LoRA

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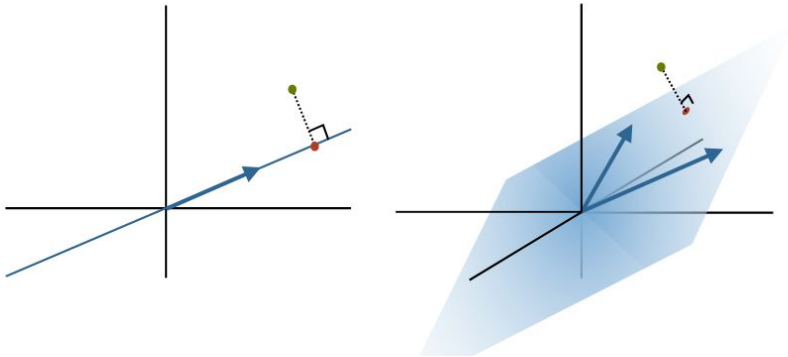
https://arxiv.org/pdf/2106.09685.pdf

Tl;dr – full finetuning is expensive – can we get away with using *fewer parameters* to finetune?

- Not a new idea. People have tried finetuning subsets of the model for a long time, and adapters came out a couple years before this
- LoRA's claim to fame is they provide better training properties w.r.t. memory and inference properties w.r.t. latency than adapters as **there are no new parameters at inference time** (will get to this)
- Based on claim/intuition that has been popping up in the literature that **fine tuning only requires updates in a low rank subspace** – essentially, we don't need the expressivity of full rank updates to get good performance

Quick review of rank/relevant details

- Math definition: Rank of a matrix is the number of linearly independent columns (or rows)
- Better intuition: Rank captures the ‘expressivity’ of the output space the matrix can ‘cover’ or ‘reach’ when considered over all possible inputs



Rank 1 vs Rank 2

Last relevant math note

- If a matrix C = AB, then the rank of C is less than or equal to min(rank(A), rank(B)) – so if A and B are rank two for instance, C has at most rank 2
  - Intuition: Each time you map through a matrix (i.e. multiply by it), the expressivity of the overall map (multiplication) can only be decreased or preserved

LoRA Overview

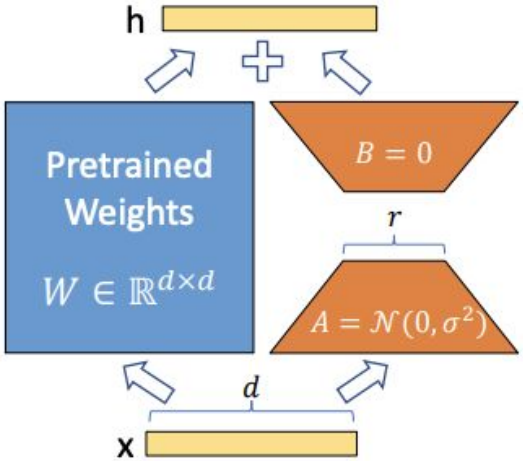


Figure 1: Our reparametrization. We only train A and B.

$$h = W_0 x + \Delta W x = W_0 x + BAx$$

W_0 are pretrained, B and A are LoRA params with a very small inner dimension (i.e. each are low rank)

Based on last slide, the product of these low rank matrices is also a low rank matrix

LoRA highlights

Practical Benefits and Limitations. The most significant benefit comes from the reduction in memory and storage usage. For a large Transformer trained with Adam, we reduce that VRAM usage by up to $2/3$ if $r \ll d_{model}$ as we do not need to store the optimizer states for the frozen parameters. On GPT-3 175B, we reduce the VRAM consumption during training from 1.2TB to 350GB. With $r = 4$ and only the query and value projection matrices being adapted, the checkpoint size is reduced by roughly 10,000$\times$ (from 350GB to 35MB)[4]. This allows us to train with significantly fewer GPUs and avoid I/O bottlenecks. Another benefit is that we can switch between tasks while deployed at a much lower cost by only swapping the LoRA weights as opposed to all the parameters. This allows for the creation of many customized models that can be swapped in and out on the fly on machines that store the pre-trained weights in VRAM. We also observe a 25% speedup during training on GPT-3 175B compared to full fine-tuning[5] as we do not need to calculate the gradient for the vast majority of the parameters.

- **Note** – LoRA still requires backpropagating through the pretrained backbone, just no need to store the gradients w.r.t. the pretrained parameters
- "Using GPT-3 175B as an example, we show that a **very low rank (**i.e., r in Figure 1 can be one or two) suffices even when the full rank (i.e., d) is as high as 12,288, making LoRA both storage- and compute-efficient."

Results on GPT2 and Roberta/Deberta

- NLU (GLUE) and NLG benchmarks for a few different models (GPT 2, GPT 3, Roberta, Deberta)
- **Notice comparison to full finetuning – perhaps LoRA is easier to get right?**

Model & Method	# Trainable Parameters	MNLI	SST-2	MRPC	CoLA	QNLI	QQP	RTE	STS-B	Avg.
RoB_{base} (FT)*	125.0M	**87.6**	94.8	90.2	**63.6**	92.8	**91.9**	78.7	91.2	86.4
RoB_{base} (BitFit)*	0.1M	84.7	93.7	**92.7**	62.0	91.8	84.0	81.5	90.8	85.2
RoB_{base} (Adpt^{D})*	0.3M	$87.1_{\pm.0}$	$94.2_{\pm.1}$	$88.5_{\pm1.1}$	$60.8_{\pm.4}$	$93.1_{\pm.1}$	$90.2_{\pm.0}$	$71.5_{\pm2.7}$	$89.7_{\pm.3}$	84.4
RoB_{base} (Adpt^{D})*	0.9M	$87.3_{\pm.1}$	$94.7_{\pm.3}$	$88.4_{\pm.1}$	$62.6_{\pm.9}$	$93.0_{\pm.2}$	$90.6_{\pm.0}$	$75.9_{\pm2.2}$	$90.3_{\pm.1}$	85.4
RoB_{base} (LoRA)	0.3M	$87.5_{\pm.3}$	$\mathbf{95.1}_{\pm.2}$	$89.7_{\pm.7}$	$63.4_{\pm1.2}$	$\mathbf{93.3}_{\pm.3}$	$90.8_{\pm.1}$	$\mathbf{86.6}_{\pm.7}$	$\mathbf{91.5}_{\pm.2}$	**87.2**
$\text{RoB}_{\text{large}}$ (FT)*	355.0M	90.2	**96.4**	**90.9**	68.0	94.7	**92.2**	86.6	92.4	88.9
$\text{RoB}_{\text{large}}$ (LoRA)	0.8M	$\mathbf{90.6}_{\pm.2}$	$96.2_{\pm.5}$	$\mathbf{90.9}_{\pm1.2}$	$\mathbf{68.2}_{\pm1.9}$	$\mathbf{94.9}_{\pm.3}$	$91.6_{\pm.1}$	$\mathbf{87.4}_{\pm2.5}$	$\mathbf{92.6}_{\pm.2}$	**89.0**
$\text{RoB}_{\text{large}}$ (Adpt^{P})†	3.0M	$90.2_{\pm.3}$	$96.1_{\pm.3}$	$90.2_{\pm.7}$	$\mathbf{68.3}_{\pm1.0}$	$\mathbf{94.8}_{\pm.2}$	$\mathbf{91.9}_{\pm.1}$	$83.8_{\pm2.9}$	$92.1_{\pm.7}$	88.4
$\text{RoB}_{\text{large}}$ (Adpt^{P})†	0.8M	$\mathbf{90.5}_{\pm.3}$	$\mathbf{96.6}_{\pm.2}$	$89.7_{\pm1.2}$	$67.8_{\pm2.5}$	$\mathbf{94.8}_{\pm.3}$	$91.7_{\pm.2}$	$80.1_{\pm2.9}$	$91.9_{\pm.4}$	87.9
$\text{RoB}_{\text{large}}$ (Adpt^{H})†	6.0M	$89.9_{\pm.5}$	$96.2_{\pm.3}$	$88.7_{\pm2.9}$	$66.5_{\pm4.4}$	$94.7_{\pm.2}$	$92.1_{\pm.1}$	$83.4_{\pm1.1}$	$91.0_{\pm1.7}$	87.8
$\text{RoB}_{\text{large}}$ (Adpt^{H})†	0.8M	$90.3_{\pm.3}$	$96.3_{\pm.5}$	$87.7_{\pm1.7}$	$66.3_{\pm2.0}$	$94.7_{\pm.2}$	$91.5_{\pm.1}$	$72.9_{\pm2.9}$	$91.5_{\pm.5}$	86.4
$\text{RoB}_{\text{large}}$ (LoRA)†	0.8M	$\mathbf{90.6}_{\pm.2}$	$96.2_{\pm.5}$	$\mathbf{90.2}_{\pm1.0}$	$68.2_{\pm1.9}$	$\mathbf{94.8}_{\pm.3}$	$91.6_{\pm.2}$	$\mathbf{85.2}_{\pm1.1}$	$\mathbf{92.3}_{\pm.5}$	**88.6**
DeB_{XXL} (FT)*	1500.0M	91.8	**97.2**	92.0	72.0	**96.0**	92.7	93.9	92.9	91.1
DeB_{XXL} (LoRA)	4.7M	$\mathbf{91.9}_{\pm.2}$	$96.9_{\pm.2}$	$\mathbf{92.6}_{\pm.6}$	$\mathbf{72.4}_{\pm1.1}$	$\mathbf{96.0}_{\pm.1}$	$\mathbf{92.9}_{\pm.1}$	$\mathbf{94.9}_{\pm.4}$	$\mathbf{93.0}_{\pm.2}$	**91.3**

Table 2: $\text{RoBERTa}_{\text{base}}$, $\text{RoBERTa}_{\text{large}}$, and $\text{DeBERTa}_{\text{XXL}}$ with different adaptation methods on the GLUE benchmark. We report the overall (matched and mismatched) accuracy for MNLI, Matthew's correlation for CoLA, Pearson correlation for STS-B, and accuracy for other tasks. Higher is better for all metrics. * indicates numbers published in prior works. † indicates runs configured in a setup similar to Houlsby et al. (2019) for a fair comparison.

Model & Method	# Trainable Parameters	E2E NLG Challenge BLEU	NIST	MET	ROUGE-L	CIDEr
GPT-2 M (FT)*	354.92M	68.2	8.62	46.2	71.0	2.47
GPT-2 M ($\text{Adapter}^{\text{L}}$)*	0.37M	66.3	8.41	45.0	69.8	2.40
GPT-2 M ($\text{Adapter}^{\text{L}}$)*	11.09M	68.9	8.71	46.1	71.3	2.47
GPT-2 M ($\text{Adapter}^{\text{H}}$)	11.09M	$67.3_{\pm.6}$	$8.50_{\pm.07}$	$46.0_{\pm.2}$	$70.7_{\pm.2}$	$2.44_{\pm.01}$
GPT-2 M (FT^{Top2})*	25.19M	68.1	8.59	46.0	70.8	2.41
GPT-2 M (PreLayer)*	0.35M	69.7	8.81	46.1	71.4	2.49
GPT-2 M (LoRA)	0.35M	$\mathbf{70.4}_{\pm.1}$	$\mathbf{8.85}_{\pm.02}$	$\mathbf{46.8}_{\pm.2}$	$\mathbf{71.8}_{\pm.1}$	$\mathbf{2.53}_{\pm.02}$
GPT-2 L (FT)*	774.03M	68.5	8.78	46.0	69.9	2.45
GPT-2 L ($\text{Adapter}^{\text{L}}$)	0.88M	$69.1_{\pm.1}$	$8.68_{\pm.03}$	$46.3_{\pm.0}$	$71.4_{\pm.2}$	$\mathbf{2.49}_{\pm.0}$
GPT-2 L ($\text{Adapter}^{\text{L}}$)	23.00M	$68.9_{\pm.3}$	$8.70_{\pm.04}$	$46.1_{\pm.1}$	$71.3_{\pm.2}$	$2.45_{\pm.02}$
GPT-2 L (PreLayer)*	0.77M	70.3	8.85	46.2	71.7	2.47
GPT-2 L (LoRA)	0.77M	$\mathbf{70.4}_{\pm.1}$	$\mathbf{8.89}_{\pm.02}$	$\mathbf{46.8}_{\pm.2}$	$\mathbf{72.0}_{\pm.2}$	$2.47_{\pm.02}$

Table 3: GPT-2 medium (M) and large (L) with different adaptation methods on the E2E NLG Challenge. For all metrics, higher is better. LoRA outperforms several baselines with comparable or fewer trainable parameters. Confidence intervals are shown for experiments we ran. * indicates numbers published in prior works.

Results on GPT3

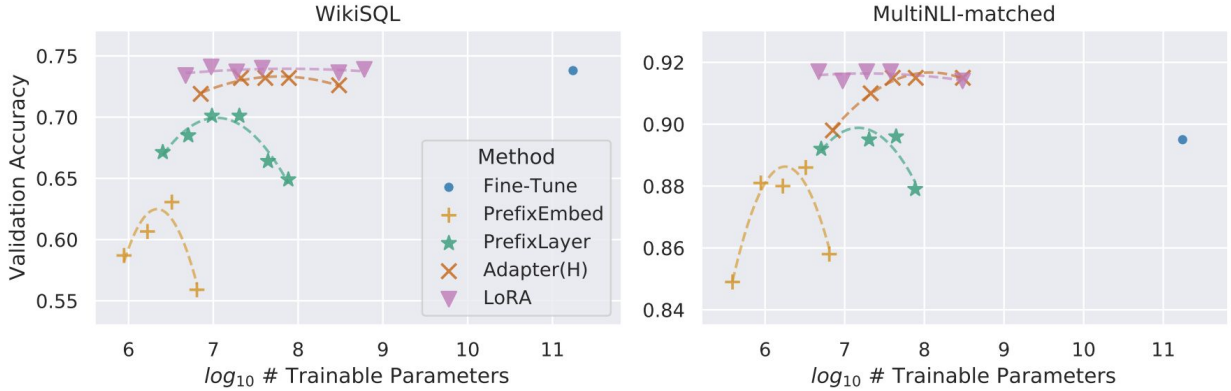


Figure 2: GPT-3 175B validation accuracy vs. number of trainable parameters of several adaptation methods on WikiSQL and MNLI-matched. LoRA exhibits better scalability and task performance. See Section F.2 for more details on the plotted data points.

- Notice lack of scaling w.r.t. inner dimension for LoRA
- Prefix tuning is “hard to optimize” and doesn’t monotonically improve with scale (I’m not sure why)

Comments on other methods

- Adapters introduce more latency due to extra parameters, *even though the number of extra parameters are small* (due to some claims about hardware parallelism?)
  - LoRA fits extra params, but if you just add them into the matrix W at inference time, no new params at inference time

Batch Size Sequence Length $\|\Theta\|$	32 512 0.5M	16 256 11M	1 128 11M
Fine-Tune/LoRA	1449.4±0.8	338.0±0.6	19.8±2.7
$\text{Adapter}^{\text{L}}$	1482.0±1.0 (+2.2%)	354.8±0.5 (+5.0%)	23.9±2.1 (+20.7%)
$\text{Adapter}^{\text{H}}$	1492.2±1.0 (+3.0%)	366.3±0.5 (+8.4%)	25.8±2.2 (+30.3%)

Table 1: Infernece latency of a single forward pass in GPT-2 medium measured in milliseconds, averaged over 100 trials. We use an NVIDIA Quadro RTX8000. "$|\Theta|$" denotes the number of trainable parameters in adapter layers. $\text{Adapter}^{\text{L}}$ and $\text{Adapter}^{\text{H}}$ are two variants of adapter tuning, which we describe in Section 5.1. The inference latency introduced by adapter layers can be significant in an online, short-sequence-length scenario. See the full study in Appendix B.

Ablation for how to allocate LoRA params

7.1 Which Weight Matrices in Transformer Should We Apply LoRA to?

Given a limited parameter budget, which types of weights should we adapt with LoRA to obtain the best performance on downstream tasks? As mentioned in Section 4.2, we only consider weight matrices in the self-attention module. We set a parameter budget of 18M (roughly 35MB if stored in FP16) on GPT-3 175B, which corresponds to $r = 8$ if we adapt one type of attention weights or $r = 4$ if we adapt two types, for all 96 layers. The result is presented in Table 5.

	# of Trainable Parameters = 18M						
Weight Type	W_q	W_k	W_v	W_o	W_q, W_k	W_q, W_v	W_q, W_k, W_v, W_o
Rank r	8	8	8	8	4	4	2
WikiSQL ($\pm 0.5\%$)	70.4	70.0	73.0	73.2	71.4	**73.7**	**73.7**
MultiNLI ($\pm 0.1\%$)	91.0	90.8	91.0	91.3	91.3	91.3	**91.7**

Table 5: Validation accuracy on WikiSQL and MultiNLI after applying LoRA to different types of attention weights in GPT-3, given the same number of trainable parameters. Adapting both W_q and W_v gives the best performance overall. We find the standard deviation across random seeds to be consistent for a given dataset, which we report in the first column.

Note that putting all the parameters in ΔW_q or ΔW_k results in significantly lower performance, while adapting both W_q and W_v yields the best result. This suggests that even a rank of four captures enough information in ΔW such that it is preferable to adapt more weight matrices than adapting a single type of weights with a larger rank.

Tl;dr: “Better to adapt all matrices a little than only one a lot”

Misc

- If you really care about memory, maybe check out ladder side tuning – can pretend the pretrained model doesn't exist in the backwards pass
  - "We propose Ladder Side-Tuning (LST), a new PETL technique that can reduce training memory requirements by more substantial amounts. Unlike existing parameter-efficient methods that insert additional parameters inside backbone networks, we train a ladder side network, a small and separate network that takes intermediate activations as input via shortcut connections (called ladders) from backbone networks and makes predictions. LST has significantly lower memory requirements than previous methods, because it does not require backpropagation through the backbone network, but instead only through the side network and ladder connections."
- Interesting math at the end I didn't have time to get to (could do next time if of interest), tl;dr is power-law esque, subspace spanned by the smaller rank approximations contains most of subspace spanned by the larger ones, so you can get away with using smaller rank (as results show)