

Instead, the study found the spread of new words is constrained by cultural patterns. New words tend to spread within cultural regions, before reaching the rest of the United States. It also found that African American English was a major source of lexical innovation on US Twitter.

Professor Grieve is speaking about the team's research at the New Ways of Analyzing Variation (NWAV) conference held at New York University from October 18 to 21. He will focus on how these words spread just in New York City over the time period in question, as well as delivering a workshop on 'computational sociolinguistics'.

More information: Jack Grieve et al, Mapping Lexical Innovation on American Social Media, *Journal of English Linguistics* (2018). DOI: [10.1177/0075424218793191](https://doi.org/10.1177/0075424218793191)

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