Modeling with Machine Learning: RNN (part 1)

Outline (part 1)

- Modeling sequences
- The problem of encoding sequences
- Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs)

Temporal/sequence problems

How to cast as a supervised learning problem?



Temporal/sequence problems

How to cast as a supervised learning problem?



 Historical data can be broken down into feature vectors and target values (sliding window)

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0.82 \\ 0.80 \\ 0.73 \\ 0.72 \end{bmatrix} = 0.89$$

 $\phi(t) = y^{(t)}$



Language modeling: what comes next?

This course has been a tremendous ...



Language modeling: what comes next?





Language modeling: what comes next?





What are we missing?

- Sequence prediction problems can be recast in a form amenable to feed-forward neural networks
- But we have to engineer how "history" is mapped to a vector (representation). This vector is then fed into, e.g., a neural network
 - how many steps back should we look at?
 - how to retain important items mentioned far back?
- Instead, we would like to learn how to encode the "history" into a vector



encoding decoding



Key concepts

- Encoding (this lecture)
 - -e.g., mapping a sequence to a vector
- Decoding (next lecture)
 - -e.g., mapping a vector to, e.g., a sequence







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Efforts and courage are not ...





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Efforts and courage are not ...

























Example: encoding sentences

- There are three differences between the encoder (unfolded RNN) and a standard feed-forward architecture
 - input is received at each layer (per word), not just at the beginning as in a typical feed-forward network
 - the number of layers varies, and depends on the length of the sentence
 - parameters of each layer (representing an application of an RNN) are shared (same RNN at each step)



What's in the box?

We can make the RNN more sophisticated...



$$s_t = \tanh(W^{s,s}s_{t-1} + W^{s,x}x_t)$$



What's in the box?

• We can make the RNN more sophisticated...



$$g_t = \text{sigmoid}(W^{g,s}s_{t-1} + W^{g,x}x_t)$$

$$s_t = (1 - g_t) \odot s_{t-1} + g_t \odot \tanh(W^{s,s}s_{t-1} + W^{s,x}x_t)$$

C S A I L

What's in the box?

We can make the RNN more sophisticated...



Key things

- Neural networks for sequences: encoding
- RNNs, unfolded
 - state evolution, gates
 - relation to feed-forward neural networks
 - back-propagation (conceptually)
- Issues: vanishing/exploding gradient
- LSTM (operationally)

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Unit 1 Lecture 8: Introduction to Machine Learning
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