

# Detecting Topics and their Transitions

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Hybrid Statistical Semantic Understanding and Emerging Semantics  
Workshop  
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# Introduction

## Summary (Humanities)

Can we study quantitatively how discourse is changing with time?

## Summary (Mathematics)

If documents are vectors, how does the basis that best describes them evolve?

## Summary (Semantic Web)

What sections of the knowledge base are used together, and how do these change?

# Contents

Representing Documents

Topic Modeling

Topic Transitions

Experiments and results

# Representing Documents

# Beyond text

## A document

There's global concern about a major nuclear accident in Japan, which could turn a very bad situation into a terrible one, said Shane Oliver , head of investment strategy in Sydney at AMP Capital Investors Ltd., which manages about \$98 billion. Paladin Energy Ltd. (PDN) and other Australian uranium producers and explorers slumped for a second day this week on concern demand for nuclear energy will decline.

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## Concepts extracted from that document

Accident

Japan

Investment

Strategy

Capital

Energy

Australians

Austrialian

Urianium

Demand

Nuclear Energy

# Beyond text

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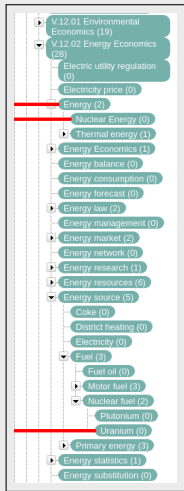
## Concepts extracted from that document

Accident Japan Investment Strategy Capital

Energy Australians Australian Uranium

Demand Nuclear Energy

## Relationships



## Beyond text

## Concepts extracted from a document

Accident

Japan

Investment

Strategy

Capital

Energy

Australians

Austrialian

Urianium

Demand

Nuclear Energy

## A Thesaurus

Energy Economics

Energy

Nuclear Energy

Fuel

Nuclear Fuel

Uranium

Plutonium



## Beyond text

## Concepts extracted from a document

Accident

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## A Thesaurus

Energy Economics

Energy

Nuclear Energy

Fuel

Nuclear Fuel

Uranium

Plutonium

## Leaves

Nuclear Energy

1

Uranium

1

Plutonium

0

## Broaders-of-Leaves

Nuclear Fuel

1

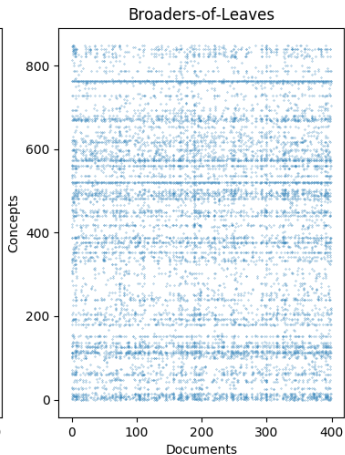
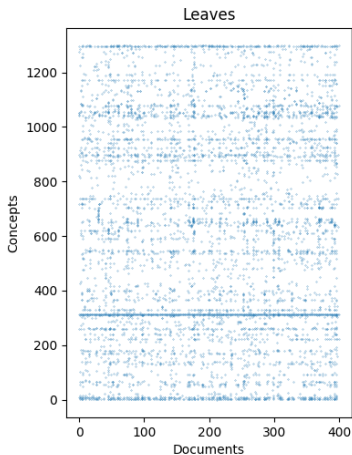
Energy

2

	doc 1
concept 1	0
concept 2	1
concept 3	3
concept 4	1
concept 5	0
concept 6	0
concept 7	0
concept 8	0
concept 9	0
concept 10	2
⋮	
concept N	0

	doc 1	doc 2
concept 1	0	0
concept 2	1	1
concept 3	3	0
concept 4	1	0
concept 5	0	2
concept 6	0	0
concept 7	0	3
concept 8	0	0
concept 9	0	0
concept 10	2	1
⋮	⋮	⋮
concept N	0	4

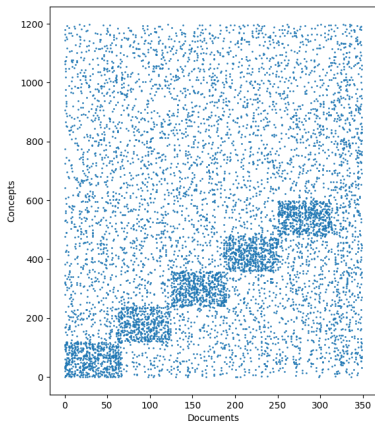
# Document-Concept Matrices



# Topic Modeling

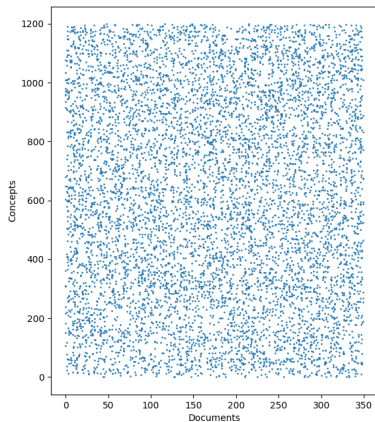
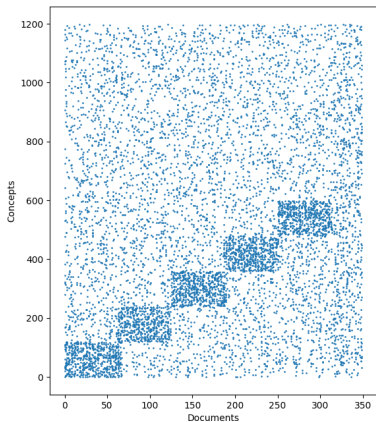
# Document-Concept Matrices

All seems very messy....



# Document-Concept Matrices

All seems very messy....



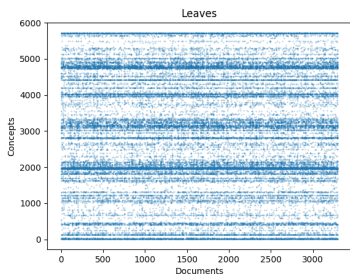
## The setup

- ▶ **Given:** A matrix  $A$  that encodes documents as vectors of concepts.
- ▶ **Output:** Two matrices,  $B$  and  $C$  such that  $A \approx BC$
- ▶  $B$  and  $C$  are non-negative
- ▶  $B$  is the concepts to topics matrix
- ▶  $C$  is the topics to documents matrix



## Example

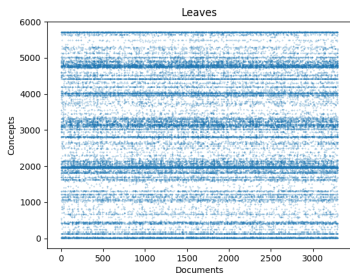
INPUT:



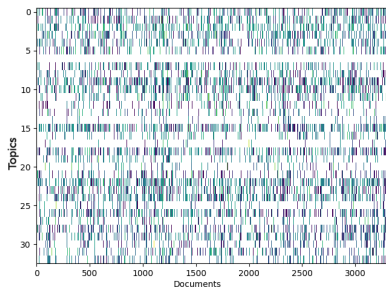
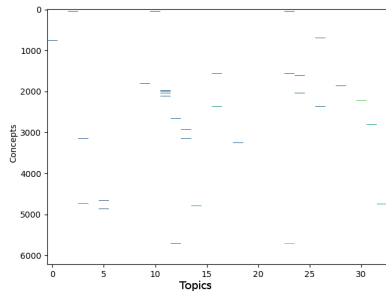
OUTPUT:

## Example

INPUT:



OUTPUT:



## Topic Transitions

# Topic Transitions

## The setup

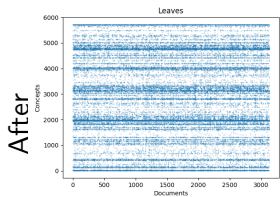
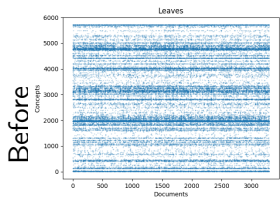
- ▶ Two matrices  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  that encode documents as vectors of concepts.
- ▶ Two NMF derived matrices  $B_1$  and  $B_2$  that encode topics as vectors of concepts

## An optimization problem

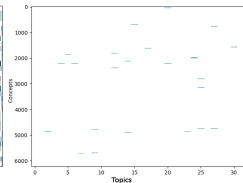
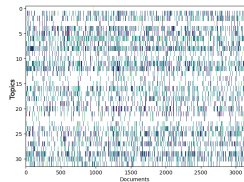
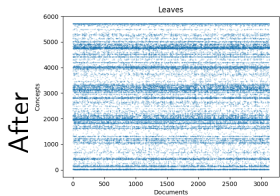
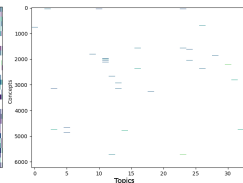
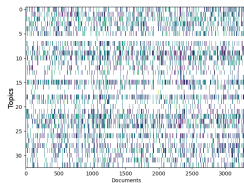
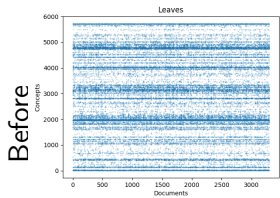
Find  $T$  such that:

- ▶  $B_2 \approx TB_1$
- ▶ all entries of  $T$  are between 0 and 1

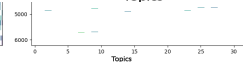
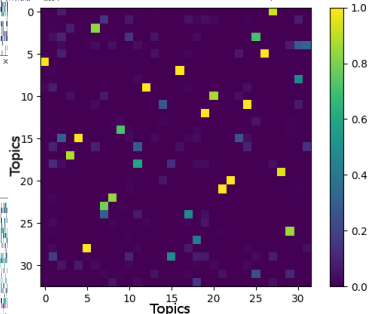
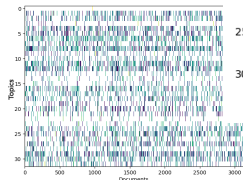
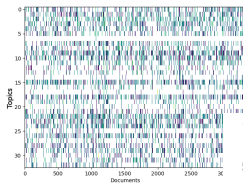
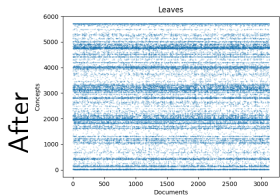
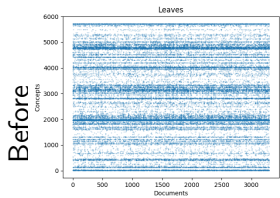
## Example



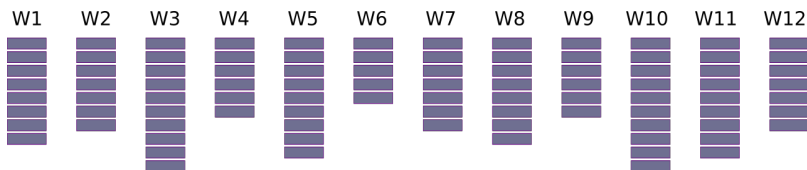
## Example



## Example



# Flash and Stable topics





# Flash and Stable topics

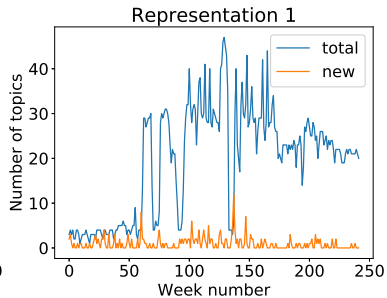
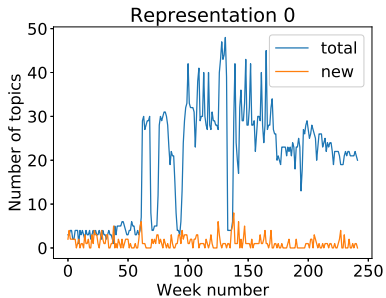


## Experiments and results

# Setup

1. 400000 Documents
2. Grouped in weeks between 2009 and 2013
3. Between 50 and 4900 documents per week, mean 2580
4. STW, Standard Thesaurus for Economics: 6221 concepts, 4108 Leaves

# Topics detected

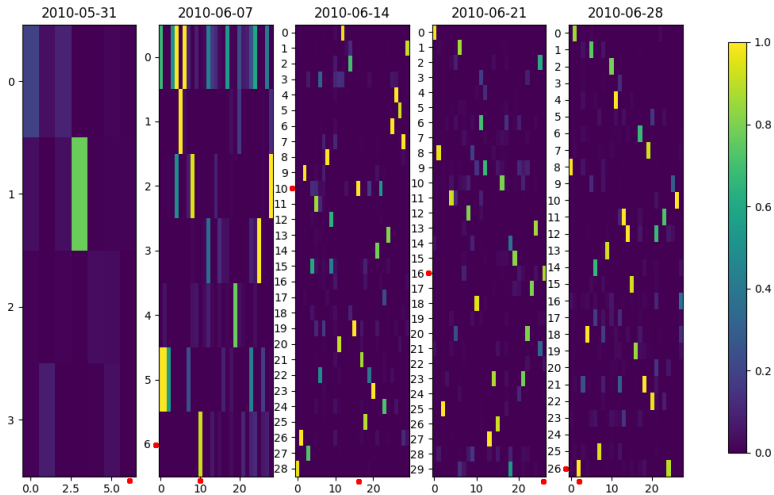


# Some Flash Topics

## 2010 Football World Cup

2010-06-07	2010-06-14	2010-06-21	2010-06-28	2010-07-05
World	World	World	World	World
Sport event	Sport event	Matching	Sport event	Sport event
Football	Football	Sport event	Football	Football
Matching	Matching	Football	Coaching	Spain
South Africa	North Korea	South Africa	Brazil	Netherlands
Slovenia	Brazil	France	South Africa	South Africa
Italy	South Africa	Coaching	Spain	Dutch
Algeria	Coaching	Mexico	Matching	Matching
Australia	Korean	French	Netherlands	Spanish
Paraguay	Koreans	Brazil	Argentina	African
Netherlands	South Korea	American	Ghana	European
Ghana	Portugal	Argentina	Uruguay	Uruguay
Nation	Argentina	North Korea	Portugal	Coaching

## Some Flash Topics



# Some Flash Topics

## Korean Peninsula Artillery Incident

**2010-11-15 to 2010-12-13**

Koreans

Korean

South Korea

North Korea

South Korean

South Koreans

Officials

Nation

Island

Foreign

World

Chinese

Fire

Government department

International

Sport event

American

India

Department

Brazil

Warship

Football

Australia

News agency

Asian

Office

Peace

Qatar

Beef

Export

Future

Russian

New Zealand

Japanese

Import

Wheat

Mexico

Matching

Climate change

Brazilians

Brazilian

Soldiers

White people

E-mail

Police

Process

Plants

Authority

Western

# Some Flash Topics

## 2011 Drought

**2011-02-07 to 2011-03-07**

Wheat Crops Drought Soybean World Rice Food price

Nation Egypt Department Australia International

Province Price Western Flood Sugar Future Export

Palms Purchase Cotton Bangladesh France French

Palm oil Russian Renminbi Median Plants Sport event

Irrigation Chinese Confidence West Asia Wheat price



# Some Flash Topics

## Arab Spring

2011-02-14 to 2011-04-04

Libya	International	Nation	Foreign	Arabs	Arab	Egypt	
Air	West Asia	Tunisia	Officials	African	Industrial action		
Yemen	Saudi Arabia	Bahrain	Humans	Human rights			
British	Sanction	Western	Head of government	Fire	France		
Italy	French	Syria	Civil war	Qatar	Iraq	American	Export
Authority	Government department	Spa	Oman	Air force			
Refugees	Kuwait	White people	European	Iran	Venezuela		
World	Islamic	London	River	Police	Department	Society	
Licence	E-mail	Oil price	Intelligence	Pump	Newspaper		
Italians	Italian	Jordan	Geneva	Office	Malta	Russian	
Algeria	Terrorism	Occupation	Ferry shipping	Turkish			
Turkey	Desert	Airline	Petroleum resources				

# Some Flash Topics

## Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Accident

**2011-03-07 to 2011-04-11**

Plants

Nuclear energy

Manufacturing plant

Electricity

Cooling

Earthquake

Greenhouse gas emissions

Nuclear power plant

Nuclear fuel

Order

Process

Officials

Fire

Japanese

Health

Product

Government department

Nuclear safety

Pump

Core

Engineers

Seed

France

Permit

Electronics

Authors

Taiwan

Light

Iraq

Air

Germans

German

River

Authority

Island

Province

Humans

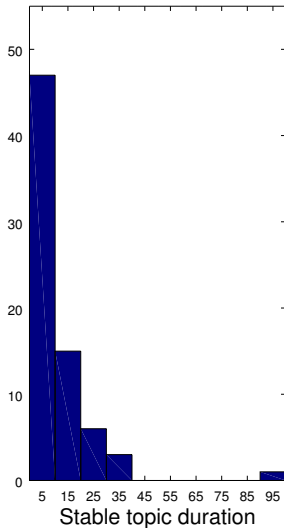
Laboratory

## Some Stable Topics

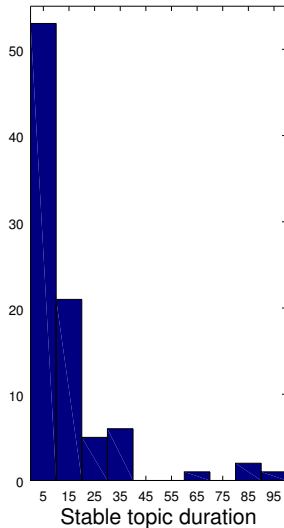
"Stocks"	"Futures"	"Japan"	"Euro"	"Meat"
Market	Future	Yen	Germans	Beef
Stock market	Soybean	Tokyo	German	Light
Product	Crops	Japanese	European	Bayesian inference
International	Gold	Loss	Greek	Cattle
Purchase	Wheat	Electronics	Greeks	Price
Market value	Department	Newspaper	Greece	Department
Price	Sugar	Sales	Berlin	Plants
Swap	Rubber	Dividend	Nation	Flavour
Benchmarking	Singapore	Services	Bailout	Sales
Hedging	Cocoa	Product	Economy	Product
Loss	Cattle	Semiconductor	Portuguese	Import
Future	Palms	Plants	London	Tokyo

# Stable Topics

### Level 0 Representation



### Level 1 Representation



Thank you!

Questions?

Contact: [victor.mireles-chavez@semantic-web.com](mailto:victor.mireles-chavez@semantic-web.com)



Visit us: <https://research.semantic-web.at>