

ASSIGNMENT-2:-

Summary of "Attention IS ALL YOU NEED" (NIPS 2017)

Authors:-

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Introduction:-

- * The Paper introduces "the transformer", a novel neural network architecture for sequence transduction (e.g. machine translation).
- * Unlike previous models that rely on "Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs)" or "Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs)" the transformer is based entirely on "self-attention mechanisms".
- * This removes the need for recurrence, enabling better parallelization and faster training while achieving superior performance.
- * The transformer achieves "state-of-the-art results" in machine translation tasks with significantly lower computational costs.

Key Contributions:-

- 1) Self-Attention Mechanism: It replaces recurrence, allowing models to capture long range dependencies more effectively.
- 2) Multi-Head Attention: enables the model to focus on different parts of the input simultaneously.

3) Positional encoding compensates for the lack of sequential structure in self-attention.

4) Layer Normalization & Residual connections improve training stability.

5) Parallelized computation significantly reduces training time compared to RNN-based models.

Model Architecture: The Transformer:-

The transformer follows the encoder-decoder architecture:-

* Encoder:- Maps input sequences to a continuous representation.

* Decoder:- Generates the output sequence step by step.

Each encoder and decoder block consists of:-

1) Multi-Head self-Attention:- captures dependencies between words.

2) Feed-Forward Network:- A position-wise fully connected network.

3) Layer Normalization & Residual connections improve gradient flow and stability.

Key Innovations:-

* Scaled Dot-product Attention:- Computes attention scores efficiently.

* Multi-Head Attention:- uses multiple attention heads to capture diverse features.

Positional Encoding: Injects order information into the model since self-attention lacks sequential dependencies.

Advantages of the Transformer:

- * Higher efficiency: fully parallelized training compared to sequential RNNs.
- * Better long-range dependency modeling: Self-attention allows direct connections b/w distant words.
- * Reduced training cost: Requires significantly fewer resources compared to RNNs and CNNs.
- * State-of-the-art performance: outperforms previous models in machine translation tasks.

Results & Performance:

- * Achieved 28.4 BLEU on WMT 2014 English-to-German translation, surpassing previous state-of-the-art models.
- * Achieved 41.8 BLEU on WMT 2014 English-to-French translation with just 35 days of training on 8 GPUs.
- * outperformed RNN-based models in English Constituency Parsing.

Conclusion & future work:

- * The transformer eliminates the need for recurrence, revolutionizing sequence modeling.
- * future research directions include applying self-attention to other domains like images, audio and video.
- * The Transformer has since influenced advancements like BERT, GPT and T5, shaping the future of NLP.

This paper laid the foundation for modern NLP models and self-attention-based architectures.