Recent Evaluation Metrics for Text Generation

Presenter: Wang Chen Mentor: Piji Li

Outline

- Brief Taxonomy
- Papers to Read:
 - MoverScore: Text Generation Evaluating with Contextualized Embeddings and Earth Mover Distance; *EMNLP-2019*
 - A Simple Theoretical Model of Importance for Summarization; ACL-2019
 - RUBER: An Unsupervised Method for Automatic Evaluation of Open-Domain Dialog Systems; *AAAI-2018*
 - Better Automatic Evaluation of Open-Domain Dialogue Systems with Contextualized Embeddings; NAACL-WS-2019
- Key Ideas of Other Metrics
- Conclusions





• **BLEURT** [15];

MoverScore-Title & Authors

MoverScore: Text Generation Evaluating with Contextualized Embeddings and Earth Mover Distance

Wei Zhao[†], Maxime Peyrard[†], Fei Liu[‡], Yang Gao[†], Christian M. Meyer[†], Steffen Eger[†]
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MoverScore-Introduction

- **Motivation:** A desirable metric compares system output against references based on their semantics rather than surface forms. Distinct surface forms may convey the same meaning.
- Method: They investigate the effectiveness of a spectrum of distributional semantic representations to encode system and reference texts, allowing them to be compared for semantic similarity by quantifying the semantic distance.
 - BERT + Word/Sent Mover's Distance

• Contributions:

- 1. formulate the problem of evaluating generation systems as measuring the semantic distance
- 2. investigate the effectiveness of existing contextualized representations and Earth Mover's Distance
- 3. outperforms or performs comparably to strong baselines on four text generation tasks including summarization, machine translation, image captioning, and data-to-text generation

• The semantic distance is computed based on the Word Mover's Distance (WMD).

$$\begin{split} & \text{WMD}(\boldsymbol{x}^n, \boldsymbol{y}^n) \coloneqq \min_{\boldsymbol{F} \in \mathbb{R}^{|\boldsymbol{x}^n| \times |\boldsymbol{y}^n|}} \langle \boldsymbol{C}, \boldsymbol{F} \rangle, \\ & \text{s.t. } \boldsymbol{F} \boldsymbol{1} = \boldsymbol{f}_{\boldsymbol{x}^n}, \ \ \boldsymbol{F}^{\mathsf{T}} \boldsymbol{1} = \boldsymbol{f}_{\boldsymbol{y}^n}. \end{split}$$

• System prediction $x = (x_1, ..., x_m)$ is a sentence viewed as a sequence of words. Reference y is also a word sequence.

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- System prediction $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_m)$ is a sentence viewed as a sequence of words. Reference \mathbf{y} is also a word sequence.
- xⁿ (yⁿ) is the sequence of n-grams of x (y) (e.g., x¹ = x is the sequence of words and x² is the sequence of bigrams).
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Insight: find the minimum effort to transform between two texts

• The semantic distance is computed based on the Word Mover's Distance (WMD).

WMD
$$(x^n, y^n) := \min_{F \in \mathbb{R}^{|x^n| \times |y^n|}} \langle C, F \rangle$$
,
s.t. $F\mathbf{1} = f_{x^n}$, $F^{\mathsf{T}}\mathbf{1} = f_{y^n}$.
 $c_{ij} = d(x_i^n, y_j^n) = ||E(x_i^n) - E(y_j^n)||_2$
 $x_i^n = (x_i, \dots, x_{i+n-1})$
 i -th n-gram of x
 $idf(x_k)$ is the IDF of word x_k where Z is a normalizing

 $\operatorname{idf}(x_k)$ is the IDF of word x_k computed from all sentences in the corpus and $E(x_k)$ is its word vector.

constant s.t. $f_{x^n}^T \mathbf{1} = 1$.

• The semantic distance is computed based on the Word Mover's Distance (WMD).

WMD
$$(x^n, y^n) := \min_{F \in \mathbb{R}^{|x^n| \times |y^n|}} \langle C, F \rangle$$
,
s.t. $F1 = f_{x^n}$, $F^{\mathsf{T}}1 = f_{y^n}$.

$$c_{ij} = d(x_i^n, y_j^n) = ||E(x_i^n) - E(y_j^n)||_2$$

$$x_i^n = (x_i, \dots, x_{i+n-1})$$

$$i-\text{th n-gram of } x$$
How to get the word vector?
$$f_{x_i^n} = \frac{1}{Z} * \sum_{k=i}^{i+n-1} \text{idf}(x_k)$$

 $idf(x_k)$ is the IDF of word x_k computed from all sentences in the corpus and $E(x_k)$ is its word vector.

where Z is a normalizing constant s.t. $f_{x^n}^T \mathbf{1} = 1$.

• How to get the word vector?



- Static embeddings, e.g. word2vec
- Contextualized embeddings, e.g. ELMo, BERT
- If choose the contextualized embeddings, how to aggregate the word vectors from multiple (e.g. L) layers?

Power Means

$$E(x_i) = \mathbf{h}_i^{(1)} \oplus \mathbf{h}_i^{(+\infty)} \oplus \mathbf{h}_i^{(-\infty)}$$
$$\mathbf{h}_i^{(p)} = \left(\frac{\mathbf{z}_{i,1}^p + \dots + \mathbf{z}_{i,L}^p}{L}\right)^{\frac{1}{p}}$$

Power Means

]	Alg	gorithm 1 Aggregation by Routing
	1:	procedure ROUTING(z_{ij}, ℓ)
	2:	Initialize $\forall i, j : \gamma_{ij} = 0$
	3:	while true do
	4:	foreach representation <i>i</i> and <i>j</i> in layer ℓ and $\ell + 1$ do $\gamma_{ij} \leftarrow softmax(\gamma_{ij})$
	5:	foreach representation j in layer $\ell + 1$ do
	6:	$oldsymbol{v}_j \leftarrow \sum_i \gamma_{ij} k'(oldsymbol{v}_j,oldsymbol{z}_i) oldsymbol{z}_i / \sum_i k'(oldsymbol{v}_i,oldsymbol{z}_i)$
	7:	foreach representation <i>i</i> and <i>j</i> in layer ℓ and $\ell + 1$ do $\gamma_{ij} \leftarrow \gamma_{ij} + \alpha \cdot k(v_j, z_i)$
	8:	$loss \leftarrow log(\sum_{i,i} \gamma_{ij} k(\boldsymbol{v}_j, \boldsymbol{z}_i))$
	9:	if $ loss - preloss < \epsilon$ then
	10:	break
	11:	else
	12:	$preloss \leftarrow loss$
	13:	return v_j

Routing

• Sentence Mover Distance (SMD) is computed from the distance between the two sentence embeddings.

SMD
$$(x^{n}, y^{n}) = ||E(x_{1}^{l_{x}}) - E(y_{1}^{l_{y}})||_{2}$$

where l_x and l_y are the size of sentences

MoverScore-Experimental Setup

- The MoverScore has been investigated along four dimensions:
 - n=1 1. the granularity of embeddings, i.e., the size of n for n-grams n=2 n=sentence length word2vec ELMo the choice of pretrained embedding mechanism 2. BERT e.g., WMD-1+BERT+MNLI+PMEANS MultiNL 3. the fine-tuning task used for BERT QANLI QQP p-means 4. the aggregation technique (p-means or routing) when applicable Routing
- The major focus is to study the correlation between different metrics and human judgment. Pearson's r and Spearman's ρ are selected to measure the correlation.

MoverScore-Experiments on Translation

• Dataset: WMT 2017; 7 language pairs; Each language pair has approximately 3,000 sentences.

		Direct Assessment							
Setting	Metrics	cs-en	de-en	fi-en	lv-en	ru-en	tr-en	zh-en	Average
	METEOR++	0.552	0.538	0.720	0.563	0.627	0.626	0.646	0.610
BASELINES	RUSE(*)	0.624	0.644	0.750	0.697	0.673	0.716	0.691	0.685
	BERTSCORE-F1	0.670	0.686	0.820	0.710	0.729	0.714	0.704	0.719
	SMD + W2V	0.438	0.505	0.540	0.442	0.514	0.456	0.494	0.484
SENT-MOVER	SMD + ELMO + PMEANS	0.569	0.558	0.732	0.525	0.581	0.620	0.584	0.595
SENT-MOVER	SMD + BERT + PMEANS	0.607	0.623	0.770	0.639	0.667	0.641	0.619	0.652
	SMD + BERT + MNLI + PMEANS	0.616	0.643	0.785	0.660	0.664	0.668	0.633	0.667
	WMD-1 + W2V	0.392	0.463	0.558	0.463	0.456	0.485	0.481	0.471
	WMD-1 + ELMO + PMEANS	0.579	0.588	0.753	0.559	0.617	0.679	0.645	0.631
Word-Mover	WMD-1 + BERT + PMEANS	0.662	0.687	0.823	0.714	0.735	0.734	0.719	0.725
	WMD-1 + BERT + MNLI + PMEANS	0.670	0.708	0.835	0.746	0.738	0.762	0.744	0.743
	WMD-2 + BERT + MNLI + PMEANS	0.679	0.710	0.832	0.745	0.736	0.763	0.740	0.743

Table 1: Absolute Pearson correlations with segment-level human judgments in 7 language pairs on WMT17 dataset.

Proposition 1 *BERTScore* (precision/recall) can be represented as a (non-optimized) Mover Distance $\langle C, F \rangle$, where *C* is a transportation cost matrix based on *BERT* and *F* is a uniform transportation flow matrix.²

MoverScore-Experiments on Summarization

• Datasets: TAC2008/TAC2009; 48/44 clusters; 10 news article per cluster; four reference summaries per cluster;

		TAC-2008			TAC-2009				
		Respon	siveness	Pyra	amid	Respor	nsiveness	Pyra	amid
Setting	Metrics	r	ho	r	ho	r	ho	r	ρ
	$S_{best}^{3}(*)$	0.715	0.595	0.754	0.652	0.738	0.595	0.842	0.731
BASELINES	ROUGE-1	0.703	0.578	0.747	0.632	0.704	0.565	0.808	0.692
DASELINES	ROUGE-2	0.695	0.572	0.718	0.635	0.727	0.583	0.803	0.694
	BERTSCORE-F1	0.724	0.594	0.750	0.649	0.739	0.580	0.823	0.703
	SMD + W2V	0.583	0.469	0.603	0.488	0.577	0.465	0.670	0.560
Sent-Mover	SMD + ELMO + PMEANS	0.631	0.472	0.631	0.499	0.663	0.498	0.726	0.568
SENT-MOVER	SMD + BERT + PMEANS	0.658	0.530	0.664	0.550	0.670	0.518	0.731 0	0.580
	SMD + BERT + MNLI + PMEANS	0.662	0.525	0.666	0.552	0.667	0.506	0.723	0.563
	WMD-1 + W2V	0.669	0.549	0.665	0.588	0.698	0.520	0.740	0.647
	WMD-1 + ELMO + PMEANS	0.707	0.554	0.726	0.601	0.736	0.553	0.813	0.672
WORD-MOVER	WMD-1 + BERT + PMEANS	0.729	0.595	0.755	0.660	0.742	0.581	0.825	0.690
	WMD-1 + BERT + MNLI + PMEANS	0.736	0.604	0.760	0.672	0.754	0.594	0.831	0.701
	WMD-2 + BERT + MNLI + PMEANS	0.734	0.601	0.752	0.663	0.753	0.586	0.825	0.694

Table 2: Pearson r and Spearman ρ correlations with summary-level human judgments on TAC 2008 and 2009.

MoverScore-Experiments on Dialogue

• Datasets: BAGEL/SFHOTEL; 202/398 instances with multiple references;

			BAGEL			SFHOTEL	,
Setting	Metrics	Inf	Nat	Qual	Inf	Nat	Qual
BASELINES	BLEU-1	0.225	0.141	0.113	0.107	0.175	0.069
	BLEU-2	0.211	0.152	0.115	0.097	0.174	0.071
	METEOR	0.251	0.127	0.116	0.111	0.148	0.082
	BERTSCORE-F1	0.267	0.210	0.178	0.163	0.193	0.118
SENT-MOVER	SMD + W2V	0.024	0.074	0.078	0.022	0.025	0.011
	SMD + ELMO + PMEANS	0.251	0.171	0.147	0.130	0.176	0.096
	SMD + BERT + PMEANS	0.290	0.163	0.121	0.192	0.223	0.134
	SMD + BERT + MNLI + PMEANS	0.280	0.149	0.120	0.205	0.239	0.147
WORD-MOVER	WMD-1 + W2V	0.222	0.079	0.123	0.074	0.095	0.021
	WMD-1 + ELMO + PMEANS	0.261	0.163	0.148	0.147	0.215	0.136
	WMD-1 + BERT + PMEANS	0.298	0.212	0.163	0.203	0.261	0.182
	WMD-1 + BERT + MNLI + PMEANS	0.285	0.195	0.158	0.207	0.270	0.183
	WMD-2 + BERT + MNLI + PMEANS	0.284	0.194	0.156	0.204	0.270	0.182

Table 3: Spearman correlation with utterance-level human judgments for BAGEL and SFHOTEL datasets.

MoverScore-Experiments on Image Caption

• Dataset: MSCOCO; 5000 instances; five caption references per instance;

Setting	Metric	M1	M2
	LEIC(*) METEOR	0.939 0.606	0.949 0.594
BASELINES	SPICE	0.759	0.750
	BERTSCORE-RECALL	0.809	0.749
SENT-MOVER	SMD + W2V	0.683	0.668
	SMD + ELMO + P	0.709	0.712
	SMD + BERT + P	0.723	0.747
	SMD + BERT + M + P	0.789	0.784
WORD-MOVER	WMD-1 + W2V	0.728	0.764
	WMD-1 + ELMO + P	0.753	0.775
	WMD-1 + BERT + P	0.780	0.790
	WMD-1 + BERT + M + P	0.813	0.810
	WMD-2 + BERT + M + P	0.812	0.808

Table 4: Pearson correlation with system-level human judgments on MSCOCO dataset. 'M' and 'P' are short names.

MoverScore-Experiments

• Score distribution



Figure 2: Score distribution in German-to-English pair.

MoverScore-Conclusions

- Investigated new unsupervised evaluation metrics for text generation systems combining contextualized embeddings with Earth Mover's Distance.
- The new metric obtain strong generalization ability across four text generation tasks, oftentimes even outperforming supervised metrics.
- One limitation of this metric is that it depends on the IDF of generated summaries. When adding a new system to evaluate, the scores of other systems will be changed.
 - BERTSCORE has no such limitation.



[•] **BLEURT** [15];

 θ_I -Title & Authors

A Simple Theoretical Model of Importance for Summarization

Maxime Peyrard* EPFL

θ_I -Introduction

- Motivation: the notion of information Importance remains latent in summarization research.
- **Method:** propose simple theoretical models of Importance by unifying the following concepts:
 - Redundancy
 - Relevance
 - Informativeness

• Contributions:

- 1. define several concepts intuitively connected to summarization: *Redundancy*, *Relevance* and *Informativeness*.
- 2. formulate properties required from a useful notion of *Importance* as the quantity unifying these concepts & provide intuitions to interpret the proposed quantities.
- 3. even under simplifying assumptions, these quantities correlates well with human judgments

 θ_I -Redundancy

• In information-theoretic terms, the amount of information is measured by Shannon's entropy. For a summary S represented by P_S :

$$H(S) = -\sum_{w_i} P_S(w_i) \log (P_S(w_i))$$
 e.g., word
e.g., word frequency distribution

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e.g., word
e.g., word frequency distribution
$$Red(S) = H_{max} - H(S)$$

$$H_{max} \text{ is a constant}$$

$$Red(S) = -H(S)$$

θ_I -Relevance

• estimating *Relevance* boils down to comparing the distributions P_S and P_D (*D* is the document), which is done via the cross-entropy:

$$Rel(S,D) = -CE(S,D) = \sum_{w_i} P_S(w_i) \log (P_D(w_i))$$

The cross-entropy is interpreted as the average surprise of observing S while expecting D. Lower surprise indicates higher relevance.

• -KL(S||D) = Rel(S,D) - Red(S)

Maximizing *Relevance* & Minimizing *Redundancy* = Minimizing the KL divergence between P_S and P_D

θ_I -Informativeness

- Intuitively, a summary is informative if it induces, for a user, a great change in her/his knowledge about the world.
- We denote the background knowledge as K which is represented by a probability distribution P_K over semantic units.
- *Informativeness* is defined as the amount of new information contained in a summary *S* compared to *K*. It can be given by the cross entropy:

$$Inf(S,K) = CE(S,K) = -\sum_{w_i} P_S(w_i) \log \left(P_K(w_i) \right)$$

The cross-entropy is interpreted as the average surprise of observing *S* while expecting *K*. Higher surprise indicates higher *Informativeness*.

θ_I -The Unified Importance



θ_I -Experiments

- Choose word as the semantic unit.
- Texts are represented frequency distribution over words.
- $\alpha = \beta = 1$
- Datasets: TAC-2008; TAC-2009;
- Two summarization settings:
 - Generic multi-document summarization
 - 10 documents (A documents) are to be summarized.
 - *K* is the uniform probability distribution over all words from the source documents.
 - Update multi-document summarization
 - 10 new documents (B documents) are to be summarized assuming that the first 10 documents (A documents) have already been seen.
 - *K* is the frequency distribution over words in the background documents (A).

θ_I -Experiments

	Generic	Update
ICSI	.178	.139
Edm.	.215	.205
LexRank	.201	.164
KL	.204	.176
JS	.225	.189
KL _{back}	.110	.167
JS _{back}	.066	.187
Red	.098	.096
Rel	.212	.192
Inf	.091	.086
θ_I	.294	.211

Table 1: Correlation of various information-theoretic quantities with human judgments measured by Kendall's τ on generic and update summarization.

θ_I -Conclusions

- A simple theoretical modeling of summary *Importance* with elegant and self-contained interpretation.
- Generalization ability is not good enough since it seems to be specifically-designed for multi-document summarization.


RUBER-Title & Authors

RUBER: An Unsupervised Method for Automatic Evaluation of Open-Domain Dialog Systems

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Better Automatic Evaluation of Open-Domain Dialogue Systems with Contextualized Embeddings

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RUBER-Introduction

- **Motivation:** researchers usually resort to human annotation for dialogue model evaluation, which is time and labor-intensive.
- **Method:** blend a referenced metric and unreferenced metric as the final metric.
- Contributions:
 - 1. Referenced metric. An embedding-based scorer measures the similarity between a generated reply and the ground truth.
 - 2. Unreferenced metric. A neural network-based scorer measures the relatedness between the generated reply and its query.
 - 3. RUBER. Combining the referenced and unreferenced metrics to better make use of both worlds.



Figure 2: Overview of the RUBER metric.

• Referenced Metric



• Unreferenced Metric



Figure 3: The neural network predicting the unreferenced score.

- Blending the normalized scores
 - 1. Min: $\min(\tilde{s}_R, \tilde{s}_U)$
 - 2. Max: $max(\tilde{s}_R, \tilde{s}_U)$
 - 3. Geometric mean: $(\tilde{s}_R * \tilde{s}_U)^{1/2}$
 - 4. Arithmetic mean: $(\tilde{s}_R + \tilde{s}_U)/2$

$$\tilde{s}_R = \frac{s_R - \min(s_R)}{\max(s_R) - \min(s_R)}$$
$$\tilde{s}_U = \frac{s_U - \min(s_U)}{\max(s_U) - \min(s_U)}$$

RUBER-Experiments

• Dataset: Douban

		Retrieval (Top-1)		Seq2Seq (w/ attention)	
Metrics		Pearson(p-value)	Spearman(p-value)	Pearson(p-value)	Spearman(p-value)
Inter-annotator	Human (Avg)	0.4927(<0.01)	0.4981 (< 0.01)	0.4692(<0.01)	0.4708(<0.01)
	Human (Max)	0.5931 (< 0.01)	0.5926 (< 0.01)	0.6068(<0.01)	0.6028 (< 0.01)
Referenced	Bleu-1	0.2722(<0.01)	0.2473(<0.01)	0.1521(<0.01)	0.2358(< 0.01)
	Bleu-2	0.2243(<0.01)	0.2389 (< 0.01)	-0.0006(0.9914)	0.0546(0.3464)
	BLEU-3	0.2018 (< 0.01)	0.2247 (< 0.01)	-0.0576(0.3205)	-0.0188(0.7454)
	Bleu-4	0.1601(<0.01)	0.1719 (< 0.01)	-0.0604(0.2971)	-0.0539(0.3522)
	Rouge	0.2840(<0.01)	0.2696(< 0.01)	0.1747(<0.01)	0.2522(< 0.01)
	Vector pool (s_R)	0.2844 (< 0.01)	0.3205(< 0.01)	0.3434 (< 0.01)	0.3219 (< 0.01)
Unreferenced	Vector pool	0.2253(<0.01)	0.2790(< 0.01)	0.3808(<0.01)	0.3584(<0.01)
	NN scorer (s_U)	0.4278(< 0.01)	0.4338 (< 0.01)	0.4137(<0.01)	0.4240 (< 0.01)
Ruber	Min	0.4428(<0.01)	0.4490(<0.01)	0.4527(<0.01)	0.4523 (<0.01)
	Geometric mean	0.4559 (< 0.01)	0.4771 (< 0.01)	0.4523(<0.01)	0.4490 (< 0.01)
	Arithmetic mean	0.4594 (<0.01)	0.4906(<0.01)	0.4509 (< 0.01)	0.4458 (< 0.01)
	Max	0.3263(<0.01)	0.3551 (< 0.01)	0.3868(<0.01)	0.3623(<0.01)

Table 2: Correlation between automatic metrics and human annotation. We also compare human-human agreement: "Human (Avg)" refers to average correlation between every two humans, whereas "Human (Max)" refers to the two annotators who are most correlated. Notice that the *p*-value is a rough estimation of the probability that an uncorrelated metric produces a result that is at least as extreme as the current one; it does not indicate the degree of correlation.

RUBER-An Extension with BERT

• Unreferenced Metric



RUBER-An Extension with BERT

• Referenced Metric



RUBER-Conclusions

- A learnable, flexible hybrid metric for open-domain dialogue systems.
- Still supervised because of requiring training



Key Ideas of Other Metrics **Evaluation** Metrics Unlike these approaches which seek to replace human evaluation, HUSE focuses on combining human and automatic statistical Unsupervised Supervised evaluation to estimate the optimal classifier error. Discriminative/ with without Other Tasks **Regression Task** References References • θ_I [10]; Importance of summary; Adversarial Evaluation: OA-based: • Input-Summary Similarity [6]; Adversarial Error [] • **APES** [12]; Summarization; Summarization; Adversarial Loss • **QA**_{fscore\conf} (unsup) [13]; • **Enc-doc** [13]; Summarization; Dialogue Summarization: • **HUSE** [4]; • NLI-based: leave-one-out-error • $SS(H_{-1})_{BERT \setminus ELMo \setminus USE}$ [16]; Distribution Semantic Word Overlap • Learn to Score: Dialogue; Similarity Similarity • ADEM [3]; Dialogue • AutoJudge [17]; Dialogue Fre´chet BERT Distance • BERTSCORE [8] ROUGE: BLEU: ··· **RUBER** [18]; Dialogue • MOVERSCORE [9] (FBD) [5] **PyrEval** [11]; • Extended RUBER [19]; • WMS; SMS; S+WMS [14] Summarization: Dialogue • Enc-ref [13]; • Learned Reward [7]: Summarization: without references when evaluating summaries











Key Ideas of Other Metrics







Key Ideas of Other Metrics



• **BLEURT** [15];

evaluating summaries





Conclusions

- We introduced a new metric for general text generation, summarization, and dialogue generation respectively.
- We briefly introduced the key ideas of various metrics based on the taxonomy.
- Unsupervised, semantic similarity based metrics are worthwhile to be engaged in your work.

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