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# BC COMS 2710: Computational Text Analysis

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## Lecture 10 – Topic Models



- Tutorial 2.2
  - Due tomorrow night (Thursday, 04/20)
  - Long - Broken into lots of small steps
  
- Readings:
  - Reading 03 – link course site, due Sunday
  
- HW 02:
  - Released later today
  - Open ended assignment
  
- Office hours



- Guest Speakers:

- Maria Antoniak:

- PhD student @ Cornell – June 1<sup>st</sup>



- Lucy Li

- PhD student @ Berkeley – June 9<sup>th</sup>

- Author of *Content Analysis of Textbooks via Natural Language Processing: Findings on Gender, Race, and Ethnicity in Texas US History Textbooks*

- Attendance is required





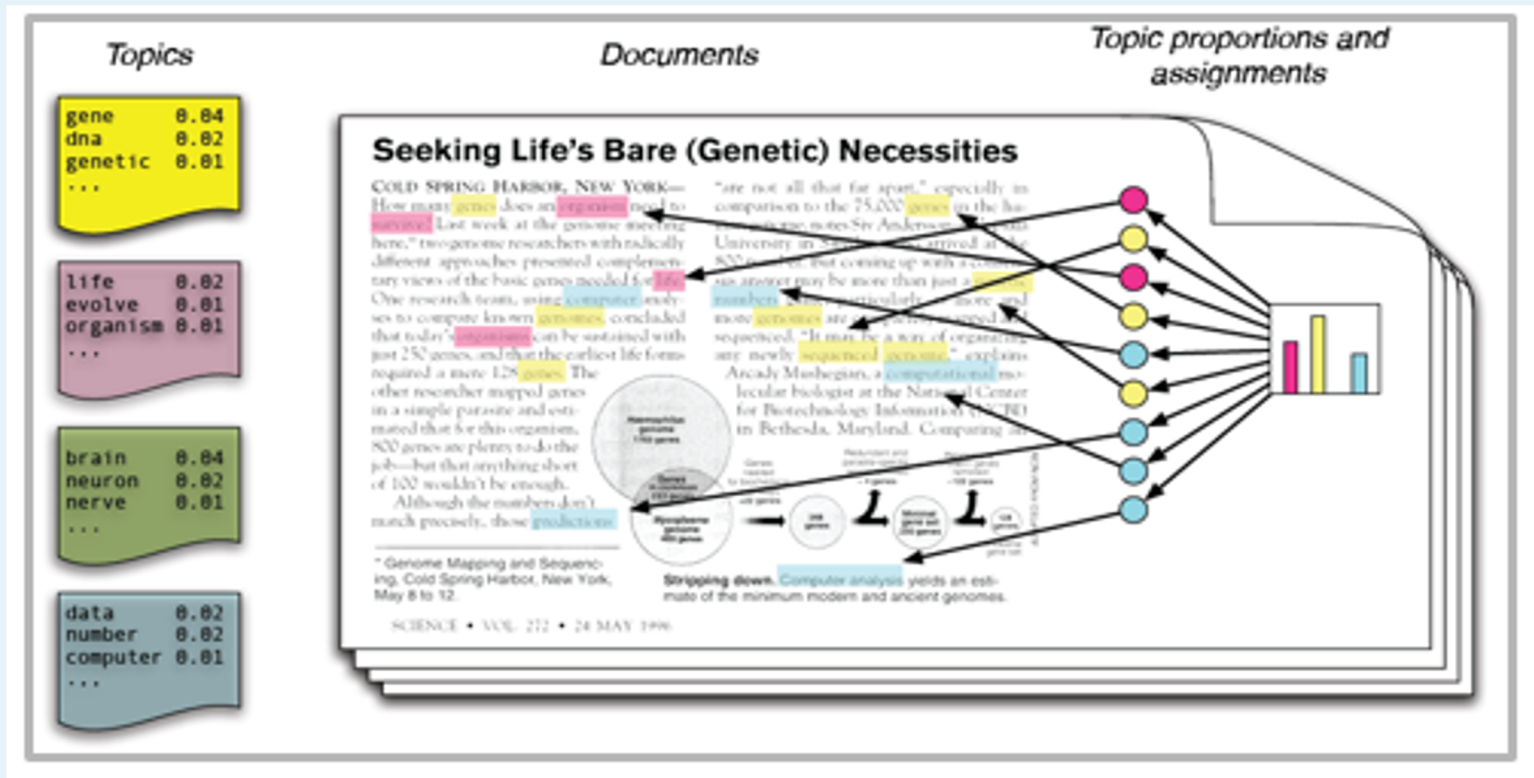
- Insights from individual words
  - TF-IDF
  - Dictionary based methods
- Insights from specific documents
  - Readability
- Today: Group individual words into larger constructs





- Python Overview **Week 1**
  
- Lexical based analysis methods **Week 2 - 3**
  - Text Processing
  - Document Representation
  - **Topic Modeling**
  
- Data Collection **Week 4**
  - Web Scraping
  - APIs
  
- Machine Learning **Week 5**
  - Regression & Classification
  - Clustering
  
- Advanced Topics & Final Projects **Week 6**
  - Dimensionality Reduction
  - Word Representations

- Goal: Identify underlying topics across documents



# What are topics?



Observation

**Tokens** that are likely to appear in the same context

Hidden structure that determines how **tokens** appear in a corpus



Want to uncover

# Topic Modeling: Corpora -> Topics



Input:  
Millions of Books



Output: topics  
(distributions over words)

killed wounded sword slain arms military rifle wounds loss  
human Plato Socrates universe philosophical minds ethics  
inflammation affected abdomen ulcer circulation heart  
ships fleet sea shore Admiral vessels land boats admiral  
sister child tears pleasure daughters loves wont sigh warm  
sentence clause syllable singular examples clauses syllables  
provinces princes nations imperial possessions invasion  
women Quebec Women Iroquois husbands thirty whom  
steam engines power piston boilers plant supplied chimney  
lines points direction planes Lines scale sections extending

Each row is a topic



# Breakout Rooms:

<https://mimno.infosci.cornell.edu/jsLDA/>





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# Discovering Topics

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# How do we discover topics?



- Latent Semantic Analysis
- Probabilistic Latent Semantic Analysis
- Latent Dirichlet Allocation

# How do we discover topics?



- Latent Semantic Analysis
- Probabilistic Latent Semantic Analysis
- **Latent Dirichlet Allocation**



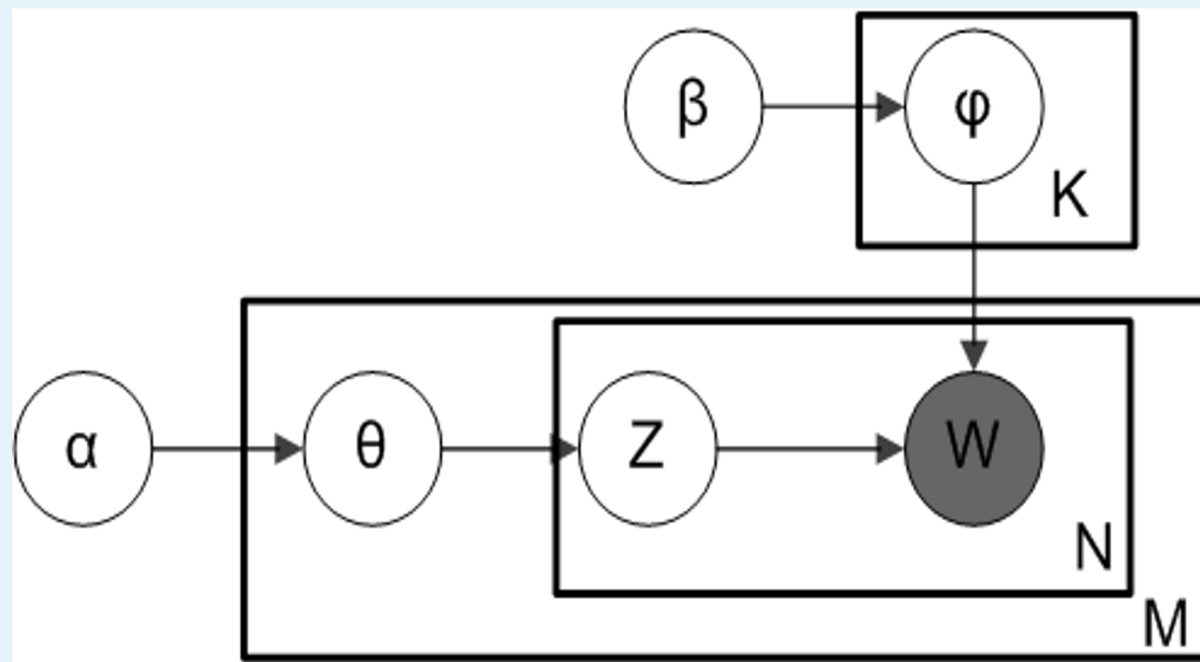
- Probabilistic model
- Generative model



- Each word appears independent of each other
- Each word depends on the topic
  - Topics have a distribution of words
  - Topics have a distribution of documents



# LDA Plate Notation



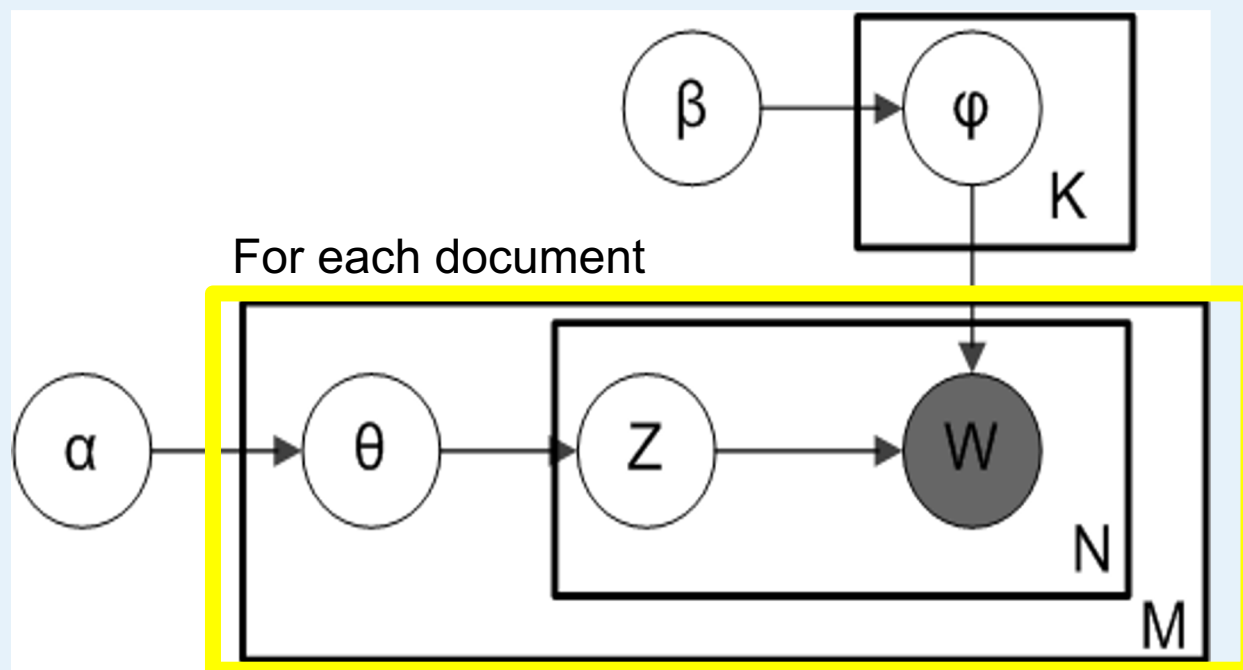
# LDA Plate Notation



$M$  = number of documents

$N$  = number of words in a document

$K$  = number of topics (we choose this)



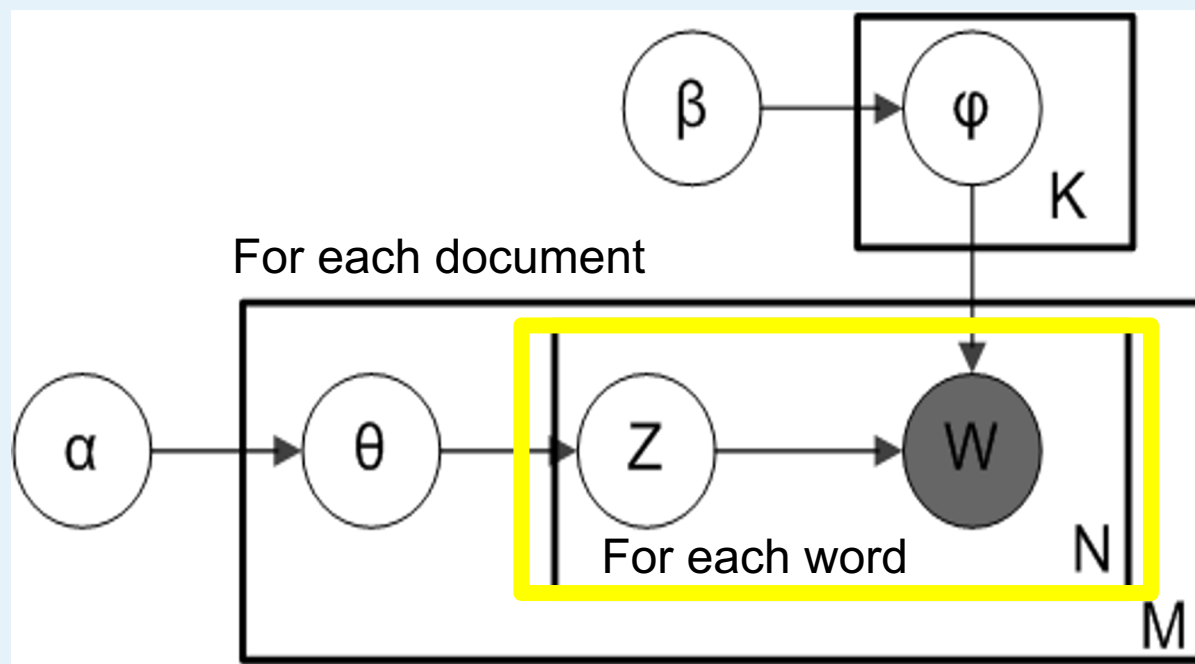
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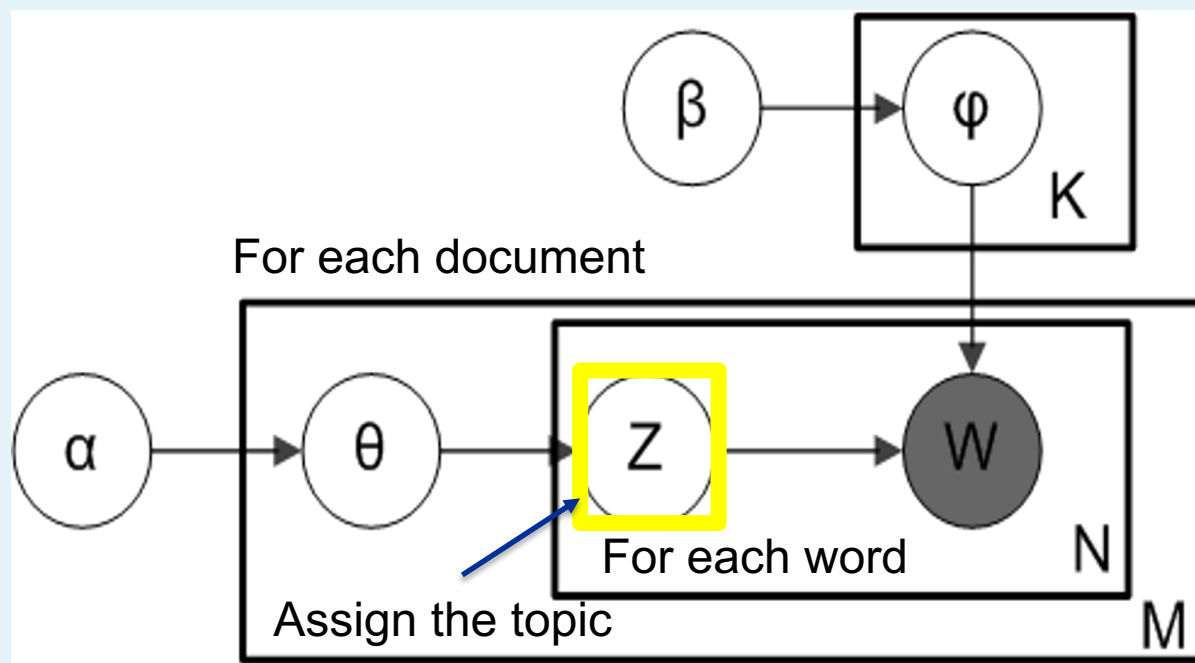
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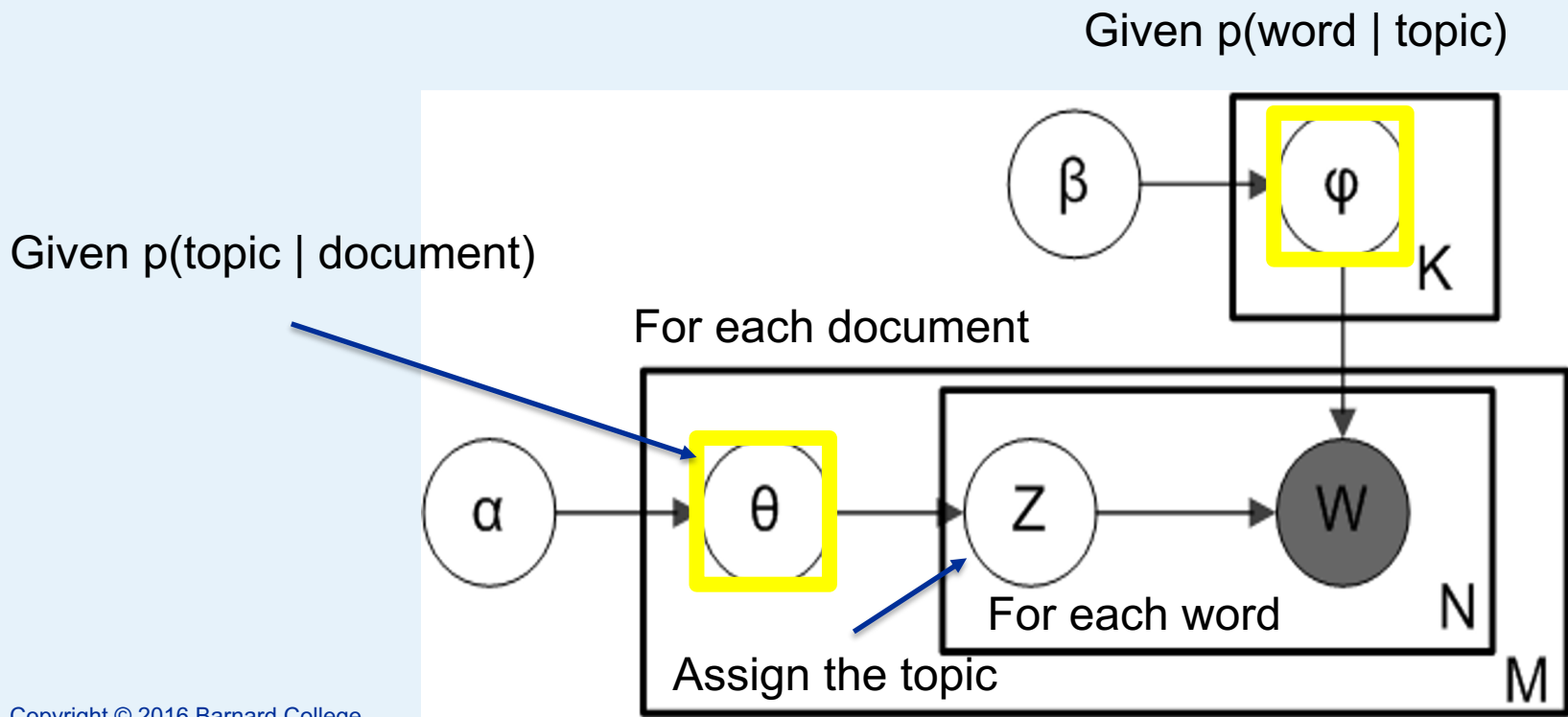
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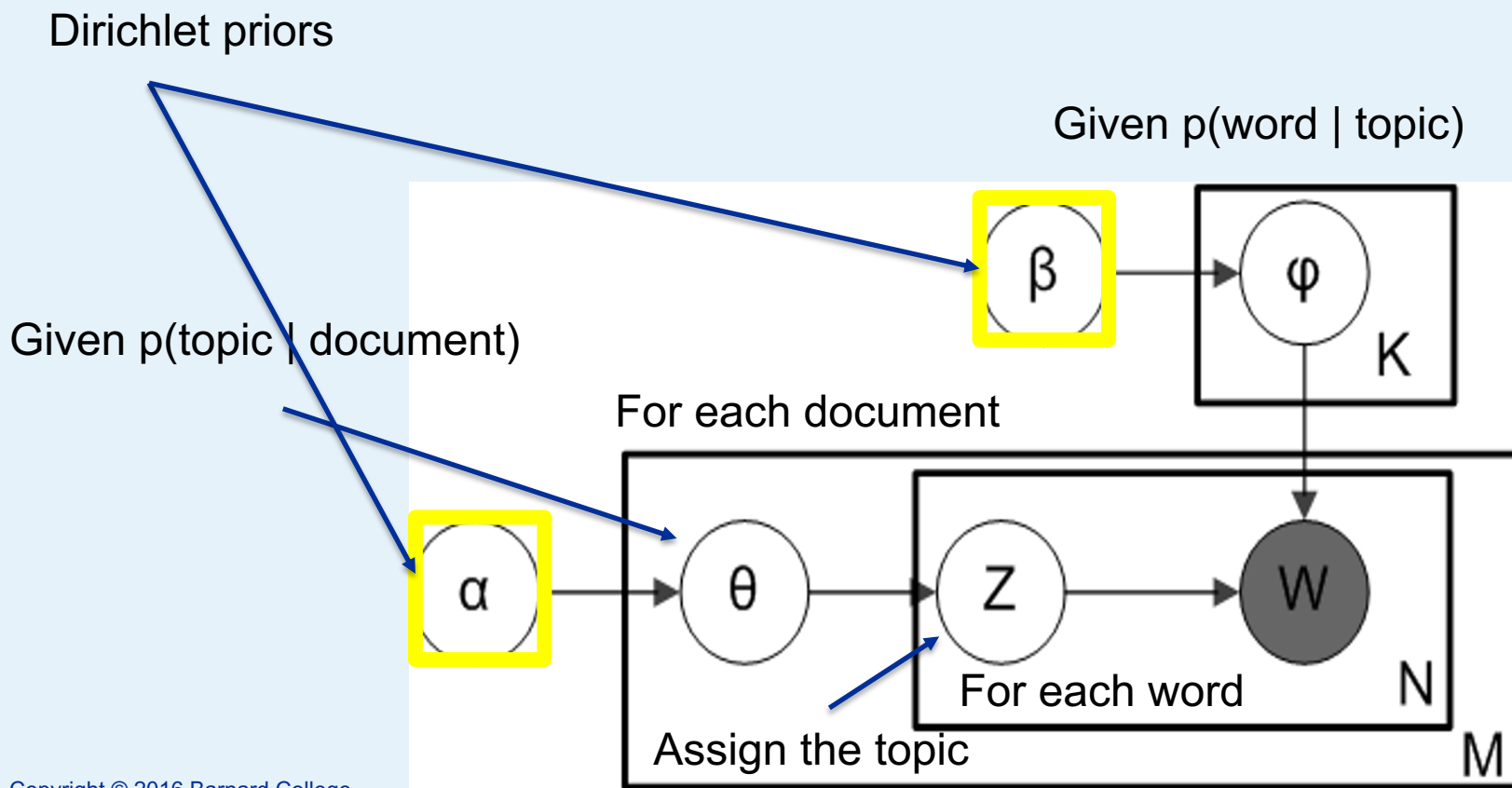


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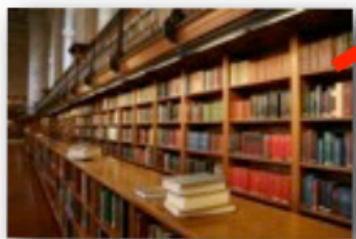
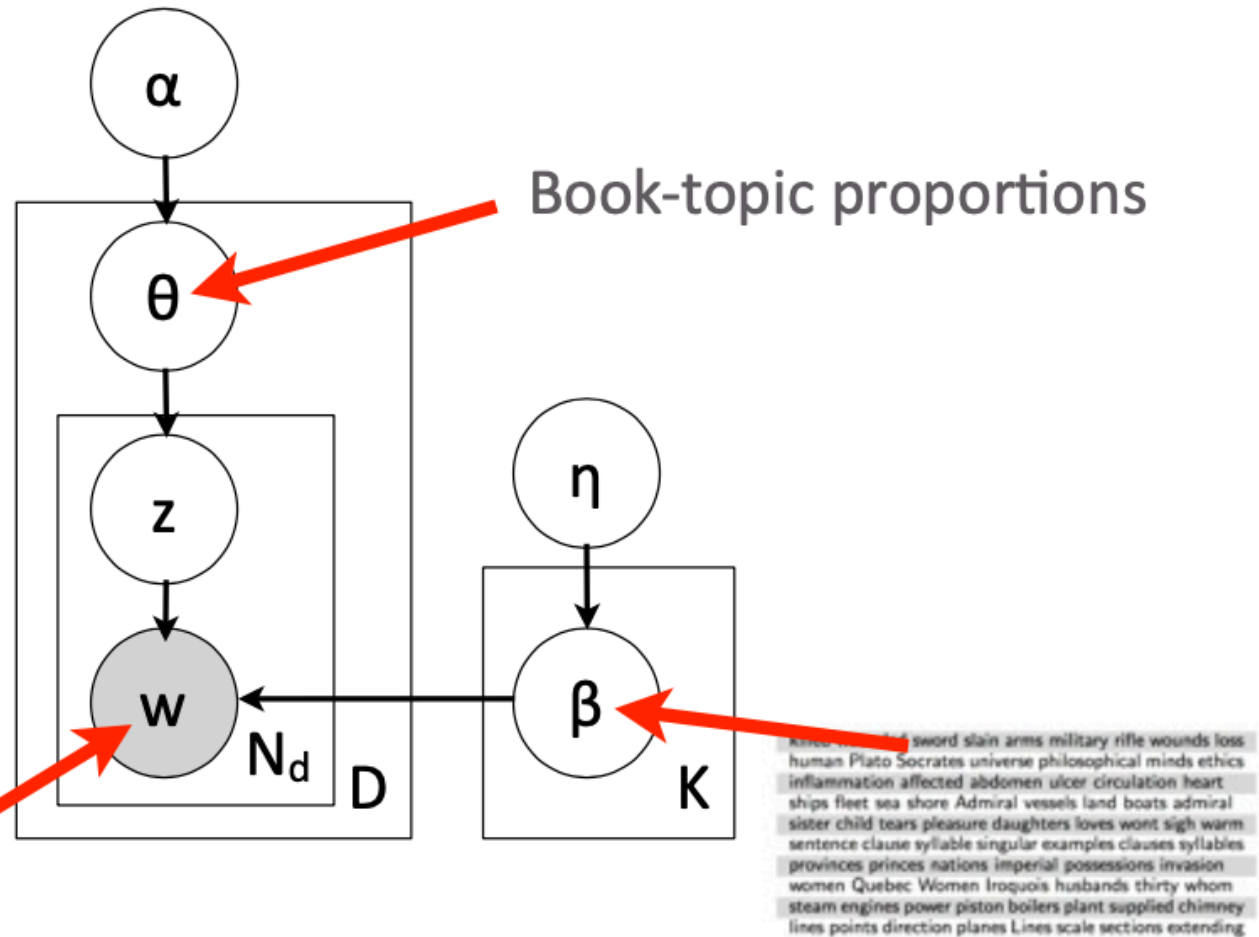




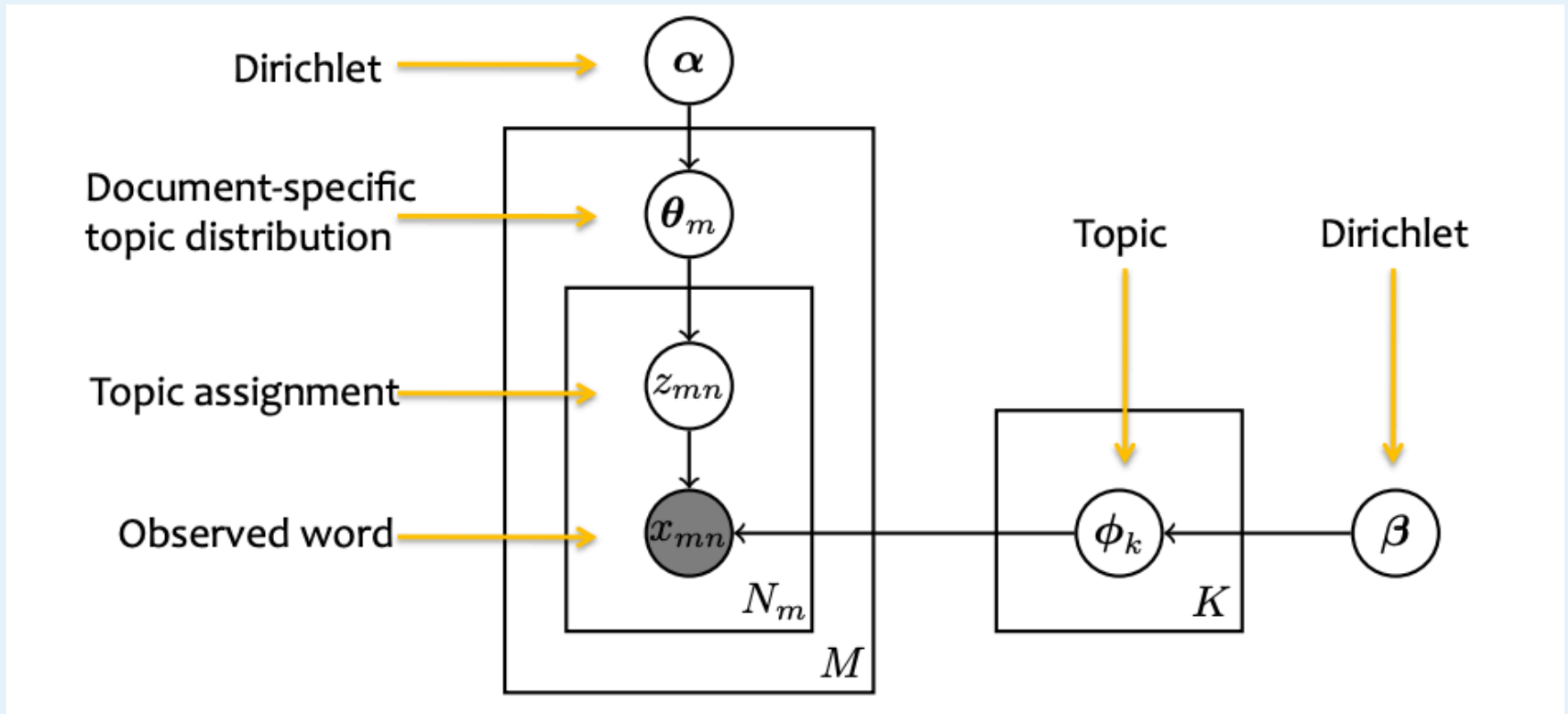
# LDA Plate Notation



# LDA Plate Notation



# LDA Plate notation





# LDA Algorithm

# Training LDA Model



1. Randomly assign words to topics
2. Repeat many times:
  1. For each document:
    1. For each token, re-assign the topic based on:
      1. Topic assignment for every other token in the document
      2. Topic assignment for every other instance of the type in the the corpus
3. Return: Topics assignments for all tokens

|   |  |  |  |   |
|---|--|--|--|---|
| music<br>band<br>songs<br>rock<br>album<br>jazz<br>pop<br>song<br>singer<br>night                       | book<br>life<br>novel<br>story<br>books<br>man<br>stories<br>love<br>children<br>family                    | art<br>museum<br>show<br>exhibition<br>artist<br>artists<br>paintings<br>painting<br>century<br>works    | game<br>knicks<br>nets<br>points<br>team<br>season<br>play<br>games<br>night<br>coach            | show<br>film<br>television<br>movie<br>series<br>says<br>life<br>man<br>character<br>know         |
| theater<br>play<br>production<br>show<br>stage<br>street<br>broadway<br>director<br>musical<br>directed | clinton<br>bush<br>campaign<br>gore<br>political<br>republican<br>dole<br>presidential<br>senator<br>house | stock<br>market<br>percent<br>fund<br>investors<br>funds<br>companies<br>stocks<br>investment<br>trading | restaurant<br>sauce<br>menu<br>food<br>dishes<br>street<br>dining<br>dinner<br>chicken<br>served | budget<br>tax<br>governor<br>county<br>mayor<br>billion<br>taxes<br>plan<br>legislature<br>fiscal |





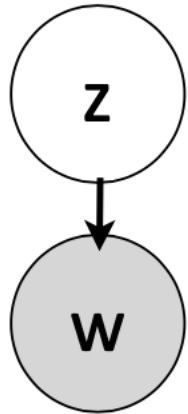
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# Randomly assign words to topics



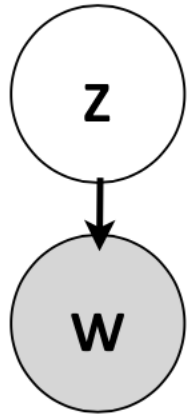
|          |       |       |        |        |
|----------|-------|-------|--------|--------|
|          |       |       |        |        |
| Etruscan | trade | price | temple | market |

# Randomly assign words to topics



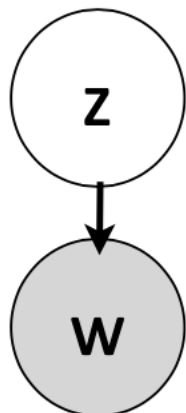
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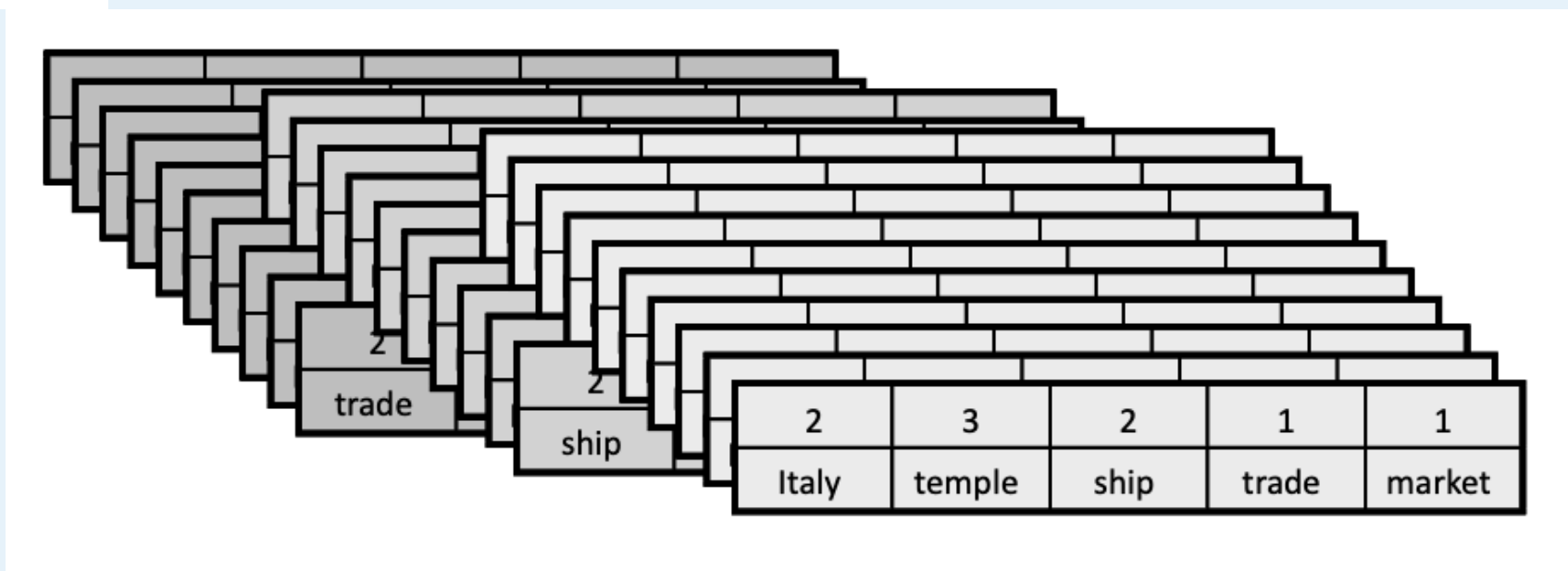


|          |          |          |          |          |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| <b>3</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>1</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>1</b> |
| Etruscan | trade    | price    | temple   | market   |

# Randomly assign words to topics



|          |          |          |          |          |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| <b>3</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>1</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>1</b> |
| Etruscan | trade    | price    | temple   | market   |



# Global Statistics from Random Topic Assignments



|          |          |          |          |          |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| <b>3</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>1</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>1</b> |
| Etruscan | trade    | price    | temple   | market   |

## Total counts across corpus

|          | <b>1</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>3</b> |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| Etruscan | 1        | 0        | 35       |
| trade    | 10       | 8        | 1        |
| price    | 42       | 1        | 0        |
| market   | 50       | 0        | 1        |
| temple   | 0        | 0        | 20       |
| ...      |          |          |          |



1. ~~Randomly assign words to topics~~
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# Reassign topic for “Trade”



| 3        | 2     | 1     | 3      | 1      |
|----------|-------|-------|--------|--------|
| Etruscan | trade | price | temple | market |

|          | 1  | 2 | 3  |
|----------|----|---|----|
| Etruscan | 1  | 0 | 35 |
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# Reassign topic for “Trade”



| 3        | ?     | 1     | 3      | 1      |
|----------|-------|-------|--------|--------|
| Etruscan | trade | price | temple | market |

|          | 1  | 2 | 3  |
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| ...      |    |   |    |

# Reassign topic for “Trade”



| 3        | ?     | 1     | 3      | 1      |
|----------|-------|-------|--------|--------|
| Etruscan | trade | price | temple | market |

|          | 1  | 2 | 3  |
|----------|----|---|----|
| Etruscan | 1  | 0 | 35 |
| trade    | 10 | 7 | 1  |
| price    | 42 | 1 | 0  |
| market   | 50 | 0 | 1  |
| temple   | 0  | 0 | 20 |
| ...      |    |   |    |

# Pick a topic for “Trade”



|          |       |       |        |        |
|----------|-------|-------|--------|--------|
| 3        | ?     | 1     | 3      | 1      |
| Etruscan | trade | price | temple | market |

Which topics occur in this document?

Topic 1

Topic 2

Topic 3



# Pick a topic for “Trade”



|          |          |          |          |          |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| <b>3</b> | <b>?</b> | <b>1</b> | <b>3</b> | <b>1</b> |
| Etruscan | trade    | price    | temple   | market   |

Which topics like the word-type “trade”?

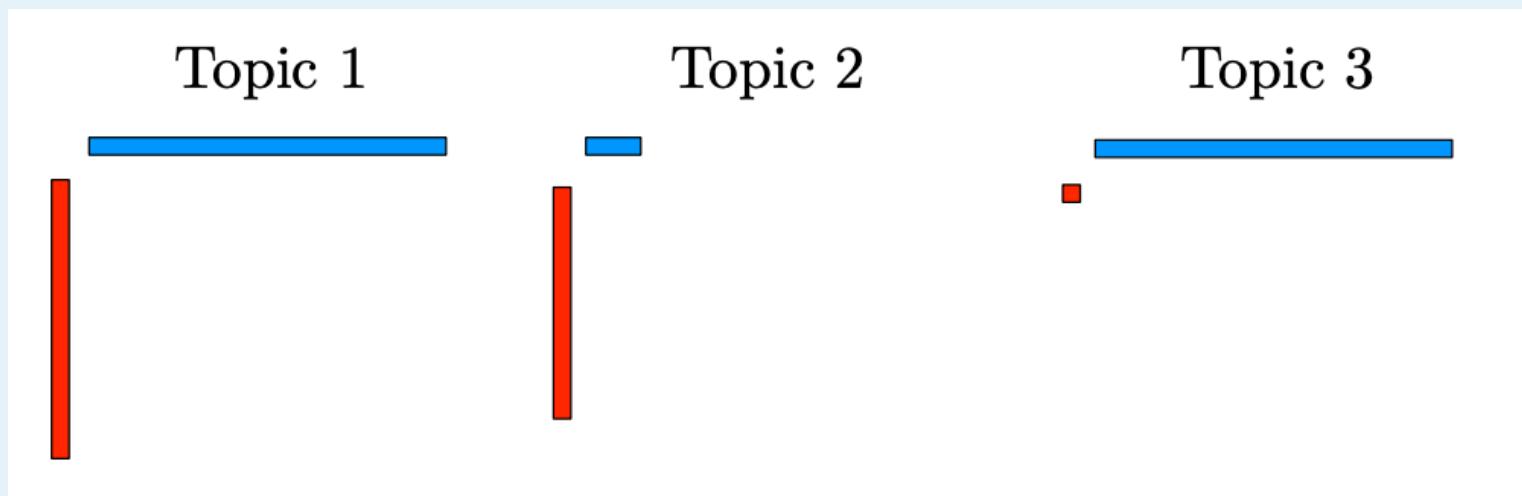
|       |          |          |          |
|-------|----------|----------|----------|
|       | <b>1</b> | <b>2</b> | <b>3</b> |
| trade | 10       | 7        | 1        |

# Pick a topic for “Trade”



| 3        | ?     | 1     | 3      | 1      |
|----------|-------|-------|--------|--------|
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Which topics like the word “trade”?



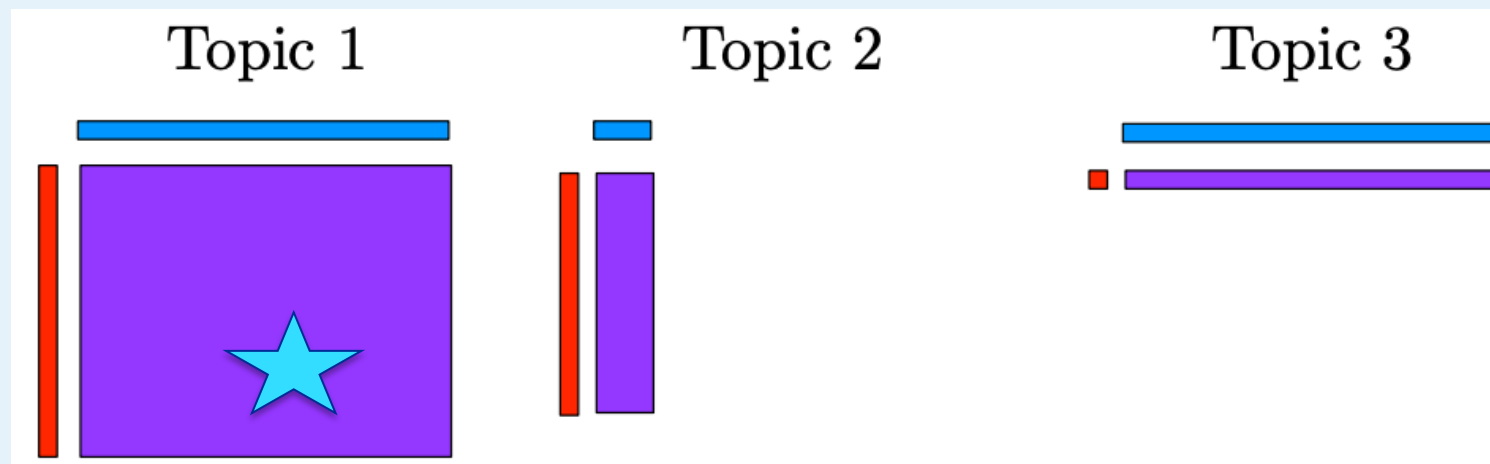


# Pick a topic for “Trade”



|          |       |       |        |        |
|----------|-------|-------|--------|--------|
| 3        | ?     | 1     | 3      | 1      |
| Etruscan | trade | price | temple | market |

Pick a topic for “trade”?



# Update topic for “Trade”



| 3        | ?     | 1     | 3      | 1      |
|----------|-------|-------|--------|--------|
| Etruscan | trade | price | temple | market |

|          | 1  | 2 | 3  |
|----------|----|---|----|
| Etruscan | 1  | 0 | 35 |
| trade    | 10 | 7 | 1  |
| price    | 42 | 1 | 0  |
| market   | 50 | 0 | 1  |
| temple   | 0  | 0 | 20 |
| ...      |    |   |    |

# Update topic for “Trade”



| 3        | 1     | 1     | 3      | 1      |
|----------|-------|-------|--------|--------|
| Etruscan | trade | price | temple | market |

|          | 1  | 2 | 3  |
|----------|----|---|----|
| Etruscan | 1  | 0 | 35 |
| trade    | 11 | 7 | 1  |
| price    | 42 | 1 | 0  |
| market   | 50 | 0 | 1  |
| temple   | 0  | 0 | 20 |
| ...      |    |   |    |



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# — Modeling Decisions —



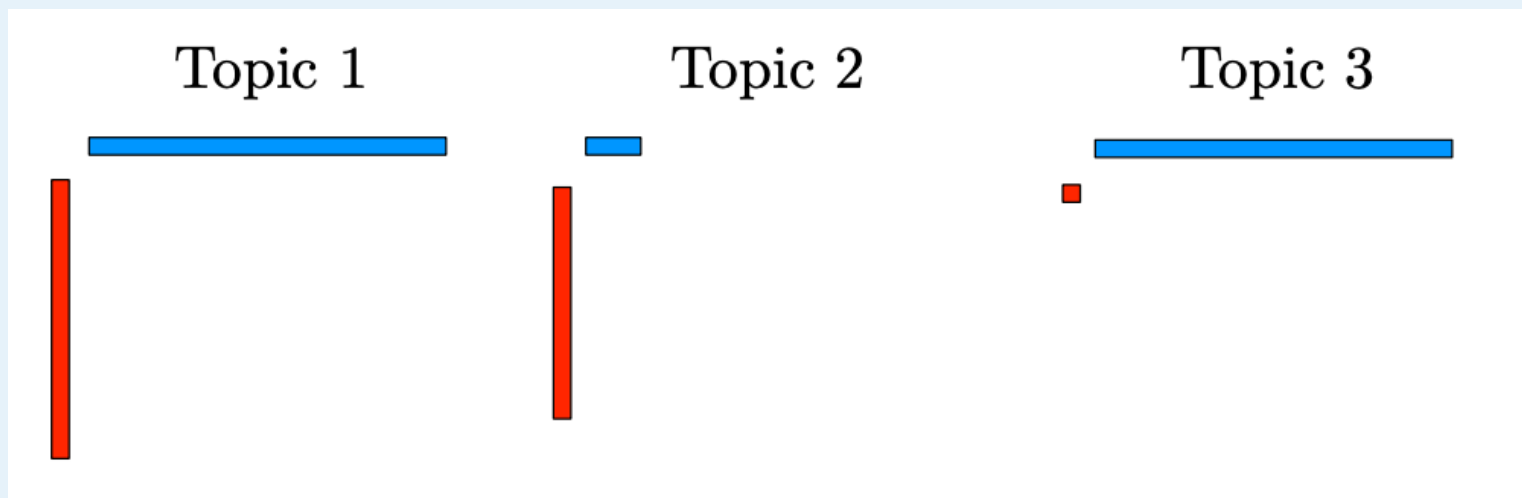
- Document definition
- Interesting words
- Knobs:
  - K - Number of topics
  - Hyper-parameters

# Hyperparameters



| 3        | ?     | 1     | 3      | 1      |
|----------|-------|-------|--------|--------|
| Etruscan | trade | price | temple | market |

Which topics like the word “trade”?



# Hyperparameters - alpha



Topic 1

$\alpha$

price

market





# Hyperparameters



|          |       |       |        |        |
|----------|-------|-------|--------|--------|
| 3        | ?     | 1     | 3      | 1      |
| Etruscan | trade | price | temple | market |

Which topics like the word “trade”?

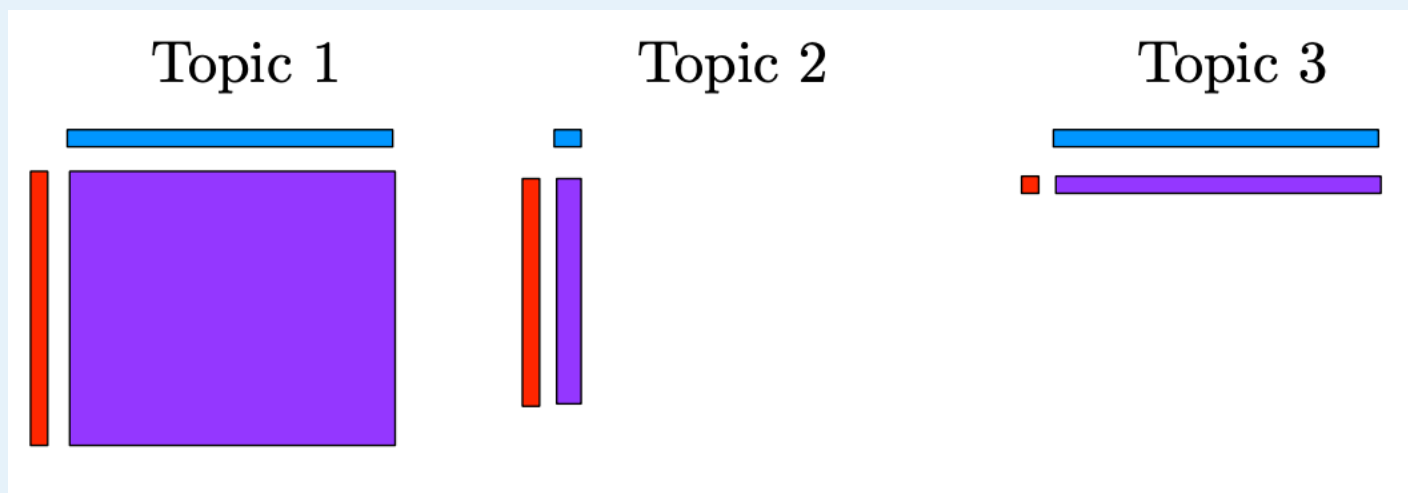


# Hyperparameters



|          |       |       |        |        |
|----------|-------|-------|--------|--------|
| 3        | ?     | 1     | 3      | 1      |
| Etruscan | trade | price | temple | market |

Which topics like the word “trade”?





# Evaluating Topics



# Output of topic models



## Top 10 topic terms

face, problem, depress, econom, suffer, economi, caus, great depress, crisi, prosper  
bank, money, tax, pay, debt, loan, rais, fund, paid, govern  
worker, labor, work, union, job, employ, strike, factori, industri, wage  
govern, power, feder, nation, peopl, author, constitut, state, system, unit  
roosevelt, wilson, peac, presid, treati, negoti, theodor roosevelt, taft, leagu, agreement  
men, women, famili, children, young, work, woman, home, mother, husband  
citi, york, urban, hous, live, town, center, communiti, move, chicago  
railroad, build, line, technolog, transport, road, develop, travel, invent, canal  
good, trade, product, manufactur, market, import, produc, economi, consum, tariff  
farmer, farm, planter, small, land, cotton, plantat, crop, famili, larg

# What makes topics bad?



- **Random**, unrelated words
- *Intruder* words
- Boring, **overly general** words
- **Chimaeras**:
  - Multiple topics combined



- Take top k words in a topic
  - Usually 5 or 10
- Substitute 1 word with a top word from another topic
- Shuffle the works
- Ask someone to pick the intruder
  - If they can pick the intruder – it's a good topic