

Mining News and Social Media for Controversy Detection

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Goals

Identify sentences in a news article discussing controversial issues

- ▶ unsupervised way
- ▶ leverage comments and online discussions about news

Moreover. . .

- ▶ design a controversy scoring function to compute a controversy score for each sentence in a news article based on the relevant social media discussion.
- ▶ create a web interface by which humans can rank controversial topics already culled by the scoring function. Use this input to create a reliable data-set to facilitate future research in this domain.

Progress

What we have done so far:

- ▶ read relevant papers and articles involving similar research
- ▶ database schema has been established
- ▶ user log-in and sign-up functionality (server-side and frontend) is complete
- ▶ controversy-scoring functions (implemented in Java) are being run from our (Python) server

What is left to be done:

- ▶ implement real-time crawling of news and tweets given a query
- ▶ visualize a time-line of controversy scores for each keyword (if time permits)