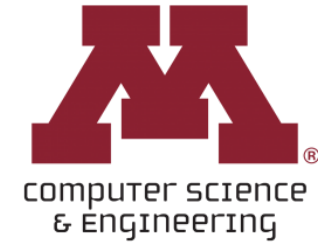


CSCI 5541: Natural Language Processing

Lecture 6: Language Models: N-grams, Neural LM

Dongyeop Kang (DK), University of Minnesota

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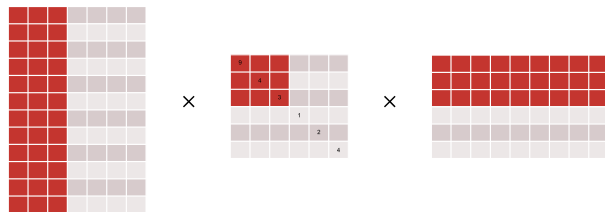
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
Driven to Discover®

Count-based vs Prediction-based Methods

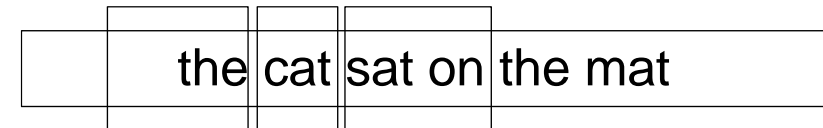


LSA, HAL (Lund & Burgess)
Hellinger-PCA (Rohde et al, Lebrete & Collobert)

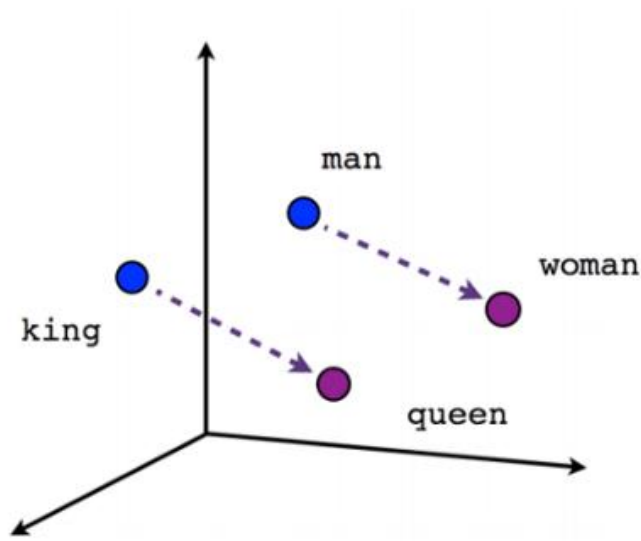
	Hamlet	Macbeth
knife	1	1
dog		
sword	2	2
love	64	
like	75	38



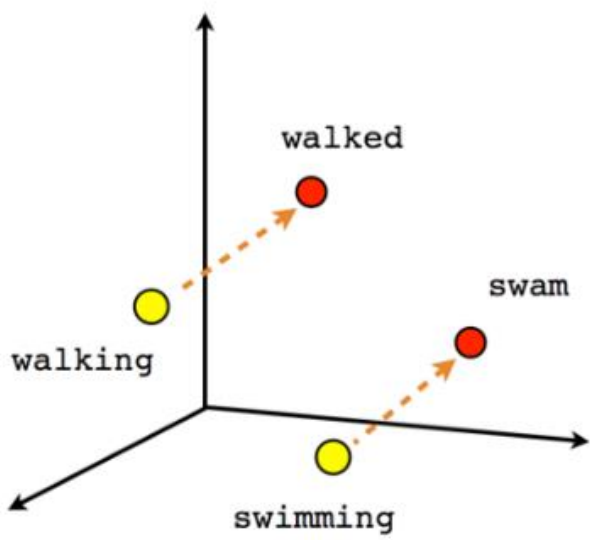
Skip-gram/CBOW (Mikolov et al)
NLM, HLBL, RNN (Bengio et al; Collobert & Weston; Huang et al; Mnih & Hinton)



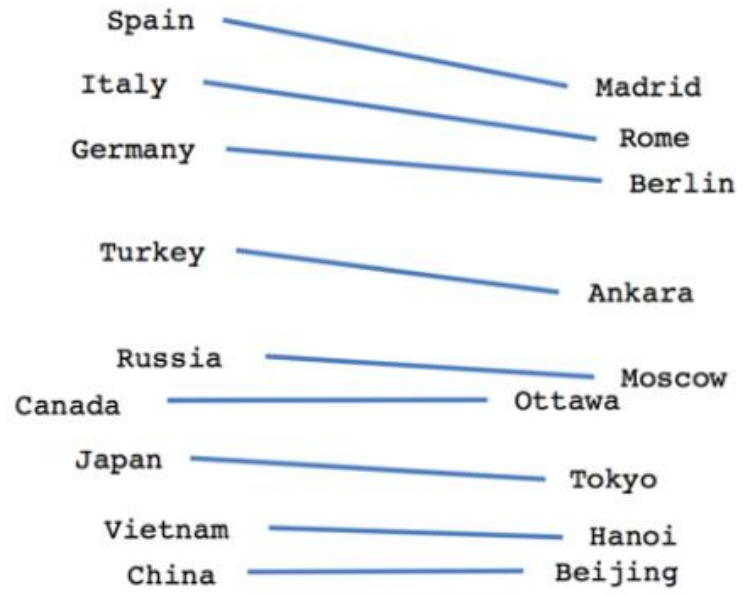
Evaluations



Male-Female



Verb tense



Country-Capital



Limitations of Embeddings



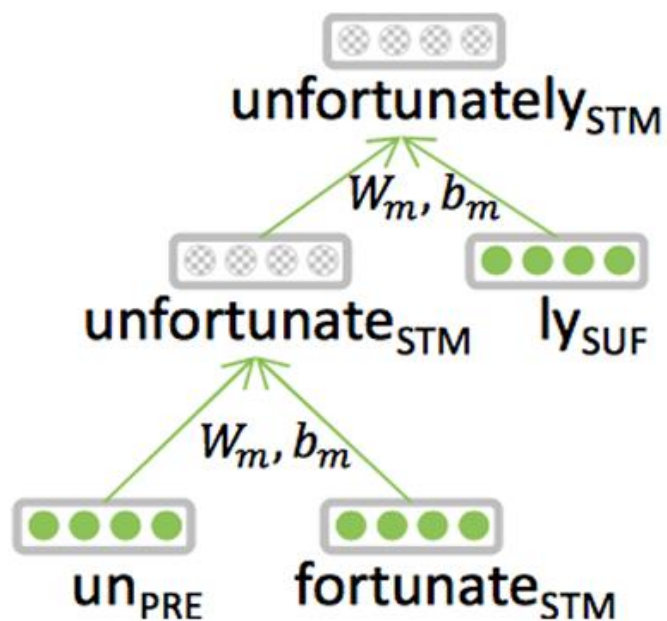
- ❑ Sensitive to **superficial differences** (dog / dogs)
 - E.g. misspellings: "minuscule" → "miniscule"
 - E.g. compounded/prefixed/suffixed words split into "wrong" subwords
"descheduled" ⇒ ["des", "##ched", "##uled"]

- ❑ **Not necessarily coordinated** with knowledge or across languages

- ❑ Can encode **bias** (encode stereotypical gender roles, racial biases)



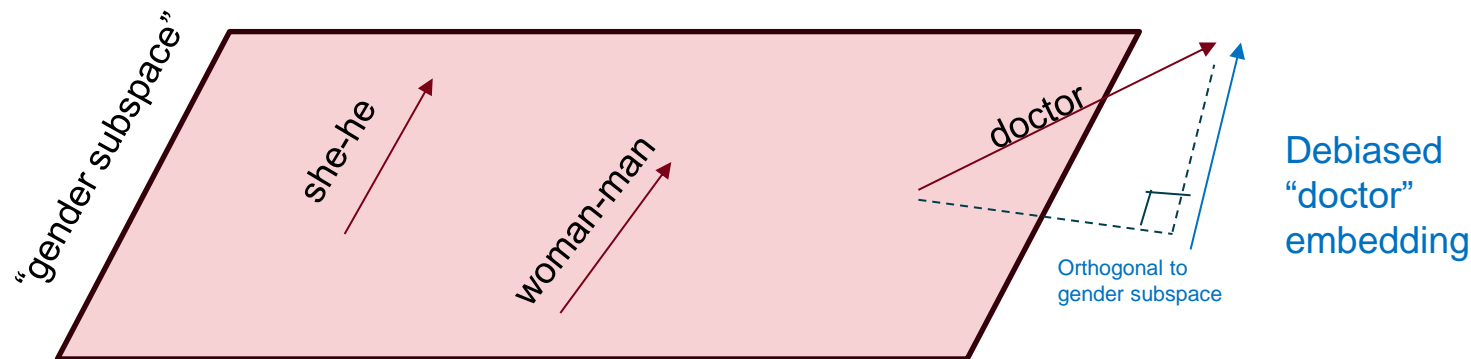
Limitations and Solutions



Morpheme-based (Luong et al. 2013)

- Extreme *she* occupations**
- | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. homemaker | 2. nurse | 3. receptionist |
| 4. librarian | 5. socialite | 6. hairdresser |
| 7. nanny | 8. bookkeeper | 9. stylist |
| 10. housekeeper | 11. interior designer | 12. guidance counselor |

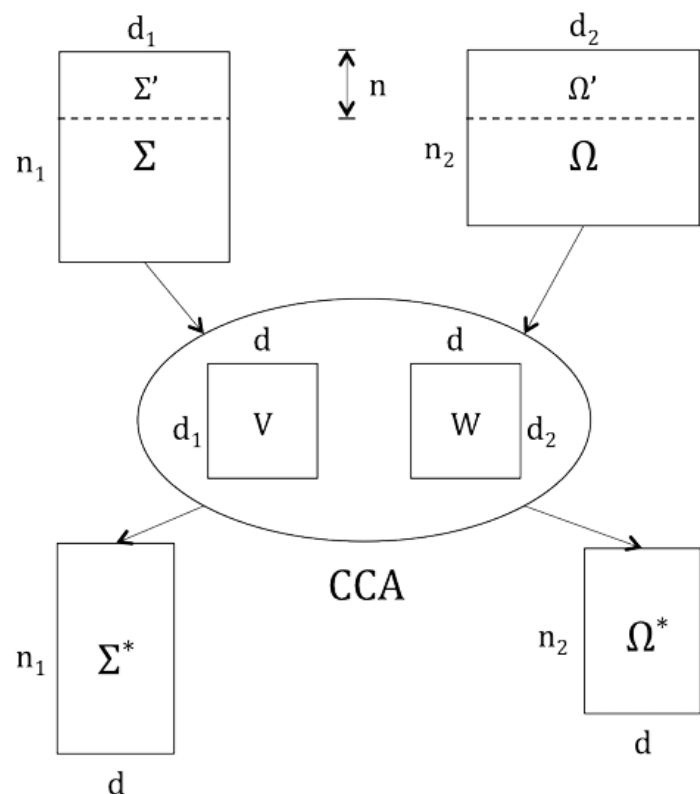
- Extreme *he* occupations**
- | | | |
|----------------|-------------------|----------------|
| 1. maestro | 2. skipper | 3. protege |
| 4. philosopher | 5. captain | 6. architect |
| 7. financier | 8. warrior | 9. broadcaster |
| 10. magician | 11. fighter pilot | 12. boss |



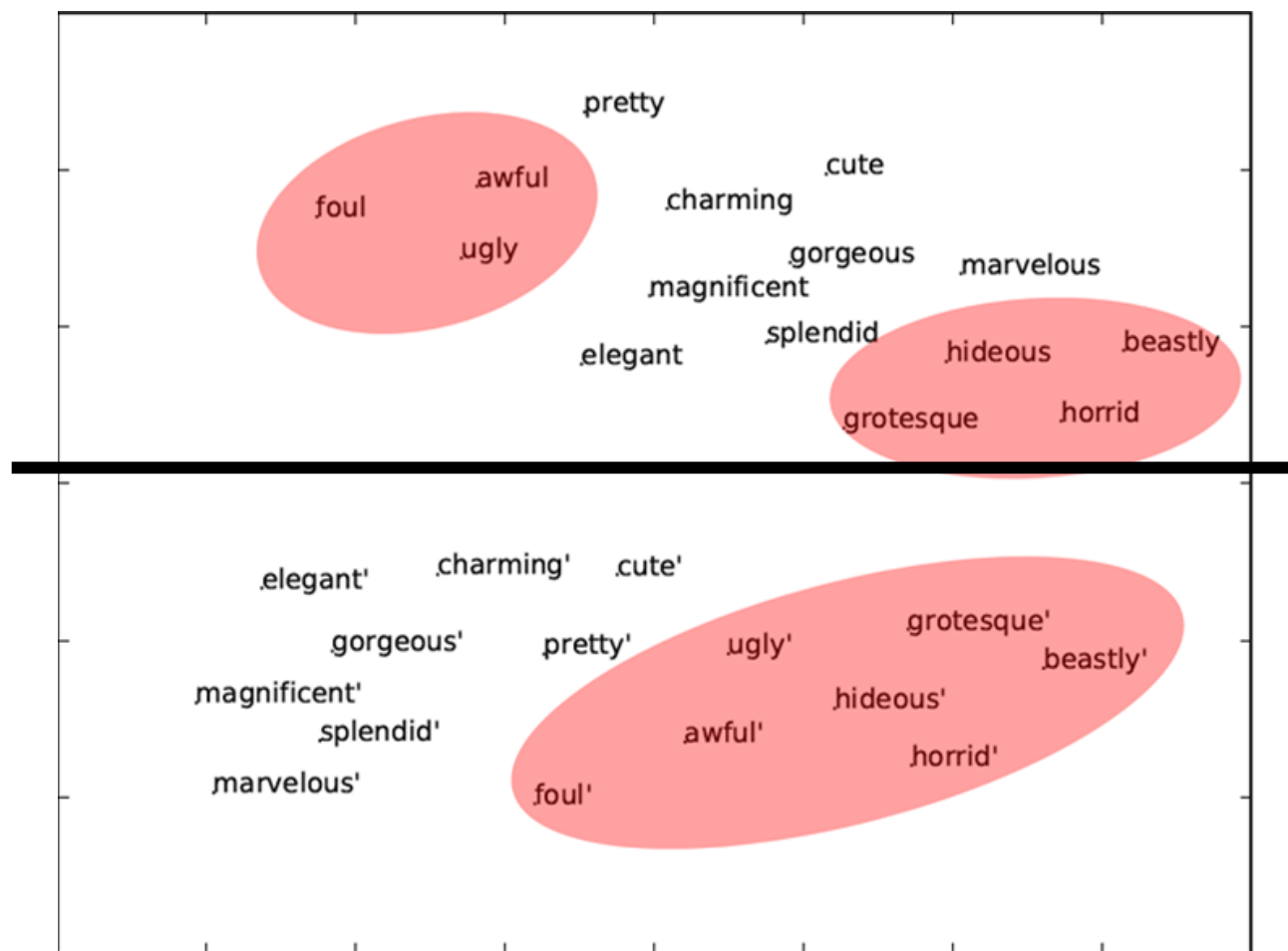
[Bolukbasi et al. 2016]



Multilingual Coordination of Embeddings using dictionaries



Improving Vector Space Word Representations Using Multilingual Correlation (Faruqui & Dyer, 2014)



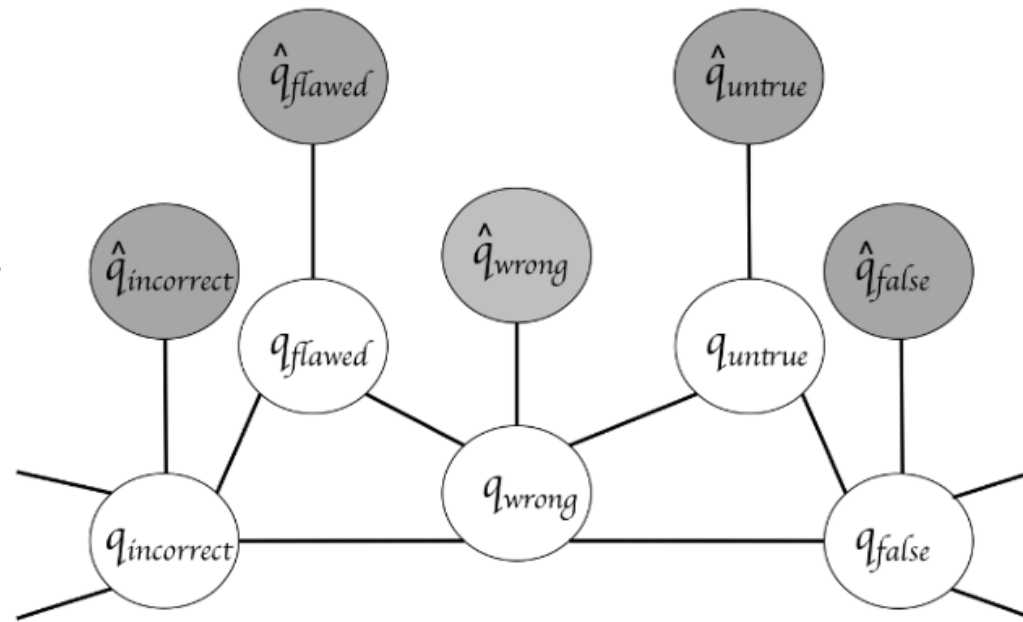
Monolingual (top) and multilingual (bottom) word projections of the antonyms (shown in red) and synonyms of "beautiful"

Retrofitting of Embeddings to Existing Lexicons

- Make word vectors to match with existing lexicon like WordNet (Faruqui et al. 2015)

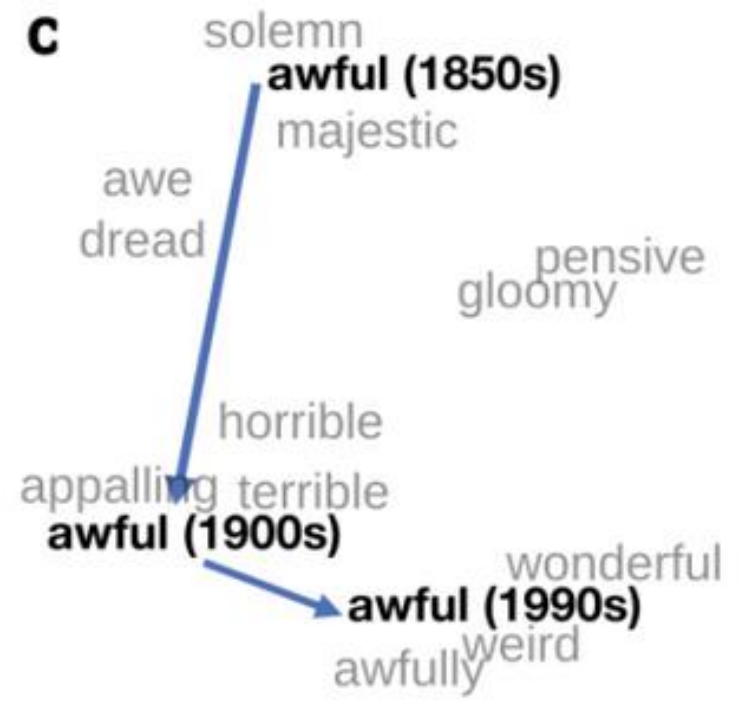
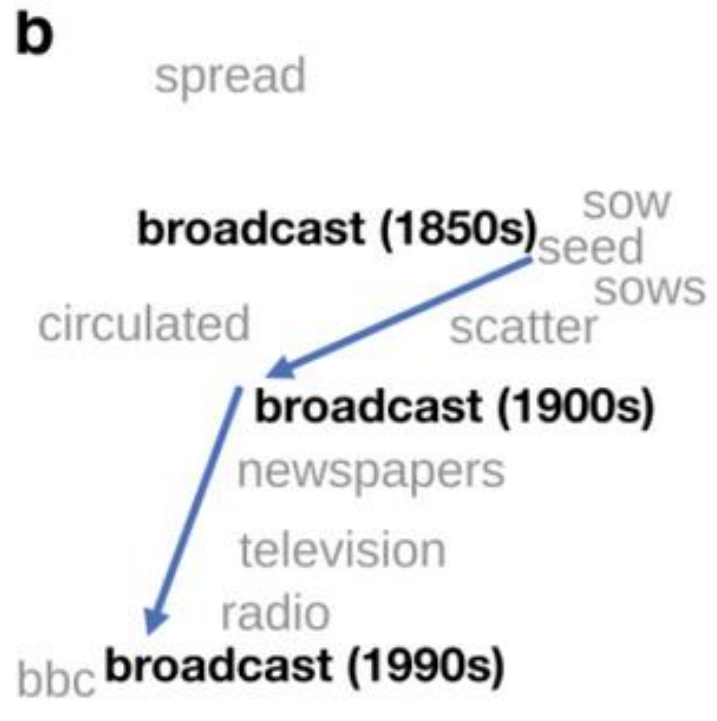
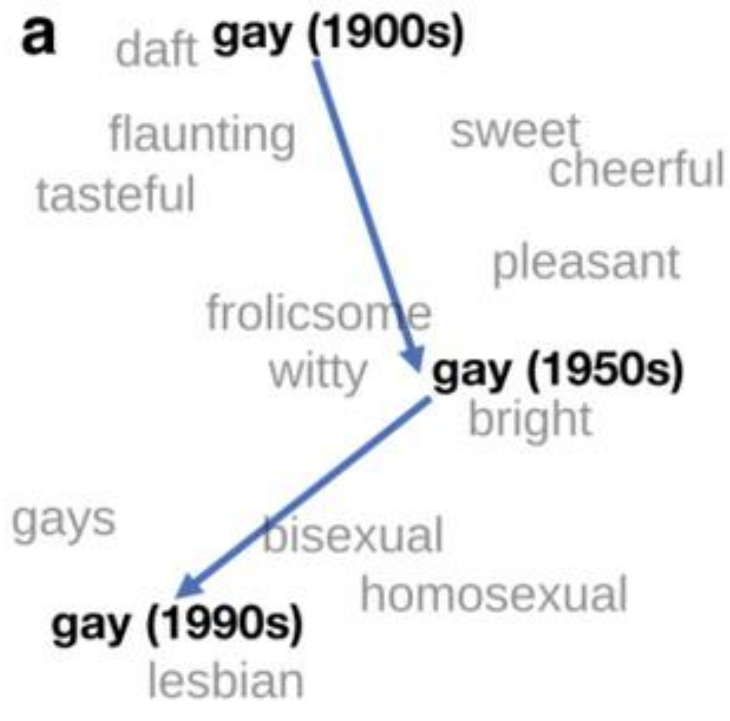
Word
Embeddings

WordNet



$$\Psi(Q) = \sum_{i=1}^n \left[\alpha_i \|q_i - \hat{q}_i\|^2 + \sum_{(i,j) \in E} \beta_{ij} \|q_i - q_j\|^2 \right]$$





semantic to model temporal word analogy or relatedness (Szymanski, 2017; Rosin et al., 2017) or to capture the dynamics of semantic relations (Kutuzov et al., 2017)

Different kinds of encoding "context"



~~Count-based~~

- PMI, TF-IDF

~~Distributed prediction-based (type) embeddings~~

- Word2vec, GloVe, Fasttext

~~Distributed contextual (token) embeddings from **language models**~~

- ELMo, BERT, GPT

~~Many more variants~~

- Multilingual / multi-sense / syntactic embeddings, etc



Outline

- ❑ Language modeling
- ❑ Applications of language models
- ❑ How to estimate $P(w)$ from data? Ngram Language Model (LM)
- ❑ Advanced techniques for ngram LM
- ❑ Ngram LM vs Neural LM



Which sentence is more natural?

"DK me Call"

"me Call DK"

"Call me DK"



Language modeling

- Provide a way to quantify the likelihood of a sequence
 - i.e., **plausible** sentences
- Vocabulary (V) is a finite set of discrete symbols (e.g., words, characters);
 - ~170K words for English, ~150K words for Russian, ~1.1M words for Korean, ~85K words for Chinese
- V^+ is the infinite set of **sequences** of symbols from V ; each sequence ends with **STOP**
 - A sentence of k words: $V * V ..* V = V^k$ e.g., $170,000^{100}$ for English 100-length sentence



sequence

$$P(w) = P(w_1, \dots, w_n)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &P(\text{"Call me DK"}) \\ &= P(w_1 = \text{"Call"}, w_2 = \text{"me"}, w_2 = \text{"DK"}) \times P(\text{"STOP"}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\sum_{w \in V^+} P(w) = 1 \quad 0 \leq P(w) \leq 1$$

over all the possible sequences of words



Which sentence is more natural?

"Call me DK"

$$P(\text{"Call me DK"}) = 10^{-5}$$

"DK me Call"

$$P(\text{"DK me call"}) = 10^{-15}$$



Use Cases of Language Model

- ❑ Provide a way to quantify the likelihood of a sequence i.e., **plausible** sentences
 - Probability distributions over sentences (i.e., word sequences)
 - ✓ $P(w) = P(w_1, \dots, w_n)$
- ❑ Can use them to generate strings
 - $P(w_k | w_2 w_3 w_4 \dots w_{k-1})$
- ❑ Rank possible sentences
 - $P(\text{"*Today is Thursday*"}) > P(\text{"*Thursday Today is*"})$
 - $P(\text{"*Today is Thursday*"}) > P(\text{"*Today is Minneapolis*"})$



Applications of language models



What is natural language generation?

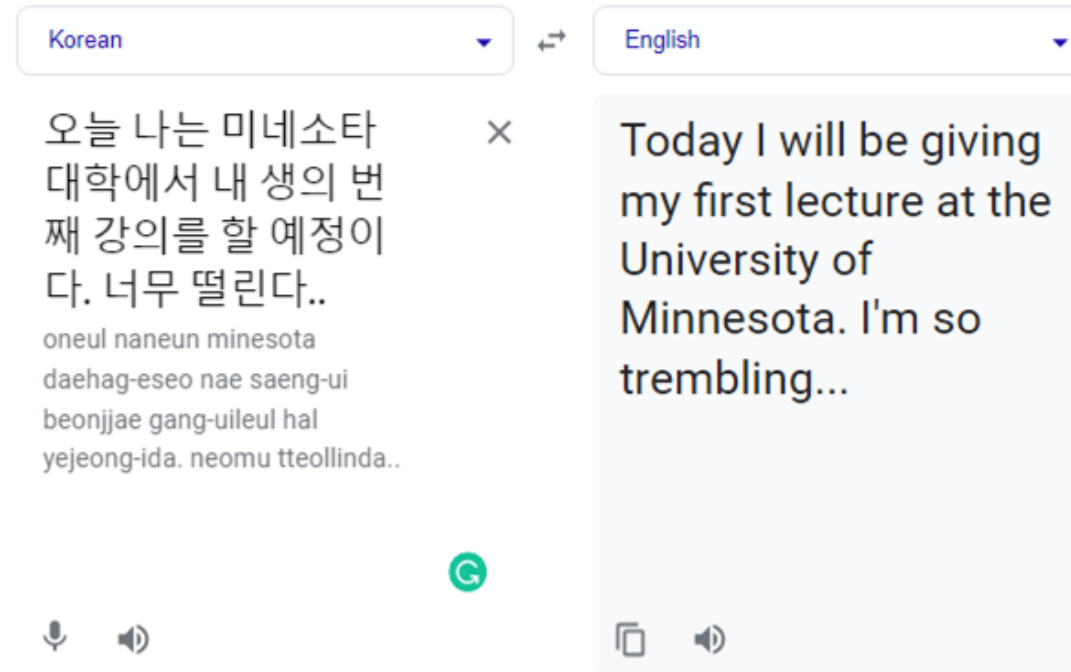
- ❑ NLP = Natural Language Understanding (NLU) + Natural Language Generation (NLG)
- ❑ NLG focuses on systems that produce **coherent** and **useful** language output for human consumption
- ❑ Deep Learning is powering (some) next-gen NLG systems



C: Looking at what we've got, we want an LCD display with a spinning wheel.
B: You have to have some push-buttons, don't you?
C: Just spinning and not scrolling, I would say.
B: I think the spinning wheel is definitely very now.
A: but since LCDs seems to be uh a definite yes,
C: We're having push-buttons on the outside
C: and then on the inside an LCD with spinning wheel.

Decision Abstract (Summary):
The remote will have push buttons outside, and an LCD and spinning wheel inside.

Machine Translation

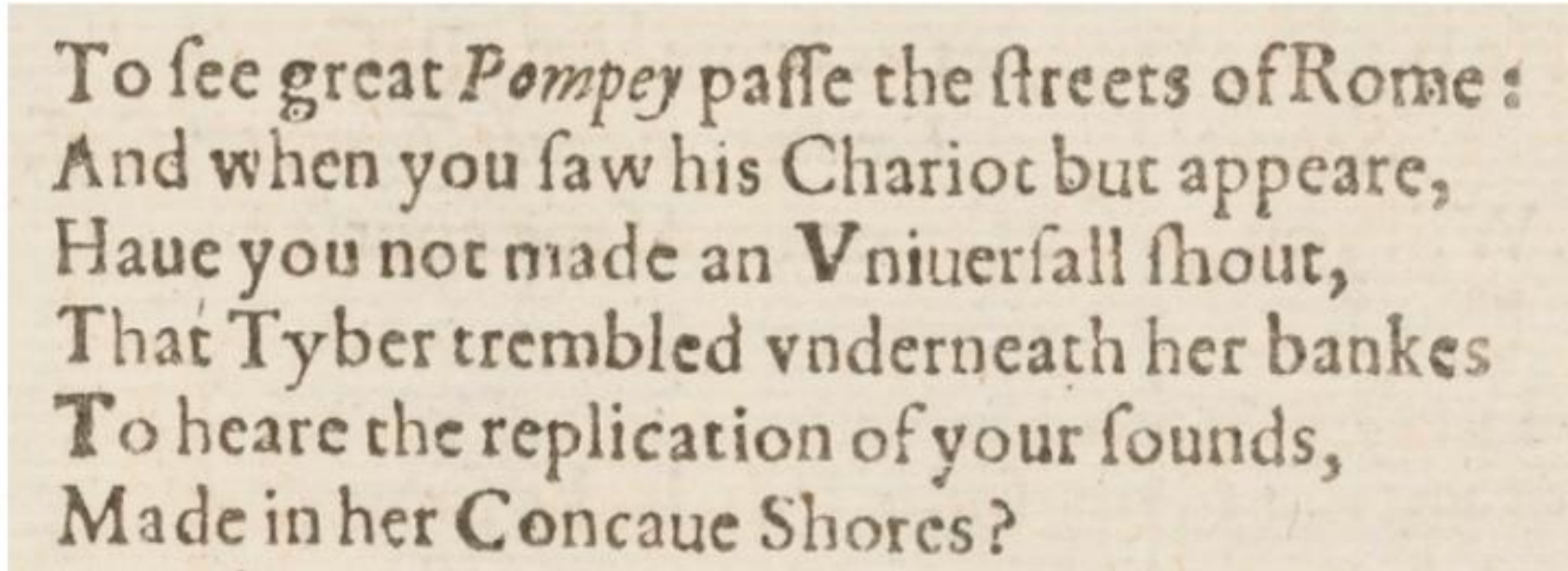


Fluency of the **translation**

$$P(Y | X) + a * P(Y)$$



Optical Character Recognition (OCR)



To see great *Pompey* passe the streets of Rome :
And when you saw his Chariot but appeare,
Haue you not made an Vniuersall shout,
That Tyber trembled vnderneath her bankes
To heare the replication of your sounds,
Made in her Concaue Shores?

to see great Pompey passe the streets of Rome:

to **s**ee great Pompey **pas**se the **st**reets of Rome:



Speech Recognition



'Scuse me while I kiss this guy

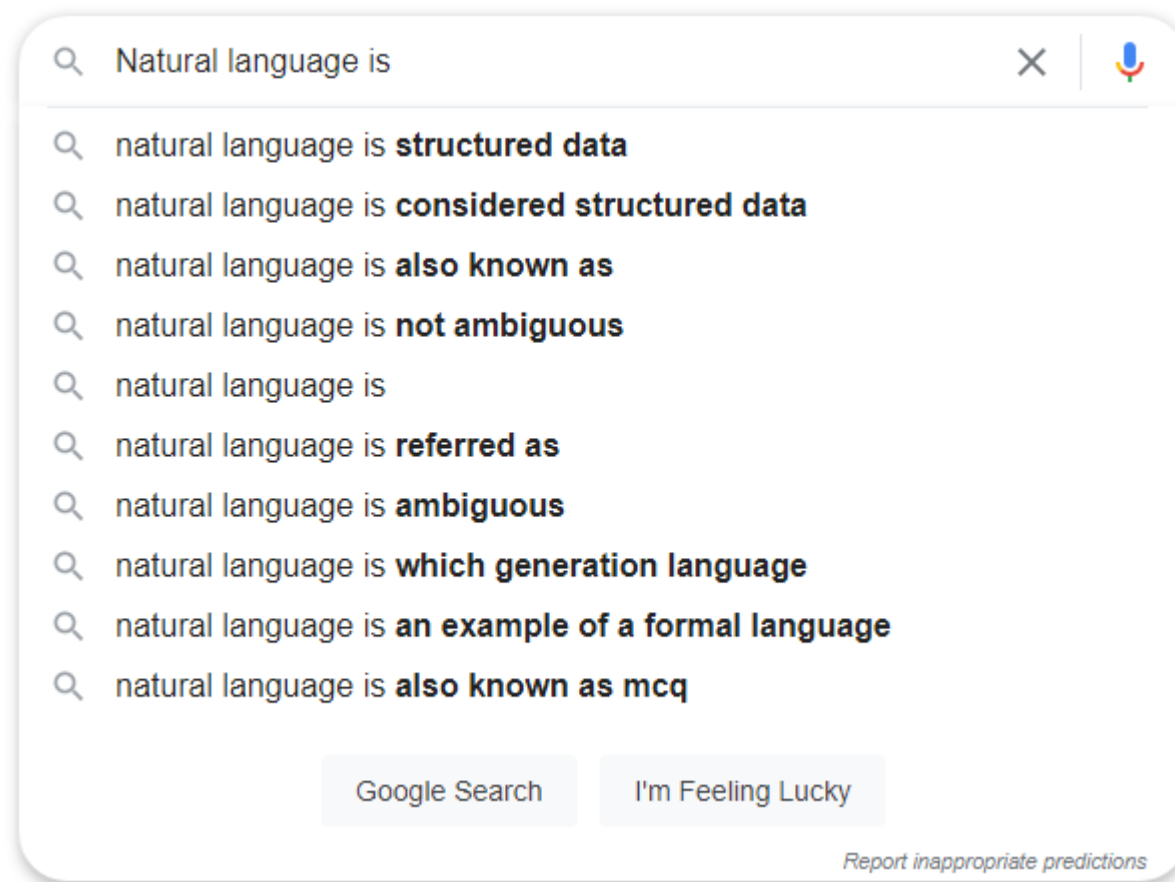
'Scuse me while I kiss the sky



'Scuse me while I kiss this fly

'Scuse me while my biscuits fry

Automatic Completion



$$P(w_k | w_2 w_3 w_4 \dots w_{k-1})$$



Language Generation

Router: A Methodology for the Typical Unification of Access Points and Redundancy

Jeremy Stribling, Daniel Aguayo and Maxwell Krohn

ABSTRACT

Many physicists would agree that, had it not been for congestion control, the evaluation of web browsers might never have occurred. In fact, few hackers worldwide would disagree with the essential unification of voice-over-IP and public-private key pair. In order to solve this riddle, we confirm that SMPs can be made stochastic, cacheable, and interoperable.

I. INTRODUCTION

Many scholars would agree that, had it not been for active networks, the simulation of Lamport clocks might never have occurred. The notion that end-users synchronize with the investigation of Markov models is rarely outdated. A theoretical grand challenge in theory is the important unification of virtual machines and real-time theory. To what extent can web browsers be constructed to achieve this purpose?

Certainly, the usual methods for the emulation of Smalltalk that paved the way for the investigation of rasterization do

The rest of this paper is organized as follows. For starters, we motivate the need for fiber-optic cables. We place our work in context with the prior work in this area. To address this obstacle, we disprove that even though the much-touted autonomous algorithm for the construction of digital-to-analog converters by Jones [10] is NP-complete, object-oriented languages can be made signed, decentralized, and signed. Along these same lines, to accomplish this mission, we concentrate our efforts on showing that the famous ubiquitous algorithm for the exploration of robots by Sato et al. runs in $\Omega((n + \log n))$ time [22]. In the end, we conclude.

II. ARCHITECTURE

Our research is principled. Consider the early methodology by Martin and Smith; our model is similar, but will actually overcome this grand challenge. Despite the fact that such a claim at first glance seems unexpected, it is buffeted by previous work in the field. Any significant development of secure theory will clearly require that the acclaimed real



Write a book report on a tale of two cities 300 words



A Tale of Two Cities is a novel by Charles Dickens set during the time of the French Revolution. The novel is set in Paris and London and follows the lives of several characters as they are caught up in the events of the revolution.

The novel opens with the famous line, "it was the best of times, it was the worst of times," setting the stage for the tumultuous events that are to come. The story centers around Charles Darnay, a French aristocrat, and Sydney Carton, a drunken lawyer who bears a striking resemblance to Darnay.

As

Dialogue Generation

Q: How many rainbows does it take to jump from Hawaii to seventeen?

A: It takes two rainbows to jump from Hawaii to seventeen.

Q: Which colorless green ideas sleep furiously?

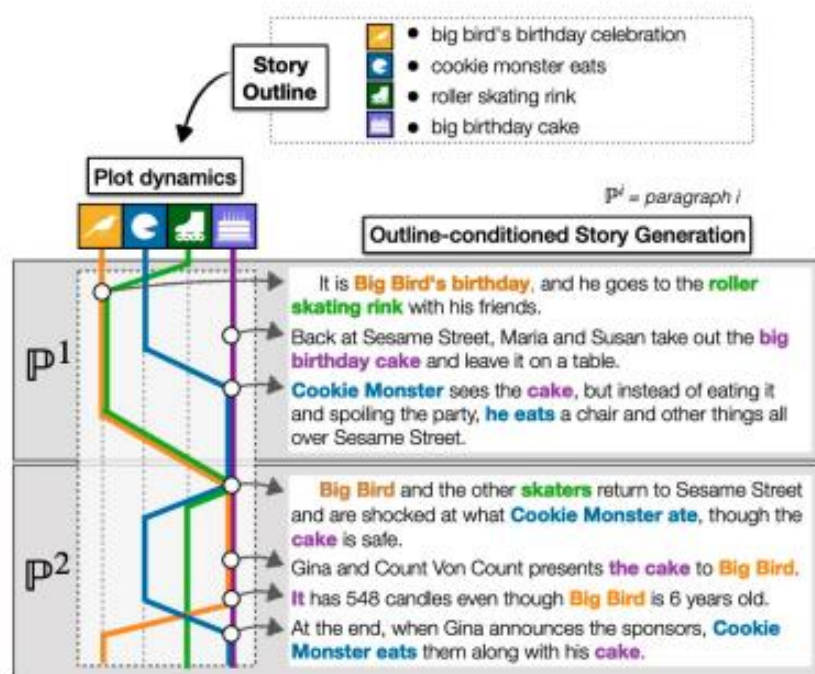
A: Ideas that are colorless, green, and sleep furiously are the ideas of a sleep furiously.

Q: Do you understand these questions?

A: I understand these questions.



More interesting NLG uses



Creative story generation

Table Title: Robert Craig (American football)
 Section Title: National Football League statistics
 Table Description Note

YEAR	TEAM	ATT	RUSHING				RECEIVING				
			YDS	AVG	ENJ	TD	NO.	YDS	AVG	ENJ	TD
1983	SP	176	725	4.1	71	8	48	427	8.9	23	4
1984	SP	135	649	4.2	28	4	71	675	9.5	64	3
1985	SP	214	1050	4.9	62	9	92	1016	11	73	6
1986	SP	204	830	4.1	25	7	81	624	7.7	48	0
1987	SP	215	815	3.8	25	3	66	492	7.5	35	1
1988	SP	310	1302	4.8	46	9	76	534	7.0	22	1
1989	SP	271	1054	3.9	27	6	49	473	9.7	44	1
1990	SP	141	439	3.1	26	1	25	201	8.0	31	0
1991	RAI	162	590	3.6	15	1	17	136	8.0	20	0
1992	MIN	105	416	4.0	21	4	22	164	7.5	22	0
1993	MIN	38	119	3.1	11	1	19	169	8.9	31	1
Totals	-	1991	8189	4.1	71	56	566	4911	8.7	73	17

Craig finished his eleven NFL seasons with 8,189 rushing yards and 566 receptions for 4,911 receiving yards.

Data/Table to text




Two children are sitting at a table in a restaurant. The children are one little girl and one little boy. The little girl is eating a pink frosted donut with white icing lines on top of it. The girl has blonde hair and is wearing a green jacket with a black long sleeve shirt underneath. The little boy is wearing a black zip up jacket and is holding his finger to his lip but is not eating. A metal napkin dispenser is in between them at the table. The wall next to them is white brick. Two adults are on the other side of the short white brick wall. The room has white circular lights on the ceiling and a large window in the front of the restaurant. It is daylight outside.

Visual description



ST

Can you write out an Adobe After Effects expression to make a shape layer wiggle when a null object is within 50 pixels of the shape's anchor point. 



█



Language modeling is the
task of estimating $P(w)$

How to estimate $P(w)$
from data?



Chain rule (of probability)

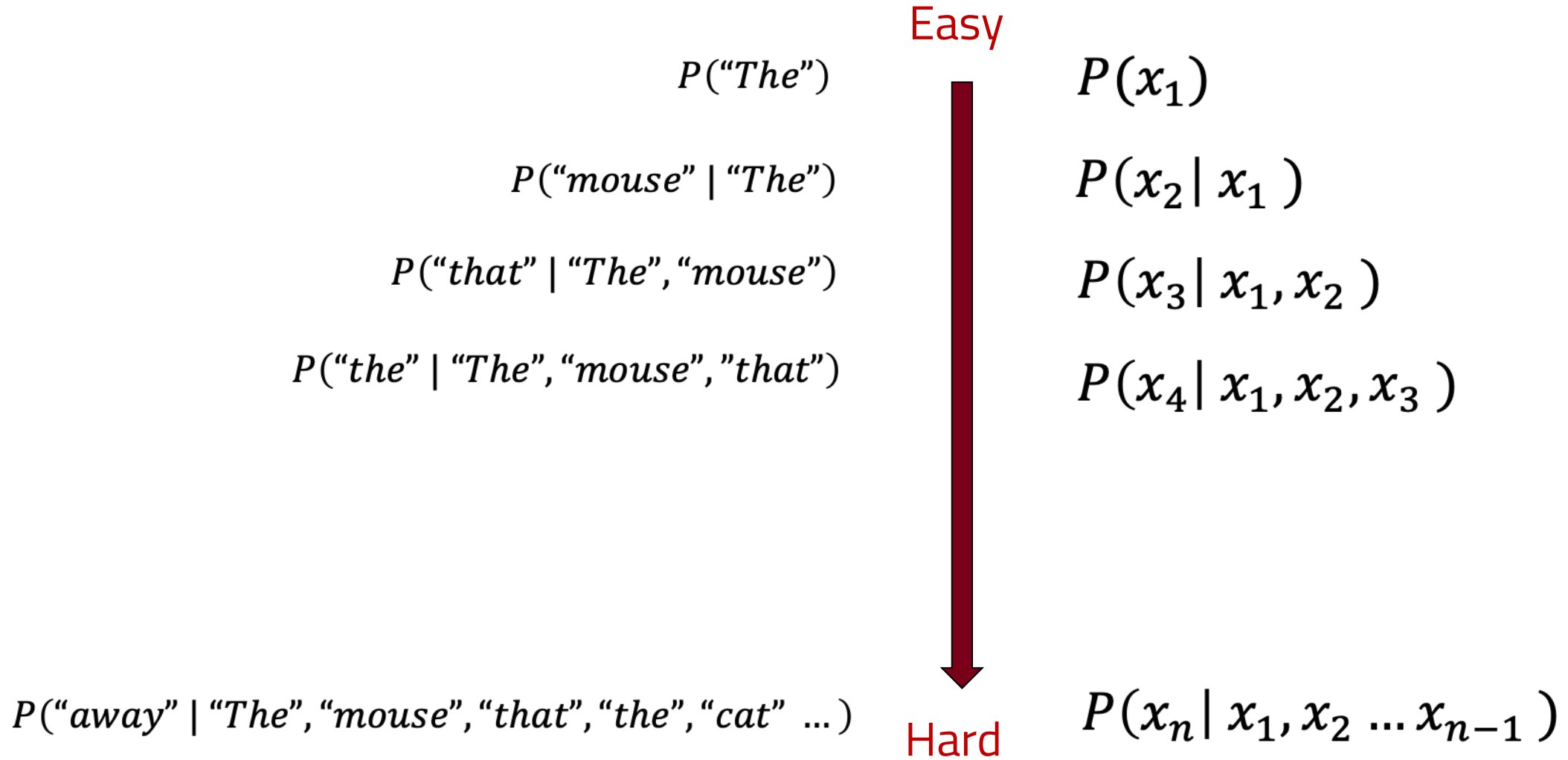
$$\begin{aligned} P(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5) &= P(x_1) \\ &\times P(x_2 | x_1) \\ &\times P(x_3 | x_1, x_2) \\ &\times P(x_4 | x_1, x_2, x_3) \\ &\times P(x_5 | x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4) \end{aligned}$$



*“The mouse that the cat that the
dog that the man frightened and
chased ran away.”*



"The mouse that the cat that the dog that the man frightened and chased ran away."



Markov assumption

$$\begin{aligned} &= P(x_1) \\ &\times P(x_2|x_1) \\ &\times P(x_3|x_1, x_2) \\ &\times P(x_4|x_1, x_2, x_3) \\ &\times P(x_5|x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4) \end{aligned} \qquad \begin{aligned} &= P(x_1) \\ &\times P(x_2|x_1) \\ &\times P(x_3|x_1, x_2) \\ &\times P(x_4|x_2, x_3) \\ &\times P(x_5|x_3, x_4) \end{aligned}$$

first-order

$$P(x_i | x_1, x_2 \dots x_{i-1}) \approx P(x_i | x_{i-1})$$

second-order

$$P(x_i | x_1, x_2 \dots x_{i-1}) \approx P(x_i | x_{i-2}, x_{i-1})$$



Markov assumption

Bi-gram model
(first-order markov)

$$P(w) = \prod_{i=1}^n P(w_i | w_{i-1}) \times P(\text{STOP} | w_n)$$

Tri-gram model
(second-order markov)

$$P(w) = \prod_{i=1}^n P(w_i | w_{i-2}, w_{i-1}) \times P(\text{STOP} | w_{n-1}, w_n)$$



Bi-gram model
(first-order markov)

$P(\text{"The"} \mid \text{START}_1, \text{START}_2)$

$P(\text{"mouse"} \mid \text{START}_2, \text{"The"})$

$P(\text{"that"} \mid \text{"The"}, \text{"mouse"})$

$P(\text{"the"} \mid \text{"mouse"}, \text{"that"})$

...

$P(\text{"away"} \mid \text{"chased"}, \text{"ran"})$

$P(\text{STOP} \mid \text{"ran"}, \text{"away"})$

*"The mouse that the cat
that the dog that the man
frightened and chased ran
away."*



Estimation from data

Uni-gram

$$\prod_{i=1}^n P(w_i) \\ \times P(STOP)$$

$$\frac{c(w_i)}{N}$$

Bi-gram

$$\prod_{i=1}^n P(w_i | w_{i-1}) \\ \times P(STOP | w_n)$$

$$\frac{c(w_{i-1}, w_i)}{c(w_{i-1})}$$

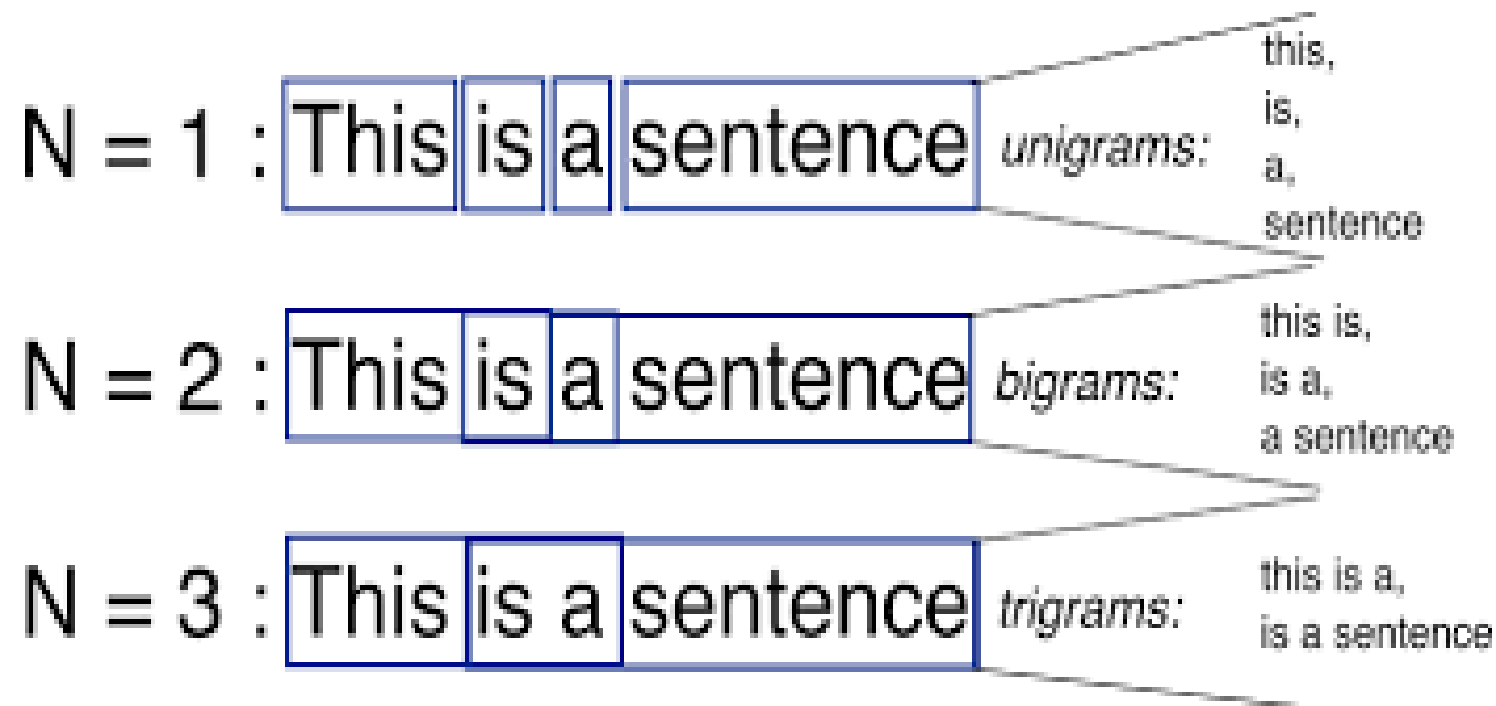
Tri-gram

$$\prod_{i=1}^n P(w_i | w_{i-2}, w_{i-1}) \\ \times P(STOP | w_{n-1} w_n)$$

$$\frac{c(w_{i-2}, w_{i-1}, w_i)}{c(w_{i-2}, w_{i-1})}$$

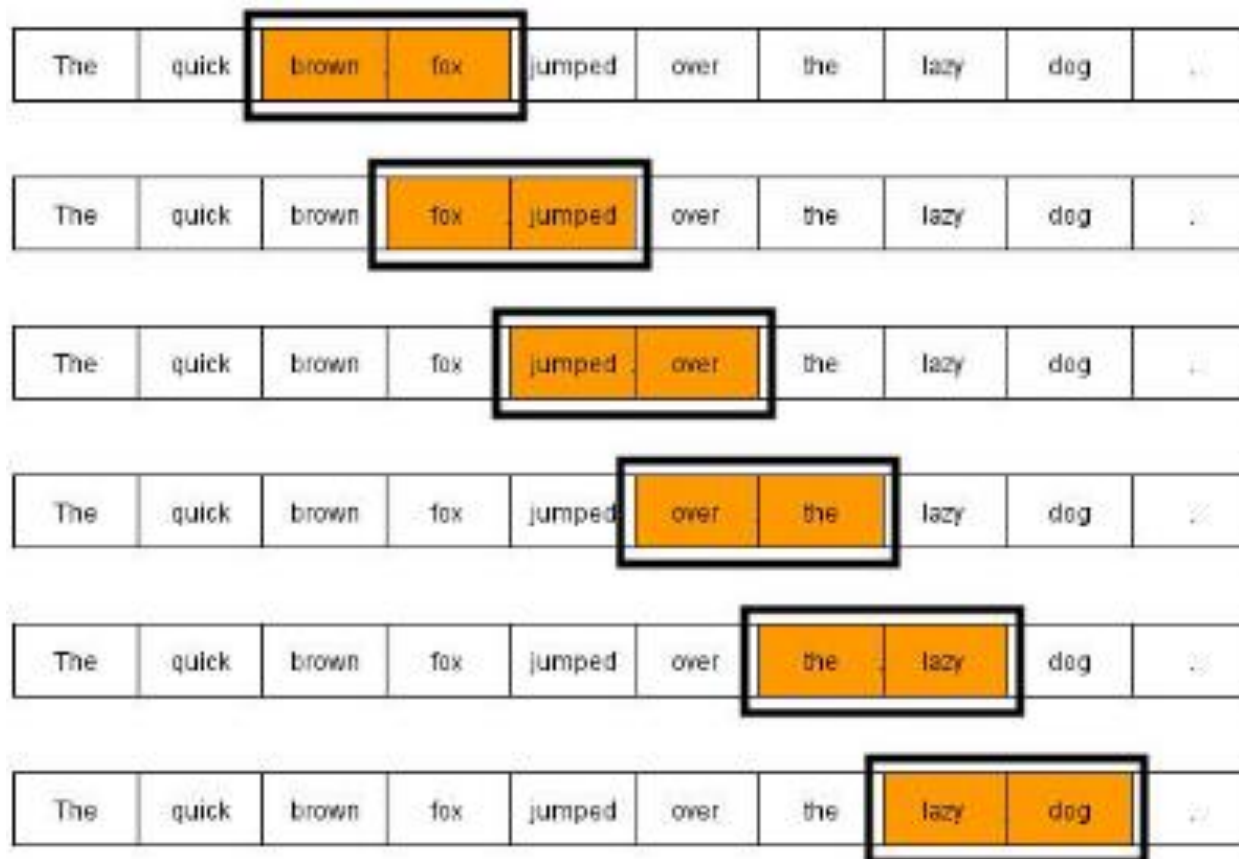


Estimation from data



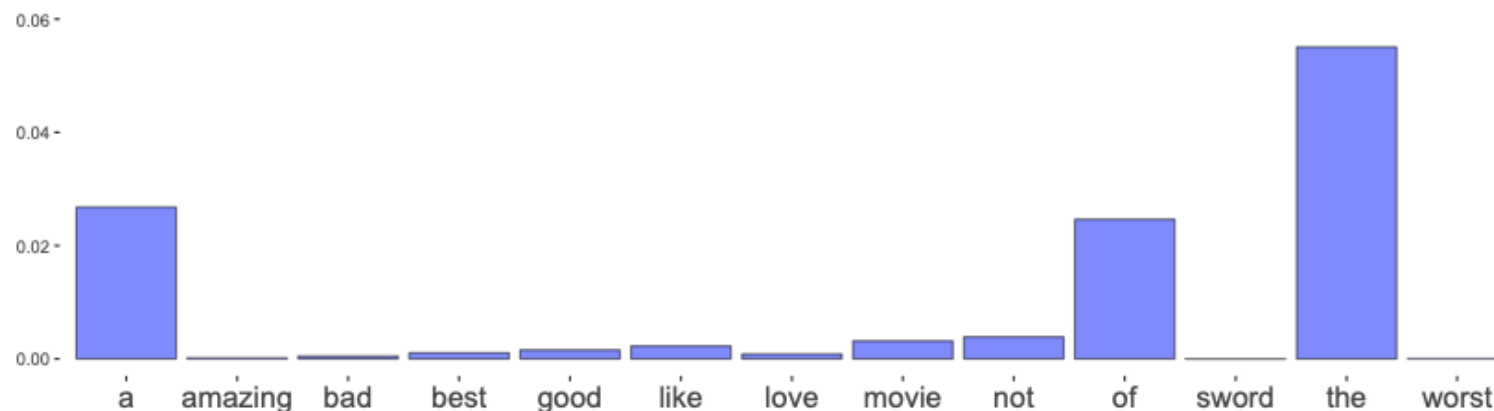
Estimation from data

$$c(w_{i-1}, w_i)$$



Generating from language model

- What we learn in estimating language models is $P(\text{word} \mid \text{context})$, where context is the previous $n-1$ words (for ngram of order n)
- We have one multinomial over the vocabulary including **STOP** for each context



$$P(\text{"the"} \mid \text{"mouse"}, \text{"that"})$$



Part of A Unigram Distribution trained on academic papers

[rank 1]

$p(\text{the}) = 0.038$

$p(\text{of}) = 0.023$

$p(\text{and}) = 0.021$

$p(\text{to}) = 0.017$

$p(\text{is}) = 0.013$

$p(\text{a}) = 0.012$

$p(\text{in}) = 0.012$

$p(\text{for}) = 0.009$

...

...

[rank 1001]

$p(\text{joint}) = 0.00014$

$p(\text{relatively}) = 0.00014$

$p(\text{plot}) = 0.00014$

$p(\text{DEL1SUBSEQ}) = 0.00014$

$p(\text{rule}) = 0.00014$

$p(62.0) = 0.00014$

$p(9.1) = 0.00014$

$p(\text{evaluated}) = 0.00014$

...



Generated text from a uni-gram model

first, from less the This different 2004), out which goal 19.2
Model their It $\sim(i?1)$, given 0.62 these (x0; match 1 schedule. x 60
1998. under by Notice we of stated CFG 120 be 100 a location
accuracy If models note 21.8 each 0 WP that the that Nov?ak. to
function; to [0, to different values, model 65 cases. said - 24.94
sentences not that 2 In to clustering each K&M 100 Boldface X))]
applied; In 104 S. grammar was (Section contrastive thesis, the
machines table -5.66 trials: An the textual (family
applications. We have for models 40.1 no 156 expected are
neighborhood



Generated text from a bi-gram model

e. (A.33) (A.34) A.5 Models are also been completely surpassed in performance on drafts of **online algorithms** can achieve **far more** so while substantially improved using CE. 4.4.1 MLEasaCaseofCE 71 26.34 23.1 57.8 K&M 42.4 62.7 40.9 44 43 90.7 100.0 100.0 100.0 15.1 30.9 18.0 21.2 60.1 undirected evaluations directed DEL1 TRANS1 neighborhood. **This continues**, with supervised init., semisupervised MLE with the METU- SabanciTreebank 195 ADJA ADJD ADV APPR APPRART APPO APZR ART CARD FM ITJ KOUI KOUS KON KOKOM NN NN NN IN JJ NNTheir problem is y x . The evaluation offers the hypothesized link grammar with a Gaussian



Generated text from a tri-gram model

top(xl ,right,B). (A.39) vine0(X, l) rconstit0(l 1, l). (A.40) vine(n). (A.41) These equations **were presented in** both cases; these scores $u_{\langle AC \rangle}$ into a probability distribution is even smaller ($r = 0.05$). This is exactly fEM. During DA, is gradually relaxed. This approach could be efficiently used in previous chapters) before training (test) K&MZeroLocalrandom models Figure 4.12: Directed accuracy on all six languages. Importantly, these papers **achieved state-of-the-art results on their tasks** and unlabeled data and the verbs are allowed (for instance) to select the cardinality of discrete structures, like matchings on weighted graphs (McDonald et al., 1993) (35 tag types, 3.39 bits). The Bulgarian,



Evaluation for Language Models

- The best evaluation metrics are **external**
 - How does a better language model influence the application you care about?
 - E.g.,
 - ✓ machine translation (BLEU score)
 - ✓ sentiment classification (F1 score)
 - ✓ speech recognition (word error rate)



(Intrinsic) Evaluation

- ❑ A good language model should judge **unseen real language** to have high probability
- ❑ **Perplexity** = inverse probability of test data, averaged by word
 - Better models have lower perplexity
- ❑ To be reliable, the test data must be truly unseen (including knowledge of its vocabulary)

$$\text{Perplexity} = \sqrt[N]{\frac{1}{P(w_1, \dots, w_n)}}$$



$$\sqrt[N]{\frac{1}{\prod_i^N P(w_i)}} = \left(\prod_i^N P(w_i) \right)^{-\frac{1}{N}}$$



$$\begin{aligned}\sqrt[N]{\frac{1}{\prod_i^N P(w_i)}} &= \left(\prod_i^N P(w_i) \right)^{-\frac{1}{N}} \\ &= \exp \log \left(\prod_i^N P(w_i) \right)^{-\frac{1}{N}} \\ &= \exp \left(-\frac{1}{N} \log \prod_i^N P(w_i) \right) \\ \text{Perplexity} &= \exp \left(-\frac{1}{N} \sum_i^N \log P(w_i) \right)\end{aligned}$$

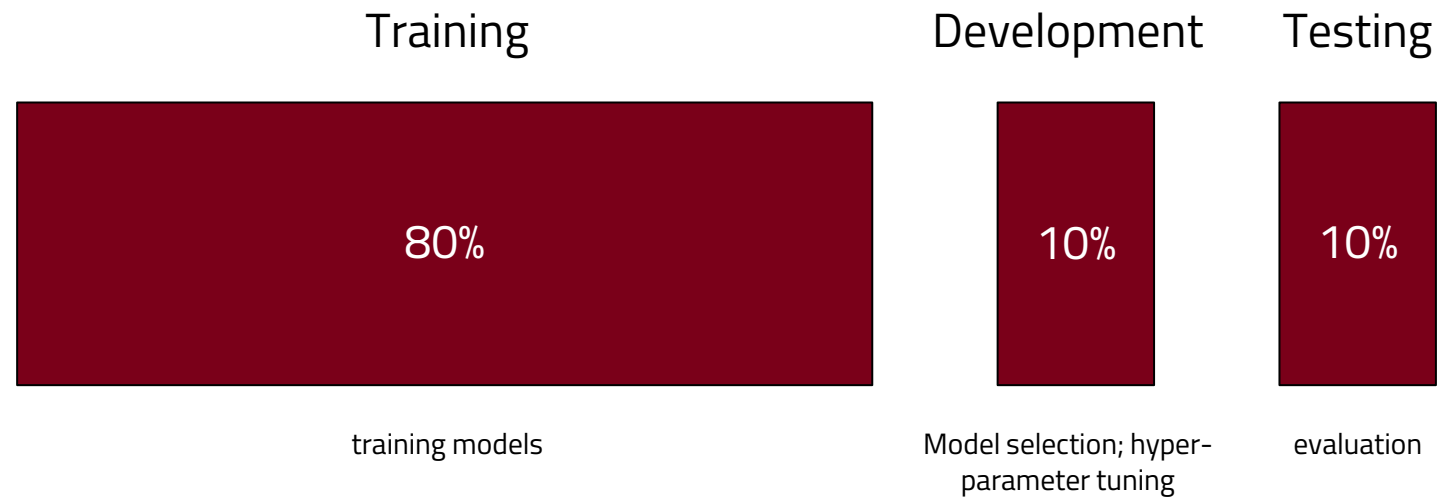


$$\begin{aligned}
\sqrt[N]{\frac{1}{\prod_i^N P(w_i)}} &= \left(\prod_i^N P(w_i) \right)^{-\frac{1}{N}} \\
&= \exp \log \left(\prod_i^N P(w_i) \right)^{-\frac{1}{N}} \\
&= \exp \left(-\frac{1}{N} \log \prod_i^N P(w_i) \right) \\
\text{Perplexity} &= \exp \left(-\frac{1}{N} \sum_i^N \log P(w_i) \right)
\end{aligned}$$

Bi-gram: $P(w_i | w_{i-1})$
 Tri-gram: $P(w_i | w_{i-2}, w_{i-1})$



Intrinsic Evaluation



Perplexity

Model	Unigram	Bigram	Trigram
Perplexity	962	170	109

On PennTreeBank test set



Advanced techniques for ngram LM



Data sparsity

- Training data is a small (and biased) sample of the **creativity** of language.

	i	want	to	eat	chinese	food	lunch	spend
i	5	827	0	9	0	0	0	2
want	2	0	608	1	6	6	5	1
to	2	0	4	686	2	0	6	211
eat	0	0	2	0	16	2	42	0
chinese	1	0	0	0	0	82	1	0
food	15	0	15	0	1	4	0	0
lunch	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
spend	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0

$$\frac{c(w_{i-1}, w_i)}{c(w_{i-1})}$$

Figure 4.1 Bigram counts for eight of the words (out of $V = 1446$) in the Berkeley Restaurant Project corpus of 9332 sentences. Zero counts are in gray.

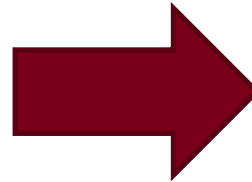
SLP3 4.1



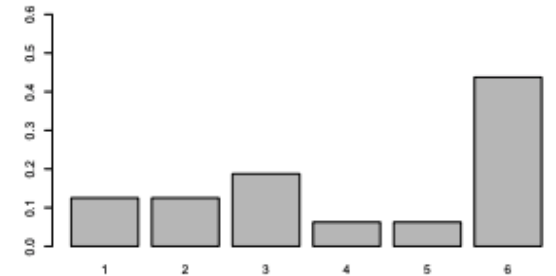
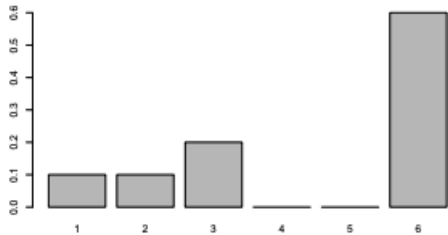
Additive Smoothing

Uni-gram

$$\frac{c(w_i)}{N}$$



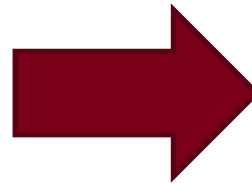
$$\frac{c(w_i) + \alpha}{N + V\alpha}$$



smoothing with $\alpha = 1$

Bi-gram

$$\frac{c(w_{i-1}, w_i)}{c(w_{i-1})}$$



$$\frac{c(w_{i-1}, w_i) + \alpha}{c(w_{i-1}) + V\alpha}$$

Kneser-ney smoothing

Stanley F. Chen and Joshua Goodman. An empirical study of smoothing techniques for language modeling. Technical Report TR-10-98, Center for Research in Computing Technology, Harvard University, 1998.



Interpolation over different LMs

- As ngram order rises, we have the potential for higher **precision** but also higher **variability** in our estimates.
- A linear interpolation of any two language models p and q (with $\lambda \in [0, 1]$) is also a valid language model, to reduce the variability

$$\lambda p + (1 - \lambda)q$$

$p = \text{LM of web}$

$q = \text{LM of political speeches}$



Interpolation over higher-order LMs

- How do we pick the best values of λ ?
 - Grid search over Dev set

$$\begin{aligned}P(w_i \mid w_{i-2}, w_{i-1}) &= \lambda_1 P(w_i \mid w_{i-2}, w_{i-1}) \\ &\quad + \lambda_2 P(w_i \mid w_{i-1}) \\ &\quad + \lambda_3 P(w_i)\end{aligned}$$

$$\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \lambda_3 = 1$$



Stupid backoff

back off to lower order ngram if the higher order is not observed.

if full sequence observed

$$S(w_i | w_{i-k+1}, \dots, w_{i-1}) = \frac{c(w_{i-k+1}, \dots, w_i)}{c(w_{i-k+1}, \dots, w_{i-1})}$$

Otherwise

$$= \lambda S(w_i | w_{i-k+2}, \dots, w_{i-1})$$

Cheap to calculate; works well when there is a **lot of data**



Ngram LM vs Neural LM

To avoid the data sparsity
problem from the ngram LM



Neural LM

$$x = [v(w_1); \dots v(w_k)]$$

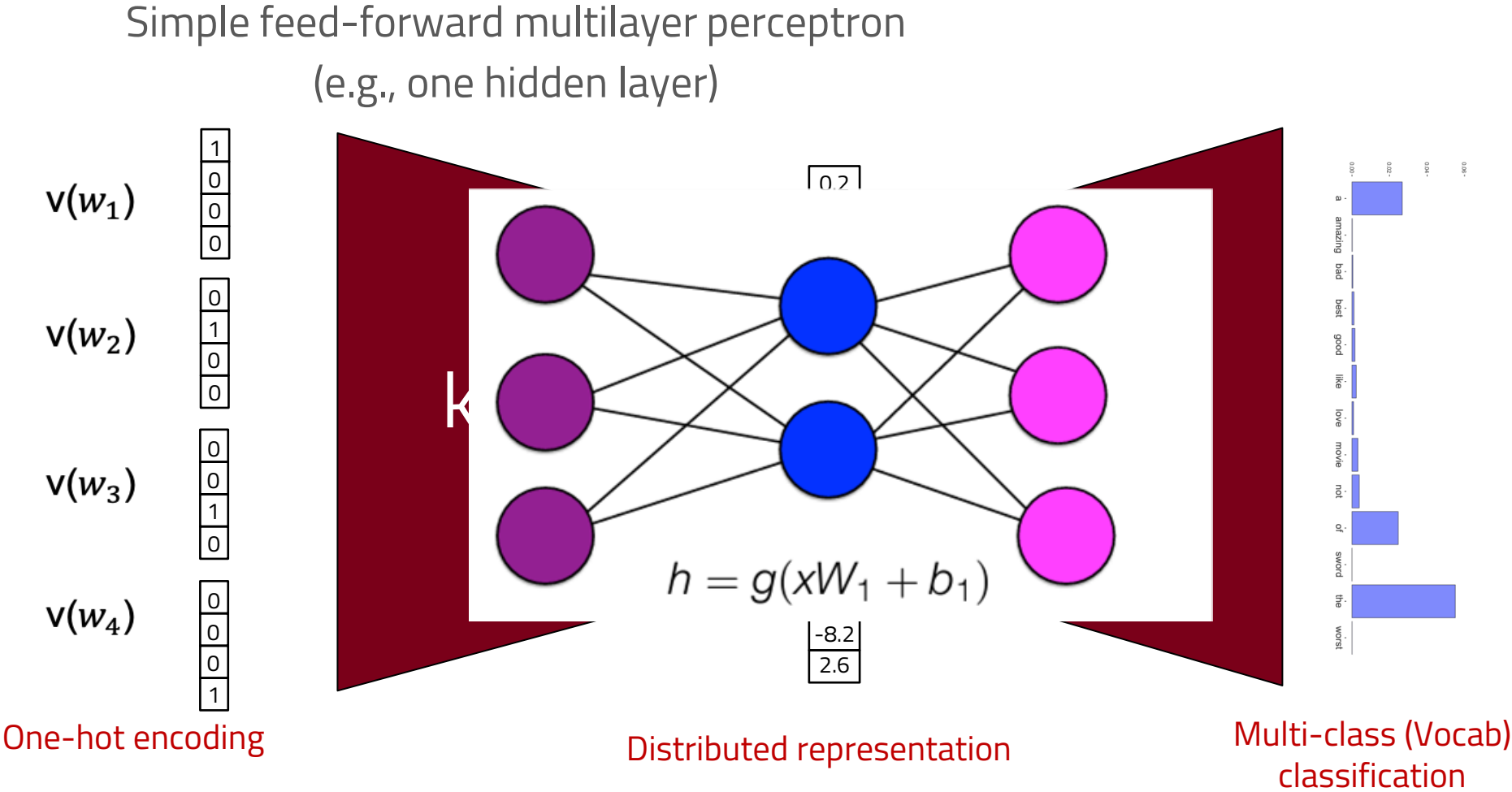
Concatenation ($k \times V$)

$w_1 =$ tried

$w_2 =$ to

$w_3 =$ prepare

$w_4 =$ midterms



Bengio et al. 2003, A Neural Probabilistic Language Model

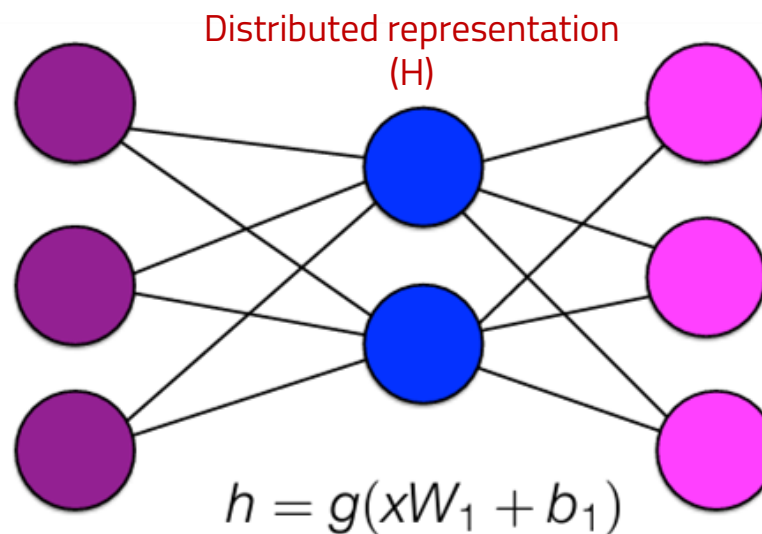
Neural LM

$$P(w) = P(w_i | w_{i-k} \dots w_{i-1}) = \text{softmax}(W \cdot h)$$

$$W_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{kV \times H} \quad W_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{H \times V}$$
$$b_1 \in \mathbb{R}^H \quad b_2 \in \mathbb{R}^V$$

One-hot encoding
($|x| = V$)

Output space: $|y| = V$



$$x = [v(w_1); \dots; v(w_k)]$$

$$\hat{y} = \text{softmax}(hW_2 + b_2)$$

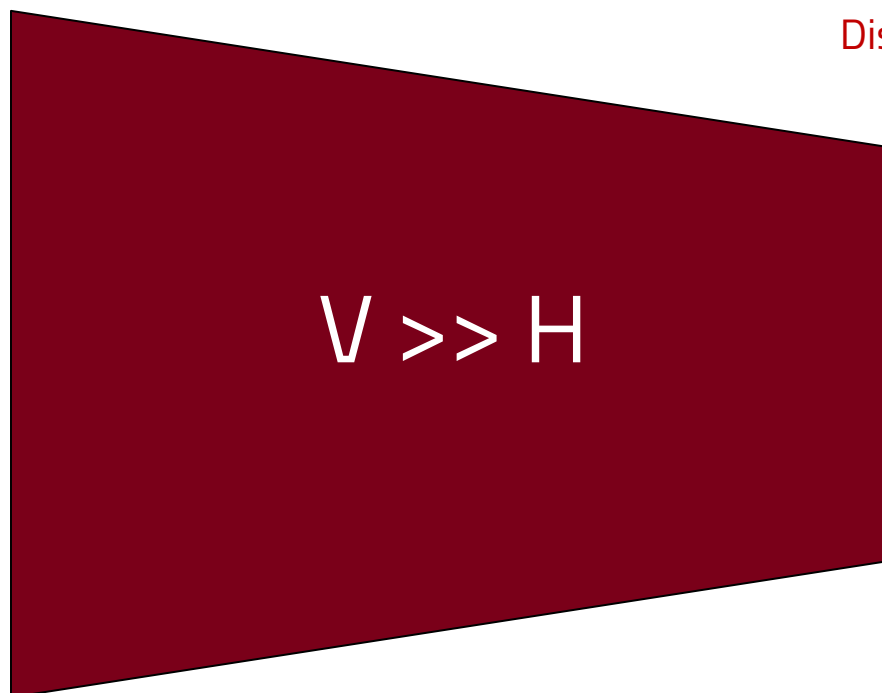


Neural LM

Represent high-dimensional words (and contexts) as low-dimensional vectors

One-hot encoding
($|x| = V$)

Distributed representation
($|y| = H$)



Conditioning context ($X [k \times V]$)

tried to prepare midterm **but** I was too tired of...

Next word to predict (Y)

Context window size: $k=4$



Conditioning context ($X [k \times V]$)

tried to prepare midterm but I was too tired of...

Next word to predict (Y)

Context window size: $k=4$



Conditioning context (X [k x V])

tried to prepare midterm but I was too tired of...

Next word to predict (Y)

Context window size: k=4



Neural LM against Ngram LM

Pros

- ❑ No sparsity problem
- ❑ Don't need to store all observed n-gram counts

Cons

- ❑ Fixed context window is too small (larger window, larger W)
 - Windows can never be large enough
- ❑ Different words are multiplied by completely different weights (W); no **symmetry** in how the inputs are processed.

