Machine Learning

Lecture 17 Long-Short Term Memory (LSTM)

Overview of LSTM

- Replace sigmoidal unit with linear unit
- Error flows through linear unit does not decay
- But error flow would very often diverge
- Surround linear unit with multiplicative gates to allow greater control over flow of information.
- Using gates, possible to have stable constant error flow

Start with standard recurrent neural network



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Self-recurrent connections for hidden units fixed at +1.0



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LSTM Forward Pass



LSTM Backward Pass

Output gate uses standard backprop

Cell states, forget gates and input gates use Real Time Recurrent Learning (RTRL)-style partial derivative tables



LSTM Backward Pass

Compute errors and partials

Output Gate Error (BP)Cell State Error (BP)Cell State Partials (RTRL)Input Gate Partials (RTRL)Forget Gate Partials (RTRL)

$$\delta_{out_{j}} = f'_{out_{j}}(z_{out_{j}}) \left(\sum_{\nu=1}^{S_{j}} s_{c_{j}^{\nu}} \sum_{k} w_{kc_{j}^{\nu}} \delta_{k} \right)$$

$$e_{s_{c_{j}^{\nu}}} = y_{out_{j}} \left(\sum_{k} w_{kc_{j}^{\nu}} \delta_{k} \right)$$

$$dS_{cm}^{j\nu} = dS_{cm}^{j\nu} y_{fgt_{j}} + g'(z_{c_{j}^{\nu}}) y_{in_{j}} \hat{y}_{m}$$

$$dS_{in,m}^{j\nu} = dS_{in,m}^{j\nu} y_{fgt_{j}} + g(z_{c_{j}^{\nu}}) f'_{in_{j}}(z_{in_{j}}) \hat{y}_{m}$$

$$dS_{fgt,m}^{j\nu} = dS_{fgt,m}^{j\nu} y_{fgt_{j}} + \hat{s}_{c_{j}^{\nu}} f'_{fgt_{j}}(z_{fgt_{j}}) \hat{y}_{m}$$

Compute weight changes

- Weight changes into output gate proportional to output gate delta
- Weight changes into cell, input gate, forget gate proportional to partials

Connectivity

- Recurrent connections back into gates and cells very useful
- Additional feed-forward layers are useful
- Additional LSTM layers probably not useful: gradient truncated

Speech Recognition

- NNs already show promise (Boulard, Robinson, Bengio)
- LSTM may offer a better solution by finding long-timescale structure in speech
- At least two areas where this may help:
 - Time warping (rate invariance)
 - Dynamic, learned model of phoneme segmentation (with little apriori knowledge)

Speech Set 1: Spoken Digits

- Mus Silicum Competition (Brody and Hopfield)
- 500 input files, each a spoken digit "one" through "ten"
- Very compressed representation:
 - 40 spike trains having either one or zero spikes per train
 - Spikes mark onsets, peaks or offsets for 40 different frequencies (100Hz to 5kHz)



Mus Silicium Task A: Identification of digits

- Learn synchrony-based model of digit prediction
- Perform predictions online
- Training set n=300, testing=200
 - Error=false negs/ n_{pos} + false pos/ n_{neg}
- Maass et.al. SNN-type Generic Neural Microcircuits mean 0.14, best 0.013
- LSTM mean 0.03, best 0.0 (over 25 runs)
- LSTM synchronizes internal states to spike onsets

Task B: Identification of "one" from single example

- Competition task (Hopfield and Brody)
 - 1 positive example of "one"
 - 9 randomly generated negative examples
 - Predict "one" or "not one" for dataset of size
 500
- Best in competition err=0.23
- Hopfield and Brody err=0.14
- LSTM best error=0.14 (mean over 15 runs=0.26)

Discussion

- LSTM networks much smaller
 - Hopfield and Brody: ~=5600 units
 - Maass: 135 units
 - LSTM: 50 units (10 gated blocks with 2 cells each yielding 30 gating units and 20 states)
- LSTM exhibited desired "online prediction"
- LSTM outperformed contest entrants and matched performance of Hopfield and Brody.
- By using synchrony-like mechanism, LSTM generalizes well and copes with timewarping

Speech Set 2: Phoneme Identification

- "Numbers 95" database. Numeric street addresses and zip codes (collaborator: Bengio)
- 13 MFCC values plus first derivative = 26 inputs
- 27 possible phonemes
- ~=4500 sentences
 ~=77000 phonemes
 ~= 666,000 10ms frames



Task A: Single phoneme identification

- Categorize phonemes in isolation.
- Prediction made only at last time step
- LSTM has no advantage because no history
- Benchmark ~=92% correct (S. Bengio)
- LSTM ~= 85%*

Task B: frame-level phoneme recognition

- Assign all frames to one of 27 phonemes.
- Use entire sentence
- For later phonemes, history can be exploited
- Benchmark ~= 80%
- LSTM ~= 78%*





State trajectories suggest a use of history.

Alternatives to standard RNNs

• Architectual Changes to RNNs:

- **Time windows:** Moving buffer over input time series
- **TDNNs:** Delayed flow of information through net with cascaded internal delays (Haffner & Waibel)
- **Focused Backprop:** Delay update of activations (Mozer, also deVries & Principe)
- **NARX:** Multiple input time windows ("embedded memories") shortcut error flow (Lin et al)
- Reuse activations: Update using scaled sum of old act new input (Sun)
- **Hierarchical RNNs**: Organization time delays hierarchically: (El Hihi et. al.)
- **Dynamic allocation** : When a unit receives conflicting error signals, add new unit (Ring)
- Alternative Search Methods for RNNs:
 - Weight guessing: Works only for easy problems (Hochreiter)
 - Search without gradients: Propagate discrete error (Bengio et. al.)
 - **Simulated annealing** : Controlled use of noise (Bengio for this specific issue)
 - **Genetic approaches**: (Angeline et. al.)
 - **Second-order methods**: Pseudo-Newton methods, Kalman Filters, Particle Filters
- Non-RNN Approaches:
 - **IO-HMMs**: Discrete networks trained with EM (Bengio & Frasconi).
 - **Spiking Neural Networks**: Use synchrony as latching mechanism.
 - **Hidden Markov Models** : Non-ergodic transition diagrams allow, e.g, left-to-right flow.