Poster Presentation: Prosocial Behavior on Twitter

Abstract:

By accumulating the most frequently used words in Google Books, Twitter, the New York Times, and song lyrics we can demonstrate a frequency-independent positive bias in English words. This result allows us to explore the fundamental nature of English and perhaps language itself. In attempt to generalize this pro-social behavior we use Amazon's Mechanical Turk service to have native speakers rate the happiness of the most frequently used words in a dozen languages including Spanish, French, Russian and Japanese. This survey will enable us to compare the use of language across cultures, and extends our population level sentiment analysis tool, the Hedonometer, to non-English messages posted to Twitter.