

# RNNS FOR DIALOGUE STATE TRACKING

---

Ondřej Plátek, Petr Bělohlávek, Vojtěch Hudeček & Filip Jurčiček, PhD<sup>a</sup>  
vojta.hudecek@gmail.com, oplatek@ufal.mff.cuni.cz

17th September 2016

Institute of Formal and Applied Linguistics  
Faculty of Mathematics and Physics  
Charles University in Prague

# INTRODUCTION

---

(food: ?, area: ?, price: ?)

System: *What type of restaurant are you looking for?*

`request(food)`

(food: ?, area: ?, price: ?)

System: *What type of restaurant are you looking for?*

```
request(food)
```

User: *I am looking for a japanese restaurant in the city center.*

```
inform(food:japanese), inform(area:center)
```

```
(food: japanese, area: center, price: ?)
```

(food: japanese, area: center, price: ?)

System: *What price range do you prefer?*

`request(price)`

(food: japanese, area: center, price: ?)

System: *What price range do you prefer?*

`request(price)`

User: *I want something cheap.*

`inform(price:cheap)`

(food: japanese, area: center, price: cheap)

- Dialogue agent tracks the progress compactly
  - Easy update
- Expresses user's goals and restrictions as well as history

- Set of pairs (slot, value)
- State space of possible combinations
  - Each state described e.g. by Dialog Act Items  
(food: japanese, area: center, price: cheap)
  - Handcrafted ontology - relevant slots



- Challenge organized by University of Cambridge
- Each dialogue composed of *turns*
  - pair of user and system utterances
- Annotated dialogues - true dialogue state after each turn.

- Train set contains 1612, development 506 and test 1117 dialogues
- Dialogues were obtained by user-computer interaction
- Mix of Dialogue Systems and ASR<sup>1</sup> engines was used.
  - Different setting used for each set

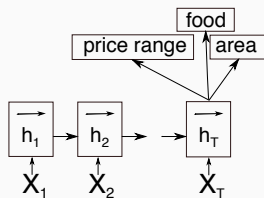
---

<sup>1</sup>Automatic Speech Recognition

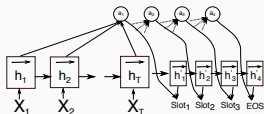
## OUR MODEL

---

- Recurrent neural network composed of sequentially ordered cells (Žilka and Jurčiček [2])
- Capable to process variable length input
- Maintains (encodes) hidden state and emits observation after each turn
- Improved with LSTM cells (Henderson et al. [3])
- Sequence to sequence models adaptation



- Supervised learning
- TensorFlow framework [4] - prepared RNN, seq2seq
- Data separated into buckets of similar lengths



- INPUT FEATURES
  - feeding input on the world level
  - one-hot encoding (Bag of Words)
  - vector embeddings of words [5]
  - indicator, whether the word belong to particular slot
- We use just 1 best ASR hypothesis
- No SLU<sup>2</sup> employed

---

<sup>2</sup>Spoken Language Understanding

- During training, each turn is predicted based on whole dialogue history
- Metric: **Accuracy** on DS after each turn
  - Schedule 2 - only turns where some information is gained

## RESULTS

---



- Sequence-to-sequence model achieved better results - 0.73 vs. 0.727
- Comparable to models that use whole list of ASR hypotheses (Žilka and Jurčiček [2])
- Some systems that use SLU gain better results, up to 0.745 (Henderson et al. [6], Vodolán et al. [7])
- Much better performance of both models on the reshuffled data

- We successfully used the sequence-to-sequence model for DST task
- reasonable performance
- DSTC2 task is much easier on re-shuffled data

- Investigate which features contribute to better performance
- World-level annotated dataset would help to evaluate the incremental models

THE END  
THANK YOU!

### REFERENCES

---

- [1] M. Henderson, B. Thomson, and J. Williams. The Second Dialog State Tracking Challenge. In *Proceedings of SIGdial*, 2014.
- [2] Lukás Žilka and Filip Jurčiček. Incremental LSTM-based dialog state tracker. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1507.03471*, 2015.
- [3] M. Henderson, B. Thomson, and S. J. Young. Robust Dialog State Tracking Using Delexicalised Recurrent Neural Networks and Unsupervised Adaptation. In *Proceedings of IEEE Spoken Language Technology*, 2014.
- [4] Tensorflow. <https://www.tensorflow.org/>. Accessed: 2016-09-10.

## REFERENCES (CONT.)

- [5] Yoshua Bengio, Rejean Ducharme, and Pascal Vincent. A Neural probabilistic language model. *Journal of Machine Learning Research*, 3:1137–1155, 2003.
- [6] Matthew Henderson, Blaise Thomson, and Steve Young. Word-based dialog state tracking with recurrent neural networks. In *Proceedings of the 15th Annual Meeting of the Special Interest Group on Discourse and Dialogue (SIGDIAL)*, pages 292–299, 2014.
- [7] Miroslav Vodolán, Rudolf Kadlec, and Jan Kleindienst. Hybrid Dialog State Tracker. *CoRR*, abs/1510.03710, 2015. URL <http://arxiv.org/abs/1510.03710>.