Deep Sequence Modeling
MIT 6.S191

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Given an image of a ball,
can you predict where it will go next?

Given an image of a ball,
can you predict where it will go next?

Given an image of a ball,
can you predict where it will go next?

Given an image of a ball,
can you predict where it will go next?

Sequences in the wild

Audio

Sequences in the wild

character:

6.S191 Introduction to Deep Learning

word:

Text

A Sequence Modeling Problem: Predict the Next Word

A sequence modeling problem: predict the next word

"This morning I took my cat for a walk."

A sequence modeling problem: predict the next word

"This morning I took my cat for a walk."

given these words

A sequence modeling problem: predict the next word

"This morning I took my cat for a walk."

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predict the next word

Idea #1: use a fixed window

"This morning I took my cat for a walk."

given these two words

predict the next word

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"This morning I took my cat for a walk."

given these two words

predict the next word

One-hot feature encoding: tells us what each word is

[1 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0]

for

a

prediction

Problem #1: can't model long-term dependencies

"**France** is where I grew up, but I now live in Boston. I speak fluent ___."

We need information from **the distant past** to accurately predict the correct word.

Idea #2: use entire sequence as set of counts

"This morning I took my cat for a"

↓

"bag of words"

[0 1 0 0 1 0 0 ... 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 1]

↓

prediction

Problem #2: counts don't preserve order

The food was good, not bad at all.

vs.

The food was bad, not good at all.

Idea #3: use a really big fixed window

"This morning I took my cat for a walk."

given these words

predict the next word

[1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 ...]

morning I took this cat

prediction

Problem #3: no parameter sharing

[1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 ...]

this morning took the cat

Each of these inputs has a **separate parameter:**

Problem #3: no parameter sharing

[1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 ...]

this morning took the cat

Each of these inputs has a **separate parameter:**

[0 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 ...]

this morning

Problem #3: no parameter sharing

[1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 ...]

this morning took the cat

Each of these inputs has a **separate parameter:**

[0 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 ...]

this morning

Things we learn about the sequence **won't transfer** if they appear **elsewhere** in the sequence.

Sequence modeling: design criteria

To model sequences, we need to:

1. Handle **variable-length** sequences
2. Track **long-term** dependencies
3. Maintain information about **order**
4. **Share parameters** across the sequence

Today: **Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs)** as an approach to sequence modeling problems

Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs)

Standard feed-forward neural network

One to One
"Vanilla" neural network

[1]

Recurrent neural networks: sequence modeling

One to One
"Vanilla" neural network

Many to One
Sentiment Classification

[1]

Recurrent neural networks: sequence modeling

One to One
"Vanilla" neural network

Many to One
Sentiment Classification

Many to Many
Music Generation

6.S191 Lab!

[1]

Recurrent neural networks: sequence modeling

One to One
"Vanilla" neural network

Many to One
Sentiment Classification

Many to Many
Music Generation

6.S191 Lab!

… and many other architectures and applications

[1]

A standard "vanilla" neural network

A recurrent neural network (RNN)

[2]

A recurrent neural network (RNN)

A recurrent neural network (RNN)

Apply a **recurrence relation** at every time step to process a sequence:

A recurrent neural network (RNN)

Apply a **recurrence relation** at every time step to process a sequence:

$$\boxed{h_t} = \boxed{f_W}(\boxed{h_{t-1}}, \boxed{x_t})$$

cell state

function parameterized by W

old state

input vector at time step *t*

A recurrent neural network (RNN)

Apply a **recurrence relation** at every time step to process a sequence:

$$\boxed{h_t} = \boxed{f_W}(\boxed{h_{t-1}}, \boxed{x_t})$$

new state

function parameterized by W

old state

input vector at time step *t*

Note: the same function and set of parameters are used at every time step

RNN state update and output

RNN state update and output

Input Vector

RNN state update and output

Update Hidden State

$$h_t = \tanh(\boldsymbol{W_{hh}} h_{t-1} + \boldsymbol{W_{xh}} x_t)$$

Input Vector

RNN state update and output

Output Vector

$$\hat{y}_t = \boldsymbol{W}_{\boldsymbol{hy}} h_t$$

Update Hidden State

$$h_t = \tanh(\boldsymbol{W}_{\boldsymbol{hh}} h_{t-1} + \boldsymbol{W}_{\boldsymbol{xh}} x_t)$$

Input Vector

RNNs: computational graph across time

=

Represent as computational graph unrolled across time

RNNs: computational graph across time

RNNs: computational graph across time

RNNs: computational graph across time

RNNs: computational graph across time

RNNs: computational graph across time

RNNs: computational graph across time

RNNs: computational graph across time

Re-use the **same weight matrices** at every time step

RNNs: computational graph across time

RNNs: computational graph across time

Backpropagation Through Time (BPTT)

Recall: backpropagation in feed forward models

Backpropagation algorithm:

1. Take the derivative (gradient) of the loss with respect to each parameter
2. Shift parameters in order to minimize loss

[3]

RNNs: backpropagation through time

RNNs: backpropagation through time

[4]

Standard RNN gradient flow

[1]

Standard RNN gradient flow

Computing the gradient wrt h_0 involves **many factors of W_{hh}** (and repeated f'!)

[1]

Standard RNN gradient flow: exploding gradients

Computing the gradient wrt h_0 involves **many factors of W_{hh}** (and repeated f'!)

Many values > 1:
exploding gradients

Standard RNN gradient flow: exploding gradients

Computing the gradient wrt h_0 involves **many factors of W_{hh}** (and repeated f'!)

Many values > 1:
exploding gradients

Gradient clipping to scale big gradients

[1]

Standard RNN gradient flow: vanishing gradients

Computing the gradient wrt h_0 involves **many factors of W_{hh}** (and repeated f'!)

Many values > 1:
exploding gradients

Gradient clipping to scale big gradients

Many values < 1:
vanishing gradients

[1]

Standard RNN gradient flow: vanishing gradients

Computing the gradient wrt h_0 involves **many factors of W_{hh}** (and repeated f'!)

Largest singular value > 1:
exploding gradients

Gradient clipping to scale big gradients

Largest singular value < 1:
vanishing gradients

1. Activation function
2. Weight initialization
3. Network architecture

[1]

The problem of long-term dependencies

Why are vanishing gradients a problem?

The problem of long-term dependencies

Why are vanishing gradients a problem?

Multiply many **small numbers** together

The problem of long-term dependencies

Why are vanishing gradients a problem?

Multiply many **small numbers** together

↓

Errors due to further back time steps have smaller and smaller gradients

The problem of long-term dependencies

Why are vanishing gradients a problem?

Multiply many **small numbers** together

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Errors due to further back time steps have smaller and smaller gradients

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Bias network to capture short-term dependencies

The problem of long-term dependencies

"The clouds are in the ___"

Why are vanishing gradients a problem?

Multiply many **small numbers** together

↓

Errors due to further back time steps have smaller and smaller gradients

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Bias network to capture short-term dependencies

The problem of long-term dependencies

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Bias parameters to capture short-term dependencies

"The clouds are in the ___"

The problem of long-term dependencies

Why are vanishing gradients a problem?

Multiply many **small numbers** together

↓

Errors due to further back time steps have smaller and smaller gradients

↓

Bias parameters to capture short-term dependencies

"The clouds are in the ___"

"I grew up in France, … and I I speak fluent___ "

The problem of long-term dependencies

Why are vanishing gradients a problem?

Multiply many **small numbers** together

↓

Errors due to further back time steps have smaller and smaller gradients

↓

Bias parameters to capture short-term dependencies

"The clouds are in the ___"

"I grew up in France, … and I I speak fluent___ "

Trick #1: activation functions

Using ReLU prevents f' from shrinking the gradients when $x > 0$

Trick #2: parameter initialization

Initialize **weights** to identity matrix

Initialize **biases** to zero

$$I_n = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

This helps prevent the weights from shrinking to zero.

Solution #3: gated cells

Idea: use a more **complex recurrent unit with gates** to control what information is passed through

gated cell

LSTM, GRU, etc.

Solution #3: gated cells

Idea: use a more **complex recurrent unit with gates** to control what information is passed through

gated cell

LSTM, GRU, etc.

Long Short Term Memory (LSTMs) networks rely on a gated cell to track information throughout many time steps.

Long Short Term Memory (LSTM) Networks

Standard RNN

In a standard RNN, repeating modules contain a **simple computation node**

[2]

Long Short Term Memory (LSTMs)

LSTM repeating modules contain **interacting layers** that **control information flow**

LSTM cells are able to track information throughout many timesteps

Hochreiter & Schmidhuber, 1997 [2, 5]

Long Short Term Memory (LSTMs)

LSTMs maintain a **cell state** c_t where it's easy for information to flow

[2, 5]

Long Short Term Memory (LSTMs)

Information is **added** or **removed** to cell state through structures called **gates**

Gates optionally let information through, via a sigmoid neural net layer and pointwise multiplication

[2, 5]

Long Short Term Memory (LSTMs)

How do LSTMs work?

[2, 5]

Long Short Term Memory (LSTMs)

LSTMs **forget irrelevant** parts of the previous state

[2, 5]

Long Short Term Memory (LSTMs)

LSTMs **selectively update** cell state values

[2, 5]

Long Short Term Memory (LSTMs)

LSTMs use an **output gate** to output certain parts of the cell state

[2, 5]

Long Short Term Memory (LSTMs)

How do LSTMs work?

1) Forget 2) Update 3) Output

LSTMs: forget irrelevant information

$$f_t = (\boldsymbol{W_f} \cdot \sigma\,[\,h_{t-1}, x_t\,] + b_f)$$

- Use previous cell output and input
- Sigmoid: value 0 and 1 – "completely forget" vs. "completely keep"

ex: Forget the gender pronoun of previous subject in sentence.

[2, 5]

LSTMs: identify new information to be stored

$$i_t = \sigma(\boldsymbol{W_i}[\, h_{t-1}, x_t \,] + b_i)$$

$$\tilde{C}_t = \tanh(\boldsymbol{W_C}[\, h_{t-1}, x_t \,] + b_C)$$

- Sigmoid layer: decide what values to update
- Tanh layer: generate new vector of "candidate values" that could be added to the state

ex: Add gender of new subject to replace that of old subject.

[2, 5]

LSTMs: update cell state

$$C_t = f_t * C_{t-1} + i_t * \tilde{C}_t$$

- Apply forget operation to previous internal cell state: $f_t * C_{t-1}$
- Add new candidate values, scaled by how much we decided to update: $i_t * \tilde{C}_t$

ex: Actually drop old information and add new information about subject's gender.

[2, 5]

LSTMs: output filtered version of cell state

$$o_t = \sigma(\boldsymbol{W_o}[\, h_{t-1}, x_t \,] + b_o)$$

$$h_t = o_t * \tanh(C_t)$$

- Sigmoid layer: decide what parts of state to output
- Tanh layer: squash values between -1 and 1
- $o_t * \tanh(C_t)$: output filtered version of cell state

ex: Having seen a subject, may output information relating to a verb.

[2, 5]

LSTM gradient flow

Backpropagation from C_t to C_{t-1} requires only elementwise multiplication!
No matrix multiplication → avoid vanishing gradient problem.

$$C_t = f_t * C_{t-1} + i_t * \tilde{C}_t$$

[2, 5]

LSTM gradient flow

Uninterrupted gradient flow!

LSTMs: key concepts

1. Maintain a **separate cell state** from what is outputted
2. Use **gates** to control the **flow of information**
   - Forget gate gets rid of irrelevant information
   - Selectively update cell state
   - Output gate returns a filtered version of the cell state
3. Backpropagation from c_t to c_{t-1} doesn't require matrix multiplication: **uninterrupted gradient flow**

RNN Applications

Example task: music generation

Input: sheet music

Output: next character in sheet music

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[6]

Example task: sentiment classification

Input: sequence of words

Output: probability of having positive sentiment

```
loss = tf.nn.softmax_cross_entropy_with_logits(
    labels=model.y, logits=model.pred
)
```

[7]

Example task: sentiment classification

Tweet sentiment classification

Example task: machine translation

Encoder (English)

Decoder (French)

[8,9]

Example task: machine translation

Encoder (English)

Decoder (French)

[8,9]

Attention mechanisms

Attention mechanisms in neural networks provide **learnable memory access**

[8,9]

Recurrent neural networks (RNNs)

1. RNNs are well suited for **sequence modeling** tasks
2. Model sequences via a **recurrence relation**
3. Training RNNs with **backpropagation through time**
4. Gated cells like **LSTMs** let us model **long-term dependencies**
5. Models for **music generation**, classification, machine translation

References

https://goo.gl/hbLkF6

End of Slides