Final report

1. Introduction.

Overview of project:

The project topic we choose is Visual Question Answer. The idea comes from a paper of Virginia Tech named "VQA: Visual Question Answering" ¹. They posted their resource on www.visualqa.org, like dataset, demo. Our goal is to reproduce the LSTM+CNN Model in their paper by keras, and use our model to answer some open-ended questions.

In vqa dataset, it has three parts: images, answers, and questions. Images from MSCOCO, answers and questions created by human. Based on our syllabus, we are going to reach some approaches like CNN, LSTM and MLP. Our project uses top 1000 answers as the labels. CNN part deals with extracting image features and LSTM deal with extracting features from questions, then we feed above two parts of features into a fully connected network to predict the most answer (the most likely answer in top 1000 answers).

¹ Antol, S., Agrawal, A., Lu, J., Mitchell, M., Batra, D., Lawrence Zitnick, C., & Parikh, D. (2015). Vqa: Visual question answering. In *Proceedings of the IEEE International Conference on Computer Vision* (pp. 2425-2433).

2. Data set

2.1. Image

We use the 204,721 training images from the Microsoft Common Objects in Context (MS COCO) datase²t. COCO is a large-scale object detection, segmentation, and captioning dataset. Each image in COCO contains a lot of informations. What we need is just the image file and image id.



Figure 1: COCO_val2017_000000324158.jpg

2.2. Text Question and Answers

There are 1,105, 904 questions and answers. The answers and questions are created by human. For each image, dataset collected three question and answered them. Some of questions only require low level computer vision techniques. Like 'Is that a dog?', 'How many apples in the picture?' Moreover, dataset also has some questions like 'What sound does the pictured animal make?' which is not only based on recognizing objects from picture.



Q1: Where is he looking? A1:down

Q2: What are the people in the background doing? A2:watching

Figure 2: COCO_val2017_000000000338.jpg and related questions and answers

² Lin, T. Y., Maire, M., Belongie, S., Hays, J., Perona, P., Ramanan, D., ... & Zitnick, C. L. (2014, September). Microsoft coco: Common objects in context. In *European conference on computer vision* (pp. 740-755). Springer, Cham.

3. Description of the deep learning network and training algorithm

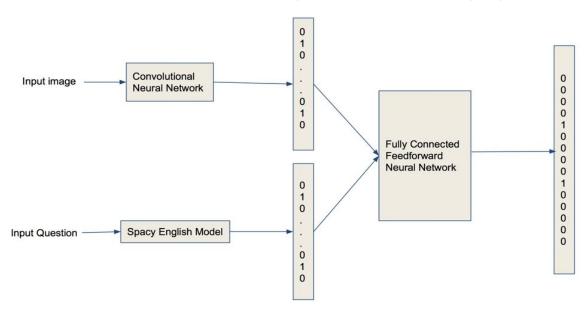


Figure 3: Whole model

For our algorithm, we combine two parts input images and input questions together to generate a large vectors as the data input. We choose top 1000 answers which can represent 82.67% of the whole data set. Following we will describe details of techniques and our three models:

- (1) Implement VGG 16 in our model, use the LSTM to process questions.
- (2) Directly get image's feature from other's well-trained CNN model, directly use question vector (question part don't use LSTM)
- (3) Directly get image's feature from other's well-trained CNN model, use the LSTM to process questions.

3.1 Other's well-trained CNN model - NeuralTalk2

NeuralTalk2³ is an open-sourced and artificially-intelligent image captioning program. NeuralTalk2 can generate a description of a specific image. It also posted his model of CNN part and weights files. In his git, he also provides the extract_features.py which can get 4096 features from images by using his CNN model.

³ Karpathy, A., & Fei-Fei, L. (2015). Deep visual-semantic alignments for generating image descriptions. In *Proceedings of the IEEE Conference on Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition* (pp. 3128-3137).









a man is playing tennis on a tennis court

a train is traveling down the tracks at a train station

Figure 3: NeuralTalk2 generated a description of a image

3.2 VGG 16

We use the last hidden layer of the 16-layer Oxford VGG Convolutional network that was trained on the newly-released Microsoft Common Objects in Context(MS COCO) dataset as the image vector input. While VGG Net is not the best algorithm for extract features. Google Net and ResNet have a better classification results, but VGG Net is very versatile, simple, relatively small and more importantly portable to use

3.3 SpaCy

For the question, we transform each word to its word vector, and sum up all the vectors. The length of this feature vector will be same as the length of a single word vector, and the word vectors(also called embedding) that we use have a length of 384. There are a lot of different algorithms to transfer text into vector. The most popular is Word2Vec whereas these days state of the art uses skip-thought vectors or positional encodings. We will use Word2Vec from Stanford called Glove (Spacy English Model). Glove reduces a given token into a 384 dimensional representation.

3.4 Fully implement model

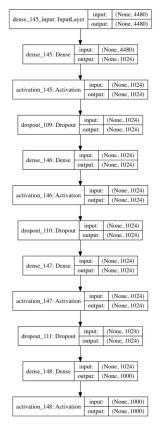
In this model, we implement whole by ourselves. For each sample, the input are image and question, the labels are answers(top1000 frequent word).

We called VGG model from keras and drop the top layers like the last dropout layer and softmax layer. So the result is a 4096-dimension vector.

We convert question text to a word matrix which rows are index of word in sentence and the columns are the vectors representing each word. Then we feed the word matrix into LSTM to extract 384 features.

Finally we concat image features and question as the input of final fully connected network. And the most likely answer.





3.5 other's well-trained CNN + LSTM model

In this model, we implement whole by ourselves except CNN part. For each sample, the input are image and question, the labels are answers(top1000 frequent word).

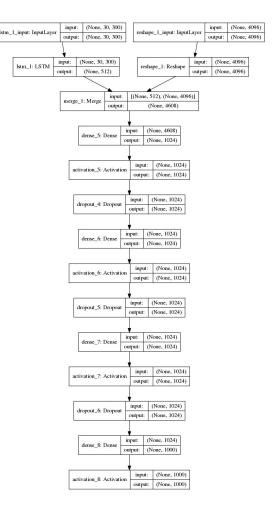
We called NeuralTalk2 to get images' features. So the result is a 4096-dimension vector.

We convert question text to a word matrix which rows are index of word in sentence and the columns are the vectors representing each word. Then we feed the word matrix into LSTM to extract 384 features. Finally we concat image features and question as the input of final fully connected network. And the most likely answer.

3.6 other's well-trained CNN + MLP model In this model, we implement whole by ourselves except CNN part. For each sample, the input are image and question, the labels are answers(top1000 frequent word).

We called NeuralTalk2 to get images' features. So the result is a 4096-dimension vector.

For the question, we transform each word to its word vector, and sum up all the vector as the input of next network. Finally we concat image features and question as the input of final fully connected network. And the most likely answer.



4. Experimental setup.

4.1. Describe how you are going to use the data to train and test the network.

From the MSCOCO dataset, we are able to download the all dataset of images/questions/answers which was already divided by train and test, yet as running the COCO API is time consuming, we retrieve the data by the release version of json dataset provided by Virginia Tech.

Index of /vqa/release_data/mscoco/vqa

<u>Name</u>	Last modified	Size Description
Parent Directory		-
Annotations Train mscoco.zip	03-Oct-2015 18:16	12M
Annotations Val mscoco.zip	03-Oct-2015 18:16	5.8M
MultipleChoice mscoco test-dev2015 questions.json	03-Oct-2015 18:13	16M
MultipleChoice mscoco test2015 questions.json	02-Oct-2015 15:47	64M
MultipleChoice mscoco train2014 questions.json	02-Oct-2015 15:33	66M
MultipleChoice mscoco train2014 questions filtered.json	18-Aug-2016 11:43	62M
MultipleChoice mscoco val2014 questions.json	02-Oct-2015 15:38	32M
MultipleChoice mscoco val2014 questions filtered.json	18-Aug-2016 11:43	30M
OpenEnded mscoco test-dev2015 questions.json	03-Oct-2015 18:12	5.3M
OpenEnded mscoco test2015 questions.json	02-Oct-2015 15:41	21M
OpenEnded mscoco train2014 questions.json	02-Oct-2015 15:28	22M
OpenEnded mscoco val2014 questions.json	02-Oct-2015 15:35	11M
Questions Test mscoco.zip	03-Oct-2015 18:16	25M
Questions Train mscoco.zip	03-Oct-2015 18:16	21M
Questions Val mscoco.zip	03-Oct-2015 18:16	10 M
intermediate formats/	28-Jan-2016 15:29	-
mscoco train2014 annotations.json	02-Oct-2015 15:29	189M
mscoco train2014 annotations filtered.json	18-Aug-2016 11:43	158M
mscoco val2014 annotations.json	02-Oct-2015 15:35	93M
mscoco val2014 annotations filtered.json	18-Aug-2016 11:43	77M

https://vision.ece.vt.edu/vqa/release_data/mscoco/vqa/

4.2. Explain how you will implement the network in the chosen framework and how you will judge the performance.

We use the keras framework for the implement. By implement different learning rate, optimizer and batch size, we tune our model to the best performance

VGG model

We use VGG_16 model but remove the softmax layer for the image features extracted:

```
def VGG_16(weights_path=None):
   model = Sequential()
   model.add(ZeroPadding2D((1, 1), input_shape=(3, 224, 224)))
   model.add(Convolution2D(64, 3, 3, activation='relu'))
   model.add(ZeroPadding2D((1, 1)))
   model.add(Convolution2D(64, 3, 3, activation='relu'))
   model.add(MaxPooling2D((2, 2), strides=(2, 2)))
   model.add(ZeroPadding2D((1, 1)))
   model.add(Convolution2D(128, 3, 3, activation='relu'))
   model.add(ZeroPadding2D((1, 1)))
   model.add(Convolution2D(128, 3, 3, activation='relu'))
   model.add(MaxPooling2D((2, 2), strides=(2, 2)))
   model.add(ZeroPadding2D((1, 1)))
   model.add(Convolution2D(256, 3, 3, activation='relu'))
   model.add(ZeroPadding2D((1, 1)))
    model.add(Convolution2D(256, 3, 3, activation='relu'))
    model.add(ZeroPadding2D((1, 1)))
    model.add(Convolution2D(256, 3, 3, activation='relu'))
    model.add(MaxPooling2D((2, 2), strides=(2, 2)))
    model.add(ZeroPadding2D((1, 1)))
   model.add(Convolution2D(512, 3, 3, activation='relu'))
    model.add(ZeroPadding2D((1, 1)))
    model.add(Convolution2D(512, 3, 3, activation='relu'))
    model.add(ZeroPadding2D((1, 1)))
    model.add(Convolution2D(512, 3, 3, activation='relu'))
    model.add(MaxPooling2D((2, 2), strides=(2, 2)))
    model.add(ZeroPadding2D((1, 1)))
   model.add(Convolution2D(512, 3, 3, activation='relu'))
   model.add(ZeroPadding2D((1, 1)))
    model.add(Convolution2D(512, 3, 3, activation='relu'))
   model.add(ZeroPadding2D((1, 1)))
   model.add(Convolution2D(512, 3, 3, activation='relu'))
    model.add(MaxPooling2D((2, 2), strides=(2, 2)))
   model.add(Flatten())
   model.add(Dense(4096, activation='relu'))
   model.add(Dropout(0.5))
   model.add(Dense(4096, activation='relu'))
   #model.add(Dropout(0.5))
   #model.add(Dense(1000, activation='softmax'))
```

From the VGG model feature we retrieve:

```
vgg_model_path = '../Downloads/coco/vgg_feats.mat'
features_struct = scipy.io.loadmat(vgg_model_path)
VGGfeatures = features_struct['feats']
image_ids = open('../data/coco_vgg_IDMap.txt').read().splitlines()
id_map = {}

Getting the CNN features:

def get_images_matrix(img_coco_ids, img_map, VGGfeatures):
    nb_samples = len(img_coco_ids)
    nb_dimensions = VGGfeatures.shape[0]
    image_matrix = np.zeros((nb_samples, nb_dimensions))
    for j in range(len(img_coco_ids)):
        image_matrix[j,:] = VGGfeatures[:,img_map[img_coco_ids[j]]]
    return image_matrix
```

Vectorize the string by sum the word vector in one sentence, we can get the NLP features:

```
def get_questions_matrix_sum(questions, nlp):
    nb_samples = len(questions)
    word_vec_dim = nlp(questions[0].decode('utf-8'))[0].vector.shape[0]
    questions_matrix = np.zeros((nb_samples, word_vec_dim))
    for i in range(len(questions)):
        tokens = nlp(questions[i].decode('utf-8'))
        for j in range(len(tokens)):
            questions_matrix[i,:] += tokens[j].vector
    return questions_matrix
```

We stack stack the 4096 image features and 384 question features together as the final fully connected layer and feed it into next neural network, MLP and LSTM.

MLP Model Building MLP:

To train the MLP model, we first shuffle the data and read all question/answer/image data and feed it by mini batch:

```
from itertools import izip_longest
def batches(iterable, n, fillvalue=None):
    args = [iter(iterable)] * n
    return izip_longest(*args, fillvalue=fillvalue)
for k in range(num_epochs):
    index_shuf = [i for i in range(len(questions_train))]
    shuffle(index_shuf)
    questions_train = [questions_train[i] for i in index_shuf]
    answers_train = [answers_train[i] for i in index_shuf]
    images_train = [images_train[i] for i in index_shuf]
    progbar = generic_utils.Progbar(len(questions_train))
    for qu_batch,an_batch,im_batch in zip(batches(questions_train, batch_size, fillvalue=questions_train[-1]),
                                         batches(answers_train, batch_size, fillvalue=answers_train[-1]),
                                         batches(images_train, batch_size, fillvalue=images_train[-1])):
        X_q_batch = get_questions_matrix_sum(qu_batch, nlp)
        X_i_batch = get_images_matrix(im_batch, id_map, VGGfeatures)
        X_batch = np.hstack((X_q_batch, X_i_batch))
        Y_batch = get_answers_matrix(an_batch, labelencoder)
        loss = model.train_on_batch(X_batch, Y_batch)
    progbar.add(batch_size, values=[("train loss", loss)])
if k%model_save_interval == 0:
        model.save_weights(model_file_name + '_epoch_{:02d}.hdf5'.format(k))
model.save_weights(model_file_name + '_epoch_{:02d}.hdf5'.format(k))
```

LSTM Model

Consider the time step, we define a new function to get the matrix:

Dealing with images:

```
image_model = Sequential()
image_model.add(Reshape((img_dim,), input_shape = (img_dim,)))
```

Dealing with Questions:

```
language_model = Sequential()
if num_hidden_layers_lstm == 1:
    language_model.add(LSTM(output_dim = num_hidden_units_lstm, return_sequences=False, input_shape=(max_len, word_vec_dim)))
else:
    language_model.add(LSTM(output_dim = num_hidden_units_lstm, return_sequences=True, input_shape=(max_len, word_vec_dim)))
    for i in xrange(num_hidden_layers_lstm-2):
        language_model.add(LSTM(output_dim = num_hidden_units_lstm, return_sequences=True))
    language_model.add(LSTM(output_dim = num_hidden_units_lstm, return_sequences=False))
```

LSTM model training:

Merge the image model with lstm model then do the classification.

```
model = Sequential()
model.add(Merge([language_model, image_model], mode='concat', concat_axis=1))
for i in xrange(num_hidlayer_mlp):
    model.add(Dense(num_hidunit_mlp, init='uniform'))
    model.add(Activation(activation_mlp))
model.add(Dropout(dropout))
model.add(Dense(nb_classes))
model.add(Activation('softmax'))
```

4.3. Will you use minibatches? How will you determine the size of the minibatches?

Yes we use the minibatches by creating the batches function, we tried 3 batch size as 64, 128 and 256 and with below data we can tell that with a larger batch size, the run time will shrink yet the loss will descent slower. Meaning it will require more epochs' running if we want to reach the same loss, and the running time drop in a very slow rate after 256, we decide to use 128.

Batch Size	64	128	256
Descent in the 1st epoch	7.31 - 4.25	7.39 - 4.59	7.31 - 4.98
Run time(min)	40.13	36.5	34.32

MLP batches:

```
from itertools import izip_longest
def batches(iterable, n, fillvalue=None):
    args = [iter(iterable)] * n
    return izip_longest(*args, fillvalue=fillvalue)
```

LSTM batches:

4.4. How will you determine training parameters (e.g., learning rate)?

We test three different learning rate (0.1, 0.01 and 0.001) for different training model.

```
json_string = model.to_json()
model_file_name = '/Users/jiafangliu/Documents/class/ML/Final/lr_001/mlp
open(model_file_name + '.json', 'w').write(json_string)
sgd = optimizers.SGD(lr=0.01, decay=1e-6, momentum=0.9, nesterov=True)
model.compile(loss='categonical_crossentropy', optimizer=sgd)
```

4.5. How will you detect/prevent overfitting and extrapolation?

- (1) We can use validation dataset to evaluate our model or do cross validation if model works well on training dataset but not on validation dataset which means model is overfitting.
- (2) We can use dropout to reduce overfitting.
- (3) A larger dataset is the way to prevent overfitting.
- (4) Add regularization

5. Results. Describe the results of your experiments, using figures and tables wherever possible. Include all results (including all figures and tables) in the main body of the report, not in appendices. Provide an explanation of each figure and table that you include. Your discussions in this section will be the most important part of the report. • Summary and conclusions. Summarize the results you obtained, explain what you have learned, and suggest improvements that could be made in the future.

MLP(SGD)

Learning Rate	0.001	0.01	0.1
Loss(Catogorical - cross entropy)	2.11	2.32	13.10

MLP(RMSprop)

Learning Rate	0.001	0.01	0.1
Loss(Catagorical - cross entropy)	3.07	15.36	11.84

MLP

Epochs number	1	5	10	 20
Time(min)	36.5	182.5	420	 1680
Loss(Ir = 0.01)	425	3.89	2.98	 2.11

LSTM

Epochs Number	1	5	10	 20
Time(min)	63	315	630	 2520
Loss(lr = 0.01)	3.52	3.01	2.90	 3.02

References

Geman, D., Geman, S., Hallonquist, N. and Younes, L., 2015. Visual turing test for computer vision systems. Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, 112(12), pp.3618-3623.

Source:

https://zh.wikipedia.org/wiki/%E5%9B%BE%E7%81%B5%E6%B5%8B%E8%AF%95

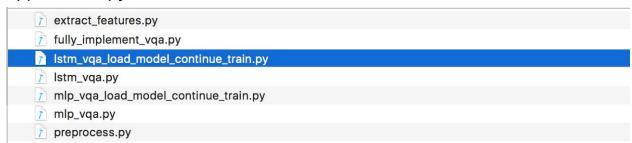
http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/technology-27762088

http://www.robots.ox.ac.uk/~vgg/

https://github.com/VT-vision-lab

Appendix

Appendix 1: python files.



Appendix 2:running screenshots

MLP

Learning rate = 0.01 epoch = 5 optimizer = sgd

Learning rate = 0.1 epoch = 5 optimizer = sgd

LSTM

Learning rate = 0.001 epoch = 1 optimizer = rmsprop

Learning rate = 0.001 epoch = 5 optimizer = rmsprop

Learning rate = 0.001 epoch = 10 optimizer = rmsprop

Learning rate = 0.001 epoch = 20 optimizer = rmsprop

LSTM - Verify

Epoch = 1

```
Loaded
 32/1000 [....] - ETA: 3s
64/1000 [>....] - ETA: 2s
 96/1000 [=>.....] - ETA: 2s
128/1000
160/1000 [===>.....] - ETA: 2s
192/1000 [====>..... - ETA: 1s
224/1000 [====>.....] - ETA: 1s
256/1000 [=====>.....] - ETA: 1s
320/1000 [======>..... - ETA: 1s
352/1000 [=======>.....] - ETA: 1s
384/1000 [======>....] - ETA: 1s
416/1000 [=======>.....] - ETA: 1s
448/1000 [=======>.....] - ETA: 1s
480/1000 [========>..... - ETA: 1s
512/1000 [========>....] - ETA: 1s
544/1000 [========>.....] - ETA: 1s
576/1000
       608/1000 [==========>.....] - ETA: 0s
640/1000 [==========>.....] - ETA: 0s
672/1000 [===========>.....] - ETA: 0s
     704/1000
736/1000
      800/1000 [==
         832/1000
      864/1000
896/1000
          ======= --- - - - ETA: 0s
928/1000
       ======== --- - - - ETA: 0s
          960/1000
992/1000 [==
            =========>.] - ETA: Osloss is 3.90891549873 accuracy is 0.282
```

Epoch = 20

```
Loaded
32/1000
    [.....] - ETA: 3s
64/1000 [>.....] - ETA: 2s
96/1000 [=>...] - ETA: 2s
128/1000 [==>...] - ETA: 1s
224/1000 [====>.....] - ETA: 1s
256/1000
288/1000 [======>....] - ETA: 1s
320/1000 [======>..... - ETA: 1s
352/1000 [=======>....] - ETA: 1s
384/1000 [=======>..... - ETA: 1s
    [========>....] - ETA: 1s
416/1000
448/1000 [=======>.....] - ETA: 1s
480/1000 [=======>..... - ETA: 1s
512/1000 [========>....] - ETA: 1s
544/1000 [==
      ========= ---- - - ETA: 0s
576/1000
      608/1000
    640/1000
    704/1000 [=
736/1000
        768/1000
800/1000
     ======== --- - - - - ETA: 0s
832/1000
     864/1000
          ===============>.....] - ETA: 0s
        896/1000
        928/1000
960/1000
```