Hands-On Data Science with R Text Mining

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Text Mining or Text Analytics applies analytic tools to learn from collections of text documents like books, newspapers, emails, etc. The goal is similar to humans learning by reading books. Using automated algorithms we can learn from massive amounts of text, much more than a human can. The material could be consist of millions of newspaper articles to perhaps summarise the main themes and to identify those that are of most interest to particular people.

The required packages for this module include:

```
library(tm)
                         # Framework for text mining.
library(SnowballC)
                         # Provides wordStem() for stemming.
library(qdap)
                         # Quantitative discourse analysis of transcripts.
library(qdapDictionaries)
library(dplyr)
                         # Data preparation and pipes %>%.
library(RColorBrewer)
                         # Generate palette of colours for plots.
library(ggplot2)
                         # Plot word frequencies.
library(scales)
                         # Include commas in numbers.
library(Rgraphviz)
                         # Correlation plots.
```

As we work through this chapter, new R commands will be introduced. Be sure to review the command's documentation and understand what the command does. You can ask for help using the ? command as in:

```
?read.csv
```

We can obtain documentation on a particular package using the help= option of library():

```
library(help=rattle)
```

This chapter is intended to be hands on. To learn effectively, you are encouraged to have R running (e.g., RStudio) and to run all the commands as they appear here. Check that you get the same output, and you understand the output. Try some variations. Explore.

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1 Loading a Corpus

A corpus is a collection of texts, usually stored electronically, and from which we perform our analysis. A corpus might be a collection of news articles from Reuters or the published works of Shakespeare. Within each corpus we will have separate articles, stories, volumes, each treated as a separate entity or record.

Documents which we wish to analyse come in many different formats. Quite a few formats are supported by tm (Feinerer and Hornik, 2014), the package we will illustrate text mining with in this module. The supported formats include text, PDF, Microsoft Word, and XML.

A number of open source tools are also available to convert most document formats to text files. For our corpus used initially in this module, a collection of PDF documents were converted to text using pdftotext from the xpdf application which is available for GNU/Linux and MS/Windows and others. On GNU/Linux we can convert a folder of PDF documents to text with:

```
system("for f in *.pdf; do pdftotext -enc ASCII7 -nopgbrk $f; done")
```

The -enc ASCII7 ensures the text is converted to ASCII since otherwise we may end up with binary characters in our text documents.

We can also convert Word documents to text using anitword, which is another application available for GNU/Linux.

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```
system("for f in *.doc; do antiword $f; done")
```

1.1 Corpus Sources and Readers

There are a variety of sources supported by tm. We can use getSources() to list them.

```
getSources()
## [1] "DataframeSource" "DirSource" "URISource" "VectorSource"
## [5] "XMLSource"
```

In addition to different kinds of sources of documents, our documents for text analysis will come in many different formats. A variety are supported by tm:

1.2 Text Documents

We load a sample corpus of text documents. Our corpus consists of a collection of research papers all stored in the folder we identify below. To work along with us in this module, you can create your own folder called <code>corpus/txt</code> and place into that folder a collection of text documents. It does not need to be as many as we use here but a reasonable number makes it more interesting.

```
cname <- file.path(".", "corpus", "txt")
cname
## [1] "./corpus/txt"</pre>
```

We can list some of the file names.

```
length(dir(cname))
## [1] 46
dir(cname)
## [1] "acnn96.txt"
## [2] "adm02.txt"
## [3] "ai02.txt"
## [4] "ai03.txt"
....
```

There are 46 documents in this particular corpus.

After loading the tm (Feinerer and Hornik, 2014) package into the R library we are ready to load the files from the directory as the source of the files making up the corpus, using DirSource(). The source object is passed on to Corpus() which loads the documents. We save the resulting collection of documents in memory, stored in a variable called docs.

```
library(tm)
docs <- Corpus(DirSource(cname))
docs
## <<VCorpus (documents: 46, metadata (corpus/indexed): 0/0)>>
class(docs)
## [1] "VCorpus" "Corpus"
class(docs[[1]])
## [1] "PlainTextDocument" "TextDocument"
```

1.3 PDF Documents

If instead of text documents we have a corpus of PDF documents then we can use the readPDF() reader function to convert PDF into text and have that loaded as out Corpus.

```
docs <- Corpus(DirSource(cname), readerControl=list(reader=readPDF))</pre>
```

This will use, by default, the pdftotext command from xpdf to convert the PDF into text format. The xpdf application needs to be installed for readPDF() to work.



1.4 Word Documents

A simple open source tool to convert Microsoft Word documents into text is antiword. The separate antiword application needs to be installed, but once it is available it is used by tm to convert Word documents into text for loading into R.

To load a corpus of Word documents we use the readDOC() reader function:

```
docs <- Corpus(DirSource(cname), readerControl=list(reader=readDOC))</pre>
```

Once we have loaded our corpus the remainder of the processing of the corpus within R is then as follows.

The antiword program takes some useful command line arguments. We can pass these through to the program from readDOC() by specifying them as the character string argument:

```
docs <- Corpus(DirSource(cname), readerControl=list(reader=readDOC("-r -s")))</pre>
```

Here, $-\mathbf{r}$ requests that removed text be included in the output, and $-\mathbf{s}$ requests that text hidden by Word be included.

2 Exploring the Corpus

We can (and should) inspect the documents using inspect(). This will assure us that data has been loaded properly and as we expect.

```
inspect(docs[16])
## <<VCorpus (documents: 1, metadata (corpus/indexed): 0/0)>>
## [[1]]
## <<PlainTextDocument (metadata: 7)>>
## Hybrid weighted random forests for
## classifying very high-dimensional data
## Baoxun Xu1 , Joshua Zhexue Huang2 , Graham Williams2 and
## Yunming Ye1
## 1
##
## Department of Computer Science, Harbin Institute of Technology Shenzhen Gr...
## School, Shenzhen 518055, China
## Shenzhen Institutes of Advanced Technology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, S...
## 518055, China
## Email: amusing002@gmail.com
## Random forests are a popular classification method based on an ensemble of a
## single type of decision trees from subspaces of data. In the literature, t...
## are many different types of decision tree algorithms, including C4.5, CART...
## CHAID. Each type of decision tree algorithm may capture different information
## and structure. This paper proposes a hybrid weighted random forest algorithm,
## simultaneously using a feature weighting method and a hybrid forest method to
## classify very high dimensional data. The hybrid weighted random forest alg...
## can effectively reduce subspace size and improve classification performance
## without increasing the error bound. We conduct a series of experiments on ...
## high dimensional datasets to compare our method with traditional random fo...
```

3 Preparing the Corpus

We generally need to perform some pre-processing of the text data to prepare for the text analysis. Example transformations include converting the text to lower case, removing numbers and punctuation, removing stop words, stemming and identifying synonyms. The basic transforms are all available within tm.

The function tm_map() is used to apply one of these transformations across all documents within a corpus. Other transformations can be implemented using R functions and wrapped within content_transformer() to create a function that can be passed through to tm_map(). We will see an example of that in the next section.

In the following sections we will apply each of the transformations, one-by-one, to remove unwanted characters from the text.

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3.1 Simple Transforms

We start with some manual special transforms we may want to do. For example, we might want to replace "/", used sometimes to separate alternative words, with a space. This will avoid the two words being run into one string of characters through the transformations. We might also replace "@" and "|" with a space, for the same reason.

To create a custom transformation we make use of content_transformer() crate a function to achieve the transformation, and then apply it to the corpus using tm_map().

```
toSpace <- content_transformer(function(x, pattern) gsub(pattern, " ", x))
docs <- tm_map(docs, toSpace, "/")
docs <- tm_map(docs, toSpace, "@")
docs <- tm_map(docs, toSpace, "\\|")</pre>
```

This can be done with a single call:

```
docs <- tm_map(docs, toSpace, "/|@|\\|")</pre>
```

Check the email address in the following.

```
inspect(docs[16])
## <<VCorpus (documents: 1, metadata (corpus/indexed): 0/0)>>
##
## [[1]]
## <<PlainTextDocument (metadata: 7)>>
## Hybrid weighted random forests for
## classifying very high-dimensional data
## Baoxun Xu1 , Joshua Zhexue Huang2 , Graham Williams2 and
## Yunming Ye1
## 1
##
## Department of Computer Science, Harbin Institute of Technology Shenzhen Gr...
## School, Shenzhen 518055, China
## Shenzhen Institutes of Advanced Technology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, S...
## 518055, China
## Email: amusing002 gmail.com
## Random forests are a popular classification method based on an ensemble of a
## single type of decision trees from subspaces of data. In the literature, t...
## are many different types of decision tree algorithms, including C4.5, CART...
## CHAID. Each type of decision tree algorithm may capture different information
## and structure. This paper proposes a hybrid weighted random forest algorithm,
## simultaneously using a feature weighting method and a hybrid forest method to
## classify very high dimensional data. The hybrid weighted random forest alg...
## can effectively reduce subspace size and improve classification performance
## without increasing the error bound. We conduct a series of experiments on ...
## high dimensional datasets to compare our method with traditional random fo...
```

3.2 Conversion to Lower Case

```
docs <- tm_map(docs, content_transformer(tolower))</pre>
```

```
inspect(docs[16])
## <<VCorpus (documents: 1, metadata (corpus/indexed): 0/0)>>
##
## [[1]]
## <<PlainTextDocument (metadata: 7)>>
## hybrid weighted random forests for
## classifying very high-dimensional data
## baoxun xu1 , joshua zhexue huang2 , graham williams2 and
## yunming ye1
## 1
##
## department of computer science, harbin institute of technology shenzhen gr...
## school, shenzhen 518055, china
## shenzhen institutes of advanced technology, chinese academy of sciences, s...
## 518055, china
## email: amusing002 gmail.com
## random forests are a popular classification method based on an ensemble of a
## single type of decision trees from subspaces of data. in the literature, t...
## are many different types of decision tree algorithms, including c4.5, cart...
## chaid. each type of decision tree algorithm may capture different information
## and structure. this paper proposes a hybrid weighted random forest algorithm,
## simultaneously using a feature weighting method and a hybrid forest method to
## classify very high dimensional data. the hybrid weighted random forest alg...
## can effectively reduce subspace size and improve classification performance
## without increasing the error bound. we conduct a series of experiments on ...
## high dimensional datasets to compare our method with traditional random fo...
```

General character processing functions in R can be used to transform our corpus. A common requirement is to map the documents to lower case, using tolower(). As above, we need to wrap such functions with a content_transformer():

3.3 Remove Numbers

```
docs <- tm_map(docs, removeNumbers)</pre>
inspect(docs[16])
## <<VCorpus (documents: 1, metadata (corpus/indexed): 0/0)>>
##
## [[1]]
## <<PlainTextDocument (metadata: 7)>>
## hybrid weighted random forests for
## classifying very high-dimensional data
## baoxun xu , joshua zhexue huang , graham williams and
## yunming ye
##
##
## department of computer science, harbin institute of technology shenzhen gr...
## school, shenzhen, china
## shenzhen institutes of advanced technology, chinese academy of sciences, s...
## , china
## email: amusing gmail.com
## random forests are a popular classification method based on an ensemble of a
## single type of decision trees from subspaces of data. in the literature, t...
## are many different types of decision tree algorithms, including c., cart, and
## chaid. each type of decision tree algorithm may capture different information
```

Numbers may or may not be relevant to our analyses. This transform can remove numbers simply.

and structure. this paper proposes a hybrid weighted random forest algorithm,
simultaneously using a feature weighting method and a hybrid forest method to
classify very high dimensional data. the hybrid weighted random forest alg...
can effectively reduce subspace size and improve classification performance
without increasing the error bound. we conduct a series of experiments on ...
high dimensional datasets to compare our method with traditional random fo...

3.4 Remove Punctuation

```
docs <- tm_map(docs, removePunctuation)</pre>
```

```
inspect(docs[16])
## <<VCorpus (documents: 1, metadata (corpus/indexed): 0/0)>>
##
## [[1]]
## <<PlainTextDocument (metadata: 7)>>
## hybrid weighted random forests for
## classifying very highdimensional data
## baoxun xu joshua zhexue huang graham williams and
## yunming ye
##
##
## department of computer science harbin institute of technology shenzhen gra...
## school shenzhen china
## shenzhen institutes of advanced technology chinese academy of sciences she...
## email amusing gmailcom
## random forests are a popular classification method based on an ensemble of a
## single type of decision trees from subspaces of data in the literature there
## are many different types of decision tree algorithms including c cart and
## chaid each type of decision tree algorithm may capture different information
## and structure this paper proposes a hybrid weighted random forest algorithm
## simultaneously using a feature weighting method and a hybrid forest method to
## classify very high dimensional data the hybrid weighted random forest algo...
## can effectively reduce subspace size and improve classification performance
## without increasing the error bound we conduct a series of experiments on e...
## high dimensional datasets to compare our method with traditional random fo...
```

Punctuation can provide gramatical context which supports understanding. Often for initial analyses we ignore the punctuation. Later we will use punctuation to support the extraction of meaning.

3.5 Remove English Stop Words

```
docs <- tm_map(docs, removeWords, stopwords("english"))</pre>
inspect(docs[16])
## <<VCorpus (documents: 1, metadata (corpus/indexed): 0/0)>>
##
## [[1]]
## <<PlainTextDocument (metadata: 7)>>
## hybrid weighted random forests
## classifying highdimensional data
## baoxun xu joshua zhexue huang graham williams
## yunming ye
##
##
## department computer science harbin institute technology shenzhen graduate
## school shenzhen china
## shenzhen institutes advanced technology chinese academy sciences shenzhen
## china
## email amusing gmailcom
## random forests popular classification method based ensemble
## single type decision trees subspaces data literature
## many different types decision tree algorithms including c cart
## chaid type decision tree algorithm may capture different information
## structure paper proposes hybrid weighted random forest algorithm
## simultaneously using feature weighting method hybrid forest method
## classify high dimensional data hybrid weighted random forest algorithm
## can effectively reduce subspace size improve classification performance
## without increasing error bound conduct series experiments eight
## high dimensional datasets compare method traditional random forest
```

Stop words are common words found in a language. Words like for, very, and, of, are, etc, are common stop words. Notice they have been removed from the above text.

We can list the stop words:

```
length(stopwords("english"))
## [1] 174
stopwords("english")
   Γ1] "i"
                    "me"
                               "my" "myself"
##
    [6] "our"
                               "ourselves" "you"
##
                    "ours"
                                                       "your"
                               "yourselves" "he"
                   "yourself"
## [11] "yours"
                                                       "him"
                   "himself"
## [16] "his"
                               "she"
                                      "her"
                                                       "hers"
. . . .
```

3.6 Remove Own Stop Words

```
docs <- tm_map(docs, removeWords, c("department", "email"))</pre>
inspect(docs[16])
## <<VCorpus (documents: 1, metadata (corpus/indexed): 0/0)>>
##
## [[1]]
## <<PlainTextDocument (metadata: 7)>>
## hybrid weighted random forests
## classifying highdimensional data
## baoxun xu joshua zhexue huang graham williams
## yunming ye
##
##
##
    computer science harbin institute technology shenzhen graduate
## school shenzhen china
##
## shenzhen institutes advanced technology chinese academy sciences shenzhen
## china
## amusing gmailcom
## random forests popular classification method based
                                                         ensemble
## single type decision trees subspaces data literature
## many different types decision tree algorithms including c cart
## chaid type decision tree algorithm may capture different information
## structure paper proposes hybrid weighted random forest algorithm
## simultaneously using feature weighting method hybrid forest method
## classify high dimensional data hybrid weighted random forest algorithm
## can effectively reduce subspace size improve classification performance
## without increasing error bound conduct series experiments eight
## high dimensional datasets compare method traditional random forest
```

Previously we used the English stopwords provided by tm. We could instead or in addition remove our own stop words as we have done above. We have chosen here two words, simply for illustration. The choice might depend on the domain of discourse, and might not become apparent until we've done some analysis.

3.7 Strip Whitespace

```
docs <- tm_map(docs, stripWhitespace)</pre>
```

```
inspect(docs[16])
## <<VCorpus (documents: 1, metadata (corpus/indexed): 0/0)>>
##
## [[1]]
## <<PlainTextDocument (metadata: 7)>>
## hybrid weighted random forests
## classifying highdimensional data
## baoxun xu joshua zhexue huang graham williams
## yunming ye
##
##
## computer science harbin institute technology shenzhen graduate
## school shenzhen china
##
## shenzhen institutes advanced technology chinese academy sciences shenzhen
## china
## amusing gmailcom
## random forests popular classification method based ensemble
## single type decision trees subspaces data literature
## many different types decision tree algorithms including c cart
## chaid type decision tree algorithm may capture different information
## structure paper proposes hybrid weighted random forest algorithm
## simultaneously using feature weighting method hybrid forest method
## classify high dimensional data hybrid weighted random forest algorithm
## can effectively reduce subspace size improve classification performance
## without increasing error bound conduct series experiments eight
## high dimensional datasets compare method traditional random forest
```

3.8 Specific Transformations

We might also have some specific transformations we would like to perform. The examples here may or may not be useful, depending on how we want to analyse the documents. This is really for illustration using the part of the document we are looking at here, rather than suggesting this specific transform adds value.

```
toString <- content_transformer(function(x, from, to) gsub(from, to, x))
docs <- tm_map(docs, toString, "harbin institute technology", "HIT")</pre>
docs <- tm_map(docs, toString, "shenzhen institutes advanced technology", "SIAT")</pre>
docs <- tm_map(docs, toString, "chinese academy sciences", "CAS")</pre>
inspect(docs[16])
## <<VCorpus (documents: 1, metadata (corpus/indexed): 0/0)>>
##
## [[1]]
## <<PlainTextDocument (metadata: 7)>>
## hybrid weighted random forests
## classifying highdimensional data
## baoxun xu joshua zhexue huang graham williams
## yunming ye
##
##
##
  computer science HIT shenzhen graduate
## school shenzhen china
##
## SIAT CAS shenzhen
## china
## amusing gmailcom
## random forests popular classification method based ensemble
## single type decision trees subspaces data literature
## many different types decision tree algorithms including c cart
## chaid type decision tree algorithm may capture different information
## structure paper proposes hybrid weighted random forest algorithm
## simultaneously using feature weighting method hybrid forest method
## classify high dimensional data hybrid weighted random forest algorithm
## can effectively reduce subspace size improve classification performance
```

without increasing error bound conduct series experiments eight
high dimensional datasets compare method traditional random forest

3.9 Stemming

```
library(SnowballC)
docs <- tm_map(docs, stemDocument)</pre>
```

Notice we load the Snowball (Bouchet-Valat, 2014) package which provides stemming.

```
inspect(docs[16])
## <<VCorpus (documents: 1, metadata (corpus/indexed): 0/0)>>
##
## [[1]]
## <<PlainTextDocument (metadata: 7)>>
## hybrid weight random forest
## classifi highdimension data
## baoxun xu joshua zhexu huang graham william
## yunm ye
##
##
## comput scienc HIT shenzhen graduat
## school shenzhen china
##
## SIAT CAS shenzhen
## china
## amus gmailcom
## random forest popular classif method base ensembl
## singl type decis tree subspac data literatur
## mani differ type decis tree algorithm includ c cart
## chaid type decis tree algorithm may captur differ inform
## structur paper propos hybrid weight random forest algorithm
## simultan use featur weight method hybrid forest method
## classifi high dimension data hybrid weight random forest algorithm
## can effect reduc subspac size improv classif perform
## without increas error bound conduct seri experi eight
## high dimension dataset compar method tradit random forest
```

Stemming uses an algorithm that removes common word endings for English words, such as "es", "ed" and "'s". The functionality for stemming is provided by wordStem() from SnowballC (Bouchet-Valat, 2014).

4 Creating a Document Term Matrix

A document term matrix is simply a matrix with documents as the rows and terms as the columns and a count of the frequency of words as the cells of the matrix. We use DocumentTermMatrix() to create the matrix:

```
dtm <- DocumentTermMatrix(docs)
dtm

## <<DocumentTermMatrix (documents: 46, terms: 6508)>>
## Non-/sparse entries: 30061/269307
## Sparsity : 90%
## Maximal term length: 56
## Weighting : term frequency (tf)
```

We can inspect the document term matrix using inspect(). Here, to avoid too much output, we select a subset of inspect.

```
inspect(dtm[1:5, 1000:1005])
## <<DocumentTermMatrix (documents: 5, terms: 6)>>
## Non-/sparse entries: 7/23
## Sparsity : 77%
## Maximal term length: 9
....
```

The document term matrix is in fact quite sparse (that is, mostly empty) and so it is actually stored in a much more compact representation internally. We can still get the row and column counts.

```
class(dtm)
## [1] "DocumentTermMatrix"     "simple_triplet_matrix"
dim(dtm)
## [1] 46 6508
```

The transpose is created using TermDocumentMatrix():

```
tdm <- TermDocumentMatrix(docs)
tdm

## <<TermDocumentMatrix (terms: 6508, documents: 46)>>
## Non-/sparse entries: 30061/269307
## Sparsity : 90%
## Maximal term length: 56
## Weighting : term frequency (tf)
```

We will use the document term matrix for the remainder of the chapter.

5 Exploring the Document Term Matrix

We can obtain the term frequencies as a vector by converting the document term matrix into a matrix and summing the column counts:

```
freq <- colSums(as.matrix(dtm))
length(freq)
## [1] 6508</pre>
```

By ordering the frequencies we can list the most frequent terms and the least frequent terms:

```
ord <- order(freq)</pre>
# Least frequent terms
freq[head(ord)]
## aaaaaaeaceeaeeieaeaeeiiaiaciaiicaiaeaeaoeneiacaeaaeooooo
##
##
                                                              aab
##
                                                                 1
##
                                                         aadrbltn
##
                                                      aadrhtmliv
##
##
                                                                 1
##
                                                              aai
##
                                                                 1
```

Notice these terms appear just once and are probably not really terms that are of interest to us. Indeed they are likely to be spurious terms introduced through the translation of the original document from PDF to text.

```
# Most frequent terms
freq[tail(ord)]

## can dataset pattern use mine data
## 709 776 887 1366 1446 3101
```

These terms are much more likely to be of interest to us. Not surprising, given the choice of documents in the corpus, the most frequent terms are: data, mine, use, pattern, dataset, can.

6 Distribution of Term Frequencies

```
# Frequency of frequencies.
head(table(freq), 15)
## freq
## 1
       2
           3 4
                    5
                          6
                             7
                                 8
                                      9
                                           10
                                                   12
                                                            14
                                                                 15
                                               11
                                                        13
## 2381 1030 503 311 210 188 134
                                     82
                                 130
                                           83
                                               65
                                                    61
                                                        54
                                                            52
                                                                 51
tail(table(freq), 15)
## freq
## 483
       544 547 555 578
                         609
                             611
                                616
                                     703 709 776 887 1366 1446 3101
                          1
                                        1
                                            1
                      1
                                   1
                                               1
```

So we can see here that there are 2381 terms that occur just once.

Generate a plot of term frequency.

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7 Conversion to Matrix and Save to CSV

We can convert the document term matrix to a simple matrix for writing to a CSV file, for example, for loading the data into other software if we need to do so. To write to CSV we first convert the data structure into a simple matrix:

```
m <- as.matrix(dtm)
dim(m)
## [1] 46 6508
```

For very large corpus the size of the matrix can exceed R's calculation limits. This will manifest itself as a integer overflow error with a message like:

```
## Error in vector(typeof(x$v), nr * nc) : vector size cannot be NA
## In addition: Warning message:
## In nr * nc : NAs produced by integer overflow
```

If this occurs, then consider removing sparse terms from the document term matrix, as we discuss shortly.

Once converted into a standard matrix the usual write.csv() can be used to write the data to file.

```
write.csv(m, file="dtm.csv")
```

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8 Removing Sparse Terms

We are often not interested in infrequent terms in our documents. Such "sparse" terms can be removed from the document term matrix quite easily using removeSparseTerms():

```
dim(dtm)
## [1] 46 6508
dtms <- removeSparseTerms(dtm, 0.1)
dim(dtms)
## [1] 46 6</pre>
```

This has removed most terms!

```
inspect(dtms)
## <<DocumentTermMatrix (documents: 46, terms: 6)>>
## Non-/sparse entries: 257/19
## Sparsity : 7%
## Maximal term length: 7
....
```

We can see the effect by looking at the terms we have left:

```
freq <- colSums(as.matrix(dtms))</pre>
freq
##
     data graham inform
                          time
                                  use william
     3101
            108 467
                          483
                                 1366 236
table(freq)
## freq
## 108 236 467 483 1366 3101
         1
             1
                1 1
```

9 Identifying Frequent Items and Associations

One thing we often to first do is to get an idea of the most frequent terms in the corpus. We use findFreqTerms() to do this. Here we limit the output to those terms that occur at least 1,000 times:

```
findFreqTerms(dtm, lowfreq=1000)
## [1] "data" "mine" "use"
```

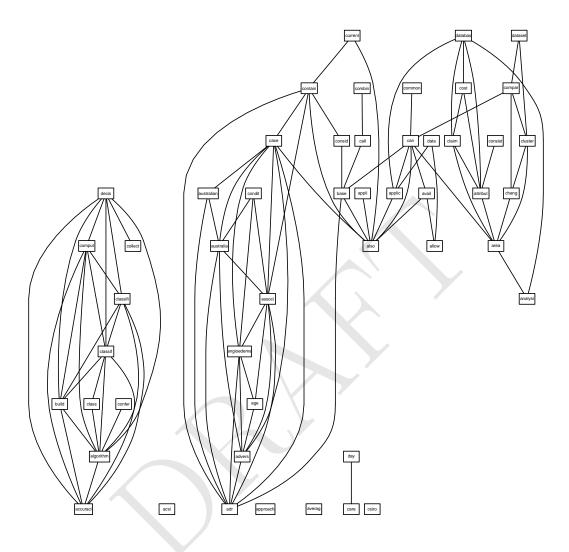
So that only lists a few. We can get more of them by reducing the threshold:

```
findFreqTerms(dtm, lowfreq=100)
     [1] "accuraci"
                        "acsi"
                                       "adr"
                                                     "advers"
                                                                    "age"
##
     [6] "algorithm"
                        "allow"
                                       "also"
                                                     "analysi"
                                                                    "angioedema"
    [11] "appli"
                        "applic"
                                       "approach"
                                                     "area"
                                                                    "associ"
                        "australia"
   [16] "attribut"
                                       "australian"
                                                     "avail"
                                                                    "averag"
##
```

We can also find associations with a word, specifying a correlation limit.

If two words always appear together then the correlation would be 1.0 and if they never appear together the correlation would be 0.0. Thus the correlation is a measure of how closely associated the words are in the corpus.

10 Correlations Plots

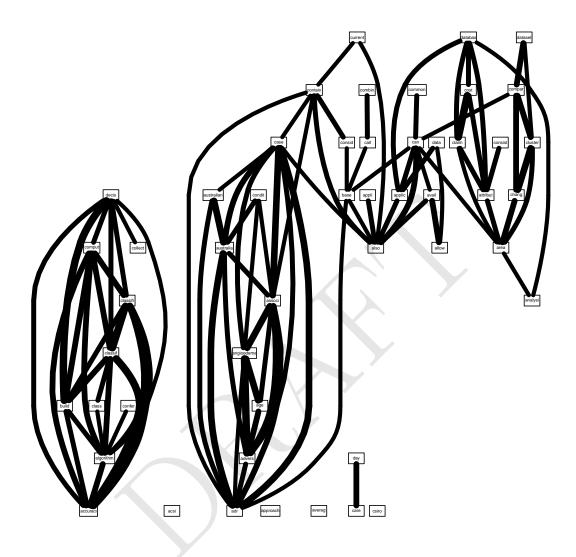


```
plot(dtm,
    terms=findFreqTerms(dtm, lowfreq=100)[1:50],
    corThreshold=0.5)
```

Rgraphviz (Gentry et al., 2014) from the BioConductor repository for R (bioconductor.org) is used to plot the network graph that displays the correlation between chosen words in the corpus. Here we choose 50 of the more frequent words as the nodes and include links between words when they have at least a correlation of 0.5.

By default (without providing terms and a correlation threshold) the plot function chooses a random 20 terms with a threshold of 0.7.

11 Correlations Plot—Options



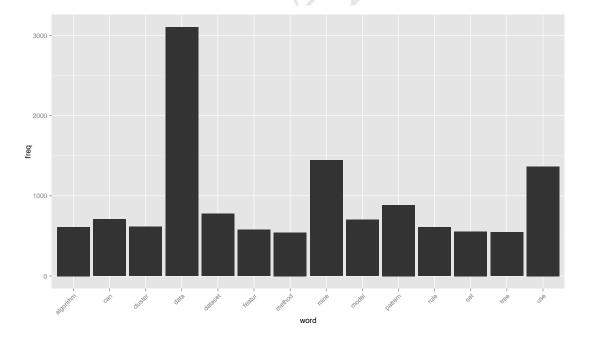
```
plot(dtm,
    terms=findFreqTerms(dtm, lowfreq=100)[1:50],
    corThreshold=0.5)
```

12 Plotting Word Frequencies

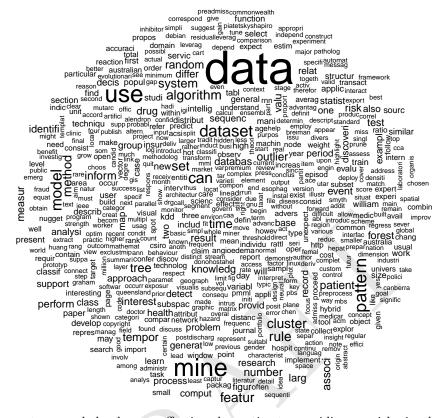
We can generate the frequency count of all words in a corpus:

```
freq <- sort(colSums(as.matrix(dtm)), decreasing=TRUE)</pre>
head(freq, 14)
##
                            use pattern
        data
                  mine
                                            dataset
                                                                   model
                                                           can
##
        3101
                1446
                            1366 887
                                              776
                                                           709
                                                                     703
##
     cluster algorithm
                            rule
                                    featur
                                                 set
                                                          tree
                                                                  method
##
         616
                 611
                             609
                                       578
                                                 555
                                                           547
                                                                      544
. . . .
wf <- data.frame(word=names(freq), freq=freq)</pre>
head(wf)
##
              word freq
## data
              data 3101
## mine
              mine 1446
## use
              use 1366
. . . .
```

We can then plot the frequency of those words that occur at least 500 times in the corpus:



13 Word Clouds



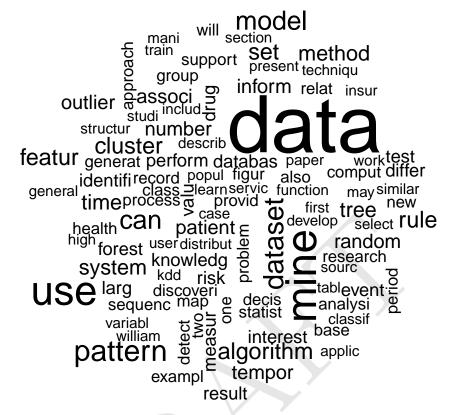
We can generate a word cloud as an effective alternative to providing a quick visual overview of the frequency of words in a corpus.

The wordcloud (?) package provides the required function.

```
library(wordcloud)
set.seed(123)
wordcloud(names(freq), freq, min.freq=40)
```

Notice the use of **set.seed()** only so that we can obtain the same layout each time—otherwise a random layout is chosen, which is not usually an issue.

13.1 Reducing Clutter With Max Words



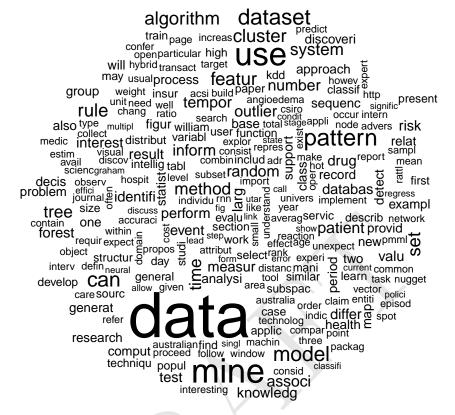
To increase or reduce the number of words displayed we can tune the value of max.words=. Here we have limited the display to the 100 most frequent words.

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```
set.seed(142)
wordcloud(names(freq), freq, max.words=100)
```

13.2 Reducing Clutter With Min Freq



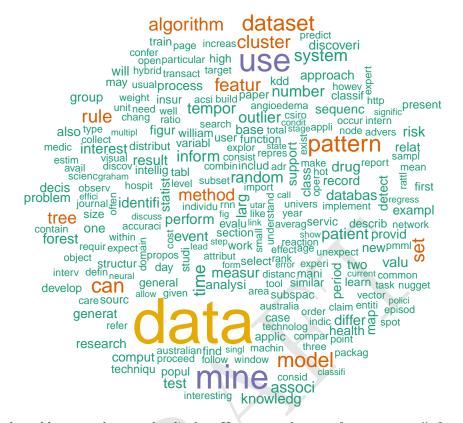
A more common approach to increase or reduce the number of words displayed is by tuning the value of min.freq=. Here we have limited the display to those words that occur at least 100 times.

```
set.seed(142)
wordcloud(names(freq), freq, min.freq=100)
```

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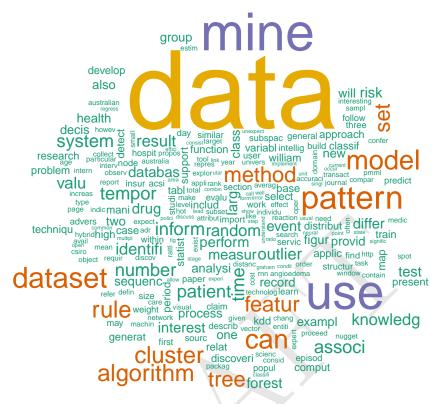
13.3 Adding Some Colour



We can also add some colour to the display. Here we make use of brewer.pal() from RColor-Brewer (Neuwirth, 2011) to generate a palette of colours to use.

```
set.seed(142)
wordcloud(names(freq), freq, min.freq=100, colors=brewer.pal(6, "Dark2"))
```

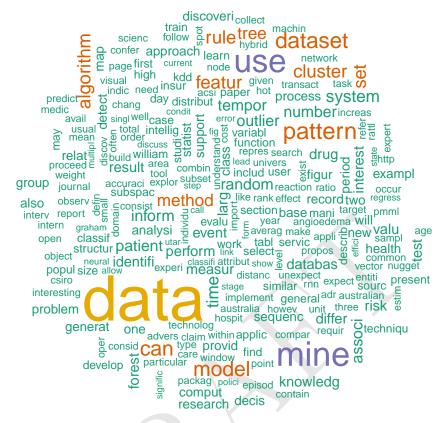
13.4 Varying the Scaling



We can change the range of font sizes used in the plot using the scale= option. By default the most frequent words have a scale of 4 and the least have a scale of 0.5. Here we illustrate the effect of increasing the scale range.

```
set.seed(142)
wordcloud(names(freq), freq, min.freq=100, scale=c(5, .1), colors=brewer.pal(6, "Dark2"))
```

13.5 Rotating Words



We can change the proportion of words that are rotated by 90 degrees from the default 10% to, say, 20% using rot.per=0.2.

```
set.seed(142)
dark2 <- brewer.pal(6, "Dark2")
wordcloud(names(freq), freq, min.freq=100, rot.per=0.2, colors=dark2)</pre>
```

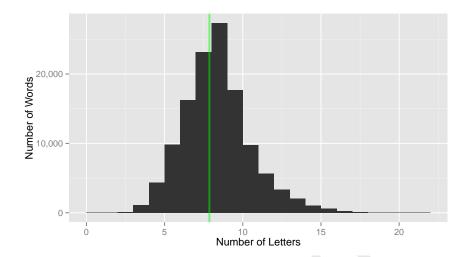
14 Quantitative Analysis of Text

The qdap (Rinker, 2014a) package provides an extensive suite of functions to support the quantitative analysis of text. Its companion package, qdapDictionaries (Rinker, 2014b) provides a number of dictionaries and word lists that are useful, for example, to illustrate some of the functionality of the qdap package. We load them both for our exploration here.

We can obtain simple summaries of a list of words, and to do so we will illustrate with the augmented list of Grady Ward's English words and Mark Kantrowitz's names list which make up the **GradyAugmented** dataset from qdapDictionaries:

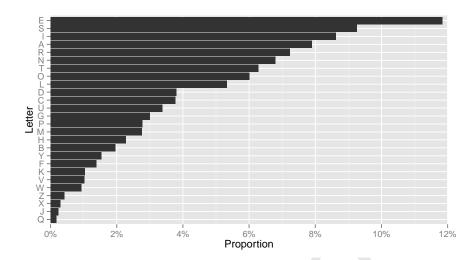
```
head (Grady Augmented, 24)
##
    [1] "cyber"
                             "ceasefire"
                                                "it'll"
    [4] "billionaires"
                            "wheelhouse"
##
                                                "workplace"
                            "'cause"
    [7] "middleclass"
                                                "there'll"
## [10] "businessperson"
                            "guaranteed"
                                                "workforce"
                            "environmentally"
                                                "principled"
## [13] "pre"
        "'tis"
## [16]
                            "'twas"
                                                "a"
## [19] "aa"
                            "aah"
                                                "aahed"
## [22] "aahing"
                            "aahs"
                                                "aal"
summary(nchar(GradyAugmented))
##
      Min. 1st Qu.
                     Median
                                 Mean 3rd Qu.
                                                  Max.
              6.000
                       8.000
                                7.865
                                        9.000
                                                21.000
table(nchar(GradyAugmented))
##
##
       1
              2
                     3
                           4
                                  5
                                        6
                                               7
                                                      8
                                                            9
                                                                  10
                                                                        11
                                                                               12
##
      26
            116
                 1085
                        4371
                              9830 16246 23198 27328 17662
                                                               9777
                                                                      5640
                                                                             3348
             14
                   15
##
      13
                          16
                                       18
                                              19
                                                    20
                                 17
                                                           21
    2052
                  582
##
          1066
                         268
                                136
                                       50
                                              17
                                                     5
                                                            3
dist_tab(nchar(GradyAugmented))
##
                 freq cum.freq percent cum.percent
      interval
## 1
              1
                   26
                             26
                                    0.02
                                                 0.02
## 2
              2
                            142
                                    0.09
                                                 0.12
                  116
## 3
              3
                 1085
                           1227
                                    0.88
                                                 1.00
              4
                                    3.56
                                                 4.56
## 4
                 4371
                           5598
## 5
              5
                 9830
                          15428
                                    8.00
                                                12.56
## 6
              6 16246
                          31674
                                   13.23
                                                25.79
              7 23198
## 7
                          54872
                                   18.89
                                                44.68
## 8
              8 27328
                          82200
                                   22.25
                                                66.93
## 9
              9 17662
                          99862
                                   14.38
                                                81.32
## 10
             10
                 9777
                         109639
                                    7.96
                                                89.28
## 11
             11
                5640
                         115279
                                    4.59
                                                93.87
## 12
             12
                 3348
                         118627
                                    2.73
                                                96.60
## 13
             13
                                                98.27
                 2052
                         120679
                                    1.67
## 14
             14
                1066
                         121745
                                    0.87
                                                99.14
```

14.1 Word Length Counts



A simple plot is effective in showing the distribution of the word lengths.

14.2 Letter Frequency



Here we want to review the frequency of letters across all of the words in the discourse. Some fancy data preparation will transform the vector of words into a list of letters, which we then construct a frequency count for, and pass this on to be plotted.

We use a pipeline to string together the operations on the data. Starting from the vector of words stored in **GradyAugmented** we remove punctuation using str_replace_all() from stringr (Wickham, 2012) and then split words into characters using str_split(), removing the first string (an empty string) from each of the results (using sapply()). Reducing the result into a simple vector, using unlist(), we then generate a data frame recording the letter frequencies, using dist_tab() from qdap.

```
library(dplyr)
library(stringr)
GradyAugmented
                                                                        %>%
  str_replace_all("[[:punct:]]", "")
                                                                         %>%
  str_split("")
                                                                         %>%
  sapply(function(x) x[-1])
                                                                         %>%
                                                                         %>%
  unlist
                                                                         %>%
  dist_tab
  mutate(Letter=factor(toupper(interval),
                                                                         %>%
                        levels=toupper(interval[order(freq)])))
  ggplot(aes(Letter, weight=percent))
  geom_bar()
                                                                          +
  coord_flip()
  ylab("Proportion")
  scale_y_continuous(breaks=seq(0, 12, 2),
                      label=function(x) pasteO(x, "%"),
                      expand=c(0,0), limits=c(0,12))
```

14.3 Letter and Position Heatmap



The qheat() function from qdap provides an effective visualisation of tabular data. Here we transform the list of words into a position count of each letter, and

```
GradyAugmented
                                                                        %>%
  lapply(function(x) sapply(letters, gregexpr, x, fixed=TRUE))
                                                                        %>%
  unlist
                                                                        %>%
                                                                        %>%
  (function(x) x[x!=-1])
  (function(x) setNames(x, gsub("\\d", "", names(x))))
                                                                        %>%
  (function(x) apply(table(data.frame(letter=toupper(names(x))),
                                       position=unname(x))),
                                                                         %>%
                     1, function(y) y/length(x)))
  qheat(high="green", low="yellow", by.column=NULL,
        values=TRUE, digits=3, plot=FALSE)
  ylab("Letter")
  xlab("Position")
  theme(axis.text.x=element_text(angle=0))
  guides(fill=guide_legend(title="Proportion"))
```

14.4 Miscellaneous Functions

We can generate gender from a name list, using the genderdata (?) package

```
devtools::install_github("lmullen/gender-data-pkg")
name2sex(qcv(graham, frank, leslie, james, jacqui, jack, kerry, kerrie))
## [1] M M F M F M F F
## Levels: F M
```



15 Review—Preparing the Corpus

Here in one sequence is collected the code to perform a text mining project. Notice that we would not necessarily do all of these steps so pick and choose as is appropriate to your situation.

```
# Required packages
library(tm)
library(wordcloud)
# Locate and load the Corpus.
cname <- file.path(".", "corpus", "txt")</pre>
docs <- Corpus(DirSource(cname))</pre>
docs
summary(docs)
inspect(docs[[1]])
# Transforms
toSpace <- content_transformer(function(x, pattern) gsub(pattern, " ", x))</pre>
docs <- tm_map(docs, toSpace, "/|@|\\|")</pre>
docs <- tm_map(docs, content_transformer(tolower))</pre>
docs <- tm_map(docs, removeNumbers)</pre>
docs <- tm_map(docs, removePunctuation)</pre>
docs <- tm_map(docs, removeWords, stopwords("english"))</pre>
docs <- tm_map(docs, removeWords, c("own", "stop", "words"))</pre>
docs <- tm_map(docs, stripWhitespace)</pre>
toString <- content_transformer(function(x, from, to) gsub(from, to, x))
docs <- tm_map(docs, toString, "specific transform", "ST")</pre>
docs <- tm_map(docs, toString, "other specific transform", "OST")</pre>
docs <- tm_map(docs, stemDocument)</pre>
```

16 Review—Analysing the Corpus

```
# Document term matrix.

dtm <- DocumentTermMatrix(docs)
inspect(dtm[1:5, 1000:1005])

# Explore the corpus.

findFreqTerms(dtm, lowfreq=100)
findAssocs(dtm, "data", corlimit=0.6)

freq <- sort(colSums(as.matrix(dtm)), decreasing=TRUE)
wf <- data.frame(word=names(freq), freq=freq)

library(ggplot2)

p <- ggplot(subset(wf, freq>500), aes(word, freq))
p <- p + geom_bar(stat="identity")
p <- p + theme(axis.text.x=element_text(angle=45, hjust=1))

# Generate a word cloud

library(wordcloud)
wordcloud(names(freq), freq, min.freq=100, colors=brewer.pal(6, "Dark2"))</pre>
```

17 Further Reading and Acknowledgements

The Rattle Book, published by Springer, provides a comprehensive introduction to data mining and analytics using Rattle and R. It is available from Amazon. Other documentation on a broader selection of R topics of relevance to the data scientist is freely available from http://datamining.togaware.com, including the Datamining Desktop Survival Guide.

This chapter is one of many chapters available from http://HandsOnDataScience.com. In particular follow the links on the website with a * which indicates the generally more developed chapters.



Other resources include:

- The Journal of Statistical Software article, *Text Mining Infrastructure in R* is a good start http://www.jstatsoft.org/v25/i05/paper
- Bilisoly (2008) presents methods and algorithms for text mining using Perl.

Thanks also to Tony Nolan for suggestions of some of the examples used in this chapter.

Some of the qdap examples were motivated by http://trinkerrstuff.wordpress.com/2014/10/31/exploration-of-letter-make-up-of-english-words/.

18 References

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Williams GJ (2011). Data Mining with Rattle and R: The art of excavating data for knowledge discovery. Use R! Springer, New York. URL http://www.amazon.com/gp/product/1441998896/ref=as_li_qf_sp_asin_tl?ie=UTF8&tag=togaware-20&linkCode=as2&camp=217145&creative=399373&creativeASIN=1441998896.

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