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Two different debates? Investigating the relationship between a political debate on TV and simultaneous comments on Twitter / Damian Trilling

Abstract: While watching television, more and more citizens comment the program live on social media. This is especially interesting in the case of political debates, as viewers' comments might not only allow us to tap into public opinion, but they can also be an influential factor of their own and contribute to public discourse. This paper analyzes how the TV debate between the candidates for chancellor during the German election campaign 2013 was discussed on Twitter. To do so, the transcript of the debate is linked to a set of  $N=120,557$  tweets containing the hashtag #tvduell. The results indicate that the candidates were only to a minor degree successful in getting their topics to the Twitter debate. An optimistic reading of the results suggests that Twitter serves as a complement to draw attention to topics neglected in the official debate. A more pessimistic reading would point to the fact that the discourse on Twitter seems to be dominated by sarcastic or funny rather than by substantial content.

Peers and sources as social capital in the production of news: Online social networks as communities of journalists / Maurice Vergeer

Abstract: In a very short time span, Twitter has become a major force in modern societies and also in the production of news by journalists. How journalists use Twitter is studied extensively, particularly on a small scale (i.e. qualitative research, specific events, mostly descriptive). However, studies of how Twitter has impacted journalism as a whole are relatively scarce. This study focuses on the adoption of Twitter and its emerging community network structure in the Netherlands. Using the social network data of 2,152 journalists as retrieved from Twitter, analysis shows that the social network among journalists is well connected. The journalists that are extremely popular are also able to influence the flow of information through the network more than others (cf. gatekeeper role). Still, even though gatekeeping positions in the network are present due to the absence of specific relations, and the network consists of eight tightly-knit network communities, the entire network is very well-connected. The adoption of Twitter as a micro-blogging and networking service over time indicated that adoption increased particularly in early 2009. The possible consequences of these tightly knit communities for the production of news are discussed in terms of pack journalism, echo chambers, and information cascades.

Comparing print coverage and tweets in elections: A case study of the 2011-2012 US Republican primaries / Dhiraj Murthy & Laura R. Petto

Abstract: Social media platforms including Facebook, Twitter, and Tumblr, have become more ubiquitous. They have had an increasing role in social movements, elections, and everyday life around the world. Social science is well positioned to explore the power and influence of social media economically, politically, and socially. This article is particularly interested in evaluating whether the sentiment of traditional print media coverage during elections has any relationship to the frequency of election-related tweets. Though television is perhaps more influential in terms of political news, social media is often used to retweet or comment on articles from print journalism. Also, though we increasingly consume news from social media, we often do not think of how opinions are converging or divergent during major events. This article specifically explores the case of the 2011-2012 US Republican primaries. Some 99 randomly selected articles from the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal and the Washington Post covering Republican primary debates were hand coded for sentiment and compared with the frequency and sentiment of candidate-related geo-located tweets from urban American users. We also explored whether there is any relationship between print media, and tweet sentiment briefly. Overall, the newspapers sampled as a whole had a weak relationship to tweet frequency and sentiment. Though journalists have a large presence on Twitter, the medium is clearly not a facsimile of print media and therefore other opinions, values, and sentiments may have a stronger influence within the medium. This study is significant both in its mixed methods approach as well as its finding that traditional print media coverage is not generally related to the frequency or sentiment of election-related tweets despite Twitter's role as a key space for news production and consumption.

The strong, the weak, and the unbalanced: The link between tie strength and cyber-aggression on a social network site / Denis Wegge, Heidi Vandebosch, Steven Eggermont, and Michel Walrave

Abstract: The subject of this research is hurtful behavior on social network sites. Specifically, the study examines how young people's connections on such sites are related to their risk of being involved in cyber-harassment and cyberbullying. For this purpose, eighth-grade students from 11 secondary schools were surveyed (n = 1,458). The students indicated who their friends were at school and with whom they were connected on Facebook. The results demonstrate that victimization and perpetration are linked to the composition of one's network of online connections. The presence of many connections with fellow students who are not friends elevates the risk of cyber-harassment and cyberbullying. In addition, perpetrators and victims have a disproportionally high number of connections based on unbalanced, weak friendships. This lack of balance may indicate that perpetrators are higher in the hierarchy of social status and that victims are lower. The findings imply that adolescents may be able to avert online victimization by carefully selecting their online ties. Further implications for

the prevention of harassment and bullying on social network sites as well as avenues for future research are discussed.

A simulation experiment of disaster response organizational structures with alternative optimization techniques / GeunHo Lee, JangWon Bae, Namkyung Oh, Jeong Hee Hong & Il-Chul Moon

Abstract: Disaster response operations are critical for decreasing the devastating impacts that result in casualties and property damages. Since these operations require cooperation in dynamic and complex situations, the responding organizations require a solid organizational structure collectively. This paper introduces computational designs and evaluations of alternative organizational structures for disaster responses to resolve the disconnections between resource demands and supplies. In particular, this research consists of 1) organizational structure designs with two optimization techniques, 2) agent-based simulations that virtually replicate disaster response contexts, and 3) social network analysis to interpret the relations between the structures and the performances from the network perspectives. We applied this approach to log records of Hurricane Katrina, and our evaluations suggest that alternative organizations would improve operation outcomes, i.e. increase the successful resource delivery counts, and reduce a number of organizational conflicts. This computational approach could be further utilized in designing and evaluating organizations under complex and dynamic situations.

Web surveys among children and adolescents: Is there a gamification effect? / Aigul Mavletova

Abstract: Several studies have measured a gamification effect in the surveys among adults. However, no experiments have been published with a focus on younger respondents. In this paper, data quality between three conditions is compared among children and adolescents 7-15 years old: (1) a text-only survey, (2) a visual survey with an attractive design and images, and (3) a gamified survey. To test a gamification effect, an experiment using a volunteer online access panel in Russia was conducted among 1,050 children. The gamified survey produced completion time more than a third longer than the text-only survey. A higher overall item nonresponse rate was found in both the gamified and visual surveys. However, this was mainly due to the Flash-based questions in these conditions. Fewer respondents straightlined and used middle responses in the gamified and visual surveys. It was also less burdensome to complete the gamified survey. Children requested help to answer survey questions less often. They found it more enjoyable and easier. Moreover, the subjective evaluation of the completion time was not different from the two other conditions. Overall, we suggest that a gamification effect in web surveys among children should be explored further.

Comparing cell phone surveys with web surveys of university students / Youngje Woo,  
Sunwoong Kim, & Mick P. Couper

Abstract: In many countries the proportion of the population with cell phones is higher than that with Internet access. Cell phone and Internet penetration rates are high in most university populations. Despite the recent attention focused on surveys of cell phone users, and the preference for using the Internet to survey university students, there have been few studies comparing cell phone surveys and Web surveys of the student population. This paper reports on a mode experiment conducted using an annual survey of students at a large university in South Korea. The frame of registered students contains both cell phone numbers and e-mail addresses. A sample of students was selected from the list and randomly assigned to a CATI or Web survey mode. Students were notified of the survey in both modes using both text messaging and e-mail messages. We find that the cell phone survey has an advantage over the Web survey in terms of response rates, coverage of key domains, and item nonresponse. Substantive differences between the two modes were found for about half the survey questions. This suggests that cell phone surveys may be useful for surveys in populations with universal or near-universal coverage, and where cell use may be more popular than Internet use.

#### Book Reviews

*The Hybrid Media System* by Andrew Chadwick./ Reviewed by Terri L. Towner

*Agent-Based Computational Economics Using NetLogo* by Romulus-Catalin Damaceanu /  
Reviewed by Mark Altaweel

Review of SAS Enterprise Miner Textbooks from SAS Institute / Reviewed by Vincent Reitano