

*Annotated  
Version*

Machine Learning Course - CS-433

# Text Representation Learning

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changes by Martin Jaggi 2021, 2020, 2019, 2018, 2017, ©Martin Jaggi 2016

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**EPFL**

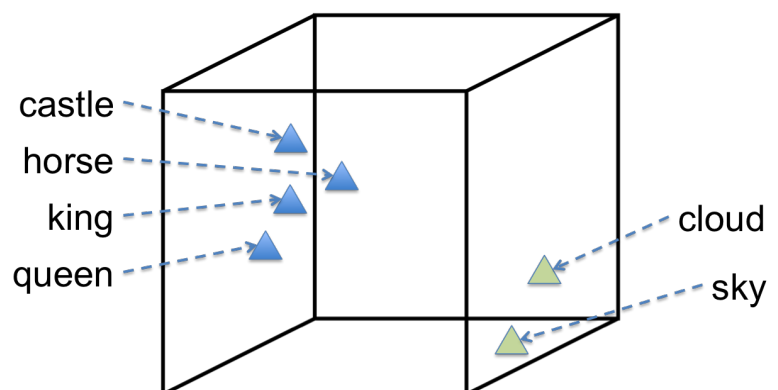
# Motivation

Finding numerical representations for words is fundamental for all machine learning methods dealing with text data.

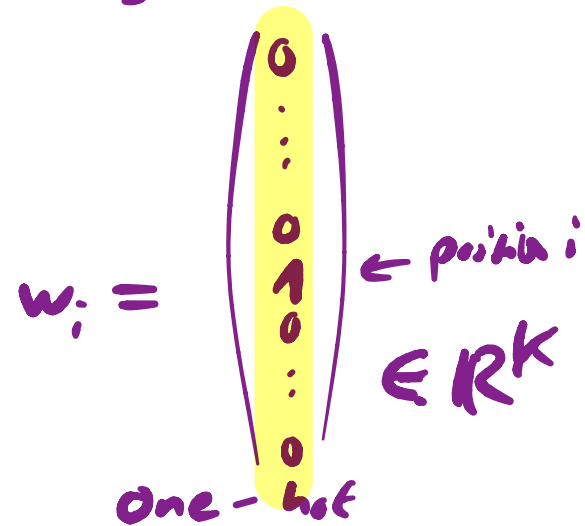
*Goal:* For each word, find mapping (embedding)



Representation should capture semantics of the word.



*"bag of words"*

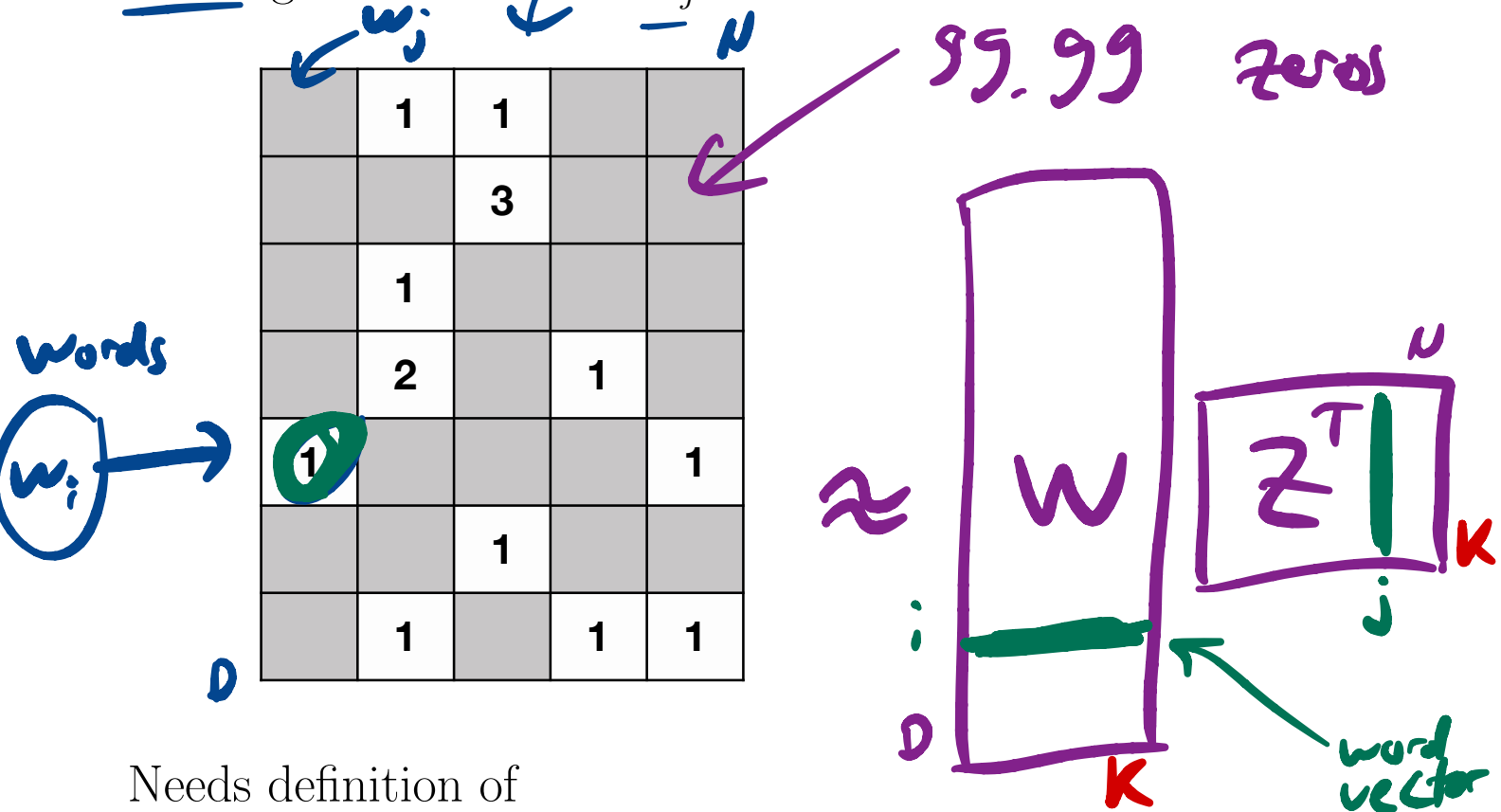


Constructing good feature representations (= representation learning) benefits all ML applications.

# The Co-Occurrence Matrix

A big corpus of un-labeled text can be represented as the co-occurrence counts

$n_{ij} := \#$  contexts where word  $w_i$  occurs together with word  $w_j$ .



Needs definition of

- Context e.g. document, paragraph, sentence, window

- Vocabulary

$$\mathcal{V} := \{w_1, \dots, w_D\}$$

For words  $w_d = 1, 2, \dots, D$  and context words  $w_n = 1, 2, \dots, N$ , the co-occurrence counts  $n_{ij}$  form a very sparse  $D \times N$  matrix.

$D = N$   
in reality

# Learning Word-Representations (Using Matrix Factorization)

Find a factorization of the co-occurrence matrix!

Typically uses log of the actual counts, i.e.  $x_{dn} := \log(n_{dn})$ .

We will aim to find  $\mathbf{W}, \mathbf{Z}$  s.t.

*co-occurrence matrix*

$$\mathbf{X} \approx \mathbf{W}\mathbf{Z}^\top.$$

So for each pair of words  $(w_d, w_n)$ , we try to 'explain' their co-occurrence count by a numerical representation of the two words

- in fact by the inner product of the two feature vectors  $\mathbf{W}_{d:}, \mathbf{Z}_{n:}$ .

$$\min_{\mathbf{W}, \mathbf{Z}} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{W}, \mathbf{Z}) := \frac{1}{2} \sum_{(d,n) \in \Omega} f_{dn} \left( x_{dn} - (\mathbf{W}\mathbf{Z}^\top)_{dn} \right)^2$$

*weighting*

where  $\mathbf{W} \in \mathbb{R}^{D \times K}$  and  $\mathbf{Z} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times K}$  are tall matrices, having only  $K \ll D, N$  columns.

The set  $\Omega \subseteq [D] \times [N]$  collects the indices of non-zeros of the count matrix  $\mathbf{X}$ .

Each row of those matrices forms a representation of a word ( $\mathbf{W}$ ) or a context word ( $\mathbf{Z}$ ) respectively.

*2013*  
• word2vec

*2014*  
• GloVe

*= log(#co-occurrence)*

*same as netflix*

# GloVe

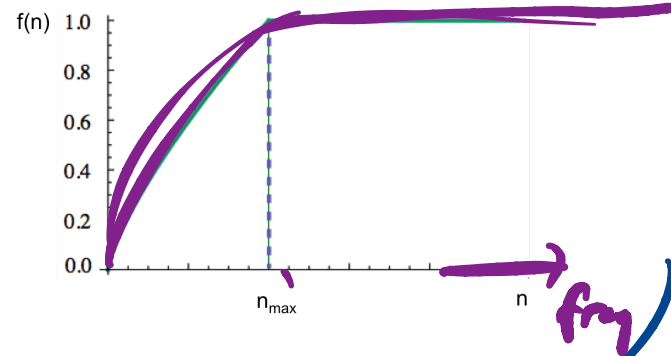
This model is called GloVe, and is a variant of word2vec.

Weights  $f_{dn}$ : Give “importance” of each entry. Choosing  $f_{dn} := 1$  is ok.

GloVe weight function:

$$f_{dn} := \min \{1, (n_{dn}/n_{\max})^\alpha\}, \quad \alpha \in [0; 1] \quad \text{e.g. } \alpha = \frac{3}{4}$$

cut-off  
(manual  
hyperparam)



“Heuristic”  
→ GloVe

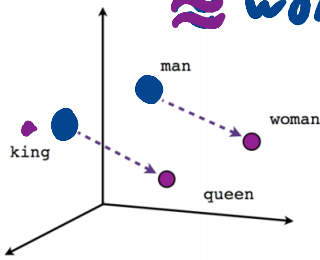
## Choosing $K$

$K$  e.g. 50, 100, 500

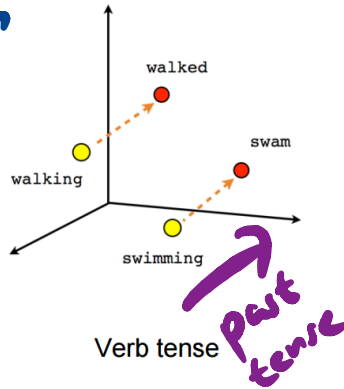
768

# Word Analogies

queen - king + man  $\approx$  woman

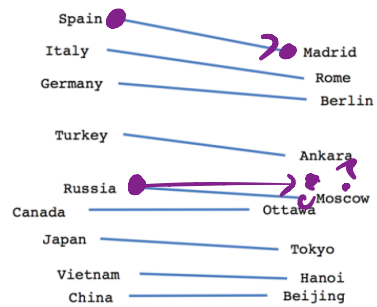


Male-Female



Verb tense

past tense



Country-Capital

Newspapers			
New York	New York Times	Baltimore	Baltimore Sun
San Jose	San Jose Mercury News	Cincinnati	Cincinnati Enquirer
NHL Teams			
Boston	Boston Bruins	Montreal	Montreal Canadiens
Phoenix	Phoenix Coyotes	Nashville	Nashville Predators
NBA Teams			
Detroit	Detroit Pistons	Toronto	Toronto Raptors
Oakland	Golden State Warriors	Memphis	Memphis Grizzlies
Airlines			
Austria	Austrian Airlines	Spain	Spainair
Belgium	Brussels Airlines	Greece	Aegean Airlines
Company executives			
Steve Ballmer	Microsoft	Larry Page	Google
Samuel J. Palmisano	IBM	Werner Vogels	Amazon

similarity queries

q  $\rightarrow$  nearest word vector

# Training

- Stochastic Gradient Descent (SGD)

← efficiency per step  $O(k)$

- Alternating Least-Squares (ALS)

see lab

Open questions:

- Parallel and distributed training
- Does regularization help?

downside:

precompute X  
(big)

## Alternative: Skip-Gram Model

(Original word2vec)

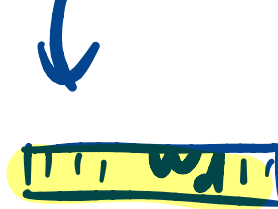
streaming input text

$w_d, w_n$

word

context word

Uses binary classification (logistic regression objective), to separate real word pairs  $(w_d, w_n)$  from fake word pairs. Same inner product score = matrix factorization.



yes  
↑

real  
(d, n)



no  
↓

fake  
(d, n)

not co-occurring

Given  $w_d$ , a context word  $w_n$  is

- real = appearing together in a context window of size 5
- fake = any word  $w_n$  sampled randomly: Negative sampling (also: Noise Contrastive Estimation)

Contrastive learning

# Language Models



## Unsupervised training:

Can a model generate text? - train classifier to predict the continuation (next word) of given text

- **Multi-class:**  
Use soft-max loss function with a large number of classes  
 $D$  = vocabulary size
- **Binary classification:**  
Predict if next word is real or fake (i.e. a negative sample, as above)

Impressive recent progress using large models, such as transformers

(e.g. GPT-2, GPT-3) ← 11 B params

<https://transformer.huggingface.co/doc/gpt2-large>)

use for

① text generation

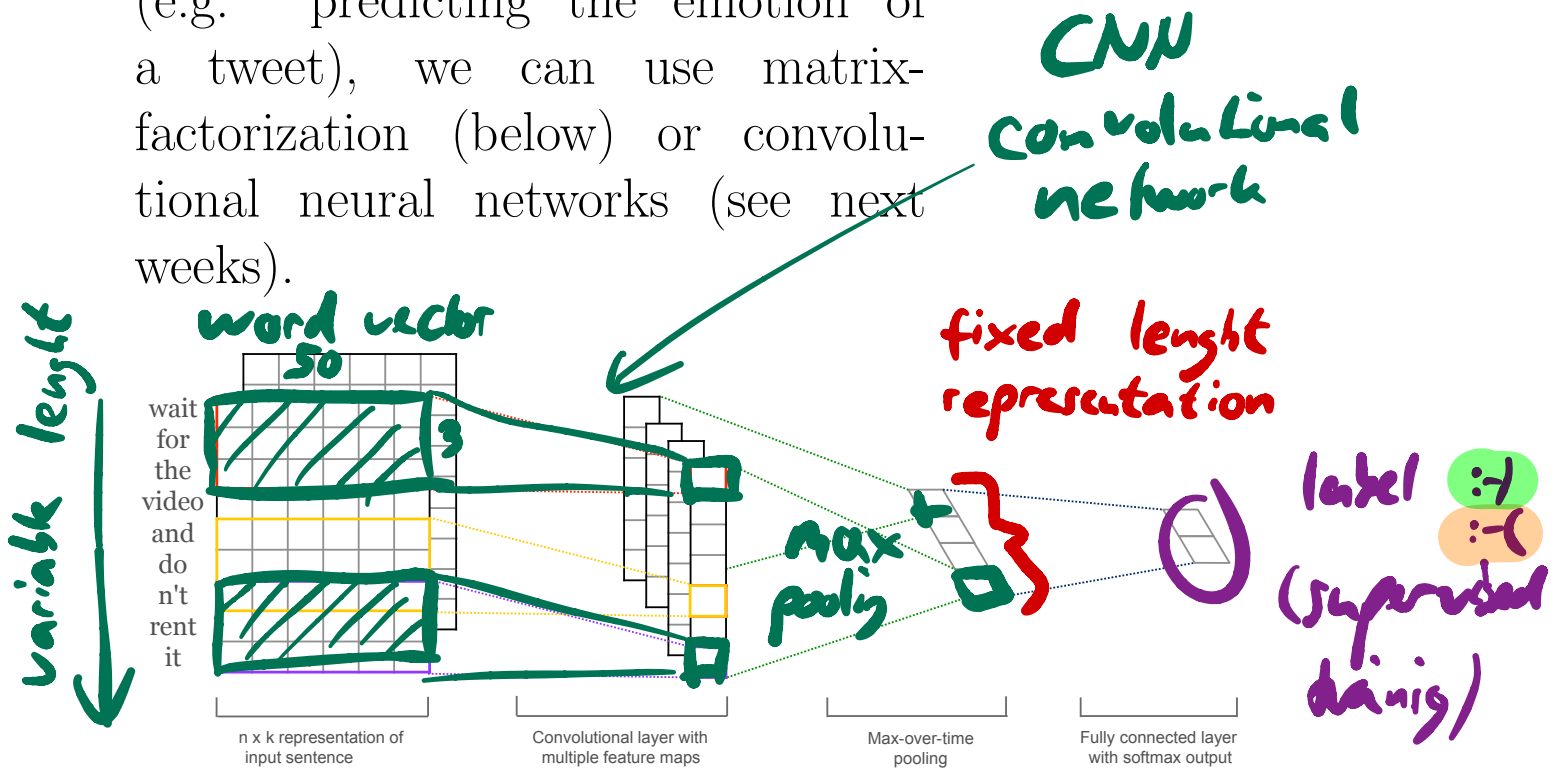
② get features

BERT



# Learning Representations of Sentences & Documents

**Supervised:** For a supervised task (e.g. predicting the emotion of a tweet), we can use matrix-factorization (below) or convolutional neural networks (see next weeks).



→ SemEval competition for tweet classification.

## Unsupervised:

- Adding or averaging (fixed, given) word vectors
- Training word vectors such that adding/averaging works well
- Direct unsupervised training for sentences (appearing together with context sentences) instead of words

for supervised  
sentence classification

## FastText

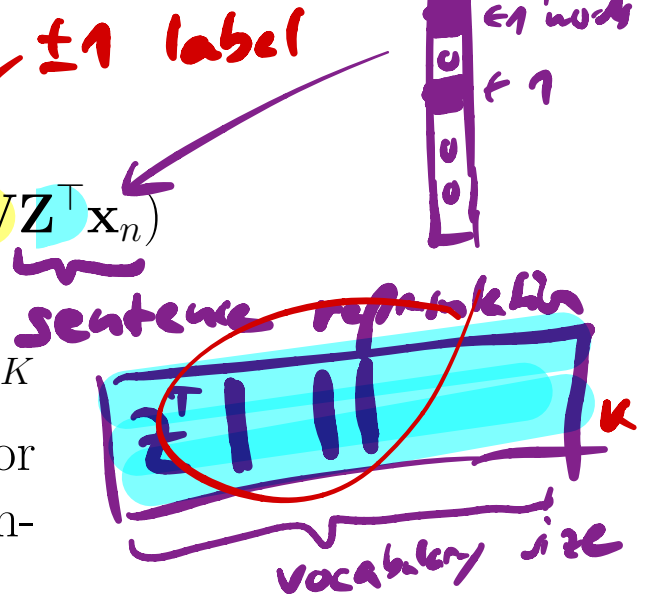
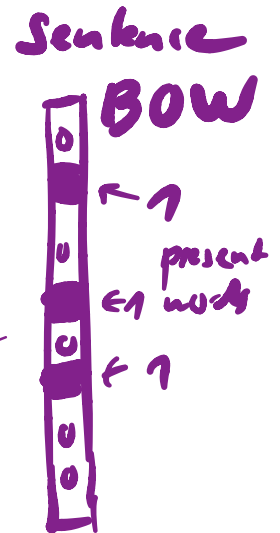
Matrix factorization to learn document/sentence representations (supervised).

Given a sentence  $s_n = (w_1, w_2, \dots, w_m)$ , let  $\mathbf{x}_n \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{V}|}$  be the bag-of-words representation of the sentence.

$$\min_{\mathbf{W}, \mathbf{Z}} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{W}, \mathbf{Z}) := \sum_{s_n \text{ a sentence}} f(y_n \mathbf{W} \mathbf{Z}^T \mathbf{x}_n)$$

where  $\mathbf{W} \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times K}$ ,  $\mathbf{Z} \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{V}| \times K}$  are the variables, and the vector  $\mathbf{x}_n \in \mathbb{R}^{|\mathcal{V}|}$  represents our  $n$ -th training sentence.

Here  $f$  is a linear classifier loss function, and  $y_n \in \{\pm 1\}$  is the classification label for sentence  $\mathbf{x}_n$ .



$$\mathbf{w} = \text{[vector of size } K \text{]}$$

non-linear method

train with SGD

## Further Pointers

1. word2vec:

*code:* [code.google.com/p/word2vec/](https://code.google.com/p/word2vec/)

*paper:*

“Distributed representations of words and phrases and their compositionality” - T Mikolov, I Sutskever, K Chen, GS Corrado, J Dean. NIPS 2013

2. GloVe:

*code and vectors:* [nlp.stanford.edu/projects/glove/](https://nlp.stanford.edu/projects/glove/)

*paper:*

“GloVe: Global Vectors for Word Representation” - Pennington, J., Socher, R., Manning, C. D.. EMNLP 2014

3. Write with transformers:

*code and demo:* [transformer.huggingface.co/doc/gpt2-large](https://transformer.huggingface.co/doc/gpt2-large)

4. FastText & sent2vec

*code:* [github.com/facebookresearch/fastText](https://github.com/facebookresearch/fastText)

*papers:*

“Bag of Tricks for Efficient Text Classification” - Joulin, A., Grave, E., Bojanowski, P., Mikolov, T. - **EC-AACL**, 2017.

“Enriching Word Vectors with Subword Information” - Bojanowski, P., Grave, E., Joulin, A., Mikolov, T. - **TACL**, 2017.

“Unsupervised Learning of Sentence Embeddings using Compositional n-Gram Features” - Pagliardini, M., Gupta, P., Jaggi, M. **NAACL** 2018.