

# Crossing the Aisle: Unveiling Partisan and Counter-Partisan Events in News Reporting

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## Motivation

- News Media plays an important role at shaping public opinions
- Often, they selectively write stories favoring their preferred stance
- Existing works focus bias on

Token Level

Phrase Level

- But what about events?

How news media include and organize events to subtly reflect their ideology?

## PAC Annotation

- PAC**, a dataset annotated with **P**artisan and **C**ounter-partisan events
- Partisan Events: events that advance the media outlet's ideology
- Counter-Partisan Events: events that mitigate the intended bias

### National Review (Right):

Texas Governor Greg Abbott **signed** a bill on Wednesday barring abortions . . . “Our creator endowed us with the right to life and yet millions of children **lose** their right to life every year because of abortion,” Abbott, a Republican, said during a bill signing ceremony. . . .

Event #1 ( **sign** ): pos->**Heartbeat Bill**

Event #2 ( **lose** ): pos->**Heartbeat Bill** neg->**abortion**

### The Guardian (Left):

The Texas Republican governor Greg Abbott has **signed** into law one of the most extreme six-week abortion bans in the US, despite strong **opposition** from the medical and legal communities . . . “This bill ensures that every unborn child who has a heartbeat will be **saved** from the ravages of abortion,” said Abbott . . .

Event #3 ( **signed** ): neg->**Heartbeat Bill**

Event #4 ( **opposition** ): neg->**Heartbeat Bill**

Event #5 ( **saved** ): pos->**Heartbeat Bill** neg->**abortion**

## PAC Details

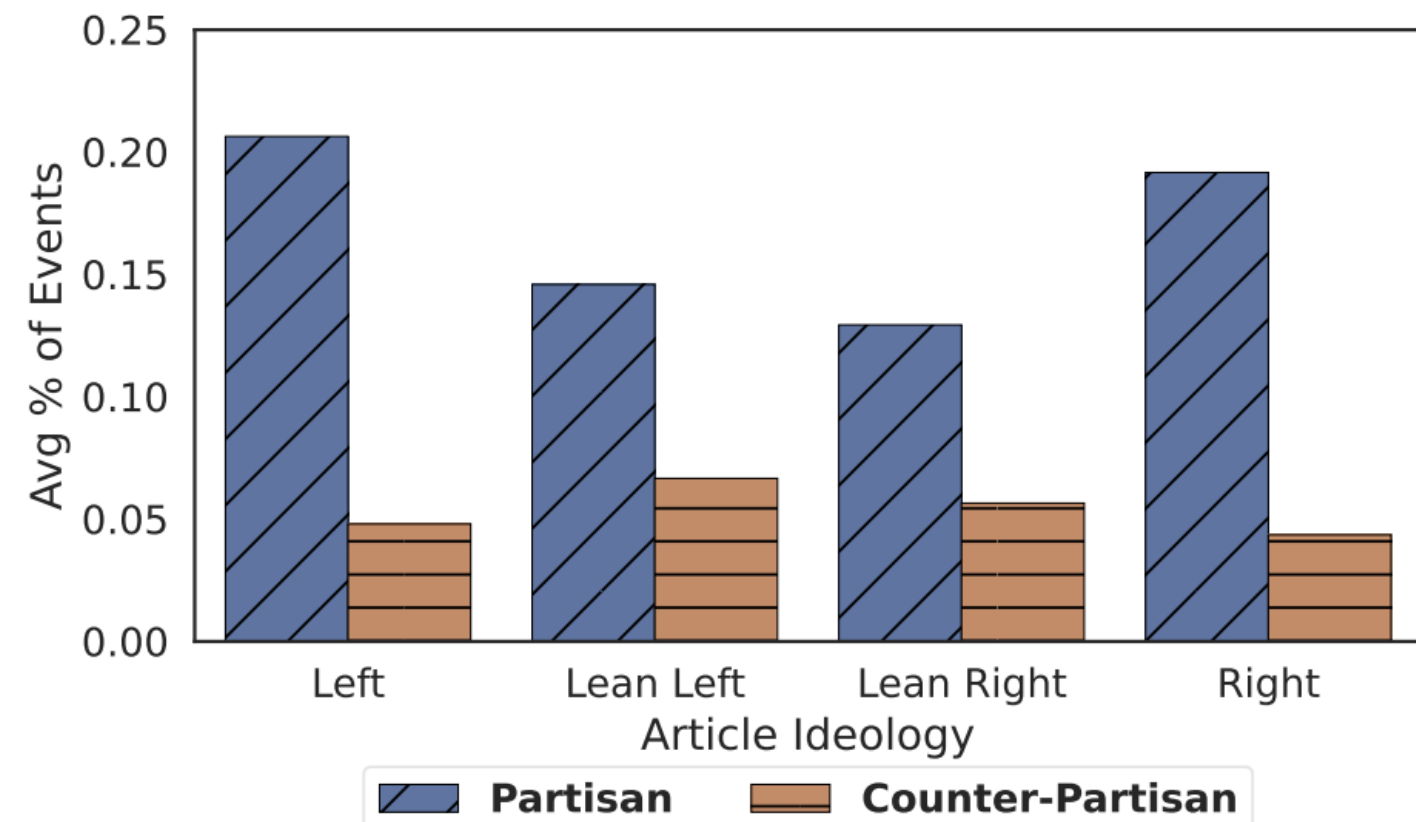
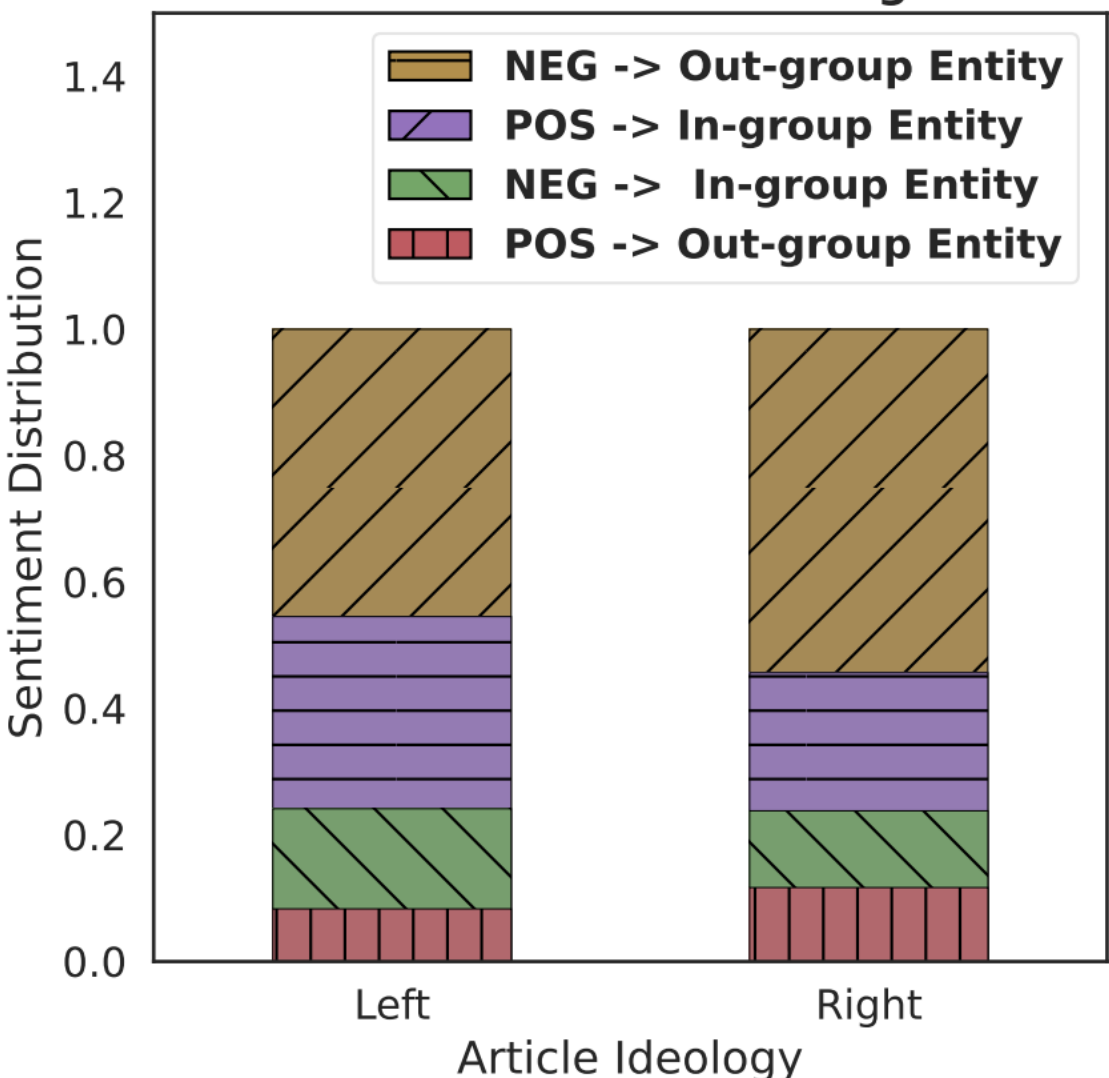
- Stories sampled from Allsides
- Each story contains a pair of articles and is annotated by 2+ people
- Article ideology and event partisanship

PAC	
Stories	152
Articles	304
Partisan Events	6432
Counter-Partisan Events	2079
Time Range	2012-2023

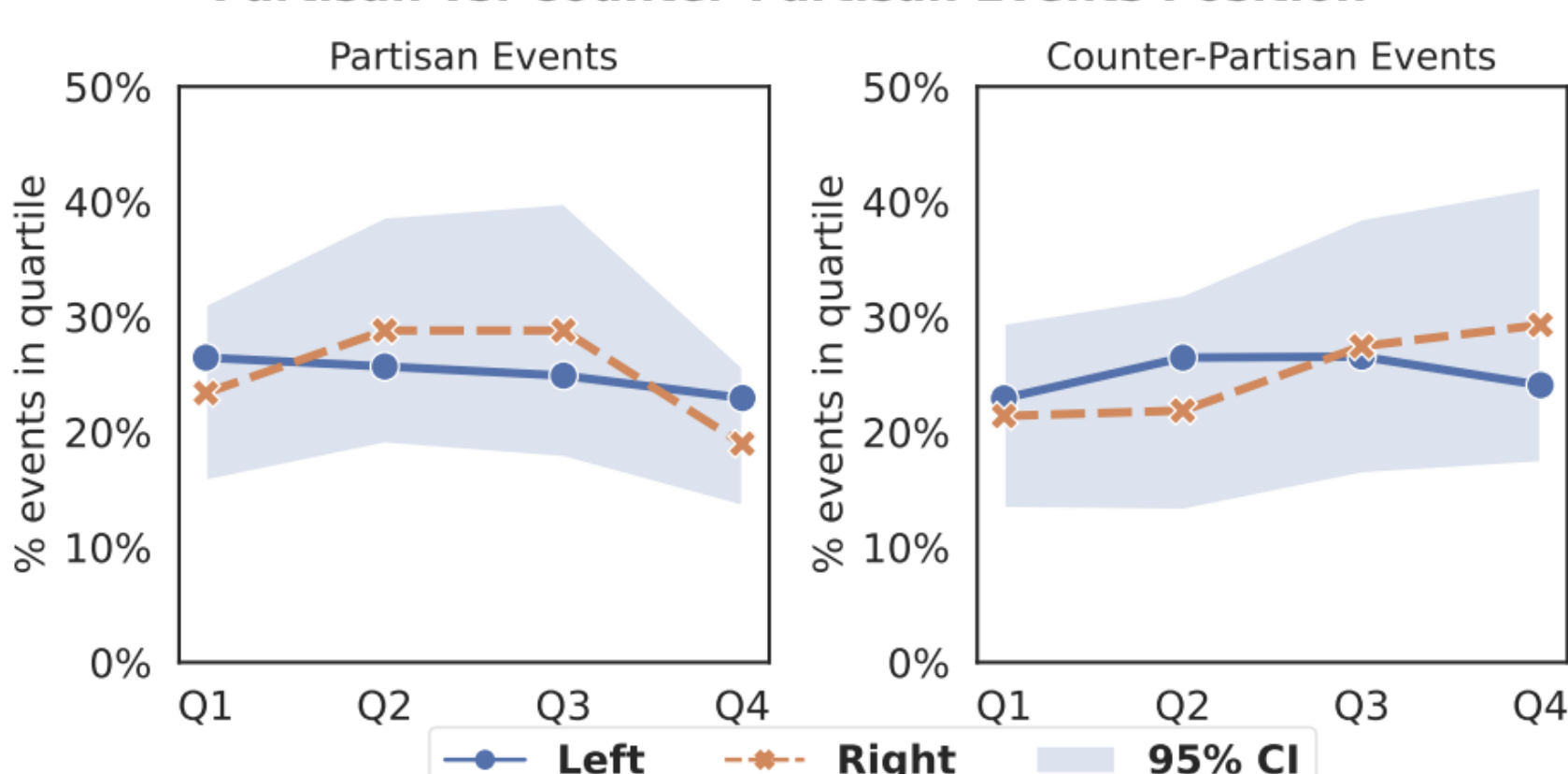
## Dataset Analysis

- Partisan event selection effect
- Partisan Sentiment
- Partisan Event Placement

Sentiment Distribution on ideological entities

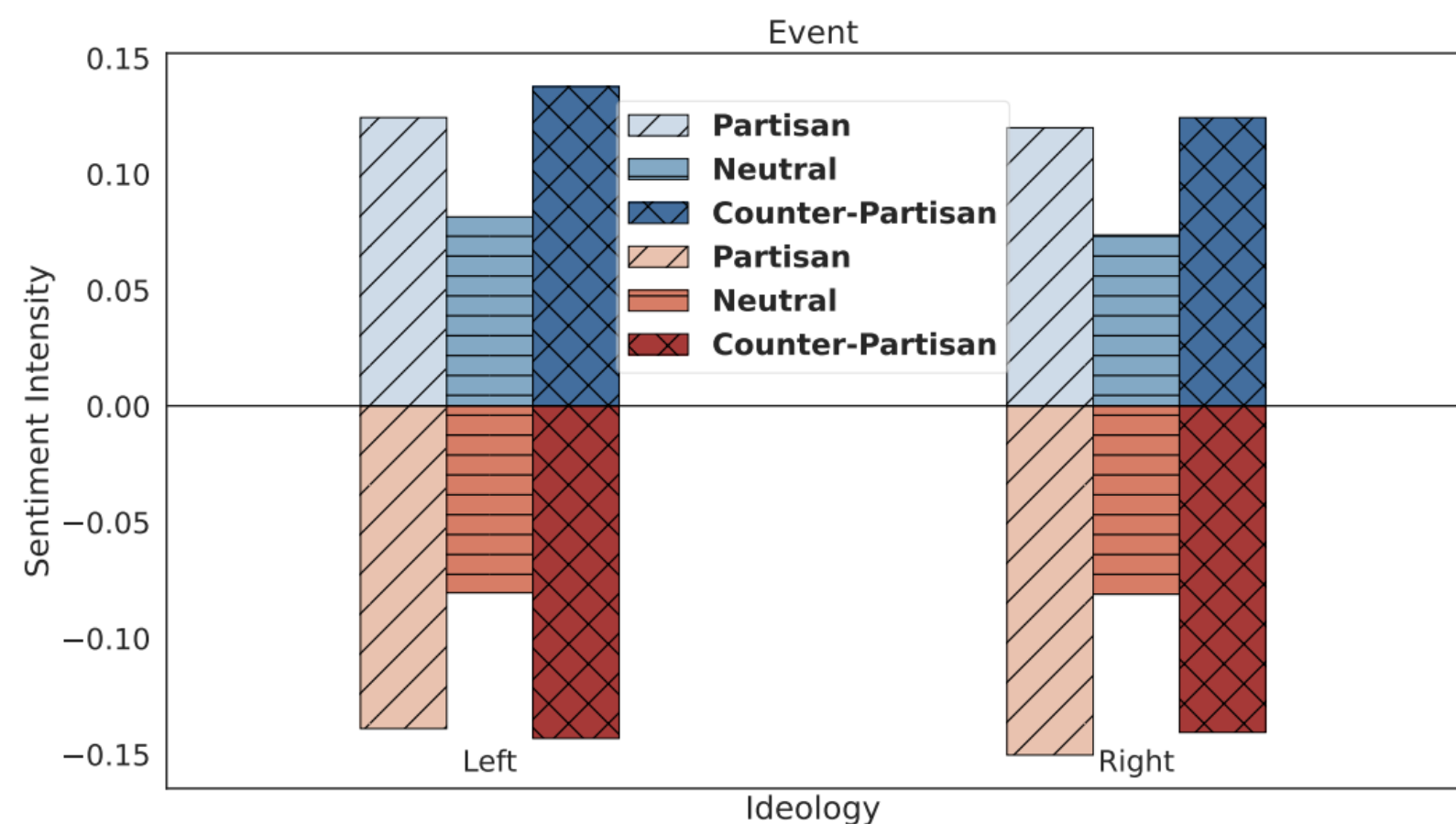
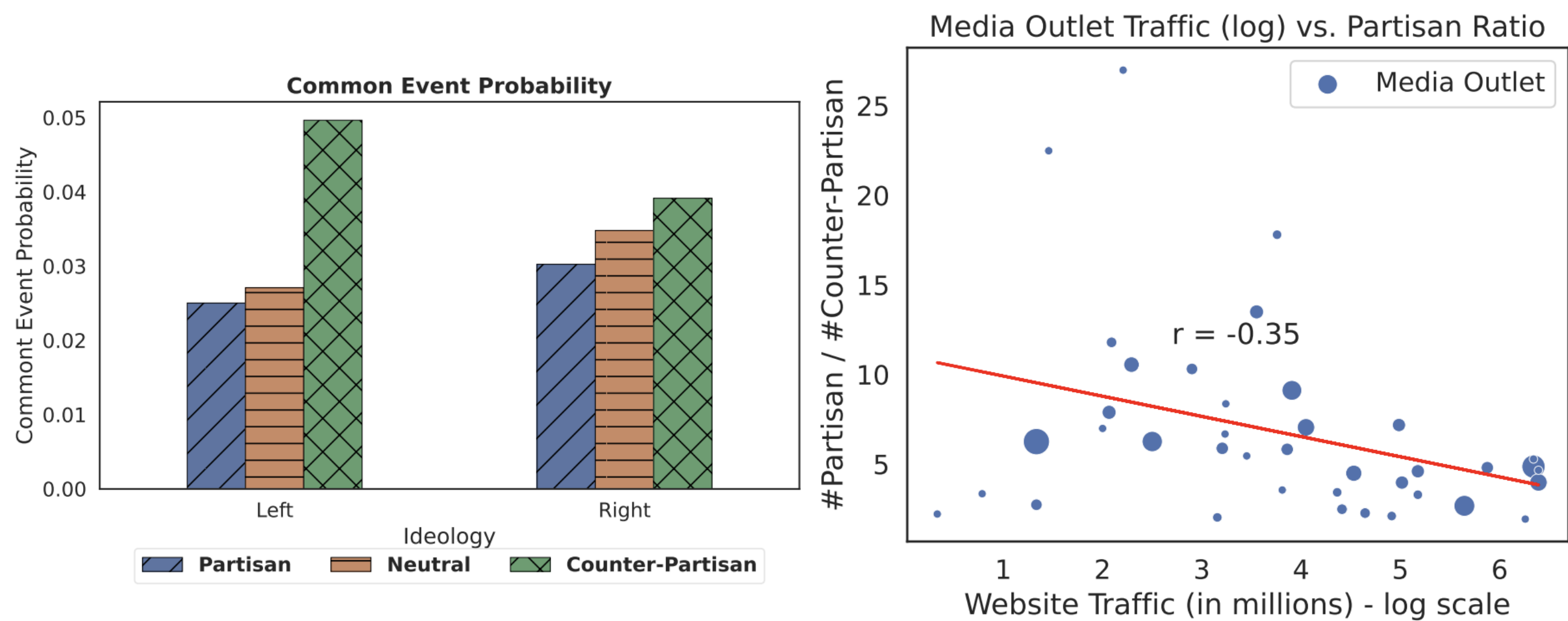


Partisan vs. Counter-Partisan Events Position



## Analysis & Results

- Hypothesis 1: Newsworthiness
- Hypothesis 2: Market Breadth
- Hypothesis 3: Emotional Engagement



	Partisan	Counter-Partisan	Neutral	Combined
Random	24.74	7.83	67.50	33.36
RoBERTa	48.40	15.78	80.61	48.26
+joint	47.48	17.05	80.52	48.35
POLITICS	<b>48.72</b>	<b>19.88</b>	80.09	<b>49.56</b>
+joint	47.09	19.55	<b>81.28</b>	49.31
ChatGPT	31.42	9.99	71.75	37.62