Using IBM Watson cloud services to build Natural Language Processing solutions to leverage chat tools



 Sarah Packowski spackows@ca.ibm.com

Arun Lakhana arun.lakhana@gmail.com

Presentation overview

- 1. Context
- 2. Challenge
- 3. Solution
- 4. Results
- 5. Lessons learned



Context

where we're coming from

By "Chat tools", we mean:

Any tool that allows web page users to communicate in real time, or with some delay, with the owners of the web page in a little chat window on the web page. There might be none, some, or complete integration with an automated "bot".

- My team started using IBM Watson NLP cloud services to process our chat convos:
 - "Real-time" apps for filtering, routing, answering
 - Analysis of historical convos
- Other teams saw what we were doing and asked us for help

Challenge

- Some teams receive ~1000 chat convos/week
- Some teams were investing a great deal of effort to "understand" users' needs: analyzing metrics, surveys, interviews, customer advocate programs... while leaving thousands of historical messages from real users untapped

Solution

Strategy: Divide and conquer

- Handle messages in languages we can't support
- Filter "noisy" messages
- Classify messages into buckets (eg. "Account-related", or "Problem" vs. "Question")
- Extract key idea from messages
- Automatically answer "easy" questions

Tools: IBM Watson cloud services

- Watson Language Translator
- Watson Natural Language Classifier
- Watson Knowledge Studio
- Watson Natural Language Understanding
- Watson Tone Analyzer



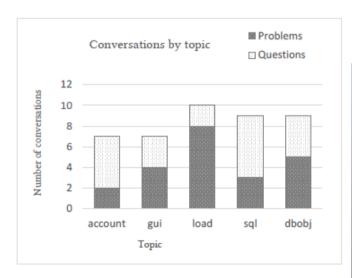




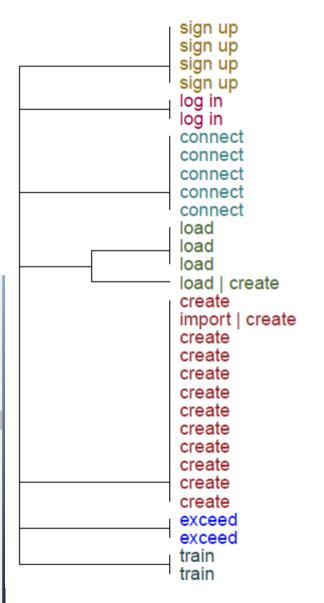


Results

- Reducing Support team load by 30%
- Insight into what our users are saying: pain points, FAQs, wish lists ...







Lessons learned

- 1. How do people use chat?
- 2. How much training data is needed?
- 3. Is a trained cognitive component irreplaceable?
- 4. Can you reuse a cognitive component?
- 5. Are these cognitive tools useful for every problem?

Note: All but #3 are really lessons learned about integrating Al/cognitive into standard software development processes – lessons about human assumptions and misunderstandings about Al, not technology ones

How do people chat?

In bursts.

→ We needed to capture users' first complete idea, not just the first text they submit



Can I ask a question?

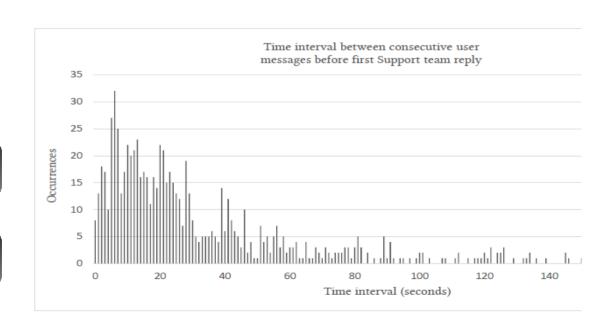
Yes! We're here to help

How do I upload a file?

Hi

I'm using Feature X

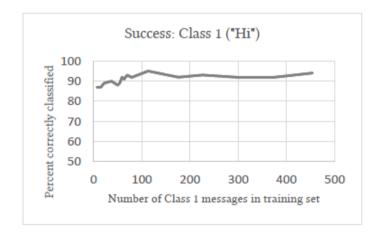
How do I upload a file?

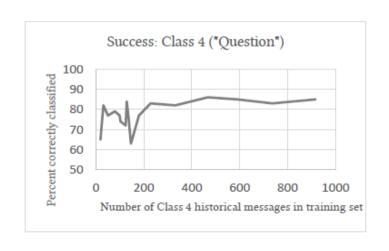


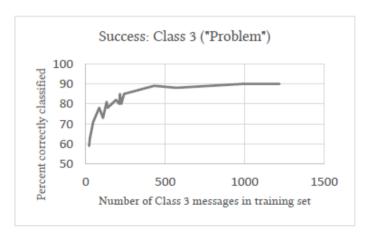
How much training data is needed?

More is better, to a point.

- Collecting training data can be expensive
- Automated tests tell you when you're good enough



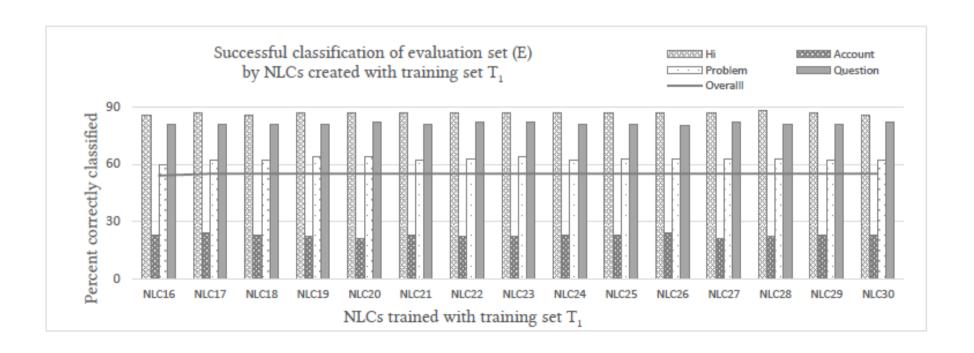




Is a trained cognitive component irreplaceable?

We could reliably reproduce classifier results.

- People view AI and cognitive as fuzzy, black boxes, but these services are reliable
- Save the training data, not the trained component



Can you reuse cognitive components?

Don't assume that you can.

- → Re-use is such a strong aspect of software development that every project manager has asked if we could re-use an existing solution
- → We haven't seen good-enough results from re-using existing cognitive pieces
- → Generalization: don't assume "out-of-the-box" or pretrained cognitive solutions will work for your case

*A little bit wrong is... totally useless

40

20

General language model

- Too much noise
- Missed most important

Custom language model

Just right

```
Hello, could You provide an output of following command executed on the serverr? db2 list utilities show details Source

db2 list utilities output command serverr details
```

```
hello, is there any chance to execute command db2
list utilities show details for our instance? We are
loading a huge amount of data for 24 hours and do not
know where we are :(

command db2 list instance
```

→ You still need good, old-fashioned software engineering practices, such as automated regression testing..

Can I use cognitive for... everything?

No.

- → Al/cognitive is the hot thing, so a lot of people want to apply it to everything
- Start simple, add cognitive where it fits

10 Hot Consumer Trends 2017 - ConsumerLab - Ericsson

https://www.ericsson.com/en/networked.../trends-and.../10-hot-consumer-trends-2017 ▼ Trend 1. All everywhere; 3. Trend 2. Setting the pace for Internet of Things; 4. Trend ... Trend 10. Big tech for all; 12. Infographic: 10 hot consumer trends 2017; 13.

Hot Trends Impacting Contact Centers: Artificial Intelligence | Contact ...

https://blog.contactcenterpipeline.com > Technology •

Aug 17, 2017 - We can't publish a series on trends without including artificial intelligence (AI). In our five-part series on hot topics that are impacting contact ...

10 Artificial Intelligence Trends to Watch in 2017 - Datamation

https://www.datamation.com/.../10-artificial-intelligence-trends-to-watch-in-2017.html ▼ Nov 21, 2016 - Look for chatbots, intelligent things and AI-powered medical research to capture headlines next year.

Try it for yourself!

Build a cognitive app that processes text comments.

http://ibm.biz/CASCON-2017-Sample-Code

- Sample data
- Sample Code
- Sample output
- Instructions including video!

Drop by demo booth D6 tomorrow to see this in more detail