

## Unit 11: Recurrent Neural Networks

OSI - abilR \*

### \* Slide- 10 Some terminology

EEI - abilR \*

- You can imagine negative of the loss as the 'reward' in supervised learning.
- In Reinforcement Learning, you basically learn by doing. You explore & exploit things a lot to get a handle on the process.
- Reinforcement learning is ~~used~~ <sup>analogous to</sup> in games where you play it a lot of times with mistakes & new discoveries to get good at the game.
- Model based RL :- Where you have a defined Transition & Reward function.
- Model-free RL:- Where you don't have T & R functions, but you estimate them using techniques like Q-Learning.

## \* Slide - 30 Text prediction: supervised Learning

- For ease of use, we assume that only letters & spaces will be used, thus, we will have  $26 + 1 = 27$  classes for classification. The next character for the prediction will be the label of the classification.
- One idea on how to featurize the text data would be to use all the previous characters before the label as features (like shown in the table)
- But that's an issue. Encoding it won't be a problem. But it doesn't have a fixed dimension. Its dimension increases as we go along the string of input text.

- One more idea would be to use only 1 single previous character. But, you can see that means we will lose some info. Because predicting a character based on single previous character is meaningless because they don't follow any pattern.  
~~Words in the sentence follow the pattern.~~ Letters/characters in a word follow a pattern. So, we need more than 1 character ~~as~~ ~~be~~ for label prediction.

- So, a better idea is to use ' $m$ ' previous characters, where  $m > 1$  but we don't know what  $m$  is yet. We have to decide that.

## \* Slide - 67 Can express as a state machine

- One example of the expression of this text as state machine: Assume 'S' is a state which comprises of ' $m=3$ ' latest characters in the string of text. So set of all possible states is all ordered  $m=3$  characters.
- ~~Set of~~ An input or action to this ~~MDP~~ is a single character that we append to the state's string which in turns updates the state. So, set of all possible inputs/actions is set of all characters.
- Initial state: We use the special character '^' as a placeholder for the initial state. For example, assume that you've unlocked your phone & went to a texting app. You haven't typed anything yet, but we would still like to predict what you'll type. Hence we use '^' as our

initial state where ~~\*~~ is just. '^' isn't the only character you could use (obviously). It's a choice.

Also, we add '^' to the beginning of a new string data set as you can see in  $x^{(1)}$ ,  $x^{(2)}$  &  $x^{(3)}$ .

- Transition function  $f(s, x)$  just updates the last 'n' characters with ~~#~~ 'x' action.
- Now, for output, we could use something stochastic like softmax function. So, the output will be a vector of probabilities of all characters.
- The final output function  $g(s)$  takes input state 's' & uses the softmax output to determine a label. This  $g(s)$  is our multi-class class linear classifier.

## \* Slide - 124. Can express as a state machine

- Here,  $s_0, s_1, s_2, \dots$  are the states.  $x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots$  are the character inputs/actions for from a string  $x^{(1)}$ .  
'f' is the transition function. 'g' is the output function  
'p\_i' is the output vector of probabilities from 'g'.
- $S_t$  has size  $m \times 1$ . It's a vector consisting of 'm' latest characters.  $x_t$  is  $1 \times 1$  character.  $p_t$  is  $v \times 1$  vector where  $v$  may be the total no. of possible characters.  
In case of  $V = \{A, b, c, d, \dots, z, ^, -\}$  then  $V = 28 \times 1$ . In case  $V = \{0, 1\}$ , then  $V = 2 \times 1$

- Now, we wanna express transition function  $f$  mathematically  
 $s_t = f(s_{t-1}, x_t)$  i.e. current state is function of previous state & action taken / input added. Now, we can express this equation mathematically using matrix multiplication.
- We wanna choose the multipliers of  $s_{t-1}$  in such way that the bottom element gets out; remaining two elements are shifted downwards by 1 & top element becomes zero.
- We wanna choose the multiplier of  $x_t$  such that only top element has  $x_t$  & rest elements are zero, ~~so that when added no multiplied~~. The matrices given in the slide ensure that.
- Now,  $p_t = g(s_t) = f_2(W^0 s_t + W_0^0 \mathbf{x})$   
i.e. we use v-class logistic regression. Now we only have to choose  $f_2$  & learn  $W^0$  &  $W_0^0$ .