



# EECS 230 Deep Learning

## Lecture 10: Language Model

Many slides from Julia Hockenmaier and Christopher Manning

# ChatGPT (Generative Pretrained Transformer)



**You**

What are top 10 things to do in Merced?



**ChatGPT**

Merced, California, offers a range of activities and attractions for visitors to enjoy. Here are the top 10 things to do in Merced:

1. **Merced National Wildlife Refuge:** Explore the refuge and observe diverse bird species, including migratory birds, waterfowl, and endangered species like the Aleutian Canada goose.
2. **Castle Air Museum:** Discover the history of aviation at this museum, which features a vast collection of aircraft, including military planes, helicopters, and memorabilia.
3. **Yosemite National Park:** While not directly in Merced, the park is nearby and offers breathtaking scenery, hiking trails, waterfalls, and opportunities for camping and wildlife viewing.
4. **Applegate Park and Zoo:** Enjoy a day outdoors at this park, which features playgrounds, picnic areas, a small zoo with animals like monkeys, birds, and reptiles, and a miniature train ride.
5. **Downtown Merced:** Explore the historic downtown area with its charming shops, cafes, restaurants, and galleries. Don't miss the Merced County Courthouse Museum to learn about the region's history.
6. **Merced County Fairgrounds:** Check out events and festivals held at the fairgrounds throughout the year, including the Merced County Fair, concerts, rodeos, and more.
7. **Lake Yosemite:** Spend a relaxing day by the lake, where you can enjoy fishing, boating, kayaking, picnicking, and walking along the scenic trails.

# What is Natural Language Processing?

- ❑ Natural language processing is the set of methods for making human language accessible to computers.  
(Jacob Eisenstein)
- ❑ Natural language processing is the field at the intersection of Computer science (Artificial intelligence) and linguistics.  
(Christopher Manning)

# NLP application: Machine translation

## 爷爷心疼孙女让娃睡懒觉 没想到引发了家庭矛盾

2020-08-25 08:06:03 来源: 钱江晚报

70岁的钟大伯(化名)陷入了“暑期焦虑”:这个暑假,他每周都要接送孙女上下培训班。高温、酷暑,每天回来,都像脚踩棉花般没力气。

除了身体上的不适,还有精神上的紧张。

觉得儿子儿媳给孩子报班太多,钟大伯还和他们产生了冲突:“大热天的,大人孩子都遭罪。”

这段时间,钟大伯因为容易激动发火,失眠,胃口差,血压一直不稳定,来到了浙江省人民医院精神卫生科就诊。

Google Translate

## Grandpa feels sorry for his granddaughter and let the baby sleep in

2020-08-25 08:06:03 Source: Qianjiang Evening News

Uncle Zhong (a pseudonym), 70, fell into "summer anxiety": This summer, he would shuttle his granddaughter to and from training classes every week. With high temperatures and scorching heat, every day I come back, I feel as weak as stepping on cotton.

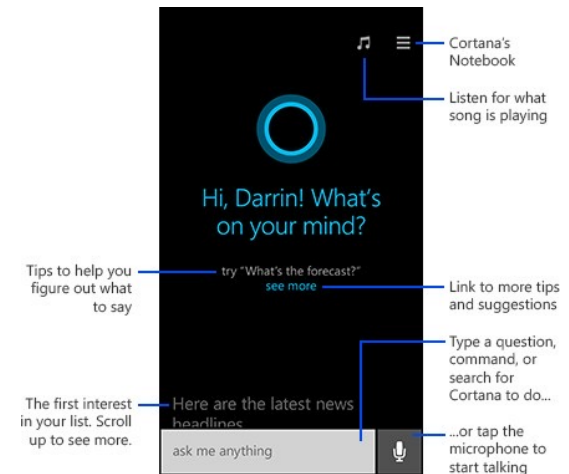
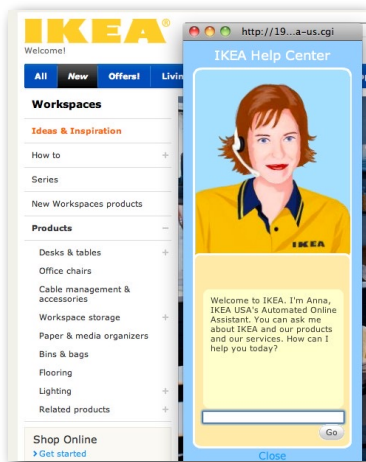
In addition to physical discomfort, there is also mental tension.

Feeling that his son and daughter-in-law were reporting too much for their children, Uncle Zhong also had a conflict with them: "It's a hot day, adults and children suffer."

During this period of time, Uncle Zhong came to the Mental Health Department of Zhejiang Provincial People's Hospital because he was prone to get angry, insomnia, poor appetite, and unstable blood pressure.

[http://education.news.cn/2020-08/25/c\\_1210768533.htm](http://education.news.cn/2020-08/25/c_1210768533.htm)

# NLP application: Dialog systems, chatbots, assistants

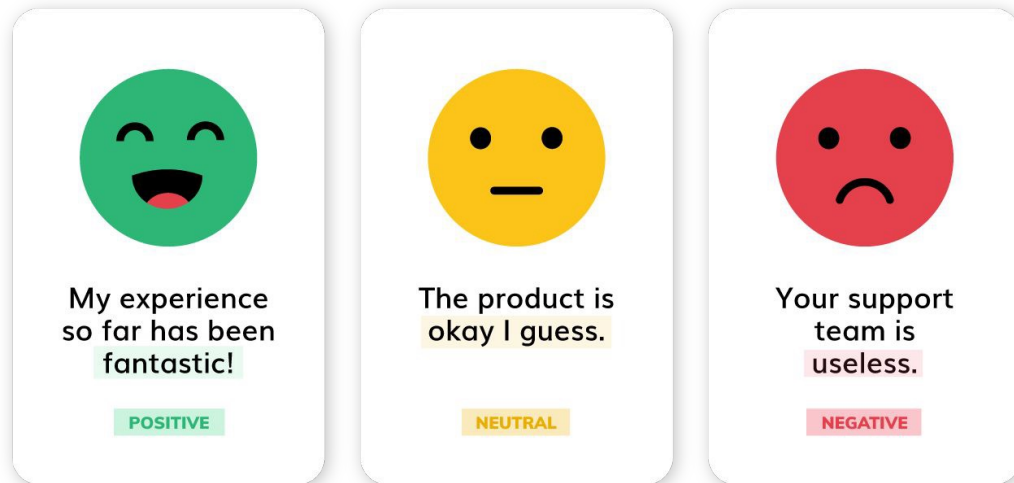


ChatGPT		
Examples	Capabilities	Limitations
"Explain quantum computing in simple terms" →	Remembers what user said earlier in the conversation	May occasionally generate incorrect information
"Got any creative ideas for a 10 year old's birthday?" →	Allows user to provide follow-up corrections	May occasionally produce harmful instructions or biased content
"How do I make an HTTP request in Javascript?" →	Trained to decline inappropriate requests	Limited knowledge of world and events after 2021



# NLP application: Sentiment analysis

- ❑ Determine the meaning behind is positive, negative, or neutral



# Outline

## ☐ Language Model

- ☐ What is language model?

- ☐ N-gram language model

## ☐ Word Embedding

- ☐ Word2Vec

## ☐ Basic Neural Network

- ☐ Feedforward Neural Network for language modeling

- ☐ Convolutional Neural Network for NLP





# Part I: Language Modeling



# English Vocabulary

How large is the **vocabulary** of English (or any other language)?

**Vocabulary size** = the number of distinct word types

If you count words in text, you will find that...

...a **few words** are **very frequent**

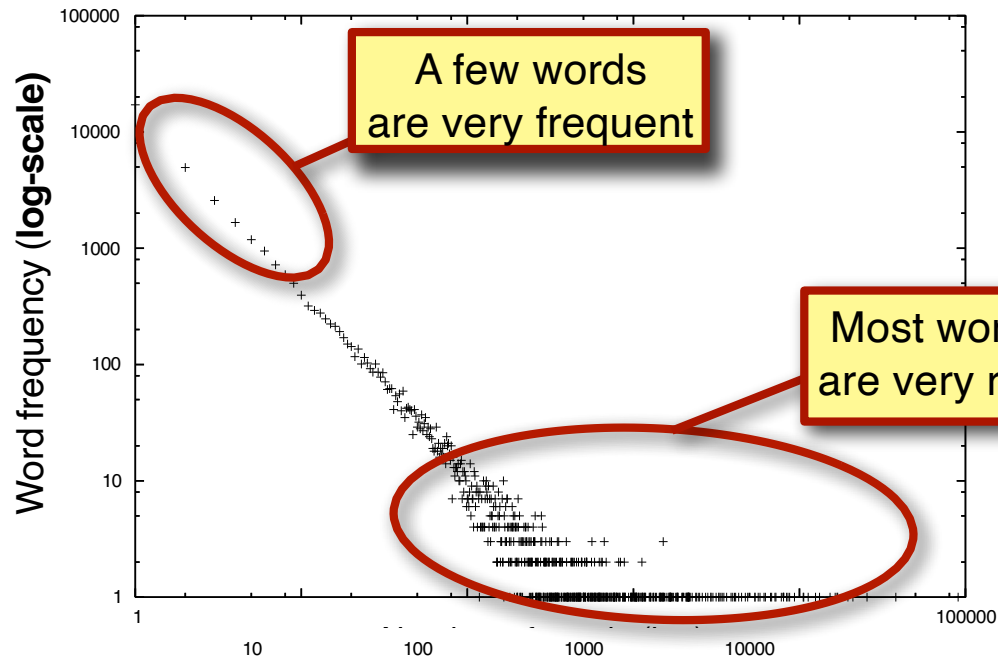
(the, be, to, of, and, a, in, that,...)

... **most words** are **very rare**.

... even if you've read a lot of text,  
you will keep finding **words you haven't seen before**.

**Word frequency**: the number of occurrences of a word type in a text  
(or in a collection of texts)

# Long-tailed word distribution



English words, sorted by frequency (log-scale)

$w_1 = the, w_2 = to, \dots, w_{5346} = computer, \dots$

# Implications of Long-tailed distribution for NLP

## The good:

Any text will contain a number of words that are very **common**. We have seen these words often enough that we know (almost) everything about them.

## The bad:

Any text will contain a number of words that are **rare**. We know *something* about these words, but haven't seen them often enough to know everything about them. They may occur with a meaning or a part of speech we haven't seen before.

## The ugly:

Any text will contain a number of words that are **unknown** to us. We have *never* seen them before, but we still need to get at the structure (and meaning) of these texts.

# How do we represent unknown words?

Many NLP systems assume a fixed vocabulary, but still have to handle **out-of-vocabulary (OOV)** words.

## the **UNK** token

Replace all **rare words** (with a frequency at or below a given threshold, e.g. 2, 3, or 5) **in your training data** with an UNK token (UNK = “Unknown word”).

Replace **all unknown words** that you come across **after training** (including rare training words) with the same UNK token

# Why do we need language models?

Many NLP tasks require **natural language output**:

- **Machine translation**: return text in the target language
- **Speech recognition**: return a transcript of what was spoken
- **Natural language generation**: return natural language text
- **Spell-checking**: return corrected spelling of input

Language models define **probability distributions over (natural language) strings or sentences**.

- We can use a language model to **generate strings**
- We can use a language model to **score/rank candidate strings** so that we can choose the best (i.e. most likely) one:  
if  $P_{LM}(A) > P_{LM}(B)$ , return A, not B

# Hmmm, but...

- ... what does it mean for a language model to “*define a probability distribution*”?
- ... *why* would we want to define probability distributions over languages?
- ... how can we construct a language model such that it *actually* defines a probability distribution?

You should be able to answer these questions after this lecture

# Key concepts

## N-gram language models

- Independence assumptions

- Getting from n-grams to a distribution over a language

- Relative frequency (maximum likelihood) estimation

- Smoothing



# Now let's look at natural language

## Text as a bag of words

Alice was beginning to get very tired of sitting by her sister on the bank, and of having nothing to do: once or twice she had peeped into the book her sister was reading, but it had no pictures or conversations in it, 'and what is the use of a book,' thought Alice 'without pictures or conversation?'

$$P(\text{of}) = 3/66$$

$$P(\text{Alice}) = 2/66$$

$$P(\text{was}) = 2/66$$

$$P(\text{to}) = 2/66$$

$$P(\text{her}) = 2/66$$

$$P(\text{sister}) = 2/66$$

$$P(,) = 4/66$$

$$P(') = 4/66$$

# Sampling with replacement

A sampled sequence of words

beginning by, very Alice but was and?  
reading no tired of to into sitting  
sister the, bank, and thought of  
without her nothing: having  
conversations Alice once do or on she  
it get the book her had peeped was  
conversation it pictures or sister  
in, 'what is the use had twice of a  
book 'pictures or' to

$$P(\text{of}) = 3/66$$

$$P(\text{Alice}) = 2/66$$

$$P(\text{was}) = 2/66$$

$$P(\text{to}) = 2/66$$

$$P(\text{her}) = 2/66$$

$$P(\text{sister}) = 2/66$$

$$P(,) = 4/66$$

$$P(') = 4/66$$

In this model,  $P(\text{English sentence}) = P(\text{word salad})$

# Language modeling with N-grams

A **language model** over a vocabulary  $V$  assigns probabilities to strings drawn from  $V^*$ .

How do we compute the **probability of a string**  $w^{(1)} \dots w^{(i)}$  ?

Recall the **chain rule**:

$$P(w^{(1)} \dots w^{(i)}) = P(w^{(1)}) \cdot P(w^{(2)} \mid w^{(1)}) \cdot \dots \cdot P(w^{(i)} \mid w^{(i-1)}, \dots, w^{(1)})$$

An **n-gram** language model assumes each word  $w^{(i)}$  depends only on the **last n-1 words**  $w^{(i-1)}, \dots, w^{(i-(n+1))}$

$$P_{ngram}(w^{(1)} \dots w^{(i)}) = P(w^{(1)}) \cdot P(w^{(2)} \mid w^{(1)}) \cdot \dots \cdot P(w^{(i)} \mid w^{(i-1)}, \dots, w^{(i-(n+1))})$$

# N-gram models

N-gram models *assume* each word (event) depends only on the previous  $n-1$  words (events):

$$\text{Unigram model: } P(w^{(1)} \dots w^{(N)}) = \prod_{i=1}^N P(w^{(i)})$$

$$\text{Bigram model: } P(w^{(1)} \dots w^{(N)}) = \prod_{i=1}^N P(w^{(i)} \mid w^{(i-1)})$$

$$\text{Trigram model: } P(w^{(1)} \dots w^{(N)}) = \prod_{i=1}^N P(w^{(i)} \mid w^{(i-1)}, w^{(i-2)})$$

Independence assumptions where the  $n$ -th event in a sequence depends only on the last  $n-1$  events are called **Markov assumptions (of order  $n-1$ )**.

# How many parameters do n-gram models have?

Given a vocabulary  $V$  of  $|V|$  word types: so, for  $|V| = 10^4$ :

**Unigram model:**  $|V|$  parameters  $10^4$  parameters

(one distribution  $P(w^{(i)})$  with  $|V|$  outcomes  
[each  $w \in V$  is one outcome])

**Bigram model:**  $|V|^2$  parameters  $10^8$  parameters

**Trigram model:**  $|V|^3$  parameters  $10^{12}$  parameters

# A bigram model for Alice

Alice was beginning to get very tired  
of sitting by her sister on the bank,  
and of having nothing to do: once or  
twice she had peeped into the book  
her sister was reading, but it had no  
pictures or conversations in it, 'and  
what is the use of a book,' thought  
Alice 'without pictures or  
conversation?'

$$P(w^{(i)} = \text{of} \mid w^{(i-1)} = \text{tired}) = 1$$

$$P(w^{(i)} = \text{of} \mid w^{(i-1)} = \text{use}) = 1$$

$$P(w^{(i)} = \text{sister} \mid w^{(i-1)} = \text{her}) = 1$$

$$P(w^{(i)} = \text{beginning} \mid w^{(i-1)} = \text{was}) = 1/2$$

$$P(w^{(i)} = \text{reading} \mid w^{(i-1)} = \text{was}) = 1/2$$

$$P(w^{(i)} = \text{bank} \mid w^{(i-1)} = \text{the}) = 1/3$$

$$P(w^{(i)} = \text{book} \mid w^{(i-1)} = \text{the}) = 1/3$$

$$P(w^{(i)} = \text{use} \mid w^{(i-1)} = \text{the}) = 1/3$$

# Using a bigram model for Alice

## English

Alice was beginning to get very tired of sitting by her sister on the bank, and of having nothing to do: once or twice she had peeped into the book her sister was reading, but it had no pictures or conversations in it, 'and what is the use of a book,' thought Alice 'without pictures or conversation?'

## Word Salad

beginning by, very Alice but was and? reading no tired of to into sitting sister the, bank, and thought of without her nothing: having conversations Alice once do or on she it get the book her had peeped was conversation it pictures or sister in, 'what is the use had twice of a book' 'pictures or' to

*Now,  $P(\text{English}) \gg P(\text{word salad})$*

$$P(w(i) = \text{of} \mid w(i-1) = \text{tired}) = 1$$

$$P(w(i) = \text{of} \mid w(i-1) = \text{use}) = 1$$

$$P(w(i) = \text{sister} \mid w(i-1) = \text{her}) = 1$$

$$P(w(i) = \text{beginning} \mid w(i-1) = \text{was}) = 1/2$$

$$P(w(i) = \text{reading} \mid w(i-1) = \text{was}) = 1/2$$

$$P(w(i) = \text{bank} \mid w(i-1) = \text{the}) = 1/3$$

$$P(w(i) = \text{book} \mid w(i-1) = \text{the}) = 1/3$$

$$P(w(i) = \text{use} \mid w(i-1) = \text{the}) = 1/3$$



# From n-gram probabilities to language models

Recall: a language  $L \subseteq V^*$  is a (possibly infinite) set of strings over a (finite) vocabulary  $V$ .

$P(w^{(i)} \mid w^{(i-1)})$  defines a distribution over the words in  $V$ :

$$\forall w \in V: \left[ \sum_{w' \in V} P(w^{(i)} = w' \mid w^{(i-1)} = w) \right] = 1$$

By multiplying this distribution  $N$  times, we get  
one distribution over all strings of the same length  $N$  ( $V^N$ ):

Prob. of one  $N$ -word string: 
$$P(w_1 \dots w_N) = \prod_{i=1 \dots N} P(w^{(i)} = w_i \mid w^{(i-1)} = w_{i-1})$$

## From n-gram probabilities to language models

We have just seen how to use n-gram probabilities to define *one* distribution  $P(V^N)$  *for each string length*  $N$ .

But a **language model**  $P(L)=P(V^*)$  should define one distribution  $P(V^*)$  that sums to one over *all* strings in  $L \subseteq V^*$ , *regardless of their length*:

$$P(L) = P(V) + P(V^2) + P(V^3) + \dots P(V^n) + \dots = 1$$

### **Solution:**

Add an **End-of-Sentence (EOS)** token to  $V$

Assume a) that each string ends in EOS and

b) that EOS can only appear at the end of a string.

# From n-gram probabilities to language models with EOS

Think of a language model as a **stochastic process**:

- At each time step, randomly pick one more word.
- **Stop** generating more words when the word you pick is a special **end-of-sentence (EOS)** token.

To be able to pick the EOS token, we have to **modify our training data** so that **each sentence ends in EOS**.

This means our vocabulary is now  $V^{\text{EOS}} = V \cup \{\text{EOS}\}$

We then get an **actual language model**,  
i.e. a distribution over **strings of any length**

Technically, this is only true because  $P(\text{EOS} \mid \dots)$  will be high enough that we are always guaranteed to stop after having generated a finite number of words

A leaky or inconsistent language model would have  $P(L) < 1$ . That could happen if EOS had a very small probability (but doesn't really happen in practice).

# Why do we want *one* distribution over $L$ ?

*Why do we care about having **one probability distribution for all lengths?***

This allows us to *compare the probabilities* of strings of different lengths, because they're computed by the same distribution.

This allows us to *generate* strings of arbitrary length with one model.

# Learning (estimating) a language model

Where do we get the **parameters** of our model (its actual probabilities) from?

$$P(w^{(i)} = \text{'the'} \mid w^{(i-1)} = \text{'on'}) = ???$$

We need (a large amount of) text as **training data** to estimate the parameters of a language model.

The most basic parameter estimation technique: **relative frequency estimation** (frequency = counts)

$$P(w^{(i)} = \text{'the'} \mid w^{(i-1)} = \text{'on'}) = C(\text{'on the'}) / C(\text{'on'})$$

Also called **Maximum Likelihood Estimation (MLE)**

$C(\text{'on the'})$  [or  $f(\text{'on the'})$  for frequency]:

How often does 'on the' appear in the training data?

$$\text{NB: } C(\text{'on'}) = \sum_{w \in V} C(\text{'on'} w)$$

# Handling unknown words: UNK

## Training:

- Define a fixed vocabulary  $V$  such that all words in  $V$  appear at least  $n$  times in the training data  
(e.g. all words that occur at least 5 times in the training corpus, or the most common 10,000 words in training)
- Add a new token UNK to  $V$ , and replace all other words in the corpus that are not in  $V$  by this token UNK
- Estimate the model on this modified training corpus.

## Testing (when computing the probability of a string):

Replace any words not in the vocabulary by UNK

# What about the beginning of the sentence?

In a trigram model

$$P(w^{(1)}w^{(2)}w^{(3)}) = P(w^{(1)})P(w^{(2)} | w^{(1)})P(w^{(3)} | w^{(2)}, w^{(1)})$$

only the third term  $P(w^{(3)} | w^{(2)}, w^{(1)})$  is an actual trigram probability. What about  $P(w^{(1)})$  and  $P(w^{(2)} | w^{(1)})$  ?

**If this bothers you:**

Add  **$n-1$  beginning-of-sentence (BOS)** symbols to each sentence for an  **$n$ -gram model**:

BOS<sub>1</sub> BOS<sub>2</sub> Alice was ...

Now the unigram and bigram probabilities involve only BOS symbols.



## Summary: Estimating a bigram model with BOS (<s>), EOS (</s>) and UNK using MLE

1. Replace all words not in  $V$  in the training corpus with UNK
2. Bracket each sentence by special start and end symbols:  
    <s> Alice was beginning to get very tired ...</s>
3. Define the Vocabulary  $V'$  = all tokens in modified training corpus  
    (all common words, UNK, <s>, </s>)
4. Count the frequency of each bigram....  
     $C(<s> \text{ Alice}) = 1, C(\text{Alice was}) = 1, \dots$
5. .... and normalize these frequencies to get probabilities:

$$P(\text{was} | \text{Alice}) = \sum_{w_i \in V'} \frac{C(\text{Alice was})}{C(\text{Alice } w_i)}$$

# How do we use language models?

Independently of any application, we could use a language model as a *random sentence generator* (we sample sentences according to their language model probability)

We can use a language model as a *sentence ranker*.

We prefer output sentences  $S_{\text{Out}}$  that have a higher language model probability. We can use a language model  $P(S_{\text{Out}})$  to *score and rank these different candidate output sentences*, e.g. as follows:

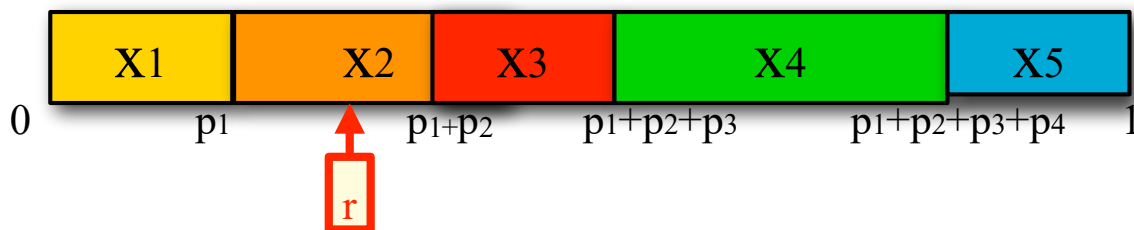
$$\operatorname{argmax}_{S_{\text{Out}}} P(S_{\text{Out}} \mid \text{Input}) = \operatorname{argmax}_{S_{\text{Out}}} P(\text{Input} \mid S_{\text{Out}})P(S_{\text{Out}})$$

# Generating from a distribution

How do you generate text from an  $n$ -gram model?

That is, how do you sample from a distribution  $P(X | Y=y)$ ?

- Assume  $X$  has  $N$  possible outcomes (values):  $\{x_1, \dots, x_N\}$  and  $P(X=x_i | Y=y) = p_i$
- Divide the interval  $[0,1]$  into  $N$  smaller intervals according to the probabilities of the outcomes
- Generate a random number  $r$  between 0 and 1.
- Return the  $x_i$  whose interval the number is in.



# Generating the Wall Street Journal

*unigram:* Months the my and issue of year foreign new exchange's september were recession exchange new endorsed a acquire to six executives

*bigram:* Last December through the way to preserve the Hudson corporation N. B. E. C. Taylor would seem to complete the major central planners one point five percent of U. S. E. has already old M. X. corporation of living on information such as more frequently fishing to keep her

*trigram:* They also point to ninety nine point six billion dollars from two hundred four oh six three percent of the rates of interest stores as Mexico and Brazil on market conditions

# Generating Shakespeare

Unigram	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To him swallowed confess hear both. Which. Of save on trail for are ay device and rote life have</li> <li>• Every enter now severally so, let</li> <li>• Hill he late speaks; or! a more to leg less first you enter</li> <li>• Are where exeunt and sighs have rise excellency took of.. Sleep knave we. near; vile like</li> </ul>
Bigram	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What means, sir. I confess she? then all sorts, he is trim, captain.</li> <li>• Why dost stand forth thy canopy, forsooth; he is this palpable hit the King Henry. Live king. Follow.</li> <li>• What we, hath got so she that I rest and sent to scold and nature bankrupt, nor the first gentleman?</li> <li>• Enter Menenius, if it so many good direction found'st thou art a strong upon command of fear not a liberal largess given away, Falstaff! Exeunt</li> </ul>
Trigram	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sweet prince, Falstaff shall die. Harry of Monmouth's grave.</li> <li>• This shall forbid it should be branded, if renown made it empty.</li> <li>• Indeed the duke; and had a very good friend.</li> <li>• Fly, and will rid me these news of price. Therefore the sadness of parting, as they say, 'tis done.</li> </ul>
Quadrigram	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• King Henry. What! I will go seek the traitor Gloucester. Exeunt some of the watch. A great banquet serv'd in;</li> <li>• Will you not tell me who I am?</li> <li>• It cannot be but so.</li> <li>• Indeed the short and the long. Marry, 'tis a noble Lepidus.</li> </ul>

# Shakespeare as corpus

The Shakespeare corpus has  $N=884,647$  word tokens for a vocabulary of  $V=29,066$  word types

Shakespeare used 300,000 bigram types out of  $V^2= 844$  million possible bigram types.

99.96% of possible bigrams don't occur in this corpus.

Corollary: A relative frequency estimate based on this corpus assigns non-zero probability to only 0.04% of possible bigrams

That percentage is even lower for trigrams, 4-grams, etc.

4-grams *look* like Shakespeare because they *are* Shakespeare!

# The UNK token

What would happen if we used an UNK token on a corpus the size of Shakespeare's?

1. If we set the frequency threshold for which words to replace too high, a very large fraction of tokens become UNK.
2. Even with a low threshold, UNK will have a very high probability, because in such a small corpus, many words appear only once.
3. But we would still only observe a small fraction of possible bigrams (or trigrams, quadrigrams, etc.)



# MLE doesn't capture unseen events

We estimated a model on 884K word tokens, but:

**Only 30,000 word types occur in the training data**

Any word that does not occur in the training data has zero probability!

**Only 0.04% of all possible bigrams (for 30K word types) occur in the training data**

Any bigram that does not occur in the training data has *zero* probability (even if we have seen both words in the bigram by themselves)



# Part II: Word Embedding

# How to represent the meaning of a word usable for a computer?

- Common NLP solution: Use, e.g., **WordNet**, a thesaurus containing lists of synonym sets and hypernyms (“is a” relationships).

*e.g., synonym sets containing “good”:*

```
from nltk.corpus import wordnet as wn
poses = { 'n': 'noun', 'v': 'verb', 's': 'adj (s)', 'a': 'adj', 'r': 'adv' }
for synset in wn.synsets("good"):
    print("{}: {}".format(poses[synset.pos()],
        ", ".join([l.name() for l in synset.lemmas()])))
```

```
noun: good
noun: good, goodness
noun: good, goodness
noun: commodity, trade_good, good
adj: good
adj (sat): full, good
adj: good
adj (sat): estimable, good, honorable, respectable
adj (sat): beneficial, good
adj (sat): good
adj (sat): good, just, upright
...
adverb: well, good
adverb: thoroughly, soundly, good
```

*e.g., hypernyms of “panda”:*

```
from nltk.corpus import wordnet as wn
panda = wn.synset("panda.n.01")
hyper = lambda s: s.hypernyms()
list(panda.closure(hyper))
```

```
[Synset('procyonid.n.01'),
Synset('carnivore.n.01'),
Synset('placental.n.01'),
Synset('mammal.n.01'),
Synset('vertebrate.n.01'),
Synset('chordate.n.01'),
Synset('animal.n.01'),
Synset('organism.n.01'),
Synset('living_thing.n.01'),
Synset('whole.n.02'),
Synset('object.n.01'),
Synset('physical_entity.n.01'),
Synset('entity.n.01')]
```

# Problems with WordNet

- ❑ Great as a resource but missing nuance
  - ❑ e.g., “**proficient**” is listed as a synonym for “**good**” This is only correct in some contexts
- ❑ Missing new meanings of words
  - ❑ e.g., **wicked, badass, nifty, wizard, genius, ninja, bombest**
  - ❑ Impossible to keep up-to-date!
- ❑ Subjective
- ❑ Requires human labor to create and adapt
- ❑ Can't compute accurate word similarity

# Representing words as discrete symbols

❑ In traditional NLP, we regard words as discrete symbols:

hotel, conference, motel

❑ Such symbols for words can be represented by one-hot vectors:

motel = [0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0]

hotel = [0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0]

❑ Vector dimension = number of words in vocabulary (e.g., 500,000)

# Problem with words as discrete symbols

❑ **Example:** in web search, if user searches for “Seattle motel”, we would like to match documents containing “Seattle hotel”

❑ But:

motel = [0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0]

hotel = [0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0]

❑ These two vectors are orthogonal

❑ There is no natural notion of **similarity** for one-hot vectors!

❑ **Solution:**

- Could try to rely on WordNet’s list of synonyms to get similarity?
  - But it is well-known to fail badly: incompleteness, etc.
- Instead: learn to encode similarity in the vectors themselves

# Representing words by their context

- ❑ **Distributional semantics:** A word's meaning is given by the words that frequently appear close-by
  - ❑ *"You shall know a word by the company it keeps"* (J. R. Firth 1957: 11)
  - ❑ One of the most successful ideas of modern statistical NLP!
- ❑ When a word  $w$  appears in a text, its **context** is the set of words that appear nearby (within a fixed-size window).
- ❑ Use the many contexts of  $w$  to build up a representation of  $w$

...government debt problems turning into **banking** crises as happened in 2009...  
...saying that Europe needs unified **banking** regulation to replace the hodgepodge...  
...India has just given its **banking** system a shot in the arm...

↖ ↗  
These **context words** will represent **banking**

# Word Vector

- We will build a dense vector for each word, chosen so that it is similar to vectors of words that appear in similar contexts

$$\textit{banking} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.286 \\ 0.792 \\ -0.177 \\ -0.107 \\ 0.109 \\ -0.542 \\ 0.349 \\ 0.271 \end{pmatrix}$$

- Note: word vectors are also called word embeddings or (neural) word representations



# Visualize Word Vectors

*expect* =

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0.286 \\ 0.792 \\ -0.177 \\ -0.107 \\ 0.109 \\ -0.542 \\ 0.349 \\ 0.271 \\ 0.487 \end{pmatrix}$$



# Word2Vec: Overview

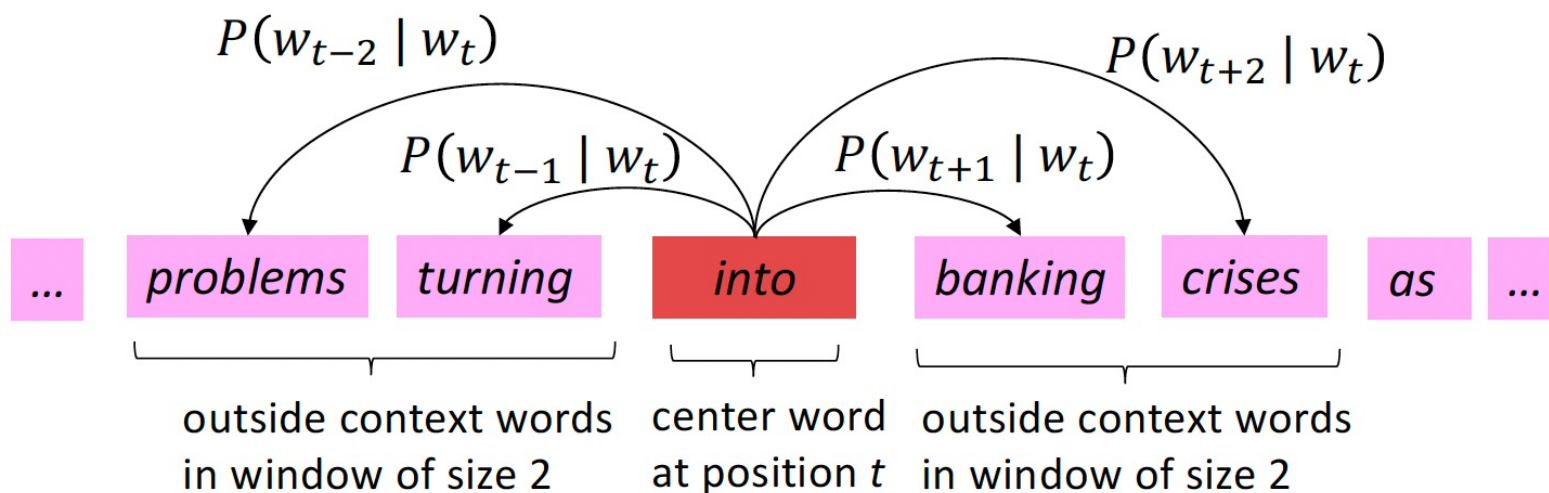
□ **Word2vec** (*Mikolov et al. 2013*) is a framework for learning word vectors

Idea:

- We have a large corpus (“body”) of text
- Every word in a fixed vocabulary is represented by a vector
- Go through each position  $t$  in the text, which has a center word  $c$  and context (“outside”) words  $o$
- Use the similarity of the word vectors for  $c$  and  $o$  to calculate the probability of  $o$  given  $c$  (or vice versa)
- Keep adjusting the word vectors to maximize this probability

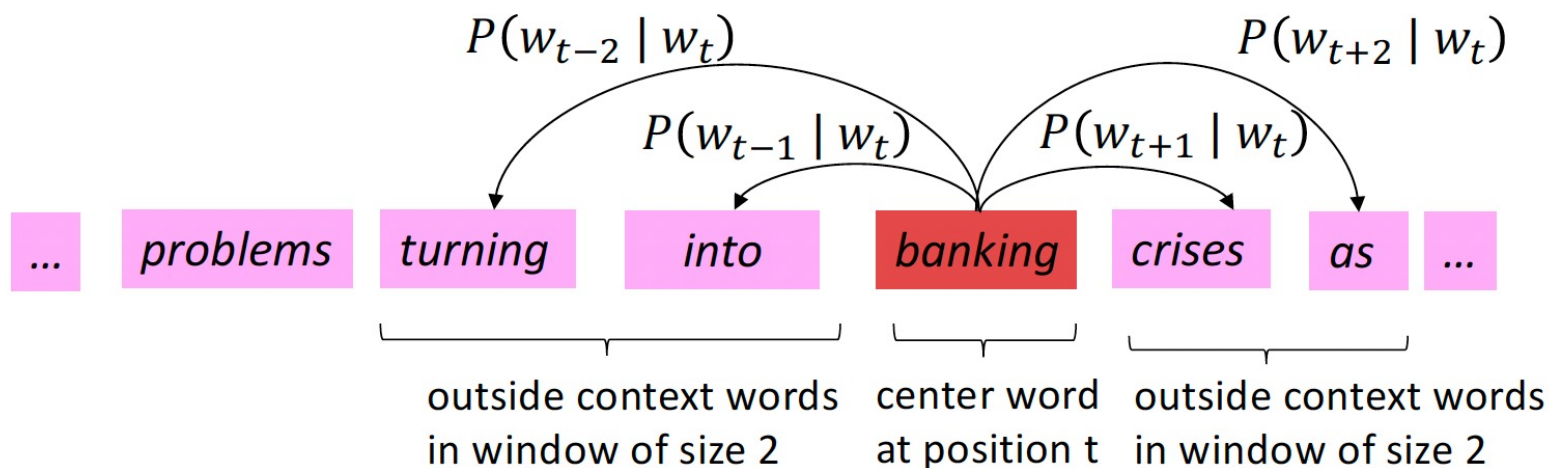
# Word2Vec Overview

□ Example windows and process for computing  $P(w_{t+j} | w_t)$



# Word2Vec Overview

□ Example windows and process for computing  $P(w_{t+j} | w_t)$



# Word2Vec Objective Function

For each position  $t = 1, \dots, T$ , predict context words within a window of fixed size  $m$ , given center word  $w_t$ . Data likelihood:

$$\text{Likelihood} = L(\theta) = \prod_{t=1}^T \prod_{\substack{-m \leq j \leq m \\ j \neq 0}} P(w_{t+j} | w_t; \theta)$$

$\theta$  is all variables  
to be optimized

sometimes called a *cost* or *loss* function

The **objective function**  $J(\theta)$  is the (average) negative log likelihood:

$$J(\theta) = -\frac{1}{T} \log L(\theta) = -\frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{\substack{-m \leq j \leq m \\ j \neq 0}} \log P(w_{t+j} | w_t; \theta)$$

Minimizing objective function  $\Leftrightarrow$  Maximizing predictive accuracy

# Word2Vec Objective Function

- We want to minimize the objective function:

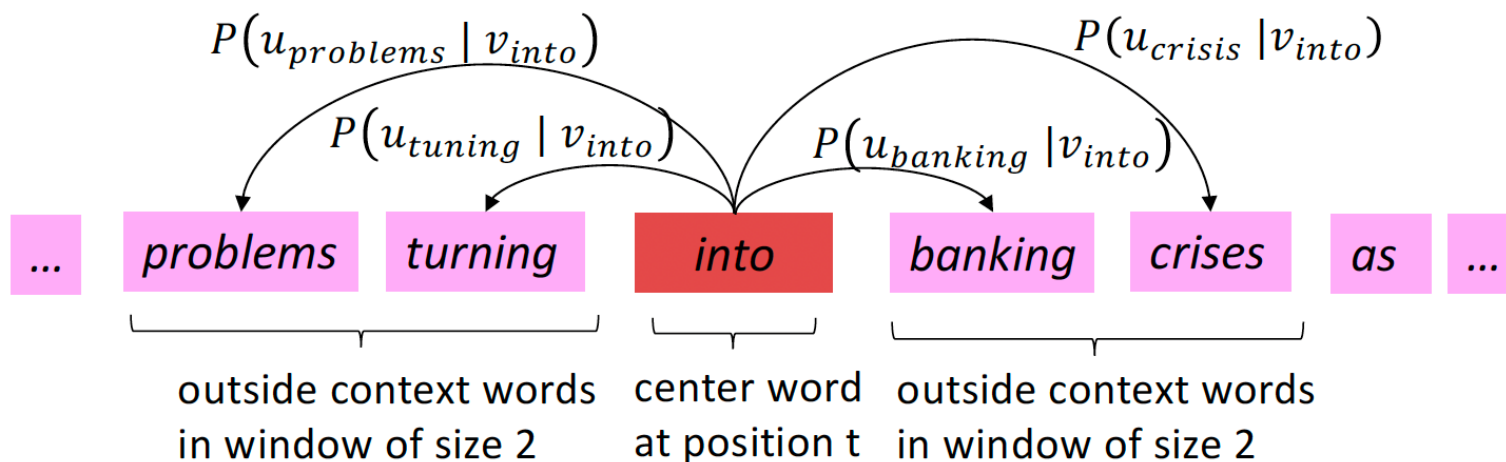
$$J(\theta) = -\frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T \sum_{\substack{-m \leq j \leq m \\ j \neq 0}} \log P(w_{t+j} | w_t; \theta)$$

- **Question:** How to calculate  $P(w_{t+j} | w_t; \theta)$  ?
- **Answer:** We will *use two* vectors per word  $w$ :
  - $v_w$  when  $w$  is a center word
  - $u_w$  when  $w$  is a context word
- Then for a center word  $c$  and a context word  $o$ :

$$P(o|c) = \frac{\exp(u_o^T v_c)}{\sum_{w \in V} \exp(u_w^T v_c)}$$

# Word2Vec Overview with vectors

- Example windows and process for computing  $P(w_{t+j} | w_t)$
- $P(u_{problems} | v_{into})$  short for  $P(problems | into ; u_{problems}, v_{into}, \theta)$



# Word2Vec prediction function

② Exponentiation makes anything positive

$$P(o|c) = \frac{\exp(u_o^T v_c)}{\sum_{w \in V} \exp(u_w^T v_c)}$$

① Dot product compares similarity of  $o$  and  $c$ .  
 $u^T v = u \cdot v = \sum_{i=1}^n u_i v_i$   
Larger dot product = larger probability

③ Normalize over entire vocabulary to give probability distribution

□ This is a soft-max function!



# Word2Vec: Optimization

❑ To train a model, we gradually adjust parameters to minimize a loss

❑ Recall:  $\theta$  represents all the model parameters, in one long vector

❑ In our case, with  $d$ -dimensional vectors and  $V$ -many words, we have:

❑ Remember: every word has two vectors

$$\theta = \begin{bmatrix} v_{aardvark} \\ v_a \\ \vdots \\ v_{zebra} \\ u_{aardvark} \\ u_a \\ \vdots \\ u_{zebra} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{2dV}$$

❑ We optimize these parameters by gradient descent

$$\theta^{new} = \theta^{old} - \alpha \nabla_{\theta} J(\theta)$$

# Word2Vec: Gradient

- Need gradients for all center words and outside words

$$\log p(o|c) = \log \frac{\exp(u_o^T v_c)}{\sum_{w=1}^V \exp(u_w^T v_c)}$$

- Why two vectors? Easier optimization. Average both at the end.



# Part III: Basic Neural Networks for NLP

# What have we covered so far?

We have covered a broad overview of some basic techniques in NLP:

- N-gram language models
- Word embeddings

Let's create a (much better) neural language model!

# Our first neural net for NLP:

## A neural $n$ -gram model

Given a fixed-size vocabulary  $V$ , an  $n$ -gram model predicts the probability of the  $n$ -th word following the preceding  $n-1$  words:

$$P(w^{(i)} \mid w^{(i-1)}, w^{(i-2)}, \dots, w^{i-(n-1)})$$

How can we model this with a neural net?

- **Input layer:** concatenate  $n-1$  word vectors
- **Output layer:** a softmax over  $|V|$  units

# An n-gram model $P(w \mid w_1 \dots w_k)$ as a feedforward net (**naively**)

## Assumptions:

The **vocabulary**  $V$  contains  $V$  types (incl. UNK, BOS, EOS)  
We want to condition each word on  $k$  preceding words

## Our (naive) model:

- **[Naive]**

Each **input word**  $w_i \in V$  is a  **$V$ -dimensional one-hot vector**  $v(w)$

→ The **input layer**  $\mathbf{x} = [v(w_1), \dots, v(w_k)]$  has  **$V \times k$  elements**

- We assume **one hidden layer**  $\mathbf{h}$

- The **output layer** is a softmax over  $V$  elements

$$P(w \mid w_1 \dots w_k) = \text{softmax}(\mathbf{h}\mathbf{W}^2 + \mathbf{b}^2)$$

# An n-gram model $P(w \mid w_1 \dots w_k)$ as a feedforward net (**better**)

## Assumptions:

The **vocabulary**  $V$  contains  $V$  types (incl. UNK, BOS, EOS)  
We want to condition each word on  $k$  preceding words

## Our (better) model:

- **[Better]**

Each **input word**  $w_i \in V$  is an  **$n$ -dimensional dense embedding vector**  $v(w)$  (**with  $n \ll V$** )

→ The **input layer**  $\mathbf{x} = [v(w_1), \dots, v(w_k)]$  has  **$n \times k$  elements**

- We assume **one hidden layer**  $\mathbf{h}$

- The **output layer** is a softmax over  $V$  elements

$$P(w \mid w_1 \dots w_k) = \text{softmax}(\mathbf{h}\mathbf{W}^2 + \mathbf{b}^2)$$

# Our neural n-gram models

## Architecture:

Input Layer:  $\mathbf{x} = [v(w_1) \dots v(w_k)]$

Hidden Layer:  $\mathbf{h} = g(\mathbf{x}\mathbf{W}^1 + \mathbf{b}^1)$

Output Layer:  $P(w \mid w_1 \dots w_k) = \text{softmax}(\mathbf{h}\mathbf{W}^2 + \mathbf{b}^2)$

## How many parameters do we need? [# of weights and biases]:

Hidden layer with one-hot inputs:  $\mathbf{W}^1 \in \mathbb{R}^{(k \cdot V) \times \dim(\mathbf{h})}$      $\mathbf{b}^1 \in \mathbb{R}^{\dim(\mathbf{h})}$

Hidden layer with dense inputs:  $\mathbf{W}^1 \in \mathbb{R}^{(k \cdot n) \times \dim(\mathbf{h})}$      $\mathbf{b}^1 \in \mathbb{R}^{\dim(\mathbf{h})}$

Output layer (any inputs):  $\mathbf{W}^2 \in \mathbb{R}^{\dim(\mathbf{h}) \times V}$      $\mathbf{b}^2 \in \mathbb{R}^V$

With  $V = 10\text{K}$ ,  $n = 300$  (word2vec),  $\dim(\mathbf{h}) = 300$

$k = 2$  (trigram):  $\mathbf{W}^1 \in \mathbb{R}^{20,000 \times 300}$  or  $\mathbf{W}^1 \in \mathbb{R}^{600 \times 300}$  and  $\mathbf{b}^1 \in \mathbb{R}^{300}$

$k = 5$  (six-gram):  $\mathbf{W}^1 \in \mathbb{R}^{50,000 \times 300}$  or  $\mathbf{W}^1 \in \mathbb{R}^{1500 \times 300}$  and  $\mathbf{b}^1 \in \mathbb{R}^{300}$

$\mathbf{W}^2 \in \mathbb{R}^{300 \times 10,000}$      $\mathbf{b}^2 \in \mathbb{R}^{10,000}$

Six-gram model with one-hot inputs: 27,000,460,000 parameters,  
with dense inputs: 3,460,000 parameters

Traditional six-gram model:  $10^{4 \times 6} = 10^{24}$  parameters



# Naive (one-hot input) neural n-gram model

## Advantage over non-neural n-gram model:

- The hidden layer captures **interactions** among context words
- **Increasing the order** of the n-gram requires only a small **linear increase** in the number of parameters.  
 $\dim(\mathbf{W}^1)$  goes from  $(k \cdot \dim(V)) \cdot \dim(\mathbf{h})$  to  $((k+1) \cdot \dim(V)) \cdot \dim(\mathbf{h})$
- **Increasing the vocabulary** also leads only to a **linear increase** in the number of parameters

But: With a one-hot encoding and  $\dim(V) \approx 10\text{K}$  or so, this model still requires a LOT of parameters to learn.  
And: The Markov assumption still holds

# Better (dense embeddings input) neural n-gram model

Advantage over non-neural n-gram model:

- Same as naive neural model, plus:

Advantages over naive neural n-gram model:

- We have **far fewer parameters** to learn
- **Better generalizations:** If similar input words have similar embeddings, the model will **predict similar probabilities in similar contexts:**

$$P(w \mid \text{the doctor saw the}) \approx P(w \mid \text{a nurse sees her})$$

But: This generalization only works if the contexts have similar words in the *same* position.

And: The Markov assumption still holds.

# Neural n-gram models

Naive neural n-gram models (**one-hot inputs**) have similar shortcomings to standard n-gram models

- Models get very large (and sparse) as  $n$  increases
- We can't generalize across similar contexts
- Markov (independence) assumptions are too strict

Better neural n-gram models can be obtained with **dense word embeddings**:

- Models remain much smaller
- Embeddings may provide some (limited) generalization across similar contexts

# 1D CNNs for text

Text is a (variable-length) **sequence** of words (word vectors)

[#channels = dimensionality of word vectors]

We can use a **1D CNN** to slide a window of  $n$  tokens across:

— Filter size  $n = 3$ , stride = 1, no padding

**The quick brown** fox jumps over the lazy dog

The **quick brown fox** jumps over the lazy dog

The quick **brown fox jumps** over the lazy dog

The quick brown **fox jumps over** the lazy dog

The quick brown fox **jumps over the** lazy dog

The quick brown fox jumps **over the lazy** dog

— Filter size  $n = 2$ , stride = 2, no padding:

**The quick** brown fox jumps over the lazy dog

The quick **brown fox** jumps over the lazy dog

The quick brown fox **jumps over** the lazy dog

The quick brown fox jumps over **the lazy** dog

# What we have learned today

- ❑ Language Modeling
- ❑ N-gram is a simple language model
- ❑ Word2Vec gives embeddings of a word based on its context
- ❑ Neural N-gram Language Model
- ❑ Feedforward network and CNN for NLP
- ❑ Next lecture: Recurrent Neural Network, Sequence-t-sequence model, and transformer network