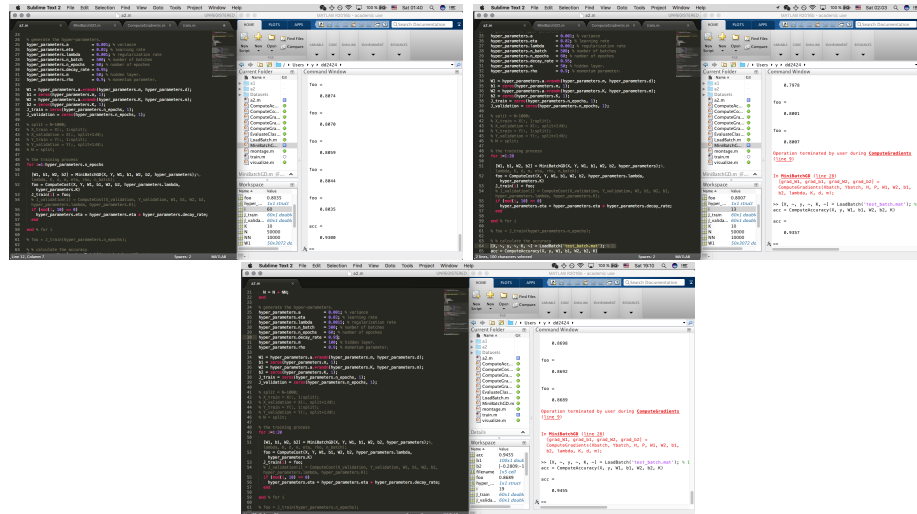




DEEP LEARNING IN DATA SCIENCE DD2424

SOLUTION TO ASSIGNMENT 2 (FOR BONUS)

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1 Optimize the performance of the network

We tried the following methods of optimization:

1. Trained the network with more than 60 epochs until the network converges (i.e. when the gradient stops decreasing). We used the last 1000 data for validation.
2. We did a finer grid search and found the ‘better’ combination of hyper-parameters: $\lambda = 0.001$, $\eta = 0.02$. The learning rate η decays by 0.95 after every 10 epochs. This set of hyper-parameters achieved more than **93%** and ranked 1st on the *leaderboard* from 21st April.
3. We tried increasing the number of hidden nodes from 50 to 100 and also increase the regularization term λ respectively. When the $\#(hidden\ nodes) = 100$ the network converged after 59 epochs and achieved **94.55%** accuracy. **Conclusion:** Increasing the number of hidden nodes will increase the complexity of the network, hence improve the accuracy. However too many hidden nodes may cause the network to overfit.

Some screenshots of the optimization are shown.

2 Train network using a different activation to ReLu

We tried sigmoid function for activation function. The training result was terrible:

1. With momentum the cross-entropy loss doesn’t decrease - the network is worse than random guesser.
2. Without momentum the loss converge to around 2.2 after 5 epochs - a little better than random guesser.
3. sigmoid is usually 2~3 times slower than ReLu.

Conclusion: sigmoid is slow and inefficient. We will discard using it in the future.