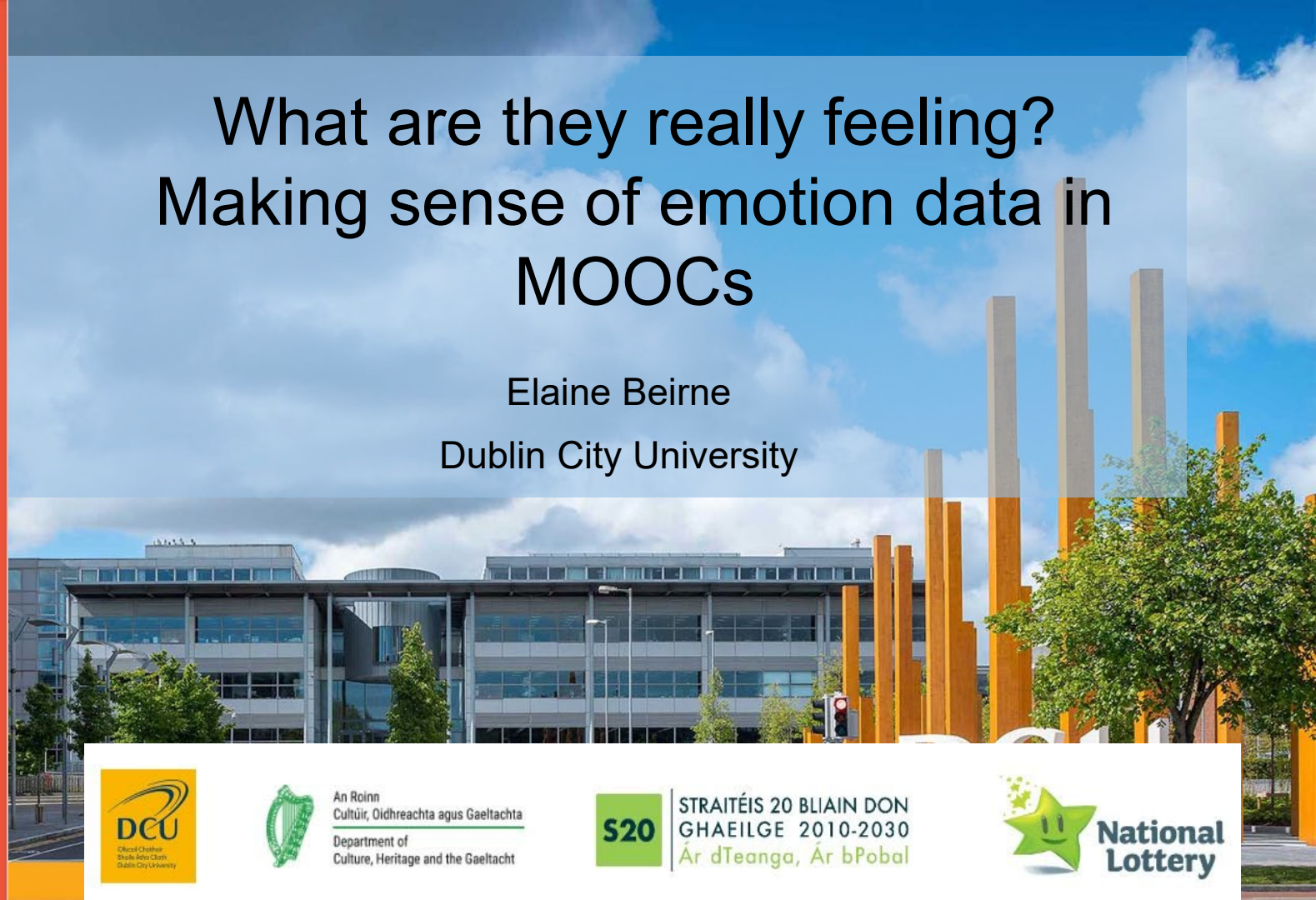
What are they really feeling? Making sense of emotion data in MOOCs

Elaine Beirne

Dublin City University



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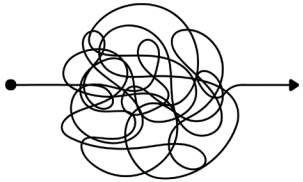

Variance Approach

What are the antecedents and/or consequences of an issue?

Process Approach

How does an issue emerge or change over time?

"while researchers can say with increasing confidence what they observe learners doing in MOOCs, empirical evidence on why they do what they do, how they do what they do, and what it is like to participate in MOOCs is scarce" (Veletsianos et al. 2015, 571).

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The Case of Emotion Data

Experience Sampling Survey Data

Forum Post Data

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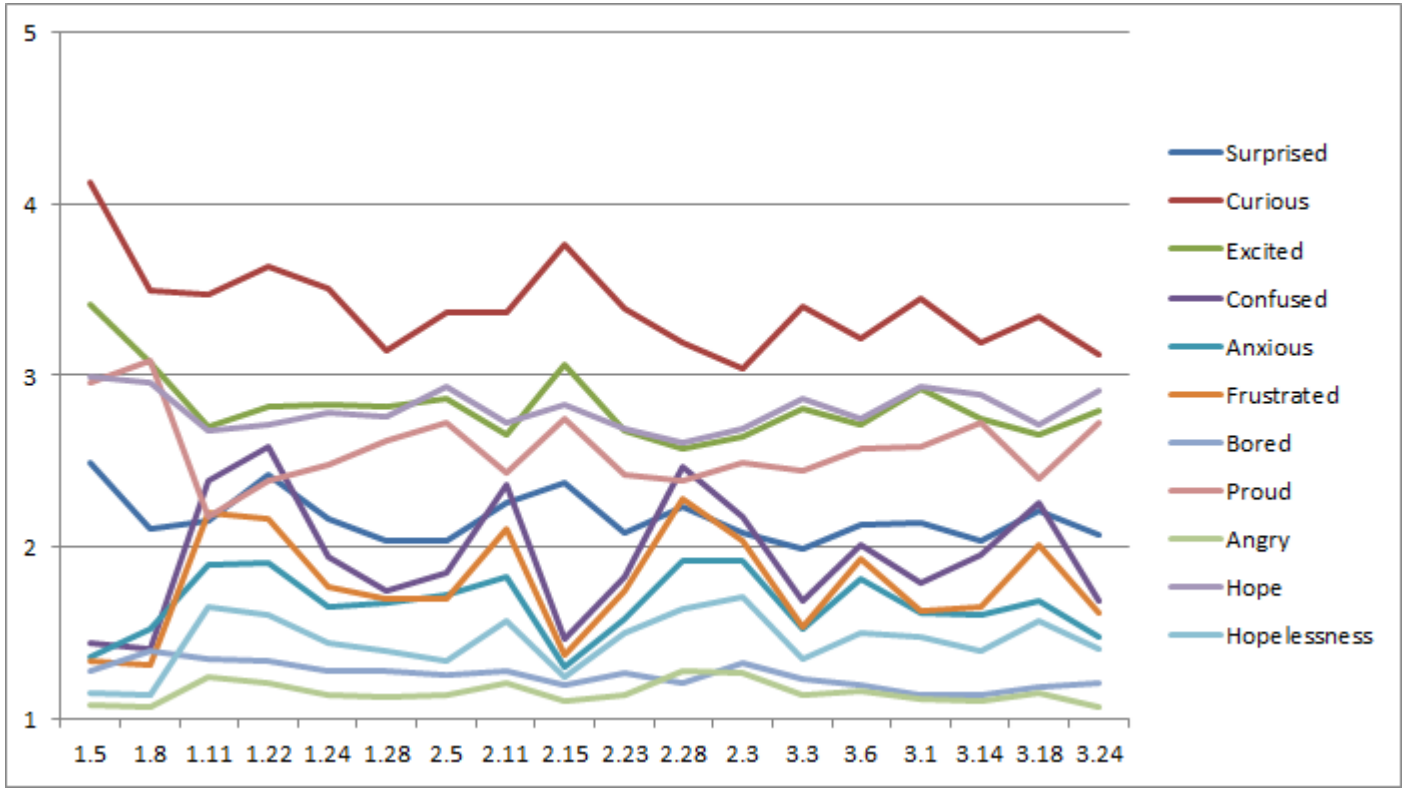
Variance Data: Survey Statistics



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Process Data: Forum Posts

Step Number	1.11	2.15
Step Type	Video	Article
Week	1	2
Description	Two people introduced themselves to each other in Irish. Introduction to a basic conversation in Irish.	Cultural piece, explaining the links between the Irish language and place names in Ireland

Step 1.11

Found this video a little too fast, also would like know what they are saying.

A lot of intro and music to a very fast conversation. Not very helpful to a novice.

Good job! I can't do that yet

Step 2.15: Cultural Article

“The Irish place names are quite fascinating as they have history and location built into them”

“A very interesting section. Caloundra where I live in Australia is on the coast. The word Caloundra is an Aboriginal word meaning 'place of the beech tree' or 'Callanda' a beautiful place, which it is.”

“*It strikes me how lyrical and visual the original place names are”*

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The Value in a Hybrid Approach

Surveys

Large Quantity of Superficial Data

Identifies Trends

Forum Posts

Messy

Contextualised

Combined:

Ability to address different, and more complex, research questions

Go Raibh Maith Agaibh!

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