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# Same Words, Different Tone: Genre-Specific Sentiment Lexicons for Digital Music Reviews

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a total of 17 slides

# Research domain: online reviews as *amateur music critique*



The image shows the Amazon product page for the album "Night In Tunisia: The Very Best Of Dizzy Gillespie". The top section features the "SIGNATURE SERIES" logo and the album title. Below the title, there is a star rating of 5 stars based on 10 ratings. The main image shows a man playing a saxophone in a room. The text "THE VERY BEST OF DIZZY GILLESPIE" is overlaid on the image. Below the image, there are options for "Streaming Unlimited" (Free App), "MP3 \$9.99", and "Audio CD \$10.97". There are also links for "Listen with our Free App", "3 Used from \$9.27", and "6 New from \$10.97".

## Online stores reviews are valuable

- for the stores' goods promotion
- for customers' decision making
- for popular music research
- for curious linguists



DL

★★★★★ **It really surprise me!!!!**

May 7, 2014

Format: Audio CD | **Verified Purchase**

I heard a song of Gizzle Gillispie in a Chicano class, and I liked, so I look for a cd that had like with the best songs to listen more themes about him, and it is amazing!!!! I even bought a second cd as a gift to my boyfriend.

One person found this helpful

Helpful

Comment

Report abuse



Frank J. Altschul

★★★★★ **satisfyinglydizzy**

November 29, 2009

Format: Audio CD | **Verified Purchase**

Perfect if you need at least one Dizzy in your collection. Very balanced and very rich.

8 people found this helpful

Helpful

Comment

Report abuse



Musicman

★★★★☆ **A Good Collection**

April 20, 2012

Format: Audio CD | **Verified Purchase**

I like this CD of Dizzy Gillespie's material. This is only the second album of Dizzy's stuff that I have purchased. It is a good collection of the important material from his career ranging from his Be Bop era to his Afro-Cuban era. I enjoy most "Night in Tunisia" and "Manteca" which are probably his most well known songs. The reason I did not give this a higher rating is because the CD came with no liner notes except the names of the songs. While it offers a collection at a cheaper price, it lacks the quality of other collections that have important liner notes about the dates of the recordings and the band members that played with Dizzy. This is unfortunate and makes this CD not the best purchase for jazz enthusiasts that want to not just hear a recording, but also learn about the musician who made it.

9 people found this helpful

# Typical data sample

J. McAuley and J. Leskovec. Hidden factors and hidden topics: understanding rating dimensions with review text. RecSys, 2013.

```
{  
"reviewerID": "A3Q1J7VFGG80EK",  
"asin": "5555991584",  
"reviewerName": "Amber",  
"helpful": [0, 0],  
"reviewText": "I'm not a huge, know it all Enya fan. But I do like her music very much. Of the  
few CD's I've heard by Enya, this is my favorite. I LOVE the song Anywhere Is (track 2). It is  
pleasant and uplifting. It makes me smile and want to twirl in circles. Maybe this doesn't  
help anyone else want to buy the CD, but if you need some incentive: the CD is soothing and  
light to listen to. It would be a great CD to buy if that is the type of thing you are looking for.",  
"overall": 5.0,  
"summary": "Memory of Trees or My favorite Enya CD",  
"unixReviewTime": 975628800,  
"reviewTime": "12 1, 2000"  
}
```

```
{"reviewerID": "A1REP2FMPOXV4A",  
"asin": "5555991584",  
"reviewerName": "Andrew G.",  
"helpful": [6, 8],
```

```
"reviewText": "This is my very favorite Enya album to date. Even writing a review of it will not come close to my inner  
feelings about its music. The first song, the title track "The Memory of Trees" is the most beautiful song I've ever
```

# Research questions and motivation

(Q1) is it true that there is a significant **difference in sentiment polarity** of certain words in reviews on different genres of music?

(Q2) if so, to which extent this difference can be estimated with data-based approaches?

Note: we do not have any annotated [in terms of differing semantics] data related to the task

# Relevant prior work

Yang Yi, Eisenstein Jacob

**Putting Things in Context: Community-specific Embedding Projections for Sentiment Analysis. 2015.**

Rothe Sascha, Ebert Sebastian, Schutze Hinrich

**Ultradense Word Embeddings by Orthogonal Transformation. 2016.**

William L. Hamilton, Kevin Clark, Jure Leskovec, Dan Jurafsky

**Inducing Domain-Specific Sentiment Lexicons from Unlabeled Corpora. 2016.**

The last work seems to be the most suitable for the low-resource setting  
[for training word embeddings]

# Word vectors based on distributional hypothesis

- Zellig S. Harris:  
“oculist and eye-doctor... occur in almost the same environments”,  
“If A and B have almost **identical environments**. . . we say that they are synonyms”
- John Firth: **You shall know a word by the company it keeps!**



When annotation is expensive/impossible, we can arguably judge by proxy objects, e.g. by word embeddings trained on our data

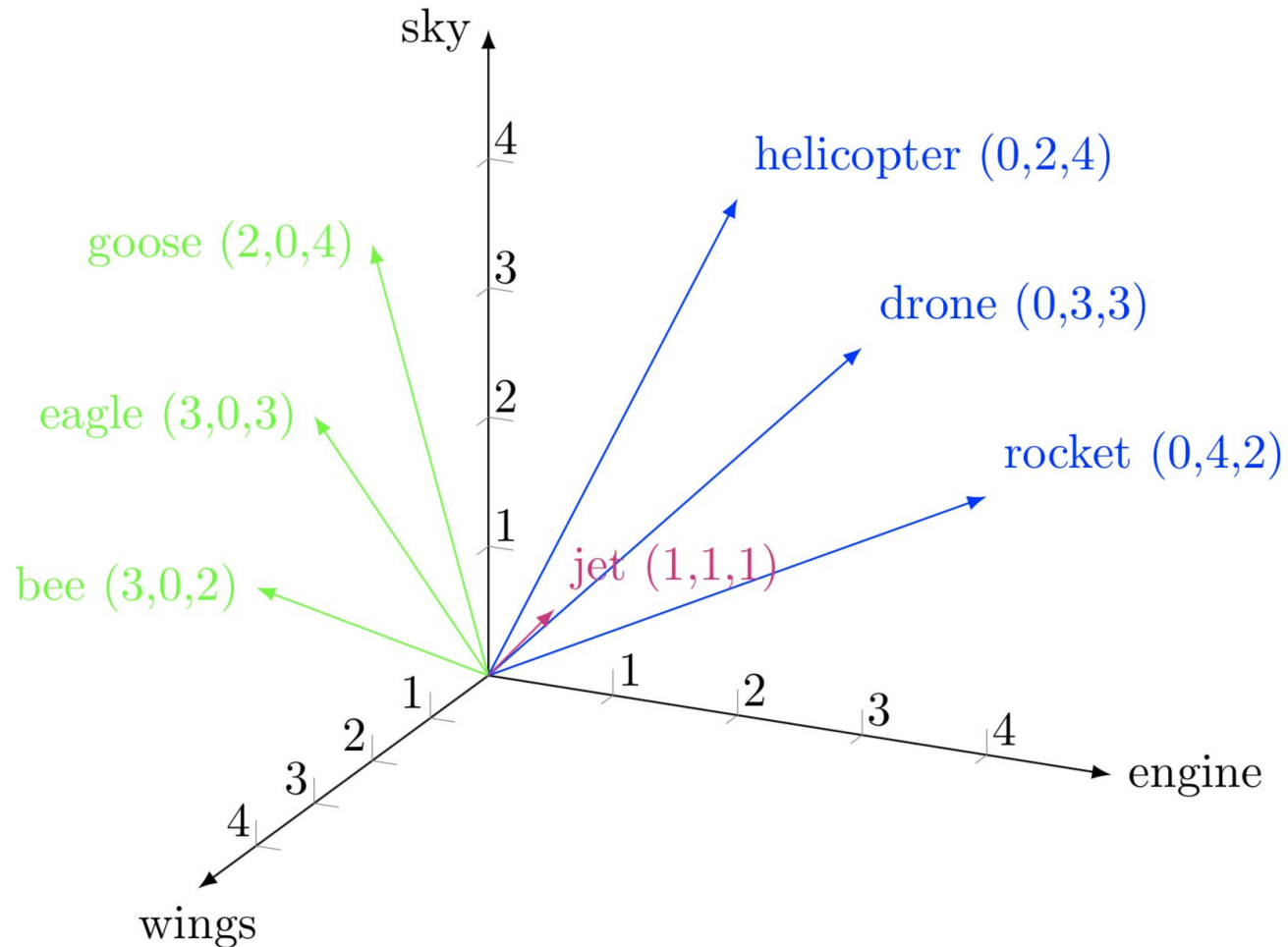
Popular models: PMI matrices, TDM+SVD, PPMI+SVD, ..., NeuralLM [Bengio et al. 2003], ..., word2vec [Mikolov et al. 2013], GloVe [Pennington et al. 2014], fastText [Bojanowski et al. 2016], etc.



Harris, Z. S. (1954). Distributional structure. *Word*, 10, 146–162. Reprinted in J. Fodor and J. Katz, *The Structure of Language*, Prentice Hall, 1964  
Z. S. Harris, *Papers in Structural and Transformational Linguistics*, Reidel, 1970, 775–794

Firth, J. R. (1957). A synopsis of linguistic theory 1930– 1955. In *Studies in Linguistic Analysis*. Philological Society. Reprinted in Palmer, F. (ed.) 1968. *Selected Papers of J. R. Firth*. Longman, Harlow

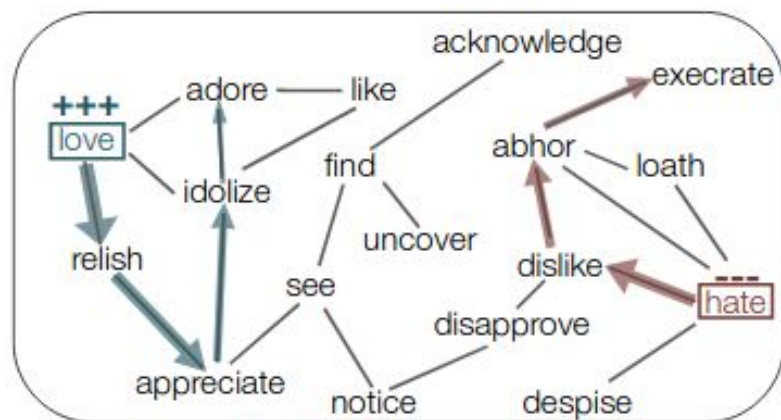
# Word vectors based on distributional hypothesis



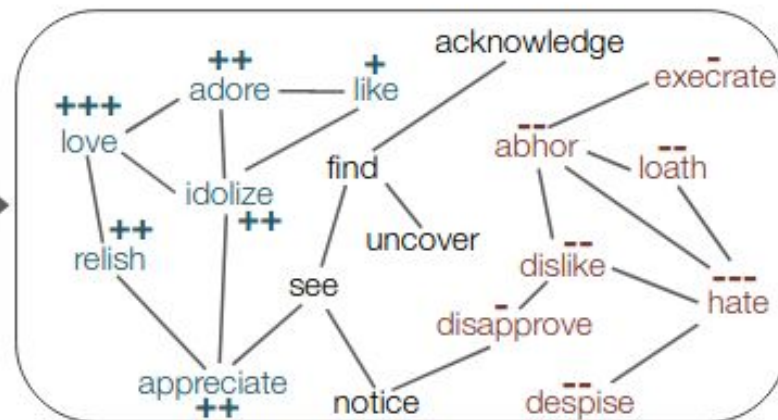
# SentProp, in detail

1. Train word vectors model (PPMI+SVD, word2vec, etc.)
2. Select the vectors of words of interest (known lexicon/most common)
3. Build a word graph:
  - a. for each node, edges connect  $k$  nearest neighbors (for corresponding vectors)
  - b. each edge is assigned a weight (cosine similarity  $\arccos \sim$  an angle between vectors)
4. Set 'positive' and 'negative' seed words...

$$E_{i,j} = \arccos \left( - \frac{\mathbf{w}_i^T \mathbf{w}_j}{\|\mathbf{w}_i\| \|\mathbf{w}_j\|} \right)$$



a. Run random walks from seed words.



b. Assign polarity scores based on frequency of random walk visits.



# SentProp, in detail

5. execute a **random walk procedure**:  
transition probabilities  $\sim$  weights on edges  
a fixed probability of a “random hop” **to the vertices of a seed set**.

The resulting “random walker visits ratio” = polarity score

$$\mathbf{E}_{i,j} = \arccos \left( -\frac{\mathbf{w}_i^\top \mathbf{w}_j}{\|\mathbf{w}_i\| \|\mathbf{w}_j\|} \right)$$

Computing transitions scores

$$\mathbf{T} = \mathbf{D}^{\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{E} \mathbf{D}^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

Scaling transition scores

$$\mathbf{p}^{(t+1)} = \beta \mathbf{T} \mathbf{p}^{(t)} + (1 - \beta) \mathbf{s}$$

Iteratively updating polarity scores:  
- beta = “random hop” chance  
- s = vector, non-zero at seed words coords

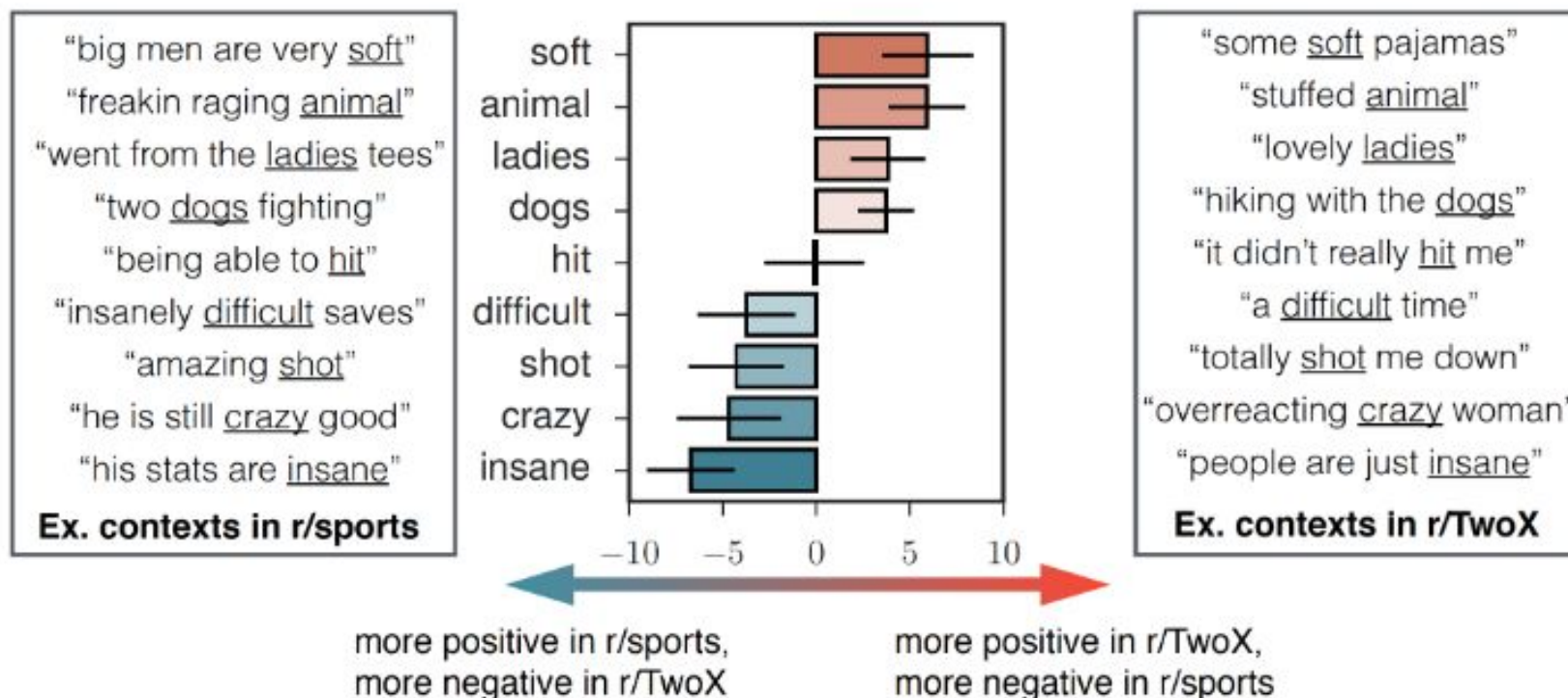
$$\frac{\mathbf{p}^P(w_i)}{\mathbf{p}^P(w_i) + \mathbf{p}^N(w_i)}$$

Final polarity estimates, later scaled to have zero mean and unit variance

# SentProp findings, Reddit

r/TwoXChromosomes: women's perspectives, gender issues

r/sports: sport-related discussions



# Our approach: data

- Amazon Digital Music dataset [He and McAuley, 2016]
- popular music genres: Rock, Classic Rock, Alternative Rock, Jazz, Pop, R&B and Rap&Hip-Hop
- tokenizing and lemmatizing reviews with TweetTokenizer and WordNetLemmatizer of NLTK [Bird et al., 2009]

| <b>Genre</b>       | <b>Reviews</b> | <b>Sentences</b> | <b>Lemmas</b> |
|--------------------|----------------|------------------|---------------|
| Alternative Rock   | 65801          | 454155           | 8175511       |
| Dance & Electronic | 17676          | 123178           | 2188057       |
| Hard Rock & Metal  | 20774          | 159656           | 2843800       |
| Jazz               | 10266          | 62435            | 1158296       |
| Pop                | 53513          | 363143           | 6497085       |
| Rap & Hip-Hop      | 39432          | 297439           | 5050967       |
| R&B                | 36000          | 233764           | 4077655       |
| Rock               | 47774          | 335467           | 6061372       |
| Total              | 291236         | 2029237          | 36052743      |

# Our approach: experimental setting

- experiments are similar to those described in [Hamilton et al., 2016]
  - word2vec (SGNS) [Mikolov et al., 2013] with **gensim** [Řehůřek and Sojka, 2010]:  
50 dimensions for 10 iterations, 4 for half-window, minimum of 10 occurrences
  - **most frequent 5100** lemmas (for graph construction)
  - removed stopwords using NLTK [Bird et al., 2009]
  - the nearest neighbors graph: nn = 5 for each lemma
  - 10+10 **Twitter seeds** from [Hamilton et al., 2016]

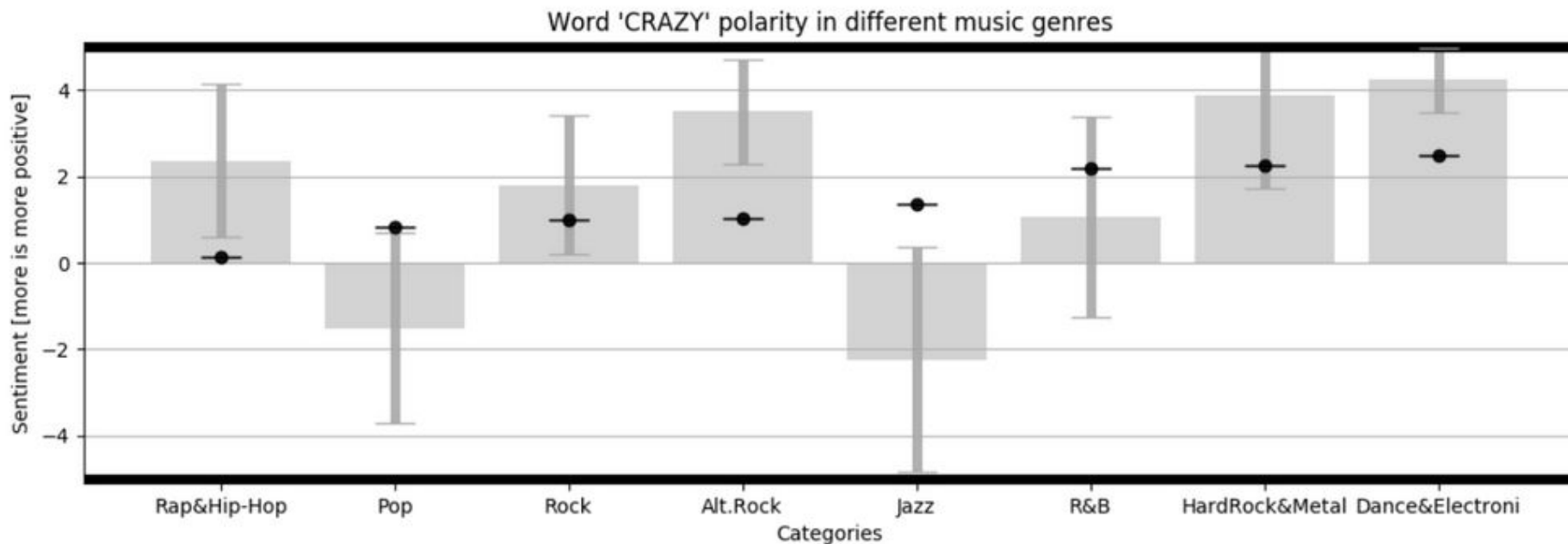
|         |  |  |
|---------|--|--|
| Twitter | love, loved, loves, awesome, nice, amazing,<br>best, fantastic, correct, happy | hate, hated, hates, terrible, nasty, awful,<br>worst, horrible, wrong, sad |
|---------|--|--|

- probability of a “random hop to the seed set”  $\beta$  equal to 0.9
- **confidence scores** via bootstrap:  
50 runs starting from 6 pos. and 6 neg. seeds (out of 10)
- heuristic: transition probabilities between pos. and neg. seeds = 0
- for analysis retained only the words from the lexicon [Hu and Liu, 2004],  
this resulted in 521 words for analysis.

# Results from bird's eye view

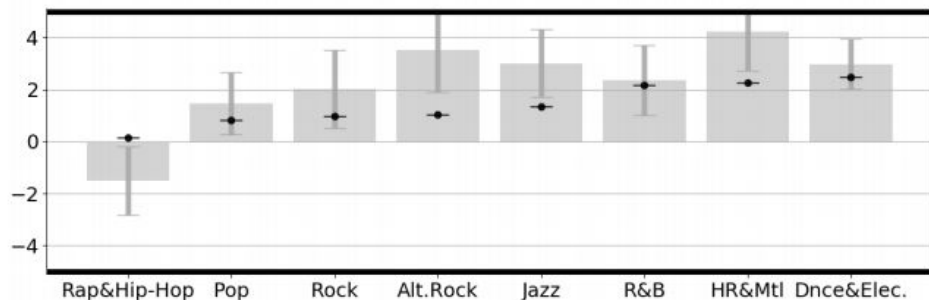
- despite the 'small' dataset's size, word2vec yielded best-interpretable vectors (unlike in the original work by Hamilton et al.; tried GloVe, PPMI+SVD)
- hard to obtain good estimates for most words (different bootstrap runs yield large variance for most words)
- words with low variance of the scores are arguably interpretable (in the slides: all those that have at least one of opposite score)

# Findings

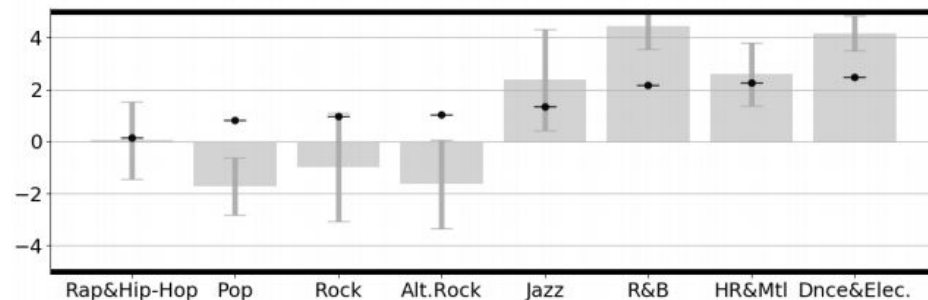


Despite low confidence in the scores, at least in Alt. Rock, HardRock&Metal and Dance&Electronic reviews this word has strictly positive sentiment, while in texts describing other genres it is usually neutral or even negative.

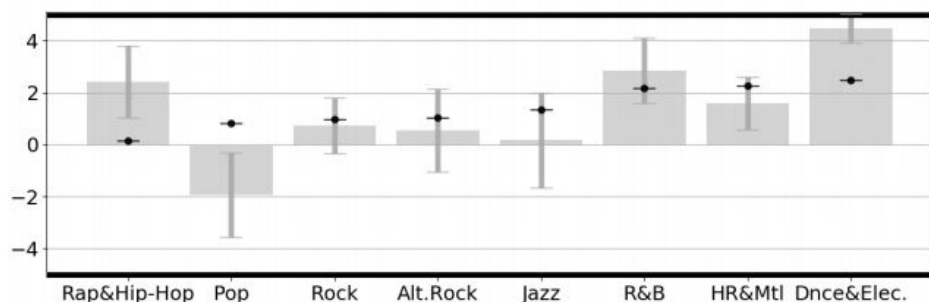
# Findings



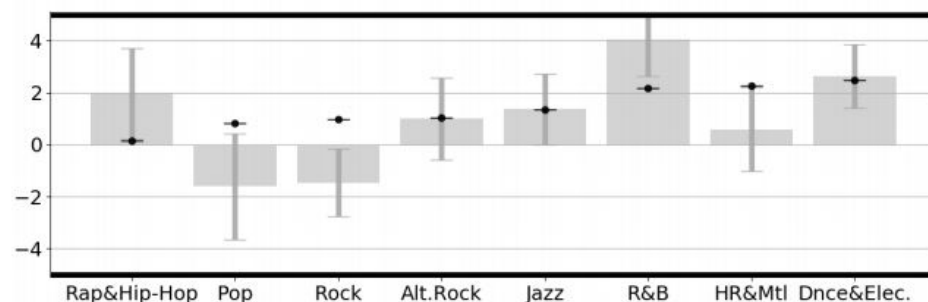
(a) Attack



(b) Freedom



(c) Heaven



(d) Hot

Interestingly, the word “hot” is positive with high confidence in reviews discussing R&B and Dance&Electronics = “excited”? = “sexy”?

The word “attack” is nonnegative everywhere but Rap&Hip-Hop reviews = “the act or manner of beginning a musical tone or phrase”?

## Conclusion, future research

- the overall approach looks promising
- probably need more data? or some other way to use it (augmentations tricks?)
- contextual embeddings [e.g. ELMo, BERT, etc.]?





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**Thank you for your attention!**

**Q&A**

**Anton Alekseev**

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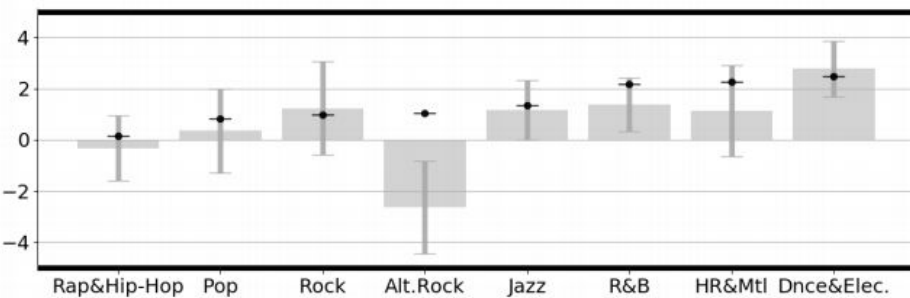
The slides will be made available through <https://alexeyev.github.io/>  
Images, if not stated otherwise, are from the [SentProp paper](#).



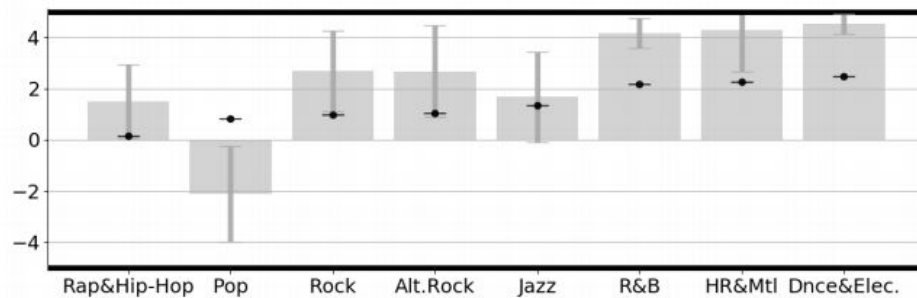
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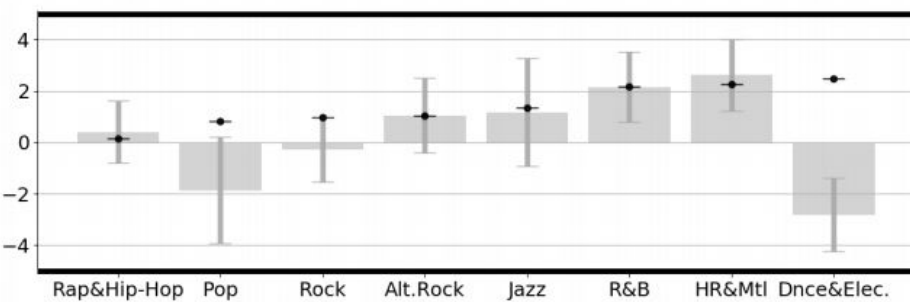
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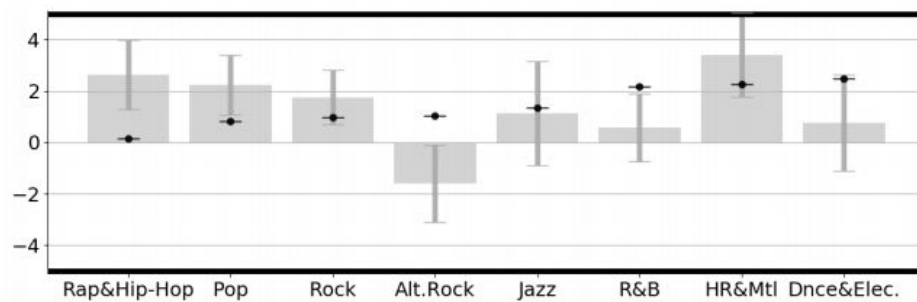
(e) Idol



(f) Softer



(g) Suffered



(h) Unfortunate

Rock/R&B musicians definitely do like to suffer