

Qn.1: How would you approach building a natural language processing (NLP) model to extract key clauses (e.g., termination clauses) from legal contracts? Explain the steps, tools, and algorithms you would use.

Ans:-

Here's how I would approach building an NLP model for extracting key clauses (e.g., termination clauses) from legal contracts:

1. Problem Understanding & Requirements Gathering

- Identify key clauses (e.g., termination, indemnity, confidentiality) with legal experts.
- Define the format of extracted clauses (full text, summaries, or structured key-value pairs).

2. Data Collection & Preprocessing

Data Sources:

- Collect a diverse dataset of legal contracts, ensuring coverage of different clause structures.

Preprocessing Steps:

- Text Cleaning: Remove unnecessary symbols, formatting issues, and OCR noise.
- Tokenization: Use spaCy or NLTK to break text into sentences and words.
- Named Entity Recognition (NER): Identify key legal terms using Hugging Face's transformers or spaCy's legal NER models.
- POS Tagging & Dependency Parsing: Use spaCy to understand clause structure.

3. Model Selection & Training

- Rule-based Approach: For simple cases, use regex and heuristics based on legal keywords.
- Supervised Learning: Fine-tune BERT (Legal-BERT, ContractBERT) or RoBERTa for text classification and clause extraction.
- Sequence Labeling: Use BiLSTM-CRF or T5 for text span extraction to identify clause boundaries.

4. Model Training & Evaluation

- Fine-tune the model using labeled contracts (contract text → clause type).
- Metrics: Precision, Recall, and F1-score to measure extraction accuracy.
- Validation: Test on unseen legal documents to check generalization.

5. Deployment & Integration

- API Deployment: Convert the trained model into a FastAPI or Flask service.
- Integration: Embed the API in a legal contract review system (e.g., web app, enterprise software).
- User Interface: Provide clause highlighting and explanations in an intuitive UI.

6. Continuous Improvement

- Periodically update the model with new contract formats.
- Use active learning to refine extraction with human-in-the-loop feedback.