

Robust Learning and Inference for IE New Frontiers of Information Extraction (Part III)

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NAACL Tutorials

New Frontiers of Information Extraction

Robust Learning and Inference for IE



How do we make IE models *reliable*?

AI Needs to Understand Relations of Concepts



QA & Semantic Search

Göögle		which mazda car has won 24 hours of le mans						
Q All	🗉 News	🔝 Images	Shopping	▶ Videos	: More			

About 31,700,000 results (1.33 seconds)

Mazda 787B

Relations of Entities

Honolulu

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

This article is about the largest city and state capital city of Hawai Honolulu itself, see Honolulu County, Hawaii. For other uses, see

Honolulu (/<u>hɑ:nə'lu:lu:/;^[6] Hawaiian: [hono'lulu]</u>) is the capital and largest city of the U.S. state of Hawaii, which is located in the Pacific Ocean. It is an unincorporated county seat of the consolidated City and County of Honolulu, situated along the southeast coast of the island of O'ahu,^[a] and is the westernmost and southernmost major U.S. city. Honolulu is Hawai's main gateway to the world. It is also a major hub for international business, finance, hospitality, and military defense in both the state and Oceania. The city is characterized by a mix of various Asian, Western, and Pacific cultures, as reflected in its diverse demography, cuisine, and traditions.



Relations of Products and Users

Comp. Bio. Med.



Interactions of (bio)molecules Relations of diseases and drugs



IE automatically extracts structural knowledge about concepts and relations



Fragility in Learning

Wrong Args	Authorities said they ordered the detention of <u>Bruno's wife</u> , [Dayana Rodrigues] _{tail:per} , who was found with [Samudio] _{head:per} 's baby.	per:spouse	109	IE (structural) annotation is
Relation Def.	[Zhang Yinjun] _{tail:per} , spokesperson with one of China 's largest charity organization, the [China Charity Federation] _{head:org}	org:top_mem.	96	 5-8% errors in TACRED &
Entity Type	[Christopher Bollyn] _{head;per} is an [independent] _{tail;religion} journalist	per:religion	31	 CoNLL03 <70% IAA in HiEve & IC
	Noisy Training Data			• etc.



Ultra Diverse Labels and Low Training Resources

The extracts are often:

- Diverse and unbalanced
- + Expensive and insufficient

Fragility of IE Models





The goal of developing a robust IE system

Robustness in Learning

- **Noise robustness:** proactively identifying and mitigating training noise
- **Constraint learning**: capturing logical constraints of labels
- **Debiased training**: mitigating feature shortcuts and balancing training signals

Robustness in Inference

- **Selectiveness:** knowing what is extractable, what is not
- **Constrained inference**: ensuring logically consistent extracts
- **Faithfulness**: does not rely on spurious correlation



Self-contained, selective and faithful extraction.

Overcome minimal, noisy

and **biased** supervision



Goal: Robust IE

Agenda





Agenda





Noise In Training and Inference



Nothing to extract

Training

Annotation for IE is difficult and expensive

On Tuesday, there was a typhoon-strength $(e_1:storm)$ in Japan. One man got $(e_2:killed)$ and thousands of people were left stranded. Police said an 81-year-old man $(e_3:died)$ in central Toyama when the wind blew over a shed, trapping him underneath. Later this afternoon, with the agency warning of possible tornadoes, Japan Airlines $(e_4:canceled)$ 230 domestic flights, $(e_5:affecting)$ 31,600 passengers.



Reading long documents, annotating complex structures

Costs \$2-\$6 and >3 minutes for just 1 relation [Paulheim+ 2018]

Annotation

Hence, IE annotations are inevitably noisy. For example:

- 5-8% errors in TACRED and CoNLL03
- <70% IAA in HiEve, Intelligence Community, etc.

Inference In real application, IE models sees way larger, more diverse and noisy data than in training Michael Jordan Michael Jordan is a professor at Berkeley is an expert in machine learning . Michael Jordan did not attend UCLA Training PERSON PER ORG PER ORG Inference Statistician? No Rel Comp. neuroscientist? SARS - CoV-2 ORF3a interacts with VSP39 -- a core subunits of HOPS complex

Unknown extraction types

Out-of-Distribution Inputs

Supervised Denoising



A noise filtering or relabeling model may be trained, if clean data are available.

1) Labeled clean data and noisy data



Once and Durrett. Learning to Denoise Distantly-Labeled Data for Entity Typing. NAACL 2019

Unsupervised Denoising: Ensemble





Unsupervised denoising: no longer requires annotated clean data Cost: needs repeated training and testing of the model for at least k+1 times.

Wang et al. CrossWeigh: Training named entity tagger from imperfect annotations. EMNLP 2019

Unsupervised Denoising: Co-regularized Knowledge Distillation





Zhou and Chen. Learning from Noisy Labels for Entity-Centric Information Extraction. EMNLP 2021

Unsupervised Denoising: Co-regularized Knowledge Distillation





Zhou and Chen. Learning from Noisy Labels for Entity-Centric Information Extraction. EMNLP 2021

Unsupervised Denoising: Co-regularized Knowledge Distillation





Merits of co-regularized knowledge distillation

- More robust than ensemble (cross-weight), especially under higher noise rates
- More efficient (only 1-fold of training and no additional inference cost)
- Can be applied to train any backbone IE models (see results w/ LUKE and C-GCN in the paper)

Zhou and Chen. Learning from Noisy Labels for Entity-Centric Information Extraction. EMNLP 2021

Noise in Inference



In inference, IE models need to know when to not extract



Dhamija et al. Reducing network agnostophobia. NeurIPS 2018

Learning to Abstain without Annotated "Abstention"?



This is still an underexplored area, but there are at least two lines of strategies



Increase inter-class discrepancy \Rightarrow Better OOD detection

Creating compact representations with (margin-based) contrastive learning

 Indirectly making OOD instances as "background" representation

Inference with Mahalanobis distance

High-order distance measures improve OOD detection

Zhou et al. Contrastive Out-of-Distribution Detection for Pretrained Transformers. **EMNLP** 2021 Estimating the uncertainty of prediction

Softmax response: difference between top two class predictions



Prediction variance in Monte-Carlo dropout



Xin et al. The Art of Abstention: Selective Prediction and Error Regularization for Natural Language Processing. **ACL** 2021 Agenda







3. Logically Consistent IE



4. Open Research Directions

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Faithfulness Issues





Shortcut Prediction: Take Relation Extraction as An Example



What we hope the IE model to do

Bill Gates paid a visit to Building 99 of Microsoft yesterday.



Comprehend the *context*, and induce the mentioned *relation* of *entities*.



Relations should be inferred based on both mentions and the context

What it may actually do

Bill Gates paid a visit to 5u ding 💷 of Microsoft yesterday.



Read the *entities* and guess the *relation* without understanding the *context*.



Overly relying on entity mentions lead to a shortcut for RE

How to do we mitigate this spurious correlation?

Strategy 1: Debiased Training





Person paid a visit to Building 99 of Org yesterday.

Similarly for *event RE*, we can mask using trigger types and tense



Mask mentions in both training and inference

- Pro: reduces mention biases
- Con: loses semantic information about entities ⇒ performance drop

Reweighting instances: FoCal loss, resampling, two-stage optimization, etc.

$$\mathrm{FL}(p_t) = -(1-p_t)^{\gamma}\log(p_t)$$



Upweight hard instances

- Pro: reduces training biases by (indirectly) upweighting "underrepresented" instances
- Con: hard instances are not always "underrepresented" instances

Lin et al. *Focal loss for dense object detection*. **CVPR** 2017 Liu et al. Just Train Twice: Improving Group Robustness without Training Group Information. **ICML** 2021

Strategy 2: Counterfactual Inference





Counterfactual Inference





Counterfactual inference leading to more precise and fairer relation extraction.

*IRE_{ROBERTa} is one of the best-performing sentence-level RE model (Zhou and Chen 2021). Results also available for LUKE.

Counterfactual Inference



Evaluation on out-of-distribution versions of TACRED and Re-TACRED.

- Filtered test sets where combinations of entities and relations have not appeared in training sets.
- Models cannot guess the relations trivially based on entity mentions.



Counterfactual inference leads to significantly more faithful relation extraction.

Faithfulness Issues in Other IE Tasks



Faithfulness in IE is still an underexplored research direction.

Entity Typing and Linking

Mention-Context bias

Input: Last week I stayed in Treasure Island for two nights when visiting Las Vegas. Gold labels: hotel, resort, location, place Pred labels: island, land, location, place



Dependency bias

Input: *Most car <u>spoilers</u>* are made from polyurethane, while some are made from lightweight steel or fiberglass.

<u>Gold labels:</u> part, object <u>Pred labels:</u> object, car, vehicle



Xu et al. Does Your Model Classify Entities Reasonably? Diagnosing and Mitigating Spurious Correlations in Entity Typing. 2022 NER

Original NER Examples

I thank my **Beijing [GPE]** friends and wish everyone a Happy **New Year [EVENT]**.



Entity-level Attack

Natural Adversarial Examples (Entity-only)

I <u>thank</u> my **Bari [GPE]** <u>friends</u> and wish everyone a Happy **Casimir Pulaski Day [EVENT]**.



Context-level Attack

Natural Adversarial Examples (*Entity + Context*)

I <u>admire</u> my Bari [GPE] <u>roommates</u> and wish everyone a Happy Casimir Pulaski Day [EVENT].

Lin et al. RockNER: A Simple Method to Create Adversarial Examples for Evaluating the Robustness of Named Entity Recognition Models. **EMNLP**-21

Agenda





3. Logically Consistent IE



Consistency of IE



How do we ensure the extracts are globally consistent?

On Tuesday, there was a typhoon-strength $(e_1:storm)$ in Japan. One man got $(e_2:killed)$ and thousands of people were left stranded. Police said an 81-year-old man $(e_3:died)$ in central Toyama when the wind blew over a shed, trapping him underneath. Later this afternoon, with the agency warning of possible tornadoes, Japan Airlines $(e_4:canceled)$ 230 domestic flights, $(e_5:affecting)$ 31,600 passengers.

Take event-event relation extraction as an example

- Temporal Relations
- Subevent Relations (Memberships)
- Event Coreference



A main event cannot happen after a subevent

Wang et al. Joint Constrained Learning for Event-Event Relation Extraction. EMNLP 2020



Symmetry

e3:died is BEFORE e4:canceled=> e4:canceled is AFTER e3:died

Conjunction

e3:died is BEFORE e4:canceled
^e4:canceled is a PARENT of e5:affecting
=> e3:died BEFORE e5:affecting

(we also consider *Implication* and *Negation*)

Why adding logical constraints in learning?

- Learning to provide globally consistent predictions
- Providing indirect supervision across tasks/learning resources

Transitivity

e1:storm is PARENT of e4:canceled

Ae4:canceled is a PARENT of e5:affecting

=> e1:storm is a PARENT of e5:affecting



Wang et al. Joint Constrained Learning for Event-Event Relation Extraction. **EMNLP 2020** Li et al. A Logic-Driven Framework for Consistency of Neural Models. **EMNLP 2019**



Symmetry and negation are captured by implication loss; Transitivity is captured by conjunction loss.

Using **product** *t***-norm** model constraints as differentiable functions

- L_A Task Loss: $\top \rightarrow r(e_1, e_2)$ $-w_r \log r_{(e_1, e_2)}$
- L_S Implication Loss: $\alpha(e_1, e_2) \leftrightarrow \bar{\alpha}(e_2, e_1) \quad [\rightarrow] |\log \alpha_{(e_1, e_2)} \log \bar{\alpha}_{(e_2, e_1)}|$
- L_C Conjunction Loss: $\alpha(e_1, e_2) \land \beta(e_2, e_3) \rightarrow \gamma(e_1, e_3) \xrightarrow{} \log \alpha_{(e_1, e_2)} + \log \beta_{(e_2, e_3)} \log \gamma_{(e_1, e_3)}$ $\alpha(e_1, e_2) \land \beta(e_2, e_3) \rightarrow \neg \delta(e_1, e_3) \xrightarrow{} \log \alpha_{(e_1, e_2)} + \log \beta_{(e_2, e_3)} - \log(1 - \delta_{(e_1, e_3)})$

• Training Objective:
$$L = L_A + \lambda_S L_S + \lambda_C L_C$$

Constraints become regularizers

α β	PC	СР	CR	NR	BF	AF	EQ	VG
PC	PC, $\neg \mathbf{AF}$	_	PC, $\neg \mathbf{AF}$	$\neg CP, \neg CR$	BF , ¬CP, ¬CR	_	BF , ¬CP, ¬CR	_
CP	_	CP, ¬ <mark>BF</mark>	CP, ¬ <mark>BF</mark>	$\neg PC, \neg CR$	_	$\mathbf{AF}, \neg \mathbf{PC}, \neg \mathbf{CR}$	AF , $\neg PC$, $\neg CR$	_
CR	PC, $\neg \mathbf{AF}$	CP, ¬ <mark>BF</mark>	CR, <mark>EQ</mark>	NR	\mathbf{BF} , $\neg \mathbf{CP}$, $\neg \mathbf{CR}$	$\mathbf{AF}, \neg \mathbf{PC}, \neg \mathbf{CR}$	EQ	VG
NR	$\neg CP, \neg CR$	$\neg PC, \neg CR$	NR	—	—	—	—	_
BF	BF , ¬CP, ¬CR	_	BF , ¬CP, ¬CR	_	\mathbf{BF} , $\neg \mathbf{CP}$, $\neg \mathbf{CR}$	_	BF , ¬CP, ¬CR	$\neg AF, \neg EQ$
AF	—	$\mathbf{AF}, \neg \mathbf{PC}, \neg \mathbf{CR}$	AF , $\neg PC$, $\neg CR$	—	—	AF , $\neg PC$, $\neg CR$	AF , $\neg PC$, $\neg CR$	$\neg BF, \neg EQ$
EQ	¬AF	¬BF	EQ	—	<mark>BF</mark> , ¬CP, ¬CR	AF , $\neg PC$, $\neg CR$	EQ	VG, ¬CR
VG	—	—	VG, ¬CR	_	¬AF, ¬EQ	$\neg BF, \neg EQ$	VG	_

Joint Constrained Learning

- **Temporal Relations**
- Subevent Relations (Memberships)
- **Event Coreference**



The Joint Constrained Learning Architecture



Constrained learning surpasses SOTA TempRel extraction on MATRES [Ning+, ACL-18] by relatively 3.27% in F₁.

Model	P	R	F_1
CogCompTime (Ning et al., 2018c)	0.616	0.725	0.666
Perceptron (Ning et al., 2018b)	0.660	0.723	0.690
BiLSTM+MAP (Han et al., 2019b)	-	-	0.755
LSTM+CSE+ILP (Ning et al., 2019)	0.713	0.821	0.763
Joint Constrained Learning (ours)	0.734	0.850	0.788

On HiEve [Glavaš+, LREC-14] for subevent extraction, it relatively surpasses previous methods by at least 3.12% in F₁.

	F_1 score			
Model	PC	CP	Avg.	
StructLR (Glavaš et al., 2014)	0.522	0.634	0.577	
TACOLM (Zhou et al., 2020a)	0.485	0.494	0.489	
Joint Constrained Learning (ours)	0.625	0.564	0.595	

Key Observations

- Constraints are a natural bridge for learning resources with different sets of relations
- Adding constraints in learning is sufficient to enforce logical consistency of outputs, surpassing ILP in inference (w/ constrained learning) by 2.6-12.3% in ACC

Automatically Learning Constraints



Some logical constraints can be hard to articulate. We should automatically capture them!

Event-event relations are related to narrative segments

- **Text segmentation** [Lukasik+ EMNLP-20]: identifying standalone subdocument pieces
- Subevent relations happen much more often within the same narrative segment

A hard-to-articulate soft probabilistic constraint. How do we capture it?

Constraint Learning

Training a single-layer rectifier network on all ``triangles" of the training data

$$\mathbf{w}_k \cdot \mathbf{X} + b_k \ge 0$$
 \longrightarrow $p = \sigma \left(1 - \sum_{k=1}^K \operatorname{ReLU} \left(\mathbf{w}_k \cdot \mathbf{X} + b_k \right) \right)$

Estimates probabilities of conjunctive constraints

Adding the rectifier estimated constraint probability as a regularization loss in task training

$$L_{cons} = -log \left(Sigmoid \left(1 - \sum_{k=1}^{N} ReLU(\mathbf{w}_k \cdot \boldsymbol{\psi} + b_k) \right) \right)$$

Pan et al. Learning Constraints for Structured Prediction Using Rectifier Networks. **ACL 2020** Wang et al. Learning Constraints and Descriptive Segmentation for Subevent Detection. **EMNLP 2021**

Former Penn State football coach Jerry Sandusky posted (e1) bail Thursday after spending a night in jail following a new round of sex-abuse charges (e2) filed against him. Sandusky secured his release using (e3) \$200,000 in real estate holdings and a \$50,000 certified check provided (e4) by his wife, Dorothy, according to online court record ... He was also charged (e5) last month with abusing eight boys, some on campus, over 15 years, allegations that were not immediately brought to the attention of authorities even though high-level people at Penn State apparently knew about them. In all, he faces more than 50 charges (e6). The scandal (e7) has resulted in the ousting (e8) of school President Graham Spanier and longtime coach Joe Paterno.



Automatically Learning Constraints





Subevent relation extraction (FI) on Intelligence Community



Constraint learning automatically captures soft constraints, and allow narrative segmentation to be introduced as a form of indirect supervision.

Agenda





Consolidating Extracts to Knowledge



Extracts are local (differ in contexts), but knowledge is global (unique and consistent)

Several relevant tasks on text

- Fact verification
- Answer consolidation



Knowledge alignment across languages



Zhou et al. Answer Consolidation: Formulation and Benchmarking. NAACL 2022 Thorne et al. FEVER: a large-scale dataset for Fact Extraction and VERification. NAACL 2018 Chen et al. Multilingual Knowledge Graph Completion via Ensemble Knowledge Transfer. EMNLP: Findings 2020 Zhou et al. Prix-LM: Pretraining for Multilingual Knowledge Base Construction. ACL 2022

Perturbation Robustness





- Qin et al. Improving Entity and Relation Understanding for Pre-trained Language Models via Contrastive Learning. ACL 2021
- Huang et al. Disentangling semantics and syntax in sentence embeddings with pre-trained language models. NAACL 2021

- Foret et al. Sharpness-aware minimization for efficiently improving generalization. ICLR 2020
- Ishida et al. Do We Need Zero Training Loss After Achieving Zero Training Error? ICML 2020

Quantitative Extraction







Temporal verification

Medical Reports

... The patient has been constantly smoking in the past year ...

Has the patient smoked in the past month?



Large models still do not support quantitative reasoning well

Zhang et al. Do Language Embeddings Capture Scales? EMNLP: Findings 2020

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School of Engineering



Thank You

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