

Digital Humanities: Text-as-Data

Week 3 – Descriptive Patterns: Text Analysis and Hierarchical Clustering

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ODM usage, programming be like...

Software can be chaotic, but we make it work



Expert

Trying Stuff
Until it Works

○ RLY?

*The Practical Developer
@ThePracticalDev*

How to actually learn any new programming concept



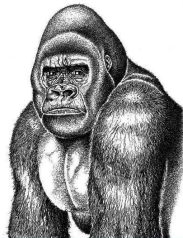
Essential

Changing Stuff and
Seeing What Happens

○ RLY?

@ThePracticalDev

Who are you kidding?



“Temporary”
Workarounds

○ RLY?

@ThePracticalDev

“Keep clicking until it works!”

REVIEW

Review: Text Preprocessing

- **Transformation** – lowercase, remove HTML/URLs, normalize characters.
- **Tokenization** – split text into tokens for counting.
- **Lemmatization** – reduce words to dictionary form.
- **Filtering** – remove stopwords and uninformative tokens.
- **POS tagging** – retain nouns or key grammatical categories.
- **N-grams** – detect multi-word expressions (e.g., “North Korea”).

Korean Text Preprocessing Solution (Optional)

Orange's native tools have limitations for Korean:

- No Korean POS tagging – can't distinguish nouns from particles.
- No Korean lemmatization – "먹다", "먹었다", "먹습니다" as different words.
- Forces regex workarounds – tedious and error-prone.

We have made you a custom .py (python) script that does for you the following:

- **Auto-installs** *kiwipiepy* (Korean NLP library).
- ***POS tagging** – identifies nouns, verbs, adjectives, adverbs.
- **Filters grammatical noise** – removes 40-60% of tokens (particles, endings).
- ***Lemmatizes** – extracts root forms regardless of conjugation.
- **Cleans** – removes URLs, emails, special characters, numbers and high/low frequencies.

Location & Usage

/data

Copy .py script into Orange's Python Script widget.

See annotated version for detailed guidance.

Not working? Or you hate it maybe? No problem. Revert to regexp work-around.



1. BASICS OF TEXT ANALYSIS

Term Frequency (TF)

What it is

How many times a word appears in a document. Can be a raw count, but often "normalized".

- Measures how central a term is within one document.
- Shows common vocabulary, but not necessarily importance.
- Example: 중학교 국사 3차 (document)
 - 민족: 337
 - 운동: 297
 - 문화: 272

Bag of Words (BoW)

What it is

A text transformation method that converts a corpus of documents into a document-term matrix of word counts. The result is a "bag" of words, where each document is represented by the counts of the words it contains.

document	역사	독립	근대화	민족
제1장	8	0	3	4
제2장	12	5	0	9
제3장	4	11	2	6

Interpretation: Frequency-based snapshot of vocabulary across documents.

Document Frequency (DF)

What it is

The number of documents in which a word appears at least once.

- Indicates how widespread or specialized a term is.
- Example (w/ 51 documents):

word	DF	Interpretation
역사	50	almost ubiquitous
독립운동	12	specific to specific documents
삼국시대	4	concentrated in even more specific documents



Inverse Document Frequency (IDF)

Plain Explanation

Measures how **distinctive** a word is across the corpus. Words that appear in many documents get low scores; rare words get high scores.

Formula:

$$IDF = \log \left(\frac{\text{total documents}}{\text{documents containing the word}} \right)$$

Word	DF (out of 51)	IDF
역사	50	0.02 (not distinctive)
근대화	18	0.45
갑오개혁	4	1.10 (highly distinctive)

TF-IDF

Plain Explanation

Combines two ideas:

- TF → how often a word appears in a document.
- IDF → how rare that word is across all documents.

Formula:

$$\text{TF-IDF} = \text{TF} \times \text{IDF}$$

Meaning: A high TF-IDF score = a rare and (maybe) important word.

Word	TF	IDF	TF-IDF
근대화	14	0.45	6.3
민주주의	11	0.52	5.7
역사	18	0.02	0.36

How to Configure BoW in Orange

The **Bag of Words** widget has three key settings that control word count processing:

- **Term Frequency:** How to count words
 - *Count*: Weighted word counts (default)
 - *Binary*: 1 if present, 0 if absent
 - *Sublinear*: Log of count
- **Document Frequency:** Weighting scheme
 - *(None)*: No weighting
 - *IDF*: Downweight common words across documents
- **Regularization:** Normalization method (for more sophisticated analysis)

Recommended: Count + IDF for standard TF-IDF normalization

Conceptual Summary

Measure	Focus	Penalizes	Use
Word count	Frequency	–	Descriptive stats
TF (unweighted)	Frequency	–	Descriptive stats
TF (normalized)	Term prominence	Length	Descriptive stats/analysis
DF	Spread across docs	–	Corpus filtering
IDF	Common terms	High DF	Weighting
TF-IDF	Frequency \times rarity	Common terms	Additional analysis
BoW	Representation	Context	Additional analysis



2. CLUSTERING

From Counting to Clustering

- Once we quantify words, we can measure how similar documents are.
- Clustering = automatically grouping documents that “talk alike.”
- Focus today: **Hierarchical Clustering.**

What Is Hierarchical Clustering?

Plain Explanation

Groups documents based on shared vocabulary patterns. Think of it as building a “family tree” of documents by similarity.

- Documents within the same cluster → similar content.
- Documents between clusters → different topics.

How It Works (Conceptually)

1. Represent each document numerically (TF-IDF vectors).
2. Measure similarity (e.g., cosine distance).
3. Merge the most similar documents step-by-step.

The output is a **dendrogram** — a visual hierarchy of relationships.



- Clustering depends on preprocessing choices (tokens, POS filters).
- Distance metric affects structure (cosine preferred for text).
- Over-clustering can reflect stylistic noise, not substance.
- TF-IDF weighting often yields more meaningful clusters than raw counts.

From Description to Discovery

You are moving from counting words to identifying patterns that reflect underlying thematic or temporal structure in historical texts.

- **Descriptive:** Which words are frequent or distinctive?
- **Analytical:** Which documents are similar or different?
- **Interpretive:** What do these groupings reveal about historical narratives?

ASSIGNMENT