

1 The Title

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4 *AN ESSAY PRESENTED TO AIMS RWANDA IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE AWARD OF*  
5 *MASTER OF SCIENCE IN MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES*



# DECLARATION

This work was carried out at AIMS Rwanda in partial fulfilment of the requirements for a Master of Science Degree.

I hereby declare that except where due acknowledgement is made, this work has never been presented wholly or in part for the award of a degree at AIMS Rwanda or any other University.

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# **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

- 15 This is optional and should be at most half a page. Thanks Ma, Thanks Pa. One paragraph in  
16 normal language is the most respectful.
- 17 Do not use too much bold, any figures, or sign at the bottom.

# <sup>18</sup> DEDICATION

<sup>19</sup> This is optional.

# Abstract

A short, abstracted description of your essay goes here. It should be about 100 words long. But write it last.

An abstract is not a summary of your essay: it's an abstraction of that. It tells the readers why they should be interested in your essay but summarises all they need to know if they read no further.

The writing style used in an abstract is like the style used in the rest of your essay: concise, clear and direct. In the rest of the essay, however, you will introduce and use technical terms. In the abstract you should avoid them in order to make the result comprehensible to all.

You may like to repeat the abstract in your mother tongue.

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# 1. Introduction

In today's world where the most popular and convenient way of storing information is the electronic storage. Electronic storage provides an effective way to process this form of data storage with less human effort. As the stored information increases, we are faced with the challenge and the difficulty in trying to explore and extract what we need. For the purpose of easily understanding the contents of the data or know what it talks about, topic models serves as a tool for handling this task.

Topic models were discovered by researchers in machine learning (ML). It is a statistical tool with a collection of algorithms that reveals the key components to understanding a document. Huge magnitude of unlabelled text can be analysed with a topic model.

Topic model algorithms provides the environment that allows users to explore the text in details and summarize it irrespective their size. Topic model is very useful in identifying the patterns of words in a document and in the event that more than one document is involved in the ML, documents with similar patterns can be related.

Topic models are unsupervised method of ML, through various algorithms is able to produce cluster of words that represent somewhat a summary of a document. They are applied in search engines to recommend to users what they are interested . A typical summary for a collection of documents is for the analysis of web search, producing results for users in further search (Turpin et al., 2007) .

This research focuses on summarizing reports from the international federation of red cross and crescent societies (IFRC). The summary provides a representative topic for each document or in other words best cluster of words that summarize the document. Mathematically, it can be perceived as a function that takes a large text and converts to small one, in a way that thematic structure of the large or original document is preserved. This can be represented as :

$$f : L \longrightarrow S, \quad \text{Such that} \quad |S| \ll |L|$$

$L$  = Large text or document

$S$  = Summarized document or small document.

Intuitively the size of  $S$  is smaller than  $L$ . Manually going through the reports and trying to understand what each is talking about can be time consuming and challenging. The IFRC is a non-governmental organization that provides humanitarian assistance to victims who suffers a disaster event. Through this aid the IFRC generates data of the occurrences of disaster worldwide. Large volumes of complex information are locked in the reports and it hard extracting them going by the manual approach..

This research will employ the Latent Dirichlet Algorithm (LDA) the Latent Semantic Algorithm (LSA). Both models extract the contextual meaning from a given large text.

This research is divided into five chapters, the second chapter elaborates some key concepts of topic modelling, IFRC and similar work. The third chapter discuss explicitly LDA, LSA and the



<sup>97</sup> tools that were also used to arrive at the final results. The fourth chapter covers results and  
<sup>98</sup> discussions. Chapter five presents conclusion and recommendation.

## 2. Literature Review

### 2.1 Topic Model

A topic model is a statistical tool that produce a short description of an original document. Topic models can be applied on a single document or a collection of documents. (Blei, 2012b) described topic models as algorithms that discovers the main themes existing in a large text or document and otherwise the combination of two or more documents. He further reveal that the development of probabilistic topic modelling by ML researchers as a set of algorithms that is geared towards revealing and describing large archives of documents with thematic information. Topic models analyses words in the large text document to discover the themes that pervades them, the connection that exist between the words and their with time. In topic modelling the stress of having to label the documents prior to annotations is saved as it is been done in supervised learning. from the analysis of the original document the topics are obtained. Given an very large volume of electronic archives that is impossible for human annotations, topic modelling can help to summarize and organize it.

### 2.2 Topic Model methods

Topic modelling techniques have been developed to automatically summarize document or large text. These techniques are: latent semantic indexing/allocation (LSI/LSA), the latent dirichlet allocation (LDA) and the probabilistic latent semantic analysis (PLSA) . This research will be restricted to LDA and LSA.

### 2.3 Vector Space Model (VSM)

[Jan: I thought what you describe here is called "bag of words". Can you explain the difference?]



In Natural Language Processing (NLP) specially in semantics similarity documents can be represented as a vector of words in in a vector space model Salton et al. (1975). The frequency of the word in the document determines its importance. Given two documents with words "desk" and "shirt". From the matrix table below "desk" appears 6 and 4 times in document 1 and document 2 respectively, and the word "shirt" appears 3 times in document 1 and 5 times in document 2. Geometrically this can be represented as shown in (2.1).

Table 2.1: Document of words

	desk	shirt
$Doc_1$	6	3
$Doc_2$	4	5

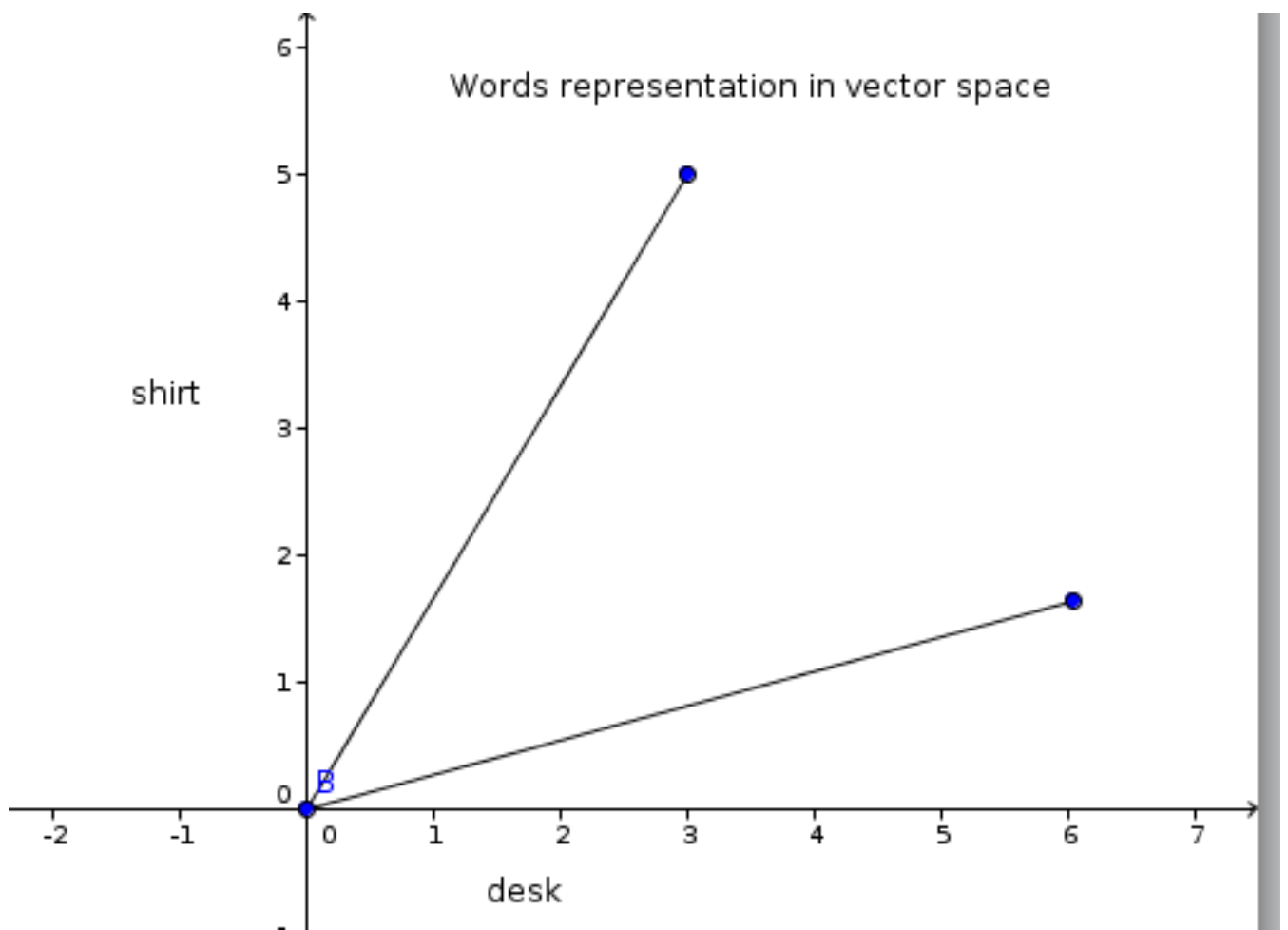


Figure 2.1: Words represented in vector space

Computing the distance between them tells the extent to which their similarity. The dot product shows how close the two vectors are to each other. The dot product of two vectors is given as

$$X \cdot Y = |X||Y|\cos(\theta).$$

Although the VSM is a simple model to use, one main limitation is that, it cannot handle polysemy and synonyms issues. Polysemy is a term that describes words with multiple meaning and synonyms are words that have similar meaning. For example, a polysemy word such as "light" can be used in the context of weight of an object or to describe a type of electromagnetic radiation. Words like "detect", "find", "uncover" and "reveal" are synonymous, they can be used to describe a particular event.

Considering a query search in Google, by the SVM, the documents relating to the query will not be revealed in the search results. However a research conducted by Erk and Pado pointed out the reason leading to the limitations in SVM. The paper indicated that the existing model does not take syntactic structure into account. Their research resulted in a model called "structured vector space (SVS)". This work incorporates the context in which words are used.

## 2.4 Latent Semantic Analysis (LSA)

Also known as the latent semantic indexing (LSI) is a topic model method that transforms documents of high dimension to low dimension of words. One useful role played by LSI in topic modelling is its ability to deal with polysemy and synonyms [Deerwester et al. \(1990\)](#).

Preliminarily it constructs a matrix  $M \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times k}$ , from the documents  $d_1, d_2, \dots, d_k$  of words  $w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n$ . The rows represents the different words and the columns can be viewed as different documents. For example from (??),  $m_{ij}$  shows the position and the frequency of the word  $w_i$  in document  $d_j$ . To achieve reduction in the dimension of the matrix  $M$  the truncated Singular Value Decomposition is applied, given as:

$$M \approx A_t \sum B_t^T.$$

$A_t$  and  $B^T$  are orthogonal matrices, whilst  $\sum$  is a diagonal matrix. Reducing the dimension leads to reduction of noise [Deerwester et al. \(1990\)](#).

Table 2.2: Corpus of documents

	$d_1$	$d_2$	$d_3$
food	0	0	2
school	2	5	0
cash	0	1	0
automobile	1	0	4

## 2.5 Latent Dirichlet Allocation (LDA)

Blei(2012) referred to LDA as the simplest topic model. The ideas underlying this model is every document has several topics existing in it. He defined topic to be a distribution over a fixed

a vocabulary. Each topic is made up of words that are very related to the topic. Considering an article with a title "Seeking Life's Bare (Genetic) Necessities," for which data analysis was used to determine the number of genes an organism needs to survive. By hand, words pertaining to three different vocabularies were highlighted with different colours. Words such as "computer", "prediction" linked to the topic "data analysis" highlighted blue, "life" and "evolve" about "evolutionary biology" highlighted pink and words like "gene", "DNA" describing the topic "genetics" is highlighted yellow. Stop words that occur frequently in the article are removed.

The LDA as a statistical tool uses this idea based on the assumption that topics are generated prior to words assignment. The LDA also assumes a model of generating documents. All words in each vocabulary has a probability value and depending on the topic each word finds itself would be high or low. For example the word "gene" will have a low probability value if it is in the domain of the vocabulary "data analysis" compared to when it belongs to the topic "genetics". The idea describing the process of generating documents using words is:

1. From the documents, a random selection of some topics deemed to describe the documents.
2. for each word in the documents:
  - 2a. Randomly choose a topic from the selected topics in step 1.
  - 2b. Randomly choose a word from the selected topic. The topic has a collection of words of which randomly one is chosen at a time.

The LDA model reflects the idea of multiple topics exhibited by documents.

Figure(2.3) gives a picture of the whole intuition of this generative probabilistic process:

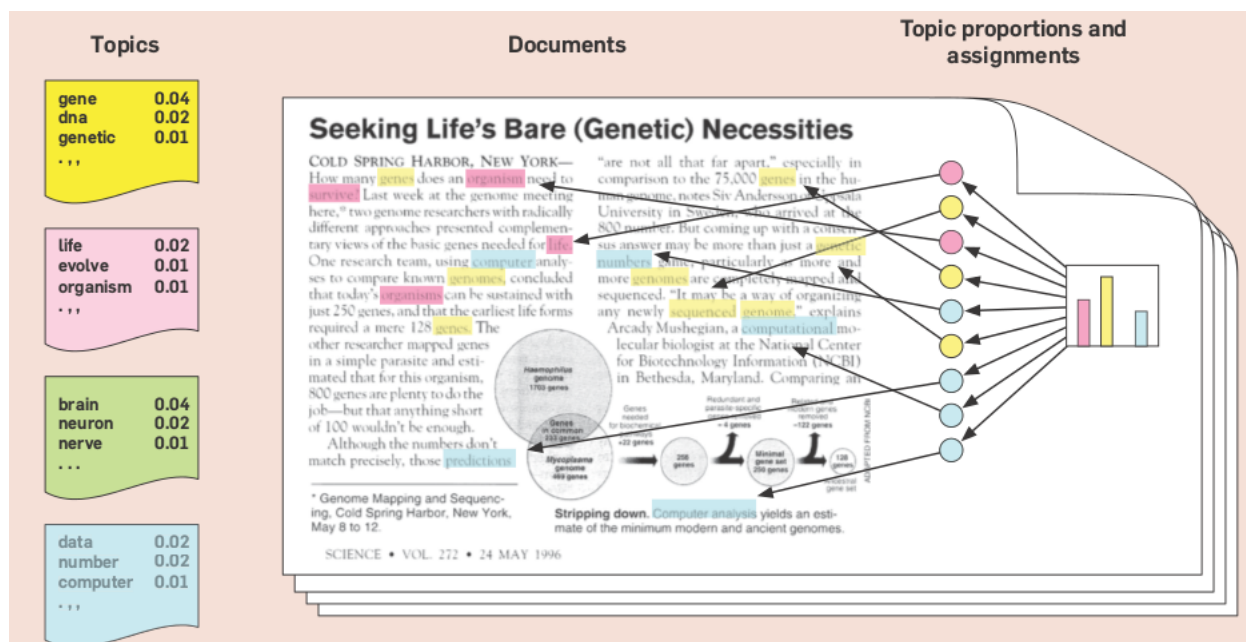


Figure 2.2: Generative intuition of LDA model

In short description of Figure (2.3) the idea underlying LDA is that, first of all some number of topics that are distribution over words is assumed (far left). In generating for each document, firstly choose a distribution over topics (far right ie. histogram), then the circles of different colours are topic assignment for which words drawn from the document corresponds to.

Figure (2.4) shows real inference with LDA, using 17000 articles from the journal of science. "Genetics", "Evolution", "Disease" and "Computers" represents the topics from one article and the words below each are top 15 most frequent words. The graph on the left shows the probability values for each topic. The probability values for this article for a given set of topics may be different from another article. in effect, even though some documents or articles may share the same topics, each article exhibits the topics in different proportions.

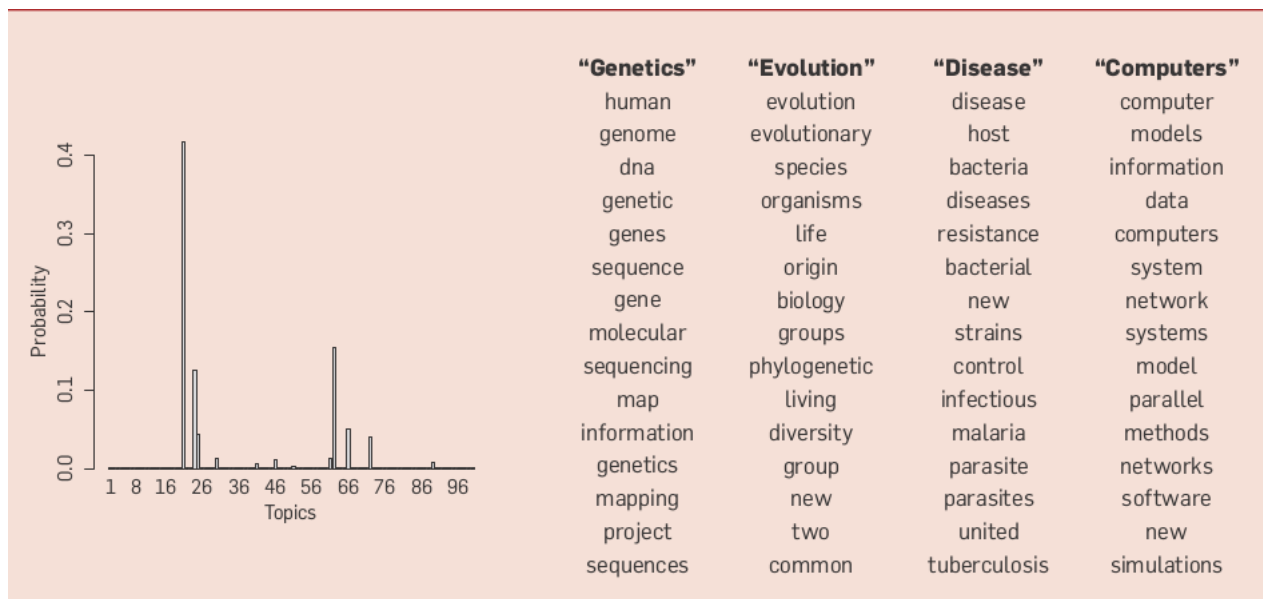


Figure 2.3: Inferred topics from one article of the 17000 articles from the journal of science.

## 2.6 Graphical Model of LDA

Figure (2.4) provides a graphical representation, showing the both the observed and latent variables involved in the generative process. Latent variables are variables that are not directly but inferred from the the observed. The only observed part is the shaded circle  $W_{d,n}$ ,  $\alpha$  and  $\eta$  are parameters from the Dirichlet distribution. What the notations stands for:

- $D$ : the number of documents
- $N$ : number of words in each document
- $K$ : number of topics
- $\theta_d$ : the topic proportion for each document  $d$ .
- $Z_{d,n}$ : is the topic assignment for word  $n$  in document  $d$ .

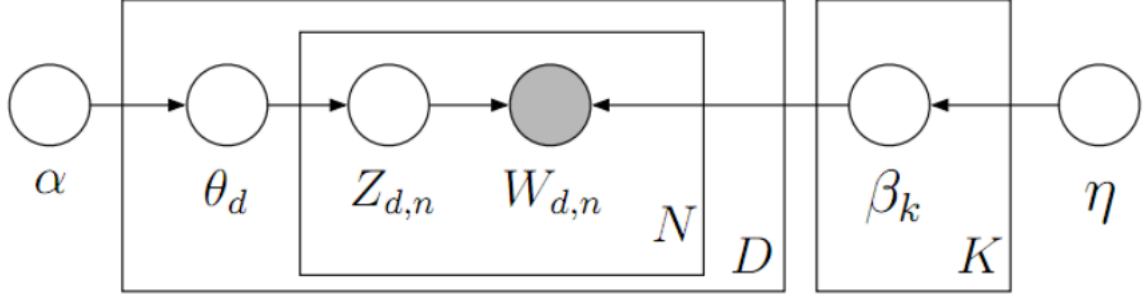


Figure 2.4: Graphical representation of LDA model

- $W_{d,n}$ : is the observed word  $n$  in document  $d$ ,
- $\beta_K$ : topics

From (2.4) the joint distribution or the total probability of both latent and observed variables is given by:

$$P(\beta, \theta, Z, W, \alpha, \eta) = \prod_{k=1}^K P(\beta_k) \prod_{d=1}^D P(\theta_d) \prod_{n=1}^N P(Z_{d,n}|\theta_d) P(W_{d,n}|\beta_k, Z_{d,n}) \quad (2.6.1)$$

## 2.7 Posterior Distribution

This is a type of Bayesian statistic that describes how latent variables are obtained given the observed data. From the LDA documents generative model a joint probability distribution of both the hidden structures and observed variables. To compute the conditional distribution given the observed variables (words), the posterior is used, given by:

$$P(\theta_{1:D}, \beta_{1:K}, Z_{1:D} | W_d) = \frac{P(\theta_d, \beta_k, Z_d)}{P(W_{1:D})}.$$

$P(\theta_d, \beta_k, Z_d)$  can be computed easily for any setting of the hidden variables.  $P(\theta_d, \beta_k, Z_d)$  is the marginal probability of the observed word variable. This is computed by considering all possible instances of the hidden topic structure by summing their joint distribution. Because the possible topic structure is large, it is very hard to compute using this posterior relation.

There exist a number of algorithms categorized as "sampling based algorithms" and "variational based algorithms". These algorithms approximate the posterior distribution based on the joint probability distribution between the latent variables and the observed in the posterior relation.

## 2.8 Dirichlet Distribution

It is from the exponential family of continuous multivariate probability with the parameter  $\alpha$  of positive real. It is denoted by  $D(\alpha)$ .

Let  $S = [S_1, S_2, \dots, S_d]$  as probability mass function (pmf), implies  $S_i \geq 0$  for  $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, d$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^d S_i = 1$ . Also suppose  $\alpha = [\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_d]$  with  $\alpha_i > 0$  for each  $i$ , and let  $\alpha_0 = \sum_{i=1}^d \alpha_i$ .

Then  $S$  is said to have a Dirichlet distribution with parameter  $\alpha$ , which is denoted by  $S \sim \text{Dir}(\alpha)$ , if  $s$  is not a pmf it has  $f(s, \alpha) = 0$ . With  $s$  being a pmf then,

$$f(s, \alpha) = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha_0)}{\prod_{i=1}^d \Gamma(\alpha_i)} \prod_{i=1}^d s^{\alpha_i - 1} \quad (2.8.1)$$

205 where  $\Gamma()$  is the Gamma distribution.

## 206 2.9 Advantages of LDA

207 LDA can be used as a built in module in other models to perform more difficult tasks. The LDA  
 208 model is used in other applications, not only in text. (Blei and Jordan, 2002) carried out a work  
 209 that used pairs of LDA modules to model relationships between images and their corresponding  
 210 descriptive captions. But also include problems involving collections of data, including data from  
 211 domains such as collaborative filtering, content-based image retrieval and bioinformatics.

## 212 2.10 Disadvantages of LDA

213 The bag of words assumption (the order words in a document does not matter) of LDA makes it  
 214 unrealistic, however it is reasonable if only our task is to uncover the coarse thematic structure  
 215 of the texts (Blei, 2012).

## 216 2.11 Extensions of LDA

217 ? developed a model that does not ignore the assumption that the order of words does not  
 218 matter (bag of words). This means that each word generated by the topic depends on the  
 219 previous word. ? combined the idea of syntactic and semantics to produce a generative model.  
 220 This model is capable of simultaneously finding syntactic classes and semantic topics despite  
 221 having no knowledge of syntax or semantics beyond statistical dependency



## 3. Methodology

### 3.1 Unsupervised Learning (SL)

This is a machine learning task of inferring a function to describe hidden structure from unlabelled data. This type of ML does not require any prior manual categorization of observations in the data.

The distinction between supervised learning and unsupervised learning (UL) is that in unsupervised learning there is no evaluation of accuracy of the algorithm used, because data fed to the learner is unlabelled. Also one advantage of UL over SL is that time and cost is saved in labelling as required in SL.

### 3.2 Natural Language Processing (NLP)

It is a multidisciplinary area that deals with the automatic processing of human language. This automation allows communication between humans and computers. The computer accept input in the form of text or speech and then produces structured representations showing the meaning of those strings as their output.

### 3.3 Data

The source of the data for this research is from the website of IFRC. Practically the data was obtained by algorithms implemented in the R studio, automatically downloaded the over one thousand pdf reports from the website. Each report is named a name of a country depicting that the reports describes disaster that occurred in a particular country. Each report has an appeal id, several documents might refer to the same appeal id. The appeal id is the unique code given a particular report. Reports describing the same event have the share the same appeal id.

### 3.4 Gensim

Gensim is an open source toolkit implemented in python to execute task involving vector space models and topic modelling [Rehurek and Sojka \(2010\)](#). Some features of Gensim employed in this research are "term frequency inverse document frequency (TFIDF)" and "LDA", "LSA". Before executing the above features the "corpora" and "doc2bow" modules are used to represent large collection of texts and to convert the text collection into vectors respectively.

### 3.5 Natural Language Toolkit (NLTK)

This is also an open library with set of modules that enhances the processing of human language. It is originally developed by Steven Bird and Edward Loper both in the Department of Computer and Information Science at the University of Pennsylvania. This provided a landmark for researchers

to contribute to making it more robust and an efficient library. The "corpus" and the "tokenize" are some modules relevant in topic modelling.

## 3.6 Word Embeddings

Word embeddings is a dense representation of words in a low dimensional vector space. Bigo et al(2003) introduced the concept of word embedding and then train them in neural language jointly with model parameters. Mikolov et al (2013) came out with the popular word embedding model known as the Word2vec. Pemigton et al (2014) released Glove. The Glove and the Wor2vec are both aimed at producing word embeddings that encode the general semantic relationship.

## 3.7 Tokenization

This describes the process of splitting a text or a collection of texts into each single term constituting the text. Each term is known as the token. It can be a "word", "symbols", "punctuations", "numbers". For example given text "she won a prize worth 30 million dollars", after tokenizing we have "she", "won", "a", "prize", "worth", "30", "million", "dollars". Prior to creating a vector representation of terms in the document tokenizing is done. The Natural Language Toolkit (NLTK) library is employed to implement this process.

## 3.8 Term Frequency Inverse Document Frequency (TFID)

This measures the extent to which words are important in a document. In topic modelling we want to find a group of words that describes a vocabulary. For example topic modelling a document that talks about a university, words such as "classrooms", "library", "lecturs", "Courses", "Grades" would tend to be the most important words that describe the topic. It is worth noting that important words are not necessarily the most frequent words, possible to be judged by our intuitive notions.

The TFIDF transforms a vector of integer values into a vector of real values, maintaining the dimension of the original vector. After transformation features which are not frequent in the corpus will have their values increased. That does not mean that all rare words are important, some may not be significant at all in the description of the topic. For instance dealing with our "university" document, a word like "congregation" may be rare but then it is significant towards describing the vocabulary. On the other hand a word such as "consequently" may appear very frequent which in this case does not really say anything about the topic. The most frequent words are most words such as "the" or "and," which helps to construct a sentence, thereby making it readable and understandable. These words do not carry any importance to help topic model a document. They are stop words and they are removed before the modelling irrespective of their number.

Given a collection of documents with each document  $d$  containing words, where each word in the document is denoted  $i$ . The frequency of occurrence of a word  $i$  in document  $d$  is denoted  $f_{id}$ . The term frequency  $TF_{id}$  is computed as:

$$TF_{id} = \frac{f_{id}}{\max_t f_{td}}$$

288 . Which means that the frequency of the word  $i$  in document  $d$  is  $f_{id}$  normalized by dividing it  
289 by the term with the highest frequency in the same document of occurrence with stop words  
290 exclusive. Intuitively the word which occurs most frequently would have a  $TF$  of 1,  
291 and other words get fractions as their term frequency for this document.

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## 5. Testing

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