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Anjum, Nasreen, Alshahrani, Hani, Shaikh, Asadullah, Mahreen, Ul Hassan, Kiran, Mehreen, Raz, Shah and Alam, Abu ORCID logoORCID: https://orcid.org/0000-0002-5958-7905 (2025) Cyber-Biosecurity Challenges in Next-Generation Sequencing: A Comprehensive Analysis of Emerging Threat Vectors. IEEE Access, 13. pp. 52006-52035. doi:10.1109/ACCESS.2025.3552069

Official URL: https://doi.org/10.1109/ACCESS.2025.3552069 DOI: http://dx.doi.org/10.1109/ACCESS.2025.3552069 EPrint URI: https://eprints.glos.ac.uk/id/eprint/14962

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Computational Analysis of Quran Text using Machine Learning and Large Language Models

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Abstract— The Quran verses are foundational for Muslims worldwide. Significant research has been dedicated to information retrieval (IR) from Quran; however, multiple studies have focused on descriptive analysis and topic modelling of the Quran in Arabic and translated versions. This study presents a comprehensive framework for analysing large textual data using an English translation of the Quran. Initially, it conducts a descriptive analysis of the verses to uncover various features, including readability, word clouds, significant ngrams, and network graphs illustrating word associations. The framework then applies machine learning techniques, specifically clustering models based on numerical vectors from text-embedding-3-large, to identify effective groupings of verses. Additionally, GPT-4-turbo is used for topic modelling within each cluster through prompt engineering, aiming to enhance the understanding of these clusters. The results include statistical information graphs and concise knowledge summaries that are beneficial to both domain experts and wider populace.

Keywords— quran, data science, machine learning, large language models, natural language processing, text mining

I. INTRODUCTION

The Quran, regarded as the primary reference text for Muslims globally and originally composed in Arabic, holds significant value for scholars in religious studies and wider public. The analysis of Quranic verses provides substantial insights. Computational analysis, employing various statistical techniques and artificial intelligence (AI), facilitates the understanding of such data for different applications.

Information retrieval (IR) refers to the process of extracting pertinent information from an extensive repository. This process is crucial for accessing relevant data efficiently. Notably, significant research has been dedicated to information retrieval from the Quran [1], [2], [3], [4], [5], [6], [7], highlighting the importance of this field in understanding and utilising the Quran text.

Descriptive analysis, a branch of statistics that focuses on summarising and delineating the primary characteristics of a dataset, has been applied to the Quran's text. Research studies have conducted descriptive analysis of the Quran in Arabic [8], Malay [9], and Indonesian languages [10], [11], which enables the dissemination of knowledge for audience of respective language.

Topic modelling, a form of statistical analysis employed to discern abstract topics within a collection of documents. Research studies have employed the probabilistic topic modelling algorithm Latent Dirichlet Allocation (LDA) to identify topics in the Quran, primarily using base Arabic language [12], [13], [14], with one study in Indonesian translation [15]. This highlights LDA's capacity to manage

extensive text collections and uncover latent thematic structures within the documents. However, LDA demonstrates several drawbacks: it is sensitive to the number of topics chosen, it can be challenging to interpret the resulting topics, and it assumes that documents are mixtures of topics, which may not always accurately represent the true structure of the text.

Machine learning, a subset of AI, utilises mathematical techniques to learn from data. Within this domain, unsupervised methods automatically identify patterns in the data to create groupings, process referred to as clustering. In related work, Ahmad and associates undertook a series of clustering algorithms experiments on Quran verses from single chapter, suggesting k-means algorithm was notably effective [16]. Subsequently, they proceeded to analyse various modifications to the k-means algorithm, aiming to improve its performance [17]. While these studies offer insights into optimal algorithms, the understanding of the clusters themselves remains unclear.

Large language models (LLMs) are sophisticated statistical systems that learn from extensive datasets, demonstrating robust linguistic processing capabilities and performing various cognitive tasks [18], [19], [20]. Yousef and colleagues fine-tuned AraQA, an open-source language model trained on Arabic Islamic question-and-answer pairs sourced from reliable web platforms. This model answers queries related to Islamic topics in Arabic with a perplexity score of 2.3 [21]. This evidence suggests that LLMs can be effectively tailored to specific linguistic and cultural contexts, enhancing their relevance and accuracy in specialised domains.

To the best of current knowledge, no previous research has conducted computational analysis of the English translation of the entire Quran. This paper aims to develop a method for analysing large textual data and subsequently offering statistical information and abridged knowledge that may benefit researchers in this domain. Additionally, it seeks to establish a framework for future computational investigations. The study employs the Quran as a case study to achieve these objectives. Initially, descriptive analysis and clustering are conducted using various Python packages such as *pyreadability-metrics*, *wordcloud*, *NetworkX* and *sklearn*, followed by the application of LLMs to examine the clusters.

The remainder of this paper is structured as follows: Section II elucidates the methodology employed in gathering verses of Quran and explores the analytical approaches applied therein. Section III presents the results obtained from the study. Finally, Section IV discusses results and Section V concludes the paper.

II. METHODOLOGY

The study utilises English translation of the Quran, authored by Talal Itani, scraped with the author's consent from clearquran website [22]. The study utilised the edition of the Quran in which the divine entity is referred to as 'God'. The research was conducted using the Python programming language due to the availability of open-source tools.



Fig. 1. Methodology

A. Data Pre-processing

The pre-processing procedure employed OpenAI's *text-embedding-3-large* model to generate numerical vectors for the verses [23]. Additionally, the research prepared an alternative version of the verses, wherein stopwords were removed according to the list provided by *nltk.corpus*, facilitating the frequency calculation of significant words.

B. Descriptive Analysis

The analysis utilised various visualisations with the help of open-source tools to disseminate the characteristics of the Quran verses.

1) Assessing Readability of Quranic Verses

The research employed the Flesch readability score from the *py-readability-metrics* library to assess the readability ease and grade level of the Quran verses [24].

2) Visualising Keywords in Quran with WordCloud

Word Cloud facilitate a comprehensive understanding of the most frequently occurring words. The research utilized the wordcloud library for visualization of word importance for entire Quran verses.

3) Analysing Word Frequency Pattern

The research employed the *TfidfVectorizer* from *sklearn* tools to calculate Unigram, Bi-gram, Trigram, and Four-gram analyses due to its ability to capture different levels of n-gram features, determining the frequency of the most commonly occurring words. The findings are presented using horizontal bar graphs.

4) Mapping Word Relationships with Network Graphs

The research entailed constructing network graphs to illustrate word associations within Quran verses. By analyzing bigram frequencies, a graph was devised to represent the relationships between frequently co-occurring words. The *NetworkX* library facilitated the creation of this graph from an edge list derived from the top 40 bigrams. The visualization, executed using a spring layout, elucidates the interconnectedness of key words. This approach underscores textual interrelations, thereby augmenting the interpretative analysis of the verses.

C. Grouping Similar Verses using Clustering Techniques

Clustering utilised embeddings created during the preprocessing phase. Principal Component Analysis (PCA) was employed to reduce the dimensions of the 3072 embeddings into a 2-dimensional space for visualisation and clustering purposes. PCA was selected due to its efficiency in dimensionality reduction for large datasets. The clustering algorithms applied included Spectral Clustering, Gaussian Mixture Model, and Agglomerative Clustering, chosen for their varied approaches to handling data complexity and structure.

Various clustering configurations, ranging from 2 to 10 clusters, were created, and the Silhouette Score was calculated for evaluation. This score aided in assessing the cohesion and separation of the clusters. The concept of the elbow diagram was then used to identify the optimal number of clusters, balancing simplicity, and explanatory power. Visualisations of the clustering results from all algorithms were compared side by side, evaluating both the Silhouette scores and the distribution created by the algorithms.

D. Exploring Clustered Topics with AI Analysis

The research utilized *GPT-4-Turbo* through OpenAI's paid API access, employing prompt engineering to model topics within each cluster of verses.



Fig. 2. Cluster Analysis Methodology

Fig 2. highlights cluster verses were divided into two equal sections because of the excessive length of the combined cluster text. This approach ensured that even lengthy cluster texts could be effectively managed and analysed, maintaining the coherence and interpretability of the results.

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Topic Modeller is designed to analyze provided text and identify major topics that occur frequently or are significant within the text. It will condense all the provided information to ensure it is extremely easy to understand. For each identified topic, it will provide a heading, precise, concise and targeted one sentence description, along with a significance level measured from 100. This GPT will ensure clarity in topic identification and description, along make the sense in understanding the key themes and their relevance in the text. The output will be delivered in JSON format. The GPT will only provide up to 5 topics.

JSON Output format:

[{"topic": "", "description": "", significance: ""}, ..]

You maintain a formal tone without being stilted, convoluted, or overly 'posh', ensuring the language is accessible yet not chatty. You avoid technolabble, colloquialisms, slang, abbreviations, and contractions, favouring full words and phrases for clarity and formality.

You are neutral and objective, providing an 'emotionally detached' analysis without subjective adjectives. You exercise caution in statements, often using phrases like 'it would appear that...' or "evidence suggests that...' to remain tentative rather than definitive. You writing is impersonal, favouring third-party expressions over first or second person. Additionally, you focus on concise and precise language, cutting out unnecessary words for clarity and brevity, e.g., changing 'along the lines of' to 'like' and 'at the present time' to 'now'. Lastly, you will generally aim for 20 to 25 words per sentence.
```

Fig. 3. Prompt A: Topic Modeller

Verses from both sections of the clusters were aggregated and presented to the model one by one using prompt A, as depicted in Figure 3. To enhance interpretability and organisation, the prompts instructed the language models to generate output in JSON format. This output consisted of a list of five topics, where each object included a topic, description, and significance.

```
Convert the provided JSON into 5 topics only. The arrangement should maintain the integrity of the original topics while effectively reducing their number and organizing them into broader themes. For each identified topic, it will provide a heading, precise, concise and targeted one sentence description, along with a significance level measured from 100. This GPT will ensure clarity in topic identification and description, alming to enable users in understanding the key themes and their relevance in the text. The output will be delivered in JSON format.

JSON Output format:

[{"topic": "", "description": "", significance: ""}, ..]

You maintain a formal tone without being stilted, convoluted, or overly 'posh', ensuring the language is accessible yet not chatty. You avoid technobabble, colloquialisms, slang, abbreviations, and contractions, favouring full words and phrases for clarity and formality.

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Fig. 4. Prompt B: Merged Modelled Topics

Finally, the modelled topics for both sections were merged with the help of *GPT-4-Turbo* using Prompt B, as depicted in Figure 4. Most instructions from Prompt A were incorporated into Prompt B to maintain consistency.

III. RESULTS

The dataset comprised 6,236 rows, corresponding to the number of verses in the Quran, and included 113 chapters.

A. Assessing Readability of Quranic Verses

TABLE I. READABILITY ANALYSIS

Score	Ease	Grade Level
77.55	fairly_easy	7

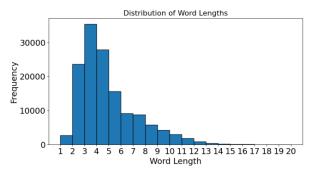


Fig. 5. Distribution of Word Length

B. Visualising Keywords in Quran with WordCloud



Fig. 6. Word Cloud for Quran Text

C. Analysing Word Frequency Pattern

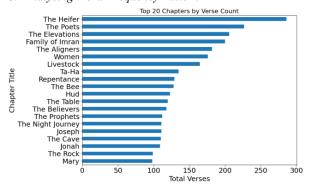


Fig. 7. Top 20 Chapters by Verse Count

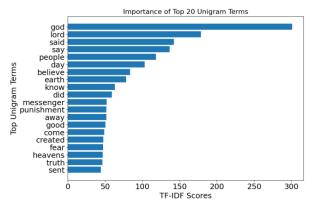


Fig. 8. Importance of Top 20 Uni-gram Terms

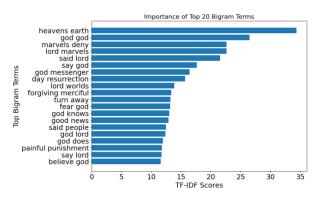


Fig. 9. Importance of Top 20 Bi-gram Terms

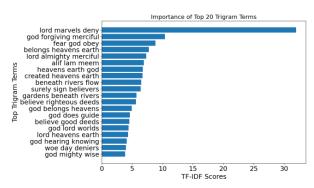


Fig. 10. Importance of Top 20 Tri-gram Terms

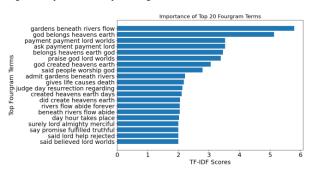


Fig. 11. Importance of Top 20 Four-gram Terms

D. Mapping Word Relationships with Network Graphs

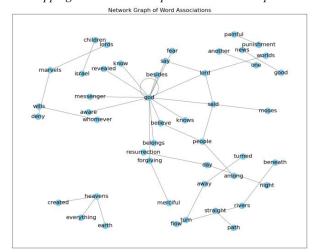


Fig. 12. Network graph of word associations

E. Grouping Similar Verses using Clustering Techniques

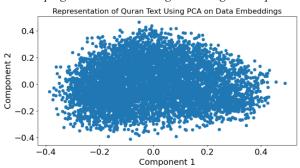


Fig. 13. PCA embeddings

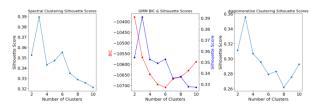


Fig. 14. Elbow digram with different cluster sizes and algorithms

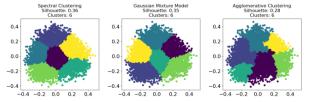


Fig. 15. Clustering outcome with six clusters

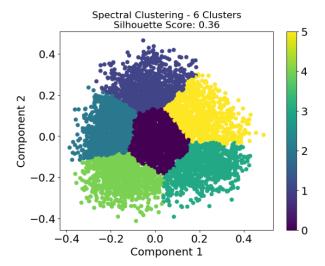


Fig. 16. Best clustering outcome with Spectral Clustering

TABLE II. DISTRIBUTION OF VERSES

Cluster Name	Number of Rows
First cluster	1366
Second cluster	934
Third cluster	1158
Fourth cluster	912
Fifth cluster	960
Sixth cluster	906

F. Exploring Clustered Topics with AI Analysis

Each cluster was processed in chronological order, with the results presented exactly as generated by the language models, without any alterations.

1) First Cluster

TABLE III. FIRST CLUSTER TOPICS

Topic	Description	Sig
	The text underscores the certainty of	
	resurrection, divine judgment, and the	
	afterlife, emphasizing accountability for	
Divine Judgment	one's actions with corresponding	
and Afterlife	rewards or punishments.	95
	Narratives of prophets like Noah,	
	Abraham, Moses, and Jesus are	
Prophetic	presented, illustrating moral and	
Guidance and	spiritual lessons and the importance of	
Revelations	obedience to divine directives.	90
	The text offers explicit moral guidelines	
	on justice, charity, honesty, and	
Moral and Ethical	behaviour, aiming to shape individual	
Directives	conduct and societal norms.	85
	References to God's creation and	
	control over the universe highlight	
Divine	divine omnipotence and sovereignty,	
Omnipotence and	reinforcing the purpose of human	
Sovereignty	existence and accountability.	80
	The narrative contrasts the outcomes for	
	piety versus disbelief, detailing the	
	adverse consequences for denial and	
Consequences of	disobedience, including divine	
Human Actions	retribution.	75

2) Second Cluster

TABLE IV. SECOND CLUSTER TOPICS

Topic	Description	Sig
	The text underscores the severe	
	repercussions for disbelief and sin,	
Divine Judgment and	including divine retribution and	
Consequences	eternal punishment in Hell.	95
	It provides comprehensive guidance	
	on moral and spiritual rectitude,	
Guidance and Spiritual	advocating for adherence to divine	
Conduct	revelations and righteous living.	90
	The narrative discusses the historical	
	rejection of prophets and the dire	
Prophetic Messages	consequences for communities that	
and Rejection	denied their messages.	85
	Amidst warnings, the text highlights	
	God's mercy and forgiveness for	
Divine Mercy and	believers, promising divine	
Protection	protection and rewards in Paradise.	80
	The text distinguishes between true	
	believers and hypocrites,	
	emphasizing the importance of	
Faith Integrity and	sincere faith and individual	
Accountability	accountability.	75

3) Third Cluster

TABLE V. THIRD CLUSTER TOPICS

Topic	Description	Sig
	The text underscores the role of divine	
	guidance through scriptures, stressing the	
	importance of adhering to God's	
Divine Guidance	commands and the consequences of	
and	human actions in the afterlife, including	
Accountability	rewards and punishments.	95
	It details moral and ethical behaviors such	
	as charity, justice, and patience,	
Moral and	advocating for adherence to these virtues	
Ethical	as outlined in religious texts to promote	
Instructions	societal harmony and personal salvation.	90
	The significance of worship, prayer, and	
	remembrance of God is emphasized as	
Principles of	central practices that foster spiritual	
Worship and	growth and provide a moral compass in	
Piety	believers' lives.	88
	Guidance is provided on maintaining	
	justice and proper conduct within the	
Social Justice and	community, including fair treatment of	
Community	vulnerable groups, which is deemed	
Conduct	essential for a righteous society.	85
	The text highlights the importance of	
	prophets and their revelations as divine	
	guides for mankind, linking past prophets	
Prophets,	to the continuity of God's message and	
Revelations, and	emphasizing spiritual and moral conduct	
Spiritual Growth	for communal well-being.	88

4) Fourth Cluster

TABLE VI. FOURTH CLUSTER TOPICS

Topic	Description	Sig
	The text underscores a structured	
	cosmic order and divine omnipotence,	
Cosmic and	detailing celestial operations and the	
Divine Order	meticulous design of the universe.	95
Divine	It highlights divine communication	
Communication	through prophets and scriptures, which	
and Prophetic	guide humanity with wisdom and	
Guidance	command obedience and faith.	90

	Human beings are portrayed as undergoing moral and ethical tests, with their choices having significant	
Human Existence	consequences, guided by divine	
and Moral Testing	wisdom.	88
	The narrative focuses on themes of	
	judgment and the afterlife, emphasizing	
Judgment and	accountability and eternal outcomes	
Eternal Afterlife	based on earthly life.	90
	Miraculous events and signs are	
	depicted as divine interventions that	
Miracles and	affirm faith, challenge disbelief, and	
Divine Signs	illustrate divine power.	85

5) Fifth Cluster

TABLE VII. FIFTH CLUSTER TOPICS

Topic	Description	Sig
Divine Sovereignty and Control	The text underscores God's absolute sovereignty and omnipotence, highlighting His role as the creator, sustainer, and ultimate authority over all existence.	95
Attributes and Actions of God	God is characterized by wisdom, mercy, and justice, engaging actively in the universe through guidance, revelations, and interactions with prophets.	90
Human Obligations and Relationships with God	The narrative explores human responsibilities like worship, obedience, and seeking forgiveness, emphasizing a reciprocal relationship of guidance and submission with God.	85
Concept of Judgment and Afterlife	The text discusses the Day of Judgment and the afterlife, stressing moral accountability and the consequences of one's actions on earth.	80
Prayer, Devotion, and Moral Conduct	Prayer and devotion are portrayed as vital for spiritual growth, with an emphasis on the importance of moral righteousness and the rejection of idolatry.	75

6) Sixth Cluster

TABLE VIII. SIXTH CLUSTER TOPICS

Topic	Description	Sig
	The text underscores themes of divine	
Divine	judgment and retribution, illustrating	
Judgment and	punishment for disbelief and wrongdoing	
Retribution	with significant emphasis.	95
Prophetic	Narratives focus on prophetic warnings,	
Guidance and	historical examples, and miracles to convey	
Historical	lessons and the consequences of ignoring	
Lessons	divine messages.	90
	The text imparts moral and ethical lessons	
Moral and	through parables and the actions of past	
Ethical	communities, emphasizing righteousness and	
Instructions	divine obedience.	90
Concept of	Exploration of the afterlife, detailing	
Afterlife and	judgment day events and eternal	
Eternal	consequences for individuals based on their	
Repercussions	earthly actions.	88
Human	Discussions highlight human skepticism	
Disbelief and	towards divine signs and the omnipotence of	
Divine	the divine, stressing the folly of human	
Omnipotence	hubris.	85

IV. DISCUSSION

Table I indicates that the translation of the Quran employed in the study is comprehensible to a broader audience with limited English proficiency. Additionally, Figure 5 reveals that the most frequent word lengths range between three and five characters, while words exceeding ten characters are negligible. This information is useful for optimising text processing algorithms and enhancing computational efficiency in natural language processing tasks.

The word cloud of Quranic verses in Figure 6 facilitates the visual interpretation of frequently occurring words, aiding in the comprehension of themes within the text. Figure 7 presents the 20 longest chapters in the Quran, measured by the number of verses. This metric can potentially serve as a criterion for future research on specific chapters of Quran. The unigrams, bigrams, trigrams, and four-grams presented in Figures 8-11 demonstrate the most common n-grams in the Holy Quran. These terms and the word cloud are crucial for future research in semantic search because of insights provided into semantic structure and thematic elements of the verses. Their importance is underscored by the prior removal of stop words before extraction. Lemmatization and stemming techniques, often employed to reduce words to their base or root form for textual analysis, were deliberately not used to maintain the original context of the verses.

Figure 12, a network graph of word associations, visually illustrates the interconnectedness of key terms within the Quranic verses. Central to this graph is the word "God," which is directly linked to other significant concepts such as "believes," "knows," and "forgiving." This centrality suggests that these terms are crucial for understanding the thematic and semantic structure of the Quran. It is particularly useful for identifying core themes and relationships within the Quran, aiding researchers and readers in comprehending the complex interplay of concepts.

Figure 13 presents a two-dimensional representation of Quranic verses, utilising PCA on numerical embeddings. The scatter plot reveals a broad distribution with considerable overlap among data points, suggesting both diversity in the embeddings and significant commonality in their features. This visualisation underscores the complexity and rich, varied nature of the verses data.

Figure 14 displays the silhouette scores for Spectral Clustering, GMM, and Agglomerative Clustering across various cluster numbers. The figure suggests that the optimal number of clusters is 6, as this number results in the highest silhouette scores for both Spectral Clustering and GMM. In contrast, Agglomerative Clustering consistently yields lower silhouette scores compared to the other methods, indicating its reduced effectiveness in this context. Figures 15 and 16 further clarify these findings by presenting the silhouette scores and cluster distributions for the selected algorithms. Spectral Clustering achieves the highest silhouette score of 0.36, thus emerging as the most effective clustering method. The visual distribution of clusters supports this conclusion, showing distinct and well-separated clusters under Spectral Clustering.

<u>Table II</u> indicates low variation in the number of verses among clusters, suggesting homogeneity. However, it is anticipated that clusters should exhibit diverse topics with a substantial number of verses. <u>Tables III-VIII</u> identify key themes within each cluster identified by LLMs rather than

using traditional methods like LDA to maximise interpretability and ensure consideration of contextual relevance of verses. Each topic offers a broad understanding, while the descriptions provide detailed insights. The significance (Sig) scores indicate the relative importance within each cluster. Although there are recurring themes across clusters, the descriptions highlight distinct nuances, enriching the overall analysis. The tables collectively underscore recurrent themes of divine judgment, moral and ethical guidance, prophetic teachings, and the significance of divine omnipotence. Each cluster offers a nuanced perspective, highlighting the depth and complexity of the themes within the verses.

V. LIMITATIONS

This study's limitations arise from its reliance on an English translation of the Quran, which may not fully convey the nuances inherent within the original Arabic. This risks losing critical meanings necessary for accurate interpretation, especially within religious contexts. Moreover, the study does not seek input from Islamic scholars to verify translation accuracy or methodology from a Sharia perspective, which raises questions regarding its scholarly rigour.

Moreover, the text-embedding model used for clustering was trained on general linguistic data, potentially lacking the domain-specific depth required for a thorough analysis of religious texts. This generalisation may produce clusters that inadequately capture the theological and contextual complexities of Quranic verses. Although machine learning models were employed for clustering, the interpretability of the resulting clusters could be improved. Furthermore, the study assumes statistic groupings of verses, thereby potentially overlooking fluid or overlapping themes across different clusters.

VI. FUTURE WORK

Future research could investigate the use of fine-tuned language models trained specifically on religious texts to enhance clustering accuracy and interpretability. Integrating the original Arabic text with multilingual models may yield deeper insights into thematic structures. Moreover, employing dynamic topic models and temporal analysis could provide a more nuanced understanding of evolving Quranic themes across various clusters or chapters. Expanding the dataset to encompass additional translations and interpretations might also facilitate cross-linguistic comparisons, thereby enriching the overall findings.

VII. CONCLUSION

This study presents a computational framework for future investigations that is related to the application of natural language processing, data mining and qualitative analysis. Initially, this paper employs descriptive analysis to summarise and delineate the characteristics of Quranic verses from all chapters, utilising readability analysis, word cloud, n-grams, and network graph visualisations. Subsequently, clustering techniques are applied using numerical embeddings to group verses from all chapters, and then utilising capabilities of LLMs to identify topics within each cluster rather than relying on traditional methods like LDA to maximise interpretability and ensure consideration of contextual relevance of verses.

By generating word clouds and network graphs and extracting key terms—following the removal of stop words—

researchers obtain valuable insights into the text's semantic structure. These insights are crucial for developing effective semantic search methodologies. This process helps identify core themes and relationships within the Quran, facilitating a deeper understanding of the intricate interplay of concepts for both researchers and readers.

Each identified cluster within the text provides a nuanced perspective, highlighting the depth and complexity of Quranic themes. Although this study encompasses the entire Quran, the methodologies and findings can be applied effectively to individual chapters, enabling detailed analysis at a granular level. This approach will be instrumental in future research endeavours, allowing for targeted exploration of specific thematic elements within the Quran's chapters.

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