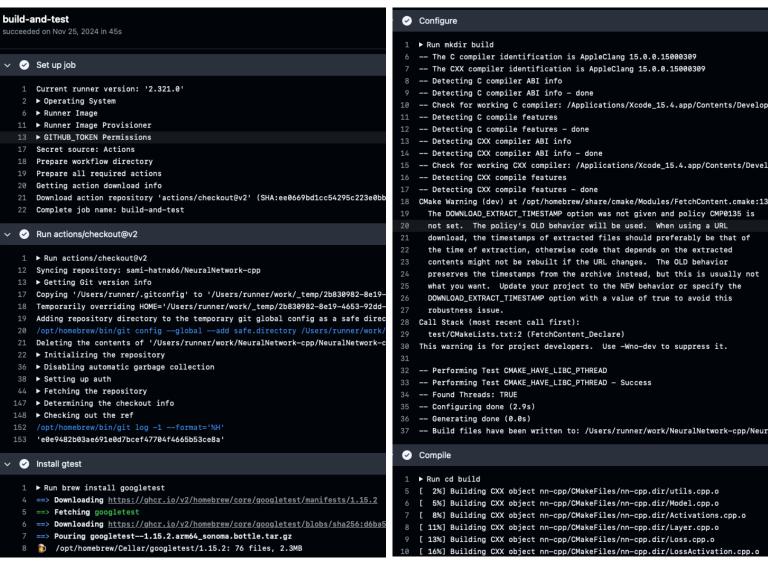
SQA Automation Setup

The project contains a number of automated testing and quality assurance measures which are explained in this document.

CI

The repository is setup to run an automated regression test suite whenever a change is pushed, or a pull request is merged. This functionality was implemented using Github actions. The CI workflow can be found in ./.github/workflows/run_tests.yml. It checks out the latest version of the code, installs dependencies, compiles the code, and then runs all of the tests. Any failing tests get reported as a pipeline failure. An example CI run can be viewed at https://github.com/sami-hatna66/NeuralNetwork-cpp/actions/runs/12014809253/job/33491450916. The screenshots below demonstrate the CI pipeline functioning as expected:



```
16%] Building CXX object nn-cpp/CMakeFiles/nn-cpp.dir/LossActivation.cpp.d
                                                                                      Test
    [ 19%] Building CXX object nn-cpp/CMakeFiles/nn-cpp.dir/Optimizers.cpp.o
    [ 22%] Building CXX object nn-cpp/CMakeFiles/nn-cpp.dir/Accuracy.cpp.o
                                                                                          ▶ Run cd build
    [ 25%] Building CXX object nn-cpp/CMakeFiles/nn-cpp.dir/ModelLayer.cpp.o
                                                                                                    ==] Running 83 tests from 9 test suites.
     27%] Linking CXX static library libnn-cpp.a
                                                                                                    -] Global test environment set-up.
     27%] Built target nn-cpp
                                                                                                     -] 1 test from HelloTest
     30%] Building CXX object _deps/googletest-build/googletest/CMakeFiles/gtest
                                                                                          [ RUN
                                                                                                     ] HelloTest.BasicAssertions
    [ 33%] Linking CXX static library ../../lib/libgtest.a
                                                                                                  OK ] HelloTest.BasicAssertions (0 ms)
    [ 33%] Built target gtest
                                                                                      10
                                                                                                    -] 1 test from HelloTest (0 ms total)
    [ 36%] Building CXX object _deps/googletest-build/googletest/CMakeFiles/gtes
    [ 38%] Linking CXX static library ../../lib/libgtest_main.a
20

    -] 20 tests from UtilsUnitTests/0, where TypeParam = float

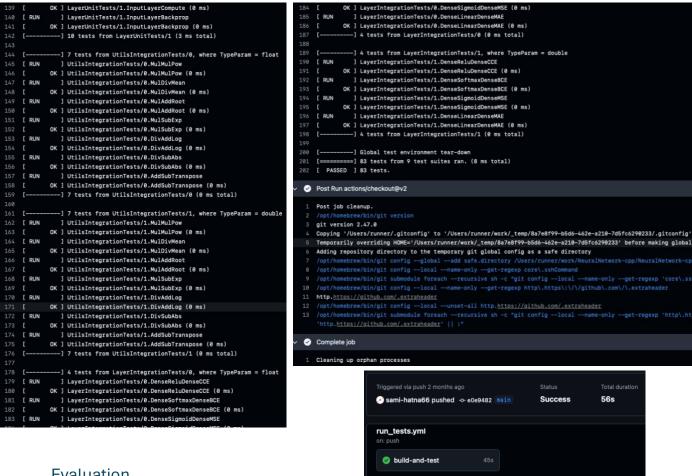
     38%] Built target gtest_main
                                                                                            RUN
                                                                                                     ] UtilsUnitTests/0.MatMulSmall
     41%] Building CXX object test/CMakeFiles/basic_test.dir/basic_test.cpp.o
                                                                                                  OK ] UtilsUnitTests/0.MatMulSmall (0 ms)
     44%] Linking CXX executable basic_test
                                                                                           RUN
                                                                                                     ] UtilsUnitTests/0.MatMulMed
     44%] Built target basic_test
                                                                                                  OK ] UtilsUnitTests/0.MatMulMed (0 ms)
     47%] Building CXX object test/CMakeFiles/utils_unit_tests.dir/utils_unit_te
                                                                                          [ RUN
                                                                                                     ] UtilsUnitTests/0.MatMulBig
    [ 50%] Linking CXX executable utils_unit_tests
                                                                                      18
                                                                                                  OK ] UtilsUnitTests/0.MatMulBig (0 ms)
    [ 50%] Built target utils_unit_tests
                                                                                          [ RUN
                                                                                                     ] UtilsUnitTests/0.ScalarMulSmall
    [ 52%] Building CXX object test/CMakeFiles/layer_unit_tests.dir/layer_unit_te
                                                                                                  OK ] UtilsUnitTests/0.ScalarMulSmall (0 ms)
    [ 55%] Linking CXX executable layer_unit_tests
                                                                                            RUN
                                                                                                     ] UtilsUnitTests/0.ScalarMulMed
     55%] Built target layer_unit_tests
30
                                                                                                  OK ] UtilsUnitTests/0.ScalarMulMed (0 ms)
      58%] Building CXX object test/CMakeFiles/utils_integration_tests.dir/utils
                                                                                            RUN
                                                                                                     ] UtilsUnitTests/0.ScalarMulBig
     61%] Linking CXX executable utils_integration_tests
                                                                                                     ] UtilsUnitTests/0.ScalarMulBig (0 ms)
     61%] Built target utils_integration_tests
                                                                                            RUN
                                                                                                      UtilsUnitTests/0.MatDivSmall
     63%] Building CXX object test/CMakeFiles/layer_integration_tests.dir/layer
                                                                                                  OK ] UtilsUnitTests/0.MatDivSmall (0 ms)
    [ 66%] Linking CXX executable layer_integration_tests
                                                                                           RUN
                                                                                                     1 UtilsUnitTests/0.MatDivMed
    [ 66%] Built target layer_integration_tests
                                                                                                  OK | UtilsUnitTests/0.MatDivMed (0 ms)
                                                                                      28
    [ 69%] Building CXX object test/CMakeFiles/test_all.dir/test_all.cpp.o
                                                                                                     ] UtilsUnitTests/0.MatDivBig
                                                                                            RUN
38
    [ 72%] Linking CXX executable test_all
                                                                                                     ] UtilsUnitTests/0.MatDivBig (0 ms)
      72%] Built target test_all
                                                                                            RUN
                                                                                                     ] UtilsUnitTests/0.PowerSmall
      75%] Building CXX object _deps/googletest-build/googlemock/CMakeFiles/gmo
                                                                                                  OK ] UtilsUnitTests/0.PowerSmall (0 ms)
      77%] Linking CXX static library ../../lib/libgmock.a
                                                                                           RUN
                                                                                                     ] UtilsUnitTests/0.ScalarDivSmall
      77%] Built target gmock
                                                                                                  OK ] UtilsUnitTests/0.ScalarDivSmall (0 ms)
     80%] Building CXX object _deps/googletest-build/googlemock/CMakeFiles/gmo
                                                                                          [ RUN
                                                                                                     1 UtilsUnitTests/0.ScalarSubSmall
    [ 83%] Linking CXX static library ../../lib/libgmock_main.a
                                                                                                  OK | UtilsUnitTests/0.ScalarSubSmall (0 ms)
    [ 83%] Built target gmock main
                                                                                          [ RUN
                                                                                                     ] UtilsUnitTests/0.PowerMed
    [ 86%] Building CXX object bench/CMakeFiles/utils bench.dir/utils bench.cpp.
                                                                                                  OK ] UtilsUnitTests/0.PowerMed (0 ms)
     88%] Linking CXX executable utils_bench
                                                                                            RUN
                                                                                                     ] UtilsUnitTests/0.PowerBig
     88%] Built target utils_bench
48
                                                                                                  OK ] UtilsUnitTests/0.PowerBig (0 ms)
     91%] Building CXX object bench/CMakeFiles/layer_bench.dir/layer_bench.cpp
                                                                                            RUN
                                                                                                     ] UtilsUnitTests/0.TransposeSmall
      94%] Linking CXX executable layer_bench
                                                                                                  OK ] UtilsUnitTests/0.TransposeSmall (0 ms)
    [ 94%] Built target layer_bench
                                                                                            RUN
                                                                                                     ] UtilsUnitTests/0.TransposeMed
    [ 97%] Building CXX object bench/CMakeFiles/system_bench.dir/system_bench.cpp
                                                                                                  OK ] UtilsUnitTests/0.TransposeMed (0 ms)
    [100%] Linking CXX executable system_bench
                                                                                            RUN
                                                                                                     ] UtilsUnitTests/0.TransposeBig
   [100%] Built target system_bench
                                                                                                  OK ] UtilsUnitTests/0.TransposeBig (0 ms)
                  UtilsUnitTests/0.MeanSmall
                                                                                                        UtilsUnitTests/1.MeanMed (0 ms)
```

```
OK ] UtilsUnitTests/0.MeanSmall (0 ms)
    [ RUN
               ] UtilsUnitTests/0.MeanMed
            OK ] UtilsUnitTests/0.MeanMed (0 ms)
50
               1 UtilsUnitTests/0.MeanBig
   [ RUN
            OK ] UtilsUnitTests/0.MeanBig (0 ms)
              -] 20 tests from UtilsUnitTests/0 (0 ms total)
               -] 20 tests from UtilsUnitTests/1, where TypeParam = double
    [ RUN
               ] UtilsUnitTests/1.MatMulSmall
            OK ] UtilsUnitTests/1.MatMulSmall (0 ms)
               ] UtilsUnitTests/1.MatMulMed
58
     RUN
            OK ] UtilsUnitTests/1.MatMulMed (0 ms)
60
    [ RUN
               1 UtilsUnitTests/1.MatMulBig
            OK | UtilsUnitTests/1.MatMulBig (0 ms)
    [ RUN
               ] UtilsUnitTests/1.ScalarMulSmall
            OK ] UtilsUnitTests/1.ScalarMulSmall (0 ms)
     RUN
               ] UtilsUnitTests/1.ScalarMulMed
            OK ] UtilsUnitTests/1.ScalarMulMed (0 ms)
      RUN
               ] UtilsUnitTests/1.ScalarMulBig
            OK ] UtilsUnitTests/1.ScalarMulBig (0 ms)
     RUN
               ] UtilsUnitTests/1.MatDivSmall
68
            OK | UtilsUnitTests/1.MatDivSmall (0 ms)
70
     RUN
               1 UtilsUnitTests/1.MatDivMed
            OK ] UtilsUnitTests/1.MatDivMed (0 ms)
     RUN
               ] UtilsUnitTests/1.MatDivBig
            OK ] UtilsUnitTests/1.MatDivBig (0 ms)
      RUN
               ] UtilsUnitTests/1.PowerSmall
            OK ] UtilsUnitTests/1.PowerSmall (0 ms)
               ] UtilsUnitTests/1.ScalarDivSmall
     RUN
            OK ] UtilsUnitTests/1.ScalarDivSmall (0 ms)
     RUN
               1 UtilsUnitTests/1.ScalarSubSmall
78
            OK ] UtilsUnitTests/1.ScalarSubSmall (0 ms)
80
    [ RUN
               ] UtilsUnitTests/1.PowerMed
            OK ] UtilsUnitTests/1.PowerMed (0 ms)
     RUN
               ] UtilsUnitTests/1.PowerBig
            OK ] UtilsUnitTests/1.PowerBig (0 ms)
      RUN
               ] UtilsUnitTests/1.TransposeSmall
            OK ] UtilsUnitTests/1.TransposeSmall (0 ms)
               1 UtilsUnitTests/1.TransposeMed
86
      RUN
            OK ] UtilsUnitTests/1.TransposeMed (0 ms)
88
     RUN
               ] UtilsUnitTests/1.TransposeBig
            OK ] UtilsUnitTests/1.TransposeBig (0 ms)
               ] UtilsUnitTests/1.MeanSmall
      RUN
            OK ] UtilsUnitTests/1.MeanSmall (0 ms)
```

UtileUnitTests/1 M

```
RUN
                ] UtilsUnitTests/1.MeanBig
             OK ] UtilsUnitTests/1.MeanBig (0 ms)
                -] 20 tests from UtilsUnitTests/1 (0 ms total)
96
98
               -] 10 tests from LayerUnitTests/0, where TypeParam = float
    [ RUN
                ] LayerUnitTests/0.DenseLayerInit
100
             OK ] LayerUnitTests/0.DenseLayerInit (1 ms)
101
      RUN
                ] LayerUnitTests/0.DenseLayerCompute
102
                ] LayerUnitTests/0.DenseLayerCompute (0 ms)
      RUN
                ] LayerUnitTests/0.DenseLayerBackpropNoReg
             OK ] LayerUnitTests/0.DenseLayerBackpropNoReg (0 ms)
                ] LayerUnitTests/0.DenseLayerBackpropL1Reg
    C
      RUN
             OK ] LayerUnitTests/0.DenseLayerBackpropL1Reg (0 ms)
106
      RUN
                1 LaverUnitTests/0.DenseLaverBackpropL2Reg
108
             OK ] LayerUnitTests/0.DenseLayerBackpropL2Reg (0 ms)
                ] LayerUnitTests/0.DropoutLayerComputeTrain
      RUN
                ] LayerUnitTests/0.DropoutLayerComputeTrain (0 ms)
      RUN
                ] LayerUnitTests/0.DropoutLayerComputeEval
             OK ] LayerUnitTests/0.DropoutLayerComputeEval (0 ms)
                ] LayerUnitTests/0.DropoutLayerBackprop
      RUN
             OK ] LayerUnitTests/0.DropoutLayerBackprop (0 ms)
                ] LayerUnitTests/0.InputLayerCompute
      RUN
             OK ] LayerUnitTests/0.InputLayerCompute (0 ms)
      RUN
                ] LayerUnitTests/0.InputLayerBackprop
118
             OK ] LayerUnitTests/0.InputLayerBackprop (0 ms)
                -] 10 tests from LayerUnitTests/0 (2 ms total)
120
               -] 10 tests from LayerUnitTests/1, where TypeParam = double
    [ RUN
                ] LayerUnitTests/1.DenseLayerInit
             OK ] LayerUnitTests/1.DenseLayerInit (2 ms)
                ] LayerUnitTests/1.DenseLayerCompute
      RUN
124
             OK ] LayerUnitTests/1.DenseLayerCompute (0 ms)
      RUN
                ] LayerUnitTests/1.DenseLayerBackpropNoReg
             OK ] LayerUnitTests/1.DenseLayerBackpropNoReg (0 ms)
      RUN
                ] LayerUnitTests/1.DenseLayerBackpropL1Reg
                ] LayerUnitTests/1.DenseLayerBackpropL1Reg (0 ms)
      RUN
                ] LayerUnitTests/1.DenseLayerBackpropL2Reg
             OK ] LayerUnitTests/1.DenseLayerBackpropL2Reg (0 ms)
                l LaverUnitTests/1.DropoutLaverComputeTrain
      RUN
             OK ] LayerUnitTests/1.DropoutLayerComputeTrain (0 ms)
      RUN
                ] \  \, \mathsf{LayerUnitTests/1.DropoutLayerComputeEval}
             OK ] LayerUnitTests/1.DropoutLayerComputeEval (0 ms)
      RUN
                ] LayerUnitTests/1.DropoutLayerBackprop
             OK ] LayerUnitTests/1.DropoutLayerBackprop (0 ms)
```

rlinitTests/1 InputlaverCo

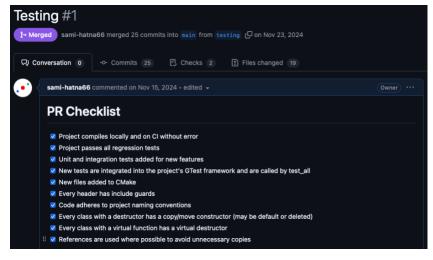


Evaluation

Currently, the tests only run on a MacOS server, as this was the platform the library was developed on. If I had more time, I would have extended the pipeline to different operating systems and compilers. This can be done in Github actions using a matrix strategy which creates multiple pipeline configurations based on combinations of environment variables. The current pipeline only runs the unit and integration tests. It doesn't run the system tests because they would exceed the runtime limit on the free tier of Github actions. If I had the budget, I would rent a more capable server and add the system tests to the pipeline. With a higher budget I could also add performance regression testing to the pipeline, possibly feeding the outputs into a Grafana dashboard to produce nicely presented daily performance reports.

PR Templates

A simple automation measure I included to improve software quality is adding an automatic checklist to every pull request opened against the repo. The checklist contains a number of guidelines for C++ programming best practices, thus encouraging anyone contributing to the project to think about the quality of the code they are submitting before trying to get it merged in. Below is an example PR with the checklist automatically added:



Code Coverage Reporting

The final instance of SQA automation I added was code coverage report generation using a tool called gcovr. gcovr is a utility for the code coverage tool gcov which generates appealing HTML reports from gcov's opaque text-based outputs. Automated code coverage reporting is worked into the project's build system by adding a CMake option ENABLE_GCOV (see project README for more detailed instructions). After running the tests, one need only build the 'coverage' target to generate the reports. Below is a screenshot of the code coverage report. The full coverage report can be viewed by opening ./coverage/coverage.html in your browser. Detailed analysis can be found in the "Test and Benchmark Results" document.

| File | Lines | | | Functions | | Branches | |
|---|-------|--------|-----------|-----------|-----------|----------|-------------|
| bench/layer_bench.cpp | | 0.0% | 0 / 69 | 0.0% | 0 / 25 | 0.0% | 0/86 |
| bench/system_bench.cpp | I | 0.0% | 0 / 38 | 0.0% | 0/5 | 0.0% | 0/52 |
| bench/utils_bench.cpp | | 0.0% | 0 / 66 | 0.0% | 0 / 22 | 0.0% | 0/98 |
| nn-cpp/Accuracy.cpp | I | 0.0% | 0 / 43 | 0.0% | 0 / 14 | 0.0% | 0/84 |
| nn-cpp/Activations.cpp | | 38.2% | 39 / 102 | 33.3% | 8 / 24 | 24.0% | 46 / 192 |
| nn-cpp/Layer.cpp | | 81.9% | 127 / 155 | 67.9% | 38 / 56 | 63.2% | 172 / 272 |
| nn-cpp/Loss.cpp | | 42.1% | 82 / 195 | 38.5% | 10 / 26 | 31.9% | 106 / 332 |
| nn-cpp/LossActivation.cpp | | 0.0% | 0/31 | 0.0% | 0 / 10 | 0.0% | 0/44 |
| nn-cpp/Model.cpp | | 0.0% | 0 / 156 | 0.0% | 0 / 1152 | 0.0% | 0 / 13696 |
| nn-cpp/ModelLayer.cpp | | 22.2% | 2/9 | 40.0% | 4/10 | -% | 0/0 |
| nn-cpp/Optimizers.cpp | | 0.0% | 0 / 80 | 0.0% | 0 / 24 | 0.0% | 0 / 424 |
| nn-cpp/utils.cpp | | 100.0% | 180 / 180 | 100.0% | 40 / 40 | 74.7% | 236 / 316 |
| sample/MnistSample.cpp | | 0.0% | 0 / 89 | 0.0% | 0/3 | 0.0% | 0 / 284 |
| <pre>test/basic_test.cpp</pre> | | 100.0% | 4/4 | 100.0% | 3/3 | 30.0% | 12 / 40 |
| test/layer_integration_tests.cpp | | 100.0% | 76 / 76 | 100.0% | 28 / 28 | 39.4% | 168 / 426 |
| test/layer_unit_tests.cpp | | 100.0% | 304 / 304 | 100.0% | 64 / 64 | 35.1% | 960 / 2734 |
| test/test_all.cpp | | 100.0% | 3/3 | 100.0% | 1/1 | -% | 0/0 |
| <pre>test/utils_integration_tests.cpp</pre> | | 100.0% | 56 / 56 | 100.0% | 46 / 46 | 34.9% | 352 / 1008 |
| test/utils_unit_tests.cpp | | 100.0% | 690 / 690 | 100.0% | 124 / 124 | 40.1% | 1728 / 4310 |

Evaluation

gcovr currently crashes if you try to generate reports after running the system tests. Some preliminary debugging seems to suggest it is a problem with running gcov on OpenCV dependencies which are used for image handling in the system tests. I didn't have enough time to debug this, and it is likely a problem on gcovr's side, so outside the scope of what I can resolve. The outputs pictured above are from running the unit and integration tests; code coverage would be higher if the system tests were accounted for.