# **Gradient Estimation with Stochastic Softmax Tricks**

## **Problem statement**

- 1) В некоторых ситуациях выходы модели(например, автокодировщика) удобнее или нужно хранить в виде ohe-векторов, т.е. выход представлен в виде вектора (0,0,...., 1, 0, 0), например argmin по выходу из слоя в виде ohe, где 1 на месте аргумента, чье значение минимально
- 2) возникает проблема обучения модели(градиенты всегда будут нулевые)

# Возможное решение проблемы

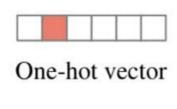
- 1) Представим что мы генерируем выход ohe векторов как распределение, которое было до применения ohe, например это мог быть слой активаций, целевая функция матожидание исходной целевой функции по распределению ohe.
- 2) теперь нужно уметь считать матожидание, что затруднительно

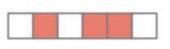
Given a probability mass function  $p_{\theta}: \mathcal{X} \to (0, 1]$  that is differentiable in  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^m$ , a loss function  $\mathcal{L}: \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}$ , and  $X \sim p_{\theta}$ , our ultimate goal is gradient-based optimization of  $\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{L}(X)]$ . Thus, we are concerned in this paper with the problem of estimating the derivatives of the expected loss,

$$\frac{d}{d\theta} \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{L}(X)] = \frac{d}{d\theta} \left( \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \mathcal{L}(x) p_{\theta}(x) \right). \tag{1}$$

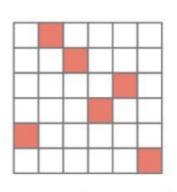
## **Gumbel max and softmax tricks**

Пусть наш выход из модели (из сети) есть некое дискретное конечное множество, которое мы представили в виде ohe или матриц, если это более сложные объекты:

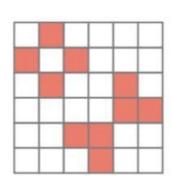


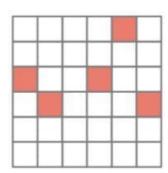


k-hot vector



Permutation matrix





Spanning tree adj. matrix Arborescence adj. matrix

### **Gumbel max and softmax tricks**

#### **Gumbel max trick:**

The GMT is the following identity: for  $X \sim p_{\theta}$  and  $G_i + \theta_i \sim \text{Gumbel}(\theta_i)$  indep.,

$$X \stackrel{d}{=} \arg\max_{x \in \mathcal{X}} (G + \theta)^T x.$$

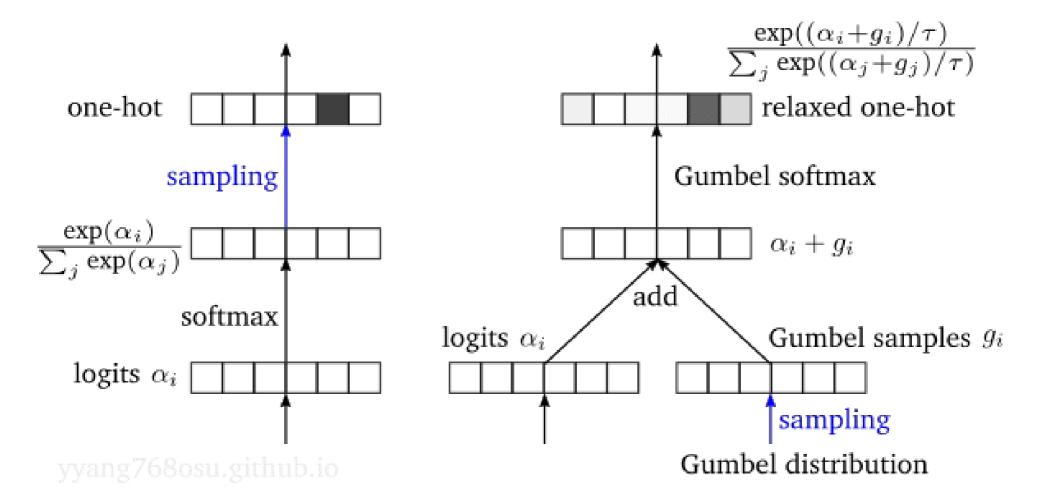
Ideally, one would have a reparameterization estimator,  $\mathbb{E}[d\mathcal{L}(X)/d\theta] = d\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{L}(X)]/d\theta$ 

#### **Gumbel softmax trick:**

softmax<sub>t</sub> $(u)_i = \exp(u_i/t)/\sum_{j=1}^n \exp(u_j/t)$  for  $u \in \mathbb{R}^n, t > 0$ , to continuously approximate X,

$$X_t = \operatorname{softmax}_t(G + \theta). \tag{3}$$

### **Gumbel softmax trick**



# Stochastic argmax and softmax trick

#### **Stochastic argmax trick**

**Definition 1.** Given a non-empty, convex independent, finite set  $\mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  and a random utility U whose distribution is parameterized by  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^m$ , a stochastic argmax trick for X is the linear program,

$$X = \arg\max_{x \in \mathcal{X}} U^T x. \tag{4}$$

#### Stochastic softmax trick

Given an SMT, an SST incorporates a strongly convex regularizer to the linear objective, and expands the state space to the convex hull of the embeddings  $\mathcal{X} = \{x_1, \dots, x_m\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ ,

$$P := \operatorname{conv}(\mathcal{X}) := \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{m} \lambda_i x_i \,\middle|\, \lambda_i \ge 0, \, \sum_{i=1}^{m} \lambda_i = 1 \right\}. \tag{5}$$

Expanding the state space to a convex polytope makes it path-connected, and the strongly convex regularizer ensures that the solutions are continuous over the polytope.

**Definition 2.** Given a stochastic argmax trick (X, U) where  $P := \operatorname{conv}(X)$  and a proper, closed, strongly convex function  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \to \{\mathbb{R}, \infty\}$  whose domain contains the relative interior of P, a stochastic softmax trick for X at temperature t > 0 is the convex program,

$$X_t = \arg\max_{x \in P} U^T x - t f(x) \tag{6}$$

### Main trick with mean function

# С помощью трюка мы можем оценить мат ожидание без трудоемких вычислений

**Proposition 1.** If X in Def. [1] is a.s. unique, then for  $X_t$  in Def. [2],  $\lim_{t\to 0^+} X_t = X$  a.s. If additionally  $\mathcal{L}: P \to \mathbb{R}$  is bounded and continuous, then  $\lim_{t\to 0^+} \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{L}(X_t)] = \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{L}(X)]$ .

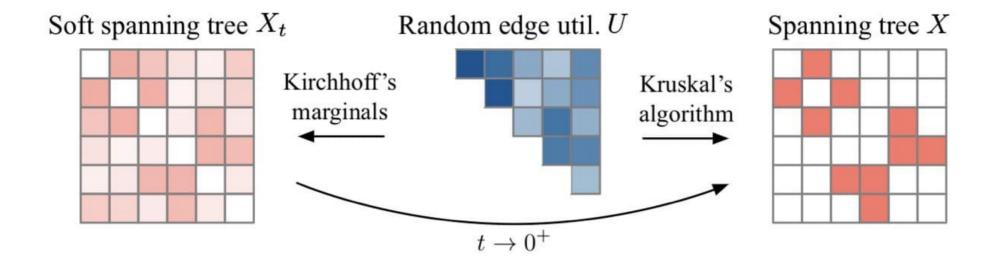
It is common to consider temperature parameters that interpolate between marginal inference and a deterministic, most probable state. While superficially similar, our relaxation framework is different; as  $t \to 0^+$ , an SST approaches a sample from the SMT model as opposed to a deterministic state.

 $X_t$  also admits a reparameterization trick. The SST reparameterization gradient estimator given by,

$$\frac{d\mathcal{L}(X_t)}{d\theta} = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}(X_t)}{\partial X_t} \frac{\partial X_t}{\partial U} \frac{dU}{d\theta}.$$
 (7)

If  $\mathcal{L}$  is differentiable on P, then this is an unbiased estimator of the gradient  $d\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{L}(X_t)]/d\theta$ , because  $X_t$  is continuous and a.e. differentiable:

# Пример с spanning tree



# Вопросы:

- 1) проблема оценки градиента (слайд 2)
- 2) выписать формулы GMT GST (слайд 5)
- 3) выписать формулы SMT SST (слайд 7)