

OBJECTIVE

GENERAL GOAL

- Predict similar restaurants with Yelp reviews

TECH GOALS

- NLP preprocessing techniques
- Topic modeling with sentiment analysis
- Google Cloud Exposure
- Flask

DELIVERABLES

Build a usable flask web application that is:

- Given a restaurant as input
- Outputs similar restaurants in a another city

YELP! (I NEED SOME BODY...)

USING MACHINE LEARNING TO RECOMMEND RESTAURANTS

AUGUST 2, 2019



THE TEAM

THE BEATLES YELP!



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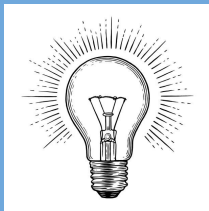


Marc Mascarenhas
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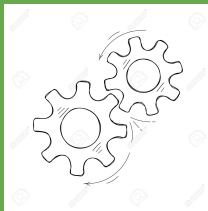
Jesse Stewart
Hofstra University
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TIMELINE



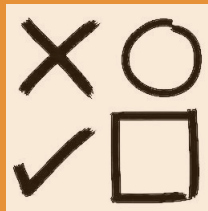
Find & Explore
a dataset

Week 1
Brainstorming



Apply NLP
tools &
Implement
Topic
Modeling

Week 2
Modeling



Implement
sentiment
analysis

Week 3
Merging



Create a
website using
Flask

Week 4
Polishing

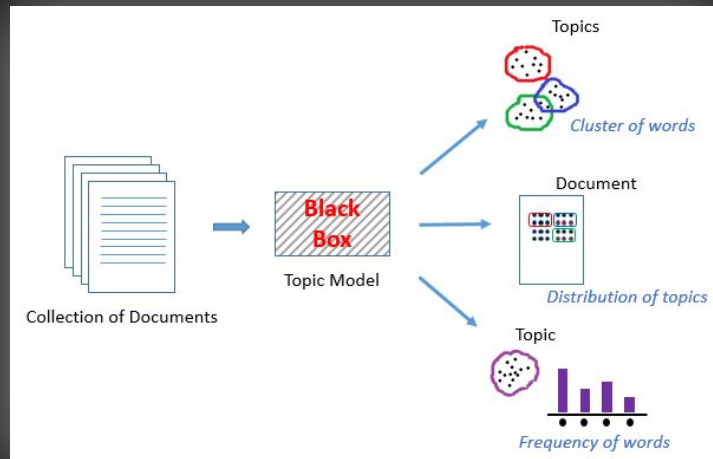


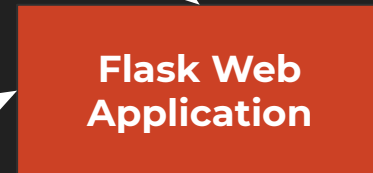
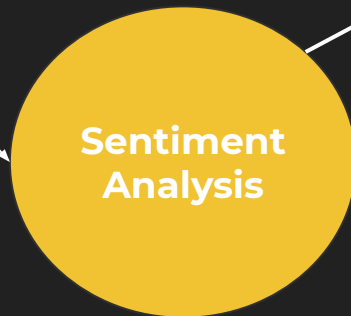
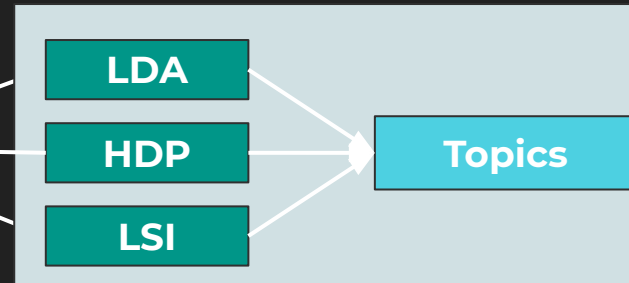
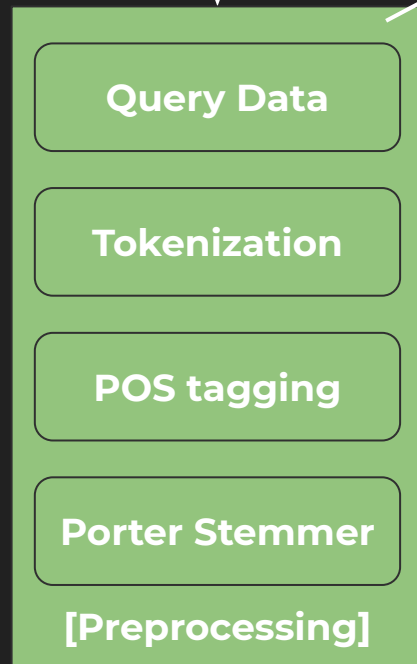
Present!

Week 5
Delivery

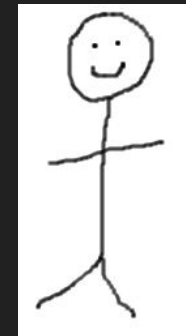
WHAT IS TOPIC MODELING?

- Traditional recommendation engines rely on defined categories
- Defined categories can be misleading, wrong, or uninformative
- Potential to uncover hidden similarities between reviews





Sushi in CA!



TOPIC MODELS

LDA (Latent Dirichlet Allocation)

HDP (Hierarchical Dirichlet Process)

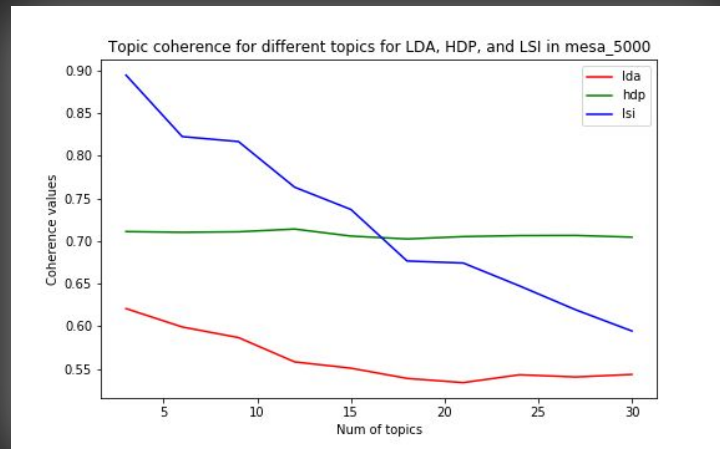
LSI (Latent Semantic Indexing)

TOPIC MODELS

- Parameter tuning
 - Number of topics
 - Number of words
 - Number of passes and iterations
- Trade-off: LSI and HDP outperforms LDA in topic coherence score BUT LDA is easier to visualize and interpret
- Similarity between two restaurants
 - KL divergence

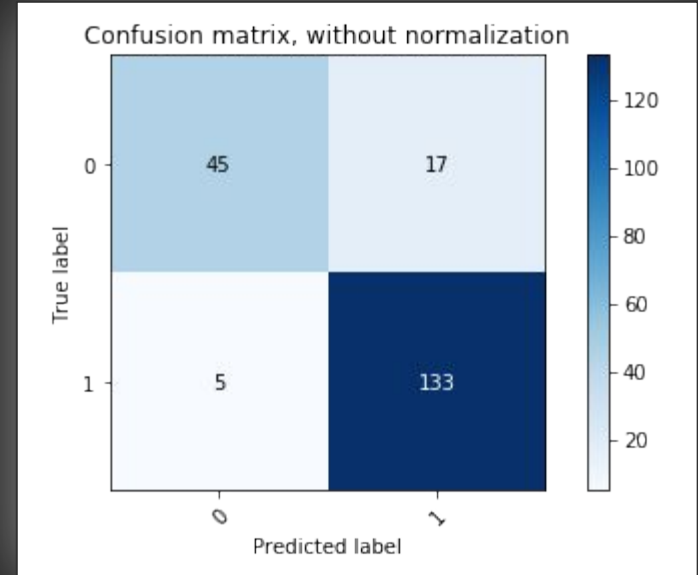
TOPIC MODELS

- Performance Metrics for topic models
 - Topic coherence score
 - Visualization
 - Manually compare results



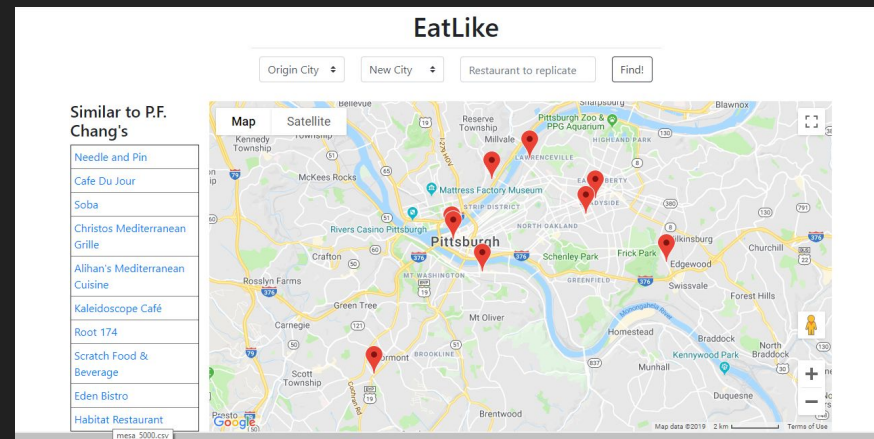
SENTIMENT ANALYSIS

- Sentence-level sentiment classification
- Uses Vader sentiment analyzer
- Extracts positive and negative sentences



RESULTS

- Topic Models
 - LDA model: 0.55 coherence score when num of topics = 6
 - HDP model: 0.7 coherence score when num of topics = 12
- Applied Sentiment Analysis
 - Precision: 88.6%
 - Recall: 96.4%
 - Accuracy: 89.0%
- Successful web app development



CHALLENGES

- Using an unsupervised model
- No real metric to evaluate results → deploy model
- Subject to human interpretation
- Finding good Yelp jokes and other words that rhyme with Yelp (besides “help”)

Tourist: “I don’t want to scare you, but I’m considered an Elite Yelper.”

Bartender: “I’m sure that matters in Kansas or whatever, but you’re not elite anything in a dive bar in New York.”

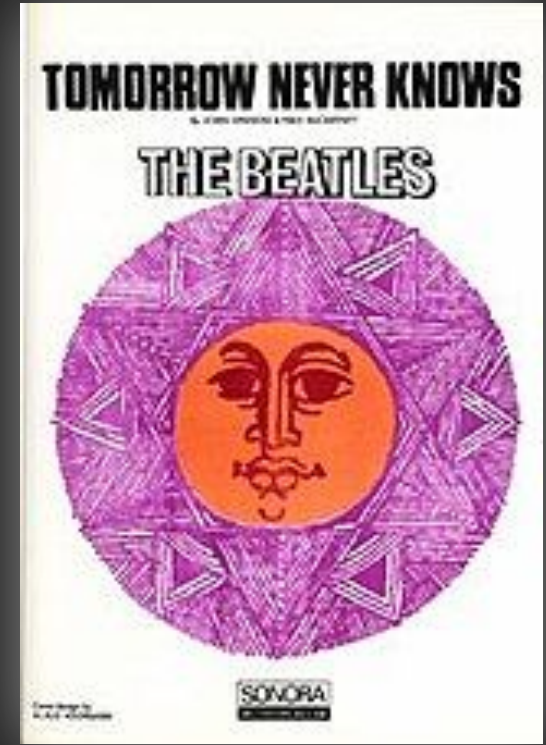
[@overheardnewyork](#)

ETHICS

- **Selection bias (non-response)**
 - Unbalanced representation of a restaurant's ratings due to location
- **Implicit bias**
 - Linguistics (non-universal slang and/or phrases)
- **Group Attribution Bias**
 - Viewing ratings from friends or neighbors
 - Skewed inside/outside cultural preferences
- **Reporting Bias**
 - People only writing if they *really* did not like/liked a restaurant

NEXT STEPS AND FUTURE WORK

- Measure neighborhood development via restaurants
- Create a mobile app version
- Use more learning tools
 - Word cloud
- Use a database
- Deploy A/B testing
 - Showing variations of a page



THANK YOU!



RESOURCES

SLDC Models- an overview: <https://medium.com/existek/sdlc-models-explained-agile-waterfall-v-shaped-iterative-spiral-e3f012f390c5>

What are Review Highlights?: https://www.yelp-support.com/article/What-are-Review-Highlights?l=en_US

An Exploratory Data Analysis (EDA) for Text

Data: <https://towardsdatascience.com/a-complete-exploratory-data-analysis-and-visualization-for-text-data-29fb1b96fb6a>

Topic Modeling: <https://www.machinelearningplus.com/nlp/topic-modeling-gensim-python/>
<https://www.analyticsvidhya.com/blog/2016/08/beginners-guide-to-topic-modeling-in-python/>
<https://www.kdnuggets.com/2016/07/text-mining-101-topic-modeling.html>

Yelp Dataset Challenge Winner (sample):

https://www.yelp.com/html/pdf/YelpDatasetChallengeWinner_PersonalizingRatings.pdf?fbclid=IwAR292yTyZ4CV3zp3YVBEDeGzJ6RMszoBfGmiabGAM16JDirmBLA3vtKb_zw

Yelp Dataset Examples: <https://github.com/Yelp/dataset-examples>

Relevant Papers:

https://www.yelp.com/html/pdf/YelpDatasetChallengeWinner_PersonalizingRatings.pdf?fbclid=IwAR0ef70_Bn1qgoO7vCQhokeBrM8w1_6Vbqm5-7OMQOiek6-XS0p6504ZVI8

Interesting read on how Yelp data can impact others: https://www.hbs.edu/faculty/Publication%20Files/18-077_a0e9e3c7-eceb-4685-8d72-21e0f518b3f3.pdf

LDA and Document Similarity: <https://www.kaggle.com/ktattan/lda-and-document-similarity>

LDA Building a Missing Feature with Bars: <https://towardsdatascience.com/using-lda-to-build-a-missing-yelp-feature-43436e575d65>

Preprocessed Text: <https://orange3-text.readthedocs.io/en/latest/widgets/preprocesstext.html>

Sentiment Analysis and Applications: <https://towardsdatascience.com/sentiment-analysis-concept-analysis-and-applications-6c94d6f58c17>

Topic Modeling and Latent Dirichlet Allocation: <https://towardsdatascience.com/topic-modeling-and-latent-dirichlet-allocation-in-python-9bf156893c24>

Beatles font: <https://fontmeme.com/the-beatles-font/>

QUESTIONS?

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We got by with a little yelp from our friends-
the Scripps AMLI squad, Josh, Ju, David S.,
David B., Liza, Sidnie, Winston, Abel, and Shu.
Thank you!!