

PA1 Report

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1/30/2025

Part 3: Understanding Skip-Gram

Q1

3a) We are given the skip-gram model defined as:

$$P(\text{context} = y | \text{word} = x) = \frac{\exp(\mathbf{v}_x \cdot \mathbf{c}_y)}{\sum_{y'} \exp(\mathbf{v}_x \cdot \mathbf{c}_{y'})}$$

where x is the "center word", y is a "context word" being predicted, and \mathbf{v}_x and \mathbf{c}_y are d -dimensional vectors corresponding to words and contexts respectively. Each word has independent vectors for each, thus each word has two embeddings.

Given the sentences:

the dog
the cat
a dog

window size of $k = 1$, we get the training examples: $(x = \text{the}, y = \text{dog})$, $(x = \text{dog}, y = \text{the})$. Consequently, the skip-gram objective, log-likelihood is $\sum_{(x,y)} \log P(y|x)$. With word and context embeddings of dimension $d = 2$, the context embedding vectors w for *dog* and *cat* are both $(0, 1)$, and the embeddings vectors w for *a* and *the* are $(1, 0)$. Thus, the set of probabilities $P(y|\text{the})$ that maximize the log-likelihood are:

$$P(y|\text{the}) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} & y = \text{dog} \\ \frac{1}{2} & y = \text{cat} \\ 0 & y = \text{a} \\ 0 & y = \text{the} \end{cases}$$

- 3b) We want a setting \mathbf{v}_{the} where $P(\text{dog}|\text{the}) \approx 0.5$, $P(\text{cat}|\text{the}) \approx 0.5$, and $P(\text{a}|\text{the}), P(\text{the}|\text{the}) \approx 0$. We know we can calculate $P(y|\text{the})$ as:

$$P(y|\text{the}) = \frac{\exp(\mathbf{v}_{\text{the}} \cdot \mathbf{c}_y)}{\sum_{y'} \exp(\mathbf{v}_{\text{the}} \cdot \mathbf{c}_{y'})}$$

$$= \frac{\exp(\mathbf{v}_{\text{the}} \cdot \mathbf{c}_y)}{\exp(\mathbf{v}_{\text{the}} \cdot \mathbf{c}_{\text{dog}}) + \exp(\mathbf{v}_{\text{the}} \cdot \mathbf{c}_{\text{cat}}) + \exp(\mathbf{v}_{\text{the}} \cdot \mathbf{c}_{\text{a}}) + \exp(\mathbf{v}_{\text{the}} \cdot \mathbf{c}_{\text{the}})}$$

We know that $\mathbf{c}_{\text{dog}} = \mathbf{c}_{\text{cat}} = (0, 1)$ and $\mathbf{c}_{\text{a}} = \mathbf{c}_{\text{the}} = (1, 0)$. Thus, we want the dot products of cat and dog to be very large and positive, while minimizing the dot products of a and the. Therefore, we can look for settings of \mathbf{v}_{the} in a $(-C, C)$ format. We search for such values using `part3.py` and find that a nearly optimal vector within 0.01 of the optimum is $\mathbf{v}_{\text{the}} = (-2, 2)$. Increasing the values further brings the probabilities closer to the target.

Q2

- 3c) With a word embedding space $d = 2$, the training examples derived from the sentences:

```
the dog
the cat
a dog
a cat
```

with window size $k = 1$ are:

```
(x = the, y = dog)
(x = dog, y = the)
(x = the, y = cat)
(x = cat, y = the)
(x = a, y = dog)
(x = dog, y = a)
(x = a, y = cat)
(x = cat, y = a)
```

- 3c) We see that each center word appears equally often with each context word. Thus, the optimal probabilities for each context word given a

center word are:

$$\begin{aligned}P(\text{the}|\text{dog}) &= P(\text{a}|\text{dog}) = 0.5 \\P(\text{the}|\text{cat}) &= P(\text{a}|\text{cat}) = 0.5 \\P(\text{dog}|\text{the}) &= P(\text{cat}|\text{the}) = 0.5 \\P(\text{dog}|\text{a}) &= P(\text{cat}|\text{a}) = 0.5\end{aligned}$$

and all other context words have probability 0. With context vectors:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{c}_{\text{dog}} &= \mathbf{c}_{\text{cat}} = (0, 1) \\ \mathbf{c}_{\text{a}} &= \mathbf{c}_{\text{the}} = (1, 0)\end{aligned}$$

we can find nearly optimal word vectors \mathbf{v}_w for each word w using similar logic as in 3b. However, we also need to ensure that \mathbf{v}_{dog} and \mathbf{v}_{cat} this time give equal probabilities, and thus should follow $(C, -C)$ format instead. From our value in 3b, we then obtain the following vectors:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{v}_{\text{the}} &= (-2, 2) \\ \mathbf{v}_{\text{a}} &= (-2, 2) \\ \mathbf{v}_{\text{dog}} &= (2, -2) \\ \mathbf{v}_{\text{cat}} &= (2, -2)\end{aligned}$$

Running `part3.py` confirms that these vectors yield probabilities within 0.01 of the optimum.