A QUICK GUIDE TO TOKENIZATION, LEMMATIZATION, STOP WORDS, AND PHRASE MATCHING USING SPACY

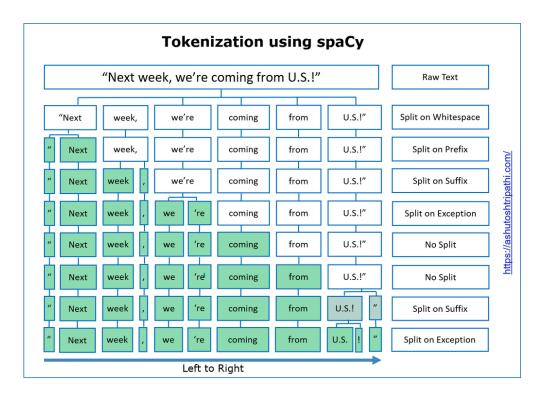
"spaCy" is designed specifically for production use. It helps you build applications that process and "understand" large volumes of text. It can be used to build information extraction or natural language understanding systems, or to pre-process text for deep learning. In this article you will learn about Tokenization, Lemmatization, Stop Words and Phrase Matching operations using spaCy.

This is the article 2 in the **spaCy Series**. In my last article I have explained about spaCy Installation and basic operations. If you are new to this, I would suggest to start from article 1 for better understanding.

Article 1 - spaCy-installation-and-basic-operations-nlp-text-processing-library/

Tokenization

Tokenization is the first step in text processing task. Tokenization is not only breaking the text into components, pieces like words, punctuation etc known as tokens. However it is more than that. spaCy do the intelligent Tokenizer which internally identify whether a "." is a punctuation and separate it into token or it is part of abbreviation like "U.S." and do not separate it.



spaCy applies rules specific to the Language type. Let's understand with an example.

```
In [2]: import spacy
nlp = spacy.load("en_core_web_sm")

In [10]: doc = nlp("\"Next Week, We're coming from U.S.!\"")
for token in doc:
    print(token.text)

"
    Next
Week
,
We
're
    coming
    from
    U.S.
!
"
```

- **spaCy** start spliting first based on the white space available in the raw text.
- Then it processes the text from left to right and on each item (splittled based on white space) it performs the following two checks:
 - Exception Rule Check: Punctuation available in "U.S." should not be treated as further tokens. It should remain one. However we're should be splitted into "we" and " 're "
 - Prefix, Suffix and Infix check: Punctuation like commas, periods, hyphens or quotes to be treated as tokens and separated out.

If there's a match, the rule is applied and the Tokenizer continues its loop, starting with the newly split sub strings. This way, spaCy can split complex, nested tokens like combinations of abbreviations and multiple punctuation marks.

- Prefix: Look for Character(s) at the beginning ► \$ (" ¿
- **Suffix**: Look for Character(s) at the end mm,) , . ! " mm is an example of
- Infix: Look for Character(s) in between ▶ -- / ...
- **Exception**: Special-case rule to split a string into several tokens or prevent a token from being split when punctuation rules are applied St. N.Y.

Notice that tokens are pieces of the original text. Tokens are the basic building blocks of a Doc object – everything that helps us understand the meaning of the text is derived from tokens and their relationship to one another.

Prefixes, Suffixes and Infixes as Tokens

- spaCy will separate punctuation that does *not* form an integral part of a word.
- Quotation marks, commas, and punctuation at the end of a sentence will be assigned their own token.
- However, punctuation that exists as part of an email address, website or numerical value will be kept as part of the token.

```
In [12]: doc2 = nlp(u"We're here to guide you! Send your query, \
         email contact@enetwork.ai or visit us at http://www.enetwork.ai!")
         for t in doc2:
             print(t)
         We
          're
         here
         to
         guide
         you
         1
         Send
         your
         query
         email
         contact@enetwork.ai
         or
         visit
         http://www.enetwork.ai
```

Note that the exclamation points, comma are assigned their own tokens. However point, colon present in email address and website URL are not isolated. Hence both the email address and website are preserved.

```
In [13]: doc3 = nlp(u'A 40km U.S. cab ride costs $100.60')
    for t in doc3:
        print(t)

A
    40
    km
    U.S.
    cab
    ride
    costs
    $
    100.60
```

Here the distance unit and dollar sign are assigned their own tokens, however the dollar amount is preserved and point in amount is not isolated.

Exceptions in Token generation

Punctuation that exists as part of a known abbreviation will be kept as part of the token.

```
In [14]: doc4 = nlp(u"Let's visit the St. Louis in the U.S. next year.")
    for t in doc4:
        print(t)

Let
    's
    visit
    the
    St.
    Louis
    in
    the
    U.S.
    next
    year
```

Here the abbreviations for "Saint" and "United States" are both preserved. Mean point next to St. is not separated as token. Same in U.S.

Counting Tokens

Using len() function, you can count the number of tokens in a document.

```
In [16]: len(doc4)
Out[16]: 12
```

Counting Vocab Entries

Vocab objects contain a full library of items!

```
In [17]: len(doc4.vocab)
Out[17]: 57852
In [18]: len(doc3.vocab)
Out[18]: 57852
In [19]: len(doc2.vocab)
Out[19]: 57852
In [20]: len(doc.vocab)
```

See all doc obj are created from English language model, which we have loaded in the beginning using:

```
nlp = spacy.load("en_core_web_sm")
```

Hence vocab len will be same.

Indexing and Slicing in Token

- Doc objects can be thought of as lists of token objects.
- As such, individual tokens can be retrieved by index position.
- spans of tokens can be retrieved through slicing:

```
In [21]: doc5 = nlp(u'Mock Interviews are of great help in cracking real interviews. However, they are always ingonred')
    # Retrieve the third token:
    doc5[2]
Out[21]: are
In [22]: # Retrieve three tokens from the middle:
    doc5[2:5]
Out[22]: are of great
In [23]: # Retrieve the last four tokens:
    doc5[-4:]
Out[23]: they are always ingonred
```

Assignment of token is not allowed

Lemmatization

- In contrast to stemming, Lemmatization looks beyond word reduction, and considers a language's full vocabulary to apply a morphological analysis to words.
- The lemma of 'was' is 'be', lemma of "rats" is "rat" and the lemma of 'mice' is 'mouse'. Further, the lemma of 'meeting' might be 'meet' or 'meeting' depending on its use in a sentence.
- Lemmatization looks at surrounding text to determine a given word's part of speech. It does not categorize phrases.

Note spaCy do not have stemming. Due to the reason that Lemmatization is seen as more informative than stemming.

```
In [3]: doc1 = nlp(u"I am a runner running in a race because I love to run since I ran today")
        for token in doc1:
            print(token.text, '\t', token.pos_, '\t', token.lemma, '\t', token.lemma )
        Ι
                 PRON
                         561228191312463089
                                                  -PRON-
                         10382539506755952630
                 VERB
        am
                                                  be
                 DET
                         11901859001352538922
        runner
                 NOUN
                         12640964157389618806
                                                  runner
        running
                                  12767647472892411841
                         VERB
                 ADP
        in
                         3002984154512732771
                                                  in
        а
                 DET
                         11901859001352538922
        race
                 NOUN
                         8048469955494714898
                                                  race
        because
                                  16950148841647037698
                         ADP
                                                          because
                 PRON
                          561228191312463089
                                                  -PRON-
        love
                 VERB
                         3702023516439754181
                                                  love
        to
                 PART
                         3791531372978436496
                                                  to
        run
                 VERB
                         12767647472892411841
                                                  run
                 ADP
                         10066841407251338481
        since
                                                  since
        Ι
                 PRON
                          561228191312463089
                                                  -PRON-
        ran
                 VFRB
                         12767647472892411841
                                                  run
        today
                 NOUN
                         11042482332948150395
                                                  today
```

Creating a Function to find and print Lemma in more structured way.

```
In [4]: def find_lemmas(text):
             for token in text:
                 print(f'{token.text:{12}} {token.pos_:{6}} {token.lemma_>')
        Here we're using an f-string to format the printed text by setting minimum field widths and adding a left-align to the lemma hash value.
        Now, let's call that function
In [6]: doc2 = nlp(u"I saw eighteen mice today!")
         find lemmas(doc2)
                      PRON
                             561228191312463089
                                                      -PRON-
                      VERB
                             11925638236994514241
         eighteen
                             9609336664675087640
                                                      eighteen
                      NUM
                      NOUN
                             1384165645700560590
                      NOUN
                             11042482332948150395
         today
                                                      today
                      PUNCT
                             17494803046312582752
```

Here we're using an **f-string** to format the printed text by setting minimum field widths and adding a left-align to the lemma hash value.

Note that the lemma of saw is see, lemma of mice is mouse, mice is the plural form of mouse, and see eighteen is a number, *not* an expanded form of eight and this is detected while computing lemmas hence it has kept eighteen as untouched.

```
doc3 = nlp(u"I am meeting him tomorrow at the meeting.")
In [7]:
        find lemmas(doc3)
                                                    -PRON-
        Ι
                     PRON
                             561228191312463089
                     VERB
                             10382539506755952630
        am
                                                    be
        meeting
                     VERB
                             6880656908171229526
                                                    meet
        him
                     PRON
                             561228191312463089
                                                    -PRON-
        tomorrow
                     NOUN
                             3573583789758258062
                                                    tomorrow
        at
                     ADP
                             11667289587015813222
                                                    at.
        the
                     DET
                             7425985699627899538
                                                    the
                                                    meeting
        meeting
                     NOUN
                             14798207169164081740
                     PUNCT 12646065887601541794
```

Here the lemma of meeting is determined by its Part of Speech tag.

For first meeting which is verb it has calculated lemma as meet. And for second meeting which is Noun, and it has calculated lemma as meeting itself.

That is where we can see that spaCy take care of the part of speech while calculating the Lemmas.

```
doc4 = nlp(u"That's an enormous automobile")
In [8]:
        find lemmas(doc4)
        That
                             4380130941430378203
                                                     that
                      DET
        's
                             10382539506755952630
                                                     be
                      VERB
                             15099054000809333061
        an
                      DET
                                                     an
        enormous
                      ADJ
                             17917224542039855524
                                                     enormous
        automobile
                             7211811266693931283
                                                     automobile
                      NOUN
```

Note that Lemmatization does *not* reduce words to their most basic synonym – that is, enormous doesn't become big and automobile doesn't become car.

Stop Words

- Words like "a" and "the" appear so frequently that they don't require tagging as thoroughly as nouns, verbs and modifiers.
- We call them *stop words*, and they can be filtered from the text to be processed.
- spaCy holds a built-in list of some 305 English stop words.

You can print the total number of stop words using the len() function.

```
In [10]: len(nlp.Defaults.stop_words)
Out[10]: 305
```

Check if a word is a stop word

```
In [11]: nlp.vocab['fifteen'].is_stop
Out[11]: True
In [12]: nlp.vocab['Ashutosh'].is_stop
Out[12]: False
```

Adding a user defined stop word

There may be times when you wish to add a stop word to the default set. Perhaps you decide that 'btw' (common shorthand for "by the way") should be considered a stop word.

#Add the word to the set of stop words. Use lowercase! nlp.Defaults.stop words.add('btw') #alwasy use lowercase while adding the stop words.

```
In [13]: # Add the word to the set of stop words. Use Lowercase!
    nlp.Defaults.stop_words.add('btw') #alwasy use lowercase while adding the stop words
    # Set the stop_word tag on the lexeme
    nlp.vocab['btw'].is_stop = True

In [14]: len(nlp.Defaults.stop_words)
Out[14]: 306
In [15]: nlp.vocab['btw'].is_stop
Out[15]: True
```

Removing a stop word

Alternatively, you may decide that 'without' should not be considered a stop word.

```
In [16]: # Remove the word from the set of stop words
    nlp.Defaults.stop_words.remove('without')

# Remove the stop_word tag from the lexeme
    nlp.vocab['without'].is_stop = False

In [17]: len(nlp.Defaults.stop_words)

Out[17]: 305

In [18]: nlp.vocab['beyond'].is_stop

Out[18]: True
```

Vocabulary and Matching

In this section we will identify and label specific phrases that match patterns we can define ourselves.

Rule-based Matching

- spaCy offers a rule-matching tool called Matcher.
- It allows you to build a library of token patterns.
- It then matches those patterns against a Doc object to return a list of found matches.

You can match on any part of the token including text and annotations, and you can add multiple patterns to the same matcher.

```
In [107]: Import the Matcher library
    from spacy.matcher import Matcher
    matcher = Matcher(nlp.vocab)
```

Creating patterns

In literature, the phrase 'united states' might appear as one word or two, with or without a hyphen. In this section we'll develop a matcher named 'unitedstates' that finds all three:

```
pattern1 = [{'LOWER': 'unitedstates'}]
pattern2 = [{'LOWER': 'united'}, {'LOWER': 'states'}]
pattern3 = [{'LOWER': 'united'}, {'IS_PUNCT': True}, {'LOWER': 'states'}]
matcher.add('UnitedStates', None, pattern1, pattern2, pattern3)
```

Breaking it further:

- Pattern1 looks for a single token whose lowercase text reads 'unitedstates'
- Pattern2 looks for two adjacent tokens that read 'united' and 'states' in that order
- Pattern3 looks for three adjacent tokens, with a middle token that can be any punctuation.

Remember that single spaces are not tokenized, so they don't count as punctuation.

Once we define our patterns, we pass them into matcher with the name 'unitedstates', and set *callbacks* to None

Applying the matcher to a Doc object

To make you understand I have written United States differently like "United States", "UnitedStates", "United-States" and "United-States"

Setting pattern options and quantifiers

You can make token rules optional by passing an 'OP':'*' argument. This lets us streamline our patterns list:

```
In [113]: # Redefine the patterns:
    pattern1 = [{'LOWER': 'unitedstates'}]
    pattern2 = [{'LOWER': 'united'}, {'IS_PUNCT': True, 'OP':'*'}, {'LOWER': 'states'}]

# Remove the old patterns to avoid duplication:
    matcher.remove('Unitedstates')

# Add the new set of patterns to the 'solarPower' matcher:
    matcher.add('someNameToMatcher', None, pattern1, pattern2)

In [114]: doc = nlp(u'United--States has the world's largest coal reserves.')

In [115]: found_matches = matcher(doc)
    print(found_matches)

[(14270899081666383025, 0, 3)]
```

This found both two-word patterns, with and without the hyphen!

The following quantifiers can be passed to the 'OP' key:

ОР	Description
1	Negate the pattern, by requiring it to match exactly 0 times
?	Make the pattern optional, by allowing it to match 0 or 1 times
+	Require the pattern to match 1 or more times
*	Allow the pattern to match zero or more times

Careful with lemmas!

Suppose we have another word as "Solar Power" in some sentence. Now, If we want to match on both 'solar power' and 'solar powered', it might be tempting to look for the *lemma* of 'powered' and expect it to be 'power'. This is not always the case! The lemma of the *adjective* 'powered' is still 'powered':

```
In [117]: pattern1 = [{'LOWER': 'solarpower'}]
    pattern2 = [{'LOWER': 'solar'}, {'IS_PUNCT': True, 'OP':'*'}, {'LEMMA': 'power'}] # CHANGE THIS PATTERN

# Remove the old patterns to avoid duplication:
    matcher.remove('someNameToMatcher') #remove the previously added matcher name

# Add the new set of patterns to the 'SolarPower' matcher:
    matcher.add('SolarPower', None, pattern1, pattern2)

In [118]: doc2 = nlp(u'Solar-powered energy runs solar-powered cars.')

In [119]: found_matches = matcher(doc2)
    print(found_matches)

[(8656102463236116519, 0, 3)]
```

The matcher found the first occurrence because the lemmatizer treated 'Solar-powered' as a verb, but not the second as it considered it an adjective. For this case it may be better to set explicit token patterns.

```
In [120]: pattern1 = [{'LOWER': 'solarpower'}]
    pattern2 = [{'LOWER': 'solar'}, {'IS_PUNCT': True, 'OP':'*'}, {'LOWER': 'power'}]
    pattern3 = [{'LOWER': 'solarpowered'}]
    pattern4 = [{'LOWER': 'solar'}, {'IS_PUNCT': True, 'OP':'*'}, {'LOWER': 'powered'}]

# Remove the old patterns to avoid duplication:
    matcher.remove('SolarPower')

# Add the new set of patterns to the 'SolarPower' matcher:
    matcher.add('SolarPower', None, pattern1, pattern2, pattern3, pattern4)

In [121]: found_matches = matcher(doc2)
    print(found_matches)

[(8656102463236116519, 0, 3), (8656102463236116519, 5, 8)]
```

Other Token Attributes

Besides lemmas, there are a variety of token attributes we can use to determine matching rules:

Attribute	Description
ORTH	The exact verbatim text of a token
LOWER	The lowercase form of the token text
LENGTH	The length of the token text
IS_ALPHA, IS_ASCII, IS_DIGIT	Token text consists of alphanumeric characters, ASCII characters, digits
IS_LOWER, IS_UPPER, IS_TITLE	Token text is in lowercase, uppercase, titlecase
IS_PUNCT, IS_SPACE, IS_STOP	Token is punctuation, whitespace, stop word
LIKE_NUM, LIKE_URL, LIKE_EMAIL	Token text resembles a number, URL, email
POS, TAG, DEP, LEMMA, SHAPE	The token's simple and extended part-of- speech tag, dependency label, lemma, shape
ENT_TYPE	The token's entity label

Token wildcard

You can pass an empty dictionary {} as a wildcard to represent **any token**. For example, you might want to retrieve hashtags without knowing what might follow the # character:

```
[{'ORTH': '#'}, {}]
```

Phrase Matcher

In the above section we used token patterns to perform rule-based matching. An alternative – and often more efficient – method is to match on terminology lists. In this case we use PhraseMatcher to create a Doc object from a list of phrases, and pass that into matcher instead.

```
In [125]:
               # Perform standard imports, reset nlp
               import spacy
               nlp = spacy.load('en core web sm')
In [126]: # Import the PhraseMatcher library
               from spacy.matcher import PhraseMatcher
               matcher = PhraseMatcher(nlp.vocab)
               For this exercise we're going to import a Wikipedia article on Reaganomics
               Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reaganomics
               with open('.../TextFiles/reaganomics.txt') as f:
In [131]:
                     doc3 = nlp(f.read())
In [132]: # First, create a list of match phrases:
         phrase_list = ['voodoo economics', 'supply-side economics', 'trickle-down economics', 'free-market economics']
         # Next, convert each phrase to a Doc object:
         phrase_patterns = [nlp(text) for text in phrase_list]
         # Pass each Doc object into matcher (note the use of the asterisk!):
matcher.add('VoodooEconomics', None, *phrase_patterns)
         # Build a list of matches:
         matches = matcher(doc3)
In [133]: # (match id, start, end)
         matches
Out[133]: [(3473369816841043438, 41, 45),
          (3473369816841043438, 49, 53),
          (3473369816841043438, 54, 56),
          (3473369816841043438, 61, 65),
          (3473369816841043438, 673, 677)
          (3473369816841043438, 2985, 2989)]
```

```
In [132]: # First, create a list of match phrases:
          phrase_list = ['voodoo economics', 'supply-side economics', 'trickle-down economics', 'free-market economics']
          # Next, convert each phrase to a Doc object:
          phrase_patterns = [nlp(text) for text in phrase_list]
          # Pass each Doc object into matcher (note the use of the asterisk!):
          matcher.add('VoodooEconomics', None, *phrase_patterns)
          # Build a list of matches:
          matches = matcher(doc3)
In [133]: # (match id, start, end)
          matches
Out[133]: [(3473369816841043438, 41, 45),
           (3473369816841043438, 49, 53),
           (3473369816841043438, 54, 56),
           (3473369816841043438, 61, 65),
           (3473369816841043438, 673, 677)
           (3473369816841043438, 2985, 2989)]
```

The first four matches are where these terms are used in the definition of Reaganomics:

```
In [134]: doc3[:70]
Out[134]: REAGANOMICS
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Reaganomics

Reaganomics (a portmanteau of [Ronald] Reagan and economics attributed to Paul Harvey)[1] refers to the economic policies promo ted by U.S. President Ronald Reagan during the 1980s. These policies are commonly associated with supply-side economics, referr ed to as trickle-down economics or voodoo economics by political opponents, and free-market economics by political advocates.
```

Viewing Matches

nd-stimulus economics.

There are a few ways to fetch the text surrounding a match. The simplest is to grab a slice of tokens from the doc that is wider than the match:

This is all about text pre-processing operations which include Tokenization, Lemmatization, Stop Words and Phrase Matching. Hope you enjoyed the post.

Next Article I will describe about Part of Speech Tagging and Named Entity Recognition. Stay Tuned!

If you have any feedback to improve the content or any thought please write in the comment section below. Your comments are very valuable.

References:

- https://spacy.io/usage/spacy-101
- https://www.udemy.com/course/nlp-natural-language-processing-with-python/

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