Deep Learning

Lecture 8: GPT and Large Language Models

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Today

- HarryGPT
- Large language models

See code/gpt/.

Large language models



(March 2023)

Decoder-only transformers

The decoder-only transformer has become the de facto architecture for large language models.

These models are trained with self-supervised learning, where the target sequence is the same as the input sequence, but shifted by one token to the right.



Historically, GPT-1 was first pre-trained and then fine-tuned on downstream tasks.

	Text Task Prediction Classifier	Classification [Start	Text	Extract	→ Transform	ner 🔸 L	inear
12x —	Layer Norm Feed Forward Layer Norm Masked Multi Self Attention	Entailment [Start	Premise	Delim	Hypothesis	Extract	→ Transformer → Linear
		[Similarity	Start Start	Text 1 Text 2	Delim Delim	Text 2 Text 1	Extract	→ Transformer → Linear → Transformer
		Multiple Choice [Start	Context	Delim Delim	Answer 1 Answer 2	Extract	→ Transformer → Linear → Transformer → Linear
L	Text & Position Embed	[Start	Context	Delim	Answer N	Extract	Transformer + Linear

Scaling laws

Transformer language model performance improves smoothly as we increase the model size, the dataset size, and amount of compute used for training.

For optimal performance, all three factors must be scaled up in tandem. Empirical performance has a power-law relationship with each individual factor when not bottlenecked by the other two.



Large models also enjoy better sample efficiency than small models.

- Larger models require less data to achieve the same performance.
- The optimal model size shows to grow smoothly with the amount of compute available for training.



In-context learning

GPT-2 and following models demonstrated potential of using the same language model for multiple tasks, **without updating the model weights**.

Zero-shot, one-shot and few-shot learning consist in prompting the model with a few examples of the target task and letting it learn from them. This paradigm is called in-context learning.



(demo)

Emergent abilities

As language models grow in size, they start to exhibit emergent abilities that are not present in the original training data.

A (few-shot) prompted task is **emergent** if it achieves random performance for small models and then (suddenly) improves as the model size increases.



Notably, chain-of-thought reasoning is an emergent ability of large language models. It improves performance on a wide range of arithmetica, commonsense, and symbolic reasoning tasks.





Alignment

Increasing the model size does not inherently makes models follow a user's intent better, despite emerging abilities.

Worse, scaling up the model may increase the likelihood of undesirable behaviors, including those that are harmful, unethical, or biased.



Human feedback can be used for better aligning language models with human intent, as shown by InstructGPT.





Prompt:

What is the purpose of the list C in the code below?

```
def binomial_coefficient(n, r):
C = [0 for i in range(r + 1)];
C[0] = 1;
for i in range(1, n + 1):
    j = min(i, r);
    while j > 0:
        C[j] += C[j - 1];
        j -= 1;
return C[r]
```

GPT-3 175B completion:

A. to store the value of C[0] B. to store the value of C[1] C. to store the value of C[i] D. to store the value of C[i - 1]

InstructGPT 175B completion:

The list C in this code is used to store the values of the binomial coefficient as the function iterates through the values of n and r. It is used to calculate the value of the binomial coefficient for a given value of n and r, and stores the result in the final return value of the function.

The end.