

Goals

- 1. Familiarising with the set of Python libraries for NLP
- Appreciating the use cases of the individual Python libraries for NLP

Python has many libraries for NLP













Topic Modeling Tools for Python

Research tools for small projects

NLTK

Key features

- It is the most popular Python library for NLP.
- Exceptionally well-documented
- A Swiss-army knife can achieve a very diverse set of tasks (from tokenisation, through First order Logic, to sentiment analysis).
- It does not excel at any, though.

- Education/research.
- Low-memory intensive applications.
- Many text pre-processing tasks.
- Many text analysis tasks.

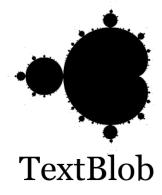


TextBlob

Key features

- It builds on NLTK.
- It provides high-level functionalities to get the sentiment scores of words and sentences.
- It implements also sentiment analysis via Naïve Bayes Classifier.

- Education/research.
- Low-memory intensive applications.
- Some text pre-processing
- 'Quick & dirty' sentiment score analysis and classification.



NLP pipelines

spaCy

Key features

- Production-oriented library with an emphasis on efficiency, reliability, and transparency.
- Known for wide inter-operability it integrates with PyTorch, Tensorflow, Stanford's GloVe embedding model, and CoreNLP/Stanza.
- It is the centre of a constellation of libraries, called spaCy Universe.
- It runs on GPUs too.
- Cutting-edge documentation.

- Industry application.
- Text pre-processing.
- Text manipulation.
- Front-end to train statistical models of language.
- Training/fine-tuning statistical models of language.



CoreNLP / Stanza

Key features

- Overall, it offers a set of features comparable to spaCy.
- It is written in Java it can be accessed from a variety of languages (e.g., Go, R, Ruby).
- Python's interface to CoreNLP comes as an independent library called Stanza.

- Industry application.
- Text pre-processing.
- Few text analysis options via additional tools (e.g., sentiment analysis).



Topic modeling

Gensim

Key features

- It offers several features to estimate the Latent Semantic Index and topic models.
- It also allows training word embeddings via word2vec and FastText.
- Efficient in reading/writing text corpora.
- Mature and robust library.

- For research and industry application.
- Text analysis: discovering hidden themes in text corpora (via LSI or LDA).
- Modelling training: training word and document embeddings.



Tomotopy

Key features

- Specialistic software for topic modelling
- It integrates the latest research developments in topic modelling.
- It implements many different flavours of topic modelling (e.g., LDA, dynamic topic modelling, correlated topics models, hierarchical topic models).
- Very efficient the library is a Python wrapper around C++ code.

- For research and practice.
- Text analysis: Topic modelling estimation.



Generalist libraries

scikit-learn

Key features

- The industry standard ML library implements a few NLP tools, such as LDA.
- On top of that, it complements
 NLP libraries by offering
 numerous post-processing
 capabilities (e.g., scikit-learn may
 be used after Tomotopy to
 analyse doc2topic probabilities).

- For research and industry applications.
- Text analysis (e.g., LDA).
- Post-processing of text analysis outcome achieved with specialised NLP libraries.



PyTorch

Key features

- PyTorch, the acclaimed framework for deep learning, has an NLP library called TorchText
- TorchText offers data processing utilities and model training capabilities

- Both for research and industry application
- Text pre-processing
- Training statistical models of language



Wrap-up

Main points

Python has one of the richest NLP ecosystems

Here, I alluded to a fraction of established NLP libraries for Python

Altogether, these libraries cover the entire NLP spectrum, from data pre-processing, though model training, to dedicates text analysis tools

It is worth notice that some of the libraries I mentioned are substitutes of similar value (e.g., spaCy and CoreNLP)