nb ch02 02a

June 14, 2025

1 MNIST digit classification with a fully connected network (fcNN)

Goal: In this notebook you will see how to use a fully connected networks (fcNN) in a classification task for images.

Usage: The idea of the notebook is that you try to understand the provided code by running it, checking the output and playing with it by slightly changing the code and rerunning it.

Dataset: You work with the MNIST dataset. We have 60'000 28x28 pixel greyscale images of digits and want to classify them into the right label (0-9).

Content: * load the MNIST data * transform the labels into the one hot encoding * visualize samples of the data * flatten the 2D images into a 1D vector * use keras to train a fcNN and look at the perfomance on new unseen test data * use different activation functions and more hidden layers

open in colab

Install correct TF version (colab only)

Imports In the next two cells, we load all the required libraries and functions.

```
[98]: try: #If running in colab
    import google.colab
    IN_COLAB = True
    %tensorflow_version 2.x
except:
    IN_COLAB = False
```

Tensorflow version: 2.19.0 running in colab?: False

```
[100]: # load required libraries:
   import numpy as np
   import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
```

Loading and preparing the MNIST data and transfering the labels into the one hot encoding. Here we load the MNIST dataset form keras. The 8-bit greyscale images have values form 0 to 255, we divide all values with 255 so that the values are in a range between 0 and 1. In addition we transform the true labels, which are the numbers from 0 to 9 (the digit on the image) into the one hot encoding. We do this to make use of linear algebra in the calculation of the crossentropy loss.

The one hot encoding transforms the labels into a vector with the same length as we have labels (in our case 10). The resulting vector in the one hot encoding is zero everywhere except for the position of the true label, there it is 1. Let's look at some examples to make it more clear:

```
0 becomes [1,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0]
1 becomes [0,1,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0]
2 becomes [0,0,1,0,0,0,0,0,0,0]
...
9 becomes [0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0,0]
```

Listing 2.3 Loading the MNIST data

```
[101]: from tensorflow.keras.datasets import mnist
  (x_train, y_train), (x_test, y_test) = mnist.load_data()

# separate x_train in X_train and X_val, same for y_train
  X_train=x_train[0:50000] / 255 #divide by 255 so that they are in range 0 to 1
  Y_train=keras.utils.to_categorical(y_train[0:50000],10) # one-hot encoding

X_val=x_train[50000:60000] / 255
  Y_val=keras.utils.to_categorical(y_train[50000:60000],10)

X_test=x_test / 255
  Y_test=keras.utils.to_categorical(y_test,10)

del x_train, y_train, x_test, y_test

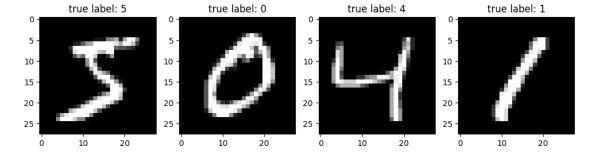
X_train=np.reshape(X_train, (X_train.shape[0],28,28,1))
  X_val=np.reshape(X_val, (X_val.shape[0],28,28,1))
  X_test=np.reshape(X_test, (X_test.shape[0],28,28,1))
```

```
print(X_train.shape)
print(X_val.shape)
print(X_test.shape)
print(Y_train.shape)
print(Y_val.shape)
print(Y_test.shape)

(50000, 28, 28, 1)
(10000, 28, 28, 1)
(10000, 28, 28, 1)
(50000, 10)
(10000, 10)
```

Let's visualize the first 4 mnist images. It is very easy to recognise the true label of the digits.

```
[102]: # visualize the 4 first mnist images before shuffling the pixels
plt.figure(figsize=(12,12))
for i in range(0,4):
    plt.subplot(1,4,(i+1))
    plt.imshow((X_train[i,:,:,0]),cmap="gray")
    plt.title('true label: '+str(np.argmax(Y_train,axis=1)[i]))
    #plt.axis('off')
```



1.1 fcNN as classification model for MNIST data

(10000, 10)

Now we want to train a fcNN to classify the MNIST data. * we use a fcNN with 2 hidden layers and use the sigmoid activation function * train it on train data and check the performance on the test data

Flatten the the images into vectors Because we will use fcNN our input cannot be matrices or tensors. We need to flatten our input into a 1d vector. We do this in the next cell with reshap and look at the resulting shape of the flattened data.

```
[103]: # prepare data for fcNN - we need a vector as input
```

```
X_train_flat = X_train.reshape([X_train.shape[0], 784])
X_val_flat = X_val.reshape([X_val.shape[0], 784])
X_test_flat = X_test.reshape([X_test.shape[0], 784])

# check the shape
print(X_train_flat.shape)
print(Y_train.shape)
print(X_val_flat.shape)
print(Y_val.shape)
```

(50000, 784) (50000, 10) (10000, 784) (10000, 10)

1.1.1 Train the fcNN

Here we define the nework, we use two hidden layers with 100 and 50 nodes. In the output we predict the probability for the 10 digits with the softmax actication function, in the hidden layers we use the sigmoid activation function and our loss is the categorical crossentropy loss.

Listing 2.4 Definition of an fcNN for the MNIST data

c:\Users\nicol\AppData\Local\Programs\Python\Python312\Lib\sitepackages\keras\src\layers\core\dense.py:93: UserWarning: Do not pass an
`input_shape'/`input_dim` argument to a layer. When using Sequential models,
prefer using an `Input(shape)` object as the first layer in the model instead.
 super().__init__(activity_regularizer=activity_regularizer, **kwargs)

```
[105]: # summarize model along with number of model weights model.summary()
```

Model: "sequential_17"

Layer (type)	Output Shape	Param #
dense_45 (Dense)	(None, 100)	78,500
activation_42 (Activation)	(None, 100)	0
dense_46 (Dense)	(None, 100)	10,100
activation_43 (Activation)	(None, 100)	0
dense_47 (Dense)	(None, 50)	5,050
activation_44 (Activation)	(None, 50)	0
dense_48 (Dense)	(None, 10)	510
activation_45 (Activation)	(None, 10)	0

Total params: 94,160 (367.81 KB)

Trainable params: 94,160 (367.81 KB)

Non-trainable params: 0 (0.00 B)

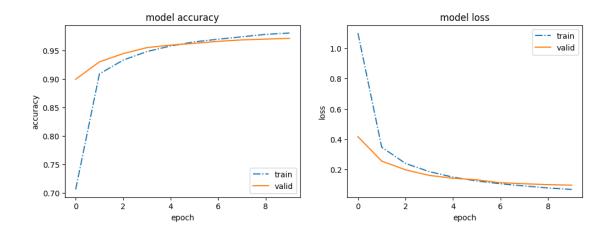
```
Epoch 1/10
391/391 - 2s - 4ms/step - accuracy: 0.7064 - loss: 1.1007 - val_accuracy: 0.8996
- val_loss: 0.4170
Epoch 2/10
391/391 - 1s - 2ms/step - accuracy: 0.9090 - loss: 0.3477 - val_accuracy: 0.9301
- val_loss: 0.2560
Epoch 3/10
391/391 - 1s - 2ms/step - accuracy: 0.9332 - loss: 0.2408 - val_accuracy: 0.9446
- val_loss: 0.1986
```

```
Epoch 4/10
391/391 - 1s - 2ms/step - accuracy: 0.9482 - loss: 0.1865 - val_accuracy: 0.9551
- val_loss: 0.1615
Epoch 5/10
391/391 - 1s - 2ms/step - accuracy: 0.9580 - loss: 0.1503 - val_accuracy: 0.9595
- val_loss: 0.1429
Epoch 6/10
391/391 - 1s - 2ms/step - accuracy: 0.9652 - loss: 0.1247 - val_accuracy: 0.9626
- val loss: 0.1325
Epoch 7/10
391/391 - 1s - 2ms/step - accuracy: 0.9698 - loss: 0.1063 - val_accuracy: 0.9661
- val_loss: 0.1133
Epoch 8/10
391/391 - 1s - 2ms/step - accuracy: 0.9741 - loss: 0.0919 - val_accuracy: 0.9686
- val_loss: 0.1065
Epoch 9/10
391/391 - 1s - 2ms/step - accuracy: 0.9783 - loss: 0.0786 - val_accuracy: 0.9700
- val_loss: 0.1006
Epoch 10/10
391/391 - 1s - 2ms/step - accuracy: 0.9806 - loss: 0.0691 - val_accuracy: 0.9713
- val loss: 0.0972
```

In the next cell we plot the accuray and loss of the train and validation vs the number of train eprochs to see how the development

```
[107]: # plot the development of the accuracy and loss during training
       plt.figure(figsize=(12,4))
       plt.subplot(1,2,(1))
       plt.plot(history.history['accuracy'],linestyle='-.')
       plt.plot(history.history['val_accuracy'])
       plt.title('model accuracy')
       plt.ylabel('accuracy')
       plt.xlabel('epoch')
       plt.legend(['train', 'valid'], loc='lower right')
       plt.subplot(1,2,(2))
       plt.plot(history.history['loss'],linestyle='-.')
       plt.plot(history.history['val_loss'])
       plt.title('model loss')
       plt.ylabel('loss')
       plt.xlabel('epoch')
       plt.legend(['train', 'valid'], loc='upper right')
```

[107]: <matplotlib.legend.Legend at 0x1808db33ce0>



Prediction on the original test set after training on original data Now, let's use the fcNN that was trained on the flattened MNIST data to predict new unseen data (our testdata). We determine the confusion matrix and the accuracy on the testdata to evaluate the classification performance.

```
[108]: pred=model.predict(X_test_flat)
    print(confusion_matrix(np.argmax(Y_test,axis=1),np.argmax(pred,axis=1)))
    acc_fc_orig = np.sum(np.argmax(Y_test,axis=1)==np.argmax(pred,axis=1))/len(pred)
    print("Acc_fc_orig_flat = " , acc_fc_orig)
313/313
Os 728us/step
```

313/313				0s	728u	s/stej	p			
[[964	0	1	2	0	5	3	2	2	1]
[0	1121	3	0	0	1	4	2	4	0]
[3	4	998	8	5	0	2	6	6	0]
[2	0	3	983	0	9	0	7	5	1]
[0	0	1	0	953	1	6	3	2	16]
[2	0	0	7	2	866	4	2	6	3]
[4	3	0	1	6	8	932	0	4	0]
[1	6	9	9	2	1	0	986	0	14]
[5	3	3	8	4	12	4	3	929	3]
[4	3	1	7	11	6	0	8	7	962]]
<pre>Acc_fc_orig_flat = 0.</pre>					9694					

We get an accuray of around 97% on the test data!

Play the deep learning game and stack more layers and change the activation function from sigmoid to relu

Exercise: Try to improve the fcNN by adding more hidden layers and/or changing the activation function from "sigmoid" to "relu". What do you observe? can you improve the performace on the testset?

1.1.2 Lets train a Convolutional Neural Network (CNN)!

- Use the previous code to complete this part of the task
- Change our fcNN to a CNN, it should look something like this:
- We don't need to flatten our input this time!
- Train the CNN and use the same parameters as before (10 epochs, batchsize 128, etc.)
- Visualize the loss/accuracy like before, but include the loss of our fcNN so we can see a difference
- Use the testset to create a confusion matrix and compare it with our fcNN

1.1.3 Optional

Run your network on the Edge TPU by following the instructions in this Notebook.