

# What is Natural Language Processing?

Any computation, manipulation of natural language

### >Tasks

- Classify text documents
- Search for relevant text documents
- Sentiment analysis
- Topic modeling

- Counting words, counting frequency of words
- Finding sentence boundaries
- Part of speech tagging
- Parsing the sentence structure
- Identifying semantic roles
- Identifying entities in a sentence
- Finding which pronoun refers to which entity

### Natural languages evolve

- New words get added ..... selfe
- Meanings of words change ..... netflix and chil
- Language rules themselves may change ......position of verbs in sentences

# **Text Mining Dimensions**

- Estimated to be 2.5 Exabytes (2.5 million TB) a day
  - Grow to 40 Zettabytes (40 billion TB) by 2020 (50-times that of 2010)
- Approximately 80% of all data is estimated to be unstructured, text-rich data
  - >40 million articles (5 million in English) in Wikipedia
  - >4.5 billion Web pages
  - >500 million tweets a day,200 billion a year
  - >1.5 trillion queries on Google a year



- Non-binary
  - Weakly Structured few structural cues to text based on layout or markups research papers, ...
  - Semi-structured extensive format elements, metadata, field labels research papers, ...

# Why is Text Mining Hard?

- Language is ambiguous
- Context is needed to clarify
- The same words can mean different things (homographs)
  - Bear (verb) to support or carry
  - Bear (noun) a large animal
- Different words can mean the same thing (**synonyms**) but synonyms can have differing connotations . . .
  - Mary became a kind of big sister to Ben.
  - Mary became a kind of large sister to Ben.
- Language is subtle
- Concept / Word extraction usually results in huge number of "dimensions"
  - Thousands of new attributes/features
  - Each features typically has low information content (sparse)
- Mispellings, abbreviations, spelling variants
  - Renders search engines, SQL queries, Regex, ... ineffective
- For example, see order of adjectives in English

Quantity, Quality, Size, Age, Shape, Colour, Proper adjective, Purpose

## Python NLP Libraries

### Core

Natural Language Tool Kit (NLTK)

www.nltk.org

- De facto standard NLP library in Python.
- Large collection of examples (data and models)
- Fuzzywuzzy

github.com/seatgeek/fuzzywuzzy

- Minimal, easy to use, module for fuzzy string matching, using the Levenshtein Distance.
- Ideal for pre-cleaning incorrect text e.g., miss-spelling of months.

### Of Interest

spaCy

spacy.io

- A relatively new project, currently very popular on github.
- The library provides most of the standard functionality (tokenisation, PoS tagging, parsing, named entity recognition, ...) and is built to be lightning fast.
- TextBlob

textblob.readthedocs.io/en/dev/

• Based on NLTK and Pattern and provides an more uniform/consistent interface to the NLP algorithms.

## NTK — Import and Download of Datasets

The NLTK library is very mature (started 2001) with a rich API that is well

documented.\*

import nltk

The NLTK contains a huge amount of (example) data, corpora and pre-trained models, which are not all installed by default.

To download (uncomment) and run



NLTK.ipynb In[2]: # nltk.download() \*\*\* Introductory Examples for the NLTK Book \*\*\* Loading text1, ..., text9 and sent1, ..., sent9 Type the name of the text or sentence to view it. Type: 'texts()' or 'sents()' to list the materials. Access the NLTK book examples ... text1: Moby Dick by Herman Melville 1851 text2: Sense and Sensibility by Jane Austen 1811 text3: The Book of Genesis text4: Inaugural Address Corpus from nltk.book import \* text5: Chat Corpus text6: Monty Python and the Holy Grail text7: Wall Street Journal text8: Personals Corpus text9: The Man Who Was Thursday by G. K. Chesterton 1908

<sup>\*</sup>Natural Language Processing with Python by Bird, Klein, and Loper, www.nltk.org/book.

# Accessing the Examples

```
Text Level
                                                             Sentence Level
                                  NLTK.ipynb In[4]:
                                                                                               NLTK.ipynb In[6]:
 texts()
                                                              sents()
text1: Moby Dick by Herman Melville 1851
                                                            sent1: Call me Ishmael .
text2: Sense and Sensibility by Jane Austen 1811
                                                            sent2: The family of Dashwood had long been settled in Sussex
text3: The Book of Genesis
                                                            sent3: In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.
                                                            sent4: Fellow - Citizens of the Senate and of the House of Represen
text4: Inaugural Address Corpus
text5: Chat Corpus
                                                            sent5: I have a problem with people PMing me to lol JOIN
                                                            sent6: SCENE 1: [ wind ] [ clop clop clop ] KING ARTHUR:
text6: Monty Python and the Holy Grail
text7: Wall Street Journal
                                                            sent7: Pierre Vinken, 61 years old, will join the board as a none
                                                            sent8: 25 SEXY MALE, seeks attrac older single lady, for discreet
text8: Personals Corpus
text9: The Man Who Was Thursday by G. K. Chesterton 1908
                                                            sent9: THE suburb of Saffron Park lay on the sunset side of London
                                                                                               NLTK.ipynb In[7]:
                                  NLTK.ipynb In[5]:
 text1
                                                              sent1
                                                            ['Call', 'me', 'Ishmael', '.']
<Text: Moby Dick by Herman Melville 1851>
```

## Simple NLP Tasks — Counting Vocabulary of Words

We can access/manipulate NLTK texts (type nltk . text . Text) and sentences (type list ) using our usual python constructs . . .

```
NLTK.ipynb In[8]:
print (text7)
print("Number_of_words_%s" % len(text7))
print ("Number of distinct words %s" % len (set (text7)))
                 <Text: Wall Street Journal>
                 Number of words 100676
                 Number of distinct words 12408
                                                              NLTK.ipynb In[10]:
print(sent1)
print ("Number_of_words_%s" % len (sent1))
print("Number_of_distinct_words_%s" % len(set(sent1)))
                                     ['Call', 'me', 'Ishmael', '.']
   Note that punctation is counted!
                                     Number of words 4
                                     Number of distinct words 4
```

# Simple NLP Tasks — Frequency of Words

print(freqwords)

Given a collection, use NLTK's FreqDist function to construct a dictionary of the frequency of each word ... <class 'nltk.probability.FreqDist'> Number of distinct words 12408 dist = FreqDist(text7) print(type(dist)) print ("Number\_of\_distinct\_words\_%s" % len (dist)) Comparable to standard dictionary ... usual methods apply ... NLTK.ipynb In[12]: vocab1 = dist.keys()list (vocab1)[:10] ['Pierre', 'Vinken', ',', '61', 'years', 'old', 'will', **Q:** How many times did word "four" appear? NI TK involute 121. 20 dist["four"] **Q:** What are the frequent words? NLTK.ipynb In[14]: freqwords = [w for w in vocab1 if len(w) > 5 and dist[w] > 100]

['billion', 'company', 'president', 'because', 'market', 'million', 'shares', 'trading

## NLTK — Searching Text

A concordanc view shows every occurrence of a given word, with some context.

NLTK.ipynb In[15]:

text1.concordance("monstrous")

Displaying 11 of 11 matches:

ong the former, one was of a most monstrous size.... This came towards us, ON OF THE PSALMS. "\_Touching\_that\_monstrous\_bulk\_of\_the\_whale\_or\_ork\_we\_have\_r ll\_over\_with\_a\_heathenish\_array\_of\_monstrous\_clubs\_and\_spears\_.\_Some\_were\_thick d\_as\_you\_gazed\_,\_and\_wondered\_what\_monstrous\_cannibal\_and\_savage\_could\_ever\_hav that\_has\_survived\_the\_flood\_;\_most\_monstrous\_and\_most\_mountainous\_!\_That\_Himmal they\_might\_scout\_at\_Moby\_Dick\_as\_a\_monstrous\_fable\_,\_or\_still\_worse\_and\_more\_de

th\_of\_Radney\_.'" CHAPTER 55 Of the Monstrous Pictures of Whales . I shall ere ling Scenes . In connexion with the monstrous pictures of whales , I am strongly ere to enter upon those still more monstrous stories of them which are to be foght have been rummaged out of **this** monstrous cabinet there is no telling . But

of Whale - Bones; for Whales of a monstrous size are oftentimes cast up dead u

Find what other words have appeared in a similar range of contexts:

NLTK.ipynb In[16]:

text1.similar("monstrous")

**true** contemptible christian abundant few part mean careful puzzled mystifying passing curious loving wise doleful gamesome singular delightfully perilous fearless

# Normalization and Stemming

#### **Normalization**

A process that converts a list of words to a more uniform sequence.

- ✓ Useful in preparing text for later processing.
  - Converting to lowercase
  - Removing stopwords
  - Stemming, ...
- ✓ A standard format, will simplify later other operations "separation of concerns".
- ✓ Can improve text matching. For example, the term "modem router" can be expressed, such as modem and router, modem & router, modem/router, and modem-router.
- ➤ But can also compromise an NLP task converting to lowercase letters can decrease the reliability of searches when the case is important.

```
input1 = "List_listed_lists_listing_listings"

words1 = input1.lower().split()
words1

['list', 'listed', 'lists', 'listing', 'listings']
```

# Normalization and Stemming

#### **Stemming**

A (crude heuristic) process that chops off the ends of words to get a common root.

- Language dependent. For English Porter's algorithm (1980) has repeatedly been shown to be empirically very effective:
  - consists of 5 phases of word reductions,
  - within each phase there are conventions to select rules,

```
RuleExampleSSES\rightarrow SScaresses\rightarrow caressIES\rightarrow Iponies\rightarrow poniSS\rightarrow SScaress\rightarrow caressS\rightarrow cats\rightarrow cat
```

NLTK.ipynb In[18]:

```
porter = nltk.PorterStemmer()
[porter.stem(t) for t in words1]

['list', 'list', 'list', 'list', 'list']

But

[porter.stem(t) for t in ["see", "saw", "seeing", "to_see"]]
NLTK.ipynb In[19]:
```

['see', 'saw', 'see', 'to\_se']

# Comparison of Stemming Algorithms

- Sample text: Such an analysis can reveal features that are not easily visible from the variations in the individual genes and can lead to a picture of expression that is more biologically transparent and accessible to interpretation
- Lovins stemmer: such an analys can reve featur that ar not eas vis from th vari in th individu gen and can lead to a pictur of expres that is mor biolog transpar and acces to interpres
- Porter stemmer: such an analysi can reveal featur that ar not easili visibl from the variat in the individu gene and can lead to a pictur of express that is more biolog transpar and access to interpret
- Paice stemmer: such an analys can rev feat that are not easy vis from the vary in the individ gen and can lead to a pict of express that is mor biolog transp and access to interpret

### Lemmatisation

#### Lemmatisation

A process that determines the **lemma** of a word. A lemma can be thought of as the dictionary form of a word. For example, the lemma of "was" is "be".

- **X** Computational much more expensive than stemming.
- ✓ But will always return a valid word.
- Empericaly:
  - Stemming increases recall while harming precision.
  - Benefit of lemmatisation can be modest especially for retrieval in Engligh.

# Steaming vs Lemmatisation

```
NLTK.ipynb In[21]:
  WNlemma = nltk. WordNetLemmatizer()
  udhr = nltk.corpus.udhr.words('English-Latin1')
  print (udhr [:20])
'Universal', 'Declaration', 'of', 'Human', 'Rights', 'Preamble', 'Whereas', 'recognition
 Applying stemming and lemmatisation to the first 20 words ...
                         NLTK.ipynb In[22]:
                                                                     NLTK.ipynb In[23]:
  [porter.stem(t) for t in udhr[:20]]
                                              [WNlemma.lemmatize(t) for t in udhr[:2]
                     'univers',
                                                                ['Universal',
                     'declar',
                                                                  'Declaration',
                                                                 'of'.
                     'of',
                     'human',
                                                                 'Human',
                                                                 'Rights',
                     'right',
                     'preambl',
                                                                 'Preamble',
                     'wherea',
                                                                 'Whereas',
                     'recognit',
                                                                 'recognition',
                                                                 'of',
                     'of',
                     'the',
                                                                 'the',
                     'inher',
                                                                 'inherent',
                                                                 'dignity',
                     'digniti',
                     'and',
                                                                 'and',
                     'of',
                                                                 'of',
                     'the',
                                                                 'the',
                     'equal',
                                                                 'equal',
                     'and',
                                                                 'and',
                                                                                   17 of 29
```

### **Tokenisation**

#### **Tokenisation**

Splitting a sentence into words / tokens.

```
Surly, this is easy ... could just use the string split method?

NLTK.ipynb In[24]:

text11 = "Children_shouldn't_drink_a_sugary_drink_before_bed."

text11.split()

['Children', "shouldn't", 'drink', 'a', 'sugary', 'drink', 'before', 'bed.']
```

However, NLTK provides a better (semantics wise) split ...

```
print(nltk.word_tokenize(text11))

['Children', 'should', "n't", 'drink', 'a', 'sugary', 'drink', 'before', 'bed', '.']
```

(i.e., separated punctation and "shouldn't")

# Sentence Splitting

#### **Sentence Splitting**

Splitting a body of text into sentences.

This is harder again ... using the string split (".") method is optimistic at best.

### > Example

"This is the first sentence. After Brexit milk in the U.K. will cost 9.99. Is this the third sentence? Yes, it is!"

```
for s in text12.split("."):
print(s)
```

```
This is the first sentence
After Brexit milk in the U
K
will cost 9
99
Is this the third sentence? Yes, it is!
```

```
NLTK.ipynb In[28]:
sentences = nltk.sent_tokenize(text12)
for s in sentences:
    print(s)
```

```
This is the first sentence.
After Brexit milk in the U.K. will cost 9.99.
Is this the third sentence?
Yes, it is!
```

# Part of Speech (POS) Tagging

#### Part of Speech (POS)

Is a special label assigned to each token (word) in a text corpus to indicate the part of speech and often also other grammatical categories such as tense, number (plural/singular), case etc.

Number 🔀	Tag M	Description	Number 2	Tag 💌	Description
1	CC	Coordinating conjunction	19	PRP\$	Possessive pronoun
2	CD	Cardinal number	20	RB	Adverb
3	DT	Determiner	21	RBR	Adverb, comparative
4	EX	Existential there	22	RBS	Adverb, superlative
5	FW	Foreign word	23	RP	Particle
6	IN	Preposition or subordinating conjunction	24	SYM	Symbol
7	JJ	Adjective	25	TO	to
8	JJR	Adjective, comparative	26	UH	Interjection
9	JJS	Adjective, superlative	27	VB	Verb, base form
10	LS	List item marker	28	VBD	Verb, past tense
11	MD	Modal	29	VBG	Verb, gerund or present participle
12	NN	Noun, singular or mass	30	VBN	Verb, past participle
13	NNS	Noun, plural	31	VBP	Verb, non-3rd person singular present
14	NNP	Proper noun, singular	32	VBZ	Verb, 3rd person singular present
15	NNPS	Proper noun, plural	33	WDT	Wh-determiner
16	PDT	Predeterminer	34	WP	Wh-pronoun
17	POS	Possessive ending	35	WPS	Possessive wh-pronoun
18	PRP	Personal pronoun	36	WRB	Wh-adverb

Fig: POS Tags from Penn Tree Bank.

# Example

```
Tag
             Meaning
                                           English Examples
ADJ
        adjective
                              new, good, high, special, big, local
ADP
        adposition
                              on, of, at, with, by, into, under
ADV
        adverb
                              really, already, still, early, now
CONJ
        conjunction
                              and, or, but, if, while, although
DET
        determiner, article
                              the, a, some, most, every, no, which
NOUN
                              year, home, costs, time, Africa
        noun
NUM
                              twenty-four, fourth, 1991, 14:24
        numeral
PRT
        particle
                              at, on, out, over per, that, up, with
PRON
                              he, their, her, its, my, I, us
        pronoun
VERB
                              is, say, told, given, playing, would
        verb
        punctuation marks
Х
        other
                              ersatz, esprit, dunno, gr8, univeristy
```

```
/MD
Modal
/RB
Adverb
/VB
Base verb
/DT
Determiner
/JJ
Adjective
/NN
Noun, singular or
mass
/IN
Preposition
```

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proper noun

## POS Tagging — How hard is it?

- $\bullet \approx 89\%$  of English words have only one part of speech (unambiguous).
  - However, many common words in English are ambiguous.
  - But even these can largely be disambiguated by rules or probabilistically.
- Taggers can be rule-based, stochastic (training on a labelled set of words using Hidden Markov Models (HMMs)), or a combination (most popular combination is the "Brill" tagger).

### Example of stochastic tagging

The sentence

"Secretariat is expected to race tomorrow"

has POS tagging:

NNP VBZ VBN TO VB NR
Secretariat is expected to race tomorrow

NNP VBZ VBN TO NN NR
Secretariat is expected to race tomorrow

/NNP
proper noun
/VB
Base verb
/VBN
verb, past participle
/VBZ
verb, 3rd prsn
/TO
to

Looking at transition probabilities (going from **TO** to a **VB** or a **NN**) we have

$$\left. \begin{array}{c}
 \Pr(\mathbf{NN} | \mathbf{TO}) = 0.0047 \\
 \Pr(\mathbf{VB} | \mathbf{TO}) = 0.83
 \end{array} \right\} \implies \text{"race" is most likely a verb}$$

What about "The old man the boat"?

## Making Sense of Sentences

Making sense of sentences is easy if they follow a well-defined grammatical structure.

```
NLTK.ipynb In[32]:
text14 = nltk.word_tokenize("Alice_loves_Bob")
nltk.pos_tag(text14)
                        [('Alice', 'NNP'), ('loves', 'VBZ'), ('Bob', 'NNP')]
                                                              NLTK.ipynb In[33]:
grammar = nltk.CFG.fromstring("""
\_S_->\_NP_VP
                                      (S (NP Alice) (VP (V loves) (NP Bob)))
\_VP\_->\_V\_NP
¬NP¬→¬, 'Alice'¬, 'Bob'
_{L}V_{L}->_{L}'loves'
parser = nltk. ChartParser (grammar)
                                                                      ۷P
                                                        NP
trees = parser.parse_all(text14)
for tree in trees:
                                                                         NP
                                                        Alice
    print (tree)
                                                                         Bob
                                                                loves
trees [0]
```

## Term Frequency (TF)

#### Term Frequency (TF)

Number of times the term occurs in a document

### > Assumption `

- If term occurs more often, it measures something important.
- $2\times$  as many occurrences is  $2\times$  as important
  - This can be mitigated if need be common "fix" is to transform using log transform: ("plus 1" to avoid NaN)

$$\log 10(1+TF)$$

- Each occurrence is an independent event (not a replicate). Is it true?
  - Information retrieval: probably "yes"
  - Fraud detection, notes, log files: maybe "no"

Since documents vary in length, it is possible that a term would appear much more times in long documents than shorter ones.

• Normalise by dividing by total number of terms in document.

$$TF(t) = \frac{\text{Number of times term } t \text{ appears in a document}}{\text{Total number of terms in the document}}$$

## Document Frequency (DF)

#### **Document Frequency (DF)**

Number of documents the term occurs in

### > Assumption `

- Terms that occur in fewer documents are more specified to a document and more descriptive of the content: rarity matters.
- Terms that occur in most documents are common words, not as descriptive. Is it true?
  - Sometimes "yes"
  - Sometimes just reflect textual variants (synonyms), regional differences, personal style.

Again, normalise with respect to number of documents

$$DF(t) = \frac{\text{Number of document term } t \text{ appears in}}{\text{Total number of documents}}$$

## Inverse Document Frequency (IDF)

- For DF, smaller is better we often want a larger number to be "better".
- Possible transforms:
  - The reciprocal is too severe:

$$IDF(t) = \frac{1}{DF(t)}$$

• Better, more popular definition

$$IDF(t) = \log_{10} \left( 1 + \frac{1}{DF(t)} \right)$$

- Again, use of log to "compress" (slows growth rate) an interval  $[1, \infty)$ .
- Don't have to use base 10 logs natural logs are same up to constant factor.

### TF-IDF

#### **TD-IDF**

Term frequency—inverse document frequency.

- Separately, DF and IDF can be good features
- Together, they represent a good idea

$$TF-IDF = TF \times IDF$$

- Assumption: Higher frequency of terms that are rare may indicate a very important concept
- Why multiply? Are these "independent"?
  - No, but multiplying seems to work just fine
- TF-IDF can be successfully used for stop-words filtering in various subject fields including text summarisation and classification.
- Variations of the TF-IDF weighting scheme are often used by search engines as a central tool in scoring and ranking a document's relevance given a user query.