## Capstone Project 2 – Analyze Hand Gestures Milestone report 2

The chosen project aims to analyze and create CNN model for recognizing 5 gestures.

After acquiring the frames and cleaning up the data as described for milestone 1, the frames were all converted to 255x255x3 numpy arrays. The data was split in /train and /test with about 3000 samples in each of the 1...5 /train images.

Processing the data was done with Tensorflow 2 Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN). Since the training is processor-intensive, I used a modern Nvidia GPU running on Ubuntu 18.04 LTS.

I trained and tested many CNN with different parameters. One idea was to use cv2.Canny() for simplifying the problem and for eliminating the variance introduced by different backgrounds. Unfortunately, the results were not good. The model was good for the /train images that were extracted from the same .mov file (very similar images with the corresponding /train categories) as shown below:



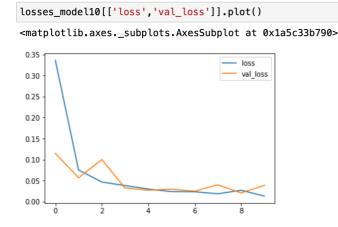


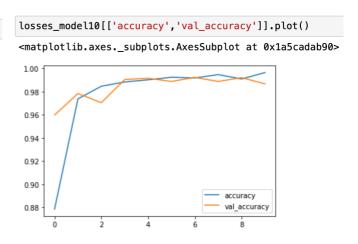




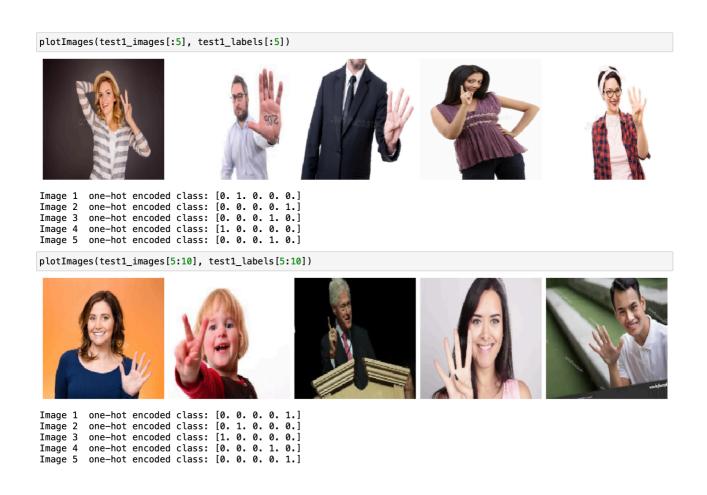


The accuracy for the model was about 98% but the real test was with images from the Internet.

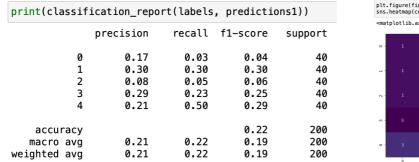




The problem with the Internet images is that it takes a long time to acquire good quality photos from the point of view of resolution and gestures. A few sample Internet images are shown below:



The Internet images do not always have white background, the resolution can be very different from the /train resolution and the size of the fingers can also vary. For these images, the results were disappointing:





The 0.22 accuracy is only marginally superior to the 0.2 accuracy for a random choice of one of the five classes. From the heatmap it is obvious that the model is biased towards class 4 and to a lesser extent towards class 2 (that is 5 fingers and 2 fingers).

Therefore, a new model must be designed and tested.

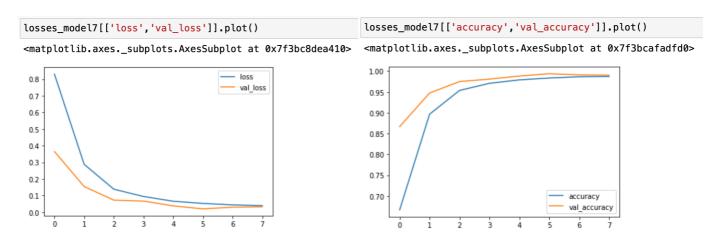
This is the final model that can be used for Internet images:

Output 9		
	Shape 	Param #
(None, 2	255, 255, 32)	2432
(None, 1	127, 127, 32)	0
(None, 1	127, 127, 64)	32832
(None, 6	63, 63, 64)	0
(None, 6	63, 63, 64)	36928
(None, 3	31, 31, 64)	0
(None, 6	61504)	0
(None,	128)	7872640
(None,	128)	0
(None,	5)	645
	(None, (N	(None, 255, 255, 32) (None, 127, 127, 32) (None, 127, 127, 64) (None, 63, 63, 64) (None, 63, 63, 64) (None, 31, 31, 64) (None, 61504) (None, 128) (None, 128) (None, 5)

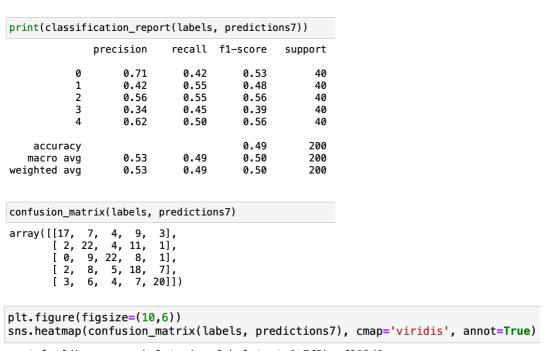
There are 3 hidden CNN layers with higher numbers of filters and different kernel sizes. The training part went smoothly:

```
history = model7.fit_generator(train_data_gen,
                 epochs=epochs,
validation_data=test_data_gen,
callbacks=[early_stop])
WARNING:tensorflow:sample_weight modes were coerced from
WARNING:tensorflow:sample_weight modes were coerced from
Train for 1014 steps, validate for 430 steps
1014/1014 [===
         val_accuracy: 0.8667
Epoch 2/10
1014/1014 [=
              val_accuracy: 0.9474
Epoch 3/10
1014/1014 [==
                   val_accuracy: 0.9750
Epoch 4/10
1014/1014 [==
                    val_accuracy: 0.9808
Epoch 5/10
1014/1014 [=
                      ==] - 386s 381ms/step - loss: 0.0662 - accuracy: 0.9790 - val_loss: 0.0384 -
val_accuracy: 0.9882
Epoch 6/10
1014/1014 [=
                   val_accuracy: 0.9937
Epoch 7/10
1014/1014 [
                   val_accuracy: 0.9910
Epoch 8/10
1014/1014 [=======
                val_accuracy: 0.9903
```

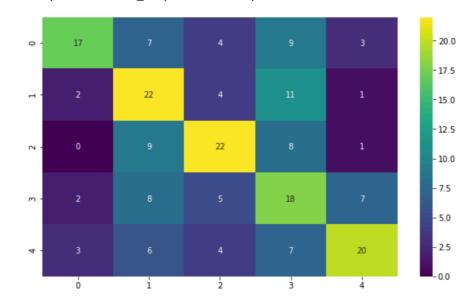
Now the 99% validation accuracy is even higher as before but this was calculated against /test data from the frames from the .mov files (that were not used for training). The reason is that there are not enough Internet images even for /test for Tensorflow processing. The accuracy and loss are shown below:



For the Internet images, the metrics are now improved:



<matplotlib.axes.\_subplots.AxesSubplot at 0x7f3bcaf202d0>



The final test was done with 200 Internet pictures (40 pictures for each class). The accuracy of about 50% is not perfect but it is the best that was achieved so far. A good sign is that the values on the diagonal are the highest for any line or column.

To improve the accuracy even more there are several ideas:

- Add more Internet images for /train and /test, at least 1000 images for each class.
- Test more CNN structures, maybe with more hidden layers for allowing a better fit for this complex type of data
- Extract only the hand and fingers from each photo, make it of the same size (eventually equalize the aspect ratio as well)
- Apply cv2.Canny() on these new images as a preprocessing step and train the CNN with these modified inputs.

All these ideas require a significant effort and a lot of time but I proved that I have a functional model that can be improved further.