

# Sentence-level Multilingual Multi-modal Embedding for Natural Language Processing

---

Iacer Calixto, Qun Liu

August 14, 2018

ADAPT Centre  
School of Computing  
Dublin City University  
{*FirstName.LastName*}@adaptcentre.ie



Introduction

Our Model

Results

Conclusions

# Introduction

---

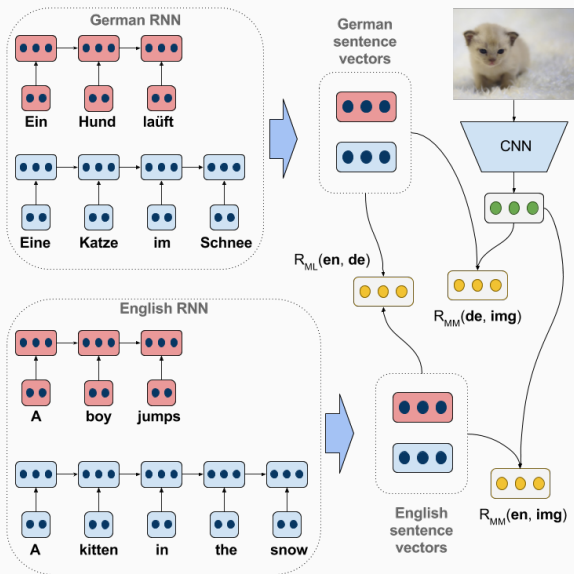
- **Distributional semantic models (DSMs)**: compute word (sentence, paragraph) vector representations from text based on word co-occurrence patterns.
- The meaning of a word depends on the “company it keeps” (Harris, 1954):
  - word2vec (Mikolov et al., 2013);
  - skip-thought vectors (Kiros et al., 2015);

- Distributional semantic models (DSMs): compute word (sentence, paragraph) vector representations from text based on word co-occurrence patterns.
- The meaning of a word depends on the “company it keeps” (Harris, 1954):
  - word2vec (Mikolov et al., 2013);
  - skip-thought vectors (Kiros et al., 2015);

## Our Model

---

# Multilingual Multi-modal Embedding



# Model Formulation and Training

## Language encoder(s):

for each language  $k$  (e.g., English, German):

- $\mathbf{X}^k = (\mathbf{x}_1^k, \mathbf{x}_2^k, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{N_k}^k)$ ;
- $\mathbf{v}^k \in \mathbb{R}^{1024} = \text{RNN}(\mathbf{X}^k)$ ;

## Visual encoder(s):

for each image  $i$ :

- $\mathbf{q} \in \mathbb{R}^{4096} = \text{CNN}(i)$ ;
- $\mathbf{d} \in \mathbb{R}^{1024} = \mathbf{W}_l \cdot \mathbf{q}$ ;



# Multi-modal ranking

$$\begin{aligned} R_{\text{MM}} = & \sum_d \sum_r \max \{0, \alpha - \mathbf{d}^T \cdot \mathbf{v}^k + \mathbf{d}^T \cdot \mathbf{v}_r^k\} + \\ & \sum_{\mathbf{v}^k} \sum_r \max \{0, \alpha - (\mathbf{v}^k)^T \cdot \mathbf{d} + (\mathbf{v}^k)^T \cdot \mathbf{d}_r\}, \\ & k \in K, \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

- $\mathbf{d}$ : correct image;
- $\mathbf{v}^k$ : correct sentence in language  $k$ ;
- $\mathbf{v}_r^k$ : random sentence in language  $k$ ;
- $\mathbf{d}_r$ : random image;
- $\alpha$ : margin;

# Multilingual ranking

$$\begin{aligned} R_{\text{ML}} = & \sum_{\mathbf{v}^k} \sum_r \max \{0, \alpha - (\mathbf{v}^k)^T \cdot \mathbf{v}^l + (\mathbf{v}^k)^T \cdot \mathbf{v}_r^l\} + \\ & \sum_{\mathbf{v}^l} \sum_r \max \{0, \alpha - (\mathbf{v}^l)^T \cdot \mathbf{v}^k + (\mathbf{v}^l)^T \cdot \mathbf{v}_r^k\}, \\ & k \in K, l \in K, l \neq k, \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

- $\mathbf{v}^k$ : correct sentence in language  $k$ ;
- $\mathbf{v}^l$ : correct sentence in language  $l$ ;
- $\mathbf{v}_r^k$ : random sentence in language  $k$ ;
- $\mathbf{v}_r^l$ : random sentence in language  $l$ ;
- $\alpha$ : margin;

# Final optimisation function

$$\min_{\theta_k, W_l} \beta R_{\text{MM}} + (1 - \beta) R_{\text{ML}}, \forall k \in K,$$
$$0 \leq \beta \leq 1, \quad (3)$$

# Results

---

# Image–sentence ranking

	English							German				
	Skip-T.	VSE		Ours				VSE	Ours			
		paper	current	$\beta=1$	$\beta=.75$	$\beta=0.5$	$\beta=0.25$	current	$\beta=1$	$\beta=.75$	$\beta=0.5$	$\beta=0.25$
Sentence to image												
r@1	<u>18.2</u>	16.8	16.5	23.0 (+6.2)	<b>24.9 (+8.1)</b>	22.3 (+5.5)	21.3 (+4.5)	<u>13.5</u>	<b>21.6 (+8.1)</b>	20.3 (+6.8)	20.3 (+6.8)	19.5 (+6.0)
r@5	41.9	<u>42.0</u>	41.9	49.3 (+7.3)	<b>52.3 (+10.3)</b>	48.3 (+6.3)	45.5 (+3.5)	<u>36.6</u>	<b>48.8 (+12.2)</b>	45.0 (+8.4)	43.7 (+7.1)	43.0 (+6.4)
r@10	53.5	<u>56.5</u>	54.4	61.1 (+4.6)	<b>63.6 (+7.1)</b>	58.4 (+1.9)	56.7 (+0.2)	<u>49.0</u>	<b>59.5 (+10.5)</b>	56.6 (+7.6)	55.4 (+6.4)	54.4 (+5.4)
mrnk	9	<u>8</u>	9	6	<b>5</b>	6	7	<u>11</u>	<b>6</b>	7	8	8
Image to sentence												
r@1	26.8	23.0	<u>30.7</u>	<b>33.1 (+2.4)</b>	30.7 (+0.0)	27.4 (-3.3)	26.7 (-4.0)	<u>30.5</u>	<b>32.3 (+1.7)</b>	24.9 (-5.6)	23.0 (-7.5)	21.8 (-8.7)
r@5	54.9	50.7	<u>57.8</u>	57.2 (-0.6)	55.4 (-2.4)	54.5 (-3.3)	51.4 (-6.4)	<u>56.0</u>	<b>58.6 (+2.6)</b>	52.3 (-3.7)	48.4 (-7.6)	49.8 (-6.2)
r@10	67.5	62.9	<u>70.6</u>	68.7 (-1.9)	65.6 (-5.0)	64.0 (-6.6)	61.9 (-8.7)	<u>68.9</u>	68.1 (-0.8)	63.6 (-5.3)	62.8 (-6.1)	61.3 (-7.6)
mrnk	5	5	<u>4</u>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	5	<u>4</u>	<b>4</b>	5	6	6

- Skip-T.: skip-thought vectors (Kiros et al., 2015);
- VSE: visual-semantic embeddings (Kiros et al., 2014);
- $r@\{1, 5, 10\}$ : recall-at- $\{1, 5, 10\}$ ;
- mrnk: median rank;

# Semantic textual similarity

- We use our model to **compute the distance between a pair of sentences** (equivalent to **cosine similarity** and therefore lie in the  $[0, 1]$  interval), where **0 means complete dissimilarity and 1 means complete similarity**.

Test set	VSE	Our model				SemEval best
		$\beta=1$	$\beta=.75$	$\beta=.5$	$\beta=.25$	
in-domain data						
Image descriptions (2014)	.791	.797	.819	<b>.826</b>	.817	.821
Image descriptions (2015)	.834	.880	.882	.885	<b>.886</b>	.864

**Table 1:** Pearson rank correlation scores for semantic textual similarities in two different SemEval test sets.

- We train one **weak model**, one **regular model** and one **optimised NMT model** on the **translated Multi30k training data set (without images)** to translate from **English into German**.
  - **weak**: no regularisation;
  - **regular**:  $L2 = 1e-8$ , dropout = 0.5;
  - **optimised**:  $L2 = 0.0$ , dropout = 0.2;

# Re-ranking n-best lists (n=20)

	BLEU		METEOR		TER	
Weak NMT model						
baseline	25.7		43.1		56.1	
+ VSE	25.8	(+0.1)	43.2	(+0.1)	56.1	(-0.0)
+ MLMME, $\beta = 1$	26.1	(+0.4)	<b>44.4<sup>†‡</sup></b>	<b>(+1.3)</b>	55.5	(-0.6)
+ MLMME, $\beta = 0.75$	26.1	(+0.4)	44.3 <sup>†‡</sup>	(+1.2)	55.9	(-0.2)
+ MLMME, $\beta = 0.5$	26.0	(+0.3)	43.9 <sup>†‡</sup>	(+0.8)	55.9	(-0.2)
+ MLMME, $\beta = 0.25$	<b>26.3<sup>†‡</sup></b>	<b>(+0.6)</b>	44.3 <sup>†‡</sup>	(+1.2)	<b>55.2<sup>†‡</sup></b>	<b>(-0.9)</b>
oracle	33.1		51.4		46.5	
Regular NMT model						
baseline	32.4		50.7		51.9	
+ VSE	32.2	(-0.2)	50.7	(+0.0)	52.6	(+0.7)
+ MLMME, $\beta = 1$	<b>33.8<sup>†‡</sup></b>	<b>(+1.4)</b>	<b>51.4<sup>†‡</sup></b>	<b>(+0.7)</b>	49.0 <sup>‡</sup>	(-2.9)
+ MLMME, $\beta = 0.75$	33.5 <sup>‡</sup>	(+1.1)	51.3 <sup>†‡</sup>	(+0.6)	49.0 <sup>‡</sup>	(-2.9)
+ MLMME, $\beta = 0.5$	<b>33.8<sup>†‡</sup></b>	<b>(+1.4)</b>	<b>51.4<sup>†‡</sup></b>	<b>(+0.7)</b>	<b>48.6<sup>†‡</sup></b>	<b>(-3.3)</b>
+ MLMME, $\beta = 0.25$	33.7 <sup>‡</sup>	(+1.3)	<b>51.4<sup>†‡</sup></b>	<b>(+0.7)</b>	49.4 <sup>‡</sup>	(-2.5)
oracle	41.9		59.3		41.2	
Optimised NMT model						
baseline	35.3		52.3		44.9	
+ VSE	32.3	(-3.0)	49.8	(-2.5)	46.5	(+1.6)
+ MLMME, $\beta = 1$	35.3 <sup>‡</sup>	(+0.0)	<b>52.7<sup>†‡</sup></b>	<b>(+0.4)</b>	<b>44.5<sup>‡</sup></b>	<b>(-0.4)</b>
+ MLMME, $\beta = 0.75$	35.2 <sup>‡</sup>	(-0.1)	52.6 <sup>‡</sup>	(+0.3)	44.6 <sup>‡</sup>	(-0.3)
+ MLMME, $\beta = 0.5$	35.1 <sup>‡</sup>	(-0.2)	52.3 <sup>‡</sup>	(+0.0)	44.9 <sup>‡</sup>	(-0.0)
+ MLMME, $\beta = 0.25$	<b>35.7<sup>‡</sup></b>	<b>(+0.4)</b>	<b>52.7<sup>‡</sup></b>	<b>(+0.4)</b>	<b>44.5<sup>‡</sup></b>	<b>(-0.4)</b>
oracle	43.2		59.7		37.8	

**Table 2:** Results improve significantly over the corresponding 1-best baseline (<sup>†</sup>) or over the translations obtained with the VSE re-ranker (<sup>‡</sup>) with  $p = 0.05$ .



# Re-ranking n-best lists (n=50)

	BLEU		METEOR		TER	
Weak NMT model						
baseline	25.7		43.1		56.1	
+ VSE	25.8	(+0.1)	43.5 <sup>†</sup>	(+0.4)	56.1	(-0.0)
+ MLMME, $\beta = 1$	26.2	(+0.5)	44.6 <sup>†‡</sup>	(+1.5)	55.4	(-0.7)
+ MLMME, $\beta = 0.75$	26.4 <sup>†</sup>	(+0.7)	44.5 <sup>†‡</sup>	(+1.4)	55.6	(-0.5)
+ MLMME, $\beta = 0.5$	25.9	(+0.2)	43.9 <sup>†</sup>	(+0.8)	55.9	(-0.0)
+ MLMME, $\beta = 0.25$	26.4 <sup>†‡</sup>	(+0.7)	44.5 <sup>†‡</sup>	(+1.4)	55.0 <sup>†‡</sup>	(-1.1)
oracle	36.2		53.8		43.4	
Regular NMT model						
baseline	32.4		50.7		51.9	
+ VSE	32.7	(-0.3)	50.8	(+0.1)	51.4	(-0.5)
+ MLMME, $\beta = 1$	34.2 <sup>†‡</sup>	(+1.8)	51.6 <sup>†‡</sup>	(+0.9)	48.3 <sup>‡</sup>	(-3.6)
+ MLMME, $\beta = 0.75$	34.1 <sup>†‡</sup>	(+1.7)	51.6 <sup>†‡</sup>	(+0.9)	47.6 <sup>†‡</sup>	(-4.3)
+ MLMME, $\beta = 0.5$	34.0 <sup>†‡</sup>	(+1.6)	51.4 <sup>†‡</sup>	(+0.7)	47.3 <sup>†‡</sup>	(-4.6)
+ MLMME, $\beta = 0.25$	34.1 <sup>†‡</sup>	(+1.7)	51.6 <sup>†‡</sup>	(+0.9)	48.5 <sup>‡</sup>	(-3.4)
oracle	46.6		61.8		34.1	
Optimised NMT model						
baseline	35.3		52.3		44.9	
+ VSE	30.7	(-4.6)	47.9	(-4.4)	48.6	(+3.7)
+ MLMME, $\beta = 1$	35.4 <sup>‡</sup>	(+0.1)	52.7 <sup>†‡</sup>	(+0.4)	44.4 <sup>†‡</sup>	(-0.5)
+ MLMME, $\beta = 0.75$	35.2 <sup>‡</sup>	(-0.1)	52.5 <sup>‡</sup>	(+0.2)	44.7 <sup>‡</sup>	(-0.2)
+ MLMME, $\beta = 0.5$	35.1 <sup>‡</sup>	(-0.2)	52.3 <sup>‡</sup>	(+0.0)	44.7 <sup>‡</sup>	(-0.2)
+ MLMME, $\beta = 0.25$	35.6 <sup>‡</sup>	(+0.3)	52.6 <sup>‡</sup>	(+0.3)	44.4 <sup>†‡</sup>	(-0.5)
oracle	46.3		61.9		34.9	

**Table 3:** Results improve significantly over the corresponding 1-best baseline (<sup>†</sup>) or over the translations obtained with the VSE re-ranker (<sup>‡</sup>) with  $p = 0.05$ .

# Conclusions

---

# Conclusions

- **multilingual multimodal embedding** model trained with a **modified pairwise ranking loss objective**;
- **promising results** in **three downstream NLP tasks**:
- ISR:
  - consistent improvements in image→sentence ranking;
  - sentence→image ranking;
- STS:
  - consistent improvements in in-domain tasks;
  - out-of-domain tasks;
- NMT:
  - significant improvements in METEOR in n-best re-ranking;
  - 20-best lists and 50-best lists;
  - weak, regular, and optimised NMT baselines;

# Conclusions

- **multilingual multimodal embedding** model trained with a **modified pairwise ranking loss objective**;
- **promising results** in **three downstream NLP tasks**:
- **ISR**:
  - consistent improvements in image→sentence ranking;
  - sentence→image ranking;
- **STS**:
  - consistent improvements in in-domain tasks;
  - out-of-domain tasks;
- **NMT**:
  - significant improvements in METEOR in n-best re-ranking;
  - 20-best lists and 50-best lists;
  - weak, regular, and optimised NMT baselines;

# Conclusions

- **multilingual multimodal embedding** model trained with a **modified pairwise ranking loss objective**;
- **promising results** in **three downstream NLP tasks**:
- **ISR**:
  - **consistent improvements in image→sentence** ranking; 🍏
  - **sentence→image** ranking; 🍏
- **STS**:
  - consistent improvements in in-domain tasks;
  - out-of-domain tasks;
- **NMT**:
  - significant improvements in METEOR in n-best re-ranking;
  - 20-best lists and 50-best lists;
  - weak, regular, and optimised NMT baselines;

# Conclusions

- **multilingual multimodal embedding** model trained with a **modified pairwise ranking loss objective**;
- **promising results** in **three downstream NLP tasks**:
- ISR:
  - consistent improvements in image→sentence ranking;
  - sentence→image ranking;
- STS:
  - **consistent improvements** in **in-domain tasks**; 🍏
  - **out-of-domain tasks**; 🍷
- NMT:
  - significant improvements in METEOR in n-best re-ranking;
  - 20-best lists and 50-best lists;
  - weak, regular, and optimised NMT baselines;

# Conclusions

- **multilingual multimodal embedding** model trained with a **modified pairwise ranking loss objective**;
- **promising results** in **three downstream NLP tasks**:
- ISR:
  - consistent improvements in image→sentence ranking;
  - sentence→image ranking;
- STS:
  - consistent improvements in in-domain tasks;
  - out-of-domain tasks;
- NMT:
  - **significant improvements** in METEOR in **n-best re-ranking**; 🍌
  - 20-best lists and 50-best lists; 🍌
  - weak, regular, and optimised NMT baselines; 🍌

### References

---

- Harris, Z. (1954). Distributional structure. *Word*, 10(23):146–162.
- Kiros, R., Salakhutdinov, R., and Zemel, R. S. (2014). Unifying visual-semantic embeddings with multimodal neural language models. *CoRR*, abs/1411.2539.
- Kiros, R., Zhu, Y., Salakhutdinov, R., Zemel, R. S., Torralba, A., Urtasun, R., and Fidler, S. (2015). Skip-thought vectors. *CoRR*, abs/1506.06726.
- Mikolov, T., Sutskever, I., Chen, K., Corrado, G., and Dean, J. (2013). Distributed representations of words and phrases and their compositionality. *CoRR*, abs/1310.4546.



**Thank you!**  
**Questions?**