

CAIM Lab, Session 1:

ElasticSearch and Zipf's and Heaps' laws

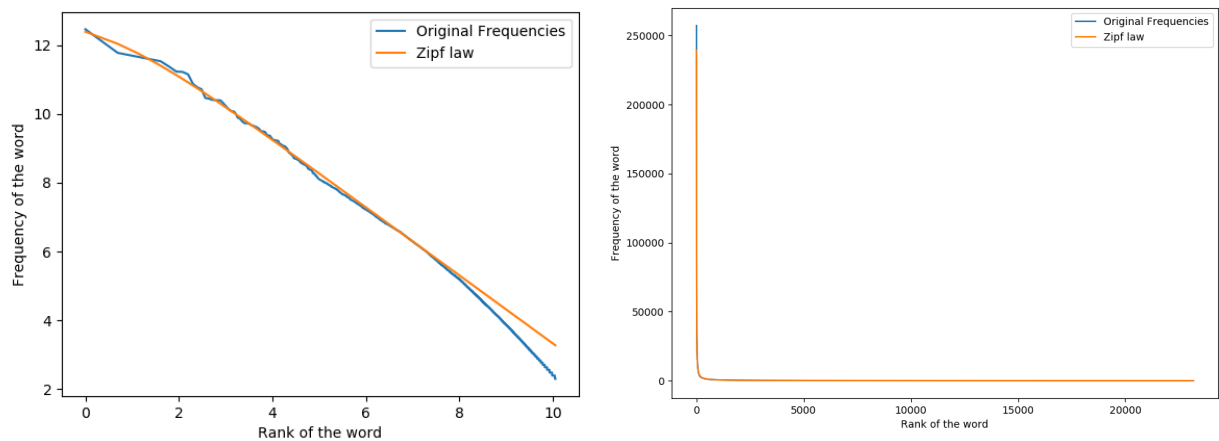
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Zipf's law

The main goal of this experiment is to find if the rank-frequency distribution of the words in the novels corpus follows Zipf's power law ($f = \frac{c}{(rank+b)^a}$) and then adjust the parameters so that the formula described the distributions.

Before starting the experiment, we filter all the URL's and numbers, as well as the words that have a frequency smaller than 10.



Heap's law

Heap's law (Herdan) describes the behavior of words in a text. That is, the relationship between the number of words and the number of different words.

$$W = k \times N^\beta$$

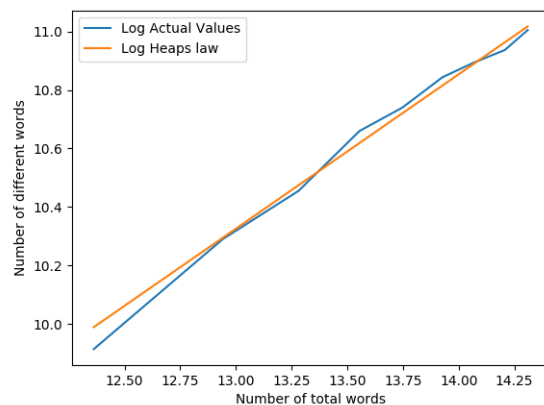
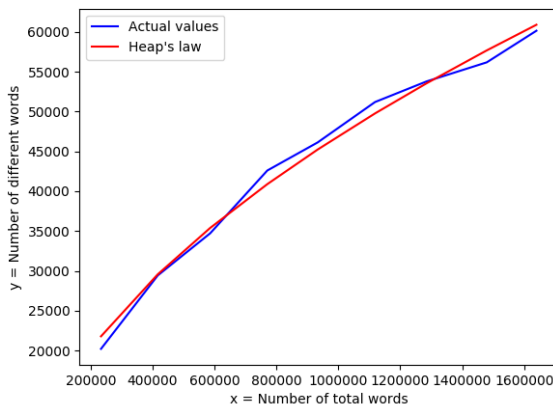
W: number of different words

N: number of words in the text

k, β : free parameters

Our goal is to obtain the values of k and β , to verify if Heap's law is fulfilled.

First of all, we need to create indexes that contain different amounts of text. Therefore, we have been eliminating a part of the novels (2MB) to end up creating 9 indexes, half the size of all the files (18MB).



As we can observe in the previous plots, we have approximated the function and obtained the following values for k and β :

$$k = 32$$

$$\beta = 0$$

In conclusion, we confirm that it follows the law of Heaps.