# Transformers，VAEs 

Junxian He
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## Transformer



## Encoder



## Decoder



## Transformer Encoder



## What is Attention

Scaled Dot-Product Attention
$Q \in R^{n \times d} \quad K \in R^{m \times d} \quad V \in R^{m \times d}$
We have $n$ queries, $m$ (key, value) pairs


Attention weight $=\operatorname{softmax}\left(Q K^{T}\right)$
Dot-products grow large in magnitude
Scaled Attention weight $=\operatorname{softmax}\left(\frac{Q K^{T}}{\sqrt{d_{k}}}\right)$ Shape is $m \times n$
Attention weight represents the strength to "attend" values V

$$
\text { Attention }(Q, K, V)=\operatorname{softmax}\left(\frac{Q K^{T}}{\sqrt{d_{k}}}\right) V
$$

## Q, K, V



## Self-Attention



Query, key, and value are from the same input, thus it is called "self"-attention


## Self-Attention

At each step, the attention computation attends to all steps in the input example


Nobel committee awards Strickland who advanced optics

## Self-Attention



## Self-Attention



## Self-Attention



## Self-Attention



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## Multi-Head Attention

Multi-Head Attention


## Multi-Head Self-Attention



## Multi-Head Self-Attention

1) Concatenate all the attention heads

2) The result would be the $Z$ matrix that captures information from all the attention heads. We can send this forward to the FFNN

3) Multiply with a weight matrix $W^{\circ}$ that was trained jointly with the model

## X



Jay Alammar. The Illustrated Transformer.

## Multi-head Self-Attention



## Multi-head Self-Attention

Concat and output projection


## Slides by Emma Strubell

## Multi-head Self-Attention + FFN



## Transformer Encoder



Currently we only cover the encoder side


This encoder-decoder arch is originally proposed as a seq2seq arch, for classification tasks, often only encoder is used. And language models often only have a decoder

## Transformer Decoder in Seq2Seq


decoder
Cross-attention
Self-attention


Cross-attention uses the output of encoder as input

## Masked Attention

Typical attention attends to the entire sequence, while masked attention only attends to the ones on the left because future words
 have not been generated
decoder

Decoding time step: 1 (2) $345 \quad 5 \quad 6$
OUTPUT

INPUT Je suis étudiant PREVIOUS

## Position Embeddings



Question: If we shuffle the order of words in the sequence, will that change the attention output and feed forward output of the corresponding word?

Position embeddings are added to each word embedding, otherwise our model is unaware of the position of a word

## Positional Encoding



## Transformer Positional Encoding

$$
\begin{gathered}
P E_{(p o s, 2 i)}=\sin \left(\frac{p o s}{10000^{2 i / d_{\text {model }}}}\right) \\
P E_{(p o s, 2 i+1)}=\cos \left(\frac{p o s}{10000^{2 i / d_{\text {model }}}}\right)
\end{gathered}
$$

Positional encoding is a 512d vector $i=$ a particular dimension of this vector pos = dimension of the word d_model = 512

## Complexity

| Layer Type | Complexity per Layer | Sequential <br> Operations |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| Self-Attention | $O\left(n^{2} \cdot d\right)$ | $O(1)$ |
| Recurrent | $O\left(n \cdot d^{2}\right)$ | $O(n)$ |
| Convolutional | $O\left(k \cdot n \cdot d^{2}\right)$ | $O(1)$ |
| Self-Attention (restricted) | $O(r \cdot n \cdot d)$ | $O(1)$ |

n is sequence length, d is embedding dimension.
Restricted self-attention means not attending all words in the sequence, but only a restricted field

Square complexity of sequence length is a major issue for transformers to deal with long sequence

## Auto-Encoding Variational Bayes

Diederik P. Kingma Machine Learning Group Universiteit van Amsterdam dpkingma@gmail.com

Max Welling Machine Learning Group Universiteit van Amsterdam welling.max@gmail.com

## Variational Autoencoders

## VAE is a Generative Model



## The VAE Model

$\mathrm{p}(\mathrm{z})$ is a normal distribution in most cases

$f$ is a neural network taking Z as input

## Training



How to train the model? Can we do MLE?

$$
\text { Intractable } \mathrm{P}(\mathrm{X}), \mathrm{EM} \text { algorithm? }
$$

## Let's try EM

E-Step: compute $\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{z} \mid \mathrm{x})$

$$
Q(z)=P(z \mid x) \propto P(z) P(x \mid z) \quad \text { This is ok? }
$$

M-Step: the ELBO objective

$$
\operatorname{argmax}_{\theta} \sum Q(z) \log p(x, z ; \theta)=\operatorname{argmax}_{\theta} \mathbb{E}_{z \sim Q(z)} \log p(x, z ; \theta)
$$

$$
z
$$

In most cases, we cannot do the sum, and cannot easily sample from $Q(z)$ either

## Approximate Posterior

We need an easy-to-sample distribution to approximate $\mathrm{P}(\mathrm{z} \mid \mathrm{x})$

$$
q(z \mid x ; \phi) \text { to approximate } p(z \mid x ; \theta) \quad \text { Why conditioned on } \mathrm{x} \text { ? }
$$

$\phi$ is the parameter for the approximate function, $\theta$ is the generative model parameter

How to train $q(z \mid x ; \phi)$, what would be the loss to find $\phi$ ?

## Recap: ELBO

$$
\operatorname{ELBO}(x ; Q, \theta)=\sum_{z} Q(z) \log \frac{p(x, z ; \theta)}{Q(z)}
$$

What is $\operatorname{argmax}_{Q(z)} \operatorname{ELBO}(x ; Q, \theta)$ ?

ELBO is maximized when $Q(z)$ is equal to $p(z \mid x)$
Therefore, we can approximate the true posterior by maximizing ELBO:

$$
\operatorname{argmax}_{\phi} \sum_{z} q(z \mid x ; \phi) \log \frac{p(x, z ; \theta)}{q(z \mid x ; \phi)}
$$

## Training VAEs

E-Step:

$$
\operatorname{argmax}_{\phi} \sum_{z} q(z \mid x ; \phi) \log \frac{p(x, z ; \theta)}{q(z \mid x ; \phi)}
$$

M-Step:

$$
\operatorname{argmax}_{\theta} \sum_{z} q(z \mid x ; \phi) \log \frac{p(x, z ; \theta)}{q(z \mid x ; \phi)}
$$

Same objective, different parameters to optimize
Because we use approximate rather than exact posterior, it is also called Variational EM

## Training VAEs

E-Step:

$$
\operatorname{argmax}_{\phi} \sum_{7} q(z \mid x ; \phi) \log \frac{p(x, z ; \theta)}{q(z \mid x ; \phi)} \quad \begin{aligned}
& \text { Can we do gradient } \\
& \text { descent over } \phi ?
\end{aligned}
$$

M-Step:

$$
\operatorname{argmax}_{\theta} \sum_{z} q(z \mid x ; \phi) \log \frac{p(x, z ; \theta)}{q(z \mid x ; \phi)}
$$

We use MC sampling to approximate expectation and use gradient descent to optimize $\theta$

