

Textual Entailment and Paraphrasing

NLP1

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Outline

- 1 Introduction
 - Applications of Textual Entailment
- 2 Levels of Representation
- 3 RTE Methods
 - Evaluation
- 4 Current Methods
 - NLI Datasets
 - Neural Network Models
 - Latent Variable Models
 - Drawbacks

Introduction

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$T \rightarrow H$

T: The purchase of Houston-based LexCorp by BMI for \$2Bn prompted widespread sell-offs by traders as they sought to minimize exposure.

H: BMI acquired an American company.

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- Physicians are trained in medicine to recognise and treat a disease.

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RTE can be **framed** as a classification problem, where the entailment relations are the classes, and the RTE benchmark provides the essential evidence to build a **supervised binary classifier** (Dagan et al., 2010)

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- We can frame natural language processing tasks as recognition.
Input as T and generated output as H .

Question Answering

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T/Q: Arabic, for example, is used densely across North Africa and from the Eastern Mediterranean to the Philippines, as the key language of the Arab world.

H/A: Arabic is the primary language of the Philippines.

Summarisation

- Identifying if a new sentence contains information already by a summary-in-progress (redundancy detection) can be framed as the current summary as T and the new sentence as H .

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T/S1: Google and NASA announced a working agreement, Wednesday, that could result in the Internet giant building a complex of up to 1 million square feet on NASA-owned property, adjacent to Moffett Field, near Mountain View.

H/S2: Google may build a campus on NASA property.

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- identify the relation “purchase”,
- determine that “A purchased by B” implies “B acquires A”.

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- The representation (e.g. words, syntax, semantics) of the T-H pair that is used to extract features to train a supervised classifier.

Lexical level

- Every assertion (word) in the representation of H is contained in the representation T.

Text

John Smith drove to Seattle and bought a Honda Civic

John() to() bought() Civic()
Smith() Seattle() a()
Drove() and() Honda()

Hypothesis

John Smith drove to Seattle

John() to()
Smith() Seattle()
Drove()

Lexical level

- H and T sentences encode aspects of underlying meaning that cannot be captured by the purely lexical representation.

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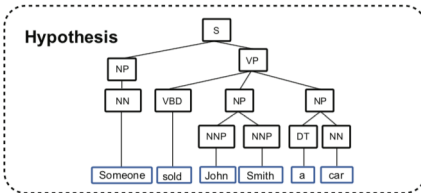
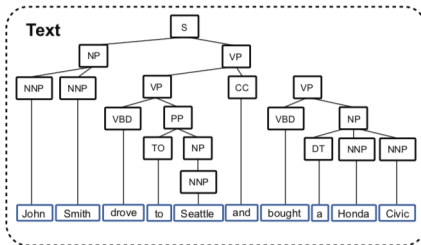
Hypothesis

a Honda Civic drove to Seattle

a() drove()
Honda() to()
Civic() Seattle()

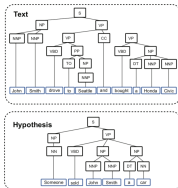
Structural level

- Syntactic structure provides cues for the underlying meaning of a sentence.



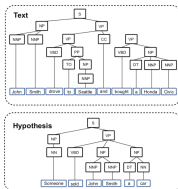
Structural level

- If T contains the same structure (i.e, dependency edges), the system will predict TRUE and otherwise FALSE.



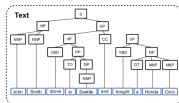
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- “John” and “drove,” but the two words are **separated** by a sequence of dependency edges.



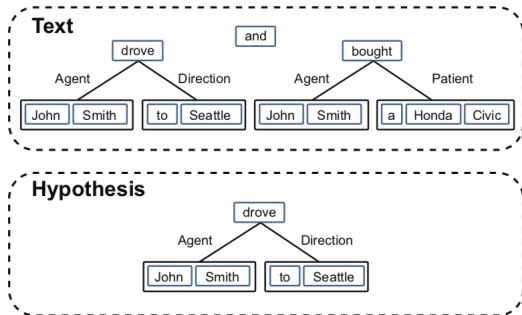
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- If T contains the same structure (i.e, dependency edges), the system will predict TRUE and otherwise FALSE.
- “John” and “drove,” but the two words are **separated** by a sequence of dependency edges.
- Given the expressiveness of the dependency representation, many possible sequences of edges that could represent connection, and many other sequences that do not.



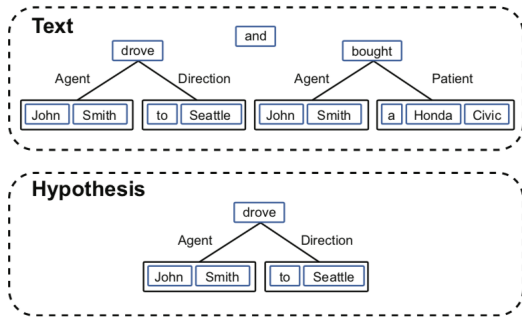
Semantic level

- Semantic role labelling, grouping of words into “arguments” (entity such as a person or place) and “predicates” (a predicate being a verb representing the state of some entity).



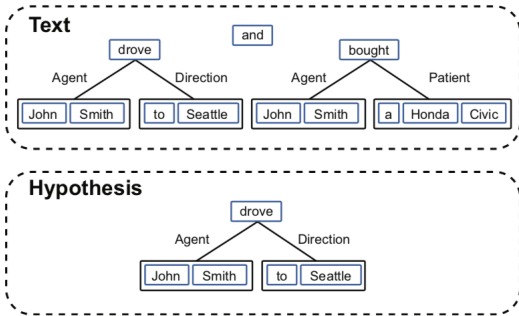
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- **Immediate connections** between arguments and predicates.
- “John” is an argument of the predicate “drove”



Knowledge Acquisition for RTE

- T: The U.S. citizens elected their new president Obama.
H: Obama was born in the U.S.

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- T: The U.S. citizens elected their new president Obama.
H: Obama was born in the U.S.
- Assumed **background knowledge**: “U.S. presidents should be naturally born in the U.S.”

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- I have a **cat**. entails I have a **pet**.
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hyponymy
- But also meaning implication between more complex structures than just lexical terms.
X causes Y → Y is a symptom of X

Knowledge Acquisition for RTE

- WordNet specifies **lexical-semantic** relations between lexical items such as hyponymy, synonymy, and derivation.
chair → furniture

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- FrameNet is a lexicographic resource for **frames** that are events and includes information on the predicates and argument relevant for that specific event.
The attack frame, and specifies events: 'assailant', a 'victim', a 'weapon', etc.
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- Wikipedia articles for identifying **is a** relations.
Jim Carrey → actor

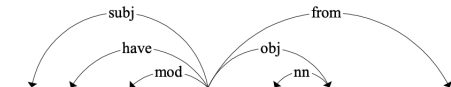
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- X solves Y
Y is solved by X
X finds a solution to Y

Knowledge Acquisition for RTE



They had previously bought bighorn sheep from Comstock.

- (a) $\boxed{N:subj:V} \leftarrow buy \rightarrow \boxed{V:from:N}$ (*X buys something from Y*)
- (b) $\boxed{N:subj:V} \leftarrow buy \rightarrow \boxed{V:obj:N}$ (*X buys Y*)
- (c) $\boxed{N:subj:V} \leftarrow buy \rightarrow \boxed{V:obj:N} \rightarrow sheep \rightarrow \boxed{N:nn:N}$ (*X buys Y sheep*)
- (d) $\boxed{N:nn:N} \leftarrow sheep \leftarrow \boxed{N:obj:V} \leftarrow buy \rightarrow \boxed{V:from:N}$ (*X sheep is bought from Y*)
- (e) $\boxed{N:obj:V} \leftarrow buy \rightarrow \boxed{V:from:N}$ (*X is bought from Y*)

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- RTE depend on the representation (e.g. words, syntax, semantics) of the T-H pair that is used to extract features to train a supervised classifier.

Text

John Smith drove to Seattle and bought a Honda Civic

Drive(E_{T1} , John Smith, Seattle)

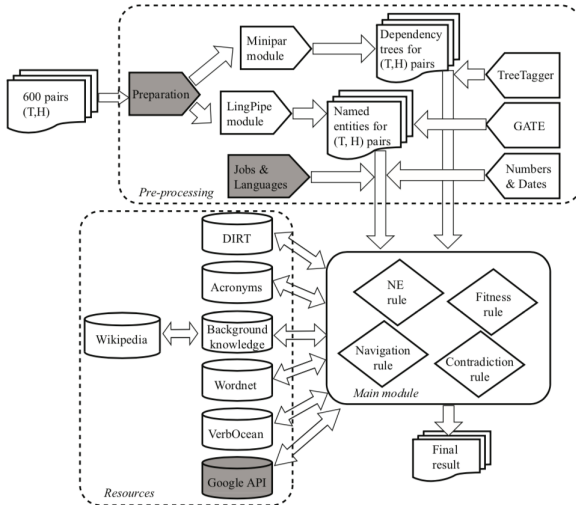
Buy(E_{T2} , John Smith, a Honda Civic)

Hypothesis

John Smith drove to Seattle

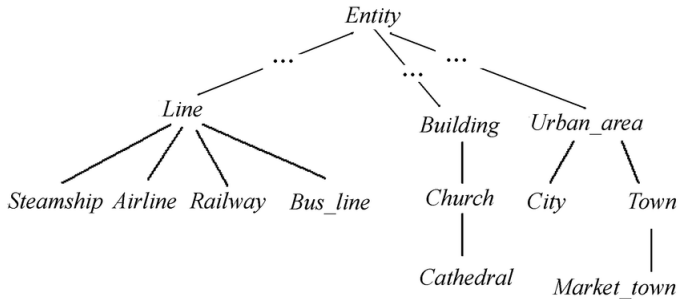
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Recognising Textual Entailment Methods



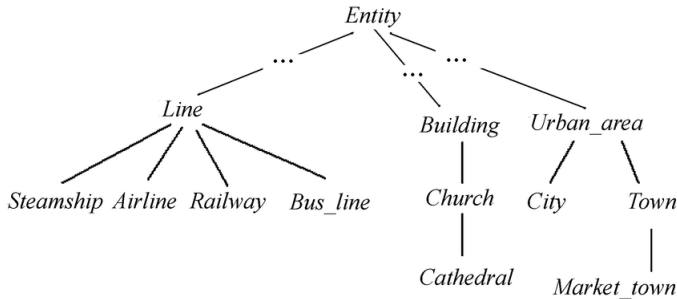
Similarity-based approaches

- Pair with a strong similarity score holds a positive entailment relation.



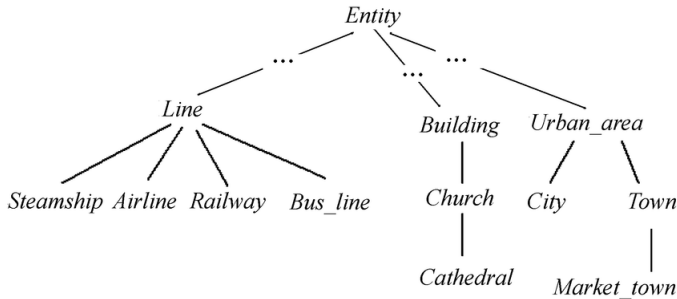
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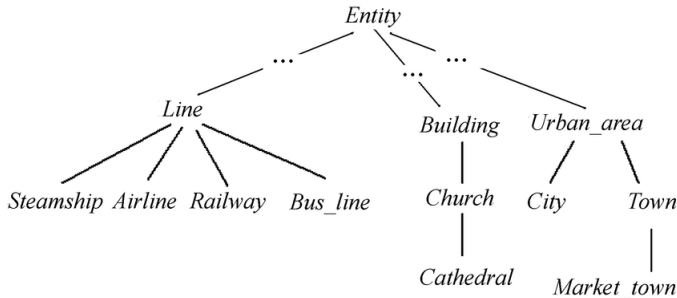
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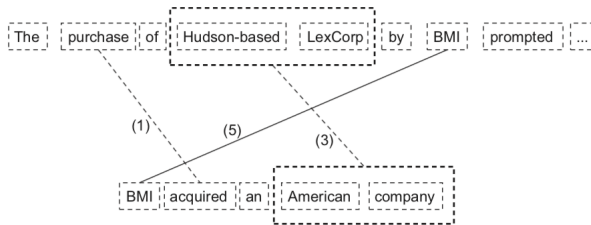


Similarity-based approaches

- Pair with a strong similarity score holds a positive entailment relation.
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- String similarity.
- Similarity scores computed from different linguistic levels.
 The goal is to find complementary features.



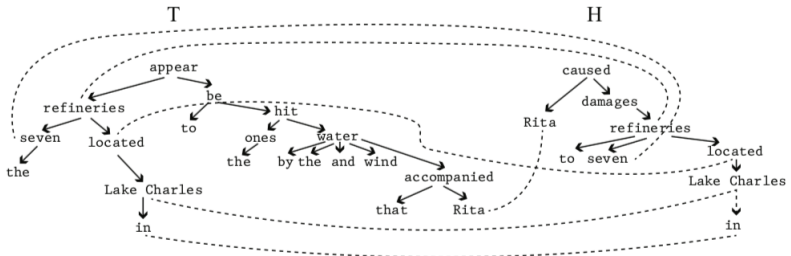
Alignment-based approaches



- (1, purchase, acquired)
 (3, Hudson-based LexCorp, American company),
 (5, BMI, BMI)

- $\rho_4 = \text{purchase of } \boxed{X} \text{ by } \boxed{Y} \rightarrow \boxed{Y} \text{ acquired } \boxed{X}$
- $\rho_5 = \boxed{Z:\text{Noun}} \text{ of } \boxed{X} \text{ by } \boxed{Y} \rightarrow \boxed{Y} \boxed{Z:\text{Verb}} \boxed{X}$

Alignment-based approaches



Formal Logic approaches

- Search for whether or not the entailment holds by finding proofs with a theorem prover.

Text: John bought a Jeep.

Hyp: John owns a car.

World Knowledge:

1. $\forall X \text{Jeep}(X) \rightarrow \text{car}(X)$

(a Jeep is a car)

2. $\forall X,Y \text{buy}(X,Y) \rightarrow \text{own}(X,Y)$

(if X buys Y, then X owns Y)

Proof: Initial state of belief (Text):

$\exists A,B \text{John}(A) \wedge \text{Jeep}(B) \wedge \text{buy}(A,B)$

(John bought a Jeep)

Target assertion:

$\exists C,D \text{John}(C) \wedge \text{car}(D) \wedge \text{own}(C,D)$

1. apply rule 1 with Text clause "Jeep(B)":

$\text{Jeep}(B) \rightarrow \text{car}(B)$

State of belief is now:

$\exists A,B \text{John}(A) \wedge \text{car}(B) \wedge \text{buy}(A,B)$

2. apply rule 2 with Text clause "buy(A,B)":

$\text{buy}(A,B) \rightarrow \text{own}(A,B)$

State of belief is now:

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Formal Logic approaches

- Search for whether or not the entailment holds by finding proofs with a theorem prover.
- **Lack** of background knowledge (recall vs. precision) which not many true decisions could be found.

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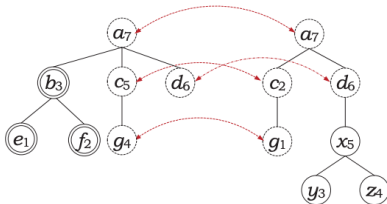
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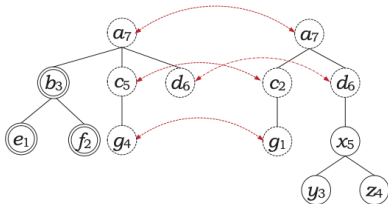
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- T entails H if there is a **sequence of transformations** applied to T such that we can obtain H with an overall cost below a certain **threshold**.



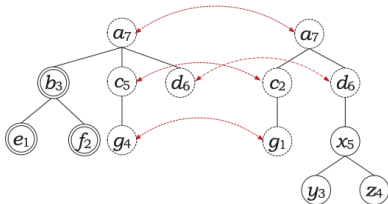
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- Insertion, Substitution, and Deletion.
- Alternative for expensive theorem provers.



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- RTE-4 and RTE-5 increase the difficulty by adding irrelevant signals (additional words, phrases, and sentences).

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- Limitation with small data in RTE.
- Availability of large **NLI** data.
- **Flexibility** of Neural Network models.
- **Lack** of knowledge in NN models .
- **Induce structure** or representation given NLI task.

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- 550,152 training, 10K development, and 10k test.
- Premise: A soccer game with multiple males playing.
Hypothesis: Some men are playing a sport.

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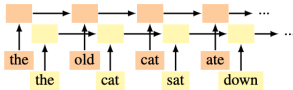
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H: The 8 million dollars for emergency housing was still not enough to solve the problem.

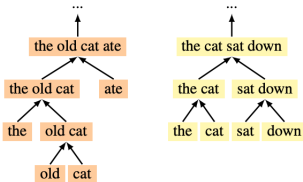
Government

Neural Network Models

- Embeddings like glove or elmo, for fine tuning.



(a) A conventional sequence-based RNN for two sentences.

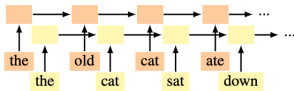


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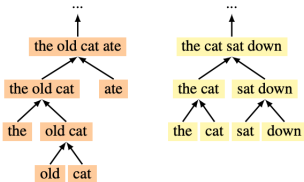
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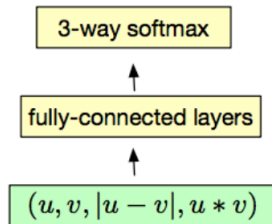
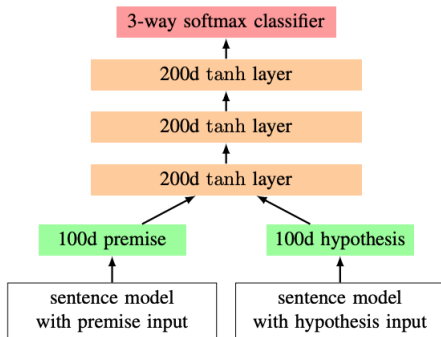
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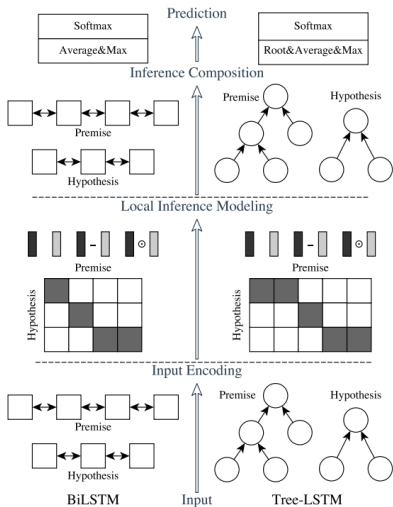
(b) A conventional TreeRNN for two sentences.

]

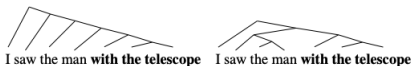
BiLSMT composition



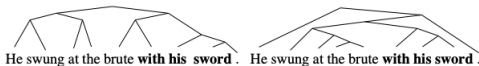
ESIM



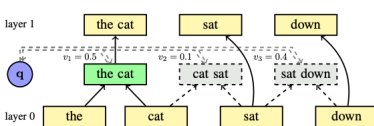
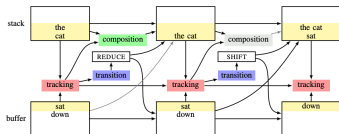
Latent Structure Induction



(a) Two parse trees correspond to two distinct interpretations for the sentence in example (1).



(b) Parses generated by at ST-Gumbel model (left) and the Stanford Parser (right).



Deep Generative Models

- Model that generates **hypothesis** and **decision** given a text and a stochastic embedding of the hypothesis-decision pair.

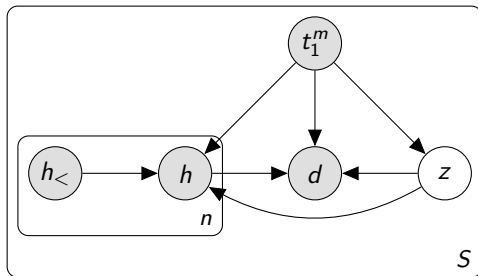
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- Performance of standard classifiers tend to vary across domains and especially out of domain.

Deep Generative Models



$$Z_i | t_1^m \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu(s_1^m), \sigma^2(s_1^m))$$

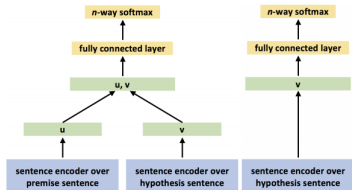
$$H_i | z_1^m \sim \text{Cat}(f(z_1^m, t_1^m; \theta))$$

$$D_j | z_1^m, h_1^n \sim \text{Cat}(g(z_1^m, t_1^m, h_1^n; \theta))$$

Deep Generative Models

Model	Dev	
	matched	mismatched
ESIM _{mnl}	74.39 ± 0.11	74.05 ± 0.21
+ \mathcal{N} -VAE _{50z}	74.89 ± 0.25	74.07 ± 0.37
+ \mathcal{N} -VAE _{100z}	74.82 ± 0.28	73.91 ± 0.59
+ \mathcal{N} -VAE _{256z}	74.87 ± 0.15	74.08 ± 0.16
- disentanglement	74.47 ± 0.13	73.88 ± 0.55
+ \mathcal{S} -VAE _{10z,1.0k}	74.82 ± 0.11	74.59 ± 0.02

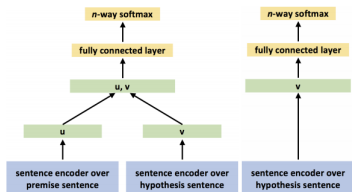
Drawbacks



Premise	A woman selling bamboo sticks talking to two men on a loading dock.
Entailment	There are at least three people on a loading dock.
Neutral	A woman is selling bamboo sticks to help provide for her family .
Contradiction	A woman is not taking money for any of her sticks.

- Entailment: animal, instrument, and outdoors.

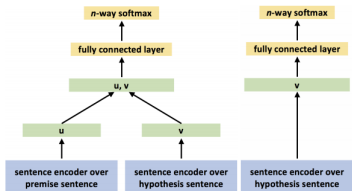
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- Entailment: animal, instrument, and outdoors.
- Neutral: Modifiers (tall, sad, popular) and superlatives (first, favorite, most)
- Contradiction: Negation words, nobody, no, never and nothing