

# Language Technology

<http://cs.lth.se/edan20/>  
Chapter 5, part 1: Counting Words

Pierre Nugues

Pierre.Nugues@cs.lth.se  
[http://cs.lth.se/pierre\\_nugues/](http://cs.lth.se/pierre_nugues/)

September 5, 2022



# Structure of this Lecture´

The lecture will consist of three parts:

- 1 Word segmentation and word count
- 2 Word sequences
- 3 Word and document representation



# Text Segmentation



Latin inscriptions on the *lapis niger*. *Corpus inscriptionum latinarum*. CIL  
I, 1. Picture from Wikipedia



# Getting the Words from a Text: Tokenization

Arrange a list of characters:

```
[l, i, s, t, ' ', o, f, ' ', c, h, a, r, a, c, t, e, r, s]
```

into words:

```
[list, of, characters]
```

Sometimes tricky:

- Dates: 28/02/96
- Numbers: 9,812.345 (English), 9 812,345 (French and German)  
9.812,345 (Old fashioned French)
- Abbreviations: km/h, m.p.h.,
- Acronyms: S.N.C.F.

Tokenizers use rules (or regexes) or statistical methods.



# Tokenizing in Python: Using the Boundaries

## Simple program

```
import re

one_token_per_line = re.sub(r'\s+', '\n', text)
```

## Punctuation

```
import regex as re

spaced_tokens = re.sub(r'([\p{S}\p{P}])', r' \1 ', text)
one_token_per_line = re.sub(r'\s+', '\n', spaced_tokens)
```



# Tokenizing in Python: Using the Content

## Simple program

```
import regex as re

re.findall(r'\p{L}+', text)
```

## Punctuation

```
spaced_tokens = re.sub(r'([\p{S}\p{P}]]', r' \1 ', text)
re.findall(r'[\p{S}\p{P}\p{L}]+', spaced_tokens)
```



# Improving Tokenization

The tokenization algorithm is word-based and defines a content  
It does not work on nomenclatures such as Item #N23-SW32A, dates, or numbers

Instead it is possible to improve it using a boundary-based strategy with spaces (using for instance \s) and punctuation

But punctuation signs like commas, dots, or dashes can also be parts of tokens

Possible improvements using microgrammars

At some point, need of a dictionary:

*Can't* → can n't, *we'll* → we 'll

*J'aime* → j' aime but *aujourd'hui*



# Subword Tokenization Techniques

In a multilingual context, it is often preferable to use a subword tokenization, where variants include:

- Byte-Pair Encoding (BPE)
- WordPiece
- SentencePiece

These techniques use the set of characters and merge them to form words until they have reached a predefined vocabulary size.

Merging is done by frequency and the vocabulary consists then in the most frequent character sequences.

The tokenizer splits the text into subwords. By construction, there is no unknown word.

See here: <https://huggingface.co/course/chapter6/>





# Sentence Segmentation

As for tokenization, segmenters use either rules (or regexes) or statistical methods.

Grefenstette and Tapanainen (1994) used the Brown corpus and experimented increasingly complex rules

Most simple rule: a period corresponds to a sentence boundary: 93.20% correctly segmented

Recognizing numbers:

$[0-9]+(\backslash/[0-9])+$

Fractions, dates

$([+\backslash-])?[0-9]+(\backslash.)?[0-9]*\%$

Percent

$([0-9]+,?)(\backslash.[0-9]+|[0-9])+$

Decimal numbers

93.78% correctly segmented



# Abbreviations

Common patterns (Grefenstette and Tapanainen 1994):

- single capitals: *A.*, *B.*, *C.*,
- letters and periods: *U.S.* *i.e.* *m.p.h.*,
- capital letter followed by a sequence of consonants: *Mr.* *St.* *Assn.*

Regex	Correct	Errors	Full stop
<code>[A-Za-z]\.</code>	1,327	52	14
<code>[A-Za-z]\. ([A-Za-z0-9]\. )+</code>	570	0	66
<code>[A-Z] [bcdfghj-np-tvxz]+\. </code>	1,938	44	26
<b>Totals</b>	<b>3,835</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>106</b>

Correct segmentation increases to 97.66%

With an abbreviation dictionary to 99.07%



# Counting Words With Unix Tools

- ❶ `tr -cs 'A-Za-z' '\n' <input_file |`  
Tokenize the text in `input_file`, where `tr` behaves like Perl `tr`: We have one word per line and the output is passed to the next command.
- ❷ `tr 'A-Z' 'a-z' |`  
Translate the uppercase characters into lowercase letters and pass the output to the next command.
- ❸ `sort |`  
Sort the words. The identical words will be grouped in adjacent lines.
- ❹ `uniq -c |`  
Remove repeated lines. The identical adjacent lines will be replaced with one single line. Each unique line in the output will be preceded by the count of its duplicates in the input file (`-c`).
- ❺ `sort -rn |`  
Sort in the reverse (`-r`) numeric (`-n`) order: Most frequent words first.
- ❻ `head -5`  
Print the five first lines of the file (the five most frequent words).



# Counting Words in Python

```
def tokenize(text):  
    words = re.findall('\p{L}+', text)  
    return words  
  
def count_unigrams(words):  
    frequency = {}  
    for word in words:  
        if word in frequency:  
            frequency[word] += 1  
        else:  
            frequency[word] = 1  
    return frequency
```



# Counting Words in Python (Cont'd)

```
if __name__ == '__main__':  
    text = sys.stdin.read().lower()  
    words = tokenize(text)  
    frequency = count_unigrams(words)  
    for word in sorted(frequency.keys()):  
        print(word, '\t', frequency[word])
```



# Posting Lists

Many websites, such as Wikipedia, index their texts using an inverted index.

Each word in the dictionary is linked to a posting list that gives all the documents where this word occurs and its positions in a document.

## Collection

D1: Chrysler plans new investments in Latin America.

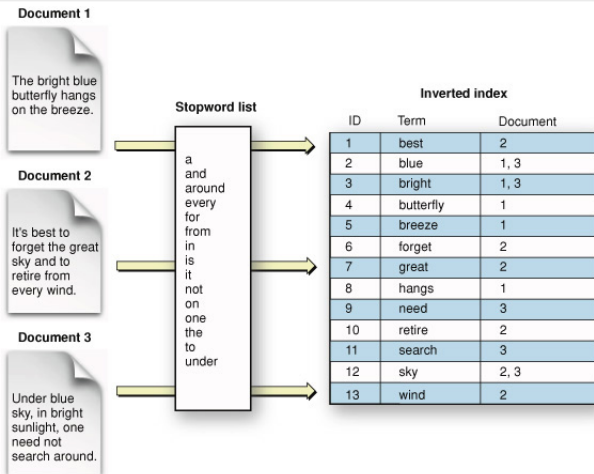
D2: Chrysler plans major investments in Mexico.

## Index

Words	Posting lists
<i>America</i>	(D1, 7)
<i>Chrysler</i>	(D1, 1) → (D2, 1)
<i>in</i>	(D1, 5) → (D2, 5)
<i>investments</i>	(D1, 4) → (D2, 4)
<i>Latin</i>	(D1, 6)
<i>major</i>	(D2, 3)
<i>Mexico</i>	(D2, 6)
<i>new</i>	(D1, 3)
<i>plans</i>	(D1, 2) → (D2, 2)

Lucene is a high quality open-source indexer.

# Inverted Index (Source Apple)



[https://developer.apple.com/library/archive/documentation/UserExperience/Conceptual/SearchKitConcepts/searchKit\\_basics/searchKit\\_basics.html](https://developer.apple.com/library/archive/documentation/UserExperience/Conceptual/SearchKitConcepts/searchKit_basics/searchKit_basics.html)



# Information Retrieval: The Vector Space Model

The vector space model represents a document in a space of words.

<b>Documents</b> <b>\ Words</b>	$w_1$	$w_2$	$w_3$	$\dots$	$w_m$
$D_1$	$C(w_1, D_1)$	$C(w_2, D_1)$	$C(w_3, D_1)$	$\dots$	$C(w_m, D_1)$
$D_2$	$C(w_1, D_2)$	$C(w_2, D_2)$	$C(w_3, D_2)$	$\dots$	$C(w_m, D_2)$
$\dots$					
$D_n$	$C(w_1, D_n)$	$C(w_2, D_n)$	$C(w_3, D_n)$	$\dots$	$C(w_m, D_n)$

It was created for information retrieval to compute the similarity of two documents or to match a document and a query.

We compute the similarity of two documents through their dot product.





# The Vector Space Model: Example

A collection of two documents D1 and D2:

D1: Chrysler plans new investments in Latin America.

D2: Chrysler plans major investments in Mexico.

The vectors representing the two documents:

D.	america	chrysler	in	investments	latin	major	mexico	new	plans
1	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	1	1
2	0	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1

The vector space model represents documents as bags of words (BOW) that do not take the word order into account.

The dot product is  $\mathbf{D1} \cdot \mathbf{D2} = 0 + 1 + 1 + 1 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 0 + 1 = 4$

Their cosine is  $\frac{\mathbf{D1} \cdot \mathbf{D2}}{\|\mathbf{D1}\| \cdot \|\mathbf{D2}\|} = \frac{4}{\sqrt{7} \cdot \sqrt{6}} = 0.62$



Word clouds give visual weights to words



Image: Courtesy of Jonas Wisbrant

# $TF \times IDF$

The frequency alone might be misleading

Document coordinates are in fact  $tf \times idf$ : Term frequency by inverted document frequency.

- Term frequency  $tf_{ij}$ : frequency of term  $j$  in document  $i$
- Inverted document frequency:

$$idf_j = \log\left(\frac{N}{n_j}\right),$$

where  $N$  is the total number of documents in the collection and  $n_j$  is the number of documents, where term  $j$  occurs.



# Document Similarity

Documents are vectors where coordinates could be the count of each word:  $\mathbf{d} = (C(w_1), C(w_2), C(w_3), \dots, C(w_n))$

The similarity between two documents or a query and a document,  $\mathbf{q}$  and  $\mathbf{d}$ , is given by their cosine:

$$\cos(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{d}) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n q_i d_i}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n q_i^2} \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n d_i^2}}.$$

ranging from 0 (orthogonal) to 1 (identical or very similar).



# Categorizing Text

Text categorization (or classification) is a task where we assign one or more classes to a text.

The text size can range from a few words to entire books.

In sentiment analysis (or opinion mining), the goal is to classify judgments or emotions expressed, for instance, in product reviews collected from consumer forums, into three base categories:

- positive,
- negative,
- or neutral;

In spam detection, the categorizer classifies electronic messages into two classes:

- *spam* or
- *no spam*, often called *ham*.



# The Reuters Corpus

The Reuters corpus consists of 800,000 economic newswires in English and about 500,000 in 13 other languages.

Each newswire is manually annotated with one or more topics selected from a set of 103 predefined categories, such as:

C11: STRATEGY/PLANS,

C12: LEGAL/JUDICIAL,

C13: REGULATION/POLICY,

C14: SHARE LISTINGS

etc.

We can apply supervised machine-learning techniques to train classifiers. The training procedure uses a bag-of-words representation of the documents, either with Boolean features, term frequencies, or  $tf \times idf$ , and their classes as input.

Logistic regression is a simple, yet efficient, technique to carry out text classification.

