

Outline

Natural Language Processing

Text Preprocessing

Language Modeling

Unigrams

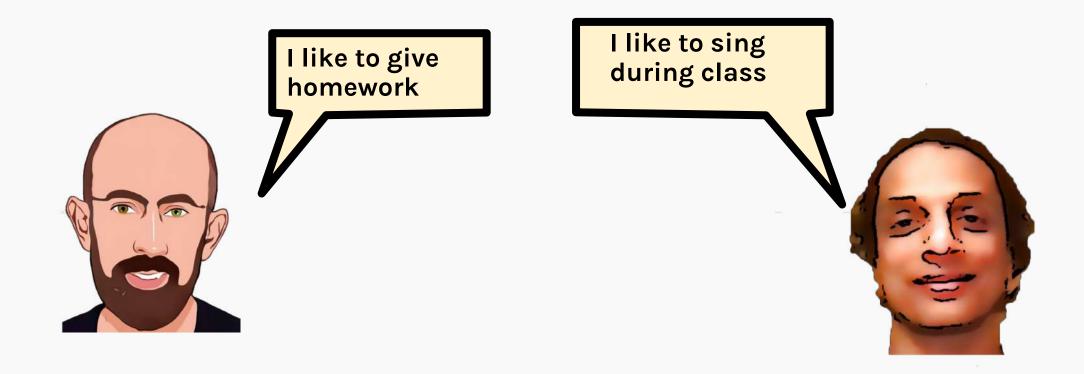
Bigrams

Neural Networks for Language Modeling

Evaluation

Natural Language Processing

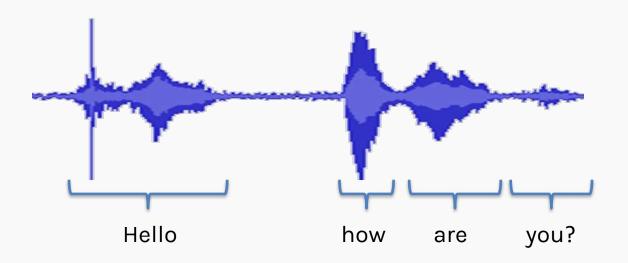
Natural Language Processing (NLP) is the field of study that focuses on the interaction between computers and humans through natural language, aiming to enable machines to understand, interpret, and respond to human language in a meaningful way.



Text recognition

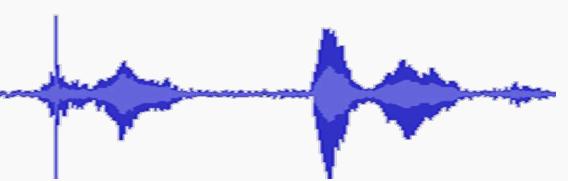


Speech recognition



Text to speech





Sentence prediction

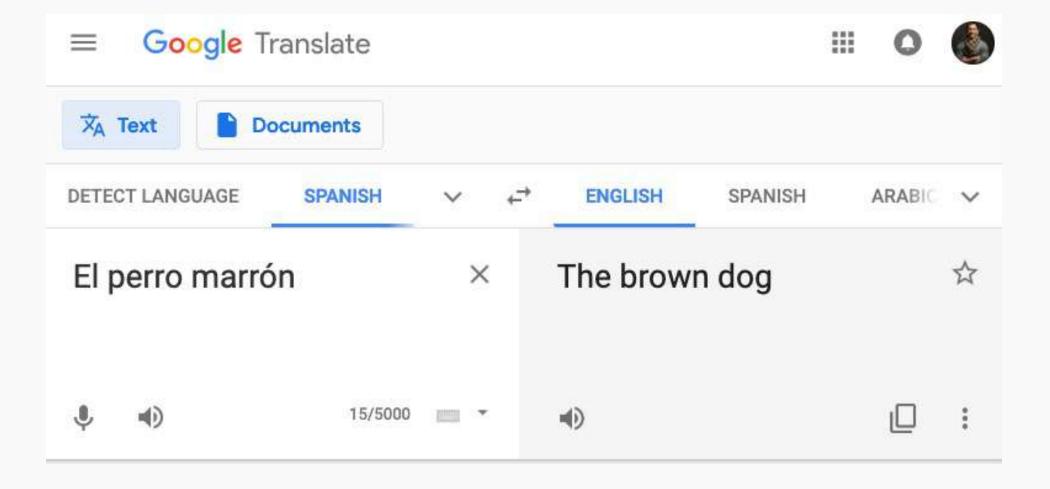




Sentence prediction

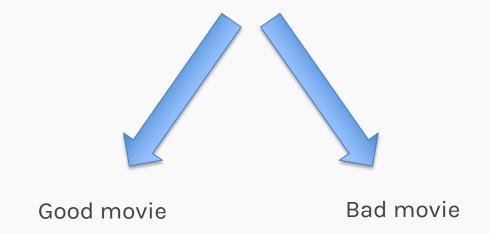


Translation

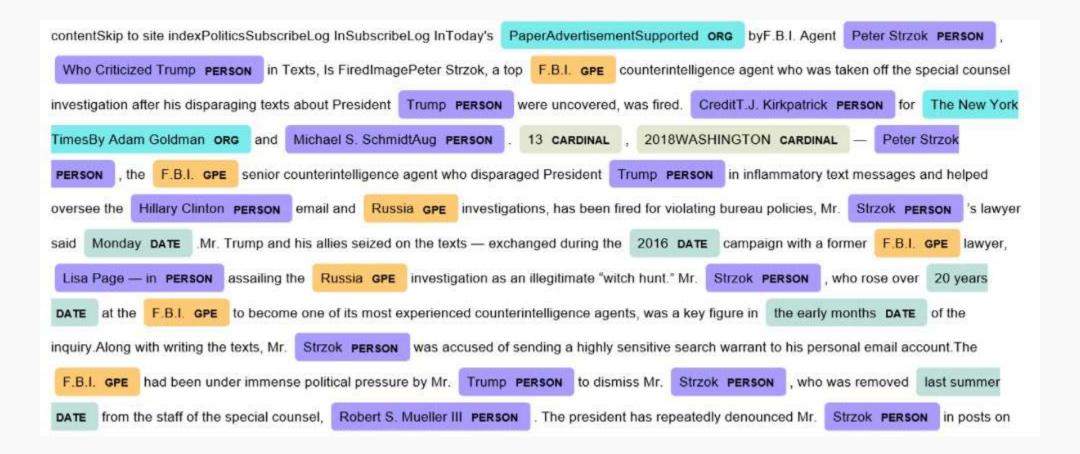


Sentiment analysis

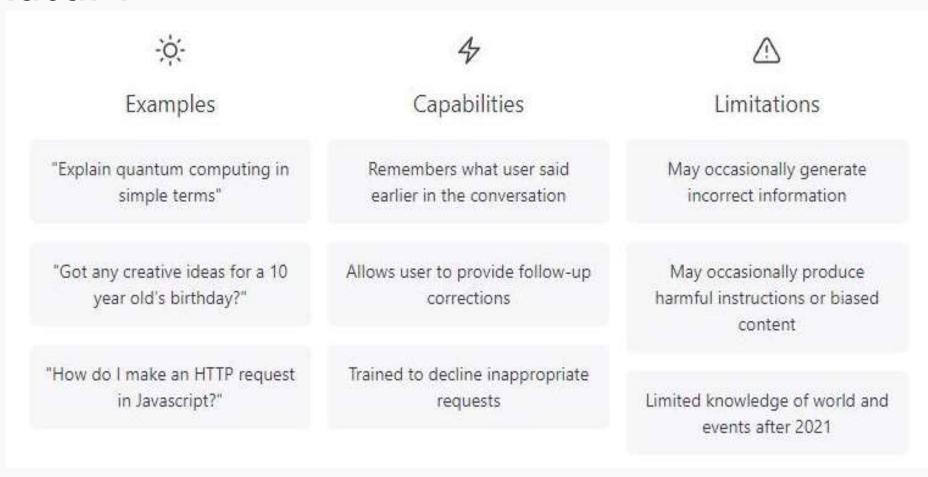
"The movie could have been better. The lead actress did an amazing performance."



Named Entity Recognition

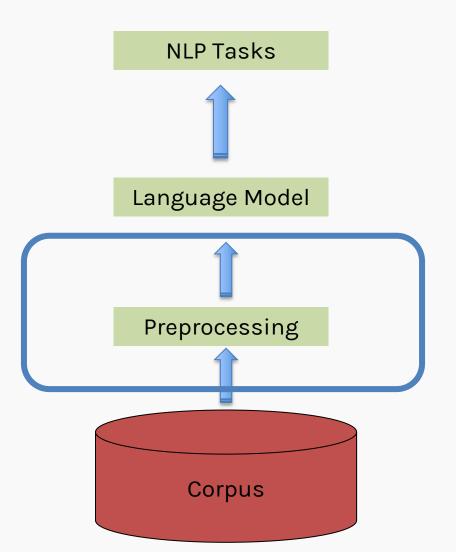


ChatGPT



Pipeline

Before we jump into language modelling, let's see how we process our data for the model to be able to understand it.



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Language Modelling: starting point

- Text is composed of a series of words that carry meaning. To process it, we break down the text into smaller units known as tokens.
- So, a sentence transforms into a sequence of these tokens.
- All the unique tokens from a dataset make up the vocabulary.
- The bigger the vocabulary the bigger the training set required.

We need to define the basic unit (token) of a sentence.

First Approach: whitespace

Split the words on whitespaces only.

We need to define the basic unit (token) of a sentence.

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Split the words on whitespaces only.

"The award-winning actor arrived today."

We need to define the basic unit (token) of a sentence.

First Approach: whitespace

Split the words on whitespaces only.

Usually, punctuations are removed before this stage and capitalization is set to lower case

"the	award-winning	actor	arrived	today"
w_1	w_2	W_3	w_4	w_5

First Approach: whitespace

Split the words on whitespaces only.

"the	award-winning	actor	arrived	today"
w_1	w_2	W_3	W_4	w_5

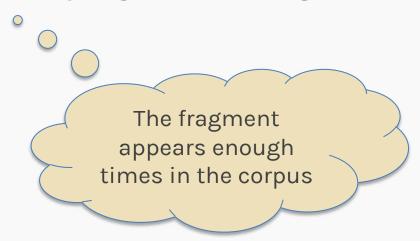
Hyphenated phrases like "award-winning" are not split.

"	haven't	seen	her	since	yesterday"
w_1	w_2	W_3	W_4	w_5	w_6

Conjunctions such as haven't are not split.

Second Approach: sub-word tokenization

Split the words on statistically significant fragments.



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Split the words on statistically significant fragments.

The token loses their direct interpretability but makes a more flexible approach.

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How can we define a token?

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How can we define a token?

"the	award	-	winning	actor	arrived	yesterday"
w_1	W_2	W_3	W_4	W_5	W_6	w_7

Second Approach: sub-word tokenization

Split the words on statistically significant fragments.

How can we define a token?

"the	award	_	winning	actor	arrived	yesterday"
w_1	W_2	W_3	W_4	W_5	W_6	w_7

"turn the handle counterclockwise"

Second Approach: sub-word tokenization

Split the words on statistically significant fragments.

How can we define a token?

"the	award	-	winning	actor	arrived	yesterday"
w_1	W_2	W_3	W_4	W_5	W_6	w_7

"turn	the	handle	counter	С	lock	wise"
w_1	W_2	W_3	W_4	W_5	W_6	w_7

Tokenization is an area of research in itself.

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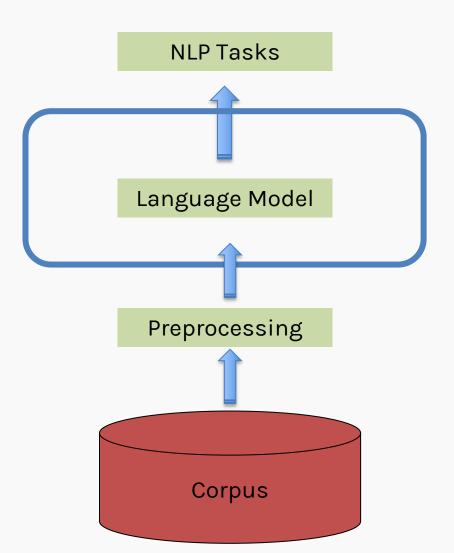
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Next step in the language modelling



Language Modelling: Formal Definition

We model any sequential data as follows:

This compounds for all subsequent events, too

$$P(x_1, ..., x_T) = \prod_{t=1}^{T} p(x_t | x_{t-1}, ..., x_1)$$

Joint distribution of all measurements

Conditional probability of an event, depends on all of the events that occurred before it.

If we want to know the probability of the the next on-screen Sesame Street character:



Remember that, when we evaluate a distribution, we mean

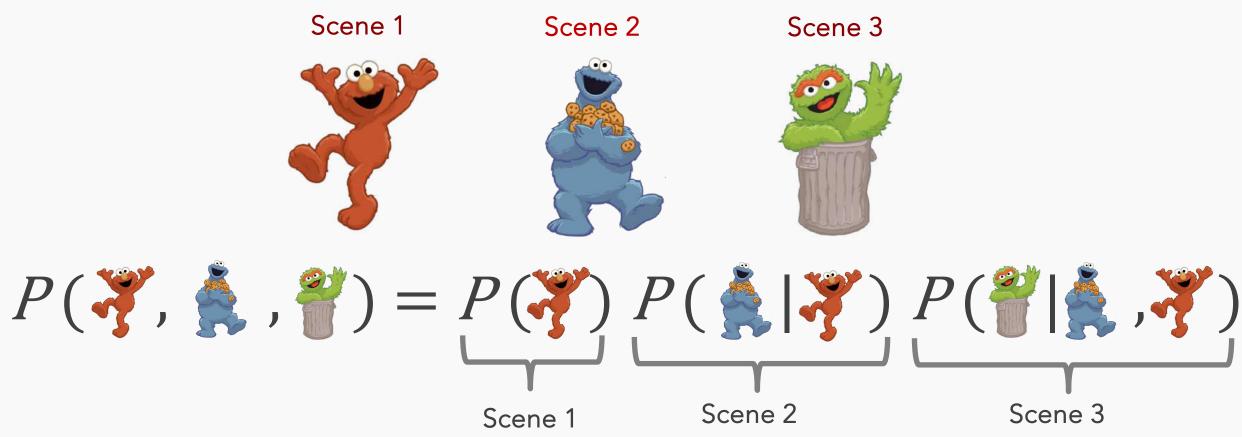
$$P(\mathcal{F}, \mathcal{F}) = P(\mathcal{F}) P(\mathcal{F})$$

The probability of the the next on-screen Sesame Street character can be computed as





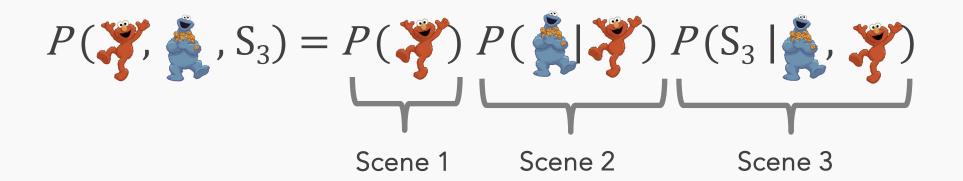
The probability of the the next on-screen Sesame Street character can be computed as



Why is it useful to accurately estimate the joint probability of any given sequence of length N?

Having learned a Language Model means that we know the behavior of the sequences.

If we have a sequence of length N, we can determine the most likely next event (i.e., sequence of length N+1)



Language Modeling as a sequence of events

A Language Model estimates the probability of any sequence of words

Let
$$X =$$
 "Shiv was late for class" $w_1 \ w_2 \ w_3 \ w_4 \ w_5$

P(X) = P("Shiv was late for class")

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PROTOPAPAS

How can we build a language model?

Naive Approach: Unigram model

Assume each word is independent of all others

Count how often each word occurs (in the training data).

```
Let X = "Pavlos loves giving surprise quizzes" w_1 w_2 w_3 w_4 w_5
```

Consider our corpus d has 100,000 words.

Word	Number of occurrences
Pavlos	15
loves	1,000
giving	400
surprise	3,000
quizzes	350

 n_{w_i} = number of times a word w_i appears in the corpus |W| = Total Number ofwords, 100000 (corpus size)

Let
$$X =$$
 "Pavlos loves giving surprise quizzes"

$$w_1$$

$$W_2$$

$$W_3$$

$$w_1 \quad w_2 \quad w_3 \quad w_4 \quad w_5$$

$$P(w_i) = \frac{n_{w_i}(d)}{|W|}$$

$$P(w_1) = P(Pavlos) = \frac{n_{w_1}(d)}{|W|} = \frac{15}{100,000} = 0.00015$$

Consider our corpus d has 100,000 words.

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 n_{w_i} = number of times a word w_i appears in the corpus |W| = Total Number ofwords, 100000 (corpus size)

Let
$$X =$$
 "Pavlos loves giving surprise quizzes"

 W_2 W_3 W_4

What is the dimension of $P(w_i)$?

$$P(w_i) = \frac{n_{w_i}(d)}{|W|}$$

$$P(w_2) = P(loves) = \frac{n_{w_2}(d)}{|W|} = \frac{1,000}{100,000} = 0.01$$

How can we build a language model?

Naive Approach: Unigram model

Assume each word is independent of all others

Let
$$X =$$
 "Pavlos loves giving surprise quizzes" w_1 w_2 w_3 w_4 w_5

You calculate and store each of these probabilities from the training corpus

$$P(X) = P(Pavlos) P(loves) P(giving) P(surprise) P(quizzes)$$

= 0.00015 * 0.01 * 0.004 * 0.03 * 0.0035
= 6.3x10⁻¹³

Context doesn't play a role at all

P("Pavlos loves giving surprise quizzes") = <math>P("quizzes loves giving surprise Pavlos")

Sequence generation: What's the most likely next word?

Pavlos loves giving surprise quizzes all ____

Pavlos loves giving surprise quizzes all the

Pavlos loves giving surprise quizzes all the the

Out of vocabulary words

$$P("hungry") = 0$$

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$$P("hungry") = 0$$

Solution: Additive Smoothing

$$P(\mathbf{w}) = \frac{n_{w}(d)}{|W|} = \frac{n_{w}(d) + \alpha}{|W| + \alpha |V|}$$

lpha values are usually small: 0.5 – 0.2

|V| is the number of unique words in the training corpus – vocabulary size – including an additional token for unknown words

Whenever a word w is not found in the vocabulary it is replaced with a token <UNK> representing unknown

Before Smoothing:

$$P("hungry") = 0$$

After Smoothing:

$$P("UNK") = \frac{\alpha}{|W| + \alpha |V|} > 0$$

Smoothing allows
probability of "UNK" token
to be non-zero enabling
the model to predict Out of
Vocabulary words.

Context doesn't play a role at all

P("Pavlos loves giving surprise quizzes") = <math>P("quizzes loves giving surprise Pavlos")

Sequence generation: What's the most likely next word?

Pavlos loves giving surprise quizzes all ____

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How can we build a language model that uses context?

Easiest Approach: bigram model

Look at *pairs* of consecutive words

Let
$$X =$$
"

Pavlos loves giving surprise quizzes "

 w_1 w_2 w_3 w_4 w_5

$$P(X) = P(|oves|Pav|os)$$

How can we build a language model that uses context?

Easiest Approach: bigram model

Look at *pairs* of consecutive words

$$P(X) = P(|oves|Pavlos) P(giving||oves)$$

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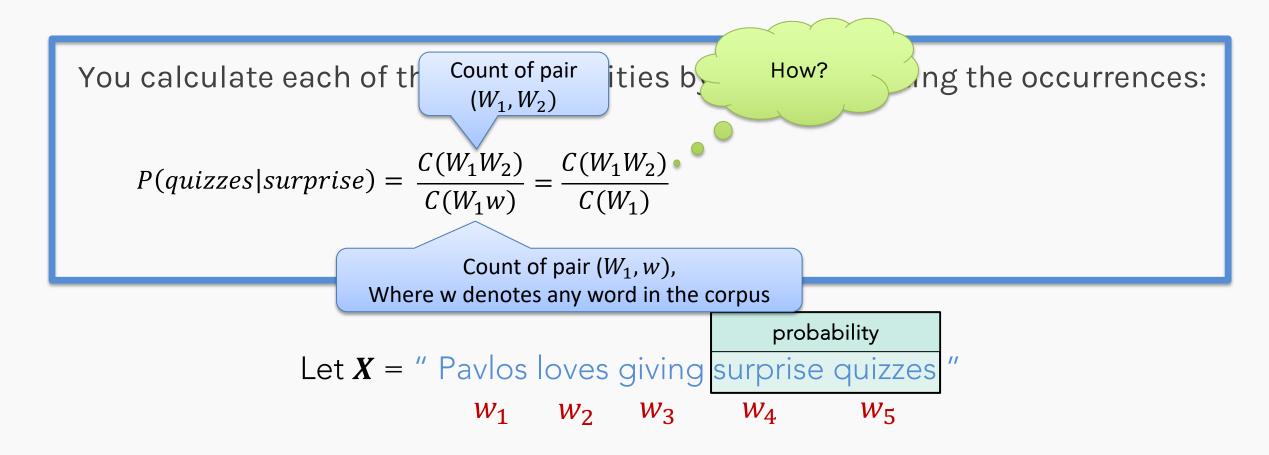
P(X) = P(|oves|Pavlos) P(giving||oves) P(surprise|giving) P(quizzes|surprise)

You calculate each of these probabilities by simply counting the occurrences:

$$P(quizzes|surprise) = \frac{C(W_1W_2)}{C(W_1w)}$$

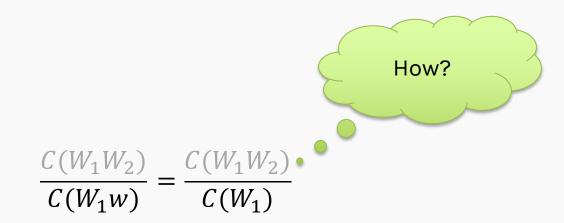
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PROTOPAPAS



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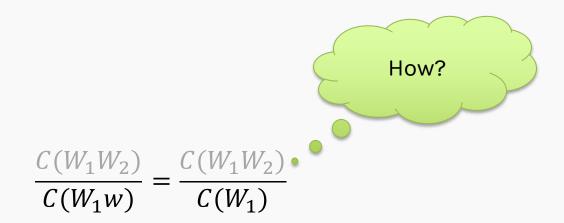
PROTOPAPAS



Let's suppose we have a sentence,

How much wood would a woodchuck chuck if a woodchuck could chuck wood?

Any word that comes after "woodchuck"



Let's suppose we have a sentence,

How much wood would a woodchuck chuck if a woodchuck could chuck wood?

C(woodchuck w) = 2 C(woodchuck) = 2

You calculate each of these probabilities by simply counting the occurrences:

$$P(quizzes|surprise) = \frac{C(W_1W_2)}{C(W_1w)} = \frac{C(W_1W_2)}{C(W_1)} = \frac{Total\ number\ of\ "surprise\ quizzes"}{Total\ number\ "surprise"}$$

P(X) = P(|oves|Pavlos) P(giving||oves) P(surprise|giving) P(quizzes|surprise)

PROTOPAPAS

- When a word is out-of-vocabulary, it's given a probability of 0, causing the whole sentence or sequence to also have a probability of 0
- More context (like trigrams, 4-grams) is often desired, but sparsity is a challenge due to infrequent subsequences.
- As we expand the window size for context, storage issues arise.
- Raw counts fail to convey deep semantic relationships, such as the similarity between 'vehicle' and 'car'.

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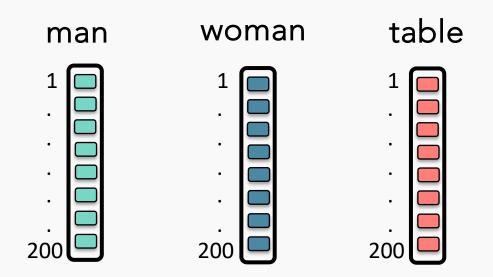
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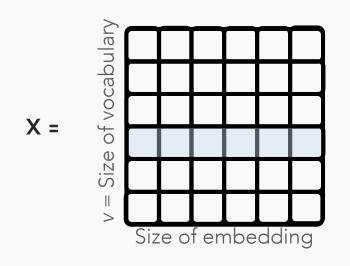
PROTOPAPAS

IDEA: Let's use a neural network!

First, each word is represented by a word embedding (e.g., vector of length 200)

Embedding matrix

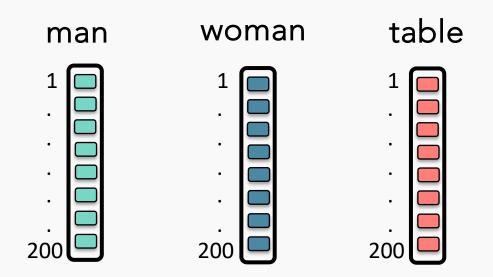


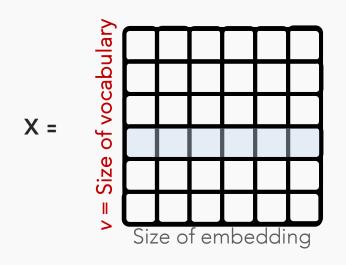


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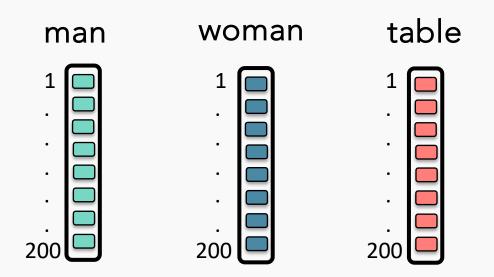


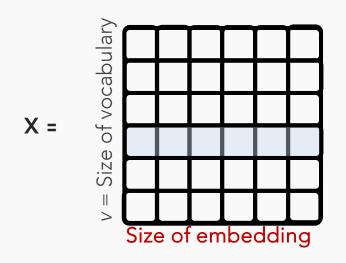


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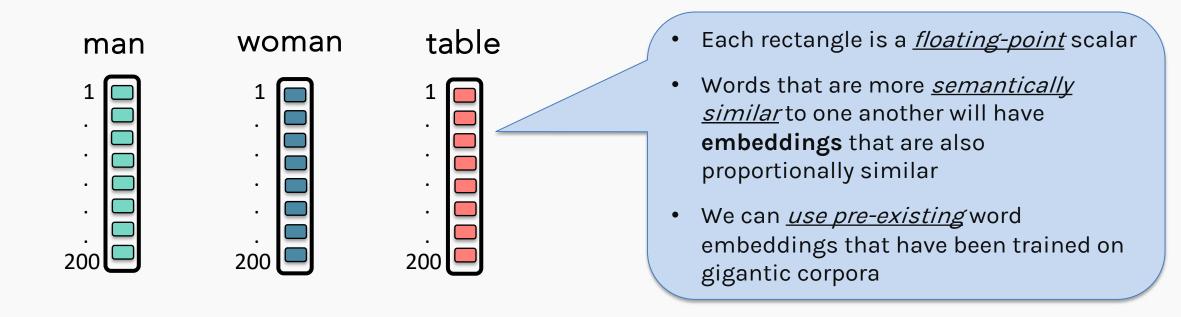
Embedding matrix





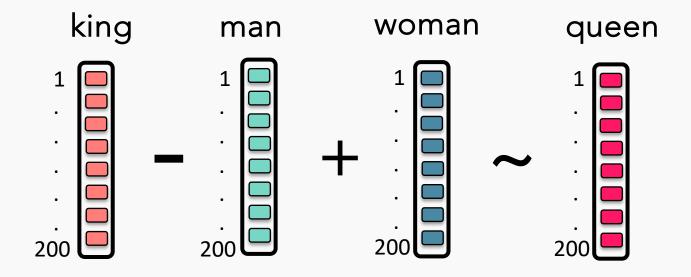
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Word Embeddings

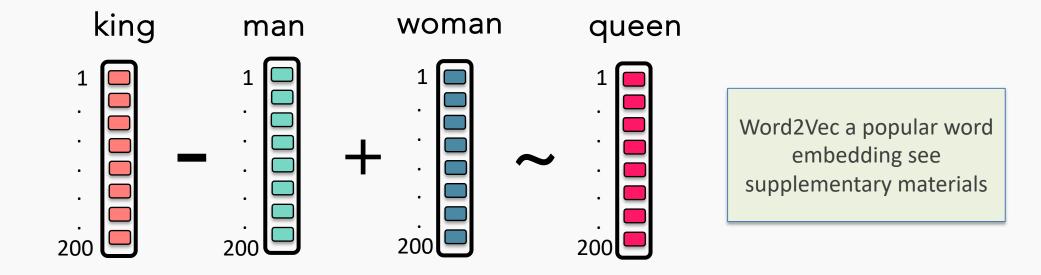
These word embeddings are so rich that you get nice properties:



Word2vec: https://papers.nips.cc/paper/5021-distributed-representations-of-words-and-phrases-and-their-compositionality.pdf
GloVe: https://www.aclweb.org/anthology/D14-1162.pdf

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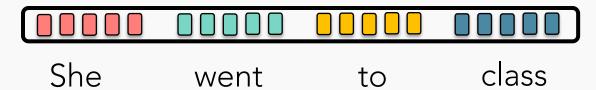
GloVe: https://www.aclweb.org/anthology/D14-1162.pdf

How can we use these embeddings to build a Language Model?

Remember, we only need a system that can estimate:

$$P(x_{t+1}|x_t, x_{t-1}, ..., x_1)$$
next word previous words

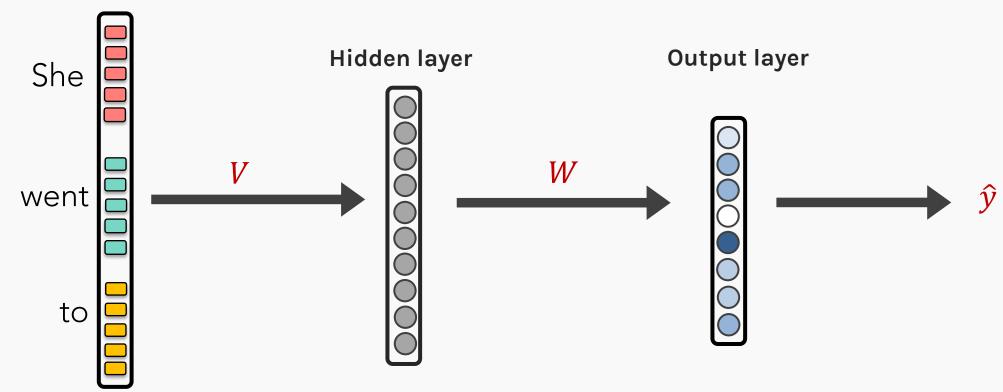
Example input sentence

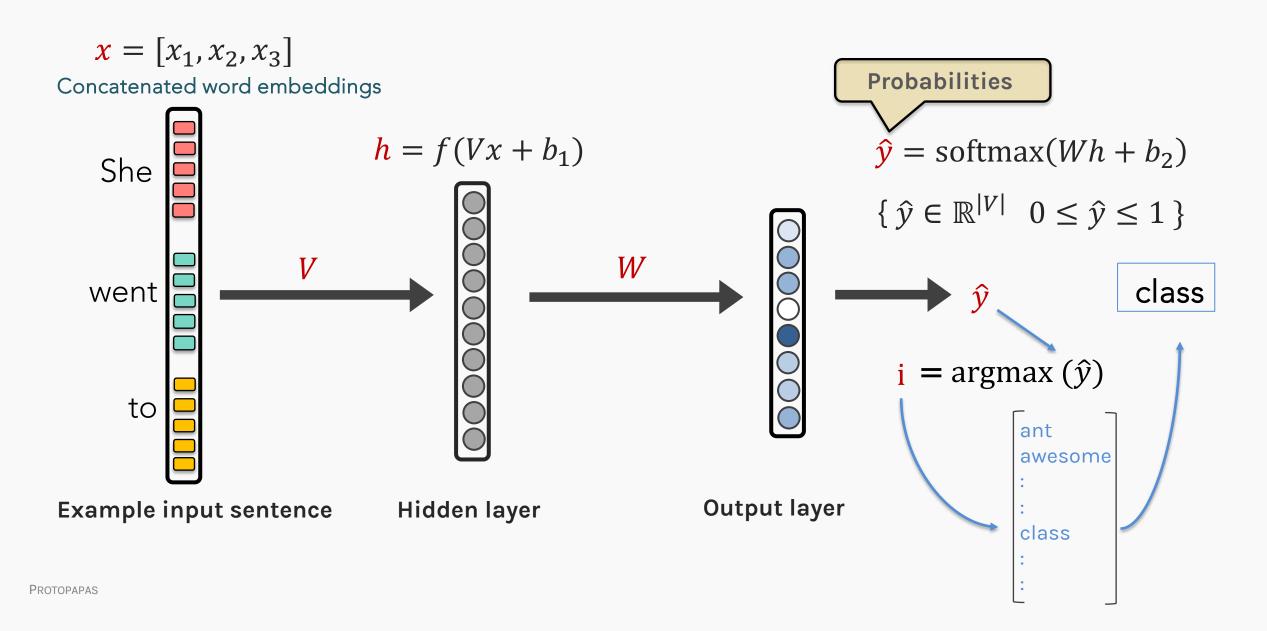


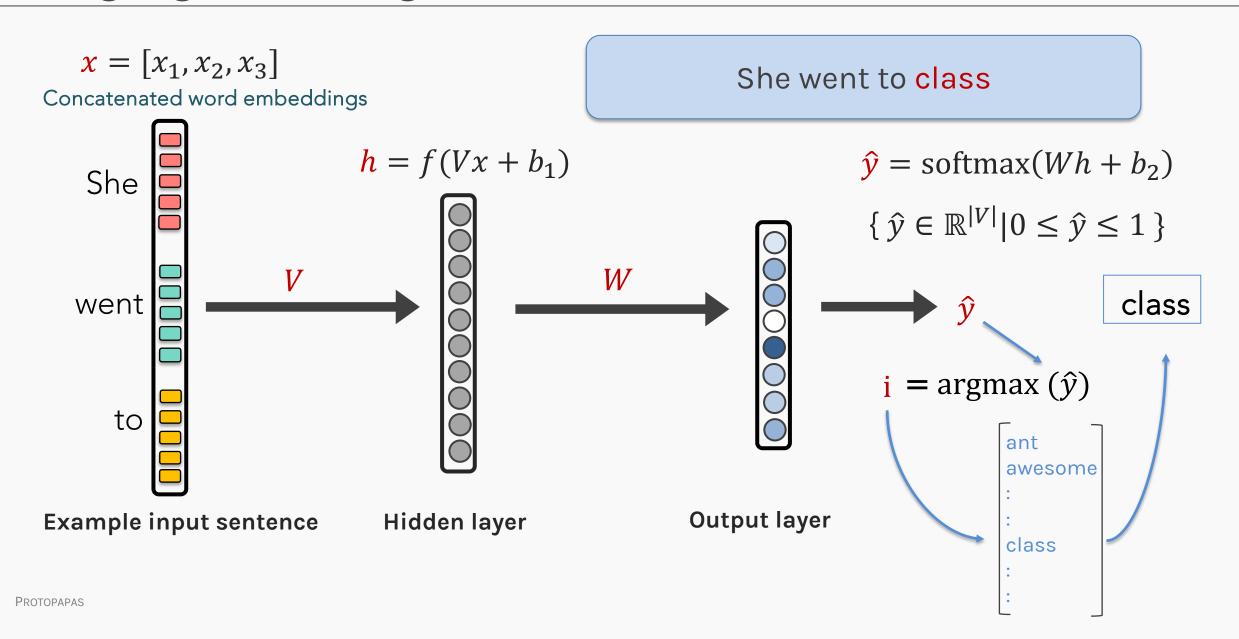
Neural Approach #1: Feed-forward neural net

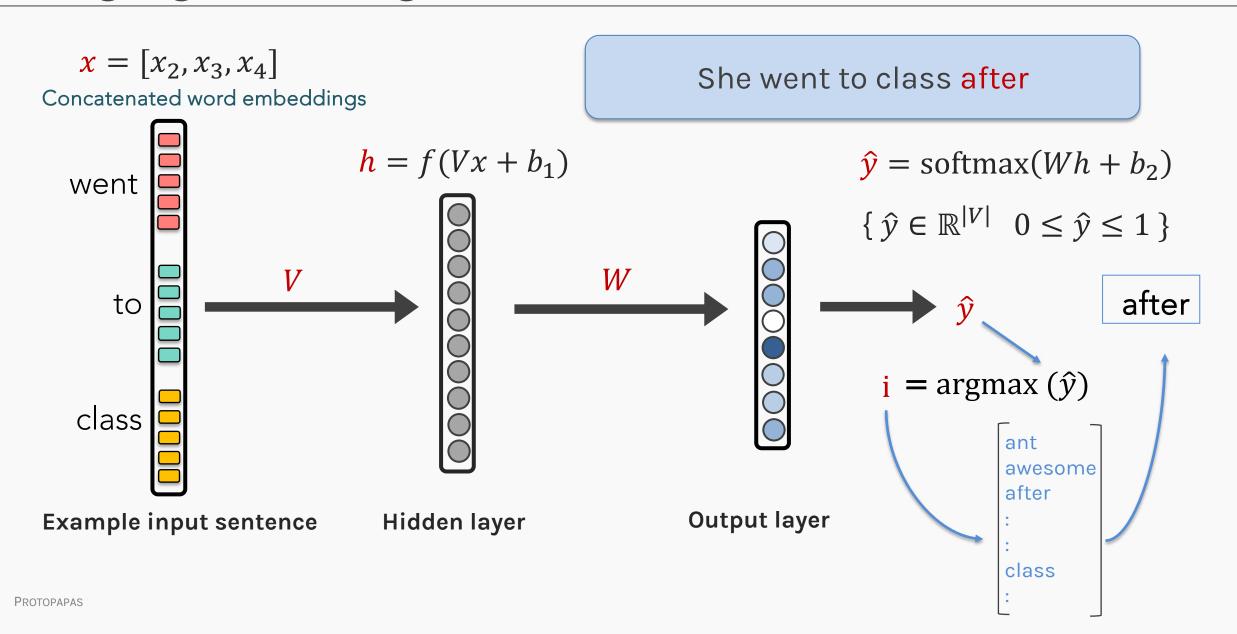
General Idea: using windows of words, predict the next word

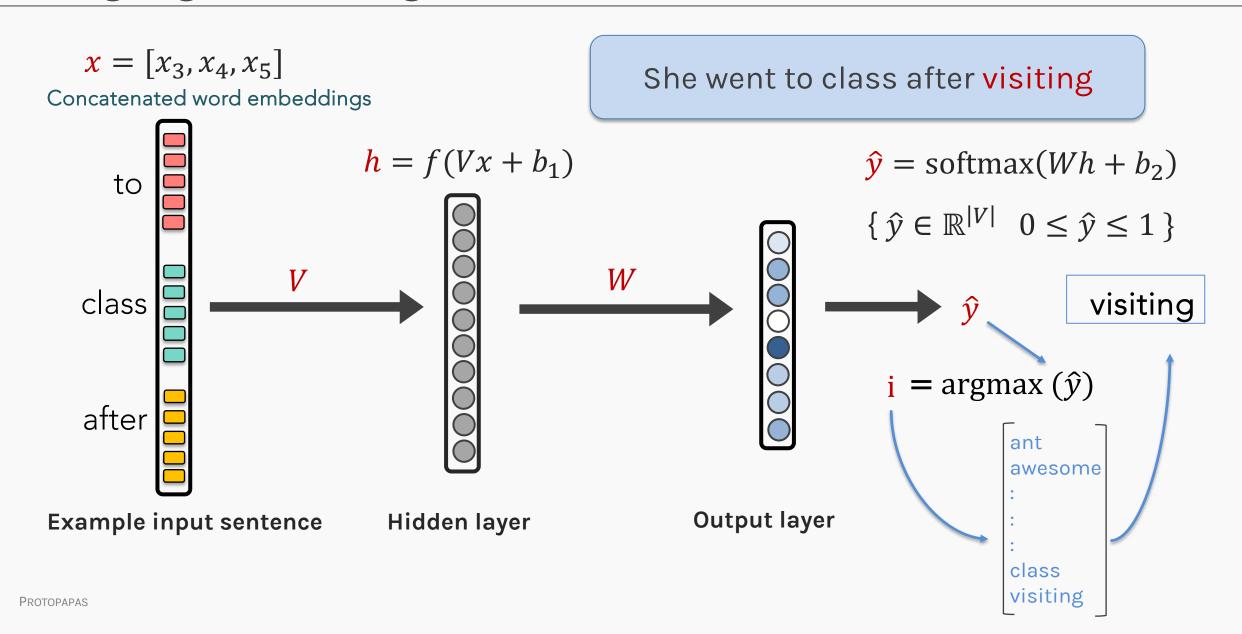
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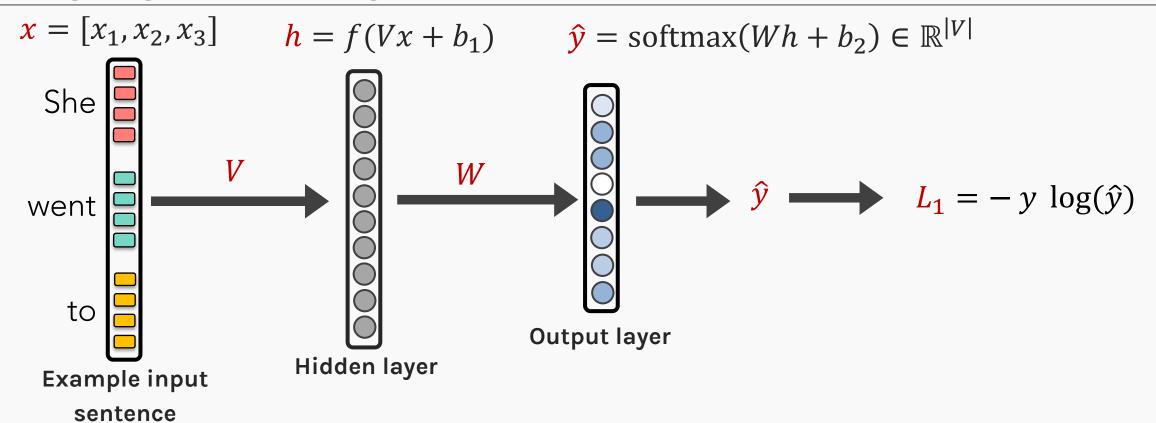


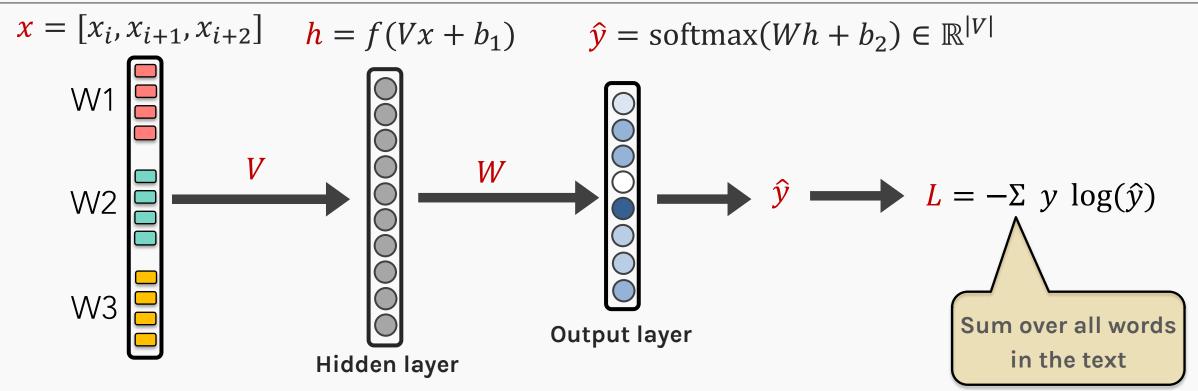












Back Propagation

$$V^* = V - \eta \nabla_V L$$

$$W^* = W - \eta \nabla_W L$$

Language Modelling: Feed-Forward Neural Network

FFNN Strength

- No sparsity issues (it's okay if we've never seen a word)
- No storage issues (we never store counts)

Language Modelling: Feed-Forward Neural Network

FFNN Strength

- No sparsity issues (it's okay if we've never seen a word)
- No storage issues (we never store counts)

FFNN Issues

- Fixed-window size can never be big enough. Need more context
 - Requires inputting entire context just to predict one word
 - Increasing window size adds many more weights
- The weights awkwardly handle word position
- No concept of time

Language Modelling

We especially need a system that:

- Has a concept of an "infinite" past, not just a fixed window
- For each new input, output the most likely next event (e.g., word)



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How can we evaluate a language model?

Base Approach: Transform everything into a classification problem.

During training, we predict a word in the vocabulary as a class.

How can we evaluate a language model?

Base Approach: Transform everything into a classification problem.

action : 0.01

yesterday: 0.25

P(x | the, award-winning, actor, arrived) = boston: 0.05 false: 0.01 today: 0.31

How can we evaluate a language model?

Formal Approach: Perplexity

Not your usual normalization

Perplexity, denoted as *PP*, is the inverse probability of a sentence in the test set "normalized" by the number of words.

It measures how confused or *perplexed* a model is against an unseen sample.

How can we evaluate a language model?

Formal Approach: Perplexity

Given a sentence of Nwords

$$S = (w_1, w_2, w_3, ..., w_N),$$

the language model gives us the probability of the sentence

$$P(w_1, w_2, w_3, ..., w_N).$$

How can we evaluate a language model?

Formal Approach: Perplexity

We define perplexity of a sentence as:

PP(S) = P(
$$w_1, w_2, w_3, ..., w_N$$
) $^{-\frac{1}{N}}$

How can we evaluate a language model?

Formal Approach: Perplexity PP(S) = $P(w_1, w_2, w_3, ..., w_N)^{-\frac{1}{N}}$

A higher probability for a sentence means lower perplexity.

A low perplexity score means that the model learned.

How can we evaluate a language model?

Formal Approach: Perplexity

If we have language model that predicts random words, the probability of each word is independent from the rest.

This means that

$$P(w_1, w_2, w_3, ..., w_N) = P(w_1)P(w_2)P(w_3)...P(w_N)$$

$$P(w_1, w_2, w_3, ..., w_N) = P(w_1)P(w_2)P(w_3)...P(w_N)$$

For a random language model, the probability of each word will be the same and equals to:

$$P(w_i) = \frac{1}{|Vocabulary|} = \frac{1}{V}$$

How can we evaluate a language model?

Formal Approach: Perplexity

$$P(w_i) = \frac{1}{|Vocabulary|} = \frac{1}{V}$$

The probability of the sentence is

$$P(w_1, w_2, w_3, ..., w_N) = P(w_1)P(w_2)P(w_3)...P(w_N)$$
$$= \frac{1}{v} \frac{1}{v} \frac{1}{v} ... \frac{1}{v} = \left(\frac{1}{v}\right)^N$$

How can we evaluate a language model?

Formal Approach: Perplexity

The perplexity of the sentence is

PP(S) = P(
$$w_1, w_2, w_3, ..., w_N$$
) $^{-\frac{1}{N}}$

How can we evaluate a language model?

Formal Approach: Perplexity

The perplexity of the sentence is

PP(S) = P(
$$w_1, w_2, w_3, ..., w_N$$
) $^{-\frac{1}{N}}$

$$= \left(\left(\frac{1}{V} \right)^N \right)^{-\frac{1}{N}}$$

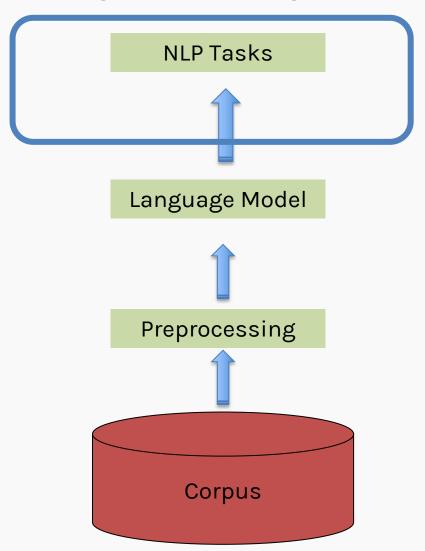
How can we evaluate a language model?

Formal Approach: Perplexity

The perplexity is equal to the size of the vocabulary.

$$PP(S) = \left(\left(\frac{1}{V}\right)^{N}\right)^{-\frac{1}{N}} = \left(\frac{1}{V}\right)^{-1} = V$$

We can perform various tasks using a language model like sentiment analysis, question answering, NER, among others.



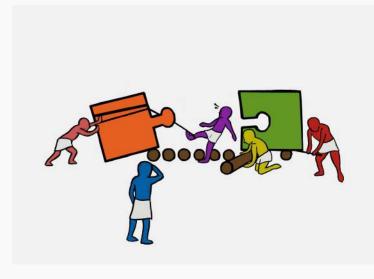
For more general language models, an entire ecosystem of benchmarks exists. They include a variety of different NLP tasks such as sentiment analysis, question answering, NER, among others.

BLEU: BiLingual Evaluation Understudy

SQuAD: Stanford Question Answering Dataset

MS MARCO: MAchine Reading COmprehension Dataset

GLUE and SuperGLUE: General Language Understanding Evaluation



Exercise: Text Classification

In this exercise, you will perform a classification task of sentiment analysis on the IMBD dataset.

Each review was labeled by a person, either positive or negative.

Your job is to define two sets of words that are likely to be present in positive and negative reviews.

Compare the number of positive vs. negative words to assign a class. Can you spot any inconsistencies?

THANK YOU