Short report on lab assignment 4 RNN

Anna Sánchez Espunyes

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1 Main objectives and scope of the assignment

In this assignment you will train an RNN to synthesize English text character by character. You will train a vanilla RNN with outputs, as described in lecture 9, using the text from the book The Goblet of Fire by J.K. Rowling. The variation of SGD you will use for the optimization will be AdaGrad.

2 Methods

In this assignment we worked using Python and some of its well-known libraries, including matplotlib, numpy. We have also used the PyCharm IDE and Github.

3 Results and discussion

3.1 Gradient calculation

In the assignment the gradients are calculated analytically but an extra numerical function is used to check if the calculations are precise. After checking whether the calculations are correct, it can be stated that the computations are accurate. I have compared the numerically and analytically computed gradient by examining their absolute differences. The absolute differences is in the order of 1e-10, which is a threshold small enough to consider the calculations valid. In the following chart it can be found the maximum of the absolute difference between the numerical and analytical calculations for the different parameters.

Parameter	Maximum absolute difference
b	7.56e-10
\mathbf{c}	7.66e-10
\mathbf{U}	3.83e-10
\mathbf{W}	3.97e-10
\mathbf{V}	3.97e-10

3.2 Smooth loss function

Once the gradients are well-calculated it is possible to train the RNN. In this assignment AdaGrad optimization has been used.

It is expensive to compute the loss of the entire training data so instead of keeping track of the current loss, a smoothed version is used. The smooth loss is a weighted sum of the smoothed loss and the current loss:

$$smoothloss = .999 * smoothloss + .001 * loss$$
 (1)

It is expected that as gradients are updated, the smoothed loss decreases. The plot of the smooth loss across update steps (for 5 epochs), can be seen in Figure 1. The learning rate used to produce this plot is 0.1 and the number of hidden states is 100. As expected, the smooth loss decreases with more update steps. The minimum smooth loss achieved is 41.11.

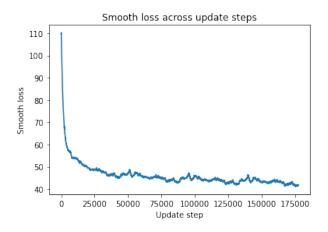


Figure 1: Smooth loss across update steps

3.3 Evolution of the synthesized text

In this Section it will be shown the evolution of the synthesized text during training. By producing 200 characters sequence every 10000 update steps for the first 100000 update steps.

0 update steps

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10000 update steps

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50000 update steps

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60000 update steps

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3.4 Best model

The best model was obtained after training for 10 epochs with a loss of 40.11 The 1000 characters generated are the following

Synthesized text for the best model

No my she had a tame the litch the Dagge's by be up. Cut be have oner." Bard Harry? They digge-sing. Baging veroule -" Butch you hund's derst, Madger you, somit. They him inted," sow they'se. He was is be," said Ron's leffoved strang croun the get her. Fares, they right," said HaggEid that be to you haid've claione very he it and what them. sher he was in through the aske, and said, ... Where had with the mute he dis, Alifomeve tizermied looking., he were stay a toking. "Bood untling it murnting to be barages with yes walled and behe out of his goppet of has when who got Dullan, but the moments preated bat walled on the right like son you," Harry slives ocking, Vumgeth be the coging a mother no's poncing - have. "Seam of up. "Mor her hight starod, Hagrid numble he's doat not. It mustl fars it's heeds as Dumbledore's door to my when ginor..." "I his it, and bemort Hagrid makachen. Fo thiepidgenuglating on she's wank to of on him." "Goding my paes. "It'll roblh reming agting t