

# Sub-sentence Level Topic Classification

A Semi-discriminative Approach for a Small Dataset

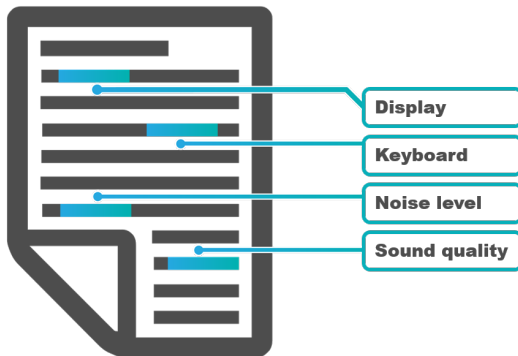
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Cornelia Ferner and Stefan Wegenkittl

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# Problem Statement



Decomposing a detailed expert product review into sections discussing different "topics". The sample dataset<sup>1</sup> is about laptops with 17 predefined topics.

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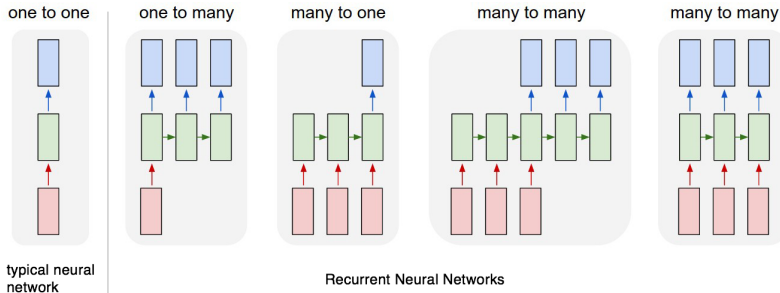
<sup>1</sup><https://github.com/factai/corpus-laptop-topic>

# Problem Statement

- Task: identify topics in laptop product reviews
- Topics are either **laptop parts** (e.g. display, keyboard), **parameters** (e.g. performance, battery) or **review specifics** (e.g. introduction, verdict)
- We define this as a **sequence classification task**:
  - $\neq$  document classification, because we have more than one topic per document
  - $\neq$  unsupervised topic detection, because we pre-define the topics we are looking for and have an annotated dataset

# Recurrent Neural Networks

## RNN, LSTM, GRU



Recurrent networks process sequences of vectors: either in the input or in the output or both <sup>2</sup>.

<sup>2</sup><http://karpathy.github.io/2015/05/21/rnn-effectiveness>

# Sentence Classification



**(a)** Naive Bayes  
generative



**(b)** Logistic Regression  
discriminative

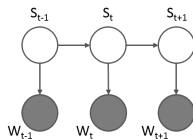
Comparison of the generative Naive Bayes and the discriminative multinomial Logistic Regression classifier. For NLP tasks, the discriminative classifier has been shown to outperform the generative one [Klein2002].

$$P(S, W) = P(W | S) \cdot P(S)$$

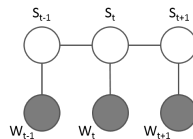
$$P(S = j | W) = \frac{1}{Z} \prod_{t=1}^n e^{\lambda_{wtj} + \mu_j}$$

Multinomial Logistic Regression: resulting model has highest entropy → **Maximum Entropy** classifier (MaxEnt, ME)

# Sequence Classification



**(a)** Hidden Markov Model  
generative



**(b)** Linear-chain CRF  
discriminative

Comparison of the Hidden Markov Model and the (linear-chain) Conditional Random Field [Lafferty2001].

$$P(\mathbf{S}, \mathbf{W}) = \prod_{t=1}^n P(S_{t+1} | S_t) \cdot P(W_t | S_t)$$

$$P(\mathbf{S} | \mathbf{W}) = \frac{1}{Z_W} \prod_{t=1}^n e^{\sum_i \lambda_i f_i(S_t, S_{t-1}, W_t)}$$

# Method Comparison

generative

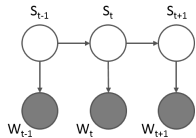


(a) Naive Bayes

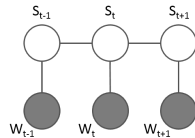
discriminative



(b) Logistic Regression



(c) Hidden Markov Model



(d) Linear-chain CRF

# Method Comparison

generative

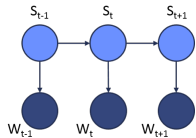


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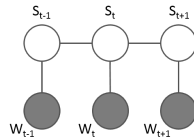
discriminative



(b) Logistic Regression



(c) Hidden Markov Model



(d) Linear-chain CRF



## Dictionary and Topics

- $C = \{1, \dots, c\}$  ... set of topics
- $D = \{1, \dots, d\}$  ... set of words (dictionary)
- $W = (w_1, \dots, w_n)$  ... input sequence of words
- $S = (s_1, \dots, s_n)$  ... sequence of topics

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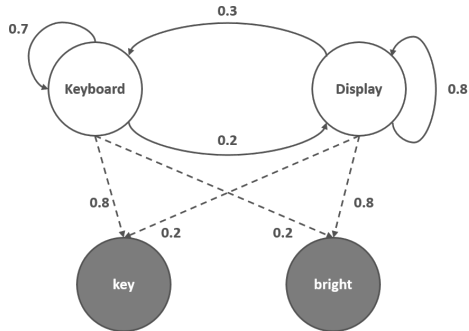
## Maximum Entropy

$$P(S_1 = j, \dots, S_n = j \mid W_1 = w_1, \dots, W_n = w_n) = \frac{1}{Z_{ME}} \prod_{t=1}^n e^{\lambda_{w_t j} + \mu_j} \quad (1)$$

# Hidden Markov Model

## Hidden Markov Model

- transition probabilities:  
 $A = a_{ij} = P(S_t = j \mid S_{t-1} = i)$
- emission probabilities:  
 $B = b_{jk} = P(W_t = k \mid S_t = j)$
- initial state probabilities:  
 $\pi_i = P(S_1 = i)$
- $M = (C, D, A, B, \pi)$



A minimal HMM example.

Using a stationary HMM for generating the words:

$$P(\bar{W} = \mathbf{w}, \bar{S} = \mathbf{s}) = \prod_{t=1}^n \underbrace{P(W_t = w_t \mid S_t = s_t)}_{b_{w_t s_t}} \cdot \underbrace{P(S_t = s_t \mid S_{t-1} = s_{t-1})}_{a_{s_{t-1} s_t}} \quad (2)$$

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MaxEnt assumes independency of the words. Assuming this for the HMM, too, gives

$a_{s_{t-1}, s_t} = a_{s_t} = P(S_t = s_t)$ :

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Dividing by  $P(\bar{W} = \mathbf{w}) = Z_{HMM}$  yields

$$P(\bar{S} = \mathbf{s} \mid \bar{W} = \mathbf{w}) = \frac{1}{Z_{HMM}} \prod_{t=1}^n b_{w_t, s_t} \cdot a_{s_t} \quad (4)$$

Let  $s_t = j \forall t \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  and set equations (1) and (4) equal:

$$\frac{1}{Z_{ME}} \prod_{t=1}^n e^{\lambda_{wtj} + \mu_j} = \frac{a_j^n}{Z_{HMM}} \prod_{t=1}^n b_{wtj} \quad (5)$$

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Rewriting the equation and solving for a single emission probability  $b_{jk}$  gives:

$$b_{jk} = e^{\lambda_{kj} + \mu_j} \cdot \frac{Z_{HMM}}{Z_{ME} a_j} = e^{\lambda_{kj} + \mu_j} \cdot \frac{P(\bar{W} = \mathbf{W})}{Z_{ME} a_j} \quad (6)$$



Implementation:

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  - b) Substitute  $Z_{HMM}$  by  $\hat{p}_w$ .
  - c) Normalize with respect to  $\sum_{i=1}^d b_{jk} = 1$  instead of dividing by  $Z_{ME} a_j$ .

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  4. Estimate the initial probabilities  $\pi_i$  from the training data.
- Apply the model  $M = (C, D, A, B, \pi)$  to the test data set (word-level).

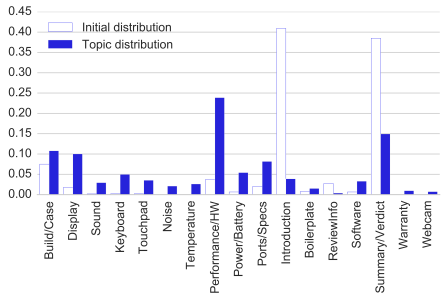
$M$  is used to decode the observed sequence  $W_t$  by assigning the most likely sequence of topics  $S_t^*$ :

- Viterbi decoding:
  - globally optimal solution
  - compute  $S_t^* = \arg \max_S P(W, S)$
- Posterior decoding:
  - uses the forward-backward algorithm
  - locally optimal solution
  - compute  $S_t^* = \{s_i \mid s_i = \arg \max_k \sum_S P(s_i = k | W)\}$

# Laptop Review Dataset

Laptop review dataset<sup>3</sup>:

- 3076 reviews annotated at sentence level
- 240 146 sentences with topic label
- 17 topics
- average review length: 78 sentences



The relative distribution on sentence-level of the 17 review topics and the topics' likeliness to be the first in a review.

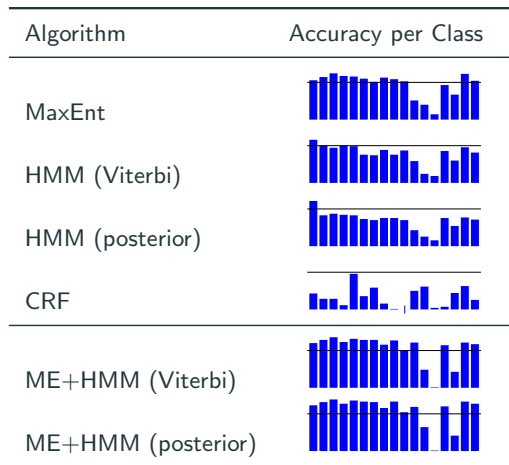
<sup>3</sup><https://github.com/factai/corpus-laptop-topic>

## Classification Results

Algorithm	Accuracy	Precision	Recall	F1 score
MaxEnt	70.00%	71.46%	70.00%	70.13%
HMM (Viterbi)	60.16%	68.92%	60.16%	61.89%
HMM (posterior)	53.60%	68.59%	53.60%	56.95%
CRF	39.86%	49.63%	39.86%	40.08%
ME+HMM (Viterbi)	75.41%	77.40%	75.41%	74.30%
ME+HMM (posterior)	<b>76.84%</b>	<b>78.74%</b>	<b>76.84%</b>	<b>75.62%</b>

Results for all classifiers on the given laptop review dataset using 5-fold cross validation. Accuracy, precision, recall and F1 score are weighted by the number of sentences in each topic.

# Classification Results



Sparklines indicating the accuracy results for each topic. Each horizontal line denotes the baseline MaxEnt accuracy of 70%.



## Example

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(Gold labels)

Otherwise, the approx. 3.3 kilogram heavy case didn't actually knock our socks off: design, workmanship and materials are only second rate.

**The input devices could also be a lot better (small touchpad, clattery keyboard, single-rowed enter, etc.).** *The main point of complaint is the enormous noise development, typical for a gamer: the fan is clearly audible during load.*

---

(ME+HMM)

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Build/Case	Keyboard	Touchpad	Noise
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A sample sequence taken randomly from a review. The gold labeling suggests three different topics (top), the ME+HMM model assigns four topics (bottom).

**Thank you for your attention!**

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## Side Note: Maximum Entropy Markov Model

Maximum Entropy Markov Model (MEMM) [McCallum2000]:

- models probability of current state  $s_t$  based on the previous state  $s_{t-1}$  and the current observation  $w_t$
- normalization per state
- label bias problem

## Side Note: Maximum Entropy Markov Model

$$\text{HMM:} \quad P(S, W) = \prod_{t=1}^n P(s_t | s_{t-1}) P(w_t | s_t)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{MEMM:} \quad P(S | W) &= \prod_{t=1}^n P(s_t | s_{t-1}, w_t) = \\ &\prod_{t=1}^n \frac{1}{Z_{s_{t-1}, w_t}} \exp \left( \sum_i \lambda_i f_i(s_t, s_{t-1}, w_t) \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{CRF:} \quad P(S | W) &= \\ &\frac{1}{Z_W} \prod_{t=1}^n \exp \left( \sum_i \lambda_i f_i(s_t, s_{t-1}, W) \right) \end{aligned}$$

## Side Note: Multinomial Logistic Regression

Multinomial logistic regression:

- ANN without hidden layer and a logistic transfer function followed by a softmax in the output nodes
- Loss function = cross entropy loss
- Stochastic gradient descent for optimization
- Minimizing cross entropy is equivalent to maximizing log-likelihood
- Resulting model has highest entropy
- **Maximum Entropy classifier** (MaxEnt or ME)

## Topic Separability

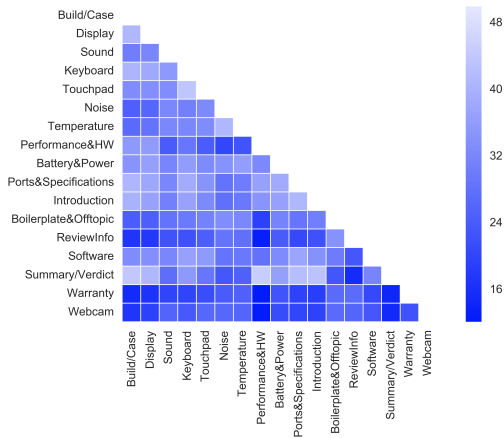
Classification accuracy correlates with class separability.

Percent vocabulary overlap (PVO) measures the amount of vocabulary terms shared by two classes [Medlock2008]:

$$PVO(S_1, S_2) = \frac{|T_1 \cap T_2|}{|T_1 \cup T_2|} \cdot 100 \quad (7)$$

$T_i$  denotes the set of terms in topic  $S_i$ .

# Topic Separability



PVO between all topics. The diagonal (topic-topic) comparison is 100%. The average PVO is 33.22%.



## Evaluation of the MaxEnt Output

Sound	Noise	MaxEnt	
		Temperature	Summary
sound	db	cool	verdict
speech	quiet	heat	quietly
bass	noise	hot	lasts
volume	fan	lap	drawbacks
speaker	silent	temperatures	flaws
audio	hear	thighs	compromises
speakers	audible	warm	recommend
headphones	noisy	heats	price
sounded	noiseless	warmer	money
equalizer	fans	warmth	conclusion

Ten highest scoring terms in four exemplary topics when based on MaxEnt weights.