

layout	title
post	Review of a lecture 2 - A Diversity-Promoting Objective Function for Neural Conversation Models

summary 1

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Topic	We suggest that the traditional objective function, i.e., the likelihood of output (response) given input (message) is unsuited to response generation tasks. Instead we propose using Maximum Mutual Information (MMI) as the objective function in neural models.																
Dataset	Twitter Conversation Triple Dataset, OpenSubtitles dataset,																
Github	Torch implementation																
Conclusion	We show that use of MMI results in a clear decrease in the proportion of generic response sequences, generating correspondingly more varied and interesting outputs																
Analysis 1	<table><tr><th>Model</th><th>BLEU</th><th><i>distinct-1</i></th><th><i>distinct-2</i></th></tr><tr><td>SEQ2SEQ</td><td>1.28</td><td>0.0056</td><td>0.0136</td></tr><tr><td>MMI-antiLM</td><td>1.74 (+35.9%)</td><td>0.0184 (+228%)</td><td>0.066 (407%)</td></tr><tr><td>MMI-bidi</td><td>1.44 (+28.2%)</td><td>0.0103 (+83.9%)</td><td>0.0303 (+122%)</td></tr></table> <p>Table 3: Performance of the SEQ2SEQ baseline and two MMI models on the OpenSubtitles dataset.</p>	Model	BLEU	<i>distinct-1</i>	<i>distinct-2</i>	SEQ2SEQ	1.28	0.0056	0.0136	MMI-antiLM	1.74 (+35.9%)	0.0184 (+228%)	0.066 (407%)	MMI-bidi	1.44 (+28.2%)	0.0103 (+83.9%)	0.0303 (+122%)
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Problem

- In part at least, this behavior can be ascribed to the relative frequency of generic responses like I don't know in conversational datasets, in contrast with the relative sparsity of more contentful alternative responses

Intuition

- Intuitively, it seems desirable to take into account not only the dependency of responses on messages, but also the inverse, the likelihood that a message will be provided to a given response.s

MMI Criterion

- $\frac{p(S,T)}{p(S)p(T)} = \operatorname{argmax}\{ \log p(T|S) - \log p(T) \}$
- Current research only used the criterion in testing time
 - reason 1 : nontrivial to calculate it
 - reason 2 : time consuming

generalization of MMI

$$\operatorname{argmax}\{ \log p(T|S) - \lambda \log p(T) \} = \operatorname{argmax}\{ (1 - \lambda) \log(T|S) + \lambda \log p(S|T) - \lambda \log p(S) \}$$

MMI-antiLM

- $\log p(T|S) - \lambda \log p(T)$
- limit : ungrammatical responses
 - It penalizes not only high-frequency, generic responses, but also fluent ones and thus can lead to ungrammatical outputs
- solution : we replace the language model $p(T)$ with $U(T)$
 - $U(T) = \prod p(t_k | t_1, \dots, t_{k-1})^{g(k)}$ where $g(k) = 1$ if $k \leq \gamma$ $g(k) = 0$
 - intuition : Thanks to memory-loss property of seq-2-seq models, first few sentences determine the decoded sentences. Therefore, penalizing only those is valid.

MMI-bidi

- $(1 - \lambda) \log p(T|S) + \lambda \log p(S|T)$

- limit : decoding intractable
 - Reason's simple. We literally can't compute $\log p(S|T)$
- solution : Pick N-best lists from $\log p(T|S)$ and compute $\log(S|T)$

Decoding techniques

MMI-antiLM

- length of the sequences is Important
 - $\text{Score}(T) = \log p(T|S) - \lambda U(T) + \gamma U(T)$
- hyperparams γ and λ
 - optimize by MERT with N-best lists by beam search.

MMI-bidi

- hyperparams γ and λ
 - optimize by MERT with N-best lists by beam search.