

News Translation For English-Hindi Corpus

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Abstract—In this project our task was to perform Machine Translation on a English-Hindi News Corpus. We have solved it using SMT and NMT and we presented the BLEU score on each system

Index Terms—SMT, NMT, General, Concat, Dot, Attention

I. INTRODUCTION

- 1) SMT: Statistical machine translation is a machine translation paradigm where translations are generated on the basis of statistical models whose parameters are derived from the analysis of bilingual text corpora. The statistical approach contrasts with the rule based approaches to machine translation as well as with example based machine translation.
- 2) NMT: Neural Machine Translation has been receiving considerable attention in recent years, given its superior performance without the demand of heavily hand crafted engineering efforts. NMT often outperforms Statistical Machine Translation (SMT) techniques but it still struggles if the parallel data is insufficient like in the case of Indian languages.
- 3) Attention: The basic idea: Each time the model predicts an output word, it only uses parts of an input where the most relevant information is concentrated instead of an entire sentence. In other words, it only pays attention to some input words. Attention mechanisms have become an integral part of compelling sequence modeling and transduction models in various

tasks, allowing modeling of dependencies without regard to their distance in the input or output sequences.

- 4) MOSES: Moses is a free software, SMT engine that can be used to train statistical models of text translation from a source language to a target language. Moses then allows new source language text to be decoded using these models to produce automatic translations in the target language. Training requires a parallel corpus of passages in the two languages, typically manually translated sentence pairs.
- 5) Language Modeling:

$$P(e)$$

Before finding $p(f|e)$ we need to build a machine that assigns a probability $P(e)$ to each English sentence e . This is called a language model.

- 6) N-grams: For computers, the easiest way to break a string down into components is to consider substrings. An n -word substring is called an n -gram. If $n=2$,]bigram. If $n=3$, trigram.

- 7) Translation Modeling:

$$P(f|e)$$

, the probability of a string f given an English string e . This is called a translation model. $P(f|e)$ will be a module in overall f to e machine translation.

When we see a string f , what we need to

consider for e is that how likely it is to be uttered, and likely to subsequently translate to f ? We're looking for the e that maximizes

$$P(e) * P(f|e)$$

- 8) Alignment Probabilities: For a given sentence pair: what is the probability of the words being aligned in particular arrangement. For a given sentence pair, the probabilities of the various possible alignments should add to one.

$$P(a|e, f) = P(a, f|e) / P(f|e)$$

$$P(f|e) = \sum P(a, f|e)$$

- 9) Expectation Maximization Algorithm

- a) Assign uniform probability values for the alignments.
- b) From this we get the expected counts of alignments.
- c) From these expected counts we get the revised probabilities.
- d) Iterate steps 2 and 3 until convergence.

II. LITERATURE SURVEY

These are the state of the art papers in this area that we referenced.

1. "Neural machine translation by jointly learning to align and translate" (Dzmitry Bahdanau, KyungHyun Cho) In this paper the authors conjecture that the use of a fixed-length vector is a bottleneck in improving the performance of this basic encoderdecoder architecture, and propose to extend this by allowing a model to automatically soft-search for parts of a source sentence that are relevant to predicting a target word, without having to form these parts as a hard segment explicitly. With this new approach, they achieve a translation performance comparable to the existing state of the art phrase based system on the task of English-to-French translation. In order to address this issue that the performance of a basic encoderdecoder deteriorates rapidly as the length

of an input sentence increases, an extension to the encoderdecoder model which learns to align and translate jointly is suggested. Each time the proposed model generates a word in a translation, it soft-searches for a set of positions in a source sentence where the most relevant information is concentrated. The model then predicts a target word based on the context vectors associated with these source positions and all the previous generated target words.

2. Machine Translation with parfda, Moses, kenlm, nplm, and PRO (Ergun Bicer) In this paper they build parfda (parallel feature weight decay algorithms) Moses SMT models for most language pairs in the news translation task. The authors experiment with a hybrid approach using neural language models integrated into Moses. They obtain the constrained data statistics on the machine translation task, the coverage of the test sets, and the upper bounds on the translation results. Parfda parallelize feature decay algorithms (FDA), a class of instance selection algorithms that decay feature weights, for fast deployment of accurate SMT systems. They train 6-gram LM using kenlm and use mgiza for word alignment.

III. RESEARCH METHODS

- Dataset

We have used English-Hindi the parallel training data which consists of the new HindEnCorp, collected by Charles University, linked in the WMT-2014 translation task. The English-Hindi corpus contains parallel corpus for English-Hindi of around 2.7 lakh sentences.

- Data Preprocessing

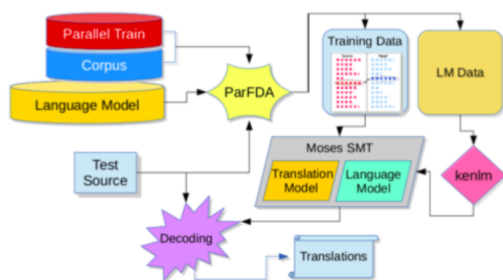
We used Moses-toolkit for tokenization and cleaning the English side of the data. The Hindi side of the data is first normalized with Indic NLP library¹ followed by tokenization with the same library. As our pre-processing step, we removed all the sentences of length greater than 80 from our training corpus.

- Architecture: SMT

We used a hybrid approach using neural language models integrated into Moses. Obtained the constrained data statistics on the machine translation task, the coverage of the test sets, and the upper bounds on the translation results.

Then trained 3-gram LM using kenlm. In phrase-based translation, the aim is to reduce the restrictions of word-based translation by translating whole sequences of words, where the lengths may differ. The sequences of words are called blocks or phrases, but typically are not linguistic phrases, but phrases found using statistical methods from corpora.

The chosen phrases are further mapped one-to-one based on a phrase translation table, and may be reordered. This table can be learnt based on word-alignment, or directly from a parallel corpus. The second model is trained using the expectation maximization algorithm, similarly to the word-based IBM Model.



$$e_{best} = \operatorname{argmax}_e \prod \Phi(\bar{f}_i / \bar{e}_i) d(\text{start}_i - \text{end}_{i-1} - 1) p_{lm}(e)$$

Score is computed incrementally for each partial hypothesis.

Components :

- 1) Phrase translation : Picking phrase f to be translated as a phrase e Look up score

$$\phi(f|e)$$

from phrase translation table.

- 2) Reordering : Previous phrase ended in $\text{end}(i-1)$, current phrase starts at $\text{start}(i)$. Compute $d(\text{start}(i) - \text{end}(i-1) - 1)$
- 3) Language model For n-gram model, need to keep track of last $n - 1$ words

$$Plm(W_i | W_{i-\{n-1\}}, \dots, W_{i-1})$$

for added words W_i

- Training Details: SMT

Corpus Preparation

To prepare the data for training the translation system, we have to perform the following steps:

- Tokenization:
This means that spaces have to be inserted between (e.g.) words and punctuation.
- Truecasing:
The initial words in each sentence are converted to their most probable casing. This helps reduce data sparsity.
- Cleaning:
Long sentences and empty sentences are removed as they can cause problems with the training pipeline, and obviously misaligned sentences are removed.

Language Model Training The language model(LM) is used to ensure fluent output, so it is built with the target language (i.e English in this case).

Training the Translation System

For training we run word-alignment (using GIZA++), phrase extraction and scoring, create lexicalized reordering tables and create your Moses configuration file.

Tuning

Tuning refers to the process of finding the optimal weights for this linear model, where optimal weights are those which maximise translation performance on a small set of parallel sentences (the tuning set). Translation performance is usually measured with Bleu, but the tuning algorithms all support (at least in principle) the use of other performance measures.

- Architecture: NMT

We are using the attention based encoder-decoder architecture. The NMT model consists of an encoder and a decoder, each of which is a Recurrent Neural Network. (RNN)

An encoder neural network reads and encodes a source sentence into a fixed-length vector. A decoder then outputs a translation from the encoded vector. The whole encoderdecoder system, which consists of the encoder and the decoder for a language pair, is jointly trained to maximize the probability of a correct translation given a source sentence.

From a probabilistic perspective, translation is

equivalent to finding a target sentence y that maximizes the conditional probability of y given a source sentence x , i.e.,

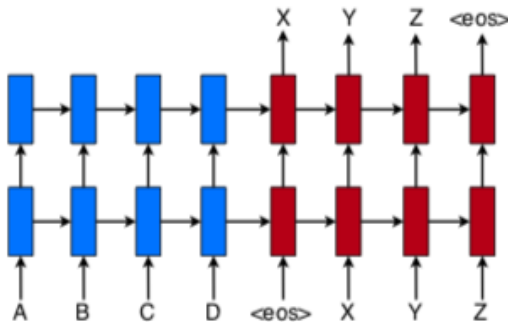
$$\operatorname{argmax}_y P(y|x)$$

Sequence to Sequence Model

$$h_t = \operatorname{sigm}(W^{hx}x_t + W^{hh}h^{t-1})$$

$$y_t = W^{yh}h_t$$

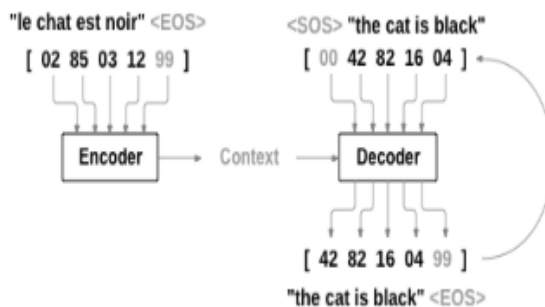
$$P(y_1, \dots, y| x_1, \dots, x_T) = \prod P(y_t|v, y_1, \dots, y_{t-1})$$



A basic form of NMT consists of two components: (a) an encoder which computes a representation s for each source sentence and (b) a decoder which generates one target word at a time and hence decomposes the conditional probability as:

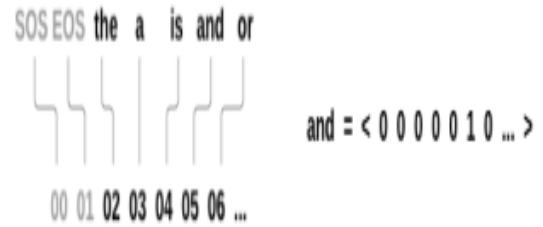
$$\log p(y|x) = \sum_{j=1}^m \log p(y_j|y_{<j}, s)$$

- Training details: NMT



Data Processing

We convert the data into one-hot encoding format and then learn the embedding for each word during training.

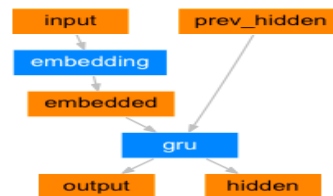


NMT model

In NMT model we have used biLSTM network with layers 2 and 256 hidden unit per biLSTM unit in encoder and decoder. For decoder we have used various type of attention to improve performance

Encoder Unit

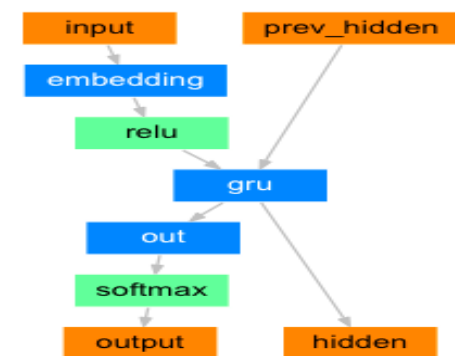
We send the hindi sentence through encoder to get a vector space of the sentence. Then this output is passed through the decoder unit to get output.



Decoder Unit

Simple Decoder

In the simplest seq2seq decoder we use only last output of the encoder. This last output is sometimes called the context vector as it encodes context from the entire sequence. This context vector is used as the initial hidden state of the decoder.



Attention based models:

Our various attention-based models are classified into two broad categories, global and local. These classes differ in terms of whether the attention is placed on all source positions or on only a few source positions.

Attention Decoder

Attention allows the decoder network to focus on a different part of the encoders outputs for every step of the decoders own outputs. First we calculate a set of attention weights. These will be multiplied by the encoder output vectors to create a weighted combination.

Scoring Mechanism

$$\text{score}(\mathbf{h}_t, \bar{\mathbf{h}}_s) = \begin{cases} \mathbf{h}_t^\top \bar{\mathbf{h}}_s & \text{dot} \\ \mathbf{h}_t^\top \mathbf{W}_a \bar{\mathbf{h}}_s & \text{general} \\ \mathbf{W}_a[\mathbf{h}_t; \bar{\mathbf{h}}_s] & \text{concat} \end{cases}$$

Global Attention: The idea of a global attentional model is to consider all the hidden states of the encoder when deriving the context vector c_t . In this model type, a variable length alignment vector a_t , whose size equals the number of time steps on the source side, is derived by comparing the current target hidden state h_t with each source hidden state h_s :

$$\begin{aligned} a_t(s) &= \text{align}(\mathbf{h}_t, \bar{\mathbf{h}}_s) \\ &= \frac{\exp(\text{score}(\mathbf{h}_t, \bar{\mathbf{h}}_s))}{\sum_{s'} \exp(\text{score}(\mathbf{h}_t, \bar{\mathbf{h}}_{s'}))} \end{aligned}$$

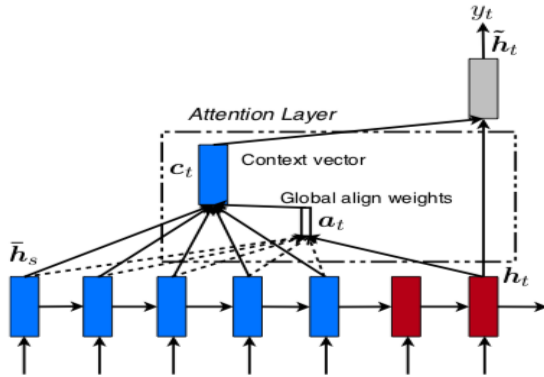


Figure 2: **Global attentional model** – at each time step t , the model infers a *variable-length* alignment weight vector a_t based on the current target state h_t and all source states \bar{h}_s . A global context vector c_t is then computed as the weighted average, according to a_t , over all the source states.

Local Attention: Our local attention mechanism selectively focuses on a small window of context and is differentiable. This approach has an advantage of

avoiding the expensive computation incurred in the soft attention and at the same time, is easier to train than the hard attention approach.

$$a_t(s) = \text{align}(\mathbf{h}_t, \bar{\mathbf{h}}_s) \exp\left(-\frac{(s - p_t)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

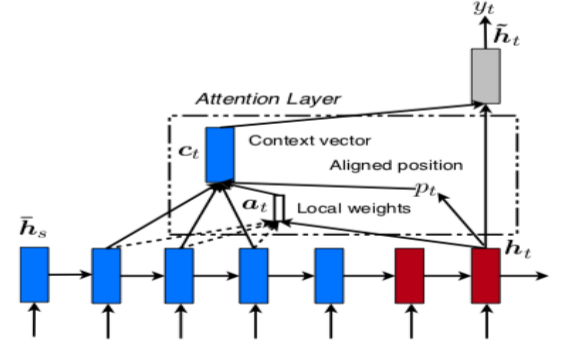


Figure 3: **Local attention model** – the model first predicts a single aligned position p_t for the current target word. A window centered around the source position p_t is then used to compute a context vector c_t , a weighted average of the source hidden states in the window. The weights a_t are inferred from the current target state h_t and those source states \bar{h}_s in the window.

IV. FINDINGS AND ANALYSIS

TABLE I
SYSTEM VS BLEU

System(hidden unit, layers, sentence length)	BLEU
SMT	0.2540
Sequence to sequence(256, 2, 100)	0.2577
Concat Attention(256, 2, 100)	0.2492
Dot Attention(256, 2, 100)	0.2574
General Attention(256, 2, 100)	0.2613
General Attention(512, 4, 100)	0.2453
General Attention(512, 4, 25)	0.2824

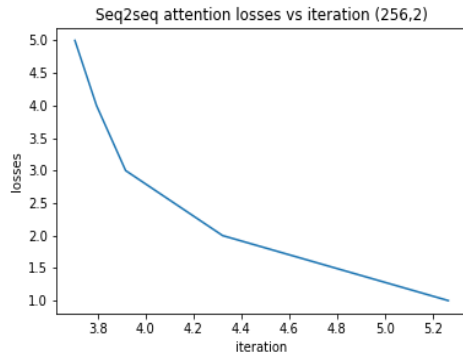


Fig. 1. Plot of loss vs iteration

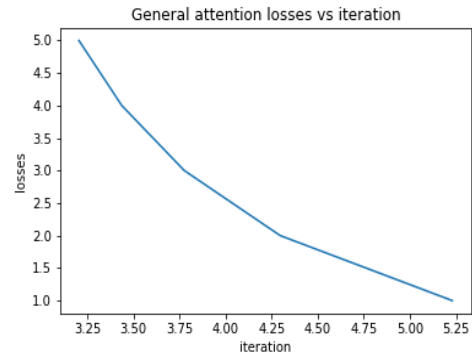


Fig. 4. Plot of loss vs iteration

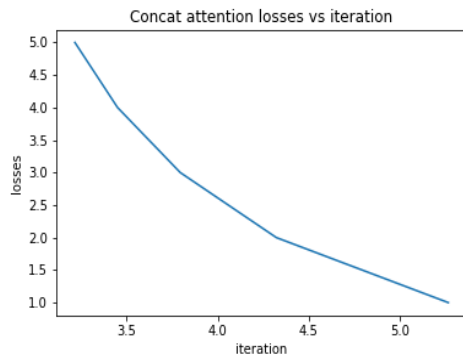


Fig. 2. Plot of loss vs iteration

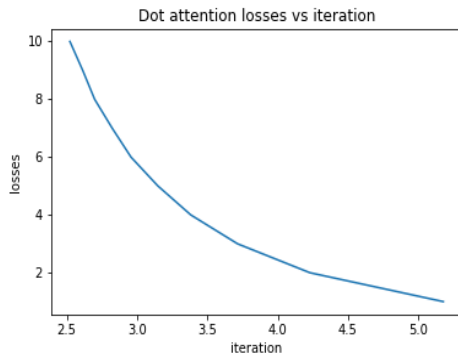


Fig. 3. Plot of loss vs iteration

Analysis and Limitations

- SMT system sentence were not that logical and we had to interpret the translation.
- Many of the hindi words in SMT model were not translated. Some of the prominent cases where this happened was when the word was a common english word written in hindi like stop, rare hindi words like 'changhul', 'benakab' and words which translate to more than one word. Sometimes common words like 'jankari'- information were also not translated.
- There were a lot of punctuation errors in SMT translations.
- Since we have used phrase based trigram model so at max 3 word sentences would be grammatically correct
- Increasing LM sentence length would make it too difficult for translating new sentences and it would more algorithmic than machine translation
- We had to deal with sparsity problem in SMT system.
- In sequence to sequence model, the sentence length of generated sentence went upto max length and usually consisted of repeated words.
- There is issue of over and under translation in NMT system.
- General attention based NMT system performed best among all other model.

V. RESULTS

D. Dot attention based NMT

Few results of various models:

A. SMT

```
> Chromoting को बेहतर बनाने में सहायता करना चाहते हैं ?
= want to help improve Chromoting ?
< help improve Chromoting ?

> कुछ किताबों की दुकानें सलाह के पैक बेचती हैं जिसमें फार्म् भी होते हैं .
= some bookshops sell advice packs which includes the forms .
< some bookshops sell advice packs which includes the forms .

> ओसामा बिन लादेन
= Osama bin Laden
< Osama bin Laden

> आयरन मैन २
= iron Man 2
< iron Man 2
```

Fig. 5. Tri-gram phrase based model

B. Sequence to sequence without attention

[illegible]

Fig. 6. (hidden unit-256, layers-2, Max sentence length-100)

C. Concat attention based NMT

[illegible]

Fig. 7. (hidden unit-256, layers-2, Max sentence length-100)

> (सी) प रोज़क़ा एम और कार य अगम्य
 = -lrB- b -rrB- training and work experience
 < (applause -rrB- training and training training <E05>

> और य अरब-इराक़म स य क सय सन य म इमाम की शिष्य को सकर सतय य ह .
 = not much separates hamas anti-zionism from fatah anti-zionism except that hamas terrorists speak
 forthrightly while fatah terrorists obfuscate . even their tactics overlap , as fatah denies the
 existence of israel and hamas negotiates with israelis . differing emphases and styles , more
 e than substance , distinguishes their attitudes toward israel .
 < and i hamas hamas hamas anti-zionism anti-zionism the hamas the hamas the <E05>

> स स टिलीसी क य ह ?
 = what is septicaemia ?
 < what is the ? ? <E05>

> स स वर
 = vowel
 < swara <E05>

> पासवर्ड ड सय (ओई सय)
 = set password (oi safe)
 < encrypt password (oi safe) <E05>

> ए स य मो मसलमन को नक़ीर ए सय सन खरीद-फरोल करन क शिष्य नक़ीर सी मूह .
 = they warn against employing muslims , buying from them or selling to them .
 < the the often to and to and to and to to to . . . <E05>

> अरब सयसी सयक और - थीर हिलन सरी , उर सय मोती सय .
 = he did not even notice her eyelashes begin to quiver .
 < the had had to to <E05>

Fig. 8. (hidden unit-256, layers-2, Max sentence length-100)

E. General attention based NMT

[illegible]

Fig. 9. (hidden unit-256, layers-2, Max sentence length-100)

F. General attention based NMT

```
> बटन क्लिक किए बिना जवाब देता हूँ ।
> he has scored the maximum runs in test cricket .
< they is the the of the the the cricketer of ... <E0S>

> pulse aqui para cambiar su apodo
=> click to change your nickname
=> click to change the nickname <E0S>

> सलाम
= lavasa
= shirdl <E0S>

> changer de mot de passe ...
= change password ...
< change nickname ... <E0S>

> जांचवारी
= checklist
< polish <E0S>

> मैं अपने पं नाम और फ़ोन नम्बर बताऊँगा और मैं इस पर लौटा था वापस करना चाहता हूँ ( m )
=> i want to find my provider and i wish to enter it manually :
< i can't want to want to my my i i i i : <E0S>

> यह सब का गिरा त नहीं है ,
= all of them are not angels ,
< the all is not not , <E0S>

> सेशन करके एक सत्र
= session programs
< marquee survey <E0S>

> आप क्या कर सकते हैं अगर आप को निराश करने की कोशिश करें ?
=> what to do if you wish to complain
=> what if if if if you can ...
```

Fig. 10. (hidden unit-256, layers-2, Max sentence length-100)

G. General attention based NMT

```
> एवोल यशन बकअप जाच
= check evolution back up
< check evolution address <EOS>

> डिवाइस चयन
= device selection
< the device <EOS>

> नोबल पुरस्कार जीतने के बाद , वह चार दशकों तक गमनशील में जीवन ब्यतीत करता रहा ।
= after winning the noble prize , he lived in obscurity for four decades .
< after the father of his noble of the the he the father of his father . <EOS>

> घ 118 आप को सामाजिक निधी से मदद
= gl18 help from the social fund
< gl18 you tenant you benefit <EOS>

> इन्फिनिट
= indefinite
< rwanda <EOS>

> अल्लाह उस गमराह कर रहा ।
= allah will destroy them
< allah will make it misleading . <EOS>

> उन हमें पसल ही हमें चतवनी दी थी । &lt; s &gt; यह शुरुआत है ।
= they told us what to expect . now it ' s beginning .
< they asked that we lesson . <EOS>

> तो हम एक दूसरी धारणा की और कदम बढ़ाते हैं ,
= then we move on to a second assumption ,
< so we have a a a a a , , <EOS>
```

Fig. 11. (hidden unit-512, layers-4, Max sentence length-25)

VI. FUTURE SCOPE

We can work on the following points to improve the performance in the future

- Using Tranformer architecture.
- Having a larger dataset will surely improve performance.
- Applying coverage can prove to be useful.
- Using pre-trained embedding.

VII. CONCLUSIONS

General attention based NMT system performed better as compared to all other models. It was also seen that if max length was small, the model performed relatively better than one with large max length. The BLEU score can be further improved using a transformer model and using large dataset. We can also use coverage to make a better model.

VIII. LINKS

- Slides
- Github
- Complete Repo

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- [1] pytorch
- [2] moes
- [3] Machine Translation with parfda, Moses, kenlm, nplm, and PRO(Ergun Bici)
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- [5] Sequence-to-SequenceFile
- [6] NMT by Jointly Learning to Align and TranslateFile
- [7] Effective Approaches to Attention-based Neural Machine TranslationFile