CS60010: Deep Learning Spring 2021

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Module 5 Self-Attention and Transformer Architecture

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Attention



Attention-only Translation Models

- Problems with recurrent networks:
- Sequential training and inference: Time grows in proportion to sentence length. Hard to parallelize.
- Long-range dependencies have to be remembered across many single time steps.
- Tricky to learn hierarchical structures ("car", "blue car", "into the blue car"...)

- Alternative:
- Convolution but has other limitations.

Self-Attention

- Information flows from within the same subnetwork (encoder or decoder).
- Convolution applies fixed transform weights. Self-attention applies variable weights.



Self-Attention "Transformers"

- Constant path length between any two positions.
- Variable receptive field (or the whole input sequence).
- Supports hierarchical information flow by stacking self-attention layers.
- Trivial to parallelize.
- Attention weighting controls information propagation.
- Can replace word-based recurrence entirely.

Vaswani et al. "Attention is all you need", arXiv 2017

https://arxiv.org/abs/1706.03762

Attention in Transformer Networks



Encoder-Decoder Attention



Encoder Self-Attention



MaskedDecoder Self-Attention

Transformers

- The Transformer starts by generating initial representations for each word.
- Using self-attention, it aggregates information from all of the other words, generating a new representation per word
- This step is repeated multiple times in parallel for all words, successively generating new representations.



(Output)

(input)



Self-Attention

 b^i is obtained based on the whole input sequence.

 b^1 , b^2 , b^3 , b^4 can be computed in parallel.



You can try to replace any thing that has been done by RNN with self-attention.

q: query (to match others) $q^i = W^q a^i$ k: key (to be matched) $k^i = W^k a^i$ v: information to be extracted $v^i = W^v a^i$

















 b^1 , b^2 , b^3 , b^4 can be computed in parallel.





Self-attention







Self-attention



Multi-head Self-attention



Multi-head Self-attention



Multi-head Self-attention

 b^i

=





Parallel Attention Heads



Positional Encoding

- No position information in self-attention.
- Original paper: each position has a unique positional vector eⁱ (not learned from data)
- In other words: each x^i appends a one-hot vector p^i





Positional Encoding

- BERT used learned positional embeddings
- Vaswani: add numbers between [-1,1] using predetermined (nonlearned) sinusoidal functions to the token embeddings.
- Mathematically, using i for the position of the token in the sequence and *j* for the position of the embedding feature:

$$p_{i,j} = \begin{cases} \sin\left(\frac{i}{10000 \frac{j}{d_{emb-dim}}}\right) & \text{if } j \text{ is even} \\ \cos\left(\frac{i}{10000 \frac{j}{d_{emb-dim}}}\right) & \text{if } j \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$$

Positional Encoding



Review: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZjfjPzXw6og&feature=youtu.be

Seq2seq with Attention





The Transformer Attention Tricks

- Self Attention
- Multi-headed Attention
- Normalized Dot-product Attention
- Positional Encodings

The Transformer Training Tricks

- Layer Normalization
- Label Smoothing
- Masking for Efficient Training



Transformers

- The Transformer starts by generating initial representations for each word.
- Using self-attention, it aggregates information from all of the other words, generating a new representation per word
- This step is repeated multiple times in parallel for all words, successively generating new representations.



(Output)



(input)

Attention in Transformer

- The encoder's inputs first flow through a self-attention layer
- The outputs are fed to a feed-forward neural network. The exact same feed-forward network is independently applied to each position.
- The decoder has both those layers, but between them is an attention layer that helps the decoder focus on relevant parts of the input sentence



Encoder

The word at each position passes through a self-attention process.

Then, they each pass through a feed-forward neural network -- the exact same network with each vector flowing through it separately.



Multi-headed attention

- Use multiple sets of Query/Key/Value weight matrices
- The Transformer uses eight attention heads
 - so there are eight sets for each encoder/decoder
 - Each of these sets is randomly initialized.
- After training, each set is used to project the input embeddings (or vectors from lower encoders/decoders) into a different representation subspace.

MultiHead $(Q, K, V) = [head_1; ...; head_h]W^0$ where head_i = Attention (QW^Q_i, KW^K_i, VW^V_i)



With multi-headed attention, maintain separate Q/K/V weight matrices for each head resulting in different Q/K/V matrices.





we need a way to condense these eight down into a single matrix as input to the feedforward network.

Putting it all together

1) This is our input sentence* 2) We embed 3) each word* W

X

3) Split into 8 heads. We multiply X or R with weight matrices 4) Calculate attention using the resulting Q/K/V matrices 5) Concatenate the resulting Z matrices, then multiply with weight matrix W^o to produce the output of the layer

Wo



* In all encoders other than #0, we don't need embedding. We start directly with the output of the encoder right below this one









W₁^Q W₁^K W₁^V









...



...

The Residuals

each sub-layer (self-attention, ffnn) in each encoder has a residual connection around it, and is followed by a layer-normalization step.





Stacked Encoder



Decoder Side

The encoder start by processing the input sequence.

The output of the top encoder is then transformed into a set of attention vectors K and V.

These are to be used by each decoder in its "encoder-decoder attention" layer which helps the decoder focus on appropriate places in the input sequence:



OUTPUT







Decoder Attention

- In the decoder, the self-attention layer is only allowed to attend to earlier positions in the output sequence. This is done by masking future positions (setting them to -inf) before the softmax step in the self-attention calculation.
- The "Encoder-Decoder Attention" layer works just like multiheaded self-attention, except it creates its Queries matrix from the layer below it, and takes the Keys and Values matrix from the output of the encoder stack.

The Final Linear and Softmax Layer

- A Softmax Layer to output word
- Let's assume that our model knows 10,000 unique English words (our model's "output vocabulary") that it's learned from its training dataset.
- The softmax layer then turns those scores into probabilities (all positive, all add up to 1.0). The cell with the highest probability is chosen, and the word associated with it is produced as the output for this time step.



Layer Norm:



Attention Visualization



Attention Visualization



The encoder self-attention distribution for the word "it" from the 5th to the 6th layer of a Transformer trained on English to French translation (one of eight attention heads).

https://ai.googleblog.com/2017/08/transformer-novel-neural-network.html

Multi-head Attention



Example Application

• If you can use seq2seq, you can use transformer.



Universal Transformer



https://ai.googleblog.com/2018/08/moving-beyond-translation-with.html