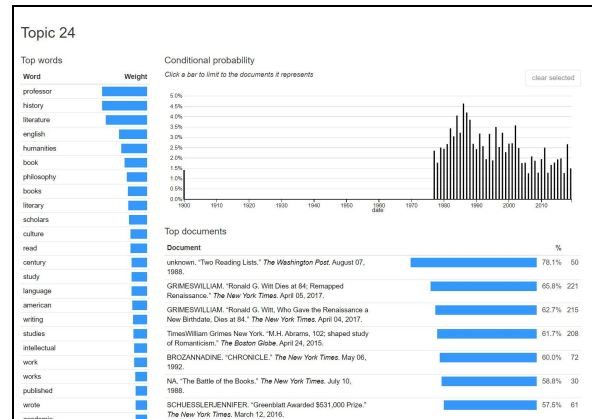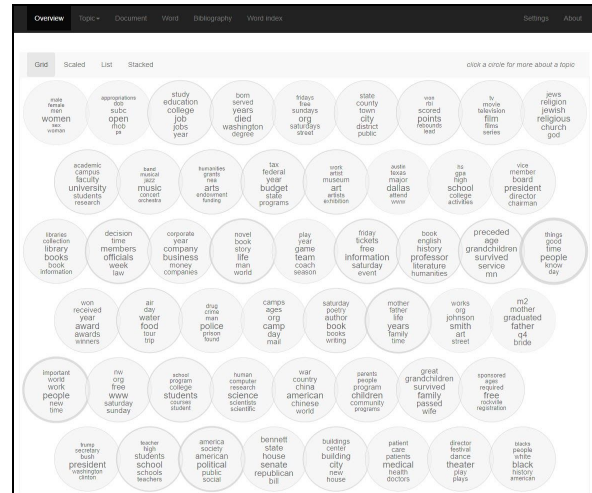# Dfr-browser

Dfr-browser is WE1S's primary tool for exploring topic models[1], serving as a general-purpose topic model visualization interface that is useful for getting an overview of a model, looking closely at a model, looking at articles associated with topics, and looking at words associated with topics. Principal visualizations in Dfr-browser include:

- Overview of all topics (in several layouts)
- Topic view (showing top words and most associated documents)
- Word view (showing topics in which a word is important)
- and Document view (showing topics that a document is associated with).

Andrew Goldstone, the creator of the original Dfr-browser, has published excellent instructions on using the interface as a complement to a topic model he produced for the *Signs* journal. Sections of his instructions include: "Reading the Interview" and "Exploring in Depth." He also has instructions on his GitHub site for Dfr-browser. WE1S's chapter on Dfr-browser in its *Topic Model Observatory Guide* adds goal-directed instructions for getting an overview and then looking closely at a model, examining articles associated with a topic, and looking at words associated with a topic.[2]

Two views in Dfr-browser (overview and specific topic view) of a topic model of newspaper articles.

Andrew Goldstone's original Dfr-browser:

* Dfr-browser GitHub site

* Example: topic models of 100 years of literary criticism journals from JSTOR

* Example: topic models of 40 years of the *Signs* journal (from JSTOR)

WE1S resources:

* *Topic Model Observatory Guide*, chap. 1

* Example of WE1S's use of Dfr-browser (adapted for use with non-JSTOR sources): topic model (100 topics) of Collection21 - U.S. Top Newspapers, 2000-2018 (articles mentioning humanities or science)

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[1] See WE1S's Methods card M-2 for an explanation of topic models.

[2] WE1S uses a slightly adapted version of Dfr-browser that has been adjusted to work with the metadata accompanying its text sources as opposed to that of the JSTOR articles that Goldstone designed his tool to work with.