

Ph.D Thesis Defense

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L^AT_EX of the slides: <https://www.overleaf.com/read/jpdcrkfryjsh>

Publications

Guokan Shang, Wensi Ding, et al. (July 2018). “Unsupervised Abstractive Meeting Summarization with Multi-Sentence Compression and Budgeted Submodular Maximization”. In: **ACL 2018 - Proceedings of the 56th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics (Volume 1: Long Papers)**. Melbourne, Australia: Association for Computational Linguistics, pp. 664–674. URL: <https://www.aclweb.org/anthology/P18-1062>

Guokan Shang, Antoine Tixier, et al. (Dec. 2020b). “Speaker-change Aware CRF for Dialogue Act Classification”. In: **COLING 2020 - Proceedings of the 28th International Conference on Computational Linguistics**. Barcelona, Spain (Online): International Committee on Computational Linguistics, pp. 450–464. URL: <https://www.aclweb.org/anthology/2020.coling-main.40>

Guokan Shang, Antoine Tixier, et al. (Dec. 2020a). “Energy-based Self-attentive Learning of Abstractive Communities for Spoken Language Understanding”. In: **AACL-IJCNLP 2020 - Proceedings of the 1st Conference of the Asia-Pacific Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics and the 10th International Joint Conference on Natural Language Processing**. Suzhou, China: Association for Computational Linguistics, pp. 313–327. URL: <https://www.aclweb.org/anthology/2020.aacl-main.34>

Outline

Basic concepts

Text representation

$t, d, D \rightarrow$ word (term), sentence, document

- Bag-of-words

- $TF\text{-}IDF(t, d, D) = TF(t, d) \times IDF(t, D)$

- $IDF(t, D) = \log \frac{|D|}{|\{d \in D: t \in d\}|}$

- Graph-of-words

- $TW-IDF(t, d, D) = TW(t, d) \times IDF(t, D)$

- $TW \rightarrow$ centrality measures

- Word embedding

- CBOW and Skip-gram models

Evaluation

- Accuracy, Precision, Recall, and F1-score

- ROUGE-1/2/SU4/L/etc.

- ROUGE-1 R = $\frac{\text{number of overlapping words}}{\text{total words in reference summary}}$

(Christopher D Manning, Schütze, and Raghavan 2008; Mihalcea and Tarau 2004; François Rousseau and Vazirgiannis 2013; Mikolov, K. Chen, et al. 2013; Mikolov, Sutskever, et al. 2013; C.-Y. Lin 2004)

information retrieval is the activity of obtaining information resources relevant to an information need from a collection of information resources

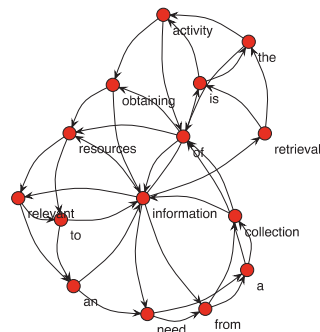


Figure: Example of an unweighted directed GoW in which an edge indicates at least one directed co-occurrence of the two terms in a window of size 3 in the text. (François Rousseau and Vaziraniannis 2013)

Datasets

AMI corpus (McCowan et al. 2005)

- 137 scenario-driven meetings (65 hours)
- 4 participants play the roles within a fictive electronics company, as a design team, to develop a new television remote control.

ICSI corpus (Janin et al. 2003)

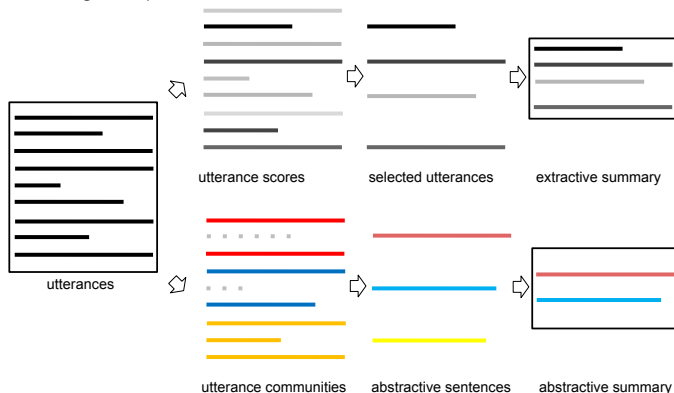
- 75 naturally-occurring meetings (72 hours)
- 6 members (on average per meeting) from research groups discuss specialized and technical topics.

Annotations:

- speech transcription
- extractive summary
- abstractive summary
- abstractive-extractive linking

Introduction

Abstractive summaries are preferred to extractive ones by human judges. (Murray, Carenini, and Ng 2010)



Spontaneous multi-party meeting speech transcription is made of often ill-formed and ungrammatical text fragments (called *utterances*).

⇒ *Summarizing transcription requires approaches that differ from traditional document summarization.*

Related work

Keyword extraction

- Meladianos et al. 2017
 - keywords are influential spreaders within their graph-of-words
 - identified via graph degeneracy, k -core decomposition, CoreRank

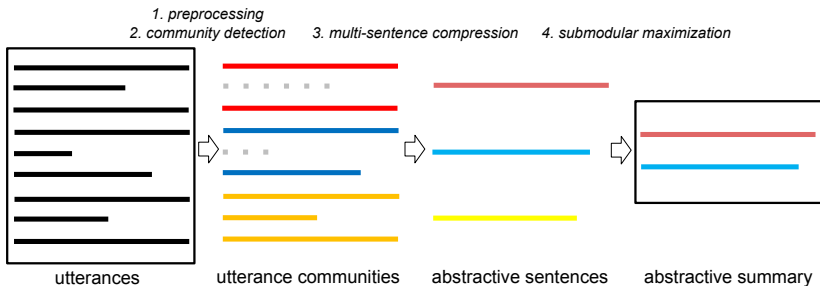
Multi-sentence compression

- Filippova 2010
 - unsupervised, simple NLG approach based on word graph
 - edge-weights, heuristics → k-shortest paths → re-ranking → the best path
- Boudin and Morin 2013
 - re-ranking taking into account information coverage (Keyphrases, TextRank)

Meeting summarization

- Mehdad et al. 2013 *abstractive*
 - supervised abstractive community detection method
 - each community is fused with Filippova's approach +
 - WordNet to capture synonymy and hypo/hypernymy when building graph
 - re-ranking taking into account information coverage (TF-IDF scores) and grammaticality (via a language model)
- Tixier et al. 2017 *extractive*
 - submodularity for summarization (H. Lin and Bilmes 2010; H. Lin 2012)
 - coverage term based on k -core decomposition of graph-of-words

Pipeline



1. Text Preprocessing & 2. Utterance Community Detection

Preprocessing

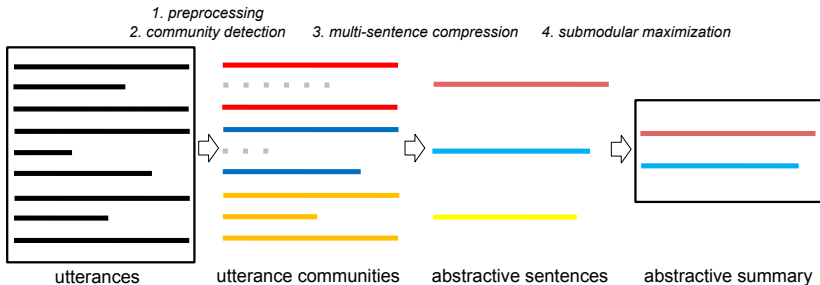
- Initial ellipsis: *'kay, 'til, 'em → okay, until, them*
- Consecutive repeated unigram and bigram terms: *remote control remote control → remote control*
- ASR tags are filtered out: *<vocalsound>*
- Filler words are discarded: *uh-huh, okay well, by the way*
- Consecutive stopwords at head and tail of utterance are stripped
- Utterances containing less than 3 non-stopwords are pruned out

Clustering

Group together the utterances that should be summarized by a common abstractive sentence. (Murray, Carenini, and Ng 2012)

- 1 Utterances → TF-IDF weight matrix
- 2 Latent Semantic Analysis
- 3 K-means algorithm (on the SVD result) - 35 to 50 clusters

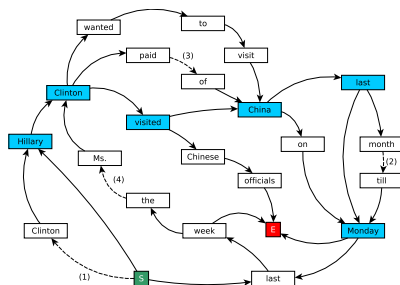
Pipeline



3. Multi-Sentence Compression Graph (MSCG)

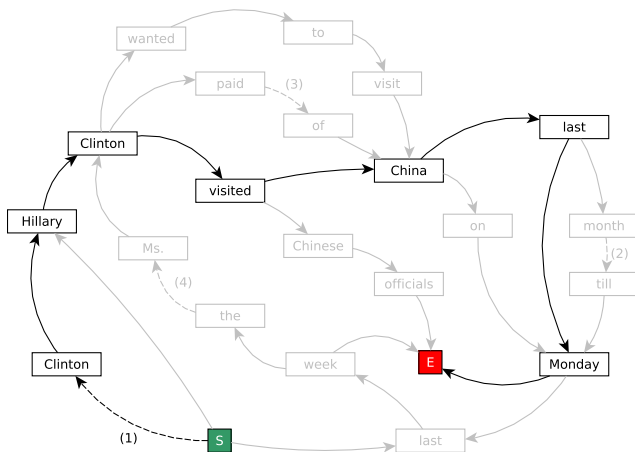
Generate an abstractive sentence for each utterance community with MSCG.

- 1 The wife of a former U.S. president Bill Clinton **Hillary Clinton** visited **China** last **Monday**
- 2 **Hillary Clinton** wanted to visit **China** last month but postponed her plans till **Monday** last week
- 3 **Hillary Clinton** paid a visit to the People Republic of **China** on **Monday**
- 4 Last week the Secretary of State Ms. **Clinton** visited Chinese officials



⇒ Redundancy provides a reliable way of generating grammatical sentences.
(Filippova 2010)

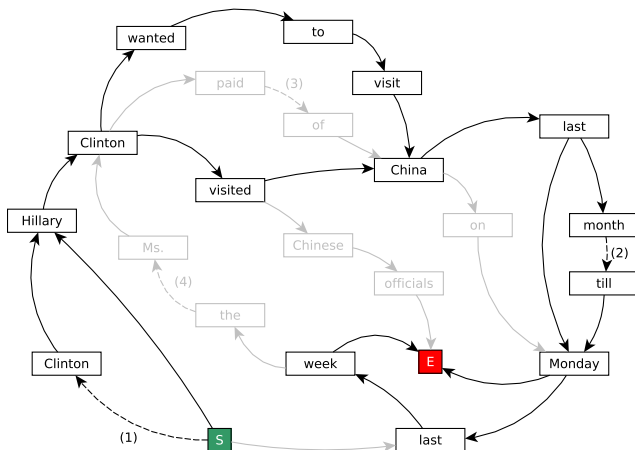
3.1. MSCG Building (1/4)



(1) *The wife of a former U.S. president Bill Clinton Hillary Clinton visited China last Monday*¹

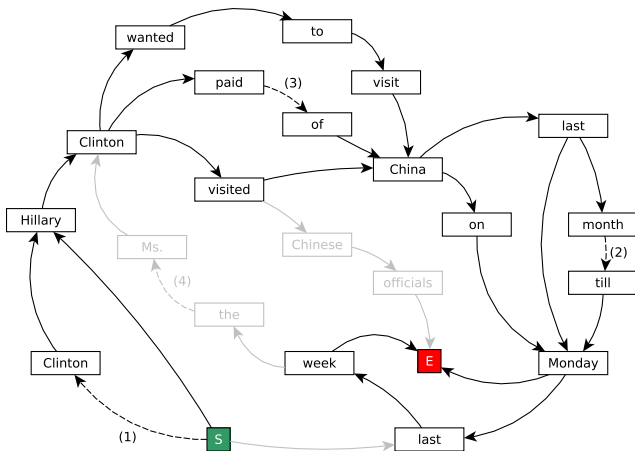
¹ Italicized fragments from the sentences are replaced with dashed arrow for clarity in the graph.

3.1. MSCG Building (2/4)



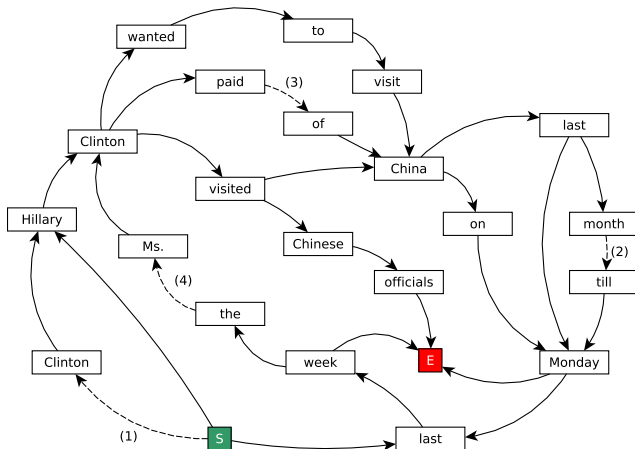
(2) Hillary Clinton wanted to visit China last month *but postponed her plans* till Monday last week

3.1. MSCG Building (3/4)



(3) Hillary Clinton paid a visit to the People Republic of China on Monday

3.1. MSCG Building (4/4)

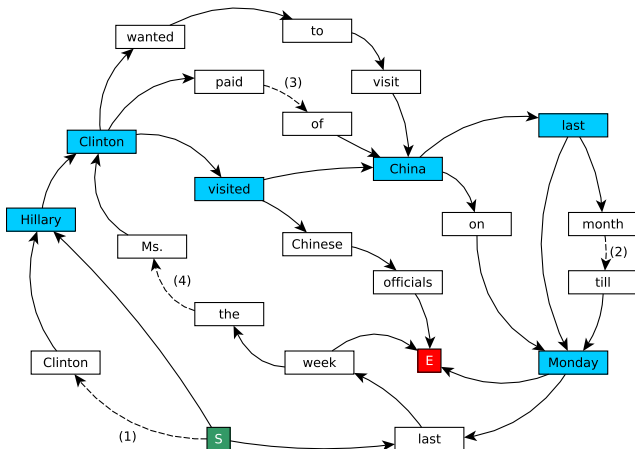


(4) Last week the *Secretary of State* Ms. Clinton visited Chinese officials

⇒ Every input sentence corresponds to a loopless path in the graph.

⇒ There are many other paths.

3.1. Objective of MSCG Building



⇒ Find the best compression path: **Hillary Clinton visited China last Monday.**

3.2. Edge Weight Assignment

Final edge weight (the lower the better):

$$w'''(p_i, p_j) = \frac{w'(p_i, p_j)}{w''(p_i, p_j)} \quad (1)$$

■ **Local co-occurrence statistics** (Filippova 2010):

$$w'(p_i, p_j) = \frac{\text{freq}(p_i) + \text{freq}(p_j)}{\sum_{P \in G', p_i, p_j \in P} \text{diff}(P, p_i, p_j)^{-1}} \quad (2)$$

$\text{freq}(p_i)$: number of words mapped to the node p_i .

$\text{diff}(P, p_i, p_j)^{-1}$: inverse of the distance between p_i and p_j in path P .

Favors edges between words that frequently appear close to each other (*word association*).

■ **Global exterior knowledge**: Word Attraction Score (R. Wang, W. Liu, and McDonald 2014):

$$w''(p_i, p_j) = \frac{\text{freq}(p_i) \times \text{freq}(p_j)}{d_{p_i, p_j}^2} \quad (3)$$

d_{p_i, p_j} : Euclidean distance of the word embedding vectors for p_i and p_j .

Favor paths going through salient nodes that are close in the embedding space (*semantic relatedness*).

3.3. Path Selection and Reranking (1/2)

- Path score as its **cumulative edge weights** (the lowest is the best compression path):

$$W(P) = \sum_{i=1}^{|P|-1} w'''(p_i, p_{i+1}) \quad (4)$$

Reranking

The path with the lowest score does not guarantee its readability nor informativeness. (Boudin and Morin 2013)

⇒ *Reranking N best paths is necessary.*

3.3. Path Selection and Reranking (2/2)

- **Fluency** (Mehdad et al. 2013): estimate readability of MSCG path P based on a 3-gram language model

$$F(P) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{|P|} \log \Pr(p_i | p_{i-n+1}^{i-1})}{\#n\text{-gram}} \quad (5)$$

- **Coverage** (Mehdad et al. 2013): estimate the information covered by P

$$C(P) = \frac{\sum_{p_i \in P} \text{TW-IDF}(p_i)}{\#p_i} \quad (6)$$

TW: term CoreRank score of p_i in the GoW of the community. (Tixier, Malliaros, and Vazirgiannis 2016)

- **Diversity**: estimate the diversity of the information contained by P

$$D(P) = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^k 1_{\exists p_i \in P | p_i \in \text{cluster}_j}}{|P|} \quad (7)$$

The number of different word clusters covered by the path

- **Final path score**: select the path with the lowest score per community

$$\text{score}(P) = \frac{W(P)}{|P| \times F(P) \times C(P) \times D(P)} \quad (8)$$

Diversity

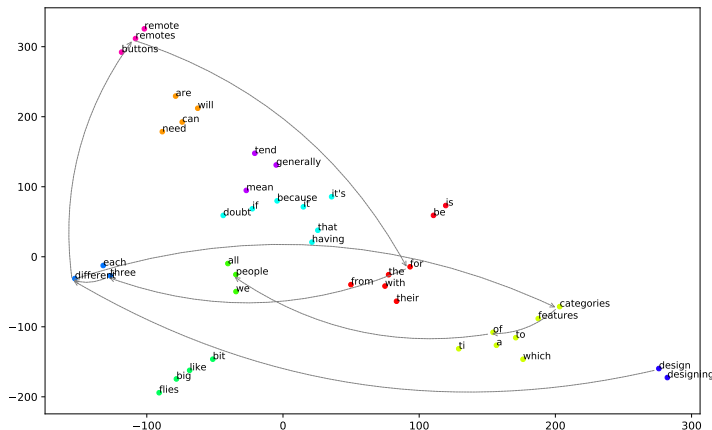
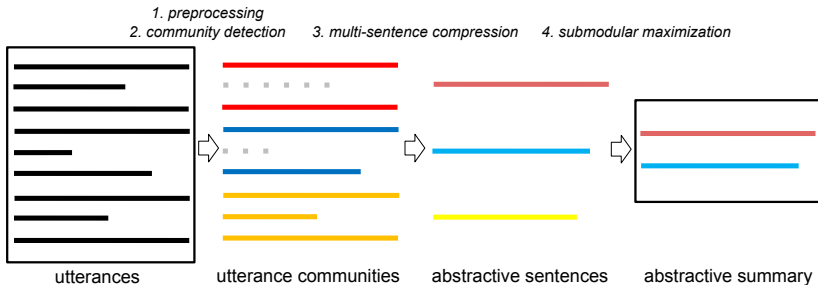


Figure: t-SNE visualization of the GoogleNews vectors of the words in an utterance community. Arrows join the words in the best compression path. Movements in the embedding space, as measured by the number of unique clusters covered by the path (here, 6/11), can provide a sense of the diversity of the compressed sentence, as formalized in Equation 7.

Pipeline



4. Budgeted Submodular Maximization

Generate the final summary by selecting an optimal subset S from the set of abstractive sentences \mathcal{S} under a budget constraint.

$$\operatorname{argmax}_{S \subseteq \mathcal{S}} f(S) \mid \sum_{s \in S} \text{cost}_s \leq \text{Budget}$$

NP-hard, but near-optimal performance can be guaranteed with a modified greedy algorithm (H. Lin and Bilmes 2010) that iteratively selects the sentence s that maximizes the ratio of summary quality function gain to scaled cost $f(G \cup s) - f(G) / \text{cost}_s^r$ (where G is the current subset and $r \geq 0$ is a scaling factor).

Summary quality function f is non-decreasing and **submodular** taking both coverage and diversity into account:

$$f(S) = c(S) + \lambda d(S)$$

$$c(S) = \sum_{s_i \in S} n_{s_i} w_{s_i}, d(S) = \sum_{j=1}^k 1_{\exists s_i \in S, s_i \in \text{cluster}_j}$$

$\lambda \geq 0$: trade-off parameter, n_{s_i} : number of occurrences of word s_i in S , w_{s_i} : CoreRank score of word s_i

Experimental setup

Baselines

- **Random & Longest Greedy** (Riedhammer et al. 2008)
- **TextRank** (Mihalcea and Tarau 2004) & **ClusterRank** (Garg et al. 2009)
- **Oracle & CoreRank Submodular & PageRank Submodular** (Tixier, Meladianos, and Vazirgiannis 2017)

Variants of our system

- Our System (**Baseline**) (Filippova 2010)
- Our System (**KeyRank**) (Boudin and Morin 2013)
- Our System (**FluCovRank**) (Mehdad et al. 2013)

Parameter tuning

- over fixed summary size: **350 / 450** words for AMI / ICSI corpus

Datasets & Metrics

- AMI / ICSI corpus (47/25 for development, 20/6 for test, 1/3 reference summaries)
- ROUGE-1/2/SU4

ROUGE Results AMI

	AMI ROUGE-1			AMI ROUGE-2			AMI ROUGE-SU4		
	R	P	F-1	R	P	F-1	R	P	F-1
Our System	41.83	34.44	37.25	8.22	6.95	7.43	15.83	13.70	14.51
Our System (Baseline)	41.56	34.37	37.11	7.88	6.66	7.11	15.36	13.20	14.02
Our System (KeyRank)	42.43	35.01	37.86	8.72	7.29	7.84	16.19	13.76	14.71
Our System (FluCovRank)	41.84	34.61	37.37	8.29	6.92	7.45	16.28	13.48	14.58
Oracle	40.49	34.65	36.73	8.07	7.35	7.55	15.00	14.03	14.26
CoreRank Submodular	41.14	32.93	36.13	8.06	6.88	7.33	14.84	13.91	14.18
PageRank Submodular	40.84	33.08	36.10	8.27	6.88	7.42	15.37	13.71	14.32
TextRank	39.55	32.60	35.25	7.67	6.43	6.90	14.87	12.87	13.62
ClusterRank	39.36	32.53	35.14	7.14	6.05	6.46	14.34	12.80	13.35
Longest Greedy	37.31	30.93	33.35	5.77	4.71	5.11	13.79	11.11	12.15
Random	39.42	32.48	35.13	6.88	5.89	6.26	14.07	12.70	13.17

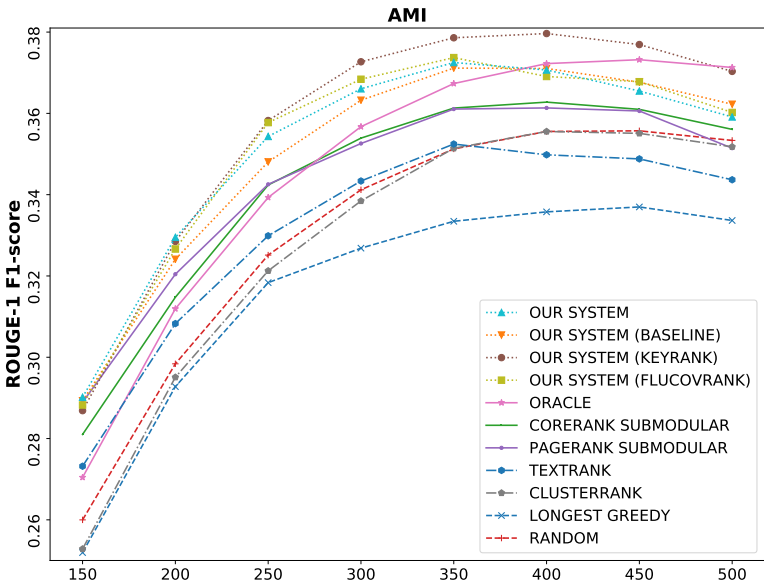
Table: Macro-averaged results for 350 word summaries (ASR transcriptions).

ROUGE Results ICSI

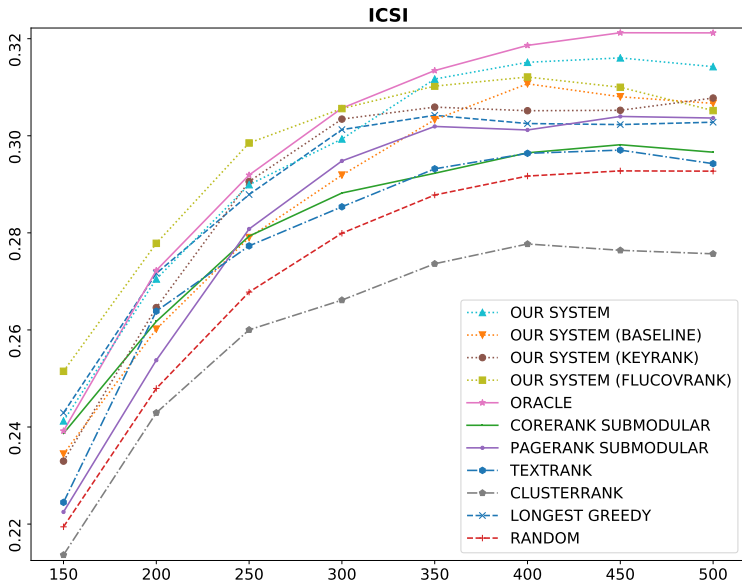
	ICSI ROUGE-1			ICSI ROUGE-2			ICSI ROUGE-SU4		
	R	P	F-1	R	P	F-1	R	P	F-1
Our System	36.99	28.12	31.60	5.41	4.39	4.79	13.10	10.17	11.35
Our System (Baseline)	36.39	27.20	30.80	5.19	4.12	4.55	12.59	9.70	10.86
Our System (KeyRank)	35.95	27.00	30.52	4.64	3.64	4.04	12.43	9.23	10.50
Our System (FluCovRank)	36.27	27.56	31.00	5.56	4.35	4.83	13.47	9.85	11.29
Oracle	37.91	28.39	32.12	5.73	4.82	5.18	13.35	10.73	11.80
CoreRank Submodular	35.22	26.34	29.82	4.36	3.76	4.00	12.11	9.58	10.61
PageRank Submodular	36.05	26.69	30.40	4.82	4.16	4.42	12.19	10.39	11.14
TextRank	34.89	26.33	29.70	4.60	3.74	4.09	12.42	9.43	10.64
ClusterRank	32.63	24.44	27.64	4.03	3.44	3.68	11.04	8.88	9.77
Longest Greedy	35.57	26.74	30.23	4.84	3.88	4.27	13.09	9.46	10.90
Random	34.78	25.75	29.28	4.19	3.51	3.78	11.61	9.37	10.29

Table: Macro-averaged results for 450 word summaries (ASR transcriptions).

ROUGE-1 F1-score



ROUGE-1 F1-score



Example Summary AMI TS3003c manual transcription of Our System

attract elderly people can use the remote control
changing channels button on the right side that would certainly yield great options for the design of the remote
personally i dont think that older people like to shake your remote control
imagine that the remote control and the docking station
remote control have to lay in your hand and right hand users
finding an attractive way to control the remote control
casing the manufacturing department can deliver a flat casing single or double curved casing
top of that the lcd screen would help in making the remote control easier
increase the price for which were selling our remote control
remote controls are using a onoff button still on the top
apply remote control on which you can apply different case covers
button on your docking station which you can push and then it starts beeping
surveys have indicated that especially wood is the material for older people
mobile phones so like the nokia mobile phones when you can change the case
greyblack colour for people prefer dark colours
brings us to the discussion about our concepts
docking station and small screen would be our main points of interest
industrial designer and user interface designer are going to work
innovativeness was about half as important as the fancy design
efficient and cheaper to put it in the docking station
case supplement and the buttons it really depends on the designer
start by choosing a case
deployed some trendwatchers to milan

Reference Summary AMI TS3003c

The project manager opened the meeting and recapped the decisions made in the previous meeting.

The marketing expert discussed his personal preferences for the design of the remote and presented the results of trend-watching reports, which indicated that there is a need for products which are fancy, innovative, easy to use, in dark colors, in recognizable shapes, and in a familiar material like wood.

The user interface designer discussed the option to include speech recognition and which functions to include on the remote.

The industrial designer discussed which options he preferred for the remote in terms of energy sources, casing, case supplements, buttons, and chips.

The team then discussed and made decisions regarding energy sources, speech recognition, LCD screens, chips, case materials and colors, case shape and orientation, and button orientation.

The team members will look at the corporate website.

The user interface designer will continue with what he has been working on.

The industrial designer and user interface designer will work together.

The remote will have a docking station.

The remote will use a conventional battery and a docking station which recharges the battery.

The remote will use an advanced chip.

The remote will have changeable case covers.

The case covers will be available in wood or plastic.

The case will be single curved.

Whether to use kinetic energy or a conventional battery with a docking station which recharges the remote.

Whether to implement an LCD screen on the remote.

Choosing between an LCD screen or speech recognition.

Using wood for the case.

Conclusion

Contributions

- A fully unsupervised framework, does not rely on any annotations, language-independent
 - based on MSCG and budgeted submodular maximization
- Novel edge weight assignment and path re-ranking strategy for the MSCG
 - based on word embeddings, graph-of-words, and graph degeneracy
- Code is publicly available:
https://bitbucket.org/dascim/acl2018_abssumm

Future work

- improving the community detection phase (TF-IDF + k -means)
⇒ a novel approach will be introduced in Section 5.

Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Context
- 3 Unsupervised Abstractive Meeting Summarization
- 4 Dialogue Act Classification**
- 5 Abstractive Community Detection
- 6 Conclusion

Introduction

Dialogue Act (DA) classification aims at assigning to each utterance in a conversation a DA label to represent its **communicative intention**.

- Useful annotations to many spoken language understanding tasks.

Change	Speaker	Utterance	DA
-	B	Of course I use,	sd
True	A	<laughter>.	x
True	B	credit cards.	+
False	B	I have a couple of credit cards	sd
True	A	Yeah.	b
True	B	and, uh, use them.	+
True	A	Uh-huh,	b
False	A	do you use them a lot?	qy
True	B	Oh, we try not to.	ng

Table: Fragment from SwDA conversation sw3332. **Statement**-non-opinion (sd), Non-verbal (x), Interruption (+), Acknowledge/Backchannel (b), Yes-No-**Question** (qy), Negative non-no **answers** (ng).

⇒ There are dependencies both at the **utterance level** and at the **label level**.

Related work

Multi-class classification

Consecutive DA labels are considered to be independent, predicted in isolation.

- **naive Bayes** (Grau et al. 2004), **Maxent** (Venkataraman et al. 2005; Ang, Y. Liu, and E. Shriberg 2005), or **SVM** (Y. Liu 2006).
- **Deep learning models** (Ries 1999; Khanpour, Guntakandla, and Nielsen 2016; Shen and H.-y. Lee 2016; Kalchbrenner and Blunsom 2013; J. Y. Lee and Dernoncourt 2016; Ortega and Vu 2017; Bothe et al. 2018)

Sequence labeling

DA labels for all the utterances in the conversation are classified together.

- **HMMs** (Stolcke et al. 2000; Surendran and Levow 2006; Tavafi et al. 2013) and **CRFs** (Lendvai and Geertzen 2007; Zimmermann 2009; Kim, Cavedon, and Baldwin 2010)
- Neural sequence labeling architectures: **BiLSTM-Softmax** (W. Li and Wu 2016; Tran, Zukerman, and Haffari 2017; Y. Liu et al. 2017) and **BiLSTM-CRF** (Kumar et al. 2018; Z. Chen et al. 2018; Raheja and Tetreault 2019; R. Li et al. 2019).

BiLSTM-CRF is able to capture the dependencies among consecutive **utterances** (with BiLSTM) and among consecutive DA **labels** (with CRF).

Motivation

The state-of-the-art works do not take into account the additional **speaker** input sequence.

- This is a major **limitation**.
- This extra input could greatly improve DA prediction.

Turn management (Sacks, Schegloff, and Jefferson 1974)

- Dialogue participants follow an underlying turn-taking system to occupy or release (not arbitrarily) the speaker role (Petukhova and Bunt 2009).
- \Rightarrow DA transition should be conditioned both on the utterance transition and the **speaker-change** (not speaker-identifier).
- \Rightarrow “A *Question* is usually followed by an *Answer*” (only partially true), + [***if the speaker changed***].

To address the limitation, we propose a simple modification of the CRF layer that takes speaker-change into account.

We evaluate our modified CRF layer within the BiLSTM-CRF architecture.

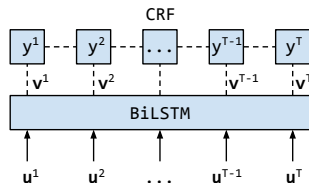


Figure: BiLSTM-CRF. $\{\mathbf{u}^t\}_{t=1}^T$ are utterance embeddings.

- 1 LSTM (text encoder): utterances $X = \{\mathbf{x}^t\}_{t=1}^T \rightarrow$ utterance embeddings $\{\mathbf{u}^t\}_{t=1}^T$.
- 2 BiLSTM: $\{\mathbf{u}^t\}_{t=1}^T \rightarrow$ conversation-level utterance representations $\{\mathbf{v}^t\}_{t=1}^T$.
- 3 CRF: $\{\mathbf{v}^t\}_{t=1}^T \rightarrow$ labels $Y = \{y^t\}_{t=1}^T$

CRF layer

CRF is a **discriminative** probabilistic graphical framework used to label sequences (Lafferty, McCallum, and Pereira 2001).

$$P(Y|X) = \frac{\exp(\psi(X, Y))}{\sum_{\tilde{Y}} \exp(\psi(X, \tilde{Y}))} \quad (9)$$

where $\psi(X, Y)$ is a feature function that assigns a **path score** to the label sequence Y , giving the input sequence X . \tilde{Y} denotes one of all possible label sequences (paths).

$$\psi(X, Y) = \sum_{t=1}^T h(y^t, X) + \sum_{t=1}^{T-1} g(y^t, y^{t+1}) \quad (10)$$

$\psi(X, Y)$ is defined as the sum of **emission scores** (or state scores) and **transition scores** over all time steps.

$$h(y^t, X) = (\mathbf{W}\mathbf{v}^t + \mathbf{b})[y^t] \quad (11)$$

where the conversation-level utterance representation \mathbf{v}^t is converted into a vector of size K .

$$g(y^t, y^{t+1}) = \mathbf{G}[y^t, y^{t+1}] \quad (12)$$

where \mathbf{G} is the label transition matrix of size $K \times K$.

CRF layer

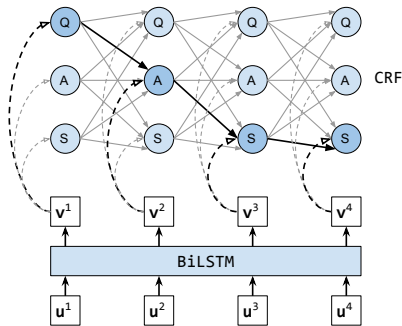


Figure: BiLSTM-CRF for an example.

For a training set of M conversations, the loss can be written as:

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{m=1}^M -\log P(Y^m|X^m) \quad (13)$$

At test time, the optimal label sequence, i.e., $Y^* = \operatorname{argmax}_{\tilde{Y}} P(\tilde{Y}|X)$ for unseen X , is obtained with the Viterbi algorithm (Viterbi 1967), with polynomial complexity $O(TK^2)$.

Contribution

Notation

$S = \{s^t\}_{t=1}^T$: the sequence of speaker-identifiers.

$Z = \{z^{t,t+1}\}_{t=1}^{T-1}$: **the sequence of speaker-changes**, obtained by comparing neighbors in S .

E.g., $z^{2,3} = 0$ means the speaker does not change from time $t = 2$ to $t = 3$.

We extend the original CRF so that it considers as **additional input**, the sequence Z .

$$P(Y|X, Z) = \frac{\exp(\psi(X, Y, Z))}{\sum_{\tilde{Y}} \exp(\psi(X, \tilde{Y}, Z))} \quad (14)$$

Specifically, transition scores in our modified CRF layer are computed as follows:

$$g(y^t, y^{t+1}, z^{t,t+1}) = (1 - z^{t,t+1}) * \mathbf{G}_0[y^t, y^{t+1}] + z^{t,t+1} * \mathbf{G}_1[y^t, y^{t+1}] \quad (15)$$

where \mathbf{G}_0 and \mathbf{G}_1 are label transition matrices of size $K \times K$, corresponding respectively to the “**speaker unchanged**” and “**speaker changed**” cases.

Dataset

Switchboard Dialogue Act (SwDA) dataset (Jurafsky, L. Shriberg, and Biasca 1997; Stolcke et al. 2000).

- telephonic conversations recorded between two randomly selected speakers talking about one of various general topics (air pollution, music, football, etc.).
- training, validation and testing partition of 1003, 112, and 19 conversations.
- utterances are annotated with **42** mutually exclusive DA labels
- Inter-annotator agreement is 84%.

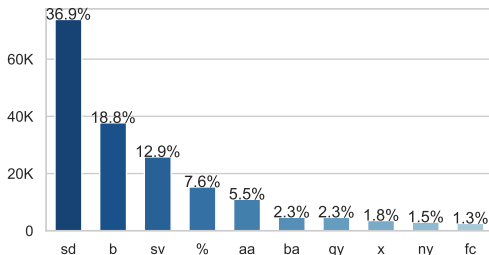


Figure: Counts and frequencies of the 10 most represented DA labels in the SwDA dataset. There are 200444 utterances in total.

Results

Model	BiLSTM input	CRF extra input	Accuracy (% \pm SD)
a) Our CRF	\mathbf{u}^t	SC	78.70 \pm .37
a1)	$\mathbf{u}^t + \text{SI}$	SC	78.32 \pm .28
a2)	$\mathbf{u}^t + \text{SC}$	SC	78.65 \pm .47
b) Vanilla CRF	\mathbf{u}^t	-	77.69 \pm .38
b1)	$\mathbf{u}^t + \text{SI}$	-	77.86 \pm .61
b2)	$\mathbf{u}^t + \text{SC}$	-	78.33 \pm .71
c) Softmax	\mathbf{u}^t	-	77.80 \pm .48
c1)	$\mathbf{u}^t + \text{SI}$	-	77.73 \pm .44
c2)	$\mathbf{u}^t + \text{SC}$	-	78.33 \pm .49
a) + b) ensembling	\mathbf{u}^t	SC	78.89 \pm .20
a) + b) joint training	\mathbf{u}^t	SC	78.27 \pm .47

Table: Results, averaged over 10 runs and 42 DA labels. SI: speaker-identifier, SC: speaker-change, \mathbf{u}^t : utterance embedding, \pm : standard deviation.

Analysis

Our CRF vs. Vanilla CRF

- \Rightarrow our model a) outperforms the base model b) by 1%, over 42 labels.
- \Rightarrow The boost is greater than the gains of 0.26% (Y. Liu et al. 2017) and 0.09% (Bothe et al. 2018) reported by previous attempts at leveraging speaker information.

Confusion matrices

- 10 most frequent labels (91%) \Rightarrow outperforms on a majority of them, but not on sd.
- 10 best predicted labels (20%) and 10 worst predicted labels (40%) \Rightarrow Our model is most useful for the difficult and rare DAs requiring speaker-change awareness.

Different ways of incorporating speaker information

- concatenate the one-hot encoded SI vector (of size 2) and the binary speaker-change vector (of size 1) with \mathbf{u}^t the utterance embedding.

BiLSTM-CRF VS. BiLSTM-Softmax

- \Rightarrow competitive, this finding is not surprising and consistent with the results reported in recent works on other tasks (Reimers and Gurevych 2017; J. Yang, Liang, and Zhang 2018; Cui and Zhang 2019).

Ensembling vs. joint training

- Ensembling: combines the predictions of the two trained models by averaging their emission and transition scores respectively.
- Joint training: $\mathbf{G}_{basis}[y^t, y^{t+1}] + (1 - z^{t,t+1}) * \mathbf{G}_0[y^t, y^{t+1}] + z^{t,t+1} * \mathbf{G}_1[y^t, y^{t+1}]$

Conclusion

Contributions

- A modified CRF layer that takes as extra input the sequence of speaker-changes was proposed. Code is publicly available:
https://bitbucket.org/guokan_shang/da-classification.
- Experiments showed that our CRF layer outperforms vanilla CRF \Rightarrow taking speaker information into consideration was beneficial.
- Visualizations confirmed that our improved CRF was able to learn complex speaker-change aware DA transition patterns in an end-to-end way.

Future work

- address the limitation of the Markov property of CRF layer
- capture longer-range dependencies within and among the three sequences: that of speakers, utterances, and DA labels.

Introduction 1/2

Abstractive summarization of conversations aims to take a transcription as input and produce an abstractive summary as output.

- **Subtask a**, *Abstractive Community Detection* (ACD), groups utterances according to whether they can be *jointly* summarized by a common abstractive sentence.
- **Subtask b**, NLG, generates an abstractive sentence for each group named *abstractive community* \Rightarrow forming the final abstractive summary.

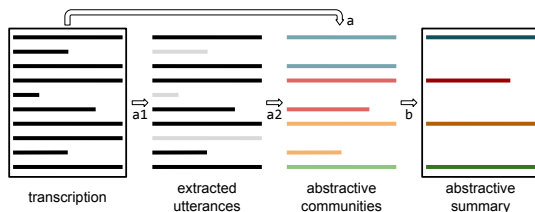


Figure: Abstractive summarization of conversations.

- **Step a1** extracts important/summary-worthy utterances from the transcription.

- closely related to *extractive summarization* & extensively studied

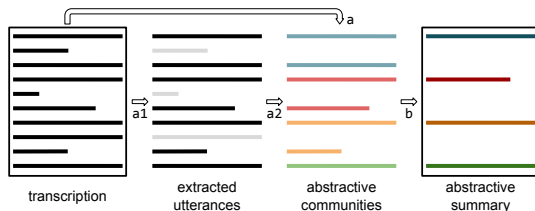


Figure: Abstractive summarization of conversations.

⇒ This $a1 \rightarrow a2 \rightarrow b$ process is more consistent with the way humans treat the summarization task (e.g., the creation of the AML corpus (McCowan et al. 2005)).

Example of abstractive communities

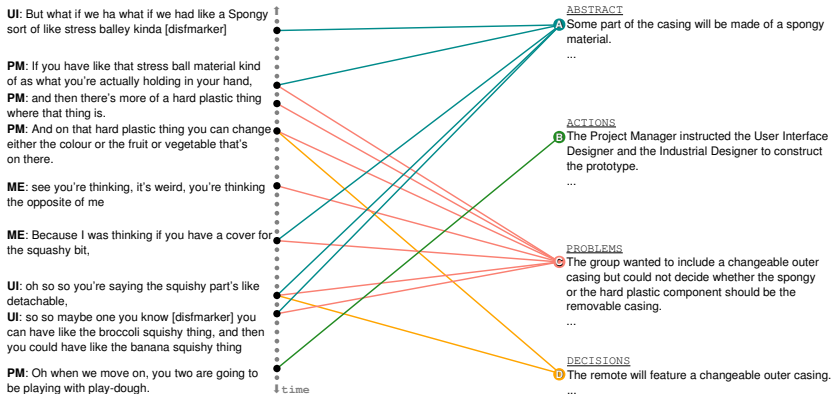


Figure: Example of ground truth human annotations from the ES2011c AMI meeting. Successive grey nodes on the left denote utterances in the transcription. Black nodes correspond to the utterances judged important. Sentences (e.g., A, B, C, D) from the abstractive summary are shown on the right. All utterances linked to the same abstractive sentence form one community.

⇒ Communities should capture more complex relationship than simple semantic similarity.

Related work

Supervised approaches

- Utterance graph + CONGA, edges are decided by a trained binary classifier (if or not two utterances are jointly summarizable)(Murray, Carenini, and Ng 2012).
- + an entailment graph for each community (Mehdad et al. 2013)

Unsupervised approaches

- Topic segmentation (Oya et al. 2014; Banerjee, Mitra, and Sugiyama 2015; Singla et al. 2017)
- TF-IDF + k -means (**Shang**, Ding, et al. 2018)

Our energy-based/deep metric learning approach

- We introduce a neural contextual utterance encoder featuring three types of self-attention mechanisms.
- We then train it using the siamese and triplet energy-based meta-architectures.
- We applied the Fuzzy c-Means clustering algorithm on the trained utterance embeddings in order to obtain abstractive communities.

Siamese & triplet energy-based architectures

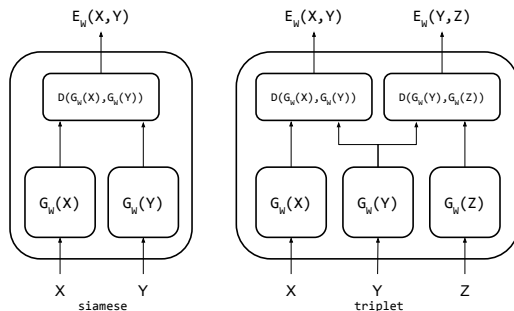


Figure: Siamese & triplet architectures

siamese (Bromley et al. 1994; Chopra, Hadsell, and LeCun 2005)

- objective: minimize the output energies (i.e., distances in the embedding space) $E_W(X^i, Y^i)$ associated with positive pairs, and maximize those associated with negative pairs.

triplet (Hoffer and Ailon 2015; J. Wang et al. 2014)

- objective: jointly minimize the positive-anchor energy $E_W(X^i, Y^i)$ and maximize the anchor-negative energy $E_W(Y^i, Z^i)$.

Utterance encoder 1/3

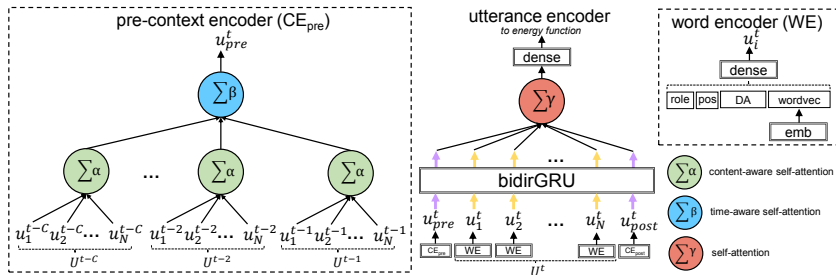


Figure: Our proposed utterance encoder G_W . Only the pre-context encoder is shown. C is the context size.

- **word encoder:** textual features (word embedding) + discourse features (role, position, dialogue act) \rightarrow dense layer $\rightarrow \mathbf{u}_i^t$
- **utterance encoder:** $\{\mathbf{u}_{\text{pre}}^t, \mathbf{u}_1^t, \dots, \mathbf{u}_N^t, \mathbf{u}_{\text{post}}^t\} \rightarrow \text{BiGRU} \rightarrow \text{self-attention } (\gamma)$
(Vaswani et al. 2017; Z. Lin et al. 2017) \rightarrow dense layer $\rightarrow \mathbf{u}^t$

$$\mathbf{u}^t = \text{dense}\left(\sum_{i=1}^{N+2} \gamma_i^t \mathbf{h}_i^t\right) \quad \boldsymbol{\gamma}^t = \text{softmax}(\mathbf{u}_{\gamma} \cdot \tanh(\mathbf{W}_{\gamma} \mathbf{H}^t)) \quad (16)$$

Utterance encoder 2/3

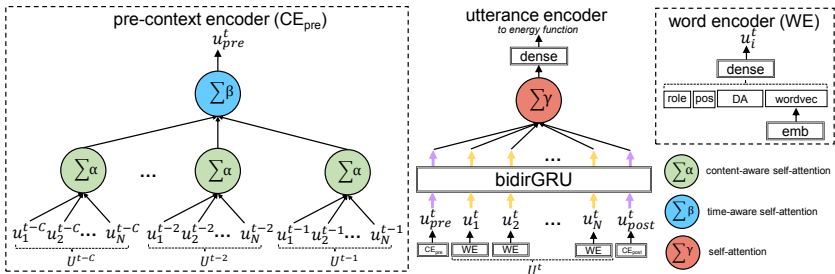


Figure: Our proposed utterance encoder G_W . Only the pre-context encoder is shown. C is the context size.

- **context encoder level 1:** $\mathbf{U}^{t-1} = \{\mathbf{u}_1^{t-1}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_N^{t-1}\} \rightarrow$ **content-aware self-attention** (α) (Tu et al. 2016; See, P. J. Liu, and Christopher D. Manning 2017) $\rightarrow \mathbf{u}^{t-1}$

$$\alpha^{t-1} = \text{softmax} \left(\mathbf{u}_\alpha \cdot \tanh \left(\mathbf{W}_\alpha \mathbf{U}^{t-1} + \mathbf{W}' \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbf{u}_i^t \right) \right) \quad (17)$$

Utterance encoder 3/3

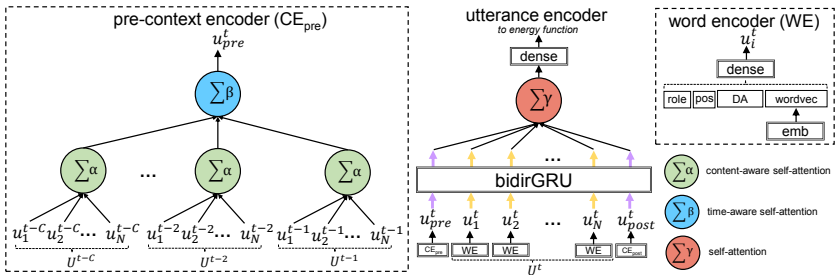


Figure: Our proposed utterance encoder G_W . Only the pre-context encoder is shown. C is the context size.

- **context encoder level 2:** $\{\mathbf{u}^{t-C}, \dots, \mathbf{u}^{t-1}\} \rightarrow$ **time-aware self-attention** (β) (Su, Yuan, and Y.-N. Chen 2018) $\rightarrow \mathbf{u}_{pre}^t$

$$\begin{aligned} \beta^{t-1} &= w_1 \beta^{\text{conv}^{t-1}} + w_2 \beta^{\text{lin}^{t-1}} + w_3 \beta^{\text{conc}^{t-1}} \\ &= \frac{w_1}{a(d^{t-1})^b} + w_2 [ed^{t-1} + k]^+ + \frac{w_3}{1 + (\frac{d^{t-1}}{D_0})^l} \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

where $[*]^+ = \max(*, 0)$ (ReLU), d^{t-1} is the offset between the positions of \mathbf{U}^{t-1} and \mathbf{U}^t , and the

- a probabilistic version of k -means, which returns a probability distribution over all communities for each utterance

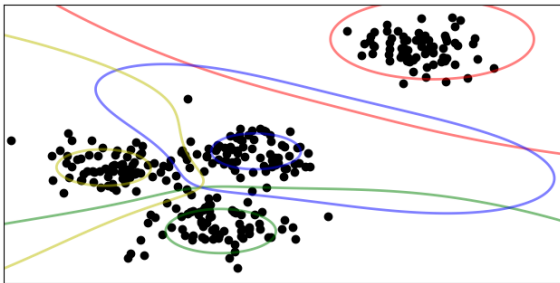


Figure: FCM example.

Experimental setup

Dataset: AMI meeting corpus

- participants play 4 roles of a design team to develop a TV remote control.
- 97, 20, and 20 meetings respectively for training, validation and testing.
- 2368 unique abstractive communities.

Baselines

- encoders: **LD** (J. Y. Lee and Derroncourt 2016) and **HAN** (Z. Yang et al. 2016).
- systems: unsupervised (**tf-idf**, **w2v**, **LCseg** (Galley et al. 2003)), and supervised approaches similar to that of Murray, Carenini, and Ng 2012 (utterance graph + CONGA).

Ablations

- variants of our encoder: **CA-S**, **S-S**, **(0,0)**, and **(3,0)**.

Evaluation

- distance level: P, R, F1 at k ($k=10/v$)
- clustering level: Omega Index (Collins and Dent 1988) ($|Q|=11/v$)

Parameter tuning

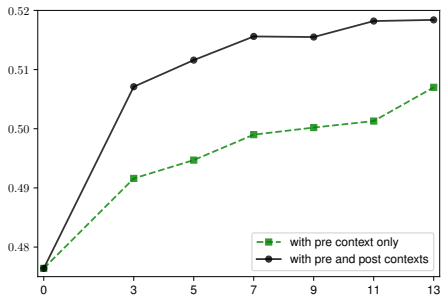


Figure: Impact of context size on the validation $P@k = v$, for our model trained within the triplet meta-architecture.

Results

			(pre, post)	P	P	R	F1	Omega index $\times 100$	
				@k = v	@k = 10			Q = v	Q = 11
Triplet	a1)	our model	(0, 0)	54.59	46.05	62.45	43.18	49.09	48.81
	a2)	our model	(3, 0)	55.17	46.17	62.80	43.25	49.78	49.70
	a3)	our model	(11, 11)	58.58	46.73	63.82	43.83	49.90	49.28
	b)	our model (CA-S)	(11, 11)	59.52*	46.98*	64.01*	44.06*	50.11	49.73
	c)	our model (S-S)	(11, 11)	58.96	46.81	63.65	43.87	49.59	49.88
	d)	LD	(3, 0)	52.04	44.82	60.41	41.82	48.70	48.14
	e)	HAN	(11, 11)	58.72	45.76	62.60	42.89	49.32	48.88
Siamese	f1)	our model	(0, 0)	53.01	45.10	60.97	42.12	50.56	49.65
	f2)	our model	(3, 0)	53.78	45.54	61.33	42.48	51.01	50.00
	f3)	our model	(11, 11)	56.64	46.47	62.54	43.40	52.44*	51.88*
	g)	our model (CA-S)	(11, 11)	56.46	46.08	61.92	43.02	51.60	50.98
	h)	our model (S-S)	(11, 11)	55.68	45.64	61.17	42.53	52.26	51.11
	i)	LD	(3, 0)	52.13	44.83	60.85	41.86	51.18	50.70
	j)	HAN	(11, 11)	58.54	45.72	61.55	42.74	50.51	49.82
Unsupervised	k1)	tf-idf	(0, 0)	29.28	26.67	34.69	24.19	13.12	13.66
	k2)	tf-idf	(3, 0)	34.77	30.27	40.83	27.79	10.22	10.17
	k3)	tf-idf	(11, 11)	58.94	43.94	61.36	41.45	38.09	39.47
	l1)	w2v	(0, 0)	29.02	27.46	37.39	25.11	13.89	13.50
	l2)	w2v	(3, 0)	34.11	29.92	39.55	27.32	10.61	10.77
	l3)	w2v	(11, 11)	58.30	44.08	61.59	41.59	37.75	38.28
	m)	LCSeg	-	-	-	-	-	38.98	41.57
Supervised	n1)	tf-idf	(0, 0)	-	-	-	-	25.04	25.14
	n2)	tf-idf	(3, 0)	-	-	-	-	27.33	26.95
	n3)	tf-idf	(11, 11)	-	-	-	-	45.26	44.91
	o1)	w2v	(0, 0)	-	-	-	-	25.32	25.25
	o2)	w2v	(3, 0)	-	-	-	-	29.14	29.02
	o3)	w2v	(11, 11)	-	-	-	-	43.31	43.08

Table: Results (averaged over 10 runs). *: best score per column. **Bold**: best score per section. -: does not apply

Age Group	Percentage
18-24	~1%
25-34	~18%
35-44	~12%
45-54	~12%
55-64	~12%
65-74	~12%
75-84	~12%
85+	~12%

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Conclusion

Contributions

- We formalized ACD, a crucial subtask for abstractive summarization of conversations. The AMI corpus preprocessed for this task and the code are publicly available. https://bitbucket.org/guokan_shang/abscomm
- We proposed an energy-based learning approach to this task, using siamese and triplet architectures to learn utterance embeddings for clustering.
- We introduced a novel utterance encoder featuring three types of self-attention mechanisms and taking contextual and temporal information into account.

Future work

- 1 evaluate our approach within the full abstractive summarization pipeline $a1 \rightarrow a2 \rightarrow b$
- 2 apply our contextual utterance encoder to other tasks, such as dialogue act classification.

Future work

Deeper understanding of meetings

- discourse structure/graph → GNN
 - Thompson and Mann 1987; Nicholas Asher 1993; N. Asher et al. 2003
 - Zhou et al. 2018
- multi-modal information
 - M. Li et al. 2019

Deeper understanding of natural language

- pre-trained language model
 - Devlin et al. 2018

Thank you!

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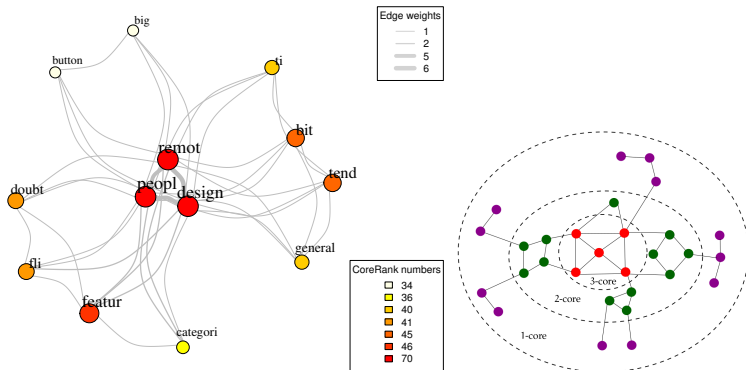
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Keyword Extraction with Graph-of-words and CoreRank

$$TW-IDF(t, d, D) = TW(t, d) \times IDF(t, D) \quad (19)$$



A k -core of G is a maximal subgraph of G in which every vertex v has at least weighted degree k .

(François Rousseau and Vazirgiannis 2015; Tixier, Malliaros, and Vazirgiannis 2016; Meladianos et al. 2017)

Submodularity

■ Submodularity (Krause and Golovin 2014):

A set function $F : 2^V \rightarrow \mathcal{R}$ where $V = \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$ is said to be *submodular* if it satisfies the property of *diminishing returns*:

$$\forall A \subseteq B \subseteq V \setminus v, \\ F(A \cup v) - F(A) \geq F(B \cup v) - F(B)$$

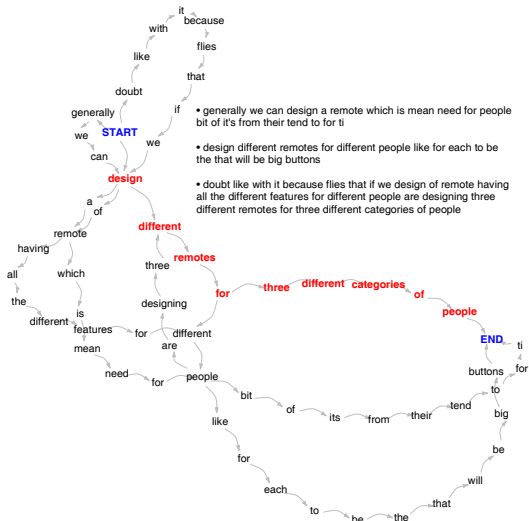
the gain of adding a new sentence to a given summary should be greater than the gain of adding the same sentence to a larger summary containing the smaller one

the set function $F(\cdot)$ is *monotone non-decreasing*:

$$\forall A \subseteq B, F(A) \leq F(B)$$

the quality of a summary can only increase or stay the same as it grows in size, i.e., as we add sentences to it

Example



http://datascience.open-paas.org/abs_summ_app

Confusion matrices for the 10 best predicted labels

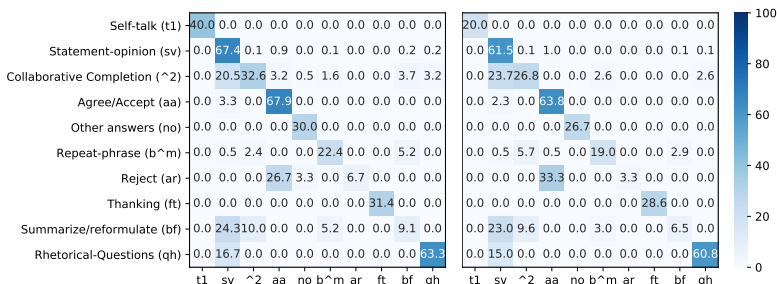


Figure: Normalized confusion matrices, averaged over 10 runs, for the 10 DA labels **best** predicted by our model (20.2% of all annotations). Left: our model, right: base model.

	Ours	Vanilla	Diff.
10 best DAs	37.08	31.70	+ 5.38
10 worst DAs	59.67	64.54	- 4.87

Table: accuracy (%) of our model vs. base model on the 10 DAs best and worst predicted by our model (resp., **20%** and **40%** of all annotations).

Confusion matrices for the 10 worst predicted labels

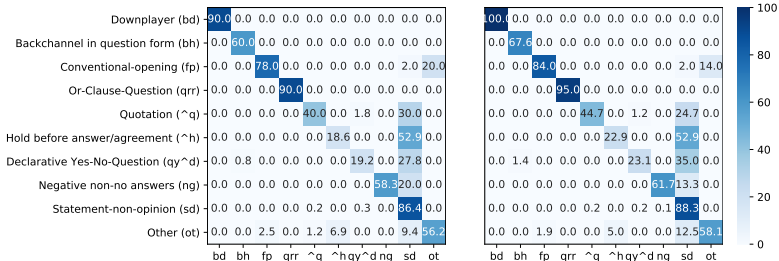


Figure: Normalized confusion matrices, averaged over 10 runs, for the 10 DA labels **worst** predicted by our model (20.2% of all annotations). Left: our model, right: base model.

- 1 "A: Hi, Wanet. (fp)"
- 2 "A: How are you? (fp)"
- 3 "B: I'm doing fine. (fp)"

Energy-Based Modeling (EBM)

EBM is a unified framework that can be applied to many machine learning problems (LeCun and F. J. Huang 2005; Lecun et al. 2006).

- An energy function $E_W(X, Y)$ parameterized by W assigns a scalar called *energy* to each pair of random variables (X, Y) .
- Training consists in finding the parameters W^* of the energy function E_W that, for all (X^i, Y^i) in the training set S of size P , assign low energy to compatible (correct) combinations and high energy to all other incompatible (incorrect) ones.
- This is done by minimizing a *loss functional* \mathcal{L} :

$$W^* = \arg \min_{W \in \mathcal{W}} \mathcal{L}(E_W(X, Y), S) \quad (20)$$

- For a given X , prediction consists in finding the value of Y that minimizes the energy.

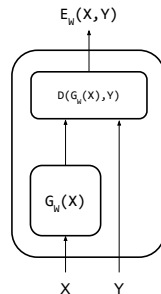


Figure: EBMs for regression. G_W : regressor model, D : dissimilarity measure.

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{P} \sum_{i=1}^P E_W(X^i, Y^i) \quad (21)$$

$$= \frac{1}{P} \sum_{i=1}^P \|G_W(X^i) - Y^i\|^2 \quad (22)$$

Siamese & triplet architectures

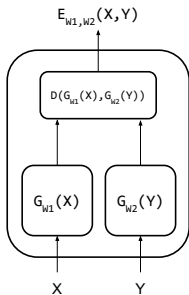


Figure: Siamese architecture, when $G_{W1} = G_{W2}$ and $W_1 = W_2$.

siamese (Bromley et al. 1994; Chopra, Hadsell, and LeCun 2005)

- (X^i, Y^i) is a positive pair, i.e., the label $C^i = 0$, when X^i and Y^i are two utterances from the same community, otherwise (X^i, Y^i) is a negative pair.
- objective: minimize the output energies (or distances) associated with positive pairs, and maximize those associated with negative pairs.
- loss (Mueller and Thyagarajan 2016):

$$E_W(X, Y) = 1 - \exp(-\|G_W(X) - G_W(Y)\|_1) \quad (23)$$

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{P} \sum_{i=1}^P \|E_W(X^i, Y^i) - C^i\|^2 \quad (24)$$

Siamese & triplet architectures

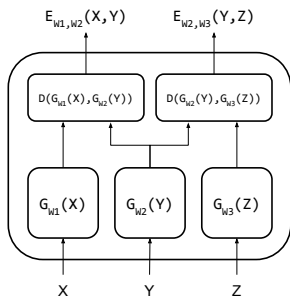


Figure: Triplet architecture, when $G_{W1} = G_{W2} = G_{W3}$ and $W_1 = W_2 = W_3$.

triplet (Schroff, Kalenichenko, and Philbin 2015; Hoffer and Ailon 2015; J. Wang et al. 2014)

- a direct extension of the siamese architecture
- (X, Y, Z) referred to as the *positive*, *anchor*, and *negative* objects, where X and Y are from the same community and Z from another.
- objective: jointly minimize the positive-anchor energy $E_W(X^i, Y^i)$ and maximize the anchor-negative energy $E_W(Y^i, Z^i)$.
- *softmax triplet loss* (Hoffer and Ailon 2015):

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2P} \sum_{i=1}^P (\|ne^+ - 0\|^2 + \|ne^- - 1\|^2) \quad (25)$$

$$ne^+ = \frac{e^{E_W(X^i, Y^i)}}{e^{E_W(X^i, Y^i)} + e^{E_W(Y^i, Z^i)}} \quad (26)$$

$$ne^- = \frac{e^{E_W(Y^i, Z^i)}}{e^{E_W(X^i, Y^i)} + e^{E_W(Y^i, Z^i)}} \quad (27)$$

$$E_W(X^i, Y^i) = \|G_W(X^i) - G_W(Y^i)\|_2 \quad (28)$$

Triplet sampling scheme

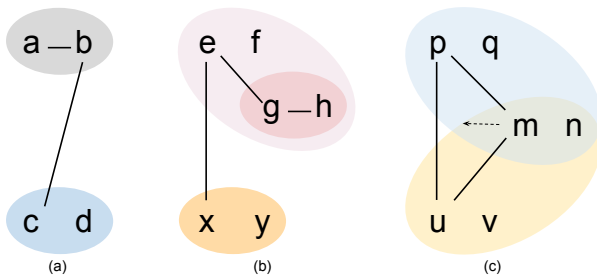


Figure: (a) communities $\{a, b\}$ and $\{c, d\}$ are disjoint (b) community $\{g, h\}$ is nested in community $\{e, f, g, h\}$ (c) communities $\{p, q, m, n\}$ and $\{m, n, u, v\}$ overlap upon $\{m, n\}$.

Triplet sampling scheme

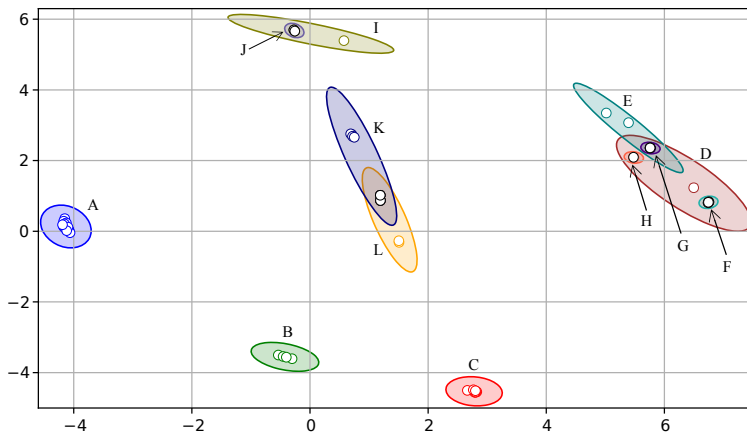


Figure: All 48 utterances of 12 abstractive communities from the meeting IS1001c projected into 2-dimensional PCA of learned 32-dimensional embedding space. Trained on 23612 triplets for 5 epochs. Converged $P@k = v$ is equal to 96.33%.

Attention visualization

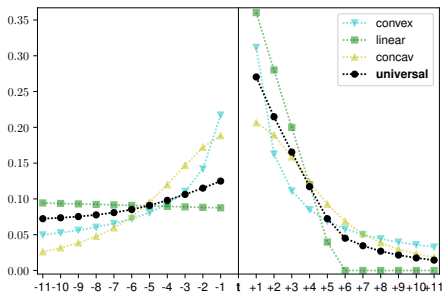


Figure: Normalized time-aware self-attention weights for pre and post-contexts, averaged over 10 runs.