(v. 2) Module 7 - Analysis and synthesis of interpretation results

Survey Flow

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ReferenceSurvey: (Ref. Survey) Survey end
IS THIS A TRIAL? Before you begin, please check the choice below if this is just a trial or experimental exercise that should be ignored in collecting outputs from this module.

Trial surveys do not have to be completed. (However, you have to rush through them with empty answers all the way to the finish to clear them from the system. Otherwise, next time you open the same survey, Qualtrics will put you back where you were in the same survey.)

Actual surveys should be completed within one week, after which they will be automatically recorded as finished.

☐ Check this field if this is just a trial: (1)

OPEN RESEARCH POLICY

**Statement of open research policy**

The modules of the WE1S Interpretation Protocol create records of research that support the project's aim of advancing "open, generalizable, and replicable digital humanities methodology" (see project "About" statement). This aim is related to current practices of "open science" and "open-notebook science." The basic idea is that the materials, methods, steps, and findings of research should be transparent so that other researchers know how conclusions were reached and can test or reproduce the process—an ideal that is especially needed for understanding such machine-learning methods as topic modeling (see WE1S bibliography on machine-learning interpretability).

In completing this and other modules of the WE1S Interpretation Protocol you are creating an "open notebook" that in principle can be shared with others as a public record of research. **Please be sure that all descriptions, observations, and notes you write in this module are consistent with being part of public record—that is, appropriate in tone, respectful to others, and not in violation of privacy or copyright restrictions.**

**However please also do not let the ideal of open-notebook science inhibit you from speculative or tentative in-progress commentary.** It is understood that research, open or otherwise, is a process of finding knowledge with many stages and levels of confidence. (At the conclusion of this and other modules of the Interpretation Protocol, you will be asked to rate your confidence level in the current exercise.)

**In addition, lab notebooks are allowed to be messy as a part of the research process.** It is not
expected that notes written into these modules be copyedited as if for formal publication. (The time for polishing is later when writing up a report synthesizing results from one or more modules of this Interpretation Protocol.)

EXERCISE INFO Please enter the following information, which will generate an "Exercise ID".

Team names and members can be looked up on the Team Dashboard. (Note: at the end of this survey, you can also enter an email address if you wish to receive a copy of the survey with your answers.)

- Your name or team name. (If team, then use the format "Team1", "Team2", etc. Please do not use a space): (1) ____________________________________________

- Interpretation project number (e.g., "4," indicating that this is the fourth interpretation project for you or your team that the exercise with this module is part of): (2) ____________________________________________

- Which stage of your present interpretation project does this module represent? (E.g., if this module is the second you have used in the sequence of modules for the same interpretation project, then write the number "2" here. If multiple team members are working in parallel using various modules, then follow the convention of adding name-abbreviation letters for each member's stage--e.g., "2AL" (for Alan Liu), "2LT" (for Lindsay Thomas), etc.): (3) ____________________________________________

- Today's date in the format YYYY-MM-DD (e.g., 2019-07-06) (4) ____________________________________________

- The present Interpretation Protocol module you are using (e.g., 1, 2, 3a, 4a, etc.) --This is needed to generate an exercise ID. For example, if this is Module 3a, then enter 3a (5) ____________________________________________

G DRIVE INFO Your team folder in the project Google team working space.

The shared WE1S working space for AM teams in summer 2019 for storing notes, reports, materials, etc. related to interpretation work is in this Google Drive folder. Go there to find the subfolder your team created for your work and enter its URL here.

Please enter below the URL for your team's subfolder in the common AM Teams workspace:
________________________________________________________________________
EXERCISE ID Exercise ID
The ID for the present exercise (generated from the information you just provided) is as follows.
(Do not change. If you see a mistake, please go "back" in this survey and correct the information that generated the Exercise ID.)

__________________________________________________________________________

EXERCISE DESCRIP Exercise Description

To assist in remembering what the exercise using this module is about, please enter below a very brief description of what you are currently doing (e.g., "We are now going to compare the keywords 'humanities' and 'sciences' in the 20190621_2132_us-humanities-top-newspapers---topics200 model.")

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TOPIC MODEL  Topic model you are studying

For the topic model you are studying, please enter below its "topic model name" and "start page" URL. A "topic model name" looks like this: "20190621_2132_us-humanities-top-newspapers---topics200". You can locate this name in the Registry of WE1S Topic Models. Note that this is the name of the specific granularity of the model you are studying (number of topics) The "start page" is the URL of the overall topic model (including all its granularities and their visualizations) listed on this page on the Harbor 10002 server: Index of /projects/. (You can also find this URL in the Registry of WE1S Topic Models.) A start page URL looks like this: http://harbor.english.ucsb.edu:10002/projects/20190621_2132_us-humanities-top-newspapers/

- "Topic model name" (1) ____________________________________________
- "Start page" URL (2) ____________________________________________

RESEARCH QUESTION  Research question you are addressing

Please enter below information about the research question you are addressing in this exercise. You can find this information in the "Registry of WE1S Research Questions." (If you are taking an overview of a model prior to working on a specific research question, just enter "Taking an overview")

- Research question (1) ____________________________________________
- Operationalized form of question (2) ________________________________
- Research question ID (use the format "team2-q1", representing in this example team 2’s first research question): (4) ____________________________________________
Previous Interpretation Protocol modules you used to address your research question (if any)

Enter in sequence below any Interpretation Protocol modules you have already completed in previous steps of your current interpretation project. For example, if for steps 1-3 preceding this exercise (where the current exercise is now step 4 in the sequence) you previously used modules 3a, 3b, and 3c in that order, then enter those module numbers in that sequence.

- Step 1 - Module used (1) ________________________________________________
- Step 2 - Module used (2) ________________________________________________
- Step 3 - Module used (3) ________________________________________________
- Step 4 - Module used (4) ________________________________________________
- Step 5 - Module used (5) ________________________________________________
- Step 6 - Module used (6) ________________________________________________
- Step 7 - Module used (7) ________________________________________________
- Step 8 - Module used (8) ________________________________________________
- Step 9 - Module used (9) ________________________________________________
- Step 10 - Module used (10) ________________________________________________
R1: exercise info
Reminders - Info about this Exercise: Your name or team name: ${EXERCISE INFO/ChoiceTextEntryValue/1} ${G DRIVE INFO/ChoiceTextEntryValue}" target="_blank">Link to your team’s folder on the WE1S project Google team drive.
Exercise ID: ${EXERCISE ID/ChoiceTextEntryValue} Exercise Description: ${EXERCISE DESCRIP/ChoiceTextEntryValue} Topic model name: ${TOPIC MODEL/ChoiceTextEntryValue/1} ${TOPIC MODEL/ChoiceTextEntryValue/2}" target="_blank">Start page of model Research question (and ID): ${RESEARCH QUESTION/ChoiceTextEntryValue/1} (research question ID #$${RESEARCH QUESTION/ChoiceTextEntryValue/2}) Operationalized form of question: ${RESEARCH QUESTION/ChoiceTextEntryValue/4} Previous sequence of interpretation modules used for this question (if any): ${PREVIOUS MODULES/ChoiceTextEntryValue/1}, ${PREVIOUS MODULES/ChoiceTextEntryValue/2}, ${PREVIOUS MODULES/ChoiceTextEntryValue/3}, ${PREVIOUS MODULES/ChoiceTextEntryValue/4}, ${PREVIOUS MODULES/ChoiceTextEntryValue/5}, ${PREVIOUS MODULES/ChoiceTextEntryValue/6}, ${PREVIOUS MODULES/ChoiceTextEntryValue/7}, ${PREVIOUS MODULES/ChoiceTextEntryValue/8}, ${PREVIOUS MODULES/ChoiceTextEntryValue/9}, ${PREVIOUS MODULES/ChoiceTextEntryValue/10}

End of Block: INFO ABOUT YOU & EXERCISE (v. 2, created 9 June 2019, rev. 7 July 2019)

Start of Block: WHAT THIS MODULE DOES

MODULE PURPOSE What module 7 does
(Module 7, v. 2, created 27 June 2019; last rev. 27 June 2019.) This module of the WE1S topic model Interpretation Protocol assumes that you have previously used other modules to address your research question and are now ready to start analyzing and synthesizing your results. Analysis and synthesis is work that bridges between lower-levels of observation and higher levels of abstraction. By its nature, such work must be flexible and cannot be guided with step-by-step precision.

Module 7 respects the free-form nature of analysis and synthesis at the end of a research process, but asks you to pass through some standard waypoints (e.g., asks you to collect together and prioritize your most important findings) and provide some documentation of your thinking at this point.

The output from module 7 will be a set of structured notes that can facilitate the final step in your research process: writing up a report.

End of Block: WHAT THIS MODULE DOES
STEP 1 **Step 1. Review your research so far**

Read over the outputs from the previous modules of the Interpretation Protocol that you used. Highlight and annotate the key findings and materials your research has produced that bear on your research question. Then proceed to the following steps in this module.

STEP 2 **Step 2. Collect your key findings**

Gather together below your key findings bearing on your research question. You can do so in whatever form you wish (e.g., list of points, excerpts from notes in previous modules, etc.) Good practice is to cite the module you used in discovering any really important finding.

End of Block: REVIEW AND COLLECT FINDINGS

Start of Block: COLLECT KEY TAKEAWAYS

STEP 3 **Step 3. Collect your key "takeaways"**

From your previous modules, collect together here you most important "research takeaways"--
examples, evidence, and other materials. (Some takeaways like screenshots may be in a form stored elsewhere. In such cases, note here their location.)

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End of Block: COLLECT KEY TAKEAWAYS

Start of Block: ANALYSIS & SYNTHESIS

R1 exercise info ${R1: exercise info/QuestionText}

STEP 4 Step 4. Analysis and synthesis

Add to your running notes below analytical/synthetic thoughts about your findings and takeaways that help answer your research question. Such thoughts can be a list of ideas, sentences or paragraphs, perhaps even a link to a drawing or diagram you have made--whatever helps you begin to shape your observations into a higher-level set of ideas that can eventually be made into an argument.

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End of Block: ANALYSIS & SYNTHESIS

Start of Block: CHALLENGES

R1 exercise info ${R1: exercise info/QuestionText}
STEP 5 Step 5. What challenges did you encounter?

What were the most important research challenges, bottlenecks, or other problems that you encountered in addressing your research question?

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End of Block: CHALLENGES

Start of Block: ANSWER YOUR RESEARCH QUESTION

Q60 [R1: exercise info/QuestionText]

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STEP 6 Step 6 (last step). What is the answer to your research question?

If it is possible for you to do so, write down here the gist of the answer you are now prepared to give to your research question--something like the "abstract" of a report. Then outline some key points in an argument you foresee writing later in your final report on this research exercise.

Of course, one possible outcome of your research is the conclusion that you were not able to answer your question satisfactorily. If so, jot down here any ideas you have for a possible interesting report on what you nevertheless learned. Or jot down ideas for reshaping your research question (or your topic model and its underlying collection of documents) that would allow you to reach a better conclusion.

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CONFIDENCE?

Final consideration -- Confidence assessment

It is possible after conducting an interpretation exercise to conclude that you have either high or low confidence in the results (with confidence descending all the way down to a null result).

Please rank your level of confidence in the results of this interpretation exercise on the following scale:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Confidence level: (1)</th>
<th>Null Result (no confidence) (1)</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>9</th>
<th>10</th>
<th>11</th>
<th>12</th>
<th>Valid Result (full confidence) (13)</th>
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SUGGESTIONS? Suggestions about this module?

Do you have any suggestions about this module of the WE1S Interpretation Protocol (problems, improvements)?

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EMAIL A COPY? Before you conclude this module of the WE1S Interpretation Protocol, do you wish to have a report of your answers emailed to you?

Choose "yes" if you have completed the module successfully as part of an interpretation
project. The plain-text, HTML, and PDF copies of your survey should be kept as part of the documentation for answering a research question.

- Yes (4)
- No (5)

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Display This Question:

* If Before you conclude this module of the WE1S Interpretation Protocol, do you wish to have a report... = Yes

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EMAIL ADDRESS Please provide your email address to receive a copy of this survey.

You will receive by email a text transcript of the questions and answers in this survey, plus links to HTML and PDF versions. You should keep these as documentation of your interpretation project. Caution: The online HTML and PDF versions linked in the email will expire after 31 days.

Good practice is to copy the emailed transcript as text into a Google Doc in your team folder (in a subfolder called "Qualtrics survey transcripts") and also to download and store there the PDF version. Name the transcripts in the following format (for example): "Module3a (2019-07-11) - history (Tarika)" (In this example, "history" has been added because it was the keyword that Module3a was used to explore; and "(Tarika)" was added to identify the specific person completing the survey if the whole research team did not do so.)

Caution: The online HTML and PDF versions linked in the email you receive will expire after 31 days.

Your email:

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END This is the end of the current module of the WE1S Interpretation Protocol.

IMPORTANT: To submit your answers and have Qualtrics mark your survey as completed, please press "Save à Next"

End of Block: SURVEY END (v.2, created 20 June 2019, rev. 28 June 2019)