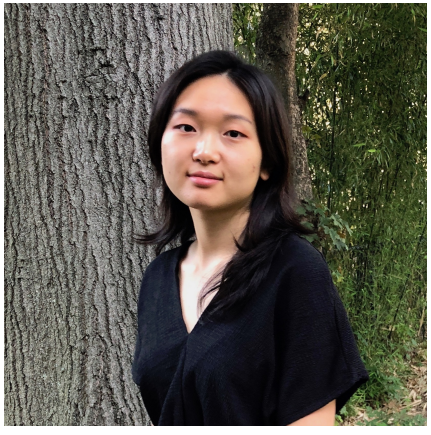
Multilingual Anchoring: Interactive Topic Modeling and Alignment across Languages

Michelle Yuan[1] Benjamin Van Durme[2] Jordan Boyd-Graber[1]

[1]University of Maryland [2]John Hopkins University

Authors



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- Analysts need to examine multilingual text collections, but are scarce in one or more languages.

Modeling Multilingual Topics

farming, livestock, crop, corn, wheat, tractor, cows, 農業 (nóngyè), 牲畜 (shēngchù), 米 (mǐ), 收成 (shōuchéng)

environment, earth, energy, recycling, trash, 碳足跡 (tàn zújì), 太陽能 (tàiyángnéng) 污染 (wūrǎn), 空氣 (kōngqì)

economy, cash, industry, income, services, demand, 經濟 (jīngjì), 收入 (shōurù) 就業率 (jiùyè lü), 銀行 (yínháng)

Coral reefs have been damaged by sources of pollution, such as coastal development, deforestation, and agriculture. Destruction of coral reefs could impact food supply, protection, and income …

全球土地總計有三分之一用於生產肉製品與動物製品。如果大豆不需用來餵飼牛群，森林砍伐與土地退化的現象將得以緩解。如果美國將養牛的土地該種大豆，研究人員發現，這一舉措將節約42%的耕地 ……

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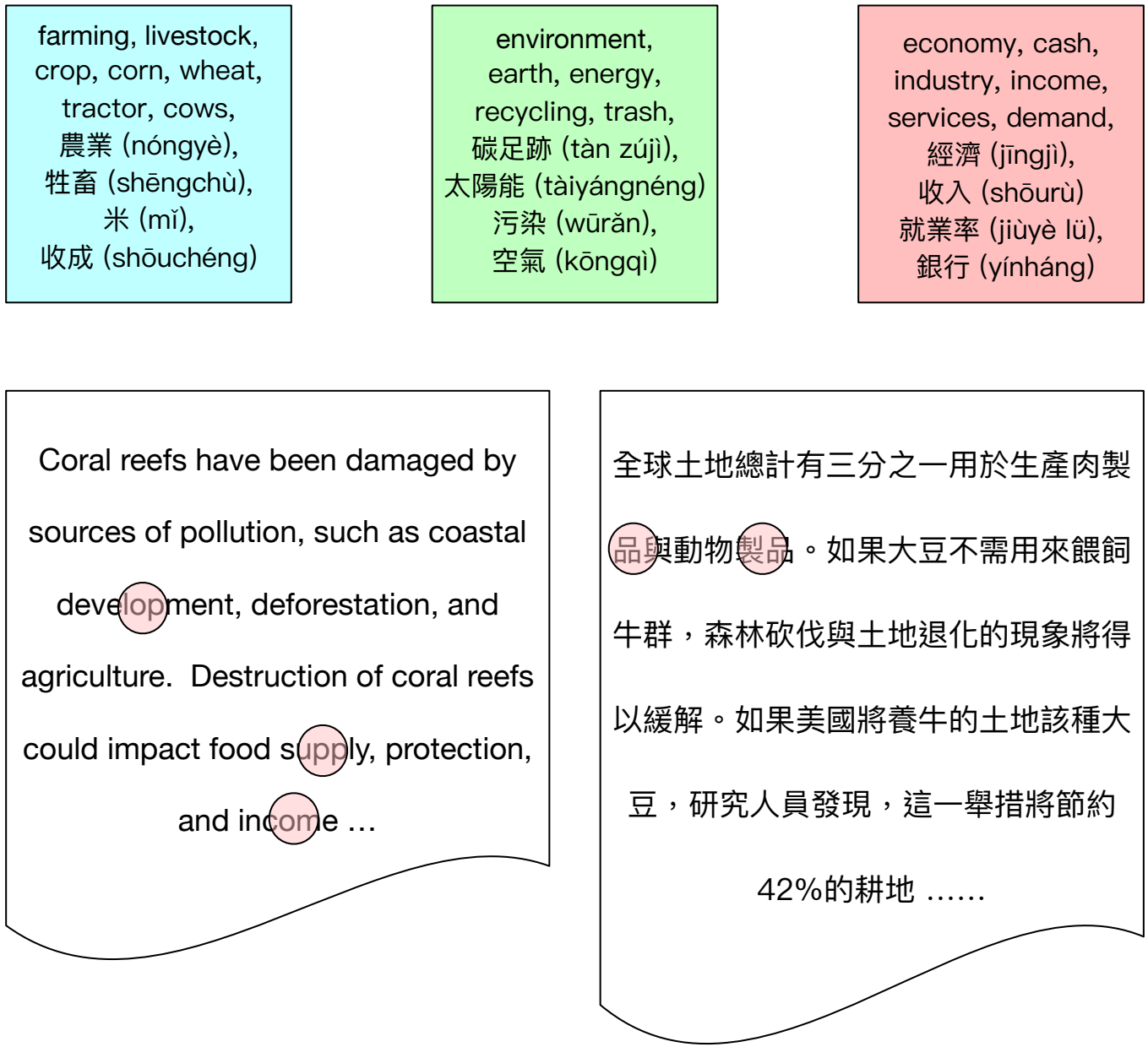

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Generative Approaches

- Polylingual Topic Model (Mimno et al., 2009)
- JointLDA (Jagarlamudi and Daumé, 2010)
- Polylingual Tree-based Topic model (Hu et al., 2014b)
- MCTA (Shi et al., 2016)

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These methods are slow, assume extensive knowledge about languages, and preclude human refinement.

Anchor words

Definition

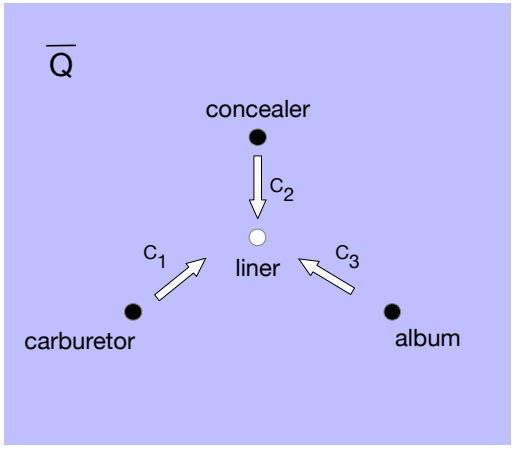
An **anchor word** is a word that appears with *high* probability in one topic but with *low* probability in all other topics.

From Co-occurrence to Topics

- Normally, we want to find $p(\text{word} \mid \text{topic})$ (Blei et al., 2003).
- Instead, what if we can easily find $p(\text{word} \mid \text{topic})$ through using anchor words and conditional word co-occurrence $p(\text{word 2} \mid \text{word 1})$?

From Co-occurrence to Topics

$$\bar{Q}_{i,j} = p(w_2 = j \,|\, w_1 = i)$$



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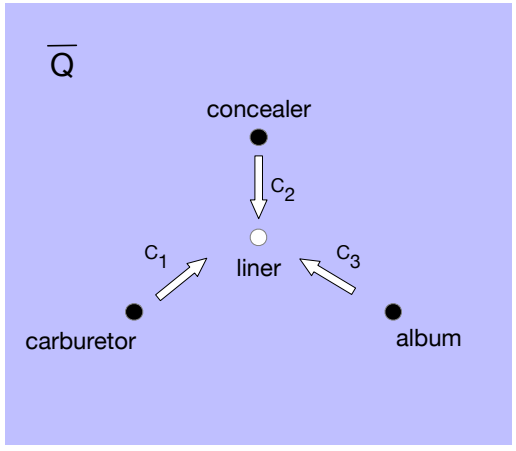

$$\bar{Q}_{\text{liner}} \approx C_1 \bar{Q}_{\text{carburetor}} + C_2 \bar{Q}_{\text{concealer}} + C_3 \bar{Q}_{\text{album}}$$

$$= 0.4 * \begin{bmatrix} 0.3 \\ \cdots \\ 0.1 \end{bmatrix} + 0.2 * \begin{bmatrix} 0.1 \\ \cdots \\ 0.2 \end{bmatrix} + 0.4 * \begin{bmatrix} 0.1 \\ \cdots \\ 0.4 \end{bmatrix}$$

Anchoring

- If an anchor word appears in a document, then its corresponding topic is among the set of topics used to generate document (Arora et al., 2012).
- Anchoring algorithm uses word co-occurrence to find anchors and gradient-based inference to recover topic-word distribution (Arora et al., 2013).
- Runtime is **fast** because algorithm scales with number of unique word types, rather than number of documents or tokens.

Anchoring

1. Construct co-occurrence matrix from documents with vocabulary of size V:

$$\bar{Q}_{i,j} = p(w_2 = j \mid w_1 = i).$$

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$$\bar{Q}_i \approx \sum_{k=1}^{K} C_{i,k} \bar{Q}_{s_k} \text{ subject to } \sum_{k=1}^{K} C_{i,k} = 1 \text{ and } C_{i,k} \geq 0.$$

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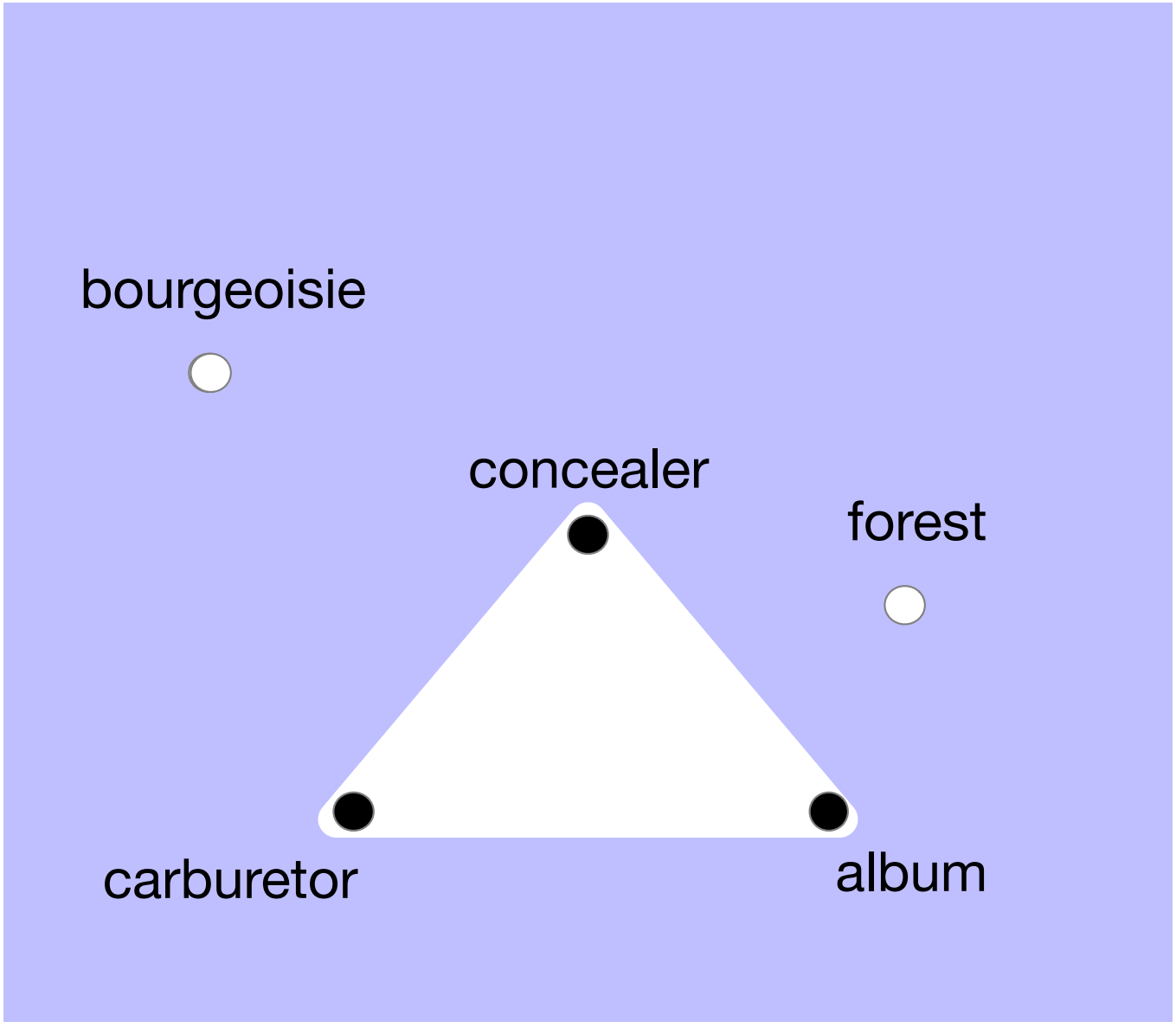
3. Find topic-word matrix:

$$\begin{aligned} A_{i,k} &= p(w = i \,|\, z = k) \propto p(z = k \,|\, w = i) p(w = i) \\ &= C_{i,k} \sum_{j=1}^{V} \bar{Q}_{i,j}. \end{aligned}$$

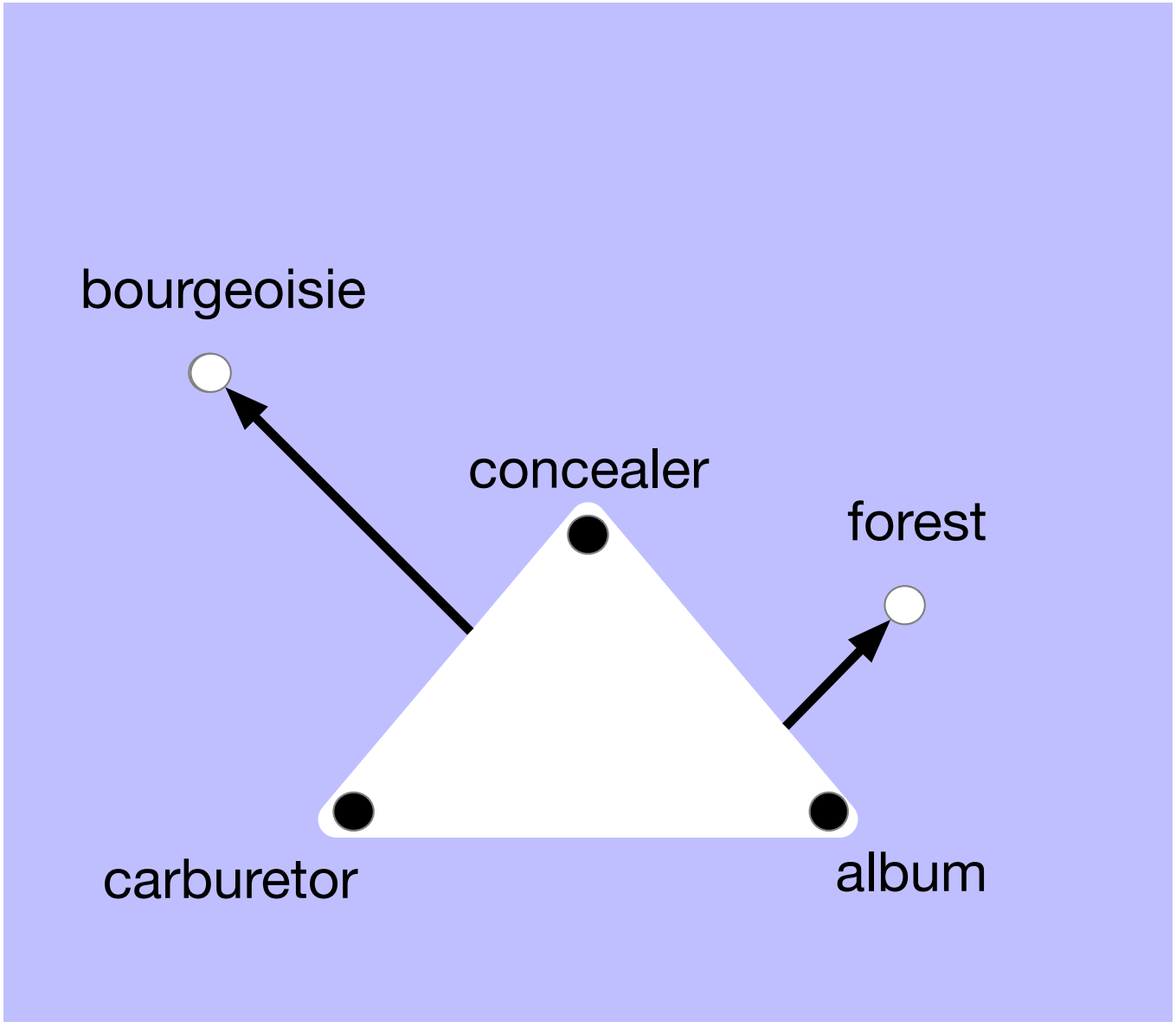
Finding Anchor Words

- So far, we assume that anchor words are given.
- How do we find anchor words from documents?

Finding Anchor Words



Finding Anchor Words



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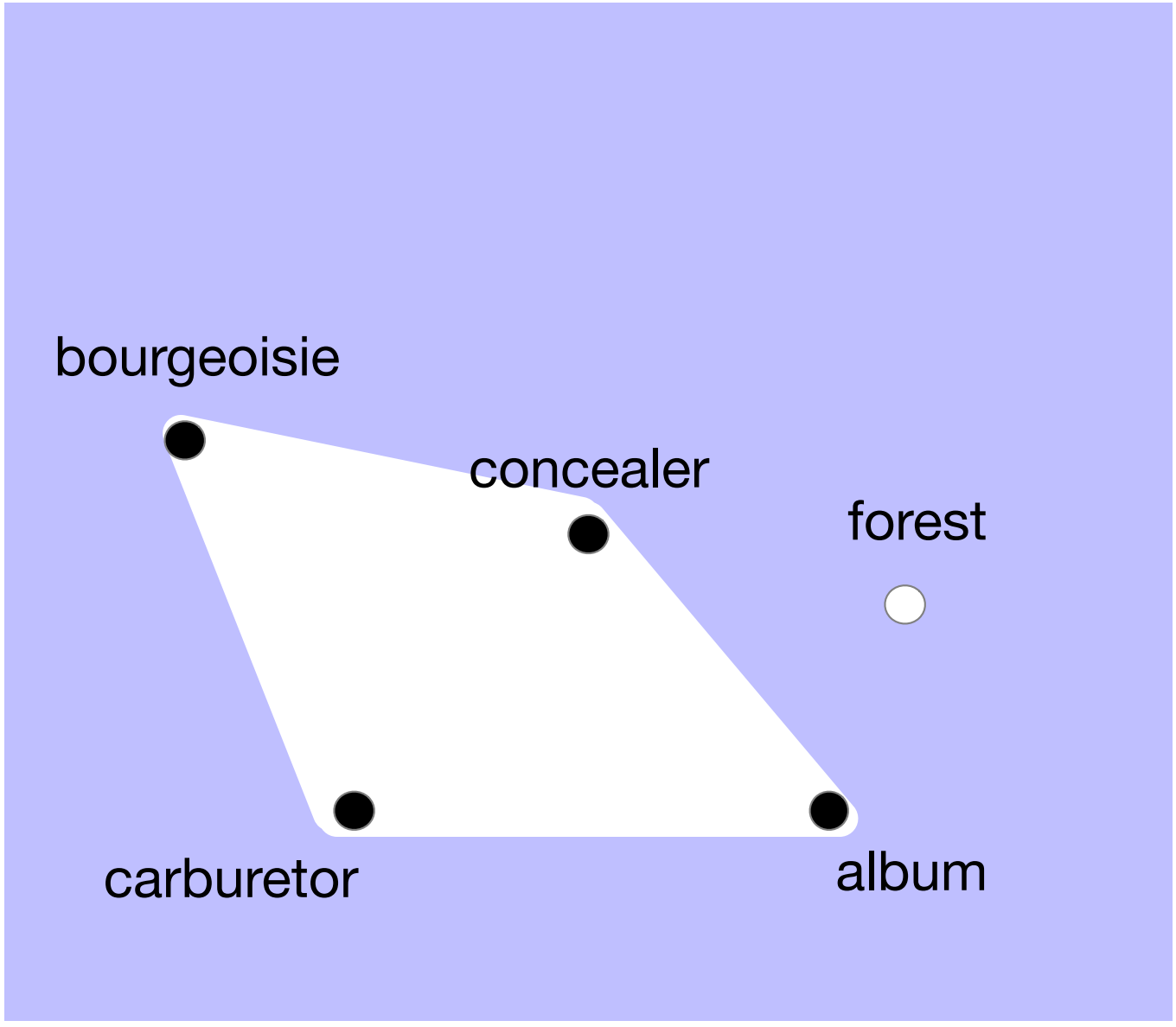

Issues with Topic Models

Topics
music concert singer voice chorus songs album
singer pop songs music album chorale jazz
cosmetics makeup eyeliner lipstick foundation primer eyeshadow

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Duplicate topics.

Issues with Topic Models

Topics
music band art history literature books earth
beethoven mozart bach chopin classical schumann debussy

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Ambiguous topics.

Overly-specific topics.

Interactive Anchoring

- Incorporating interactivity in topic modeling has shown to improve quality of model (Hu et al., 2014a).
- Anchoring algorithm offers speed for interactive work, but single anchors are unintuitive to users.
- **Ankura** is an interactive topic modeling system that allows users to choose multiple anchors for each topic (Lund et al., 2017).
- After receiving human feedback, **Ankura** only takes a few seconds to update topic model.

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These methods only work for monolingual document collections.

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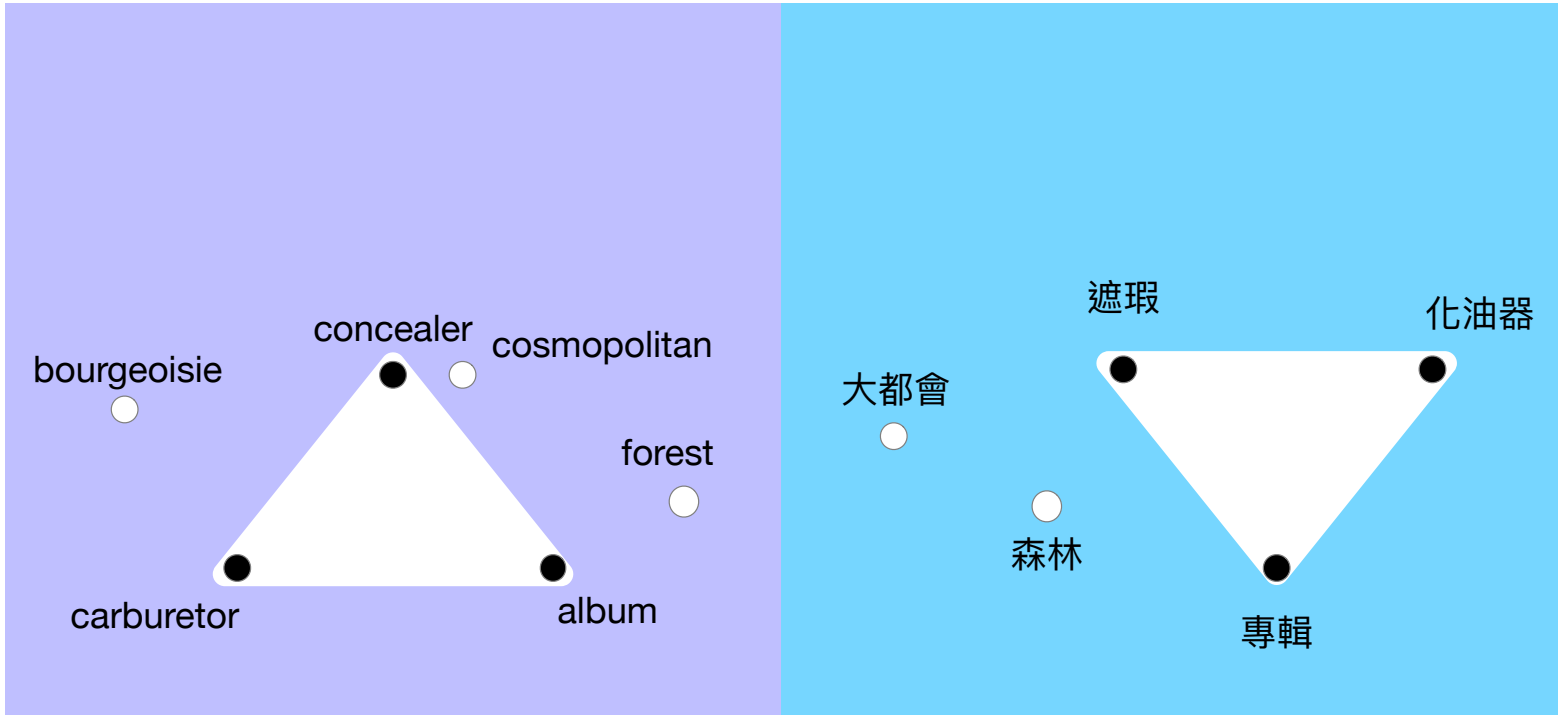
Bilingual dictionary $\mathcal{B}$ is a subset of the Cartesian product $\mathcal{L}^{(1)} \times \mathcal{L}^{(2)}$, where $\mathcal{L}^{(1)}, \mathcal{L}^{(2)}$ are two, different languages.

Idea: If dictionary $\mathcal{B}$ contains entry (w, v), create a link between w and v.

Finding Multilingual Anchors



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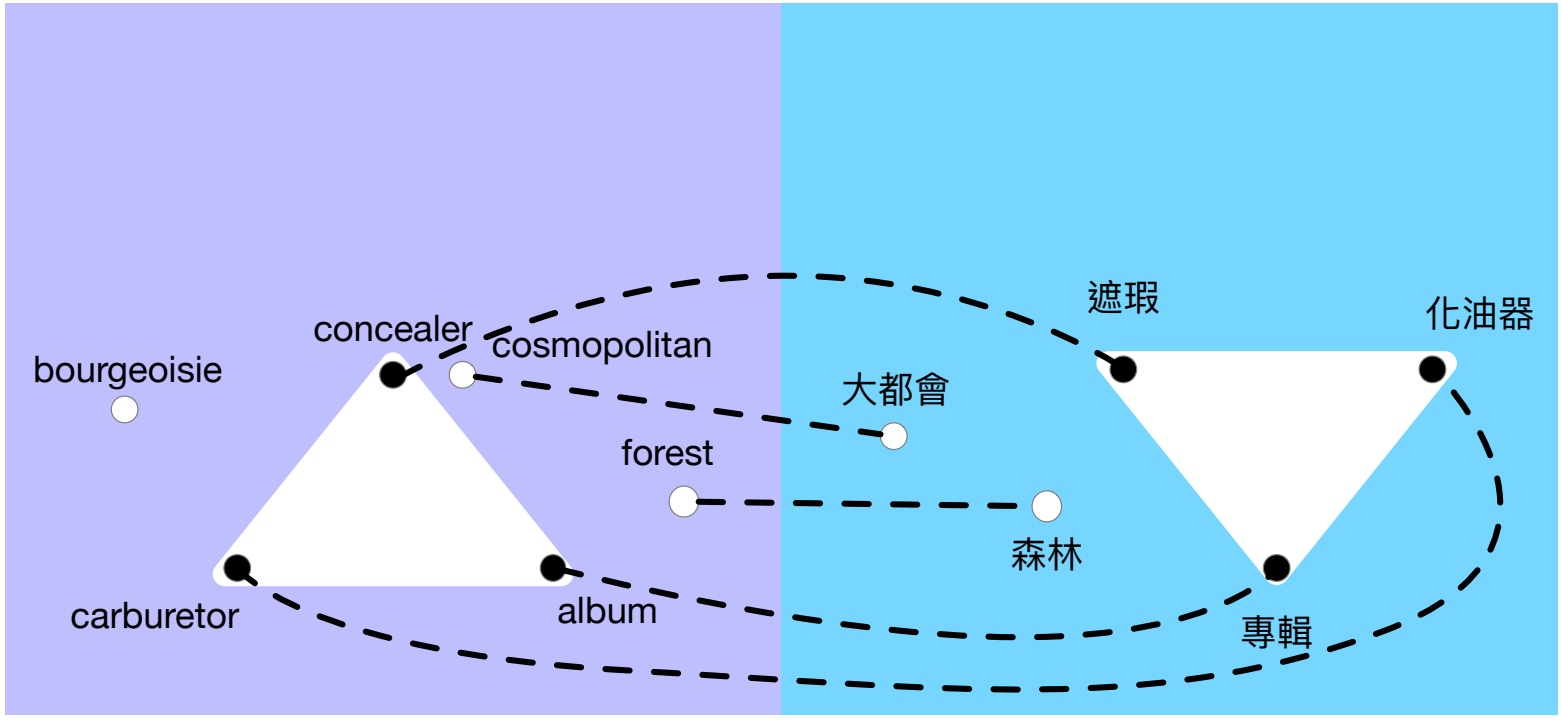
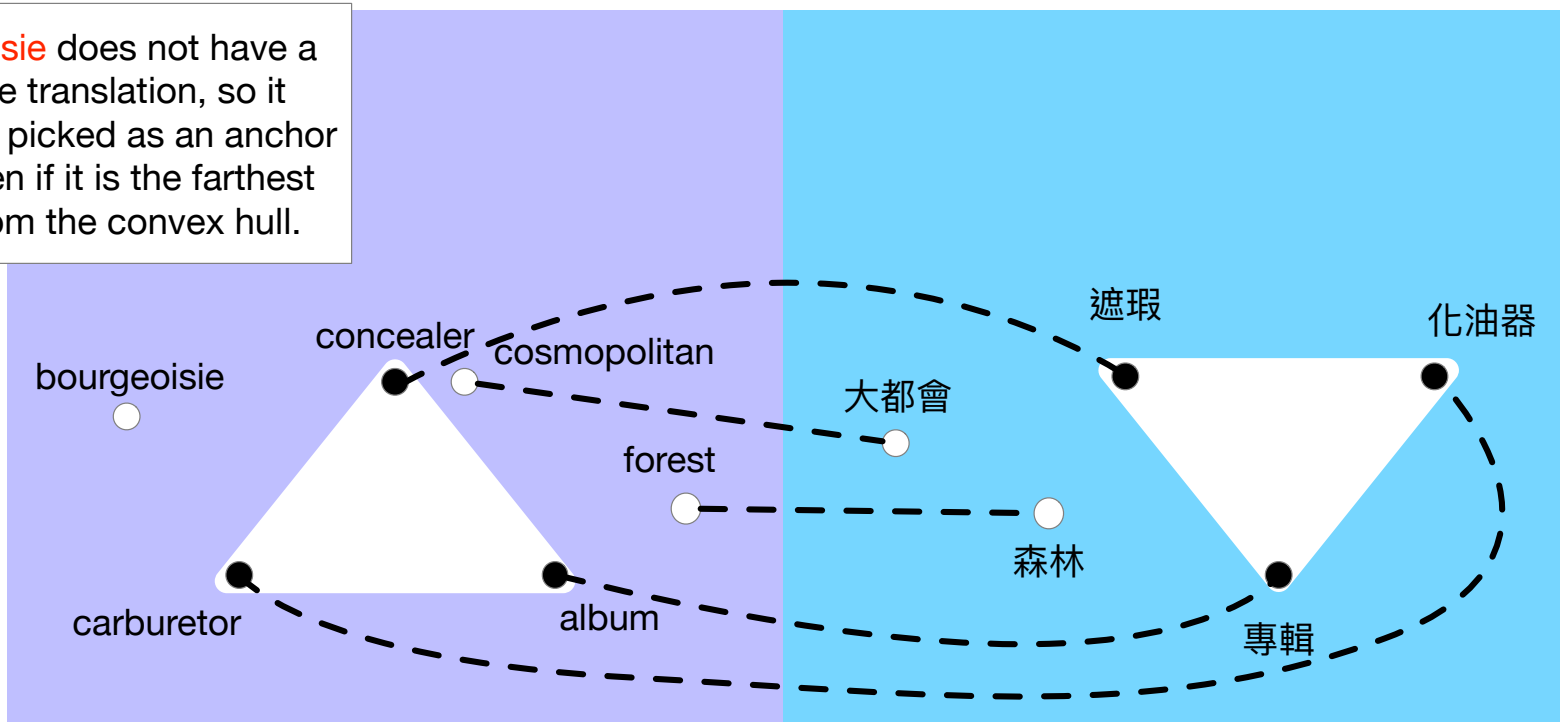


Finding Multilingual Anchors

Bourgeoisie does not have a Chinese translation, so it cannot be picked as an anchor word even if it is the farthest word from the convex hull.



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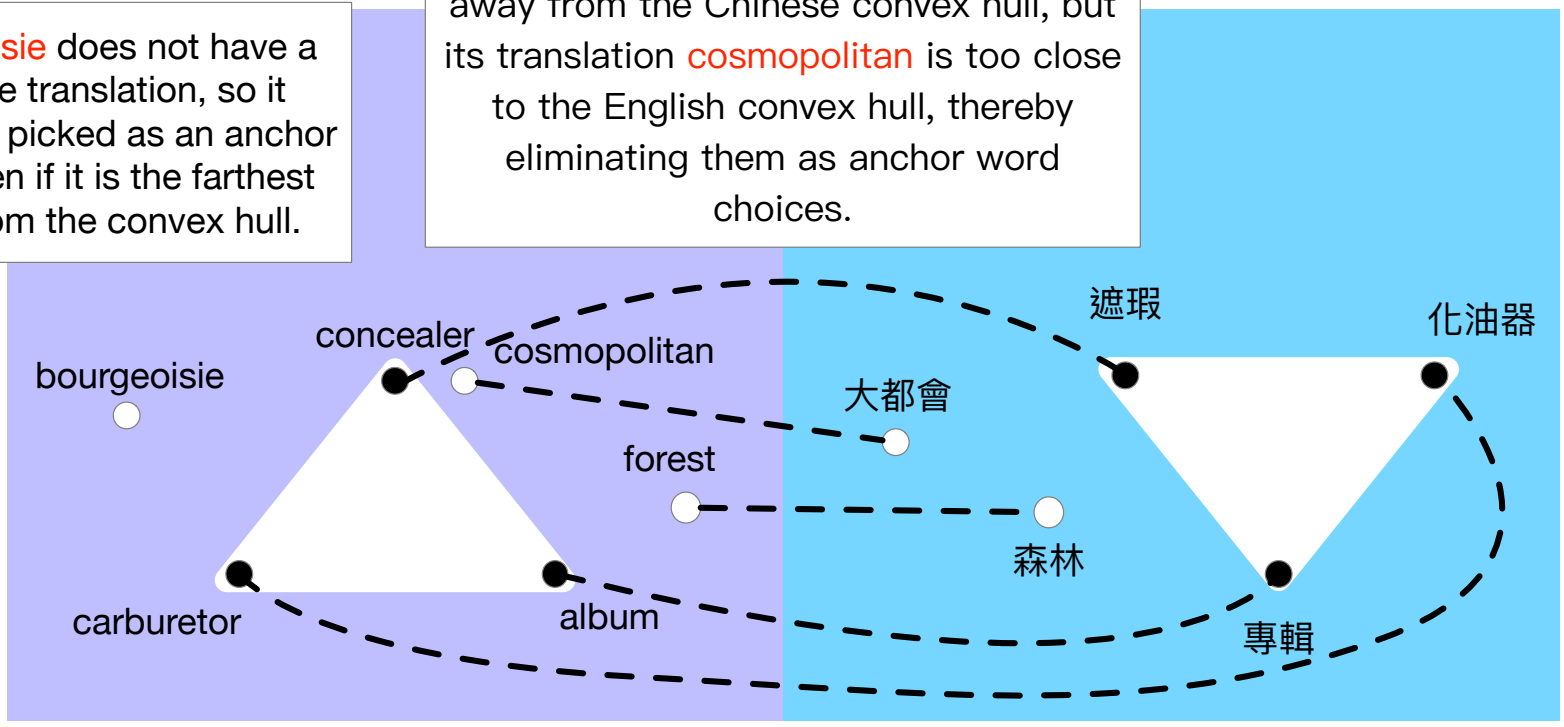

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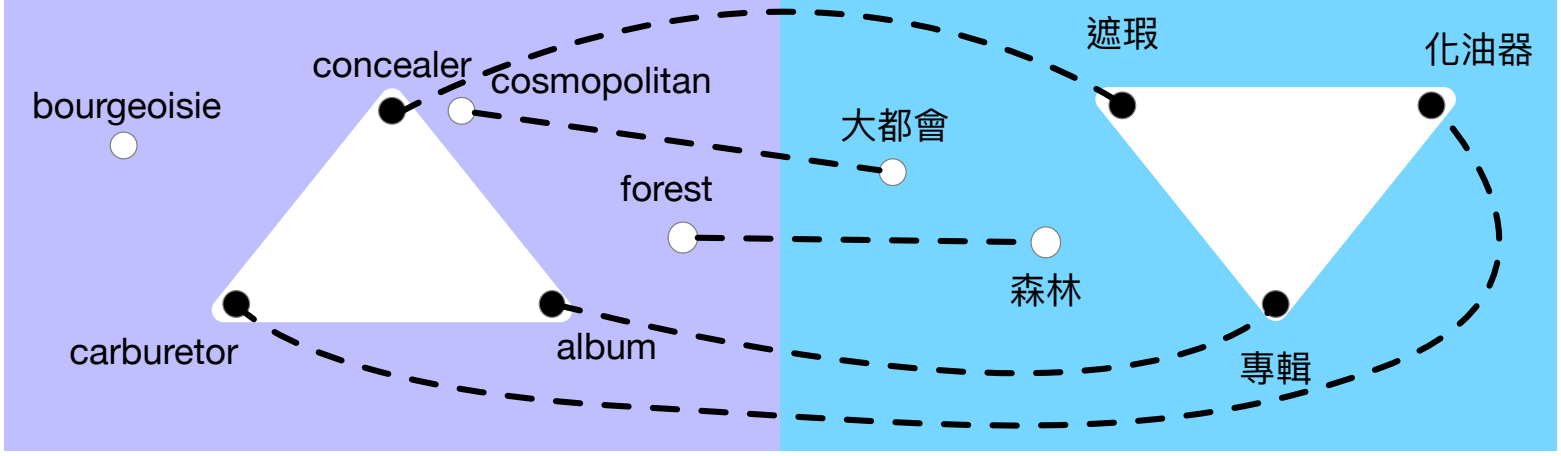
Forest and its translation 森林 (sēnlín) are not the furthest points from their respective convex hull, but neither are too close. So, they are chosen as the next anchor words.



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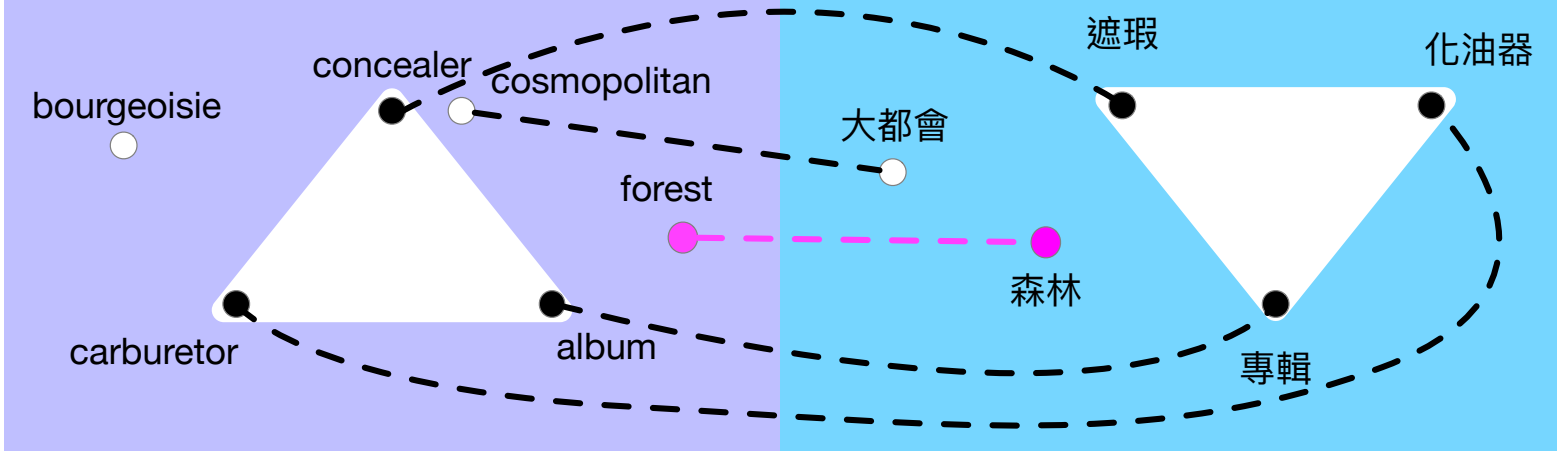

Multilingual Anchoring

1. Given a dictionary, create links between words that are translations of each other.
2. Select an anchor word for each language such that the words are linked and span of anchor words is maximized.
3. Once anchor words are found, separately find topic-word distributions for each language.

- What if dictionary entries are scarce or inaccurate?
- What if topics aren't aligned properly across languages?

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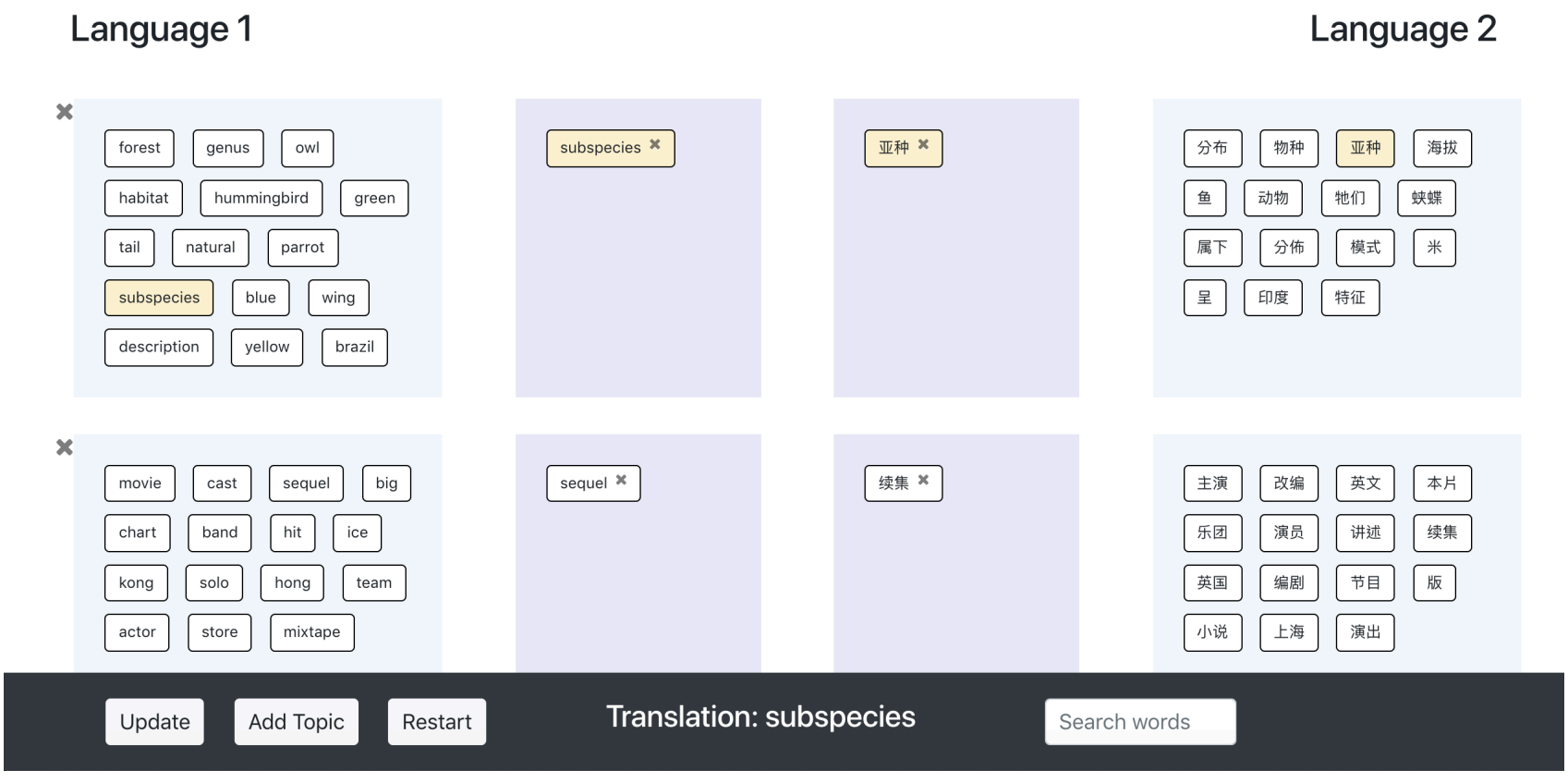
Incorporate human-in-the-loop topic modeling tools.

MTAnchor


Language 1
Language 2
forest
genus
owl
habitat
hummingbird
green
tail
natural
parrot
subspecies
blue
wing
description
yellow
brazil
subspecies
亚种
分布
物种
亚种
海拔
鱼
动物
牠们
蛱蝶
属下
分佈
模式
米
呈
印度
特征
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solo
hong
team
actor
store
mixtape
sequel
续集
主演
改编
英文
本片
乐团
演员
讲述
续集
英国
编剧
节目
版
小说
上海
演出
Update
Add Topic
Restart
Translation: subspecies
Search words

Experiments

Datasets:

1. Wikipedia articles (EN, ZH)
2. Amazon reviews (EN, ZH)
3. LORELEI documents (EN, SI)

Experiments

Metrics:

1. Classification accuracy
   - Intra-lingual: train topic model on documents in one language and test on other documents in the *same* languages
   - Cross-lingual: train topic model on documents in one language and test on other documents in a *different* language.
2. Topic coherence (Lau et al., 2014).
   - Intrinsic: use the trained documents as the reference corpus to measure local interpretability.
   - Extrinsic: use a large dataset (i.e. entire Wikipedia) as the reference corpus to measure global interpretability.

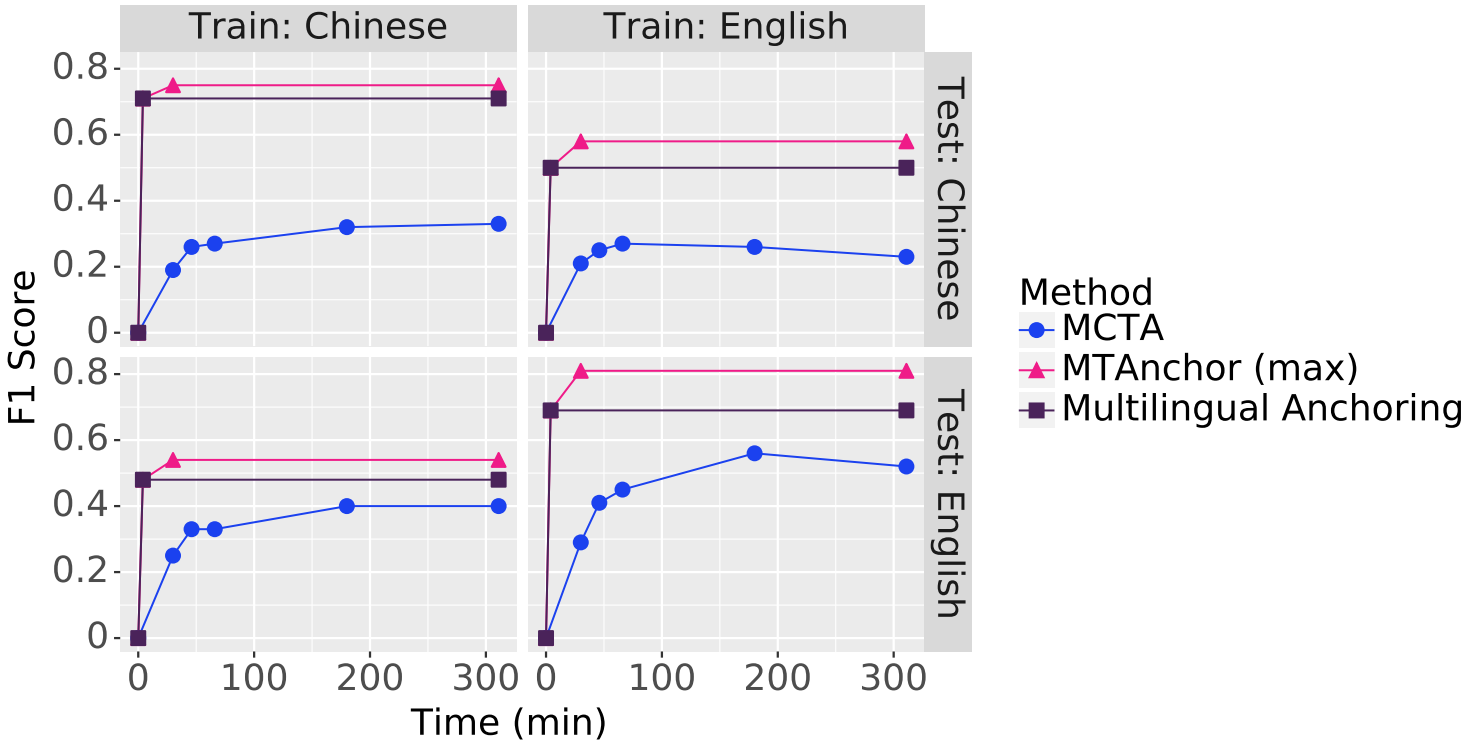
Comparing Models

Dataset	Method	Classification accuracy			
		EN-I	ZH-I SI-I	EN-C	ZH-C SI-C
Wikipedia	Multilingual anchoring	69.5%	71.2%	50.4%	47.8%
	MTAnchor (maximum)	**80.7%**	**75.3%**	**57.6%**	**54.5%**
	MTAnchor (median)	69.5%	71.4%	50.3%	47.2%
	MCTA	51.6%	33.4%	23.2%	39.8%
Amazon	Multilingual anchoring	**59.8%**	**61.1%**	**51.7%**	**53.2%**
	MCTA	49.5%	50.6%	50.3%	49.5%
LORELEI	Multilingual anchoring	**20.8%**	**32.7%**	**24.5%**	**24.7%**
	MCTA	13.0%	26.5%	4.1%	15.6%

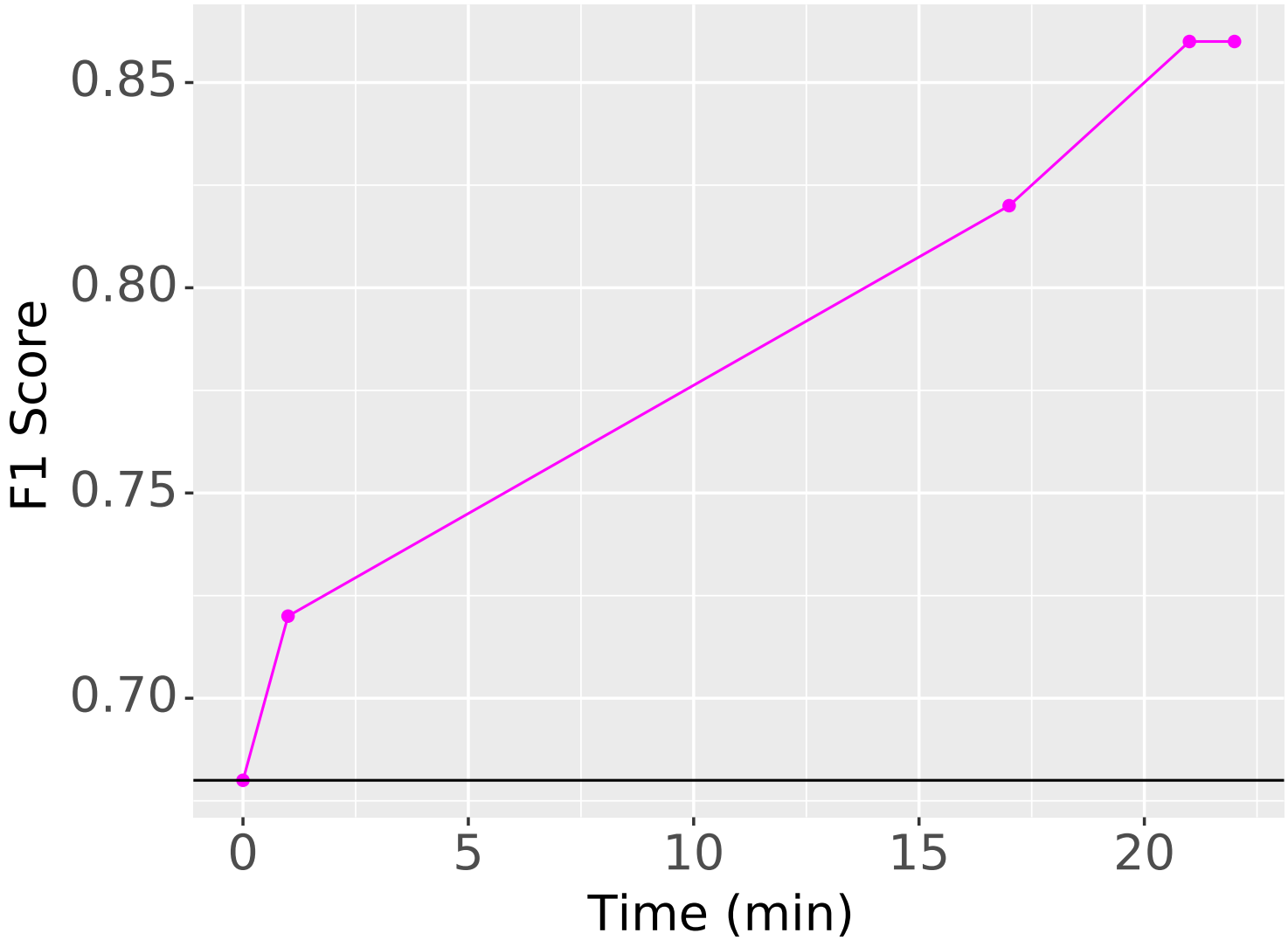
Comparing Models

Dataset	Method	Topic coherence			
		EN-I	ZH-I SI-I	EN-E	ZH-E SI-E
Wikipedia	Multilingual anchoring	0.14	0.18	0.08	0.13
	MTAnchor (maximum)	**0.20**	**0.20**	**0.10**	**0.15**
	MTAnchor (median)	0.14	0.18	0.08	0.13
	MCTA	0.13	0.09	0.00	0.04
Amazon	Multilingual anchoring	**0.07**	**0.06**	**0.03**	**0.05**
	MCTA	-0.03	0.02	0.02	0.01
LORELEI	Multilingual anchoring	0.08	0.00	0.03	n/a
	MCTA	**0.13**	0.00	**0.04**	n/a

Multilingual Anchoring Is Much Faster



Improving Topics Through Interactivity



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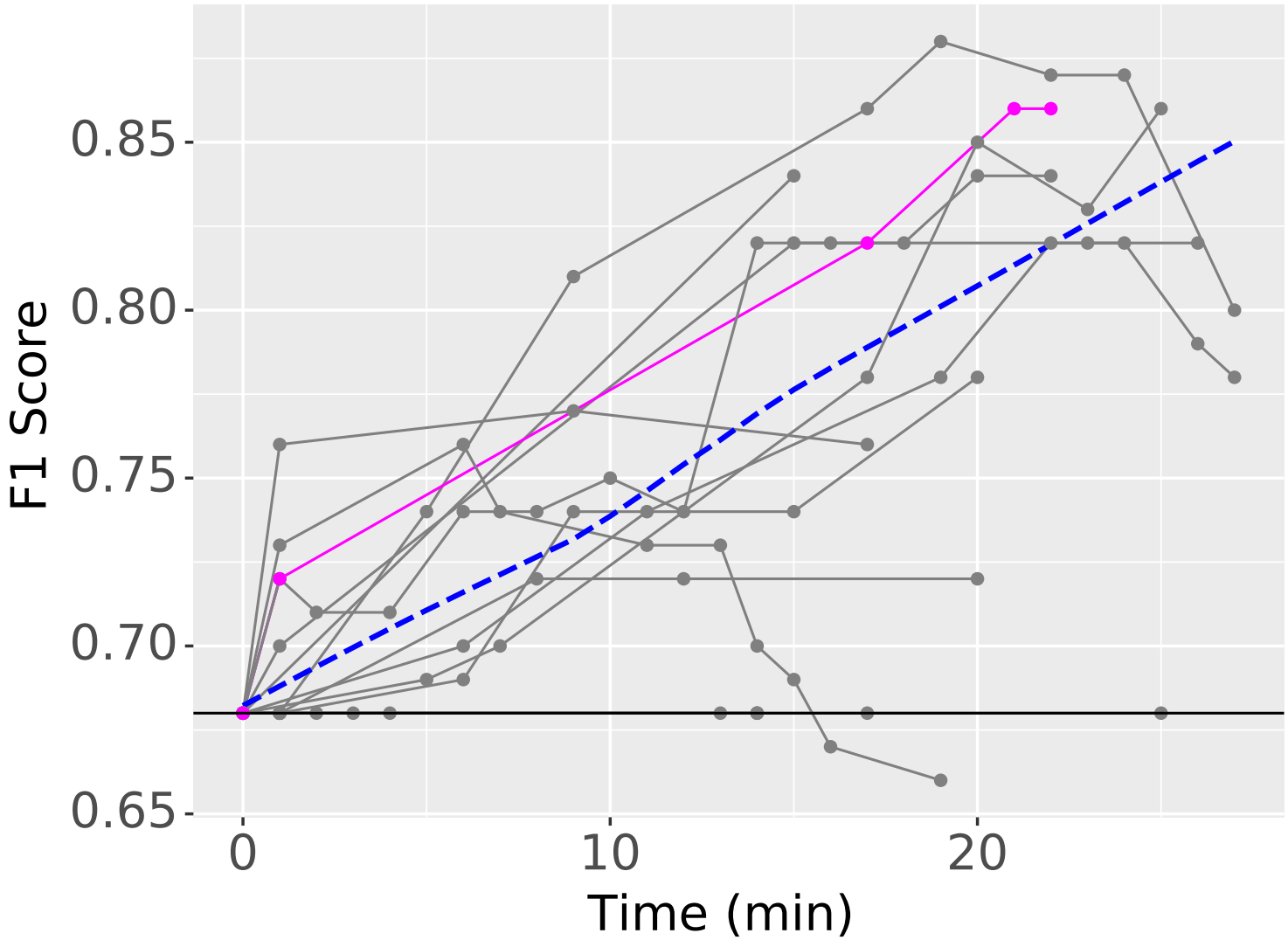

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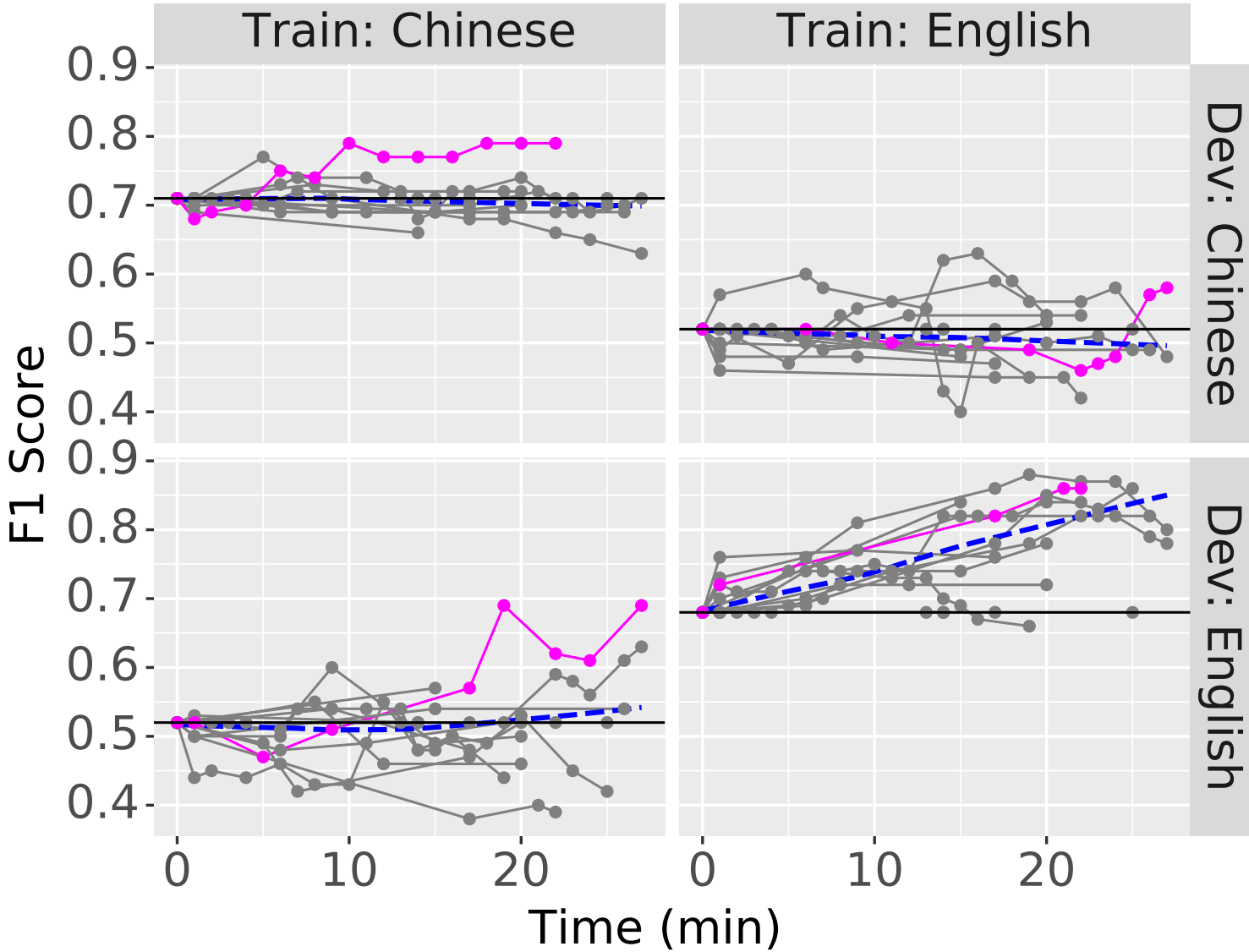

Comparing Topics

Dataset	Method	Topic
Wikipedia	MCTA	dog san movie mexican fighter novel california 主演 改編 本 小説 拍攝 角色 戰士
	Multilingual anchoring	**adventure** daughter bob kong hong robert movie 主演 改編 本片 飾演 **冒險** 講述 編劇
	MTAnchor	**kong hong movie** office martial box reception 主演 改編 飾演 本片 **演員 編劇** 講述
Amazon	MCTA	woman food eat person baby god chapter 來貨 頂頂 水 耳機 貨物 張傑 傑 同樣
	Multilingual anchoring	eat diet food recipe **healthy** lose weight **健康** 幫 吃 身體 全面 同事 中醫
LORELEI	MCTA	help need floodrelief please families needed victim
	Multilingual anchoring	aranayake warning landslide site missing nbro areas

Why Not Use Deep Learning?

- Neural networks are data-hungry and unsuitable for low-resource languages
- Deep learning models take long amounts of time to train
- Pathologies of neural models make interpretation difficult (Feng et al., 2018)

Summary

- Anchoring algorithm can be applied in multilingual settings.
- People can provide helpful linguistic or cultural knowledge to construct better multilingual topic models.

Future Work

- Apply human-in-the-loop algorithms to other tasks in NLP.
- Better understand the effect of human feedback on cross-lingual representation learning.

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