Transformer Sequence-to-Sequence Model Code Explanation

1. Dependencies and Setup

The code begins by installing and importing necessary libraries like torch, torchtext, and spacy. It also downloads English and German language models for tokenization.

2. Tokenization and Vocabulary

Spacy tokenizers are used for both English and German. A vocabulary is built from the training data using torchtext.vocab.build_vocab_from_iterator.

Special tokens <unk>, <pad>, <bos>, and <eos> are defined and added to the vocabulary. set_default_index(UNK_IDX) ensures unknown tokens are handled correctly.

3. Data Pipeline

A collate_fn function prepares batches:

- Tokenizes sentences
- Converts tokens to IDs
- Adds BOS/EOS tokens
- Pads sequences for uniform batch shape

Data is loaded using torch.utils.data.DataLoader.

4. Model Components

- TokenEmbedding: Converts token indices to dense vectors.
- PositionalEncoding: Adds position info using sinusoidal functions.
- Seq2SeqTransformer: Wraps PyTorch's nn.Transformer.
 - Applies embedding + positional encoding
 - Passes through Transformer encoder/decoder
 - Uses a final linear layer to predict token probabilities

5. Masking

- Target masks (causal masks) prevent attention to future tokens.
- Source/target padding masks prevent attention to padded elements.

6. Training and Evaluation

train_epoch runs a full pass over the training data with loss computation and backpropagation.

evaluate runs inference on validation data without updating weights.

Loss is computed using CrossEntropyLoss, ignoring padding tokens.

7. Greedy Decoding for Inference

greedy_decode generates the target sequence one token at a time by always picking the most likely next token.

Steps:

- 1. Encode source
- 2. Initialize decoder with BOS token
- 3. At each step, decode and pick the token with the highest probability
- 4. Stop at EOS or max length

8. Translation Utility

translate:

- Preprocesses input sentence (tokenizes, numericalizes, adds BOS/EOS)
- Generates output sequence using greedy_decode
- Converts output tokens to readable text

9. Training Loop

The training loop:

- Defines NUM_EPOCHS
- Trains model using train_epoch
- Evaluates each epoch using evaluate
- Uses Adam optimizer with a fixed learning rate

Summary

This code provides a full implementation of a Transformer-based machine translation system with:

- Spacy tokenization
- Vocabulary building
- PyTorch nn.Transformer
- Masked attention
- Training and inference logic
- Translation utility for real input