



Integrating Distributional Lexical Contrast into Word Embeddings for Antonym–Synonym Distinction

Kim Anh Nguyen, Sabine Schulte im Walde,
Ngoc Thang Vu

Institute for Natural Language Processing (IMS)
University of Stuttgart

ACL-2016, Berlin



Overview

1. Introduction
 - 1.1. Word Vector Representations
 - 1.2. Antonym-Synonym Distinction Task
2. Contributions
 - 2.1. Improving Weights of Feature Vectors
 - 2.2. Distributional Lexical Contrast Embeddings Model
3. Experiments
4. Conclusion



1.1. Word Vector Representations

1.1.1. Distributional Semantic Model (DSM)

- A means to represent meaning vectors of words.
- DSM rely on the *distributional hypothesis*. (Harris, 1954)
- Words with similar distributions have related meanings.
- Each weighted feature can be:
 - Co-occurrence frequency.
 - Association measure: local mutual information (LMI) (Evert, 2005)

1.1.2. Word Embeddings

- Representing words as low-dimensional dense vectors.
- Words with similar distributions have similar vectors.



1.2. Antonym-Synonym Distinction Task

- Goal
 - Distinguishing antonyms from synonyms.
- Problems
 - DSM tend to capture both antonyms (*formal-informal*) and synonyms (*formal-conventional*).
 - Word embeddings represent vectors of both antonyms and synonyms as similar vectors.
- Causes
 - Antonymy and synonymy are paradigmatic relations.
 - Antonyms and synonyms often occur in similar contexts.



Outline

1. Introduction
 - 1.1. Word Vector Representations
 - 1.2. Antonym-Synonym Distinction Task
2. Contributions
 - 2.1. Improving Weights of Feature Vectors
 - 2.2. Distributional Lexical Contrast Embeddings Model
3. Experiments
4. Conclusion



2.1. Improving Weights of Feature Vectors

- Goal:
 - Improving the quality of weighted feature vectors.
- Solution:
 - Strengthening most salient features in the vectors.
 - Using the lexical contrast information of the target words and their contexts.
 - Proposing the new weight for feature vectors.
- Representing words based on DSM with positive LMI.
- For each target word w :
 - Determining the sets of antonyms $A(w)$ and synonyms $S(w)$.
 - Determining the set of shared words $W(f)$ for each feature f .
- Computing the new weight (called $weight^{SA}$) as follows:



2.1. Improving Weights of Feature Vectors

Average similarity to
synonyms

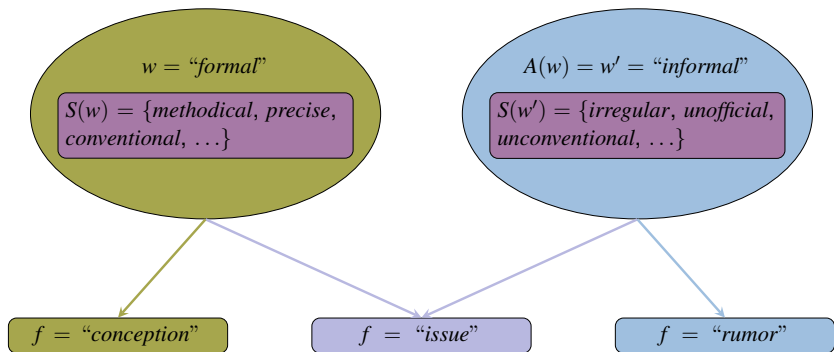
$$weight^{SA}(w, f) = \frac{1}{\#(w, u)} \sum_{u \in W(f) \cap S(w)} sim(w, u)$$

$$- \frac{1}{\#(w', v)} \sum_{w' \in A(w)} \sum_{v \in W(f) \cap S(w')} sim(w', v)$$

Average similarity to
antonyms

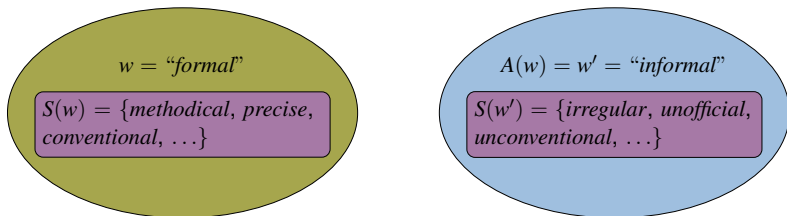


2.1. Improving Weights of Feature Vectors





2.1. Improving Weights of Feature Vectors



$f = \text{"conception"}$

$f = \text{"issue"}$

$f = \text{"rumor"}$

$\text{weight}^{SA}(\text{formal}, \text{conception}) \uparrow$

$\text{weight}^{SA}(\text{formal}, \text{issue}) \approx 0$

$\text{weight}^{SA}(\text{formal}, \text{rumor}) \downarrow$

$$\text{weight}^{SA}(w, f) = \frac{1}{\#(w, u)} \sum_{u \in W(f) \cap S(w)} \text{sim}(w, u) - \frac{1}{\#(w', v)} \sum_{w' \in A(w)} \sum_{v \in W(f) \cap S(w')} \text{sim}(w', v)$$



2.2. Distributional Lexical Contrast Embeddings Model (dLCE)

- Aims:
 - Learning word embeddings.
 - Moving synonyms closer to each other in space.
 - Moving antonyms further away from each other in space.
- Solution:
 - Integrating distributional lexical contrast into the transformation of Skip-gram model (Mikolov et al. 2013, Levy et al., 2014).
 - Applying lexical contrast to every single context of the target word.
- The proposed objective function as follows:



2.2. Distributional Lexical Contrast Embeddings Model (dLCE)

Distribution of target word and contexts

Distribution of negative contexts

$$\sum_{w \in V} \sum_{c \in V} \left\{ \left(\#(w, c) \log \sigma(\text{sim}(w, c)) + k \#(w) P_0(c) \log \sigma(-\text{sim}(w, c)) \right) \right.$$

$$\left. + \left(\frac{1}{\#(w, u)} \sum_{u \in W(c) \cap S(w)} \text{sim}(w, u) - \frac{1}{\#(w, v)} \sum_{v \in W(c) \cap A(w)} \text{sim}(w, v) \right) \right\}$$

Distribution of synonymous pairs

Distribution of antonymous pairs



Outline

1. Introduction
 - 1.1. Word Vector Representations
 - 1.2. Antonym-Synonym Distinction Task
2. Contributions
 - 2.1. Improving Weights of Feature Vectors
 - 2.2. Distributional Lexical Contrast Embeddings Model
3. Experiments
4. Conclusion



3. Experiments

- Evaluating $weight^{SA}$ on Antonym-Synonym distinction task.
- Evaluating effects of dLCE model:
 - Antonym-Synonym distinction task.
 - Similarity task.



3.1. Antonym–Synonym Distinction

- Corpus: ENCOW14A (Schäfer and Bildhauer, 2012) contains 14.5 billion tokens.
- Dataset: a gold standard resource of paradigmatic relation pairs (Roth and Schulte im Walde, 2014)

Word Class	Ant-pairs	Syn-pairs	Total
Adjective	300	300	600
Noun	350	350	700
Verb	400	400	800

- Using average precision (AP) to evaluate.
- Using box-plots to compare the cosine medians of antonymous vs. synonymous pairs.



3.1. Antonym–Synonym Distinction

- AP evaluation results¹:

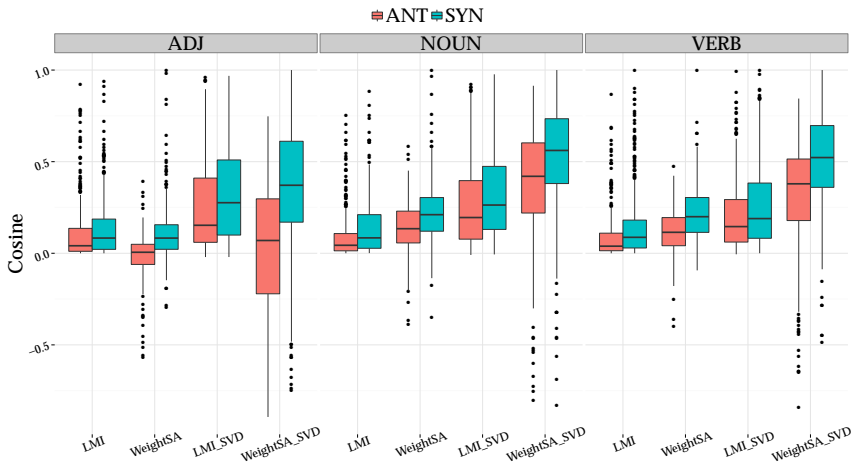
	Adjectives		Nouns		Verbs	
	ANT	SYN	ANT	SYN	ANT	SYN
LMI	0.46	0.56	0.42	0.60	0.42	0.62
<i>weight</i> ^{SA}	0.36**	0.75**	0.40	0.66	0.38*	0.71*
LMI + SVD	0.46	0.55	0.46	0.55	0.44	0.58
<i>weight</i> ^{SA} + SVD	0.36***	0.76***	0.40*	0.66*	0.38***	0.70***

¹ χ^2 , *** $p < .001$, ** $p < .005$, * $p < .05$



3.1. Antonym–Synonym Distinction

- Results in box-plots:





3.2. Effects of dLCE model

3.2.1. Antonym-Synonym Distinction:

- Dataset: the gold standard resource of paradigmatic relation pairs (Roth and Schulte im Walde, 2014).
- Using area under curve (AUC) to identify antonyms.
- Comparison Models: Skip-gram (SGNS), mLCM (Pham et al., 2015)
- Results:

	Adjectives	Nouns	Verbs
SGNS	0.64	0.66	0.65
mLCM	0.85	0.69	0.71
dLCE	0.90	0.72	0.81



3.2. Effects of dLCE model

3.2.2. Similarity Task:

- Dataset: SimLex-999 (Hill et al., 2015)
- Using Spearman correlation coefficient ρ to evaluate.
- Comparison Models: SGNS, mLCM.
- Results:

SGNS	mLCM	dLCE
0.38	0.51	0.59



Outline

1. Introduction
 - 1.1. Word Vector Representations
 - 1.2. Antonym-Synonym Distinction Task
2. Contributions
 - 2.1. Improving Weights of Feature Vectors
 - 2.2. Distributional Lexical Contrast Embeddings Model
3. Experiments
4. Conclusion



4. Conclusion

- We have presented two methods to address the task of antonym-synonym distinction:
 - Improving the quality of weighted feature vectors.
 - Integrating distributional lexical contrast into word embeddings.
- The results from the experiments show that our approaches can model semantic similarity and distinguish between antonyms and synonyms.



Thank you!