Learning Logic Rules for Document-level Relation Extraction









simple intra-sentence semantics (around 20 tokens per sentence)

fewer involved entities (2~3 on average) and relations (0~2 on average)





Main Challenges

Long-range dependencies

Britain's Prince Harry is engaged to his US partner Meghan Markle. ...

Harry spent 10 years in the army and has this year, with his elderly brother William, ...

The last major royal wedding took place in 2011, when Kate Middleton and Prince William were married. ...

Main Challenges

Complex interactions



An extracted subgraph from the previous document.

Existing Methods

- Sequence-based Approaches
 - Average pooling (e.g. DocRED (Yao et al., 2019)), Attentive pooling (e.g. ATLOP (Zhou et al., 2021)), …



Existing Methods

- Graph-based Approaches
 - e.g. EoG (Christopoulou et al. 2019), GLRE (Wang et al., 2020), GAIN (Zeng et al., 2020)



Weaknesses of Prior Works

- Implicit long-range dependencies
 - PLMs encoding (suffers the difficulty on capturing long-range semantics)
 - Graph construction (depends on hand-crafted rules and contains only coarse granularity low-level information.)
- Implicit interactions modeling
 - features for interactions modeling, ignoring the explicit logical constraints among relations
- Poor Interpretability

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LogiRE

- Strength of logic rules
 - Explicitly capturing longrange dependencies
 - Exhibiting interpretability
- Combining logic rules
 with neural network

[1] Britain's Prince Harry is engaged to his US partner Meghan Markle. ... [2] Harry spent 10 years in the army and has this year, with his elder brother William, ... [3] The last major royal wedding took place In 2011, when Kate Middleton and Prince William were married.

Entities: UK, Harry, William, Kate

Relations: royalty_of(Harry, UK), sibling_of(William, Harry), spouse_of(Kate, William), royalty_of(Kate, UK) ...

Rule: $royalty_of(h, t) \leftarrow spouse_of(h, e_1) \land sibling_of(e_1, e_2) \land royalty_of(e_2, t)$

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The solid arc relation can be deducted from the other three dashed arc relations in concept level. [1] Britain's Prince Harry is engaged to his US partner Meghan Markle. ... [2] Harry spent 10 years in the army and has this year, with his elder brother William, ... [3] The last major royal wedding took place In 2011, when Kate Middleton and Prince William were married.

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Logic Rules

Logic Rule

$$\forall \{e_i\}_{i=0}^l r(e_0, e_l) \leftarrow r_1(e_0, e_1) \land \dots \land r_l(e_{l-1}, e_l)$$

$$e_i \in \mathcal{E} \text{ entity set} \qquad r_i \in \mathcal{T}_r \text{ predefined relations}$$

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Instantiated Path
$$\begin{array}{c}
e_{0} \xrightarrow{r_{1}} e_{1} \xrightarrow{r_{2}} e_{2} \rightarrow \cdots \xrightarrow{r_{l}} e_{l} \\
(h) & r
\end{array}$$

Note: the direct relation r from h to t can be depicted by a path with intermediate entities and relations included.

- Treat logic rules as
 latent variable z
- Rule Generator
 - generates rules for the relation extractor
- Relation Extractor
 - predicts relations give queries and logic rules
 - provides supervision signals for the rule generator to produce high-quality rules
- EM Optimization



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Rule Generator

• Following RNNLogic (Qu et al. 2021), the latent variable z is defined as a multi-set containing multiple rules

 $p_{\theta}(z|q) \sim \text{Multi}(z|N, \text{AutoReg}_{\theta}(rule|q))$

Rule Generator

• Following RNNLogic (Qu et al. 2021), the latent variable *z* is defined as a multi-set containing multiple rules

$$p_{\theta}(z|q) \sim \text{Multi}(z|N, \text{AutoReg}_{\theta}(rule|q))$$

AutoReg _{θ} (rule|q) = $\prod_{i=1}^{l} \text{AutoReg}_{\theta}(r_i|q, r_1, r_2, ..., r_{i-1})$



- Backbone model: initial probabilistic assessment on a triple
- Rule scorer: logic fusion over all instantiated paths of rules

$$\phi_{w}(rule) = \max_{path \in \mathcal{P}(rule)} \phi_{w}(path)$$

$$path: e_{0} \xrightarrow{r_{1}} e_{1} \xrightarrow{r_{2}} e_{2} \rightarrow \cdots \xrightarrow{r_{l}} e_{i}$$

$$\phi_{w}(path) = \prod_{i=1}^{l} \phi_{w}(e_{i-1}, r_{i}, e_{i})$$

$$p_{w}(\mathbf{y}|q, \mathbf{z}) = \operatorname{Sigmoid}(\mathbf{y} \cdot \operatorname{score}_{w}(q, \mathbf{z}))$$

$$\operatorname{score}_{w}(q, \mathbf{z}) = \phi_{w}(q) + \sum_{rule \in \mathbf{z}} \phi_{w}(q, rule)\phi_{w}(rule)$$

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$$\phi_{w}(rule) = \max_{\substack{path \in \mathcal{P}(rule)}} \phi_{w}(path)$$

$$path: e_{0} \xrightarrow{r_{1}} e_{1} \xrightarrow{r_{2}} e_{2} \rightarrow \cdots \xrightarrow{r_{l}} e_{l}$$

$$(t)$$

$$\phi_{w}(path) = \prod_{i=1}^{l} \phi_{w}(e_{i-1}, r_{i}, e_{i})$$

$$\begin{aligned} p_{w}(\boldsymbol{y}|\boldsymbol{q},\boldsymbol{z}) &= \operatorname{Sigmoid}(\boldsymbol{y}\cdot\operatorname{score}_{w}(\boldsymbol{q},\boldsymbol{z})) \\ \operatorname{score}_{w}(\boldsymbol{q},\boldsymbol{z}) &= \phi_{w}(\boldsymbol{q}) + \sum_{rule \in \boldsymbol{z}} \phi_{w}(\boldsymbol{q},rule)\phi_{w}(rule) \end{aligned}$$

- Backbone model: initial probabilistic assessment on a triple
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$$\phi_{w}(rule) = \max_{\substack{path \in \mathcal{P}(rule)\\path \in \mathcal{P}(rule)}} \phi_{w}(path)$$

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$$\phi_{w}(path) = \prod_{i=1}^{l} \phi_{w}(e_{i-1}, r_{i}, e_{i})$$

probability assessment on the triple (e_{i-1}, r_i, e_i) by the backbone model

$$p_{w}(\mathbf{y}|q, \mathbf{z}) = \operatorname{Sigmoid}(\mathbf{y} \cdot \operatorname{score}_{w}(q, \mathbf{z}))$$

$$\operatorname{score}_{w}(q, \mathbf{z}) = \phi_{w}(q) + \sum_{rule \in \mathbf{z}} \phi_{w}(q, rule)\phi_{w}(rule)$$

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dynamic programming $\phi_w(rule) = \max_{path \in \mathcal{P}(rule)} \phi_w(path)$ path: $e_0 \xrightarrow[(h)]{r_1} e_1 \xrightarrow[(t)]{r_2} e_2 \rightarrow \cdots \xrightarrow[(t)]{r_l} e_l$ probability assessment on the triple $\phi_w(path) = \prod_{i=1}^l \phi_w(e_{i-1}, r_i, e_i) \longleftarrow$ (e_{i-1}, r_i, e_i) by the backbone model fuzzy logic for $p_W(\mathbf{y}|q, \mathbf{z}) = \text{Sigmoid}(\mathbf{y} \cdot \text{score}_W(q, \mathbf{z}))$ disjunction over all $score_W(q, z) = \phi_W(q) + \sum \phi_W(q, rule)\phi_W(rule)$ conjunctive rules rule∈z.

Optimization (EM)

- E-step: exact posterior inference \rightarrow approximated posterior
- M-step: maximize lower bound



 $q(\mathbf{z})$ is the approximated posterior of the latent rule set

• Prior distribution: $p_{\theta}(z|q) \sim \text{Multi}(z|N, \text{AutoReg}_{\theta}(rule|q))$

• Posterior $\begin{aligned} \log p(z|y, q, \mathcal{D}) \\ = \log p_w(y|q, z, \mathcal{D}) + \log p_\theta(z|q) + C \\ = \log \frac{1}{1 + e^{-y \cdot \text{score}(q,z)}} + \sum_{rule \in z} \log \text{AutoReg}_\theta(rule|q) + C \\ \approx \frac{1}{2}y \cdot \text{score}_w(q, z) + \sum_{rule \in z} \log \text{AutoReg}_\theta(rule|q) + C \\ = \sum_{rule \in z} (\frac{1}{2}y \cdot (\frac{1}{N}(\phi_w(q) + \phi_w(q, rule)\phi_w(rule))) \\ + \log \text{AutoReg}_\theta(rule|q)) + C \end{aligned}$ (details)

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Approximated Posterior

 $H(rule) = \log \operatorname{AutoReg}_{\theta}(rule|\boldsymbol{q}) + \frac{y^{*}}{2} \left(\frac{1}{N} \phi_{w}(q) + \phi_{w}(q, rule) \phi_{w}(rule) \right)$ $q(\boldsymbol{z}) \sim \operatorname{Multi}(N, \frac{1}{Z} \exp(H(rule)))$

conjugate distributions

(details)

• Prior distribution: $p_{\theta}(z|q) \sim \text{Multi}(z|N, \text{AutoReg}_{\theta}(rule|q))$

Approximated Posterior

$$\begin{split} H(rule) &= \log \operatorname{AutoReg}_{\theta}(rule|\boldsymbol{q}) + \\ \frac{y^*}{2} \left(\frac{1}{N} \phi_w(q) + \phi_w(q, rule) \phi_w(rule) \right) \\ q(\boldsymbol{z}) &\sim \operatorname{Multi}(N, \frac{1}{Z} \exp(H(rule))) \end{split}$$

conjugate distributions

(details)

 $\begin{array}{c} \textcircled{\begin{subarray}{l} \label{eq:conjugate property} \rightarrow \textit{easier optimization}} \\ \max_{\theta} \mathbb{E}_{q(\boldsymbol{z})} p_{\theta}(\boldsymbol{z}|q) & \longrightarrow \max_{\theta} \mathbb{E}_{\hat{p}(rule|q)} \textit{AutoReg}_{\theta}(rule|q) \end{array} \end{array}$

Iterative Optimization

• E-step

Obtain the approximated posterior

Approximated posterior of the rule set

$$\begin{split} H(rule) &= \log \operatorname{AutoReg}_{\theta}(rule|\boldsymbol{q}) + \\ \frac{y^*}{2} \left(\frac{1}{N} \phi_w(q) + \phi_w(q, rule) \phi_w(rule) \right) \\ q(\boldsymbol{z}) &\sim \operatorname{Multi}(N, \frac{1}{Z} \exp(H(rule))) \end{split}$$

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Approximated posterior of each rule

 $\hat{p}(rule|q) \propto \exp(H(rule))$

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 $\hat{p}(rule|q) \propto \exp\left(H(rule)\right)$

- M-step
 - Optimize the parameters



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Approximated posterior of each rule

 $\hat{p}(\textit{rule}|q) \propto \exp\left(H(\textit{rule})\right)$

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 - Optimize the parameters



High Performance & Logical Consistency

Model	Dev			Test		
	ign F1	F1	logic	ign F1	F1	logic
CNN CNN + LogiRE	37.65 40.31(<u>+2.65</u>)	47.73 50.04(<u>+2.71</u>)	51.70 72.84(<u>+21.14</u>)	34.65 39.21(<u>+4.65</u>)	46.14 50.44(<u>+4.30</u>)	54.69 73.47(<u>+18.78</u>)
LSTM LSTM + LogiRE	40.86 42.79(<u>+1.93</u>)	51.77 53.60(<u>+1.83</u>)	65.64 69.74(<u>+4.10</u>)	40.81 43.82(<u>+3.01</u>)	52.60 55.03(<u>+2.43</u>)	61.64 71.27(<u>+9.63</u>)
BiLSTM BiLSTM + LogiRE	40.46 42.59(<u>+2.13</u>)	51.92 53.83(<u>+1.91</u>)	64.87 73.37(<u>+8.50</u>)	42.03 43.65(<u>+1.62</u>)	54.47 55.14(<u>+0.67</u>)	64.41 77.11(<u>+12.70</u>)
Context-Aware Context-Aware + LogiRE	42.06 43.88(<u>+1.82</u>)	53.05 54.49(<u>+1.44</u>)	69.27 73.98(<u>+4.71</u>)	45.37 48.10(<u>+2.73</u>)	56.58 59.22(<u>+2.64</u>)	70.01 75.94(<u>+5.93</u>)
GAIN + LogiPE	58.63	62.55	78.30	62.37 64.43 (+2.06)	67.57	86.19 91 22 (15.02)
ATLOP	59.03	64.82	81.98	62.09	69.94	82.76
ATLOP + LogiRE	60.24 (<u>+1.21</u>)	66.76 (<u>+1.94</u>)	86.98(<u>+5.00</u>)	64.11(<u>+2.02</u>)	71.78(<u>+1.84</u>)	86.07(<u>+3.31</u>)

Good Long-range Dependencies Modeling



The absolute performance of both models decreases as the entity pair distances increase.

Good Long-range Dependencies Modeling



The absolute performance of both models decreases as the entity pair distances increase. The gap between them, however, increases.

More Interpretability & Transparency



Gain Analysis

Model	Test			
	ign F1	F1		
GAIN	57.93	60.07		
ATL OP	50.14	61.13		
ATLOP ATLOP + LogiRE	59.48(+0.34)	61.45(+0.32)		

The improvements on DocRED are less significant than those on DWIE.

Gain Analysis



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Summary

Conclusion

- Logic rules + NN \rightarrow doc-level RE
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- Logic rules + NN \rightarrow doc-level RE
- Iterative EM optimization for latent rules
- Better long-range dependencies modeling and logical consistency
- Future directions for doc-level RE
 - Learning with noisy data
 - Global decoding for doc-level RE
 - Zero-shot / few-shot meta relation induction and learning

Thanks!



Repo Link