

Applied Scaling & Classification Techniques in Political Science

First Assignment



Deadline: 16 December 2022



First part:

- ✓ Create in Quanteda a corpus by focusing on those US Presidential Speeches given between 1856 and 1870
- ✓ focus on the word “slave*” and extract any descriptive statistics related to it that you deem interesting
- ✓ focus on the Presidential Speech given by Buchanan and compare it with the Presidential Speeches given by the other Presidents during the above years

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Second part:

- ✓ Create in Quanteda a corpus starting from the folder that includes a sample of UK party manifestoes since 2010
- ✓ Use as reference texts the 2015 party programs along two different dimensions. *Economic dimension*: CONS=7.85; Lab=3.85; Lib=5.14; UKIP=8.57 (such scores refer to a left-right economic scale). *EU dimension* (higher score implies being more pro-EU): CONS=3.14; Lab=5.57; Lib=6.71; UKIP=1.14 [source of parties' scores: 2014 Chapel Hill expert survey]
- ✓ Run the analysis via Wordscores to obtain raw scores. Plot and briefly comment your results (also by taking a look at Wikipedia if you are not familiar with UK politics! For example: what did happen after the 2005 UK elections? What about the movements of parties?)

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Send to my email (luigi.curini@unimi.it) a pdf file with the results (that include: scripts; tables/graphs; comments)

