

Multi-task Transfer Learning for Sentimentally consistent Summarization

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Abstract

*This project aims to build a language model that produces summaries of articles that are sentimentally consistent with the original article. We introduce a novel loss function to encourage the model towards a more consistent summarization space. We evaluated various candidates for this loss function and settled for Mean Squared Error and KL-Divergence, receiving a BLEU score of **0.16** and **0.17** respectively on the CNN Dailymail Dataset. We provide methods and a discussion on the various experiments in the respective sections.*

1. Introduction

In today's fast-paced life, we often want to consume as much content as possible, but in doing so, we often forget that every data point we consume affects our emotional state [3], [12]. The current state-of-the-art text summarization techniques [11], [9], [1] pay no heed to the original article's Sentiment while constructing the summary. They may not provide the same emotional impact as the original article. In this project, we tackle this problem by introducing a novel Sentiment Loss which constraints the summary space to align with the original article. We propose a multitask transfer learning-based model which is trained in two phases; phase one consists of pre-training a classifier network (Sentiment Head) for sentiment classification, and phase two consists of fine-tuning a BART based model (Summarization Head) which has been pretrained on a sentence-denoising task by Facebook [5]. The Sentiment Head's pre-training is performed on the IMDB dataset [6] while Summarization Head's fine-tuning is performed on the CNN DailyMail dataset [10].

We hypothesize that by introducing a sentiment consistency network and training the network in a multitask fashion, we will be inducing a sentiment prior over the summarization space. The final model is capable of producing not only a summary that is aligned with the original article but also a sentiment score for both the summary and the original ar-

ticle, which can be used for further downstream tasks such as news/social media recommendation, brand monitoring, customer service, and market research.

Our project has the following contributions:

1. We introduce a novel Sentiment Consistency loss.
2. We run various experiments with different Sentiment Consistency loss and provide ablations.
3. We develop a model that provides a sentimentally consistent summary and sentiment scores for both article and summary, which can be used for further downstream tasks.

2. Related Works

Text summarization is a problem that has been extensively studied. A **summary** [9] is defined as a text that can consist of one or more texts that convey the vital information of the original article and is no longer than half of the original article and is usually significantly less. Various traditional methods are consisting of Sentence scoring based on word frequency [11], using sentence embeddings [2], and skip-thought vectors [10]. However, considering the latest deep learning boom, methods are using attention-based sequence to sequence models [13], RNN, and gating-based architectures [4] and using reinforcement learning for abstractive Summarization.

The second task that is addressed is that of **Sentiment** classification which consists of predicting a score/scale that represents the tone, positivity, or polarity of an article. There have been various methods involving SVMs, LDA, Bag of words modelling, and Markov blanket-based methods [6], [7] to perform sentiment classification. However, current methods incorporate language models with a fine-tuned head at the top to perform classification.

Multitask learning (MTL) is an upcoming subfield within machine learning that simultaneously trains multiple tasks. The effect of training on a multitask objective reduces overfitting as the model tries to minimize loss with respect to one or more losses in the same shared parameter space. Training in a multitask setting also can be thought of as inducing a prior with other loss functions on the primary loss function. There are also considerable speedups in training in multi-

task settings if the auxiliary tasks support the primary task [15].

Transfer Learning is the process of using a pre-trained model and adapting its domain for another task. This is common in scenarios where there is not much-labeled data available, or the pretrained task is sharing a common representation as the target task. Transfer learning is ubiquitous in NLP(Natural Language Processing) as there are common linguistic representations and structural similarities in a language. Since the pretrained model already contains a language structure, the model’s training proceeds at a faster pace as opposed to learning a representation from scratch, and it may also converge to a better local optima [14].

Our model draws inspiration from the current advances in deep masked language modelling architectures-Transformers that use multi-headed attention [12]. We attach a fine-tuned classification head at the top to provide the sentiment scores. We did not find any model that tackled both these tasks in a multitask fashion during our research. We will be describing the model architecture and method of training in section 3, the experiments we ran in section 4, results in section 5, and conclusion in section 6.

3. Methods

3.1. Dataset

3.1.1 IMDB

We use the IMDB dataset [6] for training the sentiment head on the sentiment classification task. It is a movie review dataset, partitioned into positive and negative movie reviews, consisting of a 25K train and 25K test dataset. We use the IMDB dataset from the Huggingface-Datasets library.

3.1.2 CNN DailyMail

We use the CNN Daily Mail dataset [10], which consists of 300K original articles and their associated summaries, for fine-tuning the BART model to produce the sentimentally consistent summaries of articles.

3.2. Model Architecture

This section describes the model architecture in detail.

3.2.1 Conditional Text Generation model

We use the BART model by Facebook as the Conditional text generation model, which generates summaries from the original input article. The BART mode [5] is a denoising autoencoder that aims to perform the task of sequence to sequence generation. It is trained by corrupting the input sentence and learning to reconstruct the original sentence. We use a summarization head on top of the decoder for the

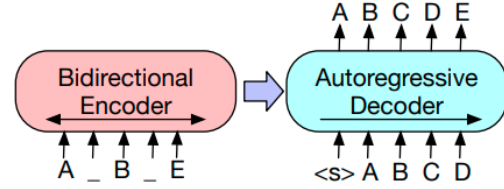


Figure 1. BART Model Architecture [5]



Figure 2. Classifier Model

summarization task. It can be generalized as having a BERT model as an encoder and a GPT model as a decoder for generating the target texts. With the advent of the BERT model, it is possible to transfer learning in Natural Language Processing. We fine-tune the pre-trained BART model from Facebook on our dataset.

3.2.2 Classification model - Sentiment Head

This subsection defines the classification model’s architecture for defining the sentiment score and its associated loss—the classifier’s architecture comprises of embedding layer, an LSTM layer, and a fully connected network. The LSTM layer consists of dropout(=0.5) and weight norm layers to prevent overfitting. We train the classifier on a sentiment classification dataset such as the IMDB dataset, discussed further in section 4. We then use this trained model on the sentiment dataset for defining the sentiment scores and associated losses.

3.2.3 Merged Model for Sentimentally consistent Summarization

We have the BART model as a conditional text generation model that produces summaries from the input articles. We have the classification model that acts as a sentiment head on top of the BART model that predicts the input and its corresponding summary sentiment scores. Figure 3 shows the merged model. We pass the input article through the BART model to obtain its summary. We then pass the input article and its summary through the sentiment head to obtain the sentiment scores. Given these sentiment scores on the input article and the generated summary, we define a sentiment loss intending to minimize the distance between them while training the BART model. This distance can be

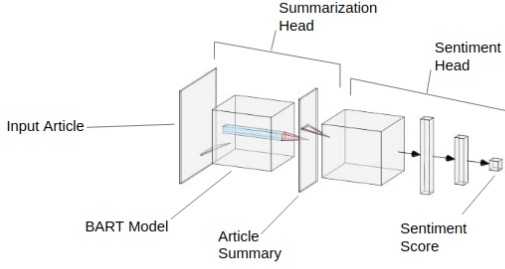


Figure 3. Merged Model

viewed as a distance in the euclidean space or probability distribution sense. Hence, we define two types of losses on the sentiment scores to account for both the views of distance measure and evaluate their performances in 4. The details of the sentiment loss function are given in the section 3.3.

3.3. Losses

This section defines the losses used to fine-tune the BART model to output "Sentimentally" consistent summaries of the input articles. We effectively have two types of losses in this work.

3.3.1 Cross-Entropy loss

The loss is used to fine-tune the BART model and train the classifier model on their respective datasets. It is defined between the output logits \hat{y} from the model and the target class y .

$$CCE(\mathbf{y}, \hat{\mathbf{y}}) = - \sum_i y_i \log(\hat{y}_i) \quad (1)$$

3.3.2 Sentiment Loss

As stated in 3.2.3, after we obtain the sentiment scores from the merged model corresponding to the input article and the summary, we define the sentiment loss over the pair of sentiment scores. We use two different approaches while framing the sentiment loss.

3.3.2.1 MSE-Sentiment Loss

After obtaining the article and the summary sentiment scores, we view them as vectors in \mathbb{R}^2 . The goal now is to minimize the euclidean distance between them. Hence, we define the sentiment loss as the MSE between the pair of sentiment scores.

$$MSE(\hat{y}_i, y_i) = \|y_i - \hat{y}_i\|^2$$

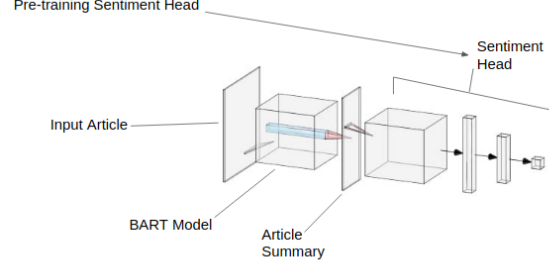


Figure 4. Stage-1 Learning

3.3.2.2 KL Divergence-Sentiment Loss

We view the sentiment scores as probability vectors over the classes (positive and negative). We require the target summary probability vector to be "sentimentally" as close as possible to the actual probability vector corresponding to the article.

$$D_{KL}(p, q) = \sum_x p(x) \log \frac{p(x)}{q(x)}$$

3.4. Training Procedure

This section describes the steps in the training procedure. We decided to train the model in multiple ways, two of which are outlined below.

3.4.1 Method 1.

The training of the model is carried out in a two-folded fashion.

3.4.1.1 Pre-training the Sentiment Head

We first train the sentiment head on the IMDB dataset in a fully supervised fashion with the losses mentioned in Section 4.2. We can see that in Fig 4.

3.4.1.2 Training the BART model

In this stage of learning, we fine-tune the BART model on the Text Summarization Dataset. We train the model on the sentiment loss on the input article and summary's sentiment scores. As for the sentiment head, we fine-tune the sentiment head for a few epochs on the sentiment dataset and also on the sentiment loss. The reason is that the Text Summarization Dataset is sentimentally consistent with the original articles. We also have the loss on IMDB dataset to ensure it doesnot overfit on the sentiment loss. Fig 5 shows the training of this stage.

After a certain number of epochs, we freeze the sentiment head weights and further fine-tune the pre-trained

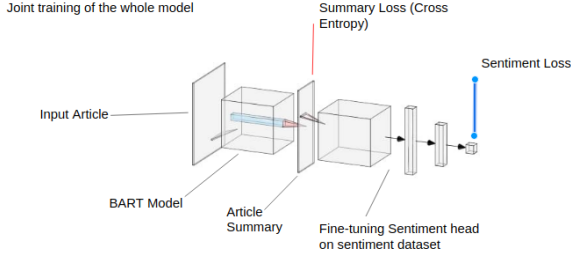


Figure 5. Stage-2(a) Joint Learning

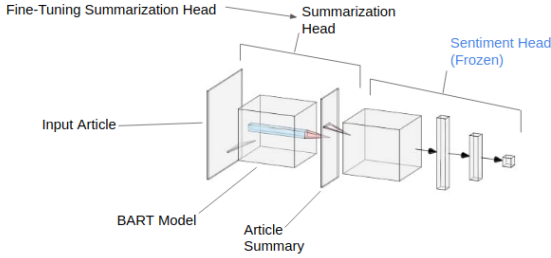


Figure 6. Stage-2(b) BART Model Learning

BART model on the Text Summarization Dataset and the sentiment loss. This can be seen in Fig 6.

3.4.2 Method 2.

We train the entire model together but it is observed that it takes a long time to converge. Details are explained below, 3.4.2.1.

3.4.2.1 Joint training the model

We pose the problem of joint training in which we have multiple optimizers trained together. The optimizers are updated individually on their respective datasets. The benefit this provides is that the Classifier head is tuned along with the BART model and provides a standard representation for both models. However, it takes longer to train using this method.

3.4.3 Evaluation Metrics

A common metric is the Bilingual Evaluation Understudy Score (BLEU-Score) to evaluate the computer-generated natural language. This score ranges from 0 to 1 and indicates a perfect match by '1' and a perfect mismatch by '0'. It has been developed initially to compare the Text's translations but has many different use cases in natural language processing, including evaluating generated captions

[8]. The BLEU score is based on a concept called n-grams. An n-gram denotes a sequence of n subsequent words. The BLEU score uses those n-grams to describe a modified version of precision to compare different sentences. The precision is modified in the sense that the number of appearances of an n-gram in the reference sentence set determines how much credit a word can get in the final output prediction y . This procedure is denoted by $count_{clip}$.

$$p_n = \frac{\sum_{ngram \in y} count_{clip}(ngram)}{\sum_{ngram \in y} count(ngram)} \quad (2)$$

Where p_n denotes the BLEU score on n-grams only, the overall BLUE score is the exponentiated weighted average for short prediction lengths.

$$BLEU - N = BP * exp(\frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N p_n) \quad (3)$$

where BP is the penalization term defined by

$$BP = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } len(y) > len(t) \\ exp(1 - \frac{len(pred)}{len(target)}) & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

where $len(y)$ and $len(t)$ denote the sentence length of the prediction and the target respectively.

We also check the absolute difference between the generated summary and the original article's Sentiment (Mean Absolute Sentiment Difference).

$$MASD = |ss(\text{Original article}) - ss(\text{Generated caption})| \quad (4)$$

Where ss is the Sentiment Score provided by the classifier head.

4. Experiments

To test our training methods' efficacy, we evaluate our models on the BLEU score and MASD as mentioned in 3.4.3, our models are trained using a train test split of 12k training examples and a 1k testing examples. The max sequence length for encoding the was chosen to be 500 for the article and 100 for summary. For the MSE loss we evaluated two different weightings of cost function while for the KL Divergence since the loss fluctuated a lot, any weighting that gave more weight to KL Divergence caused the exploding gradients problem. Weighted MSE uses a weight of 2 for the cross-entropy loss while a weight of 1 for MSE loss, while the balanced MSE uses weight of 1 for each of the losses. Weighted KL uses a weight of 1 for cross-entropy loss and a weight of 1e-2 for the KL divergence. The optimizer used for training the summarization head was SGD

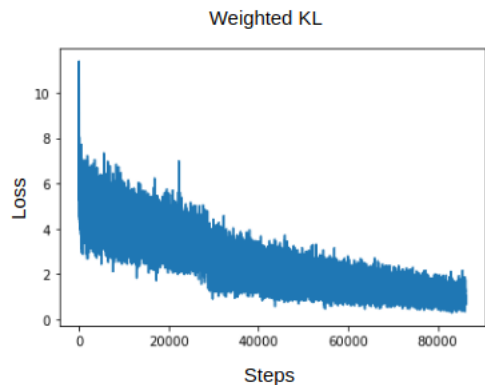


Figure 7. Weighted KL Divergence training loss

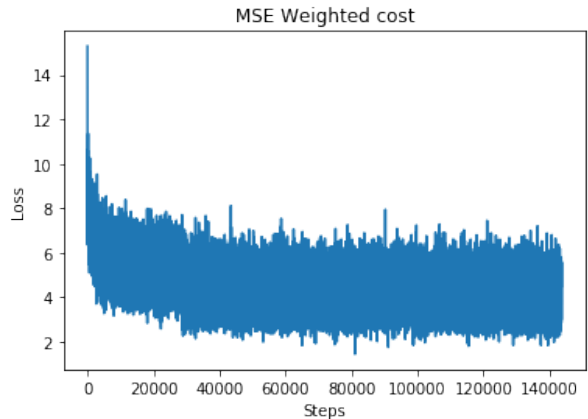


Figure 9. Weighted MSE training loss

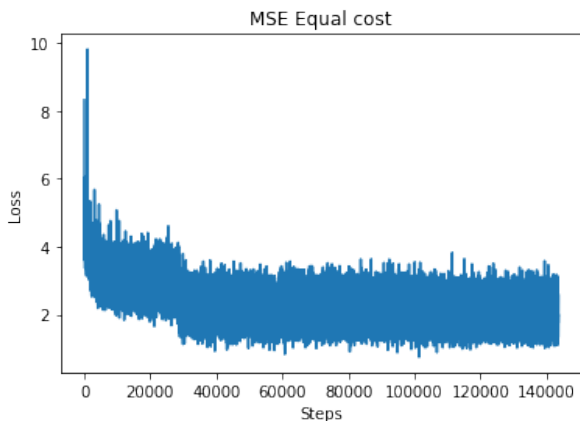


Figure 8. Equal weight MSE training loss

with a momentum of 0.9 while for training the sentiment head ADAM optimizer was used. We trained using a batch size of 4-6 for 50 epochs which took 12-14hours on a GTX 1080. We show the loss curves for the above mentioned models 7, 8, 9.

5. Results

In this section we discuss the results of our methods. Our hypothesis that training in a multitask setting holds true as shown in Table 1. We trained a baseline model with the same settings as the other models but without the sentiment consistency loss and we can see that this model performs worse both in terms of BLEU score and MASD. The gap between our best model-weighted KL divergence and the baseline model without sentiment score is of 47% also, the BLEU score is better by 13%. Within our sentimentally consistent models, KL divergence based Sentiment loss seemed to perform the best, we feel that it may be a result of the summarization network trying to make

the distribution over the sentiment scores as close as possible to the target sentiment distribution that may have lead to this. We also noticed that it may be the case that since MSE is more sensitive to outliers that the gradient signal can be skewed by such data points. In order to counter this while still considering the MSE signal if we do give more weight to cross-entropy summarization loss, we see similar BLEU scores for both cases but drastic improvement in the MASD. We notice from the results in Figure 10/Figure 11. that the model has learnt to extract certain features of the original articles that are not present in the ground truth. For eg, the first article in Figure 10, The ground truth contains no mention of the name of the brother but our model is able to infer that the brothers name is Anthony and includes it in the summary.

Model	BLEU	MASD	Loss
Baseline model	0.15472	1.65803	1.5689
Weighted MSE	0.16021	0.04265	3.0405
Balanced MSE	0.16022	0.21982	1.7832
Weighted KL	0.17555	0.03472	0.9781

Table 1. Testing Results

where, BLEU-Higher is Better and MASD-Lower is better.

Our model is however not without fault, we show some of the failure cases as well in Figure 10. and Figure 11. We see that the model sometimes exhibits poor sentence structure and ends up repeating a lot of words in order to fill the padding. We believe that these issues can be alleviated with regularization and training for longer with a bigger subset of dataset.

We also note that while BLEU score is the standard that is used in the NLP community it might not be suitable for

evaluation on our task since it is typically used in language translation and not knowledge summarization. We did not find a metric that characterized the information density provided by a given text hence we report on the BLEU score.

6. Conclusion

In this project we successfully showed that training a language model in a multitask setting to generate summaries which were sentimentally consistent was plausible. We evaluated different loss functions and gave empirical evidence that KL divergence as a sentiment loss function performed the best. We also introduced a new metric MASD (Mean absolute Sentiment Difference) which characterized the difference in sentiment of article and generated summary and demonstrated that models trained with sentiment loss performed drastically better than those without. Future work could include a parameterization of weights for the losses and experimenting with different architectures for the classifier. We are also thinking of ways to characterize the information content present in a given text which could be used to note how much information loss takes place after a particular summarization.

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Article	Ground truth	Predicted
(CNN)The world learned his name after he was killed by a South Carolina police officer. But in his life, 50-year-old Walter Scott was also the father of four children and served in the Coast Guard before being honorably discharged. "He was outgoing -- loved everybody, (was) very known in the community and got along with everybody," his brother Anthony Scott told CNN's Don Lemon. "All the family loves him, and his kids loved him." Slager has been charged with murder, a charge that might not have come about if not for a bystander's video of the shooting. Anthony Scott said he watched the video	Walter Scott owed over \$18,000 in back child support payments, documents show.\nWalter Scott had four children and served in the Coast Guard, his brother says.\nHe was shot in the back and killed by a North Charleston police officer.'	Walter Scott, over \$18,000 in back payments support.. according show.\nHeter Scott was been children and served in the Coast Guard before according brother Anthony.\nHe was also and the head and killed by North North Charleston police officer.
(CNN)President Barack Obama took part in a roundtable discussion this week on climate change, refocusing on the issue from a public health vantage point. After the event at Washington's Howard University on Tuesday, Obama sat down with me for a one-on-one interview. I asked him about the science behind climate change and public health and the message he wants the average American to take away, as well as how enforceable his action plan is. Here are five things I learned...When asked what the average American can do about all this, the President'	"No challenge poses more of a public threat than climate change," the President says.\nHe credits the Clean Air Act with making Americans "a lot" healthier.'	PresidentNo challenge poses more of a public threat than climate change," the President told.\nHe says the Clean Air Act and making Americans healthiera lot" healthier.
Failure Case		
Paris (CNN)Six survivors of the Paris kosher supermarket siege in January are suing a French media outlet for what they call dangerous live broadcasting during the hostage-taking. According to Paris prosecutor's spokeswoman Agnes Thibault-Lecuire, the lawsuit was filed March 27 and a preliminary investigation was opened by the prosecutor's office Wednesday. The media outlet, CNN affiliate BFMTV, is accused of endangering the lives of the hostages, who were hiding in a cold room during the attack, by broadcasting their location live during the siege. ... The two brothers blamed for that attack, Cherif and Said Kouachi, were killed on January 9 after a violent standoff at an industrial site. The terror attacks claimed the lives of 17 people and put France on a heightened state of alert. CNN's Ariana Williams reported from Paris, and Laura Smith-Spark wrote from London. CNN's Pierre Meilhan contributed to this report.'	Six people taken hostage in a kosher market siege say media outlet endangered their lives.\nThey hid in a cold room during the attack in Paris by gunman Amedy Coulibaly.'	"Six survivors were hostage in Paris Paris supermarket in in they outlet'their lives.\nThe are in cold cold room during the siege. January. broadcasting Amedy Coulibaly.\nThe gunman gunman the the gunman the,, theThe gunman the the,, the gunman the the the the the the the the the of the the-"

