Assignment 7: Emoji space 3.0

In this assignment you will do rerun the analyses of the past two assignments using word2vec, a neural network developed by Google to learn associations between terms.

1 Process tweets

Rerun assignment 6 up to paragraph 2.7.

1.1 Split Emojis

word2vec must be supplied with a text file containing a single character string of all of the tweets, where all words are separated with white space ' '. Many Emojis, however, occur right after each other without any intervening characters or white space. This implies that, unless special measures are taken, many sequences of Emojis will be interpreted as a single string. To avoid this, go through the vector of cleaned words, 1) test if non-ascii characters are contained using stri_detect_regex(word, '[^[:ascii:]]'), 2) extract, if necessary, all Emojis using stri_extract_all(word, regex = '[^[:ascii:]]')[[1]], 3) extract, if necessary, any ascii characters in the string using stri_replace_all_regex(word,'','[^[:ascii:]]'), and then 4) write at the position of the original the vector of extracted Emojis. Best do this using lapply(words, function), which takes a vector of words, applies a function (written by you) and returns a list (only a list allows to add vectors into a sequence of words). Then extract the sequence of words using unlist().

1.2 Write Input File

To create the input file for word2vec, collapse the vector of cleaned words into a single string using paste(,collapse=' ') and write it into a file in your folder. To do this use a slightly different approach than before. First open up a connection to a (new) file using my_file_connection = file(my_path/my_filename.txt,'wb'). In case the file does not exist R will create it. wb means that the file is written in binary, which will hopefully circumvent all encoding issues. Then write the collapsed srting to the file using writeLines(my_collapsed_string, my_file_connection). Finally, close the connection using close(my_file_connection).

2 Word2Vec

2.1 Install word2vec

Different from the other packages that you have used, the word2vec implementation not available from CRAN, but from GitHub. To install the package, first install the devtools package (from CRAN) using the regular install.packages() command. Then you can use devtools' install_github("bmschmidt/wordVectors") to install the word2vec implementation. Note that since the implementation is based on C/C++, Windows users may also have to install RTools. You find the file including installation instructions here: https://cran.r-project.org/bin/windows/Rtools/index.html.

2.2 Train Model

Train your word2vec model using train_word2vec. Provide it with my_path/my_filename.txt as the first argument and 'my_path/my_filenam.bin' as the second. The second file will, in case it doesn't exist, be created by the function. The remaining arguments are optional. Consider playing around with vectors, which determines the number of latent dimensions (comparable to LSA), window which determines the maximum distance between words to consider them as a co-occurring word pair, negative_samples, which amount of learning per pair (higher number = more learning, but slower execution). Also, if you computer has multiple

(real or virtual cores) consider using threads to run the analysis in parallel. To find out, how many cores are available on your computer use detectCores from the parallel package. As with LSA word2vec will require some time to finish. I recommend first using a small subset of your data to make sure everything works correctly. Also make sure to assign the output, i.e., my_model = train_word2vec(your_arguments).

2.3 Assess Model

There are functions to play around and probe the model. Use, for instance, closest_to(my_model, word, n) to view the n closest associates of a word.

3. Evaluate and plot

Rerun (some of) the plots of assignment 5 and 6 and post them on twitter. To calculate the cosine similarities use cosineDist. Possibly restrict the analysis to some of the Emojis/words.

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