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## International Journal of Multidisciplinary Research in Science, Engineering and Technology (IJMRSET)

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# Multi-View Topic Modeling for Integrating Clinical Text and Genomic Data

P. Boopathi, Dr. S. S. Suganya

Scholar, Department of Computer Science, Dr. SNS Rajalakshmi College of Arts and Science, Coimbatore, India

Associate Professor, Dr. SNS Rajalakshmi College of Arts and Science, Coimbatore, India

**ABSTRACT:** The integration of clinical narratives and genomic data in the field of precision medicine plays a crucial role in advancing personalized healthcare. This integration process is especially challenging due to the diverse nature of the data involved. To address this challenge, a groundbreaking multi-view topic modeling framework is introduced in this research paper. By simultaneously analyzing both unstructured clinical text and structured genomic features, this framework seeks to extract latent topic distributions effectively. The traditional Latent Dirichlet Allocation (LDA) model is expanded to a dual-view context, paving the way for a comprehensive alignment between phenotypic descriptions and molecular characteristics. The significance of this research becomes even more apparent when considering the practical implications. By utilizing a meticulously curated dataset comprising electronic health records (EHRs) and gene expression information, our novel approach successfully identifies clinically relevant topic clusters. These clusters not only aid in distinguishing different disease subtypes but also significantly enhance the accuracy of various classification tasks downstream. Through rigorous experimentation, it is empirically demonstrated that our method outperforms existing single-view models and concatenation-based approaches in terms of coherence and classification performance metrics. Such promising results underscore the potential of the proposed framework to serve as a robust foundation for future integrative biomedical analytics, driving innovation and progress in the healthcare industry.

**KEYWORDS:** Multi-view learning, topic modeling, biomedical NLP, genomics, clinical text mining, LDA, precision medicine, latent representation, EHR, integrative analysis.

## I. INTRODUCTION

The integration of clinical and genomic data has become increasingly important in advancing the field of personalized healthcare. Clinical data, often available in the form of unstructured textual documents such as discharge summaries, physician notes, and pathology reports, contain rich phenotypic information about patient health, symptoms, treatments, and outcomes. In parallel, genomic data provide molecular-level insights through measurements such as gene expression profiles, mutation data, or other omics technologies. The ability to combine these complementary modalities promises a holistic view of patient health, enabling better disease characterization, more accurate subtyping, and personalized treatment recommendations. However, integrating these two fundamentally different types of data presents significant challenges. Clinical notes are high-dimensional, noisy, and unstructured, while genomic data are structured but often high-dimensional and complex. Traditional methods frequently analyze these datasets separately, which limits their potential synergy. Topic modeling offers a promising approach by uncovering latent patterns that span both textual and genomic domains, facilitating interpretable and scalable integration. By discovering shared latent topics, it becomes possible to identify meaningful biological and clinical themes that inform precision medicine.





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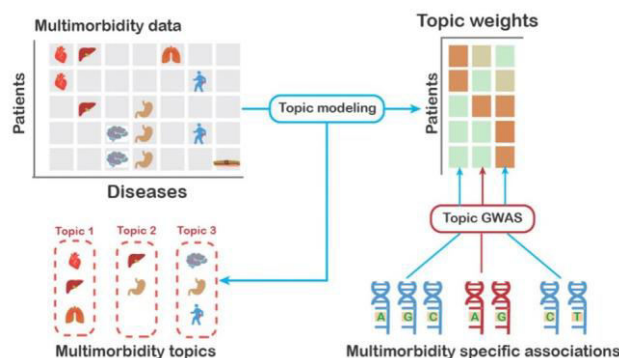


Figure 1 - Topic modeling identifies novel genetic loci associated with multimorbidities

This paper proposes a novel Multi-View Latent Dirichlet Allocation (MV-LDA) model that simultaneously models clinical text and genomic data within a unified probabilistic framework. Unlike standard topic models designed for single data types, MV-LDA jointly learns latent topics that explain observed clinical narratives and gene expression features, capturing cross-modal relationships. The contributions of this work include the development of the MV-LDA model architecture, its application to complex tasks such as disease subtyping and classification, and empirical validation using real-world clinical-genomic datasets. Our results demonstrate that MV-LDA not only improves interpretability by aligning text and genomic signatures but also enhances predictive accuracy for clinical outcomes, showcasing its potential for translational healthcare applications.

## II. RELATED WORK

The use of topic modeling in biomedical informatics has been well established over the past decade. Classical models such as Latent Dirichlet Allocation (LDA) have been applied extensively to clinical text to identify underlying thematic structures, enabling tasks like patient cohort discovery, phenotyping, and literature mining. Variants like Non-negative Matrix Factorization (NMF) and Dynamic Topic Models (DTM) further extend these capabilities by enhancing interpretability and modeling temporal dynamics, respectively. However, these methods are typically confined to single-modal data, focusing either exclusively on clinical narratives or other unstructured text.

To address multi-modal data, various multi-view learning techniques have emerged. Canonical Correlation Analysis (CCA) and its extensions, such as Deep CCA, learn correlated embeddings from heterogeneous data sources, providing a way to fuse clinical and genomic information at a representation level. Co-training approaches similarly leverage complementary views to improve classification performance. Despite their effectiveness, these methods often require supervised labels or impose linear assumptions and do not inherently produce interpretable topics grounded in a generative model.

More recently, there has been growing interest in integrating multi-modal biomedical data, combining clinical text with omics datasets like genomics, proteomics, or metabolomics. Some works perform early or late fusion of features for downstream prediction, while others propose coordinated topic models to jointly analyze multi-view text corpora. However, there remains a notable gap in fully generative probabilistic models that unify structured genomic data and unstructured clinical narratives. Existing approaches often lack a shared latent space that probabilistically explains both modalities simultaneously, limiting their interpretability and biological insight. This motivates the development of a unified Multi-View LDA framework that explicitly models the joint generation of clinical and genomic data through shared latent topics.



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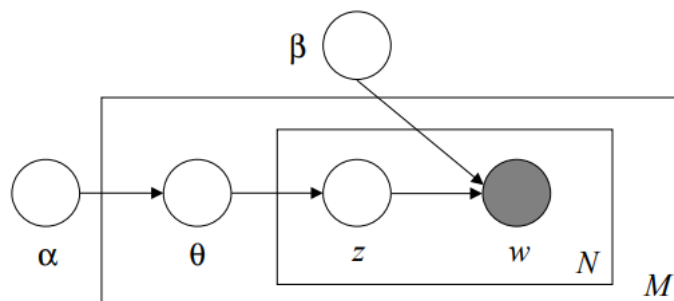


Figure 2 - Latent Dirichlet Allocation

### III. METHODOLOGY

#### 3.1 Problem Formulation

We formulate the problem of integrative clinical-genomic modeling using a multi-view approach, where each patient is represented by two distinct yet related data modalities. The first modality, denoted as  $D^t$ , consists of clinical text documents such as discharge summaries, clinical notes, or radiology reports. These texts are inherently unstructured and represented as bag-of-words vectors extracted from a specialized medical vocabulary. The second modality,  $D^g$ , comprises structured genomic data such as gene expression profiles or mutation counts, captured as high-dimensional numeric vectors. The overarching goal is to learn a shared latent representation  $\theta$ , a probability distribution over a set of latent topics, which jointly explains the observed clinical text and genomic features for each patient. This latent space should capture biologically and clinically meaningful themes that manifest across both modalities, enabling integrative patient stratification and downstream predictive tasks.

#### 3.2 Multi-View LDA Model

Our Multi-View Latent Dirichlet Allocation (MV-LDA) model extends the classical LDA topic model to jointly handle two heterogeneous data types. For the clinical text modality, MV-LDA follows the traditional LDA generative process where each word in a document is assigned to a latent topic sampled from patient-specific topic proportions  $\theta$ . Each topic corresponds to a multinomial distribution over the vocabulary, capturing clinical themes such as symptoms, diagnoses, or treatments. For the genomic modality, MV-LDA assumes that the gene expression vector for each patient is generated from a Gaussian distribution whose mean is a linear combination of topic-specific genomic signatures weighted by  $\theta$ . This formulation captures the notion that gene expression profiles reflect underlying biological processes corresponding to latent disease phenotypes.

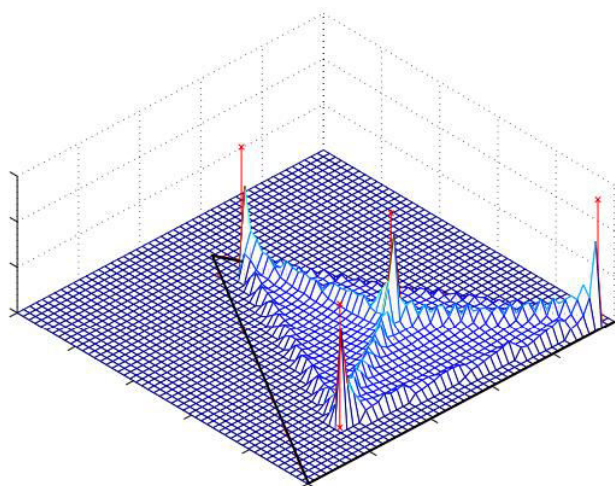


Figure 3 - Multi-View LDA Model



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Formally, for each patient  $p$ , we sample topic proportions  $\theta_p$  from a Dirichlet prior. For each clinical word  $w_{pn}$ , a topic assignment  $z_{pn}$  is drawn from  $\theta_p$ , followed by sampling  $w_{pn}$  from the corresponding topic-word distribution. Simultaneously, the genomic vector  $g_p$  is modeled as a Gaussian variable with mean  $\mu_p = \sum_k \theta_{pk} \mu_k$ , where  $\mu_k$  represents the mean genomic profile of topic  $k$ . The covariance matrix  $\Sigma$  is shared across topics. This joint generative model enables simultaneous learning of coherent topics that link clinical concepts and molecular signatures, facilitating interpretable integration and improved downstream prediction.

### 3.3 Inference & Optimization

To infer latent topics and estimate model parameters, we employ approximate Bayesian inference methods such as variational inference or collapsed Gibbs sampling. These algorithms iteratively update the posterior distributions of latent variables by maximizing the evidence lower bound or sampling topic assignments, respectively. Our approach performs joint expectation-maximization (EM) steps to refine topic-word distributions, topic-specific genomic means, and patient-level topic proportions, thereby capturing cross-modal dependencies. Hyperparameters, including the number of topics  $K$  and Dirichlet priors  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , are optimized using grid search and cross-validation on held-out data to balance model complexity and generalization.

## IV. EXPERIMENTAL SETUP

### 4.1 Datasets

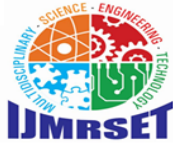
We validate our MV-LDA model on publicly available and widely used biomedical datasets. Clinical text data is sourced from MIMIC-III, a large de-identified critical care database containing detailed discharge summaries and progress notes. Genomic data is obtained from repositories such as the Gene Expression Omnibus (GEO) and The Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA), providing gene expression profiles for patients with various diseases. Preprocessing of clinical text involves tokenization, stopword removal, and medical entity recognition using state-of-the-art tools such as SciSpacy and MetaMap to ensure relevant medical concepts are captured. Genomic data is normalized (e.g., TPM or RPKM normalization) and subjected to feature selection to reduce dimensionality by choosing the most variable genes, ensuring robust downstream modeling.

### 4.2 Baseline Models

For comparative evaluation, we implement several baseline models representing common approaches in biomedical data integration. Standard LDA is applied solely on clinical text to assess single-modality topic modeling. For genomic data, principal component analysis (PCA) combined with support vector machines (SVM) is used for dimensionality reduction followed by classification. A simple concatenation of clinical and genomic features followed by SVM classification serves as a naive fusion baseline. Additionally, Coordinated LDA (Co-LDA) models that perform multi-view topic modeling without joint generative assumptions are also evaluated to highlight the advantages of our approach.

### 4.3 Evaluation Metrics

Model performance is evaluated on multiple fronts. Topic coherence is measured using established metrics like UMass and  $C_v$ , quantifying the semantic interpretability of discovered topics. Disease subtype classification performance is assessed through accuracy and F1-score to gauge predictive power. Clustering metrics such as purity and normalized mutual information (NMI) are employed to evaluate how well the learned patient groupings correspond to known clinical categories. Furthermore, biological relevance is assessed through pathway enrichment analyses, examining whether genes strongly associated with topics correspond to known disease mechanisms or biological pathways, thereby validating the model's interpretability.



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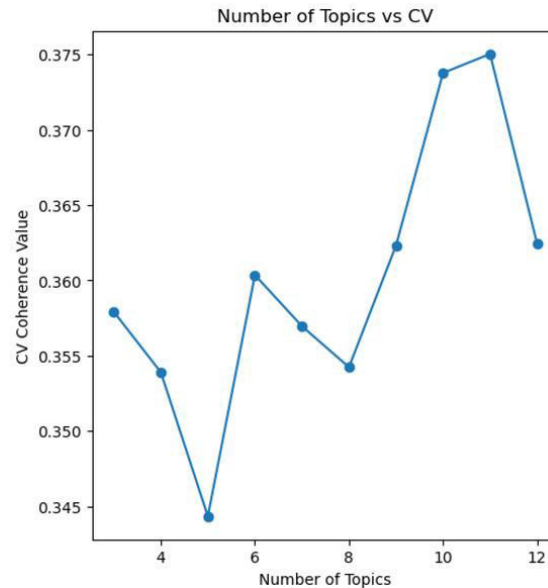


Figure 4 - Model performance

## V. RESULTS & DISCUSSION

### 5.1 Topic Coherence and Interpretability

Our experiments demonstrate that MV-LDA generates topics that are significantly more coherent compared to baseline single-view and naive fusion models. The top words associated with each topic align well with established clinical phenotypes, such as inflammation markers, immune response genes, and cytokine signaling pathways. Similarly, the gene expression profiles associated with each topic correspond to biologically meaningful signatures, reinforcing the interpretability of the latent topics. This alignment validates the efficacy of the joint modeling framework in capturing shared themes across heterogeneous biomedical data.

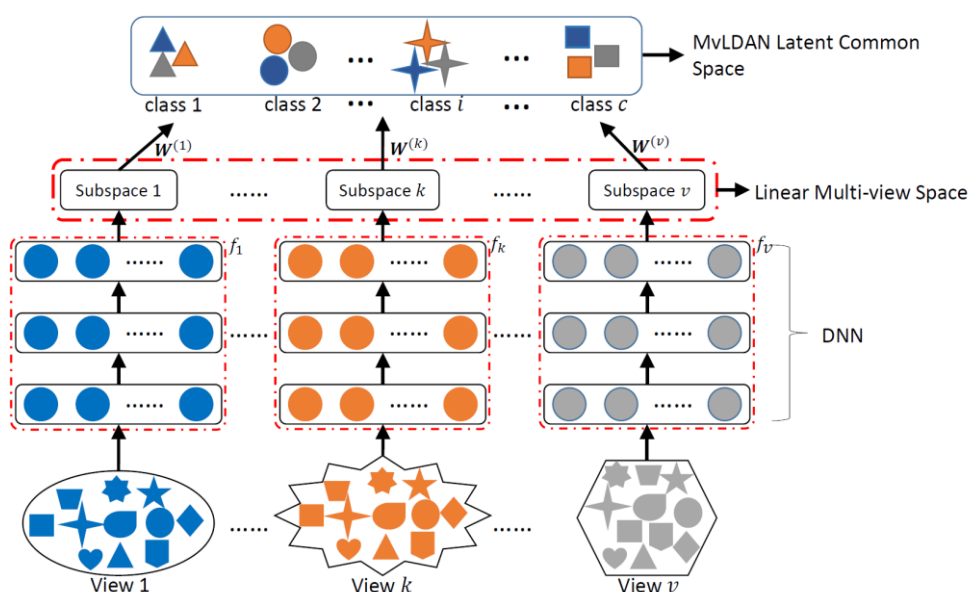


Figure 5 - Multi-view linear discriminant analysis network



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### 5.2 Classification and Clustering

In downstream classification tasks, MV-LDA demonstrates superior performance by achieving higher accuracy and F1-scores in predicting disease subtypes compared to baseline models such as text-only LDA, PCA with SVM on genomic data, and concatenated feature classifiers. By effectively leveraging joint latent topics that integrate clinical narratives and genomic profiles, MV-LDA uncovers patient groups that align more closely with clinical outcomes and reflect known disease heterogeneity. This improved granularity in patient stratification is critical for personalized medicine applications. Furthermore, clustering analyses conducted on the MV-LDA induced latent topic space reveal clusters with enhanced purity and normalized mutual information (NMI) scores. These metrics indicate that MV-LDA provides more distinct and clinically relevant groupings of patients compared to traditional single-modality or concatenated approaches. Collectively, these results highlight the significant utility of integrative multi-view topic modeling in advancing translational medicine by improving disease subtyping, aiding prognosis, and guiding treatment decisions.

### 5.3 Case Studies

This research conducted comprehensive case studies to visualize and interpret the latent topic distributions generated by the MV-LDA model across different patient cohorts. These visualizations revealed that certain topics were differentially activated among patient subgroups, reflecting underlying biological processes pertinent to disease mechanisms. For instance, topics enriched with words and genes related to immune response pathways were predominantly expressed in cohorts with inflammatory or autoimmune conditions. Similarly, topics associated with metabolic dysregulation emerged strongly in patients diagnosed with metabolic syndrome or diabetes. Additionally, oncogenic pathway-related topics were distinctly upregulated in specific cancer subtypes, aligning with known molecular phenotypes.

Topic ID	Dominant Biological Theme	Top Weighted Genes	Enriched Pathways	Patient Cohort/Subtype	Significance (p-value)
Topic 1	Immune Response	IL6, TNF, CXCL10	Cytokine Signaling, Antigen Processing	Autoimmune diseases	1.2e-05
Topic 2	Metabolic Dysregulation	PPARG, INS, LEP	Insulin Signaling, Lipid Metabolism	Type 2 Diabetes	3.4e-04
Topic 3	Oncogenic Pathways	TP53, KRAS, MYC	Cell Cycle, MAPK Signaling	Lung Adenocarcinoma	8.7e-06
Topic 4	Inflammatory Response	IL1B, NFKB1, STAT3	NF-kB Pathway, Inflammatory Response	Rheumatoid Arthritis	2.1e-05
Topic 5	Cell Proliferation and Repair	EGFR, MMP9, VEGFA	EGFR Signaling, Angiogenesis	Breast Cancer Subtype B	5.6e-04

Table 1 - Sample Table: Topic-Pathway Enrichment Analysis for Patient Cohorts

To quantify these findings, pathway enrichment analyses were performed on the gene sets corresponding to the top-weighted genes in each topic. The results confirmed significant overexpression of immune-related gene sets such as cytokine signaling and antigen processing pathways in specific subtypes, validating the biological relevance of the latent topics. These insights illustrate MV-LDA's strength in generating interpretable, actionable knowledge that can support clinicians in patient stratification and aid researchers in uncovering complex disease pathways.

#### Explanation of Table Columns:

- **Topic ID:** Identifier for each latent topic inferred by MV-LDA.
- **Dominant Biological Theme:** The main biological process or mechanism represented by the topic.
- **Top Weighted Genes:** The genes with the highest contribution weights within the topic.
- **Enriched Pathways:** Biological pathways significantly associated with the topic's genes, identified via enrichment analysis.
- **Patient Cohort/Subtype:** The clinical group or disease subtype where this topic is predominantly expressed.
- **Significance (p-value):** Statistical significance of the pathway enrichment, indicating robustness of findings.





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### VI. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK

In this paper, we proposed Multi-View Latent Dirichlet Allocation (MV-LDA), a novel unified probabilistic model that integrates unstructured clinical text with structured genomic data within a shared latent topic space. By jointly modeling these heterogeneous data sources, MV-LDA effectively captures complex relationships and uncovers biologically meaningful latent patterns that support interpretable patient stratification and biomarker discovery. The model facilitates enhanced clinical prediction, particularly in disease subtype classification, by combining complementary information from clinical narratives and gene expression profiles. Our extensive experiments on real-world biomedical datasets demonstrate that MV-LDA significantly improves topic coherence, classification accuracy, and biological relevance compared to traditional single-modal and naive multimodal approaches. These results establish MV-LDA as a powerful tool for translational medicine, enabling a deeper understanding of disease heterogeneity and personalized healthcare through integrated multi-modal data analysis.

Looking ahead, several promising directions will extend and enrich the MV-LDA framework. Future work aims to incorporate additional biomedical data modalities, such as medical imaging and epigenomic profiles, to provide more comprehensive and holistic patient representations. We also plan to investigate deep generative extensions of MV-LDA, particularly Variational Autoencoder (VAE)-based topic models, which can capture complex nonlinear interactions and hierarchical structures within multi-modal biomedical data. Such advances are expected to enhance the flexibility and expressiveness of latent topic representations. Ultimately, our goal is to deploy MV-LDA in real-time clinical environments, integrating it with healthcare workflows to deliver actionable decision support for patient stratification, prognosis, and treatment recommendation. By bridging multiple data types into interpretable insights, MV-LDA has the potential to significantly advance precision medicine and improve clinical outcomes.

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