

Fashion Product Image Classification with Convolution Neural Network

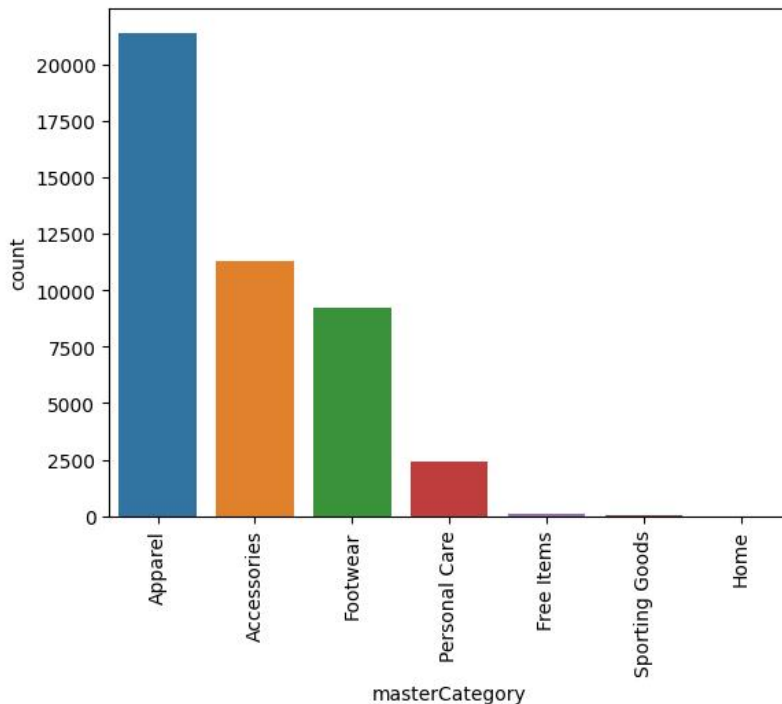
By Hongling Yang

Objective

- Import fashion product image dataset and label product/images with matching master categories (the target feature) provided in an accompanying catalog file.
- Apply Transferring learning strategy and build a convolution neural network (CNN) to deep learn and extract information out of fashion product images. (supervised machine learning)
- Train and tune the CNN model which will achieve over 95% classification accuracy.
- Implement a similar approach (i.e., transfer learning, VGG16...) and build a recommendation system for fashion products/images. (unsupervised learning)
- Data Source (Kaggle):
<https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/paramaggarwal/fashion-product-images-dataset>

Distribution of Target Feature (Kaggle Dataset)

(1) Original Kaggle Dataset

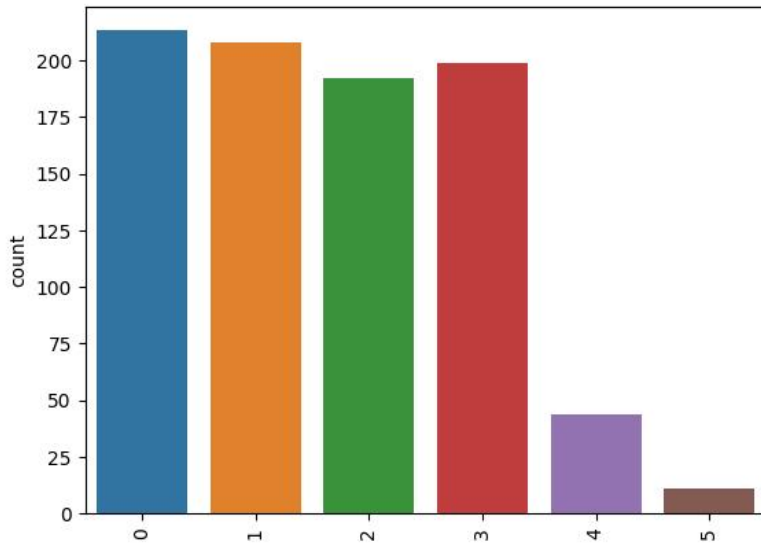


| | masterCategory | Freq |
|------------------|----------------|--------|
| Majority Classes | Apparel | 21,397 |
| | Accessories | 11,274 |
| | Footwear | 9,219 |
| | Personal Care | 2,403 |
| Minority Classes | Free Items | 105 |
| | Sporting Goods | 25 |
| | Home | 1 |

- Scaled Rating = Raw Rating/log (Rating Counts)
- Scaled Rating is right-skewed,

Distribution of Target Feature (Study Sample)

(1) Test Set of Study Sample



| Study Sample (4,329 Images) | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|-------|
| | masterCategory | Freq |
| Majority Classes | Apparel | 1,000 |
| | Accessories | 1,000 |
| | Footwear | 1,000 |
| | Personal Care | 1,000 |
| Minority Classes | Free Items** | 267 |
| | Sporting Goods** | 62 |
| | Home*** | 0 |

** Including 162 new 'Free Items' and 37 'Sporting Goods' generated by ImageDataGenerator()

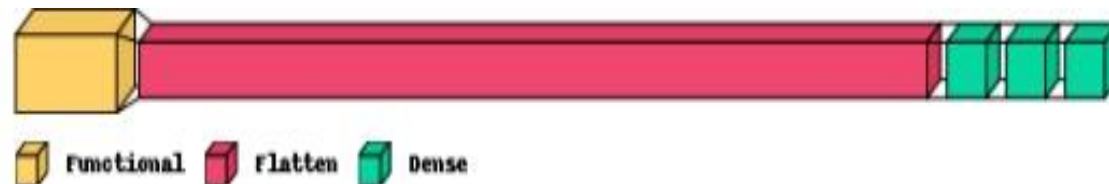
***masterCategory 'Home' is removed from classification

CNN Model Without Hyperparameter Tuning

Un-tuned Model Topology

| Layer (type) | Output Shape | Param # |
|--------------------|-------------------|----------|
| vgg16 (Functional) | (None, 7, 7, 512) | 14714688 |
| flatten (Flatten) | (None, 25088) | 0 |
| dense (Dense) | (None, 50) | 1254450 |
| dense_1 (Dense) | (None, 20) | 1020 |
| dense_2 (Dense) | (None, 7) | 147 |

Total params: 15,970,305
Trainable params: 1,255,617
Non-trainable params: 14,714,688



➤ Sequential Model:

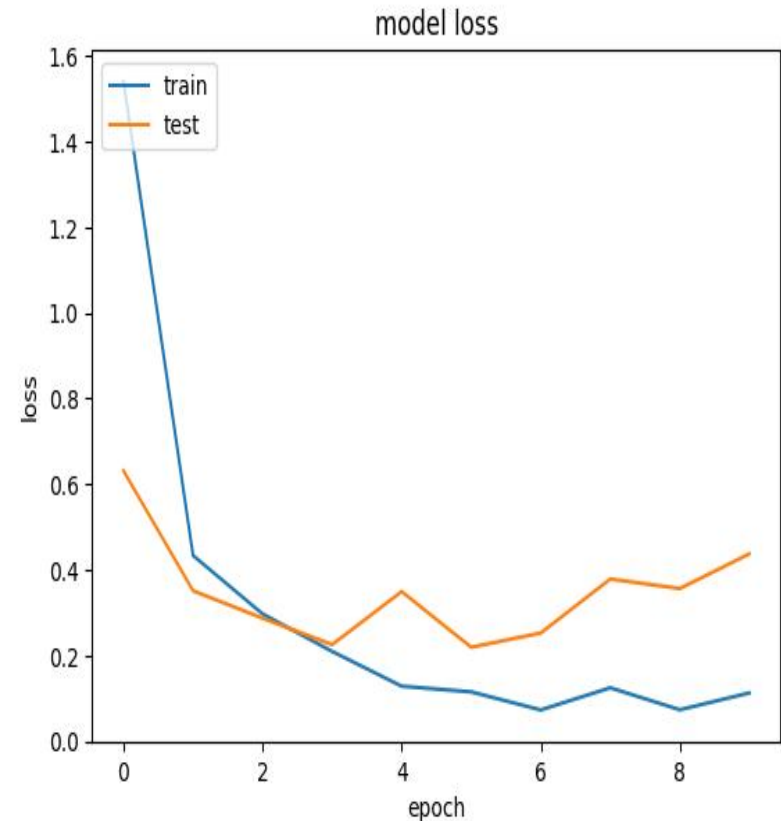
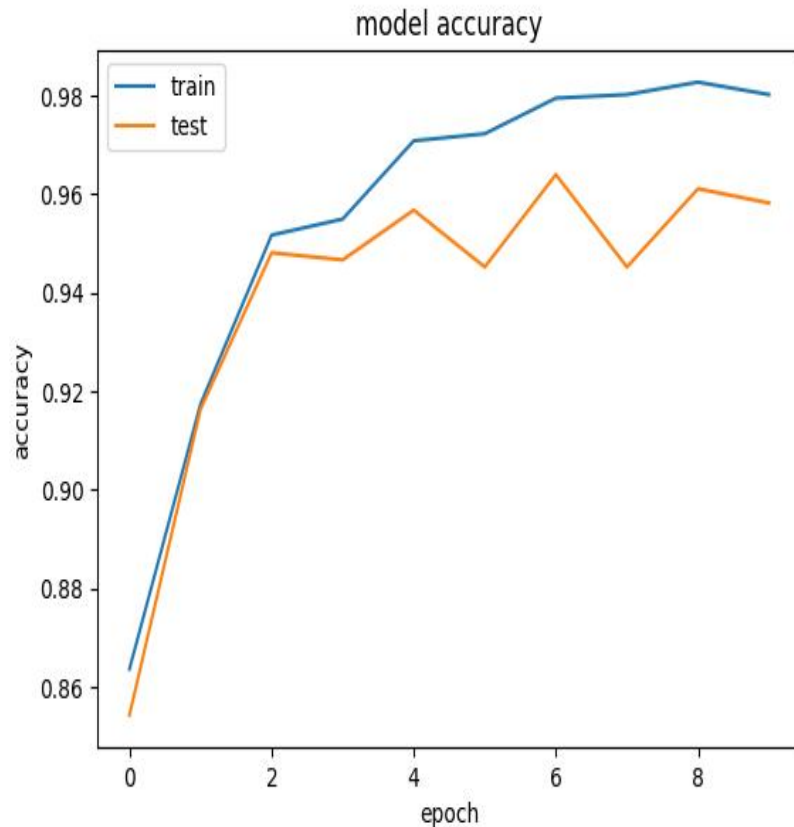
VGG16 (without top dense layers) + dense layer (neurons = 50)
+ dense layer (neurons=20) + output layer (neuron=7)

Classification Report

| | precision | recall | f1-score |
|----------------|-----------|--------|----------|
| Apparel | 0.99 | 0.98 | 0.98 |
| Accessories | 0.92 | 0.94 | 0.93 |
| Footwear | 0.99 | 0.99 | 0.99 |
| Personal Care | 0.99 | 0.98 | 0.99 |
| Free Items | 0.67 | 0.70 | 0.69 |
| Sporting Goods | 0.92 | 1.00 | 0.96 |
| accuracy | | | 0.96 |
| macro avg | 0.92 | 0.93 | 0.92 |
| weighted avg | 0.96 | 0.96 | 0.96 |

- Train/test split at 80/20,
- Optimizer = 'adam', epochs=10, batch_size=10, learning rate=0.001

Un-tuned CNN Model Performance



➤ test data accuracy: 0.959

Hyperparameter Tuning

- 3) Tuning three hyperparameters:
 - the number of neurons in the first dense layer
 - the learning rate of the optimizer
 - the best number of epochs
- The tuning is done in two steps.

Hyperparameter Tuning

Step 1. Set epochs =5 and tuned the number of neurons and the learning rate (RandomSearch in Keras Tuner module).

- Search spacing :
 {'neurons': (20, 40, 50), 'learning rate': (0.01, 0.001, 0.0001) }
- Searching Result:
 {'neurons'=20, 'learning rate' = 0.001}

Step 2. Set {'neurons'=20, 'learning rate' = 0.001} and tune 'epochs'

- Set 'epochs' = 50 and trace the model the accuracy score on test set.
- Searching Result: {'epochs'=20}

Best Hyperparameters.

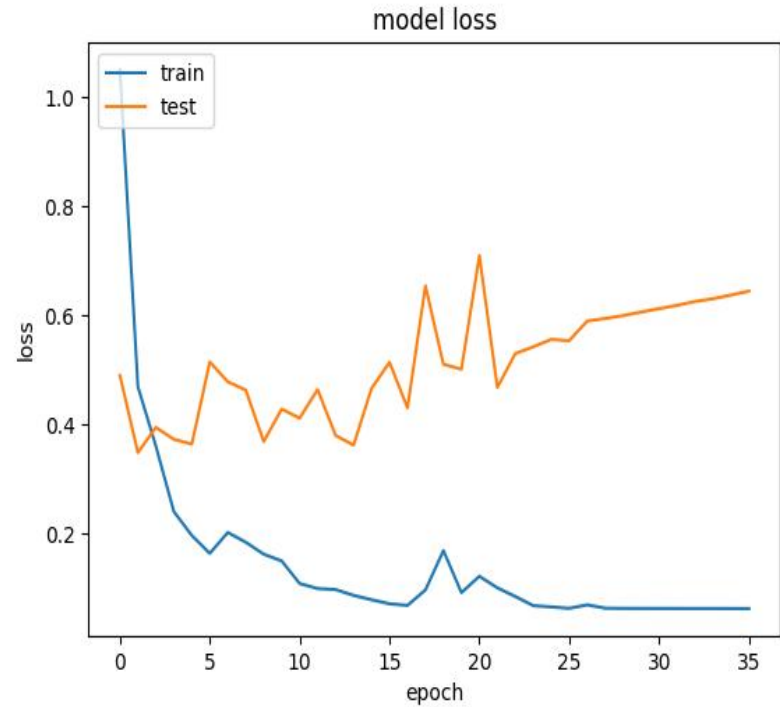
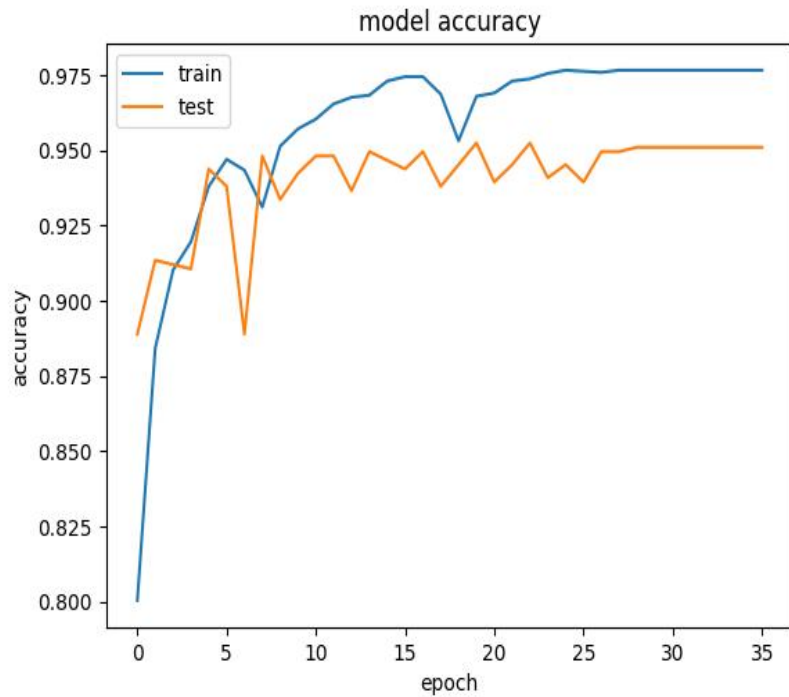
{'neurons': 20, 'learning_rate': 0.001, 'epochs': 36}

Tuned Model Classification Report

| | precision | recall | f1-score |
|----------------|-----------|--------|----------|
| Apparel | 0.99 | 0.98 | 0.98 |
| Accessories | 0.90 | 0.94 | 0.92 |
| Footwear | 1.00 | 0.99 | 0.99 |
| Personal Care | 0.99 | 0.98 | 0.99 |
| Free Items | 0.55 | 0.66 | 0.60 |
| Sporting Goods | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| accuracy | | | 0.94 |
| macro avg | 0.74 | 0.76 | 0.75 |
| weighted avg | 0.94 | 0.94 | 0.94 |

- Train/test split at 80/20,
- Optimizer = 'adam', epochs=10, batch_size=10, learning rate=0.001

Hyperparameter-tuned CNN Model Performance



➤ test accuracy: 0.945

Why Tuning Made Worse

➤ Model performance is worse after tuning than before tuning

➤ Possible Explanations:

- Small search space with a Randomsearch engine. With only a few trials (=6) of Randomsearch. The optimal configuration may never be reached;
- When tuning, models under different configurations are trained with 'epochs' = 5

➤ Possible Solutions:

- Expand search space and tune with an adaptive searching engine (e.g., Hyperband, BayesianOptimization).
- Increase searching trials and 'epochs' = 5

Item-Based Recommendation System

➤ Feature Extraxction:

- Implement a pre-trained VGG16 model (including top dense layers)
- return 1,000 new hidden features.
- Different from the VGG16 base model in classification which does not have top dense layers.

➤ Closeness Meaure:

- Metrc: the cosine similarity scores

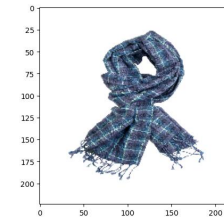
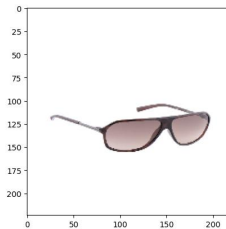
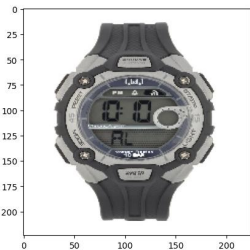
➤ Recommendations:

- For a given product/image, the 4,328 similarity scores with other products/images are ranked. Products/Images with the top 5 highest scores are recoomeded

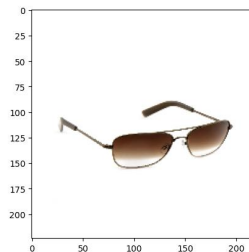
Visual Evaluation of Recommendation System



Original



Recommendations



Conclusion

- The CNN model we built in this study can classify fashion products/images with a good accuracy (~96%).
- Applying transfer learning with a pre-trained classification model such as VGG16 saves resource and time. Model is built and trained fast with good satisfactory performance.
- Transfer learning can also leverage feature extraction, which makes building Recommendation system easy and fast
- Hyperparameter tuning is important in model configuration. Apply efficient search engines with decent search spaces and adequate number of trials is necessary.
- Randomsearch engine may not work well when resources are limited

What is Next

- *Utilize Google Colab or Kaggle Notebooks and test the CNN model on the entire 44K+ Kaggle dataset;*
- *Make the model more robust, modular and portable for easy adoption by other image classification tasks.*
- *Experiment with tuning other hyperparameters, such as Optimizers ('adam', 'sgd', or 'rmsprop?'), the number of dense layers, and training batch size...*
- *Experiment with adding a dropout layer between two top dense layers to constrain the network from over-learning certain features.*
- *Experiment with other pre-trained models (such as Xception, ResNet50, InceptionV3, etc. in Keras applications) as the base model.*
- *Continue learning about deep Neural network in regression.*