

When a few data points are not enough

DATALAB special

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Outline

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1 Tracking the consumption junction

- Effects of advertisements
- Shaping or reflecting
- Long-range dependencies
- Fractal scaling in media

2 The shape of innovation

- Trend-detection in social media
- Resonant information
- Resonant subreddits
- Innovation indicators

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The shape of
innovation

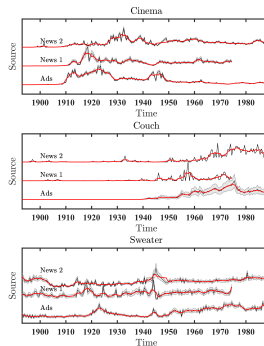
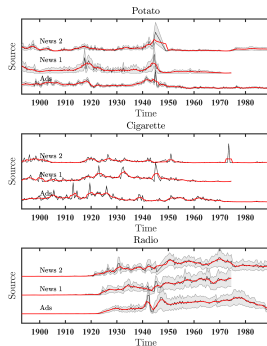
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Effects of advertisements

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Articles and advertisements from *De Tijd* (1890-1974) and *De Telegraaf* 1893-1989, $N \simeq 30E^6$.



Shaping or reflecting

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We test for *X Granger cause Y*, by comparing the performance of the nested 'newspaper discourse only' model:

$$y_t = \beta_0 + \beta_1 y_{t-1} + \dots + \beta_k y_{t-k} + \epsilon$$

with the full 'newspaper and advertisement discourses' model:

$$y_t = \beta_0 + \beta_1 y_{t-1} + \dots + \beta_k y_{t-k} + \alpha_1 x_{t-1} + \dots + \alpha_m x_{t-m} + \epsilon$$

to identify which one does the better job at explaining y_t based on the residuals. The zero-model for the hypothesis then is $H_0 : \alpha_i = 0$ for each i of the element $[1, m]$ with the alternative hypothesis being $H_1 : \alpha_i \neq 0$ for at least one i of the element $[1, m]$. We applied the test bi-directionally such that a shaping relation finds support if we can confirm that '*X Granger cause Y*' and reject that '*Y Granger cause X*' in case of a reflecting relationship (the inverse of shaping). Finally, if both '*X Granger cause Y*' and '*Y Granger cause X*' find support this is viewed as support for a more complex relationship between the two time series.

Shaping: *advertisements* \rightarrow *articles*

Reflecting: *articles* \rightarrow *advertisements*

Complex: *advertisements* \leftrightarrow *articles*

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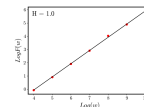
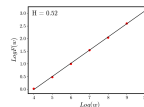
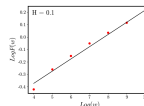
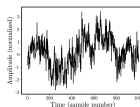
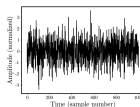
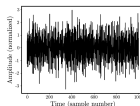
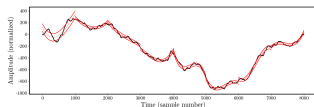
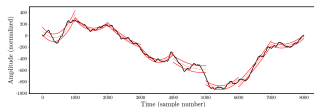
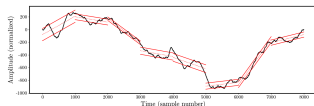
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Long-range dependencies

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Computation of local fluctuations around linear, quadratic, and cubic trends

Estimation of Hurst parameter using Adaptive Fractal Analysis

K. L. Nielbo, K. F. Baunvig, B. Liu, and J. Gao, "A curious case of entropic decay: Persistent complexity in textual cultural heritage," Digital Scholarship in the Humanities, 2018.

Software library: <https://github.com/knielbo/saffine>

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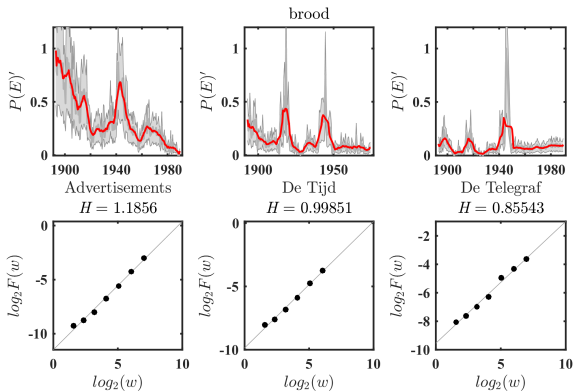
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Adaptive Fractal Analysis to estimate Hurst exponent: *antipersistent correlations*: $0 < H < \frac{1}{2}$, *memoryless*: $H = \frac{1}{2}$, *persistent correlations*: $\frac{1}{2} < H < 1$



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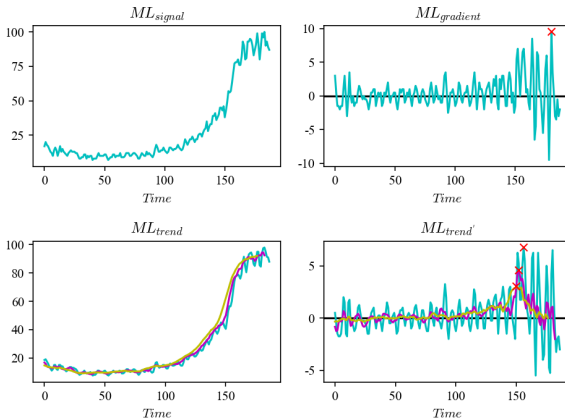
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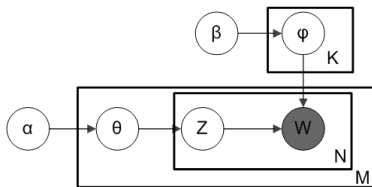
Innovation indicators



Trend detection in social media is modeled on natural catastrophes and epidemics → point-like events.



Resonant information



Novelty over window w :

$$\mathbb{N}_w(j) = \frac{1}{w} \sum_{d=1}^w D_{KL}(s^{(j)} \mid s^{(j-d)})$$

with Transience:

$$\mathbb{T}_w(j) = \frac{1}{w} \sum_{d=1}^w D_{KL}(s^{(j)} \mid s^{(j+d)})$$

for Resonance

$$\mathbb{R}_w(j) = \mathbb{N}_w(j) - \mathbb{T}_w(j)$$

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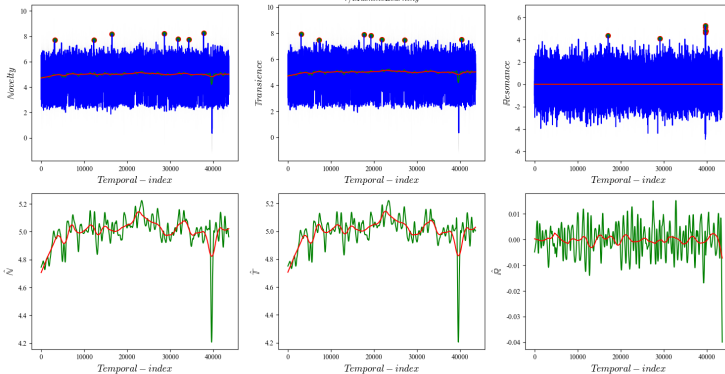
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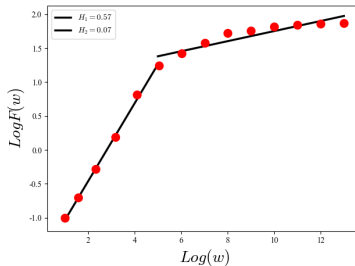
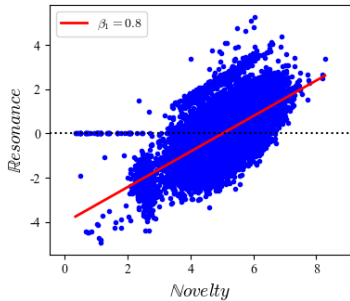
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Trend detection for social media works well for point-like events (e.g., natural catastrophes and epidemics), but what are the signature(-s) of social trends? Analyzing 7TB+ data from reddit.com, we find that in certain subreddits, novelty resonates more with the future and that content display long-term memory at short and intermediary time-scales.



Innovation indicators



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Thank you for your attention

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slides: http://knielbo.github.io/files/datalab_special.pdf

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