

# Lab1 : Probability of Letters

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- Markov approximation to probability of letter sequences

$$P(L) = P(l_1)P(l_2 | l_1) \cdots P(l_{|L|} | l_1, \dots, l_{|L|-1}) \quad k\text{-gram}$$

$$\approx P(l_1)P(l_2 | l_1) \cdots P(l_k | l_1, \dots, l_{k-1}) \prod_{i=k+1}^{|L|} P(l_i | l_{i-1}, l_{i-2}, \dots, l_{i-k})$$

Lab1: simulate Shannon's study on English letters

1. Compute unigrams and bigrams of all letter events
2. List top and bottom 5 letters and their probabilities
3. List top and bottom 5 letter pairs and their probabilities
4. Do the above for 1000 & 10000 sentences, any difference?

Hint: compute conditional entropy given previous letters