

APAC Machine Learning & Data Science Community Summit

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Deep Learning - Fun with TensorFlow

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- About me + Singapore community + Workshops
- Something in-the-news :
 - What else I could have chosen for ths talk
- Actual talk content
 - Including lots of code (show of hands?)
- Deep Learning / Data Science human resources
 - Trying to fix the problem in Singapore
- Wrap-up

About me



- PhD in Machine Learning *in the 1990s*
- Since then : Finance / Analytics / Startups
 - Moved from NYC to Singapore in September-2013
- 2014 = 'fun' :
 - Machine Learning, Deep Learning, NLP
 - Robots, drones
- Since 2015 = 'serious' :: NLP + Deep Learning
 - & Open Source...
 - & Papers...
 - & Workshops...

Singapore Data Science community



- Singapore is a small, smart city-state on the equator
 - Country has very few natural resources
 - Data Science is seen as a good strategic fit
- Community activities :
 - DataScience SG : 5,100 members
 - Topics : Technical, strategy & marketing
 - PyData SG : 2,500 members
 - Topics : Maybe show code, beginners welcome
 - TensorFlow & Deep Learning SG : 1,000 members
 - Topics : Must show code. Beginners Advanced
 - PyTorch & DL Group & Workshops...
 - First meeting in July





Deep Learning workshops



- Started at FOSSASIA in 2016
- Problem :
 - Want to teach Deep Learning "Hands on"
 - Machines difficult to set up
 - No WiFi
- Solution :
 - Pre-configured VirtualBox Appliance, loaded with models and data
 - Cross-platform, handed out on USB sticks
- All Open Source...
- This talk is a "Taste" without time for hands-on

Something in the news...



- As well as introductory material, want to show "Hot Stuff"
- Major criteria :
 - Must be 'fun'
 - Can't use too much data (or require downloads)
 - Should be trainable in steps of < 5 minutes
- Recent interesting things :
 - WaveNet; DeepVoice; Tacotron (DeepMind, Baidu, Google)
 - pix2pix (community)
 - A:A' :: B:B' (Microsoft)
 - CNN for language translation (Facebook)
 - Objects from optical flow (Facebook)
- Final winner today is in the news for other reasons ...

Appendix : tacotron



Problem : no Korean native speakers in SG office



(b) With post-processing net

Appendix : pix2pix



Problem : training time

Labels to Facade



Appendix : Deep image analogies



Problem : not really 'Deep Learning'



A (input)

A'(output) B (output)

Appendix : CNN for translation



- Problem : Korean language
 - Statistically different from other languages
 - Seems to combine words and 'extras' : RAN OUT OF TIME



Appendix : Objects from optical flow



- Problem : Need to prepare some photos from videos
 - No time...



News (again) : AlphaGo



- Having achieved success in 2016...
 - Will soon be playing again against Chinese player Ke Jie
 - Has probably been self-playing continually since last year...
 - Also surfaced for a series of ~60 anonymous games (undefeated)



Reinforcement learning



- Techniques that focus on decision-making processes ...
 - ... where each decision/action affects the future options available
- Standard setting :
 - Playing Chess or Go (or games with hidden knowledge / randomness)
- Other application examples :
 - Deciding which advertisements to show
 - Dynamic pricing policies
 - Control of unknown 'plant' (e.g. air conditioning)
 - Robots "learning-by-example"

Reinforcement learning

- Learning to choose actions ...
 - ... which cause environment to change



- Rules of the game are unknown.
- No supervisor, only a reward signal.
- · Feedback is delayed.
- Agent's actions affect the subsequent data it receives.



Q-Learning in one slide



- Estimate value of entire future from current state
 - Let's call this function "Q(observable state)"
- Estimate value of next states, for all possible actions
 - i.e Q @ t+1 (states after each action A_i)
 - Remember to add on 'rewards' we earn for each one too
- Determine the 'best action' from estimates
 - By picking the A_i that gives us the best next Q @ t+1
- Do the best action A*
 - Check what state we actually get to, and rewards
- Now we can update Q(state) to the "better estimate" Q(A*)
 - But sometimes Q(state) is actually known (win / lose, for instance)

Q-Learning practicalities



- Concretely in Go (one-step lookahead) :
 - Q() value is ~ 'winning probability of this board'
 - But (at the beginning) these are all complete guesses
- Check every possible move :
 - Work out which move gives highest Q() value next ('looks best')
- Execute the "best" move
 - Add the training data Q(previous) -> Q(next @ best)
- But sometimes, there is no next move :
 - The game is WON or LOST
 - These are 'truth' for Q()
- Training teaches all the Q() values on a relative basis

Workshop example



- Go is too difficult to train in 5 minutes ...
- Basic principles can be seen in "Bubble Breaker"



Learning to play Bubble Breaker



- This is a very 'clean' version of the game
- Clicking on 'joined' bubbles kills the group
 - Bubbles fall down from the top to fill the space
 - Empty columns are filled by shifting columns over from the left
 - There are no special bubbles : just 5 colours
 - Game ends when there are no moves left

- Estimate the Q() values using a Neural Network
 - Inputs = current board features
 - Output = single number 'Q()'

Bubble Breaker key points



- Turning board into features
 - 5 colours are symmetrical
 - Use that to speed up by 5!=120x
- Next actions are generated by Python code
 - Which also gives us next boards
 - EXCEPT : can't 'know' new columns before actually doing the move
- Exploit vs Explore
 - Simple 10% rule
- Rewards
 - Using the 'score' promotes short-term gains
 - Using new-columns-added leads to 'better' play

Workshop code / demo

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LIVE DEMO TIME !







- Can get better estimates by looking several steps ahead
- But Go has too many possible next moves
 - This makes exploring the 'tree' of moves too difficult
- So AlphaGo also has a probable-next-move estimate
 - This prunes the game tree, so it can search more effectively
 - This estimator itself had a (low) Dan rank for single-step play
- Also, after tree has been traced:
 - Can teach Q() network at every level against every other one
- There was some analysis against human games
 - Vast majority of learning is now against previous versions of AlphaGo
- Actually used TPUs in early 2016

Deep Learning : training humans



- Data Science / Machine Learning / Deep Learning
- Difficult to hire people with right skills
 - As an employer, want to see practical experience
- Universities tend to lag
 - And team projects make for weak interviews
- MOOCs are good indicators of genuine interest
 - But coursework tends to be cookie-cutter
- Kaggle is cool. But now hyper-competitive (too much so)
- Starting in Singapore:
 - Deep Learning Developer Course ~ 8 weeks x 2 evenings
 - 50% teaching. 50% individual projects.

Wrap up



- Lots of exciting developments in DL
- Many can be simplified to their essence
- Best to learn hands-on :
 - Do projects from blog postings
 - Read papers; Make up your own projects
 - Contribute to open source
 - Do lightning talks; ... Write papers
- All source code at :
 - URL : https://github.com/mdda
 - REPO : deep-learning-workshop (please *star*)
 - PATH : /notebooks/7-Reinforcement-Learning/3-BubbleBreaker.ipynb