

# Style Transfer from Non-Parallel Text by Cross-Alignment

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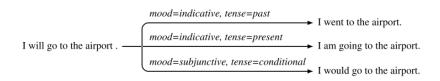
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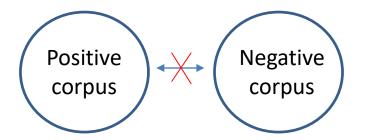
### Introduction



# How can we generate text in a controlled way?

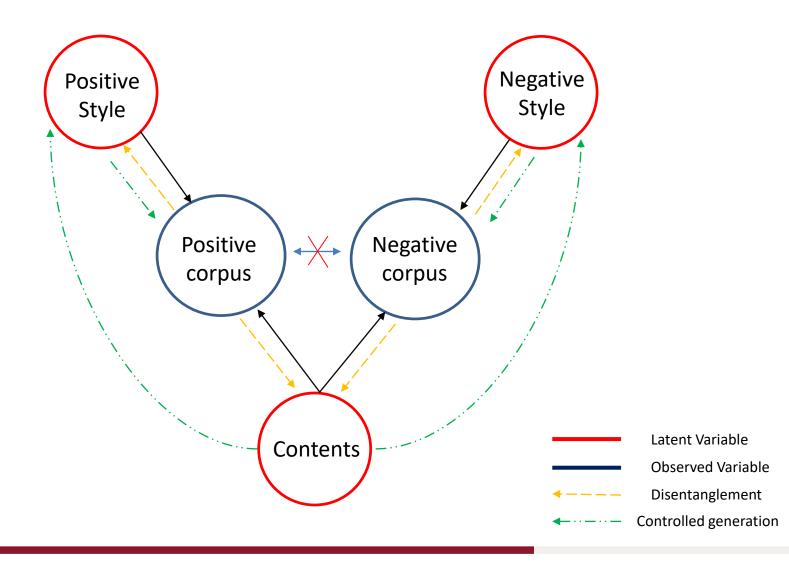


### When non-parallel corpus are given



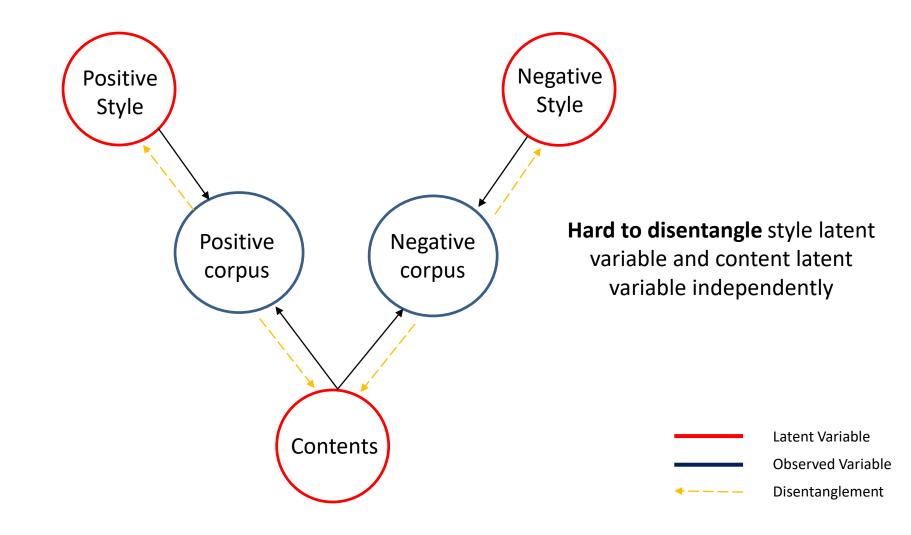
### Introduction





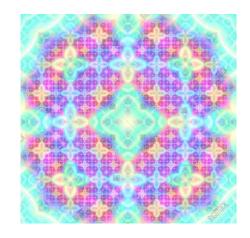
### Problem





### Problem





**Images**: pixel values are continuous

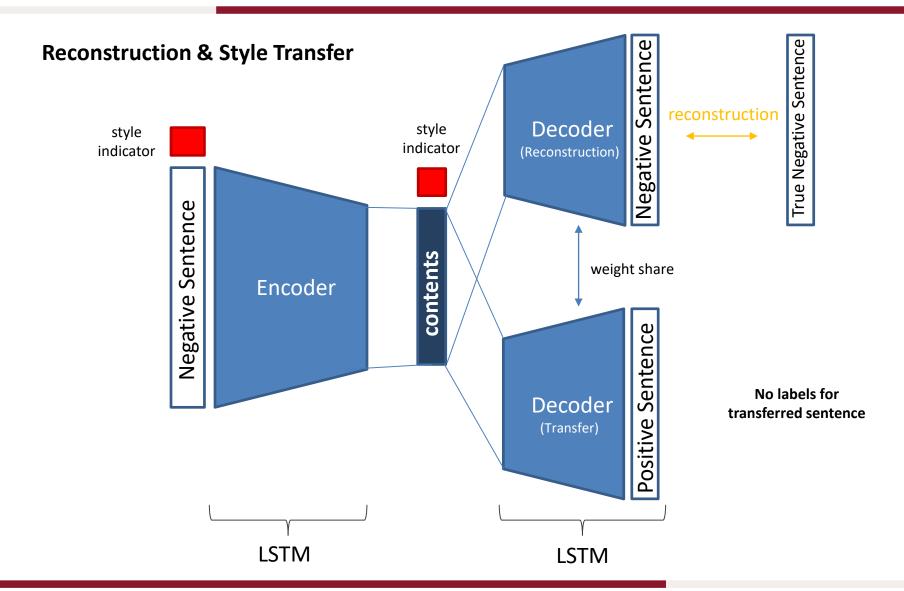


**Text**: Finite set of characters thus discrete

Text generated by machine can look weird due to the sampling process and discreteness hinders backpropagation

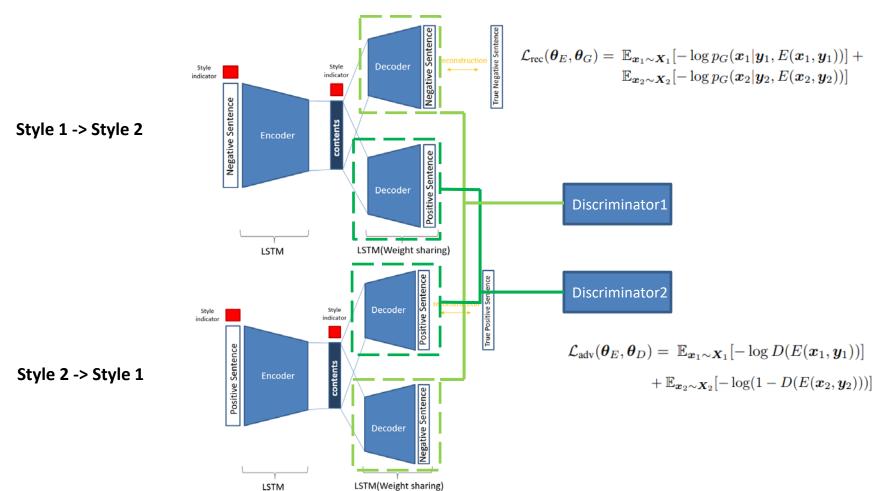
### Method







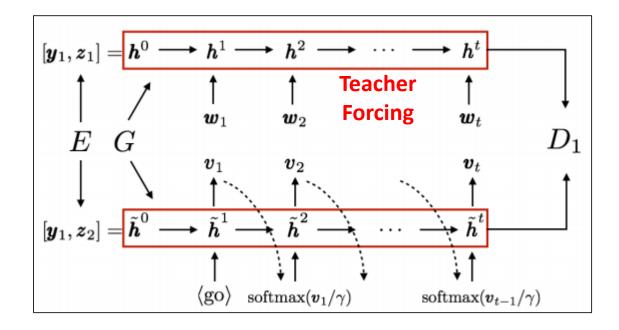
### **General Pipeline – Cross Alignment**



### Method



#### Generator

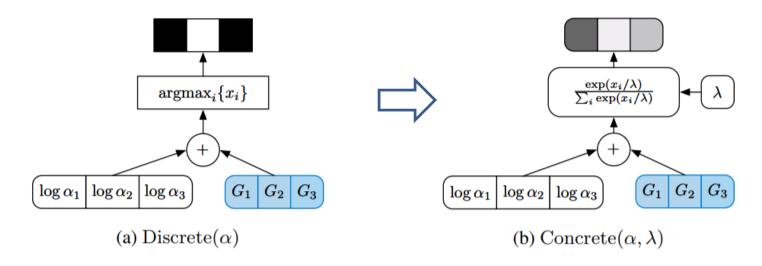


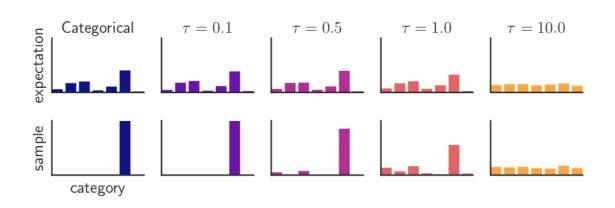
- Adopts Professor Forcing algorithm which makes generation process' hidden states similar to the behavior of answer fed one's (Teacher Forcing)
- Gumbell-Softmax approximation is used for relaxation(with Tau parameter)

### Method



### **Gumbel-Softmax**





# Experiment



### **Sentiment Modification**

#### From negative to positive

consistently slow.

consistently good.

consistently fast.

my goodness it was so gross.

my husband 's steak was phenomenal.

my goodness was so awesome.

it was super dry and had a weird taste to the entire slice.

it was a great meal and the tacos were very kind of good .

it was super flavorful and had a nice texture of the whole side .

#### From positive to negative

i love the ladies here!

i avoid all the time!

i hate the doctor here!

my appetizer was also very good and unique.

my bf was n't too pleased with the beans.

my appetizer was also very cold and not fresh whatsoever .

came here with my wife and her grandmother! came here with my wife and hated her!

came here with my wife and her son.

#### **Example**

Method	accuracy
Hu et al. (2017)	83.5
Variational auto-encoder	23.2
Aligned auto-encoder	48.3
Cross-aligned auto-encoder	78.4

#### Accuracy by pre-trained classifier

Method	sentiment	fluency	overall transfer
Hu et al. (2017)	70.8	3.2	41.0
Cross-align	62.6	2.8	41.5

**Human Evaluation** 

## Appendix



**Algorithm 1** Cross-aligned auto-encoder training. The hyper-parameters are set as  $\lambda = 1, \gamma = 0.001$  and learning rate is 0.0001 for all experiments in this paper.

**Input:** Two corpora of different styles  $X_1, X_2$ . Lagrange multiplier  $\lambda$ , temperature  $\gamma$ .

Initialize  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_E, \boldsymbol{\theta}_G, \boldsymbol{\theta}_{D_1}, \boldsymbol{\theta}_{D_2}$ 

#### repeat

for p = 1, 2; q = 2, 1 do

Sample a mini-batch of k examples  $\{x_p^{(i)}\}_{i=1}^k$  from  $X_p$ 

Get the latent content representations  $\boldsymbol{z}_p^{(i)} = E(\boldsymbol{x}_p^{(i)}, \boldsymbol{y}_p)$ 

Unroll G from initial state  $(y_p, z_p^{(i)})$  by feeding  $x_p^{(i)}$ , and get the hidden states sequence  $h_p^{(i)}$ 

Unroll G from initial state  $(y_q, z_p^{(i)})$  by feeding previous soft output distribution with temperature  $\gamma$ , and get the transferred hidden states sequence  $\tilde{h}_p^{(i)}$ 

#### end for

Compute the reconstruction  $\mathcal{L}_{rec}$  by Eq. (3)

Compute  $D_1$ 's (and symmetrically  $D_2$ 's) loss:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{adv}_1} = -\frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^{k} \log D_1(\boldsymbol{h}_1^{(i)}) - \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^{k} \log(1 - D_1(\tilde{\boldsymbol{h}}_2^{(i)}))$$
 (8)

Update  $\{\theta_E, \theta_G\}$  by gradient descent on loss

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{rec}} - \lambda (\mathcal{L}_{\text{adv}_1} + \mathcal{L}_{\text{adv}_2}) \tag{9}$$

Update  $\theta_{D_1}$  and  $\theta_{D_2}$  by gradient descent on loss  $\mathcal{L}_{adv_1}$  and  $\mathcal{L}_{adv_2}$  respectively **until** convergence

**Output:** Style transfer functions  $G(y_2, E(\cdot, y_1)) : \mathcal{X}_1 \to \mathcal{X}_2$  and  $G(y_1, E(\cdot, y_2)) : \mathcal{X}_2 \to \mathcal{X}_1$ 



# Appendix



