Word Meaning – Synonyms and Taxonomy?

What is the meaning of meaning?

- dictionary definitions
- synonyms and antonyms
- taxonomy
  - penguin is-a bird is-a mammal is-a vertebrate

Outline

- statistical language processing
- n-gram models
- co-occurrence matrix
- word representations
- word2vec
- word relationships
- neural machine translation
- combining images and language

Statistical Language Processing

Synonyms for “elegant”

- stylish, graceful, tasteful, discerning, refined, sophisticated,
  - dignified, cultivated, distinguished, classic, smart, fashionable,
  - modish, decorous, beautiful, artistic, aesthetic, lovely; charming,
  - polished, suave, urbane, cultured, dashing, debonair; luxurious,
  - sumptuous, opulent, grand, plush, high-class, exquisite

Synonyms, antonyms and taxonomy require human effort, may be incomplete and require discrete choices. Nuances are lost. Words like “king”, “queen” can be similar in some attributes but opposite in others.

Could we instead extract some statistical properties automatically, without human involvement?
There was a Crooked Man

There was a crooked man, who walked a crooked mile And found a crooked sixpence upon a crooked stile. He bought a crooked cat, who caught a crooked mouse And they all lived together in a little crooked house.

Counting Frequencies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>word</th>
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- Some words occur frequently in all (or most) documents.
- Some words occur frequently in a particular document, but not generally.
- This information can be useful for document classification.

Document Classification

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>word</th>
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- Each column of the matrix becomes a vector representing the corresponding document.
- Words like “cat”, “mouse”, “house” tend to occur in children’s books or rhymes.
- Other groups of words may be characteristic of legal documents, political news, sporting results, etc.
- Words occurring many times in one document may skew the vector – might be better to just have a “1” or “0” indicating whether the word occurs at all.
by normalizing each row (to sum to 1) we can estimate the probability $\text{prob}(w_j|w_i)$ of word $w_j$ occurring after $w_i$

need to aggregate over a large corpus, so that unusual words like “crooked” will not dominate

the model captures some common combinations like “there was”, “man who”, “and found”, “he bought”, “who caught”, “and they”, “they all”, “lived together”, etc.

this unigram model can be generalized to a bi-gram, tri-gram, \ldots, $n$-gram model by considering the $n$ preceding words

if the vocabulary is large, we need some tricks to avoid exponential use of memory

“Rashly – Good night is very liberal – it is easily said there is – gyved to a sore distraction in wrath and with my king may choose but none of shapes and editing by this, and shows a sea And what this is miching malhecho; And gins to me a pass, Transports his wit, Hamlet, my arms against the mind impatient, by the conditions that would fain know; which, the wicked deed to get from a deed to your tutor.”
Co-occurrence Matrix

- sometimes, we don’t necessarily predict the next word, but simply a “nearby word” (e.g. a word occurring within an \( n \)-word window centered on that word)
- we can build a matrix in which each row represents a word, and each column a nearby word
- each row of this matrix could be considered as a vector representation for the corresponding word, but the number of dimensions is equal to the size of the vocabulary, which could be very large (\( \sim 10^5 \))
  - is there a way to reduce the dimensionality while still preserving the relationships between words?

Co-occurrence Matrix (2-word window)

- by aggregating over many documents, pairs (or groups) of words emerge which tend to occur near each other (but not necessarily consecutively)
  - “cat”, “caught”, “mouse”
  - “walked”, “mile”
  - “little”, “house”
- common words tend to dominate the matrix
  - could we sample common words less often, in order to reveal the relationships of less common words?
Word Embeddings

“Words that are used an occur in the same contexts tend to purport similar meanings.”

Z. Harris (1954)

“You shall know a word by the company it keeps.”

J.R. Firth (1957)

Aim of Word Embeddings:

Find a vector representation of each word, such that words with nearby representations are likely to occur in similar contexts.

History of Word Embeddings

- Structuralist Linguistics (Firth, 1957)
- Recurrent Networks (Rumelhart, Hinton & Williams, 1986)
- Latent Semantic Analysis (Deerwester et al., 1990)
- Hyperspace Analogue to Language (Lund, Burgess & Atchley, 1995)
- Neural Probabilistic Language Models (Bengio, 2000)
- NLP (almost) from Scratch (Collobert et al., 2008)
- word2vec (Mikolov et al., 2013)
- GloVe (Pennington, Socher & Manning, 2014)

Singular Value Decomposition

Co-occurrence matrix $X$ can be decomposed as $X = U S V^T$ where $U$, $V$ are unitary (all columns have unit length) and $S$ is diagonal.

Columns 1 to $n$ of row $k$ of $U$ then provide an $n$-dimensional vector representing the $k^{th}$ word in the vocabulary.

SVD is computationally expensive, proportional to $L \times M^2$ if $L \geq M$. Can we do something similar with less computation, and incrementally?
word2vec 1-Word Context Model

The $k$th row $v_k$ of $W$ is a representation of word $k$. The $j$th column $v'_j$ of $W'$ is an (alternative) representation of word $j$. If the (1-hot) input is $k$, the linear sum at each output will be $u_j = v'^T_j v_k$

Cost Function

Softmax can be used to turn these linear sums $u_j$ into a probability distribution estimating the probability of word $j$ occurring in the context of word $k$

$$
prob(j|k) = \frac{\exp(u_j)}{\sum_{j'=1}^{V} \exp(u_{j'})} = \frac{\exp(v'^T_j v_k)}{\sum_{j'=1}^{V} \exp(v'^T_{j'} v_k)}
$$

We can treat the text is a sequence of numbers $w_1, w_2, \ldots, w_T$ where $w_i = j$ means that the $i$th word in the text is the $j$th word in the vocabulary. We then seek to maximize the log probability

$$
\frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^{T} \sum_{-c \leq r \leq c, r \neq 0} \log \text{prob}(w_{t+r}|w_t)
$$

where $c$ is the size of training context (which may depend on $w_t$)

word2vec Issues

- word2vec is a linear model in the sense that there is no activation function at the hidden nodes
- this 1-word prediction model can be extended to multi-word prediction in two different ways:
  - Continuous Bag of Words
  - Skip-Gram
- need a computationally efficient alternative to Softmax (Why?)
  - Hierarchical Softmax
  - Negative Sampling
- need to sample frequent words less often

word2vec Weight Updates

If we assume the full hierarchical softmax, and the correct output is $j^*$, then the cost function is

$$
E = -u_{j^*} + \log \sum_{j'=1}^{V} \exp(u_{j'})
$$

the output differentials are

$$
e_j = \frac{\partial E}{\partial u_j} = -\delta_{jj^*} + \frac{\partial}{\partial u_j} \log \sum_{j'=1}^{V} \exp(u_{j'})
$$

where

$$
\delta_{jj^*} = \begin{cases} 
1, & \text{if } j = j^*, \\
0, & \text{otherwise.}
\end{cases}
$$
**word2vec Weight Updates**

hidden-to-output differentials
\[
\frac{\partial E}{\partial w_{ij}} = \frac{\partial E}{\partial u_j} \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial w_{ij}} = e_j h_i
\]

hidden unit differentials
\[
\frac{\partial E}{\partial h_i} = \sum_{j=1}^{V} \frac{\partial E}{\partial u_j} = \sum_{j=1}^{V} e_j w_{ij}
\]

input-to-hidden differentials
\[
\frac{\partial E}{\partial w_{ki}} = \frac{\partial E}{\partial h_i} \frac{\partial h_i}{\partial w_{ki}} = \sum_{j=1}^{V} e_j w_{ij} x_k
\]

**Continuous Bag Of Words**

- If several context words are each used independently to predict the center word, the hidden activation becomes a sum (or average) over all the context words
- Note the difference between this and NetTalk – in word2vec (CBOW) all context words share the same input-to-hidden weights

**word2vec Skip-Gram Model**

- try to predict the context words, given the center word
- this skip-gram model is similar to CBOW, except that in this case a single input word is used to predict multiple context words
- all context words share the same hidden-to-output weights

**Hierarchical Softmax**

- target words are organized in a Huffman-coded Binary Tree
- each output of the network corresponds to one branch point in the tree
- only those nodes that are visited along the path to the target word are evaluated (which is \( \log_2(V) \) nodes on average)
Hierarchical Softmax

The idea of negative sampling is that we train the network to increase its estimation of the target word $j^*$ and reduce its estimate not of all the words in the vocabulary but just a subset of them $W_{neg}$, drawn from an appropriate distribution.

$$E = -\log \sigma(v'_{j^*}^T h) - \sum_{j \in W_{neg}} \log \sigma(-v_j^T h)$$

This is a simplified version of Noise Constrastive Estimation (NCE). It is not guaranteed to produce a well-defined probability distribution, but in practice it does produce high-quality word embeddings.

Negative Sampling

The number of samples is 5-20 for small datasets, 2-5 for large datasets.

Empirically, a good choice of the distribution from which to draw the negative samples is $P(w) = U(w)^{3/4}/Z$ where $U(w)$ is the unigram distribution determined by the previous word, and $Z$ is a normalizing constant.

Subsampling of Frequent Words

In order to diminish the influence of more frequent words, each word in the corpus is discarded with probability

$$P(w_i) = 1 - \sqrt{\frac{t}{f(w_i)}}$$

where $f(w_i)$ is the frequency of word $w_i$ and $t \sim 10^{-5}$ is an empirically determined threshold.
**Linguistic Regularities**

King + Woman - Man \(\simeq\) Queen

More generally,

A is to B as C is to ??

\[
d = \arg\max_x \left( v_c + v_b - v_a \right)^T v_x \frac{||v_c + v_b - v_a||}{||v_c + v_b - v_a||}
\]
Multi-Modal Skip-Gram

The skip-gram model can be augmented using visual features from images labeled with words from the corpus. We first extract mean activations $u_j$ for each word from the highest (fully connected) layers of a CNN model like AlexNet. The objective function then becomes

$$ E = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^{T} (E_{\text{ling}} + E_{\text{image}}), \text{ where } E_{\text{ling}} = \sum_{-c \leq r \leq c, r \neq 0} \log \text{prob}(w_{t+r}|w_t) $$

and

$$ E_{\text{image}} = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } w_t \text{ does not occur in ImageNet}, \\ -\sum_{j \in W_{\text{neg}}} \max(0, \gamma - \cos(u_{w_t}, v_j) + \cos(u_{w_t}, v_j)), & \text{otherwise}. \end{cases} $$

This encourages things that look similar to have closer representations.

Attention Mechanism

Attention weight $a_j = \frac{(1)}{\sum_j a_j}$.
**Google Neural Machine Translation**

![Diagram of Google Neural Machine Translation]

**Captioning, with Attention**

![Diagram of Captioning, with Attention]

**References**

