

# Merging the Meaning: An N-gram Graph Approach

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# Outline

- 1 Introduction
  - Summary Evaluation
  - The story so far...
- 2 Innovation in TAC2010
  - Merged Model Graphs: MeMoG
  - Hierarchical Proximity Graph: HPG
- 3 Experiments
  - Ranking Correlation
  - Discriminative Power
- 4 Closing
  - Summary and Future Work

# The problem

Given *a set of model summaries*, determine the *quality*  
(Responsiveness, Pyramid Score) of a given *peer* summary text.

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**MeMoG** Similarity between merged model and peer.

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Given *a set of model summaries*, determine the *quality* (Responsiveness, Pyramid Score) of a given *peer* summary text.

## Proposals using N-Gram Graphs

**AutoSummENG** Average similarity between models and peer.

**MeMoG** Similarity between merged model and peer.

**HPG** Average similarity between a model hierarchy of graphs to peer.

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# Overview of AutoSummENG

- Represents peer and model summaries as n-gram graphs
- Compare each peer graph to model graphs
- Grade is the average similarity

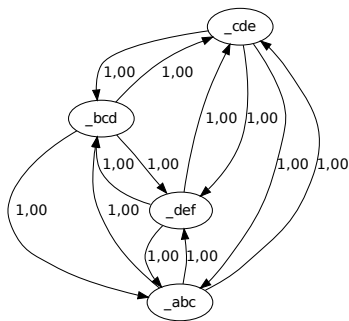
**AutoSummENG** method [Giannakopoulos et al., 2008]: DUC 2005-2007, TAC 2008-2009

# Overview of AutoSummENG

- Represents peer and model summaries as n-gram graphs
- Compare each peer graph to model graphs
- Grade is the average similarity
- **No Preprocessing, Language Neutrality, Effective**

**AutoSummENG** method [Giannakopoulos et al., 2008]: DUC 2005-2007, TAC 2008-2009

# An N-gram Graph



What does an n-gram graph do?

- Indicates neighborhood
- **Edges** are important

# Extraction Process

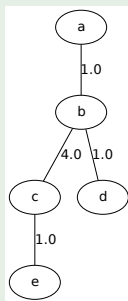
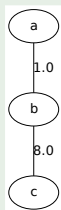
- Extract n-grams of ranks  $[L_{\min}, L_{\max}]$ . One graph per rank.
- Determine neighborhood (window size  $D_{\text{win}}$ ).
- Assign weights to edges.

## Example

String:	<i>abcde</i>
Character N-grams (Rank 3):	<i>abc, bcd, cde</i>
Edges (Window Size 1):	<i>abc-bcd, bcd-cde</i>
Weights (Occurrences):	<i>abc-bcd (1.0) , bcd-cde (1.0)</i>

# N-gram Graph – Value Similarity

## Example



$$\text{Result: } \frac{1.0}{\frac{1.0}{4}} + \frac{4.0}{\frac{8.0}{4}} = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{8} = 0.375$$

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# Overview: Merged Model Graphs

- Merge models into one, common representation
- ...representative of the set of models
- ...easily comparable to peer summaries.

## Representing Sets of Graphs

### Merge operator: $G_1 \cup G_2$

- $E = E_1 \cup E_2$ ,  $E_i$  edgeset of  $G_i$
- $w(e) = \frac{w_1(e)+w_2(e)}{2}$ , if  $e \in E_1 \cap E_2$
- else  $w(e) = w_1(e)$ , if  $e \in E_1$ ,  $w(e) = w_2(e)$ , if  $e \in E_2$

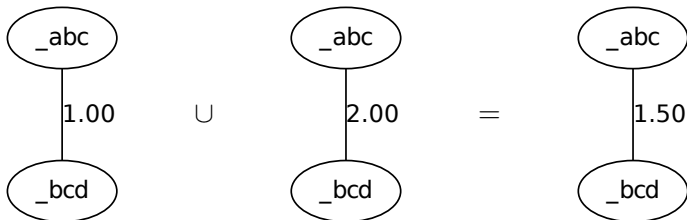
Non-commutative for  $> 2$  graphs

### Update operator: $U(G_1, G_2, l)$

- $E = E_1 \cup E_2$
- $w(e) = w_1(e) + l \times (w_2(e) - w_1(e))$

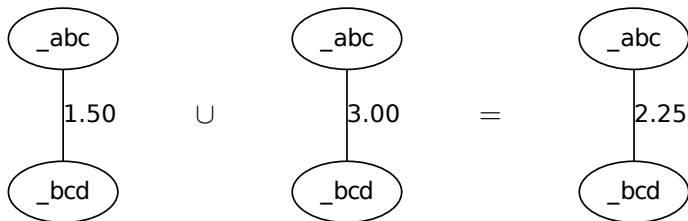
Parametric (learning factor); can be made commutative

# Merge vs. Update (1)



$$\frac{1 + 2}{2} = 1.5$$

## Merge vs. Update (2)



$$\frac{1.5 + 3}{2} = 2.25$$

But what if we want  $\frac{1+2+3}{3} = 2$ ?

## Merge vs. Update (3)

$$\text{updatedValue} = \text{oldValue} + l \times (\text{newValue} - \text{oldValue}) \quad (1)$$

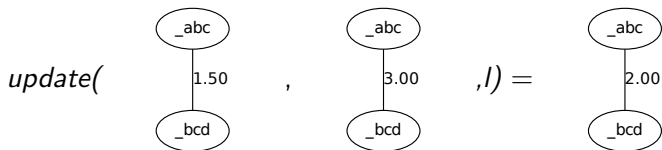
where  $0 \leq l \leq 1$  is the learning factor

### Representative (or *Centroid*) Graph

Use update operator with learning factor:  $\frac{1}{\text{instanceCount}}$ , where *instanceCount* is the number of instances that will be described by the graph *after* the update.

# Merge vs. Update (4)

$$l = \frac{1}{3}$$



$$1.5 + \frac{1}{3} \times (3 - 1.5) = \frac{3}{2} + \frac{1}{3} \times \frac{3}{2} = \frac{4}{2} = 2$$

# AutoSummENG vs MeMoG

## AutoSummENG

ModelGraph1	PeerGraph	VS1
ModelGraph2	PeerGraph	VS2
ModelGraph3	PeerGraph	VS3
AutoSummENG Grade:		$Avg(VS_i)$

## MeMoG

$U(\text{ModelGraph1}, \text{ModelGraph2}, \text{ModelGraph3})$	PeerGraph	VS
MeMoG Grade:		VS

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# Overview: Hierarchical Proximity Graph

- Use multiple granularity levels in one representation
- Keep statistical, language-independent analysis
- Minimize parameters

# Proximity Graph

- Generalization of n-gram graphs
- Represents neighborhood in any applicable domain
- Allows representation of neighborhood between graphs

# From text to hierarchy — (1)

The original text

abcdabde

The n-grams

ab cd ab de

The 1st lvl text

11 12 11 13

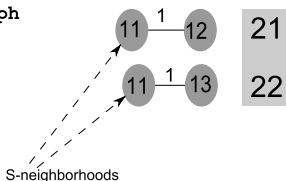
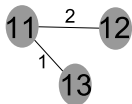
ab  
 cd  
 de

11  
 12  
 13

1st lvl Index

- Text into distinct n-grams

1st lvl Graph



21  
 22

2nd lvl Index

# From text to hierarchy — (1)

The original text

abcdabde

The n-grams

ab cd ab de

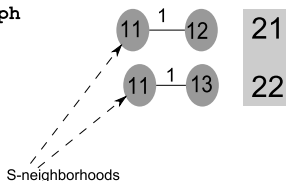
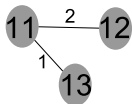
The 1st lvl text

11 12 11 13

ab 11  
 cd 12  
 de 13

1st lvl Index

1st lvl Graph



21  
 22

2nd lvl Index

- Text into distinct n-grams
- Index  $I_1$  of symbols to n-grams

# From text to hierarchy — (1)

The original text

abcdabde

The n-grams

ab cd ab de

The 1st lvl text

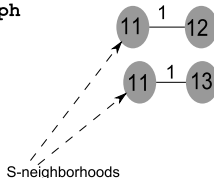
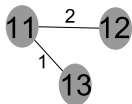
11 12 11 13

ab  
 cd  
 de

11  
 12  
 13

1st lvl Index

1st lvl Graph



21  
 22

2nd lvl Index

- Text into distinct n-grams
- Index  $I_1$  of symbols to n-grams
- Recreate text as symbol sequence

# From text to hierarchy — (1)

The original text

abcdabde

The n-grams

ab cd ab de

The 1st lvl text

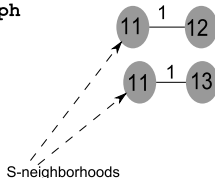
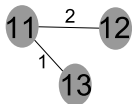
11 12 11 13

ab  
 cd  
 de

11  
 12  
 13

1st Lvl Index

1st lvl Graph



21  
 22

2nd Lvl Index

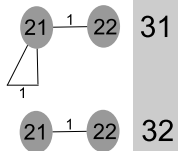
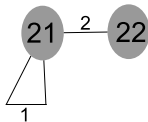
- Text into distinct n-grams
- Index  $I_1$  of symbols to n-grams
- Recreate text as symbol sequence
- Extract *s-neighborhoods* and level graph

## From text to hierarchy — (2)

The 2nd lvl text

21 21 22

2nd lvl Graph



31

32

3rd lvl Index

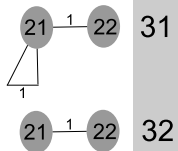
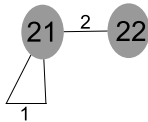
- Neighborhood size increases over levels

# From text to hierarchy — (3)

The 2nd lvl text

21 21 22

2nd lvl Graph



31

32

3rd lvl Index

- Neighborhood size increases over levels
- Similarity: weighted average over all levels

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# Correlation to Pyramid — All Peers

Variant (ID)	P (Rank)	S (Rank)	K (Rank)
Group A - All Peers			
AutoSummENG (25)	0.897 (10)	0.945 (8)	0.824 (7)
MeMoG (16)	<b>0.956 (3)</b>	<b>0.956 (4)</b>	<b>0.834 (4)</b>
HPG (12)	0.880 (15)	0.941 (10)	0.818 (9)
Group B - All Peers			
AutoSummENG (25)	0.807 (12)	0.920 (9)	0.779 (8)
MeMoG (16)	<b>0.968 (1)</b>	<b>0.935 (4)</b>	<b>0.799 (4)</b>
HPG (12)	0.726 (16)	0.931 (6)	0.788 (6)

**Legend** P: Pearson, S: Spearman, K: Kendall

# Correlation to Pyramid — No Models

Variant (ID)	P (Rank)	S (Rank)	K (Rank)
Group A - No Models			
AutoSummENG (25)	0.950 (11)	0.913 (9)	0.778 (10)
MeMoG (16)	<b>0.970 (4)</b>	<b>0.934 (5)</b>	<b>0.798 (6)</b>
HPG (12)	0.951 (10)	0.908 (10)	0.774 (11)
Group B - No Models			
AutoSummENG (25)	0.899 (13)	0.870 (11)	0.711 (11)
MeMoG (16)	<b>0.956 (5)</b>	<b>0.901 (7)</b>	<b>0.758 (6)</b>
HPG (12)	0.898 (14)	0.892 (9)	0.729 (9)

## Correlation to Responsiveness — All Peers

Variant (ID)	P (Rank)	S (Rank)	K (Rank)
Group A - All Peers			
AutoSummENG (25)	0.909 (11)	0.942 (9)	<b>0.836 (4)</b>
MeMoG (16)	<b>0.944 (3)</b>	<b>0.949 (6)</b>	0.818 (10)
HPG (12)	0.892 (14)	0.945 (8)	0.820 (8)
Group B - All Peers			
AutoSummENG (25)	0.797 (11)	0.892 (9)	0.747 (9)
MeMoG (16)	<b>0.977 (1)</b>	0.915 (7)	0.772 (5)
HPG (12)	0.724 (15)	<b>0.925 (2)</b>	<b>0.777 (4)</b>

## Correlation to Responsiveness — No Models

Variant (ID)	P (Rank)	S (Rank)	K (Rank)
Group A - No Models			
AutoSummENG (25)	0.923 (11)	0.911 (8)	<b>0.799 (5)</b>
MeMoG (16)	<b>0.949 (7)</b>	<b>0.920 (6)</b>	0.772 (8)
HPG (12)	0.932 (9)	0.916 (7)	0.779 (7)
Group B - No Models			
AutoSummENG (25)	0.876 (13)	0.829 (11)	0.686 (10)
MeMoG (16)	<b>0.933 (5)</b>	0.866 (9)	0.709 (8)
HPG (12)	0.888 (10)	<b>0.885 (5)</b>	<b>0.733 (6)</b>

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## Discriminative Power — All Peers

Group A - All Peers

	Pyramid		Responsiveness	
	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree
AutoSummENG (25)	280	64	280	64
<b>MeMoG (16)</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>0</b>
HPG (12)	200	144	200	144

Group B - All Peers

	Pyramid		Responsiveness	
	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree
AutoSummENG (25)	284	60	284	60
<b>MeMoG (16)</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>0</b>
HPG (12)	157	187	157	187

## Discriminative Power — No Models

Group A - No Models

	Pyramid		Responsiveness	
	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree
<b>AutoSummENG (25)</b>	<b>813</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>793</b>	<b>110</b>
MeMoG (16)	798	105	788	115
HPG (12)	798	105	788	115

Group B - No Models

	Pyramid		Responsiveness	
	Agree	Disagree	Agree	Disagree
AutoSummENG (25)	742	161	723	180
MeMoG (16)	764	139	753	150
<b>HPG (12)</b>	<b>792</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>787</b>	<b>114</b>

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# Summary

- Merged Model Graphs: Non-linear merging of models
- Hierarchical Proximity Graphs: Multiple granularity unification
- Both MeMoG and HPG methods offer improvement over AutoSummENG
- HPG is still in an early stage
- N-gram graph methods provide a complete evaluation toolbox
- AutoSummENG still highly competitive (Responsiveness)

# Future Work

- HPGs: Study HPGs parameters and effect
- N-gram Graphs as a Constraint Satisfaction Problem
- Combine evaluators into single method, based on non-linear optimization
- Get to the summary level

# Thank you

Do not forget: it is open source! **JInsect@Sourceforge**  
Question answering time...

# AutoSummENG – Evaluation Over DUC & TAC

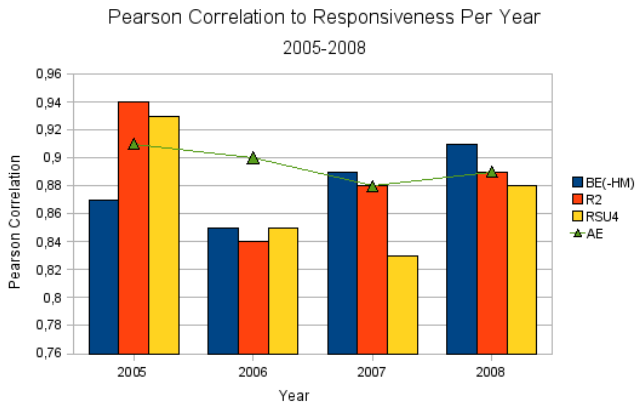


Figure: Pearson Correlation: Measures to (Content) Responsiveness for peers only



Giannakopoulos, G., Karkaletsis, V., Vouros, G., and Stamatopoulos, P. (2008).

Summarization system evaluation revisited: N-gram graphs.  
*ACM Trans. Speech Lang. Process.*, 5(3):1–39.