

TA1: Extracting, evaluating, and sense-making claims from published scholarly work

IARPA REASON Proposers Day
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Sarah Rajtmajer
Assistant Professor
The Pennsylvania State University
smr48@psu.edu

Jian Wu
Assistant Professor
Old Dominion University
jwu@cs.odu.edu



Background: work for DARPA's SCORE program (September 2019 – December 2022)



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[› Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency](#) › [Our Research](#) › [Systematizing Confidence in Open Research and Evidence](#)

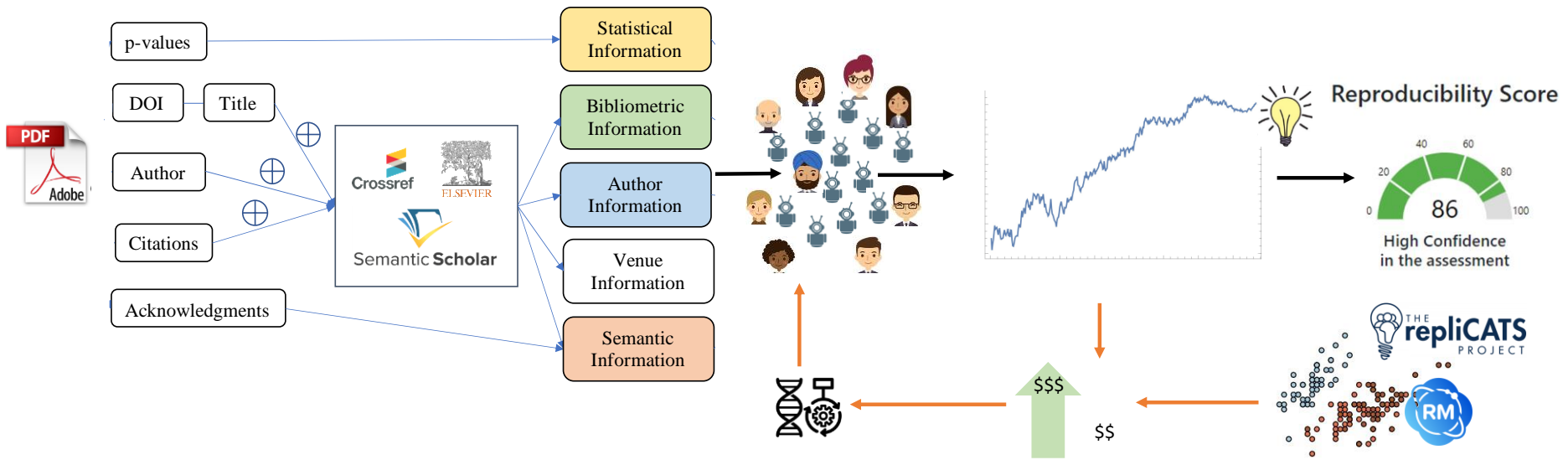
Systematizing Confidence in Open Research and Evidence (SCORE)

Dr. Greg Witkop

Develop and deploy tools to assign *explainable* “confidence scores” to SBS research results and claims

The Department of Defense (DoD) often leverages social and behavioral science (SBS) research to design plans, guide investments, assess outcomes, and build models of human social systems and behaviors as they relate to national security challenges in the human domain. However, a number of recent empirical studies and meta-analyses have revealed that many SBS results vary dramatically in terms of their ability to be independently reproduced or replicated, which could have real-world implications for DoD's plans, decisions, and models. To help address this situation, DARPA's Systematizing Confidence in Open Research and Evidence (SCORE) program aims to develop and deploy automated tools to assign "confidence scores" to different SBS research results and claims. Confidence scores are quantitative measures that should enable a DoD consumer of SBS research to understand the degree to which a particular claim or result is likely to be reproducible or replicable. These tools will assign explainable confidence scores with a reliability that is equal to, or better than, the best current human expert methods. If successful, SCORE will enable DoD personnel to quickly calibrate the level of confidence they should have in the reproducibility and replicability of a given SBS result or claim, and thereby increase the effective use of SBS literature and research to address important human domain challenges, such as enhancing deterrence, enabling stability, and reducing extremism.

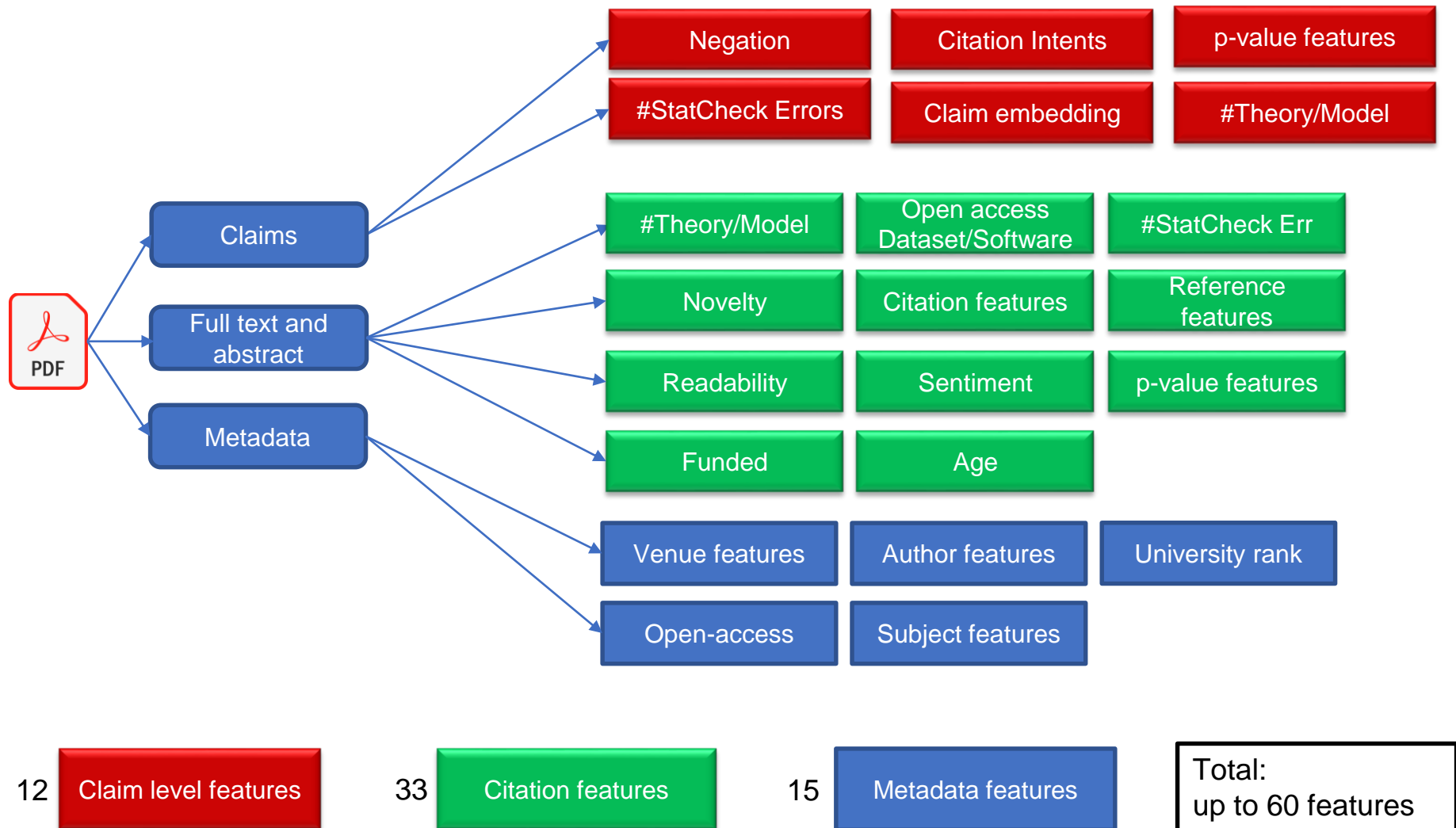
XAI (artificial prediction markets) *and* crowd+AI hybrid markets



Artificial prediction markets □ *populated by artificial agents (trader-bots)* □ purchase assets representing “will replicate” and “will not replicate” outcomes of notional replications of claims appearing within research papers. Agent reasoning is based on **human-interpretable signals**, including full text of scientific papers, metadata for specific papers, and metadata about the community and the field.

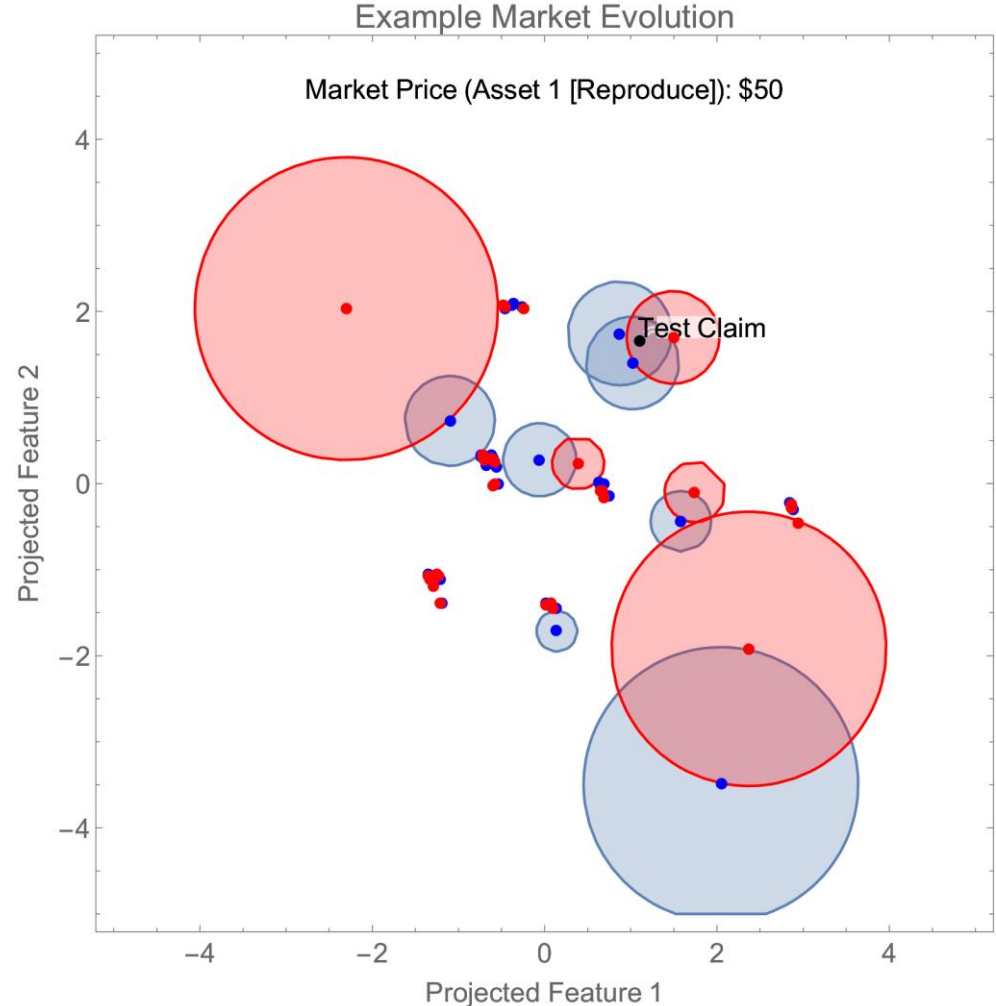
Hybrid scenario: SMEs engage alongside bot traders

Signals (features) extracted from full text and assembled from metadata



Artificial prediction markets

- Synthetic agents interact in a simple binary option market using a logarithmic market scoring rule.
- Agents in the market bid in geometric regions of feature space, shown as circles (for simplicity).
- The agents are sensitive to asset price, which causes their bid behavior to evolve in time.
- Convergence in the market is equivalent to a geometric equilibrium.



(above) A toy market with input data from RPP

Note 1: High dim feature space is projected down for visualization.

Note 2: We multiply the price by 100 and convert to dollars.)

System evaluation --> real replication data

Issue number 11

Virtual conference | Vancouver, Canada
February 22–March 1, 2022

Proceedings of the 36th AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence



Edited by Katia Sycara, Vasant Honavar & Matthias Speiser



The Thirty-Sixth AAAI Conference on Artificial Intelligence (AAAI-22)

A Synthetic Prediction Market for Estimating Confidence in Published Work

Sarah Rajtmajer,¹ Christopher Griffin,¹ Jian Wu,² Robert Fraleigh,¹ Laxmaan Balaji,¹ Anna Squicciarini,¹ Anthony Kwasnica,¹ David Pennock,³ Michael McLaughlin,¹ Timothy Fritton,¹ Nishanth Nakshatri,¹ Arjun Menon,¹ Sai Ajay Modukuri,¹ Rajal Nivargi,¹ Xin Wei,² C. Lee Giles¹

¹The Pennsylvania State University

²Old Dominion University

³Rutgers University

{smr48,cxg286,rdf5090,lpb5347,acs20,amk17,mvm7085,tjf115,nzn5185,amm8987,svm6277,rfn5089,clg20}@psu.edu

Abstract

Explainably estimating confidence in published scientific work offers opportunity for faster and more robust scientific progress. We develop a synthetic prediction market to assess the credibility of published claims in the social behavioral sciences literature. We demonstrate our system in detail using a collection of known replication projects. We suggest that this work lays the foundation for a research agenda that creatively uses AI for peer review.

Introduction

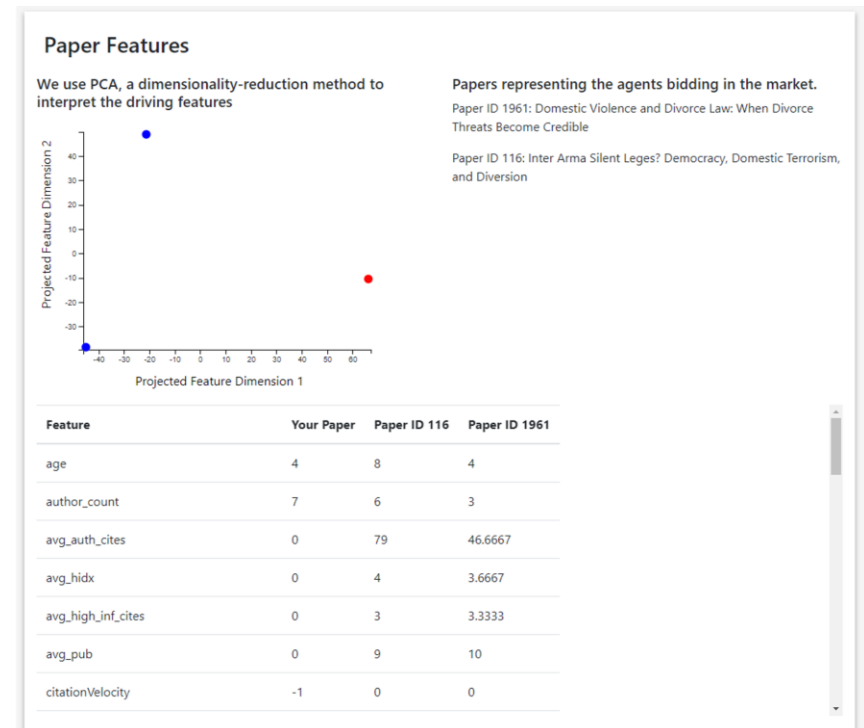
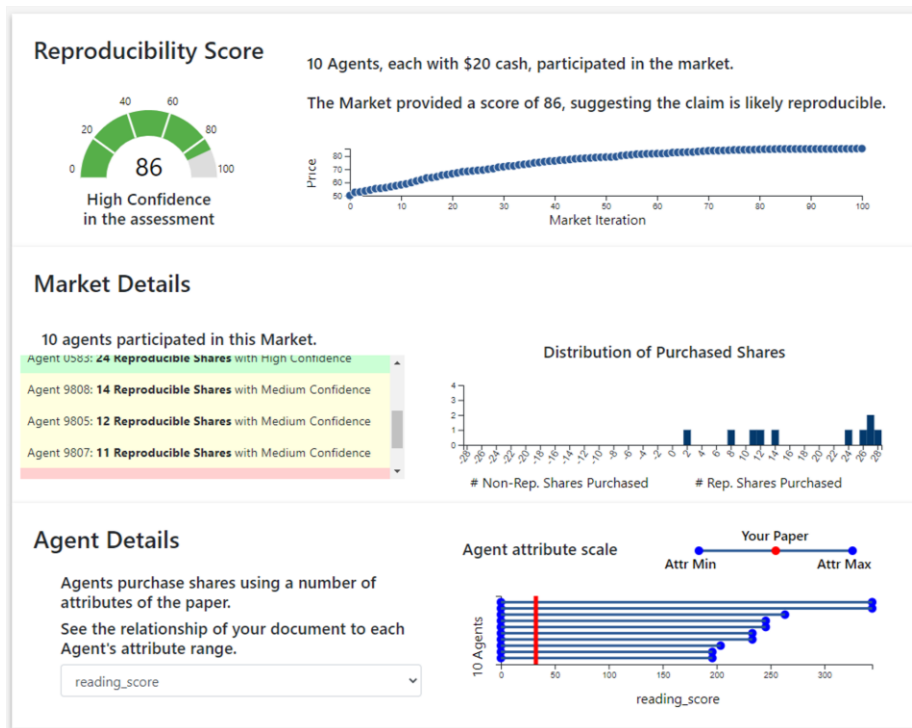
Concerns about the replicability, robustness and reproducibility of findings in scientific literature have

Results on scored papers. Our system provides a confidence score for 68 of 192 (35%) of the papers in our set. On the set of scored papers, accuracy is 0.894, precision is 0.917, recall is 0.903, and **F1** is **0.903** (macro averages). A sizeable un-scored subset of data (65%) is the trade-off for high accuracy on the scored subset of the data. A test point is un-scored when the system has determined it has insufficient information to evaluate it.

System non-scoring. Unlike most other machine learning algorithms, the synthetic market does not provide an evaluation for every input. Like its human-populated counterparts, the market is vulnerable to lack of participation (Arrow et al. 2008; Tetlock 2008; Rothschild and Pennock 2014). Agents will not participate if they have not seen a sufficiently similar training point (paper). This is more common when the training dataset is small; in experiments with larger datasets, we have observed participation increases. Meaningful ways to increase agent participation, including hybrid settings with human participants, are being explored.

System evaluation --> RAND grad students

- Claim submission:** User submits a paper (PDF) for evaluation.
- Feature Extraction:** Extraction tools stage, followed by pass through feature extractor modules generate paper feature vector.
- Evaluation through multiple prediction markets:** The feature vector is passed through multiple markets and results from each are collected.
- SCORE and interpretability:** Results from the prediction markets are collated and a response containing the SCORE, interpretability and confidence is returned.



- Explanations:*
- Level One:** Confidence in the claim's reproducibility through market score
 - Level Two:** Aggregated details related to agent participation in the system
 - Level Three:** Which agents participated + their confidence
 - Level Four:** Features corresponding to nearest training data points

Hybrid prediction markets



Virtual 2-hour long market events
October-November 2022

- 50+ participants
- Currently analyzing results, and conducting interviews with participants

Initial takeaways:

- Major improvement on agent participation!
- Change in individuals' evals before/after market based on surveys
- Need more work to understand the right "balance" of bots and SMEs

A screenshot of a Google Form titled "Replication Markets Interest Form". The form has 47 responses. The main text of the form reads: "We @Penn State are running prediction markets to score confidence in published findings in the social and behavioral sciences. You'll be participating alongside our artificially intelligent (AI) bot traders as well as other researchers. Join us by completing the form below!". Below this, there is a list of research areas and event dates: "MARKETING - Monday, October 3rd 7-9pm and Friday, October 7th 10am-Noon EST", "SOCIOLOGY - Tuesday, October 11th Noon-2pm EST", "POLI SCI - Friday, October 14th 3-5pm and Tuesday, October 18th 7-9pm EST", "EDUCATION - Monday, October 24th 7-9pm EST", "ECONOMICS - Thursday, October 27th 7-9pm EST", and "PSYCH - Tuesday, November 1st Noon-2pm and Friday, November 4th 3-5pm EST". At the bottom, it states: "--- Each event will consist of 5 prediction markets running in parallel. In each market, you will buy and sell contracts associated with outcomes of a replication study of a published finding in your field."/>

Replication Markets Interest Form

Questions Responses 47 Settings

We @Penn State are running prediction markets to score confidence in published findings in the social and behavioral sciences. You'll be participating alongside our artificially intelligent (AI) bot traders as well as other researchers. Join us by completing the form below!

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Next steps for IARPA REASON

- Automatically extract key claims and evidence from analyst reports
- Search the scholarly record to find published related to those claims
- Extract supporting evidence and assign confidence scores to the associated finding
- Develop a high-dimensional hypothesis space, where dimensions are variables/factors that matter for that claim, in which to *embed* research findings to understand their relationships
- Develop an “encyclopedia” of high-confidence findings relevant to the analyst’s claim in the scholarly SBS literature along with *explanations* for these assessments

TA1 vision: Automated collaborative review

The screenshot shows a Google Docs interface. The document title is "Social Media and Political Dysfunction". The top menu bar includes "File", "Edit", "View", "Tools", and "Help". A "Request edit access" button is visible. The document content includes a title "Social Media and Political Dysfunction: A Collaborative Review", a paragraph explaining the document's purpose, a paragraph about curation by Jonathan Haidt and Chris Bail, a citation instruction, and a posting date of November 2, 2021.

Social Media and Political Dysfunction: A Collaborative Review

This Google doc is an open-source working document that contains the citations and abstracts of published articles that shed light on a question that is currently being debated within many democratic nations: **Is social media a major contributor to the rise of political dysfunction seen in the USA and some other democracies since the early 2010s?** This is too broad a question to be answered, so we break it down into seven more specific questions for which there is a substantial research literature.

This document is curated by [Jonathan Haidt](#) (NYU-Stern) and [Chris Bail](#) (Duke), with research assistance from Zach Rausch. If you are a researcher or industry insider and have studies or comments to add, please click the "Request Access" button above (while signed in to a Google account), tell us who you are, and Zach will give you commenter status. We especially welcome critical comments: What studies have we missed, or misinterpreted?

Some readers seem to be unable to see the comments from researchers in the right hand margin. If you don't see a comment attached to this text, try using Chrome as your browser, and be signed in to a Google account.

You can cite this document as: Haidt, J., & Bail, C. (ongoing). *Social media and political dysfunction: A collaborative review*. Unpublished manuscript, New York University.

First posted: November 2, 2021. Last updated: January 2nd, 2023.

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smr48@psu.edu