Measuring News Events

Jason Cannon Mentor: David Weaver Faculty Advisor: Dr. Bruce Bimber Funding by National Science Foundation Community College



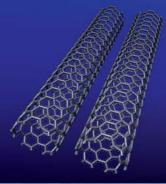




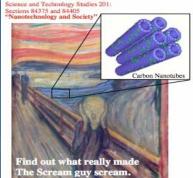


UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, SANTA BARBARA

CINS-UCSB Center for Nanotechnology in Society



Measuring News Events



Does the media influence people's attitudes and actions?

- Tuna sandwich
- Spinach
- Genetically modified foods
- Nuclear Power
- Nanotechnology



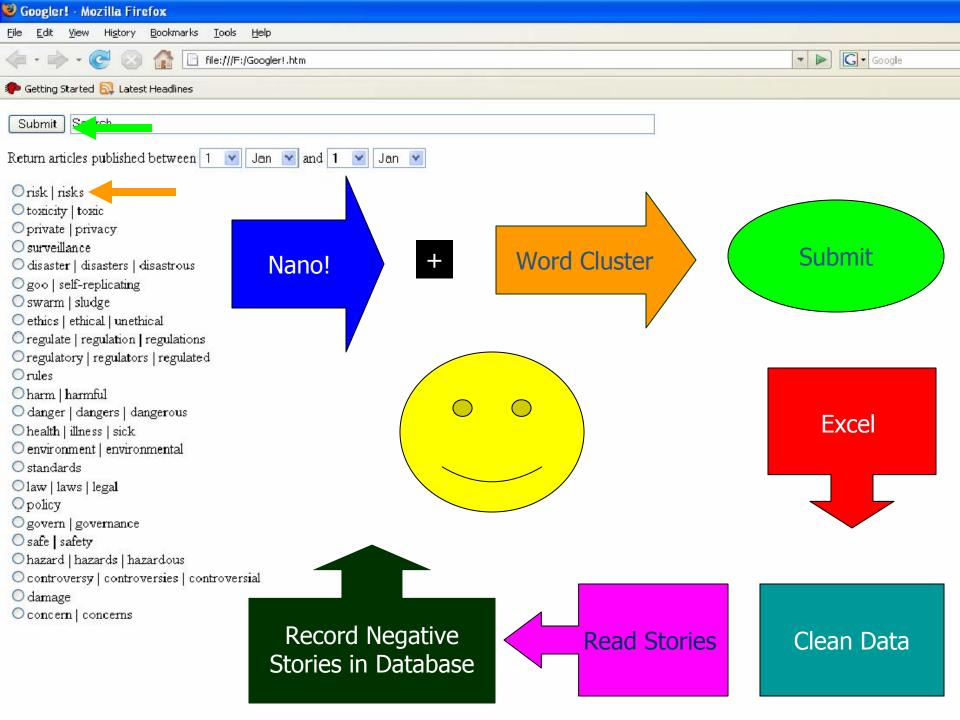
Agenda setting and media attention
Studies show that the media does influence what people think about (McCombs & Shaw, 1972).

Especially when it is the only source.

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Method

- Google News: continuously updates 4,500 news sources.
- Googler! : Automatic search for nano related word clusters.
- Automatically downloads to Excel
- Clean the data
- Read each article for negative use of the word cluster.
- Save stories in a database in categories for the individual word clusters.



Raw Data

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Risk cluster returned 535 websites!

Cleaning Data

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Risk cluster produced 30-40 relevant negative stories.

Final Coded Data

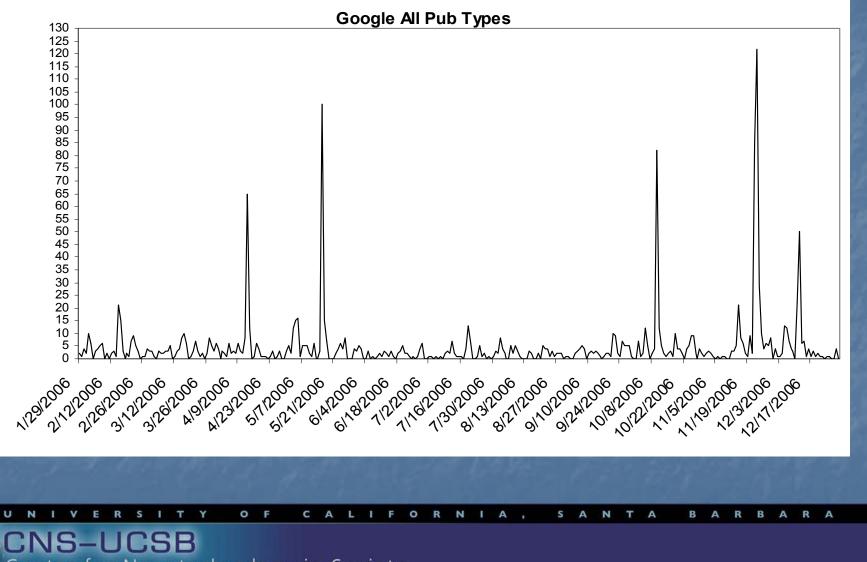
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					Explaining How Depleted Uranium Is Killing Civilians,			donates his time and expertise to
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								But the risks of nanotechnology
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A story may have more than one word cluster

One Year of Google News



Center for Nanotechnology in Society

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