

Machine Learning and Optimization Methods - IT3071

Assignment 1 - Practical test

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1.introduction

In order to address a multi-class classification problem, I created and built a deep learning model in this project utilizing TensorFlow's Keras API. The objective was to precisely categorize the data using 60 features into three categories: 'L', 'M', and 'H'. The model's performance was optimized by experimenting with different architectures and hyperparameters.

2. Data Preparation

I started by preprocessing the 480 rows and 17 columns that made up the dataset:

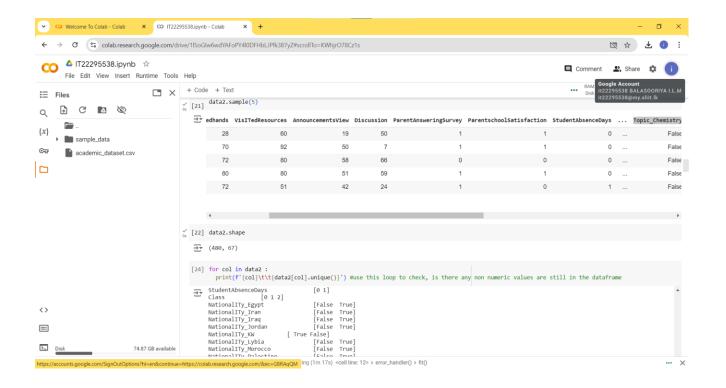
I started by looking over the data frame to see if there were any columns that were missing or had null values.

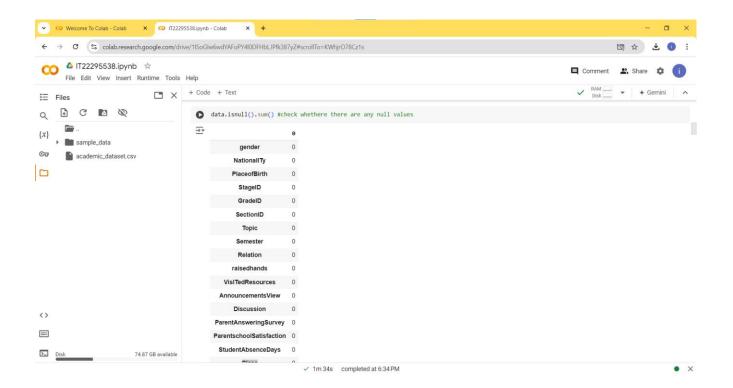
Encoding categorical variables: For categorical columns with more than two unique values per column, I employed one-hot encoding, used the label encoding, which had two distinct values, after that. Because of the classification, I specifically utilized label encoding for the Class column.

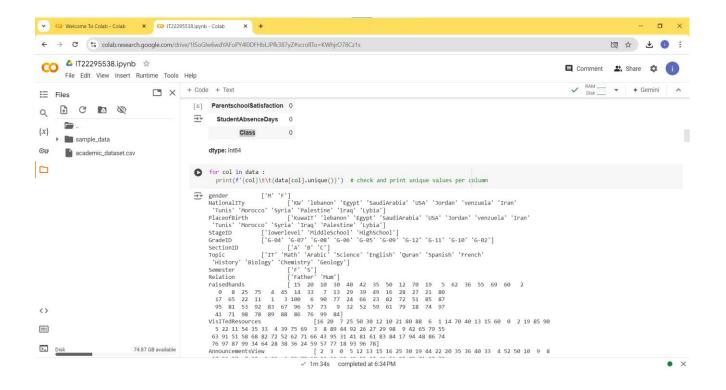
Columns dropping, I let go of the dummy One Way to Prevent Multicollinearity

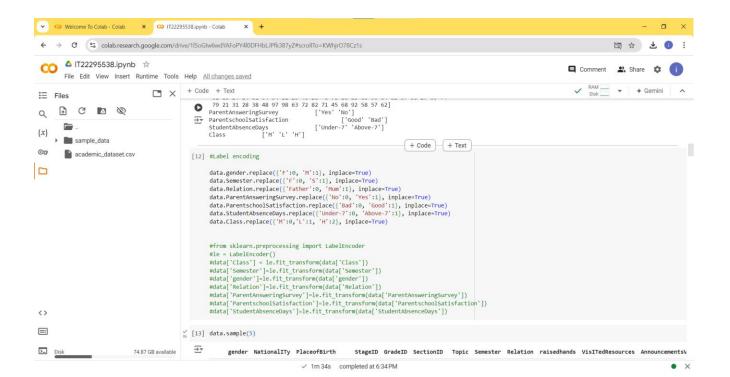
Numerical feature scaling: To make sure that features had the same scale, MinMax scaling was used.

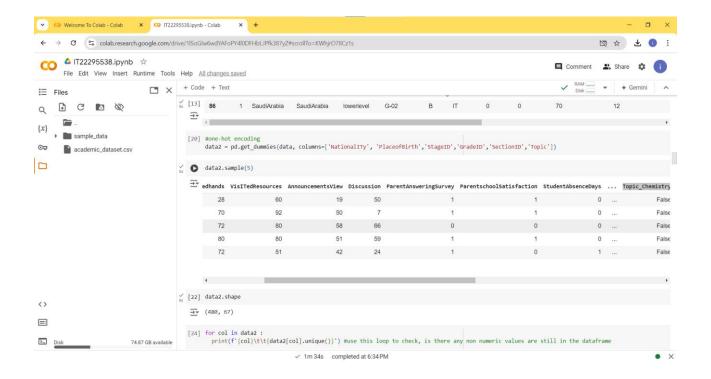
20% of the dataset was set aside for testing and the remaining 80% for training.

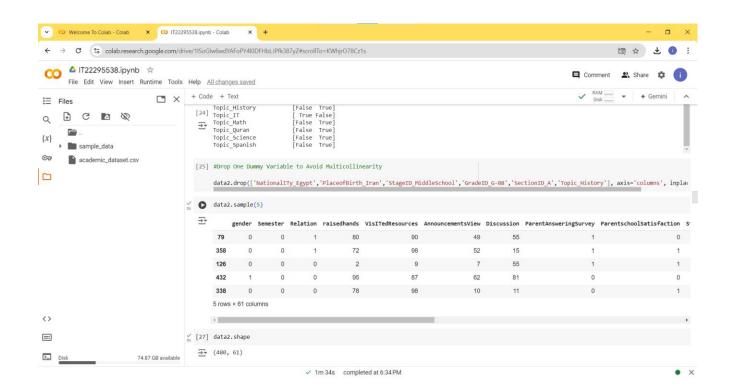


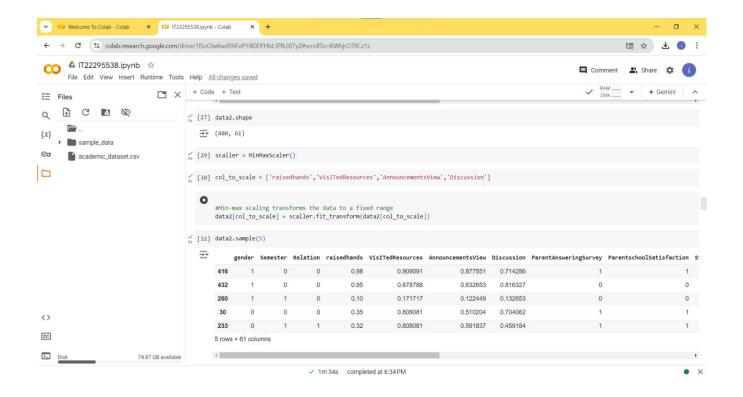


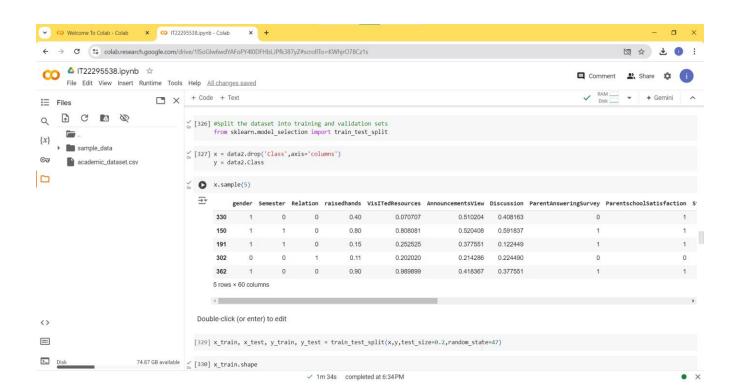












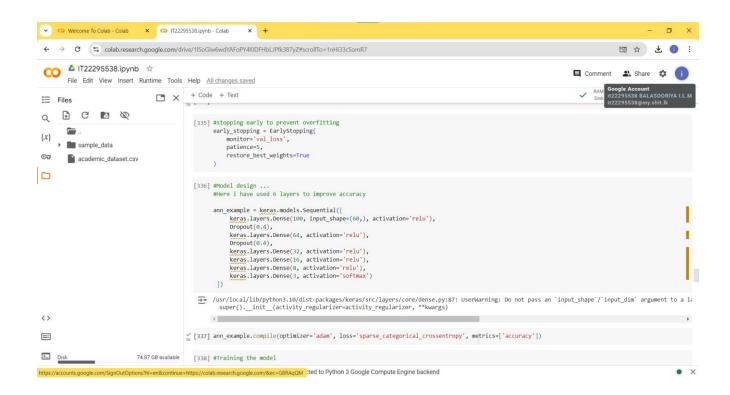
3. Model designing

I experimented with different model architectures. The final architecture consisted of:

Dense Layers: 5 layers with 'relu' activations and a 'Softmax' output layer for classification into 3 classes.

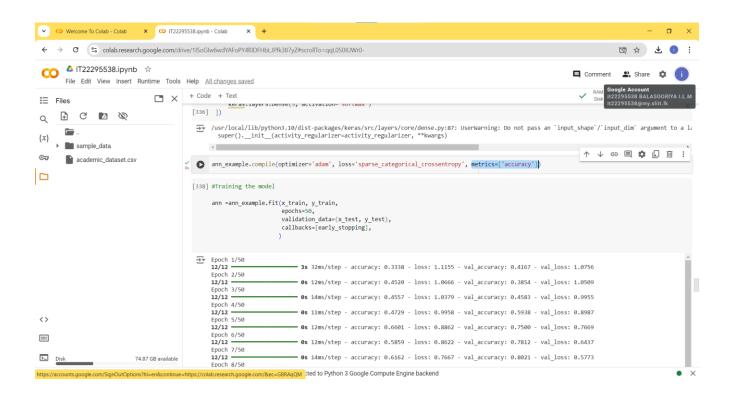
Dropout Layers: Dropout was introduced to prevent overfitting, with a rate of 0.4.

Optimizer: Adam was selected as the optimizer, and sparse categorical crossentropy was used as the loss function and accuracy as metrics.



4. Training

Training loss and accuracy were logged during the training process, which was monitored for 50 epochs with early stopping to avoid overfitting.



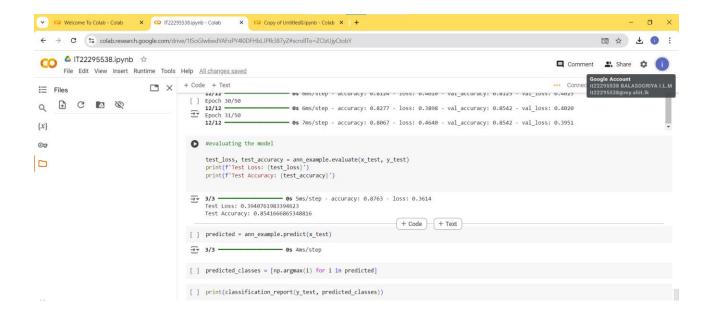
5. Evaluation

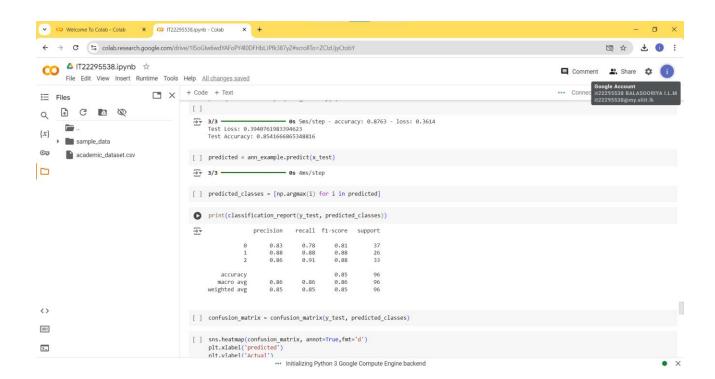
The trained model was evaluated on the test set, and the following metrics were calculated:

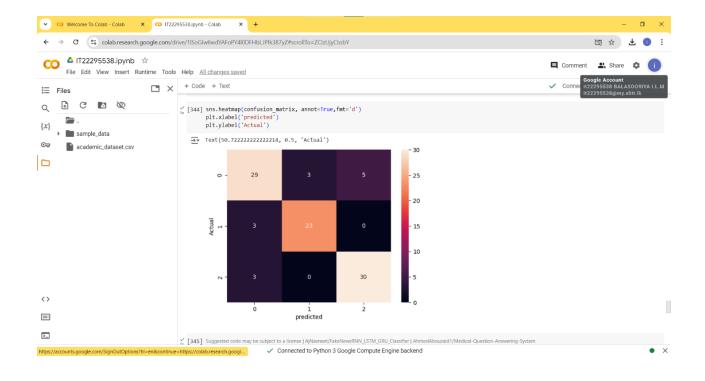
Test Loss: 0.3940761983394623

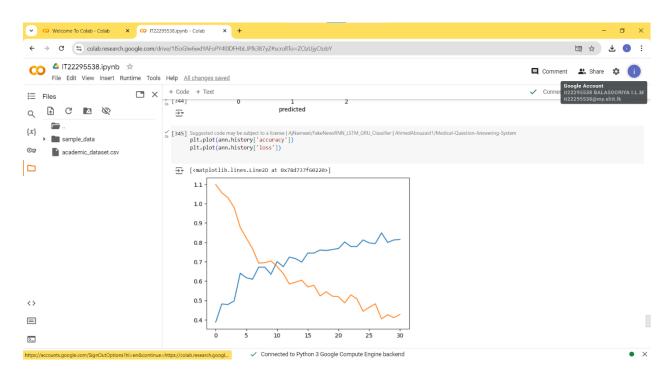
Test Accuracy: 0.8541666865348816

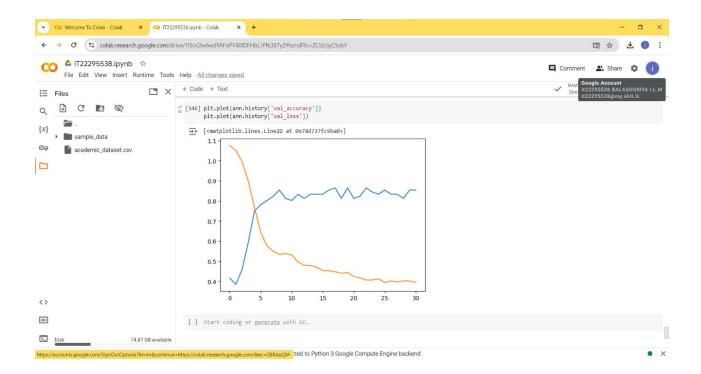
Precision, Recall, F1-score: These metrics were calculated for each class using classification_report().











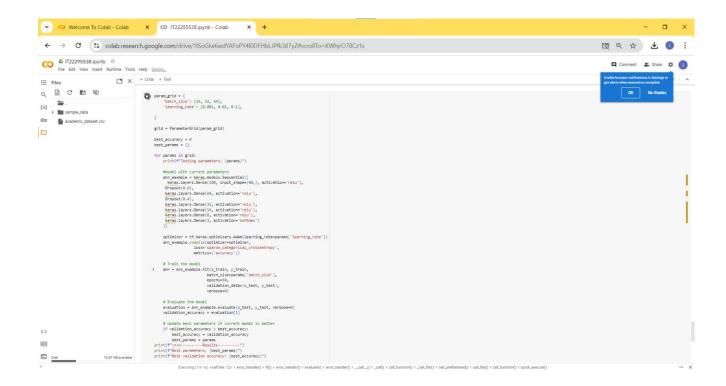
6. Hyperparameter Tuning

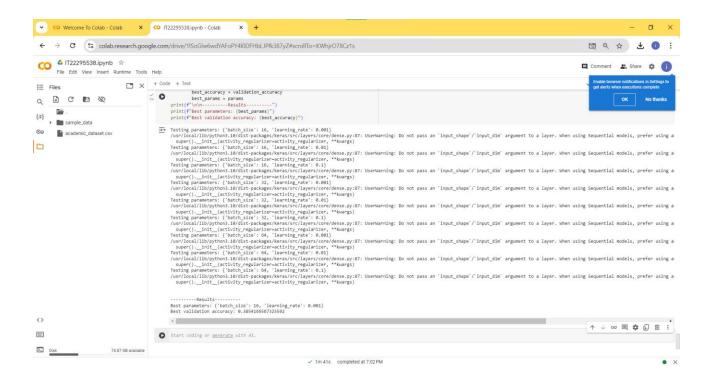
To further optimize performance, I experimented with different hyperparameters such as:

Batch size: 16, 32, 64

Learning rate: 0.001, 0.01,0.1

The best results were achieved with a batch size of 16 and a learning rate of 0.001.





7. Findings

Overfitting was mitigated using dropout layers and early stopping, which resulted in smoother convergence of the model during training.

8. Challenges Faced

Choosing the right architecture: Experimenting with different architectures and hyperparameters required time to find an optimal solution.

Early stopping: Fine-tuning early stopping criteria took several trials to prevent underfitting while ensuring good generalization.

9. Lessons Learned

Dropout and early stopping are effective techniques to combat overfitting.

Hyperparameter tuning can significantly impact model performance, and automating this process using grid search or random search can save time.

Monitoring both loss and accuracy metrics is crucial to assess model performance over time.