

Exploring Legal Applications of Natural Language Processing Techniques

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Abstract

Natural Language Processing (NLP) is a field of artificial intelligence (AI) where language is considered as data not for the purpose of understanding language *per se*, but to study interrelations between and among words and corpora. Applications of NLP, in general, include text classification, sentiment analysis, language modeling, and summarization. (Chollet, 2021). NLP also finds application in the predictive generation of text based on a corpus. Law is a field heavily reliant on language and for this reason, NLP finds practical applications. In the Philippines, Virtucio et al. in 2018 used NLP to predict Philippine Supreme Court (SC) Decisions with 59% accuracy based purely on textual context. In this presentation, the merger of NLP or AI, language, and law, combined with a lawyer's domain knowledge is explored across several applications, including clustering of SC decisions and studying contracts, to demonstrate the feasibility of NLP in law in actual practice. In addition, data visualization and storytelling techniques will be demonstrated, for a more effective communication of data to an audience.