Code Working:

train_net.py: The program reads train.csv as input in dataframe data. Then for all the columns,? Entries were replaced by mode of the respective column by first changing them to None and then using fillna function. Then for the columns whose dtypes are object, I replaced it with category type and then replaced it entries by using cat.codes so as to assign them specific integers.

Now I have X matrix from which I have removed id and salary columns and normalized all columns while Y contains all the salary outputs for it.

I have used 1 hidden layer and the number of hidden nodes in the layer can be changed by changing the variable nn_hdim(I have put 50 nodes default in the hidden layer). Now neural network is trained on data using back propogation using tanh as the activation function. I have kept number of iterations to be 1000 although it can be changed easily. After this weights and bias are loaded to weights.txt.

test_net.py: Program reads kaggle_test_data.csv and stores it into dataframe test_data. Now from test_data, id column is dropped and stored into test_ids. Then it reads weights and biases from weights.txt as input. Now I transforms the input data similar to the transformation done in train_net.py and then these wigths and biases are used in forward propogation on test_data to get the predictions which are stored in predictions.csv.

Feature engineering:

For all the columns, ? Entries were replaced by None and then filled by mode of that respective column using fillna function. Then the columns which dtypes are object, I replaced it with category type and then replaced it with cat.codes so as to assign them with specific integers.

Comparision:

Comparing kaggle score predictions, my neural network performs better than decision tree classifier, MLP classifier and Adaboost classifier scores whose predictions are stored in predictions_1.csv, predictions_2.csv, predictions_3.csv respectively.

Kaggle score of my submitted code: 0.79989

Kaggle score of predictions_1.csv- 0.74163

Kaggle score of predictions_2.csv- 0.75342

Kaggle score of predictions_3.csv- 0.77277

References/Citations:

1.http://scikitlearn.org/stable/auto_examples/classification/plot_classifier_comparison.html (for different classifiers in train standard.py)

2.http://www.wildml.com/2015/09/implementing-a-neural-network-fromscratch/ (for neural network implementation)