

# Natural Language Processing and Python

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# About Me

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# Today's Agenda

- ▶ What is Natural Language Processing and where is it useful?
- ▶ NLP in Python - overview
- ▶ NLP and Python: Practical examples

# What is NLP?

1. NLP is a sub-field of Artificial intelligence that is concerned with analyzing, modeling and understanding human language using computational methods.
2. It explores how humans can interact with computers in human languages
3. The eventual goal is to make computers understand (and generate) human languages, and make them communicate with humans like humans

# Where is NLP used in real-world?

1. Apple Siri and other such software that can understand and interpret human speech (okay, partially)
  2. Google Translate and the likes
  3. Search Engines
  4. Question Answering (e.g., IBM Watson)
  5. News recommendation - related articles features in News websites
  6. Sentiment analysis of product reviews on Amazon, for example
  7. Spam classification in Gmail, Yahooemail etc
  8. Information extraction from text (e.g., identifying calendar entries automatically in gmail)
  9. Dialog systems (having interactive conversations with users, to do flight bookings etc)
  10. Spelling and grammar checkers
- ... and many more.

What makes NLP challenging (and useful)?

... to understand that, let us look at some of the tasks involved through some fun video demos of cutting edge technologies.

# Where is NLP useful? -1

Google Home demo

Girl: Okay Google, what's apples in Spanish?

Google: (answers)

\*\*\*\*\*

Woman: Change my dinner reservation tonight, 7:30 to 8pm.

Google: Your reservation for XXX is confirmed for 8pm.

source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2KpLHdAURGo>

# Where is NLP useful? -2

## Maluuba reading comprehension demo

Machine reading comprehension is this task where machine reads a text and answers questions about it.

Let us watch this demo video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5UXsPtyBlhs>

Another Maluuba demo about reading stories and news articles (watch later):

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QUwsAP015\\_U](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QUwsAP015_U)



# Where is NLP useful? -3

from 2011: Watson beats humans in Jeopardy

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WFR3l0m\\_xhE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WFR3l0m_xhE)

# Okay, this is HCI - where is NLP?

The eventual applications involve spoken interactions with humans, but to develop such applications, that machine should be able to process text and understand it. Without that happening in the background, the foreground will not exist!

## Some NLP tasks

# Let us take a small text snippet

“I’m not big, I’m not fancy,” she said as she sat in a booth, looking out the window to Lincoln Way. “But I don’t mind.”

Chinese Homestyle Cooking’s owners, Tina and Chung Song, have run the restaurant for almost 20 years from the small building off the corner of Sheldon Avenue and Lincoln Way. But in late October, they’ll close their business when the lease on their building runs out.

Tina’s start in the restaurant business came in 1982, when she emigrated from Taiwan and began working as a waitress for her sister’s restaurants in Des Moines and Ankeny. While in the U.S., she got a call from Chung, who she had grown up with as a child in their home country.

Source: Ames Tribune (<http://goo.gl/zvx9Uw>)

1. When she says “I” in the first sentence, does she mean herself literally?

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1. When she says “I” in the first sentence, does she mean herself literally?
2. What is she referring to? When will we know what is she referring to?

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3. Who is "She"?

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2. What is she referring to? When will we know what is she referring to?
3. Who is "She"?
4. What is "home country" in the last sentence?

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1. What is the main event of this text?
2. What is "Chinese Homestyle Cooking" referring to?

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1. What is the main event of this text?
2. What is "Chinese Homestyle Cooking" referring to?
3. What is the relationship between "Chinese Homestyle cooking" and Tina?

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1. What is the main event of this text?
2. What is "Chinese Homestyle Cooking" referring to?
3. What is the relationship between "Chinese Homestyle cooking" and Tina?
4. Is Lincoln Way something related to President Lincoln?

Each question I asked is an NLP problem which is not completely solved yet!

# NLP and Python

# Some libraries I will use today

- ▶ For linguistic analysis: NLTK, gensim, spacy
- ▶ For using machine learning with language data: sklearn, tensorflow, keras
- ▶ Dataset for text classification: IMDB dataset available in Keras
- ▶ Text generation example: textrnn library

Code and details at:

<https://github.com/nishkalavallabhi/MBDS2018-NLPTutorial>

# Some NLP tasks: Tokenization

- ▶ Sentence level tokenization: splitting a text into sentences
- ▶ Word level tokenization: splitting a text into tokens (words, punctuations etc)

# Tokenization and Python

```
from nltk.tokenize import sent_tokenize, word_tokenize
content = open("text1.txt").read()
sentences = sent_tokenize(content)
for sentence in sentences:
    words_in_this_sentence = word_tokenize(sentence)
    print(sentence)
    print(words_in_this_sentence)
```

Note: My examples are with English texts. But, many of these tools work for a few other languages too.



# Some NLP tasks: Pattern Extraction

- ▶ Task: Extract the language patterns that exist in textual data (e.g., all dates, all phone numbers etc).
- ▶ Regular expressions are very useful for this.
- ▶ More advanced methods (which rely on machine learning) exist to extract unknown patterns from unstructured text documents.

# Simple Pattern Extraction Example

```
import re
pattern = re.compile("\d{3}-\d{3}-\d{4}")
string = open("text3.txt").read()
matches = re.findall(pattern,string)
print(matches)
```

-What does this do?

# Some NLP tasks: POS Tagging

What is the big deal about automatic tagging?

- ▶ Task: Given a sequence of words, return the POS tags for each word.
- ▶ An example problem: What is the best tag for a word in a context?
  - ▶ I wish to cite this work.  
PRP/I VBP/wish TO/to VB/cite DT/this NN/work ./.
  - ▶ He has a wish.  
PRP/He VBZ/has DT/a NN/wish ./.

# POS Tagging and Python

```
from nltk.tokenize import sent_tokenize, word_tokenize
from nltk.tag import pos_tag
content = open("text1.txt").read()
sentences = sent_tokenize(content)
for sentence in sentences:
    words_in_this_sentence = word_tokenize(sentence.strip())
    print(sentence.strip())
    print(pos_tag(words_in_this_sentence))
    print()
```

## Some NLP tasks: Identifying Named Entities, Noun Chunks etc.

- ▶ Task: Identify words that indicate names of persons/organizations etc. Identify groups of noun words that go together in a sentence.
- ▶ Use: Information Extraction, Answering questions, search etc.
- ▶ Next slide: examples using spaCy Python library.

# Noun Chunk Extraction in Python

```
import spacy
from nltk.tokenize import sent_tokenize

nlp = spacy.load('en_core_web_sm')
content = open("text1.txt").read()
sentences = sent_tokenize(content)
for sentence in sentences:
    print(sentence.strip())
    spacificied = nlp(sentence.strip())
    for nc in spacificied.noun_chunks:
        print(nc)
    print("")
```

Note: You don't have to use nltk here. I am using it just to show you can use parts of different libraries.

# Entity Extraction in Python

```
import spacy
from nltk.tokenize import sent_tokenize

nlp = spacy.load('en_core_web_sm')
content = open("text1.txt").read()
sentences = sent_tokenize(content)
for sentence in sentences:
    print(sentence.strip())
    spacyfied = nlp(sentence.strip())
    for entity in spacyfied.ents:
        print(entity.text, entity.label_, sep="\t")
    print("")
```

# Some Common NLP Tasks: Parsing

- ▶ Goal: Build the syntactic structure of a sentence (phrasal structure, or relationship between words such as subject-object etc)
- ▶ Use: To do many things e.g., understanding the meaning of a sentence, extract information, answer questions etc.

```
import spacy
from spacy import displacy
sentence = nlp("This is a small sentence to show how a
dependency tree looks like.")
displacy.serve(sentence, style='dep')
```



# Some NLP tasks: Language Generation

- ▶ Task: Generate text automatically.
- ▶ Texts should be grammatically and semantically correct. Should be human like.
- ▶ Example uses: Create weather reports, match summaries, reports etc. automatically (without human intervention!)
- ▶ There are some software libraries that support the development of NLG systems for some languages currently.

# Language Generation in Python

```
from textgenrnn import textgenrnn
textgen = textgenrnn()

textgen.train_from_file('obamaspeechescorpus.txt', num_epochs=5)

textgen.generate_samples()
textgen.generate_to_file('generatedobama.txt', n=5)
generated_texts = textgen.generate(n=5, prefix="America",
temperature=0.2, return_as_list=True)
```

Source: <https://github.com/minimaxir/textgenrnn/blob/master/docs/textgenrnn-demo.ipynb> Corpus:

<http://www.thegrammarlab.com/?nor-portfolio=corpus-of-presidential-speeches-cops-and-a-clintontrump-corpus>

# This is not it.

- ▶ Obviously, there are more things you can do, and more challenging ones too.
- ▶ These libraries that I used provide several powerful functions you can use as starting points.
- ▶ Other things you can try:
  - ▶ Google Cloud API (I will show one example)
  - ▶ Microsoft Azure's Cognitive Services API

# Resources

## Online courses etc

1. Coursera course: Introduction to NLP by Dragomir Radev - enrollment recommended.  
<https://www.coursera.org/learn/natural-language-processing>
  - ▶ There are two other courses: one taught by Jurafsky and Manning and another by Michael Collins. I don't think the courses are offered now. You may be able to get lecture videos online somewhere though.
2. Deep Learning for NLP - Stanford course video lectures:  
<https://goo.gl/hU1YNV>

# Text Books

1. Textbook 1: Speech and Language Processing by Jurafsky & Martin (2nd Edition)
  - ▶ 2nd Edition is the actual print book, but 3rd Edition draft chapters are already available for free.  
<https://web.stanford.edu/~jurafsky/slp3/>
2. Textbook 2: Foundations of Statistical Natural Language Processing by Manning and Schütze

## General references, resources etc

- ▶ NACLO website - good resource for some brainstorming about language processing problems.  
<http://www.nacloweb.org/>
- ▶ Access to various publications:  
<http://aclweb.org/anthology/>
- ▶ Information about resources for different languages: ACL Wiki  
<http://www.aclweb.org/aclwiki>
- ▶ Know about other NLP courses around the world etc:  
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- ▶ Lot of code, datasets and tutorials shared on github
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Lot of free resources, tutorials shared online. Lot of new jobs being posted. This is a good time to work in NLP!



Thanks!  
Questions?

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