

# COVID AND MISINFORMATION

Bilal Tariq

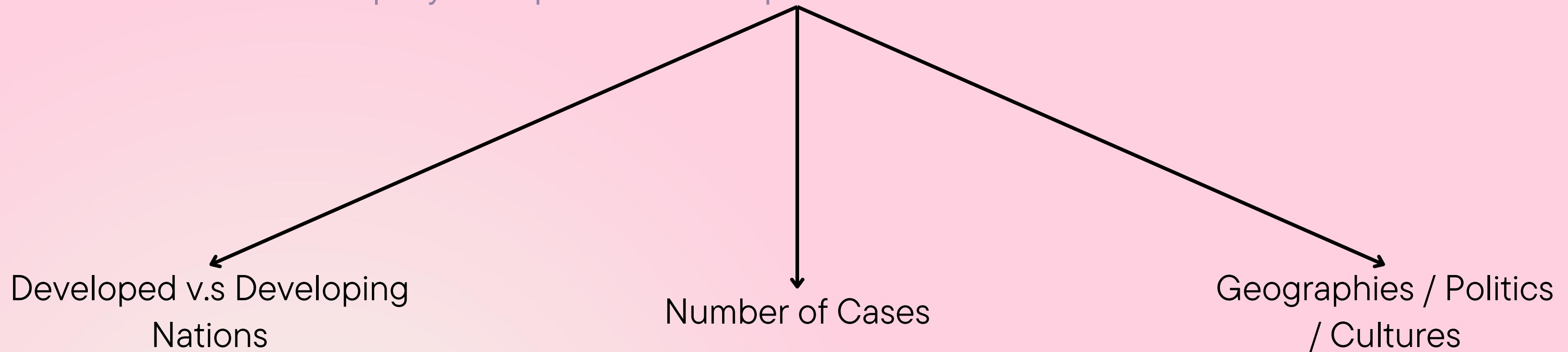
# MISINFORMATION?

What factors played a part in the topics of misinformation across countries

**HYPOTHESIS:**

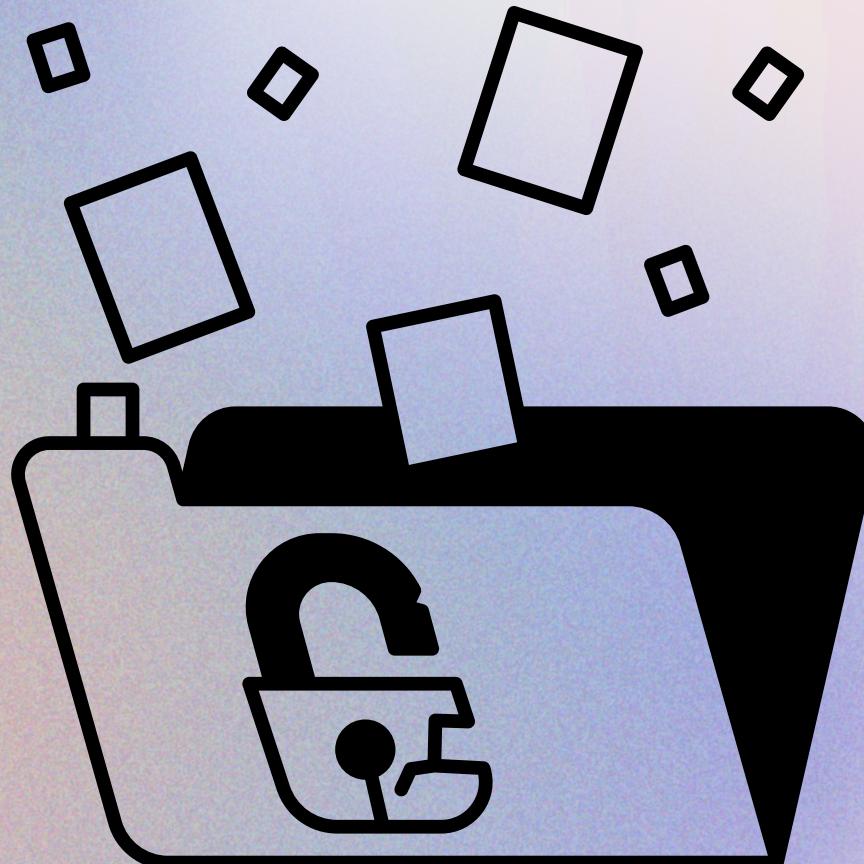
# MISINFORMATION?

What factors played a part in the topics of misinformation across countries



# THE JOURNEY BEGINS

Collection of Data and Sources



Data on number of Cases

European Centre for Disease  
Prevention and Control

<https://www.ecdc.europa.eu/en/covid-19/data>

Misinformation Data

UNESCO

<https://www.unesco.org/en/world-media-trends/esoc-covid-19-misinformation-dataset>

# MISINFORMATION DATASET?

What even is that?

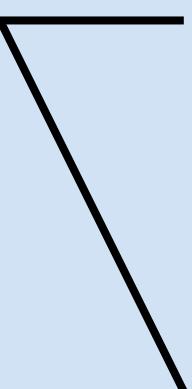
- UNESCO workers sifted various articles
- Classified them by Country and Title of the article
- We must acknowledge that there is some subjectivity

## *Title of Article*

<i>Title of Article</i>	<i>Entry Date</i>	<i>Country</i>
India Is In The Middle Of A Coronavirus YouTube Frenzy, And It's Going To Get People	19-Feb-20	16-Mar-20 India
Tweet: False reporting on "shooting down" people with the virus in China	12-Feb-20	16-Mar-20 China
Tweet: A woman eating a delicacy, attributing the virus to eating "bat soup"	3-Feb-20	16-Mar-20 Canada
Tweet: False chain message about NYPD containment actions	12-Mar-20	16-Mar-20 United States

# WRANGLING

Daily Cases Data



Summarize the daily cases per country to the total cases; rename countries to fit conventions

Misinformation Data

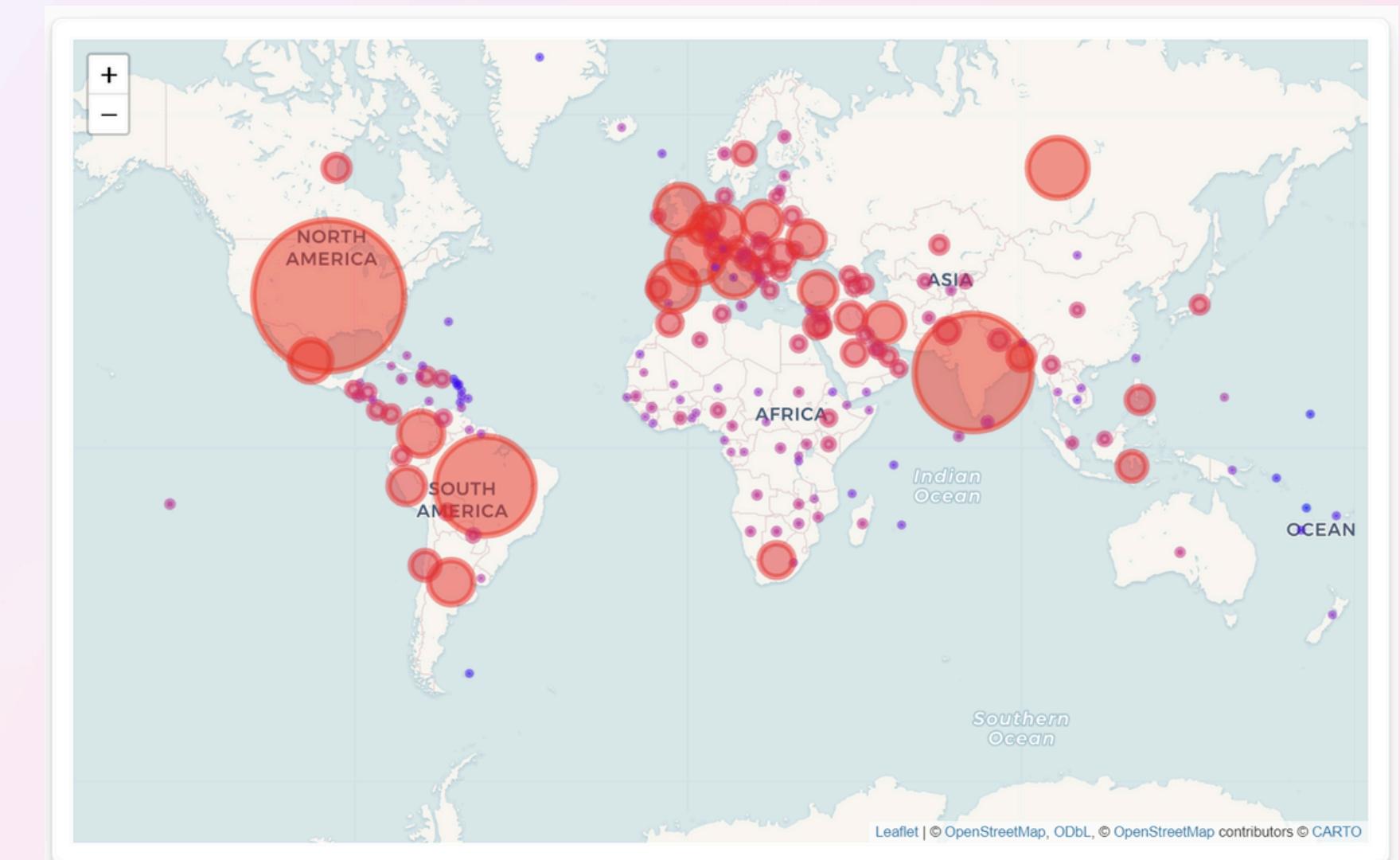


Select and filter any Non-English words that may not be tokenizable

# INITIAL VISUAL ANALYSIS

A shiny app that visually shows the number of COVID cases across the globe

- Made with Leaflet
- Color and radius of Circular Markers represent the COVID cases
- Explored clean UI elements of the ‘bslib’ library

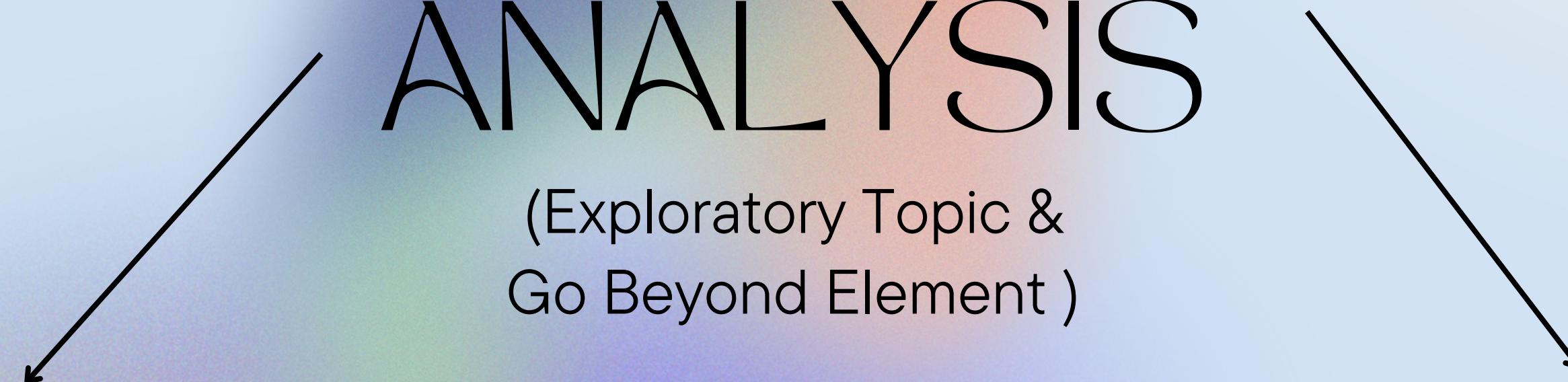


# LDA TOPIC ANALYSIS

(Exploratory Topic &  
Go Beyond Element )

**Global Topic  
Analysis**

**Country Topic  
Analysis**

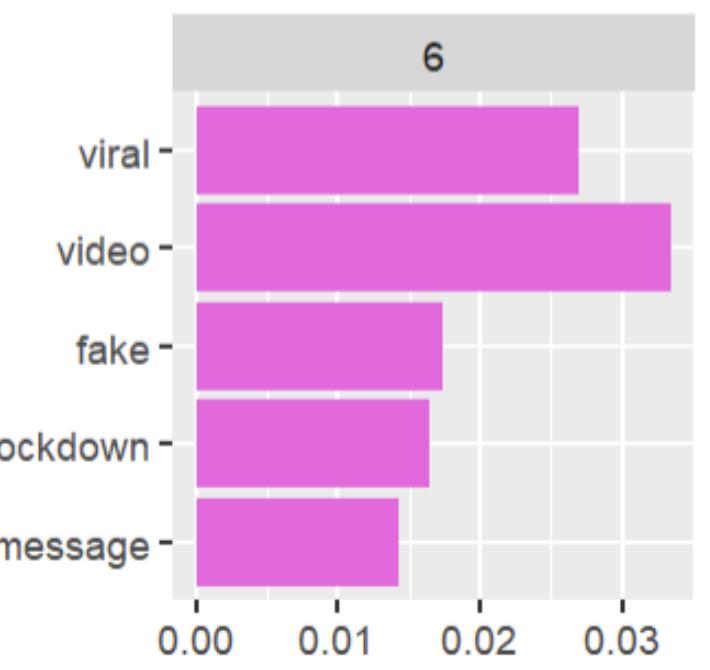
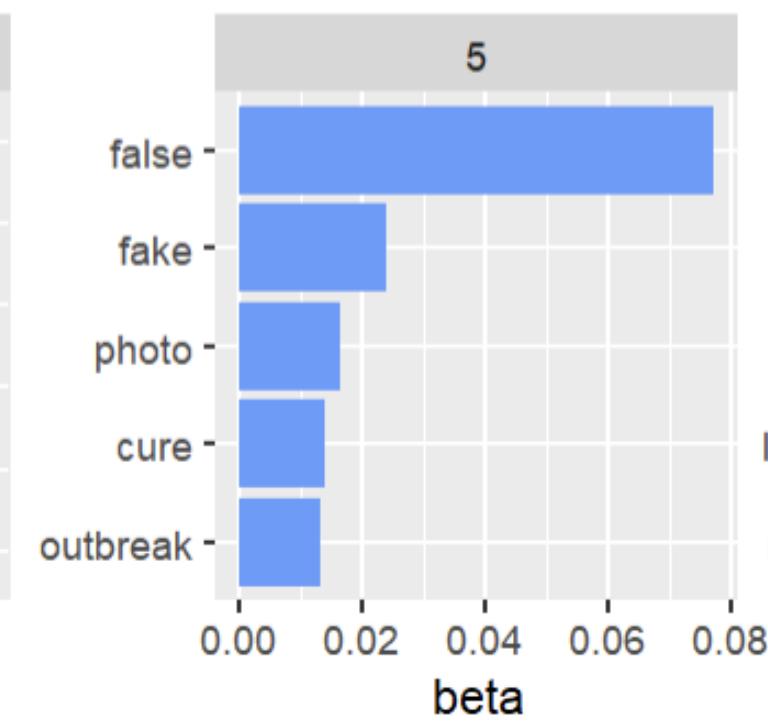
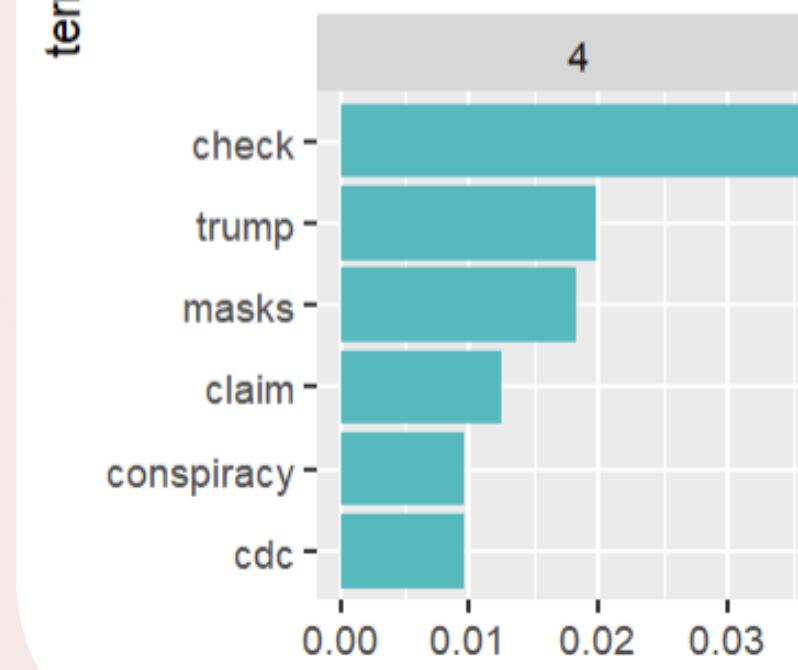
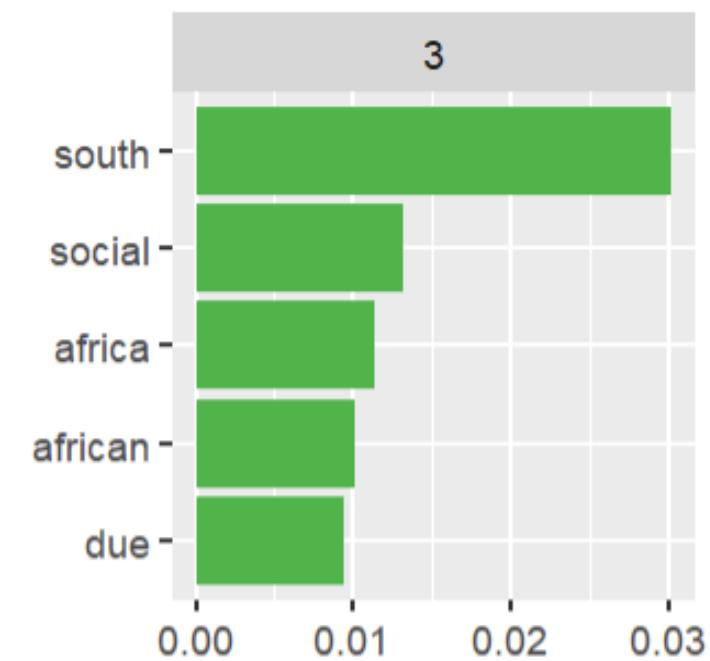
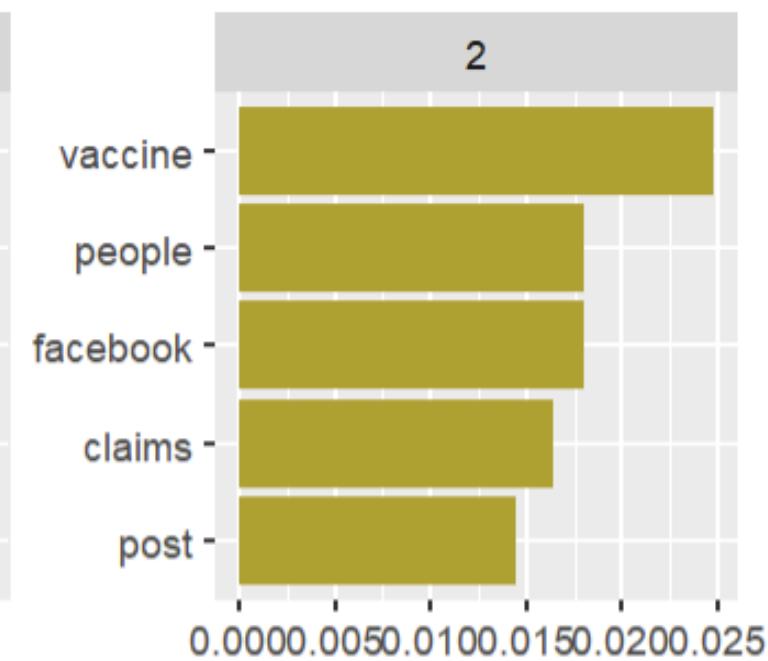
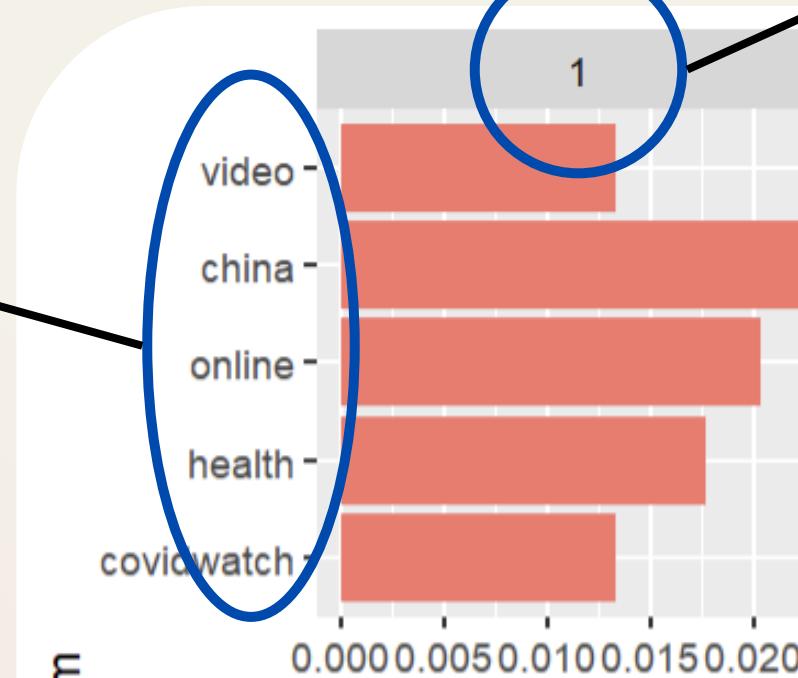


# What are we looking at?

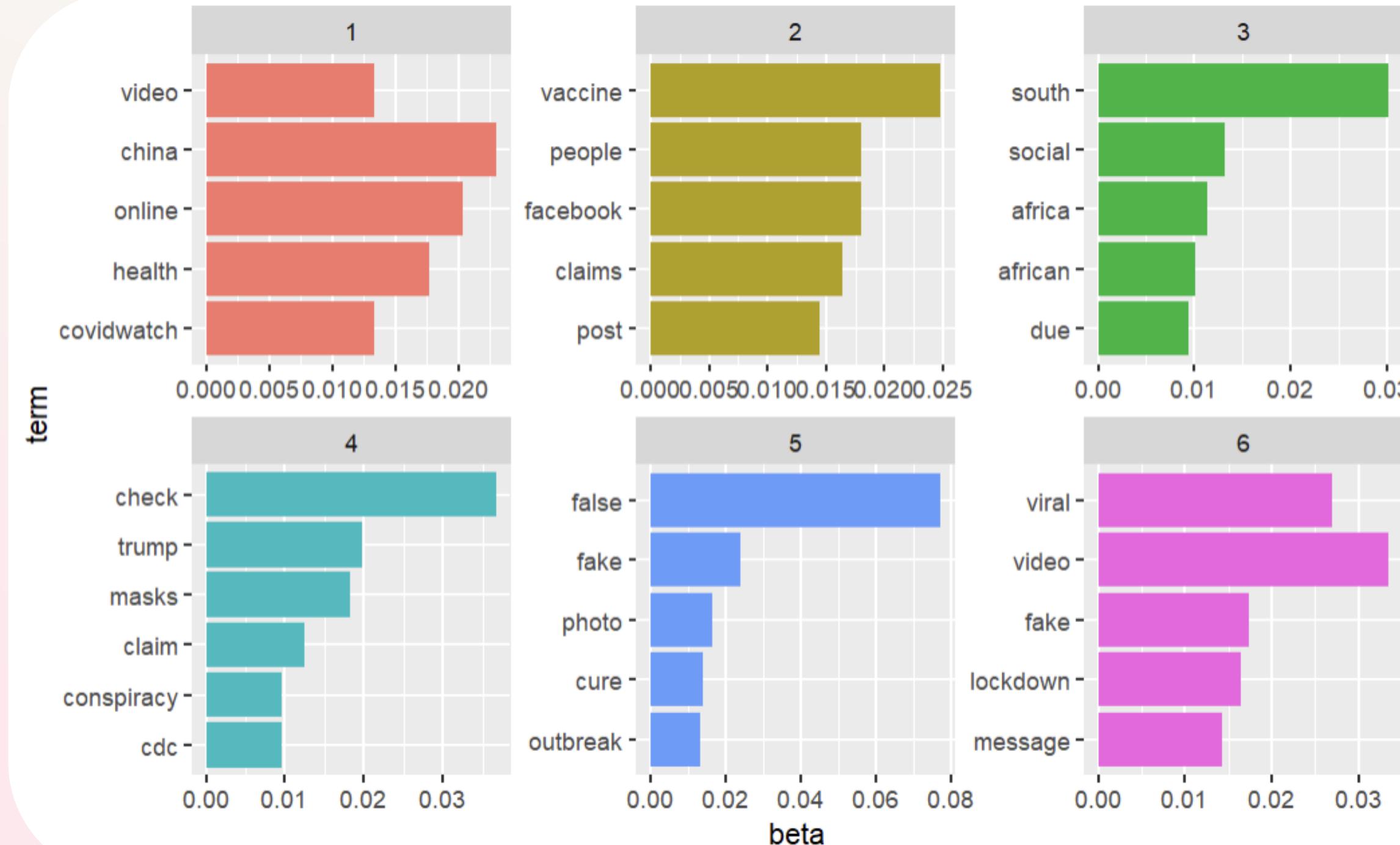
Terms that  
Comprise those  
Topics



Topics



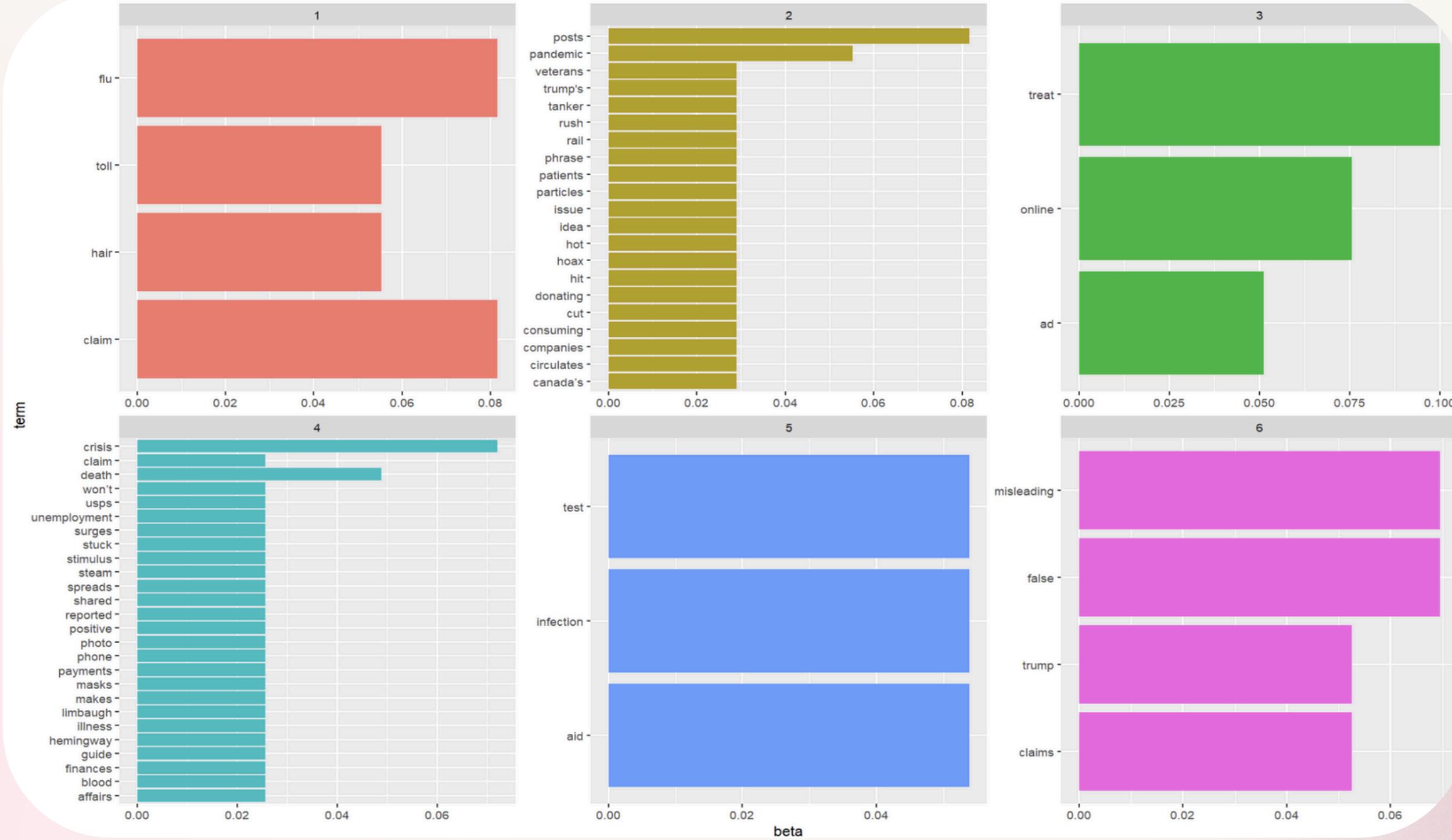
# Global Topic Misinformation Analysis



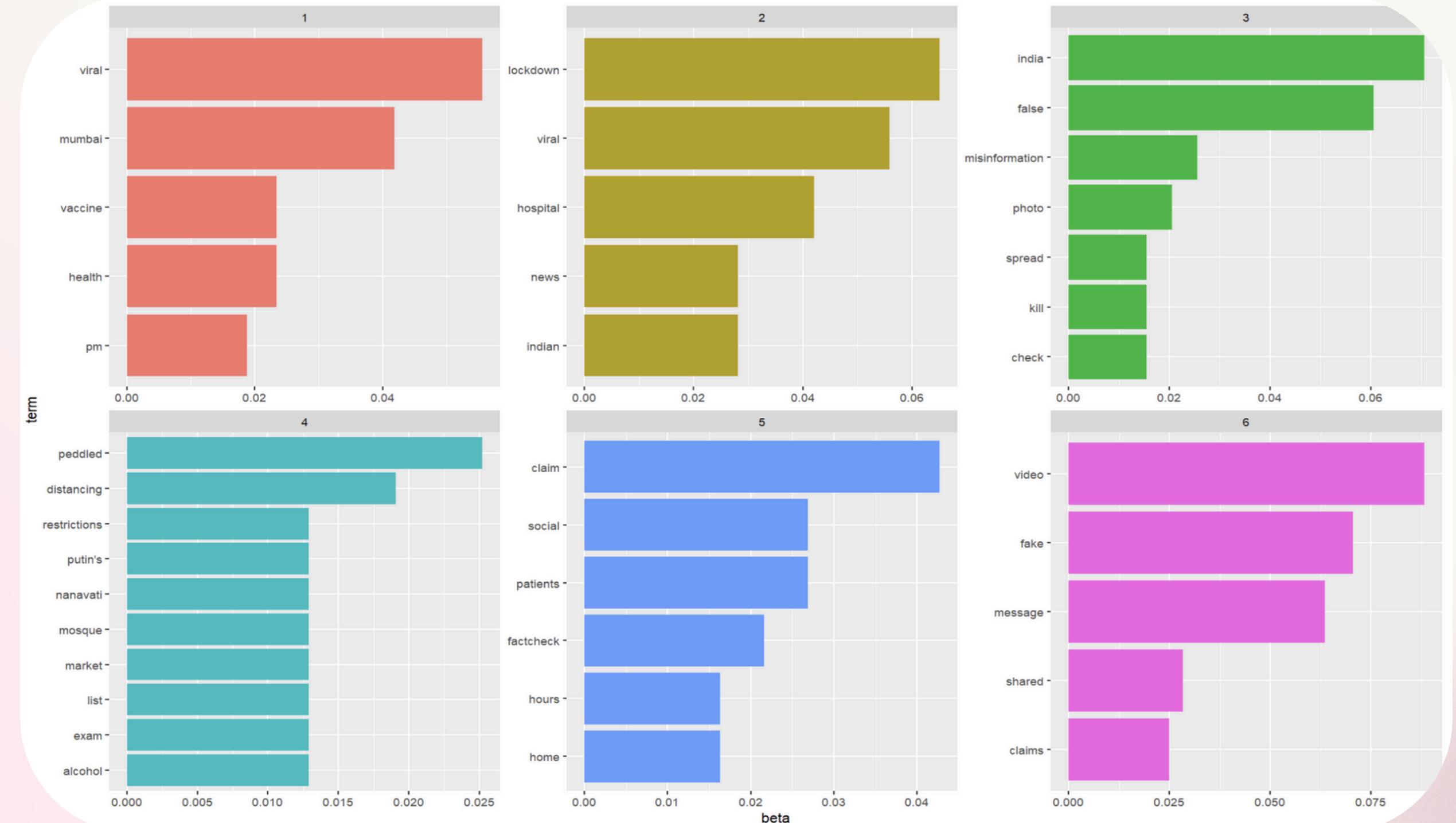
# Pakistan Topic Misinformation Analysis



# US Topic Misinformation Analysis



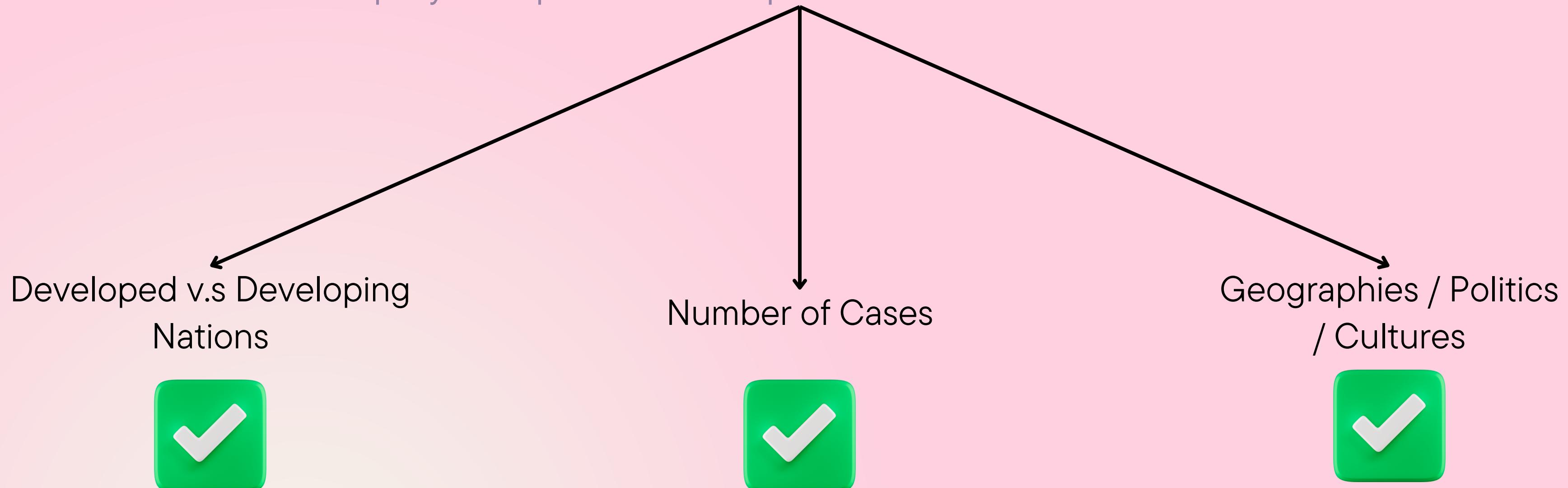
# India Topic Misinformation Analysis



**TEST THE HYPOTHESIS:**

# MISINFORMATION?

What factors played a part in the topics of misinformation across countries



# IMPACT

So why should I care?

It's estimated that there were over

250,000

videos and articles with misinformation online

LDA Topic Analysis could help governments and various agencies address misinformation in a more guided and calculated way based on their communities and the cultural / economic / political practices there