Introduction

With automation becoming increasingly common, machine models being able understand traffic signs is key for self-driving cars and other forms of transport to ensure safety. As such, I wanted to incorporate deep learning into this and see how a machine learning model would respond to identifying various traffic signs.

The goal of this investigation is to see if, using a pertained model, I could get a model that is able to accurately classify traffic signs.

Setting Up

First, we need to set up the general base for a machine learning model.

```
# loading general packages and libraries
import numpy as np
import pandas as pd
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import matplotlib.image as mpimg
import seaborn as sns
import os
import cv2
import random
from PIL import Image
# loading tensor flow libraries needed
import tensorflow as tf
from tensorflow.keras.preprocessing.image import ImageDataGenerator
from tensorflow.keras.applications import ResNet50
from tensorflow.keras.applications.resnet50 import preprocess_input
from tensorflow.keras import Sequential
from tensorflow.keras.layers import Dense
from keras.layers import Dropout, Flatten,
MaxPool2D, BatchNormalization
from keras.preprocessing import image
from tensorflow.keras.optimizers import Adam,SGD
import keras
from keras.preprocessing import image
seed=1
np.random.seed(seed)
tf.random.set seed(seed)
2024-03-11 15:54:20.784320: E
external/local xla/xla/stream executor/cuda/cuda dnn.cc:92611 Unable
to register cuDNN factory: Attempting to register factory for plugin
cuDNN when one has already been registered
```

```
2024-03-11 15:54:20.784454: E
external/local_xla/xla/stream_executor/cuda/cuda_fft.cc:607] Unable to
register cuFFT factory: Attempting to register factory for plugin
cuFFT when one has already been registered
2024-03-11 15:54:21.072771: E
external/local_xla/xla/stream_executor/cuda/cuda_blas.cc:1515] Unable
to register cuBLAS factory: Attempting to register factory for plugin
cuBLAS when one has already been registered
```

Gather and Explore the Data

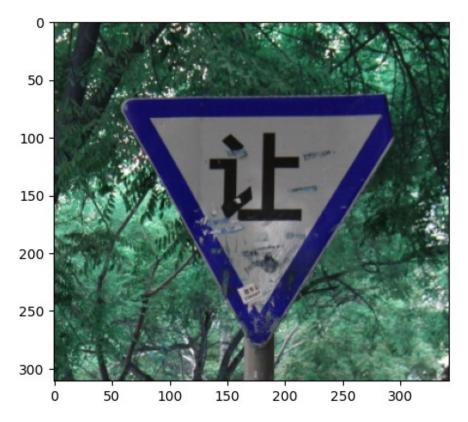
For this investigation, I will be using a dataset I found on Kaggle. The data consists of images of traffic signs which have been automatically registered so that the sign is centred and occupies around the same space in each image.

The are around 58 classes and each class has around 120 images. Since this dataset has not been cleaned and organised completely, we first need to ensure there is an adequete amount of photos in each class and that they are correctly categorised.

```
# importing images
train dir =
"/kaggle/input/traffic-sign-dataset-classification/traffic Data/DATA/"
# reading the csv file
labels = pd.read csv("/kaggle/input/traffic-sign-dataset-
classification/labels.csv")
labels
    ClassId
                                       Name
0
                       Speed limit (5km/h)
1
          1
                      Speed limit (15km/h)
2
          2
                      Speed limit (30km/h)
3
          3
                      Speed limit (40km/h)
4
          4
                      Speed limit (50km/h)
5
          5
                      Speed limit (60km/h)
6
          6
                      Speed limit (70km/h)
7
          7
                      speed limit (80km/h)
8
          8
                  Dont Go straight or left
9
          9
                Dont Go straight or Right
10
         10
                          Dont Go straight
11
         11
                              Dont Go Left
12
         12
                     Dont Go Left or Right
13
         13
                             Dont Go Right
14
         14
                   Dont overtake from Left
15
         15
                                   No Uturn
16
         16
                                     No Car
17
         17
                                    No horn
18
         18
                      Speed limit (40km/h)
```

```
19
          19
                       Speed limit (50km/h)
20
         20
                       Go straight or right
21
         21
                                Go straight
22
          22
                                     Go Left
23
         23
                           Go Left or right
                                    Go Right
24
         24
25
                                   keep Left
         25
26
         26
                                  keep Right
27
         27
                      Roundabout mandatory
28
         28
                         watch out for cars
29
          29
                                        Horn
30
          30
                          Bicycles crossing
31
          31
                                       Uturn
32
          32
                               Road Divider
33
          33
                            Traffic signals
34
          34
                               Danger Ahead
35
         35
                             Zebra Crossing
36
                          Bicycles crossing
          36
37
         37
                          Children crossing
38
          38
               Dangerous curve to the left
39
          39
              Dangerous curve to the right
40
         40
                                    Unknown1
41
         41
                                    Unknown2
42
         42
                                    Unknown3
43
         43
                      Go right or straight
44
         44
                       Go left or straight
45
         45
                                    Unknown4
46
         46
                               ZigZag Curve
47
         47
                             Train Crossing
48
         48
                         Under Construction
49
          49
                                    Unknown5
50
          50
                                      Fences
51
         51
                   Heavy Vehicle Accidents
52
         52
                                    Unknown6
53
         53
                                    Give Way
54
         54
                                No stopping
55
          55
                                    No entry
56
         56
                                    Unknown7
57
         57
                                    Unknown8
# no. of images per label
lst = []
for i in labels.index:
    lst.append(len(os.listdir(train dir + str(i))))
labels['count'] = lst
labels['count'].describe()
           58.000000
count
           71.896552
mean
std
          83.818034
```

```
min
           2.000000
25%
          18.000000
50%
          38.000000
75%
         107.500000
max
         446.000000
Name: count, dtype: float64
# only keep those with enough images in each label
labels = labels[labels['count'] >= 107.5]
labels
    ClassId
                                 Name
                                        count
0
                 Speed limit (5km/h)
          0
                                          118
3
          3
                Speed limit (40km/h)
                                          260
5
          5
                Speed limit (60km/h)
                                          194
7
          7
                 speed limit (80km/h)
                                          152
11
                                          138
         11
                         Dont Go Left
14
             Dont overtake from Left
                                          128
         14
16
         16
                               No Car
                                          142
17
         17
                              No horn
                                          130
26
         26
                           keep Right
                                          126
28
         28
                  watch out for cars
                                          446
30
                    Bicycles crossing
         30
                                          150
35
         35
                       Zebra Crossing
                                          156
54
         54
                                          324
                          No stopping
55
         55
                             No entry
                                          162
56
         56
                             Unknown7
                                          110
# finding the unknown image
fnames = os.listdir(train dir + '56')
imq = cv2.imread(train dir + '56/' + fnames[3])
plt.imshow(img)
<matplotlib.image.AxesImage at 0x787859a72530>
```



Now that we have cleaned the data, we can load the libraries.

```
# set the image size
image_size = 128

# input and data augmentation
train_datagen = ImageDataGenerator(
```

```
rescale = 1 / 255.,
        rotation range=10,
        zoom range=0.2,
        width shift range=0.1,
        height shift range=0.1,
        fill mode="nearest",
        validation split=0.25,
    )
train generator = train datagen.flow from directory(
    directory = train dir,
    target size = (image size, image size),
    batch size = 28,
    shuffle=True,
    class_mode = "categorical",
    subset = "training"
)
validation generator = train datagen.flow from directory(
    directory = train dir,
    target_size = (image_size, image size),
    batch size = 28,
    class mode = "categorical",
    subset = "validation"
)
Found 3144 images belonging to 58 classes.
Found 1026 images belonging to 58 classes.
```

Transfer Learning

Since the data is ready, it is time to train the model using the pretrained ResNet50 model. This is already done through transfer learning, which takes a pretrained model, removes the final layer, and replaces that last layer with the relevant output.

ResNet50 is quite a popular model and accurate for this project since it is commonly used for traffic sign analysis.

Below, is the first model (removing the final layer of the ResNet50 model and replacing it with a Dense final layer with the number of nodes being the number of outputs).

Model 1

```
# set classes to number of categories and input weight paths
num_classes = 58
resnet_weights_path =
'../input/resnet50/resnet50_weights_tf_dim_ordering_tf_kernels_notop.h
5'
# defining the model
```

```
model = Sequential()
model.trainable = True
model.add(ResNet50(include top=False, pooling='avg', weights=
resnet weights path))
model.add(BatchNormalization())
model.add(Dense(48, activation='relu'))
model.add(Dropout(0.25))
model.add(BatchNormalization())
model.add(Dense(128, activation='relu'))
model.add(Dense(num classes, activation='softmax'))
model.summary()
Model: "sequential"
Layer (type)
                                  Output Shape
Param #
  resnet50 (Functional)
23,587,712
  batch normalization
                                                               0
(unbuilt)
  (BatchNormalization)
 dense (Dense)
                                                               0
                                    ?
(unbuilt)
 dropout (Dropout)
                                    ?
0 |
 batch normalization 1
                                                               0
(unbuilt)
  (BatchNormalization)
 dense_1 (Dense)
                                    ?
                                                               0
(unbuilt)
```

Now, we need to compile the final layer of the network using categorical_crossentropy as the loss function and the stochastic gradient descent (as the optimizer) to minimize the categorical cross-entropy loss.

```
model.compile(optimizer="sgd", loss='categorical_crossentropy',
metrics=['accuracy'])
```

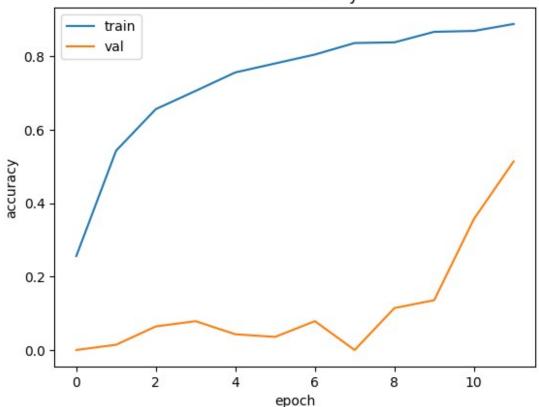
Now we fit the model for training and validation using 12 epochs and 60 steps per epoch.

```
history = model.fit(
        train_generator,
        steps per epoch= 60,
        epochs = 12,
        validation data=validation generator,
        validation steps=5)
Epoch 1/12
/opt/conda/lib/python3.10/site-packages/keras/src/trainers/
data adapters/py dataset adapter.py:122: UserWarning: Your `PyDataset`
class should call `super().__init__(**kwargs)` in its constructor.
`**kwargs` can include `workers`, `use_multiprocessing`,
`max_queue_size`. Do not pass these arguments to `fit()`, as they will
be ignored.
  self. warn if super not called()
1/60 ---
                          - 43:29 44s/step - accuracy: 0.0000e+00 -
loss: 4.1371
WARNING: All log messages before absl::InitializeLog() is called are
written to STDERR
I0000 00:00:1710172528.620729
                                     93 device compiler.h:186] Compiled
cluster using XLA! This line is logged at most once for the lifetime
of the process.
W0000 00:00:1710172528.693876
                                     93 graph launch.cc:671] Fallback to
op-by-op mode because memset node breaks graph update
                      ----- 31s 1s/step - accuracy: 0.0546 - loss:
31/60 -
3.9831
```

```
W0000 00:00:1710172561.473679 91 graph launch.cc:671 Fallback to
op-by-op mode because memset node breaks graph update
            Os 743ms/step - accuracy: 0.1246 - loss:
3.7589
W0000 00:00:1710172577.659930 92 graph launch.cc:671] Fallback to
op-by-op mode because memset node breaks graph update
60/60 ———— 94s 849ms/step - accuracy: 0.1268 - loss:
3.7523 - val accuracy: 0.0000e+00 - val loss: 4.0423
Epoch 2/12
53/60 ——
              _____ 1s 223ms/step - accuracy: 0.4956 - loss:
2.6119
/opt/conda/lib/python3.10/contextlib.py:153: UserWarning: Your input
ran out of data; interrupting training. Make sure that your dataset or
generator can generate at least `steps per epoch * epochs` batches.
You may need to use the `.repeat()` function when building your
dataset.
 self.gen.throw(typ, value, traceback)
             _____ 13s 217ms/step - accuracy: 0.5012 - loss:
2.5960 - val accuracy: 0.0143 - val loss: 4.0449
2.0942 - val accuracy: 0.0643 - val loss: 3.9227
1.7188 - val accuracy: 0.0786 - val loss: 3.8691
Epoch 5/12
1.4982 - val accuracy: 0.0429 - val loss: 3.9235
Epoch 6/12
              _____ 10s 163ms/step - accuracy: 0.7774 - loss:
1.3368 - val accuracy: 0.0357 - val loss: 3.9676
Epoch 7/12
                _____ 12s 177ms/step - accuracy: 0.7898 - loss:
60/60 -
1.1872 - val accuracy: 0.0786 - val loss: 3.9890
1.0238 - val accuracy: 0.0000e+00 - val loss: 4.1249
Epoch 9/12
W0000 00:00:1710172666.946222 93 graph launch.cc:671] Fallback to
op-by-op mode because memset node breaks graph update
0.9415 - val accuracy: 0.1143 - val loss: 3.8336
Epoch 10/12
            9s 158ms/step - accuracy: 0.8572 - loss:
60/60 ----
```

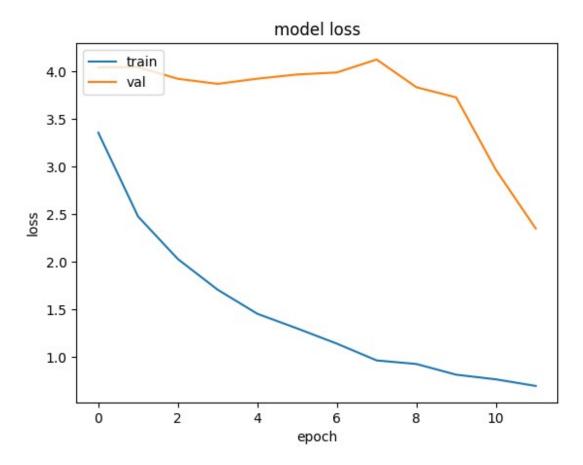
```
0.8670 - val_accuracy: 0.1357 - val_loss: 3.7268
Epoch 11/12
60/60 —
                       —— 12s 178ms/step - accuracy: 0.8522 - loss:
0.8374 - val accuracy: 0.3571 - val loss: 2.9649
Epoch 12/12
60/60 -
                         - 9s 143ms/step - accuracy: 0.8848 - loss:
0.7143 - val accuracy: 0.5143 - val loss: 2.3493
plt.plot(history.history['accuracy'])
plt.plot(history.history['val_accuracy'])
plt.title('model accuracy')
plt.ylabel('accuracy')
plt.xlabel('epoch')
plt.legend(['train', 'val'], loc='upper left')
plt.show()
```

model accuracy



```
plt.plot(history.history['loss'])
plt.plot(history.history['val_loss'])
plt.title('model loss')
plt.ylabel('loss')
plt.xlabel('epoch')
```

```
plt.legend(['train', 'val'], loc='upper left')
plt.show()
```



This wasn't bad at all for a first model! We got a accuracy score of 88% and a validation accuracy of 52%. Let's see if it can be improved with a different optimiser called adam and changing a few parameters.

Model 2

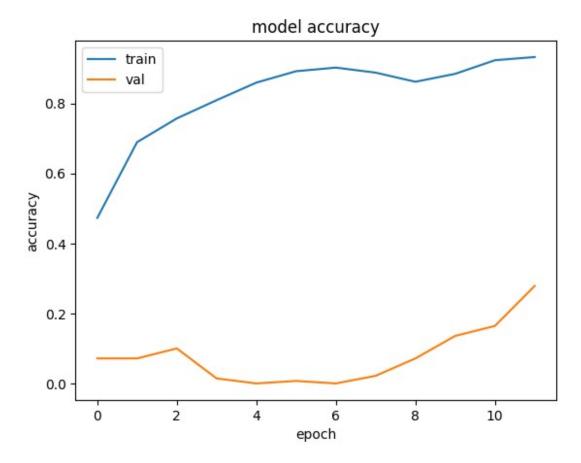
```
# define the model (add layers)
model2 = Sequential()
model2.trainable = True

model2.add(ResNet50(include_top=False, pooling='avg', weights=
resnet_weights_path))
model2.add(BatchNormalization())
model2.add(Dense(48, activation='relu'))
model2.add(BatchNormalization())
model2.add(Dense(256, activation='relu'))
model2.add(Dropout(0.25))
model2.add(Dense(128, activation='relu'))
model2.add(Dense(num_classes, activation='softmax'))
```

```
model2.summary()
Model: "sequential_1"
                                  Output Shape
Layer (type)
Param #
 resnet50 (Functional)
                                  ?
23,587,712
  batch_normalization_2
                                                               0
(unbuilt)
  (BatchNormalization)
 dense_3 (Dense)
                                   ?
                                                               0
(unbuil<del>l</del>)
 batch_normalization_3
                                                               0
(unbuilt)
  (BatchNormalization)
 dense 4 (Dense)
                                   ?
                                                               0
(unbuilt)
 dropout_1 (Dropout)
                                   ?
 dense_5 (Dense)
                                   ?
                                                               0
(unbuilt)
 dense_6 (Dense)
                                                               0
(unbuilt)
Total params: 23,587,712 (89.98 MB)
```

```
Trainable params: 23,534,592 (89.78 MB)
Non-trainable params: 53,120 (207.50 KB)
model2.compile(optimizer="adam", loss='categorical crossentropy',
metrics=['accuracy'])
history2 = model2.fit(
      train generator,
      steps per epoch= 60,
      epochs = 12,
      validation data=validation generator,
      validation steps=5)
Epoch 1/12
1/60 ———
              loss: 4.3901
W0000 00:00:1710172774.212604 93 graph launch.cc:671] Fallback to
op-by-op mode because memset node breaks graph update
               26:23 27s/step - accuracy: 0.0000e+00 -
loss: 4.3513
W0000 00:00:1710172801.463471 93 graph launch.cc:671] Fallback to
op-by-op mode because memset node breaks graph update
60/60 ———— 0s 641ms/step - accuracy: 0.3012 - loss:
3.1742
W0000 00:00:1710172816.729791 91 graph launch.cc:671] Fallback to
op-by-op mode because memset node breaks graph update
                _____ 103s 733ms/step - accuracy: 0.3040 - loss:
3.1618 - val accuracy: 0.0714 - val loss: 3.9114
1.4237 - val accuracy: 0.0714 - val loss: 3.7693
Epoch 3/12 60/60 ______ 12s 179ms/step - accuracy: 0.7652 - loss:
0.9614 - val accuracy: 0.1000 - val loss: 4.1421
0.8261 - val accuracy: 0.0143 - val loss: 4.1909
Epoch 5/12
              _____ 12s 174ms/step - accuracy: 0.8484 - loss:
60/60 ----
0.5489 - val accuracy: 0.0000e+00 - val loss: 4.5445
Epoch 6/12
               9s 155ms/step - accuracy: 0.8872 - loss:
60/60 -
0.3861 - val accuracy: 0.0071 - val loss: 4.3466
Epoch 7/12
```

```
0.3289 - val accuracy: 0.0000e+00 - val loss: 8.6772
Epoch 8/12
                ———— 10s 176ms/step - accuracy: 0.8663 - loss:
60/60 -
0.4509 - val accuracy: 0.0217 - val loss: 6.3532
Epoch 9/12
W0000 00:00:1710172892.620914 92 graph launch.cc:671] Fallback to
op-by-op mode because memset node breaks graph update
              _____ 13s 197ms/step - accuracy: 0.8727 - loss:
0.5293 - val accuracy: 0.0714 - val loss: 6.0716
Epoch 10/12
              9s 151ms/step - accuracy: 0.8762 - loss:
60/60 -
0.4240 - val accuracy: 0.1357 - val loss: 7.5043
0.2367 - val_accuracy: 0.1643 - val_loss: 5.4562
Epoch 12/12 60/60 9s 156ms/step - accuracy: 0.9193 - loss:
0.2759 - val accuracy: 0.2786 - val loss: 3.9369
plt.plot(history2.history['accuracy'])
plt.plot(history2.history['val accuracy'])
plt.title('model accuracy')
plt.ylabel('accuracy')
plt.xlabel('epoch')
plt.legend(['train', 'val'], loc='upper left')
plt.show()
```



This model is slightly better! With an accuracy score of 89%, this was improved however the validation accuracy was only 10%. Using this as the base, lets tune the parameters to see if we can improve the validation accuracy score.

Model 3

```
# define the model
model3 = Sequential()
model3.trainable = True

model3.add(ResNet50(include_top=False, pooling='avg', weights=
resnet_weights_path))
model3.add(BatchNormalization())
model3.add(Dense(48, activation='relu'))
model3.add(BatchNormalization())
model3.add(Dense(256, activation='relu'))
model3.add(Dropout(0.25))
model3.add(Dense(128, activation='relu'))
model3.add(Dense(num_classes, activation='softmax'))

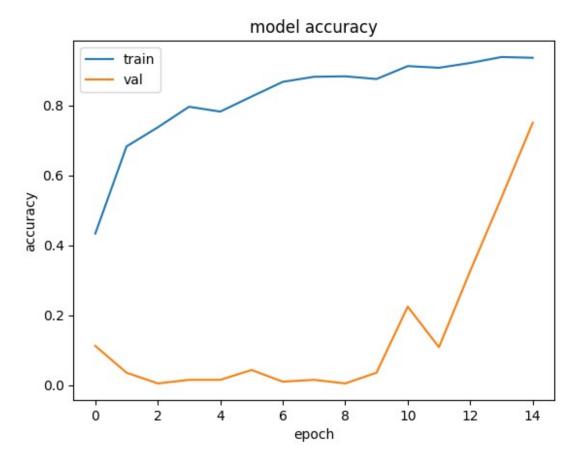
model3.summary()

Model: "sequential_2"
```

	T	
Layer (type) Param #	Output Shape	
resnet50 (Functional) 23,587,712	? ?	
batch_normalization_4 (unbuilt) (BatchNormalization)	? 	0
dense_7 (Dense) (unbuilt)	? 	0
batch_normalization_5 (unbuilt) (BatchNormalization)	?	0
dense_8 (Dense) (unbuilt)	?	0
dropout_2 (Dropout)	?	
dense_9 (Dense) (unbuilt)	? ?	0
dense_10 (Dense) (unbuilt)	? ?	0
Total params: 23,587,712 (89.98 MB) Trainable params: 23,534,592 (89.78 MB) Non-trainable params: 53,120 (207.50 KB)		

```
model3.compile(optimizer="adam", loss='categorical crossentropy',
metrics=['accuracy'])
# tuning to try to improve the score
history3 = model3.fit(
      train generator,
      steps_per_epoch= 60,
      epochs = 15,
      validation data=validation_generator,
      validation steps=7)
Epoch 1/15
1/60 —
                58:34 60s/step - accuracy: 0.0000e+00 -
loss: 4.2561
W0000 00:00:1710173000.081032 91 graph launch.cc:671] Fallback to
op-by-op mode because memset node breaks graph update
            ————— 0s 176ms/step - accuracy: 0.2940 - loss:
60/60 —
3.1609
W0000 00:00:1710173014.831014 92 graph launch.cc:671] Fallback to
op-by-op mode because memset node breaks graph update
               3.1499 - val accuracy: 0.1122 - val loss: 26.0758
Epoch 2/15
               57s 1s/step - accuracy: 0.6512 - loss:
18/60 —
1.4993
W0000 00:00:1710173039.138016 93 graph launch.cc:671] Fallback to
op-by-op mode because memset node breaks graph update
              30s 501ms/step - accuracy: 0.6648 - loss:
1.4168 - val accuracy: 0.0357 - val loss: 8.4326
Epoch 3/15
                  ——— 13s 189ms/step - accuracy: 0.7455 - loss:
60/60 -
0.9719 - val accuracy: 0.0051 - val loss: 4.2894
Epoch 4/15
9s 159ms/step - accuracy: 0.7723 - loss:
0.8509 - val accuracy: 0.0153 - val loss: 4.3103
0.8527 - val accuracy: 0.0153 - val loss: 4.4693
0.5962 - val accuracy: 0.0435 - val loss: 6.2045
Epoch 7/15
W0000 00:00:1710173090.281853 92 graph launch.cc:671] Fallback to
op-by-op mode because memset node breaks graph update
```

```
_____ 13s 199ms/step - accuracy: 0.8661 - loss:
0.4977 - val accuracy: 0.0102 - val loss: 6.7922
Epoch 8/15
                  ———— 10s 162ms/step - accuracy: 0.8829 - loss:
60/60 —
0.3841 - val accuracy: 0.0153 - val loss: 9.3577
Epoch 9/15
              ______ 12s 184ms/step - accuracy: 0.8959 - loss:
60/60 —
0.3400 - val accuracy: 0.0051 - val loss: 10.8075
0.4715 - val accuracy: 0.0357 - val loss: 9.4032
Epoch 11/15
             ______ 12s 180ms/step - accuracy: 0.9136 - loss:
60/60 ———
0.2878 - val accuracy: 0.2245 - val loss: 4.1916
Epoch 12/15
               8s 141ms/step - accuracy: 0.9025 - loss:
60/60 ———
0.3427 - val_accuracy: 0.1087 - val_loss: 4.9673
Epoch 13/15
                   ——— 14s 206ms/step - accuracy: 0.9314 - loss:
0.2633 - val accuracy: 0.3265 - val loss: 3.9551
Epoch 14/15
                 ———— 9s 159ms/step - accuracy: 0.9361 - loss:
60/60 -
0.1991 - val accuracy: 0.5357 - val loss: 2.6390
0.1866 - val accuracy: 0.7500 - val loss: 1.0308
plt.plot(history3.history['accuracy'])
plt.plot(history3.history['val accuracy'])
plt.title('model accuracy')
plt.ylabel('accuracy')
plt.xlabel('epoch')
plt.legend(['train', 'val'], loc='upper left')
plt.show()
```

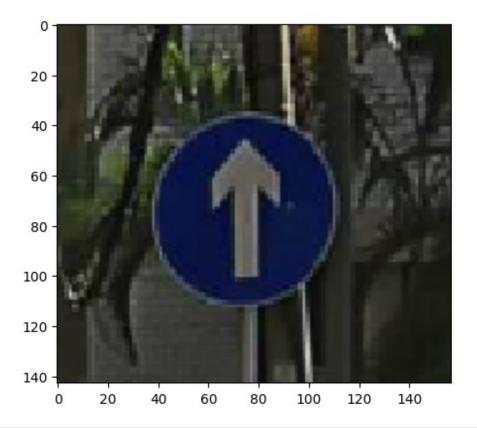


This was much better! It seems Model 3 resulted in the best scores with an accuracy score of 92% and a validation score of 68%.

Prediction

Let's use an image from the testing data to see the accuracy of the model.

```
Divider",
         33: "Traffic Signals", 34: "Danger ahead", 35: "Zebra Crossing",
         36: "Bicycle Crossing", 37: "Children Crossing", 38: "Dangerous
curve to the left",
         39: "Dangerous curve to the right", 40: "Unknown 1",
41: "Unknown 2", 42: "Unknown 3",
         43: "Go right or straight", 44: "Go left or straight",
45: "Unknown 4",
         46: "Zigzag curve", 47: "Train Crossing", 48: "Under
construction", 49: "Unknown 5",
         50: "Fences", 51: "Heavy Vehicle Accidents", 52: "Unknown 6",
53: "Give way",
         54: "No Stopping", 55: "No Entry", 56: "Yield", 57: "Unknown 8"}
img directory =
"/kaggle/input/traffic-sign-dataset-classification/traffic Data/TEST/
021 1 0008.png"
test image = image.load img(img directory, target size=(128, 128))
test image = image.img to array(test image)
test image = np.expand dims(test image, axis=0)
test image
result = model3.predict(test image)
img = mpimg.imread(img directory)
imgplot = plt.imshow(img)
plt.show()
print(f"Predicted class: {label[np.argmax(result)]}")
1/1 -
                        - 5s 5s/step
```



Predicted class: Don't go right or left

As you can see, the predicticted class matches what the image is saying showing that our model works well!

Conclusion

Through this investigation, I feel that we were able to be pretty successful in my goal. I found a model using a pretrained one that was able to fairly accurately predict and determine common traffic signs.

However, I think the data I used was quite standardised, so I'm not sure if this accuracy would be the same for photos where there is more background noise or it is further away. A major challenge was trying to make sure that the model was not overfit to the data as certain classes did not have many images and some images were in mutiple classes as well.

Nonetheless, I think this model is very applicable to the real world with further steps. It can be used for automation in transport or to help the visually impaired with road safety.

Future Work

What are the next steps?

- 1. Having live image detection so cars can respond in real time
- 2. Converting it to speech for audio aid

3. Adding a wider variety of road signs / altering based on country

References

- 1. Transfer learning example notebook (goes with the video demonstration)https://www.kaggle.com/dansbecker/transfer-learning/
- 2. Kaggle Computer Vision course final notebook on Data Augmentationhttps://www.kaggle.com/ryanholbrook/data-augmentation
- 3. Traffic Sign Dataset https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/ahemateja19bec1025/traffic-sign-dataset-classification