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TensorFlow (software library)   Deep Learning   Open Source   Machine Learning

What is the best way to read data into Tensorflow?

5 Answers

Paolo Geng, Deeplearning Grubber
Answered Dec 26, 2016

For CSV, there are several answers for the method for reading data , here I share some tricks when I read data to the network.

Generator ,you can write a generator to read data for network:first, generator won't eat your whole RAM, it just eat the RAM step to step, also it can be fast, you can add it to multi-thread method to make it run on multi-cpu.

When the data is large, you can write the data to the TFRecord just like caffe's

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Jithin Pradeep, Cognition & AI Researcher |Cognition & Neuroscience Graduate
Updated Jan 13

TFRecordWriter is what you need. This should solve it, have a look at the github repo for more detail : jithinpr2/tensorflow   (tensorflow forked).

```
1  csv = pandas.read_csv("filename.csv").values
2  with tf.python_io.TFRecordWriter("csv.tfrecords") as tf_writer:
3      for row in csv:
4          #file formate : feature 1.....feature n, label
5          features, label = row[:-1], row[-1]
6          example = tf.train.Example()
7          example.features.featur["features"].float_list.value.extend(features)
8          example.features.feature["label"].int64_list.value.append(label)
9          tf_writer.write(example.SerializeToString())
```

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João Felipe Santos
Answered Mar 6, 2016

For CSV, you can simply use Numpy (see, for example, numpy.loadtxt) or Pandas (pandas.read_csv) and read the CSV into a Numpy array. Likewise, for a database, you should just use whatever Python interface is available for that kind of database. When you feed your data to Tensorflow functions, you will always need to store it as a Numpy array.

11.7k Views · 5 Upvotes

Sam Chibuta
Updated Dec 18, 2016

For a CSV file you can do the following

```
1   record_defaults = [[1] for row in range(1000)]
2   data = tf.decode_csv(value, record_defaults=record_defaults)
3   data = tf.pack(data[:])
```

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It usually 2x faster than other ways when you need data augmentation.

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