

Word embeddings analogies and paraphrases: proofs and open problems



Mircea Petrache – UC Chile
ReLeLa, 11 January 2023

Plan of talk:

1. Structure(s) of language
2. Word2vec, GloVe background (we focus on W2V)
3. Explanations about linear analogies in Word2Vec
4. Debiasing or “lipstick on pigs”?
5. (Hierarchies – is there a hyperbolic structure?)
 - Questions/discussions/ideas

Some principles (later translated to math)

- Firth (1957): the meaning of a word is defined by “*the company it keeps*”.
- Languages have structure. Idea 1: **Zipf’s law**.

$$f(r) \propto \frac{1}{r^\alpha}$$

[Nice 2014 survey and experiments to test conjectures, focusing on language: [link](#)]

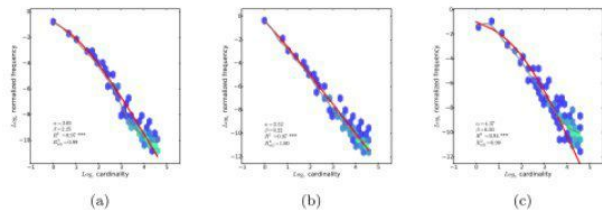


Figure 3: Power law frequencies for number words (“one”, “two”, “three”, etc.) in English (a), Russian (b) and Italian (c) using data from Google (Lin et al., 2012). Note that here the x -axis is ordered by cardinality, *not* frequency rank, although these two coincide. Additionally, decades (“ten”, “twenty”, “thirty”, etc.) were removed from this analysis due to unusually high frequency from their approximate usage. Here and in all plots the red line is the fit of (2) and the gray line is a LOESS.

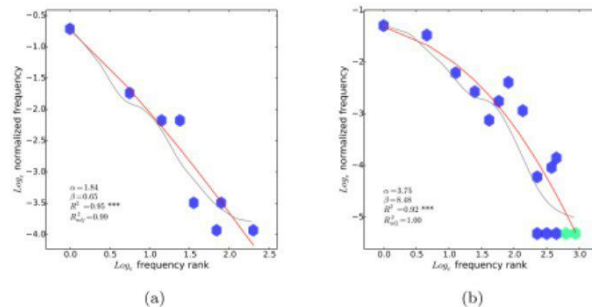
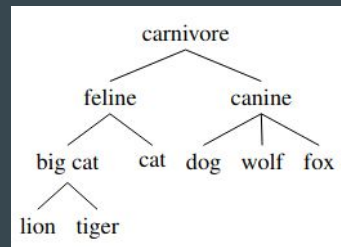
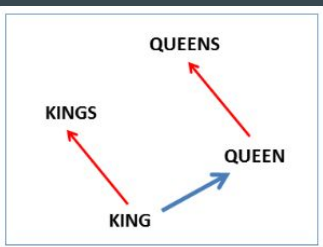
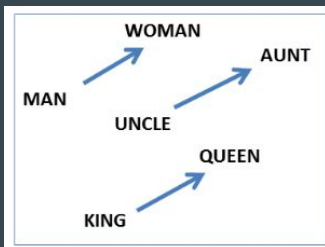


Figure 4: Distributions for taboo words for (a) sex (gerunds) and (b) feces.

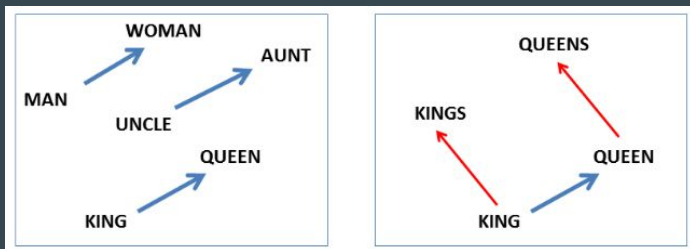
Some principles (later translated to math)

- Firth (1957): the meaning of a word is defined by “*the company it keeps*”.
- Languages have structure: *Zipf's law*. $f(r) \propto \frac{1}{r^\alpha}$
- Geometry:
 - Spatial-like structure (analogies and more)
 - Hierarchical structure (entailment)



Text vectorization: linear algebra gives analogies

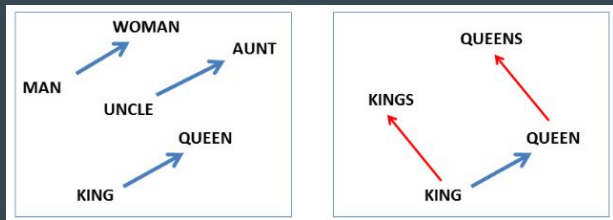
- Word2Vec and others – learn context-dependent probab.
- We get a dictionary-sized vector for each word.
- The result works remarkably like euclidean space !!



1. How far does this go?
2. What is the principle/theory behind it?

Mikolov et al. – Word2vec and Skip-gram with neg. sampling (SGNG)

Word2Vec (2013) [link](#)



Efficient Estimation of Word Representations in Vector Space

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Linguistic similarity
(2013) [link](#)

Mikolov et al. – Word2vec and Skip-gram with neg. sampling (SGNG)

Skip-Gram assumes that the conditional probability of each possible set of words in a window around a context word c factorizes as the product of the respective conditional probabilities:

$$p(w_{-\Delta}, \dots, w_{\Delta} | c) = \prod_{\substack{\delta=-\Delta \\ \delta \neq 0}}^{\Delta} p(w_{\delta} | c).$$

Average log probability

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

$$J = - \sum_{\substack{i \in \text{corpus} \\ j \in \text{context}(i)}} \log Q_{ij} \quad Q_{ij} = \frac{\exp(w_i^T \tilde{w}_j)}{\sum_{k=1}^V \exp(w_i^T \tilde{w}_k)}$$

(Word-context prob. Q_{ij} → softmax of vectors)

SGNG: replace $\log(Q_{ij})$ by adding k more **negative samples** from (empirical) noise:

$$\log \sigma(v'_{w_O} \top v_{w_I}) + \sum_{i=1}^k \mathbb{E}_{w_i \sim P_n(w)} \left[\log \sigma(-v'_{w_i} \top v_{w_I}) \right]$$

[Paper: Distributed representations (2013) [link](#)]

GloVe

GloVe: Global Vectors for Word Representation

Jeffrey Pennington, Richard Socher, Christopher D. Manning

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GloVe (2014) [link](#): “local context windows → global co-occurrence counts”

$$P_{ij} = P(j|i) = \frac{\#\{w_j \text{ in context } w_i\}}{\#\{w_i\}} = \frac{X_{ij}}{X_i}$$

$$F(w_i, w_j, \tilde{w}_k) = \frac{P_{ik}}{P_{jk}}$$

General form to start with..

$$F((w_i - w_j)^T \tilde{w}_k) = \frac{P_{ik}}{P_{jk}}$$

Imposing linearity..

$$F((w_i - w_j)^T \tilde{w}_k) = \frac{F(w_i^T \tilde{w}_k)}{F(w_j^T \tilde{w}_k)}$$

Imposing invariance to relabeling..

All these allow final choice
 $F = \exp$, and we can set

$$w_i^T \tilde{w}_k = \log(P_{ik}) = \log(X_{ik}) - \log(X_i)$$

$$w_i^T \tilde{w}_k + b_i + \tilde{b}_k = \log(X_{ik})$$

$$J = \sum_{i,j=1}^V f(X_{ij}) (w_i^T \tilde{w}_j + b_i + \tilde{b}_j - \log X_{ij})^2$$

History: GloVe

GloVe: Global Vectors for Word Representation

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General form to start with..

All these allow final choice
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$$w_i^T \tilde{w}_k = \log(P_{ik}) = \log(X_{ik}) - \log(X_i)$$

$$w_i^T \tilde{w}_k + b_i + \tilde{b}_k = \log(X_{ik})$$

$$F((w_i - w_j)^T \tilde{w}_k)$$

Skip-gram obj. f. in this notation:

$$F((w_i - w_j)^T \tilde{w}_k) J = - \sum_{i=1}^V X_i \sum_{j=1}^V P_{ij} \log Q_{ij} = \sum_{i=1}^V X_i H(P_i, Q_i)$$

$$J = \sum_{i,j=1}^V f(X_{ij}) (w_i^T \tilde{w}_j + b_i + \tilde{b}_j - \log X_{ij})^2$$

Neural Word Embedding as Implicit Matrix Factorization

History: Implicit factorization (2014) [link](#)

SGNG loss in another notation:

$$\ell = \sum_{w \in V_W} \sum_{c \in V_C} \#(w, c) (\log \sigma(\vec{w} \cdot \vec{c}) + k \cdot \mathbb{E}_{c_N \sim P_D} [\log \sigma(-\vec{w} \cdot \vec{c}_N)])$$

Now for each (w,c) we optimize (try opt. in $x = \vec{w} \cdot \vec{c}$)

$$\ell(w, c) = \#(w, c) \log \sigma(\vec{w} \cdot \vec{c}) + k \cdot \#(w) \cdot \frac{\#(c)}{|D|} \log \sigma(-\vec{w} \cdot \vec{c})$$

Obtain this!
$$\vec{w} \cdot \vec{c} = \log \left(\frac{\#(w, c) \cdot |D|}{\#(w) \cdot \#(c)} \cdot \frac{1}{k} \right) = \log \left(\frac{\#(w, c) \cdot |D|}{\#(w) \cdot \#(c)} \right) - \log k$$

$$M_{ij}^{\text{SGNS}} = W_i \cdot C_j = \vec{w}_i \cdot \vec{c}_j = \text{PMI}(w_i, c_j) - \log k$$

Message: *Pointwise mutual information matrix* M is factorized by SGNG*

(* : shifted)

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Explaining analogy – Arora et al. 2016 ([link](#))

RAND-WALK: A latent variable model approach to word embeddings

Sanjeev Arora Yuanzhi Li Yingyu Liang Tengyu Ma Andrej Risteski *

PMI matrix is found to be closely approximated by a low rank matrix: there exist word vectors in say 300 dimensions, which is much smaller than the number of words in the dictionary, such that

$$\langle v_w, v_{w'} \rangle \approx \text{PMI}(w, w') \quad (1.1)$$

They obtain this with error bounds, assuming some modelling ansatz on the data, such as

$$\Pr[w \text{ emitted at time } t \mid c_t] \propto \exp(\langle c_t, v_w \rangle)$$

Explaining analogy – Gittens et al. 2017 ([link](#))

Skip-Gram – Zipf + Uniform = Vector Additivity

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A natural way of capturing the compositionality of words is to say that the *set* of context words c_1, \dots, c_m has the same meaning as the single word c if for every other word w ,

$$p(w|c_1, \dots, c_m) = p(w|c) .$$

Paraphrase for C : $\arg \min_{c \in V} D_{\text{KL}}(p(\cdot|C) | p(\cdot|c))$

A1. For every word c , there exists Z_c such that for every word w ,

$$p(w|c) = \frac{1}{Z_c} \exp(\mathbf{u}_c^T \mathbf{v}_w) . \quad (5)$$

A2. For every set of words $C = \{c_1, c_2, \dots, c_m\}$, there exists Z_C such that for every word w ,

$$p(w|C) = \frac{p(w)^{1-m}}{Z_C} \prod_{i=1}^m p(w|c_i) . \quad (6)$$

Theorem 1. In every word model that satisfies A1 and A2, for every set of words $C = \{c_1, \dots, c_m\}$, any paraphrase c of C satisfies

$$\sum_{w \in V} p(w|c) \mathbf{v}_w = \sum_{w \in V} p(w|C) \mathbf{v}_w . \quad (7)$$

Theorem 2. In every word model that satisfies A1, A2, and where $p(w) = 1/|V|$ for every $w \in V$, the paraphrase of $C = \{c_1, \dots, c_m\}$ is

$$\mathbf{u}_1 + \dots + \mathbf{u}_m .$$

Zipf law says this is false!

- “if we pre-manipulate words to make Zipf weaker, we’ll get better additivity”

Explaining analogy 2019 ([link](#))

They remove “shift” in the PMI factorization.

$$\mathbf{w}_i^\top \mathbf{c}_j = \text{PMI}(w_i, c_j) \quad \text{or} \quad \mathbf{W}^\top \mathbf{C} = \text{PMI}$$

A1. \mathbf{C} has full row rank.

A2. Letting \mathbf{M}_k denote the k^{th} column of factored matrix $\mathbf{M} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$, the projection $f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$, $f(\mathbf{M}_i) = \mathbf{w}_i$ is approximately homomorphic with respect to addition, i.e. $f(\mathbf{M}_i + \mathbf{M}_j) \approx f(\mathbf{M}_i) + f(\mathbf{M}_j)$.

A3. $p(\mathcal{W}) > 0$, $\forall \mathcal{W} \subseteq \mathcal{E}$, $|\mathcal{W}| < l$,

where (throughout) “ $|\mathcal{W}| < l$ ” means $|\mathcal{W}|$ sufficiently less than l .

Paraphrase error:

$$\rho_j^{\mathcal{W}, \mathcal{W}^*} = \log \frac{p(c_j | \mathcal{W}^*)}{p(c_j | \mathcal{W})}, c_j \in \mathcal{E}$$

Lemma 1. For any word $w_* \in \mathcal{E}$ and word set $\mathcal{W} \subseteq \mathcal{E}$, $|\mathcal{W}| < l$:

$$\text{PMI}_* = \sum_{w_i \in \mathcal{W}} \text{PMI}_i + \rho^{\mathcal{W}, w_*} + \sigma^{\mathcal{W}} - \tau^{\mathcal{W}} \mathbf{1}, \quad (5)$$

where PMI_\bullet is the column of PMI corresponding to $w_\bullet \in \mathcal{E}$, $\mathbf{1} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ is a vector of 1s, and error terms $\sigma_j^{\mathcal{W}} = \log \frac{p(\mathcal{W} | c_j)}{\prod_i p(w_i | c_j)}$ and $\tau^{\mathcal{W}} = \log \frac{p(\mathcal{W})}{\prod_i p(w_i)}$.

Theorem 1 (Paraphrase). For any word $w_* \in \mathcal{E}$ and word set $\mathcal{W} \subseteq \mathcal{E}$, $|\mathcal{W}| < l$:

$$\mathbf{w}_* = \mathbf{w}_{\mathcal{W}} + \mathbf{C}^\dagger (\rho^{\mathcal{W}, w_*} + \sigma^{\mathcal{W}} - \tau^{\mathcal{W}} \mathbf{1}), \quad (6)$$

where $\mathbf{w}_{\mathcal{W}} = \sum_{w_i \in \mathcal{W}} \mathbf{w}_i$.

Proof. Multiply (5) by \mathbf{C}^\dagger . □

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{p}^i + \mathbf{p}^j &= \log \frac{p(\mathcal{E} | w_i)}{p(\mathcal{E})} + \log \frac{p(\mathcal{E} | w_j)}{p(\mathcal{E})} \\ &= \underbrace{\log \frac{p(\mathcal{E} | w_i, w_j)}{p(\mathcal{E})}}_{\mathbf{p}^{i,j}} - \underbrace{\log \frac{p(w_i, w_j | \mathcal{E})}{p(w_i | \mathcal{E}) p(w_j | \mathcal{E})}}_{\sigma^{ij}} + \underbrace{\log \frac{p(w_i, w_j)}{p(w_i) p(w_j)}}_{\tau^{ij}} = \mathbf{p}^{i,j} - \sigma^{ij} + \tau^{ij} \mathbf{1}, \end{aligned}$$

Explaining analogy 2019 ([link](#))

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Paraphrase error defined as:

$$\rho_j^{\mathcal{W}, \mathcal{W}_*} = \log \frac{p(c_j | \mathcal{W}_*)}{p(c_j | \mathcal{W})}, c_j \in \mathcal{E}$$

Error to “linear” generalized paraphrase:

Theorem 2 (Generalised Paraphrase). For any word sets $\mathcal{W}, \mathcal{W}_* \subseteq \mathcal{E}$, $|\mathcal{W}|, |\mathcal{W}_*| < l$:

$$\mathbf{w}_{\mathcal{W}_*} = \mathbf{w}_{\mathcal{W}} + \mathbf{C}^\dagger (\rho^{\mathcal{W}, \mathcal{W}_*} + \sigma^{\mathcal{W}} - \sigma^{\mathcal{W}_*} - (\tau^{\mathcal{W}} - \tau^{\mathcal{W}_*}) \mathbf{1}).$$

Proof. Multiply (10) by \mathbf{C}^\dagger . □

Note that $|\mathcal{W}_*| = 1$ recovers Lem 1 and Thm 1. With analogies in mind, we restate Thm 2 as:

Corollary 2.1. For any words $w_x, w_{x^*} \in \mathcal{E}$ and word sets $\mathcal{W}^+, \mathcal{W}^- \subseteq \mathcal{E}$, $|\mathcal{W}^+|, |\mathcal{W}^-| < l - 1$:

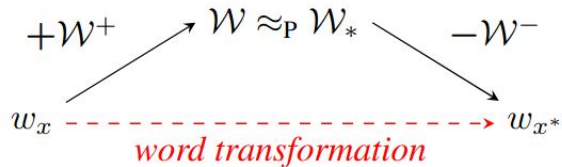
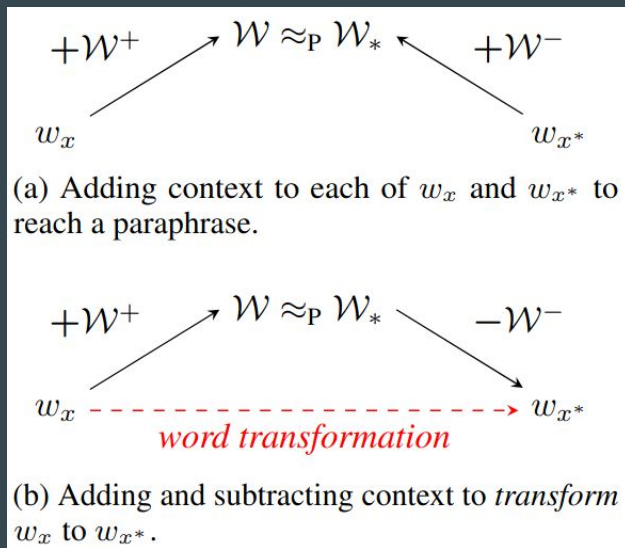
$$\mathbf{w}_{x^*} = \mathbf{w}_x + \mathbf{w}_{\mathcal{W}^+} - \mathbf{w}_{\mathcal{W}^-} + \mathbf{C}^\dagger (\rho^{\mathcal{W}, \mathcal{W}_*} + \sigma^{\mathcal{W}} - \sigma^{\mathcal{W}_*} - (\tau^{\mathcal{W}} - \tau^{\mathcal{W}_*}) \mathbf{1}), \quad (11)$$

where $\mathcal{W} = \{w_x\} \cup \mathcal{W}^+$, $\mathcal{W}_* = \{w_{x^*}\} \cup \mathcal{W}^-$.

Proof. Set $\mathcal{W} = \{w_x\} \cup \mathcal{W}^+$, $\mathcal{W}_* = \{w_{x^*}\} \cup \mathcal{W}^-$ in Thm 2. □

Explaining analogy 2019 ([link](#))

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{"}w_a \text{ is to } w_{a^*} \\
 \text{as} \\
 \text{"}w_b \text{ is to } w_{b^*}\text{"}
 \end{array}
 \iff
 \begin{array}{c}
 w_a \xrightarrow[w^-]{w^+} w_{a^*} \\
 \wedge \\
 w_b \xrightarrow[w^-]{w^+} w_{b^*}
 \end{array}
 \iff
 \begin{array}{c}
 \{w_a, \mathcal{W}^+\} \approx_P \{w_{a^*}, \mathcal{W}^-\} \\
 \wedge \\
 \{w_b, \mathcal{W}^+\} \approx_P \{w_{b^*}, \mathcal{W}^-\}
 \end{array}
 \implies
 \begin{array}{c}
 \mathbf{w}_{a^*} - \mathbf{w}_a \\
 \approx \\
 \mathbf{w}_{b^*} - \mathbf{w}_b
 \end{array}$$



Explaining analogy 2 2019 ([link2](#))

What the Vec?

Towards Probabilistically Grounded Embeddings

Carl Allen¹

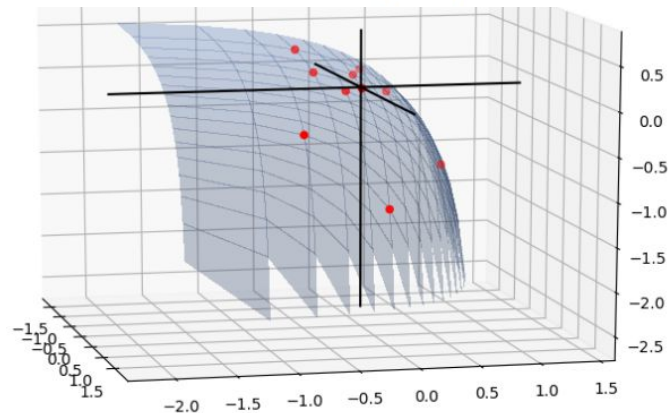
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The PMI surface \mathcal{S} , showing sample PMI vectors of words (red dots)

Bolukbasi et al 2016 ([link](#))

Man is to Computer Programmer as Woman is to Homemaker? Debiasing Word Embeddings

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$$\text{DirectBias}_c = \frac{1}{|N|} \sum_{w \in N} |\cos(\vec{w}, g)|^c$$

$$w = w_g + w_\perp$$

$$\beta(w, v) = \left(w \cdot v - \frac{w_\perp \cdot v_\perp}{\|w_\perp\|_2 \|v_\perp\|_2} \right) / w \cdot v$$

$$\vec{w} := (\vec{w} - \vec{w}_B) / \|\vec{w} - \vec{w}_B\|.$$

1)

$$\mu := \sum_{w \in E} w / |E|$$

$$\nu := \mu - \mu_B$$

$$\text{For each } w \in E, \vec{w} := \nu + \sqrt{1 - \|\nu\|^2} \frac{\vec{w}_B - \mu_B}{\|\vec{w}_B - \mu_B\|}$$

$$2) \min_T \|(TW)^T(TW) - W^T W\|_F^2 + \lambda \|(TN)^T(TB)\|_F^2$$

Zhao et al. 2018 ([link](#))

Kaneko Bollegala 2019 ([link](#))

Learning Gender-Neutral Word Embeddings

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Gender-preserving Debiasing for Pre-trained Word Embeddings

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$$J = J_G + \lambda_d J_D + \lambda_e J_E$$

$$\tilde{w} = [w^{(a)}; w^{(g)}], \quad \begin{matrix} w^{(a)} \in \mathbb{R}^{d-k} \\ w^{(g)} \in \mathbb{R}^k \end{matrix}$$

$$J_G = \sum_{i,j=1}^V f(X_{i,j}) \left(w_i^T \tilde{w}_j + b_i + \tilde{b}_j - \log X_{i,j} \right)^2$$

→ usual GloVe objective

$$J_D^{L1} = - \left\| \sum_{w \in \Omega_M} w^{(g)} - \sum_{w \in \Omega_F} w^{(g)} \right\|_1$$

→ increase gap between male/female clouds (?)

$$J_D^{L2} = \sum_{w \in \Omega_M} \left\| \beta_1 \mathbf{e} - w^{(g)} \right\|_2^2 + \sum_{w \in \Omega_F} \left\| \beta_2 \mathbf{e} - w^{(g)} \right\|_2^2$$

→ make gender part fixed (?)

where $\mathbf{e} \in \mathbb{R}^k$ is a vector of all ones. β_1 and β_2 can be arbitrary values, and we set them to be 1 and -1 , respectively.

$$J_E = \sum_{w \in \Omega_N} \left(v_g^T w^{(a)} \right)^2$$

→ retain neutral words non-gender part

$$v_g = \frac{1}{|\Omega'|} \sum_{(w_m, w_f) \in \Omega'} (w_m^{(a)} - w_f^{(a)}),$$

where Ω' is a set of predefined gender word pairs.

Gonen Goldberg 2019 ([link](#))

Lipstick on a Pig: Debiasing Methods Cover up Systematic Gender Biases in Word Embeddings But do not Remove Them

Hila Gonen¹ and Yoav Goldberg^{1,2}

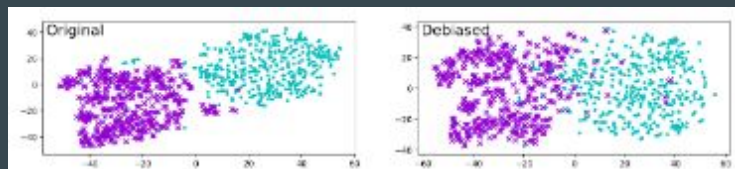
¹Department of Computer Science, Bar-Ilan University

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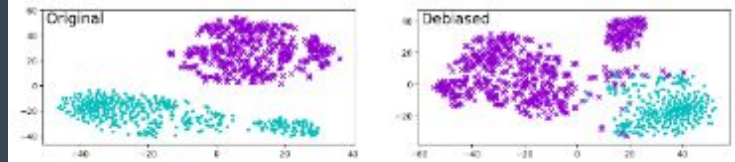
{hilagnn, yoav.goldberg}@gmail.com

Key observation:

- most word pairs maintain previous similarity
- words with a specific bias still grouped together
- Implicit bias remains



(a) Clustering for HARD-DEBIASED embedding, before (left hand-side) and after (right hand-side) debiasing.



(b) Clustering for GN-GLOVE embedding, before (left hand-side) and after (right hand-side) debiasing.

Figure 1: Clustering the 1,000 most biased words, before and after debiasing, for both models.

Xu et al. 2018 ([link](#))

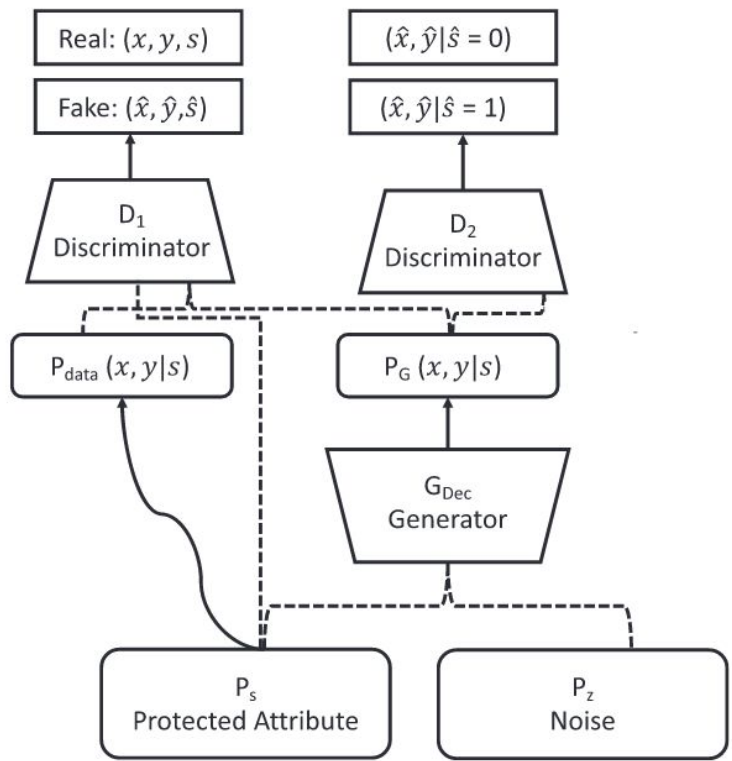
FairGAN: Fairness-aware Generative Adversarial Networks

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How is it not still a pig?

Wu et al. 2022 ([link](#))

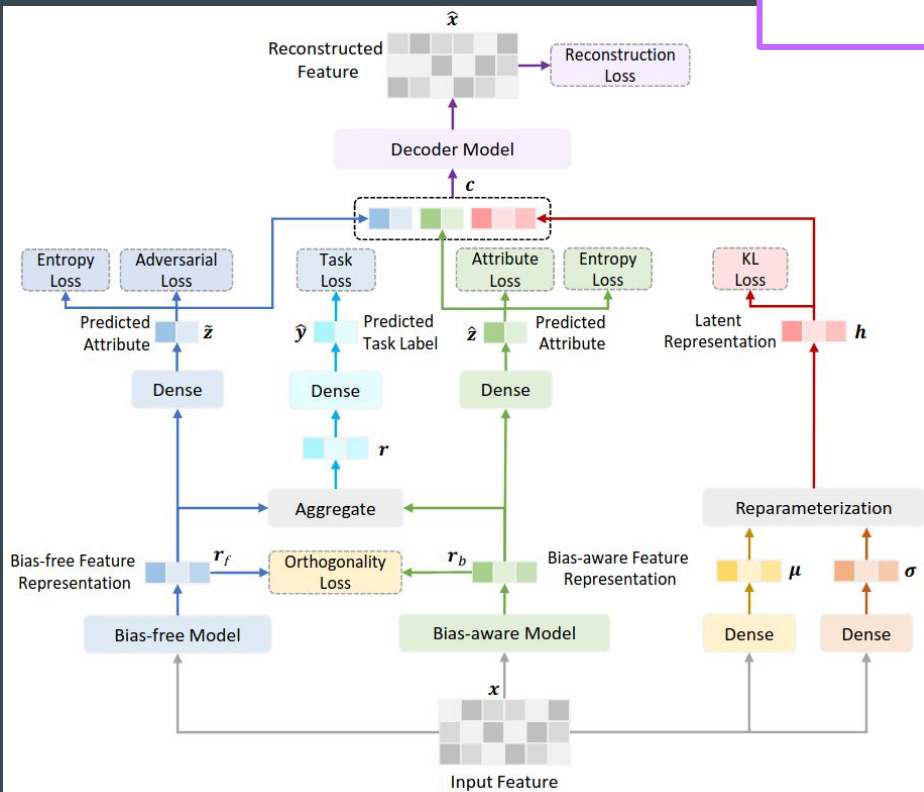
Semi-FairVAE: Semi-supervised Fair Representation Learning with Adversarial Variational Autoencoder

Chuhan Wu¹, Fangzhao Wu², Tao Qi¹, Yongfeng Huang¹

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How is it not still a pig?

Hyperbolic GloVe: Tifrea et al. 2018 ([link](#))

POINCARÉ GLOVE: HYPERBOLIC WORD EMBEDDINGS

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Gaussian embedding for text: Vilnis McCallum 2015 ([link](#))

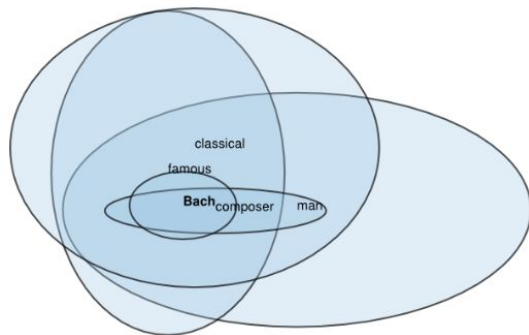


Figure 1: Learned diagonal variances, as used in evaluation (Section 6), for each word, with the first letter of each word indicating the position of its mean. We project onto generalized eigenvectors between the mixture means and variance of query word *Bach*. Nearby words to *Bach* are other composers e.g. *Mozart*, which lead to similar pictures.

WORD REPRESENTATIONS VIA GAUSSIAN EMBEDDING

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Hyperbolic space:
Accommodates well
trees (euclidean has
huge problem)



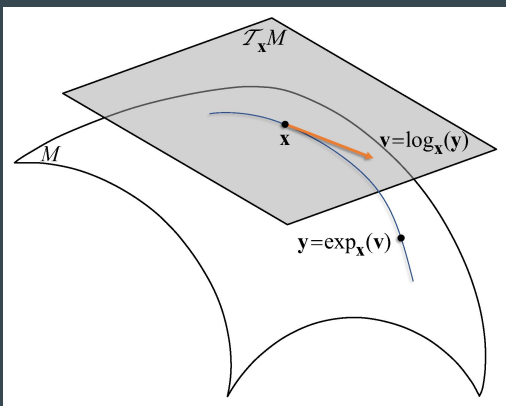
Entailment

- Gaussian Fisher distance
- Hyperbolic space distance

$$d_F(\mathcal{N}(\mu, \Sigma), \mathcal{N}(\mu', \Sigma')) = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n 2d_{\mathbb{H}^2}((\mu_i/\sqrt{2}, \sigma_i), (\mu'_i/\sqrt{2}, \sigma'_i))^2}$$

$$\text{KL}(P(\theta + d\theta) \| P(\theta)) = (1/2) \sum_{i,j} g_{ij} d\theta^i d\theta^j + \mathcal{O}(\|d\theta\|^3)$$

Hyperbolic Neural Networks (very sketchy)



NN operations transferred from tangent space

$$f^{\otimes c}(\mathbf{x}) := \exp_0^c(f(\log_0^c(\mathbf{x}))).$$

$$M^{\otimes c}(\mathbf{x}) = (1/\sqrt{c}) \tanh\left(\frac{\|\mathbf{M}\mathbf{x}\|}{\|\mathbf{x}\|} \tanh^{-1}(\sqrt{c}\|\mathbf{x}\|)\right) \frac{\mathbf{M}\mathbf{x}}{\|\mathbf{M}\mathbf{x}\|}$$

$$\mathbf{x} \oplus_c \mathbf{b} = \exp_x^c(P_{0 \rightarrow x}^c(\log_0^c(\mathbf{b})))$$

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