

Results

Between Top and Bottom Journals

We investigated the semantic differences between journals with a large number of publications compared to those with only a few. The most surprising difference was that Top publishers have significantly less authenticity.

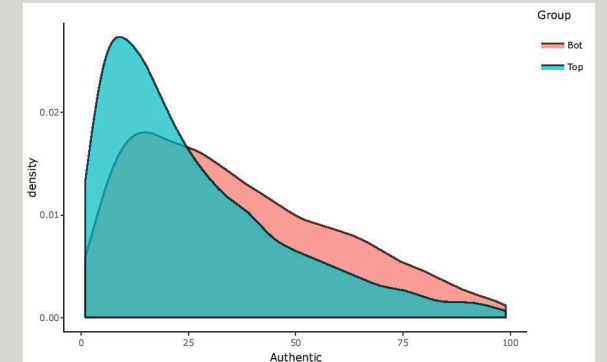


Figure 1: Authenticity by Top/Bottom Journal

Between Top-Five Journals

We examined multiple semantic elements between the top five journals. Unsurprisingly, most research articles are high in analytic semantics.

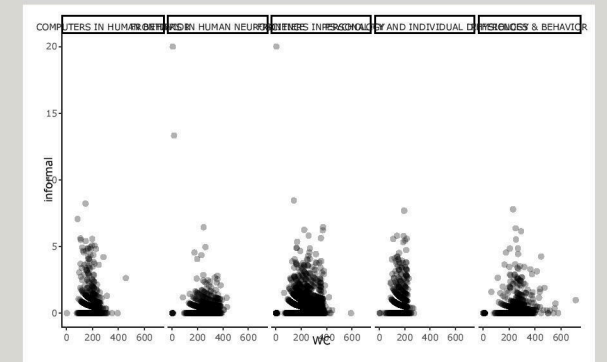


Figure 2: Word Count and Informal Language

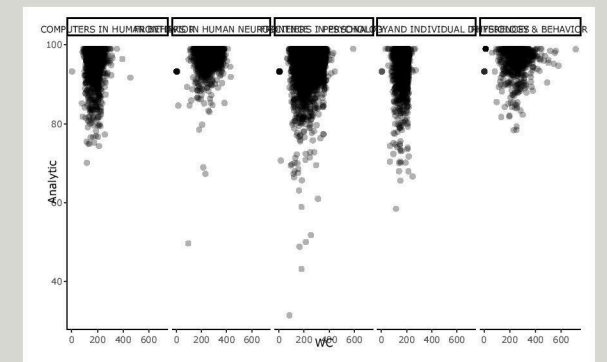


Figure 3: Word Count and Analytic Words

Top Academic Journals vary in their word usage and semantic content

Semantic Differences In Research Abstracts and Titles

Tim Bromley, MA¹

bromleyt@spu.edu

Kirby White, MA¹

whitek5@spu.edu

¹ Department of Industrial-Organizational Psychology, Seattle Pacific University

Introduction

Conducting research and writing in the social sciences is incredibly time consuming. Whether you are trying to publish a paper or learn about a scientific discovery, knowing what to expect will make you more effective in gathering and communicating research.

Method

1. Collected the text of 200,000 abstracts from various journals and sampled down to ~10,000
2. Ran the text data through LIWC to get semantic insight
3. Conducted statistical analysis to determine if word usage varies across the top 5 journals and their counterparts
4. Conducted statistical analysis to determine if word usage varies within the top 5 journals

Tools

We used LIWC for semantic analysis, RStudio for data cleaning and manipulation, and RapidMiner for predictive modeling.



LIWC is a program grounded in psychological theory based on Pennebaker's work concerning personality and linguistic theory.

