

# Adding semantic robustness to dialog agents

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# Problema de pesquisa

falar do que vou pesquisar

# Background

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# Neural network based language model

We call **language model** a probability distribution over sequences of tokens in a natural language.

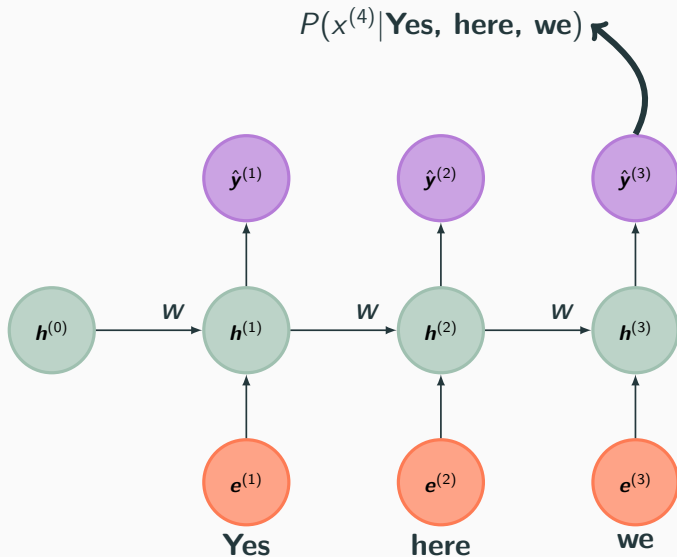
$$P(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4) = p \quad (1)$$

Since [8], we can use a **Recurrent Neural Network (RNN)** to estimate the probability distribution

$$P(x_n = \text{word}_{j^*} | x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}) \quad (2)$$

for any  $(n - 1)$ -sequence of words  $x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}$ .

# Neural network based language model



# GRU: Gated Recurrent Units

$$\tilde{\mathbf{h}}^{(t)} = \tanh(\mathbf{W}(\mathbf{h}^{(t-1)} \odot \mathbf{r}^{(t)}) + \mathbf{U}\mathbf{x}^{(t)} + \mathbf{b}) \quad (3)$$

where  $\mathbf{r}^{(t)}$  is a vector with values in  $[0, 1]$  called a *reset gate*, i.e., a vector that at each entry outputs the probability of resetting the corresponding entry in the previous hidden state  $\mathbf{h}^{(t-1)}$ . Together with  $\mathbf{r}^{(t)}$  we define an *update gate*,  $\mathbf{u}^{(t)}$ . It is also a vector with values in  $[0, 1]$ . Intuitively we can say that this vector decides how much on each dimension we will use the candidate update. Both  $\mathbf{r}^{(t)}$  and  $\mathbf{u}^{(t)}$  are defined by  $\mathbf{h}^{(t-1)}$  and  $\mathbf{x}^{(t)}$ ; they also have specific parameters:

$$\mathbf{r}^{(t)} = \sigma(\mathbf{W}_r \mathbf{h}^{(t-1)} + \mathbf{U}_r \mathbf{x}^{(t)} + \mathbf{b}_r) \quad (4)$$

$$\mathbf{u}^{(t)} = \sigma(\mathbf{W}_u \mathbf{h}^{(t-1)} + \mathbf{U}_u \mathbf{x}^{(t)} + \mathbf{b}_u) \quad (5)$$

At the end the new hidden state  $\mathbf{h}^{(t)}$  is defined by the recurrence:

# LSTM: Long Short Term Memory

$$\mathbf{f}^{(t)} = \sigma(\mathbf{W}_f \mathbf{h}^{(t-1)} + \mathbf{U}_f \mathbf{x}^{(t)} + \mathbf{b}_f) \quad (7)$$

$$\mathbf{i}^{(t)} = \sigma(\mathbf{W}_i \mathbf{h}^{(t-1)} + \mathbf{U}_i \mathbf{x}^{(t)} + \mathbf{b}_i) \quad (8)$$

$$\mathbf{o}^{(t)} = \sigma(\mathbf{W}_o \mathbf{h}^{(t-1)} + \mathbf{U}_o \mathbf{x}^{(t)} + \mathbf{b}_o) \quad (9)$$

Intuitively  $\mathbf{f}^{(t)}$  should control how much informative will be discarded,  $\mathbf{i}^{(t)}$  controls how much information will be updated, and  $\mathbf{o}^{(t)}$  controls how much each component should be outputted. A candidate cell,  $\tilde{\mathbf{c}}^{(t)}$  is formed:

$$\tilde{\mathbf{c}}^{(t)} = \tanh(\mathbf{W} \mathbf{h}^{(t-1)} + \mathbf{U} \mathbf{x}^{(t)} + \mathbf{b}) \quad (10)$$

And a new cell  $\mathbf{c}^{(t)}$  is formed by forgetting some information of the previous cell  $\tilde{\mathbf{c}}^{(t-1)}$  and by adding new values from  $\tilde{\mathbf{c}}^{(t)}$  (scaled by the

$$\mathbf{s} = f_{enc}(\mathbf{x}^{(n)}, \mathbf{h}^{(n-1)}) \quad (12)$$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{h}}^{(t)} = f_{dec}(\mathbf{y}^{(t)}, \tilde{\mathbf{h}}^{(t-1)}) \quad (13)$$

$$p(y_t | y_1, \dots, y_{t-1}, x_1, \dots, x_n) = \text{softmax}(\mathbf{W}_s \tilde{\mathbf{h}}^{(t)} + \mathbf{b}_s) \quad (14)$$



# Attention

We will use this matrix as an alignment matrix, i.e., at the end of the training  $\mathbf{a}_{ts}$  should reflect the probability of the source representation  $\mathbf{h}^{(s)}$  be relevant for the output  $\hat{y}^{(t)}$ . We define  $\mathbf{a}_{ts}$  as

$$\mathbf{a}_{ts} = \frac{\exp(\text{score}(\tilde{\mathbf{h}}_t, \mathbf{h}_s))}{\sum_j \exp(\text{score}(\tilde{\mathbf{h}}_t, \mathbf{h}_j))} \quad (15)$$

Where *score* is a content-based function that can have different implementations:

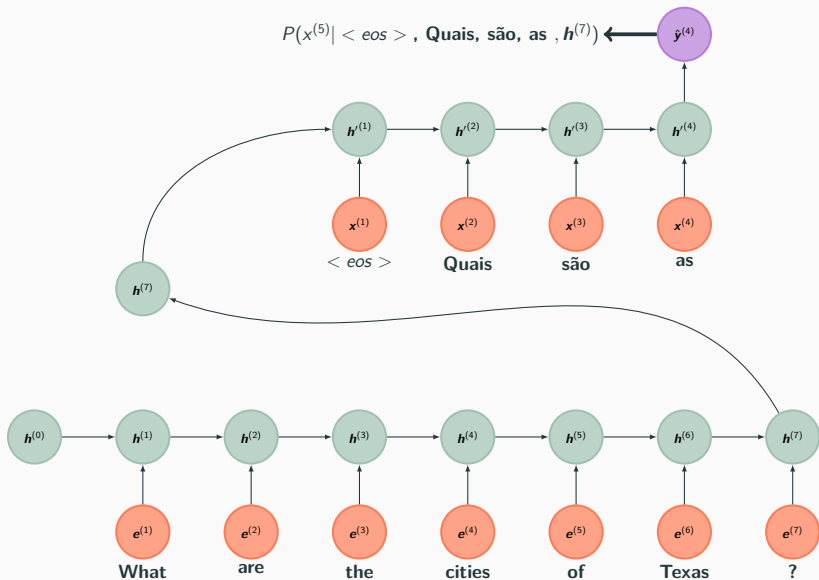
$$\text{score}(\tilde{\mathbf{h}}_t, \mathbf{h}_s) = \begin{cases} \tilde{\mathbf{h}}_t^\top \mathbf{h}_s \\ \tilde{\mathbf{h}}_t^\top \mathbf{W}_a \mathbf{h}_s \\ \mathbf{v}_a^\top \tanh(\mathbf{W}_a [\tilde{\mathbf{h}}_t; \mathbf{h}_s]) \end{cases} \quad (16)$$

At the end, a global context vector  $\mathbf{c}^{(t)}$  is computed as the weighted average, according to  $\mathbf{a}_t$  over all source states:

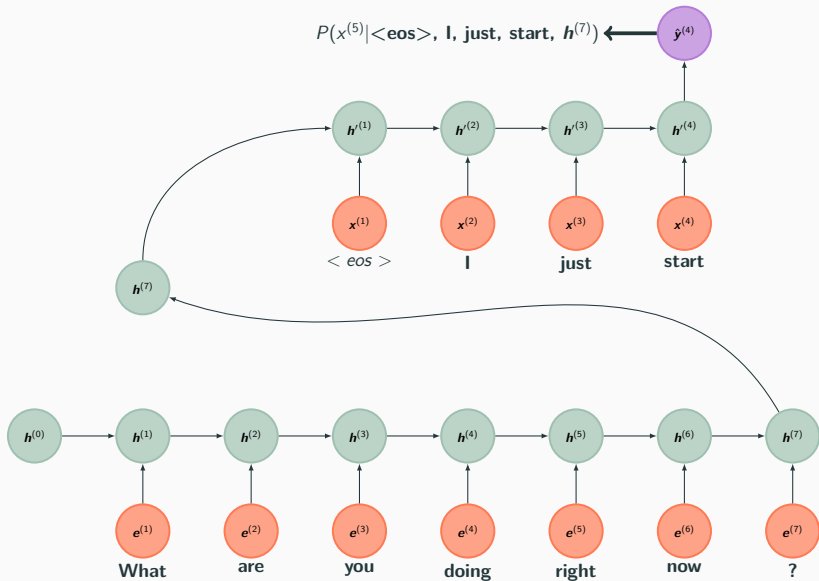
# Neural network based dialog systems

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# Seq2seq applied to translation



# Seq2seq applied to dialog [10]



# Modelo de memória

- $s_1, \dots, s_n$  sentenças de contexto
- $q$  pergunta
- $a$  resposta
- $\{s_i\} \rightarrow^A \{m_i\}$  (vetores de memória)
- $q \rightarrow^B u$  (estado interno)
- $\{p_i\} = \{\text{softmax}(u^T m_i)\}$  ("match" entre  $m_i$  e  $u$ )
- $\{s_i\} \rightarrow^C \{c_i\}$
- $o = \sum_i p_i c_i$
- $\hat{a} = \text{softmax}(W(o + u))$

## Podemos ter $k$ camadas e memória (hops)

- $\mathbf{u}^k = \mathbf{u}^{k-1} + \mathbf{o}^{k-1}$
- $\{\mathbf{s}_i^k\} \rightarrow^{\text{vect}A^k} \{\mathbf{m}_i^k\}$
- $\{\mathbf{s}_i^k\} \rightarrow^{\text{vect}C^k} \{\mathbf{c}_i^k\}$
- $\{p_i^k\} = \{\text{softmax}(\mathbf{u}^{k\top} \mathbf{m}_i^k)\}$
- $\mathbf{o}^k = \sum_i p_i^k \mathbf{c}_i^k$
- $\hat{\mathbf{a}} = \text{softmax}(\mathbf{W}(\mathbf{o}^k + \mathbf{u}^k))$

The memory model is defined by  $k$  memory layers, each layer is composed of the following parts:

- $\{\mathbf{m}_i^k\}$  is an  $n$ -sequence of *memory vectors*. Where  $i = 1, \dots, n$  and  $\mathbf{m}_i^k = \sum_j \mathbf{A}^k x_{i,j}$ .
- $\mathbf{u}^k$  is the *input vector*, where

$$\mathbf{u}^k = \begin{cases} \sum_j \mathbf{B}^k w_j & \text{if } k = 1, \\ \mathbf{u}^{k-1} + \mathbf{o}^{k-1} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (18)$$

- $\mathbf{p}^k \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is the *match* between the input vector  $\mathbf{u}^k$  and each memory vector  $\mathbf{m}_i^k$ .  $\mathbf{p}^k$  is defined as

$$\mathbf{p}_i^k = \text{softmax}(\mathbf{u}^k{}^\top \mathbf{m}_i^k) \quad (19)$$

- $\{\mathbf{c}_i^k\}$  is another representation of the context  $U_1, \dots, U_n$  defined by another embedding matrix  $\mathbf{C}$ , i.e.,  $\mathbf{c}_i^k = \sum_j \mathbf{C}^k x_{i,j}$ .
- $\mathbf{o}^k$  is the memory layer's *output*. It is a sum over the transformed

## How to evaluate dialogs?

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# Human evaluation [6]

In the first trial, we asked the following questions to the users, for each response:

1. How appropriate is the response overall? (overall, scale of 1-5)
2. How on-topic is the response? (topicality, scale of 1-5)
3. How specific is the response to some context? (specificity, scale of 1-5)
4. How much background information is required to understand the context? (background, scale of 1-5)

1. **Adequacy**: the meaning equivalence between the generated and control sentence.
2. **Fluency**: the syntactic correctness of the generated sequence.
3. **Readability**: efficacy of the generated sentence in a particular context.

## BLEU (bilingual evaluation understudy) [9]

$$P_n = \frac{\text{number of } n\text{-grams in both } \hat{y} \text{ and } y}{\text{number of } n\text{-grams appearing in } \hat{y}} \quad (21)$$

$$BP = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \text{len}(\hat{y}) > \text{len}(y) \\ \exp\left(1 - \frac{\text{len}(y)}{\text{len}(\hat{y})}\right) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (22)$$

$$BLEU = BP \exp\left(\frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N \log P_n\right) \quad (23)$$

# METEOR (Metric for Evaluation of Translation with Explicit ORdering) [?]

$$P = \frac{\text{number of unigrams in both } \hat{y} \text{ and } y}{\text{number of unigrams appearing in } \hat{y}} \quad (24)$$

$$R = \frac{\text{number of unigrams in both } \hat{y} \text{ and } y}{\text{number of unigrams appearing in } y} \quad (25)$$

$$F_{mean} = \frac{10PR}{R + 9P} \quad (26)$$

$$METEOR = F_{mean}(1 - \text{penalty}) \quad (27)$$

# ROUGE (Recall Oriented Understudy for Gisting Evaluation) [?]

$$P_{lcs} = \frac{lcs(\hat{y}, y)}{len(\hat{y})} \quad (28)$$

$$R_{lcs} = \frac{lcs(\hat{y}, y)}{len(y)} \quad (29)$$

$$ROUGE_L = \frac{(1 + \beta^2)P_{lcs}R_{lcs}}{R_{lcs} + \beta^2 P_{lcs}} \quad (30)$$

where  $\beta$  is usually set to favour recall ( $\beta = 1.2$ ).

## Problems [5]

metric	Spearman	$p$ -value	Pearson	$p$ -value
BLEU	0.34	$< 0.01$	0.14	0.17
METEOR	0.19	0.06	0.19	0.05
ROUGE	0.12	0.22	0.1	0.34

**Table 1:** Correlation between automatic metrics and human judgments based on dialog generated on Twitter

metric	Spearman	$p$ -value	Pearson	$p$ -value
BLEU	0.12	0.23	0.11	0.26
METEOR	0.06	0.53	0.14	0.16
ROUGE	0.05	0.59	0.06	0.53

**Table 2:** Correlation between automatic metrics and human judgments based on dialog generated on Ubuntu

## Creating simplified tasks as tests

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One solution is to create a set of QA synthetic tasks to test different capabilities of a dialog agent.

## Task 1: Single Supporting Fact

Mary went to the bathroom.  
John moved to the hallway.  
Mary travelled to the office.  
Where is Mary? A:office

## Task 2: Two Supporting Facts

John is in the playground.  
John picked up the football.  
Bob went to the kitchen.  
Where is the football? A:playground

## Task 3: Three Supporting Facts

John picked up the apple.  
John went to the office.  
John went to the kitchen.  
John dropped the apple.  
Where was the apple before the kitchen? A:office

## Task 4: Two Argument Relations

The office is north of the bedroom.  
The bedroom is north of the bathroom.  
The kitchen is west of the garden.  
What is north of the bedroom? A: office  
What is the bedroom north of? A: bathroom

## Task 5: Three Argument Relations

Mary gave the cake to Fred.  
Fred gave the cake to Bill.  
Jeff was given the milk by Bill.  
Who gave the cake to Fred? A: Mary  
Who did Fred give the cake to? A: Bill

## Task 6: Yes/No Questions

John moved to the playground.  
Daniel went to the bathroom.  
John went back to the hallway.  
Is John in the playground? A:no  
Is Daniel in the bathroom? A:yes



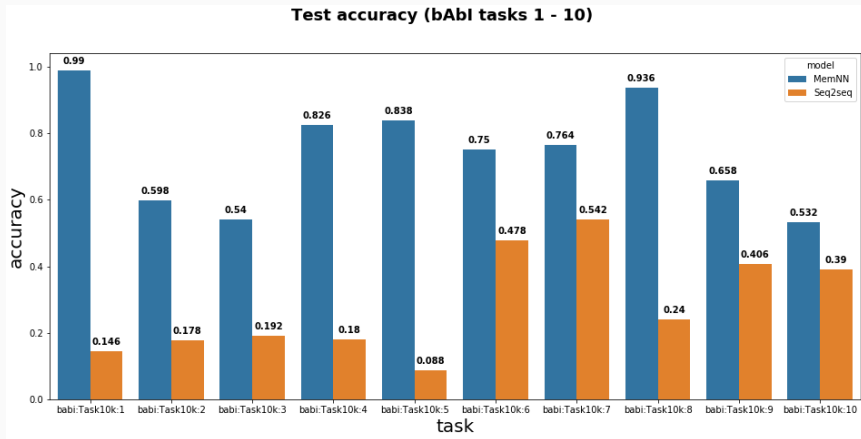
"ParlAI (pronounced 'par-lay') is a framework for dialog AI research, implemented in Python.

Its goal is to provide researchers:

- a unified framework for sharing, training and testing dialog models
- many popular datasets available all in one place, with the ability to multi-task over them
- seamless integration of Amazon Mechanical Turk for data collection and human evaluation"

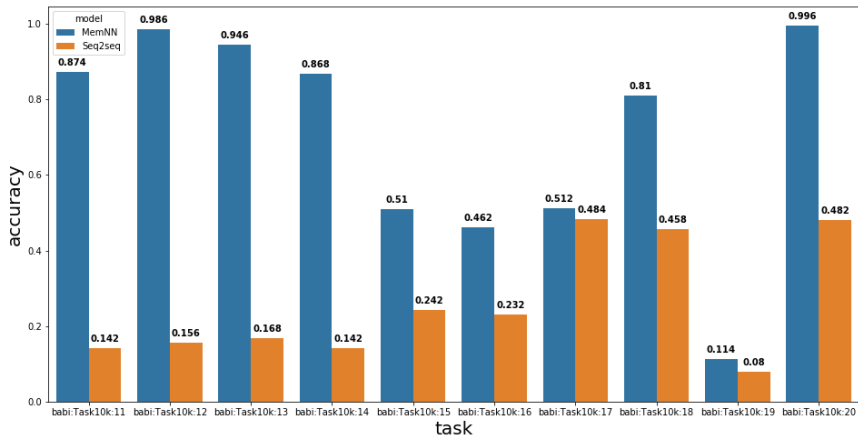


# Sanity check experiments



# Sanity check experiments

Test accuracy (bAbI tasks 11 - 20)



# Entailment-QA

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## Basic Deduction

**Task 15: Basic Deduction**

Sheep are afraid of wolves.

Cats are afraid of dogs.

Mice are afraid of cats.

Gertrude is a sheep.

What is Gertrude afraid of? **A: wolves**

$P^1$  are afraid of  $Q^1$

$P^2$  are afraid of  $Q^2$

$P^3$  are afraid of  $Q^3$

$P^4$  are afraid of  $Q^4$

$c^1$  is a  $P^1$

$c^2$  is a  $P^2$

$c^3$  is a  $P^3$

$c^4$  is a  $P^4$

What is  $c^j$  afraid of? **A:  $Q^j$**

## Basic Induction

### Task 16: Basic Induction

Lily is a swan.

Lily is white.

Bernhard is green.

Greg is a swan.

What color is Greg? A: white

$c^1$  is a  $P^1$

$c^1$  is  $C^1$

$c^2$  is a  $P^2$

$c^2$  is  $C^2$

$c^3$  is a  $P^3$

$c^3$  is  $C^3$

$c^4$  is a  $P^4$

$c^4$  is  $C^4$

$c$  is a  $P^j$

What color is  $c$ ? A:  $C^j$

1. **Boolean Connectives**
2. **First-Order Quantifiers**
3. **Synonymy**
4. **Antinomy**
5. **Hypernymy**
6. **Active/Passive voice**

# Entailment-QA: task 1

- **Entailment** ( $s_1$  implies  $s_2$ )
  - $\underbrace{P^1 a^1 \wedge \dots \wedge P^n a^n}_{s_1}, \underbrace{P^j a^j}_{s_2}$
  - $\underbrace{P^j a^j}_{s_1}, \underbrace{P^1 a^1 \vee \dots \vee P^n a^n}_{s_2}$
  - $\underbrace{Pa}_{s_1}, \underbrace{\neg\neg Pa}_{s_2}$
- **Not entailment** ( $s_1$  does not imply  $s_2$ )
  - $\underbrace{P^j a^j}_{s_1}, \underbrace{P^1 a^1 \wedge \dots \wedge P^n a^n}_{s_2}$
  - $\underbrace{P^1 a^1 \vee \dots \vee P^n a^n}_{s_1}, \underbrace{P^j a^j}_{s_2}$
  - $\underbrace{Pa}_{s_1}, \underbrace{\neg Pa}_{s_2}$

## Entailment-QA: task 1

Ashley is fit

Ashley is not fit

The first sentence implies the second sentence? A: no

Avery is nice and Avery is obedient

Avery is nice

The first sentence implies the second sentence? A: yes

Elbert is handsome or Elbert is long

Elbert is handsome

The first sentence implies the second sentence? A: no



# Entailment-QA: task 2

- Entailment

- $\forall xPx, Pa$
- $Pa, \exists xPx$

- Contradiction

- $\forall xPx, \neg Pa$
- $\forall xPx, \exists x\neg Px$

- Neutral

- $Pa, Qa$
- $\forall xPx, \neg Qa$

## Entailment-QA: task 2

Every person is lively

Belden is lively

What is the semantic relation? A: entailment

Every person is short

There is one person that is not short

What is the semantic relation? A: contradiction

Every person is beautiful

Abilene is not blue

What is the semantic relation? A: neutral

## SICK (Sentences Involving Compositional Knowledge) [7]

Relatedness score	Example
1.6	A: "A man is jumping into an empty pool" B: "There is no biker jumping in the air"
2.9	A: "Two children are lying in the snow and are making snow angels" B: "Two angels are making snow on the lying children"
3.6	A: "The young boys are playing outdoors and the man is smiling nearby" B: "There is no boy playing outdoors and there is no man smiling"
4.9	A: "A person in a black jacket is doing tricks on a motorbike" B: "A man in a black jacket is doing tricks on a motorbike"

Table 1: Examples of sentence pairs with their gold relatedness scores (on a 5-point rating scale).

Entailment label	Example
ENTAILMENT	A: "Two teams are competing in a football match" B: "Two groups of people are playing football"
CONTRADICTION	A: "The brown horse is near a red barrel at the rodeo" B: "The brown horse is far from a red barrel at the rodeo"
NEUTRAL	A: "A man in a black jacket is doing tricks on a motorbike" B: "A person is riding the bicycle on one wheel"

Table 2: Examples of sentence pairs with their gold entailment labels.

## Entailment-QA: task proxy

There is no dog leaping in the air

A dog is leaping high in the air and another is watching

What is the semantic relation? A: contradiction

A man is exercising

A baby is laughing

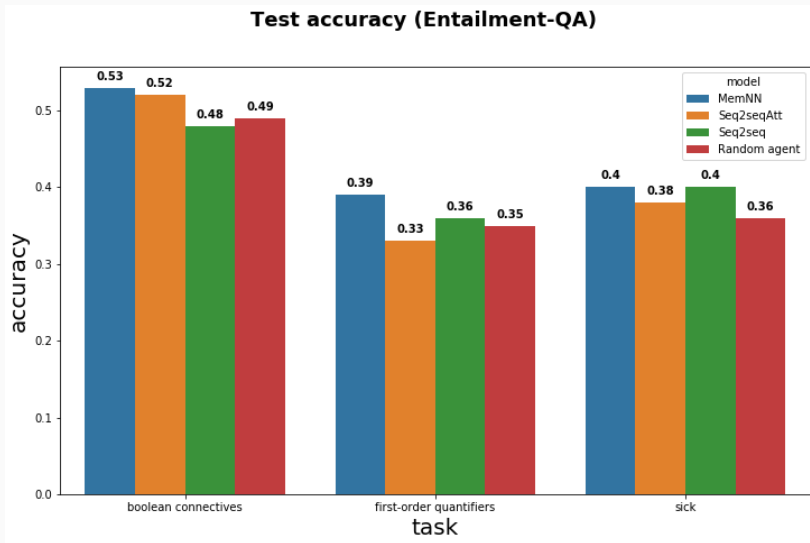
What is the semantic relation? A: neutral

Some dogs are playing in a river

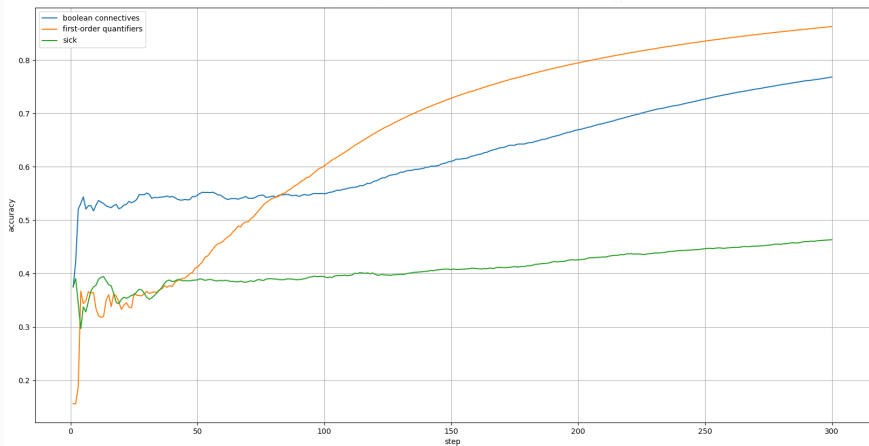
Some dogs are playing in a stream

What is the semantic relation? A: entailment

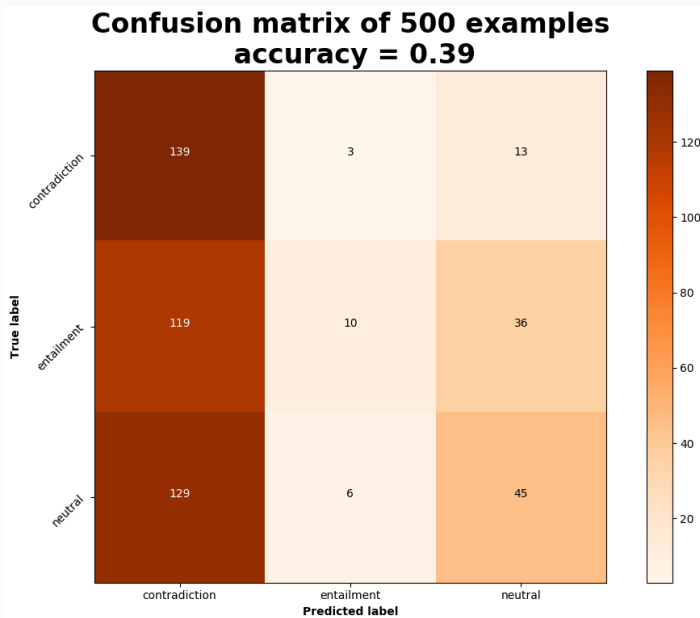
# Preliminary Results



# Preliminary Results



# Preliminary Results



## Future Steps

- Apply regularization strategies on the available models to overcome the reported overfitting problem.
- Finish the Entailment-QA corpus to have a fine grain analysis of the result that we are seeing on the SICK corpus.
- Explore the different extensions for all mentioned models.
- Explore new models not mentioned here, like Dynamic Memory Networks [3] and the models using the Memory Attention and Composition (MAC) cell [2].
- Create a visual version of the Entailment-QA to test logical inference with images.
- There is a different literature that frames the dialog problem as an MDP (Markovian Decision Process) and a POMDP (Partially Observable Markovian Decision Process) applying different techniques of reinforcement learning (a recent example is [4]). It is fruitful to investigate if these techniques can help our research.
- One of the main focused here is model comparison. It would be fruitful if we could use the available literature on the theory of



# Schedule

Activity	2016		2017		2018		2019		2020
	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	1st	2nd	1st
Courses									
Teaching Assist. (PAE)									
Bibliographic Review									
Software Implementation									
Qualification Writing									
Qualification Exam									
Finishing Entailment-QA task									
Visual Entailment-QA task									
Improve Training									
Adding new models									
Reinforcement Learning Methods									
Model Comparison Theory									
Thesis Writing									
Thesis Defense									



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