AI for FOIA Case Processing

Agencies are experiencing exponential increases in both the size and number of FOIA requests they receive. When the legal world began to see similar trends, eDiscovery software was pushed to evolve rapidly to help maintain efficiency and effectiveness. Everlaw developed cutting edge, automated structured and conceptual analytics to help legal teams uncover the truth more rapidly. FOIA case teams should now take advantage of these same tools to eliminate backlogs and drive more tactical FOIA response strategies.

Email Threading and Near Duplicate Analysis

Upon ingestion and processing, Everlaw automatically identifies relationships in emails, including participants and attachments, and groups them together into conversation chains. Everlaw then identifies the most inclusive emails in the email threads. These emails are either the last in the conversation or contain unique content. Email threads can be used or search grouping, assignments and bulk coding. Reviewing emails by thread provides valuable context and helps eliminate inconsistencies, while eliminating the need to look at every back and forth in a conversation.

At the time of processing, Everlaw also identifies near duplicates using document content and other information. These near duplicates are displayed down to a 95% similarity within the context panel of the review window. This means if a document was of particular interest, a FOIA reviewer could quickly review and redact all similar documents, without having to construct searches to try to locate them.

Predictive Coding

TAR 2.0 has become the industry standard for predictive coding in the eDiscovery world. Because the model continuously learns as regular coding decisions are being made, predictive coding integrates seamlessly into workflows without
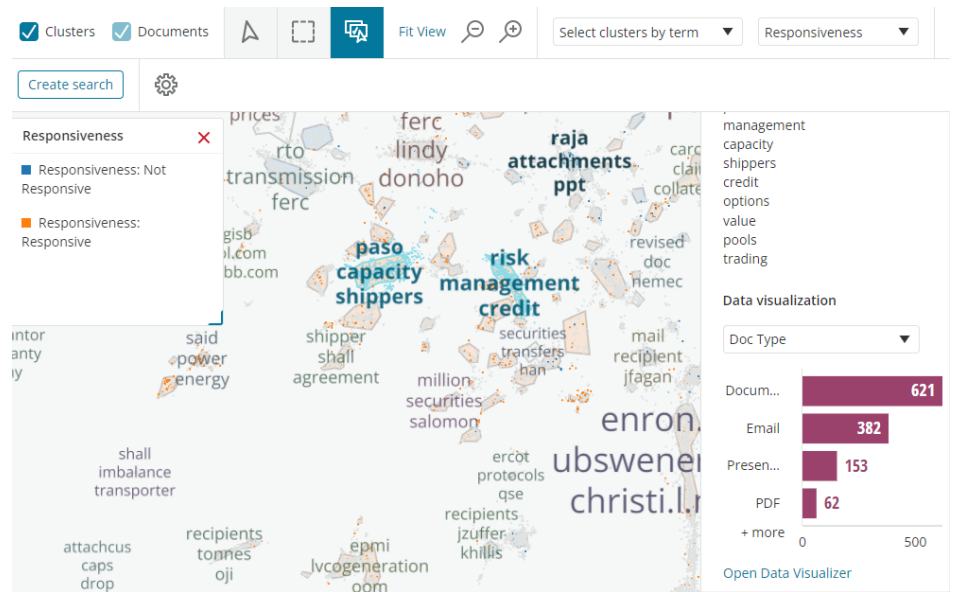

laborious setup and maintenance. Everlaw's predictive coding enables both novice and power users to easily create a predictive model via a simple, wizard-driven process. Once the model
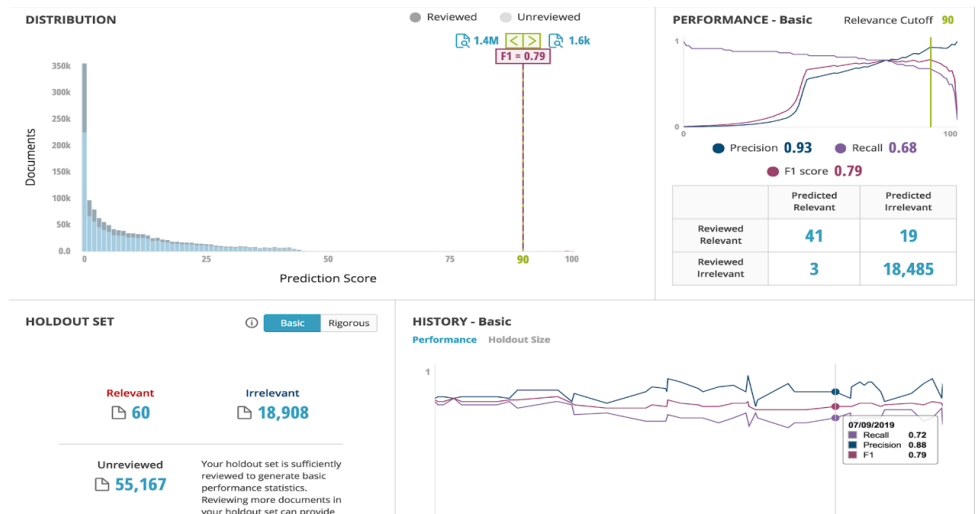
is created and 400 documents have been coded in the course of standard review, the powerful capabilities of Everlaw's predictive coding can be applied to a variety of use cases, including surfacing the most relevant predictions or helping to ensure consistency in a FOIA review. Not only is Everlaw's predictive coding easy-to-use, but our elegant and clean predictive coding dashboard provides transparency into each model's accuracy and maturity. Multiple models can be run on a single FOIA case and predictive coding models are templatizable, which means if a particular model works across certain types of FOIA cases, it can be used over and over again without additional setup.

Clustering

Everlaw's Clustering feature uses an unsupervised learning methodology to group documents together. This means that without any training, prior case knowledge, or use of external resources, Everlaw is able to group documents together based on conceptual similarity. On Everlaw's Clustering dashboard, documents are represented as a data point, and each document belongs to a color-corresponding cluster. The cluster is also represented by a polygon, which is an approximation of where the clustered documents are on the page. Terms associated with each cluster can give you a sense of the concepts within the documents. FOIA reviewers can also view conceptually similar documents from the document review window. Users can select one or more clusters and do things like visualize properties of the data (such as doc type of custodians represented), layer on responsiveness coding for quality control or prioritization purposes, or see cluster defining terms to help craft more robust keyword searches. For FOIA case teams, clustering can help more rapidly surface important documents, ensure consistency of coding decisions and optimize search term generation for current and future requests.

We look forward to exploring this topic in more detail during the Chief FOIA Officers Council's NextGen FOIA Tech Showcase. To learn more about Everlaw, please visit www.everlaw.com or view our short video on our predictive coding.