Abstract—This paper is a report for Project A of ECE1512 2022W, University of Toronto. In the paper, we described four assigned tasks with detail, including CNN construction and training, statistic assessment, XAI based interpretation and Quantitative evaluation. For the attribution methods, we choose Grad-CAM, Grad-CAM++ and Ablation-CAM as a group of two, and we reviewed their paper and implemented corresponding functions. Moreover, we tried to analyze the performance of the XAI methods based on quantitative evaluation and gave our explanations towards the experiment.

## I. TASK 1: 1-DIMENSIONAL DIGIT CLASSIFICATION

#### A. Question 1

```
weight_decay = 5e-4
model = Sequential()
#Your code starts from here
model.add(Input(shape=(40,1)))
model.add(Conv1D(25, kernel_size=5, padding
    ='same', activation='relu',
   kernel_regularizer=regularizers.12(
   weight_decay)))
model.add(Conv1D(25, kernel_size=3, padding
   ='same', activation='relu',
   kernel_regularizer=regularizers.12(
   weight_decay)))
model.add(Conv1D(25, kernel_size=3, padding
   ='same', activation='relu',
   kernel_regularizer=regularizers.12(
   weight_decay)))
model.add(Flatten())
model.add(Dense(10, activation='softmax',
    kernel_initializer=keras.initializers.
   RandomNormal (mean=0.0, stddev=0.5),
            bias_initializer=keras.
                initializers.Zeros(),
                kernel_regularizer=
                regularizers.12(
                weight_decay)))
model.summary()
```

In this question, we build a ConvNet. It includes three convolutional layer, one flatten layer and one dense layer. The network is listed as Fig. 1:

Layer (type)	Output Shape	Param #
conv1d (Conv1D)	(None, 40, 25)	150
conv1d_1 (Conv1D)	(None, 40, 25)	1900
conv1d_2 (Conv1D)	(None, 40, 25)	1900
	(None, 1000)	
dense (Dense)	(None, 10)	10010
 Fotal params: 13,960		
Trainable params: 13,960		

Fig. 1. Task1-Question1: ConvNet Model

#### B. Question 2

In this section, we apply the model in question 1 to the MNIST1D dataset. The code is listed as followed:

```
model.compile(loss=keras.losses.
   categorical_crossentropy,
       optimizer=tensorflow.keras.
           optimizers.SGD(),
       metrics=['accuracy'])
def lr_scheduler(epoch):
   base_ep = 15
   return 1e-3 * (.5 ** (epoch // base_ep))
lr_reduce_cb = keras.callbacks.
    LearningRateScheduler(lr_scheduler)
tensorboard_cb = keras.callbacks.
   TensorBoard(log_dir='log2', write_graph
    =True)
early_stopping_cb = keras.callbacks.
   EarlyStopping(patience=8, min_delta=0.)
# X = tensorflow.expand_dims(dataset['x'],
   axis=2)
train_x=dataset['x']
train_y=dataset['y']
train_x=train_x.reshape(4000,40,1)
train_y=tensorflow.keras.utils.
    to_categorical(train_y, num_classes=10)
# print(X.shape)
history=model.fit(x=train_x,y=train_y,
    epochs=200,
                 steps_per_epoch=len(X) //
    32,
               callbacks=[tensorboard_cb],
               shuffle = True,
               verbose=1)
model.save('MNIST1D.h5')
```

Here, we use the tensorboard to record the training procedure. First of all, we compile this model, set the loss function to cross-entropy, set the optimizer to Stochastic Gradient Descent and the metrics to accuracy. Then we define the LearningRateScheduler, the TensorBoard, the EarlyStopping for later use. After that, we handle the train data for training. At last, we will fit the data and tensorboard into the model for training and save the model into disk. The training result is shown as followed2:

Fig. 2. Task1-Question2: Training Process Log

#### C. Question 3

1) SubQuestion a: TODOOOOOOOO, say something here.

```
train_acc = history.history['accuracy']
train_loss = history.history['loss']
```

plt.plot(train\_acc)
plt.figure()
plt.plot(train\_loss)

This is the code for loss and accuracy curve, the plot of loss curve3 and plot for accuracy curve4 are shown below:

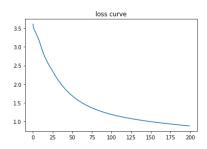


Fig. 3. Task1-Question3a-1: Loss Curve of 1-D CNN

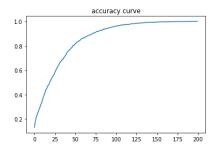


Fig. 4. Task1-Question3a-2: Accuracy Curve of 1-D CNN

2) SubQuestion b: This part talks about overall classification accuracy on the test set.

overall accuracy

- 3) SubQuestion c: class-wise accuracy
- 4) SubQuestion d: roc auc
- 5) SubQuestion e:
- 6) SubQuestion f: F-1

## D. Question 4

### II. TASK 2: CNN INTERPRECTATION

This section introduces our interpretation of 1-D CNN model based on MNIST-1D dataset using 3 different attribution methods, including our literature review, discussion and implementation of the XAI attribute algorithms.

- A. Grad-CAM
- B. Grad-CAM++
- C. Ablation-CAM

The Ablation-CAM creatively uses ablation analysis to determine the importance of individual feature map units for different classes. It proposes a novel "gradient-free" visualization approach which avoids use of gradients and at the same time, produce high quality class-discriminative localization maps.

The core algorithm of Ablation-CAM is not complex: it uses the value of slope to describe the effect of ablation of individual unit k by the following formula:

$$slope = \frac{y^c - y_k^c}{||A_k||}$$

In the formula,  $y^c$  stands for activation score of class c, which represent the entire class activation status.  $y_k^c$  indicates the value of the function for absence of unit k, where  $A_k$  is the baseline. Those concepts lead us to ablation study, which is the basic principle of the method.

Ablation study is a method to distribute the influencing importance of different factors by controlling the variable while switching the combination of potential factors, and also their standalone. For example, if we'd like to know whether A or B component of medicine could improve the effect of an old medicine C. We could compare C+A, C+B and also C+A+B with the baseline of C. We could know if the A or B or they together are able to improve the effect. In the instance of Ablation-CAM, different unit k is the "component", and the whole feature map is so-called baseline,  $A_k$ . Thus, using slope described in the previous formula could represent the importance of a single unit to the feature map.

However practically, norm  $||A_k||$  is hard to compute due to its large size and hence the slope could be approximately presented by the following formula, assuming a very small value.

$$w_k^c = \frac{y^c - y_k^c}{y^c}$$

As the algorithm, Ablation-CAM can then be obtained as weighted linear combination of activation maps and corresponding weights from the formula above, which is somehow similar to that of Grad-CAM.

$$L^{C}_{Ablation-CAM} = ReLU(\sum_{k} w^{c}_{k} A_{k})$$

There are a number of advantages and features of Ablation-CAM. Firstly, a significant contribution and novelty of the Ablation-CAM is the ablation analysis it used to decide the weights of feature map units. Secondly, it could produce a coarse localization map highlighting the regions in the image for prediction. Thirdly, compare to other CAM methods, this approach works essentially better when it is full connected to obtain the result, which is known as final linear classifier, and have as good performance as other gradient-based CAM methods when evaluating other CNNs. Last but not the least, the approach introduce a gradient-free principle which avoids use of gradient as Grad-CAM does and produce a high-quality class-wise localization maps, which helps it to adapt into any CNN based architecture.

However, the approach have some limitations as well. First of all, the computational time required to generate a single Ablation-CAM is much grater than the required for Grad-CAM, as it has to iterate over each feature map to ablate it and check the drop in class activation score correspondingly. On

the hand, the Ablation-CAM only benefits the interpretation where last convolutional layer is not followed immediately by decision nodes, yet show the same performance statistically as other CAM methods.

Our implementation code is as followed.

```
def extract_feature_map(img, model,
   class_index=None, layer_name="conv1d_2"):
   # Get gradients for the class on the last
      conv laver
   gradModel = tf.keras.models.Model([model.
      inputs], [model.get_layer(layer_name).
      output, model.output])
   print("gradModel = ")
   print (gradModel)
   # Get Activation Map on the last conv layer
   with tf.GradientTape() as tape:
      # Get Prediction on the last conv layer
      convOutputs, predictions = gradModel(np.
         array([img]))
      output = convOutputs[0]
      print("#prediction#")
      print (predictions)
      print("OUTPUT")
      print (output)
   if class_index is None:
      class_index = np.argmax(model.predict(np
          .array([img])), axis = -1)[0]
      y_class = np.max(model.predict(np.array
          ([img])))
      y_class = model.predict(np.array([img]))
          [0][class_index]
   # Get Weights on the layer
   weights = np.zeros(model.get_layer(
      layer_name).get_weights()[1].shape)
   # Get Weights for the maps
   allWeights = model.get_layer(layer_name).
      get_weights().copy()
   zeroWeight = allWeights[0][:,:,:,0]*0
   localWeight = [np.zeros(allWeights[0].shape
   localWeight.append(np.zeros(allWeights[1].
      shape))
   for i in range(weights.shape[0]):
      localWeight[0] = allWeights[0].copy()
      localWeight[0][:,:,:,i] = zeroWeight
      model.get_layer(layer_name).set_weights(
          localWeight)
      y_pred = model.predict(np.array([img]))
          [0][class_index]
      weights[i] = (y_class - y_pred)/y_class
          # Simplified Formula
      model.get_layer(layer_name).set_weights(
         allWeights)
   outputMean = np.mean([output[:,:,i] for i
      in range(output.shape[2])], axis = 0)
   outputMean = np.maximum(outputMean, 0.0)
   outMeanMask = np.zeros(output.shape[0:2],
      dtype = np.float32)
   for i in range(output.shape[0]):
      for j in range(output.shape[1]):
```

```
if outputMean[i][j] < np.mean(</pre>
             outputMean[:,:]):
            outMeanMask[i][j] = 255
            outMeanMask[i][j] = 0
   return weights, output, outputMean,
      outMeanMask
def ablation_cam(weights, output):
   ablationMap = weights * output
   ablationCam = np.sum(ablationMap, axis=(2))
   ablationMask = np.zeros(ablationMap.shape
       [0:2], dtype = np.float32)
   for i in range(ablationMap.shape[0]):
      for j in range(ablationMap.shape[1]):
         if ablationCam[i][j] < np.mean(</pre>
             ablationCam[:,:]):
            ablationMask[i][j] = 255
            ablationMask[i][j] = 0
   return ablationCam, ablationMask
```

# III. TASK 3: BIOMEDICAL IMAGE CLASSIFICATION AND INTERPRETATION

HMT CAPTUM

# IV. TASK 4: QUANTITATIVE EVALUATION OF THE ATTRIBUTION METHODS

k30drop increaseHMT90 reason

### REFERENCES

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- [2] King, Sunny, and Scott Nadal. "Ppcoin: Peer-to-peer crypto-currency with proof-of-stake." self-published paper, August 19.1, 2012.