

# **Some Large Language Models used with Pre-training + Fine-Tuning**

We present a few models using this approach.

# BERT

- [paper \(https://arxiv.org/pdf/1810.04805.pdf\)](https://arxiv.org/pdf/1810.04805.pdf)
- [model card \(https://huggingface.co/bert-base-uncased\)](https://huggingface.co/bert-base-uncased)

BERT (Bidirectional Encoder Representations from Transformers) is also a *fine-tuning* (universal model) approach.

## Training objective

BERT is trained to solve **two** tasks

- Masked Language Modeling
- Next sentence prediction
  - does one sentence follow from another

(For a list of auxiliary tasks used, see [here \(https://arxiv.org/pdf/2107.13586.pdf#page=44\)](https://arxiv.org/pdf/2107.13586.pdf#page=44)).

The **Masked Language Model** task is a generalization of "predict the next" token

- Mask (obscure) 15% of the input tokens, chosen at random
- The method for masking takes one of three forms
  - 80% of the time, hide it: replace with [MASK] token
  - 10% of the time: replace it with a random word
  - 10% of the time: don't obscure it

The training objective is to predict the masked word

The authors explain

- Since BERT does not know which words have been masked
- Or which of the masked words were random replacements
- It must maintain a context for **all** tokens

They also state that, since random replacement only occurs 1.5% of the time ( $10\% * 15\%$ ), this does not seem to destroy language understanding

The second task is *entailment*

- Given two sentences, does the second logically follow from the first.

Perhaps this forces BERT to encode even more global context into its representations

# Training

- BooksCorpus dataset (like GPT): 800MM words
- Wikipedia (English): 2,500MM words
- Training time
  - 4 days on 64 TPU chips

See Section A.2 ("Pre-training procedure", page 13) for details of training

- Optimizer: AdaM
- Learning rate decay
- Warmup

# Architecture

BERT is an *Encoder*.

The original Transformer consists of an

- An Encoder which could attend to all tokens
  - does not use *masked attention* to force causal ordering
- A Decoder which used masking to enforce causal attention (not peeking into the future)

The Encoder allows bi-directional access to all elements of the inputs

- is appropriate for tasks that require a context-sensitive representation of each input element.

An Encoder is useful for tasks that require a summary of the sequence.

The summary can be conceptualized as a "sentence embedding"

- Sentiment



## BERT in action

Interactive model for MLM (<https://huggingface.co/bert-base-uncased?text=Washington+is+the+%5BMASK%5D+of+the+US>).

# GPT: Generalized Pre-Training

[paper \(https://cdn.openai.com/research-covers/language-unsupervised/language\\_understanding\\_paper.pdf\)](https://cdn.openai.com/research-covers/language-unsupervised/language_understanding_paper.pdf).

[Summary article \(https://openai.com/blog/language-unsupervised/\)](https://openai.com/blog/language-unsupervised/).

GPT is a sequence of increasingly powerful (and big) models of similar architecture.

It is based on the paradigm of Unsupervised Pre-Training and Supervised Fine-Tuning.

# Architecture

GPT models are stacks of Transformer Decoders.

Recall the specifics of a Transformer Decoder

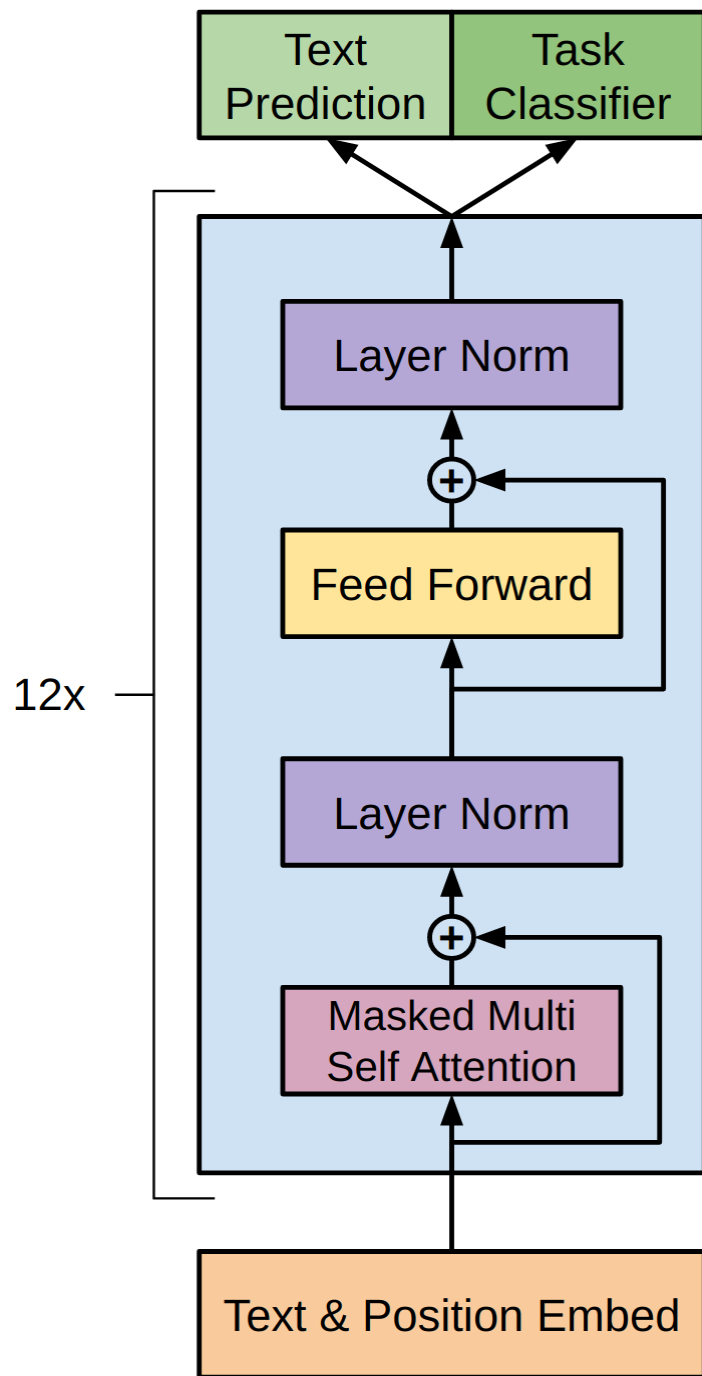
- Recurrent: output of time step  $t$  appended to input available at time step  $(t + 1)$
- Causal ordering of inputs
  - Left to Right, unidirectional
  - Implemented via Masked Self-attention

A Decoder is appropriate for *generative* tasks.

The Unsupervised Pre-Training task is generative.

- They are all trained on a Language Model objective: predict the next word





# Size

Each generation of the GPT family

- Increases the number of stacked Transformer blocks
- Increases the size of the training data

The first generation model (called "GPT") architecture

- $N = 12$  Transformer blocks (stacked)
- $d = 768$  (referred to as  $d_{\text{model}}$  in the paper)
  - Recall that  $d$  is the size of each position of the Encoder output
  - Is also the size of the output of all internal layers
- $n_{\text{heads}} = 12$ 
  - Recall that Multi-head Attention uses several Attention heads
  - On a reduced length transformation of the length  $d$  input
  - $d_{\text{head}} = \frac{d_{\text{model}}}{n_{\text{heads}}} = 64$
- Feed Forward Network
  - Output of Attention layer (size  $d_{\text{model}}$ ) connected to
  - $4 * d_{\text{model}} = 3072$  internal nodes
- $\bar{T} \leq 512$ 
  - maximum sequence length.



GPT uses a total of 117 million weights.

It is trained on

- 5GB of text (BooksCorpus dataset consisting of 7,000 books: 800MM words)
- Training time
  - 30 days on 8 GPUs
  - 26 petaflop-days

# Unsupervised Pre-Training

The Pre-Training task is to predict the next word in the sequence.

The Unsupervised Training objective is to

- maximize the likelihood for the "target" word (next word in sequence)
- maximize log likelihood on  $\mathcal{U}$  (a corpus of tokens)

$$\mathcal{L}_1(\mathcal{U}) = \sum_i \log p(u)_i | u_{i-k}, \dots, u_{i-1}; \Theta)$$

The stacked Decoder blocks are described mathematically in the paper as

$$\begin{aligned}
 h_0 &= UW_e + W_p && \text{concatenate Input Embedding and Positional Encoding} \\
 h_i &= \text{transformer\_block}(h_{i-1}) && \text{connect output of layer } (i-1) \text{ to input of layer } i \\
 &&& \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq n \\
 p(U) &= \text{softmax}(h_n W_e^T) && \text{Final output is probability distribution over the input tokens} \\
 &&& h_n \text{ is output of top transformer block} \\
 &&& h_n W_e^T \text{ reverses the embedding to obtain the output}
 \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}
 U & \text{ context of size } k : [u_{-k}, \dots, u_{-1}] \\
 W_e & \text{ token embedding matrix} \\
 W_p & \text{ position encoding matrix} \\
 h_i & \text{ Output of transformer block } i \\
 n & \text{ number of transformer blocks/layers}
 \end{aligned}$$


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See [Section 4.1 \("Model specifications"\) of the paper \(https://cdn.openai.com/research-covers/language-unsupervised/language\\_understanding\\_paper.pdf#page=4\)](https://cdn.openai.com/research-covers/language-unsupervised/language_understanding_paper.pdf#page=4) for details of training

- Optimizer: AdaM
- Learning rate decay
- Warmup

We briefly introduced these concepts in earlier modules.

Hopefully it is somewhat interesting to see them used in practice.

# Supervised Fine Tuning

The end-user uses the pre-trained model (architecture and weights)

- Trains on a small set  $\mathcal{C}$  of domain-specific examples for a **Classification** task on a sequence of words

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{C} &= [\mathbf{x}^{(i)}, \mathbf{y}^{(i)} | 1 \leq i \leq ||\mathcal{C}||] \\ &= \mathbf{x}_{(1)}^{(i)}, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{(m)}^{(i)}, \mathbf{y}^{(i)}\end{aligned}$$

- To fine-tune the weights

The process is described mathematical short-hand in the paper by defining the Fine Tuning Objective:

- maximize log likelihood on  $\mathcal{C}$   
$$\mathcal{L}_2(\mathcal{C}) = \sum_{(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})} \log p(\mathbf{y} | \mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_m) \quad \text{where } \mathbf{y} = \text{softmax}(h_l^m W_y)$$

Let's understand this

- Take output of layer  $l$  of the model:  $h_l^m$ 
  - the  $m$  is referring to the length of the input
- Add a Classification head specific to the narrow domain
  - $\text{softmax}(h_l^m W_y)$  is the mathematical formula for Logistic Regression
- Using weights from unsupervised pre-training

The authors also experimented with a Fine Tuning Objective that included the Language Model Objective

$$\mathcal{L}_3(\mathcal{C}) = \mathcal{L}_2(\mathcal{C}) + \lambda \mathcal{L}_1(\mathcal{C})$$

## **Results of Unsupervised Pre-Training + Supervised Fine-Tuning**

- Tested on 12 tasks
- Improved state-of-the-art results on 9 out of the 12



# GPT 2

## GPT-2

[paper \(https://cdn.openai.com/better-language-models/language\\_models\\_are\\_unsupervised\\_multitask\\_learners.pdf\)](https://cdn.openai.com/better-language-models/language_models_are_unsupervised_multitask_learners.pdf)

[Model card \(https://github.com/openai/gpt-2/blob/master/model\\_card.md\)](https://github.com/openai/gpt-2/blob/master/model_card.md)

[Summary \(https://openai.com/blog/better-language-models/\)](https://openai.com/blog/better-language-models/)

Second Generation model.

## Size

- $N = 48$  Transformer blocks (4 times first generation)
- $d = 1536$  (2 times first generation)
- $n_{\text{heads}} = 16$  (1.5 times first generation)
  - $d_{\text{head}} = \frac{d_{\text{model}}}{n_{\text{heads}}} = 96$
- $\bar{T} = 1024$  (2 times first generation)

GPT-2 uses 1.5 billion weights.

It is trained on

- 40GB of data (10 times the first generation)

# Results on Zero-shot tasks

Tested on 8 tasks

- State of the art on 7 out of the 8

# GPT-3

Third Generation model.

[paper \(https://arxiv.org/abs/2005.14165\)](https://arxiv.org/abs/2005.14165).

[Model card \(https://github.com/openai/gpt-3/blob/master/model-card.md\)](https://github.com/openai/gpt-3/blob/master/model-card.md).

[Summary\\_\(\)](#).

## Size

- $N = 96$  Transformer blocks (8 times first generation)
- $d = 12,288$  (16 times first generation)
- $n_{\text{heads}} = 96$  (8 times first generation)
  - $d_{\text{head}} = \frac{d_{\text{model}}}{n_{\text{heads}}} = 128$
- $\bar{T} = 2048$  (4 times first generation)

GPT-3 uses 175 billion weights.

It is trained on

- 570 GB of data (100 times first generation)
- Training cost
  - \$ 42K
  - 190K KWh of electricity @ \$ 0.22 per KW hour

The training set comes from several sources

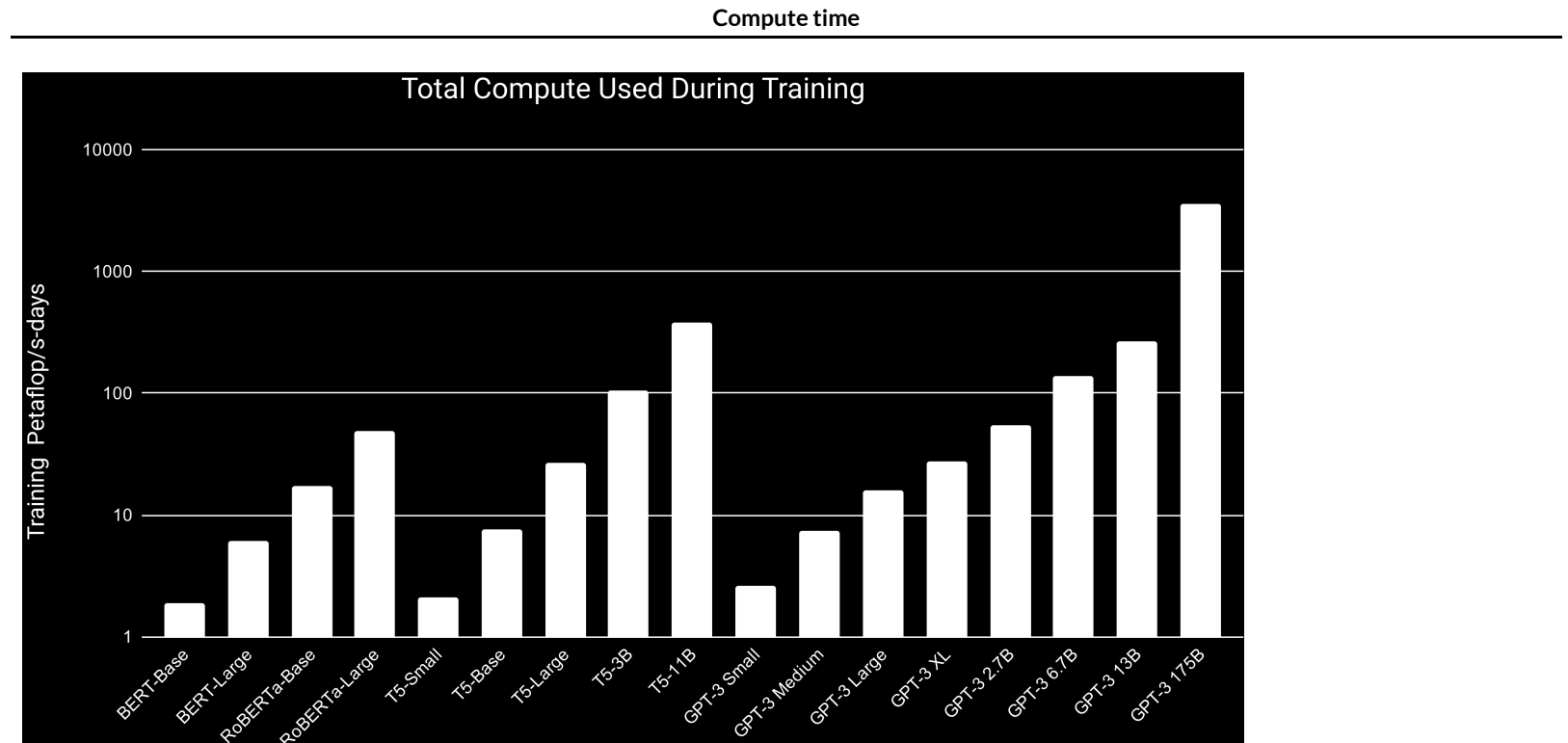
- Common Crawl (<https://commoncrawl.org/the-data/get-started/>).
  - web crawler over multiple years
  - 570 GB (100 times GPT)
  - 410 billion tokens
- Additional training sets, for experiments
  - Webtext2 (<https://d4mucfpksywv.cloudfront.net/better-language-models/language-models.pdf>).
    - Web pages originating from highly ranked Reddit links
    - 19 billion tokens
  - Books
    - 67 billion tokens -Wikipedia
    - 3 billion tokens



# Evolution of the GPT generations

You can see from the following graph how the computation times increase by orders of magnitude over the generations of GPT

- GPT-3 small  $\approx$  GPT
- GPT-3 XL  $\approx$  GPT-2



# **Can you compete with GPT ? Why Transfer Learning matters**

Intellectually: you know (approximately) how to replicate GPT-3.

Practically: can you do it ?

## Scaling up the size of the training set: WebText

We argued early in the course that the "dirty secret" of Machine Learning was the effort expended in sourcing, cleaning, and pre-processing training data.

The GPT project illustrates this.

One key to the success of GPT-2 (and later generations) was a newly created training set that was scraped from the Web.

The most common web-scraped dataset is [Common Crawl](https://commoncrawl.org/) (<https://commoncrawl.org/>).

- large, diversified
- quality problems ?
  - Large set of pages pointed to are "gibberish"

The GPT team tried to create a high-quality crawl by using a curated approach to links

- Based on Reddit
- Only follow links originating from highly-ranked (high "karma") Reddit pages

The result is called WebText

- 40GB; 8MM documents
- removed any Wikipedia
  - since it is included in many of the benchmark tasks whose performance we want to measure out of sample

From a practical standpoint:

- this is a highly labor-intensive step
- that **precedes** training

Creating a large, quality dataset such as this is a significant impediment to your attempting to create our own model.

## Cost of Training GPT-3 on your own

- Amazon Cloud
  - G5 instance
    - NVidia A10G Tensor Core GPUs @ 250 Tflops/GPU
    - 8 GPU instance (2 Pflops) @\$10/hour (with yearly contract; \ \$16\hour on-demand)
      - \$240 per 2Pflops-day
- GPT-3  $\approx$  3000 Pflop-days
  - $3000/2 = 1500$  days G5 instances to get 3000 Pflops-days
  - Cost =  $1500 * \$240/\text{day} = \$360\text{K}$

# Can you compete

Intellectually: yes.

Practically: requires much effort and expense

Fortunately, *someone else* often has performed the Unsupervised Pre-Training of a Large Language Model.

You may have little choice other than to leverage this effort and only perform the Supervised Fine-Tuning of the Pre-trained model on your specific task.

```
In [1]: print("Done")
```

Done



