

Lecture 13: Deep learning for image analysis

Nils Olovsson

nils.olofsson@igp.uu.se

Introduction to data science and Python programming for medical research
Uppsala University

2025



UPPSALA
UNIVERSITET

Content

Introduction

Convolutional neural networks

Classification

Segmentation

Optimization

Regularization

Data augmentation

Data loading

GPU

Conclusions



Introduction

Introduction

Introduction: Problem

Classical image analysis methods struggle with many tasks.

E.g. image classification and image segmentation.

Want to use neural networks to get better performing methods.

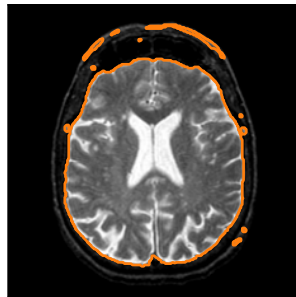


Image segmentation methods rarely just work and might require both pre and post processing.

Introduction: Flatten image

Could process images by flattening them.

We did this when we performed image analysis using PCA.

Lose spatial coherence of the pixels!

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32
33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48
49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56
57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64

Flatten image (8x8)
to vector (1x64)

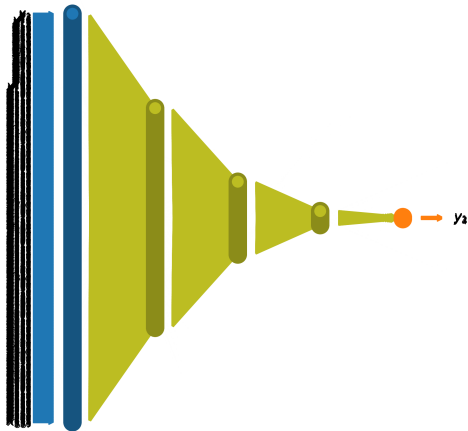
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	...	61	62	63	64
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	-----	----	----	----	----

Introduction: Fully connected network

A flattened image could then be analyzed with fully connected, linear, layers.

Network can become very large even for small images.

A 256×256 input layer connected to a layer with an equal number of outputs would have 256^4 parameters. This correspond to 17 GB! Just for a single layer of weights!

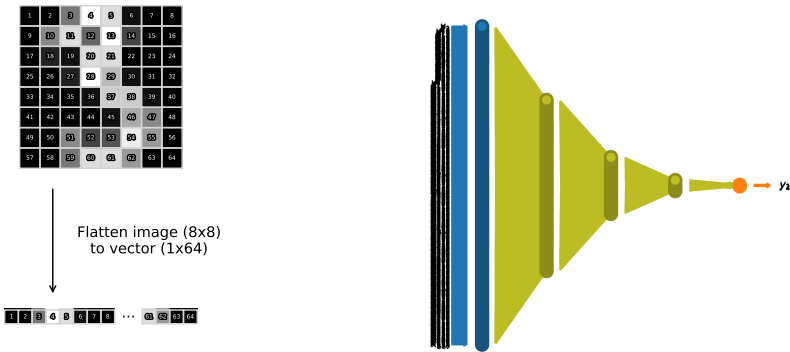


Introduction: Large and poor generalization

Lose information by flattening.

The network becomes very large and tends to generalize poorly.

Need alternative way of handling this.



Convolutional neural networks

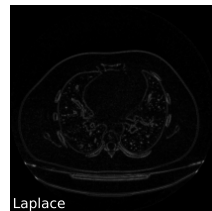
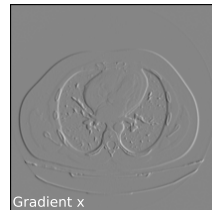
Convolutional neural networks

Convolutional neural networks: Convolution

$$\nabla_x \text{ (Gradient in x):} \quad k = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\nabla_y \text{ (Gradient in y):} \quad k = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

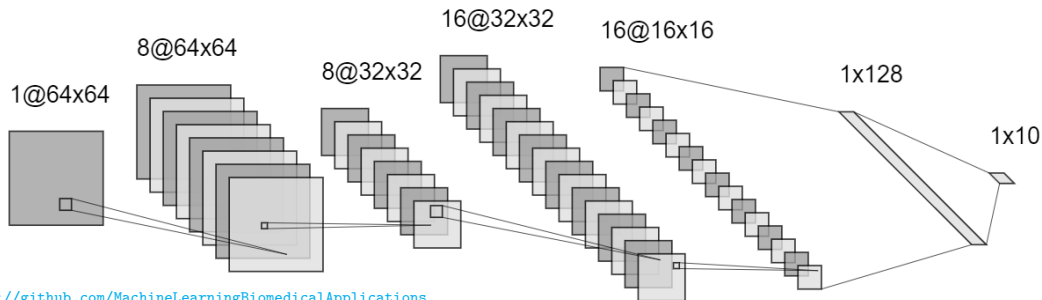
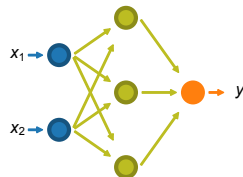
$$\nabla^2 \text{ (Laplacian):} \quad k = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -8 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



Convolutional neural networks: Deep learning

Instead of using linear layers, each layer represents a set of convolution kernels.

The values of the kernels are the parameters (weights) optimized during training.



Convolutional neural networks: Convolution operation

$$= 1 \times 55 + 0 \times 60 + -1 \times 65 + 2 \times 67 + 0 \times 65 - 2 \times 63 + 1 \times 73 + 0 \times 64 - 1 \times 62$$

				55	60	65	68	60	60	73	87								
				67	65	63	67	70	73	103	126								
				73	64	62	65	80	97	145	169								
				69	65	68	83	133	165	216	227								
				71	79	89	108	165	195	234	242								
				68	89	105	131	198	220	237	240								
				67	110	146	177	233	245	238	238								
				80	129	172	206	241	246	234	233								

*

=

9									

Convolutional neural networks: Convolution operation

$$= 1 \times 60 + 0 \times 65 + -1 \times 68 + 2 \times 65 + 0 \times 63 - 2 \times 67 + 1 \times 64 + 0 \times 62 - 1 \times 65$$

1	0	-1	*	55	60	65	68	60	60	73	87	=							
2	0	-2		67	65	63	67	70	73	103	126		9	-13					
1	0	-1		73	64	62	65	80	97	145	169								
				69	65	68	83	133	165	216	227								
				71	79	89	108	165	195	234	242								
				68	89	105	131	198	220	237	240								
				67	110	146	177	233	245	238	238								
				80	129	172	206	241	246	234	233								

Convolutional neural networks: Convolution operation

$$= 1 \times 220 + 0 \times 237 + -1 \times 240 + 2 \times 245 + 0 \times 238 - 2 \times 238 + 1 \times 246 + 0 \times 234 - 1 \times 233$$

1	0	-1
2	0	-2
1	0	-1

*

55	60	65	68	60	60	73	87
67	65	63	67	70	73	103	126
73	64	62	65	80	97	145	169
69	65	68	83	133	165	216	227
71	79	89	108	165	195	234	242
68	89	105	131	198	220	237	240
67	110	146	177	233	245	238	238
80	129	172	206	241	246	234	233

9	-13	-27	-36	-144	-205
27	-22	-108	-152	-246	-259
-5	-66	-224	-283	-300	243
-72	-118	-310	-345	-260	176
-171	-180	-349	-333	-152	-80
-287	-253	-336	-265	-42	7

Convolutional neural networks: Convolution operation

1	0	-1
2	0	-2
1	0	-1

*

0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
0	55	60	65	68	60	60	73	87	0
0	67	65	63	67	70	73	103	126	0
0	73	64	62	65	80	97	145	169	0
0	69	65	68	83	133	165	216	227	0
0	71	79	89	108	165	195	234	242	0
0	68	89	105	131	198	220	237	240	0
0	67	110	146	177	233	245	238	238	0
0	80	129	172	206	241	246	234	233	0
0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

=

-185	-16	-18	3	10	-59	-107	249
-254	9	-13	-27	-36	-144	-205	424
-258	27	-22	-108	-152	-246	-259	609
-273	-5	-66	-224	-283	-300	243	811
-312	-72	-118	-310	-345	-260	176	921
-367	-171	-180	-349	-333	-152	-80	946
-438	-287	-253	-336	-265	-42	7	947
-368	-263	-221	-225	-148	9	33	706

Convolutional neural networks: Convolutions in pytorch

Convolution Layers

`nn.Conv1d`

Applies a 1D convolution over an input signal composed of several input planes.

`nn.Conv2d`

Applies a 2D convolution over an input signal composed of several input planes.

`nn.Conv3d`

Applies a 3D convolution over an input signal composed of several input planes.

`nn.ConvTranspose1d`

Applies a 1D transposed convolution operator over an input image composed of several input planes.

`nn.ConvTranspose2d`

Applies a 2D transposed convolution operator over an input image composed of several input planes.

`nn.ConvTranspose3d`

Applies a 3D transposed convolution operator over an input image composed of several input planes.

`nn.LazyConv1d`

A `torch.nn.Conv1d` module with lazy initialization of the `in_channels` argument.

`nn.LazyConv2d`

A `torch.nn.Conv2d` module with lazy initialization of the `in_channels` argument.

Convolutional neural networks: Pooling (Downsampling)

Pooling layers

`nn.MaxPool1d`

Applies a 1D max pooling over an input signal composed of several input planes.

`nn.MaxPool2d`

Applies a 2D max pooling over an input signal composed of several input planes.

`nn.MaxPool3d`

Applies a 3D max pooling over an input signal composed of several input planes.

`nn.MaxUnpool1d`

Computes a partial inverse of `MaxPool1d`.

`nn.MaxUnpool2d`

Computes a partial inverse of `MaxPool2d`.

`nn.MaxUnpool3d`

Computes a partial inverse of `MaxPool3d`.

`nn.AvgPool1d`

Applies a 1D average pooling over an input signal composed of several input planes.

`nn.AvgPool2d`

Applies a 2D average pooling over an input signal composed of several input planes.

`nn.AvgPool3d`

Applies a 3D average pooling over an input signal composed of several input planes.

Convolutional neural networks: Upsampling

Vision Layers

`nn.PixelShuffle`

Rearrange elements in a tensor according to an upscaling factor.

`nn.PixelUnshuffle`

Reverse the PixelShuffle operation.

`nn.Upsample`

Upsamples a given multi-channel 1D (temporal), 2D (spatial) or 3D (volumetric) data.

`nn.UpsamplingNearest2d`

Applies a 2D nearest neighbor upsampling to an input signal composed of several input channels.

`nn.UpsamplingBilinear2d`

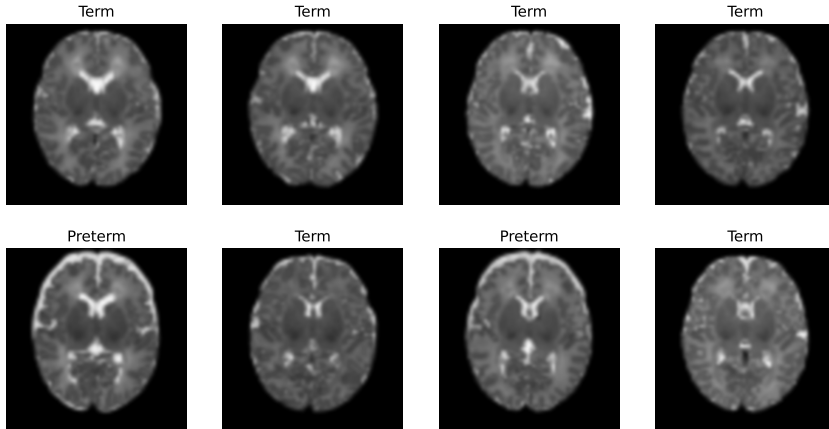
Applies a 2D bilinear upsampling to an input signal composed of several input channels.

Classification

Classification

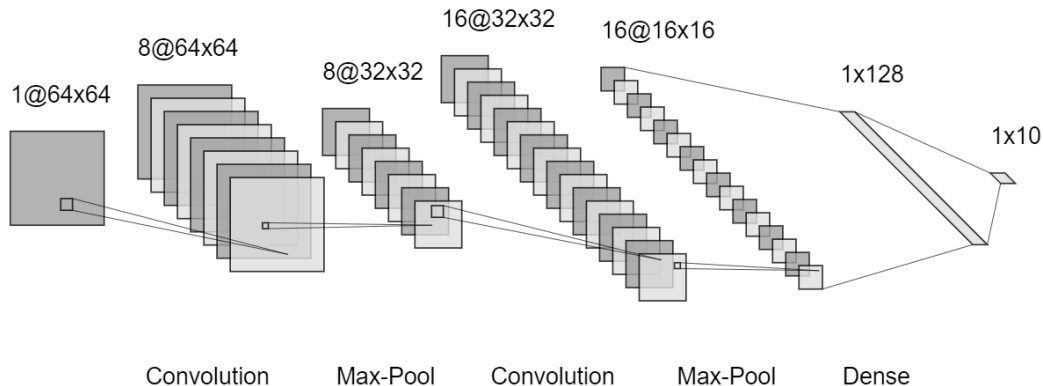
Classification: Binary image classification

Classifying images according to being preterm or not.



Classification: CNN network architecture

Similar to this example but with only two outputs in the final layer.



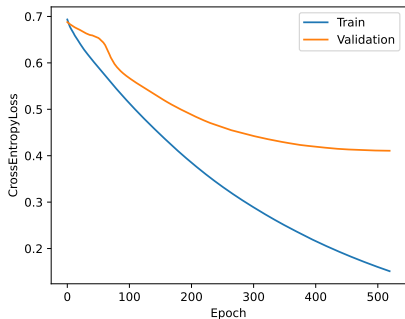
Classification: Python

```
13 class PredictPrematurityCNN(nn.Module):
14     def __init__(self):
15         super().__init__()
16         self.conv_block1 = nn.Sequential(
17             nn.Conv2d(1, 8, 3, padding=1),
18             nn.BatchNorm2d(8),
19             nn.ReLU(),
20             nn.MaxPool2d(kernel_size=2, stride=2)
21         )
22         self.conv_block2 = nn.Sequential(
23             nn.Conv2d(8, 16, 3, padding=1),
24             nn.BatchNorm2d(16),
25             nn.ReLU(),
26             nn.MaxPool2d(kernel_size=2, stride=2)
27         )
28         self.conv_block3 = nn.Sequential(
29             nn.Conv2d(16, 32, 3, padding=1),
30             nn.BatchNorm2d(32),
31             nn.ReLU(),
32             nn.MaxPool2d(kernel_size=2, stride=2)
33         )
34         self.fc_block = nn.Sequential(
35             nn.Linear(32 * 8 * 8, 32),
36             nn.ReLU(),
37             nn.Linear(32, 2),
38             nn.ReLU()
39         )
40         return
```

Use `nn.Sequential` to create blocks of operations.

```
42     def forward(
43         self,
44         X: torch.Tensor,
45     ) -> torch.Tensor:
46         X = self.conv_block1(X)
47         X = self.conv_block2(X)
48         X = self.conv_block3(X)
49         X = X.view(-1, 32 * 8 * 8)
50         X = self.fc_block(X)
51         return X
```

Classification: Results



```

1 >> Device: cpu
2 >> Train accuracy: 0.95
3 >>                precision    recall  f1-score   support
4 >>
5 >>         0          0.94      0.97      0.96         66
6 >>         1          0.95      0.91      0.93         46
7 >>
8 >>         accuracy                0.95        112
9 >>         macro avg          0.95      0.94      0.94        112
10 >>        weighted avg          0.95      0.95      0.95        112
11 >>
12 >> Test accuracy: 1.0
13 >>                precision    recall  f1-score   support
14 >>
15 >>         0          1.00      1.00      1.00         19
16 >>         1          1.00      1.00      1.00         13
17 >>
18 >>         accuracy                1.00         32
19 >>         macro avg          1.00      1.00      1.00         32
20 >>        weighted avg          1.00      1.00      1.00         32
21 >>

```

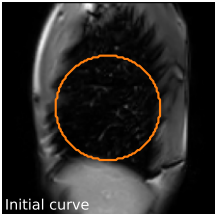
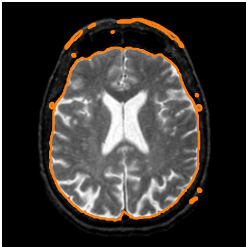
Segmentation

Segmentation

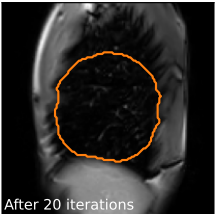
Segmentation: Classical methods are limited

We saw that methods based on intensity threshold and active contours can have trouble producing satisfying image segmentations except for occasionally simple cases.

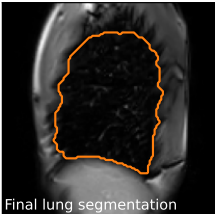
Results can be over or under segmented and methods can be sensitive to regions with poor contrast.



Initial curve



After 20 iterations



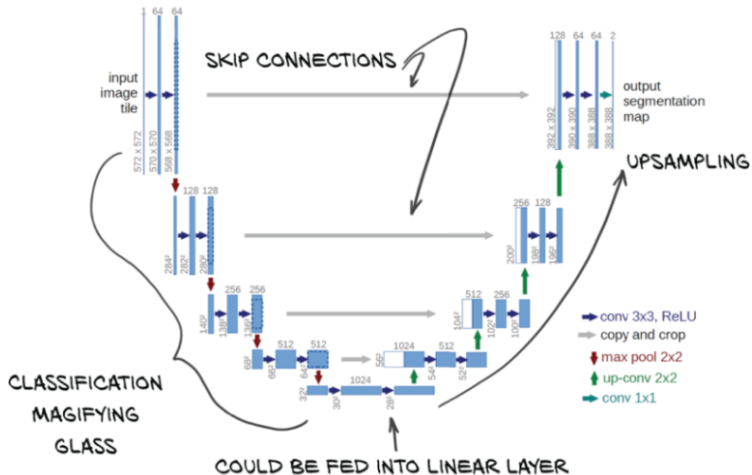
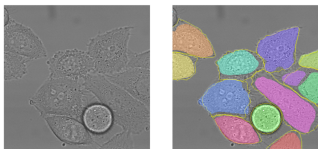
Final lung segmentation

Segmentation: Unet

Unet architecture introduced for the segmentation of cells.

Has since proven very successful for other types of images as well.

Skip connections help parts of the network see both a bigger picture and fine details at the same time.

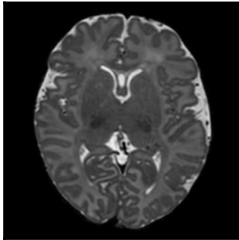


Segmentation: Example problem

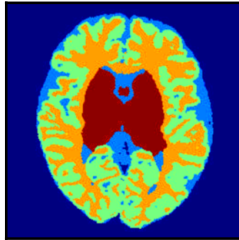
Magnetic resonance brain images of newborn/neonatal babies.

Paired with a labeled mask.

One label correspond to the cortex which will be used to train a segmentation deep learning model.



MR image



Labels



Cortex

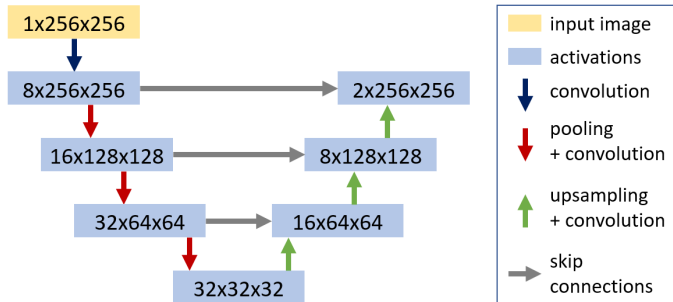
Segmentation: Unet design

Slightly simpler Unet design.

Input is a single channel
 256×256 pixel image.

Output is a two channel
 256×256 pixel image mask.

The two channels represent
probability of pixel being
 either background or brain
 cortex.



Segmentation: Unet implementation

```

21 class UNet(nn.Module):
22     def __init__(self):
23         super().__init__()
24
25         self.conv1_down = nn.Conv2d(1, 8, 3, padding
26         =1)
27         self.conv2_down = nn.Conv2d(8, 16, 3,
28         padding=1)
29         self.conv3_down = nn.Conv2d(16, 32, 3,
30         padding=1)
31         self.conv4 = nn.Conv2d(32, 32, 3, padding=1)
32         self.conv3_up = nn.Conv2d(32+32, 16, 3,
33         padding=1)
34         self.conv2_up = nn.Conv2d(16+16, 8, 3,
35         padding=1)
36         self.conv1_up = nn.Conv2d(8+8, 2, 3, padding
37         =1)
38
39         self.down = nn.AvgPool2d(kernel_size=2)
40         self.up = nn.UpsamplingBilinear2d(
41         scale_factor=2)
42
43         self.relu = nn.ReLU()
44         return

```

```

39 def forward(
40     self,
41     X: torch.Tensor,
42 ) -> torch.Tensor:
43     # encoder
44     enc1 = self.relu(self.conv1_down(X))
45     enc2 = self.down(enc1)
46     enc2 = self.relu(self.conv2_down(enc2))
47     enc3 = self.down(enc2)
48     enc3 = self.relu(self.conv3_down(enc3))
49     enc4 = self.down(enc3)
50     enc4 = self.relu(self.conv4(enc4))
51
52     # decoder
53     dec3 = self.up(enc4)
54     dec3 = torch.cat([dec3, enc3], dim=1)
55     dec3 = self.relu(self.conv3_up(dec3))
56     dec2 = self.up(dec3)
57     dec2 = torch.cat([dec2, enc2], dim=1)
58     dec2 = self.relu(self.conv2_up(dec2))
59     dec1 = self.up(dec2)
60     dec1 = torch.cat([dec1, enc1], dim=1)
61     dec1 = self.relu(self.conv1_up(dec1))
62
63     return dec1

```

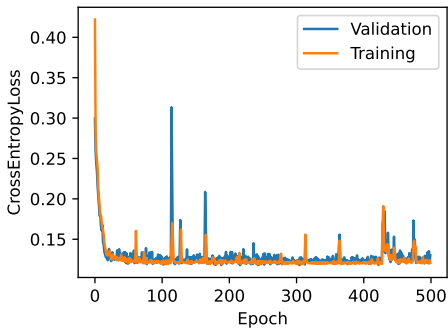
Segmentation: Unet training

```

196 net = UNet()
197 net.to(device)
198 loss_func = nn.CrossEntropyLoss().to(device)
199 optimizer = optim.Adam(net.parameters(),
200                          lr=0.01, weight_decay=0.01)
201 epochs = 500
202 train_loss = []
203 val_loss = []
204 for epoch in range(epochs):
205     break
206     ## Training
207     net.train()
208     mean_ce = 0.0
209     n = 0
210     for i, (image, mask) in enumerate(
211         data_train_loader):
212         image = image.to(device)
213         mask = mask.to(device)
214         optimizer.zero_grad()
215         pred = net(image)
216         ce = loss_func(pred, mask)
217         ce.backward()
218         optimizer.step()
219         mean_ce += ce.item()
220         n += 1
221     mean_ce /= n
222     train_loss.append(mean_ce)

```

Challenging to train!



Segmentation: Results



Predicted batch 0



Predicted batch 1



Predicted batch 2



Ground truth batch 0



Ground truth batch 1



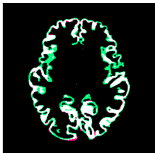
Ground truth batch 2



Comparison



Comparison



Comparison

Network gives results that are similar to the expected results.

(But far from perfect. Network performance very inconsistent between different training sessions.)

```
1 >> Device: cpu
2 >> ## Test set scores:
3 >> precision score: 0.92
4 >> recall score:    0.72
5 >> f1 score:       0.8
```

Optimization

Optimization

Optimization: Many different methods

Popular ones:

- ▶ Stochastic gradient descent (SGD)
- ▶ ADAM

Algorithms

Adadelta

Implements Adadelta algorithm.

Adafactor

Implements Adafactor algorithm.

Adagrad

Implements Adagrad algorithm.

Adam

Implements Adam algorithm.

AdamW

Implements AdamW algorithm.

SparseAdam

SparseAdam implements a masked version of the Adam algorithm suitable for sparse gradients.

Adamax

Implements Adamax algorithm (a variant of Adam based on infinity norm).

ASGD

Implements Averaged Stochastic Gradient Descent.

Optimization: Learning rate

Learning rate determines how large the steps taken in the direction of the gradient descent are each iteration.

There are ways to make this adaptive or changing during the course of training.

E.g. start by taking larger steps and in the end take smaller steps.

How to adjust learning rate

`torch.optim.lr_scheduler.LRScheduler` provides several methods to adjust the learning rate based on the number of epochs.
`torch.optim.lr_scheduler.ReduceLROnPlateau` allows dynamic learning rate reducing based on some validation measurements.

Learning rate scheduling should be applied after optimizer's update; e.g., you should write your code this way:

Example:

```
optimizer = optim.SGD(model.parameters(), lr=0.01, momentum=0.9)
scheduler = ExponentialLR(optimizer, gamma=0.9)

for epoch in range(20):
    for input, target in dataset:
        optimizer.zero_grad()
        output = model(input)
        loss = loss_fn(output, target)
        loss.backward()
        optimizer.step()
    scheduler.step()
```

Regularization

Regularization

Regularization: Improve training and robustness

Problem with models being not robust.

Problem with overfitting.

Want to regularize the model!

- ▶ L1 and L2 regularization (Ridge and lasso)
- ▶ Batch normalization
- ▶ Dropout
- ▶ Weight decay

<https://pytorch.org/docs/stable/nn.html#dropout-layers>

Dropout Layers

<code>nn.Dropout</code>	During training, randomly zeroes some of the elements of the input tensor with probability p .
<code>nn.Dropout1d</code>	Randomly zero out entire channels.
<code>nn.Dropout2d</code>	Randomly zero out entire channels.
<code>nn.Dropout3d</code>	Randomly zero out entire channels.
<code>nn.AlphaDropout</code>	Applies Alpha Dropout over the input.
<code>nn.FeatureAlphaDropout</code>	Randomly masks out entire channels.

Normalization Layers

<code>nn.BatchNorm1d</code>	Applies Batch Normalization over a 2D or 3D input.
<code>nn.BatchNorm2d</code>	Applies Batch Normalization over a 4D input.
<code>nn.BatchNorm3d</code>	Applies Batch Normalization over a 5D input.
<code>nn.LazyBatchNorm1d</code>	A <code>torch.nn.BatchNorm1d</code> module with lazy initialization.
<code>nn.LazyBatchNorm2d</code>	A <code>torch.nn.BatchNorm2d</code> module with lazy initialization.
<code>nn.LazyBatchNorm3d</code>	A <code>torch.nn.BatchNorm3d</code> module with lazy initialization.

<code>nn.GroupNorm</code>	Applies Group Normalization over a mini-batch of inputs.
---------------------------	--

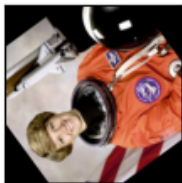
Data augmentation

Data augmentation

Data augmentation: Geometrical

Geometrical transforms like cropping, translations, rotations and deformations can be applied to the images used to train the model.

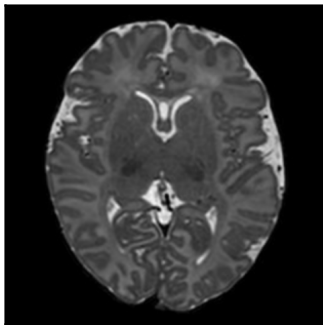
Original image



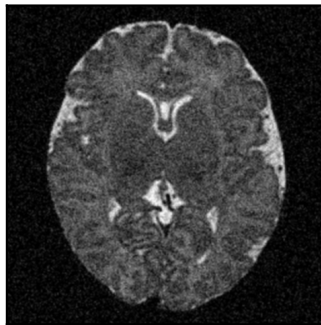
Data augmentation: Signal noise

Noise can be added to images.

The type of noise should match the type of noise you would expect to see in the images.



Image



Noisy

Data loading

Data loading

Data loading: Custom class

```

99 class NeonatalDataset(Dataset):
100
101     def __init__(
102         self,
103         set_type: str = 'train',
104         directory: str = os.path.join('data',
105             'mridata'),
106     ):
107         self.directory = directory
108         n_train = 320
109         n_val = 32
110         n_test = 44
111         if set_type == 'train':
112             self.start_idx = 0
113             self.len = n_train
114         elif set_type == 'val':
115             self.start_idx = n_train
116             self.len = n_val
117         elif set_type == 'test':
118             self.start_idx = n_train + n_val
119             self.len = n_test
120         return
121     def __len__(self) -> int:
122         return self.len
    
```

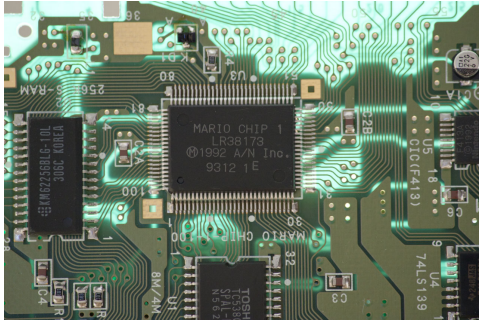
```

124     def __getitem__(
125         self,
126         idx: int,
127     ):
128         # -> List[torch.Tensor, torch.Tensor]:
129         ## Load the MR image
130         image_filename = f'{idx}_t2w.jpg'
131         image_filepath = os.path.join(self.directory,
132             image_filename)
133         image = io.imread(image_filepath, as_gray=True)
134         image = image / 255.0
135
136         ## Load the mask labeled image
137         labels_filename = f'{idx}_lab.jpg'
138         labels_filepath = os.path.join(self.directory,
139             labels_filename)
140         labels = io.imread(labels_filepath, as_gray=True)
141         cortex_mask = np.logical_and(labels>=100, labels
142             <=150)
143
144         ## Convert to Tensors
145         image = torch.tensor(image).float().unsqueeze(0)
146         cortex_mask = torch.tensor(cortex_mask).long()
147
148         data = [image, cortex_mask]
149         return data
    
```


GPU

GPU

GPU: Graphics processing unit



GPU: CUDA

CUDA (Compute Unified Device Architecture) is a proprietary software for general purpose computing on GPU.

CUDA Toolkit

The NVIDIA® CUDA® Toolkit provides a development environment for creating high-performance, GPU-accelerated applications. With it, you can develop, optimize, and deploy your applications on GPU-accelerated embedded systems, desktop workstations, enterprise data centers, cloud-based platforms, and supercomputers. The toolkit includes GPU-accelerated libraries, debugging and optimization tools, a C/C++ compiler, and a runtime library.

[Download Now](#)

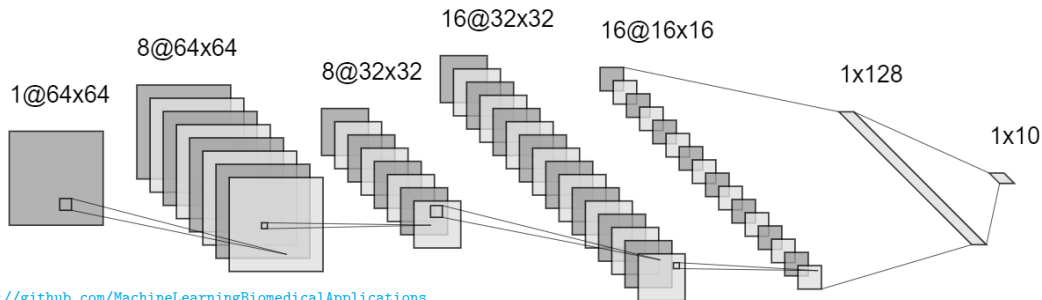
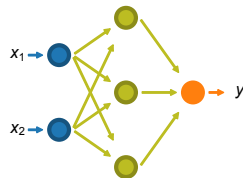
<https://developer.nvidia.com/cuda-toolkit>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/General-purpose_computing_on_graphics_processing_units

GPU: Deep learning

Many computations performed in neural networks are independent.

This means they are trivial to execute in parallel.



GPU: Pytorch device

```
1 import torch
2 gpuid = 0
3 device = torch.device(f'cuda:{gpuid}')
4
5 msg = ''
6 msg += f"Execution device: {device}\n"
7 msg += f"Pytorch version: {torch.__version__}\n"
8 msg += f"Cuda available: {torch.cuda.is_available()}\n"
9 msg += f"Cuda version: {torch.version.cuda}\n"
10 msg += f"Cuda device: {torch.cuda.get_device_name(gpuid)}\n"
11
12 with open('torch-cuda-device.txt', 'w') as f:
13     f.write(msg)
```

```
1 Execution device: cuda:0
2 Pytorch version: 2.6.0+cu126
3 Cuda available: True
4 Cuda version: 12.6
5 Cuda device: Quadro RTX 6000
```

Have to check to see if there is a GPU device available.

GPU: Python example

```

191 device = torch.device('cpu')
192 if torch.cuda.is_available():
193     device = torch.device('cuda')
194 print(f"Device: {device}")
195
196 net = UNet()
197 net.to(device)
198 loss_func = nn.CrossEntropyLoss().to(device)
199 optimizer = optim.Adam(net.parameters(),
200                          lr=0.01, weight_decay=0.01)
201 epochs = 500
202 train_loss = []
203 val_loss = []
204 for epoch in range(epochs):
205     break
206     ## Training
207     net.train()
208     mean_ce = 0.0
209     n = 0
210     for i, (image, mask) in enumerate(data_train_loader):
211         image = image.to(device)
212         mask = mask.to(device)
213         optimizer.zero_grad()
214         pred = net(image)
215         ce = loss_func(pred, mask)
216         ce.backward()
217         optimizer.step()
218         mean_ce += ce.item()
219         n += 1
220     mean_ce /= n
221     train_loss.append(mean_ce)

```

Need to send model, loss function and tensors to the GPU device.

In later stages need to send tensors back to cpu.

E.g. in order to convert to numpy arrays.

Conclusions

Conclusions

Conclusions: Image analysis

With deep learning and convolutional neural networks we can solve a lot of image analysis tasks.

