

# Can Anyone Become an Internet Troll?

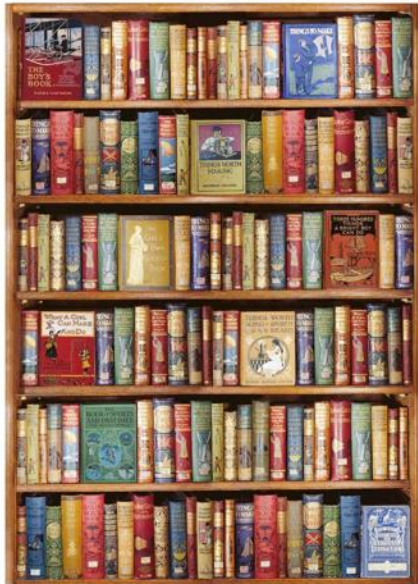
Jure Leskovec (@jure)

Including joint work with **Justin Cheng**,  
M. Bernstein, C. Danescu-Niculescu-Mizil



# Two Metaphors for the Web

Web as a library    Web as a social  
place



# Web as a Social Place

Crucial for the success of  
the Web is the ability of  
**users to contribute content**  
and **provide feedback**





# reddit

[CATS](#)[hot](#)[new](#)[rising](#)[controversial](#)[top](#)

1 2524



We worried that Byrd was gonna get lonely so we set up a cat cam, this is what we saw (imgur.com)



(422|1703) submitted 15 hours ago by norsez

167 comments share save hide report [I+c] pocket

2 138



Our new kitten has officially stolen my heart



(138|13) submitted 6 hours ago by brittinea

4 comments share save hide report [I+c] pocket

3 60



Posted about Manfred earlier this week. He is



(69|8) submitted 4 hours ago by allihearts

9 comments share save hide report [I+c] pocket

4 195



Reddit, meet Hercules. This is what he does in the bathroom. (imgur.com)



(218|25) submitted 13 hours ago by Itsnubs

7 comments share save hide report [I+c] pocket

5 322



My Best Little Buddy. :) **Original Content** (i.imgur.com)



(374|48) submitted 16 hours ago by Kell0GGz

4 comments share save hide report [I+c] pocket

Stack Overflow is a question and answer site for professional and enthusiast programmers. Registration is required.

## Can C++ code be valid in both C++03 and C++11 but

▲  
210  
▼



Is it possible for C++ code to conform to both the [C++03](#) standard and the [C++11](#) standard? Or are there different things depending on under which standard it is being compiled?

[c++](#)
[c++11](#)
[language-lawyer](#)
[c++03](#)

share | improve this question

edited Apr 17 at 20:02



Angew

39.5k ● 5 ● 41 ● 88

ask



- 13 I'm pretty sure `auto` could result in a situation like this – [OMGtechy](#) Apr 13 at 19:15
- 6 Yes. One example is `>>` when used in a template. You can come up with a situation for both standards. Another one that I'm sure would be easy to find changes for is `using namespace std;` – [OMGtechy](#) Apr 13 at 19:15
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- 5 @OMGtechy: I don't *think* `auto` can cause this. With the old meaning, an `auto` type name; with the new meaning, a type name is not permitted. – [Keith Thompson](#)
- 2 Closing this as too broad would be a shame, this is question likely to be asked many times. It is good to have a solid canonical question to point to that is not closed. – [Shafik Y](#)

show 14 more comments

## Facebook privacy now defaults to friends only

By **Doug Gross**, CNNupdated 3:39 PM EDT, Thu May 22, 2014 | Filed under: [Social Media](#)

### SHARE THIS

[Recommend](#) 235[Print](#)[Email](#)[More sharing](#)

### More from CNN Video:



**Serial killer's daughter recalls horrors**



**Widow hugs husband's killer in court**

35 Comments [CNN](#)[Login](#)

Sort by Best

[Share](#) [Favorite](#)

Join the discussion...

**Tom** · 7 hours ago

If you're posting something to facebook, it shouldn't be anything you wouldn't print and tape to the front door of a local grocery store.



## Slovenija

POŠLJI

NATISNI

KOMENTIRAJ (152)

### Štirje predsedniki menijo, da je Slovenija na pravi poti

Slovenija mora biti vključujoča družba

19. december 2016 ob 13:45  
Ljubljana - MMC RTV SLO/STA

**Predsedniki republike, vlade, državnega zbora in državnega sveta, Borut Pahor, Miro Cerar, Milan Brglez in Mitja Bervar, se strinjajo, da je Slovenija na pravi poti in da razlogi za utemeljen optimizem so.**

Stabilnost je treba izkoristiti za sprejetje potrebnih reform, krepi pa je treba tudi zaupanje ljudi v delovanje političnih institucij, so menili na srečanju štirih predsednikov.

Tako so po Pahorjevih besedah danes ugotovili, da Slovenija po letih surove gospodarske in finančne krize okreva, na kar kažejo tudi glavni gospodarski in socialni kazalniki. Politično stabilnost je po njegovih besedah treba izkoristiti za sprejetje reform, ki so potrebne, da bi Slovenija dodatno okrepila svojo gospodarsko in socialno moč ter da bi država postala odpornejša ob morebitni novi zaostritvi razmer v mednarodnem okolju.

Ocena novice: ★★★★★  
Ocena 1.4 od 94 glasov

Vaša ocena: ★★★★★  
Ocenite na novico!



Ker je učinkovitost evropskih institucij v tem trenutku manjša, kot bi si jo želeli, se bo po Pahorjevih besedah morda treba bolj zanesti na lastne presoje in uporabiti zgodovinske izkušnje pri sprejemanju ključnih razvojnih rešitev. Foto: BoBo



## Oddajte svoj komentar - Število komentarjev: 152

 Skrij komentarje



Za komentiranje morate biti [prijavljeni](#). Komentarji ne odražajo stališča uredniške politike RTV Slovenija. Prosimo, da se pri komentiranju držite teme, ne uporabljate sovražnega govora in upoštevate [pravila](#).



Razvrsti: Po času ▼

Po oceni ▼

# Two Metaphors for the Web

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## Web as a library

- One static version
- Everyone's experience is fixed
- No user interactions

## Web as a social place

- Complex dynamic feedback effects
- One user's experience is a function of other users' experiences
- User interactions



# Challenges

---

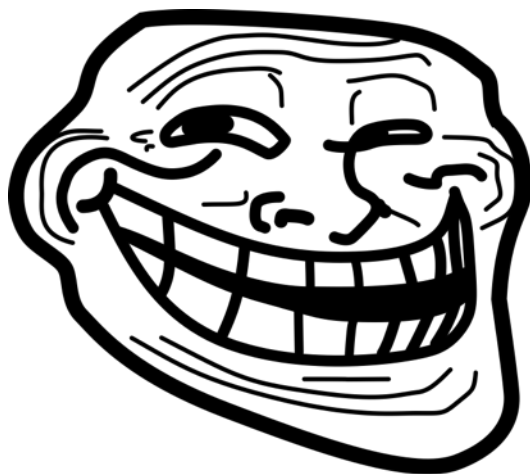
Want users to engage and contribute (good) content (and make others' experiences better)

- How do we keep users engaged?
- How do we promote good behavior?
- How do we ensure health of the community and the content?

# Challenges

---

- We know a lot about overall average user behavior in online communities
- But many times only a few users can have a disproportionate (negative) effect on the entire community
- How do we study and model behavior of such users?
- Have do we use the insights to improve online communities?



# Antisocial Behavior

---

**Internet Troll** is a person who sows discord on the Internet

- by starting arguments and upsetting people
- by posting inflammatory, extraneous, or off-topic messages in an online community

[wikipedia]

# Facebook: The encyclopedia of beauty?

By Amanda Enayati, Special to CNN

Updated 9:13 PM ET, Fri March 16, 2012



Demi Lovato and Miley Cyrus have used social media to send positive messages about body image.

## Story highlights

Social networks have young women competing against each other for the best body

Networks influence self-esteem, although experts disagree on whether its for better or worse

Heaviest users of media are the ones who have the most distorted beliefs about society

One day last year, Amanda Coleman decided to quit Facebook.

It wasn't one precipitating event that led her to her decision, but a slow build -- a series of disturbing, sometimes anguished conversations.

Coleman, a college student and the president of her sorority, found herself spending a lot of time counseling young girls, many of them freshman at the university.

## Perceptions of Beauty



### Dieting companies target men

Men face the issue at the same rate as women, but until recently, ads for weight loss products mostly featured female faces and voices.



### Facebook: Encyclopedia of beauty?

Because of social networks, the field of competition has expanded dramatically. Now you're competing with the best pictures and the ebullient status updates of every girl you know.



### Fat: New ugly on the playground

Children as young as 3 worry about being fat. An obsession with skinny ideals is trickling down to our youngest generation.



### Sex, lies and media

There's a new wave of activists challenging our society's notions of beauty.



Girls are focused on their image way too much. This isn't new. And when they talk about other girls 'fat', 'ugly', and 'b\*tch' are recurring words.



It also shows that Islam and Christianity teaching women to dress modest could be right afterall.





It also shows that Islam and Christianity teaching women to dress modest could be right afterall.



Religious nut alert



Clearly that is the only logical conclusion to this article. Now if you'll excuse me, I need to iron my tarp. I have work on Monday, and I want to appear 'modest'.



fail at life. go bomb yourself.



Both of these little skanks are ugly to the bone.



Both of these little skanks are ugly to the bone.



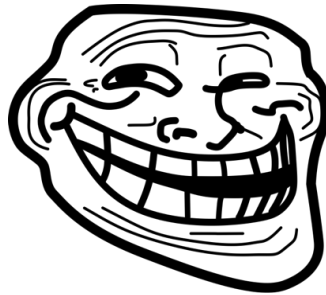
Troll

# PROBLEM: Trolls disrupt online discussions

Antisocial Behavior in Online Discussion Communities  
J. Cheng, C. Danescu-Niculescu-Mizil, J. Leskovec.  
AAAI ICWSM, 2015.

---

**We examine posts of users who  
will be blocked from the  
community in the future.**



**What do we learn?**

---

# Facebook: The encyclopedia of beauty?



Facebook is for losers with no friends in real life.

Less positive

---

# Soccer star Muamba still 'critical' after on-pitch collapse



Suck a f\*\*\*\*ng c@ck u d@uchebag

More profanity



---

# Ex-NBA star returns to inner city, brings hoop dreams



\*sniff\* This had me tearing up in the office. Great job Penny! You were always a class act on and off the court. Your Grandmother is applauding you again in heaven!



Fantastic story. Kudos to Penny Hardaway. This is what you call giving back.



Penny, once again you show why you are one of the best of the league. Always a class-act. Always a good example.





Penny, once again you show why you are one of the best of the league. Always a class-act. Always a good example.



I have a question for CNN.....why as a reader do I not see any articles similar to this about white NBA basketball players?.....every single touchy feely story is about a black ball player and then all you do is blast Tim Tebow.....YOU GUYS MAKE ME SICK AS A READER !



Off-topic: Less similar to CNN not previous posts).



How many white NBA players grow up

many stories of charitable efforts by white NBA players, but this isn't a story about a Black NBA player...it's a story about someone who came back to their roots to contribute.



b\c young black men need to see examples from their own race. They

**Gets more replies from  
other users**

It

allows for mentorship and guidance.



A story about a millionaire helping kids in his poor neighborhood personally, and being a positive role model makes you sick as a reader. Gotta love conservatives.



## Posts more frequently



Posts more in  
the same thread






# Discussion Communities

---



Complete data over 18 months,  
~1.7 million users generated  
~40 million posts and  
~100 million votes

# How Common is Bad Behavior?

			
Post Deletion Rate	21.4%	2.3%	2.7%
User Ban Rate	3.3%	1.7%	2.2%

# This Talk: Trolling

---

- Large-scale investigation of trolling in online discussion communities
- Common theme: Complementing observational data analysis with human experiments



# This Talk: Quesitons

---

## 1) Who are trolls?

- Mechanisms behind trolling behaviors:  
Mood and discussion context

## 2) Does feedback mitigate trolling?

- Votes lead to cascading of bad behaviors

## 3) Can we detect trolling early?

- Predicting whether a given user will be blocked from the community

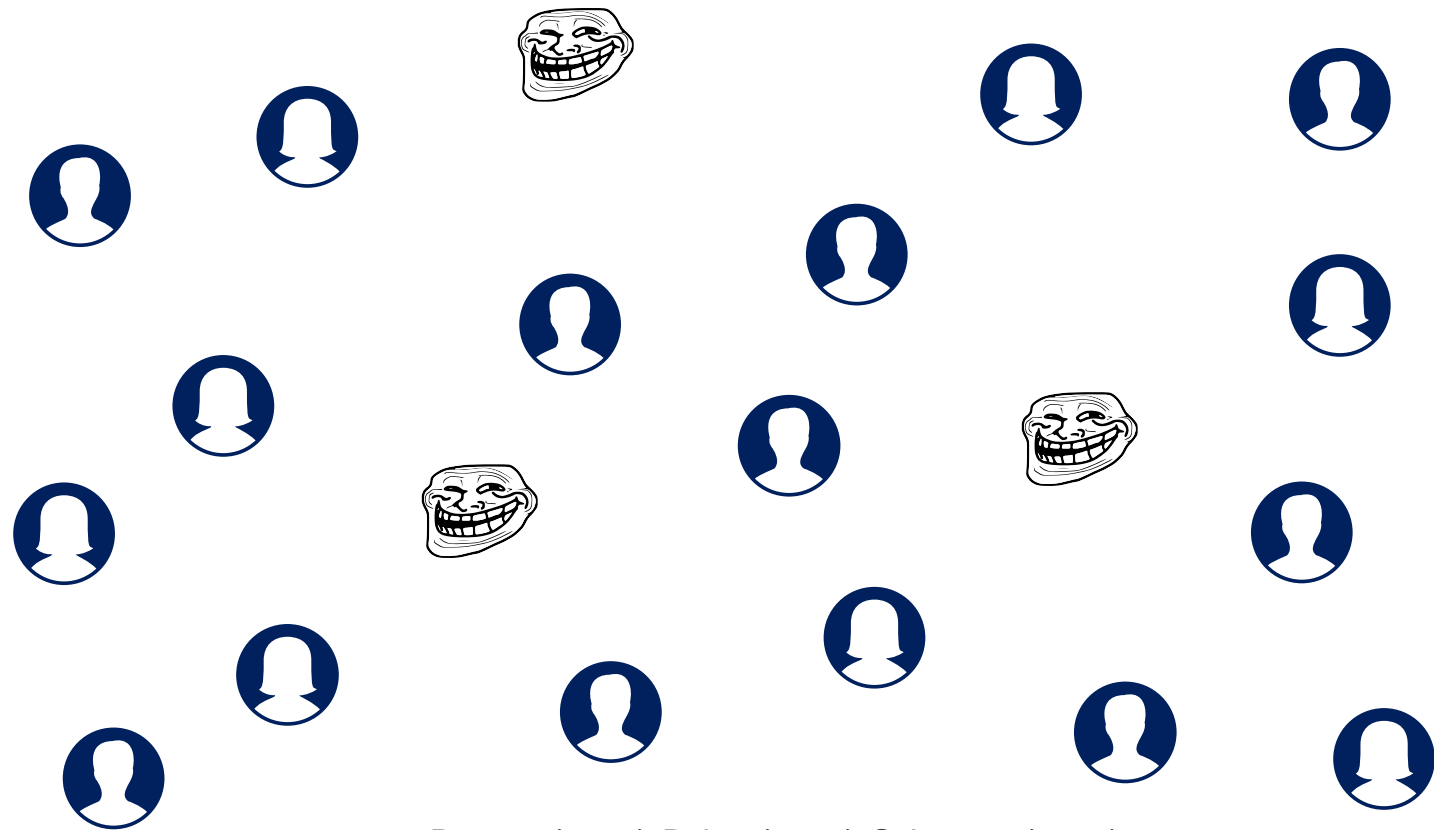
# Who are these people?

## What makes them troll?

## Why is trolling so common?

Anyone Can Become a Troll: Causes of Trolling Behavior in Online Discussions

J. Cheng, M. Bernstein, C. Danescu-Niculescu-Mizil, J. Leskovec.  
CSCW 2017



Donate (1999), Baker (2001), Schwartz (2008)



TWEET (2,842) SHARE (2,488)

## Confessions of a former internet troll

by Emmett Rensin on December 16, 2014



JULIA GREENBERG 05.15.15 7:00 AM

## REDDIT WANTS TO EXILE TROLLS. BUT GROWING UP IS HARD

## THIS AMERICAN LIFE FROM WBEZ



### 545: If You Don't Have Anything Nice to Say, SAY IT IN ALL CAPS

JAN 23, 2015

It's safe to say whatever you want on the Internet, nobody will know it's you. But that same anonymity makes it possible for people to say all the awful things that make the Internet such an annoying and sometimes frightening place. This week: what happens when the Internet turns on you? (If you prefer, here's a [bleeped version](#).)

00:00

00:00

DOWNLOAD

TRANSCRIPT

FAVORITE

HEARD IT

TWEET

LIKE

SHARE

LAUNCH PLAYER

## Slate

CLIMATE DESK

A JOURNALISTIC COLLABORATION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

FEB. 14 2014 1:23 PM

## Internet Trolls Really Are Horrible People

## theguardian

Winner of the Pulitzer prize 2014

home > arts > games

books

art & design

stage

classical

movies

tv & radio

all

Media & Tech Network Media network blog

## Behind the online comments: the psychology of internet trolls

# Studies on Trolling

---

Prior research suggests:

- Trolls are born and not made  
[Baker '01; Herring et al. '11; Shachaf-Hara '10]
- Trolls have particular personality  
[Buckels et al. '14; Raine '02]
- Trolls are sociopathic individuals  
[Rensin '14; Schwartz '08]
- Q: Are trolls really special people or can anyone become a troll?

# Our Work:

## Can Anyone Become a Troll?



# Hypotheses: Mood & Context



**H1:** Negative mood increases a user's likelihood of trolling



**H2:** The discussion context affects a user's susceptibility to troll.

# Designing an Experiment



MTukers only care about being paid.  
How do we design an experiment?



# Designing an Experiment

Two-by-two experimental design:

- Step 1: Mood – Take a test (5min)
  - Easy test & tell people they did well
  - Hard test & tell people they did poorly
- Step 2: Context – Be in a discussion
  - Neutral context of neutral comments
  - Negative context of negative comments

People do not know the real purpose.  
They are debriefed at the end.

# Controlling Mood: PosMood

## Qualification Test

### Instructions

- Below is a series of simple questions, many of which you should be able to answer correctly.
- You will have **five minutes** to complete all the questions.
- Currently, average performance is **8 or more correct answers**.
- You are allowed to use pen and paper, but not any electronic aids (including the Internet).
- Your performance on this task will not affect your payment on the task.

Unscramble the following letters to form an English word:

"P A P H Y"

Type in your answer.

Subtract three thousand from five thousand. Write your answer in words.

Type in your answer.

How many 'l's are there in these sentences?

**266.5 seconds left**

# Controlling Mood: NEGMood

## Qualification Test

### Instructions

- Below is a series of simple questions, many of which you should be able to answer correctly.
- You will have **five minutes** to complete all the questions.
- Currently, average performance is **8 or more correct answers**.
- You are allowed to use pen and paper, but not any electronic aids (including the Internet).
- Your performance on this task will not affect your payment on the task.

Unscramble the following letters to form an English word:

"D E A N Y O N"

Type in your answer.

Subtract six thousand, seven hundred eighty-three from eight thousand, eleven. Write your answer in words.

Type in your answer.

How many 'l's are there in these sentences?

**266.5 seconds left**

# Context: NEUTRALCONTEXT

## News of the Day

### I'm Voting for Hillary Because of My Daughter

Back in the 2008 primary season, I supported Hillary Clinton. That choice wasn't easy for me, especially as Barack Obama advanced and became ever more compelling as a candidate. I felt spoiled as the year progressed: two great,

#### Top Comments Sorted by Best



**User1337** · 14 weeks ago

I'm a woman, and i don't think you should vote for a woman just because she is a woman. vote for her because you believe she deserves it.

6 ▲ | ▼ · [Reply](#)



**User9054** · 14 weeks ago

Personally, I'd vote for whoever I think is the best and most qualified candidate, but that's just me.

1 ▲ | ▼



Write a comment...

Post Comment

# Context: NEGCONTEXT

## News of the Day

### I'm Voting for Hillary Because of My Daughter

Back in the 2008 primary season, I supported Hillary Clinton. That choice wasn't easy for me, especially as Barack Obama advanced and became ever more compelling as a candidate. I felt spoiled as the year progressed: two great,

#### Top Comments Sorted by Best



**User1337** · 9 weeks ago

Oh yes. By all means, vote for a Wall Street sellout - - a lying, abuse-enabling, soon-to-be felon as our next President. And do it for your daughter. You're quite the role model.

1 ^ | v · [Reply](#)



**User9054** · 9 weeks ago

Hillary is a [REDACTED]. I am voting with my [REDACTED] for Putin. /s

0 ^ | v



Write a comment...

Post Comment

# Mechanical Turk Experiment



667 participants, 40% female, age 34.2,  
54% Democrat, 25% Moderate, 21% Republican  
Contributed 791 posts (37.8 words/post), 1392 votes

# Results: Test Performance

---

- PosMOOD (easy test):  
11 out of 15 questions correct
  - Outperforming stated avg. score of 8
- NEGMOOD (hard test):  
2 out of 15 questions correct
  - After below stated avg. score of 8

Does the test score affect user's mood?

# Results: Does it affect mood?

---

- **After the test:** 65 questions on how people were feeling
  - Based on the Profile of Mood States
- **People in NEGMOOD felt worse:**
  - Higher anger, confusion, depression, fatigue, and tension scores
- **How good were the comments?**



# Comments: MOOD

---

	<u>Prop. Troll Posts</u>	
	PosMOOD	NEGMOOD
NEUTRALCONTEXT	0.35	0.49
NEGCONTEXT	0.47	0.68

---

- Users in the **negative mood** condition are more likely to troll (~80% higher odds,  $p < 0.05$ )

# Comments: CONTEXT

---

	<u>Prop. Troll Posts</u>	
	PosMOOD	NEGMOOD
NEUTRALCONTEXT	0.35	0.49
NEGCONTEXT	0.47	0.68

---

- Users in the **negative context** condition are more likely to troll (~60% higher odds,  $p < 0.05$ )

# Comments: Negativity

---

	<u>Negative Affect (LIWC)</u>	
	PosMOOD	NEGMOOD
NEUTRALCONTEXT	0.011	0.014
NEGCONTEXT	0.023	0.029

---

- Negative mood and context lead to more negative posts

Bad mood and context make  
people write bad posts.

How do we combat that?

Sites allow users to vote on the content and hopefully bad posts get voted down





# reddit

[CATS](#)[hot](#)[new](#)[rising](#)[controversial](#)[top](#)

2524



We worried that Byrd was gonna get lonely set up a cat cam, this is what we saw (imgur.c



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167 comments share save hide report [I+c] pocket

138



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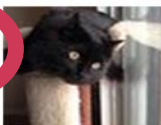
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322



My Best Little Buddy. :) **Original Content** (i.imgur.c



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210



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c++ c++11 language-lawyer c++03

share | improve this question

edited Apr 17 at 20:02



Angew

39.5k ● 5 ● 41 ● 88

ask



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show 14 more comments

35 Comments

CNN

Login

Sort by Best

Share Favorite



Join the discussion...

**Tom** · 7 hours ago

If you're posting something to facebook, it shouldn't be anything you wouldn't print and tape to the front door of a local grocery store.

21 ^ | v Reply · Share

**ccw101** → Tom · 7 hours ago

I hate Facebook for the fact the only person you have control over is yourself. I have seen full grown adults get angry at their own children and rip them a new one on their Facebook home page!

If adults can be so ST\*\*\*id then what do kids do?

Facebook is scary. And has given people the opportunity to use it to cause home break in's, ruined reputations, fights , suicides etc.

8 ^ | v Reply · Share

**IAmNotATroll** → ccw101 · 7 hours ago

Come now, I thoroughly enjoy watching my in-laws publicly argue and shred each other to pieces over Facebook.

8 ^ | v Reply · Share

**Furby** → IAmNotATroll · 6 hours ago

I had a distant cousin try to blackmail my mom on FB publically. Me and her became real close after that - and not in the way you want to get close to someone. Some people are just plain dumb



When a user evaluates  
a comment, she is  
indirectly evaluating the  
author

Do such evaluations help  
authors contribute better  
content?

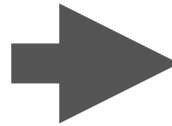
[How Community Feedback Shapes User Behavior](#)

J. Cheng, C. Danescu-Niculescu-Mizil, J. Leskovec

AAAI ICWSM, 2014



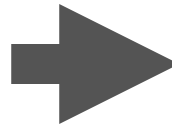
Positive  
Vote



?



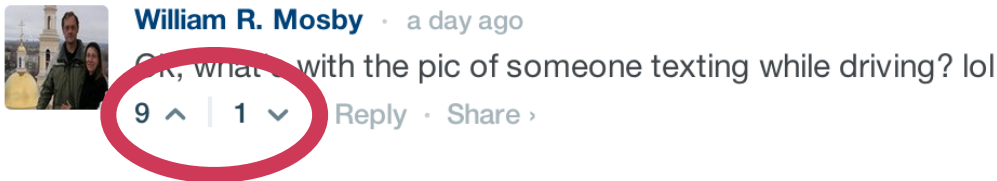
Negative  
Vote



?

# Evaluation of a Post

- A post is **positively/negatively** evaluated when the proportion of up-votes is higher/lower than a given threshold.



$$P/(P+N) = 9/(9+1) = 0.9 \geq \text{High Threshold}$$

defined by the proportion of up-votes



How does positive/negative  
feedback influence  
subsequent behavior?

# Effects of Evaluations

---

- Post quality
  - How well you write
- Community bias
  - How people evaluate you
- Posting frequency
  - How regularly you post
- Voting behavior
  - How you vote on others

# Do Users Improve?

Operant conditioning predicts that feedback would guide authors towards better behavior:

- up-votes are “reward” stimuli
- down-votes are “punishment” stimuli

Skinner, B. F. (1938). The behavior of organisms: An experimental analysis.

# Or Do They Get Worse?

Feedback can have negative effects:

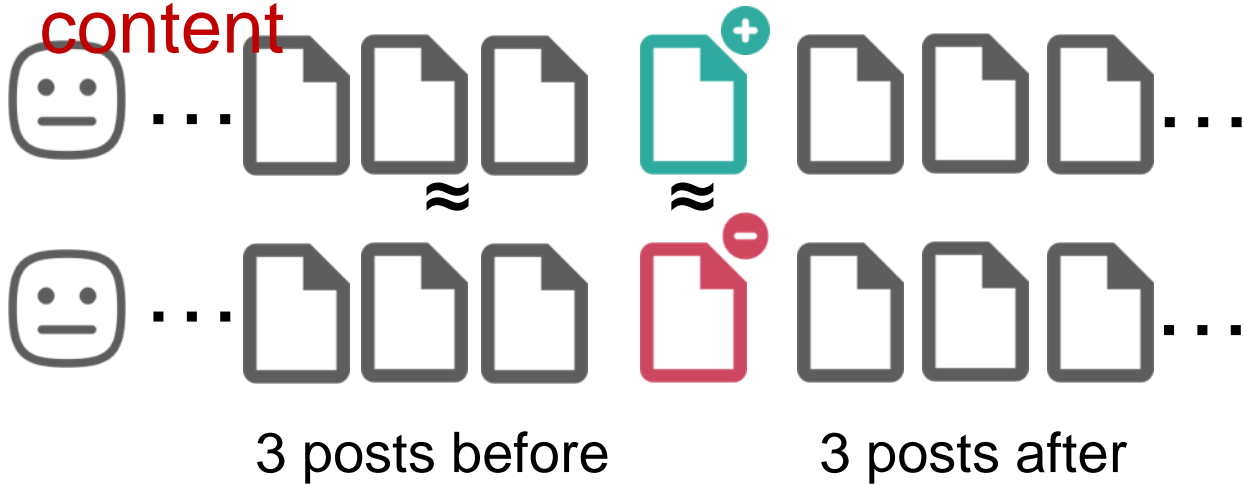
- People given only positive feedback tend to become complacent
- Also, bad impressions are quicker to form and more resistant to disconfirmation

Brinko, K. T. (1993). The practice of giving feedback to improve teaching: what is effective?

Baumeister, R. F., Bratslavsky, E., Finkenauer, C., & Vohs, K. D. (2001). Bad is stronger than good.

# Matching Similar Users

Compare pairs of users who were evaluated differently on similar content



Rosenbaum, P. R., & Rubin, D. B. (1983). The central role of the propensity score in observational studies for causal effects.



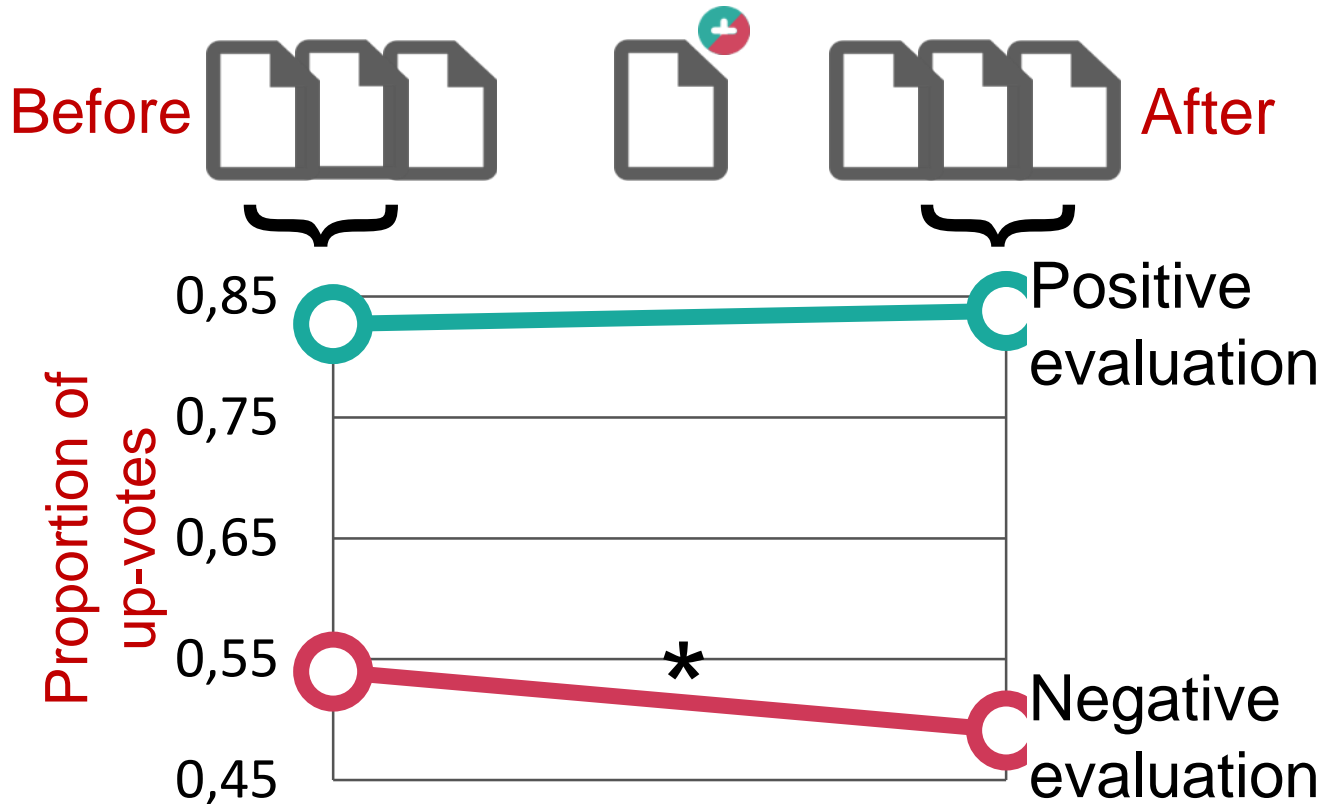
# Details of Matching

Match pairs of users where one got positive and one got negative evaluation

- Match based on
  - history text quality
  - number of posts
  - post length
  - overall proportion of up-votes

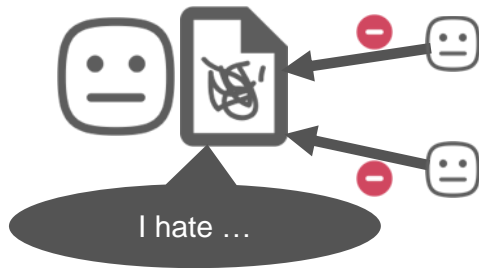
Text quality determined by training a machine learning model using text features, validated using crowd workers.

# Results: Neg-Votes Increase

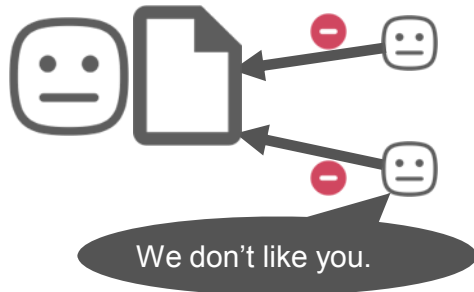


# Content vs. Community

Can valuations be explained by textual or community effects?



Down-voting because of post content



Down-voting because the community dislikes the author

# Results: Negativity Bias

---

- Text quality drops significantly after a negative evaluation  
but does not change after a positive evaluation

$p < 0.05$  in all communities

To learn more about these types of effects, see Kanouse, D. E., & Hanson Jr, L. R. (1987).  
Negativity in evaluations.

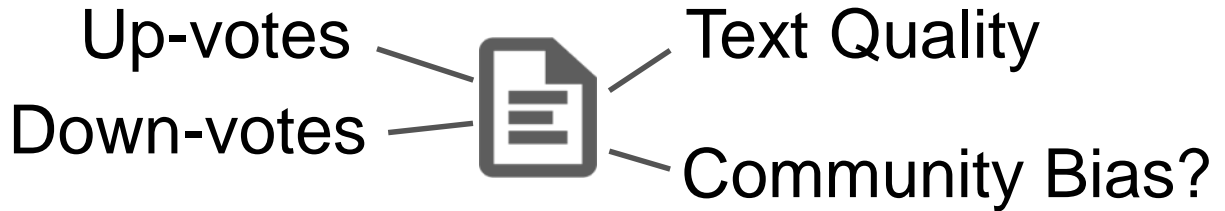
# Evaluations can Affect...

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## ...Community Bias

(How people perceive you)

- How does community perception of a user change after an evaluation?



Actual Evaluation $P/(P+N)$	0.9
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Text Quality	0.8
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	0.9-0.8
Community Bias	= +0.1

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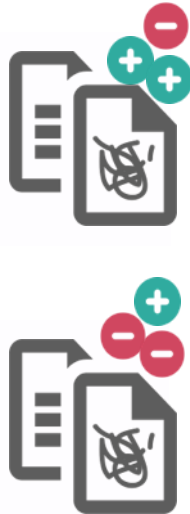
User A



≈ ≈



User B



Compare  
community bias  
before and after  
the evaluation

# Communities Discriminate

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Posts made after a negative evaluation were perceived worse than those made after a positive evaluation

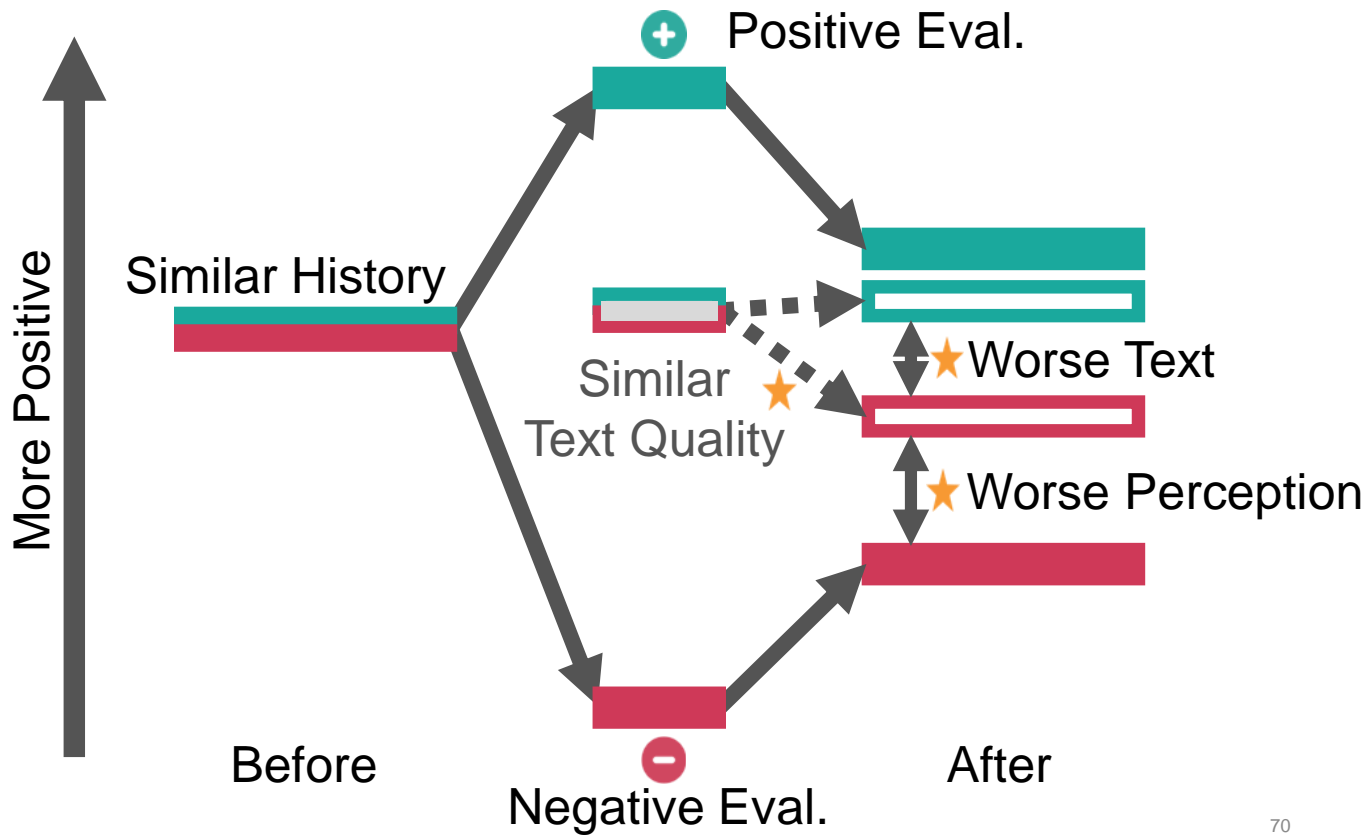
- On CNN, on average, your posts are being evaluated 48% worse than would be predicted by text

quality

$p < 0.05$  in all communities



# Summary of Effects



# Evaluations can Affect...

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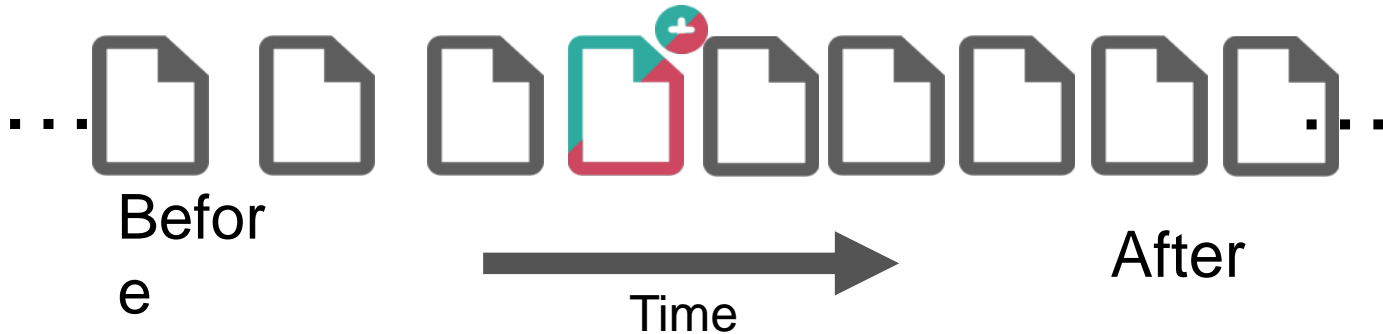
## ...Posting Frequency

(How often you post)

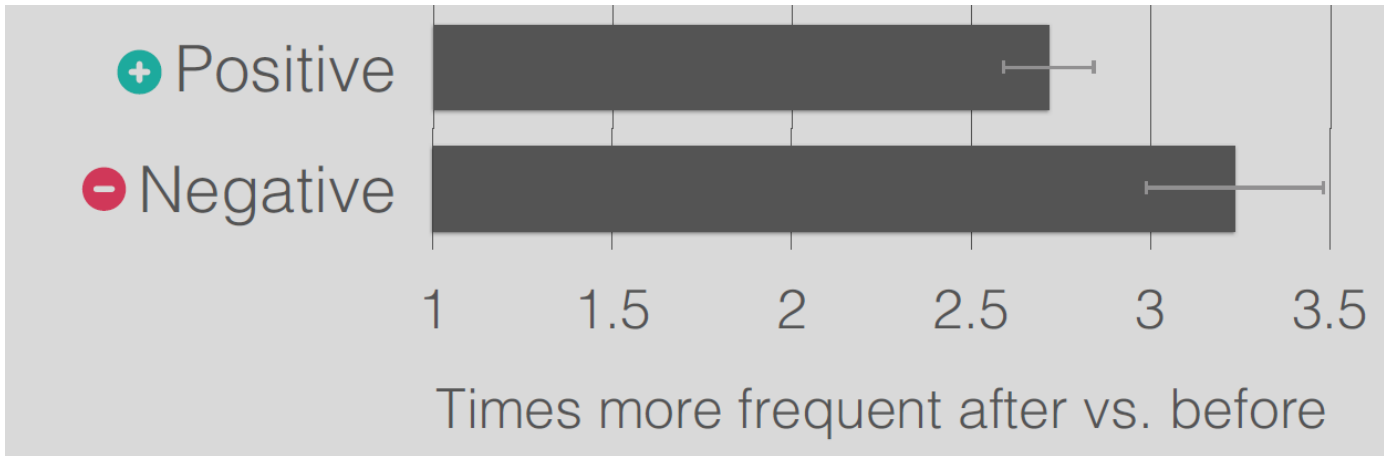
- Does feedback regulate posting quantity?

# Feedback and Posting Activity

- Do users post more after a positive/negative evaluation?



# Negativity Increases Activity



Users who receive negative feedback post more frequently

# Evaluations can Affect...

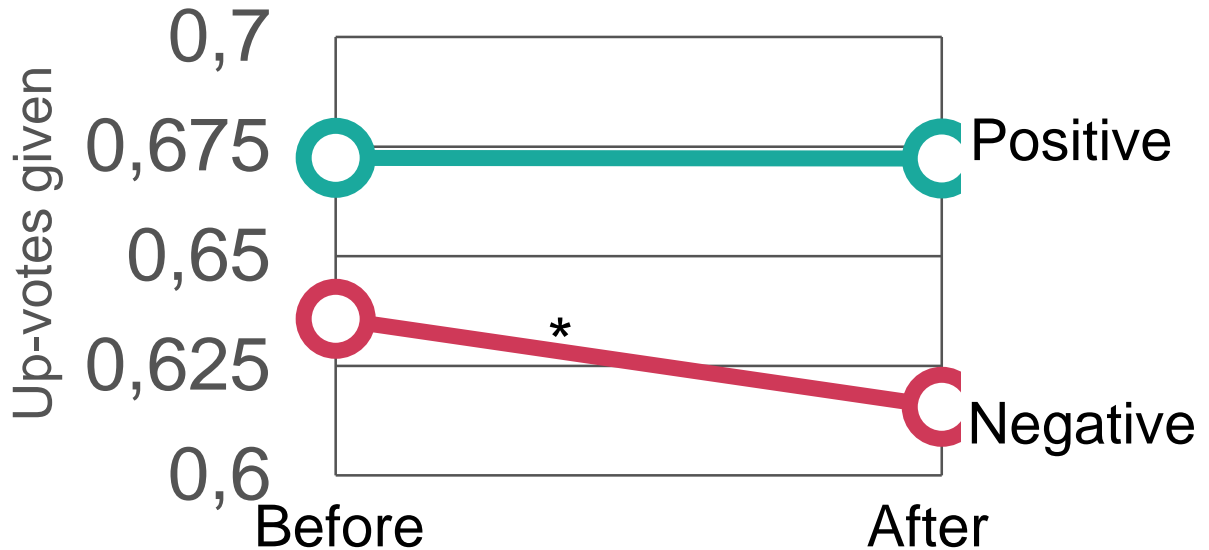
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## ...Voting Behavior

(How you vote on others)

- Does feedback result in subsequent backlash of negative behavior?

# More Down-Votes Given



Users who receive negative feedback  
are more likely to down-vote others

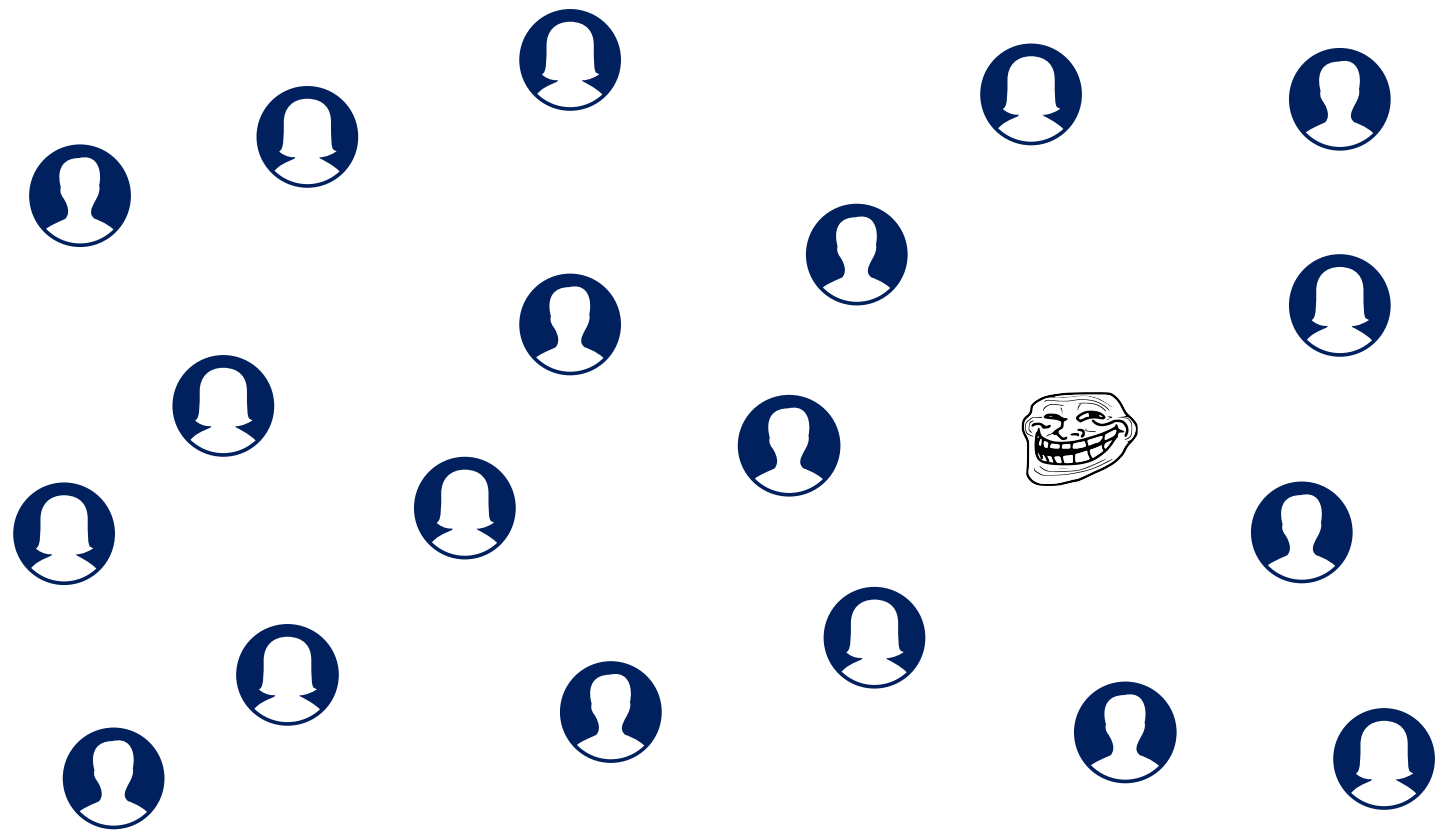
# Summary so far...

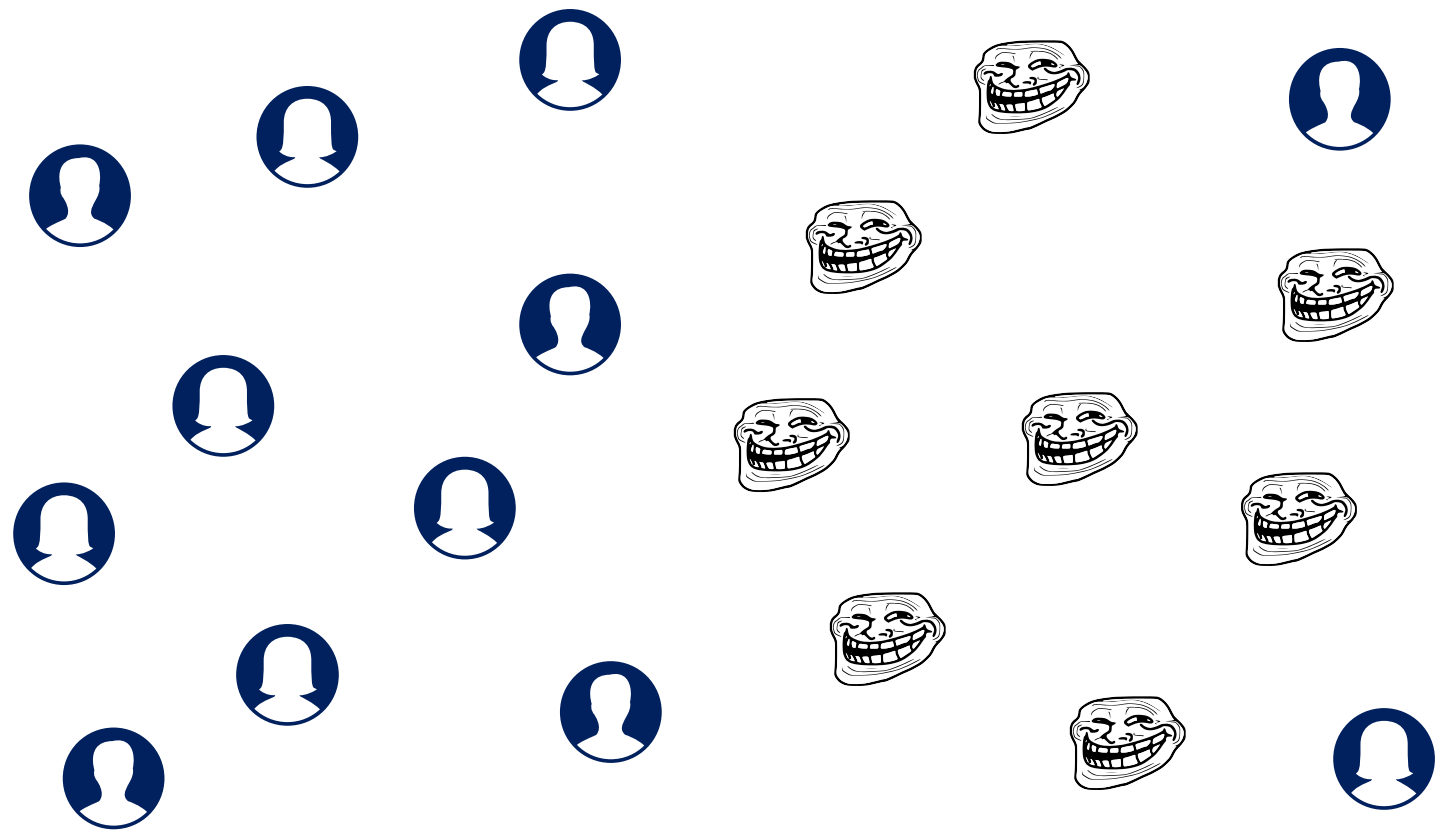
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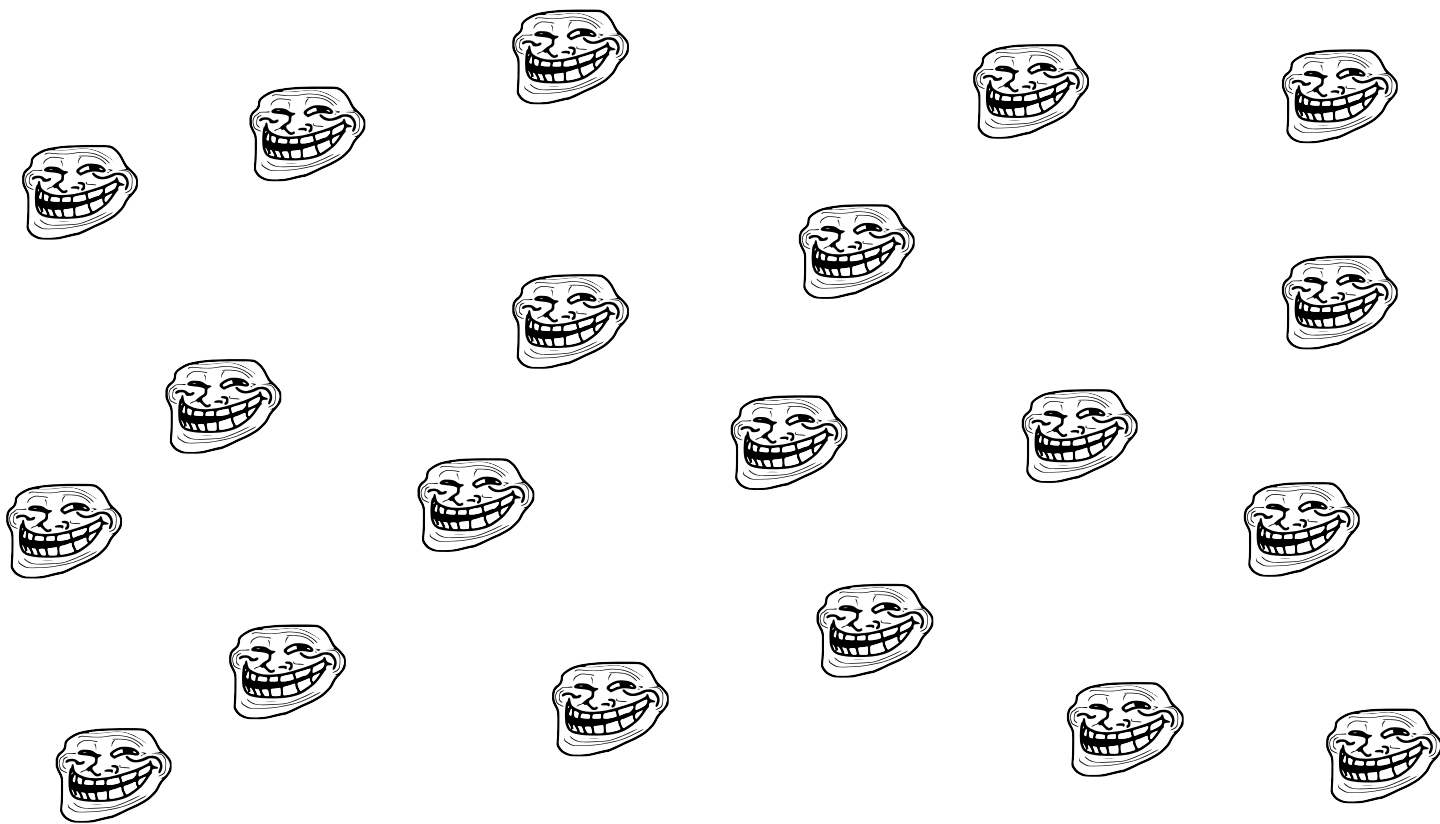
- **Negatively-evaluated users**
  - Write worse (and more!),
  - Are evaluated worse by the community
  - And evaluate others worse
- **Positively-evaluated users**  
don't do any better

Is there a downward  
spiral in communities?

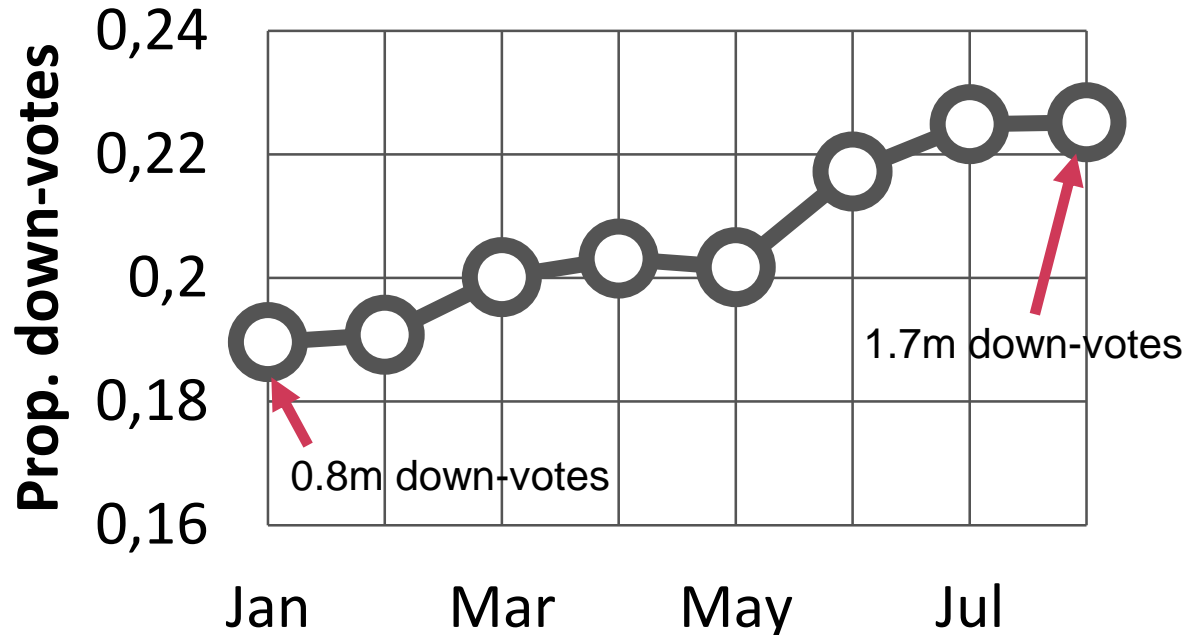






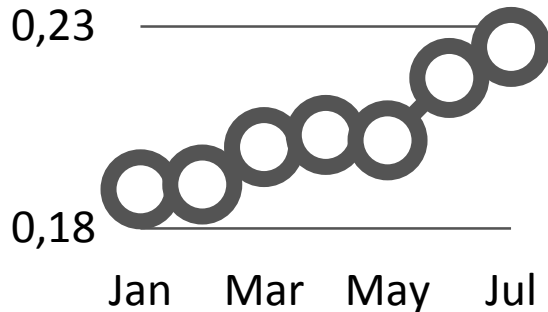


# Downward Spiral in CNN

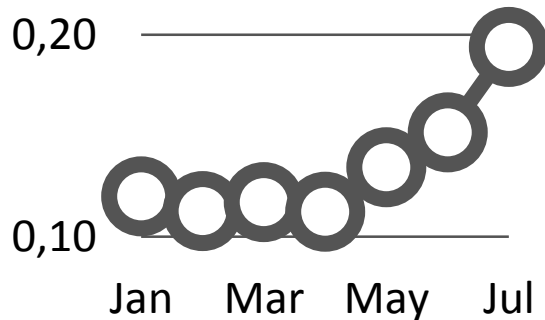


Proportion of down-votes is increasing over time

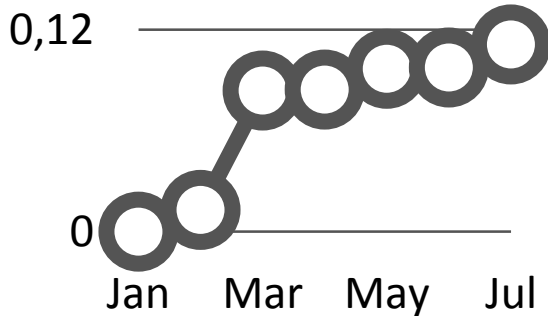
# CNN



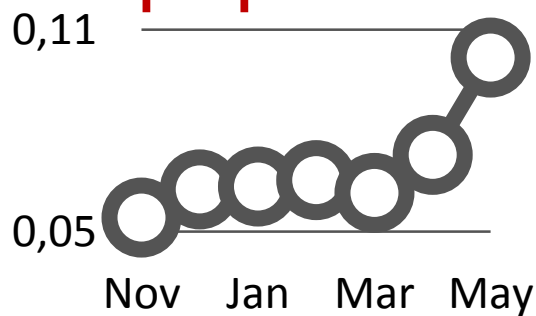
# IGN



# Breitbart



# allkpop



# Can we identify antisocial behavior quickly and prevent downward spirals?

Antisocial Behavior in Online Discussion Communities  
J. Cheng, C. Danescu-Niculescu-Mizil, J. Leskovec.  
AAAI ICWSM, 2015.

# Prediction Task

- **Task:** Detect which users will be banned in the future



Post  
# of words

...



Activity  
posts/day

...



Community  
% upvoted

...

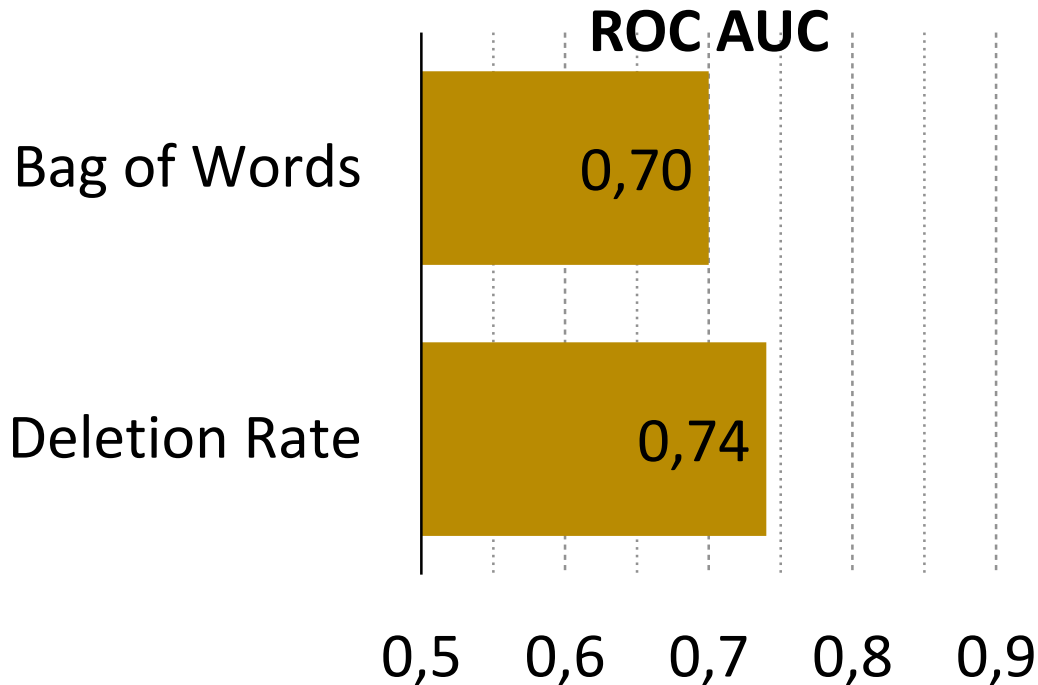


Moderator  
deletions

...

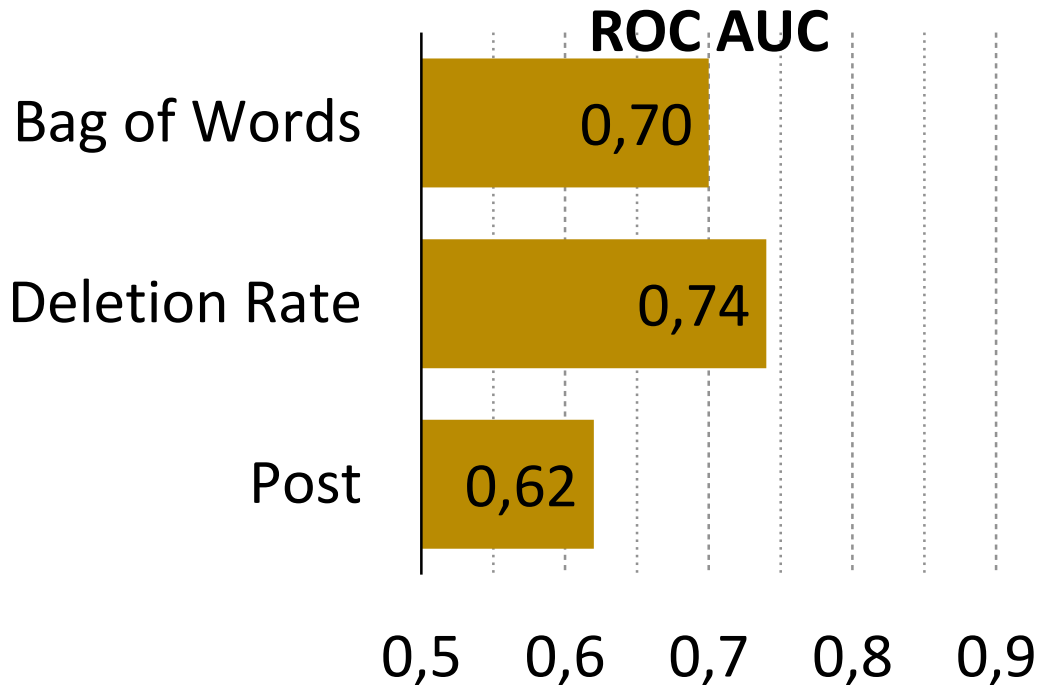
- ~19k users CNN, balanced dataset, first 10 posts

# Prediction Results

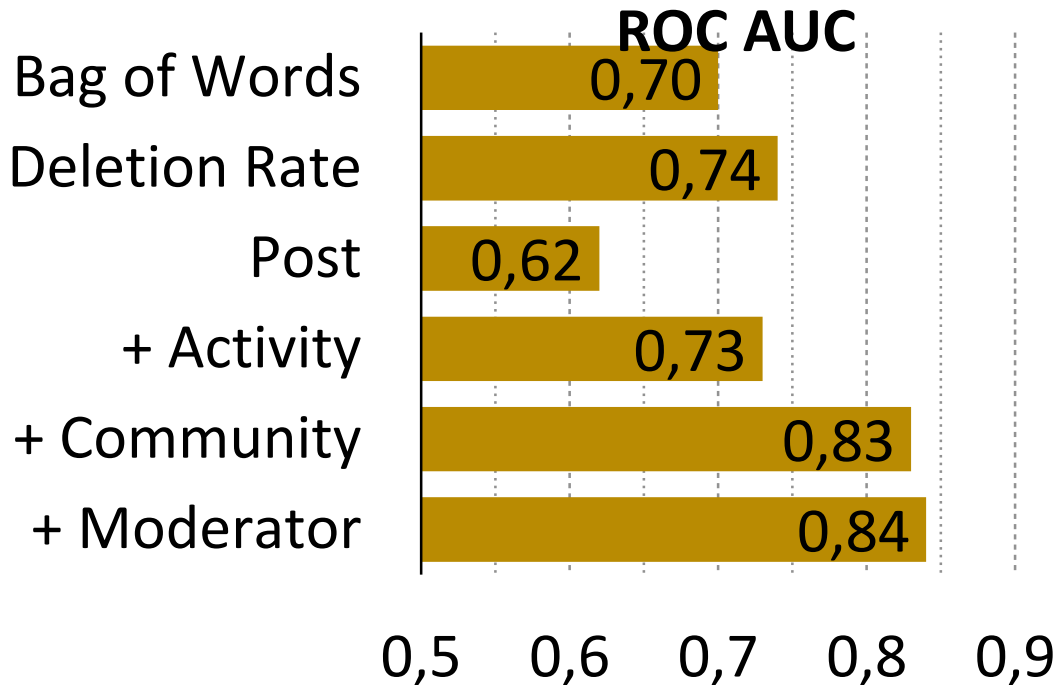




# Prediction Results

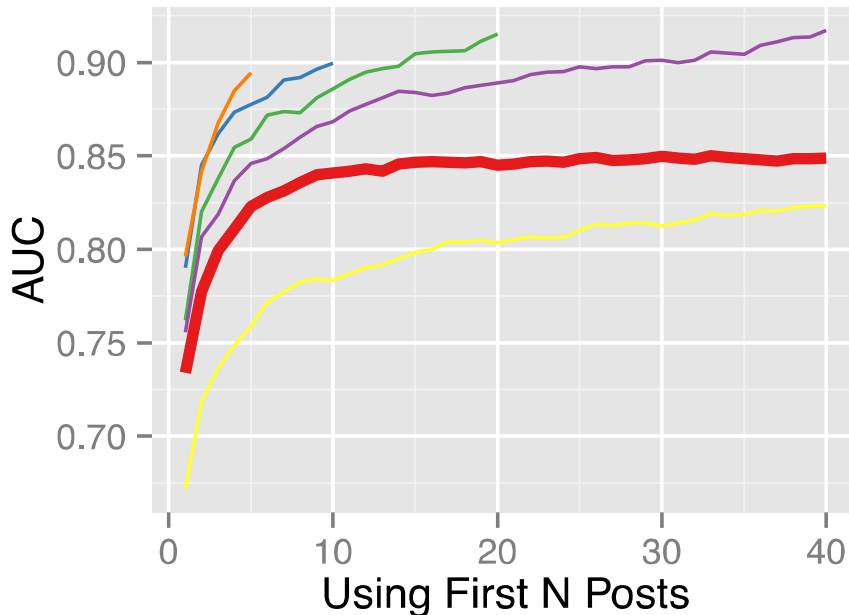


# Prediction Results









# Time to Detection

User lifetime: —  $\geq N$  — 10–20 — 40–80  
— 5–10 — 20–40 — 80+



# Results: Cross-Domain

		Trained on		
ROC AUC				
Tested on		0.84	0.74	0.76
		0.69	0.83	0.74
		0.74	0.75	0.78

# Conclusion

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- Web is a social place!  
But people are less inhibited online
- Important to understand interaction mechanisms and behavioral patterns
- Towards healthier and more welcoming online communities

# Summary

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Large-scale longitudinal analysis of antisocial behavior in discussion forums

Combination of data analysis and human experiments

**Trolls are not “special” people**

- Mood and discussion context increase the probability of trolling

# Summary

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## Bad behavior can spread

- The effects of negative feedback are more pronounced
  - Write worse and more
  - Are evaluated worse by others
  - Evaluate others worse
- Positively-evaluated users, on the other hand, don't do any better

# Summary

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- **Prediction task:** Predicting whether a user will be banned in the future
- After observing just 10 posts, we can accurately predict whether the user will be banned in the future
- Generalization performance across communities



# Further Questions

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- **Social feedback loops:** Are trolls socially created by harsh feedback?
- **Reputation:** Effects of user reputation
- **Role of moderators:** Are moderators effectively helping and moderating
- **Linguistic norms:** Linguistic analysis
- **Feedback mechanism:** Communities



**KEEP  
CALM  
AND  
DON'T FEED  
THE TROLL**

# References

- [How Community Feedback Shapes User Behavior](#)  
J. Cheng, C. Danescu-Niculescu-Mizil, J. Leskovec. *AAAI International Conference on Weblogs and Social Media (ICWSM)*, 2014.
- [Antisocial Behavior in Online Discussion Communities](#) by J. Cheng, C. Danescu-Niculescu-Mizil, J. Leskovec. *AAAI International Conference on Weblogs and Social Media (ICWSM)*, 2015.
- [Anyone Can Become a Troll: Causes of Trolling Behavior in Online Discussions](#) by J. Cheng, M. Bernstein, C. Danescu-Niculescu-Mizil, J. Leskovec. *Computer Supported Collaborative Work (CSCW)*, 2017.