Introduction to Symbolic and Statistical NLP in Scheme

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Frequency Profiles

• Uni- and Bi-gram frequencies . . .

• General *n*-gram models

• Examples: from [MacKay(2003)]

i	a_i	p_i		
1	a	0.0575	a	
2	b	0.0128	ъ	
3	с	0.0263	с	
4	d	0.0285	d	
5	е	0.0913	е	
6	f	0.0173	f	
7	g	0.0133	g	•
8	h	0.0313	h	
9	i	0.0599	i	
10	j	0.0006	j	
11	k	0.0084	k	•
12	1	0.0335	1	
13	m	0.0235	m	
14	n	0.0596	n	
15	0	0.0689	0	
16	р	0.0192	p	
17	q	0.0008	q	•
18	r	0.0508	r	
19	s	0.0567	s	
20	t	0.0706	t	
21	u	0.0334	u	
22	v	0.0069	v	•
23	w	0.0119	W	
24	x	0.0073	х	•
25	У	0.0164	У	
26	z	0.0007	z	
27	-	0.1928	_	



x

Frequency Profiles

- What can we do with *n*-gram frequency profiles?
 - Compression, modeling expectations, study of quantitative language properties (e.g. also dialectal or cross-linguistic variation), ...
- Develop applications
 - What value for *n* is best for what purpose?

Frequency Profiles

- Over large corpora lexical frequencies divide lexical classes (more or less well).
- Over individual texts lexical frequencies identify topics or document classes (more or less well).
- In general, n-gram models over orthographic or phonemic/phonetic representations are language specific (express morphological or phonotactic regularities).

Collocations

• Hypothesis testing (significance tests), e.g. χ^2

 $\chi^2 = \sum \frac{(observed-expected)^2}{expected}$

• Mutual Information

$$I(x;y) = P(x,y)lg\frac{P(x,y)}{P(x)P(y)}$$

Language Identification

- N-gram models for Language Identification
- Files: lid.ss, trigraph.ss, lang-*.ss
- Calculations:
 - Mean of frequencies
 - Deviation

Language Identification

- Generate a persistent trigram model for each language
- Generate a trigram model for some unknown text
- Task:
 - For each language model, for each trigram from the unknown text, calculate the sum of the absolute difference between the trigrams in the two models.
 - The smallest absolute difference will be found between texts from the same language.

References

[MacKay(2003)] David J. C. MacKay. *Information theory, inference, and learning algorithms*. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, UK; New York, 2003.