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			

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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