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Proposal.

RL-Free training for RAD-embeddings [IEW7]

July 29, 2025 · *Marcell Vazquez-Chanlatte*

We propose an RL-free approach to training a DFA-encoder. We start with the training objective.

Definition 1. RL-Free contrastive loss for RAD-embeddings [YFU7]

Let

$$f_{\theta} : \text{DFAs} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$$

be a $d \in \mathbb{N}$ dimensional DFA embedding with parameters $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^n, n \in \mathbb{N}$, and let

$$\delta : \text{DFAs} \times \text{DFAs} \rightarrow \Sigma^* \cup \perp$$

be a function that maps pairs of DFAs to a minimal distinguishing string.

For a given word, $w \in \Sigma^*$, let $\text{Prefixes}(w)$, denote all of w 's prefixes (including w and the empty string). Further, given a DFA $D \in \text{DFAs}$ and a word $w \in \Sigma^*$, let D_w denote the sub-DFA accessed by word w .

Next, given two distinguishable DFAs, we denote by $\delta\text{Prefixes}$ set of prefixes of minimal distinguishing given by δ .

$$\delta\text{Prefixes}(D, D') \triangleq \text{Prefixes}(\delta(D, D'))$$

The RAD RL-free constrastive loss, $\mathcal{L} : \mathbb{R}^n \times \text{DFAs} \times \text{DFAs} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, is defined as:

$$\mathcal{L}(\theta, D, D') \triangleq \max_{w \in \delta\text{Prefixes}(D, D')} \|f_{\theta}(D) - f_{\theta}(D')\|.$$

That is the maximum embedding distance along the minimal distinguishing string.

Algorithm Sketch 2. RL-Free Training Procedure Sketch [ROF5]

Next, let \mathcal{D}_{RAD} denote a fixed Reach Avoid Derived (RAD) training distribution over DFAs. The training procedure for our proposed encoder is as follows.

1. Sample two *distinct* DFAs from \mathcal{D}_{RAD} , call D and D' .
2. Compute a minimum distinguishing string, w_* , between D and D' , e.g., using a shortest path algorithm.
3. Compute the embeddings for D and D' , i.e., $f_{\theta}(D)$ and $f_{\theta}(D')$, using the current parameters θ .

4. Compute the pairs of states visited by w_* and their corresponding embeddings.
5. To compute $\mathcal{L}(\theta, D, D')$, calculate their relative pair-wise distance and return the maximum.
6. Finally, compute the gradient with respect to θ , $\nabla_{\theta} \mathcal{L}(\theta, D, D')$ to update θ , e.g., using Adam.

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Idea Nursery and Random Thoughts [\[ideas\]](#)

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