



Question Answering

Natural Language Processing: Jordan
Boyd-Graber
University of Maryland

DR. QA

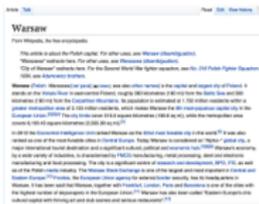
Adapted from material from Danqi Chen

Overview of the Document Reader Question Answering

Q: How many of Warsaw's inhabitants spoke Polish in 1933?



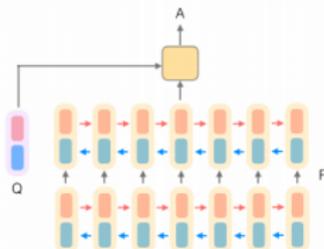
Document
Retriever



Document
Reader



833,500



Good source code available!

Big idea

Super Bowl 50 was an American football game to determine the champion of the National Football League (NFL) for the 2015 season. The American Football Conference (AFC) champion **Denver Broncos** defeated the National Football Conference (NFC) champion Carolina Panthers 24–10 to earn their third Super Bowl title. The game was played on February 7, 2016, at Levi's Stadium in the San Francisco Bay Area at Santa Clara, California. As this was the 50th Super Bowl, the league emphasized the "golden anniversary" with various gold-themed initiatives, as well as temporarily suspending the tradition of naming each Super Bowl game with Roman numerals (under which the game would have been known as "Super Bowl L"), so that the logo could prominently feature the Arabic numerals 50.

Q: Which NFL team represented the AFC at Super Bowl 50?

A: Denver Broncos

Start and End Probabilities

$$P_{\text{start}}(i) \propto \exp\{\vec{p}_i W_s \vec{q}\} \quad (1)$$

$$P_{\text{end}}(i) \propto \exp\{\vec{p}_i W_e \vec{q}\} \quad (2)$$

1. A vector representing our question
2. Vector representing each word in the query text
3. Parameter: here's the start/end of the answer

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1. A vector representing our question
2. Vector representing each word in the query text
3. Parameter: here's the start/end of the answer

This is your objective function! Will backprop into each of these parameters.

Question Encoding

$$\vec{q} = \sum_j b_j \vec{q}_j \quad (3)$$

$$b_j = \frac{\exp\{\vec{w} \cdot q_j\}}{\sum_{j'} \exp\{w \cdot q_{j'}\}} \quad (4)$$

Question Encoding

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Question vector is a weighted sum

Question Encoding

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$$b_j = \frac{\exp\{\vec{w} \cdot q_j\}}{\sum_{j'} \exp\{w \cdot q_{j'}\}} \quad (4)$$

The weight is a scalar

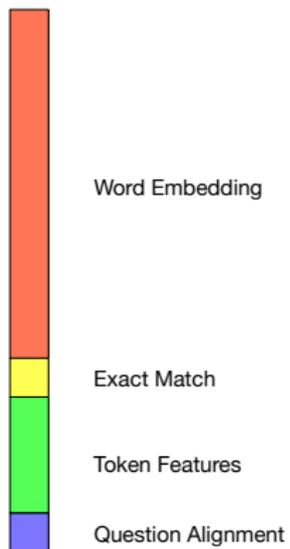
Question Encoding

$$\vec{q} = \sum_j b_j \vec{q}_j \quad (3)$$

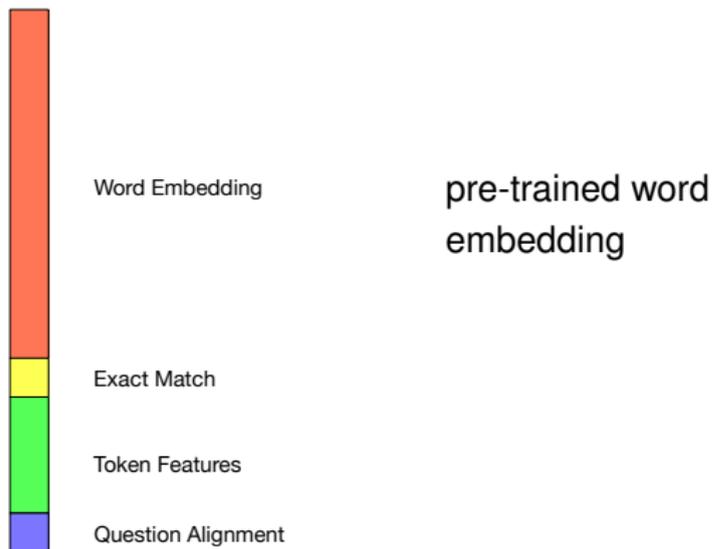
$$b_j = \frac{\exp\{\vec{w} \cdot q_j\}}{\sum_{j'} \exp\{w \cdot q_{j'}\}} \quad (4)$$

A focus parameter learns how to focus on particular words in the question

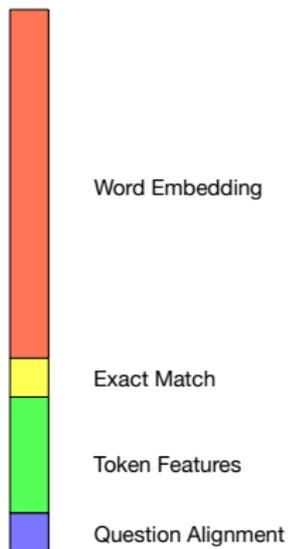
Paragraph Encoding



Paragraph Encoding

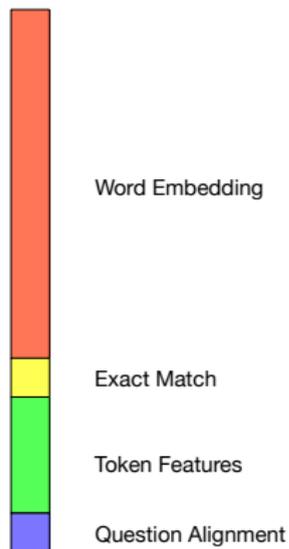


Paragraph Encoding



Part of speech, NER tags, normalized term frequency

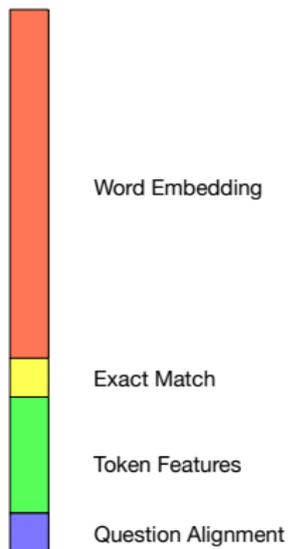
Paragraph Encoding



Who is the leader of
the US
Donald Trump is the
president of the
United States

$$a_{i,j} = \frac{\exp\{\vec{E}(p_i) \cdot E(q_j)\}}{\sum_{j'} E(p_i) \cdot E(q_{j'})} \quad (5)$$

Paragraph Encoding



Who is the **leader** of
the **US**
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United States

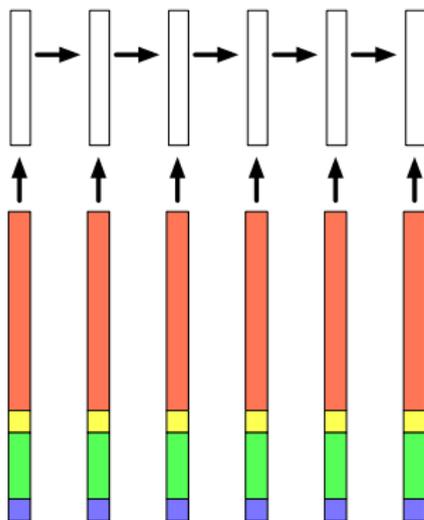
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Paragraph Encoding



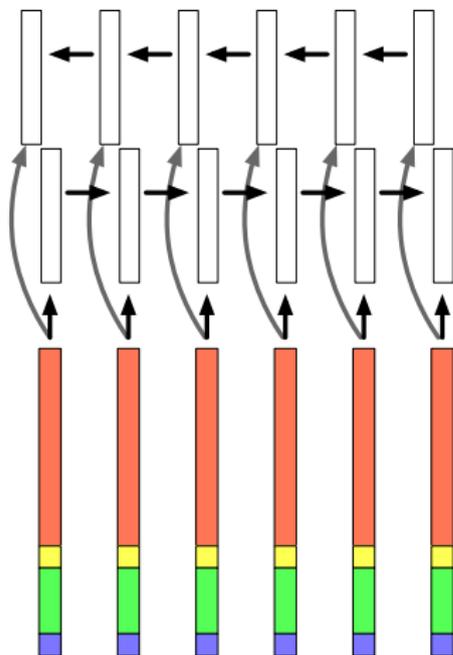
Create learned
representations

Paragraph Encoding



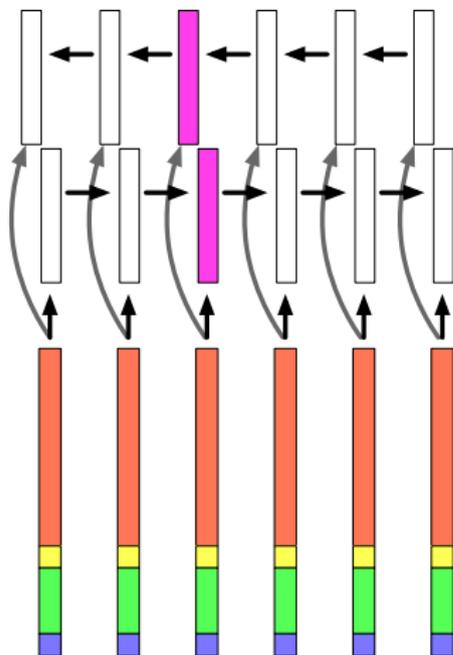
LSTM: encode
contextual effects

Paragraph Encoding



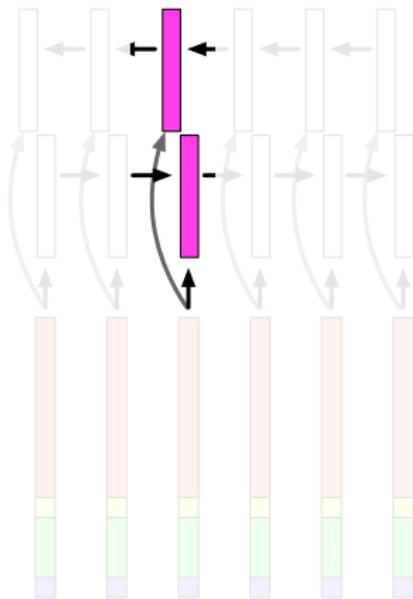
Add a backwards direction as well (bi-directional LSTM)

Paragraph Encoding



Use the concatenation of these two hidden layers as the representation of the word

Paragraph Encoding



$$P_{\text{start}}(i) \propto \exp\{\vec{p}_i^T W_s \vec{q}\}$$

$$P_{\text{end}}(i) \propto \exp\{\vec{p}_i^T W_e \vec{q}\}$$

Implementation

- Trained on passages
- Backprop through all layers
- Look at code

```
# RNN document encoder
self.doc_rnn = layers.StackedBRNN(
    input_size=doc_input_size,
    hidden_size=args.hidden_size,
    num_layers=args.doc_layers,
    dropout_rate=args.dropout_rnn,
    dropout_output=args.dropout_rnn_output,
    concat_layers=args.concat_rnn_layers,
    rnn_type=self.RNN_TYPES[args.rnn_type],
    padding=args.rnn_padding,
)

# RNN question encoder
self.question_rnn = layers.StackedBRNN(
    input_size=args.embedding_dim,
    hidden_size=args.hidden_size,
    num_layers=args.question_layers,
    dropout_rate=args.dropout_rnn,
    dropout_output=args.dropout_rnn_output,
    concat_layers=args.concat_rnn_layers,
    rnn_type=self.RNN_TYPES[args.rnn_type],
    padding=args.rnn_padding,
)
```

[https://github.com/
facebookresearch/DrQA/](https://github.com/facebookresearch/DrQA/)

More complicated models

