## UNIVERSITY OF SURREY

## Readability for author profiling?

## Notebook for PAN at CLEF 2013

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## Performances on the English portion of the test data

| Submission | Accuracy |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | ---: | ---: |
|  | Total | Gender | Age | Gender | Age | Both | Gender | Age | Both | Predator |
| (incl. Spanish) |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

Performances on the Spanish portion of the test data

| Submission | Accuracy <br> Gender |  |  | Age |
| :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: | ---: | | Runtime |
| ---: |
| (incl. English) |




## "Scientific" foundations?

- We know that text readability measures have been correlated with age (e.g.
http://www.cs.surrey.ac.uk/BIMA/People/L.Gillam/downloads/publications/2010.LN CS-readability.pdf)
- But what of gender?
- "Previous research has shown that women talk almost three times as much as men. In fact, an average woman notches up 20,000 words in a day, which is about 13,000 more than the average man."
- http://www.scienceworldreport.com/articles/5073/20130220/why-women-talk-more-men-language-protein.htm
- But: "Large studies have been conducted on sex differences in verbal abilities within the normal population, and a careful reading of the results suggests that differences in language proficiency do not exist". Wallentin, M. (2009) "Putative sex differences in verbal abilities and language cortex: A critical review". Brain and Language 108(3): 175183.


## "Scientific" foundations?

- So for author profiling, can we

1. measure simple features of readability and see if age can be inferred?
2. see if there's a trace of increased word use merely in sentence lengths?

- And if the latter works, let others draw whatever conclusions they wish.


## "Scientific" foundations?

- The best known readability measures already encode these for us, so lets break them out:

|  | Flesch | Kincaid | Fog Index | SMOG | ARI | Dale-Chall | Fry |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Sentence count <br> Word count | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |
| Characters count <br> Syllables count <br> Polysyllable words <br> count (more than <br> three syllables) <br> List of easy words <br> Scale | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |  | $\checkmark$ | $\checkmark$ |  |  |
| 0-100 | $\checkmark$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## Approach

## Word lengths



## Sentence lengths

- Ignore if < 35 characters
- Fudged for speed by chars/6



## Approach

- d50d5110d7db800410a47f004b6e92cc_en_20s_male.xml
- Length-ordered, word at $50 \%$ is of length 4.
- Length-ordered, sentence at $50 \%$ is of length 27.
- But these alone don't account for distributions, and in particular a tendency towards longer words and sentences
- Word at $90 \%$ length 7
- Sentence at $90 \%$ length 38
- So, two values per file (- does the 'readability’ tell us anything?):
- $7+4=11$ (average +n std devs did not appeal)
- $27+38=65$


## Approach

- Too many datapoints to interpret manually - so throw at a decision tree and look for compactness (ability to generalise). Weka, J48.

J48 pruned tree

```
word <= 10: 20s (7673.0/3974.0)
word > 10
| sentence <= 108: 30s (19334.0/7365.0)
| sentence > 108
| | word <= 11: 20s (45.0/14.0)
| | word > 11: 30s (206.0/92.0)
Number of Leaves : 4
Size of the tree : 7
```

Gender: on samples

```
J48 pruned tree
```

```
wordlength <= 4
| wordlength <= 3
    | sentlength <= 10: male (166.0/60.0)
    | sentlength > 10: female (124.0/57.0)
    wordlength > 3: male (9605.0/4405.0)
wordlength > 4
sentlength <= 12
| sentlength <= 9: male (3832.0/1747.0)
    sentlength > 9
        wordlength <= 6
            | wordlength <= 5: male (3067.0/1500.0)
            | wordlength > 5: female (2149.0/1065.0)
            wordlength > 6
            | sentlength <= 10: female (245.0/111.0)
            sentlength > 10: male (692.0/296.0)
    sentlength > 12
    sentlength <= 35
        wordlength <= 7
            | sentlength <= 14
            | wordlength <= 6: female (5211.0/2526.0)
            wordlength > 6: male (755.0/357.0)
            sentlength > 14: female (39450.0/18560.0)
            wordlength > 7: male (1016.0/482.0)
            sentlength > 35: male (1814.0/842.0)
```

Number of Leaves ..... 13
Size of the tree : ..... 25

## Age_gender?

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| <= 10 | $1\|\mid$ word >9 |
| :---: | :---: |
| \| sent <= 45 | \| | | | sent < = 14 |
| \| | word <= 8 | \| | | | sent <=11: 20s_male (22.0/13.0) |
| \| | | word <= 0: 30__male (14363.0/10626.0) | $1\|\|\|\mid$ sent > 11: 30 s_male (355.0/256.0) |
| 1 \| | word>0 | \| | | sent > 14 |
| 1 \| | | word <= 6 | \| | | | | sent <= 28 |
| \| | | | | word <= 5: 20s_male (5.01.0) | \| | | | | ${ }_{\text {sent }<=18}$ |
| \| | | | | word > 5 | \| | | | | | sent <= 16: 30s_female (196.01/42.0) |
| \| | | | | | sent <= 15 | \| | | | | | | sent > 16: 30s_male (256.0/182.0) |
| \| | | | | | sent \ll 11: 20s_female (9.006.0) | \| | | | | | sent $>18$ |
| \| | | | | | | sent > 11 | 1 \| | | | | sent <= 20: 20s_male (309.0/226.0) |
| \| | | | | | | sent <= 13: 20 __male (22.0/13.0) | \| | | | | | | sent > 20 |
| \| | | | | | | | sent > 13: 30s_male (26.0/18.0) | \| | | | | | | sent $<=25$ |
| \| | | | | sent > 15: 20__female (27.0/14.0) | \| | | | | | | | | sent <= 21: 30s_female (44.0/32.0) |
| 1 । । \| word > 6 | \| | | | | | | sent > 21: 20s_male (537.0/387.0) |
| \| | | | | sent \ll 27 | \| | | | | | | sent > 25 |
| \| | | | | | sent < = 25 | 1 \| | | | | | sent <= 27: 30s_male (285.0/211.0) |
| \| | | | | | word<<7 | \| | | | | | | | sent > 27: 20s_male (200.0/140.0) |
| \| | | | | | | sent <= 14: 30s_male (273.0/182.0) | $111\|\mid$ sent > 28 |
| \| | | | | | | | sent > 14 | 1 \| | | sent <= 29: 30s_male (58.0/38.0) |
| \| | | | | | | | | sent <= 17: 20s_male (122.0887.0) | $1\|\|\|\|\mid$ sent 29 |
| \| | | | | | | | | sent $>17$ | \| | | | | | sent < 31: 20s_male (160.0/14.0) |
| \| | | | | | | | | | sent <= 19: 30s_female (79.0153.0) | $1\|\|\|\|\|\mid ~ s e n t>31$ |
| \| | | | | | | | | | sent > 19: 20s_male (96.0/66.0) | \| | | | | | | sent <= 34: 30s_female (285.0/203.0) |
| \| | | | | | | word >7 | \| | | | | | | sent > 34: 30s_male (708.01508.0) |
| \| | | | | | | | sent <= 23 | \| sent $>45$ |
| \| | | | | | | | | sent <= 14: 20s_male (241.0/156.0) | \| $\mid$ sent <= 187 |
| \| | | | | | | | sent > 14: 30s_male (601.0/422.0) | $1\|\mid$ word <= 7 |
|  | $11 \mid$ word <= 6: 20 s_male (6.0/3.0) |
| \| | | | | | sent > 25: 30 s_male (86.0/55.0) | $1\|\|\mid$ word >6 |
| 1 \| | | sent> 27 | \| | | | sent <=128: 30s_male ( $30.0 / 13.0$ ) |
| \| | | | | | word <=7 | \| | | | sent > 128: 10s_female (2.0/1.0) |
| \| | | | | | | sent <= 41 | $1\|\mid$ word >7 |
| \| | | | | | | | sent < = 33 | \| | | sent <=75: 20s_male (974.0/653.0) |
| \| | | | | | | | | sent <= 29: 20s_female (17.011.0) | \| | | | sent > 75 |
| \| | | | | | | sent > 29: 30s_male (39.0/18.0) | \| | | | | word <=9 |
| \| | | | | | | | sent > 33: 20s_female (17.0/8.0) | \| | | | | word <= 8: 20s_male (65.0/47.0) |
| \| | | | | | sent > 41: 20s_male (8.014.0) | \| | | | | | word > 8 |
| \| | | | | | word > 7 | \| | | | | | sent < 102 |
| \| | | | | | | sent <= 42: 20s_temale (275.0/1995.0) | $1\left\|\left\|\left\|\left\|\left\|\mid ~ s e n t<=76: 20 s \_\right.\right.\right.\right.\right.$male (6.03.0) |
| \| | | | | | | sent > 42: 20s_male (16.099.0) | \| | | | | | | sent > 76 |
| 1 \| word > 8 | \| | | | | | | | sent <= 89 |
| 1 \| ${ }^{\text {word < }=9}$ |  |
| \| | | | sent < = 30 | \| | | | | | | | | sent > 82: 30s_female (23.0/13.0) |
| \| | | | | sent <= 11: 20s_male (26.0/14.0) | \| | | | | | | | sent > 89: 20s_male (27.0/16.0) |
| \| | | | | sent > 11 | \| | | | | | sent > 102 |
| \| | | | | sent <= 14: 30s_female (384.0/284.0) | \| | | | | | | sent < 110 |
| \| | | | | | sent> 14 | \| | | | | | | sent <= 103: 10 s _male ( 3.012 .0$)^{\text {a }}$ |
| \| | | | | | | sent <= 19 | \| | | | | | | | sent > 103: 30s_female (11.0/3.0) |
| \| | | | | | | | sent <= 18 | \| | | | | | sent > 110 |
| \| | | | | | | | | sent < = 15: 20s_male (15.0/10.0) | \| | | | | | | sent < = 160: 30s_male (43.0/32.0) |
| \| | | | | | | | | sent > 15: 30s_male (496.0365.0) | \| | | | | | | | sent > 160 |
| \| | | | | | | | sent > 18: 20s_male (16.0/10.0) | \| | | | | | | | | sent <= 175 |
| \| | | | | | | sent > 19 | \| | | | | | | | | sent < = 165: 30s_temale (2.0) |
| \| | | | | | | | sent < 21:30__female (250.018182.0) | \| | | | | | | | | sent > 165: 20s_female (4.01/.0) |
| \| | | | | | | | sent > 21: 20s_male (670.0/468.0) | \| | | | | | | | sent > 175: 30s_female (5.0/2.0) |
| \| | | | sent > 30 | $1\|\|\|\mid$ word >9 |
| \| | | | | sent <= 43 | $1\|\|\|\|\mid$ sent $<=112$ |
| \| | | | | | sent < = 39 | $1\|\|\|\|\mid$ sent <= 93: 20 s_male (93.0/59.0) |
| \| | | | | | | sent <= 36 | $1\|\|\|\|\mid ~ s e n t>93$ |
| \| | | | | | | | sent <=35: 20s_male (220.0/155.0) | \| | | | | | | sent <= 94: 30s_female (2.0) |
| \| | | | | | | | sent > 35: 30s_male (94.0667.0) | \| | | | | | sent > 94: 30s_male ( 53.0139 .0 ) |
| \| | | | | | | sent > 36: 20s_female (80.058.0) | \| | | | | sent > 112 |
| \| | | | | | sent> 39 | \| | | | | | sent <= 117: 20s__emale (6.013.0) |
| \| | | | | | sent <= 42 | \| | | | | | | sent > 117: 20s_male (60.0/35.0) |
| \| | | | | | | | sent < = 40: 20s_male (43.0/25.0) | $1 \mid$ sent > 187: 20s_male (143.0776.0) |
| \| | | | | | | sent > 40: 30s_male (38.0126.0) | word > 10 |
| \| | | | | | | sent > 42: 20s_male (7.013.0) | $\mid$ sent < = 28 |
|  |  |


word $<=21$
sent $<=19$
sent $=14$
sent $<=14$ 20s_female (3.01. 0 )
sent $>14: 30$ _ male (201.0)
sent > 19: 30s_male (67.0/1.0)
| sent $<=23$
serd $<24$
word <=22: 20s male (3.0/1.0)
word > 22: 22: 20s_male (4.01. (4.0).
word < $<24$ :30s female (3.01.0)
word $=24$ 20: 2 _female ( 3.0110 ) sent $>23$ 20s_male (8.014.0)
sent $>28$
word $<=11$
sent $<=72$
sent $<=36$
| sent <= 33: 30s_male ( $1053.0 / 736.0$
| sent $>33$ 30_ 1 _female ( $276.0 / 180.0$ ) sent \gg 34: 30s_male ( $523.0 / 359.0$ )
sent $<=$ 37: 30s_male (224.01154.0)
sent $>37: 30$ _female ( 519.01367 .0$)$
sent > 39: 30s_male ( 1350.01932 .0 )
sent $<=52: 30 \mathrm{~s}$ female (1117.0752.0)
sent > 72
|sent <=74: 30s_male (40.0/26.0) sent $>5$
sent $<=106$
sent <= 98: 20s_male (27.0/13.0)
sent > 98: 10s_male (2.014.0)
sent > 99: 30 _female (18.010.0)
sent $>106$
sent $<108$
sent > 108: 20s_male (3.011.0)

| word $>11$ |
| :--- |
| $\mid$ word $<=$ |

word <=12: 30s_female (4493.0/2964.0)
sent <=32

word > 13: 30s_male ( $340.0 / 231.0$ )
sent $>32$
sent $<33$
Word $<=13: 30$ s_temale (230.0/155.0
word $>13: 30$ _male (71.0.44.0)
word <= 13: 30s_male (1765.0/1184.C
sent $>38$
| sent $<=78$

$$
\left.\begin{array}{ll}
1 & \mid
\end{array} \right\rvert\, \text { word }<=12: \text { sos_ferale (86.0/51.0) }
$$



Number of Leaves : 220

## Final rules

- AGE:
if( word <= 10): return "20s"
else: if( sentence <= 108): return "30s" else: if( word <= 11): return "20s"
else: return "30s"
- GENDER:
if( sentence <= 28):
if( word <= 18): return "male"
else:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { if( sentence < 17): } \\
& \quad \text { if( word <= } 21 \text { ): return "female" } \\
& \quad \text { else: return "male" } \\
& \text { else: } \\
& \quad \text { return "male" }
\end{aligned}
$$

else:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \text { if(word <= 11): return "male" } \\
& \text { else: return "female" }
\end{aligned}
$$

## Caveats

- Little effort put in to deriving results - hadn't noticed Spanish texts to start with - just wanted to see if this simple approach did anything.
- Approach works quite quickly (after all, it isn't doing much!)
- Should really do sentence lengths 'properly'.
- Many parameter values could be tested; different values to encompass distribution.
- And:

- No 10s!

J48 pruned tree
word $<=10: 20 s(7673.0 / 3974.0)$
word $>10$
| sentence <= 108: 30s (19334.0/7365.0)
sentence > 108
| | word <= 11: 20s (45.0/14.0)
| | word > 11: $30 s$ (206.0/92.0)

Number of Leaves : 4

Size of the tree : 7

Time taken to build model: 8.58 seconds

- Correctly Classified Instances 15802
- Incorrectly Classified Instances 11456
- Small proportion labelled 10s - so, 'guesses’ towards 20s/30s.

Test set proportions for 10s, 20s, 30s?

## Performances on the English portion of the test data

| Submission | Accuracy |  |  | Adult |  |  | Predator |  |  | Runtime(incl. Spanish) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Total | Gender | Age | Gender | Age | Both | Gender | Age | Both |  |
| meinal3 | 0.3894 | 0.5921 | 0.6491 | 6 | 8 | 6 | 72 | 41 | 41 | 383821541 |
| pastor 13 |  | 0.5690 | 0.6572 | 1 | 8 | 0 | 72 | 32 | 32 | 2298561 |
| mechtil3 | 0.3677 | 0.5816 | 0.5897 | 2 | 6 | 2 | 52 | 29 | 20 | 1018000000 |
| santosh13 | 0.3508 | 0.5652 | 0.6408 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 69 | 32 | 29 | 17511633 |
| yong13 | 0.3488 | 0.5671 | 0.6098 | 6 | 1 | 1 | 28 | 30 | 17 | 577144695 |
| ladral3 | 0.3420 | 0.5608 | 0.6118 | 9 | 9 | 9 | 72 | 33 | 33 | 1729618 |
| gillam13 | 0.3268 | 0.5410 | 0.6031 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 72 | 30 | 30 | 615347 |
| Lown 19 | 0.2115 | 0.50067 | 0.5800 | 0 | 0 | - | 47 | 35 | ว5 | 95ean |
|  | 0.3114 | 0.5456 | 0.5966 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 69 | 44 | 41 | 9559554 |
| adityal3 | 0.2843 | 0.5000 | 0.6055 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 72 | 40 | 40 | 3734665 |
| hidalgo13 | 0.2840 | 0.5000 | 0.5679 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 72 | 40 | 40 | 3241899 |
| farias 13 | 0.2816 | 0.5671 | 0.5061 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 55 | 34 | 26 | 24558035 |
| jankowskal3 | 0.2814 | 0.5381 | 0.4738 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 72 | 44 | 44 | 16761536 |
| flekoval3 | 0.2785 | 0.5343 | 0.5287 | 4 | 4 | 4 | 61 | 39 | 34 | 18476373 |
| weren 13 | 0.2564 | 0.5044 | 0.5099 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 71 | 40 | 39 | 11684955 |
| ramirez13 | 0.2471 | 0.4781 | 0.5415 | 9 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 40 | 9 | 64350734 |
| jimenez13 | 0.2450 | 0.4998 | 0.4885 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 27 | 31 | 14 | 3940310 |
| morean 13 | 0.2395 | 0.4941 | 0.4824 | 4 | 4 | 2 | 33 | 39 | 19 | 448406705 |
| baseline | 0.1650 | 0.5000 | 0.3333 | $\overline{5}$ | $\overline{4}$ | $\overline{7}$ | $\bar{\square}$ | 17 | 12 | 29140 |
|  |  |  |  | 5 4 | $\frac{4}{7}$ | 1 | 55 | 17 9 | 12 | 22914419 855252000 |
| cagninal3 | 0.0741 | 0.5040 | 0.1234 | 4 | 7 | 4 | 24 | 9 | 8 | 855252000 |

Performances on the Spanish portion of the test data

| Submission | Total | Accuracy Gender | Age | Runtime (incl. English) |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| santosh13 | 0.4208 | 0.6473 | 0.6430 | 17511633 |
| pastor13 | 0.4158 | 0.6299 | 0.6558 | 2298561 |
| harol3 | 0.3897 | 0.6165 | 0.6219 | 9559554 |
| flekoval3 | 0.3683 | 0.6103 | 0.5966 | 18476373 |
| ladra13 | 0.3523 | 0.6138 | 0.5727 | 1729618 |
| jimenez13 | 0.3145 | 0.5627 | 0.5429 | 3940310 |
| kern13 | 0.3134 | 0.5706 | 0.5375 | 18285830 |
| yong13 | 0.3120 | 0.5468 | 0.5705 | 577144695 |
| ramirez 13 | 0.2934 | 0.5116 | 0.5651 | 64350734 |
| adityal3 | 0.2824 | 0.5000 | 0.5643 | 3734665 |
| jankowska 13 | 0.2592 | 0.5846 | 0.4276 | 16761536 |
| gillam13 | 0.2543 0.250 | 0.4784 | 0.5377 | 615347 |
| weren 13 | 0.2463 | 0.5362 | 0.4615 | 11684955 |
| cagninal3 | 0.2339 | 0.5516 | 0.4148 | 855252000 |
| hidalgol3 | 0.2000 | 0.5000 | 0.4000 | 3241899 |
| farias13 | 0.1757 | 0.4982 | 0.3554 | 24558035 |
| baseline | 0.1650 | 0.5000 | 0.3333 | $2361272{ }^{-}$ |
| mechti13 | 0.0287 | 0.5455 | 0.0512 | 23612726 1018000000 |

What influence data bias?

## Thank you

## Questions?

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