# ELMo Evaluation Subtitle

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# **Semantic Similarity**

For this task we compared the performance of the ELMo embeddings trained by [Castro et al. 2019] with the word embeddings trained by [Hartmann et al. 2017] under the ASSIN dataset.

## **Smooth Inverse Frequency**

The ASSIN dataset was inspired on the SICK dataset [Hartmann 2016], and both are targeted towards textual entailment and semantic similarity tasks. However, while the SICK dataset features mostly common words, the ASSIN dataset contains a considerable amount of highly domain-specific terms, as its main sources are Portuguese news websites visited during the year of 2015.

This has an significant impact on

For some tasks, acceptable results can be obtained by simply ignoring OOV words. However, this may not be a suitable choice, specially if OOV words constitute a significant portion of the dataset, or if factors such as word position are relevant to the task at hand.

It may seem tempting to use a single generic OOV (out of vocabulary) embedding for all words not seen during the training phase, but this approach can lead to highly undesirable results. [] has noticed that such a method fails to tell known words that have been deliberately obfuscated from non-obfuscated and rare words. [Hartmann et al. 2017] achieved distorted benchmarks for the ASSIN sentence similarity task with FastText by inadvertently using the string *unk* as a token for unknown words. Due to the employment of character n-grams, FastText mapped *unk* to a cluster of words commonly associated

Table 1. Mean squared error and Pearson correlation coefficient

	MSE	Pearson	MSE	Pearson
FastText, CBOW (600)	0.68	0.33	0.63	0.4
FastText, skip-gram (100)	0.58	0.49	0.52	0.55
FastText, skip-gram (1000)	0.56	0.52	0.49	0.59
FastText, skip-gram (300)	0.53	0.55	0.5	0.58
FastText, skip-gram (50)	0.61	0.45	0.55	0.52
FastText, skip-gram (600)	0.64	0.40	0.49	0.59
Wang2Vec, CBOW (300)	0.55	0.53	0.5	0.57

with the subject of pop music, such as *g-funk*, *g-punk* and *punk-funk*. This has led the authors of the paper to reach benchmarks highly divergent from what could be obtained by simply ignoring unknown tokens.

Table 1 shows the results reported by [Hartmann et al. 2017] side by side with our results on the embeddings that were most strongly affected by using the *unk* token. We repeated their experiments exactly as described, except for the removal of the *unk* tokens from the pre-processed data. Although we reproduced all their sentence similarity tests with exactly the same pre-processed data and word embeddings, other word embeddings did not display such a large difference in test results after the word *unk* was removed.

## **Combined ELMo Embeddings**

An alternative approach

[?] has shown that

## **Smooth Inverse Frequency**

#### References

Castro, P., Felix, N., and Soares, A. (2019). Contextual representations and semi-supervised named entity recognition for portuguese language.

Hartmann, N. (2016). Solo queue at assin: Mix of traditional and emerging approaches. *Linguamatica*, 8:59–64.

Hartmann, N., Fonseca, E., Shulby, C., Treviso, M., Rodrigues, J., and Aluisio, S. (2017). Portuguese word embeddings: Evaluating on word analogies and natural language tasks.