



# Data Engineering – Background Removal

Explainable Machine Learning - Deep Learning Life Cycle

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University of Bamberg

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## **Research Question**

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## Research Question and Introduction

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Our main Data Engineering Problems:

- Combining different datasets
- Different hand positions in different datasets
- Hands in different contexts in each dataset

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## Research Question and Introduction

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Our main Data Engineering Problems:

- Combining different datasets
- Different hand positions in different datasets
- Hands in different contexts in each dataset
- ⇒ Reducing complexity of datasets is key

Research Question: **Does removing the background during the image preprocessing phase benefit the image classification task at hand?**

## Data Engineering Process

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# Test, Train and Validation Datasets

Combining Datasets of different sources:

**Training Data** data combined from different datasets

**custom** Self produced images

**cgi** Computer-generated images <sup>1</sup>

**webcam** Existing Dataset from Kaggle (hands with bodies) <sup>2</sup>

**hands** Existing Dataset from Kaggle (only hands from top) <sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>[https://www.tensorflow.org/datasets/catalog/rock\\_paper\\_scissors](https://www.tensorflow.org/datasets/catalog/rock_paper_scissors)

<sup>2</sup><https://www.kaggle.com/drgfreeman/rockpaperscissors>

<sup>3</sup><https://www.kaggle.com/glushko/rock-paper-scissors-dataset>

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Composition of Training Dataset from Different Origins

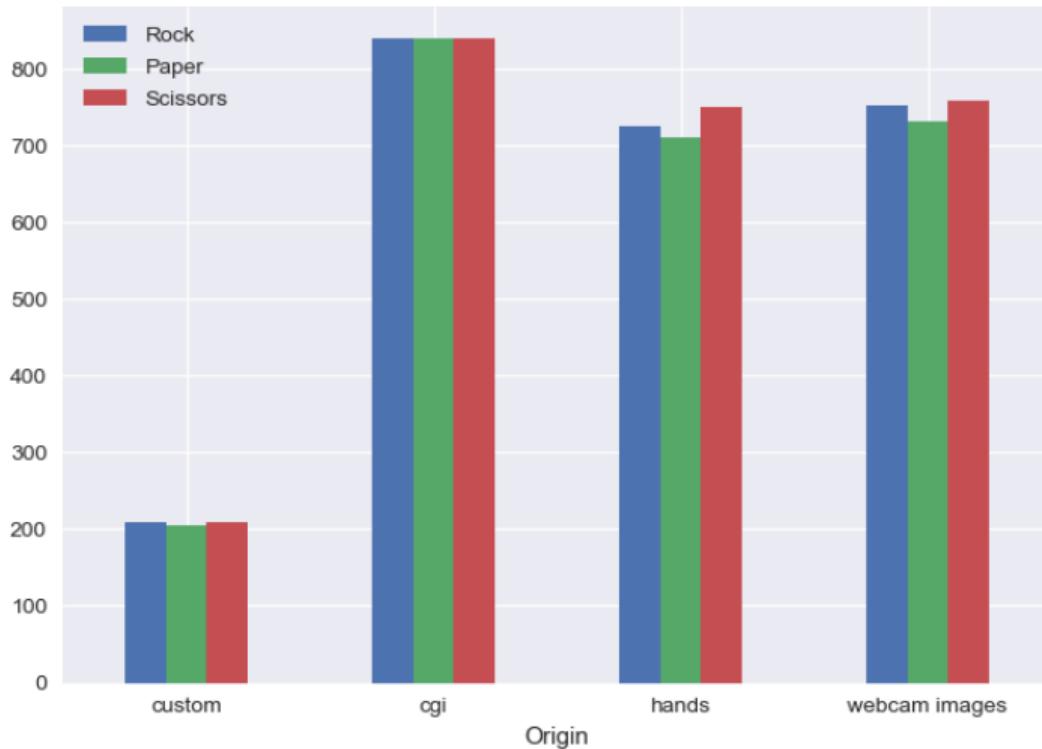


Figure 1: Distribution of individual Datasets

## Existing libraries I

Searching the WWW we found some interesting libraries:

- YOLO-Hand-Detection: find hand position in an image <sup>4</sup>
  - + works on real life images, open source
  - not included in Python Package Index

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<sup>4</sup><https://github.com/cansik/yolo-hand-detection>

<sup>5</sup><https://pypi.org/project/rembg/>

## Existing libraries I

Searching the WWW we found some interesting libraries:

- YOLO-Hand-Detection: find hand position in an image <sup>4</sup>
  - + works on real life images, open source
  - not included in Python Package Index
- rembg: model that automatically removes image background <sup>5</sup>
  - + comes as library in Python Package Index
  - not works in all cases, has some strange edge cases

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<sup>4</sup><https://github.com/cansik/yolo-hand-detection>

<sup>5</sup><https://pypi.org/project/rembg/>

## Existing libraries II

Searching the WWW we found some interesting libraries:

- MediaPipe Hands: generates a 3d hand model from a 2d image<sup>6</sup> [1]
  - + works quite well and comes as library in Python Package Index
  - developed by google

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<sup>6</sup><https://google.github.io/mediapipe/solutions/hands.html>

# The Preprocessor

Parameters for Image Processing:

- desired dimensions of preprocessed image
- crop image, based on the hand position within the image (Mediapipe Hands)
- remove background (rembg)
- greyscale: convert images to one-channel greyscale images

# The Preprocessor

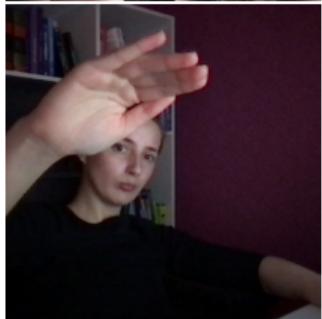
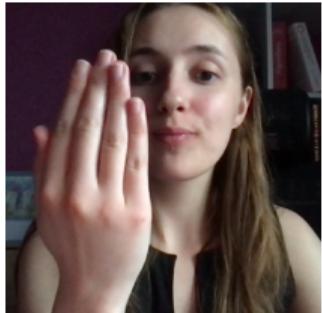
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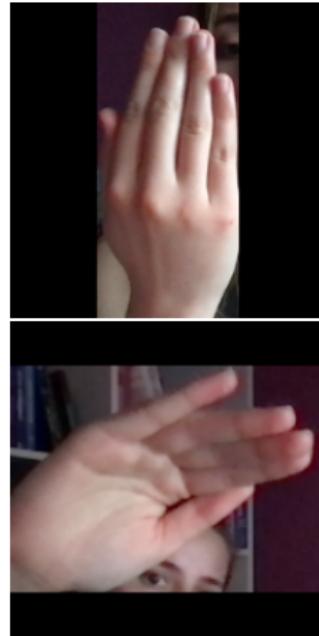
Preprocessing steps:

1. read image using cv2
2. crop image based on bounding-box found with MediaPipe
3. remove left over background using rembg library
4. resize image and add padding if necessary
5. use cv2 to convert images to greyscale

# Preprocessing Examples



**Figure 2:** original



**Figure 3:** cropped



**Figure 4:** background removal

## Parameter Selection for Preprocessor

Chosen parameters:

**dimensions** (300,300), and again scaled down for model to (64,64)

**crop images** True with a hand detection confidence of 0.1

**remove background** False, since rembg did perform very poorly

**greyscale** True

# Media Pipe Hands Performance on Test Dataset

Evaluation the performance of hand detection with Mediapipe Hands with a confidence of 0.1

| Origin | Rock | Paper | Scissors | Total |
|--------|------|-------|----------|-------|
| custom | 210  | 205   | 210      | 625   |
| cgi    | 840  | 840   | 840      | 2520  |
| hands  | 726  | 712   | 750      | 2188  |
| webcam | 752  | 733   | 760      | 2245  |
| Total  | 2528 | 2490  | 2560     | 7578  |

**Table 1:** Total number of images per origin

| Origin | Rock  | Paper | Scissors | Total |
|--------|-------|-------|----------|-------|
| custom | 95.2% | 90.7% | 96.2%    | 94.1% |
| cgi    | 89.0% | 100%  | 100%     | 96.3% |
| hands  | 95.9% | 99.6% | 94.5%    | 96.6% |
| webcam | 93.5% | 96.2% | 91.8%    | 93.8% |
| Total  | 92.8% | 98.0% | 95.6%    | 95.5% |

**Table 2:** Percentage of detected hands in images

## Experiment

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# Same Model, Same Data, Different Processing, Same Result?

Here the basic Idea is to run the exactly same training simply with different preprocessed Datasets

**H0 : Reagardless of the preprocessing used, the (blackbox) model should perform equally on the accuracy on the validation and test dataset in terms of accuracy**

- Preprocessor parameters are set as before, only difference is the use of cropping images based on Mediapipe Hands
- Model parameters: dropout probability: 0.5, no batch normalization, 100 epoches of training and a batch size of 64, Adam optimizer with learning-rate of 0.001 and CrossEntropy as criterion
- Compare the model performance on Train, Validation and Test Data after each 10 epoches of training

# Schematic of Experiment Setup

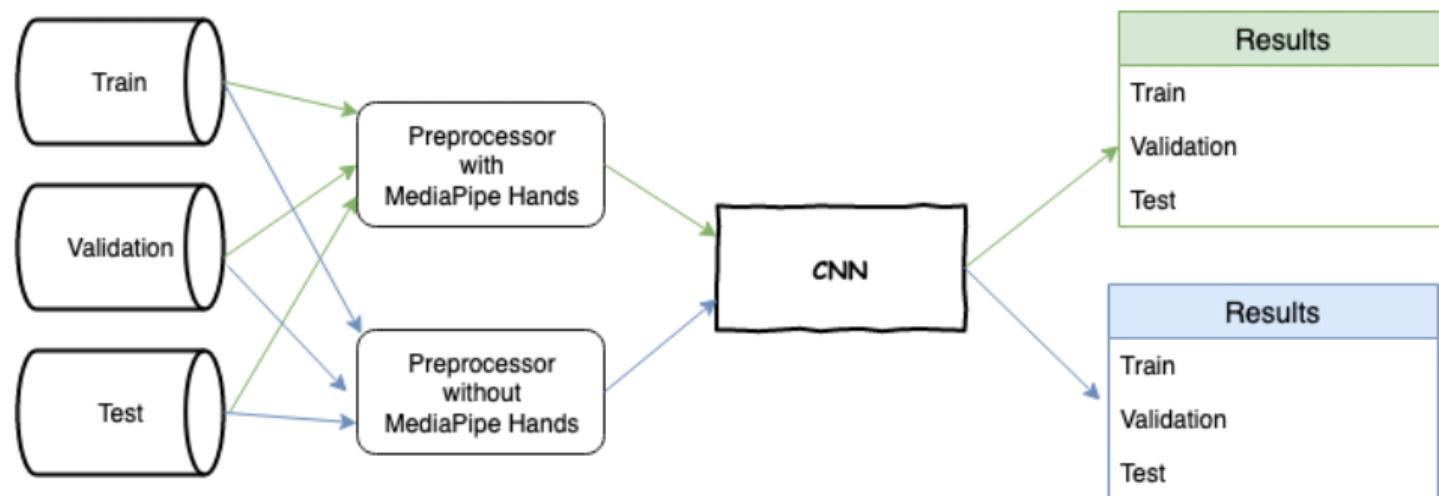
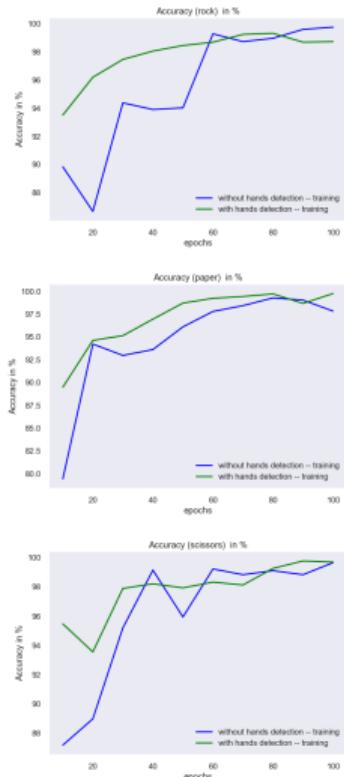
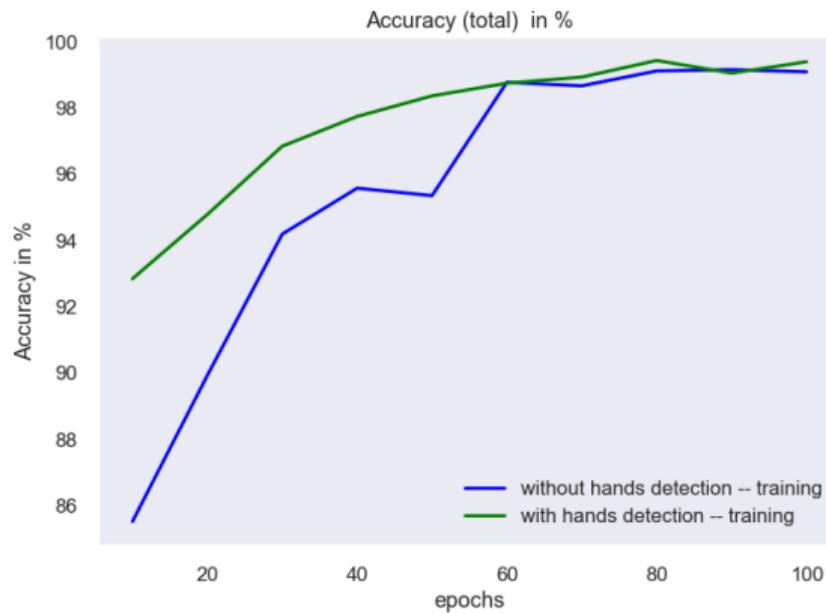


Figure 5: Experiment Setup

# Results Training Data



**Figure 6:** Total Accuracy on Training Data

# Results Validation Data

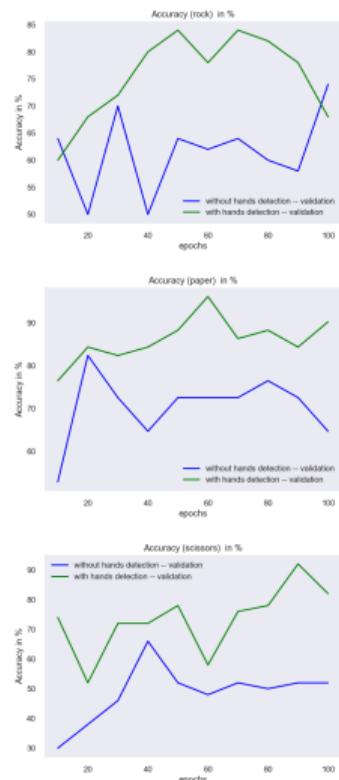
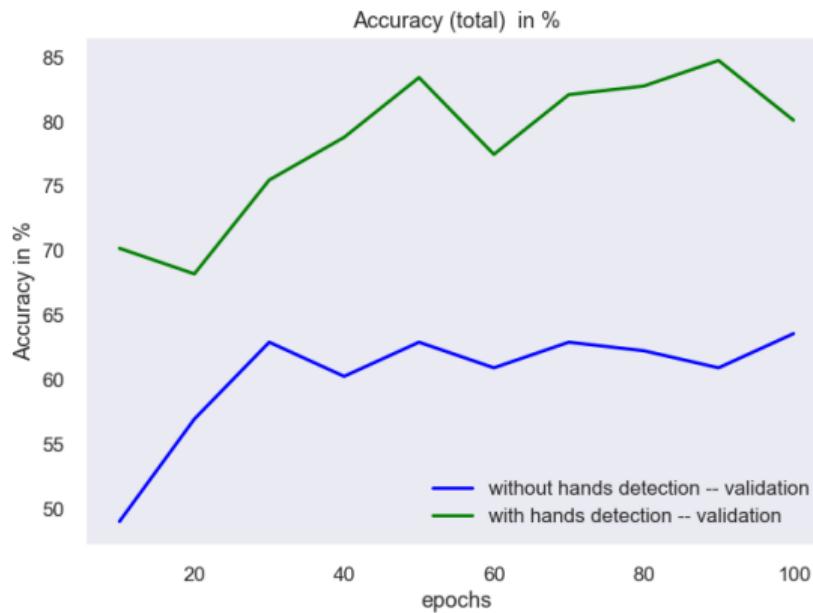


Figure 7: Total Accuracy on Validation Data

# Results Test Data

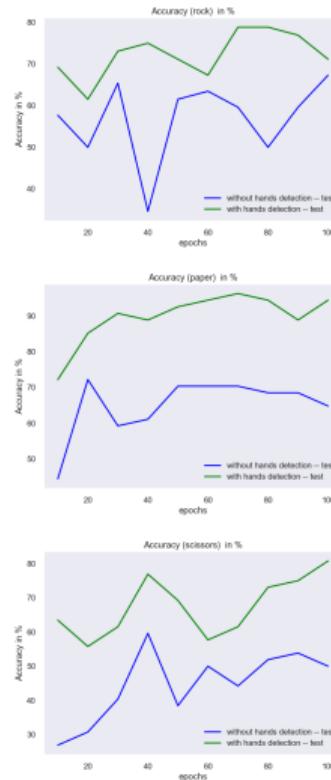


Figure 8: Total Accuracy on Test Data

## Discussion

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Results show that the preprocessor with image cropping based on Mediapipe Hands:

- Training Data: performed better at less training steps
- Validation Data: performed better for each test model iteration
- Testing Data: performed better for each test model iteration

## Discussion

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Results show that the preprocessor with image cropping based on Mediapipe Hands:

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⇒ **H0** is probably **not correct** and an alternative has to be considered

## Discussion

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Results show that the preprocessor with image cropping based on Mediapipe Hands:

- Training Data: performed better at less training steps
- Validation Data: performed better for each test model iteration
- Testing Data: performed better for each test model iteration

⇒ **H0** is probably **not correct** and an alternative has to be considered

⇒ based on the presented results it is to assume that **reducing the complexity of the dataset** by removing the background (unimportant parts of the image) **leads to better model performance.**

**Thank you!**

## References i

-  F. Zhang, V. Bazarevsky, A. Vakunov, A. Tkachenka, G. Sung, C.-L. Chang, and M. Grundmann, “Mediapipe hands: On-device real-time hand tracking,” 2020.



# Model Engineering – Dropout v BatchNorm

Explainable Machine Learning - Deep Learning Life Cycle

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Research Question

Model Engineering Process

Experiment



## **Research Question**

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## Research Question

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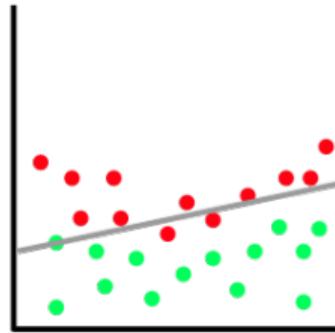
Our main Model Engineering challenges:

- Accuracy performance
- Prevent overfitting for the model to be generalizable to new data

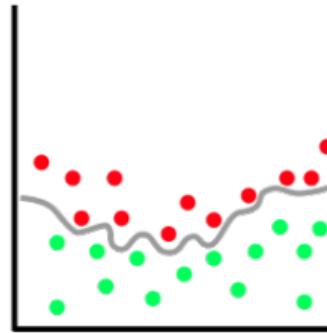
Research Question: **Do dropout layers prevent overfitting ?**

In addition to Dropout, we tried another regularization technique, namely Batch Normalization.

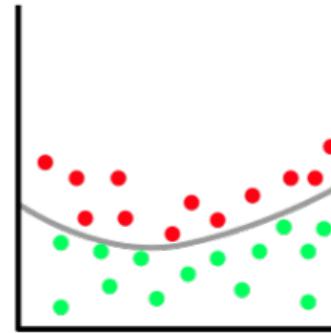
# Overfitting



Underfitting



Overfitting



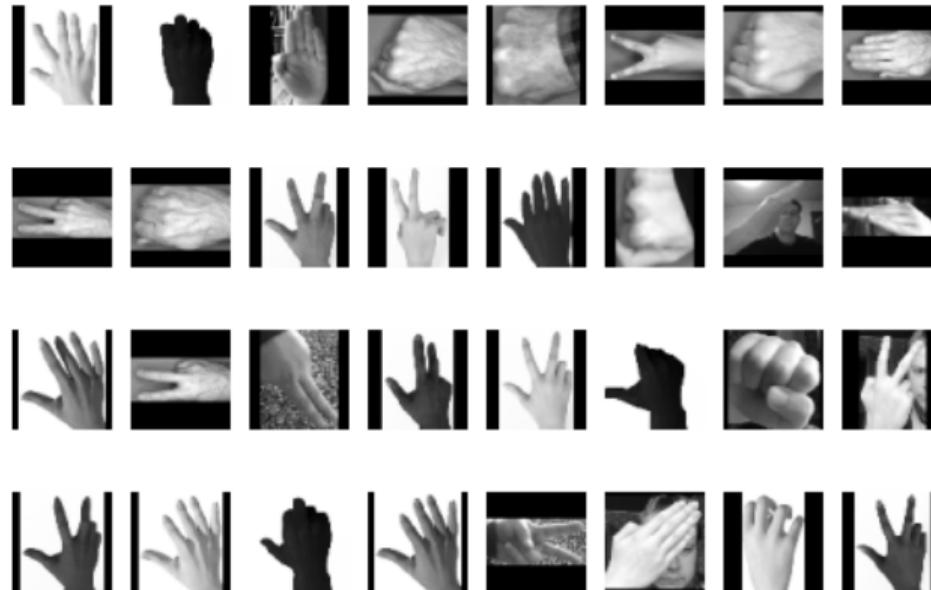
Balanced

Figure 1: Visual explanation of Overfitting

## Model Engineering Process

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## Overview of the different datasets



**Figure 2:** Sample of the Training Dataset

## Overview of the different datasets



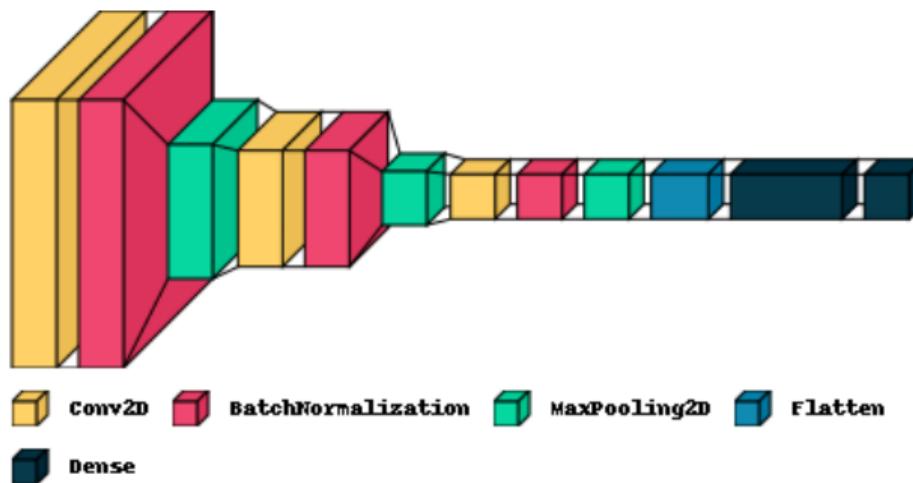
**Figure 3:** Sample of the Validation Dataset

## Overview of the different datasets



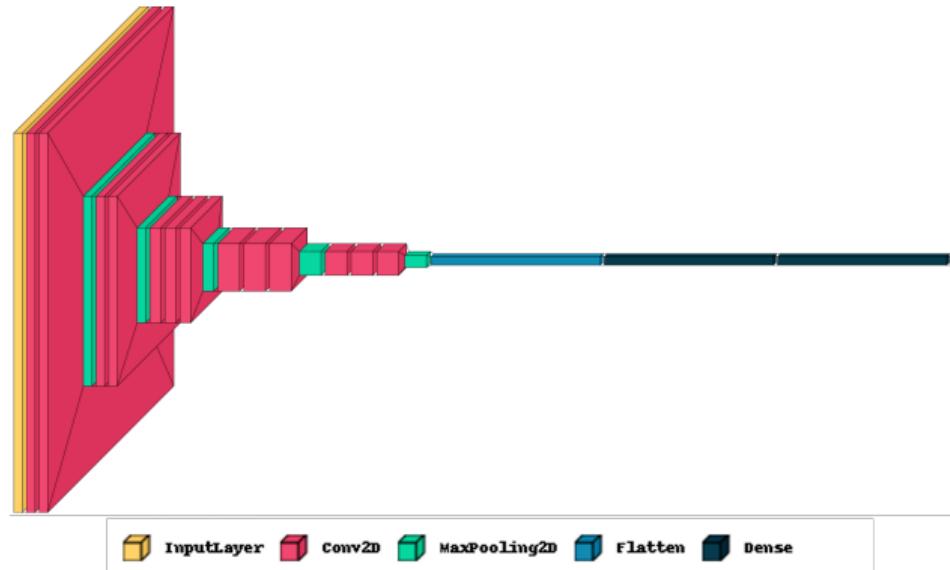
**Figure 4:** Sample of the Testing Dataset

## Our first model



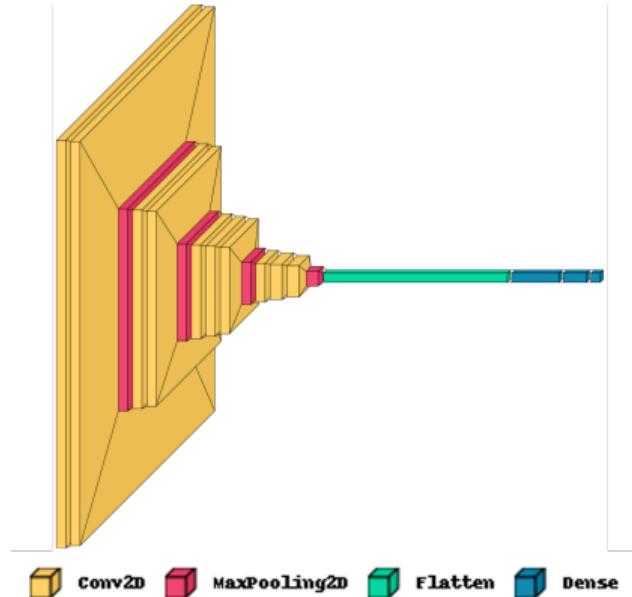
**Figure 5:** Visualization of our first model

# VGG16 [1]



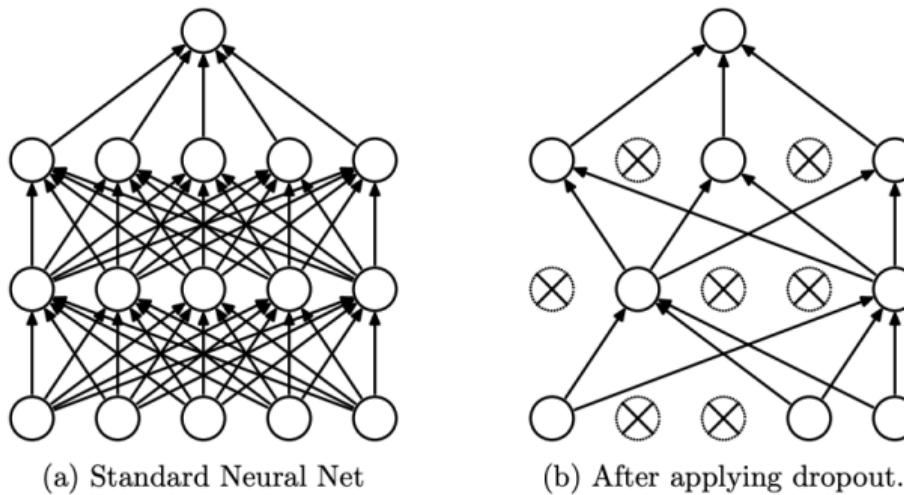
**Figure 6:** Visualization of the VGG16 model

## Our custom model



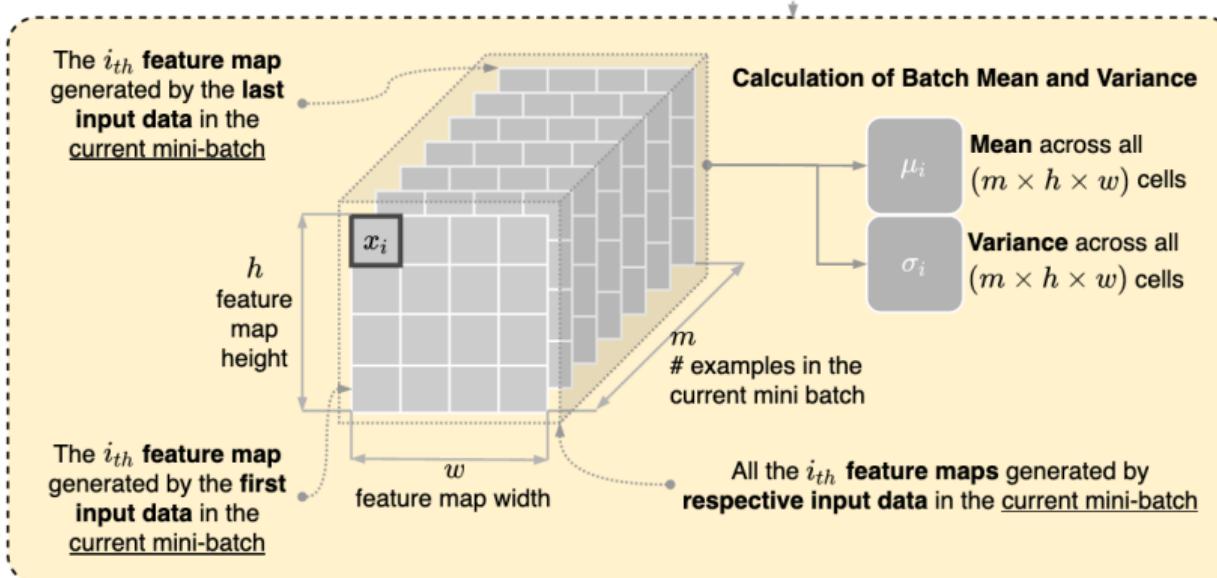
**Figure 7:** Visualization of our model

## Potential Solution: Dropout



**Figure 8:** Scheme explaining the principle of Dropout Layers

# Potential Solution: Batch Normalization

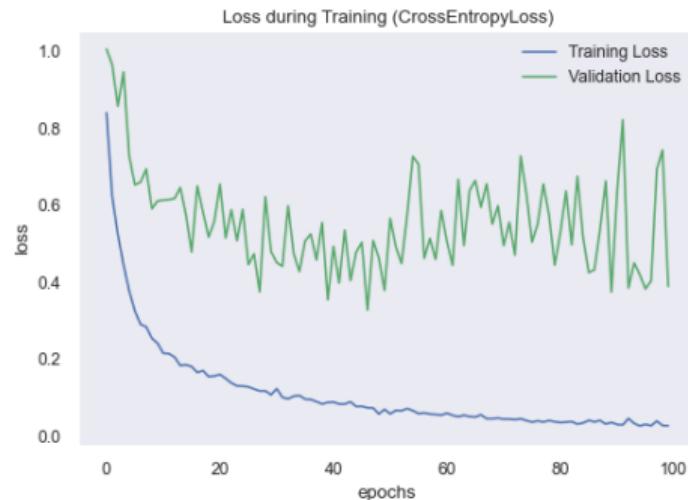


**Figure 9:** Scheme explaining the principle of Batch Normalization

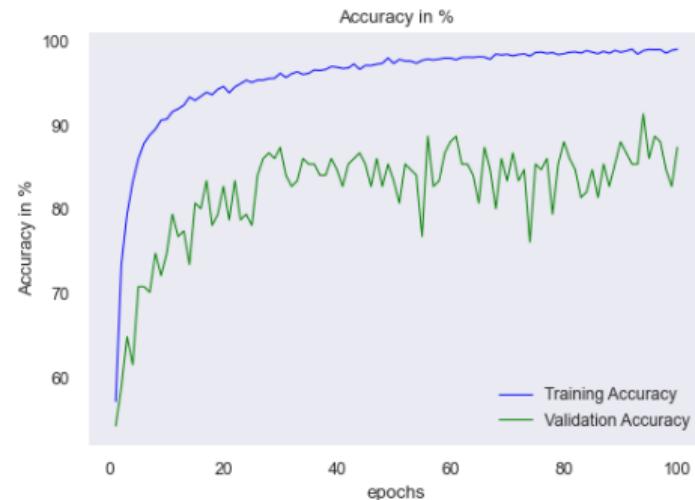
## Experiment

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# Model performance without any Regularization



**Figure 10:** Training v Validation Loss



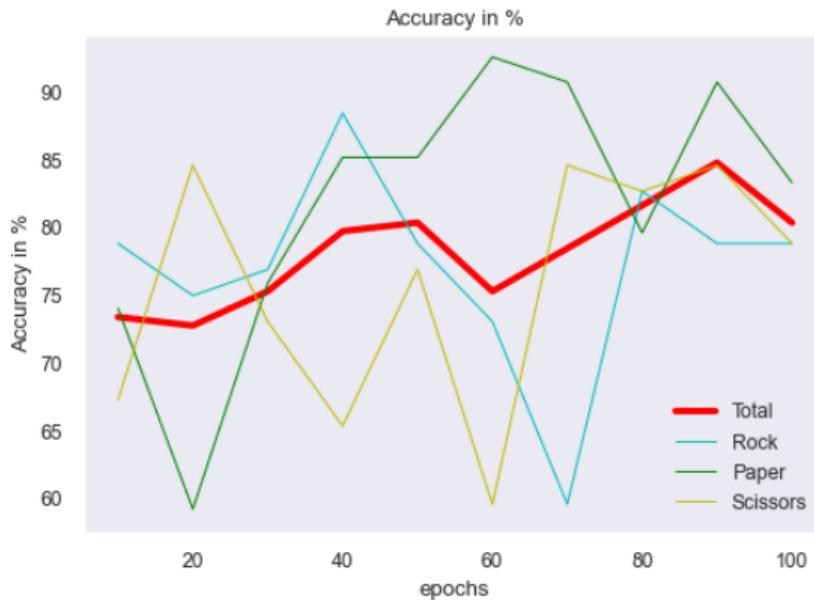
**Figure 11:** Training v Validation Accuracy

## Model performance without any Regularization



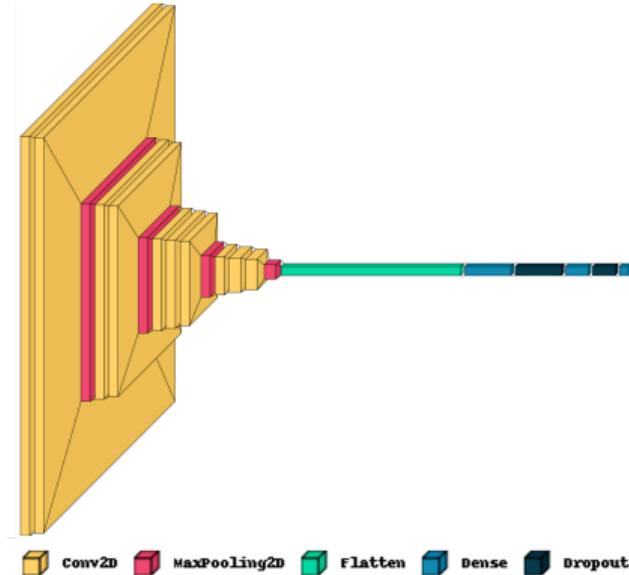
**Figure 12:** Validation Accuracy in detail

# Model performance without any Regularization



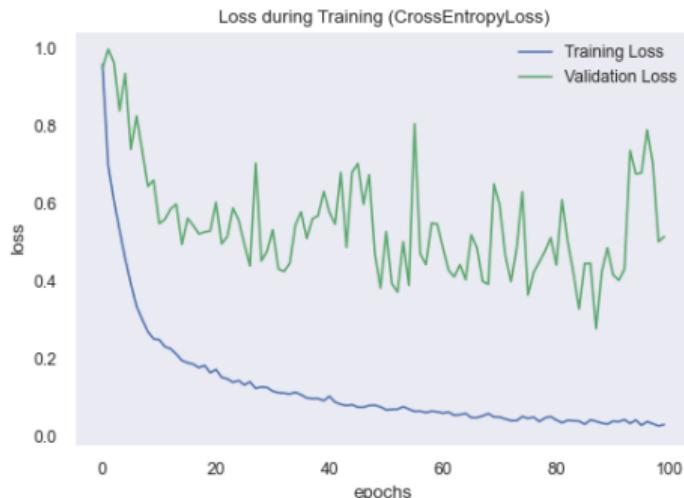
**Figure 13:** Testing Accuracy in detail

## Model with Dropout

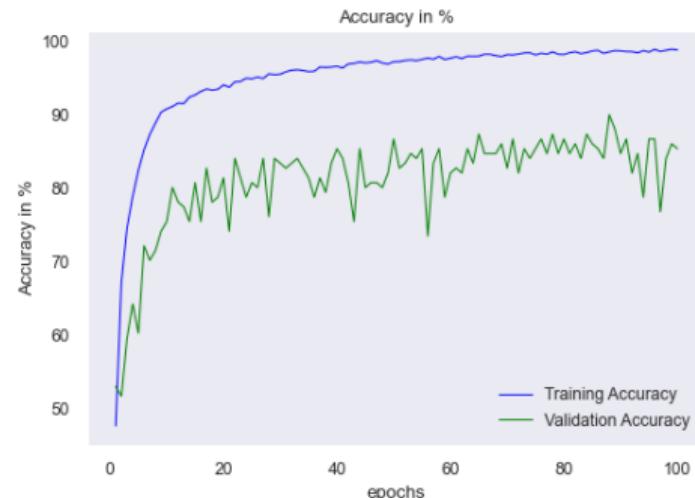


**Figure 14:** Visualization of our model with Dropout

# Model performance with Dropout

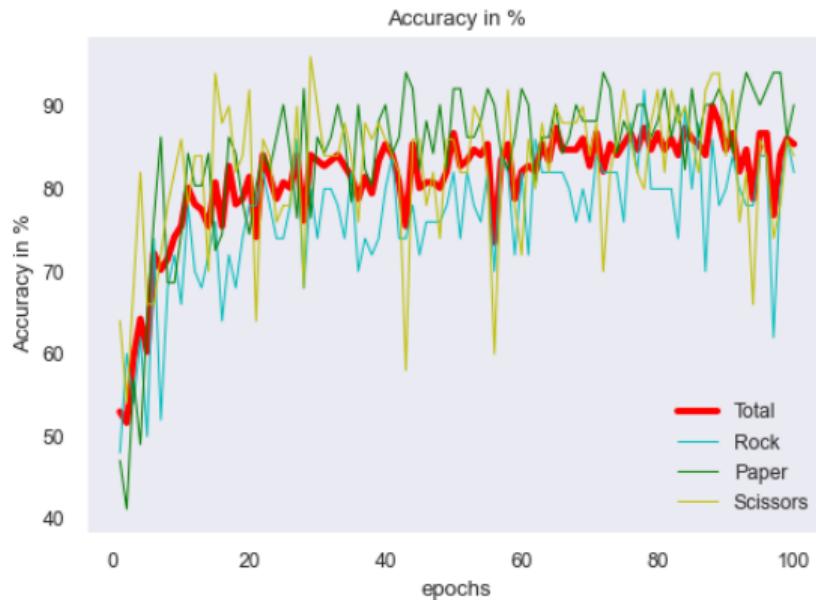


**Figure 15:** Training v Validation Loss



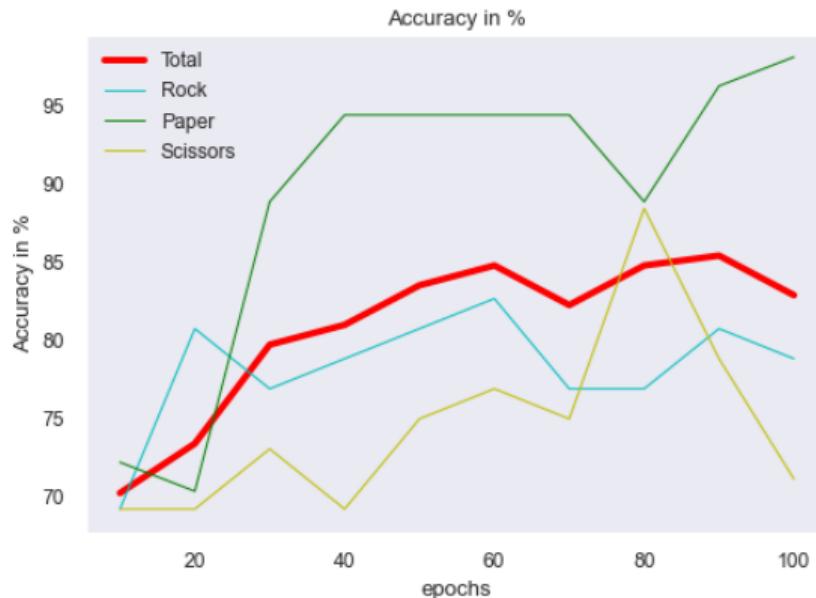
**Figure 16:** Training v Validation Accuracy

# Model performance with Dropout



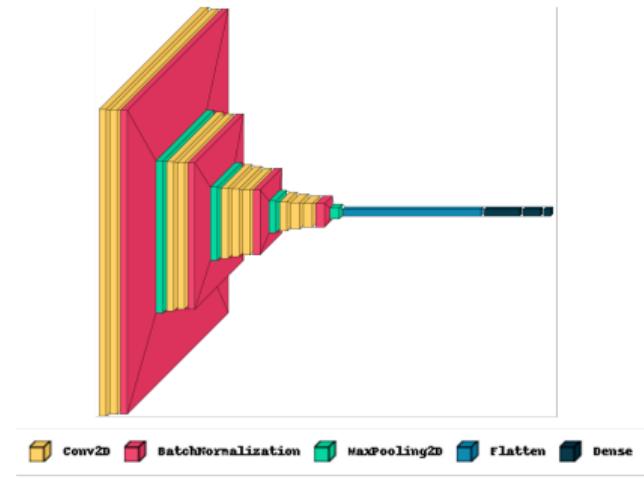
**Figure 17:** Validation Accuracy in detail

# Model performance with Dropout



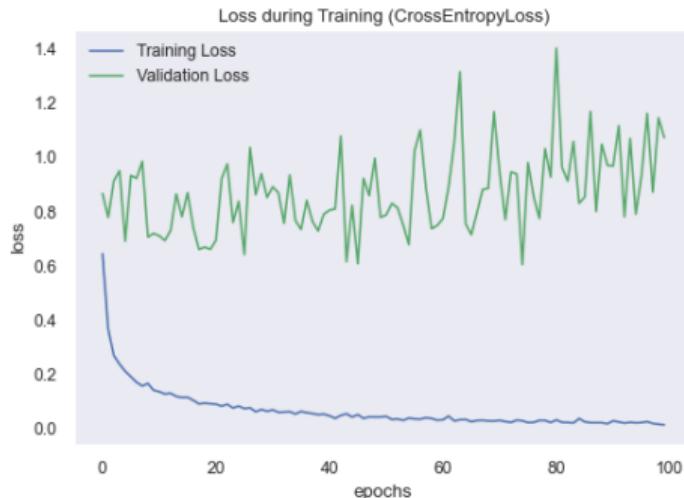
**Figure 18:** Testing Accuracy in detail

# Model with Batch Normalization

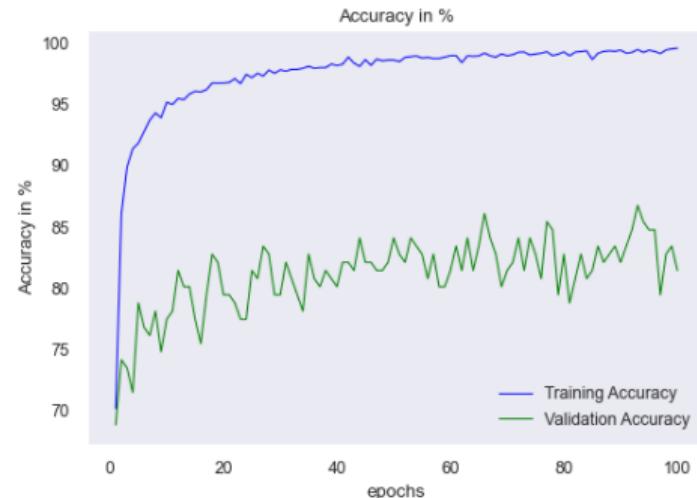


**Figure 19:** Visualization of our model with Batch Normalization

# Model performance with Batch Normalization

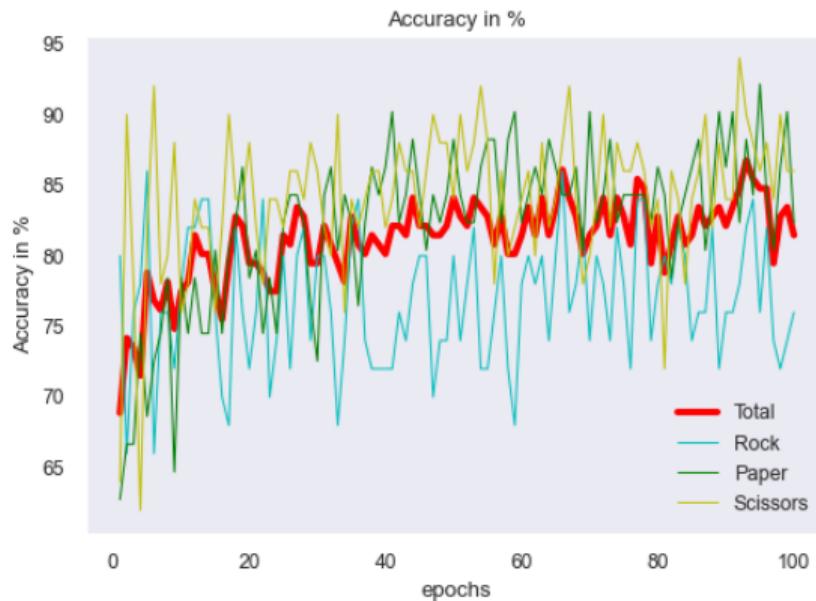


**Figure 20:** Training v Validation Loss



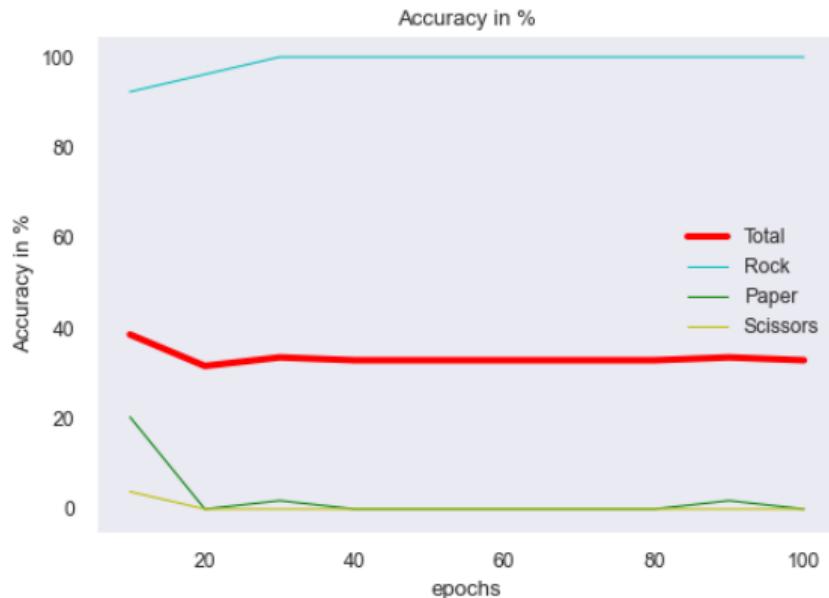
**Figure 21:** Training v Validation Accuracy

# Model performance with Batch Normalization



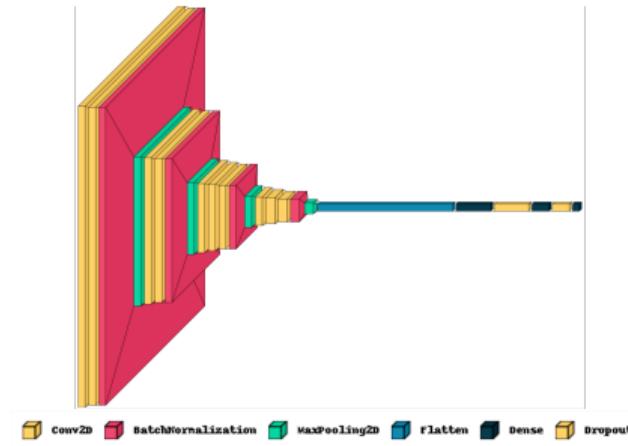
**Figure 22:** Validation Accuracy in detail

# Model performance with Batch Normalization



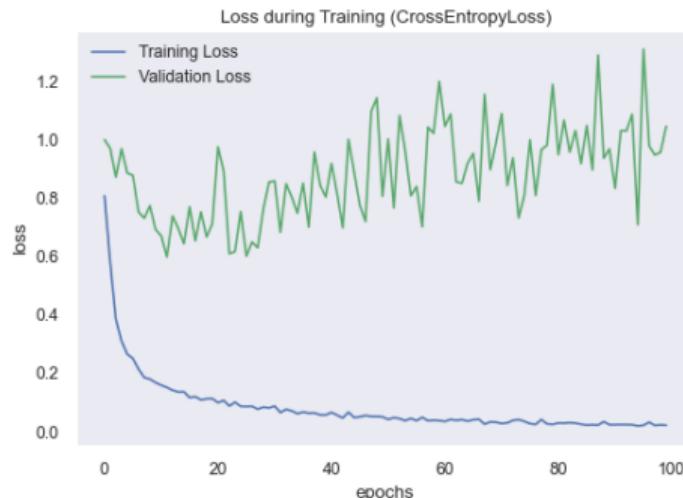
**Figure 23:** Testing Accuracy in detail

## Model with both Dropout & Batch Normalization

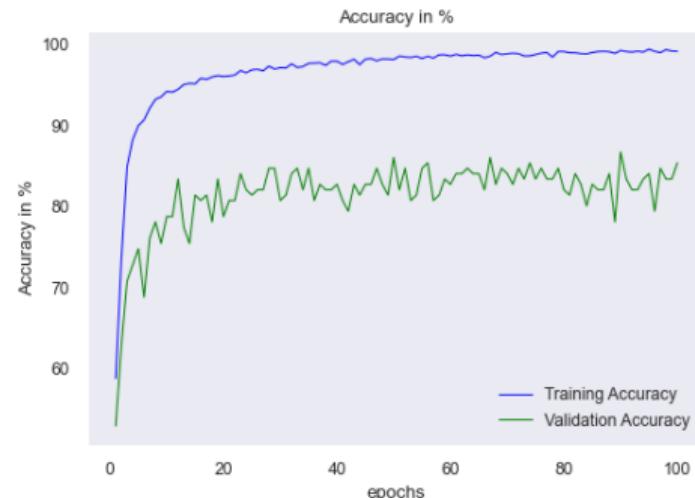


**Figure 24:** Visualization of our model with both Dropout & Batch Normalization

# Model performance with both Dropout & Batch Normalization

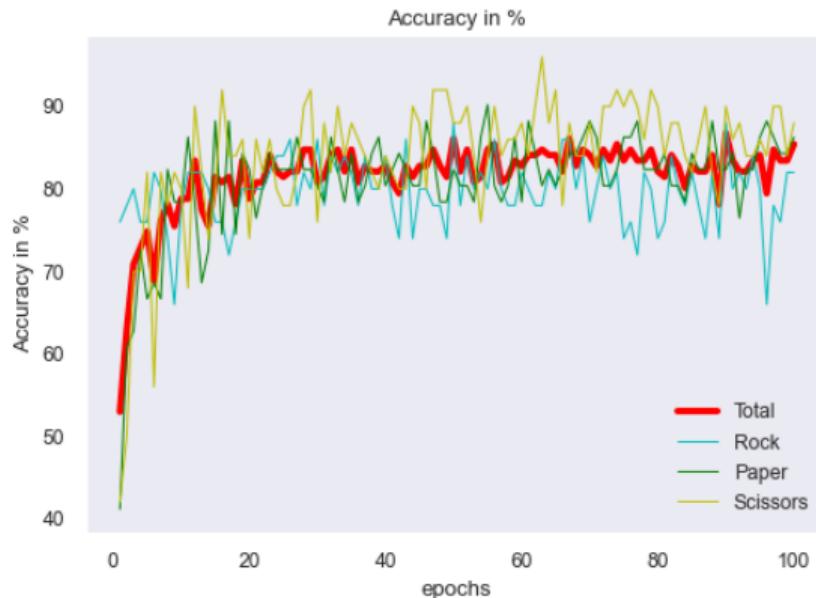


**Figure 25:** Training v Validation Loss



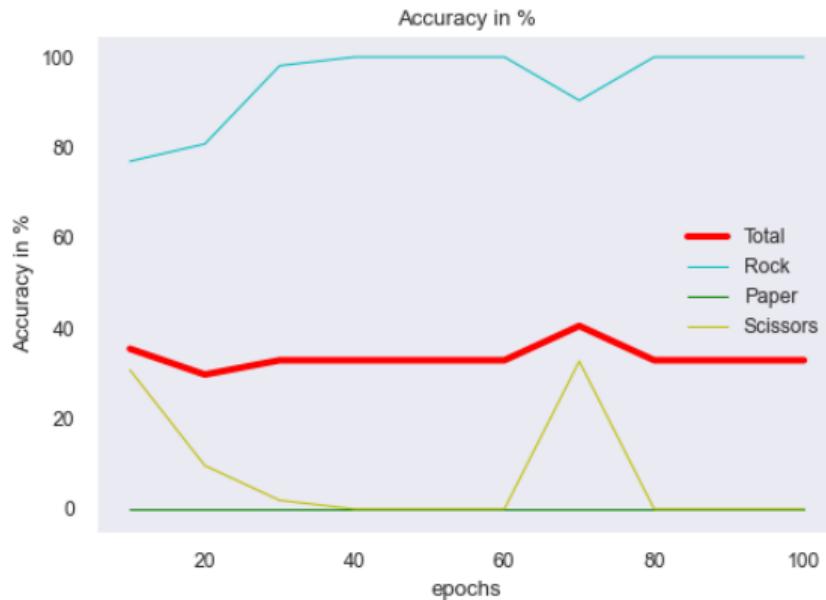
**Figure 26:** Training v Validation Accuracy

## Model performance with both Dropout & Batch Normalization



**Figure 27:** Validation Accuracy in detail

# Model performance with both Dropout & Batch Normalization



**Figure 28:** Testing Accuracy in detail

## Comparison between the four cases



**Figure 29:** Comparison between all Validation Accuracies

## Comparison between the four cases



**Figure 30:** Comparison between all Testing Accuracies

## Final results (with Dropout)

|          | Rock   | Paper  | Scissors | Total  |
|----------|--------|--------|----------|--------|
| Val Set  | 86,00% | 90,20% | 78,00%   | 84,77% |
| Test Set | 78,85% | 98,15% | 71,15%   | 82,91% |

**Table 1:** Accuracies on Val Set and Test Set for the Leaderboard

**Thank you!**

## References i

-  K. Simonyan and A. Zisserman, "Very deep convolutional networks for large-scale image recognition," 2014.



# Model Evaluation – The Effect of Noisy Data

Explainable Machine Learning - Deep Learning Life Cycle

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## **Research Question**

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## Research Question and Introduction

Focus for evaluating our trained model:

- How well does the model perform?
- Is there a difference between the classes?
- How robust is our model?

# Research Question and Introduction

Focus for evaluating our trained model:

- How well does the model perform?
- Is there a difference between the classes?
- How robust is our model?

Specific Research Question: **How does the model perform on distorted data?  
Does the usage of distorted test data lead to a worse model performance  
compared to the same test data without distortion?**

## Basic Model Evaluation

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## Model Performance - Training Data

How well did our model perform on our training data?

```
testing against the training dataset
Accuracy of the network on the test set: 98.91792029559251%
Accuracy of rock : 99.0506329113924%
Accuracy of paper : 98.99598393574297%
Accuracy of scissors : 98.7109375%
```

**Figure 1:** Accuracy at the end of training

# Confusion Matrix - Training Data



Figure 2: Numeric CM of Training Data



Figure 3: CM of Training Data (in %)

## Model Performance - Validation Data

How well did our model perform on the provided validation data?

- custom made data
- no images of big datasets (significant portion of training data)
- incorporated in our training

## Model Performance - Validation Data

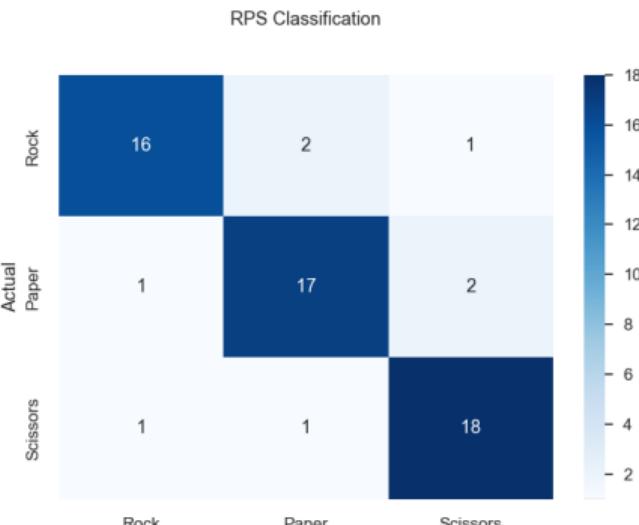
How well did our model perform on the provided validation data?

- custom made data
- no images of big datasets (significant portion of training data)
- incorporated in our training
- model performance:

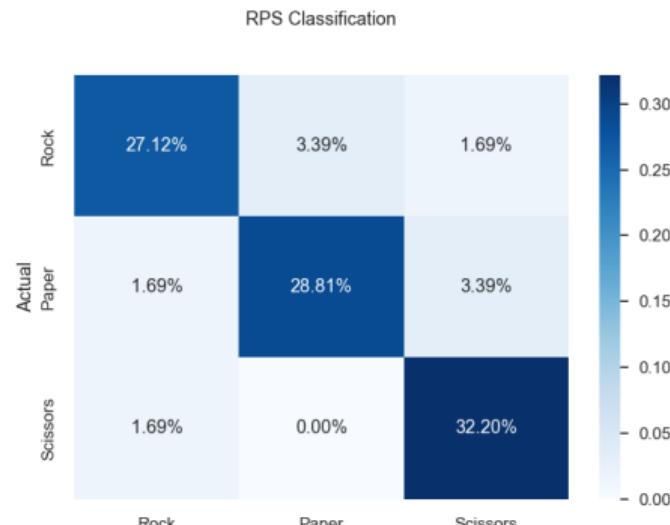
```
testing against the validation dataset
Accuracy of the network on the test set: 86.44067796610169%
Accuracy of rock : 84.21052631578948%
Accuracy of paper : 85.0%
Accuracy of scissors : 90.0%
```

**Figure 4:** Accuracy on validation dataset

# Confusion Matrix - Validation Set



**Figure 5:** Numeric CM of testset



**Figure 6:** CM of testset (in %)

## Model Performance - Test Data

---

How well did our model perform on the provided test data?

- more custom made data
- no images of big datasets (significant portion of training data)
- unseen

## Model Performance - Test Data

How well did our model perform on the provided test data?

- more custom made data
- no images of big datasets (significant portion of training data)
- unseen
- model performance:

```
testing against the testing dataset
Accuracy of the network on the test set: 83.54430379746836%
Accuracy of rock : 80.76923076923077%
Accuracy of paper : 98.14814814814815%
Accuracy of scissors : 71.15384615384616%
```

**Figure 7:** accuracy on test dataset

# Confusion Matrix - Unseen Testset

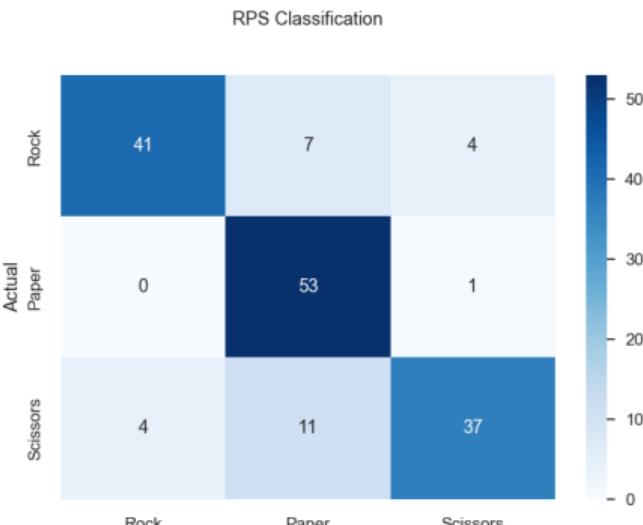


Figure 8: Numeric CM of unseen testset

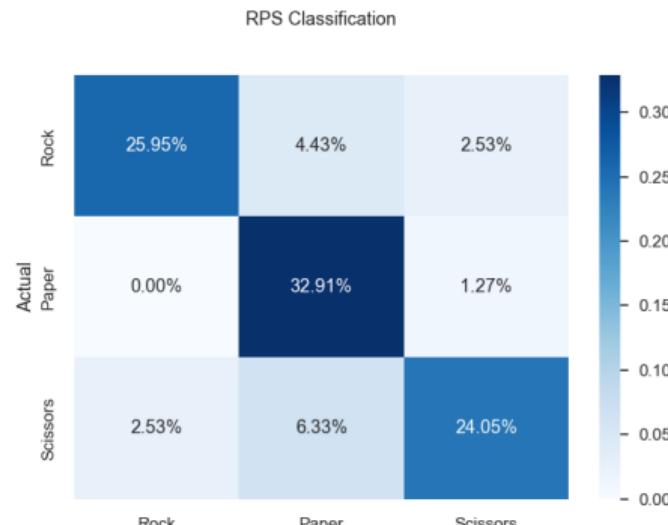


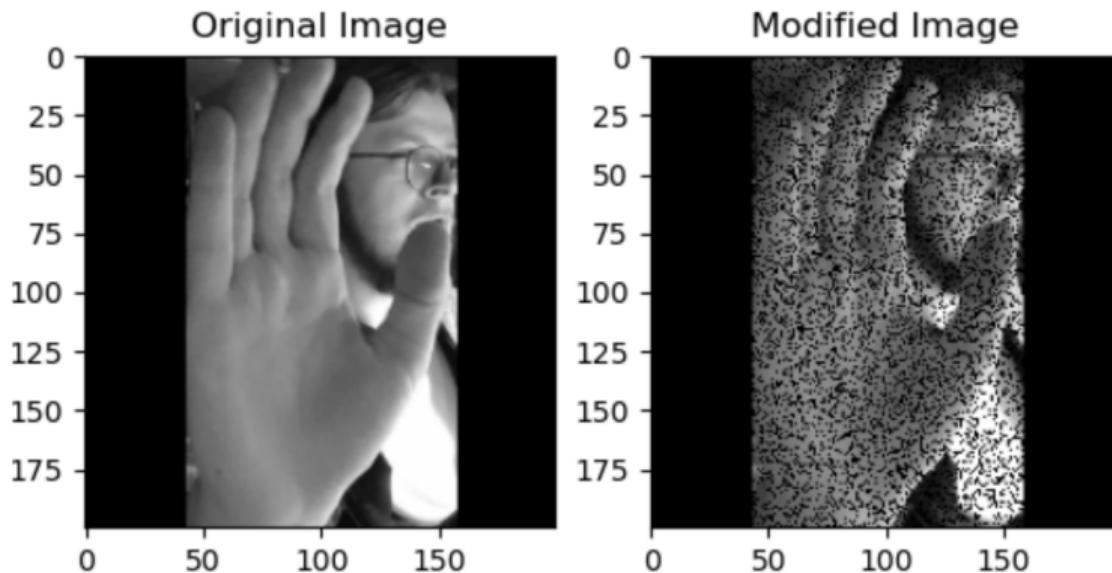
Figure 9: CM of unseen testset (in %)

## Evaluating On Distorted Images

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## Image Distortion - Random Distortion

Each pixel has a chance to be removed (25%):



**Figure 10:** random distortion with a pixel elimination probability of 25%

# Image Distortion - Gaussian Distortion

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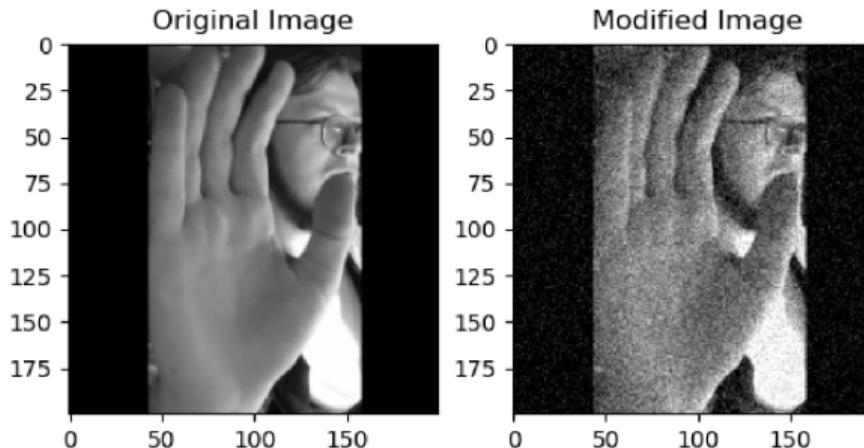
Gaussian Filter:

- follows normal distribution
- parameter: standard deviation (25 in our case)

# Image Distortion - Gaussian Distortion

Gaussian Filter:

- follows normal distribution
- parameter: standard deviation (25 in our case)



**Figure 11:** distortion using a Gaussian filter with  $SD = 25$

# Model Performance on distorted data

Random Distortion:

```
testing final_model_D_True_B_False against the testing dataset with random noise:  
Accuracy of the network on the test set: 44.30379746835443%  
Accuracy of rock : 67.3076923076923%  
Accuracy of paper : 53.7037037037037%  
Accuracy of scissors : 11.538461538461538%
```

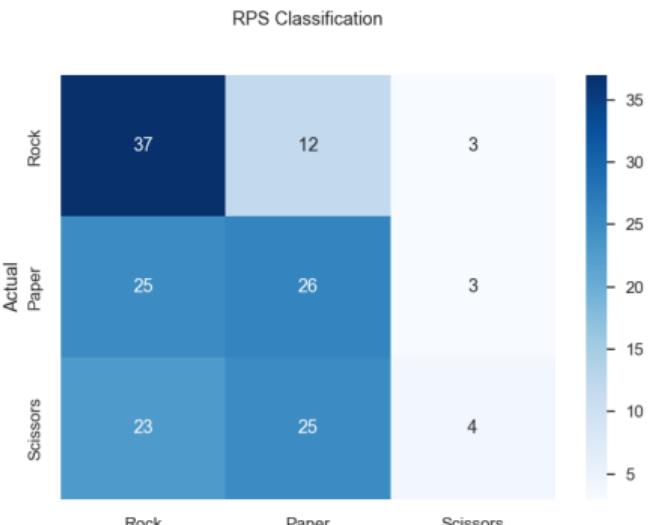
**Figure 12:** Accuracy on randomly distorted testset

## Gaussian Distortion:

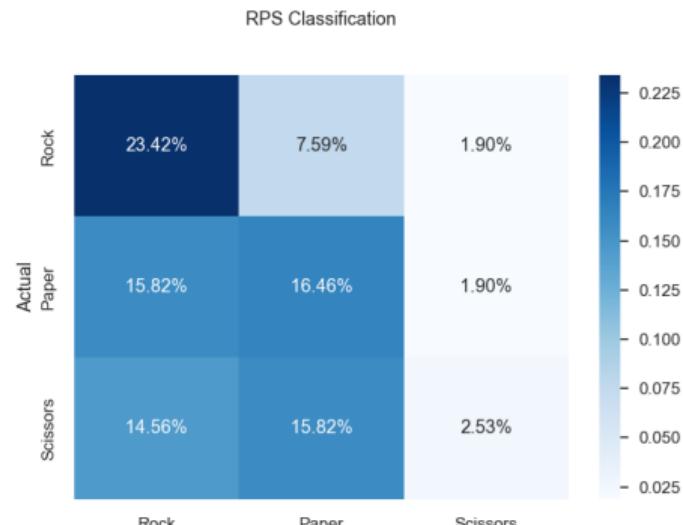
```
testing final_model_D_True_B_False against the testing dataset with gaussian noise:  
Accuracy of the network on the test set: 47.46835443037975%  
Accuracy of rock : 28.846153846153847%  
Accuracy of paper : 87.03703703703704%  
Accuracy of scissors : 25.0%
```

**Figure 13:** Accuracy on testset distorted with a Gaussian filter

# Random Distortion - Confusion Matrix

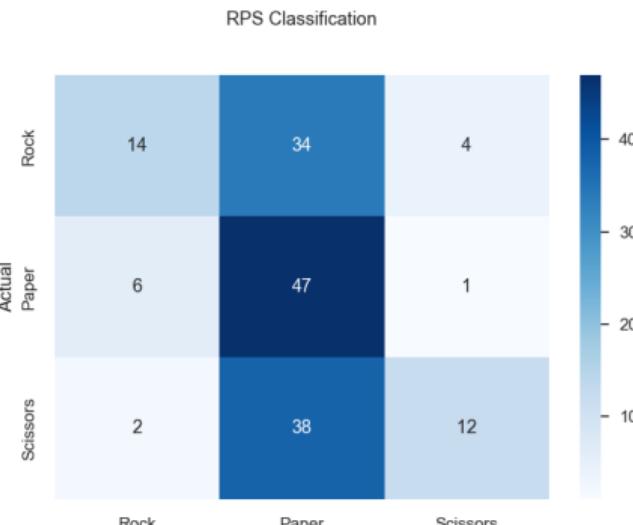


**Figure 14:** Numeric CM of distorted testset

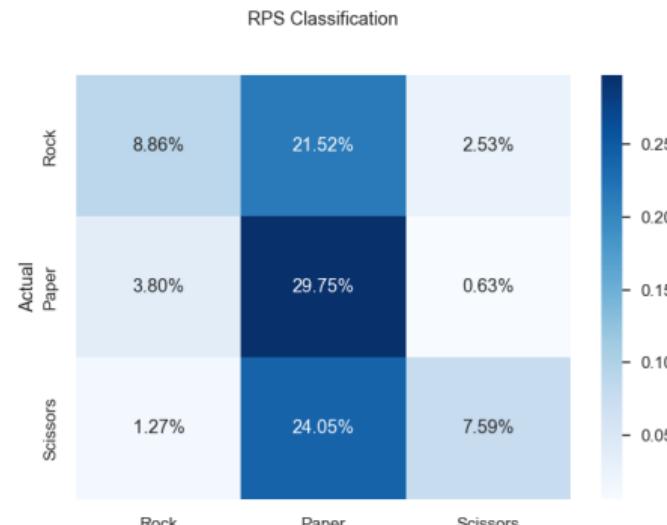


**Figure 15:** CM of distorted testset (in %)

# Gaussian Distortion - Confusion Matrix



**Figure 16:** Numeric CM of distorted testset



**Figure 17:** CM of distorted testset (in %)

## Performances on Different Test Data

|                            | Old   | Current | No Regularization | With Noisy Data |
|----------------------------|-------|---------|-------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Undistorted Testset</b> | 67.8% | 83.5%   | 80.4%             | 61.4%           |
| <b>Random Distortion</b>   | 42.4% | 44.3%   | 38.0%             | 64.4%           |
| <b>Gaussian Distortion</b> | 55.9% | 47.5%   | 58.2%             | 63.3%           |

**Table 1:** Performance comparison of various models on different test data

## Conclusion

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Things we learned evaluating our model:

- better performing model  $\neq$  more robust model
- big impact of noisy data
- robustness can be improved by training with noisy data

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Things we learned evaluating our model:

- better performing model  $\neq$  more robust model
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Answering our research question:

**The usage of distorted test data does lead to a worse model performance compared to the same test data without distortion.**

**Thank you!**