

# Web Scraping & Text Mining

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# Where Are We?



We've covered the basics of document representation and characterization.

Now begin to think about documents as members of categories or classes

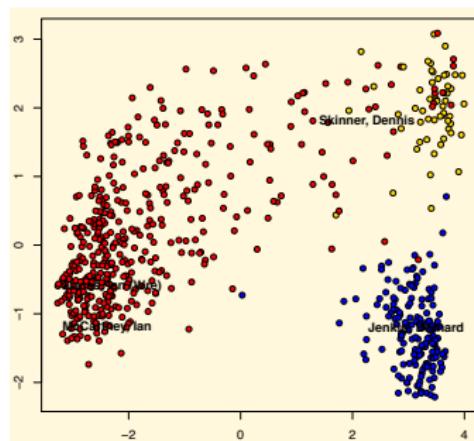
→ simple, fast dictionary based ways to classify/categorize

cover some 'major' dictionaries in social science and move on to supervised learning problems.

# Terminology

Unsupervised techniques: learning (hidden or latent) structure in unlabeled data.

e.g. PCA of legislators's votes: want to see how they are organized—by party? by ideology? by race?



Supervised techniques: learning relationship between inputs and a labeled set of outputs.

e.g. opinion mining: what makes a critic like or dislike a movie ( $y \in \{0, 1\}$ )?

**CRITIC REVIEWS FOR STAR WARS: EPISODE VII - THE FORCE AWAKENS**

All Critics (313) | Top Critics (48) | My Critics | Fresh (293) | Rotten (20)

The new movie, as an act of pure storytelling, streams by with fluency and zip.  
[Full Review...](#) | December 21, 2015  
Anthony Lane  
New Yorker  
★ Top Critic

While Star Wars: The Force Awakens gets temporarily bogged down taking us back to the world that we left in 1983, it introduces us to the new and exciting torch-bearers of the franchise.  
[Full Review...](#) | December 30, 2015  
Blake Howard  
Graffiti With Punctuation

At the end The Force Awakens looks more like a nostalgic film that will work as a transition to the new Star Wars' age. [Full Review in Spanish]  
[Full Review...](#) | December 29, 2015  
Salvador Franco Reyes

This film is a well-planned product that balances nostalgia with the capacity to attract new generations into the Star Wars universe. [Full Review in Spanish]  
[Full Review...](#) | December 29, 2015

# Overview: Supervised Learning

**label** some examples of each category

e.g. some reviews that were positive ( $y = 1$ ), some that were negative ( $y = 0$ );  
some statements that were liberal, some that were conservative.

**train** a ‘machine’ on these examples (e.g. logistic regression), using the  
**features** (DTM, other stuff) as the ‘independent’ variables.

e.g. does the commentator use the word ‘fetus’ or ‘baby’ in discussing abortion  
law?

**classify** use the learned relationship to predict the outcomes of documents  
( $y \in \{0, 1\}$ , review sentiment) not in the training set.

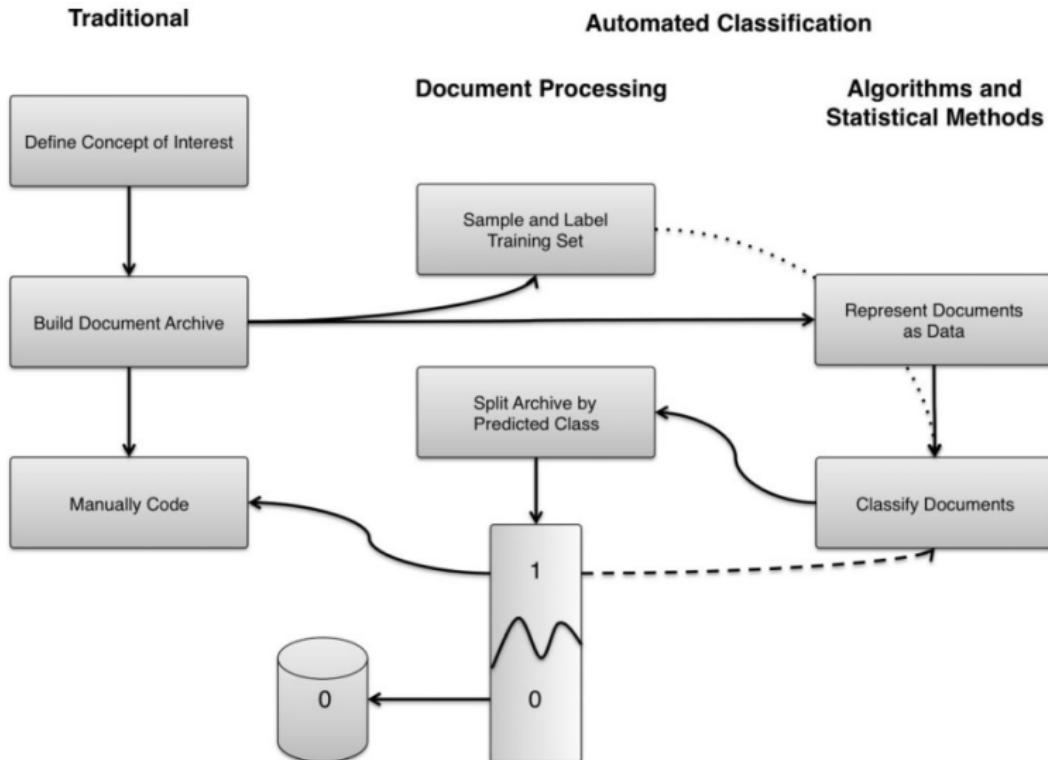
# Overview

idea: set of pre-defined words with specific connotations that allow us to classify documents automatically, quickly and accurately.

→ common in opinion mining/sentiment analysis, and in coding events or manifestos.

Often derived from supervised learning techniques  
and often used in supervised learning problems, as a starting point.  
so we'll cover them here in that context.

# Estimating Word Discrimination



**Fig. 1** The data collection process.

# Estimating Word Discrimination

## 1) Task

- a) Classification  $\rightsquigarrow$  learn word weights for dictionaries
- b) Fictitious prediction problem  $\rightsquigarrow$  Identify features that discriminate between groups to learn features that are indicative of some group

## 2) Objective function

$$f(\theta, \mathbf{X}) = f(\theta, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$$

where:

$\mathbf{Y}$  = Document Labels

$\mathbf{X}$  = Document Features

$\theta$  = Parameters that measure words discrimination between categories

## 3) Optimization $\rightsquigarrow$ method specific

## 4) Validation $\rightsquigarrow$ depends on task

- i) Classification  $\rightsquigarrow$  Accuracy, Precision, Recall

- ii) Fictitious prediction  $\rightsquigarrow$  Face, convergent, discriminatory, and confound

# Stylometry ↵ Who Wrote Disputed Federalist Papers?

Federalist papers ↵ Mosteller and Wallace (1963)

- Persuade citizens of New York State to adopt constitution
- Canonical texts in study of American politics
- 77 essays
  - Published from 1787-1788 in Newspapers
  - And under the name **Publius**, anonymously

Who Wrote the Federalist papers?

- Jay wrote essays 2, 3, 4, 5, and 64
- Hamilton: wrote 43 papers
- Madison: wrote 12 papers

Disputed: Hamilton or Madison?

- Essays: 49-58, 62, and 63
- Joint Essays: 18-20

Task: identify authors of the disputed papers.

Task: Classify papers as Hamilton or Madison using dictionary methods

# Setting up the Analysis

Training ~~~ papers Hamilton, Madison are known to have authored

Test ~~~ unlabeled papers

Preprocessing:

- Hamilton/Madison both discuss similar issues
- Differ in extent they use stop words
- Focus analysis on the stop words

## Setting up the Analysis

- $\mathbf{Y} = (Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_N) = (\text{Hamilton}, \text{Hamilton}, \text{Madison}, \dots, \text{Hamilton})$   
 $N \times 1$  matrix with author labels
- Define the number of words in federalist paper  $i$  as num;

$$\mathbf{X} = \left( \begin{array}{ccccc} \frac{1}{\text{num}_1} & \frac{2}{\text{num}_1} & \frac{0}{\text{num}_1} & \cdots & \frac{3}{\text{num}_1} \\ \frac{0}{\text{num}_2} & \frac{1}{\text{num}_2} & \frac{0}{\text{num}_2} & \cdots & \frac{0}{\text{num}_2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{0}{\text{num}_N} & \frac{0}{\text{num}_N} & \frac{1}{\text{num}_N} & \cdots & \frac{0}{\text{num}_N} \end{array} \right)$$

$N \times J$  counting stop word usage rate

- $\boldsymbol{\theta} = (\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_J)$

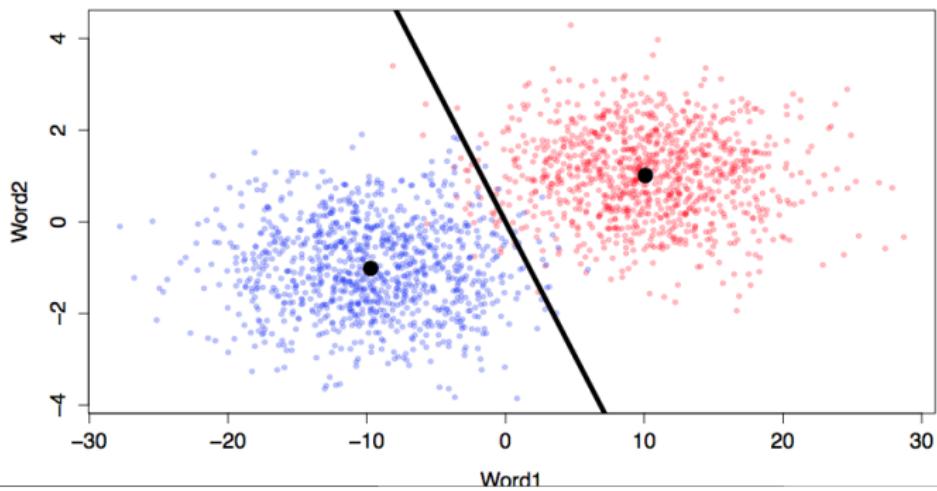
Word weights.

# Objective Function

Heuristically: find  $\theta^* = (\theta_1^*, \theta_2^*, \dots, \theta_J^*)$  used to create score

$$p_i = \sum_{j=1}^J \theta_j^* X_{ij}$$

that maximally discriminates between categories



# Objective Function

Define:

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_{\text{Madison}} &= \frac{1}{N_{\text{Madison}}} \sum_{i=1}^N I(Y_i = \text{Madison}) \mathbf{x}_i \\ \mu_{\text{Hamilton}} &= \frac{1}{N_{\text{Hamilton}}} \sum_{i=1}^N I(Y_i = \text{Hamilton}) \mathbf{x}_i\end{aligned}$$

## Objective Function

We can then define functions that describe the “projected” mean and variance for each author

$$g(\theta, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}, \text{Madison}) = \frac{1}{N_{\text{Madison}}} \sum_{i=1}^N I(Y_i = \text{Madison}) \boldsymbol{\theta}' \mathbf{X}_i = \boldsymbol{\theta}' \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\text{Madison}}$$

$$g(\theta, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}, \text{Hamilton}) = \frac{1}{N_{\text{Hamilton}}} \sum_{i=1}^N I(Y_i = \text{Hamilton}) \boldsymbol{\theta}' \mathbf{X}_i = \boldsymbol{\theta}' \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\text{Hamilton}}$$

$$s(\theta, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}, \text{Madison}) = \sum_{i=1}^N I(Y_i = \text{Madison}) (\boldsymbol{\theta}' \mathbf{X}_i - \boldsymbol{\theta}' \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\text{Madison}})^2$$

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## Objective Function $\rightsquigarrow$ Optimization

$$\begin{aligned} f(\theta, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}) &= \frac{(g(\theta, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}, \text{Hamilton}) - g(\theta, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}, \text{Madison}))^2}{s(\theta, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}, \text{Hamilton}) + s(\theta, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}, \text{Madison})} \\ &= \frac{\left( \theta' (\mu_{\text{Hamilton}} - \mu_{\text{Madison}}) \right)^2}{\text{Scatter}_{\text{Hamilton}} + \text{Scatter}_{\text{Madison}}} \end{aligned}$$

Optimization  $\rightsquigarrow$  find  $\theta^*$  to maximize  $f(\theta, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$ , assuming independence across dimensions.

(Fisher's) Linear Discriminant Analysis

## Optimization ↽ Word Weights

For each word  $j$ , construct weight  $\theta_j^*$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_{j,\text{Hamilton}} &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N I(Y_i = \text{Hamilton})X_{ij}}{\sum_{j=1}^J \sum_{i=1}^N I(Y_i = \text{Hamilton})X_{ij}} \\ \mu_{j,\text{Madison}} &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N I(Y_i = \text{Madison})X_{ij}}{\sum_{j=1}^J \sum_{i=1}^N I(Y_i = \text{Madison})X_{ij}} \\ \sigma_{j,\text{Hamilton}}^2 &= \text{Var}(X_{i,j} | \text{Hamilton}) \\ \sigma_{j,\text{Madison}}^2 &= \text{Var}(X_{i,j} | \text{Madison})\end{aligned}$$

We can then generate weight  $\theta_j^*$  as

$$\theta_j^* = \frac{\mu_{j,\text{Hamilton}} - \mu_{j,\text{Madison}}}{\sigma_{j,\text{Hamilton}}^2 + \sigma_{j,\text{Madison}}^2}$$

## Optimization ↵ Trimming the Dictionary

- Trimming weights: Focus on discriminating words (very simple regularization)
- Cut off: For all  $|\theta_j^*| < 0.025$  set  $\theta_j^* = 0$ .

## Classification ↽ Determining Authorship

For each disputed document  $i$ , compute discrimination statistic

$$p_i = \sum_{j=1}^J \theta_j^* X_{ij}$$

$p_i$  ↽ classification (**linear discriminator**)

- Above midpoint in training set → Hamilton text
- Below midpoint in training set → Madison text

**Findings:** Madison is the author of the disputed federalist papers.

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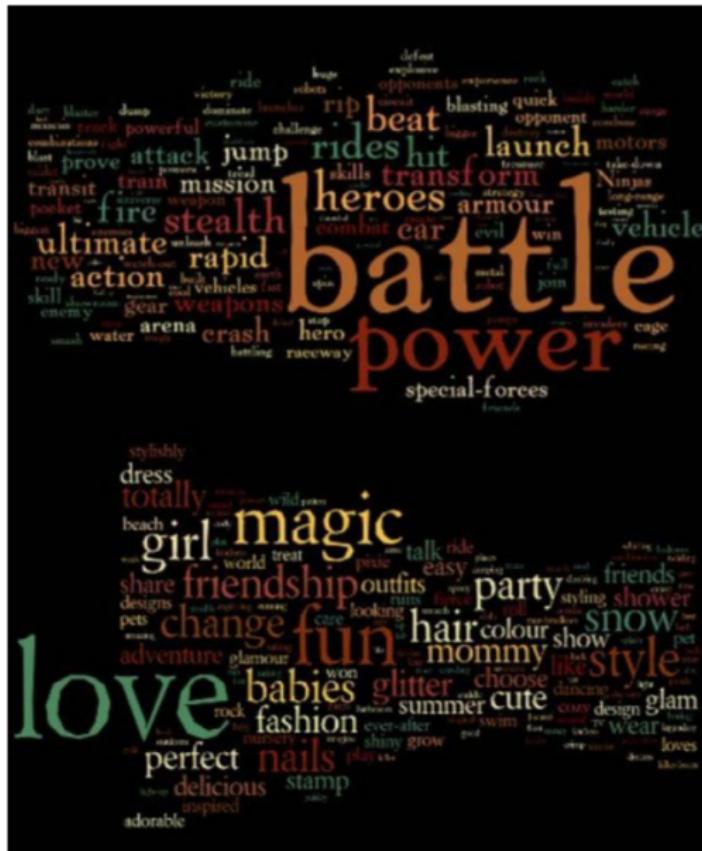
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Vague and Difficult to derive before hand

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  - No: press releases are just reactive to floor activity, will follow floor statements
- Deeper question: what does it mean for two text collections to be **different?**
- One Answer: **texts used for different purposes**
- Partial answer: identify words that distinguish press releases and floor speeches

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  - Maximum: Uncertainty  $\rightarrow X_j$  is perfect predictor
  - Minimum: 0  $\rightarrow X_j$  fails to separate speeches and floor statements

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$$H(\text{Doc}) = - \sum_{t \in \{\text{Pre, Spe}\}} \Pr(t) \log_2 \Pr(t)$$

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- $\log_2$ ? Encodes bits
- Maximum:  $\Pr(\text{Press}) = \Pr(\text{Speech}) = 0.5$
- Minimum:  $\Pr(\text{Press}) \rightarrow 0$  (or  $\Pr(\text{Press}) \rightarrow 1$ )

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- Maximum:  $X_j$  unrelated to Press Releases/Floor Speeches

# A Method for Identifying Distinguishing Words

- Consider presence/absence of word  $X_j$
- Define **conditional entropy**  $H(\text{Doc}|X_j)$

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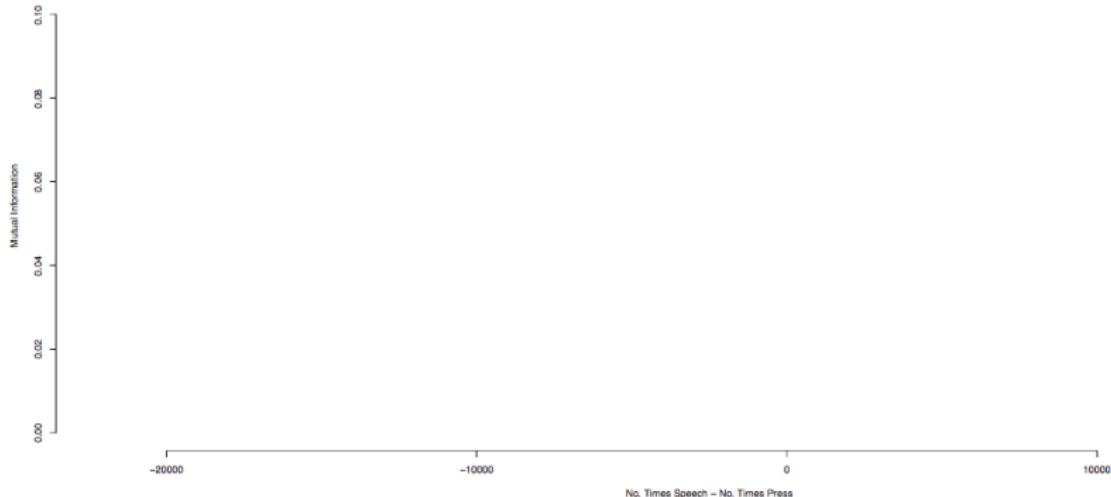
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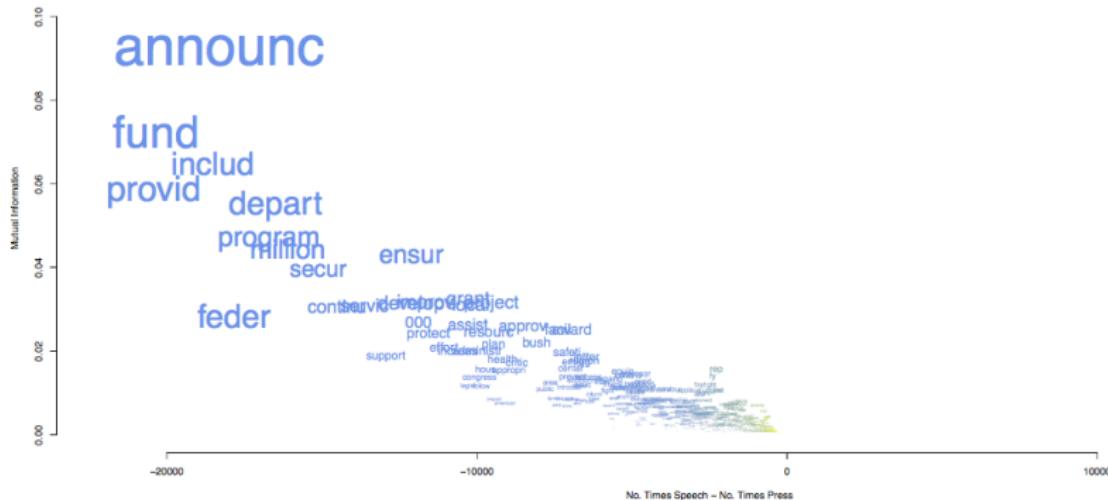
Objective function and optimization  $\rightsquigarrow$  estimate probabilities that we then place in mutual information

# What's Different About Press Releases



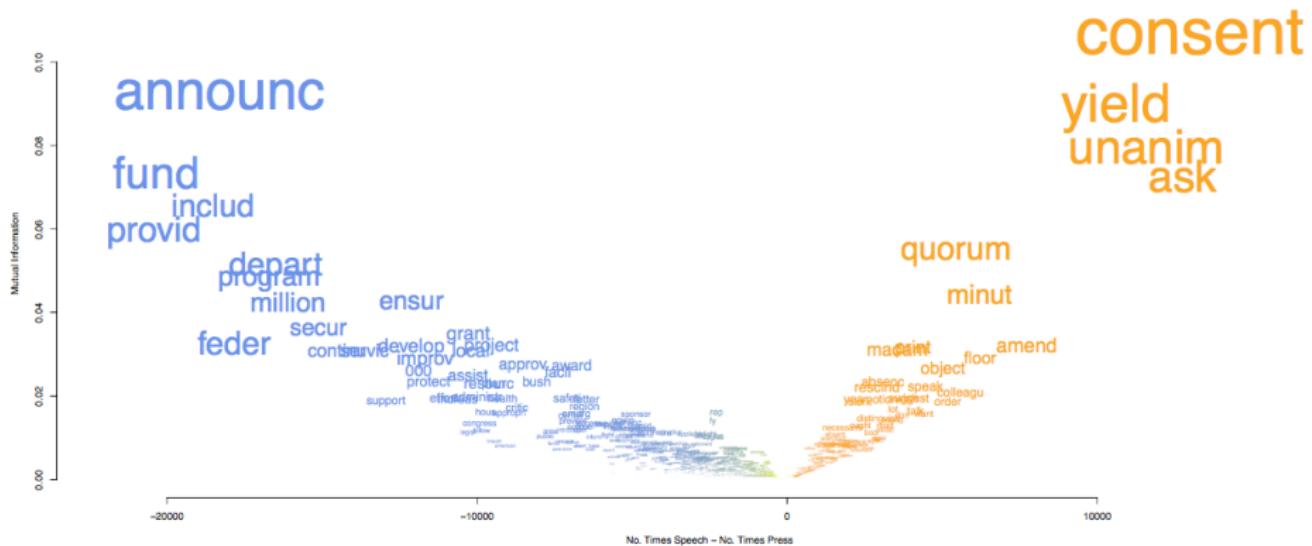
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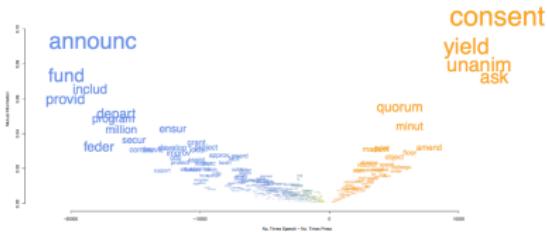
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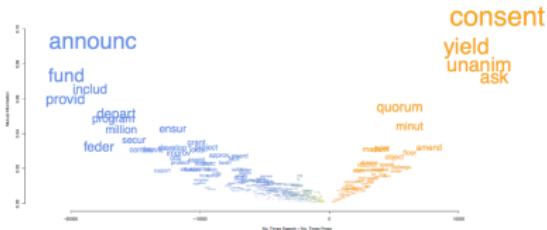
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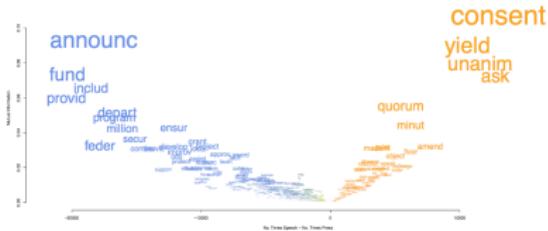
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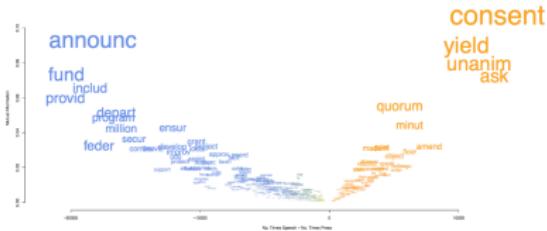
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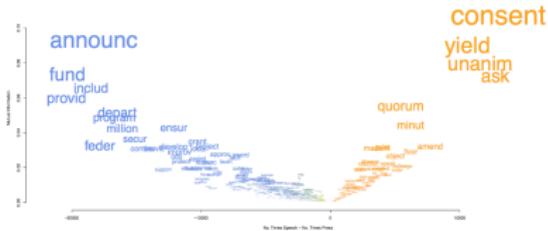
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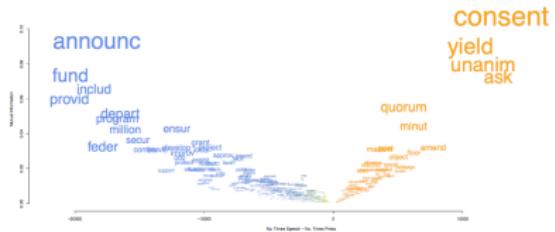
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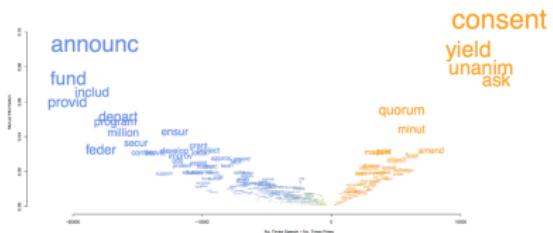
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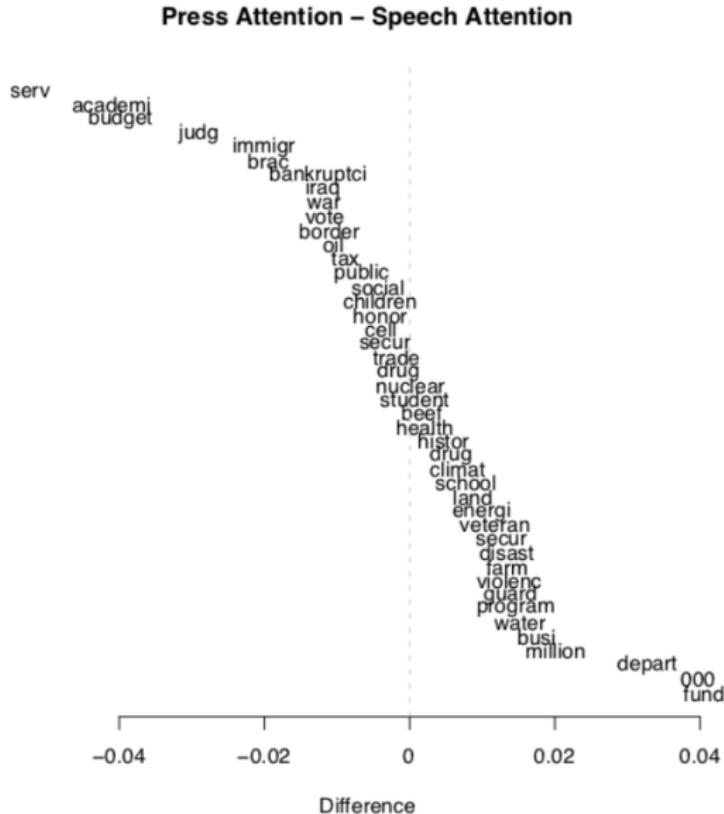
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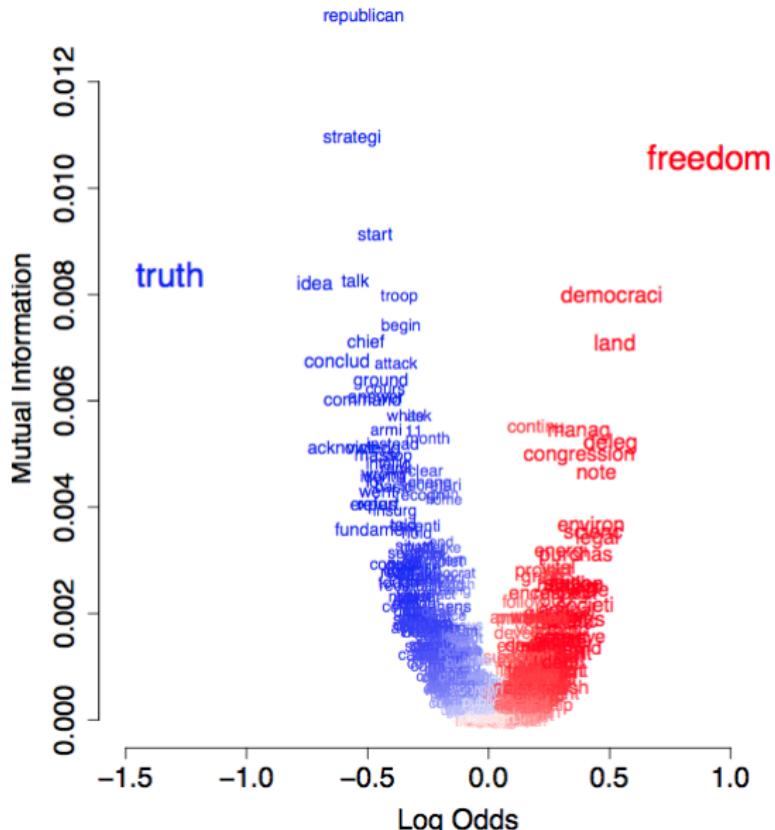
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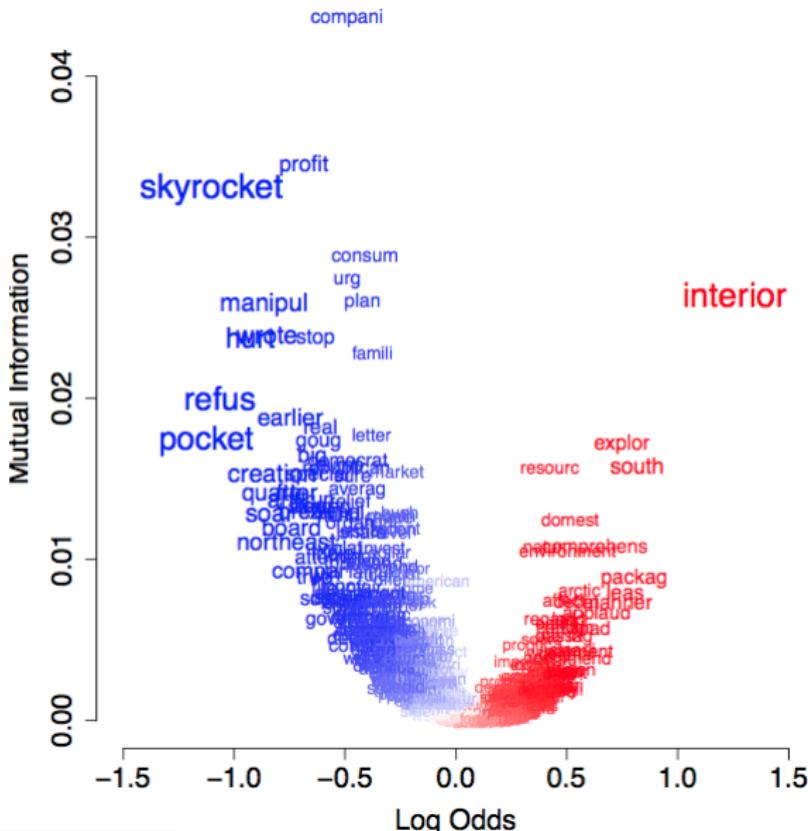
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Key point: this is the same task

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⇒ { Partisan Taunt, Intra party taunt, Agency taunt, ... }
- Negative campaigning  
⇒ { Negative ad, Positive ad }

## Pre-existing word weights $\rightsquigarrow$ Dictionaries

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### DICTION

DICTION is a computer-aided text analysis program for Windows® and Mac® that uses a series of dictionaries to search a passage for five semantic features—Activity, Optimism, Certainty, Realism and Commonality—as well as thirty-five sub-features. DICTION uses predefined dictionaries and can use up to thirty custom dictionaries built with words that the user has defined, such as topical or negative words, for particular research needs.

## Pre-existing word weights ↵ Dictionaries

### DICTION

DICTION 7, now with *Power Mode*, can read a variety of text formats and can accept a large number of files within a single project. Projects containing over 1000 files are analyzed using *power analysis* for enhanced speed and reporting efficiency, with results automatically exported to .csv-formatted spreadsheet file.

## Pre-existing word weights ↽ Dictionaries

### DICTION

On an average computer, DICTION can process over 20,000 passages in about five minutes. DICTION requires 4.9 MB of memory and 38.4 MB of hard disk space.

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### DICTION

“*provides both social scientific and  
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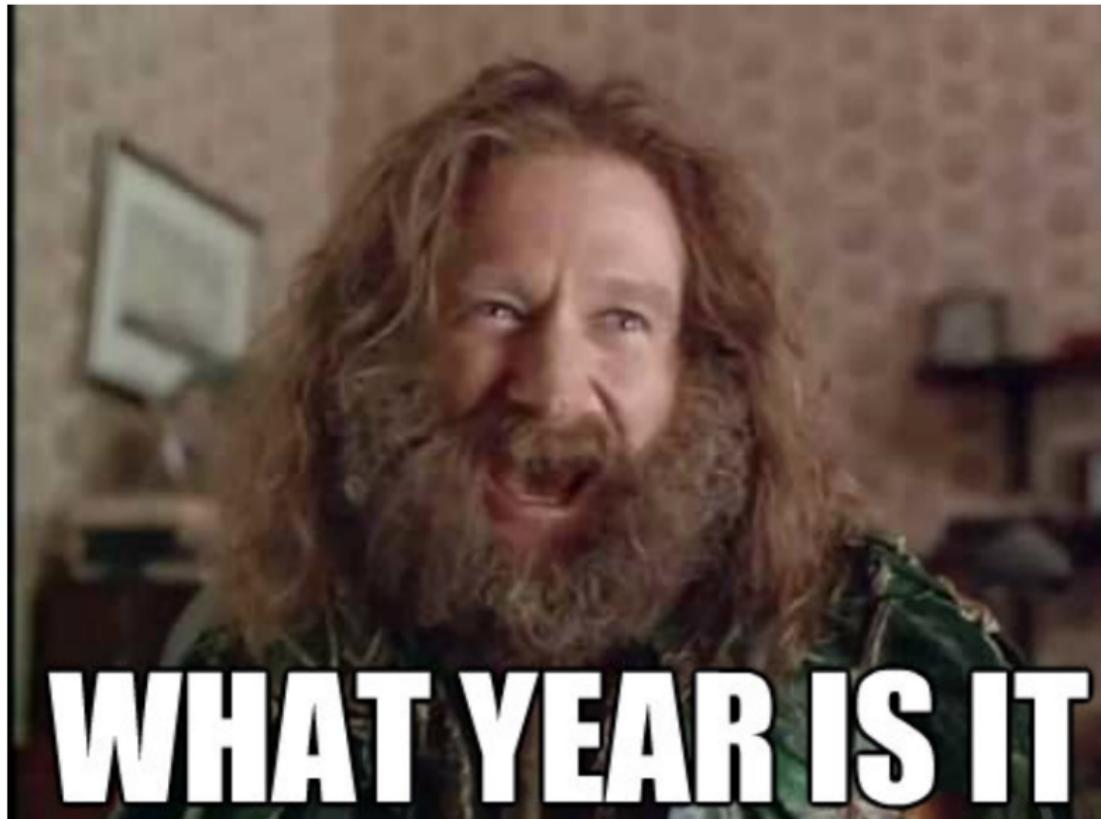
—Don Waisanen, Baruch College

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### DICTION 7 for Mac (Educational) (\$219.00)

This is the educational edition of DICTION Version 7 for Mac. You purchase on the following page.



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# Classification with Dictionary Methods

Aim Typically we are trying to do one of two closely related things:

- 1 Categorize documents as belonging to a certain class (mutually exclusive? jointly exhaustive?)

e.g. this review is 'positive', this speech is 'liberal'

- 2 Measure extent to which document is associated with given category

e.g. this review is generally 'positive', but has some negative elements.

We have a pre-determined list of words, the (weighted) presence of which helps us with (1) and (2).

## More Specifically

We have a set of **key words**, with attendant scores,

e.g. for movie reviews: 'terrible' is scored as  $-1$ ; 'fantastic' as  $+1$

→ the **relative rate** of occurrence of these terms tells us about the overall **tone** or category that the document should be placed in.

i.e. for document  $i$  and words  $m = 1, \dots, M$  in the dictionary,

$$\text{tone of document } i = \sum_{m=1}^M \frac{s_m w_{im}}{N_i}$$

where  $s_m$  is the score of word  $m$

and  $w_{im}$  is the number of occurrences of the  $m$ th dictionary word in the document  $i$

and  $N_i$  is the total number of all dictionary words in the document.

→ just add up the number of times the words appear and multiply by the score  
(normalizing by doc dictionary presence)

## (Simple) Example: Barnes' review of *The Big Short*

*Director and co-screenwriter Adam McKay (*Step Brothers*) bungles a great opportunity to savage the architects of the 2008 financial crisis in *The Big Short*, wasting an A-list ensemble cast in the process. Steve Carell, Brad Pitt, Christian Bale and Ryan Gosling play various tenuously related members of the finance industry, men who made a killing by betting against the housing market, which at that point had superficially swelled to record highs. All of the elements are in place for a lacerating satire, but almost every aesthetic choice in the film is bad, from the U-Turn-era Oliver Stone visuals to Carell's sketch-comedy performance to the cheeky cutaways where Selena Gomez and Anthony Bourdain explain complex financial concepts. After a brutal opening half, it finally settles into a groove, and there's a queasy charge in watching a credit-drunk America walking towards that cliff's edge, but not enough to save the film.*

## Retain words in Hu & Liu Dictionary...

Director and co-screenwriter Adam McKay (*Step Brothers*) bungles a *great* opportunity to *savage* the architects of the 2008 financial *crisis* in *The Big Short*, *wasting* an A-list ensemble cast in the process. Steve Carell, Brad Pitt, Christian Bale and Ryan Gosling play various *tenuously* related members of the finance industry, men who made made a *killing* by betting against the housing market, which at that point had *superficially swelled* to record highs. All of the elements are in place for a lacerating satire, but almost every aesthetic choice in the film is *bad*, from the U-Turn-era Oliver Stone visuals to Carell's sketch-comedy performance to the cheeky cutaways where Selena Gomez and Anthony Bourdain explain *complex* financial concepts. After a *brutal* opening half, it finally settles into a groove, and there's a queasy charge in watching a credit-*drunk* America walking towards that cliff's edge, but not *enough* to save the film.

# Retain words in Hu & Liu Dictionary...

*great*

*crisis*

*savage*

*wasting*

*tenuously*

*killing*

*superficially swelled*

*bad*

*complex*

*brutal*

*drunk*

*enough*

# Simple math...

negative 11

positive 2

total 13

$$\text{tone} = \frac{2-11}{13} = \frac{-9}{13}$$



# Notes

Typically assume that “every word contributes isomorphically” (Young & Saroka): each word in dictionary has one of two values and sum totals matter.

But no requirement that  $s_m$  be dichotomous or integer valued: could be continuous.

e.g. might want to differentiate ‘good’ from ‘great’ from ‘best’. Hard to come up with rules!

NB Tone of the document can be presented as a continuous value, or used to put documents in categories via some cutoff rule.

e.g. all documents with tone > 0 are deemed ‘positive’

NB Bag-of-words assn may be especially dubious for some dictionary tasks

e.g. context matters: “was not good” gets +1 !

# General Inquirer (selected)

Entry	Source	Positiv	Negativ	Pstv	Affil	Ngtv	Hostile	Strong	Power
ABILITY	H4Lvd	Positiv						Strong	
ABJECT	H4		Negativ					Strong	
ABLE	H4Lvd	Positiv		Pstv					
ABNORMAL	H4Lvd		Negativ			Ngtv			
ABOARD	H4Lvd							Strong	
ABOLISH	H4Lvd		Negativ			Ngtv	Hostile	Strong	
ABOLITION	Lvd								Power
ABOMINABLE	H4		Negativ					Strong	
ABRASIVE	H4		Negativ				Hostile	Strong	
ABROAD	H4Lvd								
ABRUPT	H4Lvd		Negativ			Ngtv			
ABSCOND	H4		Negativ				Hostile		
ABSENCE	H4Lvd		Negativ						
ABSENT#1	H4Lvd		Negativ						
ABSENT#2	H4Lvd								
ABSENT-MINDED	H4		Negativ						
ABSENTEE	H4		Negativ				Hostile		
ABSOLUTE#1	H4Lvd							Strong	
ABSOLUTE#2	H4Lvd							Strong	

provides dictionaries and [software](#), which performs some stemming and [disambiguation](#) in terms of context

e.g. ADULT has two meanings: one is a 'virtue', one is a 'role'

## Dictionaries II: Linguistic Inquiry and Word Count (LIWC)

Pennebaker et al, <http://liwc.wpengine.com/>

LIWC2007 dictionary contains 2290 words and word stems (see also LIWC2015)

80 categories, organized hierarchically into 4 larger groups.

e.g. all anger words (e.g. hate) ⊂ negative emotion ⊂ affective processes ⊂ psychological processes

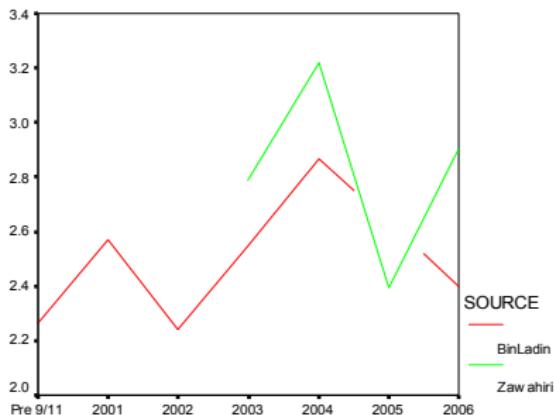
NB words can be in multiple categories, and each subdictionary score is incremented as such words appear.

Based on somewhat involved human coding/judgement and proprietary.

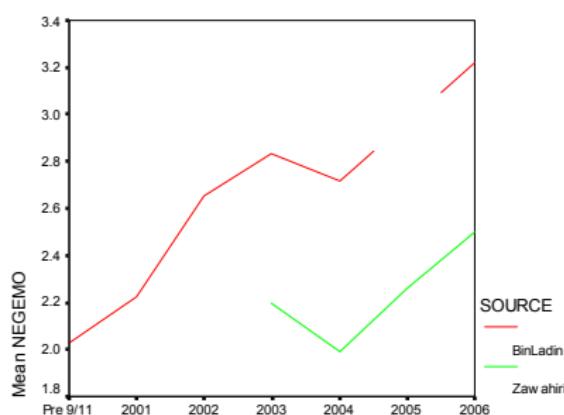
# Pennebaker & Chung, 2007: Computerized Analysis of Al-Qaeda Transcripts

"The LIWC analyses suggest that Bin Ladin has been increasing in his cognitively complexity and emotionality since 9/11, as reflected by his increased use of exclusive, positive emotion, and negative emotion word use. "

C. Positive emotion (happy, love)



D. Negative emotion (hate, sad)



## Dictionaries IV: Hu & Liu

2004 Hu and Liu ("Mining and Summarizing Customer Reviews") provide 6800 words which are **positive** and **negative** derived from amazon.com and others.



1,036 of 1,144 people found the following review helpful

**★★★★★ With Great Powers Comes Great Responsibility**

By Tommy H. on July 17, 2009

I admit it, I'm a ladies' man. And when you put this shirt on a ladies' man, it's like giving an AK-47 to a ninja. Sure it looks cool and probably would make for a good movie, but you know somebody is probably going to get hurt in the end (no pun intended). That's what almost happened to me, this is my story...

# Generating New Words

Three ways to create dictionaries (non-exhaustive):

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    - Example: { Happy, Unhappy }
    - Ask turkers: how happy is elevator, car, pretty, young
    - Output as dictionary

# How to build a dictionary

- The ideal content analysis dictionary associates all and only the relevant words to each category in a perfectly valid scheme
- Three key issues:
  - **Validity**: Is the dictionary's category scheme valid?
  - **Sensitivity**: Does this dictionary identify all my content?
  - **Specificity**: Does it identify only my content?

# How to build a dictionary

- 1 Identify “extreme texts” with “known” positions. Examples:
  - Opposition leader and Prime Minister in a no-confidence debate
  - Opposition leader and Finance Minister in a budget debate
  - Five-star review of a product (excellent) and a one-star review (terrible)
- 2 Search for differentially occurring words using word frequencies
- 3 Examine these words in context to check their sensitivity and specificity
- 4 Examine inflected forms to see whether stemming or wildcarding is required
- 5 Use these words (or their lemmas) for categories

## Detecting “keywords”

- Detects words that discriminate between partitions of a corpus
- For instance, we could partition the Irish budget speech corpus into “government” and “opposition” speeches, and look for words that occur in one partition with higher relative frequency in opposition than in government speeches
- This is done by constructing a  $2 \times 2$  table for each word, and testing association between that word and the partition categories

# Discrimination

So Once researcher has *extreme* examples of text, various methods to identify the words that *discriminate* between them...  
→ these words then become *scored* as part of the dictionary/thesaurus.  
Can use WordNet to find synonyms.

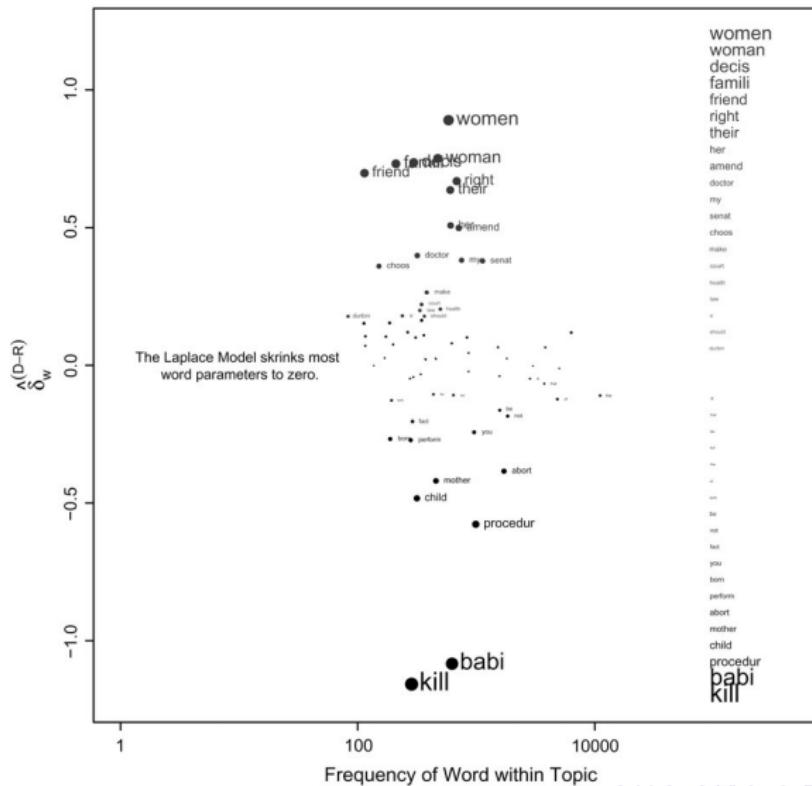
2013 Taddy provides *Multinomial Inverse Regression* to *dimension* reduce text, and make outcomes a product of that (reduced) set of  $X$ s

→ can be used to produce key predictors/keywords that discriminate in terms of *categories*.

2009 Monroe, Colaresi & Quinn consider ways to capture *partisan* differences in speech, and suggest Bayesian shrinkage estimator approach.

→ previous approaches tend to overfit to *obscure* words or groups that don't have much validity in context.

## Most Democratic and Republican Words on Abortion (106th, Laplace prior)



# Events, dear boy...

Scholars of International Relations need access to events  
Real time media reports are obvious source...

ASIA PACIFIC

### *Leaders of South Korea and Japan Meet in Effort to Mend Ties*

[点击查看本文中文版](#) | [Read in Chinese](#)

By CHOE SANG-HAEN NOV. 1, 2015



Yet need to be coded automatically to be helpful.

## Premise and Resources

1994 Philip Schrodt develops **Kansas Event Data System**

2000 **TABARI** —Textual Analysis by Augmented Replacement Instructions—open source.

also many related products, **including CAMEO** dealing specifically with **mediation**

while Virtual Research Associates Reader **VRA** is proprietary version.

idea first sentence of Reuters news feed ('lead') contains...

source of event, subject of sentence

target of event, object of sentence (direct or indirect)

type of event, transitive verb of sentence

## Use and Example (Lowe & King, 2003)

Russian artillery<sup>S</sup> south of the Chechen capital Grozny blasted<sup>223</sup> Chechen positions<sup>T</sup> overnight before falling silent at dawn, witnesses said on Tuesday

S is the source

T is the target

223 is the code of the event between them

# Hierarchical Coding Scheme (CAMEO)/Dictionary

## 12: REJECT

120: Reject, not specified below

121: Reject material cooperation

    1211: Reject economic cooperation

    1212: Reject military cooperation

122: Reject request or demand for material aid, not specified below

    1221: Reject request for economic aid

    1222: Reject request for military aid

    1223: Reject request for humanitarian aid

    1224: Reject request for military protection or peacekeeping

### CAMEO 1222

**Name** Reject request for military aid

**Description** Refuse to extend military assistance.

**Example** The Turkish government has refused to commit to any direct assistance to the US-led war against Iraq, citing domestic opposition.

# Actors (CAMEO)/Dictionary

UGAREBLRA	Lord's Resistance Army
UIG	Uighur (Chinese ethnic minority)
UIS	Unidentified state actors
UKR	Ukraine
URY	Uruguay
USA	United States
USR	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR)
UZB	Uzbekistan
VAT	Holy See (Vatican City)
VCT	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
VEN	Venezuela
VGB	British Virgin Islands

# Delving More Deeply

- Begins with basic parsing: POS, stemming, stop words etc.
- Much effort to **disambiguate**:
  - Use of **pronouns** causes problems.
    - e.g. President is referred to as '**he**' in subsequent sentences
  - Synonyms** (and metonyms!) also require dictionaries (WordNet).
    - e.g. 'US', 'American' ( 'US', 'Washington' )
  - Care over **verb/noun** problems.
    - e.g. 'attack' as noun and verb
- Excellent performance relative to **human coders** (Lowe & King, 2003): both in terms of reliability and validity.

# Summing up

Applying the model:

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For each document  $i$  calculate score for document

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$Y_i \approx$  continuous  $\rightsquigarrow$  Classification

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$Y_i \approx 0$  Ambiguous

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## Validation

## Being Careful...

In principle, it is straightforward to extend dictionary from one domain to another;

→ matter of adding extra words in the various categories.

But much care is needed when a dictionary designed for one context is applied to another.

e.g. Loughran & MacDonald, 2011: common dictionaries fail badly when applied to financial texts. e.g. cost is a neutral term in reports, but negative in Harvard IV

plus virtually impossible to validate dictionaries: very expensive, at least.  
btw humans not very good at producing discriminating terms for e.g. opinion mining (Pang et al, 2002)

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- Not Negative Harvard, Negative in Accounting:  
felony, litigation, restated, misstatement, and  
unanticipated

# Validation

Classification Validity:

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Classification Validity:

- Training: build dictionary on subset of documents with known labels

# Validation

Classification Validity:

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- A procedure for training coders:
  - 1) Coding rules
  - 2) Apply to new texts
  - 3) Assess coder agreement (we'll discuss more in a few weeks)
  - 4) Using information and discussion, revise coding rules

# Assessing Classification

## Measures of classification performance

	Actual Label	
Guess	Liberal	Conservative
Liberal	True Liberal	False Liberal
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Under reported for dictionary classification

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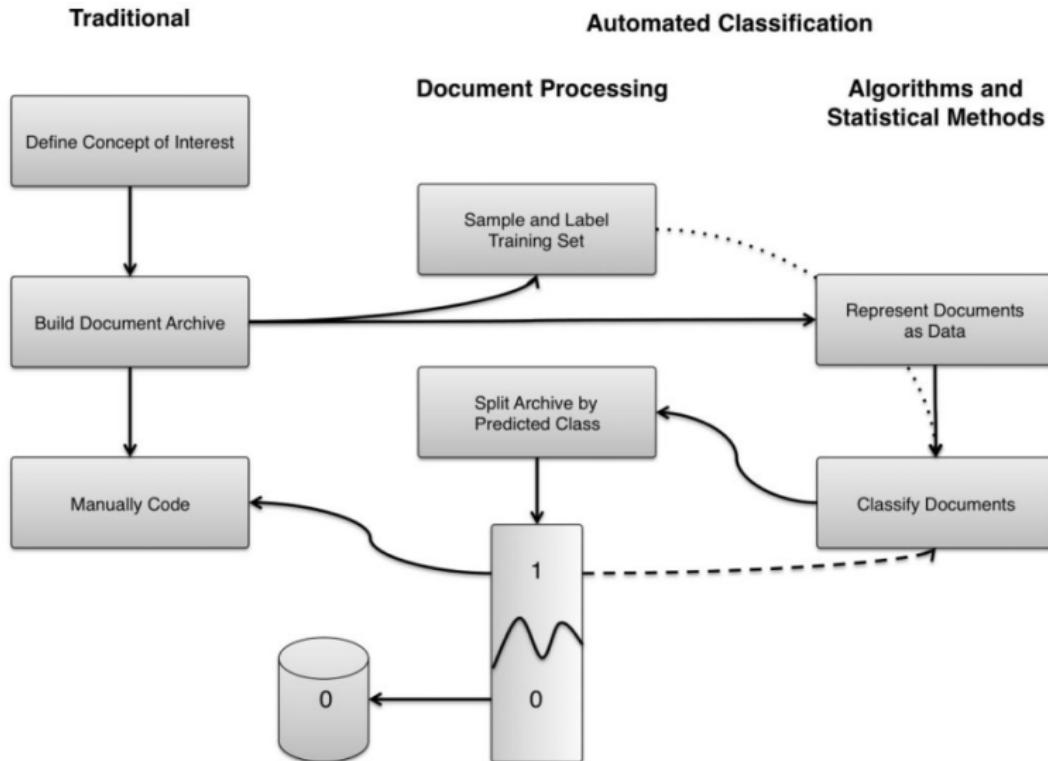
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Lower level classification~~ label phrases and then aggregate

Modifiable areal unit problem in texts~~aggregating destroys information, conclusion may depend on level of aggregation

# Supervised Learning



**Fig. 1** The data collection process.

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## Clustering and Topic Models:

- Models for **discovery**
  - Infer categories
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## 2) Train coders to remove ambiguity, misinterpretation

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- 4) Identify sources of disagreement, repeat

# How Do We Identify Coding Disagreement?

Many measures of inter-coder agreement

Essentially attempt to summarize a confusion matrix

	Cat 1	Cat 2	Cat 3	Cat 4	Sum, Coder 1
Cat 1	30	0	1	0	31
Cat 2	1	1	0	0	2
Cat 3	0	0	1	0	1
Cat 4	3	1	0	7	11
Sum, Coder 2	34	2	2	7	Total: 45

- **Diagonal:** coders agree on document
- **Off-diagonal :** coders disagree (confused) on document

Generalize across ( $k$ ) coders:

- $\frac{k(k-1)}{2}$  pairwise comparisons
- $k$  comparisons: Coder A against All other coders

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	Coder A							
Coder B	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8 Tot
1	15	2	1	0	0	1	0	0
3	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
4	0	0	0	5	0	3	1	0
5	0	0	0	1	13	7	0	2
6	11	1	3	3	1	32	0	1
7	1	0	0	0	0	13	26	36
8	2	0	0	0	1	7	0	8
Total	30	3	4	10	15	63	27	47

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		Coder A							Total
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	
Coder C	1	23	1	1	1	0	9	0	0
	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
	3	1	1	3	2	0	3	0	0
	4	0	0	0	4	0	8	1	0
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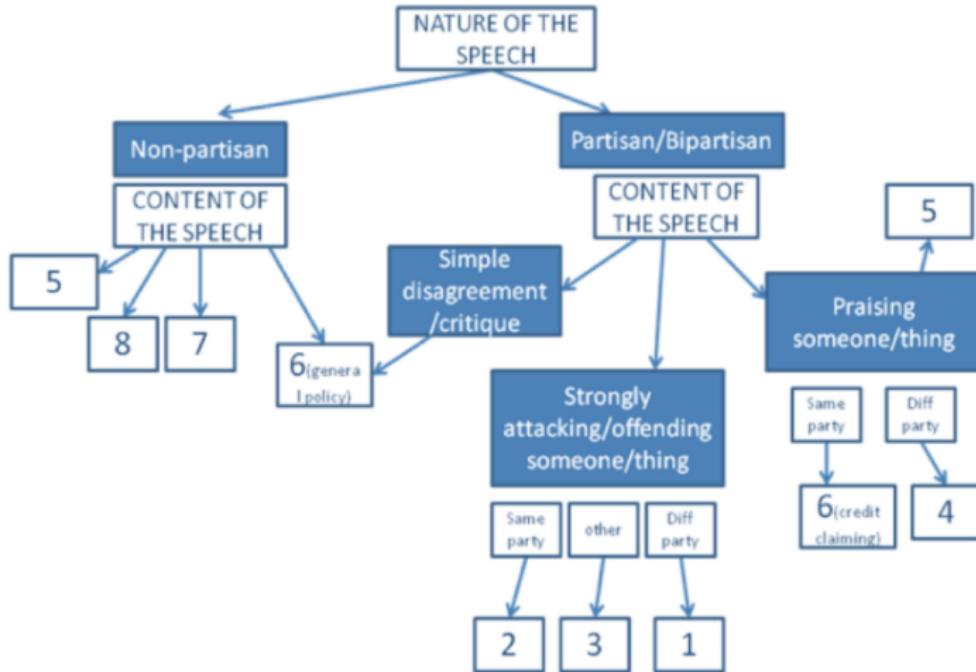
		Coder C							Total
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Coder B	1	18	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
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	4	0	0	1	7	0	1	0	0
	5	0	0	0	2	18	3	0	0
	6	13	1	7	4	1	26	0	0
	7	3	0	0	0	0	8	63	2
	8	0	0	0	0	0	4	1	15
	Total	35	1	10	13	19	42	64	17

# Example Coding Document

## 8 part coding scheme

- **Across Party Taunting**: explicit public and negative attacks on the other party or its members
- **Within Party Taunting**: explicit public and negative attacks on the same party or its members [for 1960's politics]
- **Other taunting**: explicit public and negative attacks not directed at a party
- **Bipartisan support**: praise for the other party
- **Honorary Statements**: qualitatively different kind of speech
- **Policy speech**: a speech without taunting or credit claiming
- **Procedural**
- **No Content**: (occasionally occurs in CR)

# Example Coding Document



# How Do We Summarize Confusion Matrix?

Lots of statistics to summarize confusion matrix:

- **Most common:** intercoder agreement

$$\text{Inter Coder}(A, B) = \frac{\text{No. (Coder A & Coder B agree)}}{\text{No. Documents}}$$

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- $\frac{1}{\#\text{Categories}}$  ?
- Avg Proportion in categories across coders? (Krippendorff's Alpha)

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Suggestion: **Subtract off amount expected by chance:**

Inter Coder(*A, B*)<sub>norm</sub> =

$$\frac{\text{No. (Coder A \& Coder B agree)} - \text{No. Expected by Chance}}{\text{No. Documents}}$$

**Question:** what is amount expected by chance?

- $\frac{1}{\#\text{Categories}}$  ?
- Avg Proportion in categories across coders? (Krippendorff's Alpha)

**Best Practice:** present confusion matrices.

# Krippendorf's Alpha

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- Pretend I know something I'm trying to estimate
- How is that we know coders estimate levels well?
- Have to present correlation statistic: vary assumptions about "expectations" (from uniform, to data driven)

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Calculate in R with concord package and function kripp.alpha

# How Many To Code By Hand/How Many to Code By Machine

Rules of thumb:

- Hopkins and King (2010): 500 documents likely sufficient
- Hopkins and King (2010): 100 documents may be enough
- **BUT**: depends on quantity of interest
- May **REQUIRE** many more documents

## Percent data coded, Error

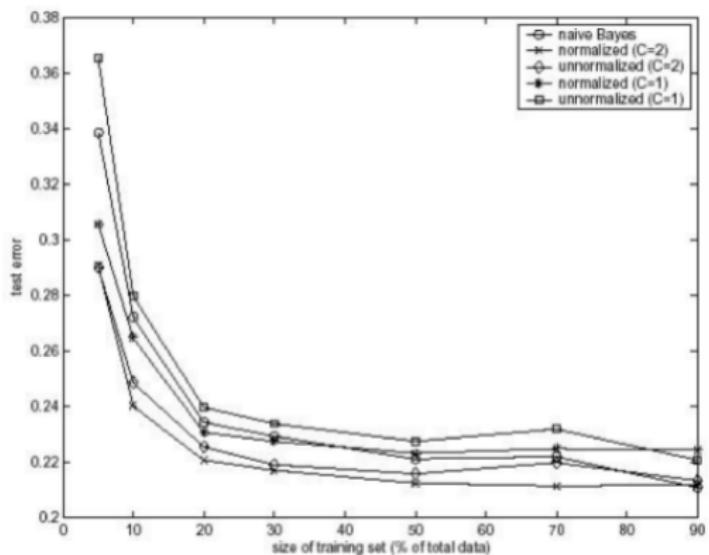


Figure 2: Test error vs training size on the newsgroups alt.atheism and talk.religion.misc

# Three categories of documents

## Hand labeled

- Training set (what we'll use to estimate model)
- Validation set (what we'll use to assess model)

## Unlabeled

- Test set (what we'll use the model to categorize)

Label more documents than necessary to train model

# Methods to Perform Supervised Classification

- Use the hand labels to **train** a statistical model.
- Naive Bayes
  - Shockingly simple application of Bayes' rule
  - Shockingly useful ↪ often default classifier

## Naive Bayes and General Problem Setup

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To do this: use hand coded observations to estimate (train) regression model

Apply model to test data, classify those observations

## Reminder: Bayes' Theorem

Recall that:

$$\Pr(A|B) = \frac{\Pr(A, B)}{\Pr(B)}$$

- the probability that  $A$  occurs given that  $B$  occurred = the probability of both  $A$  and  $B$  occurring, divided by the probability that  $B$  occurs.

e.g. you know a die shows an odd number, what is the probability that this odd number is 3?  $\Pr(3|\text{odd}) = \frac{\frac{1}{6}}{\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{1}{3}$ .

- of course, it is also true that  $\Pr(B|A) = \frac{\Pr(B, A)}{\Pr(A)}$ .
- but then, since  $\Pr(A, B) = \Pr(B, A)$ , we must have  $\Pr(A|B) \Pr(B) = \Pr(B|A) \Pr(A)$ , and thus... **Bayes' law**

$$\Pr(A|B) = \frac{\Pr(A) \Pr(B|A)}{\Pr(B)}.$$

And...

- interest is in  $\Pr(A|B) = \frac{\Pr(A) \Pr(B|A)}{\Pr(B)}$ .
- Notice that  $\Pr(B)$  itself does not tell us whether a particular value of  $A$  is more or less likely to be observed, so drop it and rewrite:

$$\Pr(A|B) \propto \Pr(A) \Pr(B|A)$$

Here,  $\Pr(A)$  is our **prior** for  $A$ , while  $\Pr(B|A)$  will be the **likelihood** for the data we saw.

## So...

Given  $c$  = class and  $d$  = document,  $p(c|d) = \frac{p(d|c)p(c)}{p(d)}$

- $p(c|d)$  = probability of instance d being in class c. This is what we are trying to compute
- $p(d|c)$  = probability of generating instance d given class c. We can imagine that being in class c, causes you to have feature d with some probability
- $p(c)$  = probability of occurrence of class c. This is just how frequent the class c, is in our data
- $p(d)$  = probability of instance d occurring. This can actually be ignored, since it is the same for all classes

## Reformulate the problem at the word level...

Consider  $J$  word types distributed across  $I$  documents, each assigned one of  $K$  classes.

*At the word level*, Bayes Theorem tells us that:

$$P(c_k|w_j) = \frac{P(w_j|c_k)P(c_k)}{P(w_j)}$$

For two classes, this can be expressed as

$$= \frac{P(w_j|c_k)P(c_k)}{P(w_j|c_k)P(c_k) + P(w_j|c_{\neg k})P(c_{\neg k})}$$

## Class-conditional word likelihoods

$$P(c_k|w_j) = \frac{P(w_j|c_k)P(c_k)}{P(w_j|c_k)P(c_k) + P(w_j|c_{\neg k})P(c_{\neg k})}$$

- ▶ The word likelihood within class
- ▶ The maximum likelihood estimate is simply the proportion of times that word  $j$  occurs in class  $k$ , but it is more common to use Laplace smoothing by adding 1 to each observed count within class

## Word probabilities

$$P(c_k|w_j) = \frac{P(w_j|c_k)P(c_k)}{P(w_j)}$$

- ▶ This represents the **word probability** from the training corpus
- ▶ Usually uninteresting, since it is constant for the training data, but needed to compute posteriors on a probability scale

## Class prior probabilities

$$P(c_k|w_j) = \frac{P(w_j|c_k)P(c_k)}{P(w_j|c_k)P(c_k) + P(w_j|c_{\neg k})P(c_{\neg k})}$$

- ▶ This represents the **class prior probability**
- ▶ Machine learning typically takes this as the document frequency in the training set
- ▶ This approach is flawed for scaling, however, since we are scaling the latent class-ness of an unknown document, not predicting class – **uniform priors** are more appropriate

## Class posterior probabilities

$$P(c_k|w_j) = \frac{P(w_j|c_k)P(c_k)}{P(w_j|c_k)P(c_k) + P(w_j|c_{\neg k})P(c_{\neg k})}$$

- ▶ This represents the **posterior probability of membership in class  $k$  for word  $j$**

## Moving to the document level

- ▶ The “Naive” Bayes model of a joint document-level class posterior assumes conditional independence, to multiply the word likelihoods from a “test” document, to produce:

$$P(c|d) = P(c) \prod_j \frac{P(w_j|c)}{P(w_j)}$$

- ▶ This is why we call it “naive”: because it (wrongly) assumes:
  - ▶ *conditional independence* of word counts
  - ▶ *positional independence* of word counts

## Example

	email	words	classification
training	1	money inherit prince	spam
	2	prince inherit amount	spam
	3	inherit plan money	ham
	4	cost amount amazon	ham
	5	prince william news	ham
test	6	prince prince money	?

$$\Pr(\text{prince}|\text{ham}) = \frac{1}{9}$$

$$\Pr(\text{prince}|\text{ham}) = \frac{1}{9}$$

$$\Pr(\text{money}|\text{ham}) = \frac{1}{9}$$

$$\Pr(\text{ham}|d) \propto \frac{3}{5} \frac{1}{9} \frac{1}{9} \frac{1}{9} = 0.00082$$

$$\Pr(\text{prince}|\text{spam}) = \frac{2}{6}$$

$$\Pr(\text{prince}|\text{spam}) = \frac{2}{6}$$

$$\Pr(\text{money}|\text{spam}) = \frac{1}{6}$$

$$\Pr(\text{spam}|d) \propto \frac{2}{5} \frac{2}{6} \frac{2}{6} \frac{1}{6} = 0.0074$$

$$\rightarrow c_{map} = \text{spam}$$

Assume that we have two classes

$c_1 = \text{male}$ , and  $c_2 = \text{female}$ .

(Note: “Drew can be a male or female name”)



Drew Barrymore

We have a person whose sex we do not know, say “*drew*” or  $d$ .

Classifying *drew* as male or female is equivalent to asking is it more probable that *drew* is **male** or **female**, I.e which is greater  $p(\text{male} | \text{drew})$  or  $p(\text{female} | \text{drew})$



Drew Carey

What is the probability of being called “*drew*” given that you are a **male**?

$$p(\text{male} | \text{drew}) = \frac{p(\text{drew} | \text{male}) p(\text{male})}{p(\text{drew})}$$

What is the probability of being a **male**?

What is the probability of being named “*drew*”?  
(actually irrelevant, since it is that same for all classes)



Officer Drew

This is Officer Drew (who arrested me in 1997). Is Officer Drew a **Male** or **Female**?

Luckily, we have a small database with names and sex.

We can use it to apply Bayes rule...

$$p(c_j | d) = \frac{p(d | c_j) p(c_j)}{p(d)}$$

Name	Sex
Drew	Male
Claudia	Female
Drew	Female
Drew	Female
Alberto	Male
Karin	Female
Nina	Female
Sergio	Male



Officer Drew

$$p(c_j | d) = \frac{p(d | c_j) p(c_j)}{p(d)}$$

$$p(\text{male} | \text{drew}) = \frac{1/3 * 3/8}{3/8} = 0.125$$

$$p(\text{female} | \text{drew}) = \frac{2/5 * 5/8}{3/8} = 0.250$$

Name	Sex
Drew	Male
Claudia	Female
Drew	Female
Drew	Female
Alberto	Male
Karin	Female
Nina	Female
Sergio	Male

Officer Drew is more likely to be a **Female**.



# Officer Drew IS a female!

**Officer Drew**

$$p(\text{male} | \text{drew}) = \frac{1/3 * 3/8}{3/8} = \underline{\underline{0.125}}$$

$$p(\text{female} | \text{drew}) = \frac{2/5 * 5/8}{3/8} = \underline{\underline{0.250}}$$

# What about multiple features?

Name	Over 170CM	Eye	Hair length	Sex
Drew	No	Blue	Short	Male
Claudia	Yes	Brown	Long	Female
Drew	No	Blue	Long	Female
Drew	No	Blue	Long	Female
Alberto	Yes	Brown	Short	Male
Karin	No	Blue	Long	Female
Nina	Yes	Brown	Short	Female
Sergio	Yes	Blue	Long	Male

Without loss of generalization, we can represent a document  $d$  as a set of features  $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n$ :

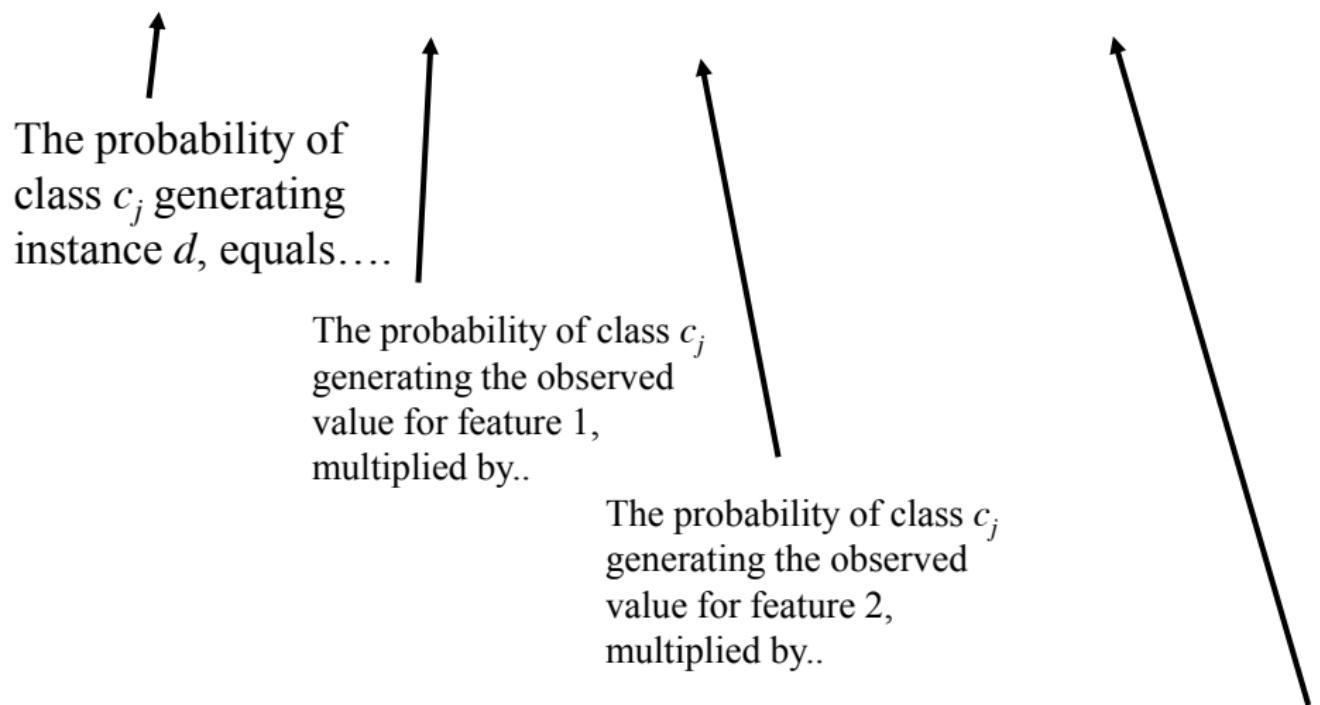
$$\hat{c} = \underset{c \in C}{\operatorname{argmax}} \overbrace{P(f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n | c)}^{\text{likelihood}} \overbrace{P(c)}^{\text{prior}}$$

## Two core assumptions

- **Bag of Words assumption:** we assume word position doesn't matter, and that the word "love" has the same effect on classification whether it occurs as the 1st, 20th, or last word in the document. Thus we assume that the features  $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n$  only encode word identity and not position. The prob a term occurs in a particular place is constant for entire document, which means we only need one probability distribution of terms that is valid for every position.
- **Conditional Independence assumption:** that the probabilities  $P(f_i|c)$  are independent given the class, and hence can be "naively" multiplied as follows  $P(f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n|c) = P(f_1|c) * P(f_2|c) * \dots * P(f_n|c)$ . That is, once we condition on a given category, the probability that a particular word occurs is independent of any other feature occurring.

- To simplify the task, **naïve Bayesian classifiers** assume attributes have independent distributions, and thereby estimate

$$p(d|c_j) = p(d_1|c_j) * p(d_2|c_j) * \dots * p(d_n|c_j)$$



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$$p(d|c_j) = p(d_1|c_j) * p(d_2|c_j) * \dots * p(d_n|c_j)$$

$$p(\text{officer drew}|c_j) = p(\text{over\_170}_{\text{cm}} = \text{yes}|c_j) * p(\text{eye} = \text{blue}|c_j) * \dots$$



Officer Drew  
is blue-eyed,  
over 170<sub>cm</sub>  
tall, and has  
long hair

$$p(\text{officer drew} | \text{Female}) = 2/5 * 3/5 * \dots$$

$$p(\text{officer drew} | \text{Male}) = 2/3 * 2/3 * \dots$$

# Training Naive Bayes

**function** TRAIN NAIVE BAYES(D, C) **returns**  $\log P(c)$  and  $\log P(w|c)$

**for each** class  $c \in C$  # Calculate  $P(c)$  terms

$N_{doc}$  = number of documents in D

$N_c$  = number of documents from D in class c

$logprior[c] \leftarrow \log \frac{N_c}{N_{doc}}$

$V \leftarrow$  vocabulary of D

$bigdoc[c] \leftarrow \text{append}(d)$  **for**  $d \in D$  **with** class c

**for each** word  $w$  in V # Calculate  $P(w|c)$  terms

$count(w,c) \leftarrow$  # of occurrences of w in  $bigdoc[c]$

$loglikelihood[w,c] \leftarrow \log \frac{count(w,c) + 1}{\sum_{w' \text{ in } V} (count(w',c) + 1)}$

**return**  $logprior, loglikelihood, V$

**function** TEST NAIVE BAYES( $testdoc, logprior, loglikelihood, C, V$ ) **returns** best c

**for each** class  $c \in C$

$sum[c] \leftarrow logprior[c]$

**for each** position  $i$  in  $testdoc$

$word \leftarrow testdoc[i]$

**if**  $word \in V$

$sum[c] \leftarrow sum[c] + loglikelihood[word,c]$

**return**  $\text{argmax}_c sum[c]$

# Naive Bayes and General Problem Setup

Goal: For each document  $x_i$ , we want to infer most likely category

(0.1)

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- Simplify: assume each feature is independent

$$p(\mathbf{x}_i | C_k) = \prod_{j=1}^J p(x_{ij} | C_k)$$

# Naive Bayes and Optimization

Two components to estimation:

- $p(C_k) = \frac{\text{No. Documents in } k}{\text{No. Documents}} \text{ (training set)}$
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Algorithm steps:

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Simple intuition about Naive Bayes:

- Learn what documents in class  $j$  look like
- Find class  $k$  that document  $i$  is most similar to

# Naive Bayes and Unigram Language Models

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## Some R Code

```
library(e1071)
dep<- c(labels, rep(NA, no.testSet))
dep<- as.factor(dep)
out<- naiveBayes(dep~., as.data.frame(tdm))
predicts<- predict(out, as.data.frame(tdm[-training.set,]))
```

# Assessing Models (Elements of Statistical Learning)

- **Model Selection**: tuning parameters to select final model  
(cross-validation, tomorrow)
- **Model assessment** : after selecting model, estimating error in classification

# Comparing Training and Validation Set

Text classification and model assessment

- Replicate classification exercise with validation set
- General principle of classification/prediction
- Compare supervised learning labels to hand labels

Confusion matrix

# Comparing Training and Validation Set

Representation of Test Statistics from Dictionary week (along with some new ones)

	Actual Label	
Classification (algorithm)	Liberal	Conservative
Liberal	True Liberal	False Liberal
Conservative	False Conservative	True Conservative

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$$F_{\text{Liberal}} = \frac{2\text{Precision}_{\text{Liberal}}\text{Recall}_{\text{Liberal}}}{\text{Precision}_{\text{Liberal}} + \text{Recall}_{\text{Liberal}}}$$

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# ROC Curve

ROC as a measure of model performance

$$\text{Recall}_{\text{Liberal}} = \frac{\text{True Liberal}}{\text{True Liberal} + \text{False Conservative}}$$
$$\text{Recall}_{\text{Conservative}} = \frac{\text{True Conservative}}{\text{True Conservative} + \text{False Liberal}}$$

Tension:

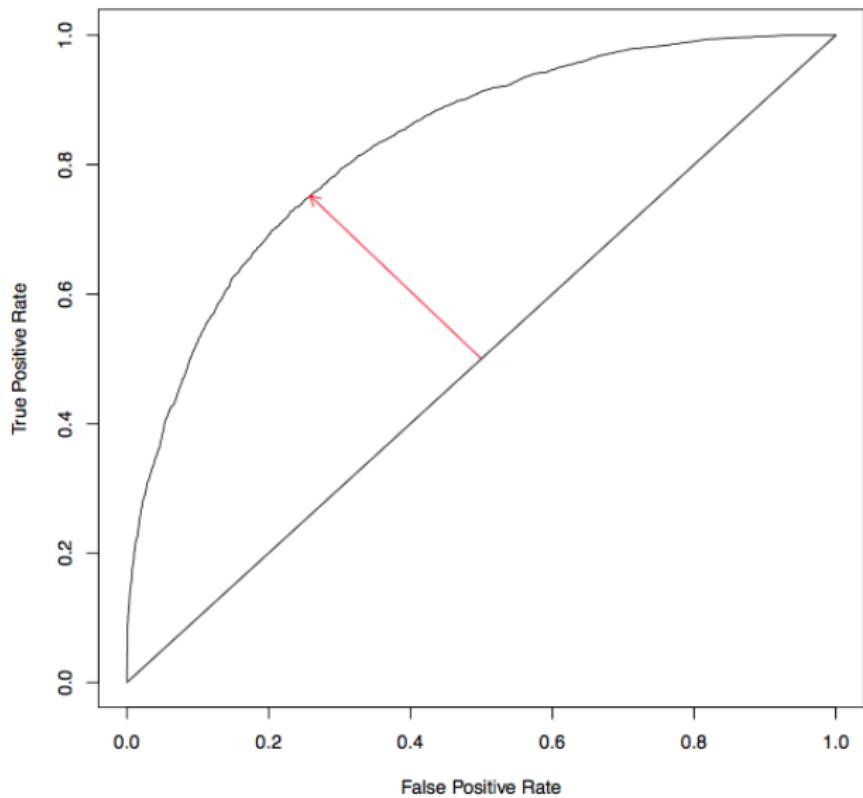
- Everything liberal:  $\text{Recall}_{\text{Liberal}} = 1 ; \text{Recall}_{\text{Conservative}} = 0$
- Everything conservative:  $\text{Recall}_{\text{Liberal}} = 0 ; \text{Recall}_{\text{Conservative}} = 1$

Characterize Tradeoff:

Plot True Positive Rate  $\text{Recall}_{\text{Liberal}}$

False Positive Rate  $(1 - \text{Recall}_{\text{Conservative}})$

# Precision/Recall Tradeoff



# Simple Classification Example

Analyzing house press releases

**Hand Code:** 1,000 press releases

- Advertising
- Credit Claiming
- Position Taking

Divide 1,000 press releases into two sets

- 500: Training set
- 500: Test set

**Initial exploration:** provides baseline measurement at classifier performances

**Improve:** through improving model fit

## Example from Grimmer work on Senate press releases

	Actual Label		
Classification (Naive Bayes)	Position Taking	Advertising	Credit Claim.
Position Taking	10	0	0
Advertising	2	40	2
Credit Claiming	80	60	306

$$\text{Accuracy} = \frac{10 + 40 + 306}{500} = 0.71$$

$$\text{Precision}_{PT} = \frac{10}{10} = 1$$

$$\text{Recall}_{PT} = \frac{10}{10 + 2 + 80} = 0.11$$

$$\text{Precision}_{AD} = \frac{40}{40 + 2 + 2} = 0.91$$

$$\text{Recall}_{AD} = \frac{40}{40 + 60} = 0.4$$

$$\text{Precision}_{Credit} = \frac{306}{306 + 80 + 60} = 0.67$$

$$\text{Recall}_{Credit} = \frac{306}{306 + 2} = 0.99$$

# Example: Jihadi Clerics

## Indonesian cleric's support for ISIS increases the security threat

July 20, 2014 10:14pm EDT

Noor Huda Ismail

PhD Candidate in Politics and International Relations , Monash University



Nielsen (2012) investigates why certain scholars of Islam become **Jihadi**: i.e. why they encourage armed struggle (especially against the west)

Requires that he first classifies scholars as **Jihadi** and  $\neg$  **Jihadi**: has 27,142 texts from 101 clerics, and difficult to do by hand.

## Jihadi Clerics

Training set: self-identified Jihadi texts (765), and sample from Islamic website as  $\neg$  Jihadi (1951)

Preprocess: drops terms occurring in less than 10%, or more than 40% of documents, and uses 'light' stemmer for Arabic

Can assign a *Jihad Score* to each document: basically the logged likelihood ratio,  $\sum_i \log \frac{\Pr(t_k | \text{Jihad})}{\Pr(t_k | \neg \text{Jihad})}$  (note: doesn't know what 'real world' priors are, so drops them here)

Then for each cleric, concatenate all works into one and give this 'document'/cleric a score.

## Discriminating Words

# Apostasy

# Jihad

## Word Frequency

$$a = 1/250$$

$$a = 1/500$$

$$a = 1/1000$$

$$a = 1/2000$$



Jihadi

#### Not Jihadi

# Validation: *Exoneration*

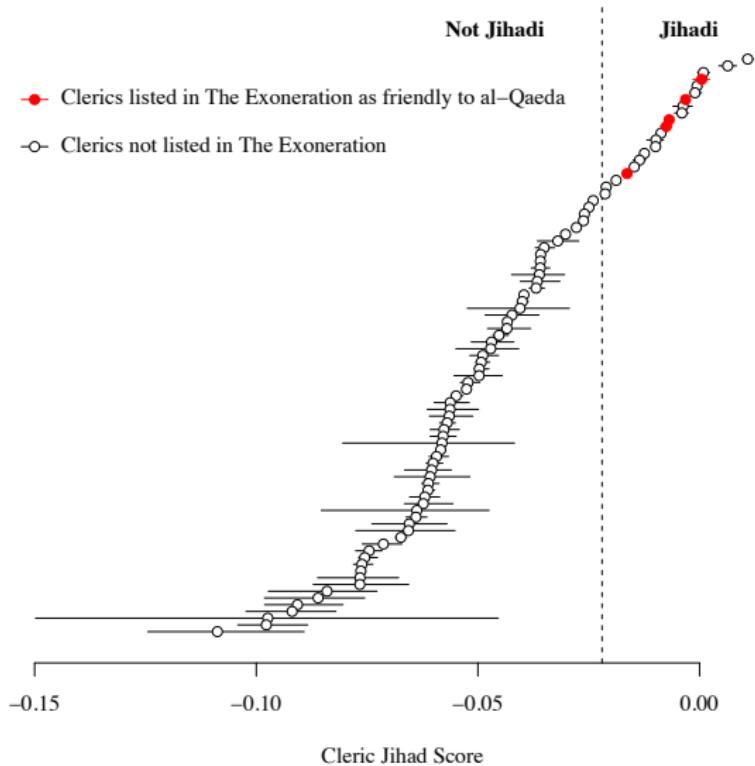


Figure 4.9: *Jihad Scores Predict Inclusion in The Exoneration*

# A word on Support Vector Machines...

back to the vector space model of text...

- Suppose you have two classes: vacations and sports
- Suppose you have four documents

## Sports

Doc<sub>1</sub>: {ball, ball, ball, travel}

Doc<sub>2</sub>: {ball, ball}

## Vacations

Doc<sub>3</sub>: {travel, ball, travel}

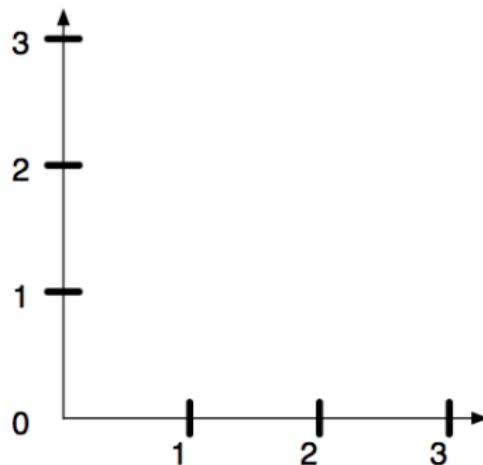
Doc<sub>4</sub>: {travel}

- Suppose you have four documents

# A word on Support Vector Machines...

Put the documents in vector space

Travel



Ball

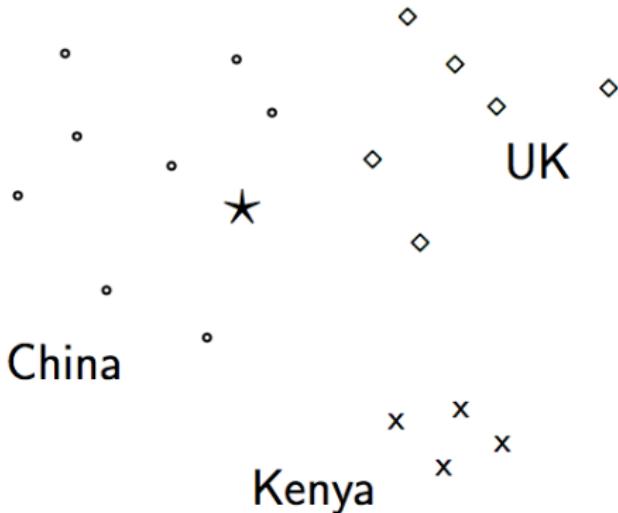
## A word on Support Vector Machines...

- Each document is a vector, one component for each term.
- Terms are axes.
- High dimensionality: 10,000s of dimensions and more
- How can we do classification in this space?

## A word on Support Vector Machines...

- As before, the training set is a set of documents, each labeled with its class.
- In vector space classification, this set corresponds to a labeled set of points or vectors in the vector space.
- Premise 1: Documents in the same class form a contiguous region.
- Premise 2: Documents from different classes don't overlap.
- We define lines, surfaces, hypersurfaces to divide regions.

## A word on Support Vector Machines...

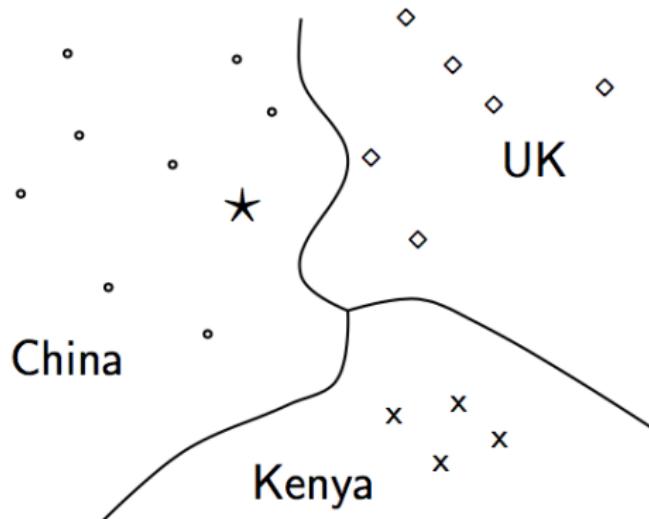


Classes in the vector space

Should the ★ document be assigned to China, UK or Kenya?

# A word on Support Vector Machines...

Find separators between the classes



# A word on Support Vector Machines...

## Linear classifiers

- Definition:
  - A linear classifier computes a linear combination or weighted sum  $\sum_i \beta_i x_i$  of the feature values.
  - Classification decision:  $\sum_i \beta_i x_i > \beta_0$  ( $\beta_0$  is our bias)
  - ...  $\beta_0$ , a parameter, is our classification threshold;
- We call this the **separator** or **decision boundary**.
- We find the separator based on training set.
- Methods for finding separator: logistic regression, linear SVM
- Assumption: The classes are **linearly separable**.

## SVMs - geometric intuition

A Linear classifier in 1D



A linear classifier in 1D is a point  $X$  described by equation  $\beta_1 x_1 = \beta_0$ , where  $x = \frac{\beta_0}{\beta_1}$ ; points  $(x_1)$  with  $\beta_1 x_1 \geq \beta_0$  are in the class c;

## SVMs - geometric intuition

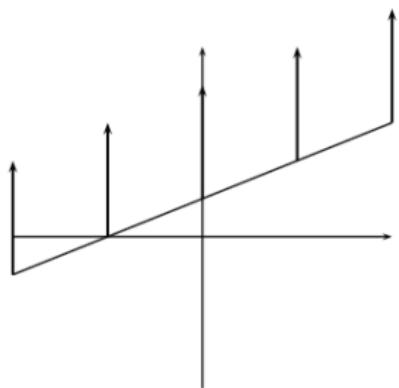
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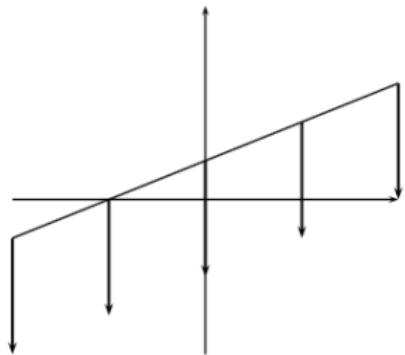
A Linear classifier in 2D



A linear classifier in 2D is a line described by equation  $\beta_1x_1 + \beta_2x_2 = \beta_0$ ; points  $(x_1, x_2)$  with  $\beta_1x_1 + \beta_2x_2 \geq \beta_0$  are in the class c

## SVMs - geometric intuition

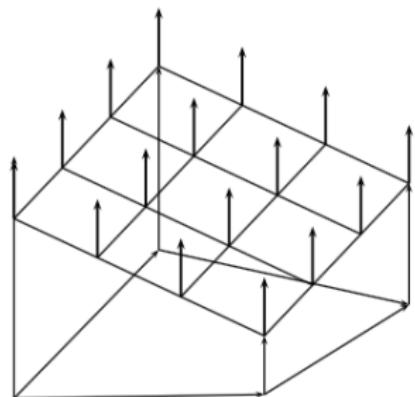
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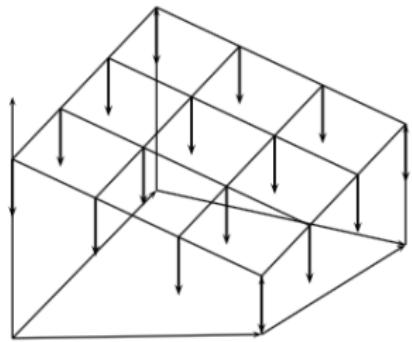
A Linear classifier in 3D



A linear classifier in 3D is a line described by equation  
 $\beta_1x_1 + \beta_2x_2 + \beta_3x_3 = \beta_0;$

# SVMs - geometric intuition

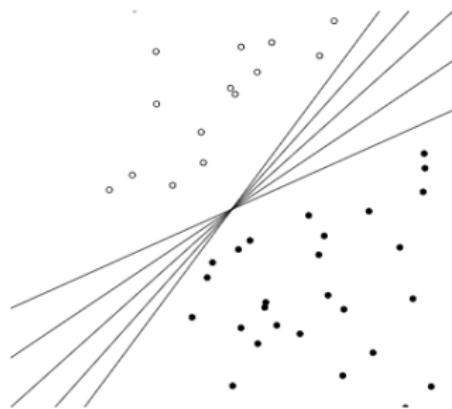
A Linear classifier in 3D



## SVMs - definition

SVMs: A kind of large-margin classifier

Vector space based machine-learning method aiming to find a decision boundary between two classes that is maximally far from any point in the training data (possibly discounting some points as outliers or noise)



# SVMs - definition

SVMs: A kind of large-margin classifier

2-class training data

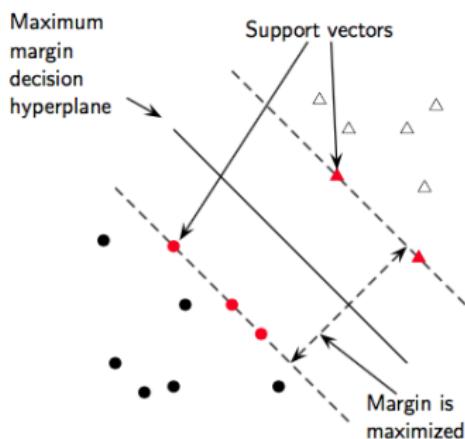
decision boundary →

**linear separator**

criterion: being  
maximally far away  
from any data point →  
determines classifier

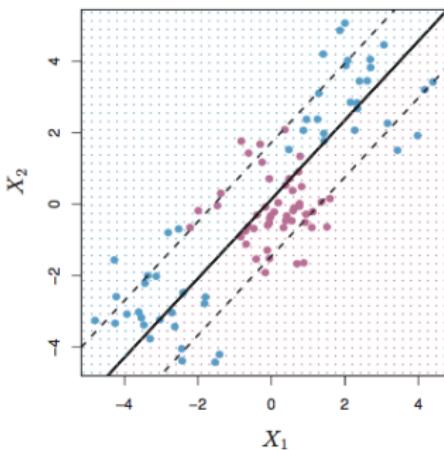
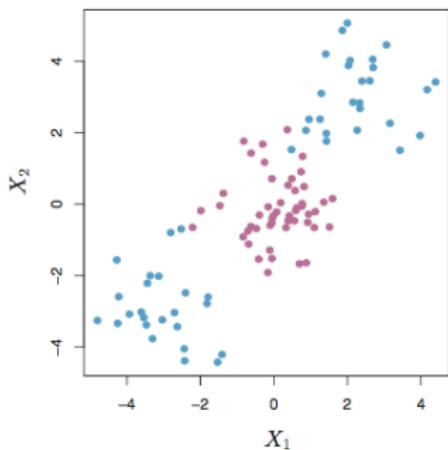
**margin**

linear separator  
position defined by  
**support vectors**



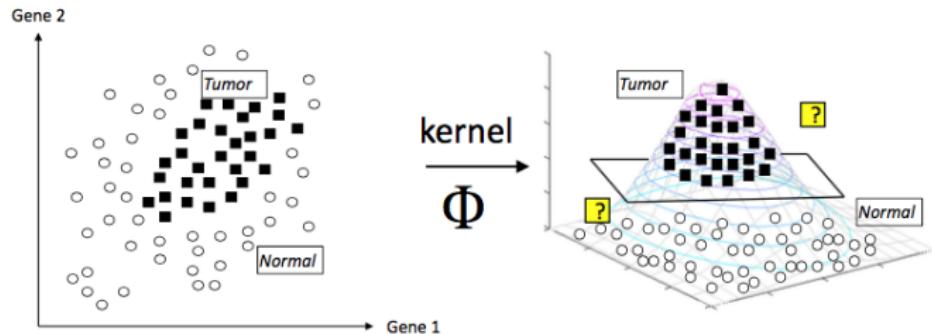
Why maximize the margin? It increases ability to correctly generalize to test data;

# What is there is no linear solution?



# kernel trick...

SVMs represent the data in a higher dimensional projection using a kernel, and bisect this using a hyperplane

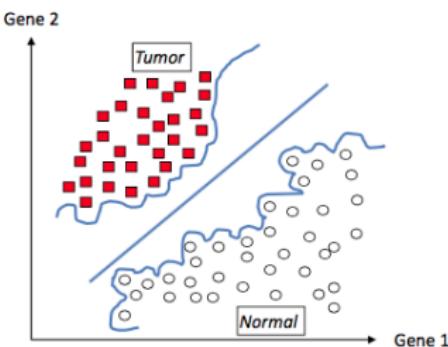
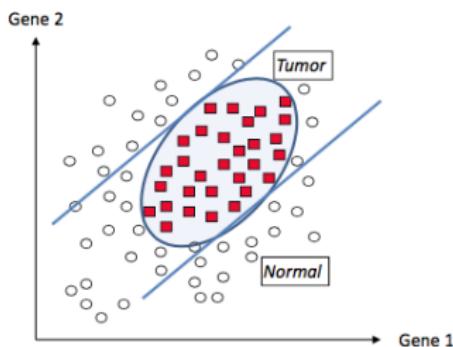


Data is not linearly separable  
in the input space

Data is linearly separable in the  
feature space obtained by a kernel

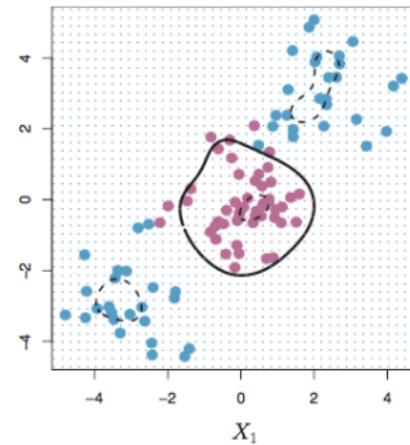
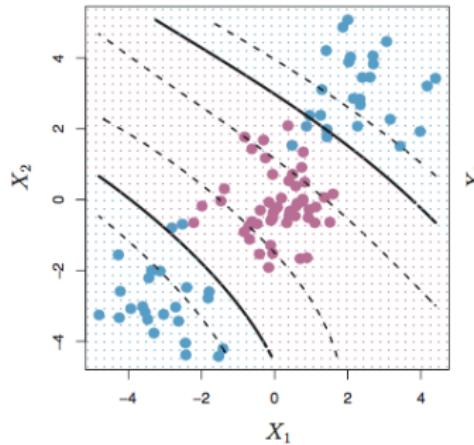
## kernel trick...

This is only needed when no linear separation plane exists - so not needed in second of these



## kernel trick...

Kerlnels can give you different decision boundaries based on the different projections of data into higher-dimensional space



# Ideological Scaling

## 1) Task

- Measure political actors' position in policy space
- Low dimensional representation of beliefs

## 2) Objective function

- Linear Discriminant Analysis (ish)  $\rightsquigarrow$  Wordscores
- Item Response Theory  $\rightsquigarrow$  Wordfish
- Item Response Theory + Roll Call Votes  $\rightsquigarrow$  Issue-specific ideal points

## 3) Optimization

- Wordscores  $\rightsquigarrow$  straightforward, based on training texts
- Wordfish  $\rightsquigarrow$  EM, MCMC methods

## 4) Validation

- What is the goal of embedding?
- What is the **gold standard**?

# The Spatial Model

- Suppose we have actor  $i$  ( $i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, N$ )

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$$u_i(\theta_i, \mathbf{p}) = -d(\theta_i, \mathbf{p})$$

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$$\begin{aligned} u_i(\theta_i, \mathbf{p}) &= -d(\theta_i, \mathbf{p}) \\ &= -\sum_{l=1}^L (\underbrace{\theta_{il}}_{\text{ideal policy}} - p_l)^2 \end{aligned}$$

# The Spatial Model

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**Scaling**  $\rightsquigarrow$  placing actors in low-dimensional space (like principal components!)

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US Congress and Roll Call

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  - Widely used: hard to write a paper on American political institutions with ideal points

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  - Bonica (2013, 2014)~~ estimate ideology from donations (but not everyone donates)

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## Healthy skepticism!

## Wordscores (Laver, Benoit & Garry, 2003)



Long standing interest in scaling **political texts** relative to one another:

- e.g. are parties moving together over time, such that manifestos are converging?
  - e.g. do members of parliament speak in line with their constituency's ideology (roll calls typically uninformative)?
- LBG suggest a way of scoring documents in a NB style, so that we can answer such questions.

# Basics

- 1 Begin with a **reference set** (training set) of texts that have **known positions**.

e.g. we find a 'left' document and give it score  $-1$ ; and a 'right' document and give it score  $1$

- 2 Generate **word scores** from these reference texts
- 3 Score the **virgin texts** (test set) of texts using those word scores, possibly transform virgin scores to original metric.

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$\mathbf{x}_i \rightsquigarrow$  aggregation across documents, where each legislator is a row in the DTM (normalized by length speech)

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Wordscores is essentially estimating a dictionary. The more negative their speech score is, the closer they get to the Liberal position. Inverse is true for conservative.

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*This is simply the rate at which the liberal uses the word over the total rate that the word is*

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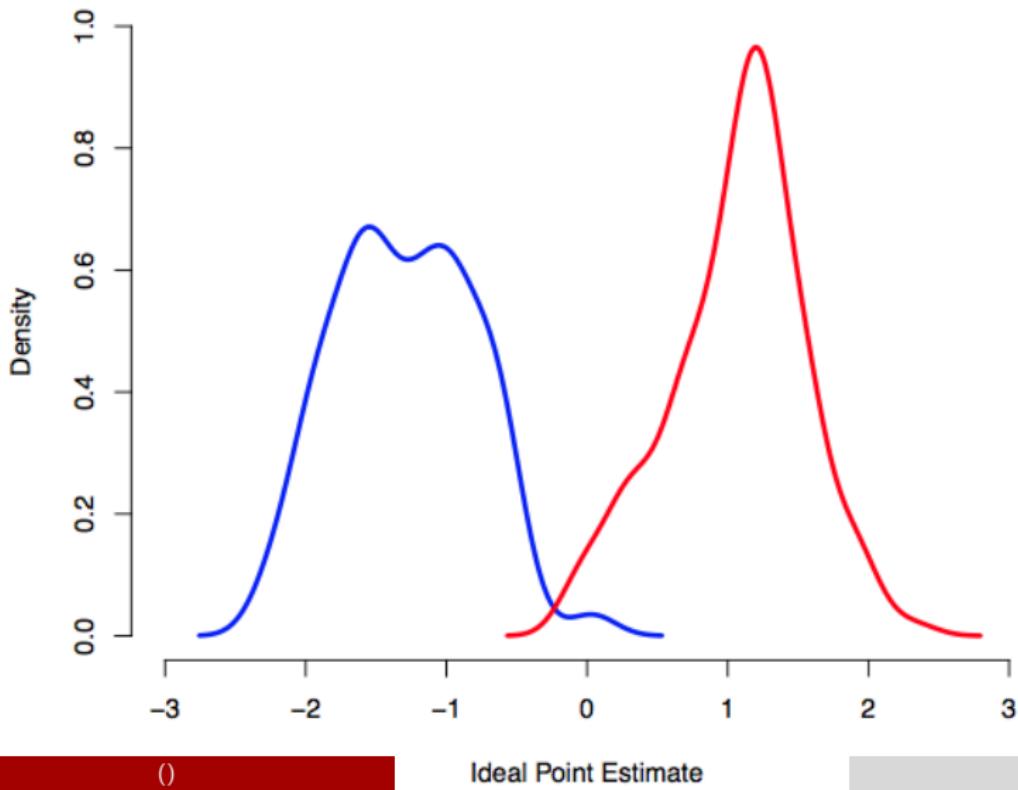
# Applied to the Senate Press Releases

*L* = Ted Kennedy

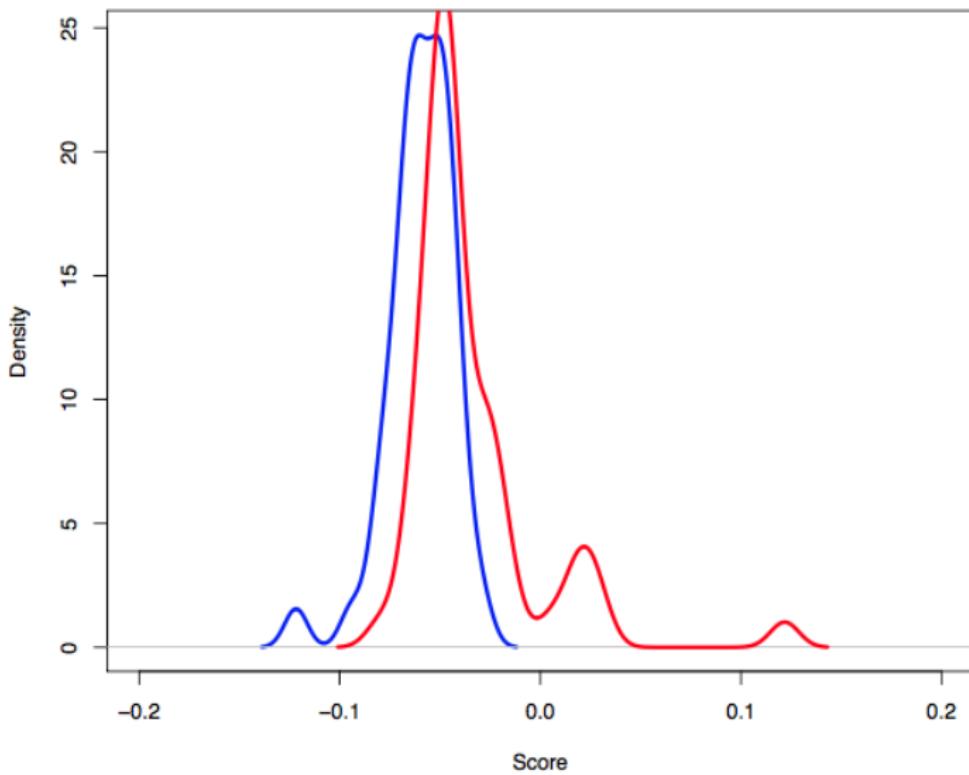
*C* = Tom Coburn

Apply to other senators.

# Applying to Senate Press Releases ↵ Gold Standard Scaling from NOMINATE



# Applying to Senate Press Releases $\rightsquigarrow$ WordScores



## Example

Neo-Nazi manifesto uses 'immigrant' 25 times in 1000 words, while Communists use it only 5 times.

then  $P_{iR} = \frac{0.025}{0.025+0.005} = 0.83$ .

and  $P_{iL} = \frac{0.005}{0.025+0.005} = 0.16$ .

so  $S_i = 0.83 - 0.16 = 0.66$

we see a virgin manifesto, from the Conservative party, and it mentions immigrant 20 times in a thousand words.

well the relevant calculation for that word is  $0.02 \times 0.66 = 0.0132$ .

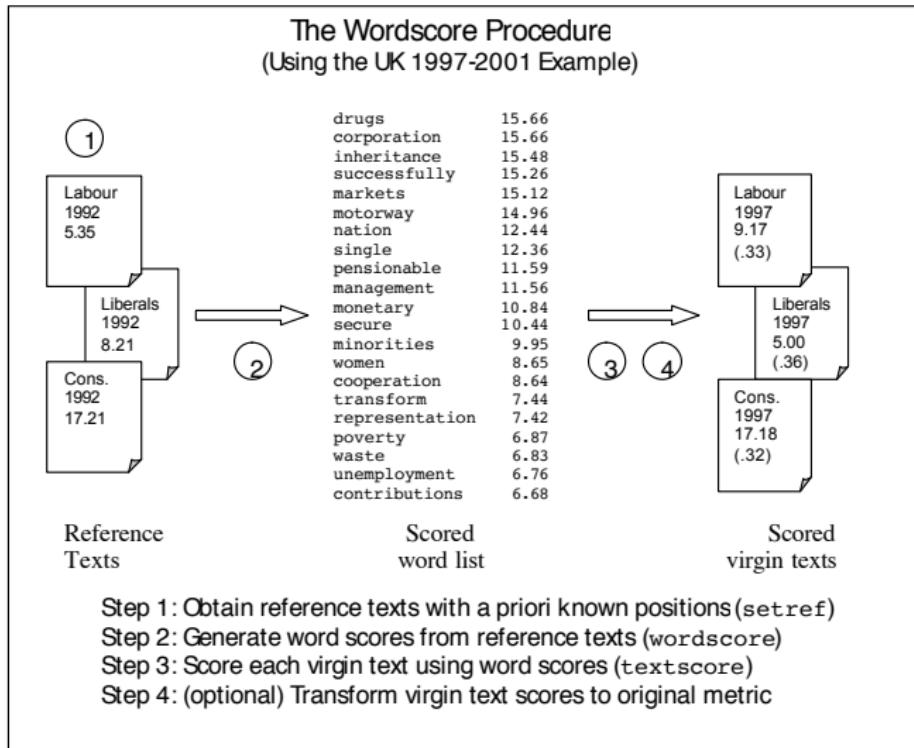
but virgin manifesto, from Labour party, mentions it 10 times in a thousand words:  $0.01 \times 0.66 = 0.006$

→ can rescale these back to original  $(-1, 1)$  dimension.

# New Labour Moderates its Economic Policy

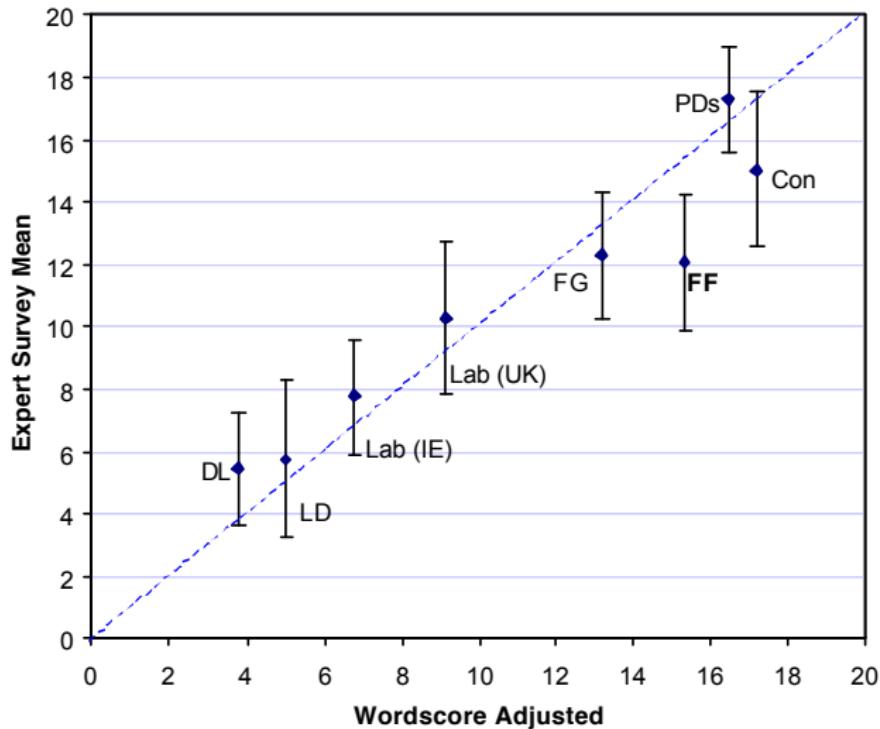


# New Labour Moderates its Economic Policy



# Compared to Expert Surveys

(a) Economic Scale



## Comments

Extremely influential approach: avoids having to pick features of interest (features that don't distinguish between reference texts have  $S_i = 0$ )

and helpful/valid in practice, and can have uncertainty estimates to boot.  
very important to obtain extreme and appropriate reference, and score them appropriately. Need to be from domain of virgin texts, and have lots of words.

but Lowe (typically?) unhappy (2008): no statistical model, inconsistent scoring assumptions, and difficult to pick up 'centrist language' (is equivalent to any language used commonly by all parties for linguistic reasons).

while Beauchamp (2011) provides comparison and extension to more purely Bayesian approach.

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Estimates:

$$\text{Error} = E \left[ E[L(\mathbf{Y}, f(\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}, \mathbf{X}, \lambda)) | \mathcal{T}] \right]$$

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2	Group 1, Group3, Group 4, ..., Group K	Group 2
3	Group 1, Group 2, Group 4, ..., Group K	Group 3
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$$\text{CV(proportions)} =$$

$\frac{1}{K} \sum_{j=1}^K$  Mean Square Error Proportions from Group j

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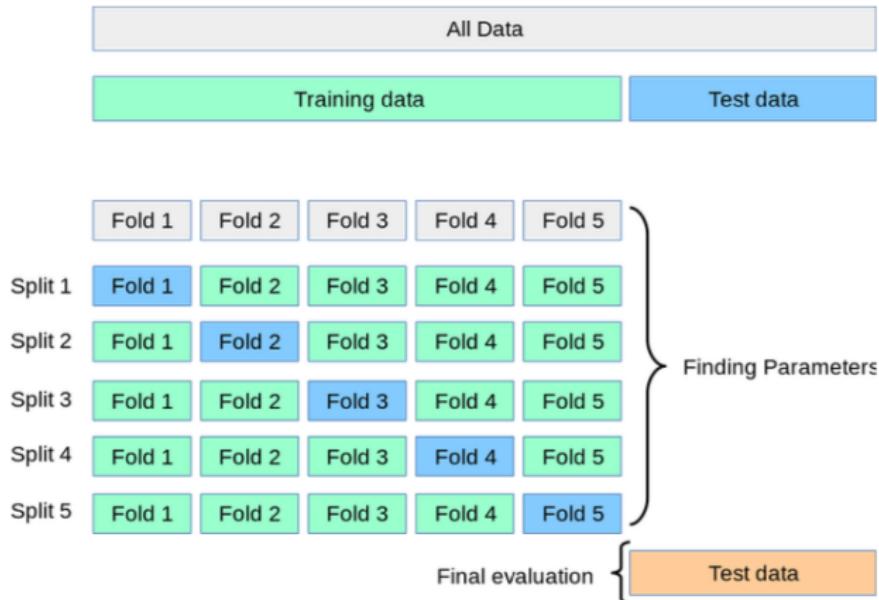
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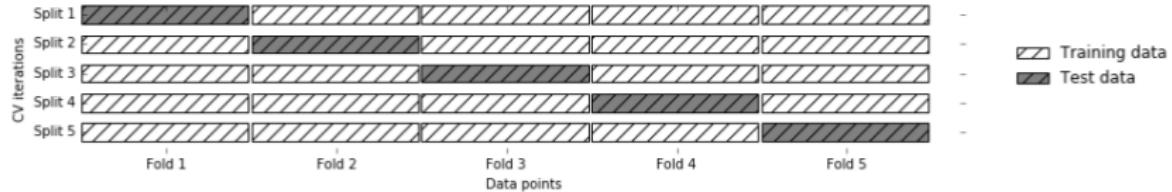
$$\frac{1}{K} \sum_{j=1}^K \text{Mean Square Error Proportions from Group } j$$

- Final choice: model with highest CV score

# visual intuition...



# visual intuition . . .



pro: more stable, more data

con: slower

# How Do We Select $K$ ?

## Common values of $K$

- $K = 5$ : Five fold cross validation
- $K = 10$ : Ten fold cross validation
- $K = N$ : Leave one out cross validation

## Considerations:

- How sensitive are inferences to number of coded documents?
- 200 labeled documents
  - $K = N \rightarrow 199$  documents to train,
  - $K = 10 \rightarrow 180$  documents to train
  - $K = 5 \rightarrow 160$  documents to train
- 50 labeled documents
  - $K = N \rightarrow 49$  documents to train,
  - $K = 10 \rightarrow 45$  documents to train
  - $K = 5 \rightarrow 40$  documents to train
- How long will it take to run models?
  - $K$ -fold cross validation requires  $K \times$  One model run
- What is the correct loss function?