

Part III: Mining Document Structures: Weakly-Supervised Text Classification

EDBT 2023 Tutorial: Mining Structures from Massive Texts by Exploring the Power of Pre-trained Language Models

Yu Zhang, Yunyi Zhang, Jiawei Han

Department of Computer Science, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

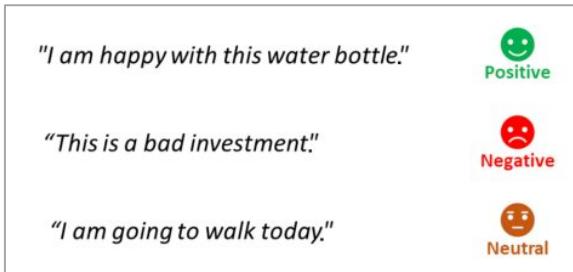
Mar 29, 2023

Outline

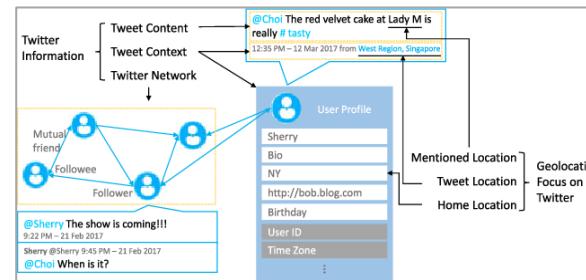
- What Weakly-Supervised Text Classification Is, and Why It Matters 
- Flat Text Classification
- Text Classification with Taxonomy Information
- Text Classification with Metadata Information

Text Classification

- Given a set of text units (e.g., documents, sentences) and a set of categories, the task is to assign relevant category/categories to each text unit
- Text Classification has a lot of downstream applications



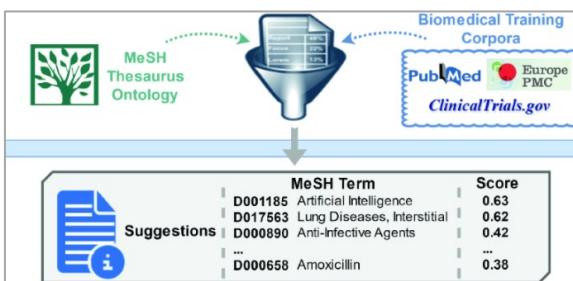
Sentiment Analysis



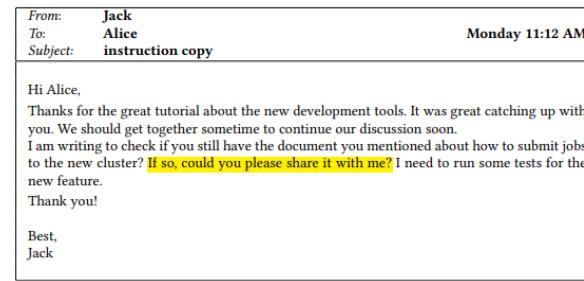
Location Prediction



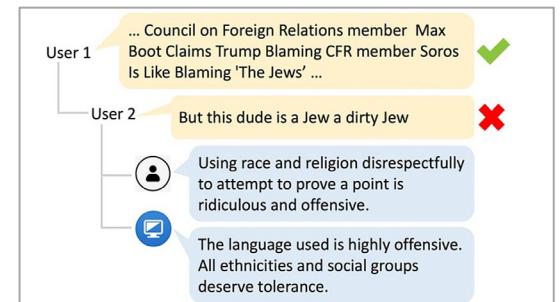
News Topic Classification



Paper Topic Classification



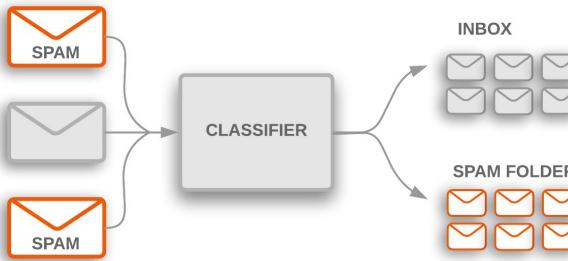
Email Intent Identification



Hate Speech Detection

Different Text Classification Settings: Single-Label vs. Multi-Label

- **Single-label:** Each document belongs to one category.
 - E.g., Spam Detection



- **Multi-label:** Each document has multiple relevant labels.
 - E.g., Paper Topic Classification

BERT: Pre-training of Deep Bidirectional Transformers for Language Understanding

Abstract

We introduce a new language representation model called BERT, which stands for Bidirectional Encoder Representations from Transformers. Unlike recent language representation models (Peters et al., 2018a; Radford et al., 2018), BERT is designed to pre-train deep bidirectional representations from unlabeled text by jointly conditioning on both left and right context in all layers. As a result, the pre-trained BERT model can be fine-tuned with just one additional output layer to create state-of-the-art models for a wide range of tasks, such as question answering and language inference, without substantial task-specific architecture modifications. BERT is conceptually simple and empirically powerful. It obtains new state-of-the-art results on eleven natural language processing tasks, including pushing the GLUE score to 80.5 (7.7 point absolute improvement), MultiNLI accuracy to 86.7% (4.6% absolute improvement), SQuAD v1.1 question answering Test F1 to 93.2 (1.5 point absolute improvement) and SQuAD v2.0 Test F1 to 83.1 (5.1 point absolute improvement).

Related Topics ⓘ



<https://academic.microsoft.com/paper/2963341956/>

Different Text Classification Settings: Flat vs. Hierarchical

- **Flat:** All labels are at the same granularity level
 - E.g., Sentiment Analysis of E-Commerce Reviews (1-5 stars)

 It works, it's nice, comfortable, and easy to type on. Not loud (unless you're a key pounder)

This keyboard works. It's comfortable, sensitive enough for touch typers, very quiet by comparison to other mechanicals (unless, of course, you're a 'key pounder'), and the lit keys are excellent for people like me who tend to prefer to work in a cave-like environment.

<https://www.amazon.com/gp/product/B089YFHYYS/>

- **Hierarchical:** Labels are organized into a hierarchy representing their parent-child relationship
 - E.g., Paper Topic Classification (the arXiv category taxonomy)

BERT: Pre-training of Deep Bidirectional Transformers for Language Understanding

We introduce a new language representation model called BERT, which stands for Bidirectional Encoder Representations from Transformers. Unlike recent language representation models, BERT is designed to pre-train deep bidirectional representations from unlabeled text by jointly conditioning on both left and right context in all layers. As a result, the pre-trained BERT model can be fine-tuned with just one additional output layer to create state-of-the-art models for a wide range of tasks, such as question answering and language inference, without substantial task-specific architecture modifications. BERT is conceptually simple and empirically powerful. It obtains new state-of-the-art results on eleven natural language processing tasks, including pushing the GLUE score to 80.5% (7.7% point absolute improvement), MultiNLI accuracy to 86.7% (4.6% absolute improvement), SQuAD v1.1 question answering Test F1 to 93.2 (1.5 point absolute improvement) and SQuAD v2.0 Test F1 to 83.1 (5.1 point absolute improvement).

Subjects: Computation and Language (cs.CL)

Cite as: arXiv:1810.04805 [cs.CL]

(or arXiv:1810.04805v2 [cs.CL] for this version)

<https://arxiv.org/abs/1810.04805>

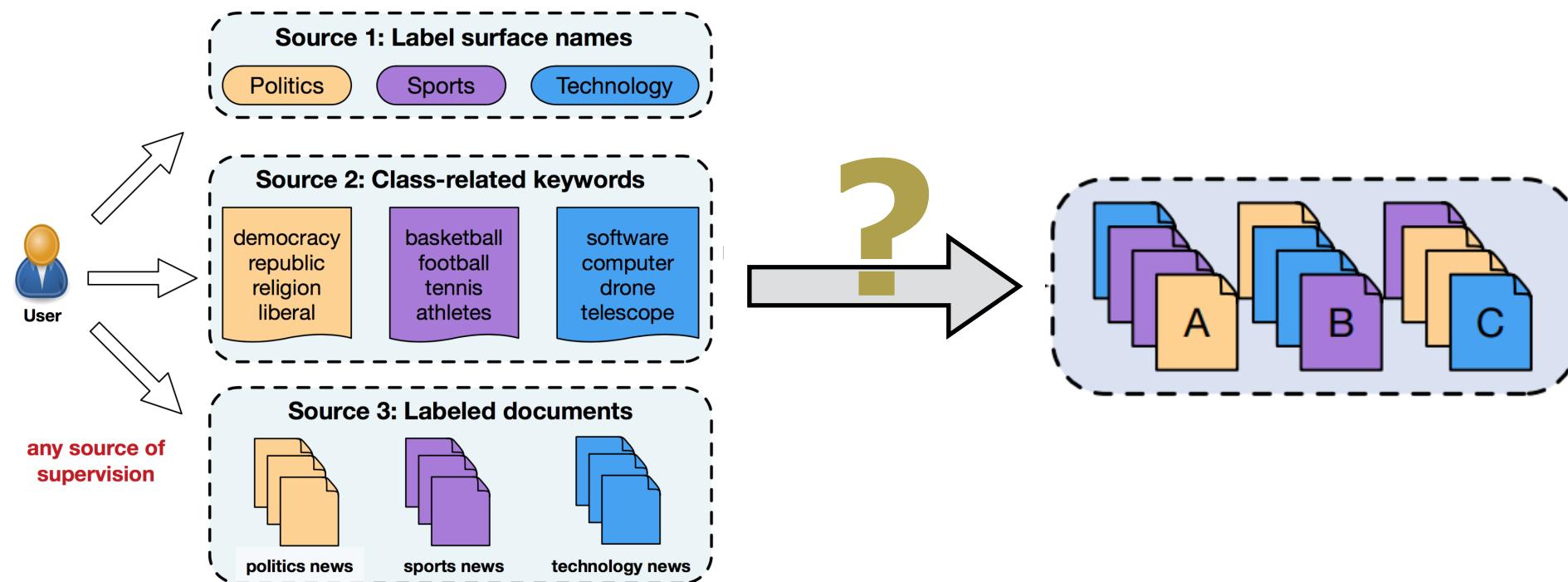
Weakly-Supervised Text Classification: Motivation

- Supervised text classification models (especially recent deep neural models) rely on a significant number of manually labeled training documents to achieve good performance.
- Collecting such training data is usually expensive and time-consuming. In some domains (e.g., scientific papers), annotations must be acquired from domain experts, which incurs additional cost.

- While users cannot afford to label sufficient documents for training a deep neural classifier, they can provide a small amount of seed information:
 - Category names or category-related keywords
 - A small number of labeled documents

Weakly-Supervised Text Classification: Definition

- Text classification without massive human-annotated training data
 - **Keyword-level weak supervision:** category names or a few relevant keywords
 - **Document-level weak supervision:** a small set of labeled docs



General Ideas to Perform Weakly-Supervised Text Classification

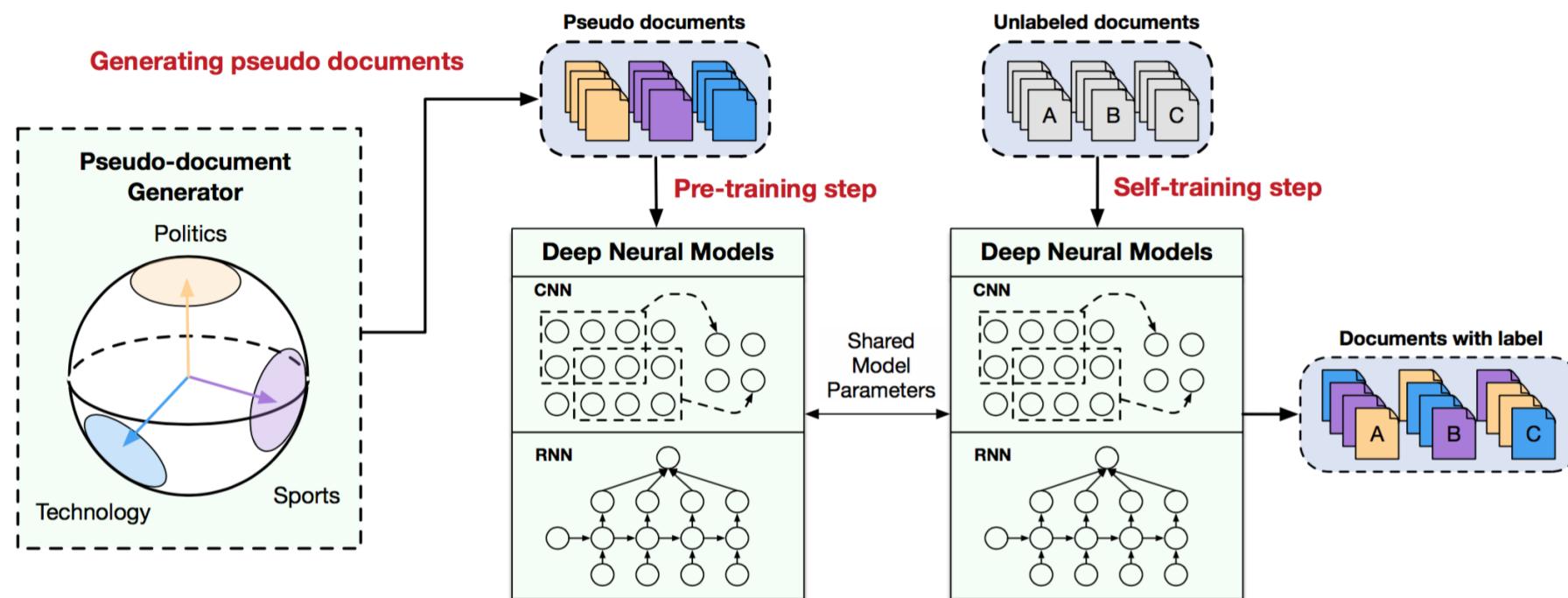
- Joint representation learning
 - Put words, labels, and/or documents into the same latent space using **embedding learning** or pre-trained language models
- Pseudo training data generation
 - Retrieve some unlabeled documents or synthesize some artificial documents using **text embeddings** or **contextualized representations**
 - Give them pseudo labels to train a text classifier
- Transfer the knowledge of pre-trained language models to classification tasks

Outline

- ❑ What Weakly-Supervised Text Classification Is, and Why It Matters
- ❑ Flat Text Classification
 - ❑ Static Embedding: WeSTClass [CIKM'18] 
 - ❑ Pre-trained LM: ConWea [ACL'20], LOTClass [EMNLP'20], X-Class [NAACL'21],
Prompt-based Classifier
- ❑ Text Classification with Taxonomy Information
- ❑ Text Classification with Metadata Information

WeSTClass: Pseudo Training Data + Self-Training

- Embed all words (including label names and keywords) into the same space
- Pseudo document generation: generate pseudo documents from seeds
- Self-training: train deep neural nets (CNN, RNN) with bootstrapping

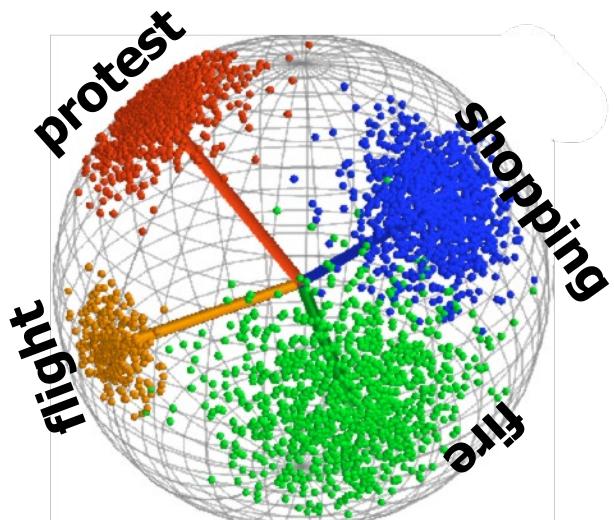


Meng, Y., Shen, J., Zhang, C., & Han, J. "Weakly-supervised neural text classification", CIKM'18.

Applicable to both keyword-level and document-level supervision.

WeSTClass: Pseudo Document Generation

- Fit a von-Mises Fisher distribution for each category according to the keywords
 - Category name as supervision? Find nearest words as keywords
 - A few documents as supervision? Retrieve words with high TF-IDF scores
- Sample bag-of-keywords as pseudo documents for each class



Mean direction **Concentration parameter**

$p(\mathbf{x}|\mu, \kappa) = C_D(\kappa) \exp(\kappa \mu^T \mathbf{x})$

$$C_D(\kappa) = \frac{\kappa^{D/2-1}}{I_{D/2-1}(\kappa)}$$

WeSTClass: Experiment Results

Macro-F1
scores:

| Methods | The New York Times | | | AG's News | | | Yelp Review | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|----------|-------|---------------|----------|-------|---------------|----------|-------|---------------|
| | LABELS | KEYWORDS | DOCS | LABELS | KEYWORDS | DOCS | LABELS | KEYWORDS | DOCS | |
| Macro-F1 scores: | IR with tf-idf | 0.319 | 0.509 | - | 0.187 | 0.258 | - | 0.533 | 0.638 | - |
| | Topic Model | 0.301 | 0.253 | - | 0.496 | 0.723 | - | 0.333 | 0.333 | - |
| | Dataless | 0.484 | - | - | 0.688 | - | - | 0.337 | - | - |
| | UNEC | 0.690 | - | - | 0.659 | - | - | 0.602 | - | - |
| | PTE | - | - | 0.834 (0.024) | - | - | 0.542 (0.029) | - | - | 0.658 (0.042) |
| | HAN | 0.348 | 0.534 | 0.740 (0.059) | 0.498 | 0.621 | 0.731 (0.029) | 0.519 | 0.631 | 0.686 (0.046) |
| | CNN | 0.338 | 0.632 | 0.702 (0.059) | 0.758 | 0.770 | 0.766 (0.035) | 0.523 | 0.633 | 0.634 (0.096) |
| | NoST-HAN | 0.515 | 0.213 | 0.823 (0.035) | 0.590 | 0.727 | 0.745 (0.038) | 0.731 | 0.338 | 0.682 (0.090) |
| | NoST-CNN | 0.701 | 0.702 | 0.833 (0.013) | 0.534 | 0.759 | 0.759 (0.032) | 0.639 | 0.740 | 0.717 (0.058) |
| | WESTCLASS-HAN | 0.754 | 0.640 | 0.832 (0.028) | 0.816 | 0.820 | 0.782 (0.028) | 0.769 | 0.736 | 0.729 (0.040) |
| | WESTCLASS-CNN | 0.830 | 0.837 | 0.835 (0.010) | 0.822 | 0.821 | 0.839 (0.007) | 0.735 | 0.816 | 0.775 (0.037) |

Micro-F1
scores:

| Methods | The New York Times | | | AG's News | | | Yelp Review | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|----------|-------|---------------|----------|-------|---------------|----------|-------|---------------|
| | LABELS | KEYWORDS | DOCS | LABELS | KEYWORDS | DOCS | LABELS | KEYWORDS | DOCS | |
| Micro-F1 scores: | IR with tf-idf | 0.240 | 0.346 | - | 0.292 | 0.333 | - | 0.548 | 0.652 | - |
| | Topic Model | 0.666 | 0.623 | - | 0.584 | 0.735 | - | 0.500 | 0.500 | - |
| | Dataless | 0.710 | - | - | 0.699 | - | - | 0.500 | - | - |
| | UNEC | 0.810 | - | - | 0.668 | - | - | 0.603 | - | - |
| | PTE | - | - | 0.906 (0.020) | - | - | 0.544 (0.031) | - | - | 0.674 (0.029) |
| | HAN | 0.251 | 0.595 | 0.849 (0.038) | 0.500 | 0.619 | 0.733 (0.029) | 0.530 | 0.643 | 0.690 (0.042) |
| | CNN | 0.246 | 0.620 | 0.798 (0.085) | 0.759 | 0.771 | 0.769 (0.034) | 0.534 | 0.646 | 0.662 (0.062) |
| | NoST-HAN | 0.788 | 0.676 | 0.906 (0.021) | 0.619 | 0.736 | 0.747 (0.037) | 0.740 | 0.502 | 0.698 (0.066) |
| | NoST-CNN | 0.767 | 0.780 | 0.908 (0.013) | 0.553 | 0.766 | 0.765 (0.031) | 0.671 | 0.750 | 0.725 (0.050) |
| | WESTCLASS-HAN | 0.901 | 0.859 | 0.908 (0.019) | 0.816 | 0.822 | 0.782 (0.028) | 0.771 | 0.737 | 0.729 (0.040) |
| | WESTCLASS-CNN | 0.916 | 0.912 | 0.911 (0.007) | 0.823 | 0.823 | 0.841 (0.007) | 0.741 | 0.816 | 0.776 (0.037) |

Outline

- ❑ What Weakly-Supervised Text Classification Is, and Why It Matters

- ❑ Flat Text Classification

- ❑ Static Embedding: WeSTClass [CIKM'18]

- ❑ Pre-trained LM: ConWea [ACL'20], LOTClass [EMNLP'20], X-Class [NAACL'21],

Prompt-based Classifier

- ❑ Text Classification with Taxonomy Information

- ❑ Text Classification with Metadata Information



Language Models for Weakly-Supervised Classification

- ❑ The previous approaches only use the local corpus
- ❑ Fail to take advantage of the general knowledge source (e.g., Wikipedia)
- ❑ Why general knowledge?
 - ❑ Humans can classify texts with general knowledge
 - ❑ Common linguistic features to understand texts better
 - ❑ Compensate for potential data scarcity of the local corpus
- ❑ How to use general knowledge?
 - ❑ Neural language models (e.g., BERT) are pre-trained on large-scale general knowledge texts
 - ❑ Their learned semantic/syntactic features can be transferred to downstream tasks

ConWea: Disambiguating User-Provided Keywords

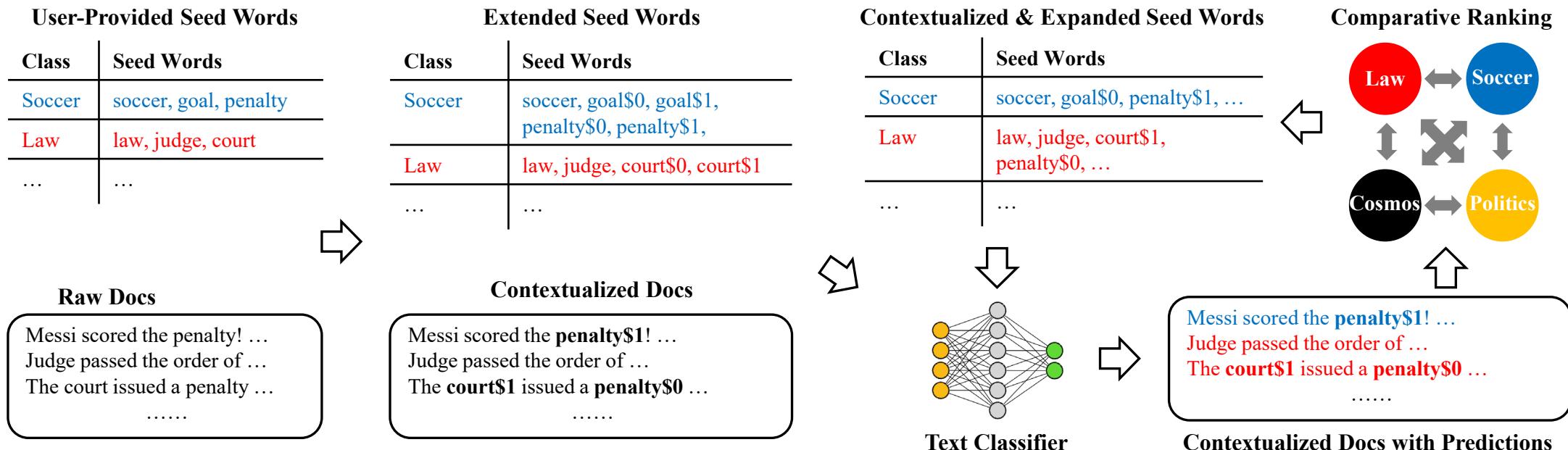
- ❑ User-provided seed words may be ambiguous.
- ❑ Example:

| Class | Seed words |
|--------|-----------------------|
| Soccer | soccer, goal, penalty |
| Law | law, judge, court |

- ❑ Classify the following sentences:
 - ❑ Messi scored the penalty.
 - ❑ John was issued a death penalty.
- ❑ Disambiguate the “senses” based on contextualized representations

ConWea: Clustering for Disambiguation

- For each word, find all its occurrences in the input corpus
- Run BERT to get their contextualized representations
- Run a clustering method (e.g., K-Means) to obtain clusters for different “senses”



ConWea: Experiment Results

- Ablations:
 - ConWea-NoCon: Variant of ConWea trained without contextualization.
 - ConWea-NoExpan: Variant of ConWea trained without seed expansion.
 - ConWea-WSD: Variant of ConWea with contextualization replaced by a word sense disambiguation algorithm.

| | Methods | NYT | | | | 20 Newsgroup | | | |
|-------------|------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | | 5-Class (Coarse) | | 25-Class (Fine) | | 6-Class (Coarse) | | 20-Class (Fine) | |
| | | Micro-F ₁ | Macro-F ₁ |
| Baselines | IR-TF-IDF | 0.65 | 0.58 | 0.56 | 0.54 | 0.49 | 0.48 | 0.53 | 0.52 |
| | Dataless | 0.71 | 0.48 | 0.59 | 0.37 | 0.50 | 0.47 | 0.61 | 0.53 |
| | Word2Vec | 0.92 | 0.83 | 0.69 | 0.47 | 0.51 | 0.45 | 0.33 | 0.33 |
| | Doc2Cube | 0.71 | 0.38 | 0.67 | 0.34 | 0.40 | 0.35 | 0.23 | 0.23 |
| | WeSTClass | 0.91 | 0.84 | 0.50 | 0.36 | 0.53 | 0.43 | 0.49 | 0.46 |
| | ConWea | 0.95 | 0.89 | 0.91 | 0.79 | 0.62 | 0.57 | 0.65 | 0.64 |
| Ablations | ConWea-NoCon | 0.91 | 0.83 | 0.89 | 0.74 | 0.53 | 0.50 | 0.58 | 0.57 |
| | ConWea-NoExpan | 0.92 | 0.85 | 0.76 | 0.66 | 0.58 | 0.53 | 0.58 | 0.57 |
| | ConWea-WSD | 0.83 | 0.78 | 0.72 | 0.64 | 0.52 | 0.46 | 0.49 | 0.47 |
| Upper bound | { HAN-Supervised | 0.96 | 0.92 | 0.94 | 0.82 | 0.90 | 0.88 | 0.83 | 0.83 |

LOTClass: Find Similar Meaning Words with Label Names

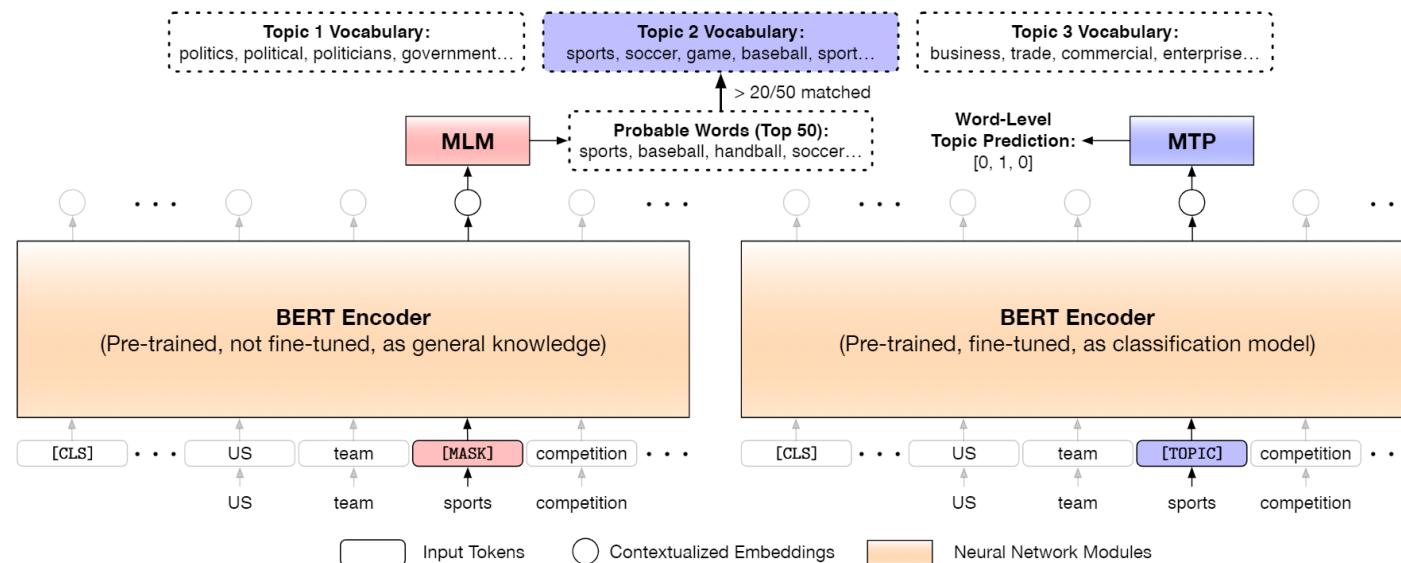
- ❑ Find topic words based on label names
- ❑ Overcome the low semantic coverage of label names
- ❑ Use language models to predict what words can replace the label names
- ❑ Interchangeable words are likely to have similar meanings

| Sentence | Language Model Prediction |
|--|---|
| The oldest annual US team sports competition that includes professionals is not in baseball, or football or basketball or hockey. It's in soccer. | sports, baseball, handball, soccer, basketball, football, tennis, sport, championship, hockey, ... |
| Samsung's new SPH-V5400 mobile phone sports a built-in 1-inch, 1.5-gigabyte hard disk that can store about 15 times more data than conventional handsets, Samsung said. | has, with, features, uses, includes, had, is, contains, featured, have, incorporates, requires, offers, ... |

Table 1: BERT language model prediction (sorted by probability) for the word to appear at the position of “sports” under different contexts. The two sentences are from *AG News* corpus.

LOTClass: Contextualized Word-Level Topic Prediction

- Context-free matching of topic words is inaccurate
 - “Sports” does not always imply the topic “sports”
- Contextualized topic prediction:
 - Predict a word’s implied topic under specific contexts
 - We regard a word as “topic indicative” only when its top replacing words have enough overlap with the topic vocabulary.



LOTClass: Experiment Results

- Achieve around 90% accuracy on four benchmark datasets by only using at most 3 words (1 in most cases) per class as the label name
- Outperforming previous weakly-supervised approaches significantly
- Comparable to state-of-the-art semi-supervised models

| Supervision Type | Methods | AG News | DBPedia | IMDB | Amazon |
|------------------|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Weakly-Sup. | Dataless (Chang et al., 2008) | 0.696 | 0.634 | 0.505 | 0.501 |
| | WeSTClass (Meng et al., 2018) | 0.823 | 0.811 | 0.774 | 0.753 |
| | BERT w. simple match | 0.752 | 0.722 | 0.677 | 0.654 |
| | Ours w/o. self train | 0.822 | 0.850 | 0.844 | 0.781 |
| | Ours | 0.864 | 0.889 | 0.894 | 0.906 |
| Semi-Sup. | UDA (Xie et al., 2019) | 0.869 | 0.986 | 0.887 | 0.960 |
| Supervised | char-CNN (Zhang et al., 2015) | 0.872 | 0.983 | 0.853 | 0.945 |
| | BERT (Devlin et al., 2019) | 0.944 | 0.993 | 0.937 | 0.972 |

How Powerful Are Vanilla BERT Representations in Category Prediction?

- An average of BERT representations of all tokens in a sentence/document preserves domain information well

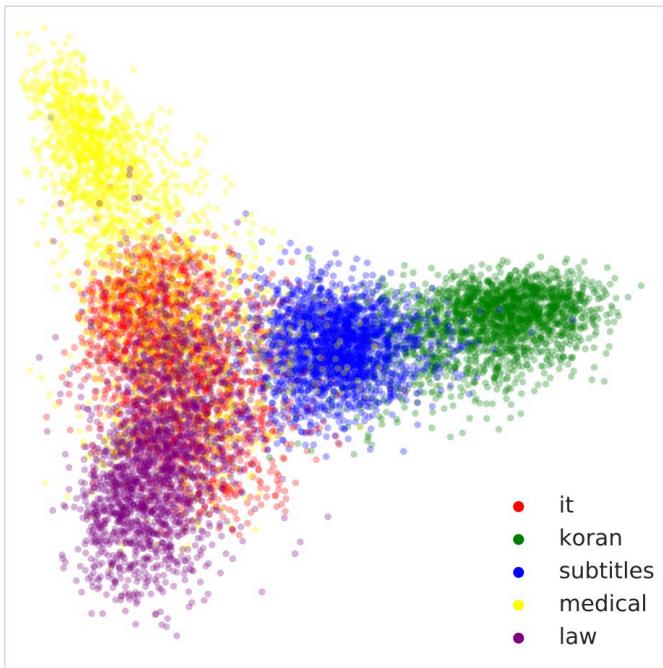


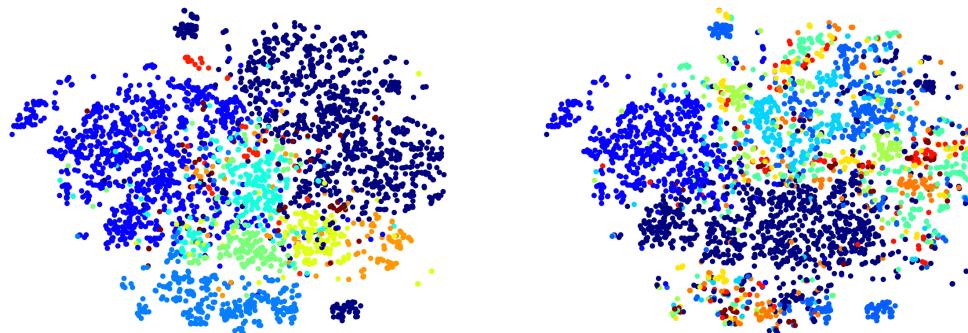
Figure 1: A 2D visualization of average-pooled BERT hidden-state sentence representations using PCA. The colors represent the domain for each sentence.

| True label | Predicted label | | | | |
|------------|-----------------|-------|-----------|---------|------|
| | it | koran | subtitles | medical | law |
| it | 1927 | 0 | 55 | 16 | 2 |
| koran | 4 | 1767 | 225 | 0 | 4 |
| subtitles | 47 | 21 | 1918 | 9 | 5 |
| medical | 340 | 0 | 82 | 1413 | 165 |
| law | 206 | 0 | 10 | 58 | 1726 |

Figure 2: A confusion matrix for clustering with k=5 using BERT-base.

X-Class: Class-Oriented BERT Representations

- A simple idea for text classification
 - Learn representations for documents
 - Set the number of clusters as the number of classes
 - Hope their clustering results are almost the same as the desired classification
- However, the same corpus could be classified differently



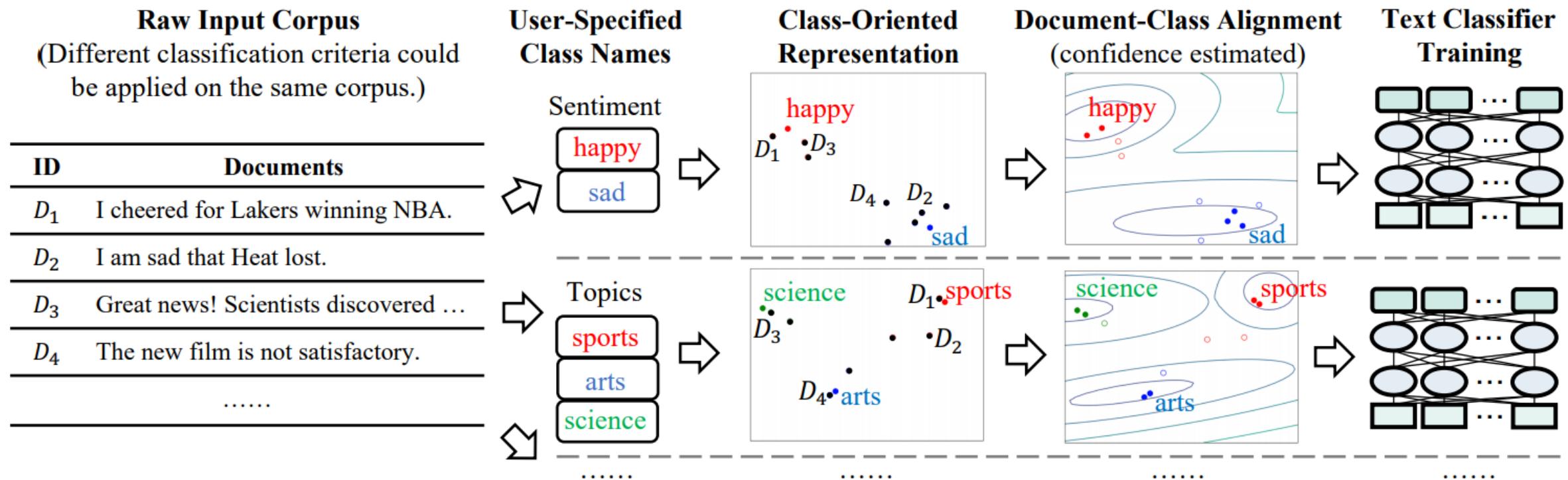
(a) NYT-Topics

(b) NYT-Locations

Figure 1: Visualizations of News using Average BERT Representations. Colors denote different classes.

X-Class: Class-Oriented BERT Representations

- Clustering for classification based on class-oriented representations



X-Class: Experiment Results

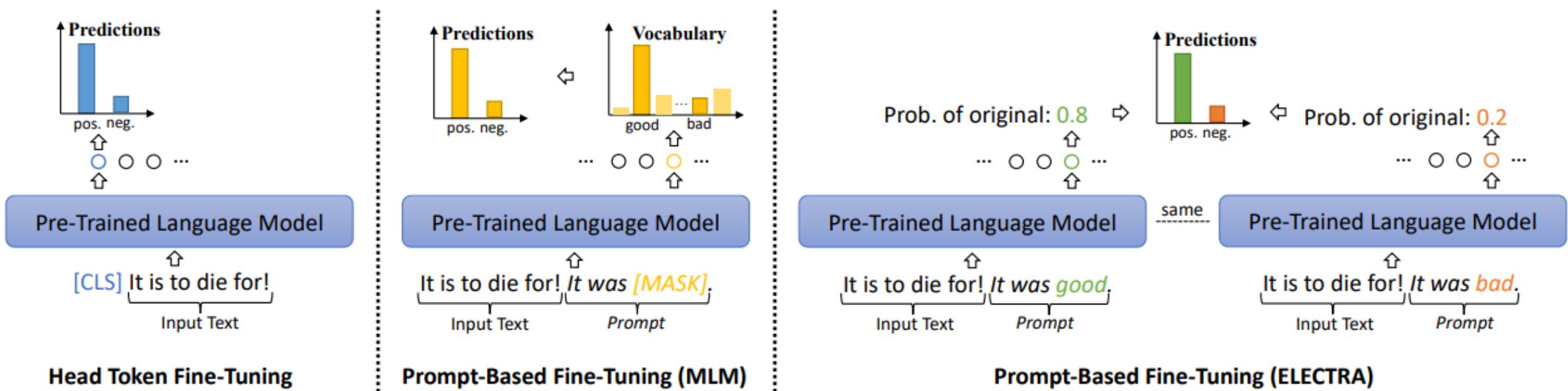
- WeSTClass & ConWea consume at least 3 seed words per class
- LOTClass & X-Class use category names only

| | AGNews | 20News | NYT-Small | NYT-Topic | NYT-Location | Yelp | DBpedia |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------|------------------|------------------|---------------------|-------------|----------------|
| Corpus Domain | News | News | News | News | News | Reviews | Wikipedia |
| Class Criterion | Topics | Topics | Topics | Topics | Locations | Sentiment | Ontology |
| # of Classes | 4 | 5 | 5 | 9 | 10 | 2 | 14 |
| # of Documents | 120,000 | 17,871 | 13,081 | 31,997 | 31,997 | 38,000 | 560,000 |
| Imbalance | 1.0 | 2.02 | 16.65 | 27.09 | 15.84 | 1.0 | 1.0 |

| Model | AGNews | 20News | NYT-Small | NYT-Topic | NYT-Location | Yelp | DBpedia |
|---------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Supervised | 93.99/93.99 | 96.45/96.42 | 97.95/95.46 | 94.29/89.90 | 95.99/94.99 | 95.7/95.7 | 98.96/98.96 |
| WeSTClass | 82.3/82.1 | 71.28/69.90 | 91.2/83.7 | 68.26/57.02 | 63.15/53.22 | 81.6/81.6 | 81.1/ N/A |
| ConWea | 74.6/74.2 | 75.73/73.26 | 95.23/90.79 | 81.67/71.54 | 85.31/83.81 | 71.4/71.2 | N/A |
| LOTClass | 86.89/86.82 | 73.78/72.53 | 78.12/56.05 | 67.11/43.58 | 58.49/58.96 | 87.75/87.68 | 86.66/85.98 |
| X-Class | 84.8/84.65 | 81.36/80.6 | 96.67/92.98 | 80.6/69.92 | 90.5/89.81 | 88.36/88.32 | 91.33/91.14 |
| X-Class-Rep | 77.92/77.03 | 75.14/73.24 | 92.13/83.94 | 77.85/65.38 | 86.7/87.36 | 77.87/77.05 | 74.06/71.75 |
| X-Class-Align | 83.1/83.05 | 79.28/78.62 | 96.34/92.08 | 79.64/67.85 | 88.58/88.02 | 87.16/87.1 | 87.37/87.28 |

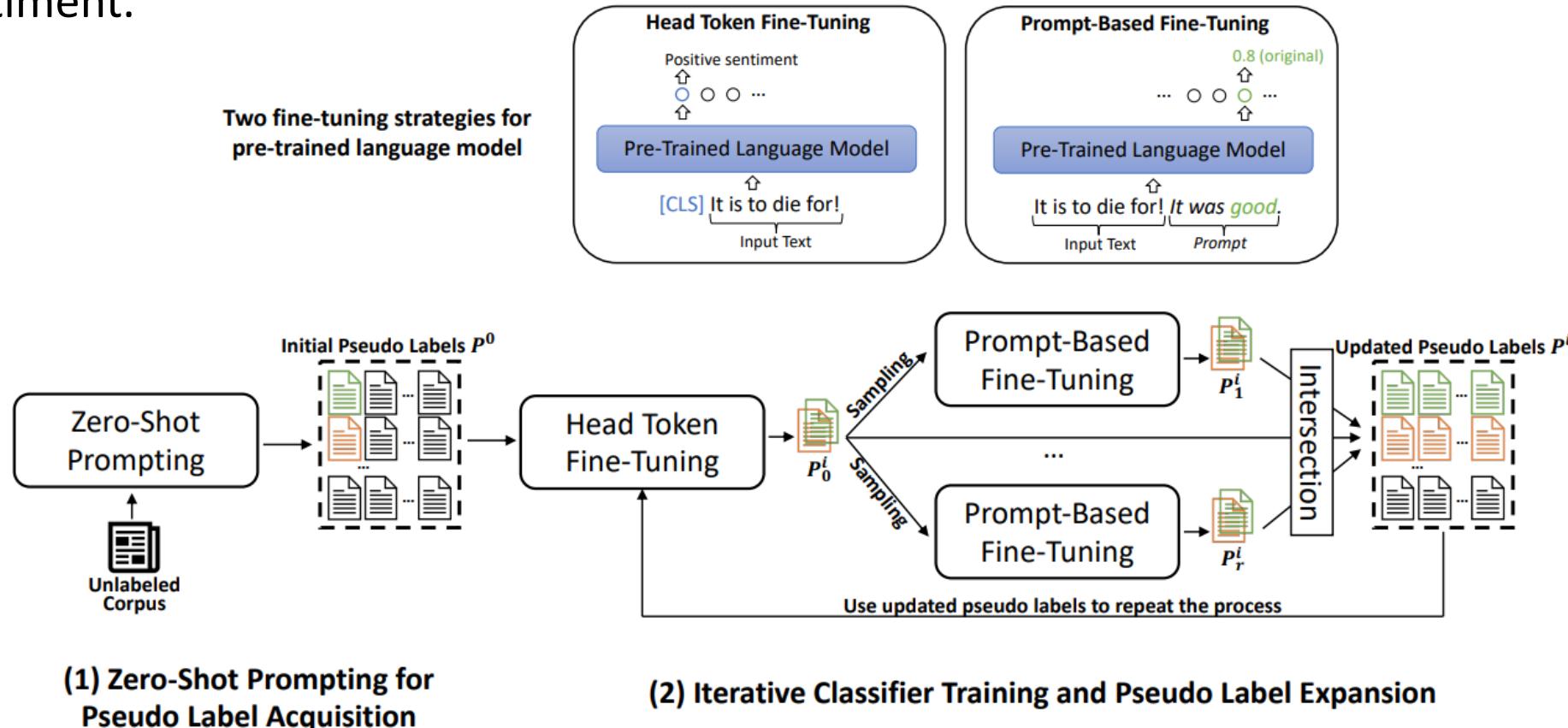
Prompt-based Fine-tuning for Text Classification

- ❑ **Head token fine-tuning** randomly initializes a linear classification head and directly predicts class distribution using the [CLS] token, which needs a substantial amount of training data.
- ❑ **Prompt-based fine-tuning for MLM-based PLM** converts the document into the masked token prediction problem by reusing the pre-trained MLM head.
- ❑ **Prompt-based fine-tuning for ELECTRA-style PLM** converts documents into the replaced token detection problem by reusing the pre-trained discriminative head.



Integrating Head Token & Prompt-based Fine-tuning

- Why do we need prompts to get pseudo training data?
 - Simple keyword matching may induce errors.
 - E.g., “*die*” is a negative word, but a food review “It is to *die* for!” implies a strong positive sentiment.



Experimental Results

- Integrating head token and prompt-based fine-tuning for weakly supervised text classification with category names only.

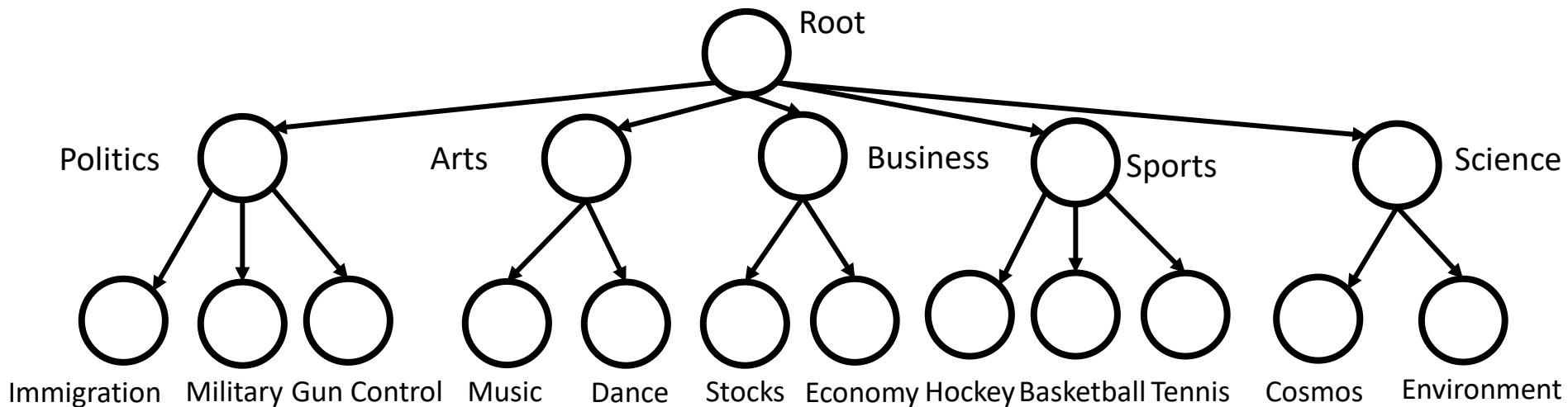
| Methods | AGNews | | 20News | | Yelp | | IMDB | |
|----------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Micro-F1 | Macro-F1 | Micro-F1 | Macro-F1 | Micro-F1 | Macro-F1 | Micro-F1 | Macro-F1 |
| WeSTClass | 0.823 | 0.821 | 0.713 | 0.699 | 0.816 | 0.816 | 0.774 | - |
| ConWea | 0.746 | 0.742 | 0.757 | 0.733 | 0.714 | 0.712 | - | - |
| LOTClass | 0.869 | 0.868 | 0.738 | 0.725 | 0.878 | 0.877 | 0.865 | - |
| XClass | 0.857 | 0.857 | 0.786 | 0.778 | 0.900 | 0.900 | - | - |
| ClassKG [†] | 0.881 | 0.881 | <u>0.811</u> | 0.820 | 0.918 | 0.918 | 0.888 | 0.888 |
| RoBERTa (0-shot) | 0.581 | 0.529 | 0.507 [‡] | 0.445 [‡] | 0.812 | 0.808 | 0.784 | 0.780 |
| ELECTRA (0-shot) | 0.810 | 0.806 | 0.558 | 0.529 | 0.820 | 0.820 | 0.803 | 0.802 |
| PromptClass | | | | | | | | |
| ELECTRA+BERT | <u>0.884</u> | <u>0.884</u> | 0.789 | 0.791 | 0.919 | 0.919 | 0.905 | 0.905 |
| RoBERTa+RoBERTa | 0.895 | 0.895 | 0.755 [‡] | 0.760 [‡] | <u>0.920</u> | <u>0.920</u> | <u>0.906</u> | <u>0.906</u> |
| ELECTRA+ELECTRA | <u>0.884</u> | <u>0.884</u> | 0.816 | <u>0.817</u> | 0.957 | 0.957 | 0.931 | 0.931 |
| Fully Supervised | 0.940 | 0.940 | 0.965 | 0.964 | 0.957 | 0.957 | 0.945 | - |

Outline

- ❑ What Weakly-Supervised Text Classification Is, and Why It Matters
- ❑ Flat Text Classification
- ❑ Text Classification with Taxonomy Information
 - ❑ Static Embedding: WeSHClass [AAAI'19] 
 - ❑ Pre-trained LM: TaxoClass [NAACL'21]
- ❑ Text Classification with Metadata Information

WeSHClass: Weakly-Supervised Hierarchical Text Classification

- The hierarchy has a **tree** structure. Each document is associated with **one path** starting from the root node. (E.g., the main subject of each arXiv paper.)



- Keyword-level weak supervision: The name of each node in the taxonomy, or a few keywords for each leaf category
- Document-level weak supervision: A few labeled documents for each leaf category

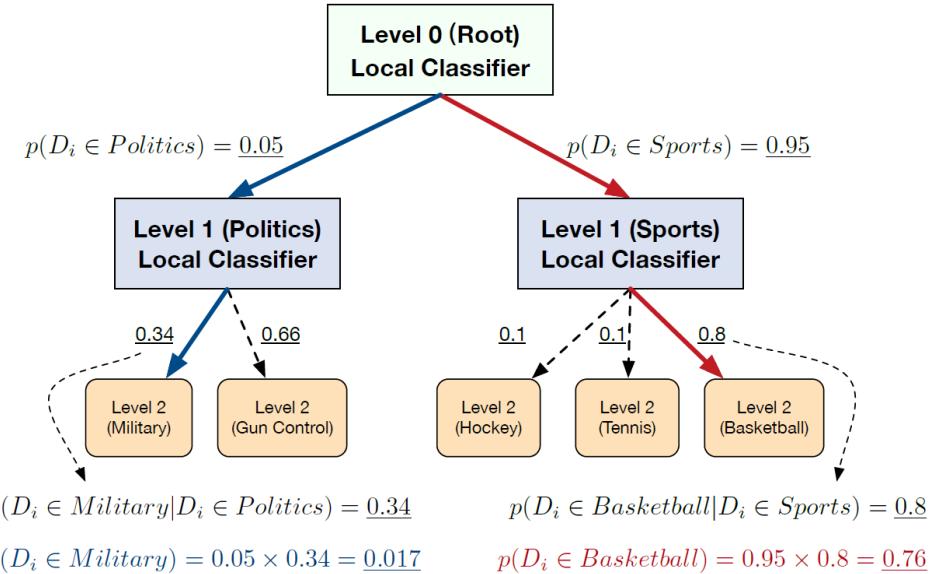
Meng, Y., Shen, J., Zhang, C., & Han, J. "Weakly-Supervised Hierarchical Text Classification", AAAI'19.

Applicable to both keyword-level and document-level supervision.

Hierarchical Classification Model

- Local Classifier Per Node
 - Essentially a flat classification task
 - Follow WeSTClass

- Global Classifier Per Level
 - At each level k in the class taxonomy, construct a global classifier by ensembling all local classifiers from root to level k



| Methods | NYT | | | | arXiv | | | | Yelp Review | | | |
|---------------|----------|-------|-------------------|-------------------|----------|-------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------|-------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | KEYWORDS | | DOCS | | KEYWORDS | | DOCS | | KEYWORDS | | DOCS | |
| | Macro | Micro | Macro Avg. (Std.) | Micro Avg. (Std.) | Macro | Micro | Macro Avg. (Std.) | Micro Avg. (Std.) | Macro | Micro | Macro Avg. (Std.) | Micro Avg. (Std.) |
| Hier-Dataless | 0.593 | 0.811 | - | - | 0.374 | 0.594 | - | - | 0.284 | 0.312 | - | - |
| Hier-SVM | - | - | 0.142 (0.016) | 0.469 (0.012) | - | - | 0.049 (0.001) | 0.443 (0.006) | - | - | 0.220 (0.082) | 0.310 (0.113) |
| CNN | - | - | 0.165 (0.027) | 0.329 (0.097) | - | - | 0.124 (0.014) | 0.456 (0.023) | - | - | 0.306 (0.028) | 0.372 (0.028) |
| WeSTClass | 0.386 | 0.772 | 0.479 (0.027) | 0.728 (0.036) | 0.412 | 0.642 | 0.264 (0.016) | 0.547 (0.009) | 0.348 | 0.389 | 0.345 (0.027) | 0.388 (0.033) |
| No-global | 0.618 | 0.843 | 0.520 (0.065) | 0.768 (0.100) | 0.442 | 0.673 | 0.264 (0.020) | 0.581 (0.017) | 0.391 | 0.424 | 0.369 (0.022) | 0.403 (0.016) |
| No-vMF | 0.628 | 0.862 | 0.527 (0.031) | 0.825 (0.032) | 0.406 | 0.665 | 0.255 (0.015) | 0.564 (0.012) | 0.410 | 0.457 | 0.372 (0.029) | 0.407 (0.015) |
| No-self-train | 0.550 | 0.787 | 0.491 (0.036) | 0.769 (0.039) | 0.395 | 0.635 | 0.234 (0.013) | 0.535 (0.010) | 0.362 | 0.408 | 0.348 (0.030) | 0.382 (0.022) |
| Our method | 0.632 | 0.874 | 0.532 (0.015) | 0.827 (0.012) | 0.452 | 0.692 | 0.279 (0.010) | 0.585 (0.009) | 0.423 | 0.461 | 0.375 (0.021) | 0.410 (0.014) |

Outline

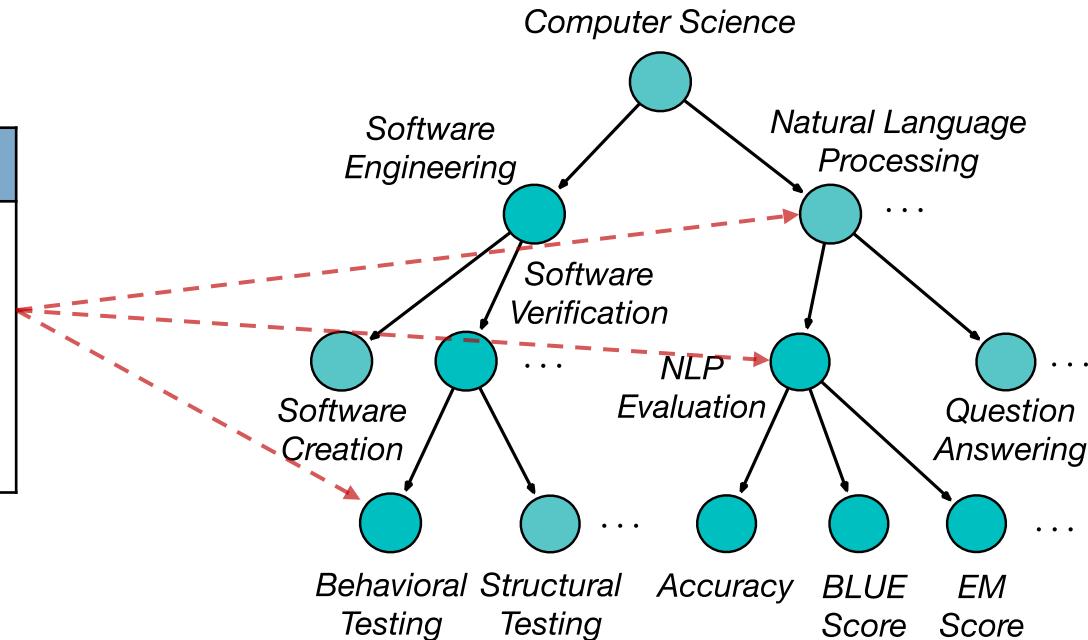
- ❑ What Weakly-Supervised Text Classification Is, and Why It Matters
- ❑ Flat Text Classification
- ❑ Text Classification with Taxonomy Information
 - ❑ Static Embedding: WeSHClass [AAAI'19]
 - ❑ Pre-trained LM: TaxoClass [NAACL'21] 
- ❑ Text Classification with Metadata Information

TaxoClass: Weakly-supervised Hierarchical Multi-Label Text Classification

- The taxonomy is a directed acyclic graph (DAG)
- Each paper can have multiple categories distributed on different paths
- Category names can be phrases and may not appear in the corpus

Document

Measuring held-out accuracy often overestimates the performance of *NLP* models... Inspired by principles of *behavioral testing* in software engineering, we introduce CheckList, a task-agnostic methodology for *testing NLP models*...



TaxoClass: Why Category Names Only?

- ❑ Taxonomies for multi-label text classification are often big.
 - ❑ Amazon Product Catalog: $\times 10^4$ categories
 - ❑ MeSH Taxonomy (for medical papers): $\times 10^4$ categories
 - ❑ Microsoft Academic Taxonomy: $\times 10^5$ labels
- ❑ Impossible for users to provide even a small set of (e.g., 3) keywords/labeled documents for each category

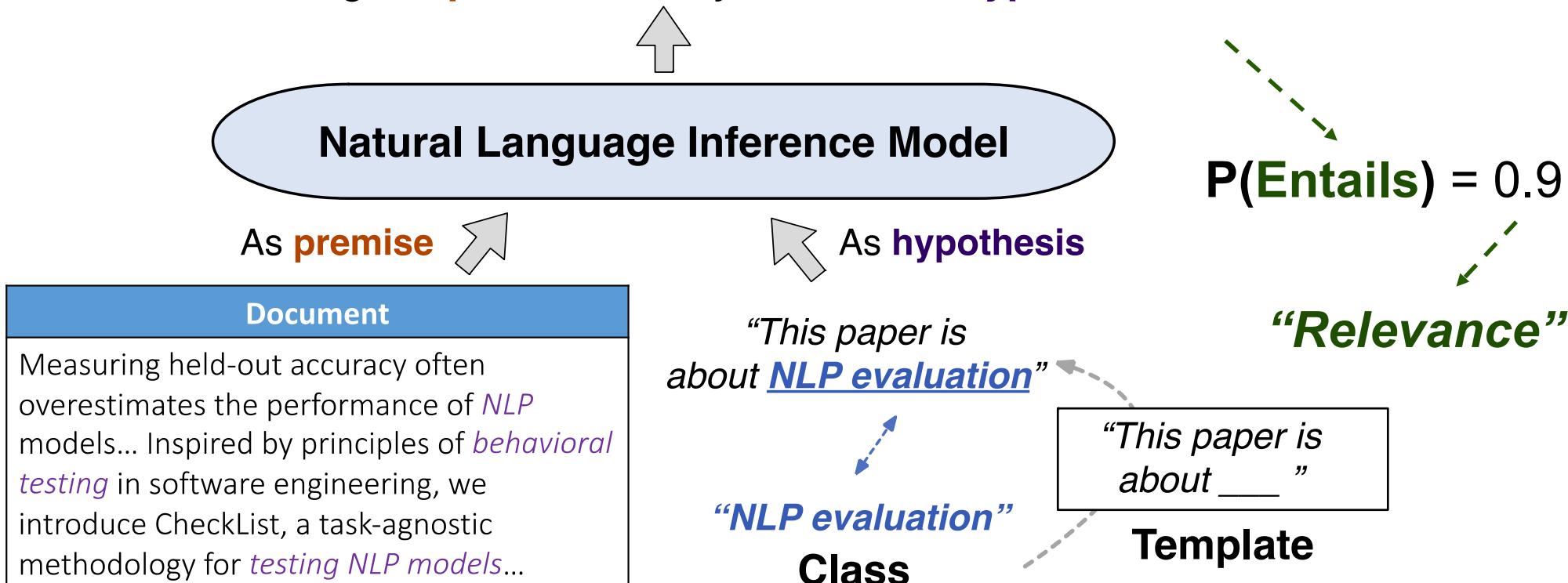


<https://academic.microsoft.com/home>

TaxoClass: Document-Class Relevance Calculation

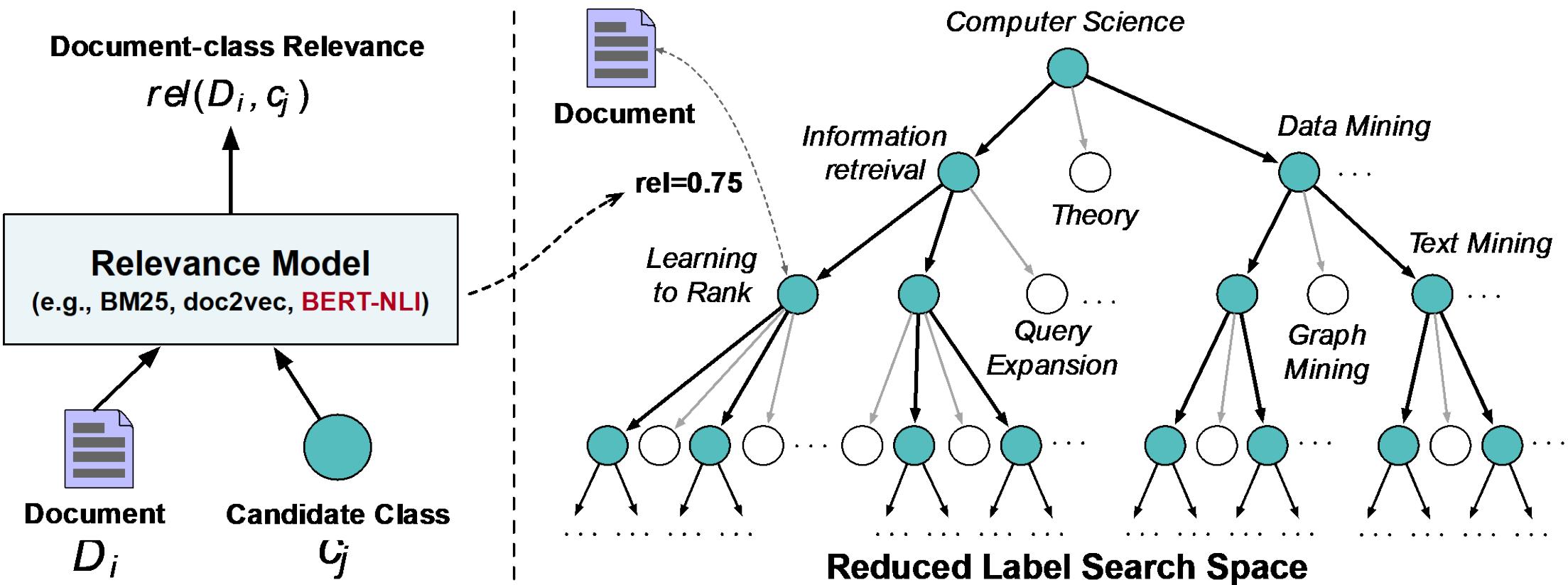
- ❑ How to use the knowledge from pre-trained LMs?
- ❑ Relevance model: BERT/RoBERTa fine-tuned on the NLI task
- ❑ <https://huggingface.co/roberta-large-mnli>

After reading the **premise**, can you infer the **hypothesis**?



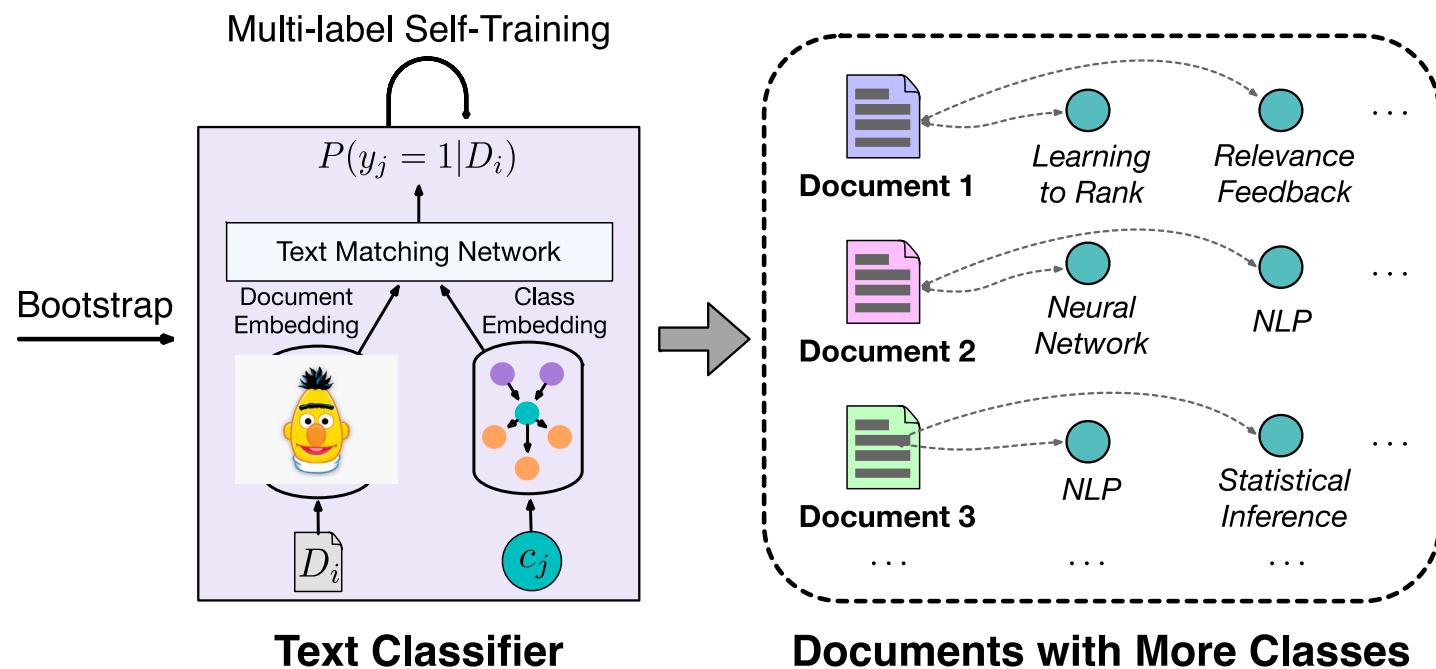
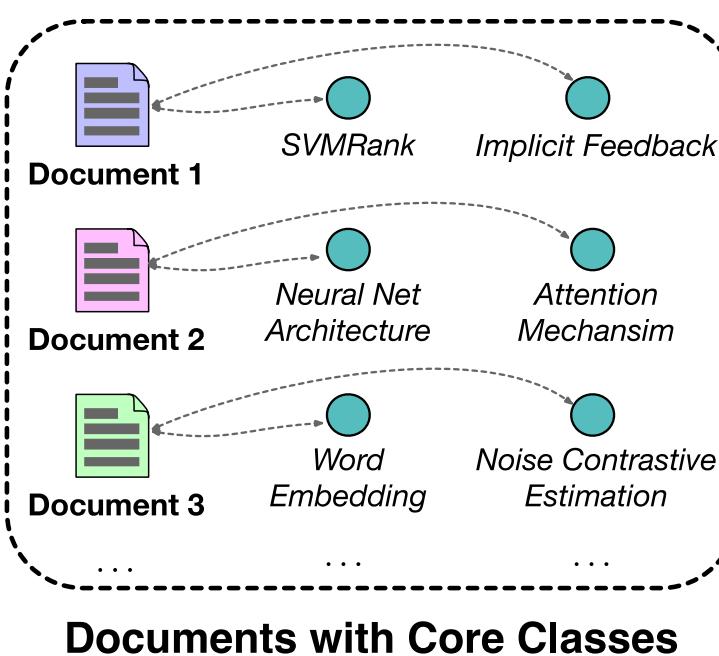
TaxoClass: Top-Down Exploration

- ❑ How to use the taxonomy?
 - ❑ Shrink the label search space with top-down exploration
 - ❑ Use a relevance model to filter out completely irrelevant classes



TaxoClass: Identify Core Classes and More Classes

- Identify document core classes in reduced label search space
- Generalize from core classes with bootstrapping and self-training



TaxoClass: Experiment Results

Weakly-supervised multi-class classification method

Semi-supervised methods using 30% of training set

Zero-shot method

| Methods | Amazon | | DBpedia | |
|---|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| | Example-F1 | P@1 | Example-F1 | P@1 |
| WeSHClass (Meng et al., AAAI'19) | 0.246 | 0.577 | 0.305 | 0.536 |
| SS-PCEM (Xiao et al., WebConf'19) | 0.292 | 0.537 | 0.385 | 0.742 |
| Semi-BERT (Devlin et al., NAACL'19) | 0.339 | 0.592 | 0.428 | 0.761 |
| Hier-0Shot-TC (Yin et al., EMNLP'19) | 0.474 | 0.714 | 0.677 | 0.787 |
| TaxoClass (ours) | 0.593 | 0.812 | 0.816 | 0.894 |

- vs. **WeSHClass**: better model document-class relevance
- vs. **SS-PCEM, Semi-BERT**: better leverage supervision signals from taxonomy
- vs. **Hier-0Shot-TC**: better capture domain-specific information from core classes

Amazon: 49K product reviews (29.5K training + 19.7K testing), 531 classes

DBpedia: 245K Wiki articles (196K training + 49K testing), 298 classes

$$\text{Example-F1} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{2|true_i \cap pred_i|}{|true_i|+|pred_i|}, \quad P@1 = \frac{\# \text{docs with top-1 pred correct}}{\# \text{total docs}}$$

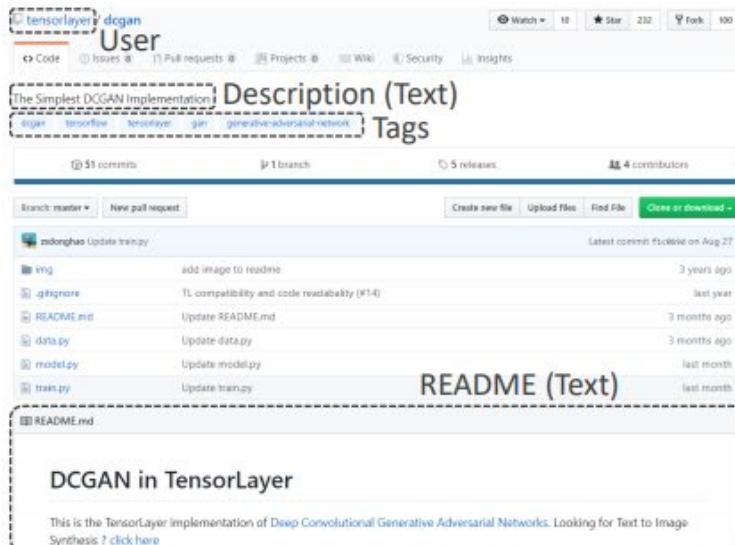
Outline

- ❑ What Weakly-Supervised Text Classification Is, and Why It Matters
- ❑ Flat Text Classification
- ❑ Text Classification with Taxonomy Information
- ❑ Text Classification with Metadata Information
 - ❑ Static Embedding: MetaCat [SIGIR'20]
 - ❑ Pre-trained LM: MICoL [WWW'22]



MetaCat: Leveraging Metadata for Classification

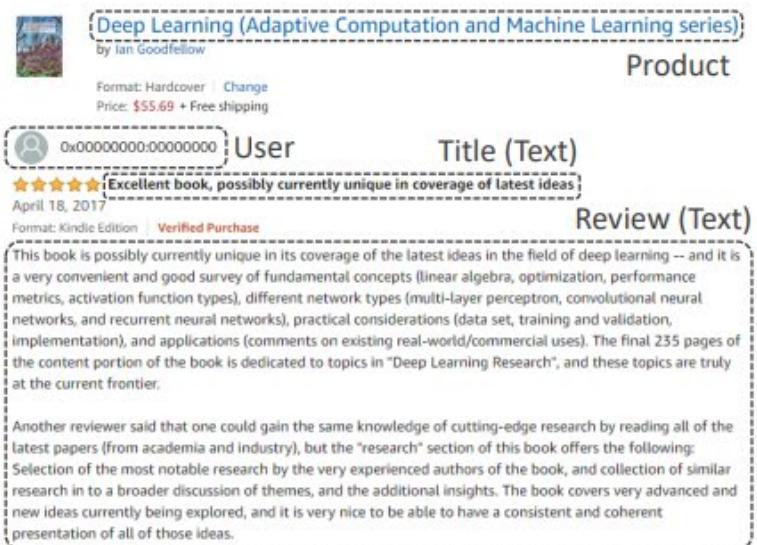
- ❑ Metadata is prevalent in many text sources
 - ❑ GitHub repositories: User, Tag
 - ❑ Tweets: User, Hashtag
- ❑ How to leverage these heterogenous signals in the categorization process?



(a) GitHub Repository



(b) Tweet

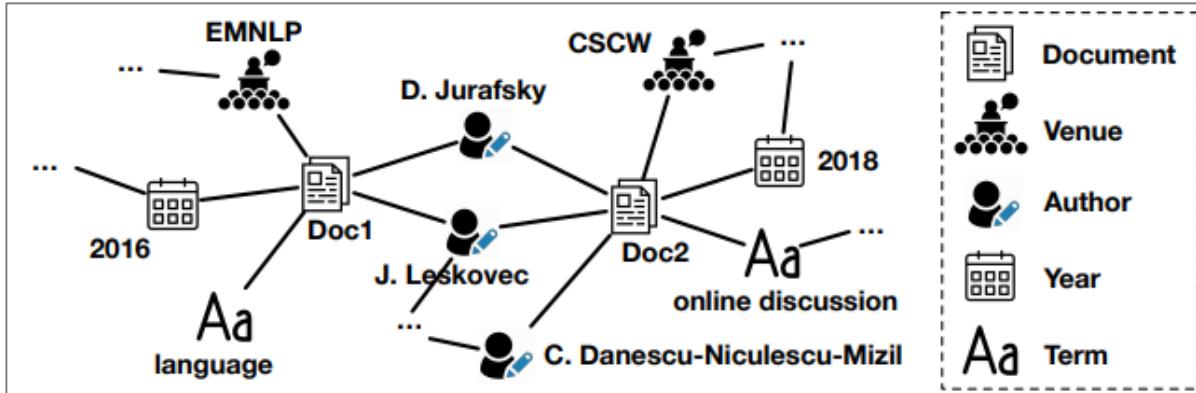


(c) Amazon Review

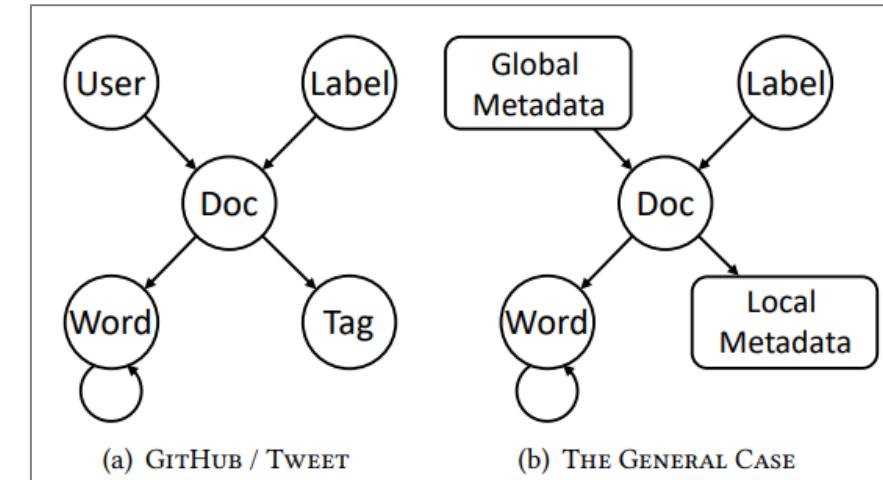
Zhang, Y., Meng, Y., Huang, J., Xu, F.F., Wang, X., & Han, J. "Minimally Supervised Categorization of Text with Metadata", SIGIR'20.
A few labeled documents as supervision.

MetaCat: The Underlying Generative Process

- Two categories of metadata:
 - **Global metadata:** user/author, product
 - “Causes” the generation of documents. (E.g., User/Author -> Document)
 - **Local metadata:** tag/hashtag
 - “Describes” the documents. (E.g., Document -> Tag)
 - We can also say “labels” are global, and “words” are local



A network view of corpus with metadata



A generative-process view of corpus with metadata

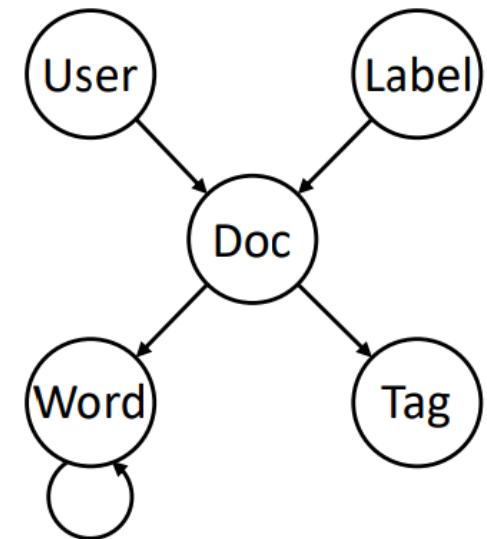
MetaCat: How to use this underlying model?

- ❑ **Embedding** Learning Module

- ❑ All embedding vectors e_u, e_l, e_d, e_t, e_w are parameters of the generative process
- ❑ Learn the embedding vectors through maximizing the likelihood of observing all text and metadata

- ❑ Training Data **Generation** Module

- ❑ e_u, e_l, e_d, e_t, e_w have been learned
- ❑ Given a label l , generate d, w and t according to the generative process



(a) GITHUB / TWEET

MetaCat: Experiment Results

- ❑ Metadata is more helpful on smaller corpora.

- ❑ Datasets

- ❑ GitHub-Bio: 10 categories;
876 docs
- ❑ GitHub-AI: 14 categories;
1,596 docs
- ❑ GitHub-Sec: 3 categories;
84,950 docs
- ❑ Amazon: 10 categories;
100,000 docs
- ❑ Twitter: 9 categories;
135,619 docs

Table 2: Micro F1 scores of compared algorithms on the five datasets. “–”: excessive memory requirements.

| Type | Method | GitHub-Bio | GitHub-AI | GitHub-Sec | Amazon | Twitter |
|-------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Text-based | CNN [12] | 0.2227 ± 0.0195 | 0.2404 ± 0.0404 | 0.4909 ± 0.0489 | 0.4915 ± 0.0374 | 0.3106 ± 0.0613 |
| | HAN [38] | 0.1409 ± 0.0145 | 0.1900 ± 0.0299 | 0.4677 ± 0.0334 | 0.4809 ± 0.0372 | 0.3163 ± 0.0878 |
| | PTE [32] | 0.3170 ± 0.0516 | 0.3511 ± 0.0403 | 0.4551 ± 0.0249 | 0.2997 ± 0.0786 | 0.1945 ± 0.0250 |
| | WeSTClass [23] | 0.3680 ± 0.0138 | 0.5036 ± 0.0287 | 0.6146 ± 0.0084 | 0.5312 ± 0.0161 | 0.3568 ± 0.0178 |
| | PCEM [36] | 0.3426 ± 0.0160 | 0.4820 ± 0.0292 | 0.5912 ± 0.0341 | 0.4645 ± 0.0163 | 0.2387 ± 0.0344 |
| | BERT [4] | 0.2680 ± 0.0303 | 0.2451 ± 0.0273 | 0.5538 ± 0.0368 | 0.5240 ± 0.0261 | 0.3312 ± 0.0860 |
| Graph-based | ESim [27] | 0.2925 ± 0.0223 | 0.4376 ± 0.0323 | 0.5480 ± 0.0109 | 0.5320 ± 0.0246 | 0.3512 ± 0.0226 |
| | Metapath2vec [5] | 0.3956 ± 0.0141 | 0.4444 ± 0.0231 | 0.5772 ± 0.0594 | 0.5256 ± 0.0335 | 0.3516 ± 0.0407 |
| | HIN2vec [6] | 0.2564 ± 0.0131 | 0.3614 ± 0.0234 | 0.5218 ± 0.0466 | 0.4987 ± 0.0252 | 0.2944 ± 0.0614 |
| | TextGCN [39] | 0.4759 ± 0.0126 | 0.6353 ± 0.0059 | – | – | 0.3361 ± 0.0032 |
| | METACAT | 0.5258 ± 0.0090 | 0.6889 ± 0.0128 | 0.7243 ± 0.0336 | 0.6422 ± 0.0058 | 0.3971 ± 0.0169 |

Table 3: Macro F1 scores of compared algorithms on the five datasets. “–”: excessive memory requirements.

| Type | Method | GitHub-Bio | GitHub-AI | GitHub-Sec | Amazon | Twitter |
|-------------|------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Text-based | CNN [12] | 0.1896 ± 0.0133 | 0.1796 ± 0.0216 | 0.4268 ± 0.0584 | 0.5056 ± 0.0376 | 0.2858 ± 0.0559 |
| | HAN [38] | 0.0677 ± 0.0208 | 0.0961 ± 0.0254 | 0.4095 ± 0.0590 | 0.4644 ± 0.0597 | 0.2592 ± 0.0826 |
| | PTE [32] | 0.2630 ± 0.0371 | 0.3363 ± 0.0250 | 0.3803 ± 0.0218 | 0.2563 ± 0.0810 | 0.1739 ± 0.0190 |
| | WeSTClass [23] | 0.3414 ± 0.0129 | 0.4056 ± 0.0248 | 0.5497 ± 0.0054 | 0.5234 ± 0.0147 | 0.3085 ± 0.0398 |
| | PCEM [36] | 0.2977 ± 0.0281 | 0.3751 ± 0.0350 | 0.4033 ± 0.0336 | 0.4239 ± 0.0237 | 0.2039 ± 0.0472 |
| | BERT [4] | 0.1740 ± 0.0164 | 0.2083 ± 0.0415 | 0.4956 ± 0.0164 | 0.4911 ± 0.0544 | 0.2834 ± 0.0550 |
| Graph-based | ESim [27] | 0.2598 ± 0.0182 | 0.3209 ± 0.0202 | 0.4672 ± 0.0171 | 0.5336 ± 0.0220 | 0.3399 ± 0.0113 |
| | Metapath2vec [5] | 0.3214 ± 0.0128 | 0.3220 ± 0.0290 | 0.5140 ± 0.0637 | 0.5239 ± 0.0437 | 0.3443 ± 0.0208 |
| | HIN2vec [6] | 0.2742 ± 0.0136 | 0.2513 ± 0.0211 | 0.4000 ± 0.0115 | 0.4261 ± 0.0284 | 0.2411 ± 0.0142 |
| | TextGCN [39] | 0.4817 ± 0.0078 | 0.5997 ± 0.0013 | – | – | 0.3191 ± 0.0029 |
| | METACAT | 0.5230 ± 0.0080 | 0.6154 ± 0.0079 | 0.6323 ± 0.0235 | 0.6496 ± 0.0091 | 0.3612 ± 0.0067 |

Outline

- ❑ What Weakly-Supervised Text Classification Is, and Why It Matters
- ❑ Flat Text Classification
- ❑ Text Classification with Taxonomy Information
- ❑ Text Classification with Metadata Information
 - ❑ Static Embedding: MetaCat [SIGIR'20]
 - ❑ Pre-trained LM: MICoL [WWW'22] 

MICoL: Metadata-Induced Contrastive Learning for Zero-Shot Multi-Label Text Classification

□ Input

- A set of labels. Each label has its name and description.
- A large set of unlabeled documents associated with metadata (e.g., authors, venue, references) that can connect the documents together.

□ Output

- A multi-label text classifier. Given some new documents, the classifier can predict relevant labels for each document.

The figure displays two examples of label descriptions from academic databases:

(a) Label "Webgraph" from Microsoft Academic (<https://academic.microsoft.com/topic/2777569578/>):

| Label Name | Definition | Label Description |
|------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| Webgraph | The webgraph describes the directed links between pages of the World Wide Web. A graph, in general, consists of several vertices, some pairs connected by edges. In a directed graph, edges are directed lines or arcs. The webgraph is a directed graph, whose vertices correspond to the pages of the WWW, and a directed edge connects page X to page Y if there exists a hyperlink on page X, referring to page Y. | 105 Publications, 64,901 Citations* |

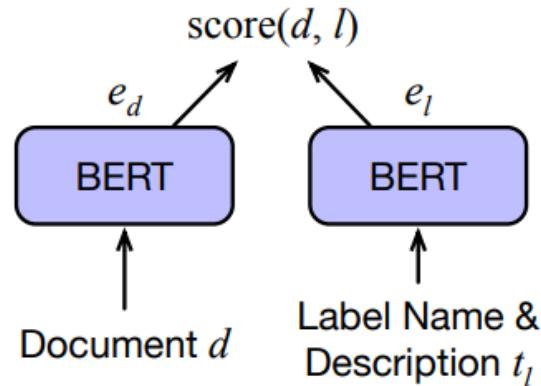
(b) Label "Betacoronavirus" from PubMed (<https://meshb.nlm.nih.gov/record/ui?ui=D000073640>):

| Label Name | MeSH Tree Structures | Concepts | Label Description |
|-----------------|----------------------|----------|--|
| Betacoronavirus | | | MeSH Heading: Betacoronavirus Tree Number(s): B04.820.578.500.540.150.113 Unique ID: D000073640 RDF Unique Identifier: http://id.nlm.nih.gov/mesh/D000073640 Annotation: infection: coordinate with CORONAVIRUS INFECTIONS Scope Note: A genus of the family CORONAVIRIDAE which causes respiratory or gastrointestinal disease in a variety of mostly mammals. Human betacoronaviruses include HUMAN ENTERIC CORONAVIRUS; HUMAN CORONAVIRUS OC43; MERS VIRUS; and SARS VIRUS. Members have either core transcription regulatory sequences of 5'-CUAAC-3' or 5'-CUAAC-3' and mostly have no ORF downstream to the N protein gene. Entry Term(s): HCoV-HKU1, Human coronavirus HKU1, Pipistrellus bat coronavirus HKU5, Rousettus bat coronavirus HKU9, Tylonycteris bat coronavirus HKU4 |

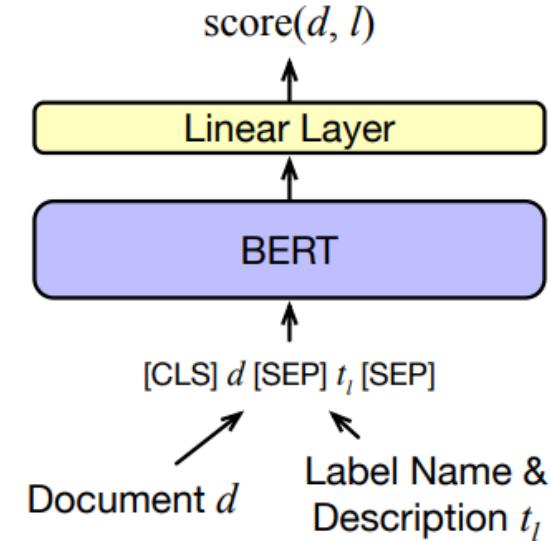
(b) Label "Betacoronavirus" from PubMed (<https://meshb.nlm.nih.gov/record/ui?ui=D000073640>).

Pre-trained Language Models for Multi-Label Text Classification

- ❑ If we could have some labeled documents, ...
 - ❑ We can use relevant (document, label) pairs to fine-tune the pre-trained LM.
 - ❑ Both Bi-Encoder and Cross-Encoder are applicable.



(a) Bi-Encoder

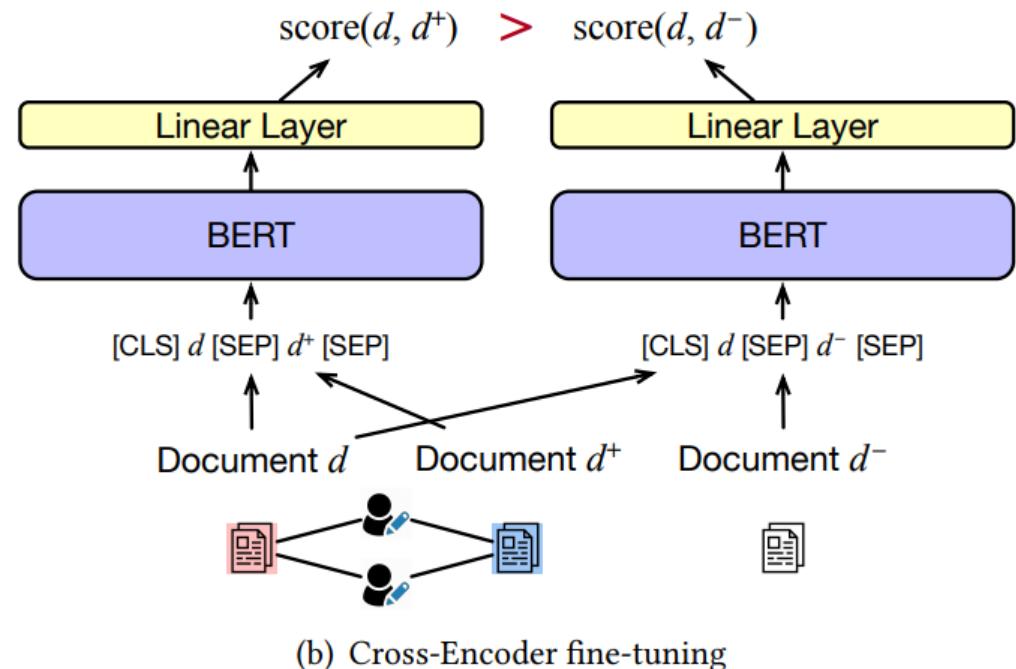
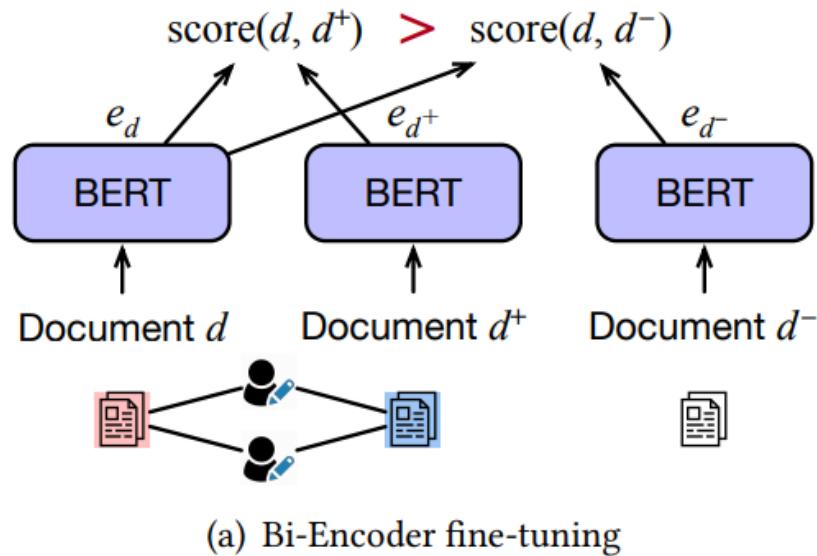
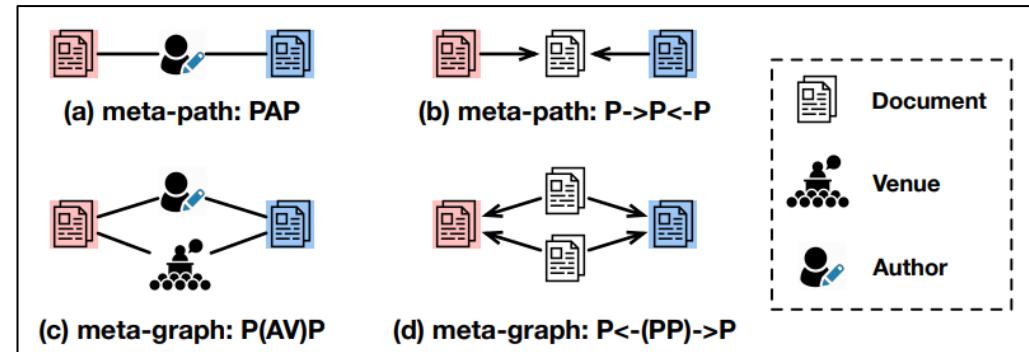


(b) Cross-Encoder

- ❑ However, we do not have any labeled documents!!!

Metadata-Induced Contrastive Learning

- ❑ Contrastive learning: Instead of training the model to know “what is what” (e.g., relevant (document, label) pairs), train it to know “what is similar with what” (e.g., similar (document, document) pairs).
- ❑ Using metadata to define similar (document, document) pairs.



MICoL: Experimental Results

- ❑ MICoL significantly outperforms text-based contrastive learning baselines.
- ❑ MICoL is competitive with the supervised SOTA trained on 10K–50K labeled documents.

| | Algorithm | MAG-CS [49] | | | | | PubMed [24] | | | | |
|------------|---|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| | | P@1 | P@3 | P@5 | NDCG@3 | NDCG@5 | P@1 | P@3 | P@5 | NDCG@3 | NDCG@5 |
| Zero-shot | Doc2Vec [31] | 0.5697** | 0.4613** | 0.3814** | 0.5043** | 0.4719** | 0.3888** | 0.3283** | 0.2859** | 0.3463** | 0.3252** |
| | SciBERT [2] | 0.6440** | 0.5030** | 0.4011** | 0.5545** | 0.5061** | 0.4427** | 0.3572** | 0.3031** | 0.3809** | 0.3510** |
| | ZeroShot-Entail [61] | 0.6649** | 0.5003** | 0.3959** | 0.5570** | 0.5057** | 0.5275** | 0.4021 | 0.3299 | 0.4352 | 0.3913 |
| | SPECTER [8] | 0.7107** | 0.5381** | 0.4184** | 0.5979** | 0.5365** | 0.5286** | 0.3923** | 0.3181** | 0.4273** | 0.3815** |
| | EDA [53] | 0.6442** | 0.4939** | 0.3948** | 0.5471** | 0.5000** | 0.4919 | 0.3754* | 0.3101* | 0.4058* | 0.3667* |
| | UDA [57] | 0.6291** | 0.4848** | 0.3897** | 0.5362** | 0.4918** | 0.4795** | 0.3696** | 0.3067** | 0.3986** | 0.3614** |
| | MICoL (Bi-Encoder, $P \rightarrow P \leftarrow P$) | 0.7062* | 0.5369* | 0.4184* | 0.5960* | 0.5355* | 0.5124** | 0.3869* | 0.3172* | 0.4196* | 0.3774* |
| | MICoL (Bi-Encoder, $P \leftarrow (PP) \rightarrow P$) | 0.7050* | 0.5344* | 0.4161* | 0.5937* | 0.5331* | 0.5198** | 0.3876* | 0.3172* | 0.4215* | 0.3786* |
| Supervised | MICoL (Cross-Encoder, $P \rightarrow P \leftarrow P$) | 0.7177 | 0.5444 | 0.4219 | 0.6048 | 0.5415 | 0.5412 | 0.4036 | 0.3257 | 0.4391 | 0.3906 |
| | MICoL (Cross-Encoder, $P \leftarrow (PP) \rightarrow P$) | 0.7061 | 0.5376 | 0.4187 | 0.5964 | 0.5357 | 0.5218 | 0.3911 | 0.3172* | 0.4249 | 0.3794 |
| | MATCH [68] (10K Training) | 0.4423** | 0.2851** | 0.2152** | 0.3375** | 0.3003** | 0.6915 | 0.3869* | 0.2785** | 0.4649 | 0.3896 |
| | MATCH [68] (50K Training) | 0.6215** | 0.4280** | 0.3269** | 0.4987** | 0.4489** | 0.7701 | 0.4716 | 0.3585 | 0.5497 | 0.4750 |
| | MATCH [68] (100K Training) | 0.8321 | 0.6520 | 0.5142 | 0.7342 | 0.6761 | 0.8286 | 0.5680 | 0.4410 | 0.6405 | 0.5626 |
| | MATCH [68] (Full, 560K+ Training) | 0.9114 | 0.7634 | 0.6312 | 0.8486 | 0.8076 | 0.9151 | 0.7425 | 0.6104 | 0.8001 | 0.7310 |

Summary

| Method | Flat vs. Hierarchical | Single-label vs. Multi-label | Supervision Format | Embedding vs. Pretrained LM |
|-----------|-----------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| WeSTClass | Flat | Single-label | Both types | Embedding |
| ConWea | Flat | Single-label | Category Names | Pretrained LM |
| LOTClass | Flat | Single-label | Category Names | Pretrained LM |
| X-Class | Flat & Hierarchical | Single-label & Path | Category Names | Pretrained LM |
| WeSHClass | Hierarchical | Path | Both types | Embedding |
| TaxoClass | Hierarchical | Multi-label | Category Names | Pretrained LM |
| MetaCat | Flat | Single-label | A Few Labeled Docs | Embedding |
| MICoL | Flat | Multi-label | Category Names | Pretrained LM |

References

- Meng, Y., Shen, J., Zhang, C., & Han, J. "Weakly-supervised neural text classification", CIKM'18.
- Mekala, D. & Shang, J. "Contextualized Weak Supervision for Text Classification", ACL'20.
- Meng, Y., Zhang, Y., Huang, J., Xiong, C., Ji, H., Zhang, C., & Han, J. "Text Classification Using Label Names Only: A Language Model Self-Training Approach", EMNLP'20.
- Wang, Z., Mekala, D., & Shang, J. "X-Class: Text Classification with Extremely Weak Supervision", NAACL'21.
- Meng, Y., Shen, J., Zhang, C., & Han, J. "Weakly-Supervised Hierarchical Text Classification", AAAI'19.
- Shen, J., Qiu, W., Meng, Y., Shang, J., Ren, X., & Han, J., "TaxoClass: Hierarchical Multi-Label Text Classification Using Only Class Names", NAACL'21.
- Zhang, Y., Meng, Y., Huang, J., Xu, F.F., Wang, X., & Han, J. "Minimally Supervised Categorization of Text with Metadata", SIGIR'20.
- Zhang, Y., Shen, Z., Wu, C., Xie, B., Wang, Y., Wang, K. & Han, J. "Metadata-Induced Contrastive Learning for Zero-Shot Multi-Label Text Classification", WWW'22.

Q&A