

# Visualizing Collocations in Religious Online Forums

Thomas Schmidt, Florian Kaindl & Christian Wolff

Mail: thomas.schmidt@ur.de

Media Informatics Group, University of Regensburg, Germany

## 1 Background

- A lot of the religious discourse in our society is manifested on online platforms like **Reddit**
- We want to investigate in what way religious communities differ when talking about **religious and spiritual key concepts** online

### Method:

- Collocation Analysis:** How frequent are other terms mentioned close to these key concepts
- five as maximum length for a collocation
- strength of collocations: **Pointwise Mutual Information (PIM)**
- To visualize collocations, we place the key concept in the middle and the collocations around them.

## 2 Corpus

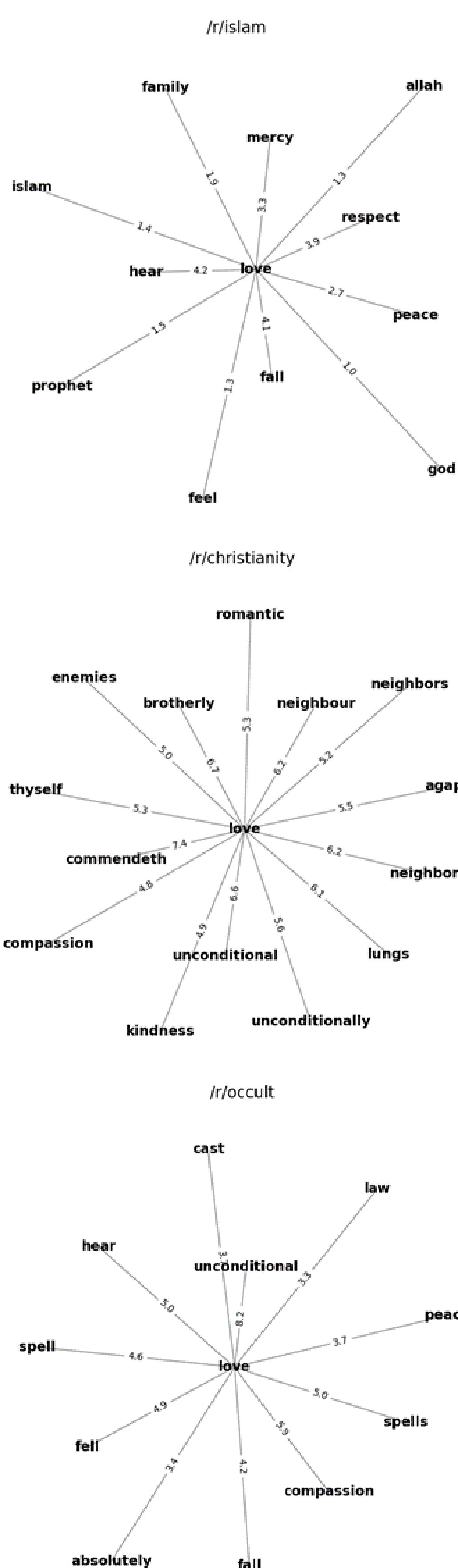
Corpus of **three religious subreddits** with over 700,000 comments and around 50 million tokens for the time span of July 1, 2018 to July 1, 2019 : the subreddits for two monotheistic religions and a more esoteric one \*



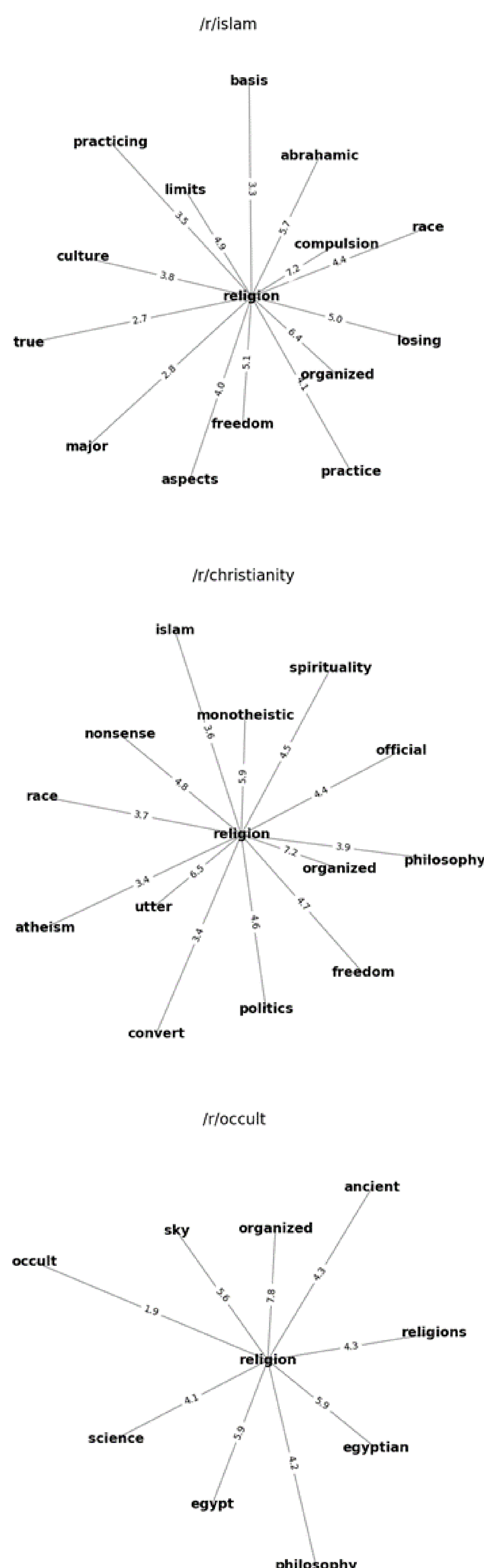
Metric /Forum	/r/Christianity	/r/Islam	/r/Occult	Sum
Submissions	28,896	4,123	8,275	41,394
Comments	618,719	64,886	76,387	759,992
Tokens	43,996,066	4,754,301	5,702,675	54,453,042
Sentences	2,897,575	300,854	365,962	3,564,391

\* Corpus is available upon request via mail: thomas.schmidt@ur.de

## 3.1 Results for the Key Term "Love"



## 3.2 Results for the Key Term "Religion"



## 3.3 Results for the Key Term "Life"

