Inferring unobserved cooccurrence events in Anchored Packed Trees

Thomas Kober <u>tkober@inf.ed.ac.uk</u>

based on joint work with Julie Weeds, Jeremy Reffin and David Weir

13th February 2018 (1518526800)

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- APTs treating distributional composition as a process of contextualisation (Weir et al., 2016)

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clothes: amod:white

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we folded the dry clean clothes

we folded the dry clean clothes

we bought white shoes yesterday

we folded the dry clean clothes

we bought white shoes yesterday

i like your clothes

we folded the dry clean clothes

we bought white shoes yesterday

i like your clothes

he folded the white sheets



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 - Edges are dependency relations







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- Suppose we want to compose the AN phrase *white clothes*
- Lets vectorise them...

amod

clothes

white











white	clothes
:clean	amod:wet
amod:shoes	:dress
amod.dobj:wear	dobj:wear
amod.dobj.nsubj:coat	dobj.nsubj:actor





Can't leverage distributional commonalities between *white* and *clothes*



- Can't leverage distributional commonalities between white and clothes
- Need a mechanism for aligning representations with different grammatical roles before composition











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white clothes • white connected to clothes via amod

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- Hence, travelling along the amod edge from white to clothes involves offsetting by amod



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- Hence, travelling along the amod edge from white to clothes involves offsetting by amod
- See Weir et al., (2016) for full details







white	white	clothes
:clean	amod:clean	amod:wet
amod:shoes	:shoes	:dress
amod.dobj:wear	dobj:wear	dobj:wear
amod.dobj.nsubj:coat	dobj.nsubj:coat	dobj.nsubj:actor

glove

pants

crisis

mistake

 $\overline{\text{compound}}$

admit avoid

groom actor

nsubj



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:clean	amod:clean	amod:wet
amod:shoes	:shoes	:dress
amod.dobj:wear	dobj:wear	dobj:wear
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Offset view - aligned with <i>clothes</i>		



white	white	clothes
:clean	amod:clean	amod:wet
amod:shoes	:shoes	:dress
amod.dobj:wear	dobj:wear	dobj:wear
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Paths now aligned \o/!		

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Composed	white clothes		
APT treated as a noun	Composition by union	Composition by intersection	
	amod.clean amod:wet		
	:shoes		
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- Vectorised order 2 APT space from the BNC, using PPMI as lexical association function

Dataset
WS353 (Sim)
WS353 (Rel)
MEN
SimLex-999
ML10 - AN
ML10 - NN
ML10 - VO

Dataset	word2vec*
WS353 (Sim)	0.64
WS353 (Rel)	0.42
MEN	0.63
SimLex-999	0.25
ML10 - AN	0.50
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Dataset	word2vec*	APTs
WS353 (Sim)	0.64	0.40
WS353 (Rel)	0.42	0.24
MEN	0.63	0.36
SimLex-999	0.25	0.22
ML10 - AN	0.50	0.39
ML10 - NN	0.47	0.41
ML10 - VO	0.42	0.35

Dataset	word2vec*	APTs	APTs tuned
WS353 (Sim)	0.64	0.40	0.52
WS353 (Rel)	0.42	0.24	0.35
MEN	0.63	0.36	0.43
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- Nice theory, but doesn't quite work out of the box whats the problem?

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- Are the representations too sparse to be useful?
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- Previous results found that typed DSMs have a bias towards co-hyponyms and hypernyms (Peirsman, 2008; Baroni & Lenci, 2011, Levy & Goldberg, 2014)
- If the APT space is too sparse to represent anything meaningful, we would expect to see (more or less) a uniform similarity distribution across all semantic relations





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- Instead, leverage the distributional neighbourhood and explicitly infer co-occurrences from similar representations.

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- ~Soft clustering of the distributional space, every lexeme is represented as the weighted average of its neighbourhood
- The algorithm isn't just applicable to APTs but represents a general mechanism for enriching the representations in a sparse space (Kober et al., 2016)









Lexeme





Lexeme	Neighbours	Inferred co-occurrences



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magazine		



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- But would be useful to have some filtering mechanism (more on that later)

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 - Realise that "*a thing that can be stolen*" is similar to "*a precious thing*" and add observed features from "*a precious thing*" to "*a thing that can be stolen*"
 - (In the given APT space from the BNC, the two offset views where 50% more similar to each other in terms of the cosine of their vector representations than the original representations)

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 - Using composition to filter noisy inferences that do not make sense in the given context (no more *barking cats*, *horse-drawn cats* or *military cats*)
 - Inference mechanism falls out of the existing APT theory, no need to fiddle around with the formulation

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Dataset	word2vec
WS353 (Sim)	0.64
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Dataset	word2vec	APTs	
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WS353 (Sim)	0.64	0.40	0.52	0.59
WS353 (Rel)	0.42	0.24	0.35	0.35
MEN	0.63	0.36	0.43	0.49
SimLex-999	0.25	0.22	0.25	0.30*
ML10 - AN	0.50	0.39	0.39	0.52
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- Results substantially improved (especially for the composition task)
- Sparsity has a large impact, but distributional inference can successfully address it
- Even with more data, distributional inference is helpful (see Kober 2017)

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 - Could compose all high-frequency n-1 grams and add them to the space to build better representations for n grams, but that has severe scalability issues.

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- Proposed distributional inference (and subsequently generalised to offset inference) to address the sparsity issue
- Highlighted relation between distributional composition and distributional inference in APTs
- Performance especially on phrasal composition tasks substantially improved

Thats it, I'm done!

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Q & (maybe) A

tkober@inf.ed.ac.uk

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