

LITERARY CRITICISM 2.0: A DIGITAL ANALYSIS OF THE PROFESSIONAL AND COMMUNITY-DRIVEN EVALUATIVE TALK SURROUNDING THE *INGEBORG BACHMANN PRIZE*



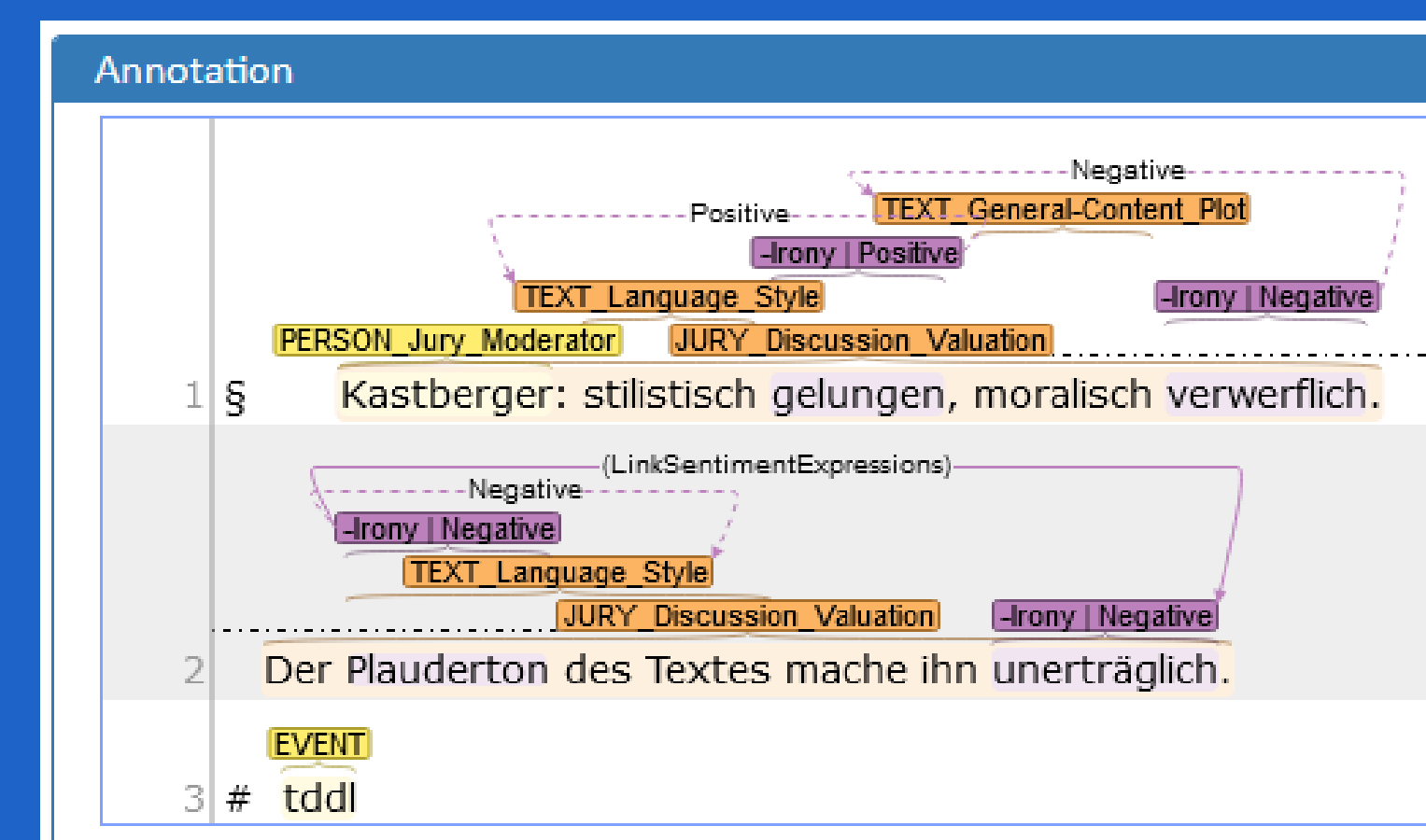
Annotation method:

Aspect-Based Sentiment Analysis (ABSA)

- Aspects or Feature Expressions (FE): text, jury, contender...
- Named Entities (NE)
- Polarity or Sentiment Expressions (SE)

Semi-Supervised Learning:

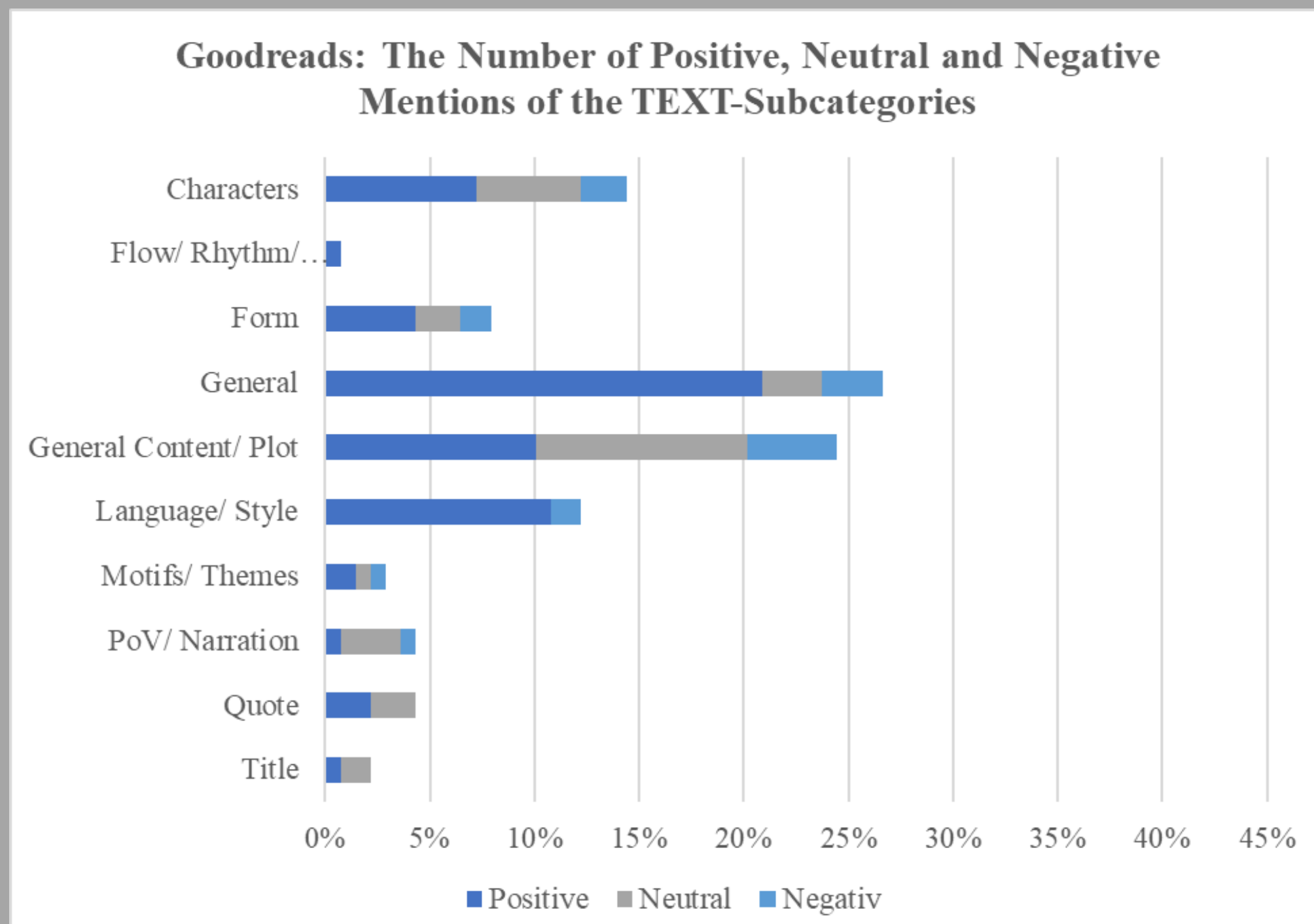
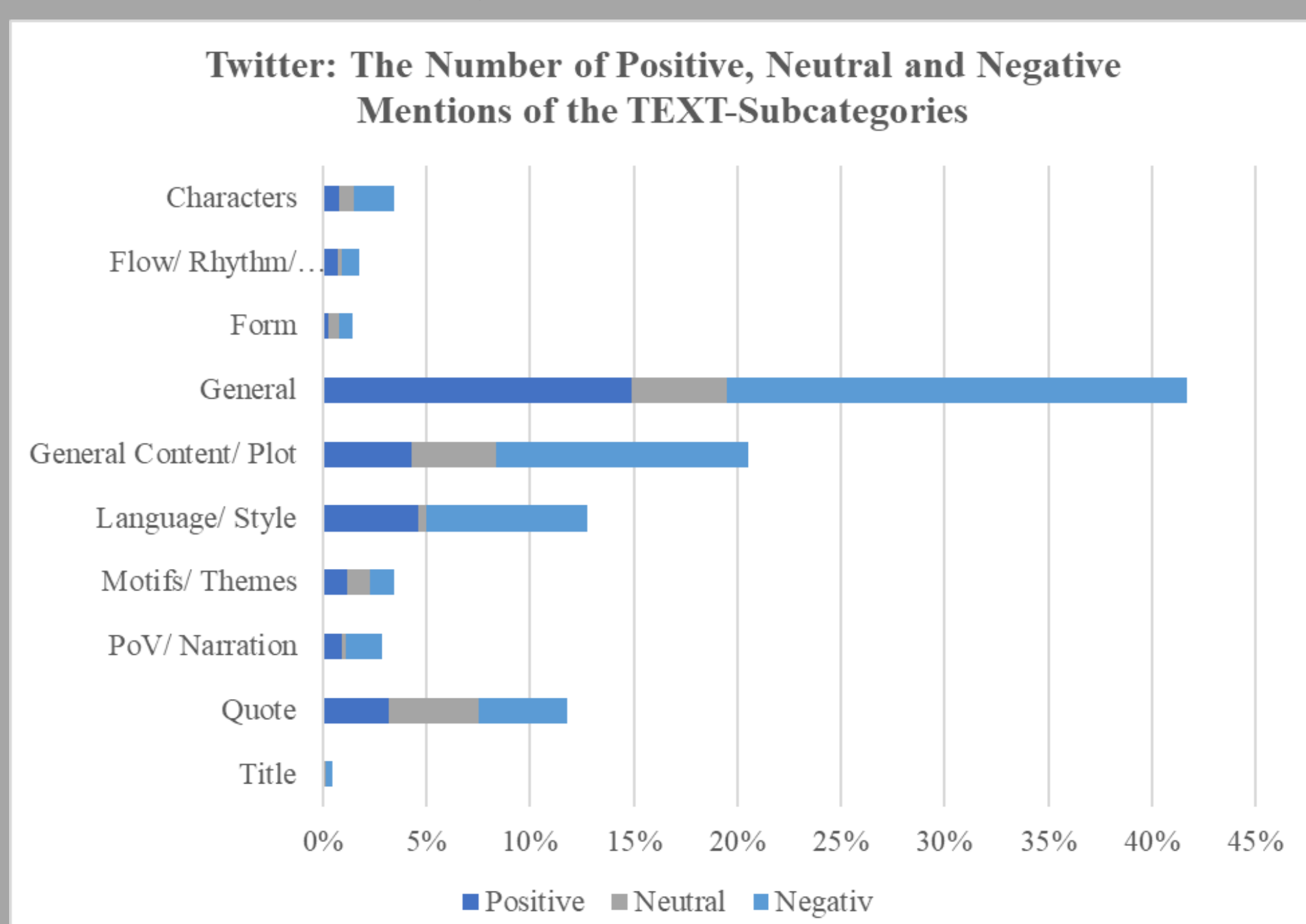
- Small amount of labeled (annotated) data
- Large amount of unlabeled data



Corpus (2019):

- Tweets and Instagram-posts created during TDDL and using the official #tddl-hashtag
- Goodreads reviews
- Official description of the jury discussion

Text-Subcategories: Evaluative Criteria



Interpretation:

The nominated and prize-winning texts are being discussed on both social media platforms, but the focus differs:

- Twitter-discourse is more negative and focuses mostly on the text in general, followed by the content/plot, the language/style and quotes.
- Goodreads-discourse contains predominantly positive evaluations and pays comparatively more attention to the fictional characters and the form of the text.

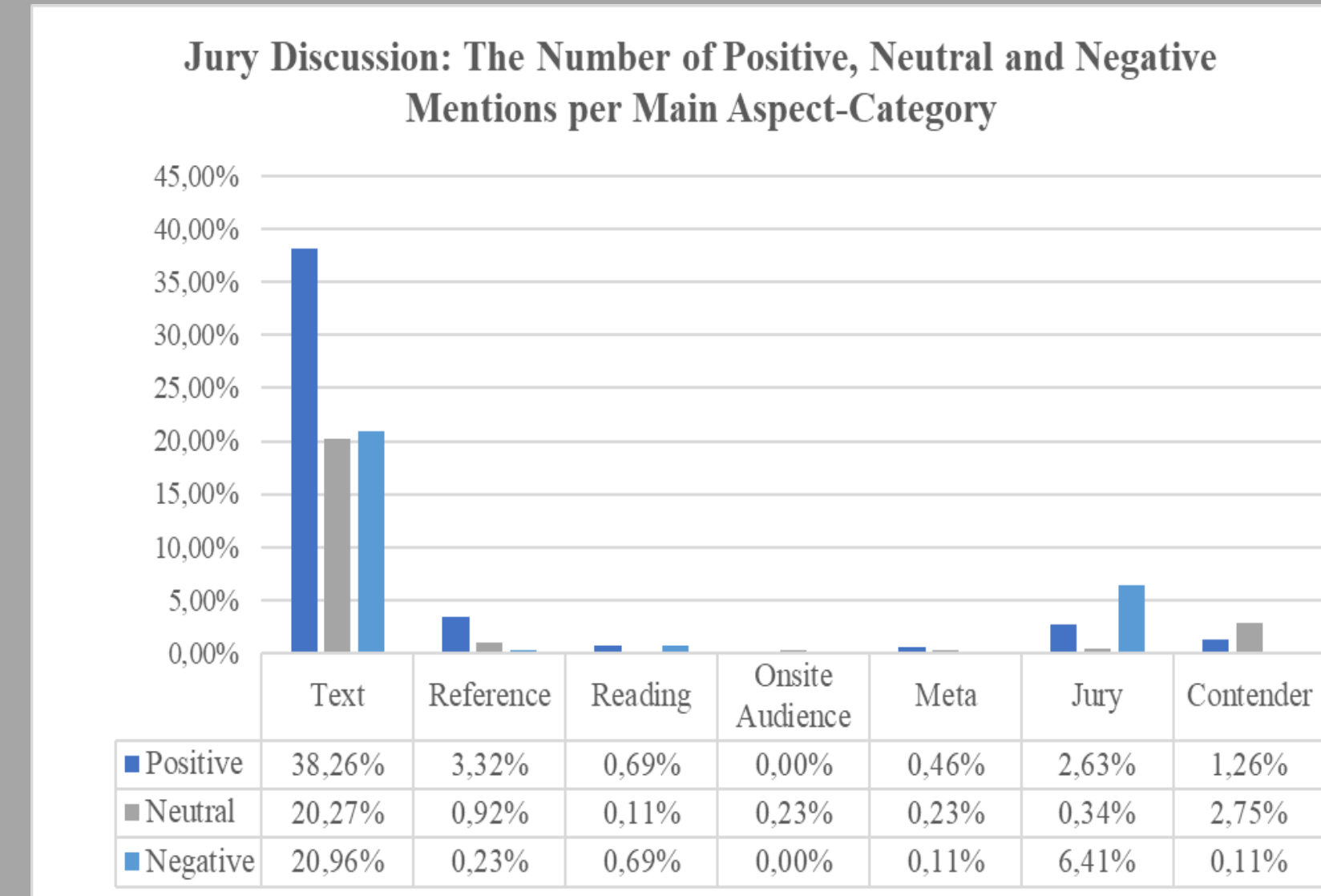
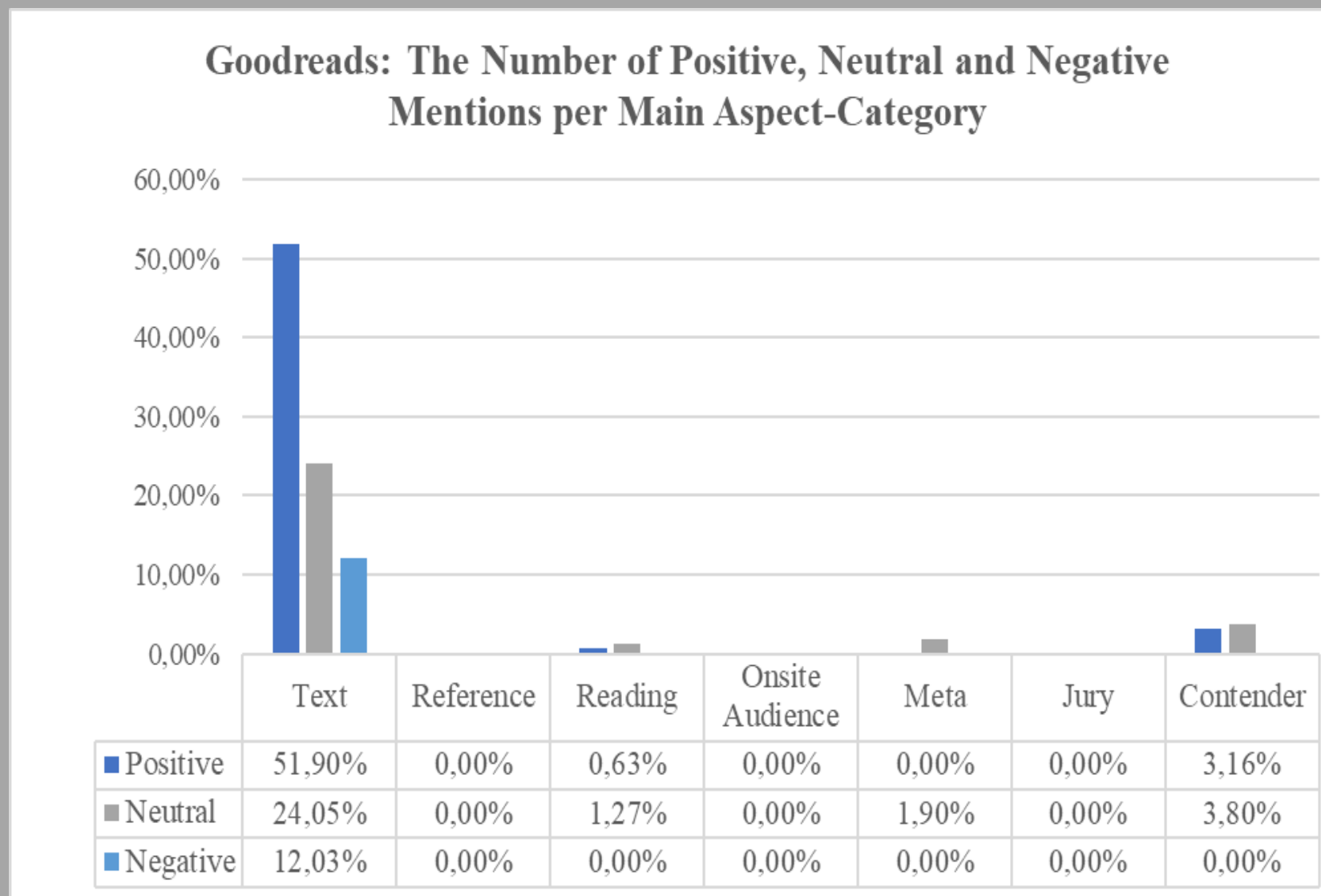
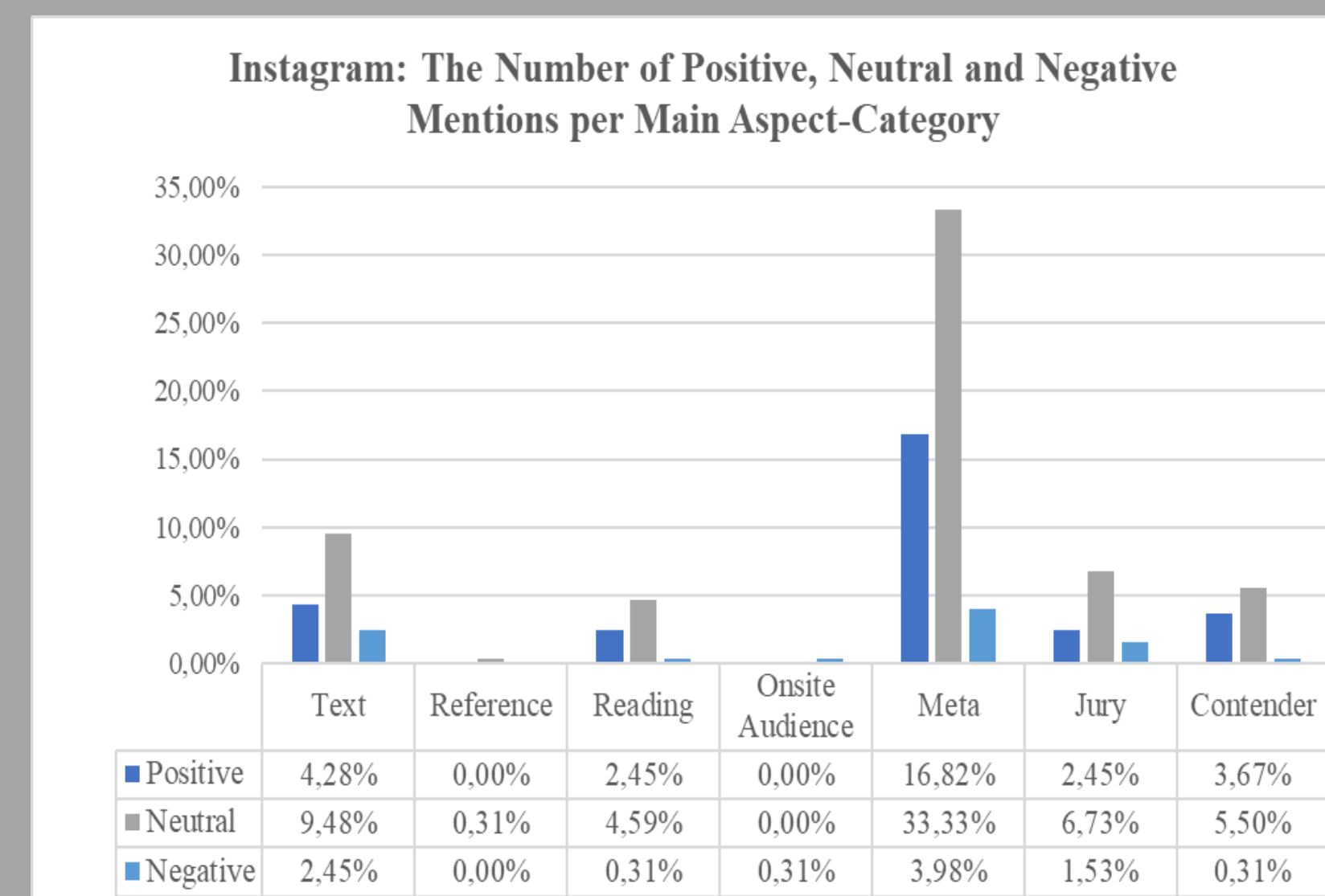
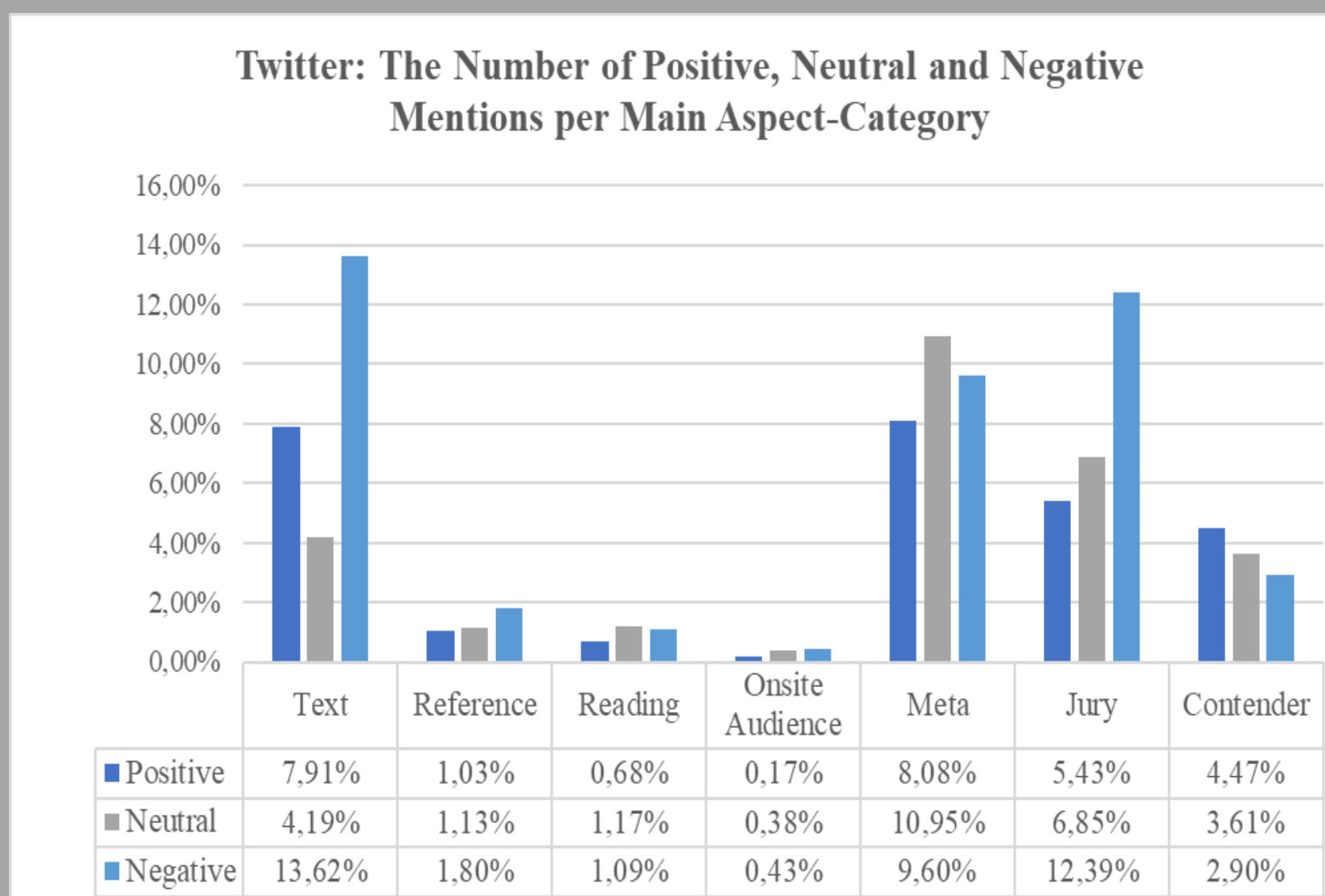
Research goals

1. Predict sentiment with regard to literary texts in three languages (German, English, Dutch)
2. Analysis of implied sentiment: evaluative talk requires domain-specific adaptations
 - Named Entities (NE): "Kafka" is good
 - Sarcasm and irony
3. Construction of literary value through evaluative diction

Advantages and relevance:

- Enables big data analysis
- Possibility of detecting multiple and conflicting sentiments and topics

Polarity of the Main Aspect Categories



Semi-Supervised Learning with BERT: Preliminary Results

CLASSIFIER: Neural Net

Aspect-Category	Precision	Recall	F1-score	Support
References	0,50	0,33	0,40	3
Meta	0,85	0,88	0,87	66
Reading	0,67	0,29	0,40	7
Contender	0,86	0,86	0,86	21
Text	0,82	0,84	0,83	32
Jury	0,63	0,79	0,70	24
Onsite Audience	0,88	0,58	0,70	12
Accuracy			0,80	165
Macro avg	0,74	0,65	0,68	165
Weighted avg	0,80	0,80	0,79	165

CLASSIFIER: Nearest Neighbour

Polarity Detection	Precision	Recall	F1-score	Support	
0		0,61	0,85	0,71	13
1		0,71	0,42	0,53	12
Accuracy			0,64	25	
Macro avg	0,66	0,63	0,62	25	
Weighted avg	0,66	0,64	0,62	25	

CLASSIFIER: AdaBoost

Polarity Detection	Precision	Recall	F1-score	Support	
0		0,93	0,87	0,90	15
1		0,82	0,90	0,86	10
Accuracy			0,88	25	
Macro avg	0,87	0,88	0,88	25	
Weighted avg	0,88	0,88	0,88	25	

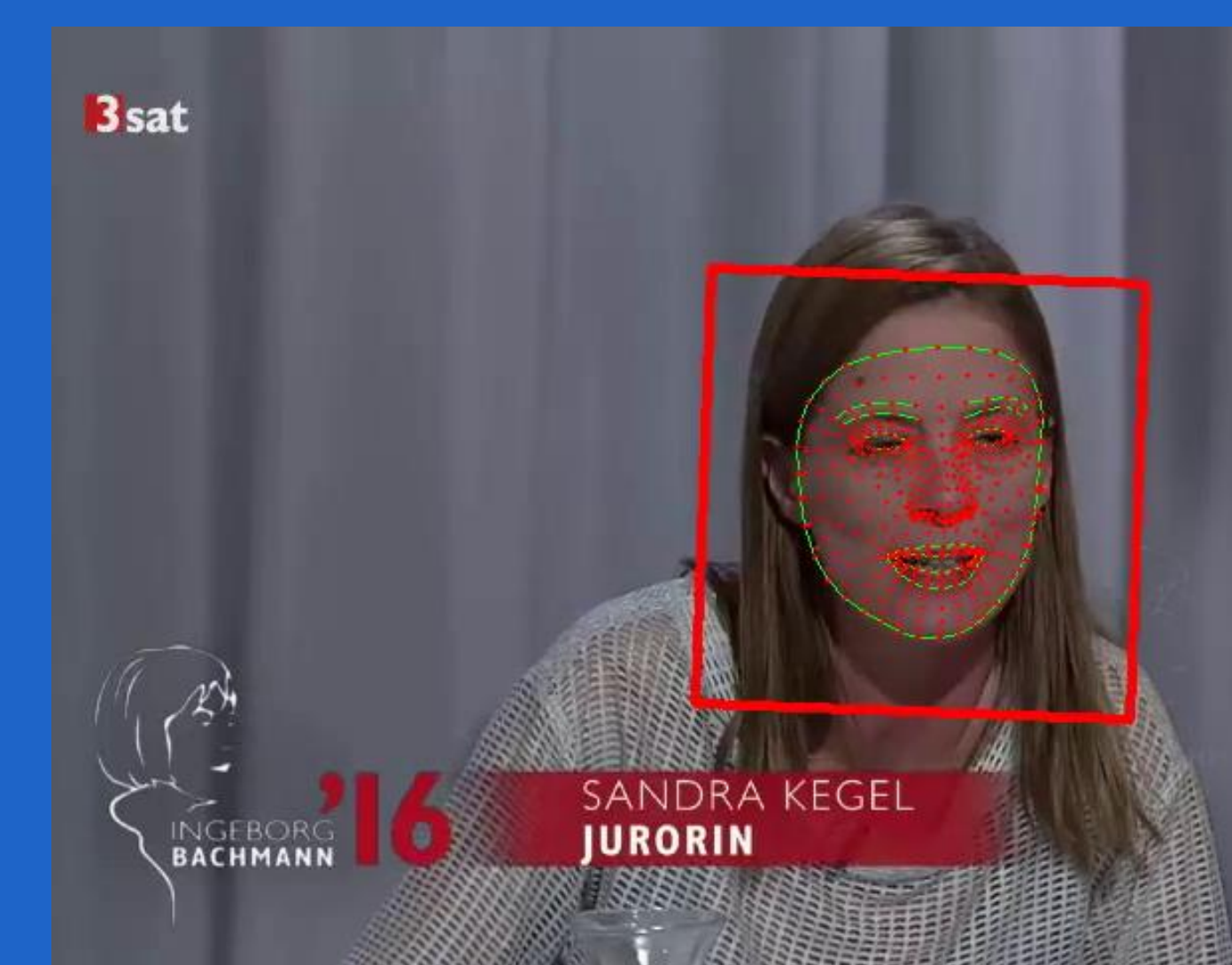
Outlook:

Preliminary results:

- ABSA is able to handle the sandwich-type evaluative talk: "mediocre text by a terrific author"
- BERT + embeddings + polarity triggers + spans

Pathways for future research:

- Multimodal sentiment analysis
 - parallel corpus of spoken and written discourse
 - diarisation
- Gender/ethnicity and negotiation of cultural prestige
- Shifts in platforms: newspapers vs. social media as gatekeepers
 - Blurs the border between professional and community-driven literary criticism



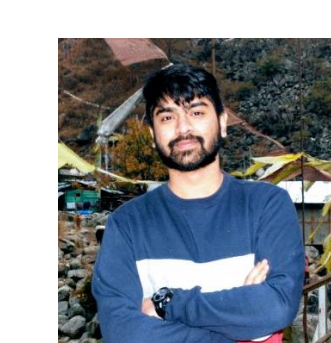
Contact:



Gunther Martens
Gunther.Martens@UGent.be
Professor of Modern German Literature
German Literature



Lore De Greve
Lore.DeGreve@UGent.be
PhD Candidate
German Literature



Pranaydeep Singh
Pranaydeep.Singh@UGent.be
PhD Candidate
Language and Translation Technology Team