



Presentation Topic

2. Application of Gradient Descent: MNIST



Figure 1

- MNIST is a famous dataset used for image recognition and classification tasks. It consists of 70,000 (60,000 training+10,000 testing) handwritten digits in a 28x28 px grayscale image.
- Our project application is to use CNN model predict MNIST handwritten digits. In the application, we discover how Gradient Descent applies in DL.
- Project source code repo:
<https://github.com/openhe-hub/math214-project.git>

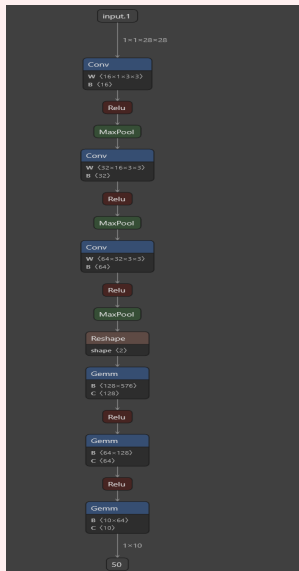


Figure 2 CNN Model (visualized by Netron)

- Our CNN Model:
3 *conv_layers* (Conv+Relu+MaxPool)
+1 *fc_layer* (Linear+Relu)
- Loss function: *CrossEntropy*
- Gradient Descent: *SGD*
- Other Parameters:
 - *epochs* = 30
 - *batch_size* = 64
 - *learning_rate* = 0.001

Theorem

SGD Iteration Formula: $w_{t+1} = w_t - \eta \nabla L(w_t)$

Algorithm 1: SGD algorithm for training a CNN

Data: Input data x and labels y

Result: Trained CNN model

```
1 Function Train():  
2   for  $epoch = 1$  to  $epochs$  do  
3     for  $batch\_i = (x_i, y_i)$  in dataset do  
4       Set gradients of network parameters to zero;  
5       Forward propagation:  $\hat{y} = \text{forward}(x_i)$ ;  
6       Compute loss function:  $loss = L(\hat{y}, y_i)$ ;  
7       Backward propagation:  $loss.backward()$ ;  
8       Update parameters using SGD:  $w = w - \eta \nabla L(w)$ ;  
9     end  
10  end
```

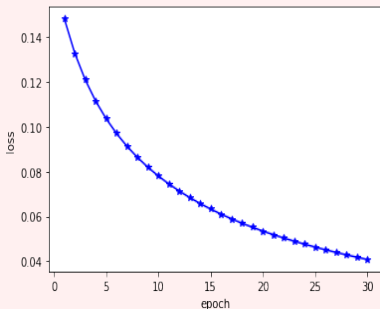


Figure 3 SGD epoch-loss plot

The epoch-loss plot shows how the model's loss function changes over time, as it updates the model parameters using small batches of training data. The plot typically displays a downward trend, with rapid loss reductions in initial epochs, and slower reductions as the algorithm converges.

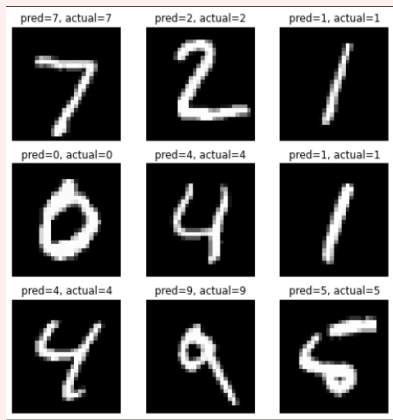


Figure 4 Testing set prediction result

- Result: The total loss is about 0.0413, and the accuracy is about 98.67%. Algorithms (SGD) based on Gradient Descent works well in our CNN model.
- Improvement: Consider adjusting parameters like *learning_rate*, *batch_size*. Also, we may change different GD algorithms like *Adam*.

3. Third section

[illegible]

Thank you!