

Computing social constructions: visual analytics for text-intensive research on immigration

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INTRODUCTION

MOTIVATION
Facilitate text-intensive research in Social Sciences.

BACKGROUND
Large amounts of text need to be retrieved, organized, summarized, and thematized.

OBJECTIVE
Develop Natural Language Processing (NLP) and Visual Analytics (VA) tools that allow social scientists to manage large amounts of text-based data.

SIGNIFICANCE
• Interdisciplinary approach that will move the state-of-the-art in NLP and VA into the analytics of text corpora that are orders of magnitude larger than those available in the past.

SOCIAL SCIENCE

SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH QUESTIONS:

1. Can we identify & represent representations of refugees in Canadian media?
2. Examine the representation of Displaced Persons (DP) in the media after the Second World War.

METHOD: Content Analysis Or Discourse Analysis:
To uncover implicit assumptions, or language and power issues. Steps:

1. Retrieve relevant data within a time frame
2. Open coding
3. Focused coding
4. Organization of resultant themes and their analysis in relation to theoretical framework

TRADITIONAL APPROACH FOR RETRIEVAL IN TEXT-INTENSIVE RESEARCH

RESULTS

Advantages of the traditional approach:

- High number of relevant articles.
- Easy to find the topic of interest.
- No need for complex data processing.
- No need for complex data processing.

Disadvantages of the traditional approach:

- High number of irrelevant articles.
- Time-consuming to find the topic of interest.
- No need for complex data processing.
- No need for complex data processing.

PROPOSED APPROACH FOR RETRIEVAL IN TEXT-INTENSIVE RESEARCH

Advantages of our approach:

- High number of relevant articles.
- Easy to find the topic of interest.
- No need for complex data processing.
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Disadvantages of our approach:

- High number of irrelevant articles.
- Time-consuming to find the topic of interest.
- No need for complex data processing.
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