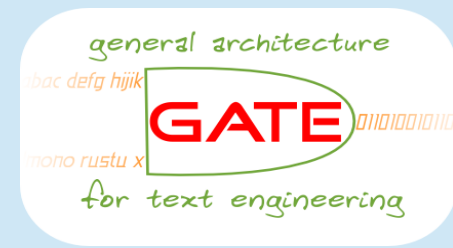




The  
University  
Of  
Sheffield.



Adding value to NLP:  
More semantic technologies in use

## 15 years ago in NLP, we were...

- Using ontologies for adding reasoning/additional information to text
- Developing linguistic tools for conceptual modelling
- Semantic enrichment for ontology mapping
- Developing ways to get from text to ontologies and back
- Trying to persuade the Semantic Web community that NLP was important

# Mapping semantic relations

Ford, **Henry Ford** -- (United States manufacturer of **automobiles** who pioneered **mass production** (1863-1947))

**car**, auto, **automobile**, machine, motorcar -- (4-wheeled motor vehicle; usually propelled by an internal combustion engine; "he needs a car to get to work")

*A hyponym of car (from a total of 30):*

=> **Model T** -- (the first widely available **automobile** powered by a gasoline engine; **mass-produced by Henry Ford** from 1908 to 1927)

- Finding “hidden” semantic links between concepts using gloss information from dictionaries
- (We want to know that Henry Ford makes cars)
- These days we could just check Wikipedia 😊

# Many of the underlying technologies are still relevant

- The techniques may have changed a bit: we now have
  - lots of lovely big data to play with
  - open source knowledge bases
  - powerful GPUs (crack cocaine for NLP students)
  - deep learning (all the cool kidz 😊 )



# How to impress a “freedom of the media” researcher

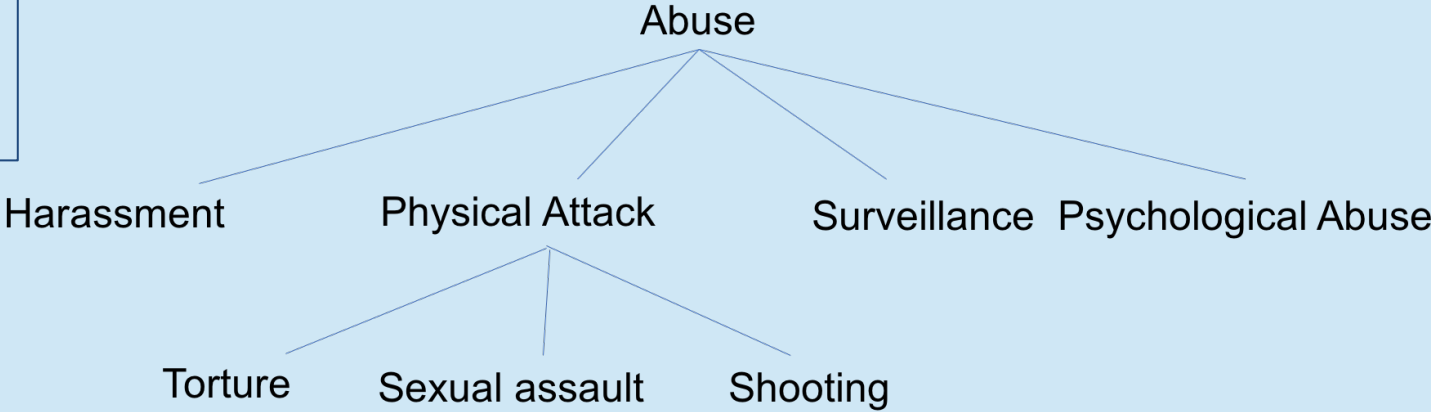
Journalist and radio host Luka Popov from northern Serbia was found dead in his home in Srpski Krstur on Friday 17 June 2016. According to Serbian daily Blic, Popov's body was found with visible injuries and he had been presumably "tortured and murdered". The police are currently investigating the circumstances behind the death. The Serbian Journalist associations NUNS and UNS, and journalist association of Vojvodina DNV have urged the authorities to thoroughly investigate the circumstances around the journalist's death. The OSCE has condemned the murder. The OSCE's representative on freedom of the media, Dunja Mijatovi, said that the investigation must be carried out and authorities must do their utmost to bring the murder to justice." Luka Popov was from Coka and Novi Knezevac.

- Incidents
  - Incident Date
  - Job Title
  - Location
  - Media
  - Person
  - Violence

Violence

deliberate	yes	X
kind	death	X

“What is this wizardry?”



# Feral databases

**The problem:** too much unstructured information

On 26 June 1996, while driving her red Opel Calibra, Guerin stopped at a red traffic light on the Naas Dual Carriageway near Newlands Cross, on the outskirts of Dublin, unaware she was being followed. She was shot six times, by one of two men sitting on a motorcycle.

How many journalists died in 1996?

**The solution:** categorise it and stick it in a spreadsheet

“Everybody loves spreadsheets!”

# That's great, we have lots of NLP tools to do that!

Date: 26-06-1996

Location: other

Person

Location: city

On 26 June 1996, while driving her red Opel Calibra, Guerin stopped at a red traffic light on the Naas Dual Carriageway near Newlands Cross, on the outskirts of Dublin, unaware she was being followed. She was shot six times, fatally, by one of two men sitting on a motorcycle.

Event: Killing: shooting



Name	Date	Location City	Location Country	Event type	Type death	of
Guerin	26061996	Dublin	Ireland	Killing	Shooting	

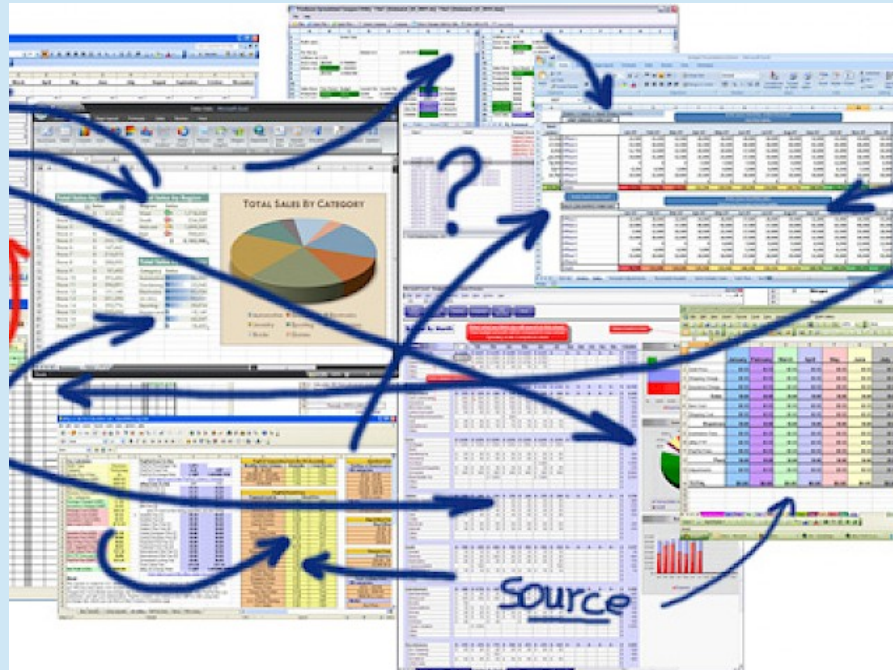
Woe betide anyone who opens the sacred spreadsheet!



Mass panic



Let's start a new spreadsheet!



Aaaagggghhhh!!!



# Harry Potter and the Spreadsheet of Doom

NO	TIME	TITLE	PLOT	PROPHECY	Char/Gang	D.A.	O.P.P	Snape/Herm + fabu	Hogwart + groups
6									
13	OCT	Plots and Resistance	Harry, Ron & Hermione go to Hogsmeade under Lupin and Tonks - catch both. Voldemort escapes - plans next. Harry recruiting for O.P.P. Hogwart train - writing	PROPHECY - Hall of Prophecy Mandrill Vol still formulating his plan. None of the DPs were to get in +	Cho in Hogsmeade - wants to join O.P.P	Tonks + Lupin	recruiting	Harry starts lesson for to recruit for O.P.P	Planned to still teach - refused to attend lessons - "he's faster than me" not his
14	NOV	The Order of the Phoenix	First meeting of the Order of the Phoenix	Vol's plan to use Nagini attacks for his	Cho + Granger both present	Underage wizard can't attend	First meeting	Harry still recruiting - Snape - spying	
15	NOV	The Driest Tackle	Qualification exam meeting - Harry fails - suspended following accident on the train. Sirius Black - escape following detention. Sirius Black - escape following detention.		Cho now studying in love	Rehearsal			
16	NOV	Black Marks	How it's shipping Snape lessons - Harry starts in Hogwarts - he says Sirius is the killer. Harry catches Sirius - Sirius - Harry	Nagini set on, Vol has confirmation of Snape's story - only he & Harry can touch the prophecies	Cho was in Gryffindor - Sirius Black - father	Snape's past - why called to be told of father's injury	reactions - snakes? meeting? exercise	How about Harry's group	Hogwarts still getting injuries
17	DEC	Peter Returns	Snape learns Hogsmeade / Xmas shopping - they meet Peter	Peter information - Mandy shipshape	Harry now studying Cho - Cho - Sirius + O.P.P. also?		O.P.P	Another lesson	Hogwart hospital wing
18	DEC	St Mungo's Hospital for Magical Maladies and Injuries	Dr. Amo's wife was for - see Buckle (magical injury) - see Lockhart - see Mr. Weasley - Neville	NOW VOL IS ACTUALLY TRYING TO GET HARRY TO O.P.P - Harry almost - could say yes	Granger + Pad	around			
19	DEC	(Kissa)		Rude death - Harry O.P.P again	Harry - Sirius - Sirius - Sirius	Sirius here - Sirius - Sirius			
20	JAN	Extended Powers of Sirius Black	Harry messes with Sirius - Order of Phoenix - Sirius Black - Sirius Black - Sirius Black	Harry fighting - Sirius Black - Sirius Black	Vol's plan - Sirius Black - Sirius Black		O.P.P meeting	Snape lesson - Harry can't do - Harry can't do	Harry's group - Sirius Black - Sirius Black
21	FEB	(Valentine's day)	Harry's plan - Sirius Black - Sirius Black - Sirius Black				O.P.P		
22	FEB	Cornia Group	Underage now studying for Potter - Sirius Black - Sirius Black - Sirius Black				O.P.P	Snape's group - Harry can't do - Harry can't do	
MARCH	(Treason)		Order of Phoenix - Sirius Black - Sirius Black - Sirius Black	Harry getting to set it - blacking out	Cho - Sirius - Sirius - Sirius	going west		Snape's group - Harry can't do - Harry can't do	
APRIL	(Lovers Quarrel)		Snape's conversation - Sirius Black - Sirius Black - Sirius Black	Harry starting to get it			the plot meeting		Harry's group - Sirius Black - Sirius Black



This was once the latest in calendar technology...



# Case studies: how can NLP and semantics help?

- Violations against journalists
- Disaster relief
- The B-word

# Global monitoring of violations against journalists

- **The situation:** *cases of killing, kidnapping, enforced disappearance, arbitrary detention and torture of journalists, associated media personnel, often with impunity*
- **The task:** UN SDG agenda (indicator 16.10.1): we need a comprehensive monitoring system capturing the scope & nature of violations (lethal & non-lethal)
- **The problem:** the data is a horrible mess!
  - accessibility of reliable information on violations
    - gaps in the data beyond killings; cannot compile data on a wide range of violations; practical challenges of collection
  - systematisation and compiling of information
    - conceptual inconsistency; much information is unstructured



## Events are complex

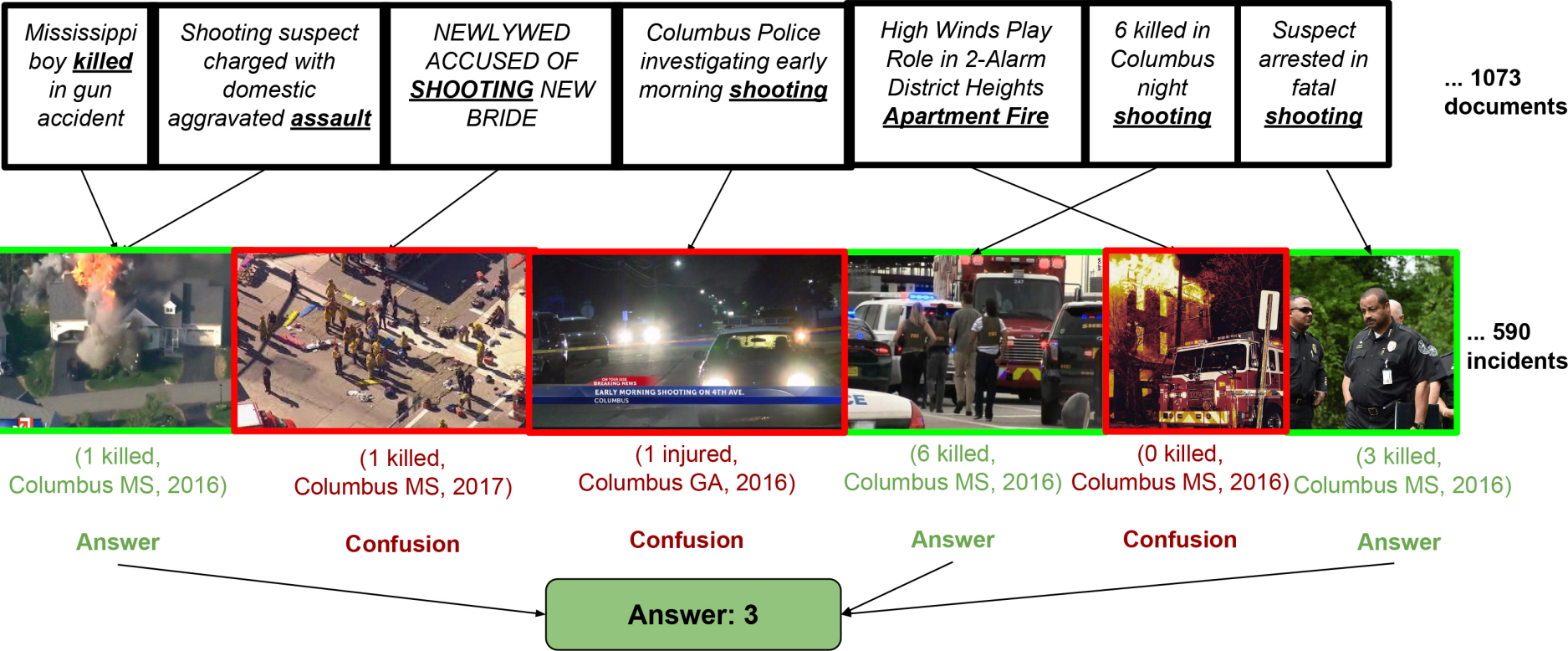
*The family of murdered Maltese anti-corruption journalist Daphne Caruana Galizia is demanding an independent public inquiry because she had suffered years of intimidation.*

*She was killed by a car bomb near her home in October. Her widely-read blog accused top politicians of corruption. One of her sons, Paul, said three pet dogs were killed and attempts were made to burn down the journalist's home.*

- Several separate events, but
  - are they related?
  - was it the same perpetrator(s)?
- Traditional methods use a person-centric approach with no relation between events

# But we know how to understand complex events

Question: How many killing incidents happened in 2016 in Columbus, Mississippi?



# Information categories in current monitoring efforts

Assimilated categories	Press Freedom Tracker	Council of Europe	Mapping Media Freedom	CPJ	Media Governance and Industries Lab
Death	Physical attack	Death	Death	Death	Killed
Missing				Missing	Missing/ Disappeared
Arrest/ Imprisonment	Arrests and criminal charges	Detention or Imprisonment	Arrest/Detention	Imprisoned	Imprisoned
					Arrested
Interrogation			Interrogation		
Torture				Tortured	
Assault/Attack	Physical Attack	Attacks on physical safety and integrity	Physical assaults		Physical assault
	Prior Restraint				

# ICCS Crime Classification Scheme

## Section 02 Acts causing harm or intending to cause harm to the person

LEVEL 02	LEVEL 03	LEVEL 04	CRIME
<b>0201</b>			<b>Assaults and threats</b>
	02011		Assault
		020111	Serious assault
		020112	Minor assault
	02012		Threat
		020121	Serious threat
		020122	Minor threat
	02019		Other assaults or threats
<b>0202</b>			<b>Acts against liberty</b>
	02022		Deprivation of liberty
		020221	Kidnapping
		020222	Illegal restraint
		020223	Hijacking
		020229	Other deprivation of liberty

# HURIDOCS classification scheme

**03**

## **Violations against the right to liberty**

03 01

Direct actions which violate the right to liberty

03 01 01

Arrest

03 01 02

Detention, imprisonment

03 01 02 01

Denial of release in case of unlawful arrest

03 01 02 02

Denial of release pending trial

03 01 02 03

Denial of release on bail

03 01 03

Disappearance

03 01 04

Abduction; kidnapping

03 01 05

House arrest

03 01 06

Slavery

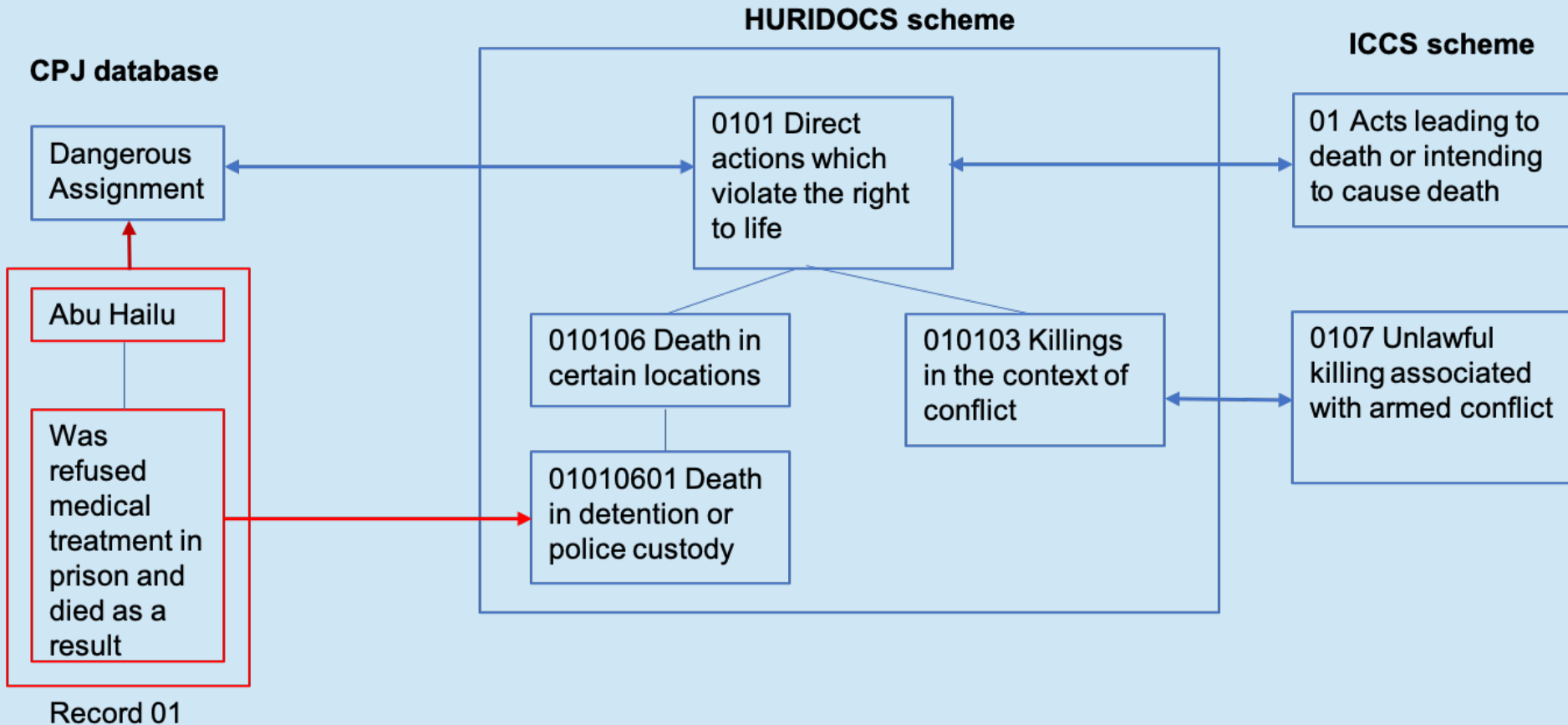
03 01 07

Mass roundup

03 01 08

Curfew

# Putting it all together



# Reconciling information from different sources

Relation	Example	Issue	Solution	Same Event?
<b>Exact match</b>	Location: London Location: London	Identical facts	Two events can be merged	Very likely
<b>Equivalent match</b>	Type: murder Type: assassination	Semantically equivalent facts	Two events can be merged	Very likely
<b>No-conflict</b>	Location: London Date: 2019	Different but semantically compatible facts	Facts from two events can be merged	Probably
<b>Specificity Conflict</b>	Location: London Location: UK	One fact is more specific than the other, but both are semantically compatible	Facts can be merged at either specific or generic level	Probably
<b>Direct conflict</b>	Location: London Location: Paris	Facts conflict semantically: both cannot be correct	More info needed to resolve conflict	Unlikely

# Reconciling our information

Name	Date	City	Country	Event type	Type of death
Guerin	26061996	Dublin	Ireland	Killing	Shooting



Name	Date	Organisation	Location	Event type
Veronica Guerin	26 June 1996	Sunday Independent	Ireland	Murder



Name	Date	Organisation	Location	Event type	Sources
Veronica Guerin	26061996	Sunday Independent	Dublin, Ireland	Shooting: deliberate, fatal	2



# Automatic categorization of free text

Journalist and radio host Luka Popov from northern Serbia was found dead in his home in Srpski Krstur on Friday 17 June 2016. According to Serbian daily Blic, Popov's body was found with visible injuries and he had been presumably "tortured and murdered". The police are currently investigating the circumstances behind the death. The Serbian Journalist associations NUNS and UNS, and journalist association of Vojvodina DNV have urged the authorities to thoroughly investigate the circumstances around the journalist's death. The OSCE has condemned the murder. The OSCE's representative on freedom of the media, Dunja Mijatovi, said that the investigation must be carried out. Authorities must do their utmost to bring the murder to justice." Luka Popov was born in Coka and Novi Knezevac.

- Incidents
  - Incident Date
  - Job Title
  - Location
  - Media
  - Person
  - Violence

## Srpski Krstur

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Coordinates: 46°07′10″N 20°06′12″E﻿ / ﻿46.11944°N 20.10333°E﻿ / 46.11944; 20.10333

**Srpski Krstur** (Serbian Cyrillic: Српски Крстур) is a village located in Serbia, in the Novi Kneževac municipality of the North Banat District, in the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina. The village has a Serb ethnic majority (69.81%) with a present Romani (13.58%) and Hungarian minority (9.38%). It has a population of 1,620 people (2002 census).

### Contents [hide]

- Name
- History
- Historical population
- See also
- References
- Further reading
- External links

### Name [edit]

In Serbian, the village is known as Српски Крстур / Srpski Krstur (also simply Крстур / Krstur), in Croatian as *Srpski Krstur*, and in Hungarian as *Ókeresztúr*.

Its name means "the Serb Krstur" (There is also a village of *Ruski Krstur* in Vojvodina, meaning "the Rusyn Krstur"). The Serbian name of the village derived from Serbian word *krst* ("cross" in English), while Hungarian name derived from Hungarian word *kereszt* (meaning "cross" in English too). The Hungarian word *kereszt* itself is of Slavic origin - variants of this word in some other Slavic languages are including Bulgarian "Кръст" ("krst"), Macedonian "Крст" ("krst"), Russian "Крест" ("krest"), Ukrainian "Хрест" ("hrest"), etc.

### Srpski Krstur Српски Крстур

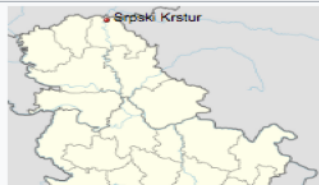
Village



The village of Srpski Krstur



Coat of arms



deliberate	▼	yes	▼	✖
kind	▼	death	▼	✖
	▼		▼	✖

Entities and events are extracted, along with features, and linked to other knowledge sources, e.g. Wikipedia, other categorization schemes

# Social Media and Disaster Relief

- Hurricane Sandy in the US:
  - 1.1 million tweets in the first day; over 20 million in total
  - > 800K photos with #Sandy hashtag on Instagram
- Haze in Singapore: > 23 million
- Nepal earthquake in 2015: more than half a million posts



# Aid workers in Nepal discussing strategy

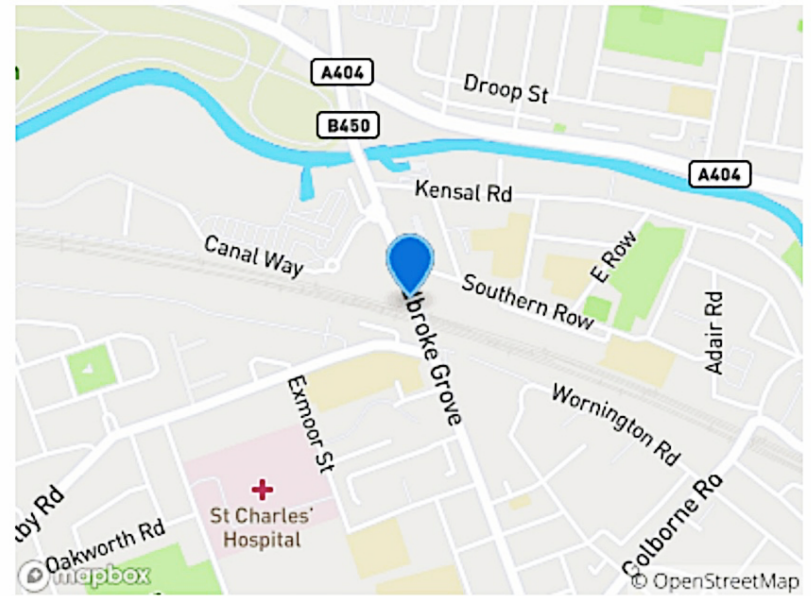




# Tools to help disaster victims get aid quickly: pinpointing geographic locations

- Many NGOs are not local to the disaster area and may not have a good grasp of the geography
- Place names are ambiguous
- Find mentions of locations in the text, match them to a knowledge base, and plot them on a map

## Location



## Annotation from YODIE

A huge fire has engulfed a tower block in West London. The fire broke out shortly before 1 am on Wednesday at Grenfell Tower in Latimer Road near Notting Hill. The tower is at least 24 storeys high and contains 120 apartments. 200 firefighters have been tackling the blaze with 40 engines. A number of people have been treated for a range of injuries according to the fire brigade. There have been multiple reports of people trapped in the blaze. These have not been confirmed by police or the fire brigade. Streets around the tower have been sealed off and residents in their houses evacuated. London

# CREES Google Sheets Add-on

Adding semantic information (from BabelNet) improves cross-lingual crisis event classification

Notes	CREES		
Text of request	RELATED	EVENT	INFO
	non-related	none	sympathy_and_support
Young nurse needing rescue!	related	floods	donations_and_volunteering
	non-related	none	sympathy_and_support
Together we will rebuilt page - Celia Torres	related	floods	infrastructure_and_utilities
Only have bank address from Twitter	non-related	floods	other_useful_information
#disabled lady is #stranded in #LeagueCity			
#dickinsontexas #needrescue #help			
#hurricaneharveyanimalrescue	related	floods	affected_individuals
	non-related	none	sympathy_and_support
	non-related	none	sympathy_and_support
Been trying numbers for hrs - busy signal. Elderly couple desperately #NeedWaterRescue:10202			
Willowgrove, 77035. Near S Post Oak & W Belfort	related	floods	other_useful_information
	non-related	none	sympathy_and_support
Can't get through on the coast guard number reported 2:19 pm CT	non-related	floods	affected_individuals

# GATE MIMIR and Prospector

- Built on top of annotated text in GATE
- can be used to index and search over text, annotations, semantic metadata
- allow queries that arbitrarily mix full-text, structural, linguistic and semantic annotations
- open source
- you can issue ridiculously complex queries

```
{
{Person gender=male sparql = "SELECT ?inst WHERE {
  ?inst :party
<http://dbpedia.org/resource/Labour_Party_%28UK%29> .
?inst :almaMater
<http://dbpedia.org/resource/University_of_Edinburgh> }"
}
[0..3] root:say
[0..5] {Money currency="£" value > 2000000}
}
```

IN

```
{Document date > 20050000 topic=uk_health}
```

# Prospecting Biomedical Literature

## GATE Prospector

Search ▾

**Diseases** Pathogens Pathogenesis Vaccine Animals and Models Custom Mimir Query

URI:

Disease ▾ Bacterial\_disease Acquired\_immu  
Viral\_disease ▾ Acute\_hepatitis  
Argentinian\_ha

**Document Metadata**

Dates:  to

source:

Search

**Documents** Terms

[PubMed By PMIDAbstract1000.txt](#)  
pertussis and Haemophilus influenzae.

[PubMed By PMIDAbstract10033.txt](#)  
syncytial virus (RSV). The injection of purified RSV in Freund's inoculation of purified RSV with Bordetella pertussis ...

[PubMed By PMIDAbstract10058.txt](#)  
cell infiltrates. **Hepatitis** and splenitis with

[PubMed By PMIDAbstract10085.txt](#)  
coli, Haemophilus influenzae and Proteus mirabilis

[PubMed By PMIDAbstract1012.txt](#)  
and one-half received **hepatitis A** vaccine (control

[PubMed By PMIDAbstract1013.txt](#)  
features of fatal influenza virus infection in national surveillance for influenza-associated deaths

1-20 of 10,256

Environmental signals implicated in Dr fimbriae release by pathogenic Escherichia coli. Afa/Dr diffusely adhering Escherichia coli have been shown to cause urinary tract infections and enteric infections. Virulence of Dr-positive IH11128 bacteria is associated with the presence of Dr fimbriae. In this report, we show for the first time that the Dr fimbriae are released in the extracellular medium in response to multiple environmental signals. Production and secretion of Dr fimbriae are clearly thermoregulated. A comparison of the amounts of secreted fimbriae showed that the secretion is drastically increased during anaerobic growth in minimal medium. The effect of anaerobiosis on secretion seemed to depend on both the growth phase and the culture medium. The secretion was maximal during the logarithmic-phase growth and corresponded to 27 and 57% of total Dr fimbriae produced by bacteria grown in mineral medium+glucose and LB broth, respectively. Thus, the anaerobic environment of the colon would favour the secretion of Dr fimbriae during bacterial multiplication. The controlled release of the Dr fimbriae, which is carried out in the absence of cellular lysis, appears independent of the action of proteases or a process of maturation. The mechanism employed in the liberation of Dr fimbriae thus seems different from that described for the adhesins EHA and Hap of Bordetella pertussis



# Choosing A Specific Instance

## GATE Prospector

Search ▾

**Diseases** Pathogens Pathogenesis Vaccine Animals and Models Custom Mimir Query

URI:

Disease ▶

Bacterial\_disease

Burkitts\_lymphoma

Viral\_disease ▶

Cervical\_cancer

Chandipura\_encephalitis

**Document Metadata**

Dates:  to

source:

Search

**Documents** Terms

[PubMed By PMIDAbstract1306.txt](#)

the development of **cervical cancer**. The HPV

[PubMed By PMIDAbstract3999.txt](#)

volume regulation of **cervical cancer** cells. On of RVD in **cervical cancer** cells, while

[PubMed By PMIDAbstract664.txt](#)

), and **cervical cancer**. Except for

[PubMed By PMIDAbstract10702.txt](#)

all women like **cervical cancer**, which might

[PubMed By PMIDAbstract11522.txt](#)

menstruating women with **cervical cancer** in situ showing

[PubMed By PMIDAbstract11796.txt](#)

management of invasive **cervical cancer** becomes even more

Eradication of established tumors by vaccination with recombinant Bordetella pertussis adenylate cyclase carrying the human papillomavirus 16 E7 oncoprotein. High-risk human papillomaviruses (HPV) such as HPV16 are associated with the development of **cervical cancer**. The HPV16-E6 and HPV16-E7 oncoproteins are expressed throughout the replicative cycle of the virus and are necessary for the onset and maintenance of malignant transformation. Both these tumor-specific antigens are considered as potential targets for specific CTL-mediated immunotherapy. The adenylate cyclase (CyaA) of Bordetella pertussis is able to target dendritic cells through specific interaction with the alpha(M)beta(2) integrin. It has been previously shown that this bacterial protein could be used to deliver CD4(+) and CD8(+) T cell epitopes to the MHC class II and class I presentation pathways to trigger specific Th and CTL responses in vivo, providing protection against subsequent viral or tumoral challenge. Here, we constructed recombinant CyaA containing either the full sequence or various subfragments from the HPV16-E7 protein. We show that, when injected to C57BL/6 mice in absence of any adjuvant, these HPV16-recombinant CyaAs are able to induce specific Th1 and CTL responses. Furthermore, when injected into mice grafted with HPV16-E7-expressing

# What diseases are in these documents?

## GATE Prospector

Search ▾

**Diseases** Pathogens Pathogenesis Vaccine Animals and Models Custom Mimir Query

Document Metadata

URI:

Disease:

Dates:  to   
source:

Search

**Documents** **Terms**

Select top 40 ▾ terms of type {Disease} ▾ from the top <All> ▾ retrieved documents.

Term	Count
Influenza	6,683
Tick_borne_encephaliti	5,501
Japanese_encephalitis	3,743
Hepatitis_B	3,201
Dengue_haemorrhagic	1,944
Pertussis	1,852
Hepatitis	1,588
Yellow_fever	1,580
Measles	1,428
Tetanus	1,344

Save this as a term set named {Disease} (40)

Saved term sets {Disease} (40) ✕

# What pathogens?

## GATE Prospector

Search

Diseases **Pathogens** Pathogenesis Vaccine Animals and Models Custom Mimir Query

URI:

Pathogen

- Bacteria
- Virus

### Document Metadata

Dates:  to

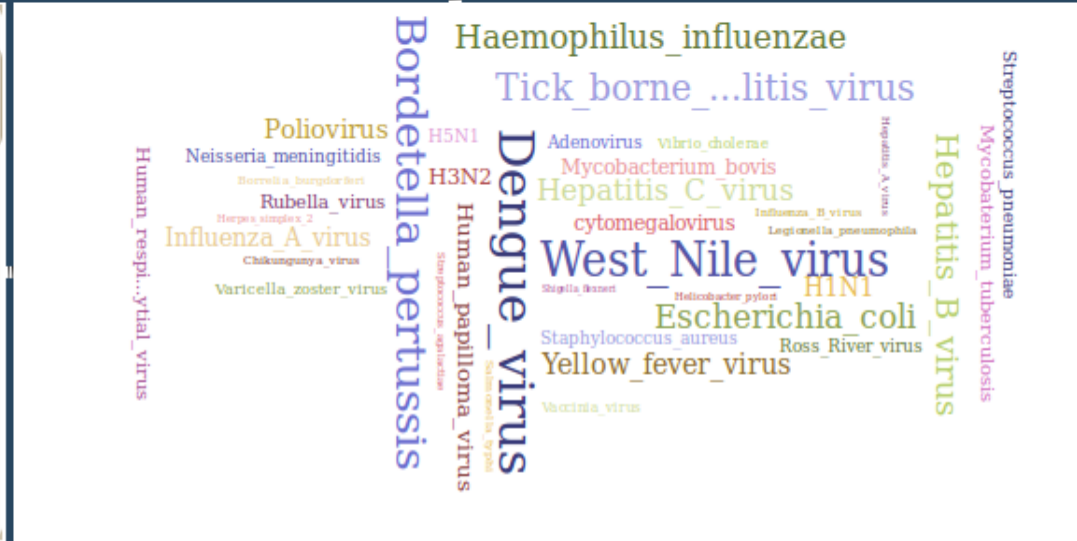
source:

Search

### Documents Terms

Select top 40 terms of type {Pathogen} from the top <All> retrieved documents.

Term	Count
Dengue_virus	17,867
West_Nile_virus	11,726
Bordetella_pertussis	9,909
Japanese_encephalitis_virus	5,093
Human_immunodeficiency_virus	4,939
Tick_borne_encephalitis_virus	3,899
Haemophilus_influenzae	2,709
Escherichia_coli	2,342
Hepatitis_B_virus	2,043
Hepatitis_C_virus	1,567

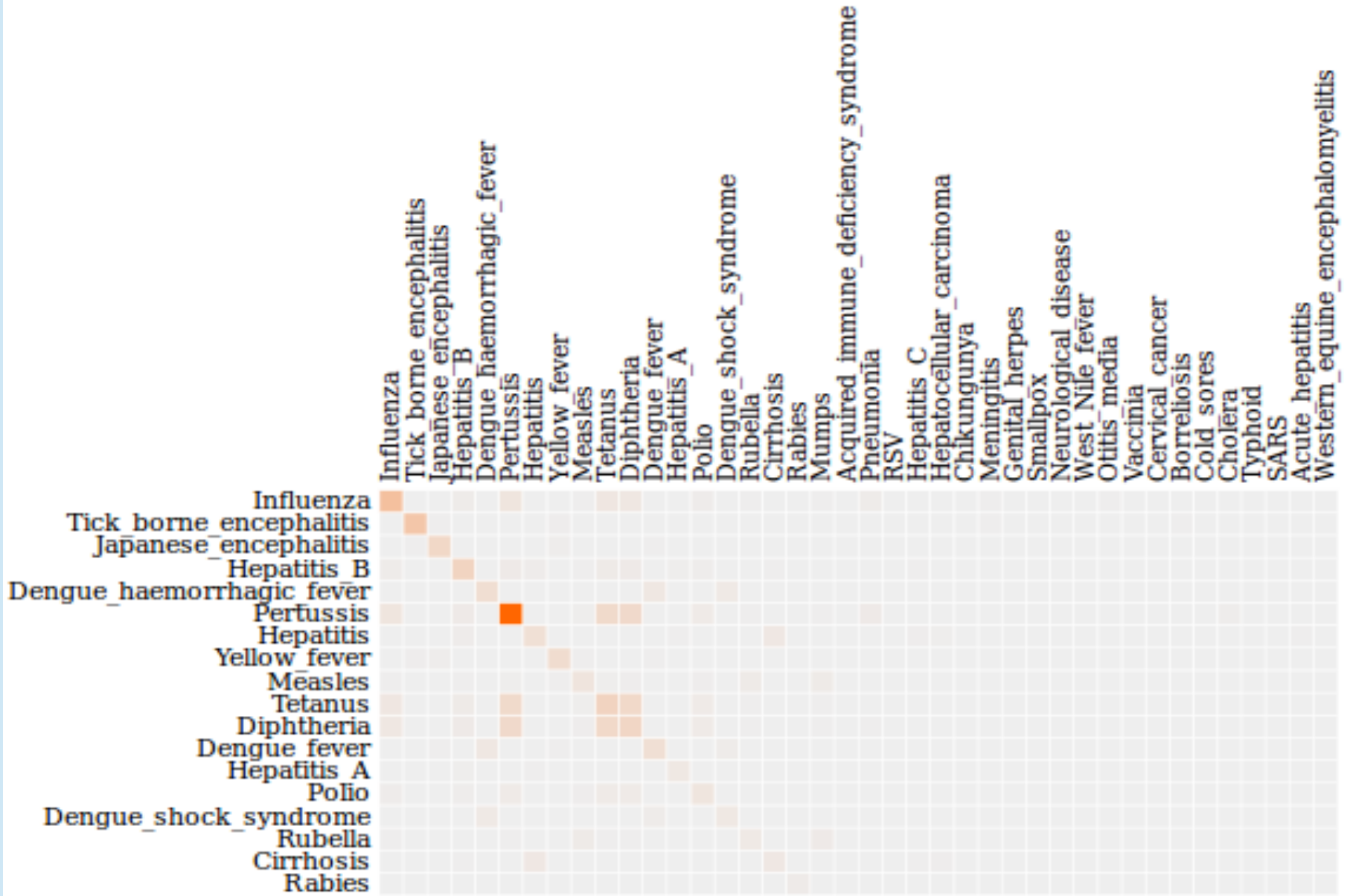


Save this as a term set named {Pathogen} (40)

Saved term sets

- {Disease} (40) ✖

# Disease vs Disease Co-occurrences

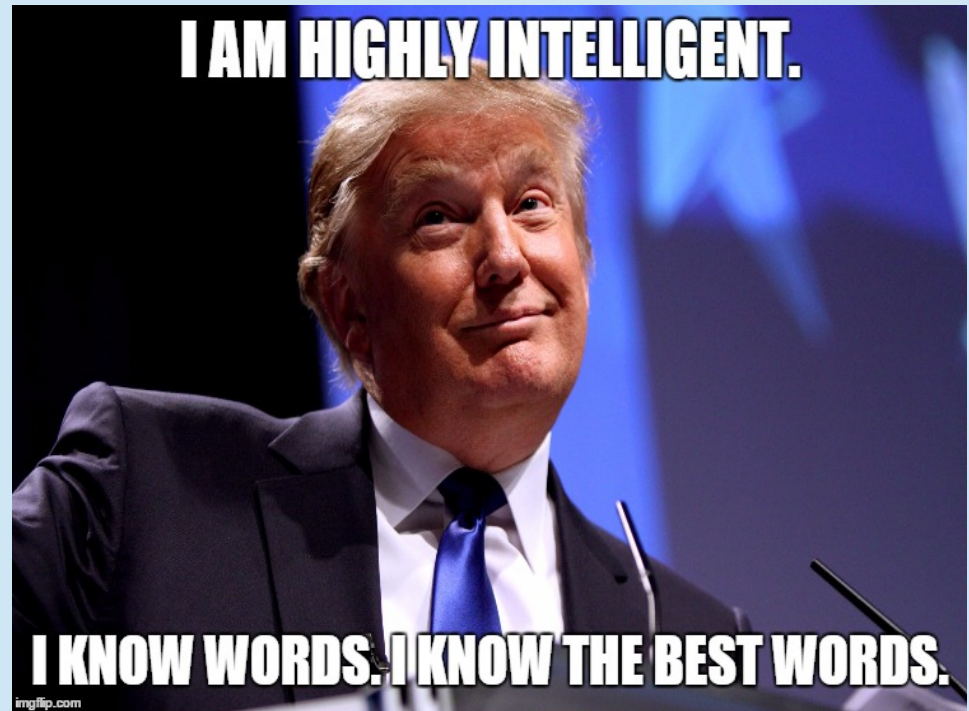






# Social media and politics

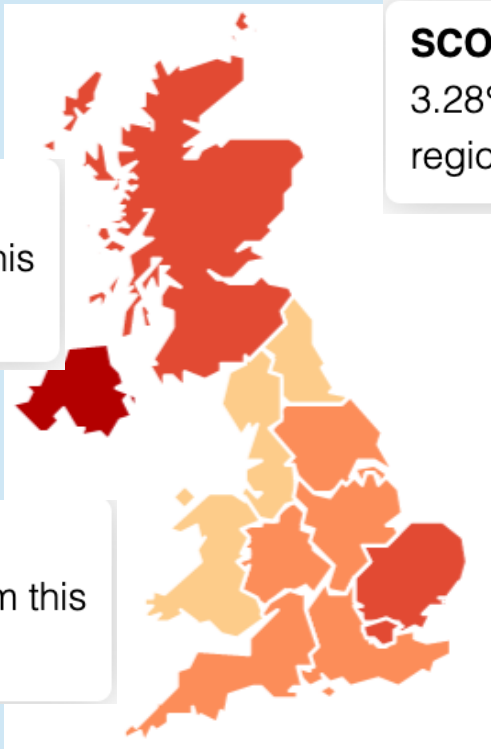
- How do people in different parts of the country talk about elections and political events?
- How do the MPs talk about different topics?
- How does the public respond to them?
- What kind of people send hate speech, who to, and what about?



# Hate speech against politicians Jan-Feb 2019

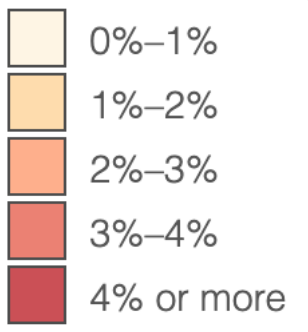
## NORTHERN IRELAND

4.79% of the replies sent to MPs from this region were abusive



## SCOTLAND

3.28% of the replies sent to MPs from this region were abusive



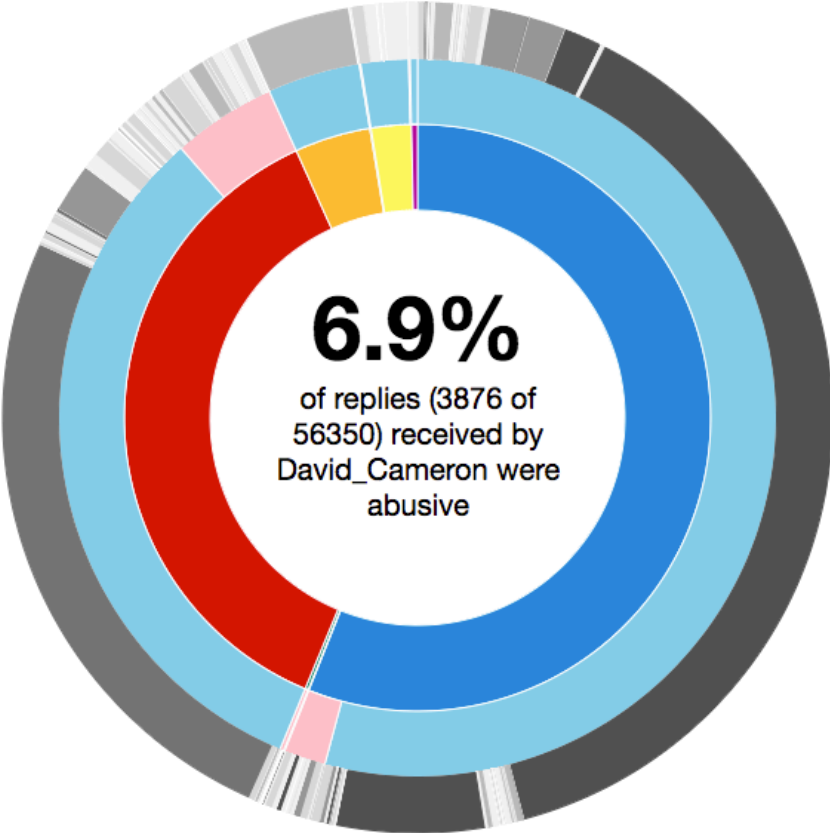
## WALES

1.51% of the replies sent to MPs from this region were abusive

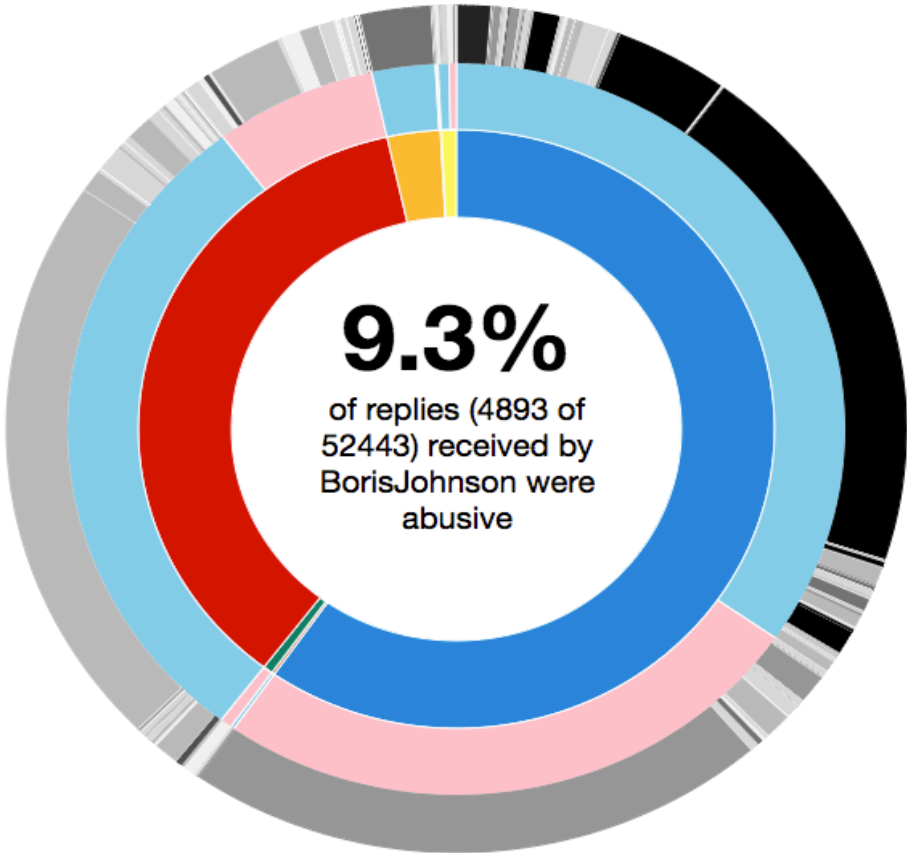
Annotation of tweets with simple DBpedia and NUTS linking lets us index and query our data in interesting ways

# Who gets the abuse?

2015

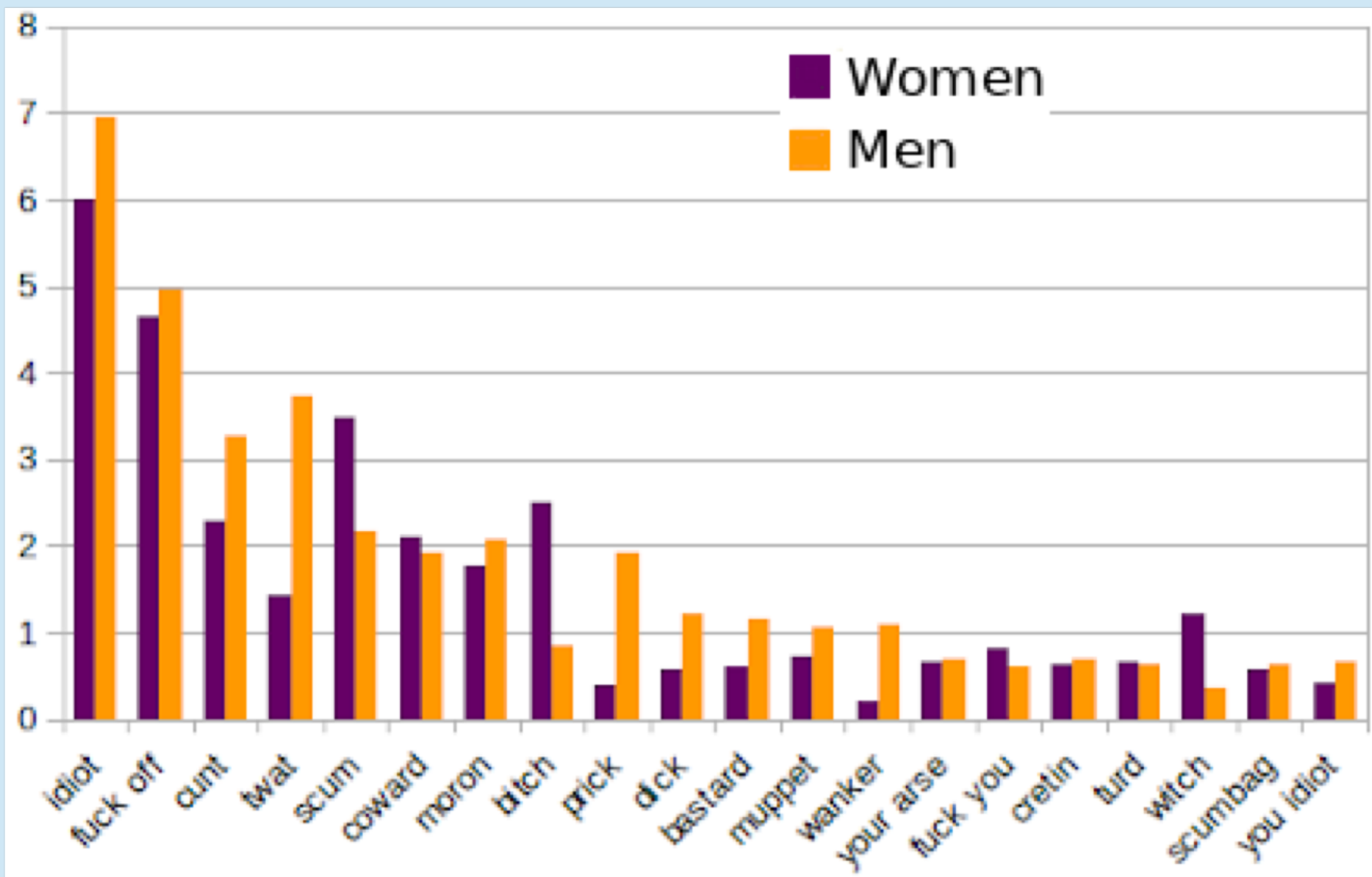


2017





# Top abusive words

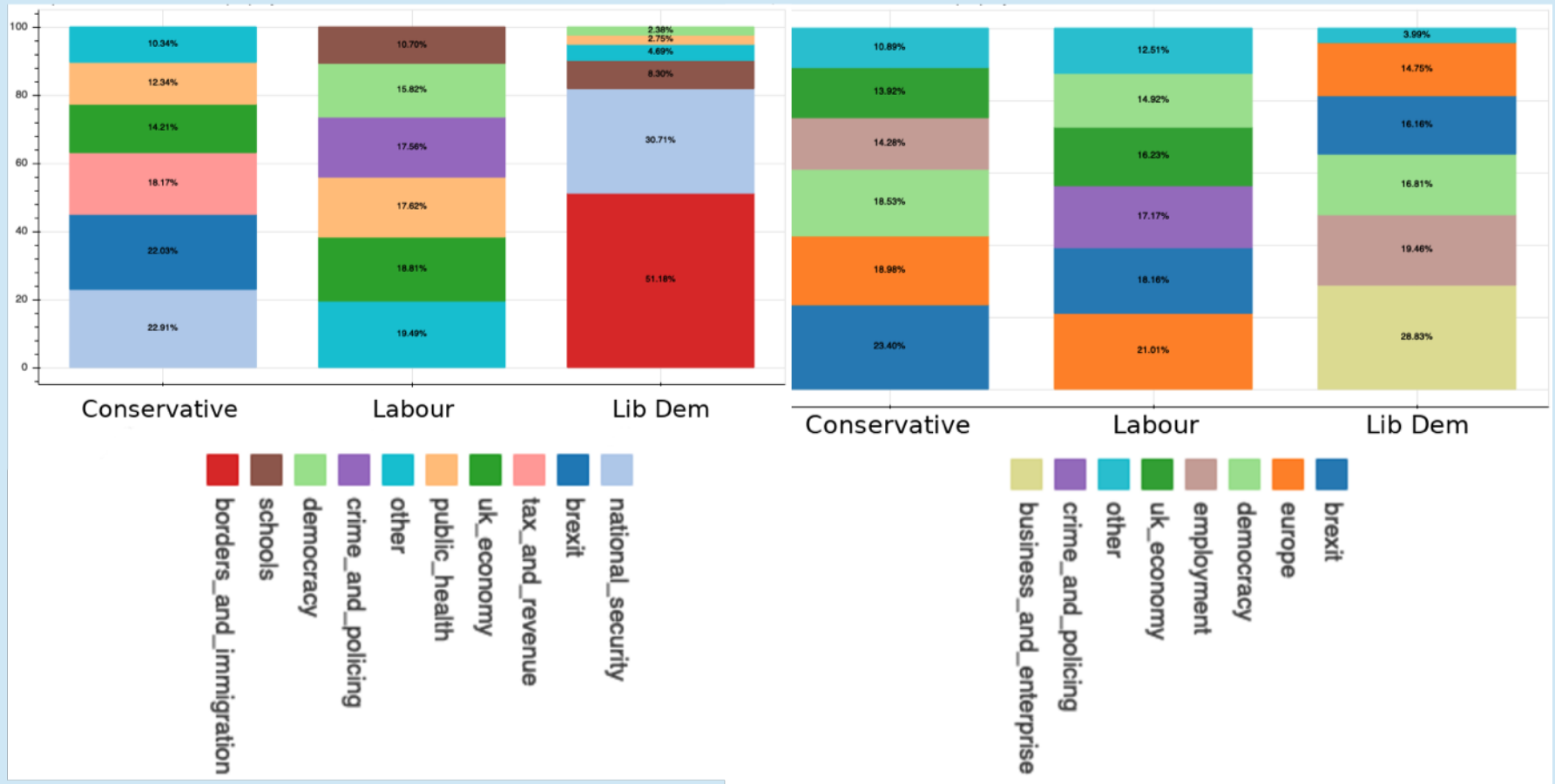




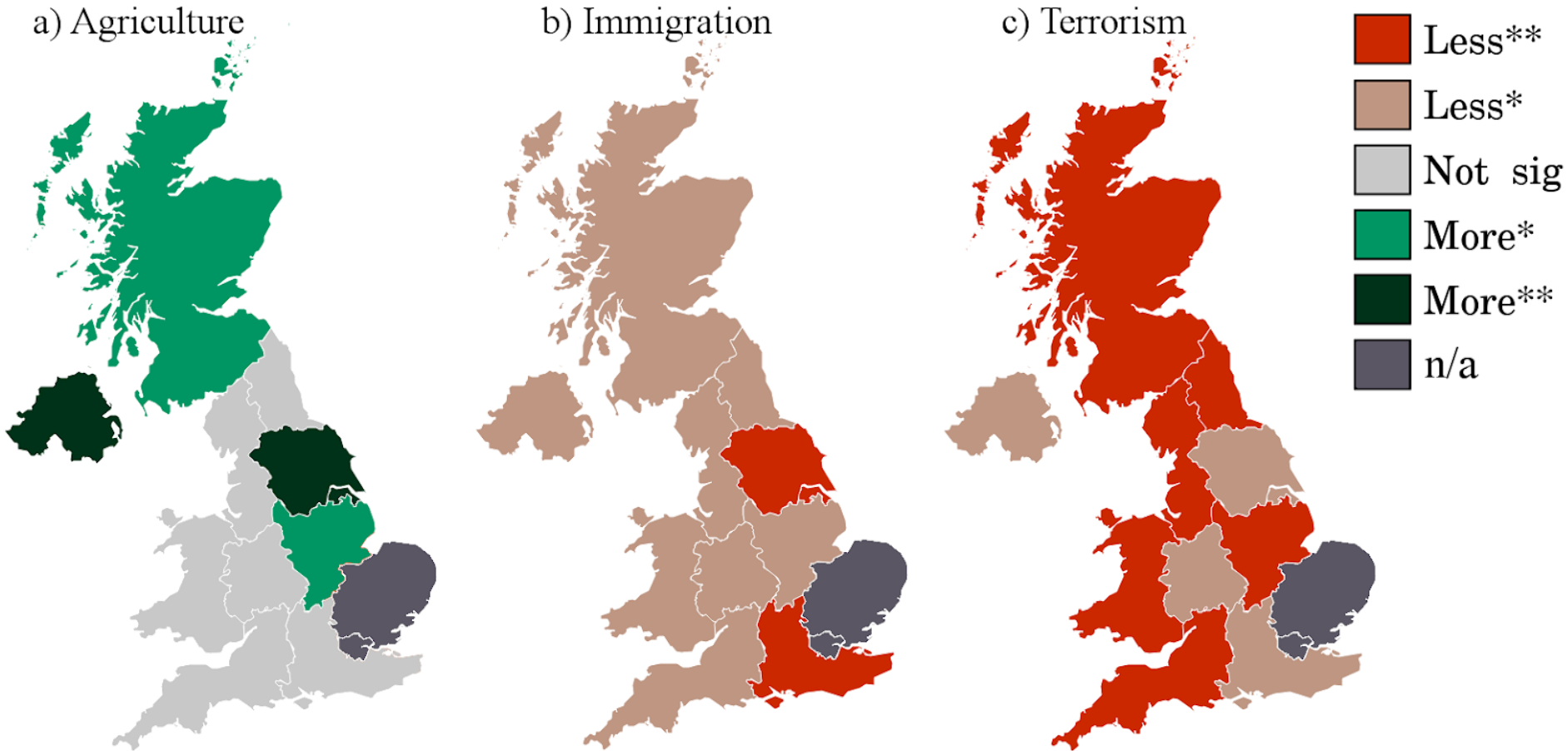
# Topics of abuse per party

2017

2019



# Local and national news coverage of Brexit



- Green/blue indicates areas where local coverage outweighed national coverage
- Across the regions, Twitter remainers showed closer congruence with local press than Twitter leavers

## So where are we at?

- We have lots of cool technology and data
- There is massive demand for its use in the real world
- It doesn't always need to be complex, it just needs to be applied
- Sometimes even simple techniques can have really useful outputs
- Don't neglect interdisciplinary "borrowing"
- The usual disclaimers about accuracy – real-world evaluation



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