

SIT330-770: Natural Language Processing

Week 7 - Neural Networks and Neural LMs

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Andrew Ng

Neural Networks and Deep Learning



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SIT330-770: Natural Language Processing

Week 6.11 - Applying feedforward networks to NLP tasks

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Use cases for feedforward networks

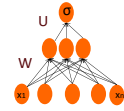
- Let's consider 2 (simplified) sample tasks:
 - Text classification
 - Language modeling
- State-of-the-art systems use more powerful neural architectures, but simple models are useful to consider!



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Classification: Sentiment Analysis


- We could do exactly what we did with logistic regression
- Input layer are binary features as before
- Output layer is 0 or 1



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Sentiment Features

Var	Definition
x_1	$\text{count}(\text{positive lexicon}) \in \text{doc}$
x_2	$\text{count}(\text{negative lexicon}) \in \text{doc}$
x_3	$\begin{cases} 1 & \text{if "no"} \in \text{doc} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$
x_4	$\text{count}(\text{1st and 2nd pronouns}) \in \text{doc}$
x_5	$\begin{cases} 1 & \text{if "I"} \in \text{doc} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$
x_6	$\log(\text{word count of doc})$



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Feedforward nets for simple classification

- Just adding a hidden layer to logistic regression
 - allows the network to use non-linear interactions between features
 - which may (or may not) improve performance.

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Even better: representation learning

- The real power of deep learning comes from the ability to **learn** features from the data
- Instead of using hand-built human-engineered features for classification
- Use learned representations like embeddings!

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Neural Net Classification with embeddings as input features!

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Issue: texts come in different sizes

- This assumes a fixed size length (3)!
 - Kind of unrealistic.
- Some simple solutions (more sophisticated solutions later)
 - Make the input the length of the longest review
 - If shorter then pad with zero embeddings
 - Truncate if you get longer reviews at test time
 - Create a single "sentence embedding" (the same dimensionality as a word) to represent all the words
 - Take the mean of all the word embeddings
 - Take the element-wise max of all the word embeddings
 - For each dimension, pick the max value from all words

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Reminder: Multiclass Outputs

- What if you have more than two output classes?
 - Add more output units (one for each class)
 - And use a "softmax layer"

$$\text{softmax}(z_i) = \frac{e^{z_i}}{\sum_{j=1}^D e^{z_j}} \quad 1 \leq i \leq D$$

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Neural Language Models (LMs)

- Language Modeling:** Calculating the probability of the next word in a sequence given some history.
 - We've seen N-gram based LMs
 - But neural network LMs far outperform n-gram language models
- State-of-the-art neural LMs are based on more powerful neural network technology like Transformers
- But **simple feedforward LMs** can do almost as well!

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Simple feedforward Neural Language Models

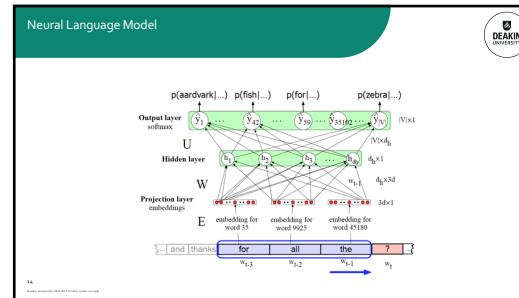
Task: predict next word w_i
given prior words $w_{i-1}, w_{i-2}, w_{i-3}, \dots$

Problem: Now we're dealing with sequences of arbitrary length.

Solution: Sliding windows (of fixed length)

$$P(w_i | w_1^{i-1}) \approx P(w_i | w_{i-N+1}^{i-1})$$

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Why Neural LMs work better than N-gram LMs

- **Training data:**
 - We've seen: I have to make sure that the cat gets fed.
 - Never seen: dog gets fed
- **Test data:**
 - I forgot to make sure that the dog gets ____
- N-gram LM can't predict "fed"!
- Neural LM can use similarity of "cat" and "dog" embeddings to generalize and predict "fed" after dog

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