CIS 122

More Markov



Text Processing

- Convert strings into processed word lists
- Split string into list of words

Beyond Lists

Lists associate values with specific indices

- ['A', 'B', 'C']
 The 0th element is 'A'
- The 2th element is 'C'

What if we want to associate values with other keys

 The 42 element
 The -12 element
 The 'a' element
 The 'a' element
 The 'elephant' element

Dictionaries to the rescue!

 Associate keys with values
 Keys can have any (immutable) type
 Values can have any type

fruitColors = { 'apple' : 'red', 'pear' : 'green', 'banana' : 'yellow' }

>> fruitColors['apple']
'red'

dictionary = { key1 : value1, key2 : value2, key3 : value3, ... }

 $key1 \rightarrow value1$ $key2 \rightarrow value2$ $key3 \rightarrow value3$

- Dictionaries act a lot like lists
- We can access specific elements

 But we access them with keys, not indices
 fruitColors['apple']
- We can modify values

 fruitColors['apple'] = 'green'
- Keys cannot be modified

 If you want a different key, make a new one
 fruitColors['grape'] = 'purple'

Let's write a function to give the number of days in a month

 daysInMonth('January') → 31
 daysInMonth('February') → 28

One approach would be to use a ton of if statements

def daysInMonth(month):
 if month == 'January':
 return 31
 elif month == 'February':
 return 28

• How could we use dictionaries to simplify our code?

Store number of days per month in a dictionary
 Then look up the month we're interested in

```
def daysInMonth(month):
monthDict = {'January' : 31, 'February' : 28, ... }
return monthDict[month]
```

```
Dictionaries
```

• We can also build up dictionaries from scratch

```
shoeSize = { }
```

```
shoeSize[ 'Bob' ] = 10
```

```
shoeSize['Betty'] = 7
```

```
shoeSize[ 'Bertha' ] = 8
```