Biological Applications of Deep Learning Lecture 12

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Attention Mechanisms I

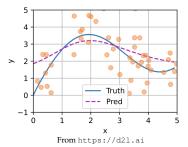
- Attention Scoring Functions
- Multi-Head Attention

Encoder-Decoder Architectures

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 Translating Languages
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Reminder: Nadaraya-Watson Kernel Regression



Using a Gaussian kernel yields (dashed pink curve)

$$\hat{f}(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \alpha(x, x_i) y_i = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{\exp(-\frac{1}{2}(x - x_i)^2)}{\sum_{j=1}^{n} \exp(-\frac{1}{2}(x - x_j)^2)} y_i$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n} \operatorname{softmax}(-\frac{1}{2}(x - x_i)^2) y_i$$
(1)



Attention Scoring Functions



ATTENTION POOLING: DIGEST I

► Re-consider (1):

$$\hat{f}(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \alpha(x, x_i) y_i = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \operatorname{softmax}(-\frac{1}{2}(x - x_i)^2) y_i$$

• One can view $\alpha(x, x_i)$ as

an attention scoring function

$$a(x, x_i) := -\frac{1}{2}(x - x_i)^2$$
(2)

that is further fed into a softmax operation, yielding

$$\alpha(x, x_i) = \operatorname{softmax}(a(x, x_i))$$
(3)



ATTENTION POOLING: DIGEST II

- One can view $\alpha(x, x_i)$ as
 - an attention scoring function

$$a(x, x_i) := -\frac{1}{2}(x - x_i)^2 \tag{4}$$

$$a(x, x_i) := -\frac{1}{2}(x - x_i)^2$$
(4)

$$\alpha(x, x_i) = \operatorname{softmax}(a(x, x_i))$$
(5)

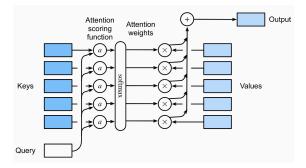
- Result: Probability distribution
 - over values y_i paired with keys x_i where

that is further fed into a softmax operation, yielding

• probabilities are attention weights $\alpha(x, x_i)$



ATTENTION SCORING FUNCTIONS: MOTIVATION



Output of attention pooling is weighted average of values

► Let *x* be query, and *x*^{*i*} keys. Attention weights generally compute as

$$\alpha(x, x_i) = \operatorname{softmax}(a(x, x_i)) \tag{6}$$

Advantage: Freedom in choosing attention scoring functions $a(x, x_i)$

ATTENTION POOLING: FORMAL SUMMARY

- Let $\mathbf{q} \in \mathbb{R}^q$ be a query and $(\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{v}_1), ..., (\mathbf{k}_m, \mathbf{v}_m), \mathbf{k}_i \in \mathbb{R}^k, \mathbf{v}_i \in \mathbb{R}^v$ be *m* key-value pairs
- The attention pooling f computes as

$$f(\mathbf{q}, (\mathbf{k}_1, \mathbf{v}_1), ..., (\mathbf{k}_m, \mathbf{v}_m)) = \sum_{i=1}^m \alpha(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{k}_i) \mathbf{v}_i \in \mathbb{R}^v$$
(7)

• The *attention weight* $\alpha(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{k}_i) \in \mathbb{R}$ computes as

$$\alpha(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{k}_i) = \operatorname{softmax}(a(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{k}_i)) = \frac{\exp(a(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{k}_i))}{\sum_{j=1}^{m} \exp(a(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{k}_j))}$$
(8)

▶ The *attention scoring function a*(**q**, **k**) maps two vectors to a scalar

$$a: \mathbb{R}^q \times \mathbb{R}^k \longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \tag{9}$$



ADDITIVE ATTENTION SCORING

- Let $\mathbf{q} \in \mathbb{R}^q$ be a query and $\mathbf{k} \in \mathbb{R}^k$ be a key
- ► Let $\mathbf{W}_q \in \mathbb{R}^{h \times q}$, $\mathbf{W}_k \in \mathbb{R}^{h \times k}$, $\mathbf{w}_v \in \mathbb{R}^h$ collect learnable parameters
- ► The *additive attention scoring function* computes as

$$a(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{k}) = \mathbf{w}_v^T \tanh(\mathbf{W}_q \mathbf{q} + \mathbf{W}_k \mathbf{k}) \in \mathbb{R}$$
(10)

- ► *Interpretation:* (10) reflects running **q**, **k** through MLP
 - ► *Input:* Concatenation of **q** and **k**
 - ► One *hidden layer* of width *h*
 - Parameters from input to hidden layer are W_q, W_k
 - The activation function is tanh
 - Parameters from hidden to output layer captured by w_v



SCALED DOT-PRODUCT ATTENTION SCORING

- Let $\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{k} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ be *equal-sized* query and key
- ► The *scaled dot-product attention scoring function* computes as

$$a(\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{k}) = \mathbf{q}^T \mathbf{k} / \sqrt{d}$$
(11)

Note: Dot product q^Tk has mean 0 and variance d
 Dividing by \(\sqrt{d}\) implies standard deviation of 1

Minibatches:

- Computing attention for *n* queries and *m* keys at once
- ▶ For queries $\mathbf{Q} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$, keys $\mathbf{K} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times d}$, values $\mathbf{V} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times v}$ compute

softmax
$$(\frac{\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{K}^{T}}{\sqrt{d}})\mathbf{V} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times v}$$
 (12)



Multi-Head Attention



MULTI-HEAD ATTENTION I

- Motivation: Capture different attention mechanisms for same queries, keys, values
- *Example:* Attend to both short- and long-range dependencies in sequential data
- *Question:* How to vary attention mechanisms in informed way?



MULTI-HEAD ATTENTION II

- Question: How to vary attention mechanisms in informed way?
- ► Solution:
 - Let *h* be intended number of attention mechanisms
 - Linearly transform queries, keys, values using h different sets of matrices W_i^(q), W_i^(k), W_i^(v), i = 1, ..., h
 - Run the *h* differently transformed queries, keys, values through attention pooling
 - ► Transformations $\mathbf{W}_{i}^{(q)}, \mathbf{W}_{i}^{(k)}, \mathbf{W}_{i}^{(v)}, i = 1, ..., h$ are learnt
 - The *h* attention pooling outputs are concatenated, and linearly transformed by another learned matrix W_o
- Design is called *multi-head attention*
- Each of the *h* attention pooling outputs is referred to as a *head*



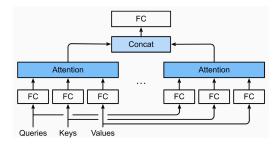
MULTI-HEAD ATTENTION III

- ▶ Let $\mathbf{q} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_q}$, $\mathbf{k} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_k}$, $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_v}$ be query, key, value
- ► Let $\mathbf{W}_i^{(q)} \in \mathbb{R}^{p_q \times d_q}, \mathbf{W}_i^{(k)} \in \mathbb{R}^{p_k \times d_k}, \mathbf{W}_i^{(v)} \in \mathbb{R}^{p_v \times d_v}$ collect learnable parameters
- ► *f* is attention pooling, such as additive (10) or dot-product attention (11)
- Each attention head is computed as

$$\mathbf{h}_{i} = f(\mathbf{W}_{i}^{(q)}\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{W}_{i}^{(k)}\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{W}_{i}^{(v)}\mathbf{v}) \in \mathbb{R}^{p_{v}}$$
(13)



Multi-Head Attention IV



From https://d21.ai

Attention heads:

$$\mathbf{h}_{i} = f(\mathbf{W}_{i}^{(q)}\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{W}_{i}^{(k)}\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{W}_{i}^{(v)}\mathbf{v}) \in \mathbb{R}^{p_{v}}$$
(14)

► Initial 'FC' layers reflect operations $\mathbf{W}_i^{(q)}\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{W}_i^{(k)}\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{W}_i^{(v)}\mathbf{v}$

• 'Attention' layers reflect application of f to $\mathbf{W}_{i}^{(q)}\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{W}_{i}^{(k)}\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{W}_{i}^{(v)}\mathbf{v}$

MULTI-HEAD ATTENTION V

Attention heads:

$$\mathbf{h}_{i} = f(\mathbf{W}_{i}^{(q)}\mathbf{q}, \mathbf{W}_{i}^{(k)}\mathbf{k}, \mathbf{W}_{i}^{(v)}\mathbf{v}) \in \mathbb{R}^{p_{v}}$$
(15)

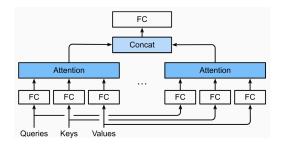
• Let $\mathbf{W}_o \in \mathbb{R}^{p_o \times hp_v}$ collect further learnable parameters

The multi-head attention output computes as

$$\mathbf{W}_{o}\begin{bmatrix}\mathbf{h}_{1}\\\vdots\\\mathbf{h}_{h}\end{bmatrix}\in\mathbb{R}^{p_{o}}$$
(16)



MULTI-HEAD ATTENTION II



From https://d2l.ai

Multi-head attention output computes as

$$\mathbf{W}_{o}[\mathbf{h}_{1}^{T},...,\mathbf{h}_{h}^{T}]^{T} \in \mathbb{R}^{p_{o}}$$
(17)

- 'Concat' layer reflects forming [**h**₁^T, ..., **h**_h^T]
- ► Final 'FC' layer reflects application of **W**_o

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Encoder-Decoder Architectures



Motivation: Sequence-2-Sequence Models



SEQUENCE-2-SEQUENCE MODELS I

- Motivation: Translate series of tokens into another series of tokens
- Specific Example: Translate sentences from one language to another
- ► Challenges:
 - ► Input and output differ in length
 - Sentences are unaligned (e.g. different grammar rules apply)
- Sequence-2-sequence models: neural networks accounting for this



SEQUENCE-2-SEQUENCE MODELS II

From https://jalammar.github.io



SEQUENCE-2-SEQUENCE MODELS III

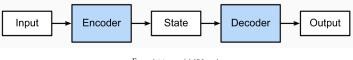
From https://jalammar.github.io



Encoder-Decoder Architecture



ENCODER-DECODER ARCHITECTURE I



From https://d2l.ai

- ► Encoder:
 - Takes input sentence
 - Transforms it into *context state*
- ► Decoder:
 - Takes context state as input
 - Generates output sequence, token by token



ENCODER-DECODER ARCHTITECTURE II

From https://jalammar.github.io



ENCODER-DECODER ARCHITECTURE III

From https://jalammar.github.io



Encoder-Decoder using RNN's



ENCODER-DECODER: RNN REMINDER

Time step #1: An RNN takes two input vectors: hidden state #0 input vector #1 Processes them Then produces two output vectors: hidden state #1 hidden output #1 hidden state #0 hidden tate #1 hidden output #1 hidden state #0 hidden tate #1 hidden

From https://jalammar.github.io

Time step #1 shown; for time step $\#i, i \ge 1$ in general:

- ▶ RNN takes in hidden state #(i-1), input vector #i
- RNN generates hidden state #i, output vector #i



ENCODER-DECODER RNN I

From https://jalammar.github.io

► RNN Encoder:

- Uses sentence to translate as input
- Generates new hidden state each time step; no output

► RNN Decoder:

- Uses last hidden state of encoder as input
- Output is translated sentence

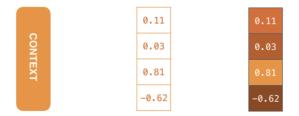
ENCODER-DECODER RNN II

From https://jalammar.github.io

- ► Unrolled view: Inputs and outputs per time step
- ► Not shown:
 - ► Encoder stops when receiving "end-of-sequence" < eos > token
 - Decoder stops when generating "end-of-sequence" < eos > token



ENCODER-DECODER: CONTEXT

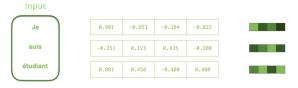


From https://jalammar.github.io

- Context vector is a real-valued vector
- Dimension of context = # hidden units in encoder RNN



ENCODER-DECODER: WORD EMBEDDING



From https://jalammar.github.io

- ► Tokens are embedded using *word embedding* techniques
- Popular choice: Word2Vec (e.g. 15.1 in https://d2l.ai)
- ► Typical sizes of embedding vectors: 200 to 300
- Excellent pre-trained embeddings available



RNN ENCODER: FORMAL DESCRIPTION

- Let $x_1, ..., x_T$ be the input sequence, where x_t is *t*-th token
- Let \mathbf{x}_t be feature vector of x_t , i.e. the embedding of x_t
- ► To generate hidden state *t*, the encoder computes at time step *t*:

$$f(\mathbf{x}_t, \mathbf{h}_{t-1}) \tag{18}$$

where *f* expresses the transformation of the encoder's recurrent layer

► In general, the context variable **c** is computed as

$$\mathbf{c} = q(\mathbf{h}_1, \dots, \mathbf{h}_T) \tag{19}$$

where q is a customized function

- For example, often (e.g. in movies) $\mathbf{c} = q(\mathbf{h}_1, ..., \mathbf{h}_T) = \mathbf{h}_T$
- Remark: This refers to a unidirectional RNN
 Bidirectional RNN's can be used as well



RNN DECODER: FORMAL DESCRIPTION

► Let *y*₁, ..., *y*_{*T'*} be a *target output sequence*

- *Training:* $y_1, ..., y_{T'}$ reflects true sequence
- ▶ Prediction: y_{t'+1} predicted based on y₁, ..., y_{t'}
- ► Let **c** be the context variable generated by encoder
- At time step t' + 1, decoder computes

$$\mathbf{P}(y_{t'+1} \mid y_1, ..., y_{t'}, \mathbf{c})$$
(20)

for all possible $y_{t'+1}$

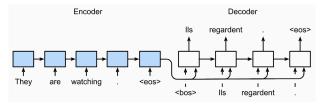
• Given $y_{t'}$, the hidden state $\mathbf{s}_{t'-1}$ and \mathbf{c} , the RNN decoder computes

$$\mathbf{s}_{t'} = g(y_{t'}, \mathbf{c}, \mathbf{s}_{t'-1}) \tag{21}$$

► Given **s**_{t'}, one uses output layer and softmax operation to compute (20)



TRAINING: TEACHER FORCING



From https://jalammar.github.io

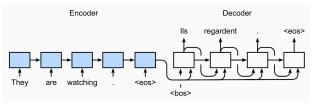
- Training uses correctly translated sequence as output target sequence
- *Teacher forcing:* Input and output shifted by one position relative to each other

< bos > and < eos > mean beginning and end of sentence, resp.

► Given all prior words, decoder RNN trained to translate next word



PREDICTION: TOKEN BY TOKEN





- Predicted token $y_{t'}$ from previous step fed into decoder as input
 - ► At the beginning, feed < bos > as input
- *Simple strategy:* Predict $y_{t'+1}$ that maximizes $\mathbf{P}(y_{t'+1} | y_1, ..., y_{t'}, \mathbf{c})$
 - *Beware:* Resulting $y_1, ..., y_{T'}$ may not maximize $\mathbf{P}(y_1, ..., y_{T'})$
 - More complex strategies available (e.g. https://d2l.ai, 10.8)
- ▶ When < eos > is predicted, output is complete



Attention II



Bahdanau Attention



BAHDANAU ATTENTION: MOTIVATION

- ► Encoder-decoder architectures work well for short sentences
- ► Long, complex sentences:
 - ► Final encoder state too small to capture long sentence
 - ► *But*, final state complete and only source of information
- ► In 2014, Bahdanau suggested a model that
 - was inspired by the idea to align sequences / sentences
 - is differentiable
 - does not have the unidirectional alignment limitation
- ► When predicting a token, the model
 - only aligns (attends) to parts of input sequence deemed relevant
 - uses attention pattern to update current state before prediction
- Arguably, one of the most influential ideas in the last decade



BAHDANAU ATTENTION: FORMAL DEFINITION

- Let **h**_t be the hidden state of the encoder at time t
- Let $\mathbf{s}_{t'-1}$ be the hidden state of the decoder at time t' 1
- Let $\mathbf{c}_{t'}$ be the context variable (i.e. state) after time t'
- ► Taking **s**_{t'-1} as query, and **h**_t as both key and value

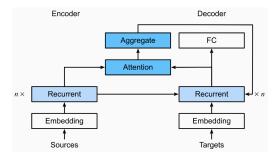
$$\mathbf{c}_{t'} = \sum_{t=1}^{T} \alpha(\mathbf{s}_{t'-1}, \mathbf{h}_t) \mathbf{h}_t$$
(22)

determines $\mathbf{c}_{t'}$ where *T* is the length of the input sequence

- α reflects the additive attention scoring function (10)
- One further proceeds using formulas (20),(21)



BAHDANAU ATTENTION: SCHEMATIC



Schematic of Bahdanau Attention

From https://d21.ai

One can integrate already generated tokens into attention (22): see https://arxiv.org/pdf/1508.01211.pdf



Self-Attention



SELF-ATTENTION: DEFINITION

- Consider a sequence of tokens $\mathbf{x}_1, ..., \mathbf{x}_n \in \mathbb{R}^d$
- Each token has its own query, key, and value
- Hence, each token can attend to each other token:
 - Pair the query vector with the key of the other token
 - This yields a weight for its own value
- Compute weighted sum of values as representation in next layer



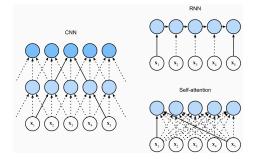
SELF-ATTENTION: FORMAL SUMMARY

- Consider a sequence of tokens $\mathbf{x}_1, ..., \mathbf{x}_n \in \mathbb{R}^d$
- Replace **q** with **x** and both \mathbf{k}_i , \mathbf{v}_i with \mathbf{x}_i in (7)
- One obtains a new sequence $\mathbf{y}_1, ..., \mathbf{y}_n \in \mathbb{R}^d$ by

$$\mathbf{y}_i := f(\mathbf{x}_i, ((\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_1), ..., (\mathbf{x}_n, \mathbf{x}_n)) = \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) \mathbf{x}_j \in \mathbb{R}^d$$
(23)



COMPUTATIONAL COMPLEXITY: COMPARISON I

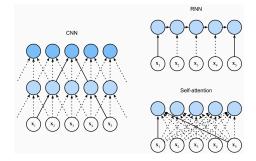


From https://d2l.ai

- Let *n* be the length of the sequence
- ► Let input/output tokens be represented by *d*-dimensional vectors
 - ► For CNN's, this agrees with the number of channels



COMPUTATIONAL COMPLEXITY: COMPARISON II

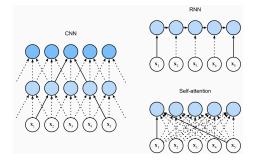




- Computational complexity: Number of arithmetic operations
- Sequential operations: Number of operations to be carried out consecutively
 - Sequential operations prevent parallelization



COMPUTATIONAL COMPLEXITY: COMPARISON III

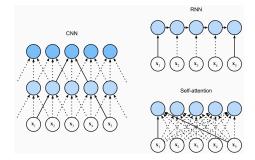




- Maximum path length: Maximum distance between two tokens
 - Distance measured in terms of edges in schematic
 - Long path length prevents mapping long-range dependencies



COMPUTATIONAL COMPLEXITY: CNN'S

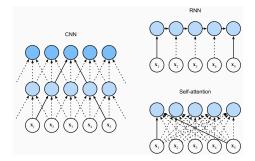




- Let *k* be the filter size and *d* number of both input and output channels
- ► Computational complexity: $O(knd^2)$
- Sequential operations: O(1)
- Maximum path length: O(n/k)



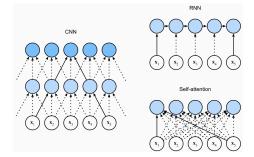
COMPUTATIONAL COMPLEXITY: RNN'S





- ► Computational complexity: O(nd²); multiplying d × d weight matrix with d-dimensional hidden state
- Sequential operations: O(n)
 - Maximum path length: O(n)
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COMPUTATIONAL COMPLEXITY: SELF-ATTENTION



From https://d2l.ai

• Queries, keys, values: $n \times d$ -matrices

• Computational complexity: $\mathcal{O}(n^2d)$

- Scaled dot-product attention: multiply $n \times d$ with $d \times n$ with $n \times d$ matrix
- Formula in compact form was softmax $(\frac{\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{K}^{T}}{\sqrt{d}})\mathbf{V}$

UNIVERSITE Sequential operations and maximum path length: $\mathcal{O}(1)$

References

Jay Alammar's ML blog: "Visualizing A Neural Machine Translation Model", see https://jalammar.github.io/

visualizing-neural-machine-translation-mechanics-of-seq2seq-models-with-attention/

http://d2l.ai, 11.4, 11.5, 11.6



Outlook

- ► Transformers
- Phyloformer: Reconstructing phylogenetic trees
- ► AlphaFold2: Predicting protein structure from sequence



Thanks for your attention

