Customizing spaCy models

NATURAL LANGUAGE PROCESSING WITH SPACY

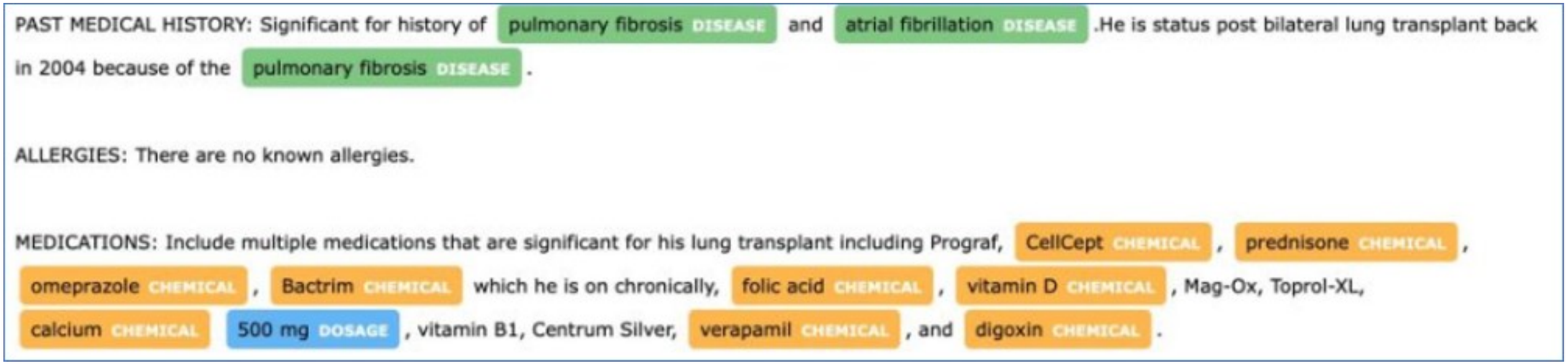


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Why train spaCy models?

- Go a long way for general NLP use cases
- But may **not** have seen **specific domains** data during their training, e.g.
  - **Twitter** data
  - **Medical** data



Why train spaCy models?

- Better results on your **specific domain**
- Essential for **domain specific text classification**

Before start training, ask the following questions:

- Do `spaCy` models perform well enough on our data?
- Does our domain include many labels that are absent in `spaCy` models?

Models performance on our data

- Do `spaCy` models perform well enough on our data?
- `Oxford Street` is not correctly classified with a `GPE` label:

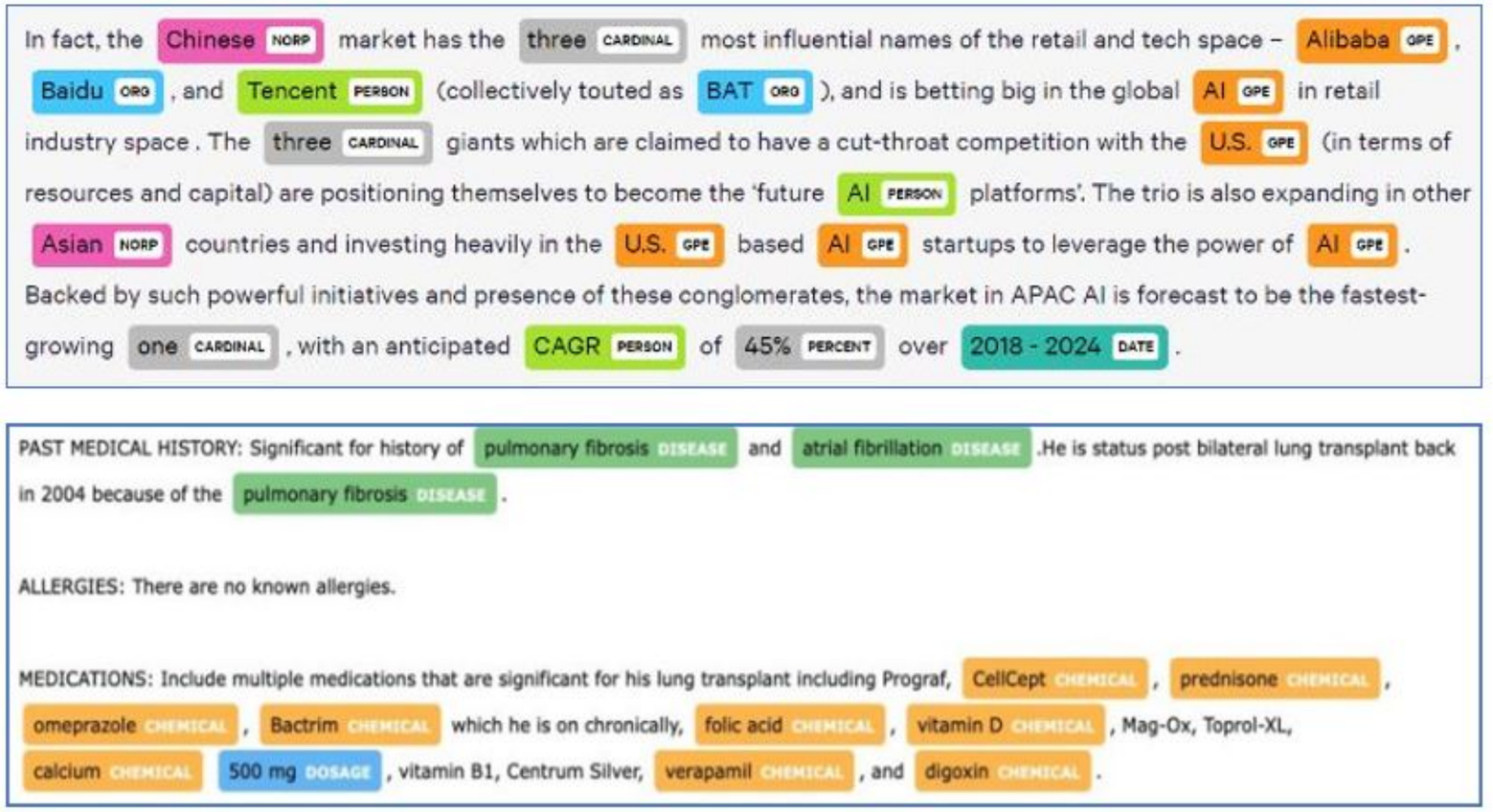
```
import spacy
nlp = spacy.load("en_core_web_sm")

text = "The car was navigating to the Oxford Street."
doc = nlp(text)
print([(ent.text, ent.label_) for ent in doc.ents])
```

```
[('the Oxford Street', 'ORG')]
```

Output labels in spaCy models

- Does our domain include many labels that are absent in `spaCy` models?



Output labels in spaCy models

If we need custom model training, we follow these steps:

- Collect our domain specific data
- Annotate our data
- Determine to update an existing model or train a model from scratch

Let's practice!

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Training data preparation

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Training steps

1. Annotate and prepare input data
2. Initialize the model weight
3. Predict a few examples with the current weights
4. Compare prediction with correct answers
5. Use optimizer to calculate weights that improve model performance
6. Update weights slightly
7. Go back to step 3.

Annotating and preparing data

- First step is to prepare training data in required format
- After collecting data, we **annotate** it
- **Annotation** means labeling the intent, entities, etc.
- This is an example of annotated data:

```
annotated_data = {
"sentence": "An antiviral drugs used against influenza is neuraminidase inhibitors.",
"entities": {
              "label": "Medicine",
              "value": "neuraminidase inhibitors",
    }
}
```

Annotating and preparing data

- Here's another example of annotated data:

```
annotated_data = {
"sentence": "Bill Gates visited the SFO Airport.",
"entities": [{"label": "PERSON", "value": "Bill Gates"},
             {"label": "LOC", "value": "SFO Airport"}]
}
```

spaCy training data format

- Data annotation prepares training data for what we want the model to learn
- Training dataset has to be stored as a dictionary:

```
training_data = [
("I will visit you in Austin.", {"entities": [(20, 26, "GPE")]}),
("I'm going to Sam's house.", {"entities": [(13,18, "PERSON"), (19, 24, "GPE")]}),
("I will go.", {"entities": []})
]
```

Three example pairs:

- Each example pair includes a sentence as the first element
- Pair's second element is list of annotated entities and start and end characters

Example object data for training

- We cannot feed the raw text directly to spaCy
- We need to create an `Example` object for each training example

```
import spacy
from spacy.training import Example

nlp = spacy.load("en_core_web_sm")

doc = nlp("I will visit you in Austin.")
annotations = {"entities": [(20, 26, "GPE")]}

example_sentence = Example.from_dict(doc, annotations)
print(example_sentence.to_dict())
```

Let's practice!

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Training with spaCy

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Training steps

1. Annotate and prepare input data
2. Disable other pipeline components
3. Train a model for a few epochs
4. Evaluate model performance

Disabling other pipeline components

- **Disable** all pipeline components except **NER**:

```
other_pipes = [pipe for pipe in nlp.pipe_names if pipe != 'ner']

nlp.disable_pipes(*other_pipes)
```

Model training procedure

- Go over the training set several times; one iteration is called an `epoch`.
- In each epoch, update the weights of the model with a small number.
- **Optimizers** update the model weights.

```
optimizer = nlp.create_optimizer()
```

```
losses = {}
for i in range(epochs):
  random.shuffle(training_data)
  for text, annotation in training_data:
    doc = nlp.make_doc(text)
    example = Example.from_dict(doc, annotation)
    nlp.update([example], sgd = optimizer, losses=losses)
```

Save and load a trained model

- Save a trained NER model:

```
ner = nlp.get_pipe("ner")
ner.to_disk("<ner model name>")
```

- Load the saved model:

```
ner = nlp.create_pipe("ner")
ner.from_disk("<ner model name>")
nlp.add_pipe(ner, "<ner model name>")
```

Model for inference

- Use a saved model at inference.

- Apply NER model and store tuples of (entity **text**, entity **label**):

```
doc = nlp(text)
entities = [(ent.text, ent.label_) for ent in doc.ents]
```

Let's practice!

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Wrap-up

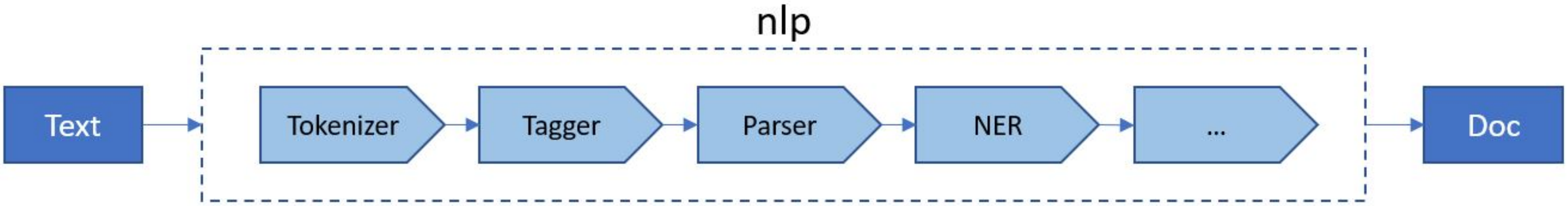
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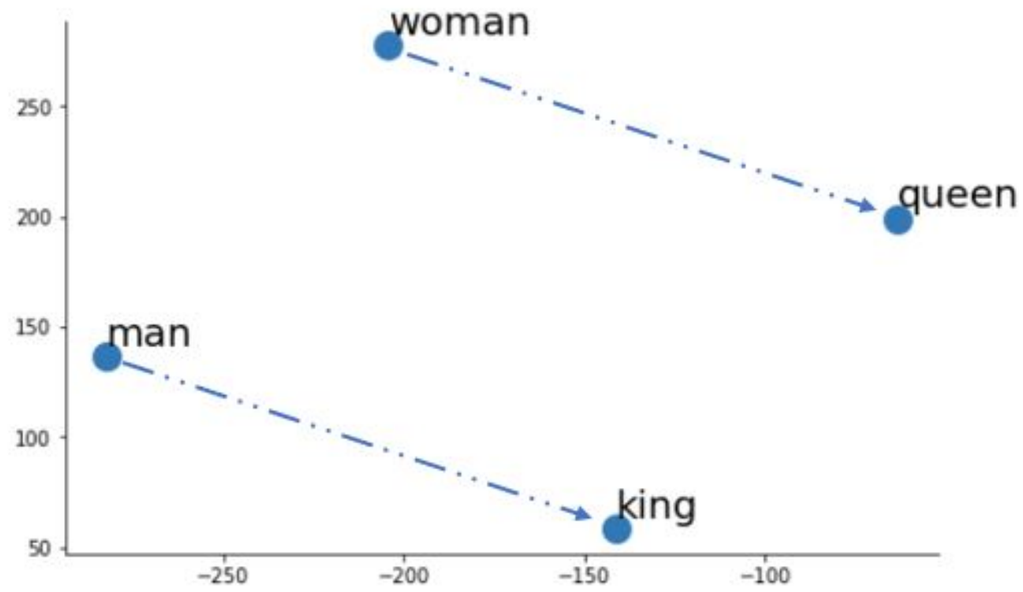
Chapter 1 - Introduction to NLP and spaCy

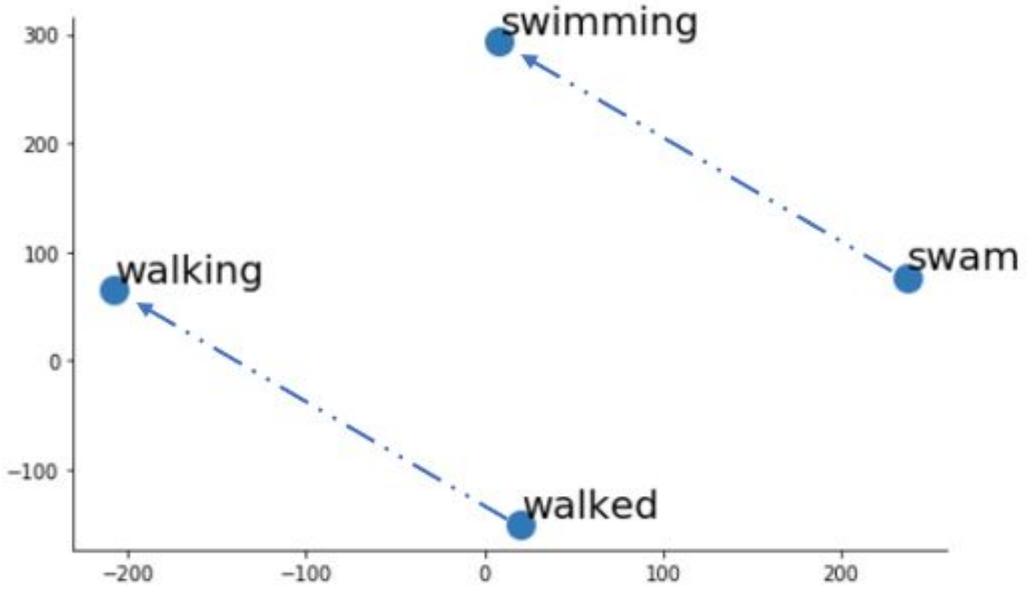
- Use `spaCy` 's text processing pipelines to extract linguistic features:



Chapter 2 - spaCy linguistic annotations and word vectors

- Work with `spaCy` 's classes such as `Doc` , `Token` and `Span` and predict semantic similarities using word vectors:





Chapter 3 - Data analysis with spaCy

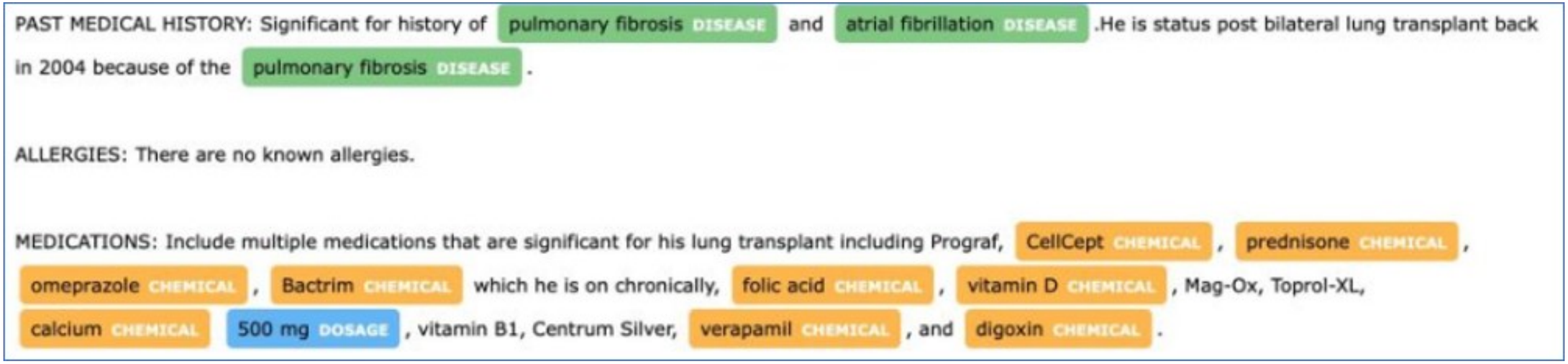
- Write matching patterns to extract terms and phrases using `spaCy` 's `Matcher` and `PhraseMatcher` :

```
matcher = Matcher(nlp.vocab)
pattern = [{"LOWER": "good"}, {"LOWER": {"IN": ["morning", "evening"]}}]
matcher.add("morning_greeting", [pattern])
```

```
matcher = PhraseMatcher(nlp.vocab, attr = "LOWER")
patterns = [nlp.make_doc(term) for term in terms]
matcher.add("InvestmentTerms", patterns)
```

Chapter 4 - Customizing spaCy models

- Annotate and prepare our data for training
- Train `spaCy` models and use them at inference time



Recommended resources

- Introduction to Deep Learning in Python
- Introduction to Deep Learning with PyTorch
- Introduction to ChatGPT

Congratulations!

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