CS 8803 Data Analytics for Well-being: Data Modeling

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Temporal patterns of happiness and information in a global social network: Hedonometrics and Twitter

Main Idea

- The article says the following about the web: "a collective, open recording of an enormous number of transactions, interactions, and expressions, marking a clear transition in our ability to quantitatively characterize, and thereby potentially understand, previously hidden as well as novel microscale mechanisms underlying sociotechnical systems"
- Method (a hedenometer): use of word frequency distributions combined with independently assessed numerical estimates of the 'happiness' of over 10,000 words obtained using Amazon's Mechanical Turk

Contributions and Findings

- The paper explores happiness as a function of time, space, demographics, and network structure.
- Examine temporal variations in happiness including: the overall time series; regular cycles at the scale of days and weeks; time series for subsets of tweets containing specific keywords; and detailed comparisons between texts at the level of individual words.











Modeling Public Mood and Emotion: Twitter Sentiment and Socioeconomic Phenomena – (Bollen, Pepe, Mao, 2010)

- Examine how Twitter moods reflect social, political, and economic events
- Use POMS (profile of mood states) for detecting moodindicative twitter posts.
 - POMS dimensions: tension, depression, anger, vigor, fatigue and confusion
- Investigate how a six vector representation of moods deviates during different big scope events.
- High stress/tension during elections; excitement/vigor during thanksgiving.



Nov 04, 2008

2008 Presidential elections





Diurnal and Seasonal Mood Vary with Work, Sleep, and Day length Across Diverse Cultures

- One of the early works examining relationship between social media mood and behavior and psychological theories.
- Identify daily and seasonal mood variations and relate it to work, sleep and daylight.
- Validate circadian rhythms in humans.
 - PA spike in the morning, NA increases as the day progresses
- Measure positive affect and negative affect based on the lexicon LIWC.
- PA and NA are not mirror images of each other.



Is measurement of positive and negative emotion sufficient for assessing the well-being of populations?





The hedenometer algorithm uses ratings from Amazon's Mechanical Turk on words obtained from music lyrics, Twitter, NY Times and Google Books. Are there limitations to this rating gathering approach?

Twitter is used by millions, but could it also have bias?

Dictionary approach of mood detection: what is its limitation?

True emotion versus displayed emotion on social media: how would you tackle this issue? People use social media for all kinds of reasons and purposes. Would that affect the moods they express?

Would "self-presentation", "social comparison" or identity impact the kinds of moods shared?

Can social media manifested emotion have a cultural, demographic, or geographical bias? Could the moods of certain Twitter users be more "important" than others? (Hint: influencers and contagion) What are some of the other aspects, not considered in the papers, they may impact mood? (Hint: Aristotle said: "man is a social animal") One possible application is to study Twitter moods during important events, and how they impact each other. However can public displays of mood from others impact our opinions?