
Event Causality Detection using NLP techniques

Project Spring 2022

— **Supervisor(s):** Raphaël Troncy, Pasquale Lisena —

27 June 2022

EVENT DETECTION

- Detecting events and their relationships has become a crucial part of natural language processing.
- It has endless applications in the information research field while still being a highly challenging task.
- An event can be defined as something that happened. It can have many questions associated with it, for instance, when, where, how, by whom, etc.
- The idea of event detection is to identify the events and their relationships in unstructured data.

Introduction

Relationship Extraction \subset Information Extraction

- Event : a course of action (expressed in natural language)
- Relation: connection within words (given the event)
- Types of semantic relations: Causal and Temporal

Example: Causal Relation

Event is Causal when there is an associated effect.

“Indian Ocean earthquake triggered a series of devastating tsunamis”

- **Information Extraction:** Identification of entities and relationship among them.
Indian Ocean, earthquake, trigger, series, devastating, tsunamis
- **Relationship Extraction:** Classification of the relation and relation entity
Cause-Effect, earthquake-tsunami

Example: Temporal Relation

Events are Temporal when they are related to time.

“I ate my food and then washed my hands.”

- **Information Extraction:** ate, food, wash, hands
- **Temporal Extraction:** Event occur in a sequence,
Eating of food happens before washing of hands

Pre-Existing Approaches and Issues

Relationship Extraction:

1. **Rule Based** (Non-Statistical) :

- Manual Work to construct pattern
- Low recall and precision

2. **ML Based** (Statistical) :

- rely on a large amount of labeled data
- Requires sophisticated feature engineering
- Require external NLP toolkits (error-prone)
- Impractical for casual relation extraction due to linguistic complexities.

**Proposed solution:
KNN and CATENA**

Sentence representation

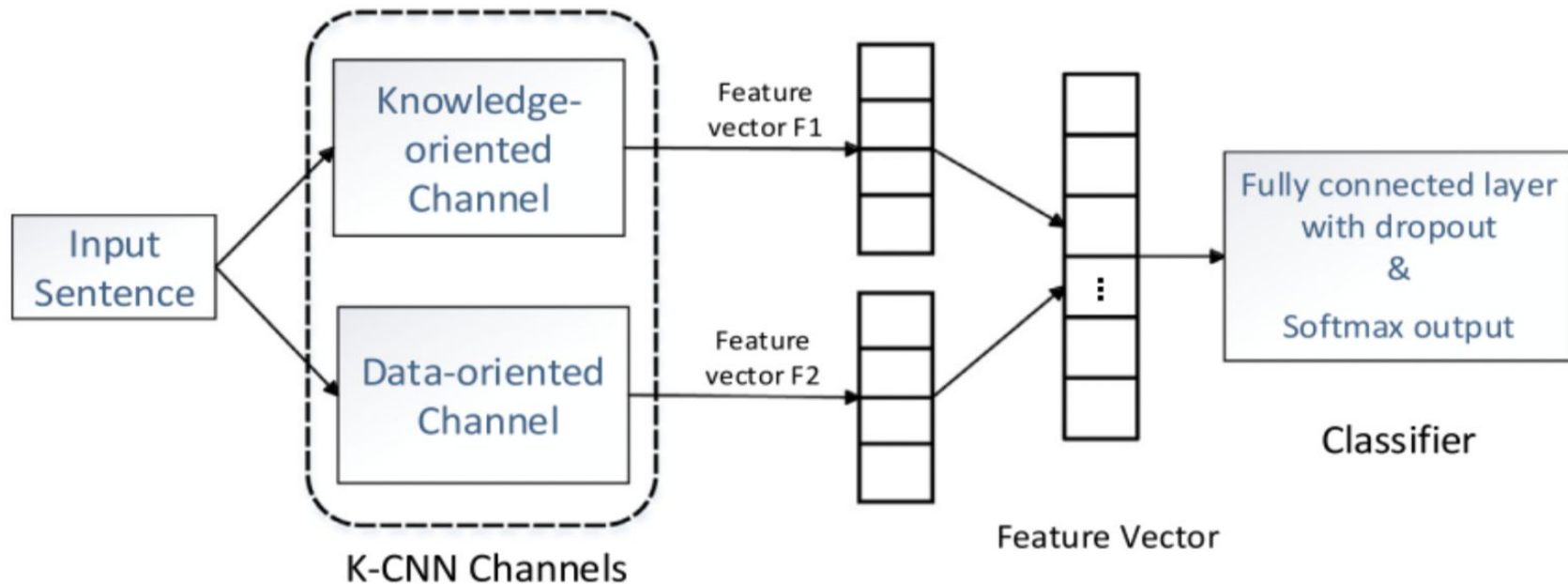
Sentence: The financial <e1>crisis<e1/> results in
<e2>*unemployment*<e2/> in this country.

- Target Entities: e1 and e2
- Cause: crisis
- Effect: unemployment
- Cue phrase: results in

K-CNN

**Knowledge-Oriented Convolution
Neural Network**

Architecture



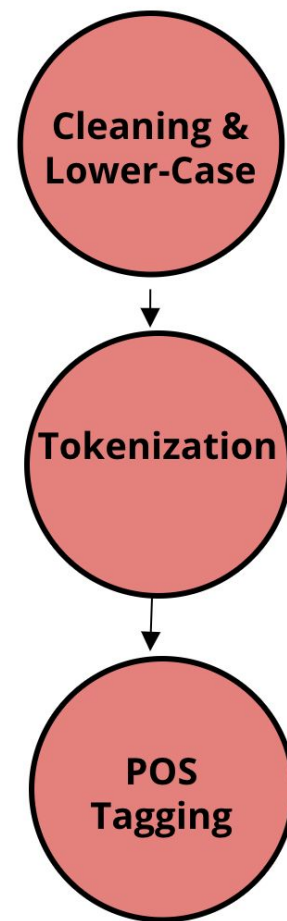
Flow Chart:

1. Pre-Processing
2. Modeling of Neural Network : Data-oriented Channel
3. Knowledge Embedding

Flow Chart:

1. Pre-processing

- Cleaning: removal of extra space, additional characters
- Lower-case
- Tokenization: break sentence into words
- Part-of-Speech tagging
- Created Answer-key file
- Created Word data-set
- Split the train-validation data



```

1      "The system as described above has its greatest application in an arrayed <e1>configuration</e1> of antenna
<e2>elements</e2>."
Component-Whole(e2,e1)
Comment: Not a collection: there is structure here, organisation.

2      "The <e1>child</e1> was carefully wrapped and bound into the <e2>cradle</e2> by means of a cord."
Other
Comment:

3      "The <e1>author</e1> of a keygen uses a <e2>disassembler</e2> to look at the raw assembly code."
Instrument-Agency(e2,e1)
Comment:

4      "A misty <e1>ridge</e1> uprises from the <e2>surge</e2>."
Other
Comment:

5      "The <e1>student</e1> <e2>association</e2> is the voice of the undergraduate student population of the State
University of New York at Buffalo."

```

Before pre-processing

```

1 Component-Whole(e2,e1) the system as described above has its greatest application in an arrayed e1_start configuration
e1_end of antenna e2_start elements e2_end .
2 Other the e1_start child e1_end was carefully wrapped and bound into the e2_start cradle e2_end by means of a cord .
3 Instrument-Agency(e2,e1) the e1_start author e1_end of a keygen uses a e2_start disassembler e2_end to look at the raw
assembly code .
4 Other this is the sprawling e1_start complex e1_end that is peru 's largest e2_start producer e2_end of silver .
5 Cause-Effect(e2,e1) the current view is that the chronic e1_start inflammation e1_end in the distal part of the stomach
caused by helicobacter pylori e2_start infection e2_end results in an increased acid production from the non-infected
upper corpus region of the stomach .
6 Entity-Destination(e1,e2) e1_start people e1_end have been moving back into e2_start downtown e2_end .
7 Content-Container(e1,e2) the e1_start lawsonite e1_end was contained in a e2_start platinum crucible e2_end and the
counter-weight was a plastic crucible with metal pieces .
8 Entity-Destination(e1,e2) the white one sided cradle e1_end and e1_end of the e1_start element e1_end was adapted

```

After pre-processing

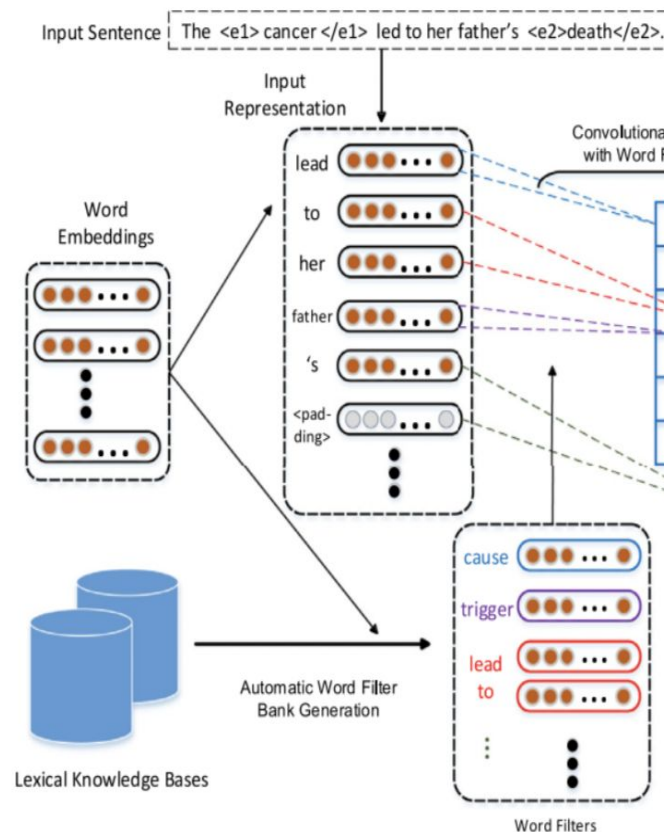
Flow Chart:

2. Pre-trained Embeddings:

trained on several datasets

1. Google's Word2Vec

Word2vec creates vectors that are numerical representations of word features.

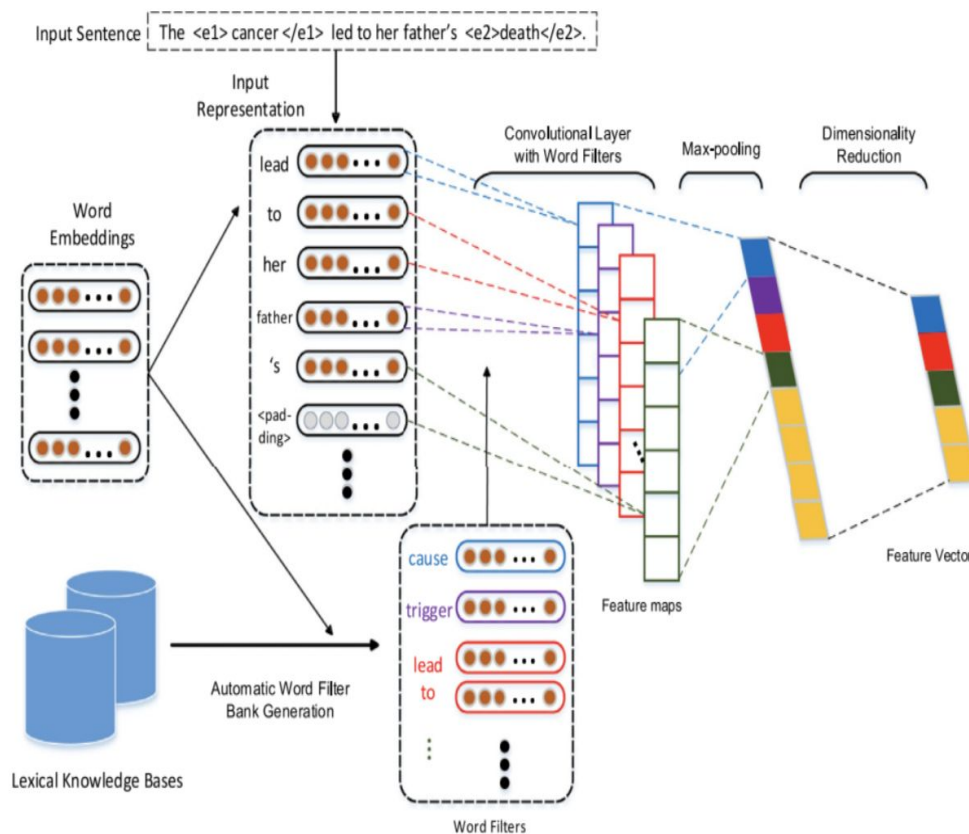


Flow Diagram (Pengfei Li, Kezhi Mao, 2019)

Flow Chart:

3. Neural Network Modelling

- Data-oriented channel



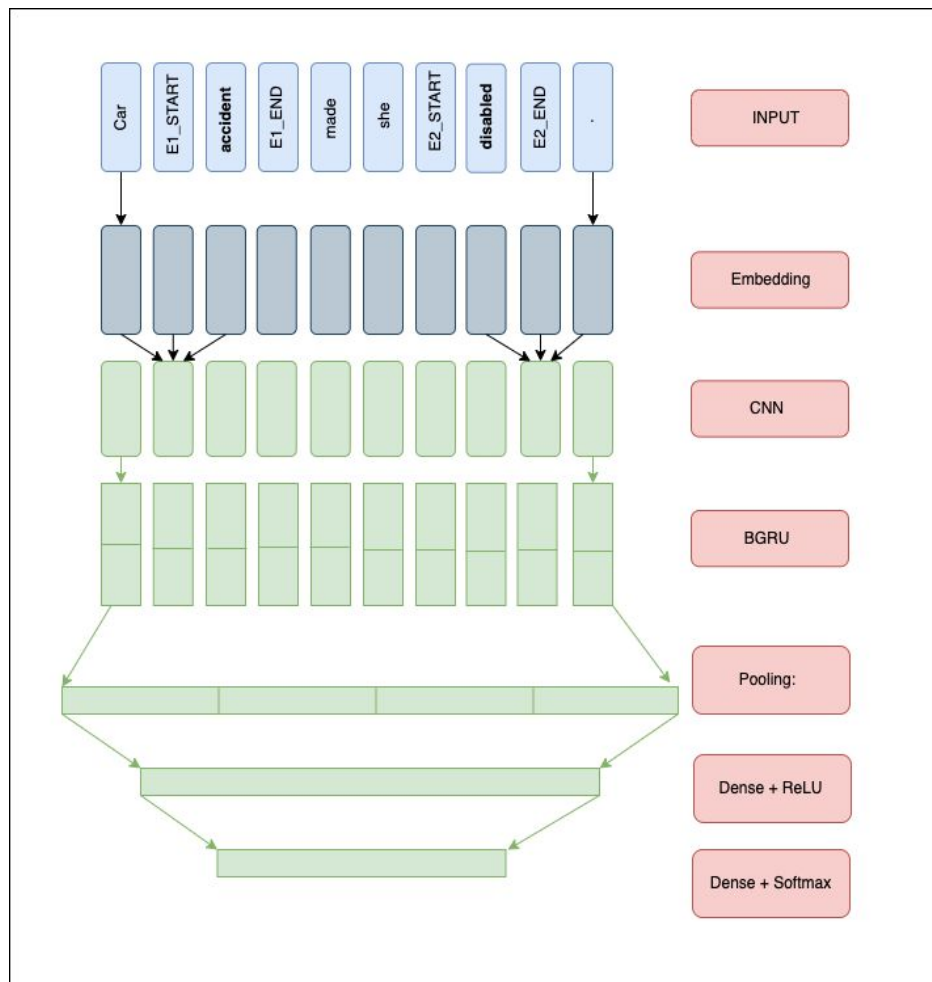
Flow Diagram (Pengfei Li Kezhi Mao, 2019)

Data-Oriented Channel

- Processed data sentence
- Pre-Trained Embedding
- Neural Network:

CNN + Bidirectional Gate
Recurrent Unit

- Multiple Pooling
- ReLu \rightarrow Softmax



Layers of Neural Network

Model: "model_2"

Layer (type)	Output Shape	Param #	Connected to
words_input (InputLayer)	[(None, 101)]	0	[]
words_Embedding (Embedding)	(None, 101, 300)	7035000	['words_input[0][0]']
dropout_6 (Dropout)	(None, 101, 300)	0	['words_Embedding[0][0]']
conv1d_2 (Conv1D)	(None, 101, 256)	230656	['dropout_6[0][0]']
dropout_7 (Dropout)	(None, 101, 256)	0	['conv1d_2[0][0]']
bidirectional_2 (Bidirectional)	(None, 101, 128)	123648	['dropout_7[0][0]']
activation_4 (Activation)	(None, 101, 128)	0	['bidirectional_2[0][0]']
dense_6 (Dense)	(None, 101, 1)	129	['activation_4[0][0]']
permute_2 (Permute)	(None, 1, 101)	0	['dense_6[0][0]']
attn_softmax (Activation)	(None, 1, 101)	0	['permute_2[0][0]']
words_input_mask (InputLayer)	[(None, 101)]	0	[]
lambda_2 (Lambda)	(None, 1, 128)	0	['attn_softmax[0][0]', 'activation_4[0][0]']
global_max_pooling1d_2 (GlobalMaxPooling1D)	(None, 128)	0	['activation_4[0][0]']
mask_max_pooling_layer_2 (MaskMaxPoolingLayer)	(None, 128)	0	['activation_4[0][0]', 'words_input_mask[0][0]']
flatten_2 (Flatten)	(None, 128)	0	['lambda_2[0][0]']
concatenate_2 (Concatenate)	(None, 384)	0	['global_max_pooling1d_2[0][0]', 'mask_max_pooling_layer_2[0][0]', 'flatten_2[0][0]']
dropout_8 (Dropout)	(None, 384)	0	['concatenate_2[0][0]']
dense_7 (Dense)	(None, 300)	115500	['dropout_8[0][0]']
dense_8 (Dense)	(None, 19)	5719	['dense_7[0][0]']
activation_5 (Activation)	(None, 19)	0	['dense_8[0][0]']

Knowledge-Oriented Channel

1. WordNet:

- It is a huge lexical database to represent various **meanings of words**
- Arranges English words into set of synonyms (synsets)

2. FrameNet:

- It is a huge lexical database organises English **words and Phrases** into high level semantic frames that describes various concepts.

Results

- Relationship are most confused with “others”
- Large number of wrong directions for M-T
- Confused group: CW-MC

<<< (9+1)-WAY EVALUATION TAKING DIRECTIONALITY INTO ACCOUNT -- OFFICIAL >>>:

Confusion matrix:

	C-E	C-W	C-C	E-D	E-O	I-A	M-C	M-T	P-P	_O_	_O_ <-- classified as			
	+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+										-SUM-	xDIRx	skip	ACTUAL
C-E	301	0	0	0	10	0	0	0	4	12	327	1	0	328
C-W	1	242	4	2	1	9	13	5	2	29	308	4	0	312
C-C	0	0	174	3	1	0	1	0	0	9	188	4	0	192
E-D	0	2	12	262	0	1	0	1	0	13	291	1	0	292
E-O	1	0	3	2	233	2	0	3	2	11	257	1	0	258
I-A	0	5	0	1	0	120	0	0	5	23	154	2	0	156
M-C	0	4	0	1	1	0	205	0	1	19	231	2	0	233
M-T	0	1	0	0	2	0	1	234	0	18	256	5	0	261
P-P	4	4	0	2	6	11	2	4	178	19	230	1	0	231
O	14	29	28	17	38	20	32	29	21	226	454	0	0	454
	+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+													
-SUM-	321	287	221	290	292	163	254	276	213	379	2696	21	0	2717

Coverage = 2717/2717 = 100.00%

Accuracy (calculated for the above confusion matrix) = 2175/2717 = 80.05%

CE: Cause-Effect , **CW:**Component-Whole, **CC:**Content-Container, **ED:**Entity-Destination, **EO:**Entity-Origin, **IA:**Instrument-Agency, **MC:**Member-Collection, **MT:**Message-Topic, **PP:**Product-Producer, **O:**Others

Results

Results for the individual relations:

Cause-Effect :	P = 301/(321 + 1) = 93.48%	R = 301/ 328 = 91.77%	F1 = 92.62%
Component-Whole :	P = 242/(287 + 4) = 83.16%	R = 242/ 312 = 77.56%	F1 = 80.27%
Content-Container :	P = 174/(221 + 4) = 77.33%	R = 174/ 192 = 90.62%	F1 = 83.45%
Entity-Destination :	P = 262/(290 + 1) = 90.03%	R = 262/ 292 = 89.73%	F1 = 89.88%
Entity-Origin :	P = 233/(292 + 1) = 79.52%	R = 233/ 258 = 90.31%	F1 = 84.57%
Instrument-Agency :	P = 120/(163 + 2) = 72.73%	R = 120/ 156 = 76.92%	F1 = 74.77%
Member-Collection :	P = 205/(254 + 2) = 80.08%	R = 205/ 233 = 87.98%	F1 = 83.84%
Message-Topic :	P = 234/(276 + 5) = 83.27%	R = 234/ 261 = 89.66%	F1 = 86.35%
Product-Producer :	P = 178/(213 + 1) = 83.18%	R = 178/ 231 = 77.06%	F1 = 80.00%
_Other :	P = 226/(379 + 0) = 59.63%	R = 226/ 454 = 49.78%	F1 = 54.26%

Averaged result (excluding Other):

P = 1949/2338 = 83.36% R = 1949/2263 = 86.12% F1 = 84.72%

<<< The official score is (9+1)-way evaluation with directionality taken into account: micro-averaged F1 = 84.72% >>>

Comparison

As we can observe from the comparison table, K-CNN perform better than our model, which was expected.

In our future work we plan to add hopefully match if not improve the K-CNN results.

K-CNN Results: [Knowledge-oriented convolutional neural network for causal relation extraction from natural language texts](#)

	K-CNN	CNN+BGRU
Precision	93.12	83.36
Recall	90.73	86.12
F1 Score	91.82	84.72

Extra: Hyperparameters

Units - 64

Batch_size - 128

Dropout_emb - 0.64

Dropout_model - 0.32

Dropout_pen - 0.32

Learning_rate - 1.0

Activation_fn - tanh

Nb_epoch - 256

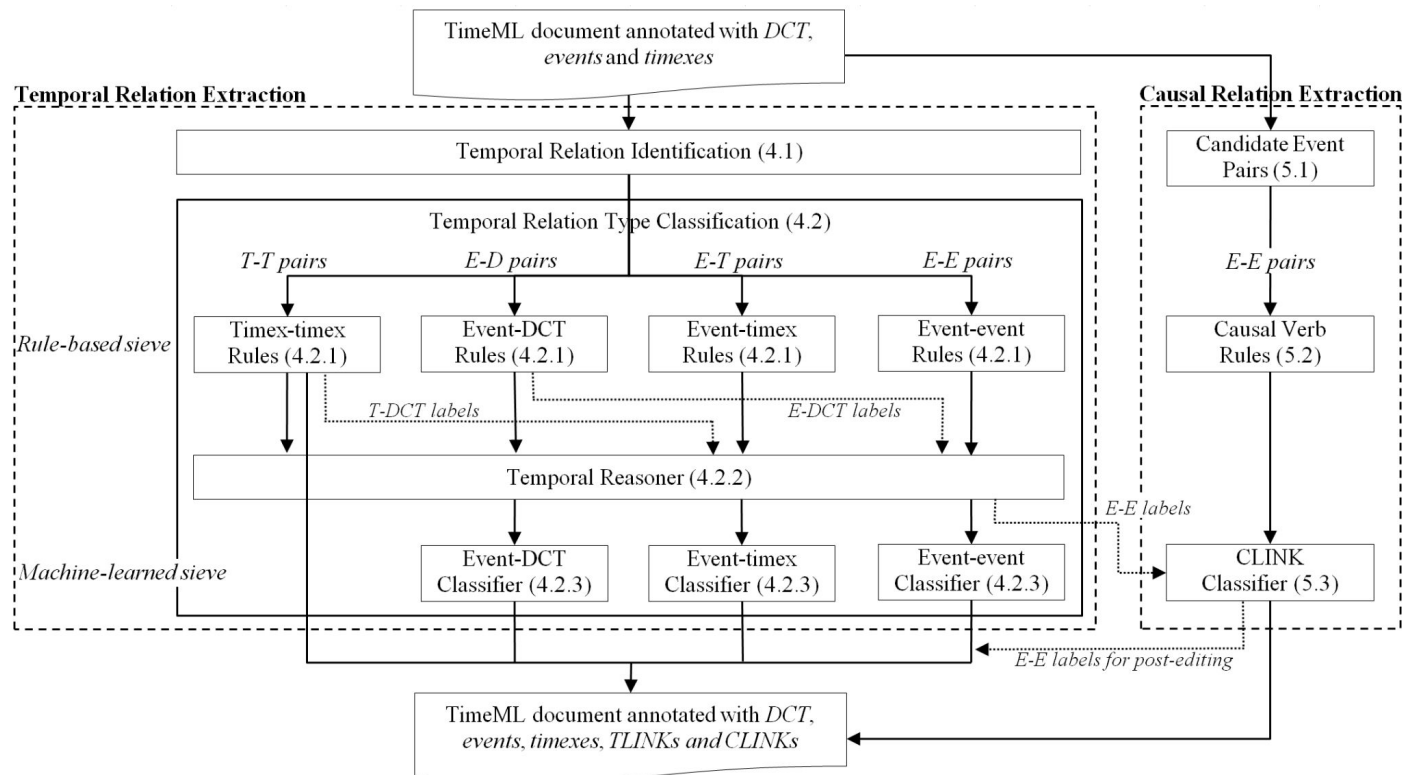
Es_epoch_stop - 20

CATENA

CATENA

- How about a model that works on both temporal and causal event extraction?
- Individual components for temporal and causal event extraction.
 - Temporal module, a combination of rule-based and supervised classifiers, with a temporal reasoner module in between.
 - Causal module, a combination of a rule-based classifier according to causal verbs, and supervised classifier taken into account syntactic and context features, especially causal signals appearing in the text.
- Each component can improve the other!

System architecture



TimeML Document

- TimeML- A markup language with annotated DCT(document creation time), events and Timexes.

```
<?xml version="1.0" ?><TimeML xmlns:xsi="http://www.w3.org/2001/XMLSchema-instance" xsi:noNamespaceSchemaLocation="http://timeml.org/timeMLdocs/TimeML_1.2.1.xsd">
<DOCID>bbc_20130322_721</DOCID>
<DCT><TIMEX3 functionInDocument="CREATION_TIME" temporalFunction="false" tid="t0" type="DATE" value="2013-03-22">2013-03-22</TIMEX3></DCT>
<TITLE>Russian police raid rights group Memorial and other NGOs</TITLE>
<TEXT>
Russian police and tax inspectors have <EVENT class="OCCURRENCE" eid="e1">raided</EVENT> the offices of the human rights group Memorial and other civil society groups which get foreign
Memorial is famous for <EVENT class="OCCURRENCE" eid="e2">documenting</EVENT> human rights <EVENT class="OCCURRENCE" eid="e3">abuses</EVENT> in Russia.
The US embassy in Moscow has <EVENT class="REPORTING" eid="e4">voiced</EVENT> concern and <EVENT class="I_ACTION" eid="e5">asked</EVENT> the Russian government for an <EVENT class="OCCURRENCE" eid="e6">
A new Russian law <EVENT class="STATE" eid="e6">says</EVENT> foreign-funded non-governmental groups (NGOs) linked to politics must register as "foreign agents" - a term which suggests :
In the worst <EVENT class="OCCURRENCE" eid="e1000016">repressions</EVENT> of the Soviet period the label "foreign agents" was used to <EVENT class="OCCURRENCE" eid="e10">denounce</EVENT>
Memorial <EVENT class="REPORTING" eid="e12">says</EVENT> inspectors <EVENT class="OCCURRENCE" eid="e13">returned</EVENT> to its Moscow offices on <TIMEX3 tid="t1" type="DATE" value="2013-03-22">
A statement on the Memorial website <EVENT class="REPORTING" eid="e15">said</EVENT> the <EVENT class="OCCURRENCE" eid="e1000018">inspections</EVENT> were directly <EVENT class="OCCURRENCE" eid="e16">
Memorial director Arseny Roginsky, <EVENT class="OCCURRENCE" eid="e17">quoted</EVENT> by the Russian news website Vesti, <EVENT class="REPORTING" eid="e18">said</EVENT> it <EVENT class="OCCURRENCE" eid="e19">
He <EVENT class="I_ACTION" eid="e21">insisted</EVENT> that the NGO law "will not <EVENT class="OCCURRENCE" eid="e22">change</EVENT> our position at all". "We won't <EVENT class="OCCURRENCE" eid="e23">
</TEXT>
```

Temporal Relation Identification

- Pairing up temporal entities based on rules of TempEval-3 task description
- Rules are
 - two main events of consecutive sentences
 - two events in the same sentence
 - an event and a timex in the same sentence
 - an event and a document creation time
 - pairs of all possible timexes (including document creation time)
- Now we have e-e, e-d, e-t and t-t pairs
- Example: He threw a [party]^(e1) on his [Birthday]^(e2) -> (party,birthday)

Temporal Relation Classification

- Temporal Rule-Based Sieve: We use handcrafted rules designed for each type of pair.
 - Timex-Timex rules: “7 PM tonight” (2015-12-12T19:00) IS INCLUDED in “today”
 - Event-DCT rules: “(had) fallen” is BEFORE
 - Event-Timex rules:
 - “Since birth, he like candies”-BEGUN_BY
 - “Police [confirmed] E [Friday] T that the body was found...”-IS_INCLUDED
 - “Between January and February”-BEGUN_BY and END_BY
 - Event-Event rules: “He got \$100 by winning the lottery”.

Temporal Relation Classification- contd.

- Temporal Reasoner: Output from previous sieve is mapped into a constraint problem and processed by automated temporal reasoner.
- Mapped according to Allen relations:
 - $<$ and $>$ for BEFORE and AFTER
 - o and o^{-1} for DURING and DURING_INV
 - d and d^{-1} for IS INCLUDED and INCLUDES
 - s and s^{-1} for BEGINS and BEGUN BY
 - f and f^{-1} for ENDS and ENDED BY
- We use Generic Qualitative Reasoner (GQR) as:
 - Fast and efficient
 - Works great with Allen problems

Temporal Relation Classification- contd.

- We build three supervised classification models:
 - event-DCT (E-D)
 - event-timex (E-T)
 - event-event (E-E) pairs.

We use LIBLINEAR (Fan et al., 2008) L2-loss linear SVM (default parameters), and one-vs-rest strategy for multi-class classification.

Causal Event Extraction

- Like Temporal Event Identification, we began by making candidate event pairs.
- Unlike Temporal Event Extraction, we take into account every possible combination of events in a sentence in a forward manner as candidate event pairs
- We even consider the next line
- Example: “The bank robber [robbing]^{e1} the bank was [arrested]^{e2} and [charged]^{e3} for 2 years”
- Pairs: (robbing,arrested) , (robbing,charged) ,(arrested, charged)

Causal Relation Classification

- Rule based sieve:
 - Manually cluster verbs with same syntactic behaviour and define set of rules for each verb. For instance, causing, resulting, belong to the same cluster and results in a CLINK.
- Supervised Classifier:
 - Directions play a huge role, for instance, “The building [collapsed] T because of the [earthquake] S” vs “Because of the [earthquake] S the building [collapsed] T”. S and T denote the source (cause) and target (effect) of the causal relation.
 - We build a classification model using LIBLINEAR (Fan et al., 2008) L2-loss linear SVM (default parameters), and one-vs-rest strategy for multi-class classification. The classifier has to label an event pair (e1, e2) with CLINK, CLINK-R or O for others.

Testing on temporal

```
the value of the Indonesian stock market has <EVENT eid="e7" class="OCCURRENCE">fallen</EVENT>  
by twelve percent. The Indonesian currency has <EVENT eid="e9" class="OCCURRENCE">lost</EVENT>  
twenty six percent of its value.
```

Screenshot taken from the input file ABC19980108.1830.711.tml

```
ABC19980108.1830.0711.col    e3  e4  SIMULTANEOUS  
ABC19980108.1830.0711.col    e66 e368  BEFORE  
ABC19980108.1830.0711.col    e7  e9  AFTER  
ABC19980108.1830.0711.col    e65 e66  BEFORE  
ABC19980108.1830.0711.col    e65 e67  IS_INCLUDED
```

Screenshot taken from the console output

Testing on Causal


```
the <EVENT class="OCCURRENCE" eid="e1000018">inspections</EVENT>  
were directly <EVENT class="OCCURRENCE" eid="e16">linked</EVENT>  
|to the new law on NGOs and the targeted groups'  
<EVENT class="STATE" eid="e1000019">compliance</EVENT> with it.
```

Screenshot taken from the input file ABC19980108.1830.711.tml

```
bbc_20130322_721.col    e1000019    e1000018    CLINK  
bbc_20130322_721.col    e10 e1000017    NONE  
wsj_1014.col    tmx2201 tmx0    AFTER  
wsj_1014.col    tmx261 tmx0    INCLUDES  
wsj_1014.col    tmx354 tmx0    BEFORE
```

Screenshot taken from the console output

Results

Relation	Precision	Recall	F1
Before	.366	.275	.314
After	.6	.26	.37
Simultaneous	0	0	0
Includes 	.66	.1	.17
is_included	.66	.14	.24
Vague	.57	.85	.685
Average	.47	.27	.29
Weighted-Avg	.53	.545	.494
W-Avg Original	.512	.510	.511
Total Recall	0.545		

Result after running EvaluateTimeBankDenseCrossVal

Conclusion

- We studied two different models, CATENA and K-CNN based data-oriented model.
- We studied the architecture of both systems.
- We were able to fully replicate CATENA and analyse the results with respect to the actual model.
- For K-CNN, we were able to build different data-oriented model, CNN+BGRU (than paper), with margin in results compared to CNN with Knowledge-oriented channel.