

Sentence Length

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Sentence length models

- Negative binomial (Yule, 1944)
 - Given number of failures in an sequence of independent and identically distributed Bernoulli trials



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2 | 20

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- Mixture of Poisson (Sichel, 1974)
 - mixture of continuous number of Poissons where the mixture distribution is parametrized

$$\phi(r) = \frac{\sqrt{1-\theta^{\gamma}}}{K_{\gamma}(\alpha\sqrt{1-\theta})} \frac{(\alpha\theta/2)^r}{r!} K_{r+\gamma}(\alpha)$$



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These models either don't fit the data or lack a clear genesis



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Some generalizations may complicate the model:

- order (upward steps)
- k-mixture
- auxiliary model



4 | 20

Model analysis

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f is the solution of the following equation:

$$p_{-1} \cdot x + (p_0 \cdot x - 1) \cdot f + p_1 \cdot x \cdot f^2 + p_2 \cdot x \cdot f^3 = 0$$



$$F(u) \coloneqq p_{-1} + p_0 \cdot u + p_1 \cdot u^2 + p_2 u^3$$
$$g(f) \coloneqq \frac{f}{F(f)}$$
$$x = g(f(x))$$

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$$\mathbb{P}(\tau_k = i) = \frac{k}{i} [u^{i-k}] (F(u))^i$$

involves calculating symbolic product of polynomials



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- There are other (discrete) parameters
 - starting valency
 - maximum upward steps
 - mixture components



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- Within a model there can be other trained parameters

 $\mathbf{w}_i \in \mathcal{H}_i, \ \mathbb{Q}_{\mathbf{w}_i}(x) \coloneqq \mathbb{P}(x \mid \mathbf{w}_i, \mathcal{H}_i)$

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7 | 20

Model comparison

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- different models may have different dimensionality
- Bayesian (evidence based) decision (MacKay, 2003):

$$\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{H}_i \mid \mathsf{data}) \propto \mathbb{P}(\mathsf{data} \mid \mathcal{H}_i) = \int_{\mathcal{H}_i} \underbrace{\mathbb{P}(\mathbf{w}_i \mid \mathcal{H}_i)}_{\mathsf{uniform prior}} \prod_{x \in X} \left(\mathbb{Q}_{\mathbf{w}_i}(x)^{n_x} \right) \, \mathrm{d}\mathbf{w}_i$$



$$\int_{\mathcal{H}_i} \frac{1}{\operatorname{Vol}(\mathcal{H}_i)} \prod_{x \in X} \left(\mathbb{Q}_{\mathbf{w}_i}(x)^{n_x} \right) \, \mathrm{d}\mathbf{w}_i =$$



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T

Estimating the evidence

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■ w_i^{*} := arg min_{w_i∈H_i} f(w_i)
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- *f* is cross entropy

■ we take $-\frac{1}{n}\ln(\bullet)$ and also subtract the entropy of the data ■ none of which changes the relative order of the models



$$\int_{\mathcal{H}_i} \frac{1}{\operatorname{Vol}(\mathcal{H}_i)} \prod_{x \in X} \left(\mathbb{Q}_{\mathbf{w}_i}(x)^{n_x} \right) \, \mathrm{d}\mathbf{w}_i = \frac{1}{\operatorname{Vol}(\mathcal{H}_i)} \int_{\mathcal{H}_i} \exp\left(\sum_{x \in X} n_x \cdot \ln \mathbb{Q}_{\mathbf{w}_i}(x) \right) \, \mathrm{d}\mathbf{w}_i$$
$$f(\mathbf{w}_i) \coloneqq -\sum_{x \in X} \frac{n_x}{n} \ln \mathbb{Q}_{\mathbf{w}_i}(x)$$
$$\frac{1}{(\mathcal{H}_i)} \int_{\mathcal{H}_i} e^{-n \cdot f(\mathbf{w}_i)} \, \mathrm{d}\mathbf{w}_i \approx \frac{1}{\operatorname{Vol}(\mathcal{H}_i)} \cdot e^{-n \cdot f(\mathbf{w}_i^*)} \cdot \frac{\left(\frac{2\pi}{n}\right)^{\frac{d}{2}}}{\sqrt{\det f''(\mathbf{w}_i^*)}}$$

• $\mathbf{w}_i^* \coloneqq \operatorname{arg\,min}_{\mathbf{w}_i \in \mathcal{H}_i} f(\mathbf{w}_i)$

■ *d* is the dimension of \mathcal{H}_i (number of free parameters)

f is cross entropy

Vol

• we take $-\frac{1}{n}\ln(\bullet)$ and also subtract the entropy of the data

- none of which changes the relative order of the models
- this way the theoretical minimum is 0



Augmented model

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{P}(\mathsf{data} \mid \mathcal{H}_i) &= \int_{\mathcal{H}_i} \underbrace{\mathbb{P}(\mathbf{w}_i \mid \mathcal{H}_i)}_{\mathsf{uniform \ prior}} \prod_{x \in X} \left(\mathbb{Q}_{\mathbf{w}_i}(x)^{n_x} \right) \, \mathrm{d}\mathbf{w}_i \\ & \blacksquare \ \text{One \ can \ see \ that} \ \mathbb{Q}_{\mathbf{w}_i}(x) = 0 \ \text{is \ unacceptable} \end{split}$$



9 | 20

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$$\overline{\mathbb{Q}}_{\mathbf{w}_i,\mathbf{q}}(x) \coloneqq \begin{cases} \lambda \cdot \mathbb{Q}_{\mathbf{w}_i}(x) & \text{if } \mathbb{Q}_{\mathbf{w}_i}(x) > 0\\ (1-\lambda) \cdot q_x & \text{if } n_x > 0, \mathbb{Q}_{\mathbf{w}_i}(x) = 0 \end{cases}$$

where q_x is also a trained parameter and

$$\begin{split} \lambda &= \mathbb{P}(\mathbb{Q}_{\mathbf{w}_i} > 0) & \text{covered probability} \\ 1 - \lambda &= \mathbb{P}(\mathbb{Q}_{\mathbf{w}_i} = 0) & \text{uncovered probability} \end{split}$$



$$\begin{split} & -\lambda \cdot \ln \lambda + \overbrace{\sum_{x \in X \cap \mathrm{supp}(\mathcal{H}_i)} p_x \cdot \ln \frac{p_x}{\mathbb{Q}_{\mathbf{w}_i^*}(x)}} + \frac{d}{2n} \cdot \ln \frac{n}{2\pi} + \\ & \frac{1}{n} \cdot \ln \left(\mathrm{Vol}(\mathcal{H}_i) \cdot \mathrm{Vol}(\mathrm{aux.\ model}) \right) + \\ & \frac{1}{2n} \cdot \ln \left(\det \left(\mathrm{model\ Hessian} \right) \cdot \det \left(\mathrm{aux.\ model\ Hessian} \right) \right) \end{split}$$



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 $\begin{array}{l} \bullet \ \lambda \text{ is the covered probability} \\ \bullet \ \mathbf{w}_i^* \coloneqq \mathop{\arg\min}_{\mathbf{w}_i \in \mathcal{H}_i} KL(\mathbb{P} \parallel \mathbb{Q}_{\mathbf{w}_i}) \end{array}$



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- the determinant of the Hessian can be considered as volume



Model comparison – beyond

There are three type of terms in the final formula


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- constant in n
- proportional to $\frac{1}{n}$
 - $\frac{\ln n}{n}$
- \blacksquare as $n \to \infty$ only the constant terms remain
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- modified the final evidence formula to tolerate for any error within inherent noise

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- our method works for distributions with unequal support
 - the augmented model is actively contributing to the final decision



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 - γ was a model parameter (we couldn't back-propagate to the subscript parameter of the Bessel functions K_γ(z))



Results

- The binned and Sichel models were rarely within inherent noise
 - the binned model fits well for many bins, but it has a lot more parameter than the parametric morels
 - the Sichel model fits only the binned data (when the datapoints are aggregated into 4-5 long bins)
 - this was actually mentioned by Sichel, although it was way better then its predecessors
- The random walk model always wins
- Never use more than one step upwards





Results

datacat	best parameters for various n values					
Ualasel	1k	10k	100k	1M	1G	
BNC-A	o3.k1-5	o3.k2-5	o1.k4.5	o1.k4.5	o1.k4.5	
BNC-B	o3.k1-5	o3.k1-5	o1.k1.5	o1.k1.5	o1.k1.5	
BNC-C	o3.k2-5	o3.k2-5	o3.k2-5	o1.k1.4	o1.k1.4	
BNC-D	o3.k2.3.5	o3.k2.3.5	o3.k2.3.5	o1.k2	o1.k2	
BNC-E	o3.k1.3-5	o3.k1.3-5	o1.k2.5	o1.k2.5	o1.k2.5	
BNC-F	o3.k3.4.5	o3.k3.4.5	o3.k3.4.5	o1.k3	o1.k3	
BNC-G	o3.k1-5	o3.k1-5	o1.k2.5	o1.k2.5	o1.k2.5	
BNC-H	o3.k2.4.5	o3.k3.4.5	o1.k4	o1.k4	o1.k4	
BNC-J	o3.k2.3.4	o3.k2.3.4	o3.k2.5	o1.k2	o1.k2	
BNC-K	o3.k1-5	o3.k1-5	o1.k2	o1.k2	o1.k2	
UMBC	03.k1.3-5	03.k1.3-5	o1.k2.5	01.k2.5	o1.k2.5	

Table: Best models I.



Results

datacat	best parameters for various n values					
ualasel	1k	10k	100k	1M	1G	
Catalan	o3.k2-5	o3.k2-5	o1.k2.5	o1.k2.5	o1.k2.5	
Croatian	o3.k3.4.5	o3.k3.4.5	o1.k2.5	o1.k2.5	o1.k2.5	
Czech	o3.k4.5	o3.k1.3.5	o1.k2.5	o1.k2.5	o1.k2.5	
Danish	o3.k1-5	o3.k1.3.5	o1.k2.5	o1.k2.5	o1.k2.5	
Dutch	o3.k1-5	o3.k3.4.5	o1.k2.5	o1.k2.5	o1.k2.5	
Finnish	o3.k1.3.5	o1.k2.4	o1.k2.4	o1.k2.4	o1.k2.4	
Indonesian	o3.k1-5	o3.k1-5	o1.k2.5	o1.k2.5	o1.k2.5	
Lithuanian	o3.k2.3.4	o3.k2.3.4	o1.k2.3	o1.k2.3	o1.k2.3	
Bokmål	o3.k2.4.5	o3.k2.4.5	o1.k2.5	o1.k2.5	o1.k2.5	
Nynorsk	o3.k1-5	o1.k2.5	o1.k2.5	o1.k2.5	o1.k2.5	

Table: Best models II.



Results

dataaat	best parameters for various n values					
ualasei	1k	10k	100k	1M	1G	
Polish	o3.k2-5	o3.k2-5	o3.k2-5	o3.k2-5	o1.k2.5	
Portuguese	o3.k2.3.5	o3.k2.3.5	o1.k2	o1.k2	o1.k2	
Romanian	o3.k1.3-5	o3.k1.3-5	o1.k5	o1.k5	o1.k5	
Serbian.sh	o3.k1.2.4.5	o3.k2.3.5	o1.k2.5	o1.k2.5	o1.k2.5	
Serbian.sr	o3.k2-5	o3.k2.3.4	o1.k2.5	o1.k2.5	o1.k2.5	
Slovak	o3.k2.4.5	o3.k2-5	o1.k2.5	o1.k2.5	o1.k2.5	
Spanish	o3.k2.4.5	o1.k2.3	o1.k2.3	o1.k2.3	o1.k2.3	
Swedish	o1.k2.4	o1.k2.4	o1.k2.4	o1.k2.4	o1.k2.4	

Table: Best models III.



Results

dataset	best parameters for various n values					
	1k	10k	100k	1M	1G	
BNC-A	o3.k1-5	o1.k4.5	o1.k4.5	o1.k1-5	o1.k1-5	
BNC-B	o3.k1-5	o1.k2.3.5	o2.k4.5	o2.k4.5	o2.k4.5	
BNC-C	o3.k2-5	o1.k2.4.5	o1.k2.4.5	o1.k2.4.5	o1.k2.4.5	
BNC-D	o3.k3.4	o1.k2.5	o2.k2.5	o2.k2.5	o2.k2.5	
BNC-E	o3.k1.3-5	o1.k4.5	o1.k4.5	o1.k4.5	o1.k4.5	
BNC-F	o3.k3-5	o1.k2.4.5	o1.k2.4.5	o1.k2.4.5	o1.k2.4.5	
BNC-G	o3.k1-5	o1.k4.5	o1.k2.4.5	o1.k2.4.5	o2.k2.4.5	
BNC-H	o3.k3-5	o1.k4.5	o2.k2.4.5	o2.k2.4.5	o2.k2.4.5	
BNC-J	o3.k1-5	o1.k2.4.5	o1.k2.4.5	o1.k2.4.5	o1.k2.4.5	
BNC-K	o3.k2-5	o3.k2-5	o1.k2.4.5	o1.k2.4.5	o1.k2.4.5	
UMBC	o3.k1.3-5	o1.k2.4	o1.k2.4.5	o1.k2.4.5	o1.k2.4.5	

Table: Without tolerance for inherent noise I.


Results

dataaat	best parameters for various n values					
ualasel	1k	10k	100k	1M	1G	
Catalan	o3.k2-5	o3.k2-5	o1.k2.4	o1.k1.3-5	o1.k1.3-5	
Croatian	o3.k3-5	o1.k2.3	o1.k2.3	o1.k3-5	o1.k3-5	
Czech	o3.k2-5	o3.k3-5	o1.k2.3	o1.k1.3-5	o1.k1.3-5	
Danish	o3.k1-5	o1.k2.3	o1.k1.2.4.5	o1.k1.2.4.5	o3.k2-5	
Dutch	o3.k1-5	o1.k2.4	o1.k3.4	o1.k1-5	o1.k1-5	
Finnish	o3.k1.3.5	o1.k1.3.4	o1.k1.3.4	o1.k1.3-5	o1.k1.3-5	
Indonesian	o3.k1-5	o1.k3.5	o1.k3-5	o1.k3-5	o1.k3-5	
Lithuanian	o3.k2.3.4	o1.k2.3	o1.k2-5	o1.k2-5	o1.k2-5	
Bokmål	o3.k2.4.5	o3.k2.4.5	o1.k1.3-5	o1.k1.3-5	o1.k1.3-5	
Nynorsk	o3.k1-5	o1.k2.4.5	o1.k1-5	o1.k1-5	o1.k1-5	

Table: Without tolerance for inherent noise II.



Results

dataaat	best parameters for various n values					
ualasei	1k	10k	100k	1M	1G	
Polish	o3.k2-5	o3.k2-5	o1.k1.4.5	o1.k2-5	o1.k2-5	
Portuguese	o3.k2.4.5	o1.k2.3	o1.k3.4	o1.k3.4	o1.k3.4	
Romanian	o3.k2.4.5	o1.k2.4	o1.k2.3.4	o1.k2.3.4	o1.k2.3.4	
Serbian.sh	o3.k1.2.4.5	o1.k2.4	o1.k3.4	o1.k2-5	o1.k2-5	
Serbian.sr	o3.k2-5	o1.k4.5	o1.k4.5	o1.k4.5	o1.k4.5	
Slovak	o3.k2.4.5	o1.k2.3	o1.k1.3-5	o1.k1.3-5	o1.k1.3-5	
Spanish	o3.k2.4.5	o1.k2.3	o1.k1.3.5	o1.k1.3.5	o1.k1.3.5	
Swedish	o1.k2.3	o1.k2.3	o1.k1-5	o1.k1-5	o1.k1-5	

Table: Without tolerance for inherent noise III.



Visual fits



Figure: Random walk fits well, Sichel not



Visual fits



Figure: Random walk fits well, Sichel not



Visual fits



Figure: A rare case when Sichel fits within noise



Random walk fits best

dataset	Sichel	binned	random walk	inherent noise
BNC-A	3.130e-2	1.489e-2	4.409e-4	9.847e-4
BNC-B	5.555e-2	1.274e-2	7.215e-3	7.741e-3
BNC-C	4.335e-2	1.431e-2	6.989e-3	9.494e-3
BNC-D	9.917e-2	8.387e-2	5.945e-2	8.510e-2
BNC-E	6.303e-2	2.251e-2	4.353e-3	5.000e-3
BNC-F	2.706e-2	2.196e-2	2.270e-2	2.630e-2
BNC-G	2.205e-2	1.495e-2	5.762e-3	9.199e-3
BNC-H	4.095e-2	3.265e-2	3.106e-2	3.385e-2
BNC-J	2.665e-2	6.854e-2	2.946e-2	7.940e-2
BNC-K	6.525e-2	1.388e-1	3.899e-2	2.134e-1
UMBC	6.320e-2	2.615e-2	1.390e-3	2.442e-3

Table: Best of the models and their fit I.



Random walk fits best

dataset	Sichel	binned	random walk	inherent noise
Catalan	1.227e-1	6.102e-2	9.382e-4	1.751e-3
Croatian	1.027e-1	4.604e-2	2.063e-3	5.616e-3
Czech	5.783e-2	3.687e-2	2.563e-3	5.147e-3
Danish	1.511e-1	3.072e-2	2.772e-3	7.557e-3
Dutch	1.844e-1	3.447e-2	1.391e-3	2.408e-3
Finnish	9.712e-2	2.830e-2	1.659e-3	1.946e-3
Indonesian	9.896e-2	5.017e-2	1.390e-3	1.231e-2
Lithuanian	1.617e-1	3.113e-2	6.637e-4	1.184e-3
Bokmål	1.028e-1	3.332e-2	3.515e-3	3.564e-3
Nynorsk	7.418e-2	2.830e-2	3.757e-3	3.946e-3

Table: Best of the models and their fit II.



16 | 20

Random walk fits best

dataset	Sichel	binned	random walk	inherent noise
Polish	1.675e-1	4.078e-2	1.518e-3	8.508e-3
Portuguese	6.421e-1	5.133e-2	4.514e-2	4.973e-2
Romanian	3.070e-2	6.539e-2	1.579e-2	2.338e-2
Serbian.sh	9.944e-2	4.676e-2	1.346e-3	4.531e-3
Serbian.sr	1.413845	1.389e-1	6.971e-3	7.189e-3
Slovak	5.507e-2	4.344e-2	2.184e-3	2.572e-3
Spanish	9.021e-2	6.501e-2	7.718e-4	8.365e-4
Swedish	2.225e-1	2.652e-2	2.310e-3	2.526e-3

Table: Best of the models and their fit III.



Conclusions: the random walk model

- Fits notably better than earlier models
- Has clear genesis
- Opens a new way for checking statistical implications of grammatical observations



18 | 20

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20 | 20

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