

Handwritten Numbers Detection Using MNIST Data Set And ML Algorithms

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Table of Contents

1 - Project Motivation	3
2 - Problem Definition	3
3 - Performance Measurement	4
3.1 KNN	4
3.1.1 Model definition	4
3.1.2 Model refinement	4
3.1.3 Testing and evaluation	5
3.2 SVM.....	7
3.2.1 Model definition	7
3.2.2 Model refinement	8
3.2.3 Testing and evaluation	8
3.3 ANN.....	10
3.3.1 Model definition	10
3.3.2 Model refinement	11
3.3.3 Testing and evaluation	11
3.4 CNN	15
3.4.1 Model definition	15
3.4.2 Model refinement	17
3.4.3 Testing and evaluation	17
4. Conclusion	20

Project Motivation

Handwriting recognition is the ability of a machine to receive and interpret handwritten input from multiple sources like paper documents, photographs, touch screen devices etc. Recognition of handwritten and machine characters is an emerging area of research and finds extensive applications in banks, offices and industries. The main aim of this project is to detect handwritten numbers using MNIST dataset as train data set.

The MNIST dataset is a large dataset of handwritten digits that is commonly used for training various image processing systems. The database is also widely used for training and testing in the field of machine learning.

This dataset contains 70000 images from different sources to a handwritten number.

So, this project is very useful for understanding machine learning classifiers for beginners.

Problem Definition

Till now we have 70000 of labeled handwritten images so we need to use it to classify unknown handwritten numbers from 0 to 9 based on this dataset.

Which we use to train some machine learning models like support vector machine, k-nearest neighbors, Artificial neural network and convolutional neural network.

After solving this problem, we can classify unknown images or patterns to identify the number inside picture.

Performance Measurement

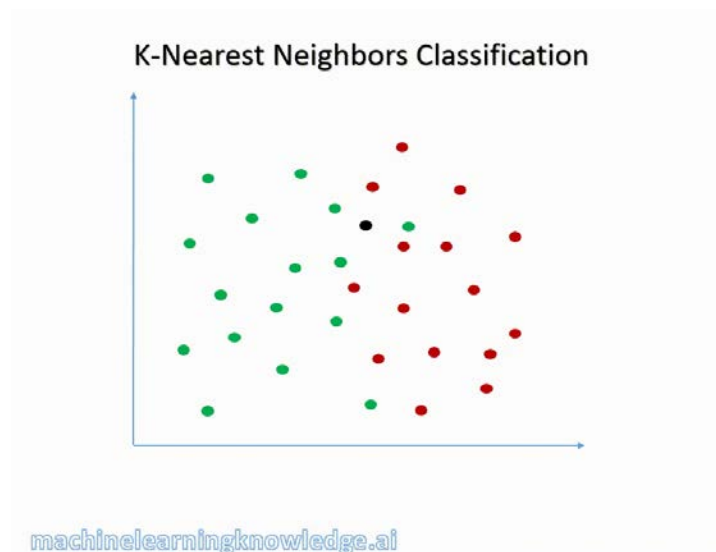
We are going to use MNIST dataset to make four models as we mentioned before and compare their accuracy to choose the best model which we can use its weights to identify unknown handwritten numbers in our applications. By splitting data into 60000 train data and 10000 test data then apply histogram of oriented gradients (HOG) to get best features from images to use in KNN, SVM and ANN.

First: k-nearest neighbor`s model

1. Model Definition

KNN: it is a non-parametric and lazy algorithm which predicts data by comparing distance between k nearest points by computing some mathematical functions as Euclidian distance rule and choose the maximum number of smallest distances to points of class and decides unknown point belongs to this class about these distances.

(**Note:** k is the number of nearest points to unknown point)



2. Model Refinement

We had changed parameter to improve our model accuracy. We had tried to change distance parameters between Euclidian distance and Manhattan distance. We got Euclidian is better than Manhattan so we decide to use Euclidian distance in our model.

We used some different k to get higher accuracy as k = 10, 15, 20 and set k as default. When k = 10 we got accuracy with 96.619%, when k = 15, accuracy = 96.47%, when k = 20, accuracy = 96.39% and when k was default, accuracy = 96.5%

3. Model Testing and Evaluation

We tested our model with different parameter as we mentioned before to get the best accuracy so we will see the confusion matrix of these different parameters to decide which parameters are the best

R2_Score

K = 10	K = 15	K = 20	K = default
92.56785449858823	91.84992260002439	91.5255414099756	92.24347330853945

1- K = 10

Confusion matrix

Classes	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
0	974	2	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	0
1	0	1129	3	0	0	0	2	1	0	0
2	15	3	991	5	0	0	1	13	4	0
3	2	2	5	975	1	6	0	5	12	2
4	4	13	2	0	927	0	7	1	1	27
5	5	1	2	12	1	851	9	1	8	2
6	6	6	1	0	0	1	941	0	3	0
7	0	11	4	1	2	0	0	982	2	26
8	15	4	4	6	1	6	4	4	916	14
9	4	6	1	7	2	0	0	8	5	976

2- K = 15

Confusion matrix

Classes	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
0	970	2	0	1	0	0	6	1	0	0
1	0	1130	3	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
2	13	5	981	6	0	0	2	18	4	0
3	2	3	4	975	0	5	0	5	12	4
4	3	14	0	0	921	0	7	1	1	35
5	4	2	1	14	2	850	10	0	6	3
6	5	6	0	0	0	1	944	0	2	0
7	0	14	3	1	3	0	0	976	0	31
8	16	3	4	7	1	5	3	4	919	12
9	4	7	2	6	2	0	0	5	5	978

3- K = 20

Confusion matrix

Classes	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
0	971	2	0	0	0	0	6	1	0	0
1	0	1129	3	0	0	0	3	0	0	0
2	14	6	976	6	0	0	2	18	9	1
3	2	3	1	979	0	5	0	5	11	4
4	3	14	0	0	916	0	8	2	1	38
5	4	2	1	15	1	848	10	1	7	3
6	5	6	0	0	0	1	944	0	2	0
7	0	13	3	0	2	0	0	977	1	32
8	18	2	3	7	1	5	5	3	920	10
9	4	7	1	6	2	0	0	6	4	979

4- K = default

Confusion matrix

Classes	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
0	974	2	0	0	0	0	4	3	0	0
1	0	1129	4	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
2	10	2	996	4	0	0	2	14	4	0
3	1	3	6	963	1	9	1	6	17	3
4	3	11	1	0	930	0	8	1	1	27
5	3	1	2	16	1	849	10	1	7	3
6	5	5	1	0	0	3	943	0	1	0
7	1	10	5	1	5	0	0	978	1	27
8	16	3	4	7	1	7	3	3	914	16
9	4	6	1	8	3	4	0	7	2	974

Precision & Recall

Class es	K = 10		K = 15		K = 20		K = default	
	precision	Recall	precision	Recall	precision	Recall	precision	Recall
0	95.02439 024	99.38775 51	95.37856 441	98.97959	95.10284 035	99.08163 265	95.77187 807	99.38775 51
1	95.92183 517	99.47136 56	95.27824 621	99.55947 137	95.35472 973	99.47136 564	96.33105 802	99.47136 564
2	97.82823 297	96.02713 178	98.30169 83	95.34883 721	98.78542 51	94.57364 341	97.64705 882	96.51162 791
3	96.91848 907	96.53465 347	96.53465 347	96.53465 347	96.64363 277	96.93069 307	96.39639 64	95.34653 465
4	99.25053 533	94.39918 534	99.13885 899	93.78818 737	99.34924 078	93.27902 24	98.83103 082	94.70468 432
5	98.49537 037	95.40358 744	98.72241 58	95.29147 982	98.71944 121	95.06726 457	97.36238 532	95.17937 22
6	97.31127 198	98.22546 973	96.91991 786	98.53862 213	96.52351 738	98.53862 213	97.01646 091	98.43423 8
7	96.65354 331	95.52529 183	96.63366 337	94.94163 424	96.44619 941	95.03891 051	96.73590 504	95.13618 677
8	96.31966 351	94.04517 454	96.83877 766	94.35318 275	96.33507 853	94.45585 216	96.61733 615	93.83983 573
9	93.21872 015	96.72943 508	92.00376 294	96.92765 114	91.75257 732	97.02675 917	92.76190 476	96.53121 903

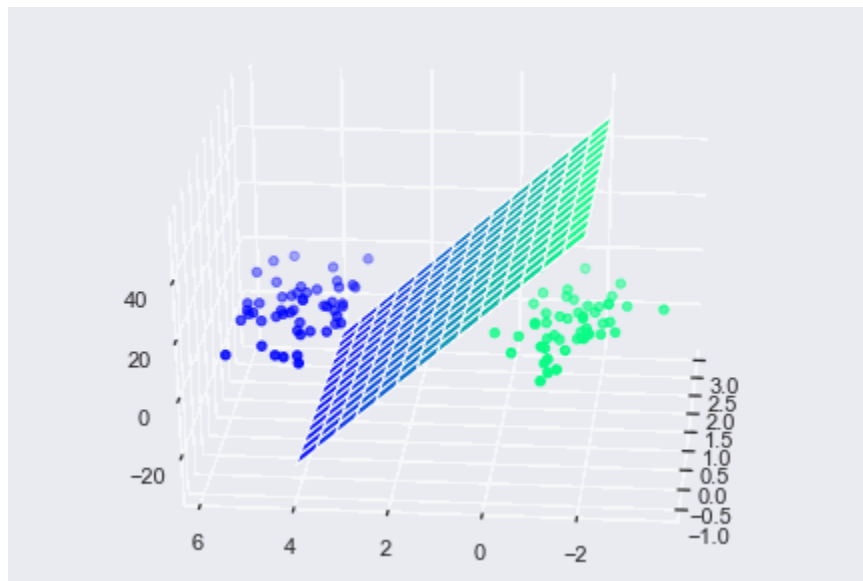
Due to confusion matrices, precision, recall, and r2_score we get the best accuracy, best matrix, precision, recall, and r2_score when k = 10 and distance is Euclidian are the best parameters.

Second: Support Vector Machine Model

1. Model Definition

SVM: it is a machine learning algorithm which can use in classifications and regression problems. It can use with continuous and discrete data.

It generates a hyperplane to separate different classes and makes some iterations to minimize errors and get the optimal hyperplane by maximize the distance between hyperplane and classes.



2. Model Refinement

There are some functions which are called kernels can be used to improve our model as Linear kernel, Polynomial Kernel and finally Radial Basis Kernel.

We decide to use one of these kernels by data shape.

In our model, the three kernels give same accuracy by 98.61% because our data is linear and these kernels try to shape data into linear shape.

3. Model Testing and Evaluation

We had tested the three kernels and find the three kernels gave same accuracy as we mentioned before and we will see the three-confusion matrix, precision, recall, and r2_score of three kernels.

R2_Score

K = Linear	K = Poly	K = RBF
96.93865251891464	96.93865251891464	96.93865251891464

1- K = Linear

Confusion matrix

Classes	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
0	978	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
1	0	1130	3	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
2	1	2	1020	0	1	0	0	6	2	0
3	0	1	2	994	0	5	0	2	5	1
4	0	0	1	0	970	0	0	0	3	8
5	2	0	0	7	0	876	3	0	3	1
6	3	2	0	0	1	2	947	0	3	0
7	0	4	6	2	4	0	0	1007	2	3
8	1	1	2	5	1	1	0	3	956	4
9	0	4	1	5	8	1	0	2	5	983

2- K = poly

Confusion matrix

Classes	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
0	978	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
1	0	1130	3	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
2	1	2	1020	0	1	0	0	6	2	0
3	0	1	2	994	0	5	0	2	5	1
4	0	0	1	0	970	0	0	0	3	8
5	2	0	0	7	0	876	3	0	3	1
6	3	2	0	0	1	2	947	0	3	0
7	0	4	6	2	4	0	0	1007	2	3
8	1	1	2	5	1	1	0	3	956	4
9	0	4	1	5	8	1	0	2	5	983

3- K = RBF

Confusion matrix

Classes	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
0	978	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
1	0	1130	3	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
2	1	2	1020	0	1	0	0	6	2	0
3	0	1	2	994	0	5	0	2	5	1
4	0	0	1	0	970	0	0	0	3	8
5	2	0	0	7	0	876	3	0	3	1
6	3	2	0	0	1	2	947	0	3	0
7	0	4	6	2	4	0	0	1007	2	3
8	1	1	2	5	1	1	0	3	956	4
9	0	4	1	5	8	1	0	2	5	983

Precision & Recall

Classes	K = Linear		K = Poly		K = RBF	
	precision	Recall	precision	Recall	precision	Recall
0	99.2893401	99.79591837	99.2893401	99.79591837	99.2893401	99.79591837
1	98.77622378	99.55947137	98.77622378	99.55947137	98.77622378	99.55947137
2	98.55072464	98.8372093	98.55072464	98.8372093	98.55072464	98.8372093
3	98.02761341	98.41584158	98.02761341	98.41584158	98.02761341	98.41584158
4	98.47715736	98.77800407	98.47715736	98.77800407	98.47715736	98.77800407
5	98.98305085	98.20627803	98.98305085	98.20627803	98.98305085	98.20627803
6	99.47478992	98.85177453	99.47478992	98.85177453	99.47478992	98.85177453
7	98.7254902	97.95719844	98.7254902	97.95719844	98.7254902	97.95719844
8	97.55102041	98.15195072	97.55102041	98.15195072	97.55102041	98.15195072
9	98.3	97.42319128	98.3	97.42319128	98.3	97.42319128

Due to confusion matrices, precision, recall, and r2_score we get they have same accuracy and confusion matrix there is no different between them.

Third: Artificial Neural Network

1. Model Definition

ANN: it is a machine learning algorithm designed to simulate human brain and let machine to learn and detect patterns.

It consists of many units called neurons and every set of these neurons consist a layer.

Layers are connected to each other and every neuron in layer connected to all neurons in other layer.

These neurons may be activated or fired according to inputs and this is decided by some functions called activation functions.

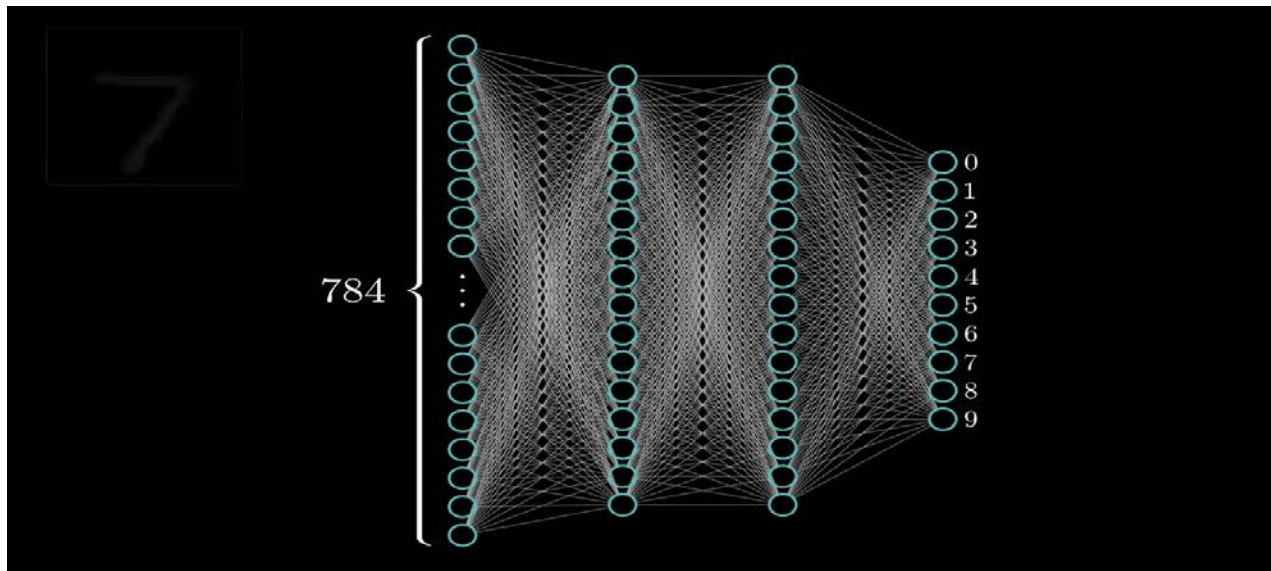
There are some types of activation functions as RELU, SOFTMAX, SIGMOID and TANH.

RELU is a non-linear activation function which used in multi-layer in neural network. The output of this function equal to input value when input greater than or equal zero and zero otherwise. It will activate neurons whose value greater than or equal zero and fire others.

SoftMax is a mathematical function which convert vector of number to vector of probabilities and every probability have a relation to its corresponding number. It will activate the neuron which has high probability and fire others.

(**Note:** SOFTMAX is chosen in output layer to activate one neuron only to detect the pattern)

ANN VISUALISATION



2- Model Refinement

The ANN is powerful model which generates high accuracy
So, we try to change some parameters to get higher accuracy
We add more layers sometimes or increase number of
neurons in layers to get more accuracy.

We get some accuracy as 98.13%, 98.45%, 97.99%,
98.31%, 98.2 %, 98.25 %, 98.21 %, 98.16 %, 98.32, %...etc.

3- Model Testing and Evaluation

We tested different number of layers and neurons as we mentioned before and now, we will see confusion matrices, precision, recall, and r2_score of three highest accuracies and what is the number of layers and neurons in every one and compare them to get the best.

R2_Score

Accuracy = 98.32%	Accuracy = 98.31%	Accuracy = 98.45%
96.48905064888379	95.78304452936585	96.58922719286944

1- Layers = 6 layers with neurons = 512,256,128, 64,32,16
Accuracy = 98.45% iterations = 50

Confusion matrix

Classes	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
0	973	0	0	0	1	1	3	0	2	0
1	1	1126	1	2	0	1	2	1	1	0
2	1	3	1007	5	1	0	0	6	9	0
3	0	0	3	995	0	6	0	1	5	0
4	0	1	0	0	967	0	4	0	2	8
5	2	0	0	4	1	879	2	1	1	2
6	2	2	1	0	0	4	946	0	3	0
7	0	5	4	2	4	0	0	1004	2	7
8	2	0	1	4	1	2	1	0	960	3
9	0	4	0	4	4	2	1	3	3	988

2- Layers = 7 layers with neurons = 1024, 512,256,128, 64,32,16

Accuracy = 98.31% iterations = 50

Confusion matrix

Classes	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
0	978	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0
1	0	1127	1	0	1	0	2	1	3	0
2	1	7	1013	1	0	0	0	6	4	0
3	0	1	4	992	0	7	0	1	4	1
4	0	4	1	0	961	0	2	1	3	10
5	2	0	0	4	1	880	3	0	2	0
6	8	3	0	0	1	3	939	0	4	0
7	0	12	6	2	4	1	0	996	2	5
8	2	1	3	3	1	0	0	0	957	7
9	2	6	1	3	4	0	0	1	4	988

3- Layers = 6 layers with neurons = 512,256,128, 64,32,16

Accuracy = 98.32% iterations = 100

Confusion matrix

Classes	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
0	972	0	0	0	1	1	2	1	1	0
1	0	1124	4	2	0	1	2	0	2	0
2	1	1	1022	1	1	0	0	5	1	0
3	0	1	1	998	0	3	0	5	2	0
4	0	1	3	0	967	0	0	1	3	7
5	2	0	0	12	0	872	2	1	2	1
6	1	1	3	0	3	3	941	0	6	0
7	0	2	10	2	1	0	0	1006	3	4
8	2	0	4	7	1	0	1	1	951	7
9	0	5	2	6	6	1	0	6	4	974

Precision & Recall

Classes	Accuracy = 98.45%		Accuracy = 98.31%		Accuracy = 98.32%	
	Precision	Recall	Precision	Recall	Precision	Recall
0	99.18450561	99.285714 29	98.489425 98	99.795918 37	99.386503 07	99.183673 47
1	99.02826855	98.766519 82	97.071490 09	99.295154 19	98.769771 53	99.030837
2	99.01671583	99.224806 2	98.445092 32	98.158914 73	97.426120 11	99.031007 75
3	97.93307087	96.732673 27	98.706467 66	98.514851 49	97.081712 06	98.811881 19
4	98.77425945	96.945010 18	98.766700 92	98.472505 09	98.774259 45	98.472505 09
5	98.2122905	98.094170 4	98.765432 1	98.542600 9	98.978433 6	97.757847 53
6	98.64442127	99.060542 8	99.155227 03	98.747390 4	99.366420 27	98.225469 73
7	98.81889764	98.443579 77	99.005964 21	97.665369 65	97.955209 35	97.859922 18
8	97.1659919	98.151950 72	97.256097 56	98.562628 34	97.538461 54	97.638603 7
9	96.8627451	97.918731 42	97.725024 73	97.918731 42	98.096192 38	97.026759 17

Due to confusion matrices, precision, recall, and r2_score we get 6 layers with neurons 512,256,128, 64,32,16 and iterations = 50 are the best parameters.

Fourth: Convolution Neural Network

1. Model Definition

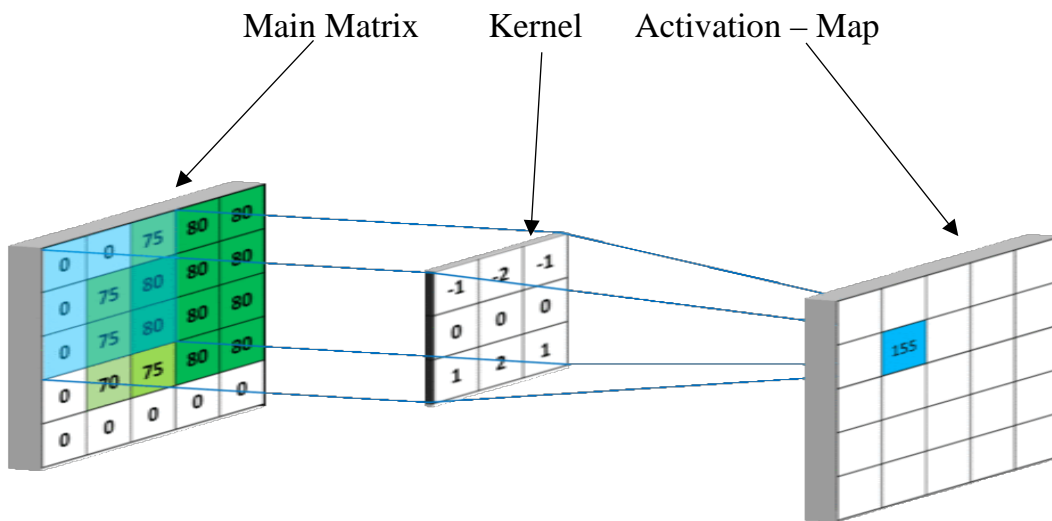
CNN: It is another type of neural network that specializes in processing data that has a grid-like topology, such as an image.

It is consisting of layers and neurons. Each neuron in any layer is fully connected with neurons in next layer.

It has three types of layers convolution layer, pooling layer and fully connected layer. Every layer has specific role in network to facilitate detection process.

Convolution layer: it is the core of CNN and it carries the main portion of the network's computational processes. It makes some dot product between kernels and part of the main matrix and it make kernel to slide on all the matrix to produce 2-D matrix which represent the image, this 2-D matrix is known as activation map gives the response of the kernel at each spatial position of the matrix.

CONVOLUTION LAYER VISUALISATION

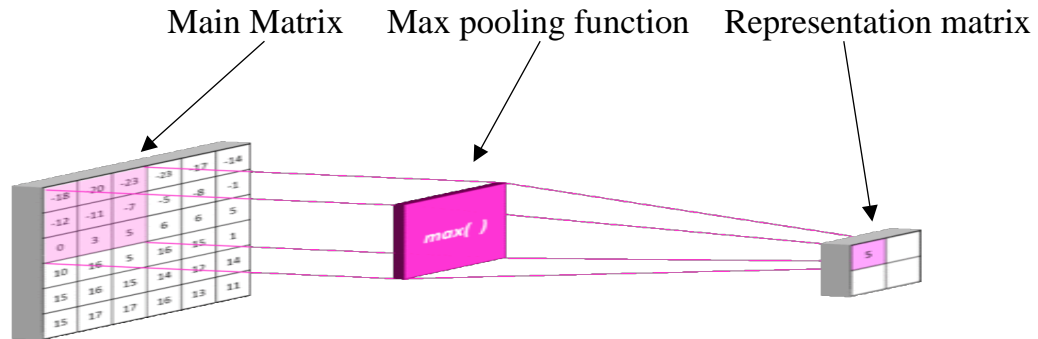


Pooling Layer: it replaces the output of the previous layer by summary statistics which represent the output.

This reduces the size of the representation and decrease the computations and weights. The pooling operation is processed on every slice of the representation individually.

There are types of pooling function as MAX POOLING and AVERAGE POOLING ...etc.

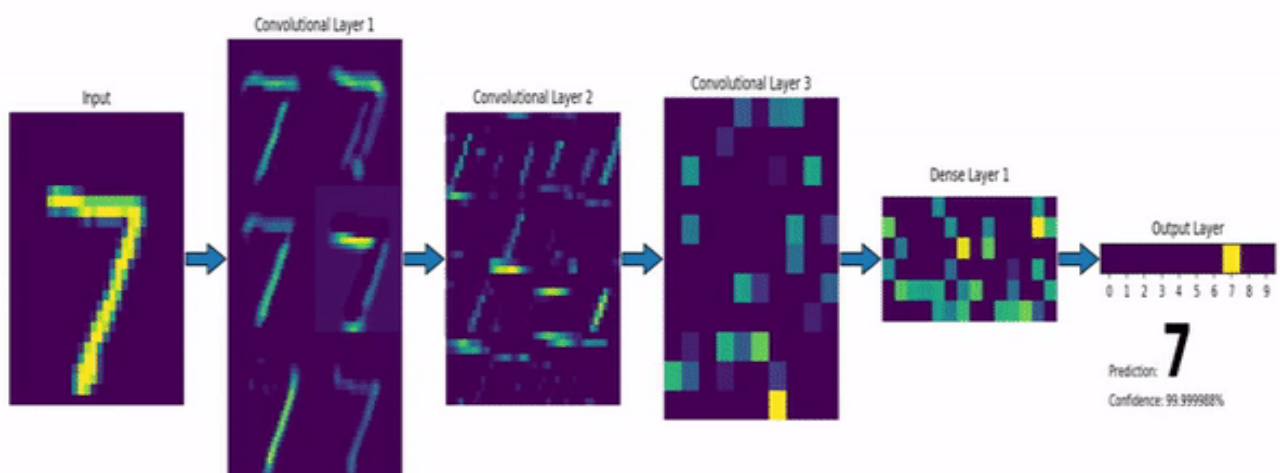
POOLING LAYER VISUALISATION



Fully Connected Layer: Neurons in this layer have full connectivity with all neurons in the preceding and succeeding layer as seen in regular FCNN. This is why it can be computed as usual by a matrix multiplication followed by a bias effect.

The FC layer helps to map the representation between the input and the output

CNN VISUALISATION



2- Model Refinement

The CNN is powerful model which generates high accuracy
So, we try to change some parameters to get higher accuracy
We change size of filters or increase number of iterations
layers to get more accuracy.
We get some accuracy as 99%, 99.1%, 99.2%.

3- Model Testing and Evaluation

We tested different number of filters and iterations as we mentioned before and now, we will see confusion matrices, precision, recall, and r2_score of three highest accuracies and what is the number of layers and neurons in every one and compare them to get the best.

R2_Score

Accuracy = 99%	Accuracy = 99.1%	Accuracy = 99.2%
97.81519727878909	98.02628356790171	98.61899478648351

1- Filters = 7 (64 64 128 128 256 256 512)

Accuracy = 99% iterations = 20

Confusion matrix

Classes	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
0	980	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1	2	1123	2	3	0	0	3	2	0	0
2	2	0	1027	1	0	0	1	1	0	0
3	0	0	0	1009	0	0	0	0	0	1
4	0	0	0	0	972	0	1	0	3	6
5	1	0	0	7	0	883	1	0	0	0
6	6	1	0	1	0	0	950	0	0	0
7	1	5	10	4	0	0	0	1004	2	2
8	1	0	1	2	0	1	0	0	968	1
9	0	0	0	5	3	6	0	1	9	985

2- Filters = 6 (64,64,128,128,256,512)

Accuracy = 99.1% iterations = 10

Confusion matrix

Classes	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
0	979	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
1	1	1132	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
2	1	1	1020	4	0	0	2	3	1	0
3	0	0	1	1006	0	2	0	0	1	0
4	0	0	0	0	975	0	1	0	1	5
5	0	0	0	5	0	884	1	0	0	2
6	5	2	0	1	1	3	994	0	2	0
7	0	3	11	0	0	0	0	1011	0	3
8	1	0	2	3	0	3	0	0	963	2
9	1	1	0	0	4	1	0	3	3	996

3- Filters = 6 (32, 64, 128, 256, 256, 512)

Accuracy = 99.2% iterations = 15

Confusion matrix

Classes	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
0	975	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	0
1	0	1126	4	1	0	2	0	2	0	0
2	1	0	1022	4	0	0	0	5	0	0
3	0	0	0	1004	0	5	0	0	1	0
4	0	0	0	0	979	0	0	0	0	3
5	0	0	0	3	0	887	1	1	0	0
6	2	3	0	0	3	9	939	0	2	0
7	0	2	1	2	0	0	0	1019	0	4
8	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	970	1
9	0	0	0	0	2	5	0	0	3	999

Precision & Recall

Classes	Accuracy = 99%		Accuracy = 99.1%		Accuracy = 99.2%	
	Precision	Recall	Precision	Recall	Precision	Recall
0	98.69083585	100	99.08906883	99.89795918	99.69325153	99.48979592
1	99.46855624	98.94273128	99.38542581	99.73568282	99.55791335	99.20704846
2	98.75	99.51550388	98.64603482	98.8372093	99.51314508	99.03100775
3	97.77131783	99.9009901	98.72423945	99.6039604	98.81889764	99.40594059
4	99.69230769	98.98167006	99.48979592	99.28716904	99.49186992	99.69450102
5	99.21348315	98.99103139	98.88143177	99.10313901	97.57975798	99.43946188
6	99.37238494	99.16492693	99.47312961	98.53862213	99.78746015	98.01670146
7	99.6031746	97.66536965	99.4100295	98.3463035	99.0281827	99.12451362
8	98.57433809	99.38398357	99.07407407	98.87063655	99.18200409	99.58932238
9	98.99497487	97.62140733	98.80952381	98.71159564	99.20556107	99.00891972

Due to confusion matrices, precision, recall, and r2_score we get 6 layers with filters 32, 64, 128, 256, 256, 512 and iterations = 15 are the best parameters.

Conclusion

After those test cases we find there is different between accuracies and this which distinguish between models which one is the best. So, we compare the best accuracies of these models and find the convolution neural network is the best one with higher accuracy 99.2%, then support vector machine with 98.61% then artificial neural network with 98.45% and finally KNN with 96.619%. So, we decided to depend on convolution neural network to make our GUI because it is the best and powerful one.