

The project proposal

1. Project name and description:

Emotional bias in language: A comparative analysis of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict on Wikipedia and Baidu Encyclopedia

This project aims to investigate whether there is emotional bias in the way the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is presented in different languages on Wikipedia and Baidu Encyclopedia. Specifically, it will compare the sentiment and tone in the English and Chinese versions of Wikipedia and Chinese Baidu Encyclopedia entries related to the topic.

2. Problem statement and research questions:

The project aimed to understand whether the emotional tone and mood of linguistic expressions of the same topic (the Israeli-Palestinian conflict) differ across languages and platforms. The central question is: “Do language (English vs. Chinese) and platform (Wikipedia vs. Baidu Encyclopedia) influence affective bias in articles about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict?”

3. Data collection method:

Data for the study will be collected from three main sources: English Wikipedia, Chinese Wikipedia, and Chinese Baidu Encyclopedia. This data will include the text content of entries related to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. This will be done through web scraping technology, ensuring the data is comprehensive and up-to-date.

4. Analysis and Visualization Plan:

The project will employ various text analysis techniques, including keyword counting, frequency analysis, sentiment analysis, and semantic analysis. The goal is to identify and compare the main differences in the depiction of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict on these platforms. Findings will be presented through a range of visualizations such as sentiment maps, word clouds and comparison charts to effectively illustrate language and emotion differences.