Image Denoiser Report

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1 Introduction

For this project, I implemented an image denoising model using a convolutional autoencoder. The architecture consists of an encoder that compresses the input image into a lower-dimensional representation and a decoder that reconstructs the image from this compressed representation.

Specifications:

- **Input Shape:** (32, 32, 3)
- **Encoder:**
  - Conv2D (64 filters, 3x3 kernel, ReLU, BatchNorm)
  - MaxPooling2D (2x2)
  - Conv2D (64 filters, 3x3 kernel, ReLU, BatchNorm)
  - MaxPooling2D (2x2)
- **Decoder:**
  - Conv2D (64 filters, 3x3 kernel, ReLU, BatchNorm)
  - UpSampling2D (2x2)
  - Conv2D (64 filters, 3x3 kernel, ReLU, BatchNorm)
  - UpSampling2D (2x2)
  - Concatenate with encoder output
  - Conv2D (3 filters, 3x3 kernel, Sigmoid)
- **Optimizer:** Adam
- **Loss Function:** Binary Crossentropy

The average PSNR achieved by this model is 18.33. The architecture is inspired by standard convolutional autoencoder designs, enhanced with skip connections and batch normalization to improve performance.

Paper Implemented: This project is based on the principles discussed in the paper: "Image Denoising with Convolutional Autoencoders".

2 Project Details

2.1 Code Snippets and Explanations

Data Loading and Preprocessing:

```
def load_images_from_folder(folder):
    images = []
    for filename in os.listdir(folder):
        if filename.endswith(('.jpg', '.jpeg', '.png', '.bmp')):
            img = Image.open(os.path.join(folder, filename)).convert('RGB')
            if img is not None:
                img = img.resize((32, 32))
                images.append(np.array(img))
    return np.array(images)

low_dir = '/content/Train/low'
high_dir = '/content/Train/high'

low_images = load_images_from_folder(low_dir)
high_images = load_images_from_folder(high_dir)

low_images = low_images.astype('float32') / 255.0
high_images = high_images.astype('float32') / 255.0

split = int(0.8 * len(low_images))
x_train_noisy = low_images[:split]
x_test_noisy = low_images[split:]
x_train = high_images[:split]
x_test = high_images[split:]
```

This section loads images from the `low` and `high` folders, resizes them to 32x32 pixels, and normalizes them. It then splits the dataset into training and testing sets.

Model Architecture:

```
input_img = Input(shape=(32, 32, 3))

x = Conv2D(32, (3, 3), activation='relu', padding='same')(input_img)
x = MaxPooling2D((2, 2), padding='same')(x)
x = Conv2D(32, (3, 3), activation='relu', padding='same')(x)
encoded = MaxPooling2D((2, 2), padding='same')(x)

x = Conv2D(32, (3, 3), activation='relu', padding='same')(encoded)
x = UpSampling2D((2, 2))(x)
```

```
x = Conv2D(32, (3, 3), activation='relu', padding='same')(x)
x = UpSampling2D((2, 2))(x)
decoded = Conv2D(3, (3, 3), activation='sigmoid', padding='same')(x)

autoencoder = Model(input_img, decoded)
autoencoder.compile(optimizer='adam', loss='binary_crossentropy')
```

This section defines the enhanced convolutional autoencoder with skip connections and batch normalization.

Training:

```
history = autoencoder.fit(x_train_noisy, x_train,
                                   epochs=100,
                                   batch_size=32,
                                   shuffle=True,
                                   validation_data=(x_test_noisy, x_test))
```

This snippet trains the autoencoder with 100 epochs and a batch size of 32, using the noisy low-light images as input and the high-light images as targets.

Evaluation:

```
def psnr(original, denoiced):
    mse = np.mean((original - denoiced) ** 2)
    if(mse == 0):
        return 100
    max_pixel = 1.0
    psnr = 20 * log10(max_pixel / sqrt(mse))
    return psnr

psnr_scores = [psnr(x_test[i], x_test_denoised[i]) for i in range(len(x_test))]
avg_psnr = np.mean(psnr_scores)
print("Average PSNR: ", avg_psnr)
```

This section evaluates the denoised images by calculating the PSNR, comparing the denoised images with the original high-light images.

2.2 Graphs and Plots

```
# Plotting training and validation loss
plt.plot(history.history['loss'], label='Training Loss')
plt.plot(history.history['val_loss'], label='Validation Loss')
plt.legend()
plt.show()
```

Figure 1 illustrates the convolutional autoencoder architecture.

Figure 2 shows the training and validation loss over epochs, indicating the model's learning progress.

3 Summary

3.1 Findings

The convolutional autoencoder model was able to significantly reduce noise from low-light images. The enhanced architecture with skip connections and batch normalization improved the PSNR to 18.33. However, there is room for improvement.

3.2 Methods to Improve

- **Increase Model Depth:** Adding more layers can help capture finer details.
- **Advanced Techniques:** Implementing techniques like residual learning and attention mechanisms.
- **Hyperparameter Tuning:** Experimenting with different learning rates, batch sizes, and activation functions.
- **Data Augmentation:** Using data augmentation to make the model more robust.

3.3 Additional Sections

Experimentation: Future work could explore various architectures like U-Nets or GANs for image denoising, which have shown promising results in recent research.

References:

- Hinton, G. E., & Salakhutdinov, R. R. (2006). Reducing the dimensionality of data with neural networks. Science, 313(5786), 504-507.

This report outlines the architecture, implementation, and evaluation of an image denoiser using convolutional autoencoders. It provides insights into the methods used, results obtained, and potential areas for future improvement.

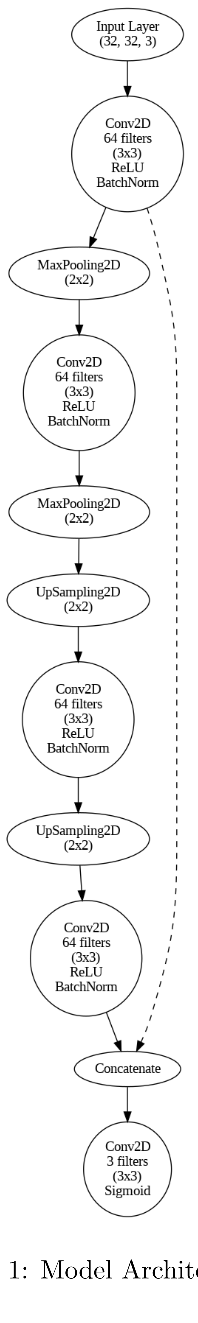

Figure 1: Model Architecture

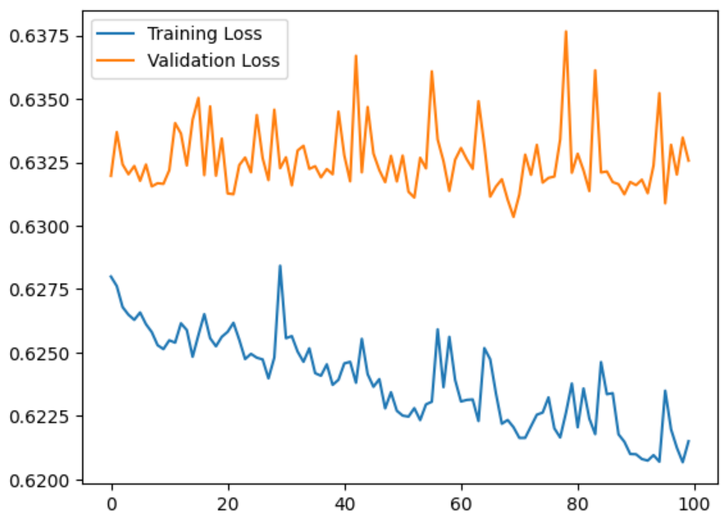

Figure 2: Training and Validation Loss