

You are what you tweet...pic! Gender prediction based on semantic analysis of social media images

Michele Merler, Liangliang Cao and John R. Smith

IBM T.J. Watson Research Center, USA

mimerler@us.ibm.com



Outline

- Motivation & Research Questions
- Proposed Approach
 - Visual and Textual Analytics
 - Fusion Strategies
 - Experimental Results
- Conclusions & Future Directions



Social Media is a Goldmine of for Multimedia Research

Event Discovery and
Summarization

Attributes
Discovery

Gender, age, location,
education, political
preferences, job, etc.

Training Data for
Visual Classification

Sentiment
Analysis



Previous Work

- Text-based Gender estimation from social media , *language dependent, performance ceiling*
 - Tweets [Burger et al. EMNLP11] [Pennacchiotti et al. ICWSM11]
 - First name [Liu and Ruths AAAI13]
 - Hashtags [Totems14]
 - Psycho-linguistic features [System U] [Kokkos et al. FM14]
 - Topic modeling on boards [Chang et al. CSCW14]
- Non-text based Gender estimation from social media
 - Collaborative Filtering (who you are friends with, who you follow) [Ito et al. ASONAM13] [Ludu CORR14]
limited performance
 - Profile Picture face analysis, *not always available/reliable*
 - Page Colors [Alowibdil et al. CASNAM13], *limited performance, not always available*
 - Whole Feed Images [Ma et al. IWCMAS14], *small set of ad hoc classifiers, no use of profile pictures, extremely limited generalization power*
- Combinations Gender estimation from social media
 - Text + Images [Sakaki et al. ICCL14]
small preliminary study, over-simplicistic fusion method: $\alpha p(\text{text}) + (1 - \alpha)p(\text{visual})$, limited performance
- Multimodal Fusion (not for gender prediction)
 - Extensive literature, early fusion, late fusion, *general fusion strategies vs proposed specific filtered fusion (see experimental results)*

A need remains for a system that derives user gender using an effective multimodal combination of visual and non-visual cues



Research Questions

- Is there a **correlation** between **gender** and the content of the **images** that people post on social media?

yes

- If so, can we **predict** a social media user's gender based on a semantic analysis of those images?

yes

- Does the visual insight provide **complementary** information with respect to others (text)?

yes



Summary of Invention –Extracted Information

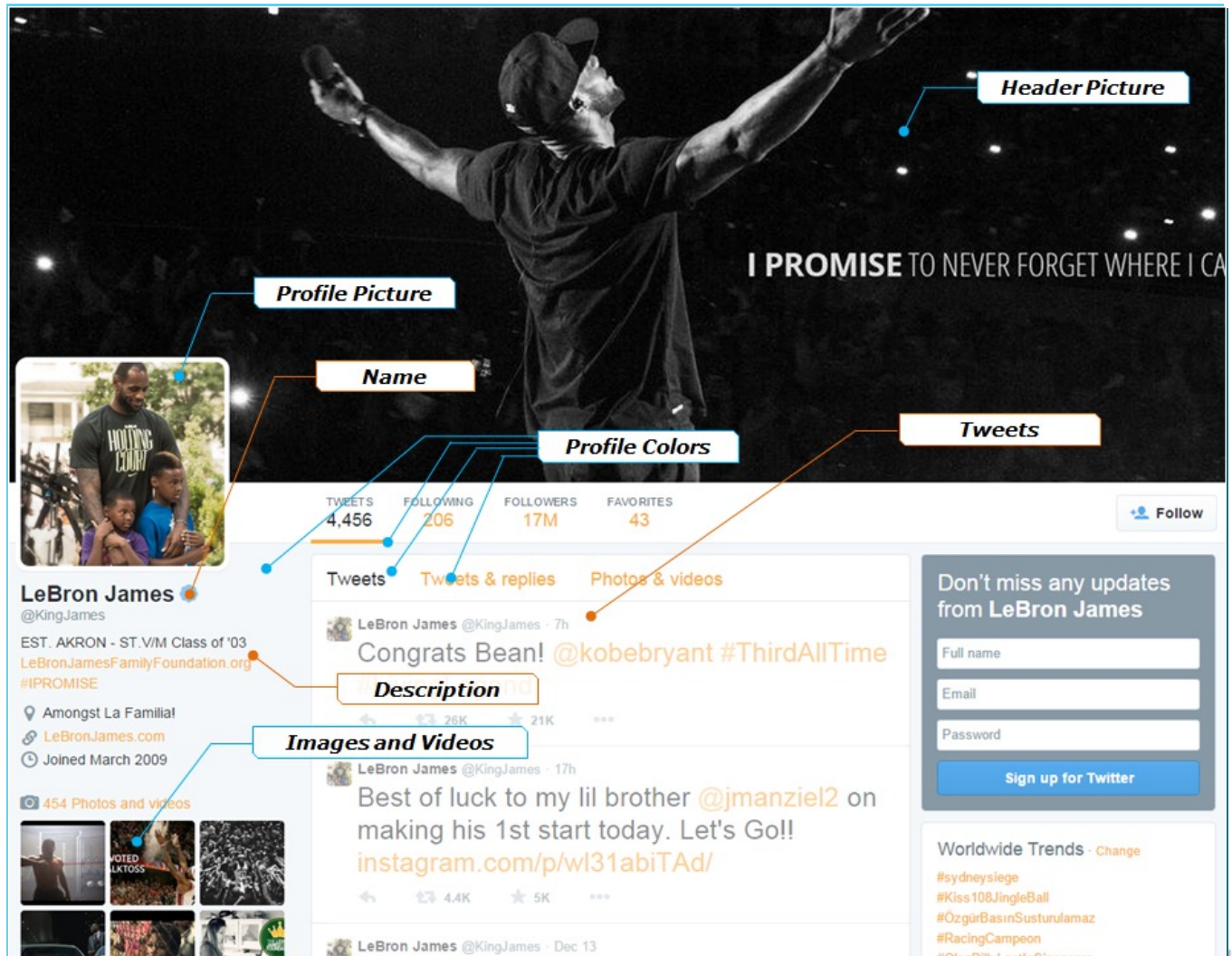
Multimodal Cues

Textual

- Name
- Description
- Tweets (text)

Visual

- Profile picture
- Header picture
- Profile colors
- Feed images/videos



Summary of Invention

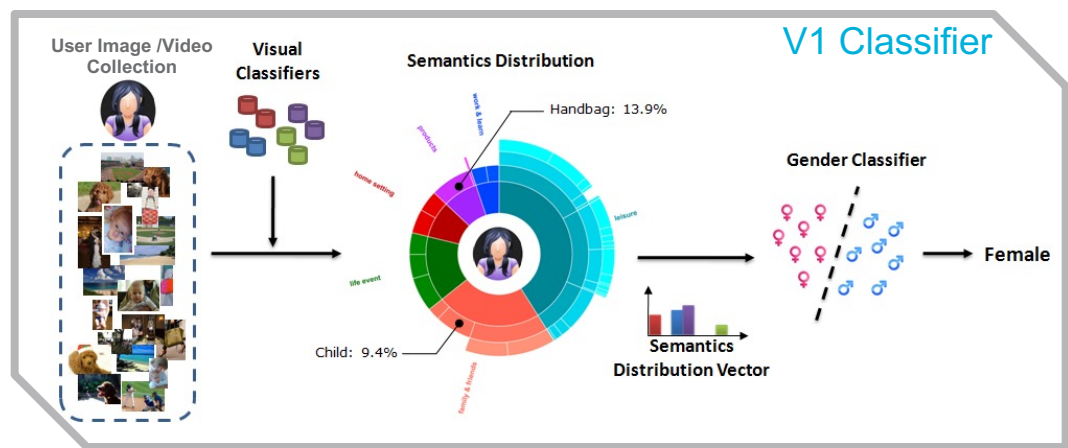
V1 Classifier Based on generic visual classifiers

V2 Classifier Based on face gender analysis

V3 Classifier Based on low level descriptors

T1 Classifier Based on name/gender frequency analysis

T2 Classifier Based on standard text BOW, n-gram classifier



User Profile

Visual Information

Feed Images/Videos

Header picture

Profile colors

Profile picture

Non-visual information

Feed Text
(description+200 tweets)

Name

V1 Classifier

V1 Classifier

V2 Classifier

V1 Classifier

V3 Classifier

T1 Classifier

T2 Classifier

Filtered Fusion

Normalization

Fusion Classifier

fail

ok

fail

ok

no

yes

Agree ?

Male

Female

First Level Gender Classifiers

Second Level Gender Classifiers

Textual Analytics

- Profile Name
- Text from tweets



Visual Analytics

- Profile Picture
- Color
- Analysis of Collection of Posted Images

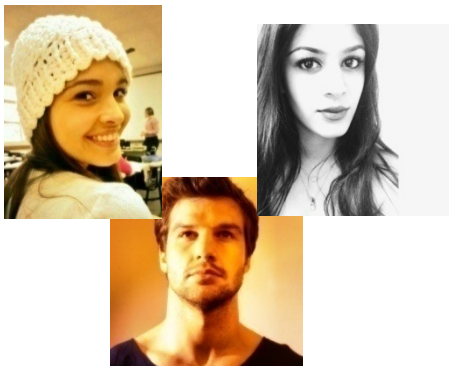


What's in a Twitter Profile Picture?



What's in a Twitter Profile Picture?

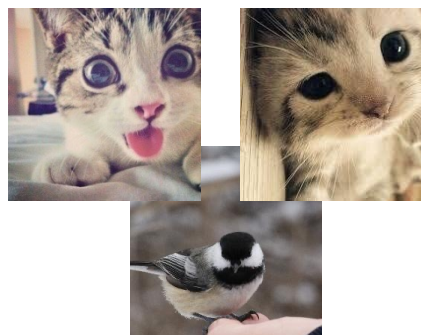
the good (looking)



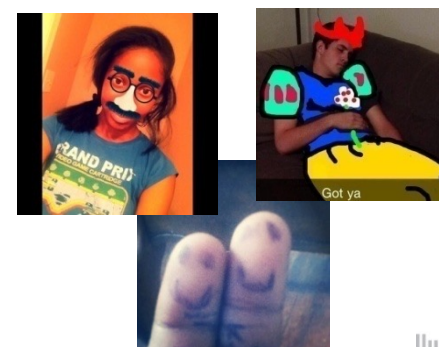
the bad



the cute



...and the weird?



Limitations of Profile Picture Face Analysis

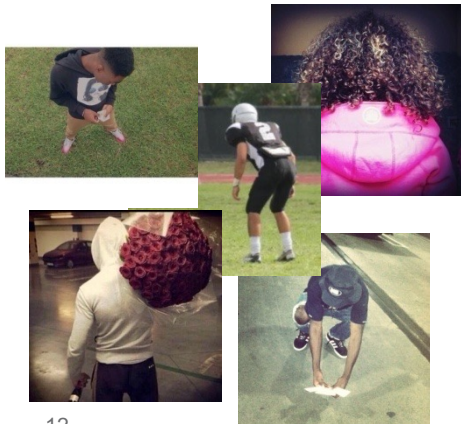
Misleading Clothing



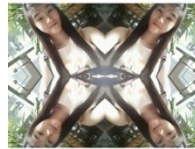
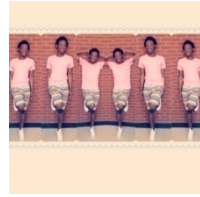
Occlusion



Interesting angles



Cloning



Time travel



celebrity swap



Multiple people



Non-human pictures



Limitations of Profile Picture Face Analysis

↑ Race, glass, smiling

↓ Age, gender



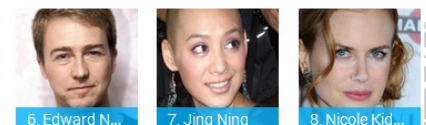
width	9.83%
height	9.83%
center	(34.92%, 28.42%)
eye_left	(32.61%, 25.63%)
eye_right	(37.37%, 26.41%)
nose	(35.01%, 28.83%)
mouth_left	(32.01%, 29.60%)
mouth_right	(37.40%, 30.41%)
age	36 (±7)
race	White (80.87%)
gender	Female (99.60%)
glass	Normal (97.59%)
smiling	93.14%
roll_angle	9.33°
yaw_angle	16.19°
pitch_angle	-0.00°

URL



width	9.83%
height	9.83%
center	(57.92%, 32.42%)
eye_left	(55.41%, 30.68%)
eye_right	(60.77%, 30.63%)
nose	(57.65%, 32.44%)
mouth_left	(56.48%, 34.58%)
mouth_right	(60.14%, 34.36%)
age	60 (±10)
race	White (99.93%)
gender	Female (88.96%)
glass	Dark (99.90%)
smiling	18.65%
roll_angle	-0.51°
yaw_angle	-8.31°
pitch_angle	-0.01°

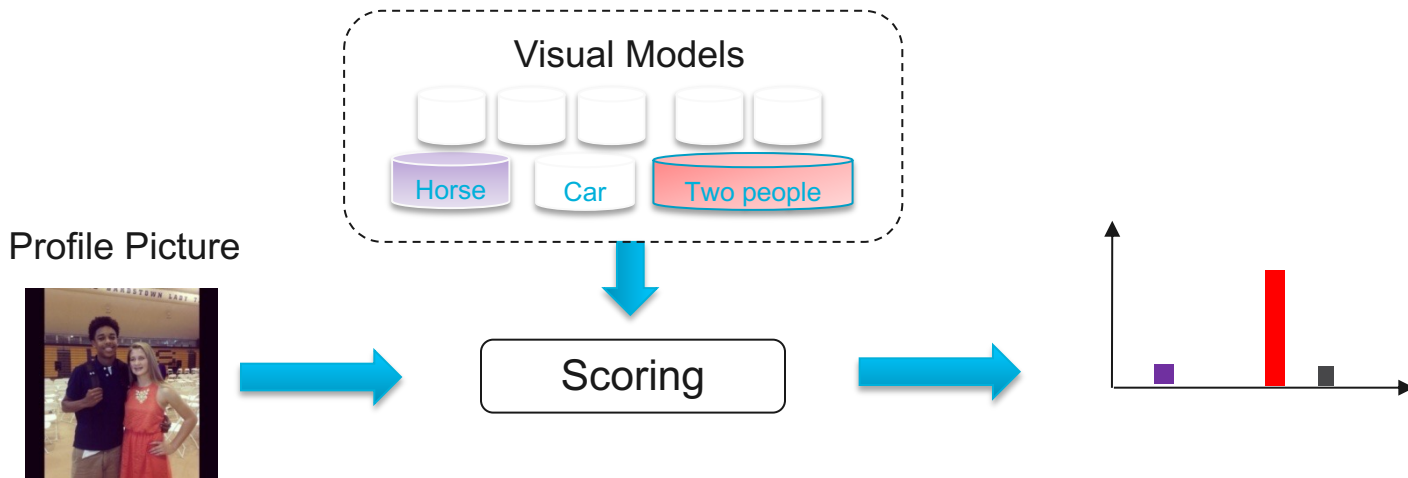
URL



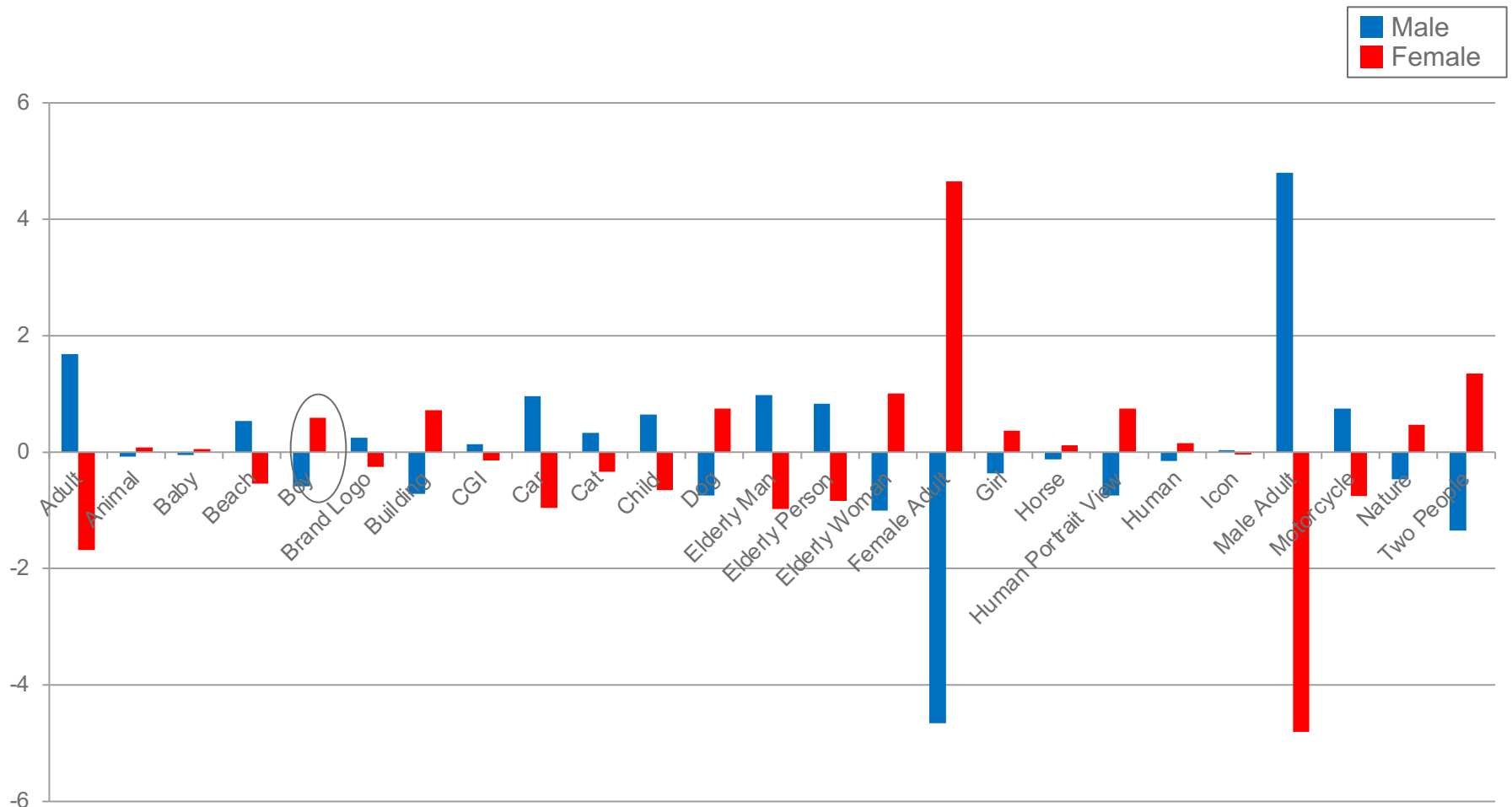
Source: <http://www.faceplusplus.com/demo-search/>

Profile Picture : proposed approach

- Face++ detector
- Concept Detectors for 25 categories
 - *Adult, Animal, Baby, Beach, Boy, Brand Logo, Building, CGI, Car, Cat, Child, Dog, Elderly Man, Elderly Person, Elderly Woman, Female Adult, Girl, Horse, Human Portrait View, Human, Icon, Male Adult, Motorcycle, Nature, Two People*
 - *Train SVM on top of Semantic Model Vector of concept detectors*



Linear Profile SVM weights by category



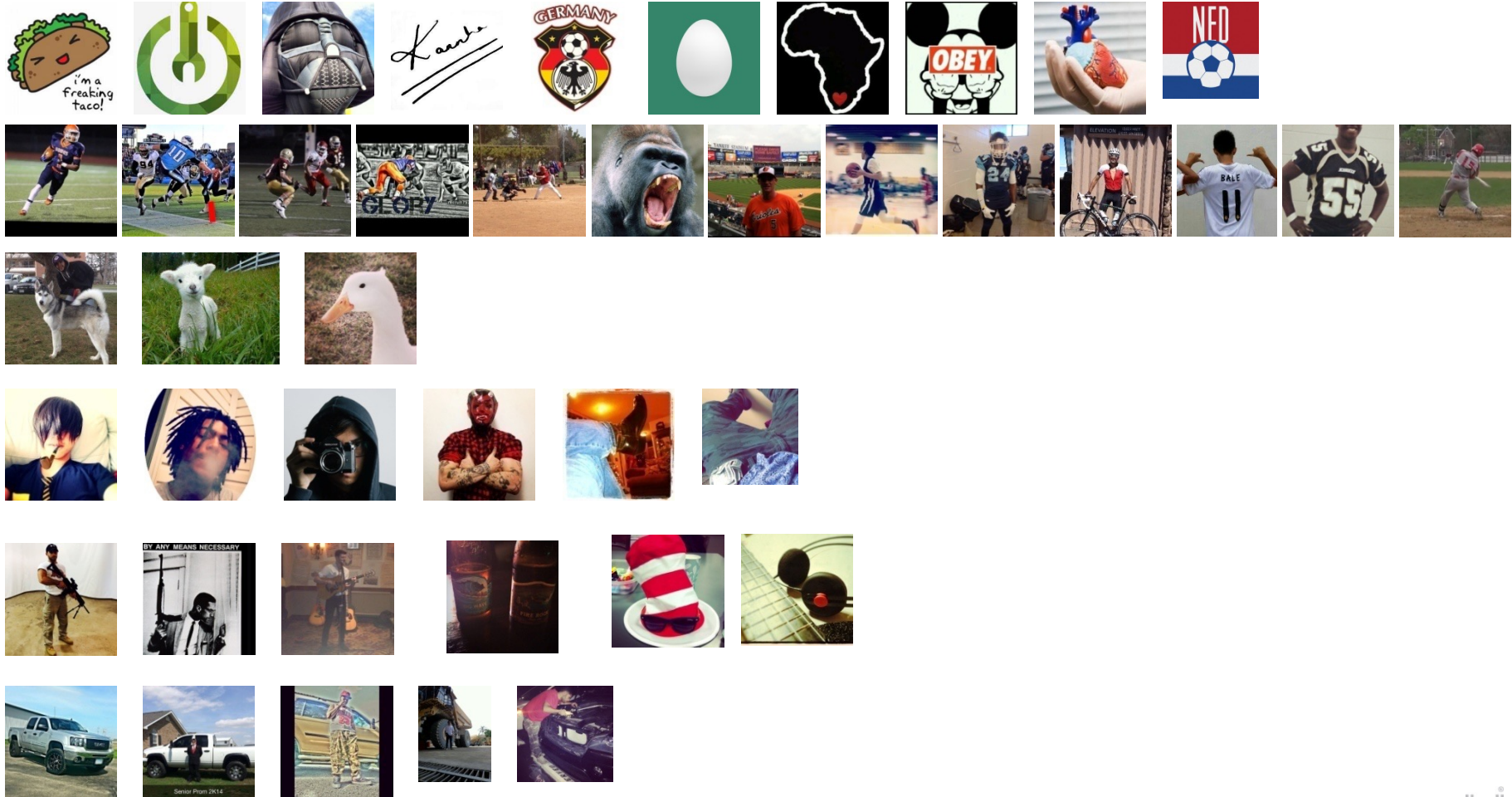
Images From the Entire Feed

- Same Semantic Model Vector Approach
 - SMV 51 (subset of IMARS Taxonomy)
 - SMV 717 (subset of IMARS Taxonomy)
 - SMV Deep (from Caffe, 1K ImageNet categories)
- Aggregation Strategies
 - Model on Images directly
 - Simple Prediction Scores Aggregations (avg, max)
 - Statistical Count scores (threshold + count)



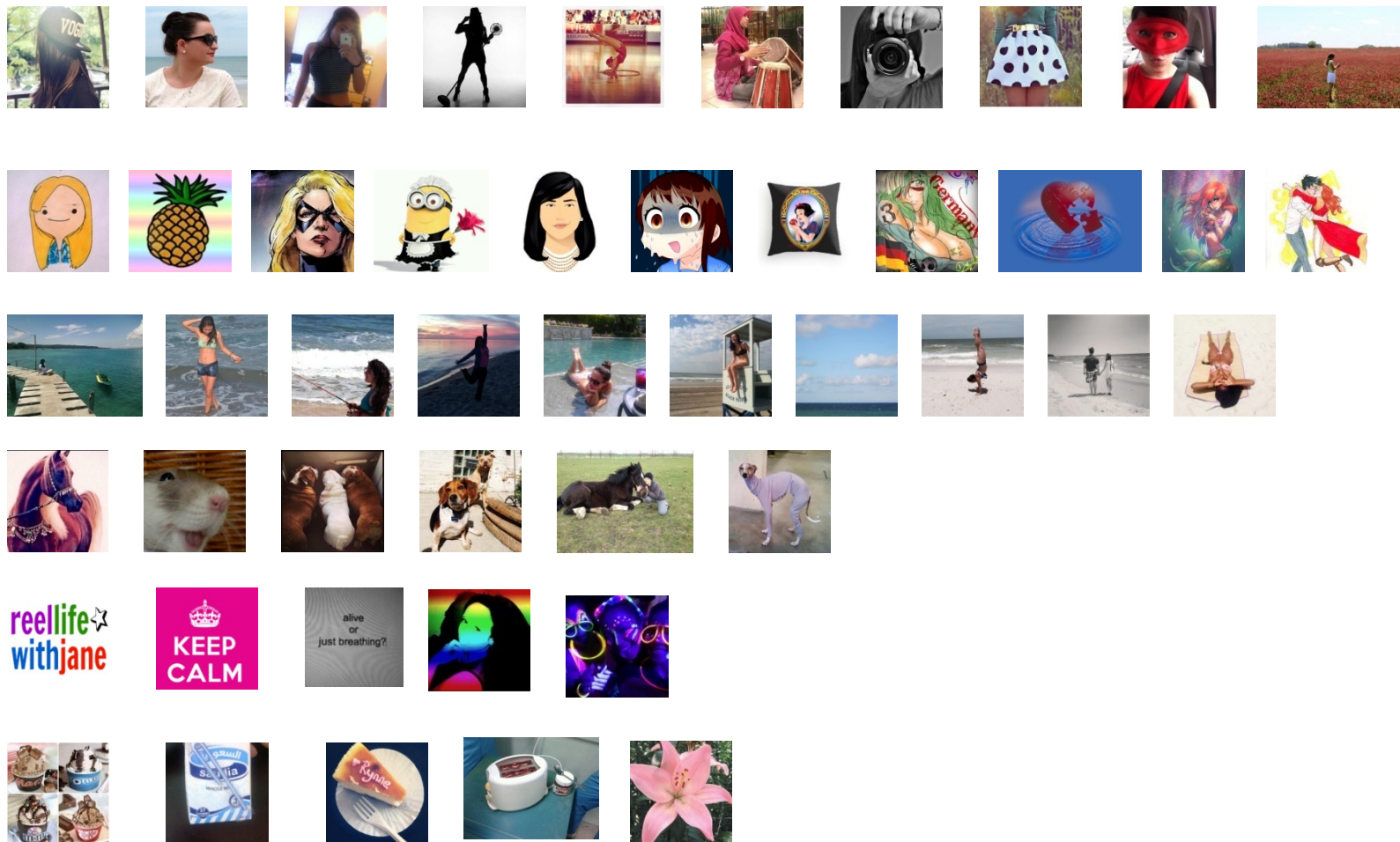
Twitter Gender Dataset Examples

Male

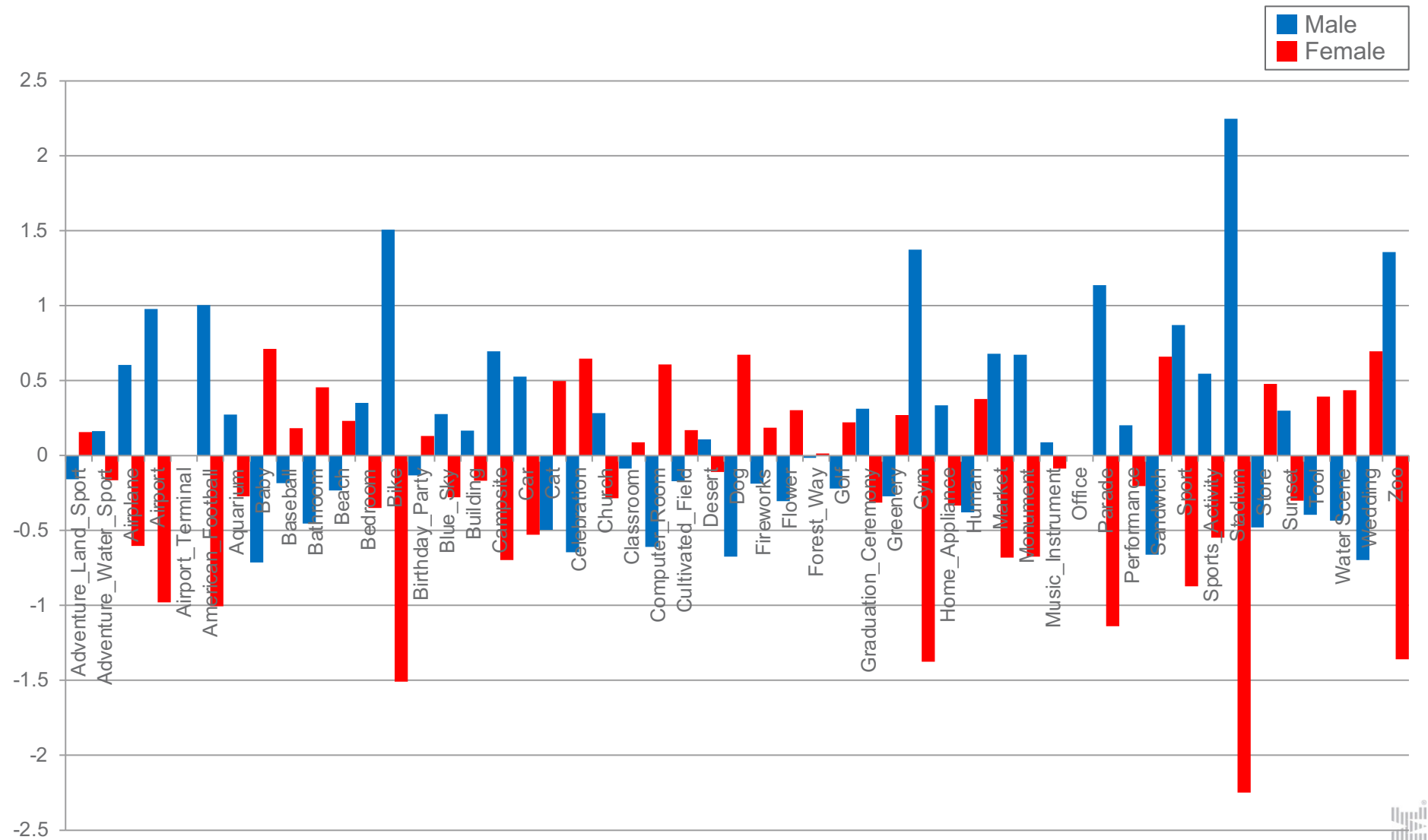


Twitter Gender Dataset Examples

Female

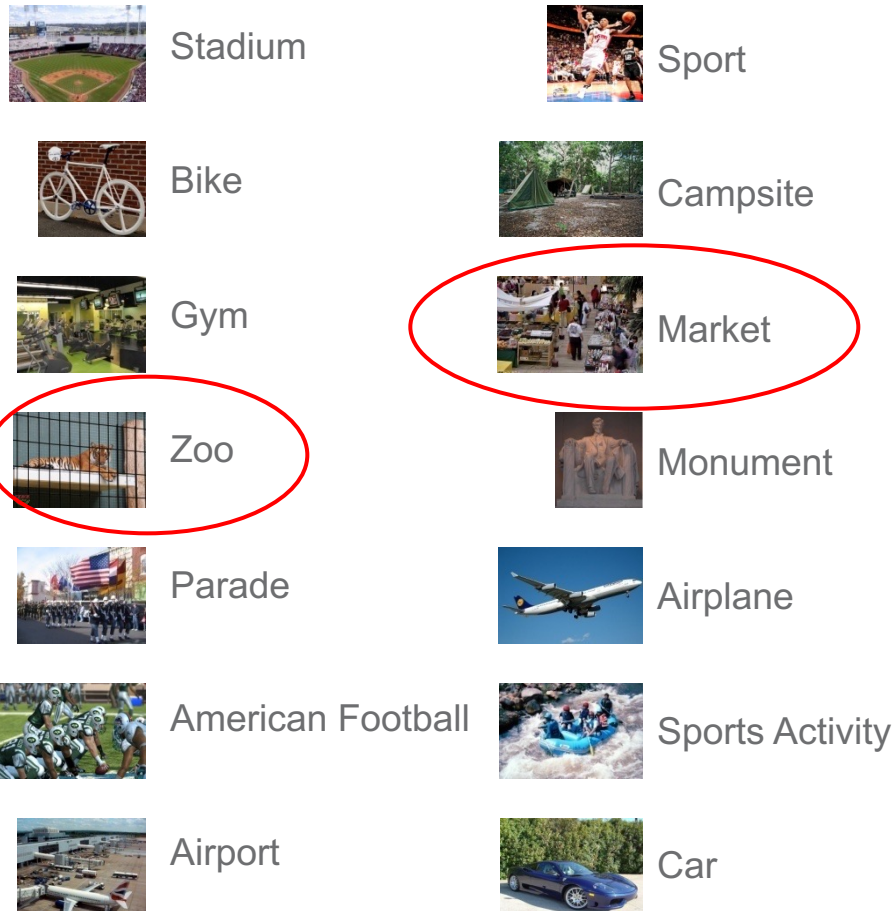


Linear SVM weights by category (SMV 51)

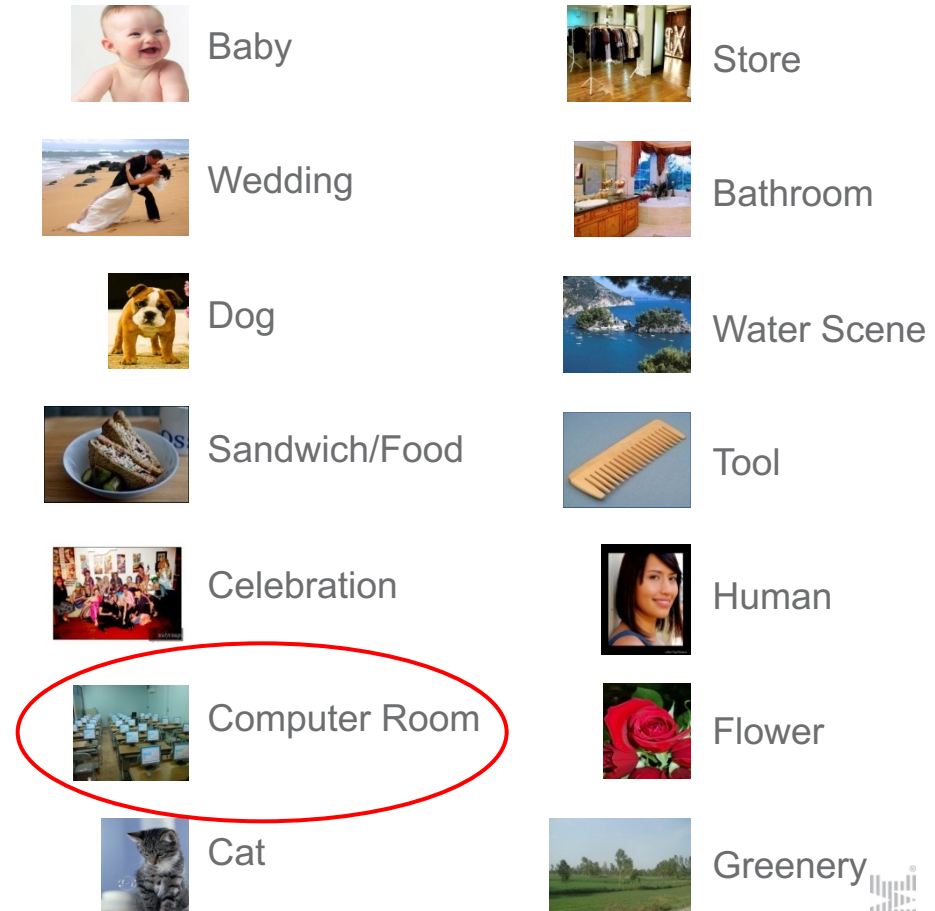


Top 14 weighted categories by gender (SMV51)

Male

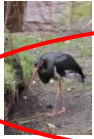


Female



Top 20 weighted categories by gender (Deep ImageNet)

Male



black_stork



European_gallinule



plastic_bag



leaf_beetle



trimaran



loggerhead



gas_pump



comic_book



wire-haired_fox_terrier



slide_rule



lifeboat



whistle



ambulance



Dandie_Dinmont



Saint_Bernard



hand-held_computer



castle



American_black_bear

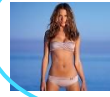


assault_rifle



hammer

Female



bikini



hard_disc



bolete



dome



canoe



king_penguin



maillot



window_screen



otter



carousel



aircraft_carrier



purse



obelisk



amphibian



nematode



tiger_beetle



coucal



hen-of-the-woods



hummingbird



bath_towel



Use Profile Page Color Info

Jalal S. Alowibdi, Ugo A. Buy and Philip Yu, Language Independent Gender Classification on Twitter, 2013 IEEE/ACM International Conference on Advances in Social Networks Analysis and Mining

- Background color
- Text color
- Link color
- Sidebar Fill color
- Sidebar Border color

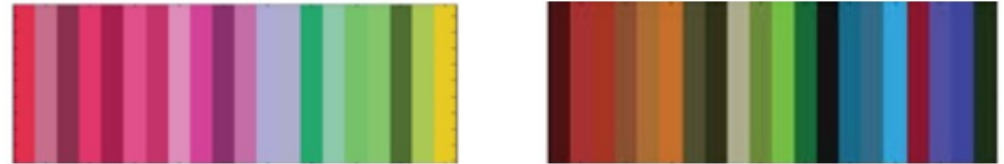


Figure 4. Spectrum of popular colors for female users (left-hand side) and male users (right-hand side).

<http://www.twitteraccountsdetails.com/>

512 Quantized colors (RGB with 3 bits each)

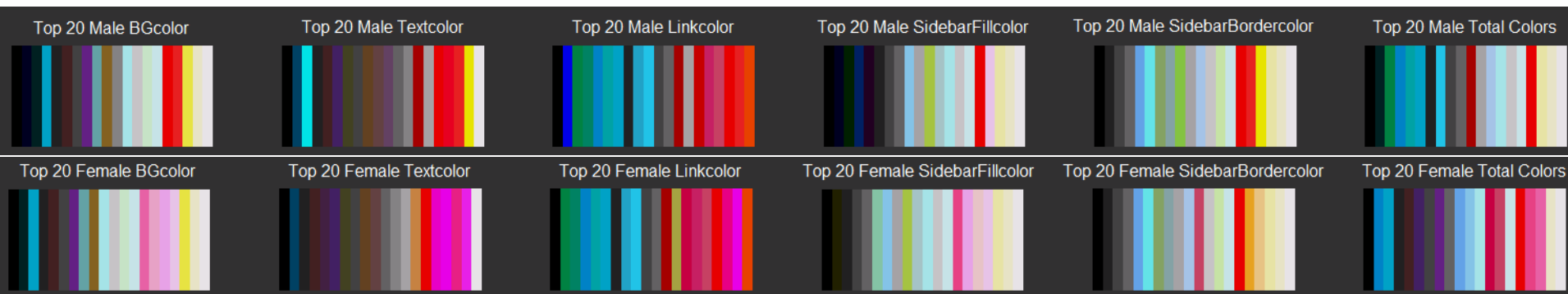
71% Accuracy when using all 5

 Visit Full Profile Tweet 0	User	Twitter ID	30208909
		Username	SachaNicole
		Full Name	So
		Description	wassup you fake ass hoe
		Location	*
		URL	Not provided by the user
		Tweets	56,407
		Followers	790
		Following	649
		Favorited	782 tweets
		Listed	in 4 lists
	Account	Age	5 years, 6 months and 18 days
		Language	en
		Is Verified?	No
		Is Protected?	No
		Time Zone	Quito
		UTC Offset	UTC-5h
		Geotagging	Enabled
		Is Translator?	No
		Contributors	Disabled
	Design	Default Profile Theme?	No
		Default Profile Image?	No
		Profile Image Link	https://pbs.twimg.com/profile_images/...
		Header Image Link	https://pbs.twimg.com/profile_banners/...
		Image Background?	Yes
		Background Image Link	https://pbs.twimg.com/profile_backgro...
		Tile Background Image	Disabled
		Background Color	#000000 
		Text Color	#E600E6 
		Link Color	#FAB812 
		Sidebar Fill Color	#FFFFFF 
		Sidebar Border Color	#FFFFFF 

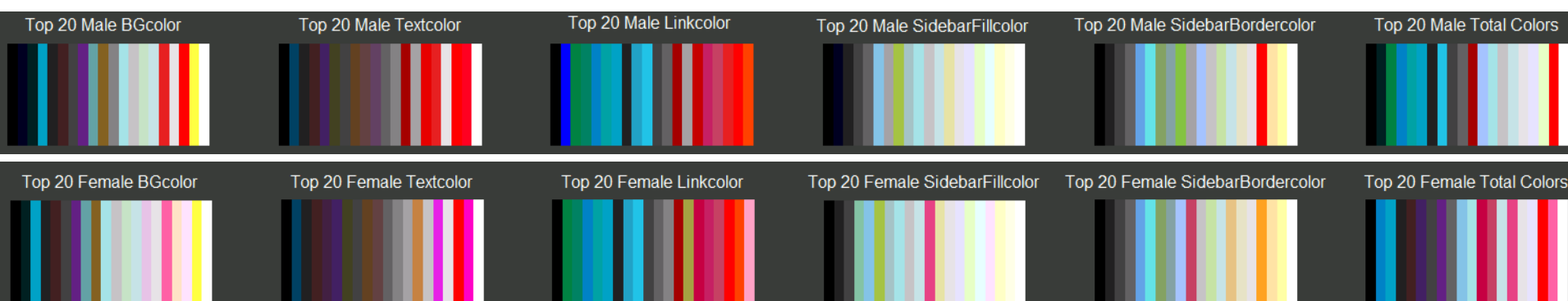
Data source: twitter.com/SachaNicole

Use Profile Page Color Info

512 bins



729 bins



Experimental Setup and Proposed Approach

- Public Annotated Dataset of 10K Twitter users¹
- 10 Training/Test random splits, each test split with 400 male and 400 female users

Proposed Approach : *Fusion* of 4 Multimodal Cues

- First Name (when available): associated with frequency in Male/Female populations²
 - Text : standard bag of words from ~200 tweets, analyzed with LibShortText³ library
 - Profile Picture: Semantic Model Vector (25 concepts) and gender inference from Face++
 - *Stream Pictures* : Semantic Model Vector (51, 717, 1K) aggregated over user pictures
 - Page colors
 - Background and Header picture
- Gender modeling was conducted using SVM with RBF kernel, with kernel parameters estimated via grid search

1. <http://www.networkdynamics.org/static/datasets/LiuRuthsMicrotext.zip>
From paper *Liu and Ruths, What's in a Name? Using First Names as Features for Gender Inference in Twitter*, AAAI 2013

2. <http://www.census.gov/genealogy/www/data/1990surnames/names files.html>

3. <http://www.csie.ntu.edu.tw/~cjlin/libshorttext/>



Experimental Results

- Public Annotated Dataset of 10K Twitter users¹
- 10 Training/Test random splits, each test split with 400 male and 400 female users, rest used for training
- Gender modeling was conducted using SVM with RBF kernel, kernel parameters estimated via grid search

Image/video collection (visual feed)
different pooling strategies →

Method	Accuracy
Max Pooling	67.53
Avg Pooling	69.43
Avg Top-Quarter Pooling	69.56
Threshold-count	70.82
Avg Prediction Pooling	71.38

Individual Performance of Different Approaches

	Method	Accuracy
Visual	Background SMV717	60.11
	Header SMV717	64.41
	color	66.18
	Visual Feed SMV51	66.67
	Visual Feed SMV717	71.38
	Visual Feed SVMDeep1000	75.40
	Profile SMV25	69.11
	Profile Face++	74.90
Text	First Name	71.22
	First Name Frequency	69.58
	LibText 200 Tweets	83.37

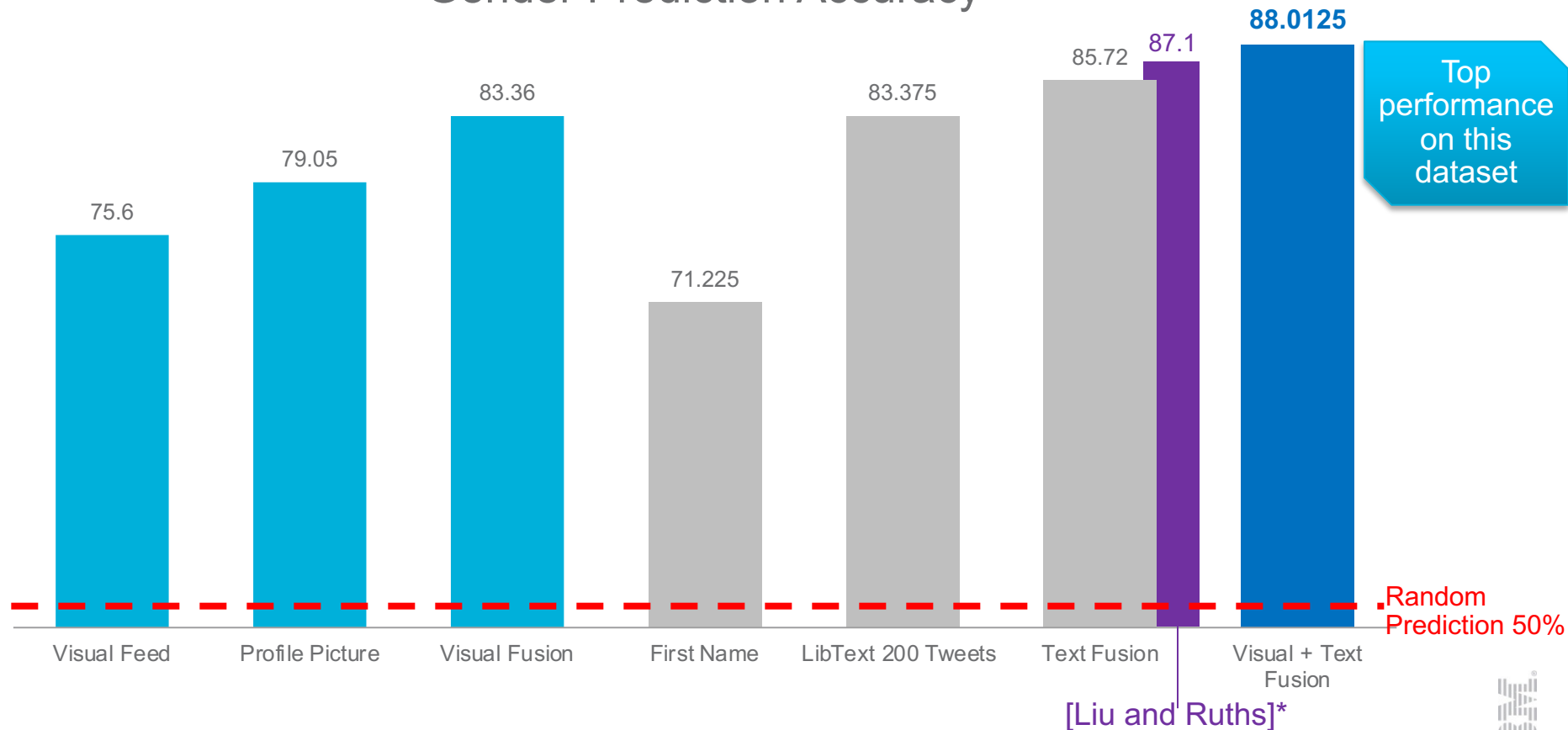
Fusion Strategies

Method	Accuracy
Visual Feed Early Fusion	75.58
Visual Feed Late (avg) Fusion	74.34
Visual Feed Late (SVM) Fusion	75.6
Profile Late (avg) Fusion	77.85
Profile Late (SVM) Fusion	78.63
Profile Filtered Fusion	79.05
All Visual Late(SVM) Fusion	80.08
All Visual Late(SVM) Filtered Fusion	83.36
Textual Early Fusion	84.08
Textual Feed Late (avg) Fusion	84.53
Textual Late (SVM) Fusion	84.67
Textual Filtered Fusion	85.72
Visual+Text Early Fusion	84.07
Visual+Text Late (SVM) Fusion	85.97
Visual+Text Late (SVM) Filtered Fusion	88.01

Experimental Results

- Public Annotated Dataset of 10K Twitter users¹
- 10 Training/Test random splits, each test split with 400 male and 400 female users, rest used for training
- Gender modeling was conducted using SVM with RBF kernel, kernel parameters estimated via grid search

Gender Prediction Accuracy



1. <http://www.networkdynamics.org/static/datasets/LiuRuthsMicrotext.zip>

From paper Liu and Ruths, *What's in a Name? Using First Names as Features for Gender Inference in Twitter*, AAAI 2013

*Different splits



Conclusions and Future Directions

Conclusions

- There is a correlation between the content of images posted on social media and the users' gender, which can be exploited for gender prediction
- Visual and textual information can be combined to boost gender prediction performance
- Not all sources of information are equal. Filtered fusion provides best results.

Future Directions

- Improve/tailor visual classifiers
- Cross media comparisons (Twitter vs Instagram vs Facebook....)
- Use framework to predict other attributes (age, hobbies, life events...)



Questions?

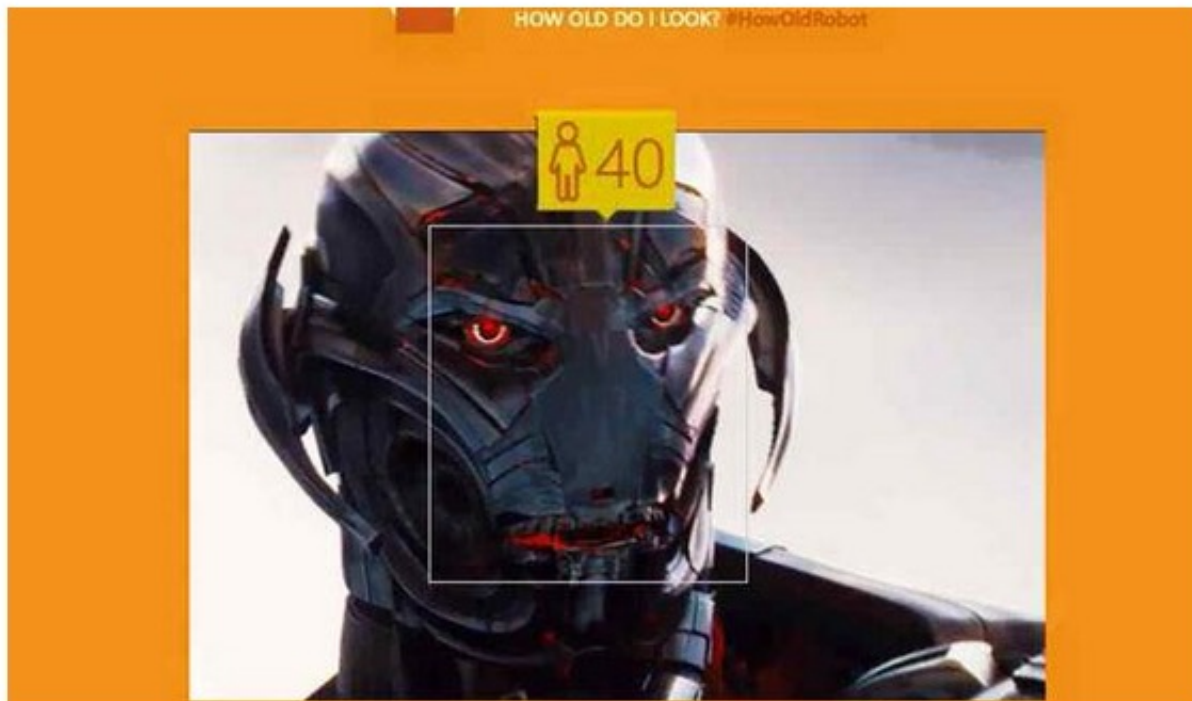


#UnaGeek

@UnaGeek

+ Follow

Ah, so that's the age of Ultron.



References

- [BurgerEMNLP11] J. D. Burger, J. Henderson, G. Kim, and G. Zarrella. *Discriminating gender on Twitter*. In Proceedings of the Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing, EMNLP 2011
- [PennacchiottiICWSM 11] M. Pennacchiotti and A.-M. Popescu. *A machine learning approach to twitter user classification*. In ICWSM. The AAAI Press, 2011
- [LiuAAAI13] Liu and Ruths. *What's in a Name? Using First Names as Features for Gender Inference in Twitter*. AAAI 2013
- [AlowibdiCASNAM13] Jalal S. Alowibdi, Ugo A. Buy and Philip Yu. *Language Independent Gender Classification on Twitter*. 2013 IEEE/ACM International Conference on Advances in Social Networks Analysis and Mining
- [ChangCSCW14] S. Chang, V. Kumar, E. Gilbert, and L. Terveen. *Specialization, homophily, and gender in a social curation site: Findings from pinterest*. In CSCW, 2014
- [ItoASONAM13] J. Ito, T. Hoshida, H. Toda, T. Uchiyama, and K. Nishida. *What is he/she like?: Estimating twitter user attributes from contents and social neighbors*. In Advances in Social Networks Analysis and Mining (ASONAM), 2013
- [LuduCORR14] P. S. Ludu. *Inferring gender of a twitter user using celebrities it follows*. CoRR, 2014.
- [KokkosFM14] A. Kokkos and T. Tzouramanis. *A robust gender inference model for online social networks and its application to linkedin and twitter*. First Monday, 19(9), 2014
- [NguyenCOLING14] D. Nguyen, D. Trieschnigg, A. Dogruoz, R. Gravel, M. Theune, T. Meder, and F. de Jong. *Why gender and age prediction from tweets is hard: Lessons from a crowdsourcing experiment*. In Proceedings of COLING, 2014.
- [MaIWCMA14] Xiaojun Ma, Yukihiro Tsuboshita, Noriji Kato. *Gender Estimation for SNS User Profiling Automatic Image Annotation*. 1st International Workshop on Cross-media Analysis for Social Multimedia, 2014
- [SakakiICCL14] S. Sakaki, Y. Miura, X. Ma, K. Hattori, and T. Ohkuma. *Twitter user gender inference using combined analysis of text and image processing*. In International Conference on Computational Linguistics, 2014.
- [Totems14] <http://totems.co/blog/machine-learning-nodejs-gender-instagram/>
- [FarseevICMR15] Aleksandr Farseev, Liqiang Nie, Mohammad Akbari and Tat-Seng Chua, *Harvesting Multiple Sources for User Profile Learning: a Big Data Study*. In ICMR, 2015

