



Introduction to Natural Language Processing

NLP meet-up Zurich 2018

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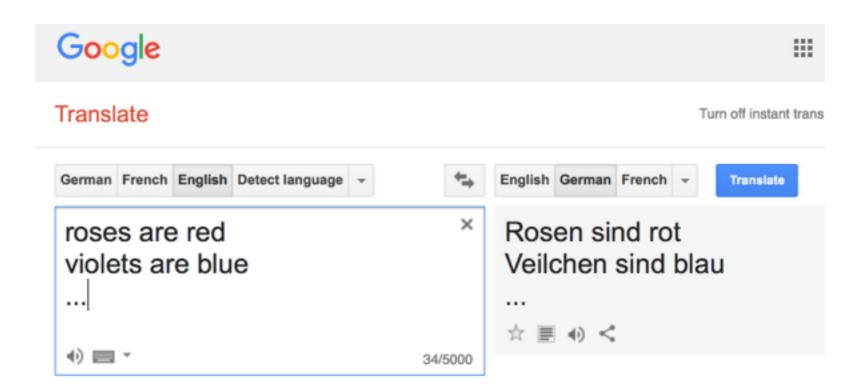
Question answering

Computer Wins on 'Jeopardy!': Trivial, It's Not

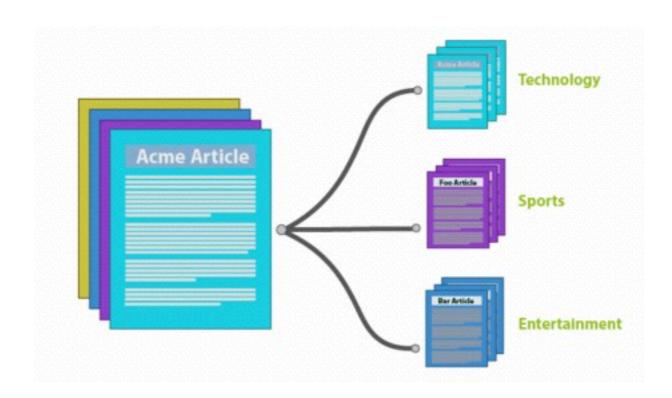


Two "Jeopardy!" champions, Ken Jennings, left, and Brad Rutter, competed against a computer named Watson, which proved adept at buzzing in quickly.

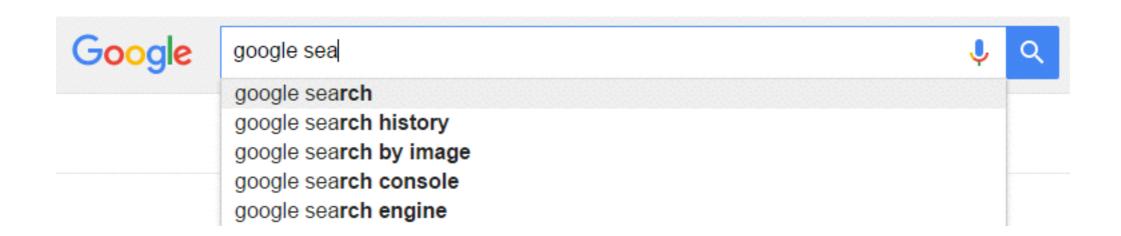
Machine translation



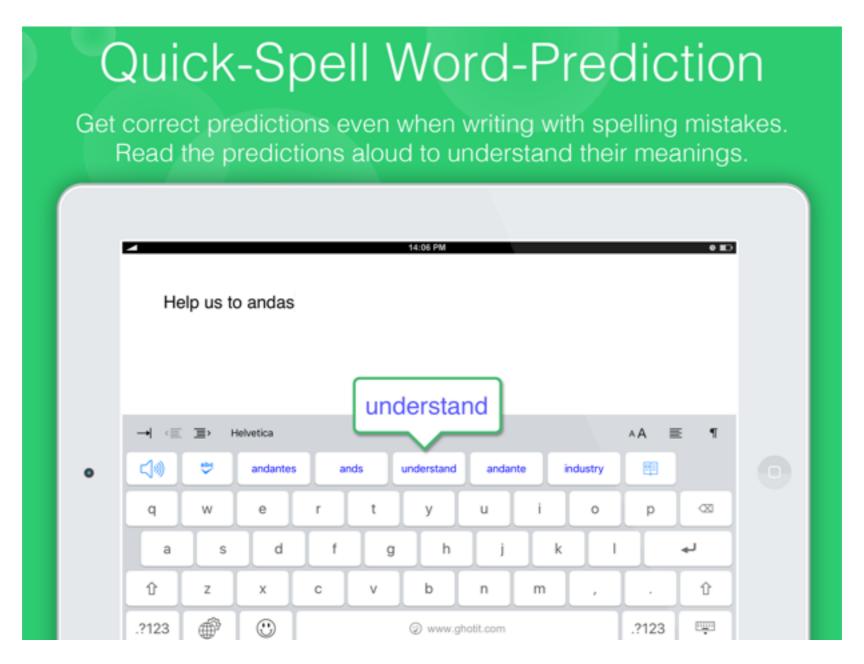
Document categorisation



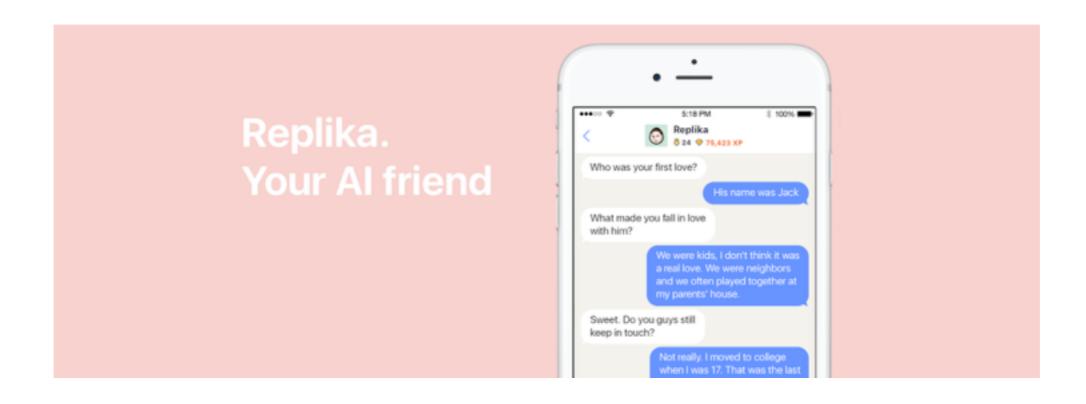
Search (information retrieval)



Spelling correction



Conversation agents



- An intersection between computer science, artificial intelligence and linguistics
- With the goal of computers to process or "understand" natural language in order to perform some tasks.

Problem types

Supervised learning:

e.g: Document categorisation, sentiment analysis, spam detection, part-of-speech tagging, (translation)

Unsupervised learning:

e.g: Document clustering, text summarization, text generation, (translation)

Information retrieval:

e.g: Search engines, question answering...

"Money is coined liberty, and so it is ten times dearer to the man who is deprived of freedom. If money is jingling in his pocket, he is half consoled, even though he cannot spend it. But money can always and everywhere be spent, and, moreover, forbidden fruit is sweetest of all."

Source: "The Old Soul", Fyodor Dostoyevsky

ambiguity
times - mathematical operation vs
plural of time

"Money is coined liberty, and so it is ten **times** dearer to the man who is deprived of freedom. If money is jingling in his pocket, he is half consoled, even though he cannot spend it. But money can always and everywhere be spent, and, moreover, forbidden fruit is sweetest of all."

Synonyms

"Money is coined **liberty**, and so it is ten times dearer to the man who is deprived of **freedom**. If money is jingling in his pocket, he is half consoled, even though he cannot spend it. But money can always and everywhere be spent, and, moreover, forbidden fruit is sweetest of all."

"Money is coined liberty, and so it is ten times dearer to the man who is deprived of freedom. If money is jingling in his pocket, he is half consoled, even though he **cannot** spend it. But money can always and everywhere be spent, and, moreover, forbidden fruit is sweetest of all."

abbreviations/contractions non-standardised text

"Money is coined liberty, and so it is ten times dearer to the man who is deprived of freedom. If money is jingling in his pocket, he is half consoled, even though he cannot spend it. But money can always and everywhere be spent, and, moreover, forbidden fruit is sweetest of all."

idioms

"Money is coined liberty, and so it is ten times dearer to the man who is deprived of freedom. If money is jingling in his pocket, he is half consoled, even though he cannot spend **it** [the money]. But money can always and everywhere be spent, and, moreover, forbidden fruit is sweetest of all."

Implicit meaning / references

"Money is coined liberty, and so it is ten times dearer to the man who is deprived of freedom. If money is jingling in his pocket, he is half consoled, even though he cannot spend it. But money can always and everywhere be spent, and, moreover, forbidden fruit is sweetest of all."

In general: how to represent text? How to segment? How to deal with sequential dependence?

- Ambiguity
- Synonyms
- Abbreviations, typos
- Word segmentation: "New York"→"New" "York" or "New York"?
- Non-locality of text: **Money** is coined liberty (...more than 20 words in between...), he cannot spend **it.**
- Implicit meaning e.g: pronouns, idioms, etc...

Outline

- Basic concepts of NLP
- Feature representation
 - Vectorisation
 - Word embeddings
- Supervised learning
- Unsupervised learning

Basic concepts

Text normalisation:

- Tokenisation
- Normalisation
- Stemming and lemmatisation

Language models

Tokenisation

Given a sentence/text, tokenisation is the task of chopping it up into pieces, called *tokens*. (Perhaps at the same time throwing away certain characters, such as punctuation.)

e.g:

Input: "Friends, Romans, Countrymen, lend me your ears;"

Output: "Friends", "Romans", "Countrymen", "lend", "me", "your", "ears"

Normalisation

After tokenising a document/text, we might want some tokens to be "merged"

```
e.g:
```

"antidiscrimination", "anti-discrimination" → "antidiscrimination"

"Today", "today" → "today"

But this is not always obvious!

e.g: "C.A.T" should not be mapped to "cat"

Stemming/Lemmatisation

The goal of stemming and lemmatisation is to reduce inflectional forms and transform a word to a common base form.

e.g: organise, organises, and organising → organise

Stemming: chops off the ends of words in hopes to achieve this common base form.

e.g: car, cars, car's, cars' → car

Lemmatisation: uses a vocabulary and morphological analysis of words and returns the base or dictionary form of a word (knows as the lemma).

e.g: saw, seeing → see

To learn more, check out **Porter's algorithm** for stemming and **WordNet** for lemmatisation!

"Language modelling is the task of **assigning a probability to sentences in a language**. [...] Besides assigning a probability to each sequence of words."

 Page 105, Neural Network Methods in Natural Language Processing, 2017.

Goal: compute the probability of a sentence or sequence of words.

$$P(W) = P(w_1, w_2, ..., w_n)$$

Chain-rule gives us:

$$P(w_1, w_2, ..., w_n) = P(w_1)P(w_2|w_1)...P(w_n|w_1, w_2, ..., w_{n-1})$$

Goal: compute the probability of a sentence or sequence of words.

P(W) = P("natural language processing is so cool"

Chain-rule gives us:

```
P(W) = P(\text{natural})P(\text{language}|\text{natural})
P(\text{processing}|\text{natural language})...
P(\text{cool}|\text{natural language processing is so})
```

Goal: compute the probability of a sentence or sequence of words.

P(W) = P("natural language processing is so cool"

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$$P(W) = P(\text{natural})P(\text{language}|\text{natural})$$

 $P(\text{processing}|\text{natural language})...$
 $P(\text{cool}|\text{natural language processing is so})$

estimating all these quantities is most likely not possible if we use traditional method of counting occurrences!

Markov assumption:

$$P(w_n|w_1, w_2, ..., w_{n-1}) \approx P(w_n|w_{n-k}, ..., w_{n-1})$$

e.g:
$$k = 2$$

 $P(\text{cool}|\text{natural language processing is so}) \approx P(\text{cool}|\text{is so})$

Markov assumption:

$$P(w_n|w_1, w_2, ..., w_{n-1}) \approx P(w_n|w_{n-k}, ..., w_{n-1})$$

Unigram (simplest case):

 $P(\text{is}|\text{natural language processing}) \approx P(is)$

$$P(W) = \prod_{i} P(w_i)$$

Bigram:

 $P(is|natural language processing) \approx P(is|processing)$

$$P(W) = \prod_{i} P(w_i|w_{i-1})$$

Markov assumption:

$$P(w_n|w_1, w_2, ..., w_{n-1}) \approx P(w_n|w_{n-k}, ..., w_{n-1})$$

Note we can also use language models to estimate the next word coming after a sequence!

Ok, so now we know how to go from text:

"So much Fake News is being reported."

@realdonaldtrump

To tokens:

"So" "much" "Fake" "News" "is" "being" "reported" "."

Normalisation and lemmatisation:

"so" "much" "fake" "news" "is" "be" "report" "."

But still, how to perform computation on these objects?

Let's say we have a set of Tweets that we want to do some computation on (e.g. identifying the author, from a list of authors)

T1: "We will continue to bring people together. We will not allow the Donald Trumps of the world to divide us up."

T2: "I got into politics not to figure out how to become President. I got into politics because I give a damn."

T3: "Does everyone see that the Democrats and President Obama are now, because of me, starting to deport people who are here illegally. Politics!"

T4: "As President, I WILL fix this rigged system and only answer to YOU, the American people!"

Preprocessing (e.g. tokens, normalisation, removing common words [1] and punctuation)

T1: "will" "continue" "bring" "people" "together" "will" "allow" "Donald" "Trumps" "world" "divide" "us" "up"

T2: "got" "politics" "figure" "become" "president" "got" "politics" "give" "damn"

T3: "everyone" "see" "democrats" "president" "Obama" "now" "starting" "deport" "people" "illegally" "politics"

T4: "president" "will" "fix" "rigged" "system" "answer" "American" "people"

[1] eg: https://www.ranks.nl/stopwords

Count occurrence of tokens

e.g. Author identification

<u>Tokens</u> Tweets	politics	president	people	become	together	deport	
T1	0	0	1	1	1	0	
T2	2	1	0	0	0	0	
Т3	1	1	1	0	0	1	
T 4	0	1	1	0	0	0	

T1: [001110...]

- This representation is called a bag of words model.
- Set of all tokens is called a dictionary.
- Vectorising a sentence means expressing the sentence in a vector.
 - We saw how to express a sentence in terms of a dictionary, by counting the occurrences.

Instead of a raw count of word appearance, we can have a better way to represent the words.

Term frequency-inverse document frequency is a numerical statistic that intends to reflect how important a word is to a document class in a collection of documents.

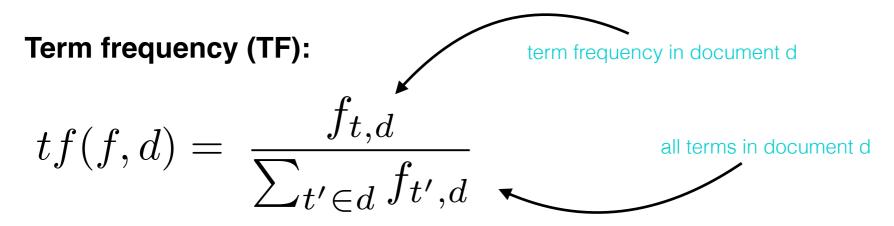
Term frequency (TF):

$$tf(f,d) = \frac{f_{t,d}}{\sum_{t' \in d} f_{t',d}}$$

Inverse document frequency (IDF):

$$idf(t,D) = \log \frac{N}{|\{d \in D : t \in d\}|}$$

$$tf(f,d) \times idf(t,D)$$



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total number of documents

number of documents in which term t appears

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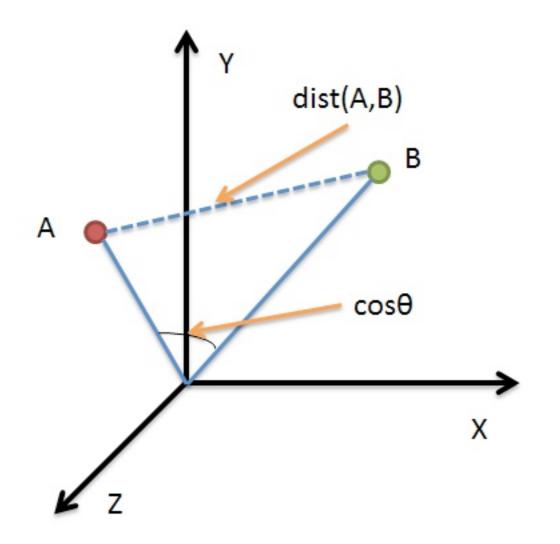
$$tf(f,d) \times idf(t,D)$$

<u>Tokens</u> Tweets	politics	president	people	become	together	deport	
T1	0	0	1	1	1	0	
T2	2	1	0	0	0	0	

The representation of a set of documents as vectors living in the same vector space is known as the *vector space model*.

Note that a word is encoded with one-hot vector:

And a sentence can be given by the sum of the one-hot vector of the words in the sentence.



With this mathematical representation we can for instance, ask how similar Tweet A is to Tweet B.

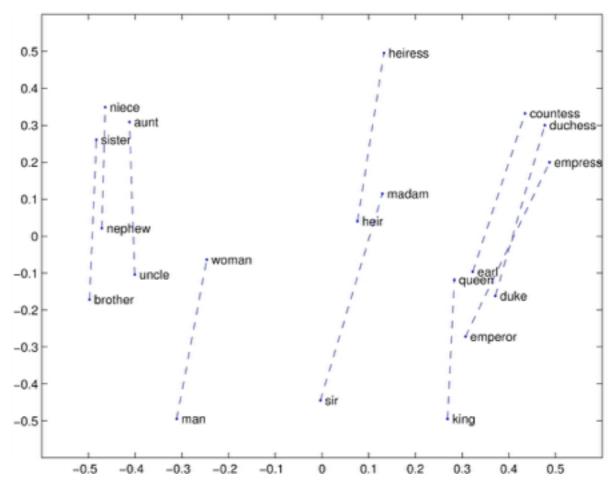
e.g. Euclidean norm or cosine distance.

Word embeddings:

- Words are mapped to vectors: embed a space with one dimension per word to a continuous vector space with lower dimension.
- Semantically similar words are mapped to nearby points

e.g: using word2vec[1]

[1]https://code.google.com/archive/p/ word2vec/



0.5

Word embeddings:

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- Semantically similar words are mapped to nearby points

e.g: using word2vec[1]

[1]https://code.google.com/archive/p/word2vec/

each word is now represented with a smaller dimensional vector and not with a one-hot vector!

How to generate a word embedding?

Assumption: words occurring in similar context have similar meanings.

A **language model** uses previous words to predict the distribution of the next word.

i.e: to get the next word, we maximize the log likelihood:

$$P(w_n|w_{n-1}...w_1)$$



We can write a co-occurrence matrix:

e.g: "I like deep learning", "I like NLP", "I enjoy flying"

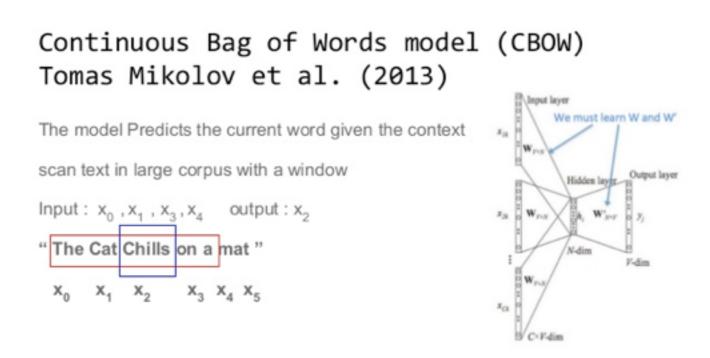
	1	like	deep	learning	NLP	enjoy	flying
1	0	2	0	0	0	1	0
like	2	0	1	0	1	0	0
deep	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
learning	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
NLP	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
enjoy	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
flying	0	0	0	0	0	1	0

reduce matrix dimensionality, e.g. PCA

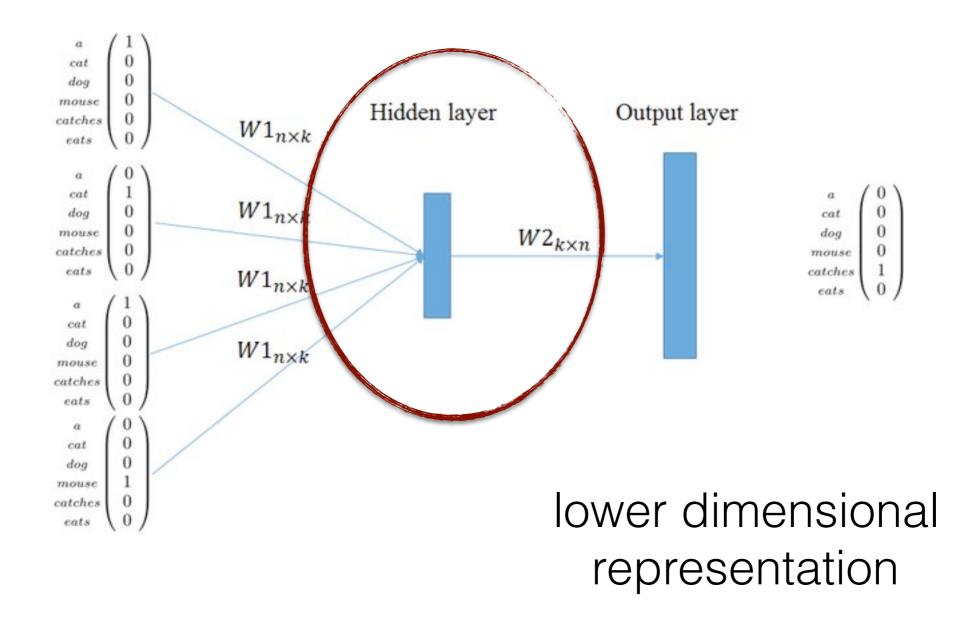
The intuition is that words which occur a similar context might be similar

[1] https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ASn7ExxLZws

Another way to generate a word embedding is by using neural networks:



Here we learn a language model, given some context, returns the most likely word. Between the input and output there is a hidden layer of smaller dimension which generates a representation of each word in the context. This is the word embedding.



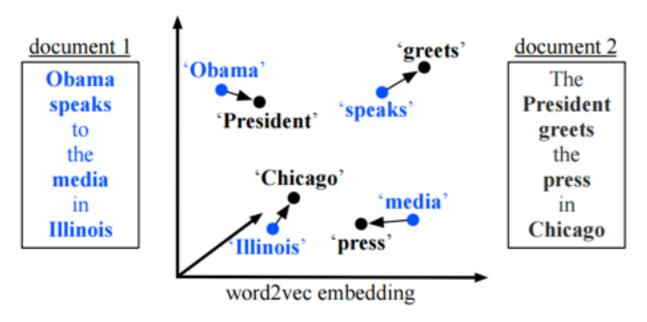
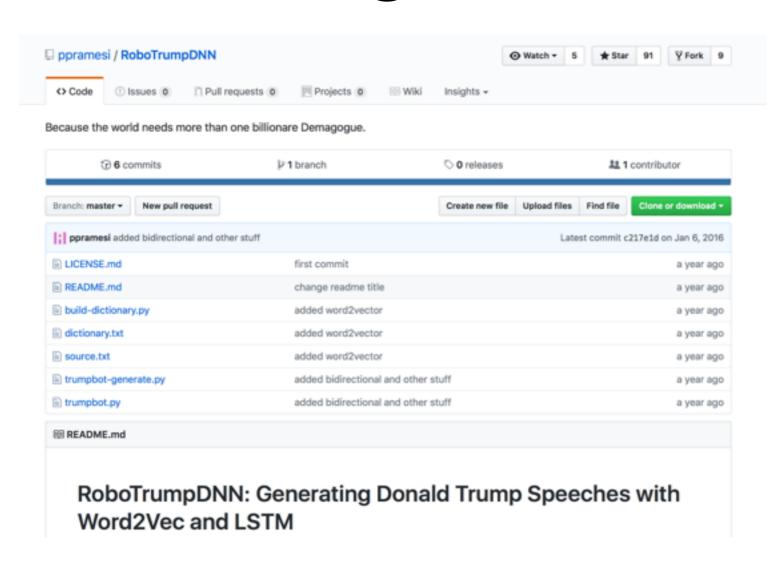


Figure 1. An illustration of the word mover's distance. All non-stop words (bold) of both documents are embedded into a word2vec space. The distance between the two documents is the minimum cumulative distance that all words in document 1 need to travel to exactly match document 2. (Best viewed in color.)

 does not require exact match of words, good capturing similarity between synonyms!

Using a language model to generate text



Output:

"rich. it was terrible. but saudi arabia, they make a billion dollars a day. i was the king. i was the king. i was the smartest person in yemen, we have to get to business. i have to say, but he was an early starter. and we have to get to business. i have to say, donald, i can't believe it."

https://github.com/ppramesi/RoboTrumpDNN

What we talked about so far...

- Traditional ways in Natural Language processing to split up a sentence (tokenise) and normalise lemmatise and find the stem of words
- 2. Representing sentences as vectors (Count or TFIDF) or collection of vectors (word embeddings)

Let's imagine the task of identifying authors of Tweets.

T1: "We will continue to bring people together. We will not allow the Donald Trumps of the world to divide us up." (Sanders)

T2: "I got into politics not to figure out how to become President. I got into politics because I give a damn." (Sanders)

T3: "Does everyone see that the Democrats and President Obama are now, because of me, starting to deport people who are here illegally. Politics!" (Trump)

T4: "As President, I WILL fix this rigged system and only answer to YOU, the American people!" (Trump)

T5: "Funny to hear the Democrats talking about the National Debt when President Obama doubled it in only 8 years!" (?)

Text classification:

Input:

- document d
- fixed set of classes **C** = {**c1**, **c2**,..., **cJ**}
- A training set of m hand-labeled documents (d1,c1),....,
 (dm,cm)

Output:

• a learner classifier $\gamma:d \to c$

Text classification:

Input:

document d



- fixed set of classes **C** = {**c1**, **c2**,..., **cJ**}
- A training set of m hand-labeled documents (d1,c1),....,
 (dm,cm)

Output:

• a learner classifier $\gamma:d \to c$

A set of tweets from Trump and a set of tweets from Sanders

Text classification

Classifier: Naive bayes

- Simple classification method based on Bayes rule
- Relies on very simple representation of document:
 Bag of words

e.g: "John eats an apple" -> [0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 1]

For a document d and a class c:

$$P(c|d) = \frac{P(d|c)P(c)}{P(d)}$$

$$c_{MAP} = \arg\max_{c \in C} P(c|d)$$
 finds class c which maximises this conditional probability
$$= \arg\max_{c \in C} \frac{P(d|c)P(c)}{P(d)}$$
 Bayes rule
$$\propto \arg\max_{c \in C} P(d|c)P(c)$$

$$c_{MAP} \propto \arg \max_{c \in C} P(d|c)P(c)$$

$$= \arg \max_{c \in C} P(x_1, x_2, ..., x_n|c)P(c)$$

tweet is represented by a vector

$$c_{MAP} \propto \arg \max_{c \in C} P(d|c)P(c)$$

$$= \arg \max_{c \in C} P(x_1, x_2, ..., x_n|c)P(c)$$

Assuming conditional independence between words

$$P(x_1, x_2, ..., x_n | c) = P(x_1 | c) \cdot P(x_2 | c) \cdot ... \cdot P(x_n | c)$$

NAIVE!
$$c_{NB} = \arg \max_{c \in C} P(c) \prod_{x \in X} P(x|c)$$

$$c_{NB} = \arg\max_{c \in C} P(c) \prod_{x \in X} P(x|c)$$

We need to estimate the probabilities P(c) and P(x|c)

Maximum likelihood estimates:

$$\hat{P}(c_j) = \frac{|\{d \text{ s.t. label}(d) = c_j\}|}{N}$$

$$\hat{P}(x_i|c_j) = \frac{count(x_i, c_j)}{\sum_{x \in V} count(w, c_j)}$$

proportion of documents in class c_j in the training set

fraction of times word x_i appears among all words in documents of topic c_j

$$\hat{P}(x_i|c_j) = \frac{count(x_i, c_j)}{\sum_{x \in V} count(w, c_j)}$$

fraction of times word x_i appears among all words in documents of topic c_j

What if x_i never appears in a document of class c_j ?

$$\hat{P}(x_i|c_j) = \frac{count(x_i, c_j) + 1}{(\sum_{x \in V} count(x, c_j) + 1)}$$

Laplace smoothing

Let's imagine the task of identifying authors of Tweets.

T1: "We will continue to bring people together. We will not allow the Donald Trumps of the world to divide us up." (Sanders)

T2: "I got into politics not to figure out how to become President. I got into politics because I give a damn." (Sanders)

T3: "Does everyone see that the Democrats and President Obama are now, because of me, starting to deport people who are here illegally. Politics!" (Trump)

T4: "As President, I WILL fix this rigged system and only answer to YOU, the American people!" (Trump)

T5: "Funny to hear the Democrats talking about the National Debt when President Obama doubled it in only 8 years!" (?)

	Doc	Words	Class
Training	1	"will" "continue" "bring" "people" "together" "will" "allow" "Donald" "Trumps" "world" "divide" "us" "up"	Sanders
	2	"got" "politics" "figure" "become" "president" "got" "politics" "give" "damn"	Sanders
	3	"everyone" "see" "democrats" "president" "Obama" "now" "starting" "deport" "people" "illegally" "politics"	Trump
	4	"president" "will" "fix" "rigged" "system" "answer" "American" "people"	Trump
Test	5	"funny" "hear" "democrats" "talking" "national" "debt" "president" "Obama" "doubled" "8" "years"	?

$$\hat{P}(c) = \frac{N_c}{N}$$

$$\hat{P}(x|c) = \frac{count(x,c) + 1}{count(c) + |V|}$$

	Doc	Words	Class
Training	1	"people" "together" "Donald" "Trumps" "divide"	Sanders
	2	"politics" "president" "politics" "damn"	Sanders
	3	"democrats" "president" "Obama" "people" "illegally" "politics"	Trump
	4	"president" "American" "people"	Trump
Test	5	"democrats" "president" "Obama"	?

$$\hat{P}(c) = \frac{N_c}{N}$$

$$\hat{P}(x|c) = \frac{count(x,c) + 1}{count(c) + |V|}$$

$$\hat{P}("Sanders") = 0.5$$

$$\hat{P}("Trump") = 0.5$$

$$\hat{P}("democrats"|"Sanders") = \frac{0+1}{9+12}$$

$$\hat{P}("democrats"|"Trump") = \frac{1+1}{9+12}$$

	Doc	Words	Class
Training	1	"people" "together" "Donald" "Trumps" "divide"	Sanders
	2	"politics" "president" "politics" "damn"	Sanders
	3	"democrats" "president" "Obama" "people" "illegally" "politics"	Trump
	4	"president" "American" "people"	Trump
Test	5	"democrats" "president" "Obama"	?

$$c_{NB} = \arg\max_{c \in C} P(c) \prod_{x \in X} P(x|c)$$

$$\hat{P}(T5|"Trump") \approx 0.00087$$

$$\hat{P}(T5|"Sanders") \approx 0.00013$$

$$\hat{P}("Sanders") = 0.5$$

$$\hat{P}("Trump") = 0.5$$

$$\hat{P}("democrats"|"Sanders") = \frac{0+1}{9+12}$$

$$\hat{P}("democrats"|"Trump") = \frac{1+1}{9+12}$$

Naive Bayes

Naive Bayes classifiers can use any sort of feature:

e.g: URL, email address, dictionaries, network features...

But only word features

Naive Bayes

- Very fast, low storage requirements
- Good in domains with many equally important features
 - Decision Trees suffer from fragmentation in such cases – especially if not much data
- In general, a good dependable baseline for text classification

Other classifiers

- SVM
- Random Forest
- Adaboost
- Neural networks

Text classification - Pipeline

- 1. From training corpus, extract **dictionary** (set of unique words).
- 2. Create **vectoriser** to transform documents into vectors
- 3. Using Training data {(d,c)}, train a classifier of choice
 - 1. To avoid overfitting a dataset (learning a function which performs well on the dataset but generalises poorly), do **cross-validation**. The training procedure is repeated on a subset of the training data and evaluated on the excluded training data.
- 4. Given a test set {d'}
 - 1. vectorise documents using **vectoriser**
 - 2. use trained classifier to predict class:
 - 1. Find the label c which maximises probability P(c|d)

Text classification

- Document classification
- 2. Sentiment analysis (good, bad, neutral)
- 3. Fake news detection (true, false, unverified)
- 4. Spam detection
- 5. Part of speech tagging (e.g. John → noun, eats → verb . . .)

and more!

Unsupervised learning

Essentially: there are no explicit labels

Examples of unsupervised learning are:

- clustering
- learning word embeddings (as seen before!)
- topic modelling
- summarisation
- query generation
- retrieval
- text generation

Document Similarity

 We want to find documents which are similar to each other (common in search) but we don't necessarily have labelled data

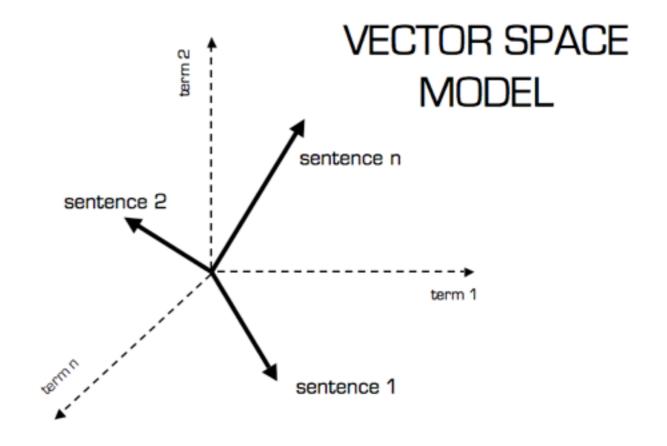
e.g:

- Information retrieval problem:
 - Issue search query Q
 - Find set of documents {d} which are relevant to query Q

Document Similarity

 Suppose we have a vector representation of **Q** and documents {**d**}.

- d = [1 1 1 0 1 0 1 ...]
- These live in a vector space.
- We can compute the distance between two vectors using the cosine distance



 $\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b} = \|\vec{a}\| \|\vec{b}\| \cos \theta$ $\cos \theta = \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}}{\|\vec{a}\| \|\vec{b}\|}$

intuition: how well does Q 'represent' d?

Topic modelling

- Problem to solve: Given a set of documents, can we extract 'topics' from them?
- LDA (Latent Dirichlet Analysis):
 - A document is a mixture of various topics
 - Each word in a document belongs to a topic
 - A Bayesian inference model that associates each document with a probability distribution over topics, where topics are probability distributions over words

Accuracy:

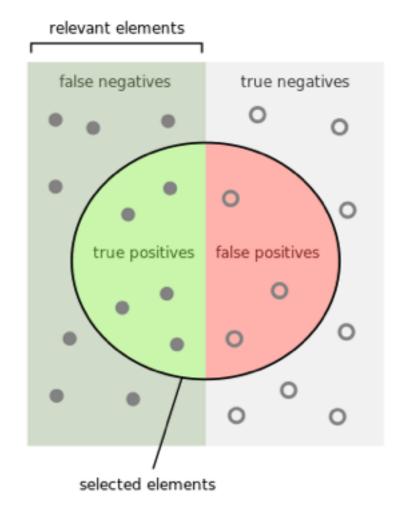
$$\frac{TP + TN}{total}$$

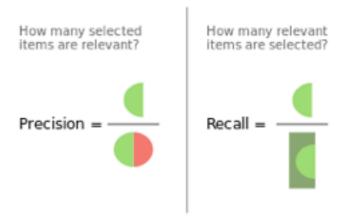
Precision:

$$\frac{TP}{TP + FP}$$

• Recall:

$$\frac{TP}{TP + FN}$$





Accuracy:

$$\frac{TP + TN}{total}$$

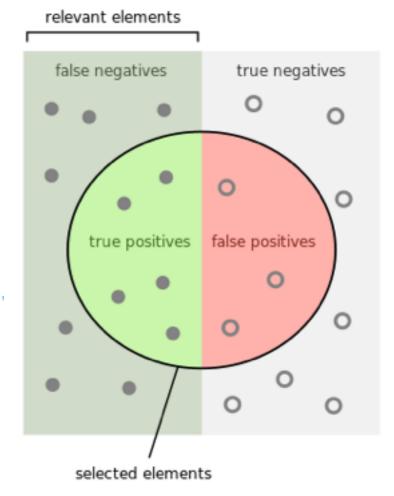
Precision:

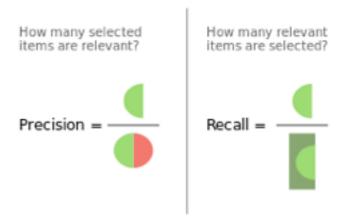
out of the things we said were positive, how many are actually positive?

$$\frac{TP}{TP + FP}$$

• Recall:

$$\frac{TP}{TP + FN}$$





Accuracy:

$$\frac{TP + TN}{total}$$

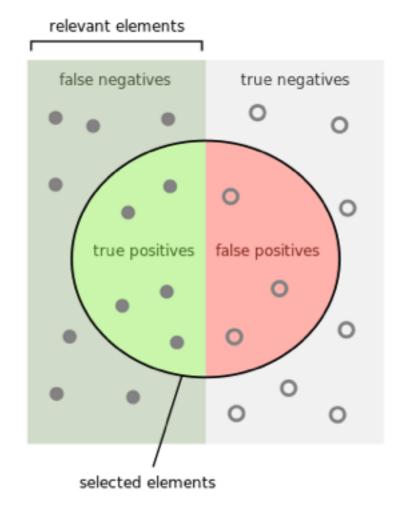
Precision:

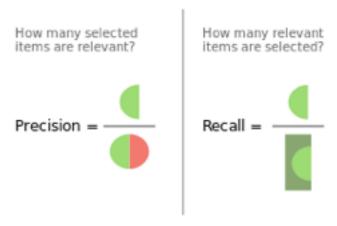
$$\frac{TP}{TP + FP}$$

• Recall:

$$\frac{TP}{TP + FN}$$

how many positives did we measure out of all the positives that exist?





Accuracy:

$$\frac{TP + TN}{total}$$

Precision:

$$\frac{TP}{TP + FP}$$

• Recall:

$$\frac{TP}{TP + FN}$$

True labels: 99% false 1% true

If I always predict false: Accuracy: 99%

Precision: 0%

Recall: 0%

If I over predict the true label:

Accuracy: <99%

Precision: >0%

Recall: >0%

