Text Classification and Naïve Bayes

The Task of Text Classification



Is this spam?

Subject: Important notice!

From: Stanford University <newsforum@stanford.edu>

Date: October 28, 2011 12:34:16 PM PDT

To: undisclosed-recipients:;

Greats News!

You can now access the latest news by using the link below to login to Stanford University News Forum.

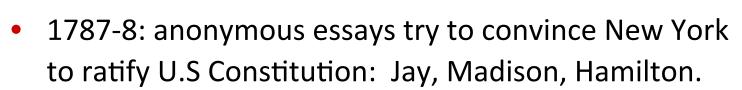
http://www.123contactform.com/contact-form-StanfordNew1-236335.html

Click on the above link to login for more information about this new exciting forum. You can also copy the above link to your browser bar and login for more information about the new services.

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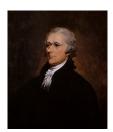
Who wrote which Federalist papers?



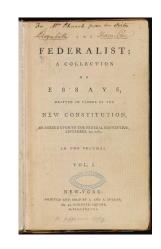
- Authorship of 12 of the letters in dispute
- 1963: solved by Mosteller and Wallace using Bayesian methods



James Madison



Alexander Hamilton





Male or female author?

- 1. By 1925 present-day Vietnam was divided into three parts under French colonial rule. The southern region embracing Saigon and the Mekong delta was the colony of Cochin-China; the central area with its imperial capital at Hue was the protectorate of Annam...
- 2. Clara never failed to be astonished by the extraordinary felicity of her own name. She found it hard to trust herself to the mercy of fate, which had managed over the years to convert her greatest shame into one of her greatest assets...

S. Argamon, M. Koppel, J. Fine, A. R. Shimoni, 2003. "Gender, Genre, and Writing Style in Formal Written Texts," Text, volume 23, number 3, pp. 321–346



Positive or negative movie review?



unbelievably disappointing



 Full of zany characters and richly applied satire, and some great plot twists



this is the greatest screwball comedy ever filmed



• It was pathetic. The worst part about it was the boxing scenes.



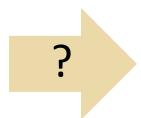
What is the subject of this article?

MEDLINE Article



MeSH Subject Category Hierarchy

- Antogonists and Inhibitors
- Blood Supply
- Chemistry
- Drug Therapy
- Embryology
- Epidemiology
- ...





Text Classification

- Assigning subject categories, topics, or genres
- Spam detection
- Authorship identification
- Age/gender identification
- Language Identification
- Sentiment analysis
- •



Text Classification: definition

- Input:
 - a document d
 - a fixed set of classes $C = \{c_1, c_2, ..., c_J\}$
- Output: a predicted class $c \in C$



Classification Methods: Hand-coded rules

- Rules based on combinations of words or other features
 - spam: black-list-address OR ("dollars" AND"have been selected")
- Accuracy can be high
 - If rules carefully refined by expert
- But building and maintaining these rules is expensive



Classification Methods: Supervised Machine Learning

- Input:
 - a document d
 - a fixed set of classes $C = \{c_1, c_2, ..., c_J\}$
 - A training set of m hand-labeled documents $(d_1, c_1), \dots, (d_m, c_m)$
- Output:
 - a learned classifier $y:d \rightarrow c$



Classification Methods: Supervised Machine Learning

- Any kind of classifier
 - Naïve Bayes
 - Logistic regression
 - Support-vector machines
 - k-Nearest Neighbors

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