post02-jenny-yang

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A Text to Analyze Text Analysis: Introduction to Working with Textual Data

Introduction

When someone thinks of statistics and computational techniques, they're more often than not imagining applications to quantitative, number-heavy fields. After all, stats is often grounded in mathematical theory, and we intuitively think that we can only use such techniques to analyze and manipulate numbers.

However, data analytics tools need not be limited to the realm of numbers; they can also be applied to texts as well. For example, suppose a company wants to get a general feel on how the public feels about a particular product, and wants a more comprehensive evaluation than just a number on a 1-5 scale. To get an overview, they could conduct text analysis on their product reviews in order to pick out major themes. Of course, if they wanted specific, detailed examples, they should directly read through the comments and reviews, but text analysis provides a guide that enables people to quickly understand the sentiments capured by large data sets.

The business world is often a blend of numbers and words. But can we apply the same techniques to purely literary data? The purpose of this post is to demonstrate that we can apply R and data visualization techniques to traditionally non-quantitative—in particular, literary—fields as well. I'll be walking you through some of the basic analysis and techniques that can be used to analyze any type of literature.

We'll use a package called <code>janeaustenr</code>. This package consists of her six published works, which were retrieved from Project Gutenberg, a platform that offers a variety of free eBooks. Each row corresponds to a physically printed line. In particular, we'll be using <code>Pride</code> and <code>Prejudice</code>, as it is her most well-known work (admittedly, I've also recently finished reading this novel for the third time, and I'm particularly partial to it.)

Using these packages and techniques, we'll be able to visualize unstructured texts just as easily as we could visualize numbers in a data table.

As a brief summary, *Pride and Prejudice* offers a satirical take on 19th century society. Austen's protagonist, Elizabeth (Lizzy) Bennet, is a strong-willed, vivacious female with a sense of independence that is quite surprising for a woman of her time. Due to a combination of her familiy's financial situation and societal expectations, it is imperative that the five Bennet daughters marry well. *Pride and Prejudice* details the courtship of Elizabeth Bennet and Mr. Darcy, a rather proud and haughty (but fabulously wealthy) gentleman, and the complications that arise because of their conflicting personalities and clashing pride. Although the premise may sound rather dull, insipid, and shallow, *Pride and Prejudice* is often listed as one of the most-loved literary works, and its popularity is such that it transcends the test of time.

Let's now load the packages necessary to perform this analysis. Among the new packages, we'll need to install the new packages janeaustenr, tidytext, tidyr, and wordcloud in order to proceed. We'll also be using dplyr and stringr which we've covered in class, and snowballc, which should be built into the package library depending on which version of R Studio you have. If you don't have it, go ahead and install it as well.

A note: many of the online resources surrounding tidytext uses pipe operators (%>%); while this is undoubtedly a powerful and convenient tool for dplyr and packages built around dplyr, for the purpose of this blog, I'll be using the conventional function form, just to offer another syntax option for those who might not yet be comfortable with pipe operators.

Install Packages:

```
#install packages
#install.packages('janeaustenr')
#install.packages('tidytext')
#install.packages("tm")
#load packages
library(janeaustenr)
\textbf{library}(\texttt{dplyr})
## Attaching package: 'dplyr
## The following objects are masked from 'package:stats':
##
##
## The following objects are masked from 'package:base':
##
       intersect, setdiff, setequal, union
library(tidytext)
library(stringr)
library(SnowballC)
library(ggplot2)
library(tidyr)
library(wordcloud)
## Loading required package: RColorBrewer
```

Introduce our data set:

```
#Obtain Pride and Prejudice from janeaustenr
pp <- group_by(austen_books(), book)
pp <- filter(pp, book == "Pride & Prejudice")

## Warning: package 'bindrcpp' was built under R version 3.4.1

head(pp, 10)

## # A tibble: 10 x 2
## # Groups: book [1]</pre>
```

As you can see, the format of the file essentially reads like a novel. How do we convert it into a more conventional format so we can run an analysis?

In order to structure and clean the unstructured data into something we can work with, we'll need to transform the data set so that each row corresponds to a single word in the novel. Using the language of tidyr, we can "tokens" (a single word). The process of creating these tokens is called "tokenization."

Cleaning Data

```
#Tokenize our data
pp <- unnest_tokens(tbl = pp, output = word, input = text)
head(pp, 10)</pre>
```

```
## # A tibble: 10 x 2
## # Groups: book [1]
##
               book
              <fctr>
                       <chr>
## 1 Pride & Prejudice
                      pride
## 2 Pride & Prejudice
## 3 Pride & Prejudice prejudice
## 4 Pride & Prejudice by
## 5 Pride & Prejudice
                         jane
## 6 Pride & Prejudice
                      austen
  7 Pride & Prejudice chapter
## 8 Pride & Prejudice
## 9 Pride & Prejudice
                           it
## 10 Pride & Prejudice
```

Our data has now been tokenized-each row represents a separate word in a format that we can analyze. Notice that we no longer have to deal with punctuation and that all words have been converted to lowercase, which will make our analysis easier (for instance, we won't have to worry about R thinking that "Pride" and "pride" are different.) However, note that words such as "and" and "it" are displayed in the table above. Unfortunately, words such as these, called "stop words," do not provide much interesting information, and yet are common in English language. Let's try removing them from pp so they don't clutter our analysis.

A large list of stop words are included in the tidytext data set stop_words; these words are pulled from three separate lexicons (dictionaries).

```
#preview stop words
head(stop_words, 10)
```

```
## # A tibble: 10 x 2
##
       word lexicon
        ##
        a SMART
a's SMART
## 1
        able SMART
## 3
## 4
## 5
        above SMART
## 6 according SMART
## 7 accordingly
               SMART
## 8 across
               SMART
##
  9
      actually
               SMART
        after SMART
## 10
```

To remove stop words, we'll use the anti_join function from the dplyr package.

```
pp <- anti_join(x = pp, y = stop_words, by = "word")
head(pp, 10)</pre>
```

```
## # A tibble: 10 x 2
## # Groups: book [1]
##
              <fctr>
                        <chr>
##
## 1 Pride & Prejudice
                         pride
                      prejudice
## 2 Pride & Prejudice
## 3 Pride & Prejudice
                       jane
## 4 Pride & Prejudice
                          austen
## 5 Pride & Prejudice
                         chapter
                        1
truth
## 6 Pride & Prejudice
## 7 Pride & Prejudice
## 8 Pride & Prejudice universally
## 9 Pride & Prejudice acknowledged
## 10 Pride & Prejudice
```

We no longer have irrelevant stop words such as "and" or "it" in our data set.

Now that our data has been formatted and cleaned, the real analysis can begin. To start, let's take a look at the twenty most commonly words used in *Pride and Prejudice*.

```
#count each word and sort from most to least commonly used
count_words <- count(pp, word, sort = TRUE)

#take a look at the top twenty most commonly used words
head(count_words, 20)</pre>
```

```
## # A tibble: 20 x 3
## # Groups: book [1]
##
                 book
                            word
##
                <fctr>
                           <chr> <int>
## 1 Pride & Prejudice elizabeth 597
## 2 Pride & Prejudice darcy
                                     373
## 3 Pride & Prejudice bennet 294
## 4 Pride & Prejudice miss 283
## 5 Pride & Prejudice jane 264
## 6 Pride & Prejudice bingley 257
## 7 Pride & Prejudice time 203
## 8 Pride & Prejudice lady 183
## 9 Pride & Prejudice
                           sister 180
## 9 Pride & Prejudice sister
## 10 Pride & Prejudice wickham
                                     162
## 11 Pride & Prejudice
                            dear 158
## 12 Pride & Prejudice collins
## 13 Pride & Prejudice family
                                     156
                                     151
## 14 Pride & Prejudice
                             day 140
                          lydia
## 15 Pride & Prejudice
                                     133
## 16 Pride & Prejudice
                             hope
                                     121
## 17 Pride & Prejudice father 116
## 18 Pride & Prejudice
## 19 Pride & Prejudice mother
                                     112
## 20 Pride & Prejudice catherine 110
```

Unsurprisingly, a majority of these words consists of character names. Words such as "lady" and "sister" are common as well, as those roles play a large part in Elizabeth's society. We can assume that "letter" is within the top twenty because *Pride and Prejudice* is an epistolary novel, and Austen often uses letters to introduce major plot points.

Let's also see how often Elizabeth's two nicknames, Lizzy and Eliza, appear.

```
filter(count_words, word == "lizzy" | word == "eliza")

## # A tibble: 2 x 3
## # Groups: book [1]
## book word n
## <fctr> <chr> <int>
## 1 Pride & Prejudice lizzy 95
## 2 Pride & Prejudice eliza 22
```

Considering that only her family calls her "Lizzy" and only one friend calls her "Eliza", it's unsurprising that these names appear much less often than "Elizabeth"

Now let's take a look at the ten least commonly used words:

```
tail(count_words, 10)
```

```
## # A tibble: 10 x 3
## # Groups: book [1]
##
     book word n
<fctr> <chr> <int>
                              word
##
## 1 Pride & Prejudice womanly 1 ## 2 Pride & Prejudice women's 1
## 3 Pride & Prejudice worthlessness
## 4 Pride & Prejudice wretchedly
                                      1
                          writes
## 5 Pride & Prejudice
                                        1
## 6 Pride & Prejudice
                             yards
## 7 Pride & Prejudice
                            vawned
                                        1
## 8 Pride & Prejudice
                           yawning
                                        1
## 9 Pride & Prejudice york
## 10 Pride & Prejudice youths
                                      1
```

We see that "yawned" and "yawning" are listed in the last ten-however, these words capture the same meaning. In order to correct for this, let's try **stemming** our words. Stemming is the process of changing words to their root form. For example, "yawned" and "yawning" would both become "yawn." We'll need the package <code>snowballc</code>, which we loaded earlier, to do this.

```
#adds a column "stem" of stemmed words
pp <- mutate(pp, stem = wordStem(word, language = "english"))

#counts the number of occurences of each stemmed word
count_stem <- count(pp, stem, sort = TRUE)

#display least common stemmed words
tail(count_stem, 10)</pre>
```

```
## # A tibble: 10 x 3
## # Groups: book [1]
##
                 book
                          <chr> <int>
                <fctr>
                         wiser 1
wisher 1
## 1 Pride & Prejudice
## 2 Pride & Prejudice
## 3 Pride & Prejudice withdraw
## 4 Pride & Prejudice withstood
## 5 Pride & Prejudice witti
                                      1
## 6 Pride & Prejudice wittic 1
## 7 Pride & Prejudice wive
## 8 Pride & Prejudice woe
                                      1
                                      1
## 9 Pride & Prejudice yard
## 10 Pride & Prejudice york
                                      1
                                    1
```

"Yawned" and "yawning" are no longer in the least commonly used words! Let's see how often the action of yawning appears now:

```
#number of times "yawn" appears as a stemmed word
filter(count_stem, stem == "yawn")
```

```
## # A tibble: 1 x 3
## # Groups: book [1]
## book stem n
## <fctr> <chr> <int>
## 1 Pride & Prejudice yawn 4
```

Is this accurate? Let's look at how many times any tense of yawning appeared in the original:

```
#show instances in which any form of yawn was used
filter(pp, stem == "yawn")
```

```
## # A tibble: 4 x 3

## # Groups: book [1]

## book word stem

## <fctr> <chr> <chr>
## 1 Pride & Prejudice yawn yawn

## 2 Pride & Prejudice yawned yawn

## 3 Pride & Prejudice yawning yawn

## 4 Pride & Prejudice yawn yawn
```

And yawning does indeed appear four times! We have therefore successfully stemmed and checked our data.

After stemming, has the top twenty list changed?

```
head(count_stem, 20)
```

```
## # A tibble: 20 x 3
## # Groups: book [1]
##
                       stem
<chr> <int>
##
               <fctr>
## 1 Pride & Prejudice elizabeth 635
## 2 Pride & Prejudice darci
                                417
## 3 Pride & Prejudice
                       bennet 333
## 4 Pride & Prejudice bingley 311
                       sister
## 5 Pride & Prejudice
                                297
## 6 Pride & Prejudice
                         jane 292
                         miss 287
ladi 265
   7 Pride & Prejudice
##
## 8 Pride & Prejudice
## 9 Pride & Prejudice
                         time 224
## 10 Pride & Prejudice wickham
                                194
## 11 Pride & Prejudice collin
                                180
## 12 Pride & Prejudice
                         day 174
## 13 Pride & Prejudice
                        friend
                                174
## 14 Pride & Prejudice
                       lydia 171
                       hope 168
## 15 Pride & Prejudice
## 16 Pride & Prejudice
                         feel
                                167
                         dear 161
## 17 Pride & Prejudice
                      famili
## 18 Pride & Prejudice
                                158
## 19 Pride & Prejudice
                        happi
                                155
## 20 Pride & Prejudice manner 142
```

Elizabeth appears 38 more times than she did without stemming (the 38 additional times likely came from instances in which "Elizabeth's" was used. However, some words, such as "darci" and "ladi", have been stemmed incorrectly. This is an unfortunate byproduct of using our current cools. Cons of stemming include:

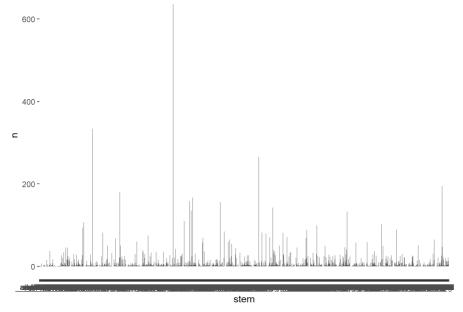
- stems are not always actual words (e.g., "ladi", "famili", "happi")
- sometimes unrelated words are grouped together
- sometimes related words are not grouped together.

Nevertheless, stemming is undoubtedly a useful tool to aggregate our data and to eliminate a large portion of unnecessary repeated ideas.

Text Visualization

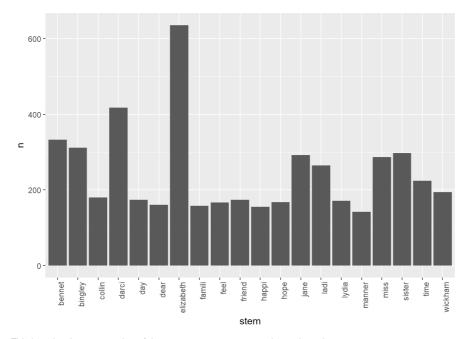
Let's start with the basics—the simplest way we can visualize our data is with a simple bar chart, with the frequencies for each word. We'll use ggplot to do this.

```
#plot occurrences of all words (may take awhile to run)
ggplot(count_stem, aes(x = stem, y = n)) + geom_col()
```



This is quite messy to read, so let's just take a look at the twenty most commonly used words:

```
ggplot(head(count_stem, 20), aes(x = stem, y = n)) +
geom_col() + theme(axis.text.x = element_text(angle = 90, hjust = 1))
```



This is a visual representation of the top twenty most commonly used words.

So far, we've been examining inidviual words. What if we're interested in the *pairs* of words that Austen uses most commonly? Consecutive sequences of words are called "n-grams." We can see this simply by adding "token = ngrams" to unnest_tokens() when we first tokenize our text.

```
## # A tibble: 20 x 2
## # Groups: book [1]
##
                 book
                                        bigram
##
                <fctr>
                                        <chr>
## 1 Pride & Prejudice
                                    pride and
## 2 Pride & Prejudice
                                and prejudice
## 3 Pride & Prejudice
                                prejudice by
##
  4 Pride & Prejudice
                                      by jane
## 5 Pride & Prejudice
                                  jane austen
## 6 Pride & Prejudice
                                austen chapter
##
   7 Pride & Prejudice
                                   chapter 1
## 8 Pride & Prejudice
                                         1 it
## 9 Pride & Prejudice
                                        it is
## 10 Pride & Prejudice
                                         is a
## 11 Pride & Prejudice
                                      a truth
                         truth universally
## 12 Pride & Prejudice
## 13 Pride & Prejudice universally acknowledged
## 14 Pride & Prejudice acknowledged that
## 15 Pride & Prejudice
                                       that a
## 16 Pride & Prejudice
                                      a single
## 17 Pride & Prejudice
                                  single man
## 18 Pride & Prejudice
                                       man in
## 19 Pride & Prejudice
                                in possession
## 20 Pride & Prejudice
                                 possession of
```

Note that these bigrams overlapp-i.e., "pride and" is one token, whereas "and prejudice" is another.

Let's perform the same analysis as above to analyze these bigrams. First, we'll count the number of occurences of each pair.

```
count_bigram <- count(pp_bigram, bigram, sort = TRUE)
head(count_bigram)</pre>
```

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 3

## # Groups: book [1]

## book bigram n

## <fctr> <chr> <int>
## 1 Pride & Prejudice of the 464

## 2 Pride & Prejudice to be 443

## 3 Pride & Prejudice in the 382

## 4 Pride & Prejudice i am 302

## 5 Pride & Prejudice of her 260

## 6 Pride & Prejudice to the 252
```

Once again, the most common word pairs are quite uninteresting—not much meaning can be taken from pairs such as "of the" and "to be". We'll have to remove the stop words. To do this, we'll separate the words into two columns by using the " " delimiter, and remove instances in which one of the two words is a stop word.

```
## # A tibble: 20 x 4
## # Groups: book [1]
                               word2
##
                      word1
              book
##
              <fctr>
                        <chr>
                                  <chr> <int>
## 1 Pride & Prejudice
                       lady catherine 100
                        miss
## 2 Pride & Prejudice
                               bingley
## 3 Pride & Prejudice
                        miss
                                 bennet
                                          6.0
## 4 Pride & Prejudice
                        sir
                               william
                                          38
                                bourgh
## 5 Pride & Prejudice de
## 6 Pride & Prejudice miss
                                          34
                                  darcy
                                forster
## 7 Pride & Prejudice colonel
                                          26
## 8 Pride & Prejudice colonel fitzwilliam
                                           25
## 9 Pride & Prejudice
                      cried elizabeth
                                          23
## 10 Pride & Prejudice miss lucas
## 11 Pride & Prejudice
                         miss
                                    de
                                           20
## 12 Pride & Prejudice thousand pounds 20
                                         18
## 13 Pride & Prejudice lady
                                  lucas
                      replied elizabeth
## 14 Pride & Prejudice
                                          18
## 15 Pride & Prejudice lady catherine's
## 16 Pride & Prejudice dear lizzy
## 17 Pride & Prejudice miss bingley's
                                          15
                        miss bingley's
                                          15
## 18 Pride & Prejudice catherine
                                   de 14
## 19 Pride & Prejudice miss
                                           12
                                         11
## 20 Pride & Prejudice
                         ten thousand
```

The most common pairs of words are character titles followed by character names—for example, "Lady Catherine" and "Miss Bingley." We also see that Elizabeth does a lot of exclaiming and talking, based off of "cried Elizabeth" and "replied Elizabeth." Finally, note that "thousand pounds" and "ten thousand" appear relatively frequently. This refers to Darcy's wealth (he would've been the equivalent of a millionaire today), and considering how imperative it was that women married well, it's unsurprising that his wealth is a large factor and mentioned quite a bit in character interactions.

How do we combine the two filtered columns into a single column, so we have the original format but without stop words? We simply use the unite() function.

```
#combine two word columns into one column called "bigram"
count_bigram <- unite(count_bigram_sep, col = bigram, word1, word2, sep = " ")
#preview table to confirm
head(count_bigram)</pre>
```

```
## # A tibble: 6 x 3
## # Groups: book [1]
              book bigram
##
                             <chr> <int>
              <fctr>
## 1 Pride & Prejudice lady catherine 100
## 2 Pride & Prejudice miss bingley
## 3 Pride & Prejudice
## 4 Pride & Prejudice
                       miss bennet
                                      60
                                     38
                       sir william
## 5 Pride & Prejudice
                        de bourgh 35
## 6 Pride & Prejudice
                       miss darcy
```

Now that we've gone over the basic fundamentals of text visualization, let's move onto more advanced methods.

Sentiment Analysis

Using sentiment analysis, we can classify different sections of the text by their emotional content. For example, if a section contains many instances of "happy," "joy," or "delight,", we assume that something good has happened in the plot. However, sometimes these texts can be misclassified–for example, if the context is "Elizabeth was not happy", the word "happy" might cause us to misclassify this as a happy moment. Despite this, sentiment analysis is a good way to get a broad sense of key plot points.

Let's take a look at the sentiments data set in the tidytext library, which consists of words and their associated sentiments.

```
head(sentiments, 10)
```

```
## # A tibble: 10 x 4
      word sentiment lexicon score
##
          <chr> <chr> <chr> <chr> <chr> <chr> 
## 1 abacus
                    trust
                              nrc NA
## 2 abandon fear
## 3
       abandon negative abandon sadness
                                     NA
                              nrc
## 4
                              nrc
                                     NA
## 5 abandoned anger nrc NA ## 6 abandoned fear nrc NA
## 7 abandoned negative
                                    NA
                              nrc
                                   NA
## 8 abandoned sadness
                              nrc
## 9 abandonment anger nrc NA ## 10 abandonment fear nrc NA
                                     NA
```

What does the column "lexicon" mean here, and how many different types of lexicons are there?

```
unique(sentiments$lexicon)

## [1] "nrc" "bing" "AFINN" "loughran"
```

The nrc lexicon simply tells us whether or not a word is categorized by a particular sentiment (i.e., trust, fear, etc.) The bing lexicon categorizes words into positive or negative connotations, the AFINN lexicon assigns a word with a score on a scale from -5 to 5, with 5 indicating a postitive conotation. The loughran lexicon extends sentiment categories to words such as "litigation" and "uncertainty", which may be used more commonly in a financial setting, so we won't concern ourselves with it here.

What are the different sentiment classifications are there in this data set?

Because large chunks of text, such as a page, can contain several emotions, it's better to deal with smaller chunks. We'll just focus on analyzing single words

Remember, we've already created a dataset "pp" that contains the words in Pride and Prejudice and their stems.

```
head(pp)
```

What are the most common words associated with a positive feeling in *Pride and Prejudice*?

```
#obtain positive words in sentiments data set
positive <- filter(sentiments, sentiment == "positive" & lexicon == "nrc")

#match positive words in Pride and Prejudice with positive words in sentiments
positive_pp <- inner_join(pp, positive, by = "word")
positive_pp</pre>
```

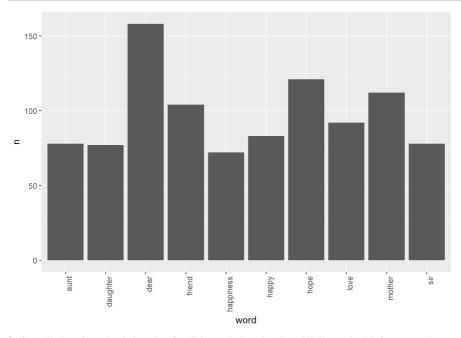
```
## # A tibble: 6.789 x 6
## # Groups: book [?]
                       book word stem sentiment lexicon score
<fctr> <chr> <chr
##
        book
##
## 1 Pride & Prejudice pride pride positive nrc NA
## 2 Pride & Prejudice truth truth positive nrc NA
## 3 Pride & Prejudice fortune fortun positive
                                                                               nrc NA
## 4 Pride & Prejudice truth truth positive nrc NA
## 5 Pride & Prejudice rightful right positive nrc NA
## 6 Pride & Prejudice dear dear positive nrc NA
## 7 Pride & Prejudice invitation invit positive nrc
## 8 Pride & Prejudice dear dear positive nrc
                                                                                         NA
                                                                                        NA
## 9 Pride & Prejudice fortune fortun positive nrc NA
## 10 Pride & Prejudice delighted delight positive nrc NA
## # ... with 6,779 more rows
```

```
#count the number of instances a word appears
count_positive_pp <- head(count(positive_pp, word, sort = TRUE), 10)
head(count_positive_pp)</pre>
```

These are the most common words associated with a "positive" sentiment in Pride and Prejudice.

Let's plot them to make them more visually understandable.

```
ggplot(head(count_positive_pp, 20), aes(x = word, y = n)) + geom_col() +
theme(axis.text.x = element_text(angle = 90, hjust = 1))
```



So far we've just done simple bar plots for all the analysis we've done. While standard, let's try to make our visuals a bit more exciting by making a word cloud.

```
#create word cloud with the top 100 words
wordcloud(words = count_words$word, freq = count_words$n, max.words = 80, col = terrain.colors(length(count_words$
word), alpha = 0.9), random.order = FALSE)
```



Conclusion

Here, I've only presented the basic principles of working with tidyr, cleaning textual data, and visualizing data. To summarize, we first introduced and our data set. We then had to reformat it and remove stop words to make our analysis more meaningful. We created some basic plots, before moving on to sentiment analysis and creating more visually exciting plots.

Although we've only scratched the surface, there's so much room for more exploration using text analysis. For example, using machine learning, if we were given a paragraph from a random source, we might be able predict which author wrote that passage. Text analysis is still a growing and developing field, and there's still more work to be done and explored.

References

Pride and Prejudice Wikipedia

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