



Aalto University
School of Science
and Technology

Classifying MNIST Handwritings with Vanilla Recurrent Neural Network

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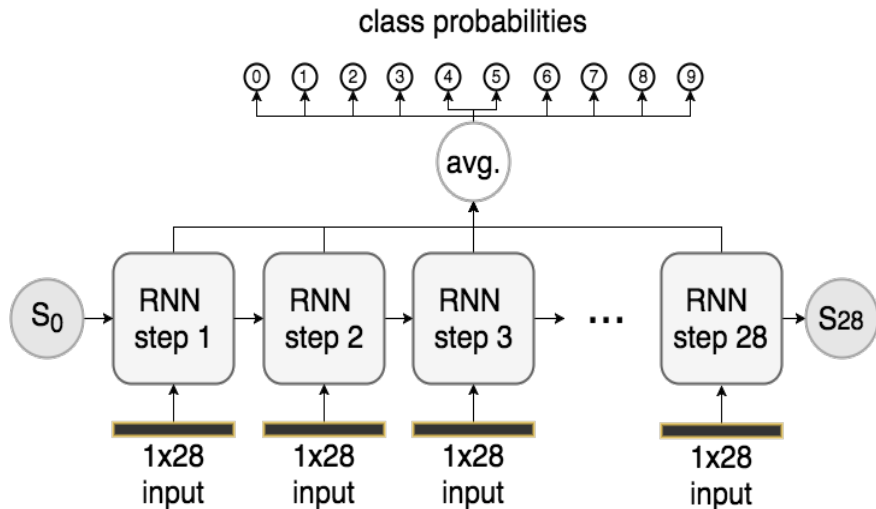
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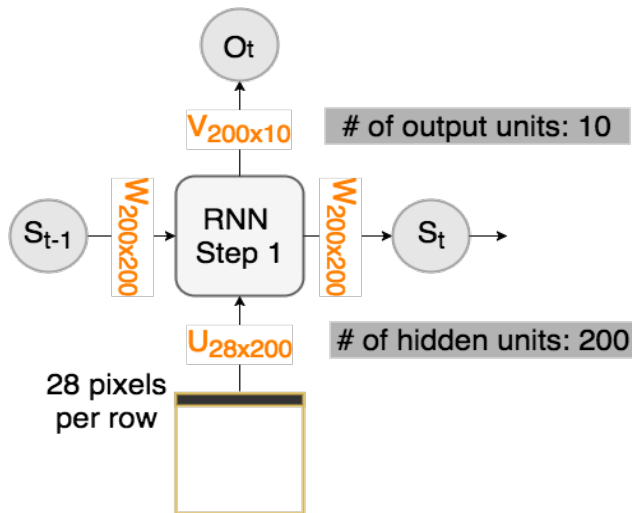
References

- ▶ Our literature presentation: <https://mycourses.aalto.fi/mod/folder/view.php?id=157611>
- ▶ Our implementation is available at:
https://github.com/juliuswang0728/rnn_theano
- ▶ IMPLEMENTING A RNN WITH PYTHON, NUMPY AND THEANO: <http://www.wildml.com/2015/09/recurrent-neural-networks-tutorial-part-2-implementing->
- ▶ Other RNN implementation with Theano:
<https://github.com/gwtaylor/theano-rnn>

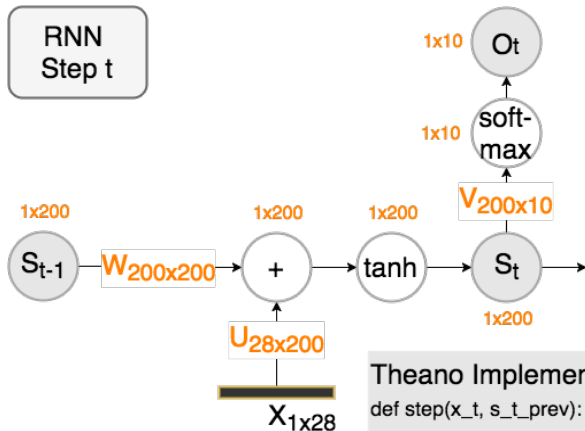
RNN: Feedforward, Single Image



RNN: Feedforward, Single Image (cont.)



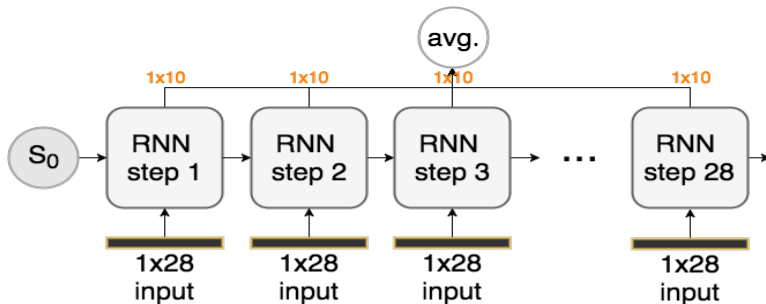
RNN: Feedforward, Single Image (cont.)



Theano Implementation

```
def step(x_t, s_t_prev):  
    s_t = T.tanh(T.dot(x_t, U) + T.dot(s_t_prev, W))  
    o_t = T.nnet.softmax(T.dot(s_t, V))  
    return s_t, o_t
```

RNN: Feedforward, Single Image (cont.)

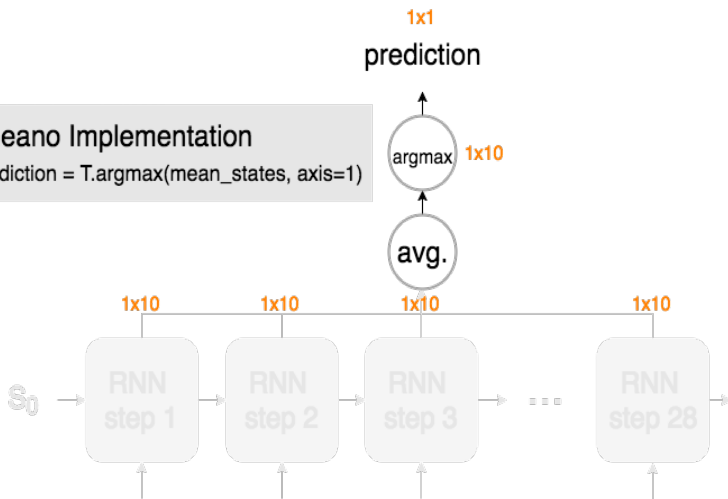


```
x = T.ftensor3('input') # (# of image, # of rows, # of columns) = (1, 28, 28)
sum_states = T.zeros((x.shape[0], self.output_dim), dtype='f')
states = T.zeros((x.shape[0], self.hidden_dim), dtype='f')
for step_idx in range(0, 28):
    o_t, states = step(x[:, step_idx, :], states)
    sum_states += o_t
mean_states = sum_states / 28
```

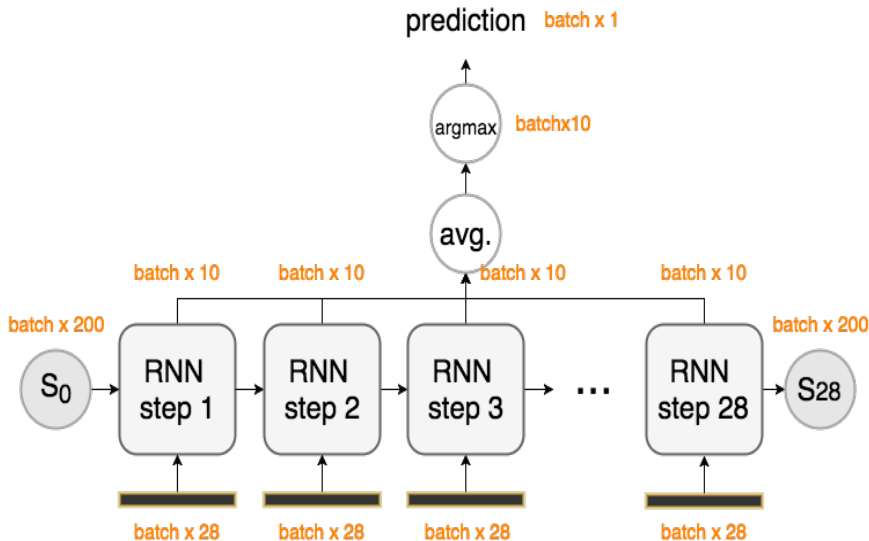
RNN: Feedforward, Single Image (cont.)

Theano Implementation

```
prediction = T.argmax(mean_states, axis=1)
```

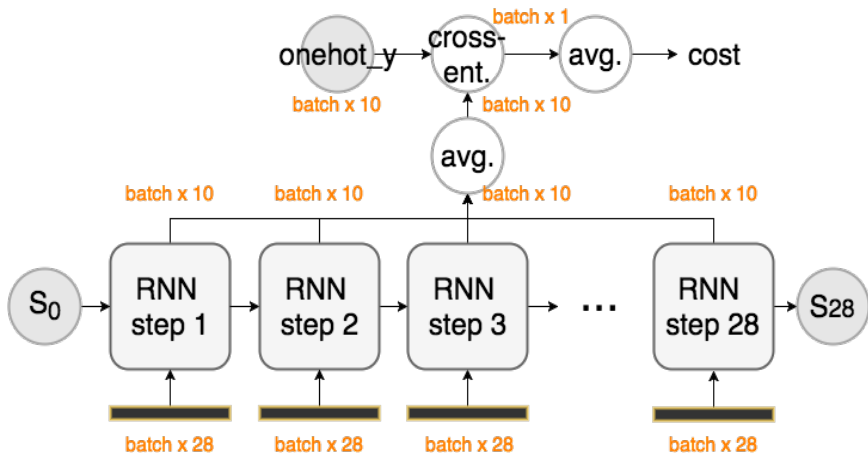


RNN: Feedforward, Mini-Batch



RNN: Computing Cost, Mini-Batch

```
cost = T.mean(T.nnet.categorical_crossentropy(mean_states, onehot_y))
```



RNN: Computing Gradient and Updates, Mini-Batch

```
dU = T.grad(cost, U)
dV = T.grad(cost, V)
dW = T.grad(cost, W)
learning_rate = T.scalar('learning_rate', dtype='float32')

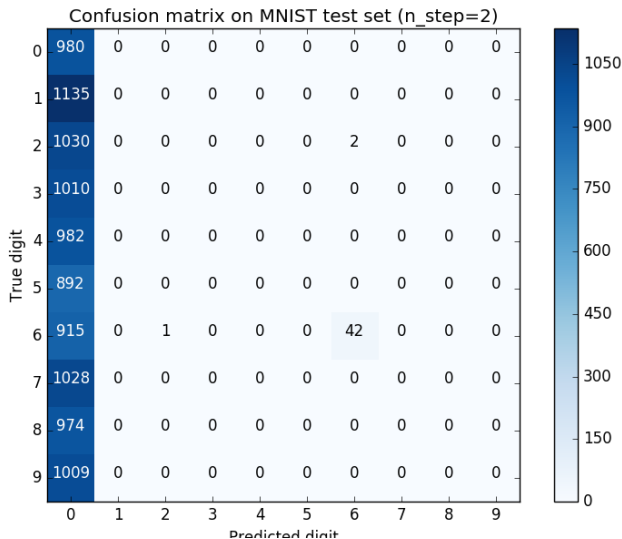
sgd_step = theano.function([x, onehot_y, learning_rate], [],
                           updates = [(U, U - learning_rate * dU),
                                       (V, V - learning_rate * dV),
                                       (W, W - learning_rate * dW)])

for each minibatch of x and y:
    sgd_step(x, y, 0.01)
```

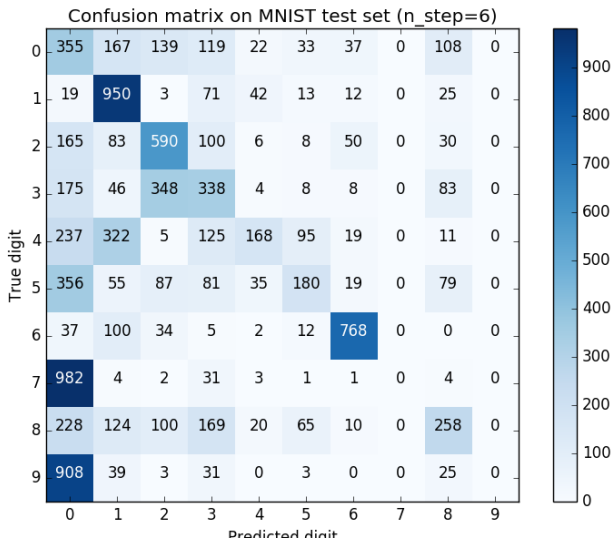
Some Reminders on Implementation

- ▶ Make sure that your initial state variables should be matrix filled with zeros whenever a mini-batch arrives
- ▶ We did not include bias term in our implementation

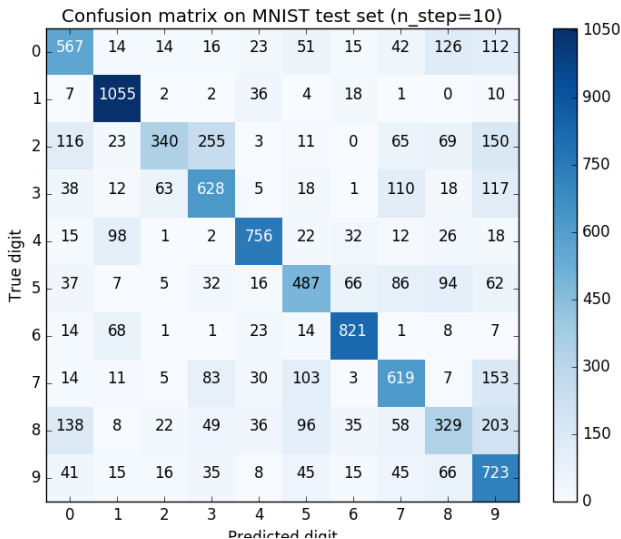
Experiments



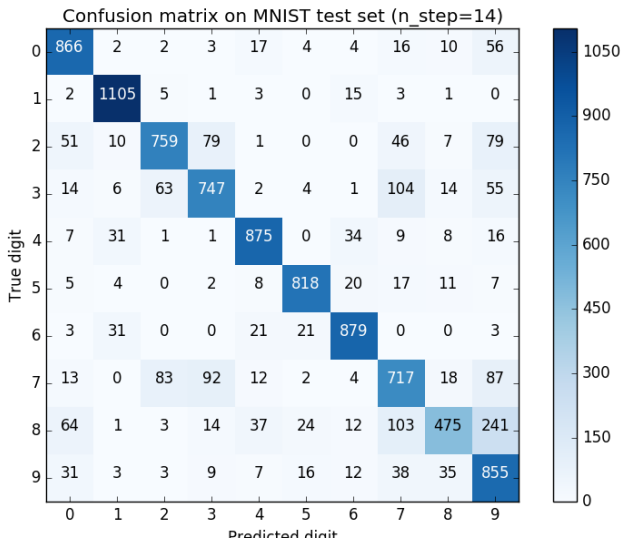
Experiments



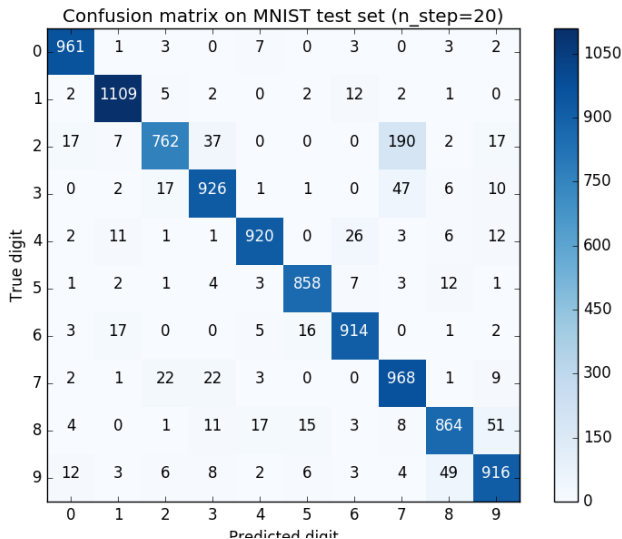
Experiments



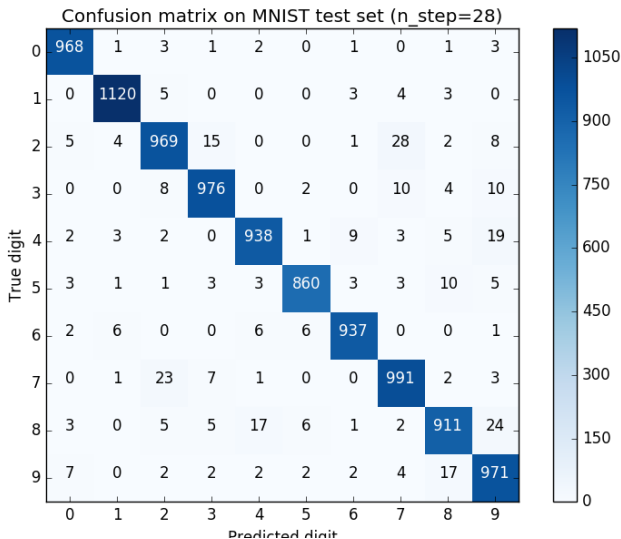
Experiments



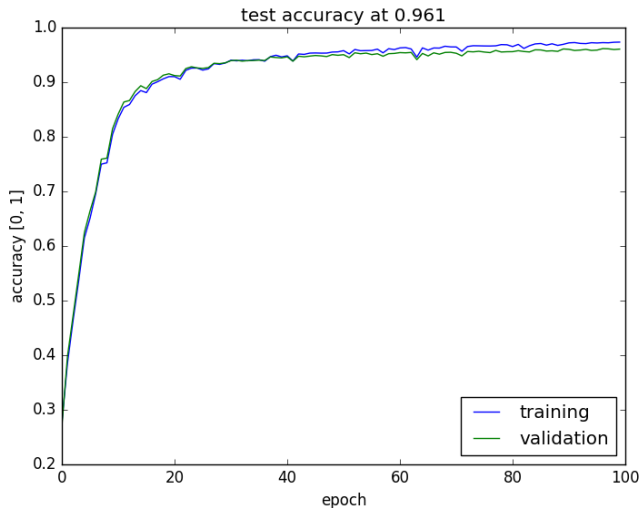
Experiments



Experiments



Accuracy vs Epoch for $n_steps = 28$



Accuracy vs RNN rows

