# Text Mining, pt. II

Philip D. Waggoner

MACS 40800: Unsupervised Machine Learning

November 21, 2019

#### Lecture Outline

- Text Mining Revisited
- 2 Mixed Membership Models
- 3 Latent Dirichlet Allocation
- 4 Structural Topic Modeling
- 5 Some Code for Text Mining

#### Lecture Outline

- Text Mining Revisited
- 2 Mixed Membership Models
- 3 Latent Dirichlet Allocation
- 4 Structural Topic Modeling
- 5 Some Code for Text Mining

• Today we return to an unsupervised framework for mining text

- Today we return to an unsupervised framework for mining text
- Our goal today?

- Today we return to an unsupervised framework for mining text
- Our goal today? Uncover structure in text data, which is usually considered some mixture of topics in a single document

- Today we return to an unsupervised framework for mining text

- Today we return to an unsupervised framework for mining text
- Our goal today? Uncover structure in text data, which is usually considered some mixture of topics in a single document \( \sim \) topic models
- We will briefly touch on structural topic models given several projects interested in these

#### Lecture Outline

- Text Mining Revisited
- 2 Mixed Membership Models
- 3 Latent Dirichlet Allocation
- 4 Structural Topic Modeling
- 5 Some Code for Text Mining

 Topic modeling is a methods for grouping terms in a corpus into substantively meaningful categories, or "topics," based on some statistical correlations between frequency of words used together ("co-occurrence")

- Topic modeling is a methods for grouping terms in a corpus into substantively meaningful categories, or "topics," based on some statistical correlations between frequency of words used together ("co-occurrence")
- It is unsupervised because we don't tell the algorithm the topics beforehand

- Topic modeling is a methods for grouping terms in a corpus into substantively meaningful categories, or "topics," based on some statistical correlations between frequency of words used together ("co-occurrence")
- It is unsupervised because we don't tell the algorithm the topics beforehand
- Rather, the algorithm "discovers" abstract topics that can be thought of as a constellation of words that tend to show up together

- Topic modeling is a methods for grouping terms in a corpus into substantively meaningful categories, or "topics," based on some statistical correlations between frequency of words used together ("co-occurrence")
- It is unsupervised because we don't tell the algorithm the topics beforehand
- Rather, the algorithm "discovers" abstract topics that can be thought of as a constellation of words that tend to show up together
- Topic modeling is distinct from clustering given the assumed nature of the **membership** of topics in a document: *mixed* membership vs. *single* membership

• Suppose we had some set of documents on policymaking in Congress:

• Suppose we had some set of documents on policymaking in Congress:

Together, Republicans and Democrats can work toward a better future.

The problem of polarization flows from a refusal of Republicans and Democrats to work together.

Policy formation requires input from multiple stakeholders.

Congressional committees should be required to subpoena stakeholders in related hearings.

Republicans and Democrats don't seem to want to work together to find a solution to the policy gridlock crisis in Congress.

 To uncover the topics, recall we are interested in co-occurrence of terms across documents

 To uncover the topics, recall we are interested in co-occurrence of terms across documents

Together, Republicans and Democrats can work toward a better future.

The problem of polarization flows from a refusal of Republicans and Democrats to work together.

Policy formation requires input from multiple stakeholders.

Congressional committees should be required to subpoena stakeholders in related hearings.

Republicans and Democrats don't seem to want to work together to find a solution to the policy gridlock crisis in Congress.

• So what is the goal of a topic model?

- A class of techniques for for discovering the broad themes that pervade a large and otherwise unstructured collection of documents

- A class of techniques for for discovering the broad themes that pervade a large and otherwise unstructured collection of documents
- Topic models can organize the documents, then, according to the discovered themes

- A class of techniques for for discovering the broad themes that pervade a large and otherwise unstructured collection of documents
- Topic models can organize the documents, then, according to the discovered themes → reducing complexity of the (document) feature space

- A class of techniques for for discovering the broad themes that pervade a large and otherwise unstructured collection of documents
- Topic models can organize the documents, then, according to the discovered themes → reducing complexity of the (document) feature space
- Note that in social science we often use the outputs from topic models to inform some measurement strategy, e.g.,

- A class of techniques for for discovering the broad themes that pervade a large and otherwise unstructured collection of documents
- Topic models can organize the documents, then, according to the discovered themes → reducing complexity of the (document) feature space
- Note that in social science we often use the outputs from topic models to inform some measurement strategy, e.g.,
  - "who pays more attention to education, conservatives or liberals?"

#### Clustering

Doc N

Document → One Cluster

Doc 1

Doc 2

Doc 3

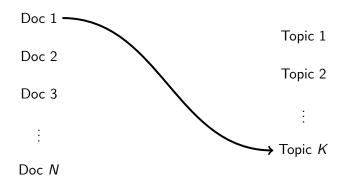
:

Topic 1

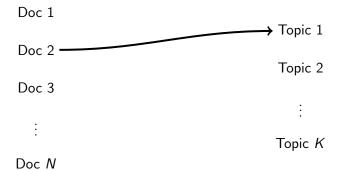
Topic 2

Topic K

#### Clustering



#### Clustering



#### Clustering

```
Doc 1

Topic 1

Doc 2

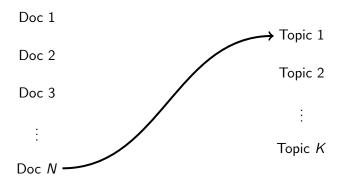
Doc 3

Topic 2

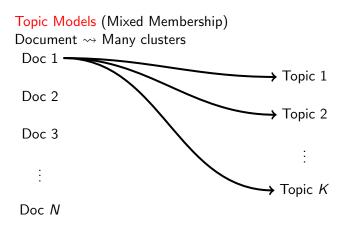
Topic 2

Topic K
```

#### Clustering



```
Topic Models (Mixed Membership)
Document → Many clusters
 Doc 1
                                       Topic 1
 Doc 2
                                       Topic 2
 Doc 3
                                       Topic K
Doc N
```



• Importantly, in topic modeling, we assume there is some **unobserved** data generating process

- Importantly, in topic modeling, we assume there is some unobserved data generating process
- Core assumption

- Importantly, in topic modeling, we assume there is some **unobserved** data generating process

- Importantly, in topic modeling, we assume there is some unobserved data generating process
- - ▶ e.g., A speech by Trump might be 50% drawn from the topic IMMIGRATION, 40% from the topic AMERICA, 9.9% from the topic GREAT, 0.1% from the topic SECURITY

• A topic, then, is a distribution of terms over a fixed vocabulary, with some degree of probability

### Data Generating Process (DGP)

- A topic, then, is a distribution of terms over a fixed vocabulary, with some degree of probability
  - ► The IMMIGRATION topic will have words like wall and illegal with high probabilities, and words like Democrats and education might have low probabilities

## Data Generating Process (DGP)

- A topic, then, is a distribution of terms over a fixed vocabulary, with some degree of probability
  - ► The IMMIGRATION topic will have words like wall and illegal with high probabilities, and words like Democrats and education might have low probabilities
- Important: as we are trying to uncover latent structure, we are assuming the topics were actually generated (as a function of this DGP) first, and the documents then are generated from those topics

## Data Generating Process (DGP)

- A topic, then, is a distribution of terms over a fixed vocabulary, with some degree of probability
  - ► The IMMIGRATION topic will have words like wall and illegal with high probabilities, and words like Democrats and education might have low probabilities
- Important: as we are trying to uncover latent structure, we are assuming the topics were actually generated (as a function of this DGP) first, and the documents then are generated from those topics
- So... where do the words in the documents come from?

• Extending this imaginary world, we work backwards

- Extending this imaginary world, we work backwards
- For each document:

- Extending this imaginary world, we work backwards
- For each document:
  - Randomly choose one of many multinomial distributions, each which mixes the topics in different proportions

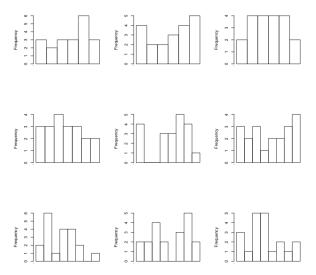
- Extending this imaginary world, we work backwards
- For each document:
  - Randomly choose one of many multinomial distributions, each which mixes the topics in different proportions
  - 2 Then, for every word in the document:

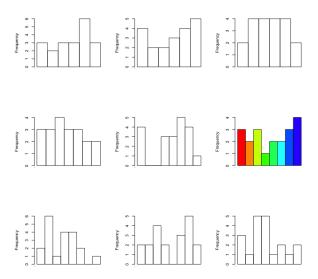
- Extending this imaginary world, we work backwards
- For each document:
  - Randomly choose one of many multinomial distributions, each which mixes the topics in different proportions
  - 2 Then, for every word in the document:
    - Randomly choose a topic from the distribution over topics from step 1

- Extending this imaginary world, we work backwards
- For each document:
  - Randomly choose one of many multinomial distributions, each which mixes the topics in different proportions
  - 2 Then, for every word in the document:
    - $oldsymbol{0}$  Randomly choose a topic from the distribution over topics from step 1
    - ② Randomly choose a word from the distribution over the vocabulary that the topic implies

- Extending this imaginary world, we work backwards
- For each document:
  - Randomly choose one of many multinomial distributions, each which mixes the topics in different proportions
  - 2 Then, for every word in the document:
    - $oldsymbol{0}$  Randomly choose a topic from the distribution over topics from step 1
    - Randomly choose a word from the distribution over the vocabulary that the topic implies

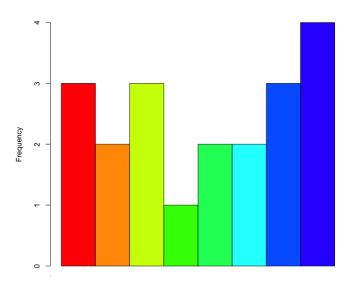
- Randomly choose a distribution over topics
- That is, choose one of many multinomial distributions, each which mixes the topics in different proportions

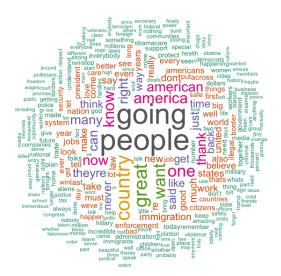




• Then, for every word in the document

- Then, for every word in the document
  - **1** Randomly choose a **topic** from the distribution over **topics** from step 1
  - Randomly choose a word from the distribution over the vocabulary that the topic implies





great

 Some of our variables – the documents which contain the words – are observable

- Some of our variables the documents which contain the words are observable
- But, topic structure topics, per-document topic distributions, per-document per-word topic assignments – are latent

- Some of our variables the documents which contain the words are observable
- But, topic structure topics, per-document topic distributions, per-document per-word topic assignments – are latent
- We need a distribution from which to draw the per-document topic distribution

- Some of our variables the documents which contain the words are observable
- But, topic structure topics, per-document topic distributions, per-document per-word topic assignments – are latent
- We need a distribution from which to draw the per-document topic distribution
- Most commonly, we use a dirichlet distribution: multiple categorical variables (mixture of multinomials), with shifting membership

- Some of our variables the documents which contain the words are observable
- But, topic structure topics, per-document topic distributions, per-document per-word topic assignments – are latent
- We need a distribution from which to draw the per-document topic distribution
- Most commonly, we use a **dirichlet** distribution: multiple categorical variables (mixture of multinomials), with shifting membership
- The Dirichlet process controls allocation of the words in the documents to different topics 
   it is used as a prior over the distribution of words, which define the topics

- Some of our variables the documents which contain the words are observable
- But, topic structure topics, per-document topic distributions, per-document per-word topic assignments – are latent
- We need a distribution from which to draw the per-document topic distribution
- Most commonly, we use a **dirichlet** distribution: multiple categorical variables (mixture of multinomials), with shifting membership
- The Dirichlet process controls allocation of the words in the documents to different topics 
   it is used as a prior over the distribution of words, which define the topics
- So what do we get...?

- Some of our variables the documents which contain the words are observable
- But, topic structure topics, per-document topic distributions, per-document per-word topic assignments – are latent
- We need a distribution from which to draw the per-document topic distribution
- Most commonly, we use a dirichlet distribution: multiple categorical variables (mixture of multinomials), with shifting membership
- So what do we get...?
- latent Dirichlet allocation → specific type of probabilistic topic model controlling the assignment of words to topics

- Some of our variables the documents which contain the words are observable
- But, topic structure topics, per-document topic distributions, per-document per-word topic assignments – are latent
- We need a distribution from which to draw the per-document topic distribution
- Most commonly, we use a dirichlet distribution: multiple categorical variables (mixture of multinomials), with shifting membership
- So what do we get...?
- **latent Dirichlet allocation** → specific type of probabilistic topic model controlling the assignment of words to topics
- In sum, we want to model the most likely-to-exist combined membership of words across all topics, in a probabilistic way

#### Lecture Outline

- Text Mining Revisited
- 2 Mixed Membership Models
- 3 Latent Dirichlet Allocation
- 4 Structural Topic Modeling
- 5 Some Code for Text Mining

Preprocess

- Preprocess
- Select k topics to initialize

- Preprocess
- Select k topics to initialize
- Evaluate, rinse and repeat at different values of k until a "robust" set of topics is uncovered

- Preprocess
- Select k topics to initialize
- Sevaluate, rinse and repeat at different values of k until a "robust" set of topics is uncovered
  - ▶ In most social science applications, the number of topics, *k*, is not picked automatically; a general approach to fit multiple models at multiple values of *k* and compare

- Preprocess
- Select k topics to initialize
- Evaluate, rinse and repeat at different values of k until a "robust" set of topics is uncovered
  - ▶ In most social science applications, the number of topics, *k*, is not picked automatically; a general approach to fit multiple models at multiple values of *k* and compare
  - As with all unsupervised learning, interpretation is non-trivial, and requires a lot of thinking and validation

• LDA is a generative model

- LDA is a generative model 

  defines a DGP for each document and then uses the data to find the most likely values for the parameters within the model
- The result is a set of topics made up of words that frequently (conditionally) appear together, and most likely to belong to a similar topic

- LDA is a generative model 

  defines a DGP for each document and then uses the data to find the most likely values for the parameters within the model
- The result is a set of topics made up of words that frequently (conditionally) appear together, and most likely to belong to a similar topic
- Note all words have some probability of belonging to each topic

### Fitting an LDA Topic Model

- LDA is a generative model 

  defines a DGP for each document and then uses the data to find the most likely values for the parameters within the model
- The result is a set of topics made up of words that frequently (conditionally) appear together, and most likely to belong to a similar topic
- Note all words have some probability of belonging to each topic
- We use the observed data (all tokens in our corpus) to make some inference about the latent parameters ( $\beta$ 's and  $\theta$ 's)

### Fitting an LDA Topic Model

- LDA is a generative model 

  defines a DGP for each document and then uses the data to find the most likely values for the parameters within the model
- The result is a set of topics made up of words that frequently (conditionally) appear together, and most likely to belong to a similar topic
- Note all words have some probability of belonging to each topic
- We use the observed data (all tokens in our corpus) to make some inference about the latent parameters ( $\beta$ 's and  $\theta$ 's)
- The parameters captures the conditional probabilities that some sequence of words belong to a given topic based on co-occurrence throughout the document

### Fitting an LDA Topic Model

- LDA is a generative model 

  defines a DGP for each document and then uses the data to find the most likely values for the parameters within the model
- The result is a set of topics made up of words that frequently (conditionally) appear together, and most likely to belong to a similar topic
- Note all words have some probability of belonging to each topic
- We use the observed data (all tokens in our corpus) to make some inference about the latent parameters ( $\beta$ 's and  $\theta$ 's)
- The parameters captures the conditional probabilities that some sequence of words belong to a given topic based on co-occurrence throughout the document
- The sum of the topic proportions across all topics for each document is one, and the sum of the word probabilities for each topic is one

### Output

• For user-selected k topics, a typical implementation of LDA will return

#### Output

- ullet For user-selected k topics, a typical implementation of LDA will return
  - $\blacktriangleright$  The word distribution for each topic,  $\beta$  (e.g., the proportion of each word in each topic)

#### Output

- ullet For user-selected k topics, a typical implementation of LDA will return
  - ▶ The word distribution for each topic,  $\beta$  (e.g., the proportion of each word in each topic)
  - ▶ The topic distribution for each document,  $\theta$  (e.g., the proportion of all topics, k in each document)

### Selecting *k*?

- In social science, researchers fit topic models until they see what they think they should
  - e.g., a certain topic like IMMIGRATION consistently (or at least suddenly) appears, so stop there

# Selecting *k*?

- In social science, researchers fit topic models until they see what they think they should
  - e.g., a certain topic like IMMIGRATION consistently (or at least suddenly) appears, so stop there
- Its best practice, at a minimum, to check that findings are robust in some neighborhood
  - ▶ e.g., if best model likely has k = 15, check whether k = 10 20 yield similar patterns, and thus inferences

• Split texts randomly into training and testing sets (typically 80/20)

- Split texts randomly into training and testing sets (typically 80/20)
- $oldsymbol{0}$  For the training set, pick some value of k and fit a topic model

- lacktriangle Split texts randomly into training and testing sets (typically 80/20)
- ② For the training set, pick some value of k and fit a topic model
- **3** Record parameter values on a document for a specific topic distribution  $(\theta)$ , and the word distributions for the topics  $(\beta)$
- Find the highest log-likelihood across many specifications of a similar distribution of words over topics, and topics over documents,

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{w}) = \log pr(\mathbf{w}|\beta, \theta) = \sum_{d} \log pr(w_d|\beta, \theta),$$

where w are the words in the test set

- lacktriangle Split texts randomly into training and testing sets (typically 80/20)
- ② For the training set, pick some value of k and fit a topic model
- **9** Record parameter values on a document for a specific topic distribution  $(\theta)$ , and the word distributions for the topics  $(\beta)$
- Find the highest log-likelihood across many specifications of a similar distribution of words over topics, and topics over documents,

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{w}) = \log pr(\mathbf{w}|\beta, \theta) = \sum_{d} \log pr(w_d|\beta, \theta),$$

where  $\mathbf{w}$  are the words in the test set

- Highest  $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{w})$  means the best model

- lacktriangle Split texts randomly into training and testing sets (typically 80/20)
- ② For the training set, pick some value of k and fit a topic model
- **3** Record parameter values on a document for a specific topic distribution  $(\theta)$ , and the word distributions for the topics  $(\beta)$
- Find the highest log-likelihood across many specifications of a similar distribution of words over topics, and topics over documents,

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{w}) = \log pr(\mathbf{w}|\beta, \theta) = \sum_{d} \log pr(w_d|\beta, \theta),$$

where w are the words in the test set

- Highest  $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{w})$  means the best model
- The intuition is to calculate the likelihood of seeing the test words, given what we know produced the training set

 Several different values for k may be substantively plausible, but by increasing k, we sacrifice clarity

- Several different values for k may be substantively plausible, but by increasing k, we sacrifice clarity
- Thus,  $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{w})$  is also used to calculate **perplexity**,

$$perplexity = exp(-\frac{\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{w})}{N_{tokens}})$$

- Several different values for k may be substantively plausible, but by increasing k, we sacrifice clarity
- Thus, L(w) is also used to calculate perplexity,

$$perplexity = \exp(-\frac{\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{w})}{N_{tokens}})$$

• Perplexity is a measure of how well a model predicts a sample

- Several different values for k may be substantively plausible, but by increasing k, we sacrifice clarity
- Thus,  $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{w})$  is also used to calculate **perplexity**,

$$perplexity = exp(-\frac{\mathcal{L}(w)}{N_{tokens}})$$

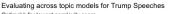
- Perplexity is a measure of how well a model predicts a sample
- So here, we are calculating how likely the test set is given the model on which we trained

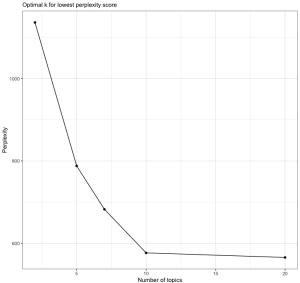
- Several different values for k may be substantively plausible, but by increasing k, we sacrifice clarity
- Thus, L(w) is also used to calculate perplexity,

$$\mathsf{perplexity} = \exp(-\frac{\mathcal{L}(\mathsf{w})}{N_{tokens}})$$

- Perplexity is a measure of how well a model predicts a sample
- So here, we are calculating how likely the test set is given the model on which we trained
- (hint: topicmodels includes a function perplexity() which calculates this value for a model

# Selecting *k*?





#### Lecture Outline

- 1 Text Mining Revisited
- 2 Mixed Membership Models
- 3 Latent Dirichlet Allocation
- 4 Structural Topic Modeling
- 5 Some Code for Text Mining

• Usually, we have lots of metadata: e.g. author information, publication source, etc.

- Usually, we have lots of metadata: e.g. author information, publication source, etc.
- But this may be non-trivial to include: STM = LDA + contextual information

- Usually, we have lots of metadata: e.g. author information, publication source, etc.
- But this may be non-trivial to include: STM = LDA + contextual information
- STM, then, allows more precise estimation and usually more interpretable results (and essentially allows for a NHST framework)

- Usually, we have lots of metadata: e.g. author information, publication source, etc.
- But this may be non-trivial to include: STM = LDA + contextual information
- STM, then, allows more precise estimation and usually more interpretable results (and essentially allows for a NHST framework)
- In brief, STMs model the topic distribution as a function of the document metadata

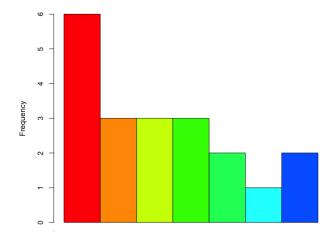
 STMs too are generative models with document-topic and topic-word distributions assumed to be generating documents

- STMs too are generative models with document-topic and topic-word distributions assumed to be generating documents
- But in the STM world, the documents have metadata associated with them (usually denoted as  $X_d$ , where d indexes the documents)

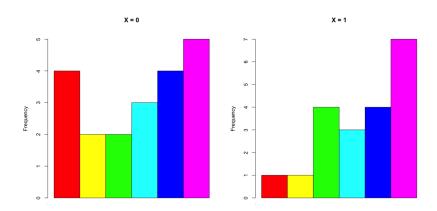
- STMs too are generative models with document-topic and topic-word distributions assumed to be generating documents
- But in the STM world, the documents have metadata associated with them (usually denoted as  $X_d$ , where d indexes the documents)
- Then, just like LDA, a topic is defined as a *mixture* over words where each word has a probability of belonging to a topic

- STMs too are generative models with document-topic and topic-word distributions assumed to be generating documents
- But in the STM world, the documents have metadata associated with them (usually denoted as  $X_d$ , where d indexes the documents)
- Then, just like LDA, a topic is defined as a *mixture* over words where each word has a probability of belonging to a topic
- And a document is a mixture over topics, where a single document can be composed of multiple topics

# Topic Distribution over Documents ( $\theta$ ): LDA



# Topic Distribution over Documents ( $\theta$ ): STM



# Word Distribution per Topic ( $\beta$ ): LDA



# Word Distribution per Topic ( $\beta$ ): STM

```
population percent process according percent p
```

Figure: X = 0

responsibility
citizenship
checks
people
system
iii britain
asylum detention
persecution

Figure: X = 1

#### Lecture Outline

- Text Mining Revisited
- 2 Mixed Membership Models
- 3 Latent Dirichlet Allocation
- 4 Structural Topic Modeling
- 5 Some Code for Text Mining