# Recent Evaluation Metrics for Text Generation

Presenter: Wang Chen

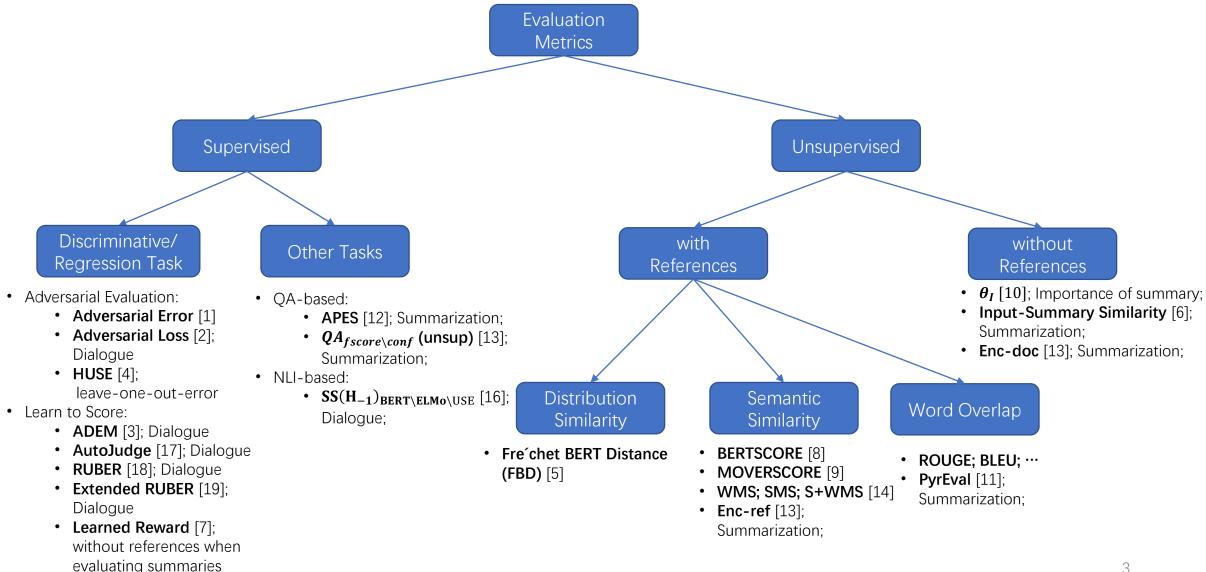
Mentor: Piji Li

### Outline

- Brief Taxonomy
- Papers to Read:
  - MoverScore: Text Generation Evaluating with Contextualized Embeddings and Earth Mover Distance; EMNLP-2019
  - A Simple Theoretical Model of Importance for Summarization; ACL-2019
  - RUBER: An Unsupervised Method for Automatic Evaluation of Open-Domain Dialog Systems; AAAI-2018
  - Better Automatic Evaluation of Open-Domain Dialogue Systems with Contextualized Embeddings; NAACL-WS-2019
- Key Ideas of Other Metrics
- Conclusions

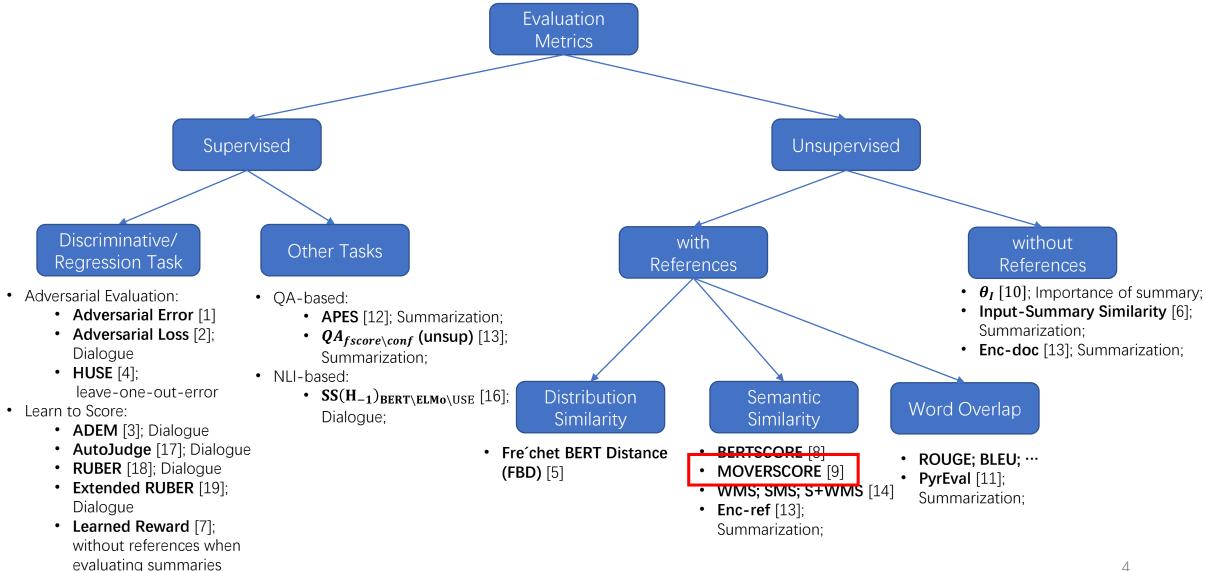
# Brief Taxonomy

• **BLEURT** [15];



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### MoverScore-Title & Authors

#### MoverScore: Text Generation Evaluating with Contextualized Embeddings and Earth Mover Distance

Wei Zhao<sup>†</sup>, Maxime Peyrard<sup>†</sup>, Fei Liu<sup>‡</sup>, Yang Gao<sup>†</sup>, Christian M. Meyer<sup>†</sup>, Steffen Eger<sup>†</sup>

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#### MoverScore-Introduction

- **Motivation:** A desirable metric compares system output against references based on their semantics rather than surface forms. Distinct surface forms may convey the same meaning.
- **Method:** They investigate the effectiveness of a spectrum of distributional semantic representations to encode system and reference texts, allowing them to be compared for semantic similarity by quantifying the semantic distance.
  - BERT + Word/Sent Mover's Distance

#### Contributions:

- 1. formulate the problem of evaluating generation systems as measuring the semantic distance
- 2. investigate the effectiveness of existing contextualized representations and Earth Mover's Distance
- 3. outperforms or performs comparably to strong baselines on four text generation tasks including summarization, machine translation, image captioning, and data-to-text generation

The semantic distance is computed based on the Word Mover's Distance (WMD).

$$\begin{split} & \mathrm{WMD}(\boldsymbol{x}^n, \boldsymbol{y}^n) := \min_{\boldsymbol{F} \in \mathbb{R}^{|\boldsymbol{x}^n| \times |\boldsymbol{y}^n|}} \langle \boldsymbol{C}, \boldsymbol{F} \rangle, \\ & \text{s.t. } \boldsymbol{F} \boldsymbol{1} = \boldsymbol{f}_{\boldsymbol{x}^n}, \ \ \boldsymbol{F}^\intercal \boldsymbol{1} = \boldsymbol{f}_{\boldsymbol{y}^n}. \end{split}$$

• System prediction  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, ..., x_m)$  is a sentence viewed as a sequence of words. Reference  $\mathbf{y}$  is also a word sequence.

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- $f_{x^n} \in R_+^{|x^n|}$  is a vector of weights. One weight for each n-gram of  $x^n$ . We can assume  $f_{x^n}^T \mathbf{1} = 1$ , making  $f_{x^n}$  a distribution over n-grams.

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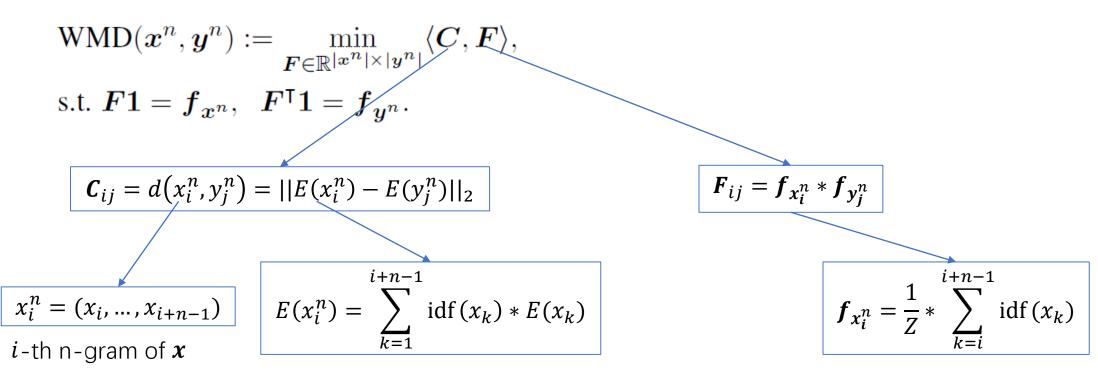
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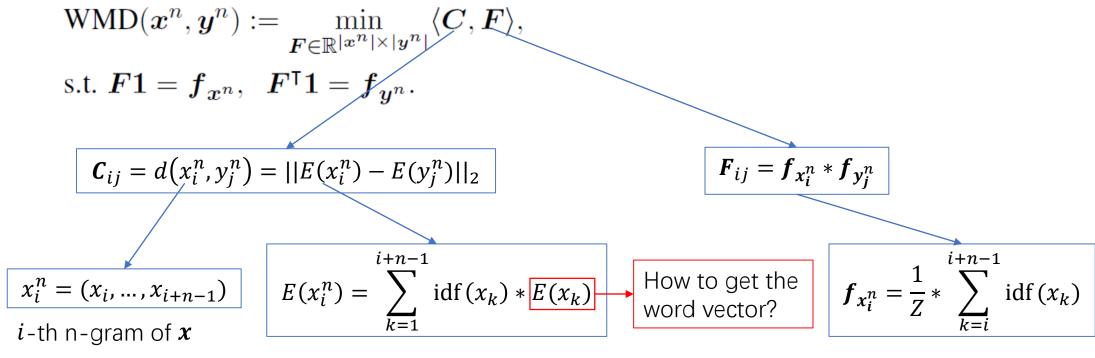
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 $idf(x_k)$  is the IDF of word  $x_k$  computed from all sentences in the corpus and  $E(x_k)$  is its word vector.

where Z is a normalizing constant s.t.  $f_{x^n}^T \mathbf{1} = 1$ .

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How to get the word vector?

$$E(x_i)$$
 Static embeddings, e.g. word2vec Contextualized embeddings, e.g. ELMo, BERT

• If choose the contextualized embeddings, how to aggregate the word vectors from multiple (e.g. L) layers?

#### **Power Means**

$$E(x_i) = \mathbf{h}_i^{(1)} \oplus \mathbf{h}_i^{(+\infty)} \oplus \mathbf{h}_i^{(-\infty)}$$
$$\mathbf{h}_i^{(p)} = \left(\frac{\mathbf{z}_{i,1}^p + \dots + \mathbf{z}_{i,L}^p}{L}\right)^{\frac{1}{p}}$$

#### **Power Means**

#### **Algorithm 1** Aggregation by Routing

```
1: procedure ROUTING(z_{ij}, \ell)
2: Initialize \forall i, j : \gamma_{ij} = 0
3: while true do
4: foreach representation i and j in layer \ell and \ell + 1 do \gamma_{ij} \leftarrow softmax(\gamma_{ij})
5: foreach representation j in layer \ell + 1 do
6: v_j \leftarrow \sum_i \gamma_{ij} k'(v_j, z_i) z_i / \sum_i k'(v_i, z_i)
7: foreach representation i and j in layer \ell and \ell + 1 do \gamma_{ij} \leftarrow \gamma_{ij} + \alpha \cdot k(v_j, z_i)
8: loss \leftarrow log(\sum_{i,j} \gamma_{ij} k(v_j, z_i))
9: if |loss - preloss| < \epsilon then
10: break
11: else
12: preloss \leftarrow loss
13: return v_j
```

• Sentence Mover Distance (SMD) is computed from the distance between the two sentence embeddings.

SMD(
$$\mathbf{x}^{n}$$
,  $\mathbf{y}^{n}$ ) =  $||E(x_{1}^{l_{x}}) - E(y_{1}^{l_{y}})||_{2}$  where  $l_{x}$  and  $l_{y}$  are the size of sentences

# MoverScore-Experimental Setup

- The MoverScore has been investigated along four dimensions:
  - 1. the granularity of embeddings, i.e., the size of n for n-grams n=
  - word2vec 2. the choice of pretrained <mark>embedding</mark> mechanism ELMo BERT
  - 3. the fine-tuning task used for BERT QANLI QQP
  - 4. the aggregation technique (p-means or routing) when applicable Routing

• The major focus is to study the correlation between different metrics and human judgment. Pearson's r and Spearman's  $\rho$  are selected to measure the correlation.



p-means

e.g., WMD-1+BERT+MNLI+PMEANS

# MoverScore-Experiments on Translation

Dataset: WMT 2017; 7 language pairs; Each language pair has approximately 3,000 sentences.

		Direct Assessment							
Setting	Metrics	cs-en	de-en	fi-en	lv-en	ru-en	tr-en	zh-en	Average
BASELINES	METEOR++	0.552	0.538	0.720	0.563	0.627	0.626	0.646	0.610
	RUSE(*)	0.624	0.644	0.750	0.697	0.673	0.716	0.691	0.685
	BERTSCORE-F1	0.670	0.686	0.820	0.710	0.729	0.714	0.704	0.719
SENT-MOVER	SMD + W2V	0.438	0.505	0.540	0.442	0.514	0.456	0.494	0.484
	SMD + ELMO + PMEANS	0.569	0.558	0.732	0.525	0.581	0.620	0.584	0.595
	SMD + BERT + PMEANS	0.607	0.623	0.770	0.639	0.667	0.641	0.619	0.652
	SMD + BERT + MNLI + PMEANS	0.616	0.643	0.785	0.660	0.664	0.668	0.633	0.667
Word-Mover	WMD-1 + W2V	0.392	0.463	0.558	0.463	0.456	0.485	0.481	0.471
	WMD-1 + ELMO + PMEANS	0.579	0.588	0.753	0.559	0.617	0.679	0.645	0.631
	WMD-1 + BERT + PMEANS	0.662	0.687	0.823	0.714	0.735	0.734	0.719	0.725
	WMD-1 + BERT + MNLI + PMEANS	0.670	0.708	<b>0.835</b>	<b>0.746</b>	<b>0.738</b>	0.762	<b>0.744</b>	<b>0.743</b>
	WMD-2 + BERT + MNLI + PMEANS	<b>0.679</b>	<b>0.710</b>	0.832	0.745	0.736	<b>0.763</b>	0.740	<b>0.743</b>

Table 1: Absolute Pearson correlations with segment-level human judgments in 7 language pairs on WMT17 dataset.

**Proposition 1** BERTScore (precision/recall) can be represented as a (non-optimized) Mover Distance  $\langle C, F \rangle$ , where C is a transportation cost matrix based on BERT and F is a uniform transportation flow matrix.<sup>2</sup>

# MoverScore-Experiments on Summarization

• Datasets: TAC2008/TAC2009; 48/44 clusters; 10 news article per cluster; four reference summaries per cluster;

		TAC-2008			TAC-2009				
		Responsiveness		Pyramid		Responsiveness		Pyramid	
Setting	Metrics	r	ho	r	$\rho$	r	ho	r	$\rho$
	$S_{best}^3$ (*)	0.715	0.595	0.754	0.652	0.738	0.595	0.842	0.731
BASELINES	ROUGE-1	0.703	0.578	0.747	0.632	0.704	0.565	0.808	0.692
DASELINES	ROUGE-2	0.695	0.572	0.718	0.635	0.727	0.583	0.803	0.694
	BERTSCORE-F1	0.724	0.594	0.750	0.649	0.739	0.580	0.823	0.703
	SMD + W2V	0.583	0.469	0.603	0.488	0.577	0.465	0.670	0.560
SENT-MOVER	SMD + ELMO + PMEANS	0.631	0.472	0.631	0.499	0.663	0.498	0.726	0.568
SENT-MOVER	SMD + BERT + PMEANS	0.658	0.530	0.664	0.550	0.670	0.518	0.731	0.580
	SMD + BERT + MNLI + PMEANS	0.662	0.525	0.666	0.552	0.667	0.506	0.723	0.563
	WMD-1 + W2V	0.669	0.549	0.665	0.588	0.698	0.520	0.740	0.647
Word-Mover	WMD-1 + ELMO + PMEANS	0.707	0.554	0.726	0.601	0.736	0.553	0.813	0.672
	WMD-1 + BERT + PMEANS	0.729	0.595	0.755	0.660	0.742	0.581	0.825	0.690
	WMD-1 + BERT + MNLI + PMEANS	0.736	0.604	0.760	0.672	0.754	0.594	0.831	0.701
	WMD-2 + BERT + MNLI + PMEANS	0.734	0.601	0.752	0.663	0.753	0.586	0.825	0.694

Table 2: Pearson r and Spearman  $\rho$  correlations with summary-level human judgments on TAC 2008 and 2009.

# MoverScore-Experiments on Dialogue

Datasets: BAGEL/SFHOTEL; 202/398 instances with multiple references;

Setting	Metrics	Inf	BAGEL <b>Nat</b>	Qual	Inf	SFHOTEL <b>Nat</b>	Qual
BASELINES	BLEU-1	0.225	0.141	0.113	0.107	0.175	0.069
	BLEU-2	0.211	0.152	0.115	0.097	0.174	0.071
	METEOR	0.251	0.127	0.116	0.111	0.148	0.082
	BERTSCORE-F1	0.267	0.210	<b>0.178</b>	0.163	0.193	0.118
SENT-MOVER	SMD + W2V	0.024	0.074	0.078	0.022	0.025	0.011
	SMD + ELMO + PMEANS	0.251	0.171	0.147	0.130	0.176	0.096
	SMD + BERT + PMEANS	0.290	0.163	0.121	0.192	0.223	0.134
	SMD + BERT + MNLI + PMEANS	0.280	0.149	0.120	0.205	0.239	0.147
Word-Mover	WMD-1 + W2V	0.222	0.079	0.123	0.074	0.095	0.021
	WMD-1 + ELMO + PMEANS	0.261	0.163	0.148	0.147	0.215	0.136
	WMD-1 + BERT + PMEANS	<b>0.298</b>	<b>0.212</b>	0.163	0.203	0.261	0.182
	WMD-1 + BERT + MNLI + PMEANS	0.285	0.195	0.158	<b>0.207</b>	<b>0.270</b>	<b>0.183</b>
	WMD-2 + BERT + MNLI + PMEANS	0.284	0.194	0.156	0.204	0.270	0.182

Table 3: Spearman correlation with utterance-level human judgments for BAGEL and SFHOTEL datasets.

# MoverScore-Experiments on Image Caption

Dataset: MSCOCO; 5000 instances; five caption references per instance;

Setting	Metric	M1	M2
BASELINES	LEIC(*) METEOR SPICE BERTSCORE-RECALL	0.939 0.606 0.759 0.809	0.949 0.594 0.750 0.749
SENT-MOVER	SMD + W2V	0.683	0.668
	SMD + ELMO + P	0.709	0.712
	SMD + BERT + P	0.723	0.747
	SMD + BERT + M + P	0.789	0.784
Word-Mover	WMD-1 + W2V	0.728	0.764
	WMD-1 + ELMO + P	0.753	0.775
	WMD-1 + BERT + P	0.780	0.790
	WMD-1 + BERT + M + P	<b>0.813</b>	<b>0.810</b>
	WMD-2 + BERT + M + P	0.812	0.808

Table 4: Pearson correlation with system-level human judgments on MSCOCO dataset. 'M' and 'P' are short names.

# MoverScore-Experiments

Score distribution

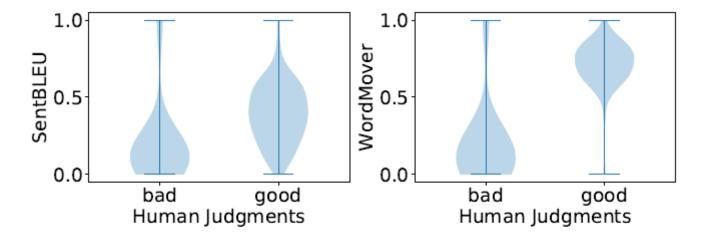


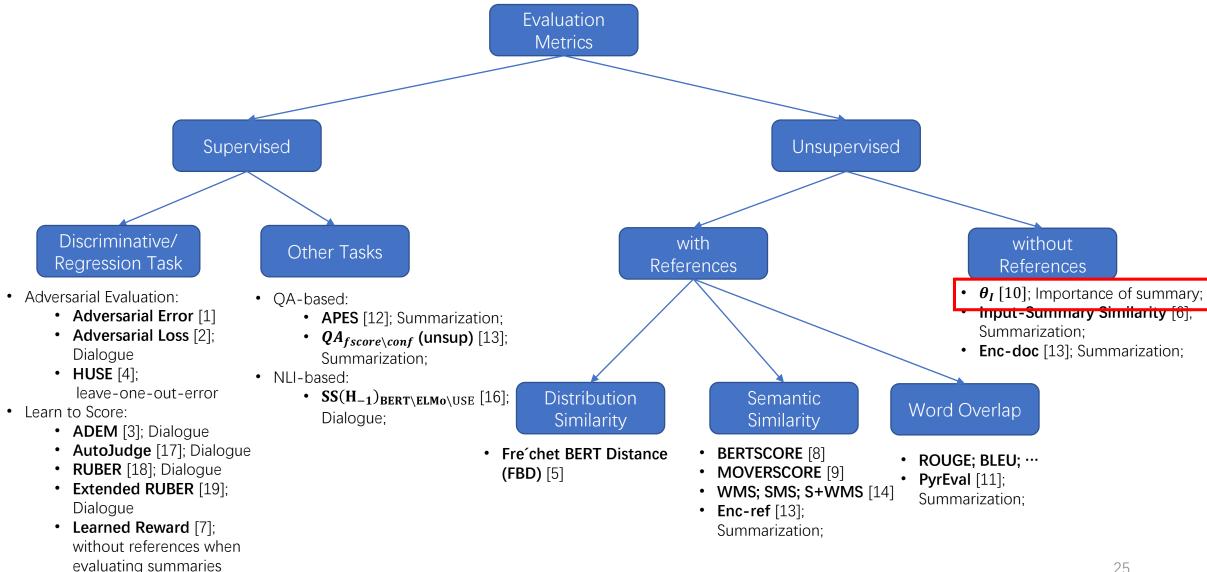
Figure 2: Score distribution in German-to-English pair.

#### MoverScore-Conclusions

- Investigated new unsupervised evaluation metrics for text generation systems combining contextualized embeddings with Earth Mover's Distance.
- The new metric obtain strong generalization ability across four text generation tasks, oftentimes even outperforming supervised metrics.
- One limitation of this metric is that it depends on the IDF of generated summaries. When adding a new system to evaluate, the scores of other systems will be changed.
  - BERTSCORE has no such limitation.

# Brief Taxonomy

• **BLEURT** [15];



# $\theta_I$ -Title & Authors

#### A Simple Theoretical Model of Importance for Summarization

Maxime Peyrard\* EPFL

### $\theta_I$ -Introduction

- Motivation: the notion of information Importance remains latent in summarization research.
- Method: propose simple theoretical models of Importance by unifying the following concepts:
  - Redundancy
  - Relevance
  - Informativeness

#### Contributions:

- 1. define several concepts intuitively connected to summarization: *Redundancy*, *Relevance* and *Informativeness*.
- 2. **formulate properties** required from a useful notion of *Importance* as the quantity unifying these concepts & provide intuitions to interpret the proposed quantities.
- 3. even under simplifying assumptions, these quantities correlates well with human judgments

# $heta_I$ -Redundancy

• In information-theoretic terms, the amount of information is measured by Shannon's entropy. For a summary S represented by  $P_S$ :

$$H(S) = -\sum_{w_i} P_S(w_i) \log (P_S(w_i))$$

e.g., word frequency distribution

e.g., word

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$$Red(S) = -H(S)$$

### $\theta_I$ -Relevance

• estimating *Relevance* boils down to comparing the distributions  $P_S$  and  $P_D$  (D is the document), which is done via the cross-entropy:

$$Rel(S,D) = -CE(S,D) = \sum_{w_i} P_S(w_i) \log (P_D(w_i))$$

The cross-entropy is interpreted as the average surprise of observing S while expecting D. Lower surprise indicates higher relevance.

• 
$$-KL(S||D) = Rel(S,D) - Red(S)$$

Maximizing Relevance & Minimizing Redundancy = Minimizing the KL divergence between  $P_S$  and  $P_D$ 

## $\theta_I$ -Informativeness

- Intuitively, a summary is informative if it induces, for a user, a great change in her/his knowledge about the world.
- We denote the background knowledge as K which is represented by a probability distribution  $P_K$  over semantic units.
- *Informativeness* is defined as the amount of new information contained in a summary S compared to K. It can be given by the cross entropy:

$$Inf(S,K) = CE(S,K) = -\sum_{w_i} P_S(w_i) \log (P_K(w_i))$$

The cross-entropy is interpreted as the average surprise of observing S while expecting K. Higher surprise indicates higher *Informativeness*.

# $heta_I$ -The Unified Importance

$$\theta_{I}(S, D, K) \equiv -Red(S) + \alpha * Rel(S, D) + \beta * Inf(S, K)$$

$$Red(S) = -H(S)$$

$$Rel(S, D) = -CE(S, D) = \sum_{w_i} P_S(w_i) \log(P_D(w_i))$$

$$Inf(S, K) = CE(S, K) = -\sum_{w_i} P_S(w_i) \log(P_K(w_i))$$

# $\theta_I$ -Experiments

- Choose word as the semantic unit.
- Texts are represented frequency distribution over words.
- $\alpha = \beta = 1$
- Datasets: TAC-2008; TAC-2009;
- Two summarization settings:
  - Generic multi-document summarization
    - 10 documents (A documents) are to be summarized.
    - K is the uniform probability distribution over all words from the source documents.
  - Update multi-document summarization
    - 10 new documents (B documents) are to be summarized assuming that the first 10 documents (A documents) have already been seen.
    - K is the frequency distribution over words in the background documents (A).

# $\theta_I$ -Experiments

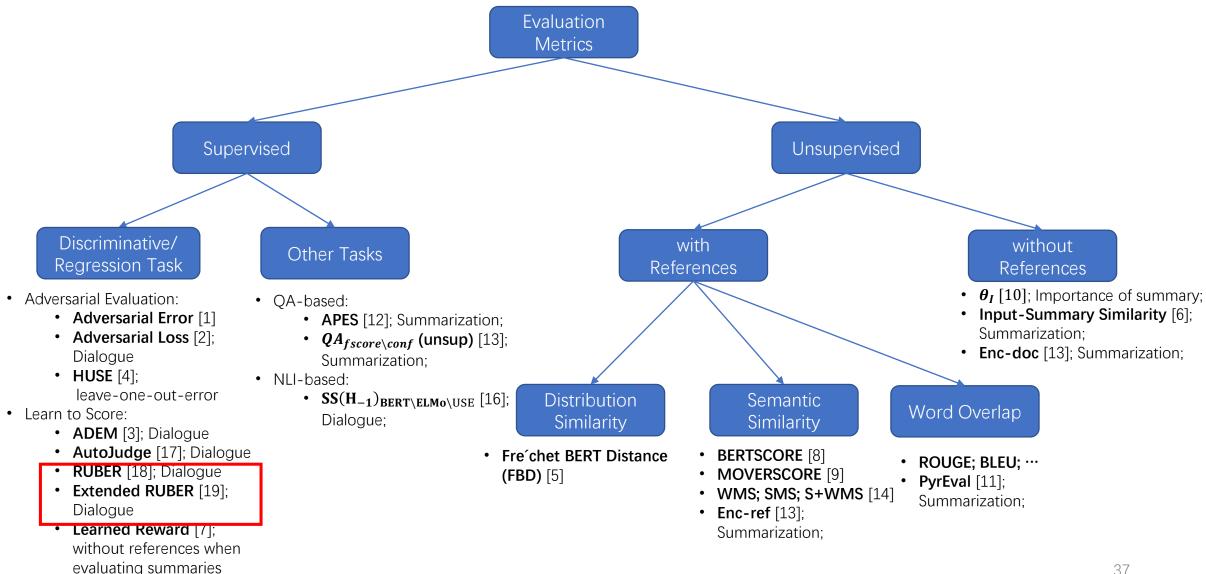
	Generic	Update
ICSI	.178	.139
Edm.	.215	.205
LexRank	.201	.164
KL	.204	.176
JS	.225	.189
$KL_{back}$	.110	.167
$JS_{back}$	.066	.187
Red	.098	.096
Rel	.212	.192
Inf	.091	.086
$ heta_I$	.294	.211

Table 1: Correlation of various information-theoretic quantities with human judgments measured by Kendall's  $\tau$  on generic and update summarization.

### $\theta_I$ -Conclusions

- A simple theoretical modeling of summary *Importance* with elegant and self-contained interpretation.
- Generalization ability is not good enough since it seems to be specifically-designed for multi-document summarization.

# Brief Taxonomy



### RUBER-Title & Authors

### RUBER: An Unsupervised Method for Automatic Evaluation of Open-Domain Dialog Systems

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### Better Automatic Evaluation of Open-Domain Dialogue Systems with Contextualized Embeddings

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### RUBER-Introduction

- **Motivation:** researchers usually resort to human annotation for dialogue model evaluation, which is time and labor-intensive.
- Method: blend a referenced metric and unreferenced metric as the final metric.

### Contributions:

- 1. Referenced metric. An embedding-based scorer measures the similarity between a generated reply and the ground truth.
- 2. Unreferenced metric. A neural network-based scorer measures the relatedness between the generated reply and its query.
- 3. RUBER. Combining the referenced and unreferenced metrics to better make use of both worlds.

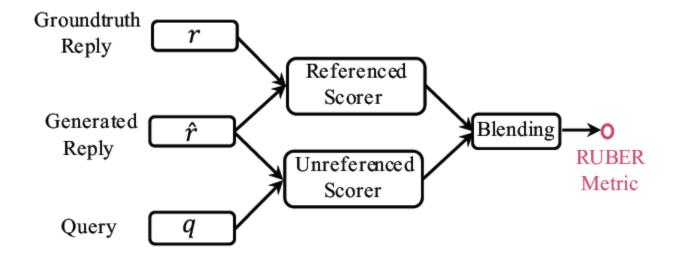
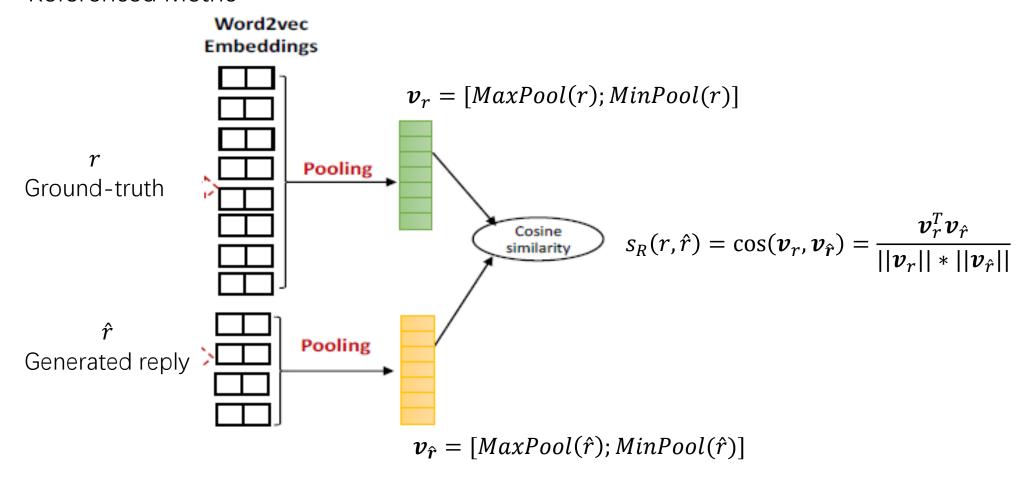


Figure 2: Overview of the RUBER metric.

Referenced Metric



Unreferenced Metric

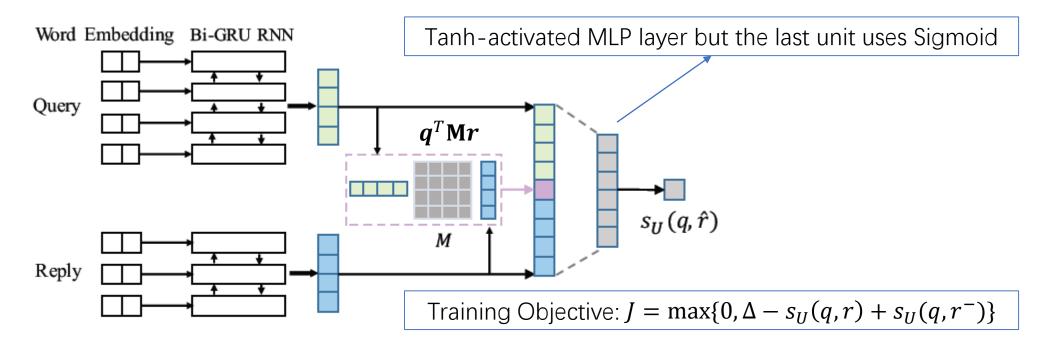


Figure 3: The neural network predicting the unreferenced score.

- Blending the normalized scores
  - 1. Min: min( $\tilde{s}_R$ ,  $\tilde{s}_U$ )
  - 2. Max:  $\max(\tilde{s}_R, \tilde{s}_U)$
  - 3. Geometric mean:  $(\tilde{s}_R * \tilde{s}_U)^{1/2}$
  - 4. Arithmetic mean:  $(\tilde{s}_R + \tilde{s}_U)/2$

$$\tilde{s}_R = \frac{s_R - \min(s_R)}{\max(s_R) - \min(s_R)}$$

$$\tilde{s}_U = \frac{s_U - \min(s_U)}{\max(s_U) - \min(s_U)}$$

# RUBER-Experiments

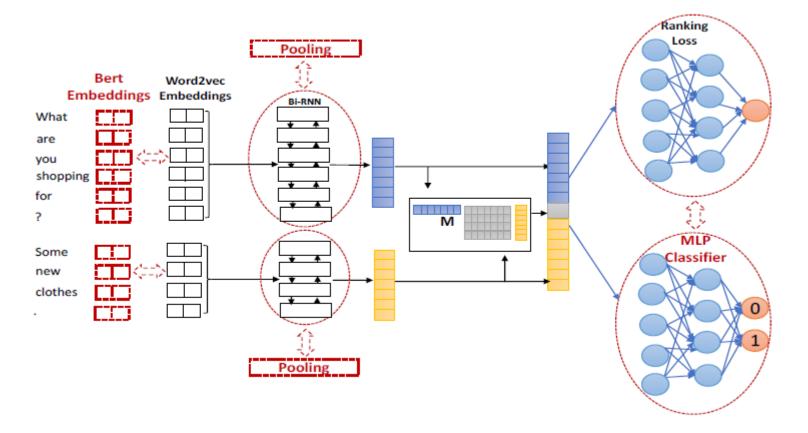
Dataset: Douban

		Retrieval (Top-1)		Seq2Seq (w/ attention)	
Metrics		Pearson(p-value)	Spearman(p-value)	Pearson(p-value)	Spearman(p-value)
Inter-annotator	Human (Avg)	0.4927(<0.01)	0.4981(<0.01)	0.4692(<0.01)	0.4708(<0.01)
	Human (Max)	0.5931 (< 0.01)	0.5926 (< 0.01)	0.6068 (< 0.01)	0.6028 (< 0.01)
Referenced	BLEU-1	0.2722(<0.01)	0.2473(< 0.01)	0.1521(<0.01)	0.2358(< 0.01)
	BLEU-2	0.2243 (< 0.01)	0.2389 (< 0.01)	-0.0006(0.9914)	0.0546(0.3464)
	BLEU-3	0.2018 (< 0.01)	0.2247 (< 0.01)	-0.0576(0.3205)	-0.0188(0.7454)
	BLEU-4	0.1601 (< 0.01)	0.1719 (< 0.01)	-0.0604(0.2971)	-0.0539(0.3522)
	Rouge	0.2840 (< 0.01)	0.2696(< 0.01)	0.1747 (< 0.01)	0.2522 (< 0.01)
	Vector pool $(s_R)$	0.2844 (< 0.01)	0.3205 (< 0.01)	0.3434 (< 0.01)	0.3219 (< 0.01)
Unreferenced	Vector pool	0.2253(<0.01)	0.2790(<0.01)	0.3808(<0.01)	0.3584(< 0.01)
	NN scorer $(s_U)$	0.4278 (< 0.01)	0.4338 (< 0.01)	0.4137 (< 0.01)	0.4240 (< 0.01)
Ruber	Min	0.4428(< 0.01)	0.4490(<0.01)	<b>0.4527</b> (< 0.01)	<b>0.4523</b> (< 0.01)
	Geometric mean	0.4559 (< 0.01)	0.4771 (< 0.01)	0.4523 (< 0.01)	0.4490 (< 0.01)
	Arithmetic mean	<b>0.4594</b> (< 0.01)	<b>0.4906</b> (< 0.01)	0.4509 (< 0.01)	0.4458 (< 0.01)
	Max	0.3263(<0.01)	0.3551(<0.01)	0.3868(<0.01)	0.3623(<0.01)

Table 2: Correlation between automatic metrics and human annotation. We also compare human-human agreement: "Human (Avg)" refers to average correlation between every two humans, whereas "Human (Max)" refers to the two annotators who are most correlated. Notice that the *p*-value is a rough estimation of the probability that an uncorrelated metric produces a result that is at least as extreme as the current one; it does not indicate the degree of correlation.

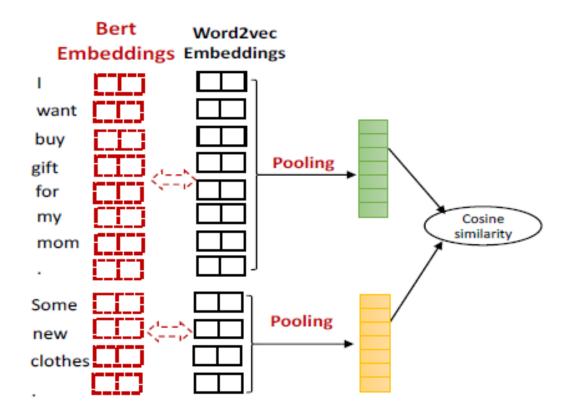
### RUBER-An Extension with BERT

• Unreferenced Metric



## RUBER-An Extension with BERT

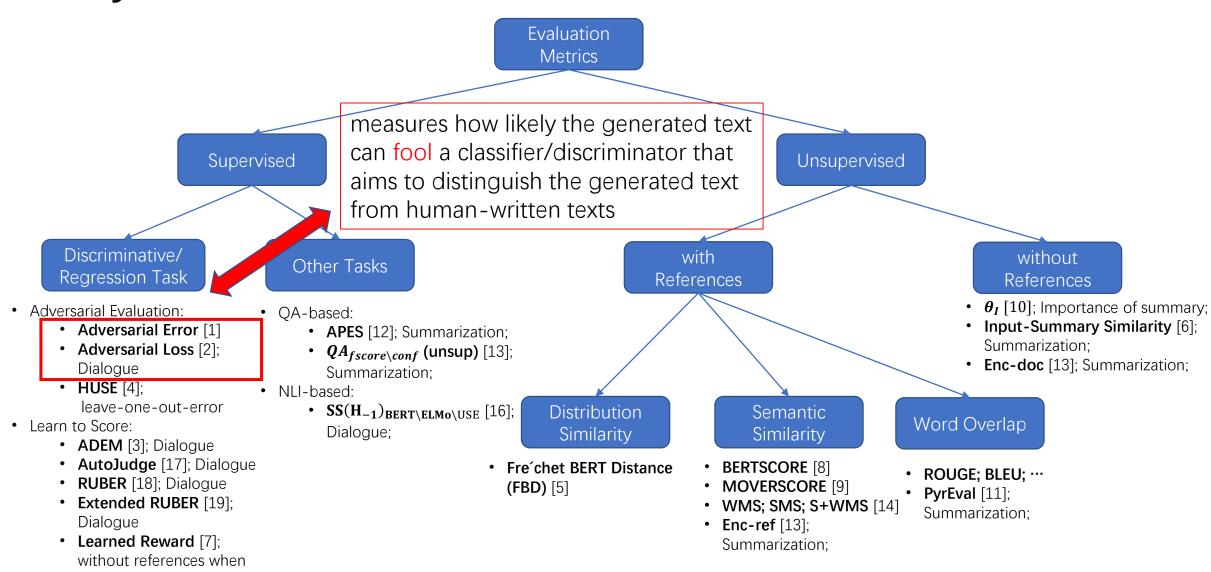
Referenced Metric



## RUBER-Conclusions

- A learnable, flexible hybrid metric for open-domain dialogue systems.
- Still supervised because of requiring training

evaluating summaries



### Evaluation Metrics

Unlike these approaches which seek to replace human evaluation, HUSE focuses on combining human and automatic statistical Unsupervised evaluation to estimate the optimal classifier error.

with

### Discriminative/ Regression Task

- Adversarial Evaluation:
  - Adversarial Error []
  - Adversarial Loss Dialogue
  - **HUSE** [4]; leave-one-out-error
- Learn to Score:
  - ADEM [3]; Dialogue
  - AutoJudge [17]; Dialogue
  - **RUBER** [18]; Dialogue
  - Extended RUBER [19]; Dialogue
  - Learned Reward [7]: without references when evaluating summaries
  - **BLEURT** [15];

### Other Tasks

OA-based:

Supervised

- **APES** [12]; Summarization;
- $QA_{fscore \setminus conf}$  (unsup) [13]; Summarization:
- NLI-based:
  - $SS(H_{-1})_{BERT\setminus ELMo\setminus USE}$  [16]; Dialogue;

### Fre´chet BERT Distance

### Similarity

Distribution

**(FBD)** [5]

### References

•  $\theta_I$  [10]; Importance of summary;

without

References

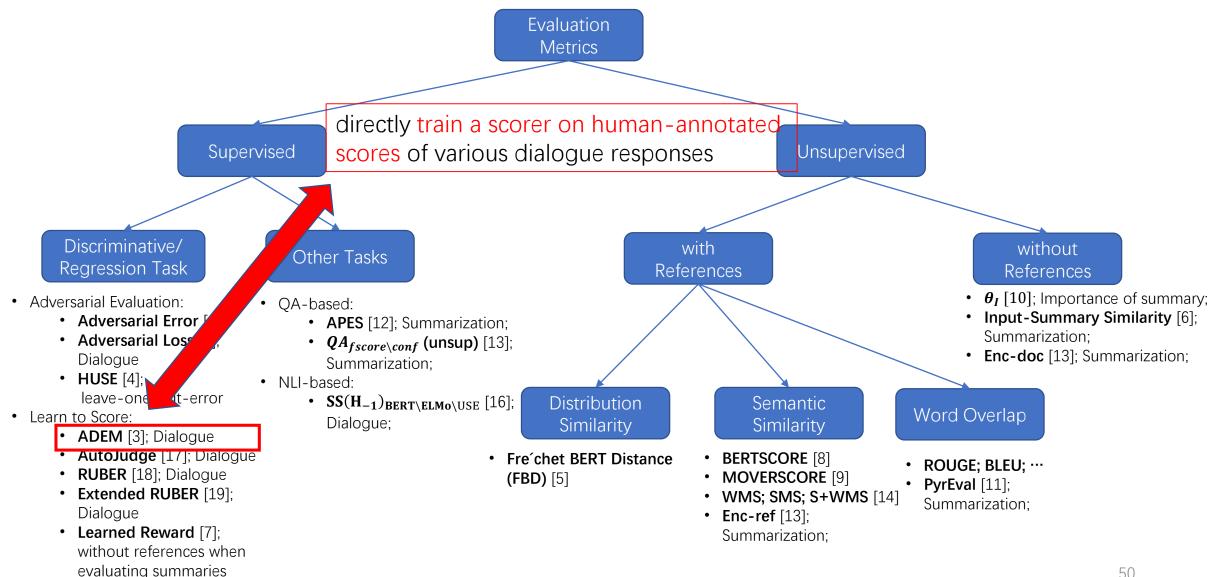
- Input-Summary Similarity [6]; Summarization;
- **Enc-doc** [13]; Summarization;

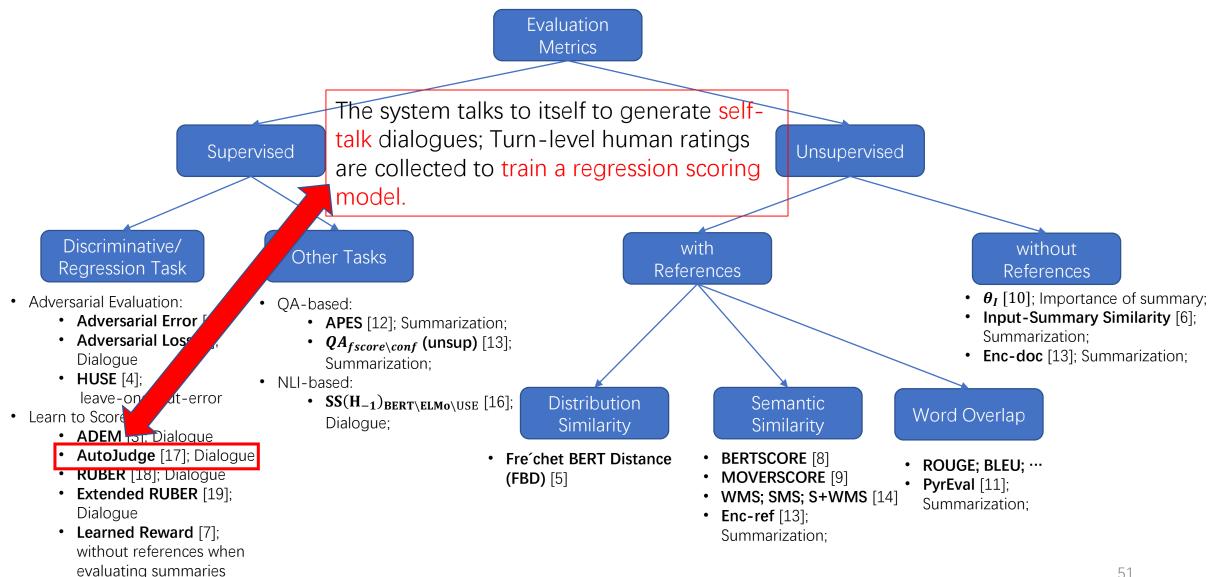
### Semantic Word Overlap Similarity

- BERTSCORE [8]
- MOVERSCORE [9]
- WMS; SMS; S+WMS [14]
- Enc-ref [13]; Summarization:

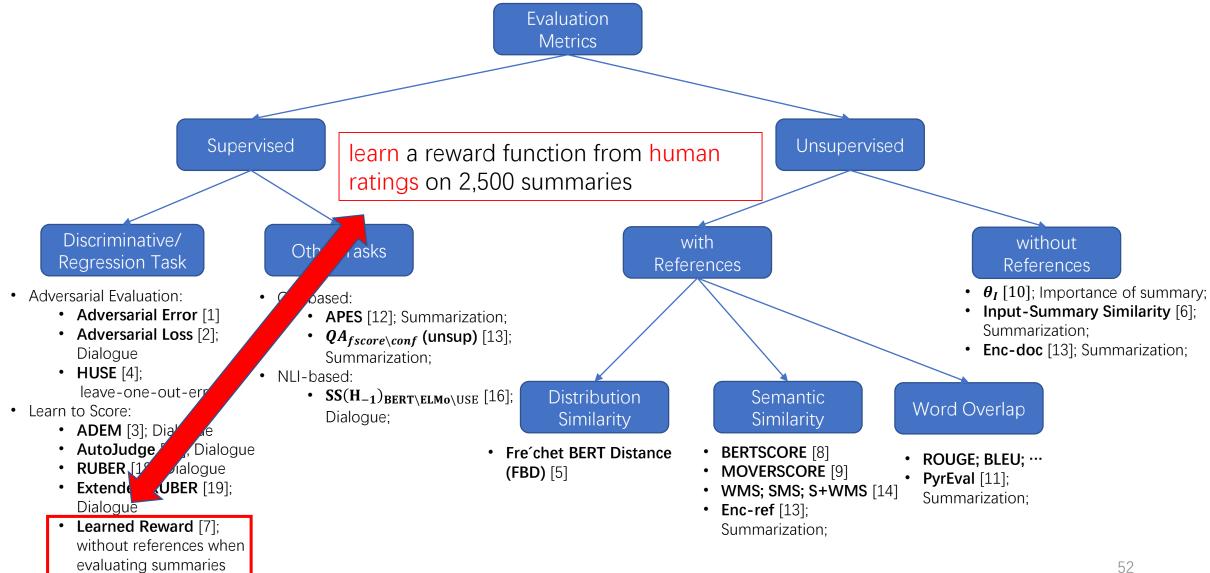
- ROUGE: BLEU: ···
- **PyrEval** [11];

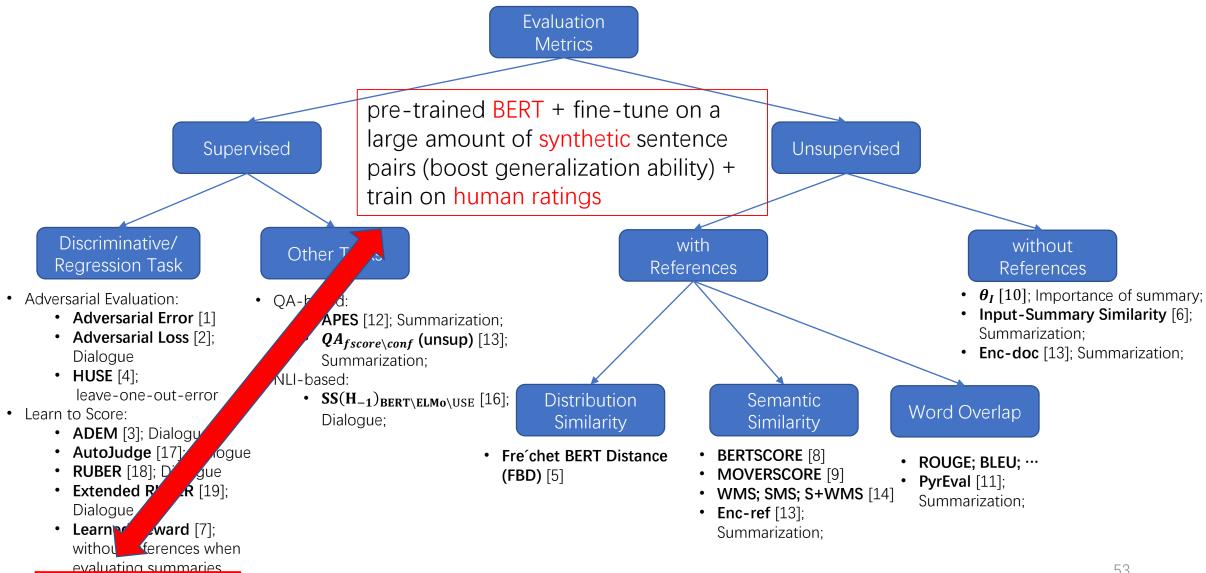
Summarization:

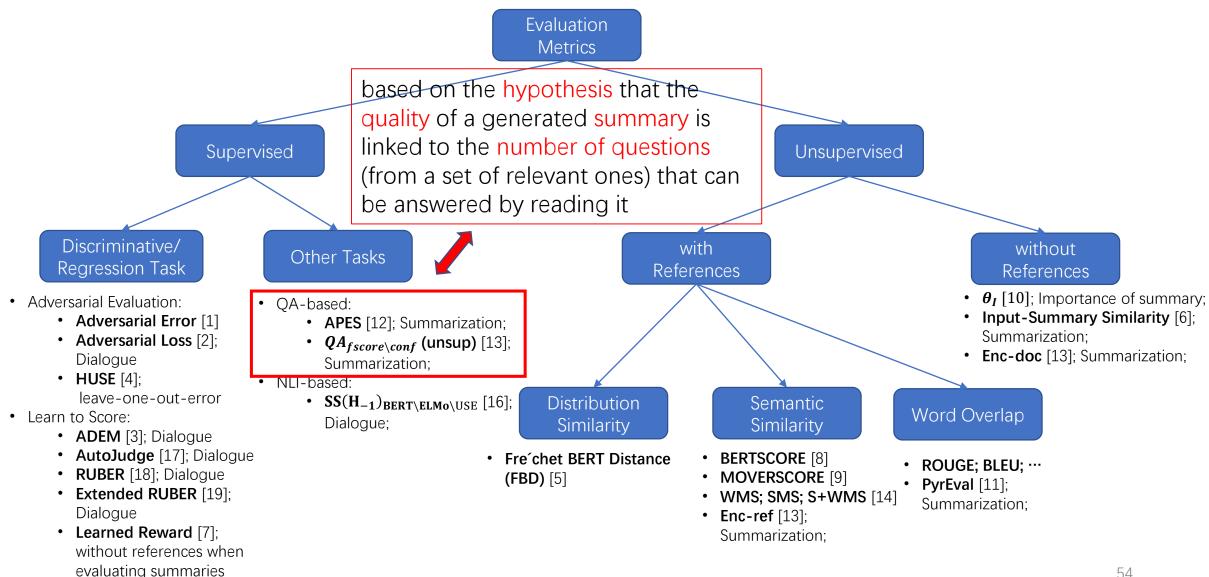




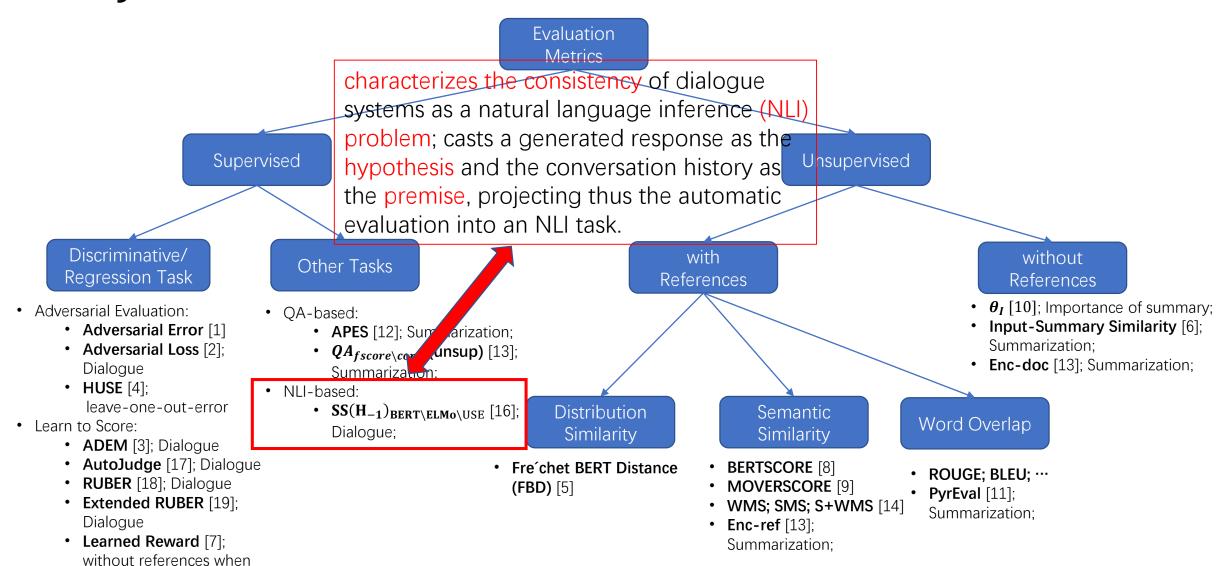
**BLEURT** [15],

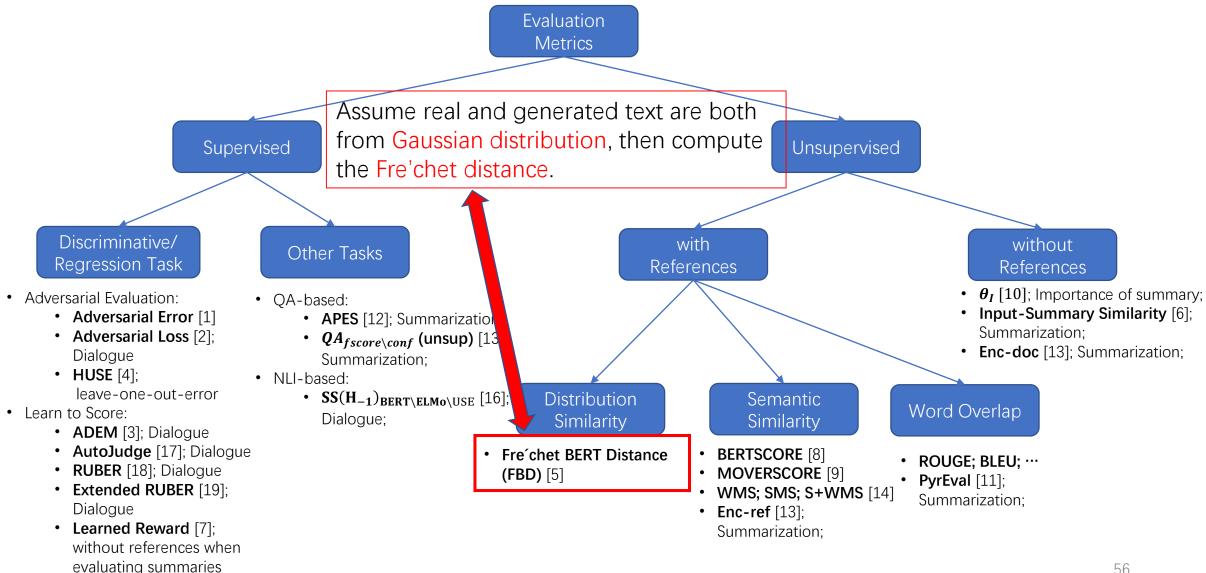


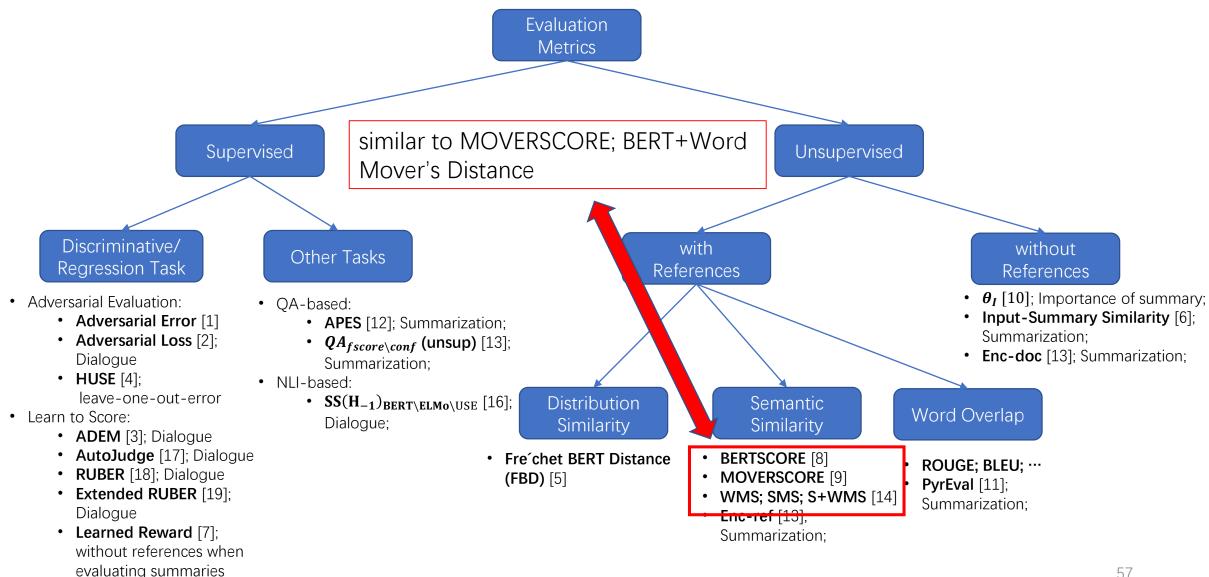


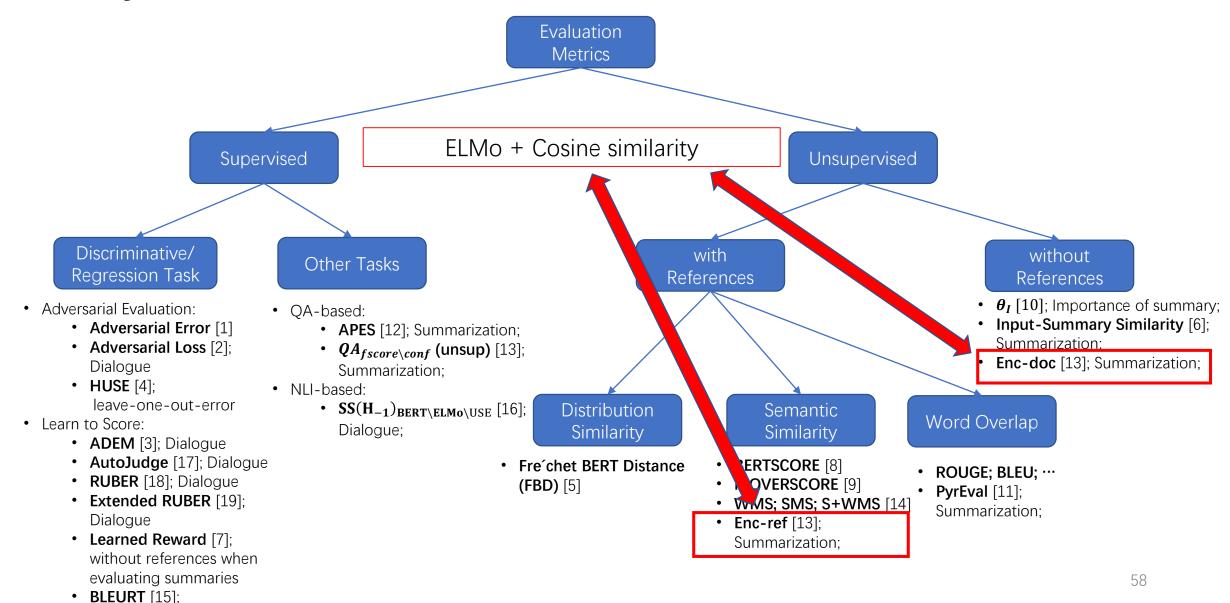


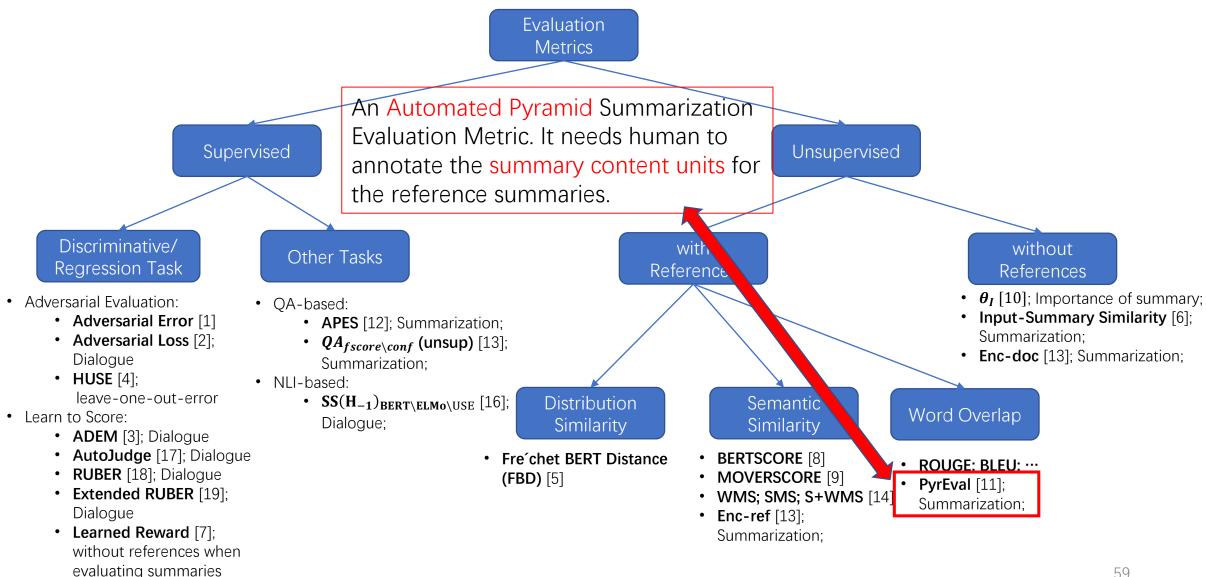
evaluating summaries

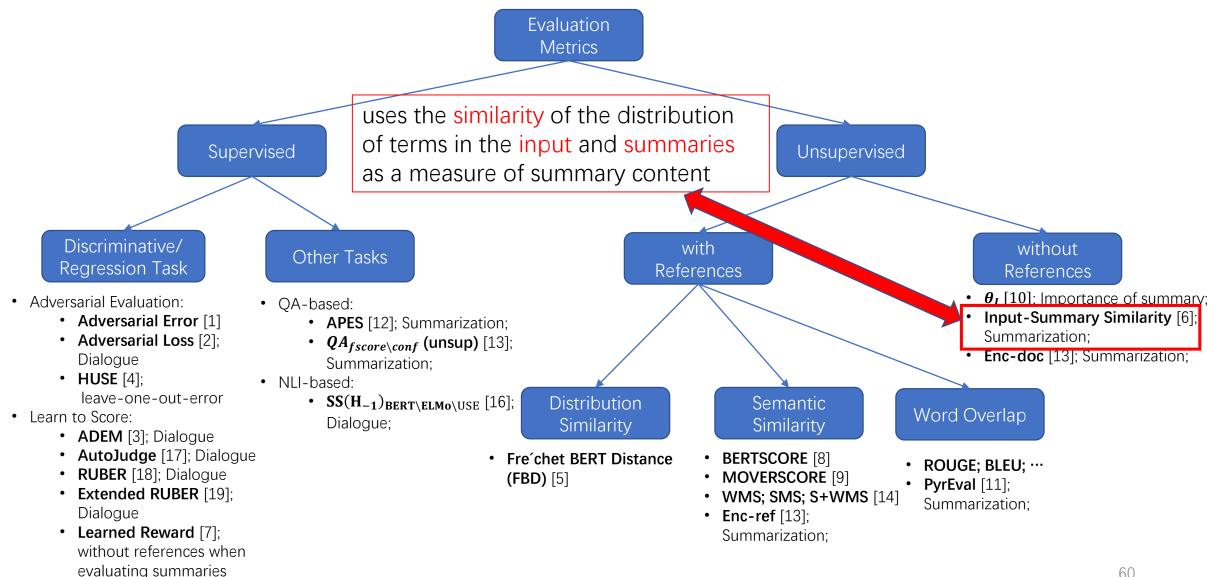












### Conclusions

- We introduced a new metric for general text generation, summarization, and dialogue generation respectively.
- We briefly introduced the key ideas of various metrics based on the taxonomy.
- Unsupervised, semantic similarity based metrics are worthwhile to be engaged in your work.

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