

# Notes: word2vec

(and related distributed embeddings)

References:

1. high level overview: <https://blog.acolyer.org/2016/04/21/the-amazing-power-of-word-vectors/>
2. details with math: <http://arxiv.org/abs/1402.3722v1>

Related methods:

1. fastText: <https://fasttext.cc>
2. doc2vec: <https://arxiv.org/abs/1405.4053>

Applications:

1. translating with word2vec <https://arxiv.org/abs/1309.4168>
2. gender bias: <http://wordbias.umiacs.umd.edu/>
3. racial bias: <https://www.pnas.org/content/115/16/E3635/tab-figures-data>
4. histwords: <https://nlp.stanford.edu/projects/histwords>
5. temporal word analogies: <https://www.aclweb.org/anthology/P17-2071>
6. political words: <https://arxiv.org/abs/1711.0560>

## 1 Word2Vec

**Problem 1.** What is a word analogy?

**Problem 2.** What is the algorithm for solving word analogies?

**Problem 3.** Why can 1-hot encoded vectors not be used for solving word analogies?

**Problem 4.** Describe the following two word2vec learning problems:

1. continuous bag of words

2. skipgram

**Problem 5.** We saw in our previous notes that the softmax cross entropy is the standard loss for multi-variate classification problems. The word2vec models do not use this loss function, however. Instead, they use something called *negative sampling*.

1. Why can word2vec models not use the standard cross entropy loss function for classification?

2. Describe the negative sampling loss function.

**Problem 6.** What are the hyperparameters for learning a word2vec model?

1. choice of input dataset

2. how should words be tokenized?

3. context window size ( $c$ )

4. which word2vec model should we pick?

5. vocabulary size ( $v$ )

6. number of dimension ( $d$ )

7. number of data points ( $m$ )

8. learning rate ( $\eta$ )

9. number of negative samples ( $s$ )

**Problem 7.** What is the relationship between neural networks/deep learning and word2vec?



## 2 Related models

**Problem 8.** What is the fastText model?

**Problem 9.** What is the doc2text model?

### 3 Applications

**Problem 10.** Other than word analogies, what problems can word vectors solve?