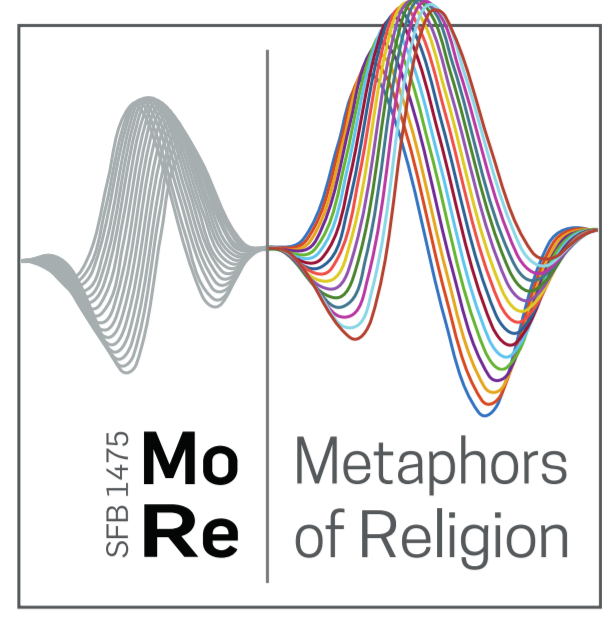


Computational text analysis in the study of polarized Christian subreddits



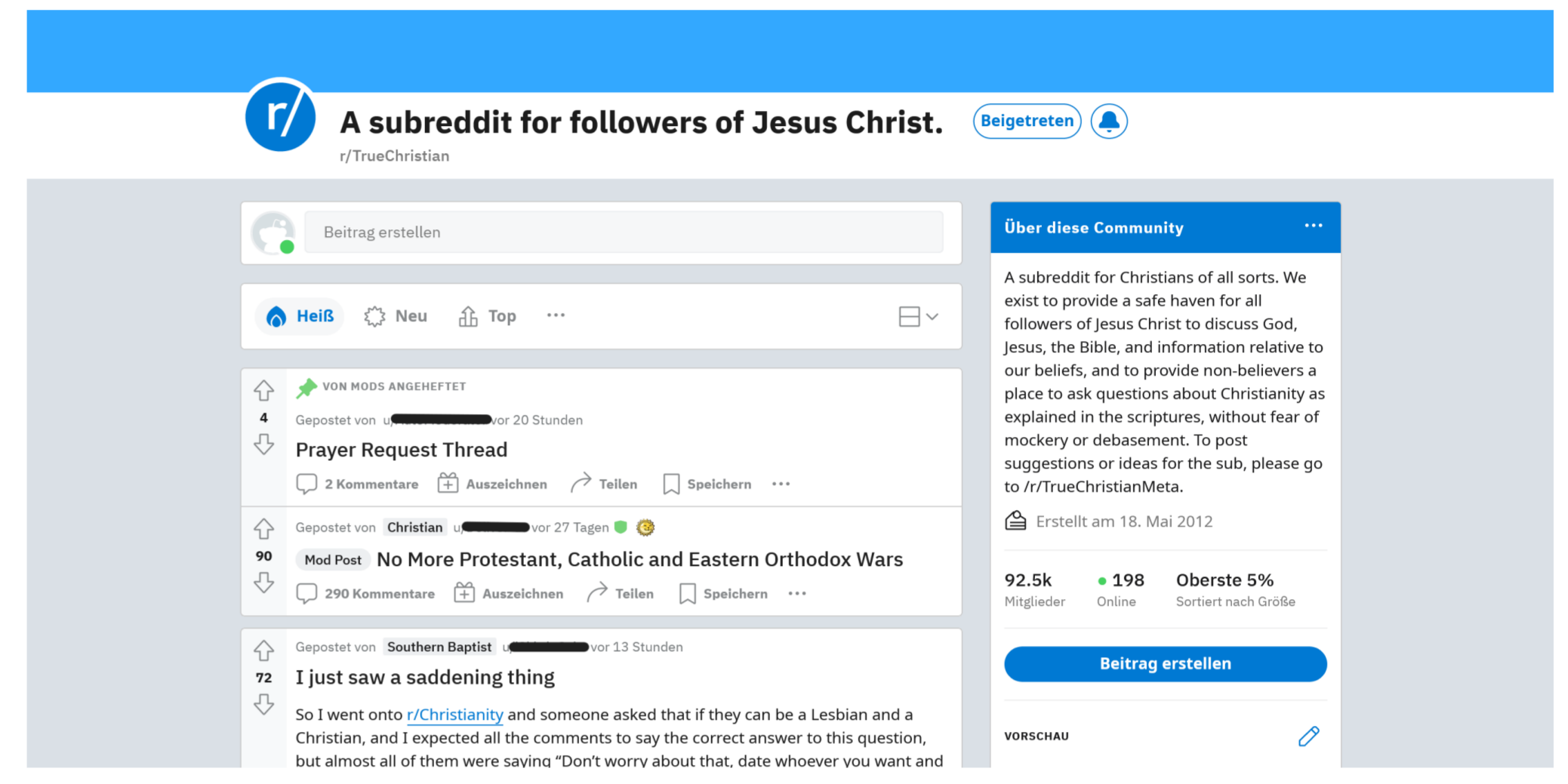
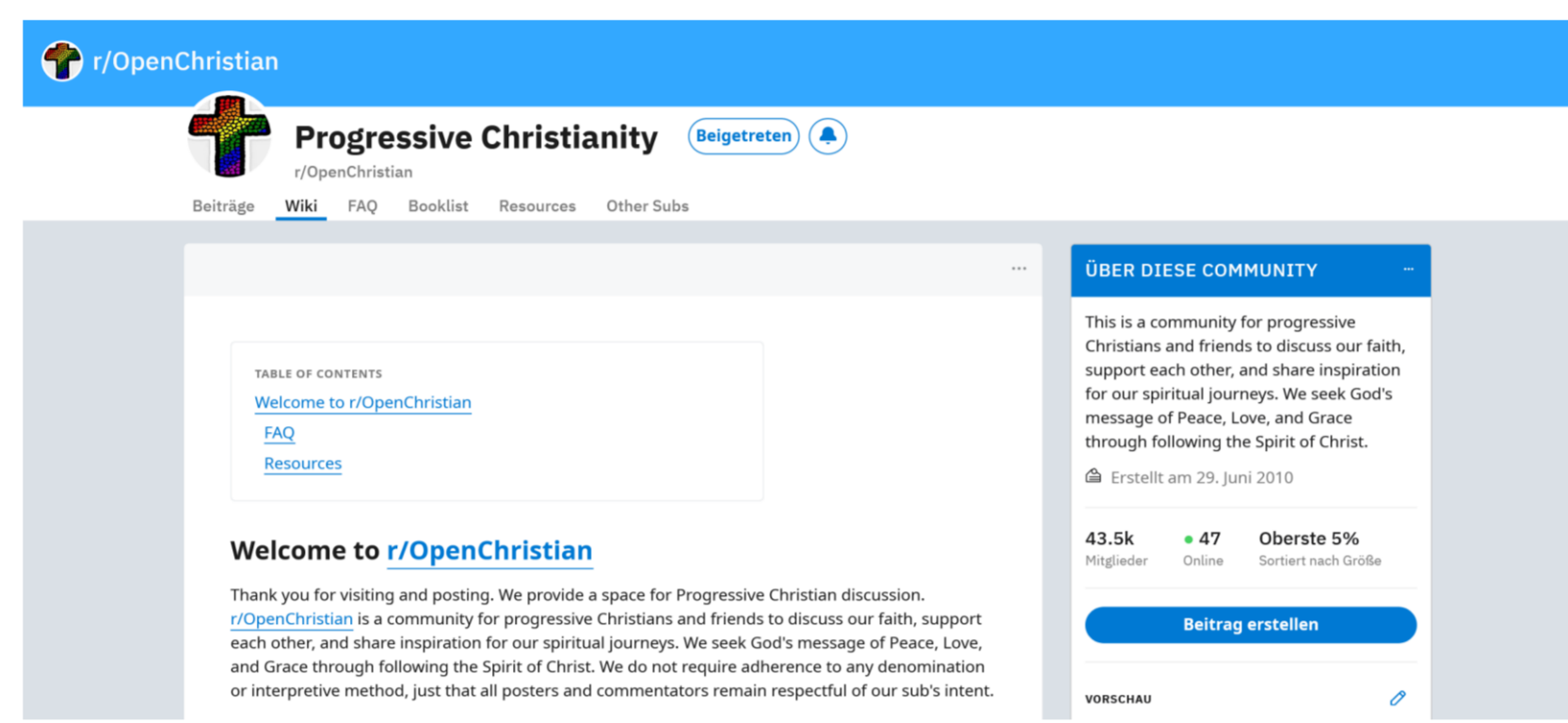
Lina Rodenhauen

Research question

Studying polarization in contemporary Christianity and the construction of progressive and conservative Christian identities

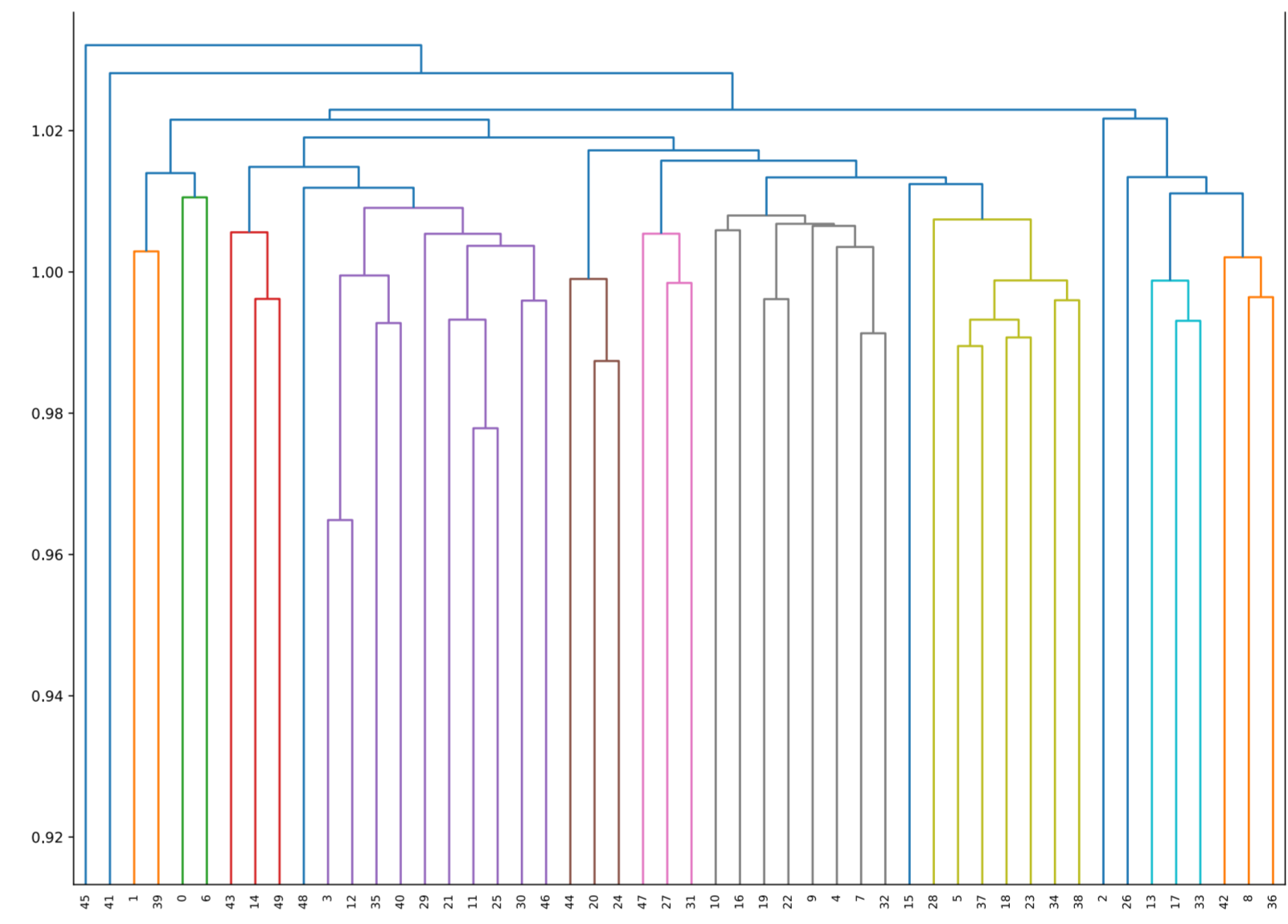
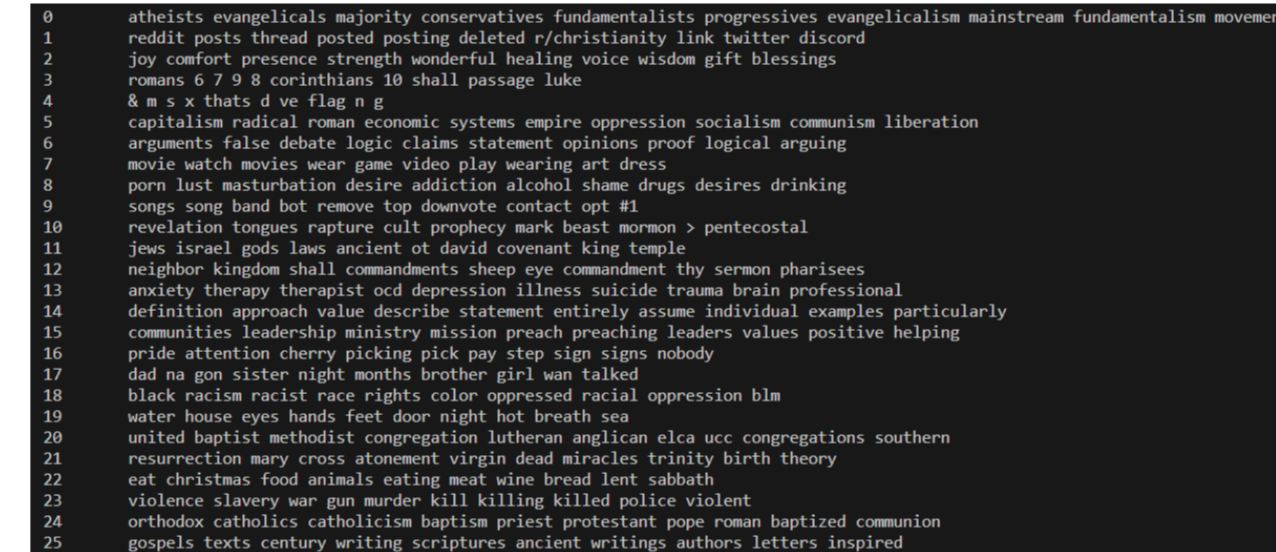
Data

Subreddit	Threads	Posts	Tokens	Date
r/OpenChristian	15.888	158.172	11.720.419	2010–2022
r/TrueChristian	55.986	1.084.214	79.981.720	2012–2022



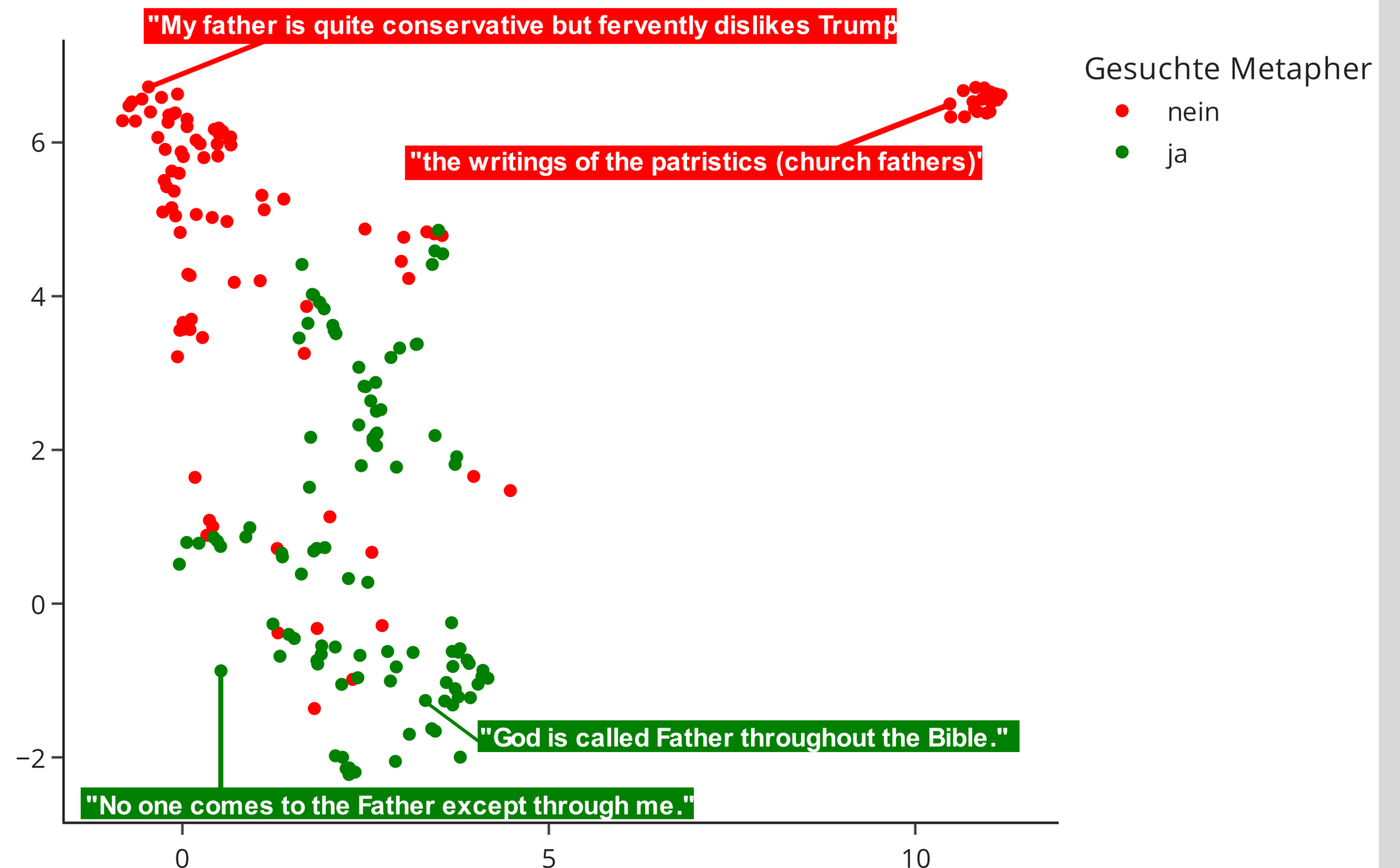
Topic Modeling

- Overview of both subreddits with multiple models
- Clustering to identify more abstract themes
- Logistic regression to find most distinguishing topics of each subreddit



Contextual Word Embeddings

- Task: Identification of specific mappings (i.e., GOD IS A FATHER)
- Issue of Word Sense Disambiguation
- BERT Embeddings of sentences with keyword
- Annotation of training data (Mapping present: yes/no)
- Classification with K-nearest-neighbor algorithm



Semantic Context Networks

- Corpus of sentences with (metaphorical) keyword
- Words as nodes
- Co-occurrences as edges
- Ego-Network of keyword

