LLM Induced Embedding Spaces

Amanda Myntti, TurkuNLP, University of Turku

The aim of the project is to investigate the embedding spaces induced by LLMs. Below are different ways to

Investigating appresent some consist present some difficulties, as the spaces consist of multidimensional vectors which

Dar et al. (2023) treat each layer output as the final output of the model and decode the embeddings using an inverse of the first layer embedder.

Tennenholtz et al. (2023) investigate a target embedding space by creating an adapter to input target embeddings to separate LLM and querying its properties using natural language.

These findings show that mapping from an embedding space to a vocabulary space is achievable and interpolating between two points in the embedding space yields semantically meaningful outputs.

Liu et a. (2023) create task specific vectors to steer the model layer outputs, effectively turning few-shot prompting to one query by modifying the model's latent space.

> Li et al. (2023) linearly interpolate each attention head in a model to steer the model output to a more desired direction.

> > These results pave the way to modifying the embedding space in a purposeful way.

Timkey et al. 2021

Li et al. 2020

Subramani et al.

Statistical analysis of word representations has shown that embedding spaces of popular LMs are highly anisotropic.

Thus, cosine similarity as a metric has been questioned.

> Focus has mostly been on how to combat this issue.

Mickus et al. 2020

Steck et al.

2024

There's been an uptick in research about how training data affects model downstream performance.

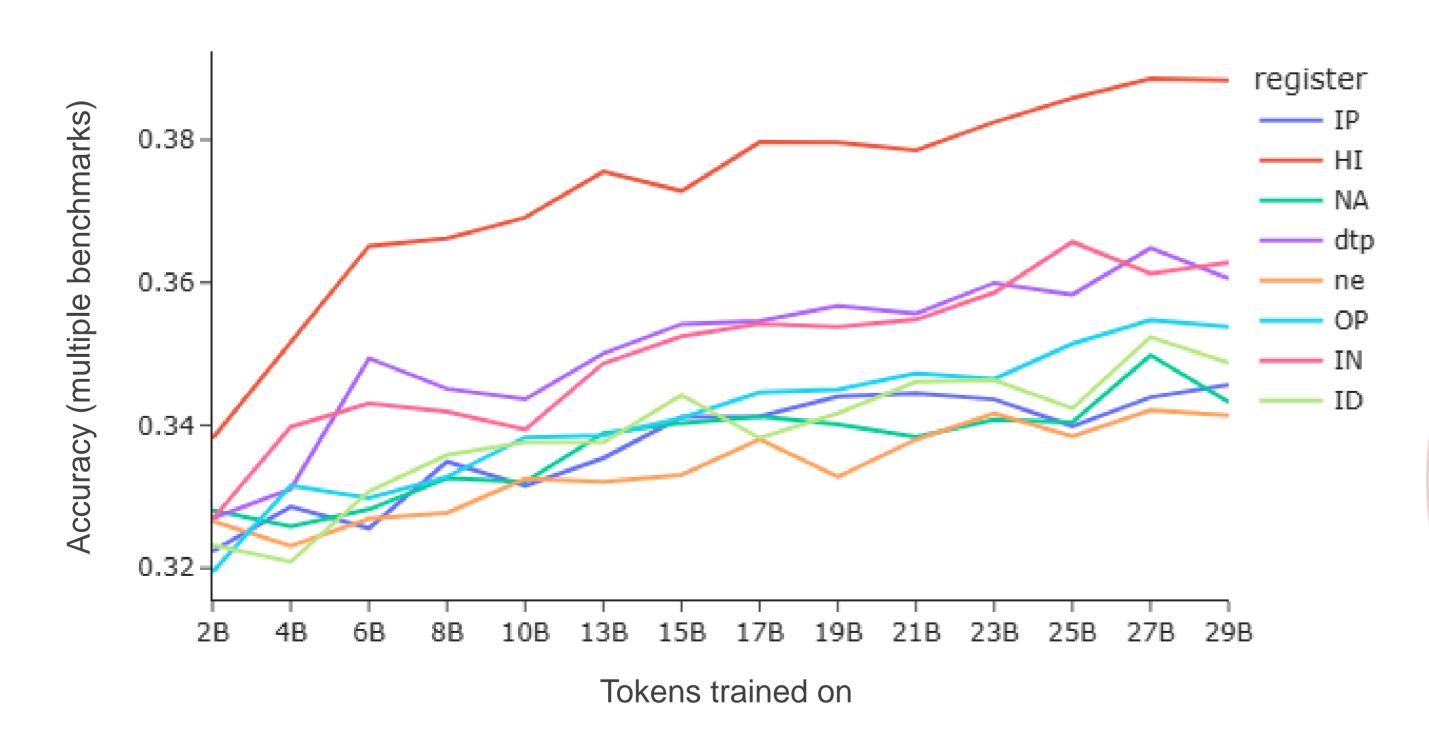
Ostendorff et al. 2024

Generally, this research is focused on statistical text metrics, with some exceptions, and the goal is to maximize benchmark performance.

This opens up questions about the effect of training data on the embedding space and about the qualities that correlate with model performance.

Turner et al. 2024

Current Work is focused on the effect of training data on LLMs. Following Penedo et al. (2024), I train multiple LLMs with different datasets, filtered with linguistic criteria: by register (text genre). Figure below presents preliminary findings.



The models trained and evaluated in this first publication can be used to later analyse the qualities of embedding spaces that are affected by linguistic features of training data.







Longpre et al. 2024

Penedo et al.

2023

Research Questions for this project are

Can you build a system to get the sense of RQ1 semantic meaning for an arbitrary point in an embedding space?

What happens in the neighbourhood of an arbitrary point and what effects steering has?

How can we affect the space using the training data of the model and are there qualities of the space that correlate with model performance?

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Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing (EMNLP). Turner et al. (2024) Steering Language Models with Activation Engineering. Preprint.