

can manifest themselves as out-of-context words such as ‘well’ and ‘continent’ in the given example or as a grammatical mistake, where ‘enjoy’ becomes ‘enjoys’.

Table 8 provides a few examples of text corruption and subsequent corrections for qualitative comparison. The samples were picked randomly from the medium error variant of the Amazon dataset.⁴ We can see that the error correction model is quite accurate at simple corrections like ‘wive herb fingers’ to ‘with her fingers’ in example 1, and ‘i booth hits’ to ‘i bought this’ in example 2. It is also able to accurately predict complex correction requiring more context, e.g., ‘malnutrition’ is correctly predicted to be ‘nutritional’ given the positive sentiment of the review. In a more ambiguous situation where the exact word is harder to predict, the model still makes a sensible prediction. For instance, ‘bomb’ is corrected to ‘combo’ in example 3, and ‘isle’ to the verb ‘ship’ in example 2, which, albeit not correct, is a sensible prediction in the context, similar in meaning to the ground truth word ‘send’.. However, it often fails to correct obvious errors, especially when the out-of-context word is a fairly common one. For example, ‘hot of style’ in example 1 and ‘gorgeous and screen’ in example 3 are left uncorrected. This model is entirely independent of the error detection model. A two-component design feeding the prediction of the detection model into the correction model may improve the results.

7. Conclusion

This paper proposes a method to induce typographical errors based on realistic error modeling, which is used to induce two novel typographic error datasets from different domains, each generated at three different error levels. We show that BiLSTM neural networks are fairly effective in detecting these errors and that Transformer networks show potential in correcting them. Our data is freely available online at <http://typo.nlproc.org> for the community to make further progress on this challenging task.

8. References

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⁴A constraint was placed to not select sentences longer than 30 words due to space limitations.