
DD2424 - Assignment 4

SUMMARY

I have verified the analytical gradients for the 1-layer RNN and they seem to be correct. I have then proceeded to train the network for some 100 thousand steps, producing text sequences at every 10 thousand steps and checking the evolution of the generated text sequences. Finally, a network is trained for a longer period, specifically 4 epochs, and then a longer sequence is produced with the weights that achieved the lowest loss.

The code for the assignment has been written in `python`. I have implemented the neural network as a class. For the hand-in, all of the code has been put together in a main file with all the functions and the class declared at the top. For the hand-in, I have also commented out the saving of generated figures and results in JSON files, as well as omitting some of the case-specific testing and gradient testing.

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DD2424
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Checking gradients

In order to validate the analytic gradient computations, I compared the analytically computed gradients with numerically computed gradients on a large subset of the weights for a number of different sequential inputs, using $h = 10^{-5}$. I got that

$$\|\nabla_{\mathbf{w}} \mathbf{J} - \nabla_{\mathbf{w}} \mathbf{J}^{\text{numerical}}\|_{\infty} < 10^{-8}, \quad \forall \mathbf{w} \in \mathbf{W}, \mathbf{V}, \mathbf{U}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}$$

More specifically, I checked 50×50 weights for $\mathbf{W}, \mathbf{V}, \mathbf{U}$ and 50 weights for \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c} . I ran the same test for a number of sequences and consistently achieved an error on the order of 10^{-8} . I also attempted to train the network for a number of epochs in order to see the behavior of the loss function. I initially tried to train it on just a small subset of the data, using only a couple of thousand sequences and training for a shorter number of iterations. However, it was difficult to find a seemingly sensible combinations of subset size and number of iterations. Rather, I used the entire set of sequences and trained for some 30 thousand iterations. I initiated the smooth loss with the loss computed with the untrained network on the first sequence. The results are plotted below. The network seems to converge fairly quickly to a plateau. Hence, given the proximity of numerially and analytically computed gradients, I am confident that the gradients are indeed correctly specified.

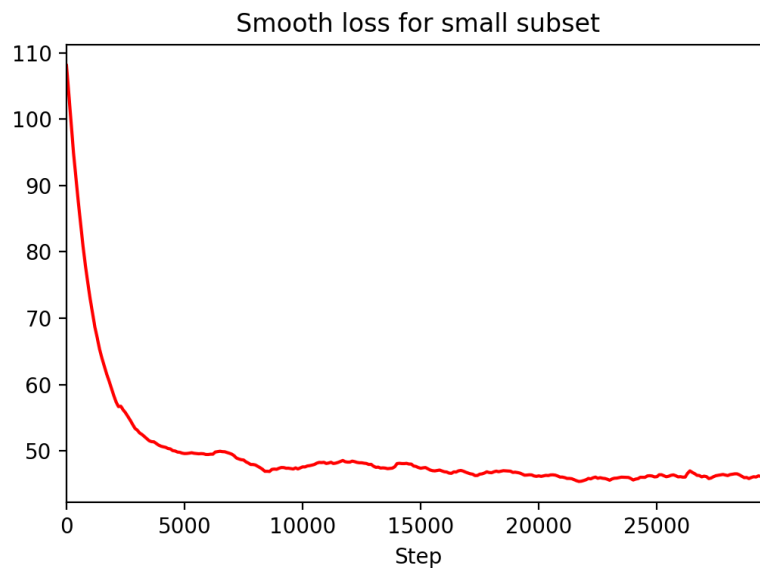


Figure 1: Loss for 1-layer recurrent neural network with $m = 100$, trained for a shorter period and some 30 thousand steps.

Training the RNN

Results for a long-ish training period

I trained the 1-layer RNN for a longer training period with $\eta = 0.1$. I evaluated the smoothed loss at every step, which was initiated as the loss for the untrained network on the first training example in the set of sequences - and compared the loss to a "best" loss in order to find the best network. I then saved the smooth loss at every 10 steps. The loss seems to converge fairly quickly to a plateau around 40 – 45. The results are shown below for 4 epochs of training:



Figure 2: Loss for 1-layer recurrent neural network with $m = 100$, trained for 4 epochs.

Producing a longer sequence

After training the network for 4 epochs, I generated a longer sequence of text using the network weights which achieved the lowest loss:

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Generated sequences

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