# Online Social Media Sensing 1: Sensing the Physical and Social World

CSE 40437/60437-Spring 2015 Prof. Dong Wang

# Online Social Media: A New Information Age



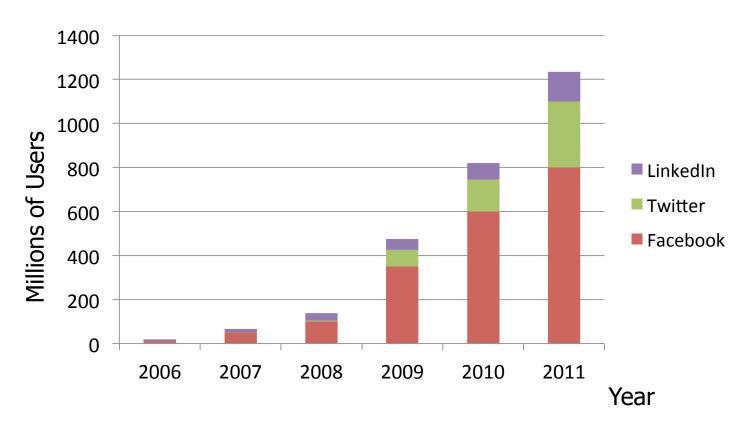
Empower the analysts and decision makers to quickly understand ongoing events!



Source: http://www.signagesolutionsmag.com/article/unleashing-new-media-the-rise-of-the-social-media-command-center-15501

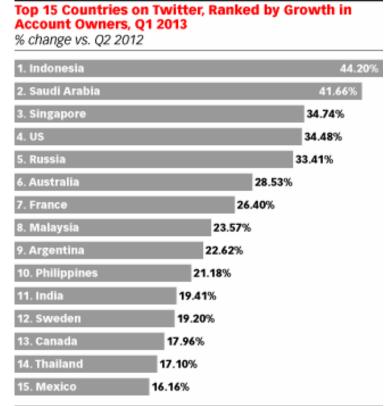
## The Decade of Social Media Platforms for Information Dissemination

Game changing trend of the decade: The rise of social media



## Social Media Statistics

Social media growth charts



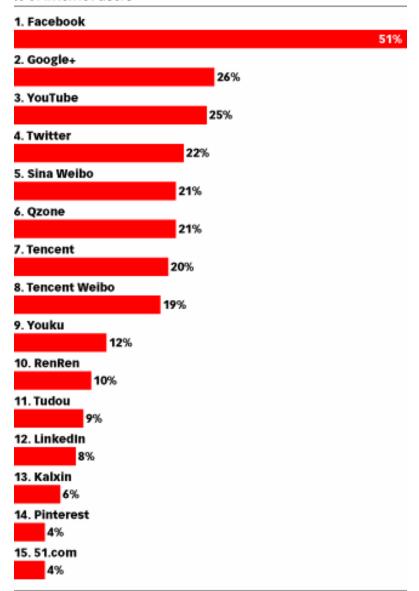
Note: ages 16-64; used or contributed in the past month Source: GlobalWebIndex, "Stream Social: Quarterly Social Platforms Update Q1 2013," April 26, 2013

www.eMarketer.com

156844

Top 15 Social Media Sites Worldwide, Ranked by Penetration of Active Users, Q1 2013

% of internet users



Note: ages 16-64; used or contributed in the past month Source: GlobalWebIndex, "Stream Social: Quarterly Social Platforms Update Q1 2013," April 26, 2013

## A Wealth of Social Sensing Content

#### **Every Minute:**





 More than 350,000 tweets made on Twitter <u>http://www.internetlivestats.com/twitter-statistics/</u>



Almost 700,000 status updates made on Facebook
 <a href="http://www.themarketingbit.com/infographics/online-for-one-minute/">http://www.themarketingbit.com/infographics/online-for-one-minute/</a>

 More than 3,500 images uploaded to Flickr <u>http://www.pcmag.com</u>



 More than 2000 check-ins on FourSquare <u>http://articles.businessinsider.com</u>

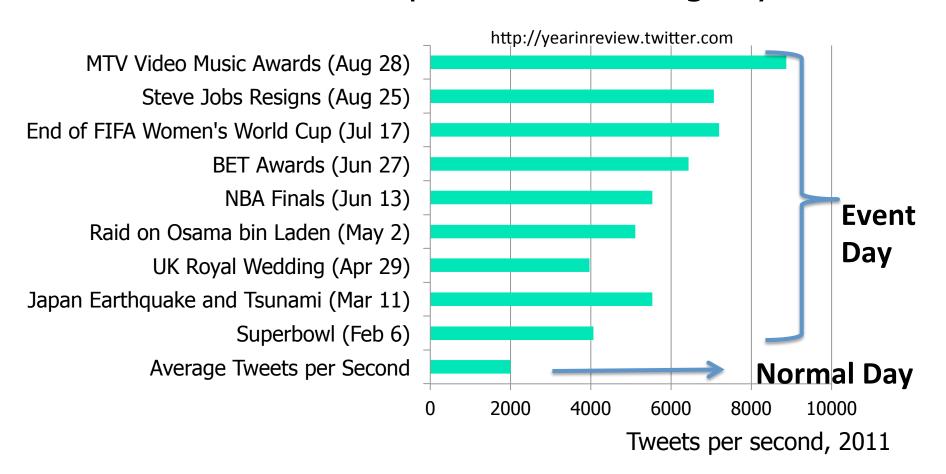


 More than 100 hours of video uploaded to YouTube <u>http://www.youtube.com/t/press\_statistics</u>



## Significant Information on Ongoing Events

Thousands of tweets per second during key events



# Examples of Real-time Content Analytics

#### Twitter mood predicts stock market trends

J. Bollen et al. / Journal of Computational Science 2 (2011) 1-

#### Wells Fargo Opens Command Center to Handle Surge of Soc Content

Tracks Anywhere From 2,000 to 4,000 Mentions a Day

By Cotton Delo. Published on April 08, 2014. 1

AMarket Overview Report

Shiny Object or

Digital Intelligence Hub?

Evolution of the Enterprise Social Media

Command Center

March 18, 2014

#### **Reconstructing Event Timelines**

## A Twitter Example



RT @Boston\_Police: Do you know these individuals? Contact boston@ic.fbi.gov or 1-800-CALL-FBI (1-800-225-5324), prompt #3 http://t.co/QJias1Kywe



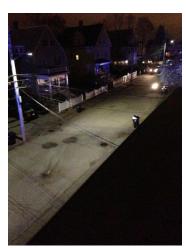
RT @TomlinM: Unreal. Officer down in Cambridge. Scene centered around a MIT building. Does NOT appear related to #bostonmarathon. http://t.co/DQuXQuP7wK

@AKitz: Site of the bomb explosion on laurel st. bomb detectors are out #mitshooting #boston #mit http://t.co/lhOjCiBgY5

2:50 PM- 15 April 13

RT @MassStatePolice: Photos taken from State Police Air Wing on Watertown manhunt.Media, please credit MSP for pics. http://t.co/Qzafbp4MBE







## Dow Jones Hickup

 Dow Jones lost 150 points on a rumor of two explosions in the White House on April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2013



# Challenge: Data Cleaning and Summarization

 Much like Google organizes (relatively static) world content, we need an engine for organizing real-time/streaming data feeds and:



Reconstructing the "State of the World", Physical and Social!

**Information distillation** 

Clean structured representation, high quality of information

A firehose of text, images, video, sound, and time-series data

### Papers discuss today

Paper 1: "Earthquake shakes Twitter users: real-time event detection by social sensors." Sakaki, Takeshi, Makoto Okazaki, and Yutaka Matsuo. Proceedings of the 19th international conference on World wide web. ACM, 2010.

Paper2: "From tweets to polls: Linking text sentiment to public opinion time series." O'Connor, Brendan, et al. ICWSM 11 (2010): 122-129.

#### **Physical Events**

Paper 1: "Earthquake shakes Twitter users: real-time event detection by social sensors." Sakaki, Takeshi, Makoto Okazaki, and Yutaka Matsuo. Proceedings of the 19th international conference on World wide web. ACM, 2010.



#### Outline

Introduction

**Event Detection** 

Model

**Experiments And Evaluation** 

Application

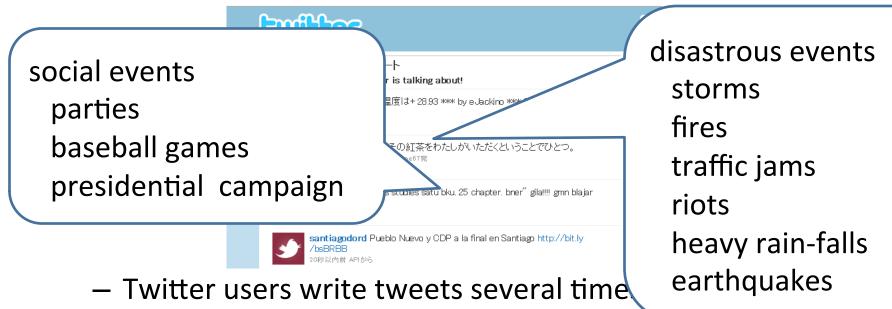
**Conclusions** 

## What's happening?

- Twitter
  - is one of the most popular microblogging services
  - has received much attention recently
- Microblogging
  - is a form of blogging
    - that allows users to send brief text updates
  - is a form of micromedia
    - that allows users to send photographs or audio clips
- In this research, they focus on an important characteristic

real-time nature

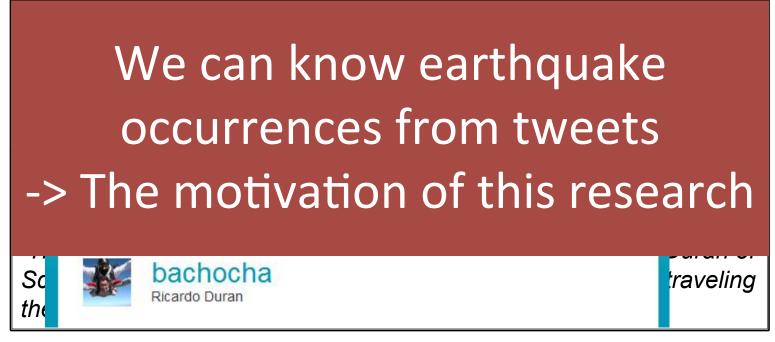
## Real-time Nature of Microblogging



- There is a large number of tweets, which results in many reports related to events
- We can know how other users are doing in real-time
- We can know what happens around other users in realtime.

#### The Motivation

 Adam Ostrow, an Editor in Chief at Mashable wrote the possibility to detect earthquakes from tweets in his blog

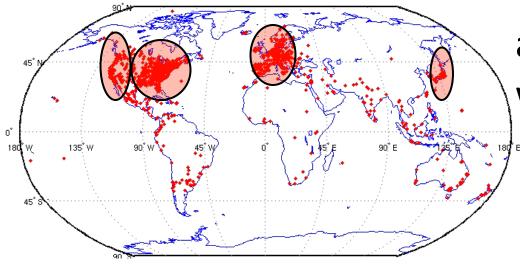


\*USGS: United States Geological Survey

#### The Goals

- Propose an algorithm to detect a target event
  - do semantic analysis on Tweet
    - to obtain tweets on the target event precisely
  - regard Twitter user as a sensor
    - to detect the target event
    - to estimate location of the target
- Produce a probabilistic spatio-temporal model for
  - event detection
  - location estimation
- Propose Earthquake Reporting System using Japanese tweets

### Twitter and Earthquakes in Japan

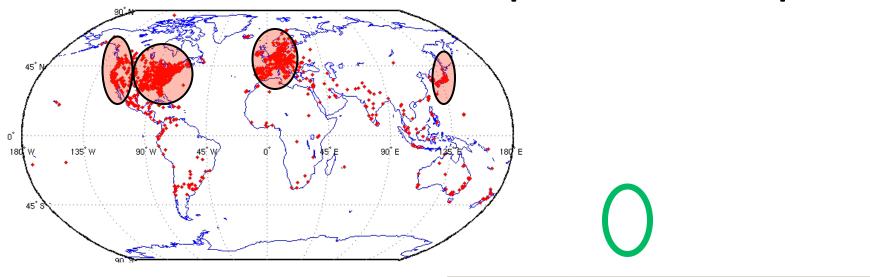


a map of Twitter user world wide

a map of earthquake occurrences world wide

The intersection is regions with many earthquakes and large twitter users.

#### Twitter and Earthquakes in Japan



Other regions:

Indonesia, Turkey, Iran, Italy, and Pacific coastal US cities

#### Event detection algorithms

- Do semantic analysis on Tweet
  - to obtain tweets on the target event precisely
- Consider a Twitter user as a sensor
  - to detect the target event
  - to estimate location of the target

#### Semantic Analysis on Tweet

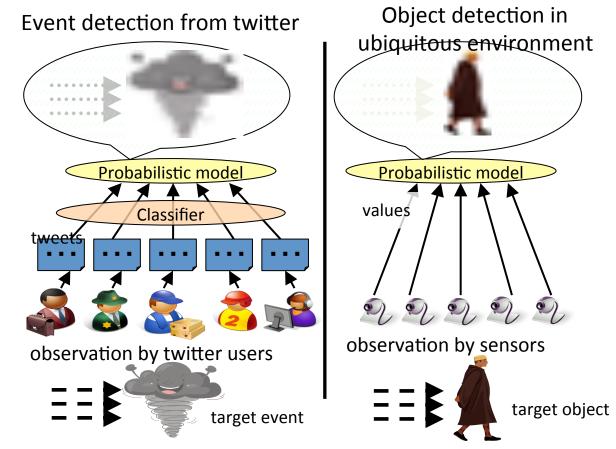
- Search tweets including keywords related to a target event
  - Example: In the case of earthquakes
    - "shaking", "earthquake"
- Classify tweets into a positive class or a negative class
  - Example:
    - "Earthquake right now!!" ---positive
    - "Someone is shaking hands with my boss" --- negative
  - Create a classifier

How would you build such a classifier? What kinds of features would you use?

#### Semantic Analysis on Tweet

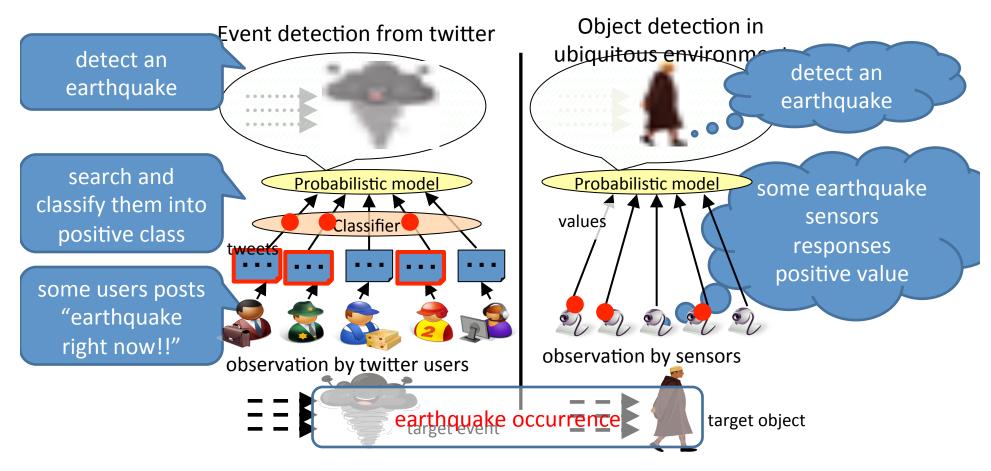
- Create classifier for tweets
  - use Support Vector Machine (SVM)
- Features (Example: I am in Japan, earthquake right now!)
  - Statistical features (7 words, the 5<sup>th</sup> word)
     the number of words in a tweet message and the position of the query within a tweet
  - Keyword features (I, am, in, Japan, earthquake, right, now)
     the words in a tweet
  - Word context features (Japan, right)
     the words before and after the query word

#### Tweet as a Sensory Value



the correspondence between tweets processing and sensory data detection

### Tweet as a Sensory Value



We can apply methods for sensory data detection to tweets processing

#### Tweet as a Sensory Value

- The location assumption may not always hold:
  - 1. Very few tweets may have geo-locations embedded.
  - 2. The user's profile location may not match the exact location of the user.
- Assumption 2: Each tweet is associated with a time and location
  - a time : post time
  - location : GPS data or location information in user's profile

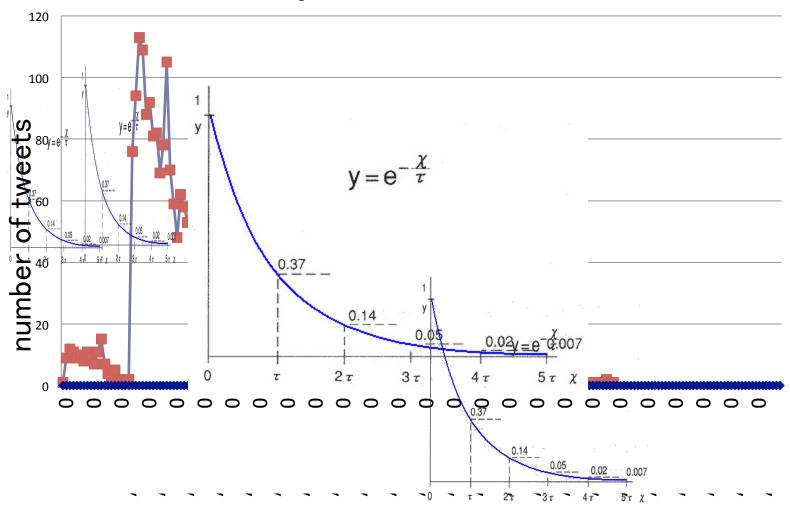
Processing the time and location information of the positive tweets, we can detect target events and estimate location of target events

#### Probabilistic Model

- Why we need probabilistic models?
  - Sensor values are noisy and sometimes sensors work incorrectly (e.g., unreliable human sources and nonperfect classifier)
  - We cannot judge whether a target event occurred or not from a single tweet
  - We have to calculate the probability of an event occurrence from a series of data
- Propose a probabilistic model for
  - event detection from time-series data
  - location estimation from a series of spatial information

 Calculate the probability of an event occurrence from multiple sensor values

 Examine the actual time-series data to create a temporal model



The data fits very well to an exponential function

$$f(t;\lambda) = \lambda e^{-\lambda t} (t > 0, \lambda > 0)$$
  $\lambda = 0.34$ 

 Design the alarm of the target event probabilistically, which was based on an exponential distribution

The probability of an event occurrence at time t

$$p_{occur}(t) = 1 - p_f^{n_0(1 - e^{-\lambda(t+1)})/(1 - e^{-\lambda})}$$

- the false positive ratio of a sensor  $P_f$
- the probability of all n sensors returning a false alarm  $p_f^n$
- $1 p_f^n$ the probability of event occurrence
- $-n_0$  sensors at time  $0 \rightarrow n_0 e^{-\lambda t}$  sensors at time to the number of sensors until to  $n_0 \left(1 e^{-\lambda (t+1)}\right) / \left(1 e^{-\lambda}\right)$
- Expected wait time  $t_{wait}$  to deliver notification for 1% false positives

$$t_{wait} = (1 - (0.1264/n_0))/0.7117 - 1$$

parameter

$$\lambda = 0.34, p_f = 0.35, p_{occurr} = 0.99$$

Less than 0.4 s

### Spatial Model

- We must calculate the probability distribution of location of a target
- We apply Bayes filters to this problem which are often used in location estimation by sensors
  - Kalman Filers
  - Particle Filters

#### Bayesian Filters for Location Estimation

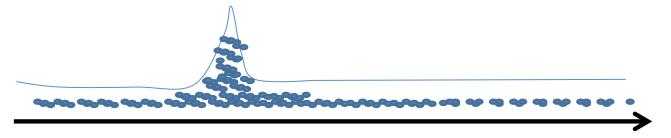
#### Kalman Filters

- are the most widely used variant of Bayes filters
- approximate the probability distribution which is virtually identical to a uni-modal Gaussian representation
- advantages: the computational efficiency
- disadvantages: being limited to accurate sensors or sensors with high update rates

#### Bayesian Filters for Location Estimation

#### Particle Filters

- represent the probability distribution by sets of samples, or particles
- advantages: the ability to represent arbitrary probability densities
  - particle filters can converge to the true posterior even in non-Gaussian, nonlinear dynamic systems.
- disadvantages: the difficulty in applying to high-dimensional estimation problems



#### A Short Intro on Particle Filter



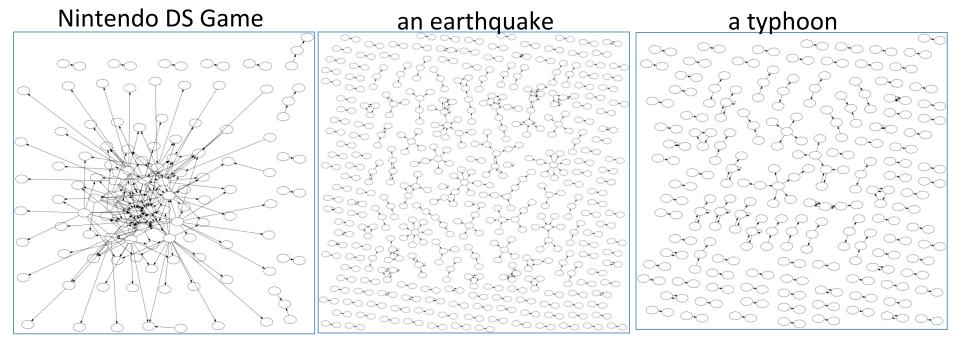
A short tutorial: http://www.it.uu.se/katalog/andsv164

#### Information Diffusion Related to Real-time Events

- Proposed spatiotemporal models need to meet one condition that
  - Sensors are assumed to be independent
- We check if information diffusions about target events happen because
  - if an information diffusion happened among users, Twitter user sensors are not independent.
     They affect each other

#### Information Diffusion Related to Real-time Events

#### Information Flow Networks on Twitter



In the case of an earthquakes and a typhoons, very little information diffusion takes place on Twitter, compared to Nintendo DS Game

Source independency may not always hold for twitter case studies, even for disaster scenarios!

#### **Experiments And Evaluation**

- Demonstrate performances of
  - tweet classification
  - event detection from time-series data
    - → show this results in "application"
  - location estimation from a series of spatial information

## **Evaluation of Semantic Analysis**

- Queries
  - Earthquake query: "shaking" and "earthquake"
  - Typhoon query: "typhoon"

Examples to create classifier

597 positive examples

## **Evaluation of Semantic Analysis**

"earthquake" query

| Features    | Recall | Precision | F-Value |
|-------------|--------|-----------|---------|
| Statistical | 87.50% | 63.64%    | 73.69%  |
| Keywords    | 87.50% | 38.89%    | 53.85%  |
| Context     | 50.00% | 66.67%    | 57.14%  |

"Is this an earthquake or a truck passing?"

"sl

| Features    | Recall | Precision | F-Value |
|-------------|--------|-----------|---------|
| Statistical | 66.67% | 68.57%    | 67.61%  |
| Keywords    | 86.11% | 57.41%    | 68.89%  |
| Context     | 52.78% | 86.36%    | 68.20%  |
| All         | 80.56% | 65.91%    | 72.50%  |

### Discussions of Semantic Analysis

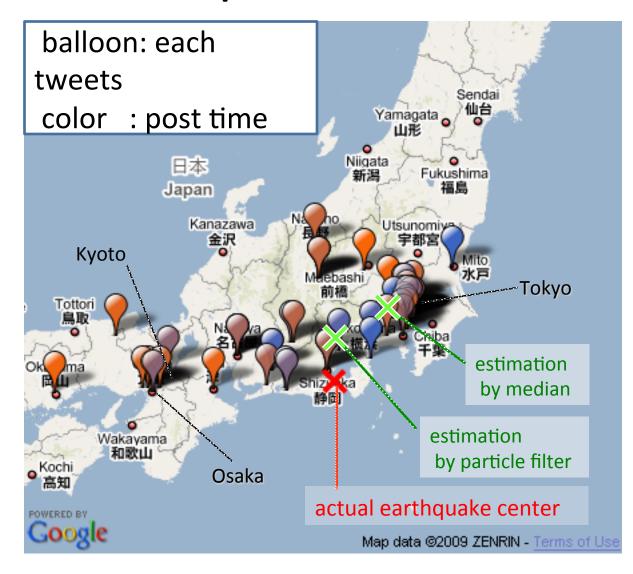
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| Context     | 50.00% | 66.67%    | 57.14%  |
| All         | 87.50% | 63.64%    | 73.69%  |

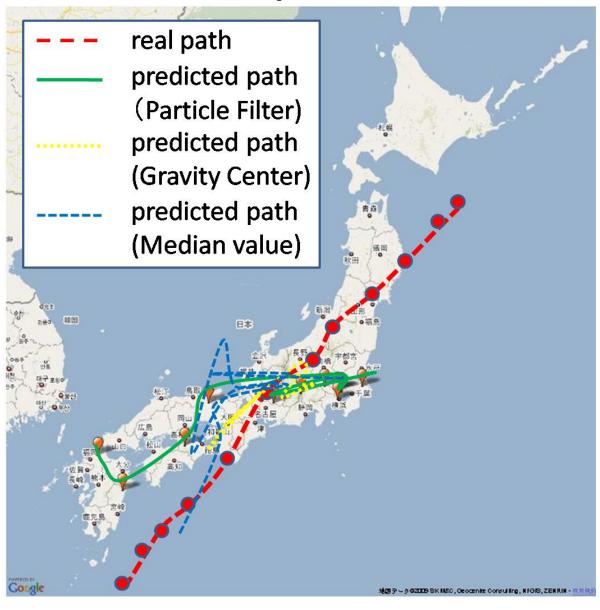
- It obtains highest F-value when we use Statistical features and all features.
- Keyword features and Word Context features don't contribute much to the classification performance
- A user becomes surprised and might produce a very short tweet
- It's apparent that the precision is not so high as the recall

#### **Experiments And Evaluation**

- Demonstrate performances of
  - tweet classification
  - event detection from time-series data
    - → show this results in "application"
  - location estimation from a series of spatial information

- Target events
  - earthquakes
    - 25 earthquakes from August.2009 to October 2009
  - typhoons
    - name: Melor
- Baseline methods
  - weighed average
    - simply takes the average of latitudes and longitudes
  - the median
    - simply takes the median of latitudes and longitudes
- Evaluate methods by distances from actual centers
  - a distance from an actual center is smaller, a method works better





#### Earthquakes

| Date                         | Actual Co | enter           | N       | ledian        |             | Weigh          | ed Avei              | rage                | Kalm           | an Filt        | er                  | Pai           | rticle F       | ilter               |
|------------------------------|-----------|-----------------|---------|---------------|-------------|----------------|----------------------|---------------------|----------------|----------------|---------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Aug. 10 01:0                 | 00 33.10  | 138.50          | 3.40    | -0.80         | 3.49        | 2.70           | -0.10                | 2.70                | 2.67           | -0.50          | 2.72                | 2.60          | 0.50           | 2.65                |
| Aug. 11 05:0                 |           | 138.50          | 0.90    | -0.90         | 1.27        | 0.70           | -0.30                | 0.76                | 0.60           | -0.20          | 0.63                | 0.30          | -0.90          | 0.95                |
| Aug. 13 07:5                 | 33.00     | 140.80          | 1.30    | -9.60         | 9.69        | 2.30           | -2.30                | 3.25                | 1.63           | -3.75          | 4.09                | 2.70          | -2.70          | 3.82                |
| Aug.                         |           |                 |         | 0             | 7.56        | 0.90           | 3.20                 | 3.32                | 1.63           | 4.35           | 4.65                | 0.10          | -0.80          | 0.81                |
| Aug.                         | nean squ  | are er          | rors o  | f = 0         | 12.60       | 8.70           | 10.90                | 13.95               | 8.32           | 10.13          | 13.11               | 5.60          | 8.10           | 9.85                |
| Aug.                         | •         |                 |         | 10            | 4.43        | 0.10           | -1.00                | 1.00                | 0.00           | -0.60          | 0.60                | -0.80         | 0.48           | 0.93                |
| Aug.                         | titudes a | and lor         | ngitud  | $e^{0}$       | 0.40        | -0.50          | 0.40                 | 0.64                | -0.50          | 0.30           | 0.58                | 2.40          | 0.70           | 2.50                |
| Aug.                         |           |                 | .0.00.0 | ,0            | 2.20        | -1.30          | 0.50                 | 1.39                | -1.50          | 0.50           | 1.58                | 3.10          | 2.00           | 3.69                |
| Aug. 2                       | 0 0 0 10  | 1.10            |         | .90           | 4.86        | -6.10          | -3.80                | 7.19                | -5.20          | -3.70          | 6.38                | -1.80         | -1.90          | 2.62                |
| Aug. 25 20:1                 | 9 35.40   | 140.4           | \       | -1.80         | 2.41        | 2.20           | -0.70                | 2.31                | 0.70           | -1.60          | 1.75                | 1.40          | 0.10           | 1.40                |
| Aug. 31 00:4                 | 16 37.20  | 141.50          | (       | -3.60         | 3.62        | -1.10          | -2.30                | 2.55                | -1.30          | -2.20          | 2.56                | -0.30         | -0.30          | 0.42                |
| Aug. 31 21:1                 | 33.40     | 130.90          |         | -3.60         | 5.76        | 0.50           | 2.10                 | 2.16                | 0.70           | 1.90           | 2.02                | -0.20         | -1.70          | 1.71                |
| Sep. 3 22:26                 |           | 130.30          |         | -0.10         | 6.20        | 4.00           | 5.00                 | 6.40                | 4.90           | 7.20           | 8.71                | 2.40          | 2.10           | 3.19                |
| Sep. 4 11:30                 |           | 140.10          | -2.     | -1.70<br>8.30 | 3.54        | 0.20           | -0.90<br>-3.10       | 0.92                | 0.00           | -1.00          | $\frac{1.00}{3.55}$ | 0.80          | 1.40           | $\frac{1.61}{6.17}$ |
| Sep. 05 10:5<br>Sep. 08 01:2 |           | 140.20 $143.00$ | -3.60   | .90           | 8.73 $9.60$ | -1.40<br>-2.50 | -3.10                | $\frac{3.40}{4.63}$ | -1.30<br>-4.50 | -3.30<br>-6.00 | 7.50                | -2.10<br>1.30 | -5.80<br>-3.60 | 3.83                |
| Sep. 08 01:2<br>Sep. 10 18:2 |           | 146.20          | -5.90   | .20           | 11.78       |                | -7.10                | 8.63                | -4.50          | -7.20          | 8.49                | -0.90         | -7.00          | 7.06                |
| Sep. 16 16:2<br>Sep. 16 21:3 |           | 130.90          | 1.10    | 20            | 1.12        | 0.90           | $\frac{-7.10}{2.10}$ | 2.28                | 0.50           | 1.40           | 1.49                | -0.20         | -2.50          | 2.51                |
| Sep. 22 20:4                 |           | 141.70          | -11.10  |               | 13.40       | -10.80         | -3.10                | 11.24               | -11.30         | -3.80          | 11.92               | -7.80         | -3.00          | 8.36                |
| Oct. 1 19:43                 |           | 140.70          | 0.70    |               | 3.86        | -0.60          | -1.80                | 1.90                | -0.30          | -1.50          | 1.53                | -0.70         | 0.30           | 0.76                |
| Oct. 5 09:3                  |           | 141.60          | -3.70   | -3.           | 4.83        | -2.70          | -2.00                | 3.36                | -2.60          | -1.60          | 3.05                | 1.10          | -1.70          | 2.02                |
| Oct. 6 07:49                 |           | 137.60          | 0.50    | 1.20          | 1.30        | -0.20          | 0.80                 | 0.82                | -0.10          | 0.90           | 0.91                | 0.30          | 0.50           | 0.58                |
| Oct. 10 17:4                 |           | 142.20          | -3.50   | -5.40         | 6.44        | -1.40          | -2.10                | 2.52                | -2.20          | -2.60          | 3.41                | 2.40          | -1.30          | 2.73                |
| Oct. 12 16:1                 |           | 137.60          | 2.80    | 0.50          | 2.84        | 0.80           | 1.20                 | 1.44                | 0.80           | 1.60           | 1.79                | 3.60          | 1.40           | 3.86                |
| Average                      |           | _               |         |               | 5.47        |                |                      | 3.62                |                |                | 3.85                |               |                | 3.01                |

Particle filters works better than other methods

#### A typhoon

| Date         | Actual Center  | 1        | ledian      | We    | ighed A | verage | Kal    | man Filt | ter   | Pa    | rticle F | ilter |
|--------------|----------------|----------|-------------|-------|---------|--------|--------|----------|-------|-------|----------|-------|
| :            | rat. rong.     | lat.     | iong. dist. | lat.  | iong.   | aist.  | rat.   | iong.    | aist. | lat.  | iong.    | aist. |
| Oct. 7 12:00 | 29.00 131.80   | -1.90    | -1.90 2.69  | -5.20 | -3.60   | 6.32   | -3.90  | -1.10    | 4.05  | -4.70 | 1.10     | 4.83  |
| Oct. 7 15:00 | 29.90 - 132.50 | -3.70    | -2.60 4.52  | -3.80 | -2.40   | 4.49   | 3.20   | 3.10     | 4.46  | -2.70 | 0.90     | 2.85  |
| Oct 7 10 00  | 20.00 100.00   | 1.10     | 1.90 4.52   | -4.40 | -3.50   | 5.62   | -6.40  | 5.40     | 8.37  | -3.20 | -0.70    | 3.28  |
| Oct          |                |          | 5.50 5.24   | -3.60 | -3.30   | 4.88   | -10.90 | -1.60    | 11.02 | -3.70 | -0.50    | 3.73  |
| o mea        | n square erro  | rs of    | ).10 2.30   | -2.30 | -0.90   | 2.47   | -12.60 | -20.40   | 23.98 | -2.90 | -3.50    | 4.55  |
| Oc           | •              |          | .00 3.40    | 0.80  | 1.70    | 1.88   | 4.20   | 16.00    | 16.54 | -0.60 | -2.50    | 2.57  |
| od latitu    | ides and longi | itude    | .60 3.65    | 0.00  | 0.50    | 0.50   | 0.50   | 2.60     | 2.65  | 0.70  | -0.80    | 1.06  |
| Oct          |                |          | .90 4.25    | 1.50  | 1.20    | 1.92   | 2.10   | 1.60     | 2.64  | 1.40  | 0.10     | 1.40  |
| Oct. 8 15:00 | 38.00 140.     | <b>W</b> | 3.20 3.94   | 2.40  | 2.20    | 3.26   | 1.70   | 7.60     | 7.79  | 2.40  | 2.70     | 3.61  |
| Oct. 8 18:00 | 39.00 142.30   | Ura      | Z.30 7.97   | 3.50  | 5.10    | 6.19   | 2.10   | -18.80   | 18.92 | 3.70  | 5.10     | 6.30  |
| Oct. 8 21:00 | 40.00 143.60   | 4.30     | 5.81        | 4.00  | 5.30    | 6.64   | 1.60   | 4.50     | 4.78  | 4.20  | 3.10     | 5.22  |
| 000. 0 21.00 | 10.00          | 1.00     | 0.01        | 2.00  | 0.00    | 0.01   | 2.00   | 2.00     | 0     | 120   | 0.10     | 0.22  |
| Average      | _              |          | 4.39        |       |         | 4.02   |        |          | 9.56  |       |          | 3.58  |

Particle Filters works better than other methods

#### Discussions of Experiments

- Particle filters performs better than other methods
- If the center of a target event is in an oceanic area, it's more difficult to locate it precisely from tweets
- It becomes more difficult to make good estimation in less populated areas

## Earthquake Reporting System

- Toretter ( http://toretter.com)
  - Earthquake reporting system using the event detection algorithm
  - All users can see the detection of past earthquakes
  - R€ Dear Alice,

We have just detected an earthquake around Chiba. Please take care.

**Toretter Alert System** 

#### Screenshot of Toretter.com



Q: What would be a key feature of this system?

## Earthquake Reporting System

- Effectiveness of alerts of this system
  - Alert E-mails urges users to prepare for the earthquake if they are received by a user **shortly before** the earthquake actually arrives.
- Is it possible to receive the e-mail before the earthquake actually arrives?
  - An earthquake is transmitted through the earth's crust at about 3~7 km/s.
  - a person has about 20~30 sec before its arrival at a point that is 100 km distant from an actual center

### Results of Earthquake Detection

| Date    | Magnitude | Location    | Time     | E-mail sent | time gap | # tweets             | Announce of |
|---------|-----------|-------------|----------|-------------|----------|----------------------|-------------|
|         |           |             |          | time        | [sec]    | within 10<br>minutes | JMA         |
| Aug. 18 | 4.5       | Tochigi     | 6:58:55  | 7:00:30     | 95       | 35                   | 7:08        |
| Aug. 18 | 3.1       | Suruga-wan  | 19:22:48 | 19:23:14    | 26       | 17                   | 19:28       |
| Aug. 21 | 4.1       | Chiba       | 8:51:16  | 8:51:35     | 19       | 52                   | 8:56        |
| Aug. 25 | 4.3       | Uraga-oki   | 2:22:49  | 2:23:21     | 31       | 23                   | 2:27        |
| Aug.25  | 3.5       | Fukushima   | 2:21:15  | 22:22:29    | 73       | 13                   | 22:26       |
| Aug. 27 | 3.9       | Wakayama    | 17:47:30 | 17:48:11    | 41       | 16                   | 1:7:53      |
| Aug. 27 | 2.8       | Suruga-wan  | 20:26:23 | 20:26:45    | 22       | 14                   | 20:31       |
| Ag. 31  | 4.5       | Fukushima   | 00:45:54 | 00:46:24    | 30       | 32                   | 00:51       |
| Sep. 2  | 3.3       | Suruga-wan  | 13:04:45 | 13:05:04    | 19       | 18                   | 13:10       |
| Sep. 2  | 3.6       | Bungo-suido | 17:37:53 | 17:38:27    | 34       | 3                    | 17:43       |
|         |           |             |          |             |          | J                    |             |

In all cases, we sent E-mails before announces of JMA (Japan Meteorological Agency)

In the earliest cases, it can sent E-mails in 19 sec.

On average, JMA announces 6 min after the earthquake

#### **Experiments And Evaluation**

- We demonstrate performances of
  - tweet classification
  - event detection from time-series data
    - → show this results in "application"
  - location estimation from a series of spatial information

#### Results of Earthquake Detection

| 2 or more | 3 or more       | 4 or more                    |
|-----------|-----------------|------------------------------|
| 78        | 25              | 3                            |
| 70(89.7%) | 24(96.0%)       | 3(100.0%)                    |
| 53(67.9%) | 20(80.0%)       | 3(100.0%)                    |
|           | 78<br>70(89.7%) | 78 25<br>70(89.7%) 24(96.0%) |

JMA intensity scale: the original scale of earthquakes by Japan Meteorology Agency **Promptly detected**: detected in a minute

Period: Aug.2009 – Sep. 2009

Tweets analyzed: 49,314 tweets

Positive tweets: 6291 tweets by 4218 users

It detected **96%** of earthquakes that were stronger than scale 3 or more during the period.

#### Conclusions

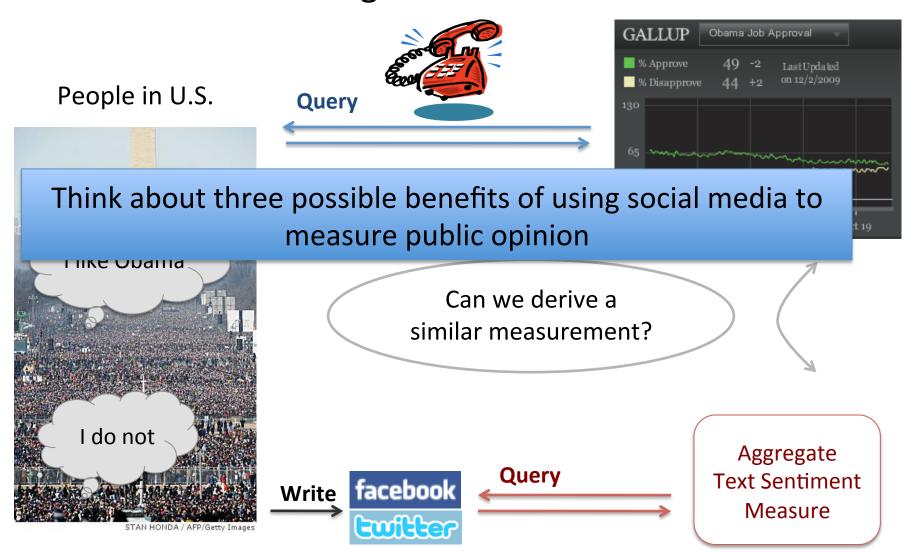
- It investigated the real-time nature of Twitter for event detection
- Semantic analysis was applied to tweets classification
- It considers each Twitter user as a sensor and set a problem to detect an event based on sensory observations
- Location estimation methods such as Kaman filters and particle filters are used to estimate locations of events
- It developed an earthquake reporting system, which is a novel approach to notify people promptly of an earthquake event
- Authors plan to expand their system to detect events
   of various kinds such as rainbows, traffic jam etc.

#### **Social Events**

Paper2: "From tweets to polls: Linking text sentiment to public opinion time series." O'Connor, Brendan, et al. ICWSM 11 (2010): 122-129.



# Measuring public opinion through social media?



#### Contributions

- Correlations between
  - 1. Very simple text sentiment analysis
  - 2. Telephone public opinion polls
    - Consumer confidence and Presidential job approval
- Negative results as well!
- Also
  - Time-series smoothing is a critical issue
  - Topic selection, topic volumes, text leads polls, stemming, election polling

#### **Text Data: Twitter**

- A large and public social media service
  - People volunteer their thoughts on various topics at a large scale
- Sources
  - 1. Archiving the Twitter Streaming API "Gardenhose"/"Sample": ~10-15% of public tweets
  - 2. Scrape of earlier messages
- ~2 billion messages before topic selection,
   Jan 2008 May 2010

It did not justify tweet users are good representations of the general population.

#### Message data

```
"text": "Time for the States to fight back !!!
                                                      Tenth Amendment Movement: Taking On the
Feds http://bit.ly/14t1RV #tcot #teaparty",
    "created_at": "Tue Nov 17 21:08:39 +0000 2009",
    "geo": null,
    "id": 5806348114,
    "in_reply_to_screen_name": null,
    "in_reply_to_status_id": null,
    "user": {
        "screen_name": "TPO_News",
        "created_at": "Fri May 15 04:16:38 +0000 2009",
        "description": "Child of God - Married - Gun carrying NRA Conservative - Right Winger
hard Core Anti Obama (Pro America), Parrothead - www.ABoldStepBack.com #tcot #nra #iPhone",
        "followers_count": 10470,
        "friends_count": 11328.
        "name": "Tom O'Halloran",
        "profile_background_color": "f2f5f5",
        "profile_image_url": "http://a3.twimg.com/profile_images/295981637/
TPO_Balcony_normal.jpg",
        "protected": false,
        "statuses_count": 21147,
        "location": "Las Vegas, Baby!!",
        "time_zone": "Pacific Time (US & Canada)",
        "url": "http://www.tpo.net/1dollar",
        "utc_offset": -28800,
```

#### Message data used

#### Message data not used:

- Locations from GPS
- Locations from IP addresses not public
- User information (name, description, self-described location)
- Conversation structure: retweets, replies
- Social structure: follower network

#### **Poll Data**

- Consumer confidence, 2008-2009
  - Index of Consumer Sentiment (Reuters/Michigan)
  - Gallup Daily (free version from gallup.com)
- 2008 Presidential Elections
  - Aggregation, Pollster.com
- 2009 Presidential Job Approval
  - Gallup Daily

#### Poll Data: Sample Questions

- "We are interested in how people are getting along financially these days. Would you say that you (and your family living there) are better off or worse off financially than you were a year ago?"
- "Now turning to business conditions in the country as a whole—do you think that during the next twelve months we'll have good times financially, or bad times?"

Ask human sensors what they are good at:
Binary Observations!

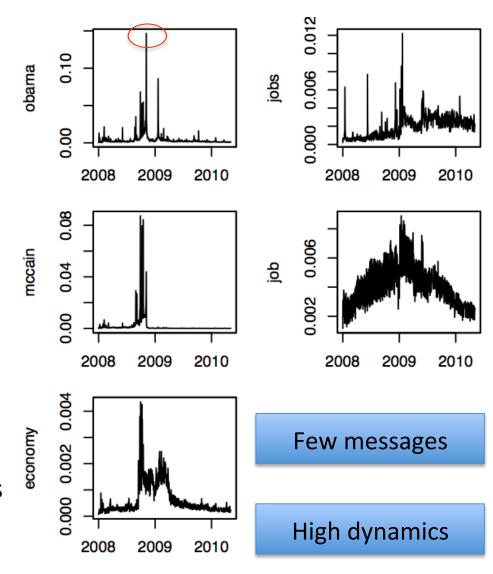
## Text sentiment analysis method

- Two-stage process
  - 1. <u>Topic Selection</u>: select topical tweets, via hand-selected keywords
  - 2. <u>Sentiment Analysis</u>: For one topic's messages, count "sentiment polarity" words, from pre-existing lexicon

(More sophisticated methods are possible, for both stages)

#### Message selection via topic keywords

- Analyzed subsets of messages that contained manually selected topic keyword
  - "economy", "jobs", "job"-> consumer confidence
  - "obama"-> presidential approval
  - "obama", "mccain" ->
    elections
- High day-to-day dynamics
  - Fraction of messages containing keyword
  - Nov 5 2008: 15% of tweets contain "obama"



#### **Opinion Estimation: Word Counting**

 Subjectivity Clues lexicon from OpinionFinder (Univ. of Pittsburgh)

http://mpqa.cs.pitt.edu/opinionfinder/

- Wilson et al 2005
- 1600 positive, 1200 negative words

Sentiment Analysis Tool

- Procedure
  - 1. Within topical messages,
  - Count messages containing these positive and negative words

#### A note on the sentiment list

This list is not well suited for social media English.

**False Negatives** 

Examples for one day.

#### (Top examples)

| word | valence  | count |
|------|----------|-------|
| will | positive | 3934  |
| bad  | negative | 3402  |
| good | positive | 2655  |
| help | positive | 1971  |

**False Positives** 

#### (Random examples)

| •           | •        |       |
|-------------|----------|-------|
| word        | valence  | count |
| funny       | positive | 114   |
| fantastic   | positive | 37    |
| cornerstone | positive | 2     |
| slump       | negative | 85    |
| bearish     | negative | 17    |
| crackdown   | negative | 5     |

#### Sentiment Ratio over Messages

For **one day t** and **a particular topic word**, compute score

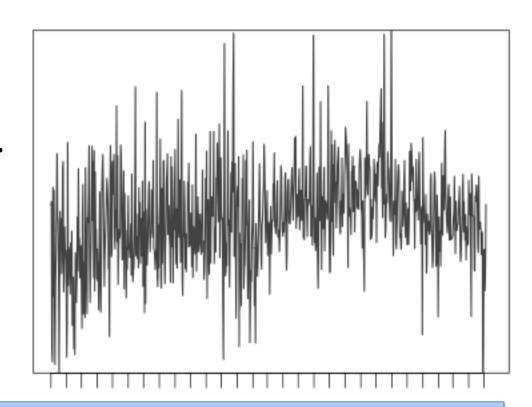
SentimentRatio( topic\_word, t ) =

```
\frac{\text{MessageCount}_t(\text{pos. word AND topic word})}{\text{MessageCount}_t(\text{neg. word AND topic word})}
```

$$= \frac{p(\text{pos. word} \mid \text{topic word}, t)}{p(\text{neg. word} \mid \text{topic word}, t)}$$

#### Sentiment Ratio Moving Average

- High day-to-day dynamics.
- Average last k days.
- SentRatio ("jobs"),k = 1
- (Gallup tracking polls: 3 or 7-day smoothing)

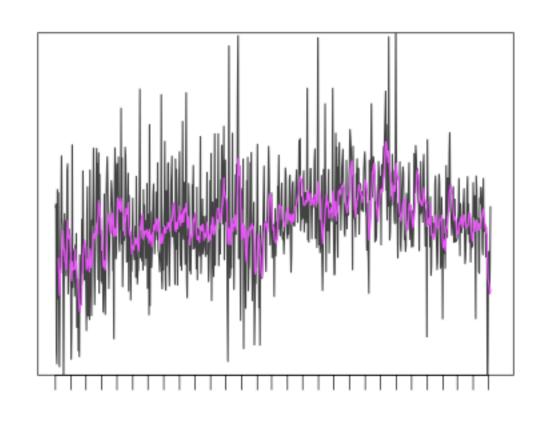


Q: How to observe consistent behaviors over a longer period of time?

$$MA_t = \frac{1}{k} (x_{t-k+1} + x_{t-k+2} + \dots + x_t)$$

### Sentiment Ratio Moving Average

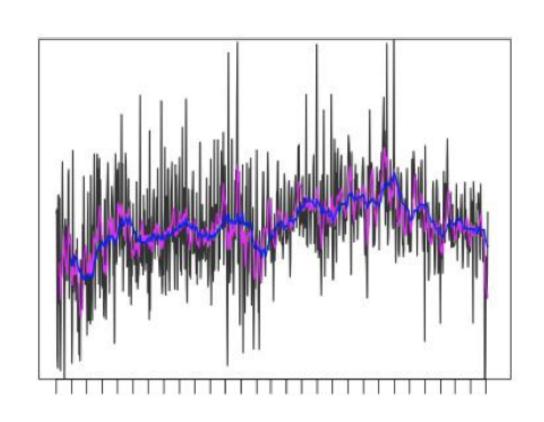
- High day-to-day volatility.
- Average last k days.
- SentRatio("jobs"),k = 1, 7
- (Gallup tracking polls: 3 or 7-day smoothing)



$$MA_t = \frac{1}{k} (x_{t-k+1} + x_{t-k+2} + \dots + x_t)$$

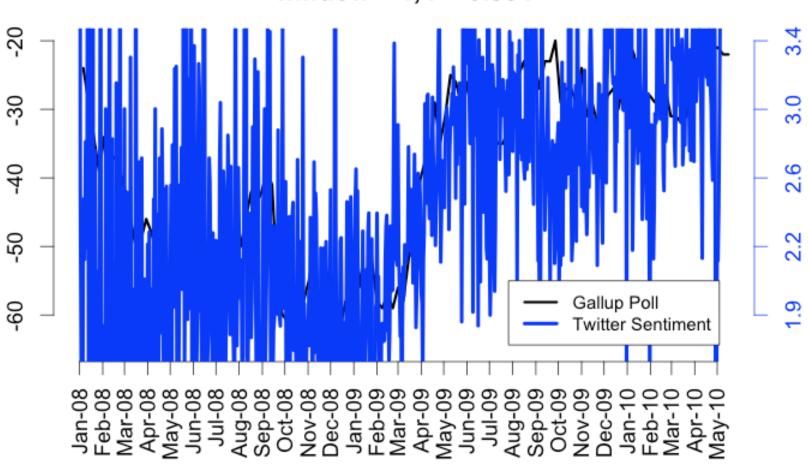
#### Sentiment Ratio Moving Average

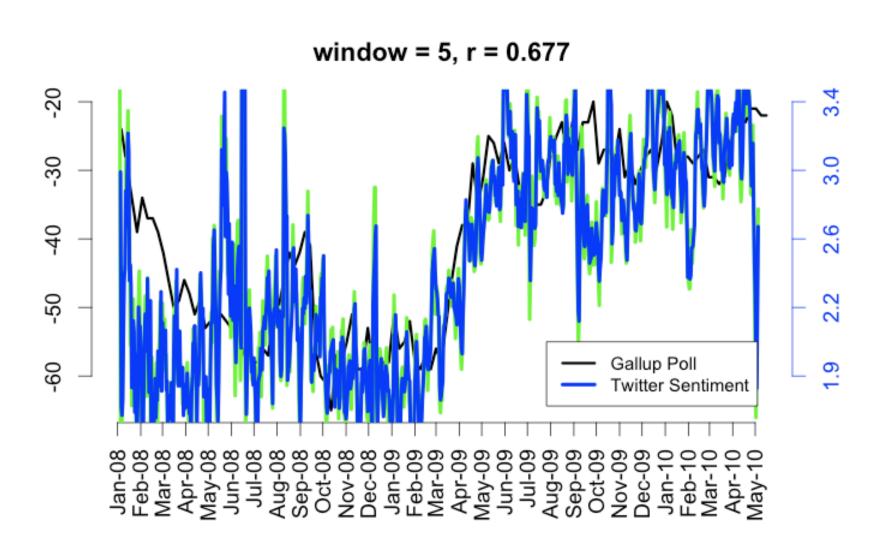
- High day-to-day volatility.
- Average last k days
- SentRatio("jobs"),k = 1, 7, 30
- (Gallup tracking polls: 3 or 7-day smoothing)

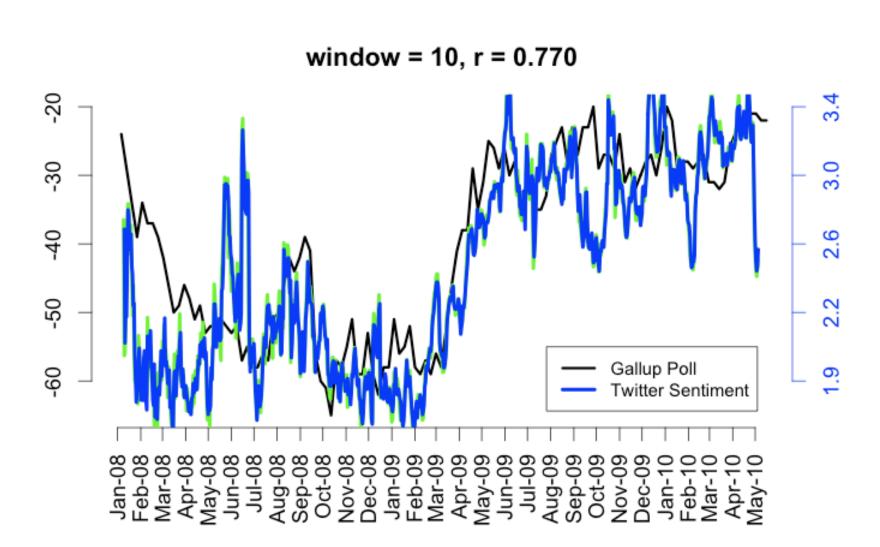


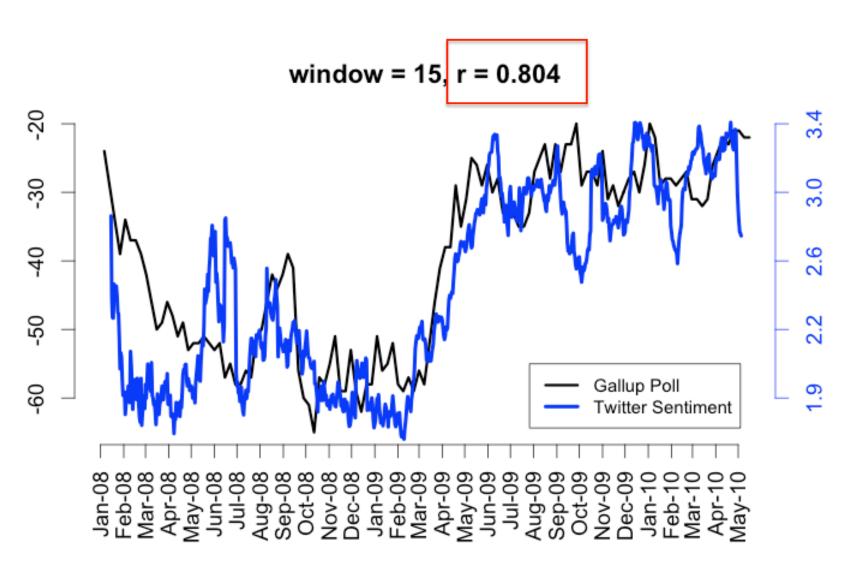
$$MA_t = \frac{1}{k} (x_{t-k+1} + x_{t-k+2} + \dots + x_t)$$

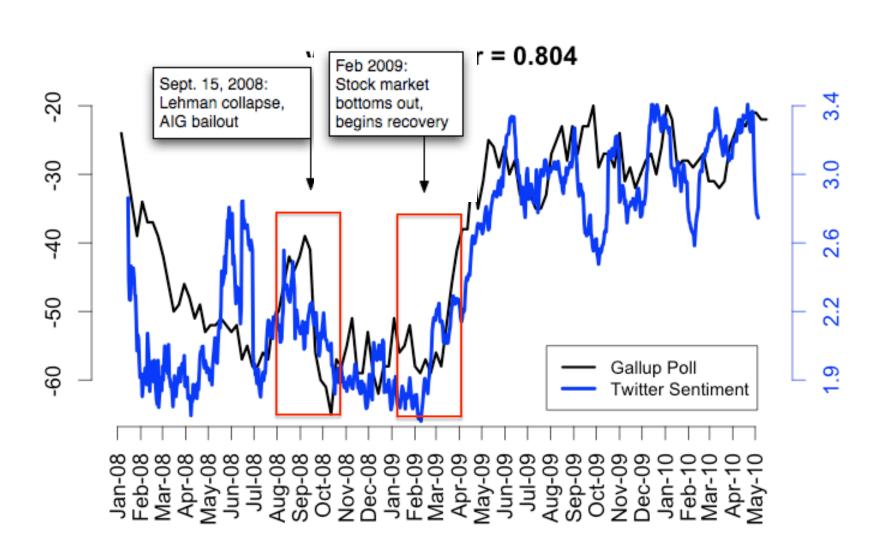
window = 1, r = 0.064







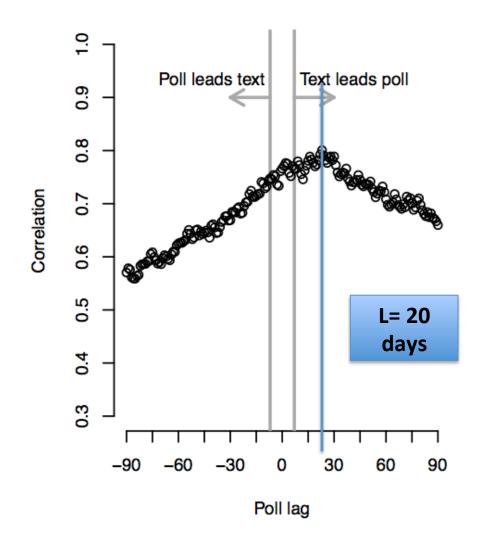




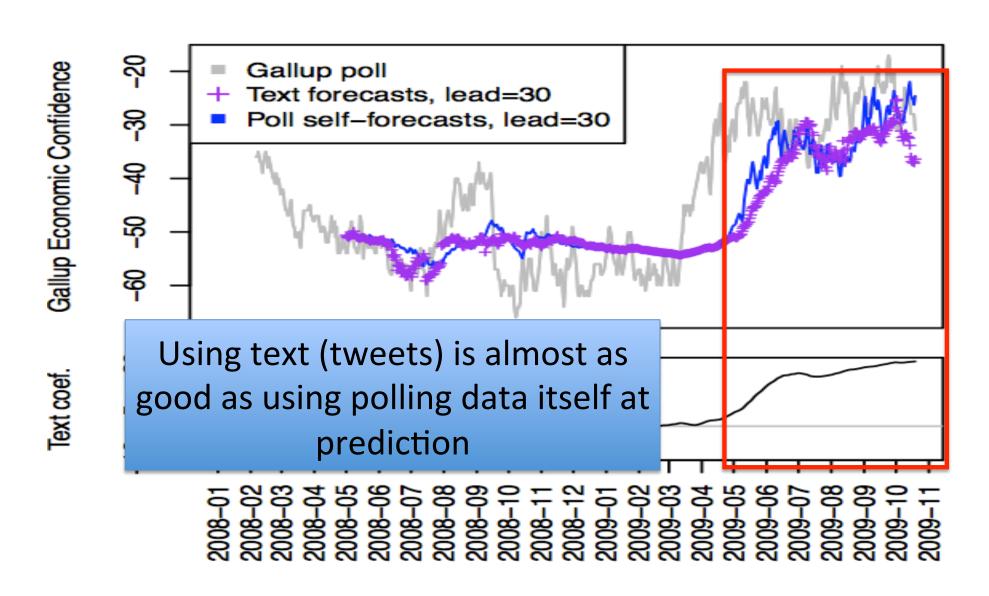
#### Which leads, poll or Twitter?

- Cross-correlation analysis: between
  - SentimentRatio("jobs")on day t
  - Poll for day t+L

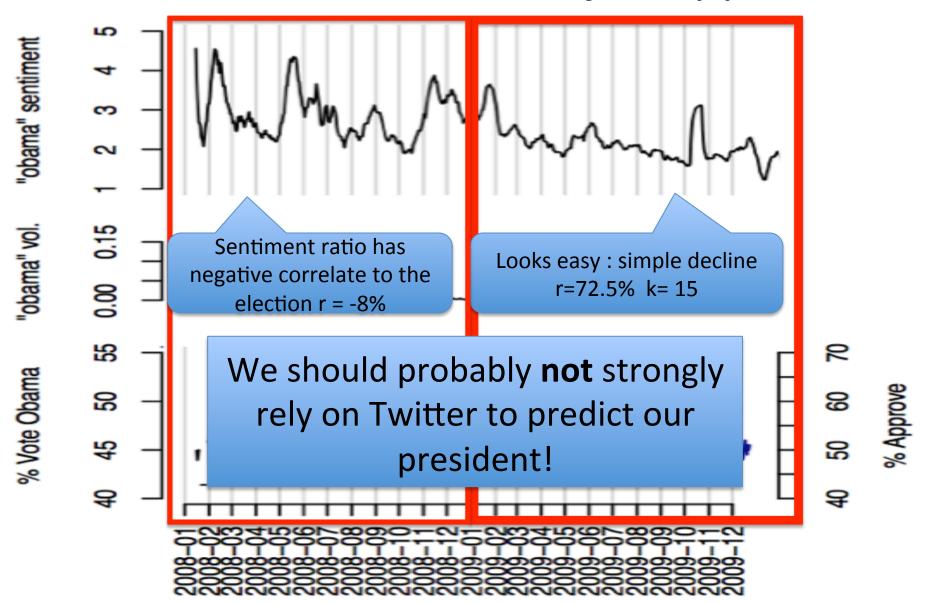
Twitter text is a leading indicator for polls



## Predicting polls



#### Presidential elections and job approval



### Remained Challenges

- Who is using Twitter?
  - Massive changes over time (2009 Twitter != 2015 Twitter)
- Is Polling the Gold Standard?
  - Other more reliable sources (e.g., face-to-face interviews)
- Better text analysis
  - How to handle retweets and duplicated information (next lecture)
  - Word sense ambiguity: "steve jobs"
- Less biased data
  - Use demographic information on Twitter to reduce bias