

DO PEOPLE CARE ABOUT OTHERS' OPINIONS OF PLACES?

UTILIZING DEEP LEARNING TO MODEL
PEOPLES' REVIEW PATTERNS

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AAG Annual Meeting, Denver, CO

March 25, 2023



Agenda

Introduction

Background

Methodology I

Methodology II

Conclusion

Introduction

- People's opinions about places reflect their emotional attachment to places that hold meanings to them.
- With the rise of social media platforms such as Google Reviews, TripAdvisor, and Yelp, vast number of opinions about local businesses, including restaurants, have been published online.

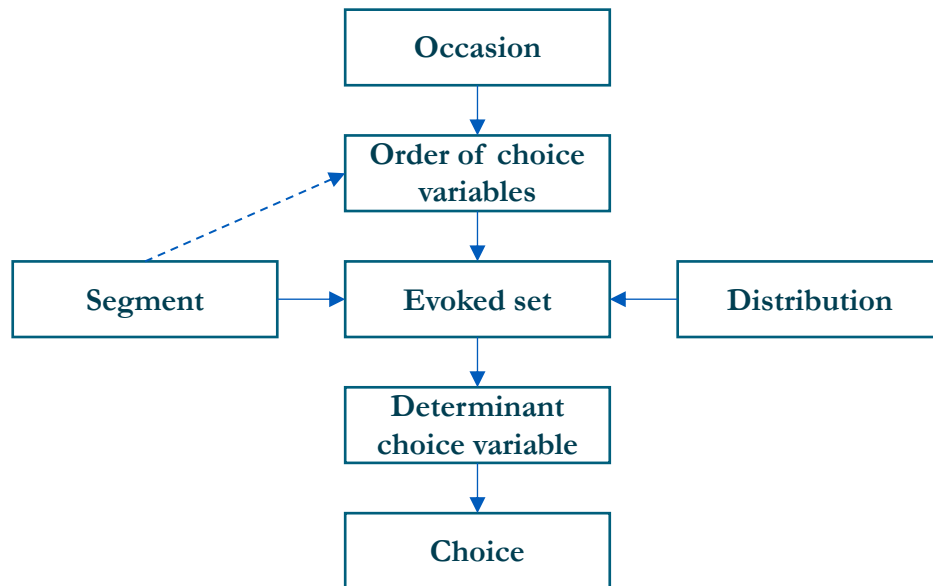
→ How to utilize recent advancements in natural language processing (NLP) techniques to:

- help identify key aspects that customers care about when choosing restaurants,
- understand the rationales behind customers' needs and preferences?



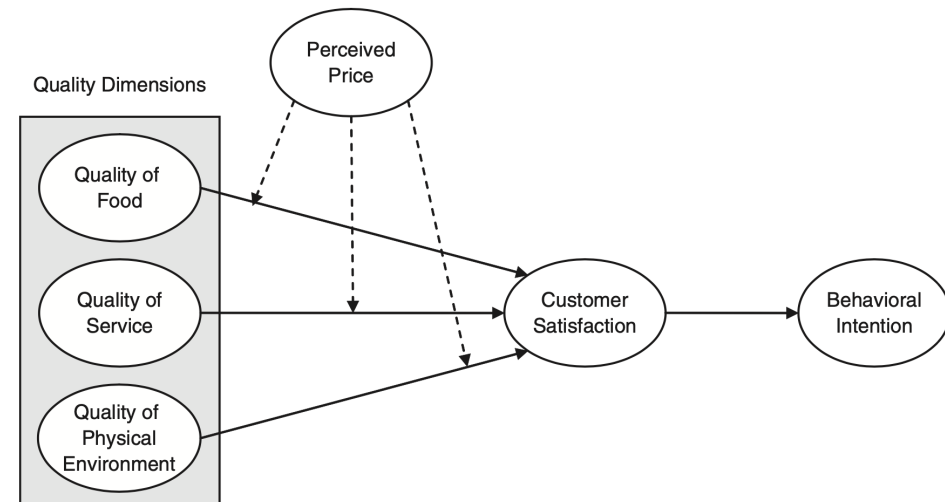
Background

- Numerous studies in the past have tried to identify restaurant quality attributes and investigate their effects on consumer decisions.



Influences of a consumer's choice of restaurant

Source: Auty, S. (1992). Consumer choice and segmentation in the restaurant industry. *Service Industries Journal*, 12(3), 324-339.



Conceptual model showing the relationships between study variables

Source: Ryu, K., & Han, H. (2010). Influence of the quality of food, service, and physical environment on customer satisfaction and behavioral intention in quick-casual restaurants: Moderating role of perceived price. *Journal of Hospitality & Tourism Research*, 34(3), 310-329.

Background

- Existing studies utilized qualitative methods (survey, interview, and focus group) to collect and analyze responses from consumers, restricted to small sample sizes.

	Characterization of the studies	Number of studies	Frequency (% of total studies)
Type of research	Survey	41	91.1
	Qualitative	3	6.7
	Experimental	1	2.2
Nature of research	Exploratory	8	17.8
	Descriptive	37	82.2

Characterization of the Studies Analyzed Concerning the Choice of Food Services, Published in the Period from 1979 to August of 2011
 Source: Medeiros, C. O., & Salay, E. (2013). A review of food service selection factors important to the consumer. *Food and Public Health*, 3(4), 176-190.

Background

- Existing studies utilized qualitative methods (survey, interview, and focus group) to collect and analyze responses from consumers, restricted to small sample sizes.
- Other studies (Do et al., 2019) have utilized NLP techniques to capture expressed sentiments or emotions in consumer reviews from online platforms.
- However, these computational methods tend to focus on improving their predictive power, overlooking theory implications.

Methodology: A Computational Approach

Part I

Aspect-Based Sentiment Analysis

Part II

Agent-Based Modeling

Aspect-Based Sentiment Analysis

- Sentiment analysis aims to estimate subjective sentiments expressed through texts, images, and speeches.

Levels of sentiment analysis on texts

document

sentence

aspect

word

Aspect-Based Sentiment Analysis

- Sentiment analysis aims to estimate subjective sentiments expressed through texts, images, and speeches.

Levels of sentiment analysis on texts



Source: [Buffalo Field Campaign](#)

Aspect-Based Sentiment Analysis

- Sentiment analysis aims to estimate subjective sentiments expressed through texts, images, and speeches.

Levels of sentiment analysis on texts

document

sentence

aspect

word

“Excellent effort guys! Loved your work.”

Aspect-Based Sentiment Analysis

- Sentiment analysis aims to estimate subjective sentiments expressed through texts, images, and speeches.

Levels of sentiment analysis on texts

document

sentence

aspect

word

“The staff was nice, but the food was not good.”

Aspect-Based Sentiment Analysis

- Sentiment analysis aims to estimate subjective sentiments expressed through texts, images, and speeches.

Levels of sentiment analysis on texts



Positive: good, great, love, awesome, ...

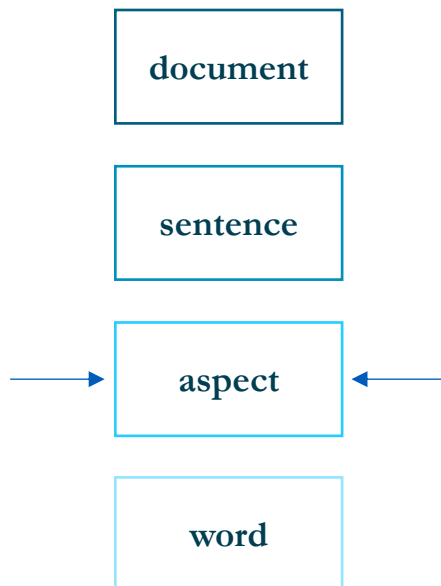
Neutral: restaurant, think, movement, ...

Negative: murder, poison, terrible, awful, ...

Aspect-Based Sentiment Analysis

- Sentiment analysis aims to estimate subjective sentiments expressed through texts, images, and speeches.

Levels of sentiment analysis on texts



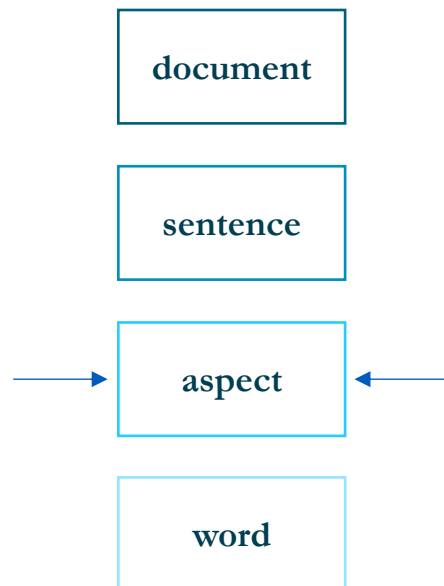
“The staff was nice, but the food was not good.”

A diagram illustrating aspect-based sentiment analysis on the sentence "The staff was nice, but the food was not good." The words "staff" and "nice" are underlined in blue and green, respectively. A green arrow points from "nice" to "staff". The words "food" and "not good" are underlined in blue and red, respectively. A red arrow points from "not good" to "food".

Aspect-Based Sentiment Analysis

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Levels of sentiment analysis on texts



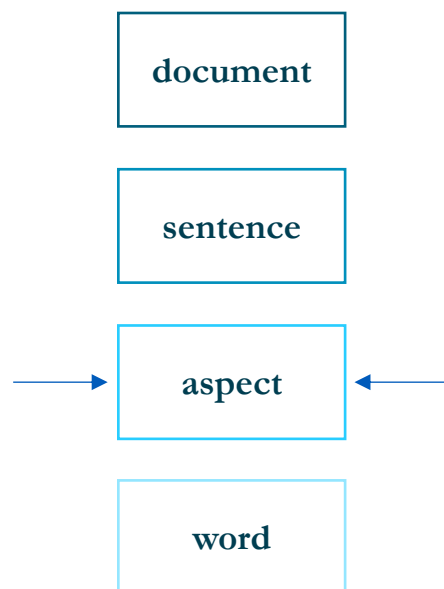
Main approaches



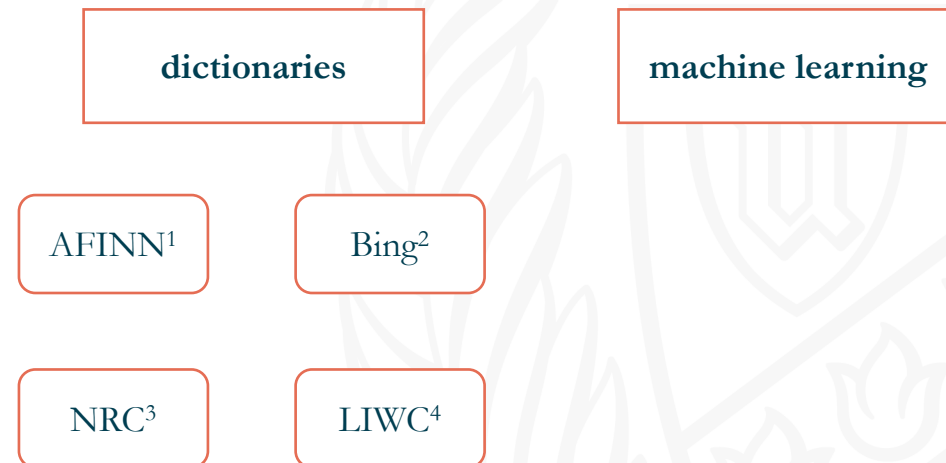
Aspect-Based Sentiment Analysis

- Sentiment analysis aims to estimate subjective sentiments expressed through texts, images, and speeches.

Levels of sentiment analysis on texts



Main approaches



¹ Nielsen, F. Å. (2011). A new ANEW: Evaluation of a word list for sentiment analysis in microblogs. arXiv preprint arXiv:1103.2903.

² Liu, B. (2015). Sentiment Analysis: Mining Opinions, Sentiments, and Emotions. Cambridge University Press.

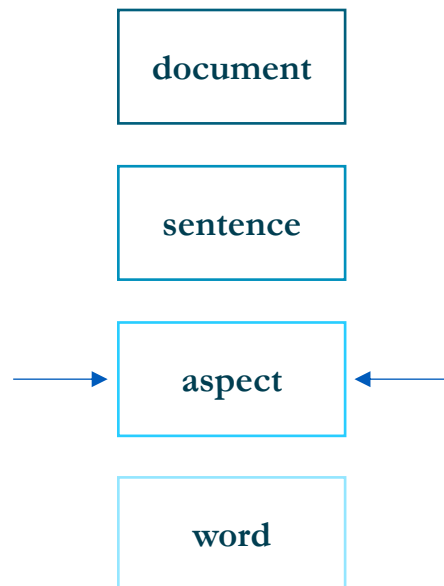
³ Mohammad, S., & Turney, P. (2010, June). Emotions evoked by common words and phrases: Using mechanical turk to create an emotion lexicon. In Proceedings of the NAACL HLT 2010 workshop on computational approaches to analysis and generation of emotion in text (pp. 26-34).

⁴ Tausczik, Y. R., & Pennebaker, J. W. (2010). The psychological meaning of words: LIWC and computerized text analysis methods. Journal of language and social psychology, 29(1), 24-54.

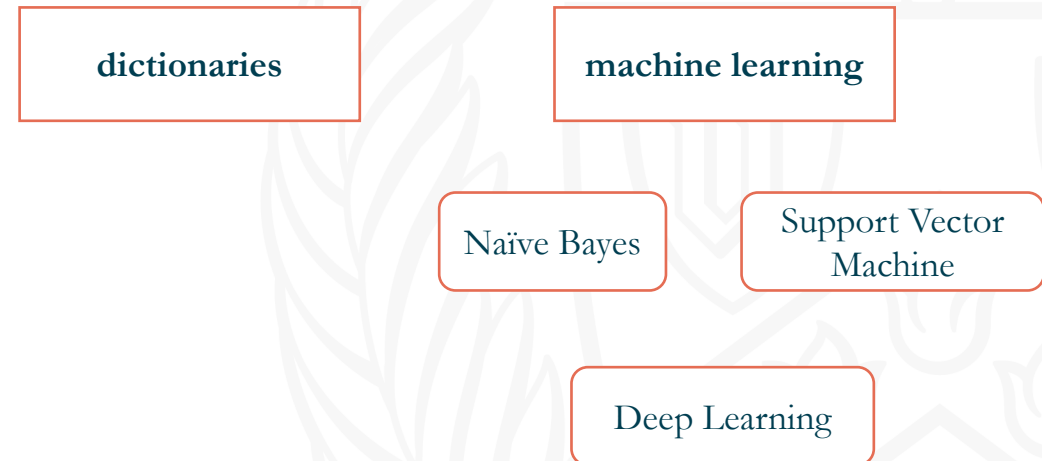
Aspect-Based Sentiment Analysis

- Sentiment analysis aims to estimate subjective sentiments expressed through texts, images, and speeches.

Levels of sentiment analysis on texts



Main approaches



Aspect-Based Sentiment Analysis

Do, H. H., Prasad, P. W., Maag, A., & Alsadoon, A. (2019). Deep learning for aspect-based sentiment analysis: a comparative review. Expert systems with applications, 118, 272-299.

Application of the CNN model in the consumer review domain.				Application of RNN model in the consumer review domain.				Application of RecNN in opinion target extraction.				Application of hybrid models.			
No	Study	Domain		No	Study	Domain		No	Study	Domain		No	Study	Domain	
1	Poria, Cambria, et al. (2016)	12 electronic products		1	Toh & Su (2016)	Restaurant	SemEval '16	18	Y. Ma et al. (2018)	Reviews		1	Nguyen & Shirai (2015)	Restaurant	
2	Feng et al. (2018)	Mobile phone		2	T. Chen et al. (2017)	Restaurant	SemEval '16	19	Ding et al. (2017b)	Restaurant		2	W. Wang, Pan, Dahlmeier, & Xiao (2016)	Laptop	
3	Toh & Su (2016)	Restaurant		3	Liu et al. (2015)	Restaurant	SemEval '16	20	W. Wang et al. (2017)	Restaurant		3	Lakkaraju, Socher, & Manning (2014)	Beer	
4	Ruder et al. (2016)	Laptop		4	Jebbara & Cimiano (2016)	Restaurant	SemEval '16	21	Li & Lam (2017)	Restaurant		4	Dong et al. (2014)	Twitter da	
5	Gu et al. (2017)	Smartphone		5	Tay, Tuan and Hui (2017)	Hotel	SemEval '14	22	Tay, Liu, & Hui (2017)	Restaurant		5	Vo & Zhang (2015)	Twitter da	
6	Wu et al. (2016)	Smartphone		6	Al-Smadi, Qawasmeh, Al-Ayyoub, Jararweh, and Gupta (2017)	Hotel	SemEval '14	23	Cheng et al. (2017)	Restaurant		6	Zainuddin et al. (2018)	Twitter da	
7	Gu et al. (2017)	Smartphone		7	Yuan, Zhao, Qin, and Liu (2017)	Restaurant	SemEval '14	24	Y. Wang et al. (2016)	Restaurant		7	B. Wang, Liakata, Zubiaga and Procter (2017)	Twitter da	
8	Ruder et al. (2016)	Hotel		8	X. Wang et al. (2016)	Laptop	SemEval '14	25	Y. Ma et al. (2018)	Restaurant					
9	Du et al. (2016)	Mobile phone		9	Ding, Yu, and Jiang (2017b)	Laptop	SemEval '14	26	P. Chen et al. (2017)	Restaurant					
10	Wu et al. (2016)	Smartphone		10	W. Wang, Pan, & Dahlmeier (2017)	Restaurant	SemEval '14	27	R. Ma et al. (2017)	Restaurant					
11	Xu et al. (2017)	Laptop		11	Li & Lam (2017)	Laptop	SemEval '14	28	Tang, Qin, et al. (2016)	Restaurant					
12	Akhtar, Kumar, et al. (2016)	12 personal electronic prod		12	Li, Bing, Li, Lam, & Yang (2018)	Laptop	SemEval '14	29	Peng et al. (2018)	Notebook					
				13	Mai & Le (2018)	Restaurant	SemEval '14								
				14	Tamchyna & Yezhovskii (2016)	Restaurant	SemEval '16								

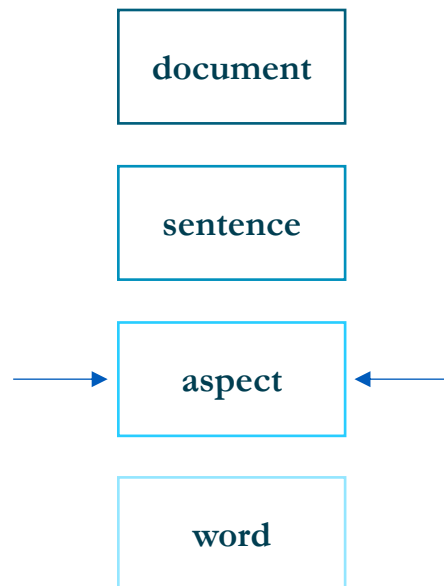
No	Study	Domain	Language	Model	Accuracy	F1
1	Ye et al. (2017)	Restaurant	English	neural BiLSTM and	F1: 83%	F1: 83%
2	Xue et al. (2017)	Laptop	English	neural BiLSTM and	F1: 75%	F1: 83%
3	Xue et al. (2017)	Restaurant	English	neural BiLSTM	F1: 67%	F1: 72%
4	P. Chen et al. (2016)	Phone	Chinese	COAE2012 task1 and the autohome website	Acc: 56.45%	F1: 70%
		Car	Chinese		Acc: 56.45%	F1: 70%
		Tweets from 2015 UK general election campaign	English	TDParse (dependency parser)	Acc: 56.45%	F1: 46.09%



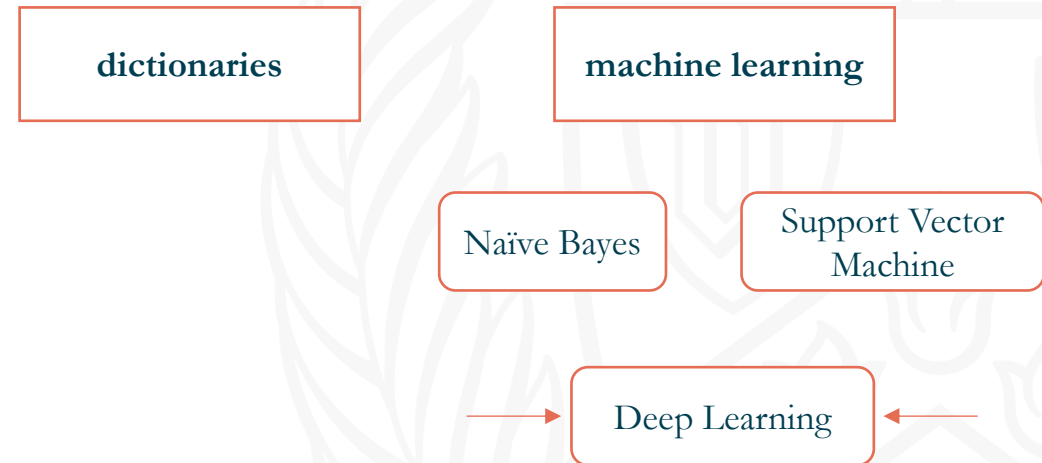
Aspect-Based Sentiment Analysis

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Levels of sentiment analysis on texts

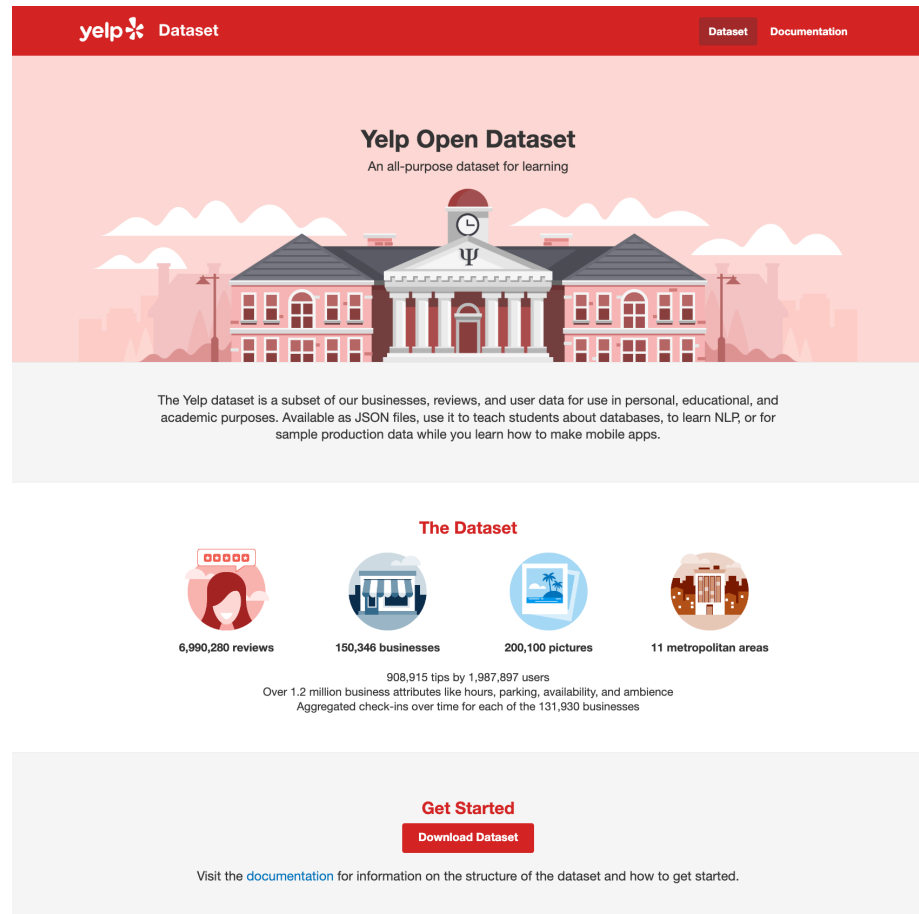


Main approaches



Aspect-Based Sentiment Analysis

Data Retrieval



The screenshot shows the 'Yelp Open Dataset' landing page. At the top, there's a red navigation bar with 'yelp Dataset' and 'Dataset Documentation' links. The main heading is 'Yelp Open Dataset' with the subtitle 'An all-purpose dataset for learning'. Below this is an illustration of a university building. A paragraph describes the dataset as a subset of businesses, reviews, and user data for educational and academic purposes. A section titled 'The Dataset' features four icons representing reviews, businesses, pictures, and metropolitan areas, with corresponding statistics. At the bottom, there's a 'Get Started' section with a 'Download Dataset' button and a link to the documentation.

Yelp Open Dataset
An all-purpose dataset for learning

The Yelp dataset is a subset of our businesses, reviews, and user data for use in personal, educational, and academic purposes. Available as JSON files, use it to teach students about databases, to learn NLP, or for sample production data while you learn how to make mobile apps.

The Dataset

- 6,990,280 reviews
- 150,346 businesses
- 200,100 pictures
- 11 metropolitan areas

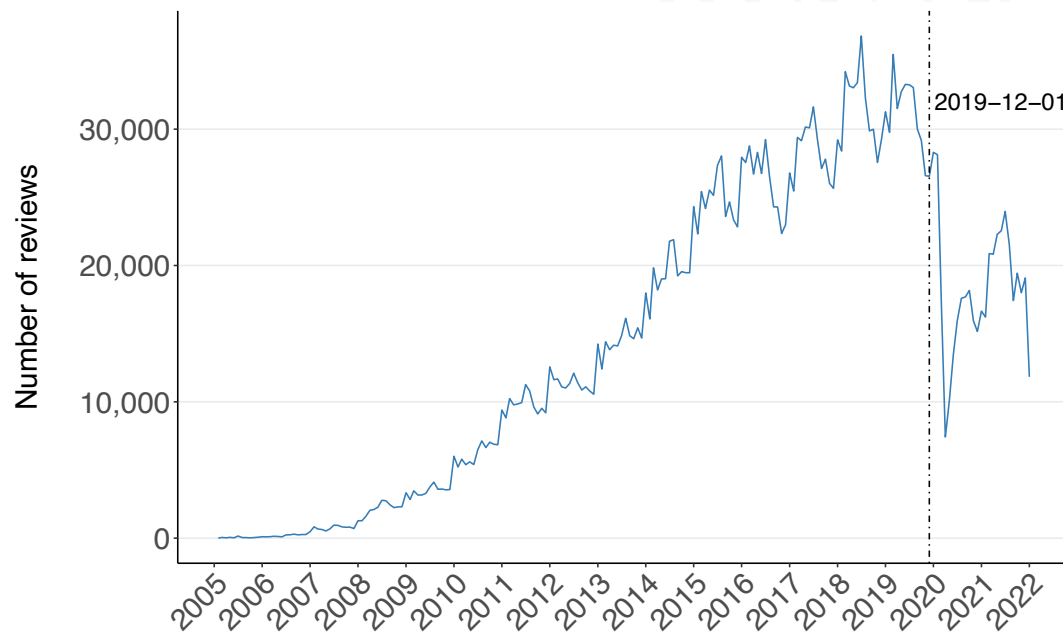
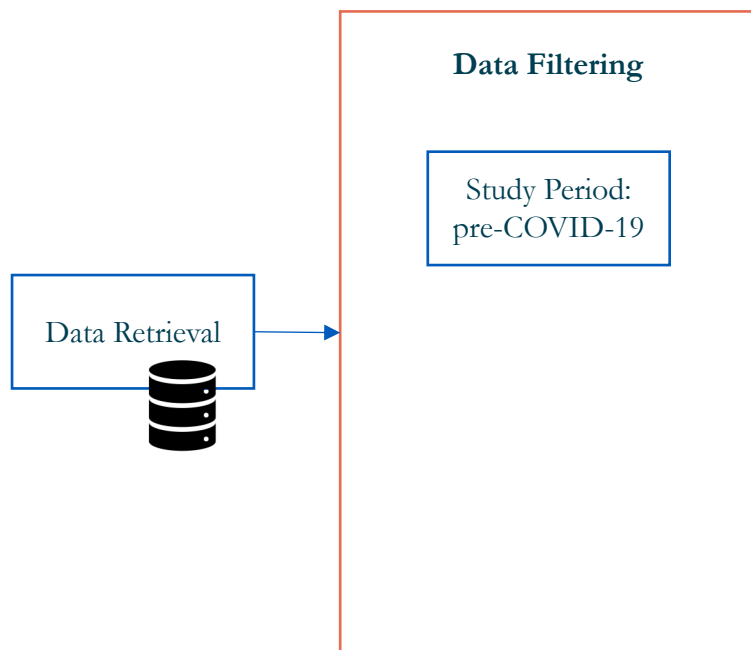
908,915 tips by 1,987,897 users
Over 1.2 million business attributes like hours, parking, availability, and ambience
Aggregated check-ins over time for each of the 131,930 businesses

Get Started
[Download Dataset](#)

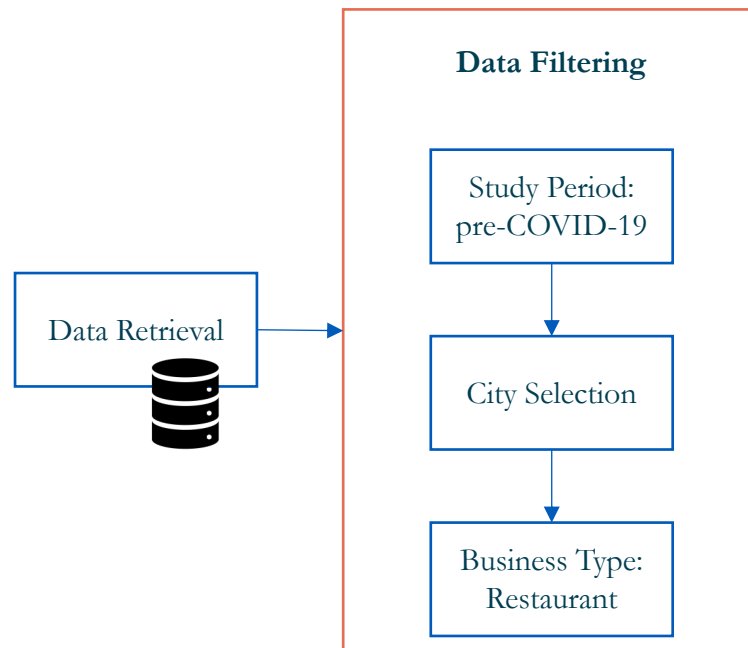
Visit the [documentation](#) for information on the structure of the dataset and how to get started.

Source: <https://www.yelp.com/dataset>
Dataset version: 2022

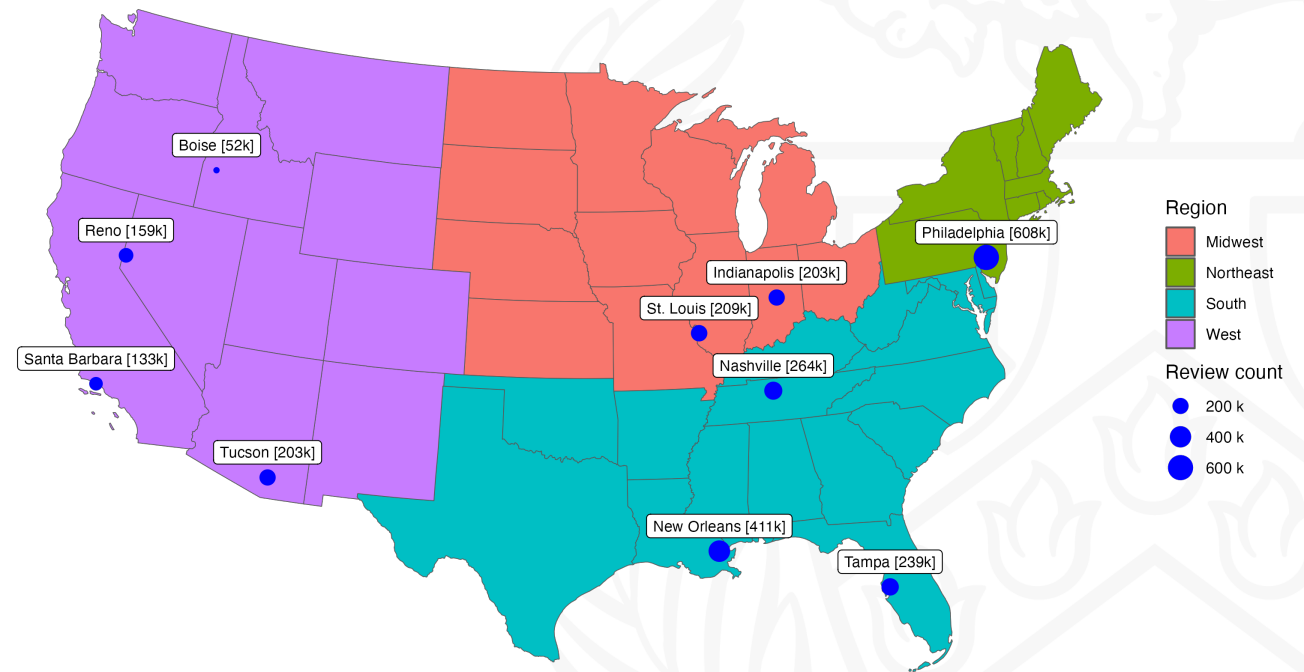
Aspect-Based Sentiment Analysis



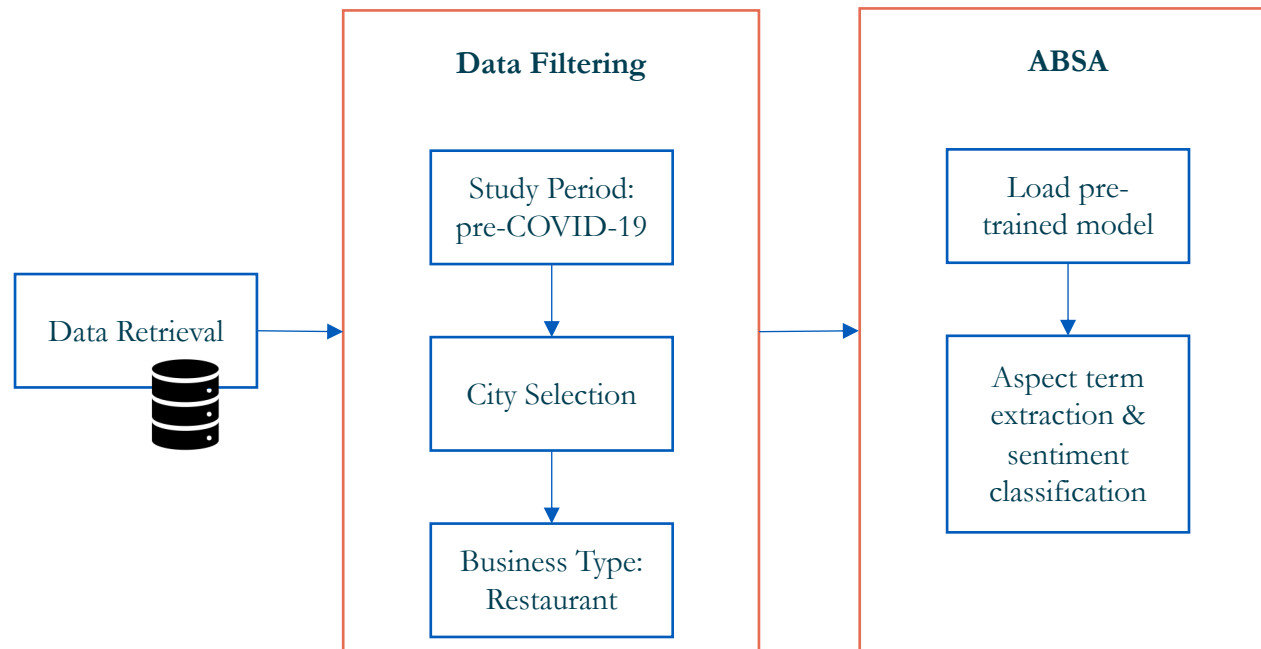
Aspect-Based Sentiment Analysis



Number of restaurant reviews in selected cities



Aspect-Based Sentiment Analysis



PyABSA - Open Framework for Aspect-based Sentiment Analysis

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[Ranked #2: Aspect-Based Sentiment Analysis on SemEval 2014 Task 4 Sub Task 2](#)

Note: If you need to find the v1.x version, please visit [release](#). The final release of v1.x is [v1.16.27](#)

Hi, there! Please star this repo if it helps you! Each Star helps PyABSA go further, many thanks. PyABSA is a free and open-source tool for everyone, but please do not forget to attach the (informal or formal) author information and project address in your works, products and publications, etc.

Try our demos on Huggingface Space

- [Aspect sentiment triplet extraction \(English\) New feature](#)
- [\(Gradio\) Aspect term extraction & sentiment classification \(English, Chinese, Arabic, Dutch, French, Russian, Spanish, Turkish, etc.\)](#)
- [\(Prototype\) Aspect term extraction & sentiment classification \(English, Chinese, Arabic, Dutch, French, Russian, Spanish, Turkish, etc.\)](#)
- [方面术语提取和情感分类 \(中文, etc.\)](#)
- [Aspect-based sentiment classification \(Multilingual\) \(English, Chinese, etc.\)](#)

Installation

install via pip
 To use PyABSA, install the latest version from pip or source code:

```
pip install -U pyabsa
```

install via source

```
git clone https://github.com/yangheng95/PyABSA --depth=1
cd PyABSA
python setup.py install
```

Source: <https://github.com/yangheng95/PyABSA>

Aspect-Based Sentiment Analysis

- One of the top performing models with open-source codebase
- Offer pre-trained models on MAMS (Multi Aspect Multi-Sentiment) dataset, a common benchmark dataset for ABSA
- Ease of use
- Well maintained (new functions, bug fixes, new versions, ...)

PyABSA - Open Framework for Aspect-based Sentiment Analysis

python 3.6 pypi v2.1.6 downloads 169k downloads/month 12k license MIT docs failing

total views 178508 total views 2807/week total clones 9897 total clones 199/week

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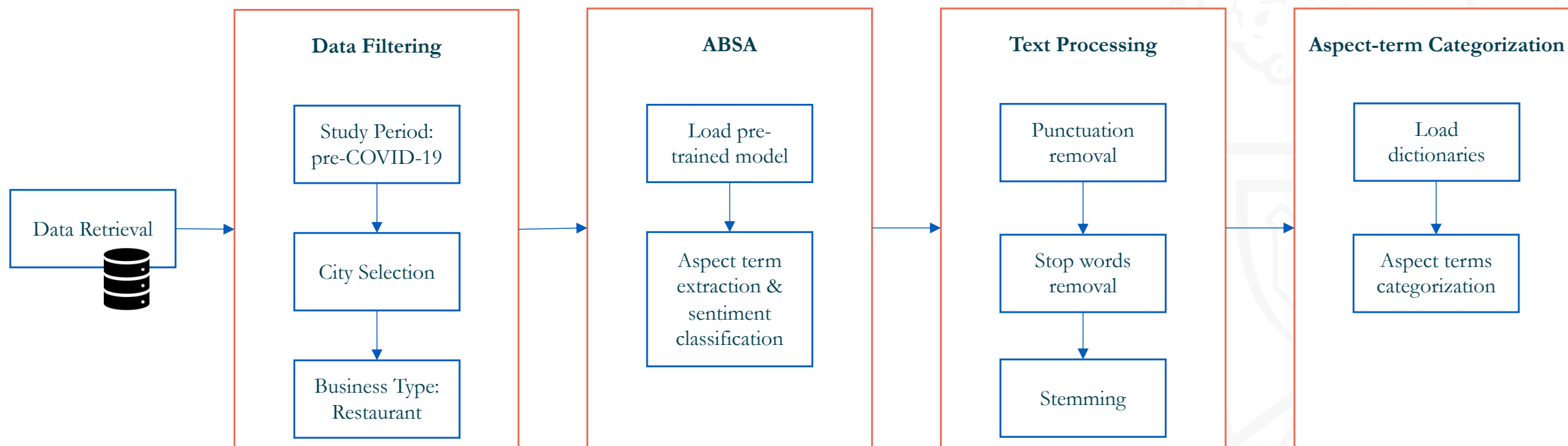
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Aspect-Based Sentiment Analysis



Aspect-Based Sentiment Analysis

“The staff was nice, but the food was not good.”

Aspect Term	Aspect Category	sentiment
staff	service	1
food	food	-1

Yelp Review Data

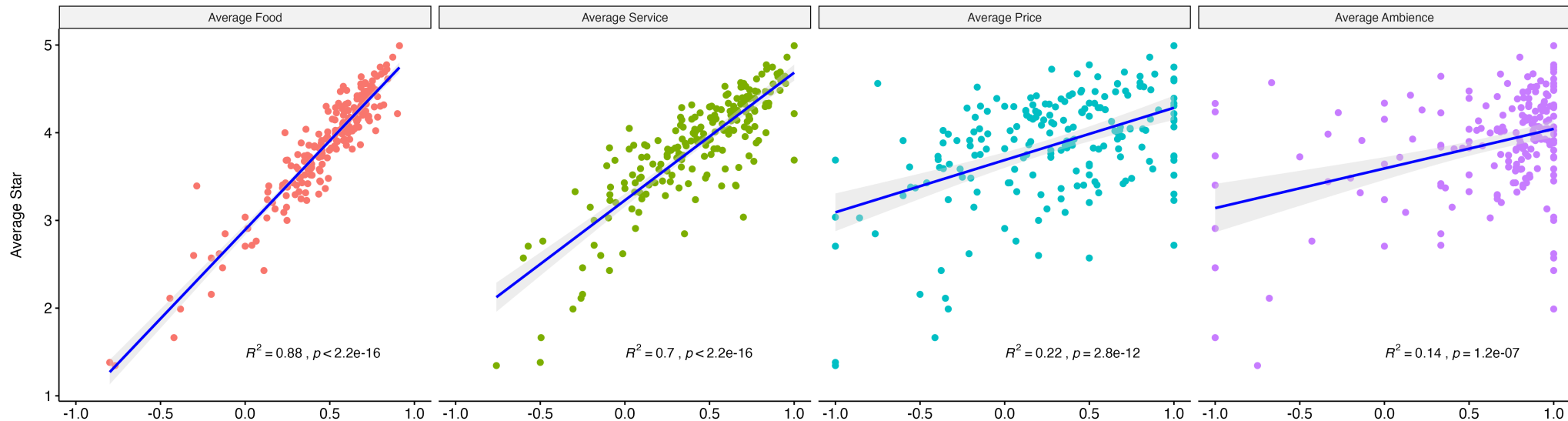
Review ID	Restaurant ID	Review	Star
1	1	It has great sushi and ...	5
2	1	The staff was nice but ...	3
3	2	Super fresh delicious ...	4
...

Aggregated Result

Restaurant ID	Average Star	Average Food	Average Price	Average Service	Average Ambience
1	4	0.6	0.56	0.7	0.6
2	3	0.2	0.6	-0.1	-0.3
...

Aspect-Based Sentiment Analysis

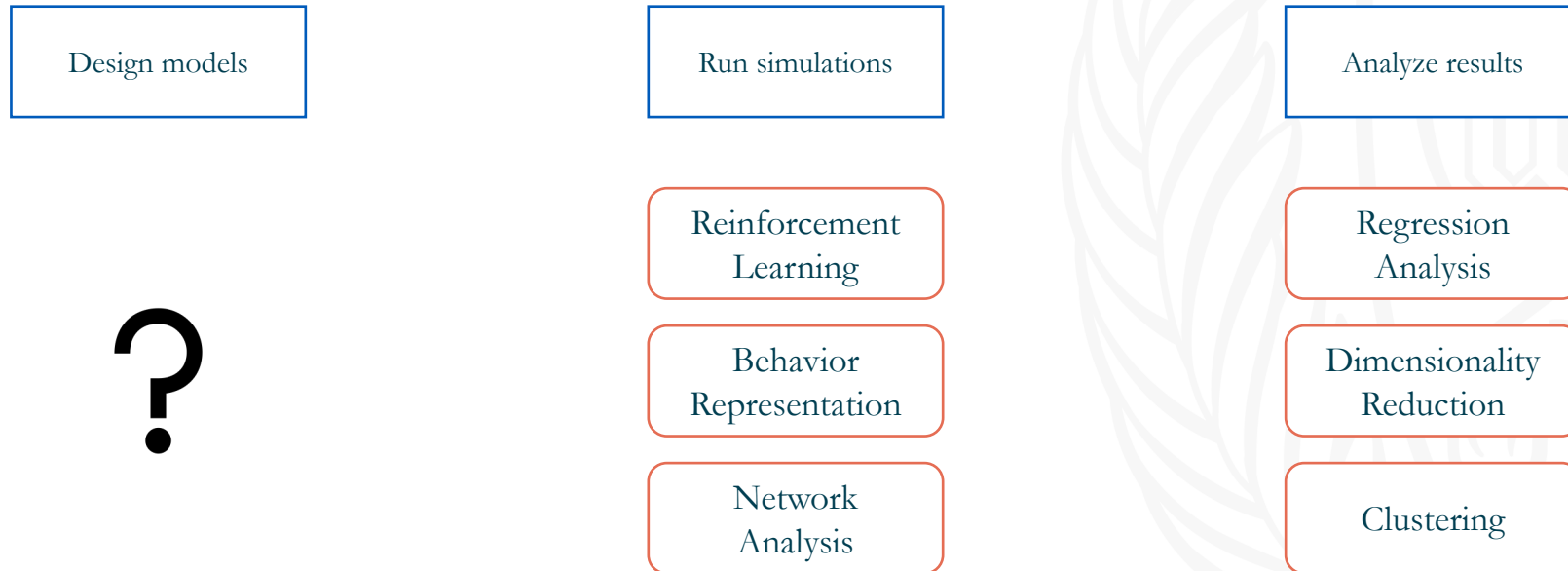
Average star vs. average sentiment by aspect category



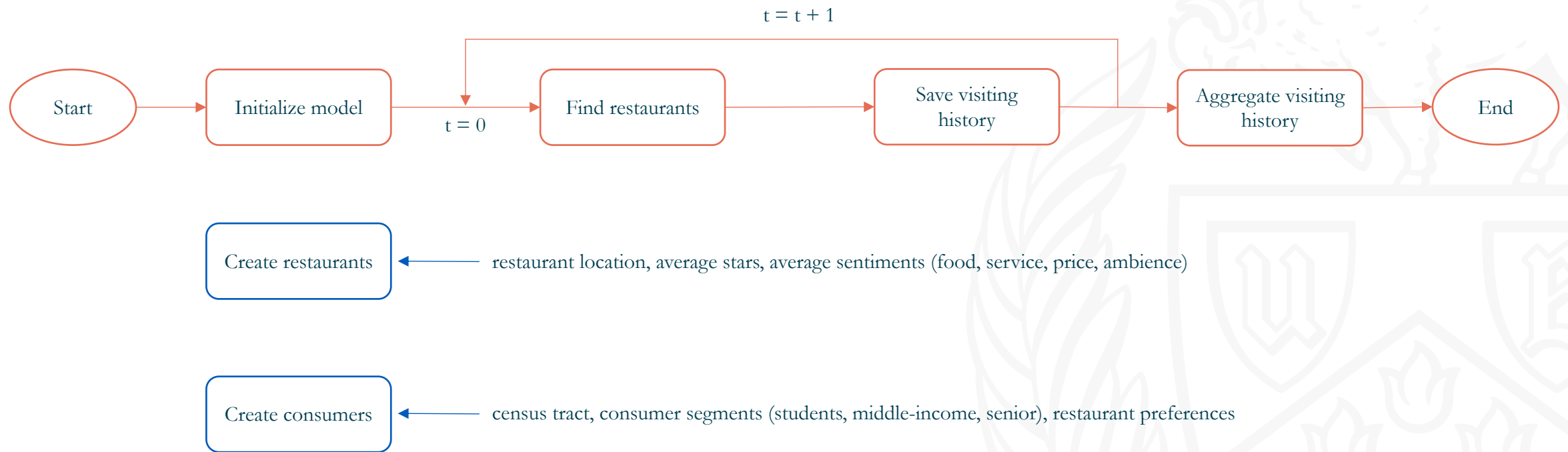
*Results based on 200 restaurants in St. Louis, MO.

Agent-Based Modeling

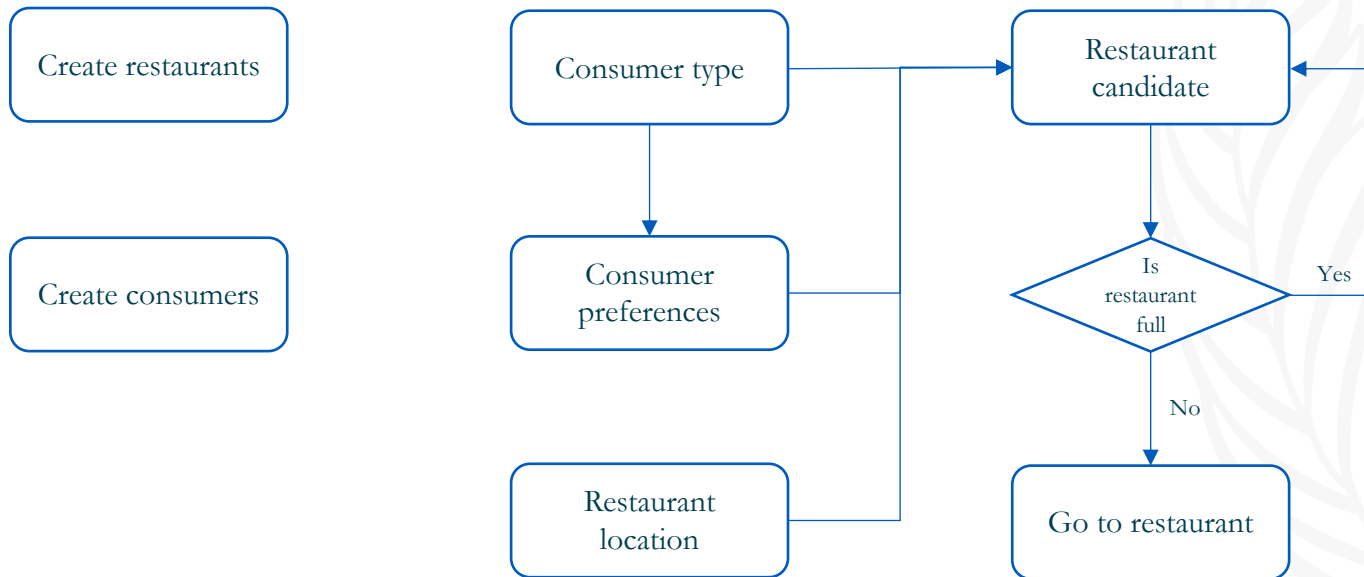
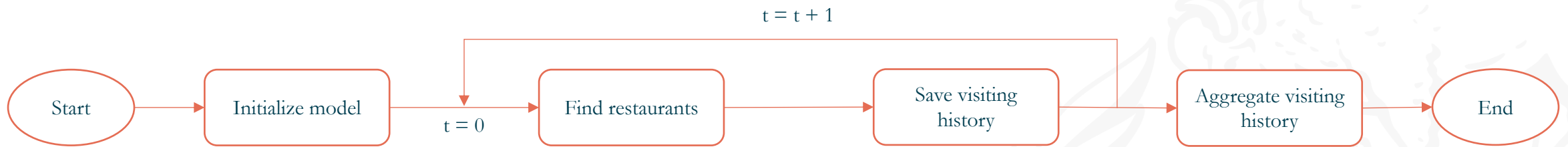
- Agent-based modeling: a computational modeling technique to simulate complex systems by modeling individual agents and their interactions.
- There have been a trend of integrating machine learning algorithms in and for agent-based modeling.



Agent-Based Modeling



Agent-Based Modeling



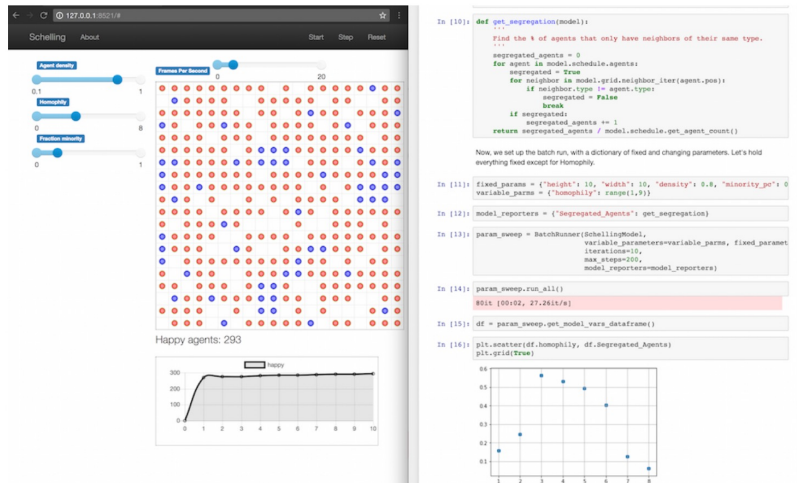
Agent-Based Modeling

Mesa: Agent-based modeling in Python 3+



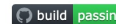



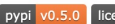

Mesa allows users to quickly create agent-based models using built-in core components (such as spatial grids and agent schedulers) or customized implementations; visualize them using a browser-based interface; and analyze their results using Python's data analysis tools. Its goal is to be the Python 3-based alternative to NetLogo, Repast, or MASON.




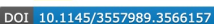
Source: <https://github.com/projectmesa/mesa>

Mesa-Geo: GIS Extension for Mesa Agent-Based Modeling





Mesa-Geo implements a `GeoSpace` that can host GIS-based `GeoAgents`, which are like normal Agents, except they have a `geometry` attribute that is a `Shapely object` and a `crs` attribute for its Coordinate Reference System. You can use `Shapefile` directly to create arbitrary geometries, but in most cases you will want to import your geometries from a file. Mesa-Geo allows you to create `GeoAgents` from any vector data file (e.g. shapefiles), valid GeoJSON objects or a `GeoPandas` `GeoDataFrame`.

Using Mesa-Geo

To install Mesa-Geo on linux or macOS run

```
pip install mesa-geo
```

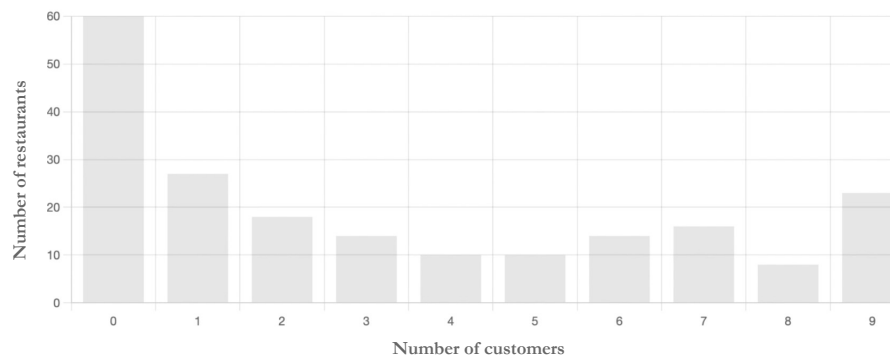
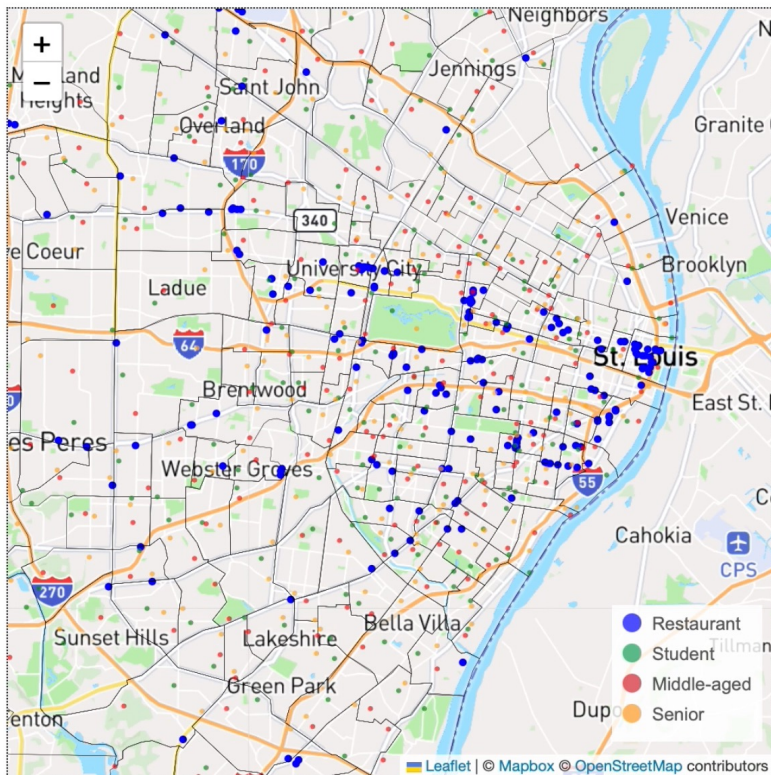
On windows you should first use Anaconda to install some of the requirements with

```
conda install fiona pyproj rtree shapely
pip install mesa-geo
```

Source: <https://github.com/projectmesa/mesa-geo>

Agent-Based Modeling

Yelp Opinion Dynamics [About](#) Stop Step Reset



Current Work

Aspect-based sentiment analysis

- Replace the dictionary approach in categorizing aspect-terms with semi-supervised learning

Agent-based modeling

- Incorporate more census data when initializing consumer segments
- Set the time step in the simulation to be an hour.
- Calibrate model parameters and validate model results with restaurant check-in data from Yelp

Conclusion

- Online customer reviews can provide valuable insights into various aspects of people's dining experience, such as the quality of food and service.
- We utilize aspect-based sentiment analysis methods on Yelp dataset to extract and categorize reviewers' opinions on restaurants in urban areas.
- This work demonstrates how using deep learning techniques can help advance our understanding of people's decision-making processes.

THANK YOU FOR LISTENING!
WELCOME COMMENTS, QUESTIONS AND
SUGGESTIONS.



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atcrooks@buffalo.edu



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<https://wang-boyu.github.io>
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