



# Supervised Distributional Hypernym Discovery via Domain Adaptation

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## Motivation

- The capacity for *generalization* lies at the core of human understanding.
- Lexical taxonomies are important resources on which NLP systems rely for detecting generalizations.
  - ◆ In a taxonomy learning context, the step of hypernym discovery is crucial, and a research topic in itself.
- There are two main approaches to hypernym discovery: Path/pattern based, and distributional.



## Contribution

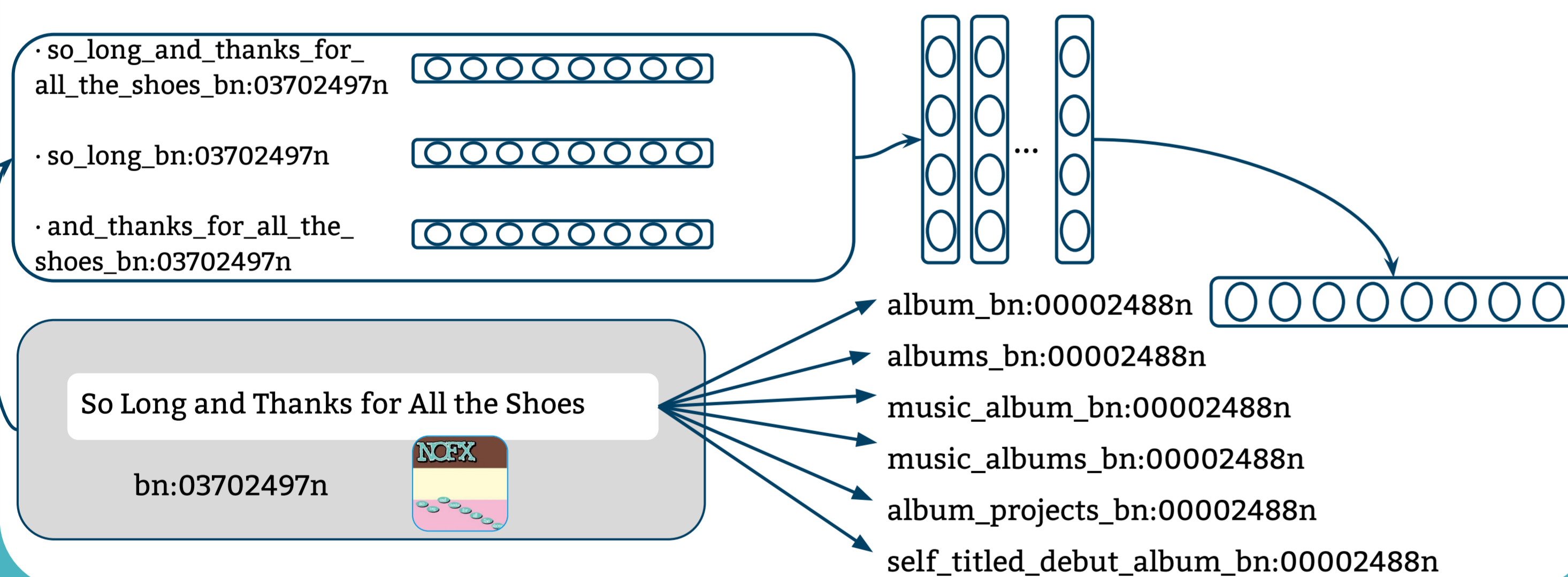
- Break down the training data in knowledge *domains* by using the distributional approach of NASARI (Camacho-Collados et al. 2016).
- Train a domain-wise *transformation matrix* (Mikolov et al. 2013), and use it to discover hypernyms.
- Improve the quality of the system by incorporating disambiguated triples coming from Open Information Extraction techniques.

## Training

- Obtain *is-a* sense-level **term-hypernym pairs** from Wikidata.
- **Train a transformation matrix for each domain** such that:

$$\min_{\Psi} \sum_{i=1}^{|\Phi|} \|\Psi t_i - h_i\|^2$$

- **Apply this matrix to an unseen domain-specific term**, so that the resulting vector constitutes the “ideal” hypernym for that term. Since it may not coincide with any predefined vector, retrieve its nearest neighbours by cosine similarity.

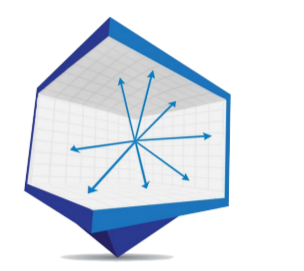


## Resources

→ **BabelNet** (Navigli and Ponzetto, 2012) - The largest multilingual repository of concepts and entities.



→ **SensEmbed** (Iacobacci et al. 2015) - A sense-level real-valued vector space representation, where each vector corresponds to a BabelNet *synset* and its *lexicalization*.  
 ◆ E.g.  $v(\text{bass\_bn:00008917n}) = [0.2346, -0.756222, 0.123236 \dots]$



→ **KB-Unify** (Delli Bovi et al. 2015) - An integration of Open Information Extraction systems, disambiguated using BabelNet as reference sense inventory. It contains triples from Patty, WiseNet, NELL and ReVerb.



## Conclusion

**We perform experiments on hypernym discovery.** Traditionally, systems are evaluated either on detecting a hypernymic relation in a pair of concepts, or in finding the best hypernym from a predefined and closed terminology. Providing a hypernym *from scratch* and link it to a knowledge resource is more challenging.

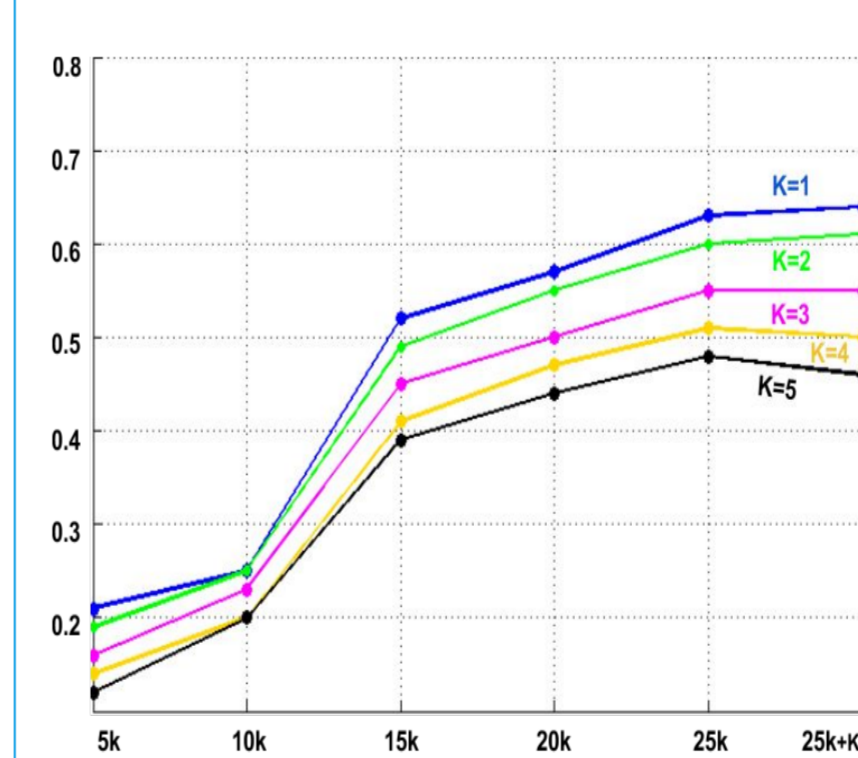
### Key findings:

- **Domain clustering is essential.** This is consistent with the intuition of Fu et al. (2014).
- **In some domains, feeding OIE triples to the training data improves, but not always.**

## Hypernym Discovery Evaluation

Train	education			biology			transport		
	MRR	MAP	R-P	MRR	MAP	R-P	MRR	MAP	R-P
5k	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.63	0.63	0.59	0.01	0.01	0.01
15k	0.22	0.22	0.21	<b>0.84</b>	0.72	0.79	0.25	0.23	0.21
25k	0.33	0.32	0.30	<b>0.84</b>	<b>0.83</b>	<b>0.81</b>	0.46	0.43	0.39
25k+KBU <sub>25k</sub>	<b>0.38</b>	<b>0.36</b>	<b>0.33</b>	0.70	0.63	0.56	<b>0.48</b>	<b>0.45</b>	<b>0.41</b>
100k Random	0.00	0.00	0.00	<b>0.84</b>	0.81	0.77	0.01	0.02	0.02
Baseline	0.10	0.10	0.09	0.58	0.57	0.57	0.29	0.25	0.21

### P@K- Transport



Results for other seven domains available in the paper.

### Extra-Coverage

Manual evaluation **outside of Wikidata**:

- Three pattern-based comparison systems: **Yago**, **WiBi** and **DefIE**.
- Precision lower than these approaches but **competitive recall**.
- Interesting follow-up in **combining our model with pattern-based systems**, in the line of Shwartz et al. (2016).

### Data & Code

- BabelNet synsets clustered by domain.
- Wikidata and KBU *isa* branches.
- Python API
  - Word, synset and sense level.
  - Batch predict and interactive console.

[taln.upf.edu/taxoembed](http://taln.upf.edu/taxoembed)

## References

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