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IST-718: Lab #3

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**Introduction**

The MNIST dataset is a collection of images created by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). Each handwritten image in the dataset consists of 28 x 28 pixels. With the provided 60,000 images for training, and 10,000 for testing, users have typically found between 93 to near 100% accuracy. The successful implementation of varying models has been both a triumph, and problem for computer vision. Specifically, since the optimal solution has been attained, predicting handwritten images is no longer one of the defacto challenges.

To further expand on the earlier handwritten problem, the fashion MNIST dataset has emerged. Like the original MNIST dataset, the fashion variant consists of the same number of train and test images, each being the same dimension. However, each image in the collection is a series of ten possible clothing type.

In this study, the fashion MNIST dataset will be compared using neural network, as well as support vector machines (svm). The analysis will largely focus on comparing accuracy when predicting with either algorithms. In the future, additional algorithms can be tested, as well as overall benchmarking between each algorithm and prediction.

**Data Preparation**

The dataset used for this study was obtained directly from the fashion-mnist[[1]](#footnote-1) repository. Then each corresponding file were committed into a dedicated code crepository[[2]](#footnote-2):

* t10k-images-idx3-ubyte.gz
* t10k-images-idx1-ubyte.gz
* train-images-idx3-ubyte.gz
* train-labels-idx3-ubyte.gz

Since this study has been a simplified computer vision problem, no additional data scrubbing was performed. However, future studies could possibly improve the analysis by including additional images that are not the target fashion groups.

Since the datasets were downloaded locally, two different functions were used to load the datasets into python. First, the input\_data.read\_data\_sets function was used, and needed by the corresponding neural network. Specifically, the tensorflow implementation requires the input object to be the base.Dataset type[[3]](#footnote-3). Next the load\_mnist[[4]](#footnote-4) was used for the svm modelling. This function simply returns both images and labels. Since the fashion-mnist repository[[5]](#footnote-5) was not cloned, the latter function was copied locally into the svm.py[[6]](#footnote-6).

**Results**

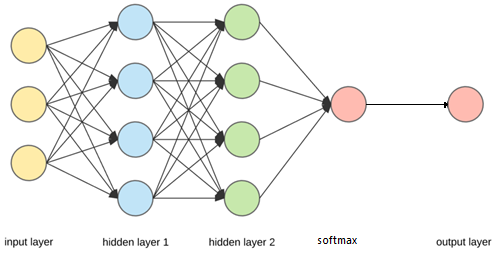
Once the required dataset was loaded into python, a brief exploratory verified that the dataset is the expected fashion MNIST:



**Figure 1**. Visual of first 25 fashion MNIST images. The code used to generate this image can be reviewed in Appendix A below.

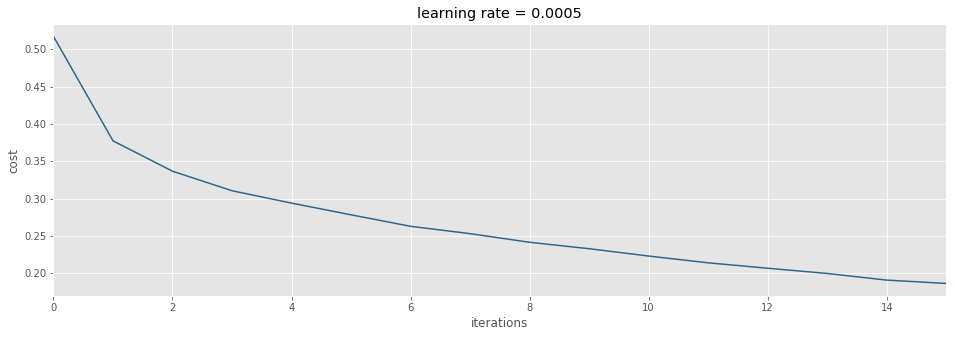
A neural network was trained using two hidden layers each implementing a linear function, followed by a ReLU function. Finally, a softmax function creates an output for each fashion target class.

An initialize\_parameters function was defined for the input and output of each neural network layer. The aggregation of each of these layer attributes was used to define the forward propagation behavior of the overall neural network:



**Figure 2**. Representation of two hidden layers, followed by the softmax and output layer. The associated code for this image can be reviewed in Appendix B below.

In addition to the forward propagation, the AdamOptimizer[[7]](#footnote-7) was used for each epoch iteration to specify the type of backward propagation. Default values, with a learning rate of 0.0005 portrayed that the number of iterations stabilize at about 14 iterations.



**Figure 3**. Neural network cost indicates stabilization at 14 iterations. The associated code for this image can be reviewed in Appendix C below.

Finally, the overall train accuracy for the generated neural network was 0.935, while the test accuracy was 0.889 (see Appendix D).

**Note:** the implemented neural network was an adaptation from Vivian Rajkuma[[8]](#footnote-8).

**Conclusions**

**Appendix A**

First 25 fashion MNIST images:

viz\_tensor(range(25), fashion\_mnist, labels)

Implements the respective function:

def viz\_tensor(instances, fashion\_mnist, labels):

plt.figure(figsize=(10,10))

for i, instance in enumerate(instances):

sample = fashion\_mnist.train.images[instance].reshape(28,28)

sample\_label = np.where(fashion\_mnist.train.labels[instance] == 1)[0][0]

plt.subplot(5,5,i+1)

plt.xticks([])

plt.yticks([])

plt.grid(False)

plt.imshow(sample, cmap='Greys')

plt.xlabel('index = {index} ({label})'.format(

index=sample\_label,

label=labels[sample\_label]

))

**Appendix B**

Network layer attributes including weight:

def initialize\_parameters(hidden\_1, hidden\_2, n\_input, n\_classes):

tf.set\_random\_seed(11)

# first hidden layer

W1 = tf.get\_variable(

'W1',

[hidden\_1, n\_input],

initializer=tf.contrib.layers.xavier\_initializer(seed=11)

)

b1 = tf.get\_variable('b1',

[hidden\_1, 1],

initializer=tf.zeros\_initializer()

)

# second hidden layer

W2 = tf.get\_variable(

'W2',

[hidden\_2, hidden\_1],

initializer=tf.contrib.layers.xavier\_initializer(seed=11)

)

b2 = tf.get\_variable(

'b2',

[hidden\_2, 1],

initializer=tf.zeros\_initializer()

)

# output layer

W3 = tf.get\_variable(

'W3',

[n\_classes, hidden\_2],

initializer=tf.contrib.layers.xavier\_initializer(seed=42)

)

b3 = tf.get\_variable(

'b3',

[n\_classes, 1],

initializer=tf.zeros\_initializer()

)

return { 'W1': W1, 'b1': b1, 'W2': W2, 'b2': b2, 'W3': W3, 'b3': b3 }

Forward propagation definition:

def forward\_propagation(X, parameters):

# Retrieve parameters from dictionary

W1 = parameters['W1']

b1 = parameters['b1']

W2 = parameters['W2']

b2 = parameters['b2']

W3 = parameters['W3']

b3 = parameters['b3']

# Carry out forward propagation

Z1 = tf.add(tf.matmul(W1,X), b1)

A1 = tf.nn.relu(Z1)

Z2 = tf.add(tf.matmul(W2,A1), b2)

A2 = tf.nn.relu(Z2)

Z3 = tf.add(tf.matmul(W3,A2), b3)

return Z3

**Appendix C**

Calculate cost of neural network per iteration:

def compute\_cost(Z3, Y, labels):

# get logits (predictions) and labels

logits = tf.transpose(Z3)

labels = tf.transpose(Y)

# compute cost

cost = tf.reduce\_mean(tf.nn.softmax\_cross\_entropy\_with\_logits(

logits=logits,

labels=labels

))

return cost

**Appendix D**

Create tensorflow neural network:

def model(train, test, labels, learning\_rate=0.0001, num\_epochs=16, minibatch\_size=32, print\_cost=True, hidden\_1=128, hidden\_2=128, n\_input=784, n\_classes=10):

ops.reset\_default\_graph()

tf.set\_random\_seed(42)

seed = 42

(n\_x, m) = train.images.T.shape

n\_y = train.labels.T.shape[0]

costs = []

X, Y = create\_placeholders(n\_x, n\_y)

parameters = initialize\_parameters(hidden\_1, hidden\_2, n\_input, n\_classes)

Z3 = forward\_propagation(X, parameters)

cost = compute\_cost(Z3, Y, labels)

optimizer = tf.train.AdamOptimizer(learning\_rate).minimize(cost)

init = tf.global\_variables\_initializer()

with tf.Session() as sess:

# initialization

sess.run(init)

for epoch in range(num\_epochs):

epoch\_cost = 0.

num\_minibatches = int(m / minibatch\_size)

seed = seed + 1

for i in range(num\_minibatches):

minibatch\_X, minibatch\_Y = train.next\_batch(minibatch\_size)

# optimizer and cost function

\_, minibatch\_cost = sess.run(

[optimizer, cost],

feed\_dict={X: minibatch\_X.T, Y: minibatch\_Y.T}

)

epoch\_cost += minibatch\_cost / num\_minibatches

if print\_cost == True:

print('Cost after epoch {epoch\_num}: {cost}'.format(

epoch\_num=epoch,

cost=epoch\_cost

))

costs.append(epoch\_cost)

# plot costs

plt.figure(figsize=(16,5))

plt.plot(np.squeeze(costs), color='#2A688B')

plt.xlim(0, num\_epochs-1)

plt.ylabel('cost')

plt.xlabel('iterations')

plt.title('learning rate = {rate}'.format(rate=learning\_rate))

plt.show()

parameters = sess.run(parameters)

print('Parameters have been trained!')

correct\_prediction = tf.equal(tf.argmax(Z3), tf.argmax(Y))

accuracy = tf.reduce\_mean(tf.cast(correct\_prediction, 'float'))

print ('Train Accuracy:', accuracy.eval({

X: train.images.T,

Y: train.labels.T

}))

print ('Test Accuracy:', accuracy.eval({

X: test.images.T,

Y: test.labels.T

}))

1. https://github.com/zalandoresearch/fashion-mnist/tree/master/data/fashion [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. https://github.com/jeff1evesque/ist-718-lab/tree/master/data [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. https://github.com/tensorflow/tensorflow/blob/master/tensorflow/contrib/learn/python/learn/datasets/mnist.py#L232-L294 [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. https://github.com/zalandoresearch/fashion-mnist/blob/985a10ca70f411cd0caf41613718b812ad064736/utils/mnist\_reader.py [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. https://github.com/zalandoresearch/fashion-mnist#get-the-data [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. https://github.com/jeff1evesque/ist-718-lab/blob/master/lab3/svm.py [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. https://www.tensorflow.org/api\_docs/python/tf/train/AdamOptimizer [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. https://medium.com/tensorist/classifying-fashion-articles-using-tensorflow-fashion-mnist-f22e8a04728a [↑](#footnote-ref-8)