

# Personalizing Adaptation for Meta-Learning-based Dialogue Generation

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#### Overview

- Personalized Dialogue Generation
- Related Work
- Model
- Experiments



## Personalized Dialogue Generation

- Response generation depends on the persona
  - Q: Do you have any pets?
  - P1: He has a dog. A1: Yes, I have a dog
  - P2: She doesn't have a pet. A2: No.
- Difficulties
  - The response should be consistent with the persona
  - Each persona doesn't have enough training data

Personality Quality



#### Related Work

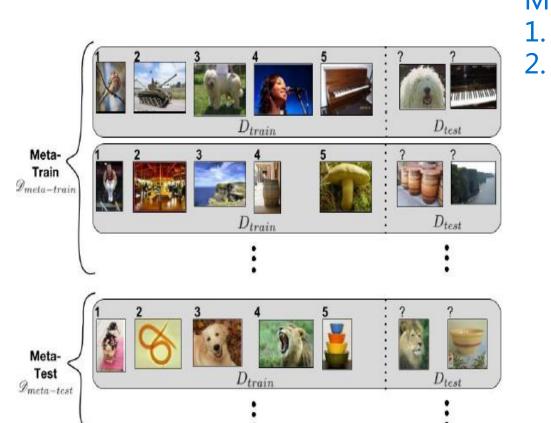
- Use the persona descriptions to generate response
  - Use all the users to train a model
  - Input: query + persona description
  - Eg: Zhang et al.(2018) propose to calculate the attention of the current query over all the description sentences, then use this attention to re-write the generated replies.
  - However, persona description are often unavailable.
- Meta-learning-based dialogue generation
  - Train a model for each persona
  - Do not need the persona description

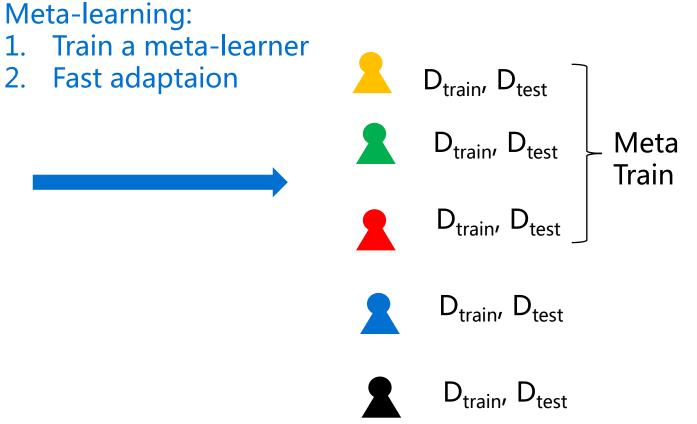
Saizheng Zhang, Emily Dinan, Jack Urbanek, ArthurSzlam, Douwe Kiela, and Jason Weston. Personalizing dialogue agents: I have a dog, do you have pets too? In ACL, pages 2204–2213, 2018



#### Related Work

• Meta-learning-based Dialogue Generation







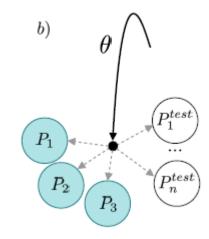
#### MAML

#### • Meta-learner: Find an initialization for fast adaptation

Algorithm 2 MAML for Few-Shot Supervised Learning Require: p(T): distribution over tasks Require:  $\alpha, \beta$ : step size hyperparameters 1: randomly initialize  $\theta$ 

- 2: while not done do
- 3: Sample batch of tasks  $\mathcal{T}_i \sim p(\mathcal{T})$
- 4: for all  $\mathcal{T}_i$  do
- 5: Sample K datapoints  $\mathcal{D} = {\mathbf{x}^{(j)}, \mathbf{y}^{(j)}}$  from  $\mathcal{T}_i$
- 6: Evaluate  $\nabla_{\theta} \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{T}_i}(f_{\theta})$  using  $\mathcal{D}$  and  $\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{T}_i}$  in Equation (2) or (3)
- 7: Compute adapted parameters with gradient descent:  $\theta'_i = \theta - \alpha \nabla_{\theta} \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{T}_i}(f_{\theta})$
- 8: Sample datapoints  $\mathcal{D}'_i = {\mathbf{x}^{(j)}, \mathbf{y}^{(j)}}$  from  $\mathcal{T}_i$  for the meta-update
- 9: end for
- 10: Update  $\theta \leftarrow \theta \beta \nabla_{\theta} \sum_{\mathcal{T}_i \sim p(\mathcal{T})} \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{T}_i}(f_{\theta'_i})$  using each  $\mathcal{D}'_i$ and  $\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{T}_i}$  in Equation 2 or 3
- 11: end while

MAML in personalized dialogue generation



Andrea Madotto, Zhaojiang Lin, Chien-Sheng Wu, and Pascale Fung.Personalizing dialogue agents via meta-learning. In ACL, pages 5454–5459, 2019.



#### Our Model

- MAML-based Personalized Dialogue Generation
  - Hyperparameters of the adaptation process is the same for different tasks
    - Learning rate, steps,...
    - Different tasks need different hyperparameters in personalized dialogue generation (Liu et al. 2020)
- Use a neural network to generate hyperparameters for each task
- Notation

$$\mathscr{D} = \{\mathcal{D}_{p_1}, \ldots, \mathcal{D}_{p_z}\} \qquad \mathcal{D}_p = \{U_1, \ldots, U_k\}.$$

$$X = \{u_1, \dots, u_{t-1}\}. \qquad Y = u_t$$

Zequn Liu, Ruiyi Zhang, Yiping Song, and Ming Zhang. When does maml work the best? an empirical study on modelagnostic meta-learning in nlp applications, arXiv preprint arXiv:2005.11700. 2020.



#### Our Model

learning. 2016

- Dialogue Generation Model: Seq2seq
- Adaptation on Encoder
  - The same as MAML

Adaptation on Decoder

1.18

• Meta-LSTM (Ravi et al. 2016)

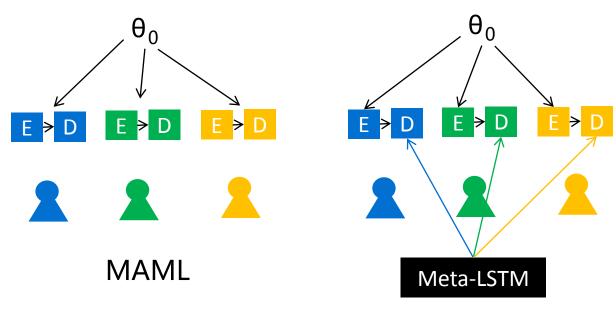
$$\begin{aligned} \theta_{p_{i},e}^{(1)} &= \theta_{0,e} - \alpha \nabla_{\theta_{e}} \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{D}_{p_{i}}^{train}}(\theta_{0}) \\ \theta_{p_{i},e}^{(t)} &= \theta_{p_{i},e}^{(t-1)} - \alpha \nabla_{\theta_{e}} \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{D}_{p_{i}}^{train}}\left(\theta_{p_{i}}^{(t-1)}\right) \end{aligned} (1) \\ \theta_{p_{i},d}^{(t)} &= f_{p_{i}}^{(t)} \odot \theta_{p_{i},d}^{(t-1)} - i_{p_{i}}^{(t)} \odot \nabla_{\theta_{d}} \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{D}_{p_{i}}^{train}}\left(\theta_{p_{i}}^{(t-1)}\right) \\ f_{p_{i}}^{(t)} &= \sigma (W_{f} - [\nabla_{\theta_{d}} \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{D}_{p_{i}}^{train}}\left(\theta_{p_{i}}^{(t-1)}\right), \theta_{p_{i},d}^{(t-1)}, \\ \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{D}_{p_{i}}^{train}}\left(\theta_{p_{i}}^{(t-1)}\right), f_{p_{i}}^{(t-1)}] + b_{f}) \\ \text{Learning rate} \\ Sachin Ravi and Hugo Larochelle. Optimization as a model for few-shot} \\ \theta_{p_{i},d}^{(t)} &= c_{0} \end{aligned}$$

(3)



#### Our Model

- Training
  - Meta-objective  $\min_{\theta_{0,e},\theta_m} \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{D}_{p_i}^{valid}}\left(\theta_{p_i}^{(T)}\right)$  $\theta_m = [W_i, W_f, b_i, b_f, c_0],$



$$\theta_{0,e} \leftarrow \theta_{0,e} - \beta \nabla_{\theta_{0,e}} \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{D}_{p_i}^{valid}} \begin{pmatrix} \theta_{p_i}^{(T)} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\theta_m \leftarrow \theta_m - \beta \nabla_{\theta_m} \mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{D}_{p_i}^{valid}} \begin{pmatrix} \theta_{p_i}^{(T)} \end{pmatrix}$$
(5)

Algorithm 1: Proposed Training AlgorithmInput:  $\alpha, \beta$ : Learning rate $\mathcal{D}_{train}$ : meta-training datarandomly initialize  $\theta_{0,e}, \theta_m$ .while not done doSample a persona  $\mathcal{D}_{p_i} \sim \mathcal{D}_{train}$ for t=1,T doAdapt  $\theta_{p_i,e}$  using Equation 1Adapt  $\theta_{p_i,d}$  using Equation 3update  $\theta_{0,e}, \theta_m$  using Equation 5

Our Model



#### Experiments

- Dataset
  - Persona-chat: 1137/99/100 users for meta-training/meta-validation/meta-testing, and each user has 121 utterances on average.
  - D<sub>train</sub>:D<sub>test</sub> = 10:1
- Baselines
  - Seq2seq
  - Seq2seq-Finetune
  - MAML

#### Experiments

- Evaluation
  - Quality: Perplexity, BLEU
  - Personality: C score
    - measure the response consistency with persona description

$$\mathbf{NLI}(u, p_j) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } u \text{ entails } p_j \\ 0 & \text{if } u \text{ is independent to } p_j \\ -1 & \text{if } u \text{ contradicts } p_j \end{cases}$$
$$\mathbf{C}(u) = \sum_{j}^{m} \mathbf{NLI}(u, p_j) \tag{7}$$



• Results

Model	PPL	BLEU	С
Seq2seq	37.91	1.27	-0.16
Seq2seq-Finetune	33.65	1.56	-0.05
MAML	37.43	1.54	0.14
Our Model	37.31	1.59	0.15



#### Conclustion

- Combine meta-LSTM and MAML in personalized dialogue generation
- Personalized adaptation of decoder
- Improve the performance of MAML
- Future work
  - More empirical studies
    - The difference of scale and learning rate among tasks
    - ...



### Thanks for listening!