CS231n Convolutional Neural Networks for Visual Recognition
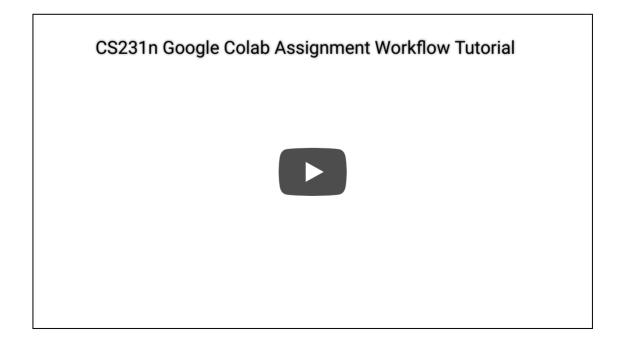
Course Website

Assignment 1

This assignment is due on **Friday, April 16 2021** at 11:59pm PST.

Starter code containing Colab notebooks can be downloaded here.

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- Goals
- Q1: k-Nearest Neighbor classifier
- Q2: Training a Support Vector Machine
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- Q5: Higher Level Representations: Image Features
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Setup

Please familiarize yourself with the recommended workflow before starting the assignment. You should also watch the Colab walkthrough tutorial below.

CS231n Google Colab Assignment Workflow Tutorial

Note. Ensure you are periodically saving your notebook (`File -> Save`) so that you don't lose your progress if you step away from the assignment and the Colab VM disconnects.

Once you have completed all Colab notebooks **except** `collect_submission.ipynb`, proceed to the submission instructions.

Goals

In this assignment you will practice putting together a simple image classification pipeline based on the k-Nearest Neighbor or the SVM/Softmax classifier. The goals of this assignment are as follows:

- Understand the basic **Image Classification pipeline** and the data-driven approach (train/predict stages).
- Understand the train/val/test **splits** and the use of validation data for **hyperparameter tuning**.
- Develop proficiency in writing efficient **vectorized** code with numpy.
- Implement and apply a k-Nearest Neighbor (**kNN**) classifier.
- Implement and apply a Multiclass Support Vector Machine (**SVM**) classifier.
- Implement and apply a **Softmax** classifier.
- Implement and apply a **Two layer neural network** classifier.
- Understand the differences and tradeoffs between these classifiers.
- Get a basic understanding of performance improvements from using **higher-level representations** as opposed to raw pixels, e.g. color histograms, Histogram of Gradient (HOG) features, etc.

Q1: k-Nearest Neighbor classifier

The notebook **knn.ipynb** will walk you through implementing the kNN classifier.

Q2: Training a Support Vector Machine

The notebook **svm.ipynb** will walk you through implementing the SVM classifier.

Q3: Implement a Softmax classifier

The notebook **softmax.ipynb** will walk you through implementing the Softmax classifier.

Q4: Two-Layer Neural Network

The notebook **two_layer_net.ipynb** will walk you through the implementation of a two-layer neural network classifier.

Q5: Higher Level Representations: Image Features

The notebook **features.ipynb** will examine the improvements gained by using higher-level representations as opposed to using raw pixel values.

Submitting your work

Important. Please make sure that the submitted notebooks have been run and the cell outputs are visible.

Once you have completed all notebooks and filled out the necessary code, you need to follow the below instructions to submit your work:

1. Open `collect_submission.ipynb` in Colab and execute the notebook cells.

This notebook/script will:

- Generate a zip file of your code (`.py` and `.ipynb`) called `a1.zip` .
- Convert all notebooks into a single PDF file.

If your submission for this step was successful, you should see the following display message:

`### Done! Please submit a1.zip and the pdfs to Gradescope. ###`

2. Submit the PDF and the zip file to Gradescope.

Remember to download `a1.zip` and `assignment.pdf` locally before submitting to Gradescope.

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