

Structure Recognition

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The iText R&D team

Structure Recognition



About PDF

- Various **standards**: PDF/A-1, PDF/A-2, PDF/A-3, PDF/UA, PDF/E, PAdES, etc.
- Level of **descriptiveness** (e.g. metadata) varies.
- **Basic** level:
instructions for how a viewer (e.g. Adobe Reader) should render a document.

```
[a, -28.7356, p, 27.2652, p, 27.2652, e, -27.2652, a, -28.7356, r, 64.6889, a, -28.7356, n, 27.2652, c, -38.7594,  
e, 444] TJ  
/R10 10.44 Tf  
68.16 0.24 Td  
["", 17.1965, P, -18.7118, i, -9.35592, l, -9.35592, o, -17.2414, t, -9.35636, ", 17.1965, , 250] TJ
```





Expectations of end-users

- People are used to programs like Microsoft® Word™.
- Reflow (e.g. flowing content around an image).
- Structure is part of the document.
- Export to various formats.
- Extracting data.
- Change appearance of a logical unit (e.g. word, line, or paragraph).





Constraints

- iText Group nv is an **open source** company:
 - Close to the **community**.
 - Code should be something you want other people to see - **accessible** (rather than a dirty hack) .
 - Code should be something the user can change - **contribution**.
- Submitting pull requests.
- Tweak and fine-tune to match experience and expertise.

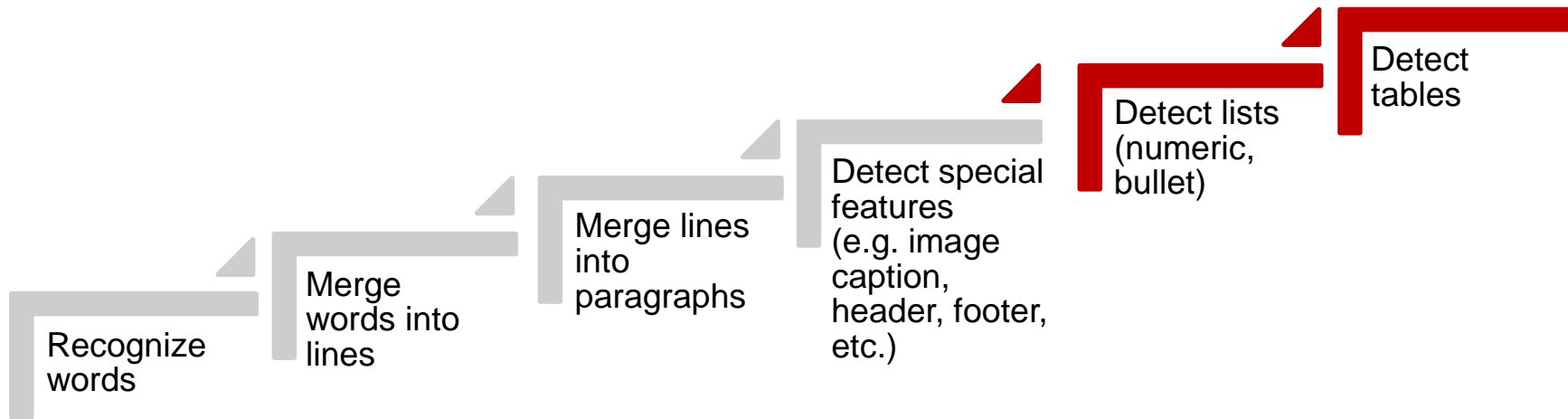


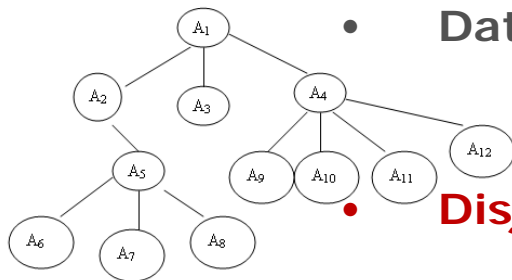


Technical



Proposed solution





- Data structure – evaluating equivalence.

• **Disjoint set** algorithm:

- Space, find, merge all in $O(a(n))$.
- Maps nicely to PDF ideas.





When to merge

- Disjoint set tells us **how** the merging happens, not when.
- When depends on **what is being merged** - 2 approaches:

1. (Human) logic

- Chunks are merged into words based on distance.
- Words are merged into lines based on distance and global page layout.
- Lines into paragraphs based on distance and visual cues.

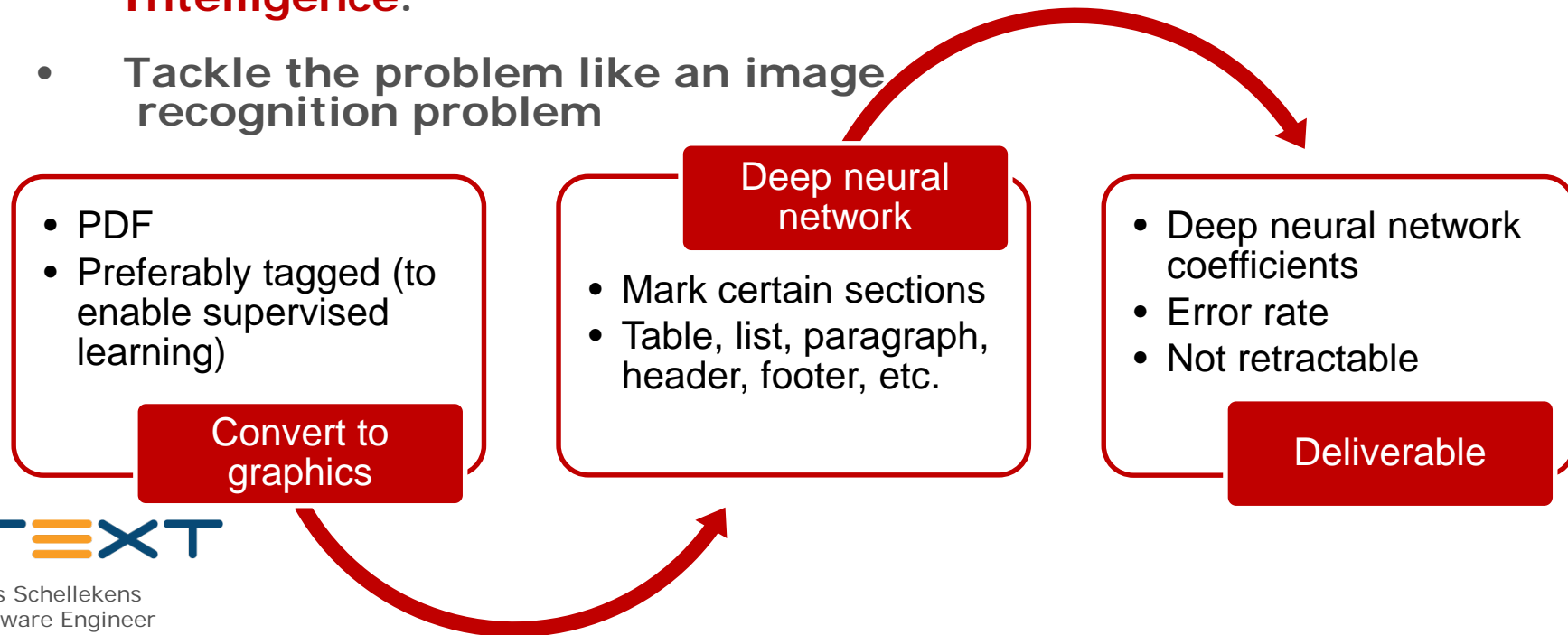




When to merge (alt)

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- Alternative (bends the constraints) – use **Artificial Intelligence**.
- Tackle the problem like an image recognition problem



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In Depth



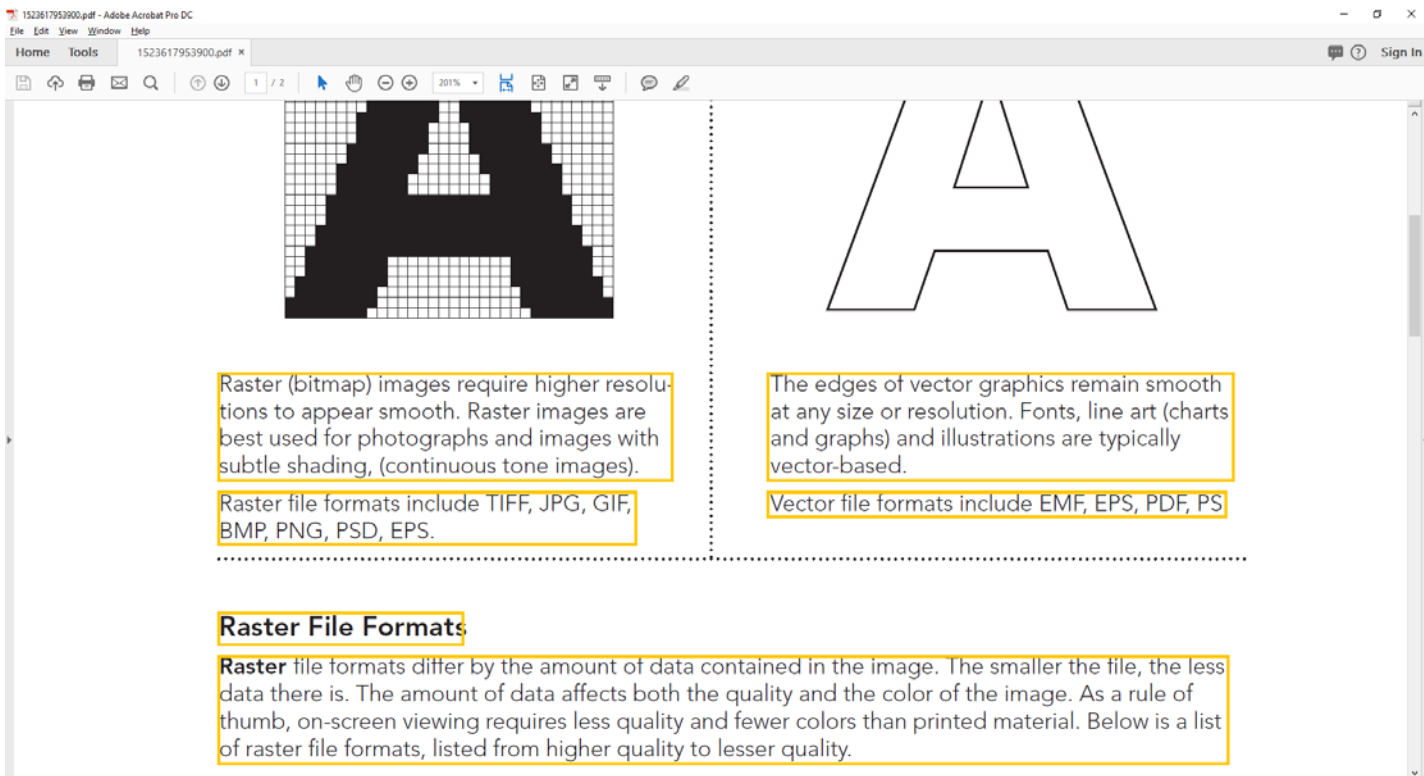
Building a training set

- **Use of NN requires training data**
 - Large volume of (perfectly) tagged PDF documents
- **Not readily available**
- **Build our own?**
 - pdfHTML (convert random crawled HTML to PDF)
 - Gutenberg
 - Crawl the internet for PDFs
 - Industry contacts





Convert training set



The screenshot shows the Adobe Acrobat Pro DC interface with a document titled '1523617953900.pdf'. The document is displayed at 200% zoom. On the left, a raster image of the letter 'A' is shown, which is pixelated and blurry. On the right, a vector image of the letter 'A' is shown, which is sharp and clear. Below the images, there are two text boxes explaining the differences between raster and vector graphics.

Raster (bitmap) images require higher resolutions to appear smooth. Raster images are best used for photographs and images with subtle shading, (continuous tone images).

Raster file formats include TIFF, JPG, GIF, BMP, PNG, PSD, EPS.

The edges of vector graphics remain smooth at any size or resolution. Fonts, line art (charts and graphs) and illustrations are typically vector-based.

Vector file formats include EMF, EPS, PDF, PS

Raster File Formats

Raster file formats differ by the amount of data contained in the image. The smaller the file, the less data there is. The amount of data affects both the quality and the color of the image. As a rule of thumb, on-screen viewing requires less quality and fewer colors than printed material. Below is a list of raster file formats, listed from higher quality to lesser quality.





Convert training set (2)

- **Feature selection**
 - **X**
 - **Y**
 - **Width**
 - **Height**
 - **Fontsize**
 - **Bold?**
 - **Italic?**
 - **Underline?**
 - **ΔX**
 - **ΔY**

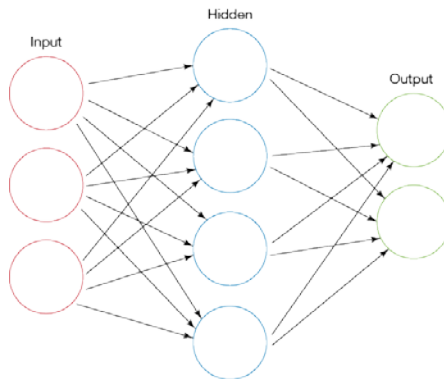




Feed the beast

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41	56	10	26	16	52	56	8	26	16	1	0	1
52	56	8	26	16	41	56	10	26	16	1	0	1
52	56	8	26	16	60	56	9	26	16	0	0	1
60	56	9	26	16	52	56	8	26	16	0	0	1
60	56	9	26	16	70	56	5	26	16	1	0	1
70	56	5	26	16	60	56	9	26	16	1	0	1
70	56	5	26	16	76	56	8	26	16	1	0	1
76	56	8	26	16	70	56	5	26	16	1	0	1
76	56	8	26	16	84	56	14	26	16	0	0	1
84	56	14	26	16	76	56	8	26	16	0	0	1
84	56	14	26	16	99	56	9	26	16	1	0	1
84	56	14	26	16	276	190	17	865	16	178	134	0



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```
private void tagUsingAI(InputStream wekaModel, int confidence, List<StructureNodeImpl> nodes, boolean converge){
    IMerger nn = new WekaModelMerger()
        .load(wekaModel)
        .setThreshold(confidence / 100.0);

    // converge
    if(converge) {
        IMerger cv = new Convergence(nn);
        cv.apply(nodes);
    }
    else{
        nn.apply(nodes);
    }
}

public interface IMerger {

    void apply(List<StructureNodeImpl> l);

}
```





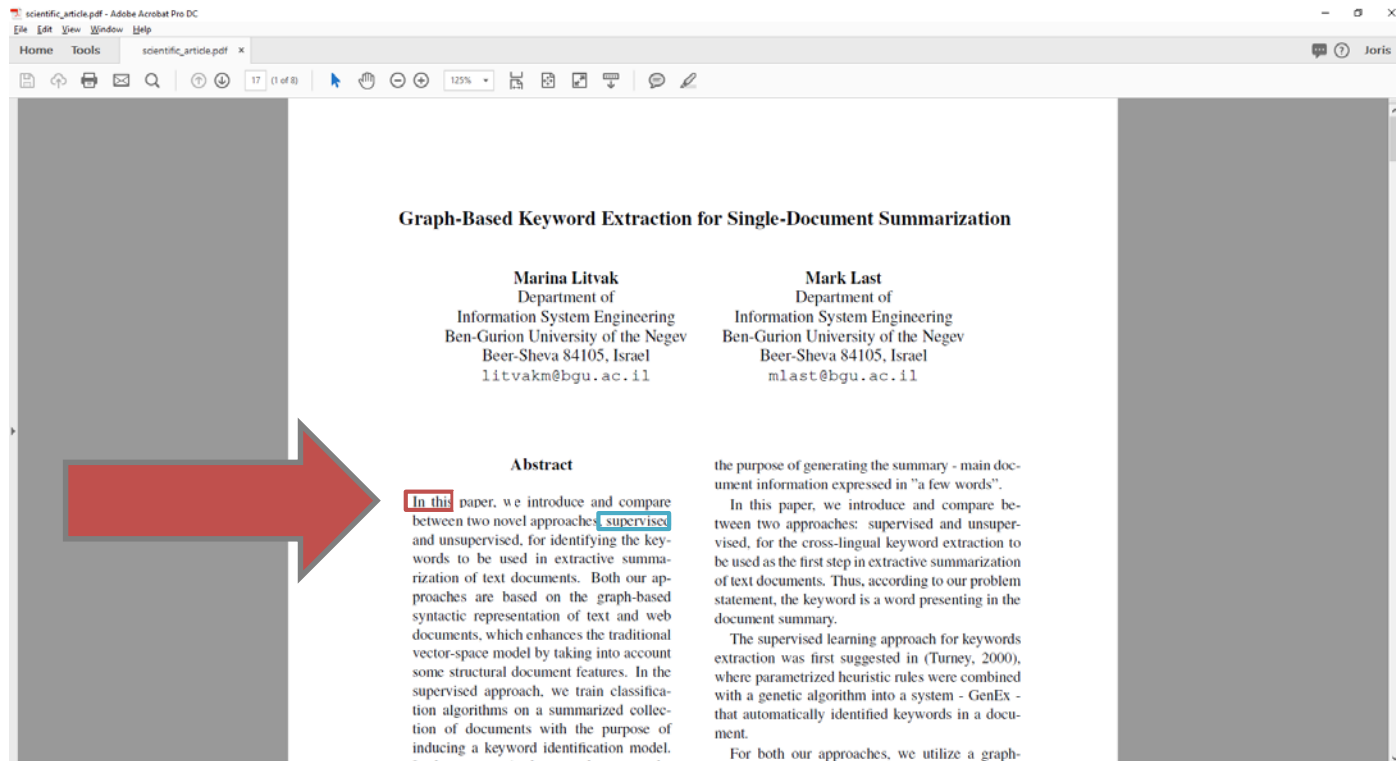
Benefits

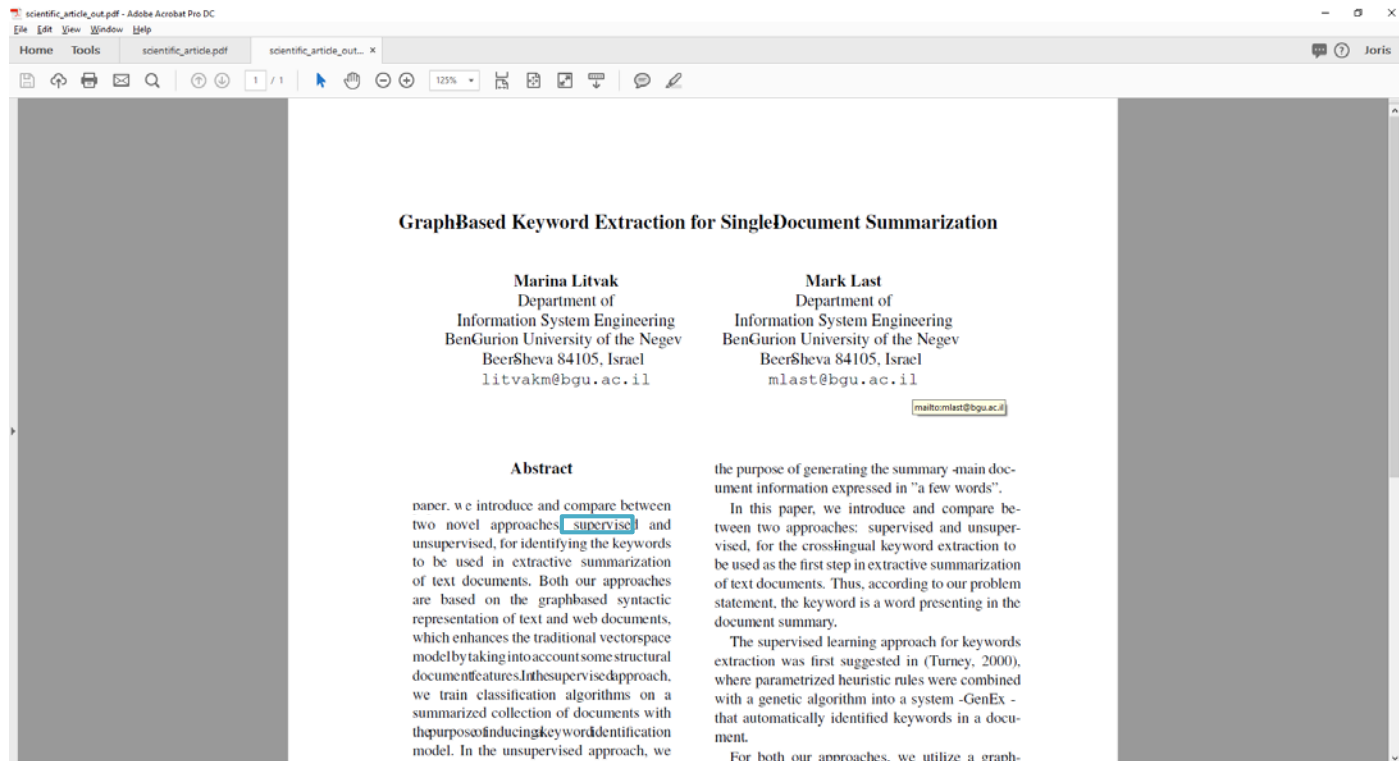


Tagging an untagged document

```
[...]
  <MCID text="e" x="409.0" y="686.0" width="11.0" height="25.0" />
  <MCID text="r" x="421.0" y="686.0" width="8.0" height="25.0" />
  <MCID text="l" x="429.0" y="686.0" width="5.0" height="25.0" />
  <MCID text="a" x="435.0" y="686.0" width="11.0" height="25.0" />
  <MCID text="n" x="446.0" y="686.0" width="12.0" height="25.0" />
  <MCID text="d" x="459.0" y="686.0" width="12.0" height="25.0" />
  <MCID text=" " x="472.0" y="686.0" width="5.0" height="25.0" />
</Span>
</P>
<P lang="nl" x="72.0" y="295.0" width="468.0" height="109.0">
  <Span x="72.0" y="295.0" width="182.0" height="14.0">
    <MCID text="m" x="72.0" y="295.0" width="9.0" height="14.0" />
    <MCID text="e" x="81.0" y="295.0" width="5.0" height="14.0" />
    <MCID text="t" x="87.0" y="295.0" width="3.0" height="14.0" />
    <MCID text=" " x="91.0" y="295.0" width="2.0" height="14.0" />
  </Span>
</P>
[...]
```







Responsiveness

- Extreme case:
- Layout content of A4 PDF on A3 canvas.





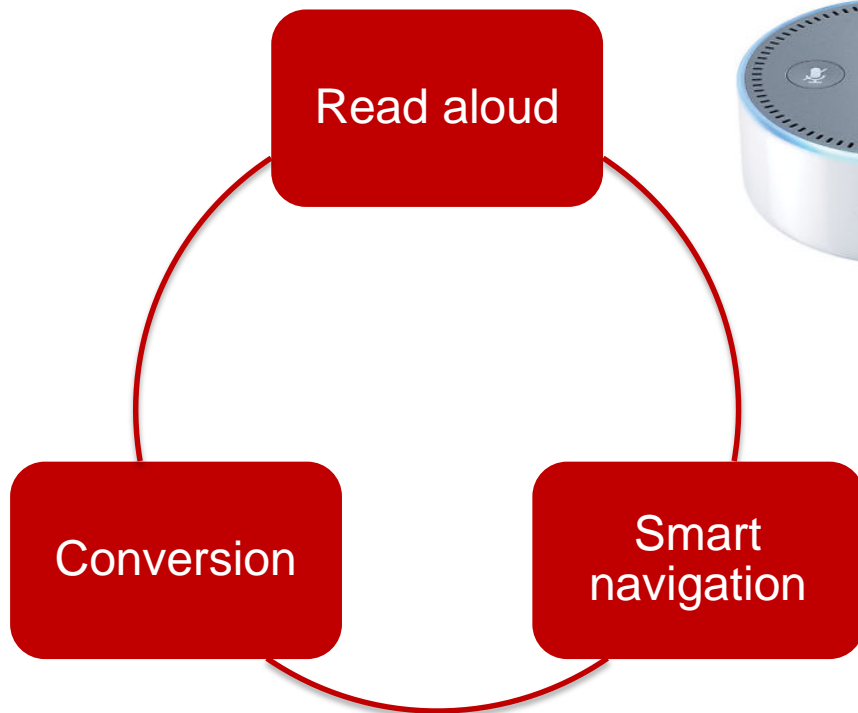
Accessibility



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2018-05-14





Data extraction

30_marked.pdf - Adobe Acrobat Pro DC

File Edit View Window Help

Home Tools 30_marked.pdf x

End user address:
The Hog's Head
Aberforth Dumbledore
Hawfinch Drive
Alnwick
NE66 2BF
UK

Invoice address:
The Hog's Head
Aberforth Dumbledore
Hawfinch Drive
Alnwick
NE66 2BF
UK

INVOICE I/ISB/13013

Date	Y/Ref	VAT	Customer N
01/01/2017	Your iText subscription 04/2017-04/2018 PO-000288	BE 7645168962	56620

Description	Quantity	Unit price EUR	Discount %	Total EUR
Oak matured meade Technical Support and Updates Renewed on an Annual basis.	8.00 barrels	€ 250,00	0.00%	€ 2000,00

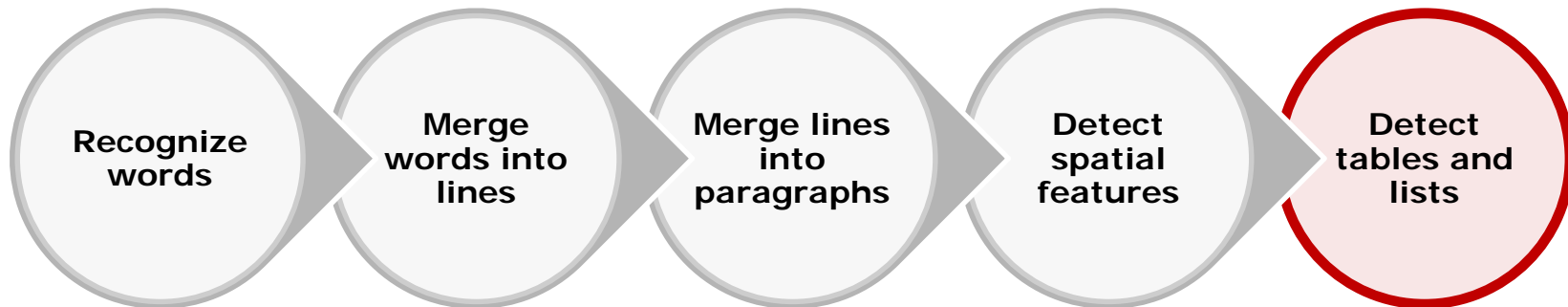
Payment by wire:
Company Bank Name : BNP Paribas - FORTIS
Company Bank Branch : BNP Paribas Fortis BELGIUM
Bank Address : Gent-Centrum - Zonnestraat 2 - BE9000 Gent (Belgium)
Bank Account Number IBAN : BE 54 0016 4908 7397
Bank SWIFT (BIC) Code : GERABEBB (Shared Costs)

Always refer to the Document Number when executing payment.

Net	€ 2000,00
VAT	€ 350,00
Total	€ 2350,20

Correspondence: Kerkstraat 108, BE-9050 Gentbrugge
Due Date: 07/03/2017
Payment condition: Bank wire : Invoice + 15 days
Place of supply outside of Belgium – reverse charge – art 44 and 196 of the VAT Directive 2006/112/EG





- Data structures
 - Disjoint set: (Human) logic | Global level | Artificial intelligence
- Benefits:
 - still configurable.
 - able to train network to work well for documents you typically process.
 - ‘soft fail’ mode.

ITEXT

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Thank you!

Any questions?



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