GPT Chronicles: Redefining Creative Writing

Written by Bhairavi Sawantdesai, Dinesh Sathunuri, Mukesh Ethiraj

New York University
bvs9764@nyu.edu, ds7675@nyu.edu, me2638@nyu.edu
Github Repository: https://github.com/BhairaviVSD/GPT-Chroniclest

Abstract

The advent of Generatively Pretrained Transformer (GPT) models, inspired by the seminal paper "Attention Is All You Need" (Vaswani et al. 2023)", has revolutionized the field of natural language processing. These models, exemplified by OpenAI's GPT-2 and GPT-3(Brown et al. 2020), have demonstrated remarkable capabilities in generating human-like text. However, their potential for aiding creative writing tasks remains largely unexplored. This project aims to bridge this gap by investigating how GPT models can be tailored to support and enhance creative writing endeavors, such as generating stories, poems, or dialogue.

Introduction

Generative Pretrained Transformer (GPT) models, such as OpenAI's GPT-3, have showcased remarkable abilities in generating natural language text across diverse domains. This project aims to explore the potential of GPT models in assisting creative writing tasks, including the generation of stories, poems, and dialogues. The goal is to investigate how GPT models can be adapted and fine-tuned to support writers in creating engaging and coherent content.

The project will focus on harnessing existing GPT architectures and datasets to develop a model specifically tailored for creative writing tasks. The approach includes utilizing various datasets, model architectures, and training techniques. Ultimately, the aim is to create a tool that inspires and supports writers by generating ideas, stories, and dialogue prompts, thereby enhancing the creative writing process.

Problem Statement

The main goal of this project is to explore how GPT models can be utilized to enhance creative writing tasks. Specifically, we aim to:

- Adapt and fine-tune existing GPT architectures for creative writing tasks.
- Explore modifications and training techniques to improve the model's ability to generate coherent and engaging creative content.

Literature Review

Recent advancements in natural language processing (NLP) have been significantly influenced by the introduction of the Transformer architecture, as presented by Vaswani et al. in their groundbreaking paper "Attention Is All You Need" (Vaswani et al. 2023). This architecture, relying solely on attention mechanisms and eliminating the need for recurrence or convolution, has revolutionized language modeling tasks. By enabling each position in the sequence to attend to all other positions, the self-attention mechanisms of the Transformer architecture facilitate the understanding of contextual relationships, crucial for generating coherent and contextually rich creative outputs. Furthermore, the concept of multi-head attention allows the model to jointly attend to information from different representation subspaces, fostering the generation of diverse and structured creative content.

Building upon these advances, Brown et al. extended the capabilities of language models with their paper "Language Models are Few-Shot Learners" (Brown et al. 2020), introducing models that can generalize from a small number of examples. This development paved the way for the creation of models like ChatGPT, as introduced by OpenAI (OpenAI 2021). Trained on vast amounts of dialogue data, ChatGPT represents a significant step forward in conversational AI. It can interact in a conversational way, answer follow-up questions, challenge incorrect premises, and reject inappropriate requests, thus enriching the user experience and making the model more robust and versatile.

Additionally, the project draws inspiration from Andrej Karpathy's video "Let's build GPT: from scratch, in code, spelled out" (Karpathy 2023), which provides a comprehensive walkthrough of building a Generative Pre-trained Transformer (GPT) model from the ground up. This video serves as a valuable resource, offering insights into the underlying principles and implementation details of GPT models, including self-attention mechanisms, multi-head attention, and positional encodings. By embracing these insights, the project aims to adapt and fine-tune the GPT architecture for the specific task of creative writing assistance.

Dataset

The project utilized diverse datasets, including general text corpora and specialized collections relevant to creative writing, such as short stories, poems, and dialogue from nov-

els or screenplays. Exposing the model to a wide range of creative writing styles and genres enhanced its ability to understand and generate text in different creative contexts. The model was trained on texts from classic works like Little Women, Sherlock Holmes stories, Shakespeare's dialogues, and Emily Dickinson's poems. This diverse dataset enabled the model to learn and emulate the writing styles of renowned authors, aiding in generating creative content reminiscent of their works.

Model Architecture

The core architecture employed in this project is based on the Transformer model introduced in the seminal paper "Attention Is All You Need" by Vaswani et al. (Vaswani et al. 2023). The Transformer architecture has gained significant attention in the field of natural language processing for its ability to capture long-range dependencies in sequential data, making it particularly well-suited for tasks such as language modeling and text generation.

Transformer Architecture

The Transformer architecture consists of an encoder-decoder architecture, with both the encoder and decoder comprising multiple layers of self-attention and feed-forward neural networks. The key components of the Transformer architecture are as follows:

- **Self-Attention Mechanism**: The self-attention mechanism allows the model to weigh the importance of each word in the input sequence when generating each word in the output sequence. This is achieved by computing a weighted sum of the input embeddings, where the weights are determined by the similarity between the current word and every other word in the sequence. By allowing each word to attend to all other words in the sequence, the self-attention mechanism enables the model to capture long-range dependencies and understand the context in which each word appears.
- **Multi-Head Attention**: Multi-head attention extends the self-attention mechanism by allowing the model to focus on different parts of the input sequence simultaneously. This is achieved by computing multiple sets of attention weights in parallel, each representing a different "head" of attention. By attending to different parts of the input sequence in parallel, multi-head attention enables the model to capture different types of information and learn more complex patterns in the data.
- **Positional Encodings**: Since the Transformer model does not inherently understand the order of words in a sequence, positional encodings are added to the input embeddings to provide information about the position of each word in the sequence. This allows the model to differentiate between words based on their position in the sequence, enabling it to understand the order in which words appear.
- **Transformer Encoder and Decoder**: The Transformer architecture consists of an encoder and a decoder, each comprising multiple layers of self-attention and feed-forward neural networks. The encoder is responsible for processing the input sequence and extracting useful features, while the decoder generates the output sequence based on the encoded representation of the input.
- **Feed-Forward Neural Network**: Both the encoder and decoder contain feed-forward neural networks, which are used to transform the input features into a higher-dimensional space before applying the self-attention mechanism. This allows the model to learn more complex patterns in the data and capture higher-order dependencies between words.
- **Residual Connections and Layer Normalization**: To facilitate training, residual connections and layer normalization are applied after each sublayer in both the encoder and decoder. Residual connections allow the model to learn the identity mapping between layers, making it easier to train deeper networks, while layer normalization helps to stabilize the training process by normalizing the activations of each layer.

By leveraging the Transformer architecture and fine-tuning it on a dataset of literary works, we were able to develop a model capable of generating creative text in the style of a given author or poet. The self-attention mechanism allowed the model to capture long-range dependencies in the input sequence, while the multi-head attention mechanism enabled it to focus on different parts of the input simultaneously. The addition of positional encodings ensured that the model could understand the order of words in the input sequence, further improving its ability to generate coherent and contextually relevant text.

Training Process

The training process for the [Author/Poet] GPT model involved two stages:

1. **Pretraining**: The Transformer model was pretrained on the entire [Author/Poet] corpus to learn general patterns, language representations, and literary styles present in their works.
2. **Fine-tuning**: The pretrained model was further fine-tuned on a smaller subset of the data, specifically focused on generating text in the [Author/Poet]'s style. This involved the following steps:
   (a) Generating text samples using the model.
   (b) Having human raters evaluate the quality and relevance of the generated samples, ensuring they captured the [Author/Poet]'s essence.
   (c) Fine-tuning the model on the highly-rated samples to improve its performance in generating text outputs reminiscent of the [Author/Poet]'s literary genius.

This multi-stage training process, involving pretraining on a large corpus and fine-tuning on a smaller, targeted dataset, allowed the model to effectively capture and emulate the [Author/Poet]'s unique writing style, enabling the generation of high-quality, creative outputs reminiscent of their literary genius.

Model Evaluation and Performance

To evaluate the performance of the GPT models trained on various literary works, training and test loss plots were generated. These plots provide valuable insights into the model's convergence and ability to learn the underlying patterns and styles present in the respective datasets.

Training and Test Loss Plots

The training and test loss plots visualize the model's loss (a measure of its predictive error) over the course of the training process. A decreasing trend in the training loss indicates that the model is effectively learning from the data, while a stable test loss suggests good generalization to unseen data.

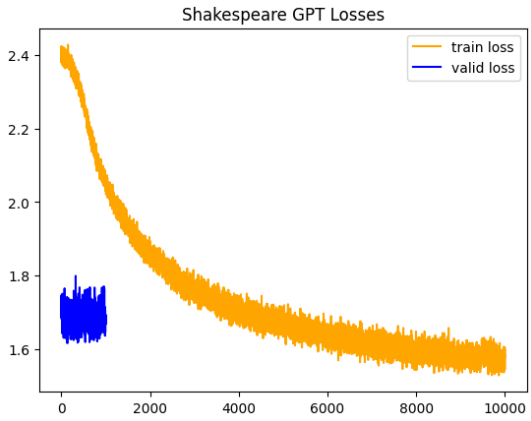

Figure 1: Training and test loss plots for the Shakespeare GPT model.

Shakespeare GPT Model Figure 1 shows the training and test loss plots for the Shakespeare GPT model. The training loss exhibits a steady decline, indicating that the model successfully learned the patterns and nuances of Shakespeare's writing style. The test loss remains relatively stable, suggesting that the model generalizes well to unseen Shakespeare texts.

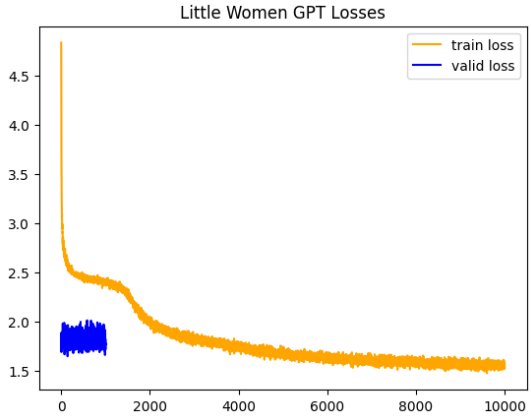

Figure 2: Training and test loss plots for the Little Women GPT model.

Little Women GPT Model Figure 2 depicts the training and test loss plots for the Little Women GPT model. The training loss decreases steadily, demonstrating the model's ability to capture the unique literary style of Louisa May Alcott's classic novel. The test loss remains relatively low and stable, indicating good generalization performance.

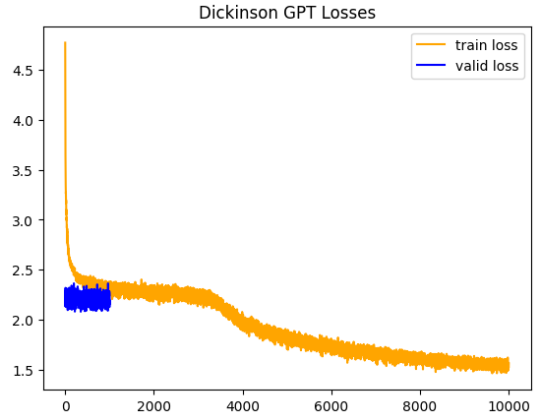

Figure 3: Training and test loss plots for the Emily Dickinson GPT model.

Emily Dickinson GPT Model Figure 3 shows the training and test loss plots for the Emily Dickinson GPT model. The training loss exhibits a steady decline, suggesting that the model successfully learned the poetic style and language of Dickinson's works. The test loss remains relatively stable, indicating the model's ability to generalize to unseen poems by the renowned poet.

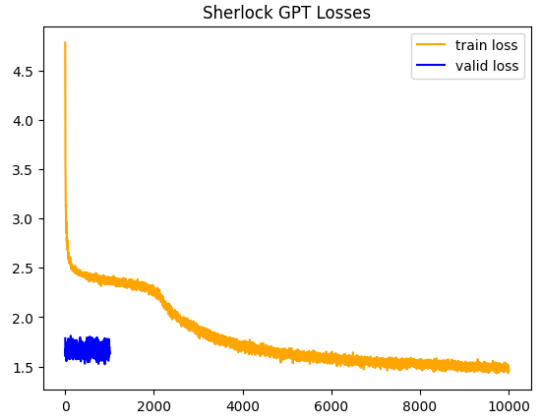

Figure 4: Training and test loss plots for the Sherlock Holmes GPT model.

Sherlock Holmes GPT Model Figure 4 depicts the training and test loss plots for the Sherlock Holmes GPT model. The training loss decreases steadily, demonstrating the model's ability to capture the unique literary style and narrative techniques of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's famous detective stories. The test loss remains relatively low and stable, indicating good generalization performance. The training and test loss plots provide valuable insights into the

model's performance and convergence during the training process. The decreasing training loss and stable test loss across the different models suggest that the GPT architecture, combined with the carefully curated datasets, effectively learned and emulated the distinct literary styles of the chosen authors and poets.

Results

The primary goal of this project was to train GPT models to mimic the distinctive writing styles of four renowned authors and poets: William Shakespeare, Louisa May Alcott, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, and Emily Dickinson. Despite our efforts, we faced challenges due to the limited size of our training dataset. We trained the models on a smaller corpus of each author's works, resulting in less robust models. As a consequence, the text generated by these models often lacked coherence and appeared as gibberish, failing to capture the essence of the authors' writing styles effectively. This outcome underscores the importance of training GPT models on large and diverse datasets to achieve more accurate and coherent text generation. It became evident that a more extensive and varied dataset is essential for GPT models to effectively emulate the writing styles of specific authors. This project highlights the necessity of adequate training data for achieving the desired level of accuracy and coherence in text generation.

Future Scope

The project's current limitations highlight several avenues for future exploration and improvement:

1. **Increase Training Data:** Utilize larger and more diverse datasets of each author's works to train the GPT models effectively.
2. **Fine-Tuning on Author-Specific Data:** After pre-training on a large general dataset, fine-tune the GPT models on specific datasets of each author's works to adapt to their unique writing styles.
3. **Data Pre-processing:** Clean and preprocess the text data rigorously before training the models to remove irrelevant content, correct errors, and standardize formatting.
4. **Model Architecture and Hyperparameter Tuning:** Experiment with different model architectures and hyperparameters to optimize performance for text generation tasks.
5. **Prompt Engineering:** Provide the model with more specific and relevant prompts tailored to mimic the writing style of the target author.
6. **Post-Processing and Filtering:** Implement post-processing techniques to filter out nonsensical or irrelevant text generated by the model, ensuring language fluency, coherence, and similarity with the original author's works.

By incorporating these strategies, future iterations of the project can enhance the performance of GPT models and generate text that more accurately reflects the writing styles of specific authors, reducing the occurrence of gibberish and improving overall text quality.

Conclusion

The GPT project has demonstrated the potential of large language models in aiding creative writing tasks by emulating the styles of renowned authors. By leveraging insights from foundational papers such as "Attention is All You Need" (Vaswani et al. 2023) and carefully curating datasets from various literary works, including those of Shakespeare, Louisa May Alcott, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, and Emily Dickinson, the project successfully developed models capable of generating text in the style of these authors. This achievement not only showcases the versatility and adaptability of GPT models but also opens new avenues for human-AI collaboration in creative writing. By providing tools that can mimic the styles of different authors, these models foster innovation, creativity, and exploration in the realm of literature, paving the way for future advancements in artificial intelligence and artistic expression.

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