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Understanding Tokenizer and Context Window

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[]:  # visit this link : https://platform.openai.com/tokenizer  # to check tokenization in action
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[]: # tokens - indiviual units passed to language model
# in early days neural nets we trained on character level
# meaning predict the next character in the seq
# small vocab size, lesse possibilities at input level
# Later, neural nets we started training on word level
# predict next word in the sequence
# it lead to enormous vocab
# so many places for names, places, animals etc...
# Rather than training on each word, or each character
# a middle ground was achieved to take the token and work with series of tokens
# this had lot of benefits : handling became easier
# it was good at handling word stems
# you can check GPT tokenization
# check how the text is turned into a series of tokens
# tokens are highlighted in colours
# When you check tokenization , you might also find that the whitespace \sqcup
 ⇔prefixing the token
# is also highlighted as the break between two tokens is equally important
# somtimes when you give some rare words, you can find tokens being broken down
 ⇔differently
# Refer GPT tokenizer 1 png file to check the break in tokens
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As suggested on Open AI website .. A helpful rule of thumb is that one token generally corresponds to \sim 4 characters of text for common English text. This translates to roughly $^{3}4$ of a word (so 100 tokens \sim = 75 words).

Example: The complete works of Shakespeare are ~9,00,000 words or 1.2 million tokens

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What is Context Window?

- 1. The main job an LLM is next token prediction.
- 2. Context windows tells you total no.of tokens that an LLM can examine at any point when generating the next token.
- 3. Usually higher the context window for an LM, better its reasoning and logical abilities.
- 4. User prompt and system prompt are inputs to LLMs, which predicts next token.
- 5. It is like a chained reaction to predict next token in case of context window.

For example, when you input a prompt to chatgpt, it generates some response. Say after that, you make a follow up question. Now while generating the next token , it will take in all of this as input to generate the next token .

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