Recommender System

Recommending shoes/dresses using style transfer

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Ganilla

Team 1 (Noah Chavannes & Yves Rutishauser)



Journal

Day 1

- Read CycleGAN and Ganilla Paper
 - Tried to understand concept and familiarize with the topic in general (GANs)
- Training on GPU:
 - Tried to setup google cloud and connecting to IDE (connect via ssh to pycharm interpreter)
 - Got the project running but GPU was not more powerful than the one in the local setup
 - Tesla K80 (12GB, 4.1 TFLOPS in fp32) vs. GTX 1070 (8GB, 6.5 TFLOPS in fp32)
 - Decided to switch to local setup, overhead with remote setup
- Problems:
 - Pytorch vs Tensorflow
 - Format of dataset provided (no dropbox download possible)
 - Decision on where to run code
 - Upload of 200k files



Journal

Day 2&3

- Cloning Ganilla repository
- Setting up local environment
- Understanding code and running code locally
 - Using map example (from Ganilla paper)
 - Using shoe/dress test dataset (1000 data points)
- Extracting code to own project and adapt it for our purpose
- Problems:
 - Understanding Pytorch code
 - Understand code and extracting useful information (they combined multiple models)



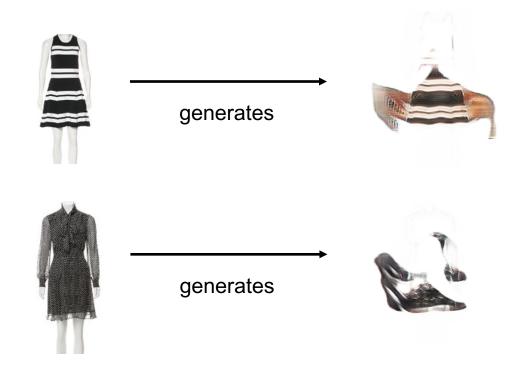
Journal

Day 4

- Analyzing results
- Create presentation
- Problems:
 - The Ganilla model transfers the structure of the dress to the shoe (and vice versa) → we want to remove
 the skip-connections
- We tried to run the Ablation Model-II but ran into GPU memory errors locally and on google cloud
 - We tried to clear the GPU memory in Pytorch using "torch.cuda.empy_cache()" after each iteration
 - We reduced the number of trainable parameters by lowering the feature size and the amount of filters and setting batch size to 1



Example (Dress → **Shoe)**

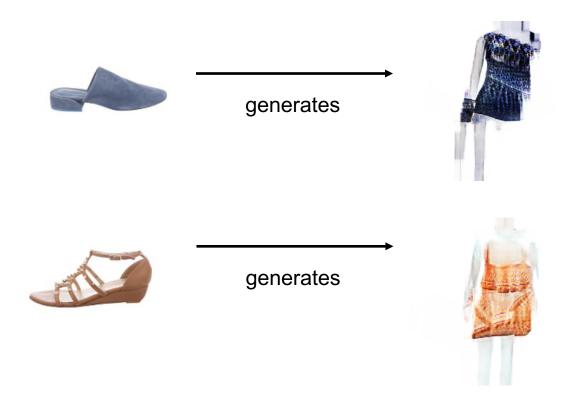


Sidenote:

- The generated structure of the shoe is not good enough
- The model is able to transfer the color of the dress and some of its style



Example (Shoe → **Dress)**



Sidenote:

- The generated structure of the dress is not good enough
- The model is able to transfer the color of the shoe and some of its style



Observations

- Ganilla expects the structure of the image to stay the same
- The domains of dresses and shoes have different structures. Therefore, when mapping a dress to a shoe, the structure cannot be maintained and has to be inferred
 - Ganilla incorporates low-level information gained during downsampling through skip-connections into the upsampling process (blue line) (P.5)

GANILLA

- This helps to preserve the structure. To improve the model in our use-case, one could try to remove the skip-connections → Ablation Model-II
 - Due to restrictions in the infrastructure, we could not train the Ablation Model-II

