

# Bag-of-words

- Translation: represent text as a histogram of words
- Strips all syntactic and structural information from the text
- Examples:

demo

Utterance

```
"Mary", "also", "likes", "to", "watch", "football", "games"
```

BOW

```
{"Mary":1, "also":1, "likes":1, "to":1, "watch":1, "football":1, "games":1}
```

Utterance

```
"John", "likes", "to", "watch", "movies", "Mary", "likes", "movies", "too"
```

BOW

```
{"John":1, "likes":2, "to":1, "watch":1, "movies":2, "Mary":1, "too":1}
```

# Probabilistic text classification using BOW features

- Recall the principle of Maximum Likelihood Estimation (MLE):

$$\hat{\theta} = \operatorname{argmax}_{\theta} P(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{y}; \theta)$$

$$= \operatorname{argmax}_{\theta} \left( \prod_{i=1}^M P(\mathbf{x}_i, y_i; \theta) \right)^{\frac{1}{M}}$$

$$= \operatorname{argmax}_{\theta} \frac{1}{M} \sum_{i=1}^M \log P(\mathbf{x}_i, y_i; \theta)$$

$$= \operatorname{argmax}_{\theta} \sum_{i=1}^M \log P(\mathbf{x}_i, y_i; \theta)$$

where

$\theta$  = parameters to estimate

$\mathbf{X} \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times N}$  ← BOW features

$\mathbf{y} \in \{1, \dots, K\}^M$

$M$  = number of observations

$N$  = vocabulary size

$K$  = number of categories/classes