

# Integrating Distributional and Compositional Semantics

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#### Words in Google





#### **Sentences in Google**











#### **Compositional + Distributional ?**





#### **Formal Semantics**





#### **Vector Space Semantics**





#### **From Words to Sentences**





#### **Vector-Based Models of Sentences**



Grefenstette et. al, New Directions in Vector Space Models of Meaning (ACL, 2014)



#### **Lecture Outline**

- Arguments against sentence vectors
- Vector addition
- Recurrent (recursive) neural networks
- Type-driven compositional distributional framework



#### Vectors are "Too Small"

#### ★"You can't cram the meaning of a whole %&!\$# sentence into a single \$&!#\* vector!" (Ray Mooney)



# **Arguments Against Sentence Vectors**

- A fixed-size vector can't hold enough information (languages are infinite)
  - are languages really infinite? (not in practice, and maybe not in theory\*)
  - the sentence vector could be a structured object (e.g. density matrix)
  - the sentence space doesn't have to solve all of semantics (necessarily)
  - (and wouldn't this argument apply to lexical semantics as well?)

#### \*Recursion and the Infinitude Claim (Pullum and Scholz, 2010)



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  - the sentence vector could be a structured object (e.g. density matrix)
  - the sentence space doesn't have to solve all of semantics (necessarily)
  - (and wouldn't this argument apply to lexical semantics as well?)
- What about (formal) semantics?
  - compositionality, inference, logical operators, quantification, ...

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# **Talk Outline**

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#### **Element-wise Operators on Context Vectors**

black	0.34	0.64		-0.06			black	0.34	0.64	 -0.06	
+									(		
cat	0.15	0.29		-0.03			cat	0.15	0.29	 0.03	
						7 [					
black + cat	0.49	0.93	•••	-0.09			black o cat	0.05	0.19	 -0.002	



#### **Circular Convolution**

			black	x cat		
	1	2	3	1 00000	1 605 06	E 005 07
cat	0.0032	0.0025	-0.0085	1.902-00	1.00C-00	5.00E-07
black	0.0006	0.0005	-0.0017	1 505 06	1 255 06	
				1.502-00	1.202-00	-4.235-07
				-5.1E-06	-4.25E-06	-1.15E-06
	+	+				
			+			
	bl	ack 🍘	) cat =	-2.76E-06	4.55E-06	-4 39F-06



#### **Phrase Similarity Data**

Mitchell & Lapata 2010 Dataset:

AN:	national government	cold air	1
	new information	further evidence	6
NN:	environment secretary	party leader	5
	telephone number	future development	2
VO:	offer support	provide help	7
	fight war	win battle	5



#### **Phrase Similarity Results**







#### **Sentence Similarity Data**

- Semantic Textual Similarity (STS) datasets from SEMEVAL
- MSR Par dataset (1,500 pairs):

The fines are part of failed Republican efforts to force or entice the Democrats to return.

Perry said he backs the Senates efforts, including fines, to force the Democrats to return. 2.8

The bill says that a woman who undergoes such an abortion couldn't be prosecuted.

A woman who underwent such an abortion could not be prosecuted under the bill. 5.0



#### **Addition for Sentence Vectors?**

"I know of no pressure," said Mr. Feith, the under secretary of defense for policy.

"I know of nobody who pressured anybody," Douglas Feith, undersecretary of defense for policy, said at a Pentagon briefing.

[Similarity 3.8/5]

Agirre et al. (Semeval STS); Polajnar, Rimell and Clark (LREC 2014)



# **Addition for Sentence Vectors?**

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*"I know of nobody who pressured anybody," Douglas Feith, undersecretary of defense for policy, said at a Pentagon briefing.* 

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- Lexical overlap baseline is hard to beat
- Out of the vector-space methods, addition is hard to beat
- "Is God trying to tell us something?"

Agirre et al. (Semeval STS); Polajnar, Rimell and Clark (LREC 2014)



#### **Lecture Outline**

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#### **Composition in Neural Models**



#### Deep Learning for NLP (Socher et al., 2013)



#### **Composition in Neural Models**



#### Socher et al. (EMNLP 2013)



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#### **Categorial Grammar**

# cat chases dog $NP (S \ NP) / NP NP$



#### **Categorial Grammar**



Function application = "cancellation"



#### **Categorial Grammar**





# **Predicate-Argument Semantics**

cat	chases	dog
NP	$(S \setminus NP)/NP$	NP
cat'	$\lambda x.\lambda y \ chases'(x,y)$	dog'



#### **Predicate-Argument Semantics**



$$S \backslash NP$$
  
 $\lambda y \ chases'(dog', y)$ 

Function application = substitution



#### **Predicate-Argument Semantics**

# $\begin{array}{ccc} cat & chases & dog \\ \hline NP & (S \setminus NP) / NP & NP \\ cat' & \lambda x. \lambda y \ chases'(x,y) & dog' \end{array}$

 $S \backslash NP \\ \lambda y \ chases'(dog', y)$ 

 $S \\ chases'(dog', cat')$ 



#### **Vector Space Semantics?**



$$S \backslash NP$$
  
 $\lambda y \ chases'(dog', y)$ 

- What are the semantic types of the vectors?
- What is the equivalent of function application?



#### **Adjective-Noun Combinations**

red car N/N N

N



# **Adjective-Noun Combinations**



- Functions are matrices (linear maps) in linear algebra
- Functions combine with arguments using matrix multiplication (Baroni and Zamparelli, 2010)



#### **Matrix Multiplication**





# **Matrix Multiplication**

			RED			$\overrightarrow{car}$		$\overrightarrow{red \ car}$
			$N\otimesN$			Ν		Ν
(	$R_{11}$	$R_{12}$	$R_{13}$	$R_{14}$	$R_{15}$	$\left(\begin{array}{c} c_1 \end{array}\right)$		$\langle rc_1 \rangle$
	$R_{21}$	$R_{22}$	$R_{23}$	$R_{24}$	$R_{25}$	$c_2$		$rc_2$
	$R_{31}$	$R_{32}$	$R_{33}$	$R_{34}$	$R_{35}$	$c_3$	=	$rc_3$
	$R_{41}$	$R_{42}$	$R_{43}$	$R_{44}$	$R_{45}$	$c_4$		$rc_4$
	$R_{51}$	$R_{52}$	$R_{53}$	$R_{54}$	$R_{55}$ /	$\left( \begin{array}{c} c_5 \end{array} \right)$		$\langle rc_5 \rangle$



#### **Syntactic Types to Tensors**

 $\begin{array}{ccc} cat & chases & dog \\ \hline NP & (S \setminus NP) / NP & NP \\ \mathbf{N} & \mathbf{S} \otimes \mathbf{N} \otimes \mathbf{N} & \mathbf{N} \end{array}$ 



# **Syntactic Types to Tensors**



cat	chases	dog
NP	$(S \setminus NP)/NP$	NP
Ν	$S \otimes N \otimes N$	Ν



# **Type and Tensor Reductions**



Function application = taking inner products



# **Type and Tensor Reductions**





# **Function Composition in CCG**

Pat	might	kiss	Sandy
NP	$(S \setminus NP)/(S \setminus NP)$	$(S \setminus NP)/NP$	NP



# **Function Composition in CCG**



#### Function composition = "cancellation"



# **Function Composition in CCG**

Pat	might	kiss	Sandy
NP N	$(S \setminus NP) / (S \setminus NP)$ $\mathbf{S} \otimes \mathbf{N} \otimes \mathbf{S} \otimes \mathbf{N}$	$(S \setminus NP)/NP$ $\mathbf{S} \otimes \mathbf{N} \otimes \mathbf{N}$	NP N
	$(S ackslash NP)$ s $\otimes$ n	$ NP  \otimes \mathbf{N}$	

#### Function composition = taking inner products

Maillard, Clark, Grefenstette (2014)



#### **From Theory to Implementation**

- We have wide-coverage CCG parsers, and syntax determines semantics
- But, two crucial questions the framework does not answer:
  - 1. what is the sentence space?
  - 2. how do we learn the tensors?
- The tensors can get very large:

Revitalized	Classics	Take	the	Stage	in	Windy
N/N	N	$(S[dcl] \setminus NP)/NP$	NP[nb]/N	N	$((S \setminus NP) \setminus (S \setminus NP))/NP$	$\overline{N/N}$



# **Contextual Sentence Spaces**

- Two contenders for the sentence space in the current literature:
  - a space automatically induced by a (un-)supervised learning criterion
  - a contextual sentence space (extending the distributional hypothesis\*)



# **Contextual Sentence Spaces**

- Two contenders for the sentence space in the current literature:
  - a space automatically induced by a (un-)supervised learning criterion
  - a contextual sentence space (extending the distributional hypothesis\*)
    - should contextual noun and sentence spaces be the same?

#### \*Baroni, Bernardi, Zamparelli; Grefenstette et al.



 $S_{t-2}$ : M. Atget captured the old Paris in his pictures.  $S_{t-1}$ : His photographs show the city in its various facets.  $S_t$ : He photographed stairwells and architectural details.  $S_{t+1}$ : His interests also extended to the environs of Paris.  $S_{t+2}$ : He also photographed street-hawkers and small tradesmen, as well as popular amusements.





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**DVerb**: capture, show, extend, photograph





#### **Simpler Matrix Networks**





Polajnar, Fagarasan, Clark (EMNLP 2014); Paperno, Pham, Baroni (ACL 2014)



#### **Low-Rank Approximations**



Fried, Polajnar, Clark (ACL 2015)



#### Summary

- Sentence vectors are here to stay
- Evaluation is problematic
- Recursive neural networks provide one solution
- Type-driven compositional framework is more linguistically motivated, but problematic in practice
- Maybe there is an ideal middle ground
- Composition has a role to play in other modalities (what does a red car look like, a bike with no wheels, a sleeveless dress, ...?)

