# Finding DNA transcription factor binding motifs using CNN

- => detect specific TF binding site in sequences
- => understand if using CNN able to find a motif

## **Exercise description**

In this exercise we will learn how CNN can be used to detect a known motif in DNA sequences. We will focus on FOXO1 transcription factor binding motif from <a href="HOCOMOCO v11">HOCOMOCO v11</a> (http://hocomoco11.autosome.ru/) [1]. More specifically we will learn how to build CNN model that exploits 1D convolutions in order to detect is a specific window over the genome contains the FOX01 motif aformentioned.

## **Data description**

The FOXO1 motif considered is 12 bps long. We used probabilties of finding a specific basis in a position of the sequence form HOCOMOCO, to generate our dataset. The generated dataset is composed by 20000 sequences of length 100 divided in two classes:

- 1. 10000 sequences sampled using a multinomial distirbution assuming an uniform distribution of bases.
- 2. 10000 sequences sampled using a multinomial distirbution assuming a distribution given by FOXO1 motif centered in the sequence and padded with uniform distribution of bases.

The sequences are then splitted randomly in two sets with balanced examples from the two classes and saved in the files  $F0X01\_train.csv$  and  $F0X01\_test.csv$  in  $/sib\_autumn\_school/jupyter\_root/data/motifs$ 

[1]: "HOCOMOCO: towards a complete collection of transcription factor binding models for human and mouse via large-scale ChIP-Seg analysis" Ivan V. Kulakovskiy et al., *Nucl. Acids Res.*, 11 November 2017

```
In [1]: # importing needed modules
    from __future__ import print_function
    import pandas as pd
    import numpy as np
    import seaborn as sns
    from IPython.display import SVG
    from keras.utils.vis_utils import model_to_dot
    from keras.models import Sequential
    from keras.layers import Dense, Dropout, Activation
    from keras.layers import Conv1D, MaxPooling1D, GlobalMaxPooling1D
    from keras.utils import plot_model
```

Using TensorFlow backend.

```
In [2]: # fixing seed to ensure reproducibility of the results
np.random.seed(0)
```

```
In [3]: # configuring plotting
%matplotlib inline
sns.set(
    context='notebook',
    style='white',
    palette='colorblind',
    font_scale=2,
    rc = {
        'figure.figsize': (20.0, 10.0)
    }
)
```

```
In [4]: # utilities
         # sequences saved on disk
         # for each point of the sequence => expand to give nt
         def load_data():
             Function to load the data for the exercise.
             It returns a tuple of tuples containg:
             ( (x train, y train), (x test, y test) )
             where:
             - x_* are numpy arrays with shape (number of sequences, sequence len
         gth, number of nucleotide bases).
               In a given data point and sequence position a one hot code vector
         is used to represent the basis:
               - [1, 0, 0, 0] \rightarrow A
               - [0, 1, 0, 0] \rightarrow C
               - [1, 0, 1, 0] \rightarrow G
               - [1, 0, 0, 1] -> T
             - y * are numpy arrays with shape (number of sequences,).
               For every sequence a binary label is assigned: 1 (it contains the
         FOX01 motif), 0 (uniform bases).
             # file coordinates
             data_path = '/sib_autumn_school/jupyter_root/data'
             train_filepath = '{}/FOXO1_train.csv'.format(data_path)
             test_filepath = '{}/F0X01_test.csv'.format(data_path)
             print('loading data')
             train = pd.read_csv(train_filepath, index_col=0)
             test = pd.read_csv(test_filepath, index_col=0)
             print('number of train sequences: {}'.format(train.shape[0]))
             print('number of test sequences: {}'.format(test.shape[0]))
             number_of_bases = max(train.values.max(), test.values.max()) + 1
print('number of bases: {}'.format(number_of_bases))
             # helper for data preparation
             mapping_bases = np.eye(number_of_bases)
             return (
                 (
                     np.array([
                          mapping bases[sequence]
                          for sequence in train.loc[:, train.columns != 'label'].v
         alues
                     train['label']
                 ),
                     np.array([
                          mapping_bases[sequence]
                          for sequence in test.loc[:, test.columns != 'label'].val
         ues
                     ]),
                     test['label']
                 )
             )
         def get_learning_report(history_callback):
             Generate a learning report pandas DataFrame from a keras history cal
         lback.
             learning report = pd.DataFrame(history.history)
             learning_report.index += 1
             learning_report.index.name = 'Epochs'
             learning_report.columns = pd.MultiIndex.from_tuples(
                 ſ
```

```
In [8]: # loading the data
        (x_train, y_train), (x_test, y_test) = load_data()
        x_train.shape
        # all sequences 100 length with 4 dim vector representing nucleotides
        loading data
        number of train sequences: 10000
        number of test sequences: 10000
        number of bases: 4
Out[8]: (10000, 100, 4)
In [6]: # store some useful variables
        # dropout: to avoid overfit
        batch_size = 256
        epochs = 10
        dropout_rate = 0.2
        length, number_of_bases = x_train.shape[1:]
        learning_reports = {}
```

## Model

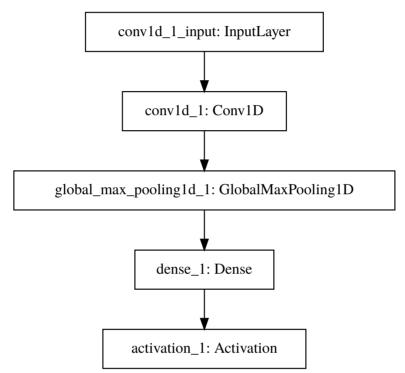
```
In [7]: #fix a window to look at 6 nt bases at each time and use 64 different fi
        lters
        # 6 x 64 x output shape
        # how many sliding windows you passed on the sequence
        # 1st convolution -> obtained something size 64, then take max (max pool
        ing)
        # simple model
        filters = 64
        kernel_size = 6
        model = Sequential()
        # apply a first convolutional layer
        model.add(Conv1D(
            filters,
            kernel_size,
            padding='valid',
            activation='relu',
            strides=1,
            input_shape=(length, number_of_bases)
        ))
        # global max pooling:
        model.add(GlobalMaxPooling1D())
        # output layer with class prediction
        model.add(Dense(1))
        model.add(Activation('sigmoid'))
        # compilation
        model.compile(
            loss='binary_crossentropy',
            optimizer='adam',
            metrics=['accuracy']
        plot_model(model)
```

Layer (type)	Output	Shape	Param #
convld_1 (ConvlD)	(None,	95, 64)	1600
<pre>global_max_pooling1d_1 (Glob</pre>	(None,	64)	0
dense_1 (Dense)	(None,	1)	65
activation_1 (Activation)	(None,	1)	0

Total params: 1,665 Trainable params: 1,665 Non-trainable params: 0

None

### Out[7]:



```
In [9]: # fitting
    history = model.fit(
       x_train, y_train,
       batch size=batch size,
       epochs=epochs,
       validation_data=(x_test, y_test)
    learning reports['v1'] = get learning report(history)
    Train on 10000 samples, validate on 10000 samples
    Epoch 1/10
    06 - acc: 0.5426 - val_loss: 0.6828 - val_acc: 0.6092
    Epoch 2/10
    27 - acc: 0.6648 - val_loss: 0.6629 - val_acc: 0.7013
    47 - acc: 0.7167 - val_loss: 0.6320 - val_acc: 0.7494
    Epoch 4/10
    97 - acc: 0.7661 - val loss: 0.5986 - val acc: 0.7480
    Epoch 5/10
    10000/10000 [===============] - 5s 490us/step - loss: 0.57
    41 - acc: 0.7784 - val_loss: 0.5662 - val_acc: 0.7654
    Epoch 6/10
    08 - acc: 0.7896 - val loss: 0.5384 - val acc: 0.7719
    Epoch 7/10
    15 - acc: 0.7933 - val loss: 0.5137 - val acc: 0.7759
    Epoch 8/10
    60 - acc: 0.7961 - val loss: 0.4953 - val acc: 0.7797
    Epoch 9/10
```

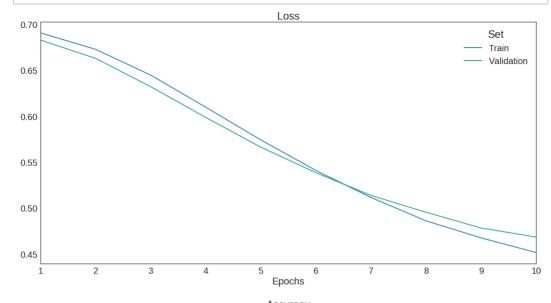
74 - acc: 0.7999 - val\_loss: 0.4782 - val\_acc: 0.7866

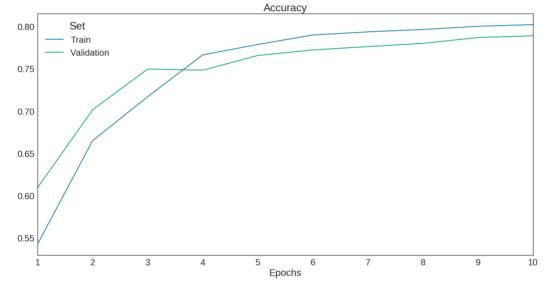
15 - acc: 0.8019 - val\_loss: 0.4683 - val\_acc: 0.7887

Epoch 10/10

In [10]: # will need more epoch to converge
 # in term of accuracy, already plateauing, already a good classification
 score

plot\_learning\_report(learning\_reports['v1'])





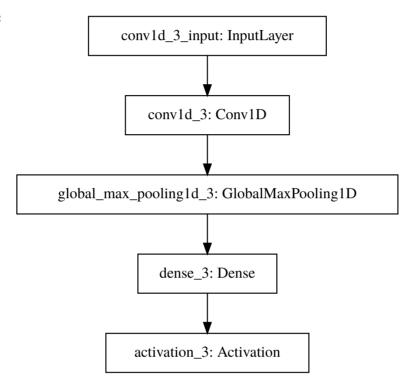
```
In [12]: | # => try to change the dimension of the window
         # same architecture, but increase window size
         # double size of the window = double number of weights
         # simple model with kernel size equal motif size
         filters = 64
         kernel_size = 12
         model = Sequential()
         # apply a first convolutional layer
         model.add(Conv1D(
             filters,
             kernel_size,
             padding='valid',
             activation='relu',
             strides=1,
             input_shape=(length, number_of_bases)
         ))
         # global max pooling:
         model.add(GlobalMaxPooling1D())
         # output layer with class prediction
         model.add(Dense(1))
         model.add(Activation('sigmoid'))
         # compilation
         model.compile(
             loss='binary_crossentropy',
             optimizer='adam',
             metrics=['accuracy']
         plot_model(model)
```

Layer (type)	Output	Shape	Param #
conv1d_3 (Conv1D)	(None,	89, 64)	3136
<pre>global_max_pooling1d_3 (Glob</pre>	(None,	64)	0
dense_3 (Dense)	(None,	1)	65
activation_3 (Activation)	(None,	1)	0

Total params: 3,201 Trainable params: 3,201 Non-trainable params: 0

None

### Out[12]:



```
In [13]: # fitting
     history = model.fit(
       x_train, y_train,
       batch size=batch size,
       epochs=epochs,
       validation_data=(x_test, y_test)
     learning reports['v2'] = get learning report(history)
     Train on 10000 samples, validate on 10000 samples
     Epoch 1/10
     80 - acc: 0.5886 - val_loss: 0.6536 - val_acc: 0.7054
     Epoch 2/10
     94 - acc: 0.7561 - val_loss: 0.5813 - val_acc: 0.7890
     20 - acc: 0.8156 - val_loss: 0.4945 - val_acc: 0.8147
     Epoch 4/10
     26 - acc: 0.8312 - val_loss: 0.4350 - val_acc: 0.8232
     Epoch 5/10
     49 - acc: 0.8388 - val_loss: 0.4035 - val_acc: 0.8281
     Epoch 6/10
     98 - acc: 0.8415 - val loss: 0.3866 - val acc: 0.8331
     Epoch 7/10
```

48 - acc: 0.8462 - val\_loss: 0.3782 - val\_acc: 0.8316

74 - acc: 0.8474 - val loss: 0.3730 - val acc: 0.8344

16 - acc: 0.8487 - val\_loss: 0.3704 - val\_acc: 0.8349

70 - acc: 0.8480 - val\_loss: 0.3720 - val\_acc: 0.8330

Epoch 8/10

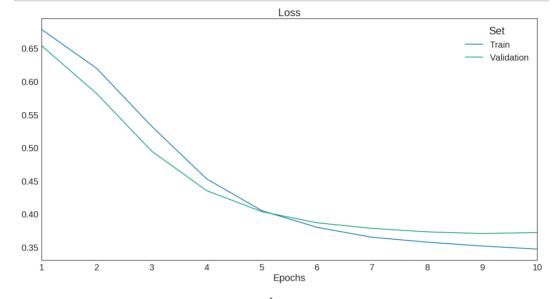
Epoch 9/10

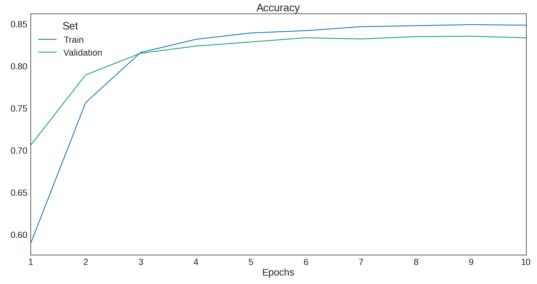
Epoch 10/10

```
In [15]: plot_learning_report(learning_reports['v2'])
# improve 3% the network

# by stacking layers: improve the results
# learn how to combine more complex features
# price of adding weights (more computational)
# with dropout => keep overfitting very low

# typical when using strong dropout:
# model performing worse on training set because preventing or using all the neurons
```





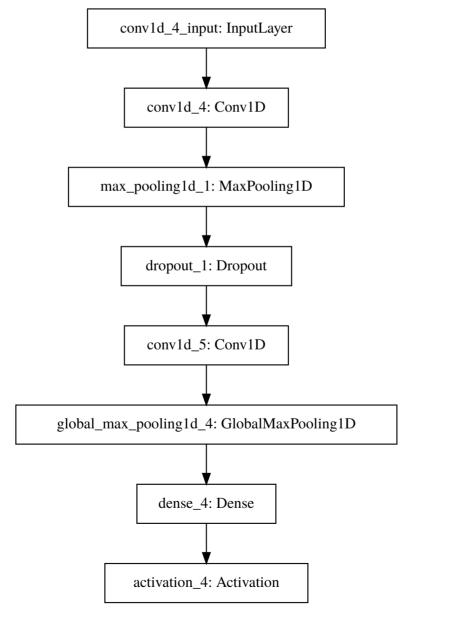
```
In [16]: | # simple model with kernel_size equal motif size and an additional convo
         lution
         # add convolutional layer (go deeper)
         filters = 64
         kernel_size = 12
         model = Sequential()
         # apply a first convolutional layer
         model.add(Conv1D(
             filters,
             kernel_size,
             padding='valid'
             activation='relu',
             strides=1,
             input shape=(length, number of bases)
         ))
         # deeper is better
         filters = max(filters//2, 2)
         kernel_size = max(kernel_size//2, 2)
         model.add(MaxPooling1D())
         model.add(Dropout(dropout_rate))
         model.add(Conv1D(
             filters,
             kernel_size,
             padding='valid'
             activation='relu',
             strides=1,
         ))
         # global max pooling:
         model.add(GlobalMaxPooling1D())
         # output layer with class prediction
         model.add(Dense(1))
         model.add(Activation('sigmoid'))
         # compilation
         model.compile(
             loss='binary_crossentropy',
             optimizer='adam',
             metrics=['accuracy']
         )
         plot_model(model)
```

Layer (type)	Output	Shape	Param #
convld_4 (ConvlD)	(None,	89, 64)	3136
max_pooling1d_1 (MaxPooling1	(None,	44, 64)	0
dropout_1 (Dropout)	(None,	44, 64)	0
conv1d_5 (Conv1D)	(None,	39, 32)	12320
global_max_pooling1d_4 (Glob	(None,	32)	0
dense_4 (Dense)	(None,	1)	33
activation_4 (Activation)	(None,	1)	0

Total params: 15,489 Trainable params: 15,489 Non-trainable params: 0

None

#### Out[16]:

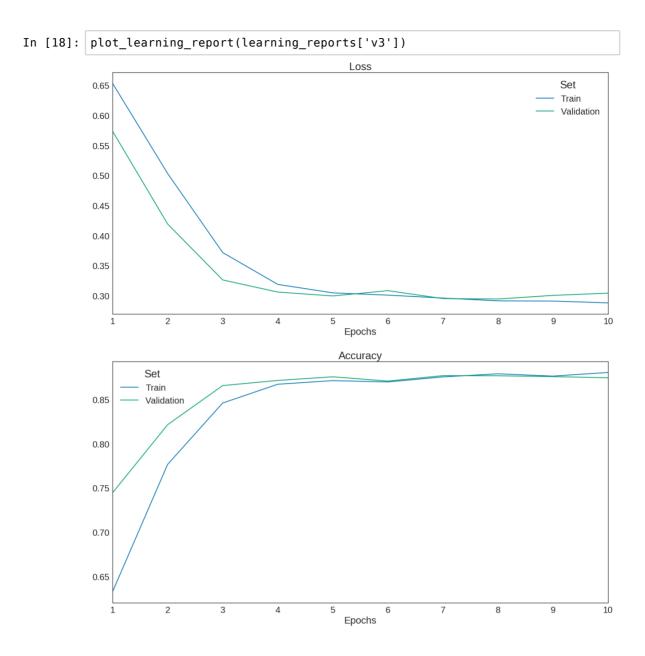


```
In [17]: # fitting
     history = model.fit(
       x_train, y_train,
       batch size=batch size,
       epochs=epochs,
       validation_data=(x_test, y_test)
     learning reports['v3'] = get learning report(history)
     Train on 10000 samples, validate on 10000 samples
     Epoch 1/10
     28 - acc: 0.6327 - val_loss: 0.5732 - val_acc: 0.7444
     Epoch 2/10
     30 - acc: 0.7764 - val_loss: 0.4189 - val_acc: 0.8212
     14 - acc: 0.8457 - val_loss: 0.3259 - val_acc: 0.8654
     Epoch 4/10
     85 - acc: 0.8669 - val_loss: 0.3057 - val_acc: 0.8712
     Epoch 5/10
     44 - acc: 0.8710 - val_loss: 0.2992 - val_acc: 0.8753
     Epoch 6/10
     06 - acc: 0.8695 - val loss: 0.3080 - val acc: 0.8705
     Epoch 7/10
     57 - acc: 0.8752 - val_loss: 0.2949 - val_acc: 0.8766
     Epoch 8/10
     11 - acc: 0.8787 - val loss: 0.2941 - val acc: 0.8765
     Epoch 9/10
```

08 - acc: 0.8761 - val\_loss: 0.3002 - val\_acc: 0.8755

77 - acc: 0.8802 - val\_loss: 0.3039 - val\_acc: 0.8742

Epoch 10/10

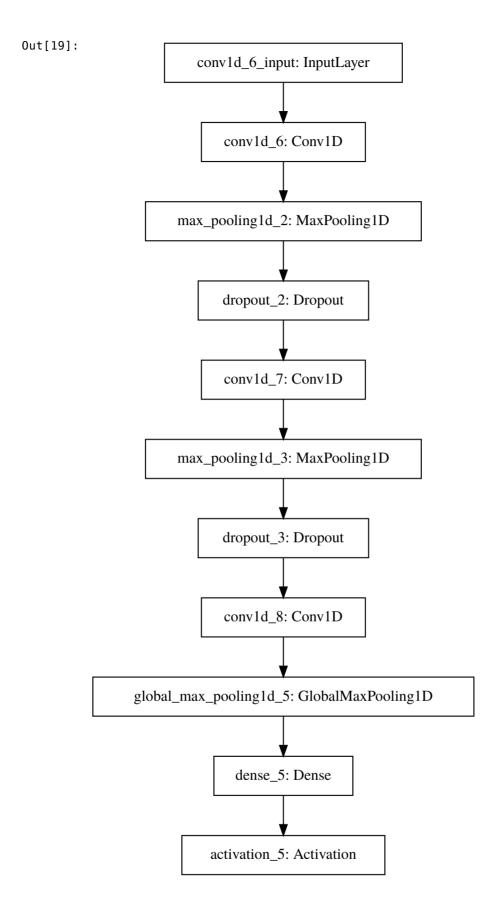


```
In [19]: | # simple model with kernel_size equal motif size and two additional conv
         olutions
         filters = 64
         kernel size = 12
         model = Sequential()
         # apply a first convolutional layer
         model.add(Conv1D(
             filters,
             kernel size,
             padding='valid',
             activation='relu',
             strides=1.
              input shape=(length, number of bases)
         ))
         # deeper is better
         filters = max(filters//2, 2)
         kernel_size = max(kernel_size//2, 2)
         model.add(MaxPooling1D())
         model.add(Dropout(dropout_rate))
         model.add(Conv1D(
             filters,
             kernel_size,
             padding='valid'
             activation='relu',
             strides=1,
         ))
         # even deeper is even better
         filters = max(filters//2, 2)
         kernel_size = max(kernel_size//2, 2)
         model.add(MaxPooling1D())
         model.add(Dropout(dropout rate))
         model.add(Conv1D(
             filters,
             kernel_size,
             padding='valid',
             activation='relu',
             strides=1,
         ))
         # global max pooling:
         model.add(GlobalMaxPooling1D())
         # output layer with class prediction
         model.add(Dense(1))
         model.add(Activation('sigmoid'))
         # compilation
         model.compile(
             loss='binary_crossentropy',
             optimizer='adam',
             metrics=['accuracy']
         plot_model(model)
```

Layer (type)	Output	Shape	Param #
convld_6 (ConvlD)	(None,	89, 64)	3136
max_pooling1d_2 (MaxPooling1	(None,	44, 64)	0
dropout_2 (Dropout)	(None,	44, 64)	0
conv1d_7 (Conv1D)	(None,	39, 32)	12320
max_pooling1d_3 (MaxPooling1	(None,	19, 32)	0
dropout_3 (Dropout)	(None,	19, 32)	0
convld_8 (ConvlD)	(None,	17, 16)	1552
global_max_pooling1d_5 (Glob	(None,	16)	0
dense_5 (Dense)	(None,	1)	17
activation_5 (Activation)	(None,	1)	0

Total params: 17,025 Trainable params: 17,025 Non-trainable params: 0

None



```
In [20]: # fitting
      history = model.fit(
        x_train, y_train,
        batch size=batch size,
        epochs=epochs,
        validation_data=(x_test, y_test)
      learning reports['v4'] = get learning report(history)
     Train on 10000 samples, validate on 10000 samples
     Epoch 1/10
      02 - acc: 0.6304 - val_loss: 0.5559 - val_acc: 0.7296
     Epoch 2/10
      46 - acc: 0.7765 - val_loss: 0.4208 - val_acc: 0.7986
      59 - acc: 0.8639 - val_loss: 0.2610 - val_acc: 0.8994
      Epoch 4/10
      10000/10000 [============== ] - 4s 351us/step - loss: 0.26
     96 - acc: 0.8907 - val_loss: 0.3052 - val_acc: 0.8751
     Epoch 5/10
      56 - acc: 0.8974 - val_loss: 0.2491 - val_acc: 0.9055
      Epoch 6/10
      93 - acc: 0.8992 - val loss: 0.2811 - val acc: 0.8924
```

99 - acc: 0.9024 - val loss: 0.2399 - val acc: 0.9080

02 - acc: 0.9076 - val loss: 0.2460 - val acc: 0.9077

69 - acc: 0.9115 - val\_loss: 0.2571 - val\_acc: 0.9032

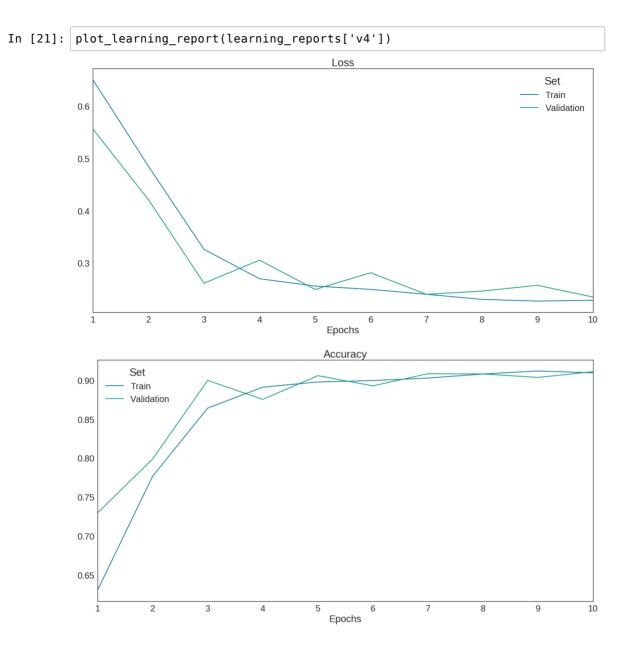
85 - acc: 0.9091 - val\_loss: 0.2347 - val\_acc: 0.9106

Epoch 7/10

Epoch 8/10

Epoch 9/10

Epoch 10/10

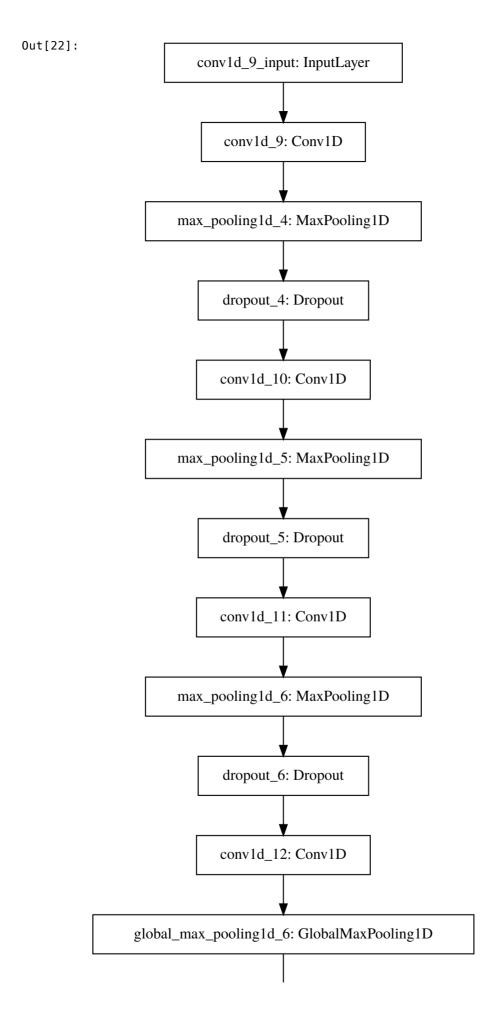


```
In [22]: # simple model with kernel size equal motif size and three additional co
         nvolutions
         filters = 64
         kernel size = 12
         model = Sequential()
         # apply a first convolutional layer
         model.add(Conv1D(
             filters,
             kernel_size,
             padding='valid',
             activation='relu',
             strides=1.
              input shape=(length, number of bases)
         ))
         # deeper is better
         filters = max(filters//2, 2)
         kernel_size = max(kernel_size//2, 2)
         model.add(MaxPooling1D())
         model.add(Dropout(dropout_rate))
         model.add(Conv1D(
              filters,
             kernel_size,
              padding='valid'
              activation='relu',
              strides=1,
         ))
         # even deeper is even better
         filters = max(filters//2, 2)
         kernel_size = max(kernel_size//2, 2)
         model.add(MaxPooling1D())
         model.add(Dropout(dropout rate))
         model.add(Conv1D(
             filters,
              kernel_size,
              padding='valid',
             activation='relu',
             strides=1,
         ))
         # abyssal would be the best
         filters = max(filters//2, 2)
         kernel_size = max(kernel_size//2, 2)
         model.add(MaxPooling1D())
         model.add(Dropout(dropout_rate))
         model.add(Conv1D(
             filters,
              kernel_size,
              padding='valid'.
             activation='relu',
             strides=1,
         ))
         # global max pooling:
         model.add(GlobalMaxPooling1D())
         # output layer with class prediction
         model.add(Dense(1))
         model.add(Activation('sigmoid'))
         # compilation
         model.compile(
             loss='binary_crossentropy',
              optimizer='adam'.
```

Layer (type)	Output	Shape	Param #
conv1d_9 (Conv1D)	(None,	89, 64)	3136
max_pooling1d_4 (MaxPooling1	(None,	44, 64)	Θ
dropout_4 (Dropout)	(None,	44, 64)	Θ
conv1d_10 (Conv1D)	(None,	39, 32)	12320
max_pooling1d_5 (MaxPooling1	(None,	19, 32)	0
dropout_5 (Dropout)	(None,	19, 32)	0
convld_11 (Conv1D)	(None,	17, 16)	1552
max_pooling1d_6 (MaxPooling1	(None,	8, 16)	0
dropout_6 (Dropout)	(None,	8, 16)	0
conv1d_12 (Conv1D)	(None,	7, 8)	264
<pre>global_max_pooling1d_6 (Glob</pre>	(None,	8)	0
dense_6 (Dense)	(None,	1)	9
activation_6 (Activation)	(None,	1)	0

Total params: 17,281 Trainable params: 17,281 Non-trainable params: 0

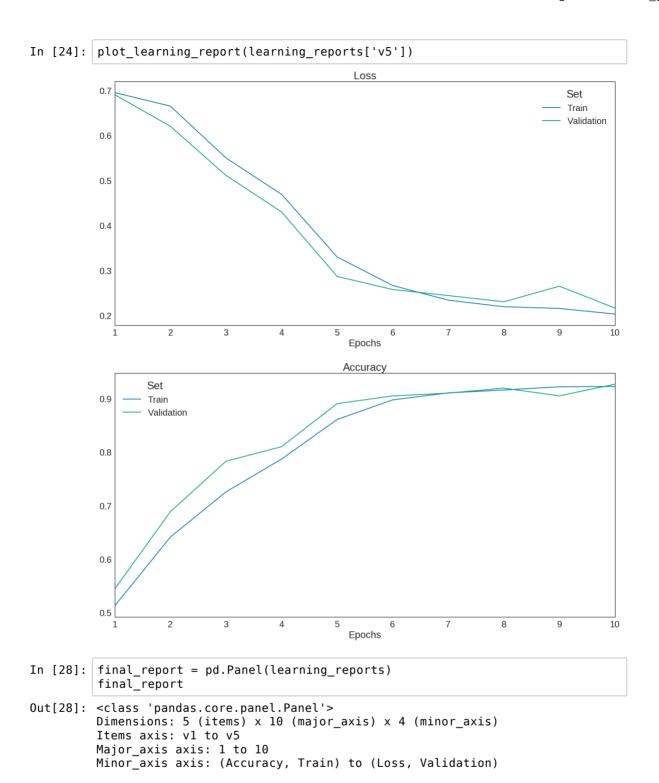
None



```
In [23]: # fitting
     history = model.fit(
        x_train, y_train,
        batch size=batch size,
        epochs=epochs,
        validation_data=(x_test, y_test)
      learning reports['v5'] = get learning report(history)
     Train on 10000 samples, validate on 10000 samples
     Epoch 1/10
     42 - acc: 0.5120 - val_loss: 0.6896 - val_acc: 0.5436
     Epoch 2/10
     43 - acc: 0.6406 - val_loss: 0.6195 - val_acc: 0.6881
     10000/10000 [=============] - 4s 413us/step - loss: 0.54
     93 - acc: 0.7251 - val_loss: 0.5106 - val_acc: 0.7825
     Epoch 4/10
     10000/10000 [============== ] - 3s 348us/step - loss: 0.46
     86 - acc: 0.7865 - val_loss: 0.4296 - val_acc: 0.8097
     Epoch 5/10
      96 - acc: 0.8606 - val_loss: 0.2864 - val_acc: 0.8903
     Epoch 6/10
      63 - acc: 0.8973 - val loss: 0.2574 - val acc: 0.9047
     Epoch 7/10
      37 - acc: 0.9104 - val loss: 0.2439 - val acc: 0.9100
     Epoch 8/10
     92 - acc: 0.9158 - val loss: 0.2302 - val acc: 0.9193
     Epoch 9/10
     54 - acc: 0.9218 - val_loss: 0.2647 - val_acc: 0.9049
```

29 - acc: 0.9225 - val\_loss: 0.2162 - val\_acc: 0.9266

Epoch 10/10



## **Further reading**

In case you are more interested about the topic sequences analysis and deep learning we suggest the following publications:

- Predicting the sequence specificities of DNA- and RNA-binding proteins by deep learning (https://www.nature.com/articles/nbt.3300)
- <u>DeeperBind: Enhancing Prediction of Sequence Specificities of DNA Binding Proteins (https://arxiv.org/pdf/1611.05777.pdf)</u>
- Convolutional neural network architectures for predicting DNA-protein binding (https://academic.oup.com/bioinformatics/article-lookup/doi/10.1093/bioinformatics/btw255)

deeper bind: more layers (more complex)

```
In [ ]: # filters fixed in size
        you want to learn 64 filters
        these filters are the weights of the network
        you can have correlated wieghts (filters).
        look how the filters loook like to see if you need all the filters.
        filters could be highly correlated or lots of them might be dying
        if all filters have low weights => you can remove it
        jsut by plotting the fvectors in a heatmap -> you will see it
        plot with accuracy: meaningless without cross-validation
        usually at least plot a confidence band for the accuracy
        (20-fold cross-validation usually)
        with keras you can save all the logs to get all the weights of all the f
        ilters
        you can visualize how the filters change your image or the values of the
        weights
        problem of class imbalance
        - combination of weights on loss function (multiply loss by facotr) pena
        lize performing well on dominant class,
        reward performign well least represented class
         - balance the dataset upstream to get a balanced training set (even if t
        est dataset is umbalanced) if enough data,
        better to create a balanced training set
        in this kind of networks with lots of weights, 70%-30% can lead to overf
        itting much of the time
        hyperopt => very good Python package for hyperparameter optimization
        or other based on bayesian, or genetic algorithms
        when you get a classification and you want a p-value: not neural network
        , in other machine learning,
            you could have from boostraping. in deep learning, too costly
            other way: take similar images and look how many times as good as wh
        at you get
                conv2d to reconstruct the image
                kem and gradkem -> kind of heatmap of the filters features
```