#### Neural Disease Normalization with Graph Embeddings

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Deep Disease Normalization

### Motivation

- To semantically enrich biomedical text we need to detect entities (NER), and resolve them (EL) to a canonical name
- Canonical names, a.k.a. concepts, are defined in gold repositories such as:

 $\Rightarrow$  thesauri, databases, taxonomies, knowledge graphs

- Systems used in practice are often based on dictionaries/TFIDF: ⇒ high precision, low recall
- Big advances in NER and EL for other domains



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**Q:** Can we use DL and **graph embeddings** to detect and resolve **diseases**?



# Example – NCBI Corpus [2] & MeSH<sup>®</sup> Taxonomy [7]

Identification of APC2, a homologue of the [adenomatous polyposis coli tumour]<sub>D011125</sub> suppressor.

MeSH Heading	Adenomatous Polyposis Coli
Scope Note	A polyposis syndrome due to an autosomal dominant
	mutation of the APC
	genes (GENES, APC) on CHROMOSOME 5
Tree Numbers	C04.557.470.035.215.100
Entry Terms	Polyposis Syndrome, Familial



### **Dataset Statistics**

#### • NCBI corpus:

Split	$PubMed^{\mathbb{R}}$	Total	Unique	Unique	Tokens
	abstracts	mentions	mentions	concept IDs	
Training	592	5,134	1,691	657	136,088
Validation	100	787	363	173	23,969
Test	100	960	424	201	24,497

- MeSH<sup>®</sup> taxonomy (disease branch):
  - ▷ 10,932 diseases/conditions (tree nodes)
  - ▷ approx. 10,000 scope notes comprising a 10-20 tokens
  - ▷ approx. 100,000 200,000 tokens

### Disease NER - biLSTM-CRF Model I



Lample et al. [5, 4, 10]



### Disease NER – biLSTM-CRF Model II



Ma and Hovy [8, 10]



### Disease NER – biLSTM-CRF Model III





### EL Model



▷ in a nutshell:

embed mention + embed  $MeSH^{(R)}$  concept + softmax layer



# EL - node2vec [3] Embeddings



Node2vec embedding process



# EL - node2vec [3] Embeddings



estimate:  $p(d_i | \mathbf{m}, \mathbf{d_i}) \propto \exp(\mathbf{m^T W d_i}))$ 

# type I tree structure only type II tree structure + lexicalization (scope note embedding)



# EL – GCN [1] Embeddings





GCN



# EL – GCN [1] Embeddings



$$\mathbf{h}_{d}^{(j+1)} = \sigma \left( \sum_{d' \in \Omega(d)} \mathbf{W}^{(j)} \mathbf{h}_{d'}^{(j)} + \mathbf{b}^{(j)} \right)$$



# EL – GCN [1] Embeddings



$$\mathbf{h}_{d}^{(j+1)} = \sigma \bigg( \sum_{d' \in \Omega(d)} \mathbf{W}^{(j)} \mathbf{h}_{d'}^{(j)} + \mathbf{b}^{(j)} \bigg)$$

estimate:  $p(d_i|\mathbf{m}) \propto \exp(\mathbf{m}^{\mathbf{T}}g(d_i;\theta))$ 



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### NER & EL – Results

Model	Pre	Rec	F1	Val. F1
Lample et al.	$0.824\pm0.022$	$0.742 \pm 0.019$	$0.781\pm0.003$	$0.805\pm0.007$
Ma and Hovy	$0.823\pm0.011$	$0.776 \pm 0.023$	$0.799 \pm 0.012$	$0.792 \pm 0.005$
bioELMo	$\textbf{0.878} \pm \textbf{0.003}$	$\textbf{0.856} \pm \textbf{0.005}$	$\textbf{0.867} \pm \textbf{0.002}$	$\textbf{0.884} \pm \textbf{0.001}$
bioELMo + 2-layer $biLSTM$	$0.857\pm0.006$	$0.873 \pm 0.005$	$0.865\pm0.005$	$0.884 \pm 0.001$
Lample et al.** [4]	0.875**	0.836**	0.844**	-

Model	MRR	F1	Pre	Pre@30	Val. MRR
bioELMo (S.N.)	$0.748 \pm 0.002$	$0.715\pm0.004$	$0.715\pm0.002$	$0.844\pm0.004$	$0.791\pm0.001$
node2vec I	$0.749 \pm 0.002$	$0.718\pm0.004$	$0.720\pm0.004$	$0.819\pm0.006$	$0.800 \pm 0.003$
node2vec II	$\textbf{0.757} \pm \textbf{0.001}$	$\textbf{0.721} \pm \textbf{0.004}$	$\textbf{0.724} \pm \textbf{0.001}$	$\textbf{0.842} \pm \textbf{0.004}$	$\textbf{0.804} \pm \textbf{0.006}$
GCN	$0.744 \pm 0.006$	$0.710\pm0.008$	$0.710 \pm 0.007$	$0.831\pm0.005$	$0.803\pm0.007$
DNorm** [6]		0.782**	- 15	-	(-) -
NormCo** [11]	-	0.840**	0.878**	-	

(where: MRR = 
$$\frac{1}{|E|} \sum_{i=1}^{|E|} \frac{1}{\mathsf{rank}_i}$$
)





### EL – Embedding Visualization I





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### EL – Embedding Visualization II





### EL – Embedding Visualization III

T-SNE GCN





### Main Errors

- Multi-token entities only partially detected: in sporadic T-PLL only the head T-PLL is detected
- EL models confuse diseases with their MeSH<sup>®</sup> neighbors: D016399 Lymphoma, T-Cell is confused for D015458 Leukemia, T-Cell, with which it shares an ancestor
- EL models resolve correctly the first instance, but return a neighbour after: in

Occasional missense mutations in ATM were also found in tumour DNA from patients with [B-cell non-Hodgkins lymphomas]<sub>D016393</sub> ([B-NHL]<sub>D008228</sub>) and a [B-NHL]<sub>D018239</sub> cell line.

D016393 is correct but B-NHL is mapped to D008228 (its child) and then to D018239 (another form of cancer)



### MTL – Model & Results





### MTL – Model & Results



1 A 4	NER			EL	
Model	Pre	Rec	F1	MRR	Pre@30
NER & GCN	$\textbf{0.880} \pm \textbf{0.003}$	$\textbf{0.872} \pm \textbf{0.008}$	$\textbf{0.876} \pm \textbf{0.003}$	$\textbf{0.747} \pm \textbf{0.003}$	$\textbf{0.816} \pm \textbf{0.006}$
NER	$0.875 \pm 0.006$	$0.869\pm0.001$	$0.872\pm0.003$	-	-
GCN	-	-	-	$0.745 \pm 0.001$	$0.816\pm0.001$



### Conclusions

- Adapted biLSTM-CRFs to the NCBI corpus (NER)
- Adapted graph embeddings (GCN and node2vec) that exploit both MeSH<sup>®</sup>'s hierarchical structure and the description of diseases (EL)
- Ocombined NER and EL models in a MTL setting
- Main findings:
  - EL node lexicalization improves over structural or lexical embeddings
  - NER bioELMO leads to large gains for NER MTL leads to state-of-the-art performance for NER
- S Further work:
  - incorporate EL optimizations studied in [11] and [6]
  - enlarge target taxonomy by linking it to large knowledge graphs such as DBpedia



Thank you!



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# Appendix - CRFs vs. biLSTM-CRFs

▷ Traditional linear-chain CRFs estimate:

$$p(\mathbf{y}_{1:n}|\mathbf{x}_{1:n}) \propto \prod_{i=1}^{n} \exp(\sum_{k=1}^{K} \theta_k f_k(y_i, y_{i+1}, \mathbf{x}_{1:n}))$$

▷ biLSTM-CRFs estimate:

$$p(\mathbf{y}_{1:n}|\mathbf{x}_{1:n}) \propto \exp(s(\mathbf{x}_{1:n},\mathbf{y}_{1:n})) = \exp(\sum_{i=0}^{n} A_{y_i,y_{i+1}} + \sum_{i=1}^{n} P_{x_i,y_i})$$



### Appendix – Hyperparameters/Training

Common: - ADAM with  $10^{-3}$  learning rate

- 0.5 dropout regularization
- split the abstracts into sentences using NLTK
   (https://www.nltk.org/)
- used whitespace tokenization
- 200-dim *word2vec* embeddings and 1024-dim bioELMo embeddings
- NER: learnt 60-dim character embeddings
- *node2vec*: 1024-dim MeSH<sup>®</sup> node embeddings trained using *node2vec* for 100 epochs
  - GCN: 1024-dim EL models trained for 500 epochs
    - stacked 2 GCN layers with 2048 hidden units and 1024 output units

