Numerical Relation Extraction with Minimal Supervision

Indian Institute of Technology Bombay

June 2015

Outline

- Introduction
- Problem Statement
- 3 Relation Extraction as a Machine Learning Problem
- 4 Peculiarities of Numerical Relation Extraction
- 5 NumberRule: Rule Based Relation Extraction
- 6 Summary





• For popular entities, finding complete knowledge bases is possible.

- For popular entities, finding complete knowledge bases is possible.
- data.worldbank.org, Wikipedia infoboxes, freebase ...

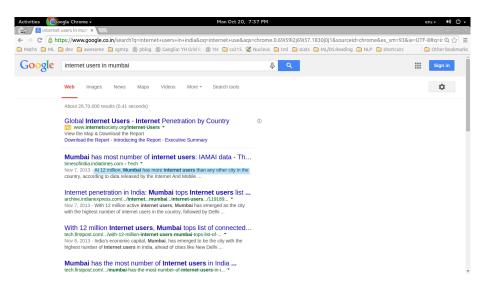
- For popular entities, finding complete knowledge bases is possible.
- data.worldbank.org, Wikipedia infoboxes, freebase ...
- What about less popular entities?

- For popular entities, finding complete knowledge bases is possible.
- data.worldbank.org, Wikipedia infoboxes, freebase ...
- What about less popular entities?
 - What is the population of Arbit Apartments, Powai?

- For popular entities, finding complete knowledge bases is possible.
- data.worldbank.org, Wikipedia infoboxes, freebase ...
- What about less popular entities?
 - What is the population of Arbit Apartments, Powai?
 - What is the GDP of Sugarcane Industry of India?

- For popular entities, finding complete knowledge bases is possible.
- data.worldbank.org, Wikipedia infoboxes, freebase ...
- What about less popular entities?
 - What is the population of Arbit Apartments, Powai?
 - What is the GDP of Sugarcane Industry of India?
 - Percent of Internet users in Mumbai?





• Web is huge.

¹More on this in the coming slides

- Web is huge.
- Probably, there is some page which contains the information we are looking for.

¹More on this in the coming slides

- Web is huge.
- Probably, there is some page which contains the information we are looking for.
- The way in which you express a fact about an entity depends on the fact, and not the entity.

¹More on this in the coming slides

- Web is huge.
- Probably, there is some page which contains the information we are looking for.
- The way in which you express a fact about an entity depends on the fact, and not the entity.
- We may expect **the sentence structure** ¹ to be similar.

¹More on this in the coming slides

- Web is huge.
- Probably, there is some page which contains the information we are looking for.
- The way in which you express a fact about an entity depends on the fact, and not the entity.
- We may expect the sentence structure ¹ to be similar.
 - Population of India reached 1.3 billion, making it the second largest country in the world.

¹More on this in the coming slides

- Web is huge.
- Probably, there is some page which contains the information we are looking for.
- The way in which you express a fact about an entity depends on the fact, and not the entity.
- We may expect the sentence structure ¹ to be similar.
 - Population of India reached 1.3 billion, making it the second largest country in the world.
 - Population of Arbit Apartments, Powai reached 1300.

¹More on this in the coming slides

Problem Statement

 Given that we know a lot of facts about some entities, can we train extractors that run over the web and pull similar facts about other entities?

Problem Statement

• The knowledge is scattered in unstructured text on the Web.

590.56 million people in China were using the internet at mid-2013, an increase of nearly 53 million (or 9.85%) from a year earlier.

The land area of the contiguous United States is 2,959,064 square miles (7,663,941 km²). Alaska, separated from the contiguous United States by Canada, is the largest state at 663,268 square miles (1,717,856 km²). Hawaii, occupying an archipelago in the central Pacific, southwest of North America, is 10,931 square miles (2,83.11 km²) in area. 11991

• Can such facts be extracted automatically?

Problem Statement

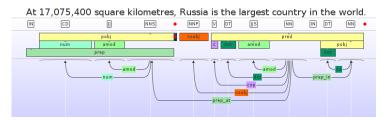
- Formally, train extractors that can harness the Web for numerical relations, where relations are 3-tuples linking an entity to a number
 - (India, economy, 1.842 trillion USD)
 - (China, internet users, 590.56 million)
 - (USA, land area, 2,959,054 square mile)

- **Structure** and **content** of sentences expressing the same relations can be *expected* to be similar.
 - The population of Australia is estimated to be 23,622,400 as of 7 October 2014.
 - According to an official estimate for 1 June 2014, the population of Russia is 143,800,000.

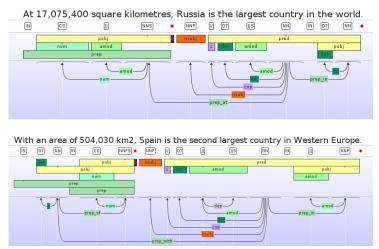
- **Structure** and **content** of sentences expressing the same relations can be *expected* to be similar.
 - At 17,075,400 square kilometres, Russia is the largest country in the world.
 - With an area of 504,030 km^2 , Spain is the second largest country in Western Europe.

 Redundancy in grammatical features and dependencies of the sentences expressing same relation.

 Redundancy in grammatical features and dependencies of the sentences expressing same relation.



 Redundancy in grammatical features and dependencies of the sentences expressing same relation.



Possible Workflow

Possible Workflow

- 1: **Collect enough examples** for each relation so that there are sufficient patterns and enough redundancy to exploit.
- 2:
- 3: **Extract features** (important keywords, grammatical structure, parse trees, etc.) for these sentences.
- 4:
- 5: **Train** a multi-class classifier on this training data.
- 6:
- 7: **for** *sentence* $s \in Corpus$ **do**
- 8: **Extract** features for *s*.
- 9: **Predict** the relation using the model for these features.
- 10: **Store** the fact into a database.

Challenge

 \bullet Large Corpus ($\sim\!\!16$ million sentences), hand labeling is out of question

Challenge

- \bullet Large Corpus ($\sim\!\!16$ million sentences), hand labeling is out of question
- Need lots of training data to learn high quality extractors

Challenge

- \bullet Large Corpus ($\sim\!\!16$ million sentences), hand labeling is out of question
- Need lots of training data to learn high quality extractors
- Is there a middle ground?

Weak Signal from Distant Supervision

• Quantities can appear in far more contexts than typical entities.

Weak Signal from Distant Supervision

- Quantities can appear in far more contexts than typical entities.
 - ("Bill Gates", "Microsoft") vs. ("India", "11%")

Weak Signal from Distant Supervision

- Quantities can appear in far more contexts than typical entities.
 - ("Bill Gates", "Microsoft") vs. ("India", "11%")
- Noise is more for the small whole numbers that are unitless or with popular units (e.g, percent)

Weak Signal from Distant Supervision

- Quantities can appear in far more contexts than typical entities.
 - ("Bill Gates", "Microsoft") vs. ("India", "11%")
- Noise is more for the small whole numbers that are unitless or with popular units (e.g, percent)
 - 1 or 5% vs. 11.42145 or 330 m/sec

Peculiarities of Numerical Relation Extraction

Weak Signal from Distant Supervision

- Quantities can appear in far more contexts than typical entities.
 - ("Bill Gates", "Microsoft") vs. ("India", "11%")
- Noise is more for the small whole numbers that are unitless or with popular units (e.g, percent)
 - 1 or 5% vs. 11.42145 or 330 m/sec
- Regular IE have fewer cases of entity disambiguation as compared to numerical IE

Peculiarities of Numerical Relation Extraction

Weak Signal from Distant Supervision

- Quantities can appear in far more contexts than typical entities.
 - ("Bill Gates", "Microsoft") vs. ("India", "11%")
- Noise is more for the small whole numbers that are unitless or with popular units (e.g, percent)
 - 1 or 5% vs. 11.42145 or 330 m/sec
- Regular IE have fewer cases of entity disambiguation as compared to numerical IE
 - Entities with name "Michael Jordan" vs. value "10" associated with a single entity

Peculiarities of Numerical Relation Extraction Match Mines

- When a certain Knowledge Base entry causes an unprecedented number of matches in the corpus.
- Typically happens when arg1 is a popular entity and arg2 is a small whole number.
 - Example TODO

Peculiarities of Numerical Relation Extraction Units

- Unit acts as types for numbers.
- Same quantity may be expressed with different unit
 - 20 kms or 12.4 miles
- Unit extractor needs to perform unit conversions for effective matching and extraction

Peculiarities of Numerical Relation Extraction Change Words

- Often sentences express the change in the value of a relation instead of, or in addition to, the actual value itself.
 - Amazon stock price increased by \$35 to close at \$510.
 - India's tiger population sees 30% increase.
 - Ford poised to raise dividend by 20% even as profit declines.

Peculiarities of Numerical Relation Extraction

Relation/Argument Scoping

- Additional modifiers to arguments or relation words may subtly change the meaning and confuse the extractor.
 - rural literacy rate of India
 - literacy rate of *rural* India

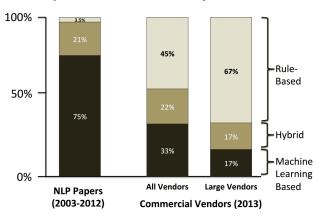
Peculiarities of Numerical Relation Extraction Keywords

- Many numerical relations are described using one or a handful of keywords.
 - For example, sentences expressing *inflation rate*, *GDP*, *life expectancy* would often use these keywords.

Rule Based IE

Academia vs. Industry

Implementations of Entity Extraction



2 2from [CLR13]

Motivation

From [BM05]

If e_1 and e_2 are two entities mentioned in the same sentence such that they are observed to be in a relationship R, our hypothesis stipulates that the contribution of the sentence dependency graph to establishing the relationship $R(e_1,e_2)$ is almost exclusively concentrated in the shortest path between e_1 and e_2 in the undirected version of the dependency graph.



Motivation

From [BM05]

If e_1 and e_2 are two entities mentioned in the same sentence such that they are observed to be in a **relationship** \mathbf{R} , our hypothesis stipulates that the contribution of the sentence **dependency graph** to establishing the relationship $R(e_1,e_2)$ is almost **exclusively concentrated in the shortest path** between e_1 and e_2 in the undirected version of the dependency graph.

- When looking for clues for relation extraction, dependency path is a good place to start.
- In the case of Numerical Relations, we already know what to look for: *keywords*.
- Need to take care of modifications to the entities, delta words

Definitions

- Keywords Words that might help in identifying relations. (GDP, internet, inflation)
- Delta words Words that indicate that the mention expresses a change, and not the actual relation.
 (change, up, down, increased, changed, risen)
- Modifiers A word m is said to be a modifier of the word w if there is a modifying dependency from m to w.
 (blue modifies whale in blue whale, urban population).
- Augmented Phrase For a word W, the Augmented Phrase W' is formed by concatenating W with words P such that W and P are related via a modifying dependency. (for the word whale, blue whale is the augmented phrase)

Extraction Algorithm

- 1: Given a sentence S, let E_S be the set of entities and N_S be the set of numbers that are present in the sentence.
- 2: Let R be the set of relations
- 3: Let LegalUnits(r) be the set of possible units for a relation r in R
- 4: Let Unit(n) be the unit for a given number n as returned by the unit tagger.
- 5: Let K be the set of keywords
- 6: Let Δ be the set of delta words
- 7: **for** $(e, n) \in (E_S \times N_S)$ **do** //For all entity-number pairs
- 8: $P \leftarrow$ the set of words in the dependency path between e and n
- 9: **for** $r \in R$ **do**
- 10: **if** $P \cap K_r = \emptyset$ **then** //keyword is not present
- 11: continue;

NumberRule II

Extraction Algorithm

```
if P ∩ ∆ ≠ ∅ then //delta words are present
continue;
if Unit(n) ∉ LegalUnits(r) then //incompatible units?
continue;
Extract r(e', r', n), where e' and r' are the augmented entity and relation phrases.
```

NumberRule: Extractions

- "The estimated population for 2014 of the Australian continent is about 36.25 million people"
- $\underbrace{ \begin{array}{c} \text{Australian} \xrightarrow{amod} \text{continent} \xrightarrow{prep_of} 2014 \\ \xrightarrow{prep_for} \xrightarrow{population} \xrightarrow{nsubj} \text{people} \xrightarrow{num} \text{million} \xrightarrow{number} 36.25 \\ \end{array} }$
- "The estimated population for 2014 of the Australian continent increased by about 3.25 million people"
- Australian \xrightarrow{amod} continent $\xrightarrow{prep_of}$ 2014 $\xrightarrow{prep_for}$ population \xrightarrow{nsubj} increased $\xrightarrow{prep_by}$ people \xrightarrow{num} million \xrightarrow{number} 36.25
- As an example of the importance of using augmented phrases, consider the sentence:
- As another example, consider "Female population of urban india is 23 million". The shortest path between the arguments (India, 23) is (Population, million) and thus a vanilla system will yield the wrong extraction POP(India, 23 million), instead of the correct POP(urban india, female population, 23 million).

Probabilistic Graphical Models

In a Nutshell

Probabilistic Graphical Models

In a Nutshell

Definitions

For an entity e (India)

- Let S_e be the set of sentences that express the entity e.
- Let $Q_{\rm e}$ denote the distinct numbers with unit that appear in footnote. We use the unit tagger by [SC14] to identity units of numbers in the text and to convert all unit variants like "mile", "km" to a canonical SI unit, "meter".
- $\forall q \in Q_e$, let $S_{e,q} \subseteq S_e$ denote the sentences that mention e and q.

Random Variables

For each entity e, for each number n_q

• n_r^q , number nodes Binary, 1 if the number q is related to e via relation r.

For each mention, $s \in S_{e,q}$

• z_s , mention nodes multi-ary, can take values $r \in \mathcal{R} = (R \cup \bot)$, set to $r \in R$ if the sentence expresses any of the R relations, else set to $z_s = \bot$.

Potentials

Features: Example

Feature type	Features
Fixed Keywords	key: life key: expect
All Keywords	key: life key: expect key: world
Number Features	Num: Billion Num: Integer

Afghanistan, which is mostly rural, has one of the lowest life expectancy rate in the world at 44 year for both man and woman.

The time "44 year" is converted to the SI unit, which comes out to be around 1.3 billion and thus the feature Num: Billion is fired.

Features

- Mintz Features Lexical and Synctactic features derived from POS tags and dependency path [MBSJ09]
- Keyword Features Derived from a pre-specified list of keywords per relation.
- Number Features Capture Information on the magnitude, type (whole, fraction) can also be useful for relation extraction.

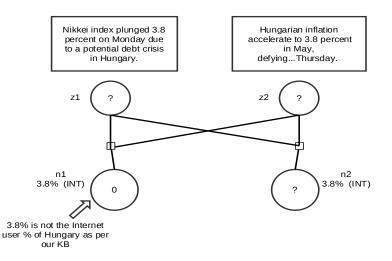
Perceptron

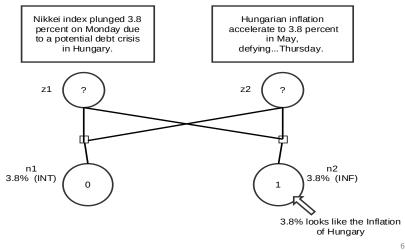
• The classical perceptron forms the core of our training procedure.

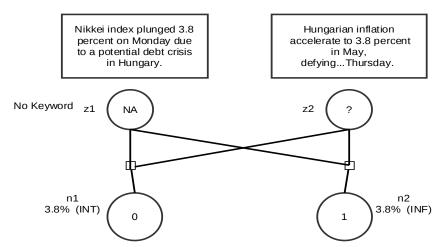
$$\theta \leftarrow \theta + \eta * (t_i - o_i) * x_i \tag{1}$$

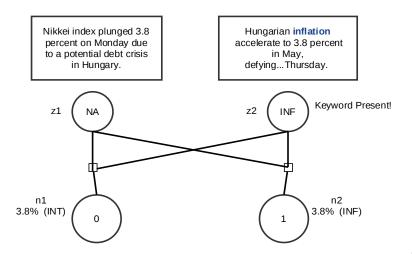
$$\begin{array}{c}
\theta \leftarrow \theta + \eta * (t_i - o_i) * x_i) \\
\uparrow & \uparrow
\end{array}$$
(2)

- Weights
- True Label
- Observed Label
- Feature (Binary)

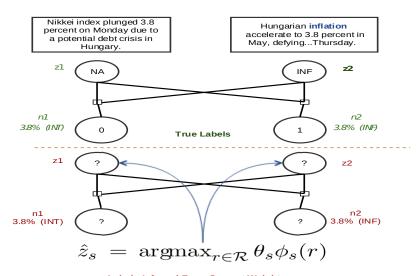






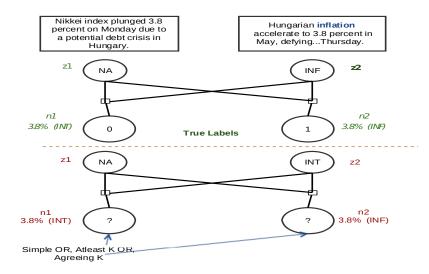


Observed Labels: Full Inference



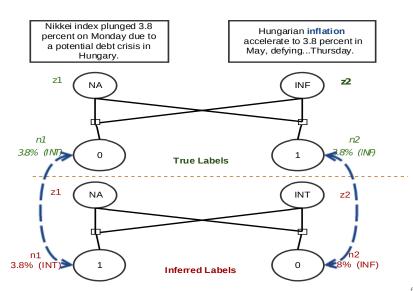
Labels Inferred From Current Weights

Observed Labels: Full Inference

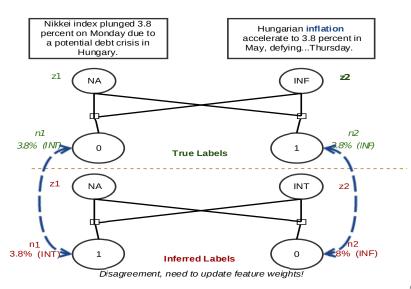


Labels Inferred From Current Weights

Observed Labels: Full Inference



Observed Labels: Full Inference



Updating Feature Weights

- Let $f_1, f_2, ..., f_k$ be the features fired for Hungarian inflation accelerate to 3.8 percent in May, defying...Thursday.
- Examples: key: inflation, Num: Units and so on.

•
$$\theta_{f_i}^{INT} \leftarrow \theta_{f_i}^{INT} - 1$$

$$\bullet \ \theta_{\mathit{f_i}}^{\mathit{INF}} \leftarrow \theta_{\mathit{f_i}}^{\mathit{INF}} + 1$$

 These features actually indicate inflation relation, and not the internet relation!

Extraction

Experiments

Training Corpus

- Tac KBP 2014 corpus comprising roughly 3 million documents from NewsWire, discussion forums, and the Web.
- Knowledge base is compiled from data.worldbank.org
 - Dataset contains 1,281 numeric indicators for 249 countries, with over 4 million base facts.
 - Dataset is normalized by converting all the values to their SI base unit value.

Experiments

Test Set

 Mix of 430 sentences from TAC corpus and sentences from Web search on relation name.

Relation	Units	Positive	Negative
Land Area	Sq. Km	57	17
Population	-	51	300
Inflation	percent	51	84
Internet Users	percent	15	04
FDI	\$ (USD)	10	
GDP	\$ (USD)	8	35
Goods Export	\$ (USD)	11	
Life Expectancy	year	15	34
Electricity Production	kWh	13	6
CO ₂ Emissions	kiloton	8	16

Table : Test corpus statistics: The third column is the number of instances per relation and the fourth column is the number of "none-on-the-above" (\bot) grouped by relation of the same unit.

Baseline Algorithms

- **Recall –Prior Baseline:** For each unit, predict the relation with the highest *test* prior ignoring the "none-of-the-above" class.
 - All the numbers with the unit "USD" will be labeled 'Goods Exported' since it is most frequent class ignoring the "none-of-the-above" class.

Baseline Algorithms

- **Recall –Prior Baseline:** For each unit, predict the relation with the highest *test* prior ignoring the "none-of-the-above" class.
 - All the numbers with the unit "USD" will be labeled 'Goods Exported' since it is most frequent class ignoring the "none-of-the-above" class.
- MultiR ++ : Adapting MultiR for Numerical Relations
 - Added unit tagger as in our algorithms for identifying and normalizing numbers and units.
 - Added our partial matching (using $\pm \delta_r$ %) technique in distant supervision.

Results

Numbertron vs NumberRule vs Baselines

System	Precision	Recall	F1 Score
MultiR++	31.81	28.10	29.84
Recall-Prior	28.18	86.19	42.47
NumberRule	59.30	53.60	56.30
NumberTron	60.93	66.92	63.78

Table: Aggregate results. NumberTron outperforms all other methods.

- Statistical method like NumberTron outperforms NumberRule on increased recall, which jumps from 53.6% to 67
- MultiR++ performs poorly because it does not model peculiarities of numerical relations.

Analysis

NumberTron vs NumberRule

- NumberRule's missed recall is primarily because of not having a keyword on the dependency path.
 - "Turkey's central bank said Wednesday it expects the annual inflation rate to reach 6.09 percent at the end of 2009, lower than the official target of 7.5 percent."
 - Turkey \xrightarrow{poss} bank \xrightarrow{nsubj} said \xrightarrow{ccomp} expects \xrightarrow{xcomp} reach \xrightarrow{dobj} percent \xrightarrow{num} 6.09
 - Since keyword 'inflation' is not on the shortest dependency path between Turkey and 6.09, NumberRule does not extract.
 - Since NumberTron combines evidences from multiple features such as number's range, presence of 'inflation' in context and dependency path features.

Ablation tests

of various configurations of NumberTron

Distant Supervision	Simple OR		Atleast-K		Agreeing-K				
	Р	R	F1	Р	R	F1	Р	R	F1
KB	43.24	50.93	46.54	40.05	53.93	45.97	35.20	44.52	39.35
Keywords	43.35	73.22	54.46	43.69	73.62	54.83	45.97	70.80	55.74
KB + Keywords	61.56	64.96	63.21	60.93	66.92	63.78	63.46	60.21	61.79

Table: Comparison of various configurations for NumberTron

 Keywords are crucial and KB in conjunction with keyword-based labeling adds significant value.

Ablation tests

of feature templates for NumberTron

Features	Precision	Recall	F1-score
Mintz features only	22.85	36.86	28.21
Keyword features only	51.24	52.55	51.89
Mintz + Keyword	47.10	39.04	42.71
Mintz + Number	17.80	35.03	23.67
Keyword + Number	45.15	69.70	54.80
Mintz + Keyword + Number	60.93	66.92	63.78

Table : Ablation tests of feature templates for NumberTron

 Large set of Mintz features confuses the classifier; Keyword features are much effective in learning.

Results

NumberTron vs NumberRule

Relation	NumberTron F1	NumberRule F1
FDI	0	50.00
Life Expectancy	68.96	69.50
Internet Users	55.73	54.54
Electricity Prod.	50.00	62.50
GDP	57.14	42.80
CO ₂ Emissions	47.61	53.30
Inflation	88.40	56.25
Goods export	75.00	35.20
Population	49.99	60.30
Land Area	57.44	52.22

Table : Per relation F1 scores for NumberRule and best configuration of NumberTron

Analysis

per relation analysis of NumberTron vs NumberRule

- For FDI relation, NumberTron does not make a extraction because in our corpus sentence expressing the relation are rare.
- Inflation and Population are well represented in training corpus and hence higher recall.

References I



Razvan C. Bunescu and Raymond J. Mooney.

A shortest path dependency kernel for relation extraction.

In HLT/EMNLP 2005, Human Language Technology Conference and Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing, Proceedings of the Conference, 6-8 October 2005, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada, 2005.



Laura Chiticariu, Yunyao Li, and Frederick R Reiss.

Rule-based information extraction is dead! long live rule-based information extraction systems!

In *EMNLP*, pages 827–832, 2013.

References II



Mike Mintz, Steven Bills, Rion Snow, and Daniel Jurafsky. Distant supervision for relation extraction without labeled data. In ACL 2009, Proceedings of the 47th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics and the 4th International Joint Conference on Natural Language Processing of the AFNLP, 2-7 August 2009, Singapore, pages 1003–1011, 2009.



Sunita Sarawagi and Soumen Chakrabarti.

Open-domain quantity queries on web tables: annotation, response, and consensus models.

In The 20th ACM SIGKDD International Conference on Knowledge Discovery and Data Mining, KDD '14, New York, NY, USA - August 24 - 27, 2014, pages 711–720, 2014.