LLM Basics

Subhasis Dasgupta

August 9, 2024

Evolution of Language Modeling

50s Era: The Beginning

- Claude Shannon: Applied information theory to human language.
- Simple n-gram Models: Foundation for tasks like speech recognition and machine translation.

Advancement to Statistical Models

• Central to Natural Language Understanding (NLU) tasks.

The Four Waves of Language Modeling

- Wave 1: Statistical Language Models (SLMs)
 - Key Concept: n-gram Models
 - Challenges: Data sparsity, need for smoothing.
- Wave 2: Neural Language Models (NLMs)
 - Innovation: Low-dimensional word embeddings.
 - Advancement: Semantic similarity, cross-modal tasks.

The Rise of Pre-trained Language Models (PLMs)

Wave 3: PLMs

- Task-Agnostic Approach: Pre-training and fine-tuning.
- Technology: RNNs and Transformers.
- Significance: Generalization across tasks.

The Advent of Large Language Models (LLMs)

Wave 4: LLMs

- Scale: Tens to hundreds of billions of parameters.
- Impact: Multi-step reasoning, diverse tasks.
- Examples: PaLM, LLaMA, GPT-4.
- Foundation for AGI: Paving the way for general-purpose AI systems.

The Future of LLMs and AI

- Rapid Innovation: The fast pace of developments in LLMs.
- Challenges: Keeping up with new techniques and models.
- Conclusion: The importance of ongoing research and adaptation.

Encoder-Only PLMs

Overview:

- Focus on understanding and representing input text.
- Used for tasks like classification, question answering, and language inference.

• Key Models:

- **BERT** (Bidirectional Encoder Representations from Transformers):
 - Revolutionized language understanding tasks.
 - Inspired similar models like RoBERTa and ALBERT.

RoBFRTa:

• Improved BERT with better hyperparameters and training strategies.

ALBERT:

Optimized BERT for memory and training efficiency.

LLM Basics

DeBERTa:

Subhasis Dasgupta

 Enhanced BERT with disentangled attention and improved decoding mechanisms.

August 9, 2024

7/26

Decoder-Only PLMs

Overview:

- Designed for generating text based on a given context.
- Excel in tasks such as text generation, language modeling, and dialogue systems.

• Key Models:

- **GPT-1** (Generative Pre-trained Transformer):
 - Introduced the concept of pre-training a Transformer on unlabeled text.
 - Laid the groundwork for subsequent models.
- GPT-2:
 - Demonstrated that language models could perform specific tasks without explicit supervision.
 - Expanded on GPT-1 with larger datasets and architectural improvements.

Encoder-Decoder PLMs

Overview:

- Combine the strengths of both encoders and decoders.
- Versatile, handling both natural language understanding and generation tasks.

• Key Models:

- **T5** (Text-to-Text Transfer Transformer):
 - Unified framework for all NLP tasks as text-to-text problems.
 - mT5: A multilingual variant pre-trained on texts in 101 languages.
- MASS (Masked Sequence to Sequence):
 - Pre-trains by reconstructing a masked sentence fragment, integrating both encoding and generation.
- BART (Bidirectional and Auto-Regressive Transformers):
 - Pre-trained by corrupting and reconstructing text, useful for translation and summarization.

Key Models

• GPT-1:

- The first in the GPT series, demonstrating the potential of pre-training a Transformer model on a large text corpus.
- **Notable Feature:** Introduced generative pre-training followed by fine-tuning.

GPT-2:

- Expanded upon GPT-1 with a larger model and dataset, generating coherent, contextually relevant text.
- Notable Feature: Human-like text generation, raising discussions on Al ethics.

GPT-3:

- Marked a leap with 175 billion parameters, enabling in-context learning for various tasks.
- Notable Feature: Emergent abilities in translation, question answering, and reasoning.

- 4 ロ b 4 個 b 4 き b 4 き b 9 Q C

Key Models (cont.)

CODEX:

- A fine-tuned version of GPT-3 for programming tasks, translating natural language into code.
- **Notable Feature:** Powers GitHub Copilot, generating code snippets from descriptive prompts.

ChatGPT:

- An interactive chatbot based on GPT-3.5 and GPT-4, capable of performing a wide range of conversational tasks.
- Notable Feature: Widely used for customer support, education, and as a general-purpose AI assistant.

GPT-4:

- The latest and most advanced model, with multimodal capabilities processing both text and images.
- Notable Feature: Demonstrates human-level performance on various benchmarks, including professional exams.

Significance

- The GPT family has set new standards in AI language models, influencing the development of subsequent LLMs across the industry.
- Each iteration has expanded the boundaries of what AI can achieve in natural language understanding and generation.

Overview of LLaMA

- Developed by: Meta
- Model Type: Open-source foundation language models
- **Purpose:** To provide powerful, open-access LLMs for research and development, competing with closed-source models.

Key Features of LLaMA Models

- Open-source: Model weights are available under a noncommercial license.
- Architecture: Based on GPT-3 with modifications such as SwiGLU activation, rotary positional embeddings, and RMS layer normalization.
- LLaMA-13B: Outperforms GPT-3 (175B) on most benchmarks.

Key Models in the LLaMA Family

LLaMA-2 (2023):

- Includes both foundation models and fine-tuned Chat models.
- LLaMA-2 Chat models excel in dialogue tasks with iterative refinement using RLHF and other optimization techniques.

• Guanaco:

- Efficiently fine-tuned using QLoRA on a single GPU.
- Reaches 99.3

Koala:

- Focused on interaction data from closed-source chat models.
- Competitive performance with state-of-the-art chat models.

Advanced LLaMA Models

• Mistral-7B:

- A 7B-parameter model engineered for efficiency and performance.
- Outperforms larger models in reasoning, mathematics, and code generation.
- Features grouped-query attention and sliding window attention for faster inference.

Other Models:

- The LLaMA family includes a variety of specialized models such as Code LLaMA, Gorilla, Giraffe, Vigogne, and more.
- These models are designed for specific tasks, including coding, long-text processing, and multilingual support.

Significance of the LLaMA Family

- LLaMA models promote open research and transparency in the Al community.
- Rapid growth due to open-source access, enabling wide adoption and innovation.
- LLaMA models set new standards for efficiency and performance in open-source LLMs.

Overview About PaLM

- Developed by: Google
- Model Type: Transformer-based LLMs
- Purpose: To achieve state-of-the-art performance across language understanding and generation tasks through large-scale, efficient training.

Key Models in the PaLM Family

PaLM-540B (2022):

- 540 billion parameters, trained on 780 billion tokens.
- Utilizes Google's Pathways system for highly efficient training.
- Achieves state-of-the-art few-shot learning results on numerous benchmarks.

U-PaLM:

- Continually trained on PaLM with UL2R, achieving approximately 2x computational savings.
- Scales include 8B, 62B, and 540B parameters.

• Flan-PaLM:

- Instruction-finetuned version of U-PaLM.
- \bullet Outperforms PaLM-540B by a large margin (+9.4
- Finetuned on 1.8K tasks, with a large and diverse dataset.

Advanced PaLM Models

PaLM-2:

- More compute-efficient with better multilingual and reasoning capabilities.
- Trained using a mixture of objectives for enhanced performance on downstream tasks.

Med-PaLM:

- Domain-specific model for medical applications.
- Finetuned using instruction prompt tuning for alignment with healthcare tasks.
- Med-PaLM 2 further improves performance with med-domain finetuning and ensemble prompting.

Significance of the PaLM Family

- PaLM models set new benchmarks for few-shot learning, multilingual understanding, and specialized domains like healthcare.
- PaLM-2 and Med-PaLM demonstrate the versatility and scalability of the PaLM architecture in both general and domain-specific tasks.
- Continuous innovation with U-PaLM and Flan-PaLM emphasizes
 Google's commitment to pushing the boundaries of LLM capabilities.

Dominant Architectures in Language Models (1/2)

1) Transformer

- Proposed by Vaswani et al.
- Utilizes self-attention mechanism for capturing long-term contextual information.
- Composed of an encoder and a decoder, each with multi-head self-attention layers.
- Suitable for tasks like machine translation.

2) Encoder-Only

- Attention layers access all words in the sentence.
- Pre-training involves reconstructing corrupted sentences.
- Effective for understanding full sequences.
- Example: BERT (Bidirectional Encoder Representations).

22 / 26

Dominant Architectures in Language Models (2/2)

3) Decoder-Only

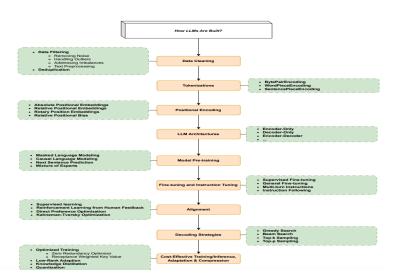
- Attention layers only access previous words in the sequence.
- Pre-training involves predicting the next word in the sequence.
- Ideal for text generation tasks.
- Example: GPT models (Generative Pre-trained Transformers).

4) Encoder-Decoder

- Combines encoder and decoder; also known as sequence-to-sequence models.
- Encoder accesses all words; decoder accesses previous words in the sequence.
- Best for tasks like summarization, translation, and generative question answering.

23 / 26

LLM Path Overview



Minaee S, et.al. Large language models: A survey 2024 *** *** *** 24 / 26

Subhasis Dasgupta LLM Basics August 9, 2024

References I



- Devlin, J., et al. (2018). "BERT: Pre-training of Deep Bidirectional Transformers for Language Understanding." arXiv preprint arXiv:1810.04805.
- Brown, T., et al. (2020). "Language Models are Few-Shot Learners." Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems, 33, 1877-1901.
- Raffel, C., et al. (2020). "Exploring the Limits of Transfer Learning with a Unified Text-to-Text Transformer." *Journal of Machine Learning Research*, 21(140), 1-67.
- Chowdhery, A., et al. (2022). "PaLM: Scaling Language Modeling with Pathways." arXiv preprint arXiv:2204.02311.
- Minaee, S., Mikolov, T., Nikzad, N., Chenaghlu, M., Socher, R., Amatriain, X., and Gao, J. (2024). "Large language models: A survey." arXiv preprint arXiv:2402.06196

Thank You!

Thank You!

For any questions, feel free to contact me:

sudasgupta@ucsd.edu

Subhasis Dasgupta LLM Basics August 9, 2024 26 / 26