Handwritten Chinese OCR

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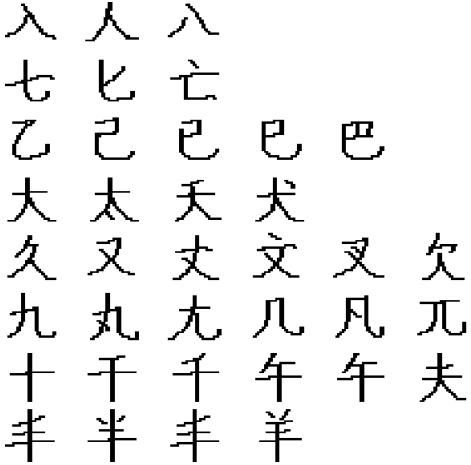
Motivation

OCR system for recognizing handwritten Chinese characters.

Train a model to surpass human accuracy



Google Translate

Pleco

Original database

Provided by National Laboratory of Pattern Recognition (NLPR) and Institute of Automation of Chinese Academy of Sciences (CASIA).

3,755 classes of characters and a total of **300 different writers** for each class

Our Dataset

Number of classes: 70 characters

['祝', '铰', '联', '瑟', '坑', '挑', '研', '件', '哀', '静', '儒', '貌', '瞪', '拿', '赡', '逞', '疫', '蜘', '山', '舟', '训', '圣', '毁', '舶', '煌', '骂', '假', '轮', '谍', '榆', '鼎', '硅', '眠', '朴', '半', '迄', '促', '绎', '觅', '勺', '戳', '酵', '撕', '盂', '弘', '忘', '砧', '蝴', '燎', '题', '尧', '谭', '订', '矗', '襟', '踪', '麓', '规', '挨', '恤', '聪', '卞', '丁', '岔', '租', '充', '各', '猴', '缩', '枚']

Description of datasets

	Dataset Purpose	Number of samples per label	Size of each image
	Training	118	64 x 64
	Validation	55	64 x 64
	Testing	55	64 x 64

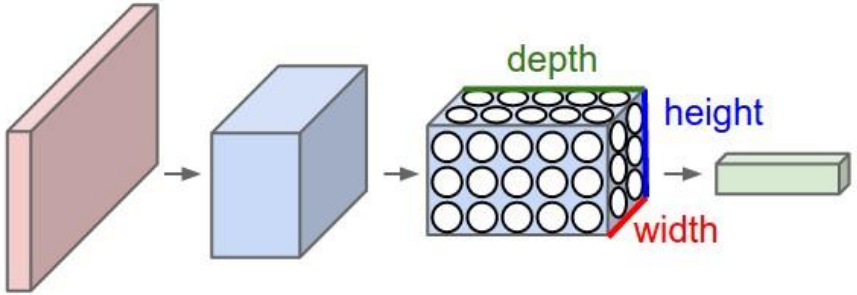
Our Model

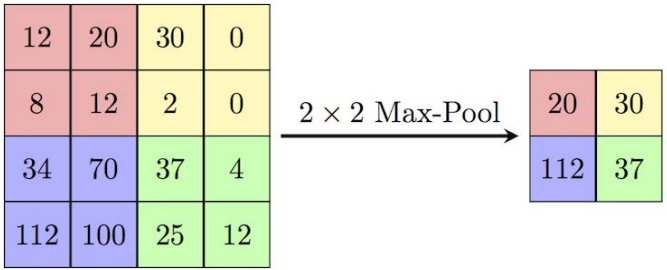
CNN

Max Pooling

Drop Out

Categorical Cross Entropy





Layer (type)	Output Shape	Param #
conv2d_44 (Conv2D)	(None, 62, 62, 64)	640
max_pooling2d_40 (MaxPooling	(None, 31, 31, 64)	0
conv2d_45 (Conv2D)	(None, 29, 29, 32)	18464
max_pooling2d_41 (MaxPooling	(None, 14, 14, 32)	0
conv2d_46 (Conv2D)	(None, 12, 12, 32)	9248
max_pooling2d_42 (MaxPooling	(None, 6, 6, 32)	0
dropout_13 (Dropout)	(None, 6, 6, 32)	0
flatten_17 (Flatten)	(None, 1152)	0
dense_17 (Dense)	(None, 70)	80710

Total params: 109,062
Trainable params: 109,062
Non-trainable params: 0

Manipulating Our Data

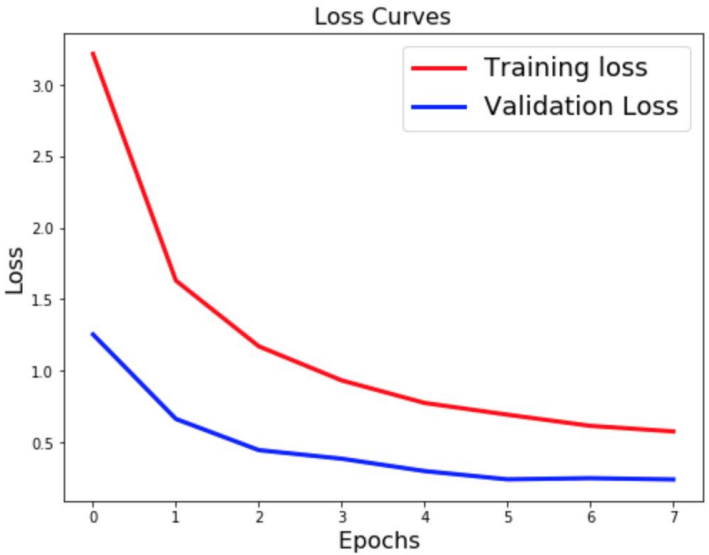
Image Augmentation

Random Shuffling

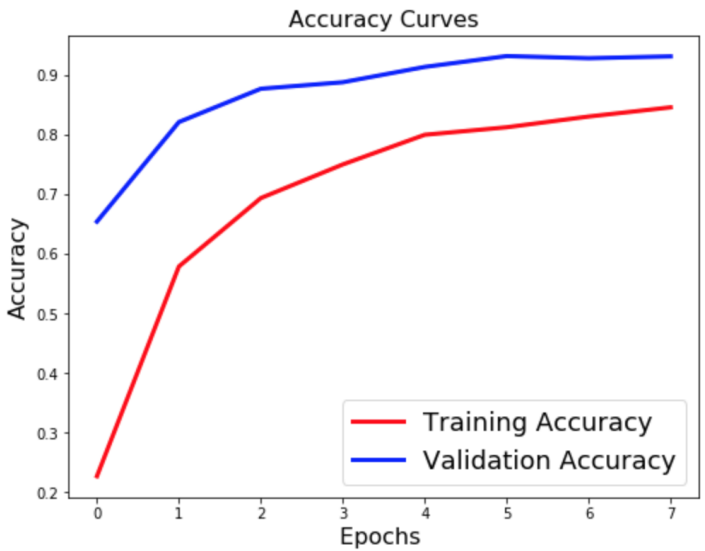
RMSProp vs ADAM

```
ImageDataGenerator(
        zoom_range=0.2,
        width_shift_range=0.1,
        height_shift_range=0.1,
```

Results



Validation Loss: 0.25

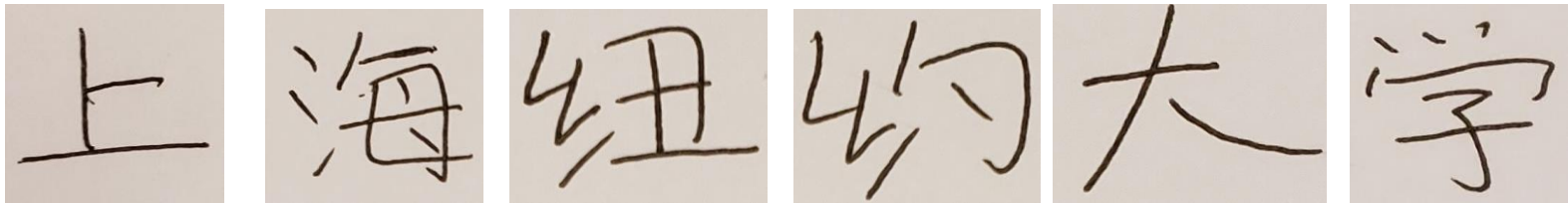


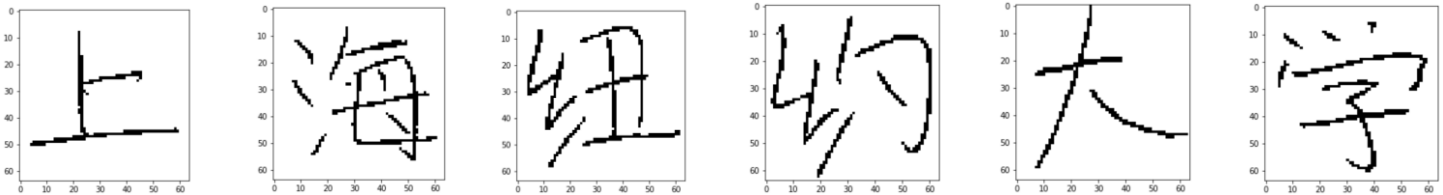
Validation Accuracy: 0.93

Predicting similar characters

Accuracy for predicting the (己 Jǐ ，已 Yǐ，巳 Sì)has prediction accuracy of 63.8%

Predicting Our Own Handwriting





```
words = ["shang","hai","niu","yue","da","xue"]
for word in words:
    path = r"C:\Users\caryw\Documents"+"\\"+word+".jpg"
    imgtest = Pil.open(path.encode('utf-8'))
    gray = imgtest.convert('L')
    bw = gray.point(lambda x: 0 if x<128 else 255, '1')
    imgtest = np.array(bw.resize((64, 64)))
    imgtest = imgtest.reshape(1, 64, 64, 1)
    a = model.predict(imgtest)
    a = (a == a.max(axis=1, keepdims=1)).astype(float)
    for i in range(len(a)):
        ind = np.where(a[i] == 1)
        ind = ind[0][0]
        itemindex = np.where(Y_test[i]==1)
        itemindex = itemindex[0][0]
        print("Predicted: ", newdict[ind])
```

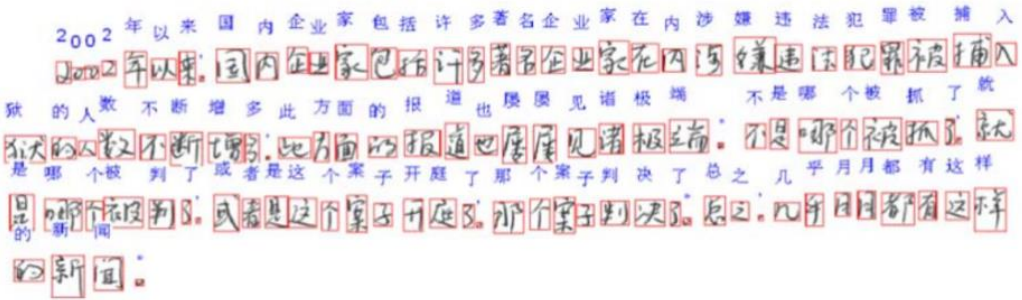
```
Predicted:  上
Predicted:  海
Predicted:  纽
Predicted:  约
Predicted:  大
Predicted:  学
```

If we had infinite time and a supercomputer...

Using more samples and predicting more characters

Open CV (Open Source Computer Vision Library)

Predicting sentences and even full on paragraphs of text



References

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https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pleco_Software (pleco logo)

https://www.researchgate.net/figure/Three-Chinese-characters-written-in-different-styles_fig1_261499993

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https://www.semanticscholar.org/paper/Recognition-of-Handwritten-Similar-Chinese-by-Fu-Xu/124812ab483bc718aedb4036f3f8595dc51b3ffe/figure/0