“In the early 1980s, by the end of my dissertation work—an econometric analysis of official strike statistics in the Italian postwar period—I had come to a depressing conclusion. Quantitative strike research had produced an abundant literature in its one hundred years of history—give or take a few years or decades. But …”
The beginning of my story… (Early 1980s)

Story grammar

The 5Ws + H of Journalism
Who, What, When, Where, Why and How

The Arte of Rhetorique (1560) Thomas Wilson (1524-1581)

Seuen circumstaunces, which are to bee considered in diuers matters.

i. Who did the deede.
ii. What was done.
iii. Where it was done.
ili. What helpe had he to doe it.
v. Wherefore he did it.
vi. How he did it.
vii. At what time he did it.

The circumstaunces in Meter.
Who, what, and where, by what helpe, and by whose: Why, how, and when, doe many things disclose.
PC-ACE
Program for Computer-Assisted Coding of Events

Things to do with words

About
Help
Login

Artwork by Fabio Cunial based on the painting "La Liberté Guidant le Peuple" by Eugene Delacroix, 1830. © Louvre (Louvre rights for use granted on 9/22/2018, ART14748/NA0550796).
I used PC-ACE/QNA in two projects:

- Thousands of newspaper articles hand-coded in Computer-Assisted QNA.

- Rise of Italian fascism (1919-1922)
- Lynchings in Georgia (1875-1930)
Semantic triplet: [Subject: [Actor... (Name of individual actor: negro)]]
[Action: (Verb phrase: attacks from behind)]
[Time... (Definite date: October 14, 1896)]
[Space..City: (City name: near Griffin) (Locality: woods)]
[Object: [Actor... (Name of individual actor: woman)] [Name of individual: Blanche Gray] [Marital status: single]]

Semantic triplet: [Subject: [Actor... (Name of individual actor: negro)]]
[Action: (Verb phrase: chokes)]
[Time... (Definite date: October 14, 1896)]
[Space..City: (City name: near Griffin) (Locality: woods)]
[Object: [Actor... (Name of individual actor: woman)] [Name of individual: Blanche Gray] [Marital status: single]]

Semantic triplet: [Subject: [Actor... (Name of individual actor: negro)]]
[Action: (Verb phrase: rapes)]
[Time... (Definite date: October 14, 1896)]
[Space..City: (City name: near Griffin) (Locality: woods)]
[Object: [Actor... (Name of individual actor: woman)] [Name of individual: Blanche Gray] [Marital status: single]]
TABLE 2
Logit Regression Estimates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Estimate</th>
<th>Standard Error</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intercept</td>
<td>-2.089</td>
<td>0.133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economic Sector</td>
<td>2.675</td>
<td>0.247</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type of Ownership</td>
<td>1.417</td>
<td>0.286</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Data</th>
<th>Economic Sector</th>
<th>Type of Ownership</th>
<th>Proportion Offensive</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Intercept</td>
<td>Service (1)</td>
<td>Public (1)</td>
<td>0.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Service (1)</td>
<td>Private (0)</td>
<td>0.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Industry (0)</td>
<td>Public (1)</td>
<td>0.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Industry (0)</td>
<td>Private (0)</td>
<td>0.11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Franzosi, “From Words to Numbers: A Set Theory Framework for the Collection, Organization, and Analysis of Narrative Data”, *Sociological Methodology*, 1994
THE NARRATIVE STRUCTURE OF THE DATA

1. Actor-Actions-[Actors] (SVO) → Network Models
2. Time and Space (of SVO) → GIS Models
Network Models (Who, What, Who - SVO)

Network of Lynching Violence against People
GIS Models (Where & When)

The geography of conflict & violence (1919-1922)
A Brave New World
Doing away with the pain of hand coding?

Natural Language Processing (NLP)
The end of my story

And that’s the end of my story…