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Tutorial: How to build a Search-Engine with Common Unix-Tools Andreas Schmidt

Exercise I

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Download the dataset BBCSport from http://mlg.ucd.ie/files/datasets/bbcsport-fulltext.zip und unzip the content in a directory. In the first exercise, the corpus of documents is to be statistically analysed.

- 1. Create a list of all words in the news documents in directory football. Each line should contain a single word (use grep or tr).
- 2. Transform all the words in lowercase and sort them alphabetically (use tr, sort).
- 3. Write the result in a file called *wordlist-sorted.txt* (outside the *bbcsport* directory).
- 4. What are the most frequent 50 words? Inspect the file with the command less. At which position, does the first topic specific word (topic football) appear? (use head, uniq, sort, less with -N option)
- 5. Take the 30 most frequent entries and write them into a file called stopwords-30.txt. The list should look like in Appendix A. (use cut, sed, head).
- 6. Extend step 1-5 to all articles in bbcsport (including tennis, athletics, ..).
- 7. How many percent of the whole text is covered by the 30 most frequent words? (about 1/3 of the text). (use grep with –f option, wc, sed)

Appendix A (stopwords-30.txt -ordered by decreasing frequency):

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