Assignment 3

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1 Introduction

In this assignment we trained a two-layer ConvNet to predict the language of a surname from its spelling.

2 Code Explanation

We followed the instruction and went through Assignment 3 (also some detailed instructions in Assignment 2) document to implemented the work. The code contains two main classes, i.e. "DataProcess" and "ConvNet".

In detail, "DataProcess" class is used to preparing data. It mainly includes the following two important functions:

- read_file: read in .txt data files.
- create_one_hot: construct one-hot encoding.

The class "ConvNet" includes more typical functional parts, such as:

- the ones used to set hyper-parameters and initialize the ConvNet's parameters: initialize.
- the one used to construct the convolution matrices: MFMatrix, MXMatrix.
- the ones used to apply mini-batch gradient descent with momentum: evaluateClassifier, computeCost, computeAccuracy, evaluation_and_compute_gradients.

3 Results

3.1 Gradient check

The check is done by computing relative error. We compared the analytically and numerically computed results of gradients with respective to weights, filter 1 and filter 2 obtained through function 'evaluation_and_compute_gradients' and 'computeGradientsNum' respectively. We assert that they provide the same values in level of 10^{-5} . Detailed results are provided in Table 1.

gradient	Filter1	Filter2	Weights
differences	7.8164e-07	4.4027e-03	8.2768e-07
relative error	2.2342e-09	2.0117e-05	1.9401e-09

Table 1: Gradient check.

3.2 Compensate for the imbalanced dataset

The original dataset contains 18 classes in which the largest class has size 9296 and the smallest class has size 39. To avoid ConvNet only to learn to classify the dominating classes correctly, we compensate for the imbalanced dataset by sampling the same number of examples as the smallest class.

The following validation loss plots and final confusion matrices for cases with and without compensating are computed with hyper-parameter setting: $n_1 = 20, n_2 = 20, k_1 = 5, k_2 = 3, eta = 0.01, rho = 0.9, batch_size = 100, n_ite = 2000.$

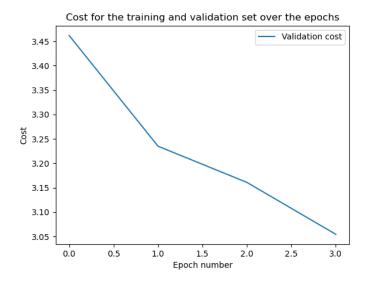


Figure 1: Validation loss plot without compensating training.

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Figure 2: Confusion matrix without compensating training.

Accuracy for non-compensated dataset is about 0.22. By observing the confusion matrix, we find that there are many zero entries indicating that the non-dominating classes are poorly predicted.

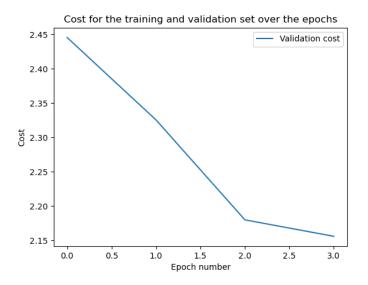


Figure 3: Validation loss plot with compensating training.

Figure 4: Confusion matrix with compensating training.

Accuracy for compensated dataset is about 0.41. Compared with the non-compensated one, the compensated dataset shows a better performance not only on dominating classes but on the other smaller-sized classes as well.

However, the accuracy differences between the compensated and non-compensated datasets are not as large as we hypothesised. We analyzed that this may because that the dominating classes have too much more data than the others. Therefore, even the other small-sized classes got all predictions wrong, the general performance may still looks reasonable.

3.3 Best performing ConvNet

To get the best performing ConvNet, we set up parameters as the following: $n_1 = 50, n_2 = 50, k_1 = 5, k_2 = 3, eta = 0.01, rho = 0.9, batch_size = 100, n_ite = 2000$. These parameters are intuited by the previous two assignments. We applied these settings to the compensated balenced dataset and increasing number of iterates until we find the turning point on validation loss curve.

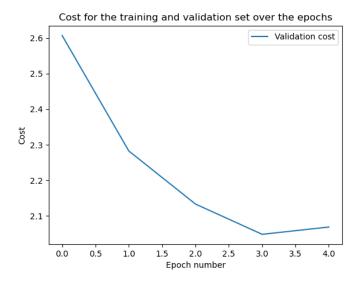


Figure 5: Validation loss plot of the best performing ConvNet.

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Figure 6: Confusion matrix of the best performing ConvNet.

3.4 Test

To test whether the best performing ConvNet works, we create a test set using five of my friends' surnames and mine. They are hao, ninomiya, shi, liebeck, barysheva, kim and their corresponding nationalities are Chinese, Japanese, Chinese, English, Russian, Korean. The following figures are the output predictions of these six names.

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Test random names: has one is predicted to be Czech has or is predicted to be Chinese [14, 28339076=03] [4, 96065322-01] [4, 96065322-01] [4, 10483456=03] [2, 55405949=01] [7, 071047378-04] [1, 181292308=01] [2, 181292308=01] [3, 25141011e-03] [5, 30908250e-04] [1, 182923087-04] [1, 18502178-04] [1, 18541426e-01] [6, 33367679e-03] [1, 1460205178-04] [1, 18541426e-01] [1, 17068322-03] [1, 17068322-03] [1, 17068322-03] [1, 17068322-03] [1, 17068322-03] [1, 17068322-03] [1, 17608322-03] [1, 17608322-03] [1, 18301556e-04] [1, 1830156e-04] [1, 18301576-04] [1, 24590449e-05] [2, 36826567e-05] [2, 17559376-01]] harrysteva is predicted to be Japanese [16, 02719403e-06] [2, 183016567e-05] [2, 18301678-06] [3, 3431343e-04] [4, 47982791e-03] [1, 18151328e-07] [4, 26662469e-01] [3, 48431345e-04] [1, 18151328e-07] [4, 26662469e-01] [3, 3876758e-06] [3, 3876759e-06] [3, 48431845e-04] [1, 1871630e-01] [1, 18151328e-07] [4, 26662469e-01] [3, 2852048e-03] [1, 1871630e-01] [1, 18151328e-07] [4, 26662469e-01] [3, 2852048e-03] [1, 1871630e-01] [1, 18151328e-07] [4, 26662469e-01] [3, 2852048e-03] [1, 1871630e-01] [1, 1871630e
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Figure 7: Prediction results.

We find that our best performing ConvNet predicts quite satisfying on our own test set, that only surname 'liebeck' is falsely predicted. It is reasonable since surnames of Chinese, Japanese, Korean and Russian are quite different intuitively. I also tried to input surname which does not included in any of the 18 classes, for example, 'hector' which is actually Swedish is categorized as Germany, indicating for those languages with the same origin, surnames in those countries may be quite similar in some extent.