Natural Language Inference for Question Answering

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Two parts to question answering:

Understanding the question

Understanding the corpus (IE)



- Understanding the question
 - Most Semantic Parsing work seems to be here
 - Can be arbitrarily hard; we only worry about easy factoids.
- Understanding the corpus (IE)



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 [Angeli et al., 2014a, Angeli et al., 2014b]



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 - What facts are entailed by the corpus? [ACL OpenIE Submission]





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 - What facts are in the corpus?
 [Angeli et al., 2014a, Angeli et al., 2014b]
 - What facts are entailed by the corpus? [ACL OpenIE Submission]
 - How do we find if a fact is entailed by the corpus?
 [Angeli and Manning, 2013, Angeli and Manning, 2014]



Questions don't always fit into a known schema



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Questions don't always talk about named entities

- ✓ Where was Barack Obama born?
- ? What treatments are there for diabetes?
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Answers aren't always literally justified in text

- ✓ Born in Hawaii, Barack Obama ...
- ? Doctors prescribe Insulin for Diabetes.
- X All animals have tails



No entailment: What facts are in the corpus?

We can do QA from Freebase ... so let's make Freebase bigger

Relation Extraction + TAC-KBP



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- Done: KBP 2013 2014
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Relation Extraction + TAC-KBP

- Done: KBP 2013 2014
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Does it address the challenges?

- Fixed relation schema
- Very named-entity-centric
- Zero entailments from text





Mini-Entailment: List facts entailed by corpus

Extract maximally informative, correct things

Natural Logic + OpenIE (ACL submission)



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Extract maximally informative, correct things

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- Split sentence up into short, entailed clauses
- 2. Strip away excess information in clauses
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- Split sentence up into short, entailed clauses
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Does it address the challenges?

- Open relation schema
- Named entity agnostic
- Only limited entailment from text





Lots of Entailment: Is a fact entailed by corpus?

Given a fact, can we support it in the corpus?

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- Done: Natural Logic for Common Sense facts
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Does it address the challenges?

- Open relation schema
- Named entity agnostic
- Large class of entailments from corpus



Main Idea of Thesis

Natural language inference allows us to leverage latent information in text to improve recall of open-domain facts, without sacrificing [much] precision.

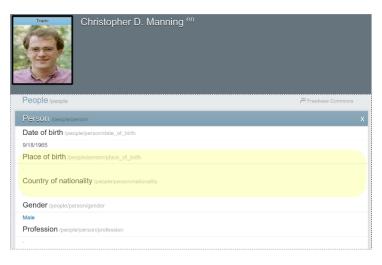


Where is Chris Manning from?











Christopher Manning

Professor of Linguistics and Computer Science

Natural Language Processing Group, Stanford University



Brief Bio

- I'm Australian ("I come from a land of wide open spaces ...")
- BA (Hons) Australian National University 1989 (majors in mathematics, computer science and linguistics)
- · PhD Stanford Linguistics 1995
- Asst Professor Carnegie Mellon University Computational Linguistics Program 1994-96
- · Lecturer University of Sydney Dept of Linguistics 1996-99
- Asst Professor Stanford University Depts of Computer Science and Linguistics 1999-2006
- Assoc Professor Stanford University Depts of Linguistics and Computer Science 2006-2012
- · Professor Stanford University Depts of Linguistics and Computer Science 2012-



Australia

Christopher D. Manning, origin

Feedback



We're filling a fixed relation schema

Unstructured Text









Structured Knowledge Base



(m. 1992-present)

Malia Ann Obama (b. 1998) Natasha Obama (b. 2001)

Children





Input: Sentences containing (entity, slot value). **Output**: Relation between entity and slot value.



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 Training data: {(sentence, relation)}.
 But...





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- Supervised: Trivial as a supervised classifier.
 Training data: {(sentence, relation)}.
 But... this training data is expensive to produce.
- **Distantly Supervised:** Artificially produce "supervised" data. Training data: {(entity, relation, slot value)}.

 But...



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Consider two approaches:

- Supervised: Trivial as a supervised classifier.
 Training data: {(sentence, relation)}.
 But... this training data is expensive to produce.
- Distantly Supervised: Artificially produce "supervised" data.
 Training data: {(entity, relation, slot value)}.
 But... this training data is much more noisy.



Active Learning: Combine Benefits of Both

Adding carefully selected supervision improves distantly supervised relation extraction.



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Old solution: Active learning!



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- Select a subset of latent z to annotate.
- Fix these labels during training.



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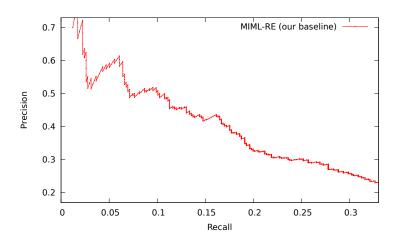
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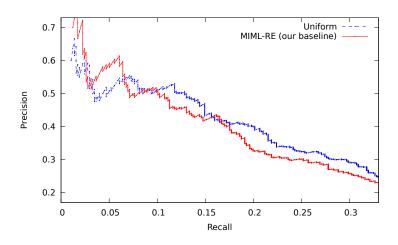
Old solution: Active learning!

- Select a subset of latent z to annotate.
- Fix these labels during training.
- Bonus: this creates a supervised training set.
 - We initialize from a supervised classifier on this training set.

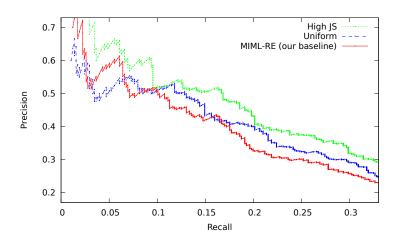




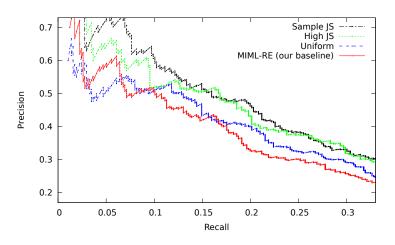




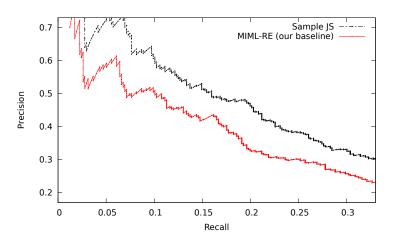




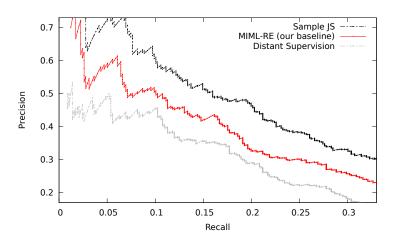




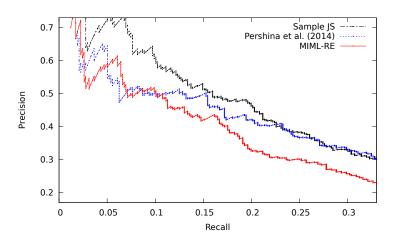














KBP is already "entailment"

Chris, a tenured professor at Stanford, is friends with Fei-Fei

- ⇒ Chris is a tenured professor at Stanford
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- ⇒ Chris is employed by Stanford
- ⇒ (Chris; employee_of; Stanford)



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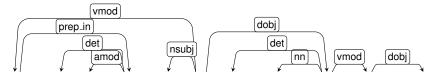
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Born in a small town, she took the midnight train going anywhere

- ⇒ She took the midnight train going anywhere
- ⇒ She took the midnight train
- ⇒ She took midnight train
- \Rightarrow (She; took; midnight train)

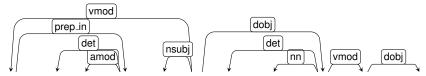




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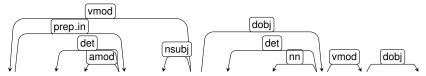


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Born in a small town, she took the midnight train going anywhere.

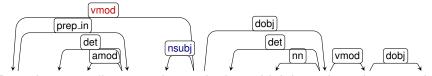
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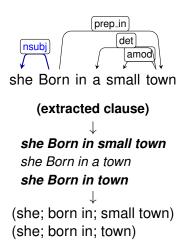
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- 3. Optionally segment into triples



State-of-the-art OpenIE

KBP 2013 end-to-end evaluation:

| System | Р | R | F ₁ |
|----------------------|------|------|----------------|
| UW Official | 69.8 | 11.4 | 19.6 |
| Ollie | | 4.8 | |
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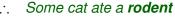
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MIML-RE: 36.2 F₁; Top system: 40.2 F₁



Natural Logic subsumes Syllogisms

Some cat ate a mouse (all mice are rodents)





17/30

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Cognitively easy inferences are easy:

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Facts are text; inference is lexical mutation



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Polarity is the direction a lexical item can move in the ordering.

animal

feline

cat

house cat



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cat



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thing

living thing

↑ animal

feline



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An Example Inference

Quantifiers determines the *polarity* (\uparrow or \downarrow) of words.

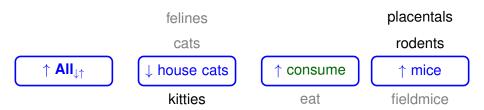


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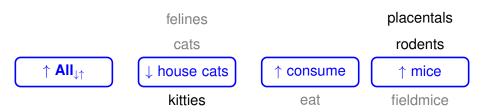




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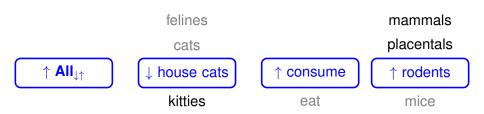
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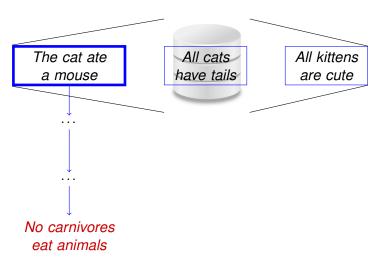
Quantifiers determines the *polarity* (\uparrow or \downarrow) of words.

Mutations must respect polarity.

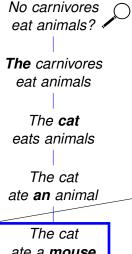
Inference is reversible.







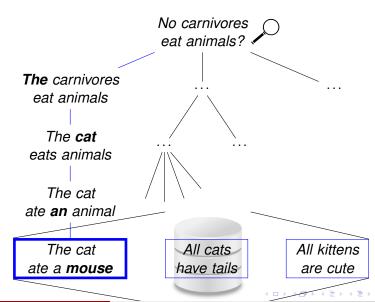




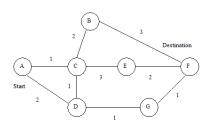
ate a mouse

All cats have tails All kittens are cute





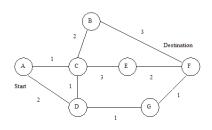




 $\textbf{Nodes} \qquad \quad (\textit{ fact}, \textit{truth maintained} \in \{\textit{true}, \textit{false}\})$



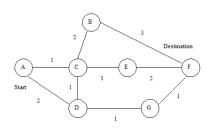




```
Nodes ( fact, truth maintained \in \{true, false\})
```

Start Node (query fact, true)
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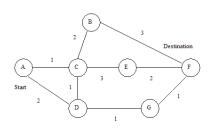
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Edge Costs How "wrong" an inference step is (learned)



Search mutates opposite to polarity





Truth maintained:





Truth false





Truth false





Truth false





Truth false





Truth false





Truth false





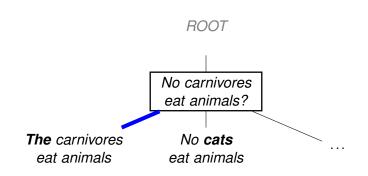
Shorthand for a node:



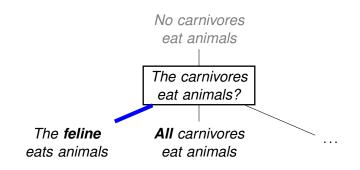


No carnivores eat animals?

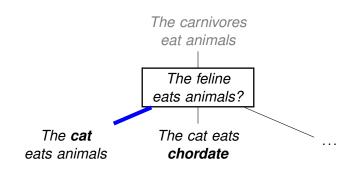






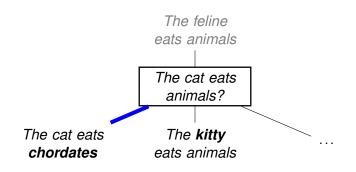




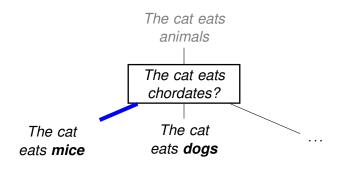




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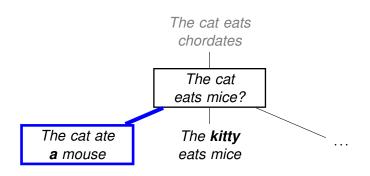








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Cost of an edge is $\theta_i \cdot f_i$. Cost of a path is $\theta \cdot f$. Can learn parameters θ .



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High-Level Takeaways

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Complexity doesn't grow with knowledge base size.



The "Proposal" Part





What is NaturalLI bad at?



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- Reasoning with multiple premises.
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- Fully leveraging training data.
 What if the entailment rules aren't in WordNet?





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- + Paraphrases



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Evaluate on:

- Al2 Biology tests
- WebQuestions
- TREC QA





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Probabilistic logic of "some:" some cats have tails; some cats are male ⇒ some males have tails (with some probability)

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Implementation 2: Learn hyperplane between true and false facts.

- Positives from the internet.
 - Negatives from mutating each positive, + unrelated facts.



Thanks!







References I

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