

Detecting Off-topic Responses to Visual Prompts

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Image Relevance Detection

- Given an image, **evaluate the relevance** of a text to that image.



An astronaut is celebrating on Mars.
Two signs are sticking out of the sand.
The sun is setting behind mountains.
The whales are breaching the surface.

- Important for automated **essay scoring** and high-stakes testing.

Relevance Model

- Text is represented with **word embeddings** $[w_1, w_2, \dots, w_N]$ and composed to a single vector $u = h_N$ using an LSTM:

$$h_n = LSTM(w_n, h_{n-1})$$

- The image is represented with vector x , which we extract from a pre-trained GoogLeNet **image recognition** network.
- The model first reads the text, then decides which parts of the image are relevant to the task, using **gating**:

$$z = \sigma(uW_z + b_z) \quad x' = z * x$$

- The image vector is then **mapped to a new space** which is specialised for relevance scoring:

$$v = \tanh(x'W_x)$$

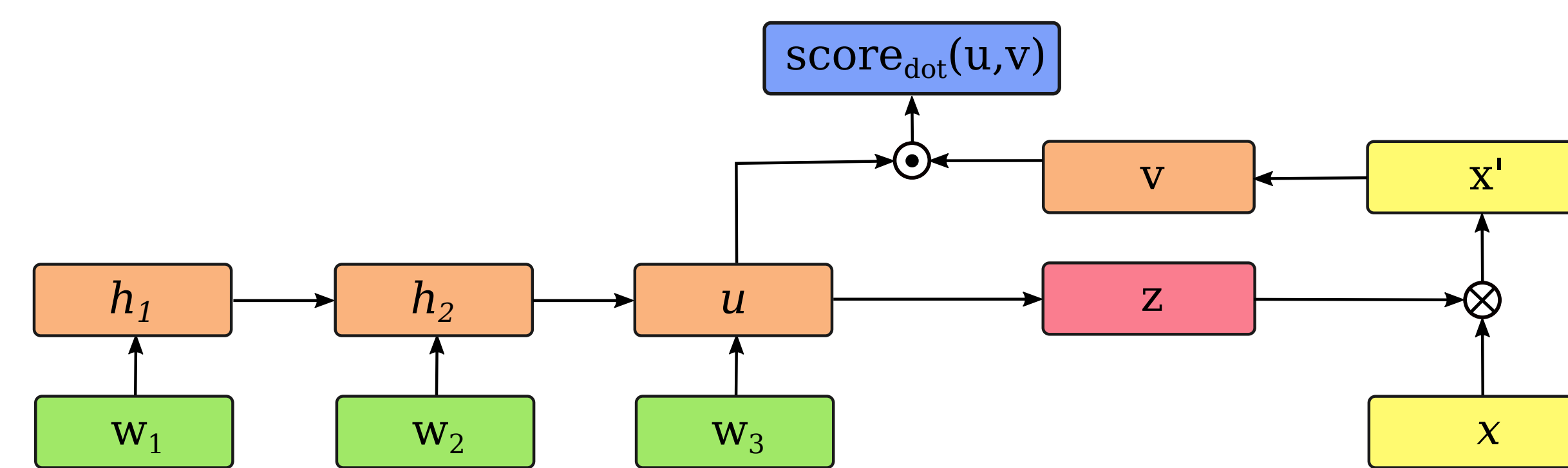
- The final **relevance score** is given as a dot product of the text vector u and the image vector v :

$$score_{dot}(u, v) = uv$$

Optimisation

- The model is optimised using **cross-entropy** over all examples in the minibatch:

$$Loss_{ce} = - \sum_{i \in I} \log \left(\frac{\exp(score_{dot}(u_i, v_i))}{Z} \right)$$



Evaluation

- Training on 31,014 images from the **Flickr30k** captioning dataset.
- Evaluating on a dataset of **543 answers** written by language learners.

| | Learner texts | | | Flickr30k | | |
|-------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|-----------|------|-------------|
| | ACC | AP | P@50 | POS | NEG | ACC |
| LSTM-COS | 68.2 | 71.6 | 81.0 | 0.7 | 0.0 | 72.6 |
| + gating | 69.6 | 74.6 | 84.4 | 0.5 | -0.6 | 76.5 |
| + cross-ent | 71.1 | 79.0 | 92.2 | 5.8 | -5.2 | 83.8 |
| + dropout | 75.4 | 81.9 | 89.8 | 5.6 | -3.7 | 87.4 |

Examples

| | |
|--|-------|
| In this picture there are lot of people and each one has a different attitude. | 0.65 |
| In the foreground, people are waiting for the green light in order to cross the street. | 0.81 |
| Generally speaking, the picture is full of bright colours and it conveys the idea of crowded city. | 0.63 |
| Looking at this pictures reminds me of the time I went scuba diving in the sea. | -2.38 |
| You swim to the surface and you see the sunlight coming nearer and nearer until you get out. | -1.70 |



Analysis

- Looking at examples that the system **incorrectly** classifies as unrelated.

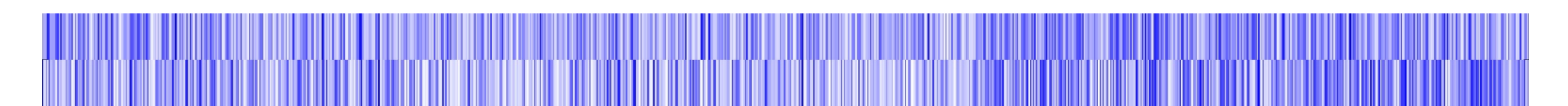


A man rides a unicycle while holding fire lit batons.
score: -3.27



A crowd in stands holding up the letters "k", "r", "u", "n", and "c".
score: -2.19

- The uses of **rare terms** and unusual images are potential sources of confusion for the model.
- Visualising the **gating vector** for two different sentences, values close to 0 are represented with white:



Conclusion

- An automated system can reliably **evaluate the relevance** of a written text to a given image.
- Texts and images can be mapped into a shared **semantic space** for comparison.
- Each of the modifications gives a **consistent improvement**: gating the image based on the text, applying dropout, and jointly optimising all examples in the minibatch.