#### Creative Computing II

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Autumn 2010, Wednesdays: 10:00–12:00: RHB307 & 14:00–16:00: WB316 Winter 2011, Wednesdays: 10:00–12:00: RHB307 & 14:00–16:00: WB316

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Textual Distance Measures

Levenshtein distance:

- define a set of permitted operations and associated costs:
  - insert (cost ins);
  - delete (cost *del*);
  - substitute (cost sub);
- Levenshtein distance between two words is the minimum cost to transform one word into another.

Textual Distance Measures

$$d \leftarrow d_{Levenshtein}(x, y)$$

$$l_x \leftarrow \text{length}(x); l_y \leftarrow \text{length}(y)$$
if  $l_x = 0$  then
$$d \leftarrow l_y$$
else if  $l_y = 0$  then
$$d \leftarrow l_x$$
else
$$d_{del} \leftarrow del + d_{Levenshtein}(x_{2:l_x}, y)$$

$$d_{ins} \leftarrow ins + d_{Levenshtein}(x, y_{2:l_y})$$
if  $x_1 = y_1$  then

$$d_{sub} \leftarrow d_{Levenshtein}(x_{2:I_x}, y_{2:I_y})$$

$$d_{sub} \leftarrow sub + d_{Levenshtein}(x_{2:l_x}, y_{2:l_y}$$
  
end if  
 $d \leftarrow min(d_{del}, d_{ins}, d_{sub})$   
end if

#### This computation is $O(L^L)$ for strings of length L

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else

$$\begin{array}{l} d_{sub} \leftarrow sub + d_{Levenshtein}(x_{2:l_x}, y_{2:l_y}) \\ \text{end if} \\ d \leftarrow min(d_{del}, d_{ins}, d_{sub}) \\ \text{end if} \end{array}$$

This computation is  $O(L^L)$  for strings of length L ... but we can do better: "Dynamic Programming".

Textual Distance Measures

```
d \leftarrow d_{I \text{ evenshtein}}(x, y)
   for i from 0 to I_x do
       d_{i,0} \leftarrow i \times del
   end for
   for j from 0 to I_v do
       d_{0,i} \leftarrow i \times ins
   end for
   for i from 1 to I_x do
       for j from 1 to l_v do
           if x_i = y_i then
              d_{i,i} = d_{i-1,i-1}
           else
              d_{i,i} = min(d_{i-1,i} + del, d_{i,i-1} + ins, d_{i-1,i-1} + sub)
           end if
       end for
   end for
   d \leftarrow d_{l \times l \times l}
This computation is O(L^2) for strings of length L.
```

Textual Distance Measures

 $d( ext{choose}, ext{choose})=0$  $d( ext{choose}, ext{chose})=del$  $d( ext{choose}, ext{chives})=2 imes sub+del+ins$ 

 $d( ext{professor}, ext{proffessor}) = ins$  $d( ext{professors}, ext{proffessor}) = ins + del$ 

- Often an appropriate measure to use for comparing words;
- Models ways of making mistakes;
- ► O(L<sup>2</sup>) time is practical for distances between words (but not between whole documents).

Textual Document Retrieval

Term-Frequency–Inverse-Document-Frequency (tf-idf):

- intuition:
  - term frequency: the more often a term is in a document, the more relevant it is;
  - inverse document frequency: the more documents a term is in, the less discriminating it is;

Therefore, maximize a measure combining the term frequency and the inverse document frequency.

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• 
$$tf_{ij} = \frac{n_{ij}}{\sum_k n_{kj}}$$

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