



UNIVERSITÄT
ZU KÖLN

Counting Words

VL Sprachliche Informationsverarbeitung

Nils Reiter

`nils.reiter@uni-koeln.de`

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Section 1

Corpora

Corpora

- ▶ (Large) collections of linguistic expressions
- ▶ Speech corpora: Spoken language
 - ▶ File formats: wav, mp3, ...
- ▶ Text corpora: Written language
 - ▶ File formats: txt, xml, json, ...

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- ▶ Why do we look at corpora?

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 - ▶ File formats: wav, mp3, ...
- ▶ Text corpora: Written language
 - ▶ File formats: txt, xml, json, ...
- ▶ Why do we look at corpora?
 - ▶ Making statements about language needs to take into account many language expressions
 - ▶ We under-estimate creativity, flexibility and productivity of language use
 - Empiricism

Meta data and annotations

Meta data: Data about the data

- ▶ Information about the corpus
- ▶ Language, date of creation, author(s), publication source, ...
- ▶ Machine-readable: XML, JSON, CSV, ...

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- ▶ Examples
 - ▶ Linguistic annotation: Parts of speech, named entities, syntactic relations, ...
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- ▶ Examples
 - ▶ Linguistic annotation: Parts of speech, named entities, syntactic relations, ...
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- ▶ Explicit location in the corpus: Document/word/character numbers in text, milliseconds in speech

Preparations (for text corpora)

- ▶ OCR: Optical Character Recognition
 - ▶ Convert images (e.g., from a scan) into text
 - ▶ Huge improvements in last five years

`manning_foundations_1999empty citation`

Preparations (for text corpora)

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 - ▶ Convert images (e.g., from a scan) into text
 - ▶ Huge improvements in last five years
- ▶ Encoding: How to specify characters in a computer
 - ▶ Simple: ASCII (7 bit per character, $2^7 = 128$ different characters)
 - ▶ Outdated: Latin-1 / ISO-8859 (8 bit, $\Rightarrow 256$ diff. characters)
 - ▶ Modern: Unicode (e.g., UTF-8)
 - ▶ 1 B/char to 4 B/char
 - ▶ 1 112 064 characters can be represented

Tools and Techniques

- ▶ Plain text editors
 - ▶ We often want to inspect the corpus as it is on disk (i.e., without an editor interfering too much)
 - ▶ Mac: Textmate/emacs/vi; Windows: Notepad++/emacs/vi

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- ▶ Regular expressions
 - ▶ The most important tool for corpus analysis
 - ▶ Cleanup (e.g., after scraping a corpus from the web)
 - ▶ Analysis (e.g., to find all variants of a word or deal with slang)
 - ▶ Usable in *all** programming languages and find tools

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- ▶ Command line
 - ▶ Large corpora often cannot be displayed with GUI tools
 - ▶ Command line tools faster and more memory efficient

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- ▶ Tokens: Words, punctuation, numbers, symbols, ...

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- ▶ Tokens: Words, punctuation, numbers, symbols, ...
- ▶ Naive: Splitting at white space (space, newline, ...)
 - ▶ Why naive?
- ▶ Solved, but complex
 - ▶ E.g., syntactic points vs. morphological points
- ▶ Sometimes, shortcuts are ok – depends on the use case

Section 2

Quantitatively Looking at Words

Word Counts

Count	Word
585	die
584	und
407	er
404	der
348	zu
311	sich
259	nicht
250	sie
243	in
243	den
233	war
218	Gregor
189	mit
178	das
176	auf
171	es
162	dem
155	hatte
137	ein
136	aber
133	daß
123	als
110	auch
107	Schwester
	...

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- ▶ Number of words in a text
- ▶ Most frequent words (MFW) are function words
- ▶ 'Content words' that appear often indicate text content

Zipf's Law

Manning/Schütze, 1999, 23 ff.

- ▶ George Kingsley Zipf (1902–1950): American Linguist
- ▶ Basic property of human language
 - ▶ Frequency distribution of words (in a corpus) is stable
 - ▶ Word frequency is inversely proportional to its position in the ranking

$$f \propto \frac{1}{r}$$

(there is a constant k , such that $f \times r = k$)

Zipf's Law

Manning/Schütze, 1999, 23 ff.

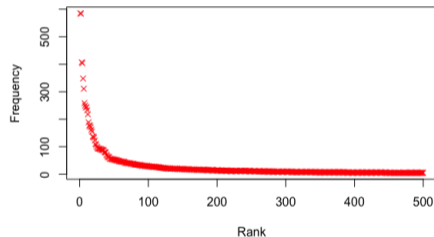


Figure: Words sorted after their frequency (red). Text: Kafka's "Die Verwandlung".

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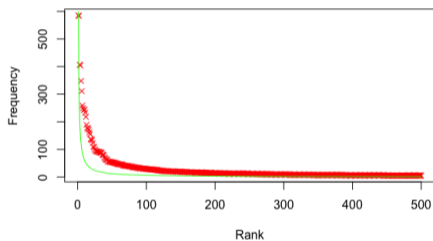
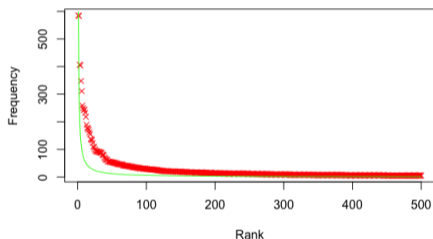


Figure: Words sorted after their frequency (red). Zipf distribution: $y = 600 \frac{1}{x}$ (green). Text: Kafka's "Die Verwandlung".

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Consequences

- ▶ Very few words appear with very high frequency
- ▶ The vast majority of words appear only once
 - ▶ It's difficult to learn something about these words!

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- ▶ Insights are only generated through comparison

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Abs. number	Word form
20	women
67	woman
31	men
79	family
82	sister
83	friend
99	bath
117	father
133	man
144	sir

Table: Jane Austen's *Persuasion* (nouns)

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Abs. number	Word form
0	friend
2	bath
11	women
23	men
30	father
68	woman
83	family
113	sir
121	man
282	sister

Table: Jane Austen's *Persuasion* (nouns)

Table: Jane Austen's *Sense and Sensibility*

(nouns)

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woman	67	68
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...does it make sense to compare absolute numbers? No.

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- ▶ The texts/corpora do not have the same size
- ▶ Scaling using their length: Division by the total number of words

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woman	67	0.000 79 %	68	0.000 55 %
women	20	0.000 24 %	11	0.000 09 %
man	133	0.001 58 %	121	0.001 00 %
men	31	0.000 37 %	23	0.000 19 %
sister	82	0.000 97 %	282	0.002 33 %

...does it make sense to compare absolute numbers? No.

- ▶ The texts/corpora do not have the same size
- ▶ Scaling using their length: Division by the total number of words
- ▶ Visible changes: Proportion of "sister": $3.4 \rightarrow 2.4$

Scaling

- ▶ Number of words: Result of a measurement
- ▶ If measuring in different scenarios, it's important to scale the results
 - ▶ “In a text that is much shorter, there are much less chances for a certain word to be used.”

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Recipe

- ▶ Divide the result of the measurement by the **theoretical maximum**
- ▶ How many chances are there for “sister” to be used?
 - ▶ As many as there are words in the text
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- ▶ It's not always obvious how to scaled
 - ▶ When reading research: Was it scaled, and how?

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Manning/Schütze, 1999, 21 f.

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Example

the cat chases the mouse

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Example

the cat chases the mouse

- ▶ Tokens: the, cat, chases, the, mouse
- ▶ Types: the, cat, chases, mouse

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 - ▶ “the cat loves the mouse”
- ▶ Construct a sentence with 5 tokens and 1 type!
 - ▶ “dog dog dog dog dog” (not really a sentence ...)
 - ▶ It's not possible to create a ‘proper’ sentence with 1 type

Type-Token-Ratio (TTR)

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- ▶ Max value: 1 (there cannot be more types than tokens)
- ▶ Min value: $\epsilon = \frac{1}{\text{very large number}}$
- ▶ Real (German) texts
 - ▶ 10 000 words (Wikipedia): $\frac{4021}{10\,000} = 0.4021$

TTR and Text Length

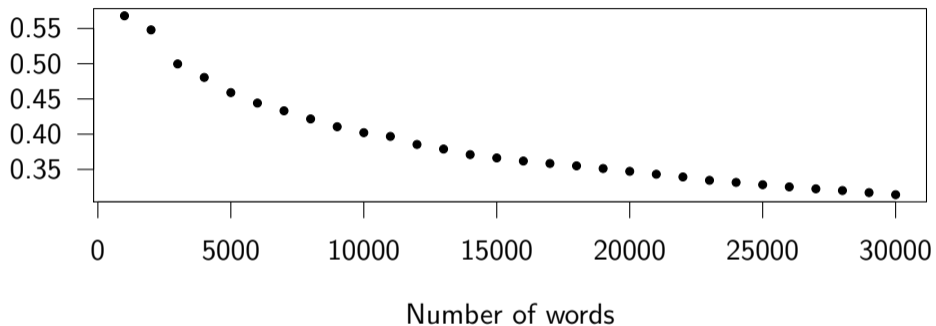


Figure: Type-Token-Ratio for increasing text lengths

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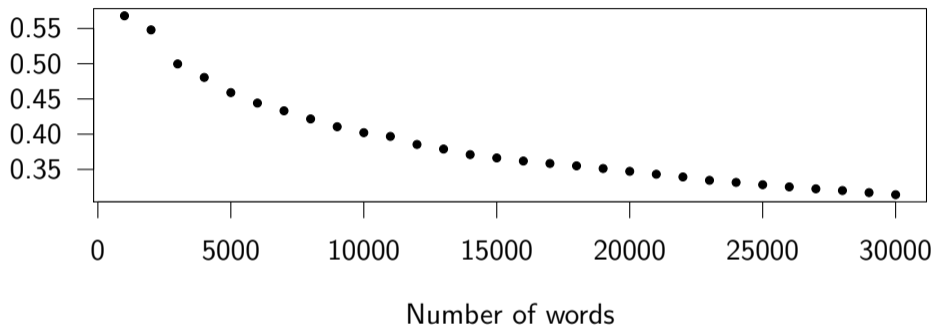


Figure: Type-Token-Ratio for increasing text lengths

- ▶ Increasing length → lower TTR!
- ▶ Why?

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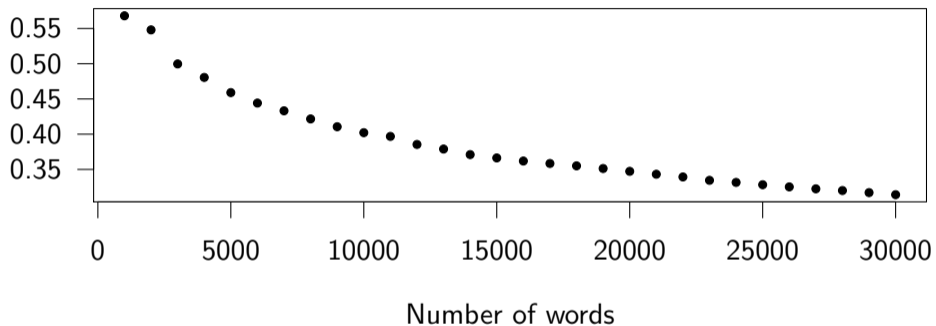


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- ▶ Why?– Zipf!

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$$TTR_n = \frac{\text{number of types in } n\text{th window}}{\text{number of tokens in } n\text{th window}}$$
$$STTR = \frac{1}{w} \sum_{i=0}^w TTR_i$$

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 - ▶ Popular choices for n : 2 to 4

Example

The dog barks.

- ▶ 1-grams: “the”, “dog”, “barks”, “.”
- ▶ 2-grams (bigrams): “the dog”, “dog barks”, “barks .”
- ▶ 3-grams (trigrams): “the dog barks”, “dog barks .”

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mit der	312
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wurde der	291
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er in	193
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wurde sie	127
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- ▶ Again, there are a lot of function words. Why?
- ▶ Zipf's law: Two words that are highly frequent have much higher chance to co-occur with high frequency

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Section 3

Automatic Prediction of Linguistic Properties

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- ▶ Detection of content-related aspects: Named entities, sentiment, speech acts, ...
- ▶ Applications: Machine translation, question answering, dialogue systems, ...

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- ▶ How to do that? Machine learning, nowadays

From Rules to Neural Networks

Rule-based part of speech tagging

```
1 # list of German determiners
2 determiners = ["der", "die", "ein", ...]
3
4 for token in tokens:
5     if token[0].islower() and
6         token.endswith("en"):
7         return "VERB"
8     elif token[0].isupper():
9         return "NAME"
10    else:
11        if token in determiners:
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13    ...
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Which properties are *not* used?

- ▶ Prefixes
- ▶ Token length
- ▶ Sequence: Previous tag

From Rules to Neural Networks

'Classical' machine learning

```
1 tokens = ["the", "dog", "barks"]
2 tags = ["DET", "NN", "VBZ"]
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4 table = extract_features(tokens)
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6 model = train(table, tags)
```

- ▶ Token properties → features
- ▶ Feature extraction / feature engineering
 - ▶ Finding useful features based on domain knowledge (e.g., linguistic knowledge)
 - ▶ 'Playground': What works well can really only be known after experiments

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- ▶ Feature extraction / feature engineering
 - ▶ Finding useful features based on domain knowledge (e.g., linguistic knowledge)
 - ▶ 'Playground': What works well can really only be known after experiments
- ▶ Training: Estimate which features in which order allow best decisions
 - ▶ A large collection of algorithms has been developed: Decision trees, support vector machines, naive Bayes, ...
 - ▶ Training data needed!

From Rules to Neural Networks

'Classical' machine learning

- ▶ Annotated data
 - ▶ Used for training
 - ▶ Used for evaluation

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 - ▶ Used for evaluation
- ▶ Three stages / contexts (and we need to know in which we are)
 - ▶ Training (train a model with annotated data)
 - ▶ Testing (test an existing model on annotated data)
 - ▶ Application (use an existing model)

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 - ▶ Testing (test an existing model on annotated data)
 - ▶ Application (use an existing model)
- ▶ This still applies in the deep learning realm

From Rules to Neural Networks

Deep learning

- ▶ No more feature engineering
 - ▶ Let the computer figure out what it needs to know
- ▶ More computing (and more data)
- ▶ Black box
 - ▶ Intermediate states not interpretable for us humans
 - ▶ Only input and output can be understood

Machine Learning

- ▶ Collection of techniques for automatic
 - ▶ decision making
 - ▶ pattern detection
 - ▶ data analysis
- ▶ Machine learning vs. rule-based systems
 - ▶ Rule-based: Decision rules are hand-coded
 - ▶ if/then/else, ...
 - ▶ Machine learning: Decision rules are 'learned' from data
 - ▶ Data is used to estimate weights and criteria

Understanding Machine Learning

- ▶ Levels of understanding
 - ▶ Intuition
 - ▶ Formalization (math)
 - ▶ Implementation (code)

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 - ▶ Intuition
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- ▶ Areas to distinguish
 - ▶ Learning algorithm
 - ▶ Prediction model
 - ▶ Data preparation
 - ▶ Feature extraction (classical ML)
 - ▶ Shape of input data

Section 4

Types of Tasks

Task types

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- ▶ Structurally similar: The same system can be used, all differences can be encoded in the training data

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 - ▶ Labels: NN, VBZ, DET, ADJA, ADJD, ...
- ▶ Named entity recognition: Each token gets a label
 - ▶ O, B-PER, I-PER, B-LOC, I-LOC, ...

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-
- ▶ Two important task types for NLP
 - ▶ Text classification: An entire text is classified (e.g., genre, sentiment, ...)
 - ▶ Sequence labeling: Each individual word is classified (e.g., pos-tagging, ...)

Task types

Text classification

- ▶ Texts belong to a class of texts

Examples

- ▶ Customer reviews → sentiment
- ▶ Novel → genre (fiction, non-fiction, ...)
- ▶ Posting → \pm hate speech
- ▶ E-mail → {spam, not spam, really important}

Task types

Sequence labeling

- ▶ Words (or sequences of words) belong to classes
 - ▶ Sequence labeling: Classification + sequential dependency between classes

Examples

- ▶ Words → part of speech (noun, verb, adjective, ...)
- ▶ Words → proper noun
- ▶ Paragraphs → \pm narrative scene
- ▶ ? Collected works by Shakespeare → {comedy, tragedy}

Task types

Sequence labeling

- ▶ Words (or sequences of words) belong to classes
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Examples

- ▶ Words → part of speech (noun, verb, adjective, ...)
- ▶ Words → proper noun
- ▶ Paragraphs → \pm narrative scene
- ▶ **?** Collected works by Shakespeare → {comedy, tragedy}
 - ▶ Sequence of works probably irrelevant

Section 5

Summary

Summary

- ▶ Quantitatively looking at Words
 - ▶ Most frequent words are not the most informative words
 - ▶ Zipf distribution
 - ▶ Type-token ratio as a measure of lexical diversity
 - ▶ n -grams: Look at multiple tokens at once
- ▶ Predicting linguistic properties
 - ▶ From rules to neural networks
- ▶ Task types
 - ▶ Text classification
 - ▶ Sequence labeling

Section 6

Exercise

Übung 1

Besorgen Sie sich auf <https://opendiscourse.de/> Reden von zwei verschiedenen Politiker:innen aus unterschiedlichen Parteien, so dass sie insgesamt pro Person mehr als 10000 Wörter haben. Schreiben Sie dann in einer Programmiersprache Ihrer Wahl ein Programm, das die type-token-ratio für beide berechnet. Abgabe in Ilias bis zum 08.11.