

ENHANCING LARGE BATCH SIZE TRAINING OF DEEP MODELS FOR REMOTE SENSING APPLICATIONS

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Distributed Deep Learning

- Trend is to train larger models
- Larger models require larger datasets
- How? Data parallelism on HPC resources comes at aid
- In data parallelism a model is replicated on N GPUs
- Different chunks of data on each GPU
- Resulting global batch size is $B_{global} = B_{local} \times N$



[1] Large models and datasets

Challenges of Distributed Learning

- At a given batch size SGD stops to scale
- The number of steps to a given accuracy does not decrease anymore



[2] Steps to accuracy

Dataset

- Extracted from disjoint NAIP tiles
- 28x28 pixels
- 4 channels (RGB + Near IR)
- 1 m spatial resolution
- 80% training, 20% test
- SAT-4
 - consists of a total of 500,000 image patches covering four broad land cover classes
- SAT-6
 - consists of a total of 405,000 image patches each of size 28x28
 - covering 6 landcover classes
 - 4 channels (RGB + Near IR)



[3] SAT4 and SAT6

Training Strategy

- Model: ResNet50
 - Skip connections to reduce vanishing gradient
- LAMB optimizer [4]

$$x_{t+1}^{i} = x_{t}^{i} - \eta_{t} \frac{\Phi(\|x_{t}^{i}\|)}{\|g_{t}^{i}\|} g_{t}^{i},$$

- Warm-up phase scaled w.r.t. the batch size
- Root square policy for initial learning rate
- Polynomial learning rate scheduler

Experimental Setup

- DEEP-EST supercomputer at JSC
- Extreme Scale Booster Partition (ESB)
- Up to 32 GPUs (Nvidia V100)
- Horovod on top of TF2 (Keras API)
 MPI vs NCCL
- 100 epochs
- Simple data augmentation techniques
- 3 runs for each experiment



[5] DEEP-EST

Results

- Test accuracy satisfactory up to batch size of 32K
- Training time is reduced (although less than linear)
- Test loss increases with the increase of the batch size
- Significant divergence at 65K

Batch size	N. GPUs	Accuracy	Loss	Time [s]
8K	4	0.99	0.02	34
16K	8	0.98	0.07	18
32K	16	0.96	0.11	9
65K	32	diverges		5

Table 2. Accuracy and test loss, training time per epochepoch with LAMB optimizer, dataset SAT4.

Batch size	N. GPUs	Accuracy	Loss	Time [s]
8K	4	0.99	0.05	41
16K	8	0.98	0.11	22
32K	16	0.94	0.17	11
65K	32	diverges		6

Table 3. Accuracy and test loss, training time per epochepoch with LAMB optimizer, dataset SAT6.

Comments and Future Developments

- Training scaled on large number of GPUs and training time reduced
- Comparison MPI vs NCCL
- Fair comparison with other optimizers [6]
 - Utilization of evolutionary optimization
- Thorough analysis of steps to accuracy
- Extend to more complex datasets

References

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[6] Nado et al., A Large Batch Optimizer Reality Check: Traditional, Generic Optimizers Suffice Across Batch Sizes , https://arxiv.org/pdf/2102.06356.pdf