

# Language Modeling

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**MICS - CentraleSupélec**

**Introduction To (Deep) Natural Language Processing**



CentraleSupélec

# Final Project

# Lectures Outline

1. The Basics of Natural Language Processing
2. Representing Text with Vectors
3. Deep Learning Methods for NLP
- 4. Language Modeling**
5. Sequence Labelling (Sequence Classification)
6. Sequence Generation Tasks

# Outline

- **Causal Language Model with LSTM**
- **Causal Language Model with Transformers**
- **Evaluation**

# Framework

Given  $(t_1, ..t_D) \in V^D$ , our goal is to estimate:  $P(t_{n+1}|t_1, .., t_n)$

**We saw how to estimate that with n-gram models**

**To do better:**

→ Use a Deep-Learning Model

# Why Deep Learning Models for LM?

## Motivations

### Theoretical Insights

- Deep Learning Models are **universal approximators**
- Recurrent Neural Network can in theory model infinite context

### Practical Insights

- They can be trained on **very large amount of data**
- They can use **continuous representation** of input tokens capturing the *distributional hypothesis* efficiently

# Framework

Given  $(t_1, \dots, t_D) \in V^D$ , our goal is to estimate :

$$p(t_{n+1} | t_1, \dots, t_n)$$

# Framework

We want to find  $dnn_{\theta}$

$$\begin{aligned} dnn_{\theta} : \quad V^D &\rightarrow [0, 1]^V \\ (t_1, \dots, t_D) &\mapsto \hat{p} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{s.t. } \hat{p} = (p_i)_{i \in [0, V-1]}, \quad \forall i \quad p_i \in [0, 1] \text{ and } \sum_i p_i = 1$$



# Design Questions

- ★ **What tokenization ?**
- ★ **What output activation function and loss?**
- ★ **What architecture?**
- ★ **How do you represent a token to feed the model?**

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**NB: Questions to ask for any NLP task approached with Deep Learning**

# Tokenization

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Pros: Easy to segment, Words are Linguistic Units

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Cons: Very long sequences

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*Frequent “words” become tokens and infrequent ones are split into subwords*

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*Frequent “words” are kept intact and infrequent ones are split into subwords*

**NB: SentencePiece is the most popular tokenization algorithm for language models**

# Output Activation & Loss

## Softmax Function

$$\text{softmax}(s) = \left( \frac{e^{s_i}}{\sum_k e^{s_k}} \right)_{i \in [1, V]}, \text{ for } s \in \mathbb{R}^V$$

## Loss Function

$$l(p, \hat{p}) = CE(p, \hat{p}) = \sum_{i \in [0, V-1]} p_i \log(\hat{p}_i)$$

# Output Activation & Loss

## Softmax Function

$$\text{softmax}(s) = \left( \frac{e^{s_i}}{\sum_k e^{s_k}} \right)_{i \in [1, K]}, \text{ for } s \in \mathbb{R}^K$$

## Loss Function

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**NB:** We will use them in all the tasks we will cover in this course



# Architecture

- The Multi-Layer Perceptron
- Recurrent Neural Network: LSTM Model
- The Transformer

# MLP for Language Modeling

**Recall:** The **MLP** works **on unidimensional data** (e.g. dimension  $d$ )

$$\begin{aligned} dnn_{\theta} : \quad \mathbb{R}^d &\rightarrow [0, 1]^V \\ X &\mapsto \hat{Y} \end{aligned}$$

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How can we model  $(t_1, ..t_D) \in V^D$  with  $D$  arbitrary high ?

→ Truncate input sequences: **Fixed-Window Language Modeling**

# How to represent input tokens?

## **Solution 1**

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### **1. 1-Hot Encoding**

# How to represent input tokens?

## Solution 1: 1-Hot Encoding

1. We associate each *token* to a *1-hot vector of size  $D$*

movie =  $[1, 0, \dots, 0, 0, 0]$

hotel =  $[0, 1, \dots, 0, 0, 0]$

...

art =  $[0, 0, \dots, 0, 0, 1]$

2. Concatenate them to get a unidimensional vector

# 1-Hot Encoding as inputs

$$\begin{aligned} dnn_{\theta} : \quad & \{0, 1\}^{|V|*K} \rightarrow [0, 1]^V \\ & x = ([x_1, \dots, x_K]) \mapsto \hat{p} \end{aligned}$$

- First hidden layer is of size  $|V|*K$
- Taking as input **a sparse vector**



# 1-Hot Encoding as inputs

$$\begin{aligned} dnn_{\theta} : \quad & \{0, 1\}^{|V|*K} \rightarrow [0, 1]^V \\ & x = ([x_1, \dots, x_K]) \mapsto \hat{p} \end{aligned}$$

**First hidden layer:**

*assuming tanh as the activation function, dimension  $\delta$*

$$h_1 = \tanh(W.x) \text{ s.t. } W \in \mathbb{R}^{\delta \times (|V|*K)}$$

# 1-Hot Encoding as inputs

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## Limits

- The representation of each token is fixed and a 1-hot vector
- In this approach, **we do not learn** a representation of **each input token**

# How to represent input tokens?

**Solution 2:** **Integrate an Dense Embedding Layer**

# How to represent input tokens?

## Solution 2: Integrate an Dense Embedding Layer

We define a dense embedding layer  $E \in \mathbb{R}^{\delta_e \times |V|}$ .

This means that for each token  $t \in V$  indexed by  $j$  in the vocabulary  $V = \{t_1, \dots, t_{|V|}\}$  we have  $t_j$  *embedded* by the vector  $E_{.j}$  (i.e. column of the matrix  $E$  indexed by  $j$ ) of dimension  $\delta_e$  (the dimension of the embedding vectors).

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- We can train it during **backprop end-to-end**

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See how to define it in torch

## Dense Embedding Layer

$$dnn_{\theta} : \mathbb{R}^{|K| * \delta_e} \rightarrow [0, 1]^V$$

$$x = ([x_1, \dots, x_K]) \mapsto \hat{p}$$

s.t.  $x_i = E_{.j} \in \mathbb{R}^{\delta_e}$  with token  $t_i$  indexed by  $j$  in  $V$

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s.t.  $x_i = E_{.j} \in \mathbb{R}^{\delta_e}$  with token  $t_i$  indexed by  $j$  in  $V$

→  $E$  is a dense embedding matrix

→ We can **learn a representation vector for each token in the vocabulary**

# Why is an Embedding Layer much better?

Trainable Dense Embedding layers are a “game changer” for Deep Learning Models in NLP i.e. Generalization is much better compared to 1-hot encoding

Why?

(intuition)

$t$  and  $t'$  that have the embedding vectors (in  $E$ )  $x$  and  $x'$ . e.g.  $t = \text{"dog"}$  and  $t' = \text{"cat"}$

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# How to initialize an Embedding Layer?

Similarly to all other parameters in a deep learning model

- Before starting training: we can simply **initialize the embedding matrix randomly**
- Before training, the similarity between **embedding word vectors is random**

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Can we do better?



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- Before starting training: we can simply **initialize the embedding matrix randomly**
- Before training, the similarity between **embedding word vectors between random**

Can we do better?

- In lecture 2 we have seen how to represent good dense embedding vector with skip-gram word2vec model
- **We can simply initialize our word embedding matrix with word2vec vectors**

# How to initialize an Embedding Layer?

Initializing with a **pretrained embedding** layer was also a *gamechanger* for many NLP tasks and many Deep Learning architecture

## Conditions to use a pretrained embedding layer:

- The token in our vocabulary must be in the training of the word2vec model
- For the one that were not seen, we can simply initialize them randomly

# Transfer Learning in NLP

Initializing with a **pretrained embedding** layer is also a *game changer* for many NLP tasks and many Deep Learning architecture

It is called **Transfer Learning**

# Embedding Layer Summary

- Trainable Dense Embedding Layer are a *game changer* for Deep Learning Models
- Even more when we can use a pretrained embedding layers (e.g. with word2vec)
- They can be used with all Deep Learning Architectures
- **For all NLP tasks**

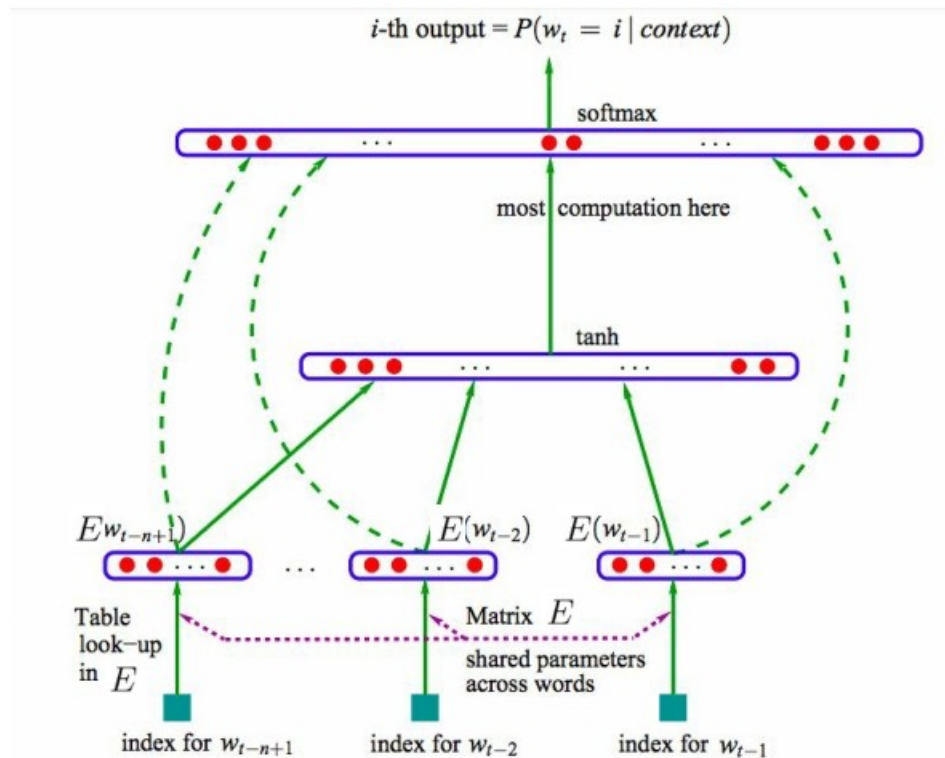
# MLP for Fixed-Window Language Modeling

$$\hat{t}_{n+1} = \operatorname{argmax}_{t \in V} p(t|t_1, \dots, t_n)$$

$$dnn_{\theta} : \mathbb{R}^{|V| * \delta_e} \rightarrow [0, 1]^V$$

$$x = ([x_1, \dots, x_K]) \mapsto \hat{p}$$

# MLP for Fixed-Window Language Modeling



# Limits of MLP for language modeling

- *Windows* is Fixed

→ Use Recurrent Neural Network (e.g. LSTM)

# Recurrent Neural Network for LM

Recall:

$$h_{i+1,t+1} = \varphi_i(W_i h_{i,t} + U_i h_{i+1,t} + b_i), \forall i \in [|1, L - 1|]$$

with  $h_{1,t} = X_t$  and  $\hat{Y}_t = dnn(X_t) = h_{L,t} \forall t \in [|1, T - 1|]$



# Recurrent Neural Network for LM

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For Language Modeling , like we did for the MLP

- We use an Embedding layer
- We use the softmax layer as output

# Recurrent Neural Network for LM

For an sequence of token

$$h_{i+1,t+1} = \varphi_i(W_i h_{i,t} + U_i h_{i+1,t} + b_i), \forall i \in [1, L] \forall t \in [1, T]$$

with  $h_{1,t} = \text{Emb}(x_t)$  and  $p_{t+1}^{\hat{}} = h_{L+1,t+1}$   
with  $\varphi_L = \text{softmax}$

We estimate  $p_{t+1}^{\hat{}} = p(x_{t+1} | x_1, ..x_t)$  directly with the RNN

# Recurrent Neural Network for LM

Written in a more synthetic way

$$h_{i+1,t+1} = RNN_i(h_{i,t}, h_{i+1,t}), \forall i \in [1, L] \forall t \in [1, T]$$

$$\text{with } h_{1,t} = Emb(x_t) \text{ and } p_{t+1}^{\hat{}} = h_{L+1,t+1}$$

$$\text{with } \varphi_L = softmax$$

We estimate  $p_{t+1}^{\hat{}} = p(x_{t+1} | x_1, ..x_t)$  directly with the RNN

# Recurrent Neural Network for LM

With a LSTM, we have a dependency on the *Cell Vector*:

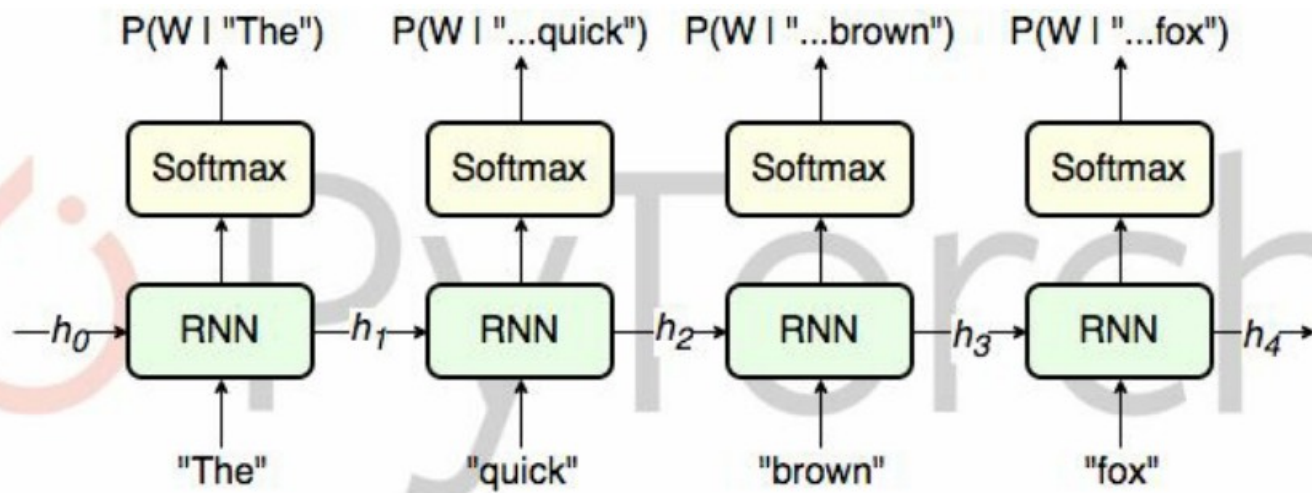
$$h_{i+1,t+1}, C_{i+1,t+1} = LSTM_i(h_{i,t}, h_{i+1,t}, C_{i+1,t}), \forall i \in [1, L] \forall t \in [1, T]$$

with  $h_{1,t} = Emb(x_t)$  and  $p_{t+1} = h_{L+1,t+1}$

with  $\varphi_L = softmax$

We estimate  $p_{t+1} = p(x_{t+1} | x_1, ..x_t)$  directly with the LSTM

# Recurrent Neural Network for LM



# Transformer for Causal Language Modeling

**Inputs:** Transformers requires a fixed sequence at input (we note it  $\mathcal{T}$  )

Let's assume we have a sequence  $(x_1, \dots x_T)$

We simply append it with a ***PADDING*** token

We append  $(x_{T+1}, \dots, x_{\mathcal{T}})$  with  $x_t = [PAD] \forall t \geq T + 1$

**We get a sequence of length**  $\mathcal{T} : (x_1, \dots x_{\mathcal{T}})$

**We make the model ignore those tokens** by setting the softmax scores to 0 in the self-attention

# Transformer for Causal Language Modeling

**Input Embeddings:**

$$(x_1, \dots, x_{\mathcal{T}})$$

**Embedding:**

$$(Emb(x_1), \dots, Emb(x_{\mathcal{T}}))$$

**such that**  $Emb(x_i) = PositionEmb(x_i) + TokenEmb(x_i)$

# Transformer for Causal Language Modeling

Given a sequence of tokens:  $(x_1, \dots, x_T)$

$$\begin{aligned} H_{i+1} &= \text{FeedForward}(A_{i+1}) \text{ and } A_{i+1} = \text{SelfAttention}(H_i) \quad \forall i \in [1, L] \\ \text{with } \text{SelfAttention}(H_i) &= \text{softmax}\left(\frac{Q K^T}{\sqrt{\delta_K}}\right)V \\ H_0 &= (\text{Emb}(x_1), \dots, \text{Emb}(x_T)) \end{aligned}$$



# Transformer for Causal Language Modeling

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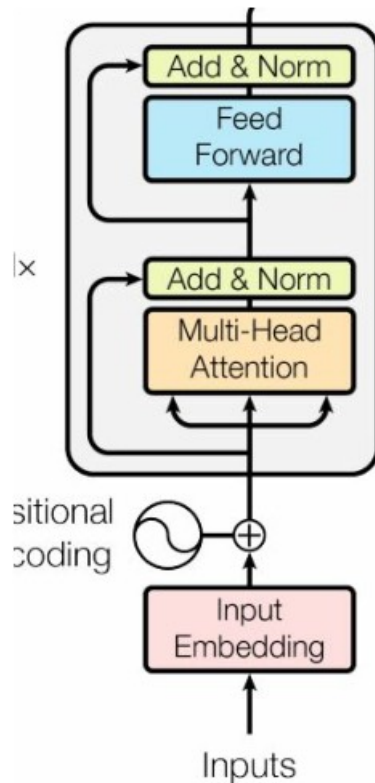
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- **Residual Connection** and **Layer Norm** are not included in those equations
- **FeedForward** is **position-wise** two layer MLP (i.e. applied independently from the position of each hidden vector)
- Self-Attention is actually a **Multi-Head Self-Attention**

# The Transformer Architecture

## The Transformer Architecture is

- Stack of [Self-Attention + FF Layer]
- With Skip-Layer and Normalization Layers in between
- Encoding the position with positional vector



# Transformer for Causal Language Modeling

Given a sequence of tokens:  $(x_1, \dots, x_T)$

⇒ **Last element of the sequence of the hidden states** of the last layer fed to a softmax

$$p_{x_{T+1}^{\hat{}}} = \text{softmax}(h_T) \quad \forall t \leq T$$

# Training

- We train on large corpus of text (+1G of text)
- We train them with backpropagation
- We usually do “**teacher-forcing**”, for each step, we use the “**gold**” sequence” and not the predicted one.
- For Transformers, we train on **sequences as long as possible** (~1000 tokens)

# Evaluation

$$\text{perplexity}(\hat{x}, x) = 2^{-\sum_i x_i \log(\hat{x}_i)}$$

*The lower the perplexity the better the language model*

# Empirical Performance

## Language Model Performance Comparison

→ **Transformer Models outperform LSTM-based models**

# Lecture Summary

- **Causal Language Modeling Framework**
- **Representing input tokens for language modeling**
- **Recurrent Neural Network for Language Modeling**
- **Transformer for Language Modeling**

# Bibliography and Acknowledgment

All these class have been taken from <https://nlp-ensae.github.io/materials/> and is taken from Benjamin Muller