

# CIFAR-10 Image Recognition

EE4305 Introduction to Fuzzy/Neural Systems

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## 1 Introduction

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The CIFAR-10 dataset contains 60000 images bla bla.

Objectives of this project are: bla bla

Structure of the report is as follows: bla bla

## 2 Literature Review on Artificial Neural Networks

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This section gives a literature review on the broad topic of artificial neural networks (ANN). A more specific review on ANN designed to classify the CIFAR-10 dataset is found in Section 3. The significance and applications of ANN will be reviewed in Section 2.1 while recent trends and accomplishments are discussed in Section 2.2.

### 2.1 Significance and Applications of Artificial Neural Networks

This subsection will illustrate the significance and applications of ANN. Increasing computer power shifted the focus of research towards deep ANN and similar architectures which are

coined under the term "deep learning". These powerful deep ANN are nowadays used in a variety of applications<sup>[1][2]</sup>.

ANN are significant because they can work as a black box model. The performance can be improved by data preprocessing, augmentation and mainly by finding an appropriate network architecture and training process. No a-priori knowledge of the classification process itself is required. This makes deep ANN suited for applications where such knowledge is difficult to obtain. Character and speech recognition are such difficult problems, as well as image classification. In speech recognition, deep ANN have been shown to outperform other methods on a variety of speech recognition benchmarks, sometimes by a large margin<sup>[3]</sup>. In the field of image classification, the 2012 ILSVRC (ImageNet Large-Scale Visual Recognition Challenge) marks an important turning point because a convolutional neural network (CNN) architecture won the competition for the first time - by a large margin<sup>[4]</sup>. In both fields, ANN are now widely accepted as the most powerful approach.

However, the fact that ANN do not incorporate much a-priori knowledge can also backfire. In consequence, a trained model gives little insight into its inner workings and optimal network architectures are basically found through a trial-and-error process. Most design guidelines for deep learning methods are therefore rather based on empirical knowledge than on theoretical foundations.

New methods are developed to better understand the computations deep ANN perform at each layer. The resulting visualizations reveal the process of extracting high level features out of raw input data<sup>[5][6]</sup>. In general, each layer extracts higher level features of the input the previous layer provides such that the features are highly abstract after a few layers. The last layer then classifies the input into one of the output categories.

## 2.2 Recent Trends and Accomplishments

Recent trends and accomplishments of ANN are described in this subsection. Two recent accomplishments are looked at in detail: The AlphaGo computer program and adversarial examples. AlphaGo is a great example to illustrate the great capabilities of ANN. Adversarial examples can easily fool very different kinds of neural networks which is a good way to exemplify the limitations the present ANN still possess.

The game Go is a complex board game with the impressive number of around  $10^{170}$  legal positions<sup>[7]</sup>. Due to its enormous search space and difficulty to evaluate board positions, it is viewed as the most challenging of the classical games for artificial intelligence. A victory of a computer program over a professional human player has been considered to be at least a decade away. However, the computer program AlphaGo beat the European Go champion 5-0 in 2015<sup>[8]</sup>.

AlphaGo makes extensive use of ANN. It consists of a "value" and a "policy" network to separately evaluate the board position and select moves. It is trained in a combination of supervised learning from human expert games and reinforcement learning through self-play. The training of such big networks requires notable computation resources. In a recent trend, dedicated hardware to train deep ANN is developed. Besides other adaptations, it is designed to speed up matrix multiplications which are one of the main components of the training process. The most notable example is the Tensor Processing Unit which achieves a 15- to 30-fold performance compared to a contemporary GPU or CPU<sup>[9]</sup>. It is important to note that the development of deep learning is closely connected to the ever improving available computing power<sup>[10]</sup>.

AlphaGo received considerable media coverage and is considered as one of the most impressive feats of deep learning. In a follow-up paper, a further improved version of AlphaGo is presented, AlphaZero<sup>[11]</sup>. It uses a single neural network and trains solely through reinforce-

ment learning with self-play, starting with random play. It is only provided with the rules of Go. After only days of training, it defeated all previous versions of AlphaGo and achieved a never seen before playing strength. It is quite intriguing that even for such a complex task, the network can achieve superhuman performance without any provided knowledge besides the rules of the game.

As a second recent trend, adversarial examples recently surprised a lot of researches and became a hot topic of interest. To generate an adversarial example, a slight perturbation is applied to a correctly classified image. The classification process is then repeated and the perturbation is adapted such that the prediction error is *maximized*. A slight perturbation which is not recognizable by a human is already enough to let the neural network misclassify an image with a high confidence level<sup>[12]</sup>. It has been shown that adversarial examples trained on one model are likely to be misclassified by another model as well, i.e. they possess a transferability property<sup>[13]</sup>.

It is very likely that a randomly selected input to a neural network built from linear parts is processed incorrectly and the models only behave reasonably on a very thin manifold encompassing the training data<sup>[14]</sup>. This result questions the generalization abilities of ANN. Furthermore, the transferability property allows potential attacks on systems using ANN<sup>[15]</sup><sup>[16]</sup>. For example, stop signs could be slightly modified with stickers such that they are misclassified by autonomous vehicles which then behave unexpectedly. Further research is required to develop defense strategies against such attacks. Only then, ANN can be deployed in safety critical applications.

### 3 Literature Review on the CIFAR-10 dataset

T. HAYDEN

The CIFAR-10 data set<sup>[17]</sup> is a well established data set in the machine learning community. It is challenging because it is a relatively small data set. Even so, excellent results, even exceeding human performance, have been obtained using a variety of CNN architectures<sup>1</sup>. At the time of writing, the highest published result on the CIFAR-10 data set was achieved in 2015 with accuracy of 96.53%. This is considerably better than human performance which has an accuracy of around 94%<sup>[18]</sup>.

#### 3.1 Data Augmentation

Like many other machine learning problems image, image classification will almost always benefit from additional data<sup>[19]</sup>. However, even when restricted to a particular dataset such as CIFAR-10 it is possible to generate more data using a technique called data augmentation<sup>[20]</sup>. Data augmentation manipulates existing images to create 'new' data for use in training.

Common methods to augment images for use in machine learning include mirroring, rotation and image translation<sup>[4]</sup>. Using these techniques it is possible to train on a data set that can be several times larger than the original data set. The leading architectures all made heavy use of data augmentation<sup>[21]</sup><sup>[22]</sup><sup>[23]</sup>.

#### 3.2 State of the art architectures for classifying the CIFAR-10 dataset

In this section, the results of several different CNN architectures are presented. It should be noted that these architectures were not designed specifically to perform on the CIFAR-10 data

<sup>1</sup>[http://rodrigob.github.io/are\\_we\\_there\\_yet/build/classification\\_datasets\\_results.html](http://rodrigob.github.io/are_we_there_yet/build/classification_datasets_results.html)

set. As such, they may not be fully optimised and it is likely that they could be improved slightly.

### 3.2.1 Fractional Max-pooling

In a standard CNN, convolutional layers are often interspaced with 2x2 max-pooling layers. These max-pooling layers serve to down sample the data. This allows the CNN to be somewhat spatially invariant to the locations of the features and improve accuracy. However each max pooling layer also removes 75% of the data<sup>[21]</sup>. This in effect reduces the maximum depth of the CNN due to the disjoint nature of the max-pooling regions.

By using fractional max-pooling, it is possible to max-pool using a non-integer mask size. In this manner, the size of the hidden layers is reduced by a lesser amount and it is possible to create deeper networks without having to add consecutive convolutional layers. This is important as generally deeper networks will lead to stronger classifiers<sup>[24]</sup>. However, deeper networks are also in general more expensive to train.

An architecture based on fractional Max-pooling currently has the highest published classification accuracy on the CIFAR-10 data set at 96.53%. This architecture also made heavy use of data augmentation. Additionally, the model was 'fine-tuned' after initial training by re-training on the original data set for a few epochs using a low learning.

### 3.2.2 The All Convolutional Net(ALL-CNN)

In this architecture<sup>[23]</sup> a CNN consisting entirely of convolutional layers is proposed. Max-pooling layers are instead replaced with convolutional layers with increased stride. These increased stride layers act in a similar way to max-pool layers in that they down sample the data and allow the CNN somewhat invariant feature location. This architecture has an accuracy of 95.59% which is the 2nd highest published result. This architecture also makes heavy use of data augmentation.

### 3.2.3 Layer-sequential unit-variance (LSUV) initialization

LSUV initialisation provides a method to initialise deep CNN. This produces networks with better accuracy than uninitialised networks. In addition LSUV greatly accelerates the training of CNNs. An architecture based on the LSUV method machine managed to achieve an accuracy of 94.16%. Note that this only used a minimal amount of data augmentation.

It is important to stress the use of data augmentation when looking at these results. Table shows the results of the three leading architectures along with the amount of data augmentation. Moderate data augmentation consists of mirroring in the horizontal axis and small translations in each axis. Extreme data augmentation involves upscaling the images to  $126 \times 126$  pixel images and performing a variety of operations such as shearing, colour augmentation, rotation, translation and scaling. It may be the case that with additional data augmentation, LSUV outperforms the Max-Pooling approach.

Data Augmentation	Fractional Max-Pooling	ALL-CNN	LSUV
None	-	90.92%	-
Moderate	-	92.75%	93.94%
Extreme	96.53%	95.59%	-

Table 1: Table showing the results of the leading CIFAR-10 architectures.

### 3.3 Application areas of image recognition algorithms

## 4 MLP Classifier

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This section should contain:

a) on the selection of the inputs and outputs of the MLP b) on the size of the training data c) on the training of the MLP d) on the performance of the MLP with different objective functions and optimization methods e) any other interesting observation that you think are pertinent (e.g. effect of learning rate on convergence speed).

### 4.1 Data Preprocessing and Augmentation

- Normalization

The input data is normalized to lie within the range  $[0,1]$ .

- Mean subtraction

To further normalize the data, the mean is subtracted on a per-pixel basis.

- Data augmentation

Experience shows that a larger training data set increases network performance

### 4.2 Network Structure

- Basic structure

Since this is a classification problem, parts of the network structure are fixed. The last layer consists of 10 nodes and is in a "softmax" configuration. PICTURE of basic structure.

- Number of hidden layers/nodes

Parameter search over 1-3 hidden layers, 1-500 neurons

### 4.3 Optimization of Further Network Parameters

- Different learning rates
- Different optimization methods

## 5 CNN network

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## 6 Conclusion

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Long story short: we completely aced our project BOOM

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