NS4NLP: Neuro-Symbolic methods for Natural Language Processing

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Introduction



Neuro (and/vs.) Symbolic Approaches

- The Neuro-Symbolic distinction is often characterized as
 - System 1: thinking fast, typically associated with learned neural models
 - System 2: thinking slow, typically associated with symbolic reasoning

Not our main focus today.

- Many dimensions to be considered:
 - What is the "right" representation?
 - Learning vs. Reasoning
 - Explainability
 - Modularity

• A fascinating, albeit never-ending, debate in Al..





Neuro-Symbolic Approaches for NLP

• Ignoring the last 8-10 years, NLP is symbolic.

- Not surprising, words are symbols!
- Their combination results in symbolic linguistic structures

• The last 8-10 years ignored that NLP was symbolic

- Not surprising, it just works so well!
- **On-going debate**: *do symbolic structures still matter? Does inference?*
 - At what level of granularity? How should it be used?
 - N-S work in NLP focuses on NLI, QA, and grounded language applications
- This tutorial: Neuro-Symbolic methods for opinion analysis
 - **New domain** for N-S: what are the relevant symbols?
 - Interaction using N-S methods: record human insights, abstracting over the text



This Tutorial in one Slide



Real world context

Linguistic and realworld inferences

- What are the inferences needed?
- What symbols (entities, properties, relations) are they defined over?



.. and now this tutorial in a few more slides!



Symbolic vs. Distributed Representations

Symbolic Representation



Game Play Megan_Rapinoe Ian_McKellen

<u>Distributed Representation</u>



PURDUE

Megan_Rapinoe Ian_McKellen

Play Game

6



- Symbolic Language Models can capture context, but at a high cost
 - Assume a 10-gram, using a vocabulary of 50K words

- Clearly, overly simplistic analysis ignoring many language modeling lessons
 - But on the other hand, GPT-3 suddenly seems very economical..

00's - early '10's NLP:

Instead of relying on words directly, we can exploit linguistic structure and devise better representations!







Symbolic Representation of Meaning



00's – early '10's NLP: Instead of relying on words directly, we can exploit linguistic structure and devise better representations!

PURDUE

Representing Context and Structure

This phone is sick!

This person is sick!

On the **Neural side**, <u>Contextualized Word Embedding</u> methods (Sesame Street) are very good at disambiguating word usage.

- Words are represented as dense low-dimensional vectors
- Words-in-context are represented as a composition of neighboring words (up to a fixed window)
- Both initial vectors and composition function trained over massive amounts of data, by predicting their context
- Representation can then be specialized for specific tasks



Representing Context and Structure

Known as *contextualized language models*



Devlin et-al. "BERT: Pre-training of Deep Bidirectional Transformers for Language Understanding" 2019



What does BERT learn?



Linguistic structure emerges without direct supervision



Emergent linguistic structure in artificial neural networks trained by self-supervision. PNAS Manning et-al, 2020

Using BERT for Reasoning Tasks

• BERT-based near-human performance on Winograd Schema

			Twin sentences	Options (answer)
	(1)	a	The trophy doesn't fit into the brown suitcase because it's too large.	trophy / suitcase
World Knowledge and	V (1)	b	The trophy doesn't fit into the brown suitcase because it's too small.	trophy / suitcase
	(2)	a	Ann asked Mary what time the library closes, because she had forgotten.	Ann / Mary
Commonsense inferences	V (2)	b	Ann asked Mary what time the library closes, but she had forgotten.	Ann / Mary
	¥ (3)	a	The tree fell down and crashed through the roof of my house. Now, I have to get it <u>removed</u> .	tree / roof
reflected in coref decisions	r (3)	b	The tree fell down and crashed through the roof of my house. Now, I have to get it repaired.	tree / roof
¥ (4)	¥ (4)	4) a b	The lions ate the zebras because they are predators.	lions / zebras
	r (4)		The lions ate the zebras because they are <i>meaty</i> .	lions / zebras

WINOGRANDE: An Adversarial Winograd Schema Challenge at Scale. Sakaguchi et-al, AAAI'20

Can "thinking-slow" tasks be accomplished with "thinking-fast" systems?

Not a panacea (McCoy et al ACL'19, others), often relies on simple heuristics when learning complex decisions



Challenges and Opportunities

Purely neural models face challenges

- Energy efficiency
- Data efficiency
- Explainability and Human Interaction
- Domain Transfer
- Reasoning beyond surface level patterns

• Neuro-Symbolic methods: Best of both worlds!

Neural methods can train expressive models using massive datasets to identify patterns in raw data

Symbolic methods can map neural representations to symbols and reason over higher level patterns









Learning from Static Data vs. Interaction

- Machine learning, an *alternative* view: it is all about *communicating knowledge* from humans to machines
- Currently very *inefficient* : communication using labeled examples
- Very(!) successful.. But
 - Costly annotation, especially in complex domains
 - End-2-end approach is monolithic and hard to reuse
 - Can be very sensitive to changes in the input (concept drift)



Learning from Static Data vs. Interaction

"I like my coffee with no sugar

and just a bit of milk "

• Learning from interaction

- Natural supervision!
- Often, easy & cheap
- Broadly applicable:
 - Clickthrough data
 - Behavioral data
 - Expected behavior/answers
 - User emotional tone

MAKE(COFFEE,SUGAR=NO,MILK=LITTLE) My prelim slides from 2011 So.. not a new idea..

- Very(!) successful.. But
 - Still, not a great account for knowledge communication



Arggg

Great!

Learning from Interaction

My teacher said that lightning is dangerous. Knives are also dangerous, they are sharp. <u>Lightning is sharp too!</u>

- The bandwidth of interaction can be much greater!
- Humans are great "reasoning machines"
 - Learn by matching new data to previously acquired concepts
- We can characterize the learning problem using intermediate concepts which can be shared across many learning problems
- Learning as a form of **knowledge communication**
 - Intermediate concepts can be viewed as a shared vocabulary supporting interaction between machine learner and human teacher
 - Human teacher can "debug" the learner's internal representation





Learning from Interaction

• Working definition: communicate human's rationale about the task, via intermediate judgements and explanations, sub-goals or steps.

Learning from Explanations



Interaction over the symbolic representation

- Communicate knowledge by capturing dependencies between concepts.
- Debug concept by interaction

<u>Open Problems</u>

- Where do relevant concepts come from?
- How to ground concepts in raw data?
- How can the symbolic representation be ''**compiled**'' into a classifier?

Advice (post-training)



Improving natural language interaction with robots using advice. Mehta and Goldwasser NAACL'19

Tackling Fake News Detection by Interactively Learning Representations using Graph Neural Networks. Mehta Goldwasser. InterNLP '21

Understanding Opinions and Political Discourse

- Natural fit for N-S and interactive learning:
 - Text + Context: lots of text coupled with behavior
 - Very dynamic: a moving target for supervised learning approaches
 - Explanations rely on complex concepts:
 - Ideology, interests, arguments, many more!

"if you talk about healthcare as a human right then..."

"...probably voted in favor of Obamacare"

Tweet(x) author(x,y) HasFrame(x,fairness) HasTopic(x,healthcare) \rightarrow VotedFor(y,Obamacare)



Beyond Linguistic Context!

Understanding the real-world context of text can help disambiguate it!

E.g., transformers are very good at disambiguating word usage, **but**...



Explanations can also consider the social context of the text!

"if the author is a Trump supporter, then.."

"... article likely to oppose impeachment"

"if the author follows OAN, then.."

"... author likely to support Trump"



We also have other reasons for looking at this domain



NLP meets the #world

Social media is the primary space for public discourse

Those at the extremes tweet about politics the most

In a sample of Twitter users,* average share of tweeted or retweeted words that were political, broken down by users' self-reported ideology

COMMON POLITICAL WORDS O POLITICIAN NAMES O MEDIA/PUNDIT NAMES

Share of words in sample tweets 0.00% 0.25 0.75 Verv 0 conservative 0 Conservative Moderate conservative Moderate Moderate liberal Liberal Very liberal *4.8 million tweets from a sample of 3,983 Twitter users. FiveThirtyEight SOURCES: TWITTER/QUALTRICS

FiveThirtyEight

Politics Sports Science Podcasts Video
NOV. 1, 2017, AT 10:13 AH
Political Twitter Is No Place For
Moderates

By Dan Hopkins

Americans Who Mainly Get Their News on Social Media Are Less Engaged, Less Knowledgeable

Those who rely on social media for news are less likely to get the facts right about the coronavirus and politics and more likely to hear some unproven claims

BY AMY MITCHELL, MARK JURKOWITZ, J. BAXTER OLIPHANT AND ELISA SHEARER



NLP meets the #world

Social media users are continuously exposed to extreme opinions and low-quality information

- NLP can help provide context for understanding opinions and alternative perspectives on the issues
- It can help analyze political messaging at scale and quantify its effectiveness
- It can help combat "information echo-chambers" and ensure all perspective are covered
- It can help identify extremism and harmful content on social media

Underlying issue – explaining information!



Tutorial Structure and Goals

Goals: (1) social/political discourse analysis is a great opportunity for NS researchers. (2) Leverage human insights. (3) Use DRail. Shameless promotion warning

• Part 1: Introduce NS 4 NLP

• Challenges and opportunities for analyzing opinions and political discourse

Part 2: Technical Overview

- Statistical Relational Learning, Neuro-Symbolic frameworks
- NLP Applications using Neuro-Symbolic methods



F Break

- Part 3: Neuro-Symbolic analysis for discourse
 - Parsing the opinions landscape using DRaiL
- Part 4: Symbolic explanations for opinions and behaviors
 - Psychological states, Framing theory, Moral Foundation theory
- Part 5: DRaiL Demo
 - Human interaction supporting automated opinion analysis



Technical Overview



Statistical Relational Learning

• Complex relational structure

- Capture real world domains by encoding objects and relations between them
- Express generic facts about these objects and relations
- Uncertainty
 - Move away from "all-or-nothing" logic and model the uncertainty

Combine the expressivity of logic with statistical methods

- Many approaches and frameworks
 - Extend logic to handle probabilities
 - Extend statistical models to capture relational structures



An Example: Markov Logic Networks

- Key idea: add weights to first-order formulae
 - Expresses the strength of the formula
- MLN is a set of pairs <Formula_i, weight_i>
- Describes an undirected graphical model
- Ground it in data and use it for inference





An Example: Markov Logic Networks

- We can learn MLNs from data
- Parameter learning
 - Assume the formulae are given, but not the weights
 - Max-margin, EM
- Structure learning
 - Try to learn both the formulae and the weights
 - Inductive Logic Programming methods
- Standard algorithms for inference in graphical models
 - Gibbs Sampling, Belief Propagation



Another Example: Probabilistic Soft Logic

- Same key idea, different formalism
 - Same: weighted logical formulae
 - *Different*: restricted to horn-clauses
- Atoms have **continuous** truth values in the [0,1] interval
- Inference finds values for atoms that best satisfy rules given evidence
- Most probable explanation is a linear-programming problem
 - Making inference efficient!



Statistical Relational Learning for NLP

• How to model high-level language problems in a framework like PSL?

1. Enumerating relevant keywords

(Johnson et al., 2017)



Unigram(T, U) -> HasLabel(T, L) Unigram(T, U) & Bigram(T, B) -> HasLabel(T, L)

```
Retweets(T1,T2) & HasLabel(T1,L) -> HasLabel(T2, L)
```

2. Using local classifiers as priors (Sridhar et al., 2015)

```
localLabel(T, L) -> HasLabel(T, L)
localAgree(T1, T2) -> Agree(T1, T2)
```

```
Agree(T1,T2) & HasLabel(T1, L) => HasLabel(T2,L)
```



Sridhar, D. et al. "Joint Models of Disagreement and Stance in Online Debate", 2015 Johson, K. et al. "Leveraging Behavioral and Social Information for Weakly Supervised Collective Classification of Political Discourse"

Distributed Representations for Relational Data

- Common theme: Complex relational structure
- *Alternative approach*: represent data using symbolic structures (graphs) and use NNets to learn distributed representations for it





Distributed Reps: Node Embeddings

- Node embeddings (Perozzi et al., 2014; Tang et al., 2015; Grover and Leskovev, 2016)
 - Capture adjacency information
 - Similarity of two nodes \propto graph distance and neighborhood overlap
- Node embeddings with textual properties (Pan et al. 2016; Xiao et al., 2017; Tu et al. 2017)
 - Text provides initial representation, jointly learned with adjacency info.
- Multi-relational node embeddings (Bordes et al., 2013; Wang et al. 2014; Trouillon et al., 2016)
 - Embed both nodes and edge types



Distributed Reps: Graph Embeddings

- Neural-module networks (Andreas et al., 2016; Johnson et al., 2017)
 - Translate input into tree-structured functional program
 - Input-specific NNets out of **discrete collection** of **specialized modules**
- Tree-structured NNets (Socher et. al, 2011; Tai et al., 2015)
 - Recursive NNets over tree-structured inputs (more flexible than NMMs)
- General Graph NNets (Kipf and Welling, 2017; Hamilton et al., 2017; Velickovic et. al, 2017)
 - Contextualized representations of nodes by recursively aggregating neighbors
 - Both single and multi-relational



At the Intersection: Neural-Symbolic Frameworks

- Combine neural and symbolic representations in a unified way
- Approaches can be categorized as:
 - Lifted rules to specify compositional nets
 - Differentiable inference and rule induction from data
 - Deep representations + symbolic reasoning



Lifted Rules for Compositional Nets

- **ReINNs** map observed ground atoms, facts, and rules to neurons in a network
- Define composition functions over them < True, w₀ > < True, WA > < Likes(u, m) * Action(m), w < Likes(u, m) * Drama(m)< Teacher(u)

A ReINN model to predict the gender of users in a movie rating system with a layer-wise architecture

- Other systems that take a similar approach:
 - Lifted Relational Neural Networks

Kazemi S.M. and Pool D. "ReINN: A Deep Neural Model for Relational Learning", 2017



Differentiable Inference

- *TensorLog* uses matrix multiplication for logic
- Entities are encoded as 1-hot vectors $v_i \in \{0,1\}^{|E|}$
- Relationships are encoded as adjacency matrices $M_R = \{0,1\}^{|E|x|E|}$
- Imitate logical rule inference for an entity X = x

 $R(Y,X) \Leftarrow P(Y,Z) \land Q(Z,X)$

$$M_P * M_Q * v_x = s$$

• This can be generalized to rules of any length – and inference for x is defined as:

$$\alpha \ query(Y,X) \Leftarrow R_n(Y,Z_n) \land \dots \land R_1(Z_1,X)$$

$$score(y|x) = v_y^T s$$

$$s = \sum_{l} \alpha_{l} \prod_{k \in \beta_{l}} M_{R_{k}}$$


Differentiable Inference

• The learning problem for a query is then, where {x,y} are entity pairs that satisfy the query and $\{\alpha_l, \beta_l\}$ are to be learned



- Other systems that look at differentiable inference:
 - Logic Tensor Networks, Deep Logic Models



Rule Induction from Data

- **Neural LP** builds on TensorLog to learn rules
- Rewrite equation to address the problem of enumerating rules

$$\sum_{l} \alpha_{l} \prod_{k \in \beta_{l}} M_{R_{k}} \qquad \qquad \prod_{t=1}^{T} \sum_{k}^{|R|} \alpha_{t}^{k} M_{R_{k}}$$

- Where T is the max length of rules and |R| the number of rels in the KB
- Assumption length = T is relaxed with recurrent formulation + attention
- Other systems that look at differentiable/end-to-end rule induction:
 - Neural Theorem Provers, DRUM, Neural Logic Machines

Yang F. et al, "Differentiable Learning of Logical Rules for Knowledge Base Reasoning", 2017 Rocktäschel T. and Riedel S. "End-to-End Differentiable Proving", 2017 Sadeghian A. et al, "DRUM: End-To-End Differentiable Rule Mining On Knowledge Graphs", 2019 Dong H. et al, "Neural Logic Machines", 2019



Neural Representations + Symbolic Reasoning

• **ProbLog** is a probabilistic logic programming framework

alarm :- earthquake. alarm :- burglary. calls(X) :- alarm, hears_alarm(X).

• **DeepProbLog** extends it to handle neural predicates

 $\boldsymbol{nn}(\boldsymbol{m_q}, \boldsymbol{\vec{t}}, \boldsymbol{\vec{u}}) :: q(\boldsymbol{\vec{t}}, \boldsymbol{u_1}); ...; q(\boldsymbol{\vec{t}}, \boldsymbol{u_n}) :- \boldsymbol{b_1}, ..., \boldsymbol{b_m}$

 $nn(m_{digit}, \mathcal{J}, [0, \ldots, 9]) :: digit(\mathcal{J}, 0); \ldots; digit(\mathcal{J}, 9).$



De Raedt L. et al, "ProbLog: A probabilistic Prolog and its application in link discovery", 2007 Manhaeve R. et al, "DeepProbLog: Neural Probabilistic Logic Programming", 2018

DeepProbLog: Inference

- Step 1: Ground logic program w.r.t the query
- Step 2: Rewrites program into a formula in propositional logic
- Step 3: Compile formula into a Sentenial Decision Diagram
- Step 4: Evaluate the SDD bottom-up to calculate success probability
 - When encountering a neural predicate -> Forward Pass!





(a) The ground program.

(b) SDD for query calls(mary).

Figure 1: Inference in ProbLog.



DeepProbLog: Learning

 Jointly learn parameters for probabilistic facts and NNets, loss based on query output



(b) The DeepProbLog program.

(c) SDD for query win.

Figure 2: Parameter learning in DeepProbLog.



Manhaeve R. et al, "DeepProbLog: Neural Probabilistic Logic Programming", 2018

Neural Representations + Symbolic Reasoning

- **Deep Probabilistic Logic** combines NNets with probabilistic logic for indirect supervision
- Label decisions modeled as latent variables
- Learning maximizes conditional likelihood of virtual evidence given input





Deep Probabilistic Logic

- We want to learn model P(y|x) using a NNet with softmax on top
- Y is unobserved and learned using distance supervision
- We have a set of weak labeling functions $K = (\Phi_1, ..., \Phi_V)$
- Dependencies between weak labeling functions and output
- Constraints on instances or model expectations can be introduced
- Learning is done using variational EM
- Approximate inference



Deep Probabilistic Logic



Y ₁	Y ₂	$P(K,Y X) \propto$	P(K, Y X)
Т	Т	$\exp(0.5 \times 2 + 3.2 \times 1 + 10 \times 1) = \exp(14.2)$	0.04
Τ	F	exp(0.5×2+3.2×2+10×1) = exp(17.4)	0.94
F	Т	$\exp(0.5 \times 1 + 3.2 \times 1 + 10 \times 1) = \exp(13.7)$	0.02
F	F	$\exp(0.5 \times 0 + 3.2 \times 2 + 10 \times 0) = \exp(6.4)$	0

By combining distant supervision, data programming, and joint inference, DPL derives more accurate indirect supervision by inferring that the drug-gene relation likely holds in X_1 but not in X_2 .



NS Strategies in NLP Scenarios

NLP scenarios that have been at the center of recent neural-symbolic research

- Multi-Hop Reasoning for Question Answering
- Natural Language Grounding and Visual QA
- Common-sense Reasoning



Multi-Hop Reasoning for QA





NNets + Logic Programming for Multi-Hop QA

- **Prolog** Backward-chaining algorithm and unification procedure
 - Horn-clauses $h(f_1^h, \dots, f_n^h) \leftarrow p1(f_1^1, \dots, f_m^1) \land \dots \land pB(f_1^B, \dots, f_l^B)$
 - Unification operator: Given two atoms, find variable substitutions
 - country(Greece, Socrates) country(X,Y) {X/Greece, Y/Socrates}
 - Backward chaining: Given goal atom g
 - Check whether g is explicitly stated in KB
 - If not, find rules unify g with heads of all available rules
 - If succeeds, resulting substitutions applied to body, and making each atom a subgoal
 - Recursively prove subgoals



NNets + Logic Programming for Multi-Hop QA

- NLProlog weak unification
 - Unify using differentiable similarity fun. with params $\boldsymbol{\theta}$
 - Comparing two atoms yields an aggregated **score**
 - Backward-chaining yields proofs with proof scores
 - Take max over all scores to get final proof success score
- Natural language statements as triples
 - (entity, entity, surface-pattern)
 - All elements are **embedded for computing similarities**
 - Resulting proof score is end-to-end differentiable w/r θ





NNets + Logic Programming for Multi-Hop QA

- Rules that describe behaviors two alternatives
 - Write down rules involving natural language patterns
 - Use rule templates to perform *Inductive Logic Programming*
 - User defines the structure of rules as: $p1(X,Z) \leftarrow p2(X,Y) \land p3(Y,Z)$
 - System instantiates multiple rules with randomly initialized embeddings for all p_i
 - Fine-tune using a downstream task
- Outcome
 - A system **competitive** with extractive neural QA approaches
 - Partially interpretable model, easier to debug



Grounding & Visual Question Answering



There is a **sphere** which is the **same size** as the **metal cube**, is it made of the **same material** as the **small** red sphere?

CLEVR dataset



NNets + Symbolic Reasoning for VQA

- NS-VQA disentangles vision and language understanding from reasoning
- NNets *parse scenes* from images, and *generate programs* for questions
- Symbolic program executor runs the program to obtain an answer
 - Direct mapping from vocabulary to python modules
- Learning:
 - Scene parsing standalone training
 - Small seed of labeled (question, program) examples, REINFORCE after execution



NNets + Symbolic Reasoning for VQA





NNets + Symbolic Reasoning for VQA

- NS-Concept Learner does not require visual supervision
- Visual perception module to construct object-based representation
 - NNet to generate object proposals
 - Embed attributes (color, shape) in the same embedding space





NS-Concept Learner

- Semantic parsing module translates question into program
 - Encoder-decoder generates latent program
- Quasi-symbolic executor infers answer
 - Differentiable w.r.t visual representations
- Learn from (question,answer) pairs.
 - Visual parameters fully differentiable, REINFORCE to learn semantic parser

B. Illustrative execution of NS-CL

Q: Does the <u>red</u> object <u>left</u> of the <u>green</u> <u>cube</u> have the same <u>shape</u> as the <u>purple matte</u> thing?



Step1: Visual Parsing



Step2, 3: Semantic Parsing and Program Execution





NS-Concept Learner

Curriculum learning approach splits learning in four stages

- Object-level visual concepts
- Relational questions
- Complex questions (perception modules) fixed)
- Joint fine-tuning

A. Curriculum concept learning



Q: What is the shape of the red object?

Lesson2: Relational questions.





Lesson3: More complex questions.

Q: Does the red object left of the green cube have the same shape as the

Deploy: complex scenes, complex questions

Q: Does the matte thing behind the big sphere have the same color as the cylinder left of the small matte cube?



Mao J. et al., "The Neuro-Symbolic Concept Learner: Interpreting Scenes, Words and Sentences from Natural Supervision", 2019

Commonsense Reasoning

 Understanding narratives requires reasoning about implicit word knowledge



They went to the club







They likely had drinks



NS Graph Construction for Commonsense QA

- Recent work augments DL models with CS KGs
- Dynamically generate knowledge that is *contextually relevant*
- COMET (Bosselut et al, 2019) is a Transformer model for CS KGs, and can generate CS inferences for entities





Bosselut A. et al., "COMET: Commonsense Transformer for Automatic Knowledge Graph Construction", 2020

NS Graph Construction for Commonsense QA



(a) COMET receives the context c and generates new commonsense inferences to construct a local graph of knowledge about the situation (Section 2).

- Generate intermediate nodes by concatenating the context node with relation types in a KG (1-hop)
- Markovian assumption can generalize this to L-hops, recursively
- COMET also generates a score for each step
- Resulting factor graph can be reasoned over



NS Graph Construction for Common-Sense QA



- Each path to an answer has a score
- Most likely answer can be found by marginalizing over all paths to the answers at layer L

(b) Our inference algorithms reason over the graph by aggregating commonsense paths to answer questions about the situation (Section 3).

Break!



NS 4 Discourse



Explanations: <u>Parsing</u> the Landscape of Opinions and Perspectives





Capturing Symbolic Dependencies





From Classification to Inference

- Model relevant context as latent variables which can be learned through human interactions
- **Replace classification with inference**: many decisions that should agree with each other, to support the decision





Declarative Modeling

- Often easier to think about structure in a declarative way
- Define entities and relations and probabilistic rules

Agree(doc1, doc2) \land Label(doc1, Pos) \rightarrow Label (doc2, Pos)

$$\arg \max_{\boldsymbol{y} \in \{0,1\}^n} P(\boldsymbol{y} | \boldsymbol{x}) \equiv \arg \max_{\boldsymbol{y} \in \{0,1\}^n} \sum_{\psi_{r,t} \in \Psi} w_r \ \psi_r(\boldsymbol{x}_r, \boldsymbol{y}_r)$$

s.t. $c(\boldsymbol{x}_c, \boldsymbol{y}_c) \leq 0; \ \forall c \in C$



Characterizing Social Context through Representations





Deep Relational Learning

- DRaiL, Declarative framework for Deep Relational Learning
 - Rules as context, using a graphical model
 - <u>Representation as context</u>, using neural architectures



Each rule:

- (1) Defines a factor template to capture dependencies between decisions contained in it
- (2) Defines a sub-graph for compositional representation learning



Deep Relational Learning



DRaiL compiles logic programs into a neural factor graph and learns its parameters given data



Deep Relational Learning



Learning: We use the structured hinge-loss over the neural representation

$$\begin{aligned} \max(0, \max_{\mathbf{y} \in Y} (\Delta(\mathbf{y}, \hat{\mathbf{y}}) + \sum_{\psi_r \in \Psi} \Phi_t(\boldsymbol{x_r}, \boldsymbol{y_r}; \theta^t)) - \\ \sum_{\psi_r \in \Psi} \Phi_t(\boldsymbol{x_r}, \boldsymbol{y_r}; \theta^t)) \end{aligned}$$



Understanding Debates Networks



"this is an interpretation that is politically motivated. The right to bear arms does not mean that it cannot be regulated"

<u>Some Stats:</u>							
Affiliation	# Debating	# Voting	# Initiated	# Authored			
	Users	Users	Debates	Posts			
Liberal	4,876	1,105	8,323	64,111			
Conservative	3,009	726	5,391	42,753			
Unknown	7,894	1,554	8,080	55,173			
Total	15,779	3,385	21,794	162,037			



Understanding Debates Networks

This results in several reasoning tasks:

- **Textual Inference:** does the post support the debate claim?
- Authors and Text: who is likely to write/support such claims?
- Authors and other Users: who would they vote for?
- <u>Clearly, there's structure to be exploited!</u>



"this is an interpretation that is politically motivated. The right to bear arms does not mean that it cannot be regulated"



Evaluating Modeling Choices





Distant Supervision Using Explanation Inference
Summary: DRaiL

• A general framework for combining symbolic and neural representations

- **Neural**: captures "implicit" interactions between entities in the embedding space.
- Symbolic: explicit interactions between entities, forced to provide a consistent view
- Neuro-Symbolic: consistency constraints are propagated to the embedding space
- Provides a convenient way to compile symbolic explanations into neural classifiers



Symbolic Explanations for Discourse Analysis

Capturing Symbolic Dependencies



Symbolic Explanations for ...?

- In "tightly" closed worlds, relevant symbolic vocabulary emerges naturally
 - Colors, shapes, spatial relations, etc.
- When looking to explain peoples' intent, motivations and opinions, this is not always so clear!
- We often need to look outside of NLP to reason about these concepts
 - Morality, ideology, psychological state, etc.

Open problems:

- What are the relevant concepts to look at?
- Can they be operationalized? Predicted reliably?
- Do they have enough "explanatory power" to be used for inference?

Modeling Mental States

- A lot of effort in modeling emotions, intent and motivation
 - **Personality traits** (McCrae and Costa 1997, Myers-Briggs), in **NLP** (Resnik'13, Neuman Tutorial EMNLP'15, Plank and Hovy'15, Pizzolli and Strapparava'19, Lynn et-al'20)
 - Agency and Power (Danescu-Niculescu-Mizil'12, Mohammad '18, Sap et-al '17, Jaidka et-al'18, Sap et-al'20)
 - Psychological state
 - (Rashkin et-al'18)



Obtaining Reliable Human Ratings of Valence, Arousal, and Dominance for 20,000 English Words. Mohammad, ACL'18

Modeling and Visualizing Locus of Control with Facebook Language. Jaidka et-al, ICWSM'18 SOCIAL BIAS FRAMES: Reasoning about Social and Power Implications of Language. Sap et-al '20

Gifts differing: Understanding personality type. Isabel Briggs Myers and Peter Myers. 2010.

Personality trait structure as a human universal. McCrae and Costa 1997

Echoes of power: Language effects and power differences in social interaction. Danescu-Niculescu-Mizil et-al '12

SOCIAL BIAS FRAMES: Reasoning about Social and Power Implications of Language. Sap et-al '20 Modeling Naive Psychology of Characters in Simple Commonsense Stories. Rashkin et-al ACL'18

Cindy really likes apples.

She wanted to try something new with them.

She decided to try to make baked apples for the first time.

She gathered everything she needed and began cooking.

It's now her favorite apple dish!

Desire Expression: try something new with them Motivation (Reiss): Curiosity Emotion (Plutchik): Joy, Anticipation

Desire Fulfilled! Motivation (Reiss): Independence Emotion (Plutchik): Joy

Break down the text into character-driven storylines, represented as a graph Modeling the characters' mental states helps in understanding the narrative flow



Entity Narrative Graph represents the text **Nodes:** events associated with characters' roles **Edges:** represents the narrative flow using **Next/Cnext edges ,(**event order) and **Discourse relations** (cause, contrast, temporal, etc.) - Train a relational NN to recover the graph edges



ates with an Entity-based Narrative Graph. Lee, Pacheco et-al NAACL'21



(a) ENG-CTX

(b) W-CTX-STORY

(c) W-CTX-SENT

Modeling Human Mental States with an Entity-based Narrative Graph. Lee, Pacheco et-al NAACL'21



Modeling Human Mental States with an Entity-based Narrative Graph. Lee, Pacheco et-al NAACL'21

Decoding Political Messaging



- Social media is the primary tool for political discourse
- Unlike traditional outlets, this is a conversation!
 - a way to test ideas and get feedback, actively build support
- Highly dynamic and diverse text
 - Ungrammatical, short, coded language
 - Constant adaptation to new issues and styles

Can we automatically decode this information?

Political Issue Stance and Framing



Inhofe Press Office 🤡

Follow

Six years later, health care costs have skyrocketed and millions have lost access to their doctors. **#RepealObamacare** *Stance:* Clearly, not a fan.

Framing: what are the right abstractions of the tweet, capturing the <u>arguments supporting the stance</u>?



Framing

- **Perspective through which information is presented** (Denis Druckman'07)
- Often *an intentional decision*, priming the discussion towards a stance
 - US presence in Afghanistan: **cost** or **commitment to democracy**?
 - Abortion: life of the unborn or women's rights?
- Where do framing dimensions come from?
 - Developed for a <u>specific issue</u> (Choi et-al'12), or <u>general policy frames</u> across multiple issues (Boydstun et-al'14, Card et-al'15, Johnson et-al'16'17, Field'18)
 - Emerging from data (Tsur et-al'15, Demszky et-al'19)

The Media Frames Corpus: Annotations of Frames Across Issues. Card et-al, ACL'15A Frame of Mind: Using Statistical Models for Detection of Framing and Agenda Setting Campaigns Tsur et-al ACL'15Framing Theory. Denis and Druckman'07 Annual Review of Political ScienceA Frame of Mind: Using Statistical Models for Detection of Framing and Agenda Setting Campaigns Tsur et-al ACL'15Hedge detection as a lens on framing in the GMO debates: A position paper. Choi'12Framing and Agenda-setting in Russian News: a Computational Analysis of Intricate Political Strategies Field et-al, EMNLP'18Leveraging behavioral and social information for weakly supervised collective classification of political discourse on Twitter Johnson et-al ACL'17

Moral Foundations in Tweets

America woke up to heartbreaking news from Las Vegas. We stand united in our shock, our condolences, & our prayers.

> Another horrific shooting. Another unspeakable horror. My thoughts are with everyone at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School after this terrible day.

.. Stance can be harder to determine..

Moral Foundations

Human morality organized around 5 foundations, emerging from evolutional, cultural and social origins (Haidt, 2007)

• Each foundation has a positive and negative aspect (praise/judgement)

1. <u>Care/ Harm:</u> care for others, generosity, compassion, sensitivity to suffering of others, prohibits actions that harm others

- **2.** <u>Fairness/ Cheating</u>: Fairness, justice, reciprocity, rights, autonomy, prohibits cheating
- 3. Loyalty/ Betrayal: Group affiliation and solidarity, patriotism, self-sacrifice
- 4. <u>Authority/ Subversion</u>: Fulfilling social roles, authority, hierarchy, tradition.

5.<u>Purity/ Degradation</u>: association with sacred and holy, disgust contamination, striving to live in an elevated way.

Context for Twitter Analysis

- Model factorizes according to different aspects: social, behavioral and linguistic heuristic indicators
- Used graphical model inference to combine these aspects (PSL)
- Weak Supervision Use EM to learn how to combine simple heuristic models



Modeling Social and Behavioral Information



indication of agreement

Modeling Social and Behavioral Information

Retweets(T1,T2) \land Frame(T1,F) \rightarrow Frame(T2,F) Follows(T1,T2) \land Frame(T1,F) \rightarrow Frame(T2,F)



Use twitter social activity (e.g., follows, retweet) as an indication of agreement

Results: *Framing*

Frame	Frama	RESULTS OF UNSUPERVISED PSL MODEL FRAME PREDICTIONS						
Number	Tame	MODEL 1	MODEL 2	MODEL 3	MODEL 4	MODEL 5	MODEL 6	MODEL 6
1	ECONOMIC	31.82	31.52	69.57	72.22	72.22	73.23	89.88
2	CAPACITY & RESOURCES	23.38	28.51	40.00	41.18	41.18	41.18	79.55
3	MORALITY	28.63	29.41	47.67	53.98	43.06	53.99	87.43
4	FAIRNESS	33.49	47.19	59.15	63.50	63.50	64.74	82.35
5	LEGALITY	44.58	46.93	58.02	60.64	60.63	64.54	82.16
6	CRIME	7.89	7.62	73.33	75.00	75.00	76.92	76.92
7	SECURITY	42.50	40.24	51.83	62.09	61.68	64.09	88.48
8	HEALTH	48.36	48.79	79.43	86.49	86.49	86.67	79.71
9	QUALITY OF LIFE	17.82	21.99	48.89	52.63	52.63	54.35	82.93
10	CULTURAL	15.38	15.67	51.22	52.63	52.63	55.56	85.71
11	PUBLIC SENTIMENT	15.22	15.72	50.79	53.97	41.03	54.69	29.41
12	POLITICAL	49.06	48.20	50.29	46.99	46.99	47.23	74.52
13	POLICY	39.88	39.39	37.02	42.77	42.77	43.79	65.06
14	EXTERNAL REGULATION	12.66	14.22	44.44	66.67	66.67	71.43	85.71
15	FACTUAL	24.64	19.21	70.95	70.37	70.41	78.95	82.85
16	(SELF) PROMOTION	40.11	46.41	48.16	50.96	50.96	52.89	91.76
17	PERSONAL	45.36	46.15	59.66	62.99	62.13	71.20	77.55
	WEIGHTED AVERAGE	37.14	38.79	53.13	56.49	55.54	58.66	77.79



No Label (full model)



Healthcare Framing Analysis



Frame 1: Economic Frame 4: Fairness & Equality Frame 8: Healthy & Safety Frame 9: Quality of Life Frame 15: Factual Frame 1: Economic Frame 8: Healthy & Safety Frame 9: Quality of Life

Our analysis also showed that aisle-crossing Republicans used similar frames as Democrats!

Question: when Republicans and Democrats talk about health case as an Economic issue, do they make the same point?

Weakly Supervised Nuanced Frame Extraction

• Generalized issue frames might not capture ideological lines

Adapted from Alternet (Left)	Adapted from Breitbart (Right)
Employees-many of whom are undocumented immigrants from Mexico, Ecuador and elsewhere-toil seven days a week for less than minimum wage, with no overtime pay.	Mass immigration has come at the expense of America's working and middle class, which suffered from poor job growth, stagnant wages, and increased public costs.

- Adapt general frames to topic-specific sub frames
 - Construct a **lexicon** of repeating talking points
 - Collapse similar talking points to sub-frames
 - **Contextualize** by embedding frames, subframes and text in a shared space
 - Evaluate by ability to explain ideological viewpoints

Weakly Supervised Nuanced Frame Extraction



Morality Frames

- Moral Foundation Theory was repeatedly used to explain behaviors.
 - Liberals emphasize Fairness, Conservatives emphasize Loyalty and Authority

• But.. Everybody CAREs ... but not about the same things!

[@SenThadCochran and I] $_{CARING}$ are working to protect [MS small businesses] $_{CARE-FOR}$ from more expensive [#Obamacare mandates] $_{HARMING}$.

[The ACA]_{CARING} was a life saver for the more than [130 million Americans]_{CARE-FOR} with a preexisting condition – including covid now. [Republicans]_{HARMING} want to take us back to coverage denials.

Morality Frames

• We define a morality frame structure to capture differences in the **targets** of moral sentiment

If the target of CARE is "illegal immigrants", author more likely to be a...

If the causer of HARM is "illegal immigrants", author more likely to be a...

MORAL FOUNDATIONS	MORAL ROLES		
CARE/HARM: Care for others, generosity, compassion, ability to feel pain of others, sensitivity to suffering of others, prohibiting actions that harm others.	 Target of care/harm Entity causing harm Entity providing care 		
FAIRNESS/CHEATING: Fairness, justice, reciprocity, reciprocal altruism, rights, autonomy, equality, proportionality, prohibiting cheating.	 Target of fairness/cheating Entity ensuring fairness Entity doing cheating 		
LOYALTY/BETRAYAL: Group affiliation and solidarity, virtues of patriotism, self- sacrifice for the group, prohibiting betrayal of one's group.	 Target of loyalty/betrayal Entity being loyal Entity doing betrayal 		
AUTHORITY/SUBVERSION: Fulfilling social roles, submitting to authority, respect for social hierarchy/traditions, leadership, prohibiting rebellion against authority.	 Justified authority Justified authority over Failing authority Failing authority over 		
PURITY/DEGRADATION: Associations with the sacred and holy, disgust, contamination, religious notions which guide how to live, prohibiting violating the sacred.	 Target of purity/degradation Entity preserving purity Entity causing degradation 		

Morality Frames

DRaiL Model

Basic Classifiers

 $r_1: \texttt{Tweet}(\texttt{t}) \Rightarrow \texttt{MF}(\texttt{t},\texttt{m})$ $r_2: \texttt{Tweet}(\texttt{t}) \land \texttt{Ent}(\texttt{t},\texttt{e}) \Rightarrow \texttt{Role}(\texttt{t},\texttt{e},\texttt{r})$

Party's messaging preferences

$$r_3: \texttt{Tweet}(\texttt{t}) \land \texttt{Ideo}(\texttt{t},\texttt{i}) \land \texttt{Topic}(\texttt{t},\texttt{k}) \Rightarrow \texttt{MF}(\texttt{t},\texttt{m})$$

 $r_4: \texttt{Tweet}(\texttt{t}) \land \texttt{Ideo}(\texttt{t},\texttt{i}) \land \texttt{Topic}(\texttt{t},\texttt{k}) \land \texttt{Ent}(\texttt{t},\texttt{e}) \Rightarrow \texttt{Role}(\texttt{t},\texttt{e},\texttt{r})$

Party's consistency preferences

$$c_3: \texttt{SameIdeo}(\texttt{t}_1,\texttt{t}_2) \land \texttt{SameTopic}(\texttt{t}_1,\texttt{t}_2) \land \texttt{Ent}(\texttt{t}_1,\texttt{e}) \land \texttt{Ent}(\texttt{t}_2,\texttt{e}) \\ \land \texttt{Role}(\texttt{t}_1,\texttt{e},\texttt{r}_1) \land \texttt{Role}(\texttt{t}_2,\texttt{e},\texttt{r}_2) \Rightarrow \texttt{SamePolarity}(\texttt{r}_1,\texttt{r}_2)$$

Choup	Model	MA	CRO	WEIGHTED	
GROUP	MODEL	ROLE	MF	Role	MF
Lexicon	MF Dictionary	-	30.37	-	37.32
Matching	PMI Lexicon	-	36.44	-	35.94
	MFD + PMI	-	39.78	-	42.12
Seq-Tagging	BiLSTM-CRF	35.18	-	45.91	~
	BiLSTM	39.75	58.61	45.61	59.90
End-to-end	BERT-base	49.32	59.99	57.37	62.17
Classifiers	BERT-tapt	54.73	66.44	62.18	68.29
	+ Ideo + Issue	54.81	66.13	62.83	68.34
	BERT-base	44.37	61.63	57.74	67.71
Multi-task	BERT-tapt	52.08	63.46	61.96	69.20
	+ Ideo + Issue	52.11	63.44	63.61	68.61
Relational	PSL	56.51	68.98	64.02	71.85
Learning	DRaiL Local	58.07	71.20	64.38	73.85
	DRaiL Global	59.23	72.34	64.98	74.39
Skyline	DRaiL Global (Fixed MF)	79.35	-	84.52	_

Morality Frames as Explanations

• On the topic of Abortion Rights

If the text describes X as Y then it reflects a Right/Left perspective

	Most Frequent Entities	Most Associated Moral Roles
	Woman	Target of fairness/cheating
In	Reproduction Right	Target of fairness/cheating
Left	Planned Parenthood	Target of loyalty/betrayal
	Reproductive Care	Target of fairness/cheating
	SCOTUS	Entity ensuring fairness
	Life	Target of purity/degradation
In	Planned Parenthood	Entity doing cheating
Right	Democrats	Failing authority
	Born Alive	Target of purity/degradation
-	Woman	Target of care/harm



Aggregated results from all Congressional Tweets

Break!

Demo



Analyzing Political Discourse

- Analyze tweets written by US congress members on the abortion issue
- Use morality frames (moral foundations, roles)
- ~1k tweets by democrats and republicans
- Polarizing issue in the US political discourse
- Opinions range from "pro-life above all", to "women's choices above all"
- We will look at the entities at the center of this debate
 - Women, babies, life, US government institutions, legislative bills



Morality Frames to Analyze The Abortion Debate

• Entities

Event -> One Global Instance

Tweet

Topic -> Abortion Ideology -> Left, Right Entity-Mention -> "The ACA" Entity-Group -> ACA Moral Foundation -> Fairness, Care, etc. Role -> target-care, provide-care, etc. Polarity -> positive, negative

• Relations

InInstance(Tweet, Event) HasEntity(Tweet, Entity) HasTopic(Tweet, Topic) HasIdeology(Tweet, Ideology) HasRole(Entity, Role) RoleHasMF(Role, MF) RoleHasPolarity(Role, Polarity)



Using DRaiL to Analyze the Abortion Debate

Base Classifiers:

- InInstance(T, Z) & HasEntity(T, E) => HasRole(T, E, R^RoleLabel?)
- InInstance(T, Z) => HasMf(T, M^MfLabel?)

Party Messaging Preferences:

- InInstance(T, Z) & HasIdeology(T, I) => HasMf(T, M^MfLabel?)
- InInstance(T, Z) & HasEntity(T, E) & HasIdeology(T, I) => HasRole(T, E, R^RoleLabel?)

Joint Inference:

• InInstance(T, Z) & HasEntity(T, E) & RoleHasMf(R, M) & HasRole(T, E, R)^? => HasMf(T, M)^?



Live Demo

