RNN Forecasting Example in PyTorch

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1 Introduction

This document presents an implementation of a simple Recurrent Neural Network (RNN) in PyTorch to forecast a noisy sine wave. The model is trained on a sliding window of past values and predicts the next time step.

2 Implementation

The complete code is shown below:

```python
import torch
import torch.nn as nn
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

# 1. Create synthetic sine wave data
T = 50  # sequence length (window)
L = 1000
x = np.linspace(0, 40*np.pi, L)
y = np.sin(x) + 0.1*np.random.randn(L)  # sine wave with noise

# Prepare dataset: sliding windows
def create_dataset(series, window_size):
    X, Y = [], []
    for i in range(len(series) - window_size):
        X.append(series[i:i+window_size])
        Y.append(series[i+window_size])
    return np.array(X, dtype=np.float32), np.array(Y, dtype=np.float32)

X, Y = create_dataset(y, T)

X = torch.from_numpy(X).unsqueeze(-1)   # (samples, seq, feature)
Y = torch.from_numpy(Y).unsqueeze(-1)   # (samples, 1)

# Train/test split
split = int(0.8 * len(X))
X_train, X_test = X[:split], X[split:]
Y_train, Y_test = Y[:split], Y[split:]

# 2. Define RNN model
class RNNRegressor(nn.Module):
    def __init__(self, input_size=1, hidden_size=32, num_layers=1):
        super().__init__()
```

```python
        self.rnn = nn.RNN(input_size, hidden_size, num_layers,
            batch_first=True)
        self.fc = nn.Linear(hidden_size, 1)

    def forward(self, x):
        out, _ = self.rnn(x)                    # out: (batch, seq, hidden)
        last = out[:, -1, :]                    # take last timestep
        return self.fc(last)

model = RNNRegressor()
loss_fn = nn.MSELoss()
optimizer = torch.optim.Adam(model.parameters(), lr=0.01)

# 3. Train loop
epochs = 20
for epoch in range(epochs):
    model.train()
    optimizer.zero_grad()
    y_pred = model(X_train)
    loss = loss_fn(y_pred, Y_train)
    loss.backward()
    optimizer.step()

    if (epoch+1) % 5 == 0:
        print(f"Epoch {epoch+1}, Loss: {loss.item():.4f}")

# 4. Evaluate
model.eval()
with torch.no_grad():
    preds = model(X_test).squeeze().numpy()
    true = Y_test.squeeze().numpy()

plt.plot(true, label="True")
plt.plot(preds, label="Predicted")
plt.legend()
plt.title("RNN Forecasting Example")
plt.savefig("rnn_result.png")  # Save plot for LaTeX
```

3   Results

The predicted values (orange) compared to the true sine wave (blue) are shown in Figure 1.

```
Epoch 5, Loss: 0.1332
Epoch 10, Loss: 0.0260
Epoch 15, Loss: 0.0343
Epoch 20, Loss: 0.0249
```
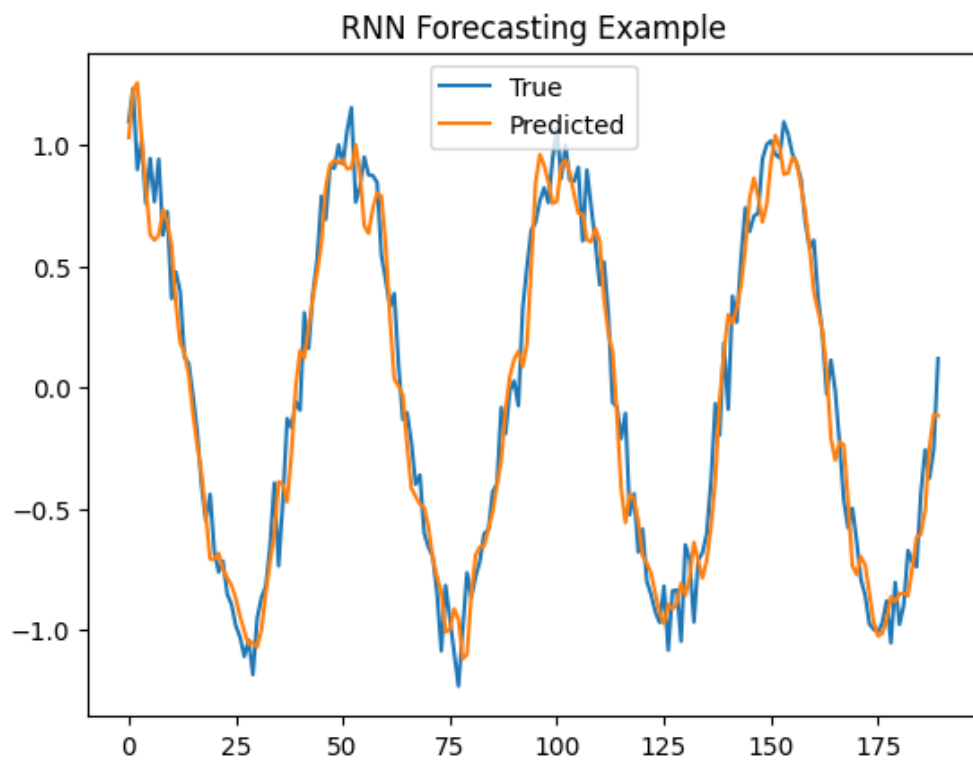

Figure 1: RNN prediction vs. true sine wave.