



University of Glasgow | School of
Computing Science

THE AWARDS
2020

UNIVERSITY
OF THE YEAR

Encodings Inspired from NLP

Dr. Fani Deligianni,

fani.deligianni@glasgow.ac.uk

Lecturer (Assistant Professor)

Lead of the Computing Technologies for Healthcare Theme

<https://www.gla.ac.uk/schools/computing/staff/fanideligianni>

WORLD
CHANGING
GLASGOW



NLP vs Processing of EHR

- Irregular sequence of words/EHR with relation to when they are generated
- Dependencies between words that are located close to each other
- Long-term dependencies are also present
- Representing the underline information in a consistent way to be processed via deep learning is challenging

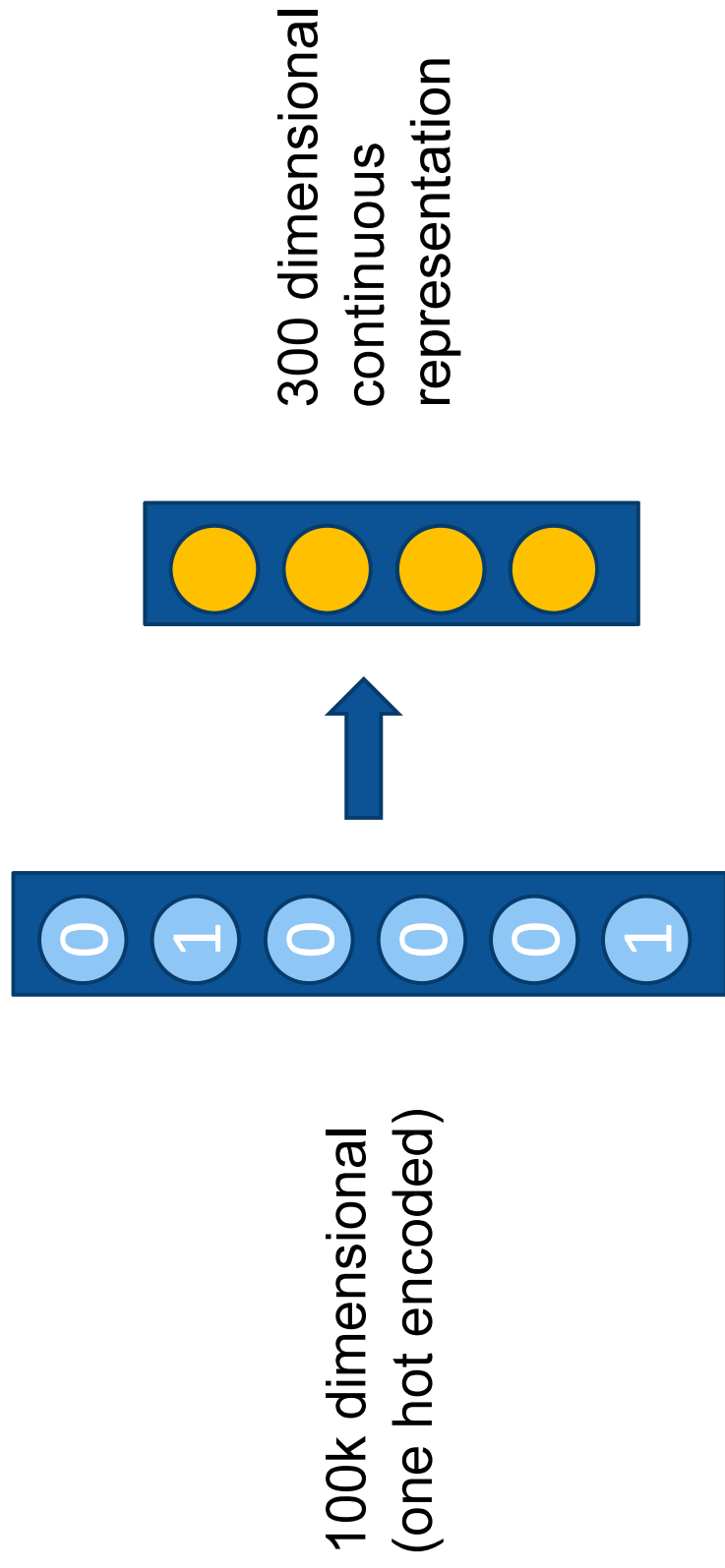


NLP Approaches

- Co-occurrence models measure the frequency of words occurring alongside
 - Capture global dependencies and context
 - Suffer from the curse of dimensionality
- Neural **embeddings**
 - Predictive models that capture local dependencies
 - Learn dense word representations from unstructured text data



Neural Embeddings



$$v(\textit{queen}) = v(\textit{king}) - v(\textit{man}) + v(\textit{woman})$$

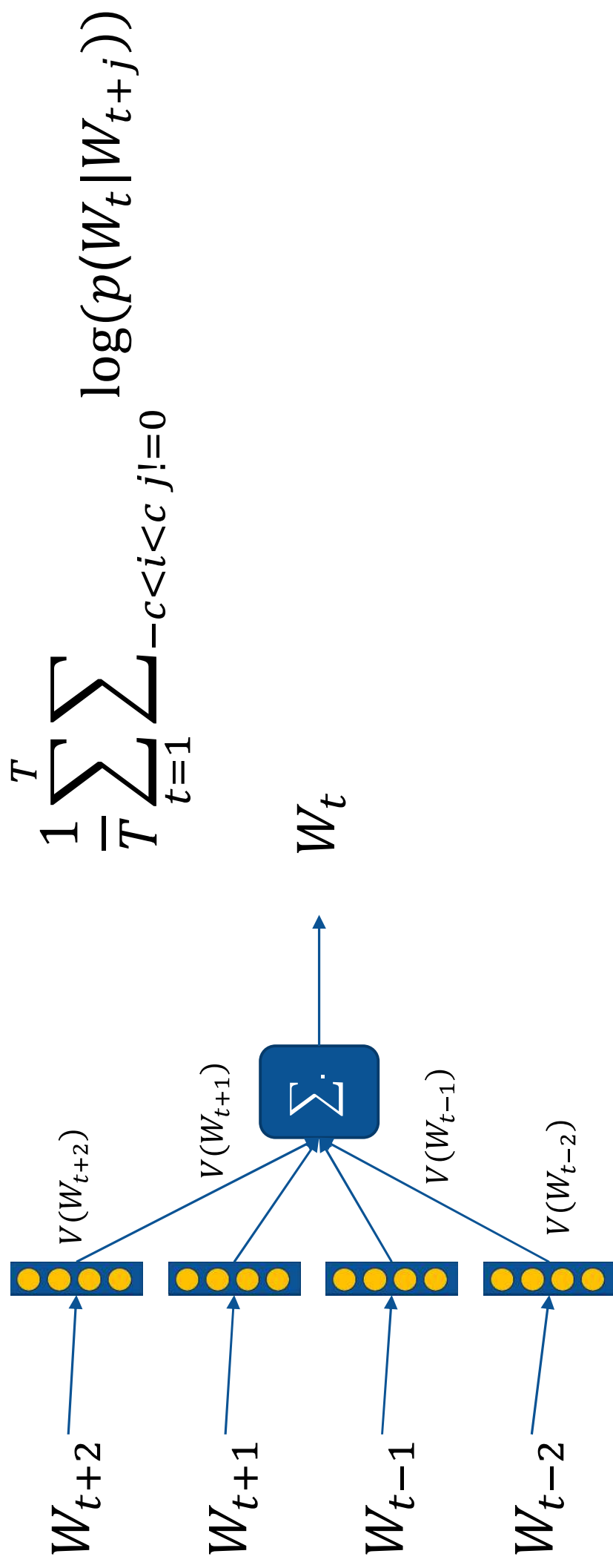


Common NLP Embeddings

- Word2vec models
 - Continuous bag-of-words
 - Skip-gram models
- Global and Vector (GloVe)



Word2vec Embeddings: Continuous bag-of-words

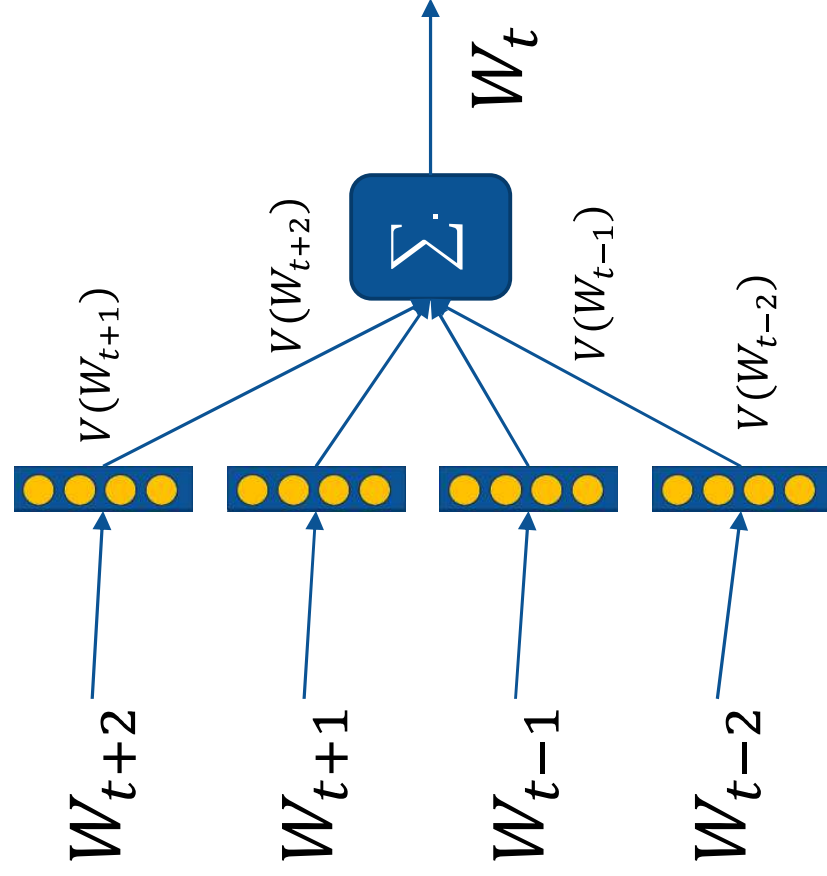


Continuous bag-of-words

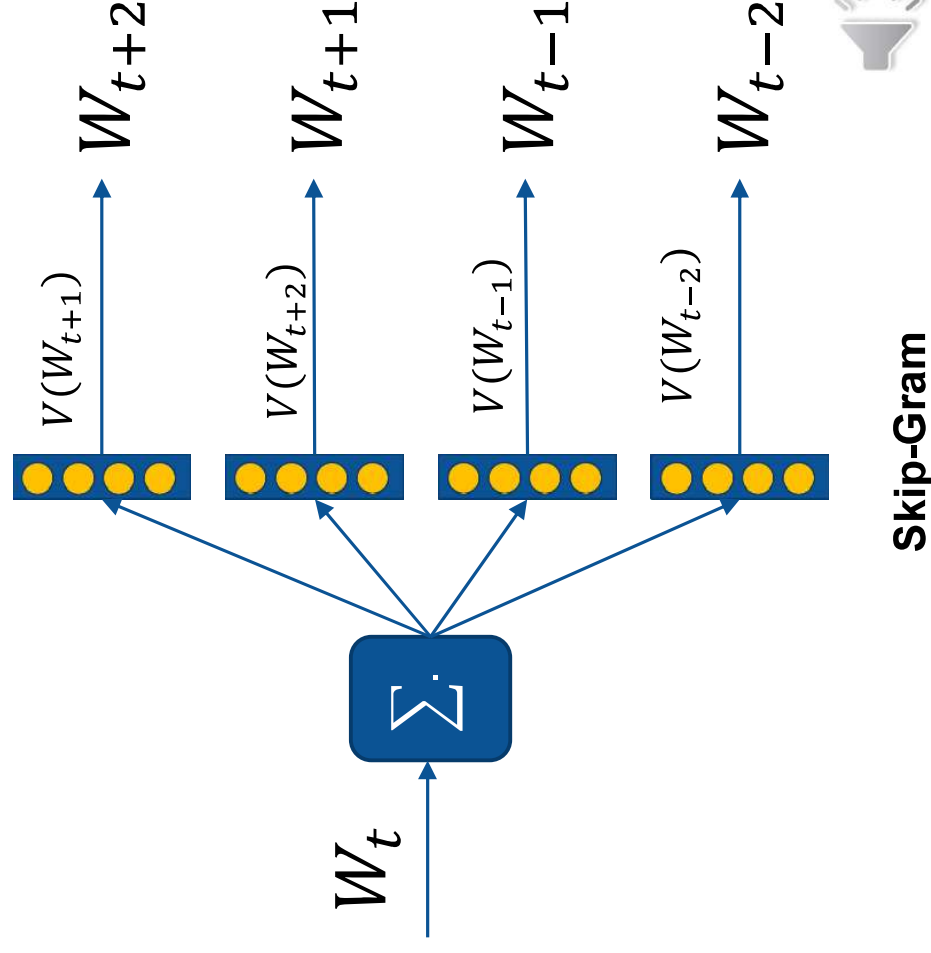
$$\frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{-c < i < c, i \neq 0} \log(p(W_t | W_{t+i}))$$



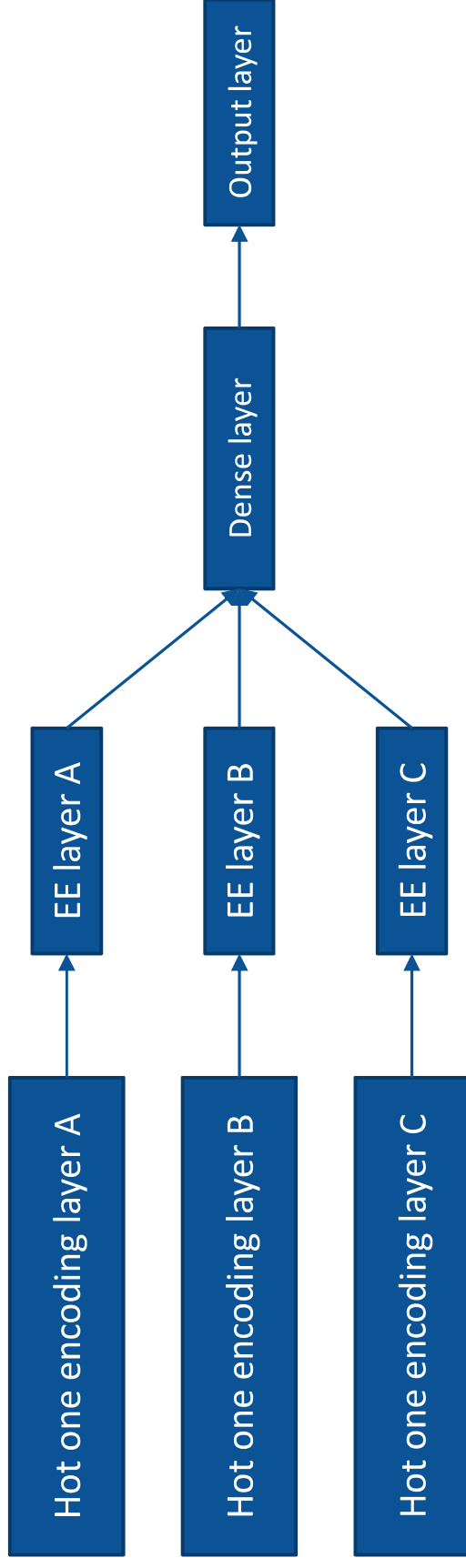
Word2vec Embeddings



Continuous bag-of-words



Entity Encoding



Entity Embeddings of Categorical Variables



Limitations of Word Embeddings

- Infrequent use of terms/words
- Antonymy
- Polysemy
- Biased Embeddings



Summary

- Neural embeddings can handle high dimensional data and improve performance
- Embeddings are powerful representations on capturing dependencies between words
- There is no systematic way on how these approach can be used in Electronic Health Records



References

- Kamath et al. 'Deep learning for NLP and Speech Recognition', Springer, 2019.
- Chen et al. 'Representation Learning for Electronic Health Records: A Survey', J. Phys Conf, 2020.