Lecture 9: Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs)

COMPSCI/DATA 182: Deep Learning





- What is the entree for today ?
 - What do I factor from history ?
 - How much history ?
 - What tidbits do I need to retain ?
 - What tidbits can I forget about ?
 - Can knowledge of the future help me, as well ?

Latent Autoregressive Models

 $P(x_1, x_2, \ldots, x_T),$

$$P(x_1,...,x_T) = P(x_1) \prod_{t=2}^T P(x_t \mid x_{t-1})$$

$$P(x_1,...,x_T) = P(x_1) \prod_{t=2}^T P(x_t \mid x_{t-1},...,x_1)$$

• Leveraging sequences

TEXT: The Goldmine

• Text is among the most common forms of sequence data encountered in deep learning

- Common choices for token: characters, words, and word pieces.
- Language models estimate the joint probability of a text sequence
 - For long sequences, ngrams provide a convenient model by truncating the dependence
- Language models can be scaled up with increased data size, model size, and amount in training compute
 Perplexity = exp(Cross-Entropy Loss)

• PERPLEXITY

$$ext{Perplexity} = \exp\left(-rac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^N \log P(w_i|w_{1:i-1})
ight)$$

• Large language models can perform desired tasks by predicting output text given input text instructions.

Input sequences:	th <mark>e</mark>	time	machine	by	h	g	wells
Target sequences:	the	time	machine	by	h	g	wells

Sequences, in Deep Learning

 $\mathbf{H} = \phi(\mathbf{X}\mathbf{W}_{xh} + \mathbf{b}_h).$



Hidden layer



H = Hidden layer output X = Input W = Hidden layer parameters ϕ = activation function b = bias parameter O = output Batch size n, and d inputs t = time (stamp) $\mathbf{H}_t = \phi(\mathbf{X}_t \mathbf{W}_{xh} + \mathbf{H}_{t-1} \mathbf{W}_{hh} + \mathbf{b}_h).$

$$\mathbf{O}_t = \mathbf{H}_t \mathbf{W}_{\mathrm{hq}} + \mathbf{b}_{\mathrm{q}}$$

Output layer

Hidden Units

$$\mathbf{H} = \phi(\mathbf{X}\mathbf{W}_{\mathrm{xh}} + \mathbf{b}_{\mathrm{h}})$$

$$\mathbf{O} = \mathbf{H}\mathbf{W}_{hq} + \mathbf{b}_{q},$$

$$\mathbf{H}_t = \phi(\mathbf{X}_t \mathbf{W}_{xh} + \mathbf{H}_{t-1} \mathbf{W}_{hh} + \mathbf{b}_h)$$

 $\mathbf{O}_t = \mathbf{H}_t \mathbf{W}_{\mathrm{hq}} + \mathbf{b}_{\mathrm{q}}$



Recurrence



- Recurrent computation
- Even at *different* time steps, RNNs always use these *same* model parameters
 - the parametrization cost of an RNN does **not** grow as the number of time steps increases

Character sequence (model)



Gradient Clipping

 $|f(\mathbf{x}) - f(\mathbf{y})| \le L \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|$

 $|f(\mathbf{x}) - f(\mathbf{x} - \eta \mathbf{g})| \le L\eta \|\mathbf{g}\|.$



- Time steps = hidden layers
- More time steps —> more (hidden) layers
 - Vanishing & Exploding gradients

Loss, in RNNs



$$h_t = f(x_t, h_{t-1}, w_h),$$

$$o_t = g(h_t, w_o),$$

$$L(x_1, \ldots, x_T, y_1, \ldots, y_T, w_h, w_o) = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T l(y_t, o_t)$$

- Unrolling across time steps
- Sum the gradients in unrolled (can be rather long)

Backpropagation through time

$$L(x_1, ..., x_T, y_1, ..., y_T, w_h, w_o) = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T l(y_t, o_t)$$

$$h_t = f(x_t, h_{t-1}, w_h),$$

$$o_t = g(h_t, w_o),$$

$$\frac{d}{dx} f(g(x)) = \frac{df}{dg} \cdot \frac{dg}{dx}$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial w_{\rm h}} = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^{T} \frac{\partial l(y_t, o_t)}{\partial w_{\rm h}}$$
$$= \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^{T} \frac{\partial l(y_t, o_t)}{\partial o_t} \frac{\partial g(h_t, w_{\rm o})}{\partial h_t} \frac{\partial h_t}{\partial w_{\rm h}}.$$

$$a_0 = 0$$
: $a_t = b_t + c_t a_{t-1}$
 $a_t = b_t + \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} \left(\prod_{j=i+1}^t c_j \right) b_i$

$$\frac{\partial h_t}{\partial w_{\rm h}} = \frac{\partial f(x_t, h_{t-1}, w_{\rm h})}{\partial w_{\rm h}} + \frac{\partial f(x_t, h_{t-1}, w_{\rm h})}{\partial h_{t-1}} \frac{\partial h_{t-1}}{\partial w_{\rm h}}$$
$$\frac{\partial h_t}{\partial w_{\rm h}} = \frac{\partial f(x_t, h_{t-1}, w_{\rm h})}{\partial w_{\rm h}} + \sum_{i=1}^{t-1} \left(\prod_{j=i+1}^t \frac{\partial f(x_j, h_{j-1}, w_{\rm h})}{\partial h_{j-1}} \right) \frac{\partial f(x_i, h_{i-1}, w_{\rm h})}{\partial w_{\rm h}}$$

Gradient can blow up

Truncation

$\partial h_{t-\tau}/\partial w_{\rm h}$

- Terminate the sequence
 - Fixed, Random
- *Short term* dependencies
 - A good thing !
- Truncation (regular or randomized):
 - Computational convenience
 - Numerical stability



What about vanishing gradients ?

Long Short Term Memory: LSTM

- Regular recurrent node —> Memory Cell
- Gates:
 - Input gate
 - Forget gate
 - Output gate

Gates



$$\begin{split} \mathbf{I}_t &= \sigma(\mathbf{X}_t \mathbf{W}_{xi} + \mathbf{H}_{t-1} \mathbf{W}_{hi} + \mathbf{b}_i), \\ \mathbf{F}_t &= \sigma(\mathbf{X}_t \mathbf{W}_{xf} + \mathbf{H}_{t-1} \mathbf{W}_{hf} + \mathbf{b}_f), \\ \mathbf{O}_t &= \sigma(\mathbf{X}_t \mathbf{W}_{xo} + \mathbf{H}_{t-1} \mathbf{W}_{ho} + \mathbf{b}_o), \end{split}$$

Memory Cell Update

$$\tilde{\mathbf{C}}_t = \tanh(\mathbf{X}_t \mathbf{W}_{\mathrm{xc}} + \mathbf{H}_{t-1} \mathbf{W}_{\mathrm{hc}} + \mathbf{b}_{\mathrm{c}})$$

• Input node

 $\mathbf{C}_t = \mathbf{F}_t \odot \mathbf{C}_{t-1} + \mathbf{I}_t \odot \tilde{\mathbf{C}}_t$

• Memory cell state, update



Hidden State Update



$$\mathbf{H}_t = \mathbf{O}_t \odot \tanh(\mathbf{C}_t).$$

• Output gate: 1 vs 0 ?



- Update gate : Input + Forget gates (of LSTM) combined
- Reset gate

Unit

GRU

GRU : Hidden State



$$\tilde{\mathbf{H}}_t = \tanh(\mathbf{X}_t \mathbf{W}_{xh} + (\mathbf{R}_t \odot \mathbf{H}_{t-1}) \mathbf{W}_{hh} + \mathbf{b}_h),$$

Deep RNNs



Bidirectional RNNs



• Go both forward and backward in the sequence

Summary



The prediction, is based on understanding "the psychology of the individual" (- Jeeves), which in turn is best facilitated by **Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs)**. We maintain a detailed, dayby-day eating record of the individual, stored as a **Sequence** of time-stamped entries in **Hidden Units**. To keep things manageable, we periodically **Truncate** this sequence, either at fixed intervals or randomly. The individual's clear pattern of eating habits is stored in **Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM)**, where the **Input Gate** carefully preserves the meals from the last 2 days, and the **Forget Gate** ensures nothing beyond those two days is remembered. This recent history is used to predict today's lunch through the Output Gate. A **GRU** simplifies the process, reducing memory to "just the last two days." The **Bidirectional RNN** anticipates tomorrow's pizza, accounting for both past meals and future plans.