

**What Happens Next? Event Prediction Using  
a Compositional Neural Network Model**  
**Mark Granroth-Wilding, Stephen Clark**  
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# What is an Event?

Predicate

**Text:** Robbers made a big score, fleeing after stealing more than \$300,000 from Wells Fargo armored-truck guards who were servicing the track's ATMs, the Police Department said. The two Wells Fargo guards reported they were starting to put money in the clubhouse ATM when a man with a gun approached and ordered them to lie down. . .

**Entity mentions:** {Wells Fargo armored-truck guards, The two Wells Fargo guards, they, . . . }

**Predicate events:**  $service(x_0, ATMs)$ ,  $report(x_0)$ ,  $put(x_0, money, in\ clubhouse)$ ,  $lie+down(x_0)$ , . . .

**C&J08 events:**  $(service, subj)$ ,  $(report, subj)$ ,  $(put, subj)$ ,  $(lie+down, subj)$

Predicate

$x_0$

$x_0$

$x_0$

$x_0$

Predicate

Predicate

- **Event** : said to be described each time an entity is an argument to a verb (assumption)
- **Representation:** verb(subject, object (optional))
  - e.g. eat(John, spaghetti)

# Problem Overview

- **Narrative chain:** Partially ordered set of events sharing a common entity
- **Event Prediction:** Predict missing events in a narrative chain
- Why is it important?
  - Requires good understanding of event descriptions
  - Requires good representation of events

## EXAMPLE:

- Context Events:  
play(x, tennis), enter(x, tournament), win(x, final)
- Options:
  1. lift(x, trophy)
  2. cook(x, spaghetti)
  3. kill(x, spider)
  4. discover(x, truth)
  5. drive(x, car)

# Problem Overview

- Narrative Cloze Task:
  - Sequence of events with a missing event
  - Need to predict the missing event given the rest
  - Cons: Large number of possibilities
- Multiple Choice Narrative Cloze:
  - Input: A sequence of events, 5 candidate events
  - Output: A candidate event
  - Better performance measure (Accuracy)

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# Previous approaches

- Want measure of relevance between context and candidate event
- Relevance measured as point-wise mutual information between context and candidate events [Chambers and Jurafsky, '08]
- Relevance of event measured using bigram probability in terms of events [Jans et al, '12]

- Probabilities are estimated using counts (and smoothing) from training corpus

$$s(c) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} ppmi(e_i, e_c)$$

$$ppmi(x, y) = \max\left(\log_2\left(\frac{P(x, y)}{P(x)P(y)}\right), 0\right)$$

$$s(c) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} P(e_c | e_i)$$

# Dataset

- Events extracted from the NYT articles of Gigaword corpus
- PoS tagging and dependency parsing (using C&C tools) for identifying verb, subject, object. Verbs lemmatized.
- Coreference resolution using OpenNLP
- Predicative adjectives for the verbs “be” and “become”:
  - e.g., X was upset  $\rightarrow$  be(X, upset)
- Remove events with high frequency and low meaning
- Incorrect options randomly sampled from other chains

## Entities

$x_0 =$  Giardino       $x_1 =$  chairman, him

## Context ( $e_i$ )

die( $x_0$ ), attend( $x_0$ , reunion), specialize( $x_0$ , as partner),  
describe( $x_0$ ,  $x_1$ , as product), hold( $x_0$ , position),  
appoint(–,  $x_0$ , to the board), lead( $x_0$ , effort),  
improve( $x_0$ , operation), propose( $x_0$ , cut), play( $x_0$ , role),

$c_1$ : receive( $x_0$ , response)

$c_2$ : drive( $x_0$ , mile)

$c_3$ : seem( $x_0$ )

$c_4$ : discover( $x_0$ , truth)

$c_5$ : modernize( $x_0$ , procedure)

Answer:  $c_5$

# Motivation

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- **Aim:** Predict next event
- **How:** Measure relevance between context and candidate events
- Verbs which occur in similar contexts are more relevant  
e.g., *diving* and *swimming* as opposed to *diving* and *talking*
- **Count-based methods:** high probability only to events occurring in training corpus
- **Word embeddings:** Map words to fixed-length vectors. Expectations:
  - Similar words have “similar” vectors
  - Good semantic properties
  - Capture relation between words not seen together while training  
e.g., criticize(politician, law), repeal(parliament, law)
- ∴ Use word embeddings to represent events

# Models using external knowledge

- **Mikolov-Verb:**

- Represent events using pre-trained word embedding for its verb
- Relevance score obtained from cosine similarity between candidate event and sum of context events vectors

- **Mikolov-Verb-Arg:**

- Arguments (subject, object) contain information as well
- Represent events as sum of pre-trained word embeddings of verbs and arguments
- Relevance score is cosine similarity as before

# Models trained on corpus

**Predicate events:**  $service(x_0, machine)$ ,  $report(x_0)$ ,  $put(x_0, money, in\ clubhouse)$ ,  $lie+down(x_0), \dots$

**a. word2vec ‘sentence’:**  $service:subj\ report:subj\ put:subj\ lie+down:subj$

**b. word2vec ‘sentence’ with arguments:**  $service:subj\ arg:guards\ arg:machine\ report:subj\ arg:guards\ put:subj\ arg:guards\ arg:money\ arg:clubhouse\ lie+down:subj\ arg:guards$

- **Word2Vec-Pred:**

- Learn word embeddings instead of using pre-trained embeddings
- Represent each event as a single word
- Train a skip-gram model to get event embeddings
- **Score:** Cosine Similarity

- **Word2Vec-Pred+Arg:**

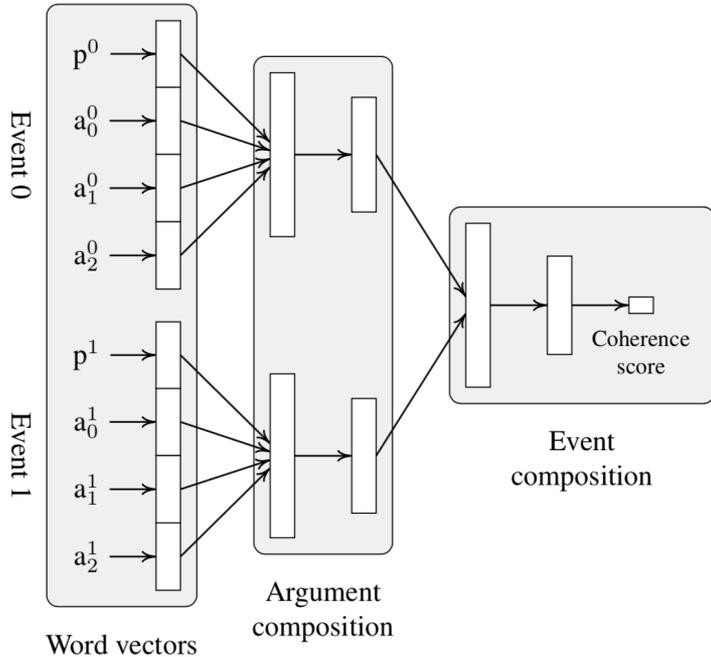
- Use information from arguments
- Treat verb and arguments as separate words
- Words from a single narrative chain form a sentence
- Skip-gram model to get words embeddings
- Event: Sum of argument and predicate word embeddings
- **Score:** Cosine Similarity

# Compositional Model

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- **Event-Comp:**
  - Need a better event representation
  - Obtain event representation by non-linear combination of embeddings using feedforward neural network
  - Initialize predicate and argument embeddings as in **Word2Vec-Pred+Arg**
  - **Score:** Feed-forward network to obtain a coherence score (scalar) between two events

# Event-Comp



Type to enter a caption.

- **Objective Function:**

$$\min_{\theta} (-\sum \log(\text{Score}) + \lambda L(\theta))$$

$$\text{Score} = 1[e_0 = e_1] \text{coh}(e_0, e_1) + 1[e_0 \neq e_1](1 - \text{coh}(e_0, e_1))$$

$\text{coh}(e_0, e_1)$  : Coherence score

$L(\theta)$  : Regularization Term

# Experiment Details

- **Evaluation:** Accuracy
- **Event-Comp:** Positive examples from same chain. Negative from other chains with entity replaced
- 300-dimensional word embeddings
- > 830k documents. > 11 million event chains.
- 10% for development set, 10% for test set.

## Entities

$x_0$  = Giardino       $x_1$  = chairman, him

## Context ( $e_i$ )

die( $x_0$ ), attend( $x_0$ , reunion), specialize( $x_0$ , as partner),  
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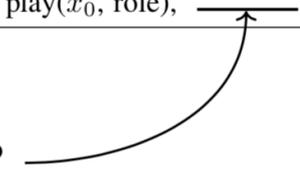
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# Result & Analysis

System	Accuracy(%)
Chance Baseline	20.00
C&J08	30.52
BIGRAM	29.67
DIST-VECS (using LSI)	27.94
MIKOLOV-VERB	24.57
MIKOLOV-VERB+ARG	28.97
Word2Vec-Pred	40.17
Word2Vec-Pred+Arg	42.23
EVENT-COMP	49.57

- C&J08 performs relatively better than a lot of models
- Learning word embeddings using predicates from event chains improves accuracy by a margin
- Including argument embeddings enhances performance
- Using a non-linear combination for the representation of an event performs better than a linear combination of events

# Conclusions

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- Better task in terms of evaluation of performance of models
- Skip-gram or CBOW can be used to get event representations
- Arguments are important while considering events

# Shortcomings

- Incomplete information about events
- Not all events are included in the chain
- The sequence of events is not taken into account
- Does not prevent model from making inconsistent/contradictory judgments
- No error analysis for where the model makes mistakes
- No comparison b/w coherence score and cosine similarity

## EXAMPLE:

- Context Events:  
participate(x, race),  
run(x), lead(x, race), fall(x)
- Options:
  1. win(x)
  2. injure(x)

# Future Work

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- Use temporal/sequence information
- Apply constraints to deal with inconsistent/contradictory results
- Combine an entire chain of events instead of considering pairs of events
- Better event representation
- Event prediction/generation using unstructured text
- Extend this model to story/event generation

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Thank You!