



# Description

- Foundations of NLP
- Concepts and techniques for processing, understanding and characterizing textual content in natural languages
- Topics Include: Regular expressions and string matching, language modeling, text classification and sentiment analysis, vector representation and embeddings, sequence modeling, POS tagging, machine translation, and chatbots
- Programming in Python

# Course Objectives

- To introduce the fundamental concepts and techniques in natural language processing
- To provide experience in the implementation and evaluation of algorithms
- To introduce NLP resources and application areas

# Learning Outcomes

- Process and segment textual content for natural language processing
- Extract syntactic and semantic structure from text
- Understand and apply probabilistic and neural network sequence modeling techniques for text analytics
- Use language resources and corpora to implement NLP solutions
- Process multi-lingual and informal-language text in NLP solutions
- Implement and evaluate NLP solutions using libraries

# Tentative Grading Criteria

- Assignments 15%
- Quizzes 10%
- Presentation 15%
- Mid-term 20%
- Final-Exam 40%

Google classroom: [dxd4azj](#)

# Summarized Course Contents

- Introduction and Motivation
- Text processing, regular expressions, edit distance
- Language Modeling with n-grams
- Text Classification and sentiment analysis
- Vector representations and embeddings
- HMMs, Sequential Neural networks
- Machine translation and language generation
- Self-Attention and Transformers, BERT
- LLMs, Prompt Engineering

# Course Material

- Required Textbook
  - Speech and Language Processing, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, Jurafsky and Martin
- Recommended and Supplementary Text
  - Machine Learning for Text, C. Aggarwal, 2019
  - Natural Language Processing with Python, Bird and Klein, O'reilly Media, 2009
- Office Hours: Tue & Thur: 12PM to 1:30PM
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# What is NLP?

- Study of computational approaches for processing natural languages
  - Process → acquire, represent, store, understand, characterize
  - Natural languages → human languages
- Other names
  - Computational Linguistics (CL)
  - Human language technologies (HLT)



# Question Answering: IBM's Watson

- Won Jeopardy on February 16, 2011!

WILLIAM WILKINSON'S  
"AN ACCOUNT OF THE PRINCIPALITIES OF  
WALLACHIA AND MOLDOVIA"  
INSPIRED THIS AUTHOR'S  
MOST FAMOUS NOVEL



Bram Stoker

Watson gained widespread recognition in 2011 when it competed on and won the television game show Jeopardy! against human champions.



# IBM Watson



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WFR3lOm\\_xhE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WFR3lOm_xhE)



# Information Extraction

Subject: **curriculum meeting**

Date: January 15, 2012

To: Dan Jurafsky

Event: Curriculum mtg

Date: Jan-16-2012

Start: 10:00am

End: 11:30am

Where: Gates 159

Hi Dan, we've now scheduled the curriculum meeting.

It will be in Gates 159 tomorrow from 10:00--11:30.

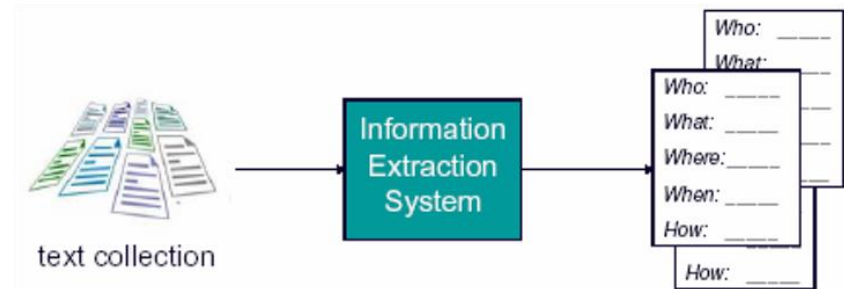
—Chris

Create new Calendar entry



# Information Extraction (IE)

- Identify specific pieces of information (data) in an unstructured or semi-structured text
- Transform unstructured information in a corpus of texts or web pages into a structured database (or templates)
- Applied to various types of text, e.g.
  - Newspaper articles
  - Scientific articles
  - Web pages
  - etc.





# Information Extraction & Sentiment Analysis



Attributes:

zoom  
affordability  
size and weight  
flash  
ease of use

Size and weight

- ✓ • nice and compact to carry!
- ✓ • since the camera is small and light, I  
around those heavy, bulky professio
- ✗ • the camera feels flimsy, is plastic and very light in weight you  
have to be very delicate in the handling of this camera





# Machine Translation

- Fully automatic

Enter Source Text:

这不过是一个时间的问题。

Translation from Stanford's *Phrasal*:

This is only a matter of time.

- Helping human translators

Enter Source Text:

تعرض الرئيس اللبناني اميل لحود لـ حملة عنيفة في مجلس النواب الذي انعقد امس في جلسة تشريعية علنية تحولت الي " محاكمة " لـ رئيس الجمهورية علي موقفه من المحكمة الدولية و " الملاحظات " التي ادلي بها حول هذا الموضوع .

Translate

Clear

Enter Translation:

lebanese

president

suffered

exposed

president emile

before

presented

offer

Done!



# Machine Translation

- The automatic translation of texts between languages is one of the oldest non-numerical applications in Computer Science.
- In the past 15 years or so, MT has gone from a niche academic curiosity to a robust commercial industry.

## 巨大な銃規制集会が米国を席巻

学生が主催する「私たちの生活のための行進」イベントでは、全国的に数十万人の抗議者が集まります。

🕒 4時間 | 米国とカナダ

## Huge gun-control rallies sweep US

Student-led March For Our Lives events nationwide draw hundreds of thousands of protesters.

🕒 4h | US & Canada

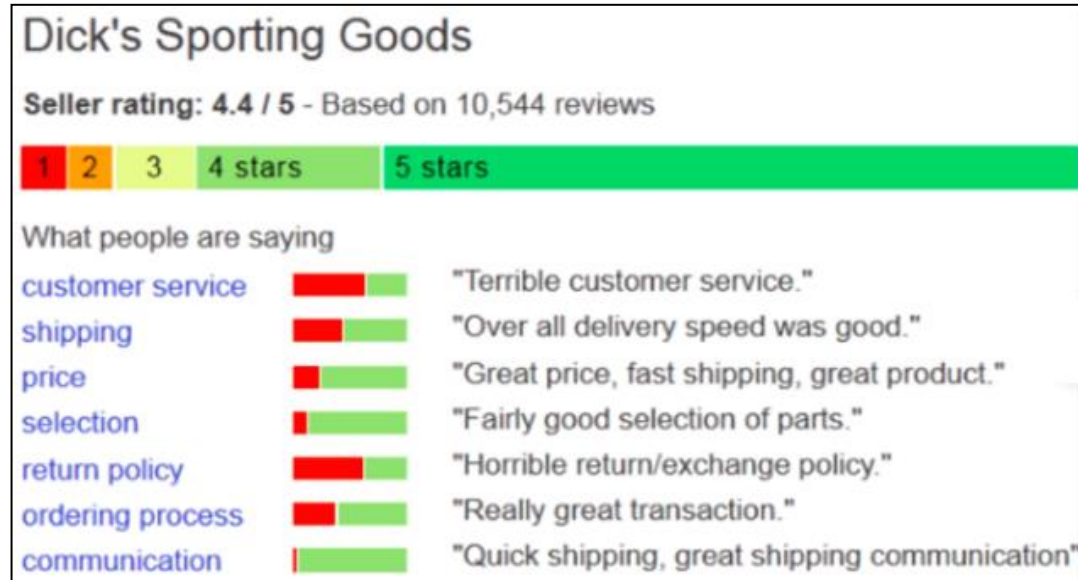






# Text Analytics

- Data-mining of weblogs, microblogs, discussion forums, user reviews, and other forms of user-generated media.





# Text Analytics (cont.)

- Typically this involves the extraction of **limited** kinds of semantic and pragmatic information from texts
  - Entity mentions
  - Concept identification
  - Sentiment

API TEST TOOL

English ▾    Entities ▾    Graphical ▾

I really enjoyed using the Canon bus in Madrid on March 4. The Panasonic Lumix is a bit disappointing, but the Canon camera is not bad at all. All I want when taking photos is point it and then just press the button. For only 200 dollars \$, a really fair price, this camera is perfect for me. Besides, I have had a good customer service experience. John Faraday was very nice!

LEGEND color key

Type of entities:

Person name	Date
Car license plate	Hour
Place	Money
Phone number	Address
Email address	Twitter hashtag

ENTITIES



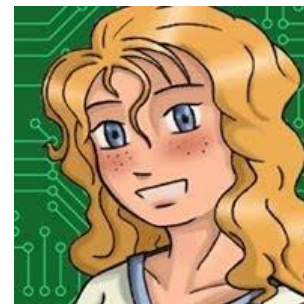
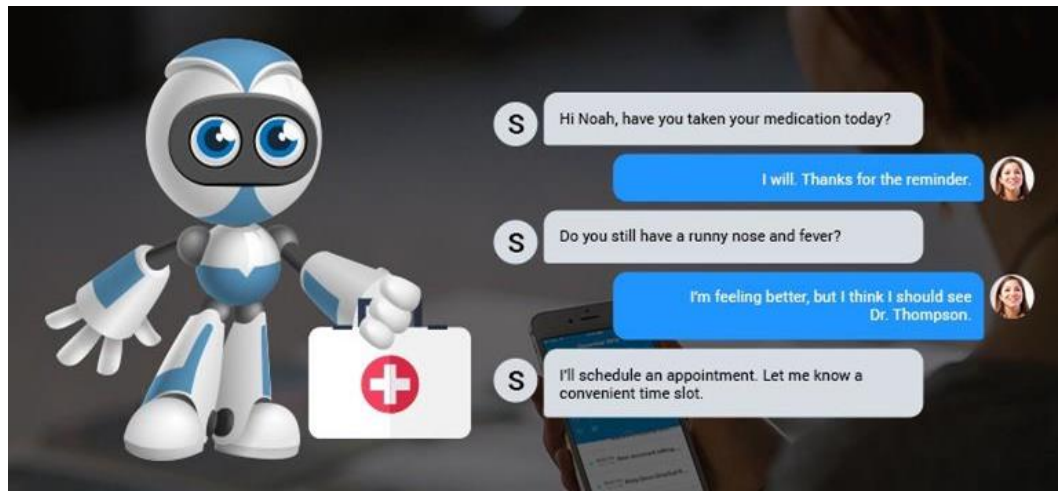
# Demo

- Sentiment Analysis with Python NLTK  
Text Classification
  - <http://text-processing.com/demo/sentiment/>
- Tweet Sentiment Visualization Tool
  - [https://www.csc2.ncsu.edu/faculty/healey/tweet\\_viz/tweet\\_app/](https://www.csc2.ncsu.edu/faculty/healey/tweet_viz/tweet_app/)



# Conversational Agents

- Combine
  - Speech recognition/synthesis
  - Question answering
    - From the web and from structured information sources (freebase, dbpedia, yago, etc.)
  - Simple agent-like abilities
    - Create/edit calendar entries
    - Reminders
    - Directions
    - Invoking/interacting with other apps



Mitsuku  
English-language chatbot



# Question Answering

- Traditional *information retrieval* provides documents/resources that provide users with what they need to satisfy their information needs.
- *Question answering* on the other hand directly provides an answer to information needs posed as questions.



## Text Mining Applications – Supervised

- Many typical **predictive modeling** or classification applications can be enhanced by incorporating textual data in addition to traditional input variables.
  - churning propensity models that include customer center notes, website forms, e-mails, and Twitter messages to predict customer attrition pattern
  - hospital admission prediction models incorporating medical records notes as a new source of information
  - insurance fraud modeling using adjustor notes
  - sentiment categorization (next page)
  - stylometry or forensic applications that identify the author of a particular writing sample



# Sentiment Analysis

- The field of sentiment analysis deals with categorization (or classification) of opinions expressed in textual documents

The **TV** is wonderful. Great size, great picture, easy interface. It makes a cute little song when you boot it up and when you shut it off. I just want to point out that the 43" does not in fact play videos from the USB. This is really annoying because that was one of the major perks I wanted from a new TV. Looking at the product description now, I realize that the feature list applies to the X758 series as a whole, and that each model's capabilities are listed below. Kind of a dumb oversight on my part, but it's equally stupid to put a description that does not apply on the listing for a very specific model.

- Green color represents positive tone
- Red color represents negative tone
- Product features and model names are highlighted in blue and brown, respectively.





# Language Technology

making good progress

solved

## Spam detection

Let's go to Agra!



Buy AGRA ...



## Part-of-speech (POS) tagging

ADJ ADJ NOUN VERB ADV

Colorless green ideas sleep furiously.

## Named entity recognition (NER)

PERSON ORG LOC

Einstein met with UN officials in Princeton

## Sentiment analysis

Best roast chicken in San Francisco!



The waiter ignored us for 20 minutes.



## Coreference resolution

Carter told Mubarak he shouldn't run again.

## Word sense disambiguation (WSD)

I need new batteries for my *mouse*.



## Parsing

I can see Alcatraz from the window!

## Machine translation (MT)

第13届上海国际电影节开幕...



The 13<sup>th</sup> Shanghai International Film Festival...

## Information extraction (IE)

You're invited to our dinner party, Friday May 27 at 8:30



Party  
May 27  
add

making good progress?

## Question answering (QA)

Q. How effective is ibuprofen in reducing fever in patients with acute febrile illness?

## Paraphrase

XYZ acquired ABC yesterday

ABC has been taken over by XYZ

## Summarization

The Dow Jones is up

The S&P500 jumped

Housing prices rose



Economy is good

## Dialog

Where is Cillian Kane playing in SF?

Castro Theatre at 7:30. Do you want a ticket?





# NLP Tasks

- NLP applications require several NLP analyses:
  - Word tokenization
  - Sentence boundary detection
  - Part-of-speech (POS) tagging
    - to identify the part-of-speech (e.g. noun, verb) of each word
  - Named Entity (NE) recognition
    - to identify proper nouns (e.g. names of person, location, organization; domain terminologies)
  - Parsing
    - to identify the syntactic structure of a sentence
  - Semantic analysis
    - to derive the meaning of a sentence



# Part-Of-Speech (POS) Tagging

- POS tagging is a process of assigning a POS or lexical class marker to each word in a sentence (and all sentences in a corpus).

Input:           the lead paint is unsafe

Output:         the/Det lead/N paint/N is/V unsafe/Adj



# Named Entity Recognition (NER)

- NER is to process a text and identify named entities in a sentence
  - e.g. “U.N. official Ekeus heads for Baghdad.”

[ORG U.N. ] official [PER Ekeus ] heads for [LOC Baghdad ] .



# Ambiguity makes NLP hard: “Crash blossoms”



Violinist Linked to JAL Crash Blossoms

Teacher Strikes Idle Kids

Red Tape Holds Up New Bridges

Hospitals Are Sued by 7 Foot Doctors

Juvenile Court to Try Shooting Defendant

Local High School Dropouts Cut in Half



# Why else is natural language understanding difficult?

## non-standard English

Great job @jusInbieber! Were SOO PROUD of what youve accomplished! U taught us 2 #neversaynever & you yourself should never give up either♥

## segmentation issues

the	New	York--New	Haven	Railroad
the	New-York	New Haven	Railroad	

## idioms

dark horse  
get cold feet  
lose face  
throw in the towel

## neologisms

unfriend  
Retweet  
bromance

## world knowledge

Mary and Sue are sisters.  
Mary and Sue are mothers.

## tricky entity names

Where is *A Bug's Life* playing ...  
*Let It Be* was recorded ...  
... a mutalon on the *for* gene ...

But that's what makes it fun!



# Making progress on this problem...

- The task is difficult! What tools do we need?
  - Knowledge about language
  - Knowledge about the world
  - A way to combine knowledge sources
- How we generally do this:
  - probabilistic models built from language data
    - $P(\text{"maison"} \rightarrow \text{"house"})$  **high**
    - $P(\text{"L'avocat g n ral"} \rightarrow \text{"the general avocado"})$  **low**



# Key Trends

- Learn a language from large corpora of text
- No labels required; try to predict words
- Language modeling is driving modern day NLP
- Traditional probabilistic language models (n-grams) to model learning based models
- Transformers race GPT, T5, BERT
- Feature representation and end-to-end learning
- Integrate corpus and knowledge-based information from raw input to final desired outcome
- Transfer Learning: train model on related task and apply to new task





# Confluence of Fields

- Statistics and Probability
- Machine Learning/Artificial Intelligence
- Data Structure & Algorithms
- Linguistics
- Psychology

# Basic Text Processing

Regular Expressions



# Regular Expressions

Regular expressions, also known as regex, are a powerful tool for working with text data in NLP. They are used to search for patterns in text and can be used to perform a wide range of tasks, including:

**R(text)** outputs a set of strings

**1.Tokenization:** Regular expressions can be used to tokenize text data by splitting it into individual words or phrases. This is a common step in NLP preprocessing, as it allows us to analyze and work with text data at the level of individual words or tokens.

**2.Data Cleaning:** Regular expressions can be used to remove unwanted characters or formatting from text data. For example, regular expressions can be used to remove punctuation, special characters, or HTML tags from text data.

**3.Information Extraction:** Regular expressions can be used to extract specific information from text data. For example, regular expressions can be used to extract phone numbers, email addresses, or dates from text data.



# Regular Expressions

**4.Text Classification:** Regular expressions can be used to extract features from text data that can be used for text classification. For example, regular expressions can be used to extract specific words or phrases from text data that are indicative of a particular class or category.

**5.Sentiment Analysis:** Regular expressions can be used to extract emoticons and emojis from text data. These emoticons and emojis can be used as features to predict the sentiment of the text data.

**6.Named Entity Recognition:** Regular expressions can be used to extract named entities from text.



# Regular expressions

A formal language for specifying text strings  
How can we search for any of these?

woodchuck  
woodchucks  
Woodchuck  
Woodchucks

/Lahore/  
/[LI]ahore/





# Regular Expressions: Disjunctions

Letters inside square brackets []

Pattern	Matches
<code>[wW]oodchuck</code>	Woodchuck, woodchuck
<code>[1234567890]</code>	Any digit

Ranges `[A-Z]`

Pattern	Matches	
<code>[A-Z]</code>	An upper case letter	<u>D</u> renched <u>B</u> lossoms
<code>[a-z]</code>	A lower case letter	<u>m</u> y
<code>[0-9]</code>	A single digit	Chapter <u>1</u> : Down the Rabbit Hole



# Regular Expressions: Disjunction

Woodchucks is another name for groundhog!

The pipe `|` for disjunction

Pattern	Matches
<code>/groundhog woodchuck/</code> <code>/groundhog woodchuck/i</code>	Add i flag: case-insensitive
<code>yours mine</code>	yours mine
<code>a b c</code>	a, b, c
<code>[gG]roundhog [Ww]oodchuck</code>	



# Regular Expressions: Disjunctions

Letters inside square brackets []

Pattern	Matches
<code>[0-9]A[-/]</code>	2A-, 3A/, 3A-,...
<code>[a\ -b]</code>	a or b or -
Special Characters	
<code>\.</code>	matches "."
<code>\+</code>	Matches +
Specifying date Dd-mm-yy <code>[0123][0-9][\ -][0-9][\ -][0-9][0-9]</code>	





# Regular Expressions: Negation in Disjunction

## Negations `[^Ss]`

Carat means negation only when first in []

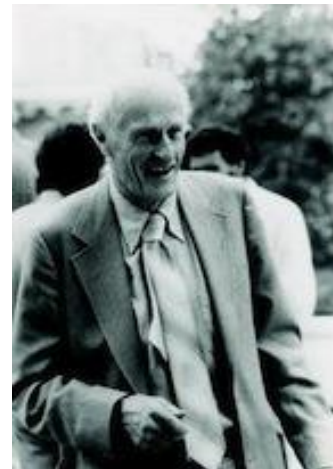
Pattern	Matches	
<code>[^A-Z]</code>	Not an upper case letter	O <u>yfn pripetchik</u>
<code>[^A-Za-z]</code>	No caps no small letters	
<code>[^Ss]</code>	Neither 'S' nor 's'	<u>reason</u>
<code>[^e^]</code>	Neither e nor ^	<u>Look</u> <u>h</u> <u>ere</u>
<code>a\^b</code>	The pattern a carat b	Look up <u>a^b</u> now
<code>a{3}</code>	3 times a	aaa
<code>a{3,6}</code>	{min, max}	a can occur min 3 times or max times

The curly braces {} are called quantifiers



# Wildcards: ? \* + .

Pattern	Matches	
<code>colou?r</code>	Optional previous char	<u>color</u> <u>colour</u>
<code>oo*h!</code>	0 or more of previous char	<u>oh!</u> <u>ooh!</u> <u>oooh!</u> <u>ooooh!</u>
<code>o+h!</code>	1 or more of previous char	<u>oh!</u> <u>ooh!</u> <u>oooh!</u> <u>ooooh!</u>
<code>baa+</code>		<u>baa</u> <u>baaa</u> <u>baaaa</u> <u>baaaaa</u>
<code>[0-9]+</code>		3, 01, 000, 011, 0987654
<code>[0-9]{2}</code>	Two digits in a row	00, 03, 34... <b>123abc456</b> Returns: 12, 45
<code>beg.n</code>	Exc. Special charc any can come	<u>begin</u> <u>begun</u> <u>begun</u> <u>beg3n</u>



Stephen C Kleene

Kleene \*, Kleene +



# Regular Expressions: Anchors <sup>^</sup> \$

Pattern	Matches
<sup>^</sup> [A-Z]	Find any charc A-Z that occurs in the start of line <u>P</u> alo Alto
<sup>^</sup> [ ^A-Za-z]	" <u>1</u> hello"
<sup>^</sup> [the]  <sup>^</sup> The	Finds t, h or e at the start of the string <u>T</u> op, <u>e</u> at, <u>h</u> at, <u>T</u> he  <u>The</u> occurs start of line
[ \. <sup>\$</sup> ]	The end <u>.</u>
[ \: <sup>\$</sup> ]	First occurrence of : is considered the end of line



# Example

Find me all instances of the word “the” in a text.

the

Misses capitalized examples

`[tT]he`

but might match incorrectly  
other, theology

`[^a-zA-Z][tT]he[^a-zA-Z] 1the2 etc..`

Correct regex: `\bthe`

`\b` denotes a word boundary, ensuring that "the" is matched as a whole word rather than as part of another word (e.g., "there")

`\bthe\s` history: `\s` is used for space

the history..



# Errors

The process we just went through was based on **fixing two kinds of errors**

Matching strings that we should not have matched

**False positives (Type I)**

faq (afaq is FP)

the (theory)

Not matching things that we should have matched

**False negatives (Type II)**

Lahore (lahore is FN)

The (the is FN)



# Errors cont.

In NLP we are always dealing with these kinds of errors.

Reducing the error rate for an application often involves two antagonistic efforts:

Increasing accuracy or precision (minimizing false positives)

Increasing coverage or recall (minimizing false negatives).



# Summary

Regular expressions play a surprisingly large role

Sophisticated sequences of regular expressions are often the first model for any text processing text

For many hard tasks, we use machine learning classifiers

But regular expressions can be used as features in the classifiers

Can be very useful in capturing generalizations

# Basic Text Processing

Regular Expressions