# Sequencing Legal DNA: NLP for Law and Political Economy

2. Tokenization

#### Instructions before we begin:

- (1) Turn on video and set audio to mute
- (2) In Participants panel, set zoom name to "Full Name, School / Degree" (ex: "Leon Smith, ETH Data Science Msc")
  - (3) If this is your first lecture, say "hi" in the chat

#### Online Lecture Norms

### Let's make the most of online learning!

- Live attendance at lectures is required.
- Keep video on if connection allows.
- Stay muted when not talking.
- ► To make questions or comments, use the "raise hand" function.

#### Homework

- First homework is due tomorrow by midnight.
- ▶ Submit on EduFlow (reachable from moodle, link will be on syllabus).

#### TA Session

- ▶ Any feedback on the first TA session?
  - video is linked on syllabus.
- Second TA session is this Friday, 1230h-1330h
  - go over week 1 homework
  - go over week 2 notebook
  - can ask questions in advance using TA Q&A page (on syllabus).

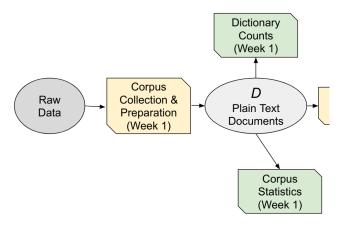
## Final Assignment Info

- For those not doing a project, there is a final assignment distributed a week or two after class ends.
  - Questions will be based on the slides and some new readings.
  - You will have three days to do it.
  - Will distribute practice questions beforehand.

# Week 2 Q&A Page

http://bit.ly/NLP-QA02

## Last Week



# Practice with Dictionary Methods

Tokenization: Overview

Pre-Processing Text

Counts and Frequencies

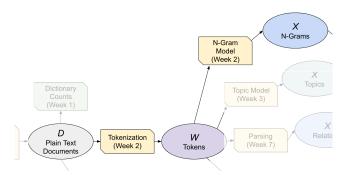
N-Grams

Parts of Speech

Applications

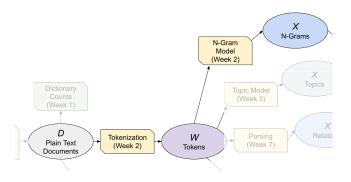
Appendix on Course Projects

# Today



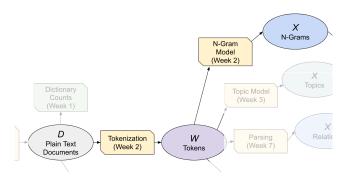
- ► Input:
  - A set of documents (e.g. text files), D.

# Today



- ► Input:
  - A set of documents (e.g. text files), D.
- Output (tokens):
  - ▶ A sequence, *W*, containing a list of tokens words or word pieces for use in natural language processing

# Today



- ► Input:
  - A set of documents (e.g. text files), D.
- Output (tokens):
  - ► A sequence, *W*, containing a list of tokens words or word pieces for use in natural language processing
- Output (n-grams):
  - ▶ A matrix, X, containing statistics about word/phrase frequencies in those documents.

### Goals of Tokenization

To summarize: A major goal of tokenization is to produce features that are

- predictive in the learning task
- ▶ interpretable by human investigators
- **tractable** enough to be easy to work with

### Goals of Tokenization

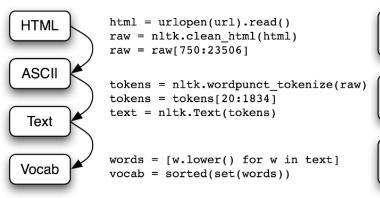
To summarize: A major goal of tokenization is to produce features that are

- **predictive** in the learning task
- ▶ interpretable by human investigators
- ▶ tractable enough to be easy to work with

#### Two broad approaches:

- 1. convert documents to vectors, usually frequency distributions over pre-processed n-grams.
- convert documents to sequences of tokens, for inputs to sequential models.

## A Standard Tokenization Pipeline



Download web page, strip HTML if necessary, trim to desired content

Tokenize the text, select tokens of interest, create an NLTK text

Normalize the words, build the vocabulary

Source: NLTK Book, Chapter 3.

Tokenization: Overview

Pre-Processing Text

Counts and Frequencies

N-Grams

Parts of Speech

Applications

Appendix on Course Projects

# Segmenting paragraphs/sentences

- ▶ Many tasks should be done on sentences, rather than corpora as a whole.
  - NLTK and spaCy do a good (but not perfect) job of splitting sentences, while accounting for periods on abbreviations, etc.
  - spaCy is slower but significantly better.

## Segmenting paragraphs/sentences

- ▶ Many tasks should be done on sentences, rather than corpora as a whole.
  - ► NLTK and spaCy do a good (but not perfect) job of splitting sentences, while accounting for periods on abbreviations, etc.
  - spaCy is slower but significantly better.
- ► There isn't a grammar-based paragraph tokenizer.
  - most corpora have new paragraphs annotated.
  - or use line breaks.

## Pre-processing

- ► An important piece of the "art" of text analysis is deciding what data to throw out.
  - Uninformative data add noise and reduce statistical precision.
  - ► They are also computationally costly.

## Pre-processing

- An important piece of the "art" of text analysis is deciding what data to throw out.
  - Uninformative data add noise and reduce statistical precision.
  - They are also computationally costly.
- Pre-processing choices can affect down-stream results, especially in unsupervised learning tasks (Denny and Spirling 2017).
  - some features are more interpretable: "judge has" / "has discretion" vs "judge has discretion".

- ▶ Removing capitalization is a standard corpus normalization technique
  - ▶ usually the capitalized/non-capitalized version of a word are equivalent e.g. words showing up capitalized at beginning of sentence
  - ightharpoonup ightharpoonup capitalization not informative.

- Removing capitalization is a standard corpus normalization technique
  - usually the capitalized/non-capitalized version of a word are equivalent e.g. words showing up capitalized at beginning of sentence
  - ightharpoonup ightharpoonup capitalization not informative.
- ▶ Also: what about "the first amendment" versus "the First Amendment"?

- Removing capitalization is a standard corpus normalization technique
  - ▶ usually the capitalized/non-capitalized version of a word are equivalent e.g. words showing up capitalized at beginning of sentence
  - ightharpoonup ightharpoonup capitalization not informative.
- ▶ Also: what about "the first amendment" versus "the First Amendment"?
  - ► Compromise: include capitalized version of words not at beginning of sentence.

- Removing capitalization is a standard corpus normalization technique
  - usually the capitalized/non-capitalized version of a word are equivalent e.g. words showing up capitalized at beginning of sentence
  - ightharpoonup ightharpoonup capitalization not informative.
- ▶ Also: what about "the first amendment" versus "the First Amendment"?
  - ► Compromise: include capitalized version of words not at beginning of sentence.
- For some tasks, capitalization is important
  - needed for sentence splitting, part-of-speech tagging, syntactic parsing, and semantic role labeling.

- Removing capitalization is a standard corpus normalization technique
  - usually the capitalized/non-capitalized version of a word are equivalent e.g. words showing up capitalized at beginning of sentence
  - ightharpoonup ightharpoonup capitalization not informative.
- ▶ Also: what about "the first amendment" versus "the First Amendment"?
  - Compromise: include capitalized version of words not at beginning of sentence.
- For some tasks, capitalization is important
  - needed for sentence splitting, part-of-speech tagging, syntactic parsing, and semantic role labeling.
  - For sequence data, e.g. language modeling huggingface tokenizer takes out capitalization but then add a special "capitalized" token before the word.

# Let's eat grandpa. Let's eat, grandpa.

correct punctuation can save a person's life.

Source: Chris Bail text data slides.

Inclusion of punctuation depends on your task:

# Let's eat grandpa. Let's eat, grandpa.

correct punctuation can save a person's life.

Source: Chris Bail text data slides.

Inclusion of punctuation depends on your task:

▶ if you are vectorizing the document as a bag of words or bag of n-grams, punctuation won't be needed.

# Let's eat grandpa. Let's eat, grandpa.

correct punctuation can save a person's life.

Source: Chris Bail text data slides.

Inclusion of punctuation depends on your task:

- if you are vectorizing the document as a bag of words or bag of n-grams, punctuation won't be needed.
- frequency of exclamation points "!" indicates emotion and question marks "?" indicates curiosity.

# Let's eat grandpa. Let's eat, grandpa.

correct punctuation can save a person's life.

Source: Chris Bail text data slides.

Inclusion of punctuation depends on your task:

- if you are vectorizing the document as a bag of words or bag of n-grams, punctuation won't be needed.
- frequency of exclamation points "!" indicates emotion and question marks "?" indicates curiosity.
- ▶ like capitalization, punctuation is needed for annotations (sentence splitting, parts of speech, syntax, roles, etc)
  - also needed for language models.

## **Numbers**

- ▶ for classification using bag of words:
  - ▶ can drop numbers, or replace with special characters

#### Numbers

- for classification using bag of words:
  - can drop numbers, or replace with special characters
- ► for language models:
  - iust treat them like letters.
  - ► GPT-3 can solve math problems.

## Drop Stopwords?

as at be by and are for from an a in that has he is it its of on the will with to was were

## **Drop Stopwords?**

```
and
                              at
                                   be
                                       by
                                            for
                                                  from
a
     an
                  are
                        as
has
     he
           in
                  is
                        it
                              its
                                   of
                                            that
                                                  the
                                       on
                  will
                       with
to
     was
           were
```

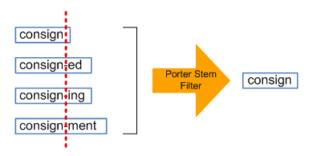
- ▶ What about "not guilty"?
- Legal "memes" often contain stopwords:
  - "beyond a reasonable doubt"
  - "with all deliberate speed"

## Drop Stopwords?

```
for
                                                   from
a
           and
                  are
                        as
                               at
                                   be
                                        by
     an
                                   of
has
     he
           in
                  is
                        it
                               its
                                             that
                                                   the
                                        on
                  will
                        with
to
           were
     was
```

- What about "not guilty"?
- Legal "memes" often contain stopwords:
  - "beyond a reasonable doubt"
  - "with all deliberate speed"
- can drop stopwords by themselves, but keep them as part of phrases.
- can filter out words and phrases using part-of-speech tags (later).

# Stemming/lemmatizing



- ▶ Effective dimension reduction with little loss of information.
- Lemmatizer produces real words, but N-grams won't make grammatical sense
  - ▶ e.g., "judges have been ruling" would become "judge have be rule"

#### **Tokens**

The most basic unit of representation in a text.

characters: can represent documents as sequence of individual letters {h,e,l,l,o,,w,o,r,l,d}

### **Tokens**

The most basic unit of representation in a text.

- characters: can represent documents as sequence of individual letters {h,e,l,l,o,,w,o,r,l,d}
- words: split on white space {hello, world}

#### Tokens

The most basic unit of representation in a text.

- characters: can represent documents as sequence of individual letters {h,e,l,l,o,,w,o,r,l,d}
- words: split on white space {hello, world}
- $\blacktriangleright$  n-grams: learn a vocabulary of phrases and tokenize those: "ETH Zurich  $\rightarrow$  ETH\_Zurich"

### **Tokens**

The most basic unit of representation in a text.

- characters: can represent documents as sequence of individual letters {h,e,l,l,o,,w,o,r,l,d}
- words: split on white space {hello, world}
- $\blacktriangleright$  n-grams: learn a vocabulary of phrases and tokenize those: "ETH Zurich  $\rightarrow$  ETH\_Zurich"
- what else?

### Sub-Word Units

- ► The standard tokenization approach in deep learning (i.e. language models) uses sub-word information.
- ► Tokenizers like **SentencePiece** do tokenizing at the character level, with white space and punctuation treated equivalently to alphanumeric characters.
  - requires lots of data/compute but learns word endings etc
- ▶ We will come back to this starting week 5.

Tokenization: Overview

Pre-Processing Text

### Counts and Frequencies

N-Grams

Parts of Speech

Application:

Appendix on Course Projects

## Bag-of-words representation

Say we want to convert a corpus D to a matrix X:

▶ In the "bag-of-words" representation, a row of *X* is just the frequency distribution over words in the document corresponding to that row.

## Counts and frequencies

- **Document counts**: number of documents where a token appears.
- ▶ **Term counts**: number of total appearances of a token in corpus.

# Counts and frequencies

- **Document counts**: number of documents where a token appears.
- ▶ **Term counts**: number of total appearances of a token in corpus.
- ► Term frequency:

Term Frequency of w in document  $k = \frac{\text{Count of } w \text{ in document } k}{\text{Total tokens in document } k}$ 

# Building a vocabulary

- ▶ An important featurization step is to build a vocabulary of words:
  - Compute document frequencies for all words
  - Inspect low-frequency words and determine a minimum document threshold.
    - e.g., 10 documents, or .25% of documents.

## Building a vocabulary

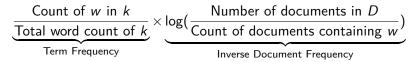
- ▶ An important featurization step is to build a vocabulary of words:
  - Compute document frequencies for all words
  - ▶ Inspect low-frequency words and determine a minimum document threshold.
    - e.g., 10 documents, or .25% of documents.
- Can also impose more complex thresholds, e.g.:
  - appears twice in at least 20 documents
  - appears in at least 3 documents in at least 5 years

## Building a vocabulary

- ▶ An important featurization step is to build a vocabulary of words:
  - ► Compute document frequencies for all words
  - ▶ Inspect low-frequency words and determine a minimum document threshold.
    - e.g., 10 documents, or .25% of documents.
- Can also impose more complex thresholds, e.g.:
  - appears twice in at least 20 documents
  - appears in at least 3 documents in at least 5 years
- ▶ Assign numerical identifiers to tokens to increase speed and reduce disk usage.

## TF-IDF Weighting

- ► TF/IDF: "Term-Frequency / Inverse-Document-Frequency."
- ▶ The formula for word w in document k:



## TF-IDF Weighting

- TF/IDF: "Term-Frequency / Inverse-Document-Frequency."
- ▶ The formula for word w in document k:

$$\underbrace{\frac{\text{Count of } w \text{ in } k}{\text{Total word count of } k}}_{\text{Term Frequency}} \times \underbrace{\log(\frac{\text{Number of documents in } D}{\text{Count of documents containing } w})}_{\text{Inverse Document Frequency}}$$

- ▶ The formula up-weights relatively rare words that do not appear in all documents.
  - These words are probably more distinctive of topics or differences between documents.
  - Example: A document contains 100 words, and the word appears 3 times in the document. The TF is .03. The corpus has 100 documents, and the word appears in 10 documents. the IDF is  $\log(100/10) \approx 2.3$ , so the TF-IDF for this document is  $.03 \times 2.3 = .07$ . Say the word appears in 90 out of 100 documents: Then the IDF is 0.105, with TF-IDF for this document equal to .003.

▶ Kelly et al (2019) suggest that including indicators for whether a phrase appears in a document (rather than the count) is often independently predictive.

- ► Kelly et al (2019) suggest that including indicators for whether a phrase appears in a document (rather than the count) is often independently predictive.
- Could add log counts, quadratics in counts, etc.
- Could also add pairwise interactions between word counts/frequencies.

- ▶ Kelly et al (2019) suggest that including indicators for whether a phrase appears in a document (rather than the count) is often independently predictive.
- Could add log counts, quadratics in counts, etc.
- Could also add pairwise interactions between word counts/frequencies.
- ▶ These often are not done much because of the dimensionality problem.

- ▶ Kelly et al (2019) suggest that including indicators for whether a phrase appears in a document (rather than the count) is often independently predictive.
- Could add log counts, quadratics in counts, etc.
- Could also add pairwise interactions between word counts/frequencies.
- ▶ These often are not done much because of the dimensionality problem.
  - could use feature selection or principal components to deal with that.

- ► Kelly et al (2019) suggest that including indicators for whether a phrase appears in a document (rather than the count) is often independently predictive.
- Could add log counts, quadratics in counts, etc.
- Could also add pairwise interactions between word counts/frequencies.
- ▶ These often are not done much because of the dimensionality problem.
  - could use feature selection or principal components to deal with that.
  - ▶ for machine learning, could use SVM with a polynomial kernel.

Tokenization: Overview

Pre-Processing Text

Counts and Frequencies

N-Grams

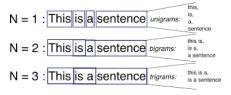
Parts of Speech

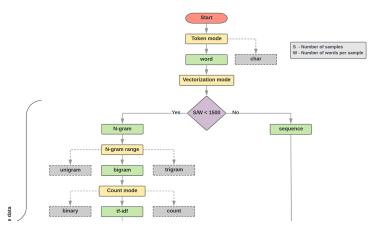
Applications

Appendix on Course Projects

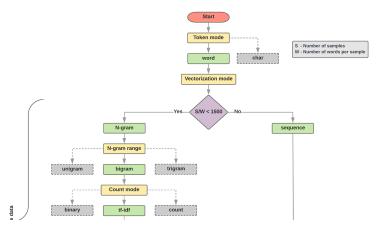
# What are N-grams

- $\triangleright$  N-grams are phrases, sequences of words up to length N.
  - bigrams, trigrams, quadgrams, etc.





- ► Google Developers recommend **tf-idf-weighted bigrams** as a baseline specification for text classification tasks.
  - ▶ ideal for fewer, longer documents.



- ► Google Developers recommend **tf-idf-weighted bigrams** as a baseline specification for text classification tasks.
  - ideal for fewer, longer documents.
- ▶ With more numerous, shorter documents (rows / doclength > 1500), better to use an embedded sequence (starting Week 5).

# N-grams and high dimensionality

- ▶ N-grams will blow up your feature space:
  - filtering out uninformative n-grams is necessary.

## N-grams and high dimensionality

- ▶ N-grams will blow up your feature space:
  - filtering out uninformative n-grams is necessary.
- ▶ Google Developers say that a feature space with P = 20,000 will work well for descriptive and prediction tasks.
  - ▶ I have gotten good performance with 10K or even 2K features.
  - ► For supervised learning tasks, a decent baseline is to build a vocabulary of 60K, then use feature selection to get down to 10K.

# Feature selection using univariate comparisions

- $\triangleright$   $\chi^2$  is a very fast feature selection routine for classification tasks
  - ▶ features must be non-negative
  - works on sparse matrices
  - works on multi-class problems

### Feature selection using univariate comparisions

- $\triangleright$   $\chi^2$  is a very fast feature selection routine for classification tasks
  - features must be non-negative
  - works on sparse matrices
  - works on multi-class problems
- With negative predictors:
  - use f\_classif.

### Feature selection using univariate comparisions

- $\triangleright$   $\chi^2$  is a very fast feature selection routine for classification tasks
  - ▶ features must be non-negative
  - works on sparse matrices
  - works on multi-class problems
- With negative predictors:
  - use f\_classif.
- For regression tasks:
  - use f\_regression or OLS coefficients.

- ► For f\_classif and f\_regression, can de-mean predictors by groups, for example by year or location.
  - purges correlated information and can help model generalize to new years/locations.
  - ▶ for regression, can also de-mean the outcome.

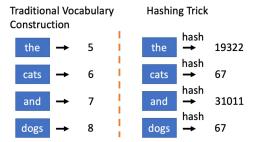
- ► For f\_classif and f\_regression, can de-mean predictors by groups, for example by year or location.
  - purges correlated information and can help model generalize to new years/locations.
  - ▶ for regression, can also de-mean the outcome.
- What if you want to de-mean by both year and location?
  - ightharpoonup take residuals from OLS regression of each variable (outcome and predictor) on the category dummies.

- ► For f\_classif and f\_regression, can de-mean predictors by groups, for example by year or location.
  - purges correlated information and can help model generalize to new years/locations.
  - for regression, can also de-mean the outcome.
- What if you want to de-mean by both year and location?
  - ightharpoonup take residuals from OLS regression of each variable (outcome and predictor) on the category dummies.
- ► That is:
  - regress  $Y_i = FE_1 + FE_2 + \epsilon_i$  and  $x_i^w = FE_1 + FE_2 + \epsilon_i, \forall w$ ,
  - ▶ take residuals  $\tilde{Y}_i = Y_i \hat{Y}_i$  and  $\tilde{x}_i^w = x_i^w \hat{x}_i^w$

- ► For f\_classif and f\_regression, can de-mean predictors by groups, for example by year or location.
  - purges correlated information and can help model generalize to new years/locations.
  - for regression, can also de-mean the outcome.
- What if you want to de-mean by both year and location?
  - ightharpoonup take residuals from OLS regression of each variable (outcome and predictor) on the category dummies.
- ► That is:
  - regress  $Y_i = FE_1 + FE_2 + \epsilon_i$  and  $x_i^w = FE_1 + FE_2 + \epsilon_i, \forall w$ ,
  - ▶ take residuals  $\tilde{Y}_i = Y_i \hat{Y}_i$  and  $\tilde{x}_i^w = x_i^w \hat{x}_i^w$
- Then use residuals as variables, in feature selection step or in machine learning task.

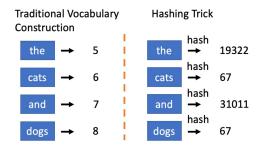
# Hashing Vectorizer

- ► A very different approach to tokenizing documents:
  - rather than make a one-to-one lookup for each n-gram, put n-grams through a hashing function that takes an arbitrary string and outputs an integer in some range (e.g. 1 to 10,000).



## Hashing Vectorizer

- ► A very different approach to tokenizing documents:
  - rather than make a one-to-one lookup for each n-gram, put n-grams through a hashing function that takes an arbitrary string and outputs an integer in some range (e.g. 1 to 10,000).



#### Pros:

- can have arbitrarilly small feature space
- ▶ handles out-of-vocabulary words any word or n-gram gets assigned to an arbitrary integer based on the hash function.

## Hashing Vectorizer

- ► A very different approach to tokenizing documents:
  - rather than make a one-to-one lookup for each n-gram, put n-grams through a hashing function that takes an arbitrary string and outputs an integer in some range (e.g. 1 to 10,000).

Tradition Construc	Hashir	ng Trick			
the	<b>→</b>	5	the	hash →	19322
cats	<b>→</b>	6	cats	hash →	67
and	<b>→</b>	7	and	hash →	31011
dogs	<b>→</b>	8	dogs	hash →	67

#### Pros:

- can have arbitrarilly small feature space
- ▶ handles out-of-vocabulary words any word or n-gram gets assigned to an arbitrary integer based on the hash function.

#### Cons:

- harder to interpret features
  - at least not directly but the eli5 implementation keeps track of the mapping
- will have collisions n-grams will randomly be paired with each other in the feature map.
  - usually innocuous, but could sum outputs of two hashing functions to minimize this.

## Collocations are Familiar N-grams

- ► Conceptually, the goal of including n-grams is to featurize **collocations**:
  - Non-compositional: the meaning is not the sum of the parts (kick+the+bucket≠"kick the bucket")

## Collocations are Familiar N-grams

- Conceptually, the goal of including n-grams is to featurize collocations:
  - Non-compositional: the meaning is not the sum of the parts (kick+the+bucket≠"kick the bucket")
  - Non-substitutable: cannot substitute components with synonyms ("fast food" ≠"quick food")

## Collocations are Familiar N-grams

- Conceptually, the goal of including n-grams is to featurize collocations:
  - Non-compositional: the meaning is not the sum of the parts (kick+the+bucket≠"kick the bucket")
  - Non-substitutable: cannot substitute components with synonyms ("fast food" ≠"quick food")
  - Non-modifiable: cannot modify with additional words or grammar: (e.g., "kick around the bucket", "kick the buckets")

### Point-wise mutual information

▶ A metric for identifying collocations is point-wise mutual information:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathsf{PMI}(w_1, w_2) &= \frac{\mathsf{Pr}(w_1 \_ w_2)}{\mathsf{Pr}(w_1) \mathsf{Pr}(w_2)} \\ &= \frac{\mathsf{Prob. of collocation, actual}}{\mathsf{Prob. of collocation, if independent}} \end{aligned}$$

where  $w_1$  and  $w_2$  are words in the vocabulary, and  $w_1, w_2$  is the N-gram  $w_1\_w_2$ .

### Point-wise mutual information

▶ A metric for identifying collocations is point-wise mutual information:

$$PMI(w_1, w_2) = \frac{Pr(w_1 w_2)}{Pr(w_1)Pr(w_2)}$$

$$= \frac{Prob. \text{ of collocation, actual}}{Prob. \text{ of collocation, if independent}}$$

where  $w_1$  and  $w_2$  are words in the vocabulary, and  $w_1, w_2$  is the N-gram  $w_1 w_2$ .

ranks words by how often they collocate, relative to how often they occur apart.

### Point-wise mutual information

► A metric for identifying collocations is point-wise mutual information:

$$PMI(w_1, w_2) = \frac{Pr(w_1 w_2)}{Pr(w_1)Pr(w_2)}$$

$$= \frac{Prob. \text{ of collocation, actual}}{Prob. \text{ of collocation, if independent}}$$

where  $w_1$  and  $w_2$  are words in the vocabulary, and  $w_1, w_2$  is the N-gram  $w_1 w_2$ .

- ranks words by how often they collocate, relative to how often they occur apart.
- Warning: Rare words that appear together once or twice will have high PMI.
  - Address this with minimum frequency thresholds.

## Geometric Mean: Normalized PMI for $N \ge 2$

ightharpoonup PMI can be generalized to arbitrary N as the geometric mean of the probabilities:

$$\frac{\Pr(w_1,...,w_N)}{\prod_{i=1}^n \sqrt[n]{\Pr(w_i)}}$$

## Geometric Mean: Normalized PMI for $N \ge 2$

ightharpoonup PMI can be generalized to arbitrary N as the geometric mean of the probabilities:

$$\frac{\Pr(w_1,...,w_N)}{\prod_{i=1}^n \sqrt[n]{\Pr(w_i)}}$$

► E.g., for trigrams:

$$\frac{\Pr(w_1, w_2, w_3)}{\sqrt[3]{\Pr(w_1)\Pr(w_2)\Pr(w_3)}}$$

## Geometric Mean: Normalized PMI for $N \ge 2$

ightharpoonup PMI can be generalized to arbitrary N as the geometric mean of the probabilities:

$$\frac{\Pr(w_1,...,w_N)}{\prod_{i=1}^n \sqrt[n]{\Pr(w_i)}}$$

► E.g., for trigrams:

$$\frac{\Pr(w_1, w_2, w_3)}{\sqrt[3]{\Pr(w_1)\Pr(w_2)\Pr(w_3)}}$$

The *n*-root normalizer is not necessary (it does not change the ranking), but makes scores for bigrams/trigrams/quadgrams/etc. more comparable.

### Phrase Dictionaries

- WordNet has some phrases as single entities.
- ► The Paraphrase Database 2.0 (PPDB, paraphrase.org/#/download) has a large database of equivalent/related words/phrases.
- Could take wikipedia article names as lists of multi-word expressions.
- In law, could use legal dictionaries (e.g., "first amendment", "beyond a reasonable doubt").

### Named Entity Recognition

▶ refers to the task of identifying named entities such as "ETH Zurich" and "Marie Curie", which can be used as tokens.

```
_{\rm [PER} John Smith ] , president of _{\rm [ORG} McCormik Industries ] visited his niece _{\rm [PER} Paris ] in _{\rm [LOC} Milan ], reporters say .
```

## Named Entity Recognition

refers to the task of identifying named entities such as "ETH Zurich" and "Marie Curie", which can be used as tokens.

 $[_{\rm PER}$  John Smith ] , president of  $[_{\rm ORG}$  McCormik Industries ] visited his niece  $[_{\rm PER}$  Paris ] in  $[_{\rm LOC}$  Milan ], reporters say .

HOLES OF MIL

Type	Tag	Sample Categories	Example sentences
People	PER	people, characters	Turing is a giant of computer science.
Organization	ORG	companies, sports teams	The <b>IPCC</b> warned about the cyclone.
Location	LOC	regions, mountains, seas	The Mt. Sanitas loop is in Sunshine Canyon.
Geo-Political	GPE	countries, states, provinces	Palo Alto is raising the fees for parking.
Entity			
Facility	FAC	bridges, buildings, airports	Consider the Golden Gate Bridge.
Vehicles	VEH	planes, trains, automobiles	It was a classic Ford Falcon.
Figure 18.1 A list of generic named entity types with the kinds of entities they refer to.			

Blackstone has a trained legal NER system in spaCy (for UK law).

Tokenization: Overview

**Pre-Processing Text** 

Counts and Frequencies

N-Grams

Parts of Speech

Applications

Appendix on Course Projects

## Parts of speech tags

- ▶ Parts of speech (POS) tags provide useful word categories corresponding to their functions in sentences:
  - ► Eight main parts of speech: verb (VB), noun (NN), pronoun (PR), adjective (JJ), adverb (RB), determinant (DT), preposition (IN), conjunction (CC).
  - ► The Penn TreeBank POS tag set (used in many applications) has 36 tags: https://www.ling.upenn.edu/courses/Fall\_2003/ling001/penn\_treebank\_pos.html

## Parts of speech tags

- ▶ Parts of speech (POS) tags provide useful word categories corresponding to their functions in sentences:
  - ► Eight main parts of speech: verb (VB), noun (NN), pronoun (PR), adjective (JJ), adverb (RB), determinant (DT), preposition (IN), conjunction (CC).
  - The Penn TreeBank POS tag set (used in many applications) has 36 tags: https://www.ling.upenn.edu/courses/Fall\_2003/ling001/penn\_treebank\_pos.html
- Parts of speech vary in their informativeness for various functions:
  - ► For categorizing topics, nouns are usually most important
  - For sentiment, adjectives are usually most important.

# Parts of speech as features

- ► Can produce n-grams from parts of speech tags:
  - counts over NV, VN, AN, etc.

# Parts of speech as features

- Can produce n-grams from parts of speech tags:
  - counts over NV, VN, AN, etc.
- ▶ POS n-gam frequencies are good stylistic features for authorship detection.
  - not biased by topics/content
  - for function words, can use the word itself rather than the POS tag.

# Constructing "Memes" with POS

- A: Adjective, N: Noun, V: Verb, P: Preposition, D: Determinant, C: Conjunction.
- 2-grams: AN, NN, VN, VV, NV, VP.
  - tax credit, magistrate judge
- 3-grams: NNN, AAN, ANN, NAN, NPN, VAN, VNN, AVN, VVN, VPN, ANV, NVV, VDN, VVV, NNV, VVP, VAV, VVN, NCN, VCV, ACA, PAN.
  - armed and dangerous, stating the obvious

# Constructing "Memes" with POS

- A: Adjective, N: Noun, V: Verb, P: Preposition, D: Determinant, C: Conjunction.
- 2-grams: AN, NN, VN, VV, NV, VP.
  - tax credit, magistrate judge
- 3-grams: NNN, AAN, ANN, NAN, NPN, VAN, VNN, AVN, VVN, VPN, ANV, NVV, VDN, VVV, NNV, VVP, VAV, VVN, NCN, VCV, ACA, PAN.
  - armed and dangerous, stating the obvious
- 4-grams: NCVN, ANNN, NNNN, NPNN, AANN, ANNN, ANPN, NNPN, NPAN, ACAN, NCNN, NNCN, ANCN, NCAN, PDAN, PNPN, VDNN, VDAN, VVDN.
  - Beyond a reasonable doubt (preposition, article, adjective, noun)
  - ▶ Earned income tax credit (adjective, noun, noun, noun)

Tokenization: Overview

**Pre-Processing Text** 

Counts and Frequencies

N-Grams

Parts of Speech

**Applications** 

Appendix on Course Projects

## Ranking Partisan language:

Monroe et al (2009)

- ► This paper systematically explores a number of methods for identifying words that are distinctive of groups of speakers
  - in this case, whether U.S. congressmen are Republicans are Democrats.

### Ranking Partisan language:

Monroe et al (2009)

- ► This paper systematically explores a number of methods for identifying words that are distinctive of groups of speakers
  - in this case, whether U.S. congressmen are Republicans are Democrats.
- ► First, they separate speeches by topic using latent dirichlet allocation (next lecture).
  - they then test a number of methods for ranking partisanship of words.

### Relative Frequency of Words

### Partisan Words, 106th Congress, Abortion (Difference of Proportions)

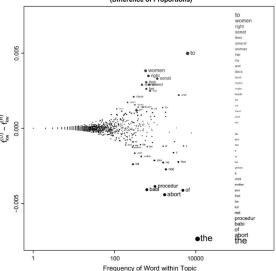


Fig. 1 Feature evaluation and selection using  $f_{kv}^{(D)} - f_{kv}^{(R)}$ . Plot size is proportional to evaluation weight,  $|f_{kv}^{(D)} - f_{kv}^{(R)}|$ . The top 20 Democratic and Republican words are labeled and listed in rank order to the right. The results are almost identical for two other measures discussed in the text: unlogged  $f_i df$  and frequency-weighted WordScores.

### Log Odds Ratio Between Groups

#### (Log-Odds-Ratio, Smoothed Log-Odds-Ratio) bankrupto snow ratifi bankruptci confidenti church schumer attach attornei 2 idaho sadli coverag juri mikulski $\ln(\tilde{O}_w^{(D)}/\tilde{O}_w^{(R)})$ robb secondli product andrew tonight martin peter harvest 7 dayton 4 infant chines admit infant 100 10000

Partisan Words, 106th Congress, Abortion

Fig. 2 Feature evaluation and selection using  $\hat{\delta}_{k\nu}^{(D-R)}$ . Plot size is proportional to evaluation weight,  $\hat{\delta}_{k\nu}^{(D-R)}$ . Top 20 Democratic and Republican words are labeled and listed in rank order. The results are identical to another measure discussed in the text: the log-odds-ratio with uninformative Dirichlet prior.

Frequency of Word within Topic

### Bayesian Multinomial Model

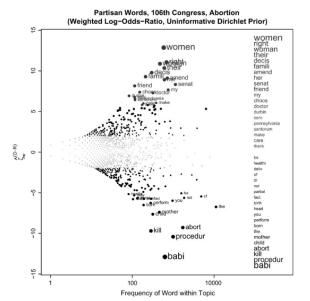


Fig. 4 Feature evaluation and selection using  $\hat{\Sigma}_{kw}^{(D-R)}$ . Plot size is proportional to evaluation weight,  $\left|\hat{\zeta}_{kw}^{(D-R)}\right|$ ; those with  $\left|\hat{\zeta}_{kw}^{(D-R)}\right|$ <1.96 are gray. The top 20 Democratic and Republican words are labeled and listed in rank order to the right.

### Bayesian Multinomial Model, LaPlace Prior

# Partisan Words, 106th Congress, Abortion (Log-Odds-Ratio, Laplace Prior)

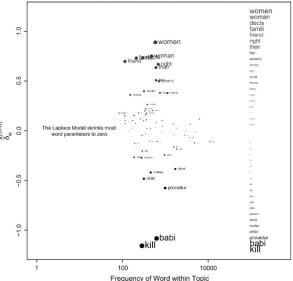


Fig. 6 Feature evaluation and selection using  $\hat{\delta}_{kw}^{(D-R)}$ . Plot size is proportional to evaluation weight,  $\hat{\delta}_{kw}^{(D-R)}$ . The top 20 Democratic and Republican words are labeled and listed in rank order to the right.

Tokenization: Overview

**Pre-Processing Text** 

Counts and Frequencies

N-Grams

Parts of Speech

Applications

Appendix on Course Projects

### Course Project Logistics

### https://bit.ly/NLP-proj

- ▶ If you are signed up for the credits, the focus of your work in this course should be on the project.
  - Can be done individually or in small groups (up to 4 students).
  - ▶ Do an original analysis using methods learned in the course, and write a paper about it.

### Course Project Logistics

### https://bit.ly/NLP-proj

- ▶ If you are signed up for the credits, the focus of your work in this course should be on the project.
  - Can be done individually or in small groups (up to 4 students).
  - ▶ Do an original analysis using methods learned in the course, and write a paper about it.
- Deliverables:
  - description of topic (March 29th, 10% of grade)
  - proposal/outline (April 26th, 10% of grade)
  - ▶ Poster/presentation session (some time in May, 10% of grade).
  - Rough draft with data/methods/results (July 15th, 20% of grade)
  - ► Final draft (September 1st, 50% of grade)

- ▶ One of the groups began building a legal research application for Swiss lawyers:
  - see https://deepjudge.ai/
  - ► feature-rich legal search engine, one some VC funding

- ▶ One of the groups began building a legal research application for Swiss lawyers:
  - see https://deepjudge.ai/
  - ▶ feature-rich legal search engine, one some VC funding
- Another group partnered with a local company to build out environmental-regulation analytics
  - won an Innosuisse grant.

- ▶ One of the groups began building a legal research application for Swiss lawyers:
  - see https://deepjudge.ai/
  - ▶ feature-rich legal search engine, one some VC funding
- Another group partnered with a local company to build out environmental-regulation analytics
  - won an Innosuisse grant.
- Note: These projects were above expectation.

### Three projects have been published:

- 1. "Legal language modeling with transformers" (Lazar Peric, Stefan Mijic, Dominik Stammbach, Elliott Ash), *Proceedings of ASAIL* (2020).
- 2. "Entropy in Legal Language" (Roland Friedrich, Mauro Luzzatto, and Elliott Ash), NLLP @ KDD (2020).
- 3. "Towards Automated Anamnesis Summarization: BERT-based Models for Symptom Extraction" (Anton Schäfer, Nils Blach, Oliver Rausch, Maximilian Warm, Nils Krüger), *Machine Learning for Health at NeurIPS* (2020).

### Three projects have been published:

- 1. "Legal language modeling with transformers" (Lazar Peric, Stefan Mijic, Dominik Stammbach, Elliott Ash), *Proceedings of ASAIL* (2020).
- 2. "Entropy in Legal Language" (Roland Friedrich, Mauro Luzzatto, and Elliott Ash), NLLP @ KDD (2020).
- 3. "Towards Automated Anamnesis Summarization: BERT-based Models for Symptom Extraction" (Anton Schäfer, Nils Blach, Oliver Rausch, Maximilian Warm, Nils Krüger), *Machine Learning for Health at NeurIPS* (2020).

### One more is under review at ACL:

"MemSum: Extractive Summarization using Multi-step Episodic Markov Decision Processes" (Nianlong Gu, Elliott Ash, Richard Hahnloser).

A number of other projects that are likely to get published:

- ► "Kwame: A Bilingual AI Teaching Assistant for Online SuaCode Courses" (George Boateng 2020)
- ▶ a partisan tweet generator that responds in the style of a Republican or Democrat.
- ▶ an analysis of bias towards immigrants in the early 1900s using old newspapers.
- a causal analysis using deep instrumental variables of what arguments in judicial opinions increase citations
- ▶ a partisan question answering system that answers questions with a partisan slant.
- an audio analysis of european central bank speech recordings.

## New Project Ideas

▶ We have a list of potential project ideas, please email Claudia for access after registering for the course project credits.