# 2. Number Recognition with Keras

May 4, 2024

"You can think of solving MNIST as the "Hello world" of deep learning." - François Chollet

The MNIST dataset consists of a collection of 70,000 images of handwritten numerical digits. Each image consists of a 28x28 pixel grayscale image.

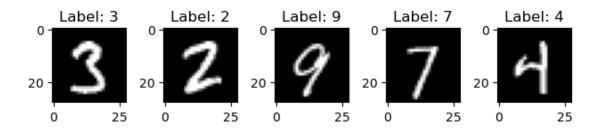
THe cell below displays 10 randomly selected images out of the training dataset.

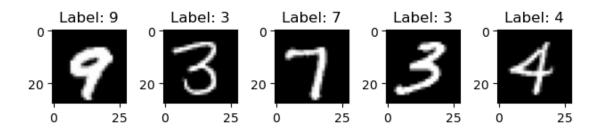
```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import numpy as np

# Load the MNIST dataset
from tensorflow.keras.datasets import mnist
(train_images, train_labels), (test_images, test_labels) = mnist.load_data()

# Select a random sample of images
num_samples = 10
random_indices = np.random.choice(len(train_images), num_samples)

# Plot the random samples
for i, idx in enumerate(random_indices):
    plt.subplot(2, 5, i+1)
    plt.imshow(train_images[idx], cmap='gray')
    plt.title(f"Label: {train_labels[idx]}")
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()
```





We can verify as follows that each image is simply a 2d numy array, with grayscale intensity in the range 0 to 255.

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[56]: example_image = train_images[random_indices[0]]
print(
    type(example_image),
    example_image,
    f"Number of Train images: {len(train_images)}",
    f"Number of Test images: {len(test_images)}",
    sep='\n'
)
```

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Number of Train images: 60000 Number of Test images: 10000

# 1 Defining the Network Architecture

```
[57]: from tensorflow import keras
from tensorflow.keras import layers

model = keras.Sequential([
    layers.Dense(512, activation="relu"),
    layers.Dense(10, activation="softmax")
])
```

## 1.1 The Compilation Step

### 1.2 Preparing the Training Data

The reshape we are doing can be represented as: 60000, 28, 28 - > 60000, 28\*28

```
[59]: train_images = train_images.reshape((60000, 28 * 28))
train_images = train_images.astype("float32") / 255
test_images = test_images.reshape((10000, 28 * 28))
test_images = test_images.astype("float32") / 255
```

#### 1.3 Fitting the Model

```
[60]: model.fit(train_images, train_labels, epochs=5, batch_size=128)
  Epoch 1/5
  accuracy: 0.9235
  Epoch 2/5
  accuracy: 0.9685
  Epoch 3/5
  accuracy: 0.9791
  Epoch 4/5
  accuracy: 0.9849
  Epoch 5/5
  accuracy: 0.9890
[60]: <keras.callbacks.History at 0x19bde2710>
```

#### [61]: model.summary()

Model: "sequential\_3"

Layer (type)	Output Shape	Param #
dense_6 (Dense)	(None, 512)	401920
dense_7 (Dense)	(None, 10)	5130

Total params: 407,050 Trainable params: 407,050 Non-trainable params: 0

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#### 1.4 Making Predictions on the Test Set

Each number of index i in that array corresponds to the probability that digit image test\_digits[0] belongs to class i.

```
[62]: test_digits = test_images[0:10]
predictions = model.predict(test_digits)
predictions[0]
```

```
1/1 [=======] - Os 103ms/step
```

```
[62]: array([1.9355136e-07, 7.8654594e-09, 6.5878298e-06, 1.2391029e-04, 4.3995693e-12, 8.3856868e-08, 1.7252054e-11, 9.9986339e-01, 4.2469955e-07, 5.3094614e-06], dtype=float32)
```

#### 1.5 Evaluating the Model on the Test Set

```
[63]: test_loss, test_acc = model.evaluate(test_images, test_labels)
print (f"test_acc: {test_acc}")
```

test\_acc: 0.9807999730110168

The test-set accuracy turns out to be 98.0%—that's quite a bit lower than the training-set accuracy (98.9%). This gap between training accuracy and test accuracy is an example of overfitting: the fact that machine learning models tend to perform worse on new data than on their training data. Overfitting is a central topic in chapter 3.

Let's plot some images from the test set along with the predictions by the model:

```
[65]: # Select a random sample of images
num_samples = 10
```

```
random_indices = np.random.choice(len(test_images), num_samples)

# Plot the random samples with their predicted labels
for i, idx in enumerate(random_indices):
    test_prediction = model.predict(test_images[idx:idx+1])
    predicted_label = np.argmax(test_prediction, axis=1)
    plt.subplot(2, 5, i+1)
    plt.imshow(test_images[idx].reshape(28, 28), cmap='gray')
    plt.title(f"True: {test_labels[idx]}\nPred: {predicted_label[0]}")
plt.tight_layout()
plt.show()
```

