

SmartReply for SmartLine A Response Suggestion Feature

Mentored by Francesco Ferrari, Gaurav Khurana, Chris Nikkel

Introduction



A business line for business owners to connect with their customers

18%

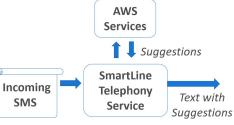
of incoming messages are questions

"What's your address?"

Many questions are repeated

SmartReply

We built a response suggestion feature to help Smartline users reply to their customers





Process



Customer Interviews

- Event consultation, web marketing, dog training, website building
- Smart Reply Helpful and convenient
- Ability to edit text after picking suggestion

SMS

Business Hours Related Questions

- Classify Intent with AWS Lex
- Get User Biz Hour Information from App
- Form Responses

Personalized Response Retrieval

- Convert an incoming message to embeddings
- Search for similar incoming questions stored as embeddings
- Get corresponding outgoing messages

Future Work

- 1. Integrate a **feedback mechanism** to evaluate performance of models and iteratively improve them
- 2. For response for business hours questions, improve Lex's accuracy by periodically updating training data
- 3. For personalized response retrieval, evaluate relevance of an outgoing SMS to an incoming neighbor
- 4. Use other approaches such as **Sequence2Sequence** to suggest responses for other more generic incoming messages

References

- 1. Cer, Daniel, et al. "Universal sentence encoder." arXiv preprint arXiv:1803.11175 (2018).
- 2. Bernhardsson, Erik. "ANNOY: Approximate nearest neighbors in C++/Python optimized for memory usage and loading/saving to disk, 2013." URL https://github. com/spotify/annoy (2013).
- 3. Manning, Christopher, et al. "The Stanford CoreNLP natural language processing toolkit." Proceedings of 52nd annual meeting of the association for computational linguistics: system demonstrations. 2014.

Machine Learning Models

Business Hours Related Questions

Using AWS Lex

- Prebuilt system to process text, filter noise, classify intents, and extract entities
- An AWS Service Operational synergies in the medium-long term
- Blackbox Only way to improve results is to finetune the dataset
- Confidence of Intent prediction not outputted

Datasets

located?"

Sets of examples for each of 20 intents generated from production SmartLine data

Augmenting Responses with Stanford Language Parser

Detect yes-no questions, based on sentence structures

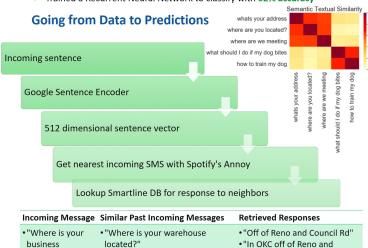
Give out "Yes", "No" as additional response options

Incoming Message	Suggested Responses
Are you open Saturday?	•"Yes, we are open on Saturday" •"Our hours on Saturday are 09:00 AM – 01:00 PM" •"We open at 09:00 AM on Saturday"
	"Sorry, we are closed Saturday"

Personalized Response Retrieval

Mining the Incoming-Outgoing Pair Dataset

- ✓ Select consequent pairs of incoming question and outgoing answers
- ✓ Labeled 4000 messages into questions and statements
- ✓ Trained a Recurrent Neural Network to classify with 92% accuracy



• "Where is your store located?"

Council."