Reading Assignment 3

COMP 550, Fall 2021

Due date: Nov 22, 2021 9:00pm

Read the following paper and write a critical summary of it:

> Fan, Angela, Mike Lewis, and Yann Dauphin. "Hierarchical neural story generation." *ACL* 2018. https://arxiv.org/pdf/1805.04833

Your summary should include a description of the paper's contents, its strengths and limitations, and any points that you did not understand. I expect that there will be concepts that you do not understand! Do not worry, and document this in your write-up.

Also, discuss the following issues in your write-up:

1. How does the model in this paper attempt to enforce a coherent discourse in the generated output? To what extent was this successful, in your opinion?
2. What are the methods used to evaluate the proposed model's performance in this paper? What are the strengths and limitations of these evaluations?
3. What does it mean for a language generation system to be creative? Is it possible for an approach based on supervised learning to achieve creativity?

Your summary should be **at most 1 page**. It will be graded on the basis of its coverage, linguistic quality, and clarity of argumentation.

Resources

- Jason Eisner's guide to reading papers: https://www.cs.jhu.edu/~jason/advice/how-to-read-a-paper.html