

ADER: Adaptively Distilled Exemplar Replay Towards Continual Learning for Session-based Recommendation

Presentation by Alec Pauli

Session-based Recommendation Systems

Recommender Systems

YouTube:

- 168,055,344,000 hours of video
- Enough to watch for more than 200'000 lives

Amazon:

- 350 million products
- Enough to buy every day around 12000 products

 \ast Based on a life expectancy of 80 years

YouTube:



Amazon

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Session based recommender Systems

No login required

As a session is normally a short continuous interaction with the service already are able to predict without a large history

<u>High quality datasets</u>

With the rising popularity of new social networks and content platforms new datasets were open-sourced/collected

Privacy regulations

For example, GDPR makes storing large datasets more complicated. Even more important is the new E-Privacy regulation

<u>Deep Learning advances</u>

Naturally fits into paradigms of Deep learning. Thus advances in Deep Learning such as RNNs can be directly applied

Recommender Systems are dynamic system





Catastrophic forgetting

Catastrophic cartoon solution

<u>Learning task 2</u>



Ader



Which datapoints

Sample Dataset



Split on the available space



Selection of Exemplars of the $rac{}{\simeq}$ class



Selection of Exemplars of the $rac{}{\simeq}$ class



Open questions

How do we compute the loss for training



Which type of network **?**

KD - Loss

CE - Loss

Combination

Model – SASRec – Previous models

Markov Chain

• Good at short term realtionships

Recurrent Neuronal Network

Perform best with long term semantics

Model – SASRec – High level idea

\underline{SASRec}

Tries to combine the strengths of MC and RNN's via an attention mechanism

Adaptively Distilled Exemplar Replay



Experiments

Recall@k:



MRR@k:



Comparison against Ader



Dropout



Figure 1. Networks trained with dropout tend to forget at a slower rate. The lines represent the evolution of the validation accuracy of the first task, as networks learn new tasks

EWC model

Diginetica

<u>Click stream data</u> <u>of e-commerce site</u>

5 Months

YouChoose



Less dynamic

YouChoose Diginetica

For YouChoose the update interval is daily and for Digitenica weekly

<u>Still Youchoose has around 4 times more</u> <u>Actions in each intervall</u>

Results of the Diginetica dataset





Results of the Diginetica dataset



Performance on DIGINETICA with 30k exemplars

■ Finetune ■ Dropout ■ EWC ■ Joint ■ Ader

Results of the YOOCHOOSE dataset



Performance on Youchoose with 30k exemplars

■ Finetune ■ Dropout ■ EWC ■ Joint ■ Ader

Results of the YOOCHOOSE dataset





Performance over the weeks



Effect of exemplar size



Ablation study



Ablation study



■ Random ■ Loss ■ herding ■ Equal ■ fix ■ Ader

Personal opinion



Exemplar sizes

<u>Diginetica</u>

Around 50'000 samples per iteration

YouChoose

Around 200'000 samples per iteration

Main sources:

- $\bullet \ \underline{https://towardsdatascience.com/introduction-to-recommender-systems-1-971bd274f421}$
- $\label{eq:https://medium.com/@mdsangha/session-based-recommendations-f16369aafa6bhttps://session-based-recommenders.fastforwardlabs.com/FF19-Session Based Recommender Systems-Cloudera Fast Forward.pdf$
- $\bullet \ https://www.google.com/search?client=safari\&rls=en\&q=session+based+recommender+springer\&ie=UTF-8\&oe=UTF-8\&oe=UTF-8\&oe=UTF-8\&oe=UTF-8\&oe=UTF-8\&oe=UTF-8\&oe=UTF-8\&oe=UTF-8\&oe=UTF-8\&oe=UTF-8\&oe=UTF-8\&oe=UTF-8$
- <u>https://github.com/kang205/SASRec</u>
- <u>https://www.researchgate.net/publication/343179237_ADER_Adaptively_Distilled_Exemplar_Replay_Towards_Continual_</u> Learning for Session-based Recommendation
- <u>https://openaccess.thecvf.com/content_CVPRW_2020/papers/w15/Mirzadeh_Dropout_as_an_Implicit_Gating_Mechanism_for_Continual_Learning_CVPRW_2020_paper.pdf</u>

Backup Slides / Support for discussion



CE Loss

Cross entropy according to current data

 $L_{CE}(\theta_t) = -\frac{1}{|D_t|} \sum_{(\mathbf{x}, y) \in D_t} \sum_{i=1}^{|I_t|} \delta_{i=y} \cdot \log(p_i)$

KD Loss

Softmax on all items

$$L_{KD}(\theta_t) = -\frac{1}{|E_{t-1}|} \sum_{(\mathbf{x}, y) \in E_{t-1}} \sum_{i=1}^{|I_{t-1}|} \hat{p}_i \cdot \log(p_i),$$
New network

Total Loss

actions are available or a lot of new data $L_{ADER} = L_{CE} + \lambda_t \cdot L_{KD}, \quad \lambda_t = \lambda_{base} \sqrt{\frac{|I_{t-1}|}{|I_t|} \cdot \frac{|E_{t-1}|}{|D_t|}}$

Small if either a lot of new

Algorithm for choosing exemplars

Pseudoalgorithm for selection in loop t:

For all items y:

 P_y = elements with the same y

 μ = Average of the y according to the output of the model

for k from 1 to number of elements to store for this action

 $\operatorname{argmin}_{x \in P_y} \left| \mu - \frac{1}{k} (\varphi(x) + \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} \varphi(x_j) \right|$

Use the union of all elements chosen

Important training parameters

- SASRec used 150 hidden units and 2 stacked self-attention blocks
- \bullet Batch size is 256 for Diginetica and 512 for YOOCHOOSE
- The Adam Optimizier was used with a learning rate of 5e-4
- Train default was 100 epochs that were lowered if Recall@20 didn't improve for 5 epochs