Selective Attention for Context-aware Neural Machine Translation

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NAACL-HLT, Minneapolis, June, 2019

Overview



- Proposed Approach
- Experiments and Analyses

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- Proposed Approach
- 3 Experiments and Analyses





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• The global document context for MT [Maruf and Haffari, 2018]





• Soft attention over words in the document context



- Soft attention over words in the document context
- Forms a long-tail absorbing significant probability mass



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- Soft attention over words in the document context
- Forms a long-tail absorbing significant probability mass
- Incapable of ignoring irrelevant words
- Not scalable to long documents

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This Work

We propose a sparse and hierarchical attention approach for document NMT which:

- identifies the key sentences in the global document context, and
- attends to the key words within those sentences

Overview



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For each query word:



$lpha_s$: attention weights given to sentences in context

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For each query word:



 α_s : attention weights given to sentences in context α_w : attention weights given to words in context

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Sparse sentence-level key matching: identify relevant sentences



 Q_s : representation of words in current sentence K_s : representation of sentences in context

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Sparse word-level key matching: identify relevant words in relevant sentences



Sparse word-level key matching: identify relevant words in relevant sentences



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 Q_w : representation of words in current sentence K_w : representation of words in context, a_w , a_w

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③ *Re-scale attention weights*







Read the word-level values with the attention weights

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9 *Read the word-level values* with the attention weights



Our sparse hierarchical attention module is able to selectively focus on relevant sentences in the document context and then attends to key words in those sentences



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Flat Attention over Source Document

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Flat Attention over Source Document

• *Soft sentence-level attention* over all sentences in the document context

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• Comparison to [Maruf and Haffari, 2018]:

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 - multi-head attention

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• Hierarchical selective or Flat



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- Hierarchical selective or Flat
- Monolingual context (source) integrated in encoder



- Hierarchical selective or Flat
- Monolingual context (source) integrated in encoder
- Bilingual context (source & target) integrated in decoder

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Our Models:



Our Models:

- Hierarchical Attention over context
 - sparse at sentence-level, soft at word-level

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• sparse at both sentence and word-level

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Our Settings:

- Offline document MT
- Online document MT

Overview



Proposed Approach



Section 2 Construction 2 Construc



Experimental Setup

Training/dev/test corpora statistics for En-De:

| Domain | #Sentences | Document length |
|----------|-------------------|--------------------|
| TED | 0.21M/9K/2.3K | 120.89/96.42/98.74 |
| News | | 38.93/26.78/19.35 |
| Europarl | 1.67M/3.6K/5.1K | 14.14/14.95/14.06 |

Baselines:

- Context-agnostic baselines (RNNSearch, Transformer)
- Local source context baselines for online document MT:
 - [Zhang et al., 2018] & [Miculicich et al., 2018]

Evaluation Metrics: BLEU, METEOR









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Analyses

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- Measure accuracy of translating English pronoun *it* to its German counterparts *es*, *er* and *sie* using a contrastive test set [Müller et al., 2018]
- Perform subjective evaluation in terms of adequacy and fluency [Läubli et al., 2018]









| Model | #Params | Speed (words/sec.) | |
|-----------------------------|---------|--------------------|----------|
| | | Training | Decoding |
| Transformer | 50M | 5100 | 86.33 |
| +Attention, <i>sentence</i> | 53.7M | 3750 | 83.84 |
| word | 53.7M | 3100 | 81.38 |
| +H-Attention | 54.2M | 2600 | 74.11 |

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Src: Croatia is their homeland , too .

Tgt: Kroatien ist auch ihre Heimat .

Transformer: Kroatien ist auch seine Heimat .

Our Model: Kroatien ist auch ihr Heimatland .

Src: Croatia is **their** homeland , too . Tgt: Kroatien ist auch **ihre** Heimat . Transformer: Kroatien ist auch **seine** Heimat . Our Model: Kroatien ist auch **ihr** Heimatland .

Head 8: Top sentences with attention to words related to the antecedent s^{j-1} : to name but a few, these include cooperation with the Hague Tribunal, efforts made so far in prosecuting corruption, restructuring the economy and finances and greater commitment and sincerity in eliminating the obstacles to the return of Croatia 's Serbian population .

 s^{j-4} : by signing a border arbitration agreement with its neighbour Slovenia, the new Croatian Government has not only eliminated an obstacle to the negotiating process, but has also paved the way for the resolution of other issues.

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1 The Whys?

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- Proposed a novel and scalable top-down approach to hierarchical attention for document NMT
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Future Work:

Investigate benefits of sparse attention in terms of better interpretability of context-aware NMT models

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Implementation and Hyperparameters

Implementation:

DyNet C++ interface [Neubig et al., 2017], using *Transformer-DyNet* (https://github.com/duyvuleo/Transformer-DyNet)

| Parameters | Details |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|
| #Layers | 4 |
| #Heads | 8 |
| Hidden dimensions | 512 |
| Feed-forward layer size | 2048 |
| Optimizer | Adam (<i>Ir</i> =0.0001) |
| Dropout (Base model) | 0.1 |
| Dropout (Document-level model) | 0.2 |
| Label smoothing | 0.1 |

Src/Tgt vocab sizes:

TED 17.1k/23.2k, News 16.9k/23.3k, Europarl 16.6k/25.4k (Joint BPE vocab size 30k)

Monolingual Context Integration in Encoder



Bilingual Context Integration in Decoder



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Src: my **thoughts** are also with the victims . Ref: meine **Gedanken** sind auch bei den Opfern . Transformer: ich **denke** auch an die Opfer . Our Model: meine **Gedanken** sind auch bei den Opfern .

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Head 2: Top sentences with attention to related words

 s^{j-2} : (FR) Madam President, many things have already been said , but I would like to echo all the words of sympathy and support that have already been addressed to the peoples of Tunisia and Egypt .

 s^{j+4} : it must implement a strong strategy towards these countries .

 s^{j-1} : they are a symbol of hope for all those who defend freedom .