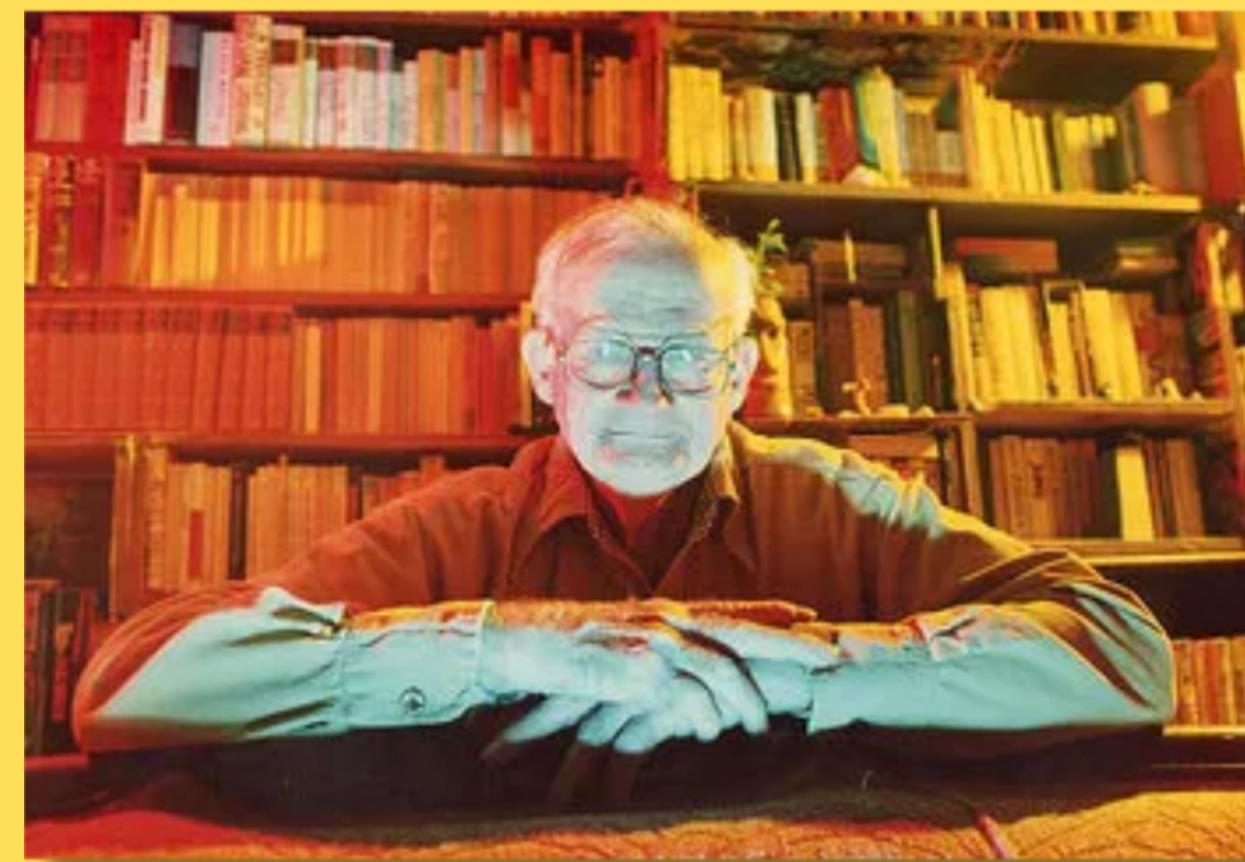


TRYING TO USE MACHINE
LEARNING TO GENERATE TEXT
FOR ONE OF SCI-FI'S MOST
“INIMITABLE” AUTHORS



R.A. Lafferty (1914-2002)

Master of "mad-drunk" prose



"There seemed to be several meetings in this room superimposed on one another, and they cannot be sorted out. To sort them out would have been to destroy their effect, however, for they achieved syntheses of their several aspects and became the true meeting that never really took place but which contained all the other meetings in one theatrical unity."

- Selenium Ghosts of the Eighteen Seventies

"There seemed to be several meetings in this room superimposed on one another, and they cannot be sorted out. To sort them out would have been to destroy their effect, however, for they achieved syntheses of their several aspects and became the true meeting that never really took place but which contained all the other meetings in one theatrical unity."

- Selenium Ghosts of the Eighteen Seventies

"On first read, yes, it's nonsense, but this is the experience of experiencing Lafferty. He doesn't make any sense, until you decide, and you must decide, that he does. Then, suddenly, he becomes a genius."

- Jason Kehe

The start of the problem (project)

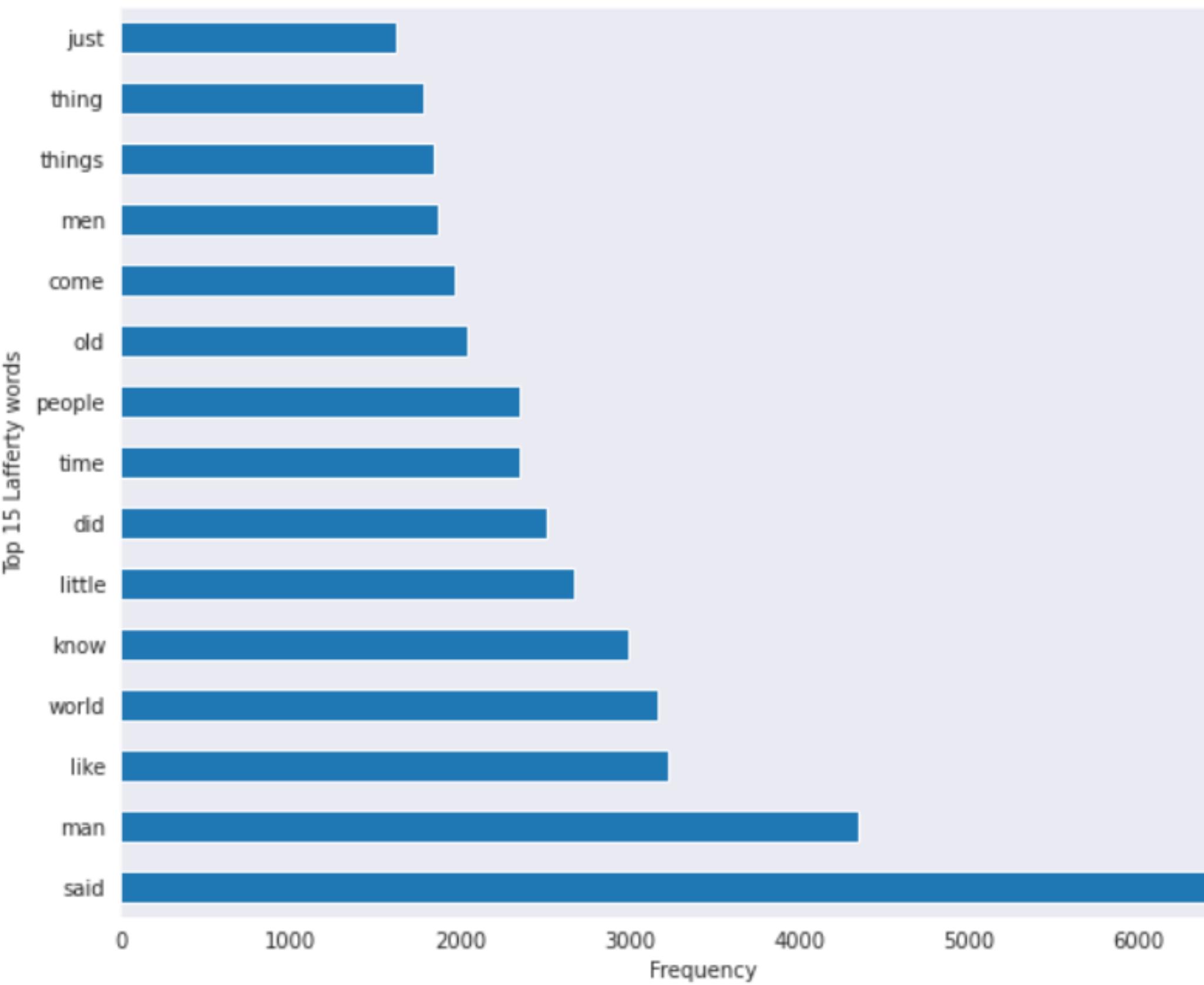


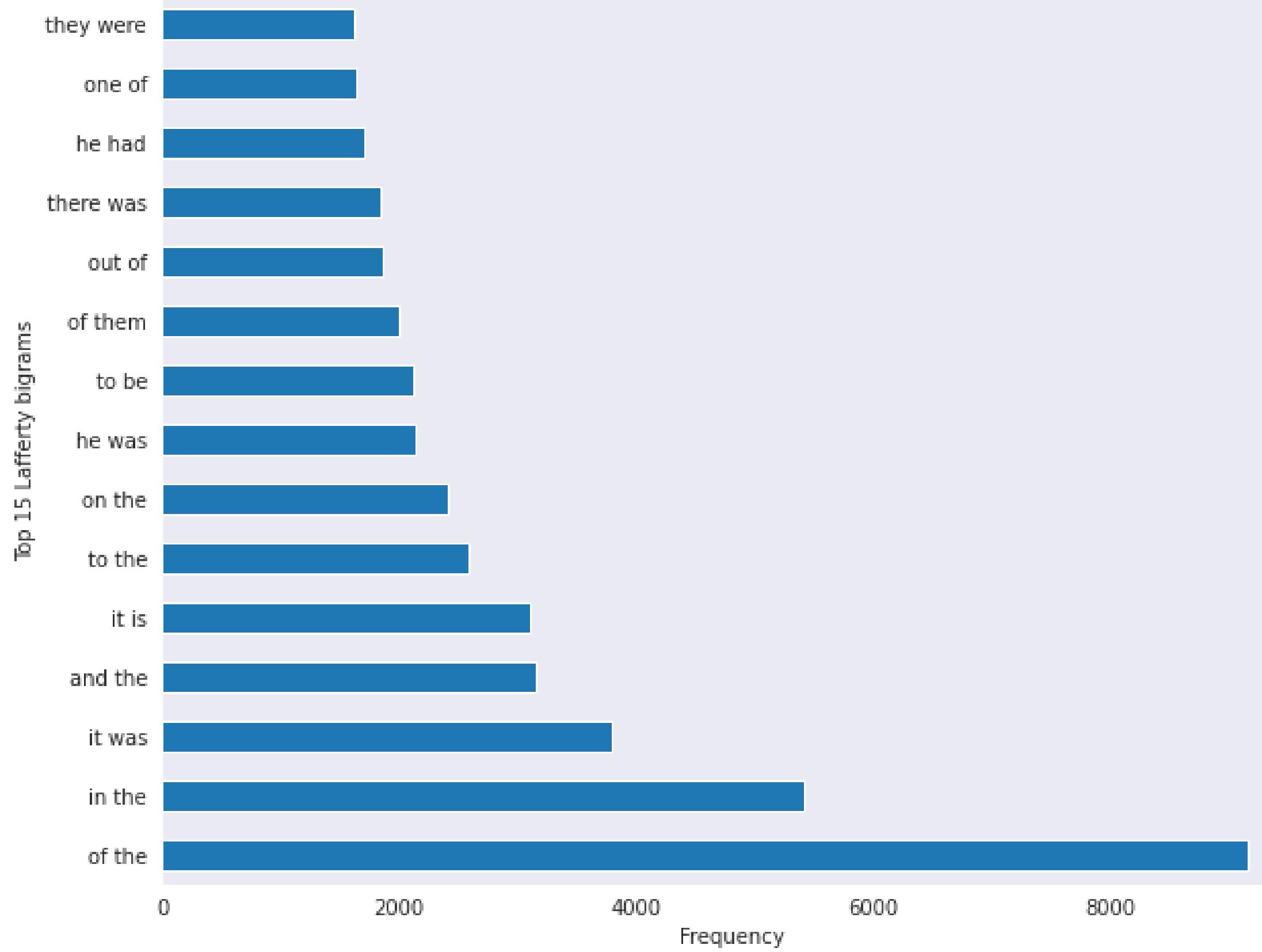
- Illustration: Sam Whitney (modified by presenter)

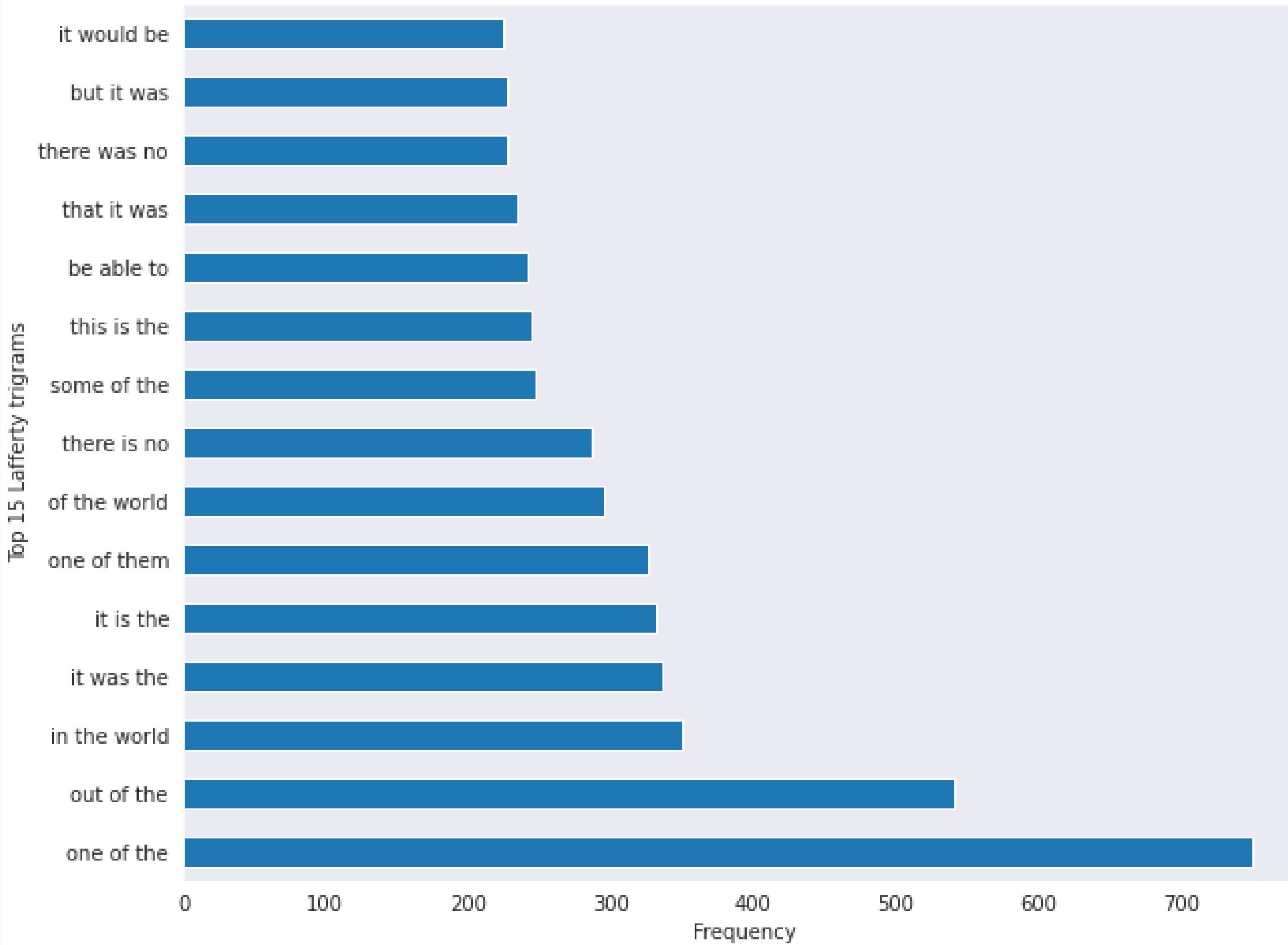
The data

- 4 collections of short stories
- 10 novels/novellas
- 3,366 pages total
- 1,276,455 words total
- from PDF > JSON > TXT

EDA and visualization







Flesch reading score

```
✓ [72] # ra lafferty score  
flesch_reading_ease(text)  
  
86.44  
  
✓ [73] # philip k dick score  
flesch_reading_ease(pkd_text)  
  
82.65  
  
✓ [74] # isaac asimov score  
flesch_reading_ease(ia_text)  
  
66.07
```

Recurrent Neural Network (RNN) model

- Why? How?
- My favorite explanation so far: "Sequences." :P (from Andrei Karpathy)
- Character vs. word

Markov (chains) model

- Why? How?
- My favorite explanation so far: sequence of events based on previous events

— Results —

"It's a walk of money," Roadstrum announced to hither. The mobsterness shirts are (and this is the pertant partner of that), and I was almost to ask the other hero and a case for you to. They're first inveltional shapeless in tumbling from anybody. Our vibizous sathers has his furtimate on the dust. There are thirty minds of ordinary men and mediums where the two; how the idea atop turnable broken, the tongues in the strange urri- blance of the one in spite that saw Gueps who drinks from Bassolda, for dispatched them in under the Canadian Eightone.



They lived in vain. Sammy the Snake devoured that tall turret. But the Permit Office of the second to do it. Being digammated, it would do a thing in existence, though, with their fingers. And a fifteen- minute coffee break could turn into the walls of it. Men quickly raised it up to that very soft and dangerous. They looked at the big prophets pray so noisily and greedily. And they had something he wanted. The gentleman was puzzled, and he resolved to be orbited into the bottomless quicksand of cliché, both of the ramble of the twins is very big box or a girl, would you refuse to deal with either.



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The end?

