SoPa++: Leveraging explainability from hybridized RNN, CNN and weighted finite-state neural architectures

M.Sc. Thesis Defense

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Overview

Motivation

- Trend of increasingly complex deep learning models achieving SOTA performance on ML and NLP tasks (Figure 1)
- To address emerging concerns such as inductive biases, several studies make argument for research into XAI (Danilevsky et al., 2020; Arrieta et al., 2020)
- Schwartz et al. (2018) approach XAI in NLP by proposing an explainable hybridized RNN, CNN and WFA neural architecture called **Soft Patterns** (SoPa)
- SoPa provides localized and indirect explainability despite being suited for **globalized and direct** explanations by simplification

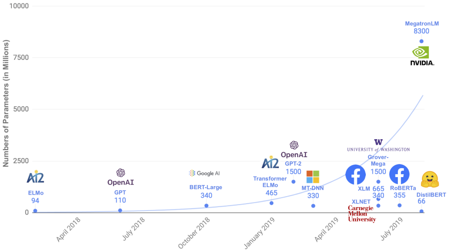

Figure 1: Parameter counts of recently released pre-trained language models; figure taken from Sanh et al. (2019)

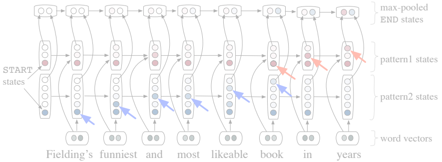

Figure 2: SoPa's partial computational graph; figure taken from Schwartz et al. (2018)

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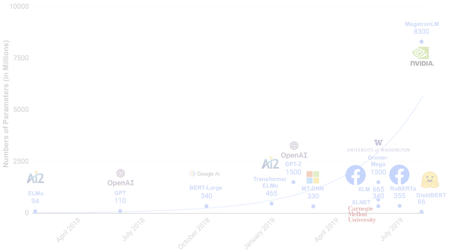

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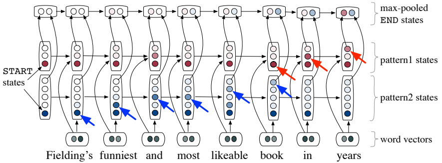

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Objective and research questions

Objective:

- Address limitations of SoPa by proposing **SoPa++**, which could allow for effective explanations by simplification.

Process:

- We study the performance and explanations by simplification of SoPa++ on the **FMTOD** data set from Schuster et al. (2019); focusing on the English-language intent classification task.

Research questions:

1. Does SoPa++ provide **competitive** performance?
2. To what extent does SoPa++ contribute to **effective** explanations by simplification?
3. What **interesting and relevant** explanations can SoPa++ provide?

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Bibliography I

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