SECTOR: A Neural Model for Coherent **Topic Segmentation and Classification**

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Challenge: understand the topics and structure of a document

How can we represent a document with respect to the author's emphasis?

- → topical information [Ma18]
 (e.g. semantic class labels)
- → structural information [Ag09, Gla16] (e.g. coherent passages)
- → in latent vector space [Le14, Bha16]
 (i.e. distributional embedding)
- → required for TDT, QA & IR downstream tasks [All02, Di07, Coh18]



Task: split a document into coherent sections with topic labels



We aim to detect **topics** in a document that are expressed by the author as a **coherent sequence of sentences** (e.g., a passage or book chapter).

WikiSection: Wiki authors provide topics as section headings

Contents [hide] 1 Signs and symptoms 1.1 Diabetic emergencies 1.2 Complications 2 Causes 2.1 Type 1 2.2 Type 2 2.3 Gestational diabetes 2.4 Maturity onset diabetes of the young 2.5 Other types 3 Pathophysiology 4 Diagnosis 5 Prevention 6 Management 6.1 Lifestyle 6.2 Medications 6.3 Surgery 6.4 Support 7 Epidemiology 8 History 8.1 Etymology 9 Society and culture 9.1 Naming 10 Other animals 11 Research 12 References 13 Further reading 14 External links

| en_disease (27) | de_disease (25) | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|--|--|--|
| treatment | therapie | | | |
| symptom | diagnose | | | |
| diagnosis | symptom | | | |
| cause | ursache | | | |
| classification | kategorisierung | | | |
| epidemiology | verlauf | | | |
| history | epidemiologie | | | |
| prognosis | geschichte | | | |
| management | prognose | | | |
| pathophysiology | praevalenz | | | |
| mechanism | vorbeugung | | | |
| prevention | fauna | | | |
| research | terminologie | | | |
| genetics | pathologie | | | |
| tomography | definition | | | |
| culture | klinik | | | |
| etymology | komplikation | | | |
| infection | genetik | | | |
| fauna | infektion | | | |
| risk | risiko | | | |
| pathology | forschung | | | |
| surgery | geographie | | | |
| screening | mensch | | | |
| medication | organe | | | |
| geography | sonstiges | | | |
| complication | | | | |
| | | | | |

other

| en_disease | de_disease | en_city | de_city |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 3.6k English articles | 2.3k German articles | 19.5k English articles | 12.5k German articles |
| 8.5k | 6.1k | 23.0k | 12.2k |
| headings | headings | headings | headings |
| 27 topics (94.6%) | 25 topics | 30 topics | 27 topics |
| | (89.5%) | (96.6%) | (96.1%) |

https://github.com/sebastianarnold/WikiSection

SECTOR sequential prediction approach

- Transform a document of N sentences $\mathbf{s}_{1...N}$ into N topic distributions $\overline{\mathbf{y}}_{1...N}$
- Predict M sections T_{1...M} based on coherence of the network's weights
- Assign section-level topic labels $\mathbf{y}_{1...M}$



Network architecture (0/4) – Overview

Objective: maximize the log likelihood of model parameters Θ per document on sentence-level

$$\bar{\mathcal{L}}(\Theta) = \sum_{k=1}^{N} \log p(\bar{\mathbf{y}}_k \mid \mathbf{s}_1, \dots, \mathbf{s}_N; \Theta)$$

- Requires the entire document as input
- Long range dependencies
- Focus on sharp distinction at topic shifts



Network architecture (1/4) – Sentence encoding

Input: Vector representation of a full document

- Split text into sequence of sentences **s**_{1...N}
- Encode sentence vectors $\mathbf{x}_{1...N}$ using
 - Bag-of-words (~56k english words)
 - Bloom filter (4096 bits) [Se17] or
 - Pre-trained sentence embeddings [Mik13, Aro17] (128 dim)
- Use sentences as time-steps



Network architecture (2/4) – Topic embedding

Encoder: Bidirectional Long Short-Term Memory (BLSTM) [Ho97, Ge00, Gra12] + dense embedding layer

- independent fw and bw parameters Ô,Ô
 helps to sharpen left/right context
- embedding layer captures latent topics

$$\mathcal{L}(\Theta) = \sum_{k=1}^{N} \left(\log p(\bar{\mathbf{y}}_{k} \mid \mathbf{x}_{1...k-1}; \vec{\Theta}, \Theta') + \log p(\bar{\mathbf{y}}_{k} \mid \mathbf{x}_{k+1...N}; \overleftarrow{\Theta}, \Theta') \right)$$

• 2x256 LSTM cells, 128 dim embedding layer, 16 docs per batch, 0.5 dropout, ADAM opt.



Network architecture (3/4) - Topic classification

Output layer: Classification

- Decodes target probabilities
- Human-readable topic labels for 2 Tasks:
 - **topic classes** $\overline{y}_{1...N}$ (25–30 topics) *disease.symptom*

$$\mathbf{\hat{y}}_k = \operatorname{softmax}(W_{ye}\mathbf{\vec{e}}_k + W_{ye}\mathbf{\vec{e}}_k + b_y)$$

• headline words $\overline{z}_{1...N}$ (1.5–2.8k words) [signs, symptoms]

$$\mathbf{\hat{z}}_k = \operatorname{sigmoid}(W_{ze}\mathbf{\vec{e}}_k + W_{ze}\mathbf{\vec{e}}_k + b_z)$$



Network architecture (4/4) – Segmentation

Segmentation: based on topic coherence

 deviation d_k: stepwise "movement" of the embedding between two sentences



$$\mathbf{d'}_{k} = \sqrt{\cos(\vec{\mathbf{e'}}_{k-1}, \vec{\mathbf{e'}}_{k}) \cdot \cos(\vec{\mathbf{e'}}_{k}, \vec{\mathbf{e'}}_{k+1})}$$



Coherent segmentation using edge detection

We use the topic embedding deviation (emd) d_{μ} to start new segments on peaks.



- Idea adapted from image processing: we apply Laplacian-of-Gaussian edge detection [Zi98] to find local maxima on the emd curve
- Steps: dimensionality reduction (PCA), Gaussian smoothing, local maxima
- Bidirectional deviation (bemd) on fw and bw layers allows for sharper separation

Experiments with 20 different models on 8 datasets

| dataset | articles | article type | headings | topics | segments |
|------------------------------|-------------------|--|----------|--------|----------|
| WikiSection | 38k train/test | German/English diseases and cities | Х | Х | Х |
| Wiki-50 [Kosh18] | 50 test | English generic | Х | | Х |
| Cities/Elements [Chen09] | 130 test | English cities and chemicals (lowercase) | | | Х |
| Clinical Textbook [Eis08] | 227 test | English clinical | Х | | Х |

Sentence Classification Baselines: ParVec [Le14], CNN [Kim14]

Segmentation Models: C99 [Choi00], TopicTiling [Rie12], BayesSeg [Eis08], TextSeg [Kosh18]

Experiment 1: segmentation and single-label classification

Segment on sentence-level and assign one of 25-30 supervised topic labels (F1)



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Experiment 2: segmentation and multi-label classification

Segment on sentence-level and rank 1.0k-2.8k 'noisy' topic words per section (MAP)



Experiment 3: segmentation without topic prediction (cross-dataset)



Insights: SECTOR captures topic distributions coherently



Topic predictions on sentence level – top: ParVec [Le14] – bottom: SECTOR Segmentation – left: newlines in text (\n) – right: embedding deviation (emd)

SECTOR prediction on par with Wiki authors for "dermatitis"



Source: https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Atopic dermatitis&diff=786969806&oldid=772576326

Conclusion and future work

SECTOR is designed as a building block for **document-level knowledge representation**

- Reading sentences in document context is an important step to **capture both topical and structural information**
- Training the topic embedding with distant-supervised **complementary labels** improves performance over self-supervised word embeddings
- In future work, we aim to apply the topic embedding for unsupervised passage retrieval and QA tasks



Thanks & Questions

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Code and dataset available on GitHub: <u>https://github.com/sebastianarnold/SECTOR</u> <u>https://github.com/sebastianarnold/WikiSection</u>

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