Exploratory analysis of suicidal intensity within depression, dissect social media post

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Abstract

Social media's Text datasets have emerged as one of the acceptable option for assessing depression and suicide emotion among Natural Language Processing (NLP) research experts. This study uses Reddit's social media datasets for exploratory data analysis to estimate the degree of suicidal thoughts within depressed person's post. The main objective is to determine if a depressed individual has a suicidal tendency, determine the degree of the intensity or the opposite. This study presents an unsupervised feature analysis using the LDA topic model of the Reddit C-SSRS dataset followed by supervised classification to quantize significance. Latent suicidal intents, cross-topic co-occurrence patterns, and dominant high-impact keywords of suicide are revealed from unsupervised LDA modeling. Furthermore, Supervised machine learning classifier models are developed to determine the severity of suicide tendencies. To get the best results, cutting edge tex embedding vectorization techniques and machine learning estimators are applied. Statistical measurements depicts the degree of suicide intensity within depressed label post. From the analysis it is revealed that suicidal tendency within depression people post is extremely high. Depressed person's post showed 60% similarities in various categories of suicidal intensity.

Keywords: Suicide and Depression, NLP, Unsupervised LDA model, exploratory analysis, feature extraction

1 Introduction

Suicide is a significant cause of death worldwide. In india, USA and many other countries large number of population dies because of suicide [21, 43]. Only In USA approximately 46,000 people committed suicide in 2020 [43]. Many countries the second highest cause of death among teenagers and younger adults is suicide. Suicide and depression are major health hazards, resulting in the death of one person every 40s globally. More than 300 million people worldwide experience depression annually, 800,000 people die by suicide. These two are intertwined phenomena. According to [43] About 4% of individuals diagnosed with depression commit suicide, and more than half of the persons who attempt suicide meet the criteria of depression. Depression triggers suicidal risk. Several studies showed that depression depression patients are very prone to suicidal attempt [22, 33, 47]. To what extent of depression level triggers suicidal risk is a scrutiny.

Clinical depression severity estimation methods rely on interview based interrogation session where patient confront with psychologist. During the interrogation session patient may not be honest about expressing their thoughts. It is common phenomenon that emotionally distressed individual hides their feelings to others. More-often patients prefer not to disclose their emotions, often reluctant to seek help from psychotherapists, or doctor. Hence, conventional interview-based diagnosis is insufficient to accurately predict a psychiatric status.Also, It is hard to quantify the level of depression during suicidal attempt. It may varies based on various factors like society, religion, family bonding, emotional maturity and many others factors. Due to lack of confidence, fear of death, religious obligations, and societal stigma against this act, even severe depressed person may not consider making an attempt at suicide. But they seek empathy consciously or unconsciously in the social sites like twitter, reddit and facebook [18]. Shen et.al in [39] and Xu et al. [51], depicted how online users debate topics connected to depression in social networks and what is their language patterns. Choudhury et al. in 2013 [19] showed that there is possibility of detecting and diagnosing depression via social media. [34] conducted face-to-face interviews with 14 active Twitter users, to investigate the depressed behaviors in social media users. With the aforementioned research, it is clearly revealed that social media depression detection is not only possible but promising result can be observed. Severity level of depression can be determined by analyzing social media activities. Through data visualization we can explore various facts and clues among this two emotions. Our research focus on detection of suicidal tendency within a depressed person's post. Find out important features, explore different facts and hidden underlying information of depression and suicide.

2 Literature Review

Extensive research has been conducted before about depression and suicide. In [40] 4,882 medical students were surveyed on the basis of demographic and

clinical records via WeChat app. Survey is conducted on specific demographics of population, Mostly statistical machine learning methodologies are applied to determine suicide attempt risk, features and intensities within collected samples. In 2020 Chancellor et. al conducted systematic literature review of the mental health status prediction using social media data [17]. More than 75 studies of social media's Text data analysis for depression or suicide were taken into consideration between 2013 to 2018. It provides a detailed overview of data collection sources, data annotation methods, pre-processing and feature selection, model selection followed by accuracy estimation, cross validation and models' benchmarks for mental illness. In 2022 Zhang et. al claimed that 399 scientific research papers were reviewed and mental illness related research is increasing gradually [53]. There were other review papers on these two issues in which similar topics are analyzed such as Castilla et. al in 2020 [16] and Malhotra et. al 2022 [30]. All of these review based research studies analyzed mostly social media's Text data, and discussed NLP tools and techniques for depression and suicide analysis.

2.1 Multi-modal features analysis

Visual impact on individuals to detect depression also has been studied in some papers [52]. Multimodal data samples are used along with social website post such as: Instagram images are taken into consideration [16, 17]. Along with status of the social website post, Electronic Health Record (EHR) has also been taken into consideration by zheng et. al in [54] and Paulo et. al in [31] in 2020. Lang He et. al conducted research of Audio visual features [23] aiming how facial expression and voice can be used as an input features to determine mental illness effectively in 2021. It is observed that Text based expression depicts mental illness more clearly compared to other features and is dominant among researchers to detect mental issues effectively. In this study we will be focusing on the text based features only for mental illness and suicidal pattern detection.

2.2 Instrument for measuring Severity

From the very beginning questionnaire based suicidal/depression intensity measurements tool were available. These scale are applied for setting the questionnaire during the interrogation. This process provides weights to answers replied by individuals. Most renowned scales are PHQ-9, DSM-5, DASS-21 [21], Beck's Depression Inventory BSS [13], Columbia Suicide Severity Rating Scale (C-SSRS) [24, 36] etc. Most of these scales are based on pre-defined specific number of multiple choice questions having specific weights. [14, 21, 25, 26, 45, 50]. According to the answer feedback from the patients severity and symptoms are decided based on cumulative weight. Furthermore, statistical models are applied to investigate patterns [39, 40]. Till date many researchers are using questionnaire based measurement scales to determine suicidal symptoms [27]. In [47] research study conducted in the City of Vantaa,

Finland, for the age group of 20 to 69 years with 1119 primary-care patients using (PRIME-MD) questionnaire. Suicidal behaviour was investigated and present suicidal ideation was measured with the Scale for Suicidal Ideation (SSI) and afterwards suicide attempts were evaluated based on medical records. In 2014, Vuorilehto [46] examined how several assessment techniques, such as the SSI, BDI, and HAM-D, perform when predicting the incidence of suicidal thoughts in patients with depressive disorder at Vantaa Primary Care. About 153 patient were investigated for about six months to determine suicidal attempt. The study investigates whether variations in assessment tools and methodologies lead to differing estimates of suicidal ideation rates. In [20] collected dataset of 2181 redditors post which contains posts related to suicidal ideation, behavior, or attempt. Then assisted by professional practitioners, the psychiatrists prepared a dataset of only 500 redditors using tool called C-SSRS [36].

2.2.1 Comparative Analysis of scales

For suicide detection, mental health professionals typically use specialized assessments like the Columbia-Suicide Severity Rating Scale (C-SSRS) in which specific questions are asked related to suicidal ideation and behavior. These assessments are designed to evaluate an individual's risk of suicide and provide a framework for intervention and support.

- **C-SSRS** consists of a series of questions that aim to gather information about an individual's current and past experiences with suicidal ideation (thoughts), behaviors, and rescue factors etc.
  - (i) **Suicidal Ideation** The first set of questions aims to gauge the frequency, intensity, duration, and controllability of the individual's suicidal thoughts. Patient asked to describe how often they think about suicide, how intense these thoughts are, how long they last, and whether they feel they can control them.
  - (ii) **Intensity of Ideation** It assess desire to act on suicidal thoughts and whether there's a specific plan or intent to carry out a suicide attempt, this section deals whether the individual has desires.
  - (iii) **Suicidal Behavior** This part of the scale addresses any suicide-related behaviors that the individual may have engaged in, such as making a plan, preparing to attempt suicide, or actually attempting suicide.
  - (iv) **History of Suicide Attempt** If the individual has previously attempted suicide, this section assesses the methods used and how medically dangerous the attempt was and understanding the past attempt for evaluating risk.
- **DSM-5** [21] provides a set of diagnostic criteria that mental health professionals use to determine if a person's symptoms align with a specific disorder such as mood disorders, anxiety disorders, psychotic disorders, and more. Each category includes specific diagnostic criteria that must be met for a formal psychiatric diagnosis.

- **DASS-21**, or Depression, Anxiety, and Stress Scale-21, is a self-report assessment tool [56] commonly used to measure and assess the severity of symptoms. It is a shorter version of the original DASS, which includes 42 items. The DASS-21 is a widely used instrument in clinical psychology, research, and mental health settings to evaluate an individual's emotional well-being and identify areas of concern. Depression part scale evaluates the presence and severity of depressive symptoms, including feelings of hopelessness, low self-esteem, and lack of interest or pleasure in activities. The anxiety dimension measures symptoms related to generalized anxiety, including nervousness, restlessness, and excessive worry. The stress dimension assesses the presence of symptoms related to stress, such as tension, irritability, and difficulty in relaxation.
- **BDI** Beck Depression Inventory [13] consists of 21 questions regarding the users' physiological and mental states. It contains question about patient's sleeping pattern, sadness, appetite, physical problems like interest tiredness, stomach problem, sex interest etc.
- **CES-D** Scale [37], which has 20 questions concerning users' sleep patterns and guilty feelings. In response to the questions, which either give a wide range of replies with varied scores, or both, psychologist must assess the severity of their conditions. The level of depression is determined by the scale of the total score.
- **DSM** The Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders [49] offers nine different types of depressive indications, including low mood and impaired interest. Before making a final judgment, clinicians typically determine if these symptoms have been prevalent throughout time.
- **PHQ-9** having 9 different criteria having question regarding energy, sleepiness, enthusiasm etc and 5 different criteria is mentioned mild, moderate, minimal severe and severe depression.
- **SSI** scale clinical assessment tool used to measure the severity of suicidal ideation in individuals [40]. It includes questions about the frequency, duration, controllability, deterrents, and reasons for the suicidal thoughts. It also focuses on the intensity of the suicidal thoughts, measuring how strong and compelling they are to the patients. It measures differentiate between the individual's desire to die versus their desire to continue living.

SSI, BDI, HEM-D, C-SSRS these standards scale have been successfully validated and used for many years in real-world situations, without a doubt. However, these scale might not completely encompass introvert patient behaviors and symptoms like current social media. In this study we will be focusing on the text based dataset collected from the social media sites only for mental illness and suicidal pattern detection. This study conducted exploratory analysis, depicted various latent topics, correlation between the facts and dominant key factors that represent suicide and depression resulting observe the underlying relation between this two emotions from Text dataset.
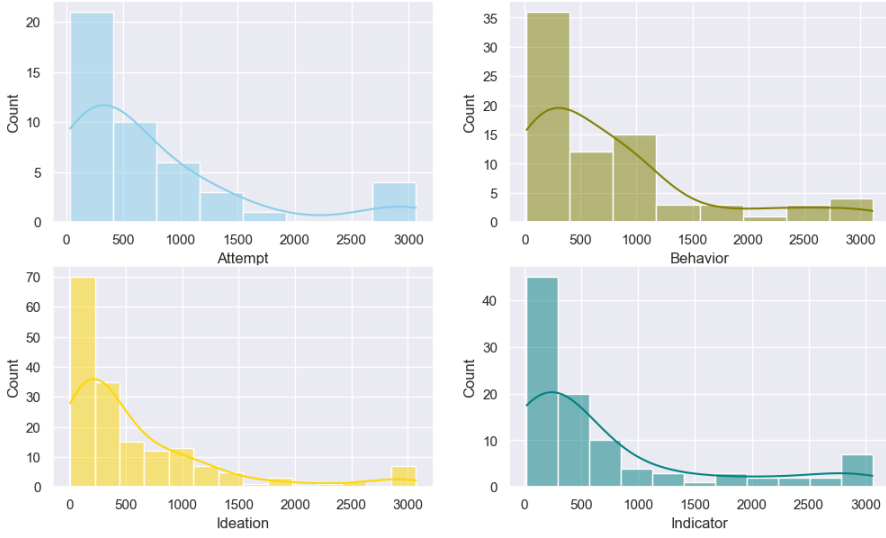
3 Dataset

For psychological research apart from clinical domain, Text based samples are mostly collected from Twitter, Reddit [44], facebook, weibo etc websites donated by various institutions or researchers [38]. In 2021 the Computational Linguistics and Clinical Psychology CLPsych 2021 workshop organized a Task challenge for detecting suicidal risk [29]. It facilitated participants providing sensitive authentic dataset on the problem of predicting suicide risk from social media Twitter. The dataset for the task includes information who attempted suicide or succeeded along with some control who have not. After collecting dataset from social sites, proper annotation is crucial for training machine learning classifier models. In[28] research study used Twitter post collection API for collecting Tweets and collected Tweets of size 2509 were obtained, of which 216 post were found relevant by 3 Expert psychologists evaluators. Furthermore, using LIWC, dictionary of the Linguistic Inquiry and Word Count [35], which is a linguistic feature analysis software that calculates the degree of positive and negative emotions across a wide spectrum of texts, Tweets were evaluated and results are statistically presented.

3.1 Training dataset

This research study incorporates the dataset prepared by professionals published in [20] as a training dataset. The dataset was created by shing and Gaur et al in 2018 [42] and 2019 [20] and is comprise of 500 posts that were filtered and extracted from 2181 Reddit posts. The dataset is then annotated by a professional practitioner psychiatrist, and divided into five categories using the criteria stated in the Columbian Suicide Severity Rating Scale (C-SSRS) [20]. This dataset introduced 5 lavel classification of suicide, cCompared to the existing four-label classification scheme (no risk, low risk, moderate risk, and high risk),

 (i) Indicator - Indicates suicidal symptoms in the post
 (ii) Ideation - Having suicidal Ideas
(iii) Behavior - Having some suicidal symptoms Behavior
(iv) Attempt - Suicidal attempt in the post
 (v) Supportive - Someone shows empathy and condolence for a suicidal post
Document samples based on lengths in various categories are depicted in figure 1. Supportive category is not taken into account in the analysis section since supporting group does not belong to examined specimen individual.

Fig. 1: Document size length in each class of suicidal category and samples frequency

3.1.1 Dataset Imbalance Handling

From figure 1 it is observed that number of samples in the attempt dataset is very low compared to other categories. To increase the dataset size balancing samples of each class, synthetic dataset is prepared. Text Data augmentation [57] is applied. Standalone categorical features of suicide categories are provided in [20]. Categorical features are mixed together shuffled and then grouped into fixed sized tokens. Random Shuffling is applied with various seed. It is considered as sample document for specific category. This process continues until we found desired number of samples. Then synthetic samples are combined with other samples to prepare train classifier dataset.

3.2 Testing/Validation Dataset

For testing dataset is collected from kaggle. It is an opesource dataset publicly available collected from reddit website by a pushshift API contained suicide and depression category. This publicly available Reddit datasets in Kaggle Website comprised of 232,074 post annotated for binary classification as suicidal or non-suicidal in [12] for detecting suicidal ideation. The dataset is a collection of posts from the "SuicideWatch" and "depression" subreddits of the Reddit platform. All posts that were made to "SuicideWatch" from Dec 16, 2008(creation) till Jan 2, 2021, were collected while "depression" posts were collected from Jan 1, 2009, to Jan 2, 2021. In this research trained classifier is applied to detect class on this two category. Main objective is to determine the

suicide categories (indicator, ideation, behavior, attempt, supportive) within this dataset.

4 Methodology

In this research supervised and unsupervised both type of data modeling is conducted. Unsupervised modeling explores the key features, depict coherent terms related to specific suicide category. Supervised model is applied to train machine learning classifier to determine suicidal severity categories. Trained classifier, detects the suicidal risk within given post which contains depression post. Thereby analyzing result statistically suicidal tendency significance in depression post can be observed. Exploratory analysis started with dataset pre-processing. Most common techniques of NLP for data pre-processing is applied mentioned in the section 4.0.1.

4.0.1 Data Pre-processing

(i) Social media dataset are Text data which needs data pre-processing, cleaning, feature extraction and data mining related NLP tasks.

    (a) Dataset noises such as: unnecessary quotes, special characters, punctuation etc and stop words are removed. Then further pre-processing is conducted which are followed for standard data cleaning process for NLP task.

    (b) Morphological analysis is conducted to retrieve root words, process involves stemming, lemmatization etc.

    (c) Sentences are divided into equal-length fragments, and null word padding is applied to keep sample documents length same. Thereby corpus is prepared for further analysis.

    (d) Pre-processed dataset corpus is converted to vector using cutting edge vectorizers. Resulting vector most often called embedding vector.

(ii) Text is converted to meaningful feature vector then classifier is trained to determine depression degree within a suicidal post. Various vectorization methods are applied to get best possible outcomes. Features are passed through a process in which features are converted to corresponding IDs and sentences which contains a series of IDs are represented a vector. The embedding is another term that is frequently used in relation to vector text analysis. Various Vectorization methods are present. Traditional vectorization method provide weights to terms/words mainly based on frequency of words within the sentence and documents, rather than its importance and contextual meaning. Also, how does a particular word or term create impact on the neighboring words is not taken into consideration, since these models does not have any prior knowledge of any words. Hence, various neural network based language models are proposed which are pretrained on massive amount of dataset. These models mainly carries weight which represents word to word relationships and most cases can provide contextual meaning of given sentence based on pretrained

dataset knowledge. Deep learning models recently showed remarkable achievements in this case representing corresponding knowledge.

(iii) Then machine learning classifier is applied to estimate the class category. From the observed result statistical analysis explained the degree of depression within a suicidal post. In our analysis we used different classifiers to determine how suicide intensity is showed in depression vs suicide category dataset. Thereby we can infer degree of suicidal tendency within depression person's post.
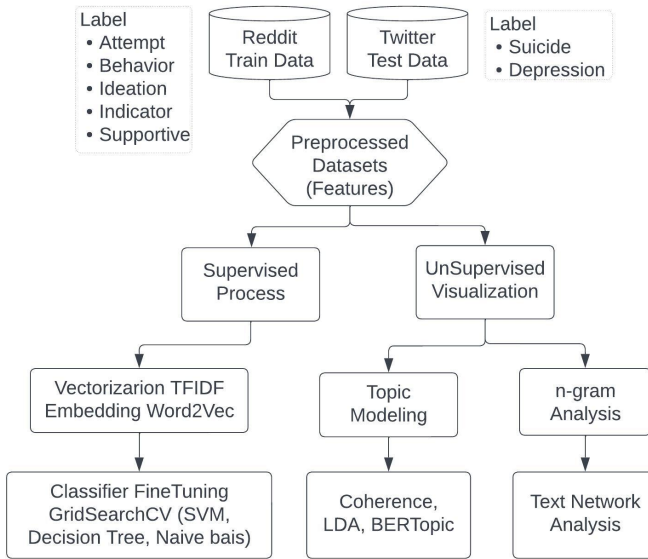

Fig. 2: Research Methodology overview

Hence, visualizing the result we can determine the suicidal tendency within depression post. Also, N-gram based analysis is conducted and frequency of Terms and connections of words or phrases are analyzed in this research scope. More often topic modeling clustering is used to determine latent topic and understand latent text network. From the network various facts can be revealed related to suicide and depression. This whole process is depicted in Figure 2
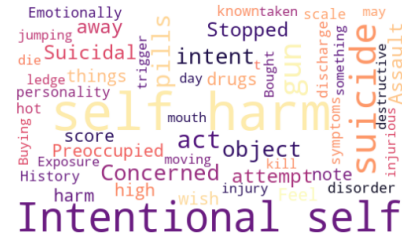
5 Feature exploration

Word cloud is showed in figure 3 to depict each category and influence of dominant keywords based on frequency.
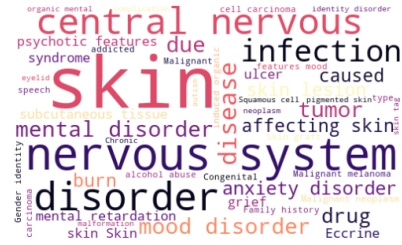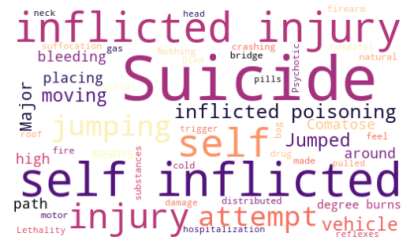
(a) Indicator category word high impact words are anxiety, disease, disorder, nervous etc
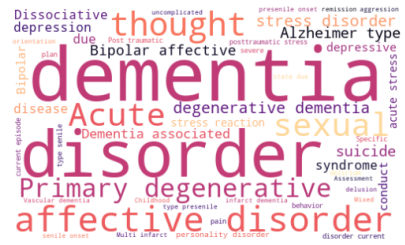
(b) Ideation category word cloud high impact words are dementia, affective disorder, stress, bipolar personality

(c) Behavior category word cloud high impact words are self-harm, suicidal, intentional etc.

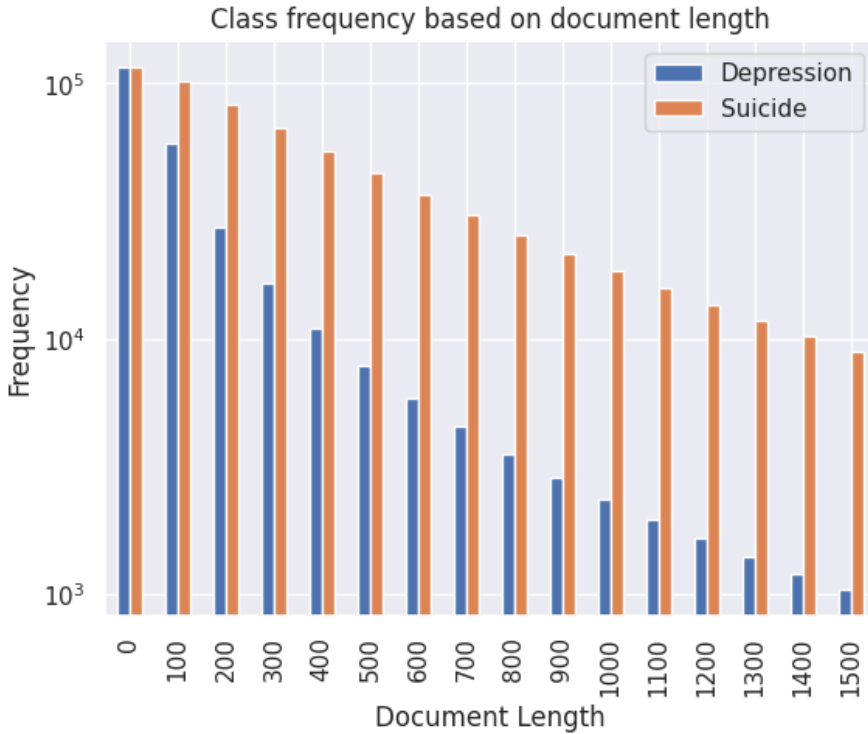(d) Attempt category word cloud high impact keywords suicide, attempt, inflicted injury etc.

Fig. 3: Train Reddit C-SSRS dataset word cloud distribution represents that there are overlapping features between Indicator with Ideation and Behavior with Attempt categories

5.1 N-gram Analysis

5.1.1 Uni-gram

Dataset is split into separate tokens after preprocessing and uni-gram tokens are generated. Document length frequency and token distribution is depicted in Figure 4. From the frequency distribution we can see some of the document sizes are very large. Hence, during the training process we chopped the sentences of tokens into multiple sentences of tokens keeping the label same.

(a) Reddit dataset distribution   (b) Twitter dataset distribution

Fig. 4: Train and Test dataset Twitter and Reddit dataset distribution

Based on frequency of words wordcloud is generated from these unigrams. Frequency based comparison between two categories is conducted for depression and suicide for Test dataset in Figure **??**. Main objective was to get top ranked words from Depression and Suicide corpus. After experiments we have seen There are similarities between the top ranked words those are occurring frequently. They tend to use slang and abusive terms compared to suicidal attempt thinking people. Rather suicidal depressed people want to share their thoughts with others using longer post. However, it does not reveals any clues in terms of hypothetical relationships between the two category. It is difficult find pattern in which we can determine the depression and suicidal thought. So far we found some pattern

1. short statements likely to be more depression category
2. Depressive statements tend to have slang
3. Suicidal thinking people's post having very high frequency of "kill" "die" these type of words or phrases.

(a) Wordcloud in Depression category   (b) Wordcloud in Suicide category

**Fig. 6**: Class frequency in different Document Length

To understand the term occurring frequently in two different classes scatterplot library is used for visual analysis. From the above two scenario we can see that there is a pattern that people used to say more slang and abusive words when they are depressed. It is also interesting that there are many words have high frequency such as depression or depressed but belongs to suicide class. One important fact is revealed here is that we can see although suicide, suicidal these words has high frequency in Suicide class but depression, depressed also occurred in parallel with high frequency. Here several experiments can be conducted for exploratory analysis with scattertext library for terms significance. However, this library is computationally heavy for larger dataset for visualization. Another drawbacks is this library have significant focus on the terms based analysis. We have used simple vectorization methods by which we can have greater control on dataset and experiments code.

5.1.2 Bi-gram

First unigram is computed and analyzed then bigram is calculated for both categories. The bigram frequency showed there are some common terms like

"mental health", "feel like", "make feel", "high school" etc showed high occurrences in the dataset. Hence, we started to understand its pattern in the corpus. For analysis we have considered ['high school', 'mental health', 'best friend', 'feel like', 'really want', 'suicide thought', 'friend family'] these bi-grams and wanted to explore its surrounding context for each category. We called this special bigrams since it showed importance in the suicidal and depression both categories appeared highly frequent matter. We want to analyze how these words have impact with its neighboring words.

To explore the impact of special bi-grams on the samples, special bi-gram terms containing samples are filtered from dataset. After that using lebel encoder bigrams are encoded as integers and then chord diagram is generated depicted in Figure 7 to find meaningful relationship within the samples between the bigram features.
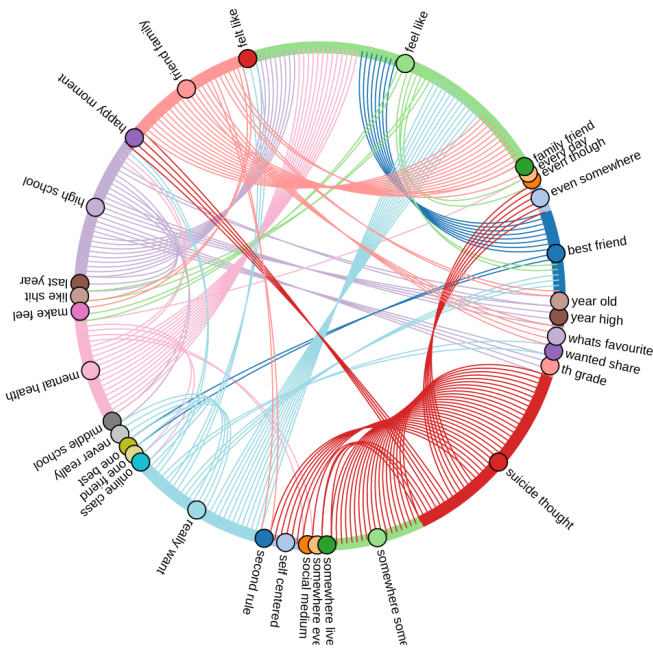
(a) Depression Chord diagram
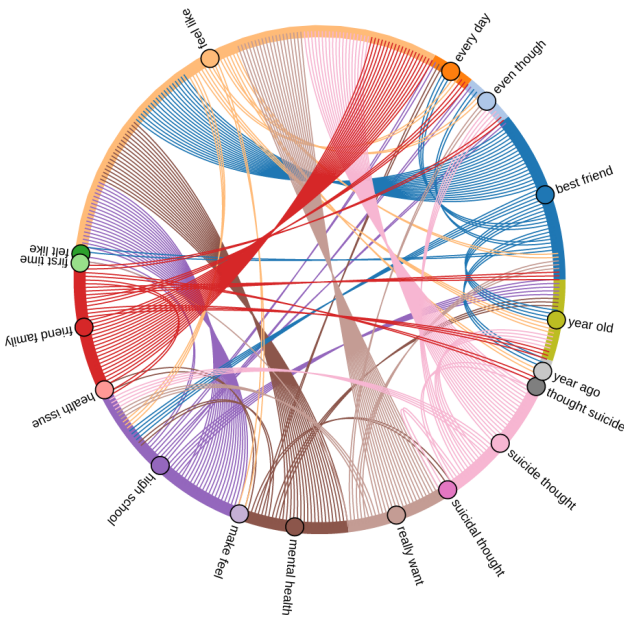
(b) Depression Chord diagram

Fig. 7: Bi-gram features relation exploration

From this two chord diagram interesting sentence can be inferred.

Table 1: Inference from chord diagrams

Depression	Suicide
self centered person is depressed	have mental health issue
having suicidal thought	share though with friends (high school friends,
	Best friends, family members)
want to go somewhere to live	having suicidal thoughts
spend happy moments	Friend family make feel better

Tri-grams or above did not reveals much meaning information, mostly does convey some meaningful information and therefore excluded for further experimental consideration.

6 Exploratory analysis using Topic Modeling

Different techniques have been developed to perform topic modeling in the unsupervised topic modeling domain of Natural Language Processing (NLP), having their own strengths and limitations [9–11]. Apart from LDA, Mallet LDA, Structural Topic Model (STM), Hierarchical Dirichlet Process (HDP), Non-Negative Matrix Factorization (NMF), Latent Semantic Analysis (LSA) etc are also prevailing and can be considered for comparative research study.

6.1 Latent Dirichlet Allocation (LDA)

LDA model [1–4] considers documents are mixes of topic, and each topic is a distribution over words. The objective is to derive the hidden topic assignments and the topic-word distributions that most effectively describe the observed documents. The goal of LDA is to uncover these latent topics from a collection of documents without needing any prior labeling or categorization of the content. An expression for the joint distribution of the LDA model is described below:

$$P(\theta_d, z, w \| \alpha, \beta) = P(\theta_d \| \alpha) \prod_{n=1}^{N} P(z_{d,n} \| \theta_d) P(w_{d,n} \| z_{d,n}, \beta) \tag{1}$$

Where $w_{d,n}$ the n_{th} word in document d, $z_{d,n}$ the topic assigned to the n_{th} word in document d, α, β are the Dirichlet LDA model parameters. controls per-document topic distribution, and per topic word distribution. θ_d represent the topic distribution. $P(\theta_d \| \alpha)$ Dirichlet distribution representing the document-topic distribution, $P(z_{d,n} \| \theta_d)$ is the word topic assignment for the n_{th} word in document d, $P(w_{d,n} \| z_{d,n}, \beta)$ is the distribution representing the observed word given a topic. We have chosen LDA for baseline statistical topic modeling

tool. However, how many topics are ideal it is needed to determine and also topic modeling quality needs to measure.

6.1.1 Topic models comparative analysis

While some variations of LDA, Mallet LDA is considered for large corpus processing and analysis [7, 9, 11]. It focuses on scalability, If large corpus needs to analyze, Mallet LDA might be more suitable. LDA in general can still be efficiently applied to moderately sized corpora. Analyzing topics within the context of metadata, STM could be a better fit. Hierarchical Dirichlet Process (HDP) can be useful when we cannot guess the number of topics in advance. In [7] LSI, NMF and LDA are compared in terms of coherence and similarity measures for social media dataset and in their analysis NMF is observed most effective measures. However, as a baseline model LDA is often considered one of the most prominent choices. In this study Reddit corpus is divided into lessons which is a mixture of topics and using LDA expecting to determine which word in the suicide category belong to other category. LDA produces interpretative results for exploratory topic analysis. The identified topics are represented as distributions over words, making it easy to assign meaningful labels to topics. Provided by most of the libraries and tools, making it easy to implement and can be integrated into existing workflows. Hence, LDA serves as a solid baseline for topic modeling tasks.

6.1.2 Optimal Topics with Coherence

Coherence score measure how coherent or interpret the words in that topic and estimates number of topic clusters [8]. Coherence score assess the quality of the topics produced by LDA and ensures that the topics generated are statistically significant. Coherence C_{topic} can be expressed as follows

$$C_{topic} = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{1}{N(N-1)} \sum_{j=1}^{i} PMI(w_i, w_j) \tag{2}$$

Where, $PMI(w_i, w_j)$ represent pointwise mutual information statistical association between two words occurring together. PMI score indicates that the two words are more closely related within a topic. $PMI(w_i, w_j)$ can expressed as

$$PMI(w_i, w_j) = \log \frac{P(w_i, w_j)}{P(w_i)P(w_j)} \tag{3}$$

where $P(w_i, w_j)$ is joint probability of occurrence of words w_i and w_j. To calculate the coherence score gensim library provides range of options such as $u_{mass}, c_v, c_{uci}, c_{npmi}$. u_{mass} and c_v These two methods are most popular. For given topic with words $\{w_1, w_2, w_3, \ldots, w_n\}$ a fixed context window size is provided (default size 10 words) then coherence score is calculated using an equation $\sum_{j=1}^{i} PMI(w_i, w_j)$ which provides negative coherence score. c_v can

be expressed as

$$c_v = \frac{1}{N(N-1)} \sum_{j=1}^{i} similarity\,(w_i, w_j) \qquad (4)$$

in which $similarity\,(w_i, w_j)$ represent the pairwise similarity between terms based on $PMI\,(w_i, w_j)$ scores. c_v provides a positive coherence score. Higher coherence values (higher than 0.5) indicate that the topics are moderately coherent and representative of meaningful themes within the text data.
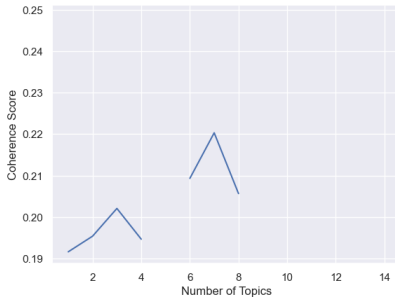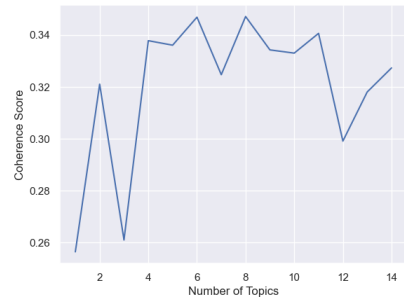
6.1.3 LDA model coherence to determine optimal topic
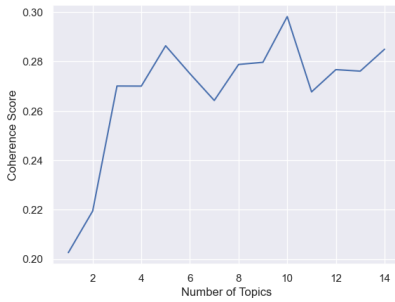
(a) Indicator category word cloud
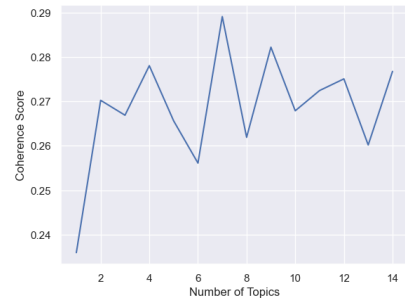
(b) Ideation category word cloud
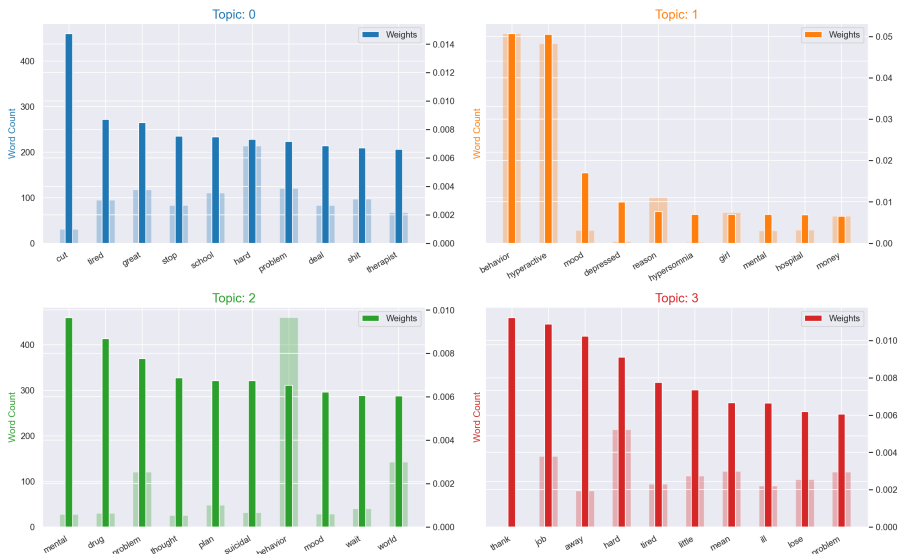
(c) Behavior category word cloud
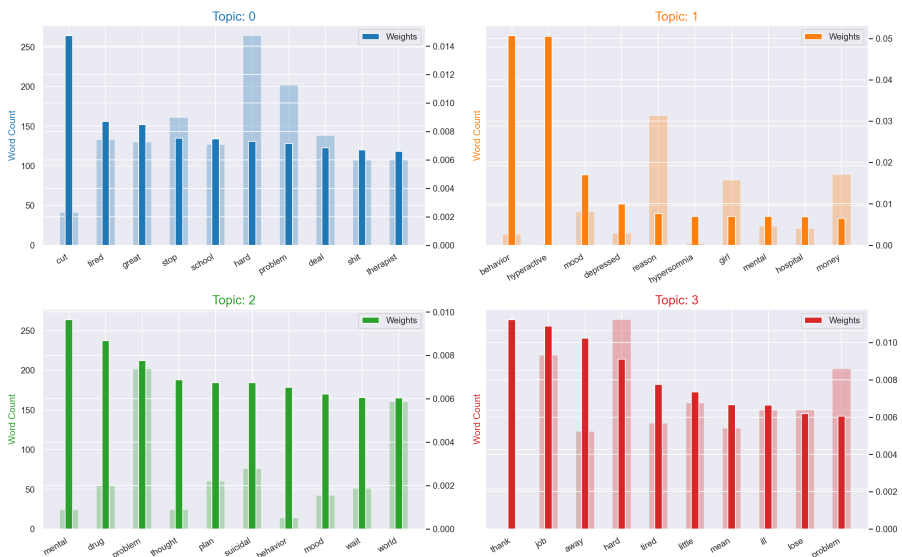
(d) Attempt category word cloud

6.1.4 Relative importance vs term frequency

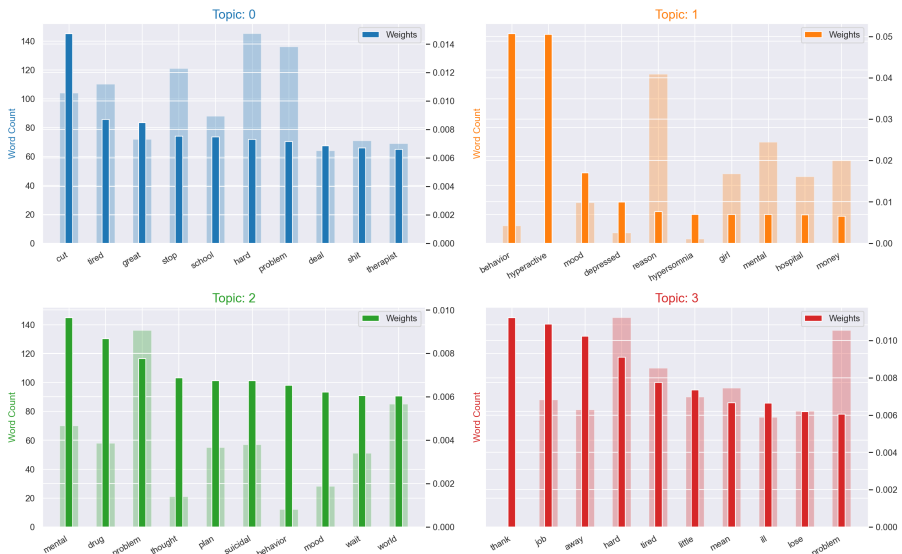Relative importance is measured using LDA model. Then depicted in figure **??**.

Word Count and Importance of Topic Keywords

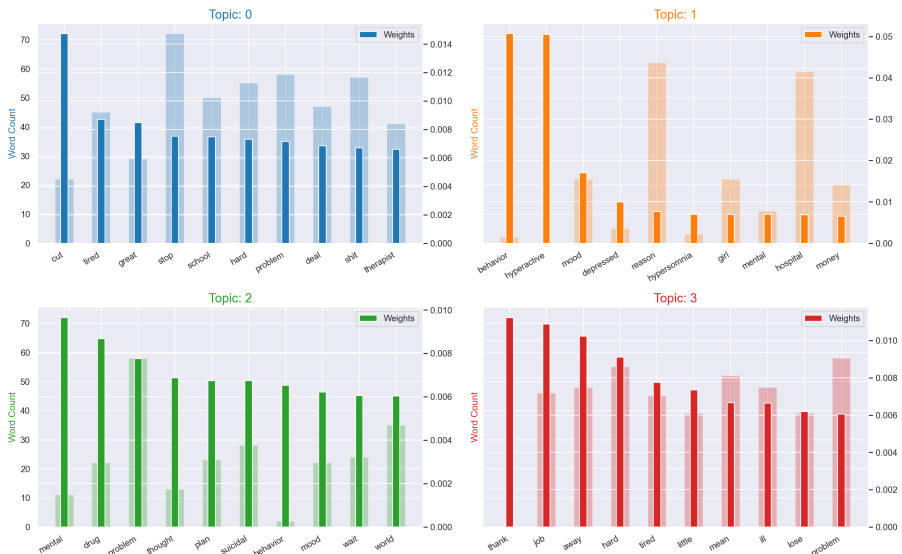**Fig. 9**: Indicator category frequency vs LDA based relative Importance

Word Count and Importance of Topic Keywords


Fig. 10: Ideation category frequency vs LDA based relative Importance

**Fig. 11**: Behavior category frequency vs LDA based relative Importance

Fig. 12: Attempt category frequency vs LDA based relative Importance

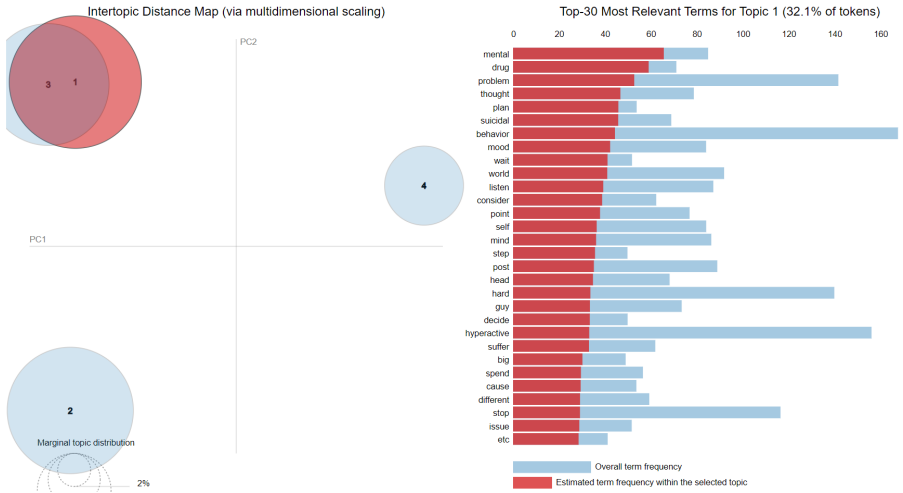### 6.1.5 LDA based feature exploration

LDA is a versatile tool to investigate various keywords in subtle topic within context. LDA driven results are included in this study to observe the latent topic and terms.
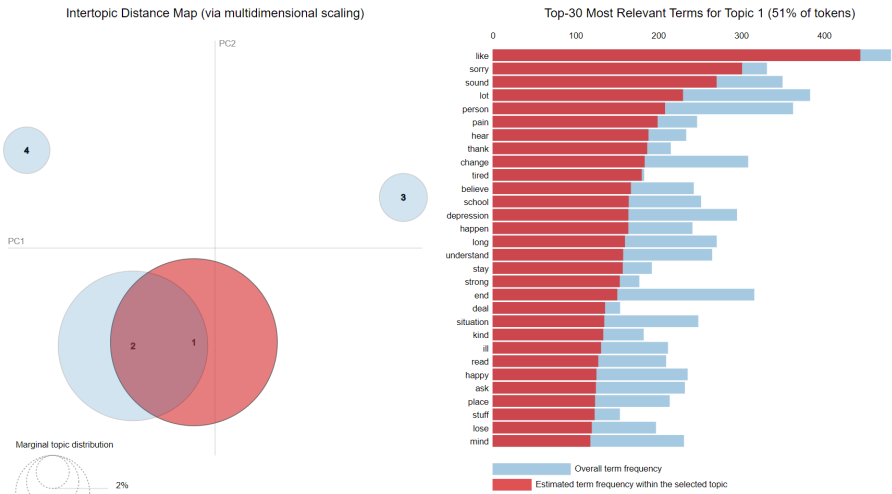
Fig. 13: Indicator categories LDA's salient terms and topic visualization
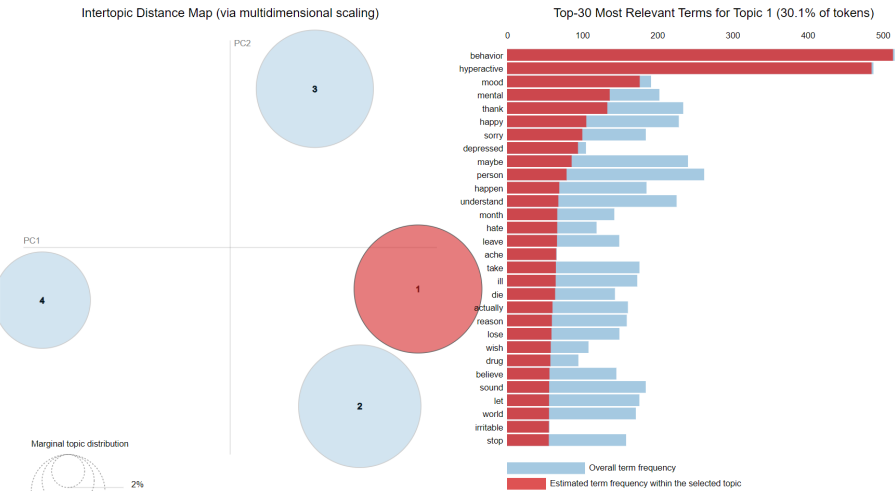
Fig. 14: Ideation categories LDA's salient terms and topic visualization

Fig. 15: Behavior categories LDA's salient terms and topic visualization
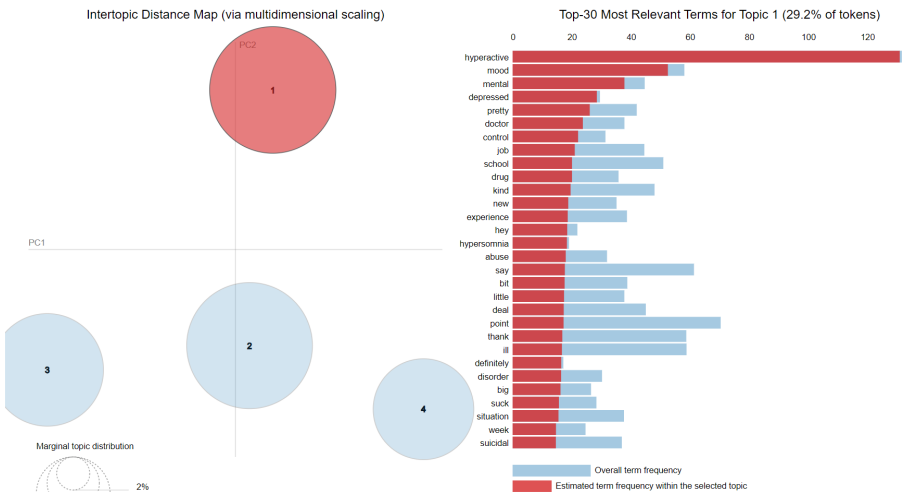
Fig. 16: Attempt categories LDA's salient terms and topic visualization

6.2 Combined topic modeling using BERTopic

6.3 Classification

Machine learning and Deep Learning models are particularly used for Text classification and ML for feature selection or extraction in several studies [16, 17, 53]. These extensive reviews reveal Deep learning methods receive more attention and perform better than traditional machine learning methods
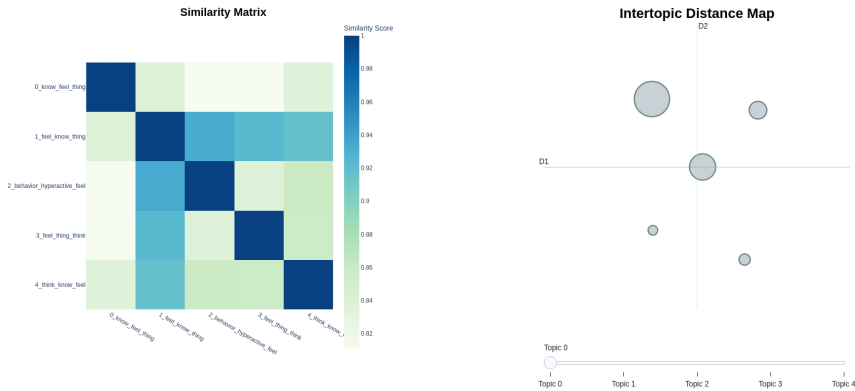
Fig. 17: Inter distance topic similarities

whereas in some cases when extracted or filtered features are fit into training process models are able to perform better. NLP techniques are applied for the annotated dataset collected from Twitter, Reddit, Facebook, instagram, Weibo [48] etc. After that various deep learning and machine learning models are trained for classification of suicide and depression. Then trained models are applied to determine the correct class of given text. [30] Provided a through investigation about passed research techniques, features, datasets, and performance metrics [17, 53].

6.3.1 Data Learning Models

Among Several Deep Learning approaches most successful NLP classifier for segregating Depression and suicidal task are CNN, LSTM, GRU, XLNET, BERT, Variants of BERT RoBERTa and variants of CNN such as: CNN-BiLSTM etc [12, 41, 48] also showed promising results.

6.3.2 Feature Selection

The feature selection procedure has a substantial impact on the performance of machine learning and deep learning models because it lowers noise in the trained dataset, enabling the model to accurately understand data patterns. LIWC, LDA, LSA, n-gram analysis [35, 44] etc are used as features analysis tools. Most dominant approaches are n-gram word frequency based approach TF-IDF. Apart from the Deep learning model n-gram Traditional feature retrieve based analysis conducted in some research papers. In 2017 Shen et. al [?] collected several forms of features comprised of six chorots, namely, social network features, user profile features, visual features, emotional features, topic-level features, and domain-specific features and prepared a feature rich dictionary. This multimodal depressive dictionary learning model was used to detect the depressed users on Twitter using machine learning models.

Most dominant approaches are Word2Vec, XGBoost, SVM, Random Forest, other regression MLs. Typical word embedding approaches TF-IDF and Word2Vec, and CNN–BiLSTM are applied in [12]. Using LIWC features, XGBoost ML together surpasses the accuracy of CNN–BiLSTM in [12]. Others have used machine text Summarization based feature extraction strategy followed by classification for depression detection is applied in [55]. [15]built a set of baseline classifiers using lexical, structural, emotive and psychological features extracted from Twitter posts. Then baseline classifiers are updated by building an ensemble classifier using the Rotation Forest algorithm and a Maximum Probability voting classification decision method. [17] This paper provided an excellent overview of 75 studies in between 2013 and 2018 outlining the methods of data annotation for mental health status, data collection and quality management, pre-processing and feature selection, and model selection and verification.

7 Results Analysis

First we started our experiment with document length distribution. The length of document and term frequency within the corpus is visualized in Figure 17. From the distribution we can see that some of the document length are excessive long and contains more than 1000 tokens (within Twitter and also Reddit both Dataset). Depression class document length are usually shorter in length. Depression document length are tend to be smaller than suicide document length.

Short sentence does not carry much terms and hence does not carry enough information to be classified confidently by classifier algorithms. We started reducing the numbers of samples based on document length. By reducing the samples based on numbers of tokens present in a document (see Figure 17). Documents length versus category frequency information is showed in this chart. This charts explains if we filter out the shorter comments suicide post become dominant class and depression post become outnumbered. The difference showed an exponential pattern as length of document increases. Test dataset Reddit data distribution among depression and suicide class distribution ratio is equal. Filtering the class we have seen an interesting fact that depressed people does not want to comment very long.

8 Classification Results

To segregate the Reddit suicide dataset into different categories of suicide first we have created a classifier using different classification techniques. Since our objective is not making highly accurate classifier. Following approach is applied in this study

- Pre-processed and useful features are used from Twitter's 500 post CSSR dataset for Training classifier
- Used count vectorizer and TFIDF transformer to generate vectors for the dataset

- Trained classifier to determine the categories of various suicidal intensities

We have used simple gridsearch technique of sklearn library and from a list of various classifiers applied on the dataset, we have chosen highest accurate classifiers to determine different label of suicidal risk. so that it can recognize the category. We have used classifiers "K Nearest Neighbors", "Linear and RBF SVM", "Gaussian Process", "Decision Tree", "Random Forest", "Vanilla Neural Net", "AdaBoost", "Naive Bayes". Using various set of parameters, from the result and experiments we found almost 60% accuracy for SVM model to predict the suicide intensity categories. From various set of values of SVM we found degree=2, gamma=0.7, kernel=rbf showed the highest accuracy.

8.0.1 Suicidal Intensities visualization

How much depression can trigger suicidal thoughts is an interesting question. In this study classifier is trained on the suicidal intensity. Then trained classifier is applied on the Depression/Suicide class dataset. From various machine learning models we have found SVM is a good performing model. SVM classifier is applied for the TFIDF vectorizer embedding (see results in figure 18a) and also for Word2vec pretrained vectorizer model. The results are shown in figure 18. From the results we can see that suicidal ideation between depression and suicidal categories number of samples are very similar. Within depression more number of samples are showed suicidal indicator category compared to suicide which is an interesting result. Suicidal behavior and attempt is comparatively high within the suicidal category than depression. Hence, figure 18a result seems to be pretty obvious, except for suicidal ideation category. Also for the suicidal indicator symptoms are higher within the depression category.

(a) SVM classifier applied for TFIDF vectorizer

(b) SVM classifier applied for Glove Word2Vec Pretrained model vectorizer
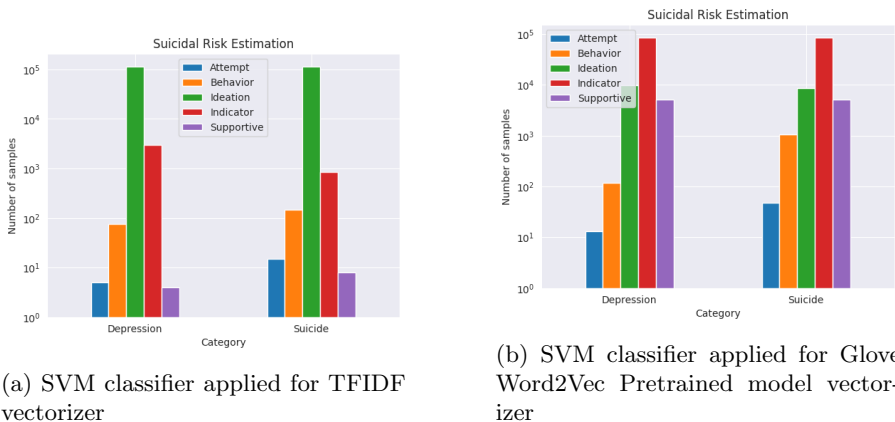
Fig. 18: Visualizing suicide intensities within Depression/Suicide class

For the word2vec vector embedding scenario supportive and indicator categories results are almost similar in depression or suicide both classes. There is

slight difference is shown for suicidal ideation and within suicide class, suicidal ideation is slight higher. Except the behavior and attempt category for the rest categories depression and suicide showed almost similar number of samples.

9 Discussion

From the result it is revealed that suicide categories shown within depression and suicide class vividly. Specially suicidal ideation, indicator showed similar patterns. The number of samples within depression and suicide is almost similar for this two categories. Hence, we can infer depressed person comments showed suicidal ideation and suicidal indicating symptoms. Suicidal behavior and attempt showed higher number of samples within the suicide category compared to depression category. All these results seems very logical results. Although from the results mathematical formulas are not derived in this research study since results are susceptible to chosen classifier, chosen dataset, pretrained models vectors or embedding provided to the classifier.

10 Conclusion

Suicidal risk estimation task and classification samples to determine suicidal risk within social websites and blogs, techniques are discussed before. According to suicidal category previous work has been done before. However, to what extent depression level triggers suicidal risk is not yet discussed before. Also it is difficult to determine since depression and suicide categorical variables are independent factor. There is not any underlying correlation. Several research conducted to segregate which post is suicidal and which one is depression various classifiers are proposed. Extensive work has been done to improve the classification accuracy by adopting most powerful vectorization techniques that uses cutting edge NLP models BERT and its various variants. Research has also been conducted on how much severity label of suicide within a post is studied.
The input format for the above table is as follows:

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