

The 'Arquivo de Opinião' archive

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MINISTÉRIO DA CIÊNCIA, TECNOLOGIA E ENSINO SUPERIOR





About me

Miguel Won

2015-2018: FCT Postdoc researcher at INESC-ID in the field of Computational Social Science

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Introduction

Political Punditry



Political commentary

- Political commentary is present in everyday news media:
 - “Experts” in TV broadcasting channels
 - Columnist in newspapers

- This type of opinion plays an important role in the process of the *narrative construction* of the *public realm*:
 - Selection of events
 - Authority position
 - *Deciphers* the political complexities



Opinion articles

- In this work we consider only opinion articles from newspapers
- **Definition:** journalistic article, usually about the current the state of public affairs, authored by one or multiple authors, that expresses the **author's personal opinion**
- Two-sided role in respect to **public opinion**
 - They can be interpreted as a mirror of the public opinion
 - But can also be accused of its main influencer
- Essential component of the **public debate**



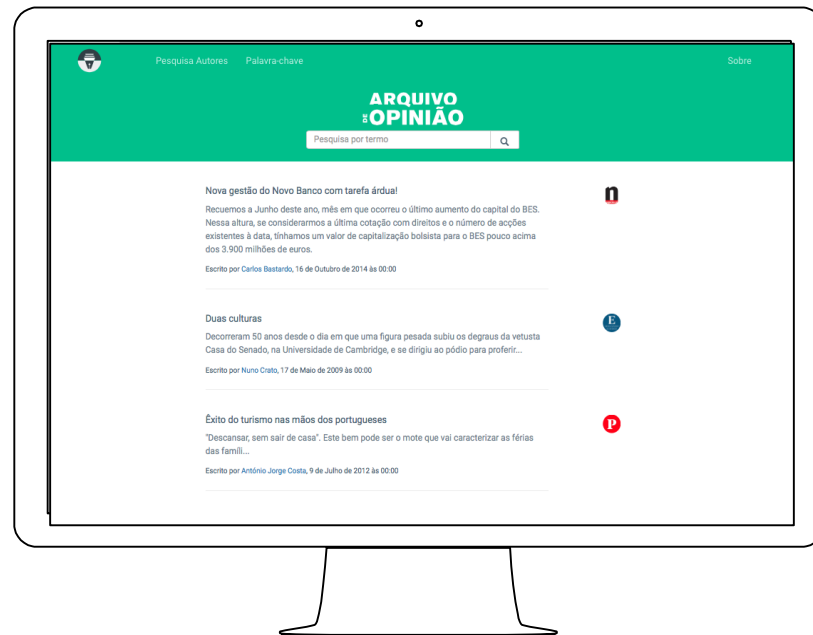
Memory

- Memory of political debates allows the recalling of ideas, main debatable issues, the argumentative logics, as well as the political positions of the various political actors (many political commentators are, were or will be themselves active politicians)
- Memory of political discussion is essential to the proper functioning of democracies
- Archives of this type of memory contributes to a healthy public debate
- Such archives should be digital:
 - Search engine
 - Searches by author, time period or media source
 - Public availability and user friendly



Arquivo de Opinião

- Digital archive of opinion articles



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Collect & process

Arquivo construction



Data sources

- Arquivo.pt: web archive of .pt domain
- Opinion section (online)

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APIs

Daniel Gomes edited this page Mar 1, 2018 · 16 revisions

- Arquivo.pt API (Full-text & URL search)
- CDX-server API (URL search)
- Memento Timetravel API (URL search)

Deprecated

- URL search: OpenSearch-based (deprecated)
- Full-text search: OpenSearch-based (deprecated)

Under development

- Image Search API (under development)

Pages

Find a Page...

[Home](#)

[APIs](#)

[Arquivo.pt API v.0.2 \(beta version\)](#)

[Compile](#)

[ConfigureSearch](#)

[Install](#)

[L2R4WAIR](#)

[MainFeatures](#)

[Memento Time travel API](#)



Pipeline



- | | | | |
|--|--|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Search for clues such as “opinioio”• web crawling | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Title• Author• Publication date• Body• ... | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Name correction• Remove html code• Manual inspection | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Part-of-speech tagging• NER• Key-phrases extraction |
|--|--|--|---|



Pipeline

Tools:

- Python: nltk, re, scikit-learn, etc.

- Scrapy (web scraping)



- Lx-Tagger (pos tagging)



- Stanford NER



Web framework:

- Django



- MongoDB



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NLP

NLP tasks



Named Entity Recognition (NER)

- Task: given a text as input identify the entities within the text
 - Person names
 - Locations
 - Organizations

NER Examples

Input: Vancouver is a coastal seaport city on the mainland of British Columbia. The city's mayor is Gregor Robertson.

Location

Output: Vancouver is a coastal seaport city on the mainland of British Columbia. The city's mayor is Gregor Robertson.

Location

Person



Named Entity Recognition (cont.)

- **Classification task** (sequential)
- Many free tools available in the market
 - Stanford NER (CRFs)
 - spaCy (NN)
 - Polyglot (NN)
- We have trained Stanford NER with an annotated corpus for Portuguese (European): **CINTIL**



Stanford NER with CINTIL

5-fold Cross-Validation Precision, Recall and F-Measure Results for NER using CINTIL

	True Positive	False Positive	False Negative	Precision	Recall	F-Measure
1	952	221	236	0.81	0.81	0.81
2	846	208	230	0.81	0.79	0.79
3	921	243	261	0.79	0.78	0.79
4	939	209	327	0.82	0.74	0.78
5	892	213	252	0.81	0.78	0.79
Total	4550	1094	1306	0.81	0.78	0.79



Key-phrase extraction

“Automatic extraction of relevant key-phrases for the study of issue competition”,
work in progress with Bruno Martins (INESC-ID) and Filipa Raimundo (ICS)

- Key-phrase: a word or phrase represents a concept, idea, entity, etc.
 - Refugee Crisis
 - National Health Service
 - António Costa
- Politicians often guide their speeches using key-phrases
- Key-phrase identification can hint us about the topics addressed in a set of speeches



First step: Candidate Selection

- Part-of-Speech tagging followed by a chunk rule:
 - Crise dos Refugiados: NOUN+PREP+NOUN
 - Sistema Nacional de Saúde: NOUN + ADJ + PREP + NOUN
 - António Costa: NOUN + NOUN

Chunking rule (Portuguese): (<NOUN>+ <ADJ>* <PREP>*)?
<NOUN>+



Second step: rank

- Several methods: TextRank, Phraseness & Informativeness, EmbedRank, etc.
- We can achieve state-of-the-art results with simple heuristic rules:
 - Tf-idf
 - Likelihood metric based in the position
 - Length

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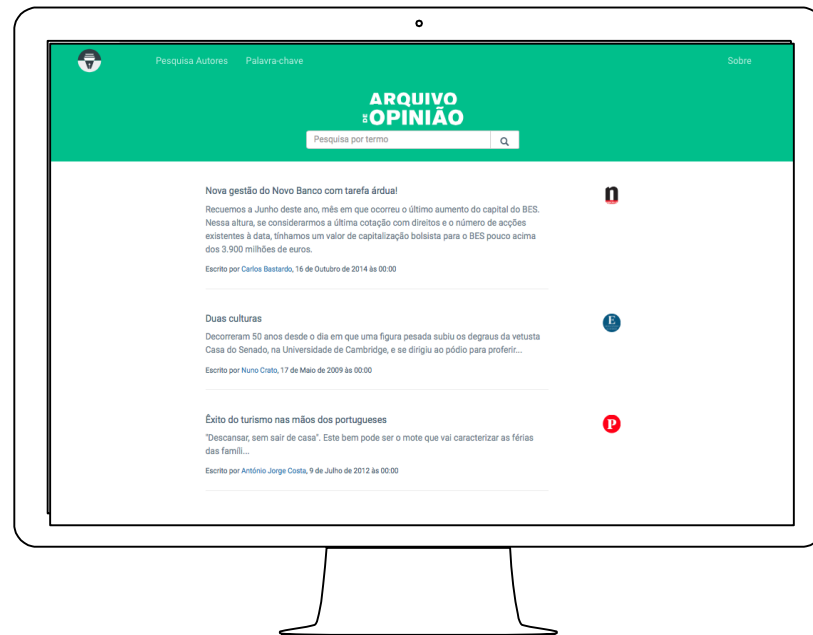
Arquivo de Opinião

Opinion in the Portuguese media



Arquivo de Opinião

- Frontpage with a search engine



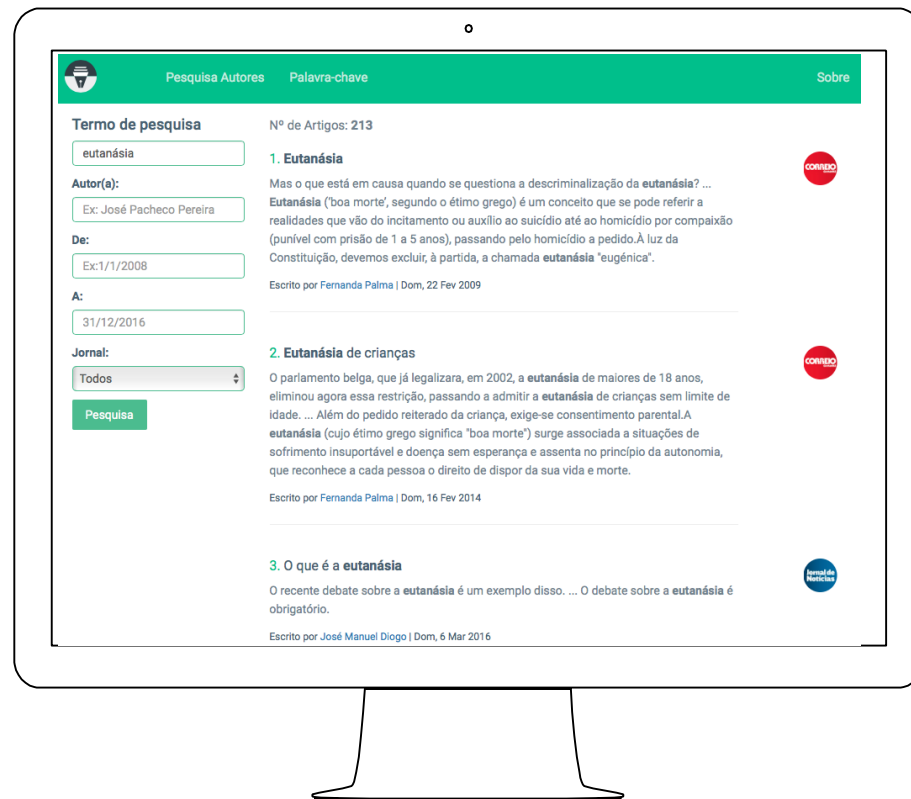


Search engine (mongo)

● Search for text or phrase

● Filters:

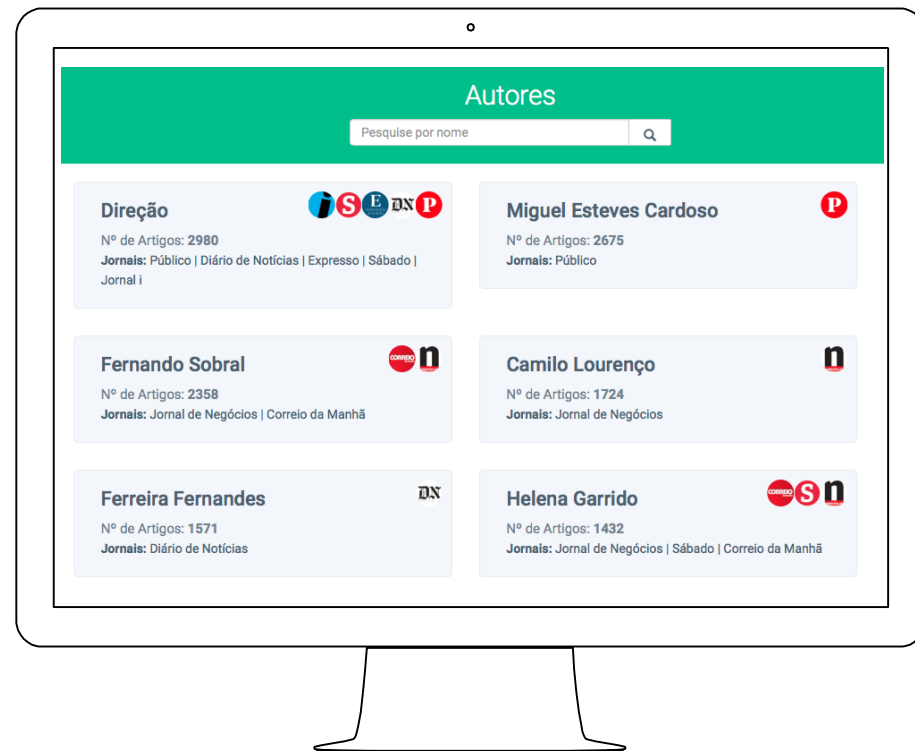
- author
- time interval
- source





Author

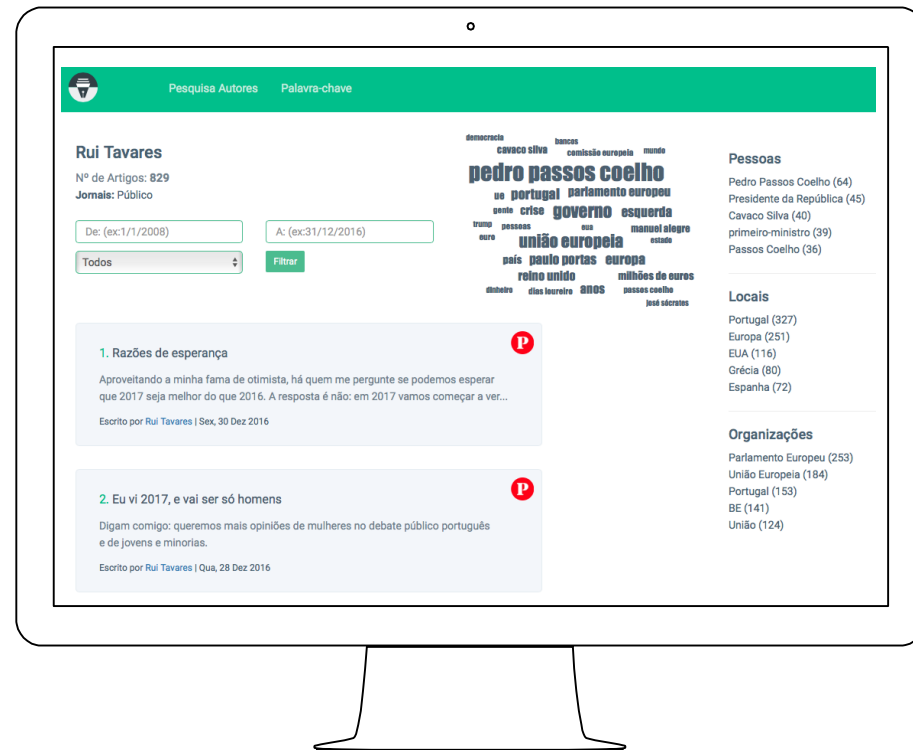
- Search for author
- ~3500 available authors





Author (cont.)

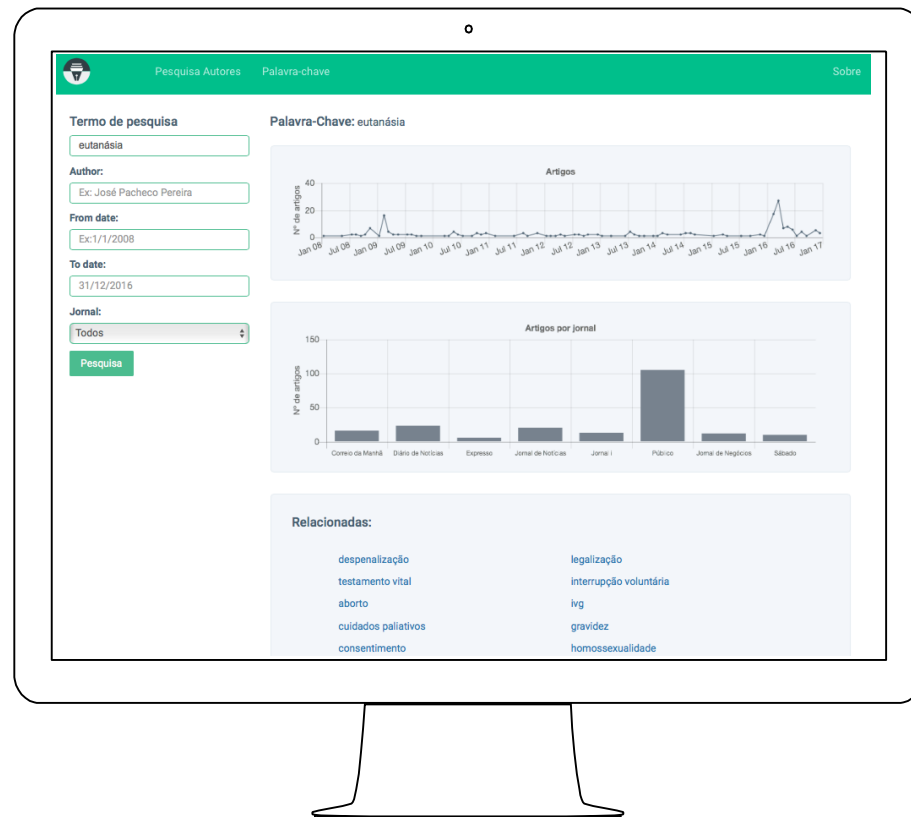
- Each author has its page
- Key-phrases cloud
- Mentioned entities:
 - Persons names
 - Locations
 - Organizations





Key-phrases

- Search indexed key-phrases (with autocomplete)
- Outputs
 - No. articles by time and source
 - Related (word embeddings)



85 530

Articles

3571

Authors

30 000

key-phrases

9

Years of publications (2008-2016)



5

Next steps and final remarks



Version 2.0

- Add additional sources: Observador, O Jornal Económico
- 2016-Present
- Social Media:
 - Authors pages
 - Shares, likes, etc.
 - Networks
- Real time monitoring (daily, weekly?)
- Add more NLP metrics: topic modeling, sentiment, etc.



Final remarks

- Political commentary is an important section of newspaper media
- A digital archive of this type of memory contributes to a better public debate
- *Arquivo de Opinião* main objective is to offer a digital online archive of the political opinion published in the main Portuguese newspapers
- All data was processed in order to extract additional information (NLP)
- Future work will be carried out towards the inclusion of external data, in particular from social media



Arquivo.pt awards (3rd place)





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