

# **Fast Abstractive Summarization with Reinforce- selected Sentence Rewriting**

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# Motivations

- Abstractive models suffer from
  - slow and inaccurate decoding of very long documents.
  - Redundancy (repetitions)

# Motivations

- First use an *extractor agent* to select salient sentences.
- Then employs an *abstractive network* to rewrite them (**in parallel**).
- *extractor agent* and *abstractive network* are bridged by **RL** techniques.

# Models

## Extractor Agent

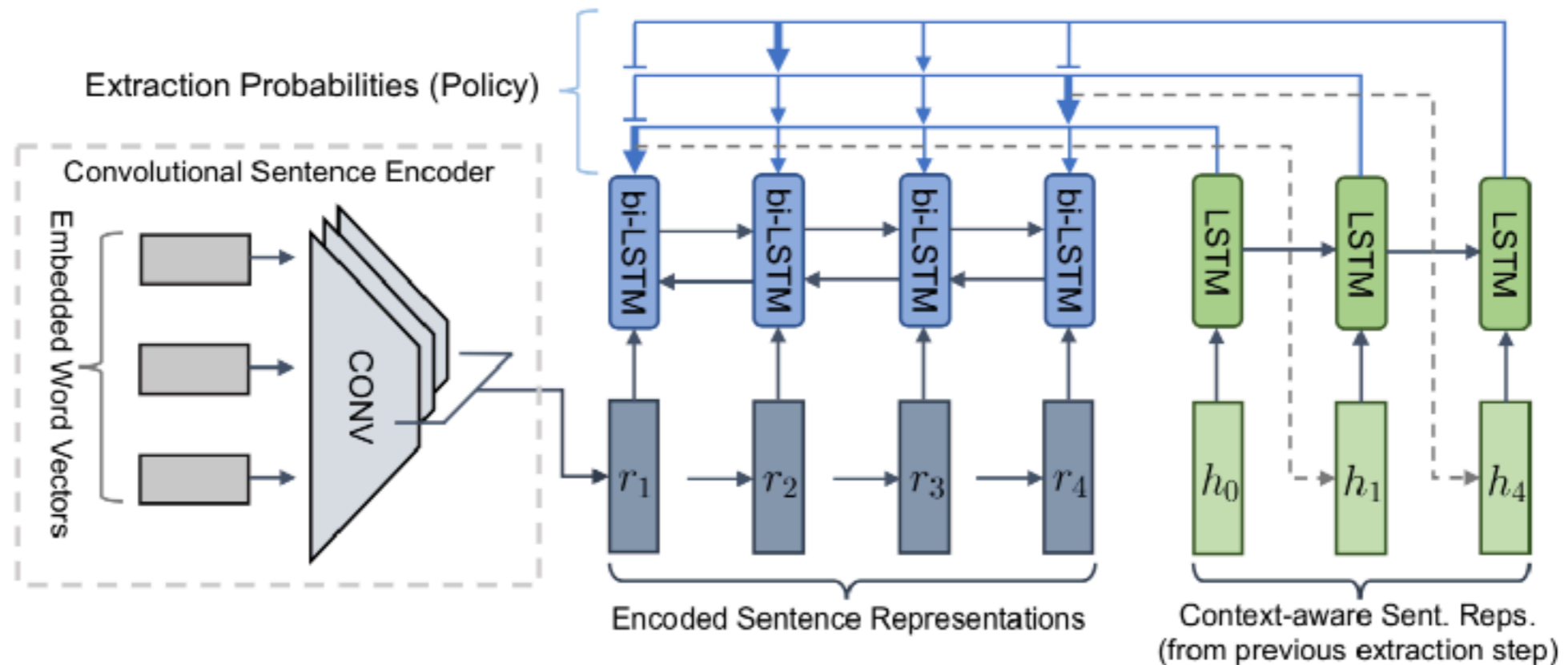


Figure 1: Our extractor agent: the convolutional encoder computes representation  $r_j$  for each sentence. The RNN encoder (blue) computes context-aware representation  $h_j$  and then the RNN decoder (green) selects sentence  $j_t$  at time step  $t$ . With  $j_t$  selected,  $h_{j_t}$  will be fed into the decoder at time  $t + 1$ .

# Models

- Abstractor network
- Seq2Seq with attention mechanism and copy mechanism.

# Training

- Maximum Likelihood Estimate Pre-training
- RL training of Extractor Agent

# MLE Pre-training

- Most of the summarization datasets are end-to-end document-summary pairs without extraction labels for each sentence.

$$j_t = \operatorname{argmax}_i(\operatorname{ROUGE-L}_{\text{recall}}(d_i, s_t))$$

# RL training

- Reward for extracting the sentence  $d_{j_t}$

$$r(t+1) = \text{ROUGE-L}_{F_1}(g(d_{j_t}), s_t)$$

- Terminal action

- Terminal Reward  $\text{ROUGE-1}_{F_1}(\{\{g(d_{j_t})\}_t\}, \{\{s_t\}_t\})$ ;

- Any extraneous, unwanted extraction step receives zero award.



# Results

- Faster and better than previous state-of-the-art models.
- Interesting listeners can read the paper.

**Unpaired Sentiment-to-Sentiment  
Translation:  
A Cycled Reinforcement Learning  
Approach**

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# Motivations

- Most existing studies fail in keeping the semantic content.
- A possible reason:
  - They attempt to implicitly separate the emotional information from the semantic information.
  - And it is hard?

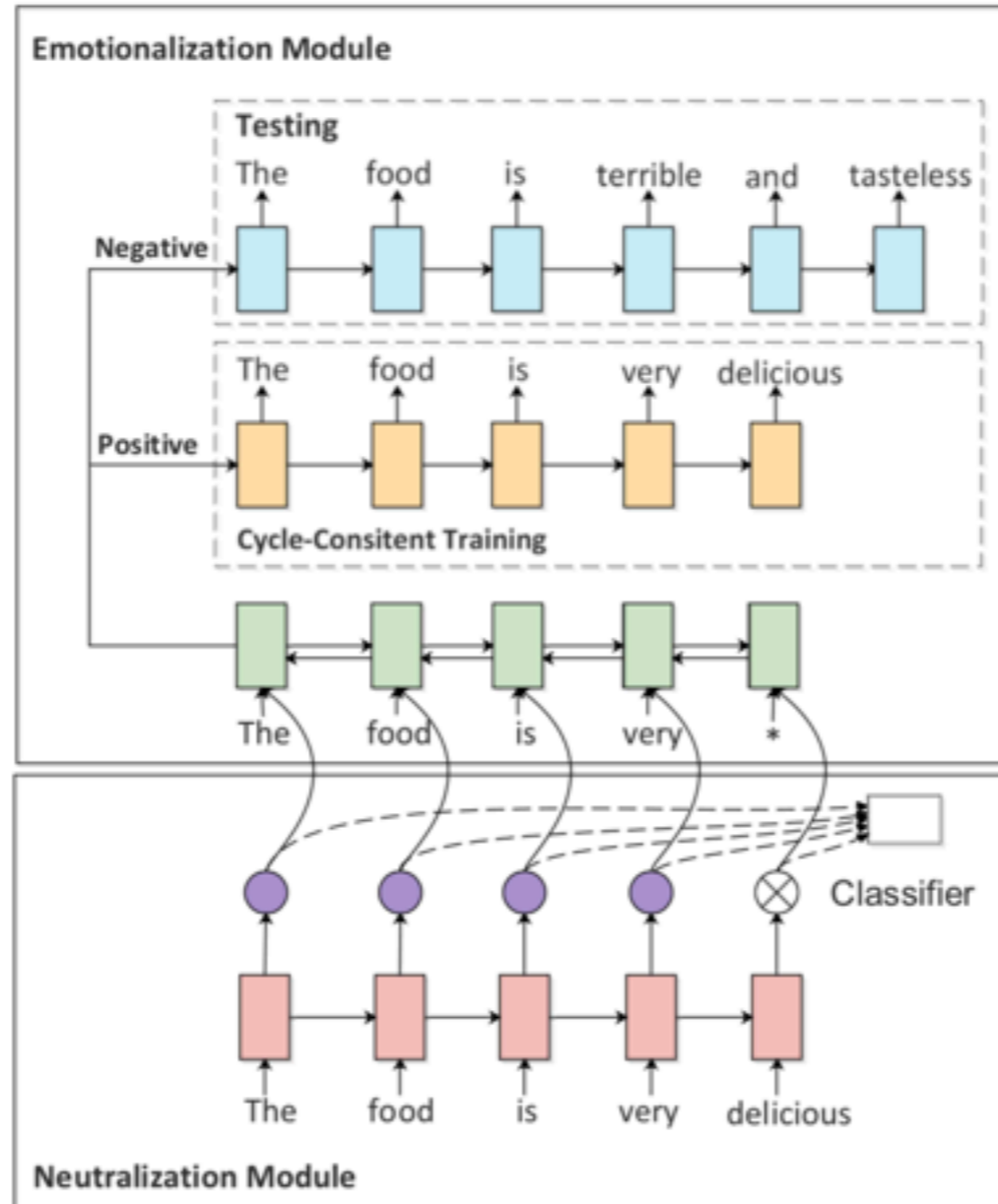
# Motivations

- Change the sentiment in two steps:
  - Neutralization
  - Emotionalization

# Motivations

- Neutralization module
  - Extracting non-emotional semantic information by explicitly removing emotional words
- Emotionalization module
  - Adding sentiment to the output of neutralization module.

# Models



# MLE Pre-training

- Generate labeled data for neutralization module
  - Self attention-based sentiment classifier (SASC)
  - Words with attention weights lower than average are identified as non-emotional words

# MLE Pre-training

- Emotionalization Module (Seq2Seq model)
  - Input: neutralized sentence (by SASC)
  - Target: original sentence



# RL training

- Generate two sentences, one with the original sentiment and one with the opposite sentiment
- Reward the two sentence (  $R_c = R_1 + R_2$  )
- Propagate gradients  $\nabla_{\theta} J(\theta) = \mathbb{E}[R_c \cdot \nabla_{\theta} \log(P_{N_{\theta}}(\hat{\alpha}|\mathbf{x}))]$

# RL training

- Reward function: 
$$R = (1 + \beta^2) \frac{2 \cdot BLEU \cdot Confid}{(\beta^2 \cdot BLEU) + Confid}$$
- Confid comes from a pre-trained classifier. BLEU is used to measure the content preservation performance

# Results

## Automatic evaluation

Yelp	ACC	BLEU	G-score
CAAE (Shen et al., 2017)	93.22	1.17	10.44
MDAL (Fu et al., 2018)	85.65	1.64	11.85
Proposed Method	80.00	22.46	<b>42.38</b>
Amazon	ACC	BLEU	G-score
CAAE (Shen et al., 2017)	84.19	0.56	6.87
MDAL (Fu et al., 2018)	70.50	0.27	4.36
Proposed Method	70.37	14.06	<b>31.45</b>

# Results

## Human evaluation

Yelp	Sentiment	Semantic	G-score
CAAE (Shen et al., 2017)	7.67	3.87	5.45
MDAL (Fu et al., 2018)	7.12	3.68	5.12
Proposed Method	6.99	5.08	<b>5.96</b>

Amazon	Sentiment	Semantic	G-score
CAAE (Shen et al., 2017)	8.61	3.15	5.21
MDAL (Fu et al., 2018)	7.93	3.22	5.05
Proposed Method	7.92	4.67	<b>6.08</b>

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**Input:** *I would strongly advise against using this company.*

**CAAE:** *I love this place for a great experience here.*

**MDAL:** *I have been a great place was great.*

**Proposed Method:** *I would love using this company.*

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**Input:** *The service was nearly non-existent and extremely rude.*

**CAAE:** *The best place in the best area in vegas.*

**MDAL:** *The food is very friendly and very good.*

**Proposed Method:** *The service was served and completely fresh.*

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**Input:** *Asked for the roast beef and mushroom sub, only received roast beef.*

**CAAE:** *We had a great experience with.*

**MDAL:** *This place for a great place for a great food and best.*

**Proposed Method:** *Thanks for the beef and spring bbq.*

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**Input:** *Worst cleaning job ever!*

**CAAE:** *Great food and great service!*

**MDAL:** *Great food, food!*

**Proposed Method:** *Excellent outstanding job ever!*

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**Input:** *Most boring show I've ever been.*

**CAAE:** *Great place is the best place in town.*

**MDAL:** *Great place I've ever ever had.*

**Proposed Method:** *Most amazing show I've ever been.*

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# Results

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*Michael is absolutely wonderful.*  
*I would strongly advise against using this company.*  
*Horrible experience!*  
*Worst cleaning job ever!*  
*Most boring show i 've ever been.*  
*Hainan chicken was really good.*  
*I really don't understand all the negative reviews for this dentist.*  
*Smells so weird in there.*  
*The service was nearly non-existent and extremely rude.*

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# Take-away

- Easiest way to apply RL in NLP?
  - Decompose a task to several sub-tasks (i.e. build a pipeline method).
  - Evaluate the output in the last step and propagate the reward to all preceding sub-modules.