

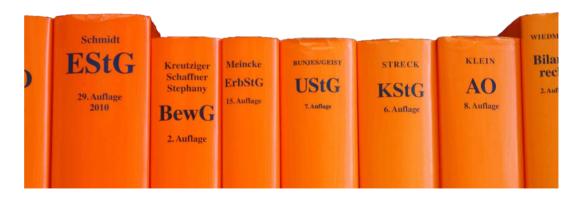
Legal Text AnalyticsChallenges and Pitfalls

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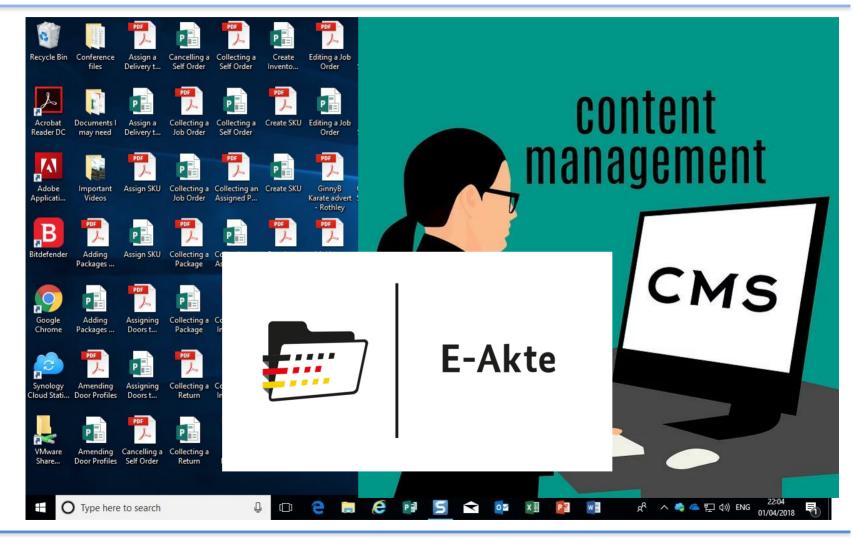
Text Data





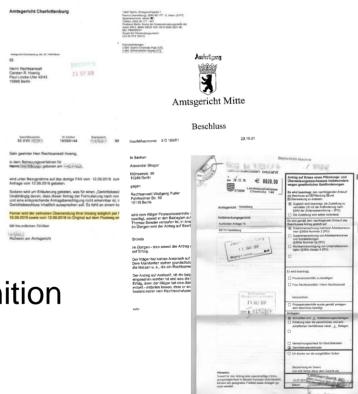


The Digitized Version



The First Challenge...





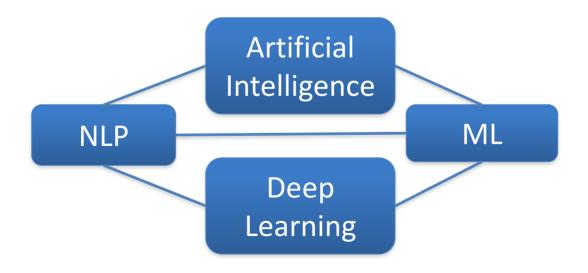
Good Optical Character Recognition (OCR) software is still a must...

Text Analytics

Text analytics are techniques that employ methods from

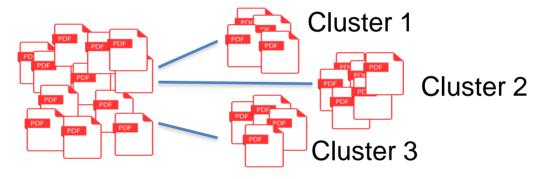
- natural language processing (NLP),
- machine learning (ML), and
- computational linguistics (CL)

to extract relevant information from text data.

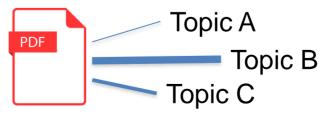


Text Analytics: Methods

 Document clustering: determine groups of documents such that documents in a group are similar (unsupervised)

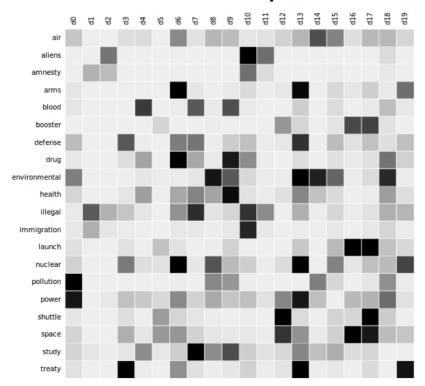


 Document classification: determine the topic(s) or class label(s) for a given a document (supervised)



Text Analytics: Methods (2)

 Topic detection: for a collection of documents, determine the themes or topics the documents are about.

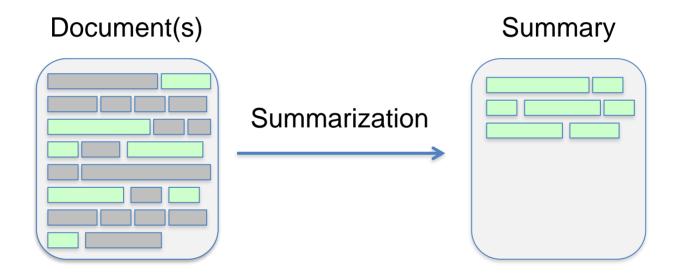


Document-Term Matrix

- Many statistical methods
- Co-occurrence of words or keywords
- Ranked list of words that best describe a topic

Text Analytics: Methods (3)

 Summarization: reduce length and detail of a document or collection while preserving its key points and meaning.



Text Analytics: Methods (4)

- Question answering: given a natural language query and a set of documents, find the best answer to the query.
 Result can be
 - excerpts from a document, e.g., a sentence, or
 - or summary

Goes into the area of natural language generation



Information Extraction

- Methods to extract structured information from documents
- Focus dates back to the beginning of NLP in the 70s
- Most fundamental task is Named Entity Recognition (NER)

 Extracted information builds backbone of many subsequent text analytics tasks and methods.

Named Entity Recognition

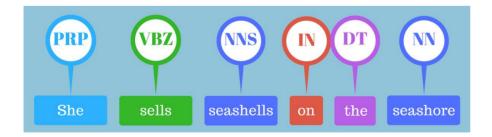
- Strongly depends on application domain, available ontologies and taxonomies, standard vocabularies...
- Common types of named entities in text:
 - Persons
 - Organizations
 - Locations
 - Times and dates
 - Monetary values
 - (Legal) concepts
 - •

Named Entity Recognition – Example

Der Zeuge Heiß hat gegenüber dem Ausschuss bestätigt, dass sich die Delegation nach der Reise mit dem damaligen Kanzleramtsminister Pofalla getroffen und von der Reise berichtet habe. Pofalla habe besonders der "gesamte Ablauf des Gesprächs mit den Amerikanern" interessiert. Dabei sei das Angebot der USA eine "wichtige Nachricht" gewesen, die er "nicht enttäuscht" aufgenommen habe. 1850 Auf den dabei geäußerten Informationen beruhte nach Aussage des Zeugen Heiß dann das Pressestatement, das Ronald Pofalla am 12. August 2013 abgab. 1851 Er selbst hat sich in der Vernehmung durch den Ausschuss als Zeuge folgendermaßen erinnert:

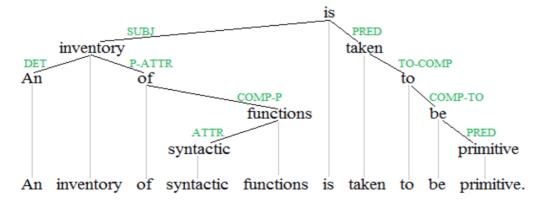
Preparatory Steps in Text Analytics

- Sentence Segmentation
 "I don't like Mondays." "It is cold, i.e., freezing cold."
- 2. Word Tokenization
 "I", "do", "n't", "like", "Mondays", "."
- 3. Part-of-Speech Tagging



Preparatory Steps in Text Analytics (2)

- 4. (Optional) Lemmatization or stemming"He came with two lawyers" → "He come with two lawyer"
- 5. Dependency Parsing (important for NER)



6. Chunking (detect composite phrases)
"The trainee lawyer's baby steps on civil law."

Legal Text Analytics

In Legal Text Analytics, legal documents are of prime interest:

- Statutes
- Contracts
- Complaints
- Court decisions
- Directives
- Comments
- Patents
- . . .



Legal Text Analytics Tasks

- Legal research: "process of identifying and retrieving information necessary to support legal decision-making"
 - primary sources of law (statues, cases, ...)
 - secondary sources (law reviews, ...)
- Problem: how to guide search, formulate the "right"

query, detect relevant sources, organize search results, ...?



Legal Text Analytics Tasks (2)

- Electronic discovery: determining electronically-stored information that is relevant for a lawsuit or investigation. "Sifting through files..."
- Technology-Assisted Review (TAR):
 uses (supervised) machine learning
 to determine relevance of a
 document, aka "predictive coding"

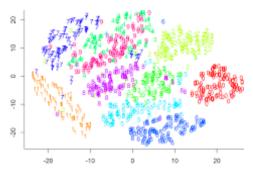


Legal Text Analytics Tasks (3)

- Contract review: decompose contract into individual clauses and provisions to
 - compare against standard clauses
 - extract key information
- Can become quite complex, e.g., due diligence
- Document automation: enable automatic generation of legal documents using fill-in-the-blanks template mechanisms.

It all boils down to...

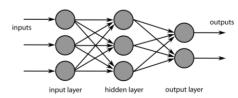
- Extracting features from documents and text
 - structure, keywords, named entities, ...
 - each document or parts thereof live in a high-dimensional vector space



- Employing similarity measure to
 - determine relevancy of a document with respect to a query (aka ranking)

Al now solves all these problems, right?

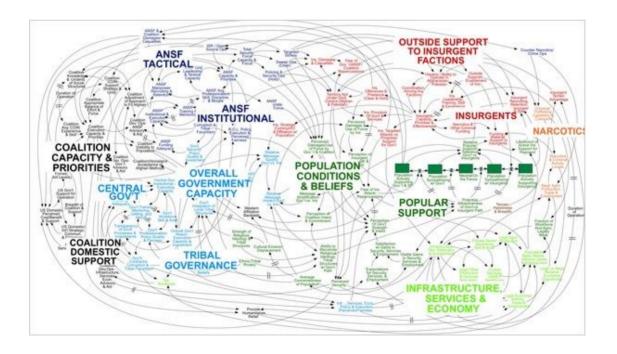
- Natural language is complex.
 - "Environmental regulators grill business owner over illegal coal fires."
- What text features are relevant is quite subjective.
- Recent Deep Learning approaches need a lot of data for training language models.
 - They help to improve key analytics tasks such as sentence splitting, NER, or chunking.
 - They even can capture semantics (e.g., synonyms)



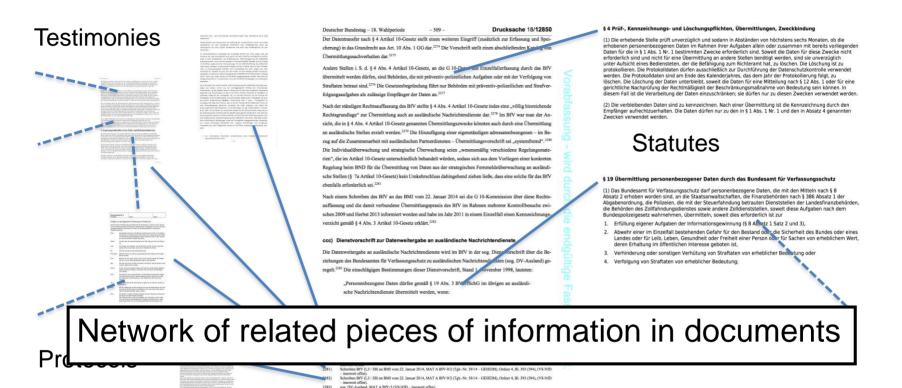
Legal Information Networks

Observations

- Law, society, and state are complex, often very dynamic, systems with many heterogeneous interacting agents.
- For investigating a legal aspect, the context matters a lot.

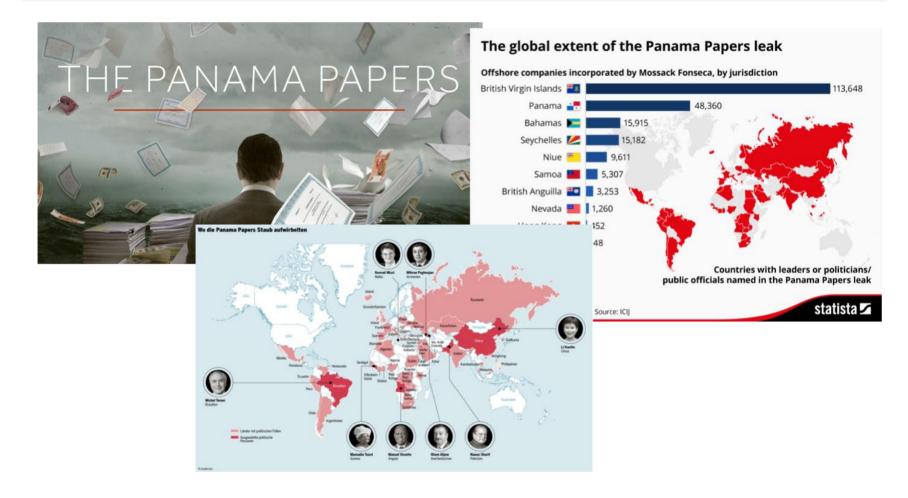


Context Matters



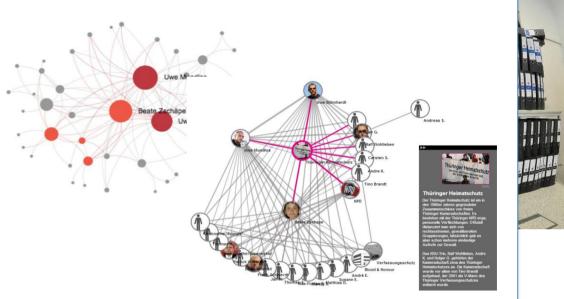
There is little sequential to getting the full picture.

Panama Papers



National Socialist Underground Trial





over 650 folders

- close to half a million pages (2014), many additions
- 540 witnesses
- 248 admissions of evidence

• ...

Information Networks

Hypothesis: named entities and concepts that (frequently) occur together in documents have some relationship.

Approach:

- Extract named entities and concepts (nodes)
- Frequent co-occurrence indicates relationship

Allows for several information detection and exploration approaches

Summary and outlook

- Text Analytics methods and techniques are key to almost all legal tech applications.
- Amount of text data will significantly increase (document automation!).
- Information discovery and exploration will dramatically increase in complexity.
- Many law firms are "sitting on" very valuable text data that could be exploited to improve legal businesses.

Thank you for your attention!

Questions?