DHSS Hub NEWSLETTER

Digital Humanities and Social Sciences
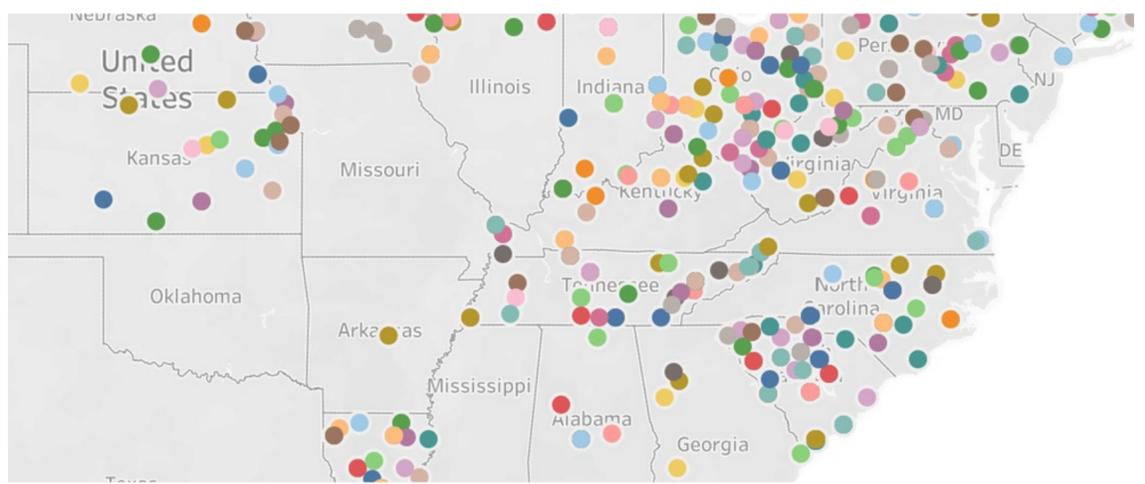**The Open University of Israel**

August 2023

Computers Reading Emotions

Texts are filled with emotions, whether it be literature, historical documents, newspapers or social media posts. Sentiment Analysis (SA) is a method for automatic recognition of emotions in texts, which enables researchers to discover patterns of social attitudes on a large scale.

One type of SA distinguishes between either positive, neutral or negative sentiments of a given statement, while also ranking the degree of each. But SA can also discern between specific emotions, such as joy, fear, sadness, surprise and others (**For More**).

If you are interested in incorporating Sentiment Analysis in your research, you are invited to **contact us**.

Research Spot: Digital Analysis of the US Press

In this ongoing research, Dr. Zef Segal from the Department of History, Philosophy and Jewish Studies at the OUI, uses computational tools to analyze characteristics of the US journalistic network that operated between 1840-1884.

Analyzing patterns in such a massive amount of newspapers is not a task suitable for traditional historical methods. With computational tools it becomes possible to go over the entire texts, but even more so, digital analysis uncovers nuances that would otherwise remain hidden.

By applying such methods, Segal maps the flow of news across the US, its directions and pace, and the various topics, both regionally and temporally. Thus, Segal explores the interrelations between the journalistic output and parallel political, ideological and sociological developments.

Events and Announcements

Gallery Talk - "The Gatekeeper"
You are invited to join a free guided tour with the artist Tom Porat and the curator Carmit Blumensohn (September 4, Monday, 10:00-11:00). **Sign Up Here**

The DHSS Hub New Post-doctorate:
Congratulations to Dr. Alon Fishman. Fishman studies semantics and pragmatics, focusing in his research on corpus analyses, behavioral experiments, and computational modelling.