# Neural networks

Natural language processing - motivation

### Topics: natural language processing (NLP)

- Natural language processing is concerned with tasks involving language data
  - we will focus on text data NLP
  - speech processing is also NLP, though it has its own dedicated research community
- Much like for computer vision, we can design neural networks specifically adapted to the processing of text data
  - main issue: text data is inherently high dimensional

# Neural networks

Natural language processing - preprocessing

#### Topics: tokenization

- Typical preprocessing steps of text data
  - tokenize text (from a long string to a list of token strings)

"He's spending 7 days in San Francisco."



- for many datasets, this has already been done for you
- ▶ splitting into tokens based on spaces and separating punctuation is good enough in English or French

#### Topics: lemmatization

- Typical preprocessing steps of text data
  - ▶ lemmatize tokens (put into standard form)

" He "		" he "
"'s"		" be "
"spending"		"spend"
" 7 "		"NUMBER"
" days "		" day "
" in "		"in "
"San Francisco"		"San Francisco"
• **		•

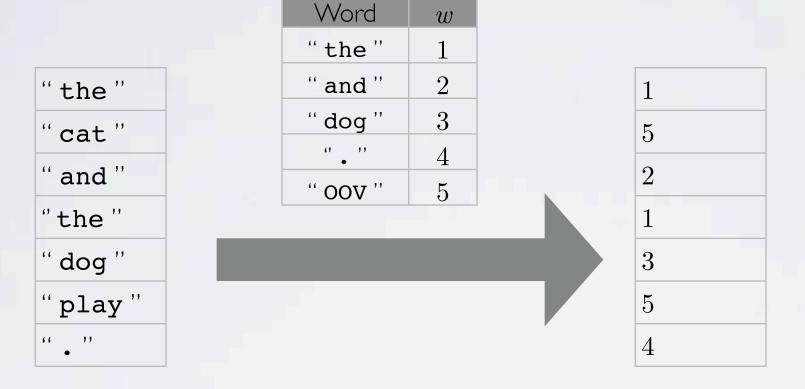
- the specific lemmatization will depend on the problem we want to solve
  - we can remove variations of words that are not relevant to the task at hand

### Topics: vocabulary

- Typical preprocessing steps of text data
  - form vocabulary of words that maps lemmatized words to a unique ID (position of word in vocabulary)
  - by different criteria can be used to select which words are part of the vocabulary
    - pick most frequent words
    - ignore uninformative words from a user-defined short list (ex.: "the "," a ", etc.)
  - ▶ all words not in the vocabulary will be mapped to a special "out-of-vocabulary" ID
- Typical vocabulary sizes will vary between 10 000 and 250 000

#### Topics: vocabulary

• Example:



**Vocabulary** 

- ullet We will note word IDs with the symbol w
  - lacktriangleright can think of w as a categorical feature for the original word
  - lacktriangleright we will sometimes refer to w as a word, for simplicity

## Neural networks

Natural language processing - one-hot encoding

#### Topics: one-hot encoding

- From its word ID, we get a basic representation of a word through the one-hot encoding of the ID
  - the one-hot vector of an ID is a vector filled with 0s, except for a 1 at the position associated with the ID
    - ex.: for vocabulary size D=10, the one-hot vector of word ID w=4 is

$$e(w) = [0001000000]$$

- ▶ a one-hot encoding makes no assumption about word similarity
  - $||\mathbf{e}(w) \mathbf{e}(w')||^2 = 0$  if w = w'
  - $||e(w) e(w')||^2 = 2$  if  $w \neq w'$
  - all words are equally different from each other
- this is a natural representation to start with, though a poor one

#### Topics: one-hot encoding

- The major problem with the one-hot representation is that it is very high-dimensional
  - $\blacktriangleright$  the dimensionality of e(w) is the size of the vocabulary
  - ▶ a typical vocabulary size is  $\approx 100~000$
  - ▶ a window of 10 words would correspond to an input vector of at least 1 000 000 units!
- This has 2 consequences:
  - vulnerability to overfitting
    - millions of inputs means millions of parameters to train in a regular neural network
  - computationally expensive
    - not all computations can be sparsified (ex.: reconstruction in autoencoder)

# Neural networks

Natural language processing - word representations

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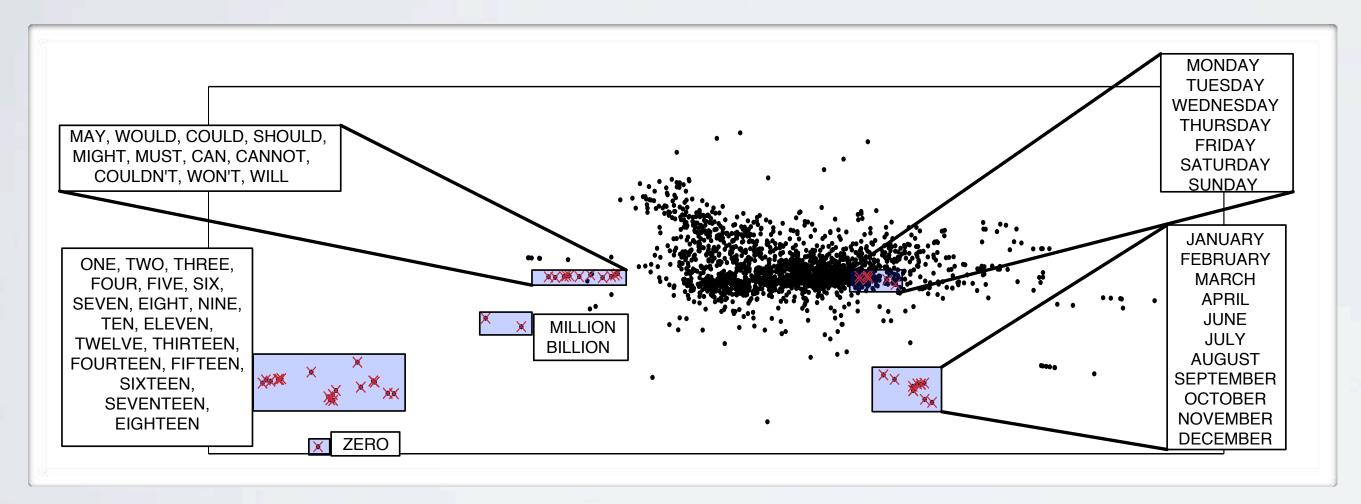
#### Topics: continuous word representation

- Idea: learn a continuous representation of words
  - $\blacktriangleright$  each word w is associated with a real-valued vector C(w)

Word	w	C(w)
"the"	1	[ 0.6762, -0.9607, 0.3626, -0.2410, 0.6636 ]
" a "	2	[ 0.6859, -0.9266, 0.3777, -0.2140, 0.6711 ]
" have	3	[ 0.1656, -0.1530, 0.0310, -0.3321, -0.1342 ]
" be "	4	[ 0.1760, -0.1340, 0.0702, -0.2981, -0.1111 ]
"cat"	5	[ 0.5896, 0.9137, 0.0452, 0.7603, -0.6541 ]
" dog "	6	[ 0.5965, 0.9143, 0.0899, 0.7702, -0.6392 ]
"car"	7	[ -0.0069, 0.7995, 0.6433, 0.2898, 0.6359 ]
		•••

#### Topics: continuous word representation

- · Idea: learn a continuous representation of words
  - we would like the distance ||C(w)-C(w')|| to reflect meaningful similarities between words



(from Blitzer et al. 2004)

#### Topics: continuous word representation

- · Idea: learn a continuous representation of words
  - we could then use these representations as input to a neural network
  - lacktriangleright to represent a window of 10 words  $[w_1, \ldots, w_{10}]$ , we concatenate the representations of each word

$$\mathbf{x} = [C(w_{\scriptscriptstyle 1})^{\scriptscriptstyle op}, \, ... \, , \, C(w_{\scriptscriptstyle 10})^{\scriptscriptstyle op}]^{\scriptscriptstyle op}$$

- We learn these representations by gradient descent
  - we don't only update the neural network parameters
  - lacktriangle we also update each representation C(w) in the input  ${f x}$  with a gradient step

$$C(w) \longleftarrow C(w) - \alpha \nabla_{C(w)} l$$

where l is the loss function optimized by the neural network

#### Topics: word representations as a lookup table

- Let C be a matrix whose rows are the representations C(w)
  - obtaining C(w) corresponds to the multiplication  $e(w)^{T}$  C
  - $\blacktriangleright$  view differently, we are projecting  ${
    m e}(w)$  onto the columns of C
    - this is a reduction of the dimensionality of the one-hot representations  $\mathrm{e}(w)$
  - this is a continuous transformation, through which we can propagate gradients

- In practice, we implement C(w) with a lookup table, not with a multiplication
  - ightharpoonup C(w) returns an array pointing to the  $w^{ ext{th}}$  row of  ${f C}$

# Neural networks

Natural language processing - language modeling

### Topics: language modeling

• A language model is a probabilistic model that assigns probabilities to any sequence of words

$$p(w_1, \ldots, w_T)$$

- Ianguage modeling is the task of learning a language model that assigns high probabilities to well formed sentences
- plays a crucial role in speech recognition and machine translation systems

"une personne intelligente"

"a person smart"

"a smart person"

### Topics: language modeling

• An assumption frequently made is the  $n^{\rm th}$  order Markov assumption

$$p(w_1, \ ... \ , w_T) = \prod_{t=1}^T p(w_t \mid w_{t-(n-1)} \ , \ ... \ , w_{t-1})$$

- the  $t^{\rm th}$  word was generated based only on the n-1 previous words
- we will refer to  $w_{t-(n-1)}$ , ...,  $w_{t-1}$  as the context

### **Topics:** *n*-gram model

- An n-gram is a sequence of n words
  - $\blacktriangleright$  unigrams (n=1): "is", "a", "sequence", etc.
  - $\blacktriangleright$  bigrams (n=2): ["is", "a"], ["a", "sequence"], etc.
  - $\blacktriangleright$  trigrams (n=3): ["is", "a", "sequence"], ["a", "sequence", "of"], etc.
- n-gram models estimate the conditional from n-grams counts

$$p(w_t \mid w_{t-(n-1)}, \dots, w_{t-1}) = \underbrace{\mathrm{count}(w_{t-(n-1)}, \dots, w_{t-1}, w_t)}_{\mathrm{count}(w_{t-(n-1)}, \dots, w_{t-1}, \cdot)}$$

the counts are obtained from a training corpus (a data set of word text)

### **Topics:** *n*-gram model

- Issue: data sparsity
  - $\blacktriangleright$  we want n to be large, for the model to be realistic
  - however, for large values of n, it is likely that a given n-gram will not have been observed in the training corpora
  - smoothing the counts can help
    - combine  $\operatorname{count}(w_1, w_2, w_3, w_4)$ ,  $\operatorname{count}(w_2, w_3, w_4)$ ,  $\operatorname{count}(w_3, w_4)$ , and  $\operatorname{count}(w_4)$  to estimate  $p(w_4 | w_1, w_2, w_3)$
  - this only partly solves the problem

## Neural networks

Natural language processing - neural network language model

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#### Topics: neural network language model

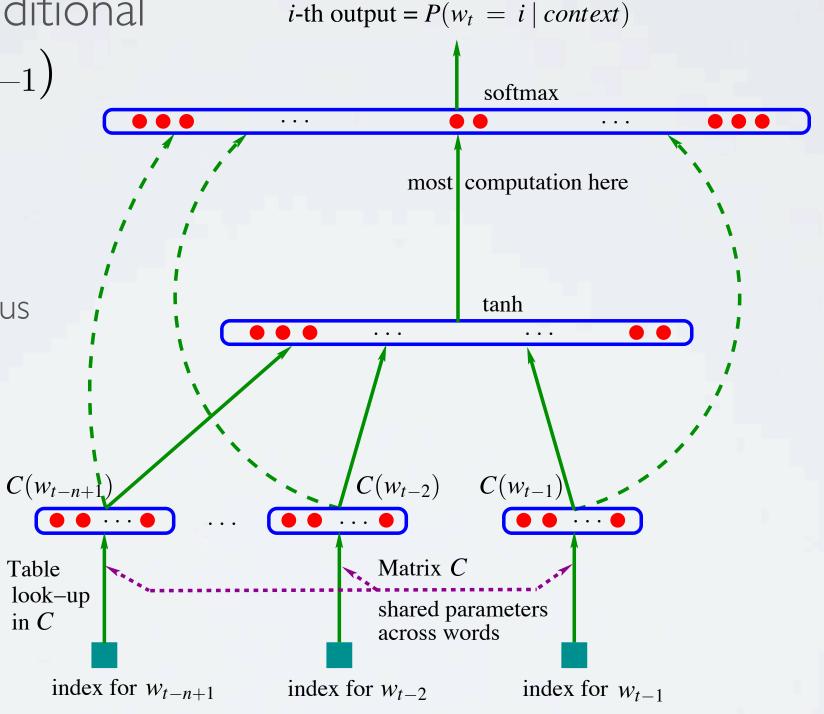
in C

Solution: model the conditional

 $p(w_t \mid w_{t-(n-1)}, \dots, w_{t-1})$ 

with a neural network

▶ learn word representations to allow transfer to n-grams not observed in training corpus



#### Topics: neural network language model

Table

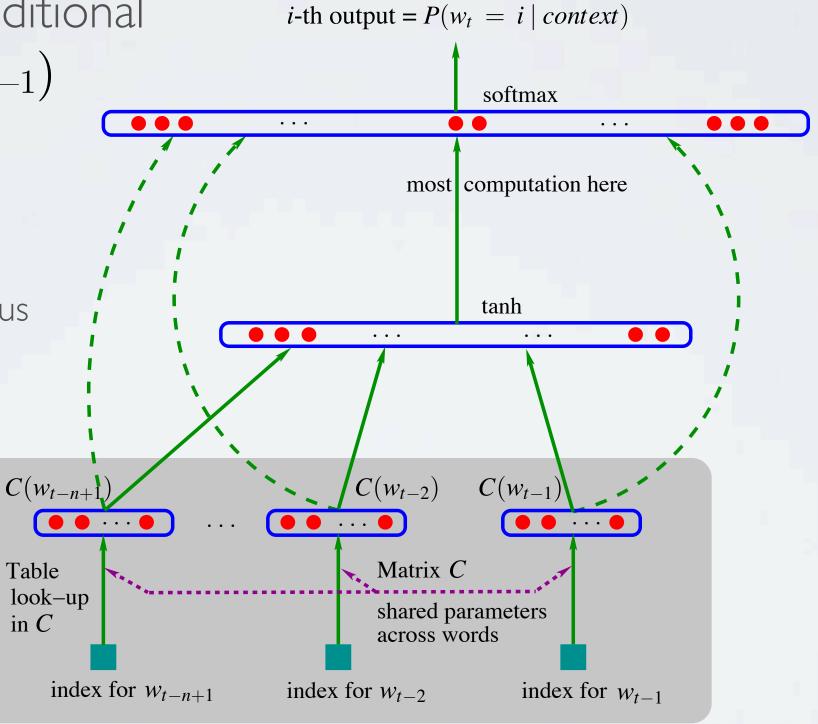
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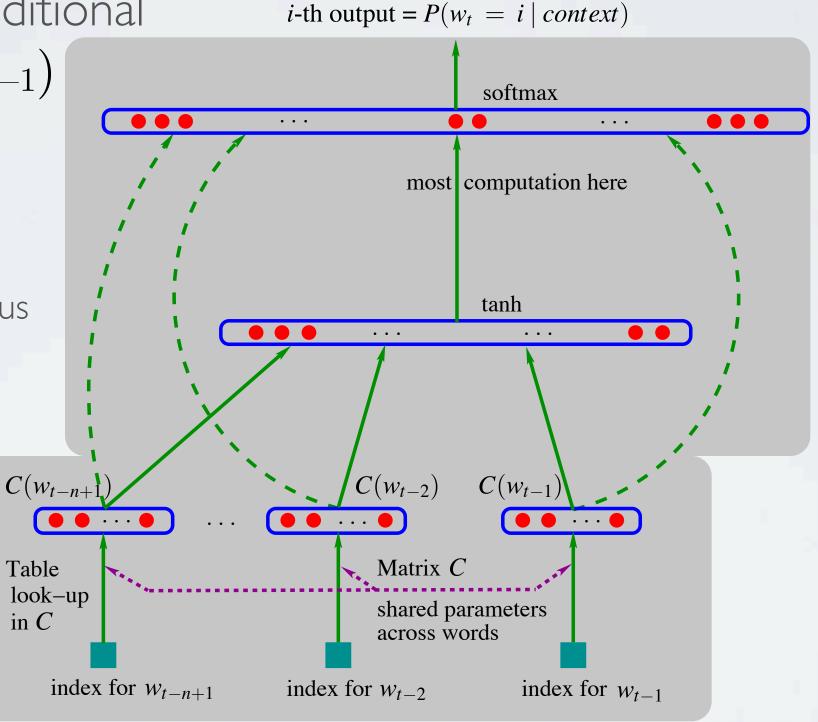
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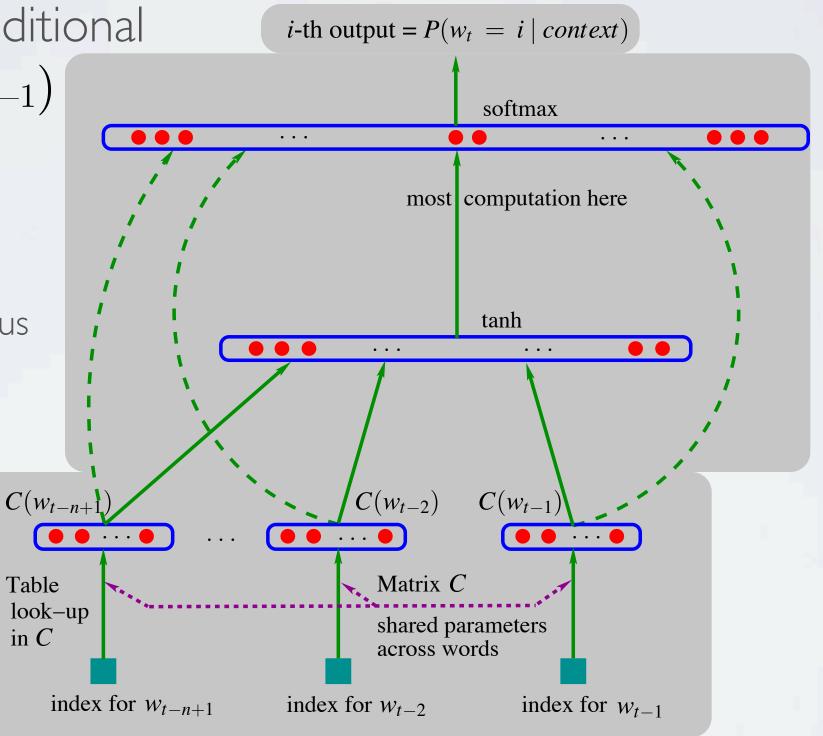
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#### Topics: neural network language model

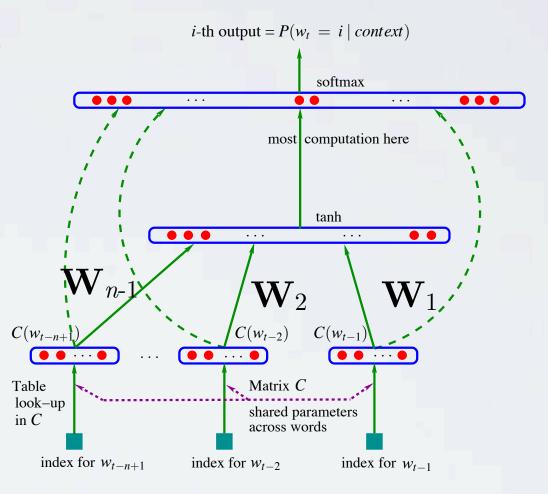
- Can potentially generalize to contexts not seen in training set
  - example: p(" eating " | " the "," cat "," is ")
    - imagine 4-gram ["the", "cat", "is", "eating"] is not in training corpus, but ["the", "dog", "is", "eating"] is
    - if the word representations of "cat" and "dog" are similar, then the neural network will be able to generalize to the case of "cat"
    - neural network could learn similar word representations for those words based on other 4-grams:

```
["the","cat","was", "sleeping"]
["the","dog","was", "sleeping"]
```

### Topics: word representation gradients

- We know how to propagate gradients in such a network
  - we know how to compute the gradient for the linear activation of the hidden layer  $\nabla_{\mathbf{a}(\mathbf{x})}l$
  - let's note the submatrix connecting  $w_{t-i}$  and the hidden layer as  $\mathbf{W}_i$
- The gradient wrt C(w) for any w is

$$\nabla_{C(w)} l = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} 1_{(w_{t-i}=w)} \mathbf{W}_i^{\top} \nabla_{\mathbf{a}(\mathbf{x})} l$$



#### Topics: word representation gradients

- Example: ["the","dog","and", "the", "cat"]  $w_3$   $w_4$   $w_5$   $w_6$   $w_7$   $w_7$   $w_8$   $w_8$  w
  - the loss is  $l=-\log p(\text{``cat''}|\text{``the''},\text{``dog''},\text{``and''},\text{ ``the''})$

  - $\nabla \nabla \nabla \nabla \nabla u = 0$  for all other words w
- Only need to update the representations C(3), C(14) and C(21),

#### Topics: performance evaluation

- In language modeling, a common evaluation metric is the perplexity
  - it is simply the exponential of the average negative log-likelihood
- Evaluation on Brown corpus
  - ▶ n-gram model (Kneser-Ney smoothing): 32 I
  - neural network language model: 276
  - ▶ neural network + n-gram: 252

#### Topics: performance evaluation

- A more interesting (and less straightforward) way of evaluating a language model is within a particular application
  - does a language model improve the performance of a machine translation or speech recognition system
- Later work has shown improvements in both cases
  - Connectionist language modeling for large vocabulary continuous speech recognition
     Schwenk and Gauvain, 2002
  - Continuous-Space Language Models for Statistical Machine Translation Schwenk, 2010

# Neural networks

Natural language processing - hierarchical output layer

#### Topics: neural network language model

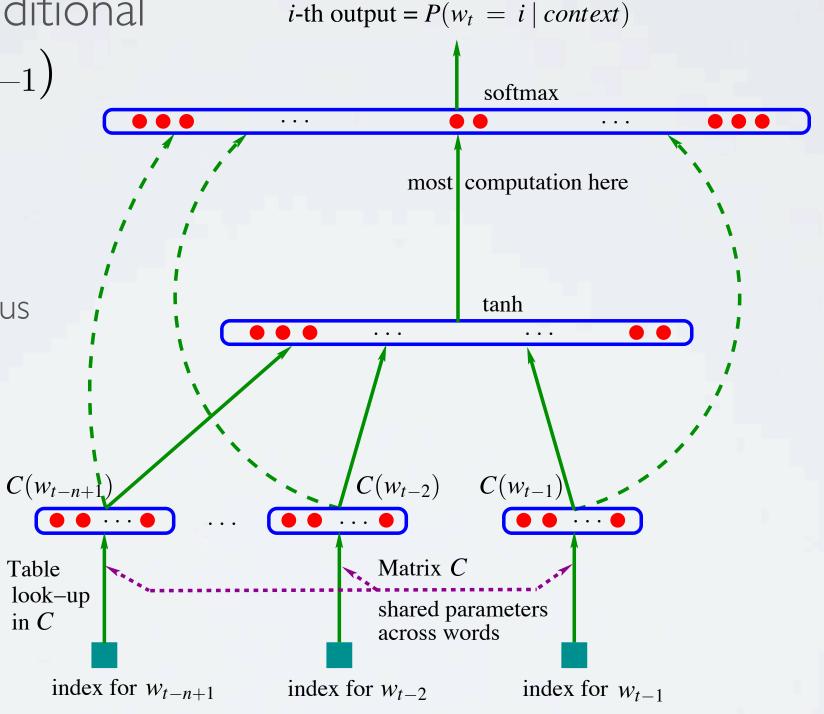
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▶ learn word representations to allow transfer to n-grams not observed in training corpus



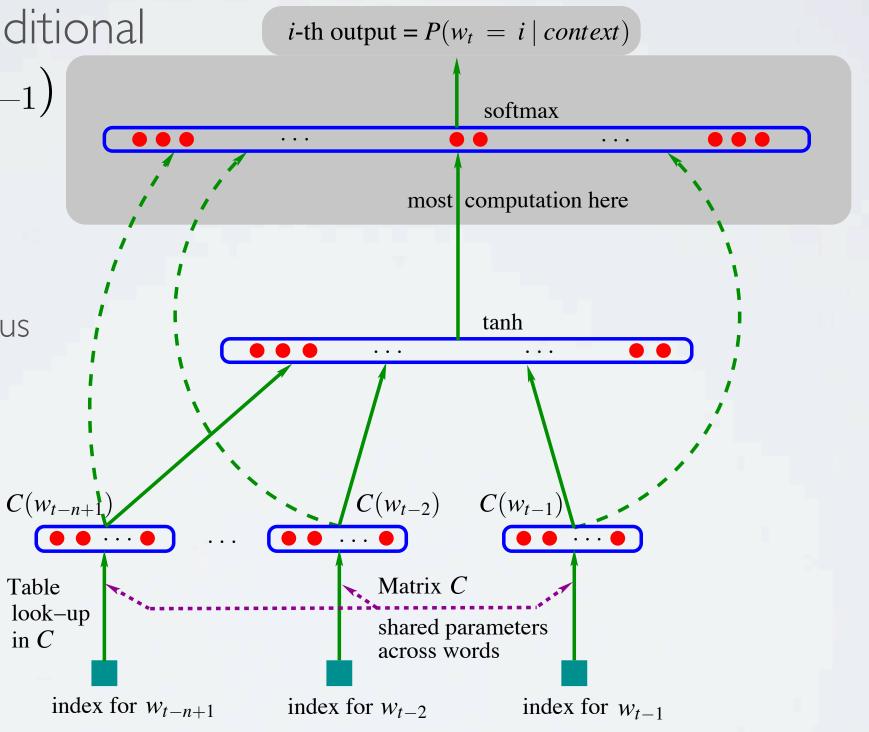
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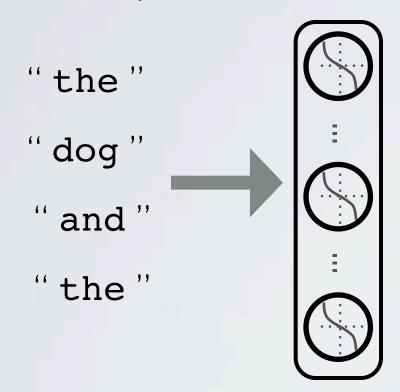
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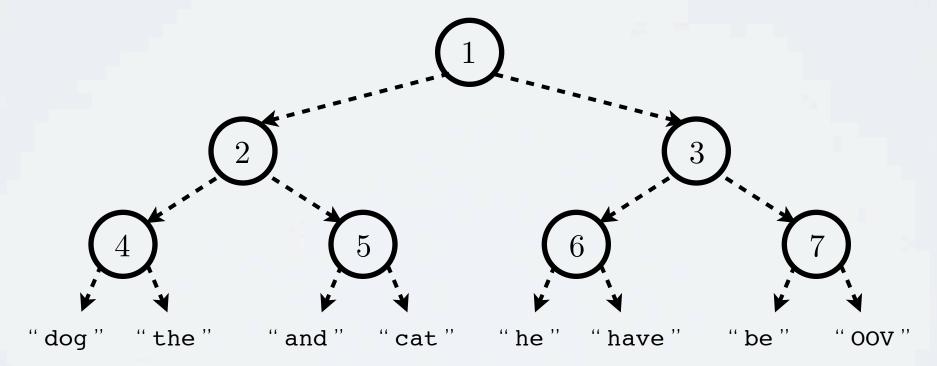


#### Topics: hierarchical output layer

• Example: ["the","dog","and", "the", "cat"]

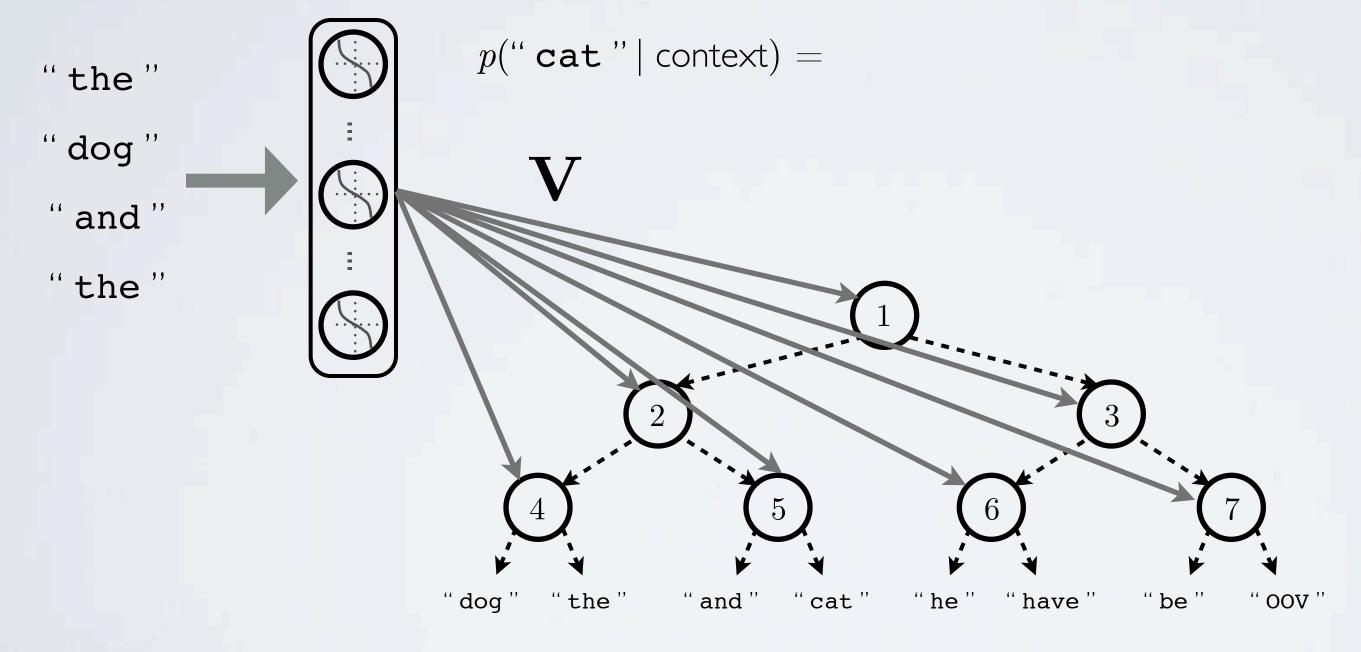


 $p(``\mathsf{cat}" | \mathsf{context}) =$ 



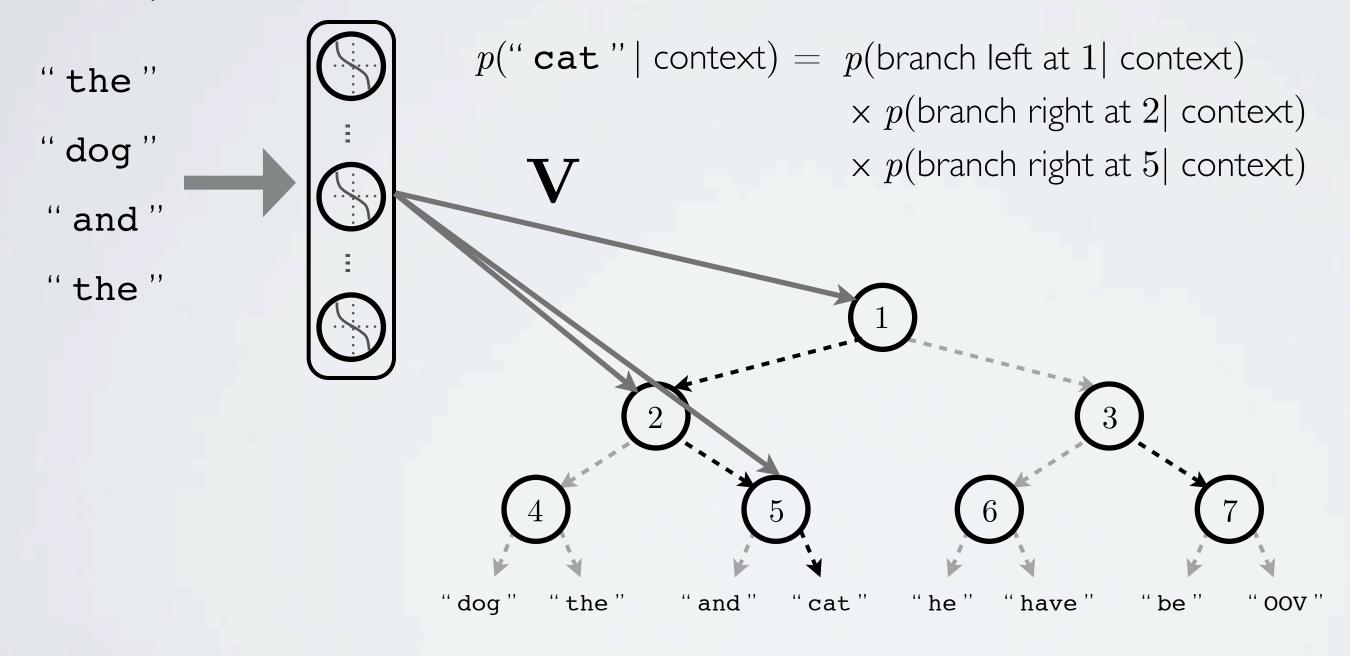
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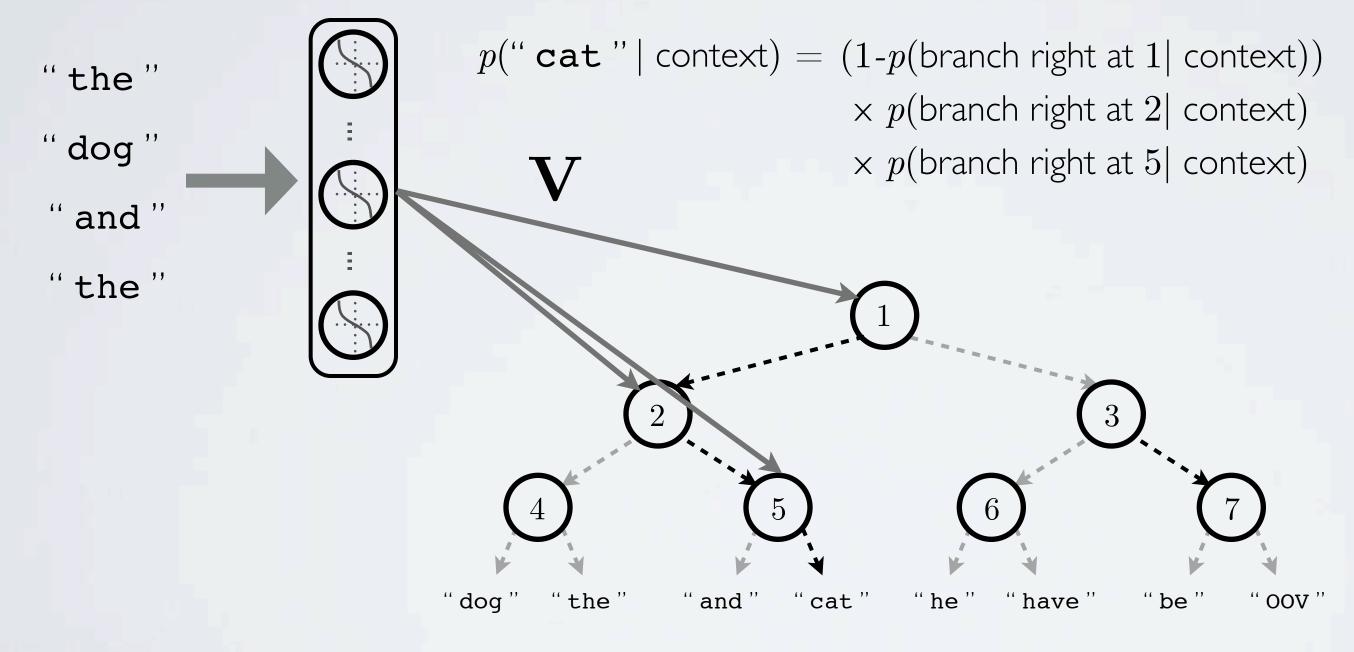
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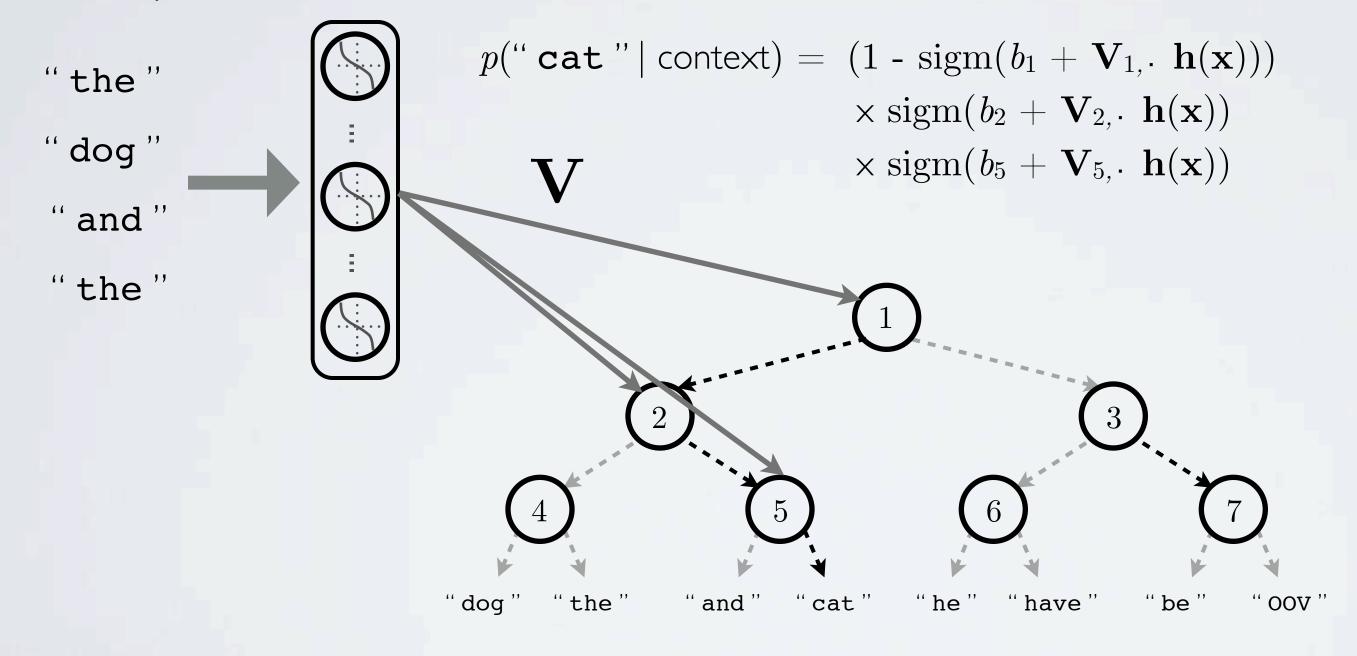
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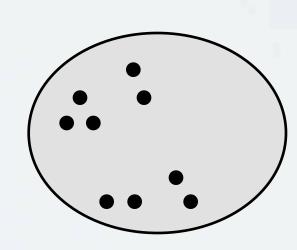


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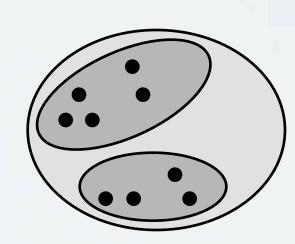
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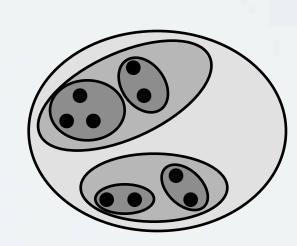
- How to define the word hierarchy
  - can use a randomly generated tree
    - this is likely to be suboptimal
  - can use existing linguistic resources, such as WordNet
    - Hierarchical Probabilistic Neural Network Language Model Morin and Bengio, 2005
    - they report a speedup of 258x, with a slight decrease in performance
  - can learn the hierarchy using a recursive partitioning strategy
    - A Scalable Hierarchical Distributed Language Model Mnih and Hinton, 2008
    - similar speedup factors are reported, without a performance decrease



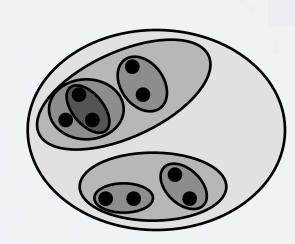
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## Neural networks

Natural language processing - word tagging

### Topics: word tagging

- In many NLP applications, it is useful to augment text data with syntactic and semantic information
  - we would like to add syntactic/semantic labels to each word
- This problem can be tackled using a conditional random field with neural network unary potentials
  - we will describe the model developed by Ronan Collobert and Jason Weston in:

A Unified Architecture for Natural Language Processing: Deep Neural Networks with Multitask Learning

Collobert and Weston, 2008

(see Natural Language Processing (Almost) from Scratch for the journal version)

#### Topics: part-of-speech tagging

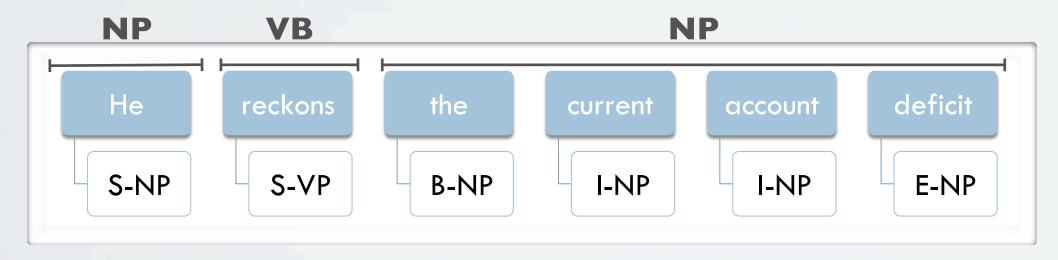
- Tag each word with its part of speech category
  - noun, verb, adverb, etc.
  - might want to distinguish between singular/plural, present tense/past tense, etc.
  - > see Penn Treebank POS tags set for an example

#### • Example:



### Topics: chunking

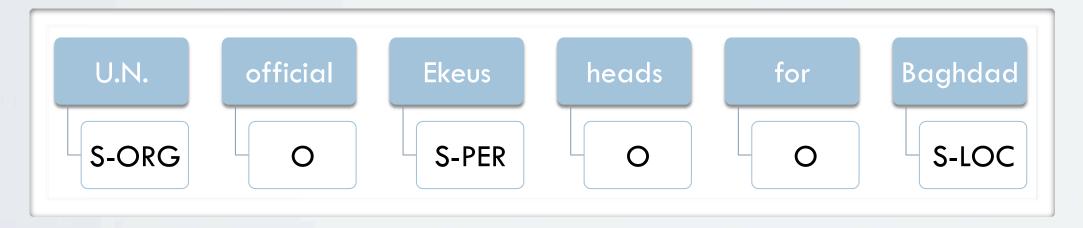
- Segment phrases into syntactic phrases
  - noun phrase, verb phrase, etc.
- Segments are identified with IOBES encoding
  - ▶ single word phrase (S- prefix). Ex.: S-NP
  - ▶ multiword phrase (B-, I-, E- prefixes). Ex.: B-VP I-VP I-VP E-VP
  - words outside of syntactic phrases: 0



### Topics: named entity recognition (NER)

- · Identify phrases referring to a named entity
  - person
  - ▶ location
  - organization

#### • Example:



#### Topics: semantic role labeling (SRL)

- For each verb, identify the role of other words with respect to that verb
- Example:

► A2: accepted from

▶ V: verb

▶ A3: attribute

▶ A0: acceptor

► AM-MOD: modal

► A1: thing accepted

► AM-NEG: negation



### Topics: labeled corpus

The raw data looks like this:

			_		
The	DT	B-NP	0	B-A0	B-A0
\$	\$	I-NP	Ο	I-A0	I-A0
1.4	CD	I-NP	0	I-A0	I-A0
billion	CD	I-NP	0	I-A0	I-A0
robot	NN	I-NP	0	I-A0	I-A0
spacecraft	NN	E-NP	0	E-A0	E-A0
faces	VBZ	S-VP	0	S-V	0
a	DT	B-NP	0	B-A1	0
six-year	JJ	I-NP	0	I-A1	0
journey	NN	E-NP	0	I-A1	0
to	TO	B-VP	0	I-A1	0
explore	VB	E-VP	0	I-A1	S-V
Jupiter	NNP	S-NP	S-ORG	I-A1	B-A1
and	CC	0	0	I-A1	I-A1
its	PRP\$	B-NP	0	I-A1	I-A1
16	CD	I-NP	O	I-A1	I-A1
known	JJ	I-NP	O	I-A1	I-A1
moons	NNS	E-NP	0	E-A1	E-A1
•	•	0	Ο	0	0

# Neural networks

Natural language processing - convolutional network

### Topics: word tagging

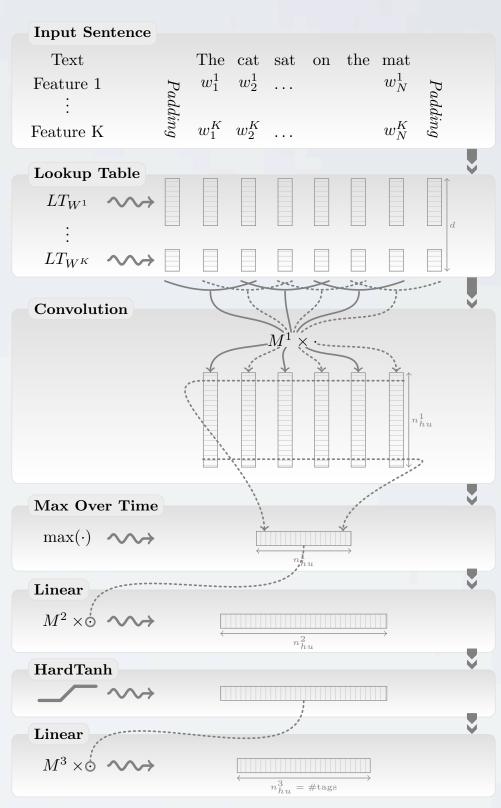
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- How to model each label sequence
  - could use a CRF with neural network unary potentials, based on a window (context) of words
    - not appropriate for semantic role labeling, because relevant context might be very far away
  - Collobert and Weston suggest a convolutional network over the whole sentence
    - prediction at a given position can exploit information from any word in the sentence

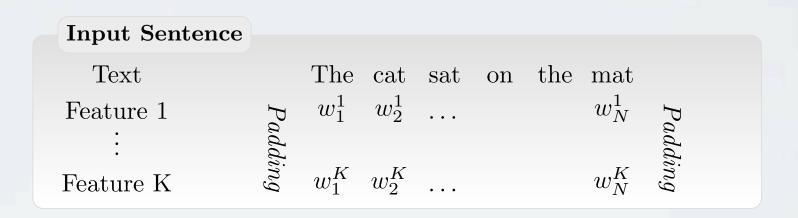


- Each word can be represented by more than one feature
  - feature of the word itself
  - substring features
    - prefix: "eating" → "eat"
    - suffix: "eating" → "ing"

Input Sentence									
Text		The	cat	sat	on	the	mat		
Feature 1	$P_{\ell}$	$w_1^1$	$w_{2}^{1}$				$w_N^1$	$P_{\ell}$	
:	Padding							$^{\circ}adding$	
Feature K	ing	$w_1^K$	$w_2^K$				$w_N^K$	mg	

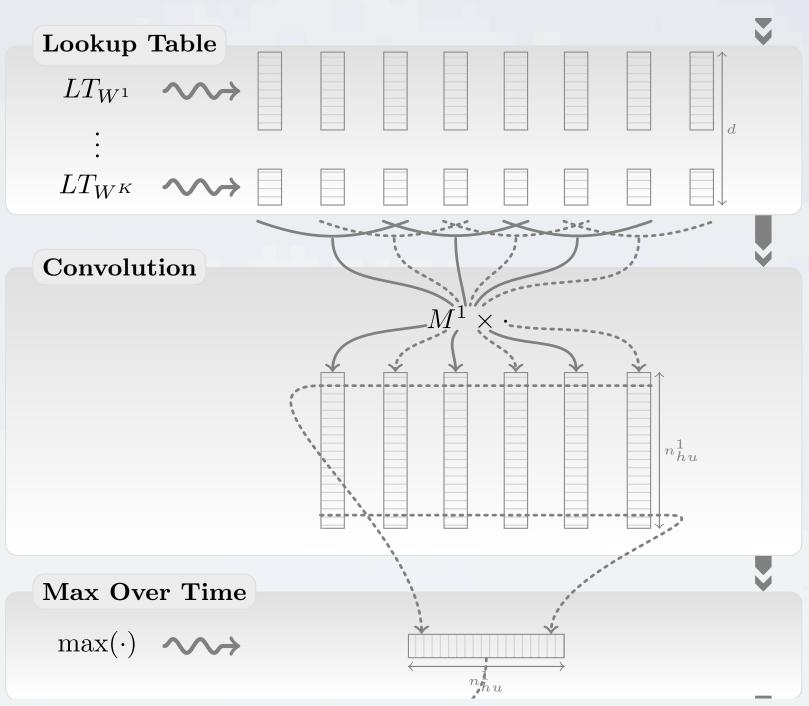
- gazetteer features
  - whether the word belong to a list of known locations, persons, etc.
- These features are treated like word features, with their own lookup tables

- Feature must encode for which word we are making a prediction
  - done by adding the relative position i-posw, where posw
     is the position of the current word
  - this feature also has its lookup table

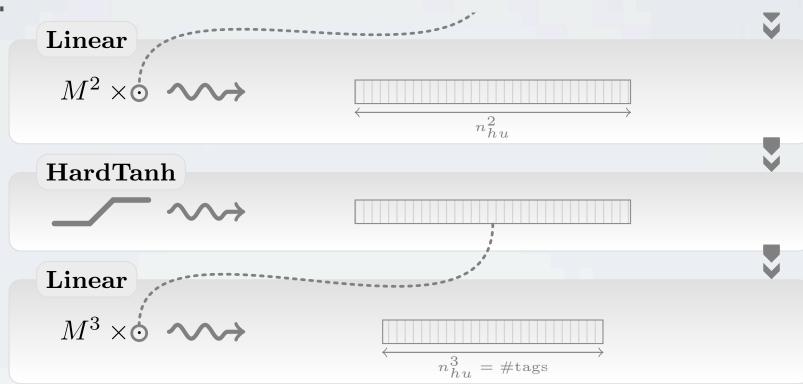


- For SRL, must know the roles for which verb we are predicting
  - ightharpoonup also add the relative position of that verb  $i\text{-}pos_v$

- Lookup table:
  - for each word concatenate the representations of its features
- Convolution:
  - at every position, compute linear activations from a window of representations
  - this is a convolution in ID
- Max pooling:
  - obtain a fixed hidden layer
     with a max across positions



- Regular neural network:
  - the pooled representation serves as the input of a regular neural network
  - they proposed using a "hard" version of the tanh activation function

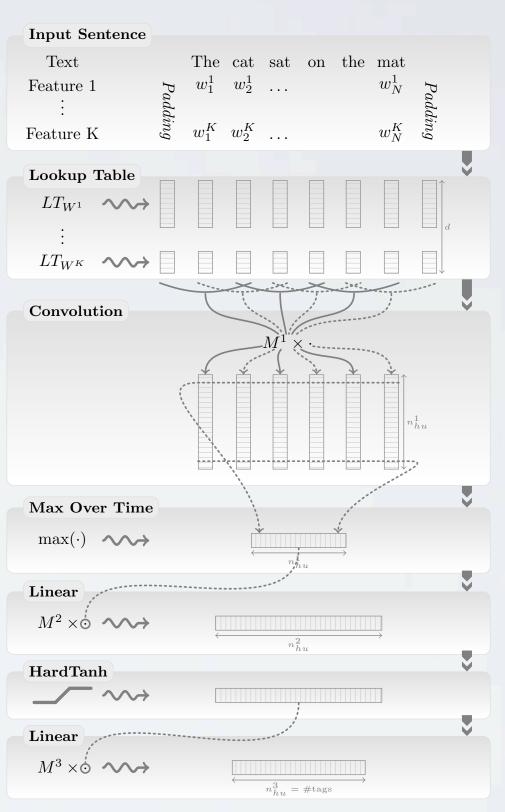


- The outputs are used as the unary potential of a chain CRF over the labels
  - ▶ no connections between the CRFs of the different task (one CRF per task)
  - ▶ a separate neural network is used for each task

## Neural networks

Natural language processing - multitask learning

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    - not appropriate for semantic role labeling, because relevant context might be very far away
  - Collobert and Weston suggest a convolutional network over the whole sentence
    - prediction at a given position can exploit information from any word in the sentence



#### Topics: multitask learning

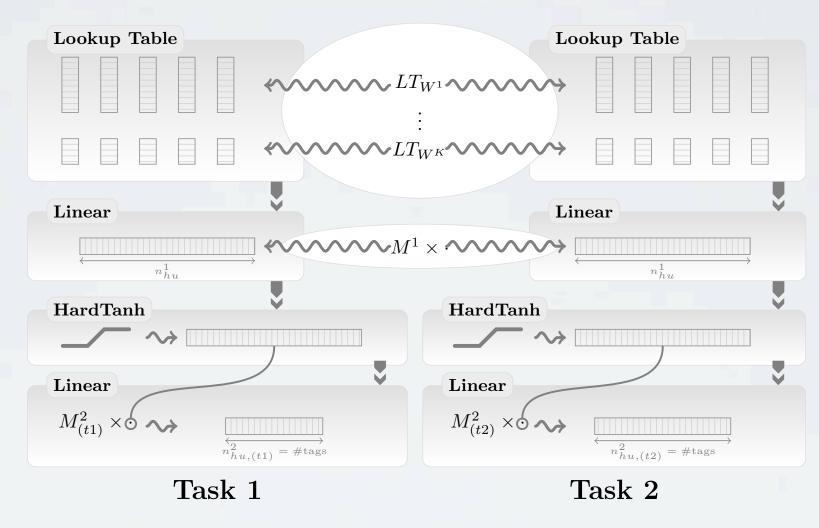
Could share vector representations of the features across

tasks

simply use the same lookup tables across tasks

the other parameters of the neural networks are not tied

 This is referred to as multitask learning



the idea is to transfer knowledge learned within the word representations across the different task

### Topics: language model

- · We can design other tasks without any labeled data
  - identify whether the middle word of a window of text is an "impostor"

```
"cat sat on the mat" vs "cat sat think the mat"
```

- can generate impostor examples from unlabeled text (Wikipedia)
  - pick a window of words from unlabeled corpus
  - replace middle word with a different, randomly chosen word
- train a neural network (with word representations) to assign a higher score to the original window

$$\max \left\{ 0, 1 - f_{\theta}(x) + f_{\theta}(x^{(w)}) \right\} \qquad \text{impostor window}$$
 with word  $w$ 

similar to language modeling, except we predict the word in the middle

### Topics: experimental comparison

• From Natural Language Processing (Almost) from Scratch by Collobert et al.

Approach	POS	CHUNK	NER	SRL
	(PWA)	(F1)	(F1)	(F1)
Benchmark Systems	97.24	94.29	89.31	77.92
NN+SLL	96.37	90.33	81.47	70.99

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NN+SLL	96.37	90.33	81.47	70.99
NN+SLL+LM2	97.12	93.37	88.78	74.15
NN+SLL+LM2+MTL	97.22	93.75	88.27	74.29

### Topics: experimental comparison

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NN+SLL+LM2+Suffix2	97.29	_	_	_
NN+SLL+LM2+Gazetteer	_	_	89.59	_
NN+SLL+LM2+POS	_	94.32	88.67	_
NN+SLL+LM2+CHUNK	_	_	_	74.72

#### Topics: experimental comparison

Nearest neighbors in word representation space:

FRANCE	<b>JESUS</b>	XBOX	REDDISH	SCRATCHED	<b>MEGABITS</b>
454	1973	6909	11724	29869	87025
AUSTRIA	GOD	AMIGA	GREENISH	NAILED	OCTETS
BELGIUM	SATI	PLAYSTATION	BLUISH	SMASHED	MB/S
GERMANY	CHRIST	MSX	PINKISH	PUNCHED	BIT/S
ITALY	SATAN	IPOD	PURPLISH	POPPED	BAUD
GREECE	KALI	SEGA	BROWNISH	CRIMPED	CARATS
SWEDEN	INDRA	PSNUMBER	GREYISH	SCRAPED	KBIT/S
NORWAY	VISHNU	HD	GRAYISH	SCREWED	MEGAHERTZ
EUROPE	ANANDA	DREAMCAST	WHITISH	SECTIONED	MEGAPIXELS
HUNGARY	PARVATI	GEFORCE	SILVERY	SLASHED	GBIT/S
SWITZERLAND	GRACE	CAPCOM	YELLOWISH	RIPPED	AMPERES

• For a 2D visualization: <a href="http://www.cs.toronto.edu/~hinton/turian.png">http://www.cs.toronto.edu/~hinton/turian.png</a>

## Neural networks

Natural language processing - recursive network

## FROM WORDS TO PHRASES

#### Topics: word phrase representations

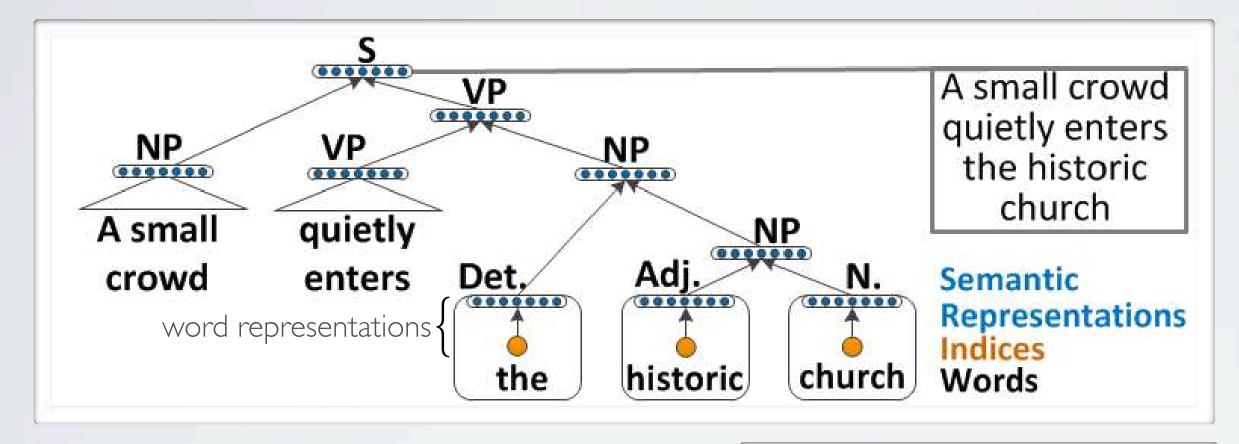
· We've seen how to learn representations for single words

- How could we learn representations for phrases of arbitrary length?
  - can we model relationships between words and multiword expressions
    - ex: "consider" ≈ "take into account"
  - can we extract a representation of full sentences that preserves some of its semantic meaning
    - ex.: "word representations "we trained word were learned from a ≈ representations on corpus" a text data set"

## RECURSIVE NEURAL NETWORK

Topics: recursive neural network (RNN)

• Idea: recursively merge pairs of word/phrase representations



We need 2 things

Socher, Lin, Ng and Manning, 2011

- a model that merges pairs of representations
- > a model that determines the tree structure

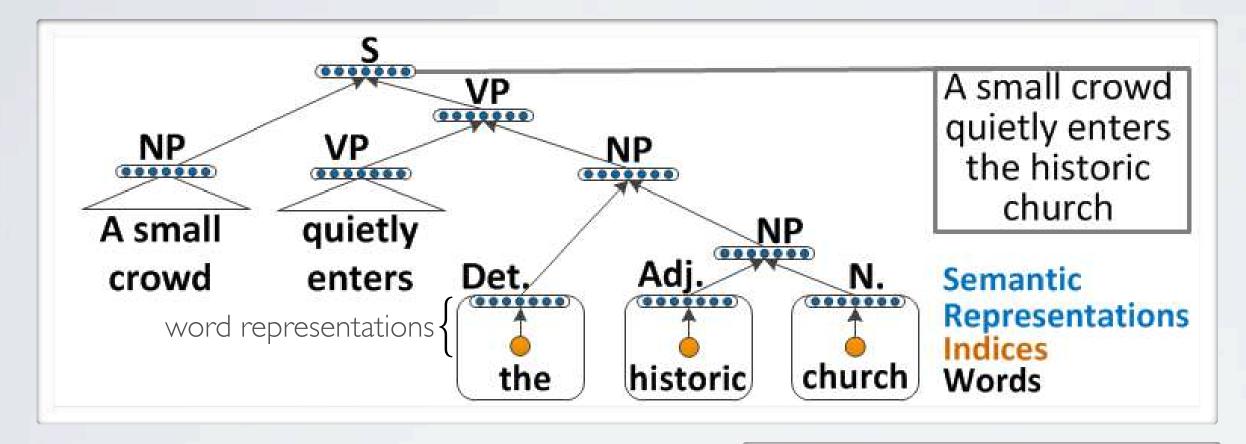
## Neural networks

Natural language processing - merging representations

### RECURSIVE NEURAL NETWORK

Topics: recursive neural network (RNN)

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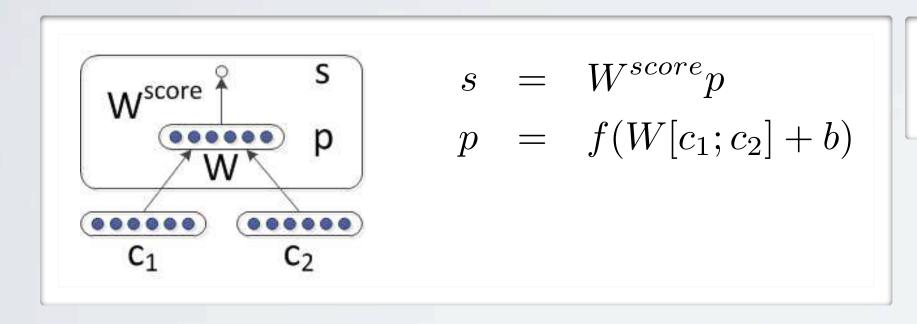
Socher, Lin, Ng and Manning, 2011

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### RECURSIVE NEURAL NETWORK

Topics: recursive neural network (RNN)

• Given two input representations  $c_1$  and  $c_2$ , the recursive network computes the merged representation p as follows:



Socher, Lin, Ng and Manning, 2011

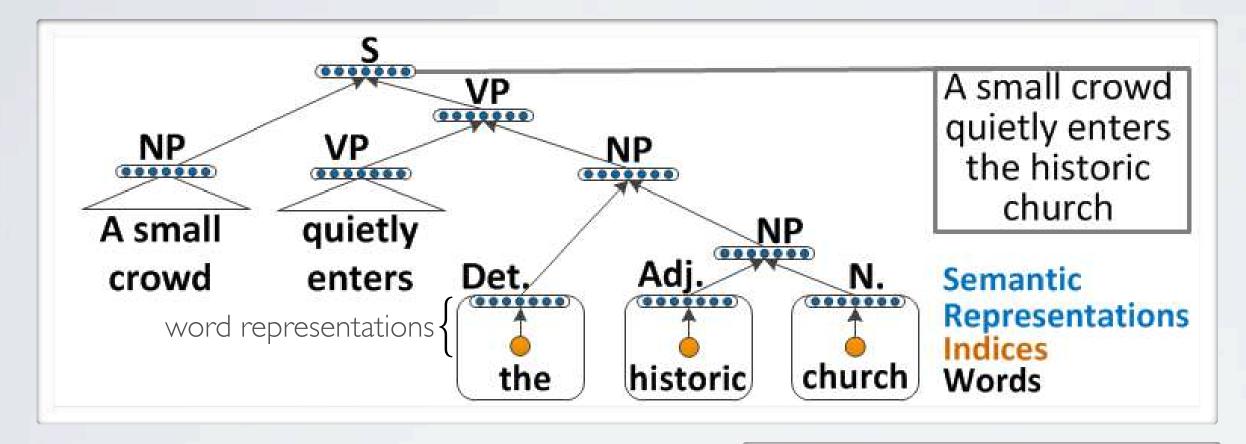
- ullet The network also computes a score s
  - it estimates the quality of the merge
  - it will be used to decide which pairs of representations to merge first

# Neural networks

Natural language processing - tree inference

Topics: recursive neural network (RNN)

• Idea: recursively merge pairs of word/phrase representations



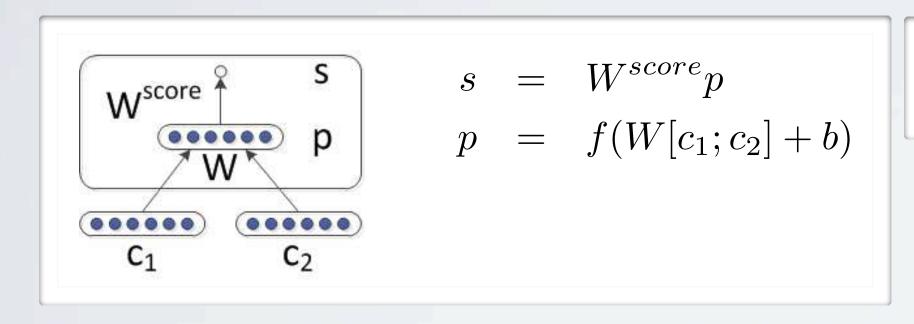
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Socher, Lin, Ng and Manning, 2011

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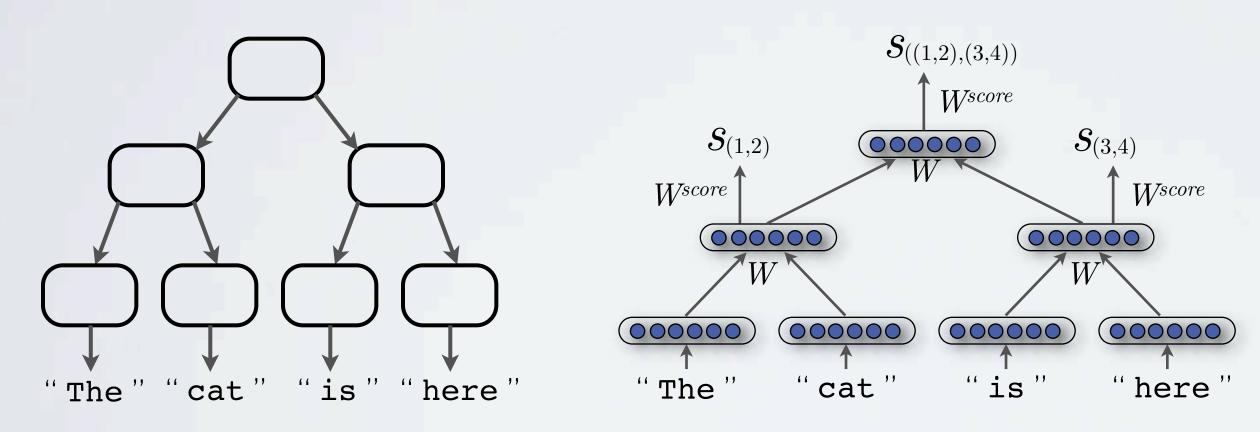
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Topics: recursive neural network (RNN)

• The score of the full tree is the sum of all merging scores

#### Parse tree

#### Recursive network



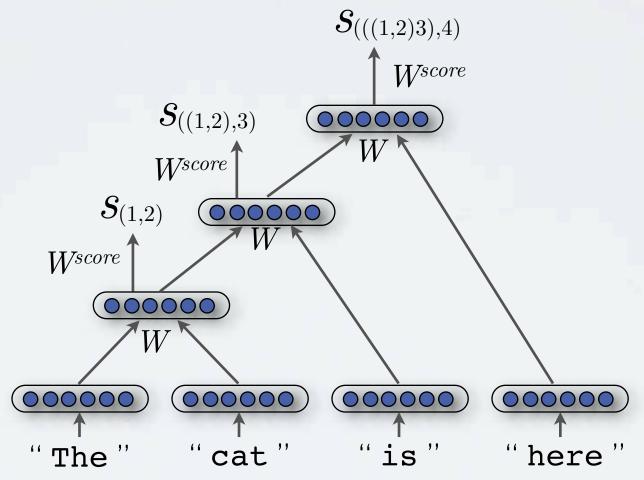
**Score:**  $s_{(1,2)} + s_{(3,4)} + s_{((1,2),(3,4))}$ 

Topics: recursive neural network (RNN)

• The score of the full tree is the sum of all merging scores

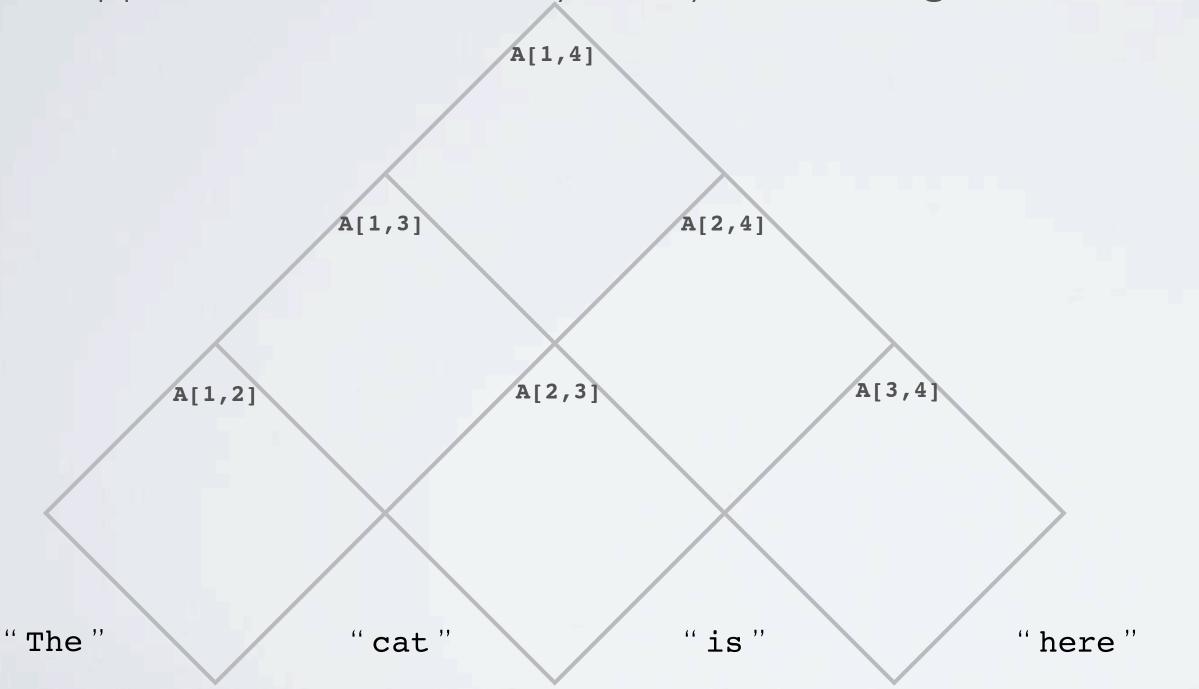
# Parse tree The "cat" "is" here"

#### Recursive network

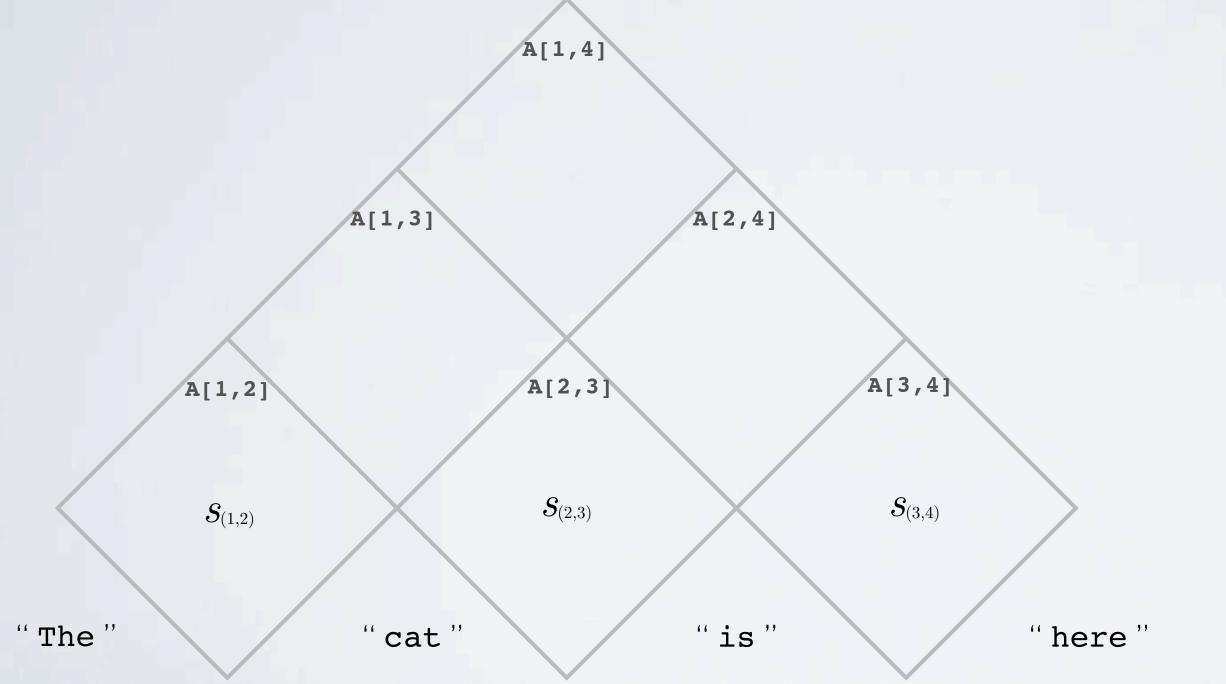


**Score:**  $s_{(1,2)} + s_{((1,2),3)} + s_{((1,2),3),4)}$ 

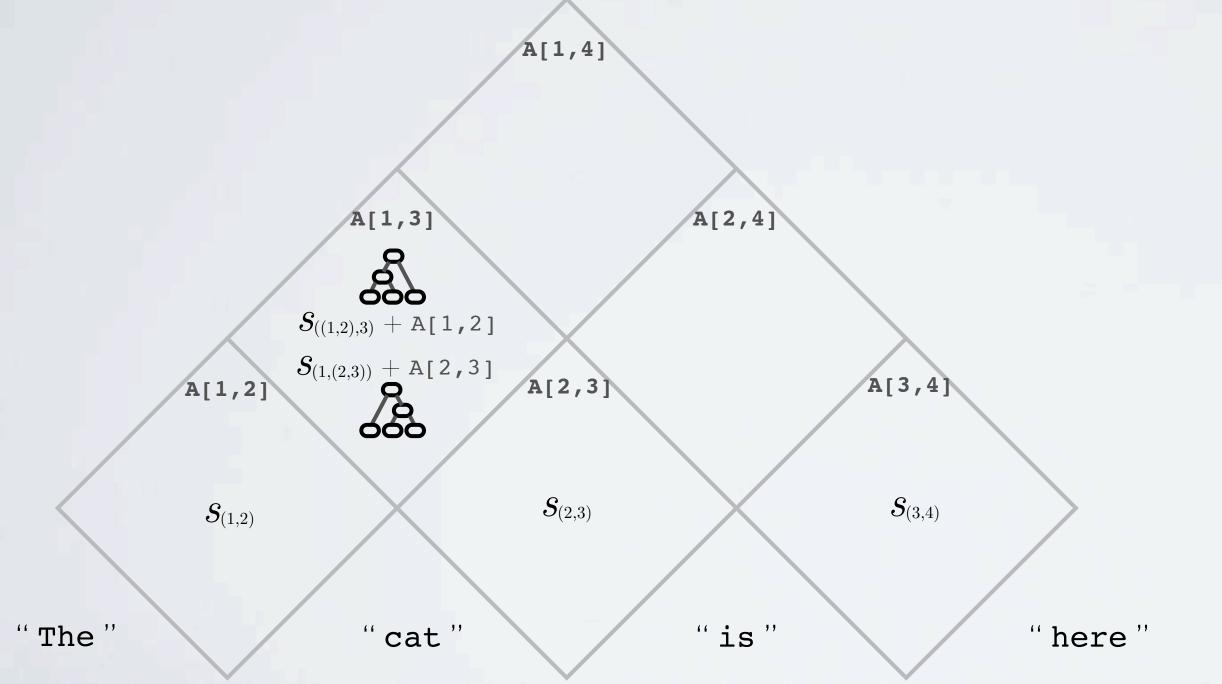
Topics: recursive neural network (RNN)



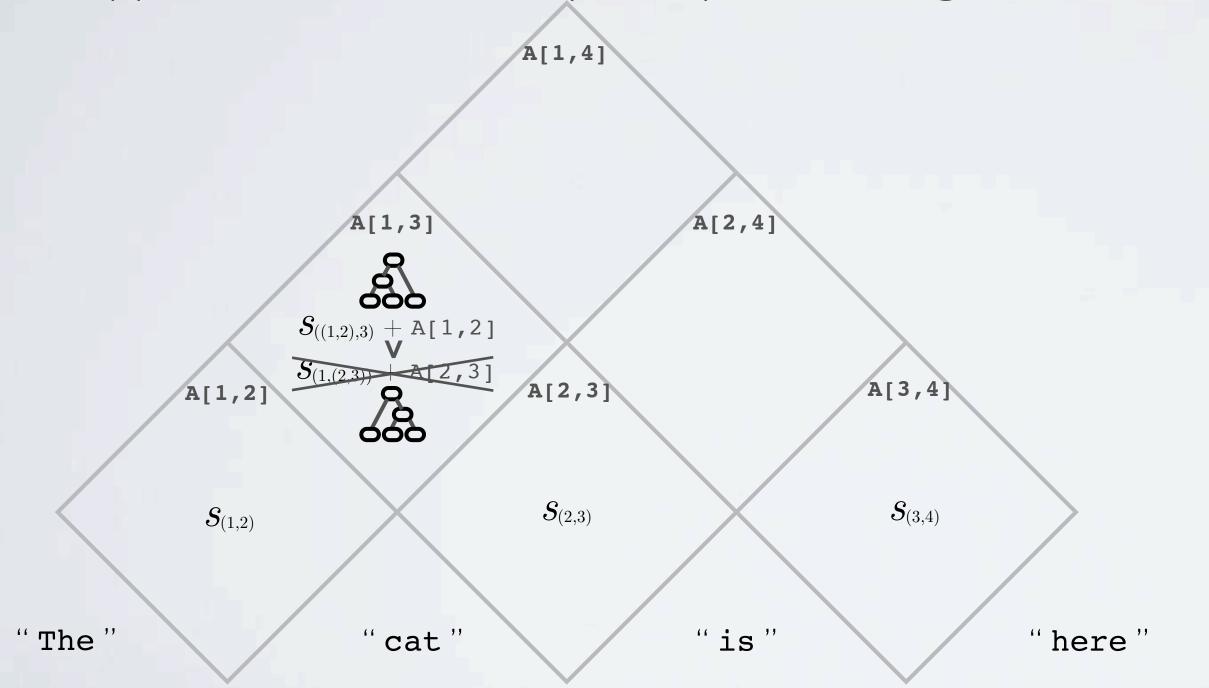
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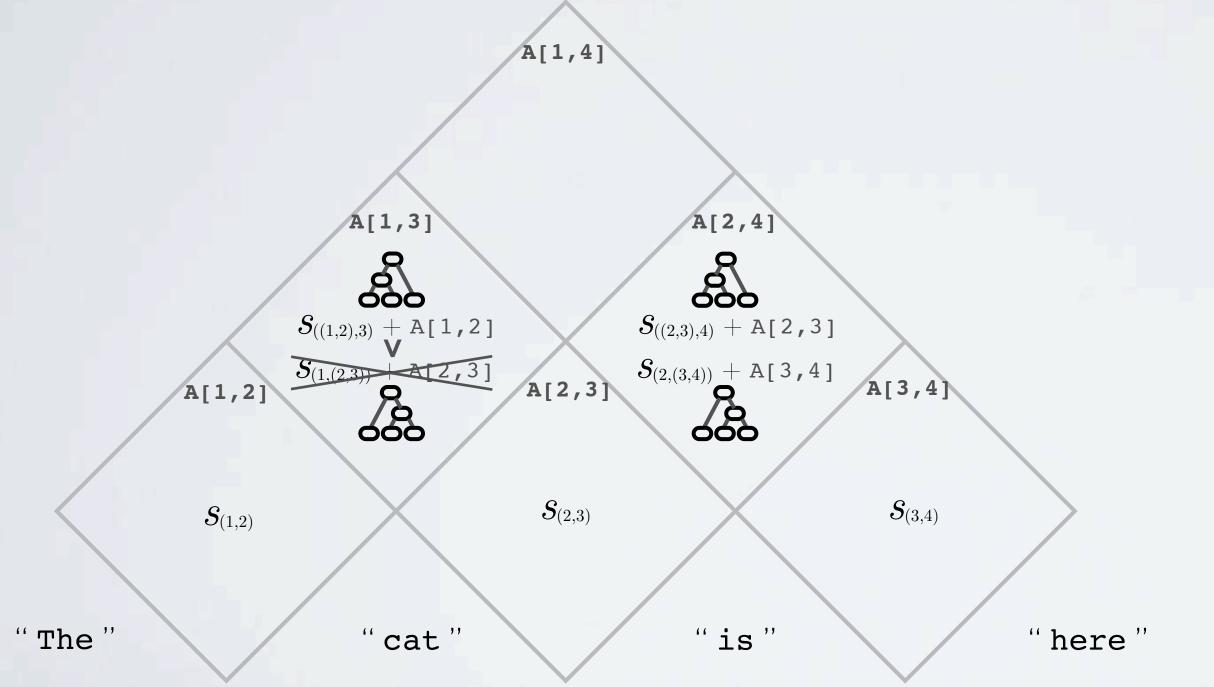
Topics: recursive neural network (RNN)



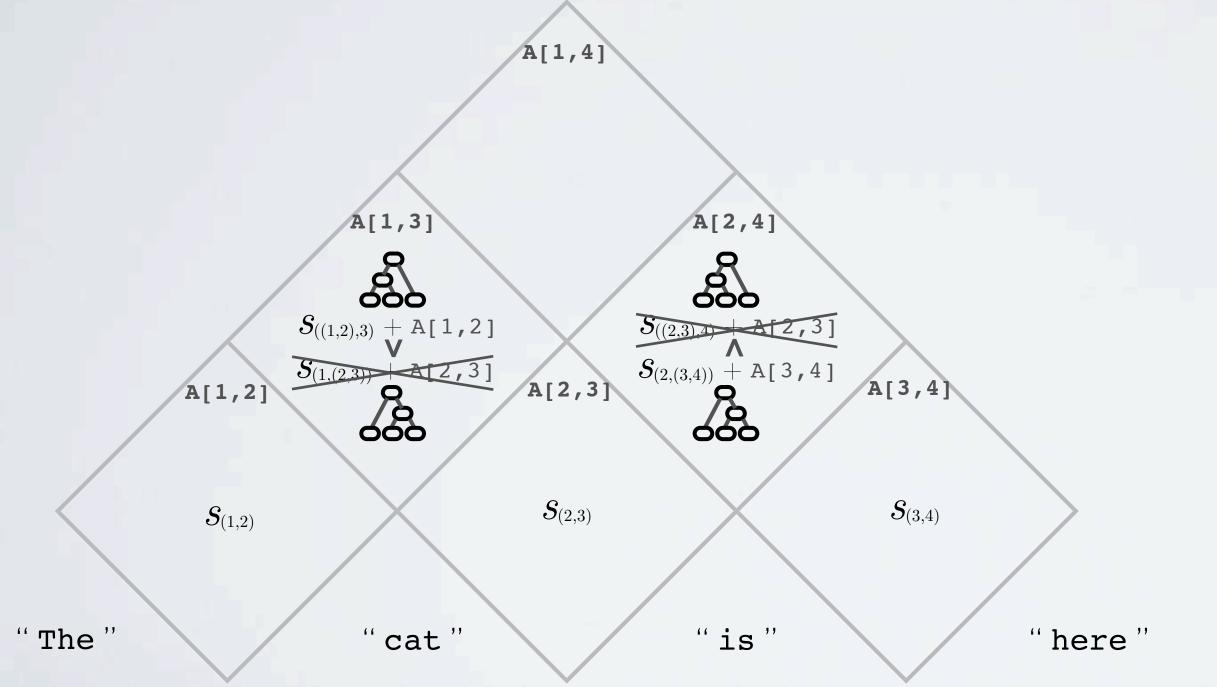
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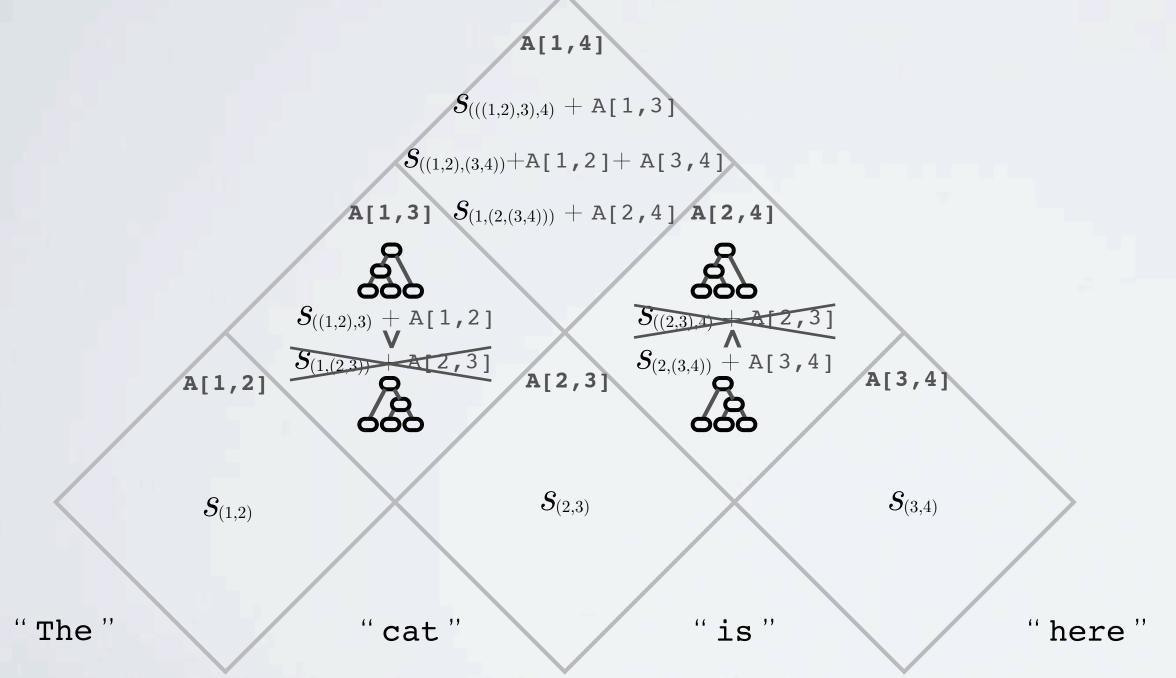
Topics: recursive neural network (RNN)



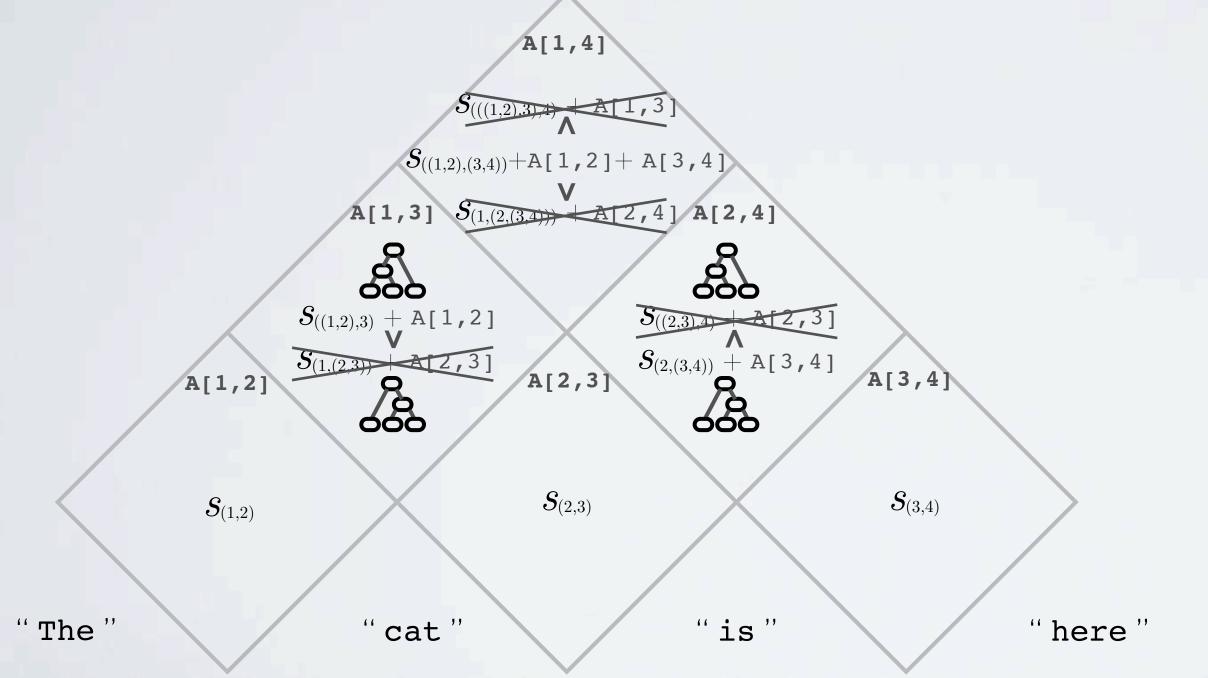
Topics: recursive neural network (RNN)



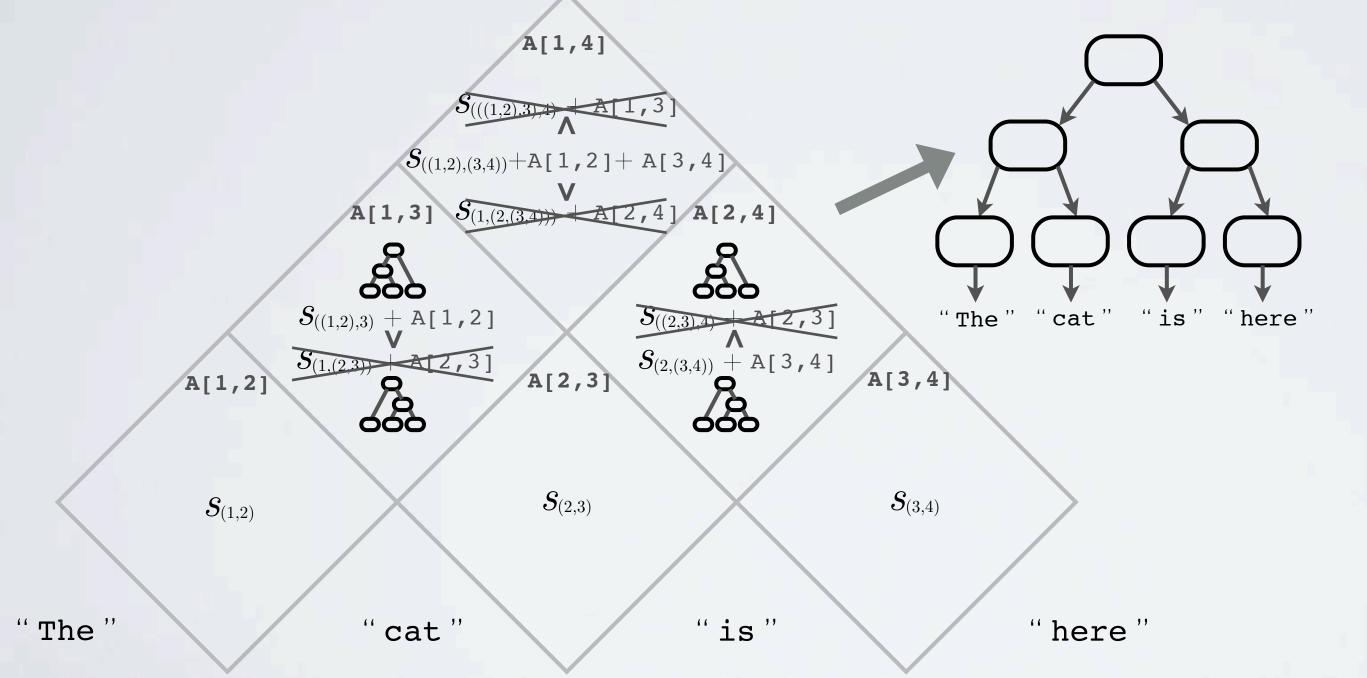
Topics: recursive neural network (RNN)



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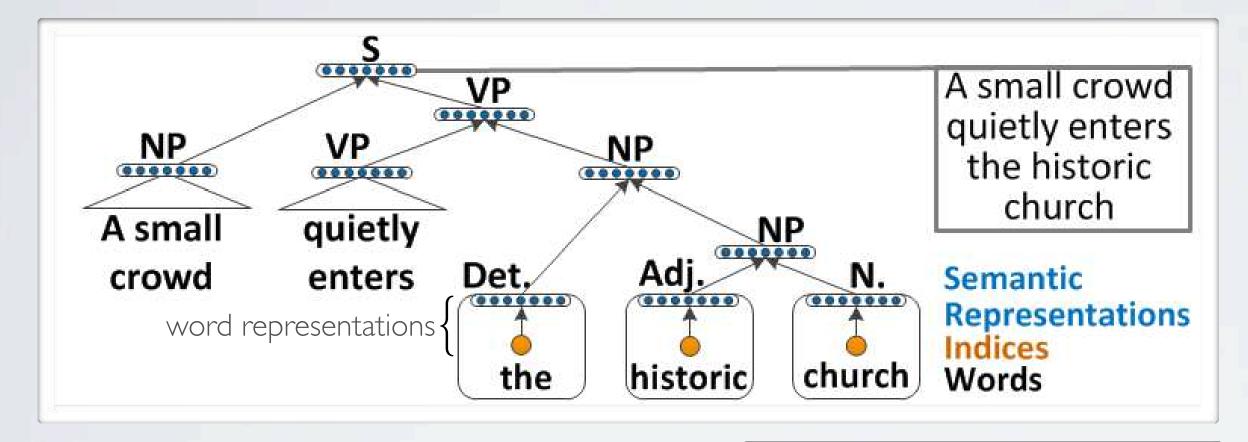


## Neural networks

Natural language processing - recursive network training

Topics: recursive neural network (RNN)

• Idea: recursively merge pairs of word/phrase representations



We need 2 things

Socher, Lin, Ng and Manning, 2011

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- > a model that determines the tree structure

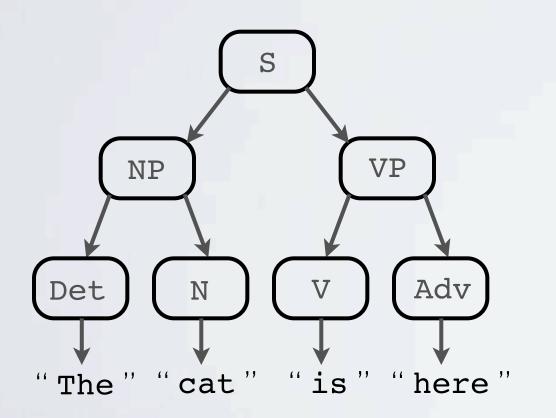
### Topics: training algorithm

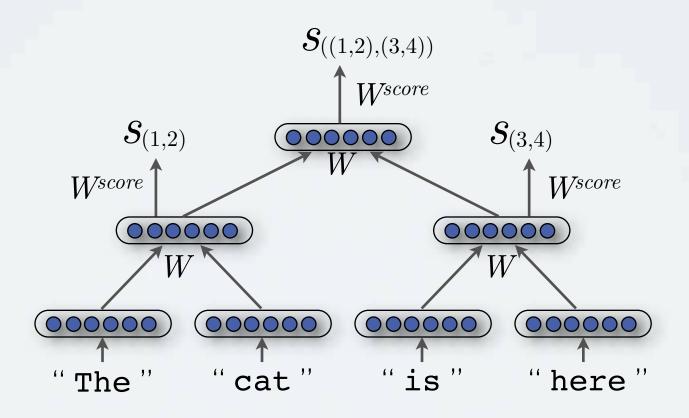
- Let y be the true parse tree and  $\hat{y}$  be the predicted parse tree
  - we would like the score s(y) of y to be higher than the score  $s(\hat{y})$  of  $\hat{y}$  (unless  $\hat{y}$  is actually y)
- To update the recursive network
  - lacktriangleright infer the predicted parse tree  $\hat{y}$
  - increase the score s(y) and decrease the score  $s(\hat{y})$  by doing an update in the direction of the gradient  $\nabla_{\theta} s(y) \nabla_{\theta} s(\hat{y})$

- these gradient can be computed by backpropagating through the recursive network structured according to the parse trees y and  $\hat{y}$ 

#### Topics: training algorithm

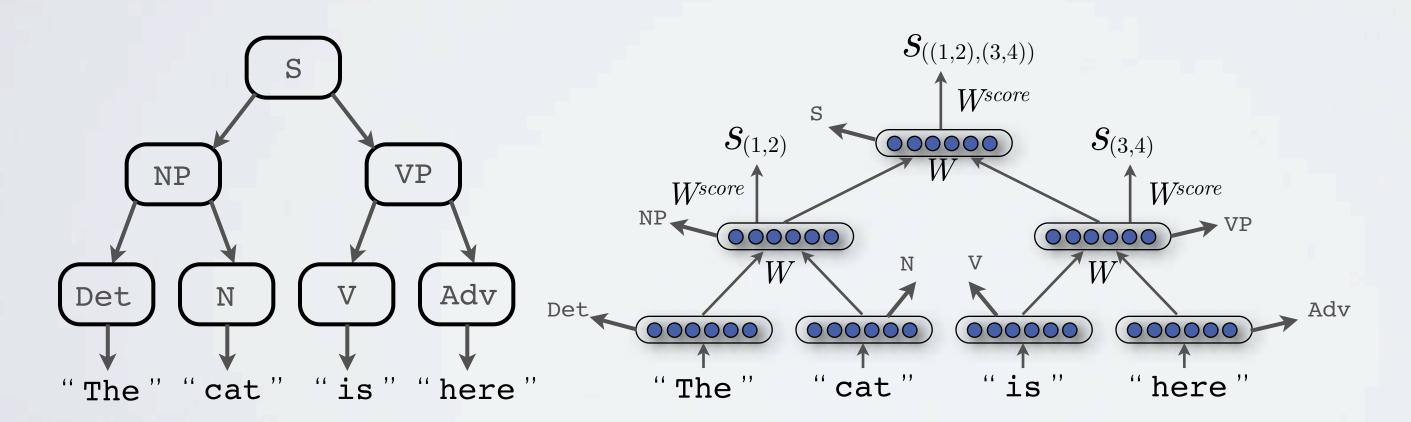
- The nodes of a parse tree are also labeled
  - noun phrase (NP), verb phrase (VP), etc.
  - can add softmax layer that predict the label from each node representation
  - this is an additional gradient to backpropagate, for the true parse tree y





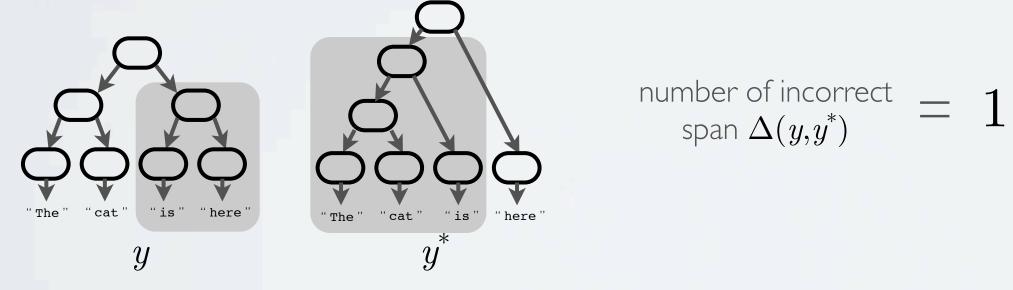
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#### Topics: training algorithm

- Other details
  - word representations are pre-trained using Collobert and Weston's approach and fine-tuned while training the recursive network
  - lacktriangleright training is actually based on a margin criteria:  $s(y)>s(y^*)+\Delta(y,y^*)$ 
    - score of the true parse tree y trained to be larger than score of any other tree  $y^*$  plus its number of incorrect spans  $\Delta(y,y^*)$



- a simple modification to the beam search finding the best tree (see Socher et al. for details)

#### Topics: experimental comparison

- Parsing FI performance
  - recursive neural network: 90.29%
  - ▶ Berkeley parser: 91.63%
- Nearest neighbor phrases based on RNN representation

#### Fujisawa gained 50 to UNK

- 1. Mead gained 1 to 37 UNK
- 2. Ogden gained 1 UNK to 32
- 3. Kellogg surged 4 UNK to 7

#### The dollar dropped

- 1. The dollar retreated
- 2. The dollar gained
- 3. Bond prices rallied

Socher, Lin, Ng and Manning, 2011