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Corpus-based Critical Discourse Analysis of News Reports on METOO Movement

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Abstract

The METOO movement (or #METOO) has been widely reported by American media outlets. Politicians and social activists take advantage of this social movement as a great momentum to promote political, economic and social policies in multiple areas especially the ones related to women's rights. In turn, the movement gained even more extensive media exposure. However, as people enter the #METOO era, the general public and media start to split into different camps in terms of their opinion about this social movement.

In this paper, we can observe how two American news outlets with opposing partisan leanings -CNN and FOX News- use different linguistic devices and strategies to report the METOO movement, its associated events as well as actors and participants involved. By conducting a linguistic analysis of news discourse produced by both outlets, the signals of their respective attitudes or opinions can be detected.

Corpus linguistic (CL) analysis and critical discourse analysis (CDA) as synergetic approaches are presented to investigate news discourse produced by CNN and FOX News; the corpus-based study addresses different grammatic categories with a primary focus on the noun, while CDA or more specifically van Dijk's news discourse model is applied in a case study of a specific news event to present a systematic and critical interpretation of news texts at different dimensions starting from the microstructural and macrostructural dimension (i.e. textual structure) up to superstructural (i.e. news schemata) and rhetorical dimension.

Keywords: #METOO (METOO), media outlet, corpus linguistic, part-of-speech (POS), news discourse, critical discourse analysis (CDA)

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1. Introduction

The METOO movement originated from a public outcry of a group of economically disadvantaged black women in American society against injustice and discrimination that they have been gone through over the decades. However, the movement was not widely known until a sex scandal broke out in 2017 immediately ensued by a media storm. This storm was caused by a simple tweet #METOO on social media. Initially, it was just a tweet made by a Hollywood actress, who expressed her anger and frustration about the pervasiveness of sexual misconduct that female actors have encountered in their professional careers. Unexpectedly, the little hashtag eventually brought about the undoing of the Hollywood mogul Harvey Weinstein and transformed into a full-fledged social movement with a global impact. Unsurprisingly, this social movement has grabbed a huge amount of media attention in recent years. According to the report Media and #METOO released by Women´s Media Centre (WMC) in 2018, the total number of articles centred on METOO saw a 52 percent increase. The widespread media coverage from both traditional media and social media, in turn, fuelled the movement further along the way.

Stateline's annual Legislative Review in 2018 demonstrated that the METOO movement powered multiple legislative attempts in America. For instance, the movement prompted several states to rethink their current legislation regarding non-disclosure agreements, which bans the victims of sexual misconduct from speaking out as the accused parties often buy their silence for financial compensation. In the same year, the state of Washington DC introduced a bill of legislation stating that a non-disclosure agreement should no longer constitute a prerequisite condition for employees when signing an employment contract. More states including California, Arizona, New York, New Jersey followed the suit. Levy and Mattsson found that the METOO movement "led to an 12% on reporting sexual crimes" in the city sampled in the research (16). It also predicted an increase of reporting associated with sex crimes in the future, even though this increase was more likely due to more acute awareness of the general public about the sexual misconduct situation, rather than to governmental policy changes. The influence of the METOO movement has overspilled over the rest of the world. According to Human Right Watch 2020 report, there are 439 out of 476 governments, employers, and workers from around the world, who voted at the 2019 UN International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention on Violence and Harassment at Work in favour of the adoption of measures to tackle the problem of sexual harassment at work; more than 10 countries

including France, Philippines, South Africa expressed their willingness to enter into the ratification process of the new treaty.

However, one year after the hashtag movement, the general public and media outlets in America started to diverge on #METOO especially along the party line. According to NPR (National Public Radio)-Ipsos study conducted in 2018, 75% of Republicans argued that the movement has gone to extremes compared with only 21% of Democrats. Moreover, when it comes to "the benefit of the doubt" in sexual assault allegation, 86% of Republican believed that the accused should be granted "the benefit of the doubt" as an essential component of due process in the American legal system, while a fewer percentage of Democrat consented to the same opinion. The opinion division on the social movement echoed with another poll carried out by Pew Research Centre in the same year. The study found that 62% of democrat or left-leaning American adults were concerned that the accused male could be getting away with sexual assault or harassment and the alleged female victims were not being believed for their claim, by contrast, only 33% of Republican or right-leaning agreed with such opinion. Interestingly, NPR-Ipsos also found that people of different party leaning often used different linguistic choices in describing their understanding of sex crimes; NPR-Ipsos generated a topic model of word cloud based on the poll results, which revealed that the Democrats tend to use words with negative denotation or "coercive" nature like "forcing" and "attacked" while the Republicans were more likely to use words to express their subjective emotion such as "feel" and "saying".

The perception of the general public on the movement may be under the influence of media outlets and their news discourse since "the influence of news language on our perception of the world, due to the fact that news media operate a selection of incidence and narrative, and use the language to project those" (Buono et al. 137). Therefore, the language used by American media outlets with opposing partisan leaning provides an interesting research direction to investigate. Although the METOO movement has been examined from many perspectives such as psychology, press politics, or social science, there are few pieces of research primarily focusing on analysing the language used in the news reports on the METOO movement. In this paper, the proposed research question is in what way CNN and Fox News differ, if any, in reporting the same social movement. The paper consists of the following sections: introduction, literature review, materials and methodology, results and discussion, and conclusion. The methodology section is divided into two parts. The first part is to use corpus linguistics to

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analyse grammatical categories of the specialized corpus in combination with a qualitative analysis of concordance results; such analysis primarily focused on noun category; the second one is to conduct a critical study of two news texts by employing the theoretical framework of news discourse proposed by van Dijk. The analysis results may present a possible answer to the research question raised in this section.

2. Literature review

The previous literature consulted and selected is organized into two sections. Under the first section, more priorities were given to the papers with the topics of social movement, news media, the relationship between the two, and framing in the news discourse. Under the second section, we mainly focused on the studies examining news reports from the linguistic point of view.

2.1 News media, social movement and framing in the news discourse

The women's rights movement has not always been an important newsworthy event sought after by the media. The activists and organizers of such movements have been strategically practicing their interaction with news media to make their events or activities become newsworthy, eventually to be picked by journalists and editors of news organizations. Barker-Plummer examined the history of the relationship between news media and the women's movements in America between 1966 and 1975 arguing that there always exists a "dialogical modal" between the two. Such interaction evolved from "media pragmatism" to "media subversion" (310-312), through which a higher-resolution identity of a social movement could gradually come into existence as "movements can, potentially at least, learn about news organizations' routines, practices, and discursive logics, and take part in framing themselves" (309). Consequently, such understanding "may produce critical or strategic knowledge, knowledge that may be used to produce change" (311). Such argument echoes with a case study based on over 20-year period of media coverage on abortion issues in America and the case study further explains with statistics the relationship between social movement and media outlets (both mainstream and partisan ones) and the factors that are associated with the rate of coverage on social movement in mainstream and partisan outlets. Rohlinger et al. discovered in the case study that an organization uses framing techniques to (re)construct its identity as well as issues or undertakings they attempt to address or promote, and the "organizational

frame" has an effect on the coverage rate in partisan media outlets (69-71). Nowadays, activists and organizers of social movements become active agents in framing activities:

> social movements are not merely viewed as carriers of extent ideas and meaning that grow automatically out of structural arrangements, unanticipated events, or existing ideology. Rather, movement actors are viewed as signify agents actively engaged in the production and maintenance of meaning for constituents, antagonists, and by standers or observers. They are deeply embroiled, along with media, local governments and the state, in what has been referred to as "the politics of signification" (Benford and Snow, "Framing Processes and Social Movements" 613).

Such framing is not limited to movements actors, since the framing process is a "circular one with endogenous loops", which includes journalist, source and reader (Pan and Kosicki, 57). Journalists and news outlets employ their news discourse to frame the issues in a way to fit with the message or ideology they attempt to convey or lead the public in the direction they attempt to push. In other words, for journalists and editors of news media, framing is about "selection" and "salience" and the purpose of framing is "to promote a particular problem definition, causal interpretation, moral evaluation, and/or treatment recommendation for the item described" (Etman 52). For scholars, selection is a process to choose a certain aspect of reality to be highlighted and obscure the other alternatives, whereas for daily journalism practice, it is about the professional judgement made by journalists and editors in news room in terms of "what is included and what is excluded and why" based on the criteria of news values; however, news value or newsworthiness is a "slippery concept" (O'Neil and Harcap 162) for the reasons that there is a lack of a unified theory or framework to guide us to judge which event could be deemed as newsworthy. According to Merriam-Webster, the vocabulary "newsworthy" could be defined as "interesting enough to the general public to warrant reporting". However, such a definition is too low-resolution to serve as a guidance. PBSNewsHour, a prominent TV news division of Public Broadcast Service (PBS) in America, proposed the definition of newsworthiness, which is categorized by the following five value criteria, which are timeliness, proximity, conflict and controversy, human interest and relevance. Bednarek and Caple also proposed a set of criteria to provide even higher-resolution definition of the word "newsworthy" arguing that a piece of information could be deemed as newsworthy by the following news values, which are "negativity, timeliness, proximity, prominence, consonance, impact, novelty, superlativeness, personalization" (41-44). However,

in the paper, we will not go deeper in the discussion over the definition and criteria of newsworthy. It is assumed that all news reports sampled for the study are automatically deemed as newsworthy.

The other component of framing is salience. Etman argues that for a piece of information to be salient, journalists and news media as communicators of a text need to resort to the techniques of "placement or repetition or by associating them with culturally familiar symbols" or of activating "existing schemata" of the audience (53). The concrete manifestation of a frame could be "presence or absence of certain keywords, stock phrases, stereotyped images, sources of information, and sentences that provide thematically reinforcing clusters of facts or judgments" (52). However, framing or frames contained in news text, especially political ones, do not always function to bring about change of view and policy reforms. If a frame breaches a culturally widely-accepted boundary of general audience, such frame could be deemed as incredible, and existing power fails to be "subverted" (55). We can see the frame here is more concerned about the activation of audience's schemata toward the world, whereas collective action or social movement frames have its "interactive" and "constructionist" aspects:

> collective action frames also perform this interpretive function by simplifying and condensing aspects of the "world out there," in ways that are "intended to mobilize potential adherents and constituents, to garner bystander support, and to demobilize antagonists" (Benford and Snow, "Ideology, Frame Resonance and Participant Mobilization" 198).

It is necessary to introduce at this stage the other concept, which is closely associated with frames, that is ideology. Some scholars often treat frames the same as ideology, others stressed the distinction and relationship between the two, arguing that for social movement, "frames as strands of one or more ideologies" and ideology could be used as "cultural resource" to construct the frames (Snow and Benford, "Clarifying" 9). I agree with the former ones, since functionally speaking, frames and ideology are a system of ideas or beliefs that guide people to think the world in a particular way. Therefore, ideologies do not always have to be associated with negative connotation, since ideologies function as "axiomatic beliefs" that could "bolster resistance" and "impose, defend or struggle for interest" (van Dijk, *The Handbook of Journalism Studies* 193) and ideology should be treated as a "general notion" with "a broader and more flexible application" (van Dijk, "Ideology and discourse" 8).

2.2 Linguistic analysis of news discourse

One of primary approaches to investigate media discourse has been critical discourse analysis (or CDA) (van Dijk, "The Handbook of Discourse Analysis" 477). CDA is not a single method but "a theoretical framework that relates discourse, cognition, and society" (468). In broader sense, CDA focus on "resistance" and "dominance" manifested in media discourse (478) as media discourse, especially news discourse is not only a "factual" description of events (van Dijk, "Discourse Analysis" 28), but a story that "exists within cultural lexicon of understandable themes" (Bird and Dardenne 208) or a "privileged form of knowledge in political life" and "authoritative version of reality", capable of giving particular representation a cultural legitimate status in knowledge system of public sphere" (Barker-Plummer 308). Therefore, the audience members are hardly exposed to an impartial, neutral and objective presentation of the events but to "(re)construction of reality" (van Dijk, "Discourse Analysis" 28).

In practice, conducting CDA on media discourse needs to focus on two primary aspects: one is to investigate the "social and communicative context" of different genre of media; the other is to focus media discourse's structure, which entails the studies of,

> lexicon, syntax, topics, metaphor, coherence, actor description, social identities, genres, modality, presupposition, rhetorical figures, interaction, news schemas, and multimodal analysis of images (van Dijk, "The Handbook of Discourse Analysis" 477).

By analysing the grammatical choices made by journalists and media outlets, we could infer and detect implicit "ideological opinions" of journalists and news outlets (van Dijk, "Opinion and Ideologies in the Press" 63). Harmon and Muenchen demonstrated that the reporting of the Iraq war and 9/11 attack covered by American media organizations such as CNN, CBS and Fox News, who employed selective semantic structure and lexical choices to promote pro-war positions pushed by the Bush administration. Under the current background of Covid-19, media outlets use different metaphoric expressions in describing different stages of the virus crisis. Muhammad and Fakultas found that the Indonesia media initially used "warfare terminology" with the corresponding lexicon such as "win", "lose", "attack" and "enemy" to imply "optimism" and "spirit of unity in fighting the enemy" (67) to describe Covid-19 as an opponent to be attacked or eliminated. Subsequently, news discourse started to change by using "friend(ship)" metaphoric expression with the lexical itmes such as "peace", "make friends

with" to "imply a pessimism" that people should live with the situation and the virus is no longer "something to be fear of" (68).

However, more and more researchers start to introduce corpus linguistics into critical discourse analysis to "address social concerns, processes, and phenomena" especially that of "media and political discourse" (Cheng 5). The synergy or "synergetic methodology" means that by using computers to "identify frequent and salient linguistic patterns over large amounts of data" in combination with "close qualitative reading" (Baker and Levon 223).

Al-Hejin used such cross-pollination between CL and CDA to study how the Muslim women are represented in media especially in western ones from linguistic perspective, discovering that for instance, the Muslim female bombers in BBC news reports collocated with the words "sent" or "used". The author argued that such passive sentence syntax implied that they were "mere 'tools' trivialising their role as self-determined social actors" (143). BBC used the premodifier "Islamism" for "terrorism" and "extremism", which, in the author's opinion, did a disservice to and blackened the religion of Islamism. Analysing the linguistic pattern drawn from the corpora in combination of socio-political and cultural context reading, the author concluded that Muslim women as social group and the Islamism as a religion were marginalized or/and misrepresented in western media outlet BBC. Liu and Leung also used such synergy in their research, discovering that there was a "notable shift" in the way the commercial media in China reported migrant workers before and after 2016 (7). By comparing the keywords and n-gram results of commercial media corpora and that of state media, they found that the frequency of semantically unfavourable keywords is much higher in the reporting of migrant workers by Chinese commercial media before the year of 2016. After 2016, the phenomenon of "unification of voices" between the two (i.e commercial media and state media) occurred (7). The authors pointed out that such a shift coincided with the political context back then, within which Beijing was promoting "positive publicity". Therefore, such shift was driven by ideology instead of media commercialization. Such commercialization of media, which was supposed to enhance the diversity of information, especially those challenging ones toward the authority, in turn served as a medium for "regime stabilization" and "obscure and delegitimize the contesting voices" (7).

Such synergy between corpus linguistics and critical discourse analysis is prompted mainly by the fact that CDA has been criticized for lack of methodological rigor and representativeness (Cheng 1). In some cases, we could see that CDA "practitioners have tended to use qualitative

techniques, as well as taking into account analysis of the social, political, historical and intertextual contexts, which go beyond analysis of text" (Baker et al. 274). Therefore, the analysis needs to be balanced out by introducing statistical rigor and a relatively higher objectivity provided by a quantitative method, that is corpus linguistics (CL). For its quantitative characteristic, corpus linguistics offers us a descriptive and relatively objective statement of the statistics. One of the major focuses of corpus linguistics is to analyse part of speech (POS). Vis et al. used corpus linguistics to examine a diachronic corpus compiled from Dutch newspapers published during a time span of more than 50 years. After analysing the grammatic categories with subjective features such as pronoun (first and second person), modal verbs, quotation, they discovered that "informalisation" of Dutch newspaper took place "through literal citations of conversations of other speakers" (95). Potts et al. employed computer-assisted POS tagging to investigate how newsworthiness is constructed in reporting of Hurricane Katrina by American media. After examining a large volume of newspaper data across a diachrony, they found that POS tags indicated a clear shift of "emphasises upon various aspects of newsworthiness" (165). As demonstrated before, such researches are completely data-driven without consulting any information beyond the news texts of the corpora involved in the study and there are no hypotheses or assumptions proposed before the analysis. What they focus on is to "extrapolate linguistic frequencies, patterns or linguistic norms" from "naturally occurring" language data, in some cases, of large volume (Baker and Levon, 6)

It seems that corpus linguistics could be suitable complementary to CDA as it can provide statistical rigor and is not influenced by perceived assumption. However, we could not ignore the inherent paradox associated with the synergy between the two due to their respective characteristics. By definition, "while discourse is often fluid, ambiguous and fuzzy, statistics expects rigour, precision and clearly defined categories" (Brezina 260). Therefore, introducing CL into CDA may cancel out the discursive richness of natural language; in practice, the absolute balance between the two is hard to be achieved mainly because when applying CL in CDA studies to analyse linguistic phenomena, we are less concerned about the collocations in terms of "frequency threshold" or "collocation span"; instead, more priority is given to the collocations "established manually through sorted concordances, and information regarding their statistical significance". Moreover, it is not feasible to "account for all the corpus instances of the linguistic phenomenon under investigation" (Baker et al. 275), and the corpus in use is primarily small-sized specialized one so that linguistic features or patterns may be not

representative due to a small frequency; hence, the interpretation may lack reliability (Cheng 5; Baker et al. 6).

The previous arguments do not mean that we could not rely on corpus linguistics to conduct CDA of media discourse. Corpus linguistics itself is not limited to purely descriptive and quantitative, but "a combination of quantitative and qualitative studies, which "requires considerable human input, which often includes qualitative analysis" (Baker et al. 274). Take the corpus linguistics study of news reporting of Hurricane Katrina as example, keywords or frequency list can be generated by computer, however, the researchers had to identify manually the linguistic construction that "seem to have the potential to construct news values" and read the concordance results in order to "gain insights in news values are associated with particular concepts or entities." (Potts et al. 154). Corpus linguistics plays an important role in "identifying repetitive lexical combinations that indicated more subtle ideological representations" in news discourse and in judging if a particular collocate is "representative". CL gives researchers some kind of measure of confidence in deciding such collocate's "generalisability" (230-231). In the opposite case, only relying on CL without critical interpretation of texts aided by reading contextual information surrounding news discourse, may lead to incorrect assumptions. The merits of "cross-pollination" between the two methodologies are too desirable to be ignored (Baker et al. 297) as the synergy between the two also create a "virtuous research cycle" (295) (See Figure1).

1   Context-based analysis of topic via history/politics/culture/etymology.
     Identify existing topoi/discourses/strategies via wider reading, reference to
     other CDA studies
2   Establish research questions/corpus building procedures
3   Corpus analysis of frequencies, clusters, keywords, dispersion, etc. – identify
     potential sites of interest in the corpus along with possible discourses/topoi/
     strategies, relate to those existing in the literature
4   Qualitative or CDA analysis of a smaller, representative set of data (e.g.,
     concordances of certain lexical items or of a particular text or set of texts within
     the corpus) – identify discourses/topoi/strategies (DH approach)
5   Formulation of new hypotheses or research questions
6   Further corpus analysis based on new hypotheses, identify further discourses/
     topoi/strategies, etc.
7   Analysis of intertextuality or interdiscursivity based on findings from corpus
     analysis
8   New hypotheses
9   Further corpus analysis, identify additional discourses/topoi/strategies, etc.

Figure 1: The virtuous research cycle created by application of corpus linguistics in conducting critical discourse analysis (Baker et al. 2005: 295)

3. Materials and Methodology

3.1 Corpus description

The corpora data was collected from news reports posted on the websites of two major American news outlets: CNN and Fox News. Such selection is based on the fact that there is a relatively significant discrepancy between the two news outlets both in partisan leaning and demographic composition of their respective reader or viewer communities, as the METOO movement has been portrayed as "polarized" in American media not only along "race and class" but also along with "political party lines" (Earle 257).

Pew Research Center conducted the polls for its Election News Pathways project between 2019 and 2020. One of the polls named "U.S. Media Polarization and the 2020 Election: A Nation Divided" shows that American adult population was divided on the first choice of media outlet they tuned in to for political news (See Figure 2). Among more than 50 news outlets mentioned in the survey, Fox News (16%) and CNN (12%) are the most watched outlets by American adult audience.

Fox News, CNN are most commonly cited sources for political and election news

% of U.S. adults who ...

	Named outlet as main source for political news %	Got political news from source in past week %
Fox News	16	39
CNN	12	39
NPR	5	20
NBC News	4	34
ABC News	4	33
MSNBC	4	24
CBS News	3	30
New York Times	2	20

Note: Main source asked as an open-ended question. Outlets mentioned as main source by less than 2% not shown.
Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Oct. 29-Nov. 11, 2019.

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Figure 2: Rank list of mostly watched news source for American adult population

Around 93% consumers of Fox News are Republican or lean Republican while only 6 % of Democrat or lean Democrat chose to tune in to this outlet. As for CNN, 79 % of their consumers are Democrat or lean Democrat compared with 17% of Republican or lean Republican. This distribution could be explained by the following factors: ideology, gender, age, education and ethnicity. The audience with partisan ideology is more willing to tune in to the outlet which favours their opinion (see Figure 3). For example, 70% democrat or liberal trust CNN and 75% republican or conservative trust Fox News as their source for political news.

% who *trust* each source for political and election news (first five shown)

Democrat/Lean Dem				Republican/Lean Rep			
LIBERAL		MODERATE/ CONSERVATIVE		MODERATE/ LIBERAL		**CONSERVATIVE**	
CNN	70%	CNN	65%	Fox News	51%	Fox News	75%
New York Times	66	ABC News	63	ABC News	47	Hannity (radio)	43
PBS	66	NBC News	61	CBS News	42	Limbaugh (radio)	38
NPR	63	CBS News	60	NBC News	41	ABC News	24
NBC News	61	PBS	48	CNN	36	CBS News	23

Figure 3: Partisan ideology plays a role in American adults' choice of news outlet

Demographic differences emerge among those who rely on each outlet as their main political news source

% who are ____ among those who name each as their main source for political and election news

	ABC News %	CBS News %	CNN %	Fox News %	MSNBC %	NBC News %	NPR %	New York Times %
Male	40	30	46	55	47	42	46	51
Female	60	70	54	45	52	58	54	49
Ages 18-29	15	8	20	9	4	13	15	29
30-49	24	22	37	22	21	26	49	34
50-64	35	35	26	32	30	33	24	17
65+	26	35	17	37	44	27	12	20
High school or less	37	39	28	38	27	38	8	7
Some college	39	30	32	35	28	33	24	21
College graduate+	24	30	40	27	45	30	68	72
White	60	67	52	87	67	73	75	71
Black	17	15	21	3	18	6	3	4
Hispanic	13	10	15	6	9	14	9	10
Rep/Lean Rep	44	41	17	93	5	38	12	7
Dem/Lean Dem	53	55	79	6	95	57	87	91

Note: Main source asked as an open-ended question. Outlets mentioned by less than 2% as main source not shown. Whites and blacks include only non-Hispanics; Hispanics can be of any race.
Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Oct. 29-Nov. 11, 2019.
PEW RESEARCH CENTER

Figure 4: American adult population's primary choice over their media outlet
in light of different demographic factors

The survey also shows that CNN is more watched by women (54%) than men (46%), which draws a contrast with the gender distribution of Fox News viewers. Moreover, the different age groups of the adult population have distinct choices of media outlet as their main political news source. As we can observe from the Figure 4, the largest percentage of the audience who choose CNN ages between 30 to 49 whereas most of Fox News viewers are adults aged above 65. Moreover, the audience of CNN has a higher education background than that of Fox News: 40% of CNN audience are college graduates compared with 27% for Fox News. However, the audience both for CNN (52%) and Fox News (87%) are largely white population.

Therefore, it could be concluded that CNN and Fox News are valid data sources for this research since both are mainstream news sources for American adult population and each reflects its own respective partisan view, ideology and has its own audience community at least according to these surveys above. Therefore, the news data from the two outlets presents an

opportunity to see in what way they differ in reporting #METOO movement in different domains such as business, politics, entertainment.

Considering all factors involved, it is necessary to design a special purpose corpus or specialized corpus to better serve the research purpose. The corpus in question is not a monitor one as the research did not focus on the development or evolution of specialized language use, but rather on studying the difference, if any, between two media outlets in reporting the movement. Bowker and Pearson (2002) proposed a set of criteria for designing a specialized corpus in terms of corpus size, extract/full text, medium, text number, and publication date. As Bowker and Pearson argue, the size is not an absolute concept as long as it serves the purpose of your study and is big enough to contain linguistic patterns, concepts and terms in order to make a valid generalization or validate a hypothesis, and based on general experience, the size of a useful specialized corpus usually amounts to from ten thousand to several hundreds of thousands of words (48). In this research, a 48,986 words corpus composed of 60 files is used (See Figure 5) and the word count falls within the recommended range. It is necessary to clarify that this figure comes from Sketch Engine, which is slightly different from the word count in Microsoft Word, since Sketch Engine count both word and non-word in the files. According to Sketch Engine, non-words are defined as tokens "which do not start with a letter of the alphabet" such as numbers and punctuation. By comparison, in Microsoft Word, the punctuations only are counted as separate word counts if the punctuation mark is separated with spaces. Such a difference in counting rules accounts for the word count discrepancy between the two.

Regarding the criterion of medium and extract/full text, the corpora in this research was solely composed of written text as compiling a specialized corpus composed of spoken text is time-consuming. It is recommended to select full text since sometimes linguistic patterns and terms are not evenly distributed throughout the text. The text samples chosen to compile this corpus were all full texts (including headlines and lead) copied and pasted directly from two outlets' websites.

As for text number, the texts sampled for the corpora came from different authors or journalists. The reason for compiling the multi-author corpora is to get a better idea of "terms and concepts that are commonly used in the specialized corpus in question" and to lessen the factor of idiosyncrasy in language use if the texts chosen are written by only one or two authors (49). Following this principle, the specialized corpora in this research is a multi-author one and the metadata about the authors can be found in Appendix I. Finally, when it comes to the criterion

of publication date, the METOO movement is a recent phenomenon dating back to 2017. Therefore, the texts chosen for the corpora were published between 2017 to 2021.

All texts chosen for the corpora in question were named and the file name is composed of the following parts: number of the file, name of news outlet, domain, publication date, and language. For instance, to name a CNN news text in the business domain published on June 30, 2021, the file is named as 001CNNbizJun302021EN.
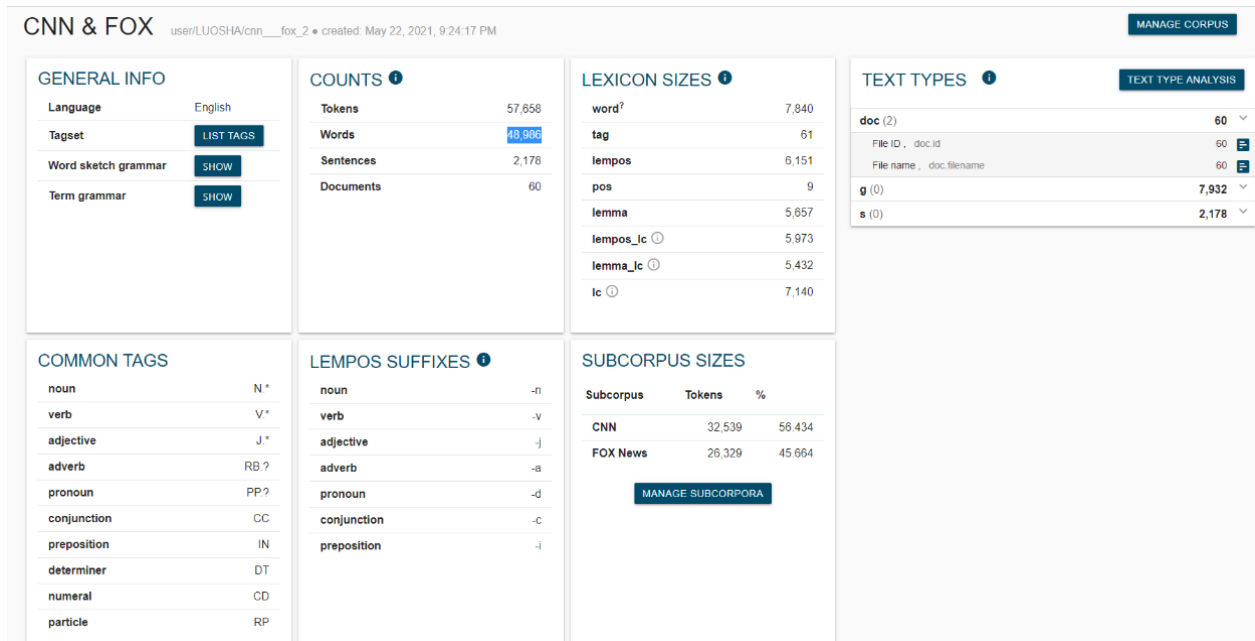
Figure 5 General information of corpora used in the research (Source: Sketch Engine)

As was mentioned in the introduction, both quantitative and qualitative studies of news discourse of CNN and Fox News were presented in the paper. The former one was a corpus-based part-of-speech analysis in combination with a close qualitative reading of concordance results generated from high-frequency nouns, and the latter one was a CDA case study of a specific news event aided by van Dijk's news discourse model (See Figure 8, Methodology section). The news texts chosen to do such critical discourse analysis were determined by frequency ranking of the noun list of CNN & FOX corpus (see Figure 6), where the proper noun "Cuomo" ranked the highest in the frequency column compared with other proper nouns such as Weinstein and Trump. The texts sampled were 007CNNpoliticsMar012021EN and 050FoxpoliticsFeb282021EN. Here the relevant background information of the "Cuomo event needs to be provided. The proper noun "Cuomo" refers to the New York state governor Andrew Cuomo, who was accused by several of his former female aides of sexual misconduct. The scandal first broke out last December when his former staffer Lindsey Boylan tweeted her

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experience working at his office. After her tweet, more women came forward accusing the governor of sexual harassment and creating an abusive and toxic work environment. The call for Cuomo's resignation even among his Democrat party continues to mount. Cuomo has refuted all allegations but offered his apologies to the accusers and the sex scandal is still brewing in America as of writing this paper.

Figure 6 In comparison with other proper nouns,"Cuomo" appears at the top of noun list of corpus CNN & FOX
(Source: Sketch Engine)

3.2 Methodology

3.2.1 Corpus-based part-of-speech linguistic analysis

The texts sampled for this research were directly copied and pasted from the websites of CNN (https://edition.cnn.com/) and FOX News (https://www.foxnews.com/). Each news text was saved into one independent word file (.docx), named accordingly, and uploaded to Microsoft Onedrive, which is accessible and consultable for UVa users with necessary authorization. The detailed information about each text such as file name, publication date, domain, author and gender, keyword and website link of each sample were detailed in an excel file named Metadata_TFM.xlsx (also see Appendix I)

The linguistic online tool Sketch Engine was applied in the research to conduct relevant analysis. There are several free linguistic analysis tools available such as Antconc, #LancsBox. Sketch Engine possesses the similar important features like part-of-speech, concordance, and

keywords as other tools. But Sketch Engine is a totally online platform, which doesn't have any requirement for a computer operation system.

In this research, the whole corpus CNN & FOX was first compiled and then by using the "manage corpus" feature, two sub-corpora CNN and Fox News (see Figure 5) were created. In order to generate a part-of-speech word list, one can choose part-of-speech drop-down menu and the corpus in question, different part-of-speech wordlists of the selected corpus can be generated. In the wordlist, different results such as word frequency, document frequency (i.e DOCF) and concordance lines result are accessible.

3.2.2 Critical discourse analysis based on van Dijk's news discourse model

To conduct a critical and qualitative analysis of news discourse, van Dijk proposed a theoretical framework (see Figure 8), under which a news discourse should be analysed at both textual and contextual level, as news discourse needs to be justified both as a "particular types of language use or text" and a "sociocultural practice" (van Dijk, "News Analysis" 2) and grammatical analysis of news discourse could disclose the "perspective of the journalist or newspaper" (11). More specifically, we need first to investigate the news texts from the grammatical point of view, which starts from the semantic and syntactic structure at word and sentence level, then goes upward to discourse level, which means to study a news report in terms of cohesion and coherence, schemata and rhetoric. Then the news text needs to be examined again in combination with contextual reading since news reports, as one of mass communication mode, are confined by economic, social, cognitive, organizational constraints during the news production and selection process (38). However, in this research more priority was given to the grammatical analysis of news reports. The contextual information was taken into consideration if they are necessary for critical interpretation of corpus data.

According to van Dijk, grammatical analysis needs to be implemented at the following principal levels: (a) word and sentence, (b) topic or theme, (c) schemata, and (d) rhetoric.

  (a) At the sentential level, more attention could be given to lexical choice, sentence syntax and sequence. For instance, van Dijk introduced a concept called "syntactic ambiguousness", which means that by employing active or passive voice, the role of different participants and actors in a sentence could be made implicit/downgraded or explicit/stressed. By doing so, the relevant ideology or opinion could be displayed.

(b) At macro-structural level (i.e., topic or theme), the reader and writer need to employ "macrorules" to derive and infer a topic/theme. The macrorules are deletion, generalization and (re-) construction of information at sentential level (van Dijk, "News Schemata" 158). In the meantime, the process of summarizing a larger chunk of text to obtain a topic/theme could be subjective and biased since the reader/writer has to select and identify the most relevant information based on their knowledge schemata such as ideology, belief. The readers could resort to textual cues in helping them get themes/topics hence deciphering the overall meaning of the text. The textual cues could be headline and lead.

(c) Usually, the common news schemata include the following main categories: "Summary (headline and lead), Main Events, Consequence, Backgrounds (Context, History) Verbal Reactions (quotation), Comments" (160-167). Such categories of news schemata are often presented in a particular order, which could be due to various reasons such as stylistic variation of each individual reporter, production constraints and relevance structuring. Relevance structuring is not limited to thematic and news schemata; it also applies to sentence level, meaning that "most important information comes first". However, such ordering is "biased" and "intersubjective" (van Dijk, "News Analysis" 15-16)

(d) In the news production end, the journalists resort to different rhetoric techniques such as association, metaphors with a possible purpose to accomplish "better memorization of the readers", "enhanced persuasion" and "signal of objectivity" or "exactness" (16).
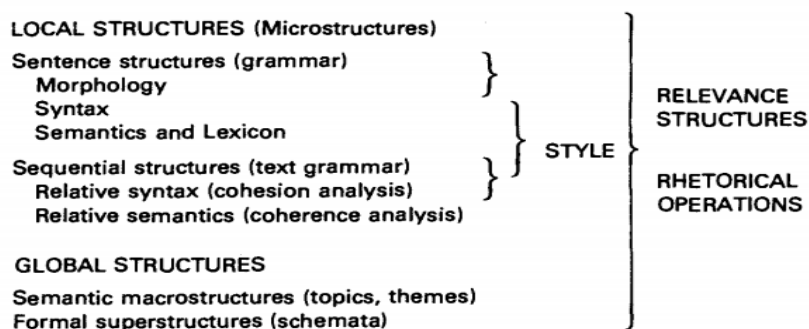

Figure 8: Structure of discourse from News Analysis: Case Studies of International and National News in the Press. Van Dijk (1988:17)

By using Van Dijk's news discourse model, we conducted CDA of two chosen news texts with topic of "Cuomo event" (see corpus materials section) at all levels from (a) to (d) to see whether there is any difference between them at each level and at the same time, the paper intends to offer possible justification to the difference.

4. Results and Discussion

4.1 Part-of-speech noun analysis

After manually examining and comparing different grammatical categories (e.g., verb, adjective and noun) lists of the corpora, more distinctive and interesting results emerged in the noun lists. For the part-of-speech verb category, there is no distinct difference between CNN and Fox News (see Figure 9). The verbs that express subjective emotions such as "feel" and "believe" and the ones with "coercive" denotation like "assault", "abuse" are found in both of them.

verb (709 items | 4,468 total frequency)

	Lemma	Frequency		Lemma	Frequency		Lemma	Frequency		Lemma	Frequency		Lemma	Frequency
1	be	947	11	get	40	21	speak	27	31	need	19	41	apologize	15
2	have	350	12	come	38	22	find	25	32	accord	19	42	become	14
3	say	266	13	take	38	23	want	25	33	add	18	43	run	14
4	do	149	14	happen	34	24	work	23	34	deny	18	44	support	14
5	go	58	15	call	33	25	see	22	35	abuse	17	45	look	13
6	make	57	16	believe	31	26	claim	22	36	lead	17	46	leave	13
7	tell	54	17	give	31	27	use	20	37	publish	17	47	share	13
8	think	50	18	ask	30	28	feel	20	38	try	16	48	tweet	13
9	know	43	19	report	29	29	include	19	39	talk	16	49	allow	13
10	accuse	40	20	write	28	30	help	19	40	resign	16	50	suggest	13

verb (847 items | 4,710 total frequency)

	Lemma	Frequency		Lemma	Frequency		Lemma	Frequency		Lemma	Frequency		Lemma	Frequency
1	be	886	11	believe	40	21	look	24	31	happen	19	41	need	15
2	have	347	12	come	36	22	deny	24	32	respond	19	42	continue	14
3	say	218	13	work	30	23	ask	23	33	run	18	43	hold	14
4	do	155	14	want	29	24	show	23	34	feel	17	44	change	14
5	make	73	15	know	29	25	give	22	35	find	16	45	receive	14
6	take	58	16	accuse	27	26	call	22	36	bring	15	46	describe	13
7	get	53	17	include	25	27	speak	21	37	win	15	47	report	13
8	tell	53	18	think	25	28	accord	21	38	tweet	15	48	begin	13
9	see	47	19	write	25	29	face	19	39	assault	15	49	share	13
10	go	47	20	try	24	30	use	19	40	leave	15	50	stand	12

Figure 9 Top 50 most frequent verbs of CNN subcorpus and Fox News subcorpus
(Top: Fox News; Bottom: CNN)

For the part-of-speech adjective, the word "sexual" ranked the highest in both CNN (103) and Fox News (123) (See Figure 10). We cannot observe any distinctive pattern in each of them. Some of the lexical choices are the same between the two outlets such as "public", "democratic", "female", "male", "political".

adjective (577 items | 1,534 total frequency)

	Lemma	Frequency		Lemma	Frequency		Lemma	Frequency		Lemma	Frequency		Lemma	Frequency
1	sexual	123	11	political	15	21	young	10	31	prominent	8	41	high	7
2	former	39	12	female	14	22	inappropriate	9	32	common	8	42	important	7
3	other	35	13	alleged	11	23	recent	9	33	federal	8	43	little	6
4	many	35	14	male	11	24	big	9	34	first	7	44	long	6
5	more	23	15	same	11	25	legal	9	35	major	7	45	early	6
6	good	21	16	powerful	10	26	silent	9	36	executive	7	46	multiple	6
7	own	21	17	democratic	10	27	great	9	37	top	7	47	real	6
8	last	20	18	bad	10	28	serious	9	38	outside	7	48	least	6
9	new	16	19	wrong	10	29	several	9	39	old	7	49	sorry	6
10	public	15	20	such	10	30	due	8	40	significant	7	50	private	6

adjective (668 items | 1,872 total frequency)

	Lemma	Frequency		Lemma	Frequency		Lemma	Frequency		Lemma	Frequency		Lemma	Frequency
1	sexual	103	11	same	18	21	important	12	31	clear	10	41	strong	9
2	other	47	12	such	17	22	real	12	32	different	10	42	emotional	9
3	many	37	13	social	17	23	young	12	33	most	10	43	rigid	8
4	more	34	14	last	16	24	female	12	34	multiple	10	44	little	8
5	former	23	15	public	15	25	military	12	35	guilty	10	45	recent	8
6	new	22	16	criminal	14	26	male	11	36	early	9	46	high	8
7	own	21	17	long	14	27	nude	11	37	next	9	47	due	8
8	first	20	18	past	14	28	political	11	38	progressive	9	48	late	8
9	good	19	19	alleged	13	29	personal	11	39	great	9	49	less	8
10	democratic	18	20	top	13	30	workplace	10	40	serious	9	50	several	7

Figure 10 Top 50 most frequent adjectives of CNN subcorpus and Fox News subcorpus
(Top: Fox News; Bottom:CNN)

There is a pair of synonyms "powerful/strong" producing some interesting results. The word "powerful" only appears in Fox News whereas the word "strong" exclusively appears in CNN. For Fox News, the word "powerful" is associated both with man and woman, however, in both cases its use contains negative connotation. By comparison, CNN chooses to use the word "strong" to describe also both sex groups but its uses are associated with positive meaning (See Figure 11).
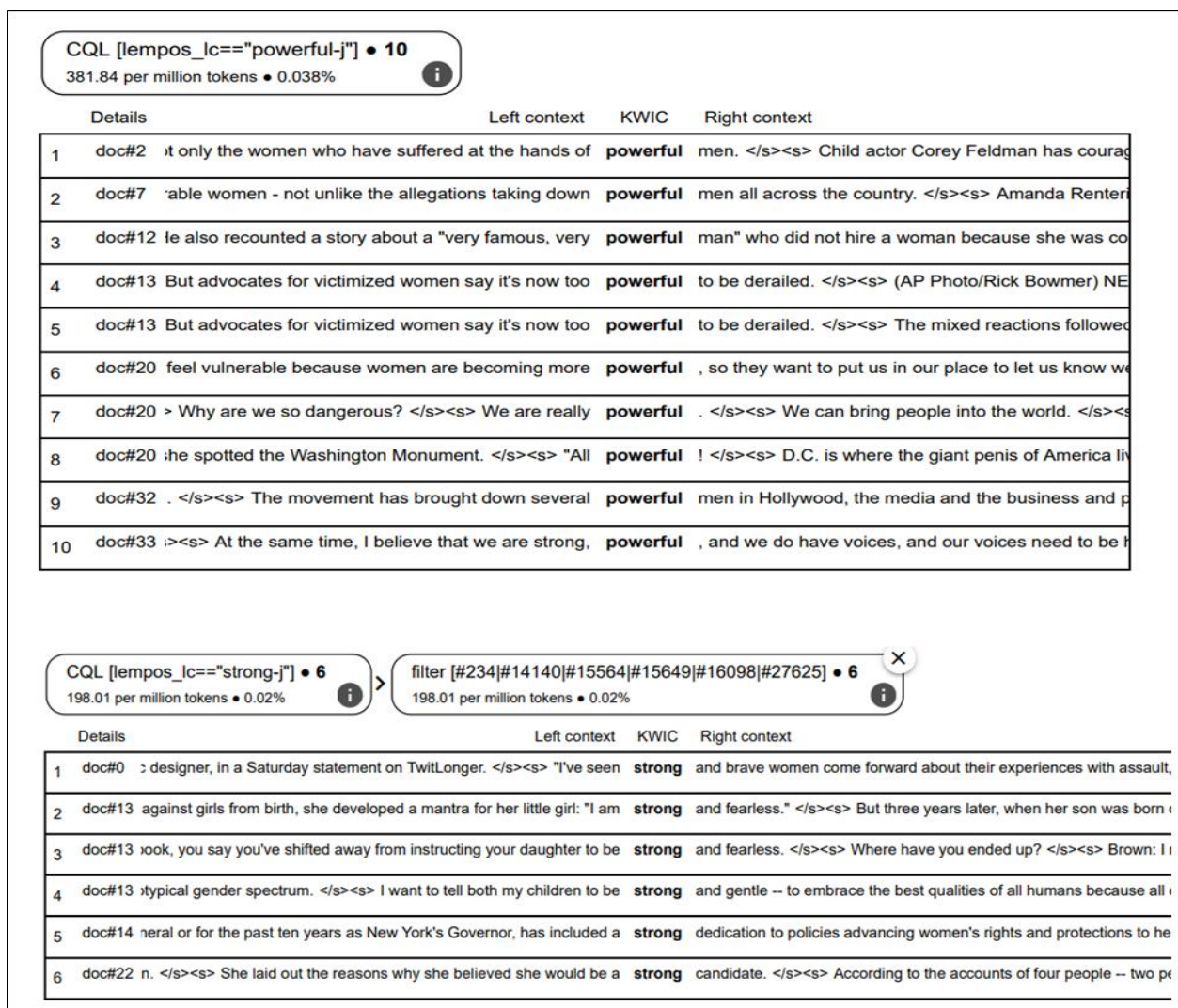
CQL [lempos_lc=="powerful-j"] • 10
381.84 per million tokens • 0.038%

	Details	Left context	KWIC	Right context
1	doc#2	t only the women who have suffered at the hands of	powerful	men. </s><s> Child actor Corey Feldman has courag
2	doc#7	able women - not unlike the allegations taking down	powerful	men all across the country. </s><s> Amanda Renter
3	doc#12	le also recounted a story about a "very famous, very	powerful	man" who did not hire a woman because she was co
4	doc#13	But advocates for victimized women say it's now too	powerful	to be derailed. </s><s> (AP Photo/Rick Bowmer) NE
5	doc#13	But advocates for victimized women say it's now too	powerful	to be derailed. </s><s> The mixed reactions followed
6	doc#20	feel vulnerable because women are becoming more	powerful	, so they want to put us in our place to let us know we
7	doc#20	> Why are we so dangerous? </s><s> We are really	powerful	. </s><s> We can bring people into the world. </s><s
8	doc#20	he spotted the Washington Monument. </s><s> "All	powerful	! </s><s> D.C. is where the giant penis of America li
9	doc#32	. </s><s> The movement has brought down several	powerful	men in Hollywood, the media and the business and p
10	doc#33	><s> At the same time, I believe that we are strong,	powerful	, and we do have voices, and our voices need to be h

CQL [lempos_lc=="strong-j"] • 6
198.01 per million tokens • 0.02%

filter [#234|#14140|#15564|#15649|#16098|#27625] • 6
198.01 per million tokens • 0.02%

	Details	Left context	KWIC	Right context
1	doc#0	designer, in a Saturday statement on TwitLonger. </s><s> "I've seen	strong	and brave women come forward about their experiences with assault,
2	doc#13	against girls from birth, she developed a mantra for her little girl: "I am	strong	and fearless." </s><s> But three years later, when her son was born
3	doc#13	ook, you say you've shifted away from instructing your daughter to be	strong	and fearless. </s><s> Where have you ended up? </s><s> Brown: I
4	doc#13	typical gender spectrum. </s><s> I want to tell both my children to be	strong	and gentle -- to embrace the best qualities of all humans because all
5	doc#14	neral or for the past ten years as New York's Governor, has included a	strong	dedication to policies advancing women's rights and protections to he
6	doc#22	n. </s><s> She laid out the reasons why she believed she would be a	strong	candidate. </s><s> According to the accounts of four people -- two pe

Figure 11 Use of word "powerful" by Fox News and word "strong" by CNN

As for part-of-speech noun, we can observe that on the noun list of CNN & FOX corpus, the most frequent nouns include, for instance, "woman" (329), "movement" (157), "allegation" (152), "man" (136), "assault" (106) apart from the proper nouns like CNN, Cuomo, York (See Figure 12). The reason for the word "new" appears on the noun wordlist is that it collocates either with location or publisher name based on a total of 116 concordance results.

Figure 12 Partial results of noun list from CNN & FOX corpus (Source: Sketch Engine)

On the surface, it seems that the noun list fails to give us the clues allowing us to see how exactly each outlet describes the METOO movement and their respective opinion or attitude toward it, but more qualitative analysis of the concordance results based on the noun list gave us very interesting insights. The high-frequency words "woman" and "man" in the noun list of each subcorpus were selected to generate the concordance results. However, considering the sheer volume of the word "woman" both in its singular and plural form as its frequency amounts to 197 for CNN and 128 for Fox News, the data volume was sized down by using the shuffle lines feature to generate random concordance results and the first 100 concordance lines were selected as the final samples to conduct the qualitative analysis of the two subcorpora. By comparison, the frequency of the word "man" in its singular and plural forms is much less with 66 occurrences for Fox News and 69 for CNN. Therefore, all concordance results containing the word "man" and "men" were investigated.
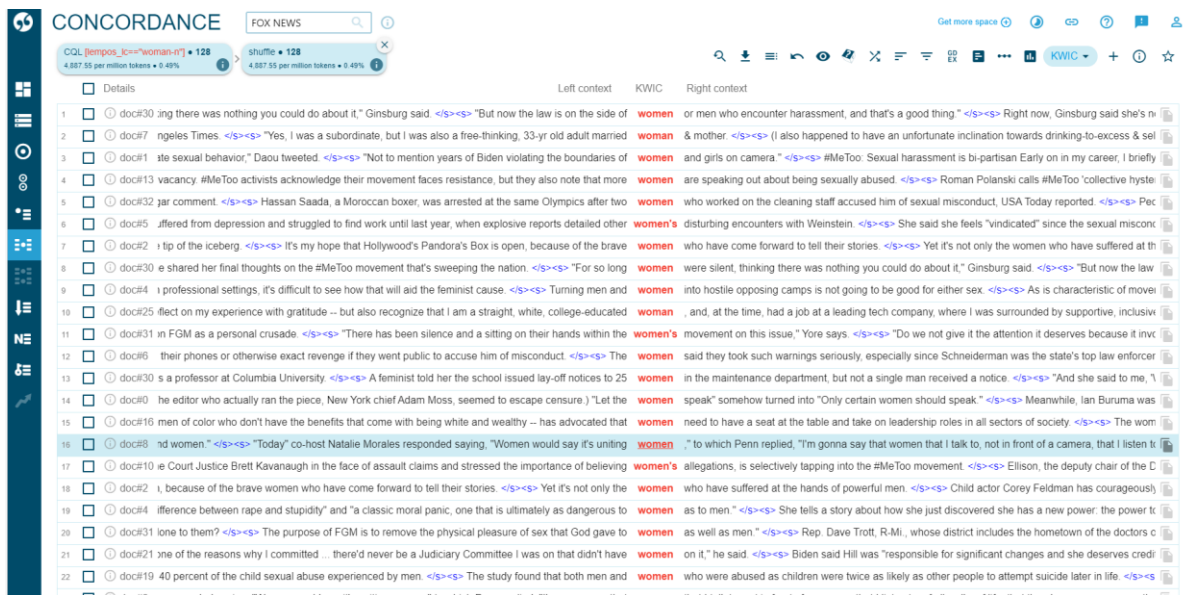
Figure 13 Partial result of Fox News subcorpus's concordance lines containing the words "woman" and "women" (Source: Sketch Engine)

Based on the concordance lines sampled, it was found that Fox News adopted a more negative tone in the news report to frame the movement or events associated with the movement using the semantically negative words such as "hypocrisy", "partisan", "downplay", "victimhood", "divide", "hostile", "scared" "opposing" (See Table 1 and Table 2).

Fox036[1]	The Democratic Party did little to disassociate from Cárdenas, staying largely silent while the Los Angeles County Democratic Party officially endorsed the Democrat, despite slamming Republicans for downplaying sexual assault allegations against Kavanaugh. slamming Republicans for downplaying sexual assault allegations against Kavanaugh. "We must never forget that a woman's account of sexual assault was swept under the rug and all but ignored by the Republicans for partisan gain," …
Fox027	Biden of inappropriate sexual behaviour," Daou tweeted. "Not to mention years of Biden violating the boundaries of women and girls on camera."
Fox032	…law enforcement official allegedly acted with such brazen hypocrisy. Schneiderman's embrace of the women's movement has been full-throated.
	One minute, Eric Schneiderman was one of the country's foremost attorneys general, revered as a champion of the #MeToo movement and nemesis of President Trump.

---

[1] Fox036 is an abbreviation for the file name of 036FoxpoliticsMay62021EN.docx. The full file name can be found in Metadata_TFM attached in Appendix I.

	The next minute, Schneiderman was gone, resigning in a heartbeat after being accused of assaulting women.
Fox038	The life coach said he was against "<u>victimhood</u>" and believed some women used it to gain "significance" in life, Now This News reported.

Table 1 Examples of concordance results of the word "woman" in Fox News subcorpus

Fox030	…and report rapes that are happening now and rapes that have happened in the past." A male backlash against #MeToo is brewing. <u>Men are scared, and feminists are delighted</u>. But the urge to call out and punish male sexual transgression is bound to clash…
	Turning men and women into <u>hostile opposing camps</u> is not going to be good for either sex. As is characteristic of movements led by the left in general, #MeToo faces the prospect of being seen to push too far, too fast.
Fox034	Sean Penn says 'salacious' #MeToo movement aims 'to <u>divide men and women</u>' Sean Penn offered his thoughts on the #MeToo movement, saying the spirit of it is "to divide men and women."
Fox045	Some <u>male</u> sexual assault victims <u>feel left behind</u> by #MeToo for some male victims of sexual assault and abuse, #MeToo can feel more like #WhatAboutMe? They admire the women speaking out about traumatic experiences as assault and harassment victims, while wondering whether men with similar scars will ever <u>receive a comparable level of public empathy and understanding</u>.

Table 2 Examples of concordance results of the word "man" in Fox News subcorpus

In Fox news reports, the movement's supporters were either portrayed as manipulative, divisive, and hypocritical or as the ones who took advantage of this movement as an expediency to achieve personal ambitions or as a powerful tool to unsettle the established power dynamic of the two sexes. Moreover, Fox news adopted quite different tones to frame the opposite sex groups. Men are associated with words such as "scared", "threatened", "paralyze". It seems that Fox News attempts to frame that the men are now at the waning side of the power scale fuelled by this movement. Although some negative words such as "predatory" were used to describe man, they refer to a specific group of male abusers: "men in Hollywood" or "every man in Wall Street".

By comparison, it turns out more difficult to come up with a definite and absolute conclusion of what tone CNN adopts in reporting the METOO movement when analysing the data at word or sentence level. At word level, the outlet uses seemingly neutral words such as "justice", "accountable", "credibility". In CNN07 the writer used the word "vigilant" and according to Merriam-Webster, the word "vigilant" definition is "alertly watchful specially to avoid danger", which subtly implies that the movement is something that needs to be defended or protected from the danger and here the writer implanted in readers' minds an equation "*danger=Republican and Right-wing media*" (see Table 4).

At sentence level, although it seems that CNN does not adopt an overtly positive tone in describing the METOO movement, it can be observed that this outlet tries to shield it in a very subtle way from the right-wing media "trap" or from any danger that may "take down" the movement. Here, the writer of CNN021 inserted an equation "*take down #METOO movement=take down Democrats*", from which we can infer that Democrats are in the same boat with the movement, at least Dems are supportive and backers of the movement.

CNN020	Fox host Tucker Carlson blusters about the "infuriating, sickening hypocrisy of the media and the professional feminist movement," ready to demolish what Tim Graham, executive editor of NewsBusters, has called #METOO's "rigid 'Believe All Women ' boilerplate." Susan Faludi quoted both, along with many others, in a recent New York Times op-ed headlined "'Believe All Women' is a Right-Wing Trap."
	There are too many people ready to take down the #METOO movement to elevate and address women's experiences of harassment and assault, which to many is synonymous with Farrow's work,
CNN021	the very factions trying to silence Trump's accusers have cynically weaponized the #METOO movement -- and legitimate accounts of women's victimization -- to take down Democrats
	The women's postures highlight some of the murkier aspects of the #METOO effort, from the varying degrees of sexual misconduct -- particularly in the digital age -- to the limits of forgiveness and who can carry the movement's mantle.
CNN08	#METOO coincides with rising professional fortunes for women in the industry.
CNN09	" The #METOO movement drew attention and scrutiny to the practice of using NDAs to quiet women who have been sexually harassed at work.

CNN07	Carey Mulligan as a feminist <u>vigilante</u> for the #METOO era (CNN)"Promising Young Woman " combines a promising star and timely premise into a provocative but <u>less-than-satisfying thriller.</u>

Table 4 Examples based on the concordance results of the word "woman" in CNN subcorpus

It seems that CNN intended to give their readers an "impartial and balanced" impression of their reporting. Probably because of potential backlashes, CNN writers also avoid establishing a direct causal link between the benefits occurred in women's rights improvement and the movement, although it is not difficult to obtain such causal interpretation. For instance, the writers used "coincides with" and "draw attention to" in CNN08 and CNN09 (See Table 4) instead of using the words or phrases to express cause and effects such as because, due to, thanks to.

Interestingly, the two outlets chose different labels to describe the women, who suffered sexual assault or harassment before (see Table 5). Fox News used the label "victim", whereas CNN used the word "survivor". Schwak and Bohner (2019) in their pilot study found that the "survivor" label applied to the women in news reports, who have experienced sexual violence causes a more positive judgement of blame ratings than the "victim" label.

Fox News	CNN
he was against "<u>victimhood</u>" and believed some women used it to gain "significance" in life…	…stemming from allegations of abuse against young women in the Lifetime documentary series "<u>Surviving</u> R. Kelly."
But advocates for <u>victimized</u> women say it's now too powerful to be derailed.	'We, too, are <u>survivors'</u> In November 2017, 223 women signed an open letter entitled #metoonatsec, writing,
"Because the movement happened to get its start with women only, in a way it furthers my loneliness as a past <u>victim</u>,"…	

Table 5 Examples of CNN and Fox News using different labels of describing female victims

However, there is a similarity between CNN and Fox News, it is that they both use the movement as political weapons to criticise prominent politician figures such as Biden, Cuomo

or party line of its opponent (See Fox032, Fox036, CNN020, CNN021) and it seems that such movement is indeed politicized to some degree.

4.2 Grammatical analysis based on van Dijk's model

In this section, two news texts reporting the "Cuomo event" served as the basis of grammatical analysis applying van Dijk's model. The results are presented on the following levels: (i) word and sentence, (ii) topics/theme and actors, (iii) news schemata, and (iv) rhetoric; they were used to see whether there is any similarity or difference between both outlets in reporting the same event.

(i) Word and sentence

Based on the text, CNN used neutral words in the news report to describe the allegation to present a seemingly balanced and unbiased reporting to establish credibility with the readers as demonstrated by the examples below. In Ex.1 and Ex.2, we can observe that the CNN news report used the words "interpret" and "perceive" to depict the encounter between the accuser and the accused, by which the writer emphasizes the subjectivity of the intent of both participants. Here, the writer implicitly plants a cue in its readers' minds, which is that we shall not rely on subjectivity but objective reality and evidence to measure if such encounter could be deemed as normal social exchange or sexual misconduct. In other words, Cuomo was given "the benefit of doubt". By comparison, Fox News reporter chose to use an informal and colloquial direct quotation with exclamation marks and use of second pronoun, where a simple, very explicitly pejorative and vulgar phrase "sexist pig" was presented to portray the accused (see Ex.4). Such lexical choice and reporting style may be associated with the journalist's intention of pandering to its audience community as its demographic composition is mainly white male with relatively lower level of academic background (See Corpus description section).

> CNN Ex.1 She (Charlotte Bennett, the accuser) <u>interpreted</u> the exchange -- which she said took place in June while the state was in the throes of fighting the pandemic -- as what the newspaper (New York Times) called "clear overtures to a sexual relationship."

> CNN Ex. 2 Cuomo (Andrew Cuomo, the accused) said that he now realizes that what he <u>perceived</u> as "playful" banter in the office could have been have been "<u>misinterpreted</u> as an unwanted flirtation."

CNN Ex.3 <u>De Blasio</u> -- a frequent Cuomo <u>sparring partner</u> ... said that "two fully independent investigations must be held immediately into the deaths at nursing homes and the disturbing personal misconduct allegations."

FOX Ex.4 'He (Cuomo) is a <u>sexist pig</u> and you should avoid being alone with him!' my mother texted me on November 4, 2016," Boylan said in a statement earlier in February.

From the Ex.3 we can see that the quoted speaker used the passive voice by saying that "investigations must be held". The agent of the sentence, in this case, the person who would be in charge of the investigations, is omitted. De Blasio has double identities. One is that he is a "sparring " political rival of Cuomo, the other is that he and Cuomo both belong to the same political affiliation: left-wing Democratic party. On one hand, it is understandable that De Blasio took advantage of the scandal to stage such inside party dispute to establish his public positive face (PPF),

Which claims the consistent image of himself as being a rational, trustworthy person whose political ideas and actions are better fitted to the wants and demands of the general public than those of his opponent (Gruber 4).

On the other hand, De Blasio's words also represent to some degree those of his party. By using such passive sentence syntax without specifying the agent, it could be inferred that he did not want to put Cuomo and his party in an irreversible situation. Apart from the use of passive syntax, CNN and Fox news both employed the sentence syntax that is unique to news discourse, which is sentential inversion (See Ex.5 and Ex.6).

CNN Ex.5 "This is deeply disturbing. Clearly there is no place for this type of behaviour in the workplace or anywhere else," <u>Stewart-Cousins wrote.</u>

Fox Ex.6 "(check the quotation mark) in an email with the subject line "NY Stands with #MeToo," <u>Slate reported.</u>

(ii) *Topics/themes and actors*

After conducting the thematic structure analysis (See Appendix I), it was concluded that both news texts have the following similar topics or themes:

a) Cuomo's former aids resigned due to alleged sexual misconduct perpetrated by Andrew Cuomo

b) Cuomo's office refutes the allegations

c) Boylan, one of Cuomo's former aid runs for office in 2021 but defeated

d) The association between the METOO movement and Cuomo

Since the main subject of both news reports focuses on Cuomo's alleged sexual misconduct scandal, it is not surprising that the two articles share similar topics/themes above. However, both outlets talked about the association between the METOO movement and New York governor Andrew Cuomo in different ways; Fox News portrayed Cuomo as a beneficiary of this movement, whereas CNN depicted this same movement as a destructive force that may derail Cuomo's future political career. From the Fox News (See Ex.9 and Ex.10), we also can observe that Cuomo was placed in a subject position, which fits with the image of a powerful politician, who manipulated this movement and turned it in his favour while the accuser Boylan was "powerless" victim under surveillance of Cuomo's office. By comparison, CNN put Cuomo on the receiving end of METOO's glaring spotlight (See Ex.7). This time, it was a powerful politician under public surveillance, which insinuated that a new power dynamic was re-established and shifted toward the once "powerless" female victims. Interestingly, both outlets mentioned Boylan's run for presidential candidate in New York Manhattan borough. The reasons for including such information into the news texts are different for both outlets. For Fox news, such information seems to function as a "disclaimer" to avoid future accountability for false or inaccurate reporting. Boylan is an alleged victim but she also possesses another identity "politician". It happened with Joe Biden's opponent Kamala Harris in the presidential run in 2020. During the campaign, Harris claimed that she believed and praised all women courageously speaking out their stories against the abusers and one of the alleged abusers she referred to is Joe Biden. Eventually, Harris backtracked her speech about Biden and serves the alleged abuser's administration, which casts serious doubt about her credential of METOO movement as a true cause to fight for or cheap political expediency to achieve personal political ambition. For CNN, the same information about Boylan functioned as a reminder for the readers. The CNN writer put two information "not be able to corroborate the allegation" against Cuomo and "running for Manhattan borough president" in the same sentence, which reminded its readers of treating such allegation with a grain of salt (See Ex.8).

CNN Ex.7 Just a few years after the #METOO movement <u>put a glaring spotlight on</u> the entrenched pattern of sexual misconduct by <u>men in powerful positions</u>, Cuomo is facing sexual harassment allegations from two female former aides, who described an <u>unsettling power dynamic</u> in his office that they say they are determined to call attention to.

CNN Ex.8 CNN <u>has not been able to corroborate the allegations</u>, and when asked for further comment, Boylan -- who is <u>currently running for Manhattan borough president</u> -- replied that she was letting her Medium post speak for itself.

Fox Ex.9 NY Gov. Cuomo <u>fundraised off</u> #METOO movement in 2018...

Fox Ex.10 ...His (Cuomo) senior staff began <u>keeping tabs</u> on my (Boylan) <u>whereabouts</u>.

Actors

It could be observed (See Table 6) that there is a similarity between the two outlets, that is, background actors were upgraded to major ones in terms of number of occurrences. Even though the main actor of the news reports is the New York state governor Andrew Cuomo, Cuomo only appeared two times. By comparison, for example, one of the female accusers of Cuomo, Boylan appeared nine times in both news reports. In reporting the same sexual misconduct allegations, both outlets seem to pay more attention to female characters or the accuser than the accused Cuomo.

Actors	CNN	Fox News	Total
Cuomo	1	1	2
Boylan	5	4	9
Bennett	2	2	4
Hoyt	0	1	1
Derosa	1	0	1

Table 6 Occurrence of different actors in the texts of CNN and Fox News

(iii) News Schemata

After comparing the news schemata of CNN (see Appendix I) and Fox News, not all conventional categories of a common news discourse are presented (see Table 7) as there is a lack of Comment category in Fox news text, but we can find kernel categories of a news discourse, which are Summary and Main Events, are presented in both of them.

When it comes to the Summary category, the headline should describe the highest macro proposition or gist of the whole text. For CNN and Fox, their headlines (see Table 9) unbiasedly describe the gist of the whole text. There are two headlines in the Fox news report. One can infer that the subheading functions as a cause for the macro-proposition made in the main headline after reading the whole text. For both news reports, their writers introduced two Main Events, and the common event shared by both news reports is Cuomo's sex scandal. In the CNN text, the writer introduced the other event, namely Cuomo's mishandling of Covid-19 related death data, but also mentioned Cuomo's popularity due to his calming presence facing such pandemic whereas the Fox news writer hit Cuomo a double whammy by revealing another hiring controversy of a former personnel in his administration even after such person was accused of sexual misconduct.

It was also found in both news reports that the Main events were often disrupted by Verbal reaction, Context, History or Consequence, which validates Van Dijk's observation that Main Event categories are often given in a discontinuous order and sometimes in recursive pattern especially in the CNN report; and we also observe a "schematic transformation" in Fox News and CNN reports, which means that the journalist's negative comments or evaluations were upgraded to Summary Status (i.e. headline) (van Dijk, "News Analysis", 234). Such transformation turned the opinion or bias of individual reporters into "facts".

News outlet		
Category	CNN	Fox News
Main headline and subheading	Y (main headline)	Y (Main headline and subheading)
Lead	N	N
Main event	Y	Y
Context	Y	Y

History	Y	Y
Verbal Reactions	Y	Y
Comments	Y	N

Table 7 Summary of schematic categories of CNN and Fox News (Y means the text contains the category, N means lack of the category)

News Outlet	CNN	Fox News
Main Headline	New York governor faces new allegations that threaten his political future	NY Gov. Cuomo fundraised off #MeToo movement in 2018
Subheading		Cuomo praised who 'courageously speak out about facing sexual assault and harassment'

Table 8 Headlines of news texts of CNN and Fox News

(iv) Rhetoric

The writers of both outlets used indirect or direct quotations and scene descriptions to achieve different functions as demonstrated by the following examples. The conservative-leaning outlet Fox News indirectly quoted the ideologically opposing counterpart Slate to reinforce its argument, which attempted to persuade the readers that the report was not politically opinionated text (See Ex.13). Moreover, both news reports used direct or indirect quotations to describe the scene or encounter between Andrew Cuomo and Boylan. However, Fox news report excluded or de-emphasized the voice from the accused Cuomo, whereas CNN gave equal voice to both actors. The exclusion made by Fox News could be possibly explained by different political leaning between it and Cuomo.

CNN Ex.11 Boylan alleged in the Medium post that Cuomo invited her to "play strip poker" during a 2017 flight on his taxpayer-funded jet while another aide was seated beside her and a state trooper behind her.

CNN Ex.12 In a statement released by the governor's press secretary on Wednesday, four other people said they were on October flights with her and that "this conversation did not happen."

Fox Ex.13 Months later, liberal-leaning outlet Slate called out Cuomo for capitalizing on support for the #METOO movement in a fundraising email in early 2018.

30

Fox Ex.14 "I (Boylan)had complained to friends that the Governor would go out of his way to touch me on my lower back, arms and legs..."

5. Conclusion

In this paper, by integrating corpus linguistics (CL) method into critical discourse analysis, we presented the study of news discourse on the METOO movement produced by two American media outlets CNN and Fox News.

Under the corpus linguistics section, we conducted a detailed investigation on the concordance results of noun part-of-speech and a relatively distinct linguistic pattern emerged from two subcorpora. From it, we found that two outlets stood at opposing camps in their views about the movement and in some cases about relevant actors and participants in question; For CNN, their journalists and editors adopted mostly semantically favourable lexicon in reporting the movement, but their reporting style is more subtle and "balanced", whereas their counterparts at Fox News used a very clear-cut and explicit way to express their disapproval by using semantically unfavourable words in their reporting.

Under the critical discourse analysis section, by adopting van Dijk's news discourse model, a grammatical analysis of two news texts on "Cuomo event" by CNN and Fox News was presented. After analysing the texts from at different levels, a more systematic picture emerged. Indeed, there are some obvious differences in lexical choice. However, when our analyses went up to higher levels such as thematic, schematic and rhetoric, what stood out more is the similarity between them in terms of common topics/themes, the phenomenon of "fronting" background actors, schematic transformation and rhetoric techniques such as quotation, scene description. Such similarities at a higher level may suggest that regardless of partisan leaning, journalists/editors are following similar rules in their daily journalism practice to frame news events and make their preferred version of the event more salient.

Concerning the difference between the two outlets, we may eliminate personal style or idiosyncrasy of an individual journalist as the corpora are multi-authors ones. Such difference both in CL and CDA sections seems to reflect that each outlet tried to build up their semantic field related to the METOO movement, which could be explained by two major reasons. One is the demographic composition of their respective reader community. As was mentioned before (See corpus materials section), the audience of CNN and Fox News was quite divided

on partisan leaning. Both outlets are commercial media driven by profit, therefore adopting an antagonistic opinion to that of widespread consensus among their community may lead to a decrease of membership, loss of credulity and popularity among its own community and eventually loss of influence among the whole media community. The second reason is the ideology war between opposing political parties. In the results and discussion section, we mentioned that there were some signals indicating that the METOO movement was politicised, which means that the political signification of "being supportive about the movement" could be extended to "being supportive of democrat and its party". Therefore, winning this war on METOO involves too many stakes (e.g., election).

Undoubtedly the critical discourse analysis based on Van Dijk's model cannot be completely objective especially in the investigation of thematic and schematic structures of the sampled texts since we are confined to our knowledge, values, and beliefs in comprehending or interpreting the news texts as well as to current socio-political context. It is also important to point out that in this research the corpus data is relatively limited since the corpus is a small-sized specialized one, however, the specialized corpora used in the research could be used as a fair starting point to build up a relatively large-scale monitor corpus with the purpose of investigating the evolution of how different news outlets especially ones with opposing political leanings report the METOO movement and the medium could be expanded to spoken data as well. One of the interesting areas could be the mapping of the evolution of METOO's semantic field for different outlets. At the same time, this paper could be used as a basic template for any future research focusing on studying a similar social movement from a linguistic analysis perspective. As for pedagogical application, we could demonstrate to students of linguistic and journalism majors how to frame news event by guiding them to conduct the news discourse analysis from different dimensions and imitate professional journalists and editors to construct the news schemata using conventional categories to achieve a successful framing through which students could also exercise their capacity especially in summarizing and paraphrasing, which are equally essential for academic reading and writing skills.

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Appendix I

a. Metadata_TFM

File Name	Token	Medium	Domain	Publication Date	Genre	Author(Gender: F means Female, M means Male)	Media Outlet	Context Information
001CNNbiz.Jun302021EN	932	Written	Business	June 30, 2021	News	Shannon Liao(F)	CNN	Gaming industry, sexual misconduct
002CNNbizMar312020EN	439	Written	Business	March 31, 2020	News	Tricia Escobedo(F)	CNN	Equal pay, gender gap
003CNNbizMar312020EN	759	Written	Business	March 31, 2021	News	Scott Torrey(M)	CNN	Pandemic, Pay equality, gender gap
004CNNbizAug302019EN	891	Written	Business	August 30, 2019	News	Sara Ashley OBrien(F)	CNN	Google, executives, power abuse, sexual misconduct
005CNNbiz.Jul132019EN	643	Written	Business	July 13, 2019	News	Kathryn Vasel(F)	CNN	Workplace conduct
006CNNbiz.Jan152019EN	427	Written	Business	January 15, 2019	News	Heather Kelly(F)	CNN	Gillette, advertisement, masculinity
007CNNpoliticsMar012021EN	2520	Written	Politics	March 1, 2021	News	Maeve Reston(F)	CNN	Cuomo, sex scandal, Metoo
008CNNentertainment.Jan242020EN	2326	Written	Entertainment	January 24, 2020	News	Rob Kuznia(M)	CNN	Hollywood, Harvey Weinstein, sexual abusers
009CNNentertainmentDec152019EN	589	Written	Entertainment	December 15, 2019	News	Clare Duffy(F)	CNN	Fox News, Gretchen Carlson, non-disclosure agreement
010CNNentertainmentMay52019EN	1488	Written	Entertainment	May 5, 2019	News	Sara Murray(F) Brian Stelter(M)	CNN	Media, smear campaign, democratic candidate
011CNNentertainment.Jan122019EN	935	Written	Entertainment	January 12, 2019	News	Sandra Gonzalez(F) Brian Lowry(M)	CNN	Metoo, CBS, FOX News, Pixar
012CNNentertainmentDec82018EN	1034	Written	Entertainment	December 8, 2018	News	Sandra Gonzalez(F)	CNN	Christmas song, radio, Metoo
013CNNentertainmentOct52018EN	932	Written	Entertainment	October 5, 2018	News	Brian Stelter(M)	CNN	Kavanaugh, Supreme Court, partisan
014CNNsociety.Mar252021EN	1373	Written	Society	March 25, 2021	News+Interview	Jessica DuLong (F)	CNN	gender stereotypes, masculinity
015CNNpoliticsMar152021EN	2778	Written	Politics	March 15, 2021	News	Gregory Krieg(M)	CNN	Andrew Cuomo, women rights, hypocrisy
016CNNpoliticsFeb102021EN	628	Written	Politics	February 10, 2021	News	Harmeet Kaur(F)	CNN	Bill, NDA, sexual abuse and discrimination
017CNNpoliticsDec102020EN	698	Written	Politics	December 10, 2020	News	Caroline Kelly (F) Catherine Valentine(F)	CNN	statute limitations, Supreme court, military sexual assault
018CNNpoliticsSep302020EN	932	Written	Politics	September 30, 2020	News	Jennifer Hansler(F)	CNN	anti-sexual harassment legislation, state Department, democrats
019CNNpolitics.Jul262020EN	393	Written	Politics	July 26, 2020	News	Maeve Reston(F)	CNN	GOP, women voters, Donald Trump, tweet
020CNNentertainmentMay222020EN	1048	Written	Entertainment	May 22, 2020	Op-ed	Peggy Drexler(F)	CNN	Ronan Farrow, journalist, #MeToo, reporting rigor
021CNNpoliticsMay22020EN	1109	Written	Politics	May 2, 2020	News	Lucia Brawley(F)	CNN	Biden, Tara Reade, sexual assault allegation
022CNNentertainmentMar72020EN	1728	Written	Entertainment	March 7, 2020	News	Anna Sturla(F)	CNN	Amar Ramasar, NYballet, nude picture scandal
023CNNpoliticsMar 62020EN	1385	Written	Politics	March 6, 2020	News	Maeve Reston(F)	CNN	Elizabeth warren, gender trap
024CNNpoliticsFeb252020EN	815	Written	Politics	February 25, 2020	News	Caroline Polisi(F)	CNN	Criminal law, Weistein, justice system, #MeToo
025CNNpolitics.Jan072020EN	1055	Written	Politics	January 7, 2020	Op-ed	Rafia Zakaria(F)	CNN	T.S. Eliot, correspondence, misogyny
Subtotal	27857							
026Foxpolitics.Sep232018EN	778	Written	Politics	September 23, 2018	Op-ed	Kyle Smith(M)	FOX	#MeToo, Career mob, due process
027Foxpolitics.Mar012021EN	253	Written	Politics	March 1, 2021	News	Sam Dorman(M)	FOX	#MeToo, Democrats, double standard
028Foxpolitics.Oct192017EN	540	Written	Politics	October 19, 2017	Op-ed	Penny Young Nancy(F)	FOX	#MeToo, partisanship
029Foxpolitics.Dec272018EN	1113	Written	Politics	December 27, 2018	News	Unidentified	FOX	#MeToo, rape cases
030Foxpolitics.Feb042018EN	816	Written	Politics	February 4, 2018	Op-ed	Kyle Smith(M)	FOX	#MeToo, Male backlash
031FoxEntertainment.Sep042018EN	401	Written	Entertainment	September 4, 2018	News	Katherine Lam(F)	FOX	Harvey Weinstein, Ambra Gutierrez, #MeToo
032FoxPolitics.May82018EN	1090	Written	Politics	May 8, 2018	News	Liz Peek(F)	FOX	Eric Schneiderman, liberal elites
033FoxPolitics.Jun012018EN	638	Written	Politics	June 1, 2018	News	William La Jeunesse(M)	FOX	Democrats, hypocrisy, #MeToo, Carlifonia
034FoxEntertainment.Sep172018EN	439	Written	Entertainment	September 17, 2018	News	Rebecca Rubin(F)	FOX	Sean Penn, #MeToo, divide
035FoxPolitics.Jul232019EN	357	Written	Politics	July 23, 2019	News	Sam Dorman(M)	FOX	'View', Al Franken, witch hunt, #MeToo
036Foxpolitics.May62021EN	580	Written	Politics	May 6, 2021	News	Yael Halon(unidentified)	FOX	Biden, Sexial harrassement, #MeToo, Pelosi,
037FoxEntertainmen.Apr142019EN	720	Written	Entertainment	April 14, 2019	News	Jessica Sager(F)	FOX	Woody Allen, sex scandal, Amazon movie, #MeToo
038FoxEntertainmen.Apr92018EN	455	Written	Entertainment	April 9, 2018	News	Katherine Lam(F)	FOX	Tony Robbins, apology, #MeToo
039Foxpolitics.Sep282018EN	203	Written	Politics	September 28, 2018	News	Unidentified	FOX	Kavanaugh-Ford, backlash, #MeToo
040FoxEntertainmen.May92018EN	474	Written	Entertainment	May 9, 2018	News	Tyler McCarthy(unidentified), Morgan M Evans(F)	FOX	Polanski, #MeToo, Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, expulsion
041Foxpolitics.Apr242019EN	1000	Written	Politics	April 24, 2019	News	Fred Lucas(M)	FOX	Clinton, lobby, #MeToo, resignation
042Foxbiz.Feb 72018EN	500	Written	Business	February 7, 2018	News	Christopher Carbone(M)	FOX	Facebook, Sheryl Sandberg, workplace culture, #MeToo
043FoxEntertainmen.Sep182018EN	858	Written	Entertainment	September 18, 2018	News	Brian Flood(M)	FOX	Emmy award, NBC, #MeToo
044FoxEntertainmen.Mar172018EN	380	Written	Entertainment	March 17, 2018	News	Morgan M Evans(F)	FOX	Terry Gilliam, #MeToo, Hollywood
045Foxsociety.Apr192018EN	1006	Written	Society	April 19, 2018	News	Unidentified	FOX	male victims, sexual assault, #MeToo
046FoxEntertainmen.Oct182018EN	373	Written	Entertainment	October 18, 2018	News	Unidentified	FOX	Anti-metoo, Claire Foy
047Foxpolitics.Apr262019EN	544	Written	Politics	April 26, 2019	News	Sam Dorman(M)	FOX	Biden, presidential campaign, anita
048Foxpolitics.Oct32019EN	502	Written	Entertainment	October 3, 2019	News	Danielle Wallace(F)	FOX	Bob Woodward, Metoo
049FoxEntertainmen.Dec232018EN	537	Written	Politics	December 23, 2018	News	Jessica Sager(F)	FOX	#MeToo, Classic song, William Shatner
050Foxpolitics.Feb262021EN	462	Written	Politics	February 28, 2021	News	Evie Fordham(F)	FOX	Cuomo, sex scandal, Metoo
051Foxsociety.Jan222018EN	1210	Written	Society	January 22, 2018	News	Alex Diaz(Unidentified)	FOX	rape, sex crime, Metoo
052FoxEntertainmen.Feb242021EN	420	Written	Entertainment	February 24, 2021	News	Tyler McCarthy(unidentified)	FOX	Martha Stewart , Metoo
053FoxEntertainmen.Nov052018EN	358	Written	Entertainment	November 5, 2018	News	Tyler McCarthy(unidentified)	FOX	Palmer Anderson, Metoo
054Foxpolitics.Jun042018EN	739	Written	Politics	June 4, 2018	News	Brian Flood(M)	FOX	Clinton, #MeToo,
055FoxEntertainmen.Aug062019EN	816	Written	Entertainment	August 6, 2019	News	Jessica Sager(F)	FOX	Casey Afleck, Metoo
056Foxpolitics.Jan282018EN	625	Written	Politics	January 28, 2018	News	Jennifer Earl(F)	FOX	Ruth Bader Ginsburg, Metoo
057Foxsociety.Jan182018EN	572	Written	Society	January 18, 2018	Op-ed	John Moody(M)	FOX	female genital mutilation, Metoo
058Foxsport.Feb072018EN	848	Written	Sport	February 7, 2018	News	Kathleen Joyce(F)	FOX	Olympics, collision, Metoo
059Foxsport.Feb152018EN	406	Written	Sport	February 15, 2018	News	Janine Puhak(F)	FOX	Olympics, Metoo
060Foxsociety.May202019EN	116	Written	Society	May 20, 2019	News	Unidentified	FOX	Consent, education, kids

b. Structure of thematic category of Fox News text on "Cuomo event"

Topic Category	Topic
Actor (1)/history	Cuomo taking advantage of the #METOO movement in 2018
Actor (2)/consequence	Boylan resigned
Actor (2)/cause	Her resignation attributed to sexual harassment made by Cuomo in 2016
Circumstance (2)	- Boylan complained it to friends and family - Boylan under surveillance

History/actors (3) & (5)	Cuomo knowingly hiring senior aide Sam Hoyt, who was accused of sexual harassing an intern
Actor (3)/consequences	- Hoyt resigned from the office - An investigation launched
Actor (4)/cause	The intern accused Hoyt
Reaction (1&3)	Liberal-leaning outlet Slate criticized Cuomo of capitalizing on METOO in 2018
Circumstance (1)	Cuomo accused a female reporter Dewit of "doing disservice" to women by asking him the question regarding Hoyt event in 2017
Event (1)/time	Boylan resigned on Sept. 26, 2018
Actor (2)/cause	She resigned because of unwanted kiss from Cuomo
Reaction (1)	Cuomo's office refuted her claim
Actor (2)/Context	Boylan runs for office in 2021 but defeated by her republican competitor
Actor (5)	Second former aid coming with similar allegation against Cuomo

c. Structure of thematic category of CNN News text on "Cuomo event"

Topic Category	Topic
Actor (1)	Cuomo becomes prominent and popular among many Americans due to his calm presence on TV in terms of handling Covid-19 crisis
Event (i) /happening	NY governor Cuomo engulfing in controversies
Consequence	Cuomo's political survival and his fourth-term election run under threat
Context	Powerful men's misconduct behaviour against women under glaring spotlight due to #METOO movement

Actors	Two former Cuomo's aids calling attention to work environment of Cuomo's office
Event(i)/Consequence	Cuomo's office called for "independent review"
Reaction	Democrats criticizing Cuomo's untimely handling
Event (i) /Consequence	The matter was referred to NY attorney general for an independent probe
Event (i) /time	Cuomo issued an explanatory statement at Saturday, 24 hours after the scandal broke out
Contexts	The sex scandal broke out against the background of Cuomo being under FBT and NY attorney's investigation of alleged mishandling of Covid-19 death data.
Event (i) /time	New scandal appeared Saturday evening
Actor (2)	Benette, 25-year-old former advisor of Cuomo, making her claim against Cuomo to New York Times.
Actor (3) /Context	Boylan runs for office in 2021 but defeated by her republican competitor
Event/time	The incident took place in June.
Consequence	Cuomo denied the allegation, asking for "independent review" conducted by former Federal Judge Jones (Verbal reaction) NY Democrats like Nadler, Cortez, and NY City Mayor Blasio rejected Cuomo's approach
Circumstance	Cuomo's office acquiesced eventually to pressure from Democrats to assign a private lawyer to lead this independent probe into the allegations against Cuomo.
Event (i) /consequence	Cause a flood of call from Dems to investigate Cuomo Cuomo' s abuse of power in scrutiny
Event (i) /happening	Benette told her alleged horrible experience working with Cuomo

Actor (3)	Boylan, another Cuomo's aid, who posted a similar allegation against Cuomo on Medium
History	Two previous sexual misconduct events alleged by Boylan against Cuomo while she worked for his administration
Reactions	Cuomo denied these allegations Four other people also claimed such allegations as untrue
Actor (3) /cause	Boylan, a candidate for presidential election, wanted to clear the path for more women to speak out when asked by New York Times.
Circumstance	Cuomo created an "abusive" work environment.
Actor (3)	Boylan calling for Cuomo's resignation
Reaction	NY Dem Majority leader Stewart-Cousins called Cuomo's behaviour "disturbing".
Event (i) /consequence	Cuomo explained his behaviour as "playful" in face of these allegations and offered his apologies.
Reactions	-De Blasio, Cuomo's sparring partner, called for independent investigations into two scandals involving Cuomo. - White House press secretary Psaki stated Biden's position on Cuomo's scandal.
Consequence	Cuomo needs to explain the allegations and office culture under his administration.
Context	Cuomo's handling of Covid-19 death data was questioned and criticized.
Event (ii) /consequence	Cuomo's office is still reeling off for that NY General Attorney James reported that Cuomo undercounted Covid-19 deaths among residents of nursing homes.
Event (ii) /consequence	Cuomo has to explain underreporting scandal while trying to mitigate the damages.

Event (ii) /happening	Cuomo didn't include into death data those who died after being transferred to the hospital until January.
Reaction	-DC and NY law makers drill the Cuomo administration for clearer answers about that data throughout last year.
Event(ii)/circumstance	Cuomo at a news conference apologised for delay in response of lawmaker's data request but refuted the allegation of "inaccurate" data
Actor (4) /cause	Derosa' delayed handling of data request made by lawmakers was due to the fact that his administration had to focus on inquiry of DOJ.
Event(ii) /consequence	Cuomo said that he took the responsibility for confusion caused by the "void".
Reaction	-Ron Kim, one of critics of Cuomo, claimed that Cuomo's career is in threat for covering up Derosa in the death data scandal. - Azzopardi, senior aid of Cuomo, refuted Kim's claim.
Context	Before the cover-up, Cuomo's approval rating of handling the Covid-19 crisis reached more than 60% despite that people give Cuomo's poor score at his handling of death data according to a survey.
Event(ii) /circumstance	The data scandal is not fading as a contentious hearing with State Health Commissioner Dr.Zucker was held last week.
Reaction	State Sen. Rivera expressed his frustration over Cuomo's administration.
Context	Cuomo' s popularity reached its highest last spring for his clarity and candor but his handling of Covid-19 death data is confusing. Moreover, he still faces two serious allegations made by his former aids.
Reaction	Cuomo's political future is not clear until he could offer a candid explanation.

d. Schematic analysis of CNN news text on "Cuomo event"

1. Andrew Cuomo became prominent among many Americans last year for his calm recitation of the facts in the depths of the early Covid-19	Circumstance/context
2. The Dem governor engulfed in controversies that have threatened his political survival	Consequence

3. #METOO movement spotlights the entrenched pattern of sexual misconduct by powerful men	Circumstance/context
4. Cuomo is facing sexual harassment allegations from two female former aides	Main event (1) (Actors) (Cause)
5. Cuomo requested an "independent review" of the allegation first from former federal judge but later on referred it to NT AG	Main event (1) (context)
6. Dem lawmakers criticized Cuomo's approach to this matter	Context
7. 24 hours after the scandal broke out	Main event (1) (time)
8. Cuomo gave his explanation of this allegation as "misinterpretation" of office banter	Main event (1) (circumstance/ context)
9. The allegations coincide with Cuomo's controversy over alleged mishandling of nursing home Covid-19 event	Main event (1) (circumstance/ context)
10. State lawmakers accused Cuomo of cover-up, calling for repealing the governor's emergency power and more accountability	Verbal reaction
11. The allegation broke out on Saturday as Bennett, a former aide of Cuomo, told NYT her uncomfortable encounters with the Governor, which took place in June	Main event (1) (time)(actor)
12. Cuomo denied the allegation and gave his side of story on the same encounters with Bennett, asking "outside review" of the matter	Consequence
13. State high profile Dem politicians rejected Cuomo's approach to the matter	Verbal reaction
14. Cuomo altered the approach under the pressure of Dem lawmakers to choose private lawyer to lead this independent review	Consequence
15. The allegation triggered Dem's call for investigation into Cuomo's conduct	Main event (1) (Result)
16. Bennett told the times about her uncomfortable conversation with Cuomo.	Main event (1) (Actor)
17. Bennett agreed to speak to NYT after Boylan's post on Medium about her allegation against Cuomo	Main event (1) (circumstance):
18. Boylan alleged that Cuomo made inappropriate sexual advance against her during 2017-2018	History
19. -Cuomo denied Boylan's allegation and his claim was verified by other witness -Boylan, presidential candidate of Manhattan borough, told her reason to speak out	Consequence

20. Boylan revealed work environment under Cuomo's administration during her time	History
21. Andrea Stewart-Cousins called the allegation as "disturbing"	Verbal reaction
22. Boylan claimed that Cuomo should resign	Main event (1) (Result: fictitious)
23. Cuomo offered his explanation for his behaviour as "playful" in face of these allegations and offered his apologies	Main event (1) (Circumstance/context)
24. Some Dem lawmakers weigh in the matter	Verbal reaction
25. Cuomo will have to explain the allegations and office culture under his administration as well as have to face criticism over his handling of Covid-19 data.	Main event (1) & (2) (circumstance/context)
26. Cuomo's administration underreported Covid-19 death data of nursing homes	Main event (2) (cause)(actors)
27. (i) Cuomo explained and apologized for the delay in data reporting (ii)Lawmakers asked for more accountability and threatened Cuomo's career	Consequence
28. Ron Kim alleged Cuomo of threating him for not cooperating in covering up DeRosa	Verbal reaction
29. Rich Azzopardi, Cuomo's senior adviser called Kim's allegation as a lie	Consequence
30. Cuomo's standing remained high among voters before Derosa's scandal despite low marks given by a majority in Cuomo's data mishandling.	Comment (Journalist)
31. Gustavo Rivera frustrated over Cuomo's denial of misdoings	Verbal reaction
32. Despite of popularity Cuomo gained for his handling Covid-19 crisis, his political future becomes unclear due to the allegations and failure to provide candid answer for mishandling the Covid-19 data	Comment (Journalist)