

University of Stuttgart Germany



Second-order Co-occurrence Sensitivity of Skip-Gram with Negative Sampling

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Dominik Schlechtweg, Cennet Oguz, Sabine Schulte im Walde Institute for Natural Language Processing, University of Stuttgart, Germany

First-order co-occurrence vectors

represent a word w by a vector of the **counts of context words** it directly co-occurs with

Second-order co-occurrence vectors (Schütze, 1998)

represent a word w by a **count vector of the context words of the context words**, i.e., the second-order context words of w

Second-order co-occurrence vectors (Schütze, 1998)

- less sparse and more robust than first-order vectors
- helpful where first-order information is a rare or biased
- can be seen as a way of generalization

Example

- (1) As far as the Soviet Communist **Party** and the Comintern were concerned ...
- (2) ... this is precisely the approach taken by the British Government.

- (3) The Communist authorities hated rock culture
- (4) ... rather than risk deportation to British authorities.

Second-order co-occurrence vectors (Schütze, 1998)

- less sparse, more robust, generalization
- $\rightarrow\,$ capturing second-order information improves performance

Vector Space Models

Traditional Count

X Count, PPMI do not capture second-order co-occurrence information, but can be modified to do so (\checkmark)

Traditional Embeddings

✓ Truncated SVD does capture second-order co-occurrence information (Kontostathis & Pottenger, 2002)

Modern Embeddings

? SGNS, GloVe, FastText

We compare

- X Positive Pointwise Mutual Information (PPMI)
- ✓ Truncated Singular Value Decomposition (SVD)
- ? Skip-Gram with Negative Sampling (SGNS)

Pointwise Mutual Information

$$pmi(w;c) = \log rac{p(w,c)}{p(w)p(c)}$$

Truncated SVD

$$M^{\mathrm{PPMI}} = U \Sigma V^{\top}$$

 $M^{\mathrm{SVD}} = U_d \Sigma_d$

Training objective

$$\arg\max_{\theta} \sum_{(w,c)\in D} \log \sigma(v_c \cdot v_w) + \sum_{(w,c)\in D'} \log \sigma(-v_c \cdot v_w)$$

Training

a c c a c b b c b d d e

Training pairs

Experiment 1: Simulating context overlap

1. first-order overlap (1st):

= same context words in first, \neq distinct context words in second order

2. 2nd-order overlap (2nd):

 \neq distinct context words in first, = same context words in second order

3. no overlap (none):

 \neq distinct context words in first, \neq distinct context words in second order

Experiment 1: Simulating first/second-order context overlap

order	1st	2nd	none
C 1	a c	аc	аc
	a d	a d	a d
	b c	b e	b e
	b d	b f	b f
C2	си	с и	сu
	сv	c v	cν
	d w	d u	d w
	d x	d v	d x

Experiment 1: Simulating context overlap

Hypothesis

SGNS and SVD will predict target words from the **2nd-group to be more similar on average than target words from the none-group** (although both groups have no first-order context overlap), while PPMI will predict similar averages for both groups.







Experiment 2: Propagating second-order co-occurrence information

- 1. create very small corpus (10M tokens from ukWaC)
- 2. extract first-and second-order word-context pairs
- 3. add second to first-order pairs for low-frequency words
- 4. compare performance (WordSim353) on first-order vs. mixed training pairs

Experiment 2: Propagating second-order co-occurrence information

Hypothesis

Additional second-order information will **impact PPMI representations positively and stronger than SVD and SGNS**, because the latter already capture second-order information.







Explanation: SGNS

Banana 1 -2 3 ... W = Watermelon -3 2 1 $C = \dots$ eat 2 3 -1



































Relation between SVD and SGNS

- show similar results (Levy et al., 2015)
- their training objectives have been related to each other (Levy & Goldberg, 2014)
- their correspondence in the low-dimensional case has not been shown yet
- $\rightarrow\,$ if SGNS is implicit SVD, it should be second-order co-occurrence sensitive

Does this show that SGNS is implicit SVD?

- no
- it just shows that in the low-dimensional case they share one fundamental property
- there is evidence that vector spaces learned by low-dimensional SGNS and SVD have other different properties (Shin et al., 2018)

Conclusion

- SGNS captures second-order co-occurrence information, a property it shares with SVD and distinguishes it from PPMI
- variety of algorithms with SGNS architecture
- SGNS became the "traditional model" this year
- so, what about GloVe, ELMo, BERT?
- how does second-order sensitivity relate to performance? (Artetxe, Labaka, Lopez-Gazpio, & Agirre, 2018)

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Results GloVe



Figure 1: Results of simulation experiment with GloVe embeddings.