



Utilize Natural Language Processing in Evidence-based software engineering



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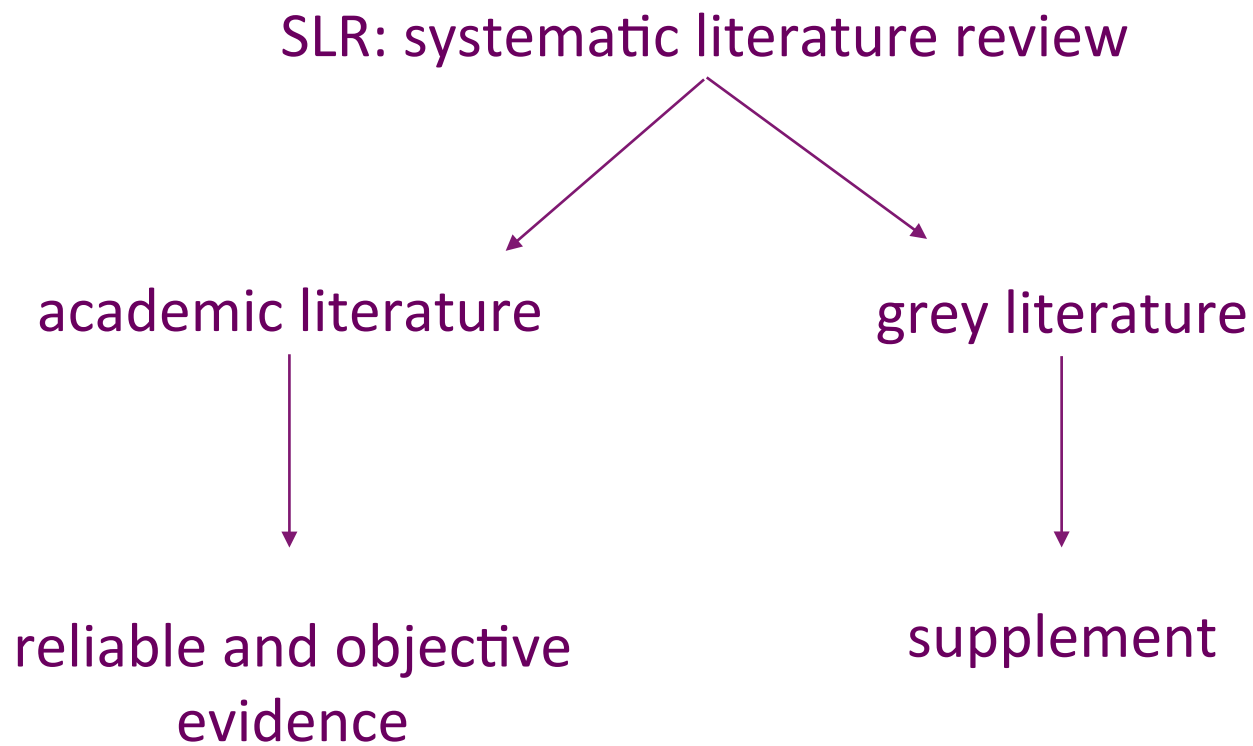
Background

EBSE & SLR

- **Evidence-Based Software Engineering (EBSE):** systematically answer particular research questions by identifying, evaluating and synthesizing relevant evidence.
- **Systematic Literature Review (SLR):** Kitchenham et al. referred to the studies in Medicine and proposed a guideline for SLR in software engineering in 2004.

Background

Academic Literature VS Grey Literature



Background

Grey Literature Review

- The strongest feature of grey literature : **large amount**
- The guideline for traditional SLR is no longer suitable for grey literature.

How to automatically perform grey literature review?



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Topic Modeling

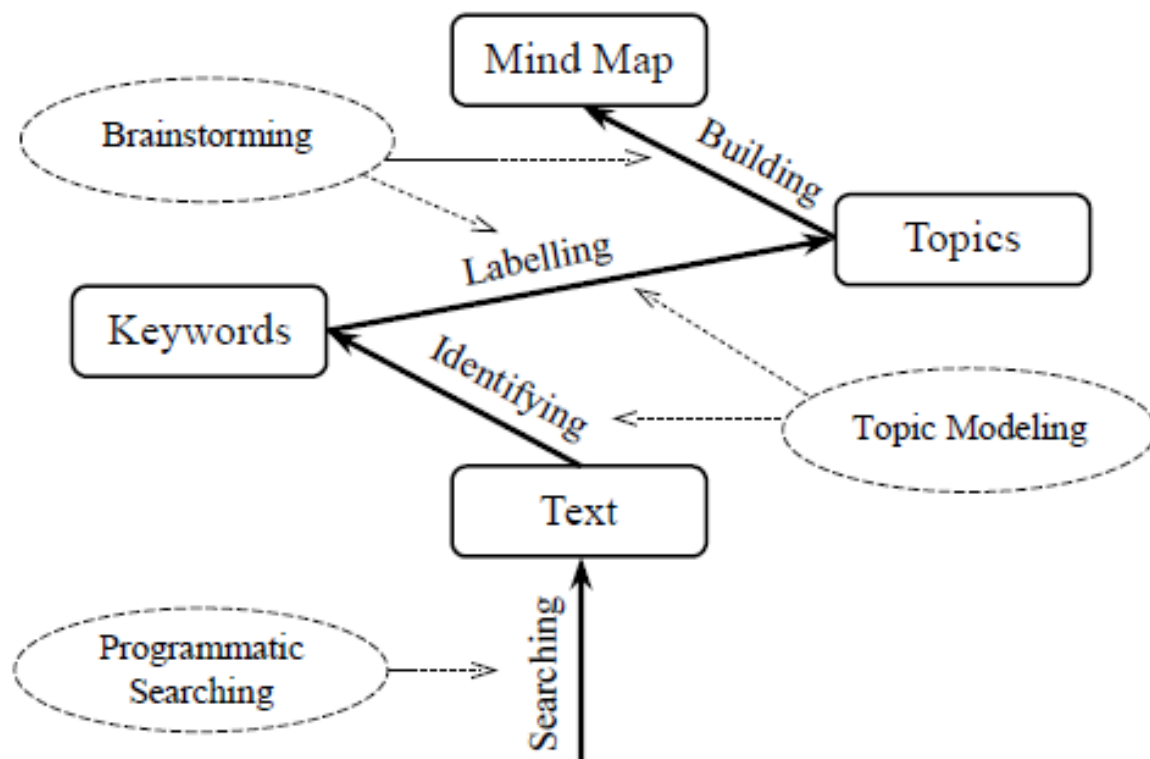
Background

- Topic modeling is a statistical model that aims to abstract latent topics from a series of documents.
- It believes that a document contains several topics with different probabilities, and topics are made up with baskets of words with different probabilities

$$P(\text{word}|\text{doc}) = \sum_{\text{topic}} P(\text{word}|\text{topic}) \times P(\text{topic}|\text{doc})$$

Topic Modeling

Method



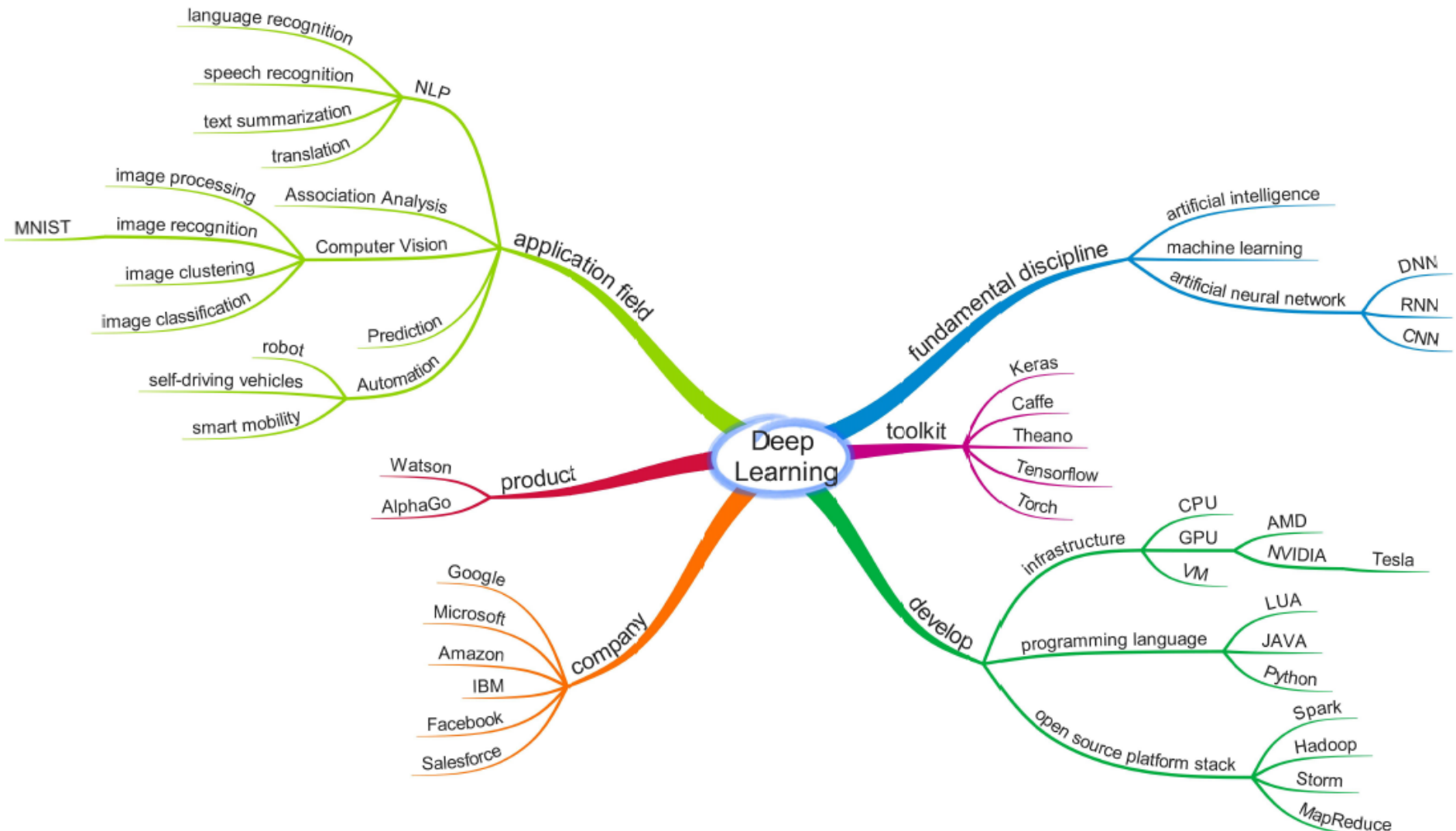
Topic Modeling

Method

- **Tool** : MALLET
- **Research source**:
 1. Technology discussions in a Web community. ——Stack Overflow
 2. Blogs/news from an IT website. ——ZDNet
 3. Distilled scholarly discourse in an accessible forum.
——Tiny Transactions on Computer Science —> abstracts in IEEE
 4. Invention descriptions in an open-access patent database.
——United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) Portal

Topic Modeling

Mind Map



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Current Work——An SLR for NLP

Natural Language Processing

- An area of computer science and artificial intelligence concerned with the interactions between computers and natural languages.
- Deal with various kinds of natural language tasks in different aspects like lexical, syntactic, semantic.

Current Work——An SLR for NLP

Motivation

- To get a comprehensive overview of Natural language Processing
- Focus not only on NLP, but also software engineering.
- To find some useful knowledge for performing automatically grey literature review.

Current Work——An SLR for NLP

Research Questions

- RQ1: What scenarios in software engineering can NLP be applied in?
- RQ2: What's the process model of NLP studies in software engineering?
- RQ3: Are there any factors influence the performance of NLP in software engineering?
- RQ4: What is the state of art of applying NLP in software engineering?

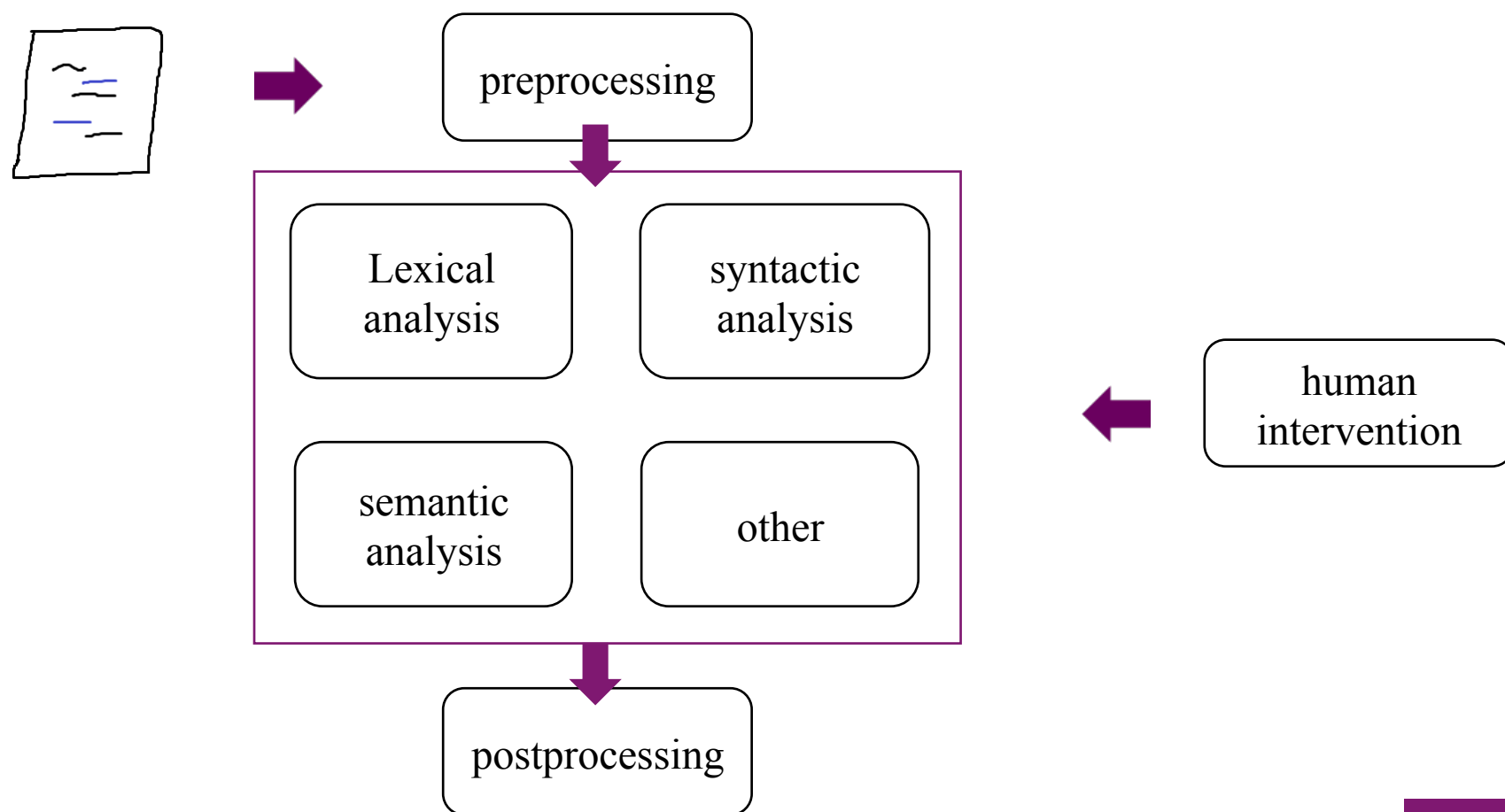
Current Work——An SLR for NLP

Senarios

- **Requirement documents:** requirements prioritization , mapping of requirements to formal representations, feature location, test cases generation,
- **developers' communication:** mining software-specific terms,
- **Bug reports:** duplication detection, similar bugs recommend,
- **Other:** API documents, event logging, user reviews,.....

Current Work——An SLR for NLP

Process Model



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Future Work

Apply NLP in Grey Literature Review

- In which step can NLP be used in grey literature review ?
- What techniques and tools can be used according to different tasks ?
- Is there any potential improvement while applying NLP ?



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THANKS

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