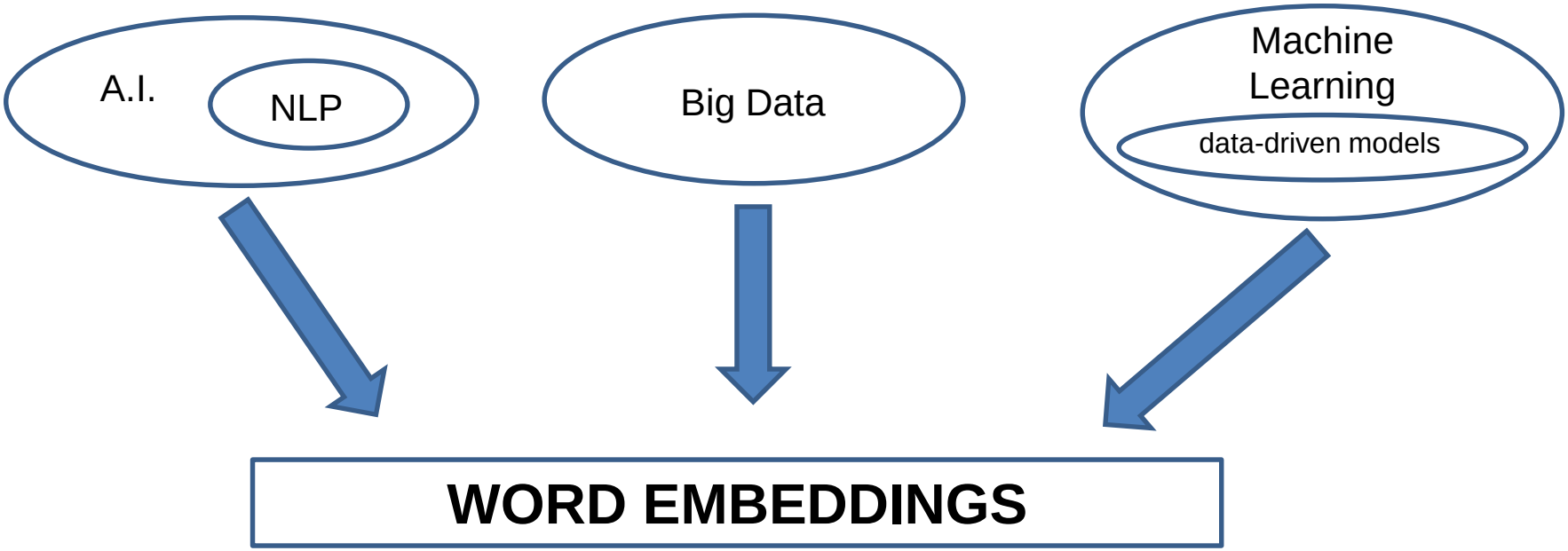
Word Embeddings models: theory and representation

Massimo De Cubellis - ISTAT

Reference framework



Definitions (1/2)

The **artificial intelligence (AI)** is a discipline belonging to the computer science that studies the theories, the methodologies and the techniques that allow to design hardware and software systems, capable of performing tasks typically exclusive of the human intelligence.

Among the main task that A.I. is able to perform, in addition to image / sound recognition or resolution of computational patterns, there is also the natural language processing

Natural language processing, also known as **NLP**, is the automatic elaboration process of information expressed in a natural language.

Definitions (2/2)

In statistics and computer science the term **big data** generically indicates a data collection so extensive in terms of volume, velocity and variety to use specific technologies and analytical methods for the extraction of value or knowledge (Wikipedia)

Machine learning is exactly one of these methods for extracting value and knowledge from (big) data; this technique foresee a learning phase in which a neural network try to identify patterns in the data, through an algorithm that improves the performance at each iteration

Data driven models: they are models in which there aren't pre-defined algorithms or programs that "teach" the computer how to solve a problem

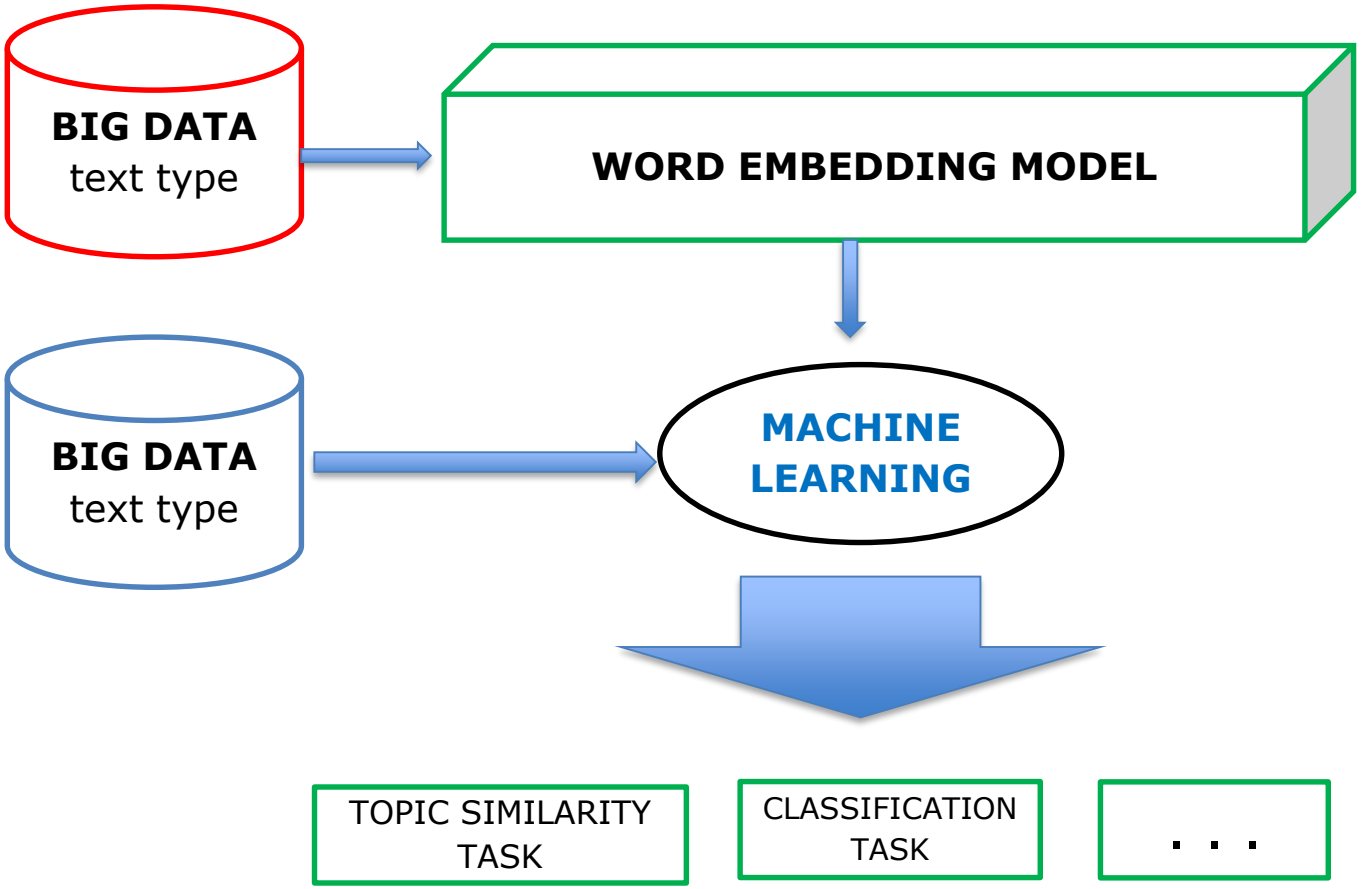
NLP’s Applications

Some examples:

- speech recognition and synthesis
- automatic translation
- chatbot (software to simulate conversations with humans)
- summarization systems
- systems to solve topic similarity and text classification tasks
- sentyment analysis systems

And Word Embedding ?

NLP: from Big Data to Statistics tasks



Word Embeddings

Word Embedding models (1/2)

Word Embedding models map words in vectors of a *vector space*

The underlying hypothesis is that similar words appear in similar *contexts*:

- *"You shall know a word by the company it keeps"*
- *'the cat meows' – 'the kitten meows'*

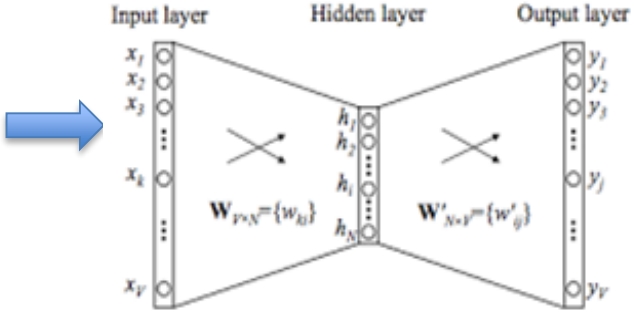
Models adopted:

- Word2Vec (Google – 2013 - *Tomas Mikolov*)
- GloVe (Stanford University 2014)
- Fast Text – (Facebook Research - 2016)

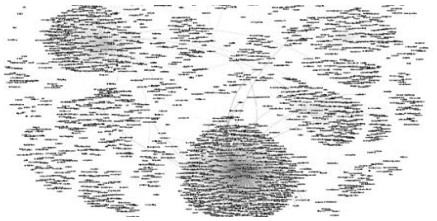
Word Embedding models are DATA-DRIVEN

Corpus

Word2Vec



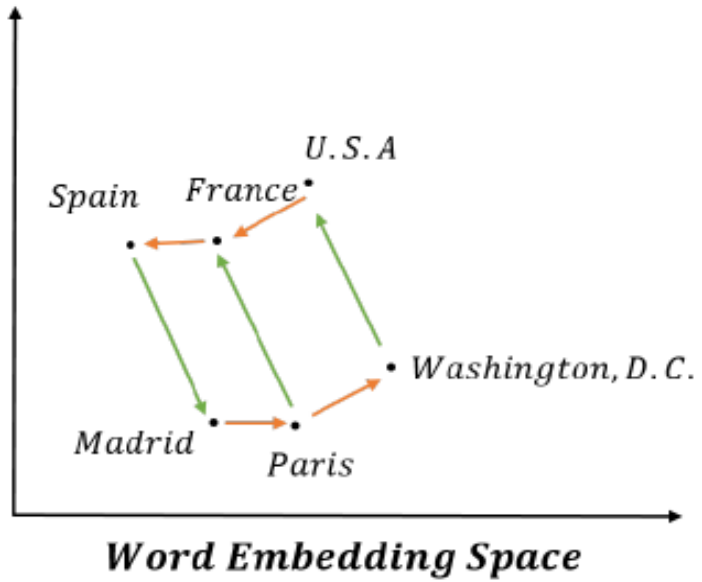
WE Model

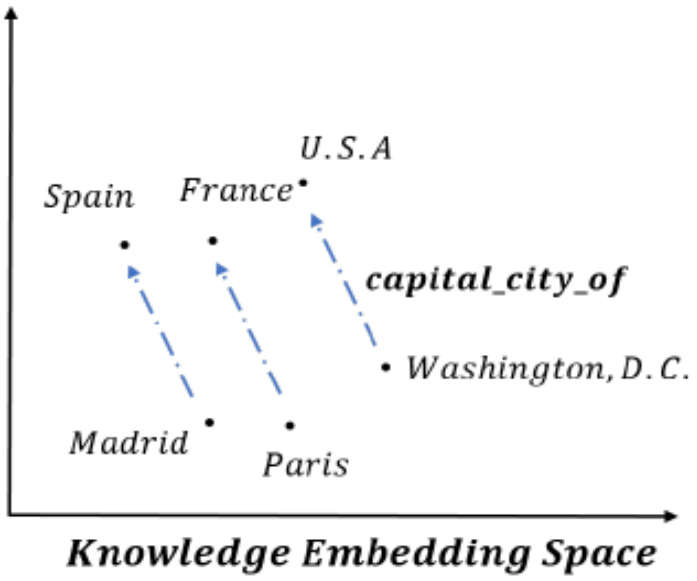


Word Embedding models (2/2)

The first results obtained by Word2Vec (2013) were really amazing:

- words which are close, from a syntactic or semantic point of view, are represented by (almost) parallel vectors (*cosine distance metric*)

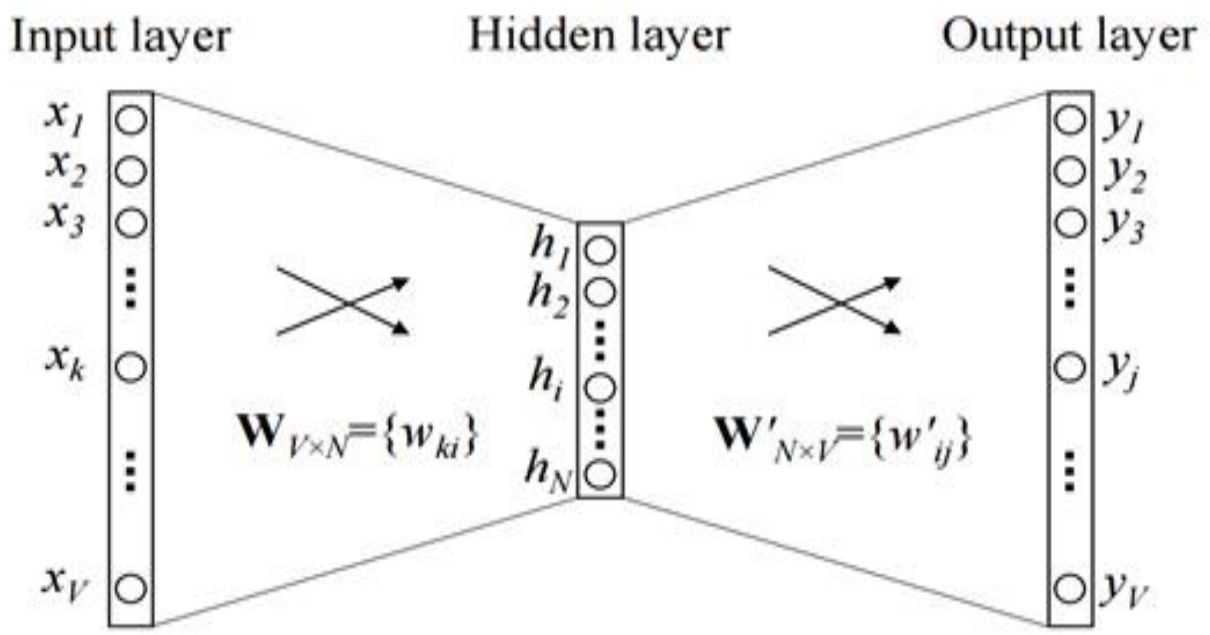




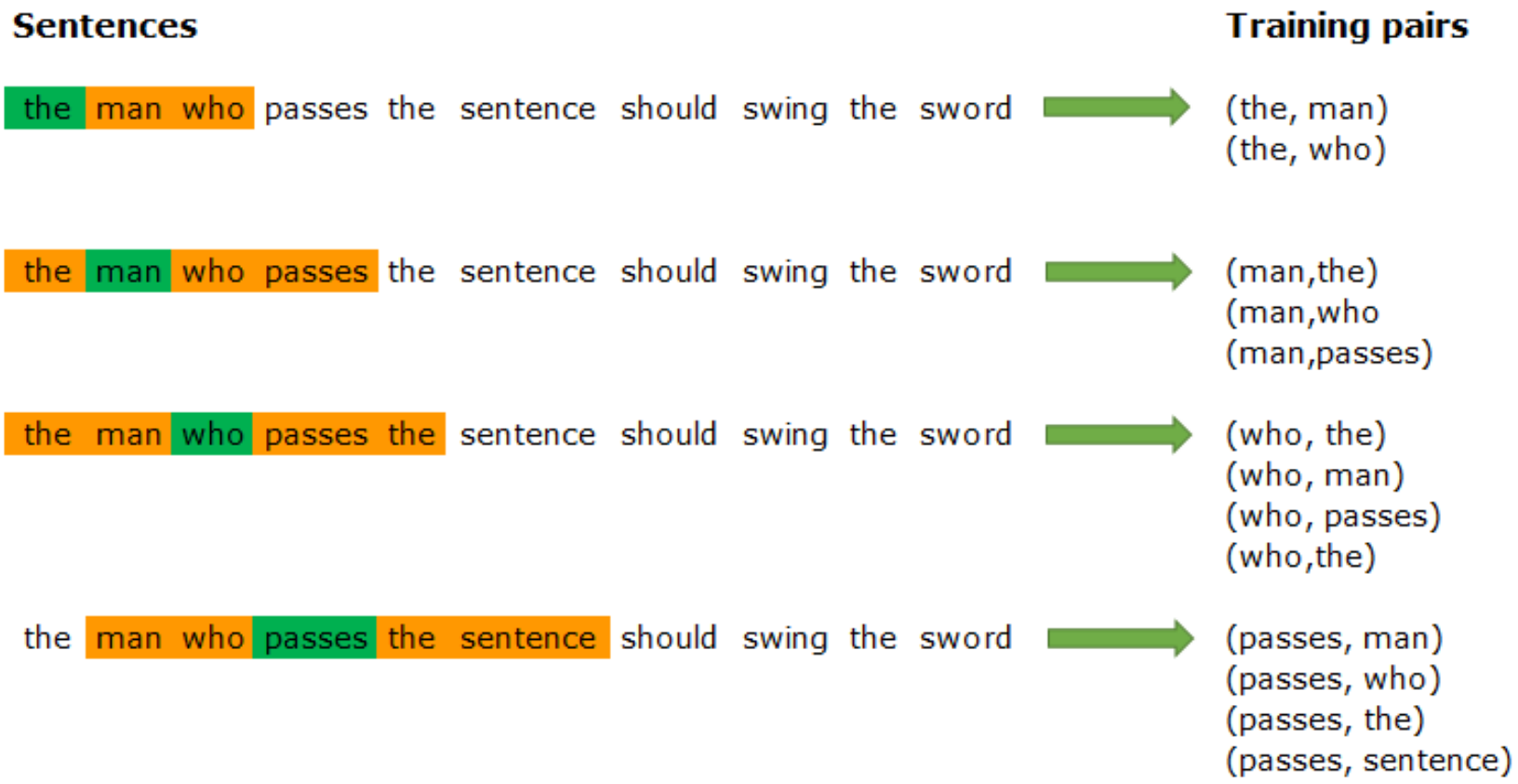
Word2Vec

Word2Vec: a simple neural network

Word2Vec is a simple not-supervised neural network with a single hidden layer



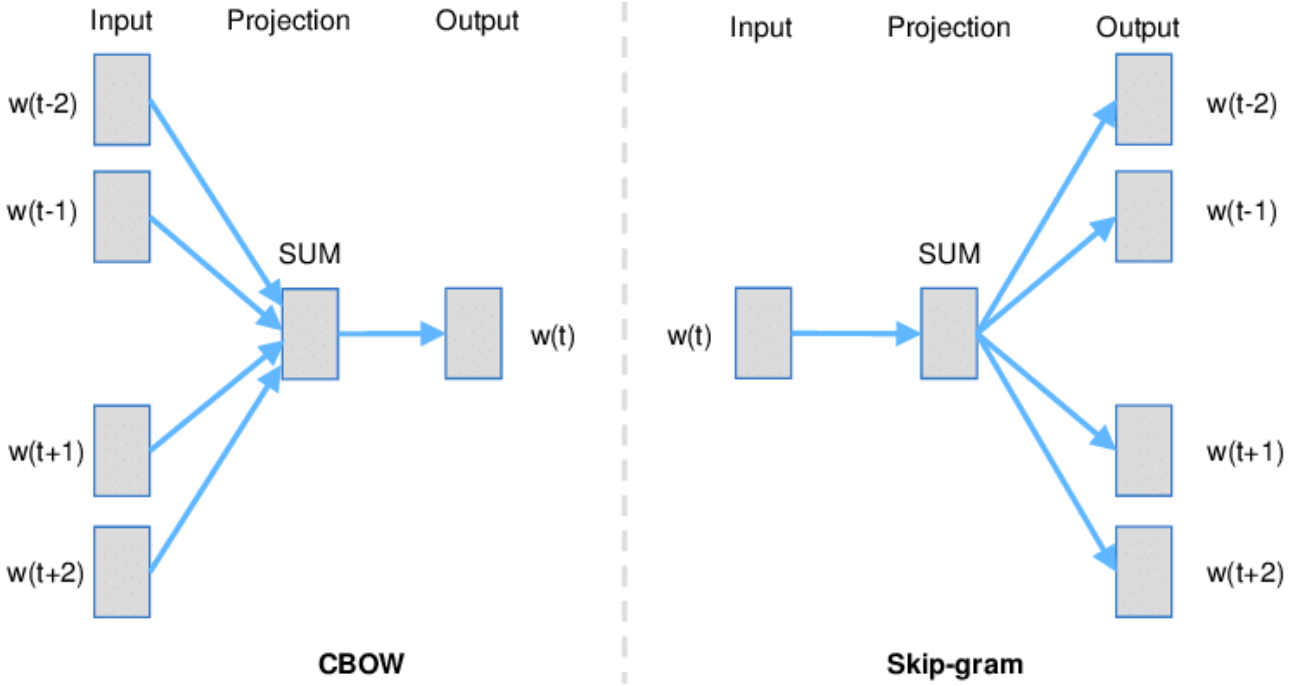
Context and sliding window



Word2Vec: CBow vs Skip-gram

Word2Vec, during the training phase, can work in two ways:

- **predicting** the **central word** given its context (**Cbow**)
- **predicting** the **context** given its central word (**Skip-gram**)



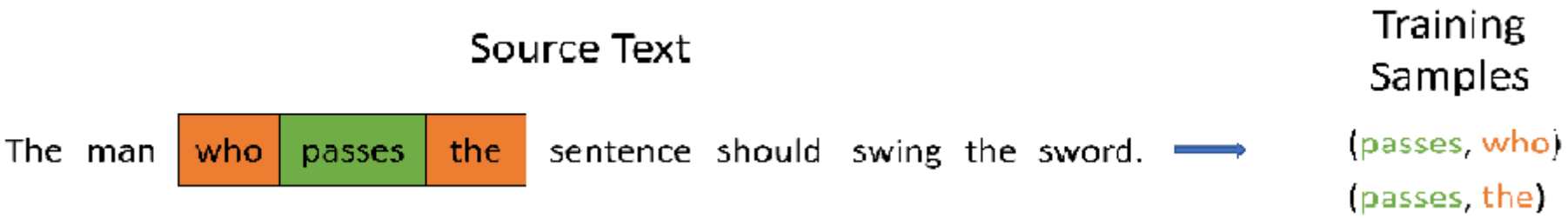
Source: "Efficient Estimation of Word Representations in Vector Space" - Authors: Tomas Mikolov, Kai Chen, Greg Corrado, Jeffrey Dean

Word2Vec: The hyperparameters

The main hyperparameters used by Word2Vec are:

- **embedding space dimension**: is the dimension of the vector space used to map the words of the corpus (e.g. 300)
- **window size**: is the width of the window used to slide the corpus. It defines how large the context is.
- **Cbow / SkipGram**: is the algorithm chosen to train the neural network
- **iteration**: is the number of time, during the whole process of training, in which the weights of the neural network are re-calculated

Neural Network Structure of Skip-Gram

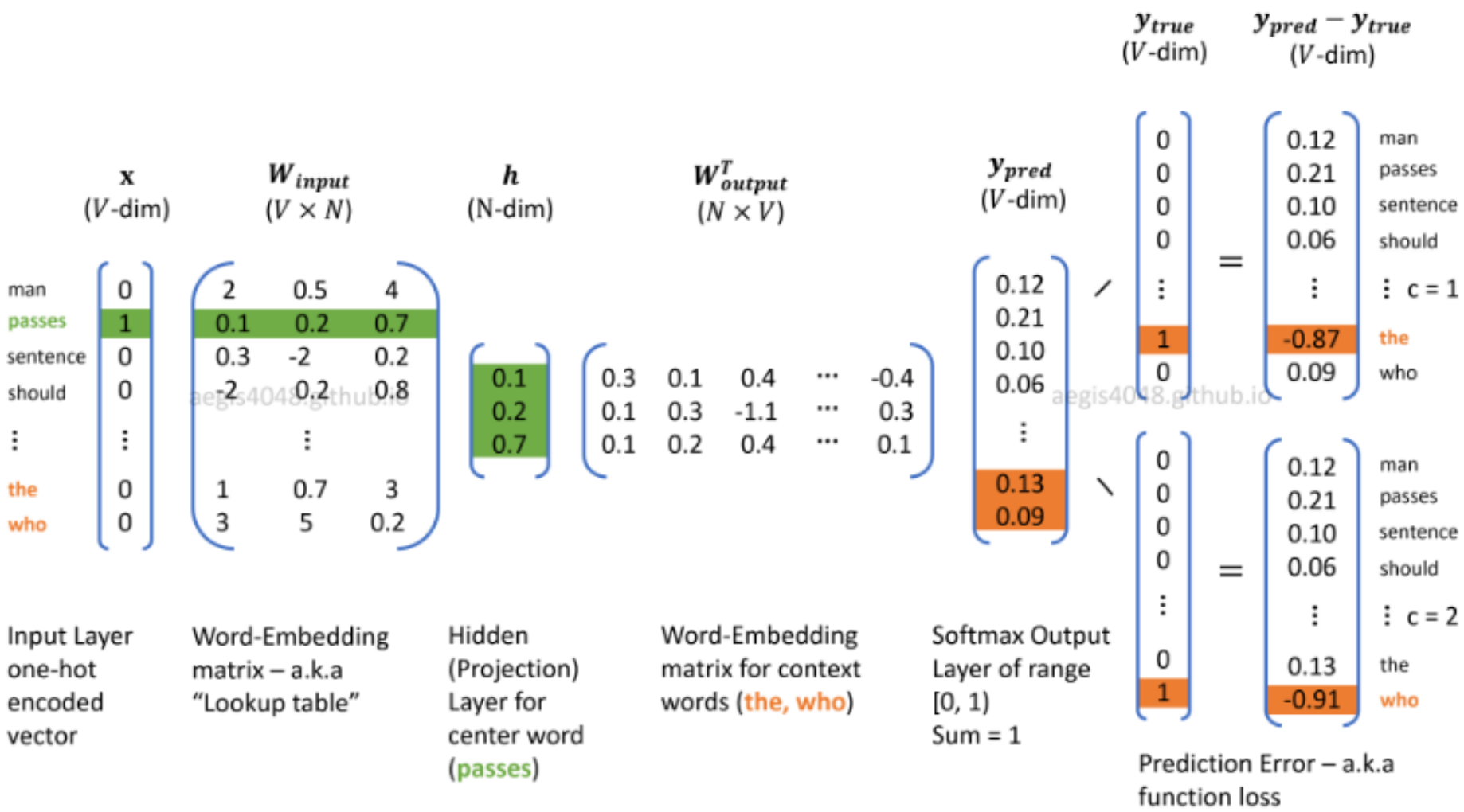


V = 8 (vocabulary dimension)

N = 3 (vector space dimension)

Windows size = 1

Neural Network Structure of Skip-Gram



Source: https://aegis4048.github.io/demystifying_neural_network_in_skip_gram_language_modeling (Pythonic Excursions)

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Neural Network Structure of Skip-Gram

The output of the neural network is a **probability distribution** of dimension *V*, for each of the *V* distinct words of the corpus.

In statistics, the conditional probability of *A* given *B* is indicated by *P (A | B)*

In Skip-Gram, we use the notation *P (Wcontext | Wcenter)* to indicate the conditional probability of observing a word of the context (*Wcontext*), given its central word *(Wcenter)*.

The probability distribution is obtained through the Softmax function

$$\sigma(x_j) = \frac{e^{x_j}}{\sum_i e^{x_i}}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} p(w_1|w_{center}) \\ p(w_2|w_{center}) \\ p(w_3|w_{center}) \\ \vdots \\ p(w_V|w_{center}) \end{bmatrix} = \frac{exp(W_{output} \cdot h)}{\sum_{i=1}^{V} exp(W_{output_{(i)}} \cdot h)}$$

The Softmax function

Formula: $$\sigma(x_j) = \frac{e^{x_j}}{\sum_i e^{x_i}}$$

The Softmax function compresses a vector of real numbers of size k, in a vector always k-dimensional, of values included in an interval [0,1] whose sum is 1

Example:

- For the vector [*1 ; 2 ; 3 ; 4 ; 1 ; 2 ; 3]*

- the *Softmax* function will be the vector
  [*0,024 ; 0,064 ; 0,175 ; 0,475 ; 0,024 ; 0,064 ; 0 ,175]*

The function assigns most of the weight to the number 4, whose output value is approximately 20 times greater than the value associated at 1

This function therefore highlights the larger values and hides those that are significantly smaller than the maximum value

Word2Vec – Final comments

The model is trained to make predictions, but at the end of the training, the predictive capacity of the network (its output) will be not used, but will be used his internal structure (network weights) to represent the coordinates of each word of the vocabulary in the embedding space

To train and to build a W.E. may be the best approach for a given NLP problem, but it takes a lot of time, a fast computer with lots of RAM and huge disk space and maybe some experience in perfecting input data and training algorithm. An alternative could be to use W.E. models already trained and ready to use; you can find them on the web.

Word2Vec – Final comments

Factors influencing the model performance:

- **size of corpus**: bigger corpora perform better than small ones
- **quality of corpus**: very noisy, fragmented and poorly curated texts generally produce lower quality embedding spaces
- **nature of the corpus**: corpus dealing with specific topics produce W.E. excellent for tasks related to those topics

Queries of W.E. models

«Distance» test

It is a function of questioning the vector space created during the training phase, which returns the ‘n’ closer vectors (words) to a given vector (word searched).

Note: It is also possible to search vectors (words) closest to a vector, that is the linear combination (e.g. sum) of many vectors (words) [it helps in case of polysemic words]

Test *Distance*

```
Enter word or sentence (EXIT to break): roma

Word: roma  Position in vocabulary: 88
```

Word	Cosine distance
torino	0.719132
palermo	0.642643
napoli	0.628983
bologna	0.613869
civitavecchia	0.566682
firenze	0.549364
pomezia	0.547425
milano	0.538685
fiumicino	0.535253
rm	0.533268
colleferro	0.528270
viterbo	0.524749
catania	0.513795
cagliari	0.506348
trieste	0.504314
bergamo	0.503563
frascati	0.503168
frosinone	0.503045

Test *Distance*

```
Enter word or sentence (EXIT to break): roma rieti viterbo

Word: roma  Position in vocabulary: 88

Word: rieti  Position in vocabulary: 4228

Word: viterbo  Position in vocabulary: 5628
```

Word	Cosine distance
frosinone	0.672671
perugia	0.644043
terni	0.641548
torino	0.637691
teramo	0.637166
latina	0.622739
cosenza	0.616780
bologna	0.616200
catania	0.609594
palermo	0.600828
colleferro	0.597391
firenze	0.594622
bergamo	0.591040
pescara	0.588208
aprilia	0.581499

«Word-Analogy» test

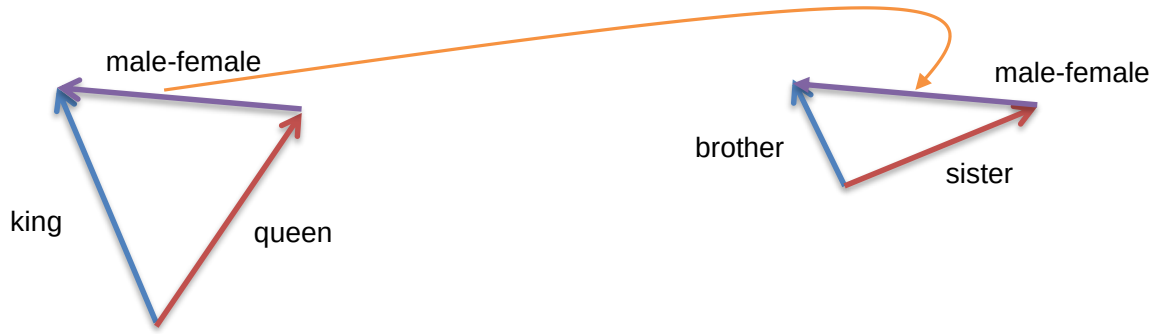
It is a function of questioning the vector space that, with the insertion of three vectors (words), returns the most representative words to solve the analogy.

e.g.

king *: queen = male : female*

where the relation 'male-female' applied to the word 'queen' to obtain the word 'king' [king = queen + (male - female)],

it can be applied to other words



Word Analogy test

List of some natural language relationships 'captured' by the W.E. model

- Syntactic
  - ✓ male - female
  - ✓ singular - plural
  - ✓ superlatives - diminutive
  - ✓ synonyms – opposite

- Semantics:
  - ✓ man - woman
  - ✓ nationatility - nation
  - ✓ nation – capital city
  - ✓ region – regional capital city
  - ✓ initial province - province
  - ✓ political - party of belonging
  - ✓ newspaper – city of reference
  - ✓ ……
  - ✓ ……

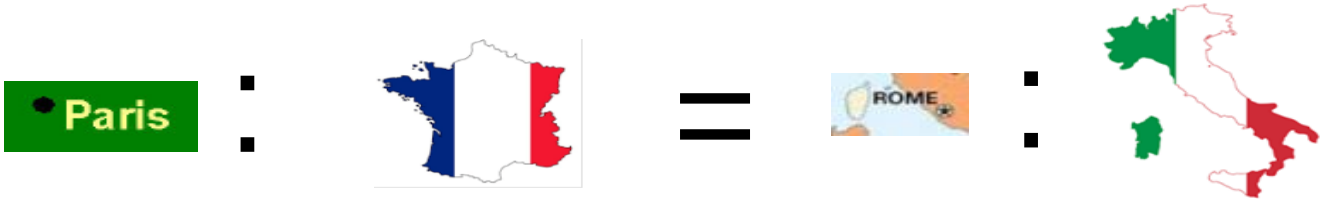
«Accuracy Top 1» test

It’s a *Word Analogy test* that tries to solve a list of syntactic and semantic analogy, organized in groups, and reported into a benchmark file.

The test is passed only if the correct word is the first of those proposed to complete the analogy

Word Embedding potentiality

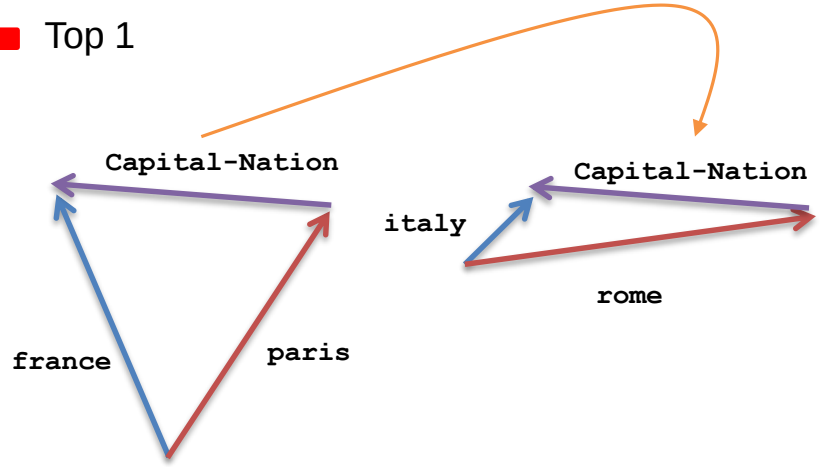
Analogy Test – relationship: Capital - Nation




```
bash-4.2$  ./word-analogy  models/GoogleNews-vectors-negative300.bin
Enter three words (EXIT to break): paris  france rome
```

Word	Distance
italy	0.519953
european	0.507585
italian	0.505775
epl	0.490745
spain	0.488867
england	0.485267
italians	0.484242
kosovo	0.481350
lampard	0.480774
malta	0.478857
juve	0.478361
newcastle	0.477507
glasgow	0.477125
europe	0.474660

Top 1



Word Embedding potentiality

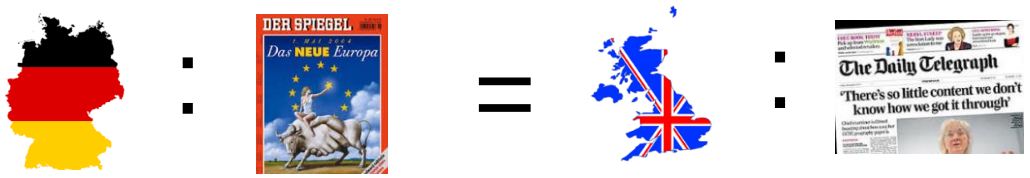
Analogy Test – relationship: *Singular - Plural*

```
bash-4.2$  ./word-analogy  models/GoogleNews-vectors-negative300.bin
Enter three words (EXIT to break): boy  boys  car
```

Word	Distance	
cars	0.669246	← Top 1
vehicle	0.562532	
vehicles	0.524835	
Car	0.523344	
Subaru_WRX	0.509807	
Ford_Focus	0.503423	
Porsches	0.496703	
Honda_Civic	0.488979	
SUV	0.485614	
sedan	0.481740	
Chevrolet	0.480740	

Word Embedding potentiality

Analogy Test – relationship: Nation - Newspaper



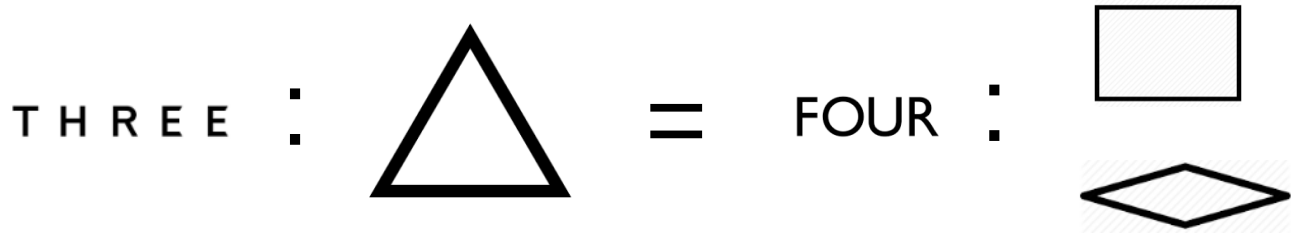

```
bash-4.2$  ./word-analogy  models/GoogleNews-vectors-negative300.bin
Enter three words (EXIT to break): Germany  Der_Spiegel  England

                  Word              Distance
------------------------------------------------
       Daily_Telegraph              0.521107
           Daily_Mail               0.506416
              Guardian              0.490951
         Wisden_Cricket             0.485638
      ticker_symbol_BNK             0.483723
       Wisden_Cricketer             0.482764
       stock_symbol_BNK             0.481484
  Gloucestershire_Echo              0.475339
           Scyld_Berry              0.468583
Newcastle_Evening_Chronicle         0.457495
          LSO_St_Lukes              0.456623
             Telegraph              0.456241
London_Evening_Standard             0.456229
           Mike_Selvey              0.444308
```

Top 1

Word Embedding potentiality

Analogy Test – relationship: Geometric Figures




```
bash-4.2$  ./word-analogy  models/GoogleNews-vectors-negative300.bin
Enter three words (EXIT to break): three  triangle  four

                  Word              Distance
------------------------------------------------------------
               triangles              0.524841
      equilateral_triangle            0.516976
               rectangle              0.515894
                 rhombus              0.514743
              equilateral             0.506330
        isosceles_triangle            0.478837
               concentric             0.468067
              semicircles             0.457456
                  hexagon             0.453780
```

Top 4

Istat

GloVe

Global Vectors for Word Representation

GloVe

It’s one of the models used for the production of Word Embeddings

It combines the advantages of the two major families of NLP models in the literature:

- *global matrix factorization (latent semantyc analysys - LSA)*
- *local context window methods (Word2Vec)*

The first family of models is based on the c.d. term-document-matrix; they are able to exploit the statistical information of the texts (counts, word frequency distribution, etc.), but they are not suitable for solving analogies

The second family of models is very efficient in solving analogies, but, before the advent of GloVe, it didn’t use statistical information (in explicit manner)

GloVe

GloVe = Global Vector means that in producing the model we have to consider:

- in addition to the foundation of Word2Vec for which close words from a syntactic / semantic point of view, co-occur in the same context
- also the statistics on the co-occurrence at global level in the corpus

The co-occurrence statistics show a primary source of information and unlike Word2Vec, GloVe exploits them explicitly, implementing in his algorithms the ***matrix of word-word co-occurrence***

$$\boldsymbol{X} \quad = matrix\ of\ word\text{-}word\ co\text{-}occurence\ counting$$

$$\boldsymbol{X_{ij}} = number\ of\ times\ that\ word\ j\ appear\ in\ the\ context\ of\ word\ i$$

$$\boldsymbol{X_i} = \sum_K \boldsymbol{X_{ik}} \quad Sum\ of\ frequencies\ of\ the\ k\ words\ in\ the\ i\ context$$

$X_{i\,j}$		j						
		ice	steam	solid	gas	water	fashion	
i	ice	0	3	10	1	24	2	**40**
	steam	2	0	2	12	15	0	**31**
	solid	20	2	0	3	3	0	**28**
	gas	2	12	0	0	3	0	**17**
	water	20	14	2	3	0	1	**40**
	fashion	2	1	1	1	1	0	**6**

Co-occurence matrix potentiality (1/2)

The main intuition underlying the GloVe model is the simple observation that **ratios of word-word co-occurrence probabilities** have the potential for encoding some form of meaning

$$P_{ij} = P(j|i) = \frac{X_{ij}}{X_i}$$

Probability that the word j appear in the context of the word i

i.e.: P(ice | water) = 24 / 40

P_{ij}		j						
		ice	steam	solid	gas	water	fashion	
i	ice	-	3 / 40	10 / 40	1 / 40	24 / 40	2 / 40	1
	steam	2 / 31	-	2 / 31	12 / 31	15 / 31	-	1
	solid	20 / 28	2 / 28	-	3 / 28	3 / 28	-	1
	gas	2 / 17	12 / 17	-	-	3 / 17	-	1
	water	20 / 40	14 / 40	2 / 40	3 / 40	-	1 / 40	1
	fashion	2 / 6	1 / 6	1 / 6	1 / 6	1 / 6	-	1

Co-occurence matrix potentiality (2/2)

Suppose we want to analyze the relation between the two words *i = ice and j = steam*; we can study this relation analyzing the ratio between their probability to co-occour with the probe word **k** ➔ P_{ik} / P_{jk}

where

$P_{ik} = P(k/i) = X_{ik} / X_i$ *probability that word* k *appear in the context of word* i

$P_{jk} = P(k/j) = X_{jk} / X_j$ *probability that word* k *appear in the context of word* j

- for probe words related to *i* but not to *j* P_{ik} / P_{jk} will be large (es.: *solid*)
- for probe words related to *j* but not to *i* P_{ik} / P_{jk} will be small (es.: *gas*)
- for probe words that are either related to both i and j or neither P_{ik} / P_{jk} will be close to 1 (es.: *water, fashion*)

P_{ik} / P_{jk}	probe words (k)		
	solid	**gas**	**water**
i = ice **j = steam**	(10/40) / (2/31) = 3,75	(1/40) / (12/31) = 0,06	(24/40) / (15/31) = 1,24

Global Vectors for Word Representation - GloVe

GloVe has been designed to make explicit what Word2Vec did implicitly. It directly exploits words co-occurrences to define the structure of the embedding space:

- High co-occurrency words are mapped to almost parallel vectors
- Low co-occurrency words are mapped to almost perpendicular vectors

Indeed, GloVe minimizes the following loss function:

$$J = \sum_{i,j=1}^{V} f\left(X_{ij}\right)\left(w_i^T \tilde{w}_j + b_i + \tilde{b}_j - \log X_{ij}\right)^2$$

where:

- $w_i^T \tilde{w}_j$ → is the dot product of the image vectors of words *i* and *j*

The dot product has a maximum for parallel words and a minimum for orthogonal ones.

- X_{ij} → is the *i*, *j* element of the ***matrix of word-word co-occurrence***

i, *j* span over the whole vocabulary of the corpus, but the co-occurrences are always calculated using a sliding window that defines the context. The matrix is calculated only once at the beginning, and then remains fixed during the training.

FastText

Fast Text

- It was developed by Facebook Research in 2016
- in addition to the words it also uses a lower level, its characters or n-grams, as input for creating W.E. (in some ways, a word becomes the context of itself)
- it introduce the concept of hierarchy (among characters and words): a word represents a label for its n-grams
- it can create W.E. models, starting from smaller data sets (small corpus)
- the training phase is much faster than Word2Vec and GloVe
- it implements the generalization. It means that the models generated by FastText are able to represent in the embedding space the words not included in the starting corpus, too

Word2Vec, GloVe and FastText in one sentence

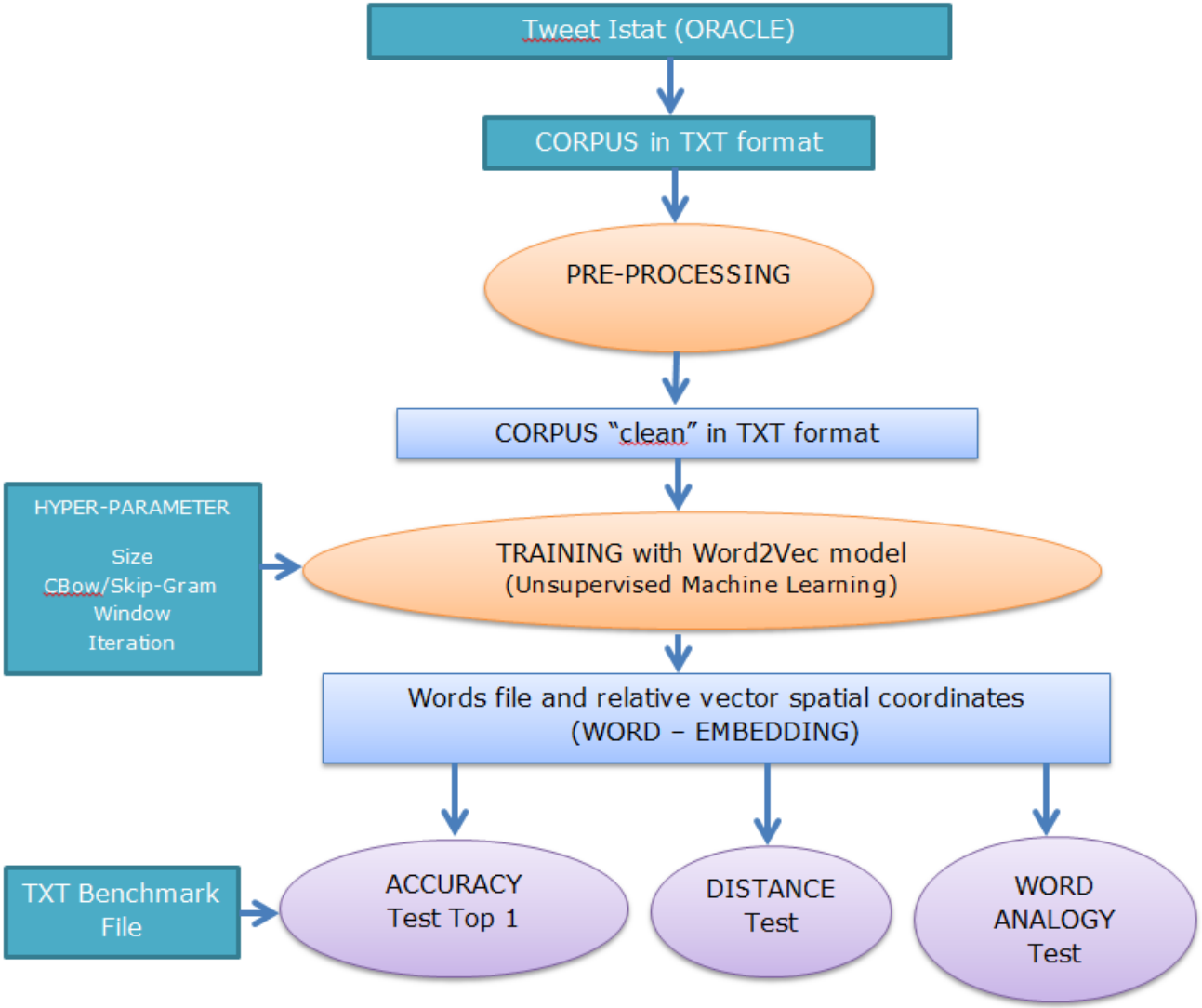
- ***Word2Vec***: is founded on the concept that **similar words appear in similar contexts**
- ***GloVe*** extends Word2Vec introducing **statistics** on the words' co-occurrences in the corpus, at **global level**
- ***FastText*** improves Word2Vec **generalizing** the model to unknown words, that are not included in the input corpus

W.E. experiences in Istat

Why Word Embedding in Istat ?

- Eurostat encourages the experimentation of new techniques that use Big Data for the production of official statistics (Scheveningen Memorandum, February 2014)
- Among the Big Data sources, textual ones are certainly among the most available (e.g. text coming from Social Media or web scraping activities)
- One of the latest techniques in computational linguistics subject was Word Embeddings

Flow chart of processing activities of Italian Twitter



Pre-Processing

It consists of the following "cleaning“ activities of the corpus, before it is passed to the next stage of training.

Remove of:

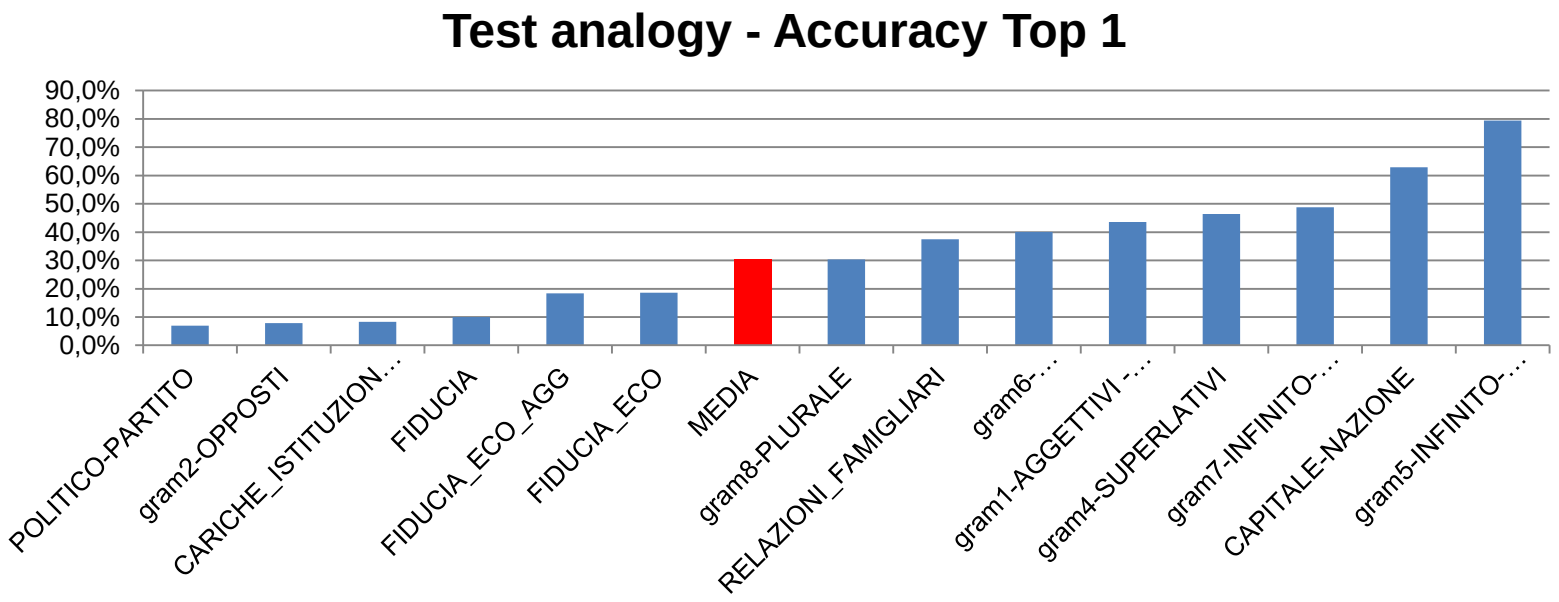
- *URL*
- *hashtag*
- *special characters*
- *Double spaces*
- *Word of one character*

Features of “our” word embedding model

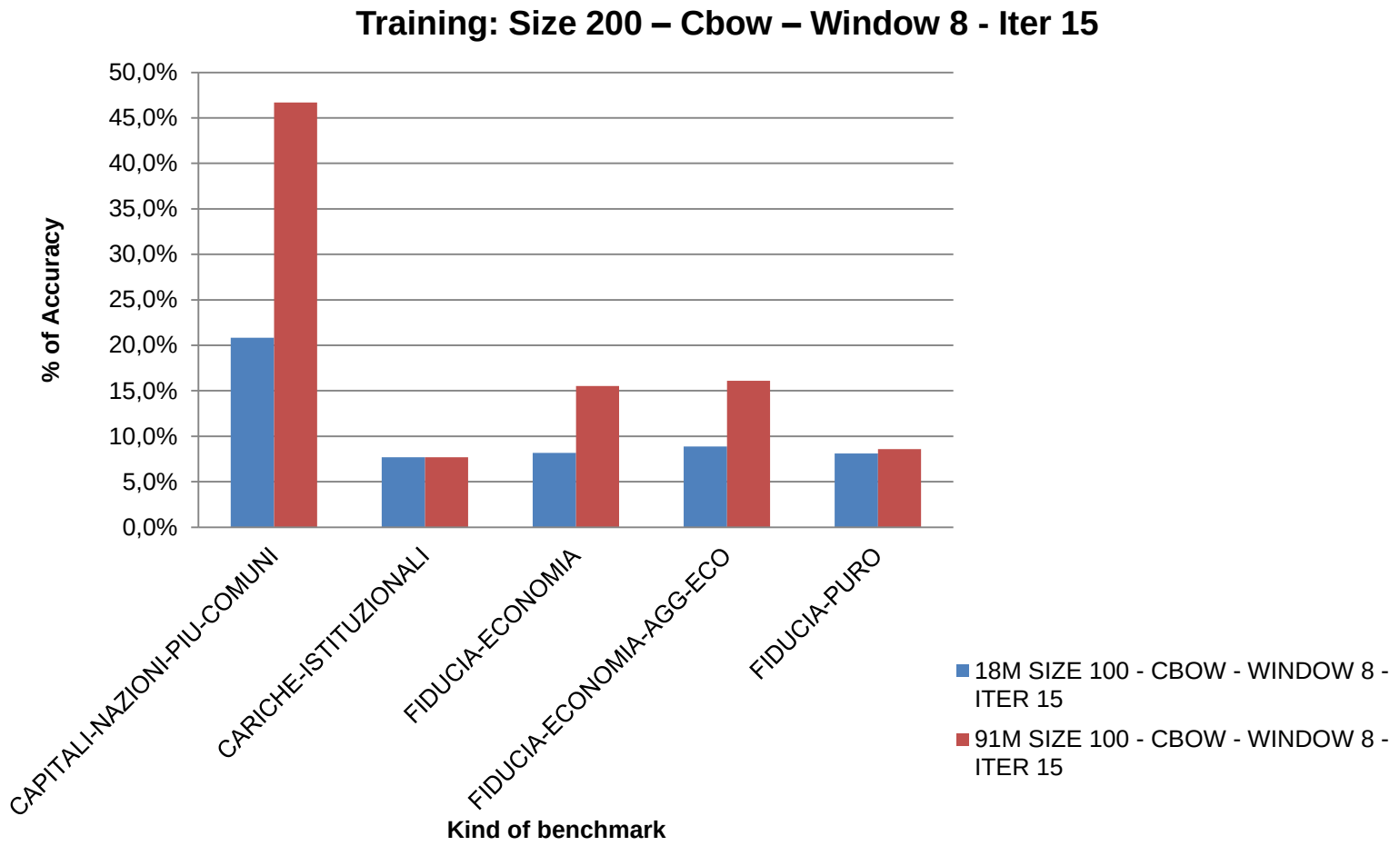
Dimension: 140 millions of tweets (period: February 2016 – June 2018)

Type of corpus: tweets

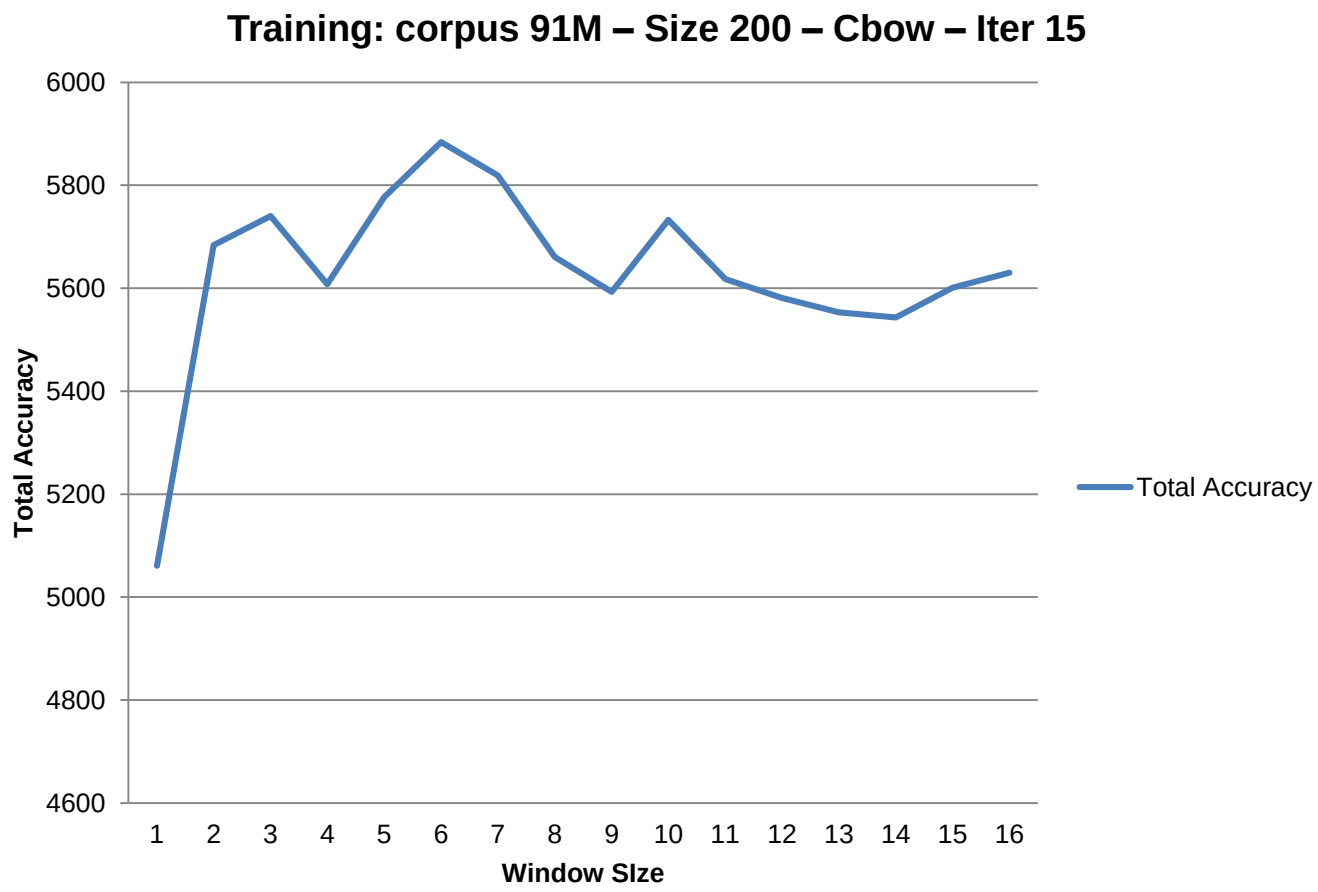
- deal on sport, current events and politics topics
- have a maximum length of 140/280 characters (from September 2017)



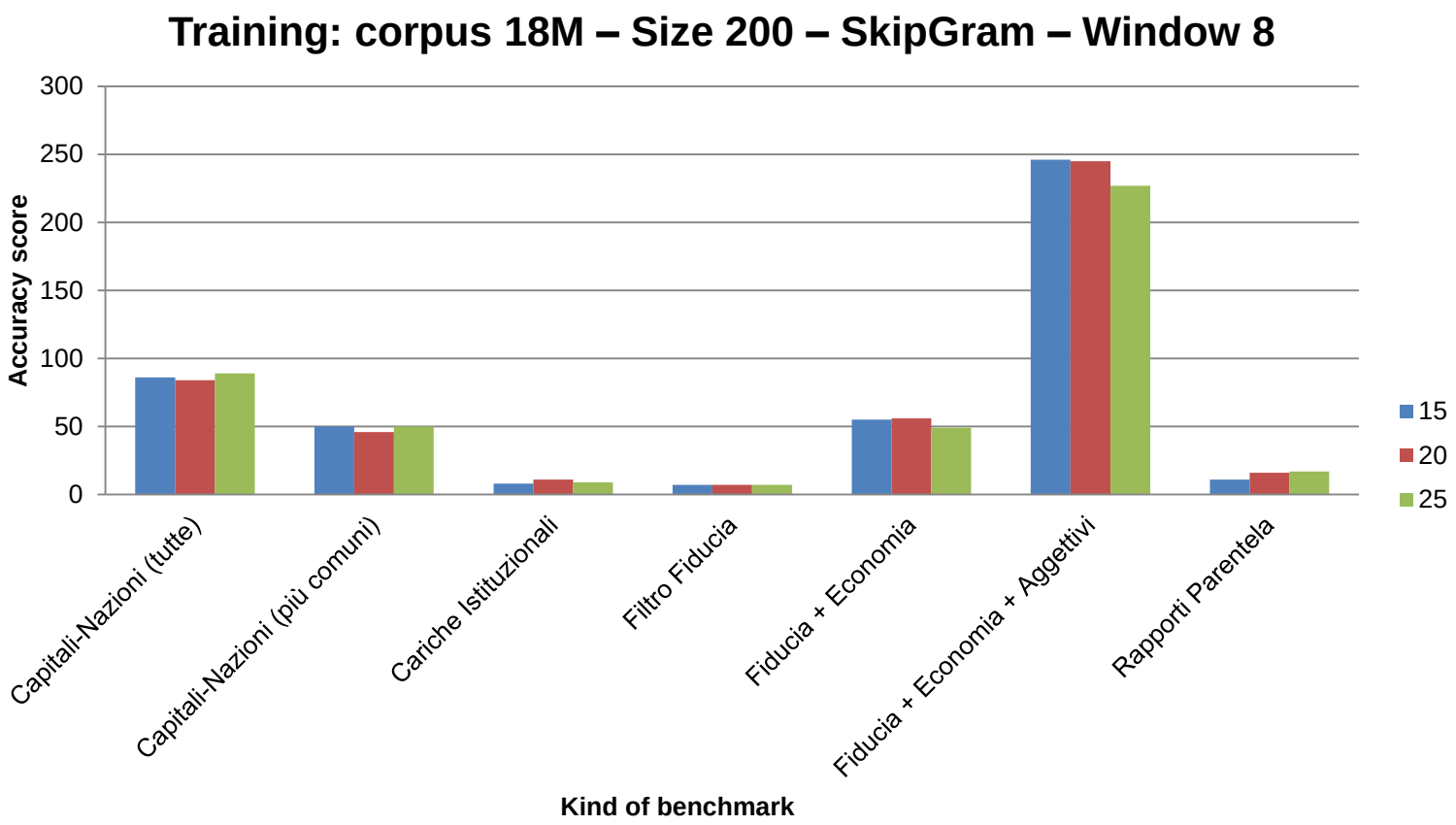
Accuracy test : corpus dimension



Accuracy test : window size



Accuracy test : number of iteration



Reached results

- We have tested Word Embedding techniques based on the Word2Vec algorithm on a large *corpus* of textual data in Italian language: the collection of ~ 90 million Tweets caught in about a year by our data collection procedures from Twitter

- We studied the quality of the results obtained by varying the main hyper-parameters of the Word2Vec algorithm by selecting the set that provides maximum *accuracy top1*

- We built the Word Embedding models on Tweet captured both the 'Trusted Filter' and 'Istat Filter‘ using the best hyperparameters

Representation of W.E. models

Exploring and visualizing big embedding models through graphs:

Targets

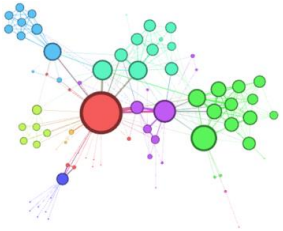
- to explore the model around a semantic area and to represent the relationships between words emerging from specific corpus

Issues

- The WE model has a high dimension in the order of 200/300 vector coordinates
- There are millions of words, therefore millions of vectors in the embedding space

We need a tool that help us to perform this task

Use Graphs



The graphs allow

- a visualization of the model in two dimensions
- a representation of relationships between entities (words)

Why graphs ?

Word embeddings are vectors represented in a very high dimensional space.

How we can visualize and handle these objects ?

Statistical methods to reduce space dimensionality maintaining the relationships between vectors:

- PCA
- T-SNE

Our proposal is to introduce the expressive power of graphs to represent word embedding.

What is a graph?

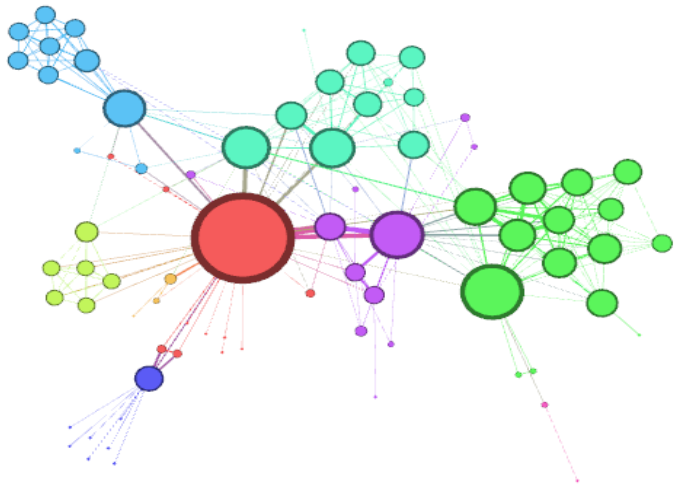
A graph is a mathematical structure consisting of a set of nodes and links between them

Nodes represent entities ○

The edges (also called links or lines) represent relationships between entities

→ DIRECTED

— UNDIRECTED



A word embedding graph

For a WE model:

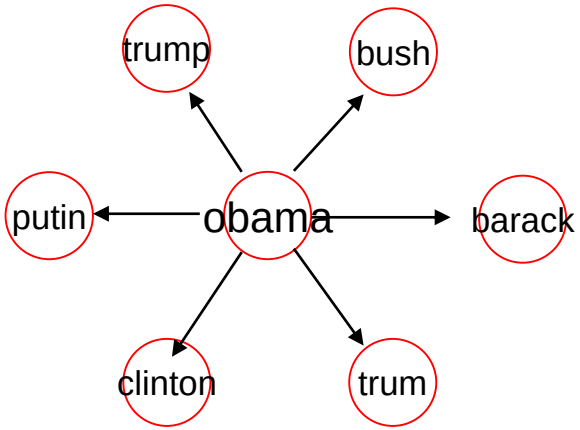
- **words** are **nodes**
- **distance relationships** are **edges** (also called links or lines)

Each word is connected to the first W words nearest in the cosine distance metric

```
model.wv.most_similar(positive=['obama'],topn=100)
```

```
[(u'trump', 0.7187066078186035),
 (u'bush', 0.6275098323822021),
 (u'barack', 0.6016936302185059),
 (u'trum', 0.595779538154602),
 (u'clinton', 0.5875608921051025),
 (u'putin', 0.579934298992157),
 (u'hillary', 0.5499014854431152),
 (u'incredibilevedere', 0.5437788367271423),
 (u'obam', 0.5359461307525635),
 (u'donald', 0.5123184323310852),
 (u'washington', 0.5050041675567627),
 (u'hollande', 0.49855348467826843),
 (u'russia', 0.4958000183105469),
```

W width is a parameter that indicates the number of connected words



Istat

GEOMETRIC graph

Parameters:

SEEDS = set of words from which the exploration starts

W = number of closest words to include at each iteration

N = Iteration number

If exploration always finds new words (i.e. there are no cycles), the number of nodes grows exponentially with the iterations.
N_2=1+3^1+3^2

NOTE:
The semantic relationships between the SEEDS and the words included at iteration *k* decreases quickly with *k*

W=3

N=2

GEOMETRIC graph

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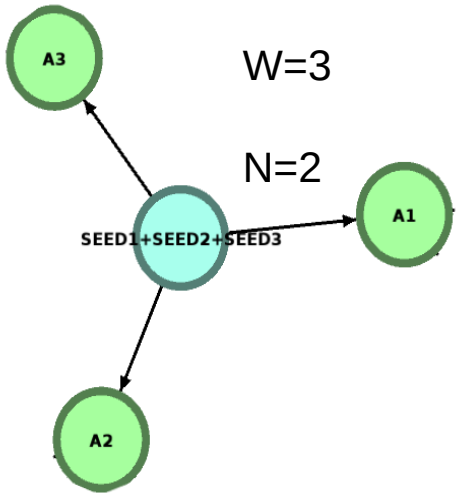

GEOMETRIC graph

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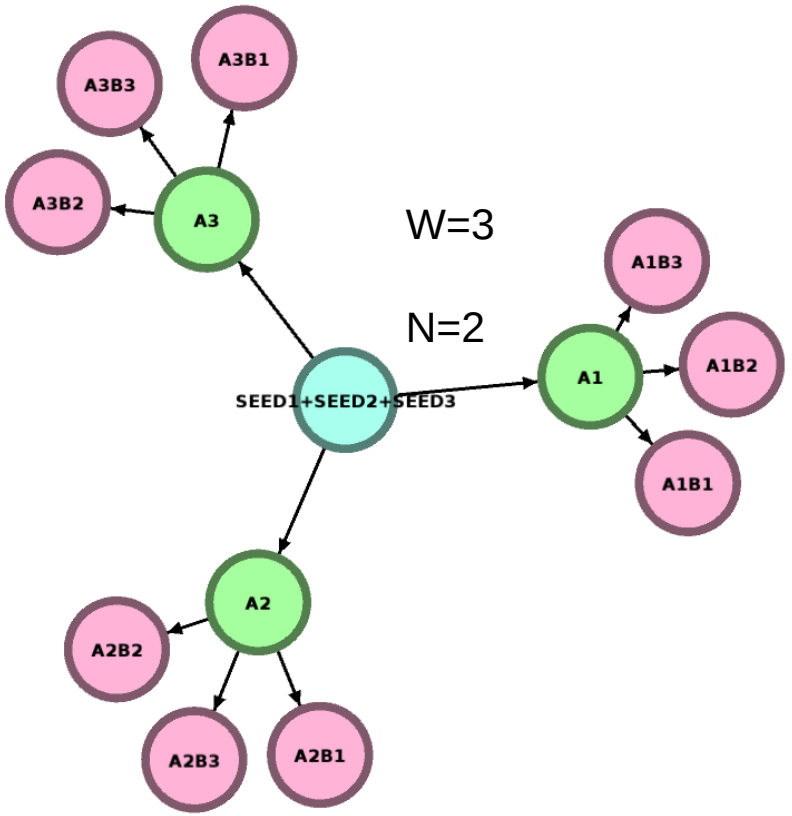

LINEAR graph

Parameters:

SEEDS = set of words from which the exploration starts

W = number of closest words to include at each iteration

W=2

N = Iteration number

N=2

At each iteration, a virtual node is created consisting of the sum of the words found.

The number of nodes, grows linearly with the iterations

$N_i = 1 + W * i$

NOTE:
The graph is easy to read and tends to identify a “semantic direction” within the embedding space, as if a story is being told

LINEAR graph

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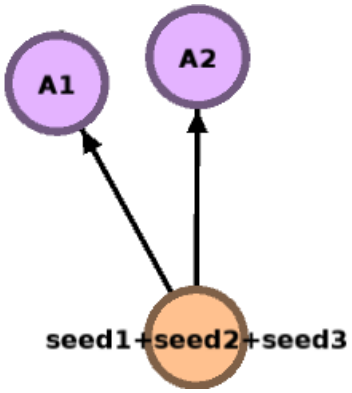

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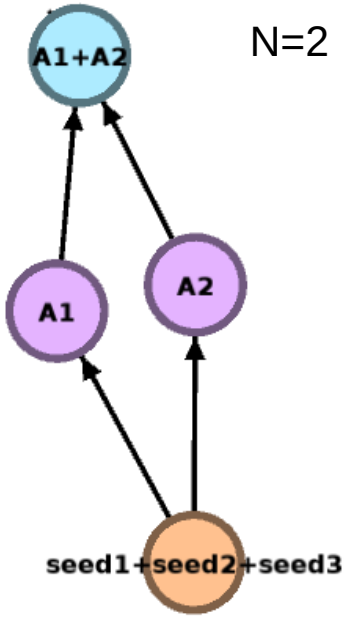

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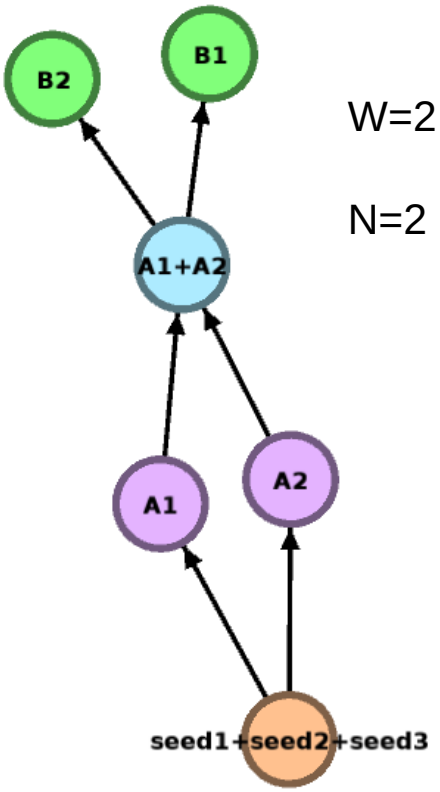

GEOMETRIC ORIENTED graph

Parameters:

SEEDS = set of words from which the exploration starts

W = number of closest words to include at each iteration

N = Iteration number

At each iteration, each found word generates a virtual node which is the sum of all the words belonging to non-virtual nodes along the shortest path connecting the current word to the SEEDS node

The graph is compact and full of cyclic paths

Exploration remains in the initial semantic area

W=2

N=2

GEOMETRIC ORIENTED graph

Parameters:

SEEDS = set of words from which the exploration starts

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N = Iteration number

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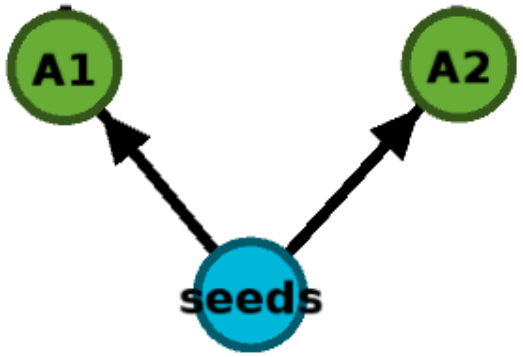

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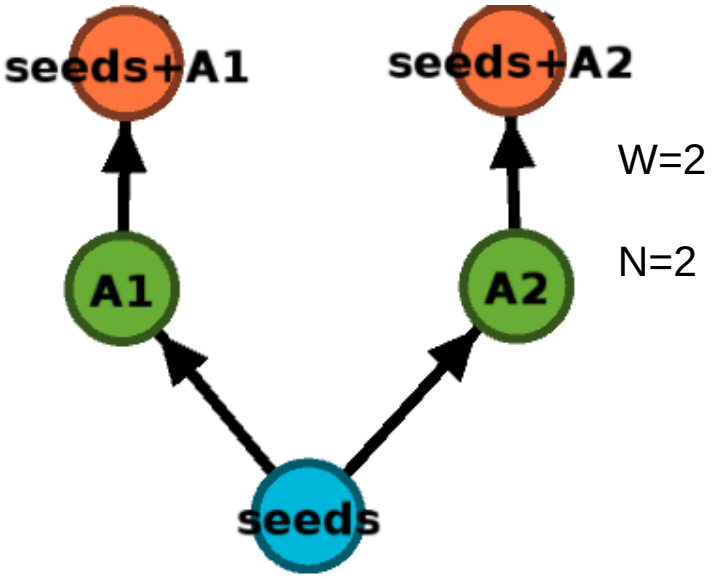

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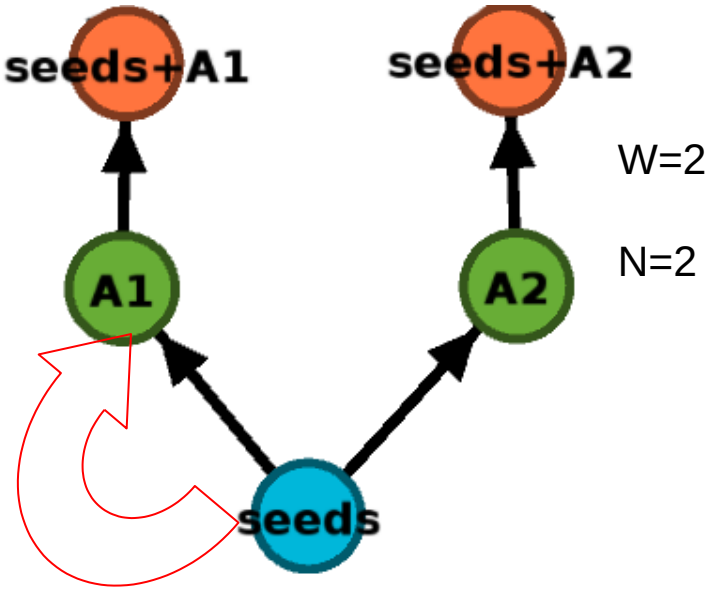

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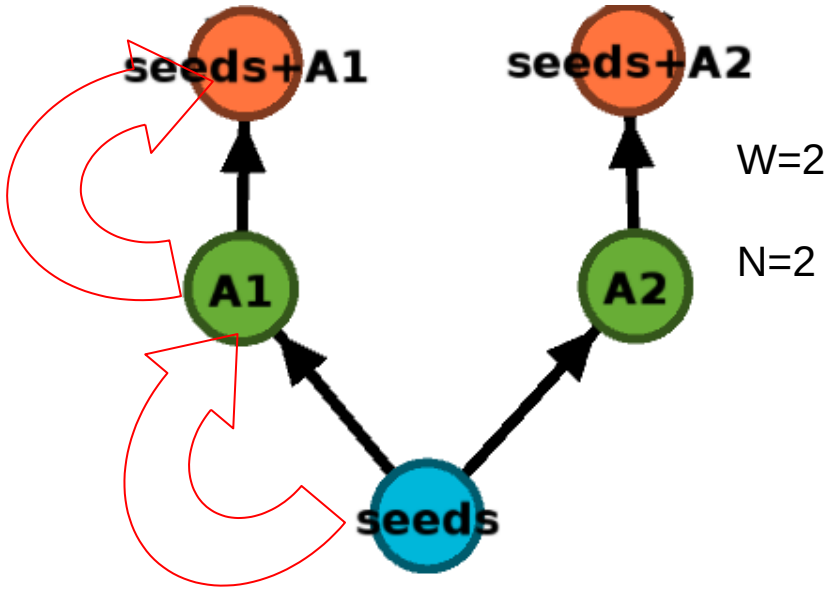

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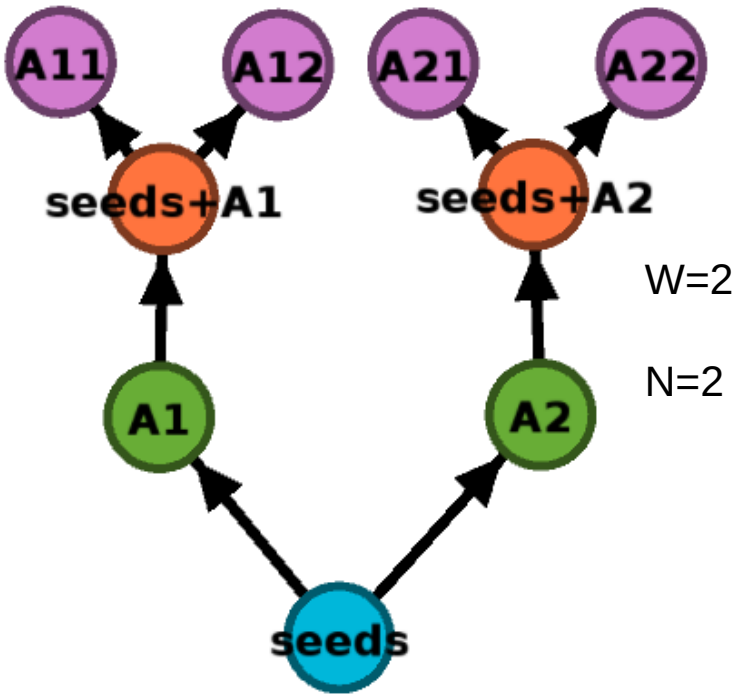
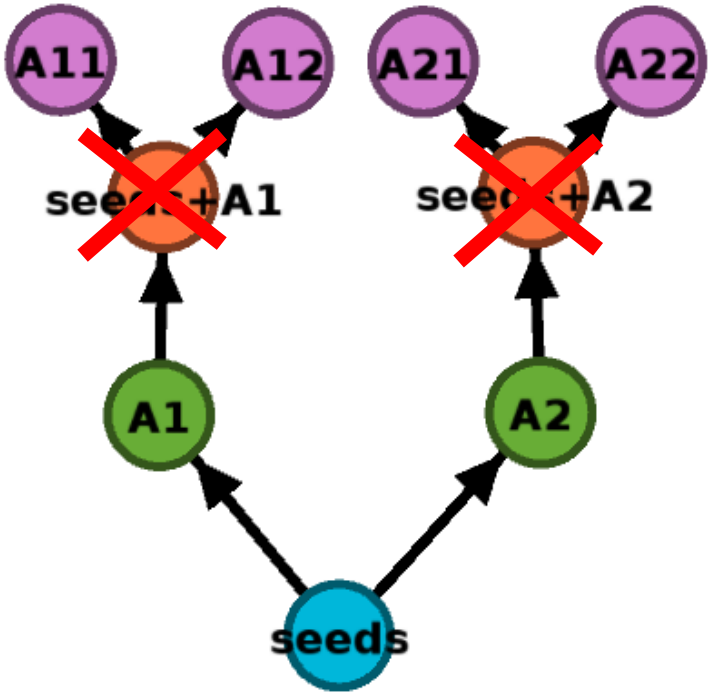


GEOMETRIC ORIENTED graph

Finally, to make the graph more readable, the virtual nodes are eliminated.



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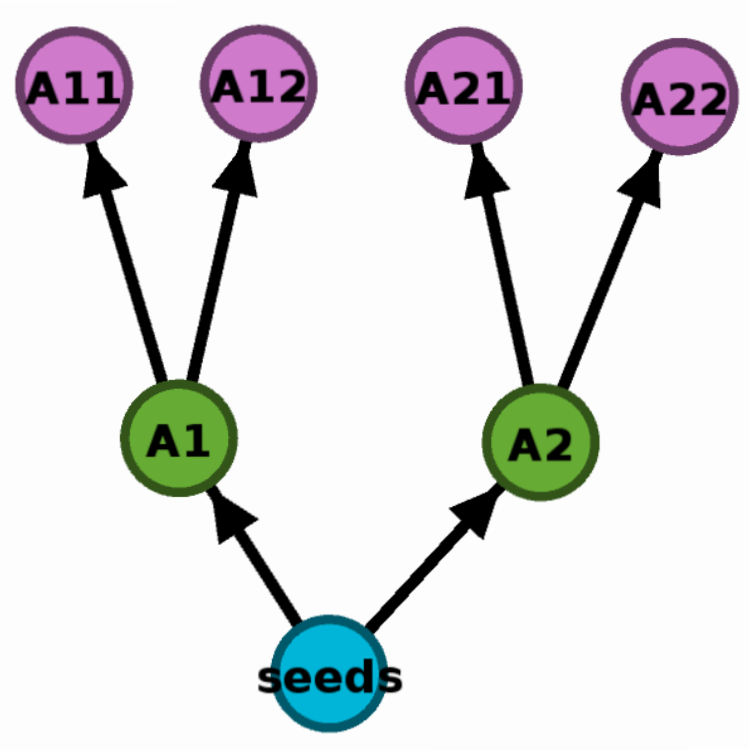


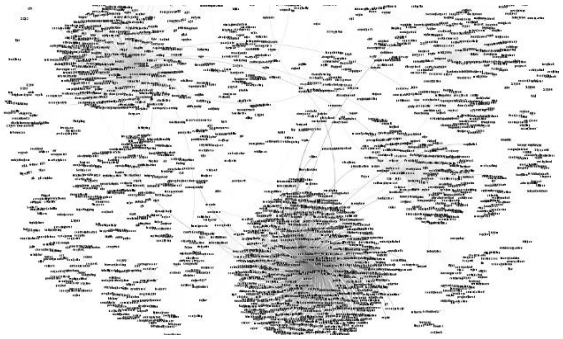
Applications

Use case 1: select the best key words used to filter the Twitter API; the aim is to realize a new filter on 'Europe' topic.

Big Data Source

Twitter collection

WORD EMBEDDING MODEL

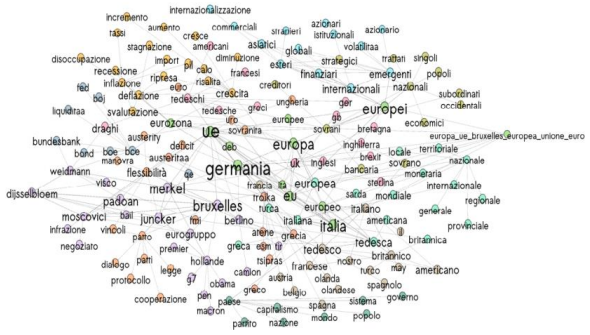


seed words = [europa + ue + unione + europea + bruxelles + euro]

Other parameters:

- kind of Graph (Geometric, Geo-Oriented, Linear)
- number of closest words (W)
- iteration number (N)

Graph Generation



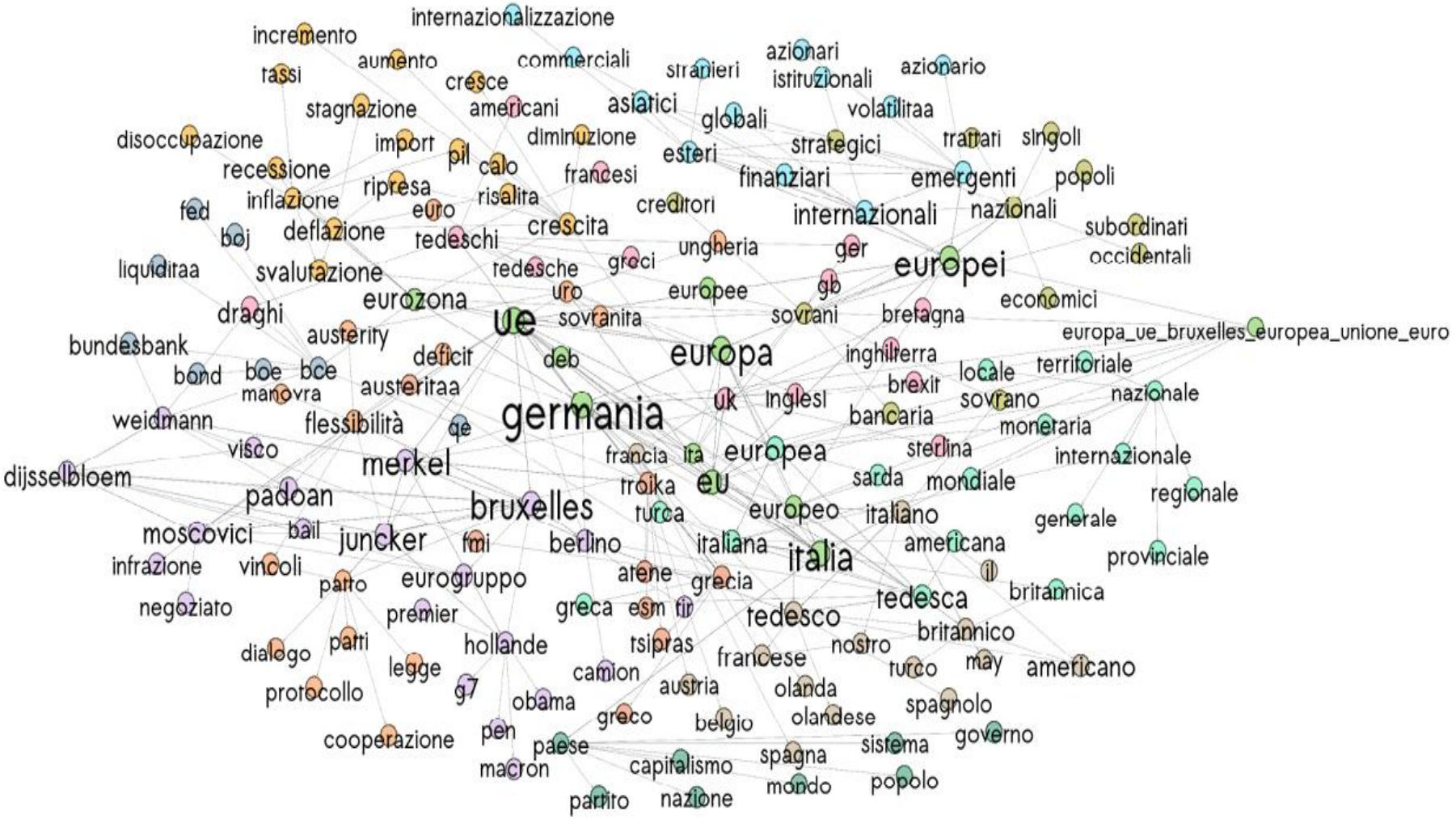
'Filter' Words

germania
europa
europei
ue
bruxelles
italia
merkel
sovranità
juncker
europee
sovrano
austerità
eurozona

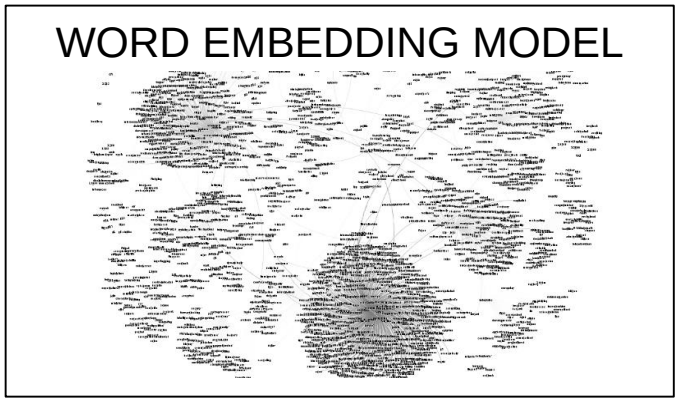
Istat

Use case 1: Geometric Graph exploration

seed words = [europa + ue + unione + europea + bruxelles + euro]
W (number of closest words to include at each iteration) = 8
N (iteration number) = 3



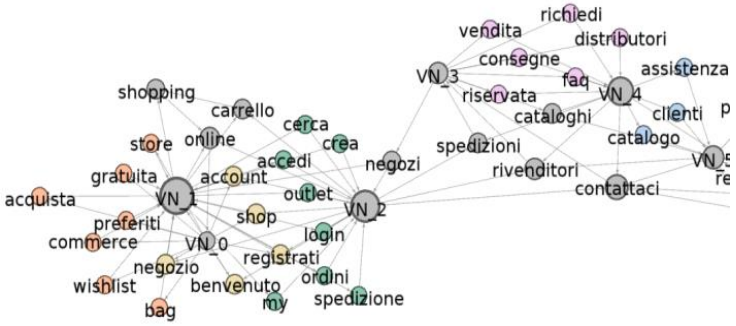
Use case 2: to use a word embedding model as an efficient word encoding layer to form an input for a Deep-Learning Classifier to classify enterprise web sites in e-commerce or not (1/2)



seed words = =
[shopping + online + carrello]

Other parameters:
- kind of Graph (Geometric, Geo-Oriented, Linear)
- number of closest words (W)
- iteration number (N)

Graph Generation



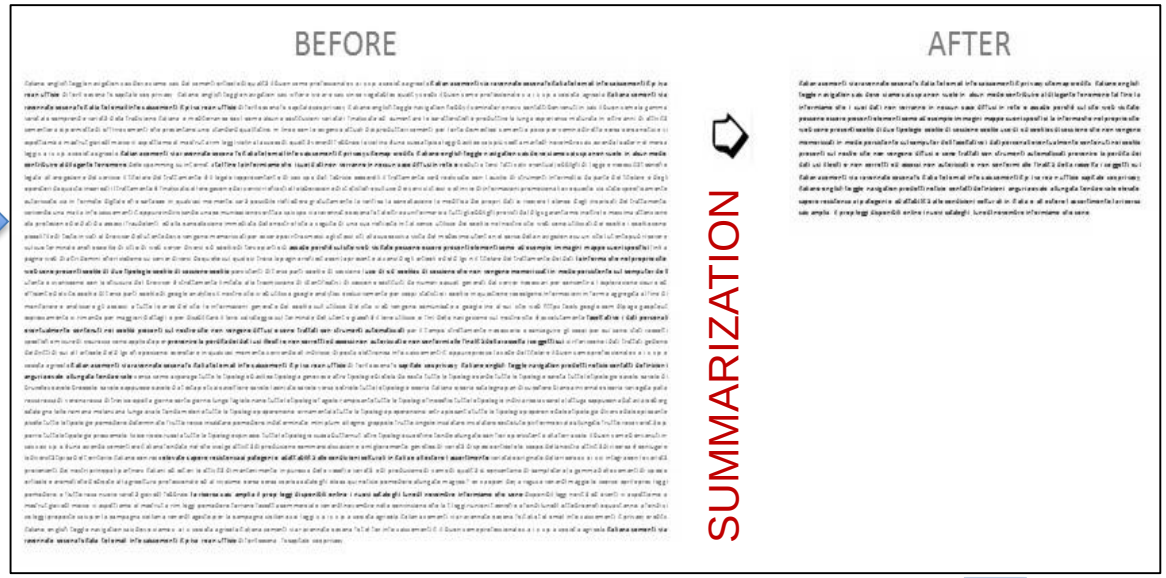
Ontology 'E-Commerce'

shopping
online
negozi
carrello
preferiti
acquista
outlet
ordini
wishlist
spedizione
vendita
store
.....
.....

Use case 2: to use a word embedding model as an efficient word encoding layer to form an input for a Deep-Learning Classifier to classify enterprise web sites in e-commerce or not (2/2)

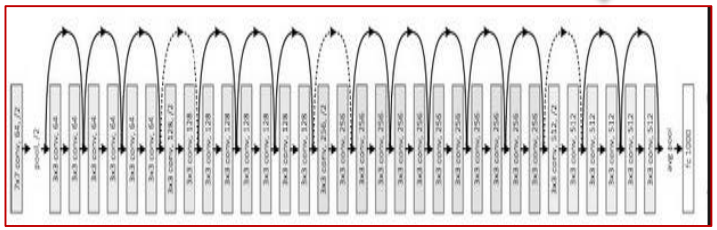
Ontology 'E-Commerce'

shopping
online
negozi
carrello
preferiti
acquista
outlet
ordini
wishlist
spedizione
vendita
store
.....
.....



1 - E-Commerce

1 – NON E-Commerce

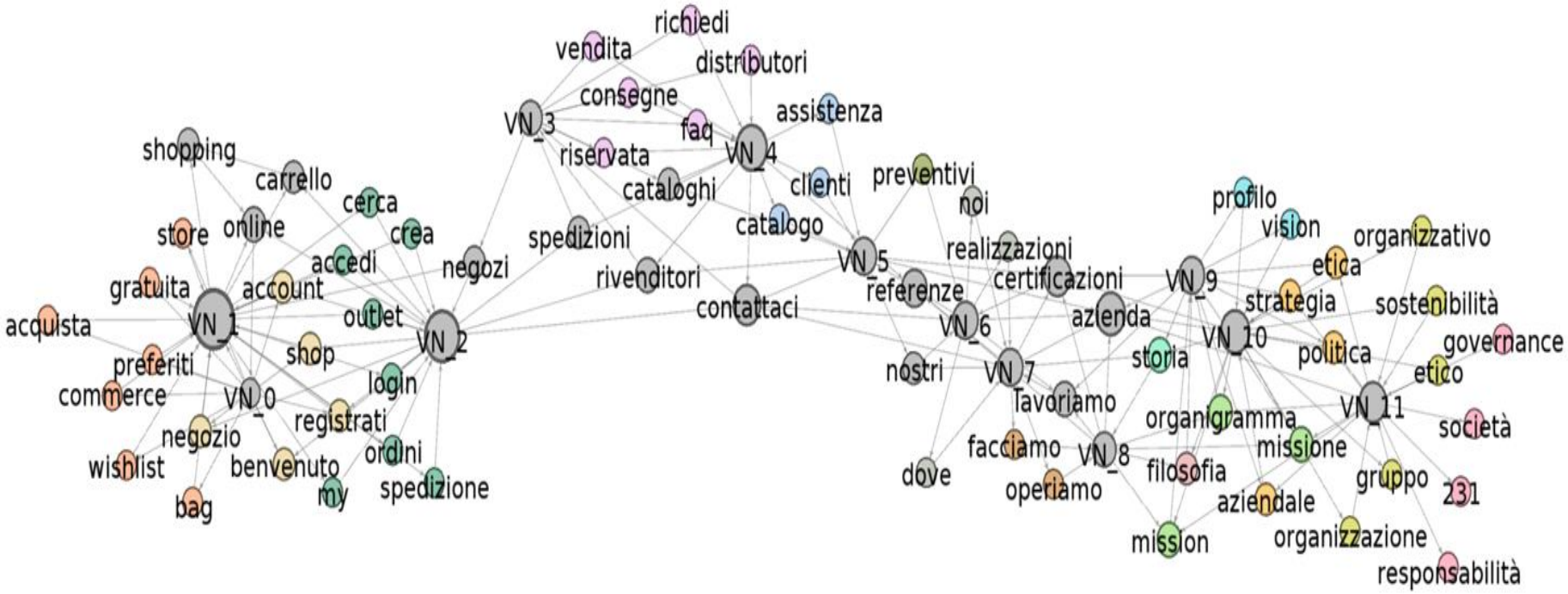


Deep Learning Classifier

Istat

Use case 2: Linear Graph exploration

seed words = [shopping+ online + carrello]
W (number of closest words to include at each iteration) = 12
N (iteration number) = 11



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References:

«Proceedings of the 14th international conference on statistical analysis of textual data (pagg. 174-182) - “Word Embeddings: a Powerful Tool for Innovative Statistics at Istat” (ISBN: 978-88-3293-137-2) – Authors: Fabrizio De Fausti - Massimo De Cubellis – Diego Zardetto

“Efficient Estimation of Word Representations in Vector Space” – Authors: Tomas Mikolov, Kai Chen, Greg Corrado,Jeffrey Dean

https://nlp.stanford.edu/projects/glove/

https://www.aclweb.org/anthology/N13-1090.pdf

https://github.com/tmikolov/word2vec

WORD EMBEDDING MODEL