

Short report on assignment 4

Training a RNN to synthesize English text

Côme Lassarat

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1 Introduction

This work aims to implement a RNN to generate English sentences. The network designed will be trained using gradient descent. First, the tests ran to verify if the different functions (such as the gradients computation) are correct will be presented. In a second place, the different scenarios with relevant plots will be described.

2 Implementation checking

One of the main difficulty of this assignment is to correctly implement the analytical gradients calculation. In order to do so, a separate function were used to compute the numerical gradients. Then, the relative error (element wise) between the numerical gradients and the analytical gradients (implemented in the network) was calculated on a batch from the dataset used. Finally, the maximum of these relative errors is analyzed.

	U	W	V	c	b
Max relative gradient error	$2.18e - 7$	$9.78e - 7$	$1.75e - 6$	$2.29e - 9$	$6.44e - 7$

Tabell 1: Gradient checking - Maximum relative error for each gradient matrix

Given these small errors, we can then assumed our gradient implementation is correct.

3 Training a RNN

In order to train a network, the 4th book of JK Rowling's Harry Potter is used. The latter is divided in samples of 25 characters which are then hot-encoded. The targets of each of these samples is the same sample but translated by one character in the text. This steps allows to apply Vanilla RNN and then AdaGrad algorithm to update the weight paramters thanks to a gradient-descent process.

A RNN has been trained with the following parameters: $\eta = 0.1$, $m = 100$ and $\text{seq_length} = 25$. The evolution of the smooth loss through the number of updates appears on Figure 1

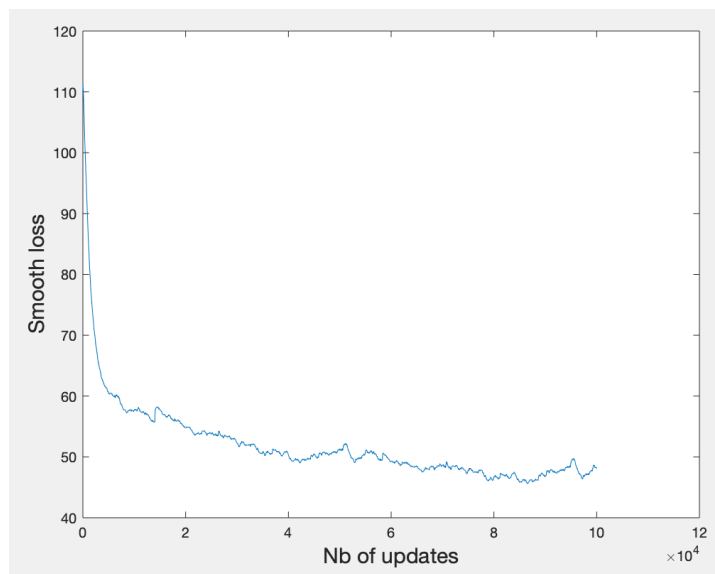


Figure 1: Plot of the smooth loss over the update steps

On Figure 1, it is seen that as expected, the smooth loss decreases through the update steps. Figure 2 presents the evolution of the text synthesized by the RNN through training.



Figur 2: Evolution of the text synthesized by the RNN during training

It can be observed how the text synthesized becomes more and more accurate and understandable over the updates steps, even if the sentences make no sense. Some characteristic words of the book are observed like "Harry" for example, which is proof of efficient training.

The smallest smooth loss obtained 45.5681. The resulting weight parameters are used to generate a passage of length 1000 (Figure 3).

Best smooth loss = 45.5681

ETY"TAde aned to to ins. Dudt to up," said Durnen wis earing you a memize my thry his demew ear firile gecordore, Gore.
 SWen ine rees," he cour quint, Hand. I The.h so and hae. He me hen in torve ry you sond over it exlit out Hald Harry at it?"
 Peatdark I Loldaching shavont at plamblo i towing undougllled you he gark thim was show unsine making furigell to more out.
 Mupibldoatter the cundwe to Harry the a might, you filfer so ooriz wizab uid Hismew migetrimis him ast reco, the wimpal it a lice,
 warms poby, whice grake bltoughtay.
 "I bulling elf dope imripp as wit my but fookiwnne.
 "You and trime on," saed here hit to clavel, the soodd teid Dhe cut foardapape have illyy was lang bolded the Dumoring of have
 warred the seid Heed dobod Skof was und yeice I meemine of of bighight meriture "Onlue the cobld gryod nound rumbratinicloat
 ity Harry nlighibling him ome mutdned - onfirfimy, smelrolied the I alf tave grtorkus wond pou under and and this to adather oll
 to ve magitingurdamedly gil

Figure 3: Passage generated by the trained RNN with the best weight parameters obtained

The same observations as before can be done: the sentences are not grammatically correct and some of the words generated don't exist but the punctuation and the global construction of the sentences are respected and some characteristic words (such as "Harry") appear.