

Computational Communication Science 2

Week 1 - Lecture

»Introduction«

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Digital Society Minor, University of Amsterdam

Today

Introducing...the people

Introducing...the course

Text as Data

Analyzing songtexts: NLP

Analyzing songtexts: RegEx

All course materials can be found at...

<https://github.com/annekroon/CCS-2>

Introducing...the people

Introducing...Marthe



dr. A. Marthe Möller
Assistant Professor Entertainment
Communication

- Studying entertainment experiences in the digital space using:
 - Computational methods (e.g., ACA of user comments)
 - Experimental methods

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| <https://www.uva.nl/profiel/m/o/a.m.moller/a.m.moller.html>

Introducing...Anne



dr. Anne Kroon

Assistant Professor Corporate Communication

- Research focus on biased AI in recruitment, and media bias regarding minorities
- Text analysis using automated approaches, word embeddings

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Introducing... You



Your name?

Your background?

Your reason for taking this course?

Do you have a dataset you are working on?

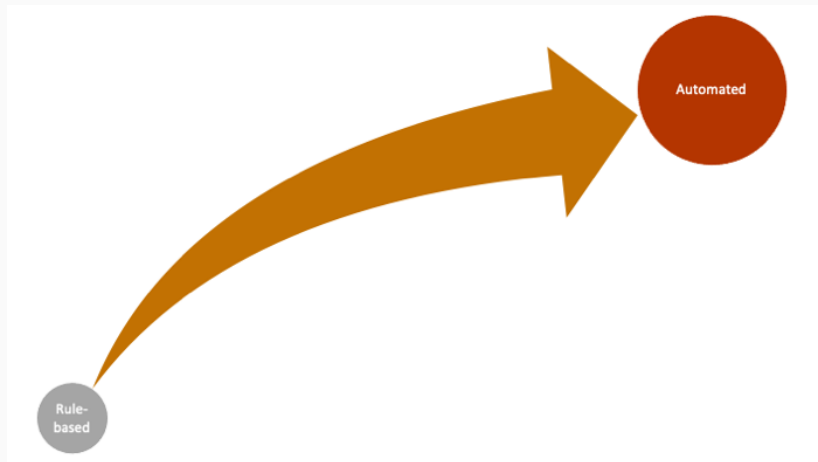
Introducing...the course

About CCS-2

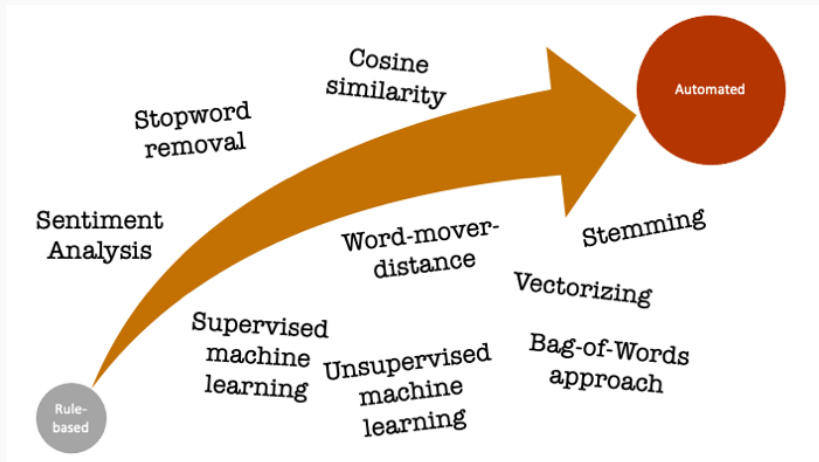
What is CCS-2?

- Next step after CCS-1
- How to use what you learned in CCS-1 for research?
 - Learn computational techniques (e.g. data vectorization, machine learning)
 - Learn how to use these techniques for research (e.g., content analysis)
- By the end of the course, you'll be prepared to do computational research in the Research Project

About CCS-2



About CCS-2



About CCS-2

What will we do in this course?

- We discuss techniques in the lectures
- We practice with techniques in the tutorials
- Graded assignments to master the techniques:
 - Regular multiple choice questions (20%) about readings that use the techniques we discuss
 - Coding challenge (group assignment): Get more experienced with the techniques and build a recommender system
 - Report (20%)
 - Presentation (10%)
 - Take-home exam (50%) at the end of the course so you can show off what you learned
- We provide structure through the meetings and assignments, you do the (home-)work

About CCS-2

How to stay informed and where to find all the materials?

Regularly check:

- The course Canvas page
- Your email
- The course Github page

In addition, make sure that you read the course manual so that you know all the ins and outs of this course!

About CCS-2

How to contact Anne and Marthe?

We kunnen hier eventueel iets over zeggen: mogen ze mailen, zijn er spreekuren etc.?

Ready? Set? Go!

Without further ado...

...let's get started!

Text as Data

Text as Data

CCS-1: You learned how to...

- Work with Python, for example, you:
 - Store text in json-files, csv-files etc.
 - Work with texts in Python

Text as Data: Learning from text directly

Studying text can teach us a lot about human behavior:

What topics do people discuss on online cancer-related platforms?

(Sanders et al., 2020)

To what extent does content differ between online and print news?

(Burggraaff and Trilling, 2020)

What topics do people discuss in their movie reviews?

(Schneider et al., 2020)

Text as Data: Analyzing text as a means

Studying text can give us information we can use to answer broader questions:

Analyze textual information about movies from IMDB to learn about the representation of women in movies
(Poma-Murialdo, 2019)

Automatically distinguish between reliable and unreliable online information about vaccines by investigating what characterizes reliable and unreliable texts
(Meppelink et al., 2021)

Text as Data: Combining text analysis with other methods

We can use data about text in combination with other methods:

Combining data about media content and survey data to
investigate how media coverage affects citizens' trust in the EU
(Brosius et al., 2019)

Text as Data: NLP

"Natural language processing (NLP) refers to the branch of computer science — and more specifically, the branch of artificial intelligence or AI — concerned with giving computers the ability to understand text and spoken words in much the same way human beings can."

(IBM, 2020)

Analyzing songtexts: NLP

Molly Malone

```
1 MollyMalone = "In Dublin's fair city, where the girls are so pretty, I
    first set my eyes on sweet Molly Malone. As she wheeled her
    wheelbarrow, Through streets broad and narrow Crying, Cockles and
    mussels, alive, alive, oh! Alive, alive, oh, Alive, alive, oh,
    Crying, Cockles and mussels, alive, alive, oh."
```

Molly Malone

```
1 print(type(MollyMalone))
2 print(len(MollyMalone))
3 print(MollyMalone[0])
4 print(MollyMalone[-1:])
```

```
1 <class 'str'>
2 96
3 I
4 .
```


Molly Malone

```
1 print(Counter(MollyMalone.split()).most_common(3))
```

```
1 [('alive,', 6), ('and', 3), ('Crying,', 2)]
```

Molly Malone

```
1 stopwords = ['in', 'the', 'and', 'a', 'I', 'she', 'her', 'are', 'so', 'on',  
    'me', 'my', 'mine', 'oh']  
2 nostopwords = ''  
3  
4 for line in MollyMalone.split():  
5     ^^If line not in stopwords:  
6     ^^I^^Inostopwords=nostopwords+line+' '  
7  
8 print(nostopwords)
```

```
1 In Dublin's fair city, where girls pretty, first set eyes sweet  
    Molly Malone. As wheeled wheelbarrow, Through streets broad  
    narrow Crying, Cockles mussels, alive, alive, oh! Alive,  
    alive, oh, Alive, alive, oh, Crying, Cockles mussels, alive,  
    alive, oh.
```

Molly Malone

```
1 print(Counter(nostopwords.split()).most_common(3))
2 ""I
```

```
1 [('alive,', 6), ('Crying,', 2), ('Cockles', 2)]
```

Molly Malone

```
1 nopunct=nostopwords.replace(",","").replace("!","").replace(".", "")
2 print(nopunct)
```

```
1 In Dublin's fair city where girls pretty first set eyes sweet
   Molly Malone. As wheeled wheelbarrow Through streets broad
   narrow Crying Cockles mussels alive alive oh Alive alive oh
   Alive alive oh Crying Cockles mussels alive alive oh
```

Molly Malone

```
1 print(Counter(nopunct.split()).most_common(3))
```

```
1 [('alive', 6), ('oh', 4), ('Crying', 2)]
```

Molly Malone

```
1 nostopnopunct = ' '  
2  
3 for line in nopunct.split():  
4     ^^Iif line not in stopwords:  
5     ^^I^^Inostopnopunct=nostopnopunct+line+' '  
6  
7 print(nostopnopunct)
```

```
1 In Dublin's fair city where girls pretty first set eyes sweet  
    Molly Malone As wheeled wheelbarrow Through streets broad  
    narrow Crying Cockles mussels alive alive Alive alive Alive  
    alive Crying Cockles mussels alive alive
```

Molly Malone

```
1 lowercase = nostopnopunct.lower()
2
3 print(lowercase)
```

```
1 in dublin's fair city where girls pretty first set eyes sweet
   molly malone as wheeled wheelbarrow through streets broad
   narrow crying cockles mussels alive alive alive alive
   alive crying cockles mussels alive alive
```

Molly Malone

```
1 print(Counter(lowercase.split()).most_common(3))
```

```
1 [('alive,', 8), ('crying', 2), ('cockles', 2)]
```


Analyzing songtexts: RegEx

RegEx

"A *regular expression* or *regex* is a powerful language to locate strings that conform to a given pattern. [...] Specifically, regular expressions are a sequence of characters that we can use to design a pattern and then use this pattern to *find* strings (identify or extract) and also *replace* those strings by new ones."

Van Atteveldt et al., 2022

RegEx

```
1 for word in MollyMalone_words:
2   ^^Iif re.search("[Aa]live", word):
3     ^^I^^Iprint(word)
```

```
1 ^^I^^Ialive
2 ^^I^^Ialive
3 ^^I^^IAlive
4 ^^I^^Ialive
5 ^^I^^IAlive
6 ^^I^^Ialive
7 ^^I^^Ialive
8 ^^I^^Ialive
```

RegEx

`m[oa]lly` matches molly, but also mally

`m.lly` matches molly, but also mally, or melly, or milly...

Quantifiers

`mol+y` matches moly, molly, mollly, molllly...

`[mM]o1+y` matches moly, molly, and mollly, but also Moly, Molly, Mollly, Molllly...

Quantifiers

`Molly Malone`

`<.*>` is greedy and will select everything

`<.*?>` is non-greedy and will match `` and ``

Groups

That was (not)? the end of sweet Molly Malone

will select both:

That was the end of sweet Molly Malone and That was not the
end of sweet Molly Malone

Character classes

The Dublin Millennium Commission proclaimed 13 June to be
"Molly Malone Day" `[1-9]+.[A-Z][a-z]+`
will select 13 June