# Understanding Mention **Detector-Linker Interaction in** Neural Coreference Resolution

#### **Zhaofeng Wu and Matt Gardner**







He and I laughed at my dog who bit himself.

# SpanBERT

He and I laughed at my dog who bit himself.

















He and I laughed at my dog who bit himself.

# Is Detector Recall Always **More Important Than Precision?**











#### **Perfect Precision**





#### **Perfect Precision**







Ontonotes (English)





- Ontonotes (English)
- PreCo





- Ontonotes (English)
- PreCo
- Embedder: SpanBERT-large





- Ontonotes (English)
- PreCo
- Embedder: SpanBERT-large
- Experimental configuration
  - <u>coref spanbert large.jsonnet</u>



#### https://github.com/allenai/allennlp-models/blob/main/training\_config/coref/









Anaphoric Mentions

All Menions

Precision



Recall & Precision















#### Importance of Recall



7

#### Importance of Recall







7

#### **Precision-Recall Trade-Off**





40 • 0.65

Max Length • Spans considered per word



#### Previously ...





#### Previously ...





How Well Can the Detector Make Anaphoricity Decisions?





Detector-like span classifiers that recognize: 

![](_page_34_Picture_2.jpeg)

- Detector-like span classifiers that recognize: •
  - All mentions: 79.9 classification F1

![](_page_35_Picture_3.jpeg)

- Detector-like span classifiers that recognize: lacksquare
  - All mentions: 79.9 classification F1
  - Anaphoric mentions: 54.3 classification F1

![](_page_36_Picture_4.jpeg)

- Detector-like span classifiers that recognize:
  - All mentions: 79.9 classification F1
  - Anaphoric mentions: 54.3 classification F1
- Confusion Index (CI): (singleton recall) / (anaphoric mention recall)

![](_page_37_Picture_5.jpeg)

- Detector-like span classifiers that recognize:
  - All mentions: 79.9 classification F1
  - Anaphoric mentions: 54.3 classification F1
- Confusion Index (CI): (singleton recall) / (anaphoric mention recall)
  - A perfect detector has 0 CI; a random one has 1 CI

- Detector-like span classifiers that recognize:
  - All mentions: 79.9 classification F1
  - Anaphoric mentions: 54.3 classification F1
- Confusion Index (CI): (singleton recall) / (anaphoric mention recall)
  - A perfect detector has 0 CI; a random one has 1 CI

has 0.81 CI

- Detector-like span classifiers that recognize:
  - All mentions: 79.9 classification F1
  - Anaphoric mentions: 54.3 classification F1
- Confusion Index (CI): (singleton recall) / (anaphoric mention recall)
  - A perfect detector has 0 CI; a random one has 1 CI
  - has 0.81 CI
    - Degrades to 0.997 CI with text appearing as both mention types

![](_page_40_Picture_8.jpeg)

# What About the Linker?

![](_page_41_Picture_2.jpeg)

### Linker Errors

	Sentence A	Sentence B
Pronoun (109)	Tom lives in <b>Seattle</b> .	It was successfully launched.
Exact Match (6)	<b>Disney</b> is a global brand.	The subway to <b>Disney</b> has been constructed.
Head Match (11)	Those landmark buildings are tall.	He has not seen <b>these small buildings</b> .
Other Match (7)	<b>Dr. Henry</b> notices something else.	Dr. Mann is a successful researcher.
Semantic Proximity (12)	Hong Kong cinema has nurtured many directors.	It memorializes Hong Kong's film history.
Others (5)	Paul Kelly and Steve Sodbury have no idea.	

-		
	 	_
	 	_

![](_page_42_Picture_4.jpeg)

![](_page_43_Picture_0.jpeg)

![](_page_44_Picture_0.jpeg)

• Detector precision should not be overlooked

![](_page_45_Picture_0.jpeg)

- Detector precision should not be overlooked
- Anaphoricity decisions are important, though they are difficult to make

### Summary

- Detector precision should not be overlooked •
- Anaphoricity decisions are important, though they are difficult to make
- Most linker errors require enhanced contextual reasoning

### Summary

- Detector precision should not be overlooked  $\bullet$
- Anaphoricity decisions are important, though they are difficult to make
- Most linker errors require enhanced contextual reasoning

arxiv.org/abs/2009.09363

![](_page_47_Picture_5.jpeg)

**Experimental Config** 

![](_page_47_Picture_8.jpeg)

![](_page_47_Picture_9.jpeg)

![](_page_47_Picture_10.jpeg)