Character_Level_RNN_Exercise

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1 Character-Level LSTM in PyTorch

In this notebook, I'll construct a character-level LSTM with PyTorch. The network will train character by character on some text, then generate new text character by character. As an example, I will train on Anna Karenina. **This model will be able to generate new text based on the text from the book!**

This network is based off of Andrej Karpathy's post on RNNs and implementation in Torch. Below is the general architecture of the character-wise RNN.

First let's load in our required resources for data loading and model creation.

```
In [22]: import numpy as np
        import torch
        from torch import nn
        import torch.nn.functional as F
```

1.1 Load in Data

Then, we'll load the Anna Karenina text file and convert it into integers for our network to use.

Let's check out the first 100 characters, make sure everything is peachy. According to the American Book Review, this is the 6th best first line of a book ever.

```
In [24]: text[:100]
Out[24]: 'Chapter 1\n\n\nHappy families are all alike; every unhappy family is unhappy in its ow
```

1.1.1 Tokenization

In the cells, below, I'm creating a couple **dictionaries** to convert the characters to and from integers. Encoding the characters as integers makes it easier to use as input in the network.

```
# 2. char2int, which maps characters to unique integers
chars = tuple(set(text)) # set: only different characters, tuple: fixed order
int2char = dict(enumerate(chars)) # dict with keys: numbers, values: strings
char2int = {ch: ii for ii, ch in int2char.items()} # reverse dict
# encode the text
encoded = np.array([char2int[ch] for ch in text]) # encode every char in the text as nu
```

And we can see those same characters from above, encoded as integers.

1.2 Pre-processing the data

As you can see in our char-RNN image above, our LSTM expects an input that is **one-hot encoded** meaning that each character is converted into an integer (via our created dictionary) and *then* converted into a column vector where only it's corresponding integer index will have the value of 1 and the rest of the vector will be filled with 0's. Since we're one-hot encoding the data, let's make a function to do that!

```
In [27]: def one_hot_encode(arr, n_labels):
             # Initialize the the encoded array
             one_hot = np.zeros((np.multiply(*arr.shape), n_labels), dtype=np.float32)
             # Fill the appropriate elements with ones
             one_hot[np.arange(one_hot.shape[0]), arr.flatten()] = 1.
             # Finally reshape it to get back to the original array
             one_hot = one_hot.reshape((*arr.shape, n_labels))
             return one_hot
In [28]: # check that the function works as expected
         test_seq = np.array([[3, 5, 1]])
         one_hot = one_hot_encode(test_seq, 8)
        print(one_hot)
\Gamma\Gamma\Gamma 0. 0. 0.
               1.
                    0.
                        0.
                            0.
  Γ 0. 0. 0.
                0.
                    0.
                        1.
                            0.
                                0.1
  [ 0. 1. 0. 0.
                   0.
                        0. 0. 0.]]]
```

1.3 Making training mini-batches

To train on this data, we also want to create mini-batches for training. Remember that we want our batches to be multiple sequences of some desired number of sequence steps. Considering a simple example, our batches would look like this:

In this example, we'll take the encoded characters (passed in as the arr parameter) and split them into multiple sequences, given by batch_size. Each of our sequences will be seq_length long.

1.3.1 Creating Batches

1. The first thing we need to do is discard some of the text so we only have completely full mini-batches.

Each batch contains $N \times M$ characters, where N is the batch size (the number of sequences in a batch) and M is the seq_length or number of time steps in a sequence. Then, to get the total number of batches, K, that we can make from the array arr, you divide the length of arr by the number of characters per batch. Once you know the number of batches, you can get the total number of characters to keep from arr, N * M * K.

2. After that, we need to split arr into N batches.

You can do this using arr.reshape(size) where size is a tuple containing the dimensions sizes of the reshaped array. We know we want N sequences in a batch, so let's make that the size of the first dimension. For the second dimension, you can use -1 as a placeholder in the size, it'll fill up the array with the appropriate data for you. After this, you should have an array that is $N \times (M * K)$.

3. Now that we have this array, we can iterate through it to get our mini-batches.

The idea is each batch is a $N \times M$ window on the $N \times (M * K)$ array. For each subsequent batch, the window moves over by seq_length. We also want to create both the input and target arrays. Remember that the targets are just the inputs shifted over by one character. The way I like to do this window is use range to take steps of size n_steps from 0 to arr.shape[1], the total number of tokens in each sequence. That way, the integers you get from range always point to the start of a batch, and each window is seq_length wide.

TODO: Write the code for creating batches in the function below. The exercises in this notebook *will not be easy*. I've provided a notebook with solutions alongside this notebook. If you get stuck, checkout the solutions. The most important thing is that you don't copy and paste the code into here, **type out the solution code yourself.**

```
In [29]: def get_batches(arr, batch_size, seq_length):
    '''Create a generator that returns batches of size
        batch_size x seq_length from arr.

Arguments
    ------
    arr: Array you want to make batches from
    batch_size: Batch size, the number of sequences per batch
    seq_length: Number of encoded chars in a sequence
    ''''

batch_size_total = batch_size * seq_length
```

```
## TODO: Get the number of batches we can make
n_batches = len(arr) // batch_size_total
## TODO: Keep only enough characters to make full batches
arr = arr[0:-(len(arr) % batch_size_total)]
#arr = arr[:n_batches * batch_size_total]
## TODO: Reshape into batch_size rows
arr = arr.reshape((batch_size, -1))
# arr = np.reshape(arr, (batch_size,-1))
## TODO: Iterate over the batches using a window of size seq_length
for n in range(0, arr.shape[1], seq_length): # start, stop, step
    # The features
   x = arr[:, n:n+seq_length]
    # The targets, shifted by one
   y = np.zeros_like(x)
   y[:, :-1] = x[:, 1:] \# except for last value: y[i]=x[i+1] (next char is predict)
        y[:, -1] = arr[:, n+seq\_length]
    except IndexError:
        y[:, -1] = arr[:, 0] # sequence finished --> x[0] (or s.th. else)
    yield x, y
```

1.3.2 Test Your Implementation

Now I'll make some data sets and we can check out what's going on as we batch data. Here, as an example, I'm going to use a batch size of 8 and 50 sequence steps.

```
[60 67 28 56 75 28 6 28 2 56]

[28 40 15 52 28 61 15 76 52 2]

[10 6 45 28 15 52 75 28 40 52]

[31 10 10 76 56 60 28 6 60 67]

[54 60 60 6 28 15 6 67 28 10]

[82 23 56 60 10 47 32 42 28 22]
```

If you implemented get_batches correctly, the above output should look something like

```
X
 [[25 8 60 11 45 27 28 73 1 2]
 [17 7 20 73 45 8 60 45 73 60]
 [27 20 80 73 7 28 73 60 73 65]
 [17 73 45 8 27 73 66 8 46 27]
 [73 17 60 12 73 8 27 28 73 45]
 [66 64 17 17 46 7 20 73 60 20]
 [73 76 20 20 60 73 8 60 80 73]
 [47 35 43 7 20 17 24 50 37 73]]
у
 [[ 8 60 11 45 27 28 73 1
 [ 7 20 73 45 8 60 45 73 60 45]
 [20 80 73 7 28 73 60 73 65 7]
 [73 45 8 27 73 66 8 46 27 65]
 [17 60 12 73 8 27 28 73 45 27]
 [64 17 17 46 7 20 73 60 20 80]
 [76 20 20 60 73 8 60 80 73 17]
 [35 43 7 20 17 24 50 37 73 36]]
```

although the exact numbers may be different. Check to make sure the data is shifted over one step for y.

1.4 Defining the network with PyTorch

Below is where you'll define the network.

Next, you'll use PyTorch to define the architecture of the network. We start by defining the layers and operations we want. Then, define a method for the forward pass. You've also been given a method for predicting characters.

1.4.1 Model Structure

In __init__ the suggested structure is as follows: *Create and store the necessary dictionaries (this has been done for you) * Define an LSTM layer that takes as params: an input size (the number of characters), a hidden layer size n_hidden, a number of layers n_layers, a dropout probability drop_prob, and a batch_first boolean (True, since we are batching) * Define a dropout layer with

dropout_prob * Define a fully-connected layer with params: input size n_hidden and output size (the number of characters) * Finally, initialize the weights (again, this has been given)

Note that some parameters have been named and given in the <code>__init__</code> function, and we use them and store them by doing something like <code>self.drop_prob</code> = <code>drop_prob</code>.

1.4.2 LSTM Inputs/Outputs

You can create a basic LSTM layer as follows

where input_size is the number of characters this cell expects to see as sequential input, and n_hidden is the number of units in the hidden layers in the cell. And we can add dropout by adding a dropout parameter with a specified probability; this will automatically add dropout to the inputs or outputs. Finally, in the forward function, we can stack up the LSTM cells into layers using .view. With this, you pass in a list of cells and it will send the output of one cell into the next cell.

We also need to create an initial hidden state of all zeros. This is done like so

```
self.init_hidden()
In [32]: # check if GPU is available
         train_on_gpu = torch.cuda.is_available()
         if(train_on_gpu):
             print('Training on GPU!')
         else:
             print('No GPU available, training on CPU; consider making n_epochs very small.')
Training on GPU!
In [33]: class CharRNN(nn.Module):
             def __init__(self, tokens, n_hidden=256, n_layers=2,
                                        drop_prob=0.5, lr=0.001):
                 super().__init__()
                 self.drop_prob = drop_prob
                 self.n_layers = n_layers
                 self.n_hidden = n_hidden
                 self.lr = lr
                 # creating character dictionaries
                 self.chars = tokens
                 self.int2char = dict(enumerate(self.chars))
                 self.char2int = {ch: ii for ii, ch in self.int2char.items()}
```

```
## TODO: define the layers of the model
    self.lstm = nn.LSTM(len(tokens), n_hidden, n_layers,
                        dropout=drop_prob, batch_first=True)
    self.dropout = nn.Dropout(drop_prob)
    self.fc = nn.Linear(n_hidden, len(tokens))
def forward(self, x, hidden):
    ''' Forward pass through the network.
        These inputs are x, and the hidden/cell state `hidden`. '''
    ## TODO: Get the outputs and the new hidden state from the lstm
    r_out, r_hidden = self.lstm(x, hidden)
    r_out = self.dropout(r_out)
    r_out = r_out.contiguous().view(-1, self.n_hidden)
    out = self.fc(r_out)
    # return the final output and the hidden state
    return out, r_hidden
def init_hidden(self, batch_size):
    ''' Initializes hidden state '''
    # Create two new tensors with sizes n_layers x batch_size x n_hidden,
    # initialized to zero, for hidden state and cell state of LSTM
    weight = next(self.parameters()).data
    if (train_on_gpu):
        hidden = (weight.new(self.n_layers, batch_size, self.n_hidden).zero_().cuda
              weight.new(self.n_layers, batch_size, self.n_hidden).zero_().cuda())
    else:
        hidden = (weight.new(self.n_layers, batch_size, self.n_hidden).zero_(),
                  weight.new(self.n_layers, batch_size, self.n_hidden).zero_())
    return hidden
```

1.5 Time to train

The train function gives us the ability to set the number of epochs, the learning rate, and other parameters.

Below we're using an Adam optimizer and cross entropy loss since we are looking at character class scores as output. We calculate the loss and perform backpropagation, as usual!

A couple of details about training: >* Within the batch loop, we detach the hidden state from its history; this time setting it equal to a new *tuple* variable because an LSTM has a hidden state that is a tuple of the hidden and cell states. * We use clip_grad_norm_ to help prevent exploding gradients.

```
In [34]: def train(net, data, epochs=10, batch_size=10, seq_length=50, lr=0.001, clip=5, val_fra
             ''' Training a network
                 Arguments
                 _____
                 net: CharRNN network
                 data: text data to train the network
                 epochs: Number of epochs to train
                 batch_size: Number of mini-sequences per mini-batch, aka batch size
                 seq_length: Number of character steps per mini-batch
                 lr: learning rate
                 clip: gradient clipping
                 val_frac: Fraction of data to hold out for validation
                 print_every: Number of steps for printing training and validation loss
             net.train()
             opt = torch.optim.Adam(net.parameters(), lr=lr)
             criterion = nn.CrossEntropyLoss()
             # create training and validation data
             val_idx = int(len(data)*(1-val_frac))
             data, val_data = data[:val_idx], data[val_idx:]
             if(train_on_gpu):
                 net.cuda()
             counter = 0
             n_chars = len(net.chars)
             for e in range(epochs):
                 # initialize hidden state
                 h = net.init_hidden(batch_size)
                 for x, y in get_batches(data, batch_size, seq_length):
                     counter += 1
                     # One-hot encode our data and make them Torch tensors
                     x = one_hot_encode(x, n_chars)
                     inputs, targets = torch.from_numpy(x), torch.from_numpy(y)
                     if(train_on_gpu):
                         inputs, targets = inputs.cuda(), targets.cuda()
                     # Creating new variables for the hidden state, otherwise
                     # we'd backprop through the entire training history
                     h = tuple([each.data for each in h])
```

```
# zero accumulated gradients
net.zero_grad()
# get the output from the model
output, h = net(inputs, h)
# calculate the loss and perform backprop
loss = criterion(output, targets.view(batch_size*seq_length))
loss.backward()
# `clip_grad_norm` helps prevent the exploding gradient problem in RNNs / I
nn.utils.clip_grad_norm_(net.parameters(), clip)
opt.step()
# loss stats
if counter % print_every == 0:
    # Get validation loss
    val_h = net.init_hidden(batch_size)
    val_losses = []
    net.eval()
    for x, y in get_batches(val_data, batch_size, seq_length):
        # One-hot encode our data and make them Torch tensors
        x = one_hot_encode(x, n_chars)
        x, y = torch.from_numpy(x), torch.from_numpy(y)
        # Creating new variables for the hidden state, otherwise
        # we'd backprop through the entire training history
        val_h = tuple([each.data for each in val_h])
        inputs, targets = x, y
        if(train_on_gpu):
            inputs, targets = inputs.cuda(), targets.cuda()
        output, val_h = net(inputs, val_h)
        val_loss = criterion(output, targets.view(batch_size*seq_length))
        val_losses.append(val_loss.item())
   net.train() # reset to train mode after iterationg through validation of
    print("Epoch: {}/{}...".format(e+1, epochs),
          "Step: {}...".format(counter),
          "Loss: {:.4f}...".format(loss.item()),
          "Val Loss: {:.4f}".format(np.mean(val_losses)))
```

1.6 Instantiating the model

Now we can actually train the network. First we'll create the network itself, with some given hyperparameters. Then, define the mini-batches sizes, and start training!

1.6.1 Set your training hyperparameters!

```
In [36]: batch_size = 128
         seq_length = 100
         n_epochs = 20 # start small if you are just testing initial behavior
         # train the model
         train(net, encoded, epochs=n_epochs, batch_size=batch_size, seq_length=seq_length, lr=0
Epoch: 1/20... Step: 10... Loss: 3.2684... Val Loss: 3.2087
Epoch: 1/20... Step: 20... Loss: 3.1507... Val Loss: 3.1320
Epoch: 1/20... Step: 30... Loss: 3.1439... Val Loss: 3.1232
Epoch: 1/20... Step: 40... Loss: 3.1123... Val Loss: 3.1182
Epoch: 1/20... Step: 50... Loss: 3.1420... Val Loss: 3.1169
Epoch: 1/20... Step: 60... Loss: 3.1141... Val Loss: 3.1139
Epoch: 1/20... Step: 70... Loss: 3.1053... Val Loss: 3.1105
Epoch: 1/20... Step: 80... Loss: 3.1158... Val Loss: 3.1024
Epoch: 1/20... Step: 90... Loss: 3.1002... Val Loss: 3.0823
Epoch: 1/20... Step: 100... Loss: 3.0871... Val Loss: 3.0835
Epoch: 1/20... Step: 110... Loss: 3.0463... Val Loss: 3.0246
Epoch: 1/20... Step: 120... Loss: 2.9344... Val Loss: 2.9166
Epoch: 1/20... Step: 130... Loss: 2.8705... Val Loss: 2.8229
Epoch: 2/20... Step: 140... Loss: 2.7516... Val Loss: 2.6944
Epoch: 2/20... Step: 150... Loss: 2.6542... Val Loss: 2.6089
Epoch: 2/20... Step: 160... Loss: 2.5858... Val Loss: 2.5391
Epoch: 2/20... Step: 170... Loss: 2.5063... Val Loss: 2.4901
Epoch: 2/20... Step: 180... Loss: 2.4772... Val Loss: 2.4515
Epoch: 2/20... Step: 190... Loss: 2.4265... Val Loss: 2.4192
Epoch: 2/20... Step: 200... Loss: 2.4244... Val Loss: 2.3981
```

```
Epoch: 2/20... Step: 210... Loss: 2.3893... Val Loss: 2.3628
Epoch: 2/20... Step: 220... Loss: 2.3482... Val Loss: 2.3314
Epoch: 2/20... Step: 230... Loss: 2.3401... Val Loss: 2.3043
Epoch: 2/20... Step: 240... Loss: 2.3131... Val Loss: 2.2750
Epoch: 2/20... Step: 250... Loss: 2.2495... Val Loss: 2.2554
Epoch: 2/20... Step: 260... Loss: 2.2250... Val Loss: 2.2275
Epoch: 2/20... Step: 270... Loss: 2.2375... Val Loss: 2.1993
Epoch: 3/20... Step: 280... Loss: 2.2259... Val Loss: 2.1778
Epoch: 3/20... Step: 290... Loss: 2.1798... Val Loss: 2.1516
Epoch: 3/20... Step: 300... Loss: 2.1552... Val Loss: 2.1291
Epoch: 3/20... Step: 310... Loss: 2.1412... Val Loss: 2.1172
Epoch: 3/20... Step: 320... Loss: 2.1088... Val Loss: 2.0895
Epoch: 3/20... Step: 330... Loss: 2.0719... Val Loss: 2.0713
Epoch: 3/20... Step: 340... Loss: 2.0884... Val Loss: 2.0479
Epoch: 3/20... Step: 350... Loss: 2.0806... Val Loss: 2.0424
Epoch: 3/20... Step: 360... Loss: 2.0079... Val Loss: 2.0193
Epoch: 3/20... Step: 370... Loss: 2.0386... Val Loss: 2.0009
Epoch: 3/20... Step: 380... Loss: 2.0106... Val Loss: 1.9837
Epoch: 3/20... Step: 390... Loss: 1.9874... Val Loss: 1.9676
Epoch: 3/20... Step: 400... Loss: 1.9531... Val Loss: 1.9507
Epoch: 3/20... Step: 410... Loss: 1.9645... Val Loss: 1.9390
Epoch: 4/20... Step: 420... Loss: 1.9570... Val Loss: 1.9248
Epoch: 4/20... Step: 430... Loss: 1.9412... Val Loss: 1.9098
Epoch: 4/20... Step: 440... Loss: 1.9247... Val Loss: 1.9026
Epoch: 4/20... Step: 450... Loss: 1.8763... Val Loss: 1.8824
Epoch: 4/20... Step: 460... Loss: 1.8582... Val Loss: 1.8733
Epoch: 4/20... Step: 470... Loss: 1.8922... Val Loss: 1.8626
Epoch: 4/20... Step: 480... Loss: 1.8648... Val Loss: 1.8484
Epoch: 4/20... Step: 490... Loss: 1.8773... Val Loss: 1.8385
Epoch: 4/20... Step: 500... Loss: 1.8731... Val Loss: 1.8280
Epoch: 4/20... Step: 510... Loss: 1.8430... Val Loss: 1.8150
Epoch: 4/20... Step: 520... Loss: 1.8564... Val Loss: 1.8073
Epoch: 4/20... Step: 530... Loss: 1.8212... Val Loss: 1.7952
Epoch: 4/20... Step: 540... Loss: 1.7779... Val Loss: 1.7877
Epoch: 4/20... Step: 550... Loss: 1.8256... Val Loss: 1.7739
Epoch: 5/20... Step: 560... Loss: 1.7871... Val Loss: 1.7680
Epoch: 5/20... Step: 570... Loss: 1.7711... Val Loss: 1.7588
Epoch: 5/20... Step: 580... Loss: 1.7569... Val Loss: 1.7452
Epoch: 5/20... Step: 590... Loss: 1.7576... Val Loss: 1.7357
Epoch: 5/20... Step: 600... Loss: 1.7436... Val Loss: 1.7299
Epoch: 5/20... Step: 610... Loss: 1.7271... Val Loss: 1.7250
Epoch: 5/20... Step: 620... Loss: 1.7313... Val Loss: 1.7157
Epoch: 5/20... Step: 630... Loss: 1.7430... Val Loss: 1.7121
Epoch: 5/20... Step: 640... Loss: 1.7191... Val Loss: 1.7043
Epoch: 5/20... Step: 650... Loss: 1.7016... Val Loss: 1.6931
Epoch: 5/20... Step: 660... Loss: 1.6745... Val Loss: 1.6859
Epoch: 5/20... Step: 670... Loss: 1.7025... Val Loss: 1.6790
Epoch: 5/20... Step: 680... Loss: 1.6974... Val Loss: 1.6704
```

```
Epoch: 5/20... Step: 690... Loss: 1.6822... Val Loss: 1.6623
Epoch: 6/20... Step: 700... Loss: 1.6761... Val Loss: 1.6596
Epoch: 6/20... Step: 710... Loss: 1.6662... Val Loss: 1.6492
Epoch: 6/20... Step: 720... Loss: 1.6513... Val Loss: 1.6442
Epoch: 6/20... Step: 730... Loss: 1.6645... Val Loss: 1.6387
Epoch: 6/20... Step: 740... Loss: 1.6253... Val Loss: 1.6329
Epoch: 6/20... Step: 750... Loss: 1.6154... Val Loss: 1.6324
Epoch: 6/20... Step: 760... Loss: 1.6496... Val Loss: 1.6237
Epoch: 6/20... Step: 770... Loss: 1.6304... Val Loss: 1.6198
Epoch: 6/20... Step: 780... Loss: 1.6187... Val Loss: 1.6144
Epoch: 6/20... Step: 790... Loss: 1.6084... Val Loss: 1.6100
Epoch: 6/20... Step: 800... Loss: 1.6152... Val Loss: 1.6060
Epoch: 6/20... Step: 810... Loss: 1.6134... Val Loss: 1.5996
Epoch: 6/20... Step: 820... Loss: 1.5685... Val Loss: 1.5915
Epoch: 6/20... Step: 830... Loss: 1.6135... Val Loss: 1.5842
Epoch: 7/20... Step: 840... Loss: 1.5728... Val Loss: 1.5826
Epoch: 7/20... Step: 850... Loss: 1.5869... Val Loss: 1.5781
Epoch: 7/20... Step: 860... Loss: 1.5721... Val Loss: 1.5712
Epoch: 7/20... Step: 870... Loss: 1.5781... Val Loss: 1.5685
Epoch: 7/20... Step: 880... Loss: 1.5864... Val Loss: 1.5633
Epoch: 7/20... Step: 890... Loss: 1.5723... Val Loss: 1.5644
Epoch: 7/20... Step: 900... Loss: 1.5597... Val Loss: 1.5657
Epoch: 7/20... Step: 910... Loss: 1.5351... Val Loss: 1.5579
Epoch: 7/20... Step: 920... Loss: 1.5609... Val Loss: 1.5536
Epoch: 7/20... Step: 930... Loss: 1.5424... Val Loss: 1.5480
Epoch: 7/20... Step: 940... Loss: 1.5396... Val Loss: 1.5451
Epoch: 7/20... Step: 950... Loss: 1.5545... Val Loss: 1.5430
Epoch: 7/20... Step: 960... Loss: 1.5513... Val Loss: 1.5331
Epoch: 7/20... Step: 970... Loss: 1.5551... Val Loss: 1.5271
Epoch: 8/20... Step: 980... Loss: 1.5359... Val Loss: 1.5248
Epoch: 8/20... Step: 990... Loss: 1.5223... Val Loss: 1.5233
Epoch: 8/20... Step: 1000... Loss: 1.5197... Val Loss: 1.5193
Epoch: 8/20... Step: 1010... Loss: 1.5582... Val Loss: 1.5171
Epoch: 8/20... Step: 1020... Loss: 1.5270... Val Loss: 1.5101
Epoch: 8/20... Step: 1030... Loss: 1.5072... Val Loss: 1.5101
Epoch: 8/20... Step: 1040... Loss: 1.5145... Val Loss: 1.5084
Epoch: 8/20... Step: 1050... Loss: 1.5053... Val Loss: 1.5059
Epoch: 8/20... Step: 1060... Loss: 1.5062... Val Loss: 1.5005
Epoch: 8/20... Step: 1070... Loss: 1.5046... Val Loss: 1.4957
Epoch: 8/20... Step: 1080... Loss: 1.5011... Val Loss: 1.4969
Epoch: 8/20... Step: 1090... Loss: 1.4861... Val Loss: 1.4951
Epoch: 8/20... Step: 1100... Loss: 1.4775... Val Loss: 1.4846
Epoch: 8/20... Step: 1110... Loss: 1.4869... Val Loss: 1.4813
Epoch: 9/20... Step: 1120... Loss: 1.4902... Val Loss: 1.4828
Epoch: 9/20... Step: 1130... Loss: 1.4838... Val Loss: 1.4819
Epoch: 9/20... Step: 1140... Loss: 1.4954... Val Loss: 1.4743
Epoch: 9/20... Step: 1150... Loss: 1.4978... Val Loss: 1.4782
Epoch: 9/20... Step: 1160... Loss: 1.4532... Val Loss: 1.4728
```

```
Epoch: 9/20... Step: 1170... Loss: 1.4671... Val Loss: 1.4666
Epoch: 9/20... Step: 1180... Loss: 1.4614... Val Loss: 1.4685
Epoch: 9/20... Step: 1190... Loss: 1.4870... Val Loss: 1.4685
Epoch: 9/20... Step: 1200... Loss: 1.4414... Val Loss: 1.4589
Epoch: 9/20... Step: 1210... Loss: 1.4502... Val Loss: 1.4580
Epoch: 9/20... Step: 1220... Loss: 1.4581... Val Loss: 1.4608
Epoch: 9/20... Step: 1230... Loss: 1.4387... Val Loss: 1.4588
Epoch: 9/20... Step: 1240... Loss: 1.4331... Val Loss: 1.4553
Epoch: 9/20... Step: 1250... Loss: 1.4449... Val Loss: 1.4480
Epoch: 10/20... Step: 1260... Loss: 1.4534... Val Loss: 1.4496
Epoch: 10/20... Step: 1270... Loss: 1.4428... Val Loss: 1.4517
Epoch: 10/20... Step: 1280... Loss: 1.4604... Val Loss: 1.4422
Epoch: 10/20... Step: 1290... Loss: 1.4328... Val Loss: 1.4473
Epoch: 10/20... Step: 1300... Loss: 1.4324... Val Loss: 1.4388
Epoch: 10/20... Step: 1310... Loss: 1.4441... Val Loss: 1.4406
Epoch: 10/20... Step: 1320... Loss: 1.4136... Val Loss: 1.4419
Epoch: 10/20... Step: 1330... Loss: 1.4229... Val Loss: 1.4390
Epoch: 10/20... Step: 1340... Loss: 1.4031... Val Loss: 1.4341
Epoch: 10/20... Step: 1350... Loss: 1.3981... Val Loss: 1.4281
Epoch: 10/20... Step: 1360... Loss: 1.4044... Val Loss: 1.4332
Epoch: 10/20... Step: 1370... Loss: 1.3949... Val Loss: 1.4353
Epoch: 10/20... Step: 1380... Loss: 1.4440... Val Loss: 1.4246
Epoch: 10/20... Step: 1390... Loss: 1.4439... Val Loss: 1.4215
Epoch: 11/20... Step: 1400... Loss: 1.4464... Val Loss: 1.4210
Epoch: 11/20... Step: 1410... Loss: 1.4523... Val Loss: 1.4225
Epoch: 11/20... Step: 1420... Loss: 1.4378... Val Loss: 1.4181
Epoch: 11/20... Step: 1430... Loss: 1.4078... Val Loss: 1.4215
Epoch: 11/20... Step: 1440... Loss: 1.4411... Val Loss: 1.4144
Epoch: 11/20... Step: 1450... Loss: 1.3629... Val Loss: 1.4178
Epoch: 11/20... Step: 1460... Loss: 1.3871... Val Loss: 1.4140
Epoch: 11/20... Step: 1470... Loss: 1.3857... Val Loss: 1.4116
Epoch: 11/20... Step: 1480... Loss: 1.3982... Val Loss: 1.4076
Epoch: 11/20... Step: 1490... Loss: 1.3895... Val Loss: 1.4067
Epoch: 11/20... Step: 1500... Loss: 1.3656... Val Loss: 1.4130
Epoch: 11/20... Step: 1510... Loss: 1.3555... Val Loss: 1.4109
Epoch: 11/20... Step: 1520... Loss: 1.3970... Val Loss: 1.4000
Epoch: 12/20... Step: 1530... Loss: 1.4469... Val Loss: 1.3955
Epoch: 12/20... Step: 1540... Loss: 1.4052... Val Loss: 1.3971
Epoch: 12/20... Step: 1550... Loss: 1.4030... Val Loss: 1.4009
Epoch: 12/20... Step: 1560... Loss: 1.4153... Val Loss: 1.3944
Epoch: 12/20... Step: 1570... Loss: 1.3614... Val Loss: 1.3987
Epoch: 12/20... Step: 1580... Loss: 1.3425... Val Loss: 1.3958
Epoch: 12/20... Step: 1590... Loss: 1.3393... Val Loss: 1.3960
Epoch: 12/20... Step: 1600... Loss: 1.3643... Val Loss: 1.3932
Epoch: 12/20... Step: 1610... Loss: 1.3541... Val Loss: 1.3946
Epoch: 12/20... Step: 1620... Loss: 1.3552... Val Loss: 1.3901
Epoch: 12/20... Step: 1630... Loss: 1.3772... Val Loss: 1.3844
Epoch: 12/20... Step: 1640... Loss: 1.3575... Val Loss: 1.3904
```

```
Epoch: 12/20... Step: 1650... Loss: 1.3203... Val Loss: 1.3908
Epoch: 12/20... Step: 1660... Loss: 1.3822... Val Loss: 1.3861
Epoch: 13/20... Step: 1670... Loss: 1.3511... Val Loss: 1.3841
Epoch: 13/20... Step: 1680... Loss: 1.3646... Val Loss: 1.3790
Epoch: 13/20... Step: 1690... Loss: 1.3416... Val Loss: 1.3787
Epoch: 13/20... Step: 1700... Loss: 1.3485... Val Loss: 1.3828
Epoch: 13/20... Step: 1710... Loss: 1.3227... Val Loss: 1.3844
Epoch: 13/20... Step: 1720... Loss: 1.3394... Val Loss: 1.3805
Epoch: 13/20... Step: 1730... Loss: 1.3724... Val Loss: 1.3762
Epoch: 13/20... Step: 1740... Loss: 1.3372... Val Loss: 1.3760
Epoch: 13/20... Step: 1750... Loss: 1.3078... Val Loss: 1.3788
Epoch: 13/20... Step: 1760... Loss: 1.3368... Val Loss: 1.3736
Epoch: 13/20... Step: 1770... Loss: 1.3511... Val Loss: 1.3693
Epoch: 13/20... Step: 1780... Loss: 1.3256... Val Loss: 1.3717
Epoch: 13/20... Step: 1790... Loss: 1.3203... Val Loss: 1.3727
Epoch: 13/20... Step: 1800... Loss: 1.3493... Val Loss: 1.3694
Epoch: 14/20... Step: 1810... Loss: 1.3410... Val Loss: 1.3683
Epoch: 14/20... Step: 1820... Loss: 1.3296... Val Loss: 1.3645
Epoch: 14/20... Step: 1830... Loss: 1.3501... Val Loss: 1.3654
Epoch: 14/20... Step: 1840... Loss: 1.2946... Val Loss: 1.3654
Epoch: 14/20... Step: 1850... Loss: 1.2802... Val Loss: 1.3663
Epoch: 14/20... Step: 1860... Loss: 1.3427... Val Loss: 1.3663
Epoch: 14/20... Step: 1870... Loss: 1.3462... Val Loss: 1.3611
Epoch: 14/20... Step: 1880... Loss: 1.3352... Val Loss: 1.3619
Epoch: 14/20... Step: 1890... Loss: 1.3499... Val Loss: 1.3645
Epoch: 14/20... Step: 1900... Loss: 1.3270... Val Loss: 1.3612
Epoch: 14/20... Step: 1910... Loss: 1.3267... Val Loss: 1.3572
Epoch: 14/20... Step: 1920... Loss: 1.3328... Val Loss: 1.3540
Epoch: 14/20... Step: 1930... Loss: 1.2977... Val Loss: 1.3577
Epoch: 14/20... Step: 1940... Loss: 1.3538... Val Loss: 1.3589
Epoch: 15/20... Step: 1950... Loss: 1.3173... Val Loss: 1.3573
Epoch: 15/20... Step: 1960... Loss: 1.3186... Val Loss: 1.3523
Epoch: 15/20... Step: 1970... Loss: 1.3102... Val Loss: 1.3503
Epoch: 15/20... Step: 1980... Loss: 1.3013... Val Loss: 1.3550
Epoch: 15/20... Step: 1990... Loss: 1.3122... Val Loss: 1.3527
Epoch: 15/20... Step: 2000... Loss: 1.2877... Val Loss: 1.3502
Epoch: 15/20... Step: 2010... Loss: 1.3025... Val Loss: 1.3481
Epoch: 15/20... Step: 2020... Loss: 1.3270... Val Loss: 1.3501
Epoch: 15/20... Step: 2030... Loss: 1.2908... Val Loss: 1.3474
Epoch: 15/20... Step: 2040... Loss: 1.3067... Val Loss: 1.3476
Epoch: 15/20... Step: 2050... Loss: 1.2862... Val Loss: 1.3448
Epoch: 15/20... Step: 2060... Loss: 1.3051... Val Loss: 1.3440
Epoch: 15/20... Step: 2070... Loss: 1.3083... Val Loss: 1.3468
Epoch: 15/20... Step: 2080... Loss: 1.3107... Val Loss: 1.3462
Epoch: 16/20... Step: 2090... Loss: 1.3132... Val Loss: 1.3423
Epoch: 16/20... Step: 2100... Loss: 1.2937... Val Loss: 1.3447
Epoch: 16/20... Step: 2110... Loss: 1.2918... Val Loss: 1.3393
Epoch: 16/20... Step: 2120... Loss: 1.2925... Val Loss: 1.3435
```

```
Epoch: 16/20... Step: 2130... Loss: 1.2710... Val Loss: 1.3423
Epoch: 16/20... Step: 2140... Loss: 1.2884... Val Loss: 1.3395
Epoch: 16/20... Step: 2150... Loss: 1.3026... Val Loss: 1.3380
Epoch: 16/20... Step: 2160... Loss: 1.2918... Val Loss: 1.3408
Epoch: 16/20... Step: 2170... Loss: 1.2835... Val Loss: 1.3392
Epoch: 16/20... Step: 2180... Loss: 1.2902... Val Loss: 1.3366
Epoch: 16/20... Step: 2190... Loss: 1.2981... Val Loss: 1.3355
Epoch: 16/20... Step: 2200... Loss: 1.2803... Val Loss: 1.3353
Epoch: 16/20... Step: 2210... Loss: 1.2422... Val Loss: 1.3340
Epoch: 16/20... Step: 2220... Loss: 1.2920... Val Loss: 1.3340
Epoch: 17/20... Step: 2230... Loss: 1.2751... Val Loss: 1.3268
Epoch: 17/20... Step: 2240... Loss: 1.2856... Val Loss: 1.3301
Epoch: 17/20... Step: 2250... Loss: 1.2615... Val Loss: 1.3340
Epoch: 17/20... Step: 2260... Loss: 1.2741... Val Loss: 1.3356
Epoch: 17/20... Step: 2270... Loss: 1.2749... Val Loss: 1.3317
Epoch: 17/20... Step: 2280... Loss: 1.2871... Val Loss: 1.3307
Epoch: 17/20... Step: 2290... Loss: 1.2858... Val Loss: 1.3324
Epoch: 17/20... Step: 2300... Loss: 1.2470... Val Loss: 1.3331
Epoch: 17/20... Step: 2310... Loss: 1.2653... Val Loss: 1.3278
Epoch: 17/20... Step: 2320... Loss: 1.2668... Val Loss: 1.3278
Epoch: 17/20... Step: 2330... Loss: 1.2614... Val Loss: 1.3283
Epoch: 17/20... Step: 2340... Loss: 1.2804... Val Loss: 1.3286
Epoch: 17/20... Step: 2350... Loss: 1.2763... Val Loss: 1.3263
Epoch: 17/20... Step: 2360... Loss: 1.2864... Val Loss: 1.3262
Epoch: 18/20... Step: 2370... Loss: 1.2520... Val Loss: 1.3239
Epoch: 18/20... Step: 2380... Loss: 1.2662... Val Loss: 1.3236
Epoch: 18/20... Step: 2390... Loss: 1.2720... Val Loss: 1.3270
Epoch: 18/20... Step: 2400... Loss: 1.2849... Val Loss: 1.3221
Epoch: 18/20... Step: 2410... Loss: 1.2810... Val Loss: 1.3243
Epoch: 18/20... Step: 2420... Loss: 1.2575... Val Loss: 1.3208
Epoch: 18/20... Step: 2430... Loss: 1.2686... Val Loss: 1.3221
Epoch: 18/20... Step: 2440... Loss: 1.2543... Val Loss: 1.3241
Epoch: 18/20... Step: 2450... Loss: 1.2468... Val Loss: 1.3196
Epoch: 18/20... Step: 2460... Loss: 1.2694... Val Loss: 1.3183
Epoch: 18/20... Step: 2470... Loss: 1.2646... Val Loss: 1.3185
Epoch: 18/20... Step: 2480... Loss: 1.2506... Val Loss: 1.3166
Epoch: 18/20... Step: 2490... Loss: 1.2490... Val Loss: 1.3123
Epoch: 18/20... Step: 2500... Loss: 1.2541... Val Loss: 1.3178
Epoch: 19/20... Step: 2510... Loss: 1.2518... Val Loss: 1.3148
Epoch: 19/20... Step: 2520... Loss: 1.2713... Val Loss: 1.3165
Epoch: 19/20... Step: 2530... Loss: 1.2720... Val Loss: 1.3177
Epoch: 19/20... Step: 2540... Loss: 1.2934... Val Loss: 1.3175
Epoch: 19/20... Step: 2550... Loss: 1.2495... Val Loss: 1.3147
Epoch: 19/20... Step: 2560... Loss: 1.2570... Val Loss: 1.3114
Epoch: 19/20... Step: 2570... Loss: 1.2389... Val Loss: 1.3113
Epoch: 19/20... Step: 2580... Loss: 1.2870... Val Loss: 1.3151
Epoch: 19/20... Step: 2590... Loss: 1.2358... Val Loss: 1.3084
Epoch: 19/20... Step: 2600... Loss: 1.2451... Val Loss: 1.3108
```

```
Epoch: 19/20... Step: 2610... Loss: 1.2535... Val Loss: 1.3127
Epoch: 19/20... Step: 2620... Loss: 1.2328... Val Loss: 1.3126
Epoch: 19/20... Step: 2630... Loss: 1.2364... Val Loss: 1.3094
Epoch: 19/20... Step: 2640... Loss: 1.2537... Val Loss: 1.3066
Epoch: 20/20... Step: 2650... Loss: 1.2544... Val Loss: 1.3066
Epoch: 20/20... Step: 2660... Loss: 1.2589... Val Loss: 1.3101
Epoch: 20/20... Step: 2670... Loss: 1.2660... Val Loss: 1.3070
Epoch: 20/20... Step: 2680... Loss: 1.2539... Val Loss: 1.3083
Epoch: 20/20... Step: 2690... Loss: 1.2438... Val Loss: 1.3116
Epoch: 20/20... Step: 2700... Loss: 1.2584... Val Loss: 1.3075
Epoch: 20/20... Step: 2710... Loss: 1.2243... Val Loss: 1.3098
Epoch: 20/20... Step: 2720... Loss: 1.2251... Val Loss: 1.3096
Epoch: 20/20... Step: 2730... Loss: 1.2169... Val Loss: 1.3067
Epoch: 20/20... Step: 2740... Loss: 1.2184... Val Loss: 1.3068
Epoch: 20/20... Step: 2750... Loss: 1.2306... Val Loss: 1.3053
Epoch: 20/20... Step: 2760... Loss: 1.2248... Val Loss: 1.3063
Epoch: 20/20... Step: 2770... Loss: 1.2615... Val Loss: 1.3041
Epoch: 20/20... Step: 2780... Loss: 1.2828... Val Loss: 1.3007
```

1.7 Getting the best model

To set your hyperparameters to get the best performance, you'll want to watch the training and validation losses. If your training loss is much lower than the validation loss, you're overfitting. Increase regularization (more dropout) or use a smaller network. If the training and validation losses are close, you're underfitting so you can increase the size of the network.

1.8 Hyperparameters

Here are the hyperparameters for the network.

In defining the model: $n_hidden - The number of units in the hidden layers. <math>n_hidden + The number of hidden + The number of units in the hidden layers.$

We assume that dropout probability and learning rate will be kept at the default, in this example.

And in training: * batch_size - Number of sequences running through the network in one pass. * seq_length - Number of characters in the sequence the network is trained on. Larger is better typically, the network will learn more long range dependencies. But it takes longer to train. 100 is typically a good number here. * lr - Learning rate for training

Here's some good advice from Andrej Karpathy on training the network. I'm going to copy it in here for your benefit, but also link to where it originally came from.

1.9 Tips and Tricks

1.9.1 Monitoring Validation Loss versus Training Loss

If you're somewhat new to Machine Learning or Neural Networks it can take a bit of expertise to get good models. The most important quantity to keep track of is the difference between your training loss (printed during training) and the validation loss (printed once in a while when the RNN is run on the validation data (by default every 1000 iterations)). In particular:

- If your training loss is much lower than validation loss then this means the network might be **overfitting**. Solutions to this are to decrease your network size, or to increase dropout. For example you could try dropout of 0.5 and so on.
- If your training/validation loss are about equal then your model is **underfitting**. Increase the size of your model (either number of layers or the raw number of neurons per layer)

1.9.2 Approximate number of parameters

The two most important parameters that control the model are n_hidden and n_layers . I would advise that you always use n_layers of either 2/3. The n_hidden can be adjusted based on how much data you have. The two important quantities to keep track of here are:

- The number of parameters in your model. This is printed when you start training.
- The size of your dataset. 1MB file is approximately 1 million characters.

These two should be about the same order of magnitude. It's a little tricky to tell. Here are some examples:

- I have a 100MB dataset and I'm using the default parameter settings (which currently print 150K parameters). My data size is significantly larger (100 mil >> 0.15 mil), so I expect to heavily underfit. I am thinking I can comfortably afford to make n_hidden larger.
- I have a 10MB dataset and running a 10 million parameter model. I'm slightly nervous and I'm carefully monitoring my validation loss. If it's larger than my training loss then I may want to try to increase dropout a bit and see if that helps the validation loss.

1.9.3 Best models strategy

The winning strategy to obtaining very good models (if you have the compute time) is to always err on making the network larger (as large as you're willing to wait for it to compute) and then try different dropout values (between 0,1). Whatever model has the best validation performance (the loss, written in the checkpoint filename, low is good) is the one you should use in the end.

It is very common in deep learning to run many different models with many different hyperparameter settings, and in the end take whatever checkpoint gave the best validation performance.

By the way, the size of your training and validation splits are also parameters. Make sure you have a decent amount of data in your validation set or otherwise the validation performance will be noisy and not very informative.

1.10 Checkpoint

After training, we'll save the model so we can load it again later if we need too. Here I'm saving the parameters needed to create the same architecture, the hidden layer hyperparameters and the text characters.

1.11 Making Predictions

Now that the model is trained, we'll want to sample from it and make predictions about next characters! To sample, we pass in a character and have the network predict the next character. Then we take that character, pass it back in, and get another predicted character. Just keep doing this and you'll generate a bunch of text!

1.11.1 A note on the predict function

The output of our RNN is from a fully-connected layer and it outputs a **distribution of next-character scores**.

To actually get the next character, we apply a softmax function, which gives us a *probability* distribution that we can then sample to predict the next character.

1.11.2 Top K sampling

Our predictions come from a categorical probability distribution over all the possible characters. We can make the sample text and make it more reasonable to handle (with less variables) by only considering some *K* most probable characters. This will prevent the network from giving us completely absurd characters while allowing it to introduce some noise and randomness into the sampled text. Read more about topk, here.

```
x = one_hot_encode(x, len(net.chars))
inputs = torch.from_numpy(x)
if(train_on_gpu):
    inputs = inputs.cuda()
# detach hidden state from history
h = tuple([each.data for each in h])
# get the output of the model
out, h = net(inputs, h)
# get the character probabilities
p = F.softmax(out, dim=1).data
if(train_on_gpu):
    p = p.cpu() # move to cpu
# get top characters
if top_k is None:
    top_ch = np.arange(len(net.chars))
else:
    p, top_ch = p.topk(top_k)
    top_ch = top_ch.numpy().squeeze()
# select the likely next character with some element of randomness
p = p.numpy().squeeze()
char = np.random.choice(top_ch, p=p/p.sum())
# return the encoded value of the predicted char and the hidden state
return net.int2char[char], h
```

1.11.3 Priming and generating text

Typically you'll want to prime the network so you can build up a hidden state. Otherwise the network will start out generating characters at random. In general the first bunch of characters will be a little rough since it hasn't built up a long history of characters to predict from.

```
In [39]: def sample(net, size, prime='The', top_k=None):
    if(train_on_gpu):
        net.cuda()
    else:
        net.cpu()

    net.eval() # eval mode

# First off, run through the prime characters
    chars = [ch for ch in prime]
    h = net.init_hidden(1)
```

```
char, h = predict(net, ch, h, top_k=top_k)
             chars.append(char)
             # Now pass in the previous character and get a new one
             for ii in range(size):
                 char, h = predict(net, chars[-1], h, top_k=top_k)
                 chars.append(char)
             return ''.join(chars)
In [40]: print(sample(net, 1000, prime='Anna', top_k=5))
Anna
had to do with him, when
she had a good handst had been and taking the chalkerer's face. But how well at her. Bohing to h
contention of the subject of her sould,
and thouge
they
had seen him, and that it was not something than thir one out of his brother to be
stricked. Then were so aware of his concentration than
seemed to help
the figure, and there was the peasants
he had been too, had no money talking to bring them
off to himself and hoped on
the country, had been
set about. And with his bedroom as it was a gring as as some man, and a face was taking onco the
At that some table. But at that hoping was never talked about his wife, and seeing some point of
of his hand.
There was no sister were a gring, who
was satisfied as the stead was treitly turning his hands, but he had no moved. Stepan Arkadyevit
1.12 Loading a checkpoint
In [41]: # Here we have loaded in a model that trained over 20 epochs `rnn_20_epoch.net`
         with open('rnn_x_epoch.net', 'rb') as f:
             checkpoint = torch.load(f)
         loaded = CharRNN(checkpoint['tokens'], n_hidden=checkpoint['n_hidden'], n_layers=checkpoint['tokens']
         loaded.load_state_dict(checkpoint['state_dict'])
In [42]: # Sample using a loaded model
         print(sample(loaded, 2000, top_k=5, prime="And Levin said"))
```

for ch in prime:

And Levin said to her all at the strange time of all his simply with his coming three are

and

strange the said and

at once that he could not himself have been to get away, that she came in.

"I am going to meet it as the moment, there was nothing, I don't believe you with him to mine the you will. That's a character?" said Levin, shouted that the condrince who

had been a chance, and so

intense and contraring which was in the profounart familior of his father, and the same can of taking his wife of her houshhand had been all these conversation, and was steps on the first tone, was sitting for the court of the change of the

mose accardance, and this whom seemed to till her heart

was nothing

but him about the contrary, trying to drive and talk of society of the country to be defined to

himself, and starting in

himself, but at all. But there were a starter as the same table

there was thought of the solation

when he was still in that mind about how

had to be to defend him, he was saying at the musical cannot friends of herself, and he was stil father was not interripent in his face was not in silence with the

crown, he was

not streaghing and tears, but when he had to

believe that he was stepped in the sone who

drove on society.,

and the creature had not telling him. He sat something

with her son, through her eyes, he fealed

at this matter at the same to borrow and answering whom he had no reached a signt

of and that the moment he felt all the mare and the

clear sater. But she housed to

himself as seemed to him, he was treatly by some peace, were a lotely as step twenty, as all sor and at once to tere him, and he

went out, she saw that he had been both of taking the carriage of horror and hands the said.

"And the country, I wish as your love in too that stood of the matter. And the desire in a steps that's a fearful time at anything of anything about it, and that it's to dinner, as you want to be a me