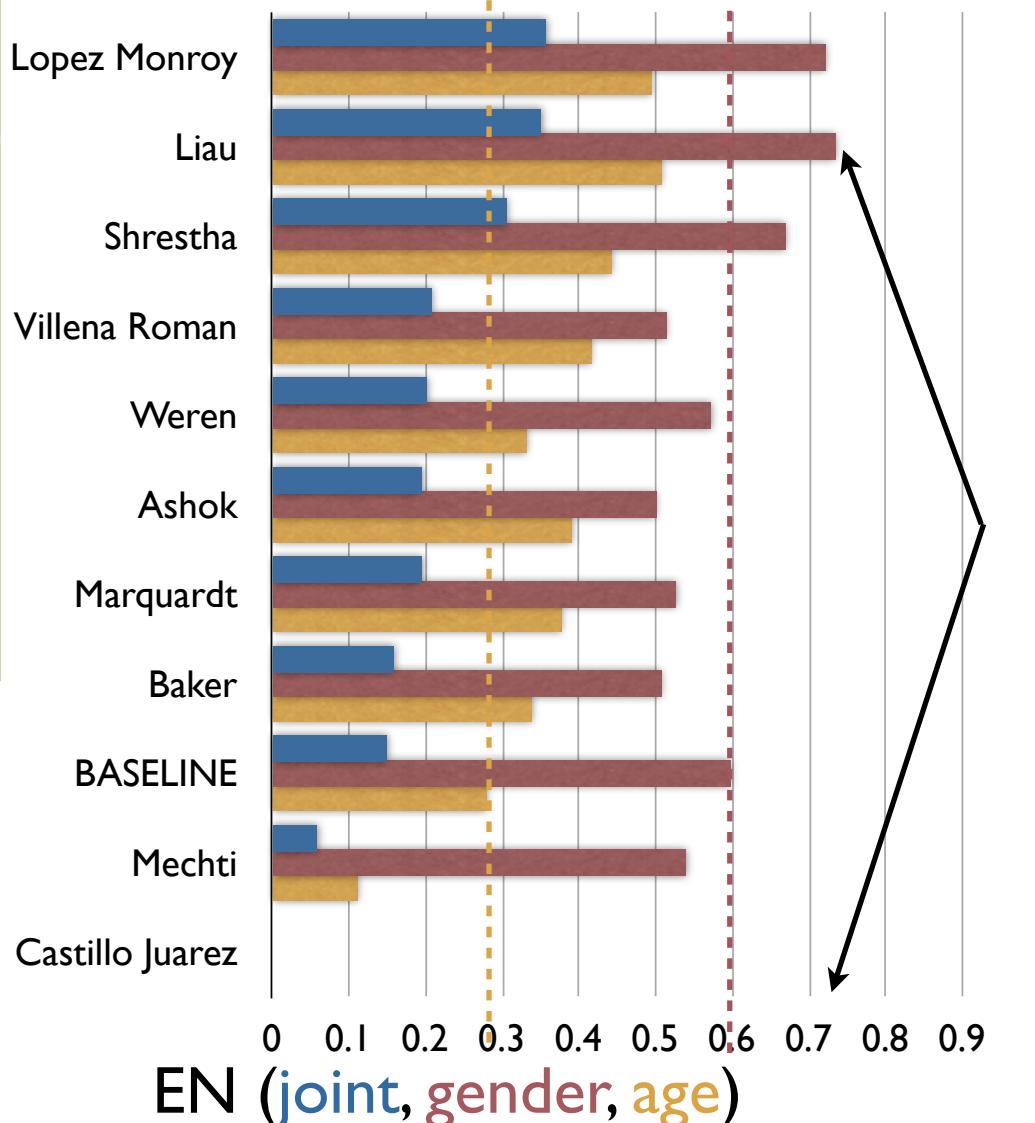
# Results in Social Media



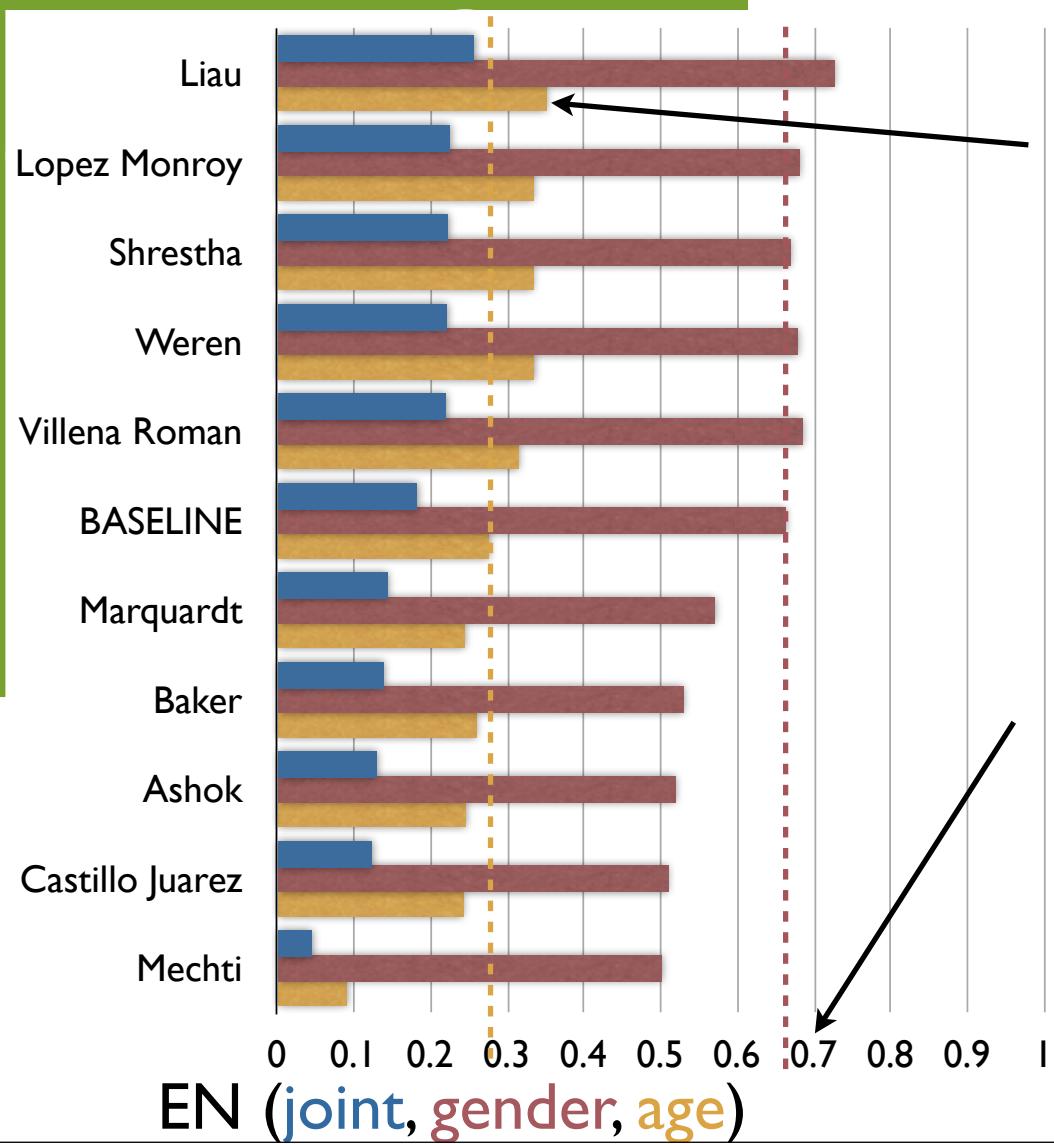
# Results in Blogs



# Results in Twitter

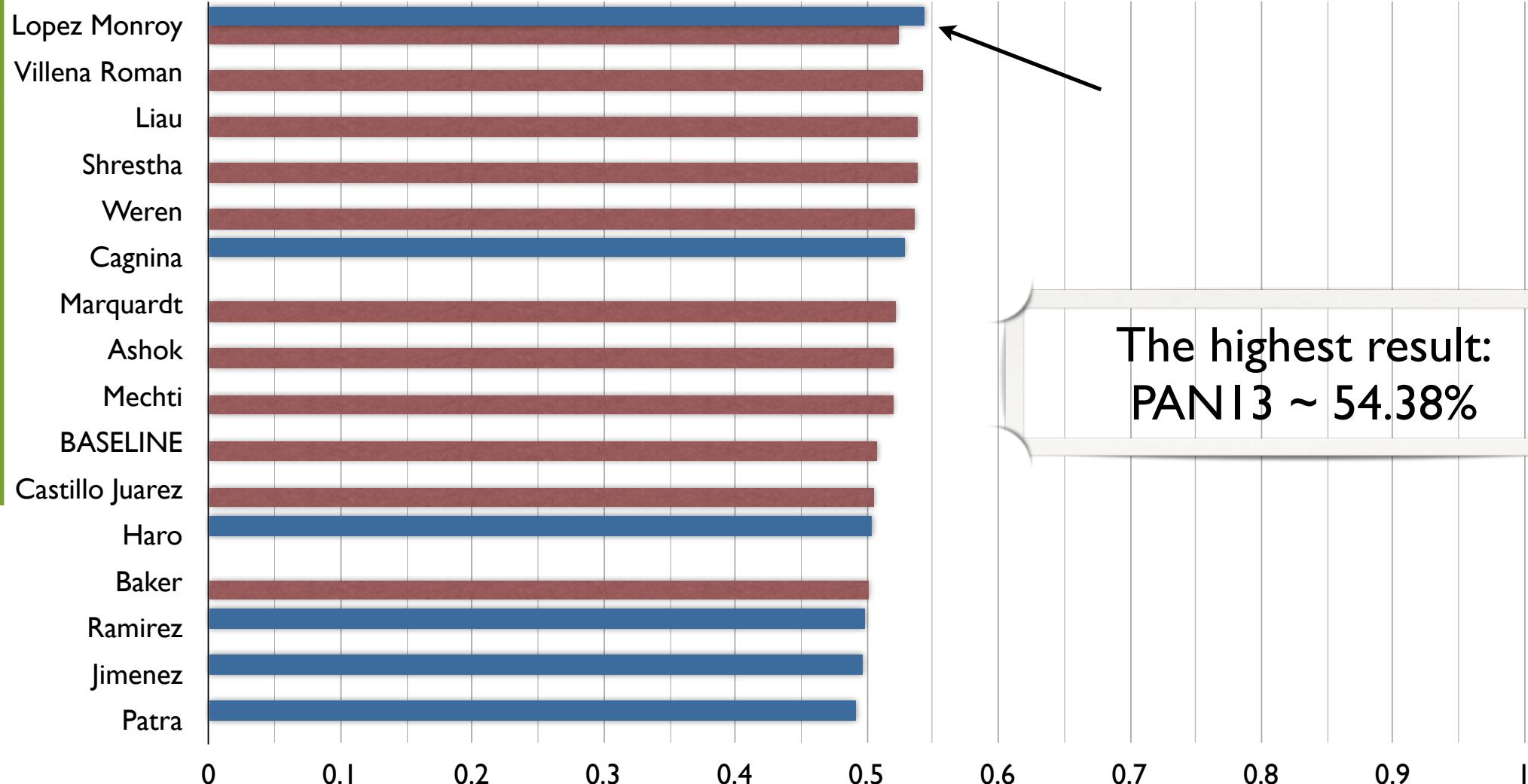


# Results in Reviews



# Gender results

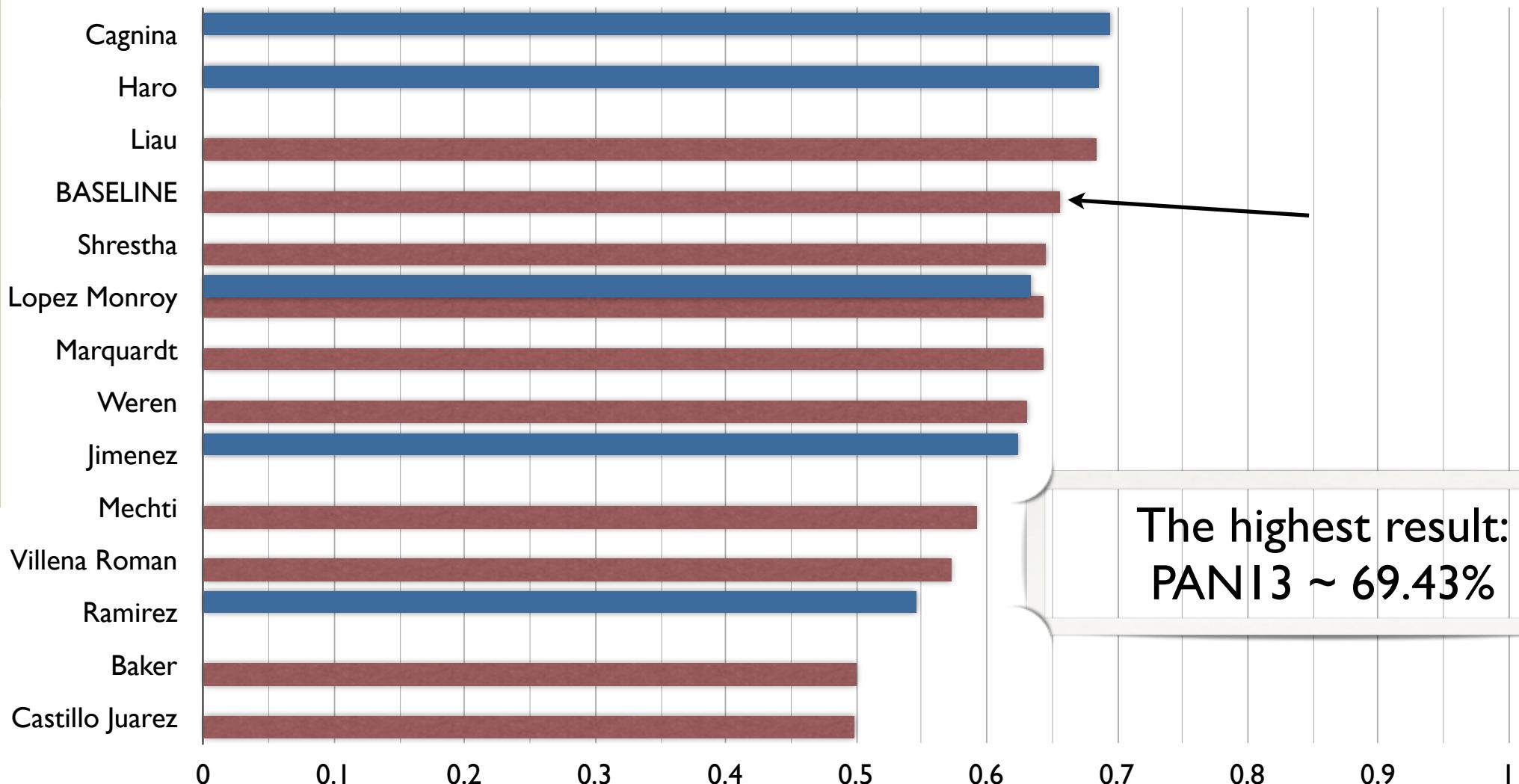
**PAN13 vs. PAN14**  
**ENGLISH SOCIALMEDIA**



The highest result:  
PAN13 ~ 54.38%

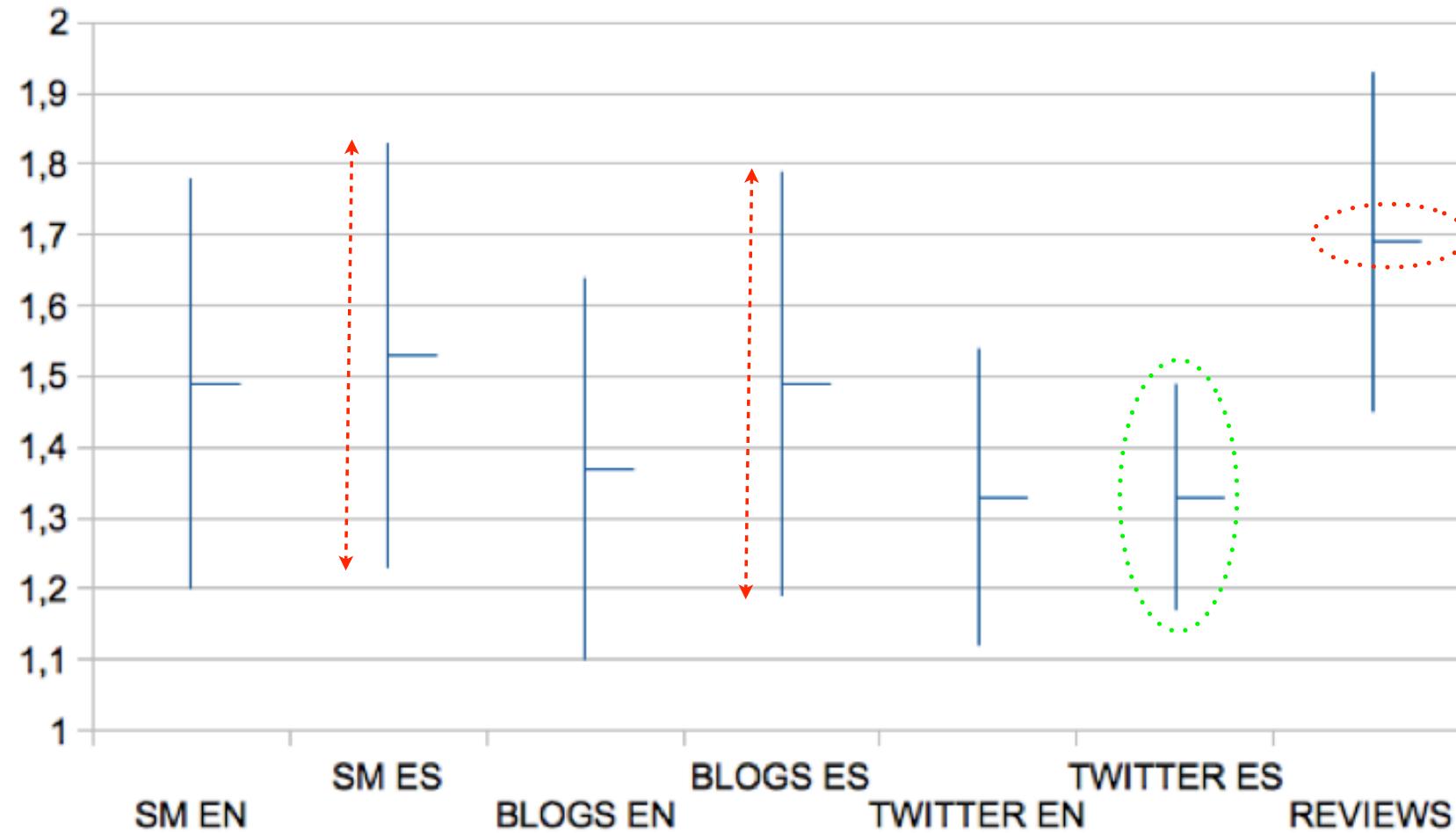
# Gender results

PAN13 vs. PAN14  
SPANISH SOCIALMEDIA



The highest result:  
PAN13 ~ 69.43%

# Distances in misclassified age



# Conclusions

- ▶ The highest accuracies were achieved in Twitter
  - ▶ Higher number of documents per profile
  - ▶ More spontaneous language
- ▶ The lowest accuracies were achieved in English social media and hotel reviews
- ▶ The highest distance between predicted and truth classes in age identification occur in hotel reviews
  - ▶ A further analysis is needed to understand if there are cases of deceptive opinions

# Industry at PAN (Author Profiling)

Organisers	 <p>autoritas® nuevas ideas, nuevas soluciones</p>
Collaborators	 <p>LLORENTE &amp; CUENCA</p>
Sponsors	 <p>COREX BUILDING KNOWLEDGE SOLUTIONS</p>
Participants	 <p>DAEDALUS</p>

# Next year...

- ▶ AGE + GENDER
- +  
**PERSONALITY  
RECOGNITION!**

This is how people see @kicorangel on Twitter!

The image shows a Twitter profile for Francisco M. Rangel (@kicorangel). The profile includes a circular profile picture, the name 'Francisco M. Rangel', the handle '@ kicorangel | ID 52869134 Valencia', and statistics: 739 Followers, 556 Following, 558 Favorites, 70 Listed, and 3536 Statuses. Below the profile is a bio: 'CTO Autoritas Consulting - Structuring unstructured information - Investigating the use of language for analysing social media and author profiling.' To the right of the profile is a radar chart titled 'Big Five personality traits' showing personality scores. The chart has five axes: extraverted (top), stable (right), agreeable (bottom-right), conscientious (bottom-left), and open (left). The 'Big Five' area is shaded blue, and the scores are approximately: extraverted ~50, stable ~50, agreeable ~50, conscientious ~50, and open ~50. A legend indicates the blue color represents 'Big Five'. At the bottom right of the slide is the text: 'If you would like to know how people see you in Twitter, click this button and start!' and the URL 'http://personality.altervista.org/personalitwit.php'.

Big Five personality traits

Trait	Score (approx.)
extraverted	50
stable	50
agreeable	50
conscientious	50
open	50

Big Five

Highcharts.com

If you would like to know how people see you in Twitter,  
click this button and start!

<http://personality.altervista.org/personalitwit.php>



Francisco Rangel  
**autoritas**  
nuevas ideas, nuevas soluciones



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**Paolo Rosso**



**Irina Chugur**



**Martin Potthast**



**Benno Stein**



**Martin Trenkmann**

Bauhaus-Universität Weimar



**Ben Verhoeven**



**Walter Daelemans**



***On behalf of the AP task organisers:  
Thank you very much for participating!  
We hope to see you again next year!***