Natural Language Processing

Lecture VII. Word Embedding – a 30-year journey

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Something about graduate school

"The path to real success is not to compete, but to invent a new game, and then master it." Reid Hoffman,

https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/dont-just-compete-invent-new-game-master-reid-hoffman

Salute to the NLP pioneers, including but not limited to: Elman (1990), Bengio (2003), Collobert & Weston (2008, look-up table), Mnih & Hinton (2007 & 2009, tree).

- ▶ BOW or unigram: no order of words
- N-gram where N > 1: a sequence of words, some structura information.
- A classical language model estimates a cost function (e.g., likelihood) of word sequences.
- ▶ Problem?
 - "curse of dimensionality"

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- How to plug into neural networks?

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- Turning words into vectors (the simple ways):

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Word representation

- "A word representation is a mathematical object associated with each word, often a vector." [1]
- "Each dimension's value corresponds to a feature and might even have a semantic or grammatical interpretation, so we call it a word feature."
- One-hot (aka 1-of-N) encoding is one, but obviously not good.
- Word embedding: a distributed representation Ref [1]: Turian, Ratinov, and Bengio, Word representations: A simple and general method for semi-supervised learning, ACL 2010

- Intuition: Semantically (dis)similar/(un)related words should co-occur in documents (in)frequently.
- A word-document co-occurence matrix can be considered as a composition of a series of transforms.

- ▶ This is the idea behind Singular Vector Decomposition (SVD): $M = U\Sigma V$, where all rows of U or all columns of V are orthoronal, and Σ a diagnoal matrix of signular values (importances of semantic dimensions).
- The dimension of U is high. Usually we zero out some dimensions in Σ to focus on only the important ones. And thus, the resulting U is no longer orthornormal.
- ▶ SVD on word-document co-occurence [2]. Note that the SVD in this tutorial is called compact SVD.
- The co-occurence counts can be further weighted into other quantities, such as point-wise mutual information (Slide 37 of [2]).



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Problems of factorization-based embedding

- You have to re-create the co-occurrence matrix when updating or fine-tuing.
- ► A large sparse matrix.
- ► Starting from scratch in computing SVD each time. Cannot reuse previous results, i.e., fine-tuning.

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First neural language model

- Bengio et al., NIPS 2003, A neural probablistic language model
- Joint probability as a function of words:

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P(\underbrace{w_i}_{target} | \underbrace{w_{i-\tau-1}, \dots, w_{i-1}}_{context}) = f(\underbrace{w_i}_{target}, \underbrace{w_{i-\tau-1}, \dots, w_{i-1}}_{context}) in 2 steps:
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each word w_{i∈[i=x=1,j]} into a vector C(w_i) ∈ R" thru a look-up table C which is also a function, and

2. a function $g(-C(w_0))$, $C(w_0, \dots, 1)$, ..., $C(w_0, \dots)$) such that $w_0 = \max_{w \in S} g(w_0, \dots, 1)$ and the same some

 \triangleright \mathcal{V} is the vocabulary. For computing sake, g is simplified into $g(x, C(w_{i-\tau-1}), \ldots, C(w_{i-1}))$ where x is the index of the target word (correct or fake) in the vocabulary.

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- 1. each word $w_{j \in [i-\tau-1...i]}$ into a vector $C(w_j) \in \mathbb{R}^D$ thru a look-up table C, which is also a function, and
- 2. a function $g(C(w_x), C(w_{i-\tau-1}), \dots, C(w_{i-1}))$ such that $w_i = \operatorname{argmax} g$,

```
any word w_x, given the same context  g(\ "alog''\ | \ "a \ brown fox jumps over a \ lazy'') > g(\ "penguin''\ | \ "a \ brown fox jumps over a \ lazy'') > g(\ "wheel''\ | \ "a \ brown fox jumps over a \ lazy'') > g(\ "homework''\ | \ "a \ brown fox jumps over a \ lazy'') > g(\ "homework''\ | \ "a \ brown fox jumps over a \ lazy'') > g(\ "homework''\ | \ "a \ brown fox jumps over a \ lazy'') > g(\ "alog''\ | \ "a \ brown fox jumps over a \ lazy'') > g(\ "alog''\ | \ "a \ brown fox jumps over a \ lazy'') > g(\ "alog''\ | \ "a \ brown fox jumps over a \ lazy'') > g(\ "alog''\ | \ "a \ brown fox jumps over a \ lazy'') > g(\ "alog''\ | \ "a \ brown fox jumps over a \ lazy'') > g(\ "alog''\ | \ "a \ brown fox jumps over a \ lazy'') > g(\ "alog''\ | \ "a \ brown fox jumps over a \ lazy'') > g(\ "alog''\ | \ "a \ brown fox jumps over a \ lazy'') > g(\ "alog''\ | \ "a \ brown fox jumps over a \ lazy'') > g(\ "alog''\ | \ "a \ brown fox jumps over a \ lazy'') > g(\ "alog''\ | \ "a \ brown fox jumps over a \ lazy'') > g(\ "alog''\ | \ "a \ brown fox jumps over a \ lazy'') > g(\ "alog''\ | \ "a \ brown fox jumps over a \ lazy'') > g(\ "alog''\ | \ "a \ brown fox jumps over a \ lazy'') > g(\ "alog''\ | \ "a \ brown fox jumps over a \ lazy'') > g(\ "alog''\ | \ "a \ brown fox jumps over a \ lazy'') > g(\ "alog''\ | \ "a \ brown fox jumps over a \ lazy'') > g(\ "alog''\ | \ "a \ brown fox jumps over a \ lazy'') > g(\ "alog''\ | \ "a \ brown fox jumps over a \ lazy'') > g(\ "alog''\ | \ "a \ brown fox jumps over a \ lazy'') > g(\ "alog''\ | \ "a \ brown fox jumps over a \ lazy'') > g(\ "alog''\ | \ "a \ brown fox jumps over a \ lazy'') > g(\ "alog''\ | \ "a \ brown fox jumps over a \ lazy'') > g(\ "alog''\ | \ "a \ brown fox jumps over a \ lazy'') > g(\ "alog''\ | \ "a \ brown fox jumps over a \ lazy'') > g(\ "alog''\ | \ "a \ brown fox jumps over a \ lazy'') > g(\ "alog''\ | \ "a \ brown fox jumps over a \ lazy'') > g(\ "alog''\ | \ "a \ brown fox jumps over a \ lazy'') > g(\ "alog''\ | \ "a \ brown fox jumps over a \ laz
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1. each word $w_{j \in [i-\tau-1...i]}$ into a vector $C(w_j) \in \mathbb{R}^D$ thru a look-up table C, which is also a function, and

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any word w_x, given the same context

e.g.,

g("dog'') ["a brown fox jumps over a lazy") > g("penguin'') ["a brown fox jumps over a lazy")

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```



- Bengio et al., NIPS 2003, A neural probablistic language model
- Joint probability as a function of words:

$$P(\underbrace{w_i}_{target} | \underbrace{w_{i-\tau-1}, \dots, w_{i-1}}_{context}) = f(\underbrace{w_i}_{target}, \underbrace{w_{i-\tau-1}, \dots, w_{i-1}}_{context})$$
 in 2 steps:

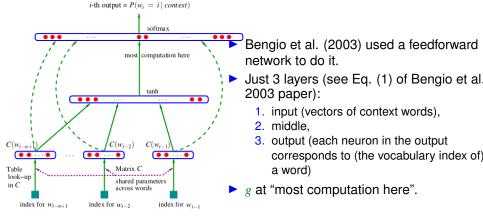
1. each word $w_{j \in [i-\tau-1...i]}$ into a vector $C(w_j) \in \mathbb{R}^D$ thru a look-up table C, which is also a function, and

```
2. a function g(\underbrace{C(w_x)}_{\text{any word } w_x}, \underbrace{C(w_{i-\tau-1}), \ldots, C(w_{i-1})}_{\text{given the same context}}) such that w_i = \underset{x}{\operatorname{argmax}} g, e.g.,
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```



First neural language model (cont.)



Note the subscripts are different.

- ► Maximize the probablities of correct examples, e.g., g("dog"|"a brown fox jumps over a lazy")
- Minimize those of all fake exampels, e.g., g("penguin"|"a brown fox jumps over a lazy"), g("homework"|"a brown fox jumps over a lazy"
- Put them all together: $J = \sum g(\text{correct target}, context) \sum g(\text{fake target}, context) \text{ Max it}$
- ▶ During the training, the *g* for correct targets grow, while the *g* for fake targets drop, because the *C* for them is being updated.
- ▶ Bengio et al. 2003 has only the first term, lack of the part for fake targets.
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Negative sampling

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$$E(w_n; w_{1:n-1}) = -\left(\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} v_i^T R C_i\right) R^T v_n - bias$$

- ► *R* is the embedding matrix while *C_i*'s are the weights of the language model.
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- ► However, some local context words do not contain much semantics of the center word, e.g., "the" in "The cat sat on the mat," because they have lots co-occurrence with other words.
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- GloVe combines the benefit of the two
- Key observation: ratios of co-occurrence probabilities revea semantics better than co-occurence probabilities.

Probability and Ratio	k = solid	k = gas	k = water	k = fashion
P(k ice)	1.9×10^{-4}	6.6×10^{-5}	3.0×10^{-3}	1.7×10^{-5}
P(k steam)	2.2×10^{-5}	7.8×10^{-4}	2.2×10^{-3}	1.8×10^{-5}
P(k ice)/P(k steam)	8.9	8.5×10^{-2}	1.36	0.96

- "water" and "fashion" both have little power to tell the difference between "ice" and "steam": ratios around 1. They are both about water and have little connection with fashion. But "solid" and "gas" can: ratios much larger or smaller than 1.
- P(k|ice)P(k|steam) >> 1 if k is closer to "ice", and << 1 if k is closer to "steam".</p>
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- ▶ GloVe wants to archive a relation F of two words w_i and w_j and a context word w'_k (' indicating the context word, not an operation) such that $F(w_i, w_j, w'_k) = P_{ik}/P_{jk}$ where P_{ik} and P_{jk} are the co-occurring probability of w_i and w'_k and that of w_j and w'_k .
- First, the difference between w_i and w_j is expected to be characterized linearly. The simplest linear difference is vector subtraction. Hence, $F(w_i w_i, w'_k) = P_{ik}/P_{jk}$. F is overloaded.
- ▶ Second, the difference $w_i w_j$ with respect to the context word w'_k to be linearly characterized as well. The simplest form is dot product. Hence, $F((w_i w_i)^T w'_k) = P_{ik}/P_{ik}$. F is overloaded again.
- ► Third, we want to characterize the difference between any two words using their co-occourence, regardless of whether a word is a context word or not. Hence, we want
 - $F((w_i w_j)^T w_k') = F(w_i^T w_k' + (-w_j^T w_k')) = F(w_i^T w_k') \circ F(-w_j^T w_k')$ where \circ is an operation to be found. Such an F is known as a group homomorphism in discrete math.

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- ▶ We can make \circ to be super simple, just multiplication. Thus, $F((w_i w_j)^T w_k') = F(w_i^T w_k') \cdot F(-w_j^T w_k')$ Then F is a homomorphism between groups $(\mathbb{R}, +)$ and (\mathbb{R}^+, \times) .
- Exponential functions are such homomorphism, i.e., $e^{a+b} = e^a \cdot e^b$, thus $F = \exp$.
- ▶ Based on the definition, $F((w_i w_j)^T w_k') = P_{ik}/P_{jk}$ and $F((w_j w_i)^T w_k') = P_{jk}/P_{ik}$ (i and j flipped in the second equation). Their product $F(x)F(-x) = \frac{P_{ik}}{P_{ik}} \frac{P_{jk}}{P_{ik}} = 1$ or $F(-x) = \frac{1}{F(x)}$.
- Using this property, we have $F(w_i w_j)^T w_k') = F(w_i^T w_k') \cdot F(-w_j^T w_k') = \frac{F(w_i^T w_k')}{F(w_i^T w_k')}$

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- ▶ Recalling that $F((w_i w_j)^T w_k') = P_{ik}/P_{jk}$, we have $F(w_i^T w_k') = \exp(w_i^T w_k') = P_{ik} = X_{ik}/Xi$ where X_{ik} is the global cooccurence of w_i and w_k and X_i is the global occurence of w_i .
- Log on both sides, we have $w_i^T w_k' = \log X_{ik} \log X_i$ where $\log X_i$ has nothing to do with w_k' and hence is absorbed into a bias: $w_i^T w_k' = \log X_i k + b_i$.
- Last tuning: the authors want the formula above to be symmetric to both w'_k and w_i , thus the bias term is not only there for non-context word. Hence they add a bias for the context word: $w_i^T w'_k = \log X_{ik} + b_i + b'_k$.
- ▶ Then the loss function is $(\log X_{ik} w_i^T w_k' b_i b_k')^2$ and the goal is to minimize it.
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- ▶ Two goals of the weight function W: $W(X_{i,j})$ cannot be too large if $X_{i,j}$ is small whereas it cannot be too large also for frequenty w_i and w_j pairs.
- ► An implementation:

$$W(X_{i,j}) = \begin{cases} (X_{i,j}/X_{max})^{\alpha} & \text{if } X_{i,j} < X_{max} \\ 1 & \text{o/w} \end{cases}$$

- ▶ Empirical study finds that $\alpha = 3/4$ is a good number.
- ► See also: http://mlexplained.com/2018/04/29/ paper-dissected-glove-global-vectors-for-word-represent and http://text2vec.org/glove.html



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$$W(X_{i,j}) = \begin{cases} (X_{i,j}/X_{max})^{\alpha} & \text{if } X_{i,j} < X_{max} \\ 1 & \text{o/w} \end{cases}$$

- ▶ Empirical study finds that $\alpha = 3/4$ is a good number.
- ► See also: http://mlexplained.com/2018/04/29/ paper-dissected-glove-global-vectors-for-word-represent and http://text2vec.org/glove.html



- Word pairs have different frequencies in a corpus. So they should have different contributions to the loss function.
- $J = \sum_{i,j=1}^{|\mathcal{V}|} W(X_{i,j}) (\log X_{ij} w_i^T w_j b_i b_j)^2$
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Sentence embedding

- DAN
- Skip-thought
- Transformer