

Natural Language Processing

Topic Models

Dirk Hovy

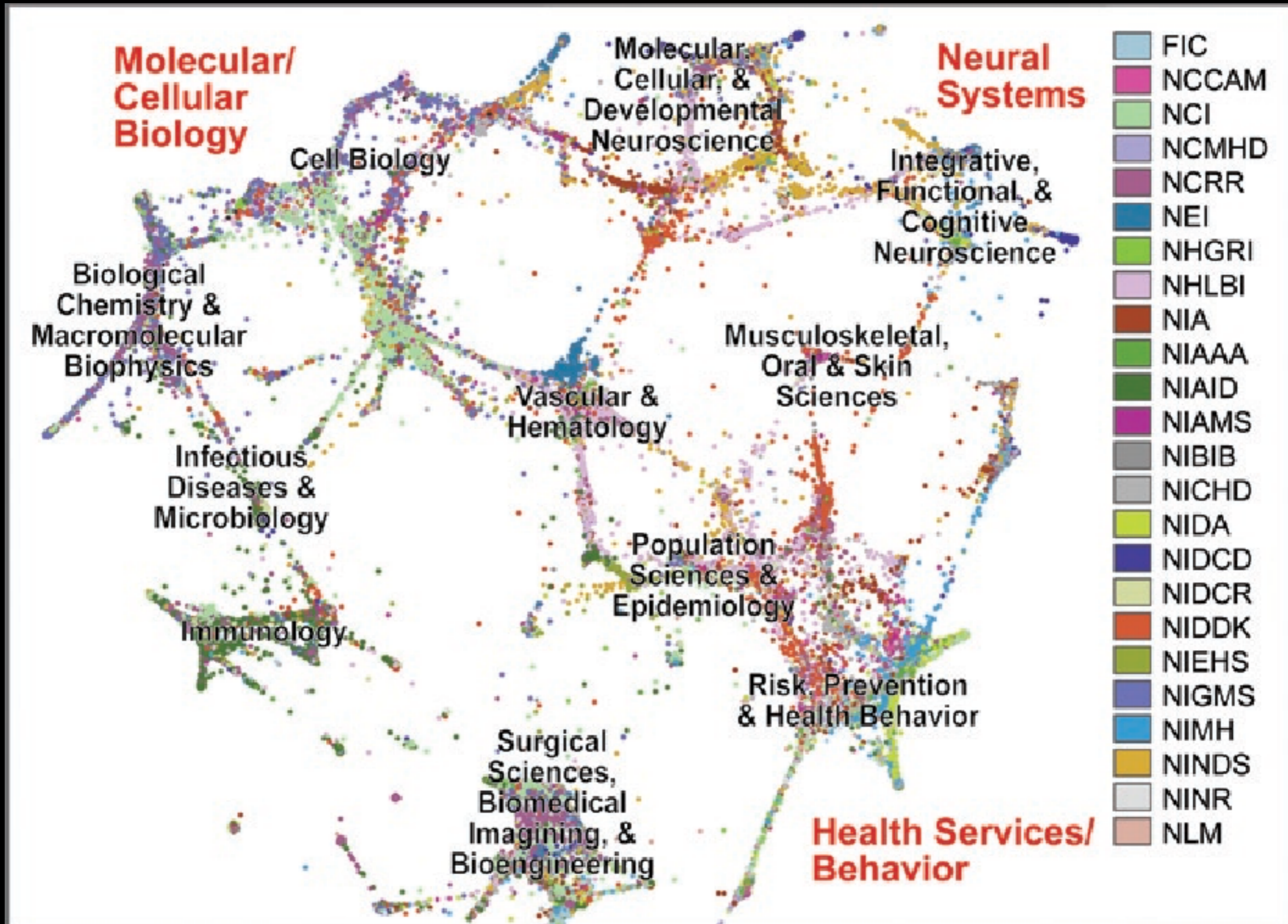
dirk.hovy@unibocconi.it

 @dirk_hovy

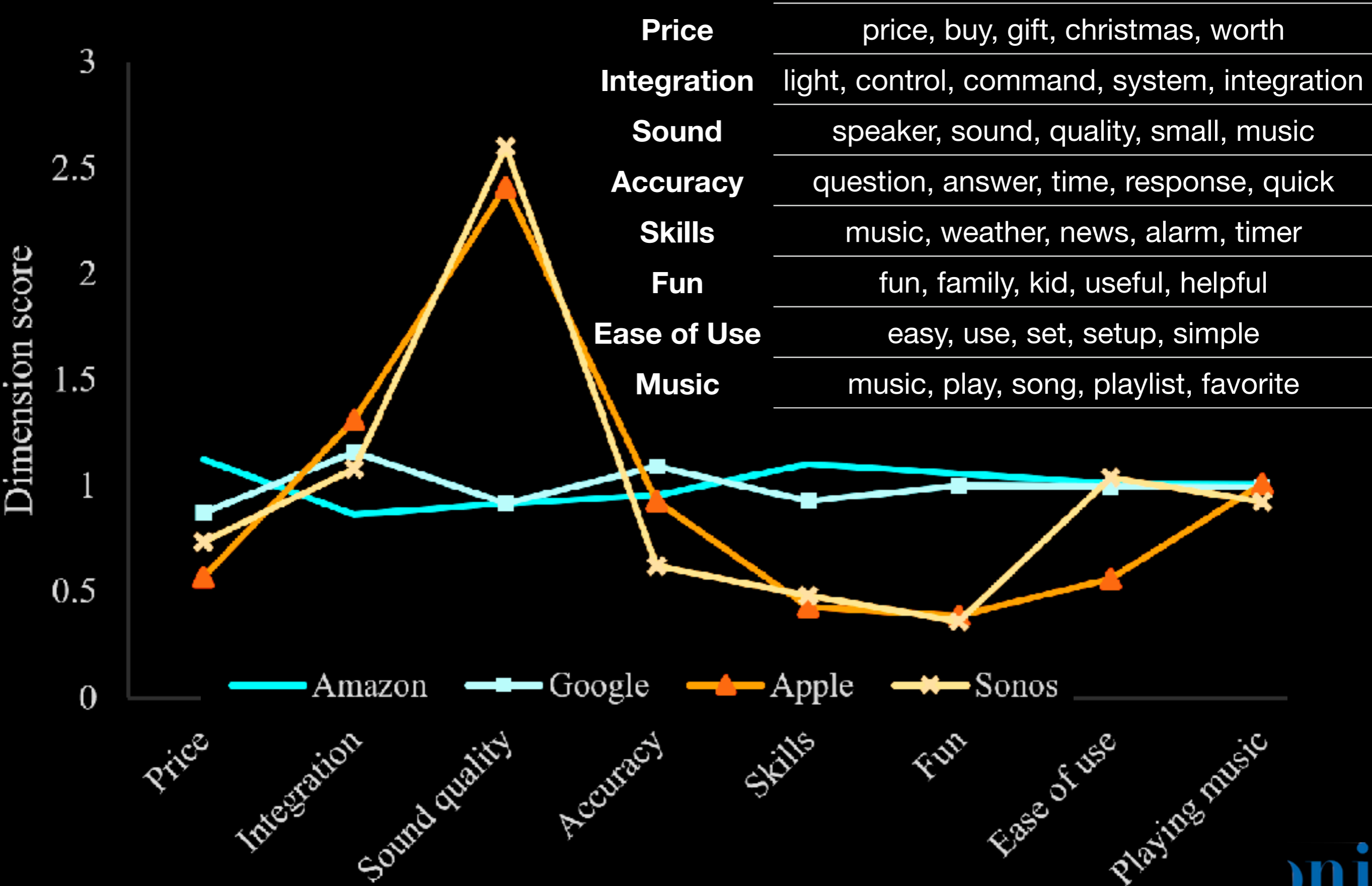
Goals for Today

- Understand what information **topic models** can and can not provide
- Learn about the **Latent Dirichlet Allocation (LDA)** model
- Understand the **parameters** influencing the output
- Learn about the **Structured Author Topic Model**
- Learn about **evaluation** criteria

What Gets Funded?



What do People Want in Smart Devices?



Topics are Word Lists

TOPIC OR NOT?

- "pasta, pizza, wine, sauce, spaghetti"
- "BLEU, Bert, encoder, decoder, transformer"

SOME DOMAIN KNOWLEDGE REQUIRED...

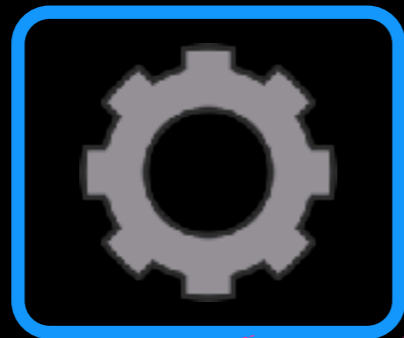
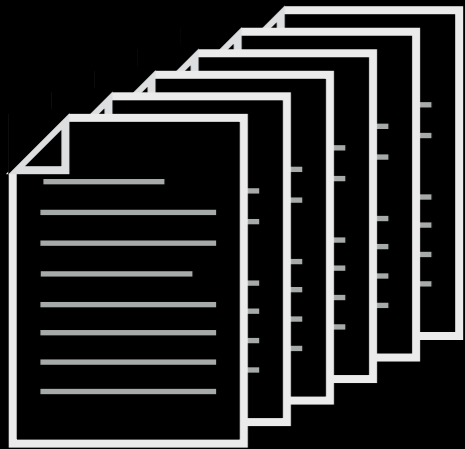
How to use Topic Models

CORPUS

MODEL

DESCRIPTORS

TOPICS



[pasta, pizza,
wine, sauce,
spaghetti]

FOOD

- preprocess

- find best #topics
- find best parameters
- check output

- choose top 5 words

- name

Preprocessing

Preprocessing

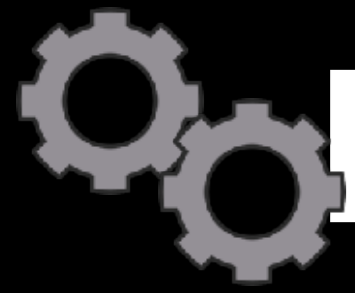
- Be aggressive:
 - lemmatization,
 - stopwords,
 - replace numbers/user names,
 - join collocations
 - use TFIDF
- use minimum document frequency 10, 20, 50, or even 100
- use maximum document frequency 50% – 10%



Pre-processing steps

```
<div id="text">I've been in New York  
in 2011, but didn't like it. I  
preferred Los Angeles.</div>
```

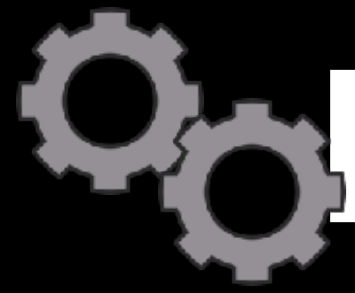
GOAL: MINIMIZE VARIATION



Pre-processing steps

- Remove formatting (e.g. HTML)
- Segment sentences
- Tokenize words
- Normalize words
 - numbers
 - lemmas vs. stems
- Remove unwanted words
 - stopwords
 - content words (use POS tagging!)
- join collocations

I've been in New York in
2011, but didn't like
it. I preferred Los
Angeles.



Pre-processing steps

- Remove formatting (e.g. HTML)

- Segment sentences

I've been in New York in
2011, but didn't like
it.

- Tokenize words

- Normalize words

- numbers

I preferred Los Angeles.

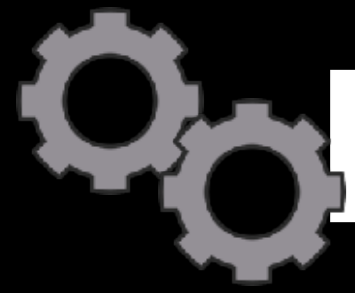
- lemmas vs. stems

- Remove unwanted words

- stopwords

- content words (use POS tagging!)

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Pre-processing steps

- Remove formatting (e.g. HTML)

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- Tokenize words

- Normalize words

- numbers

- lemmas vs. stems

- Remove unwanted words

- stopwords

- content words (use POS tagging!)

- join collocations

I 've been in New York
in 2011 , but did n't
like it .

I preferred Los
Angeles .



Pre-processing steps

- Remove formatting (e.g. HTML)

- Segment sentences

- Tokenize words

- Normalize words

- numbers

- lemmas vs. stems

- Remove unwanted words

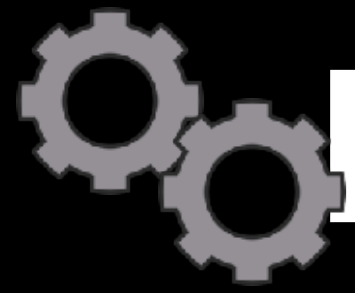
- stopwords

- content words (use POS tagging!)

- join collocations

```
i 've been in new york  
in 0000 , but did n't  
like it .
```

```
i preferred los  
angeles .
```



Pre-processing steps

- Remove formatting (e.g. HTML)

- Segment sentences

- Tokenize words

- Normalize words

- numbers

- lemmas vs. stems

- Remove unwanted words

- stopwords

- content words (use POS tagging!)

- join collocations

i have be in new york in
0000 , but do not like
it .

i prefer los angeles .



Pre-processing steps

- Remove formatting (e.g. HTML)

`i new york 0000 , like .`

- Segment sentences

- Tokenize words

`i prefer los angeles .`

- Normalize words

- numbers

- lemmas vs. stems

- Remove unwanted words

- stopwords

- content words (use POS tagging!)

- join collocations



Pre-processing steps

- Remove formatting (e.g. HTML)

new york 0000 like

- Segment sentences

- Tokenize words

prefer los angeles

- Normalize words

- numbers

- lemmas vs. stems

CONTENT = (NOUN, VERB, NUM)

- Remove unwanted words

- stopwords

- content words (use POS tagging!)

- join collocations



Pre-processing steps

- Remove formatting (e.g. HTML)

`new_york 0000 like`

- Segment sentences

- Tokenize words

`prefer los_angeles`

- Normalize words

- numbers

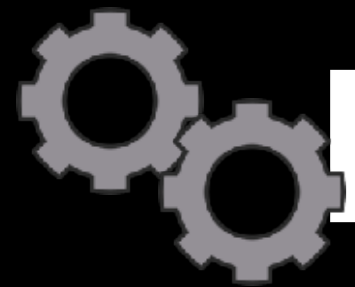
- lemmas vs. stems

- Remove unwanted words

- stopwords

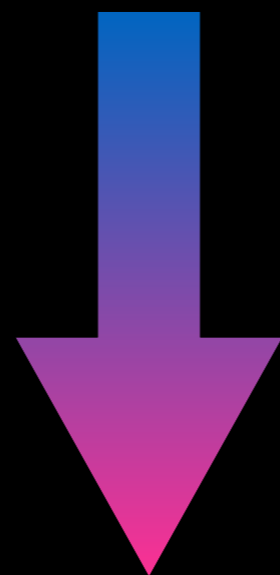
- content words (use POS tagging!)

- join collocations



Pre-processing steps

```
<div id="text">I've been in New York  
in 2011, but didn't like it. I  
preferred Los Angeles.</div>
```



*MINIMAL
VARIATION*

"BAG OF WORDS"

`new_york 0000 like`

`prefer los_angeles`

Representing Text

N-grams

"As Gregor Samsa awoke one morning from uneasy dreams, he found himself transformed in his bed into a gigantic insect-like creature."

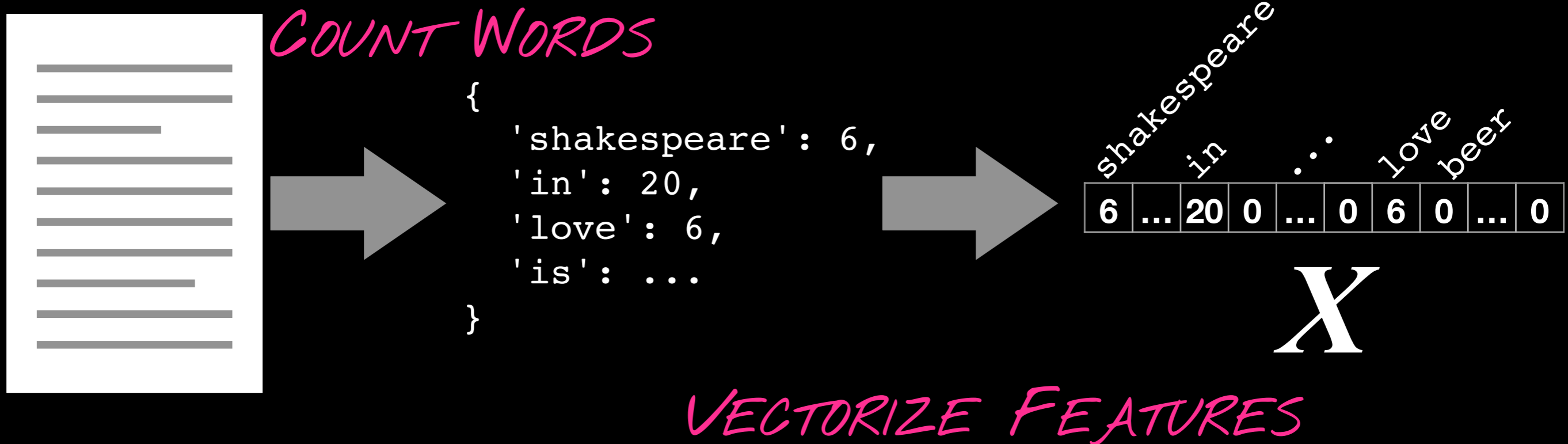
Unigrams As, Gregor, Samsa, awoke, one, morning, from, uneasy, dreams, ...

Bigrams As_Gregor, Gregor_Samsa, Samsa_awoke, awoke_one, one_morning, ...

Trigrams As_Gregor_Samsa, Gregor_Samsa_awoke, Samsa_awoke_one, awoke_one_morning, ...

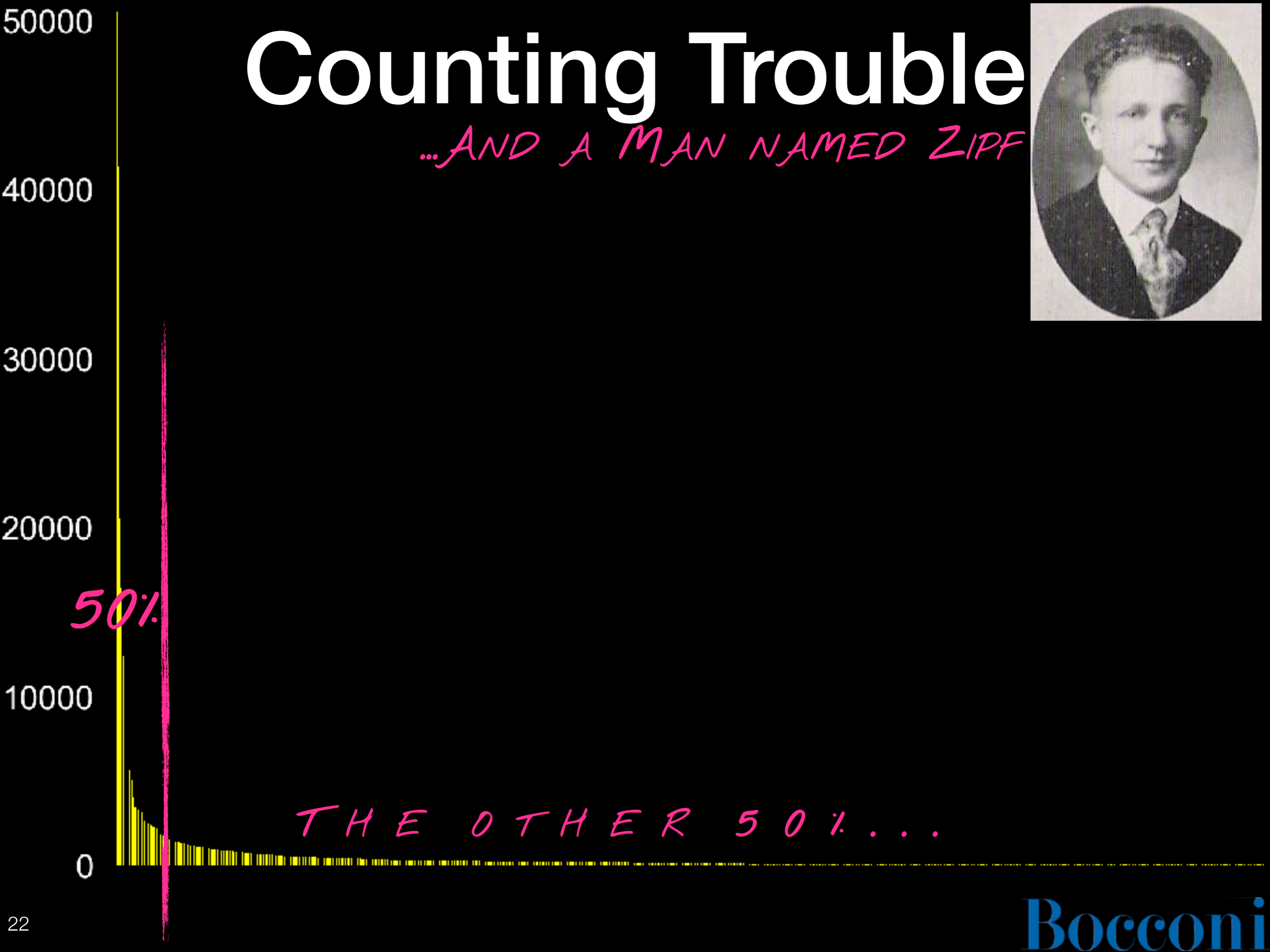
4-grams As_Gregor_Samsa_awoke, Gregor_Samsa_awoke_one, Samsa_awoke_one_morning, ...

Bags of words (BOW)



Counting Trouble

...AND A MAN NAMED ZIPF



50%

THE OTHER 50%...

Finding Important Words: TF-IDF

Some Words are Just More Interesting...

the
the
the

the
the
the

the
the
the

the
sustainable

the
the

sustainable
the
the

the
the
the

the
the
the

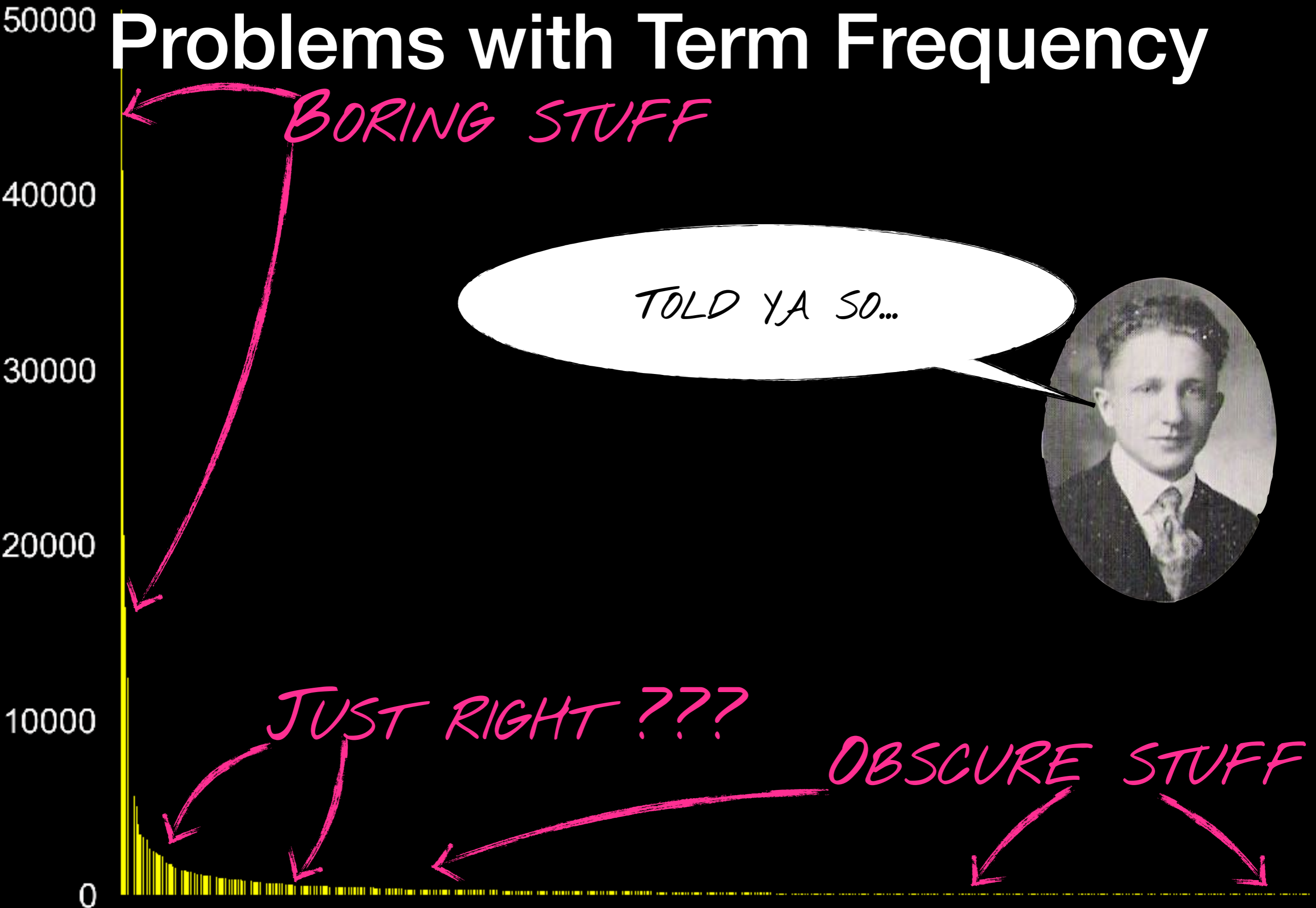
Karen Spärck Jones

1935–2007

- Became a teacher before starting CS career at Cambridge
- Laid the foundation for modern NLP, Google Search, text classification
- Campaigned for more women in CS
- Namesake of prestigious CS prize



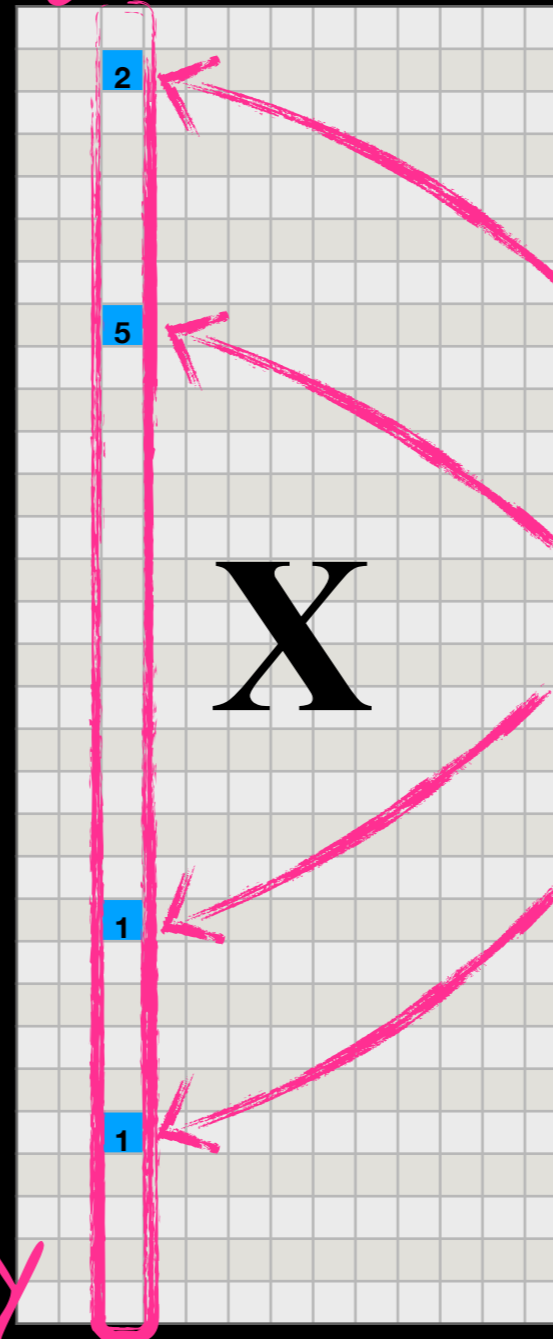
Problems with Term Frequency



Document and Term Frequency

FEATURE

$$IDF = \log \frac{N}{df(w)}$$



DOCUMENT
FREQUENCY
(COUNT): 4

TERM FREQUENCY

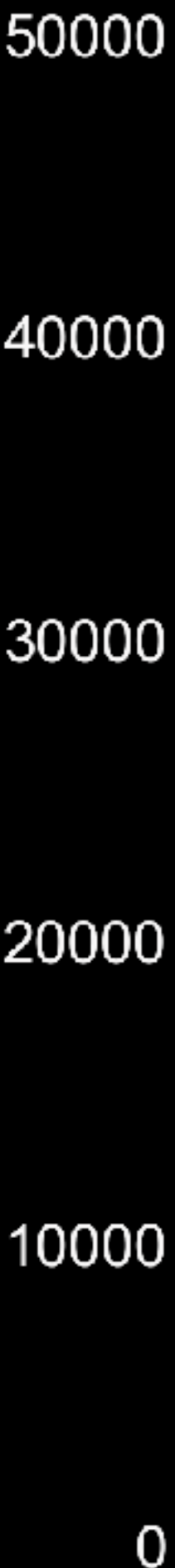
(SUM): 9 TF

Putting it Together

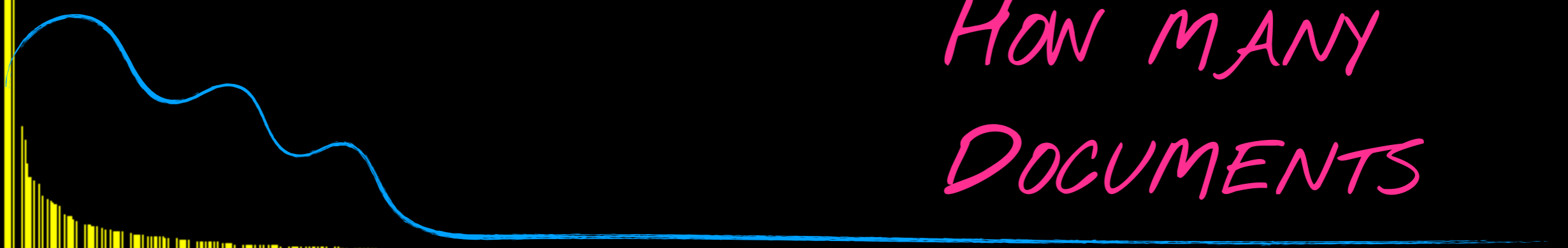
HOW OFTEN WE
SAW THE WORD

$$\mathbf{TFIDF}(w) = \mathbf{TF}(w) \cdot \log \frac{N}{df(w)}$$

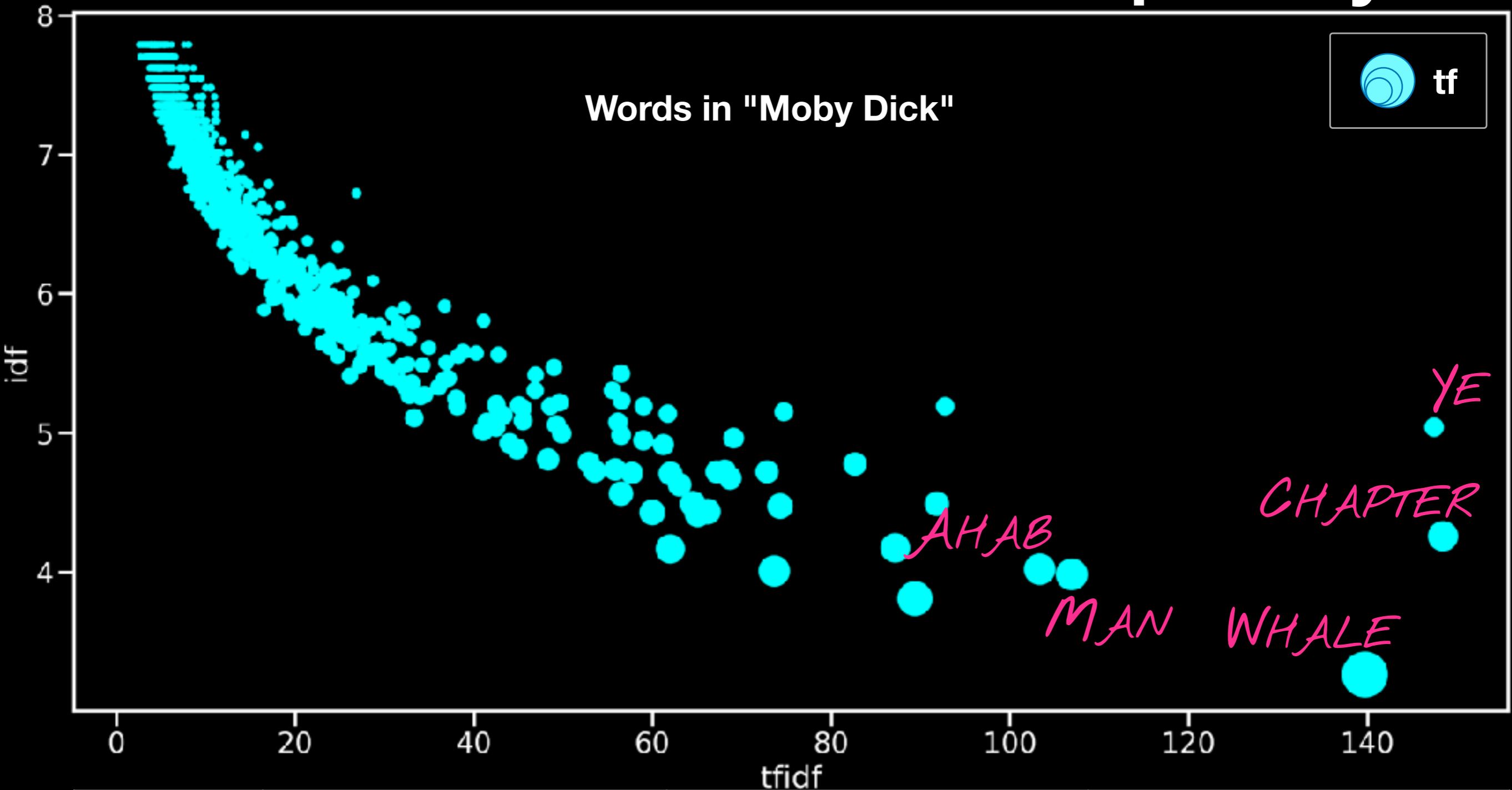
ADJUSTED BY
HOW MANY
DOCUMENTS



0



Document and Term Frequency



word	tf	idf	tfidf
ye	467	4.257380	148.497079
chapter	171	5.039475	147.504638
whale	1150	3.262357	139.755743
man	525	3.982412	106.932953
ahab	511	4.019453	103.357774

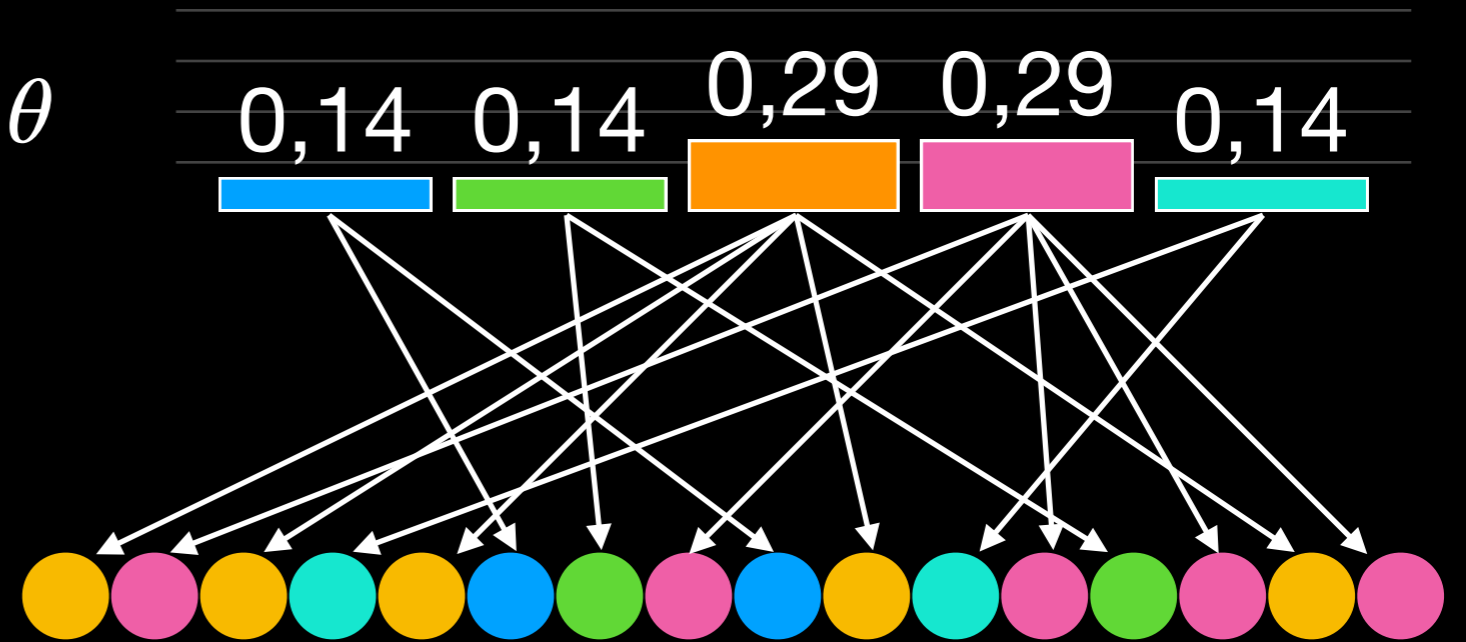
Latent Dirichlet Allocation

How to Generate Documents

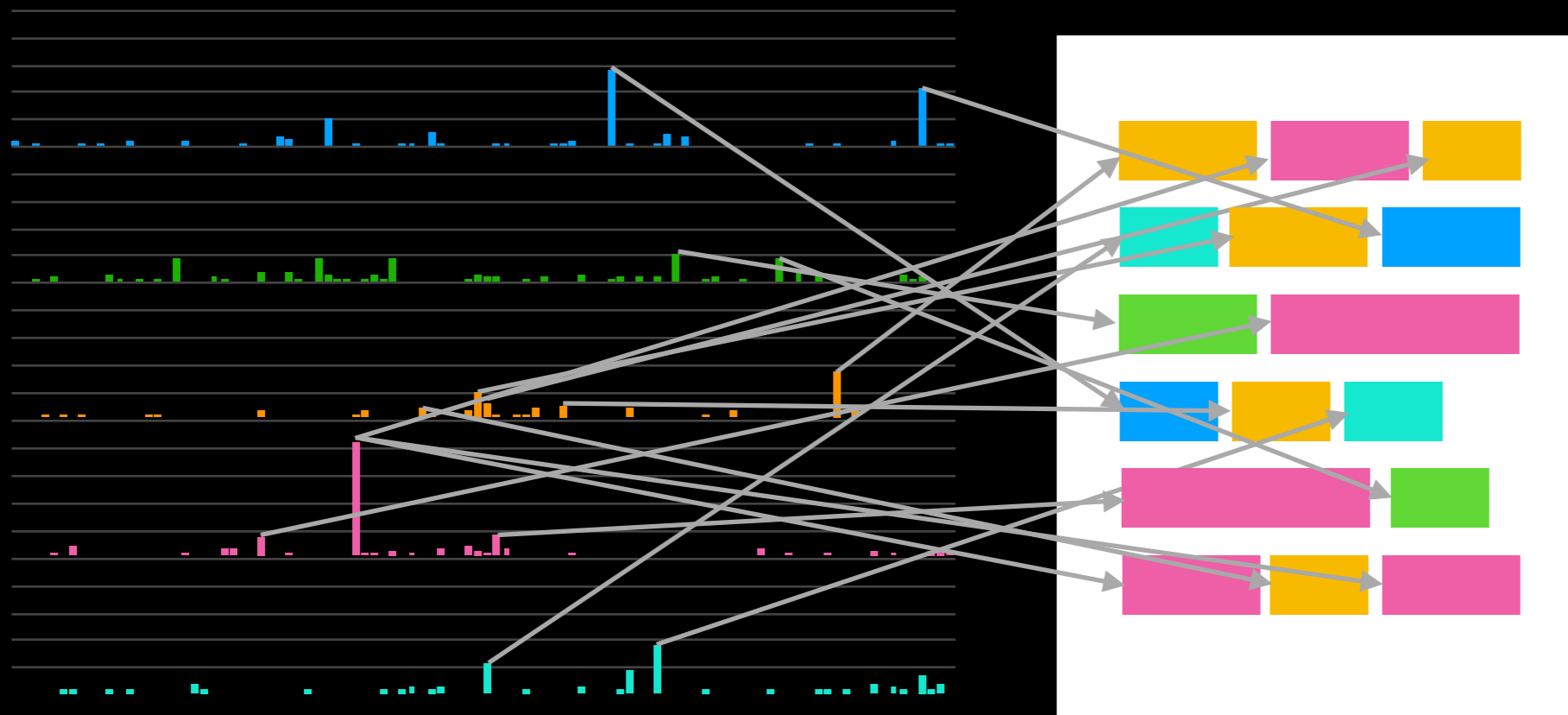
- Draw a topic distribution θ

- For i in N :

- Draw a topic from θ

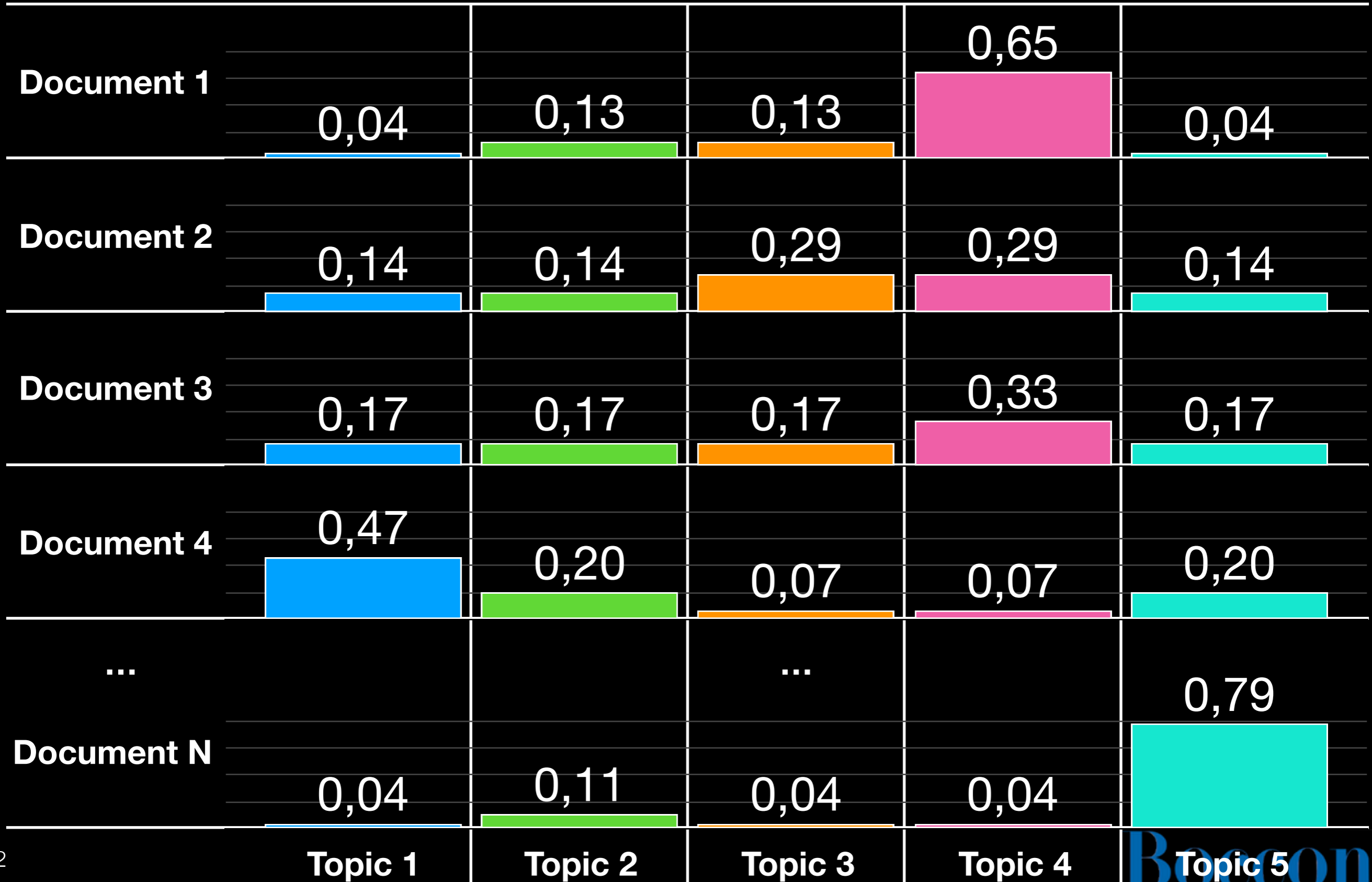


- Sample a word from the word distribution z



Topics per Document

$$\theta = P(\text{topic}|\text{document})$$



Words per Topic

$$z_i = P(\text{word} | \text{topic})$$

TOPIC DESCRIPTORS

Topic 1

Topic 2

Topic 3

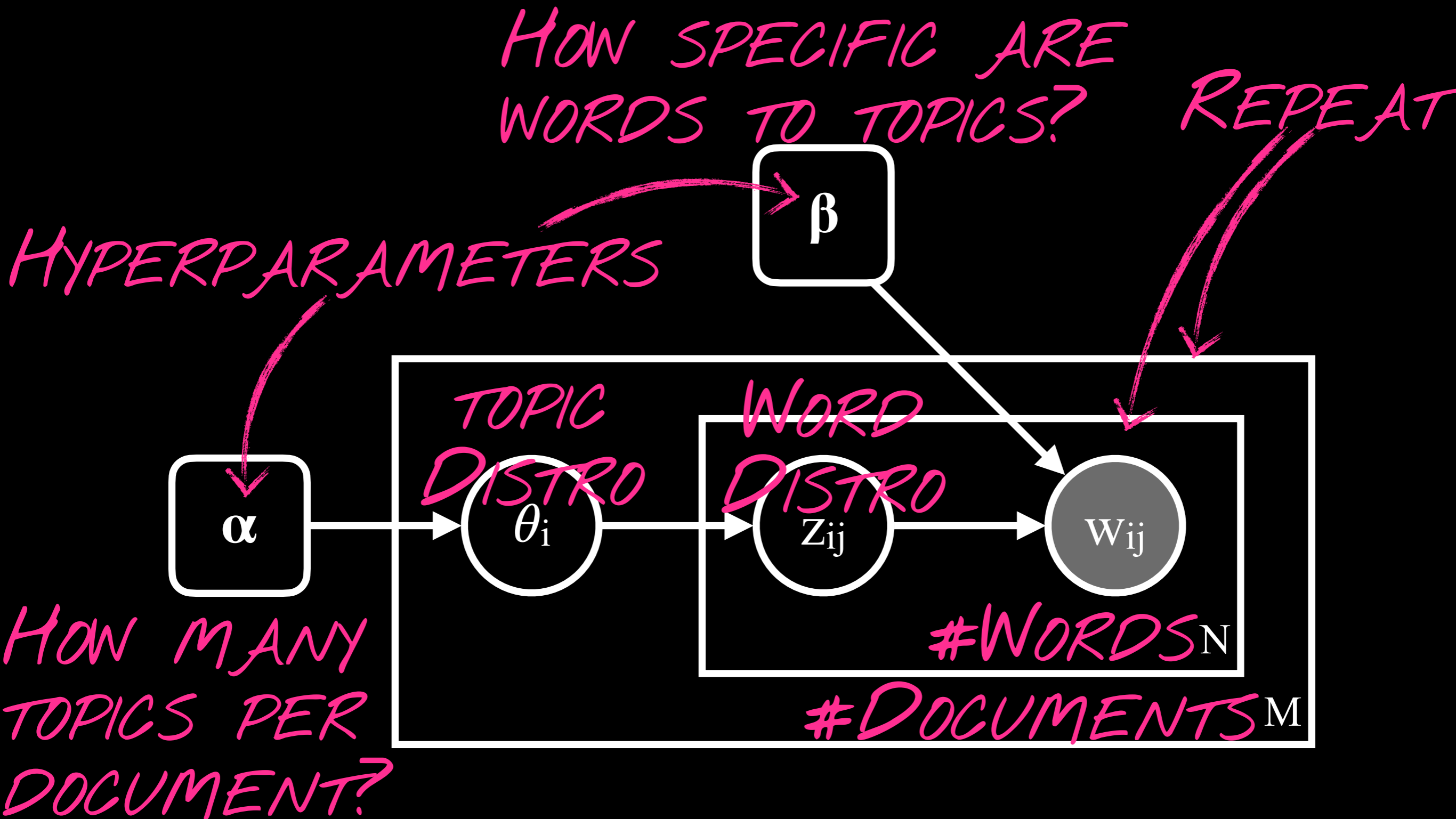
Topic 4

Topic 5

words

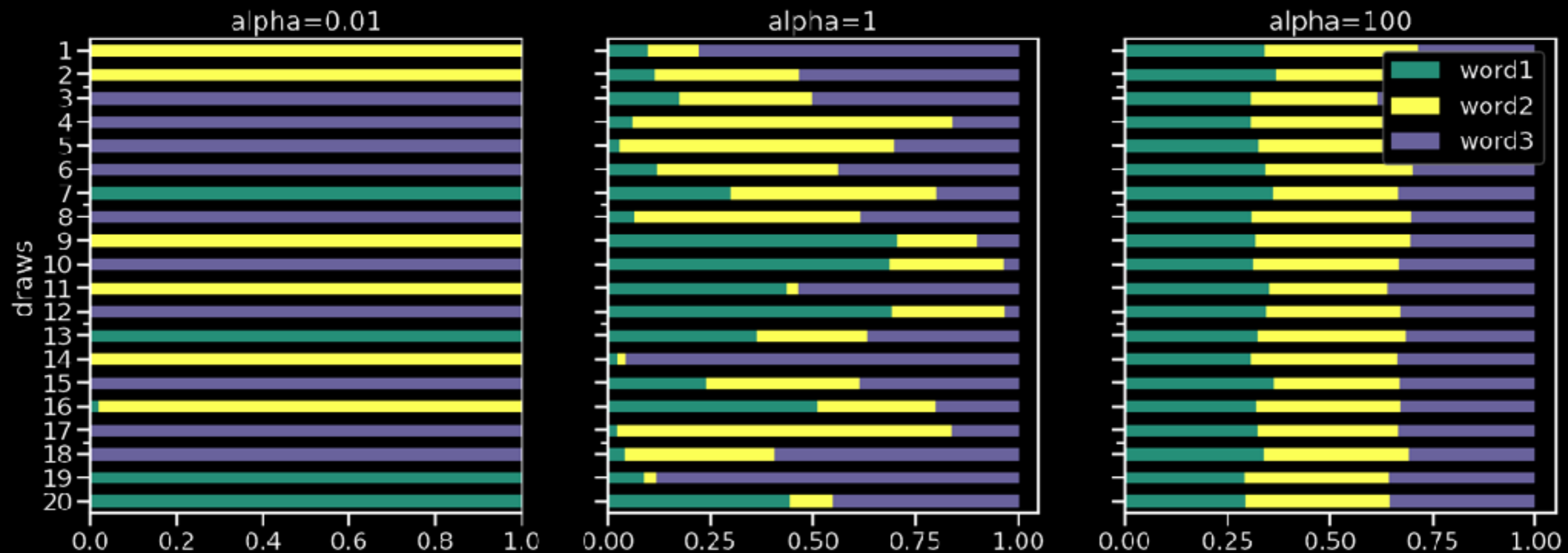


Plate Notation



Dirichlet Distributions

"DISTRIBUTION GENERATOR"



PEAKED

PARETO

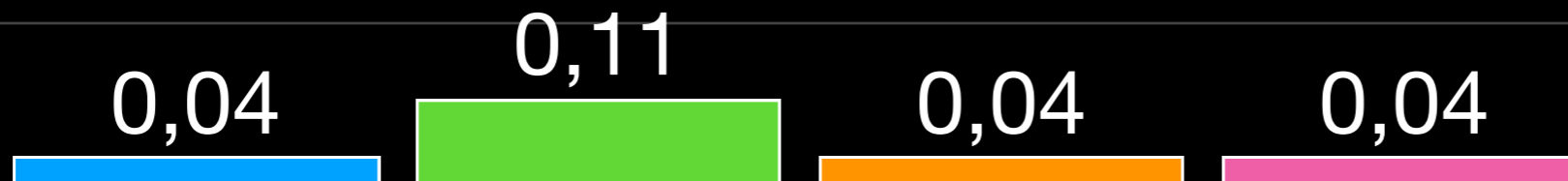
UNIFORM

Parameters: α

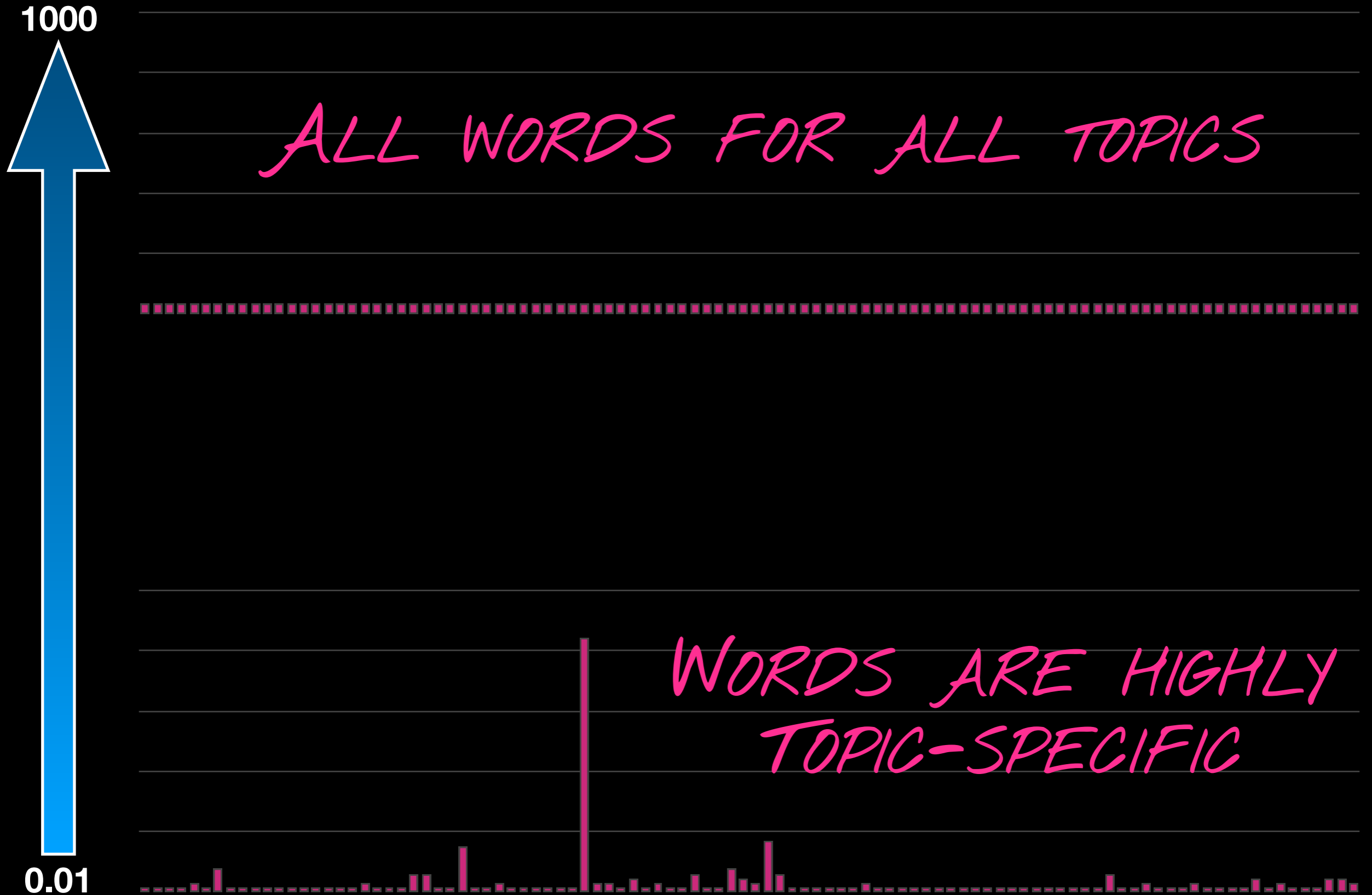
*MORE UNIFORM:
EVERY TOPIC IN EVERY DOCUMENT*



*MORE PEAKED:
ONE DOMINANT TOPIC / DOC*



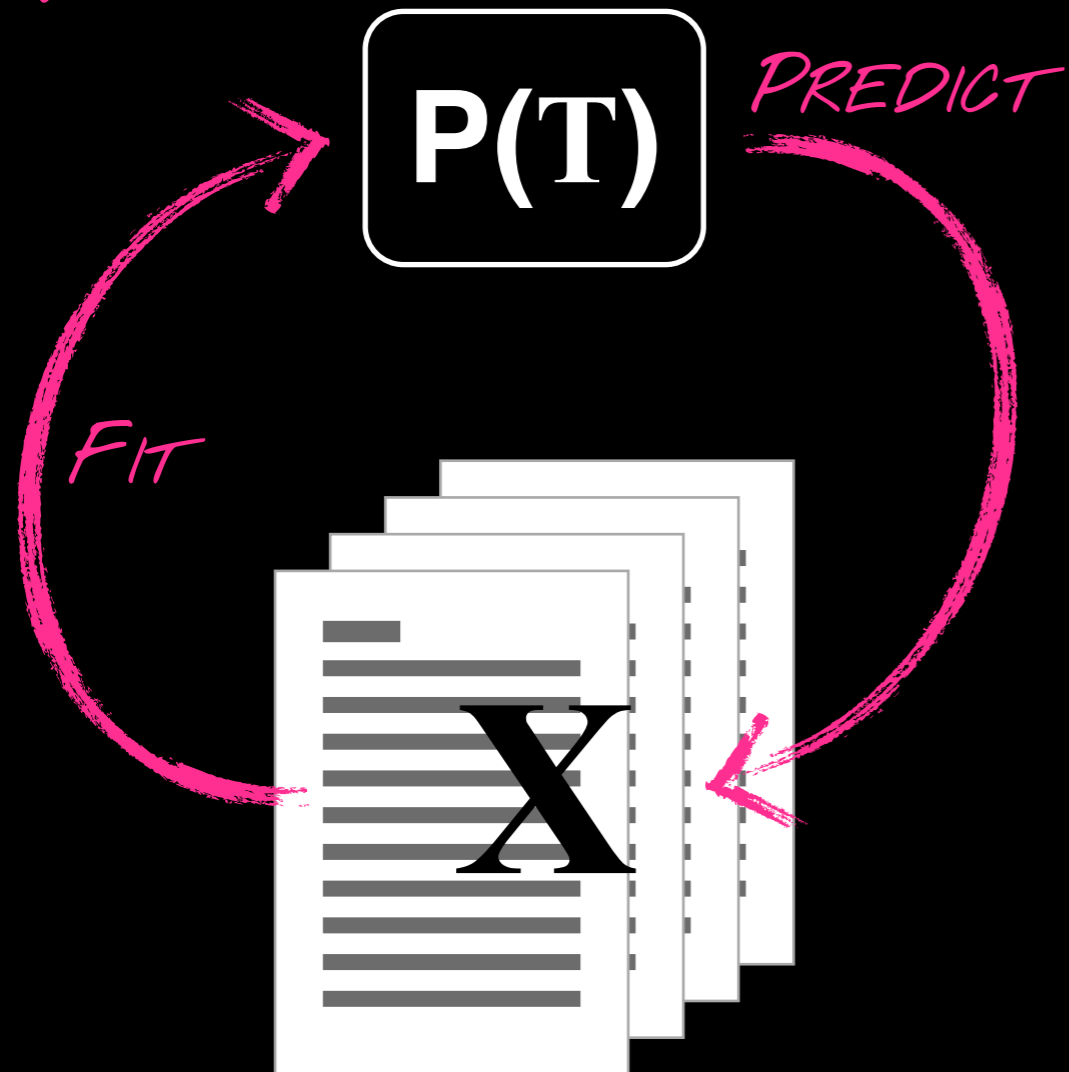
Parameters: β



Training and Parameters

Evaluating LDA

MODEL-INHERENT



$$= 2^{-\sum_x p(x) \log p(x)}$$

PERPLEXITY

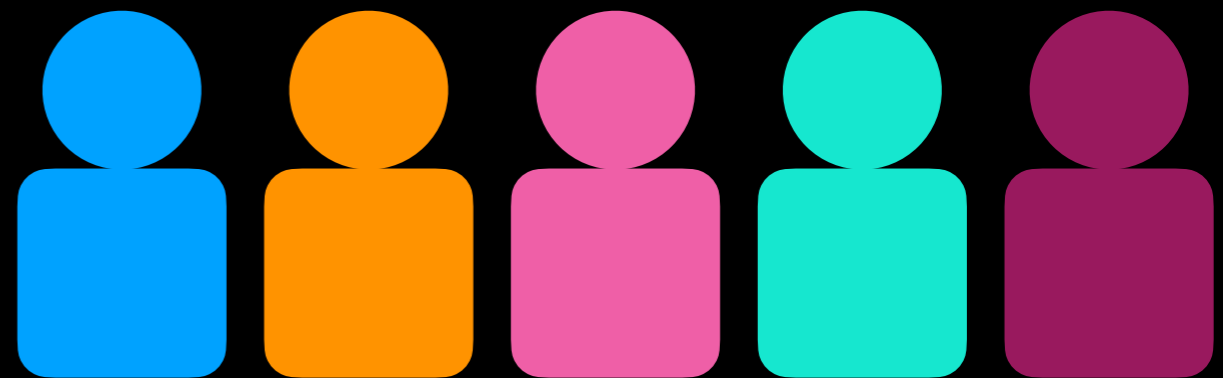
CONTENT-BASED

[apple, banana, pear, lime, orange]



[apple, banana, **foot**, lime, orange]

WHICH ONE'S WRONG?



WORD INTRUSION

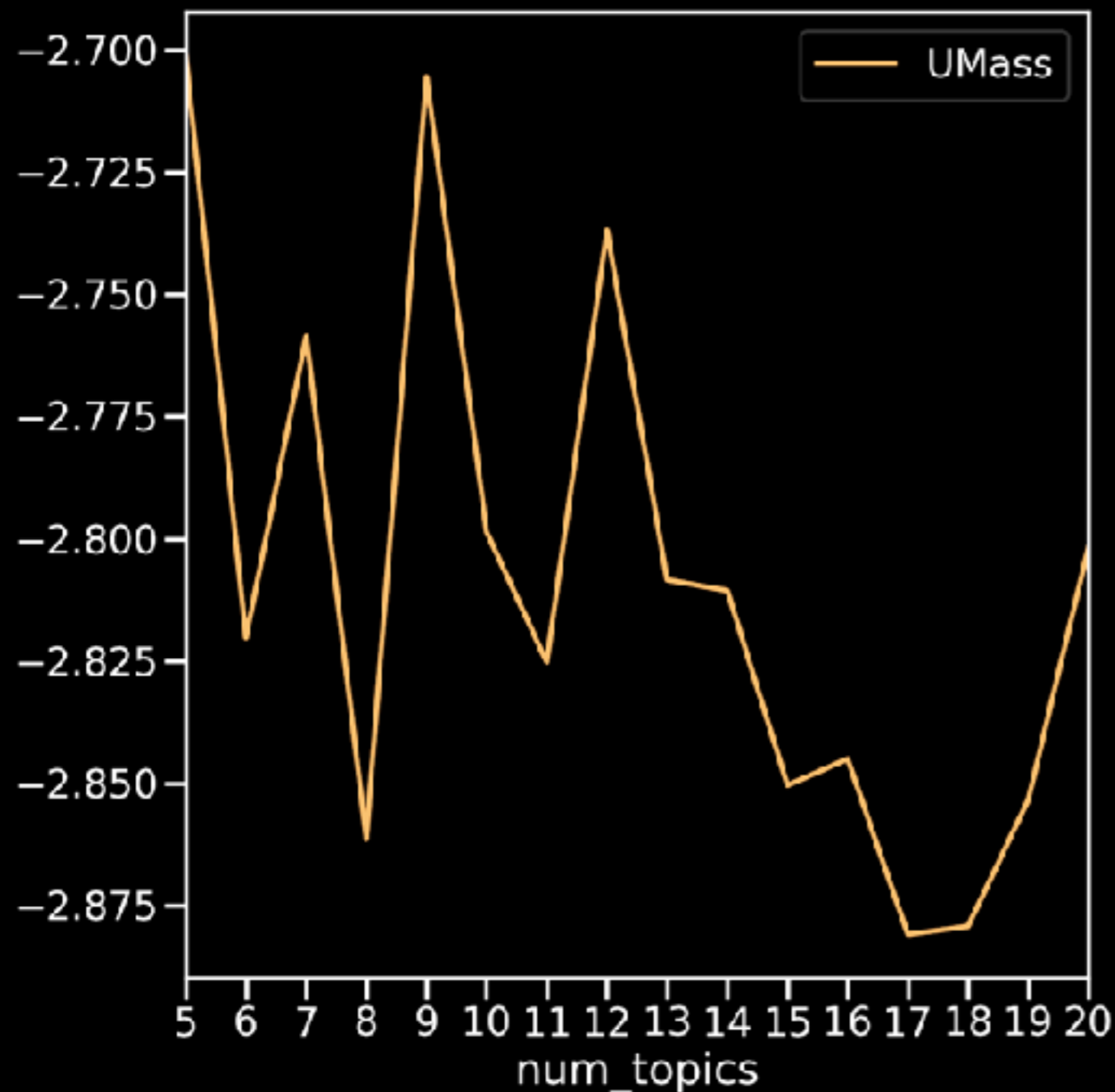
Parameters: K

EVALUATION
CRITERION

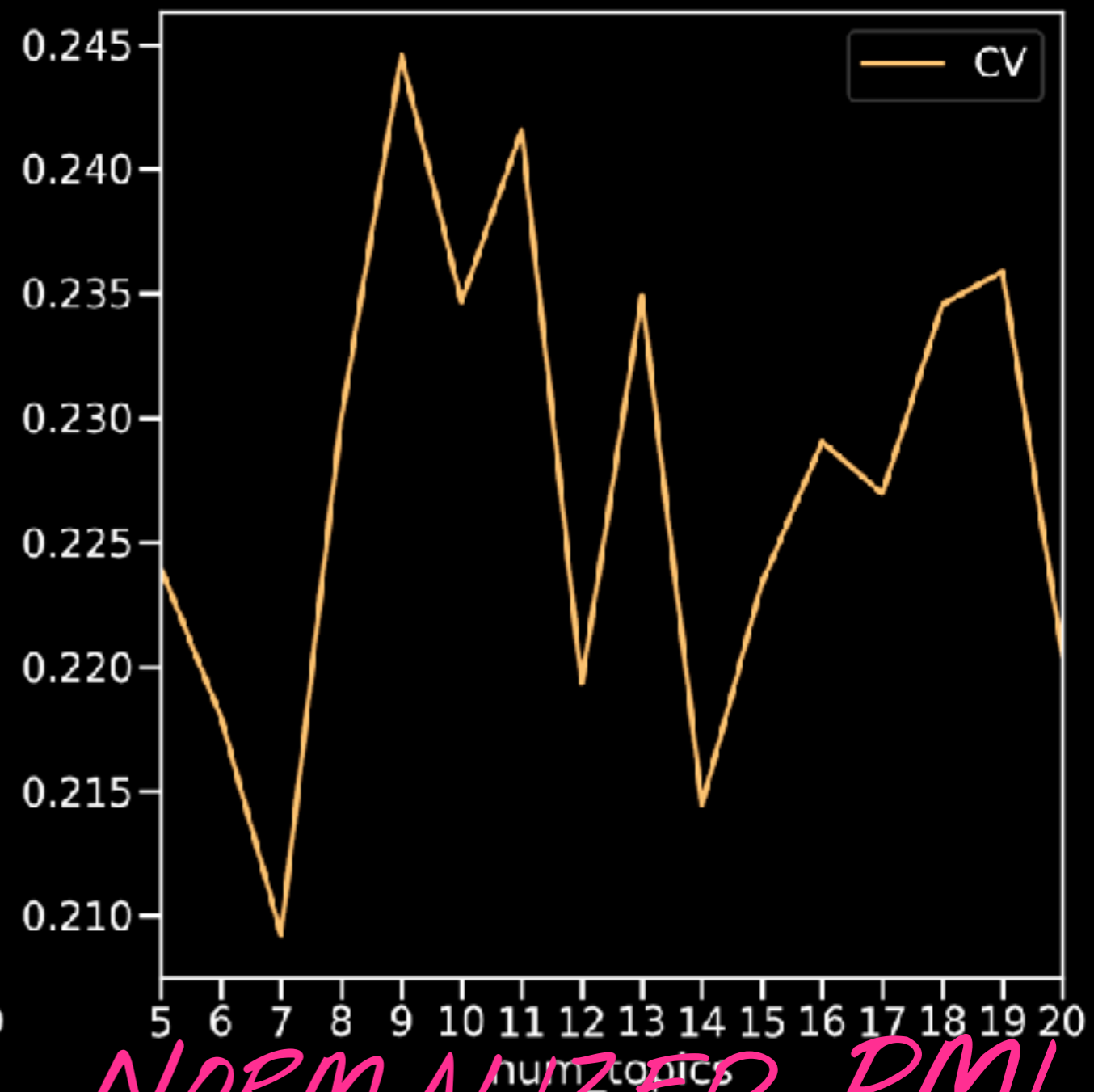
PICK LOWEST NUMBER
WITH BEST SCORE



Coherence Scores



LOG PROB OF WORD
CO-OCCURRENCES



NORMALIZED PMI
AND COSINE
SIMILARITY

Word and Topic Intrusion

Choose a word that is **not** related to others

loud

time

music

sound

quality

speaker

WORD INTRUSION

TOPIC INTRUSION

Which group of words does **not** describe the following sentence:

I get my morning facts and news all in one easy to use system.

easy, use, setup, simple, install

control, command, system, integration, smart

music, weather, news, alarm, timer

price, buy, sale, deal, item

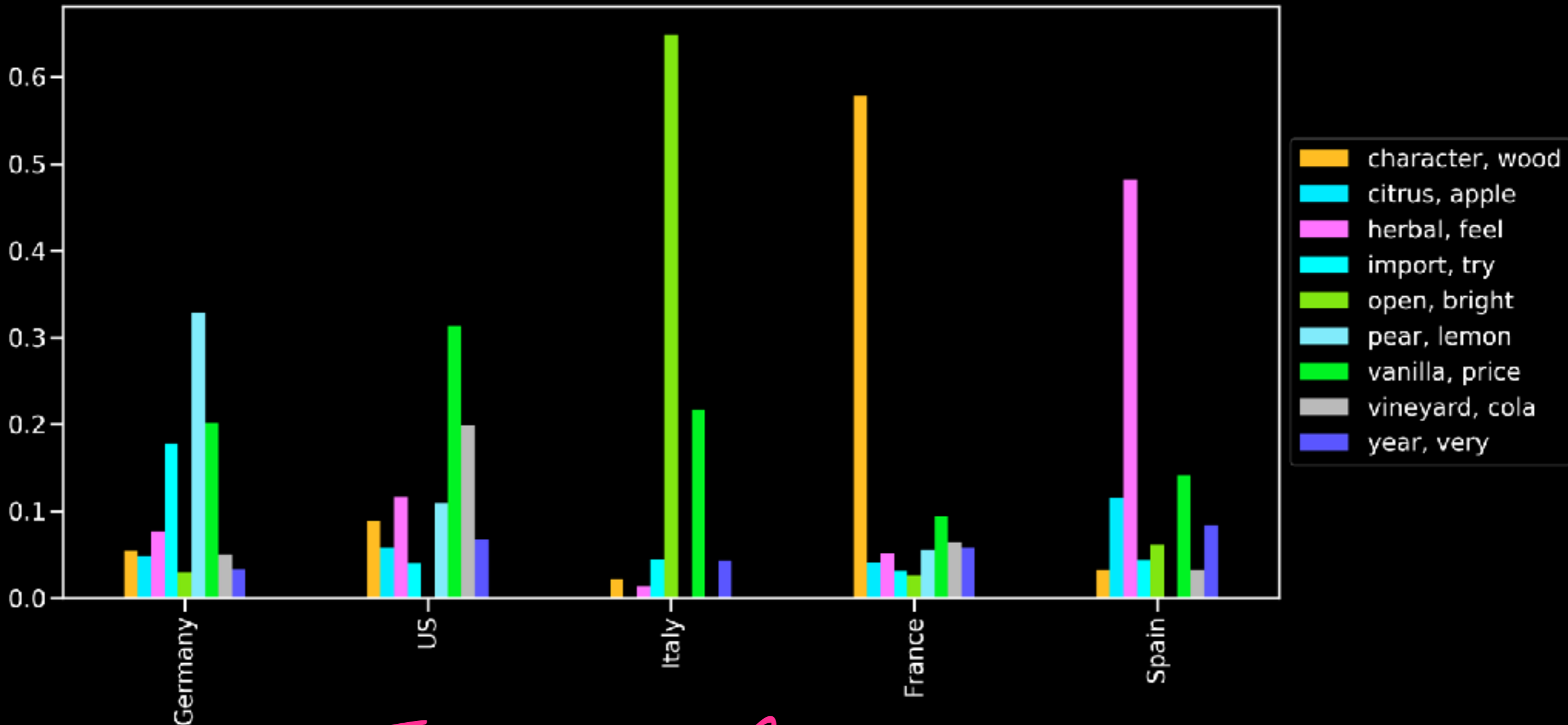
Adding Constraints

- Maybe we know which words go with a topic
- Fix some probabilities/add smoothing



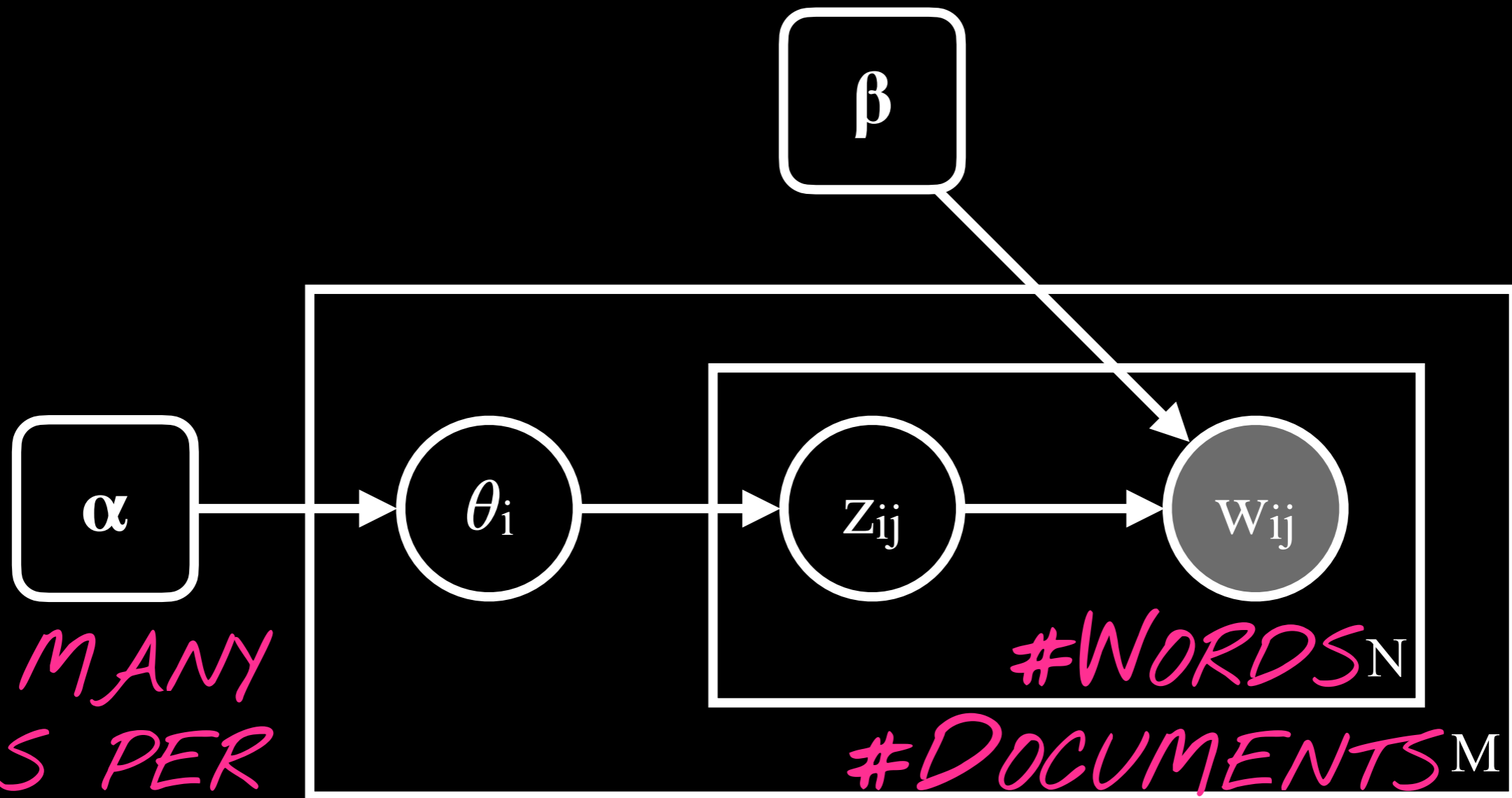
Author Topic Models

- Learn separate topic distribution for external factors



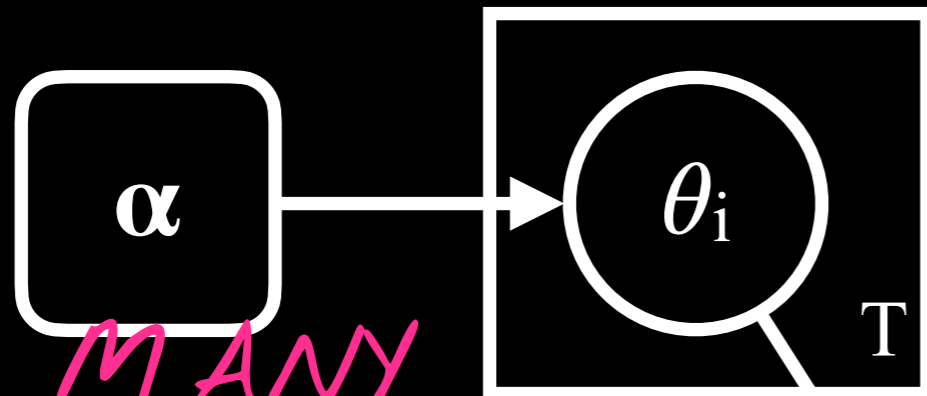
TOPICS BY COUNTRY

Plate Notation

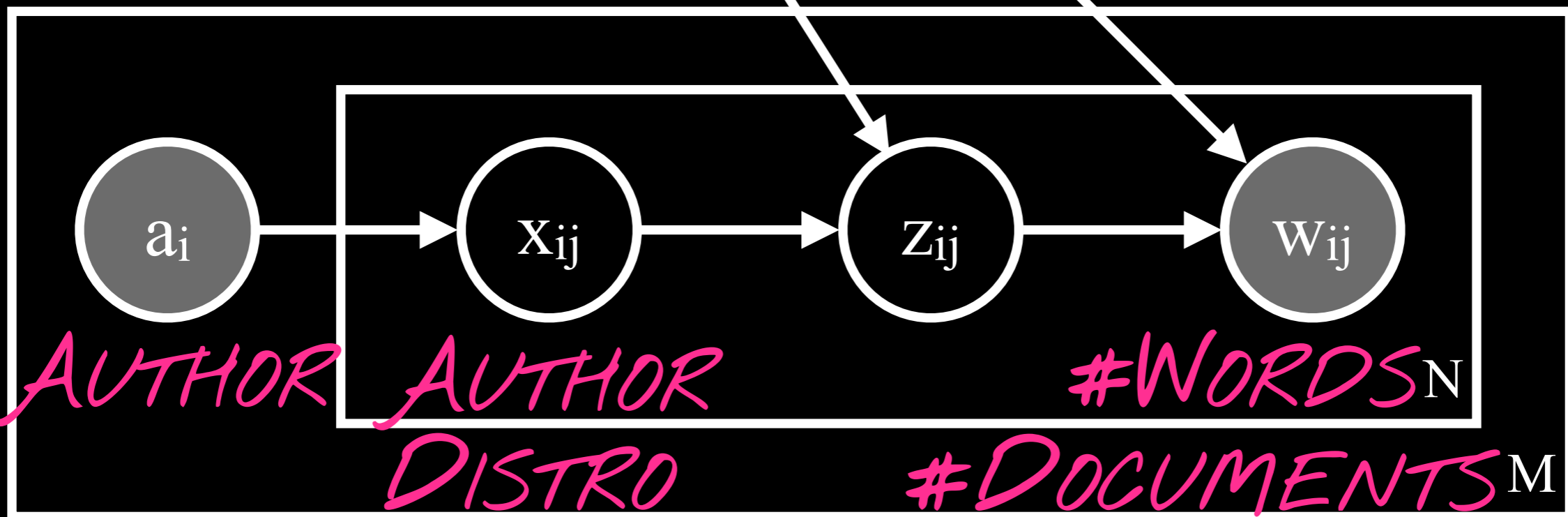


HOW MANY TOPICS PER DOCUMENT?

Plate Notation



HOW MANY TOPICS PER DOCUMENT?



Wrapping Up

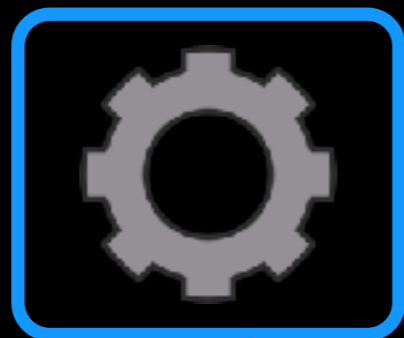
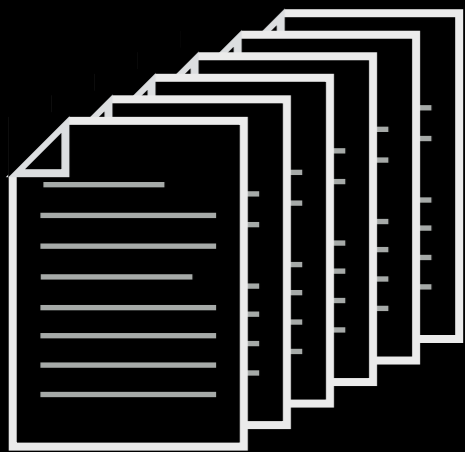
How to use Topic Models

CORPUS

MODEL

DESCRIPTORS

TOPICS



[pasta, pizza,
wine, sauce,
spaghetti]

FOOD

- preprocess

- find best #topics
- find best parameters
- check output

- choose top 5 words

- name

Caveats!

Topic models ALWAYS need manual assessment, because:

- Random initialization: no two models are the same!
- More likely models \neq more interpretable topics
- "Interpretable" is subjective
- Topics are not stable from run to run

NEVER USE TOPICS AS INPUT TO REGRESSION!

Take-Home Points

- **LDA** is one architecture for **topic models**
- Model document generation conditioned on latent topics
- Topic models are **stochastic**: each run is different
- **Preprocessing** and **parameters** influence performance
- Results need to be **interpreted!**
- We can introduce constraints through priors or labels

To Neural and Beyond



<https://github.com/MilaNLPProc/contextualized-topic-models>



- Based on neural networks: better coherence
- cross-lingual: train in one language, use in others
- add supervision: use document labels (similar to author topics)

	Sentence	Topic
EN	Blackmore's Night is a British/American traditional folk rock duo [...]	rock, band, bass, formed
IT	Blackmore's Night sono la band fondatrice del renaissance rock [...]	rock, band, bass, formed
PT	Blackmore's Night é uma banda de folk rock de estilo [...]	rock, band, bass, formed
EN	Langton's ant is a two-dimensional Turing machine with [...]	math, theory, space, numbers
FR	On nomme fourmi de Langton un automate cellulaire [...]	math, theory, space, numbers
DE	Die Ameise ist eine Turingmaschine mit einem [...]	math, theory, space, numbers