Natural Language Processing

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Objectives

- understand natural language phenomena
- understand and explain basic concepts of natural language processing
- be able to implement and apply algorithms to process natural language
- □ be able to compare and combine approaches to solve language problems
- be able to self-educate

Related Fields

1. Linguistics

[paradigms, models]

- 2. Statistics
- 3. Psychology
- 4. Machine Learning
- 5. Data Mining
- 6. Information Retrieval
- 7. Knowledge Processing
- 8. Text-to-Speech Systems
- 9. Dialog Systems
- 10. Conversational Systems

[methods, algorithms]

[applications]

Literature

Natural Language Processing:

- D. Jurafsky, J. H. Martin.
 Speech and Language Processing
 Prentice Hall 2008. (3rd edition draft)
- C. D. Manning, H. Schütze.
 Foundations of Statistical Natural Language Processing MIT Press 1999.
- J. Eisenstein
 Natural Language Processing
 MIT Press 2018. (november draft)





Literature

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- AACL.
 Conference of the Asian Chapter of the ACL.
- □ ACL. (the only A* NLP conference)
 Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics.
- COLING. (linguistic focus)
 International Conference on Computational Linguistics.
- CoNLL.
 International Conference on Natural Language Learning.
- □ EACL.

 Conference of the European Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics.
- □ EMNLP. (empirical focus, probably the second best NLP conference) Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing.
- □ NAACL. Conference of the North-American Chapter of the ACL.

Literature

Other relevant natural language processing conferences:

- □ CICLing.
 International Conference on Computational Linguistics and Intelligent Text Processing.
- □ IJCNLP.
 International Joint Conference on Natural Language Processing.
- □ INLG. (generation focus)
 International Conference on Natural Language Generation.

Conferences from related fields:

- □ SIGIR, ECIR, ICTIR, AIRS, CHIIR, TREC, CLEF
- □ CIKM, WSDM, WWW, SPIRE

Top-tier Journals:

- □ ACM TOIT. toit.acm.org
- □ Computational Linguistics. <u>www.mitpressjournals.org/loi/coli</u>
- □ TACL. Transactions of the ACL. transacl.org

Software

Annotation Software:

- Prodigy by ExplosionAI
 Closed Source, focus on active learning while annotating prodi.gy
- Label Studio by Heartex
 Open Source, very flexible labelstud.io
- Doccano by Hiroki Nakayama
 Open Source, limited functionality but easy to use doccano.herokuapp.com

NLP Toolkits:

- spaCy by ExplosionAI
 Open Source, fast, flexible, good performance, go-to toolkit spacy.io
- □ Stanza by Standford NLP Group
 Open Source, focus on SotA performance stanfordnlp.github.io/stanza

Software

Algorithm Collections:

- Natural Language Toolkit by NLTK Project
 Open Source, large collection of basic algorithms nltk.org
- Stanford NLP Software by Stanford NLP Group nlp.stanford.edu/software/

Machine Learning for NLP:

- scikit-learn by the sklearn community
 Open Source, many utilities for text modeling and transformation
 scikit-learn.org/
- HuggingFace by Huggingface
 Open Source, SotA models for many advanced NLP tasks huggingface.co
- □ Flair by Humboldt University Machine Learning Group
 Open Source, focus on embeddings and sequence tagging tasks
 github.com/flairNLP/flair