Natural Language Processing

CS 3216/UG, AI 5203/PG

Week-4

Distributional semantics /Word2vec

Acknowledgments

These slides were adapted from the lecture slides

Christopher manning –CS224N NN with deep learning

Practical Natural Language Processing (A Comprehensive Guide to Building Real-World NLP Systems)Orielly

and

some modifications from presentations and resources found in the WEB by several scholars.

Recap

- NLP
- Applications
- Regular expressions
- Tokenization
- Stemming
  - Porter Stemmer
- Lemmatization
- Normalization
- Stopwords
- Bag-of-Words
- TF-IDF
- NER
- POS tagging

Semantics

- What is semantics?
  - Semantics is the study of meaning

Distributional semantics

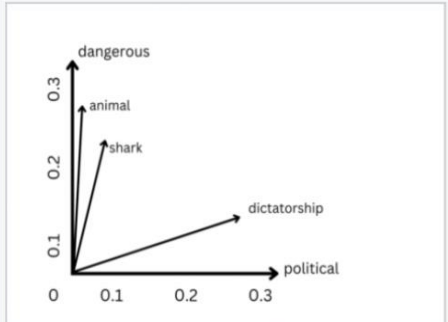
Distributional semantics

7 languages

Article Talk Read Edit View history Tools

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Distributional semantics [1] is a research area that develops and studies theories and methods for quantifying and categorizing semantic similarities between linguistic items based on their distributional properties in large samples of language data. The basic idea of distributional semantics can be summed up in the so-called distributional hypothesis: *linguistic items with similar distributions have similar meanings.*



How words are related in a given language is demonstrated in the "semantic space", which mathematically corresponds to the vector space.

Distributional hypothesis [edit]

- https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Distributional_semantics

1. How do we represent the meaning of a word?

Definition: **meaning** (Webster dictionary)

- the idea that is represented by a word, phrase, etc.
- the idea that a person wants to express by using words, signs, etc.
- the idea that is expressed in a work of writing, art, etc.

Commonest linguistic way of thinking of meaning:

signifier (symbol) ⟺ signified (idea or thing)

= denotational semantics

Acknowledgement :- ALL SLIDES FROM CHRISTOPHER manning CS224N

How do we have usable meaning in a computer?

Common 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 resources like 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 – a localist representation

Means one 1, the rest 0s

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

Distributional Semantics

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 vectors

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 sometimes called word embeddings or word representations. They are a distributed representation.

Word meaning as a neural word vector – visualization

expect =

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

3. Word2vec: Overview

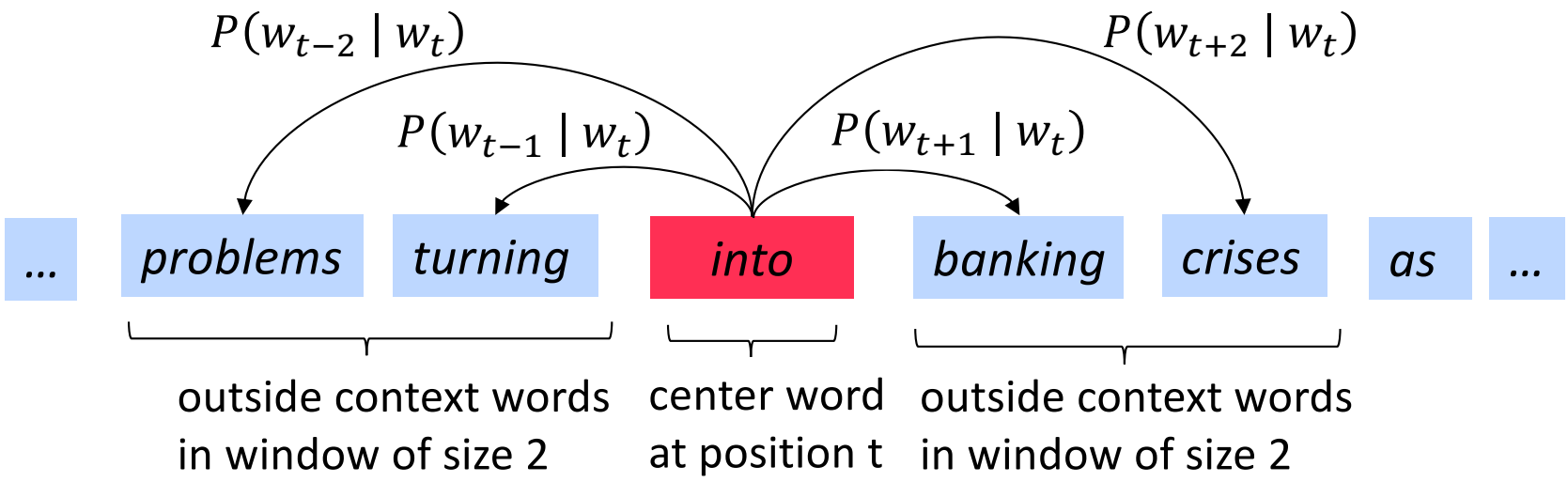
Word2vec (Mikolov et al. 2013) is a framework for learning word vectors

Idea:

- We have a large corpus 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 $P(w_{t+j} \mid w_t)$



Word2Vec Overview

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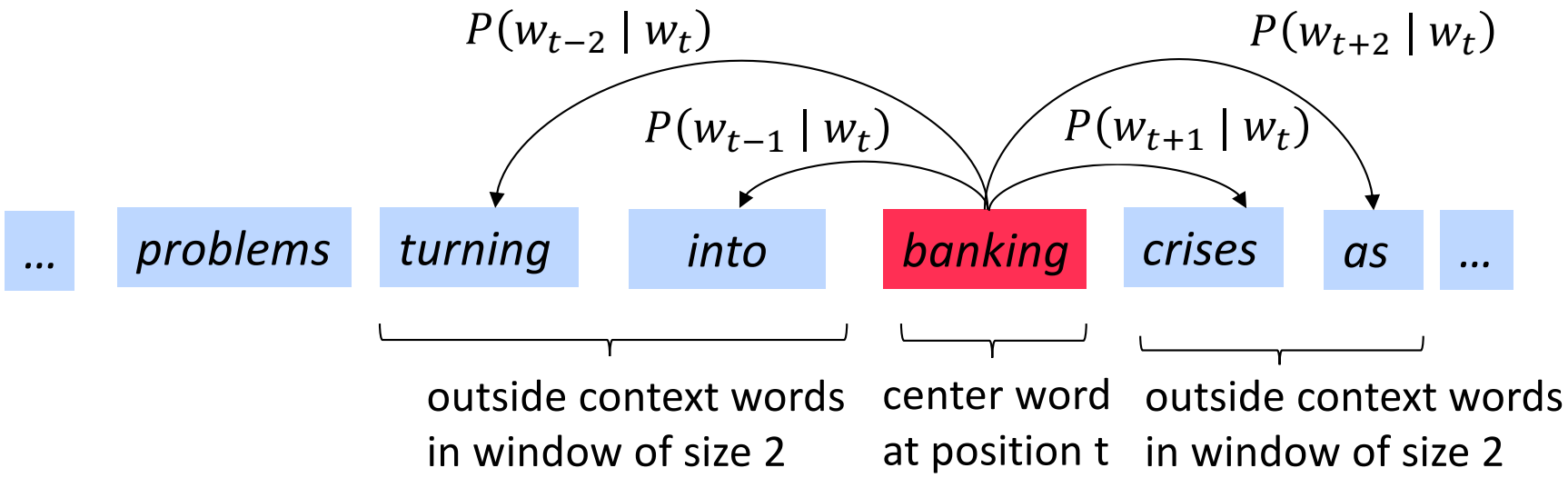


Word2vec: objective function

For each position $t = 1, \ldots, T$, predict context words within a window of fixed size m, given center word w_j.

Likelihood = $$L(\theta) = \prod_{t=1}^{T} \prod_{\substack{-m \le j \le m \\ j \neq 0}} P\left(w_{t+j} \mid w_t; \theta\right)$$

θ is all variables to be optimized

sometimes called *cost* or *loss* function

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

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

Minimizing objective function $\Leftrightarrow$ Maximizing predictive accuracy

Word2vec: objective function

- We want to minimize the objective function:

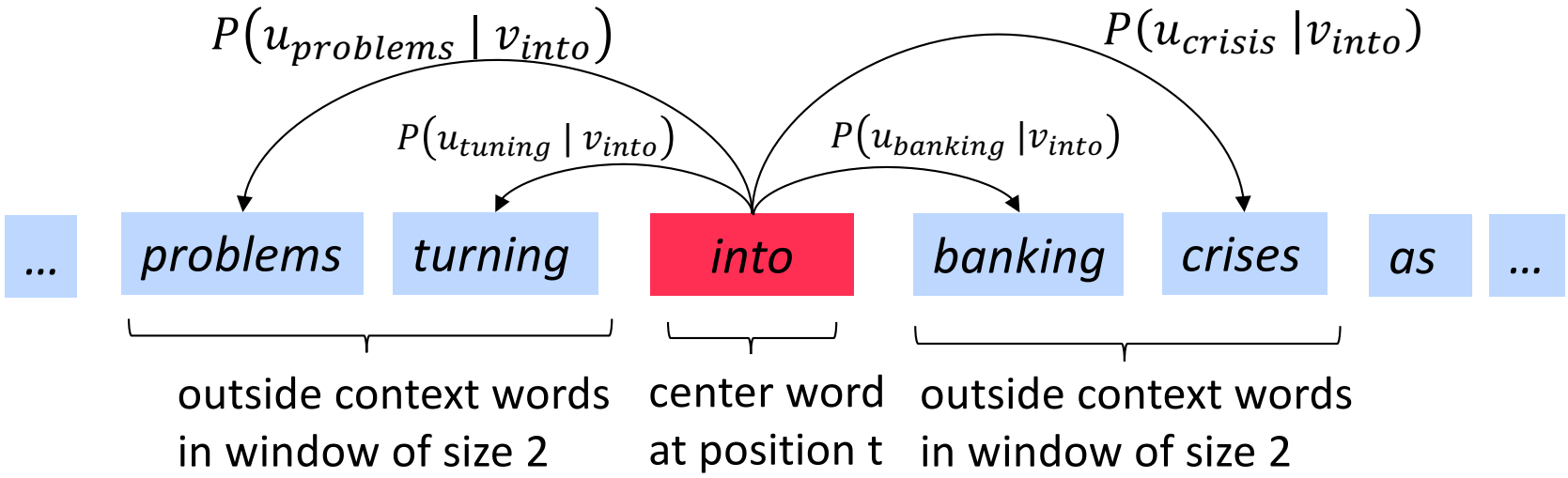
$$J(\theta) = -\frac{1}{T}\sum_{t=1}^{T}\sum_{\substack{-m\leq j\leq m \\ j\neq 0}} \log P\left(w_{t+j} \mid w_t; \theta\right)$$

- Question: How to calculate $P\left(w_{t+j} \mid w_t; \theta\right)$?
- 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 $P(w_{t+j} \mid w_t)$
- $P(u_{problems} \mid v_{into})$ short for $\mathrm{P}(problems \mid into\ ; u_{problems}, v_{into}, \theta)$



Word2vec: prediction function

Exponentiation makes anything positive

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

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

Normalize over entire vocabulary
to give probability distribution

- This is an example of the **softmax function** $\mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^n$

$$\text{softmax}(x_i) = \frac{\exp(x_i)}{\sum_{j=1}^{n} \exp(x_j)} = p_i$$

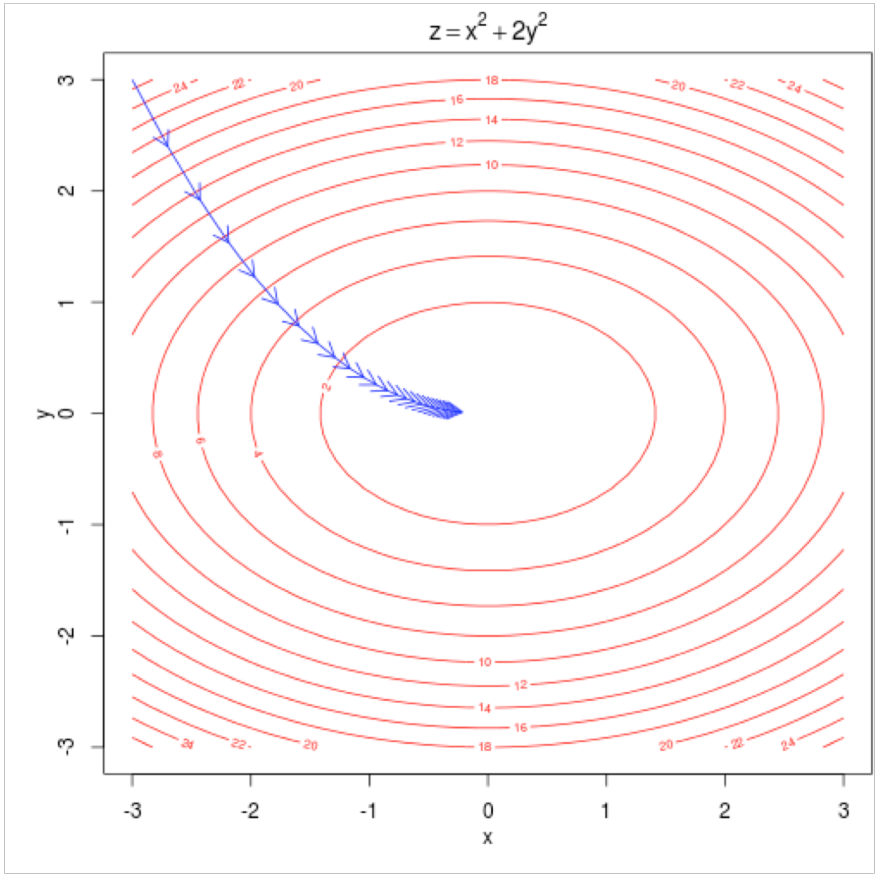
- The softmax function maps arbitrary values x_i to a probability distribution p_i
  - "max" because amplifies probability of largest x_i
  - "soft" because still assigns some probability to smaller x_i
  - Frequently used in Deep Learning

Training a model by optimizing parameters

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

E.g., below, for a simple convex function over two parameters

Contour lines show levels of objective function



To train the model: Compute all vector gradients!

- Recall: θ represents all model parameters, in one long vector
- In our case with *d*-dimensional vectors and *V*-many words:

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

- Remember: every word has two vectors
- We optimize these parameters by walking down the gradient

4. Word2vec derivations of gradient

- Whiteboard – see video if you're not in class ;)
- The basic Lego piece
- Useful basics: $\frac{\partial \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{a}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{x}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{a}$
- If in doubt: write out with indices

- Chain rule! If $y = f(u)$ and $u = g(x)$, i.e. $y = f(g(x))$, then:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{du}\frac{du}{dx}$$

Chain Rule

- Chain rule! If $y = f(u)$ and $u = g(x)$, i.e. $y = f(g(x))$, then:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{dy}{du}\frac{du}{dx} = \frac{df(u)}{du}\frac{dg(x)}{dx}$$

- Simple example: $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{d}{dx}5(x^3+7)^4$

$$y = f(u) = 5u^4 \qquad u = g(x) = x^3 + 7$$

$$\frac{dy}{du} = 20u^3 \qquad \frac{du}{dx} = 3x^2$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = 20(x^3+7)^3.3x^2$$

Interactive Whiteboard Session!

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

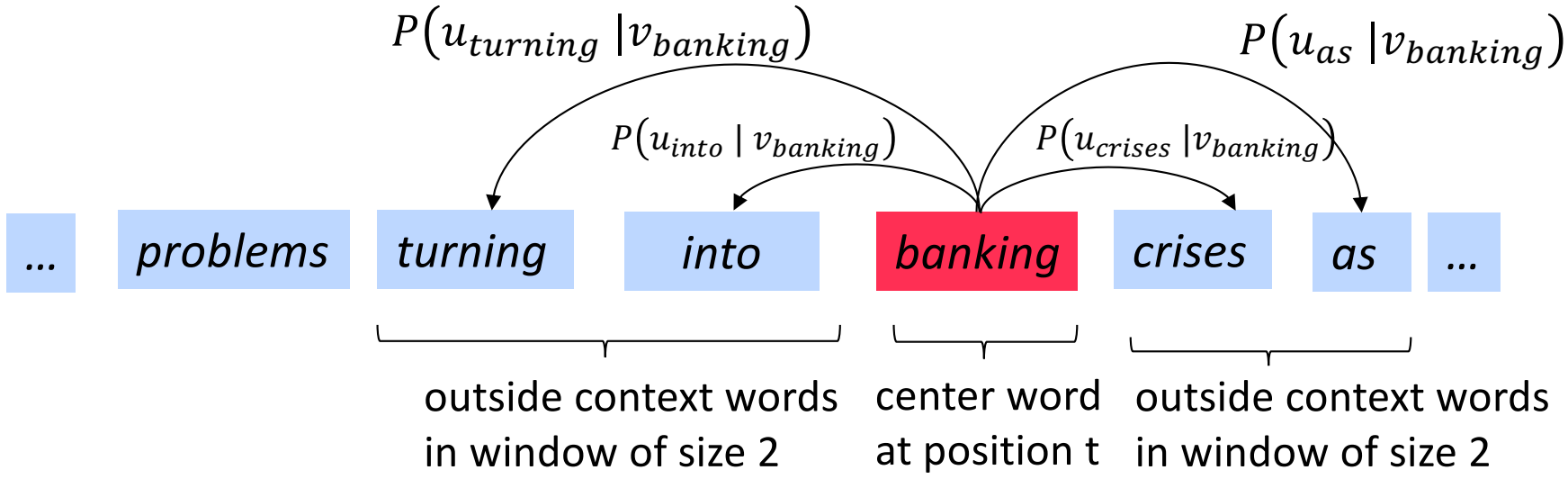
Let's derive gradient for center word together
For one example window and one example outside word:

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

You then also need the gradient for context words (it's similar; left for homework). That's all of the parameters θ here.

Calculating all gradients!

- We went through gradient for each center vector *v* in a window
- We also need gradients for outside vectors *u*
  - Derive at home!
- Generally in each window we will compute updates for all parameters that are being used in that window. For example:



Word2vec: More details

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

Two model variants:

1. Skip-grams (SG)

   Predict context ("outside") words (position independent) given center word

2. Continuous Bag of Words (CBOW)

   Predict center word from (bag of) context words

This lecture so far: **Skip-gram model**

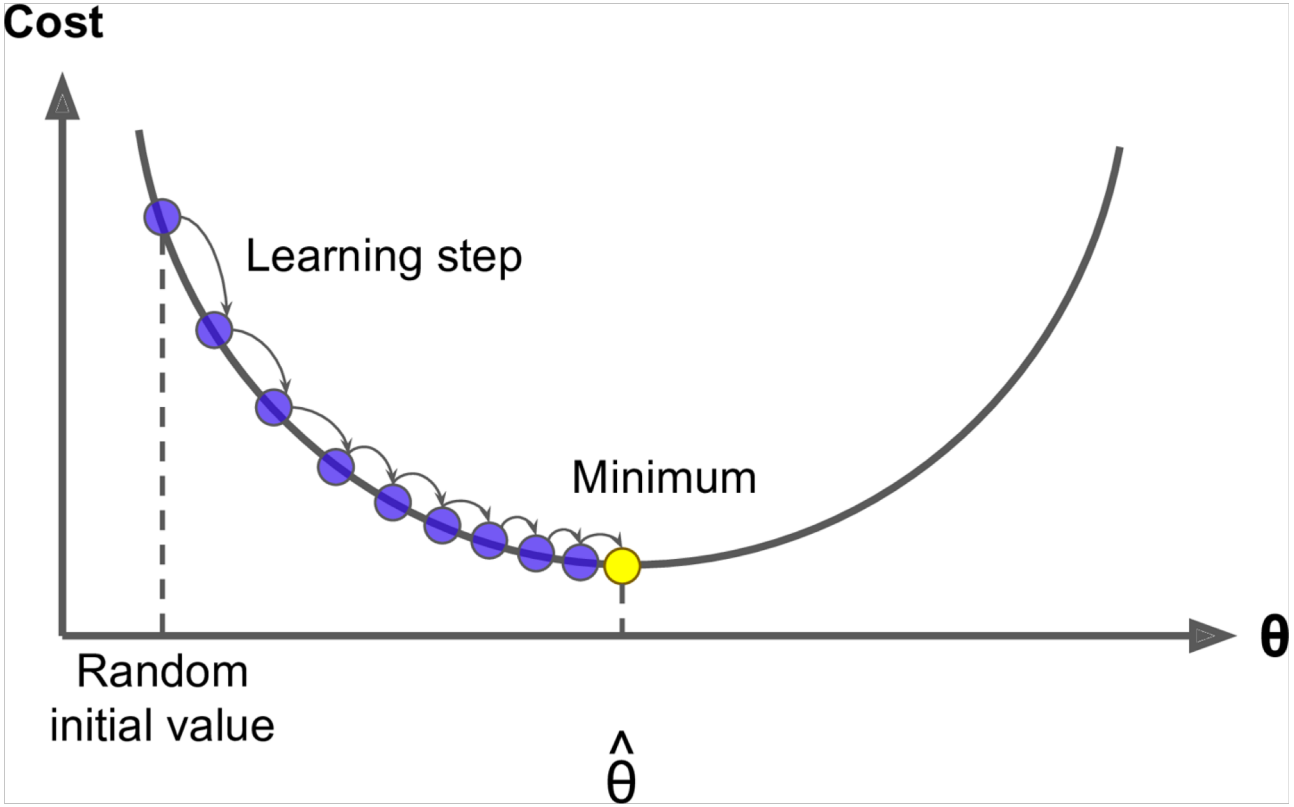
Additional efficiency in training:

1. Negative sampling

So far: Focus on **naïve softmax** (simpler training method)

5. Optimization: Gradient Descent

- We have a cost function $J(\theta)$ we want to minimize
- **Gradient Descent** is an algorithm to minimize $J(\theta)$
- Idea: for current value of θ, calculate gradient of $J(\theta)$, then take small step in direction of negative gradient. Repeat.



Note: Our objectives may not be convex like this :(

Gradient Descent

- Update equation (in matrix notation):

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

α = *step size* or *learning rate*

- Update equation (for single parameter):

$$\theta_j^{new} = \theta_j^{old} - \alpha \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_j^{old}} J(\theta)$$

- Algorithm:

```
while True:
    theta_grad = evaluate_gradient(J,corpus,theta)
    theta = theta - alpha * theta_grad
```

Stochastic Gradient Descent

- Problem: $J(\theta)$ is a function of **all** windows in the corpus (potentially billions!)
  - So $\nabla_\theta J(\theta)$ is very expensive to compute
- You would wait a very long time before making a single update!

- **Very** bad idea for pretty much all neural nets!
- Solution: **Stochastic gradient descent (SGD)**
  - Repeatedly sample windows, and update after each one
- Algorithm:

```
while True:
    window = sample_window(corpus)
    theta_grad = evaluate_gradient(J,window,theta)
    theta = theta - alpha * theta_grad
```

Class Homework

Implement Word2vec in python

Assignment 2 – Word2vec

Submission Deadline – 4th March, 2024

References

- https://web.stanford.edu/class/cs224n/readings/cs224n-2019-notes01-wordvecs1.pdf

Reference materials

- https://vlanc-lab.github.io/mu-nlp-course/

- Lecture notes

- (A) Speech and Language Processing by Daniel Jurafsky and James H. Martin
- (B) Natural Language Processing with Python. (updated edition based on Python 3 and NLTK 3) Steven Bird et al. O'Reilly Media