

# Intelligent Systems (AI-2)

## Computer Science cpsc422, Lecture 24

**March, 15, 2021**

Slide credit: Satanjeev Banerjee Ted Pedersen 2003, Jurfsky & Martin 2008-2016

# Lecture Overview

- **Semantic Similarity/Distance**
- **Concepts: Thesaurus/Ontology Methods**
- **Words: Distributional Methods**

# Why words/concepts similarity is important ?

“**fast**” is similar to “**rapid**”

“**tall**” is similar to “**height**”

**Question answering:**

*Q: “How **tall** is Mt. Everest?”*

*Candidate A: “The official **height** of Mount Everest is 29029 feet”*

- Extends to sentence/paragraph similarity
- **Summarization:** identify and eliminate redundancy, aggregate similar phrase/sentences
- .....

# WordNet: entry for “table”

The noun "table" has 6 senses in WordNet.

gloss

1. table, tabular array (a set of data arranged in rows and columns) "*see table 1*"
2. table (a piece of furniture having a smooth flat top that is usually supported by one or more vertical legs) "*it was a sturdy table*"
3. table (a piece of furniture with tableware for a meal laid out on it) "*I reserved a table at my favorite restaurant*"
4. mesa, table (flat tableland with steep edges) "*the tribe was relatively safe on the mesa but they had to descend into the valley for water*"
5. table (a company of people assembled at a table for a meal or game) "*he entertained the whole table with his witty remarks*"
6. board, table (food or meals in general) "*she sets a fine table*"; "*room and board*"

The verb "table" has 1 sense in WordNet.

1. postpone, prorogue, hold over, put over, table, shelve, set back, defer, remit, put off –  
(hold back to a later time; "let's postpone the exam")

# WordNet Relations (between synsets!)

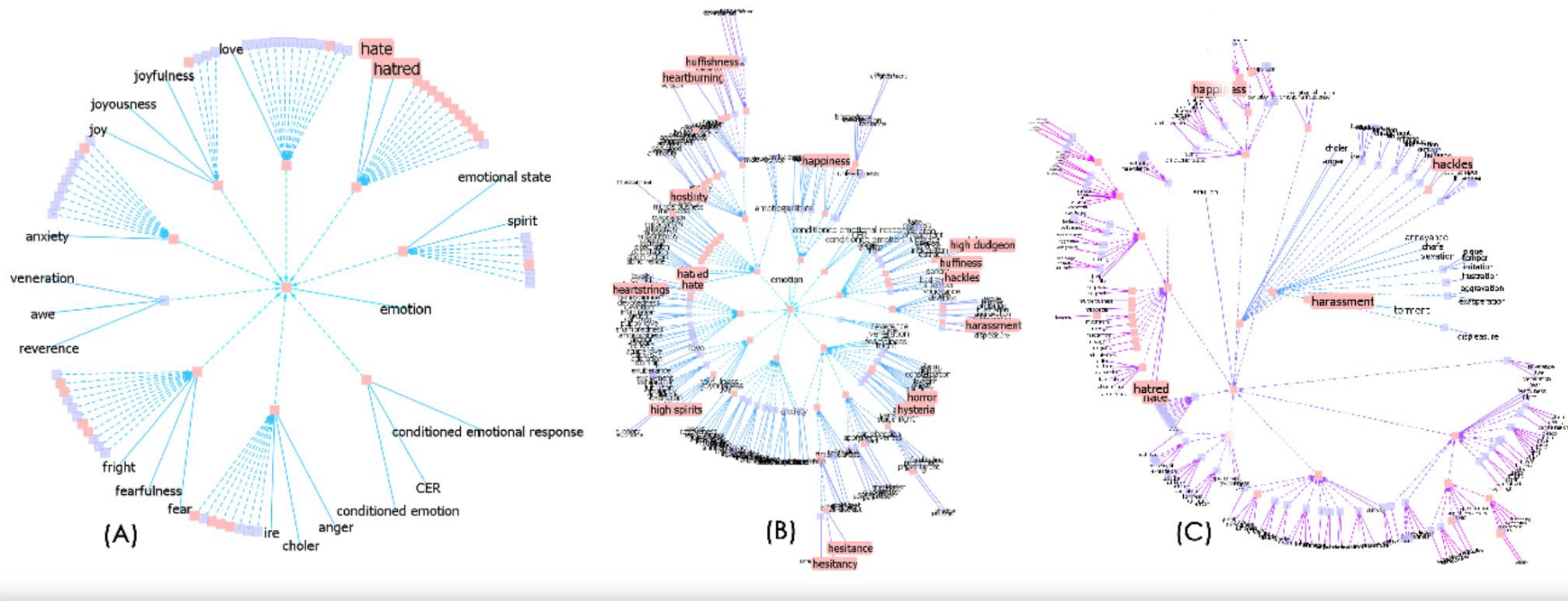
Nouns

Relation	Definition	Example
Hypernym	From concepts to superordinates	<i>breakfast</i> → <i>meal</i>
Hyponym	From concepts to subtypes	<i>meal</i> → <i>lunch</i>
Has-Member	From groups to their members	<i>faculty</i> → <i>professor</i>
Member-Of	From members to their groups	<i>copilot</i> → <i>crew</i>
Has-Part	From wholes to parts	<i>table</i> → <i>leg</i>
Part-Of	From parts to wholes	<i>course</i> → <i>meal</i>
Antonym	Opposites	<i>leader</i> → <i>follower</i>

Verbs

Relation	Definition	Example
Hypernym	From events to superordinate events	<i>fly</i> → <i>travel</i>
Troponym	From events to their subtypes	<i>walk</i> → <i>stroll</i>
Entails	From events to the events they entail	<i>snore</i> → <i>sleep</i>
Antonym	Opposites	<i>increase</i> ↔ <i>decrease</i>

# Visualizing Wordnet Relations



C. Collins, "WordNet Explorer: Applying visualization principles to lexical semantics," University of Toronto, Technical Report km-di 2007-2, 2007.

# Semantic Similarity/Distance: example

(n) **table** -- (a piece of furniture having a smooth flat top that is usually supported by one or more vertical legs)

(n) **mesa, table** -- (flat tableland with steep edges)

(n) **hill** (a local and well-defined elevation of the land)

(n) **lamp** (a piece of furniture holding one or more electric light bulbs)

dissimilar

# Semantic Similarity/Distance

Between two concepts in an ontology, e.g., between two senses in Wordnet

What would you use to compute it ?



**A. The distance between the two concepts in the underlying hierarchies / graphs**

**B. The glosses of the concepts**

**C. None of the above**

**D. Both of the above**



# Gloss Overlaps $\approx$ Relatedness

*concepts*

▶ Lesk's (1986) idea: Related word senses are (often) defined *using the same words*. E.g:

- bank(1): "a financial institution"
- bank(2): "sloping land beside a body of water"
- lake: "a body of water surrounded by land"

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# Gloss Overlaps $\approx$ Relatedness

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  - bank(1): "a financial institution"
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  - lake: "a body of water surrounded by land"
- ▶ Gloss overlaps = # content words common to two glosses  $\approx$  relatedness
  - Thus, relatedness (bank(2), lake) = 3
  - And, relatedness (bank(1), lake) = 0

# Limitations of (Lesk's) Gloss Overlaps

- ▶ Most glosses are very short.
  - So not enough words to find overlaps with.

- ▶ Solution?

## Extended gloss overlaps

- Add glosses of synsets connected to the input synsets.

# Extending a Gloss

**sentence:** “the penalty meted out to one adjudged guilty”

**bench:** “persons who hear cases in a court of law”

# overlapped words = 0

# Extending a Gloss

**final judgment:** “a judgment disposing of the case before the court of law”

hypernym

**sentence:** “the penalty meted out to one adjudged guilty”

**bench:** “persons who hear cases in a court of law”

# overlapped words = 0

# Extending a Gloss

**final judgment:** “a judgment disposing of the case before the court of law”

hypernym

**sentence:** “the penalty meted out to one adjudged guilty”

**bench:** “persons who hear cases in a court of law”

# overlapped words = 2

# Creating the Extended Gloss Overlap Measure

- ▶ How to measure overlaps?
- ▶ Which relations to use for gloss extension?





# How to Score Overlaps?

- ▶ Lesk simply summed up overlapped words.
- ▶ But matches involving phrases – phrasal matches – are rarer, and more informative
  - E.g. “court of law” “body of water”
- ▶ Aim: Score of  $n$  words in a phrase  $>$  sum of scores of  $n$  words in shorter phrases
- ▶ Solution: Give a phrase of  $n$  words a score of  $n^2$ 
  - “court of law” gets score of 9.
  - bank(2): “sloping land beside a body of water”
  - lake: “a body of water surrounded by land”

overlap of  
 $9 + 1 = 10$

# Which Relations to Use?

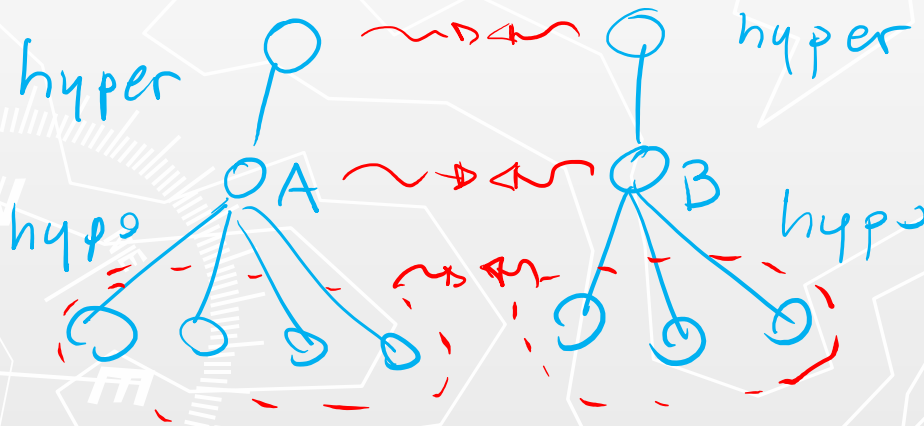
Typically include...

- ▶ Hypernyms [ "car" → "vehicle" ]
- ▶ Hyponyms [ "car" → "convertible" ]
- ▶ Meronyms [ "car" → "accelerator" ]

▶ ...

# Extended Gloss Overlap Measure

- ▶ Input two synsets A and B
- ▶ Find phrasal gloss overlaps between A and B
- ▶ For *each relation*, compute phrasal gloss overlaps between every synset connected to A, and every synset connected to B



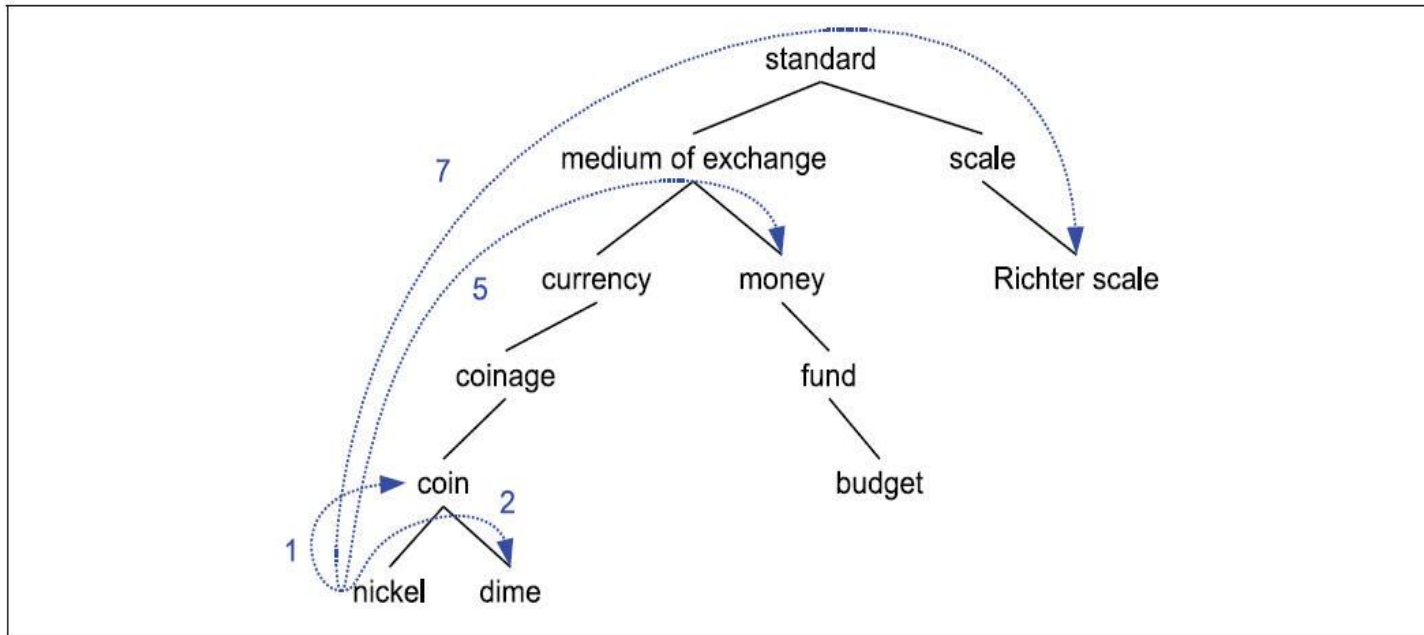
- ▶ Add phrasal scores to get relatedness of A and B
- A and B can be from different parts of speech!**

# Distance: Path-length

Path-length sim based on is-a/hypernyms hierarchies

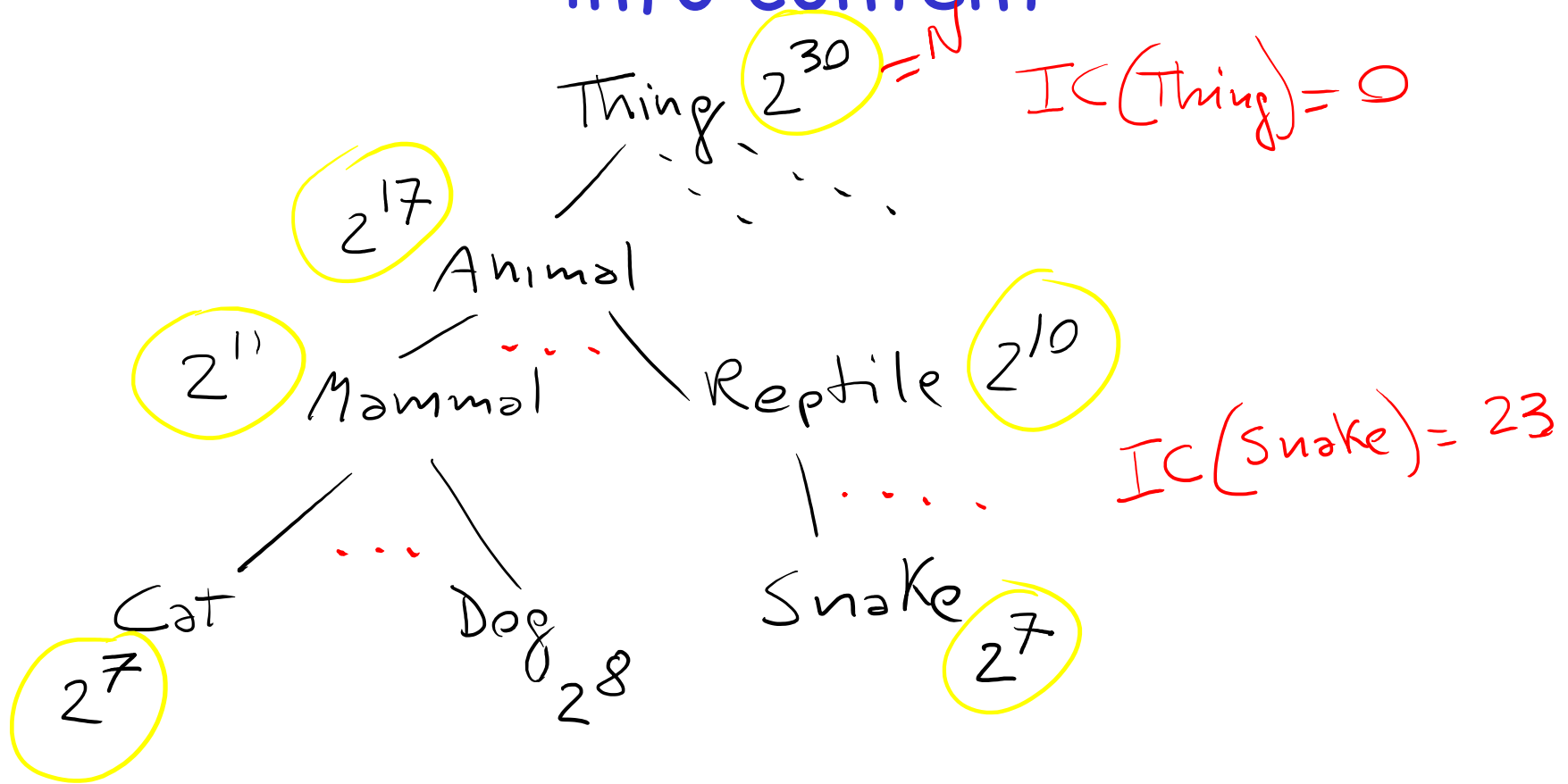
$$\text{sim}_{\text{path}}(c_1, c_2) = 1 / \text{pathlen}(c_1, c_2)$$

*$c_1, c_2$  are senses*



But this is assuming that all the links are the same....  
Encode the same semantic distance....

# Probability of a concept/sense and its info content



$$P(c) = \frac{\text{count}(c)}{N}$$

probability

$$IC(c) = -\log P(c)$$

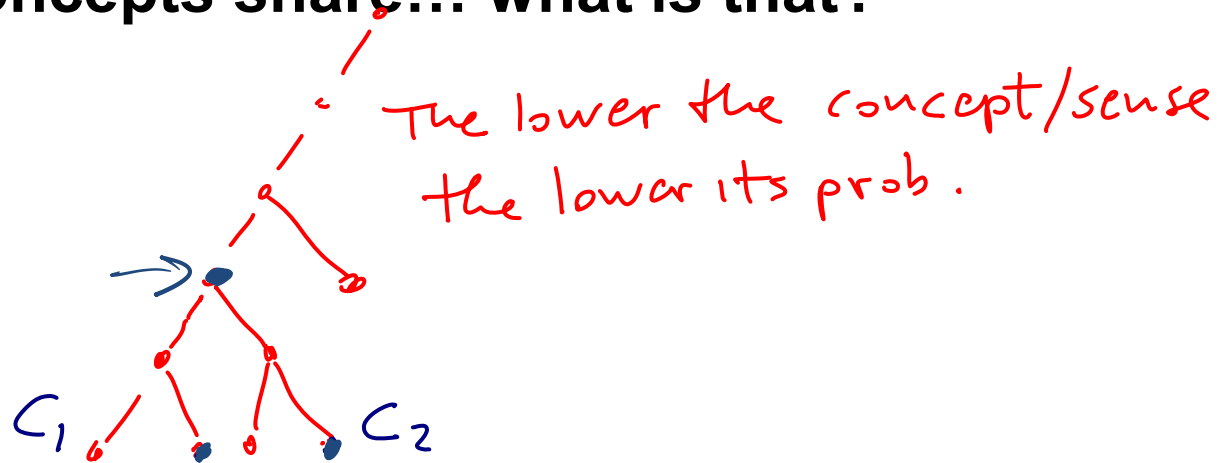
Information Content

count of all Things

# Concept Distance: info content

- **Similarity should be proportional to the information that the two concepts share... what is that?**

$$P(\text{root}) = 1$$



probability

$$P(c) = \frac{\text{count}(c)}{N}$$

$$IC(c) = -\log P(c)$$

Information  
Content

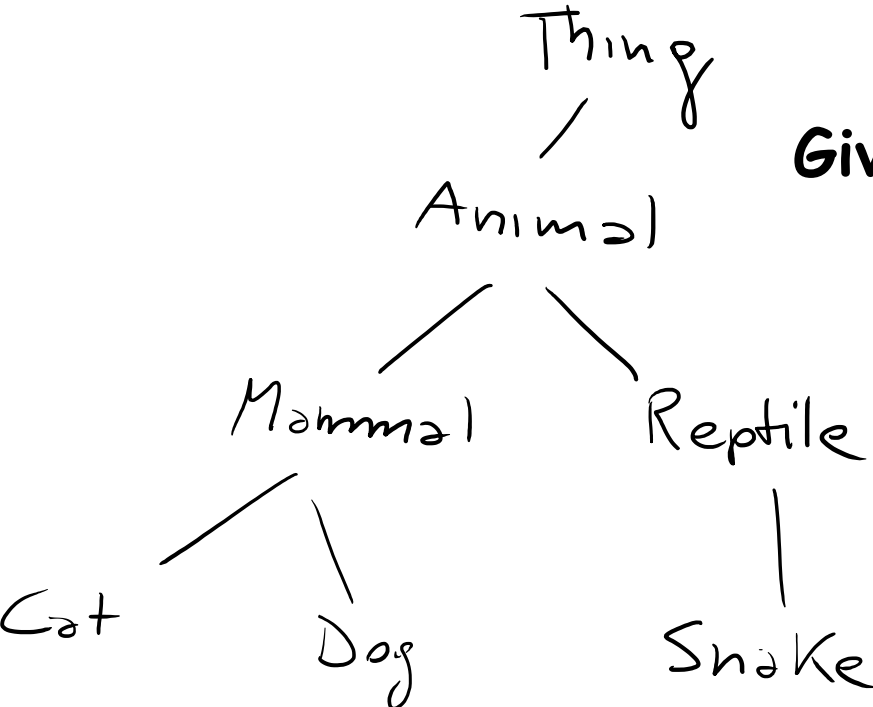
$$LCS(c_1, c_2)$$

Lowest Common Subsumer

$$\text{sim}_{\text{resnik}}(c_1, c_2) = -\log P(LCS(c_1, c_2))$$

Given this measure of similarity

$$\text{sim}_{\text{resnik}}(c_1, c_2) = -\log P(\text{LCS}(c_1, c_2))$$



Are these two the same?

$$\text{sim}_{\text{resnik}}(\text{Dog}, \text{Snake})$$

$$\text{sim}_{\text{resnik}}(\text{Mammal}, \text{Reptile})$$

A. Yes

B. No

C. Cannot tell

Is this reasonable?

A. Yes

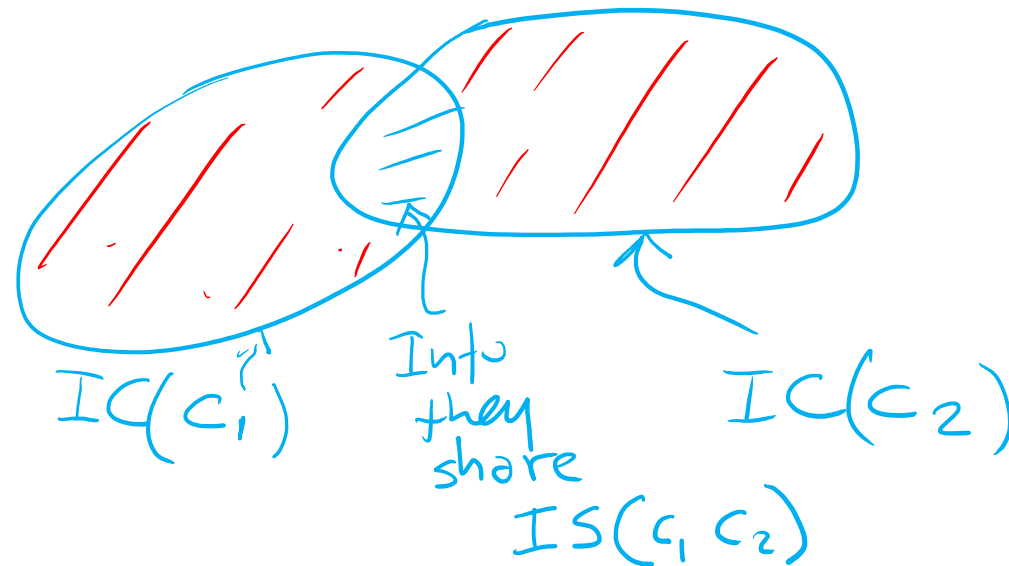
B. No

C. Cannot tell

well... we can consider better alternatives...

# Concept Distance: info content

- One of best performers - Jiang-Conrath distance
- How much information the two DO NOT share?



$$(IC(c_1) - IS(c_1, c_2)) + (IC(c_2) - IS(c_1, c_2))$$

$$IC(c_1) + IC(c_2) - 2 * IS(c_1, c_2)$$



# Concept Distance: info content

$$\begin{aligned} & (IC(c_1) - IS(c_1, c_2)) + (IC(c_2) - IS(c_1, c_2)) \\ & \underline{IC(c_1)} + \underline{IC(c_2)} - 2 * IS(c_1, c_2) \end{aligned}$$

$$dist_{JC}(c_1, c_2) = ((-\log P(c_1)) + (-\log P(c_2))) - (2 * \log P(LCS(c_1, c_2)))$$

$$dist_{JC}(c_1, c_2) = 2 * \log P(LCS(c_1, c_2)) - (\log P(c_1) + \log P(c_2))$$

- This is a measure of distance. Reciprocal for similarity!  $\frac{1}{dist_{JC}}$
- Problem for measures working on hierarchies/graphs: only compare concepts associated with words of one part-of speech (typically nouns)

# Concept Distance: info content

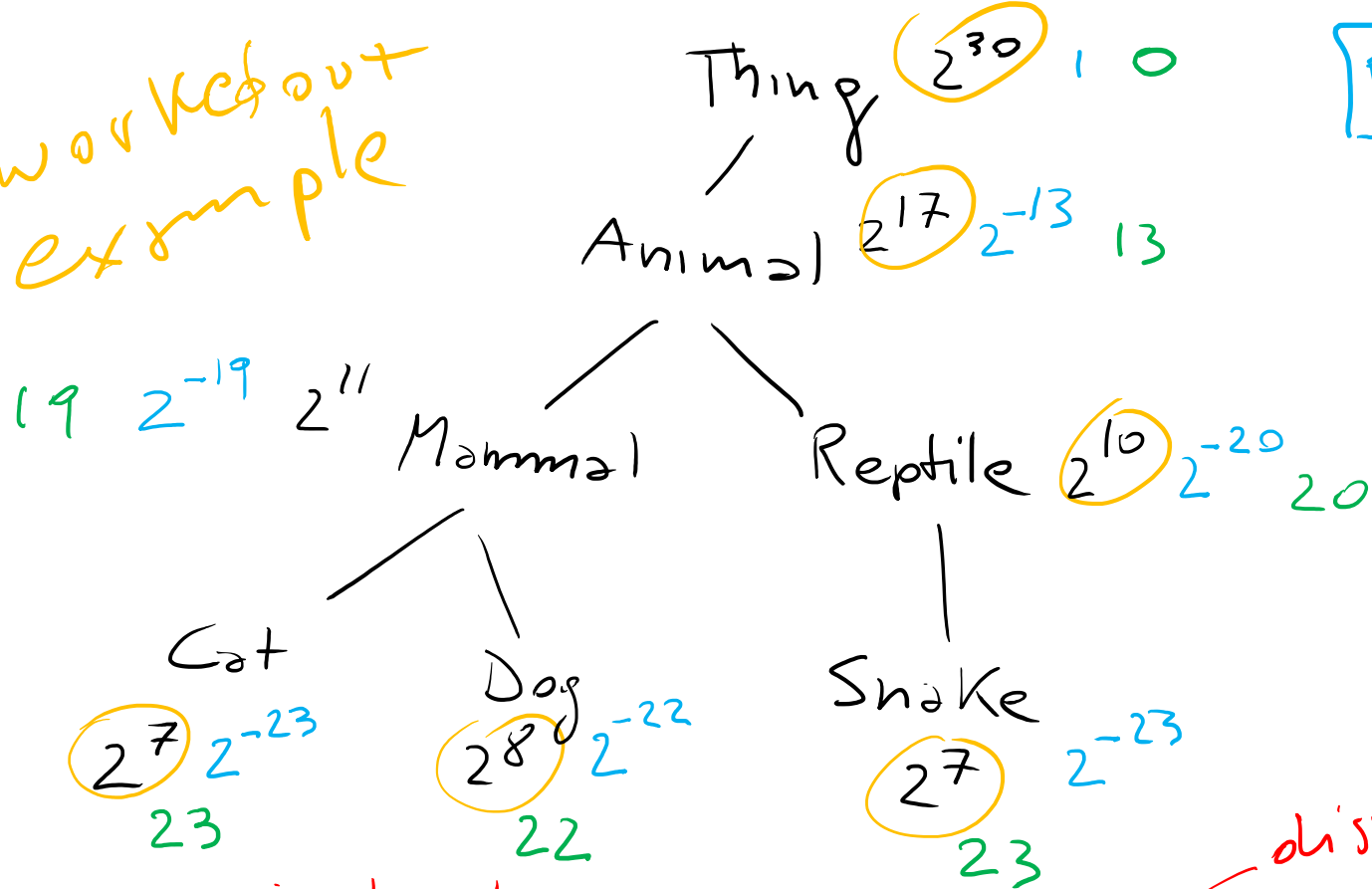
- One of best performers - Jiang-Conrath distance
- How much information the two DO NOT share

$$\text{dist}_{JC}(c_1, c_2) = ((-\log P(c_1)) + (-\log P(c_2))) - (2 \times -\log P(\text{LCS}(c_1, c_2)))$$

$$\text{dist}_{JC}(c_1, c_2) = 2 \times \log P(\text{LCS}(c_1, c_2)) - (\log P(c_1) + \log P(c_2))$$

- This is a measure of distance. Reciprocal for similarity!  $\frac{1}{\text{dist}_{JC}}$
- Problem for measures working on hierarchies/graphs: only compare concepts associated with words of one part-of speech (typically nouns)

worked out  
example



Prob

Info Content

Counts

similarity!

$$\text{sim}_{\text{res}}(\text{Dog}, \text{Snake}) = 13$$

$$\text{sim}_{\text{res}}(\text{Mammal}, \text{Reptile}) = 13$$

distance!

$$\text{dist}_{\text{JC}}(\text{Dog}, \text{Snake}) = (2 \times -13) + (22 + 23) = 19$$

$$\text{dist}_{\text{JC}}(\text{Mammal}, \text{Reptile}) = (2 \times -13) + (19 + 20) = 13$$

# Lecture Overview

- Semantic Similarity/Distance
- Concepts: Thesaurus/Ontology Methods
- **Words: Distributional Methods – Word Similarity (WS)**

# Word Similarity: Distributional Methods

- Do not have any thesauri/ontologies for target language (e.g., Russian)
- If you have thesaurus/ontology, still
  - Missing domain-specific (e.g., technical words)
  - Poor hyponym knowledge (for V) and nothing for Adj and Adv
  - Difficult to compare senses from different hierarchies (although extended Lesk can do this)
- **Solution:** extract similarity from corpora
- **Basic idea:** two words are similar if they appear in similar contexts

# Intuition of distributional word similarity

- Example: Suppose I asked you what is *tesgüino*?

A bottle of *tesgüino* is on the table  
Everybody likes *tesgüino*  
*Tesgüino* makes you drunk  
We make *tesgüino* out of corn.

- From context words humans can guess *tesgüino* means
  - an alcoholic beverage like beer
- Intuition for algorithm:
  - **Two words are similar if they have similar word contexts.**

# WS Distributional Methods (1)

## Word-Word matrix: Sample contexts $\pm 7$ words

sugar, a sliced lemon, a tablespoonful of **apricot** preserve or jam, a **pinch** each of,  
their enjoyment. Cautiously she sampled her first **pineapple** and another fruit whose taste she likened  
well suited to programming on the digital **computer**. In finding the optimal R-stage policy from  
for the purpose of gathering data and **information** necessary for the study authorized in the

... ..

- Portion of matrix from the Brown corpus

	aardvark	computer	data	pinch	result	sugar	...
apricot	0	0	0	1	0	1	
pineapple	0	0	0	1	0	1	
digital	0	2	1	0	1	0	
information	0	1	6	0	4	0	
...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

## Simple example of Vectors Models aka “embeddings”.

- Model the meaning of a word by “embedding” in a vector space.
- The meaning of a word is a vector of numbers

# WS Distributional Methods (2)

- More informative values (referred to as weights or measure of association in the literature)
- Point-wise Mutual Information

$$assoc_{PMI}(w, w_i) = \log_2 \frac{P(w, w_i)}{P(w)P(w_i)}$$


$P(w)P(w_i)$   
 If independent/  
 unrelated

- t-test

$$assoc_{t-test}(w, w_i) = \frac{P(w, w_i) - P(w)P(w_i)}{\sqrt{P(w)P(w_i)}} \sqrt{\frac{s^2}{N}}$$



# Positive Pointwise Mutual Information

- PMI ranges from  $-\infty$  to  $+\infty$
- But the negative values are problematic
  - Things are co-occurring less than we expect by chance
  - Unreliable without enormous corpora
    - Imagine  $w_1$  and  $w_2$  whose probability is each  $10^{-6}$
    - Hard to be sure  $p(w_1, w_2)$  is significantly different than  $10^{-12}$
  - Plus it's not clear people are good at "unrelatedness"
- So we just replace negative PMI values by 0 
- Positive PMI (PPMI) ~~between~~ word1 and word2:

$$\text{PPMI}(\text{word}_1, \text{word}_2) = \max\left(\log_2 \frac{P(\text{word}_1, \text{word}_2)}{P(\text{word}_1)P(\text{word}_2)}, 0\right)$$

35

# PMI example

$$\text{assoc}_{PMI}(w, w_i) = \log_2 \frac{P(w, w_i)}{P(w)P(w_i)}$$

Assume  $w, w_i$  appear with equal frequency  $\frac{1}{2^{10}}$

$$P(w) = 2^{-10}$$

$$P(w_i) = 2^{-10}$$

$P(w, w_i) =$

- A  $2^{-10} * 2^{-10} = 2^{-20}$  if the words are completely independent
- B  $2^{-10}$  if the words appear always together

↳ in a large set of documents

$$A \text{ assoc}_{PMI} = \log_2 \frac{2^{-20}}{2^{-10} * 2^{-10}} = \log_2 1 = 0$$

$$B \text{ assoc}_{PMI} = \log_2 \frac{2^{-10}}{2^{-10} * 2^{-10}} = \log_2 2^{10} = 10$$

# Other popular vector representations

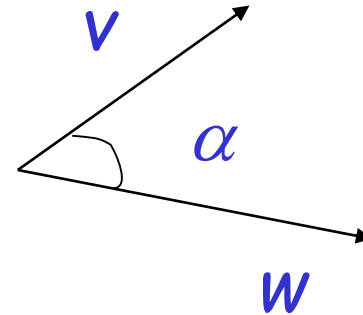
**Dense vector representations (less dimensions):**

- 1. Singular value decomposition applied to word-word PointWise-MI matrix**
- 2. Neural-Network-inspired models (skip-grams, CBOW)**

# WS Distributional Methods (3)

- Similarity between vectors

$$sim_{\text{cosine}}(\vec{v}, \vec{w}) = \frac{\vec{v}}{\|\vec{v}\|} \bullet \frac{\vec{w}}{\|\vec{w}\|} = \frac{\vec{v} \bullet \vec{w}}{\|\vec{v}\| \times \|\vec{w}\|} = \cos(\alpha)$$



Not sensitive to extreme values

$$sim_{\text{Jaccard}}(\vec{v}, \vec{w}) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N \min(v_i, w_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^N \max(v_i, w_i)}$$

Normalized (weighted) number of overlapping features e.g.

$$\begin{array}{l} \vec{v} \quad 2 \ 1 \ 0 \ 3 \\ \vec{w} \quad 3 \ 1 \ 1 \ 2 \end{array} \rightarrow \frac{2 + 1 + 0 + 2}{3 + 1 + 1 + 3} = \frac{5}{8}$$

# Learning Goals for today's class

## **You can:**

- Describe and Justify metrics to compute the similarity/distance of two concepts in an ontology
- Describe and Justify distributional metrics to compute the similarity/distance of two words (or phrases) in a Natural Language

**Assignment-3 out - due Mar 30**  
(8-18 hours - working in pairs on programming parts is strongly advised)

**Midterm marking almost done! Likely completed by tomorrow**

**Next class Wed**

- **Natural language Processing (Context free grammars and parsing)**