



INTRODUCTION TO NATURAL LANGUAGE PROCESSING

CLASS NOTES

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Preface

These notes are based on the lectures delivered by **Prof. Danish Pruthi** in the course **DS 207 - Introduction to Natural Language Processing** at Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bengaluru - Jan Semester 2025. The notes are intended to be a concise summary of the lectures and are not meant to be a replacement for the lectures. The notes are written in \LaTeX .

Disclaimer

These notes are not official and may contain errors. Please refer to the official course material for accurate information.

"I cannot guarantee the correctness of these notes. Please use them at your own risk".

- Mahanth Yalla

Contribution

If you find any errors or have any suggestions, please feel free to open an issue or a pull request on this GitHub repository, I will be happy to incorporate them.

Feedback

If you have any feedback or suggestions on the notes, please feel free to reach out to me via social media or through mail mahanthyaalla [at] {iisc [dot] ac [dot] in , gmail [dot] com}.

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Chapter 1

Text Classification

1.1 Introduction

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- Text Classification is a supervised learning problem.
- It is a type of document classification where the goal is to categorize documents into a fixed set of categories or classes.
- It is a fundamental problem in NLP.
- It is used in various applications like spam filtering, sentiment analysis, language identification, genre classification, etc.

1.1.2 Applications

- Spam Filtering: Classify emails as spam or not spam.
- Sentiment Analysis: Classify documents as positive, negative or neutral.
- Language Identification: Classify documents into different languages.
- Genre Classification: Classify documents into different genres like news, sports, politics, etc.

1.1.3 Challenges

- High Dimensionality: Text data is high dimensional.
- Data Sparsity: Text data is sparse.
- Synonymy: Different words can have the same meaning.
- Polysemy: Same word can have different meanings.
- Ambiguity: Text data can be ambiguous.
- Overfitting: Overfitting is a common problem in text classification.

1.1.4 Approaches

Naive Bayes

Naive Bayes is a simple probabilistic classifier based on Bayes theorem. It assumes that the features are independent given the class label. It is widely used in text classification.

Chapter 2

Word Representations

2.1 Introduction

- Words are the basic building blocks of any language.
- Words are the smallest unit of meaning
- Words are represented in the form of vectors in NLP.
- Word representations are used in various NLP tasks like text classification, machine translation, sentiment analysis, etc.