From Evolution to (ML?) Revolution in Mobile Networking

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The Actual Revolution May Yet Come

- 5G is mainly a revolution in business models
- Going beyond 5G may bring the actual revolution in mobile networking enabled by (RAN) virtualization & AI/ML
 - → "true" E2E network slicing (including **vRAN**)
 - network functions executed on a GP hardware
 - → in-memory computation
 - higher granularity & flexibility
 - private, campus & regional networks
 - new role of operators and vendors & new players, new business models & emergence of new services

Campus Networks for Industry

 "The largest data records are not generated by companies in the
 Internet industry such as Google and
 Facebook, but by production
 technology systems"

Ultr Mac

McKinsey





ML based applications in Current Networks

Example: Factory Vertical



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New ITU standard to introduce Machine Learning into 5G networks

Why ML for Communications (=MLC)?

- Entry points for ML-based improvements
 - high complexity (bad models)
 - inefficient computation (limited resources)
 - slow convergence (low latency applications)

- Potential benefits
 - manageable complexity (e.g. via autoconfiguration)
 - higher efficiency (e.g. reduce # measurements)
 - fast decisions (e.g. parallelization & online learning)
 - robust predictions
 → anticipate rather than react

Tools for MLC



Key issues:

- Energy efficiency neglected
- Domain knowledge ignored
 Function properties not preserved
- Choice of performance metrics
- Amount of training data

Lower layers (PHY/MAC)	Higher layers
Collection of training data is limited	Huge datasets are available but
 Fast time-varying channels and interference 	 Incomplete data (missing measurements for long periods)
Short stationarity interval (V2X: 10-40m)	s) • Erroneous data (e.g. software bugs)
Distributed data	Misaligned data (different times)
 Limitations on computational power/energy 	 Time series (i.i.d. unrealistic)

Learning in (Reproducing Kernel) Hilbert Spaces



- → Easy to exploit side information
- Initial fast speed
- Low complexity
- Convergence guarantees
- Massive parallelization via APSM for fast learning on GPUs





ML/AI for Beyond 5G RAN

- Robust online ML with good tracking capabilities
 ML with small (uncertain) data sets and fast-varying distributions
- Distributed learning under communication constraints
 New functional architectures for Big Data analytics
- Low-complexity, low-latency implementation
 New algorithms, *massive parallelization*
- Dependable and secure ML
- Exploit *domain knowledge* (e.g. models, correlations, AoA)
 Hybrid-driven ML (e.g. models, other data)
 - → Learn features that change slowly over frequency, time...
 - Preserve important function properties
 - Exploit sparsity

Sparsity in Communication Systems

- Sparsity in the data (soft sparsity)
- Sparsity in the channel (soft sparsity)
- Sparsity in the user activity (hard sparsity)
- Sparsity in the network flow (hard sparsity)

We aren't likely to get a 1000X improvement in compute with the traditional, pure hardware improvements, or even better software and communication to put more chips together. It will need co-design of algorithms and compute e.g. can we create a model with a 1000X more parameters, but using only 10X more compute? I believe sparse models that address this issue and systems that can take advantage of these constraints will make a big difference.

Rajat Monga, Google Brain, Lead Developer of TensorFlow

Sparse Recovery via a Deep Neural Network



 Training must be short
 Design a good DNN for sparse recovery and fast training



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