Introduction to Digital Libraries Assignment #3

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1 Introduction

Assignment #3 required comparing the downloaded webpages from assignment #1 with and without the HTML templates[2]. I attempted to remove HTML templates using jusText, a heuristic boilerplate removal tool[1]. The input and output text of jusText was compared and jusText's performance was analysed.

2 Methodology

I wrote two scripts for this utility, both of which are available in my git repository on GitHub¹.

2.1 jusText

The first step of this assignment was to run the webpages through jusText. To facilitate this, I generated a couple lists and wrote a utility. Listing 2.1 show how I generated a list of all files in my tweets directory.

```
Listing 2-1: Generating list of files in tweets directory find ./tweets/ > tweets_file_list
```

Listing 2.2 shows how I generated the list of unique final URIs. The utility used is one I created in assignment #1.

```
Listing 2-2: Generating list of unique final URIs
./summary.py -r tweets.summary.json -Mm 10000 \
> uniq_final_uris
```

Both of these lists are hard-coded in the *run_boilerpipe.py* utility shown in Listing 2.3. This utility identifies one representation of each unique final URI, and runs boilerpipe on that instance. It is necessary to filter the input, because I carelessly downloaded multiple copies of the same resource in the first assignment. The output from boilerpipe is saved in a *boilerpipe.output* file in the same directory as the previously saved representation.

./run_boilerpipe.py

¹https://github.com/jamesbtate/cs851-s15

This utility makes one call to the jusText command in Listing 2.4 for each input file. The values *output-file* and *input-file* were automatically replaced with the correct values on each call.

```
Listing 2-4: Actual jusText command

python -m justext -s English -o output-file input-file
```

2.2 Word Counts

The second part of this assignment asked for the frequency of terms in the input and output to jusText. To easily calculate this data, I concatenated the unique downloaded representations into one file, and the same representations after they were processed by jusText into another file. These concatenations are shown in Listing 2.5. The extra *echo* "" is there to make sure any downloaded representations without a trailing newline are properly delimited from the next representation. Otherwise, there would be a potential to erroneously combine the last word of one document with the first word in the next document.

Listing 2-5: Concatenating input and output data.

The two concatenations, *concat_boilerpipe* and *concat_original*, were processed twice each by the *word_count.py* utility as shown in Listing 2.6. The default behaviour is to treat any term separated by whitespace as a "word" and to count the frequency of each unique "word," after converting all text to lowercase. With the *-l* flag, only consecutive letters, apostrophes and hyphens are treated as words. Apostrophes and hyphens are only accepted if they immediately follow a letter.

Listing 2-6: Concatenating input and output data.

3 Statistics

Appendices

A Streaming API Filter Keywords

These keywords were selected arbitrarily. Keywords were added to the list until the streaming API seemed to pull tweets at a strong, consistent rate.

• python	woodworking	• json
• fsf	ullet blizzard	• lemonade
• foss	• snowstorm	• woodchuck
• coding	• colorado	• iasip
programming	• virginia	
• fedora	• internet	• league
• rhel	library	• awesomenaut

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References

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[1] Michael Belica. jusText 2.1.0. https://pypi.python.org/pypi/jusText/2.1.0, 2014. Accessed: 2015-03-27.

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[2] James Tate II. CS 751 Assignment #3. 2015.