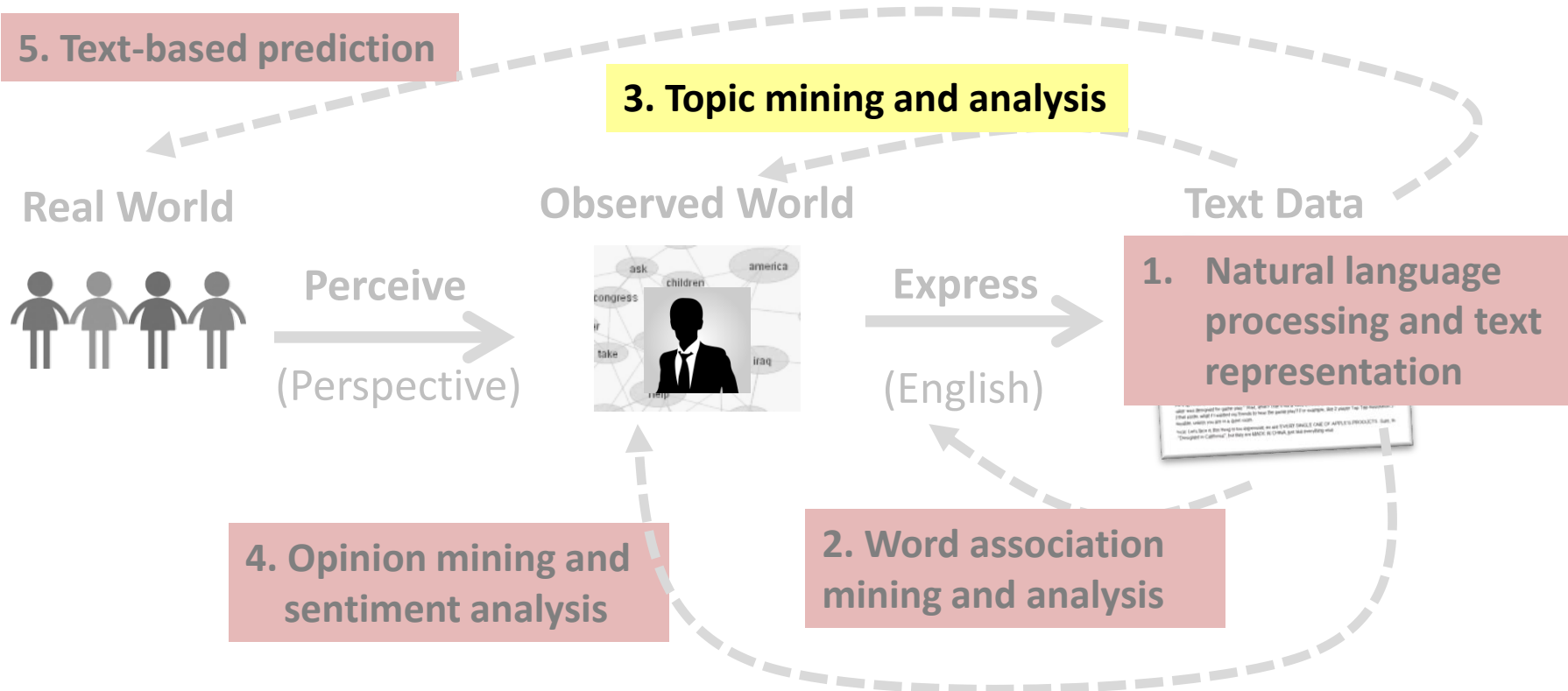




# Topic Mining and Analysis: Overview of Statistical Language Models

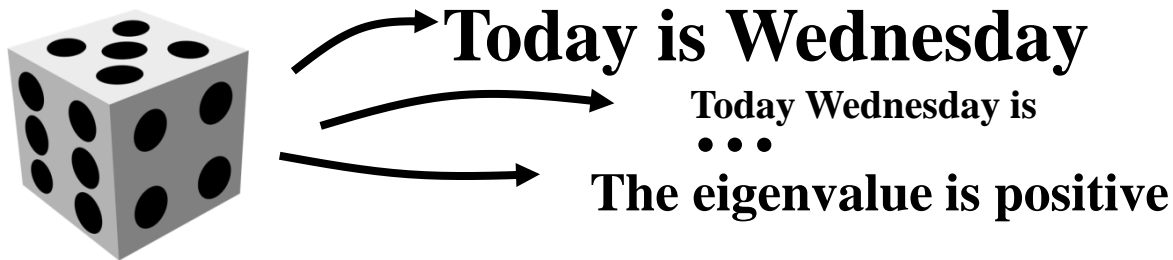
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# Probabilistic Topic Models: Overview of Statistical Language Models



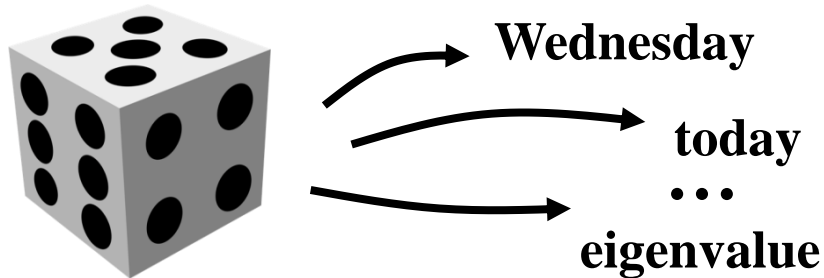
# What Is a Statistical Language Model (LM)?

- A probability distribution over word sequences
  - $p(\textit{“Today is Wednesday”}) \approx 0.001$
  - $p(\textit{“Today Wednesday is”}) \approx 0.0000000000000001$
  - $p(\textit{“The eigenvalue is positive”}) \approx 0.000001$
- Context-dependent!
- Can also be regarded as a probabilistic mechanism for “generating” text – thus also called a “generative” model



# The Simplest Language Model: Unigram LM

- Generate text by generating each word INDEPENDENTLY
- Thus,  $p(w_1 w_2 \dots w_n) = p(w_1)p(w_2)\dots p(w_n)$
- Parameters:  $\{p(w_i)\}$   $p(w_1) + \dots + p(w_N) = 1$  (N is voc. size)
- Text = sample drawn according to this **word distribution**



$$\begin{aligned} p(\text{"today is Wed"}) \\ &= p(\text{"today"})p(\text{"is"})p(\text{"Wed"}) \\ &= 0.0002 \times 0.001 \times 0.000015 \end{aligned}$$

# Text Generation with Unigram LM

Unigram LM  $p(w|\theta)$

**Sampling**



Document  $d$

$p(d|\theta)=?$

Topic 1:  
**Text mining**

...  
text 0.2  
mining 0.1  
association 0.01  
clustering 0.02  
...  
food 0.00001  
...



**Text mining  
paper**

Topic 2:  
**Health**

...  
food 0.25  
nutrition 0.1  
healthy 0.05  
diet 0.02  
...

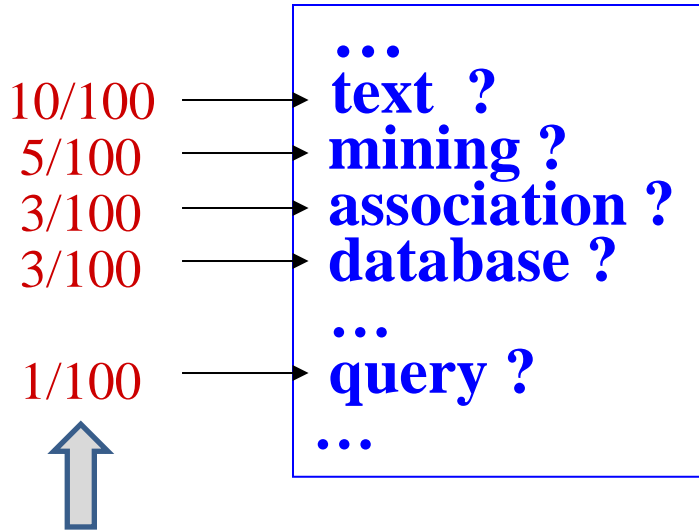


**Food nutrition  
paper**

# Estimation of Unigram LM

Unigram LM  $p(w|\theta)=?$  **Estimation** ← Text Mining Paper d

Total #words=100



text 10  
mining 5  
association 3  
database 3  
algorithm 2  
query 1  
efficient 1

Maximum Likelihood  
Estimate

Is this our best estimate?  
How do we define “best”?

# Maximum Likelihood vs. Bayesian

- Maximum likelihood estimation

- “Best” means “data likelihood reaches maximum”

$$\hat{\theta} = \arg \max_{\theta} P(\mathbf{X} | \theta)$$

- Problem: Small sample

- Bayesian estimation:

**Bayes Rule**

$$p(\mathbf{X} | \mathbf{Y}) = \frac{p(\mathbf{Y} | \mathbf{X})p(\mathbf{X})}{p(\mathbf{Y})}$$

- “Best” means being consistent with our “prior” knowledge and explaining data well

$$\hat{\theta} = \arg \max_{\theta} P(\theta | \mathbf{X}) = \arg \max_{\theta} P(\mathbf{X} | \theta)P(\theta)$$

- Problem: How to define prior?



**Maximum a Posteriori (MAP) estimate**

# Illustration of Bayesian Estimation

**Bayesian inference:  $f(\theta)=?$**

$$\hat{f}(\theta) = \sum_{\theta} f(\theta) p(\theta | X)$$

**Posterior  
Mean**

$$\hat{\theta} = \sum_{\theta} \theta^* p(\theta | X)$$

**Posterior:**

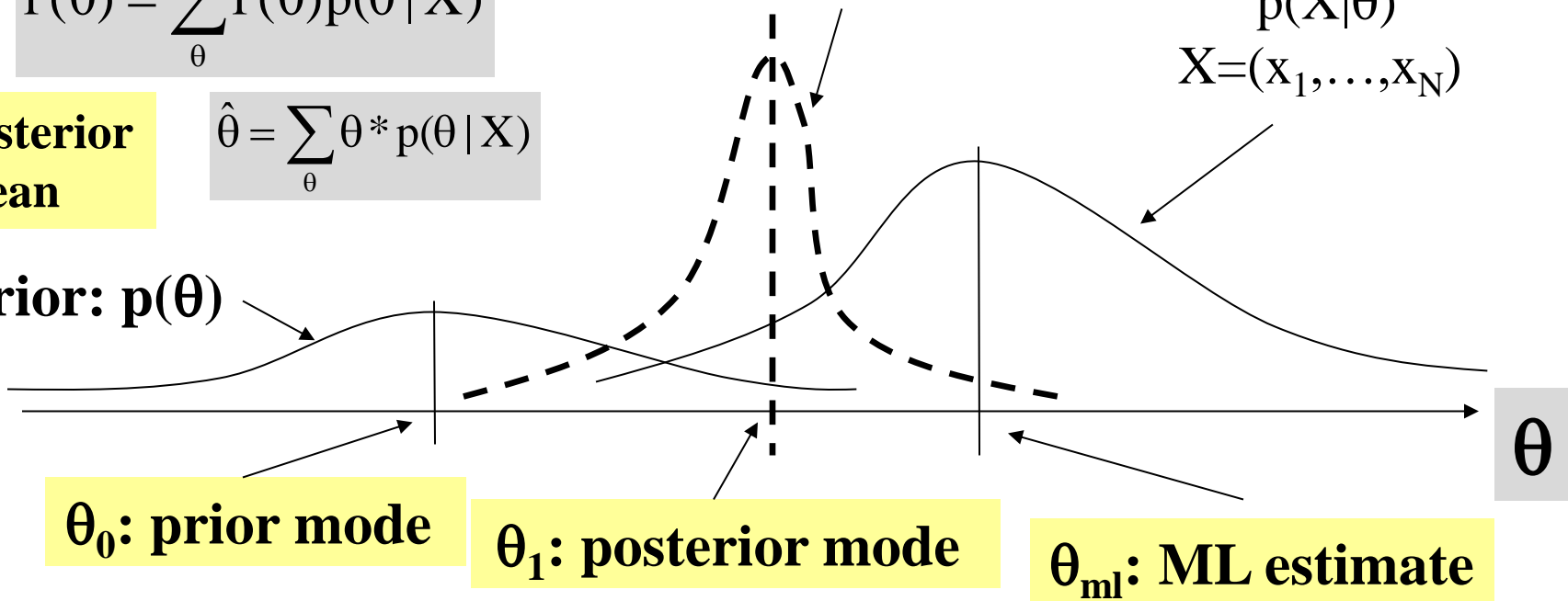
$$p(\theta|X) \propto p(X|\theta)p(\theta)$$

**Likelihood:**

$$p(X|\theta)$$

$$X=(x_1, \dots, x_N)$$

**Prior:  $p(\theta)$**





# Summary

- **Language Model** = probability distribution over text = generative model for text data
- **Unigram Language Model** = **word distribution**
- **Likelihood** function:  $p(\mathbf{X}|\theta)$ 
  - **Given  $\theta \rightarrow$**  which  $\mathbf{X}$  has a higher likelihood?
  - **Given  $\mathbf{X} \rightarrow$**  which  $\theta$  maximizes  $p(\mathbf{X}|\theta)$ ? [**ML estimate**]
- **Bayesian** estimation/inference
  - Must define a **prior**:  $p(\theta)$
  - **Posterior** distribution:  $p(\theta|\mathbf{X}) \propto p(\mathbf{X}|\theta)p(\theta)$ 
    - $\rightarrow$  Allows for inferring any “derived value” from  $\theta$ !**