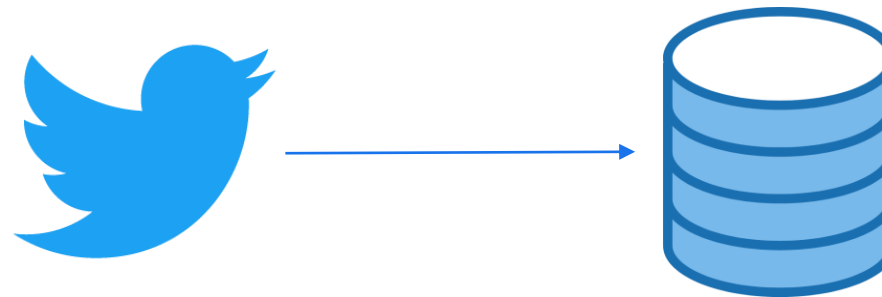


# Incident Linking: Assigning Tweets to Entries in a Disaster Database

Master's Thesis Defence



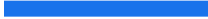
## Examiners

Prof. Dr. Benno Stein

Prof. Dr.-Ing. Volker Rodehorst

**Siva Bathala**  
**119484**

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  - DATASETS
  - PROPOSED METHOD
  - RESULTS AND DISCUSSION
  - CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK

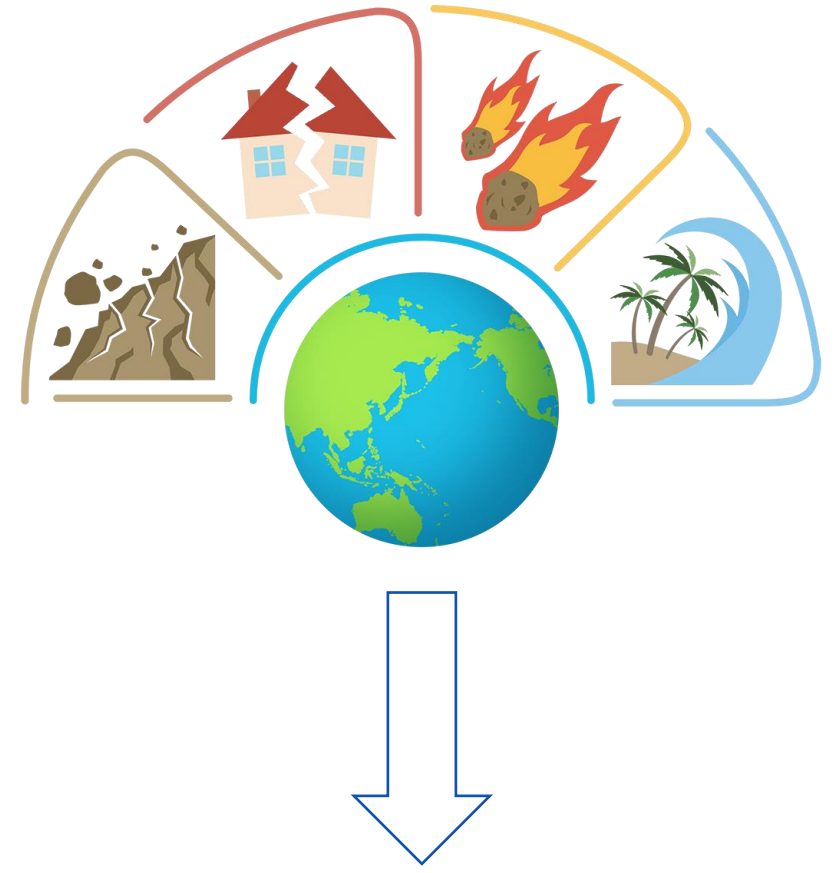


# Introduction

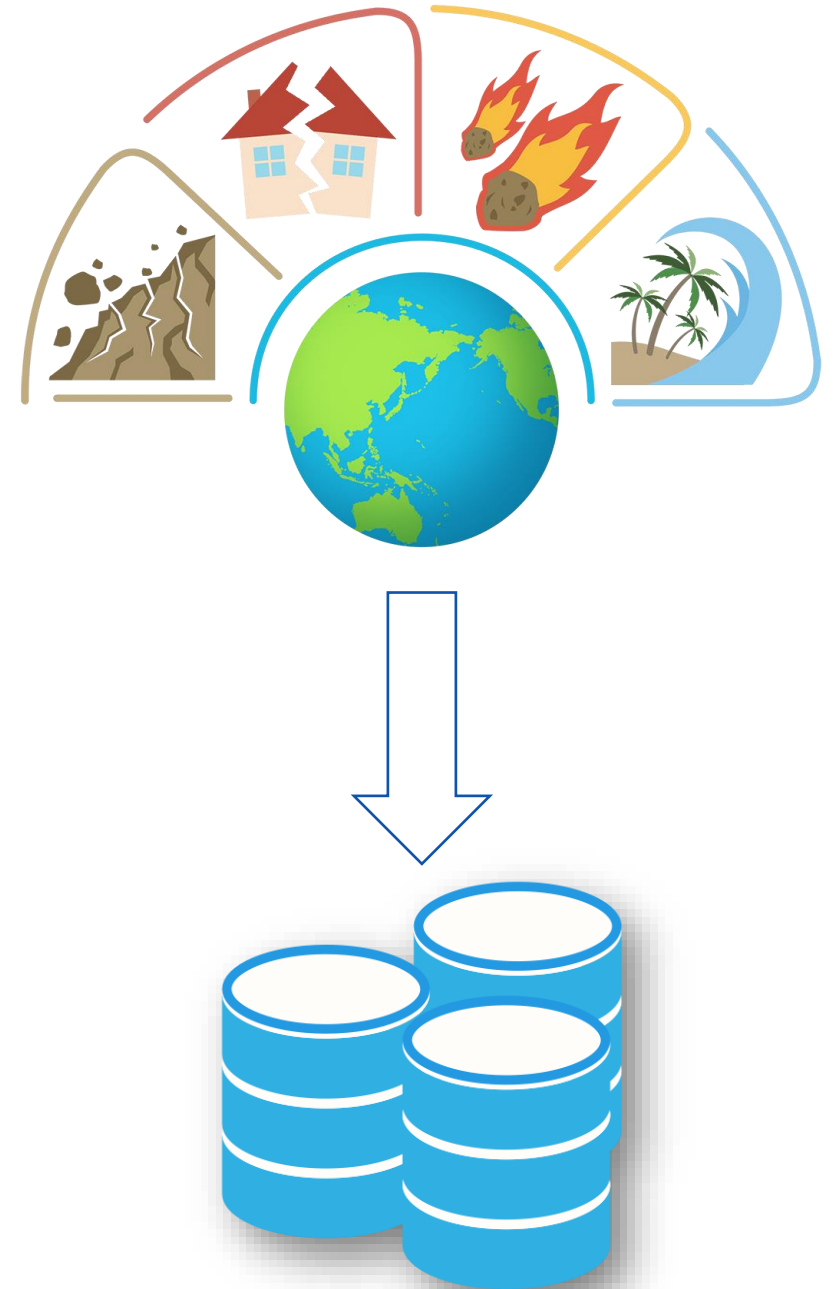
# Introduction



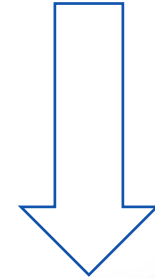
# Introduction



# Introduction



# Introduction



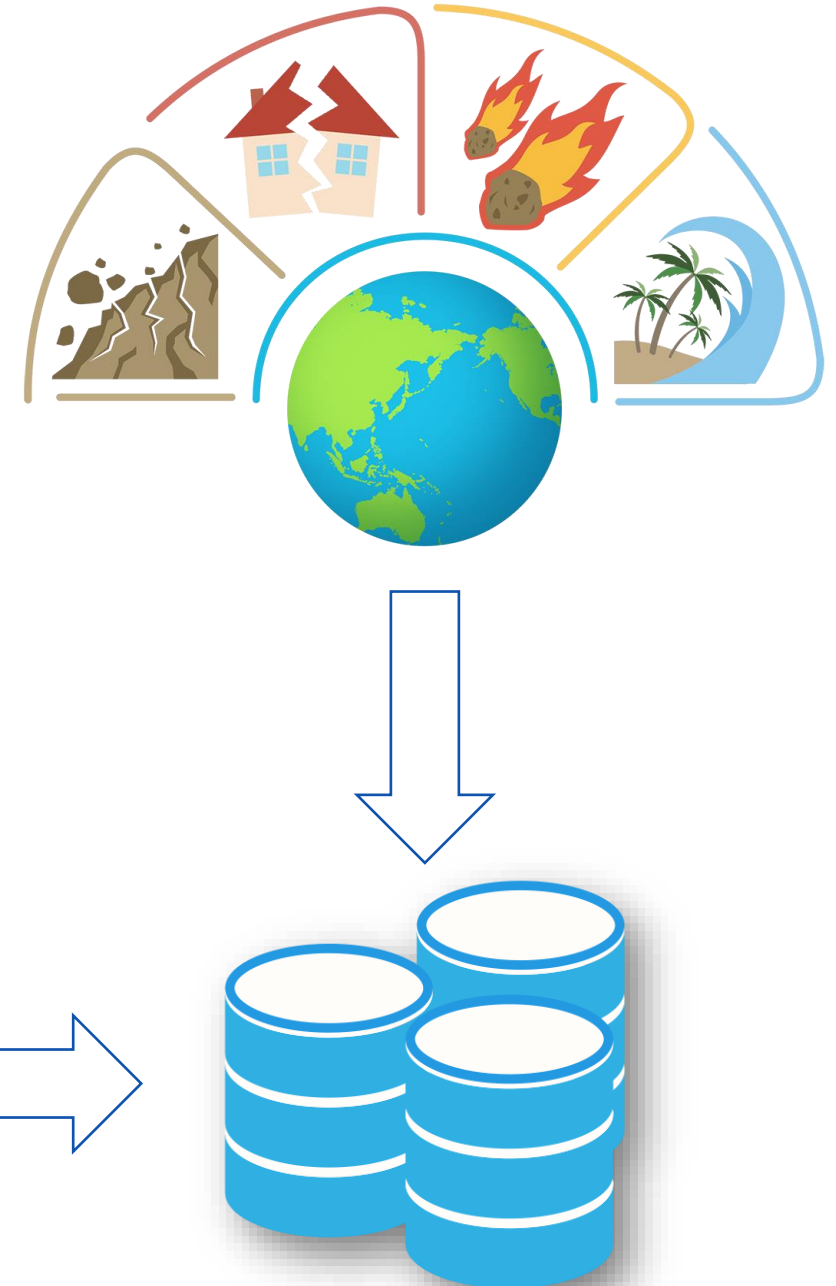
Validation ?



# Introduction

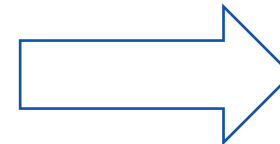
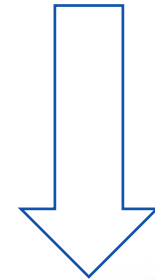


Manual Validation

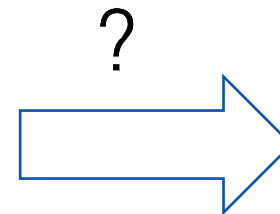
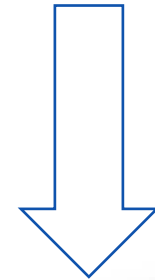




# Introduction



# Introduction



# Introduction



Our Method



# Example



Mudslide collapses on bus in Colombia, 6 dead; one victim called for help by cellphone [uninews.us/vq57mW](https://uninews.us/vq57mW)  
✓ #Colombia

12:45 AM · Dec 9, 2011 · SocialFlow

## Sample part of incident database entry from EM-DAT

|             |                                      |
|-------------|--------------------------------------|
| incident_id | 47108fe1-5c04-472c-b534-75a51b747489 |
| type        | landslide                            |
| start_time  | 2011-12-08T08:00:00.000Z             |
| location    | Colombia ; Bosa ; Bogota             |
| deaths      | 6                                    |

# Research Questions

- RQ 1

What are the possible features that we can extract from tweets that match with those of typical knowledge databases?

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How can we build a linking model that will link the each tweet to entries in the disaster database based on the features from **RQ1**?

# Research Questions

- RQ 1

What are the possible features that we can extract from tweets that match with those of typical knowledge databases?

- RQ 2

How can we build a linking model that will link the each tweet to entries in the disaster database based on the features from **RQ1**?

- RQ 3

How accurate this model to use for disaster linking?



# DATASETS



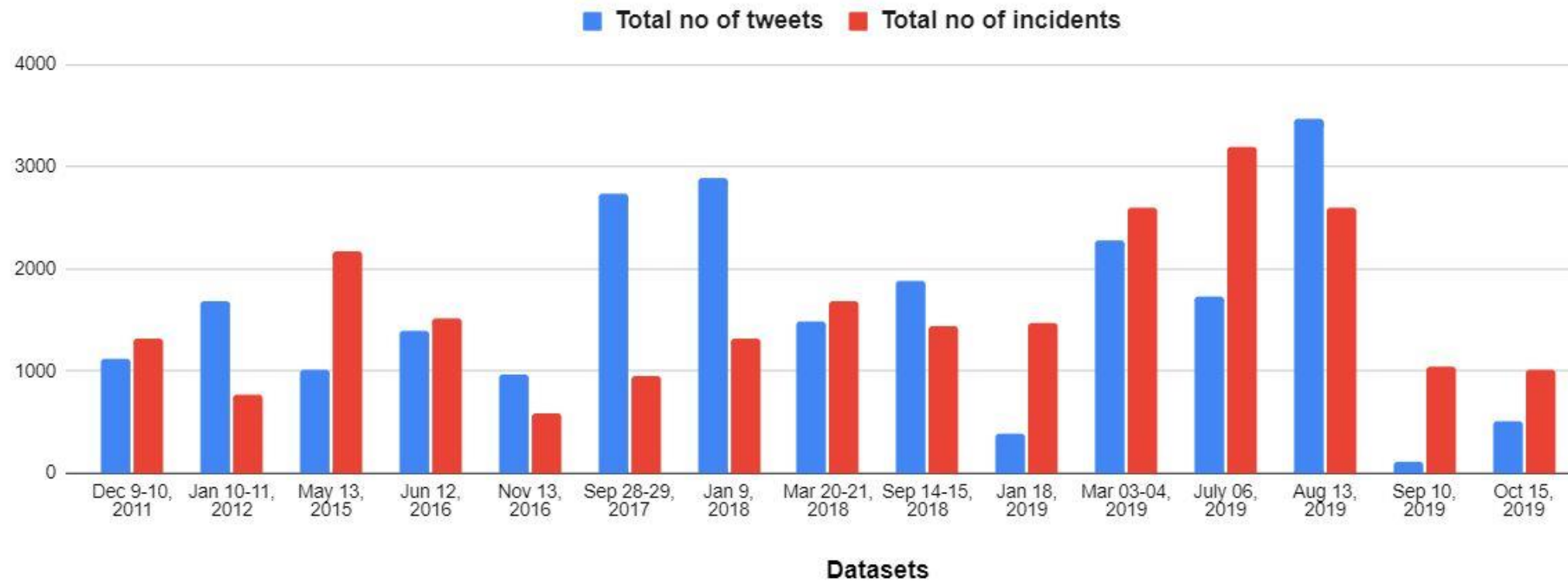
# Data

- Tweets and Incidents – December 2011 to October 2019

| Tweets Dataset               | Incident datasets               |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 23673 Total no of tweets     | 23723 Total no incidents        |
| 15 sets                      | 15 sets                         |
| 1578 Avg. tweets in each set | 1581 Avg. incidents in each set |

- Annotations dataset

# Data statistics





# Proposed method

# Incident Linking Framework(ILF)

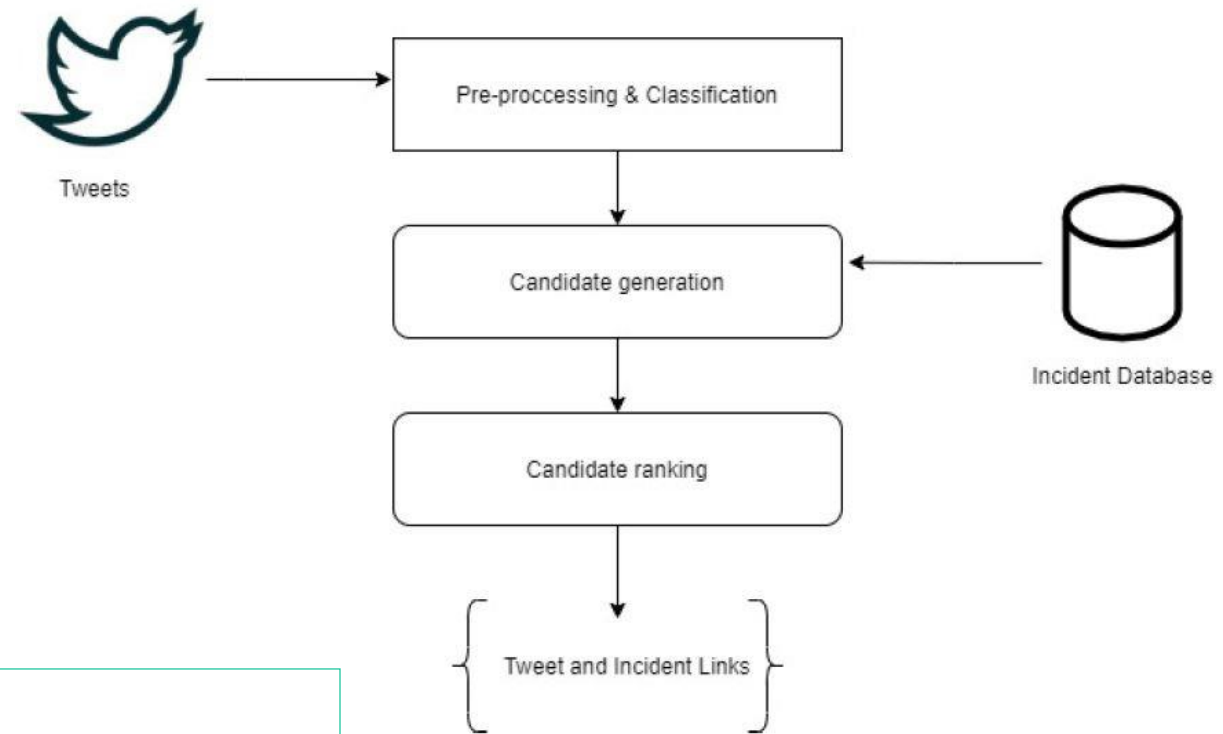
ILF contains three different steps:

- Pre-processing and classification for tweets
- Candidate generation
- Candidate ranking

# Incident Linking Framework(ILF)

ILF contains three different steps:

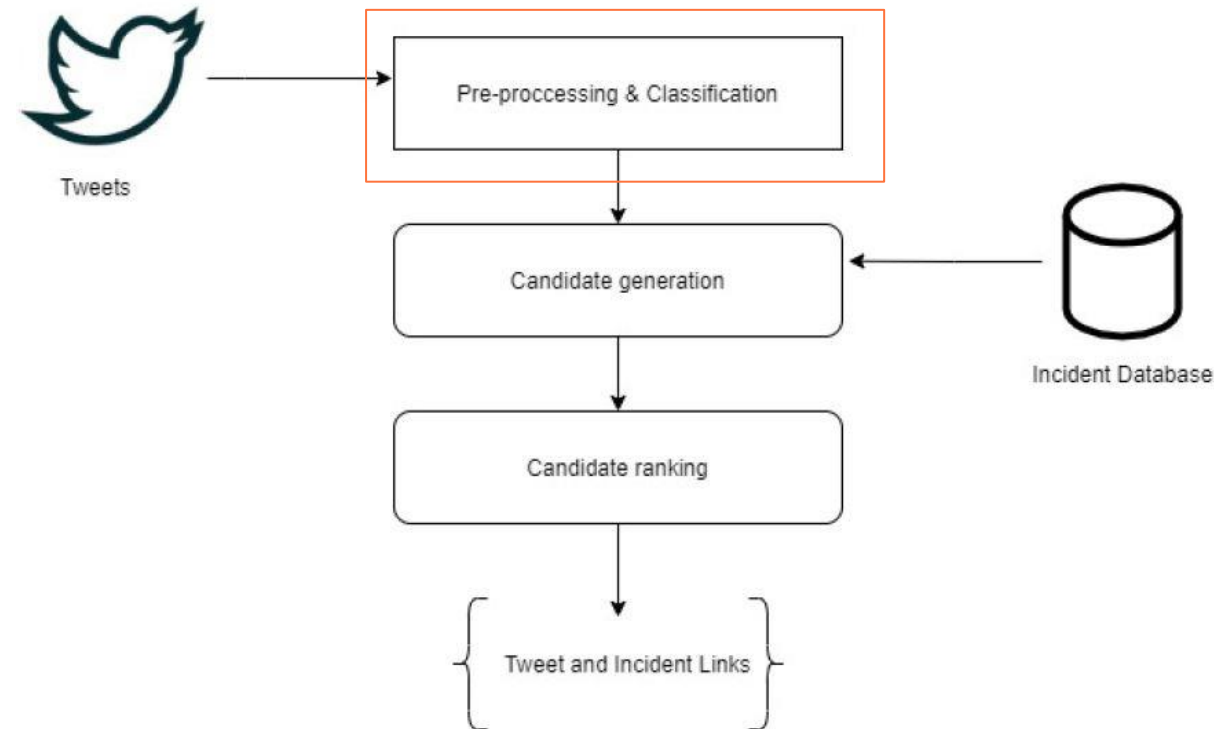
- Pre-processing and classification for tweets
- Candidate generation
- Candidate ranking



# Pre-processing and classification for tweets

Remove noise from the tweets

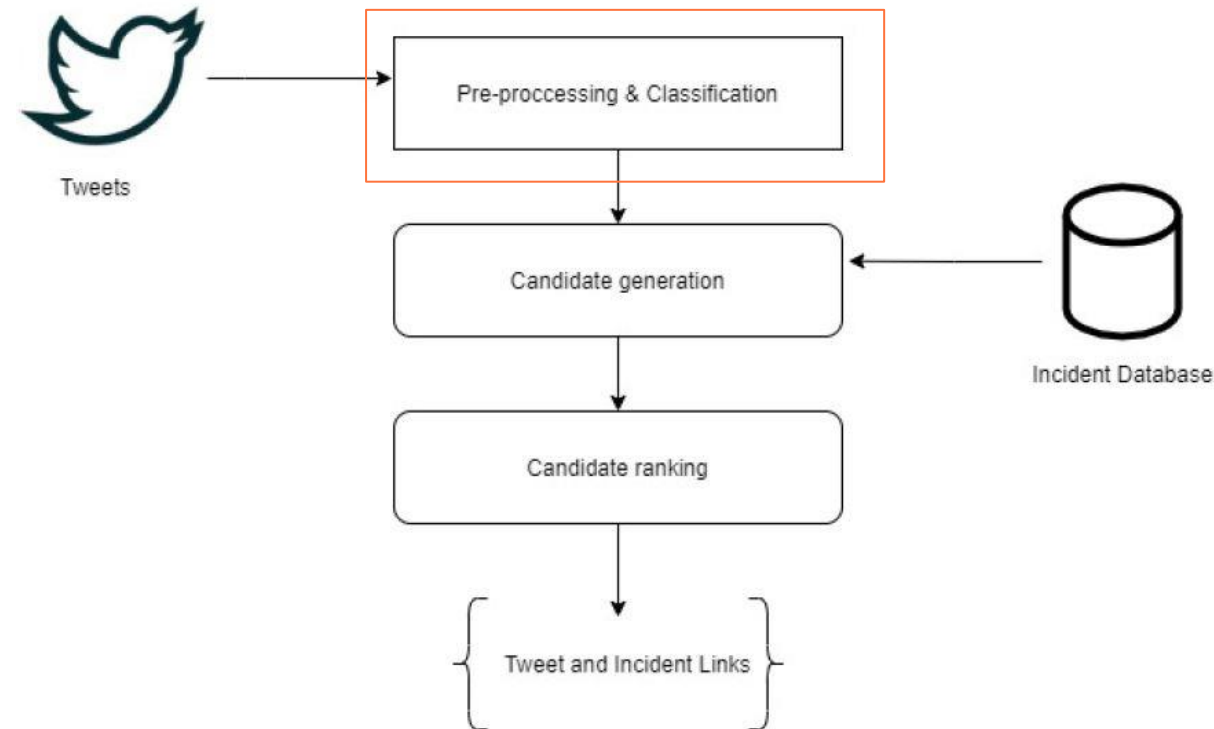
- Normalize piece of text
- Tweets that's not linkable



# Pre-processing and classification for tweets

Remove noise from the tweets

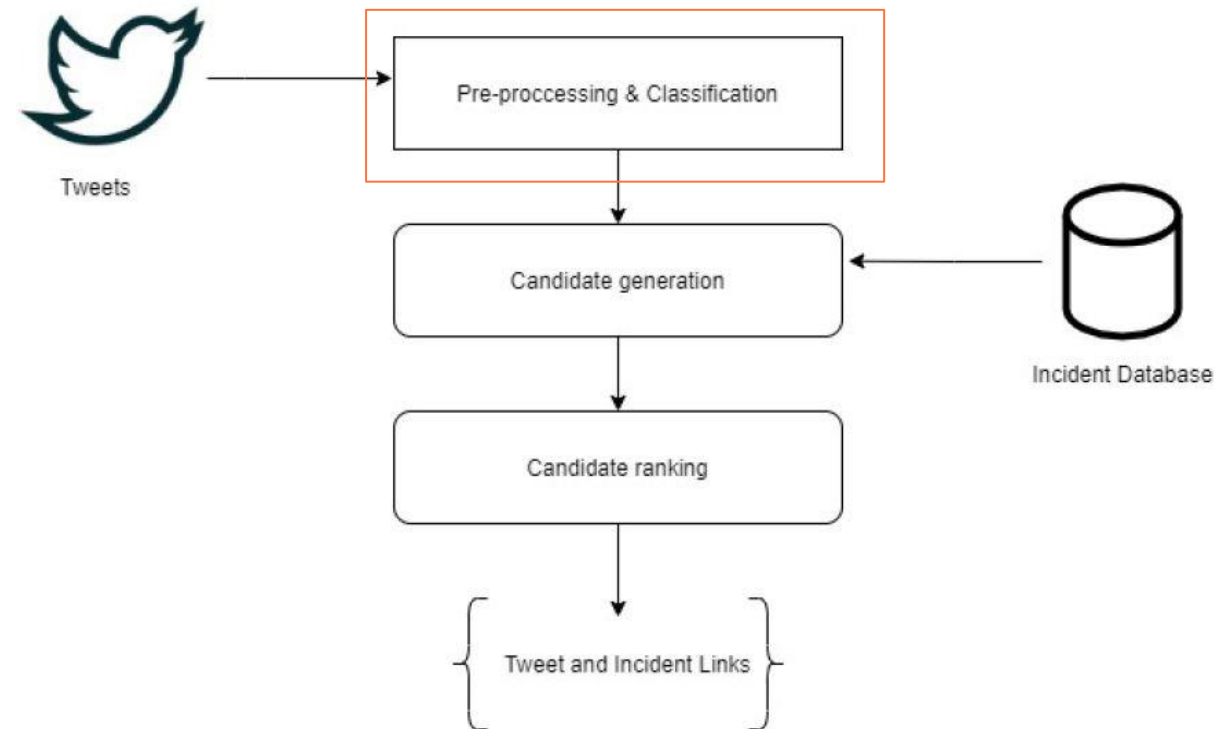
- Normalize piece of text
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- **Pre-processing**
  - URL's , Hashtags , Emoji's , Smileys
  - Convert text into numbers



# Pre-processing and classification for tweets

Remove Noise from the tweets

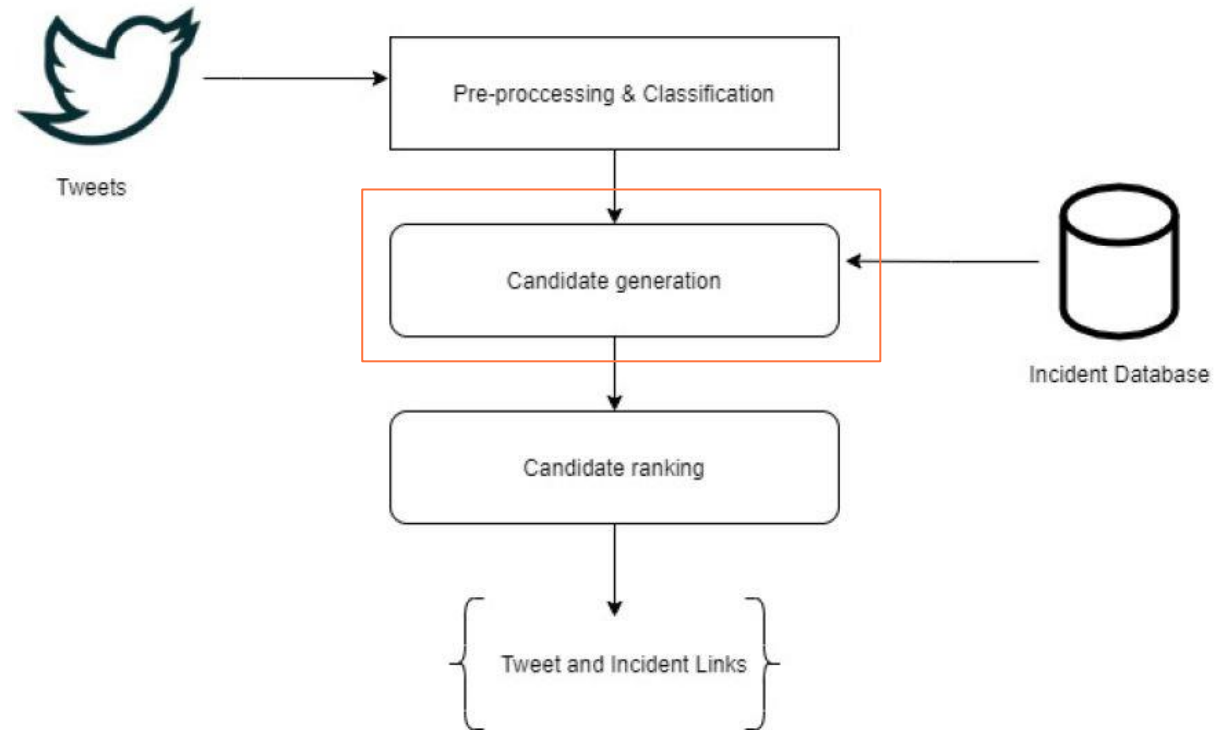
- Normalize piece of text
- Tweets that's not linkable
- **Pre-processing**
  - URL's , Hashtags , Emoji's , Smileys
  - Convert text into numbers
- **Classification**
  - Filter disaster related tweets
  - State-of-the-art pre-trained models





# Candidate generation

- Input
  - Normalized tweets
  - Incident database
- Output
  - Candidate sets



# Candidate generation

- Entities extraction using NER
- Generate the candidates based on the similarity between tweet entity mentions and Incidents entities
- Candidate generation divided into four steps

# Candidate generation

- Entities extraction using NER
- Generate the candidates based on the similarity between tweets and Incidents to entities
- Candidate generation divided into four steps
  - Location-based candidates
  - Disaster type-based candidates
  - Impact-based candidates
  - Time-based candidates

# Location- Based candidates

$$C_L = \{(t_j, i_k) \mid \forall j \in \{1, \dots, n_t\}, k \in \{1, \dots, n_i\} : SimF_L(t_j^L, i_k^L) \wedge \Delta T_{(t_j, i_k)} < \tau\}$$

where:

$C_L$  = Location-based candidates

$t$  = Tweet

$i$  = Incident database entry

$SimF_L$  = Similarity function for location

$t_j^L$  = Location mention for tweet  $j$

$i_k^L$  = Incident location entity


$j, k$  = index values

$\Delta T_{(t_j, i_k)}$  = Difference between incident entry time and tweet time in hours

$\tau$  = time threshold (based on disaster type)

# Location- Based candidates

```
{
  "incident_id": "47108fe1-5c04-472c-b534-75a51b747489",
  "type": "landslide",
  "start_time": "2011-12-08T08:00:00.000Z",
  "end_time": "NaN",
  "location": "Colombia ; Bosa ; Bogota",
  "lat": 4.6176,
  "lon": "-74.1899",
  "source_database_id": "2",
  "properties": {
    "id": "4,089",
    "landslide_": "Mudslide",
    "trigger": "Downpour",
    "storm_name": "nan",
    "fatalities": "6",
    "injuries": "0",
    "source_nam": "nan",
    "source_lin": "http://cnsnews.com/news/article/mudslide-collapses-bus-colombia-6-dead",
    "location_a": "Known_within_1_km",
    "landslide1": "Medium",
    "photos_lin": "nan",
    "cat_src": "glc",
    "countrynam": "Colombia",
    "near": "Soacha",
    "distance": "5.1765",
    "adminname1": "Cundinamarca",
    "adminname2": "nan",
    "population": "313,945",
    "countrycod": "nan",
    "continentc": "SA",
    "key_": "CO",
    "version": "1",
    "user_id": "1",
    "tstamp": "Tue Apr 01 2014 00:00:00 GMT+0000 (UTC)",
    "changeset_": "1"
  }
}
```



The image shows a Twitter post from the account @splinter\_news. The tweet text reads: "Mudslide collapses on bus in Colombia, 6 dead; one victim called for help by cellphone [uninews.us/vq57mW](http://uninews.us/vq57mW)". Below the text is a green checkmark icon followed by the hashtag #Colombia. The tweet is timestamped "12:45 AM · Dec 9, 2011 · SocialFlow". A black box highlights the word "Colombia" in the tweet text, and a line points from this box to the "location" field in the JSON data above, which contains the string "Colombia ; Bosa ; Bogota".

# Disaster type- Based candidates

$$C_D = \{(t_j, i_k) \mid \forall j \in \{1, \dots, n_t\}, k \in \{1, \dots, n_i\} : SimF_D(t_j^D, i_k^D) \wedge \Delta T_{(t_j, i_k)} < \tau\}$$

where:

$C_D$  = Disaster type-based candidates

$t$  = Tweet

$i$  = Incident database entry

$SimF_D$  = Similarity function for disaster type

$t_j^D$  = Disaster type mention for tweet  $j$

$i_k^D$  = Incident disaster type entity

$j, k$  = index values

$\Delta T_{(t_j, i_k)}$  = Difference between incident entry time and tweet time in hours

$\tau$  = time threshold (based on disaster type)

# Disaster type- Based candidates

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    "continentc": "SA",
    "key_": "CO",
    "version": "1",
    "user_id": "1",
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  }
}
```



Splinter  
@splinter\_news  
Mudslide collapses on bus in Colombia, 6 dead; one victim called for help by cellphone [uninews.us/vq57mW](http://uninews.us/vq57mW)  
#Colombia  
12:45 AM · Dec 9, 2011 · SocialFlow

# Impact- Based candidates

$$C_I = \{(t_j, i_k) \mid \forall j \in \{1, \dots, n_t\}, k \in \{1, \dots, n_i\} : SimF_I(t_j^I, i_k^I) \wedge \Delta T_{(t_j, i_k)} < \tau\}$$

where:

$C_I$  = Impact-based candidates

$t$  = Tweet

$i$  = Incident database entry

$SimF_I$  = Similarity function for impact

$t_j^I$  = Impact mention for tweet  $j$

$i_k^I$  = Impact disaster type entity

$j, k$  = index values

$\Delta T_{(t_j, i_k)}$  = Difference between incident entry time and tweet time in hours

$\tau$  = time threshold (based on disaster type)



# Impact- Based candidates

```
{
  "incident_id": "47108fe1-5c04-472c-b534-75a51b747489",
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  "start_time": "2011-12-08T08:00:00.000Z",
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  }
}
```



The image shows a tweet from the account @splinter\_news. The text of the tweet reads: "Mudslide collapses on bus in Colombia, 6 dead; one victim called for help by cellphone". The number "6" in "6 dead" is highlighted with a black box. A line connects this box to the "fatalities": "6" field in the JSON data structure on the left. The tweet also includes a link to a news article and a hashtag #Colombia. The timestamp at the bottom of the tweet is "12:45 AM · Dec 9, 2011 · SocialFlow".

## Time- Based candidates

$$C_T = \{(t_j, i_k) \mid \forall j = (1, \dots, n_t), k = (1, \dots, n_i) : \Delta T_{(t_j, i_k)} < \tau = True\}$$

where:

$C_T$  = Time-based candidates

$t$  = Tweet

$i$  = Incident database entry


$\Delta T_{(t_j, i_k)}$  = Difference between incident entry time and tweet time (no of hours)

$i, j$  = index values

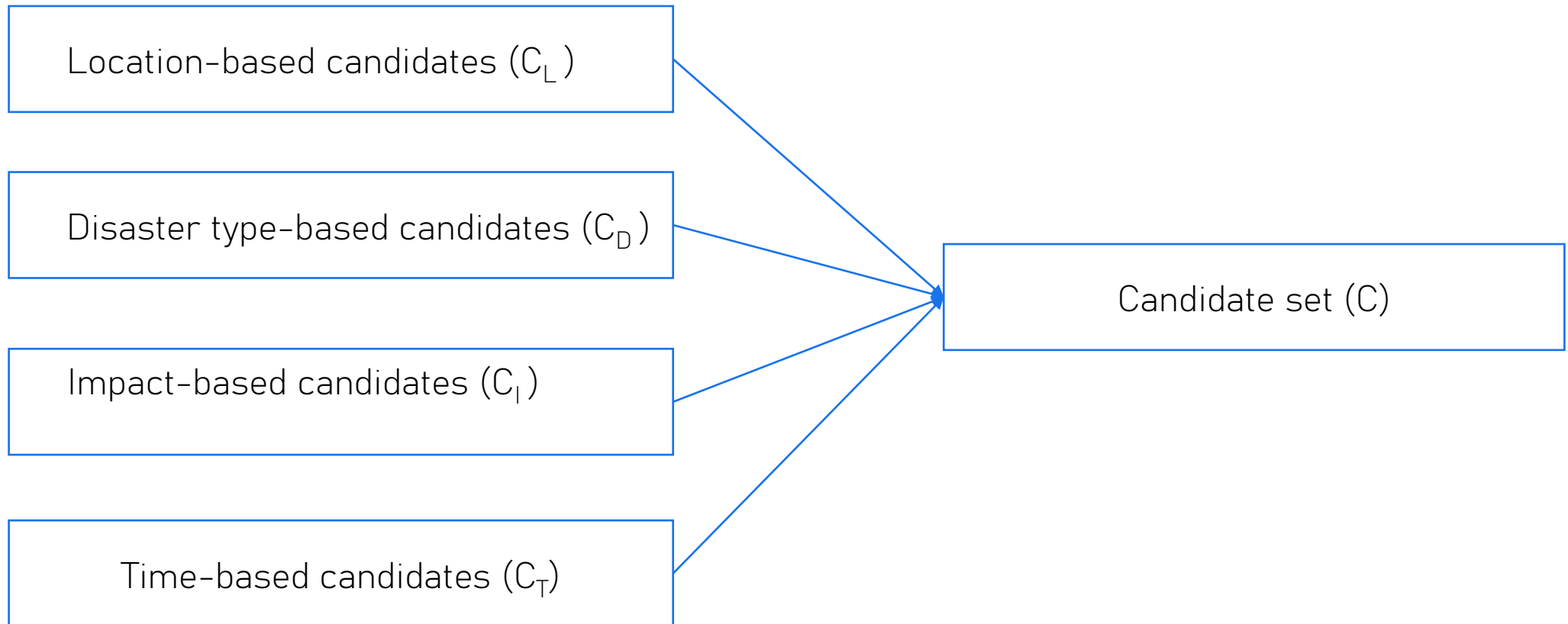
$\tau$  = time threshold (based on disaster type)

# Time- Based candidates

```
{
  "incident_id": "47108fe1-5c04-472c-b534-75a51b747489",
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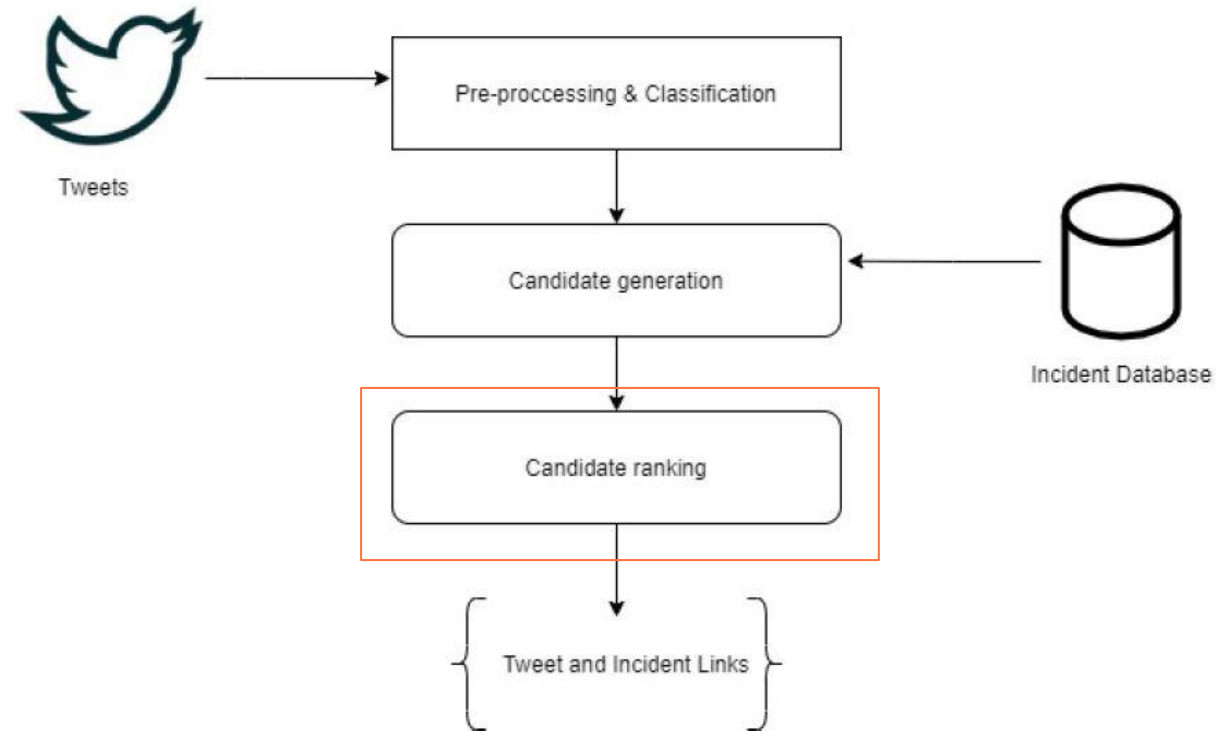


# Union of candidates



# Candidate ranking

- Input
  - Candidates
- Output
  - Tweet and Incident links



# Candidate ranking

- Implemented a scoring metric to assign similarity score for each candidate in the candidate list
- Identified Top score candidate to establish the link
- Four different scoring functions are implemented in candidate ranking

# Candidate ranking

- Implemented a scoring metric to assign similarity score for each candidate in the candidate list
- Identified Top score candidate to establish the link
- Four different scoring functions are implemented in candidate ranking
  - Location score
  - Disaster type score
  - Impact score
  - Time score

# Location score

$$C_{LScore} = SimS_L(t, i), \forall (t, i) \in C_L$$

where:

$C_{LScore}$  = Location similarity score

$t, i$  = Tweet , Incident entry

$C_L$  = Location-based candidate set

$SimS_L$  = Similarity score function for location



## Location score example

| Tweet Location | Incident location | Score           |
|----------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Colombia bosa  | Colombia          | 0.25            |
|                | Colombia; Bosa    | $0.25+0.25=0.5$ |

## Disaster type score

$$C_{DScore} = SimS_D(t, i), \forall (t, i) \in C_D$$

where:

$C_{DScore}$  = Disaster type similarity score

$t, i$  = Tweet , Incident entry

$C_D$  = Disaster type-based candidate set

$SimS_D$  = Similarity score function for disaster type

## Disaster type score example

| Tweet disaster type | Incident disaster type | Score |
|---------------------|------------------------|-------|
| landslide           | mudslide               | 0.4   |
|                     | landslide              | 0.6   |

# Impact score

$$C_{IScore} = SimS_I(t, i), \forall (t, i) \in C_I$$

where:

$C_{IScore}$  = Impact similarity score

$t, i$  = Tweet , Incident entry

$C_I$  = Impact-based candidate set

$SimS_I$  = Similarity score function for impact

# Impact score example

| Tweet   | Incident no of deaths | Score |
|---|-----------------------|-------|
| Mudslide collapses on bus in Colombia, 6 dead | 10                    | 0.2   |
|   | 4                     | 0.3   |
|   | 6                     | 0.5   |

## Time score

$$C_{TScore} = SimS_T(t, i), \forall (t, i) \in C_T$$

where:

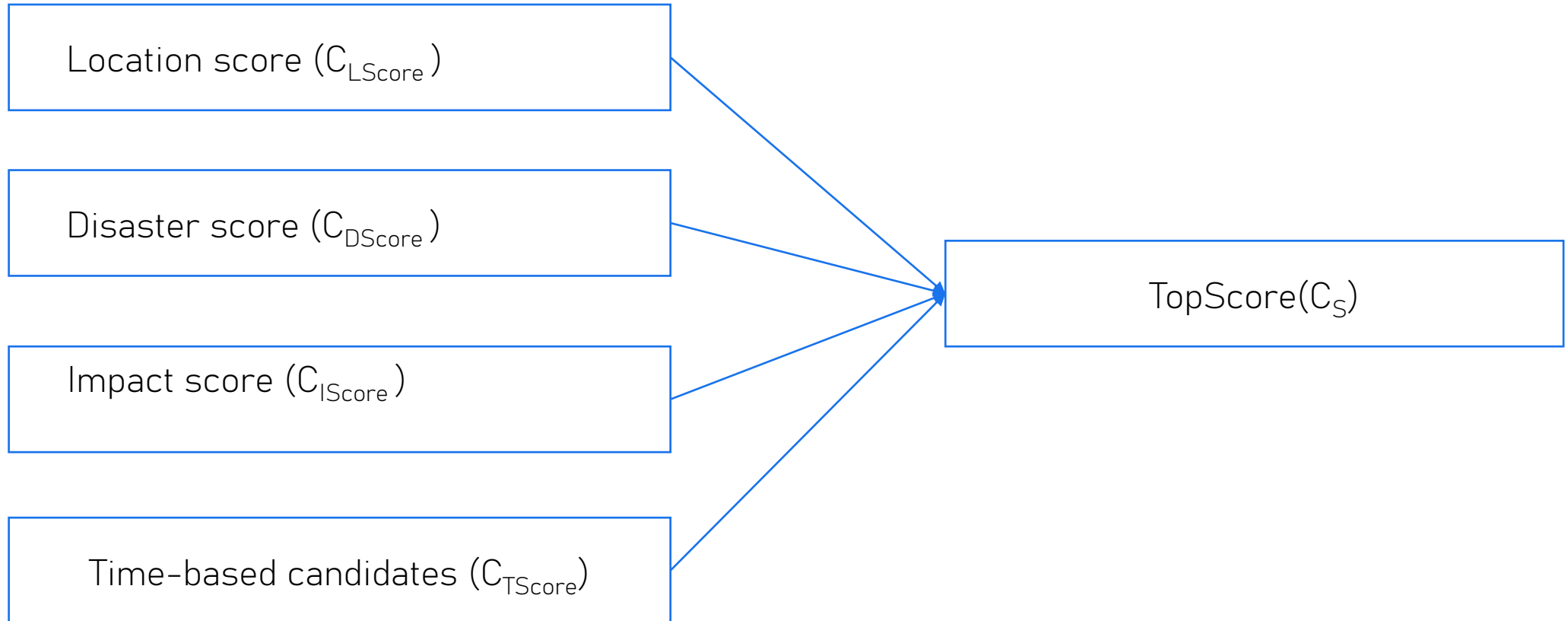
$C_{TScore}$  = Time similarity score

$t, i$  = Tweet , Incident entry

$C_T$  = Time-based candidate set

$SimS_T$  = Similarity score function for time

# Generate top score





# Experiments



# Evaluation Metrics

- Precision , Recall , F1-Score and MRR (Mean Reciprocal Rank)

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- Precision , Recall , F1-Score and MRR (Mean Reciprocal Rank)
- Intrinsic metrics
  - Evaluate each module individually without the side effects from others
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# Evaluation Metrics

- Precision , Recall , F1-Score and MRR (Mean Reciprocal Rank)
- Intrinsic metrics
  - Evaluate each module individually without the side effects from others
  - Candidate generation (recall), Candidate ranking (MRR)
- Extrinsic metrics
  - Measure the whole application with cascading errors
  - Candidate ranking (MRR)

# Experimental setup

- Two experiments
  - ILF Method - 1
  - ILF Method - 2

# Experimental setup

- Two experiments
  - ILF Method - 1
  - ILF Method - 2

| Candidate set            | ILF Method -1 | ILF Method -2 |
|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Location candidates      | ✓             | ✓             |
| Disaster type candidates | ✓             | ✓             |
| Impact candidates        | ✓             | ✓             |
| Time candidates          |               | ✓             |

# Experimental setup

- Two experiments
  - ILF Method - 1
  - ILF Method - 2
- Aim of these experiments is to check the importance of time constraints

| Candidate set            | ILF Method -1 | ILF Method -2 |
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| Location candidates      | ✓             | ✓             |
| Disaster type candidates | ✓             | ✓             |
| Impact candidates        | ✓             | ✓             |
| Time candidates          |               | ✓             |

# Experimental setup

- Two experiments
  - ILF Method - 1
  - ILF Method - 2
- Aim of these experiments is to check the importance of time constraints
- Classification and ranking module will be the same for both methods

| Candidate set            | ILF Method -1 | ILF Method -2 |
|--------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Location candidates      | ✓             | ✓             |
| Disaster type candidates | ✓             | ✓             |
| Impact candidates        | ✓             | ✓             |
| Time candidates          |               | ✓             |

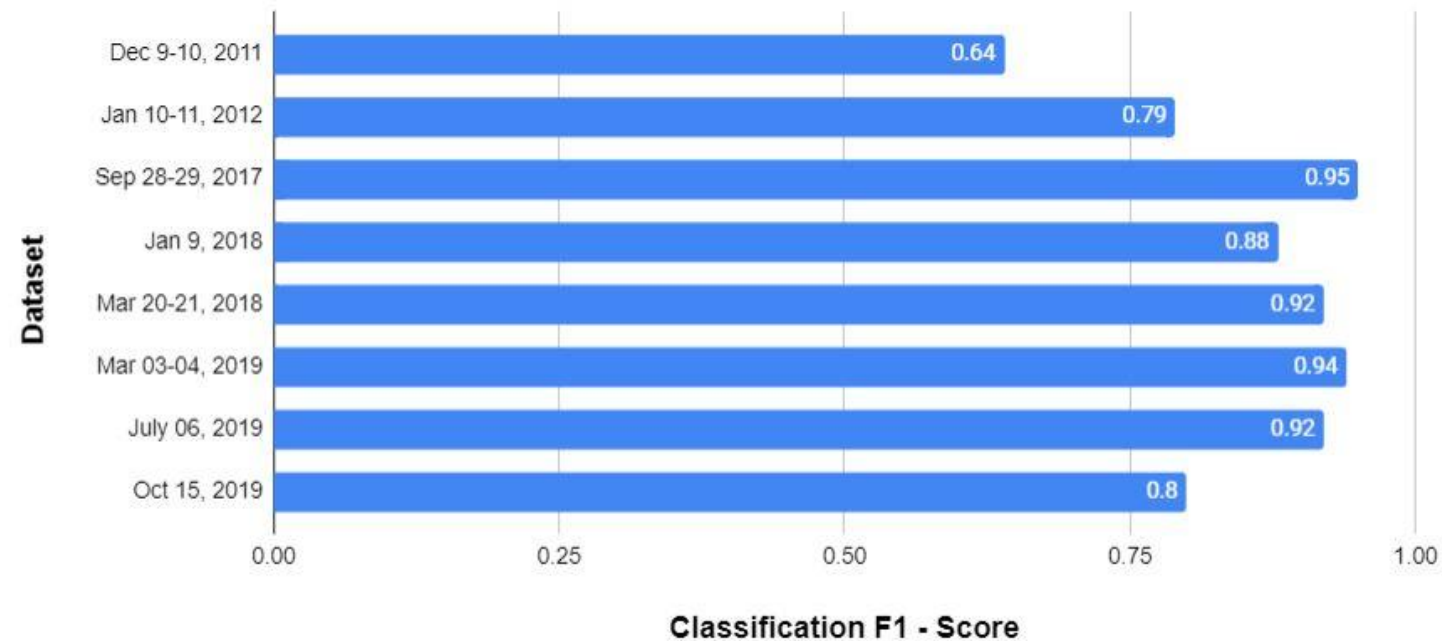


# Results and Discussion



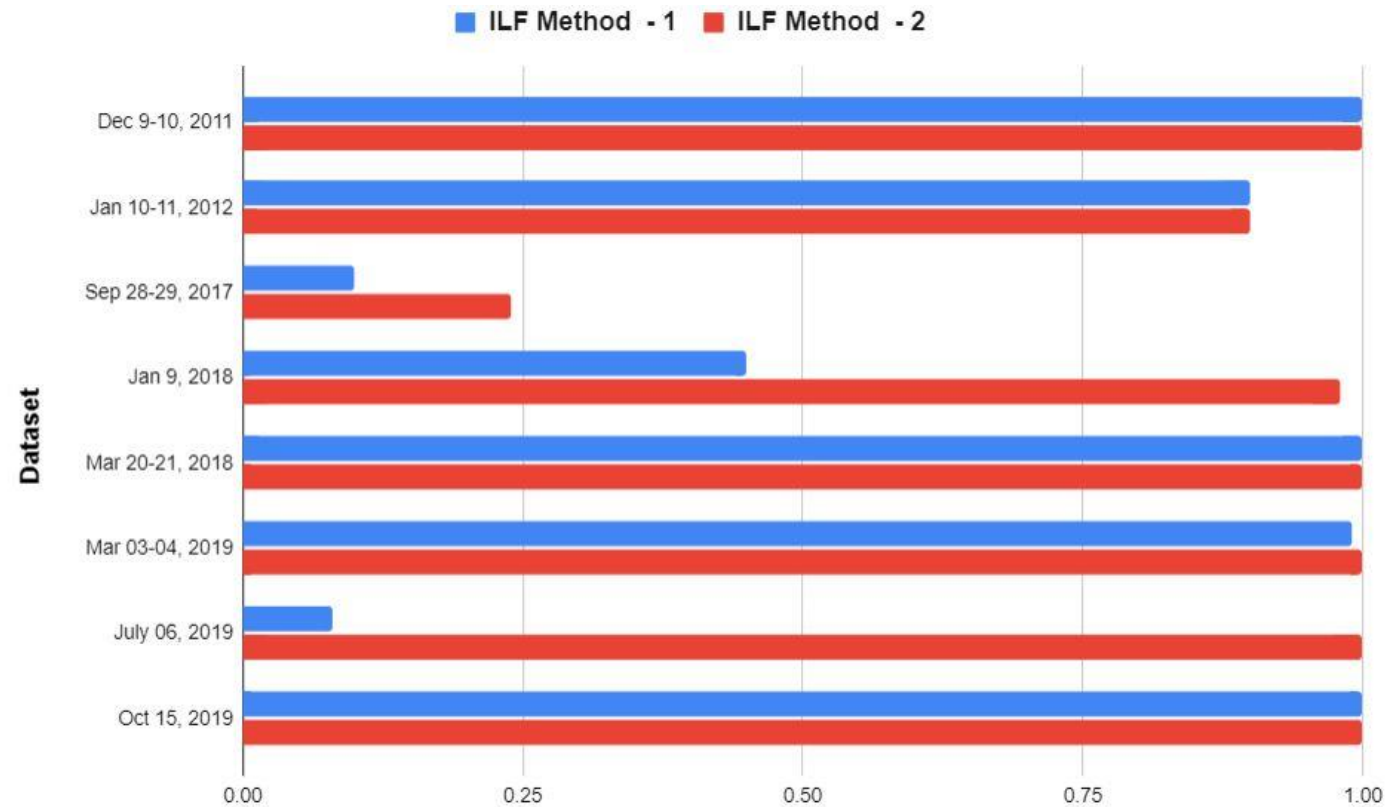
# Classification (F1- Score)

- Avg. Score 0.86
- Best Score 0.95



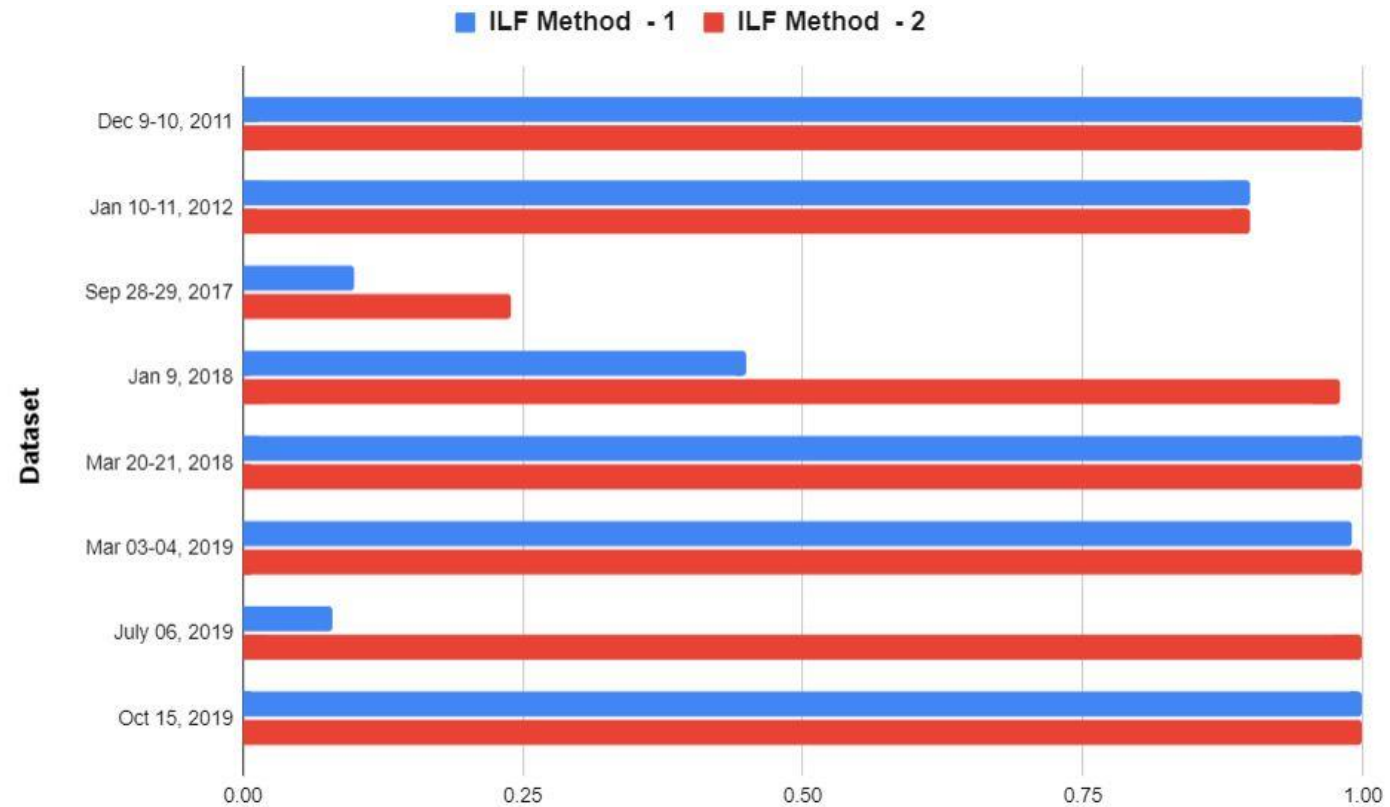
# Candidate generation (recall – Intrinsic)

- Avg. recall for ILF Method – 1 & 2 is 0.69 , 0.89 respectively



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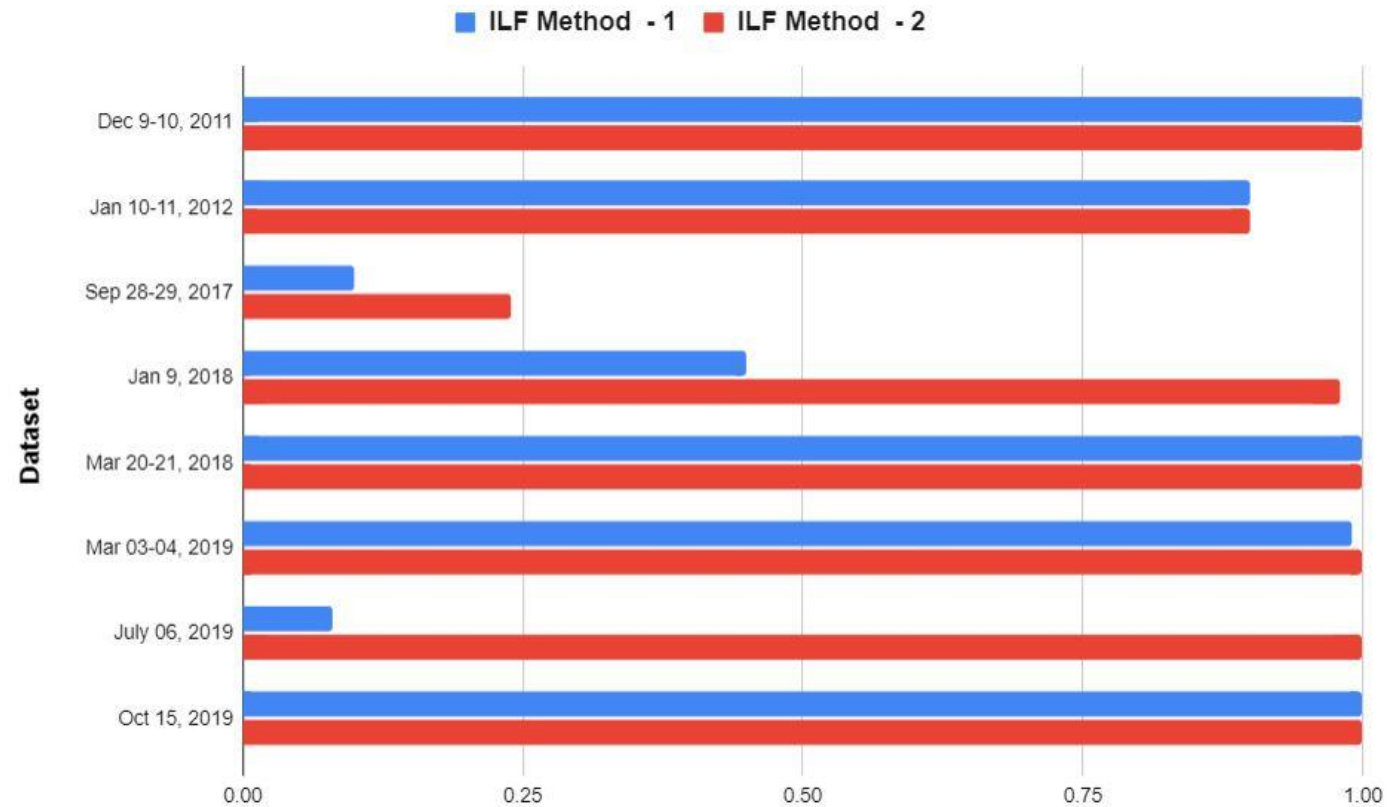
# Candidate generation (recall – Intrinsic)

- Avg. recall for ILF Method – 1 & 2 is 0.69 , 0.89 respectively
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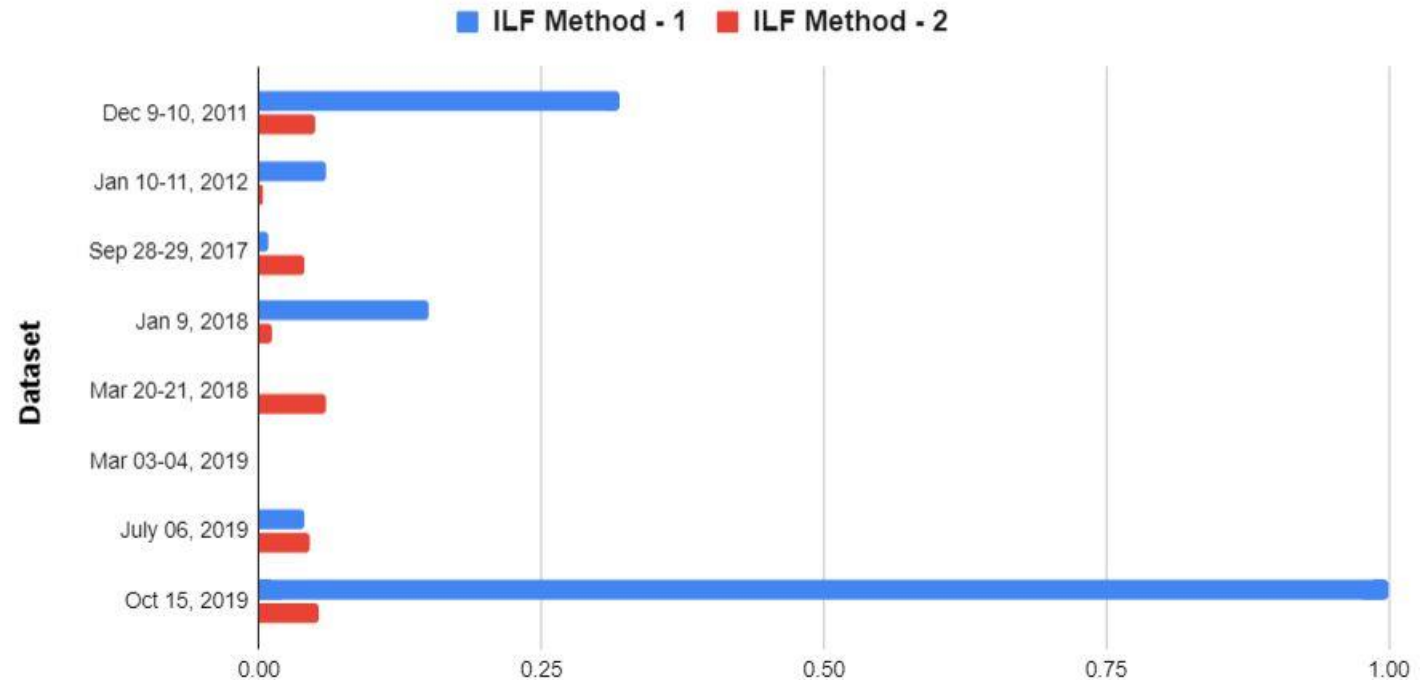
# Candidate generation (recall – Intrinsic)

- Avg. recall for ILF Method – 1 & 2 is 0.69 , 0.89 respectively
- ILF Method – 2 is shown promising results than ILF Method – 1
- More no of candidates generated for ILF Method – 2
- Avg. no candidates for ILF Method – 1 & 2 are 95 , 418 respectively



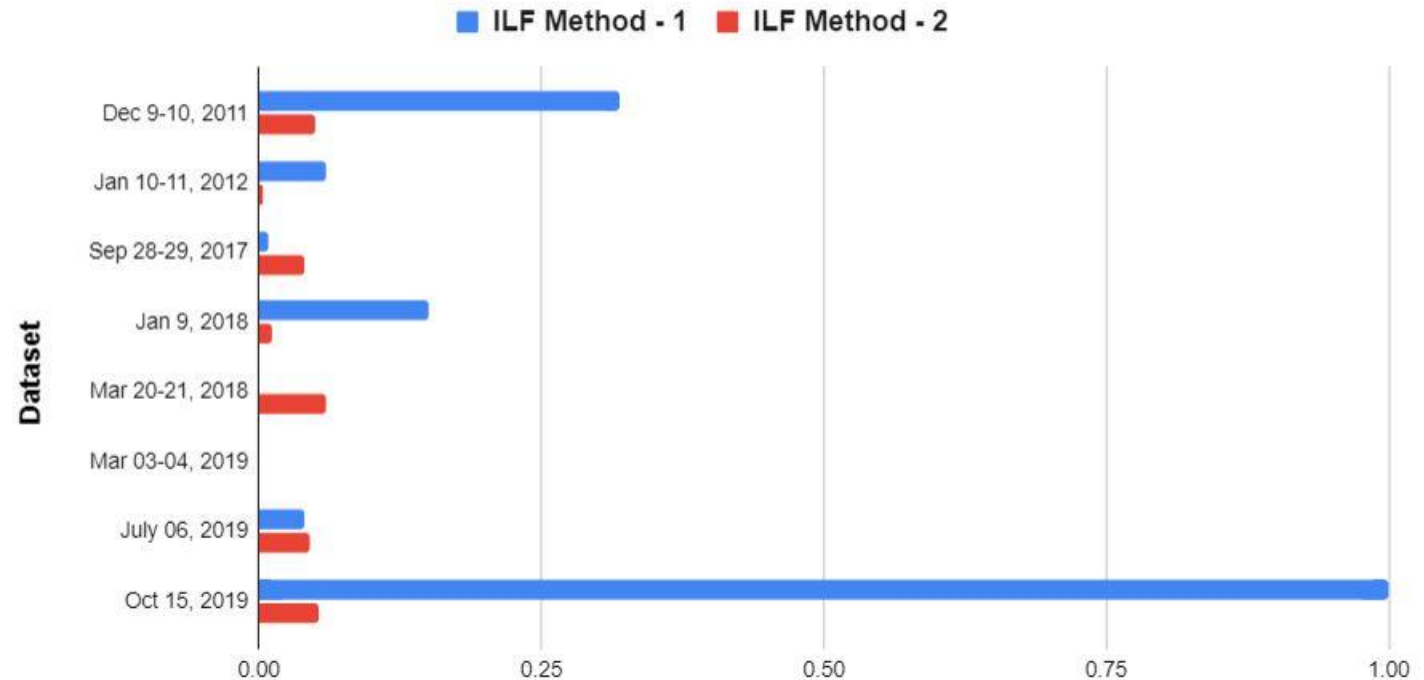
# Candidate ranking (MRR – Intrinsic)

- Avg. MRR for ILF Method – 1 & 2 is 0.1972 , 0.0329 respectively



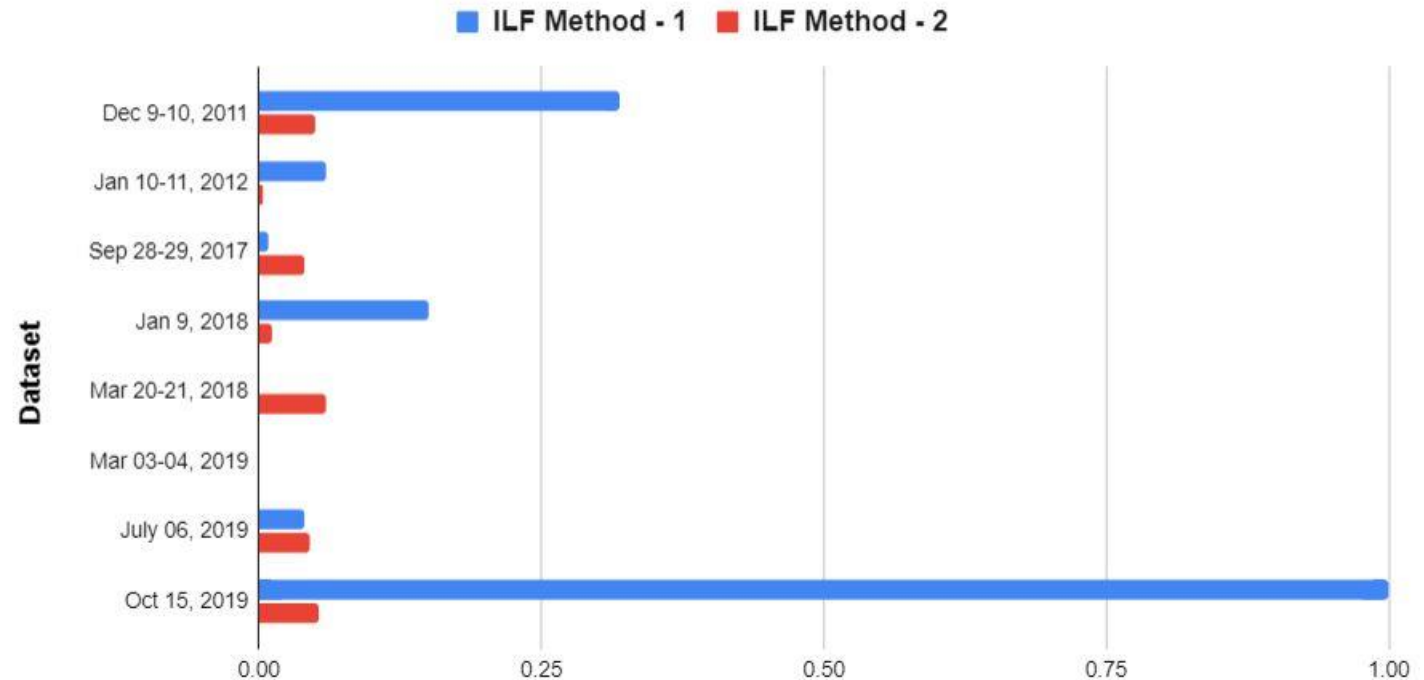
# Candidate ranking (MRR – Intrinsic)

- Avg. MRR for ILF Method – 1 & 2 is 0.1972 , 0.0329 respectively
- ILF Method – 1 is shown promising results than ILF Method – 2



# Candidate ranking (MRR – Intrinsic)

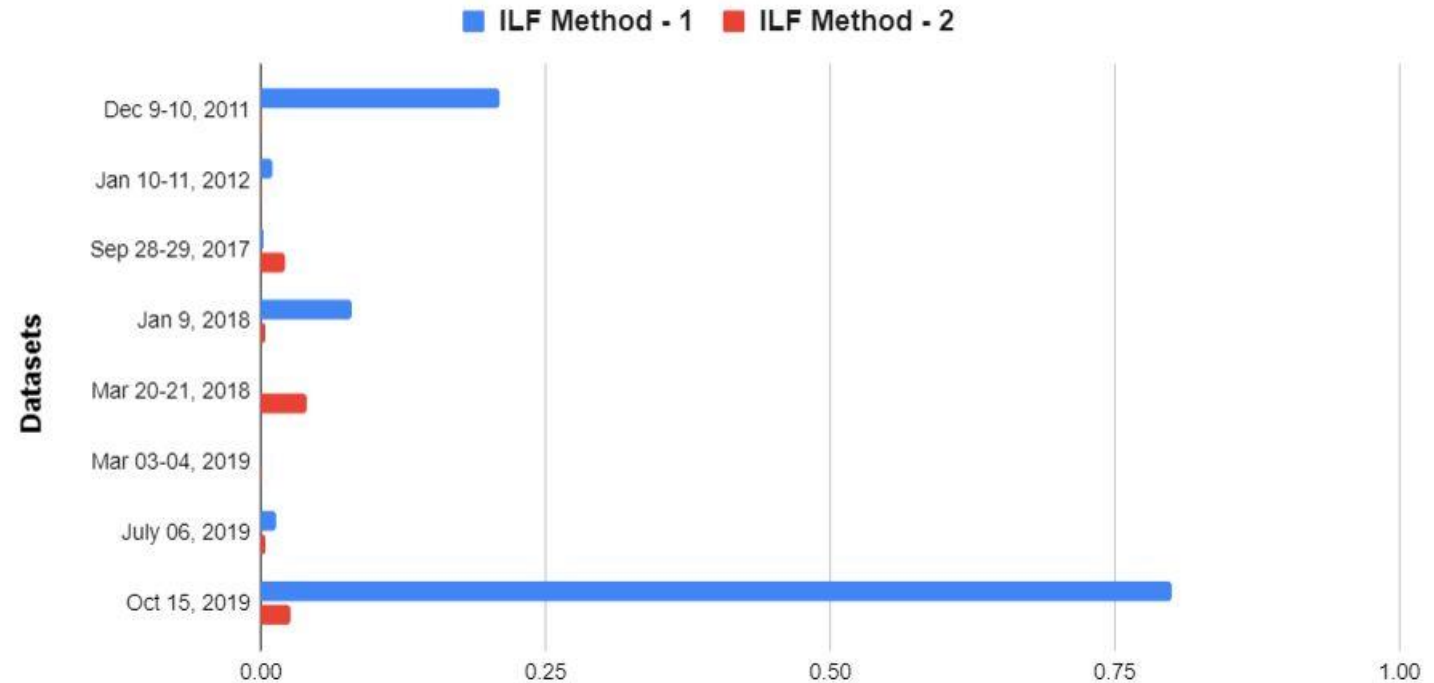
- Avg. MRR for ILF Method – 1 & 2 is 0.1972 , 0.0329 respectively
- ILF Method – 1 is shown promising results than ILF Method – 2
- ILF Method – 1 shown best results for small datasets





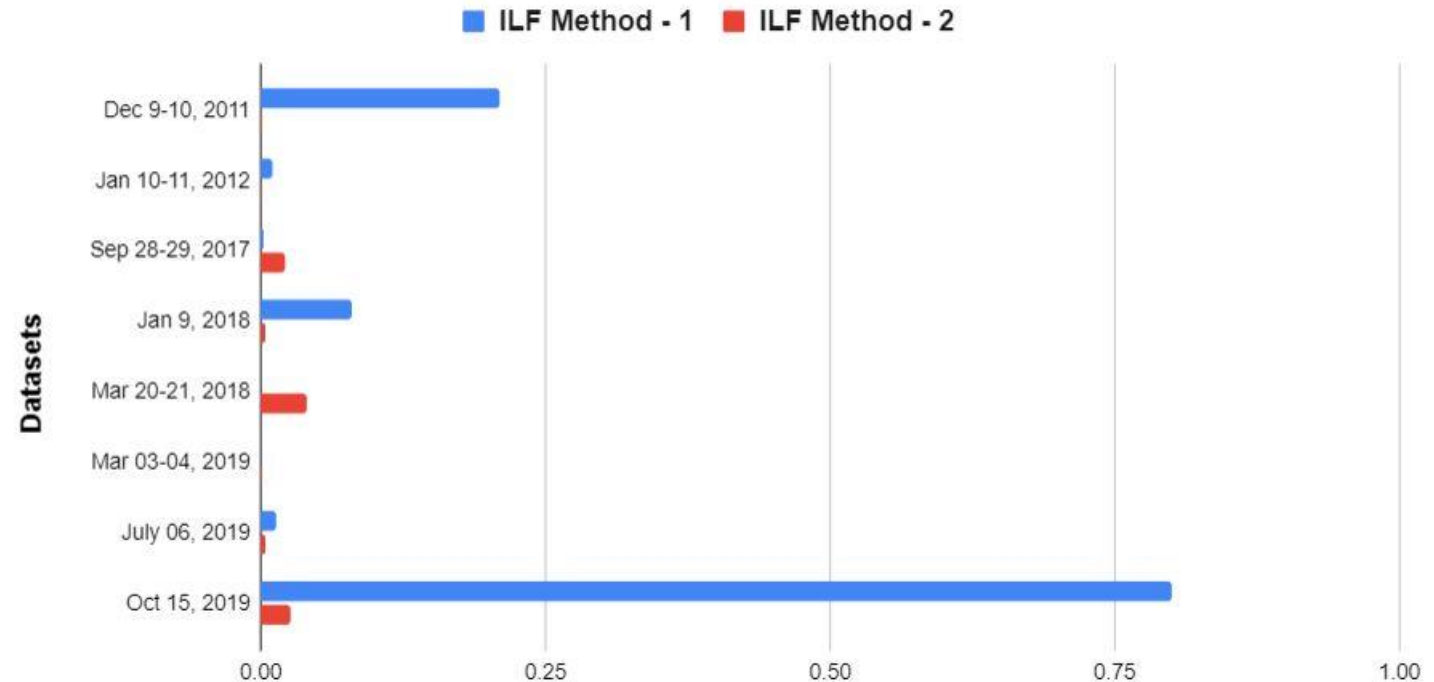
# Candidate ranking (MRR – Extrinsic)

- Avg. MRR for ILF Method – 1 & 2 is 0.1395 , 0.0123 respectively



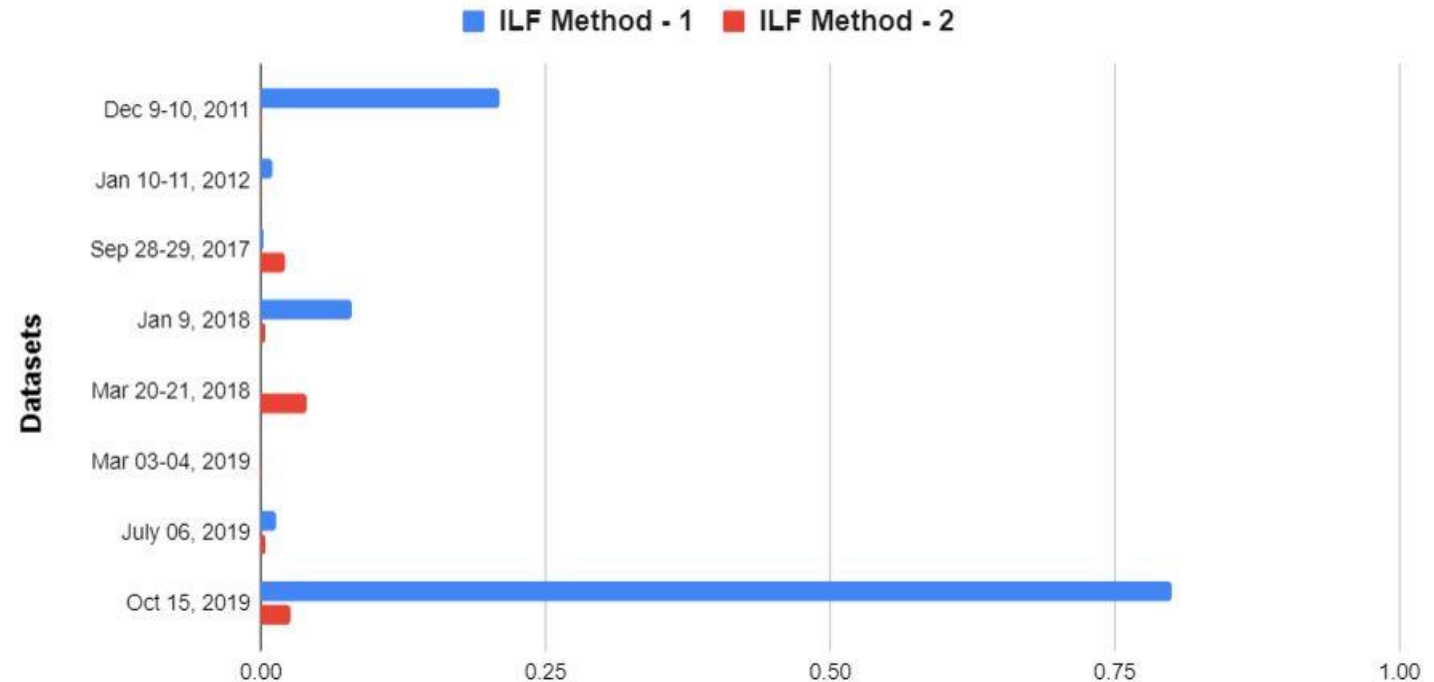
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# Candidate ranking (MRR – Extrinsic)

- Avg. MRR for ILF Method – 1 & 2 is 0.1395 , 0.0123 respectively
- ILF Method – 1 is shown promising results than ILF Method – 2.
- ILF Method – 1 shown best results for small datasets



# Overview results of ILF Method – 1

- Overall performance of Dec 9-10 and Oct 15, 2019 datasets shown good results
- Candidate ranking could not performed well on Mar 20-21, 2018 and Mar 03-04 datasets

| Datasets        | Classification<br>F1 Score<br>(Intrinsic) | Candidate<br>generation<br>recall<br>(Intrinsic) | Candidate<br>generation<br>count<br>(Intrinsic) | Candidate<br>ranking<br>MRR<br>(Intrinsic) | Candidate<br>ranking<br>MRR<br>(Extrinsic) |
|-----------------|---|--|---|--|--|
| Dec 9-10, 2011  | 0.64                                      | 1  | 61.62   | 0.3200                                     | 0.2100                                     |
| Jan 10-11, 2012 | 0.79                                      | 0.9  | 47.32   | 0.0600                                     | 0.0100                                     |
| Sep 28-29, 2017 | 0.95                                      | 0.1  | 129.03  | 0.0080                                     | 0.0030                                     |
| Jan 9, 2018     | 0.88                                      | 0.45   | 94.56   | 0.1500                                     | 0.0800                                     |
| Mar 20-21, 2018 | 0.92                                      | 1  | 158.63  | 0  | 0  |
| Mar 03-04, 2019 | 0.94                                      | 0.99   | 128   | 0  | 0  |
| July 06, 2019   | 0.92                                      | 0.08   | 108   | 0.0400                                     | 0.0135                                     |
| Oct 15, 2019    | 0.8                                       | 1  | 52  | 1  | 0.8000                                     |

## Overview results of ILF Method – 2

- Candidate generation performed well
- High candidate generation count
- Candidate ranking could not performed well

| Datasets        | Classification<br>F1 Score<br>(Intrinsic) | Candidate<br>generation<br>recall<br>(Intrinsic) | Candidate<br>generation<br>count<br>(Intrinsic) | Candidate<br>ranking<br>MRR<br>(Intrinsic) | Candidate<br>ranking<br>MRR<br>(Extrinsic) |
|-----------------|---|--|---|--|--|
| Dec 9-10, 2011  | 0.64                                      | 1  | 977   | 0.0500                                     | 0.0010                                     |
| Jan 10-11, 2012 | 0.79                                      | 0.90   | 462   | 0.0031                                     | 0.0015                                     |
| Sep 28-29, 2017 | 0.95                                      | 0.24   | 557   | 0.0400                                     | 0.0215                                     |
| Jan 9, 2018     | 0.88                                      | 0.98   | 918   | 0.0116                                     | 0.0044                                     |
| Mar 20-21, 2018 | 0.92                                      | 1  | 145   | 0.0600                                     | 0.0400                                     |
| Mar 03-04, 2019 | 0.94                                      | 1  | 128   | 0.0010                                     | 0.0004                                     |
| July 06, 2019   | 0.92                                      | 1  | 108   | 0.0452                                     | 0.0034                                     |
| Oct 15, 2019    | 0.8                                       | 1  | 52  | 0.0530                                     | 0.0265                                     |

# Micro averages

- ILF Method – 1 performed well in candidate generation also system performance was good when compare to ILF Method – 2

| Datasets       | Classification<br>F1 Score<br>(Intrinsic) | Candidate<br>generation<br>recall<br>(Intrinsic) | Candidate<br>generation<br>count<br>(Intrinsic) | Candidate<br>ranking<br>MRR<br>(Intrinsic) | Candidate<br>ranking<br>MRR<br>(Extrinsic) |
|----------------|---|--|---|--|--|
| ILF Method - 1 | 0.84                                      | 0.69   | 95  | 0.1972                                     | 0.1395                                     |
| ILF Method - 2 | 0.84                                      | 0.89   | 418   | 0.0329                                     | 0.0123                                     |

# Research Questions Revisited

- RQ 1

What are the possible features that we can extract from tweets that match with those of typical knowledge databases?

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What are the possible features that we can extract from tweets that match with those of typical knowledge databases?

We can extract Location, Disaster type , Impact and Time



# Research Questions Revisited

- RQ 2

How can we build a linking model that will link the each tweet to entries in the disaster database based on the features from **RQ1**?

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- RQ 2

How can we build a linking model that will link the each tweet to entries in the disaster database based on the features from **RQ1**?

Incident Linking Framework implemented with Candidate generation and candidate ranking modules

# Research Questions Revisited

- RQ 3

How accurate this model to use for disaster linking?

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- RQ 3

How accurate this model to use for disaster linking?

ILF is less accurate and need improvements in candidate generation and candidate ranking



# Conclusion and Future Work

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- Conclusion
  - Implemented Incident Linking Frame (ILF)
  - Two different NER's makes better recall for candidate generation
  - Low performance due to the heavy no of candidates generated by the system
  - Candidate ranking module needs to be improved

# Conclusion and Future work

- Future work
  - Create missing entries in the database
  - Extend these system to other languages
  - Improve candidate ranking method using advanced ML (e.g. CNN)

