

Analysing Social Support in K-Pop Fandoms on Social Media Using Topic Modelling and Large Language Models



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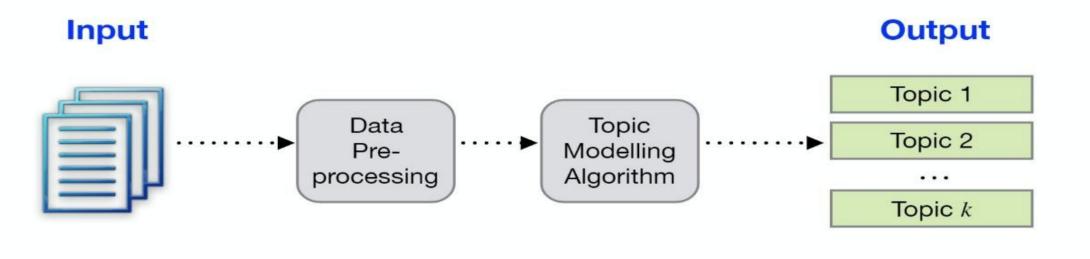
Introduction

- Social media platforms like Twitter and Reddit have become vital platforms for online discussions particularly within K-pop fandoms. We extracted the data from twitter and reddit both.
- This research uses **topic modelling** and **natural language processing techniques** to understand emotions, opinions and social support within these fandoms [1]. LLMs are used to represent results of the topic models.



Background

- **K-pop** is a form of popular music originating in South Korea as part of South Korean culture.
- **Topic Modelling** is a statistical technique which is used to discover latent topics that exist within a collection of documents.
- Large Language Models (LLMs): Al models trained on vast text data to understand and generate human language, used in content creation.





Data Description



Post 1: it's been a really rough day for me mentally so i just want to thank all of you who gave me birthday wishes today. i think i would go crazy without you guys. all i can do is hope tomorrow is better. i love you guys

Response 1: i love u and i hope things get better for you soon Response 2: love u more than u know my jaspie <a> < gif>

Response 3: we love you too pup 💗

Response 4: we love you pup! tomorrow is going to be better and we will ALL always be behind you 100%! be kind to yourself you deserve it <gif>

Reddita



Post 1: Hi everyone! I joined an Sf9 album group order and a fan call was up to win and I won!! I was told I can pick which member I can talk to and I'm planning to talk to Zuho. I never did a kpop fan call and I'm just wondering how does it work? Do y'all have experiences or advice?

Response 1: I have no idea but I'm so happy for you! Have a great time what is this pc from? i got it as a random freebie from kpopusa Response 2: Omg I'm so happy for you! How was your experiences with other members too?



Methodology

1. Data Collection

- Collected Reddit data using PRAW (web crawler)
- Collected Twitter data related to K-pop fandoms using Twitter API

2. Data Pre-Processing

- Linked conversations using conversation IDs
- Cleaned data: removed emojis, hashtags, special characters, and fandom names; translated non-English text to English
- Converted text to lower case
- Performed tokenization, stop word removal and lemmatization
- Applied Keyword filtering

3. Text Representation

- Term Frequency-Inverse Document Frequency (TF-IDF) used to represent text
- This transformed raw text into numerical format for analysis

4. Topic Modelling

- Applied three topic models for extracting topics from the text data:
 - Latent Dirichlet Allocation (LDA)
 - Non-Negative Matrix Factorization (NMF)
 - Latent Semantic Analysis (LSA)

5. Evaluation

- Calculated coherence score for comparison of different topic models
- Used metrics perplexity (LDA), reconstruction error (NMF), and singular values (LSA)
- Visualized results with pyLDAvis for NMF (see Fig. 1).

6. Representation using Large Language Models (LLMs)

- Employed LLMs for result interpretation:
 - KeyBERT: Keyword extraction for each topic
 - BART: Topic Summarization
 - GPT: Topic labelling



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Results

• We identified five topics related to social support. Among these, emotional support is the most predominant in the text.

Table 1: The Coherence Scores for different Topic models used

Topic Model	Coherence Score	
LDA	0.599	
NMF	0.656	
LSA	0.416	

• Model comparisons: NMF performed best, achieving the highest coherence score of 0.656.

Table 2: Results from Representation Models for NMF Model

Topic	KeyBERT	GPT	BART
1	[sleep, feel, hope, time, think]	Emotional Support and Personal Struggles	look coworker face found
2	[birthday, congrats, cute, happy, thanks]	Celebrations and Achievements	got birthday balloon believe
3	[heart, need, homework, moot, buy]	Requests for Help	help link gunwookeg
4	[morning, today, song, link, luck]	Greetings and Daily Updates	good morning people
5	[twitter, tweet, fantasy, real, miss]	Missing and Nostalgia	hope yall miss dumb tweet

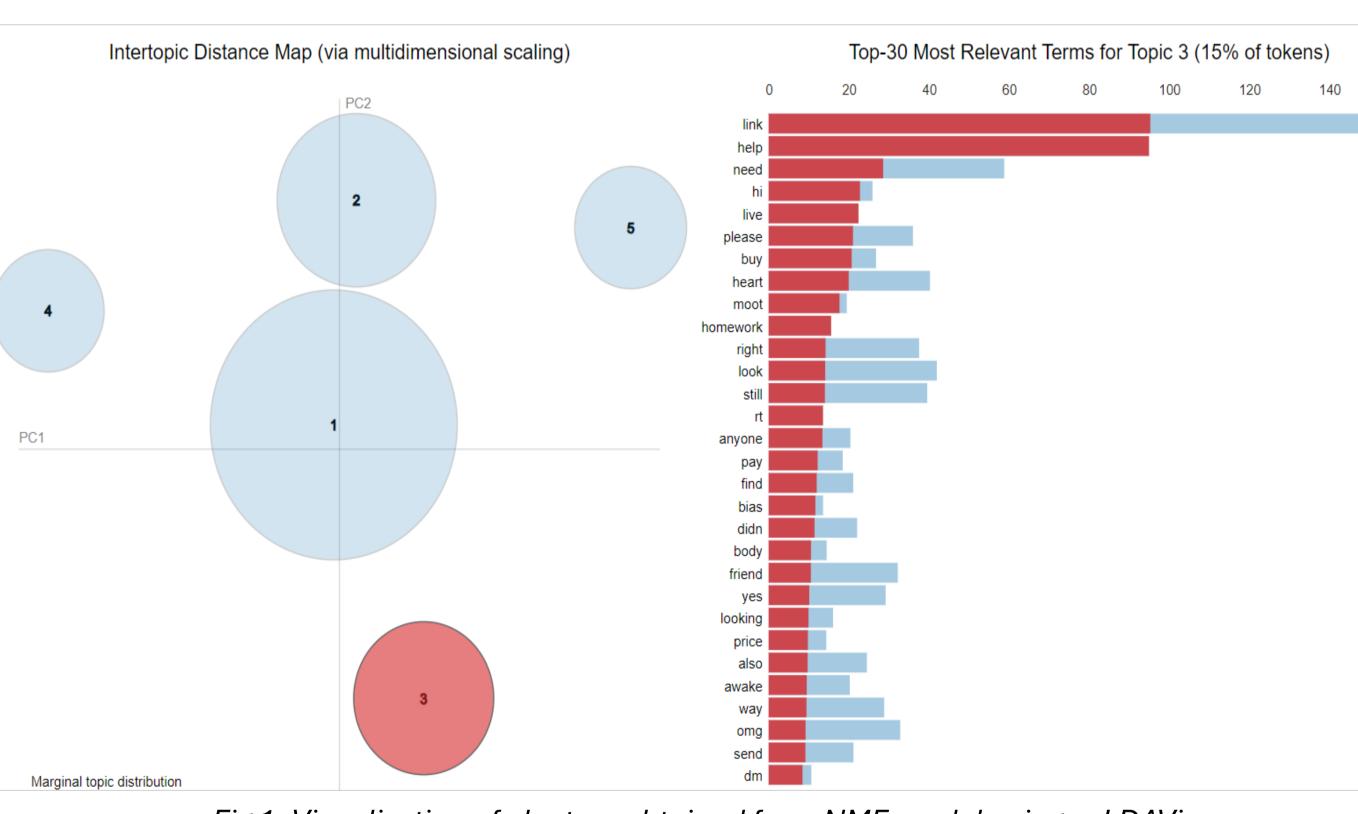
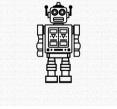


Fig 1: Visualization of clusters obtained from NMF model using pyLDAVis



Future Work

- We can apply pre-trained models (Transfer Learning) to enhance performance.
- We can validate the dataset by manually labeling a small subset to ensure accuracy and quality.



References

[1] Egger, Roman, and Joanne Yu. "A topic modeling comparison between Ida, nmf, top2vec, and bertopic to demystify twitter posts." *Frontiers in sociology* 7 (2022).







