

Improving Unsupervised Dependency Parsing with Knowledge from Query Logs

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Unsupervised dependency parsing becomes more and more popular in recent years because it does not need expensive annotations, such as treebanks, which are required for supervised and semi-supervised dependency parsing. However, its accuracy is still far below that of supervised dependency parsers, partly due to the fact that their parsing model is insufficient to capture linguistic phenomena underlying texts. The performance for unsupervised dependency parsing can be improved by mining knowledge from the texts and by incorporating it into the model. In this article, syntactic knowledge is acquired from query logs to help estimate better probabilities in dependency models with valence. The proposed method is language independent and obtains an improvement of 4.1% unlabeled accuracy on the Penn Chinese Treebank by utilizing additional dependency relations from the Sogou query logs and Baidu query logs. Moreover, experiments show that the proposed model achieves improvements of 8.07% on CoNLL 2007 English using the AOL query logs. We believe query logs are useful sources of syntactic knowledge for many natural language processing (NLP) tasks.

CCS Concepts: • **Computing methodologies** → **Natural language processing**; **Unsupervised learning**

Additional Key Words and Phrases: Dependency parsing, query logs, additional knowledge, natural annotations

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1. INTRODUCTION

Dependency parsing is the task of analyzing dependency relations (*head* → *dependent*) between words in one sentence. It is widely applied in machine translation [Quirk et al. 2005; Shen et al. 2010], information extraction [Culotta and Sorensen 2004], question answering [Cui et al. 2005; Wang et al. 2007], and so on. Dependency parser can be either trained in a supervised, semi-supervised, or unsupervised fashion. Supervised dependency parsing [McDonald and Pereira 2006; Nivre et al. 2007] and semi-supervised dependency parsing [Koo et al. 2008; Chen et al. 2013] can achieve high performance, but they rely too much on treebank annotations. Treebanks are difficult and expensive to build. What's more, most of the existing treebanks are concentrated on the news

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Fig. 1. An example of using knowledge from queries to disambiguate.

domain [Yu et al. 2013]. Therefore, more and more people tend to research unsupervised dependency parsing.

Unsupervised dependency parsing is appealing since it does not need annotated treebank and can adapt to any domain. However, its accuracy is very low due to lack of sufficient knowledge. Recent researches show that additional knowledge such as punctuation [Spitkovsky et al. 2011], word cluster [Spitkovsky et al. 2011], lexical [Headden 2012], reducibility [Mareček and Straka 2013], and bilingual information [Liu et al. 2013; Ma and Xia 2014] are very effective to improve unsupervised dependency parsing. Alternatively, in this article, we propose a simple yet very effective approach to improve unsupervised dependency parsing by making use of query logs, which are available for many languages, even on a large scale. Queries are input by users when interacting with search engines. Although each query is short and contains only few words, the words in a query are not independent with each other. For example, if someone wants to browse international news, he/she usually enters “国际/international 新闻/news” on the search engine, which is a noun-modifier structure. Actually, according to our manual evaluation on the query logs (see Section 3.1), we find that about 76% of the queries contain syntactic structures. These syntactic structures could be naturally used as human annotated data to disambiguate for unsupervised dependency parsing. By using the dependency structure “国际/international 新闻/news” as a (soft) constraint, one can easily imagine that “国际/international” should not be attached into “是/is” but be attached into “新闻/news” when parsing the sentence “以上/above 是/is 国际/international 新闻/news” (denoted as s_1), as shown in Figure 1.

In this article, we employ two steps to put the above idea into practice. First, we automatically acquire dependency structures from query logs and define a syntactic relation score model over a pair of dependent words based on their occurrence. Given such a model, even though the exact kind of dependency structures in a query is unclear, we can still know how probable one word depends on another. We make three main contributions in this article:

- We publish manually annotated query log data¹ that may be useful for other natural language processing (NLP) tasks such as semantic parsing (Section 3.1).
- We show an approach to acquire syntactic knowledge from query logs for dependency parsing (Section 3.2).
- We propose Query-Augmented Dependency Model with Valence (QA-DMV) (Section 4), which obtains substantial improvements over the standard dependency model with valence on both the Chinese Penn Treebank and the CoNLL 2007 English task (Section 5).

2. DEPENDENCY MODEL WITH VALENCE

One of the most successful unsupervised dependency parsing models is the DMV, which uses only part-of-speech (POS) tags [Klein and Manning 2004]. It is a generative model in which a dependency tree T is generated from a given sentence S by maximizing the

¹These data are available in <https://github.com/hitxiaoqiao/data-for-linguistic-analysis-of-queries.git>. We use these data to make a linguistic analysis of query logs.

conditional probability $P(T|S)$:

$$P(T|S) = \frac{P(T, S)}{P(S)} \propto P(T, S). \quad (1)$$

Since $P(S)$ is a constant, our maximization problem can be regarded as a joint inference of $P(T, S)$. Moreover, our problem can be reduced to the maximization problem of $P(T)$, given $P(T, S) = P(T)P(S|T)$, and S is the leaf string of T .

First, the root of T is selected according to the probability of selecting a position in the rightward direction. Then, its children are generated to the left of the root until we make a decision to stop. Similarly, the children to the right of root are generated until we decide to stop. The process is recursively performed for each generated word until we have generated all the leaves. Whether to generate a child ($\neg stop$) or not ($stop$) for h (head word) in the direction of dir is decided by $P_{stop}(\neg stop|h, dir, adj, f)$ and $P_{stop}(stop|h, dir, adj, f)$, where dir is left or right, adj is a binary variable indicating whether h already has a child in the direction of dir , and f is the list of children of h in the direction of dir . If $stop$, then no more children of h in the direction dir will be generated. If not, then a child d is chosen according to the attach-probability $P_{attach}(d|h, dir)^2$. For the child d , its subtree is generated recursively in a similar way.

We denote a subtree of T as D . D has left children $deps(h, l)$ and right children $deps(h, r)$. Then, the probability for the subtree tree $D(h, P_{tree}(D(h)))$, is recursively computed as follows:

$$P_{tree}(D(h)) = \prod_{dir \in l, r} \prod_{d \in deps(h, dir)} P_{stop}(\neg stop|h, dir, adj, f) \cdot P_{attach}(d|h, dir) \cdot P_{tree}(d) \cdot P_{stop}(stop|h, dir, adj, f). \quad (2)$$

The probability of a single tree $P_{tree}(T)$ is computed as follows:

$$P_{tree}(T) = P_{attach}(head(T)|ROOT, right) \cdot P_{tree}(D(head(T))). \quad (3)$$

3. SYNTACTIC KNOWLEDGE FROM QUERY LOGS

We assume that queries are not merely short plain texts but contain latent syntactic structures. Our goal is to mine such syntactic knowledge implicated in each query. We use a score function $score(x, y)$ to measure the relation between two words x and y occurring in queries.

3.1. Linguistic Analysis of Query Logs

A query is manually input and can reflect a human's consciousness using a few words. Indeed, our preliminary studies indicate that syntactic structures are preserved in many queries, such as predicate-object, subject-predicate, or noun-modifier. For example, "Ctex download" is a predicate-object structure, "Jackson dance" is a subject-predicate structure, and "birthday cakes" is a noun-modifier structure. These structures may be substructures of many sentences.

We annotate the syntactic structures of 300 queries, and Table I shows the ratio of each relation, where "Others" denotes those queries do not have syntactic relations. For example, there seem to be no syntactic relations among the words in the query of "Bieber twitter." Table I indicates that queries that contain syntactic structures account for about 76% of all 300 queries. Query log is rich with syntactic knowledge.

Though we cannot distinguish which dependency relation within queries in unsupervised setting, we can get the strength of the syntactic relation between two words

²The attach probability is also denoted as choose probability.

Table I. Ratio of Each Kind of Structures in 300 Queries

Relation	Explanation	Ratio
NMOD	noun modifier	62.21%
SUB	subject-predicate	4.68%
OBJ	predicate-object	4.01%
VMOD	verb modifier	4.01%
VC	verb chain	1.34%
Others	other structures	24.08%

through computing their occurrence, and the “strength” means the size of the probability that one word depends on another word.

3.2. Syntactic Relation Score

Let $score(x, y)$ denote the strength of the syntactic relation between two words x and y acquired from query logs. $count(x)$ denotes the number of times word x occurs in query logs, and $count(xy)$ denotes the number³ of times x and y co-occur in query logs. The score function should satisfy these three constraints:

- (1) Its value is between 0 (x and y never co-occur) and 1 (x and y always co-occur);
- (2) It is symmetrical for each word;
- (3) If $count(xy) > count(zy)$ and $count(x) = count(z)$, then $score(x, y) > score(z, y)$.

Our definition of $score(x, y)$ is similar to pointwise mutual information [Church and Hanks 1990], except that its value is between 0 and 1. The second constraint is set because we find that words in queries are always unordered, especially for the queries that contain only two words. In this extreme case, we can easily predict that two words are more likely a single head-dependent pair, but still we cannot tell which one is a head. The third constraint implicates that $score(x, y)$ is decided by $count(xy)$, $count(x)$, and $count(y)$ together.

Under the above constraints, the score of x and y can be computed as follows:

$$score(x, y) = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \left(\frac{count(xy)}{count(x)} + \frac{count(xy)}{count(y)} \right). \quad (4)$$

4. MODEL

Now we will introduce our model, QA-DMV, a query-augmented DMV, and an extension of DMV using the syntactic relationships acquired from query logs.

4.1. Query-Augmented Dependency Model with Valence

In the original DMV framework, the model incorporates only POS tags and completely ignores lexical features. Our QA-DMV indirectly augments DMV with lexical features using the head-dependent relationship score estimated from query logs through linear interpolation that is similar to that in Headden [2012].

The model of $P_{stop}^{dmv}(-stop|h, dir, adj, f)$ decides whether to generate another child of h ,

$$P_{stop}^{dmv}(-stop|h, dir, adj, f) = 1 - P_{stop}^{dmv}(stop|h, dir, adj, f). \quad (5)$$

In QA-DMV, the stop-probability is computed based on the POS tags, not on the surface word, as follows [Mareček and Straka 2013]:

$$P_{stop}^{dmv}(stop|h, dir, adj, f) = \frac{\frac{2}{3} + count(stop, c_h, dir, adj, c_f)}{1 + count(c_h, dir, adj, c_f)}, \quad (6)$$

³We ignore the ordering between x and y , because there is no order feature in our baseline model.

where c_h is the POS tag of h , and c_f is the corresponding POS tag list of f . $\text{count}(\text{stop}, c_h, \text{dir}, \text{adj}, c_f)$ is the frequency of selecting c_f as the dependents of c_h , and no more other dependents in the direction dir . Similarly, $\text{count}(c_h, \text{dir}, \text{adj}, c_f)$ is the frequency of selecting c_f as dependents for c_h in the direction dir . We smooth it with the parameter $2/3$ following Mareček and Straka [2013]. If h has no dependent in the current direction dir , then adj is 1. Otherwise, if h has one or more dependents, then adj is 0.

The attachment model $P_{\text{attach}}^{\text{dmv}}(d|h, \text{dir})$ decides the dependent d for h in the direction dir , and it is computed as follows in the original framework [Mareček and Straka 2013]:

$$P_{\text{attach}}^{\text{dmv}}(d|h, \text{dir}) = \frac{\frac{\alpha_c}{|C|} + \text{count}(c_d, c_h, \text{dir})}{|C| + \text{count}(c_h, \text{dir})}, \quad (7)$$

where $\text{count}(c_d, c_h, \text{dir})$ denotes the frequency of choosing c_d as a dependent of c_h in direction dir , and $\text{count}(c_h, \text{dir})$ is the frequency of c_h being a head in direction dir . Following the suggestions by Mareček and Straka [2013], the attachment-probability is smoothed by α_c and $|C|$ where $|C|$ is the number of POS tag categories in the whole corpus, and α_c is empirically set to 50.

In order to get the relative attach probability model estimated from query logs, we normalize the syntactic relation score in Equation (4) as follows:

$$P_{\text{attach}}^{\text{query}}(d|h) = \frac{\text{score}(d, h)}{\sum_{d_i \in C} \text{score}(d_i, h)}. \quad (8)$$

The model is linearly interpolated with the attachment model in Equation (7) and we obtain $P_{\text{attach}}^{\text{dmv+query}}(d|h, \text{dir})$ as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{if } h \in Q \text{ and } d \in Q, \text{ then :} \\ &\quad P_{\text{attach}}^{\text{dmv+query}}(d|h, \text{dir}) = \gamma \cdot P_{\text{attach}}^{\text{query}}(d|h) + (1 - \gamma) \cdot P_{\text{attach}}^{\text{dmv}}(d|h, \text{dir}) \\ &\text{else :} \\ &\quad P_{\text{attach}}^{\text{dmv+query}}(d|h, \text{dir}) = P_{\text{attach}}^{\text{dmv}}(d|h, \text{dir}), \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

where Q is the set of words found in query logs. Note that the syntactic relation model of Equation (8) is selectively interpolated with the original attachment model of Equation (7) using a constant γ ($0 \leq \gamma \leq 1$) in order to avoid over penalties when the words h and d are never observed in Q . When $\gamma = 0$, we uncover the baseline model that does not consider the syntactic relations estimated from query logs. Similarly, when $\gamma = 1$, only the syntactic relations are employed to assign the attachment probabilities when two words are found in Q . The probability for the subtree $D(h)$ is computed as follows:

$$P_{\text{tree}}(D(h)) = \prod_{\text{dir} \in l, r} \prod_{d \in \text{deps}(h, \text{dir})} P_{\text{stop}}^{\text{dmv}}(\neg \text{stop}|h, \text{dir}, \text{adj}, f) \cdot P_{\text{attach}}^{\text{dmv+query}}(d|h, \text{dir}) \cdot P_{\text{tree}}(d) \cdot P_{\text{stop}}^{\text{dmv}}(\text{stop}|h, \text{dir}, \text{adj}, f). \quad (10)$$

Finally, $P_{\text{tree}}(T)$, the probability of the whole tree T is computed in the same way as Equation (3). The probability of a treebank P_{treebank} is computed as the product of the probabilities of all trees in the treebank:

$$P_{\text{treebank}} = \prod_{T \in \text{treebank}} P_{\text{tree}}(T). \quad (11)$$

Table II. Data Sets (in Sentence Number)

Data	Train	Dev	Test
CTB5	16091	803	1910
CTB5(≤ 10)	3951	205	486
CoNLL07 English	18577	—	214

4.2. Inference

Our parser is a variation of the parser in Mareček and Straka [2013], which differs in the computation methods of stop probability and attach probability. The inference steps of our parser are as follows:

- Initialization: A random projective dependency structure is given to each sentence.
- Sampling: We use Gibbs sampling to sample a dependency tree for each sentence, according to other annotated sentences. We believe that the corpus is large enough to ignore the impact of edges within the same sentence.
- Sampling is done iteratively until the convergence of $P_{treebank}$. After the burn-in period (first 500 iterations), we count every edge e in sentences from the 501th iteration to the 1000th iteration and save it in the format of $count(e)$, following Mareček and Straka [2013].
- Decoding: Chu-Liu/Edmond’s algorithm [Chu and Liu 1965] is used to decode every sentence.

The count of each edge gained in sampling is used as its weight, that is, $count(e)$. The maximum spanning tree we need is the tree that maximize the sum of weights for all $e \in T$.

$$T_{mst} = \arg \max_T \sum_{e \in T} count(e). \quad (12)$$

5. EXPERIMENTS AND RESULTS

5.1. Data

We use SogouQ query logs (Version 2008)⁴ and Baidu query logs (part of queries in a month of 2010)⁵ as our Chinese knowledge source. The SogouQ contains 44 million (M) queries of March 2007 [Liu et al. 2011], and the Baidu query logs contain 108M queries.

The above Chinese queries are simplified Chinese texts, so we evaluate our parser on the Penn Chinese Treebank 5 (CTB5). We adopt the data split of Li et al. [2014] and we use Penn2Malt⁶ to convert the original constituency trees into dependency trees with its default head rules. Table II shows the data statistics. The coverage of words in Sogou and Baidu queries over CTB5 is 57.48%.

We also conduct experiments on English. AOL query logs⁷ are used as English knowledge source. This query set contains 36M queries.

CoNLL07 English is the dependency data used in CoNLL 2007 shared task on dependency parsing. Its training set is WSJ sections 2-11 of Penn Treebank and the test set is a subset of section 23. The data used in many state-of-the-art related works are CoNLL07 English. To better compare with other works, we use CoNLL07 English to evaluate our parser. The coverage of words in AOL query logs over CoNLL 2007 English is 43.79%.

⁴<http://www.sogou.com/labs/dl/q.html>.

⁵<http://openresearch.baidu.com/>.

⁶<http://stp.lingfil.uu.se/~nivre/research/Penn2Malt.html>.

⁷<http://www.cim.mcgill.ca/~dudek/206/Logs/AOL-user-ct-collection/>.

Table III. Tuning γ on CTB5 Development Set

γ	baseline	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8	0.9	1.0
UAS	40.93	41.22	41.03	41.69	42.45	42.73	41.97	43.40	44.44	44.82	43.11

We process the query logs as follows: Extract user queries and remove other information such as ID, URL and so on; remove queries containing non-Chinese (or non-English) characters; segment queries by Stanford segmenter⁸; and keep queries that only contain two words. If we have more query logs in other languages, then we will experiment in other datasets of CoNLL 2007 in future work.

5.2. Baseline Parser

Our baseline parser is a unsupervised dependency parser⁹ with a pure DMV [Mareček and Straka 2013]. The parser uses the original stop probabilities and the attachment probabilities as described in Equation (6) and Equation (7). This parser uses Gibbs sampling as the training method and samples in many iterations until the convergence of $P_{treebank}$. But the Gibbs sampler does not always convergent on a similar grammar, so we run each inference 50 times and take the run with the highest $P_{treebank}$ for the evaluation, following Mareček and Straka [2013]. We evaluate the parser by unlabeled attachment score (UAS): the percentage of words that have correct heads, excluding punctuations.

5.3. Parameter

During tuning γ in Equation (9), we use SogouQ and Baidu query logs as Chinese knowledge source and test on the dev set of CTB5. Word pairs from the preprocessed queries are used to compute the model of $P_{attach}^{query}(d|h)$ in Equation (8). When γ is 0.9, our parser performs best on development data, as shown in Table III. Then we adopt this setting in following evaluations.

5.4. Results

We evaluate our parser on the test set of CTB5, and the UAS is 46.31%, achieving improvement of 4.1% from the baseline system (DMV). We use syntactic knowledge from AOL queries to improve dependency parsing on English. When we evaluate our parser on the test set of CoNLL07 English, the UAS is 44.38%, winning the baseline system by 8.07%.

Table IV shows the comparison between performance of our parser and previous work on the Chinese Penn Treebank. Our parser is the QA-DMV with the best setting on development set. Klein and Manning [2004] implement an original DMV parser. Liu et al. [2013] use a bilingually guided parsing model. From Table IV, we can see that our parser performs better than other three parsers.

Table V shows the comparison between performance of our parser and previous work on CoNLL07 English test data. Mareček and Straka [2013] estimate stop probabilities from Wikipedia articles. Mareček and Žabokrtský [2012a] computes reducibility scores from Wikipedia articles. Spitzkovsky et al. [2012] use different boundaries to help unsupervised dependency parsing.

Our parser does not perform better than Mareček and Žabokrtský [2012a] and Mareček and Straka [2013], which use POS tag reducibility gained from W2C corpus of Wikipedia articles [Majliš and Žabokrtský 2012]. However, the word coverage of

⁸<http://nlp.stanford.edu/software/segmenter.shtml>.

⁹<http://ufal.mff.cuni.cz/udp>.

Table IV. UAS Comparison on Chinese Penn Treebank

System	UAS
Baseline Parser [length ≤ 10]	42.21
Our Parser [length ≤ 10]	46.31
Klein and Manning [2004] [length ≤ 10]	42.5
Liu et al. [2013] [all]	22.6
Our Parser [all]	24.38

Table V. UAS Comparison on Chinese Penn Treebank

System	UAS
Baseline Parser	36.31
Our Parser	44.38
Spitkovsky et al. [2012]	29.2
Mareček and Žabokrtský [2012a]	49.2
Mareček and Straka [2013]	55.4

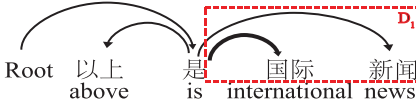
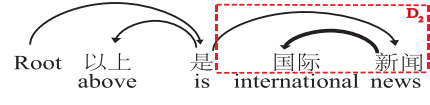
Fig. 2. The result of baseline for s_1 .Fig. 3. Our result for s_1 .

Table VI. The Running Time of Baseline and Our Parser (Per Word)

System	Baseline	Our Method
Running time(s)	0.009428	0.012124

AOL queries on CoNLL07 English is 43.79% and our performance will increase with the wider lexical coverage ratio, as discussed in Section 5.7.

We just use lexical surface features gained from queries rather than POS tags or cluster features, because Barr et al. [2008] points that about 70% of queries are noun phrases. And our experiments, which are not shown due to limited space, prove that the noise of POS tags and cluster information in queries are very big.

5.5. Analysis

As an error analysis, we show the parsing result by the baseline parser and our proposed parser in Figures 2 and 3, respectively, for the sentence in Figure 1. Although both results share the same left subtree of “是/is,” they differ considerably in the right subtree, denoted by D_1 for the baseline and by D_2 for our proposed method.

Our syntactic relation model from the SogouQ and Baidu query logs indicates that

$$P_{attach}^{query}(\text{国际/international} | \text{是/is}) = 0, \quad P_{attach}^{query}(\text{国际/international} | \text{新闻/news}) = 0.12$$

that is, the word “国际/international” has a stronger relation with the word “新闻/news” than with the word “是/is.” During sampling, the right subtree of “是/is” is more likely to be sampled as D_2 rather than D_1 . As a result, our parser tends to get the gold tree.

5.6. Running Time

In order to test whether the model of $P_{attach}^{query}(d|h)$ will affect parser’s speed, we compare the running time of the baseline parser and our system with the same settings and corpus. We use AOL queries as a knowledge source and CoNLL 2007 English (≤ 10) as a test corpus. The number of iterations is set at 1000. The data of CoNLL 2007 English (≤ 10) has 18,916 words. The average run time per word of baseline parser and our parser is shown in Table VI. Our proposed method incurs an additional 0.0027s per word to the baseline parser, which is not extremely high.

5.7. The Impact of Query Logs’ Scale

Moreover, we measure the impact of query size on parsing performance. Figure 4 shows the lexical coverage ratio of different size of queries on CoNLL 2007 English (≤ 10) data.

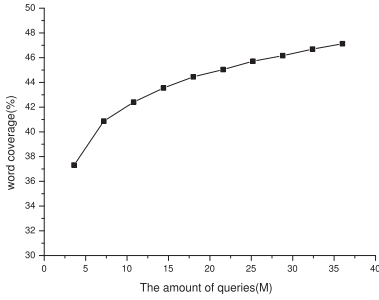


Fig. 4. The word coverage ratio of different scale queries on CoNLL 2007 English (≤ 10).

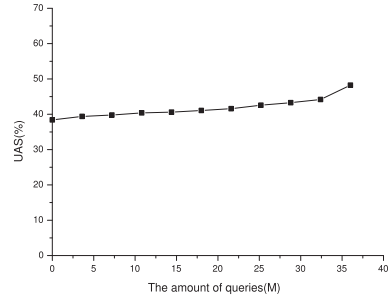


Fig. 5. The effect of the query scale on UAS.

Each dataset is a subset of larger sets. Figure 5 presents the experimental results on varying the AOL query log data size tested on CoNLL 2007 English (≤ 10) data. The plot clearly shows that more query logs are helpful for better unsupervised parsing performance.

6. RELATED WORK

Previous work on unsupervised dependency parsing extends DMV by adding additional knowledge. Spitkovsky et al. [2010b] acquires natural annotations from web structure data (anchors, bold, italics, and underlines) and applies this information into decoding. The reducibility feature of one word [Mareček and Žabokrtský 2012b] or a word sequence [Mareček and Žabokrtský 2012a; Mareček and Straka 2013] is used in DMV and leads to many improvements on many languages. We propose to augment DMV with the syntactic knowledge from query logs. We assume that the words in each query are not independent with each other but contain latent structures that could be useful as a clue to find head-dependent relationship among texts.

Multilingual information [Cohen et al. 2011; Søgaard 2011] also works in unsupervised dependency parsing. Naseem et al. [2012] uses annotations from a diverse set of source languages, performing well in multi-source transfer-based dependency parsing. Liu et al. [2013] utilize information from both sides of bilingual corpus, outperforming previous bilingual-guided unsupervised models. Ma and Xia [2014] train parsing models for resource-poor languages by transferring cross-lingual knowledge from resource-rich languages with entropy regularization. The resources they use are limited, but the amount of query logs we can use is huge, because users will input more than 1 million queries everyday through the Sogou search engine. And there are many other search engines. Then we can cover more words and have a more accurate parser.

Much more information can be used to improve unsupervised dependency parsing, such as cluster information [Spitkovsky et al. 2011], lexicals [Headden 2012], punctuations [Spitkovsky et al. 2011], and sentence boundaries [Spitkovsky et al. 2012].

Moreover, many researchers are devoted to improving the training method in DMV. Klein and Manning [2004] use an inside-outside re-estimation method to learn the grammar without any smoothing. Headden et al. [2009] adds smoothing into DMV with rich context information. Spitkovsky et al. [2010] combines “Baby Steps” and “Less is More.” Spitkovsky et al. [2010a] uses Viterbi EM to learn grammar, performing better in long sentences than classic EM.

Though simple, query logs contain many kinds of knowledge. Tannebaum and Rauber [2012] acquire lexical knowledge from query logs to help query expansion in patent searching. Li [2010] improves query understanding using its lexical features, syntactic

features, and semantic features. Sekine and Suzuki [2007] extract ontological knowledge using search query logs. Tur et al. [2011] exploit user queries mined from search engine query click logs to bootstrap or improve slot filling models for spoken language understanding. To the best of our knowledge, our method is the first to incorporate syntactic knowledge from query logs into unsupervised dependency parsing.

7. CONCLUSION AND FUTURE WORK

In this article, we extracted syntactic knowledge from query logs to help estimate the attach probability in DMV. We presented significant improvements on Chinese and English unsupervised parsing task and also demonstrated that more queries can lead to better performance.

In the future, we will apply knowledge from query logs in other formats to further improve dependency parsing. Moreover, dependency parsing on queries is very important for information retrieval and its accuracy is rather low now. We will pay much more attention to query-dependency parsing.

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