Phrase-based SMT

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Content

Recap

We looked into Alignment a directional word-based model.

- Different parametrisations: Categorical vs Logistic.
- Estimation techniques: EM vs VB.

Recap

We looked into Alignment a directional word-based model.

- Different parametrisations: Categorical vs Logistic.
- Estimation techniques: EM vs VB.

We have not look into generation:

- No model of length
- No model of segmentation
- Bad model for translation

Translation

Model:

$$P(E|F) = \frac{P(E)P(F|E)}{P(F)}$$

Prediction:

$$\hat{E} = \arg \max_E P(E)P(F = f|E)$$

Estimation:

- $P(E)$ n-gram LM.
- $P(F|E)$ TM.
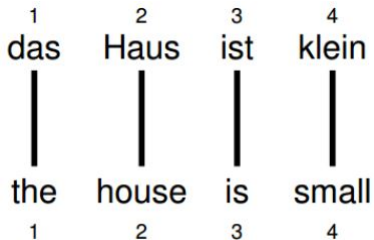
Word-based SMT

[Brown et al., 1993]

Figure: Koehn [2010]

Limitations of word-based approach

Linguistically

- Can not translate many-to-one or many-to-many
- Compositionality of translation
  multi-word / idiomatic expressions.

Computationally during prediction

- $n!$ permutations in decoding.

Phrase-based model

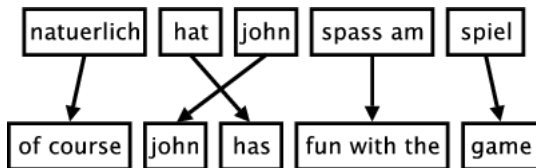Change of units: phrase.

Figure: Koehn [2010]

Phrase-based model

Phrase pairs as translation units

- Capture non-compositional translations.
- Exploit (local) reordering patterns.

Illustration

		I	have	black	eyes
1	J'				
2	ai				
3	les				
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5	noirs				

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$$[J'_1 \ ai_2]_1 \ [noirs_5]_3 \ [les_3 \ yeux_4]_2 \qquad \text{ordering}$$

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$$[I \ have]_1 \ [black]_3 \ [eyes]_2 \qquad \text{translation}$$

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$$[\text{I have}]_1 \, [\text{black}]_3 \, [\text{eyes}]_2 \qquad \text{translation}$$
$$\textbf{Derivation}$$

Modelling Derivations

$$P(e, d | f) = \frac{\exp(S_\theta(e, d, f))}{\sum_{e'} \sum_{d'} \exp(S_\theta(e', d', f))}$$

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Challenging normalisation.
Large space of derivations:

- Number of segments.
- Number of permutations.
- Number of translations.

Discriminative classifier

- Give up on marginalisation of d
- Give up on probabilistic modelling
- How?

Discriminative classifier

- Give up on marginalisation of d
- Give up on probabilistic modelling
- How?
- If we look at the prediction:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\hat{e}, \hat{d} &= \underset{e,d|f}{\arg\max} \log P(e, d|f) \\
&= \underset{e,d|f}{\arg\max} S_\theta(e, d, f) - \underbrace{\log \sum_{e'} \sum_{d'} \exp(S_\theta(e', d', f))}_{\text{constant for any}(e,d|f)} \\
&= \underset{e,d|f}{\arg\max} S_\theta(e, d, f)
\end{aligned}
$$

Trained discriminatively (e.g. structured perceptron).

Linear model

The score function S_θ is defined as a linear model.

$$S_\theta(e, d, f) = \theta^T H(e, d, f)$$

where θ are parameters
h are feature functions.

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where θ are parameters
h are feature functions.
Linear model decomposes over phrases.

$$S_\theta(e, d, f) = \theta^T \sum_i^n \underbrace{h_i(d_i | e, f)}_{\text{local feature function}}$$

Model featurises steps in the derivation independently.

PBSMT Model

- Feature functions $n = 3$
- Translation feature function:

$$h_1 = \log P(\bar{f}|\bar{e})$$

- Language Model feature function:

$$h_2 = \log P(e|e_{\text{past}})$$

- Distortion feature function:

$$h_3 = \log d(\text{start}_k - \text{end}_{k-1} - 1)$$

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- multiple derivations can explain an "observed" phrase pair
- we extract all of them once, irrespective of derivation

Phrase Table

- Goal: Learn phrase translation table from parallel corpus.

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- Three stages:
- Word alignment given IBM.
- Extraction of phrase pairs.
- Phrase scoring.

Phrase extraction

Let $(\bar{f}, \bar{e})$ be a phrase pair
Let A be an alignment matrix
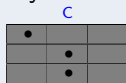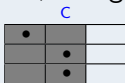
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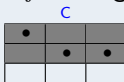- Words in $\bar{f}$, if aligned, align only with words in $\bar{e}$

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- $(\bar{f}, \bar{e})$ must contain at least one alignment point

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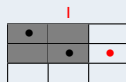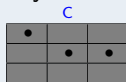
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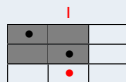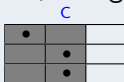
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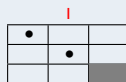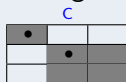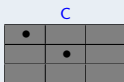
Feature Translation Model

Features

$$\log P(\bar{f}, \bar{e})$$

and

$$\log P(\bar{e}, \bar{f})$$

Number of times a (consistent) phrase pair is "observed"

$$c(\bar{f}, \bar{e})$$

Relative frequency counting

$$\varphi(\bar{f}|\bar{e}) = \frac{c(\bar{f}, \bar{e})}{\sum_{\bar{f}'} c(\bar{f}', \bar{e})}$$

Feature Distortion

Feature

$$h_3 = \log d(\mathsf{start}_k - \mathsf{end}_{k-1} - 1)$$

Example

		I	have	black	eyes
1	J'		1		
2	ai				
3	les				3
4	yeux				
5	noirs			2	

- $\bar{f}_1 = $ J' ai
- $\bar{e}_1 = $ I have
- $\mathsf{start}_1 = 1$
- $\mathsf{end}_1 = 2$

- $\bar{f}_2 = $ noirs
- $\bar{e}_2 = $ black
- $\mathsf{start}_2 = 5$
- $\mathsf{end}_2 = 5$

- $\bar{f}_3 = $ les yeux
- $\bar{e}_3 = $ eyes
- $\mathsf{start}_3 = 3$
- $\mathsf{end}_3 = 4$

Feature Language Model

Feature n-gram language model

$$\log P(e|e_{\mathsf{past}})$$

Estimated independently on monolingual data.

http://recognize-speech.com/images/Antonio/Unigram.png
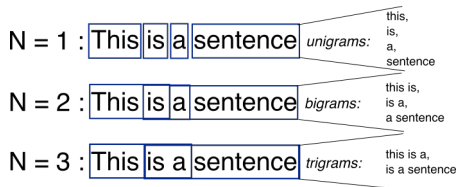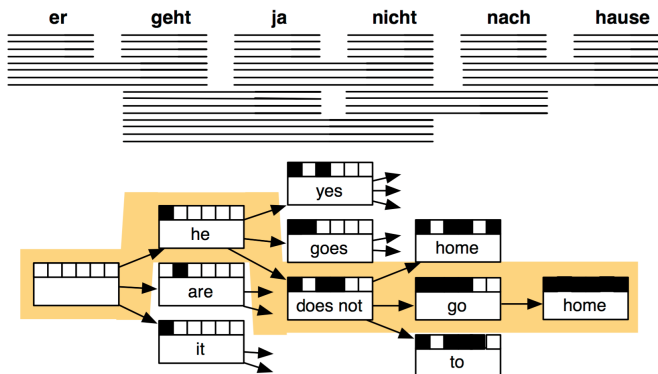
Decoding

Figure: Koehn [2010]

Translation Options

- Europarl phrase table: 2727 matching phrase pairs for a sentence.
- Search problem with beam search:
    1. From phrase translation table for all input phrases.
    2. Initial hypothesis: no input words covered, no output produced.
    3. Pick any translation option, create new hypothesis.
    4. Expand hypotheses from created partial hypothesis.
    5. Backtrack from highest scoring complete hypothesis.

Questions?

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