


Usage of Stacked Long Short-Term Memory for Recognition of 3D Analytic Geometry Elements

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Abstract: For accomplish automatic solving, the capacity to comprehend problems of 3D analytic geometry formulated in natural language is a laborious and stimulating open research theme. For this reason, this research work attempts the achievement of a parser compounded of two important parts: the parsing module and the learning module. The accomplishment of the parsing module requires the design of a method for engendering the series of actions required to acquire the UCCA graph corresponding with a phrase from a 3D analytic geometry problem. In order to design the learning module, is used a recurrent neural network of the Stacked Long Short-Term Memory category, thereby being realized an automatic parsing system. To achieve this goal, the proposed novel solution is accomplished through the usage of Python programming language.

1 INTRODUCTION

Currently there are several software used for the automatic solution of geometry problems (Botana et al., 2015; Iordan et al., 2010), but they accept the hypothesis and the conclusion in a specific format. Improving them would mean that the automatic solution would start from the statement of the geometry problem in natural language.

Most systems in the Natural Language Text Processing (Nadkarni et al., 2011; Viani et al., 2021) category take text expressed in natural language and aim to transform it into a structured format. Parsing accuracy has been strongly influenced by statistical parsers (Bose et al., 2020; Du et al., 2020).


Due to the many methods of expression in natural language and the complexity of vocabulary, it is practically impossible to develop a deterministic parsing system (Borsotti et al., 2021). For this reason, probabilities are used in the design of parsers to predict translation steps. Machine learning algorithms (Czibula et al., 2013) have had a strong influence in the development of statistical parsing systems.

Statistical methods need the most accurate prediction of probability distributions, and, by using machine learning algorithms (Balyan et al., 2020; Jain et al., 2021), it is learned from the training data set, thus increasing the accuracy of predictions.

The most important semantic representations are AMR and UCCA. Abstract Meaning Representation, abbreviated AMR (Banarescu et al., 2013), is a representation of natural language text that uses a structure with labeled graph to store information. A common feature between AMR and syntactic representations is that the vertices in the AMR graph do not contain all the words from the sentence. The edges between the nodes are labeled and are used to identify the relationships between concepts.

Universal Conceptual Cognitive Annotation, abbreviated UCCA (Hershcovich et al., 2017), is a new approach that seeks to abstract syntactic constraints in order to obtain a grammatical representation, using oriented acyclic graphs (Chen and Huo, 2021) for information storage. Through this representation the text expressed in natural language is transformed into a structured and uniform form, thus allowing easier processing of information.

UCCA graphs contain units that encapsulate meaning in terminal vertices, being seen as a collection of scenes. Each word in the input phrase is mapped to a terminal vertex, and the rest of the vertices in the graph are used to identify the dependencies between them. The relationships between the elements of the graph are marked by edge labels so that the edge label indicates the role of the destination vertex in the formation of the parent vertex semantics.

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2 PARSING SYSTEM OBJECTIVES

The main objective of this research work is to develop a transition-based parser (Yang and Deng, 2020) that, for a 3D analytic geometry problem expressed in natural language (English language), provides the appropriate UCCA graph representation with the highest possible predictive accuracy. To achieve this goal, the following steps will be followed:

- Data extraction - The first step in parsing is to extract the relevant information from the dataset instances and store it in the data structures that will be used in the following steps.
- Generating of the actions sequence - It involves the development of an algorithm capable of generating the sequence of actions to be applied to obtain the representation of UCCA graph as input data.
- Evaluating the correctness of the strategy for generating the sequence of actions - Correctness assessment metrics will be generated for action sequence generation strategies.
- Development of a pattern for parsing - To allow automatic parsing of sentences it is necessary to form a pattern by applying a learning procedure.
- Pattern evaluation - In order to be able to evaluate the performance of the obtained model, it is necessary to use some metrics to evaluate the correctness of the predictions, such as accuracy, loss and f1 score.

Based on the aforementioned functionalities, the following use cases of the parser have been identified:

- Generating action sequences and associated metrics for a dataset - It illustrates the correctness of the algorithm for generating the sequence of actions for a certain dataset.
- Obtaining performance metrics associated with predicting of a test instance parsing.
- Prediction of a UCCA graph representation for a test instance.
- Pattern training with another dataset - Due to the fact that new datasets can be annotated in the future, the pattern can be retrained, obtaining both performance metrics for training and testing.

3 RELATED WORKS

Understanding of 3D analytic geometry problems described in natural language is a significant stage of

several automatic solvers (Seo et al., 2015; Wang and Su, 2015). Developing automated solutions to 3D analytic geometry problems is a complicated research problem because it is a base technology in building intelligent education systems that guide learning (Alevin et al., 2016). Using a new neural network design, in paper (Jayasinghe and Ranathunga, 2020) it was introduced a two-step memory network used in process of deep semantic parsing.

Other approach, presented in (Gan et al., 2019), uses a supervised learning model based on relation extraction for comprehension of geometry problems. The purpose was to create a cluster of relations to embed the given geometry problem. Supervised investigations into the collection of tested problems presented that the suggested model obtains geometric relationships at raised F1 scores. In paper (Quaresma et al., 2020) was presented an adaptive filtering technique for extracting geometric information.

The research work (Jordan, 2021) it is proposed the addition of a new feature to an existing transition-based AMR parser that constructs AMR graphs from statement of geometry problems described in English language. The new feature consists in explicit embedding of the coreference detection into the parser.

As it results from these mentioned works, research for understanding 3D analytic geometry problems has made remarkable progress, but it is still an open research problem.

4 DETAILED ANALYSIS OF PROPOSED SOLUTION

The UCCA parser (Hershcovich et al., 2017) overview may give the impression that the functionality of the system is trivial, but the problem of translating the text into another representation is a complex one. If the parsing system is viewed as a black box, it can be said that it receives as input data a phrase from a 3D analytic geometry (Casillas-Perez et al., 2021) problem expressed in English language and forms the corresponding UCCA graph. A feature that increases the complexity of parsing is the fact that the 3D analytic geometry problem (Jordan et al., 2009) received at the input is not limited to a single sentence, its size being variable. Another challenge is the treatment of coreferences, both those explicitly mentioned in the text and those implicit that are deduced from the context. Fig. 1 contains an example of a UCCA graph containing an explicit coreference (Kottur et al., 2018). The coreference is found at the terminal node containing the word “ellipsoid” and indicates that both scenes in the sentence have “ellip-

soid” as the subject.

The proposed solution contains 2 main components: the component responsible for parsing and the training component of the pattern. The responsibility of the parsing component is to generate the corresponding UCCA graph for a sentence belonging to the statement of a given geometry problem given as the input. In order to be able to perform parsing automatically, by generating the sequence of actions needed to get from an initial state to a final state, the learning component is required.

4.1 Parsing Component

For the development of the parsing procedure, the syntactic parsing systems based on transitions and the state-of-the-art parser for the representation of UCCA graph, called TUPA (Hershovich and Arviv, 2019), were used as inspiration.

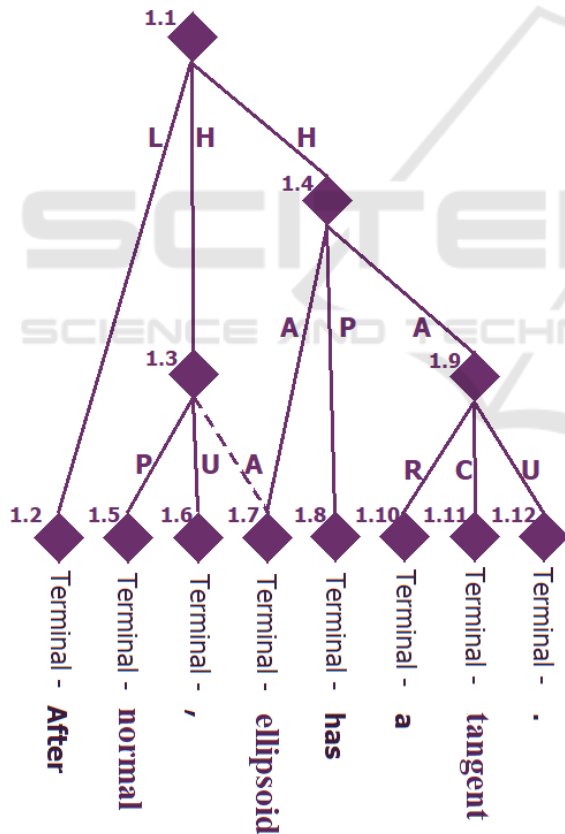


Figure 1: UCCA graph.

The similarity between the features of UCCA graphs and syntactic trees allows the use of certain common strategies between the two representations. Unlike syntactic trees, UCCA representation can contain cycles due to coreference relationships. The cur-

rent state of the solution includes the treatment of both primary and remote relations.

The primary relations in the graph store the semantic information, and through a secondary relation the dependence between two vertices is represented, created by a coreference from the input text. Two types of coreferences can be found in the input data: explicit, these being mentioned in the text, and implicit ones that are not mentioned in the text and must be deduced from the context.

4.2 Learning Component

To turn the system into an automatic parser requires a learning procedure capable of generating the sequence of actions needed to get from an initial state to a final state with the highest possible accuracy. The proposed learning algorithm is a supervised one, providing for the training data and the correct solution.

Conceptually, the learning component receives as input a triplet with structure (geometry-problem, action-sequence, UCCA-graph) and uses a recurrent neural network to develop a pattern capable of performing parsing with high action prediction accuracy. The concepts used in the learning procedure are:

- The training set consists of the triplet of form (geometry-problem, action-sequence, UCCA graph), where action-sequence represents the sequence of actions necessary to reach the UCCA graph performance metrics associated with predicting of a test instance parsing.
- The validation set consists of a triplet with the same structure as the training set but is used to evaluate the pattern from one epoch to another.
- The testing set consists of a triplet with the same structure as the training set but is used to evaluate the pattern performance.
- The loss function whose value associated with a pair of shares indicates the correctness of the prediction. The goal of the learning algorithm is to minimize the loss by pattern updating.
- Weights are the parameters that initiate a specific model and represent the values that are updated during the learning process to minimize the value of the loss.

4.3 Functional Description of the Modules

In addition to the parsing component and the learning component, several modules are required to achieve the functionality of the proposed parsing system.

Also, you can see the differences between the steps taken to perform the training and testing of the parser, respectively. The training steps represent the path to follow to generate a pattern capable of parsing new texts, while the test steps show the path followed to test the performance of the pattern generated by the training steps. The data extraction module links the external and internal representation of the data, being responsible for extracting the information from the data collection files. The action sequence generation module generates actions for all instances of the dataset.

The training module uses the dataset and the information generated in the previous components creates a model by training the recurrent neural network. The evaluation module is responsible for evaluating the model by comparing the predicted graphs with those provided and using performance metrics.

4.4 Pattern Training

Pattern training was performed using a Stacked Long Short-Term Memory recurrent neural network. The main feature of LSTM networks is their ability to treat the gradient vanishing problem that accompanies recurrent neural networks (Poon et al., 2019; Muscalagiu et al., 2015). LSTM cells (Laghrissi et al., 2021) used in architecture are specializations of the recurrent normal RNN cells. At each step, RNN cells read input vectors a_j and form a hidden state b_j .

The state b_j is obtained by applying a non-linear sigmoid function to the input vector a_j concatenated with the hidden state of the previous step b_{j-1} . Although RNN cells can manage long-term dependencies, their training is difficult due to the exponential increase in error. This increase is caused by the repeated application of a non-linear function to the data.

LSTM cells address this problem by introducing a new d_j memory state that is constructed by linearly combining the previous state with the input signal. In this way, LSTM cells process the input data through three multiplicative gates, which control the proportion in which the current input is transmitted to the d_j storage state and which proportion of the previous d_{j-1} storage state is forgotten. The value of the hidden state b_j is composed of the third gate by applying a non-linear function to the value contained by the storage state d_j . Using this architecture, the global state of the parser is formed using three stack-type LSTM cells (Liu et al., 2020): one for the buffer, one for the stack, and one for the actions list.

The parser is initiated by entering the phrase in the buffer so that the first word from the phrase is the first element in the buffer, the stack containing only the

root node and the list of applied actions is empty. At each step, the parser state is formed by combining the state of the LSTM cells and is used to predict the next action, which updates the state of the cells.

The parsing process is complete when the stack contains only the root node, the buffer is empty, and the list of applied actions contains the history of the applied transitions to get from the initial state to this final state. The parser state at a given time j is given by the following formula:

$$s_j = \max(0, w \{x_j, y_j, z_j\} + t) \quad (1)$$

where w represents the weight matrix learned through the training process, y_j is the LSTM encoding of the buffer, x_j is the LSTM encoding of the stack, z_j is the LSTM encoding of the actions list, and t is the bias. The state thus obtained is then used to calculate the probability for each action at time j :

$$p(c_j | s_j) = \frac{\exp(f_{s_j}^T \cdot s_j + h_{c_j})}{\sum_{c' \in M} \exp(f_{s_j}^T \cdot s_j + h_{c'})} \quad (2)$$

where f_c represents the encoding for action c , h_c is the bias term associated with action c , and M is the set of actions valid for the current state of the stack and buffer.

5 DETAILED DESIGN AND IMPLEMENTATION

Due to the fact that the main purpose is data processing and not user interaction, the system architecture is pipeline type. The detailed system architecture, shown in Fig. 2, allows the visualization of the fact that each component either modifies the input data or adds additional information to them, information that was obtained by processing the input data. By choosing this type of architecture the following characteristics are obtained:

- Flexibility - Due to the fact that each component is isolated, the internal details can be modified without influencing the other components.
- Extensibility - New features can be easily added by changing the sequence of processing steps.

The Python programming language (Awar et al., 2021) is used to implement the parser. Among the libraries associated with this language, TensorFlow (Jha et al., 2021) is used to implement the recurrent neural network, and MathPlotLib (Hunt, 2019) to generate graphs based on the results obtained after training.

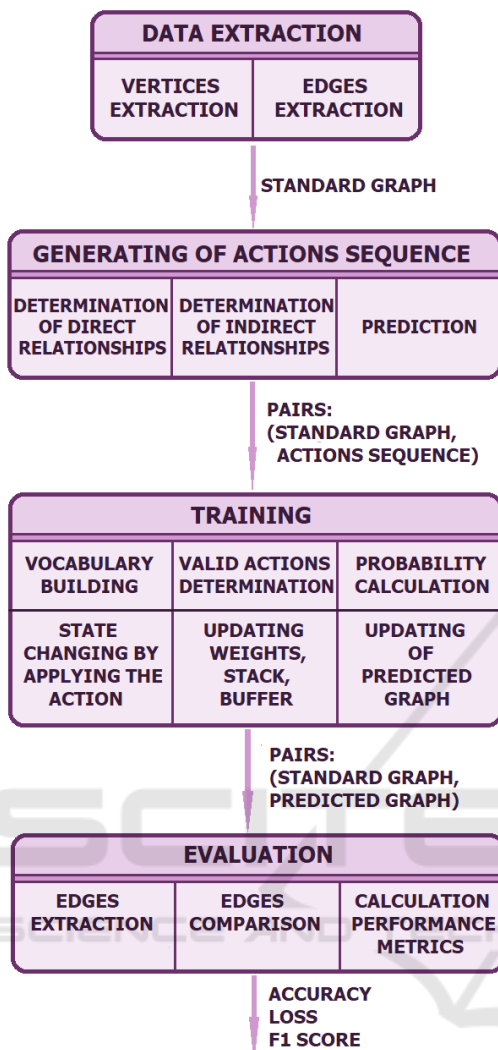


Figure 2: Detailed architecture of the parser.

6 PARSER VALIDATION

6.1 Validation of the Parsing Procedure

The parsing component aims to obtain the sequence of actions necessary for the formation of the UCCA graph associated with a sentence from the statement of a problem of 3D analytic geometry. During the process of generating the sequence of actions, the UCCA graph is also generated so that it can be compared later with the standard graph of that phrase. The degree of similarity between the two graphs (standard and predicted) indicates the correctness of the generated sequence of actions. Due to the fact, that the action sequences generated by this pattern are subsequently used to train the model, only the correct parsing were

considered, which built a graph identical to the standard one.

The process of developing the algorithm for generating the sequence of actions was composed of several stages, and the results presented below are associated with them, dealing with the following 3 variants:

- V1 - The algorithm contains the general rules for applying the transitions, not treating the default coreferences or link vertices.
- V2 - To the first variant is added the identification and treatment of the default coreferences, the connection vertices not being treated.
- V3 - The algorithm contains both the management of the link vertices and the treatment of the default coreferences.

In Fig. 3 is illustrated the evolution of the performance of the actions sequence generation mode depending on the variant of the algorithm following the application of these variants on the training data. It can be seen the treatment of coreferences and link vertices (V3) brings an improvement of 4.55% relative to the initial variant (V1). Analogically, Fig. 4 contains the evolution of the mode performance using the testing dataset. For this set, the treatment of coreferences and link vertices induces a 9.58% improvement in performance relative to the first variant.



Figure 3: Error rate associated with the development steps of the algorithm for generation of the actions sequence for the training set.

6.2 Validation of the Learning Procedure

Within the learning component are used those instances from the data set for which the sequence of actions was generated that leads to the exact obtaining of the desired graph (score f1 equal to 1) both for training and for testing. The performance of the training procedure can be followed by the evolution of accuracy and loss. Due to the fact that during the training the applied actions are the standard ones (with



Figure 4: Error rate associated with the development steps of the algorithm for generation of the actions sequence for the testing set.

score f1 equal to 1), the score f1 cannot be considered a representative metric.

The notations used to identify the different techniques involved are described in Table 1. By training the T1, T2 and T3 models, the effect of the number of cell levels on the performance was monitored, and the T1, T4, T5 and T6 models follow the effect of changing the coding size.

Fig. 5 illustrates the accuracy and Fig. 6 illustrates the loss for the 6 techniques in the case of the training process. The analysis of the results for the first 3 patterns shows that the loss undergoes an increase directly proportional to the number of levels of the cells. At the same time, the accuracy of the training decreases for models that have a higher number of levels. Instead, changing the coding dimension of the elements for the last three patterns brings improvements in both accuracy and loss.

Fig. 7 and Fig. 8 illustrate the performance of the patterns on the testing set. The metrics used in this situation are accuracy and f1 score. Some patterns have higher prediction accuracy, but the f1 score is limited. These patterns (T2, T3) teach the prediction of actions sequences that do not form correct UCCA graphs. Both the accuracy and the f1 score are improved by increasing the coding size of the elements (T4, T5, T6), the amount of information stored being higher.

TUPA (Hershovich and Arviv, 2019) being the state-of-the-art parsing system for UCCA representation, the use of the f1 score as the main model evaluation metric, the comparison between the parsing systems can be made. The f1 score obtained by TUPA is 62.92%, and the score of the best model developed in this situation is 47.39%, the performance obtained being high. The result of a parsing is strongly influenced by each precise action.

Fig. 9 illustrates the evolutions of accuracy and Fig. 10 illustrates the evolutions of loss over the 20 training epochs. It can be seen that the loss contin-



Figure 5: Accuracy for training process.



Figure 6: Loss for training process.



Figure 7: Accuracy for testing process.



Figure 8: F1 score for testing process.

Table 1: Training Patterns.

Techniques	Cells Number LSTM	Levels/Cell	Coding size
T1	2	1	80
T2	2	3	80
T3	2	5	80
T4	2	1	100
T5	2	1	200
T6	2	1	300

ues to decrease until the last epoch, and the accuracy of the patterns increases from one epoch to another, suggesting that the model improves. Thus, it is possible that the extension of the training dataset will help to achieve a higher performance of the system, as it would also increase the number of states learned by it.



Figure 9: Accuracy evolution for training case.

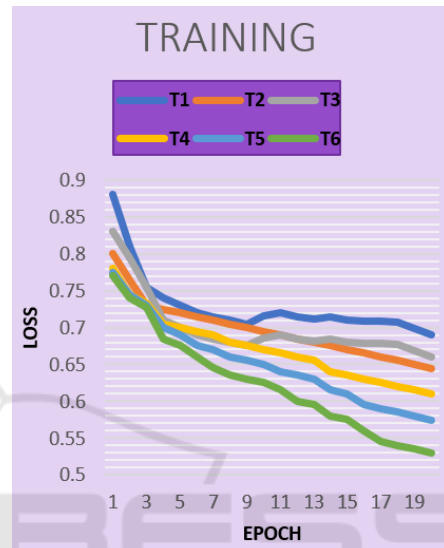


Figure 10: Loss evolution for training case.

parsing system. For this component it was necessary to build the network architecture, identify the necessary recurrent cells and choose the features used for learning. The evolution of the pattern performance according to the characteristics of the cells was followed.

7 CONCLUSIONS

The objective of this research work was to develop a parsing system composed of two major components: the parsing component and the learning component. A parser based on transitions was defined for the parsing component. The development of this component involved the construction of an algorithm for generating the actions sequence necessary to obtain a UCCA graph. The algorithm was developed in three major stages: identifying the general rules, treating the link vertices, and treating the default coreferences, each step reducing the error rate of the algorithm.

At the same time, a learning procedure based on Stacked Long Short-Term Memory recurrent neural networks was proposed, thus building an automatic

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