

Pólya Urn Latent Dirichlet Allocation

using sparsity to reduce MCMC complexity in natural language processing

Alexander Terenin
Imperial College London

Joint work with Måns Magnusson,
Leif Jonsson, and David Draper

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<http://avt.im/>

Latent Dirichlet Allocation

Latent Dirichlet Allocation

[DM Blei, AY Ng, MI Jordan - Journal of machine Learning research, 2003 - jmlr.org](#)

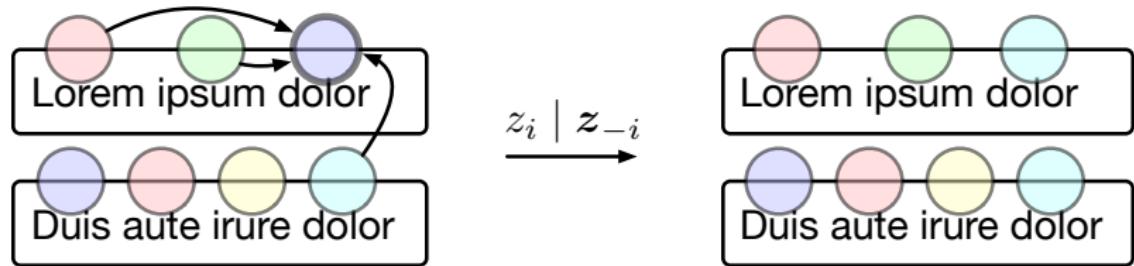
Abstract We describe latent Dirichlet allocation (LDA), a generative probabilistic model for collections of discrete data such as text corpora. LDA is a three-level hierarchical Bayesian model, in which each item of a collection is modeled as a finite mixture over an underlying

 99 Cited by 21494 [Related articles](#) [All 127 versions](#)

The canonical topic model – everybody uses it!

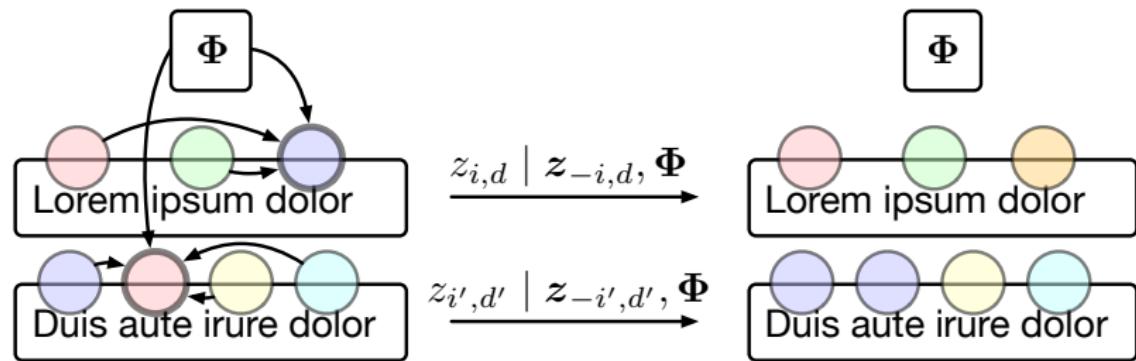
This work: compute as fast, parallel, and principled as possible

Sparse Fully Collapsed Gibbs Sampling (previous state-of-the-art)



- ✓ Relatively fast
- ✗ Sequential
- ✗ Not fully sparse

Sparse Partially Collapsed Gibbs Sampling



✓ Massively parallel

- ✗ Large dense matrix
- ✗ Still not fully sparse

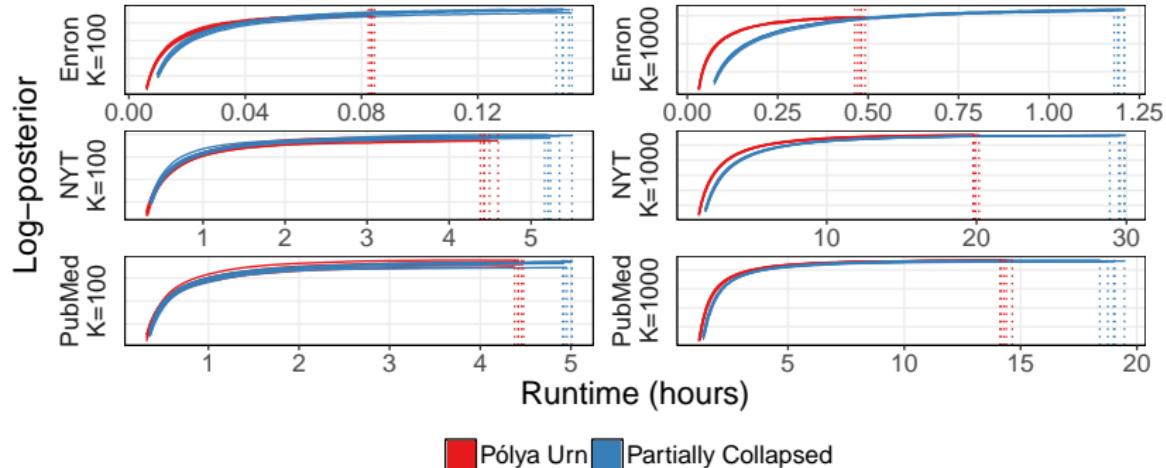
Pólya Urn LDA

Dirichlet	Poisson Pólya Urn
$\boldsymbol{x} = \left[\frac{\gamma_1}{\sum_{i=1}^k \gamma_i}, \dots, \frac{\gamma_k}{\sum_{i=1}^k \gamma_i} \right]$	$\boldsymbol{y} = \left[\frac{\tilde{\gamma}_1}{\sum_{i=1}^k \tilde{\gamma}_i}, \dots, \frac{\tilde{\gamma}_k}{\sum_{i=1}^k \tilde{\gamma}_i} \right]$
$\gamma_i \sim \text{Gamma}(\varpi F_i, 1)$	$\tilde{\gamma}_i \sim \text{Poisson}(\varpi F_i)$
Dense	Sparse

Theorem. Let $\boldsymbol{x} \sim \text{Dir}(\varpi, \mathbf{F})$ and $\boldsymbol{y} \sim \text{PPU}(\varpi, \mathbf{F})$. Then for all \mathbf{F} we have $\|\boldsymbol{x} - \boldsymbol{y}\| \rightarrow 0$ as $\varpi \rightarrow \infty$ in the Levy-Prokhorov metric.

- ✓ Dense matrix Φ becomes sparse

Performance



✓ Faster runtime with no discernible loss in topic quality

A. Terenin, M. Magnusson, L. Jonsson, and D. Draper. Pólya urn latent Dirichlet allocation: a doubly sparse massively parallel sampler. *IEEE Transactions on Pattern Analysis and Machine Intelligence*, 2018. Accepted, to appear. Available at: arXiv:1704.03581.