The Joy of Character level NLP

Tal Perry - CEO LightTag
tal@lighttag.io
@thetalperry

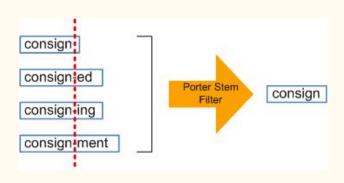
Character level NLP

All the cool kids are doing it

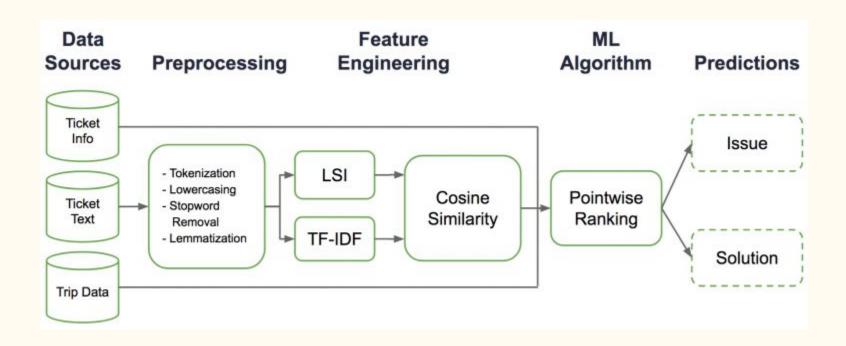
- Background
- Why?
- Benefits
- Drawbacks
- Example

Background

The Old Old Way



The Old Old Way



DL Insight 1: Word Vectors

O. frog

- 1. frogs
- 2. toad
- 3. litoria
- 4. leptodactylidae
- 5. rana
- 6. lizard
- 7. eleutherodactylus







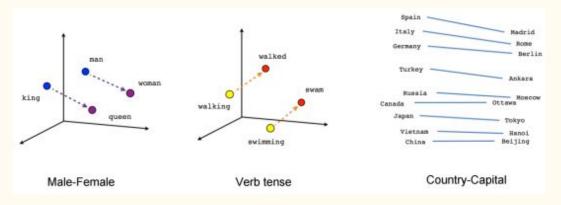
4. leptodactylidae



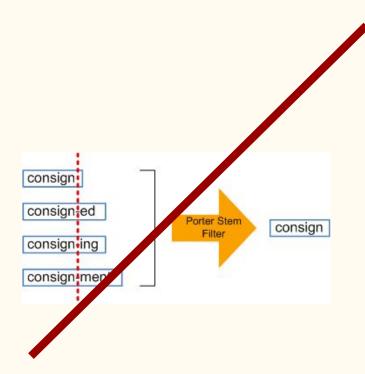
5. rana



7. eleutherodactylus



The Old Old Way

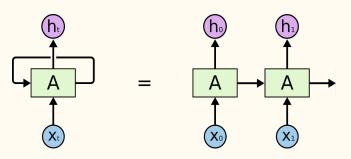


Deep Learning made it easy to work with long sequences

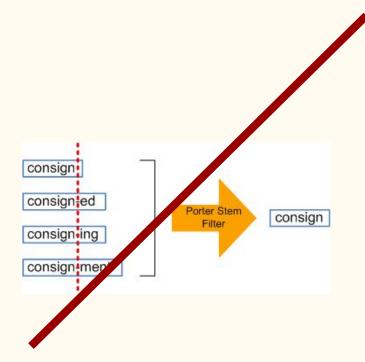
- import tensorflow as tf
- 2 lstm = tf.contrib.rnn.BasicLSTMCell(lstm_size)

RNNs

```
* Increment the size file of the new incorrect UI FI
* of the size generatively.
static int indicate policy(void)
  int error;
  if (fd == MARN EPT) {
     * The kernel blank will coeld it to userspace.
    if (ss->segment < mem total)</pre>
      unblock graph and set blocked();
    else
      ret = 1;
    goto bail;
  segaddr = in SB(in.addr);
  selector = seg / 16;
  setup works = true;
  for (i = 0; i < blocks; i++) {
    seq = buf[i++];
   bpf = bd->bd.next + i * search;
   if (fd) {
      current = blocked;
    }
  rw->name = "Getjbbregs";
  bprm self clearl(&iv->version);
  regs->new = blocks[(BPF STATS << info->historidac)]
  return segtable;
```

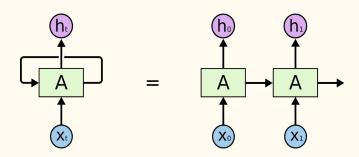


The Old Old Way



More RNNs

This is one of Crichton's best books. The characters of Karen Ross, Peter Elliot, Munro, and Amy are beautifully developed and their interactions are exciting, complex, and fast-paced throughout this impressive novel. And about 99.8 percent of that got lost in the film. Seriously, the screenplay AND the directing were horrendous and clearly done by people who could not fathom what was good about the novel. I can't fault the actors because frankly, they never had a chance to make this turkey live up to Crichton's original work. I know good novels, especially those with a science fiction edge, are hard to bring to the screen in a way that lives up to the original. But this may be the absolute worst disparity in quality between novel and screen adaptation ever. The book is really, really good. The movie is just dreadful.



Why Characters?

But there are many "words"













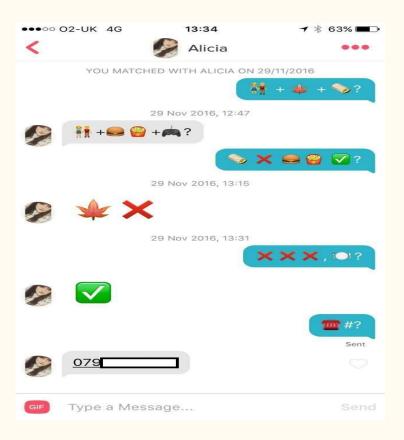
With many meanings

What has four letters, never has five letters but sometimes has nine letters.

With many meanings

What has four letters, never has five letters but sometimes has nine letters?

WTF?



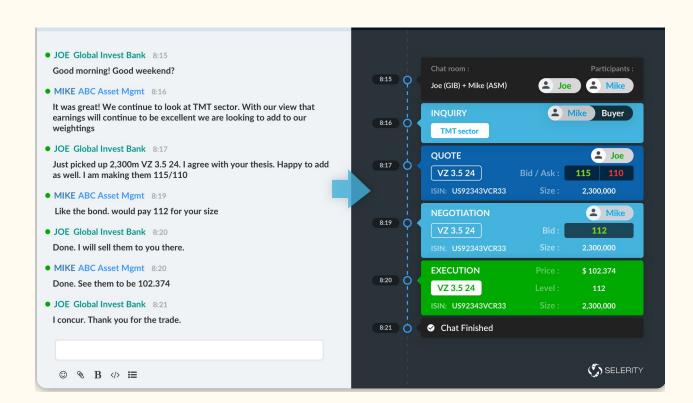
Vocabulary

- Expanding Vocabulary
- Many Professional Terms
- Lots of numbers / codes
- User generated data

Vocabulary

10/30/04: Cont. C&T. Drld cmt plug f/5693' to 5707'. Performed LOT to 960 psi = 15.6 ppg. Drld to 5875'.

Vocabulary



Vocabulary



1 28.4K

34.6K

Y

◆ 15K

Operational

Simplicity

- No need to carry a dictionary
- Less preprocessing
- Less room for error

In Action

(a) Spelling mistakes

DE ori	Warum sollten wir nicht Freunde sei ?
DE src	Warum solltne wir nich Freunde sei ?
EN ref	Why should not we be friends?
bpe2char	Why are we to be friends?
char2char	Why should we not be friends?

(b) Rare words

DE src	Siebentausendzweihundertvierundfünfzig.
EN ref	Seven thousand two hundred fifty four .
bpe2char	Fifty-five Decline of the Seventy .
char2char	Seven thousand hundred thousand fifties .

(c) Morphology

DE src	Die Zufahrtsstraßen wurden gesperrt, wodurch sich laut CNN lange Rückstaus bildeten.
EN ref	The access roads were blocked off, which, according to CNN, caused long tailbacks.
bpe2char	The access roads were locked, which, according to CNN, was long back.
char2char	The access roads were blocked, which looked long backwards, according to CNN.

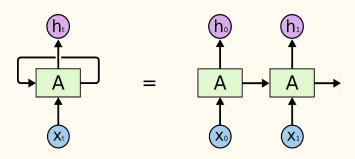
(d) Nonce words

DE src	Der Test ist nun über , aber ich habe keine gute Note . Es ist wie eine Verschlimmbesserung .
EN ref	The test is now over , but i don't have any good grade . it is like a worsened improvement .
bpe2char	The test is now over, but i do not have a good note.
char2char	The test is now, but i have no good note, it is like a worsening improvement.

Drawbacks

Long Sequences

Mean more computation



- RNNs are O(n) in sequence length
- The average english word has5 letters
- So 5x more expensive

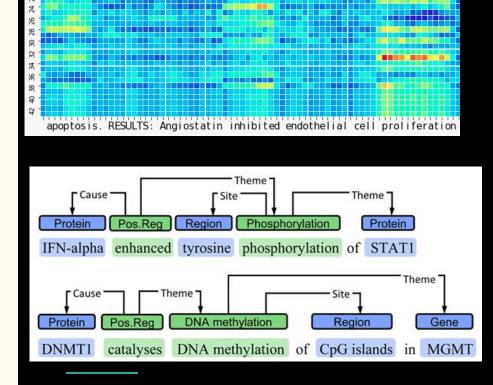
Meaningless

Semantic Unit

- Characters have no semantic meaning
- Its harder to form relations between a bunch of meaningless things

Meaningless

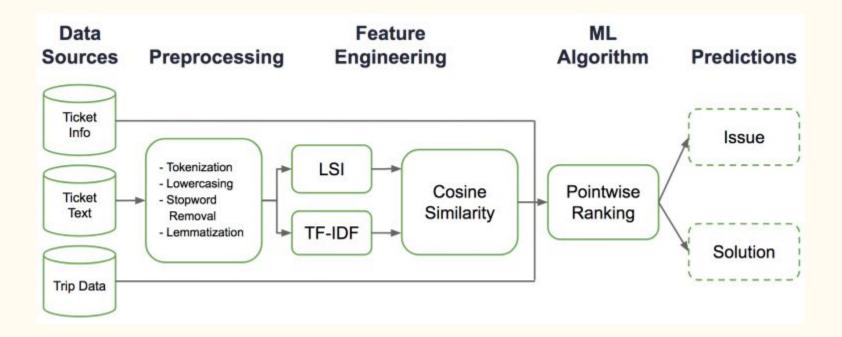
Semantic Unit



Example

https://github.com/LightTag/BibSample

Conclusion



The End



Questions?