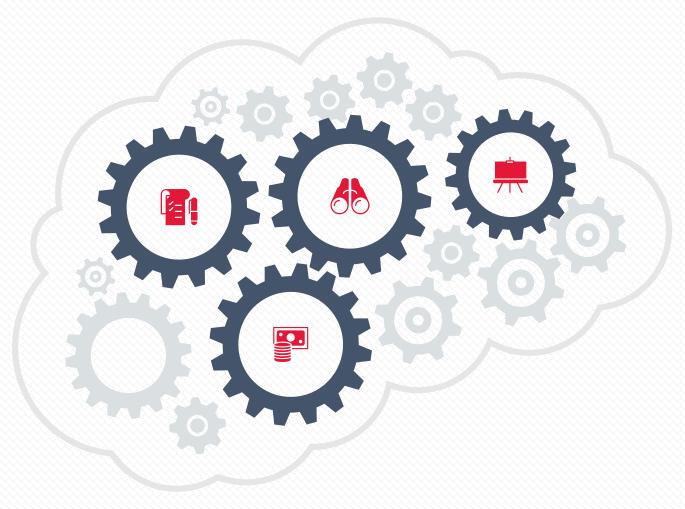


Project Goals





The goal of this project is to implement a grammatical error correction model from paper "Reaching Human-level Performance in Automatic Grammatical Error Correction: An Empirical Study".



Learn how to use deep learning NLP toolkit such as PyTorch and fairseq.



While the original paper achieves human performance, this implementation is more about an empirical study on applying deep learning in NLP as a university team project.

What We Learned

Empirical Study

- Write code quickly
- Use a framework
 - Don't start from scratch. Use existing library, framework and toolkit.
 - Pre-processing, batching, checkpointing, common models are all included.
 - Tried both OpenNMT and fairseq NLP toolkits.
 - Settled with fairseq which is also what paper used.
- It is ok to just copy toolkit and components then modify them
 - This is officially recommended way to extending and playing with fairseq.
 - When you copy many times you will naturally learn how to refactor them later.

What We Learned

Empirical Study

- Run experiments
 - Run out of box samples to learn how toolkit works.
 - Run simple models to get a proof of concept and confidence.
- Keep track of what you ran
 - Source control constructed models and hyper-paramters.
 - Save the scripts so that you can repeat them again with other tweaks and datasets.
- Keep track of what you got
 - Many frameworks and toolkits will do this for you automatically.
 - Just need to keep folders clear and watch your hard drive free space.

12/14/2018 4

What We Learned

Empirical Study

- Analyze model behaviour
- Feed model with some simplest tests
 - Look at generated values see if that's what you expected.
 - Look at scores and see if they make sense.
- Evaluate models with proper evaluation metric
 - Loss function for training.
 - Fluency score (cross entropy) and GLEU score etc.

 A left-to-right 7-layer convolutional seq2seq model has been implemented using same architecture as the paper suggested.

```
FConvModel(
(encoder): FConvEncoder(
 (embed_tokens): Embedding(137960, 500, padding_idx=1)
 (embed positions): LearnedPositionalEmbedding(1024, 500, padding idx=1)
 (fc1): Linear(in features=500, out features=1024, bias=True)
 (projections): ModuleList(
 (convolutions): ModuleList(
  (0): ConvTBC(1024, 2048, kernel size=(3,), padding=(1,))
 (fc2): Linear(in features=1024, out features=500, bias=True)
(decoder): FConvDecoder(
 (embed tokens): Embedding(121816, 500, padding idx=1)
 (embed positions): LearnedPositionalEmbedding(1024, 500, padding idx=1)
 (fc1): Linear(in features=500, out features=1024, bias=True)
 (projections): ModuleList(
 (convolutions): ModuleList(
  (0): LinearizedConvolution(1024, 2048, kernel_size=(3,), padding=(2,))
  * 7
 (attention): ModuleList(
  (0): AttentionLayer(
   (in projection): Linear(in features=1024, out features=500, bias=True)
   (out projection): Linear(in features=500, out features=1024, bias=True)
 (fc2): Linear(in features=1024, out features=500, bias=True)
 (fc3): Linear(in features=500, out features=121816, bias=True)
```

- The base convolutional seq2seq model has been trained using mostly same hyper parameters.
- Fluency score function, which is used for both boost training / learning and boost inference, has been implemented. For example, nature sentences get higher score.

```
[0.1977] It is a truth universally acknowledged , that a single man in possession of a goo
[0.1937] I am going to a party tomorrow . </s>
[0.1902] I am going to the party tomorrow . </s>
[0.1864] It was the best of times , it was the worst of times , it was the age of wisdom ,
[0.1654] Yesterday I saw a car . </s>
[0.1630] Tomorrow I am going to a party . </s>
[0.1540] I saw the car yesterday . </s>
[0.1473] Tomorrow I am going to party . </s>
[0.1383] Tomorrow I go to party . </s>
[0.1296] Yesterday I see car . </s>
[0.1280] Yesterday I saw car . </s>
```

• GLEU score function, which is used to evaluate JFLEG test set, has been implemented. For example, similar sentences have higher GLEU score.

```
There are several reason|There are several reasons
       There are several reason
                                       -0.029993820935487747
       There are several reasons
        -0.0028 -0.0339 -0.0015 -0.0464 -0.0653
GLEU 100.00
For not use car Not for use with a car
        For not use car
        For not use car -0.06429481506347656
        -0.1332 -0.0239 -0.1537 -0.0102 -0.0006
GLEU 27.40
Every knowledge is connected each other All knowledge is connected
        Every knowledge is connected each other
       Every knowledge is connected to each other
                                                    -0.17184138298034668
       -0.1573 -0.0054 -0.0348 -0.0004 -0.9934 -0.0301 -0.0026 -0.1507
GLEU 18.58
```

12/14/2018 8

• An error generation model has been implemented to generates more synthetic data from original training dataset, which will in turn boost training of the base model. For example.

```
S-3654 How many languages have you studied ?
H-3654 How many language have you studied ?
-0.19821381568908691
-0.5254995822906494
H-3654 How much languages have you studied ?
-0.5455195903778076
H-3654 How many languages are you studied ?
-0.5917201042175293
```

• Basic inference with the base model has been implemented. For example, entered sentence is corrected in multiple ways.

```
In the world oil price very high right now .
Iteration
        In the world oil price very high right now .
        In the world oil price very high right now . 0
Fluency Score: 0.1503
Iteration
                1
        In the world oil price very high right now .
        In the world oil prices very high right now . -0.2768438458442688
Fluency Score: 0.1539
Iteration
                1
        In the world oil price very high right now .
        In the world oil prices are very high right now . -0.31139659881591797
Fluency Score: 0.1831
Iteration
                1
        In the world oil price very high right now .
        In the world oil price is very high right now . -0.3594667315483093
Fluency Score: 0.1731
Iteration
                1
        In the world oil price very high right now .
        In the world oil price very expensive right now . -0.4148099422454834
Fluency Score: 0.1434
Best inference "In the world oil prices are very high right now ."
                                                                       (0.1831)
14/11/2010
```

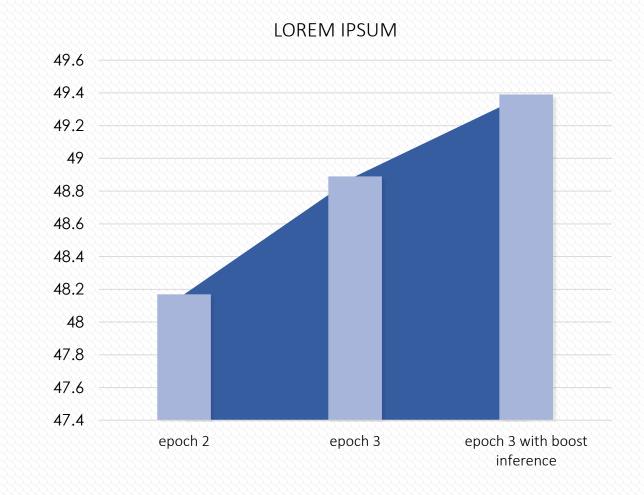
10

Boost inference has been implemented to use both base model and language model. For
example, entered sentence is corrected in multiple ways, the best scored one is chosen for
multiple rounds of correction, until the score cannot be improved.

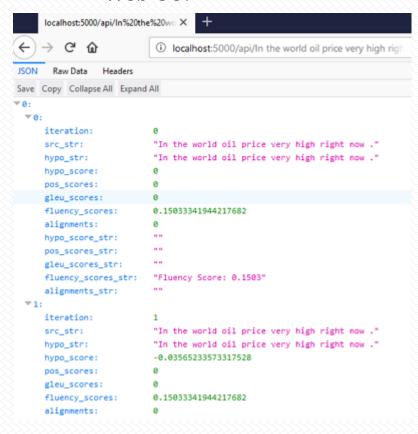
```
In the world oil price very high right now .
Iteration
       In the world oil price very high right now .
       In the world oil price very high right now .
Fluency Score: 0.1503
Iteration
       In the world oil price very high right now .
       In the world oil prices are very high right now .
                                                            -0.31139659881591797
Fluency Score: 0.1831
Boost inference from "In the world oil prices are very high right now ."
                                                                              (0.1831)
Iteration
       In the world oil prices are very high right now .
       In the world oil prices are very high now . -0.4246770739555359
Fluency Score: 0.1883
                    "In the world oil prices are very high now ." (0.1883)
Boost inference from
Iteration
No better scroed sentences.
Best inference "In the world oil prices are very high now ." (0.1883)
```

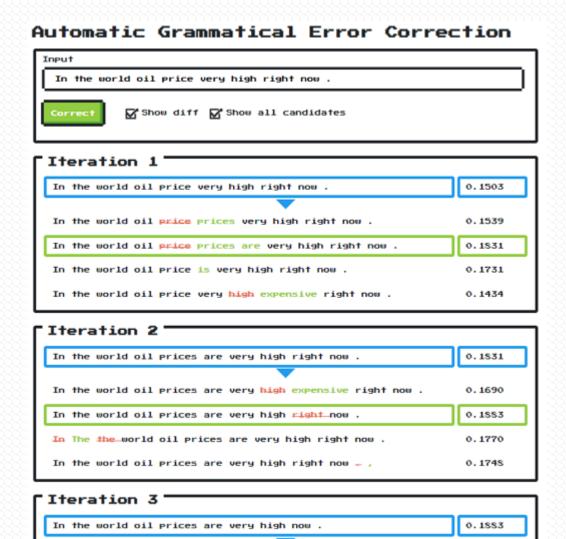
JFLEG test set GLEU

- The base model has a GLEU score 48.17 on JFLEG test set when it was trained for 2 epochs.
- The base model has a GLEU score 48.89 on JFLEG test set when it was trained for 3 epochs.
- The introduction of boost inference increased GLEU from 48.89 to 49.39. The percentage of increase is consistent with the paper (\approx 1%).



- An enhanced interactive mode with RESTful API and Web GUI.
 - RESTful API
 - Web GUI





Demo

- Either clone the repository and follow the instructions (the hard way)
 - All source code and scripts can be found at
 - https://github.com/rgcottrell/pytorch-human-performance-gec
 - Pre-trained model can be downloaded at
 - https://usgpudisks915.blob.core.windows.net/gec/cnn/checkpoint-best.zip
- Or access the Web GUI to test pre-trained model (the easy way)
 - http://gec.eastus.cloudapp.azure.com/

Initialize Submodules

• After checking out the repository, be sure to initialize the included git submodules:

git submodule update --init -recursive

- The reasons of using them as submodules rather than Python package are:
 - some scripts and functions might need be patched in order to work properly.
 - a few scripts are modified based on the original scripts, which is the officially recommended way of using fairseq.

Install Required Dependencies

- The environment used for the development is Windows 10 64bit + Python 3.6 + CUDA 9.2 + pytorch 0.4.1.
- PyTorch can be installed by following the directions on its project page. Conda is recommended as it will install CUDA dependencies automatically.

conda install pytorch cuda92 -c pytorch pip3 install torchvision

Install Required Dependencies

• This project also uses the fairseq NLP toolkit, which is included as a submodule in this repository. To prepare the library for use, make sure that it is installed along with its dependencies.

```
cd fairseq
pip install -r requirements.txt
python setup.py build develop
```

 Other project dependencies are placed under fairseq-scripts folder, which can be installed by running

```
cd fairseq-scripts
pip install -r requirements.txt
```

12/14/2018 17

Folder Structures

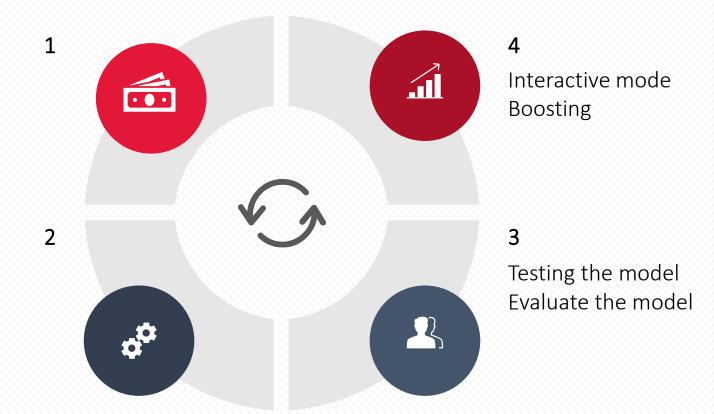
```
-- OpenNMT-py
                               The other NLP toolkit we tried early (legacy)
-- checkpoints
                               Trained models and checkpoints
   |-- errorgen-fairseq-cnn
                                   An error generation model that takes corrected sentences as input,
                                   uncorrected sentences as output
   |-- lang-8-fairseq
                                   A simple single layer LSTM model for error correction
   `-- lang-8-fairseq-cnn
                                   A 7-layer convolutional seg2seg model for error correction
                               Raw and prepared corpus
-- corpus
   |-- errorgen-fairseq
                                   Corpus generated by the error generation model - the result of boost learning.
   |-- lang-8-en-1.0
                                   Raw Lang-8 corpus
   |-- lang-8-fairseq
                                   Corpus format required by fairseq
   `-- lang-8-opennmt
                                   Corpus format required by OpenNMT
-- data-bin
                               Pre-processed and binarized data
   |-- errorgen-fairseq
                                   Binarized synthetic data and dictionaries
   |-- lang-8-fairseq
                                   Binarized Lang-8 data and dictionaries
   `-- wiki103
                                   Pre-trained WikiText-103 language model and dictionaries
                               fairseg submodule
-- fairseq
-- fairseq-scripts
                               fairseq scripts used to implement the model and process proposed by the paper
-- opennmt
                               OpenNMT data and model folder (legacy)
-- opennmt-scripts
                               OpenNMT scripts folder (legacy)
                               Random test text files can be thrown to here
`-- test
```

Fairseq Custom Scripts

All fairseq scripts have been grouped under fairseq-scripts folder. The whole process is:

Preparing data Pre-process data

Train the model



Preparing Data

- The first step is to prepare the source and target pairs of training and validation data. Extract original lang-8-en-1.0.zip under corpus folder. Then create another folder lang-8-fairseq under corpus folder to store re-formatted corpus.
- To split the Lang-8 learner data training set, use the following command:

python transform-lang8.py -src_dir <dataset-src> -out_dir <corpus-dir>

e.g.

python transform-lang8.py -src dir ../corpus/lang-8-en-1.0 -out dir ../corpus/lang-8-fairseq

Preparing Data

entries.test entries.train This will turn original lang-8 data from how to ext vp.txt README tense_asp.test tense_asp.train entries.train 1179536 http://lang-8.com/184400/journals/734998 Good luck on your new start ! 1179537 http://lang-8.com/184400/journals/734998 My teacher is going to move to change his job . He is a so nice guy and taught me English very kindly and was willing to accept my getting of: 1179538 http://lang-8.com/184400/journals/734998 2 1179539 http://lang-8.com/184400/journals/734998 And he took in my favorite subject like soccer . And he took in my favorite subjects like : Actually , who let me know about Lang - 8 was him . Actually , he was the one who let me know 1179540 http://lang-8.com/184400/journals/734998 1179541 http://lang-8.com/184400/journals/734998 He is also good at Japanese and studies ' Kanji ' . 1179542 http://lang-8.com/184400/journals/734998 His Kanji 's ability is much better than me . His Kanji ability is much better than mine . 1179543 http://lang-8.com/184400/journals/734998 We 've known each other for only half a year , but his lesson was a lot of fun . 1179544 http://lang-8.com/184400/journals/734998 I 'm going to miss him but I really wish him the best of luck with his new life . 1179545 http://lang-8.com/184400/journals/734998 I 'm looking forward to seeing him again through here . To a format that fairseg understands ang8-test.en ang8-test.gec lang8-train.en lang8-train.gec lang8-valid.en

12/14/2018 21

ang8-valid.gec

Pre-process Data

• Once the data has been extracted from the dataset, use fairseq to prepare the training and validation data and create the vocabulary:

```
preprocess-lang8.bat
```

Or

```
python ..\fairseq\preprocess.py
    --source-lang en
    --target-lang gec
    --trainpref ..\corpus\lang-8-fairseq\lang8-train
    --validpref ..\corpus\lang-8-fairseq\lang8-valid
    --testpref ..\corpus\lang-8-fairseq\lang8-test
    --destdir ..\data-bin\lang-8-fairseq
    --workers 4
```

Pre-process Data

• The result is a set of dictionaries and indexes

dict.en.txt
dict.gec.txt
test.en-gec.en.bin
test.en-gec.en.idx
test.en-gec.gec.bin
test.en-gec.gec.idx
train.en-gec.en.bin
train.en-gec.en.idx
train.en-gec.gec.bin
train.en-gec.gec.idx
valid.en-gec.en.bin
valid.en-gec.en.idx
valid.en-gec.gec.bin
valid.en-gec.gec.idx

Train the Model

• To train the error-correcting model, run the following command:

train-lang8-cnn.bat

 Note that this script may need to be adjusted based on the GPU and memory resources available for training.

Train the Model

```
(fastai) S:\pytorch-human-performance-gec\fairseq-scripts>python ..\fairseq\train.py ..\data-bin\lang-8-fairseq
 save-dir ..\checkpoints\lang-8-fairseq-cnn --arch fconv --encoder-embed-dim 500 --decoder-embed-dim 500-
                            --encoder-layers "[(1024, 3)] * 7" --decoder-layers "[(1024, 3)] * 7" --optimizer
 decoder-out-embed-dim 500
       --momentum 0.99 --lr 0.25
                                     --dropout 0.2 --max-tokens 1000 --max-sentences 10 --clip-norm 0.1
 --fp16
Namespace(arch='fconv', bucket_cap_mb=150, clip_norm=0.1, criterion='cross_entropy', data=['..\\data-bin\\lang-8-fairs
eq'], ddp backend='c10d', decoder attention='True', decoder embed dim=500, decoder embed path=None, decoder layers='[(
1024, 3)] * 7', decoder out embed dim=500, device id=0, distributed backend='nccl', distributed init method=None, dist
ributed port=-1, distributed rank=0, distributed world size=1, dropout=0.2, encoder embed dim=500, encoder embed path=
None, encoder layers='[(1024, 3)] * 7', fp16=True, fp16 init scale=128, keep interval updates=-1, left pad source='Tru
 ', left pad target='False', log format=None, log interval=1000, lr=[0.25], lr scheduler='reduce lr on plateau', lr sh
rink=0.1, max epoch=0, max sentences=10, max sentences valid=10, max source positions=1024, max target positions=1024,
max_tokens=1000, max_update=0, min_loss_scale=0.0001, min_lr=1e-05, momentum=0.99, no_epoch_checkpoints=False, no_pro
gress bar=False, no save=False, optimizer='nag', optimizer overrides='{}', raw text=False, reset lr scheduler=False, n
eset optimizer=False, restore file='checkpoint last.pt', save dir='..\\checkpoints\\lang-8-fairseq-cnn', save interval
=1, save_interval_updates=0, seed=1, sentence_avg=False, share_input_output_embed=False, skip_invalid_size_inputs_vali
d test=False, source lang=None, target lang=None, task='translation', train subset='train', update freq=[1], upsample
primary=1, valid_subset='valid', validate interval=1, weight decay=0.0)
 [en] dictionary: 137960 types
 [gec] dictionary: 121816 types
 ..\data-bin\lang-8-fairseq train 1114139 examples
 ..\data-bin\lang-8-fairseq valid 5257 examples
 model fconv, criterion CrossEntropyCriterion
 num. model params: 289444792
 training on 1 GPUs
 max tokens per GPU = 1000 and max sentences per GPU = 10
 loaded checkpoint ...\checkpoints\lang-8-fairseq-cnn\checkpoint last.pt (epoch 3 @ 416794 updates)
 epoch 004: 0%
                                                                                         0/139271 [00:00<?, ?it/s]D
\Python\Anaconda3 py36\envs\fastai\lib\site-packages\torch\nn\functional.py:52: UserWarning: size average and reduce
args will be deprecated, please use reduction='sum' instead.
 warnings.warn(warning.format(ret))
 epoch 004: 0% | 1/139271 [00:00<38:13:00, 1.01it/s, loss=1.860, ppl=3.63, wps=67, ups=0.8, wpb=80, bsz=8, num up
 epoch 004: 0% | 2/139271 [00:01<29:30:02, 1.31it/s, loss=1.358, ppl=2.56, wps=169, ups=1.4, wpb=60, bsz=8, num u
 epoch 004: 0% | 3/139271 [00:01<22:57:08, 1.69it/s, loss=1.586, ppl=3.00, wps=276, ups=1.8, wpb=67, bsz=8, num u
 epoch 004: 0% | 4/139271 [00:01<18:35:25, 2.08it/s, loss=1.368, ppl=2.58, wps=233, ups=2.2, wpb=58, bsz=8, num_u
 epoch 004: 0% | 5/139271 [00:01<15:20:57, 2.52it/s, loss=1.260, ppl=2.40, wps=337, ups=2.4, wpb=74, bsz=8, num_u
 epoch 004: 0% | 6/139271 [00:02<13:18:08, 2.91it/s, loss=1.147, ppl=2.21, wps=343, ups=2.6, wpb=75, bsz=8, num u
pdates=416800, lr=0.025, gnorm=0.453, clip=83%, oom=0, loss scale=16.000, wall=2, train wall=58167]Traceback (most rec
```

Testing the Model

To test the model, run the following command to try to correct a list of sentences:

```
generate-lang8-cnn.bat
```

• This command will try to correct all sentences in a file with probabilities and scores in the output. It is a convenient way to peed that the model behaves as expected against lots of test data.

```
S-2052 Baby has come!
-2052 The baby has arrived!
H-2052 Baby has come ! -0.035532381385564804
P-2052 -0.1289 -0.0451 -0.0015 -0.0010 -0.0011
-2052 0.13193245232105255
H-2052 A baby has come! -0.47248873114585876
P-2052
      -2.6618 -0.0920 -0.0643 -0.0095 -0.0048 -0.0025
-2052 0.1371646523475647
H-2052 Baby have come! -0.8105476498603821
      -0.1289 -3.9195 -0.0022 -0.0010 -0.0011
-2052 0.12460633367300034
H-2052
      Baby came ! -1.3400437831878662
P-2052 -0.1289 -5.1932 -0.0349 -0.0032
 -2052 0.10877018421888351
```

Evaluate the Model

- Evaluate scripts are used to score model using text or pre-processed files in batch.
- Evaluate can be done against lang-8 test dataset using

generate-lang8-cnn-rawtext.bat

· The paper evaluates against JFLEG test dataset, which can be done using

generate-jfleg-cnn-rawtext.bat

- Above scripts can be modified to test other test dataset easily as they use plain text.
- Other scripts such as generate-lang8.bat or generate-lang8-cnn.bat can only deal with preprocessed data so it is less convenient.

Evaluate the Model

JFLEG test set GLEU score without boost inference

```
| Translated 747 sentences (15126 tokens) in 14.6s (51.02 sentences/s, 1033.01 tokens/s)
| Generate test with beam=5: BLEU4 = 65.88, 84.0/70.5/60.6/52.5 (BP=1.000, ratio=1.011, syslen=14379, reflen=14226)
| Generate test with beam=5: GLEU = 48.89
```

12/14/2018 28

Interactive Mode

- While evaluate scripts are good at batch processing, two interactive scripts are provided to see details of generation / correction.
- Below script will run in console mode:

interactive-lang8-cnn-console.bat

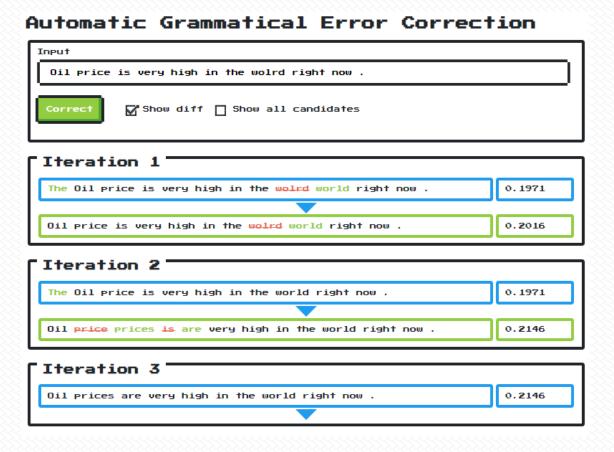
Below script will boot a local server to provide a web GUI and RESTful API interface:

interactive-lang8-cnn-web.bat

Interactive Mode

• Interactive mode allows users to enter a sentence in console, or Web GUI, to see how subtle difference in input are corrected.

```
[en] dictionary: 137960 types
  [gec] dictionary: 121816 types
 loading model(s) from ..\checkpoints\lang-8-fairseq-cnn\che
 dictionary: 267744 types
 Type the input sentence and press return:
In the world oil price very high right now .
       In the world oil price very high right now .
       In the world oil price very high right now .
                                                        -0.0
       -0.0632 -0.0120 -0.0011 -0.0325 -0.1453 -0.0646 -0.09
GLEU N/A (no target was provided. use format "source sentence
Fluency Score: 0.1503
Oil price is very high in the wolrd right now .
       Oil price is very high in the wolrd right now .
       The Oil price is very high in the world right now .
       -0.3303 -0.6238 -0.2892 -0.0621 -0.0287 -0.0590 -0.1
GLEU N/A (no target was provided. use format "source sentence
Fluency Score: 0.1885
```



Boosting

- To augment training data to provide more examples of common errors, this project builds an
 error-generating model that can produce additional lower quality sentences for correct
 sentences. This uses the same training data as the regular model, but reverses the source and
 target sentences.
- Once the data has been extracted from the dataset, use fairseq to prepare the training and validation data and create the vocabulary:

preprocess-errorgen.bat

• To train the error-correcting model, run the following command:

train-errorgen-cnn.bat

 Note that this script may need to be adjusted based on the GPU and memory resources available for training.

Boosting

• Now the error-generating model can be use to generate additional training data. The generating script will only consider sentences longer than four words that are at least 5% less fluent (as measured by the fluency scorer) than the corrected sentences. This ensures that the new sentences are more likely to showcase interesting corrections while avoiding trivial edits. Notice that in this case we use the latest model checkpoint rather than the most generalized, because in this particular case overfitting to the training data is an advantage!

generate-errorgen-cnn.bat

• The sentences generated in the corpus\errorgen directory can then be used as additional data to train or fine tune the error-correcting model.

Boosting

Samples of new generated dataset

```
284377 Is you kidding ? ? ?
                                                     284377 Are you kidding ? ? ?
284378 Do you kidding ? ? ?
                                                     284378 Are you kidding ? ? ?
284379 are you kidding ? ? ?
                                                     284379 Are you kidding ? ? ?
284380 Is it kidding ? ? ?
                                                     284380 Are you kidding ? ? ?
                                                     284381 How should I do that ?
284381 How should I do that .
284382 How should I do ?
                                                     284382 How should I do that ?
284383 How do I do that ?
                                                     284383 How should I do that ?
284384 My classes has just started .
                                                     284384 My classes have just started .
284385 My classes just started .
                                                     284385 My classes have just started .
284386 how are you guys doing ?
                                                     284386 How are you guys doing ?
284387 How are u guys doing ?
                                                     284387 How are you guys doing?
284388 Glee have many charming characters .
                                                     284388 Glee has many charming characters .
284389 Glee has many charming character .
                                                     284389 Glee has many charming characters .
284390 But I never forget .
                                                     284390 But I will never forget .
284391 but I will never forget .
                                                     284391 But I will never forget .
284392 But I never forgot .
                                                     284392 But I will never forget .
```

Demo

- If you failed or don't have time to setup the dev environment, simply access the Web GUI to test pre-trained model (limited time offer)
 - http://gec.eastus.cloudapp.azure.com/

