Module 4: GATE and Social Media

3: TwitIE components
• Errors have a cumulative effect

Good performance is important at each stage
The Jan. 21 show started with the unveiling of an impressive three-story castle from which Gaga emerges. The band members were in various portals, separated from each other for most of the show. For the next 2 hours and 15 minutes, Lady Gaga repeatedly stormed the moveable castle, turning it into her own gothic Barbie Dreamhouse.
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**Newswire:**

**Twitter:**

LADY GAGA IS BETTER THE 5th TIME OH BABY(:

je bent Jacques cousteau niet die een nieuwe soort heeft ontdekt, het is duidelijk, ze bedekken hun gezicht. Get over it

I'm at 地铁望京站 Subway Wangjing (Beijing) http://t.co/KxHzYm00

RT @TomPlIngram: VIVA LAS VEGAS 16 - NEWS #constantcontact http://t.co/VrFzZaa7
Accuracy on microblogs: 89.5% (Preetiuc-Pietro 2012)
Accuracy on formal text: 99.4% (Carter 2013)

What general problems are there in identifying language in social media?

- Switching language mid-text;
- Non-lexical tokens (URLs, hashtags, usernames, retweet/modified tweet indicators);
- Small “samples”: documents are fixed at <280 characters, and document length has a big impact on language identification;
- Dysfluencies and fragments reduce n-gram match likelihoods;
- Large (unknown) number of potential languages, some for which there will be no training data (Baldwin 2010).
Social media has new information

Metadata:
• spatial information (from profile, from GPS);
• language information (default English is left on far too often).

• Emoticons:

  :) vs.  ^_^

  cu vs.  88
Hands-On 1: Language ID

- Load *twitie-lang-id.xgapp* in GATE (Restore Application From File)
- Create a new corpus, save to a serial datastore
- Load *lang-id-test-tweets.xml*:
  - Choose **Populate from single file**, set root element to *doc_root*
- Run the application
- The Annotation Set Transfer first copies the text annotation from the “Original markups” set as a Tweet annotation in the PreProcess annotation set
- The Tweet Language Identification PR adds a “lang” feature to the Tweet annotation in the PreProcess set
- Inspect the results
- Keep the app open for later, but close the corpus
Various annotations created by the metadata-based pre-processing jape (tweet-metadata-parser.jape in resources)
Sentence is an annotation created to span the entire tweet text
TwitterUser spans the entire user information in the tweet
TweetCreatedAt – the timestamp of this tweet
Tokenisation: example

General accuracy on microblogs: 80%
Goal is to convert byte stream to readily-digestible word chunks.
Word bound discovery is a critical language processing task.

The LIBYAN AID Team successfully shipped these broadcasting equipment to Misrata last August 2011, to establish an FM Radio station ranging 600km, broadcasting to the west side of Libya to help overthrow Gaddafi's regime.

Newswire:

RT @JosetteSheeran: @WFP #Libya breakthru! We move urgently needed #food (wheat, flour) by truck convoy into western Libya for 1st time :D

Twitter:

@ojmason @encofeedrinker But it was #nowthatcherisdead that was confusing (and not just to non-UK people!)

RT @Huddy85 : @Mz_Twilightxxx *kisses your ass**sneezes after* Lol

Ima get you will.i.am NOTHING IS GONNA STAND IN MY WAY =)
Social media text is generally not curated, and typographical errors are common. Improper grammar, e.g. apostrophe usage:

- `doesn't` → `does n't`
- `doesn't` → `doesn't`

- Introduces previously-unseen tokens
- Smileys and emoticons
  - `I <3 you` → `I & lt; you`
  - `This piece ;,,( so emotional` → `This piece ; , , ( so emotional`
- Loss of information (sentiment)
- Punctuation for emphasis
  - `*HUGS YOU**KISSES YOU*` → `* HUGS YOU**KISSES YOU *`
- Words run together / skip
  - `I wonde rif Tsubasa is okay..`
Tokenisation: solutions

- We extend the Penn Treebank tool with twitter adaptations
- Layer multiple annotations on top of each other: Hashtags, Usernames

- Normalisation maps frequent nonstandard spellings to standard
  - Via lookup dictionary (e.g. Han 2011); e.g. gonna → going to
- Regular expressions for known smileys/emoticons to avoid splitting them

- Segmenting individual hashtags is possible (Maynard 2014)
  
  #openaccess → # open access
  #palmoil → # palm oil
Hashtag analysis can be tricky

Even for humans!

- #nowthatcherisdead
- #powergenitalia
- #lesbocages
- #molestationnursery
- #teacherstalking
- #therapist
Test your social media skills!

What do these hashtags mean?

• #kktny
• #fomo
• #jomo
• #ootd
• #wcw
Hands-On: Hashtag and @mention tokenisation

- Load a Document Reset and Unicode Tokeniser
- Create a new application and add these to it (Reset first)
- Create a new corpus, name it “Tweets” and use the “populate from JSON” right-click option (you need the Format: JSON plugin loaded), with the file energy-tweets.json setting the mime type to “text/x-json-twitter”
- Run the application and look at the Token annotations in the Default annotation set
- Create a JAPE transducer, loading resources/hashtag.jape
- Add it to the application and re-run. Hashtag annotations appear
- Now add a new rule to detect @mentions as UserID annotations (don’t forget to re-initialise the JAPE transducer)
The GATE Twitter Tokeniser

- Treat RTs and URLs as 1 token each
- #nike is two tokens (# and nike) plus a separate annotation HashTag covering both. Same for @mentions -> UserID
- Capitalisation is preserved, but an orthography feature is added: all caps, lowercase, mixCase
- Date and phone number normalisation, lowercasing, and emoticons are optionally done later in separate modules
- Consequently, tokenisation is faster and more generic
- Also, more tailored to how ANNIE NER expects the input
GATE Twitter Tokeniser: An Example

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Set</th>
<th>Start</th>
<th>End</th>
<th>Id</th>
<th>PreProcess</th>
<th>{kind=word, length=4, orth=upperInitial, string=True}</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Token</td>
<td>PreProcess</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7099</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>{kind=number, length=8, string=16948477}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Token</td>
<td>PreProcess</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>7103</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>{kind=word, length=5, orth=upperInitial, string=False}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Token</td>
<td>PreProcess</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>7450</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>{kind=URL, length=68, replaced=24, rule=URL, string=https://}</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Token</td>
<td>PreProcess</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>7129</td>
<td>7129</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>{kind=punctuation, length=1, string=}</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Hands-on: Running GATE's Tweet Tokeniser

- Create a new application, call it Twitter App
- Load a Document Reset and Twitter Tokeniser
- Run app on your energy tweets and inspect results (Hashtag, UserID)
- This should give you roughly the same results
- Take a quick look at the actual rules for Hashtag and UserID recognition in tokeniser/twitter.jape. See how they differ from the simple ones we wrote earlier.
Emoticon Detection

- There is a gazetteer list of some commonly used emoticons in your handouts, resources/emoticons-list.
- Create an ANNIE Gazetteer PR, name it Emoticon gazetteer
- Change the default separator from : to \t (colons are often in smileys)
- Set the listsURL to the emoticons-lists.def file
Tweet Normalisation

- “RT @Bthompson WRITEZ: @libbyabrego honored?! Everybody knows the libster is nice with it...lol...(thankkkks a bunch;)”
- OMG! I’m so guilty!!! Sprained biibii’s leg! ARGHHHHHHHH!!!!!!
- Similar to SMS normalisation
- For some components to work well (POS tagger, parser), it is necessary to produce a normalised version of each token
- BUT uppercasing, and letter and exclamation mark repetition often convey strong sentiment
- Therefore some choose not to normalise, while others keep both versions of the tokens
Lexical normalisation

- Two classes of word not in dictionary
  - 1. Mis-spelled dictionary words
  - 2. Correctly-spelled, unseen words (e.g. foreign surnames)
- Problem: Mis-spelled unseen words (these can be in the dict!)
- 1st challenge: separate out-of-vocabulary and in-vocabulary
- 2nd challenge: fix mis-spelled IV words
- Edit distance (e.g. Levenshtein): count character adds, removes
  - zseged → szeged (distance = 2)
  - Pronunciation distance (e.g. double metaphone):
    - YEEAAAHHH → yeah
- Need to set bounds on these, to avoid over-normalising OOV words
A normalised example

- Normaliser currently based on spelling correction and some lists of common abbreviations
- Outstanding issues:
  - Insert new Token annotations, so easier to POS tag, etc? For example: “trying to” now 1 annotation
  - Some abbreviations which span token boundaries (e.g. gr8, do n’t) are not yet handled
  - Capitalisation and punctuation normalisation
GATE Tweet Normaliser

• Load the Tweet Normaliser PR
• Add it at the end of your pipeline
• Run the pipeline and inspect the results
• Check the features on Token annotations
• If you can’t find any normalised words, just edit one of the tweets and add your own slang words to normalise!
Part-of-speech tagging: example

• Many unknowns:
  Music bands: Soulja Boy | TheDeAndreWay.com in stores Nov 2, 2010
  Places: #LB #news: Silverado Park Pool Swim Lessons

• Capitalisation issues:
  @thewantedmusic on my tv :) aka derek
  last day of sorting pope visit to birmingham stuff out

Don't Have Time To Stop In?? Then, Check Out Our Quick Full Service Drive Thru Window :)
Part-of-speech tagging: example

- Slang
  - ~HAPPY B-DAY TAYLOR !!! LUVZ YA

- Orthographic errors
  - dont even have homwork today, suprising?

- Dialect
  fancy a cheeky nandoz tho
  *Can I have a go on your iPad?*
Unknown words fall roughly into two categories

• Standard token, non-standard orthography; freinds
  KHAAAAANNNNNNN!

• Non-standard token, standard orthography
  omg + bieber → omb
  Huntingdon / Huntington
Load & configure the Stanford Tagger

- Load the Stanford CoreNLP plugin through the Plugin Manager
- Create an instance of Stanford POS Tagger with this model: `resources/gate-EN-twitter.model`
- Add to the end of the application and run it
Let’s compare ANNIE and TwitIE

• Load the ANNIE application
• Change the annotationSetName, inputAS and outputAS parameters to ANNIE for every PR
• Run it
• Now, carefully, go to your TwitIE application and set the Document Reset parameters to keep the ANNIE annotation set (setsToKeep – add ANNE to the list)
• Otherwise, it would get removed when we run TwitIE
• Now run TwitIE again
You should get results in 2 sets:

- ANNIE will have the POS tags from the ANNIE POS Tagger
- The default set will have those from the TwitIE Tagger
Compare Differences: Annotation Diff

- Click on the Annotation Diff button
- Select a document from the test corpus (same Key and Resp)
- Key set: [Default set]; Resp. set: ANNIE
- Type: Token; Features: some, then select: category
• Click on the Compare button
• Inspect the results; repeat for 1-2 more documents
• HINT: Clicking on the Start column will sort tokens by offset