Manika Lamba Margam Madhusudhan

Text Mining for Information Professionals

An Uncharted Territory



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To my grandparents and brother for their endless support and constant encouragement – Manika

Preface

Machine learning and artificial intelligence are the futuristic approaches dominating all disciplines currently. Data analytics, data mining, and data science are some of the significant sub-domains with a strong market of research and jobs at the moment in the world. With a long leap from paper to digitization, the burden on libraries and librarians has increased to manage, organize, and generate knowledge from such a massive amount of data stored in their repositories/databases/websites. As libraries deal with a higher percentage of textual data daily, this book focuses primarily on textual data and presents various text mining approaches through a new lens. Text mining is a very efficient, fast, and effective way of managing and extracting knowledge from existing data stored in the archives of libraries. This book will make every library and information professional competent to use text mining in their daily life and get the best out of it by serving their patrons, researchers, faculty, or scientists with new services. Text mining techniques can be applied to any library type, be it a school, university, or special library by the librarians. It will help to provide the right information to the right user at the right time by providing services like recommendation services, current awareness services, or selective dissemination services to its users.

From understanding different types and forms of data to case studies covering primary research showing the application of each text mining approach on data retrieved from various resources, this book will be a must-read for all library professionals interested in text mining and its application in libraries. Additionally, this book will be helpful to archivists, digital curators, or any other humanities and social science professionals who want to understand the basic theory behind text data, text mining, and various tools and techniques available to solve and visualize their research problems.

Key points of the book

- Contains 14 demonstrative step-by-step case studies which show how to conduct 8 different text mining and visualization approaches on 9 distinct data type sources
- 2. Provides case studies demonstrating the use of five open-source software for both non-programmers and programmers

viii Preface

3. Reproduces six case studies using R programming in the cloud without having to install any software

- 4. Story section presenting 17 real-life experiences of the application of text mining methods and tools by 24 librarians/researchers/faculty/publishers
- 5. Elucidates 19 open-source text mining and visualization tools with their advantages and disadvantages
- 6. Illustrates various use cases that show how text mining strategies have been used in different ways in libraries across the globe

The book contains 11 chapters, 14 case studies showing 8 different text mining and visualization approaches, and 17 stories. A website (https://textmining-infopros.github.io/) and a GitHub account (https://github.com/textmining-infopros) are also maintained for the book. They contain the code, data, and notebooks for the case studies; a summary of all the stories shared by the librarians/faculty; and hyperlinks to open an interactive virtual RStudio/Jupyter Notebook environment. The interactive virtual environment runs case studies based on the R programming language for hands-on practice in the cloud without installing any software. Text mining is a topic of international interest, and this book has been written to meet the reading interests of both national and international audiences. It will be appropriate for both beginners and advanced-level readers as it has been written keeping their information needs in mind.

Many books in the market are written to meet the need of computer science professionals on text mining, whereas there are very few books on text mining for librarians. Also, the books present in the market on this topic are very difficult for non-programmers to understand. They may contain lots of jargon, which may not be easily understood by a library professional. In contrast, this book focuses on a basic theoretical framework dealing with the problems, solutions, and applications of text mining and its various facets in the form of *case studies*, *use cases*, and *stories*.

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Contents

The	Computa	ational Library	
1.1	Computational Thinking		
1.2			
1.3	What I	s Text Mining?	
	1.3.1	Text Characteristics	
	1.3.2	Different Text Mining Tasks	
	1.3.3	Supervised vs. Unsupervised Learning Methods	
	1.3.4	Cost, Benefits, and Barriers	
	1.3.5	Limitations	
1.4	Case S	tudy: Clustering of Documents Using Two	
	Differe	nt Tools	
Refe	rences		
Text Data and Where to Find Them?			
		where to Find Them:	
2.1		Digital Trace Data	
22		nt Types of Data	
2.3		Plain Text	
		CSV	
		JSON	
		XML	
		Binary Files	
2.4		ita	
	2.4.1	What Is a Metadata Standard?	
	2.4.2	Steps to Create Quality Metadata	
2.5	Digital	Data Creation.	
	_	nt Ways of Getting Data	
		Downloading Digital Data	
	2.6.2	Downloading Data from Online Repositories	
	2.6.3	Downloading Data from Relational Databases	
	1.1 1.2 1.3	1.1 Comput 1.2 Geneal 1.3 What Is 1.3.1 1.3.2 1.3.3 1.3.4 1.3.5 1.4 Case S Differe References Text Data and 2.1 Data 2.1.1 2.2 Differe 2.3 Data Fi 2.3.1 2.3.2 2.3.3 2.3.4 2.3.5 2.4 Metada 2.4.1 2.4.2 2.5 Digital 2.6 Differe 2.6.1 2.6.2	

xii Contents

		2.6.4	Web APIs	63
		2.6.5	Web Scraping/Screen Scraping	66
	Refe	rences		77
3	Tevt	Pre-Proc	essing	79
J	3.1		ction	
	5.1	3.1.1	Level of Text Representation	
	3.2		ansformation	
	3.2	3.2.1	Corpus Creation	
		3.2.2	Dictionary Creation	
	3.3		e-Processing	
		3.3.1	Case Normalization	
		3.3.2	Morphological Normalization	
		3.3.3	Tokenization	
		3.3.4	Stemming	
		3.3.5	Lemmatization	
		3.3.6	Stopwords	
		3.3.7	Object Standardization	
	3.4		Engineering	
		3.4.1	Semantic Parsing	
		3.4.2	Bag of Words (BOW)	
		3.4.3	N-Grams	
		3.4.4	Creation of Matrix	
		3.4.5	Term Frequency-Inverse Document Frequency	
			(TF-IDF)	89
		3.4.6	Syntactical Parsing	
		3.4.7	Parts-of-Speech Tagging (POS)	
		3.4.8	Named Entity Recognition (NER)	
		3.4.9	Similarity Computation Using Distances	
		3.4.10	Word Embedding	
	3.5	Case Str	udy: An Analysis of Tolkien's Books	
	Refe			
4	_		ng	105
	4.1		Topic Modeling?	
		4.1.1	Topic Evolution	
		4.1.2	Application and Visualization	
		4.1.3	Available Tools and Packages	
		4.1.4	When to Use Topic Modeling	109
	4.0	4.1.5	When <i>Not</i> to Use Topic Modeling	
	4.2		s and Algorithms	
	4.3	_	Modeling and Libraries	
	4 4	4.3.1	Use Cases	117
	4.4		udy: Topic Modeling of Documents Using Three	110
	D-£		nt Tools	119 136
	Keie	rences		1.30

Contents xiii

5	Netv	vork Text	t Analysis	139
	5.1	What I	s Network Text Analysis?	139
		5.1.1	Two-Mode Networks	141
		5.1.2	Centrality Measures	142
		5.1.3	Graph Algorithms	145
		5.1.4	Comparison of Network Text Analysis with Others	145
		5.1.5	How to Perform Network Text Analysis?	146
		5.1.6	Available Tools and Packages	147
		5.1.7	Applications	147
		5.1.8	Advantages	148
		5.1.9	Limitations	149
	5.2	Topic N	Maps	149
		5.2.1	Constructs of Topic Maps	150
		5.2.2	Topic Map Software Architecture	151
		5.2.3	Typical Uses	152
		5.2.4	Advantages of Topic Maps	152
		5.2.5	Disadvantages of Topic Maps	153
	5.3	Networ	rk Text Analysis and Libraries	153
		5.3.1	Use Cases	156
	5.4		tudy: Network Text Analysis of Documents Using	
		Two Di	ifferent R Packages	158
	Refe	rences		171
6	Rure	t Detecti	ion	173
Ü	6.1		s Burst Detection?	173
	0.1	6.1.1	How to Detect a Burst?	174
		6.1.2	Comparison of Burst Detection with Others	175
		6.1.3	How to Perform Burst Detection?	176
		6.1.4	Available Tools and Packages	177
		6.1.5	Applications	178
		6.1.6	Advantages	178
		6.1.7	Limitations	178
	6.2		Detection and Libraries.	179
	0.2	6.2.1	Use Cases	179
		6.2.2	Marketing	180
		6.2.3	Reference Desk Service	180
	6.3		tudy: Burst Detection of Documents Using Two	100
	0.0		ent Tools	180
	Refe		1000	188
_				
7			nalysis	191
	7.1		s Sentiment Analysis?	191
		7.1.1	Levels of Granularity	192
		7.1.2	Approaches for Sentiment Analysis	193
		7.1.3	How to Perform Sentiment Analysis?	194
		7.1.4	Available Tools and Packages	195

xiv Contents

		7.1.5	Applications	196
		7.1.6	Advantages	196
		7.1.7	Limitations	196
	7.2	Sentime	ent Analysis and Libraries	197
		7.2.1	Use Cases	200
	7.3	Case St	udy: Sentiment Analysis of Documents Using	
		Two Di	fferent Tools	201
	Refe	rences		210
8	Pred	ictive Mo	odeling	213
	8.1		Predictive Modeling?	213
		8.1.1	Why Use Machine Learning?	215
		8.1.2	Machine Learning Methods	215
		8.1.3	Feature Selection and Representation	216
		8.1.4	Machine Learning Algorithms	216
		8.1.5	Classification Task	219
		8.1.6	How to Perform Predictive Modeling on Text	
			Documents?	221
		8.1.7	Available Tools and Packages	227
		8.1.8	Advantages	227
		8.1.9	Limitations	228
	8.2		e Learning and Libraries	228
		8.2.1	Challenges	230
		8.2.2	Use Cases	234
	8.3	Case St	udy: Predictive Modeling of Documents Using	
		RapidM	Iiner	236
	Refe	rences		240
9	Info	rmation V	Visualization	243
	9.1		Information Visualization?	243
		9.1.1	Information Visualization Framework	244
		9.1.2	Data Scale Types	245
		9.1.3	Graphic Variable Types	246
		9.1.4	Types of Datasets	247
		9.1.5	Attribute Semantics	248
		9.1.6	What Is an Appropriate Visual Representation	
			for a Given Dataset?	248
		9.1.7	Graphical Decoding	248
		9.1.8	How Does One Know How Good a Visual	
			Encoding Is?	249
		9.1.9	Main Purpose of Visualization	249
		9.1.10	Modes of Visualization	250
		9.1.11	Methods of Graphic Visualization	250
	9.2		nental Graphs	251
	9.3		ks and Trees	254
	9.4	Advanc	ed Graphs	255

Contents xv

	9.5	Rules or	1 Visual Design	 261
	9.6	Text Vis	ualization	 262
	9.7	Docume	ent Visualization	 269
	9.8	Informa	tion Visualization and Libraries	 270
		9.8.1	Use Cases	 282
		9.8.2	Information Visualization Skills for Librarians	 289
		9.8.3	Conclusion	 289
	9.9	Case Stu	udy: To Build a Dashboard Using R	 290
	Refer	ences		 292
10	Tools	and Tecl	hniques for Text Mining and Visualization	 295
	10.1		ction	295
	10.2	Text Mi	ning Tools	 296
		10.2.1	R	296
		10.2.2	Topic-Modeling-Tool	 297
		10.2.3	RapidMiner	299
		10.2.4	Waikato Environment for Knowledge Analysis	
			(WEKA)	 301
		10.2.5	Orange	302
		10.2.6	Voyant Tools	 304
		10.2.7	Science of Science (Sci2) Tool	 306
		10.2.8	LancsBox	 307
		10.2.9	ConText	 308
		10.2.10	Overview Docs	 309
	10.3	Visualiz	ation Tools	 310
		10.3.1	Gephi	 310
		10.3.2	Tableau Public	 311
		10.3.3	Infogram	 312
		10.3.4	Microsoft Power BI	 312
		10.3.5	Datawrapper	 314
		10.3.6	RAWGraphs	 315
		10.3.7	WORDij	 315
		10.3.8	Palladio	 316
		10.3.9	Chart Studio	 317
	Refer	ences		 318
11	Text	Data and	Mining Ethics	 319
	11.1		ta Management	319
		11.1.1	Plan	320
		11.1.2	Lifecycle	320
		11.1.3	Citation	325
		11.1.4	Sharing	326
		11.1.5	Need of Data Management for Text Mining	326
		11.1.6	Benefits of Data Management for Text Mining	327
		11.1.7	Ethical and Legal Rules Related to Text Data	327

xvi Contents

11.2	Social N	Media Ethics	3
	11.2.1	Framework for Ethical Research with Social	
		Media Data	3
11.3	Ethical a	and Legal Issues Related to Text Mining	3
		Copyright	
	11.3.2	License Conditions	3
	11.3.3	Algorithmic Confounding/Biasness	3
Refere	ences		3