Subsegmental language detection in Celtic language text



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Introduction

We aim to perform language identification on sub segmental basis:

- Typical case is to detect the language of documents and sentences.
- We are focussing on cases where A single sentence may have different code switching points

Dataset

- Simplifying the task by taking into account Celtic languages and a corresponding majority language.
- Manual annotation of about 40-50 tweets for each of the three language pairs.

Pair	Language	Statistics (%)			
1 an	Language	Tokens	Segments		
Irish—English	Irish	332	40		
	English	379	42		
Welsh—English	Welsh	419	64		
	English	378	66		
Breton—French	Breton	388	54		
	French	379	53		

[en You're a] [ga Meiriceánach, cén fáth] [en are you] [ga foghlaim Gaeilge?!]

@afaltomkins [cy gorfod cael bach o tan] [en though init]

[cy mar cwn bach yn] [en black and tan] [cy a popeth,] [en even cuter!!]

Methodology

. Alphabet n-gram approach . .

- Character Language model
- Using IRSTLM we build a language model for the five languages
- For English and French Europarl
- Breton, Welsh and Irish Corpora of text crawled from the web
- Size of the corpus from which this language model was built - 1.5 million tokens
- Example the word 'sláinte!' would be broken down into a sequence of {'_ s', 's l', 'l á', 'á i', 'i n', 'n t', 't e', 'e!', '! _'}.

..... Word based prediction

- Generate word lists for the languages using aspell which is widely used on Unix systems.
- Word are labeled according to their presence in the particular word list.
- In case of a confusion the word is added to the previous segment
- .. Word-based prediction with character backoff ...
- Same as Word-based prediction, but in case of confusion this falls back to the Alphabet bi-gram approach. Baseline
- Using langid.py labeled all the lines in a particular dataset according to the majority classification

..... Langid character trigram prediction

- Trigram probabilities from langid were taken into account.
- All other heuristics and chunking algorithm are same as for other methods.

Example

Code switching: You're a [Meiriceánach, cén fáth] are you [foghlaim Gaeilge?!] The anthem starts with the words ['Mae hen wlad fy nhadau...'] **Quotations:** [Dr Jekyll] ha [Mr Hyde] embannet gant [Éditions Aber] **Named entities:**

Interjections: Hey, that's great, [diolch yn fawr!]

Bloavezh mat d'an holl! [Bonne anné à tous!] **Translations:**

Chunking algorithm

Algorithm 1 *

Require: s: sentence to chunk

1: buffer = []/*Undecided expanding window of chunk*/

2: chunks = [] /*Decided labelled segment*/

3: buffer_language \leftarrow Language of first word */

4: $flag \leftarrow 0$

5: for all $w \in s$ do

if Language then

if flag = 1 then

buffer \leftarrow buffer + [word_buffer,w]

 $flag \leftarrow 0$ else 10:

buffer \leftarrow buffer + [w]

11: if Language then \neq buffer_language then 12:

if flag= 0 then

 $flag \leftarrow 1$

word_buffer $\leftarrow w$

continue

else

 $chunks \leftarrow chunks + [(buffer,buffer_language)]$

buffer $\leftarrow [\text{word_buffer}, w]$

buffer_language \leftarrow LANGPREDICT(w)

 $flag \leftarrow 0$

22: **if** length(buffer) $\neq 0$ **then**

 $chunks \leftarrow chunks + [(buffer,buffer_language)]$

Results

13:

16:

17:

18:

System		Irish—English		Welsh—English		Breton—French	
		Irish	English	Welsh	English	Breton	French
baseline	\overline{p}	2.50	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
	r	2.56	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
langid-3character	\overline{p}	5.00	14.29	0.0	21.21	1.85	20.75
	r	5.41	8.45	0.0	14.58	1.92	12.36
wordlist	\overline{p}	32.50	28.57	26.69	40.91	57.41	33.96
	\bar{r}	23.64	26.09	26.03	33.75	47.69	33.33
character bigram	\overline{p}	32.50	35.71	23.44	19.70	57.41	52.83
	\bar{r}	22.41	26.79	15.31	16.67	41.33	37.84
wordlist+character bigram	\overline{p}	52.50	50.00	32.81	31.82	70.37	67.92
	\tilde{r}	38.18	43.75	24.14	25.61	57.58	57.14

Accuracy (%)				
Irish—English	Welsh—English	Breton—French		
42.76	42.16	44.07		
57.24	45.92	43.16		
79.75	74.28	83.96		
81.29	65.62	76.79		
85.79	72.40	88.79		
	42.76 57.24 79.75 81.29	Irish—English Welsh—English 42.76 42.16 57.24 45.92 79.75 74.28 81.29 65.62		

Evaluation

- We followed the footsteps of CoNLL 2000 shared task on language independent named entity recognition.
- Divide the text into non-overlapping segments.
- Precision percentage of correctly detected phrases.
- Recall number of phrases in the data that were found by the chunker.

Conclusions

- A very preliminary investigation into subsegment language identification in Celtic language texts.
- We would like to include supervised methods and features talked about by King and Abney (2013)
- We would also like to check our methods with higher order n-grams and more options in backoff.
- Explore a lattice technique where each word is a lattice node and the inclusions of the words are done using probability.