Russia ⇔ Finland

Reflection on Neighbours Next Door

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Research question

FINLAND

Russia

What are the images of Finland in the Russian media and Russia in the Finnish media?

120.000+ articles

Period: 1997-2017

Newspapers:

Russian Federal

Russian Regional

YLE Finland

Case studies

1. News agenda
2. Dynamic geography
3. Understanding of the 'neighbour'

What's on the agenda?

SPORTS and POLITICS

Finnish media (YLE)

YLE Finnish - 2006

YLE Finnish - 2008

YLE Finnish - 2010

YLE Finnish - 2012

YLE Finnish - 2014

YLE Finnish - 2016

Russian media (federal)

Integrum Federal - 2006

Integrum Federal - 2008

Integrum Federal - 2010

Integrum Federal - 2012

Integrum Federal - 2014

Integrum Federal - 2016

Sports
national team
team
match
championship

Politics
EU
child
war
Ukraine
NATO

Where things happen?

2001-2006

2011-2017
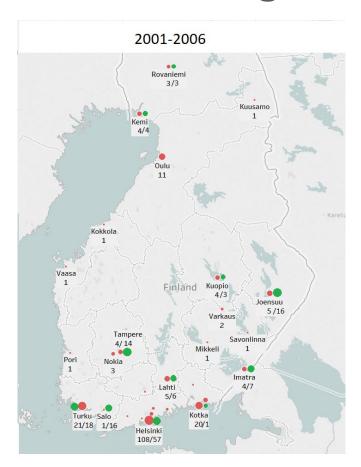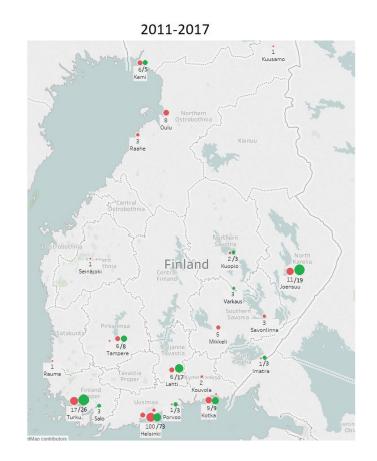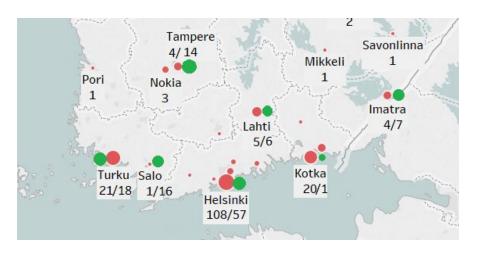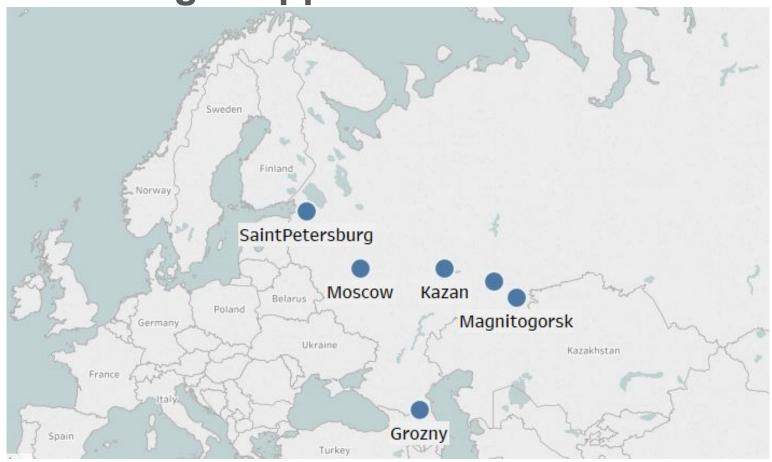
Where things happen?

Where things happen?

Neighbour/Naapuri/Сосед

What is neighbourhood?

Neighbour/Naapuri/Сосед

That's where 'neighbour' comes all political

Example period 2004-2009							
RuFed	Fellow citizen	European	West	Ally	Slogan	America	Alarm

Neighbour/Naapuri/Сосед

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RuReg	Fellow countryman	Width	Fellow citizen	All over	Palmyra	Finn	European

Neighbour/Naapuri/Сосед

That's where neighbourhood comes all political

	Example period 2004-2009						
RuFed	**Fellow citizen**	**European**	**West**	**Ally**	Slogan	**America**	**Alarm**
RuReg	**Fellow countryman**	Width	**Fellow citizen**	All over	Palmyra	**Finn**	**European**
YLE	Interest	**Tension**	Stability	**Foe**	**Military**	**Folkhemmet**	**Threat**

Neighbour/Naapuri/Сосед

Patterns in color

Western countries
Aggression
Community
Finns

Example period 2004-2009							
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YLE	Interest	Tension	Stability	Foe	Military	Folkhemmet	Threat

Computational techniques

Data Cleaning

json to csv

lemmatization -> returning the words to their basic form

removing the stop words -> the not meaningful "and", "or"...

Cincinnati Bell Historical Archives

Sports and Politics - techniques

Dominant annual agendas

TF-IDF

The most significant word from each article

Where things happen? - techniques
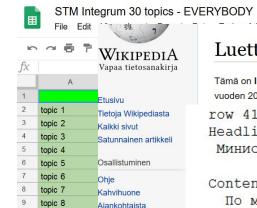
Understanding the 'neighbour' - techniques

W2V library

nearby words -
"use-synonyms"

5-year window

clustering of
nearby words


```
In [13]: # Get words most similar to a topic
         words = ['финляндия']
         number_results = 10
```

```
2006: [('дания', 0.6860947608947754),
       ('норвегия', 0.6447649002075195),
       ('латвия', 0.6271222829818726),
```

Challenges and Limitations

Wordclouds, Method: TF-IDF

- Lemmatization
- Timestamps
- Running TF-IDF on individual articles VS combined yearly data
- 1 pass VS 2 pass TF-IDF
- Can miss short-lived keywords!

Challenges and Limitations

Geo Mapping and Topic Modelling, Method: POI mapping, STM

- Lemmatization
- Place name transliteration and disambiguation
- Selecting the number of topics and topic clusters
- Ambiguous articles and topics

Challenges and Limitations

Word neighbourhoods, Method: Word2Vec

- Timestamps and Lemmatization
- Quantity of data for shorter periods (5 years at a time)
- Picking the right dimensionality and threshold
- Reading too much into it!
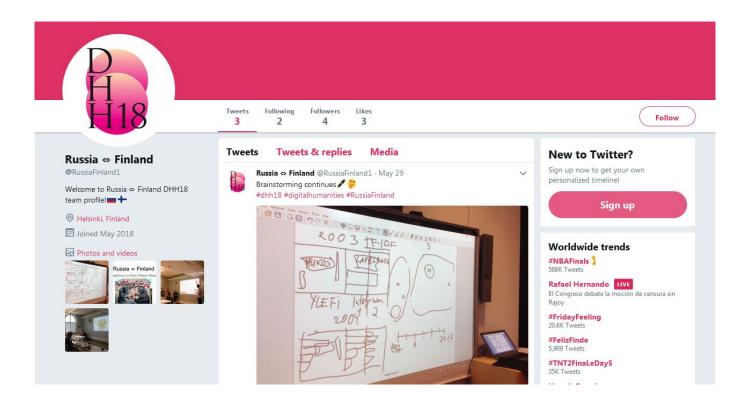
Ideas for future research

Yearly words per topic - sports, culture, economics

Compare seemingly similar concepts across languages - same or not?

Causality and sentiment analysis - connect events to sentiment

Public outreach during the hackathon

Спасибо!

Kiitos!

Thank you!

Questions?