The Meaning of Meaning

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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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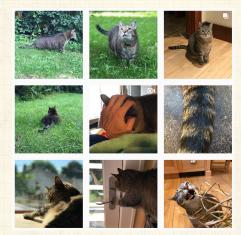
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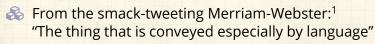
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"Ousiometrics and Telegnomics: The essence of meaning conforms to a two-dimensional powerful-weak and dangerous-safe framework with diverse corpora presenting a safety bias" Dodds et al., , 2021. [5]

What does meaning even mean?



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What does meaning even mean?

From the smack-tweeting Merriam-Webster:¹
"The thing that is conveyed especially by language"

What are the essential characteristics of meaning?

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What does meaning even mean?

- From the smack-tweeting Merriam-Webster:¹
 "The thing that is conveyed especially by language"
- What are the essential characteristics of meaning?
- Does essential meaning meaningfully span some kind of space?

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¹Life goal: Never get owned by a dictionary on social media

"Abed's Uncontrollable Christmas"

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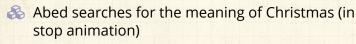
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"Abed's Uncontrollable Christmas"

- Abed searches for the meaning of Christmas (in stop animation)
- Abed Nadir: [opens present] "It's the first season of Lost on DVD."

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"Introduction to Teaching"

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Abed Nadir: "I thought the meaning of people was somewhere in here.

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"Introduction to Teaching"

Abed Nadir: "I thought the meaning of people was somewhere in here. Then I looked inside Nicolas Cage and I found a secret—people are random and pointless."

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The meaning of pings:



"A factorial study of complex auditory stimuli (passive sonar sounds)" 🗹

L. M. Solomon, Unpublished Doctoral Dissertation, University of Illinois, , , 1954. [22]

From the introduction:

This study represents the convergence of three disparate areas of investigation in an attempt to analyze one of the many problems encountered in the study of human factors in undersea warfare. The domains referred to are these:

🙈 naval sonar,

& the nature of "meaning,"

and multidimensional scaling techniques.

The problem may be stated as follows: In the detection and recognition of underwater sounds by the use of sonar equipment, what are the discriminative cues employed by the sonar operator? More generally, what factors does the operator utilize in decoding the significance of sonar signals?'

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"The Measurement of Meaning" **3** by Osgood, Suci, and Tannenbaum (1957). [13]



Osgood et al. used semantic differentials and factor analysis to identify a basis of three variables for meaning-space:

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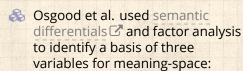
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100s of students, 10s of things, 50 semantic differentials The PoCSverse Meaning 9 of 77

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100s of students, 10s of things, 50 semantic differentials

"EPA framework"

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Semantic differentials from Osgood et al.: [13]

	pleasant-unpleasant	18. large-small		
	repeated-varied		36.	colorful-colorless
	smooth-rough		37.	hot-cold
	active-passive	21. dull-sharp	38.	rich-thin
	beautiful-ugly	22. deep-shallow	39.	obvious-subtle
	definite-uncertain	23. gliding-scraping 24. familiar-strange	40.	wide-narrow
	low-high	25. soft-hard	41.	deliberate-careless
	powerful-weak		42.	happy-sad
	steady-fluttering		43.	gentle-violent
A STREET, STRE	soft-loud		44.	mild-intense
	full-empty	29. concentrated-diffuse	45.	rounded-angular
	good-bad	00		slow-fast
	rumbling-whining	31. labored-easy		rugged-delicate
	solid-hollow	32. dark-bright		
	clear-hazy			simple-complex
16.	calming-exciting	01. 10000 016110		green-red
17.	pleasing-annoying	35. relaxed-tense	50.	masculine-feminine

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Ousiometrics: The quantitative study of the essential meaningful components of an entity, however perceived.

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aggression crucifixion outburst

Ousiometrics: The quantitative study of the essential meaningful components of an entity, however perceived.

Used in philosophical and theological settings, the word 'ousia' comes from Ancient Greek οὐσία.

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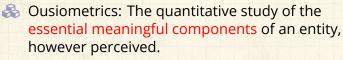
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Used in philosophical and theological settings, the word 'ousia' comes from Ancient Greek οὐσία.

To be distinguished from semantics, semiotics, ...

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- Ousiometrics: The quantitative study of the essential meaningful components of an entity, however perceived.
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- Arr Telegnomics: The distant sensing of knowledge (\sim distant reading [12])

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Essential dimensions captured by emotion:



🚵 Late 1800s: Three dimensional representation of emotion postulated by Wendt. [23, 17]

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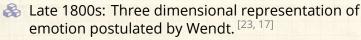
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3 1970s: Mehrabian and Russell explicitly port EPA framework: [7, 8]

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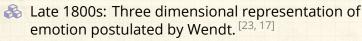
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♥ Evaluation ~ Pleasure/Valence

Potency ~ Dominance

Activity ~ Arousal

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- Late 1800s: Three dimensional representation of emotion postulated by Wendt. [23, 17]
- 1970s: Mehrabian and Russell explicitly port EPA framework: [7, 8]
 - **♥** Evaluation ~ Pleasure/Valence (~ Happiness)
 - Potency ∼ Dominance
- VAD has become standard nomenclature even though emotion is less general than meaning.

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- VAD has become standard nomenclature even though emotion is less general than meaning.
- Explicit presumption of independence of VAD dimensions, has hardened as fact.
- Intention that VAD

 ≡ EPA has become lost in literature. [2]

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"An Approach to Environmental Psychology." **a** 🗷 by Mehrabian and Russell (1974). [7]



"The basic emotional impact of environments"

Mehrabian and Russell, Perceptual and motor skills, **38**, 283–301, 1974. [8]

"Semantic differential studies, in particular, have shown that human judgments of diverse samples of stimuli can be characterized in terms of three dimensions: evaluation, activity, and potency. We have termed the corresponding emotional responses pleasure, arousal, and dominance."

"Thus, each dimension is, in principle, functionally independent of the other two; none of the three dimensions could be subsumed by the others." The PoCSverse Meaning 15 of 77

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1. **Scale**: Originally 10s and 100s of words \rightarrow now 10,000s + online rating.

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- 5. The misalignment between expert-chosen, end-point descriptors and dimensions of essential meaning: How to guide raters to score VAD dimensions?

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Solution is to always perform factor analysis (SVD).

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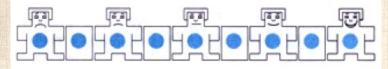
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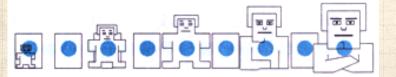
1999 ANEW study—three 1–9 scales: [4] valence:



arousal:



dominance:



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Valence scale presented to participants as a 'happy-unhappy scale.'

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Valence scale presented to participants as a 'happy-unhappy scale.'

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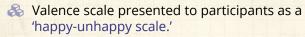
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Participants were further told:

"At one extreme of this scale, you are happy, pleased, satisfied, contented, hopeful. ...

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 $\ref{Problem: Expert-chosen list of } \sim$ 1,000 words.

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Fine words but poorly cover real texts [16].

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Wrongly suggests Arousal and Dominance are minimal relative to Valence. The PoCSverse Meaning 18 of 77

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"Obtaining Reliable human ratings of valence, arousal, and dominance for 20,000 English words" (2)

Saif M. Mohammad, Proceedings of The Annual Conference of the Association for Computational Linguistics (ACL), **38**, , 2018. [10]

Moving beyond Likert scales:

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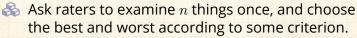


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Moving beyond Likert scales:



 \triangle Ask raters to examine n things once, and choose the best and worst according to some criterion.

 \Re For n=4, the are 6 pair comparisons of Things.

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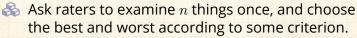


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Moving beyond Likert scales:





 \clubsuit For n=4, the are 6 pair comparisons of Things.

 Choosing best and worst gives 5 orderings: $\tau_1 > \tau_2, \tau_3 > \tau_4.$ The PoCSverse Meaning 19 of 77

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Moving beyond Likert scales:



- Ask raters to examine n things once, and choose the best and worst according to some criterion.
- \clubsuit For n=4, the are 6 pair comparisons of Things.
- $\ \, \& \ \,$ Choosing best and worst gives 5 orderings: $\tau_1 > \tau_2, \tau_3 > \tau_4.$
- \clubsuit Things end up with scores in [0,1].

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NRC VAD Lexicon [10]

VAD endpoints:	Paradigm words and phrases presented to raters: [11]
highest valence	happiness, pleasure, positiveness, satisfaction, contentedness, hopefulness
lowest valence	unhappiness, annoyance, negativeness, dissatisfaction, melancholy, despair
highest arousal	arousal, activeness, stimulation, frenzy, jitteriness, alertness
lowest arousal	unarousal, passiveness, relaxation, calmness, sluggishness, dullness, sleepiness
highest dominance	dominant, in control of the situation, powerful, influential, important, autonomous
lowest dominance	submissive, controlled by outside factors, weak, influenced, cared-for, guided

Major problem 5: Imposing dimensions through clouds of endpoint descriptors.

NRC VAD study: 20,007 words:

Standard correlations suggests a bit of Barney Rubble:

$$R(V, A) \simeq -0.268$$

$$R(A, D) \simeq 0.302$$

$$R(D, V) \simeq 0.488$$

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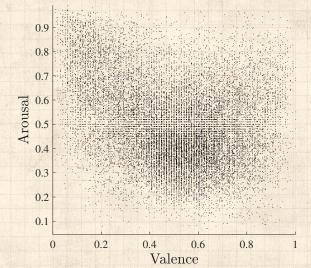
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1 Aprications abuses

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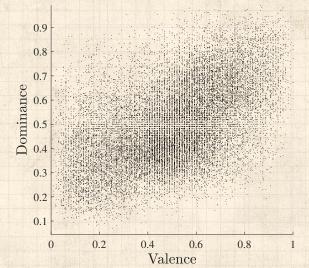
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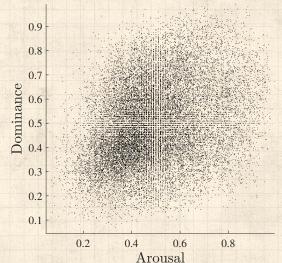
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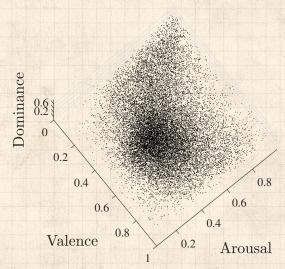
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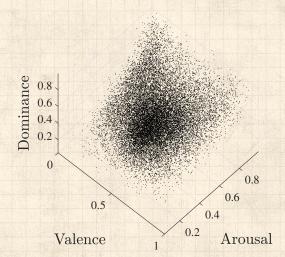
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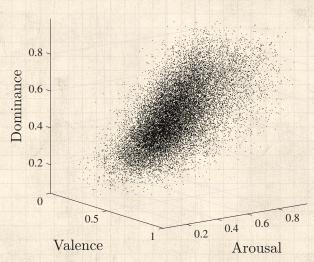
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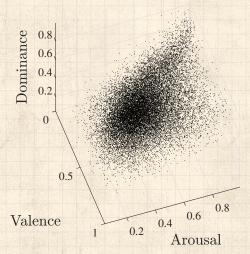
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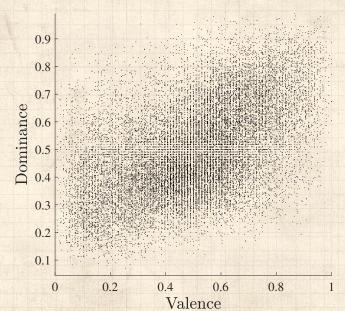
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 $R(D, V) \simeq 0.488$



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Variance explained:

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Variance explained:



VAD: 44.4%, 28.0%, and 27.6%.

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Variance explained:

VAD: 44.4%, 28.0%, and 27.6%.

Apply SVD.

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pissed
crucifixion
lurid
outburst

Variance explained:

& VAD: 44.4%, 28.0%, and 27.6%.

Apply SVD.

 $\red singular$ values: $\sigma_1 \simeq 34.1$, $\sigma_2 \simeq 27.2$, and $\sigma_3 \simeq 13.8$,

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Variance explained:

& VAD: 44.4%, 28.0%, and 27.6%.

Apply SVD.

 $\red {\$}$ Singular values: $\sigma_1 \simeq 34.1$, $\sigma_2 \simeq 27.2$, and $\sigma_3 \simeq 13.8$,

For what will be Goodness-Energy-Structure (GES): 55.6%, 35.3%, and 9.1%

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Variance explained:

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- For what will be Goodness-Energy-Structure (GES): 55.6%, 35.3%, and 9.1%
- Rotate in G-E plane by $\pi/4$ for what will be Power-Danger-Structure (PDS) 45.5%, 45.5%, 9.1%

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Variance explained:

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- Interpretability enhancements: Ousiograms.

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 \sim valence-dominance ous iogram for the NRC VAD lexicon \sim dominant 0.8 0.7 0.5 -magnificent 0.4 dictatorship0.3 generous murderous 0.2 happily murderer negative 1.0 homicidal positive enjoyable toxic memories mier adorable pain sweetest horrifying eddy -0.2 shit disheartening -0.3 mistreated mush -0.4and the pastive -0.6 -0.7 -0.8 $-0.9 - N_{\text{lexicon}} = 20,006$ submissive -1 -0.9 -0.8 -0.7 -0.6 -0.5 -0.4 -0.3 -0.2 -0.1 0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 0.6 0.7 0.8 0.9

valence V

more positive \rightarrow

more dominant

dominance

more submissive

 \leftarrow more negative

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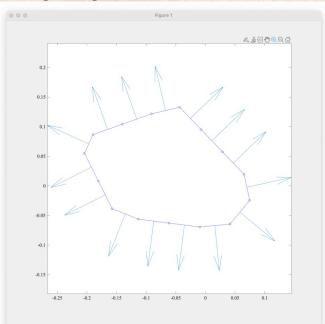
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Building ousiograms (2021/01/31):



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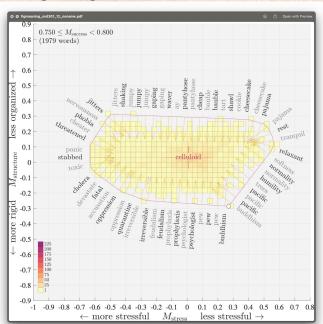
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Building ousiograms (2021/01/31):



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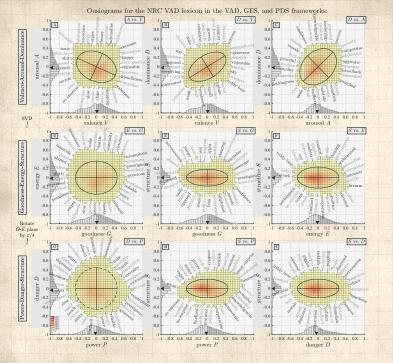
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 \sim power-danger ousingram for the NRC VAD lexicon \sim dangerous 0.8 0.7 0.6 terrifying poisonous more dangerous 0.5 masochism somersault homosexua 0.2 sorrow 0.1 weak chipmunl danger D idle kevstone -0.1 nothingness riumph nought greatness -0.3 storybook accord -0.6 -0.7 -0.8 $-0.9 - N_{\text{lexicon}} = 20,006$ safe $N_{\text{words}} = 20,006$ -1 -0.9 -0.8 -0.7 -0.6 -0.5 -0.4 -0.3 -0.2 -0.1 0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 0.6 0.7 0.8 0.9 1 \leftarrow weaker power P more powerful \rightarrow

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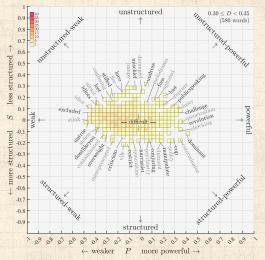
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aggression
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Ousiometric slices:



Slices of Structure Flipbook Slices of Danger Flipbook Slices of Power Flipbook

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dangerous structural dangerous structural dangerous killer

aggression pissed crucifixion lurid outburst

Extremonyms: Synousionyms and Antousionyms:

Powerful-Safe	(Good)	to	Weak-Dangerous	(Bad)	axis:
---------------	--------	----	----------------	-------	-------

Synousionyms	Valence	Arousal	Dominance	Goodness	Energy	Structure	Power	Danger	Structure
Anchor: wisdom	0.430	-0.198	0.371	0.579	-0.031	-0.158	0.388	-0.432	-0.158
education	0.396	-0.225	0.340	0.539	-0.065	-0.167	0.336	-0.427	-0.167
healthy	0.438	-0.181	0.318	0.558	-0.047	-0.108	0.362	-0.428	-0.108
trustworthy	0.469	-0.185	0.324	0.589	-0.052	-0.100	0.379	-0.453	-0.100
reliable	0.412	-0.259	0.375	0.575	-0.076	-0.202	0.353	-0.460	-0.202
Antousionyms	Valence	Arousal	Dominance	Goodness	Energy	Structure	Power	Danger	Structure
bullshit	-0.458	0.176	-0.317	-0.575	0.046	0.095	-0.373	0.439	0.095
shitty	-0.480	0.179	-0.337	-0.604	0.042	0.100	-0.397	0.456	0.100
nauseate	-0.438	0.160	-0.324	-0.558	0.026	0.101	-0.376	0.413	0.101
weeping	-0.418	0.188	-0.332	-0.549	0.042	0.131	-0.359	0.418	0.131
shame	-0.440	0.170	-0.345	-0.572	0.023	0.120	-0.388	0.421	0.120
diarrhea	-0.408	0.184	-0.357	-0.552	0.023	0.151	-0.374	0.407	0.151

Powerful to Weak axis:

Synousionyms	Valence	Arousal	Dominance			Structure	Power	Danger	Structure
Anchor: success	0.459	0.380	0.481	0.571	0.501	0.095	0.758	-0.050	0.095
almighty	0.438	0.374	0.458	0.543	0.487	0.098	0.728	-0.040	0.098
triumphant	0.449	0.337	0.472	0.565	0.462	0.073	0.726	-0.072	0.073
champion	0.390	0.380	0.445	0.494	0.492	0.087	0.698	-0.001	0.087
victorious	0.384	0.386	0.446	0.489	0.499	0.087	0.698	0.007	0.087
Antousionyms	Valence	Arousal	Dominance	Goodness	Energy	Structure	Power	Danger	Structure
sorrow	-0.448	-0.265	-0.336	-0.509	-0.329	-0.127	-0.593	0.127	-0.127
tasteless	-0.354	-0.304	-0.352	-0.430	-0.385	-0.092	-0.576	0.032	-0.092
idle	-0.321	-0.333	-0.388	-0.414	-0.434	-0.068	-0.600	-0.014	-0.068
empty	-0.312	-0.317	-0.419	-0.424	-0.439	-0.033	-0.610	-0.011	-0.033
void	-0.365	-0.337	-0.370	-0.443	-0.420	-0.103	-0.611	0.016	-0.103

Extremonyms: Synousionyms and Antousionyms:

Danger	ous-Pov	verful (High Energ	gy) to Saf	e-Weal	ι (Low Ει	nergy)	axis:	
Synousionyms	Valence	Arousal	Dominance	Goodness	Energy	Structure	Power	Danger	Structure
Anchor: volcanic	-0.156	0.410	0.281	-0.061	0.515	-0.045	0.322	0.407	-0.045
shelling	-0.163	0.417	0.273	-0.072	0.518	-0.039	0.316	0.417	-0.039
artillery	-0.150	0.412	0.294	-0.050	0.523	-0.050	0.335	0.405	-0.050
wild	-0.188	0.422	0.250	-0.105	0.514	-0.032	0.289	0.438	-0.032
rifles	-0.163	0.364	0.265	-0.068	0.470	-0.062	0.284	0.380	-0.062
Antousionyms	Valence	Arousal	Dominance	Goodness	Energy	Structure	Power	Danger	Structure
couch	0.094	-0.418	-0.302	-0.002	-0.524	0.025	-0.372	-0.369	0.025
mellow	0.133	-0.431	-0.235	0.066	-0.504	-0.009	-0.310	-0.403	-0.009
pillow	0.163	-0.372	-0.305	0.049	-0.498	0.085	-0.317	-0.387	0.085
tortoise	0.173	-0.422	-0.250	0.092	-0.511	0.025	-0.297	-0.427	0.025
quilt	0.143	-0.377	-0.274	0.048	-0.482	0.052	-0.307	-0.375	0.052
cotton	0.139	-0.429	-0.260	0.059	-0.517	0.012	-0.324	-0.407	0.012
Dangerous to Safe axis:									
			Dangerou	s to Safe	axis:				
Synousionyms	Valence	Arousal				Structure	Power	Danger	Structure
Synousionyms Anchor: homicide		Arousal				Structure 0.011	Power -0.005	Danger 0.681	Structure 0.011
	-0.490		Dominance	Goodness	Energy				
Anchor: homicide	-0.490 -0.459	0.473	Dominance 0.018	Goodness -0.485	Energy 0.478	0.011	-0.005	0.681	0.011
Anchor: homicide killer	-0.490 -0.459 -0.460	0.473 0.471	Dominance 0.018 0.043	Goodness -0.485 -0.446	Energy 0.478 0.485	0.011 0.008	-0.005 0.028	0.681 0.658	0.011 0.008
Anchor: homicide killer psychopath	-0.490 -0.459 -0.460 -0.452	0.473 0.471 0.443	0.018 0.043 0.036	Goodness -0.485 -0.446 -0.446	0.478 0.485 0.458	0.011 0.008 -0.003	-0.005 0.028 0.009	0.681 0.658 0.640	0.011 0.008 -0.003
Anchor: homicide killer psychopath bloodshed	-0.490 -0.459 -0.460 -0.452 -0.439	0.473 0.471 0.443 0.442 0.470	0.018 0.043 0.036 0.025	Goodness -0.485 -0.446 -0.446 -0.444 -0.440	0.478 0.485 0.458 0.450 0.468	0.011 0.008 -0.003 0.008	-0.005 0.028 0.009 0.004 0.020	0.681 0.658 0.640 0.633 0.642	0.011 0.008 -0.003 0.008
Anchor: homicide killer psychopath bloodshed violate	-0.490 -0.459 -0.460 -0.452 -0.439 Valence	0.473 0.471 0.443 0.442 0.470	0.018 0.043 0.036 0.025 0.019	Goodness -0.485 -0.446 -0.446 -0.444 -0.440	0.478 0.485 0.458 0.450 0.468	0.011 0.008 -0.003 0.008 0.033	-0.005 0.028 0.009 0.004 0.020	0.681 0.658 0.640 0.633 0.642 Danger	0.011 0.008 -0.003 0.008 0.033
Anchor: homicide killer psychopath bloodshed violate Antousionyms	-0.490 -0.459 -0.460 -0.452 -0.439 Valence	0.473 0.471 0.443 0.442 0.470 Arousal	Dominance 0.018 0.043 0.036 0.025 0.019 Dominance	Goodness -0.485 -0.446 -0.446 -0.444 -0.440 Goodness	0.478 0.485 0.458 0.450 0.468 Energy	0.011 0.008 -0.003 0.008 0.033 Structure	-0.005 0.028 0.009 0.004 0.020 Power	0.681 0.658 0.640 0.633 0.642 Danger	0.011 0.008 -0.003 0.008 0.033 Structure
Anchor: homicide killer psychopath bloodshed violate Antousionyms	-0.490 -0.459 -0.460 -0.452 -0.439 Valence 0.354 0.417	0.473 0.471 0.443 0.442 0.470 Arousal	Dominance 0.018 0.043 0.036 0.025 0.019 Dominance -0.019	Goodness -0.485 -0.446 -0.446 -0.444 -0.440 Goodness 0.354	0.478 0.485 0.458 0.450 0.468 Energy	0.011 0.008 -0.003 0.008 0.033 Structure -0.026	-0.005 0.028 0.009 0.004 0.020 Power	0.681 0.658 0.640 0.633 0.642 Danger -0.520 -0.588	0.011 0.008 -0.003 0.008 0.033 Structure -0.026
Anchor: homicide killer psychopath bloodshed violate Antousionyms natural tranquil softness serenity	-0.490 -0.459 -0.460 -0.452 -0.439 Valence 0.354 0.417 0.375 0.400	0.473 0.471 0.443 0.442 0.470 Arousal -0.382 -0.406	Dominance 0.018 0.043 0.036 0.025 0.019 Dominance -0.019 -0.145	Goodness -0.485 -0.446 -0.446 -0.444 -0.440 Goodness 0.354 0.351	0.478 0.485 0.458 0.450 0.468 Energy -0.382 -0.480	0.011 0.008 -0.003 0.008 0.033 Structure -0.026 0.078	-0.005 0.028 0.009 0.004 0.020 Power -0.020 -0.091	0.681 0.658 0.640 0.633 0.642 Danger -0.520 -0.588	0.011 0.008 -0.003 0.008 0.033 Structure -0.026 0.078
Anchor: homicide killer psychopath bloodshed violate Antousionyms natural tranquil softness	-0.490 -0.459 -0.460 -0.452 -0.439 Valence 0.354 0.417 0.375 0.400	0.473 0.471 0.443 0.442 0.470 Arousal -0.382 -0.406 -0.414	Dominance 0.018 0.043 0.036 0.025 0.019 Dominance -0.019 -0.145 -0.098	Goodness -0.485 -0.446 -0.446 -0.444 -0.440 Goodness 0.354 0.351 0.338	0.478 0.485 0.458 0.450 0.468 Energy -0.382 -0.480 -0.455	0.011 0.008 -0.003 0.008 0.033 Structure -0.026 0.078 0.021	-0.005 0.028 0.009 0.004 0.020 Power -0.020 -0.091 -0.082	0.681 0.658 0.640 0.633 0.642 Danger -0.520 -0.588 -0.561	0.011 0.008 -0.003 0.008 0.033 Structure -0.026 0.078 0.021

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Physics: Power was once sometimes called Activity

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aggression
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outburst

Physics: Power was once sometimes called Activity

Danger

and Dominance trace back to Dominus

(~ lord/ruler/person of power)

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Physics: Power was once sometimes called Activity

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Framing words for EPA, VAD, etc., matter greatly.

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Physics: Power was once sometimes called Activity

Danger

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lord/ruler/person of power)

Framing words for EPA, VAD, etc., matter greatly.

Other descriptors that don't hold up:

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Physics: Power was once sometimes called Activity

Danger

and Dominance trace back to Dominus

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Framing words for EPA, VAD, etc., matter greatly.

Other descriptors that don't hold up:

Success-Stress-Structure.

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Energy/Flourishing/Thriving-Threat

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- Physics: Power was once sometimes called Activity
- Danger

 and Dominance trace back to Dominus

 (~ lord/ruler/person of power)
- Framing words for EPA, VAD, etc., matter greatly.

Other descriptors that don't hold up:

- Success-Stress-Structure.
- Energy/Flourishing/Thriving-Threat
- Power-Order/Chaos-Gravity/Seriousness

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- Physics: Power was once sometimes called Activity
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Other descriptors that don't hold up:

- Success-Stress-Structure.
- Energy/Flourishing/Thriving-Threat
- Power-Order/Chaos-Gravity/Seriousness

After much staring at the ceiling:

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- Physics: Power was once sometimes called Activity
- Danger

 and Dominance trace back to Dominus

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- Framing words for EPA, VAD, etc., matter greatly.

Other descriptors that don't hold up:

- Success-Stress-Structure.
- Energy/Flourishing/Thriving-Threat
- Power-Order/Chaos-Gravity/Seriousness

After much staring at the ceiling:

Soodness-Energy-Structure (GES) (still fails)

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Physics: Power was once sometimes called Activity

Danger
 and Dominance trace back to Dominus
 (∼ lord/ruler/person of power)

Framing words for EPA, VAD, etc., matter greatly.

Other descriptors that don't hold up:

Success-Stress-Structure.

Energy/Flourishing/Thriving-Threat

Power-Order/Chaos-Gravity/Seriousness

After much staring at the ceiling:

Goodness-Energy-Structure (GES) (still fails)

Power-Danger-Structure (PDS) (succeeds)

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Connections between meaning dimensions:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \textbf{Goodness} \\ \textbf{Energy} \\ \textbf{Structure} \end{bmatrix} \simeq \begin{bmatrix} +0.86 & -0.15 & +0.48 \\ -0.16 & +0.83 & +0.54 \\ +0.48 & +0.55 & -0.69 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \textbf{Valence} \\ \textbf{Arousal} \\ \textbf{Dominance} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \textbf{Power} \\ \textbf{Danger} \\ \textbf{Structure} \end{bmatrix} \simeq \begin{bmatrix} 0.53 & 0.45 & 0.72 \\ -0.70 & 0.71 & 0.07 \\ 0.48 & 0.55 & -0.69 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \textbf{Valence} \\ \textbf{Arousal} \\ \textbf{Dominance} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\left[\begin{array}{c} \textbf{Power} \\ \textbf{Danger} \end{array} \right] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left[\begin{array}{cc} 1 & 1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{c} \textbf{Goodness} \\ \textbf{Energy} \end{array} \right]$$
 (1)

From types to tokens: [15,?]

Analysis so far is for a lexicon of types: Each word counts once.

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killer agression pissed crucifixion hurid outburst sounder

From types to tokens: [15,?]

- Analysis so far is for a lexicon of types: Each word counts once.
- Must consider how words are used in real texts by frequency: Tokens.

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outburst

From types to tokens: [15,?]

- Analysis so far is for a lexicon of types: Each word counts once.
- Must consider how words are used in real texts by frequency: Tokens.
- Rebuild ousiograms with usage frequency incorporated.

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From types to tokens: [15,?]

- Analysis so far is for a lexicon of types: Each word counts once.
- Must consider how words are used in real texts by frequency: Tokens.
- Rebuild ousiograms with usage frequency incorporated.
- A set of distinct corpora:
 - English fiction from Google Books (120 years). [9, 14]
 - Jane Austen's novels.
 - Sherlock Holmes stories.
 - New York Times (20 years). [19]
 - Wikipedia (2019/03). [20]
 - RadioTalk: Transcriptions of talk radio. [3]
 - Twitter through Storywrangler. [1]

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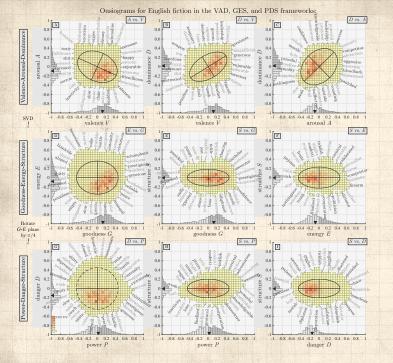
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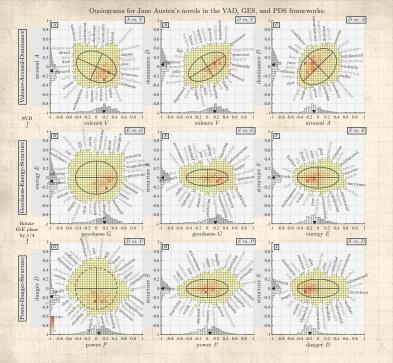
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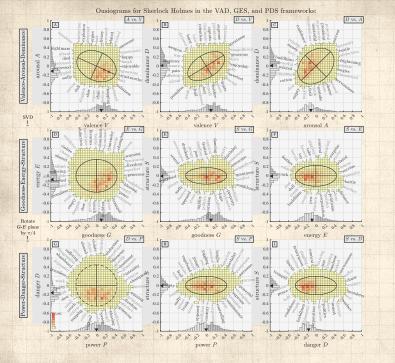
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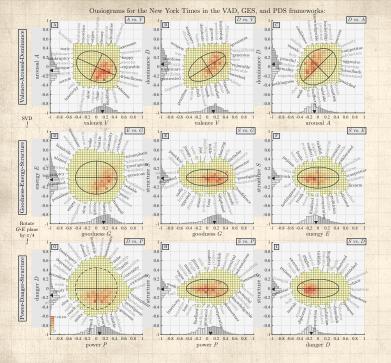
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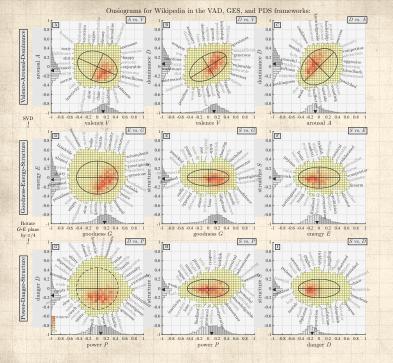
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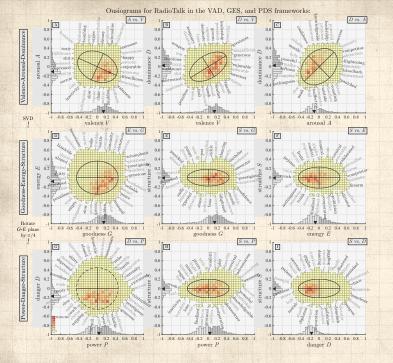
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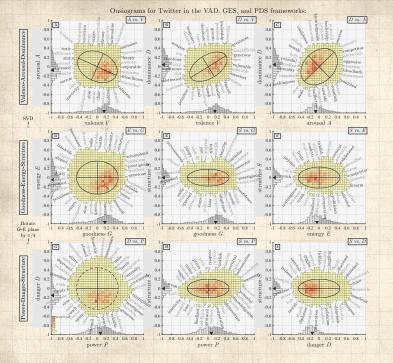
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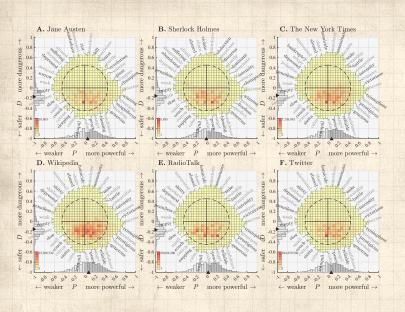
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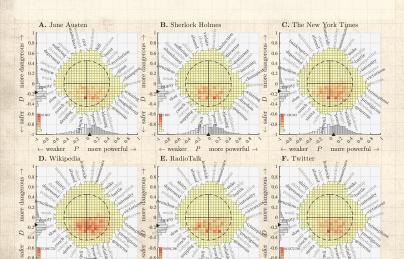


squander

A special thing has happened:



The PDS framework emerged only from analyzing a lexicon (types).



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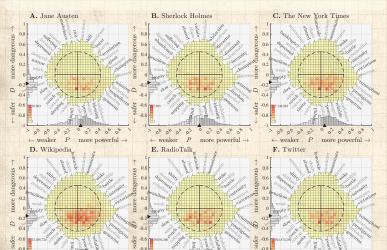
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A special thing has happened:

The PDS framework emerged only from analyzing a lexicon (types).

Applying PDS framework to disparate corpora (tokens) reveals a linguistic 'safety bias'.



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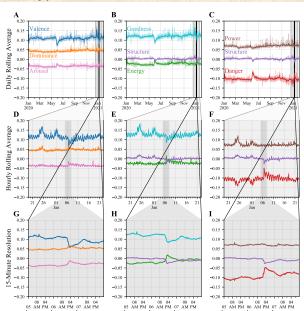
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dangerous spanicide dangerous dangerous dangerous

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Prototype ousiometer—Twitter:



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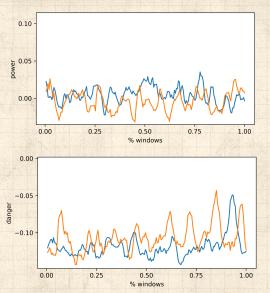
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Prototype ousiometer—Harry Potter:



Blue: Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince Orange: Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows The PoCSverse Meaning 52 of 77

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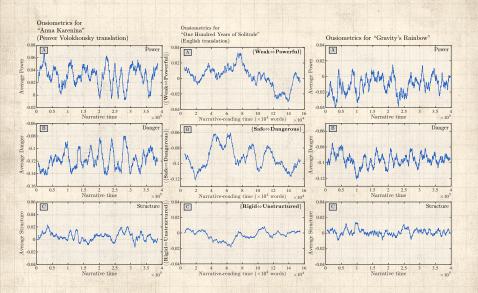
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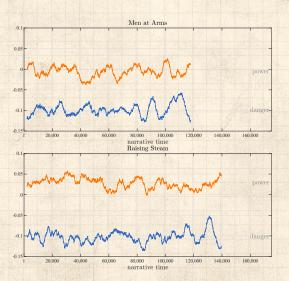
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Power and Danger time series for books:



Prototype ousiometer—Terry Pratchett's Discworld:



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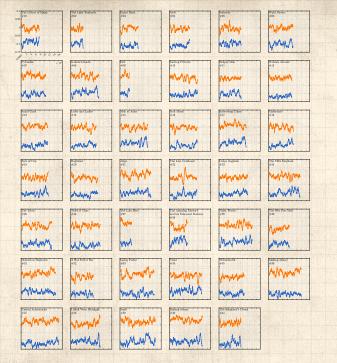
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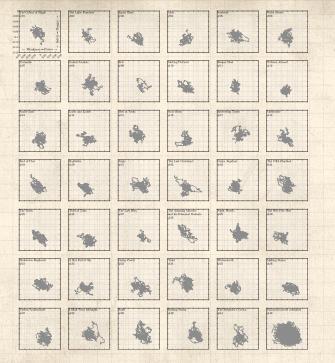
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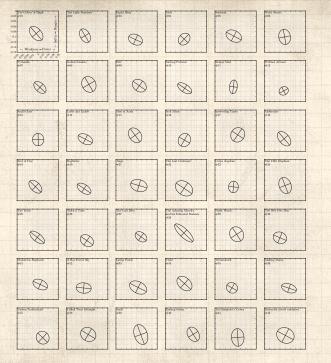
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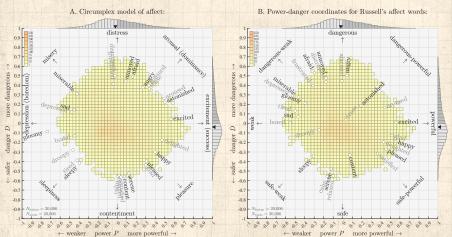
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Rough agreement with Russell's circumplex model, [18] which itself doesn't disagree with a 2-d orthogonal framework.



Dungeons & Dragons—Two alignment axes for character:



{lawful ⇔ chaotic} (vertical) and {good ⇔ evil} (horizontal). The PoCSverse Meaning 60 of 77

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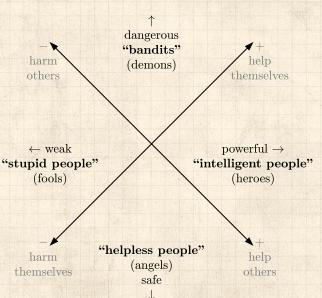
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¹From this Reddit thread ☑, where, naturally, the choices are enthusiastically debated.

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

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



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Power-danger-structure framework emerges in distinct settings, fitting types and tokens.

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Happiness/Goodness = Power + Safety

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Possible: Emotions map onto powerful-safe and danger axes. The PoCSverse Meaning 64 of 77

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Power-danger framework for survival.

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- Power-danger-structure framework emerges in distinct settings, fitting types and tokens.
- Safety bias of communication refines Pollyanna Principle of positivity
- Happiness/Goodness = Power + Safety
- Ousiometer can be improved and refined.
- Possible: Emotions map onto powerful-safe and danger axes.
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- Possible: Telegnomics for stories—Measuring character arcs, plots.

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- Power-danger-structure framework emerges in distinct settings, fitting types and tokens.
- Safety bias of communication refines Pollyanna Principle of positivity
- A Happiness/Goodness = Power + Safety
- Ousiometer can be improved and refined.
- Possible: Emotions map onto powerful-safe and danger axes.
- Power-danger framework for survival.
- Possible: Telegnomics for stories—Measuring character arcs, plots.
- Complement to information theory which is meaning-free. [21]

See concluding remarks in the foundational paper. [5]

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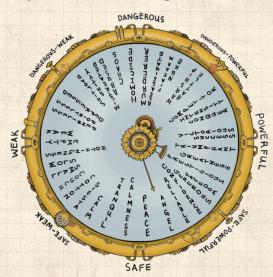
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The Compass of Meaning:



Online appendices: Paper(s), flipbooks, code, ... https://storylab.w3.uvm.edu/ousiometrics

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Synonyms	Valence	Arousal	Dominance	Goodness	Energy	Structure	Power	Danger	Structure
happy	0.50	0.24	0.27	0.53	0.26	0.18	0.57	-0.16	0.18
delighted	0.44	0.16	0.18	0.44	0.17	0.17	0.44	-0.18	0.17
excited	0.41	0.43	0.21	0.39	0.40	0.29	0.56	0.04	0.29
astonished	0.01	0.28	0.07	0.00	0.27	0.10	0.18	0.19	0.10
aroused	0.21	0.45	0.17	0.19	0.43	0.23	0.43	0.19	0.23
tense	-0.10	-0.06	0.15	-0.01	0.05	-0.19	0.03	0.04	-0.19
alarmed	-0.31	0.32	-0.01	-0.32	0.31	0.03	-0.03	0.45	0.03
angry	-0.38	0.33	0.10	-0.33	0.39	-0.07	0.02	0.51	-0.07
afraid	-0.49	0.28	-0.26	-0.59	0.17	0.09	-0.32	0.52	0.09
annoyed	-0.40	0.28	-0.16	-0.46	0.21	0.07	-0.19	0.47	0.07
distressed	-0.36	0.27	-0.18	-0.43	0.19	0.10	-0.19	0.43	0.10
frustrated	-0.42	0.15	-0.25	-0.50	0.06	0.05	-0.33	0.38	0.05
miserable	-0.44	-0.04	-0.31	-0.52	-0.13	-0.02	-0.47	0.26	-0.02
sad	-0.28	-0.17	-0.35	-0.38	-0.28	0.02	-0.47	0.05	0.02
gloomy	-0.39	-0.09	-0.21	-0.43	-0.13	-0.09	-0.40	0.20	-0.09
depressed	-0.48	-0.05	-0.36	-0.58	-0.17	-0.01	-0.54	0.27	-0.01
bored	-0.35	-0.33	-0.30	-0.40	-0.38	-0.14	-0.55	-0.02	-0.14
droopy	-0.06	-0.15	-0.20	-0.13	-0.22	0.03	-0.25	-0.08	0.03
tired	-0.38	-0.18	-0.31	-0.45	-0.26	-0.07	-0.50	0.11	-0.07
sleepy	0.10	-0.37	-0.25	0.03	-0.46	0.02	-0.29	-0.36	0.02
calm	0.37	-0.40	-0.22	0.28	-0.51	0.11	-0.14	-0.56	0.11
relaxed	0.36	-0.41	-0.12	0.32	-0.46	0.03	-0.08	-0.56	0.03
satisfied	0.46	0.01	0.18	0.48	0.04	0.10	0.38	-0.30	0.10
at ease	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_	_
ease	0.30	-0.11	-0.01	0.27	-0.15	0.09	0.10	-0.29	0.09
content	0.26	-0.20	0.06	0.29	-0.18	-0.03	0.09	-0.33	-0.03
serene	0.30	-0.37	-0.13	0.25	-0.42	0.03	-0.10	-0.48	0.03
glad	0.44	0.26	0.24	0.45	0.27	0.19	0.52	-0.10	0.19
pleased	0.44	0.05	0.29	0.51	0.13	0.03	0.47	-0.25	0.03



"Semantic differential profiles for 1,000 most frequent English words."

David R. Heise,
Psychological Monographs: General and
Applied, **79**, 1, 1965. [6]

Dimension	Scale
Evaluation	Good-Bad
	Pleasant-Unpleasant
Activity	Active-Passive
•	Lively-Still
Potency	Strong-Weak
	Tough-Tender
Stability	Rational-Emotional
	Tamed-Untamed

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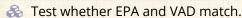
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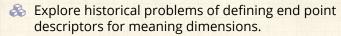
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"Pleasure, arousal, dominance: Mehrabian and Russell revisited"

Bakker et al., Current Psychology, **33**, 405–421, 2014. [2]





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