



Applied Natural Language Processing

Info 256

Lecture 6: Topic models (Sept. 13, 2023)

David Bamman, UC Berkeley

Topic Models

- A probabilistic model for discovering hidden “topics” or “themes” (groups of terms that tend to occur together) in documents.
- Unsupervised (find *interesting structure* in the data)
- Clustering algorithm, clustering **tokens** into topics

September 27, 2023



BIDS' Center for Cultural Analytics Lecture with Professor David Blei

4:30 - 6 p.m.

Sutardja Dai Hall Auditorium, UC Berkeley



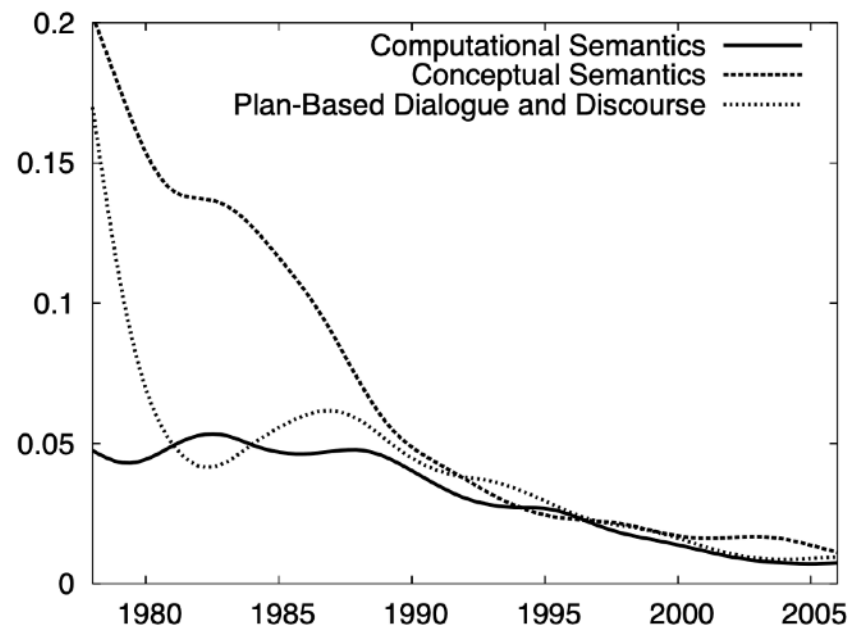
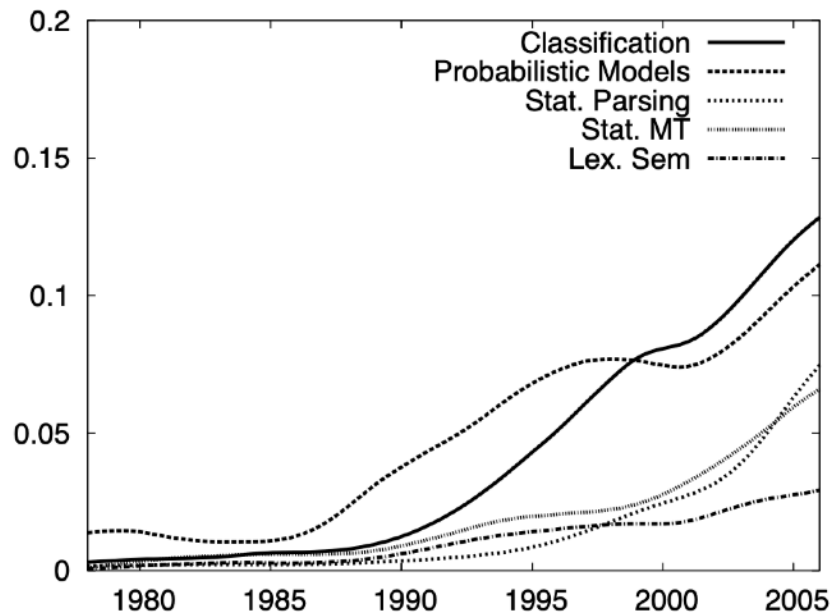
Sponsor(s): [Berkeley Institute for Data Science \(BIDS\)](#), [Center for Cultural Analytics](#)

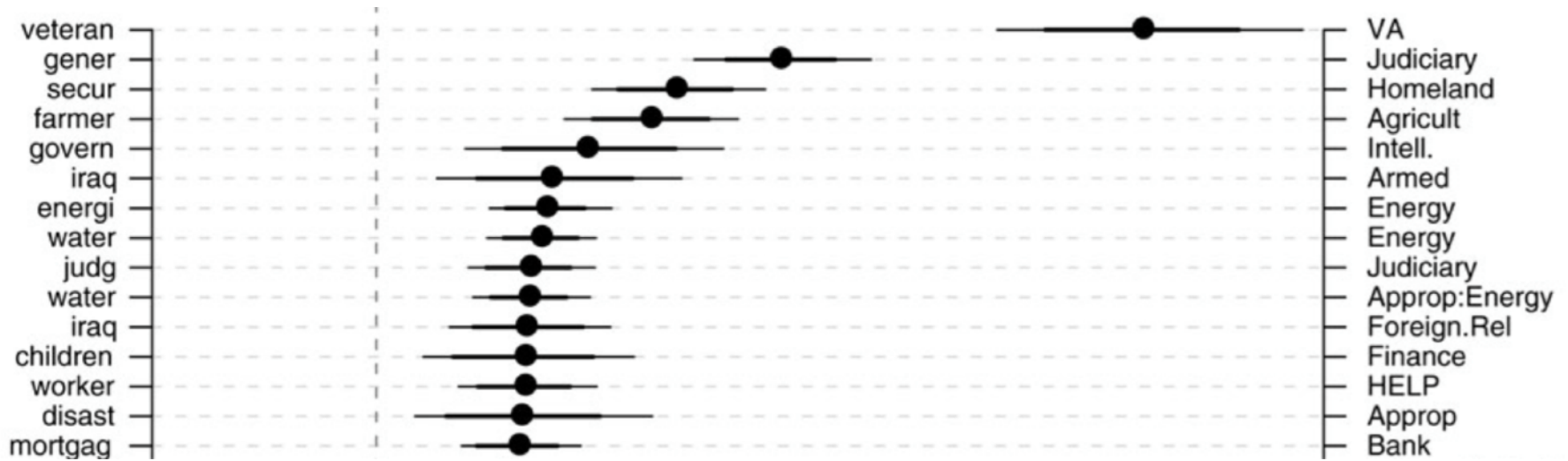
→ *Join us in person for a lecture and reception with David Blei, Professor of Statistics and Computer Science at Columbia University.*

Beyond Roll Call: Inferring Politics from Text

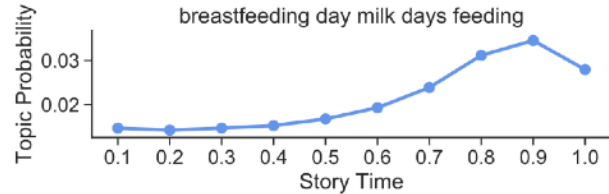
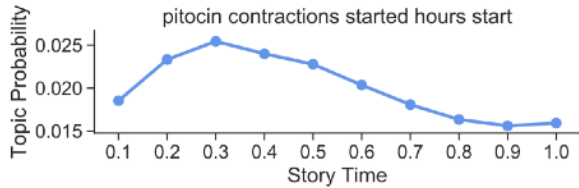
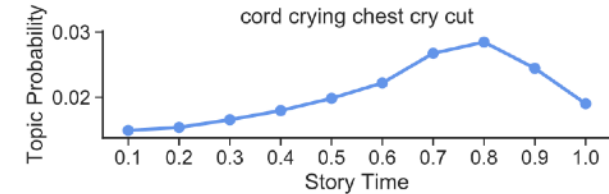
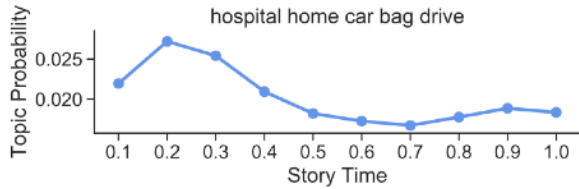
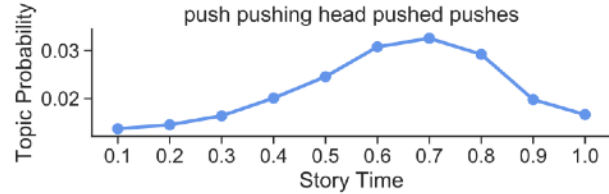
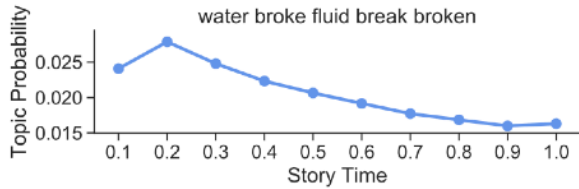
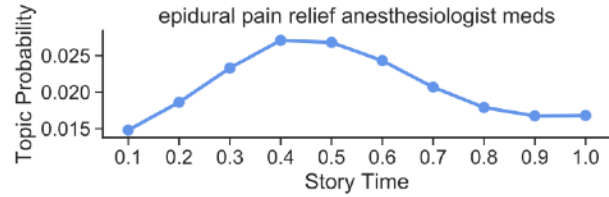
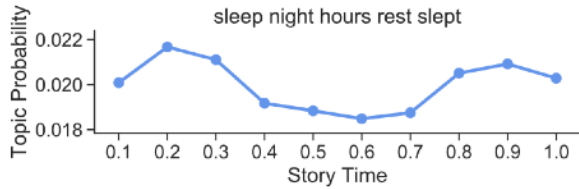
“The ideal point model is a staple of quantitative political science. It is a probabilistic model of roll call data—how a group of lawmakers vote on a collection of bills—that can be used to quantify the lawmakers’ political

Anaphora Resolution	resolution anaphora pronoun discourse antecedent pronouns coreference reference definite algorithm
Automata	string state set finite context rule algorithm strings language symbol
Biomedical	medical protein gene biomedical wkh abstracts medline patient clinical biological
Call Routing	call caller routing calls destination vietnamese routed router destinations gorin
Categorial Grammar	proof formula graph logic calculus axioms axiom theorem proofs lambek
Centering*	centering cb discourse cf utterance center utterances theory coherence entities local
Classical MT	japanese method case sentence analysis english dictionary figure japan word
Classification/Tagging	features data corpus set feature table word tag al test
Comp. Phonology	vowel phonological syllable phoneme stress phonetic phonology pronunciation vowels phonemes
Comp. Semantics*	semantic logical semantics john sentence interpretation scope logic form set
Dialogue Systems	user dialogue system speech information task spoken human utterance language
Discourse Relations	discourse text structure relations rhetorical relation units coherence texts rst
Discourse Segment.	segment segmentation segments chain chains boundaries boundary seg cohesion lexical
Events/Temporal	event temporal time events tense state aspect reference relations relation
French Function	de le des les en une est du par pour
Generation	generation text system language information knowledge natural figure domain input





Grimmer (2010), A Bayesian Hierarchical Topic Model for Political Texts:
 Measuring Expressed Agendas in Senate Press Releases



Antoniak et al. 2019, "Narrative Paths and Negotiation of Power in Birth Stories"

Topic Models

- **Input:** set of documents, number of clusters to learn.
- **Output:**
 - topics
 - topic ratio in each document
 - topic distribution for each word in doc

{album, band, music}	{government, party, election}	{game, team, player}
album	government	game
band	party	team
music	election	player
song	state	win
release	political	play
{god, call, give}	{company, market, business}	{math, number, function}
god	company	math
call	market	number
give	business	function
man	year	code
time	product	set
{city, large, area}	{math, energy, light}	{law, state, case}
city	math	law
large	energy	state
area	light	case
station	field	court
include	star	legal

U.S. Navy Naval Aviator Lieutenant Pete "Maverick" Mitchell and his Radar Intercept Officer (RIO) Lieutenant Junior Grade Nick "Goose" Bradshaw, stationed in the Indian Ocean aboard USS Enterprise, fly the F-14A Tomcat. During an interception with two hostile MiG-28s, Maverick missile-locks on one, while the other hostile locks onto Maverick's wingman, Cougar. Maverick drives it off, but Cougar is so shaken that Maverick defies orders to land and shepherds him back to the carrier. Cougar resigns his commission.

More than 30 years after graduating from Top Gun, United States Navy Captain Pete "Maverick" Mitchell is a decorated test pilot whose repeated insubordination has kept him from flag rank. When Rear Admiral Chester "Hammer" Cain plans to cancel Maverick's hypersonic "Darkstar" scramjet program, Maverick unilaterally changes the target speed for that day's test from Mach 9 to the final contract specification of Mach 10. However, the prototype is destroyed when he cannot resist pushing beyond Mach 10.

Stereotypical Barbie ("Barbie") and fellow dolls reside in Barbieland; a matriarchal society with different variations of Barbies, Kens, and a group of discontinued models, who are treated like outcasts due to their unconventional traits. While the Kens spend their days playing at the beach, considering it as their profession, the Barbies hold prestigious jobs such as doctors, lawyers, and politicians. Beach Ken ("Ken") is only happy when he is with Barbie and seeks a closer relationship, but Barbie rebuffs him in favor of other activities and female friendships.

topic models cluster tokens into “topics”

... The messenger, however, does not reach Romeo and, instead, Romeo learns of Juliet's apparent death from his servant Balthasar. Heartbroken, Romeo buys poison from an apothecary and goes to the Capulet crypt. He encounters Paris who has come to mourn Juliet privately. Believing Romeo to be a vandal, Paris confronts him and, in the ensuing battle, Romeo kills Paris. Still believing Juliet to be dead, he drinks the poison. Juliet then awakens and, finding Romeo dead, stabs herself with his dagger. The feuding families and the Prince meet at the tomb to find all three dead. Friar Laurence recounts the story of the two "star-cross'd lovers". The families are reconciled by their children's deaths and agree to end their violent feud. The play ends with the Prince's elegy for the lovers: "For never was a story of more woe / Than this of Juliet and her Romeo."

topic models cluster tokens into “topics”

... The messenger, however, does not reach Romeo and, instead, Romeo learns of Juliet's apparent **death** from his servant Balthasar. Heartbroken, Romeo buys poison from an apothecary and goes to the Capulet **crypt**. He encounters Paris who has come to **mourn** Juliet privately. Believing Romeo to be a vandal, Paris **confronts** him and, in the ensuing **battle**, Romeo **kills** Paris. Still believing Juliet to be **dead**, he drinks the **poison**. Juliet then awakens and, finding Romeo **dead**, **stabs** herself with his **dagger**. The **feuding** families and the Prince meet at the **tomb** to find all three **dead**. Friar Laurence recounts the story of the two "star-cross'd lovers". The families are reconciled by their children's **deaths** and agree to end their **violent feud**. The play ends with the Prince's **elegy** for the lovers: "For never was a story of more woe / Than this of Juliet and her Romeo."

“Death”

topic models cluster tokens into “topics”

... The messenger, however, does not reach Romeo and, instead, Romeo learns of Juliet's apparent death from his servant Balthasar. **Heartbroken**, Romeo buys poison from an apothecary and goes to the Capulet crypt. He encounters Paris who has come to mourn Juliet privately. Believing Romeo to be a vandal, Paris confronts him and, in the ensuing battle, Romeo kills Paris. Still believing Juliet to be dead, he drinks the poison. Juliet then awakens and, finding Romeo dead, stabs herself with his dagger. The feuding families and the Prince meet at the tomb to find all three dead. Friar Laurence recounts the story of the two "star-cross'd **lovers**". The families are **reconciled** by their children's deaths and agree to end their violent feud. The play ends with the Prince's elegy for the **lovers**: "For never was a story of more woe / Than this of Juliet and her Romeo."

“Love”

topic models cluster tokens into “topics”

... The messenger, however, does not reach Romeo and, instead, Romeo learns of Juliet's apparent death from his servant Balthasar. Heartbroken, Romeo buys poison from an apothecary and goes to the Capulet crypt. He encounters Paris who has come to mourn Juliet privately. Believing Romeo to be a vandal, Paris confronts him and, in the ensuing battle, Romeo kills Paris. Still believing Juliet to be dead, he drinks the poison. Juliet then awakens and, finding Romeo dead, stabs herself with his dagger. The feuding families and the Prince meet at the tomb to find all three dead. Friar Laurence recounts the story of the two "star-cross'd lovers". The families are reconciled by their children's deaths and agree to end their violent feud. The play ends with the Prince's elegy for the lovers: "For never was a story of more woe / Than this of Juliet and her Romeo."

“Family”

topic models cluster tokens into “topics”

... The messenger, however, does not reach Romeo and, instead, Romeo learns of Juliet's apparent death from his servant Balthasar. Heartbroken, Romeo buys poison from an apothecary and goes to the Capulet crypt. He encounters Paris who has come to mourn Juliet privately. Believing Romeo to be a vandal, Paris confronts him and, in the ensuing battle, Romeo kills Paris. Still believing Juliet to be dead, he drinks the poison. Juliet then awakens and, finding Romeo dead, stabs herself with his dagger. The feuding families and the Prince meet at the tomb to find all three dead. Friar Laurence recounts the story of the two "star-cross'd lovers". The families are reconciled by their children's deaths and agree to end their violent feud. The play ends with the Prince's elegy for the lovers: "For never was a story of more woe / Than this of Juliet and her Romeo."

“Etc.”

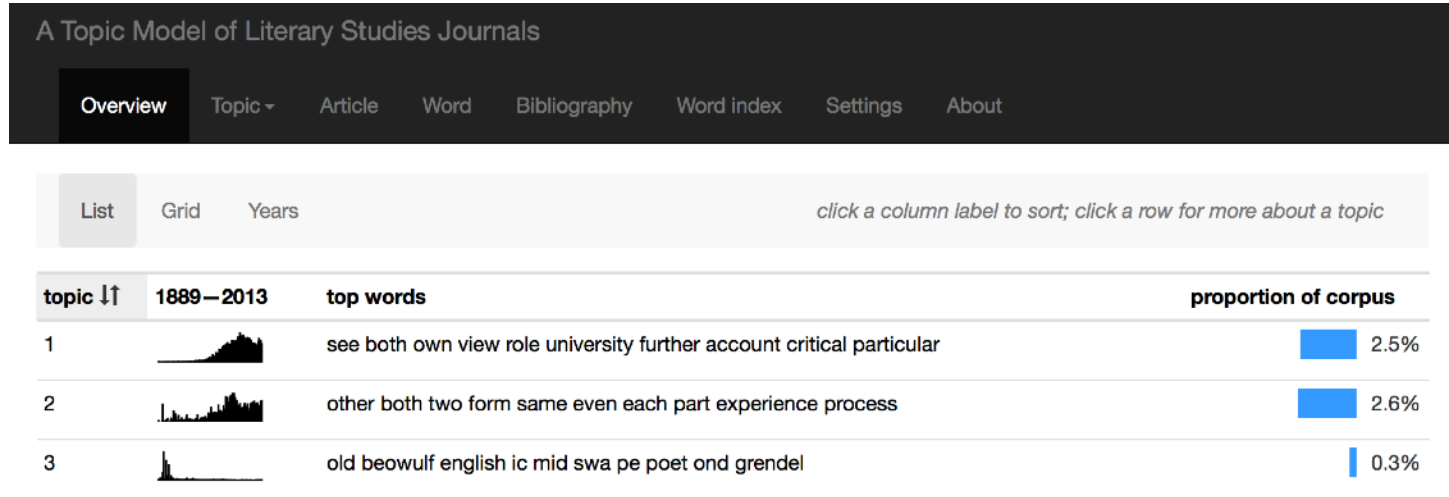
tokens, not types

... The messenger, however, does not reach Romeo and, instead, Romeo learns of Juliet's apparent death from his servant Balthasar. Heartbroken, Romeo buys poison from an apothecary and goes to the Capulet crypt. He encounters Paris who has come to mourn Juliet privately. Believing Romeo to be a vandal, Paris confronts him and, in the ensuing battle, Romeo kills Paris. Still believing Juliet to be dead, he drinks the poison. Juliet then awakens and, finding Romeo dead, stabs herself with his dagger. The feuding families and the Prince meet at the tomb to find all three dead. Friar Laurence recounts the story of the two "star-cross'd lovers". The families are reconciled by their children's deaths and agree to end their violent feud. The play ends with the Prince's elegy for the lovers: "For never was a story of more woe / Than this of Juliet and her Romeo."

“People”

A different *Paris* token
might belong to a “Place”
or “French” topic

Applications



<http://www.rci.rutgers.edu/~ag978/quiet/>

x = feature vector

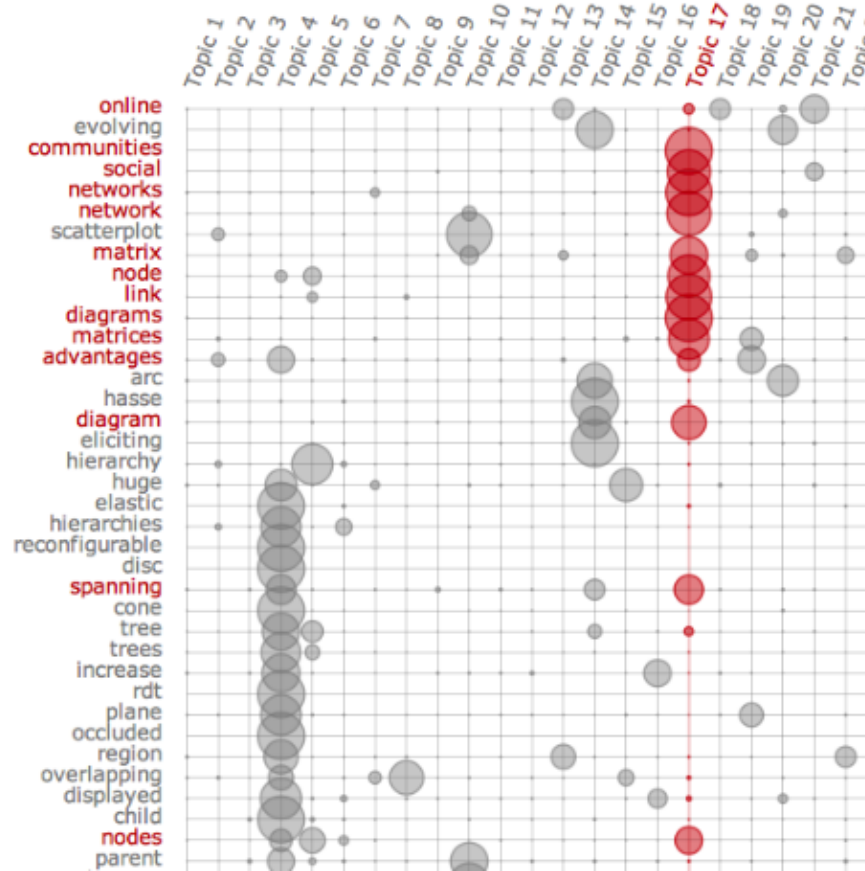
Feature	Value
contains "love"	0
contains "castle"	0
contains "dagger"	0
contains "run"	0
contains "the"	1
topic 1	0.55
topic 2	0.32
topic 3	0.13

β = coefficients

Feature	β
contains "love"	-3.1
contains "castle"	6.8
contains "dagger"	7.9
contains "run"	-3.0
contains "the"	-1.7
topic 1	0.3
topic 2	-1.2
topic 3	5.7

Software

- Mallet
<http://mallet.cs.umass.edu/>
- Gensim (python)
<https://radimrehurek.com/gensim/>
- Visualization
<https://github.com/uwdata/termite-visualizations>

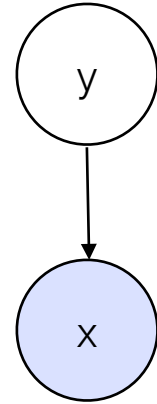


Latent variables

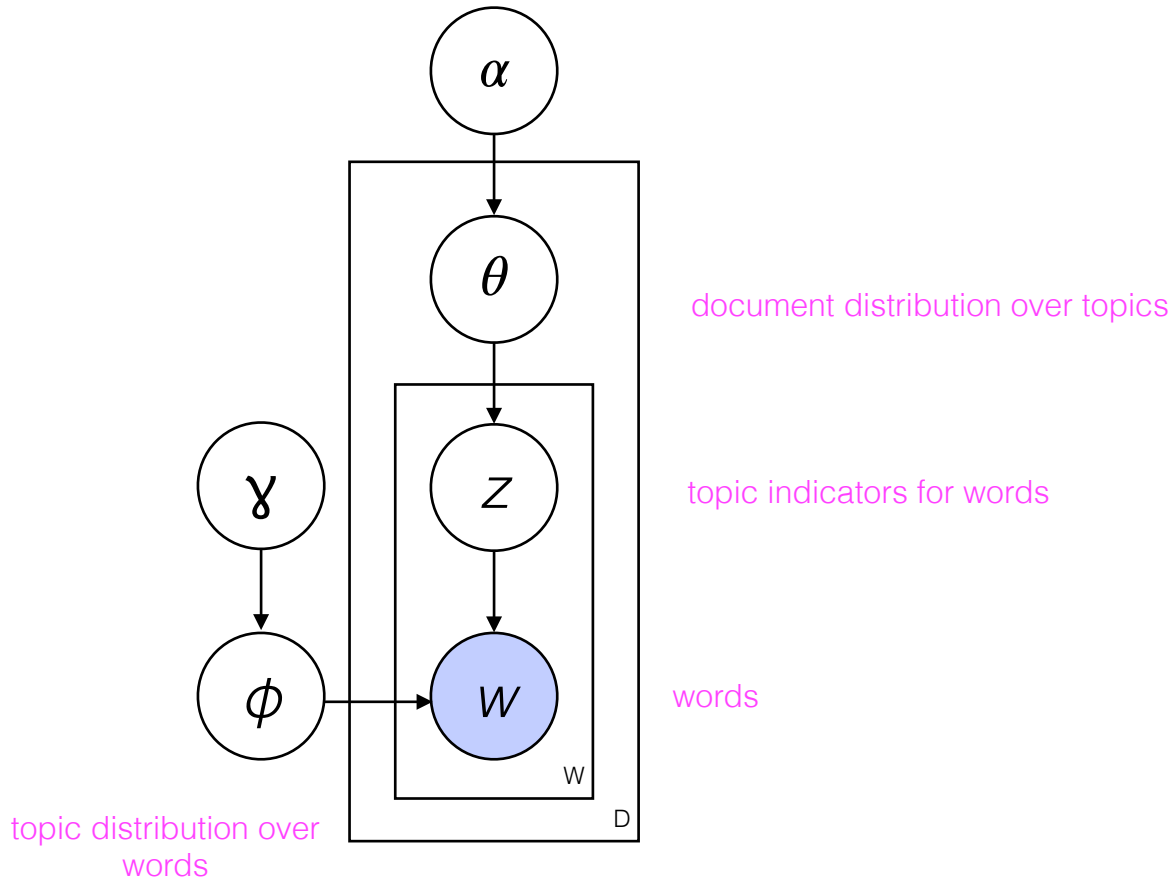
- A latent variable is one that's unobserved, either because:
 - we are predicting it (but have observed that variable for other data points)
 - it is **unobservable**

Probabilistic graphical models

- Nodes represent variables (shaded = observed, clear = latent)
- Arrows indicate conditional relationships
- The probability of x here is dependent on y
- Simply a visual way of writing the joint probability:

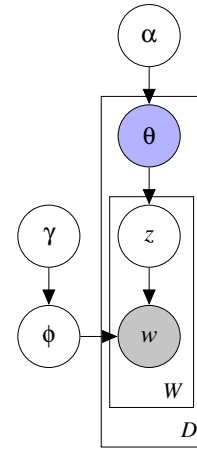
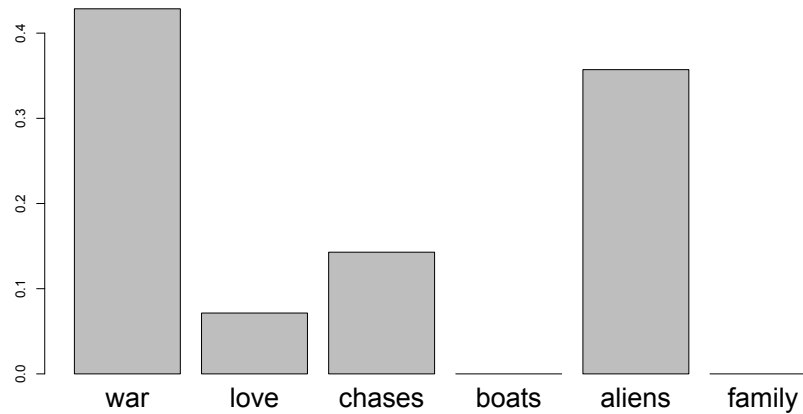


$$P(x, y) = P(y) P(x | y)$$



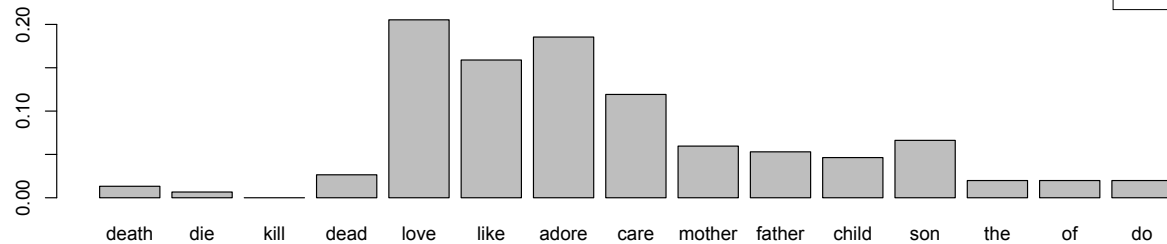
Topic Models

- A document has *distribution over topics*

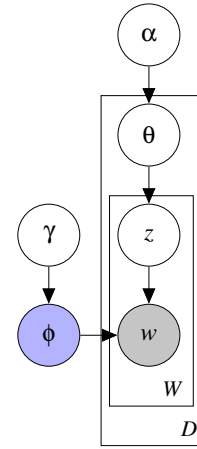


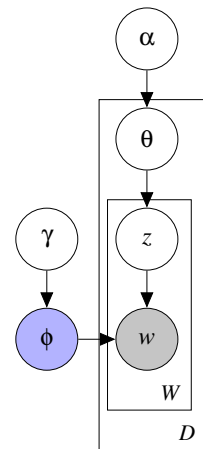
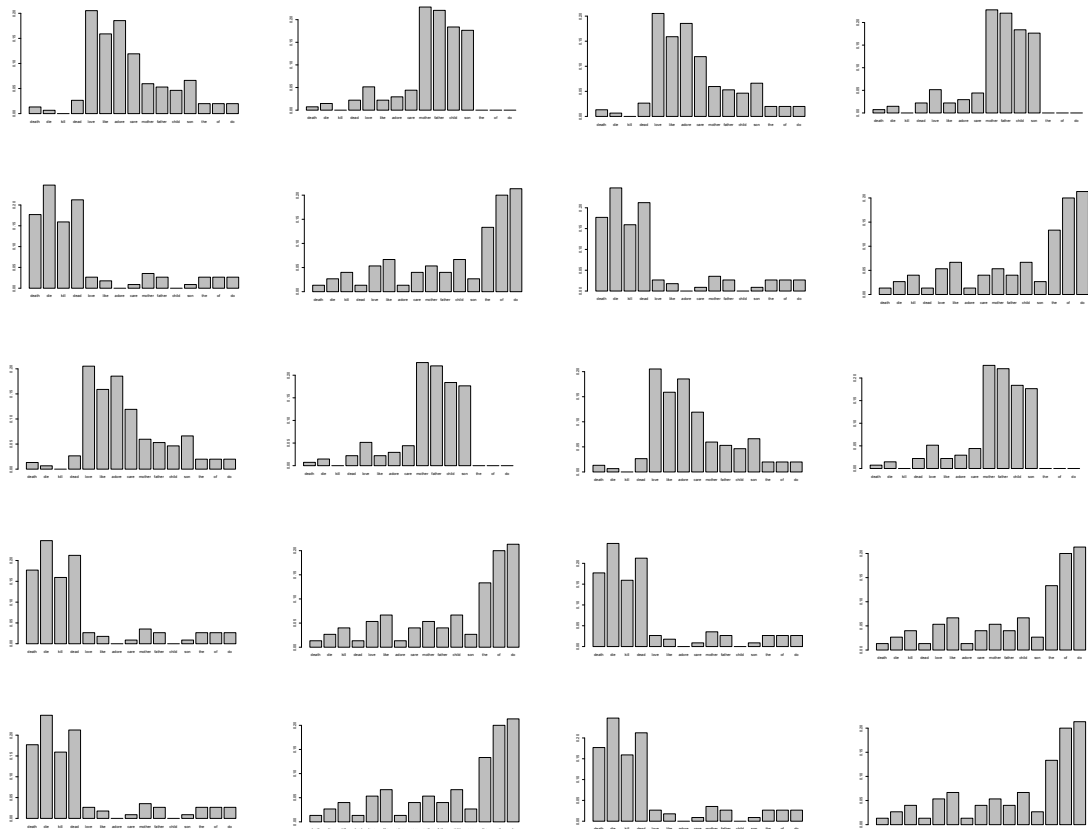
Topic Models

- A topic is a distribution over words

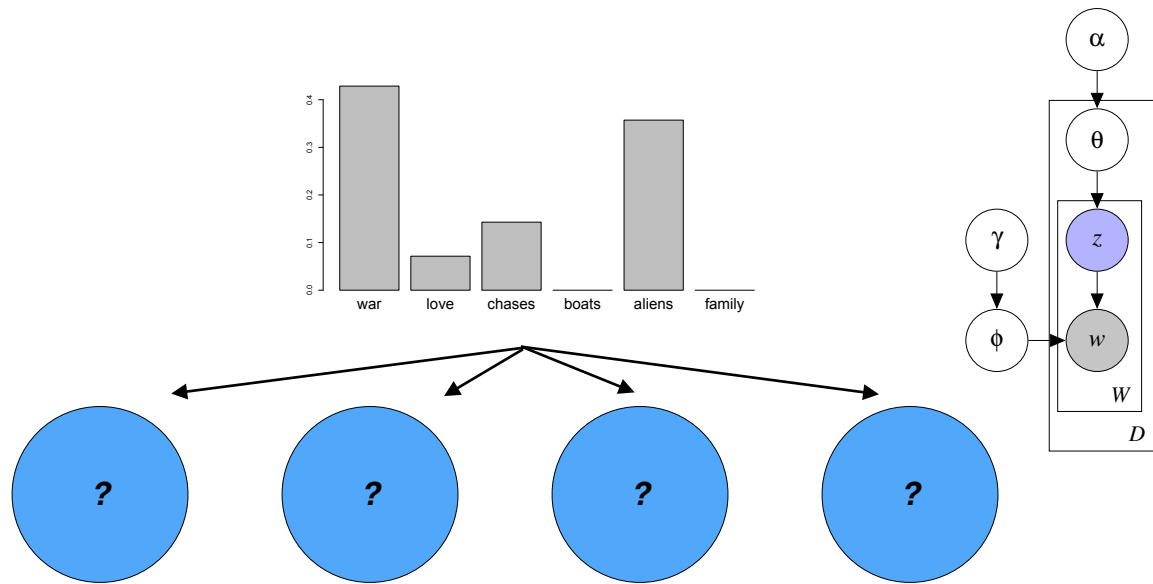


- e.g., $P(\text{"adore"} \mid \text{topic} = \text{love}) = .18$

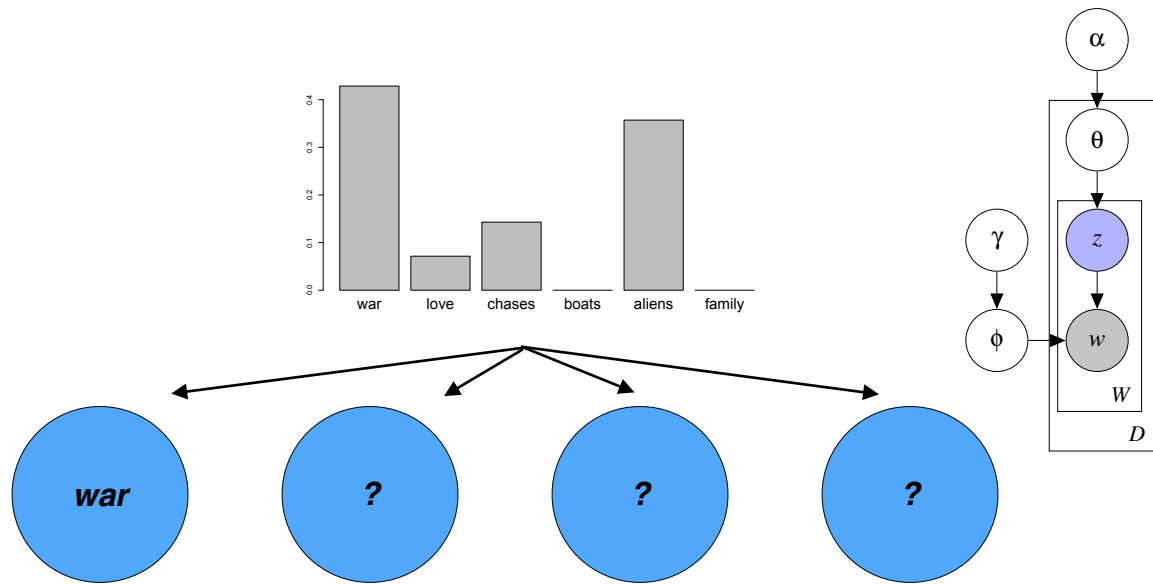




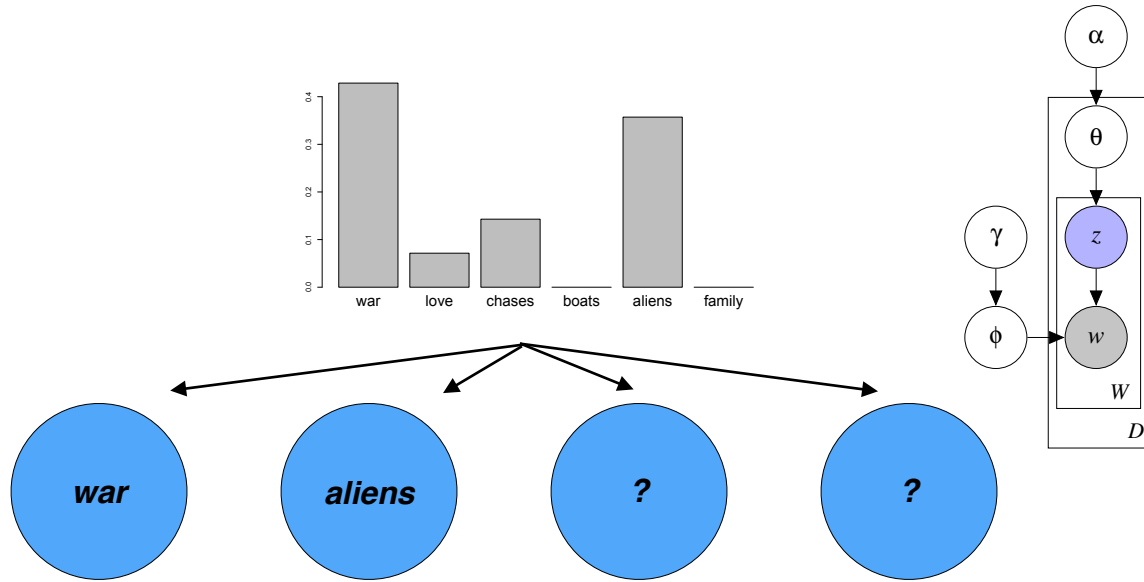
$K=20$



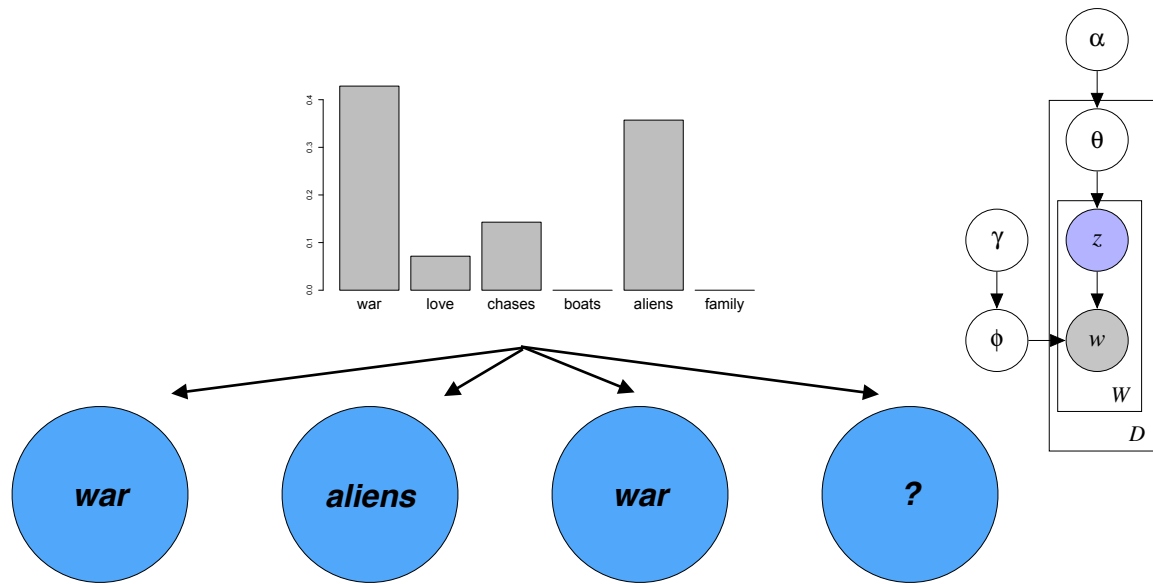
$P(\text{topic} \mid \text{topic distribution})$



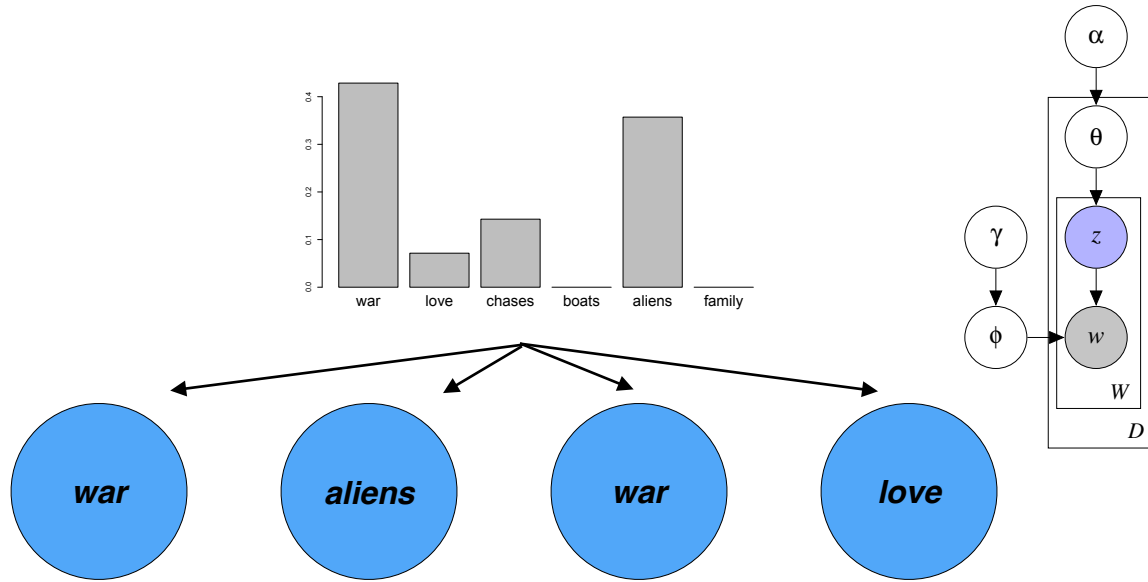
$P(\text{topic} \mid \text{topic distribution})$



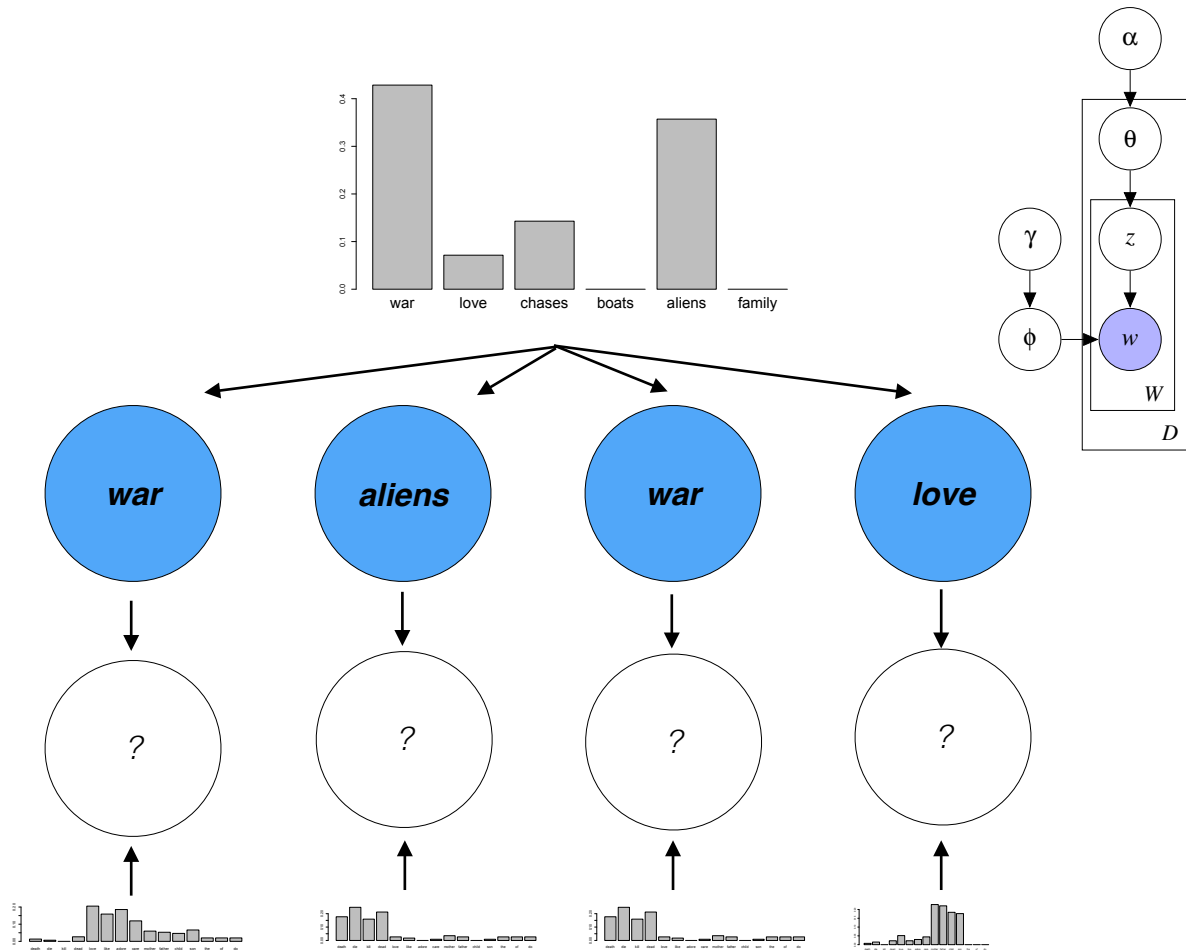
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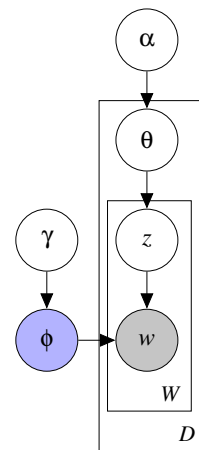
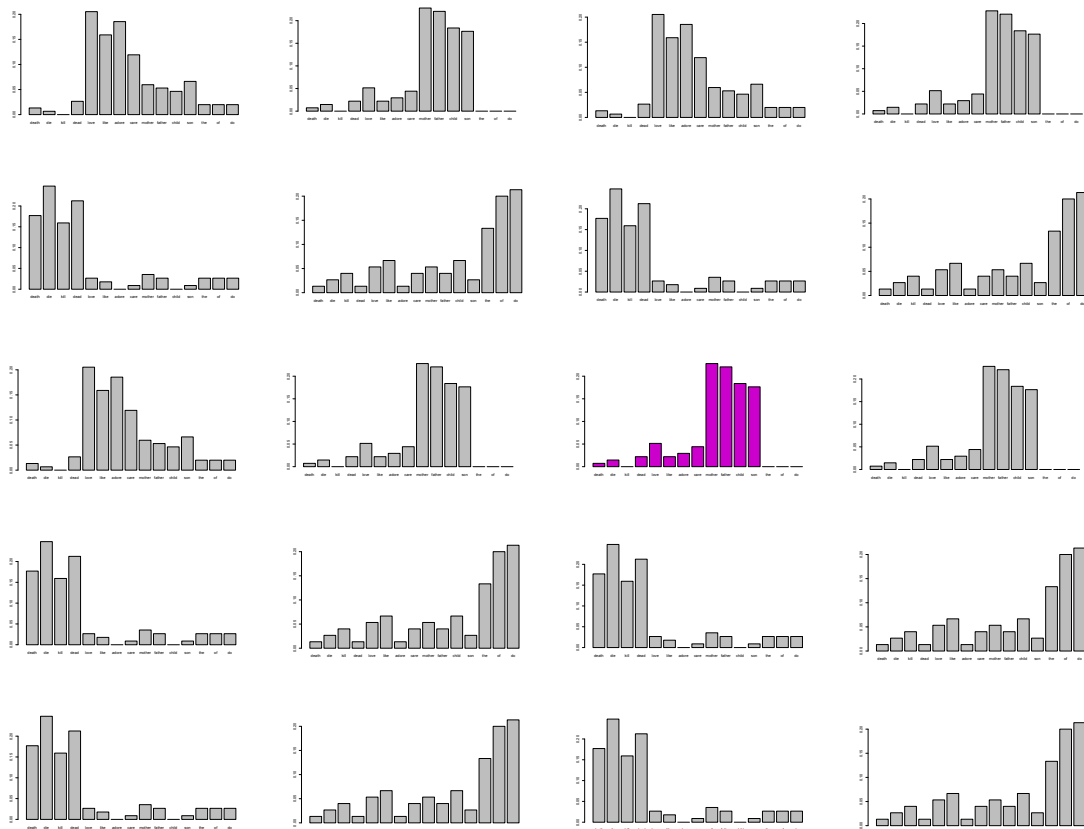


$P(\text{topic} \mid \text{topic distribution})$

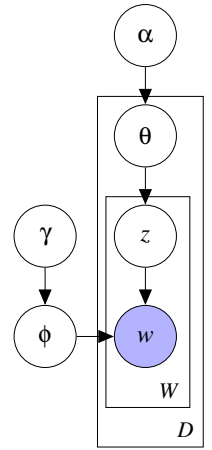
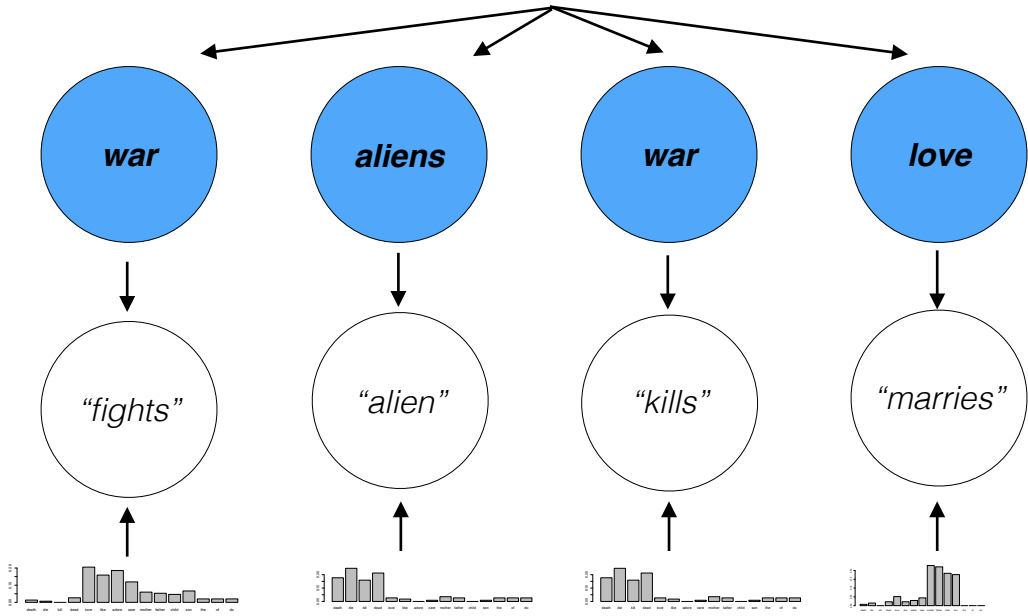


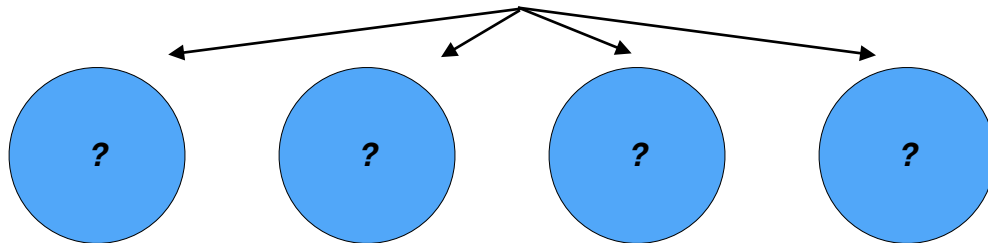
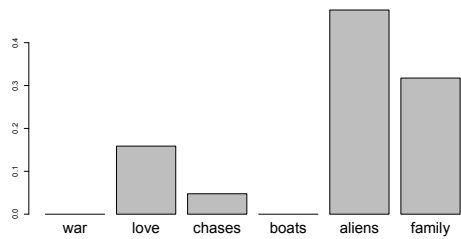
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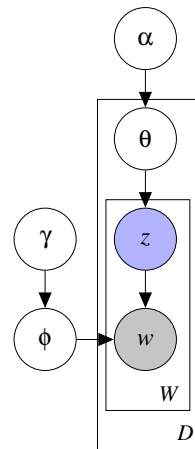


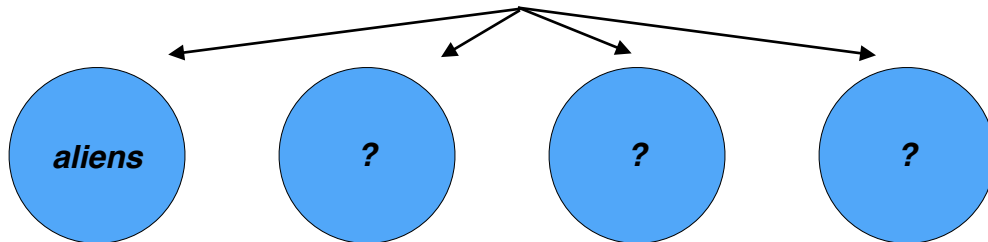
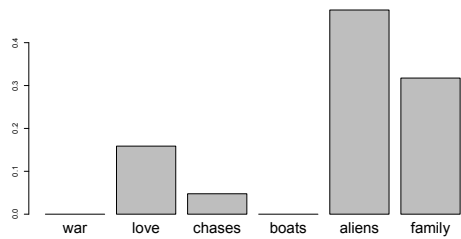
K=20



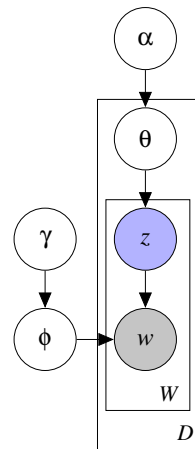


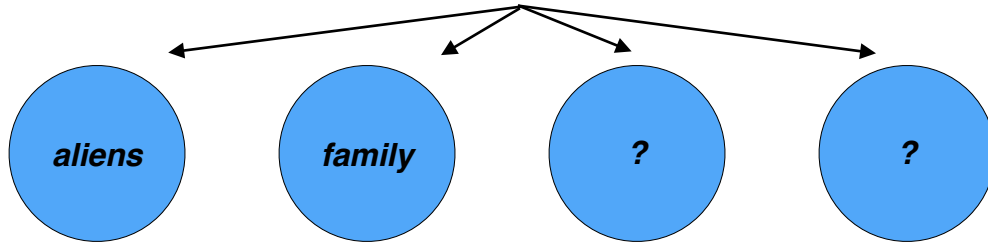
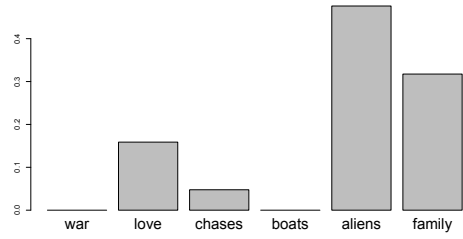
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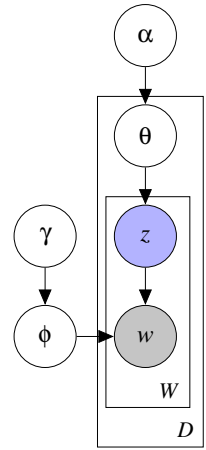


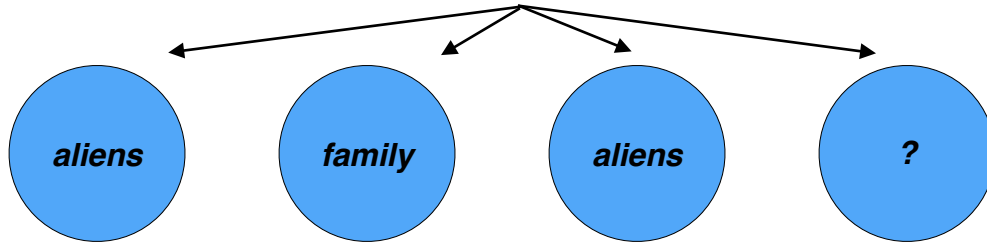
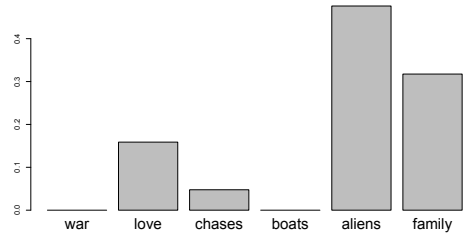
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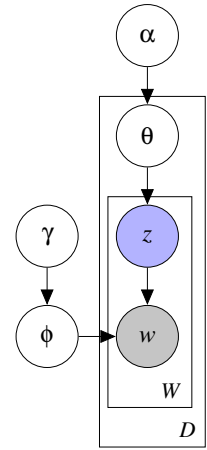


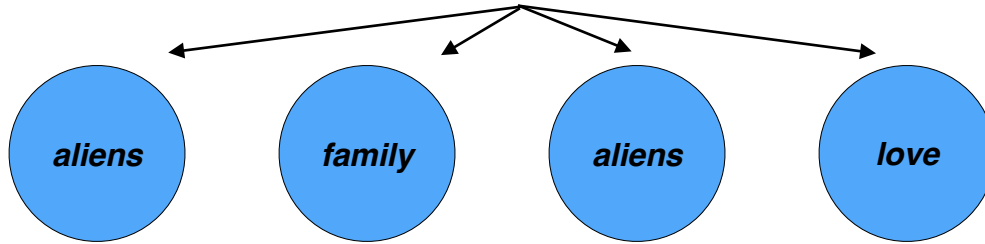
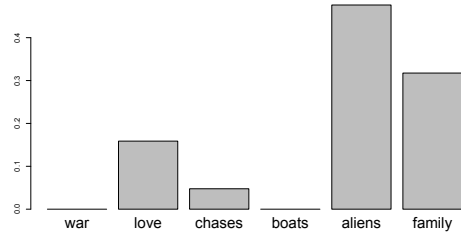
$P(\text{topic} \mid \text{topic distribution})$



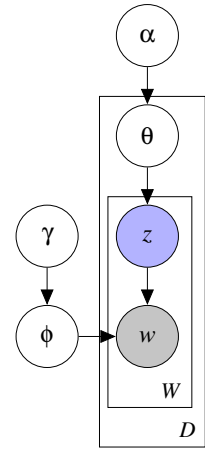


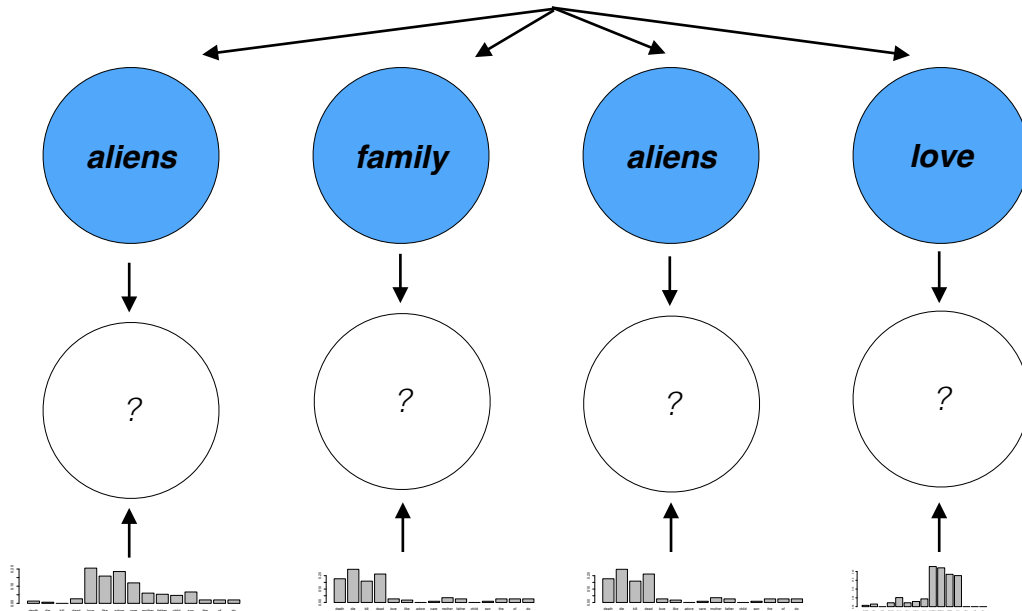
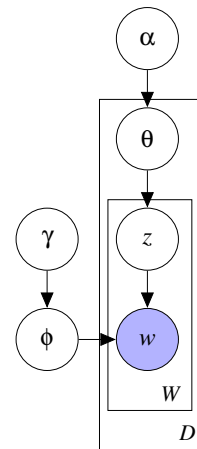
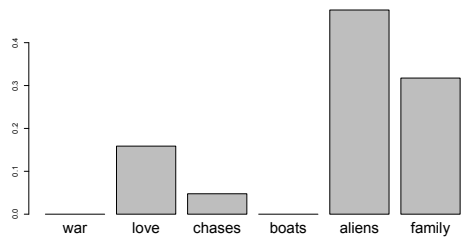
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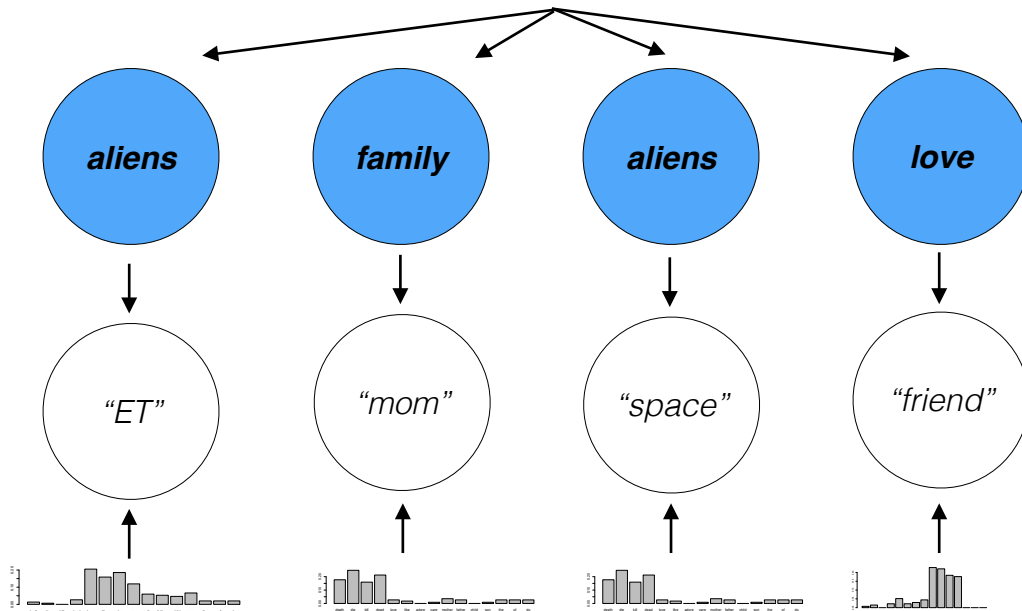
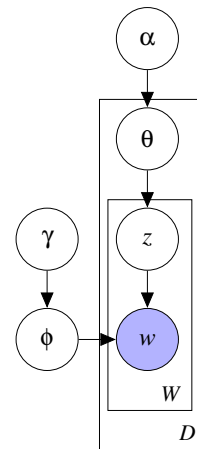
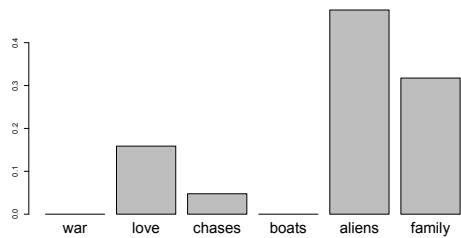




$P(\text{topic} \mid \text{topic distribution})$



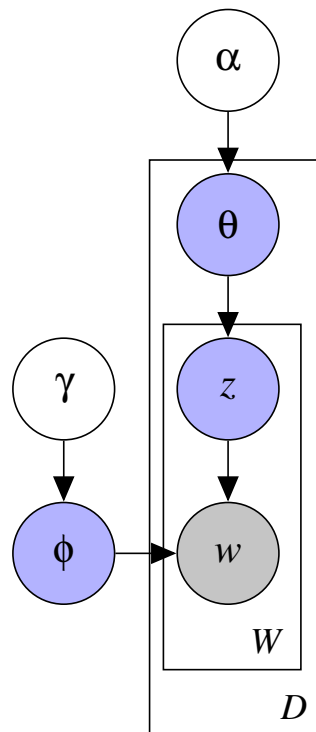




Inference

- What are the topic distributions for each document?
- What are the topic assignments for each word in a document?
- What are the word distributions for each topic?

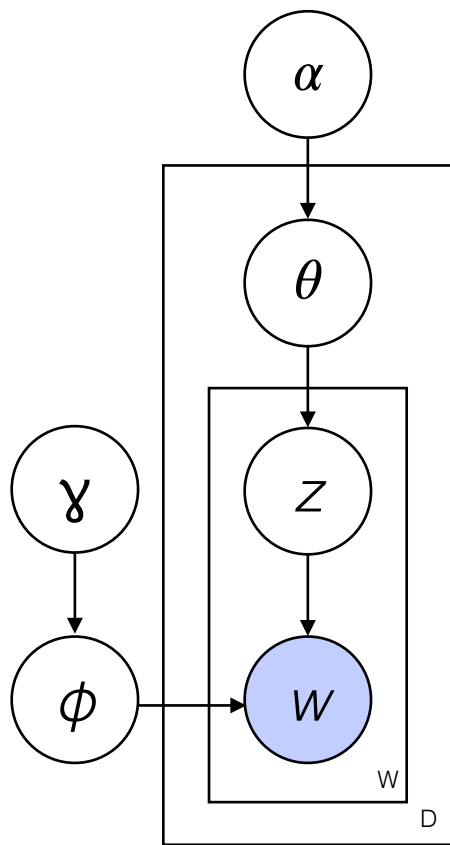
Find the parameters that maximize the likelihood of the data!



Inference

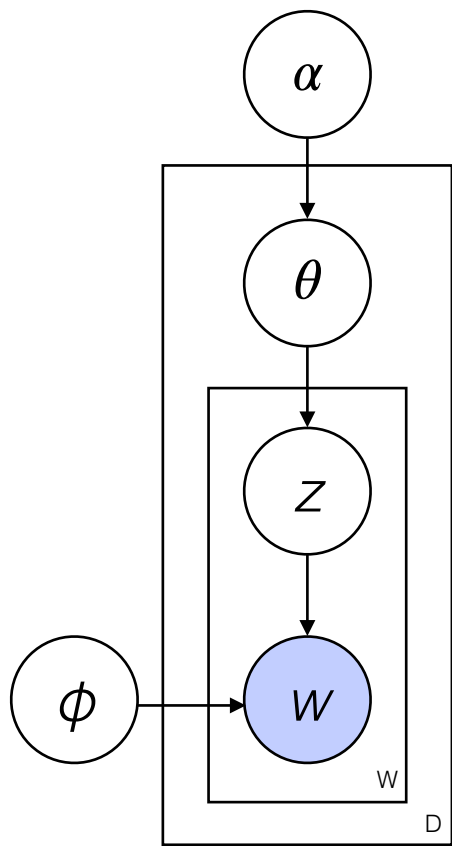
- Markov chain Monte Carlo (Gibbs sampling, Metropolis Hastings, etc.)
- Variational methods
- Spectral methods (Anandkumar et al. 2012, Arora et al. 2013)

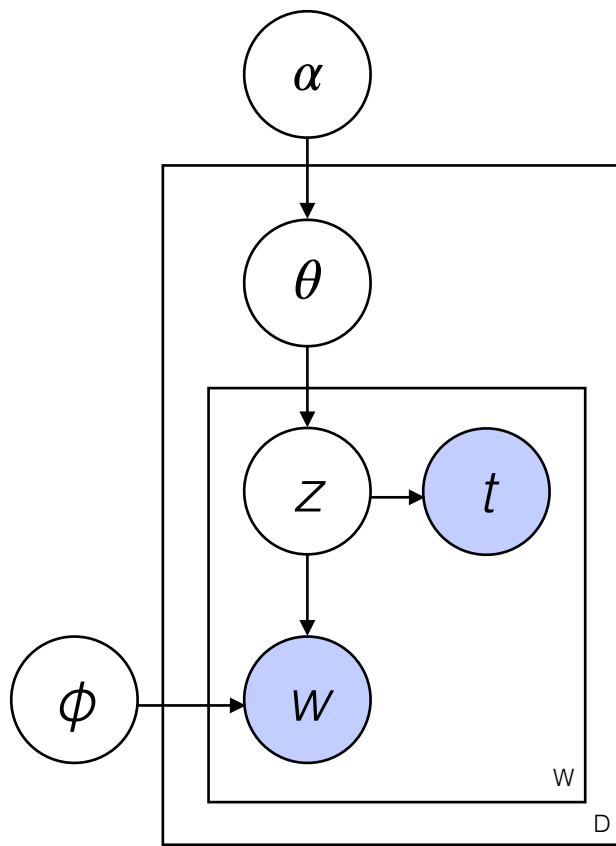
Assumptions

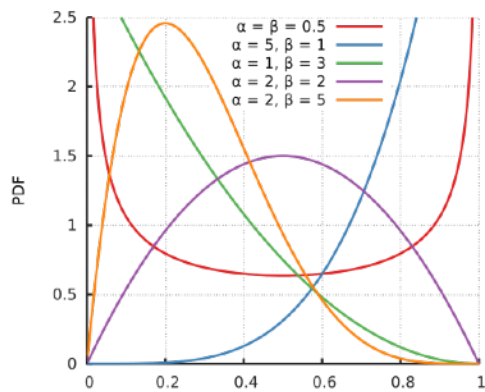
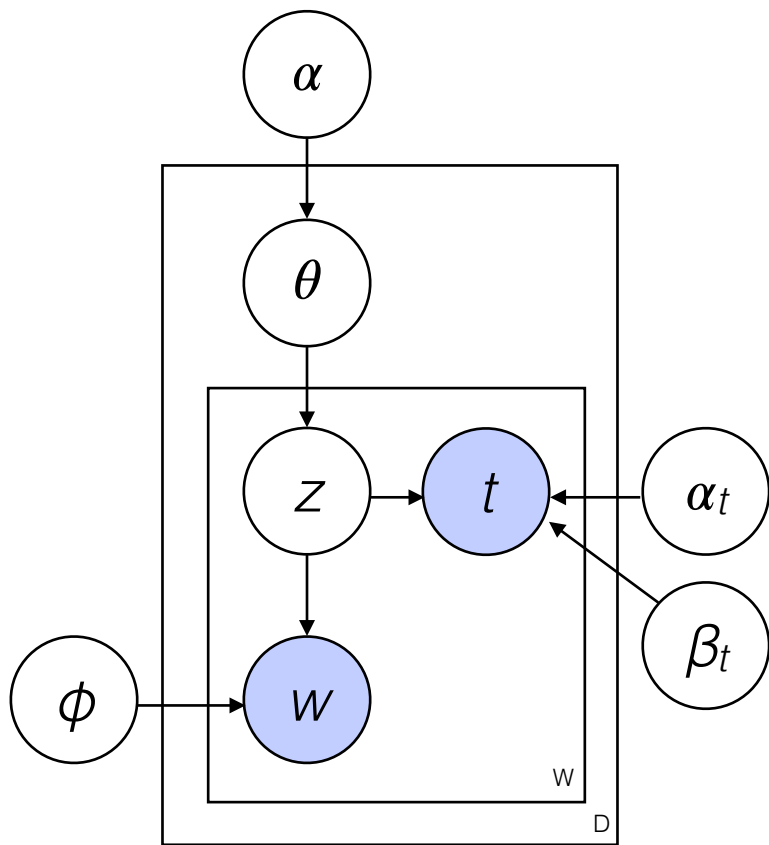


- Every word has one topic
- Every document has one topic distribution
- No sequential information (topics for words are independent of each other given the set of topics for a document)
- Topics don't have arbitrary correlations (Dirichlet prior)
- Words don't have arbitrary correlations (Dirichlet prior)
- The only information you learn from are the identities of **words** and how they are divided into **documents**.

What if you want to encode other assumptions or reason over other observations?

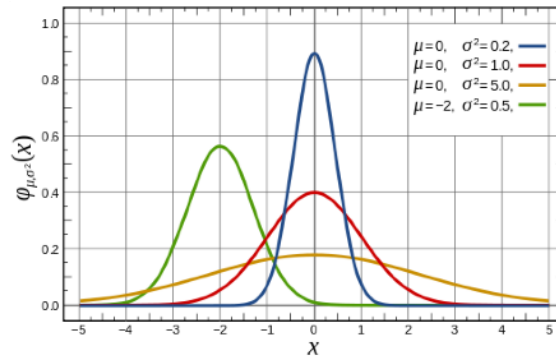
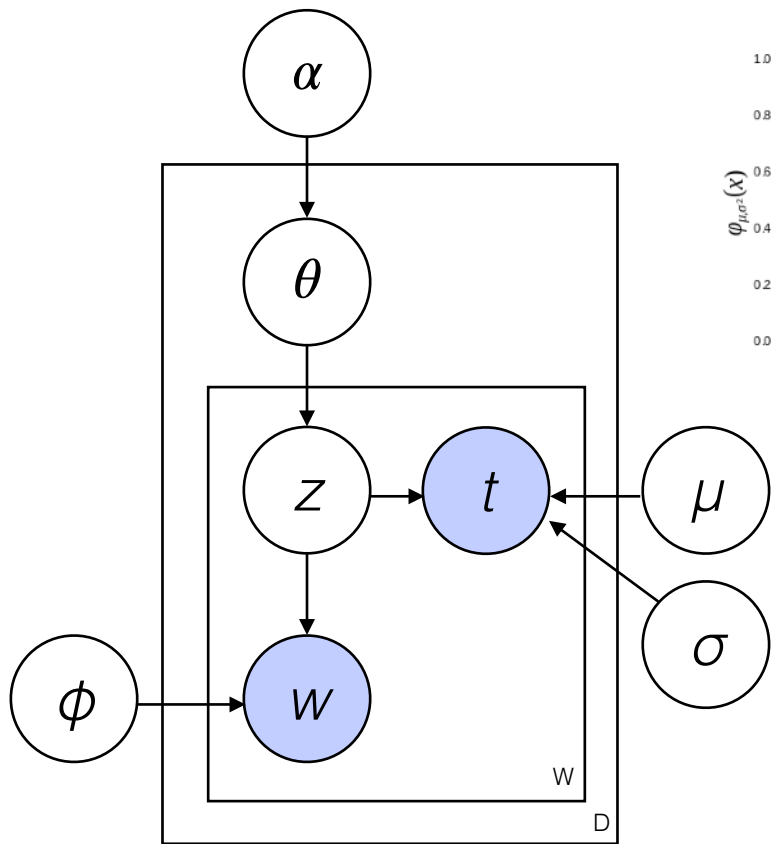






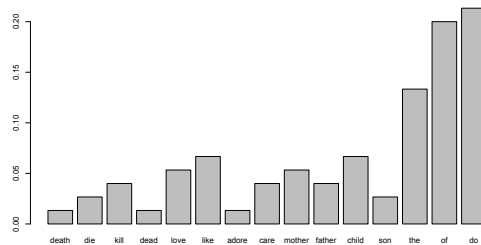
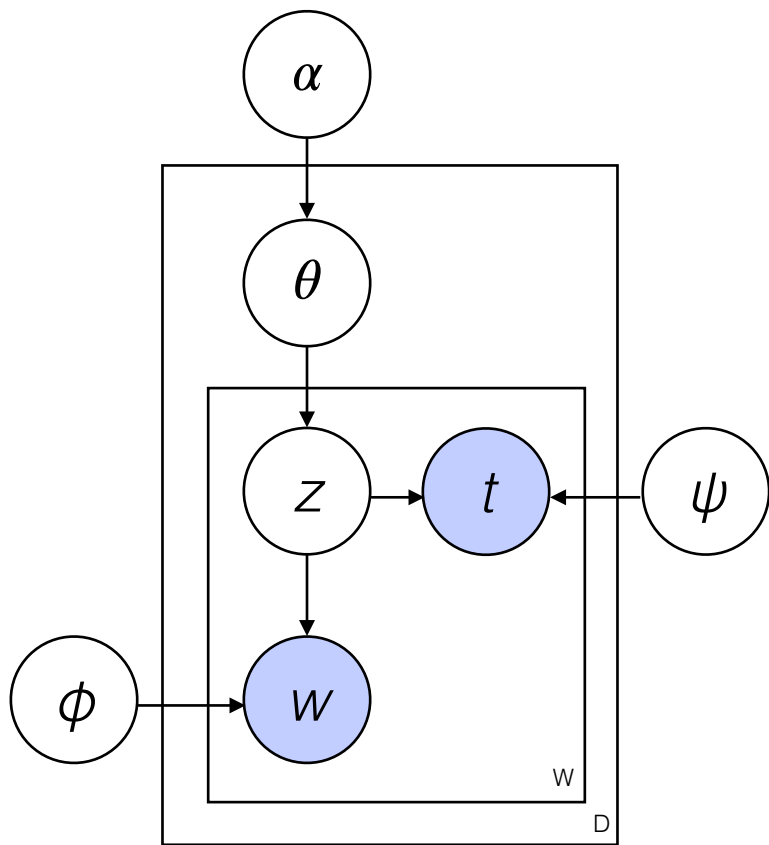
Time is drawn from a
Beta distribution

$[0, 1]$



Time is drawn from a
Normal distribution

$[-\infty, \infty]$



Time is drawn from a Multinomial distribution
 $[1, \dots, K]$

Activity

4.topics/TopicModeling