

# Authorship Attribution

Statistical methods date back to 1930s and 1940s

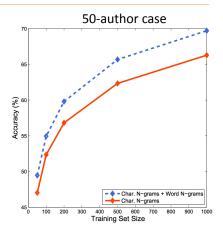
- Based on handcrafted heuristics like stopword frequencies
- > Early work: Shakespeare's plays, Federalist papers (Hamilton vs. Madison)
- Twitter: given a bunch of tweets, can we figure out who wrote them?
- Schwartz et al. EMNLP 2013: 500M tweets, take 1000 users with at least 1000 tweets each
- > Task: given a held-out tweet by one of the 1000 authors, who wrote it?

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- SVM with character 4-grams, word 2-grams through 5-grams
- 1000 authors, 200 tweets per author => 30% accuracy

Schwartz et al. (2013)

50 authors, 200 tweets per author
=> 71.2% accuracy



# 

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 k-signature: n-gram that appears in k% of the authors tweets but not appearing for anyone else — suggests why these are so effective

10%-signature	Examples
· ^_?	REF oh ok Glad you found it!
	Hope everyone is having a good afternoon <u></u>
	REF Smirnoff lol keeping the goose in the freezer $_{-}$
ʻyew '	gurl <u>yew</u> serving me tea nooch
	REF about wen <u>yew</u> and ronnie see each other
	REF lol so <b>yew</b> goin to check out tini's tonight huh???
	·^^?

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▶ k-signature: n-gram that appears in k% of the authors tweets but not appearing for anyone else — suggests why these are so effective

Word n-grams	lal	REF aww those are cool where u get those how do ppl react lal
		Ludas album is gone be hott lal
		Dayum refs don't get injury timeouts lal get him off the field
	smoochies, e3	I'm just back after takin' a very long, icy cold
		showerShivering smoochies,E3 http://bit.ly/4CzzP9
		A blue stout or two would be nice as well, Purr!Blue smooth
		smoochies,E3 http://bit.ly/75D4fO
		That is soooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooooo
		http://bit.ly/07sXRGX

Schwartz et al. (2013)

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