Automated Identification of Competing Narratives in Political Discourse on Social Media

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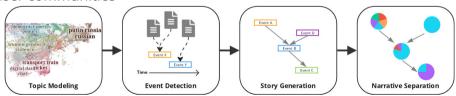


Objectives

- Unsupervised framework to identify and analyze competing narratives in political discourse on social media
- Focus on German politicians' tweets as the data source

Approach:

- Define an unsupervised multi-stage pipeline
- Aggregate data into coherent stories and uncover distinct perspectives of user communities





Example: Nuclear Power Phase Out in Germany

Storylines

- 3: Debate on Extending Nuclear Power Plant Operations in Germany
- 9: Extension of Operation for German Nuclear Reactors Beyond 2023 with No New Fuel Rods
- 4: Nuclear Power and Grid Stability in Germany
- 1: Transition from Nuclear Power to Renewable Energy After Disasters



Community X

Our position: #nuclear power on is nothing more than a mirage, because it is expensive and unsafe. Scheuer is not only calling for the reactivation of old nuclear power plants, but also the construction of three new ones. That is madness.

The #nuclear phase-out remains! Now there is clarity from the federal government

Inside a story

Communities within Events



11.1% 11.1% 66.7%



Community Y

Exiting the nuclear phaseout - our demand and the first step towards dismantling the green energy cuckoo land built by red-left-yellow-black.

It's madness to believe that extending #nuclear power is madness. We have called for a shift' away from the so-called energy transition for years. An end to climate madness. Build a secure and independent energy infrastructure



Key Findings

- Well-separated user viewpoints validated by politicians' party memberships
 - ▶ User communities align with political parties (e.g., Greens vs. AfD).
- The framework can provide temporally/semantically coherent distinct perspectives on diverse key social issues as shown in representative cases
 - ► Energy Crisis: Communities agree on the need for relief but diverge on solutions (government intervention vs. questioning government approach).
 - ▶ *Migration Policy*: Communities frame the issue differently (economic needs vs. security).



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