

Assignment 1: text categorization

Text mining course

This is a hand-in assignment for groups of two students. Send in via Brightspace before or on Monday October 18:

- Submit your report as PDF and your python code as separate file. Don't upload a zip file.
- Your report should not be longer than 3 pages

Goals of this assignment

- You can perform a text categorization task with benchmark data in scikit-learn
- You understand the effect of using different types of feature weights
- You can evaluate text classifiers with the suitable evaluation metrics

Preliminaries

- You have followed the tutorial 'working with text data' in sklearn: http://scikit-learn.org/stable/tutorial/text analytics/working with text data.html (exercise week 4)
- You have all the required Python packages installed

Tasks

- 1. The tutorial classifies between only four categories of the 20newsgroups data set. Change your script so that it addresses all 20 categories.
- 2. Compare three classifiers on this multi-class classification task, including at least Naïve Bayes.
- 3. Compare three type of features for your classifiers: counts, tf, and tf-idf.
- 4. Look up the documentation of the CountVectorizer function and experiment with different values for the following parameters:
 - a. lowercase
 - b. stop words
 - c. analyzer (in combination with ngram_range)
 - d. max features
- 5. Write one script for running these experiments and printing the results.

Write a two-page report (3 pages is the hard maximum) in which you:

- describe your methods (classifiers, features);
- show a results table (Precision, Recall, and F1) for the classifiers and features;
- write a brief discussion on which classifier performs the best, with which features