

TEXTPACK Demo

The demo of TEXTPACK is a complimentary demo of the program. We have put all the power of TEXTPACK to it, but allow access only to our example text files.

1 Installation of the Demo Version of TEXTPACK

Before you begin installing TEXTPACK, make sure that you have a PC running under Windows and approximately 3MB space of free disk space.

To install

1. Run the file setup.exe
2. Follow the on-screen instructions.

2 Example Text Files

In the TEXTPACK subfolder DEMO you will find example files for use with TEXTPACK. The examples include SENTENCE and SPLIT files, a dictionary to try coding or KeyWord In Context, STOP word files and the original texts.

The demo includes two different sets of files: the presidential debates from 1996 and the party platforms from two American Parties. The examples include SENTENCE and SPLIT files, a dictionary to try coding or KeyWord In Context, STOP word files and the original texts.

2.1 Example texts "Presidential Debates"

The texts are transcripts of the televised debates held on October 11, 1992 in St. Louis, Missouri. The candidates for president participating in the debate are Bill Clinton, George Bush, and Ross Perot. The texts were transcribed by Net.Capitol Inc. Face-to-face presidential debates in the 20th century began their broadcast history in 1948 when Republicans Thomas Dewey and Harold Stassen faced each other in a radio debate during the Oregon Republican presidential primary. The text has been prepared for TEXTPACK. It contains one identification (ID1) which is a speech unit number (first characters of ID1) and the speaker ID (last character of ID1). The speakers are: Moderator Jim Lehrer (1), Bill Clinton (2), Ross Perot (3), George Bush (4), Journalists (5). Three journalists were asking questions. They are John Mashek of The Boston Globe, Ann Compton of ABC News, and Sander Vanocur, a freelance journalist. For this example they are not distinguished, all are coded with 5).

You find as an example included with TEXTPACK the input text file (*debate.txt*), the SENTENCE file (*debate.sen*) and the SPLIT file (*debate.spf*). The SPLIT file is reduced

by a STOP word list (*debate.stp*). Additionally, the folder contains a small dictionary (*debate.dic*) with some categories to code social groups like young people, families, rich people, the American people etc.

2.2 Example texts "Party Platforms"

A second example includes two different texts: the party platform from 1996 of two American parties - of the Democrats and of the Republicans. The texts are available as SENTENCE (*democrat.sen, republic.sen*) and SPLIT files (*democrat.spl, republic.spl*). The only identification is the sentence number (ID1). The SPLIT files are reduced by a STOP word list (*parties.stp*).

3 How to use TEXTPACK

TEXTPACK always needs two system files: a SENTENCE and a SPLIT file. If you have these files already prepared (like in the demo), you can start immediately to explore your texts.

3.1 Opening the TEXTPACK files

As a first step the SENTENCE and the SPLIT file must be opened. To open a SENTENCE or SPLIT file select in the menu "File", "Open TEXTPACK files", "Open SENTENCE file" or "Open SPLIT file".

Once opened a SENTENCE or SPLIT file is available for all further analysis until a new file has been opened or created. When you start TEXTPACK the next time the names of the SENTENCE and SPLIT files are stored and you may not open these files. The names of the opened SENTENCE and SPLIT file are shown in the status line of TEXTPACK.

3.2 Running TEXTPACK

In the menu of TEXTPACK you will find the different functions described further on in the manual. The functions are grouped in four parts: file menu, text exploration, text coding, and filtering. Some special features are available in the File menu: preparing the SENTENCE and SPLIT file, exporting the text file, and displaying the text. After selecting one of the functions TEXTPACK shows you a function specific window to ask for more options. You can specify all the options you need and after clicking the OK button TEXTPACK starts working. After finishing the process, TEXTPACK shows the result in an output window. This window has its own menu. You can save the output, print it or edit it. You may specify some options to handle this output in the "Preferences" menu.

Important: You must always close this output window before you can select the next topic of the TEXTPACK menu.

3.3 GO/STOP Words and Dictionaries

Go/STOP words and dictionaries must always be stored in a file. TEXTPACK offers a simple editor to create and edit such a GO/STOP word list or a dictionary ("File", "Create/Edit GO/STOP words"). The file must be created before you can use any function intended to access the GO/STOP words or dictionary. If you want to use an existing file, it can be open in the "File", "Open TEXTPACK files" menu. If you want to use e.g. GO/STOP words in a function and you have not opened a file until that point, the function will ask you for a file. Once opened, the dictionary or GO/STOP word file is used for all subsequent functions if such a file is necessary. If a dictionary or a GO/STOP word file has been opened, the name is shown in the status line.

3.4 Filtering

The menu "Selection" in TEXTPACK allows you two different options to select text units: to specify a filter on the basis of the identification or to use a numeric file to select text units. In the second case a new SENTENCE file which includes all selected texts will be stored for further use. If you specify a filter to select specific IDs, it will be used in all subsequent procedures until you set a new filter or you include all texts again (same menu). The status line signals whether a filter is used or not (No ID filter/ID filter).

3.5 Preferences

TEXTPACK allows you to configure your personal environment. All these options will be stored for later calls of TEXTPACK. You may specify folders for your scratch and data files and some output specifications:

Folder for all TEXTPACK files

You may specify a data directory from where your TEXTPACK files will be read and in which new files will be stored. If you specify no folder, the files will be stored in the TEXTPACK folder.

Folder for scratch files

Additionally, you can specify a folder where TEXTPACK will store all scratch files (e.g. c:\temp). This folder name may not contain any blanks!

Overwrite listing, Append listing

Each function in TEXTPACK produces an output listing which is shown in the output window. After closing this window, the output is deleted. If you want to store the output of all procedures instead of overwriting it, you may select the option "append" instead of "replace".

Replace blanks through tabs

The printed output of TEXTPACK is formatted by blanks. If you save the output in a file for later use in a word processing system, the font must be courier in that system to have the right text format. If you plan to use it in a word processor system with a font

other than Courier you can specify that blanks in the output tables should be replaced by tabs.

Language

The SPLIT files in TEXTPACK must be sorted alphabetically. You can produce, for example, a frequency list sorted alphabetically according to the words. In both cases, "alphabetically sorted" means different sorting for different languages, e.g. English, German, or others. TEXTPACK allows you to specify the language which will be used. Per default, the "English" (ANSI) sort order will be used, which is suitable for most languages. You can select GERMAN if you use German texts with umlaut characters. If you want to use other languages, or if the sort order causes problems, please feel free to contact the developer of TEXTPACK in order to have a special dictionary prepared for your sorting needs.