



# Biodiversity conservation in agricultural landscapes: statistical analysis method to understand media representation of policies and species in press

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# Biodiversity conservation in agricultural landscapes: statistical analysis method to understand media representation of policies and species

## Julie Delclaux

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### Research Objective

- Agricultural landscapes are the place of difficult trade-offs between conservation and production objectives
- The media contribute to public opinion and have an agenda-setting function (*McCombs and Shaw, 1972*)
- Understanding the media representation of policies and species could improve biodiversity conservation strategies (*Jacobson and al., 2012*)
- We sought to analyze topical content on newspaper coverage and the effect of time with a reproducible statistical method

### Content Analysis Method

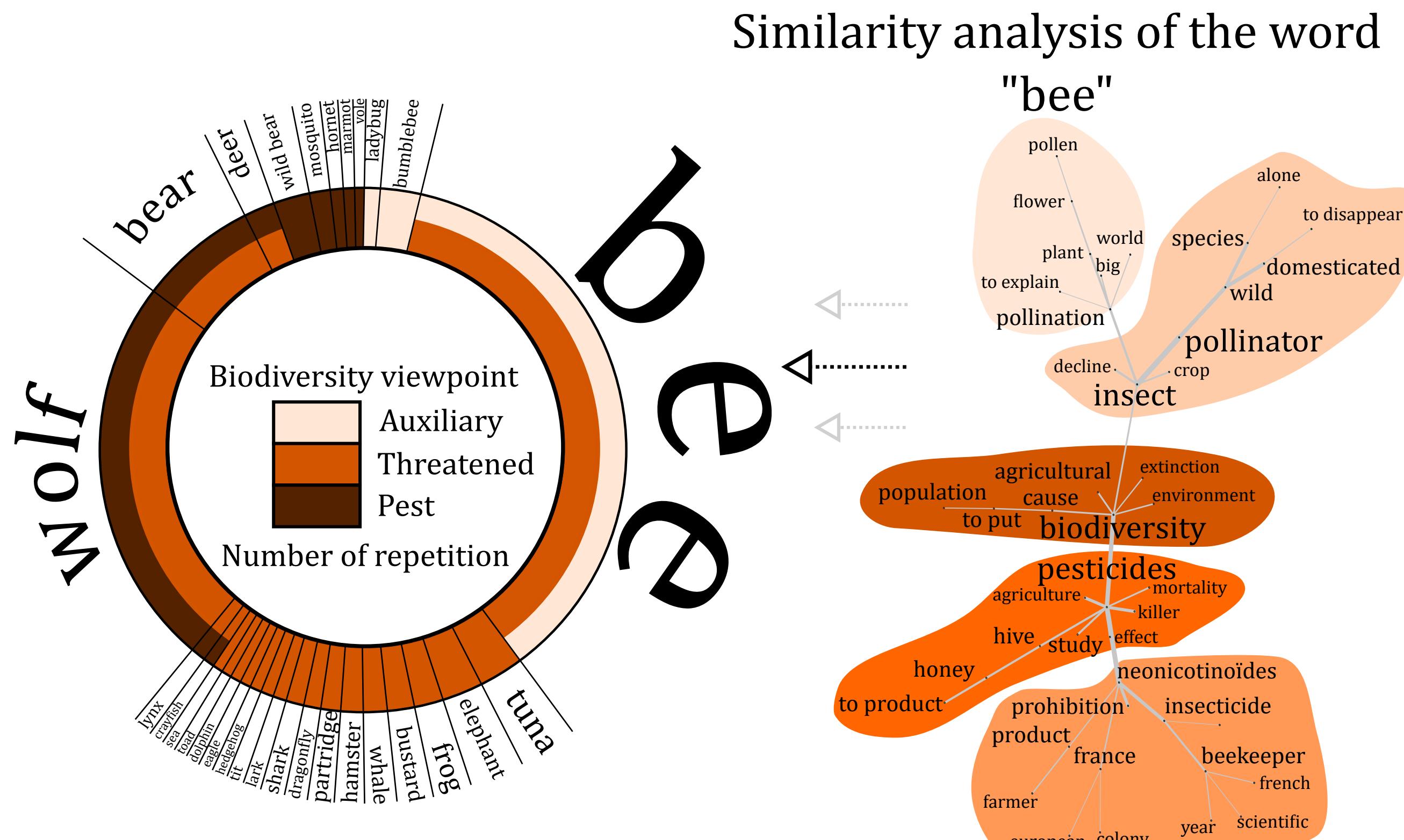
#### Data

- 2547 articles from 7 national French daily newspapers (*Le Monde, Libération, La Croix, Les Echos, Le Figaro, L'Humanité, La Tribune*) containing "agriculture" or "farmer" and "biodiversity" from 1999 to 2017 (Europresse database)

#### Method

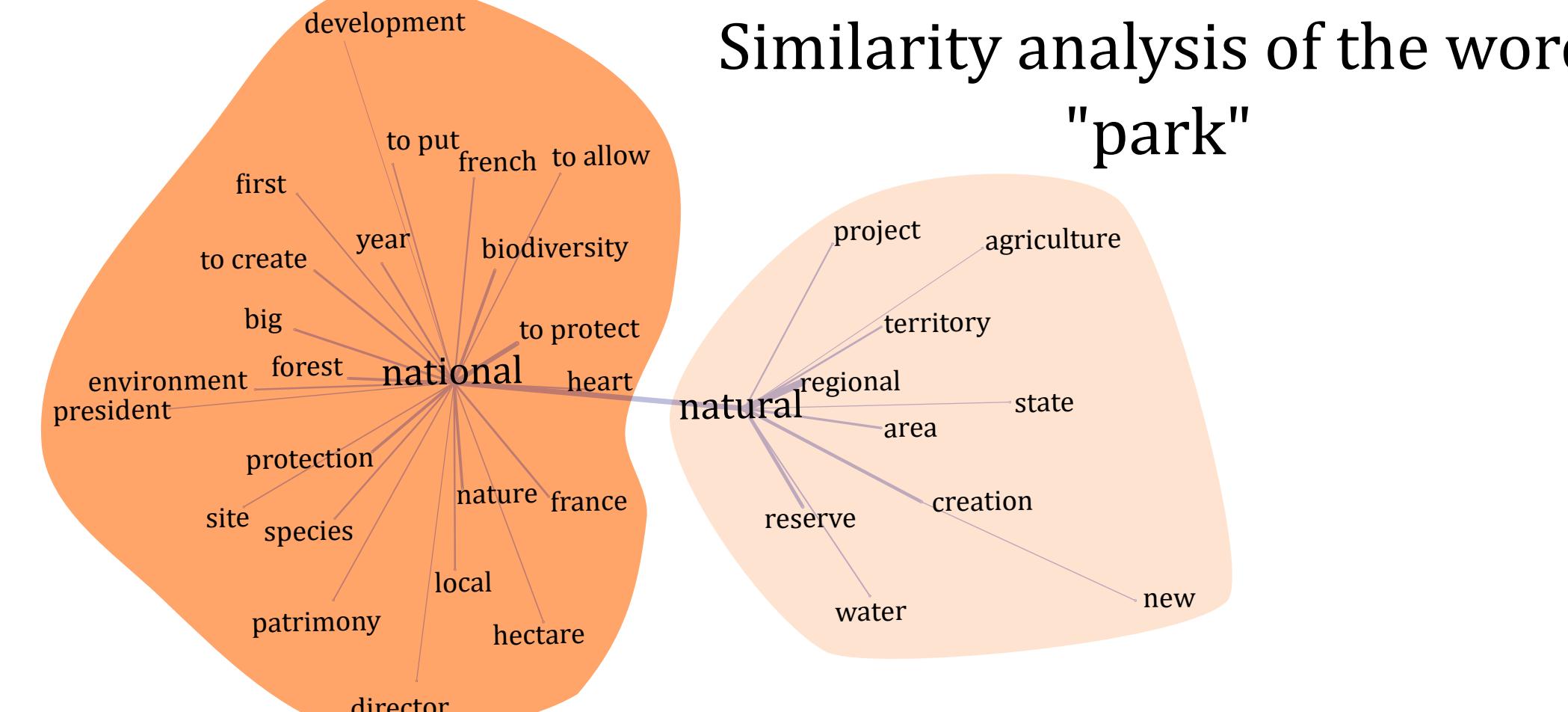
- Content analysis with an interface of R: IRAMUTEQ (*Ratinaud and Déjean, 2009*)
- Correspondent analysis on covariate "year"
- Similarity analysis with co-occurrence index on sentence segments

### Species Portrayal



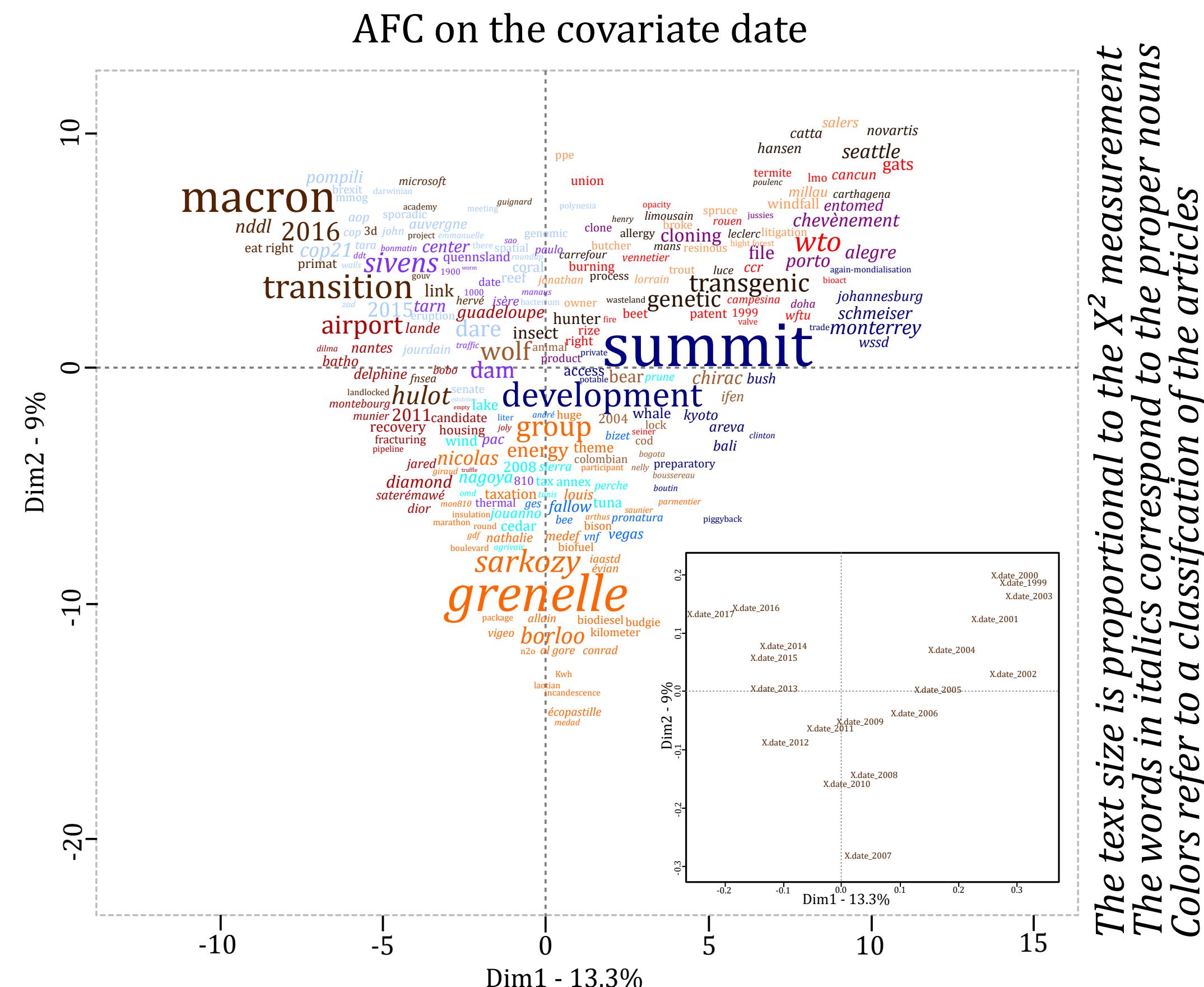
- Bee (*Apis mellifera*), wolf (*Canis lupus*) and bear (*Ursus arctos*) are the most mentioned species
- Bee is associated with ecosystem services while wolf and bear are threatened but also pests

### Policies Media Representation



- Regional nature park discusses more of human dimensions than national park

### Time Effect on Topical Content



- Political events are the major factors of the media coverage
- Articles move from an ecocentrist viewpoint to an anthropocentrist viewpoint

### Conclusion

- Species have opposite valences and some biodiversity policies are mentioned in synergy with agriculture
- Topic content changes over time under political impulses and the viewpoint of articles becomes anthropocentrist
- Textual analysis allows to analyze finely the content, the valence and the time trends but not the sources of the articles (scientific papers, interviews...)

### References

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