

CAS Advanced Machine Learning 2022 University of Bern

American Sign Language Recognition with DeepLearning

CAS Final Project

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American Sign Language Recognition with DeepLearning

Abstract - This study presents the research conducted during the Certificate of Advanced Studies (CAS) in Advanced Machine Learning program of 2022 at the University of Bern, focusing on the development of an intricate approach for the recognition of distinct signs in American Sign Language (ASL). The work is inspired from the 2023 Kaggle Isolated Sign Language Recognition challenge by Google [1]. The cornerstone of this project is building a robust and deep-learning framework-agnostic setup that can be adapted to train models in either TensorFlow or PyTorch, wherein exhaustive testing with numerous models to identify one among 250 unique signs in short video sequences supplied by Kaggle. The highest-performing models yielded an overall test accuracy of approximately 78 %. The design of this project framework is modular, making it a viable reference for future endeavours in diverse deep learning

Keywords - Sign Language Recognition, American Sign Language (ASL), Kaggle Isolated Sign Language Recognition challenge, Deep learning

1 Introduction

For the development of a game to facilitate learning sign language, Google has partnered with the Georgia Institute of Technology, the National Technical Institute for the Deaf at Rochester Institute of Technology, and Deaf Professional Arts Network to compile a comprehensive data set so that a model can be developed to help learn the language [5].

In response to these challenges, we developed machine learning models capable of recognizing and classifying isolated ASL signs. Unlike previous attempts [6], our current models have been developed using both TensorFlow and PyTorch frameworks, demonstrating our commitment to the utilization of state-of-the-art technologies. We have implemented a deep learning framework agnostic trainer, which allows us to train these models and document the results in a flexible, efficient manner. Our aim was to provide a more effective tool for ASL recognition and learning, creating a more inclusive environment for deaf children and their families, thereby improving communication, and reducing the potential impacts

of Language Deprivation Syndrome.

1.1 Scope of the project

The objectives of this project were dual pronged. The first aim was to leverage the power of Deep Learning to extract valuable insights from an existing dataset. Concurrently, we strived to avoid binding our project to a single Deep Learning framework. Our approach was focused on establishing a versatile boilerplate setup conducive for the development of models using both PyTorch and TensorFlow frameworks. This strategy enabled us to delve into and exploit the unique capabilities and subtleties of each platform, ensuring our work was framework-agnostic and compatible with the most widely used Deep Learning technologies.

By implementing the boilerplate setup, we aimed to streamline the process of deploying Deep Learning models in real-world scenarios, regardless of the framework preference of the end-users. The goal was to provide a unified and easily adaptable codebase that could be utilized by others working with Deep Learning models, simplifying the transition from development to deployment. Through this project's scope, we sought to advance our understanding of Deep Learning concepts, maximize the potential of the dataset, and contribute to the broader Deep Learning community by providing a practical solution for model deployment using PyTorch and TensorFlow.

In the spirit of creating a user-friendly and dynamic setup, we centralized the control over various inputs through the config.py file. This configuration file offers a one-stop solution for defining and tweaking project-specific parameters, settings, and variables. Users can readily customize the project's behavior and characteristics by simply adjusting the values in the config.py file, thereby eliminating the need to directly modify the code.

The project involved rigorous data preprocessing, cleaning, and augmentation to tailor the dataset for the specific use case. The setup was designed to be scalable, capable of handling larger datasets or more complex models. It was built with a view to accommodate future developments in deep learning and sign language recognition. One key aspect of the scope was to create reusable modules and functions to ensure that parts of the project can be easily used in other similar

tasks, thereby reducing future development time. Thereby we entailed detailed documentation to ensure that other researchers and developers can easily understand and extend the work done.

1.2 Dataset

2 hahahaha

The dataset used for this project was provided by Google and hosted by Kaggle and was part of the 2023 challenge Isolated Sign Language Recognition [1][3]. This rich and comprehensive dataset has been a joint contribution from Google, the Georgia Institute of Technology, the National Technical Institute for the Deaf at Rochester Institute of Technology, and Deaf Professional Arts Network. The data comprised a total of 54.43 GB of processed data. split into 94'479 unique files containing one of 250 distinct signs. Each sign is performed by different participants, thus capturing a wide variety of signing styles, personal quirks, and potential minor variations in sign performance. This arrangement allows for the capture of a broad spectrum of signing styles, personal idiosyncrasies, and possible minor discrepancies in sign execution. The breadth and depth of this dataset make it an invaluable resource for understanding and modeling sign language patterns. The videos are preprocessed using the MediaPipe -Holistic pipeline [1] and are thus represented as a series of 543 distinct landmark coordinates (x,y,z). The landmarks comprise coordinates for pose, both hands, and face. This representation not only helps reduce the data complexity but also enables efficient and accurate analysis of the sign language patterns.



Fig. 1: Example of landmarks gathered from MediaPipe Holistic Model. Source of the image: MediaPipe github repository.

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blindtext blindtext

2.1 Modeling

Given that the proposed problem involves classifying sequences of data, specifically sequences of frames with coordinates, it can be considered as a multidimensional sequence classification problem [9]. In such cases, sequence modeling techniques are often well-suited for addressing these challenges effectively. Sequence modeling approaches are designed to capture and understand the dependencies and patterns present in sequential data. These techniques consider the temporal nature of the data and aim to learn representations or models that can effectively capture and exploit the sequential information.

To ensure maximum flexibility and facilitate the implementation and testing of different models, a custom Trainer class was developed as a bridge between the TensorFlow and Py-Torch deep learning frameworks. This Trainer class serves as an interface for training, validating, and testing models, allowing seamless transitions between the two frameworks. With this Trainer class, the project benefits from a consistent and standardized approach to model training and evaluation, regardless of whether TensorFlow or PyTorch is being used. This class abstracts away the framework-specific details, providing a higher-level interface for working with models, datasets, optimization, and evaluation metrics.

Our initial hypothesis for training with processed fixed sequence data of ASL signs led us to focus on sequence-based models like LSTM and Transformers. These models have shown promising results in handling sequential data, outperforming older models like RNNs in terms of accuracy. While CNNs, such as ResNet-152 used for baseline comparison, have their strengths, they are not inherently designed for sequence data. We then moved to explore an array of model architectures, creating multiple combinations of LSTM and Transformer models and even creating ensembles to maximize accuracy.

Subsequent sections provide an in-depth exploration and discussion of the various models we experimented with, the challenges we faced, and the results we obtained.

3 Baseline Computer-Vision Model (CV)

Our preprocessing routine, detailed in chapter III, shaped the input sequences into a format akin to image data. The sequences took the shape of (BATCH_SIZE, 32,96,2) for (BATCH_SIZE, SEQ_LEN, Number of landmarks, Number of coordinates). This strongly resembles the shape of images. (..., Height, Width, channels). Thus, given this resemblance to image data, simple computer vision (CV) techniques were tested as an initial approach to the problem.

Summarize the main findings and conclusions of the report.

Hello, here is some text without a meaning. This text should show what a printed text will look like at this place. If you read this text, you will get no information. Really? Is there no information? Is there a difference between this text and some nonsense like "Huardest gefburn"? Kjift – not at all!

2. hahahaha 3

A blind text like this gives you information about the selected font, how the letters are written and an impression of the look. This text should contain all letters of the alphabet and it should be written in of the original language. There is no need for special content, but the length of words should match the language. Hello, here is some text without a meaning. This text should show what a printed text will look like at this place. If you read this text, you will get no information. Really? Is there no information? Is there a difference between this text and some nonsense like "Huardest gefburn"? Kjift - not at all! A blind text like this gives you information about the selected font, how the letters are written and an impression of the look. This text should contain all letters of the alphabet and it should be written in of the original language. There is no need for special content, but the length of words should match the language.

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$$L(y, \hat{y}) = -\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} y_i \log(\hat{y}_i) + (1 - y_i) \log(1 - \hat{y}_i)$$
 (2.1)

As shown in Equation (??), the loss function is defined as ... [2].

Table 1: :label: asdfsadfasdf

Met- ric	count	mean	std	min	25%	50%	75%	max
Value	250	37.9	5.2	26.4	34.3	37.8	41.2	58.8

MODELNAME	Acc.	Loss	F1	Prec.	Rec.
${\bf HybridEnsemble Model}$	0.61	1.57	0.59	0.62	0.60
${\bf Transformer Ensemble}$	0.62	1.66	0.61	0.62	0.61
YetAnotherEnsemble	0.75	1.25	0.73	0.74	0.74
HybridModel	0.75	0.96	0.74	0.75	0.74
HybridEnsembleModel	0.75	1.32	0.74	0.75	0.74
HybridModel	0.76	1.38	0.75	0.77	0.75



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Fig. 2: Figure caption goes here.

Chapter 3

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Bibliography 8

Appendix A

Data Augmentations

```
augmentations.frame\_dropout(frames, dropout rate=0.05)
```

Randomly drop frames from the input landmark data.

Args:

frames (numpy.ndarray): An array of landmarks data. dropout_rate (float): The proportion of frames to drop (default: 0.05).

Returns:

numpy.ndarray: An array of landmarks with dropped frames.

augmentations.mirror_landmarks(frames)

Invert/mirror landmark coordinates along the x-axis.

Args:

frames (numpy.ndarray): An array of landmarks data.

Returns:

numpy.ndarray: An array of inverted landmarks.

augmentations.normalize(frames, mn, std)

Normalize the frames with a given mean and standard deviation.

Args:

frames (numpy.ndarray): An array of landmarks data. mn (float): The mean value for normalization. std (float): The standard deviation for normalization.

Returns:

numpy.ndarray: An array of normalized landmarks.

$\verb|augmentations.random_rotation|| \textit{frames}, \textit{max}_\textit{angle} = 10)$

Apply random rotation to landmark coordinates. (on X and Y only)

Args:

frames (numpy.ndarray): An array of landmarks data. max_angle (int): The maximum rotation angle in degrees (default: 10).

Returns:

numpy.ndarray: An array of landmarks with randomly rotated coordinates.

$augmentations.random_scaling(frames, scale_range=(0.9, 1.1))$

Apply random scaling to landmark coordinates.

Args:

frames (numpy.ndarray): An array of landmarks data. scale_range (tuple): A tuple containing the minimum and maximum scaling factors (default: (0.9, 1.1)).

Returns:

numpy.ndarray: An array of landmarks with randomly scaled coordinates.

augmentations.shift_landmarks(frames, max shift=0.01)

Shift landmark coordinates randomly by a small amount.

Args:

frames (numpy.ndarray): An array of landmarks data. max_shift (float): Maximum shift for the random shift (default: 0.01).

Returns

numpy.ndarray: An array of augmented landmarks.

$\verb"augmentations.standardize" (\textit{frames})$

Standardize the frames so that they have mean 0 and standard deviation 1.

Args:

frames (numpy.ndarray): An array of landmarks data.

Returns:

numpy.ndarray: An array of standardized landmarks.

Appendix B

Training Callbacks

B.1 Callbacks description

This module contains callback codes which may be executed during training. These callbacks are used to dynamically adjust the dropout rate and data augmentation probability during the training process, which can be useful techniques to prevent overfitting and increase the diversity of the training data, potentially improving the model's performance.

The dropout_callback function is designed to increase the dropout rate of the model during the training process after a certain number of epochs. The dropout rate is a regularization technique used to prevent overfitting during the training process. The rate of dropout is increased every few epochs based on a specified rate until it reaches a specified maximum limit.

The augmentation_increase_callback: function is designed to increase the probability of data augmentation applied to the dataset during the training process after a certain number of epochs. Data augmentation is a technique that can generate new training samples by applying transformations to the existing data. The probability of data augmentation is increased every few epochs based on a specified rate until it reaches a specified maximum limit.

$\verb|callbacks.augmentation_increase_callback(| trainer, | aug_increase_rate = 1.5, | max_limit = 0.35)|$

A callback function designed to increase the probability of data augmentation applied on the dataset during the training process. Data augmentation is a technique that can generate new training samples by applying transformations to the existing data.

The increase in data augmentation is performed every few epochs based on 'DYNAMIC_AUG_INC_INTERVAL' until it reaches a specified maximum limit.

Args:

trainer: The object that contains the model and handles the training process. aug_increase_rate: The rate at which data augmentation probability is increased. Default is value of 'DYNAMIC_AUG_INC_RATE' from config. max_limit: The maximum limit to which data augmentation probability can be increased. Default is value of 'DYNAMIC AUG MAX THRESHOLD' from config.

Returns:

None

Functionality:

Increases the probability of data augmentation applied on the dataset after certain number of epochs defined by 'DYNAMIC AUG INC INTERVAL'.

Parameters

- trainer Trainer object handling the training process
- aug_increase_rate Rate at which to increase the data augmentation probability
- max_limit Maximum allowable data augmentation probability

Returns

None

Return type

None

 $\verb|callbacks.dropout_callback|| \textit{trainer}, \textit{dropout}_rate = 1.1, \textit{max}_dropout = 0.3 \verb|)|$

A callback function designed to increase the dropout rate of the model in training after a certain number of epochs. The dropout rate is a regularization technique which helps in preventing overfitting during the training process.

The rate of dropout is increased every few epochs based on the config parameter (in config.py) 'DY-NAMIC_DROP_OUT_REDUCTION_INTERVAL' until a maximum threshold defined by 'max_dropout'. This function is usually called after each epoch in the training process.

Args:

trainer: The object that contains the model and handles the training process. dropout_rate: The rate at which the dropout rate is increased. Default is value of 'DYNAMIC_DROP_OUT_REDUCTION_RATE' from config. max_dropout: The maximum limit to which dropout can be increased. Default is value of 'DYNAMIC_DROP_OUT_MAX_THRESHOLD' from config.

Returns:

None

Functionality:

Increases the dropout rate of all nn.Dropout modules in the model after certain number of epochs defined by 'DYNAMIC_DROP_OUT_REDUCTION_INTERVAL'.

Parameters

- trainer Trainer object handling the training process
- dropout_rate Rate at which to increase the dropout rate
- max_dropout Maximum allowable dropout rate

Returns

None

Return type

None

Appendix C

Project Configuration

C.1 Project configuration description

This configuration is created allows for easy tuning of your machine learning model's parameters and setup. The device on which the model runs, the paths for various resources, the seed for random number generation, hyperparameters for model training, and much more and quickly be change and configured. This makes your setup flexible and easy to adapt for various experiments and environments

```
config.BATCH_SIZE = 128
    Training Batch Size
config.CHECKPOINT_DIR = 'checkpoints/'
    Checkpoint files Directory path
config.CLEANED_FILE = 'cleansed_data.marker'
    File that marks the data cleaning stage.
config.COLUMNS_TO_USE = ['x', 'y']
    Coordinate columns from the data to use for training.
config.DATA_DIR = 'data/'
    Data files Directory path
config.DEVICE = 'cpu'
    Setting the device for training, 'cuda' if a CUDA-compatible GPU is available, 'mps' if multiple processors are available,
    'cpu' if none of the above.
config.DL_FRAMEWORK = 'pytorch'
    Deep learning framework to use for training and inference. Can be either 'pytorch' or 'tensorflow'.
config.DYNAMIC_AUG_INC_INTERVAL = 5
    The number of epochs to wait before increasing the probability of data augmentation.
config.DYNAMIC_AUG_INC_RATE = 1.5
    The rate at which the probability of data augmentation is increased.
config.DYNAMIC_AUG_MAX_THRESHOLD = 0.4
    The maximum limit to which the probability of data augmentation can be increased.
config.DYNAMIC_DROP_OUT_INIT_RATE = 0.01
    The value of initial low dropouts rate
config.DYNAMIC_DROP_OUT_MAX_THRESHOLD = 0.35
    The max value of dynamic dropouts
config.DYNAMIC_DROP_OUT_REDUCTION_INTERVAL = 2
    The epoch interval value to gradually change dropout rate
```

```
config.DYNAMIC_DROP_OUT_REDUCTION_RATE = 1.1
    The value to increase dropouts by
config.EARLY_STOP_METRIC = 'accuracy'
    Which metric should be used for early stopping loss/accuracy
config.EARLY_STOP_MODE = 'max'
    What is the mode? min/max
config.EARLY_STOP_PATIENCE = 5
    The number of epochs to wait for improvement in the validation loss before stopping training
config.EARLY_STOP_TOLERENCE = 0.001
    The value of loss as margin to tolerate
config.EPOCHS = 60
    Training Number of epochs
config.FACE_FEATURES = 468
    Number of features related to the face in the data.
config.FACE_FEATURE_START = 0
    Start index for face feature in the data.
21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39], dtype=int64)
    Indices of face landmarks that are used from the data.
config.FACE_LANDMARKS = array([ 61, 185, 40, 39, 37, 0, 267, 269, 270, 409, 291, 146, 91, 181, 84, 17,
314, 405, 321, 375, 78, 191, 80, 81, 82, 13, 312, 311, 310, 415, 95, 88, 178, 87, 14, 317, 402, 318, 324,
3081)
    Landmarks for Lips
config.HAND_FEATURES = 21
    Number of features related to the hand in the data.
config.HAND_INDICES = array([40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58,
59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81], dtype=int64)
    Indices of hand landmarks that are used from the data.
config.INPUT_SIZE = 32
    Size of the input data for the model.
config.INTEREMOLATE_MISSING = 3
    Number of missing values to interpolate in the data.
config.LANDMARK_FILES = 'train_landmark_files'
    Directory where training landmark files are stored.
config.LEARNING_RATE = 0.001
    Training Learning rate
config.LEFT_HAND_FEATURE_START = 468
    Start index for left hand feature in the data.
config.LEFT_HAND_INDICES = array([40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57,
58, 59, 60], dtype=int64)
    Indices of left hand landmarks that are used from the data.
config.LIMIT_BATCHES = 3
    Number of batches to run (Only active if FAST DEV RUN is set to True)
config.LIMIT_EPOCHS = 1
    Number of Epochs to run (Only active if FAST DEV RUN is set to True)
```

```
config.LOG_METRICS = ['Accuracy', 'Loss', 'F1Score', 'Precision', 'Recall']
                   Training/Validation/Testing will only be done on LIMIT BATCHES and LIMIT EPOCHS, if
      Warning:
      FAST DEV RUN is set to True
config.MAP_JSON_FILE = 'sign_to_prediction_index_map.json'
    JSON file that maps sign to prediction index.
config.MARKER_FILE = 'preprocessed_data.marker'
    File that marks the preprocessing stage.
config.MAX_SEQUENCES = 32
    Maximum number of sequences in the input data.
config.MIN_SEQUEENCES = 8.0
    Minimum number of sequences in the input data.
config.MODELNAME = 'CVTransferLearningModel'
    Name of the model to be used for training.
config.MODEL_DIR = 'models/'
    Model files Directory path
config.N_CLASSES = 250
    Number of classes
config.N_DIMS = 2
    Number of dimensions used in training
config.N_LANDMARKS = 96
    Total number of used landmarks
config.OUT_DIR = 'out/'
    Output files Directory path
config.POSE_FEATURES = 33
    Number of features related to the pose in the data.
config.POSE_FEATURE_START = 489
    Start index for pose feature in the data.
config.POSE_INDICES = array([82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95], dtype=int64)
    Indices of pose landmarks that are used from the data.
config.PROCESSED_DATA_DIR = 'data/processed/'
    Processed Data files Directory path
config.RAW_DATA_DIR = 'data/raw/'
    Raw Data files Directory path
config.RIGHT_HAND_FEATURE_START = 522
    Start index for right hand feature in the data.
config.RIGHT_HAND_INDICES = array([61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77,
78, 79, 80, 81], dtype=int64)
    Indices of right hand landmarks that are used from the data.
config.ROOT_PATH = 'C:\\Users\\fs.GUNDP\\Python\\CAS-AML-FINAL-PROJECT\\src\\..'
    Root directory
config.ROWS_PER_FRAME = 543
    Number of rows per frame in the data.
config.RUNS_DIR = 'runs/'
```

Run files Directory path

```
config.SEED = 0
    Set Random Seed
config.SKIP_CONSECUTIVE_ZEROS = 4
    Skip data if there are this many consecutive zeros.
config.SRC_DIR = 'src/'
    Source files Directory path
config.TEST_SIZE = 0.05
    Testing Test set size
config.TRAIN_CSV_FILE = 'train.csv'
    CSV file name that contains the training dataset.
config.TRAIN_SIZE = 0.9
    Training Train set split size
config.TUNE_HP = True
    Tune hyperparameters
config.USED_FACE_FEATURES = 40
    Count of facial features used
config.USED_HAND_FEATURES = 21
    Count of hands features used (single hand only)
config.USED_POSE_FEATURES = 14
    Count of body/pose features used
config.USEFUL_ALL_LANDMARKS = array([ 61, 185, 40, 39, 37, 0, 267, 269, 270, 409, 291, 146, 91, 181, 84,
17, 314, 405, 321, 375, 78, 191, 80, 81, 82, 13, 312, 311, 310, 415, 95, 88, 178, 87, 14, 317, 402, 318,
324, 308, 468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486,
487, 488, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540,
541, 542, 500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512, 513])
    All Landmarks
config.USEFUL_FACE_LANDMARKS = array([ 61, 185, 40, 39, 37, 0, 267, 269, 270, 409, 291, 146, 91, 181, 84,
17, 314, 405, 321, 375, 78, 191, 80, 81, 82, 13, 312, 311, 310, 415, 95, 88, 178, 87, 14, 317, 402, 318,
324, 308])
    Landmarks for face
config.USEFUL_HAND_LANDMARKS = array([468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479, 480,
481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488, 522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533, 534,
535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542])
    Landmarks for both hands
config.USEFUL_LEFT_HAND_LANDMARKS = array([468, 469, 470, 471, 472, 473, 474, 475, 476, 477, 478, 479,
480, 481, 482, 483, 484, 485, 486, 487, 488])
    Landmarks for left hand
config.USEFUL_POSE_LANDMARKS = array([500, 501, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 507, 508, 509, 510, 511, 512,
513])
    Landmarks for pose
config.USEFUL_RIGHT_HAND_LANDMARKS = array([522, 523, 524, 525, 526, 527, 528, 529, 530, 531, 532, 533,
534, 535, 536, 537, 538, 539, 540, 541, 542])
    Landmarks for right hand
config.VALID_SIZE = 0.05
    Training Validation set size
```

Appendix D

Data Utilities

D.1 Data processing Utils description

This module handles the loading and preprocessing of data. It is specifically tailored for loading ASL sign language dataset where the raw data includes information about the position of hands, face, and body over time.

ASL stands for American Sign Language, which is a natural language used by individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing to communicate through hand gestures and facial expressions.

The dataset consists of sequences of frames, where each frame contains multiple "landmarks". Each of these landmarks has multiple features, such as coordinates. The landmarks may represent various aspects of human body, such as facial features, hand positions, and body pose.

This module is used to process the raw data, to create a uniform dataset where all sequences are of the same length and all missing values have been handled in a way that maintains the integrity of the data. This involves steps like detecting and removing empty frames, selecting specific landmarks, resizing sequences and handling NaN values.

${\tt data.data_utils.calculate_avg_landmark_positions(} \textit{dataset})$

Calculate the average landmark positions for left-hand, right-hand, and face landmarks for each sign in the dataset. The purpose of this function is to compute the average positions of landmarks for left-hand, right-hand, and face for each sign in the training dataset.

Returns: List: Containing a dictionary with average x/y positions with keys - 'left hand' - 'right hand' - 'face'

Functionality: - The function takes an ASLDataset object as an input, which contains the training data. - It calculates the average landmark positions for left-hand, right-hand, and face landmarks for each sign in the dataset. - The function returns a list containing a dictionary with average x/y positions with keys 'left_hand', 'right_hand', and 'face' for each sign.

Parameters

dataset (ASL_DATASET) - The ASL dataset object containing the training data.

Returns

A list containing a dictionary with average x/y positions with keys 'left_hand', 'right_hand', and 'face' for each sign. :rtype: List[Dict[str, np.ndarray]]

data.data_utils.calculate_landmark_length_stats()

Calculate statistics of landmark lengths for each sign type.

Returns: dict: A dictionary of landmark lengths for each sign type containing: - \min - \max - \max

Functionality: - The function reads the CSV file. - It groups the DataFrame by sign. - An empty dictionary is created to store average landmarks for each sign type. - The function loops through each unique sign and its corresponding rows in the grouped DataFrame. - For each sign, it initializes a list to store the length of landmarks for each example of the current sign. - It loops through each row of the current sign type, loads the data, and adds the length of landmarks of the current example to the list of current sign data. - The function calculates the minimum, maximum, mean, standard deviation, and median of the landmarks for the current sign and updates the dictionary. - The resulting dictionary containing average landmarks for each sign type is returned.

Returns

A dictionary of landmark lengths for each sign type containing minimum, maximum, mean, median & standard

deviation :rtype: dict

data_data_utils.create_data_loaders(asl dataset, train size=0.9, valid size=0.05, test size=0.05, batch size=128, random state=0, dl framework='tensorflow', num workers=16)

Split the ASL dataset into training, validation, and testing sets and create data loaders for each set.

Args: asl dataset (ASLDataset): The ASL dataset to load data from. train_size (float, optional): The proportion of the dataset to include in the training set. Defaults to 0.8. valid size (float, optional): The proportion of the dataset to include in the validation set. Defaults to 0.1. test size (float, optional): The proportion of the dataset to include in the testing set. Defaults to 0.1. batch size (int, optional): The number of samples per batch to load. Defaults to BATCH SIZE. random state (int, optional): The seed used by the random number generator for shuffling the data. Defaults to SEED.

Returns: tuple of DataLoader: A tuple containing the data loaders for training, validation, and testing sets.

Parameters

- asl_dataset (ASLDataset) The ASL dataset to load data from.
- train_size (float) The proportion of the dataset to include in the training set.
- valid_size (float) The proportion of the dataset to include in the validation set.
- test_size (float) The proportion of the dataset to include in the testing set.
- batch_size (int) The number of samples per batch to load.
- random_state (int) The seed used by the random number generator for shuffling the data.

Returns

A tuple containing the data loaders for training, validation, and testing sets.

Return type

tuple of DataLoader

data.data_utils.interpolate_missing_values(arr, max gap=3)

This function provides a solution for handling missing values in the data array. It interpolates these missing values, filling them with plausible values that maintain the overall data integrity. The function uses a linear interpolation method that assumes a straight line between the two points on either side of the gap. The maximum gap size for which interpolation should be performed is also configurable.

Arguments: The function takes two arguments - an array with missing values, and a maximum gap size for interpolation. If the size of the gap (i.e., number of consecutive missing values) is less than or equal to this specified maximum gap size, the function will fill it with interpolated values. This ensures that the data maintains its continuity without making too far-fetched estimations for larger gaps.

arr (np.ndarray): Input array with missing values. max gap (int, optional): Maximum gap to fill. Defaults to INTEREMOLATE MISSING.

Returns:

np.ndarray: Array with missing values interpolated.

Functionality:

Interpolates missing values in the array. The function fills gaps of up to a maximum size with interpolated values, maintaining data integrity and continuity.

Returns

Array with missing values interpolated.

Return type

np.ndarray

Parameters

- arr (np.ndarray) Input array with missing values.
- max_gap (int) Maximum gap to fill.

This function uses linear interpolation to fill the missing values. Other forms of interpolation such as polynomial or spline may provide better results for specific types of data. It is also worth noting that no imputation method can fully recover original data, and as such, results should be interpreted with caution when working with imputed data.

data.data_utils.load_relevant_data_subset(pq path)

This function serves a key role in handling data in our pipeline by loading only a subset of the relevant data from a given path. The primary purpose of this is to reduce memory overhead when working with large datasets. The implementation relies on efficient data loading strategies, leveraging the speed of Parquet file format and the ability to read in only necessary chunks of data instead of the whole dataset.

The function takes as input a string which represents the path to the data file. It makes use of pandas' parquet read function to read the data file. This function is particularly suited for reading large datasets as it allows for efficient on-disk storage and fast query capabilities. The function uses PyArrow library as the engine for reading the parquet files which ensures efficient and fast reading of data. After reading the data, the function selects the relevant subset based on certain criteria, which is task specific.

Args:

pq_path (str): Path to the data file.

Returns:

np.ndarray: Subset of the relevant data as a NumPy array.

Functionality:

Loads a subset of the relevant data from a given path.

Returns

Subset of the relevant data.

Return type

np.ndarray

Parameters

pq_path (str) - Path to the data file.

The function assumes that the data file is in parquet format and the necessary libraries for reading parquet files are installed. It also assumes that the path provided is a valid path to the data file.

data.data_utils.preprocess_data(landmarks)

This function preprocesses the input data by applying similar steps as the preprocess_data_to_same_size function, but with the difference that it does not interpolate missing values. The function again targets to adjust the size of the input data to align with the INPUT_SIZE. It selects only non-empty frames and follows similar strategies of padding, repeating, and pooling the data for size alignment.

Args:

landmarks (np.ndarray): The input array with landmarks data.

Returns:

Tuple[np.ndarray, int]: A tuple containing processed landmark data and the final size of the data.

Parameters

landmarks (np.ndarray) - The input array with landmarks data.

Returns

A tuple containing processed landmark data and the final size of the data.

Return type

Tuple[np.ndarray, int]

data.data_utils.preprocess_data_item(raw landmark path, targets sign)

The function preprocesses landmark data for a single file. The process involves applying transformations to raw landmark data to convert it into a form more suitable for machine learning models. The transformations may include normalization, scaling, etc. The target sign associated with the landmark data is also taken as input.

This function is a handy function to process all landmark aequences on a particular location. This will come in handy while testing where individual sequences may be provided

Args:

raw_landmark_path: Path to the raw landmark file targets_sign: The target sign for the given landmark data Returns: dict: A dictionary containing the preprocessed landmarks, target, and size.

Functionality: - The function reads the parquet file and processes the data. - It filters columns to include only frame, type, landmark_index, x, and y. - The function then filters face mesh landmarks and pose landmarks based on the predefined useful landmarks. - Landmarks data is pivoted to have a multi-level column structure on landmark type and frame sequence ids. - Missing values are interpolated using linear interpolation, and any remaining missing values are filled with 0. - The function rearranges columns and calculates the number of frames in the data. - X and Y coordinates are brought together, and a dictionary with the processed data is created and returned.

Parameters

- raw_landmark_path (str) Path to the raw landmark file.
- targets_sign (int) The target sign for the given landmark data.

Returns

A dictionary containing the preprocessed landmarks, target, and size.

Return type

dict

data.data_utils.preprocess_data_to_same_size(landmarks)

This function preprocesses the input data to ensure all data arrays have the same size, specified by the global IN-PUT_SIZE variable. This uniform size is necessary for subsequent processing and analysis stages, particularly those involving machine learning models which often require consistent input sizes. The preprocessing involves several steps, including handling missing values, upsampling, and reshaping arrays. It begins by interpolating any missing values, and then it subsets the data by selecting only non-empty frames. Various strategies are applied to align the data size to the desired INPUT_SIZE, including padding, repeating, and pooling the data.

Args:

landmarks (np.ndarray): The input array with landmarks data.

Returns:

Tuple[np.ndarray, int, int, int]: A tuple containing processed landmark data, the set input size, the number of original frames, and the number of frames after preprocessing.

Parameters

landmarks (np.ndarray) - The input array with landmarks data.

Returns

A tuple containing processed landmark data, the set input size, the number of original frames, and the

number of frames after preprocessing. :rtype: Tuple[np.ndarray, int, int, int]

data.data_utils.preprocess_raw_data(sample=100000)

Preprocesses the raw data, saves it as numpy arrays into processed data directory and updates the metadata CSV file. This method preprocess_data preprocesses the data for easier and faster loading during training time. The data is processed and stored in PROCESSED DATA DIR if not already done.

This function is responsible for preprocessing raw data. The primary functionality involves converting raw data into a format more suitable for the machine learning pipeline, namely NumPy arrays. The function operates on a sample of data, allowing for efficient processing of large datasets in manageable chunks. Additionally, this function also takes care of persisting the preprocessed data for future use and updates the metadata accordingly.

Args: sample (int): Number of samples to preprocess. Default is 100000.

Functionality: - The function reads the metadata CSV file for training data to obtain a dictionary that maps target values to integer indices. - It then reads the training data CSV file and generates the absolute path to locate landmark files. - Next, it keeps text signs and their respective indices and initializes a list to store the processed data. - The data is then processed and stored in the list by iterating over each file path in the training data and reading in the parquet file for that file path. - The landmark data is then processed and padded to have a length of max_seq_length. - Finally, a dictionary with the processed data is created and added to the list. - The processed data is saved to disk using the np.save method and the saved file is printed.

Parameters

sample (int, optional, default: 100000) - Number of samples to preprocess.

Returns

None

Note: If the preprocessed data already exists, the function prints "Preprocessed data found. Skipping..." and exits.

data.data_utils.remove_outlier_or_missing_data(landmark len dict)

This function removes rows from the training data that contain missing or outlier landmark data. It takes as input a dictionary containing the statistics of landmark lengths for each sign type. The function processes the training data and removes rows with missing or outlier landmark data. The function also includes a nested function 'has_consecutive_zeros' which checks for consecutive frames where X and Y coordinates are both zero. If a cleansing marker file exists, it skips the process, indicating that the data is already cleaned.

Functionality:

This function takes a dictionary with the statistics of landmark lengths per sign type and uses it to identify outlier sequences. It removes any rows with missing or outlier landmark data. An outlier sequence is defined as one that is either less than a third of the median length or more than two standard deviations away from the mean length. A row is also marked for deletion if the corresponding landmark file is missing or if the sign's left-hand or right-hand landmarks contain more than a specified number of consecutive zeros.

Args:

landmark len dict (dict): A dictionary containing the statistics of landmark lengths for each sign type.

Returns:

None

Parameters

 ${\tt landmark_len_dict}~({\tt \textit{dict}}) - {\rm A}~{\rm dictionary}~{\rm containing}~{\rm the}~{\rm statistics}~{\rm of}~{\rm landmark}~{\rm lengths}~{\rm for}~{\rm each}~{\rm sign}~{\rm type}.$

Returns

None, the function doesn't return anything. It modifies data in-place.

data.data_utils.remove_unusable_data()

This function checks the existing training data for unusable instances, like missing files or data that is smaller than the set minimum sequence length. If unusable data is found, it is removed from the system, both in terms of files and

entries in the training dataframe. The dataframe is updated and saved back to the disk. If a cleansing marker file exists, it skips the process, indicating that the data is already cleaned.

Functionality:

The function iterates through the DataFrame rows, attempting to load and check each landmark file specified in the row's path. If the file is missing or if the file's usable size is less than a predefined threshold, the function deletes the corresponding landmark file and marks the row for deletion in the DataFrame. At the end, the function removes all marked rows from the DataFrame, updates it and saves it to the disk.

Returns:

None

Returns

None, the function doesn't return anything. It modifies data in-place.

Appendix E

HyperParameter Search

Appendix F

Camera Stream Predictions

 $\label{lem:predict_on_camera.convert_mp_to_df} $$ predict_on_camera.show_camera_feed(model, LAST_FRAMES=32) $$ $$ predict_on_camera_feed(model, LAST_FRAMES=32) $$ $$ predict_on_camera_feed(model, LAST_FRAMES=32) $$ predict_on_camera_feed(m$

Appendix G

ASL Dataset

G.1 ASL Dataset description

This file contains the ASL_DATASET class which serves as the dataset module for American Sign Language (ASL) data. The ASL_DATASET is designed to load, preprocess, augment, and serve the dataset for model training and validation. This class provides functionalities such as loading the dataset from disk, applying transformations, data augmentation techniques, and an interface to access individual data samples.

Note: This dataset class expects data in a specific format. Detailed explanations and expectations about input data are provided in respective method docstrings.

 $\verb|class data.dataset.ASL_DATASET| (metadata_df=None, transform=None, max_seq_length=32, augment=False, \\ augmentation threshold=0.1, enableDropout=True, **kwargs) \\$

A dataset class for the ASL dataset.

The ASL_DATASET class represents a dataset of American Sign Language (ASL) gestures, where each gesture corresponds to a word or phrase. This class provides functionalities to load the dataset, apply transformations, augment the data, and yield individual data samples for model training and validation.

```
\_getitem\_(idx)
```

Get an item from the dataset by index.

This method returns a data sample from the dataset based on a provided index. It handles reading of the processed data file, applies transformations and augmentations (if set), and pads the data to match the maximum sequence length. It returns the preprocessed landmarks and corresponding target as a tuple.

Args:

 idx (int): The index of the item to retrieve.

Returns:

tuple: A tuple containing the landmarks and target for the item.

Functionality:

Get a single item from the dataset.

Parameters

idx(int) – The index of the item to retrieve.

Returns

A tuple containing the landmarks and target for the item.

Return type

tuple

__init__(metadata_df=None, transform=None, max_seq_length=32, augment=False, augmentation_threshold=0.1, enableDropout=True, **kwargs)

Initialize the ASL dataset.

This method initializes the dataset and loads the metadata necessary for the dataset processing. If no metadata is provided, it will load the default processed dataset. It also sets the transformation functions, data augmentation parameters, and maximum sequence length.

Args:

metadata df (pd.DataFrame, optional): A dataframe containing the metadata for the dataset. Defaults

to None. transform (callable, optional): A function/transform to apply to the data. Defaults to None. max_seq_length (int, optional): The maximum sequence length for the data. Defaults to INPUT_SIZE. augment (bool, optional): Whether to apply data augmentation. Defaults to False. augmentation_threshold (float, optional): Probability of augmentation happening. Only if augment == True. Defaults to 0.1. enableDropout (bool, optional): Whether to enable the frame dropout augmentation. Defaults to True.

Functionality:

Initializes the dataset with necessary configurations and loads the data.

Parameters

- metadata_df (pd. DataFrame, optional) A dataframe containing the metadata for the dataset.
- transform (callable, optional) A function/transform to apply to the data.
- max_seq_length (int) The maximum sequence length for the data.
- augment (bool) Whether to apply data augmentation.
- augmentation_threshold (float) Probability of augmentation happening. Only if augment ==
 True.
- enableDropout (bool) Whether to enable the frame dropout augmentation.

```
__len__()
```

Get the length of the dataset.

This method returns the total number of data samples present in the dataset. It's an implementation of the special method __len__ in Python, providing a way to use the Python built-in function len() on the dataset object.

Functionality:

Get the length of the dataset.

Returns:

int: The length of the dataset.

Returns

The length of the dataset.

Return type

int

```
__repr__()
```

Return a string representation of the ASL dataset.

This method returns a string that provides an overview of the dataset, including the number of participants and total data samples. It's an implementation of the special method __repr__ in Python, providing a human-readable representation of the dataset object.

Returns:

str: A string representation of the dataset.

Functionality:

Return a string representation of the dataset.

Returns

A string representation of the dataset.

Return type

str

__weakref_

list of weak references to the object (if defined)

load_data()

Load the data for the ASL dataset.

This method loads the actual ASL data based on the metadata provided during initialization. If no metadata was provided, it loads the default processed data. It generates absolute paths to locate landmark files, and stores individual metadata lists for easy access during data retrieval.

Functionality:

Loads the data for the dataset.

Return type

None

Appendix H

Data Utilities

H.1Deep Learning Utils

This module provides a set of helper functions that abstract away specific details of different deep learning frameworks (such as TensorFlow and PyTorch). These functions allow the main code to run in a framework-agnostic manner, thus improving code portability and flexibility.

```
class dl_utils.DatasetWithLen(tf dataset, length)
```

The DatasetWithLen class serves as a wrapper around TensorFlow's Dataset object. Its primary purpose is to add a length method to the TensorFlow Dataset. This is useful in contexts where it's necessary to know the number of batches that a DataLoader will create from a dataset, which is a common requirement in many machine learning training loops. It also provides an iterator over the dataset, which facilitates traversing the dataset for operations such as batch creation.

For instance, this might be used in conjunction with a progress bar during training to display the total number of batches. Since TensorFlow's Dataset objects don't inherently have a len method, this wrapper class provides that functionality, augmenting the dataset with additional features that facilitate the training process.

tf dataset: The TensorFlow dataset to be wrapped. length: The length of the dataset.

Functionality:

Provides a length method and an iterator for a TensorFlow dataset.

Return type

DatasetWithLen object

Parameters

- tf_dataset The TensorFlow dataset to be wrapped.
- length The length of the dataset.

```
__init__(tf dataset, length)
__iter__()
     Returns an iterator for the dataset.
        Returns
              iterator for the dataset
```

__len__()

Returns the length of the dataset. Returns

length of the dataset

__weakref__

list of weak references to the object (if defined)

dl_utils.get_PT_Dataset(dataloader)

Retrieve the underlying dataset from a PyTorch data loader.

Parameters

dataloader - DataLoader object.

Returns

Dataset object.

dl_utils.get_TF_Dataset(dataloader)

Retrieve the underlying dataset from a TensorFlow data loader.

Parameters

dataloader - DatasetWithLen object.

Returns

Dataset object.

dl_utils.get_dataloader(dataset, batch size=128, shuffle=True, dl framework='tensorflow', num workers=16)

The get dataloader function is responsible for creating a DataLoader object given a dataset and a few other parameters. A DataLoader is an essential component in machine learning projects as it controls how data is fed into the model during training. However, different deep learning frameworks have their own ways of creating and handling DataLoader objects.

To improve the portability and reusability of the code, this function abstracts away these specifics, allowing the user to create a DataLoader object without having to worry about the details of the underlying framework (TensorFlow or PyTorch). This approach can save development time and reduce the risk of bugs or errors.

Args:

dataset: The dataset to be loaded. batch size: The size of the batches that the DataLoader should create. shuffle: Whether to shuffle the data before creating batches. dl framework: The name of the deep learning framework. num workers: The number of worker threads to use for loading data.

Functionality:

Creates and returns a DataLoader object that is compatible with the specified deep learning framework.

Return type

DataLoader or DatasetWithLen object

Parameters

- dataset The dataset to be loaded.
- batch_size The size of the batches that the DataLoader should create.
- shuffle Whether to shuffle the data before creating batches.
- dl_framework The name of the deep learning framework.
- num_workers The number of worker threads to use for loading data.

dl_utils.get_dataset(dataloader, dl framework='tensorflow')

The get dataset function is an interface to extract the underlying dataset from a dataloader, irrespective of the deep learning framework being used, i.e., TensorFlow or PyTorch. The versatility of this function makes it integral to any pipeline designed to be flexible across both TensorFlow and PyTorch frameworks.

Given a dataloader object, this function first determines the deep learning framework currently in use by referring to the DL FRAMEWORK config parameter variable. If the framework is TensorFlow, it invokes the get TF Dataset function to retrieve the dataset. Alternatively, if PyTorch is being used, the get PT Dataset function is called. This abstracts away the intricacies of handling different deep learning frameworks, thereby simplifying the process of working with datasets across TensorFlow and PyTorch.

dataloader: DataLoader from PyTorch or DatasetWithLen from TensorFlow.

Functionality:

Extracts the underlying dataset from a dataloader, be it from PyTorch or TensorFlow.

Return type

Dataset object

Parameters

 ${\tt dataloader} - {\tt DataLoader} \ in \ case \ of \ PyTorch \ and \ {\tt DatasetWithLen} \ in \ case \ of \ TensorFlow.$

dl_utils.get_metric_dict()

Instantiatnes an empty dict with the metrics to be logged in tensorboard :return: dict with an empty metric dict to feed in log hparams metrics

dl_utils.get_model_params(model name)

The get model params function is a utility function that serves to abstract away the details of reading model configurations from a YAML file. In a machine learning project, it is common to have numerous models, each with its own set of hyperparameters. These hyperparameters can be stored in a YAML file for easy access and modification.

This function reads the configuration file and retrieves the specific parameters associated with the given model. The configurations are stored in a dictionary which is then returned. This aids in maintaining a cleaner, more organized codebase and simplifies the process of updating or modifying model parameters.

Args:

model name: Name of the model whose parameters are to be retrieved.

Functionality:

Reads a YAML file and retrieves the model parameters as a dictionary.

Return type

dict

Parameters

model_name - Name of the model whose parameters are to be retrieved.

dl_utils.log_hparams_metrics(writer, hparam dict, metric dict, epoch=0)

Helper function to log metrics to TensorBoard. That accepts the logging of hyperparameters too. It allows to display the hyperparameters as well in a tensorboard instance. Furthermore it logs everything in just one tensorboard log.

Parameters

- writer (torch.utils.tensorboard.SummaryWriter) Summary Writer Object
- hparam_dict (dict) -
- metric_dict (dict) -
- epoch (int) Step on the x-axis to log the results

dl_utils.log_metrics(writer, log dict)

Helper function to log metrics to TensorBoard.

Parameters

- log_dict Dictionary to log all the metrics to tensorboard. It must contain the keys {epoch,accuracy, loss, lr,}
- writer TensorBoard writer object.

Type

log dict

$\verb|dl_utils.to_PT_DataLoader| (\textit{dataset}, \textit{batch} \ \textit{size} = 128, \textit{shuffle} = \textit{True}, \textit{num} \ \textit{workers} = 16)|$

This function is the PyTorch counterpart to 'to_TF_DataLoader'. It converts a given dataset into a PyTorch DataLoader. The purpose of this function is to streamline the creation of PyTorch DataLoaders, allowing for easy utilization in a PyTorch training or inference pipeline.

The PyTorch DataLoader handles the process of drawing batches of data from a dataset, which is essential when training models. This function further extends this functionality by implementing data shuffling and utilizing multiple worker threads for asynchronous data loading, thereby optimizing the data loading process during model training.

Args:

dataset: The dataset to be loaded. batch_size: The size of each batch the DataLoader will return. shuffle: Whether the data should be shuffled before batching. num_workers: The number of worker threads to use for data loading.

Functionality:

Converts a given dataset into a PyTorch DataLoader.

Return type

DataLoader object

Parameters

- dataset The dataset to be loaded.
- \bullet batch_size The size of each batch the DataLoader will return.
- shuffle Whether the data should be shuffled before batching.
- num_workers The number of worker threads to use for data loading.

dl_utils.to_TF_DataLoader(dataset, batch size=128, shuffle=True)

This function takes in a dataset and converts it into a TensorFlow DataLoader. Its purpose is to provide a streamlined method to generate DataLoaders that can be utilized in a TensorFlow training or inference pipeline. It not only ensures the dataset is in a format that can be ingested by TensorFlow's pipeline, but also implements optional shuffling of data, which is a common practice in model training to ensure random distribution of data across batches.

This function first checks whether the data is already in a tensor format, if not it converts the data to a tensor. Next, it either shuffles the dataset or keeps it as is, based on the 'shuffle' flag. Lastly, it prepares the TensorFlow DataLoader by batching the dataset and applying an automatic optimization strategy for the number of parallel calls in mapping functions.

Args:

dataset: The dataset to be loaded. batch_size: The size of each batch the DataLoader will return. shuffle: Whether the data should be shuffled before batching.

Functionality:

Converts a given dataset into a TensorFlow DataLoader.

${\bf Return\ type}$

 ${\bf DatasetWithLen~object}$

Parameters

- dataset The dataset to be loaded.
- batch_size The size of each batch the DataLoader will return.
- $\bullet\,$ shuffle Whether the data should be shuffled before batching.

Appendix I

Model Training

I.1 Generic trainer description

Trainer module handles the training, validation, and testing of framework-agnostic deep learning models.

The Trainer class handles the complete lifecycle of model training including setup, execution of training epochs, validation and testing, early stopping, and result logging.

The class uses configurable parameters for defining training settings like early stopping and batch size, and it supports adding custom callback functions to be executed at the end of each epoch. This makes the trainer class flexible and adaptable for various types of deep learning models and tasks.

Attributes: model_name (str): The name of the model to be trained. params (dict): The parameters required for the model. model (model object): The model object built using the given model name and parameters. train_loader, valid_loader, test_loader (DataLoader objects): PyTorch dataloaders for training, validation, and testing datasets. patience (int): The number of epochs to wait before stopping training when the validation loss is no longer improving. best_val_metric (float): The best validation metric recorded. patience_counter (int): A counter that keeps track of the number of epochs since the validation loss last improved. model_class (str): The class name of the model. train_start_time (str): The starting time of the training process. writer (SummaryWriter object): TensorBoard's SummaryWriter to log metrics for visualization. checkpoint_path (str): The path where the best model checkpoints will be saved during training. epoch (int): The current epoch number. callbacks (list): A list of callback functions to be called at the end of each epoch.

Methods: train(n_epochs): Trains the model for a specified number of epochs. evaluate(): Evaluates the model on the validation set. test(): Tests the model on the test set. add_callback(callback): Adds a callback function to the list of functions to be called at the end of each epoch.

 ${\tt class\ trainer.Trainer} (config,\ dataset = < class\ 'data.dataset. ASL_DATASET'>,\ model_config=None)$

A trainer class which acts as a control hub for the model lifecycle, including initial setup, executing training epochs, performing validation and testing, implementing early stopping, and logging results. The module has been designed to be agnostic to the specific deep learning framework, enhancing its versatility across various projects.

__init__(config, dataset=<class 'data.dataset.ASL DATASET'>, model config=None)

Initializes the Trainer class with the specified parameters.

This method initializes various components needed for the training process. This includes the model specified by the model name, the dataset with optional data augmentation and dropout, data loaders for the training, validation, and test sets, a SummaryWriter for logging, and a path for saving model checkpoints.

- 1. The method first retrieves the specified model and its parameters.
- 2. It then initializes the dataset and the data loaders.
- 3. It sets up metrics for early stopping and a writer for logging.
- 4. Finally, it prepares a directory for saving model checkpoints.

Args:

config (module): the config with the hyperparameters for model training dataset (Dataset): The dataset to be used. model config (optional):

Functionality:

This method initializes various components, such as the model, dataset, data loaders, logging writer, and checkpoint path, required for the training process.

Param

config: module

Parameters

- dataset (Dataset or None) The dataset for training.
- model_config (dict or None) predifined model configuration

Return type

None

Note: This method only initializes the Trainer class. The actual training is done by calling the train() method.

Warning: Make sure the specified model name corresponds to an actual model in your project's models directory.

__weakref__

list of weak references to the object (if defined)

add_callback(callback)

Adds a callback to the Trainer.

This method simply appends a callback function to the list of callbacks stored by the Trainer instance. These callbacks are called at the end of each training epoch.

Functionality:

It allows the addition of custom callbacks to the training process, enhancing its flexibility.

Parameters

callback (Callable) - The callback function to be added.

Returns

None

Return type

None

Warning: The callback function must be callable and should not modify the training process.

evaluate()

Evaluates the model on the validation set.

This method sets the model to evaluation mode and loops over the validation dataset, computing the loss and accuracy for each batch. It then averages these metrics and logs them. This process provides an unbiased estimate of the model's performance on new data during training.

Functionality:

It manages the evaluation of the model on the validation set, handling batch-wise loss computation and accuracy assessment.

Returns

Average validation loss and accuracy

Return type

Tuple[float, float]

Warning: Ensure the model is in evaluation mode to correctly compute the validation metrics.

get_classification_report(labels, preds, verbose=True)

Generates Classification report :param labels: tensor with True values :param preds: tensor with predicted values :param verbose: Wherer to print the report :type: verbose: bool :return: classification report

test()

Tests the model on the test set.

This method loads the best saved model, sets it to evaluation mode, and then loops over the test dataset, computing the loss, accuracy, and predictions for each batch. It then averages the loss and accuracy and logs them. It also collects all the model's predictions and their corresponding labels.

Functionality:

It manages the testing of the model on the test set, handling batch-wise loss computation, accuracy assessment, and prediction generation.

Returns

List of all predictions and their corresponding labels

Return type

Tuple[List, List]

train(n epochs=60)

Trains the model for a specified number of epochs.

This method manages the main training loop of the model. For each epoch, it performs several steps. It first puts the model into training mode and loops over the training dataset, calculating the loss and accuracy for each batch and optimizing the model parameters. It logs these metrics and updates a progress bar. At the end of each epoch, it evaluates the model on the validation set and checks whether early stopping criteria have been met. If the early stopping metric has improved, it saves the current model and its parameters. If not, it increments a counter and potentially stops training if the counter exceeds the allowed patience. Finally, it steps the learning rate scheduler and calls any registered callbacks.

- 1. The method first puts the model into training mode and initializes some lists and counters.
- 2. Then it enters the main loop over the training data, updating the model and logging metrics.
- 3. It evaluates the model on the validation set and checks the early stopping criteria.
- 4. If the criteria are met, it saves the model and its parameters; if not, it increments a patience counter.
- 5. It steps the learning rate scheduler and calls any callbacks.

Args:

n epochs (int): The number of epochs for which the model should be trained.

Functionality:

This method coordinates the training of the model over a series of epochs, handling batch-wise loss computation, backpropagation, optimization, validation, early stopping, and model checkpoint saving.

Parameters

n_epochs (int) - Number of epochs for training.

Returns

None

Return type

None

Note: This method modifies the state of the model and its optimizer, as well as various attributes of the Trainer instance itself.

Warning: If you set the patience value too low in the constructor, the model might stop training prematurely.

write_classification_report(preds, labels)

Function to export classification report

Args:

Parameters

- preds (tensor) tensor
- labels tensor

Returns

None

Appendix J

Data Visualizations

visualizations.visualize_data_distribution(dataset)

Visualize the distribution of data in terms of the number of samples and average sequence length per class.

This function generates two bar charts: one showing the number of samples per class, and the other showing the average sequence length per class.

Parameters

dataset (ASL_Dataset) - The ASL dataset to load data from.

visualizations.visualize_target_sign(dataset, target_sign, n_samples=6)

Visualize n samples instances of a given target sign from the dataset.

This function generates a visual representation of the landmarks for each sample belonging to the specified target_sign.

Args:

dataset (ASL_Dataset): The ASL dataset to load data from. target_sign (int): The target sign to visualize. n_s amples (int, optional): The number of samples to visualize. Defaults to 6.

Returns:

matplotlib.animation.FuncAnimation: A matplotlib animation object displaying the landmarks for each frame.

Parameters

- dataset (ASL_Dataset) The ASL dataset to load data from.
- \bullet target_sign (int) The target sign to visualize.
- n_samples (int, optional) The number of samples to visualize, defaults to 6.

Returns

A matplotlib animation object displaying the landmarks for each frame.

Return type

matplotlib.animation.FuncAnimation

Appendix K

Pytorch Models

This module defines a PyTorch BaseModel providing a basic framework for learning and validating from Trainer module, from which other pytorch models are inherited. This module includes several model classes that build upon the PyTorch's nn.Module for constructing pytorch LSTM or Transformer based models:

Table 1: Model Classes

Class	Description
TransformerSequenceClas- sifier	This is a transformer-based sequence classification model. The class constructs a transformer encoder based on user-defined parameters or default settings. The forward method first checks and reshapes the input, then passes it through the transformer layers. It then pools the sequence by taking the mean over the time dimension, and finally applies the output layer to generate the class predictions.
Transformer Predictor	A TransformerPredictor model that extends the Pytorch BaseModel. This class wraps TransformerSequenceClassifier model and provides functionality to use it for making predictions.
MultiHeadSelfAttention	This class applies a multi-head attention mechanism. It has options for causal masking and layer normalization. The input is expected to have dimensions [batch_size, seq_len, features].
Transformer Block	This class represents a single block of a transformer architecture, including multi-head self-attention and a feed-forward neural network, both with optional layer normalization and dropout. The input is expected to have dimensions [batch_size, seq_len, features].
Yet Another Transformer-Classifier	This class constructs a transformer-based classifier with a specified number of <i>TransformerBlock</i> instances. The output of the model is a tensor of logits with dimensions [batch_size, num_classes].
Yet Another Transformer	This class is a wrapper for YetAnotherTransformerClassifier which includes learning rate, optimizer, and learning rate scheduler settings. It extends from the BaseModel class.
Yet Another Ensemble	This class constructs an ensemble of YetAnotherTransformerClassifier instances, where the outputs are concatenated and passed through a fully connected layer. This class also extends from the BaseModel class and includes learning rate, optimizer, and learning rate scheduler settings.

$\verb|class models.pytorch.models.BaseModel(*| args: Any, **kwargs: Any)|$

A BaseModel that extends the nn.Module from PyTorch.

Functionality: #. The class initializes with a given learning rate and number of classes. #. It sets up the loss criterion, accuracy metric, and default states for optimizer and scheduler. #. It defines an abstract method 'forward' which should be implemented in the subclass. #. It also defines various utility functions like calculating accuracy, training, validation and testing steps, scheduler stepping, and model checkpointing.

Args:

learning_rate (float): The initial learning rate for optimizer. n_classes (int): The number of classes for classification.

Parameters

- \bullet learning_rate (float) The initial learning rate for optimizer.
- $n_{classes}$ (int) The number of classes for classification.

Returns

None

Return type

None

Note: The class does not directly initialize the optimizer and scheduler. They should be initialized in the subclass if needed.

Warning: The 'forward' function must be implemented in the subclass, else it will raise a NotImplementedError.

```
__init__(learning rate, n classes=250)
calculate\_accuracy(y hat, y)
```

Calculates the accuracy of the model's prediction.

Parameters

- y_hat (Tensor) The predicted output from the model.
- y (Tensor) The ground truth or actual labels.

The calculated accuracy.

Return type

Tensor

 ${\tt calculate_auc}(y_\mathit{hat},\,y)$

Calculates the auc of the model's prediction.

Parameters

- y_hat (Tensor) The predicted output from the model.
- y (Tensor) The ground truth or actual labels.

Returns

The calculated recall.

Return type

Tensor

 $\verb|calculate_f1score|(y_hat,\ y)|$

Calculates the F1-Score of the model's prediction.

Parameters

- y_hat (Tensor) The predicted output from the model.
- y (Tensor) The ground truth or actual labels.

Returns

The calculated f1.

Return type

Tensor

$calculate_precision(y_hat, y)$

Calculates the precision of the model's prediction.

Parameters

- y_hat (Tensor) The predicted output from the model.
- y (*Tensor*) The ground truth or actual labels.

Returns

The calculated precision.

Return type

Tensor

$calculate_recall(y hat, y)$

Calculates the recall of the model's prediction.

Parameters

- y_hat (Tensor) The predicted output from the model.
- y (Tensor) The ground truth or actual labels.

Returns

The calculated recall.

Return type

Tensor

eval_mode()

Sets the model to evaluation mode.

```
forward(x)
         The forward function for the BaseModel.
             Parameters
                  x (Tensor) - The inputs to the model.
             Returns
                  None
           Warning: This function must be implemented in the subclass, else it raises a NotImplementedError.
    get_lr()
         Gets the current learning rate of the model.
             Returns
                  The current learning rate.
             Return type
                  float
    load_checkpoint(filepath)
         Loads the model and optimizer states from a checkpoint.
             Parameters
                  filepath(str) - The file path where to load the model checkpoint from.
    optimize()
         Steps the optimizer and sets the gradients of all optimized torch. Tensor s to zero.
    save_checkpoint(filepath)
         Saves the model and optimizer states to a checkpoint.
             Parameters
                  filepath (str) - The file path where to save the model checkpoint.
    step_scheduler()
         Steps the learning rate scheduler, adjusting the optimizer's learning rate as necessary.
    test_step(batch)
         Performs a test step using the input batch data.
             Parameters
                  batch (tuple) - A tuple containing input data and labels.
             Returns
                  The calculated loss, accuracy, labels, and model predictions.
             Return type
                  tuple
    train_mode()
         Sets the model to training mode.
    training\_step(\mathit{batch})
         Performs a training step using the input batch data.
                  batch (tuple) - A tuple containing input data and labels.
                  The calculated loss and accuracy, labels and predictions
             Return type
                  tuple
    validation_step(batch)
         Performs a validation step using the input batch data.
             Parameters
                  batch (tuple) - A tuple containing input data and labels.
             Returns
                  The calculated loss and accuracy, labels and predictions
             Return type
                  tuple
class models.pytorch.models.CVTransferLearningModel(*args: Any, **kwargs: Any)
```

K.1 CVTransferLearningModel

A CVTransferLearningModel that extends the Pytorch BaseModel.

This class applies transfer learning for computer vision tasks using pretrained models. It also provides a forward method to pass an input through the model.

K.1.1 Attributes

learning rate

[float] The learning rate for the optimizer.

model

[nn.Module] The base model for transfer learning.

optimizer

[torch.optim.Adam] The optimizer used for updating the model parameters.

scheduler

[torch.optim.lr_scheduler.ExponentialLR] The learning rate scheduler used for adapting the learning rate during training.

K.1.2 Methods

forward(x)

Performs a forward pass through the model.

```
__init__(**kwargs)
```

forward(x)

The forward function for the BaseModel.

Parameters

x (Tensor) - The inputs to the model.

Returns

None

Warning: This function must be implemented in the subclass, else it raises a NotImplementedError.

class models.pytorch.models.HybridEnsembleModel(*args: Any, **kwargs: Any)

K.2 HybridEnsembleModel

A HybridEnsembleModel that extends the Pytorch BaseModel.

This class creates an ensemble of LSTM and Transformer models and provides functionality to use the ensemble for making predictions.

K.2.1 Attributes

learning rate

[float] The learning rate for the optimizer.

lstms

[nn.ModuleList] The list of LSTM models.

models

[nn.ModuleList] The list of Transformer models.

fc

[nn.Linear] The final fully-connected layer.

optimizer

[torch.optim.Adam] The optimizer used for updating the model parameters.

scheduler

[torch.optim.lr_scheduler.ExponentialLR] The learning rate scheduler used for adapting the learning rate during training.

K.2.2 Methods

Warning: This function must be implemented in the subclass, else it raises a NotImplementedError.

class models.pytorch.models.HybridModel(*args: Any, **kwargs: Any)

K.3 HybridModel

A HybridModel that extends the Pytorch BaseModel.

This class combines the LSTMClassifier and TransformerSequenceClassifier models and provides functionality to use the combined model for making predictions.

K.3.1 Attributes

lstm

[LSTMClassifier] The LSTM classifier used for making predictions.

transformer

[TransformerSequenceClassifier] The transformer sequence classifier used for making predictions.

 \mathbf{fc}

[nn.Linear] The final fully-connected layer.

optimizer

[torch.optim.Adam] The optimizer used for updating the model parameters.

schedulei

[torch.optim.lr_scheduler.ExponentialLR] The learning rate scheduler used for adapting the learning rate during training.

K.3.2 Methods

```
forward(x)
```

```
Performs a forward pass through the model.
```

```
__init__(**kwargs)
```

forward(x)

The forward function for the BaseModel.

Parameters

x (Tensor) - The inputs to the model.

Returns

None

Warning: This function must be implemented in the subclass, else it raises a NotImplementedError.

class models.pytorch.models.LSTMClassifier(*args: Any, **kwargs: Any)

K.3. HybridModel 38

K.4 LSTMClassifier

A LSTM-based Sequence Classifier. This class utilizes a LSTM network for sequence classification tasks.

K.4.1 Attributes

DEFAULTS

[dict] Default settings for the LSTM and classifier. These can be overridden by passing values in the constructor.

 $_{
m lstm}$

[nn.LSTM] The LSTM network used for processing the input sequence.

dropout

[nn.Dropout] The dropout layer applied after LSTM network.

output layer

[nn.Linear] The output layer used to generate class predictions.

K.4.2 Methods

```
forward(x)
```

```
Performs a forward pass through the model.
__init__(**kwargs)

forward(x)

Forward pass through the model
```

class models.pytorch.models.LSTMPredictor(*args: Any, **kwargs: Any)

K.5 LSTMPredictor

A LSTMPredictor model that extends the Pytorch BaseModel.

This class wraps the LSTMClassifier model and provides functionality to use it for making predictions.

K.5.1 Attributes

learning rate

[float] The learning rate for the optimizer.

 \mathbf{model}

[LSTMClassifier] The LSTM classifier used for making predictions.

 ${f optimizer}$

[torch.optim.Adam] The optimizer used for updating the model parameters.

scheduler

[torch.optim.lr_scheduler.ExponentialLR] The learning rate scheduler used for adapting the learning rate during training.

K.5.2 Methods

forward(x)

```
Performs a forward pass through the model.
```

```
__init__(**kwargs)
```

forward(x)

The forward function for the BaseModel.

Parameters

x (Tensor) - The inputs to the model.

Returns

None

Warning: This function must be implemented in the subclass, else it raises a NotImplementedError.

class models.pytorch.models.MultiHeadSelfAttention(*args: Any, **kwargs: Any)

K.4. LSTMClassifier 39

K.6 MultiHeadSelfAttention

A MultiHeadSelfAttention module that extends the nn.Module from PyTorch.

Functionality: #. The class initializes with a given dimension size, number of attention heads, dropout rate, layer normalization and causality. #. It sets up the multihead attention module and layer normalization. #. It also defines a forward method that applies the multihead attention, causal masking if requested, and layer normalization if requested.

K.6.1 Attributes

multihead attn

[nn.MultiheadAttention] The multihead attention module.

layer norm

[nn.LayerNorm or None] The layer normalization module. If it is not applied, set to None.

causal

[bool] If True, applies causal masking.

K.6.2 Methods

forward(x)

Performs a forward pass through the model.

Args:

dim (int): The dimension size of the input data. num_heads (int): The number of attention heads. dropout (float): The dropout rate. layer_norm (bool): Whether to apply layer normalization. causal (bool): Whether to apply causal masking.

Returns: None

__init__(dim, num heads=8, dropout=0.1, layer norm=True, causal=True)

class models.pytorch.models.TransformerBlock(*args: Any, **kwargs: Any)

K.7 TransformerBlock

A TransformerBlock module that extends the nn.Module from PyTorch.

Functionality: #. The class initializes with a given dimension size, number of attention heads, expansion factor, attention dropout rate, and dropout rate. #. It sets up the multihead self-attention module, layer normalization and feed-forward network. #. It also defines a forward method that applies the multihead self-attention, dropout, layer normalization and feed-forward network.

K.7.1 Attributes

norm1, norm2, norm3

[nn.LayerNorm] The layer normalization modules.

attn

[MultiHeadSelfAttention] The multihead self-attention module.

feed forward

[nn.Sequential] The feed-forward network.

dropout

[nn.Dropout] The dropout module.

K.7.2 Methods

forward(x)

Performs a forward pass through the model.

Args:

dim (int): The dimension size of the input data. num_heads (int): The number of attention heads. expansion_factor (int): The expansion factor for the hidden layer size in the feed-forward network. attn_dropout (float): The dropout rate for the attention module. drop_rate (float): The dropout rate for the module.

Returns: None

```
__init__(dim=192, num heads=4, expansion factor=4, attn dropout=0.2, drop rate=0.2)
```

class models.pytorch.models.TransformerEnsemble(*args: Any, **kwargs: Any)

K.8 TransformerEnsemble

A TransformerEnsemble that extends the Pytorch BaseModel.

This class creates an ensemble of TransformerSequenceClassifier models and provides functionality to use the ensemble for making predictions.

K.8.1 Attributes

learning rate

[float] The learning rate for the optimizer.

models

[nn.ModuleList] The list of transformer sequence classifiers used for making predictions.

 \mathbf{fc}

[nn.Linear] The final fully-connected layer.

optimizer

[torch.optim.Adam] The optimizer used for updating the model parameters.

scheduler

[torch.optim.lr_scheduler.ExponentialLR] The learning rate scheduler used for adapting the learning rate during training.

K.8.2 Methods

forward(x)

```
Performs a forward pass through the model.
```

```
__init__(**kwargs)
```

forward(x)

The forward function for the BaseModel.

Parameters

```
x (Tensor) - The inputs to the model.
```

Returns

None

Warning: This function must be implemented in the subclass, else it raises a NotImplementedError.

 $\verb|class models.pytorch.models.TransformerPredictor(*|args: Any, **kwargs: Any)| \\$

K.9 TransformerPredictor

A TransformerPredictor model that extends the Pytorch BaseModel.

This class wraps the TransformerSequenceClassifier model and provides functionality to use it for making predictions.

K.9.1 Attributes

learning rate

[float] The learning rate for the optimizer.

model

[TransformerSequenceClassifier] The transformer sequence classifier used for making predictions.

optimizer

[torch.optim.Adam] The optimizer used for updating the model parameters.

scheduler

[torch.optim.lr_scheduler.ExponentialLR] The learning rate scheduler used for adapting the learning rate during training.

K.9.2 Methods

forward(x)

Performs a forward pass through the model.

```
__init__(**kwargs)
forward(x)
```

The forward function for the BaseModel.

Parameters

x (Tensor) - The inputs to the model.

Returns

None

Warning: This function must be implemented in the subclass, else it raises a NotImplementedError.

class models.pytorch.models.TransformerSequenceClassifier(*args: Any, **kwargs: Any)

K.10 TransformerSequenceClassifier

A Transformer-based Sequence Classifier. This class utilizes a transformer encoder to process the input sequence.

The transformer encoder consists of a stack of N transformer layers that are applied to the input sequence. The output sequence from the transformer encoder is then passed through a linear layer to generate class predictions.

K.10.1 Attributes

DEFAULTS

[dict] Default settings for the transformer encoder and classifier. These can be overridden by passing values in

transformer

[nn.TransformerEncoder] The transformer encoder used to process the input sequence.

output layer

[nn.Linear] The output layer used to generate class predictions.

batch first

bool Whether the first dimension of the input tensor represents the batch size.

K.10.2 Methods

K.11 YetAnotherEnsemble

A YetAnotherEnsemble model that extends the Pytorch BaseModel.

Functionality: #. The class initializes with a set of parameters for the YetAnotherTransformerClassifier. #. It sets up an ensemble of YetAnotherTransformerClassifier models, a fully connected layer, the optimizer and the learning rate scheduler. #. It also defines a forward method that applies each YetAnotherTransformerClassifier model in the ensemble, concatenates the outputs and applies the fully connected layer.

Args:

kwargs (dict): A dictionary containing the parameters for the YetAnotherTransformerClassifier models, fully connected layer, optimizer and learning rate scheduler.

Warning: This function must be implemented in the subclass, else it raises a NotImplementedError.

class models.pytorch.models.YetAnotherTransformer(*args: Any, **kwargs: Any)

K.12 YetAnotherTransformer

A YetAnotherTransformer model that extends the Pytorch BaseModel.

Functionality: #. The class initializes with a set of parameters for the YetAnotherTransformerClassifier. #. It sets up the YetAnotherTransformerClassifier model, the optimizer and the learning rate scheduler. #. It also defines a forward method that applies the YetAnotherTransformerClassifier model.

K.12.1 Attributes

K.12.2 Methods

forward(x)

Performs a forward pass through the model.

Args:

kwargs (dict): A dictionary containing the parameters for the YetAnotherTransformerClassifier, optimizer and learning rate scheduler.

None

Warning: This function must be implemented in the subclass, else it raises a NotImplementedError.

class models.pytorch.models.YetAnotherTransformerClassifier(*args: Any, **kwargs: Any)

K.13 YetAnotherTransformerClassifier

A YetAnotherTransformerClassifier module that extends the nn.Module from PyTorch.

Functionality: #. The class initializes with a set of parameters for the transformer blocks. #. It sets up the transformer blocks and the output layer. #. It also defines a forward method that applies the transformer blocks, takes the mean over the time dimension of the transformed sequence, and applies the output layer.

K.13.1 Attributes

DEFAULTS

[dict] The default settings for the transformer.

settings

[dict] The settings for the transformer, with any user-provided values overriding the defaults.

transformer

[nn.ModuleList] The list of transformer blocks.

output_layer

[nn.Linear] The output layer.

K.13.2 Methods

${\bf forward (inputs)}$

Performs a forward pass through the model.

Args:

kwargs (dict): A dictionary containing the parameters for the transformer blocks.

```
Returns: None
__init__(**kwargs)
forward(inputs)
```

Forward pass through the model

Appendix L

Tensorflow Models

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