

# Project Title: System Verification and Validation Plan for ANN

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## Revision History

Date	Version	Notes
Feb. 15, 2024	1.0	Initial Draft

# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Symbols, Abbreviations, and Acronyms</b>	<b>iv</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>General Information</b>	<b>1</b>
2.1	Summary . . . . .	1
2.2	Objectives . . . . .	1
2.3	Relevant Documentation . . . . .	2
<b>3</b>	<b>Plan</b>	<b>2</b>
3.1	Verification and Validation Team . . . . .	2
3.2	SRS Verification Plan . . . . .	2
3.3	Design Verification Plan . . . . .	3
3.4	Verification and Validation Plan Verification Plan . . . . .	4
3.5	Implementation Verification Plan . . . . .	4
3.6	Automated Testing and Verification Tools . . . . .	4
3.7	Software Validation Plan . . . . .	5
<b>4</b>	<b>System Test Description</b>	<b>5</b>
4.1	Tests for Functional Requirements . . . . .	5
4.1.1	Area of Testing1 . . . . .	5
4.1.2	Area of Testing2 . . . . .	6
4.2	Tests for Nonfunctional Requirements . . . . .	6
4.2.1	Area of Testing1 . . . . .	7
4.2.2	Area of Testing2 . . . . .	7
4.3	Traceability Between Test Cases and Requirements . . . . .	7
<b>5</b>	<b>Unit Test Description</b>	<b>8</b>
5.1	Unit Testing Scope . . . . .	8
5.2	Tests for Functional Requirements . . . . .	8
5.2.1	Module 1 . . . . .	8
5.2.2	Module 2 . . . . .	9
5.3	Tests for Nonfunctional Requirements . . . . .	9
5.3.1	Module ? . . . . .	10
5.3.2	Module ? . . . . .	10
5.4	Traceability Between Test Cases and Modules . . . . .	10

<b>6</b>	<b>Appendix</b>	<b>11</b>
6.1	Symbolic Parameters . . . . .	11
6.2	Usability Survey Questions? . . . . .	11

## List of Tables

1	Verification and validation team . . . . .	3
	[Remove this section if it isn't needed —SS]	

## List of Figures

[Remove this section if it isn't needed —SS]

# 1 Symbols, Abbreviations, and Acronyms

symbol	description
T	Test
ANN	Artificial Neural Network
IM	Instance Model
SRS	Software Requirements Specification
VnV	Verification and Validation

For complete symbols used within the system, please refer the section 1 in [SRS](#) document.

This document outlines the Verification and Validation (VnV) plan for the Artificial Neural Network for Image Classification project, as detailed in the [SRS](#). The purpose of this VnV plan is to ensure that all requirements and objectives outlined in the SRS [SRS](#) are met with accuracy and efficiency.

The organization of this document starts with the General Information about the ANN in [section 2](#). A verification plan is provided in [section 3](#) and [section 4](#) describes the system tests, including tests for functional and nonfunctional requirements. Test Description is explained in [section 5](#).

## 2 General Information

### 2.1 Summary

The software being validated in this plan is an Artificial Neural Network designed for Image Classification, tailored specifically to work with the CIFAR-10 dataset [Krizhevsky \(2009\)](#). It allows users to upload images and efficiently classifies them into predefined categories. It operates within the constraints of available computational resources and is limited to handling images that fall under the CIFAR-10 dataset [Krizhevsky \(2009\)](#) categories, ensuring focused and optimized performance in its designated area.

### 2.2 Objectives

The primary objective of this VnV plan is to build confidence in the correctness and reliability of the Artificial Neural Network for Image Classification. Our goal is to demonstrate that the system can classify images with a high degree of accuracy. We aim to significantly improve upon the less than 50% accuracy achieved in [previous implementation](#), acknowledging that reaching 100% accuracy is not feasible due to inherent limitations in ANN models and the variability of image data. The focus will be on achieving the highest possible accuracy within these constraints. The system's accuracy will be measured through defined quantitative methods such as the cost function in [SRS](#).

## 2.3 Relevant Documentation

The ANN project is supported by several crucial documents. These include a [Problem Statement](#), which introduces the initial concept, and a [Software Requirements Specification](#) that outlines the necessary system requirements, accompanied by a [Verification and Validation Report](#) to ensure the system's compliance and efficacy.

## 3 Plan

In this section, the VnV plan of ANN is described. It begins with an introduction to the verification and validation team ([subsection 3.1](#)) and introduces the members and their rules. Then is followed by the SRS verification plan ([subsection 3.2](#)), design verification plan ([subsection 3.3](#)), the VnV verification plan ([subsection 3.4](#)), implementation verification plan ([subsection 3.5](#)), automated testing and verification tools ([subsection 3.6](#)), and Software validation plan ([subsection 3.7](#)).

### 3.1 Verification and Validation Team

The VnV team members and their roles are shown in [Table 1](#).

### 3.2 SRS Verification Plan

The verification process for the Artificial Neural Network's Software Requirements Specification document will be conducted as follows:

1. An initial review will be carried out by designated team members, which include Dr. Spencer Smith, Fatemeh Norouziani, Atiyeh Sayadi, and Tanya Djavaheerpour. This review will utilize a manual method, guided by an [SRS Checklist](#) developed by Dr. Smith.
2. Reviewers can give feedback and revision suggestions to the author by creating issues on GitHub.

Name	Document	Role	Description
Dr. Spencer Smith	All	Instructor/ Reviewer	Review the documents, design and documentation style.
Tanya Djavaheerpour	All	Author	Create and manage all the documents, create the VnV plan, perform the VnV testing, verify the implementation.
Fatemeh Norouziani	All	Domain Expert Reviewer	Review all the documents.
Atiyeh Sayadi	SRS	Secondary Reviewer	Review the SRS document
Yi-Leng Chen	VnV Plan	Secondary Reviewer	Review the VnV plan.
Cynthia Liu	MG + MIS	Secondary Reviewer	Review the MG and MIS document.

Table 1: Verification and validation team

- It is the responsibility of the author, Tanya Djavaheerpour, to respond to and resolve these issues, incorporating feedback from both primary and secondary reviewers, as well as addressing any recommendations provided by the instructor, Dr. Spencer Smith.

### 3.3 Design Verification Plan

The verification of the design documentation, including the Module Guide (MG) and Module Interface Specification (MIS), will be conducted via a static analysis approach, namely document inspection. As shown in Table 1 this process will be led by the domain/primary expert, Fatemeh Norouziani, and supported by the secondary reviewer, Cynthia Liu. Additionally, Dr. Spencer Smith, the class instructor, will also conduct a review of these documents. Reviewers are encouraged to provide their feedback directly to the author by creating issues in the project's GitHub repository. It is the responsibility of the author to address and resolve these issues, taking into account all the suggestions made. The review process will be facilitated by utilizing



the [MG](#) and [MIS](#) Checklists, which have been formulated by Dr. Spencer Smith.

### 3.4 Verification and Validation Plan Verification Plan

Following the structure outlined in Table 1, the development and preliminary verification of the Verification and Validation plan will be undertaken by Author, Tanya Djavahepour. Subsequent to this phase, domain expert, Fatemeh Norouziani, along with Yi-Leng Chen as a secondary reviewer, will review it. They give feedback and suggestions via GitHub issues. Once done, Instructor will do final review of the VnV plan. The whole review process will be aligned with the [VnV Checklist](#) that Dr. Smith has prepared. It is the author's responsibility to check the submitted issues regularly and make necessary modifications.

### 3.5 Implementation Verification Plan

The implementation of the software will be verified using several techniques involving manual and automated techniques as outlined below:

- **Static Verification Techniques:** Code Walkthroughs will be the primary technique used for static verification. These sessions involve the development team, consisting of the author, Tanya Djavahepour, and the domain expert, Fatemeh Norouziani, reviewing the code together. The final version of the code will be shared with the domain expert prior to the meeting, during which important test cases will be manually examined. This process allows the domain expert to present findings and raise questions, facilitating a comprehensive review.

- **Dynamic Testing:** Evaluation of the code will include both unit and system testing, focusing on the functional and nonfunctional requirements outlined in the [SRS](#) document. The tools used for these evaluations will be detailed in 3.6. Furthermore, the test cases used in system and unit testing will be stated in sections 4 and 5, respectively. This approach ensures a thorough validation of the software across various levels of testing.

### 3.6 Automated Testing and Verification Tools

In this image classification project, Pylint [Python Code Quality Authority](#) (2023) and a regular testing process with a dedicated testing dataset of

CIFAR-10 [Krizhevsky \(2009\)](#) are employed for automated testing and verification. Pylint [Python Code Quality Authority \(2023\)](#) is key for enhancing code quality by identifying coding errors, enforcing standards, and encouraging best practices. Alongside, a robust testing process, involving thorough evaluation on a separate testing dataset, ensures the accuracy and reliability of the image classification model. The combination of Pylint [Python Code Quality Authority \(2023\)](#) for code quality analysis and performance validation through targeted testing provides a comprehensive approach to maintaining robustness and effectiveness in the image classification system.

### 3.7 Software Validation Plan

Validation is the process of comparing the outputs of models to experimental values. Since the CIFAR-10 dataset [Krizhevsky \(2009\)](#) does not come with a predefined validation set and there is not enough experimental data, the validation of the implemented ANN cannot be measured in a traditional sense. Instead, as mentioned previously in [3.6](#), the network will be tested to find the accuracy using testing data.

It's essential to understand that this approach, while deviating from conventional validation methods due to dataset constraints, still provides a valid assessment of the model's performance. This testing process offers a reliable evaluation of the model's ability to generalize and perform accurately on unseen data.

## 4 System Test Description

### 4.1 Tests for Functional Requirements

[Subsets of the tests may be in related, so this section is divided into different areas. If there are no identifiable subsets for the tests, this level of document structure can be removed. —SS]

[Include a blurb here to explain why the subsections below cover the requirements. References to the SRS would be good here. —SS]

#### 4.1.1 Area of Testing<sup>1</sup>

[It would be nice to have a blurb here to explain why the subsections below cover the requirements. References to the SRS would be good here. If

a section covers tests for input constraints, you should reference the data constraints table in the SRS. —SS]

### **Title for Test**

#### 1. test-id1

Control: Manual versus Automatic

Initial State:

Input:

Output: [The expected result for the given inputs —SS]

Test Case Derivation: [Justify the expected value given in the Output field —SS]

How test will be performed:

#### 2. test-id2

Control: Manual versus Automatic

Initial State:

Input:

Output: [The expected result for the given inputs —SS]

Test Case Derivation: [Justify the expected value given in the Output field —SS]

How test will be performed:

### **4.1.2 Area of Testing2**

...

## **4.2 Tests for Nonfunctional Requirements**

[The nonfunctional requirements for accuracy will likely just reference the appropriate functional tests from above. The test cases should mention reporting the relative error for these tests. Not all projects will necessarily have nonfunctional requirements related to accuracy —SS]

[Tests related to usability could include conducting a usability test and survey. The survey will be in the Appendix. —SS]

[Static tests, review, inspections, and walkthroughs, will not follow the format for the tests given below. —SS]

#### **4.2.1 Area of Testing1**

##### **Title for Test**

1. test-id1

Type: Functional, Dynamic, Manual, Static etc.

Initial State:

Input/Condition:

Output/Result:

How test will be performed:

2. test-id2

Type: Functional, Dynamic, Manual, Static etc.

Initial State:

Input:

Output:

How test will be performed:

#### **4.2.2 Area of Testing2**

...

### **4.3 Traceability Between Test Cases and Requirements**

[Provide a table that shows which test cases are supporting which requirements. —SS]

## 5 Unit Test Description

[This section should not be filled in until after the MIS (detailed design document) has been completed. —SS]

[Reference your MIS (detailed design document) and explain your overall philosophy for test case selection. —SS]

[To save space and time, it may be an option to provide less detail in this section. For the unit tests you can potentially layout your testing strategy here. That is, you can explain how tests will be selected for each module. For instance, your test building approach could be test cases for each access program, including one test for normal behaviour and as many tests as needed for edge cases. Rather than create the details of the input and output here, you could point to the unit testing code. For this to work, your code needs to be well-documented, with meaningful names for all of the tests. —SS]

### 5.1 Unit Testing Scope

[What modules are outside of the scope. If there are modules that are developed by someone else, then you would say here if you aren't planning on verifying them. There may also be modules that are part of your software, but have a lower priority for verification than others. If this is the case, explain your rationale for the ranking of module importance. —SS]

### 5.2 Tests for Functional Requirements

[Most of the verification will be through automated unit testing. If appropriate specific modules can be verified by a non-testing based technique. That can also be documented in this section. —SS]

#### 5.2.1 Module 1

[Include a blurb here to explain why the subsections below cover the module. References to the MIS would be good. You will want tests from a black box perspective and from a white box perspective. Explain to the reader how the tests were selected. —SS]

1. test-id1

Type: [Functional, Dynamic, Manual, Automatic, Static etc. Most will be automatic —SS]

Initial State:

Input:

Output: [The expected result for the given inputs —SS]

Test Case Derivation: [Justify the expected value given in the Output field —SS]

How test will be performed:

2. test-id2

Type: [Functional, Dynamic, Manual, Automatic, Static etc. Most will be automatic —SS]

Initial State:

Input:

Output: [The expected result for the given inputs —SS]

Test Case Derivation: [Justify the expected value given in the Output field —SS]

How test will be performed:

3. ...

### 5.2.2 Module 2

...

## 5.3 Tests for Nonfunctional Requirements

[If there is a module that needs to be independently assessed for performance, those test cases can go here. In some projects, planning for nonfunctional tests of units will not be that relevant. —SS]

[These tests may involve collecting performance data from previously mentioned functional tests. —SS]

### 5.3.1 Module ?

1. test-id1

Type: [Functional, Dynamic, Manual, Automatic, Static etc. Most will be automatic —SS]

Initial State:

Input/Condition:

Output/Result:

How test will be performed:

2. test-id2

Type: Functional, Dynamic, Manual, Static etc.

Initial State:

Input:

Output:

How test will be performed:

### 5.3.2 Module ?

...

## 5.4 Traceability Between Test Cases and Modules

[Provide evidence that all of the modules have been considered. —SS]

## References

Alex Krizhevsky. Learning multiple layers of features from tiny images. Technical Report, 2009.

Python Code Quality Authority. Pylint. <https://pypi.org/project/pylint/>, December 2023. Python static code analysis tool.

## 6 Appendix

This is where you can place additional information.

### 6.1 Symbolic Parameters

The definition of the test cases will call for SYMBOLIC\_CONSTANTS. Their values are defined in this section for easy maintenance.

### 6.2 Usability Survey Questions?

[This is a section that would be appropriate for some projects. —SS]



## **Appendix — Reflection**

The information in this section will be used to evaluate the team members on the graduate attribute of Lifelong Learning. Please answer the following questions:

## Appendix — Reflection

[This section is not required for CAS 741 —SS]

The information in this section will be used to evaluate the team members on the graduate attribute of Lifelong Learning. Please answer the following questions:

1. What knowledge and skills will the team collectively need to acquire to successfully complete the verification and validation of your project? Examples of possible knowledge and skills include dynamic testing knowledge, static testing knowledge, specific tool usage etc. You should look to identify at least one item for each team member.
2. For each of the knowledge areas and skills identified in the previous question, what are at least two approaches to acquiring the knowledge or mastering the skill? Of the identified approaches, which will each team member pursue, and why did they make this choice?