

# Dependency Link Embeddings: Continuous Representations of Syntactic Substructures



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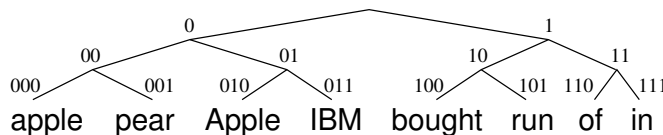
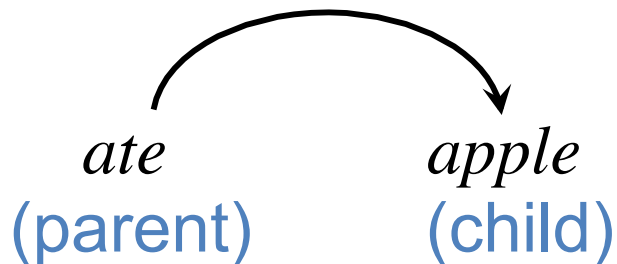


# Motivation

(n-ary word cluster/embedding features)

prefix6  $\rightarrow$  (110010 , 000101)

prefix4  $\rightarrow$  (1100 , 0001)



*apple*  $\rightarrow$  00010100010

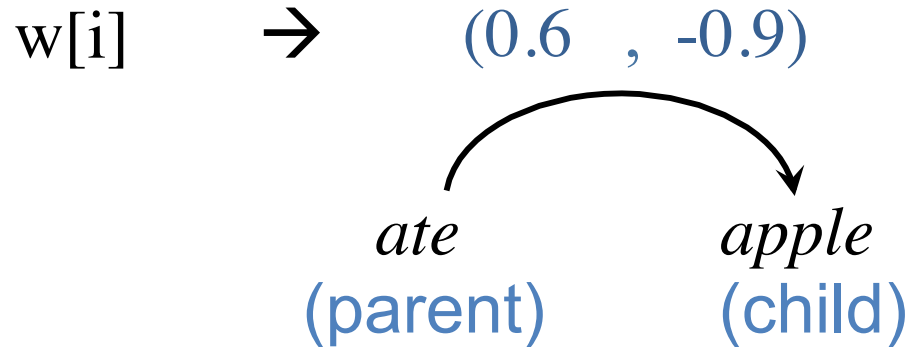
prefix4  
prefix6

Brackets under the binary string 00010100010 indicate the prefix4 (0001) and prefix6 (000101) segments.



# Motivation

(n-ary)



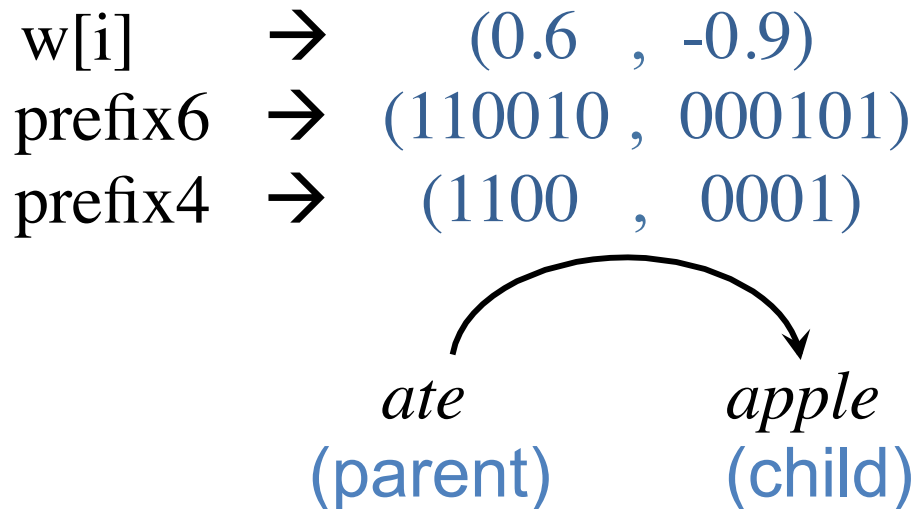
*ate*  $\rightarrow [0.6, 0.9, 0.3, -1.0, 0.1, -0.7]$

*apple*  $\rightarrow [-0.9, 0.1, -0.3, 0.5, 0.1, 0.6]$



# Motivation

(n-ary)



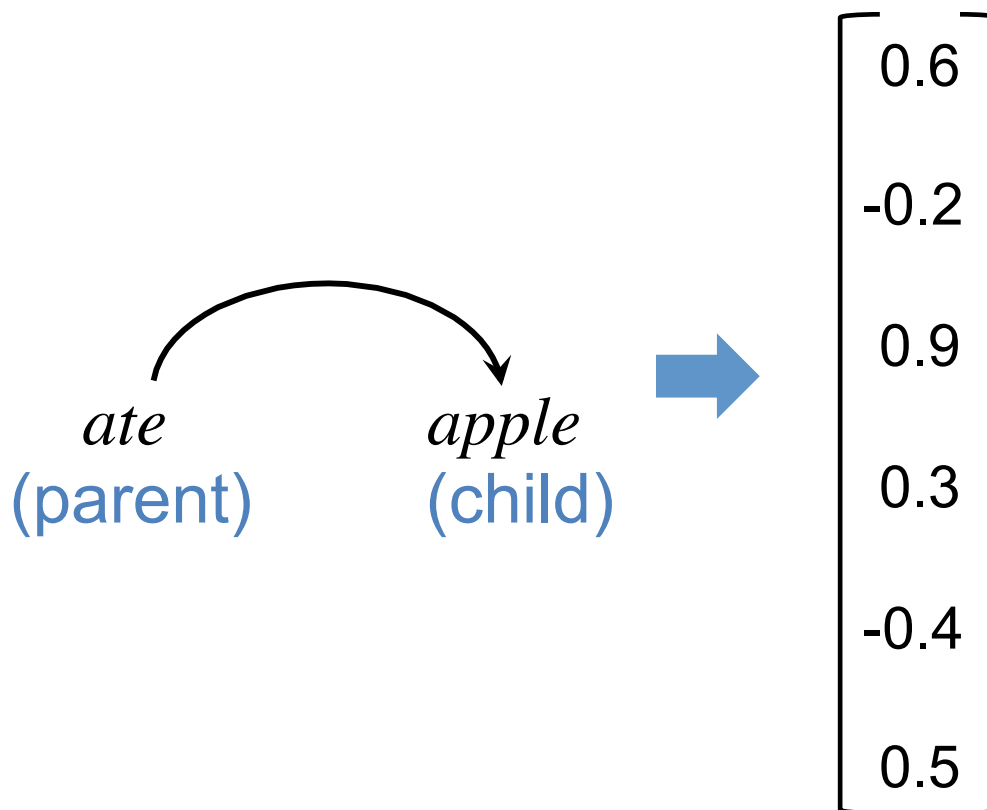
Baseline	Cluster-based
ht, mt	hc4, mc4
hw, mw	hc6, mc6
hw, ht, mt	hc*, mc*
hw, ht, mw	hc4, mt
ht, mw, mt	ht, mc4
hw, mw, mt	hc6, mt
hw, ht, mw, mt	ht, mc6
...	hc4, mw
	hw, mc4
	...
ht, mt, st	hc4, mc4, sc4
ht, mt, gt	hc6, mc6, sc6
...	ht, mc4, sc4
	hc4, mc4, gc4
	...

(McDonald et al., 2005;  
Koo et al., 2008)



# Motivation

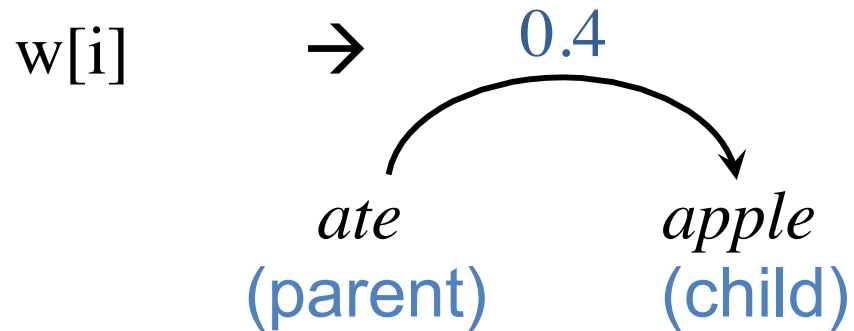
- ▶ Train link embeddings on tons of auto-parsed data  
(*min-count thresholded to get only the popular links*)





# Motivation

(unary)

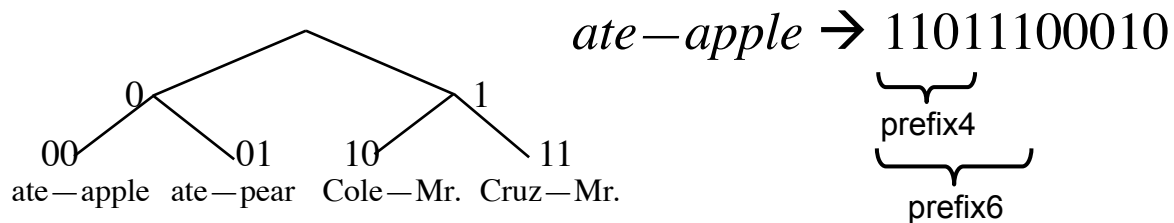
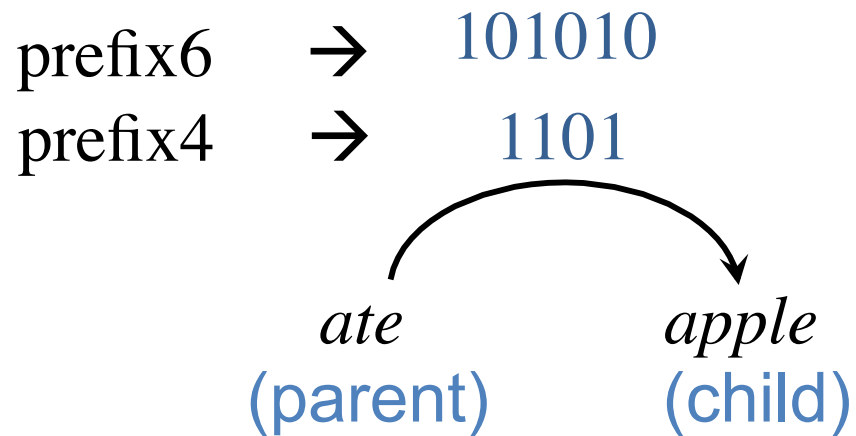


*ate*—*apple*  $\rightarrow$  [0.4, 0.2, -0.3, 0.4, 0.1, 0.7]



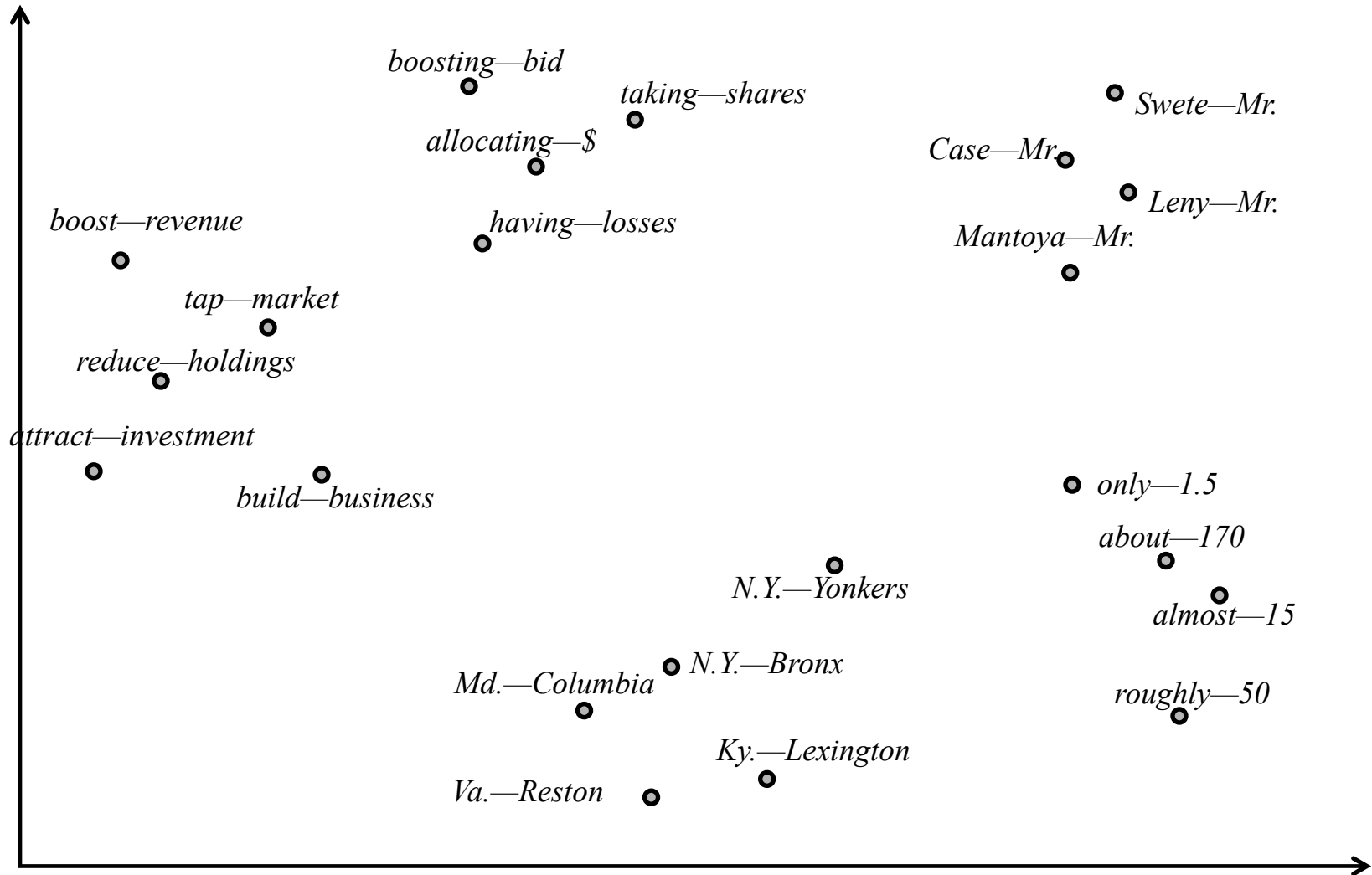
# Motivation

(unary)





# Motivation

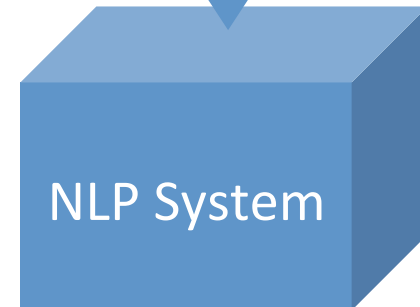




# Motivation

dense syntactic features

<i>ate—apple:</i>	[0.2, -0.9, 0.4, -0.1, 0.3]
<i>ate—pear:</i>	[0.6, -0.2, 0.1, -0.4, 0.1]
<i>had—water:</i>	[0.1, 0.9, -0.2, -0.1, 0.5]
	...
	...
	...
	...
<i>from—home:</i>	[0.1, -0.9, 0.2, -0.8, 0.7]
<i>under—tree:</i>	[0.9, -0.4, 0.4, 0.5, -0.3]
<i>for—her:</i>	[-0.3, 0.9, -0.4, 0.2, 0.2]



NLP System



# Motivation

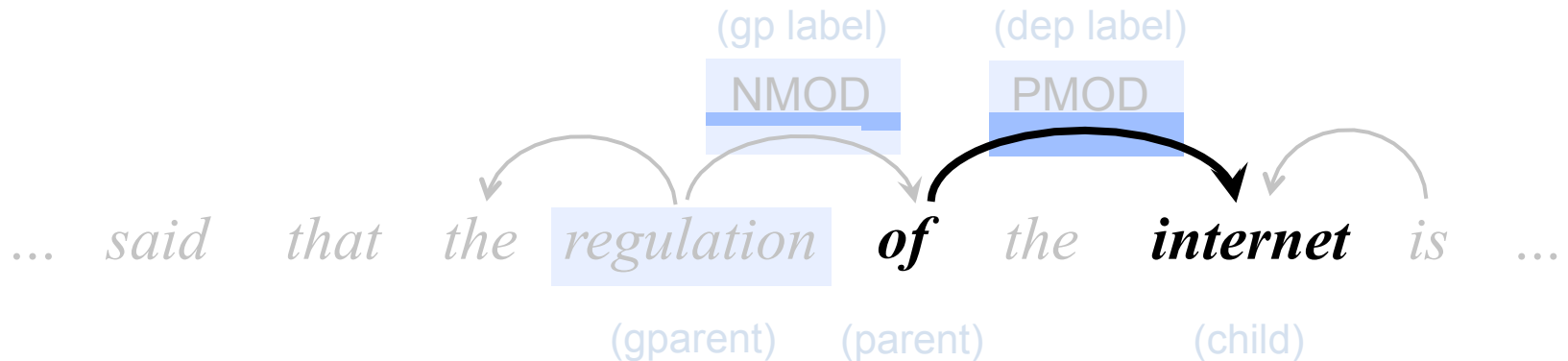
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- ▶ Much fewer, simpler ***unary*** features vs. millions of template-based, ***n-ary*** word-cluster features
- ▶ Directly work with higher-order, substructure embeddings that task factors on, and their hidden relationships
- ▶ Portable as off-the-shelf, dense, syntactic features (instead of lexicalized or word embedding features)



# Training

- ▶ Parse a large corpus with baseline parser
- ▶ Tuples consist of a dependency link and its context  
(Bansal et al., 2014; Levy and Goldberg, 2014)





# Training

- ▶ Tuples consist of a dependency link and its context

$$d_{\langle D \rangle} \quad gl_{\langle GL \rangle} \quad p \text{---} c \quad l_{\langle L \rangle} \quad d_{\langle D \rangle}$$

dist.	gp label	parent—child link	dep label	dist.
[-2	$NMOD_{\langle GL \rangle}$	<i>of—internet</i>	$PMOD_{\langle L \rangle}$	-2]



# Training

- ▶ Tuples consist of a dependency link and its context

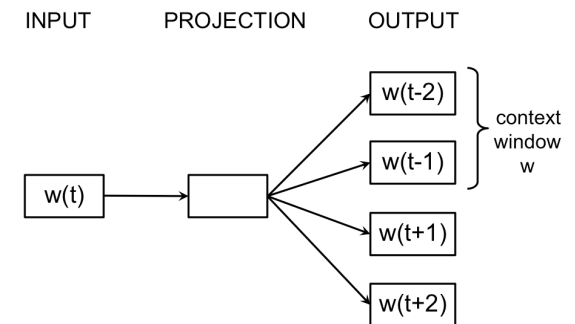
$gl_{\langle GL \rangle} \quad gp \text{---} p \quad p \text{---} c \quad d_{\langle D \rangle} \quad l_{\langle L \rangle}$

gp label      gp-parent link      parent-child link      dist.      dep label

$[NMOD_{\langle GL \rangle} \quad regulation \text{---} of \quad of \text{---} internet \quad -2 \quad PMOD_{\langle L \rangle}]$

context window

- ▶ Run SKIP-gram model to predict context
- ▶ **Threshold of 4 to get a vocab of just 92K (and then backoff to word/unk features)**





- gp label      gp-parent      parent      parent-child      child      dist.      dep label  
 [*NMOD*<sub><GL></sub>    *regulation—of*    *of*    *of—internet*    *internet*    -2    *PMOD*<sub><L></sub>]
- {  
 context window



# Clusters

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- Finds useful groups and subtle distinctions at link level

*[N.Y.–Yonkers, Md.–Columbia, N.Y.–Bronx, Va.–Reston, Ky.–Lexington, Mich.–Kalamazoo, Calif.–Calabasas, ...]*

*[boost–revenue, tap–markets, take–losses, launch–fight, reduce–holdings, terminate–contract, identify–bidders, ...]*

*[boosting–bid, meeting–schedules, obtaining–order, having–losses, completing–review, governing–industry, ...]*

*[began–Meanwhile, was–Since, are–Often, would–Now, had–During, were–Over, was–Late, have–Until, ...]*



# Clusters

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- Finds useful groups and subtle distinctions at link level

*[says–mean, adds–may, explains–have, contend–has, recalls–had, figures–is, asserted–is, notes–would, ...]*

*[would–Based, is–Besides, was–Like, is–From, are–Despite, said–Besides, says–Despite, reported–As, ...]*

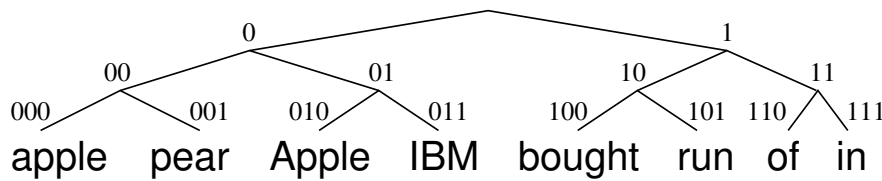
*[Catsimatidis–Mr., Swete–Mr., Case–Mr., Montoya–Mr., Byerlein–Mr., Heard–Mr., Leny–Mr., Graham–Mrs., ...]*

*[only–1.5, about–170, nearly–eight, approximately–10, almost–15, some–80, Only–two, about–23, roughly–50, ...]*



# Dependency Parsing Features

## ► Brown cluster **n-ary** features (Koo et al., 2008):



*apple* → 00010100010  
                     └─ prefix4  
                     └─ prefix6

prefix6 → 110010      000101  
 prefix4 → 1100      0001  
 tag → VBD      NN  
                     └─ ate      apple  
                     (parent)      (child)

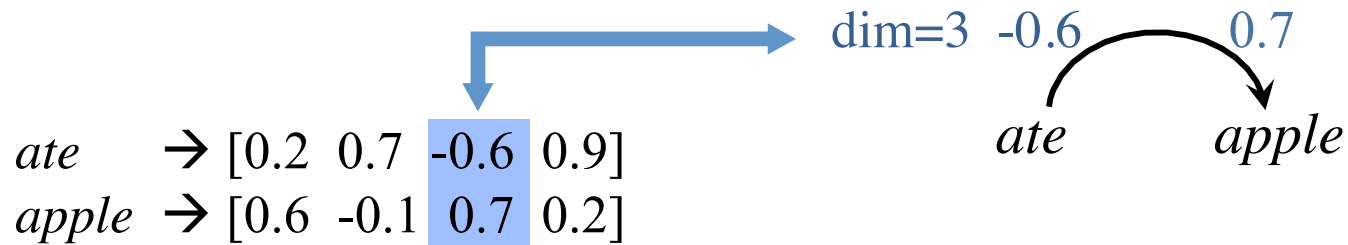
Baseline	Cluster-based
ht, mt	hc4, mc4
hw, mw	hc6, mc6
hw, ht, mt	hc*, mc*
hw, ht, mw	hc4, mt
ht, mw, mt	ht, mc4
hw, mw, mt	hc6, mt
hw, ht, mw, mt	ht, mc6
...	hc4, mw
	hw, mc4
	...
ht, mt, st	hc4, mc4, sc4
ht, mt, gt	hc6, mc6, sc6
...	ht, mc4, sc4
	hc4, mc4, gc4
	...

(McDonald et al., 2005;  
Koo et al., 2008)



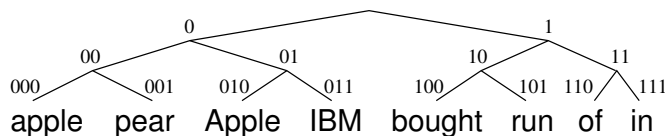
# Dependency Parsing Features

- ▶ Word embedding **n-ary** features (Bansal et al., 2014):
  - ▶ Per-dimension bucket features:



- ▶ Hierarchical clustering (bit string) features:

$linkage(E, \text{'ward'}, \text{'euclidean'})$



$apple \rightarrow 00010100010$   
                     prefix4  
                     prefix6

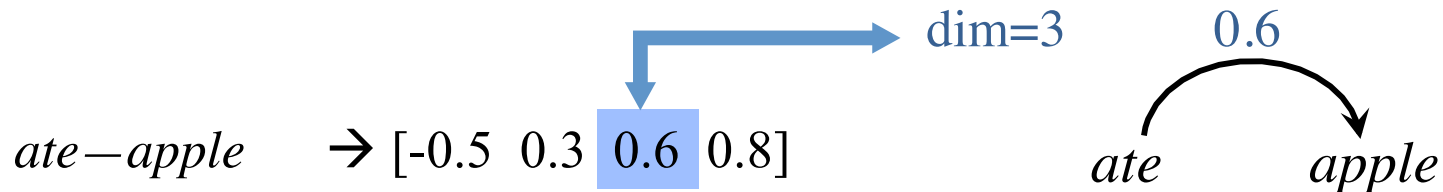
Baseline	Cluster-based
ht, mt	hc4, mc4
hw, mw	hc6, mc6
hw, ht, mt	hc*, mc*
hw, ht, mw	hc4, mt
ht, mw, mt	ht, mc4
hw, mw, mt	hc6, mt
hw, ht, mw, mt	ht, mc6
...	hc4, mw
	hw, mc4
	...
ht, mt, st	hc4, mc4, sc4
ht, mt, gt	hc6, mc6, sc6
...	ht, mc4, sc4
	hc4, mc4, gc4
	...

(McDonald et al., 2005;  
 Koo et al., 2008)

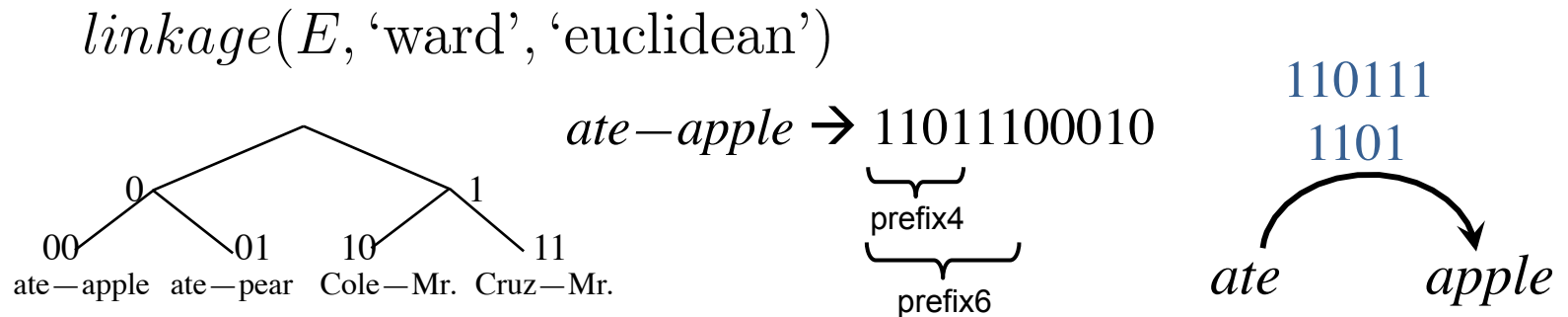


# Dependency Parsing Features

- ▶ Link embedding **unary** features (this work):
  - ▶ Per-dimension bucket features:



- ▶ Hierarchical clustering (bit string) features:





# Feature Comparison (Memory, Speed)

- ▶ Setup: MSTParser (2<sup>nd</sup> order), standard data splits, parameters, preprocessing, threshold (Bansal et al., 2014)
- ▶ Much fewer features compared to n-ary, word-based
- ▶ Quicker to train these SKIP-based link features

System	Number of features	
Baseline	5M	
BROWN	13M	(2.5 days)
Bansal et al. (2014)	30M	
Bucket	<b>15K</b>	(15 mins.)
Bit-string	1M	(1 day)



# Dependency Parsing Results

- ▶ Stat-equal improvements as Brown and stat-significant stacking, at much fewer, simpler, quicker features

System	Test
Baseline	91.9
+ BROWN	92.7
+ Bucket	92.3
+ Bit-string	92.6
+ BROWN + Bucket	93.0
+ BROWN + Bit-string	93.1

- ▶ Similar improvements and stacking for out-of-domain
- ▶ Allows practical, accurate per-dimension features



# Off-the-shelf Results

- ▶ Portable as simple, dense, syntactic features
- ▶ E.g., on constituent reranking, stat-equal improvements as global reranking features and stat-signif. stacking

(Bansal and Klein, 2011)

Parsing Model	Test	
	F1	EX
Baseline (1-best)	90.2	37.3
Baseline ( $\log p(t w)$ )	89.9	37.3
+ Config	91.1	40.6
+ Bit-string	90.9	40.6
+ Config + Bit-string	91.4	42.0



# Conclusion

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- ▶ Dense dependency link embeddings allow simpler, fewer (unary) features in dependency parsing
- ▶ Get similar improvements to n-ary template-based word cluster/embedding features
- ▶ Portable as useful, dense, syntactic features to downstream tasks, e.g., constituent reranking



# Current/Future Work

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- ▶ Export to other extrinsic tasks, e.g., sentence classification or initial units in vector-space composition
- ▶ Newer, better representation learning tools, e.g., deeper NNs, GloVe (Pennington et al., 2014)
- ▶ Training on larger quantities of automatically-parsed data
- ▶ Other back-off approaches for unknown links, e.g., tag-based links (*tag1—tag2*) and one-sided links (*UNK-word* or *UNK-tag*)
- ▶ Compare to approaches like relation matrices on dependency labels, concatenation+SVD of head and argument vectors

# Thank you!



Data (link embeddings and features) at:

[ttic.uchicago.edu/~mbansal/codedata/linkEmbeddings-skiplink.zip](http://ttic.uchicago.edu/~mbansal/codedata/linkEmbeddings-skiplink.zip)