

Lecture 1: Introduction to Natural Language Processing



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Course Information

Lecture

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Teaching Assistant



杨才华



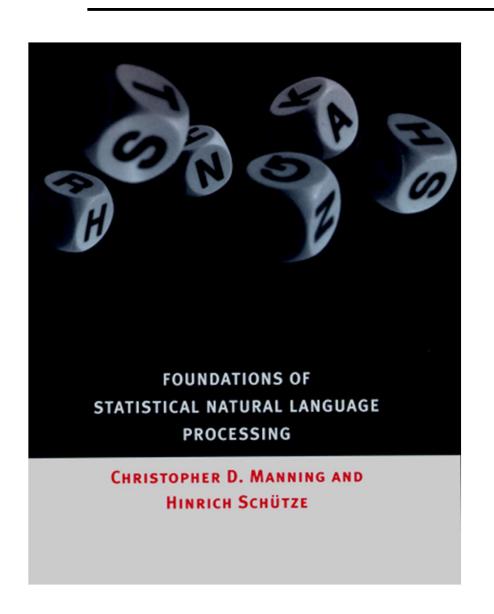
陈奕



林琦慧

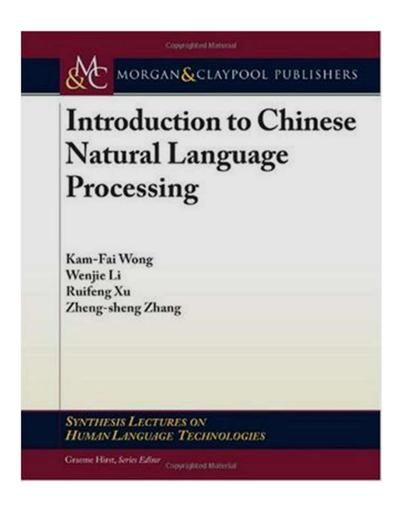
- Office: L-1406

Textbook



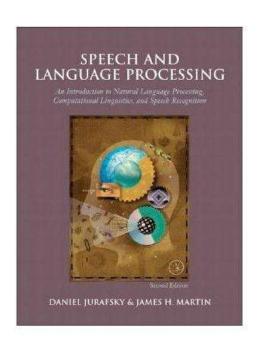
Christopher D.
 Manning and Hinrich
 Schutze, Foundations
 of Statistical Natural
 Language Processing,
 MIT Press 1999

Textbook



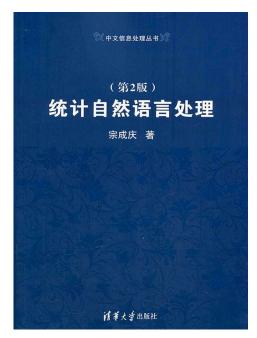
Kam-Fai Wong, Wenjie
Li, Ruifeng Xu and
Zheng-sheng Zhang,
Introduction to Chinese
Natural Language
Processing, Morgan and
Claypool Publisher, 2009

Reference book



Daniel Jurafsky and James H.
Martin. Speech and Language
Processing: An Introduction to
Natural Language Processing,
Speech Recognition, and
Computational Linguistics. 2nd
edition. Prentice-Hall. 2008.

Reference book



• 宗成庆《统计自然语言处理》 第二版 2013



· 刘挺、秦兵、赵军、黄萱菁、 车万翔《自然语言处理》2021

Course Grading

- Grading
 - Course Project 60%
 - System Design and Implementation
 - Grade based on
 - Performance 70%
 - Report and Demonstration 10%
 - Innovative Ideas 20%
 - Final Examination 40%
- Collaboration among students
 - Three students in each group

Questions that today's class will answer

- What is Natural Language Processing (NLP)?
- What can NLP technique do?
- Why NLP is hard?
- Can we build system that learn from text?
- How to start NLP research
- What will this course be about?

Natural Language



The process that handling the **SOMETHING**

- Natural language is a language that is spoken, written, or signed by humans for general-purpose communication- wikipedia
- What kinds of things do people say?
- What do these things say/ask/request about the world?

Natural Language: Multi-media

- Text form:
 - Plain text, RTF text, Image text
- Audio form:
 - speech
- Video form, a mixed form
 - text, speech

Natural Language : Multi-lingual

- Babel
- Bible Genesis



Natural Language: Multi-lingual

We have more than 150 languages on the earth
 "I love you" in 35 languages

我爱你 (Che 我爱你 (Che 我爱你 (Che 我爱你 (Che 我爱你 (Che 私证爱する (Ja 나는 너를 사랑한다 (Ke Je t'aime (Fr Ich liebe Dich (Ge Ti amo (Ita Te quiero (Sp Eu te amo (Po Fu te amo (Po Ik houd van jou (He Ik houd van jou (He miluji te (Cz Σας αγαπώ (Gr taim i'ngra leat (Iri Szeretlek te'ged (An	orean) rench) erman) alian) panish) prtuguese) ussian) folland) anish) rech) reek) ish)	Ik houd van u A 3 Любовти Volim te I-KIRJAIN Lempiä te Volim te I-KIRJAIN Lempiä te JEG Elske du ako ibigin ka JA Ljubav te ljubim te Cara 'ch I aşk sen	(Croatian) (Finnish) (Norwegian) (Filipino) (Serbian) (Slovenian) (Welsh) (Turkish)
Szeretlek te'ged (Aı			- Designation of Designation
AND THE STATE OF T	oland) omanían)	EGO Díligo vos Mai tujhe pyaar karth	(Latín) ia hoo (Indian)

Navajo Code

温州话

Natural Language: Multi-Biological

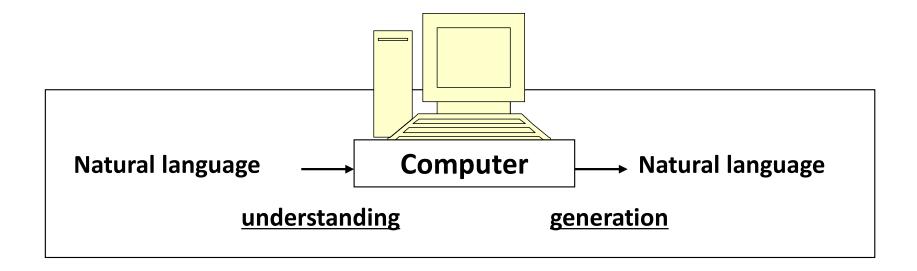
- Written language text printed/written
- Spoken language speech signal/oral
- Sign language body language for the hearing disabled
- Braille Language for the blind

Natural Language: Historical

- Characters/Words are historical
 - 谏
 - -彩 喝彩
 - 痛哭流涕
- Grammar are historical
 - -人不知而不愠,不亦君子乎?
- Pronunciation
 - 洛阳正音 雅音 东周 (衣冠南渡)
 - 洛阳正音隋唐宋
 - 《洪武正韵》明南京话中原雅音+江淮官话
 - 北京官话 清

Natural Language Processing

 Natural language processing (NLP) is the study of the problems of automated processing, understanding and generation of natural human languages.



Natural Language Processing Applications

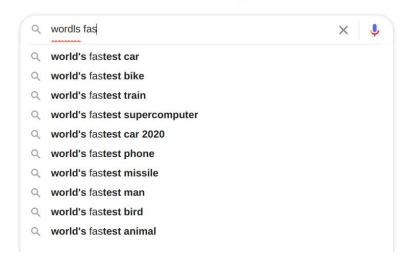
- Machine Translation
- Information Extraction
- Text to Speech System
- Speech Recognition
- Information Retrieval
- Question Answering
- Dialogue System
- Sentiment Analysis

•



Autocorrect and Autocomplete







The most common type of marketing channel is the wholesale market.

Varies kinds of produce are supplied from different areas are assembled at one place and sold thro vegetables s

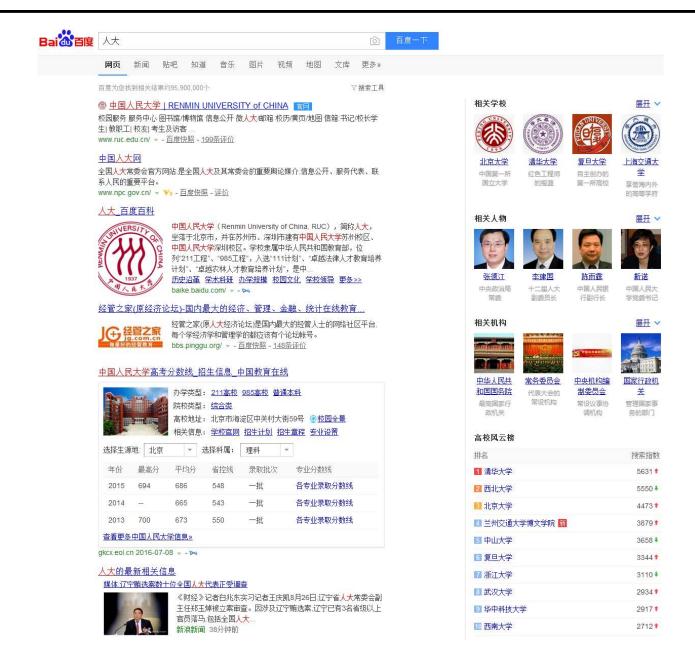
Replace the word narket handling and transport methods.

products

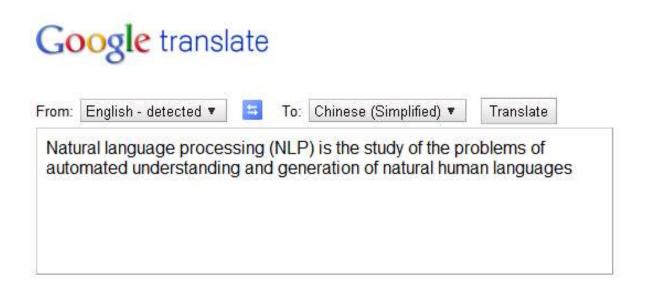
Dismiss

Suggested by Grammarly

Information Retrieval



Machine Translation

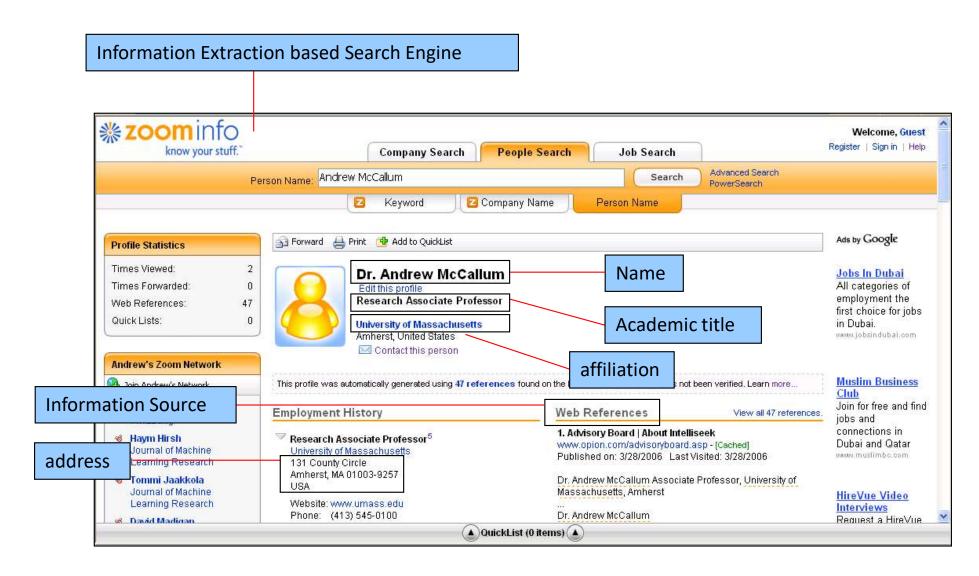


English to Chinese (Simplified) translation

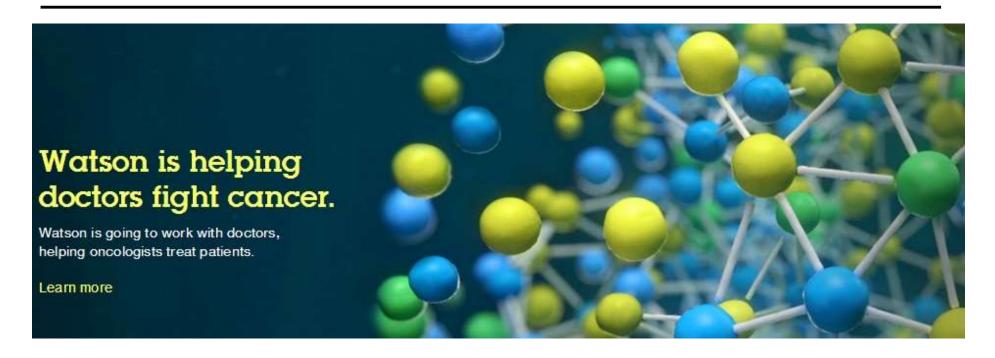
自然语言处理(NLP)是自动化的理解和世代的 人类自然语言问题的研究



Information Extraction: ZoomInfo



IBM's Watson: Helping Doctors Fight Cancer



- •One in five diagnoses are incorrect or incomplete and nearly 1.5 million medication errors are made in the US every year.
- •Watson uses natural language capabilities, hypothesis generation, and evidence-based learning to support medical professionals as they make decisions.
- •Watson will then provide a list of potential diagnoses along with a score that indicates the level of confidence for each hypothesis.

Personalized Intelligent Assistant: Siri







Personalized Intelligent Assistant:

产品	服务类型	服务规模	后台技术	收费模式	对话模式
Apple Siri	主要提供信息资讯,控制手机操作	不受限	人工智能	免费	机器智能对话
微软 Cortana	提供个性化信息资讯,帮助 人们处理PC、手机端的各类 数据信息	不受限	人工智能	免费	机器智能对话
Google now	智能信息推送	不受限	人工智能	免费	机器智能对话
Faceboo k M	订餐馆、选择生日礼物、推 荐并预约旅行等	暂在旧金山地区 小规模试用	人工+人工 智能	未知	机器智能对话
Magic	上门配送服务(外卖、鲜花、 消费品等)及泛长尾需求	美国	全人工	向消费者收取 少量佣金	人工对话
Operator 暂未上线	侧重电商购物(APP有消费品导 购模块)	以合作方的客服 团队规模为准	全人工	N/A (可能从合作 商收取佣金/推 广费)	人工对话
百度 度秘	餐饮(预订/团购/外卖)、电 影票、宠物等生活服务,并将 陆续上线其他服务品类	不受限	人工智能	免费	机器智能对话

Comment Keywords Extraction and Categorization









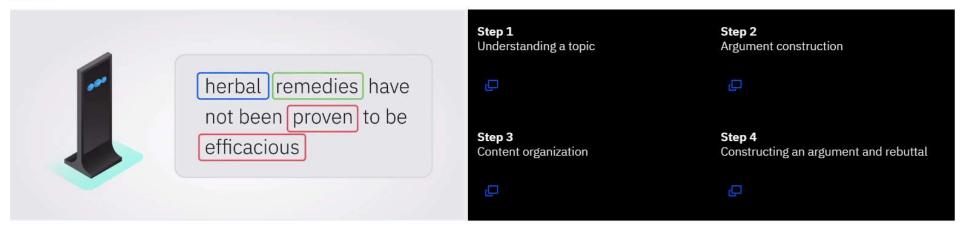


IBM's Project Debater



How it works?

The basics



Where Are We Now?



```
Baseline mutual information model (Li et al. 2015)

A: Where are you going? (1)

B: I'm going to the restroom. (2)

A: See you later. (3)

B: See you later. (4)

A: See you later. (5)

B: See you later. (6)

...

A: how old are you? (1)

B: I'm 16. (2)

A: 16? (3)

B: I don't know what you are talking about. (4)

A: You don't know what you are saying. (5)

B: I don't know what you are talking about. (6)

A: You don't know what you are saying. (7)

...
```

Vs.



What we have now

What we expect

Why NLP is Hard?

Many "words", many "phenomena", many "rules"

- Oxford English Dictionary: 400k words;
- sentences, clauses, phrases, constituents, coordination, negation, imperatives/questions, inflections, parts of speech, pronunciation, topic/focus, and much more!
- irregularity (exceptions, exceptions to the exceptions, ...)
- potato → potato es (tomato, hero,...); photo → photo
 s, and even: both mango → mango s or → mango es
- Adjective / Noun order: new book, electrical engineering, general regulations, flower garden, garden flower

Basic Problems

- 形态学 (Morphology)
 - Word and morphemes
- 句法(Syntax)
 - 我吃了苹果 苹果我吃了 我苹果吃了
- 语义(Semantics)
 - 这个人真牛
- 语用学 (Pragmatics)
 - 我们这边好多了
- 语音学(Phonetics)
 - Hua 花化画

Ambiguity

- "At last, a computer that understands you like your mother"
 - 1. (*) It understands you as well as your mother understands you
 - 2. It understands (that) you like your mother
 - 3. It understands you as well as it understands your mother
 - 1 and 3: Does this mean well, or poorly?

- At the acoustic level (speech recognition):
 - 1. " ... a computer that understands you like your mother"
 - 2. " ... a computer that understands you lie cured your mother"

• 赵元任《施氏食狮史》

石室诗士施氏,嗜狮,誓食十狮。 施氏时时适市视狮。十时,适十狮适市。 是时,适施氏适市。氏视是十狮,恃矢 势,使是十狮逝世。氏拾是十狮尸,适 石室。石室湿,氏使侍拭石室。石室拭, 氏始试食是十狮。食时,始识是十狮, 实十石狮尸。试释是事。

Word Level in Chinese

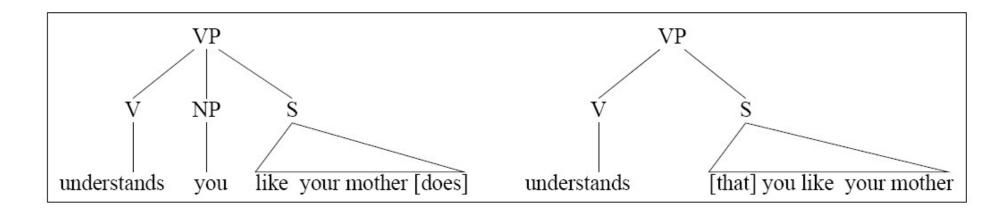
治理解放大道路面积水

玉米们纷纷发帖支持自己的偶像

伦家酒席酱紫

莓兲想埝祢巳宬儰1.种漝惯

At the syntactic level:



• Different structures lead to different interpretations.

- At the semantic (meaning) level: Two definitions of "mother"
- 1. a woman who has given birth to a child
- ^{2.} a stringy slimy substance consisting of yeast cells and bacteria; is added to cider or wine to produce vinegar
- This is an instance of word sense ambiguity

At semantic (word sense) level

他说: "她真有意思"。于是人们以为他们有了意思,并让他意思意思。他说: "我根本没那个意思"。她说"你们这么说是什么意思?",有人说"真有意思",也有人说"真没意思"

At the discourse (multi-clause) level:

中国男足谁都赢不了

美国疫情好多了

Major Challenges

- Universal uncertainties: lexical, syntactic, semantic, pragmatic and phonetic levels and phonetic levels
- Unpredictability of the unknown language phenomena
- Insufficient data
- The complexity of language knowledge expression

Knowledge Bottleneck in NLP

- Knowledge Required
 - Knowledge about language
 - Knowledge about the world Possible solutions:
- Symbolic approach: Encode all the required information into computer (Rationalism 理性主义)
- Statistical approach: Infer language properties from language samples (Empiricism 经验主义)

Case Study: Determiner Placement

 Task: Automatically place determiners (a,the,null)in a text

Scientists in United States have found way of turning lazy monkeys into workaholics using gene therapy. Usually monkeys work hard only when they know reward is coming, but animals given this treatment did their best all time. Researchers at National Institute of Mental Health near Washington DC, led by Dr Barry Richmond, have now developed genetic treatment which changes their work ethic markedly. "Monkeys under influence of treatment don't procrastinate," Dr Richmond says. Treatment consists of anti-sense DNA - mirror image of piece of one of our genes - and basically prevents that gene from working. But for rest of us, day when such treatments fall into hands of our bosses may be one we would prefer to put off.

Relevant Grammar Rules

- Determiner placement is largely determined by:
 - Type of noun (countable, uncountable)
 - Reference (specific, generic)
 - Information value (given, new)
 - Number (singular, plural)
- However, many exceptions and special cases play a role:
 - The definite article is used with newspaper titles (The Times), but zero article in names of magazines and journals (Time) ...

Symbolic Approach: Determiner Placement

- Linguistic knowledge:
 - Static knowledge: number, countability, ...
 - Context-dependent knowledge: co-reference, ...
- World knowledge:
 - Uniqueness of reference (the current president of the US), type of noun (newspaper vs. magazine), situational associativity between nouns (the score of the football game), ...
- Hard to encode the knowledge manually

Statistical Approach: Determiner Placement

- Collect a large collection of texts relevant to your domain (e.g., newspaper text)
- For each noun, compute its probability to take a certain determiner

$$p(determiner|noun) = \frac{freq(noun, determiner)}{freq(noun)}$$

 Given a new noun, select a determiner with the highest likelihood as estimated on the training corpus

Statistical Approach: Determiner Placement

- Implementation
 - Corpus: training first 21 sections of the Wall Street Journal (WSJ) corpus, testing – the 23th section
 - Prediction accuracy: 71.5%
- The results are not great, but surprisingly high for such a simple method
 - A large fraction of nouns in this corpus always appear with the same determiner
 - "the FBI", "the defendant", ...

Classification Approach: Determiner Placement

- Prediction: "the", "a", "null"
- Representation of the problem:
 - plural? (yes, no)
 - first appearance in text? (yes, no)
 - noun (members of the vocabulary set)

Noun	plural?	first appearance	determiner
defendant	no	yes	the
cars	yes	no	null
FBI	no	no	the
concert	no	yes	a

 Goal: Learn classification function that can predict unseen examples

Classification Approach: Determiner Placement

- Learn a function from X→Y
 (in the previous example, {-1,0,1})
- Assume there is some distribution D(X, Y), where $x \in X$, and $y \in Y$
- Attempt to explicitly model the distribution D(X, Y) and $D(X^{|}Y)$

• Predication Accuracy: 87.3%

A brief history of NLP

- 1940s: a pre-history
- 1950s: the over-enthusiasm time
- 1960s: the cold-water showering time
- 1970s: the NLP history just started
- 1980s: the time to harvest a bit
- 1990s: the time for statistical approaches to speak
- 2000s: the matter-of-fact re-evaluation of NLP role to human beings: an assistant
- 2010s : deep learning age?

1940s: a pre-history

- 1946: Warren Weaver started the earliest MT project to break enemy codes during World War II.
- 1949: Weaver put the idea of MT to his famous *memorandum*, which inspired many projects to break new ground.
- But people soon realized they were not playing an easy game.



1950s: over-enthusiasm

- Bar-Hillel predicted that FAHQT is impossible without knowledge (1951).
 - Then linguists joined the game to explore the linguistic theories.
- Over-enthusiasm dominated the MT researchers
- 1957: Noam Chomsky published his theory on Syntactic Structures, which is later referred to as Generative Grammar.
- The great debate between rationalists and empiricists:
 - language processing camp dominated by the symbolic generative grammar
 - speech camp dominated by the statistical information theory.
- Introduction of pre- and post-editing

1960s: cold-water showering

- US funding reached \$20 million by the mid 1960s.
 - But no encouraging output was made.
- ALPAC report concluded that "there had been no machine translation of general scientific text, and none is in immediate prospect".

The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak English ->Russian-> English The wine is good but the meat is spoiled

- US funding for MT stopped, so did the most other NLP work. NLP research entered something of a dormant phase.
- Over-selling stopped, more realistic work on theoretical representation of meaning in late 1960s



1970s: the NLP history just started

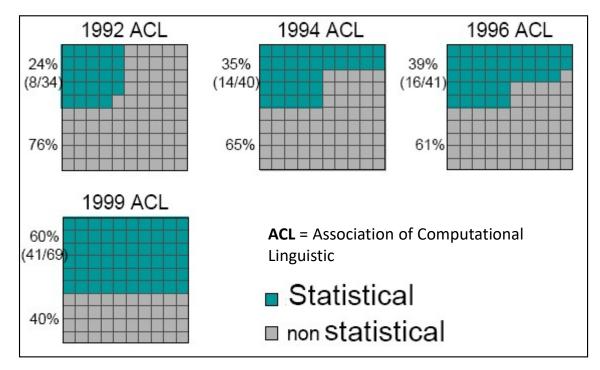
- Theoretical study on computational linguistics continued
- 1965: Chomsky introduced the transformational model followed by
 - Fillmore: case grammar;
 - Quillian: semantic networks
 - Schank: conceptual dependency theory;
 - Woods: augmented transition networks
 - Wilks: preference semantics
- Distinguished NLP systems
 - Weizenbaum's ELIZA: about psychologist and a patient
 - Woods' LUNAR: a natural language interface

1980s: the time to harvest a bit

- Symbolic approaches still dominated in significant NLP problems and statistical approaches stayed complementary
- Critical computational resources (hardware, software, data, knowledge base, etc) are available
- Researchers started re-examining nonsymbolic approaches
- Successes in speech recognition (IBM) with substantial performance gains over knowledge-based systems

1990s: statistical dominates

- IBM's statistical machine translation system
- Rise of the Web emphasized the need for language based information retrieval and information extraction





2000s: a matter-of-fact role

- Machine translation: CAT tools commercialized
- Content management: word segmentation,
 POS tagging, sentiment analysis, classification
- Search engine: information extraction, a vertical solution
- Speech recognition: language model
- Data mining: language text manipulation, ontology

2000s: a matter-of-fact role

- Fred Jelinek (IBM)
- Speech Recognition
- Every time I fire a linguist, the performance of the recognizer improves.

2000s: a matter-of-fact role

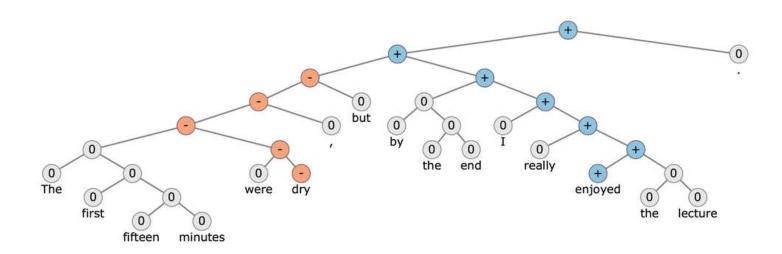
- Machine translation: Franz Josef Och
- "Give me enough parallel data, and you can have translation system for any two languages in a matter of hours."
- "Parallel corpus is the key for statistical machine translation."
- Syntax, semantics are few helpful even harmful

2010s: Deep Learning Age

- How to represent the meaning of a word?
 - One-hot representation
 - Distributed representation
- Distributed representation
 - CBOW / Sikp-Gram
 - Transfer data to continuous, low-dimension, dense vectors
 - Word2Vec
 - predicting the surrounding word in a window of length c of each word
 - Maximize the log probability of any context word given the current center word

2010s: Deep Learning Age

- Sentence/Document Composition based on distributed representations
 - CNN: Convolutional Neural Networks
 - Recurrent Neural Networks
 - Recursive Neural Networks



2010s

- Natural language processing

 Natural language understanding
- Community knowledge
 - Wikipedia
 - SOHU Pinyin
- Semantic Parsing/Abstract Meaning Representation

2010s

- Sequence-to-sequence model
 - Good Progress in Neural Machine Translation
 System
 - Hard to explain/ Data requirement
 - Not fit in Dialog System
- Manning 2017
 - To a first approximation, the de facto consensus in NLP in 2017 is that no matter what the task, you throw a BiLSTM at it, with attention if you need information flow from Manning, 2017
- Compositionally in models
- Neural Symbol Machine

2020 Big Model/Foundation Model

- Pretrain Language Model
 - ElMo
 - GPT
 - Bert
 - Ernie
 - Pangu
- GPT-3
 - 1750亿 parameters
- Knowledge Distillation
- Knowledge?



Some people have completely unrealistic expectations about what large-scale language models such as GPT-3 can do.

This simple explanatory study by my friends at Nabla debunks some of those expectations for people who think massive language models can be used in healthcare.

2020 Big Model/Foundation Model

- 1. [05 Jul 2021] (Baidu) ERNIR 3.0: multi-task learning
- 2. [02 Jun 2021] (Alibaba) VECO: cross-attention module
- 3. [24 Jun 2021] (Tsinghua) CPM 2.0: assemble of SOTA works
- 4. [18 Aug 2021] (Microsoft) DeltaLM: init transformer by BERT
- 5. [10 Apr 2021] (Baidu) ERNIE-M: Enhanced multilingual LM
- 6. [07 Apr 2021] (Microsoft) InfoXLM: cross-lingual constrast
- 7. [28 May 2021] (Google)ByT5: Token-free multilingual model
- 8. [03 Jul 2020] (Google & Facebook)LaBsE & LaSer: score model
- 9. (PCL)Tongyan: Multilingual translation model

How to Start NLP Research (Zhou Ming)

- https://www.zhihu.com/question/19895141/answer/149 475410
- How to grasp first technology in NLP
- Suggestions:
 - Select a open source project
 - Understand the task objective
 - Compile and run the provided demo program
 - Understanding the provided algorithm
 - Implement the provided algorithm
 - Run and compare with the demo program
 - Try to improve the demo program

- How to select a good research problem
- Suggestions:
 - Find a interesting research area (ACL/AAAI/arxiv)
 - Investigate the status of this research area
 - Mathematic system and machine learning frameworks
 - Available training data and evaluation data
 - Current researchers
 - Look for the available open source project/tools/code
 - Reading papers
 - Try to implement and improve the reported methods
 - Try to find general contribution

- How to write the first NLP paper
- Suggestions:
 - Determine the title (Clear, Deep, Technical, Interesting)
 - Abstract (problem/method/advantage/evaluation)
 - Introduction
 - Background, Problem Definition
 - Current Approaches and Problem Left
 - Motivation of this study
 - Idea of this study
 - Experimental results
 - Contributions
 - Organization of this paper

- Related works
 - Camp existing methods into several approaches
 - Typical works for each approach
 - Limitation
- Our approach
 - Framework, Definitions
 - Figure
 - Details of our approach
 - Approach
 - Component

- Experimental results and discussions
 - Experiment Setting
 - Dataset
 - Parameters
 - Evaluation Metrics
 - Baselines
 - Comparing experimental results
 - Overall performance
 - Component Contribution
 - Case study
 - Negative results
 - Discussions
- Conclusions
- Reference

Academic Organization/Top Conferences

- Association for Computational Linguistics
 - aclweb.org
 - ACL
 - EMNLP
 - NAACL/ECAL/AACL/CoNLL/HLT
- International Committee on Computational Linguistics
 - http://nlp.shef.ac.uk/iccl/
 - COLING
- ACL Anthology
 - http://aclanthology.info/

Other Conferences

- ACM
 - SIGIR, WWW, WSDM
- Al
 - AAAI
 - IJCAI
- Machine Learning
 - ICML
 - NeurIPS (NIPS)
 - ICLR

NLP Organization and Conferences (China)

- CIPS 中国中文信息学会
 - http://www.cipsc.org.cn/
 - CCL
 - CCIR
 - CCKS
 - SMP
 - CWMT
- CCF-TCNLP
 - http://tcci.ccf.org.cn/
 - NLPCC

Course Design

- Post-graduate students on NLP
- NLP
 - Symbolic/Knowledge-based NLP
 - Statistical NLP
 - Neural NLP
- Language
 - English / Chinese
- Three Parts:
 - Preliminaries
 - Fundamental NLP Techniques
 - Applications

Part 1: Preliminaries

Linguistics Foundations

Mathematics Foundations

Machine Learning Foundations

Deep Learning Foundations

Part 2: Fundamental NLP Techniques

- Language Models
- Word Processing
- Word Meanings and Word Sense Disambiguation
- Phrase Parsing
- Dependency Parsing

Part 3: Applications

- Text Categorization
- Text Clustering
- Information Extraction
- Sentiment Analysis

Tutorials

Python for NLP

Deep Learning for NLP with Python

The next lecture

Lecture 2
 Linguistics Foundation