

Natural Language Processing in Action

Understanding, analyzing, and generating text
with Python

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Part I

Wordy machines

Chapter 1

Packets of thought(NLP overview)

1.1 Natural language vs. programming language

Definition 1 (Natural language processing). *Natural language processing is an area of research in computer science and artificial intelligence (AI) concerned with processing natural languages such as English or Mandarin. This processing generally involves translating natural language into data (numbers) that a computer can use to learn about the world. And this understanding of the world is sometimes used to generate natural language text that reflects that understanding.*

Definition 2 (Natural language processing system). *A natural language processing system is often referred to as a pipeline because it usually involves several stages of processing where natural language flows in one end and the processed output flows out the other.*