

1) Progress made thus far:

Our group is working on reproducing a paper of Latent Aspect Rating Analysis. The progress we made thus far includes the followings. All of our group members watched the lecture videos and read through the paper in order to understand the concepts of LARA and its fundamental difference with LRR. We have found sample Java code online implementing LRR and will start from here, write our own Python code implementing LARA.

We have collected data sets and finished the preprocessing: remove the reviews with missing aspect rating or document length less than 50 words, convert to lower cases, removing punctuations and stop words.

2) Remain task:

We still need to read paper and understand the equations, and to finish our implement of the aspect modeling module. The model also needs validation, and we need to use it to produce results similar to the paper.

3) Any challenges/issues being faced

The equations provided in the paper are complex, it takes lots of time to try to understand them. Besides, we also need to read the paper described LRR model to implement LARA. Since the functions are complex, this task requires heavily coding and debugging.