

# Dense Vector

- a dense vector is a numeric representation where most (or all) dimensions have non-zero values, it encodes information smoothly across all dimensions, like this: Ex  $[0.12, -0.37, 0.44, 0.05, \dots 0.1]$

this is what you get from embeddings or Neural Network layers

- Why NN work better with them? 1) continuity: small input changes lead to small output changes, making it easier to learn gradients 2) information spread: Every dimension carries some information (vs sparse vectors with mostly zeros) 3) efficient learning: Dense representations let NNs capture complex patterns and relationships through weighted combinations 4) Differentiability: works naturally with Backpropagation since everything is continuous and dense

How: models do this automatically since every dim has a non zero continuous value

• if you want to ensure it use neural embeddings (eg transformers), not one-hot or sparse bag of words

(instruction tuned models can fix hallucinations using training models) Base Models vs instruction tuned models (Both still LLM)

- Base models (Mistral, LLaMA, GPT etc): are foundational language models trained purely with self-supervised learning on a lot of text for ex predicting the next token in a sequence, this means the model just learns to model natural text, not to follow instructions or behave helpfully

Ex "what is Quantum Computing?"  $\rightarrow$  "Quantum computing, also known as..." basically just continuing your text (next word predictions) not necessarily answering questions

• these models know what they don't know this can be measured via metrics if they have token confidence there 70% right this shows they are well calibrated (trails off, says false ans)

- instruction tuned (RLHF) models (GPT, Claude etc): are base models that have been fine-tuned to behave helpfully and safely and conversationally, done in two major steps

1) supervised Fine-tuning (SFT): base model is trained on instruction response pairs usually curated or human made ex: "summarize this climate change paper"  $\rightarrow$  "climate change refers to long term shifts in temp..." this teaches model format and behaviour (to treat prompts as requests not just text to continue)

2) Reinforcement learning with human feedback (RLHF) after SFT many model outputs are generated for a given prompt and humans rank them (helpful  $\rightarrow$  unhelpful, truthful  $\rightarrow$  misleading, polite  $\rightarrow$  rude, etc) then using these rankings a reward model is trained to score outputs, finally model is fine-tuned using Reinforcement learning (ex PPO) to maximize reward, the goal is to make model more helpful, truthful, harmless

• these models are rewarded for being helpful, certain, and human like, RLHF penalizes non-ans (ie I don't know) and rewards clear & confident answers even if model uncertain, result:

these models don't know what they don't know 118 there always confident even if wrong this causes hallucinations: fluent, confident wrong answers