

Word's Vector Representations meet Machine Translation

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SSST-8 Workshop
Doha, Qatar
October 25, 2014

Summary

- We learn distributed vector representations of **bilingual** word pairs
- *Motivation*: better characterize ambiguous words for MT
 - ▷ *desk*|*mesa* vs. *desk*|*mostrador* vs. *desk*|*escritorio*
- Bilingual representations capture information from source and target language contexts simultaneously
- We present two preliminary evaluations

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- We present two preliminary evaluations
- Future plan: use bilingual models in MT for improving lexical selection and document-level semantic coherence

Training Bilingual Vector Representations

- We use the word2vec software (Mikolov et al. 2013) with parallel corpora and automatic word-alignments
- Parallel corpora: Opus (Europarl, UN, OpenSubtitles, etc.)
- Word alignments: GIZA++ (one to one)
- We train bilingual and monolingual vector models
 - ▷ Size: ~ 700 Mw (EN) – 1,100 Mw (ES)
- Parameters
 - ▷ Vector dimensionality
 - ▷ Context window

Eval I: Ability to Capture Relational Similarities

- Solving semantic analogies with vector models:
 - ▷ **Athens** is to **Greece** as **Paris** is to ?
 - ▷ $\text{Paris} - \text{Athens} + \text{Greece} = \text{France}$

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- Bilingual version of the same task
- Test set of 19,520 questions in 11 categories
 - ▷ EN: available in the *work2vec* data distribution
 - ▷ EN|ES (and also ES): translated and manually built by a Spanish native speaker

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- Method:
 - ▷ Context Vector: $v = \sum_{i=1}^n \vec{w}(t \pm i)$
 - ▷ Best translation: word pair that minimizes distance to v (i.e. *best fit* to the bilingual context)

Conclusions

- Results in both evaluation are modest, but suggest that the bilingual vector models:
 - ▷ capture information useful to uncover semantic relations
 - ▷ can help MT lexical selection
- Limitations:
 - ▷ quality of translations, alignments, coverage, etc..

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- More experimentation and extensions to come soon

Visit out poster for more details. Thanks!