

[REDACTED] Arraysure [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Blackout [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Poetry [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Generator [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] By [REDACTED] Björn [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Keyser [REDACTED], [REDACTED]

Hendrik [REDACTED] Scheeres [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

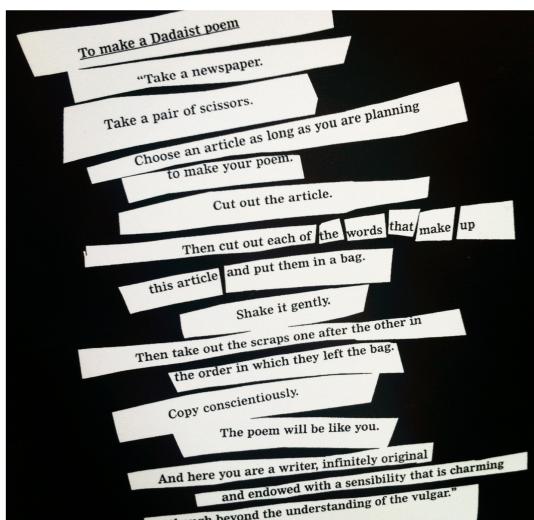
[REDACTED] Zoë [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Breed [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Introduction

The form often referred to as Erasure poetry, is a form of **found poetry**, created by collecting letters, words, and phrases from a source text and recombining them. A kind of literary equivalent to **collage**. Like other forms of collage art, blackout poetry was strongly inspired by the **ready-made philosophy** of the early 20th century's Dadaism.



To make a Dadaist Poem – Tristan Tzara (1920)

Generally, blackout poetry starts from an existing document where parts are eliminated to create a new text. The poetry takes the form of a conversation between a base/blackout text and a creator. It can critique, celebrate or subvert its source. Either way, the method of creation can be condensed into a binary choice: to include a word (1), or not (0). This could thus also be seen as switching words “on” and “off”.

The question we asked ourselves was: How can we create an algorithm that emulates this intuitive, assembled form of creation? The medium of blackout poetry was chosen to contradict the normal use of algorithms to generate text and instead use a subtractive approach.

Sam	liked	green	eggs
noun	verb	adjective	noun
nn	vbd	jj	nn

POS template



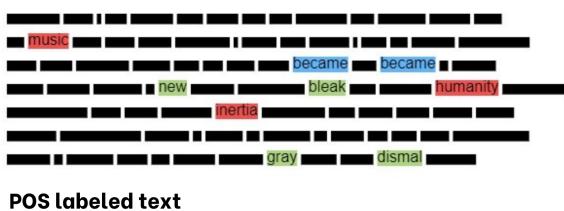
I started painting as a hobby when I was little. I didn't know I had any talent. I believe talent is just a pursued interest. Anybody can do what I do. Just go back and put one little more happy tree in there. Everybody's different. Trees are different. Let them all be individuals. We'll put some happy little ...

Source text

Before teaching a system how to produce **logical** sentences we must first understand how sentences are constructed. Part-of-speech (POS) tagging is the processing of each word from a sentence into categories of speech. In *Arraysure* this was used by taking an inspiring/poetic sentence, deconstructing it and looking for the specific sequence of the POS template in the blackout text.

Recursion tree

However, the example shown above excludes many other possible sentences in the source text that follow the nn → → vbd → jj → nn order. How do you find all possible combinations that the POS template fits the source text in consecutive order? This problem has a recursive nature, since after each verb we can pick each adjective, after which we can pick each noun, etc.



POS labeled text

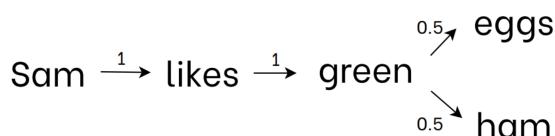
Programming intuition

A human creator does not simply run through all possible word combinations of a text. They cherry-pick specific word combinations: Which word(s) would be likely and interesting to follow a selected word in the text?

A text can be seen as a sequence of elements, be it sentences, words, or letters.

Based on the number of occurrences in the text that one word follows another, you can calculate a probability, i.e. what is the chance that one word follows another.

Source: "Sam likes green eggs but hates green ham"



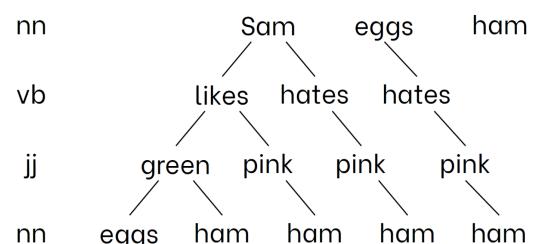
Markov calculation

POS template

nn vb jj nn

Sam likes green eggs but hates pink ham

Source text



Recursive tree

Markov chains are useful in evaluating all the generated combinations between our template grammar and blackout text.

Higher Markov scores imply a more common sentence structure regarding the text the Markov model was created with (Markov text). The model was constructed through a database of short poems.

Another way of ingraining the system with poetic intuition is by using literary devices such as rhyme and alliteration in the selection process.

[REDACTED]

I had [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] a [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] odd sensation [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

I had a odd sensation

Sensini by Roberto Bolaño

a place for poetry

A place for poetry

Sensini by Roberto Bolaño

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] a [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] house [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] of fragility, [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

A house of fragility

Sensini by Roberto Bolaño

of other's we hope hell

Of other's we hope hell

US Weekly - Bachelorette Gabby Windey and Erich Schwer's Relationship Timeline

she
was no
worth, nothing

She was no worth, nothing
Alice's Adventures in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll

In
nakedness
I
trample
thee

In nakedness I trample thee
Moby-Dick by Herman Melville