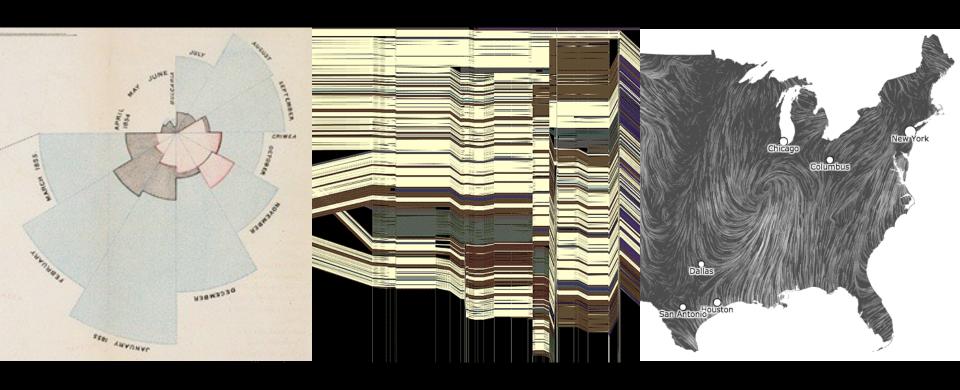
CSE 512 - Data Visualization

Text Visualization

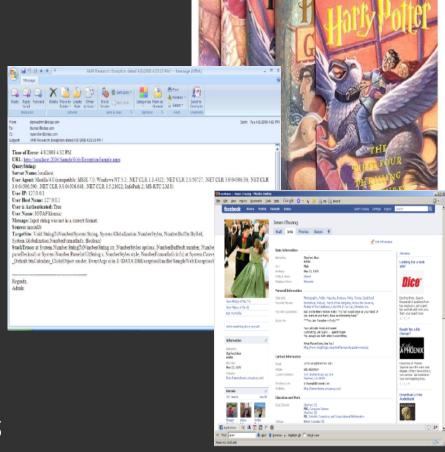


Jeffrey Heer University of Washington

Text as Data

Documents

Articles, books and novels E-mails, web pages, blogs Tags, comments Computer programs, logs



Collections of Documents

Messages (e-mail, blogs, tags, comments)
Social networks (personal profiles)
Academic collaborations (publications)

Why Visualize Text?

Why Visualize Text?

Understanding - get the "gist" of a document

Grouping - cluster for overview or classification

Comparison - compare document collections, or inspect evolution of collection over time

Correlation - compare patterns in text to those in other data, e.g., correlate with social network

Example: Health Care Reform

Example: Health Care Reform

Background

Initiatives by President Clinton Overhaul by President Obama

Text Data

News articles
Speech transcriptions
Legal documents

What questions might you want to answer? What visualizations might help?

A Concrete Example

September 10, 2009

TEXT

Obama's Health Care Speech to Congress

Following is the prepared text of President Obama's speech to Congress on the need to overhaul health care in the United States, as released by the White House.

Madame Speaker, Vice President Biden, Members of Congress, and the American people:

When I spoke here last winter, this nation was facing the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression. We were losing an average of 700,000 jobs per month. Credit was frozen. And our financial system was on the verge of collapse.

As any American who is still looking for work or a way to pay their bills will tell you, we are by no means out of the woods. A full and vibrant recovery is many months away. And I will not let up until those Americans who seek jobs can find them; until those businesses that seek capital and credit can thrive; until all responsible homeowners can stay in their homes. That is our ultimate goal. But thanks to the bold and decisive action we have taken since January, I can stand here with confidence and say that we have pulled this economy back from the brink.

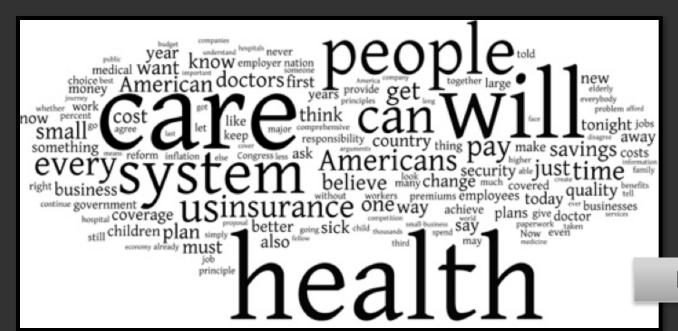
I want to thank the members of this body for your efforts and your support in these last several months, and especially those who have taken the difficult votes that have put us on a path to recovery. I also want to thank the American people for their patience and resolve during this trying time for our nation.

But we did not come here just to clean up crises. We came to build a future. So tonight, I return to speak to all of you

Tag Clouds: Word Count

President Obama's Health Care Speech to Congress [NY Times]



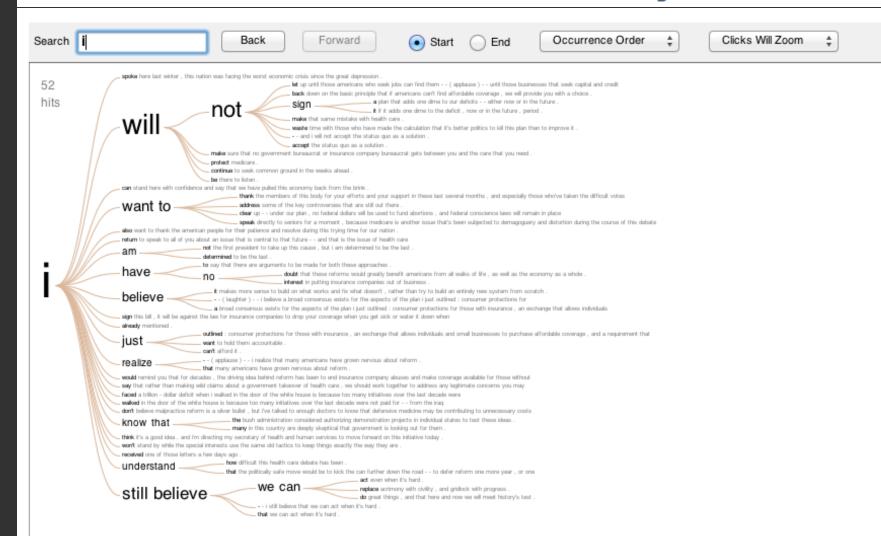


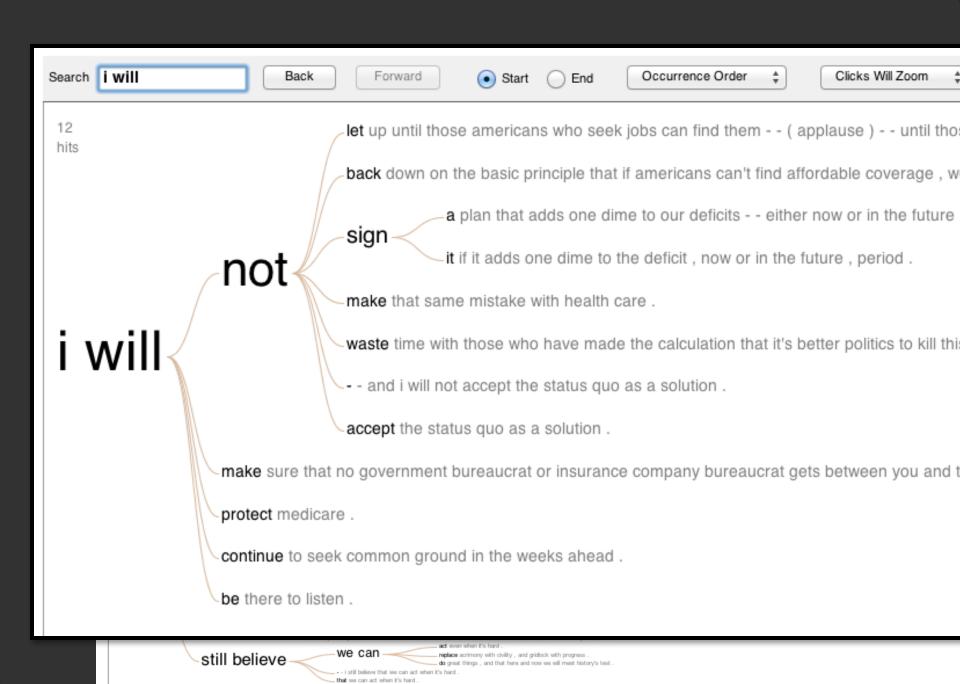
Bill Clinton 1993



Word Tree: Word Sequences

Visualizations: Word Tree President Obama's Address to Congress on Health Care





Gulfs of Evaluation

Many text visualizations do not represent the text directly. They represent the output of a **language model** (word counts, word sequences, etc.).

- Can you interpret the visualization? How well does it convey the properties of the model?
- Do you trust the model? How does the model enable us to reason about the text?

Text Visualization Challenges

High Dimensionality

Where possible use text to represent text...

... which terms are the most descriptive?

Context & Semantics

Provide relevant context to aid understanding.

Show (or provide access to) the source text.

Modeling Abstraction

Determine your analysis task.

Understand abstraction of your language models.

Match analysis task with appropriate tools and models.

Topics

Text as Data

Visualizing Document Content

Visualizing Conversation

Document Collections

Text as Data

Words as nominal data?

High dimensional (10,000+)

More than equality tests

Words have meanings and relations

- Correlations: Hong Kong, Puget Sound, Bay Area
- Order: April, February, January, June, March, May
- Membership: Tennis, Running, Swimming, Hiking, Piano
- Hierarchy, antonyms & synonyms, entities, ...

Text Processing Pipeline

1. Tokenization

Segment text into terms.

Remove stop words? a, an, the, of, to, be

Numbers and symbols? #huskies, @UW, OMG!!!!!!!!

Entities? Washington State, O'Connor, U.S.A.

Text Processing Pipeline

1. Tokenization

Segment text into terms.

Remove stop words? a, an, the, of, to, be

Numbers and symbols? #huskies, @UW, OMG!!!!!!!!

Entities? Washington State, O'Connor, U.S.A.

2. Stemming

Group together different forms of a word.

Porter stemmer? visualization(s), visualize(s), visually -> visual

Lemmatization? goes, went, gone -> go

Text Processing Pipeline

1. Tokenization

Segment text into terms.

Remove stop words? a, an, the, of, to, be

Numbers and symbols? #huskies, @UW, OMG!!!!!!!!

Entities? Washington State, O'Connor, U.S.A.

2. Stemming

Group together different forms of a word.

Porter stemmer? visualization(s), visualize(s), visually -> visual

Lemmatization? goes, went, gone -> go

3. Ordered list of terms

Bag of Words Model

Ignore ordering relationships within the text

A document ≈ vector of term weights

- Each dimension corresponds to a term (10,000+)
- Each value represents the relevance
 For example, simple term counts

Aggregate into a document-term matrix

Document vector space model

Document-Term Matrix

Each document is a vector of term weights
Simplest weighting is to just count occurrences

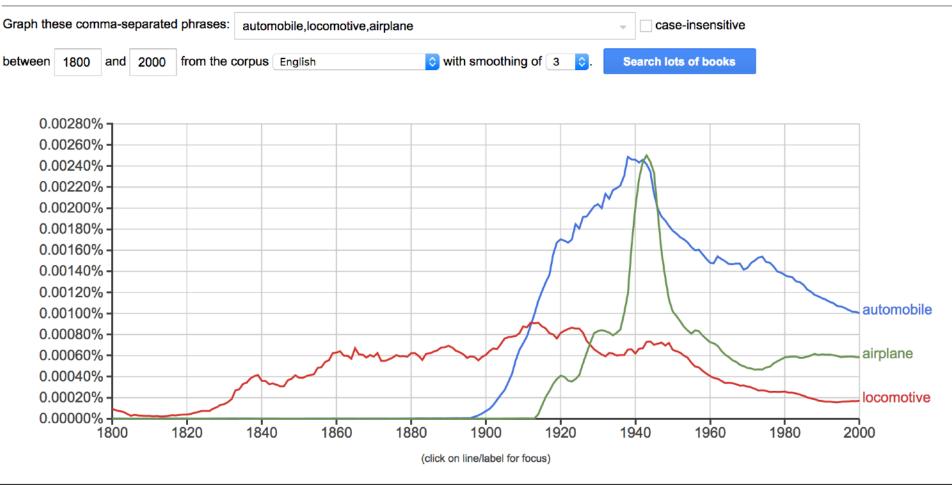
	Antony and Cleopatra	Julius Caesar	The Tempest	Hamlet	Othello	Macbeth
Antony	157	73	0	0	0	0
Brutus	4	157	0	1	0	0
Caesar	232	227	0	2	1	1
Calpurnia	0	10	0	0	0	0
Cleopatra	57	0	0	0	0	0
mercy	2	0	3	5	5	1
worser	2	0	1	1	1	0

WordCounts (Harris '04)

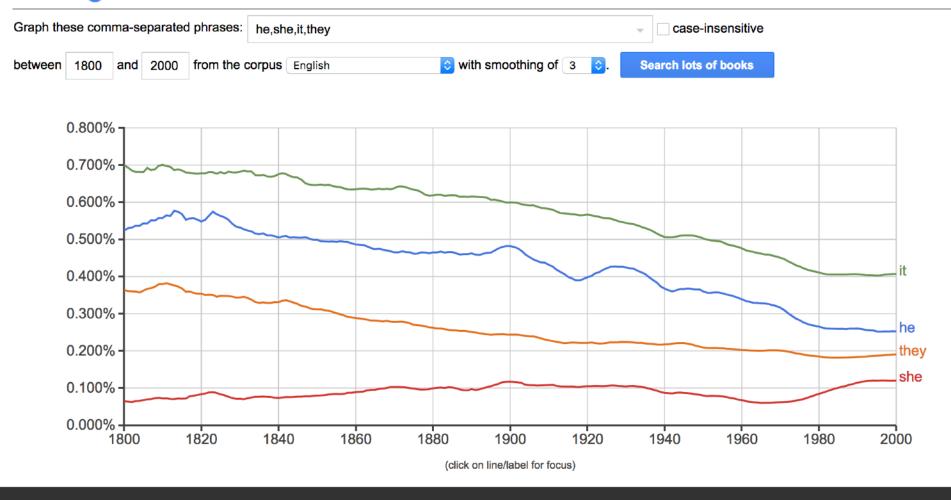
		WORDCOUNT
◀ PREVIOUS WORD		NEXT WORD >
	ofandtoainthatitiswasi forgonyouhebewithasbysthawsporter	
CURRENT WORD		
FIND WORD:	► BY RANK: ► REQUESTED WORD: THE	86800 WORDS IN ARCHIVE

http://wordcount.org

Google Books Ngram Viewer



Google Books Ngram Viewer



Visualizations: Wordle of Sarah Palin RNC 9/3/2008 Speech

Creator: Anonymous

Tags:

Edit Language Font Layout Color



Tag Clouds

Strengths

Can help with gisting and initial query formation.

Weaknesses

Sub-optimal visual encoding (size vs. position)

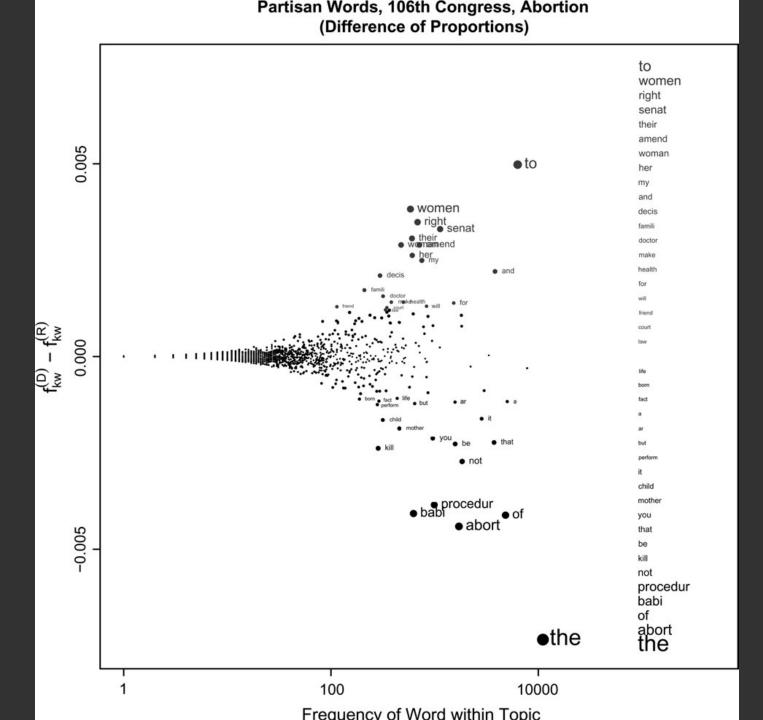
Inaccurate size encoding (long words are bigger)

May not facilitate comparison (unstable layout)

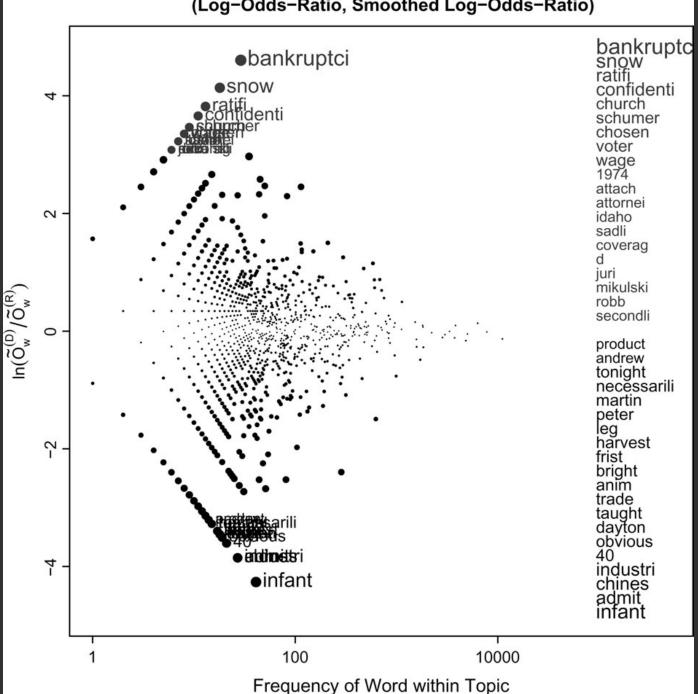
Term frequency may not be meaningful

Does not show the structure of the text

Given a text, what are the best descriptive words?



Partisan Words, 106th Congress, Abortion (Log-Odds-Ratio, Smoothed Log-Odds-Ratio)



Partisan Words, 106th Congress, Abortion (Weighted Log-Odds-Ratio, Informative Dirichlet Prior) 15 women woman right decis her doctor 10 durbin choos santorum • durbin oum doctor pennsylvania pregnanc • per by grainc viabil • viabil • friend • privaci • famili 2 friend privaci their famili amend iowa militari 0 necessari fact brain brutal infant aliv • healthigh birthperform - 2 deliv dr mother head abort perform birth procedur healthi kill partial -10 child born mother babi abort procedur kill babi -15 100 10000 1 Frequency of Word within Topic

Keyword Weighting

Term Frequency

```
tf_{td} = count(t) in d
```

Can take log frequency: $log(1 + tf_{td})$

Can normalize to show proportion: $tf_{td} / \Sigma_t tf_{td}$

Keyword Weighting

Term Frequency

 $tf_{td} = count(t) in d$

TF.IDF: Term Freq by Inverse Document Freq

 $tf.idf_{td} = log(1 + tf_{td}) \times log(N/df_t)$ $df_t = \# docs containing t; N = \# of docs$

Keyword Weighting

Term Frequency

$$tf_{td} = count(t) in d$$

Require comparison across full corpus!

TF.IDF: Term Freq by Inverse Document Freq

$$tf.idf_{td} = log(1 + tf_{td}) \times log(N/df_t)$$

 $df_t = \# docs containing t; N = \# of docs$

G²: Probability of different word frequency

$$\begin{split} E_1 &= |d| \times (tf_{td} + tf_{t(C-d)}) / |C| \\ E_2 &= |C-d| \times (tf_{td} + tf_{t(C-d)}) / |C| \\ G^2 &= 2 \times (tf_{td} \log(tf_{td}/E_1) + tf_{t(C-d)} \log(tf_{t(C-d)}/E_2)) \end{split}$$

Limitations of Freq. Statistics

Typically focus on unigrams (single terms)

Often favors frequent (TF) or rare (IDF) terms

Not clear that these provide best description

A "bag of words" ignores information

Grammar / part-of-speech

Position within document

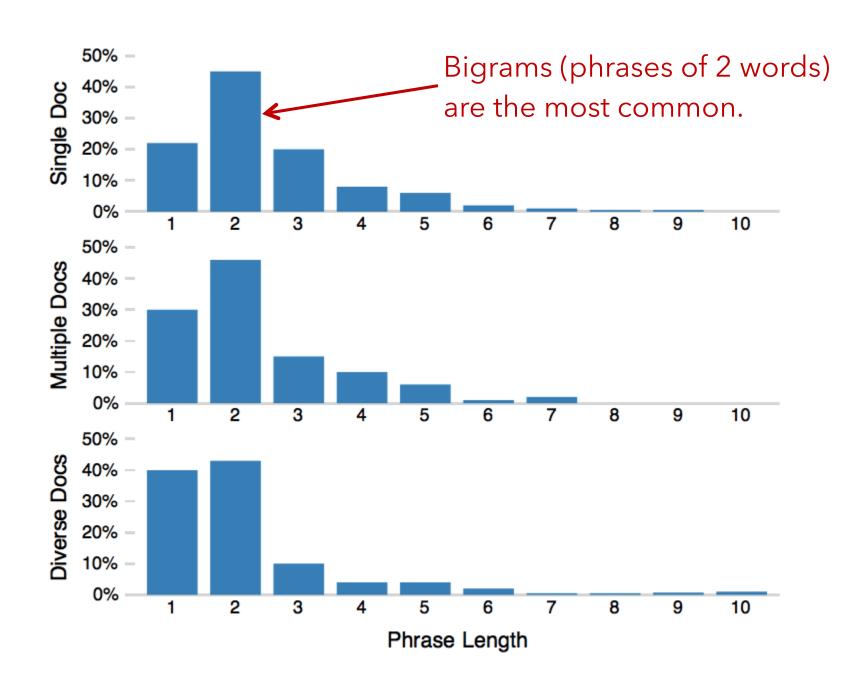
Recognizable entities

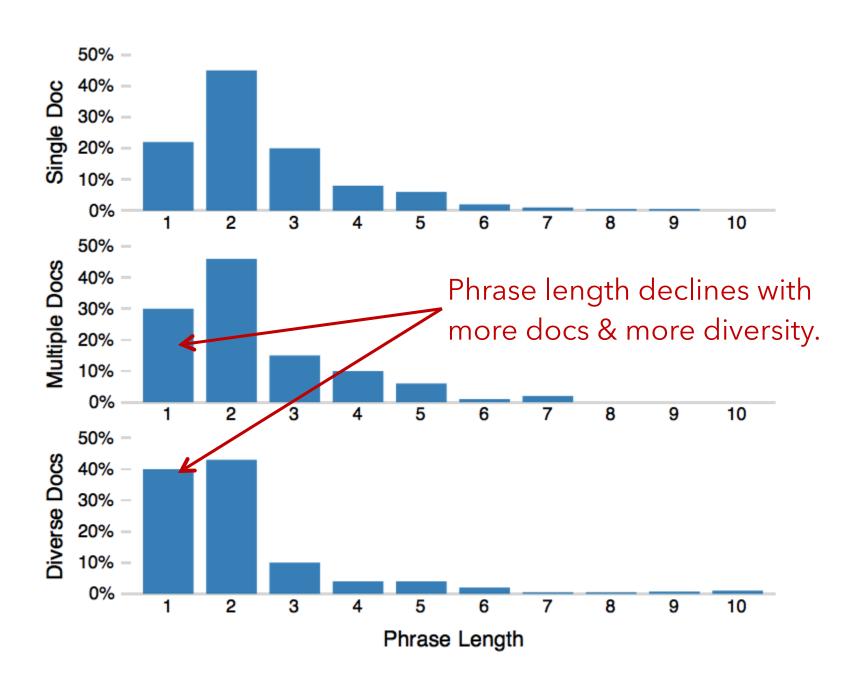
How do people describe text?

We asked 69 subjects (graduate students) to read and describe dissertation abstracts.

Students were given 3 documents in sequence; they then described the collection as a whole.

Students were matched to both familiar and unfamiliar topics; topical diversity within a collection was varied systematically.



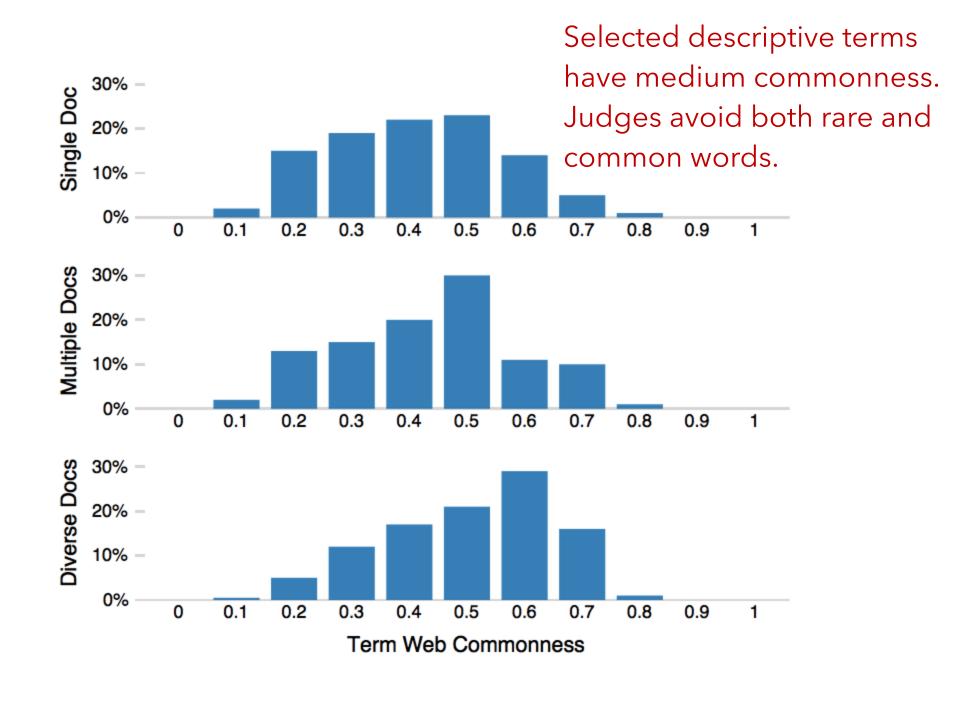


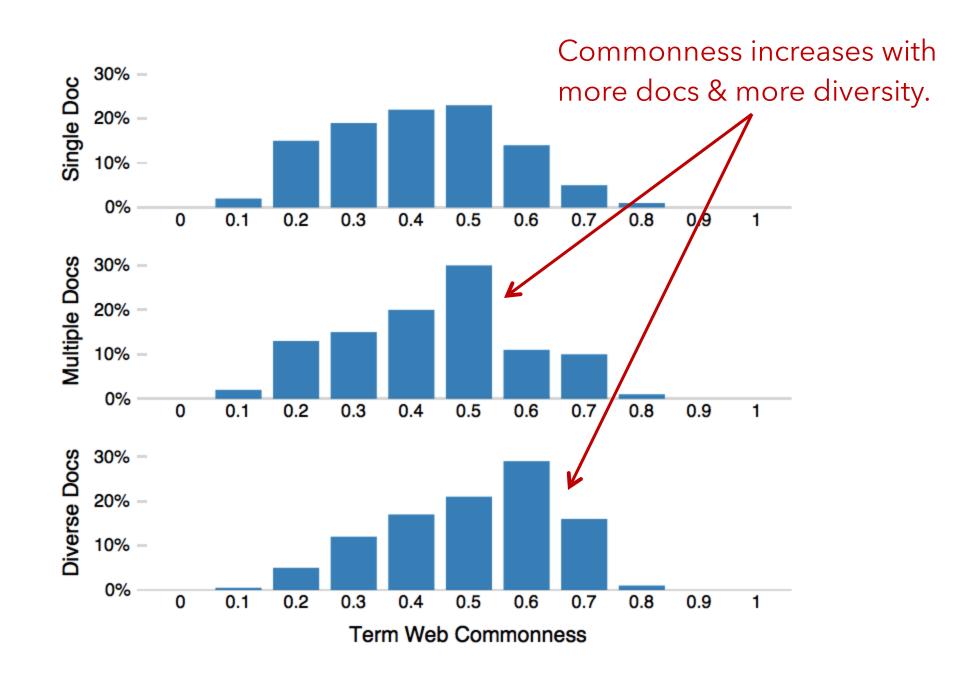
Term Commonness

$$log(tf_w) / log(tf_{the})$$

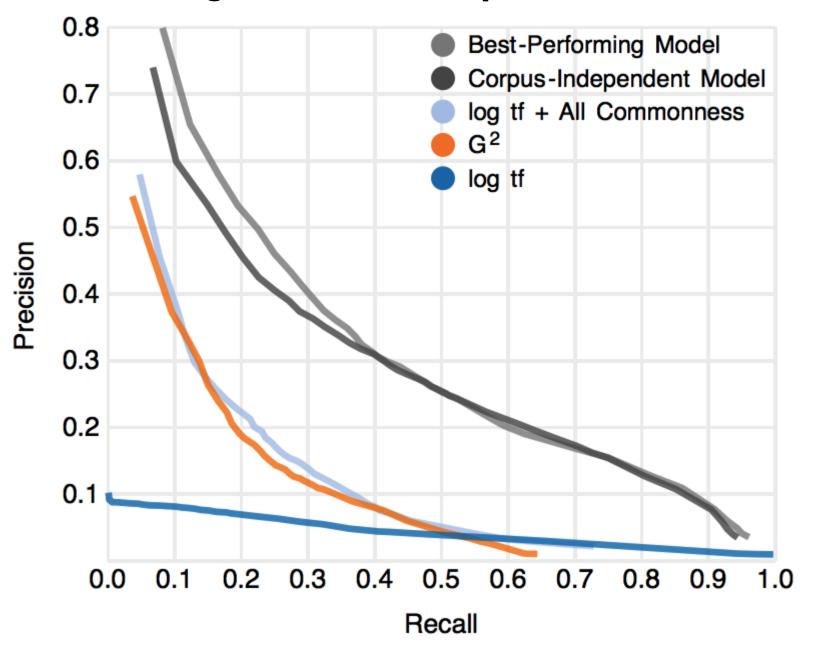
The normalized term frequency relative to the most frequent n-gram, i.e., the word "the".

Measured across a corpus or across the entire English language (using Google n-grams)

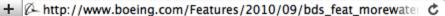




Scoring Terms with Freq, Grammar & Position













A fighter jet rain check

Story and video by Chamila Jayaweera

Have you ever thought about what it takes to make sure that sea-based fighter jets stay dry?

When it comes to the F/A-18 Super Hornet, Boeing engineers in St. Louis use a special process called the Water Check Test to rule out areas where moisture could seep into the aircraft and its electronics suite.

Program experts douse the jet with simulated rain at a 15-inch-per-hour rate for about 20 minutes inside an enormous hangar in St. Louis.

"Our ultimate customers are U.S. Navy fighter pilots, and we want to ensure their safety in flight and on the ground, and water-tight integrity of the aircraft also



CHAMILA JAYAWEERA/BOEING

The Water Check team rolls in a large metal frame, which they affectionately call their "spray tree," over a Super Hornet inside a St. Louis hangar.

helps increase their effectiveness," said Boeing's Rich Baxter, F/A-18 Super Hornet final assembly manager.

To find out moreabout how the process works and watch the action unfold, click above to see the video story.



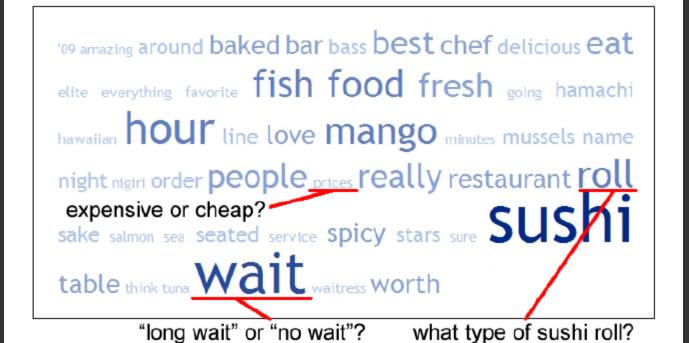
Regression Model

fighter F/A Hornet Super Boeing -18 rain St. jet Louis 15-inch-per-hour douse hangar water-tight Check Baxter sea-based aircraft Rich seep click Navy sure Water moisture watch enormous

want

Super Hornet F/A -18 fighter jet Boeing engineers special process rain check electronics suite Program experts simulated rain ultimate customers enormous hangar water-tight integrity Rich Baxter 15-inch-per-hour rate video story aircraft U.S. Navy fighter pilots Super Hornet final assembly manager iighler pilot sea-based iighler

Yelp Review Spotlight (Yatani 2011)



Yelp Review Spotlight (Yatani 2011)

109 amazing around baked bar bass best chef delicious eat

elite e

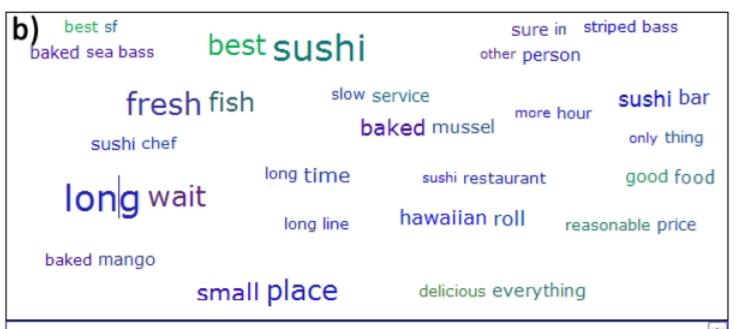
hawaiia

night

exp€

sake

tabl



Mentioned 63 times

possess sage of the halos wisdom , and know in advance sushi zone only accepts cash and the waits will be **long** and arduous .

yes , its a long wait , learn the master of zen if you want to eat here .

Tips: Descriptive Phrases

Understand the limitations of your language model.

Bag of words:

Easy to compute

Single words

Loss of word ordering

Select appropriate model and visualization

Generate longer, more meaningful phrases

Adjective-noun word pairs for reviews

Show keyphrases within source text

Administrivia

Final Project Schedule

Proposal Thur, May 10

Milestone Mon, May 21 (reviews 5/22, 5/24)

Final Paper Wed, May 30

Poster & Demo Thur, May 31 (11:45am-2pm)

Logistics

Final project description posted online

Work in groups of up to 4 people

Start thinking about project topics!

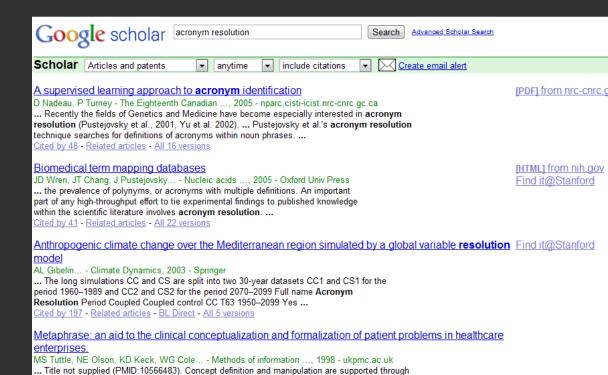
Document Content

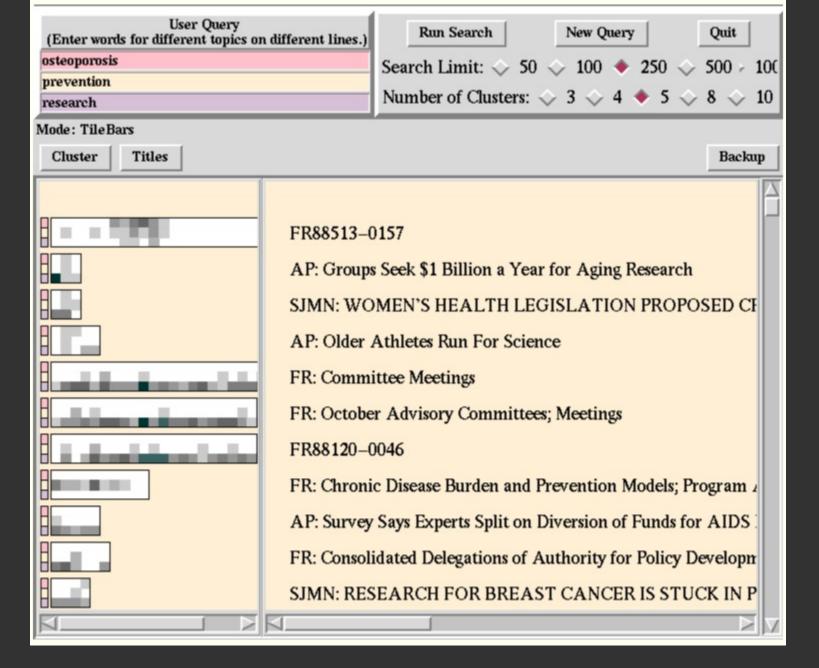
Information Retrieval

Search for documents

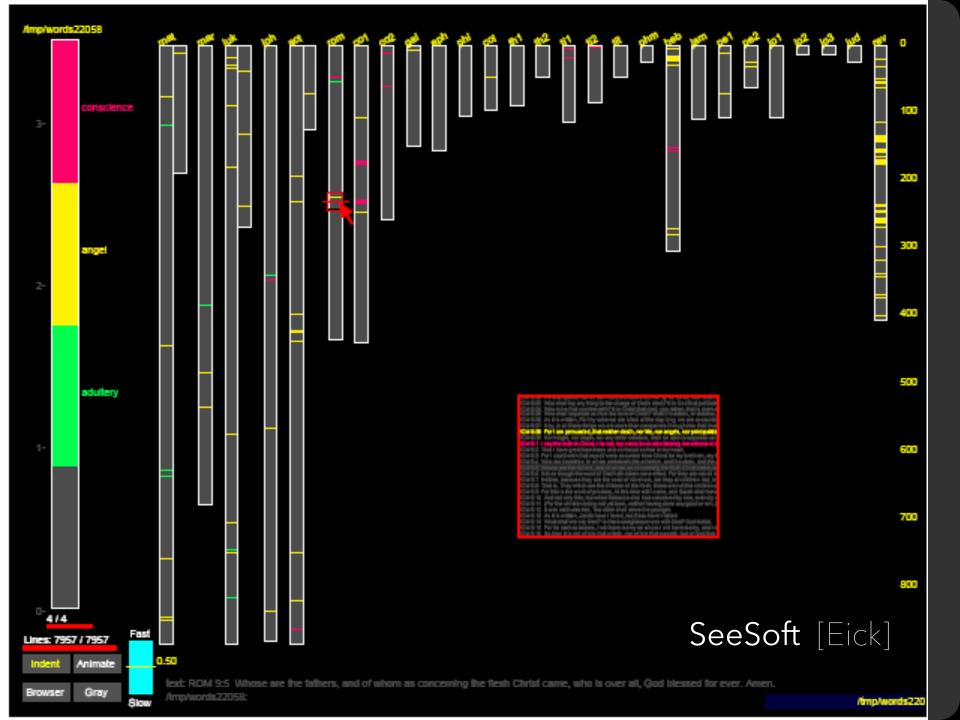
Match query string with documents

Visualization to contextualize results





TileBars [Hearst]



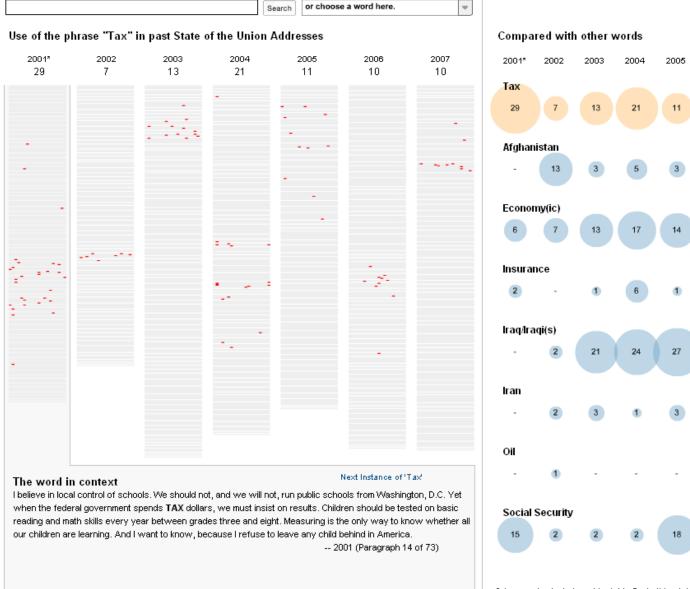
New York Times

2006

2007

The 2007 State of the Union Address

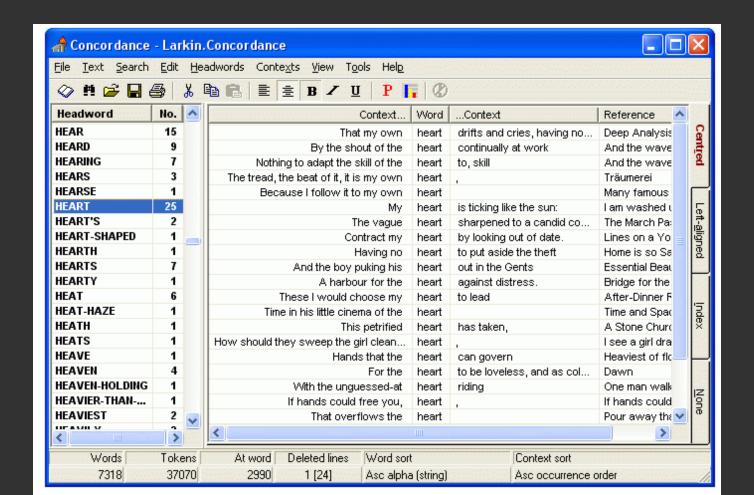
Over the years, President Bush's State of the Union address has averaged almost 5,000 words each, meaning the the President has delivered over 34,000 words. Some words appear frequently while others appear only sporadically. Use the tools below to analyze what Mr. Bush has said.



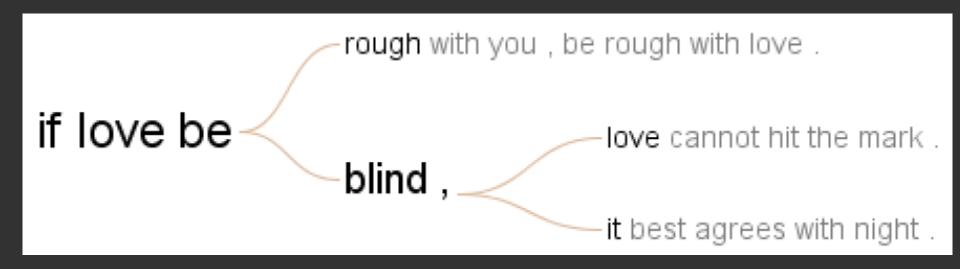
* As a newly elected president, Mr. Bush did not deliver a formal State of the Union address in 2001. His Feb. 27 speech to a joint session of Congress was analogous to the State of the Union, but without the title.

Concordance

What is the common local context of a term?



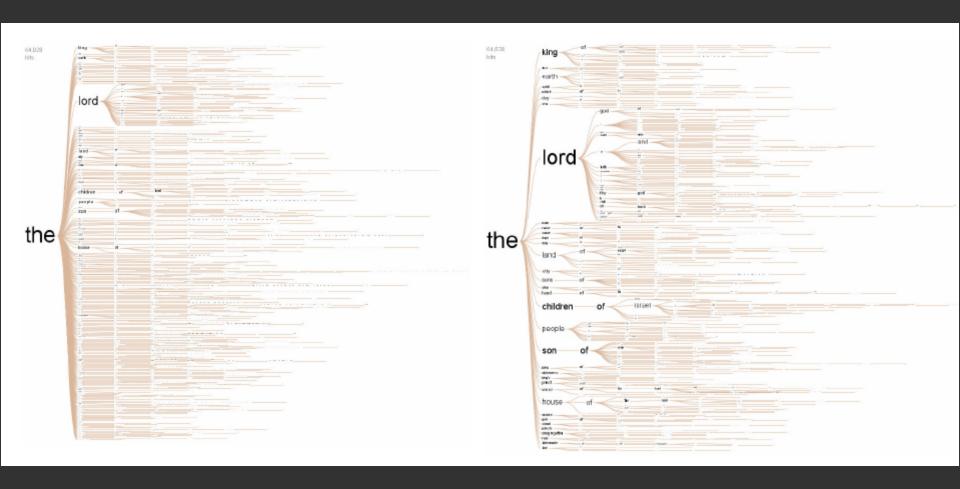
if love be rough with you, be rough with love.
if love be blind, love cannot hit the mark.
if love be blind, it best agrees with night.



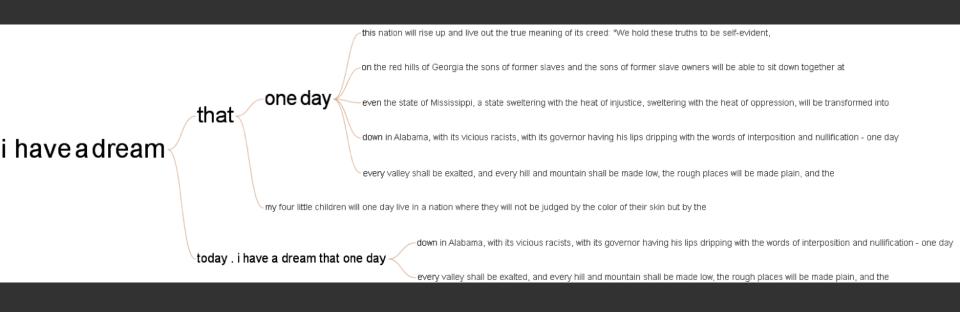
Word Tree [Wattenberg et al.]



Filter Infrequent Runs



Recurrent Themes in Speeches





explore visualizations data sets comments topic hubs

participate

create visualization upload data set create topic hub register

learn more

quick start visualization types data format & style about Many Eyes FAQ blog

contact Us contact

report a bug

legal terms of use

Popular Dataset Tags

2007 2008 bible blog

books Census crime

education eharmony election energy food

health network

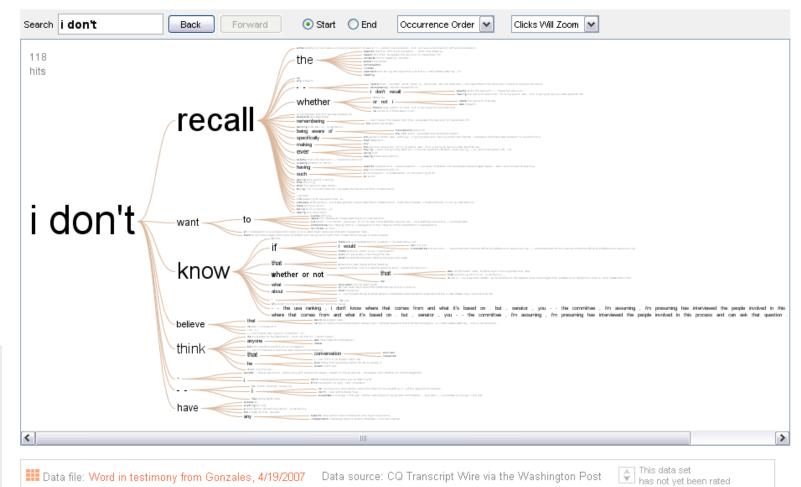
people politics population

president prices religion

Visualizations: Word tree / Alberto Gonzales

Creator: Martin Wattenberg

Tags:



Data source: CQ Transcript Wire via the Washington Post







Data file: Word in testimony from Gonzales, 4/19/2007









Glimpses of Structure...

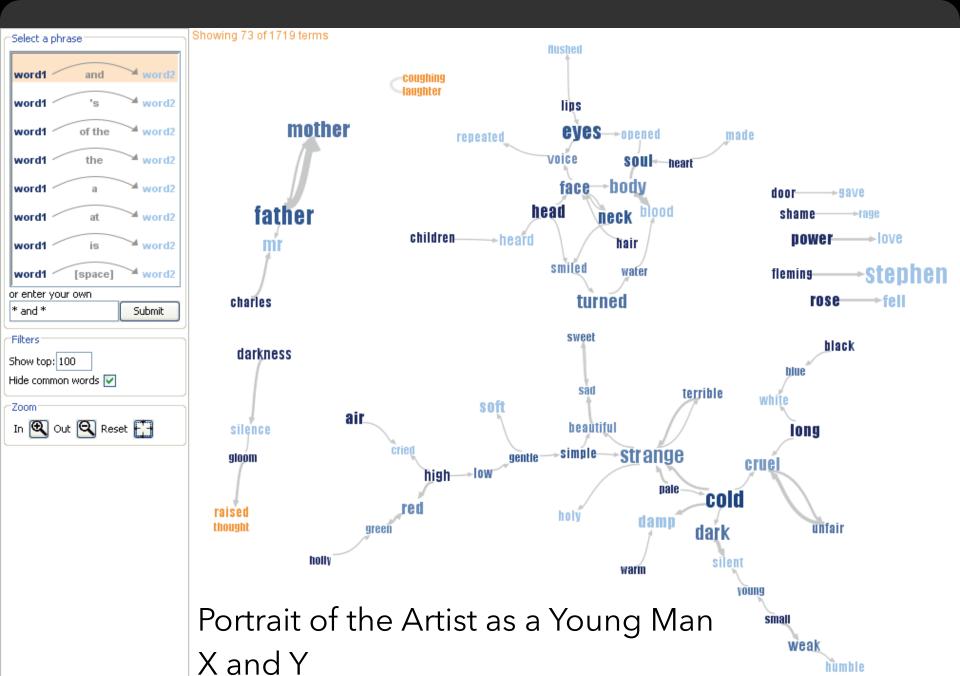
Concordances show local, repeated structure But what about other types of patterns?

Lexical: <A> at

Syntactic: <Noun> <Verb> <Object>

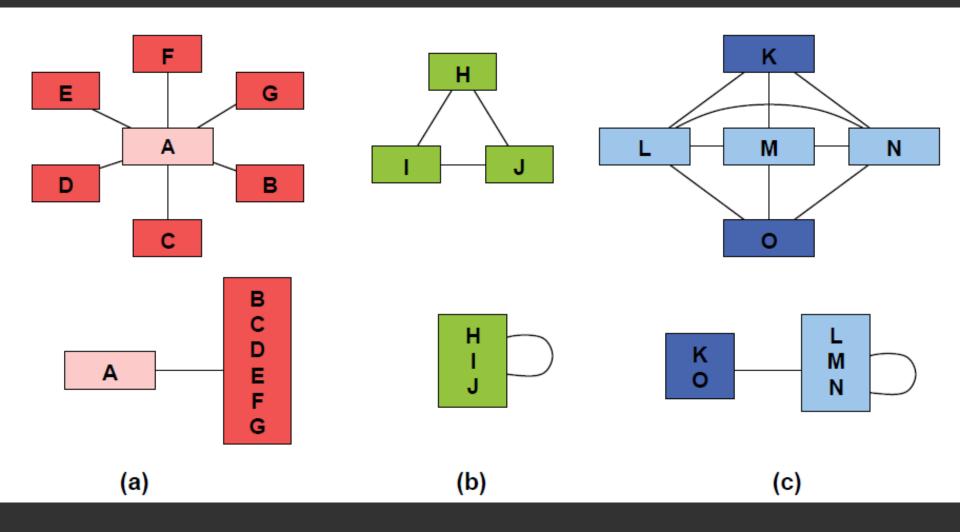
Phrase Nets [van Ham et al.]

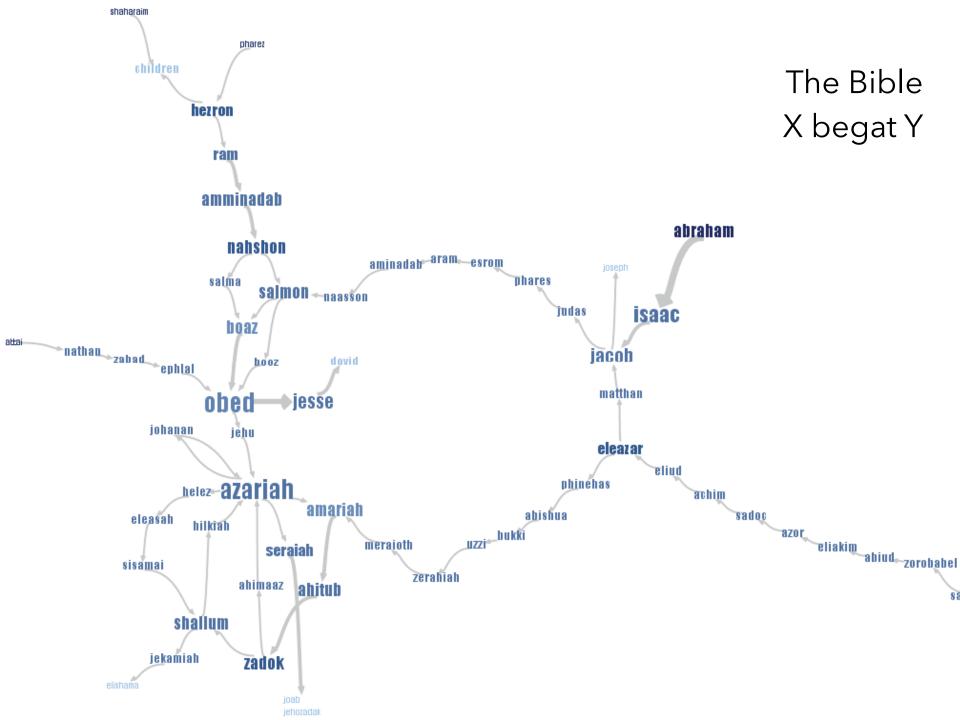
- Look for specific **linking patterns** in the text:
 - 'A and B', 'A at B', 'A of B', etc
 - Could be output of regexp or parser.
- Visualize patterns in a node-link view
 - Occurrences -> Node size
 - Pattern position -> Edge direction

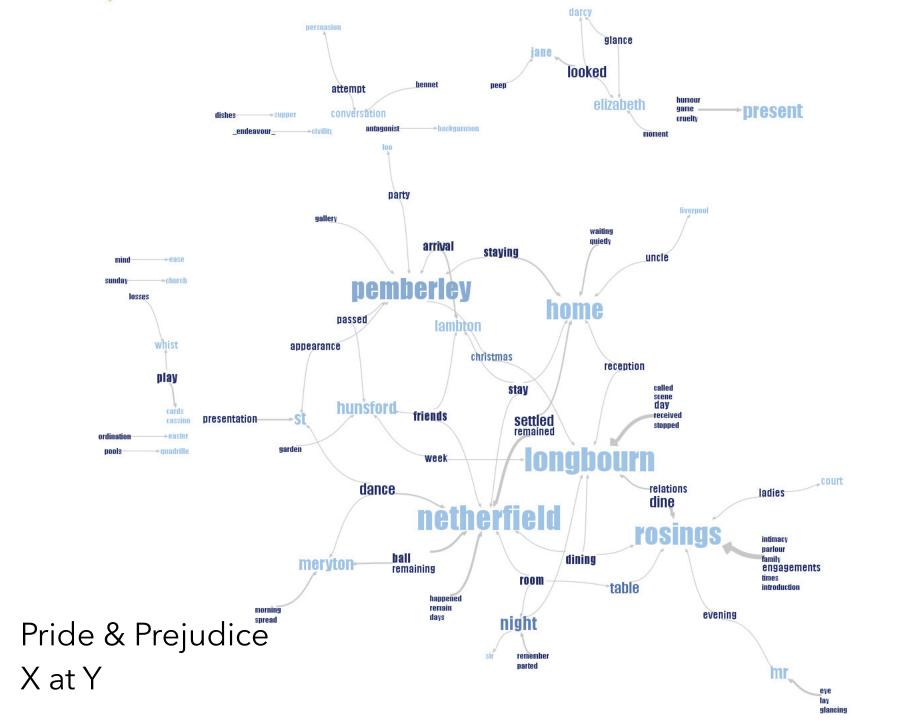


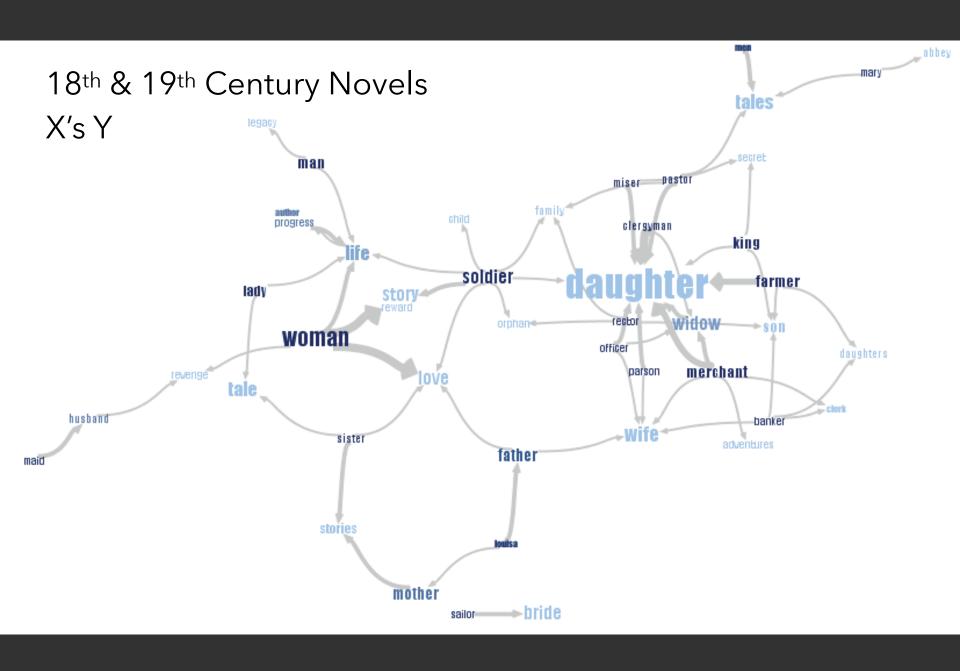
humble

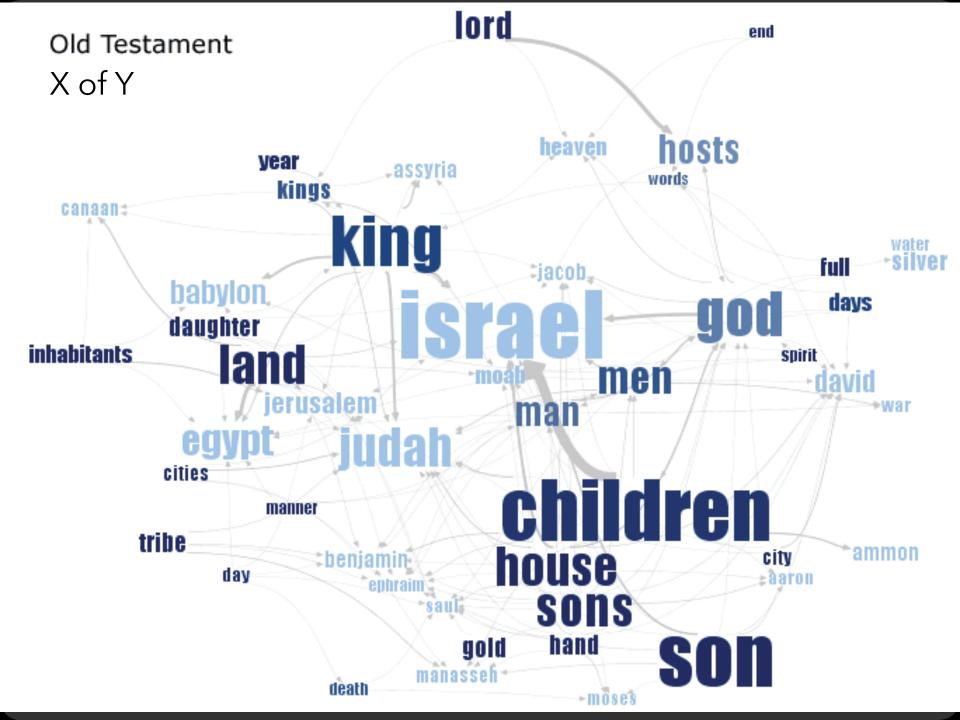
Node Grouping

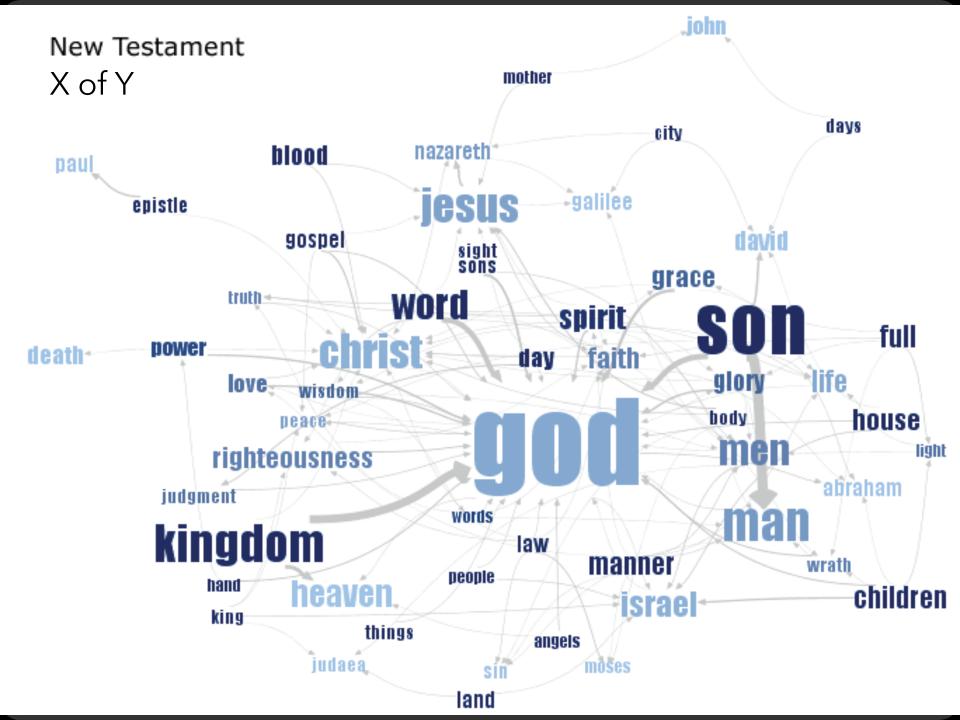












Document Content

Understand Your Analysis Task

Visually: Word position, browsing, brush & link Semantically: Word sequence, hierarchy, clustering Both: Spatial layout reflects semantic relationships

The Role of Interaction

Language model supports visual analysis cycles Allow modifications to the model: custom patterns for expressing contextual or domain knowledge

Conversations

Visualizing Conversation

Many dimensions to consider:

Who (senders, receivers)

What (the content of communication)

When (temporal patterns)

Interesting cross-products:

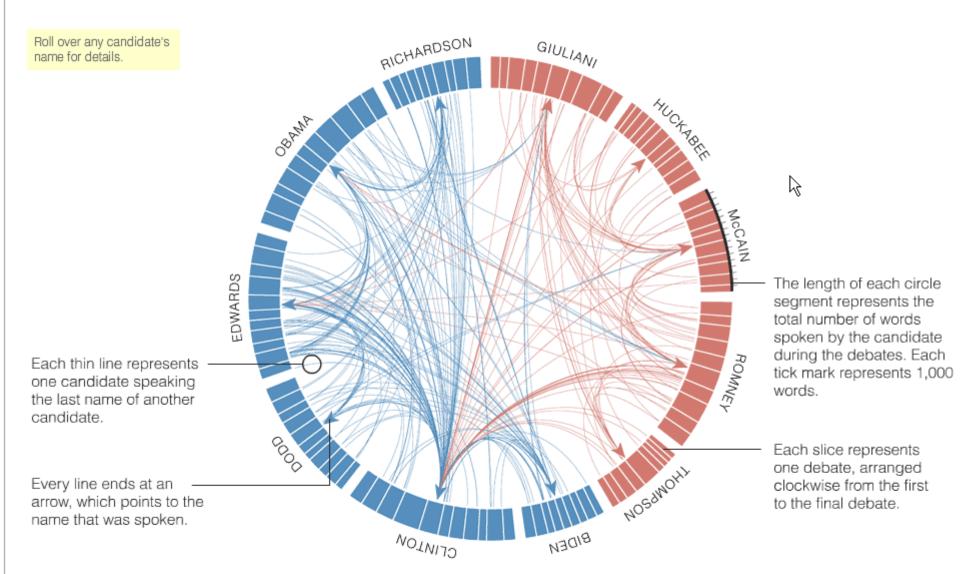
What x When -> Topic "Zeitgeist"

Who x Who -> Social network

Who x Who x What x When -> Information flow

Naming Names

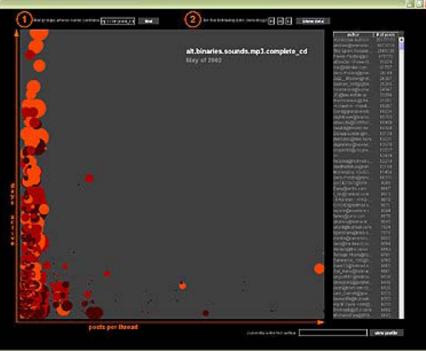
Names used by major presidential candidates in the series of Democratic and Republican debates leading up to the Iowa caucuses.



Usenet Visualization [Viegas & Smith]

Show correspondence patterns in text forums Initiate vs. reply; size and duration of discussion





Jun Feb Mar Jan May Jun Jul Aug Sep Did New Dec Maket Folloots.

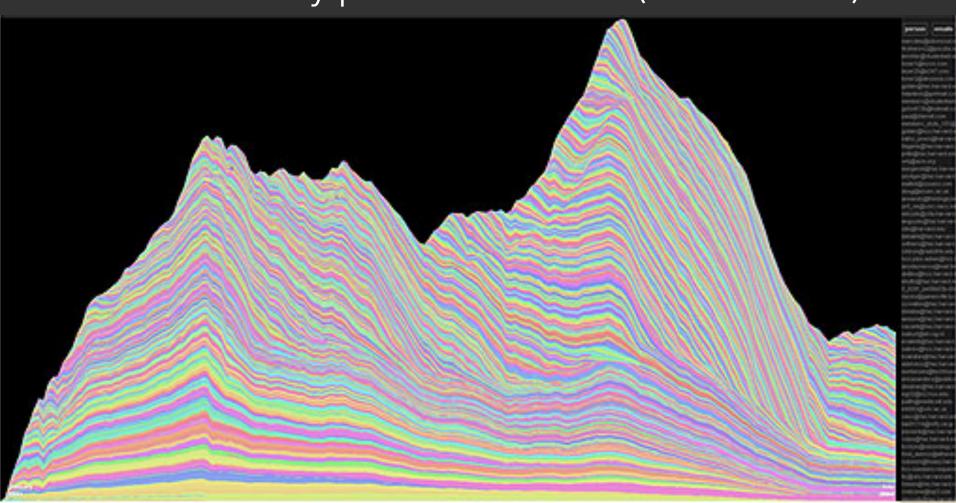
Week of May 6, 2001

N Commis Scientificate Cornett?

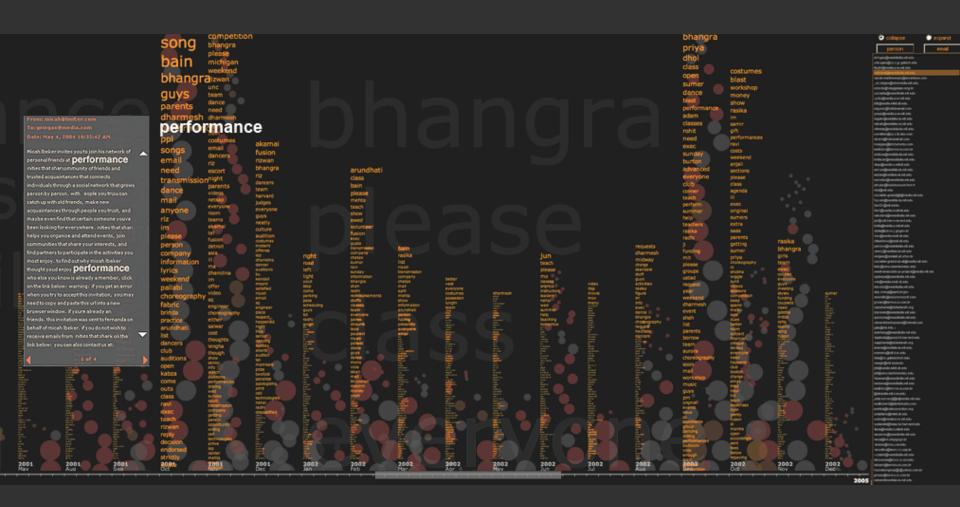
Bullion C	# of posts
An Publisherophine Is.	200
in Consents Scientiff.	86
COLD SECTIMENT	37
Preside Metric His	7
COMMENTAL PROPERTY.	35
West consistency reper	10 X 20
Downia against	75
STATE SHOULD BE SHOULD BE	- 25
TOWN NEW YORK	7
COST MAR CHIE	40
Control of the last	- 1
Address of the last of the las	. 10
(Antiquismonia)	- 2
a Fastnesed Door	
Committee Street Street	
SAME OF TAXABLE PARTY.	
Control Control	
BORNTHIC HRO	- 3
CHARLEST HOUSE.	T.
AND PARTITIONS ASSESSED.	- 1
Art States recipative	4
Carthet	4
1000M-CVL (100E.	
Voorbeig (0.12	4

Email Mountain [Viegas]

Conversation by person over time (who x when).

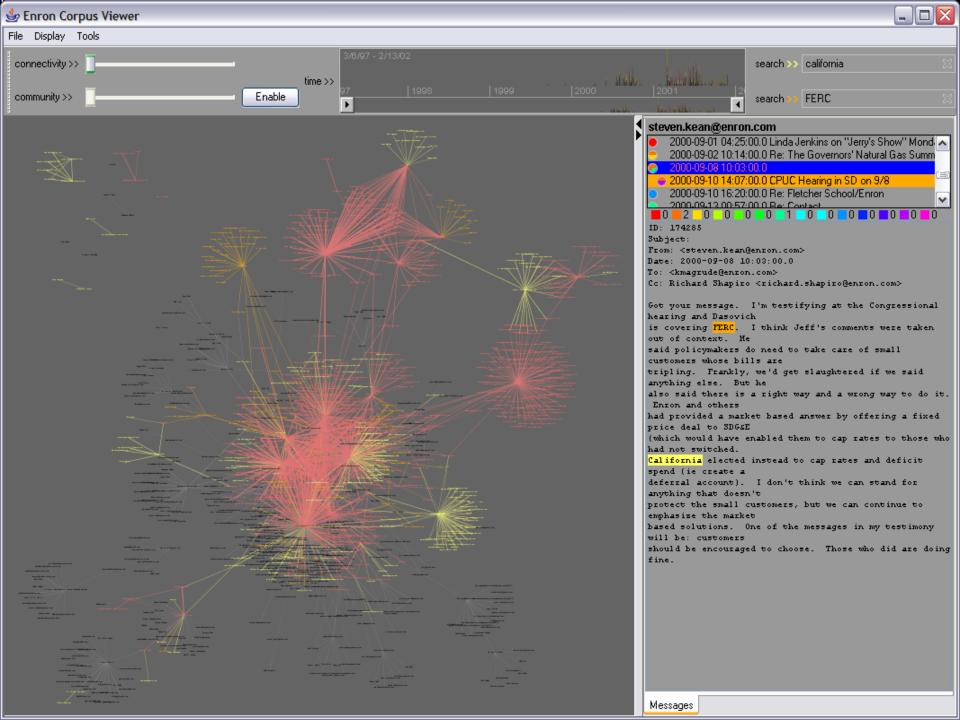


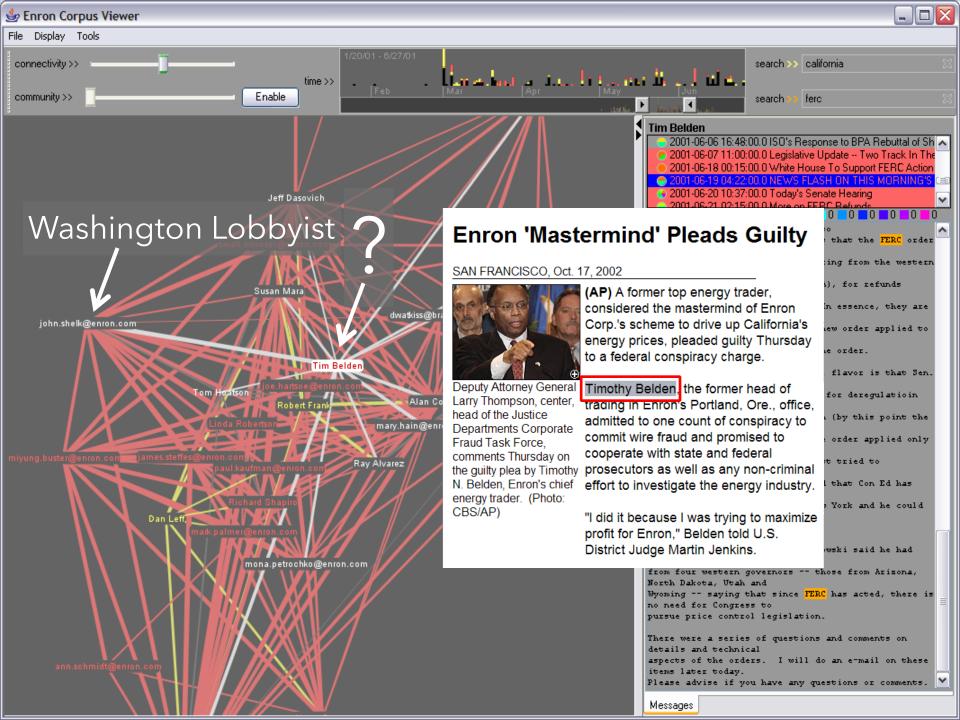
Themail [Viegas]



One person over time, TF.IDF weighted terms







Document Collections

Named Entity Recognition

Label named entities in text:

John Smith -> PERSON

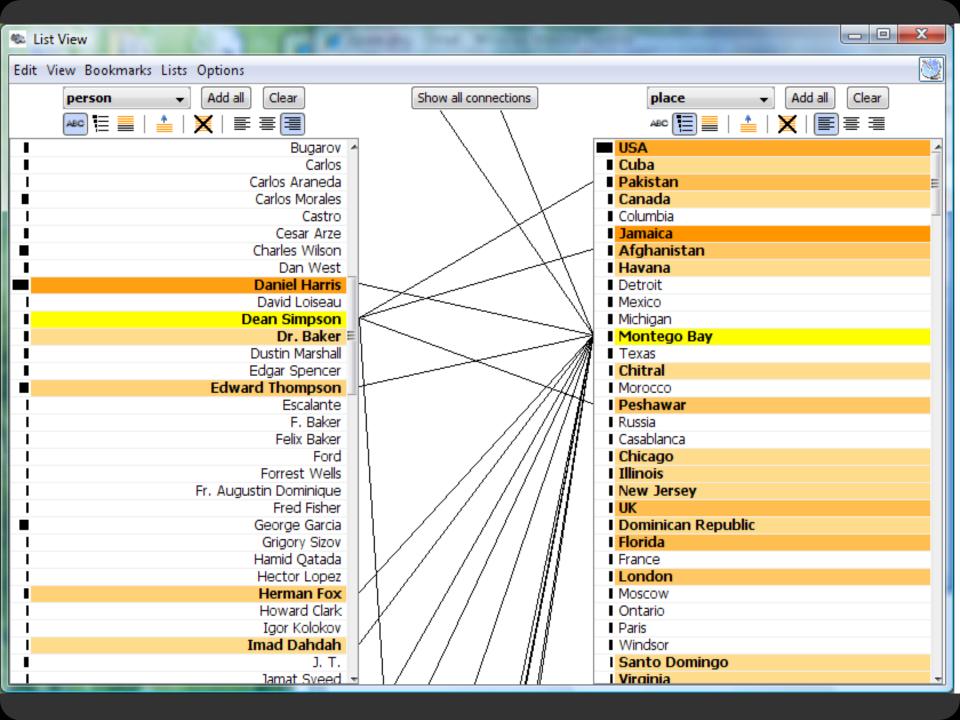
Soviet Union -> COUNTRY

353 Serra St -> ADDRESS

(555) 721-4312 -> PHONE NUMBER

Entity relations: how do the entities relate?

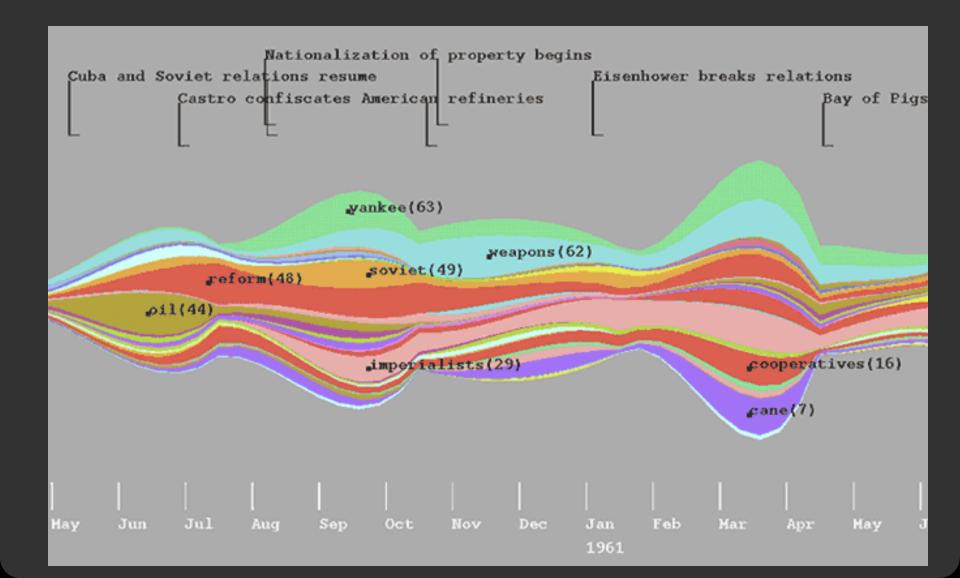
Simple approach: do they co-occur in a small window of text?



Parallel Tag Clouds [Collins et al.]

adverted	adjourned	allocatur	adequate	hankruntev	bargaining	about	abuse	abuse	appeal	ballot	accused	agency
alia	alia	analysis	affirmed	bankruptcy	benefit brief	asked	affirmed	aliens	argument assistant		agency	agency's
anent	allocution	antitrust	aid	barge capital	cos	tolove	-	appropriate	attached	black	annuity	agency s
appellant	arbitration	app	ante	cargo	cocaine	called	appellee	asylum	binding	candidate	antidumping	authority
appellant's	asbestos	asbestos	appeal	charter	court	cocaine	argued	handates	brief	case	application	bargaining
appellee	closure	assets	argument	coverage	Court	conspiracy	beleve	circuit	cited	cottled	art	brief
arguendo	commenced	bankruptcy	argument because	damages	defendant	could	cocaine	cited	collateral	class	board	broadcast
asseveration	conveniens	believe	before	death	defendant's	defendant	crack	contended	сору	commerce	claim	capricious
below	copyright	benefit	coal	deltor	delivered	disciplinary	disability	court	court seefs defendant	conspiracy	compounds	carrier
brief	date	bottlers	cocaine	drilling	denied disability	enough	distribution	dba declared	determine	county	construction	competition
Cajaching	defendant	can	conspiracy	estate execution fault	district	fire	district	denial	disfavor	death	contract	costs
commonwealth	disenfranchised	class	contention	gas	UISTITUT	gang get	drug	deportation	doc	desegregation	cortados Costa	data
defendant	extorion	context	court's	habeas	employees	gun	evidence	discretion	doctrine	discrimination	decision	emissions
del	foreign	creditors	crack	homestead	filed	had	farm	disposition	documents	district	description	employees
ensued	fraud	debtor	decisional	indemnity	firearm	harassing	firearm	district	estoppel	dozer	device	exemption
error	heroin	exercise	denied	injury	follows	have	party had	errs	forthwith	election	disclosed embodied	explanatory facilities
factfinding	injunction	fiduciary	disclosed	instant	grievance	help	her	except	furnished	graduated	equivalent	gas
ferritin	inter	have	Access	insurance	hereby	her	him	fear	further	immunities	Eventure Surviver QUEST	hazard
here	internal	-	dispensed	jurists	his	him	his	fish	gas grazing ten	insurance	inequitable	intervenor
incarcerative	keeplock	here	district	law	indictment job	his	inmates	habitat	judgment	ivory	infringement	labor
inference		insurance	érug	liability	judgment	job		hardship	judicata	jail	invalid	license
jury	marks	interest	fact	lien loan	magistrate	judge	jury	his immigration	material	law	invention	memoranda
limned	millions	jurisdiction	from	marihuana	magistrate's	just	medical	jurisdiction	nevertheless	migrant	inventor	operation
Ist	narcotics	legislation	his	maritime	marijuana	kilogram: m	ethamphetam	nine land	now	mitigation		petitioner
might	omitted payment		interlocutory joined	mitigation	motion	lawyer	months	may	opinion	nonstatutory	layer legist itensi	pipelines
more mortgage	plaintiff	liability	legal	negligence	office	might	office	native	oral	ordinance	means	promulgated
mongage person	plaintiff's	majority	lung	nre	panel	more	opinion	novo	order	payday	merchandise	proposed
plausible	principal	market	magistrate	offshare	parier	one	pain	papal	persuasive	phase	method	proposed
point	proceedings	notes	material	oil	plaintiff	out	postconviction	panel	petitione's	qualified	noninfringement	rate
rescript said	quotation	our	merits miner's	parish		para	quantity	persecution	plaintiff's precedential	race	obvious	regulations
say	reinsurance	parents pension	mineral	platform	plaintiff's	police	reversed	petition	-	racial	patent	regulatory
see	respect	plaintiff	mining	policy	pneumoconiosis	prisoner	search	prisoner	record remained	section	patentee	rehearing reprinted
some	security	plan	opinion	recovery	police	she	sentence	provided	res	sentence	product	required rate
auggested	see		oral	ref'd	pursuant	stawart	sexual	public	submitted	sheriff	protein	rulemaking
supra	shareholders	plenary	order	removed retard		suit	she	pursuant	suspended	students	reissue	section
think	shares	product	pneumoconiosis		recommendation	tentative	subd	specie	tab therefore tit	trial	retirement	see
tit	sterile stock	provision	present	seaman servitude	search sentence	than	testified	suitable	unanimous	turtle tusks	said	service shipper
town	subway	recognized reorganization	process	stated		thought	testimony	Bridge	unfavorable	vessel	signal Skill	Shipper
trialworthy	summation	section	published	suit	sitting	told	told	tribal		vote	specific	tariff
vessel	trade	settlement	pulmonary	usury	unanimous	too	tribal	tribe	unpublished	voters	structure	transmission
vis ViZ	vacated	syrup	sertence	vessel	union	want	unpublished	unanimous	value	waterbodies	surface	union
	view waybill	under	would		upon	when	verdict	water	vehicle	white	vaccination	united
whom	where	would	wrote	writ	warrant	would	work	without	vol	zone	veterans	waste
First	Second	Third	Fourth	Fifth	Sixth	Seventh	Eighth	Ninth	Tenth	Eleventh	Federal	DC
1 11 30	Scoona	77mG	1 Oakii	1 11(11	SIATT	Severial	Ligitar	MITTEL	1 CIRII	LICYCIRII	1 Cucial	20

Theme River [Havre et al.]



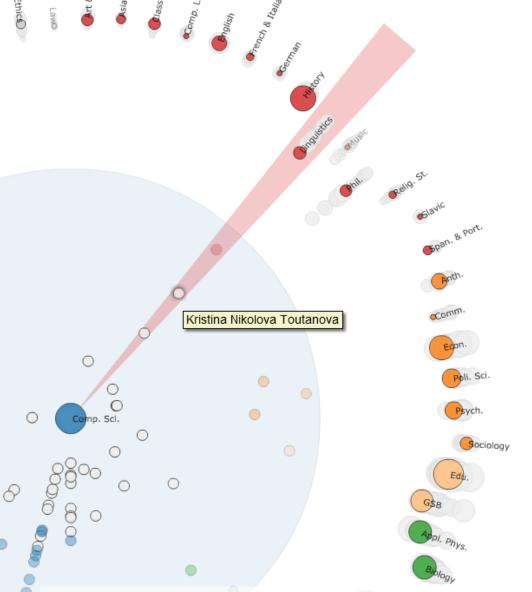
Similarity & Clustering

Compute vector distance among docs

For TF.IDF, typically cosine distance
Similarity measure can be used to cluster

Topic modeling

Assume documents are a mixture of topics
Topics are (roughly) a set of co-occurring terms
Latent Semantic Analysis (LSA): reduce term matrix
Latent Dirichlet Allocation (LDA): statistical model



Effective statistical models for syntactic and semantic disambiguation

Student: Kristina Nikolova Toutanova Advisor: Christopher D. Manning

Computer Science (2005)

Keywords: Syntactic, Semantic, Tree kernels, Parsing

Abstract:

This thesis focuses on building effective statistical models for disambiguation of sophisticated syntactic and semantic natural language (NL) structures. We advance the state of the art in several domains by (i) choosing representations that encode domain knowledge more effectively and (ii) developing machine learning algorithms that deal with the specific properties of NL disambiguation tasks--sparsity of training data and large, structured spaces of hidden labels. For the task of syntactic disambiguation, we propose a novel representation of parse trees that connects the words of the sentence with the hidden syntactic structure in a direct way. Experimental evaluation on parse selection for a Head Driven Phrase Structure Grammar shows the new representation achieves superior performance compared to previous models. For the task of disambiguating the semantic role structure of verbs, we build a more accurate model, which captures the knowledge that the semantic frame of a verb is a joint structure with strong dependencies between arguments. We achieve this using a Conditional Random Field without Markov independence assumptions on the sequence of semantic role labels. To address the sparsity problem in machine learning for NL, we develop a method for incorporating many additional sources of information, using Markov chains in the space of words. The Markov chain framework makes it possible to combine multiple knowledge sources, to learn how much to trust each of them, and to chain inferences together. It achieves large gains in the task of disambiguating prepositional phrase attachments.

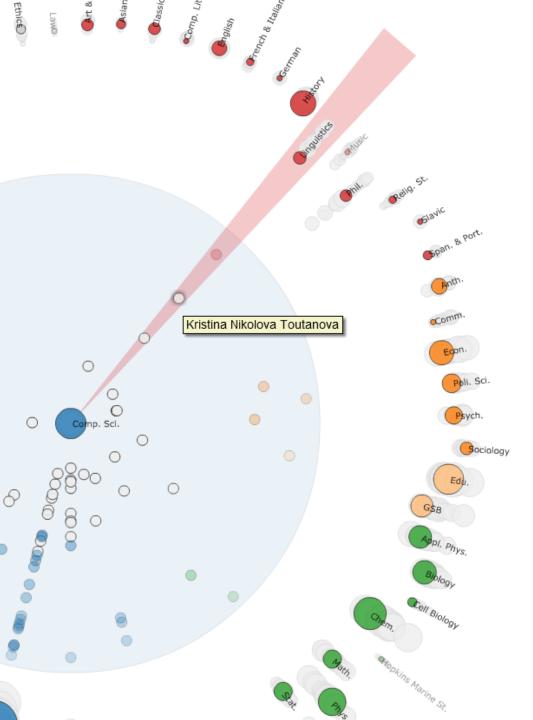
Stanford Dissertation Browser

with Jason Chuang, Dan Ramage & Christopher Manning



Area of circles denote number of Depts with no thesis produced are	e faded out.			
Purple = Medicine Green = Sciences Blue = Engineering Orange/Pink = Humanities	Anticologia Para Antico	Modern Thoughts Sync. Rad. Labo Food Research		
	edianica do diology	Ethics	S. S. L. S. Light	
	t. & Gyn.		Goan, & Port	ι.
Neurosun Neuro	Plague		Vnz	
	(Gastro)		Phil. Relig.	
Medicine (Endo/Ger/Met)® Medicine (Clin/	Pharm Medicine Health & Policy	nguistics	Gociology	Poli. Sci.
	Genetic		A A	PDI. Phys.
	Biological Biochemics Eng.	Comp. Sci.	A or to Define	Cell Biology
G ²	Angelhein Brochen Brochen	From Region Supplements	Genomys.	arine St.
	Mat. En		Geografia Sch.	
			00	





Effective statistical models for syntactic and semantic disambiguation

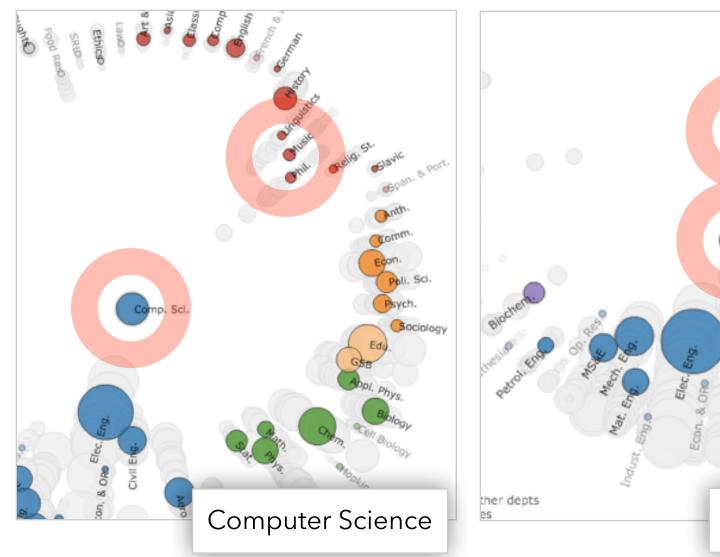
Student: Kristina Nikolova Toutanova Advisor: Christopher D. Manning

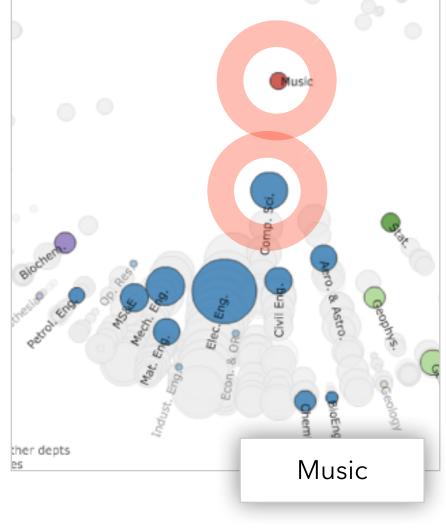
Computer Science (2005)

Keywords: Syntactic, Semantic, Tree kernels, Parsing

Abstract:

This thesis focuses on building effective statistical models for disambiguation of sophisticated syntactic and semantic natural language (NL) structures. We advance the state of the art in several domains by (i) choosing representations that encode domain knowledge more effectively and (ii) developing machine learning algorithms that deal with the specific properties of NL disambiguation tasks--sparsity of training data and large, structured spaces of hidden labels. For the task of syntactic disambiguation, we propose a novel representation of parse trees that connects the words of the sentence with the hidden syntactic structure in a direct way. Experimental evaluation on parse selection for a Head Driven Phrase Structure Grammar shows the new representation achieves superior performance compared to previous models. For the task of disambiguating the semantic role structure of verbs, we build a more accurate model, which captures the knowledge that the semantic frame of a verb is a joint structure with strong dependencies between arguments. We achieve this using a Conditional Random Field without Markov independence assumptions on the sequence of semantic role labels. To address the sparsity problem in machine learning for NL, we develop a method for incorporating many additional sources of information, using Markov chains in the space of words. The Markov chain framework makes it possible to combine multiple knowledge sources, to learn how much to trust each of them, and to chain inferences together. It achieves large gains in the task of disambiguating prepositional phrase attachments.





"Word Borrowing" via Labeled LDA

Summary

High Dimensionality

Where possible use text to represent text...

... which terms are the most descriptive?

Context & Semantics

Provide relevant context to aid understanding.

Show (or provide access to) the source text.

Modeling Abstraction

Understand abstraction of your language models.

Match analysis task with appropriate tools and models.

Currently: from bag-of-words to vector space embeddings