# Cats and Captions vs. Creators and the Clock:

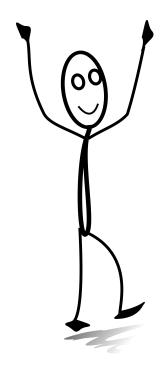
Comparing Multimodal Content to Context in Predicting Relative Popularity

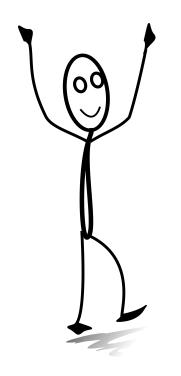






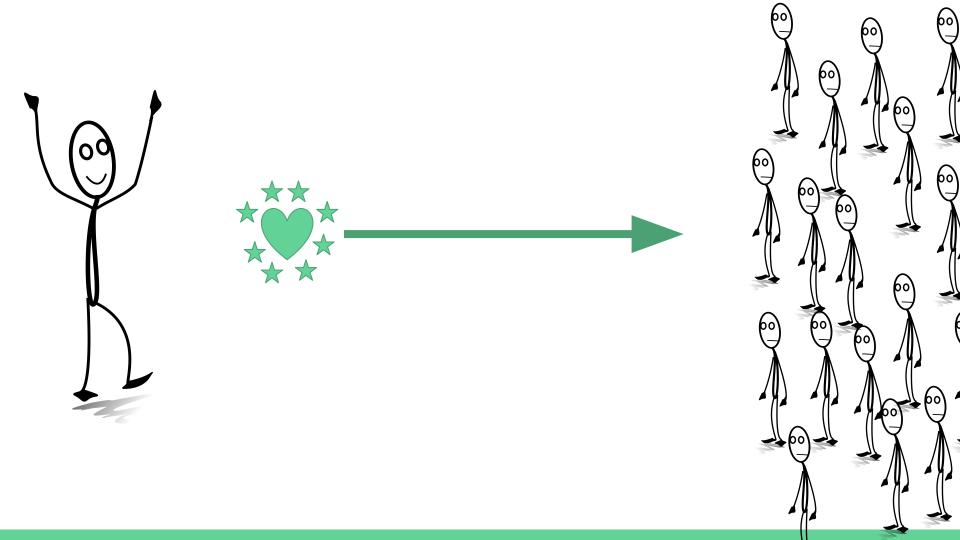
**Jack Hessel**, Lillian Lee, David Mimno Cornell University

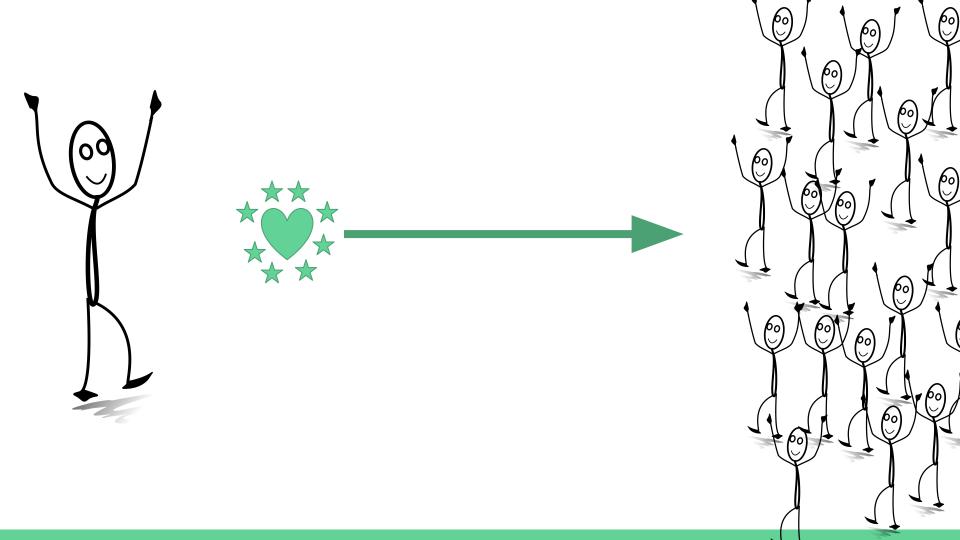


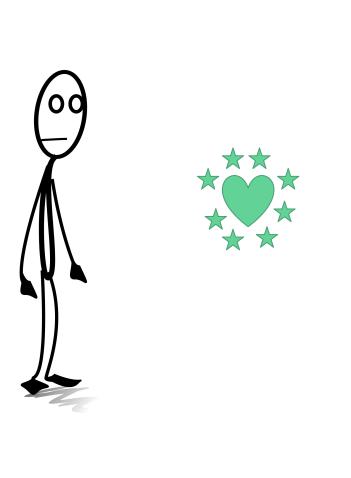


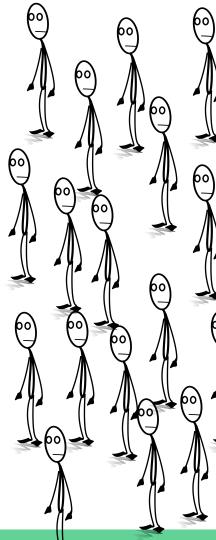


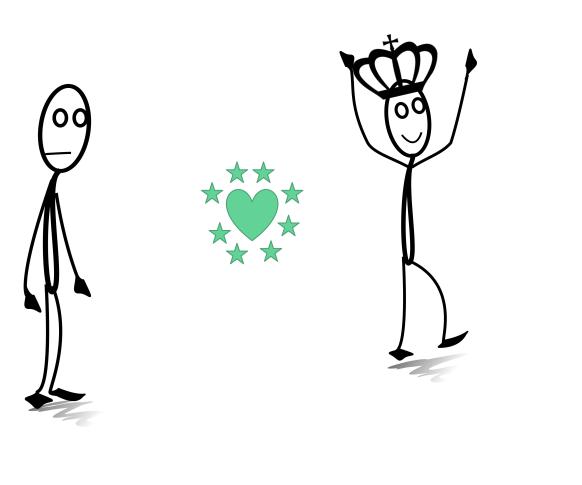


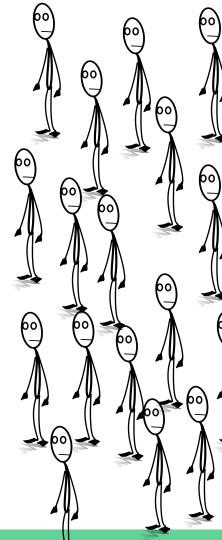


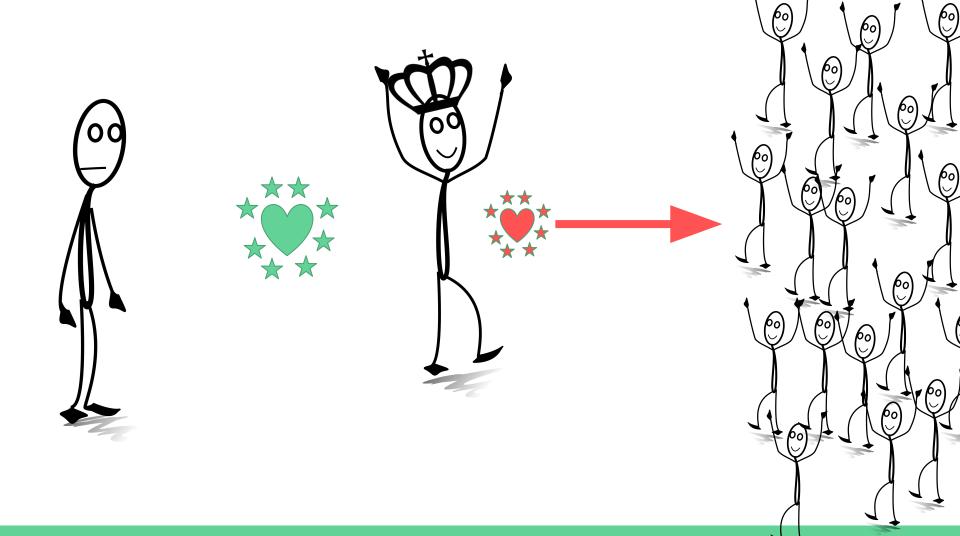


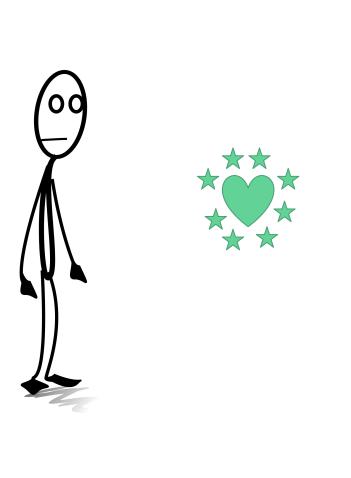


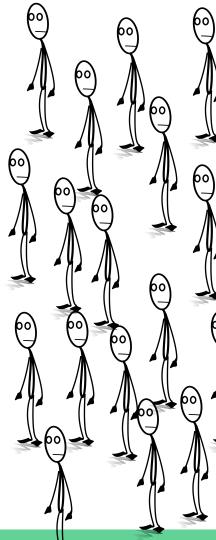






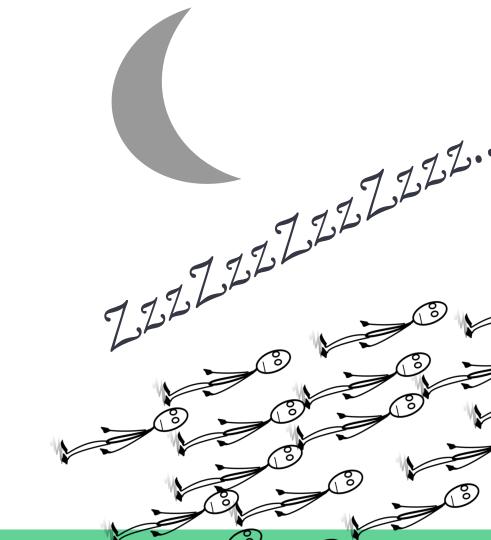






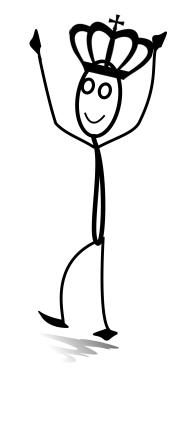






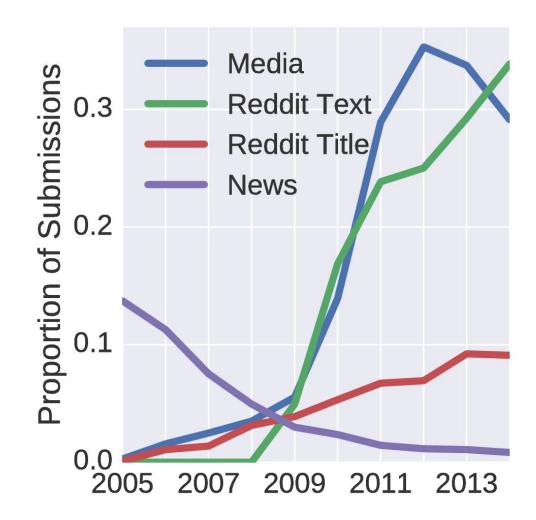


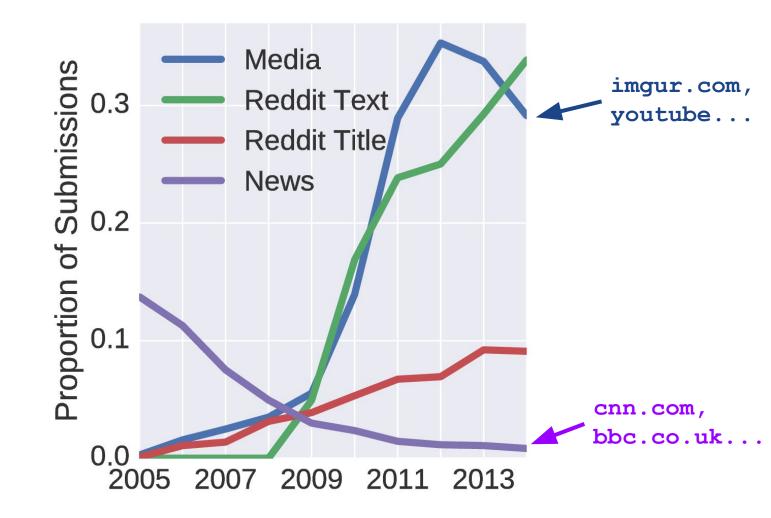
VS



# Can we isolate the effects of content rather than context?









"Tonight, I carved a pumpkin. I also doused it in lighter fluid and lit it on fire." - /r/pics



"Snacks!" - /r/aww



	# Users	#/% Img	Cap Len
pics	2108K	2472K/70%	9.84
aww	1010K	954K/81%	9.13
cats	109K	100K/73%	8.97
MakeupAddiction (MA)	77K	58K/57%	13.67
FoodPorn (FP)	74K	50K/77%	9.39
RedditLaqueristas (RL)	27K	39K/73%	11.12



"You have to go to the border for food Fish Tacos [San Diego]" -/r/FoodPorn



"Glamor Leaves" - /r/RedditLaquersitas



The grass is always greener



This is why you get two cats



The grass is always greener

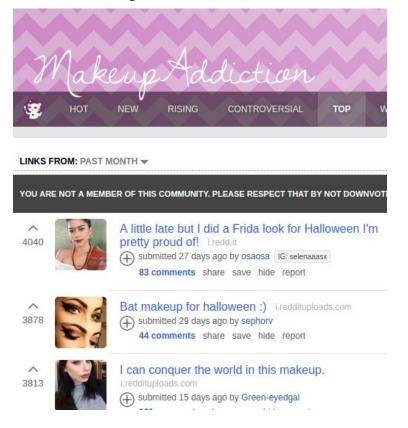


This is why you get two cats

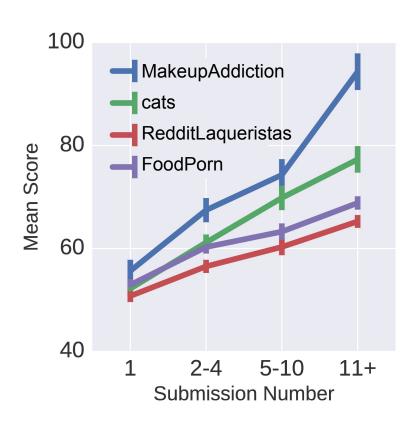
# Complication 1: Rich get richer



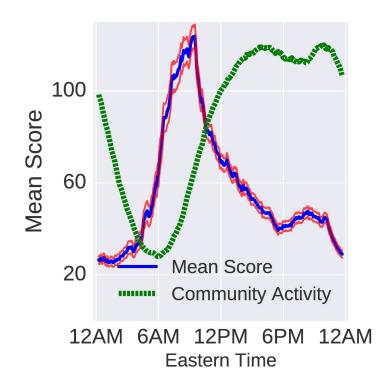
#### Complication 2: Identity Matters



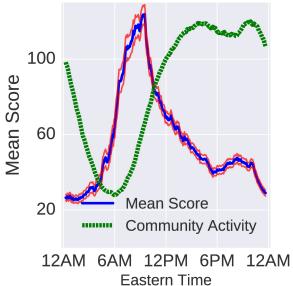
# Complication 2: Identity Matters



# Complication 3: Minutes matter









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4040



A little late but I did a Frida look for Halloween I'm pretty proud of! Liredd.it

submitted 27 days ago by osaosa IG: selenaaasx





Bat makeup for halloween :) i.reddituploads.com

submitted 29 days ago by sephory

44 comments share save hide report





I can conquer the world in this makeup.

submitted 15 days ago by Green-eyedgal



The grass is always greener



This is why you get two cats



# 13 Seconds Apart!

		aww	pics	cats	MA	FP	RL
Timing	Random	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0
Tim	Time	50.2	50.2	50.7	50.4	49.7	50.6
	ate encorate	1250000 1000	2000 CAS - CO	120010401 514104	POWERSH SAI	0.0000 19091	POWER 104 OF





12AM 6AM 12PM 6PM 12AM



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4040



A little late but I did a Frida look for Halloween I'm pretty proud of! i.redd.it

submitted 27 days ago by osaosa IG: selenaaasx 83 comments share save hide report



Bat makeup for halloween:) i.reddituploads.com (+) submitted 29 days ago by sephory 44 comments share save hide report



I can conquer the world in this makeup.

submitted 15 days ago by Green-eyedgal





12AM 6AM 12PM 6PM 12AM **Eastern Time** 

















12AM 6AM 12PM 6PM 12AM Eastern Time



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A little late 1. A Frida look for Halloween l'i

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up for halloween :) treddituploads.com
ded 29 days ago by sephory





I can conquer the world in this makeup

submitted 15 days ago by Green-eyedga





12AM 6AM 12PM 6PM 12AM Eastern Time



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A little late I A Frida look for Halloween I'm

s ago by osaosa IG: selenaaa share save hide report





in ted 29 days ago by sephorv

44 comments share save hide repo





I can conquer the world in this makeup.

submitted 15 days ago by Green-eyedga





12AM 6AM 12PM 6PM 12AM Eastern Time







Frida look for Halloween I'm











		aww	pics	cats	MA	FP	RL
Timing	Random	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0	50.0
	Earlier	51.7	51.1	49.9	48.9	48.6	48.7
	Time	50.2	50.2	50.7	50.4	49.7	50.6
	k secre	1909(S) (S)	154905540 D.A.	SPECIAL SECT	ESSENTAN SE	7659506 R5009	BREET THE RE





12AM 6AM 12PM 6PM 12AM Eastern Time







Frida look for Halloween I'm













The grass is always greener



This is why you get two cats



The grass is always greener

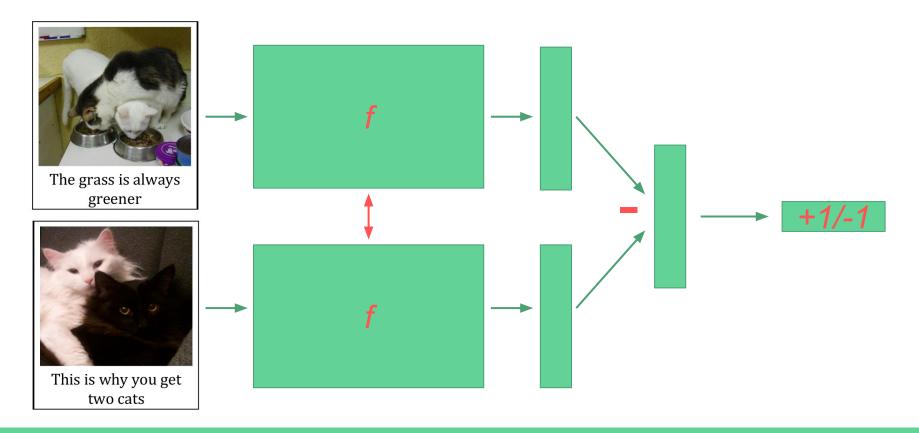


This is why you get two cats

	aww	pics	cats	MA	FP	RL
Humans	60.0	63.6	59.6	62.2	72.7	67.2

	Max/Avg Win	Med/Avg Diff	# Pairs
pics	30/15 sec	117/478	44K
aww	30/15 sec	90/393	33K
cats	15/7 min	69/231	15K
MA	60/24 min	88/227	10 <b>K</b>
FP	120/53 min	62/188	8K
RL	30/14 min	56/118	9K

## Machine learning experiments



## Unimodal Results (cross-val)

## Unimodal Results (cross-val)

	aww	pics	cats	MA	FP	RL	_
Type	50.6	51.2	50.7	52.8	51.8	56.1	User Features
Activity	51.1	53.6	52.8	55.0	53.9	60.6	
Quality	54.7	55.5	52.9	60.7	55.5	<b>67.3</b>	
Struct Topic DAN LSTM Bi-LSTM Unigram	56.2 55.2 58.6 59.4 59.7 59.7	54.8 55.8 58.3 58.8 58.9 58.6	56.5 56.8 58.5 58.7 59.3 59.5	50.9 60.4 62.2 61.0 61.8 63.0	52.3 55.2 57.6 57.0 57.8 57.6	52.5 55.5 59.8 59.1 59.6 60.8	Text Features
HOG	51.7	52.8	51.9	53.5	53.5	53.5	Image Features
GIST	52.7	53.0	53.5	55.9	56.5	56.3	
ColorHist	55.3	53.7	55.6	55.0	56.5	54.5	
VGG-19	63.4	58.9	61.1	62.4	62.8	62.1	
ResNet50	<b>64.8</b>	<b>60.0</b>	<b>62.6</b>	<b>64.9</b>	<b>65.2</b>	64.2	

## Unimodal Results (cross-val)

	aww	pics	cats	MA	FP	RL	_
Type Activity Quality	50.6 51.1 54.7	51.2 53.6 55.5	50.7 52.8 52.9	52.8 55.0 60.7	51.8 53.9 55.5	56.1 60.6 <b>67.3</b>	User Features
Struct Topic DAN LSTM Bi-LSTM Unigram	56.2 55.2 58.6 59.4 59.7 59.7	54.8 55.8 58.3 58.8 58.9 58.6	56.5 56.8 58.5 58.7 59.3	50.9 60.4 62.2 61.0 61.8 63.0	52.3 55.2 57.6 57.0 57.8 57.6	52.5 55.5 59.8 59.1 59.6 60.8	Text Features
HOG GIST ColorHist VGG-19 ResNet50	51.7 52.7 55.3 63.4 <b>64.8</b>	52.8 53.0 53.7 58.9 <b>60.0</b>	51.9 53.5 55.6 61.1 <b>62.6</b>	53.5 55.9 55.0 62.4 <b>64.9</b>	53.5 56.5 56.5 62.8 <b>65.2</b>	53.5 56.3 54.5 62.1 64.2	Image Features

#### Multimodal Results

	aww	pics	cats	MA	FP	RL
Time + User	54.1	54.7	52.1	58.8	54.2	64.8
All User	56.3	55.3	54.6	60.9	56.0	<b>68.4</b>
ResNet50	64.8	60.0	62.6	64.9	65.2	64.2
Text + Image	<u>67.1</u>	<u>62.7</u>	<u>65.9</u>	<u>67.7</u>	65.8	66.4

Best unimodal

	aww	pics	cats	MA	FP	RL
Time + User	54.1	54.7	52.1	58.8	54.2	64.8
All User	56.3	55.3	54.6	60.9	56.0	<b>68.4</b>
ResNet50	64.8	60.0	62.6	64.9	65.2	64.2
Text + Image	<u>67.1</u>	<u>62.7</u>	<u>65.9</u>	<u>67.7</u>	65.8	66.4

Best	unimodal

	aww	pics	cats	MA	FP	RL
Time + User	54.1	54.7	52.1	58.8	54.2	64.8
All User	56.3	55.3	54.6	60.9	56.0	<b>68.4</b>
ResNet50	64.8	60.0	62.6	64.9	65.2	64.2
Text + Image	<b>67.1</b>	<b>62.7</b>	<b>65.9</b>	<b>67.7</b>	65.8	66.4

Multimodal beats unimodal!

#### Multimodal Results (crossval + fully heldout)

Best	unim	nodal

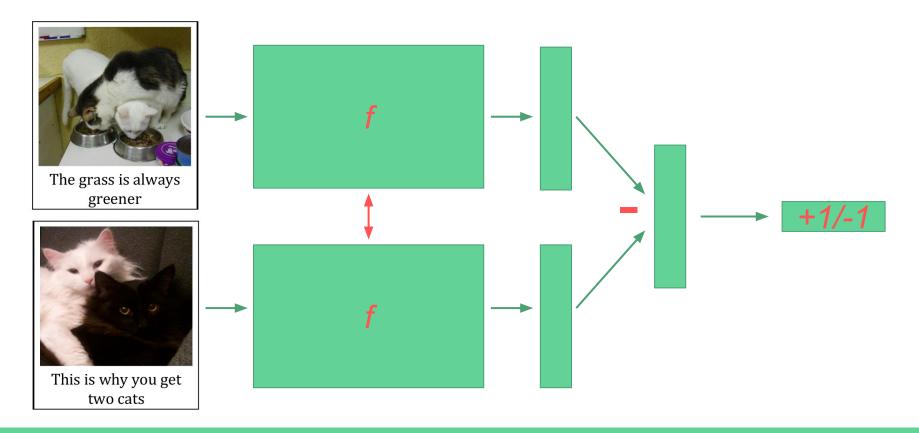
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	aww	pics	cats	MA	FP	RL	
Time + User	54.1	54.7	52.1	58.8	54.2	64.8	•
All User	56.3	55.3	54.6	60.9	56.0	<b>68.4</b>	
ResNet50	64.8	60.0	62.6	64.9	65.2	64.2	
Text + Image	<u>67.1</u>	<u>62.7</u>	<u>65.9</u>	<u>67.7</u>	65.8	66.4	
							7

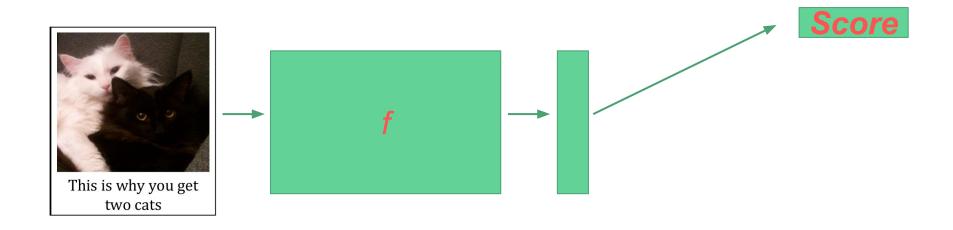
Multimodal beats unimodal!

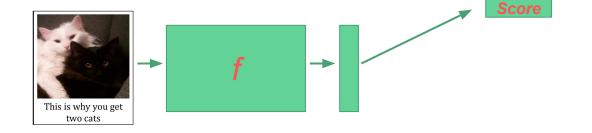
	aww	pics	cats	MA	FP	RL
Time + User	55.5	51.7	52.6	56.9	52.8	60.5
All User	60.4	51.0	54.3	63.1	57.9	66.0
Text + Image	65.5	66.0	67.3	62.7	62.6	65.4

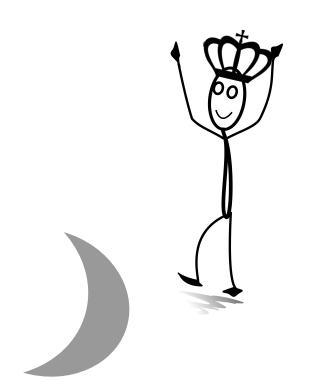
## Machine learning experiments

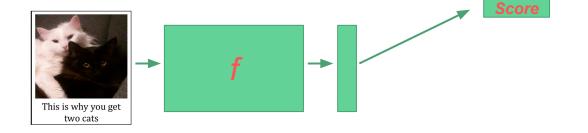


## Machine learning experiments

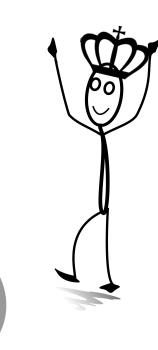




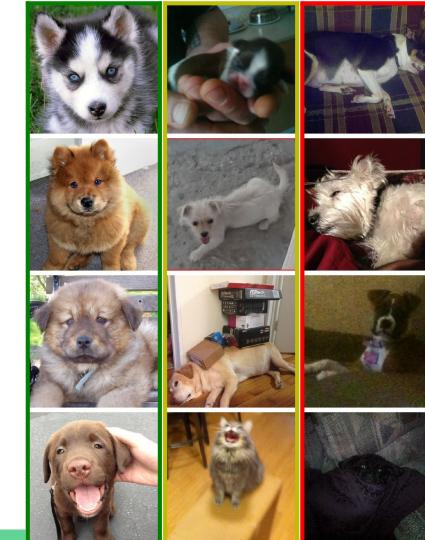




Promote quality at content posted at the wrong time!



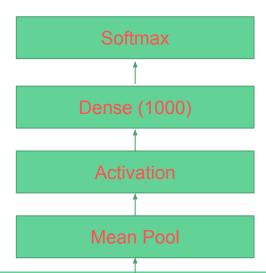
content quality non-celebrities!





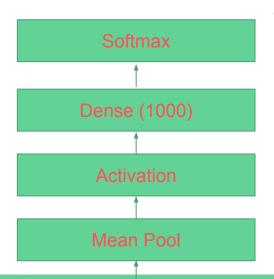




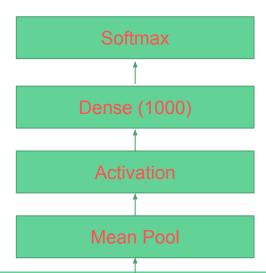


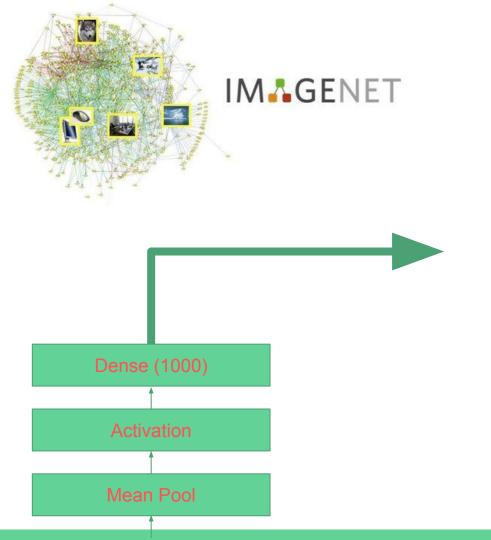


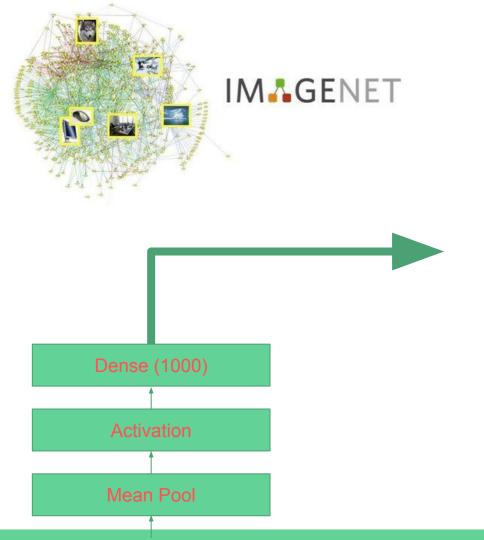
# Lots of types of animals!











```
golden retriever +0.2290 ***
dingo +0.2126 ***
Labrador retriever +0.1960 ***
worm fence +0.1864 ***
cheetah +0.1851 ***
Tibetan mastiff +0.1830 ***
Scotch terrier -0.2193 ***
bassinet -0.2196 ***
wardrobe -0.2231 ***
miniature schnauzer -0.2343 ***
four-poster -0.2841 ***
mosquito net -0.2936 ***
```

(Significant after applying bonferroni correction)





My 20 year old little girl. Her sister p Please don't sit on me!

Score = 87.5/100



• Score = 27.4/100



Who says bulldogs can't be cute???

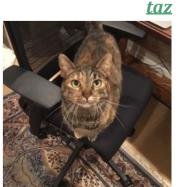
• Score = 13.8/100





My 20 year old little girl. Her sister p Please don't sit on me!

• Score = 87.5/100



• Score = 27.4/100





Who says bulldogs can't be cute???

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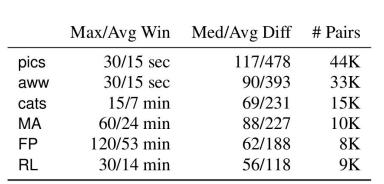


My 20 year old little girl. Her sister p Please don't sit on me!

• Score = 87.5/100



Score = 27.4/100



#### bodhi



Who says bulldogs can't be cute???

Score = 13.8/100



#### Thanks to:

- Nvidia for the GPU donations
- Yahoo, Inc.
- National Science Foundation
- Vlad Niculae
- Volunteer human annotators
- Cornell NLP Seminar





#### Questions?

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