

# Our round-up of Databasic workshops and demos from Spring 2016

Posted on [May 4, 2016](#) by [kanarinka](#)

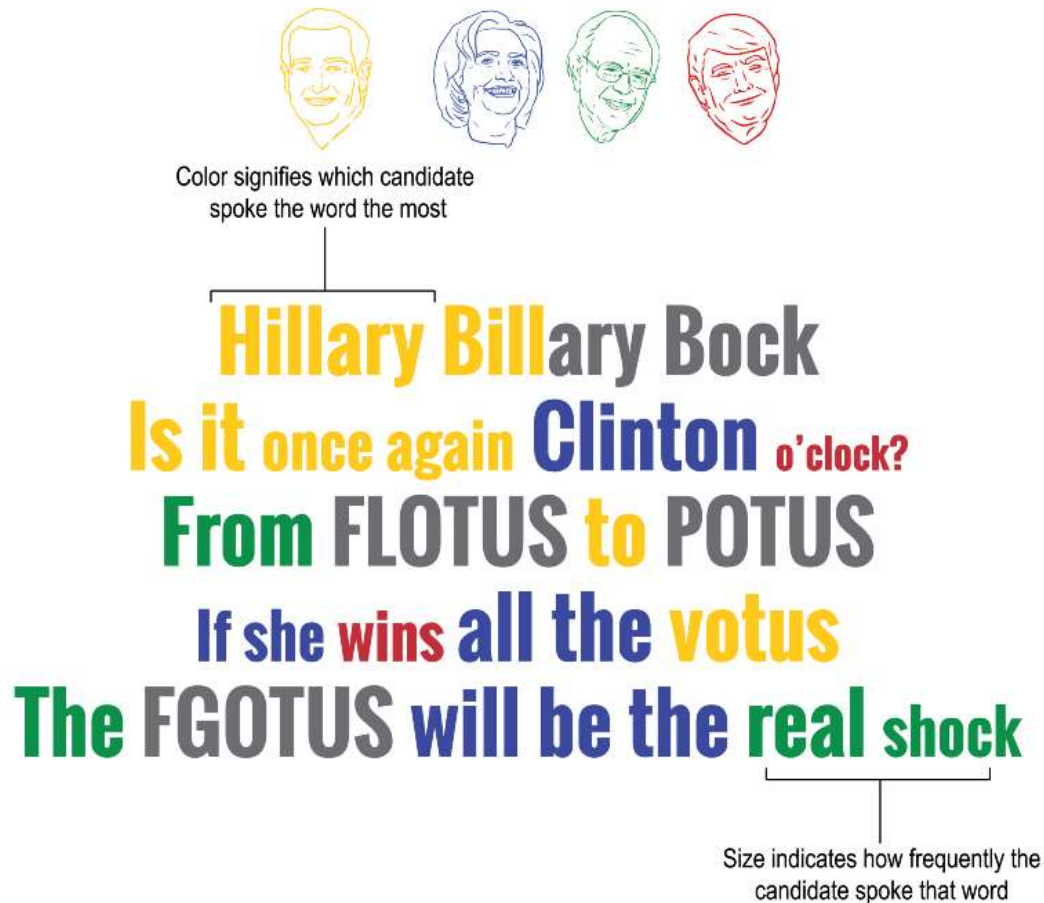
This has been an eventful spring for Databasic! After launching in January [to great success](#) we have been traveling to classes, conferences and workshops to help different groups of people learn about working with data.

Catherine led four workshops for graduate and undergraduate Journalism students at Emerson College. Journalism students learned how to work with qualitative and quantitative datasets from open data portals and start telling stories. Rahul led a workshop for his [Data Storytelling Studio class at MIT](#). Students studying art and civic engagement at Emerson College used Databasic [to analyze citizen ideas for the future of transportation in Boston](#) which they later presented to guests from the City of Boston and State of MA.

Rahul led a workshop for a coalition of organizations that work with the youth in the arts sector. It was an exciting chance to share how the DataBasic approach can help arts organizations think about telling stories of their impact with the rich qualitative and quantitative data they have. The group loved WTFcsv's visual approach to finding stories.

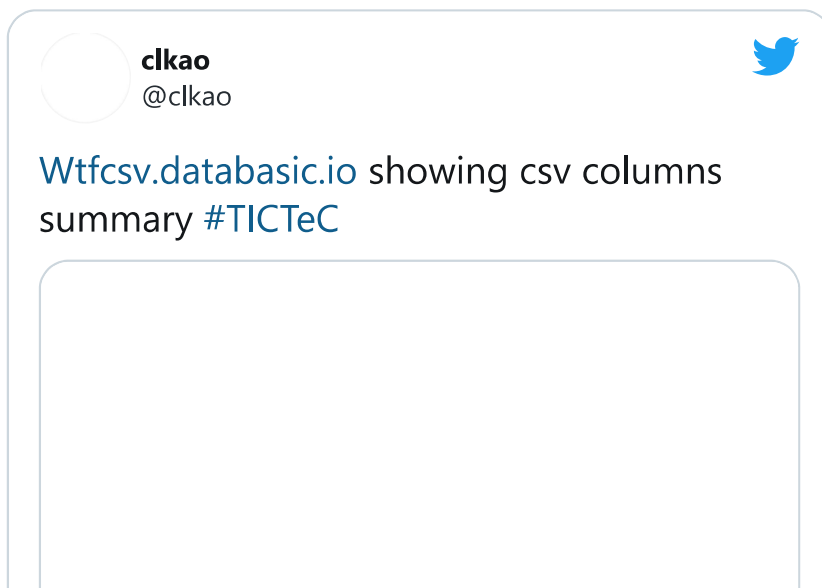


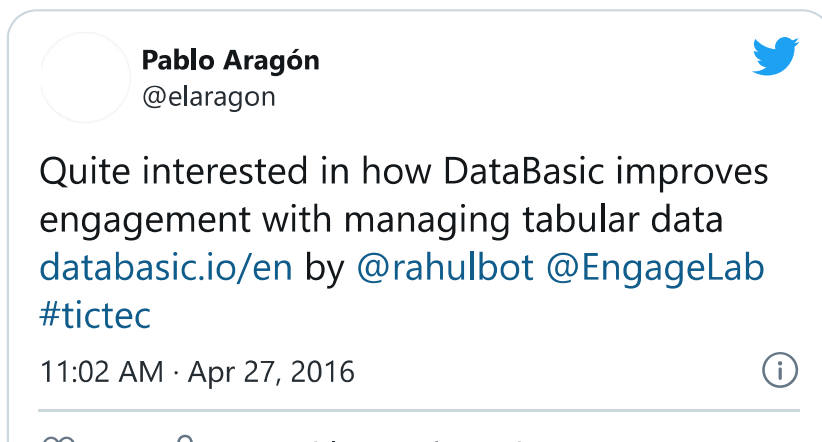
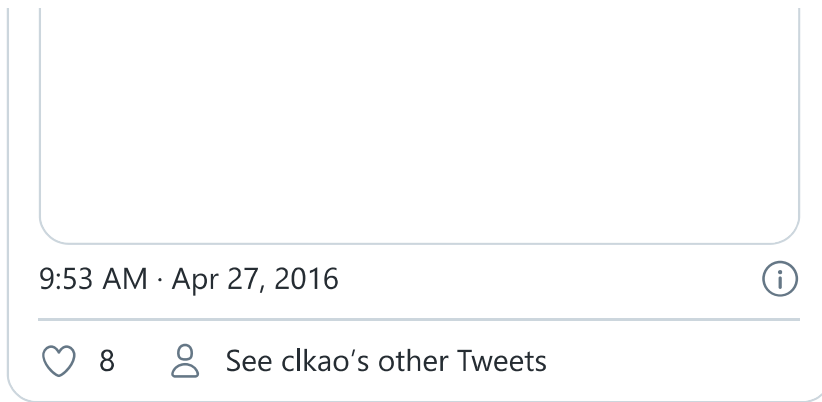
[The Institute for Infinitely Small Things](#), a public art group, used Databasic as part of their project [Campaign Limericks](#) where they worked with students and community members to create limericks out of the top phrases spoken by presidential candidates. Want to check out [our corpus of candidates speeches](#)? There are over 100K words for Trump, Clinton, Cruz and Bernie. Catherine and the Institute later created an art installation and data visualization of four limericks at the Harvard Center for American Political Studies.



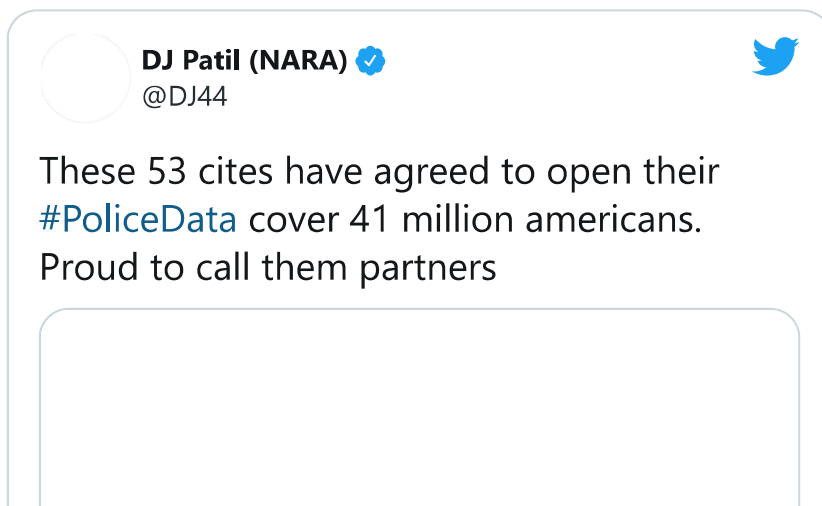
- Four large limerick visualizations created from Databasic analysis are up at the Harvard Center for American Politics in Cambridge thru August 2016.

In April, Rahul shared Databasic as a tool for participatory data analysis at [TICTec 2016](#) in Barcelona. Organized by [mySociety](#), the conference showcased many different technologies and methods for evaluating the impact of Civic technologies for people from 20+ countries. Here are some tweets from his presentation:





Catherine spoke about Data & Community Engagement at the White House and demo'd Databasic to 150+ people in law enforcement and technology at the White House's celebration of one year of the [Police Data Initiative](#). More than 53 police departments across the country have signed on to opening up their data in the next year. The event was inspiring and showcased law enforcement departments like Dallas and Orlando who are at the cutting edge of transparency and community engagement.





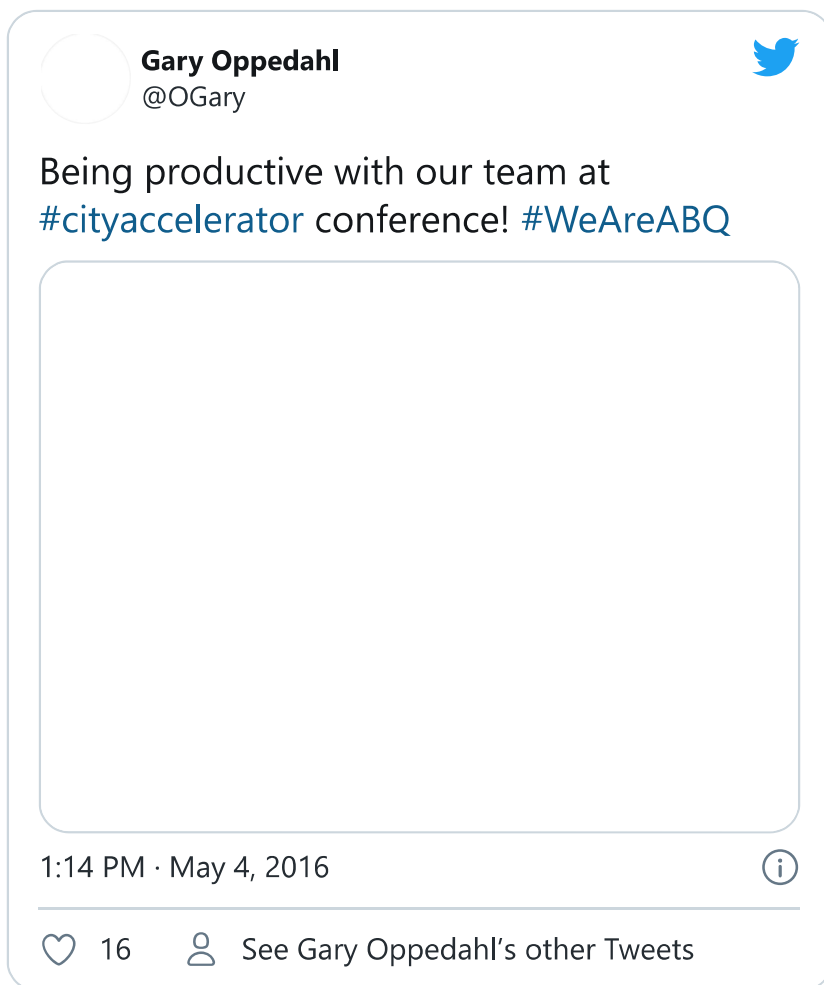
9:38 AM · Apr 22, 2016 from Washington, DC (i)

♡ 160    💬 160 people are Tweeting about this



Also, Catherine got to take a photograph with USCTO Megan Smith which was kind of awesome:




And in early May, Catherine ran a Data Storytelling 101 workshop for journalists on the education beat at the [Education Writers Association conference](#). We worked with data from the Chicago Public School system on student suspensions and started asking questions about race and school ratings in conjunction with suspensions. We also spent a good portion of our time talking about cleaning and merging data.





The spring wrapped up with a workshop for 50 municipal government workers participating in the [CityAccelerator](#) project organized by [Living Cities](#) and facilitated by Eric Gordon and the [Engagement Lab](#) in New Orleans. Teams from Seattle, Albuquerque, Baltimore, Atlanta and New Orleans worked on analyzing citizen comments with [WordCounter](#) and spreadsheets related to their accelerator projects with [WTFcsv](#). We also brainstormed other datasets internal to their organizations that they might use with Databasic.



 **Sara Estes White**  
@saraestescohen 

talking #civictech with @engagelab + others at #cityaccelerator meet-up in #nola. Check out databasic.io - NLP DIY resource!

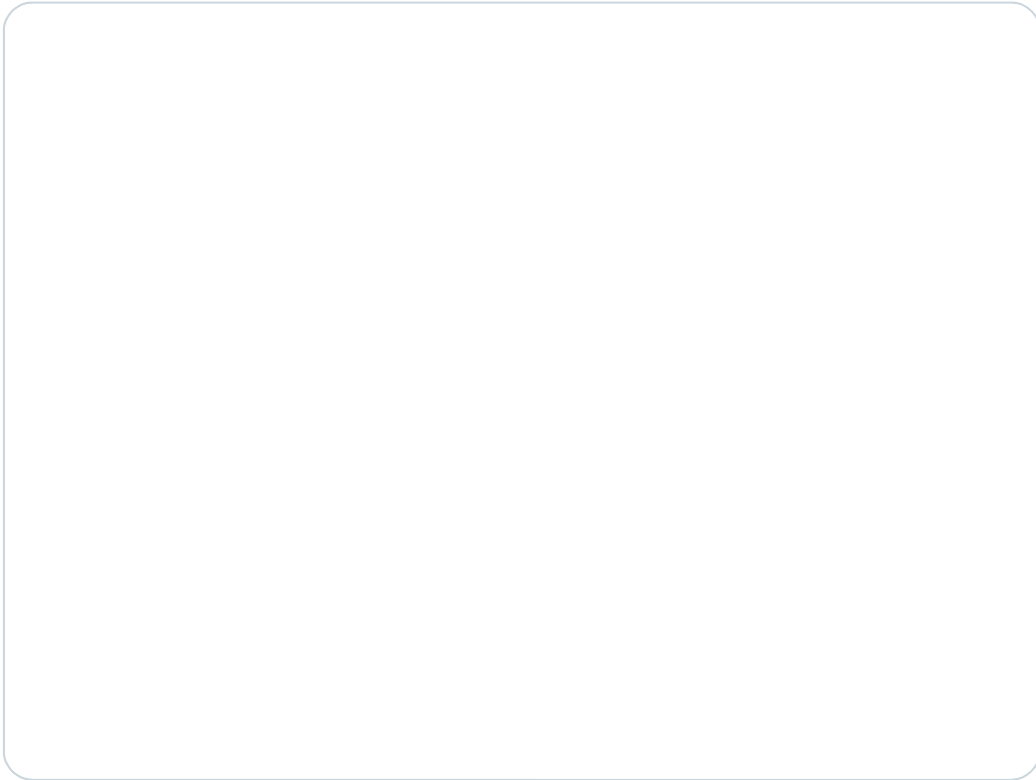
10:54 AM · May 4, 2016 


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 5  See Sara Estes White's other Tweets



 **Dr. Frank Mirabal**  
@FrankMirabal 

Data visualization showing frequency of Prince lyrics #cityaccelerator #dataviz



10:52 AM · May 4, 2016 

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 1  See Dr. Frank Mirabal's other Tweets

We are thrilled at the reception up to this point and have learned a lot from our participants' ideas about how they can use Databasic in the context of journalism, media literacy, the arts, community engagement and local government.

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