Computational Analysis of Classical Texts

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Lati 318 — Cicero: *De Re Publica* Rice University

- 1. Getting and Cleaning the Data
- 2. Exploratory Text Analysis
- 3. Keyword Extraction: Frequency Count and TextRank
- 4. Predicting Missing Text: LSTM Neural Networks

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Getting and Cleaning the Data

- Text obtained from *The Latin Library* at the sentence level:
 - ['nempe', 'ab', 'iis', 'qui', 'haec', 'disciplinis', 'informata', 'alia', 'moribus', 'confirmarunt', ',', 'sanxerunt', 'autem', 'alia', 'legibus', '.']
- Cleaned up messy elements of data:
 - Line numbers: [1,2,...,71]
 - Angle brackets: ['&', 'lt', ';', 'im>', ';', 'petu', 'liberavissent', ',', 'nec',...]
 - < should be < > should be >
 - Hyphens encoded as &#
 - English words: ['Cicero', 'The', 'Latin', 'Library', 'The', 'Classics', 'Page']

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Exploratory Text Analysis: Tokenization and POS Tagging

- Map each word to its base form (*lemma* or *token*) and its POS
- Often ignore stop words ('et', 'sum', etc.) highlighted in red

Exploratory Text Analysis

Number of characters: 109,777

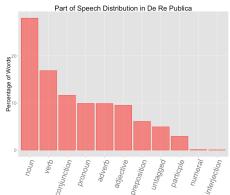
Number of words: 20,067

• Number of sentences: 820

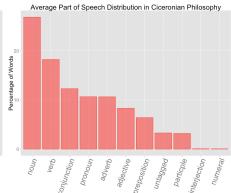
(average: 136,893)

(average: 24,924)

(average: 1,059)



Part of Speech



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Keyword Extraction: Frequency Count

- Goal: Determine a set of keywords that summarizes the text
- Naive approach: Take words in text with highest frequency

Word	Frequency	Word	Frequency
res	191	magnus	74
publicus	163	civitas	72
Scipio	110	bonus	70
populus	103	Laelius	66
homo	94	rex	51

Note: Restricted to nouns and adjectives only

 Problem: Does not account for structure of text and relationships between words

Keyword Extraction: TextRank

TextRank is a popular keyword extraction algorithm that determines the importance of a keyword based on its relationship to other keywords.

- Step 1: Build graph representing text
- Step 2: Run keyword extraction algorithm on graph
- Step 3: Merge neighboring keywords and recompute scores

TextRank: Step 1 (Build graph representing text)

```
['nempe', 'ab', 'iis', 'qui', 'haec', 'disciplinis', 'informata', 'alia',
'moribus', 'confirmarunt', ',', 'sanxerunt', 'autem', 'alia', 'legibus',
                                  1.1
[('nempe', 'adverb'), ('ab', 'preposition'), ('is', 'pronoun'), ('qui',
  'pronoun'), ('hic', 'pronoun'), ('disciplina', 'noun'), ('informo',
'noun'), ('alius2', 'adjective'), ('mos', 'noun'), ('confirmo', 'verb'),
 ('sancio', 'verb'), ('autem', 'conjunction'), ('alius2', 'adjective'),
                            ('lex', 'noun')]
 [('disciplina', 'noun'), ('informo', 'noun'), ('alius2', 'adjective'),
                    ('mos', 'noun'), ('lex', 'noun')]
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