

Things to help pull up our SOCKS

Last updated: 2023/08/24, 07:09:41 EDT

Principles of Complex Systems, Vols. 1, 2, & 3D
CSYS/MATH 6701, 6713, & a pretend number,
2023–2024 | @pocsvox

Prof. Peter Sheridan Dodds | @peterdodds

Computational Story Lab | Vermont Complex Systems Center
Santa Fe Institute | University of Vermont



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Outline

The PoCSverse

The Science of OCKS

Storytellers

Characters

Nutshellfish

Extras

References



Describe | Explain | Create | Share | Ethos: Play



vermontcomplexsystems.org

Leveling up—Scaffolded educational mission:

Data Science Undergrad.



Graduate Certificate in Complex Systems and Data Science

Fall, 2015–: MS in Complex Systems and Data Science

Fall, 2018–: PhD in The Study of Interesting Things Complex Systems and Data Science

All the words: <http://vermontcomplexsystems.org>

The PoCSverse SOCKS

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The PoCSverse

The Science of OCKS

Storytellers

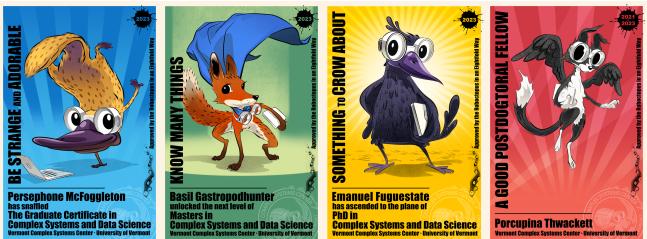
Characters

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Dipoloma-posters:



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<https://pdodds.w3.uvm.edu/teaching/>

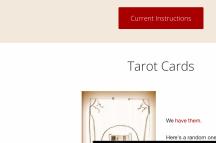


From the non-cinematic PoCSverse and the Department of Advanced Macrodata Refinement:

Principles of

Complex Systems

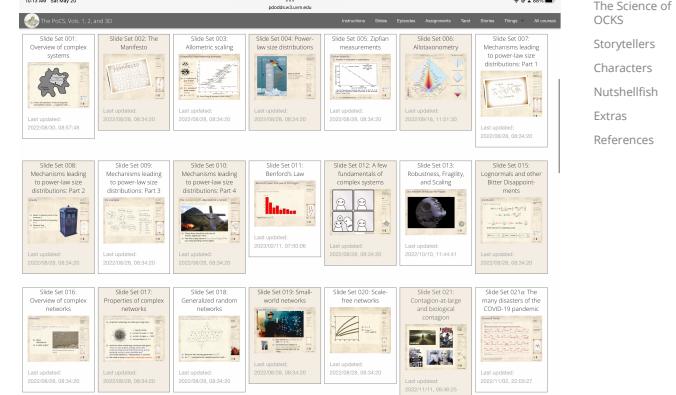
Vols. 1, 2, and 3D
Season 18, 2022–2023



150,000 lines of \LaTeX ...

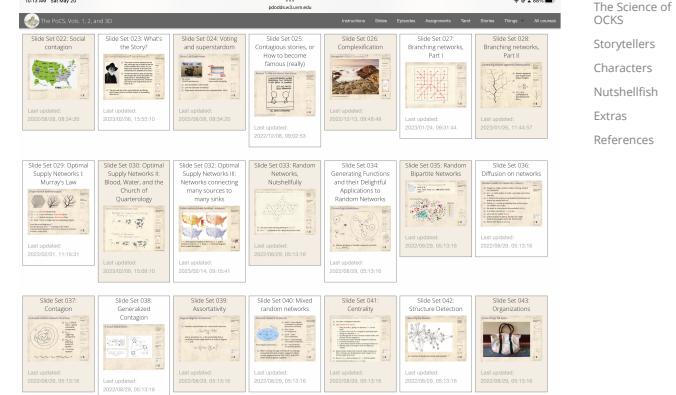
Principles of Complex Systems, Vols. 1, 2, and 3D

<https://pdodds.w3.uvm.edu/teaching/courses/pocsverse/slides/>



Principles of Complex Systems, Vols. 1, 2, and 3D

<https://pdodds.w3.uvm.edu/teaching/courses/pocsverse/slides/>



Principles of Complex Systems, Vols. 1, 2, and 3D

<https://pdodds.w3.uvm.edu/teaching/courses/pocsverse/slides/>



Covered in these episode(s) and diplo:

Episode 1: The OG rich-get-richer model. Simple, powerful.

Rehearsed slides on file.

Freeze-dried stock slides.

Original slides as served in lectures.

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2025/04/14, 08:34:20</p

Exciting details regarding these slides:

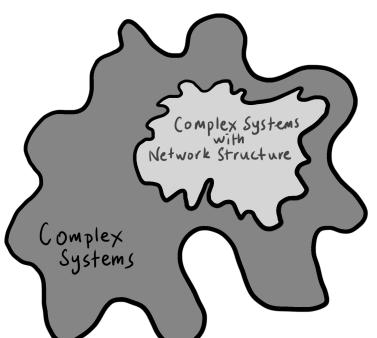
- Three servings (all in pdf):
 1. Fresh: For in-class Delivery.
 2. On toast: Flattened for page-turning joy.
 3. Freeze-dried: Pack-and-go, 3x3 slides per page.
 - Presentation versions are [hyperly navigable](#):
→ back + search + forward.
 - Web links look [like this](#).
 - References in slides link to full citation at end. [2]
 - Citations contain links to pdfs for papers (if available).
 - Some books will be linked to on Amazon.
 - Brought to you by a frightening melange of ~~XeLaTeX~~, Beamer, perl, PerlTeX, fevered command-line madness, and an almost fanatical devotion to the indomitable emacs.

#totallynormal

The Science of Complex Systems Manifesto:[↗](#)

1. Systems are ubiquitous and systems matter.
 2. Consequently, much of science is about understanding how pieces dynamically fit together.
 3. 1700 to 2000 = Golden Age of Reductionism:
Atoms!, sub-atomic particles, DNA, genes, people, ...
 4. Understanding and creating systems (including new 'atoms') is the greater part of science and engineering.
 5. Universality : systems with quantitatively different micro details exhibit qualitatively similar macro behavior (fate, but real and limited)
 6. Computing advances make the Science of Complex Systems possible:
 - 6.1 We can measure and record enormous amounts of data, research areas continue to transition from data scarce to data rich.
 - 6.2 We can simulate, model, and create complex systems in extraordinary detail.

Complex Systems is the Big Story:



- ⬢ Only sometimes a bit networky: Fluids-at-large
(the atmosphere, oceans, ...) organism cells

Rather silly but great example of real science:

"How Cats Lap: Water Uptake by *Felis catus*" ↗
Reis et al., *Science*, 2010.

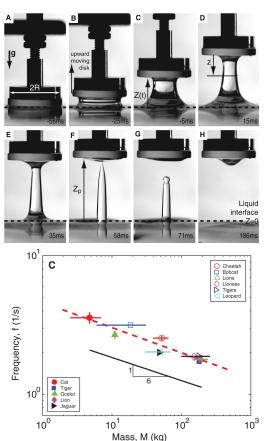


Amusing interview here ↗

- Another great, great moment in scaling:

$$f \sim M^{-1/6}$$

The balance of inertia and gravity yields a prediction for the lapping frequency of other felines. Assuming isometry within the Felidae family (i.e., that lapping height H scales linearly with tongue width R and animal mass M scales as R^3), the finding that F^* is of order \sqrt{M} translates to the prediction $F = R^{-1/2} \cdot M^{1/4}$. Isometry or marginally positive allometry (the Felidae has been demonstrated for skull (20) and limb bones (22)) although variability by function could lead to departures from isometry in interspecific scalings (23), reported variation within the Felidae (23, 24) only marginally supports the prediction $F = R^{-1/2} \cdot M^{1/4}$. We found that the rate of power decay depends on the species and the lapping frequency for eight species of felines, from videos acquired at the Zoo New England or available on YouTube (16). The lapping frequency was observed to decrease with animal mass as $f = 4 \cdot M^{-0.183 \pm 0.002}$ (M in kg) (Fig. 4C), close to the predicted $M^{1/4}$. This close agreement suggests that the domestic cat's inertia- and gravity-controlled lapping mechanism is conserved among felines.



Super Survival of the Stories:



The Desirability
of
Storytellers ↗,
The Atlantic,
Ed Yong,
2017-12-05

- ❖ Study of Agta, Filipino hunter-gatherers.
 - ❖ Storytelling valued well above all other skills including hunting.
 - ❖ Stories encode prosocial norms such as cooperation.
 - ❖ Like the best stories, the best storytellers reproduce more successfully.

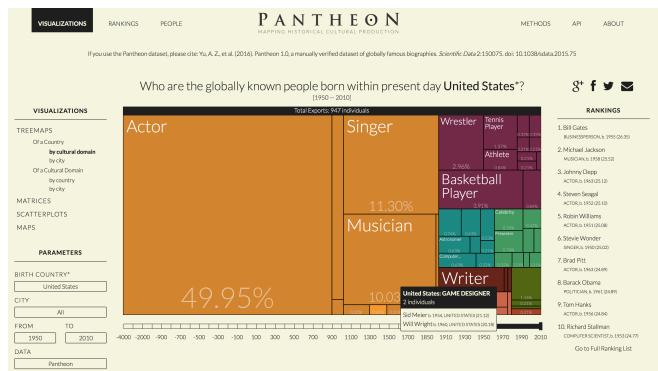
Major competing storytelling entities:

- ↳ News.
 - ↳ Books, magazines.
 - ↳ Art.
 - ↳ Music industry.
 - ↳ Television, movie studios, Netflix, HBO, Disney.
 - ↳ Social media: Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, ...
 - ↳ All sport.
 - ↳ Video games.
 - ↳ Religions, ideologies, belief systems, Freemasons, ...
 - ↳ Enduring coherent groups: Cultures, countries, cities, ...

Cultural products from Pantheon

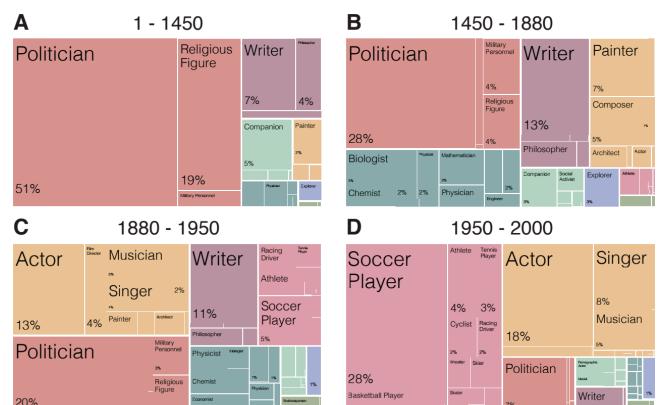
- Writers, artists, movie directors, video game directors.

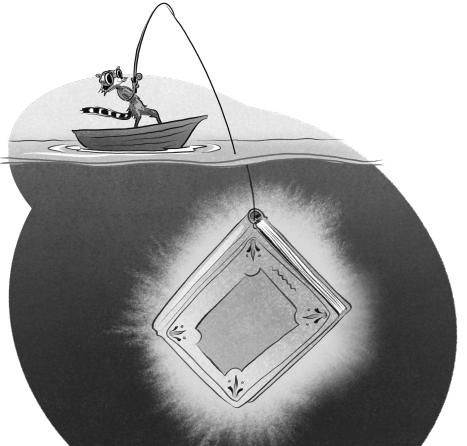
Storytellers win:



For people born 1950-

http://pantheon.media.mit.edu/treemap/country_exports/US/all/1950/2010/H15/pantheon



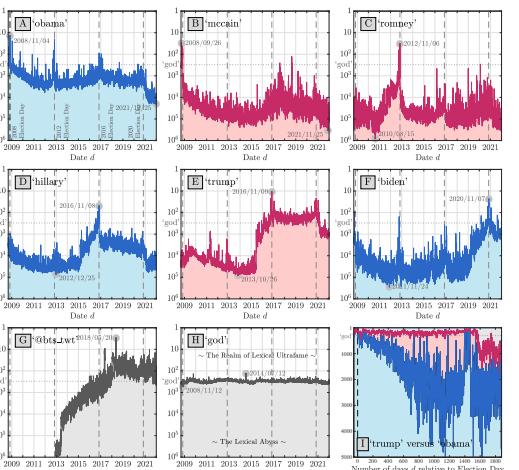


storywrangler 
from the University of Vermont Computational Story Lab <https://storywrangling.org/> 



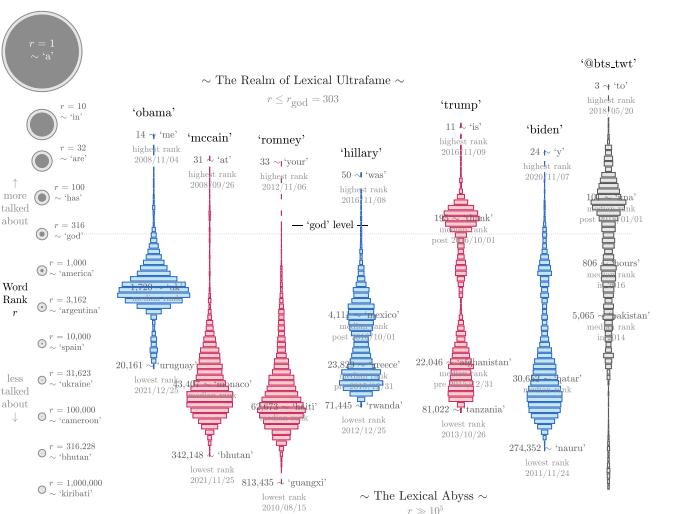
"Storywrangler: A massive exploratorium for sociolinguistic, cultural, socioeconomic, and political timelines using Twitter" ↗
Alshaabi et al.,
Science Advances, 7, eabe6534, 2021. [1]

Science Advances, 7, eabe6534, 2021. [1]



2011 Whitehouse Correspondents' Dinner

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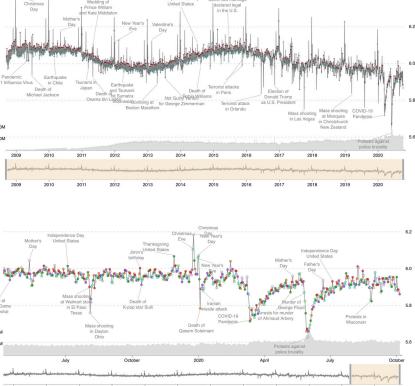


anometer—Three kinds of lexical meters:

- Principled lexical meters:
 - The Hedonometer.
 - Lexicocalorimeter,
POTUSometer, Ousiometer.
 - Ground truth lexical meters:
 - Insomniometer.
 - Hangoverometer.
 - Bootstrap lexical meters:
 - Boredometer.
 - Hashtagometers.



motional turbulence:

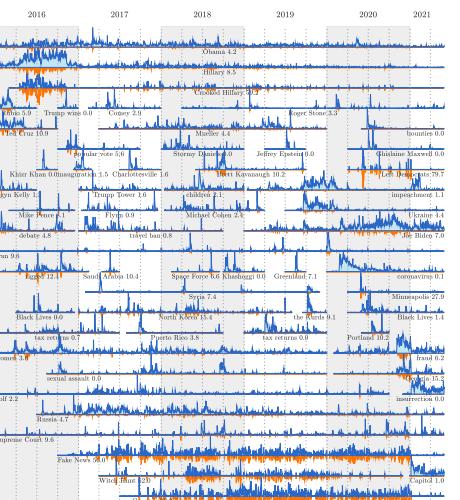


<http://hedonometer.org/>

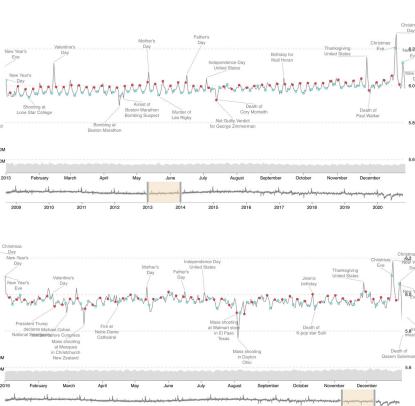
motional turbulence:



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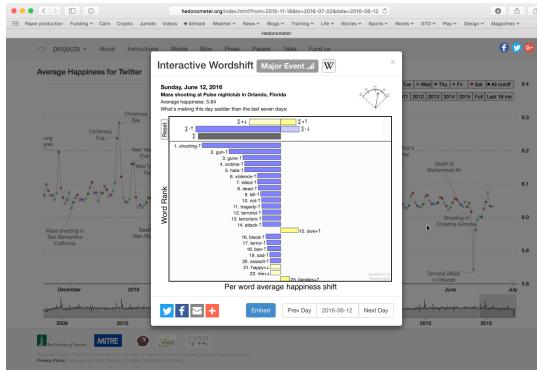
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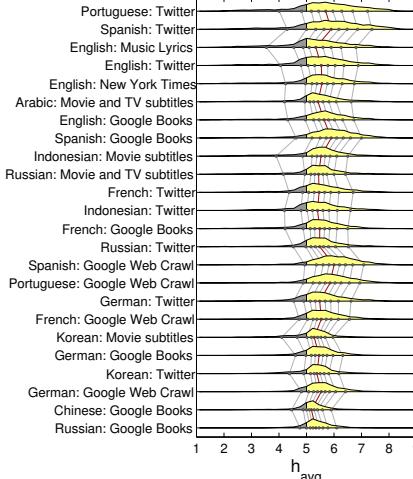
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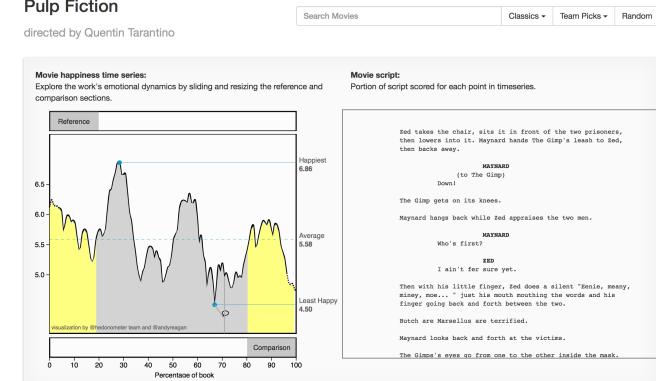
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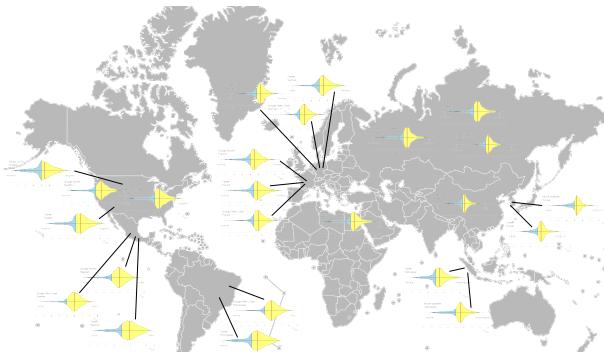
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Online, interactive Emotional Shapes of Stories ↗ for
1,000+ movie scripts:
Pulp Fiction

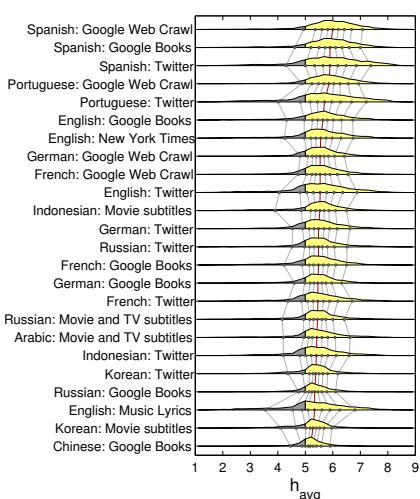


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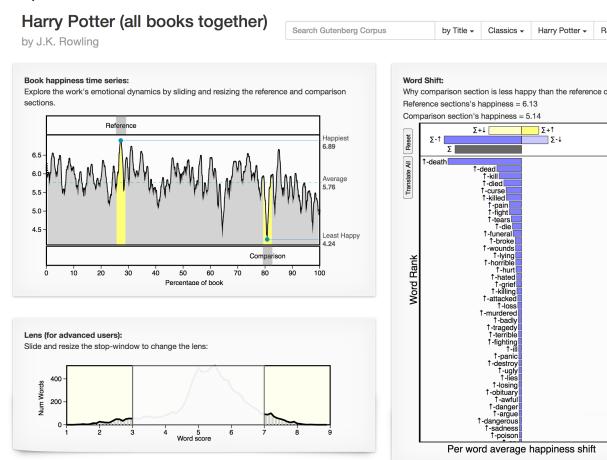
Dodds/Tivnan/Danforth et al.,
Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. 2015,
"Human language reveals a universal positivity bias."^[5]
Global press including National Geographic
Top 100 altmetric article, 2015 ↗



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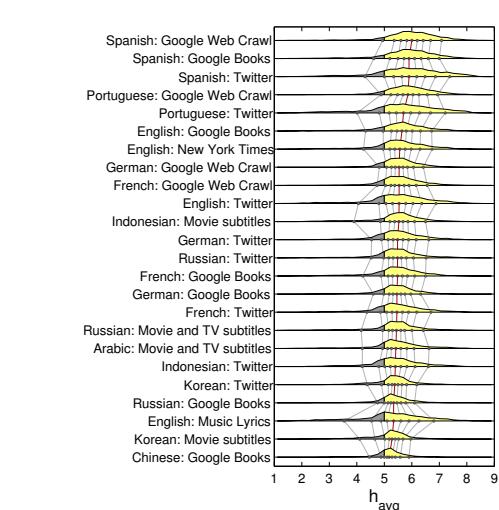
Online, interactive Emotional Shapes of Stories ↗ for
10,000+ books:



"So, in writing, there are six basic plots, and their sequels and derivative franchises."

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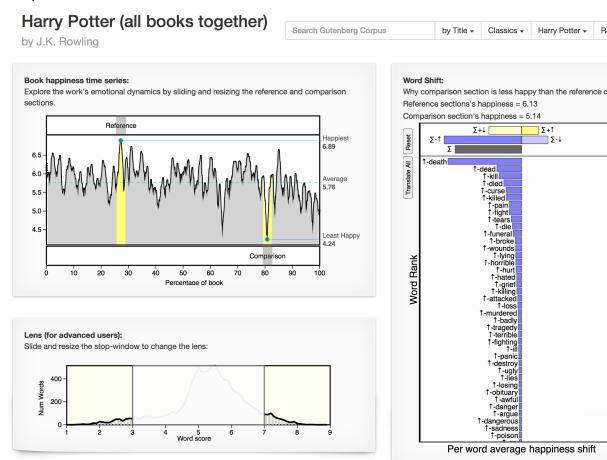
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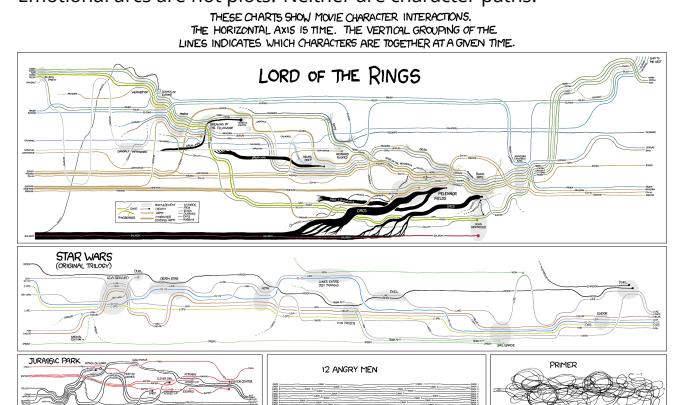
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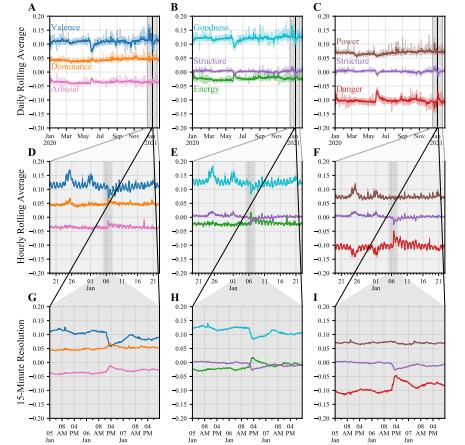
Online, interactive Emotional Shapes of Stories ↗ for
10,000+ books:



Emotional arcs are not plots. Neither are character paths:

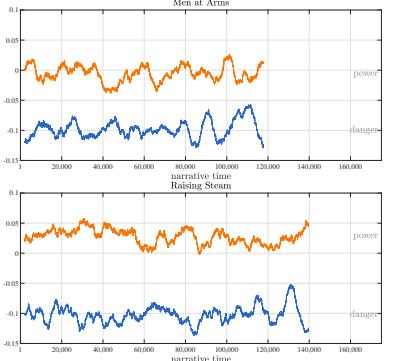


Prototype ousiometer—Twitter:

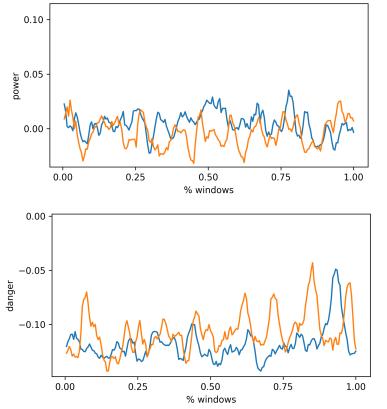


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Prototype ousiometer—Terry Pratchett's Discworld:

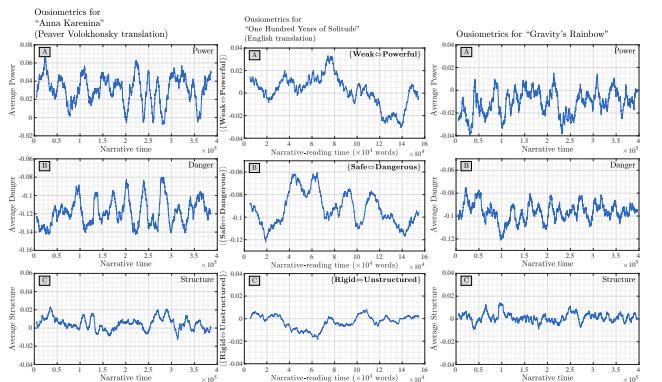


Prototype ousiometer—Harry Potter:

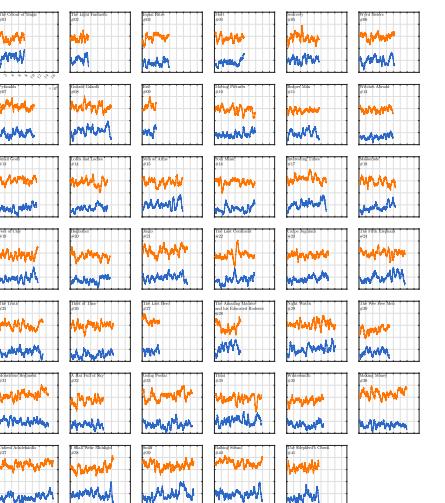


Blue: Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince
Orange: Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows

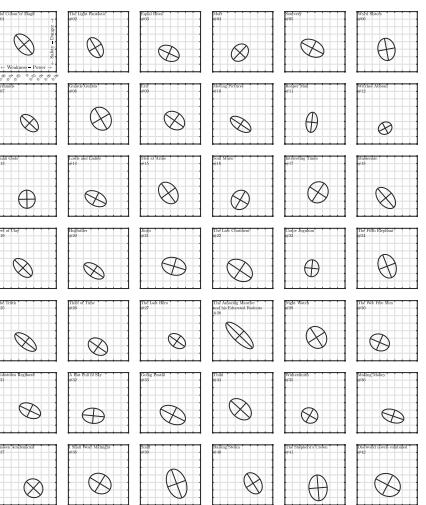
Power and Danger time series for books:



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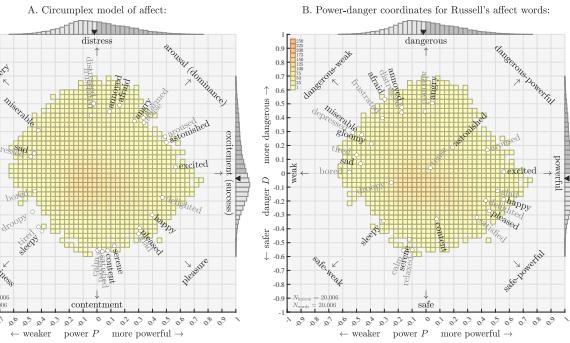


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💡 Rough agreement with Russell's circumplex model, [16] which itself doesn't disagree with a 2-d orthogonal framework.

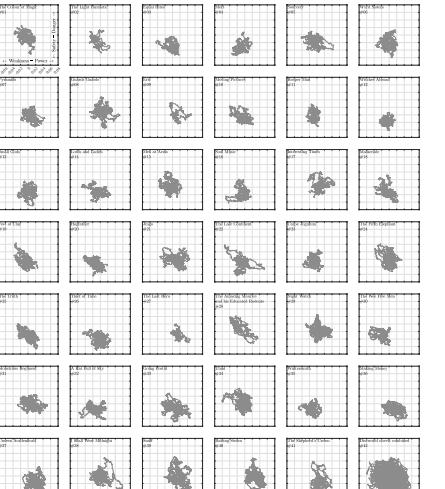


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Dungeons & Dragons—Two alignment axes for character:



{lawful ⇔ chaotic} (vertical) and {good ⇔ evil} (horizontal).



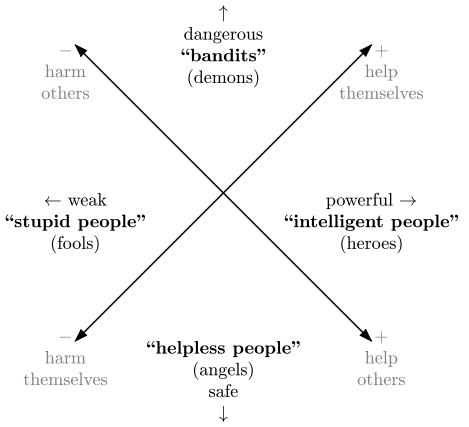
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¹From this Reddit thread, where, naturally, the choices are enthusiastically debated.

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lawful-good ~ structured-powerful-safe	neutral-good ~ neutral-powerful-safe	chaotic-good ~ unstructured-powerful-safe
lawful-neutral ~ structured-neutral	(true) neutral	chaotic-neutral ~ unstructured-neutral
lawful-evil ~ structured-dangerous	neutral-evil ~ neutral-dangerous	chaotic-evil ~ unstructured-dangerous

Aligns with rotated version of Cipolla's Basic Laws of Human Stupidity:



Data set:

- 1600 characters
- 400 traits as semantic differentials
- 364 traits after removing 35 emoji-based semantic differentials and one duplicate
- Shows ~ Stories (television series and film)

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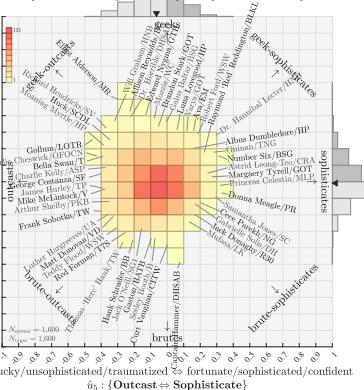
Most extreme characters:

Rank.	Character	Storyverse	Size S	Top Three Archetypes (Essential Direction, Norm. Component/% Variance Explained)	$R_{\text{Arch}}^{\text{ext}}$		
1.	Joffrey Baratheon	GOT	100.0	Fool (-1, 26.4/7.0%)	Diva (+1, 31.7/10.0%)	Demon (+2, 80.1/64.1%)	6.4
2.	Firelock Ozala	ALA	98.0	Traditionalist (-3, 40.1/16.5%)	Diva (+1, 26.4/7.0%)	Demon (+2, 89.2/63.9%)	18.1
3.	Logan Roy	FOCON	95.6	Traditionalist (-3, 47.7/12.4%)	Diva (+1, 26.4/7.0%)	Demon (+2, 89.2/63.9%)	14.7
4.	Nurse Ratched	FOCON	95.6	Demon (+2, 41.7/10.9%)	Demon (+1, 44.8/21.9%)	Traditionalist (-3, 60.8/40.5%)	36.4
5.	Tracy Jordan	PBON	95.5	Fool (-1, 17.9/3.5%)	Demon (+2, 52.8/30.5%)	Adventure (-3, 62.8/43.2%)	20.9
6.	Dolores Umbridge	HP	95.1	Diva (+4, 36.5/14.7%)	Traditionalist (-3, 44.7/22.1%)	Demon (+2, 60.1/39.9%)	20.8
7.	Erik Cartman	SP	95.1	Fool (-1, 19.4/4.2%)	Adventure (-3, 20.8/4.8%)	Demon (+2, 79.0/69.1%)	14.4
8.	Malory Archer	ARCH	94.9	Diva (+4, 24.0/6.4%)	Demon (+1, 44.0/21.5%)	Demon (+2, 68.1/51.5%)	10.9
9.	Azula	ALA	94.5	- (+9, 15.1/6.0%)	Hero (+1, 49.8/27.7%)	Demon (+2, 69.9/54.2%)	31.1
10.	Sid Phillips	TS	94.2	Fool (-1, 16.2/3.0%)	Hero (-1, 35.4/12.6%)	Demon (+2, 79.7/71.6%)	6.0
11.	Sterling Archer	ARCH	93.9	- (-11, 15.0/2.5%)	Adventure (-3, 41.2/19.3%)	Demon (+2, 70.7/56.7%)	14.4
12.	Jeffrey Tambor	TRAN	93.8	Demon (-3, 40.1/10.9%)	Outcast (-3, 40.1/25.1%)	Demon (+2, 70.7/56.7%)	14.6
13.	Hauschka	TB	93.3	- (-8, 13.3/3.8%)	Diva (+1, 25.6/7.5%)	Demon (+2, 74.0/43.9%)	8.5
14.	Baron Harkonnen	DUNE	93.2	Diva (+4, 13.0/2.2%)	(+7, 23.0/6.6%)	Demon (+2, 79.4/42.7%)	11.1
15.	The Joker	DR	93.0	Geek (-6, 27.3/6.6%)	Adventurer (-3, 36.5/15.4%)	Demon (+2, 66.5/50.9%)	7.2
16.	Darlene Snell	O	92.6	- (-8, 24.2/6.9%)	Outcast (-3, 33.0/12.7%)	Demon (+2, 71.9/69.3%)	7.2
17.	Billy Butcher	TB	92.4	Lone Wolf (-4, 28.6/9.6%)	Hero (+1, 38.1/17.0%)	Demon (+2, 63.9/47.9%)	7.1
18.	Man in Black	WSW	92.4	Traditionalist (-3, 18.5/4.0%)	Hero (+1, 43.0/21.7%)	Demon (+2, 68.5/55.5%)	18.2
19.	Jenna Maroney	R30	92.3	Adventurer (+3, 41.4/20.1%)	Diva (+1, 44.1/22.8%)	Demon (+2, 58.6/40.2%)	41.3
20.	Ziggy Sobotta	TW	92.2	Adventurer (+3, 36.6/15.7%)	Fool (-1, 45.2/24.0%)	Demon (+2, 52.5/32.4%)	5.8
21.	Frank Gallagher	SHL	92.2	Adventurer (+3, 26.5/3.3%)	Fool (-1, 33.2/12.9%)	Demon (+2, 67.4/53.5%)	7.2
22.	Eliza Dushku	PR	92.1	Traditionalist (-3, 28.4/9.3%)	Demon (-1, 35.8/18.2%)	Hero (+1, 58.8/39.7%)	11.0
23.	Mr. Burns	S	92.1	Hero (+1, 23.0/6.7%)	Traditionalist (-3, 40.4/19.2%)	Demon (+2, 67.1/52.9%)	10.1
24.	Dr. Hannibal Lecter	HNB	92.0	Demon (+2, 30.2/10.7%)	Sophisticate (+5, 30.5/11.0%)	Hero (+1, 60.1/42.7%)	5.7
25.	Red Forman	TTS	91.8	Brute (-6, 32.0/12.1%)	Hero (+1, 46.9/26.1%)	Traditionalist (-3, 47.8/27.1%)	5.4

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Fifth and sixth essential dimensions of character space:
{Outcast ↔ Sophisticate} and {Brute ↔ Geek}



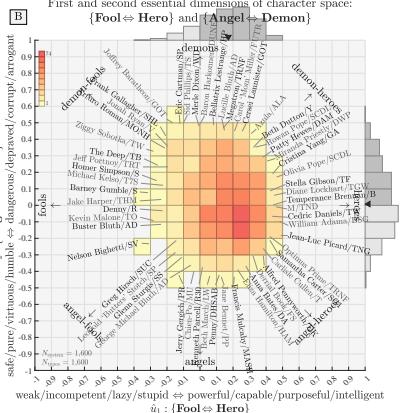
Base archetypes:

Essential Character Dimension 1, \hat{u}_1

Major archetype dimension: {Fool ↔ Hero}

{weak/incompetent/lazy/stupid ↔ powerful/capable/purposeful/intelligent}

First and second essential dimensions of character space: {Fool ↔ Hero} and {Angel ↔ Demon}



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Base archetypes:

Essential Character Dimension 1, \hat{u}_1

Major archetype dimension: {Fool ↔ Hero}

{weak/incompetent/lazy/stupid ↔ powerful/capable/purposeful/intelligent}

A. Most aligned traits (\hat{v}_1)

Cos. Var. Comp. Trait Size

Expl. Size

Size Rank

B. Traits by (\hat{v}_1)

Cos. Var. Comp. Trait Size

Expl. Size

Size Rank

C. Most negatively aligned traits ($-\hat{v}_1$)

Cos. Var. Comp. Char. Size

Expl. Size

Size Rank

D. Most positively aligned traits (+ \hat{v}_1)

Cos. Var. Comp. Char. Size

Expl. Size

Size Rank

E. Characters by largest negative component ($-\hat{u}_1$)

Cos. Var. Comp. Char. Size

Expl. Size

Size Rank

F. Characters by largest positive component (+ \hat{u}_1)

Cos. Var. Comp. Char. Size

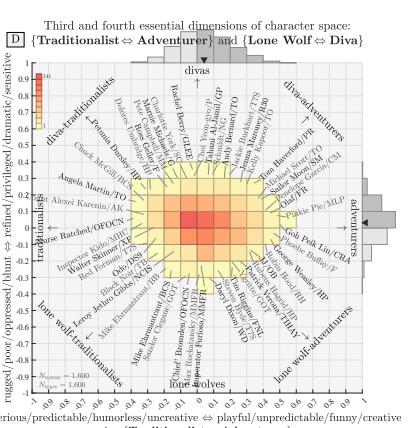
Expl. Size

Size Rank

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Third and fourth essential dimensions of character space: {Traditionalist ↔ Adventurer} and {Lone Wolf ↔ Diva}



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A. Major essential character dimensions:

Archetypes

Five factor model

dimension(s)

Essential Meaning

(Ouismetrics)

% Variance

Explained

Primary Dimension

~ Descriptors

+{consciousness}

{weak↔powerful}

25.7%

41.2% (9+651-660)

1. {Fool ↔ Hero}

~{weak/incompetent/lazy/stupid↔powerful/capable/purposeful/intelligent}

21.3%

27.5% (161+279-440)

2. {Angel ↔ Demon}

~{aggression}

5.1%

5.1% (81+0+81)

3. {Traditionalist ↔ Adventurer}

~{openness}

14.1%

18.2% (52+240-292)

~{serious/predictable/humorous/creative↔playful/unpredictable/funny/creative}

61.1%

87.0% (1392)

B. Minor essential character dimensions:

Archetypes

Five factor model

dimension(s)

% Variance

Explained

Primary Dimension

~ Descriptors

+{extraversion}

6.4%

55.5% (12+76-88)

4. {Lone Wolf ↔ Diva}

~{poor/oppressed/blunt↔refined/intelligent/dramatic/sensitive}

5.1%

5.1% (81+0+81)

5. {Outcast ↔ Sophisticate}

~{neuroticism}

3.7%

1.6% (13+13-26)

~{physical/mainstream/simple-minded↔intellectual/weird/complex}

15.2%

12.2% (195)

C. Trait-level essential character dimensions:

Unnamed non-Archetype Essential Traits

% Variance

Explained

Primary Dimension

~ Descriptors

2.1%

0.0% (5+2-7)

7. ~ {young/old/creative/dramatic↔old/ugly/comedic}

1.1%

0.2% (2+0-2)

8. ~ {spatial/abstract/historical/rural↔skeptical/modern/urban}

1.5%

0.1% (1+0-1)

9. ~ {high/low tempo↔high/tempo}

1.1%

0.0% (0+0-0)

1.1%

10. ~ {feminine/low-tech/non-athletic↔masculine/high-tech/athletic}

0.9%

0.1% (0+1-1)

0.9%

11. ~ {forthright/naive/rich↔treacherous/street-wise/poor}

0.75%

0.8% (13)

0.75%

16.4%

0.0% (0)

16.4%

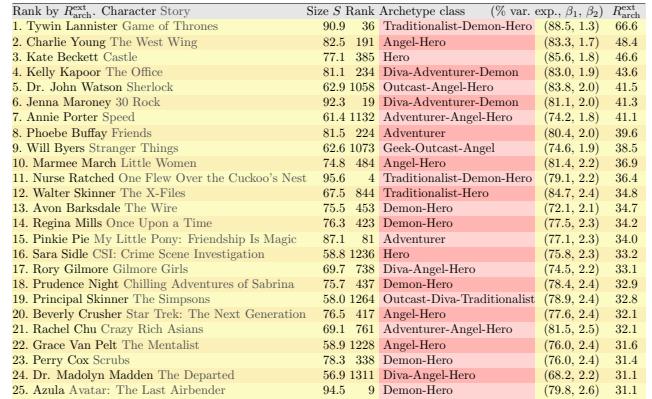
12-364. All other essential dimensions combined:

16.4%

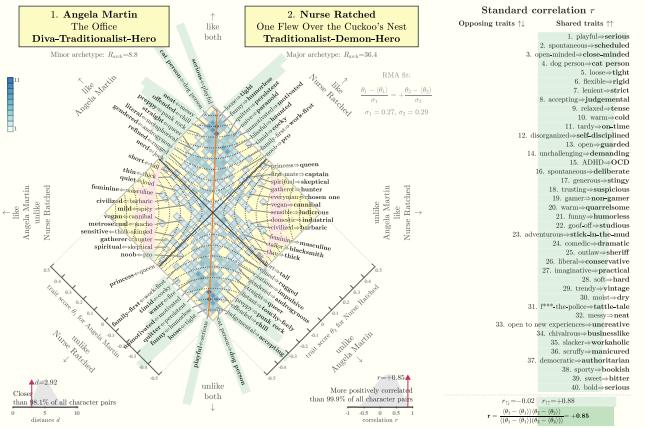
0.8% (13)

16.4%

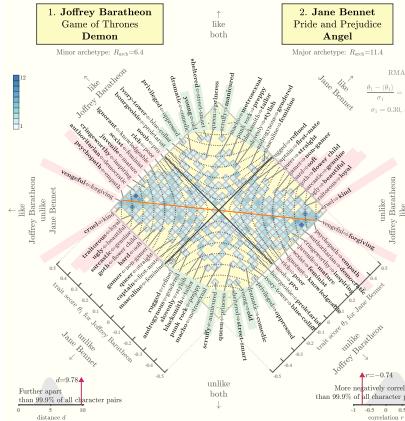
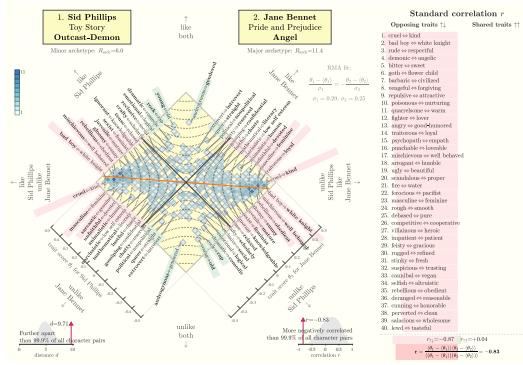
Most archetypal characters:



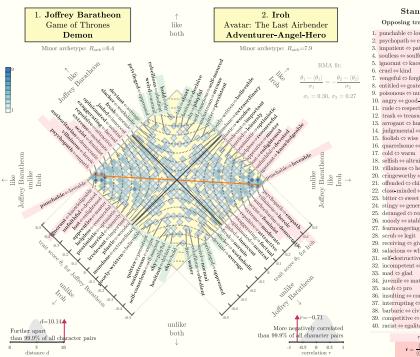
Two similar villains:



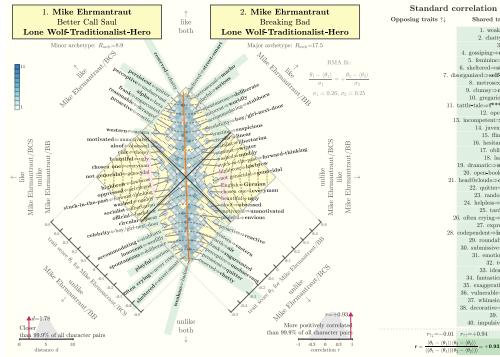
The most negatively correlated characters:



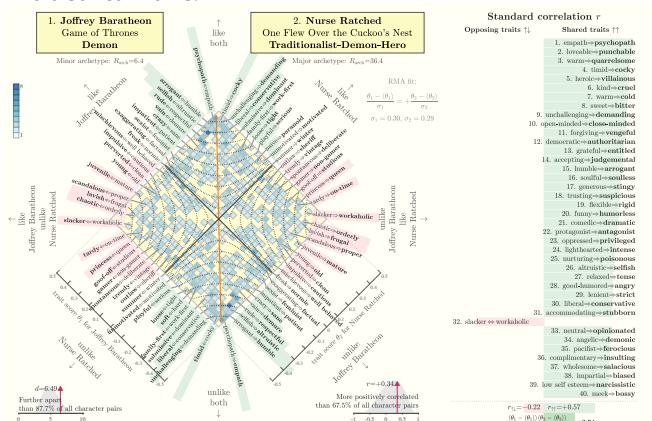
The two characters furthest apart:



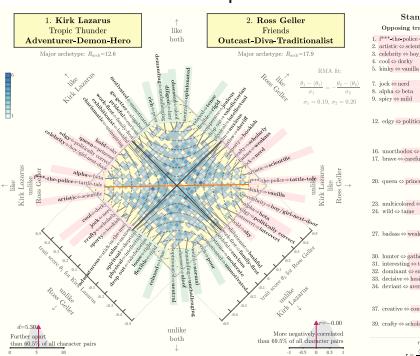
Character evolution:



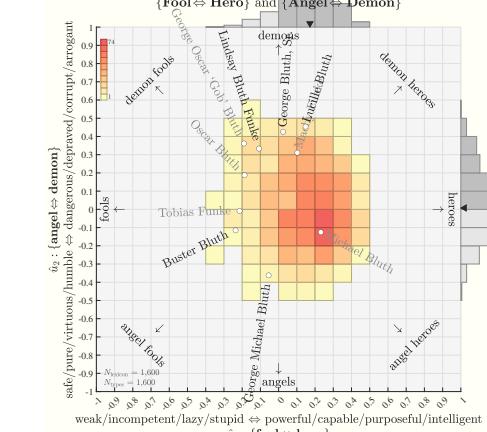
Two distinct villains:



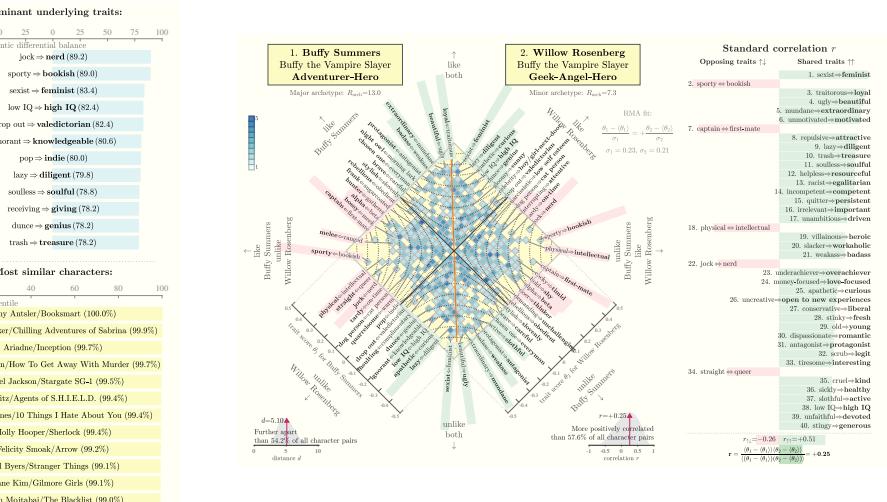
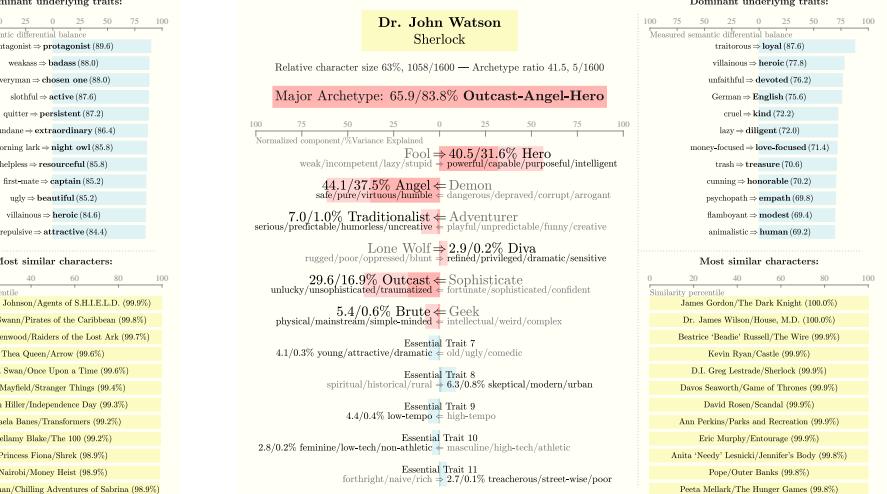
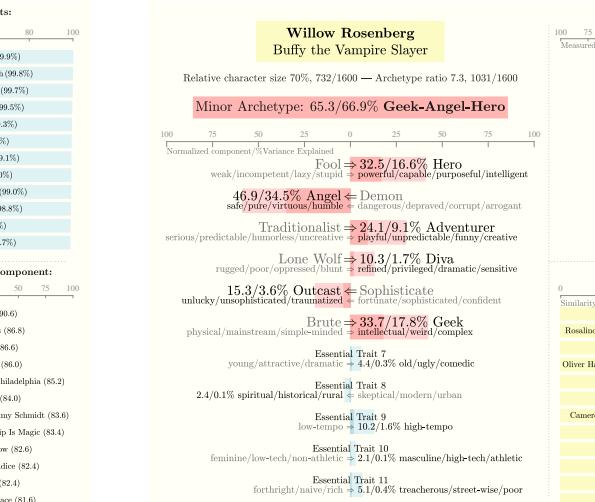
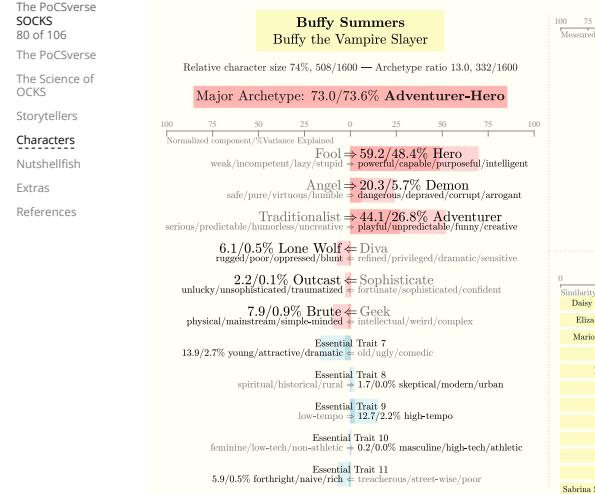
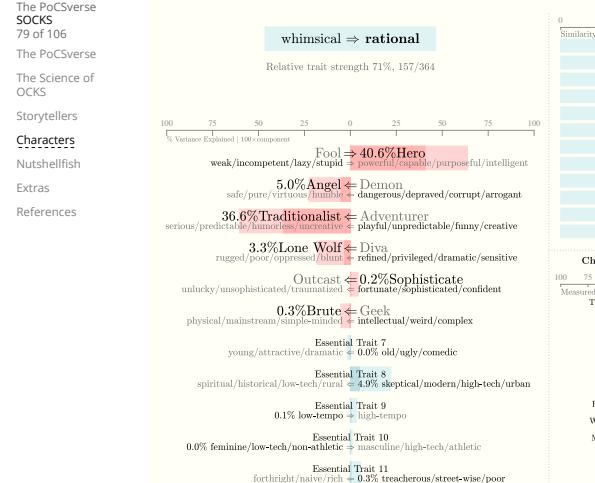
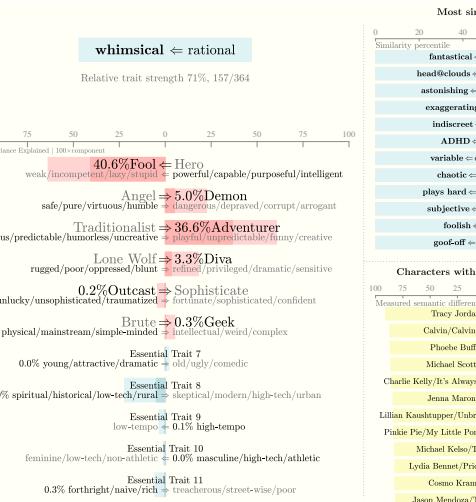
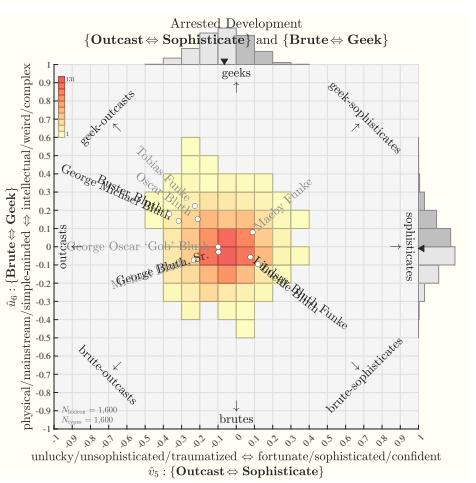
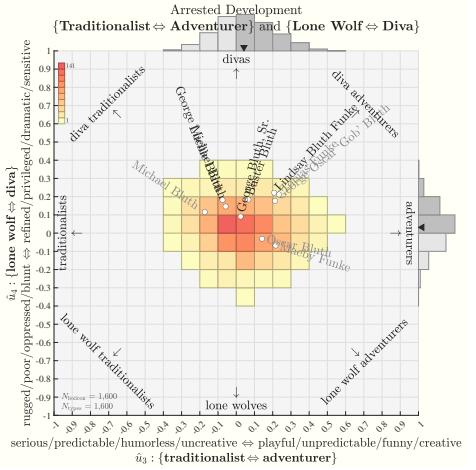
The most uncorrelated pair of characters:

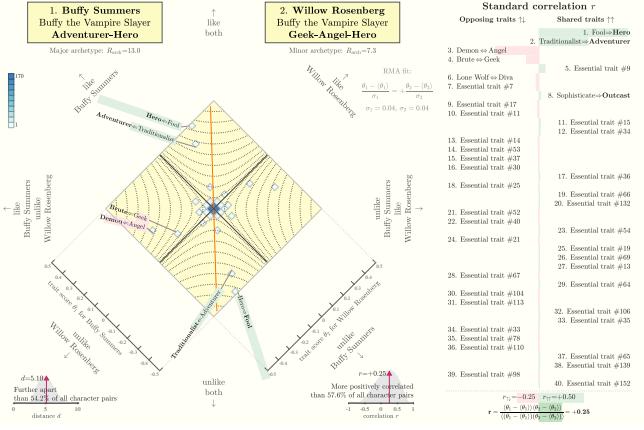


Arrested Development {Fool ↔ Hero} and {Angel ↔ Demon}



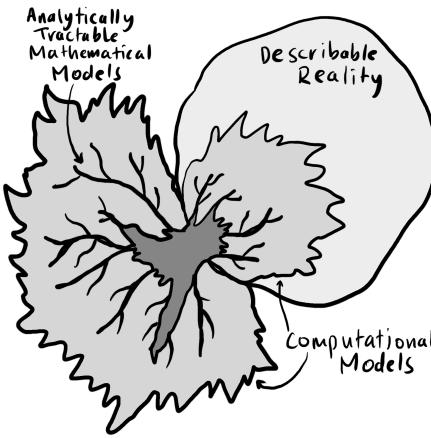
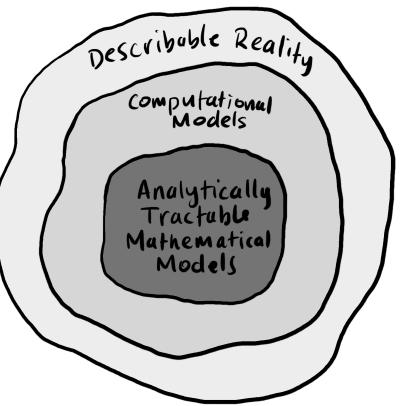
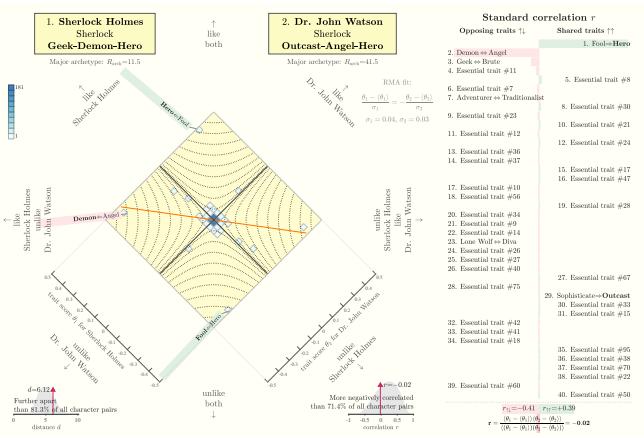
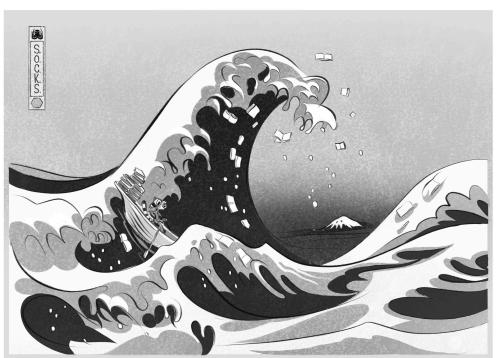
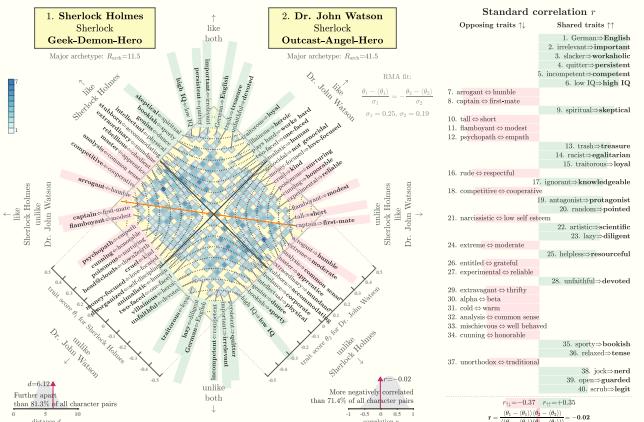
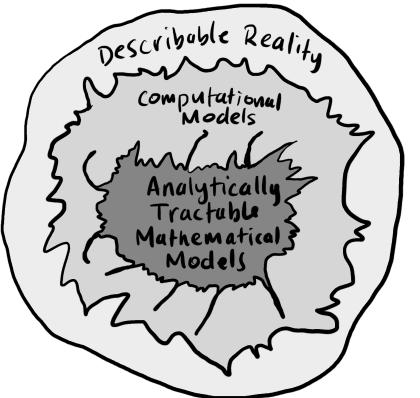
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Some nutshelling

- Storywrangler framework is an exploratorium for temporally ordered large-scale texts
- Robust telescope-like lexical instruments
- Hedonometer, Osiometer
- Happiness = Power + Safety
- Instruments enable lexical calculus (word shifts, allotaxonomy)
- Generalize from words to 'types' (species, cities, companies, ...)
- Instruments are open boxes not closed boxes
- Stories ~ Characters + Time
- Coming soon: The Essential Six Dimensions of Character Archetypes
- GPT is not (yet) a scientific instrument



A few key papers:

"Measuring the happiness of large-scale written expression: Songs, blogs, and presidents." [6], Dodds and Danforth, *Journal of Happiness Studies*, **11**, 441–456, 2009. [6]

"Temporal patterns of happiness and information in a global social network: Hedonometrics and Twitter" [7], Dodds et al., *PLoS ONE*, **6**, e26752, 2011. [7]

"Positivity of the English language" [8], Kloumann et al., *PLoS ONE*, **7**, e29484, 2012. [11]

"Human language reveals a universal positivity bias" [9], Dodds et al., *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci.*, **112**, 2389–2394, 2015. [5]

A few more key papers:

"Sentiment analysis methods for understanding large-scale texts: A case for using continuum-scored words and word shift graphs" [10], Reagan et al., *EPJ Data Science*, **6**, , 2017. [15]

"Generalized word shift graphs: A method for visualizing and explaining pairwise comparisons between texts" [11], Gallagher et al., *EPJ Data Science*, **10**, 4, 2021. [10]

"Ousiometrics and Telegometrics: The essence of meaning conforms to a two-dimensional powerful-weak and dangerous-safe framework with diverse corpora presenting a safety bias" [12], Dodds et al., , 2021. [4]

"Fame and Ultrafame: Measuring and comparing daily levels of 'being talked about' for United States' presidents, their rivals, God, countries, and K-pop" [13], Dodds et al., Available online at <https://arxiv.org/abs/1910.00149>, 2019. [8]

"Computational timeline reconstruction of the stories surrounding Trump: Story turbulence, narrative control, and collective chronopathy" [14], Dodds et al., , 2020. [9]

POTUSometer with the Smorgasdashbord: <http://compsstorylab.org/potusometer/>

Stories surrounding Trump: <http://compsstorylab.org/trumpstoryturbulence/>

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